



# Nishanbaevite, $KAl_2O(AsO_4)(SO_4)$ , a new As/S-ordered arsenate-sulfate mineral of fumarolic origin

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## Abstract

The new mineral nishanbaevite, ideally  $KAl_2O(AsO_4)(SO_4)$ , was found in sublimates of the Arsenatnaya fumarole at the Second scoria cone of the Northern Breakthrough of the Great Tolbachik Fissure Eruption, Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka, Russia. It is associated with euchlorine, alumoklyuchevskite, langbeinite, urusovite, lammerite, lammerite- $\beta$ , ericlaxmanite, kozyrevskite, and hematite. Nishanbaevite occurs as long-prismatic or lamellar crystals up to 0.03 mm typically combined in brush-like aggregates and crusts up to 1.5 mm across. It is transparent, colourless, with vitreous lustre.  $D_{\text{calc}} = 3.012 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ . Nishanbaevite is optically biaxial (-),  $\alpha = 1.552$ ,  $\beta \approx \gamma = 1.567$ . The chemical composition (average of seven analyses) is:  $Na_2O$  3.79,  $K_2O$  8.01,  $CaO$  0.10,  $CuO$  0.21,  $Al_2O_3$  30.08,  $Fe_2O_3$  0.50,  $SiO_2$  1.62,  $P_2O_5$  0.66,  $As_2O_5$  32.23,  $SO_3$  22.59, total 99.79 wt%. The empirical formula calculated based on 9 O *apfu* is:  $(K_{0.57}Na_{0.41}Ca_{0.01})_{\Sigma 0.99}(Al_{1.99}Fe^{3+}_{0.02}Cu_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.02}(As_{0.95}S_{0.95}Si_{0.09}P_{0.03})_{\Sigma 2.02}O_9$ . Nishanbaevite is orthorhombic, *Pbcm*,  $a = 15.487(3)$ ,  $b = 7.2582(16)$ ,  $c = 6.6014(17)$  Å,  $V = 742.1(3)$  Å<sup>3</sup> and  $Z = 4$ . The strongest reflections of the powder XRD pattern [ $d, \text{Å}(I)(hkl)$ ] are: 15.49(100)(100), 6.56(30)(110), 4.653(29)(111), 3.881(54)(400), 3.298(52)(002), 3.113(29)(121), and 3.038(51)(202, 411). The crystal structure, solved from single-crystal XRD data ( $R = 7.58\%$ ), is unique. It is based on the complex heteropolyhedral sheets formed by zig-zag chains of Al-centred polyhedra (alternating trigonal bipyramids  $AlO_5$  and octahedra  $AlO_6$  sharing edges) and isolated tetrahedra  $AsO_4$  and  $SO_4$ . Adjacent chains of Al polyhedra are connected via  $AsO_4$  tetrahedra to form a heteropolyhedral double-layer. Its topological peculiarity is considered and compared with those in structurally related compounds. The (K,Na) site is located in the interlayer space between  $SO_4$  tetrahedra. The position of nishanbaevite among the arsenate-sulfates and their specific structural features are discussed. The mineral is named in honour of the Russian mineralogist Tursun Prnazorovich Nishanbaev (1955–2017).

**Keywords** Nishanbaevite · New mineral · Potassium aluminium arsenate sulfate · Crystal structure · Fumarole · Tolbachik volcano · Kamchatka

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## Introduction

Natural sulfates and arsenates are numerous: altogether, about 800 valid mineral species belonging to these chemical classes are known. Sulfate and arsenate minerals are especially common and diverse in the oxidation zone of ore deposits where they occur in significant amounts and form close associations with each other. At the same time, arsenate-sulfates, the mixed oxysalts with both  $\text{SO}_4$  and  $\text{AsO}_4$  as species-defining anions are few: twenty-one mineral species. Among them, only beudantite  $\text{PbFe}^{3+}_3(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$  can be considered as a relatively common mineral. A brief review of these minerals, including data on As-S order/disorder in their structures was reported by Pekov et al. (2021). Nineteen arsenate-sulfate minerals contain OH groups or/and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules and have supergene or low-temperature hydrothermal origin whilst two species are H-free, namely vasilseverginite  $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$  and as described in this paper nishanbaevite  $\text{KAl}_2\text{O}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)$ . Both these minerals, as well as a single natural H-free phosphate-sulfate, karlditmarite  $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{PO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$  (Siidra et al. 2021), are found only in high-temperature sublimates of the Arsenatnaya fumarole at the Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka, Russia.

The new mineral nishanbaevite (Cyrillic: нишанбаевит) is named in honour of the Russian mineralogist Tursun Prnazorovich Nishanbaev (1955–2017), a Head of the Natural History Museum of the Ilmen Natural Reserve, Miass, Russia. Dr. Nishanbaev made a significant contribution to the mineralogy of anthropogene counterparts of volcanic fumaroles which originate on burning dumps of coal mines.

Both the new mineral and its name have been approved by the IMA Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification (IMA2019–012). The type specimen is deposited in the systematic collection of the Fersman Mineralogical Museum of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow with the catalogue number 96592.

## Occurrence

Nishanbaevite was detected in the single specimen collected by us in July 2015 from the Arsenatnaya fumarole located at the apical part of the Second scoria cone of the Northern Breakthrough of the Great Tolbachik Fissure Eruption (GTFE), Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka Peninsula, Far-Eastern Region, Russia ( $55^\circ 41' \text{N}$   $160^\circ 14' \text{E}$ , 1200 m asl). This scoria cone is a monogenetic volcano about 300 m high and approximately  $0.1 \text{ km}^3$  in volume. It was formed in 1975 during the first phase of the GTFE (Fedotov and Markhinin 1983). Fumarole fields at the

Second scoria cone are still active; gas vents with temperatures up to  $500^\circ \text{C}$  are numerous at the summit of the cone. The active, hot Arsenatnaya fumarole, first uncovered by us in July 2012, belongs to oxidizing-type fumaroles and is one of the world's most prolific mineralogical occurrences of the volcanic exhalation origin: for this decade, two hundred mineral species, mainly sulfates and arsenates, are found here, including 64 IMA-approved new minerals. The Arsenatnaya fumarole and its mineralogical features, including zonation in the distribution of mineral associations, were characterized by Pekov et al. (2014, 2018) and Shchipalkina et al. (2020).

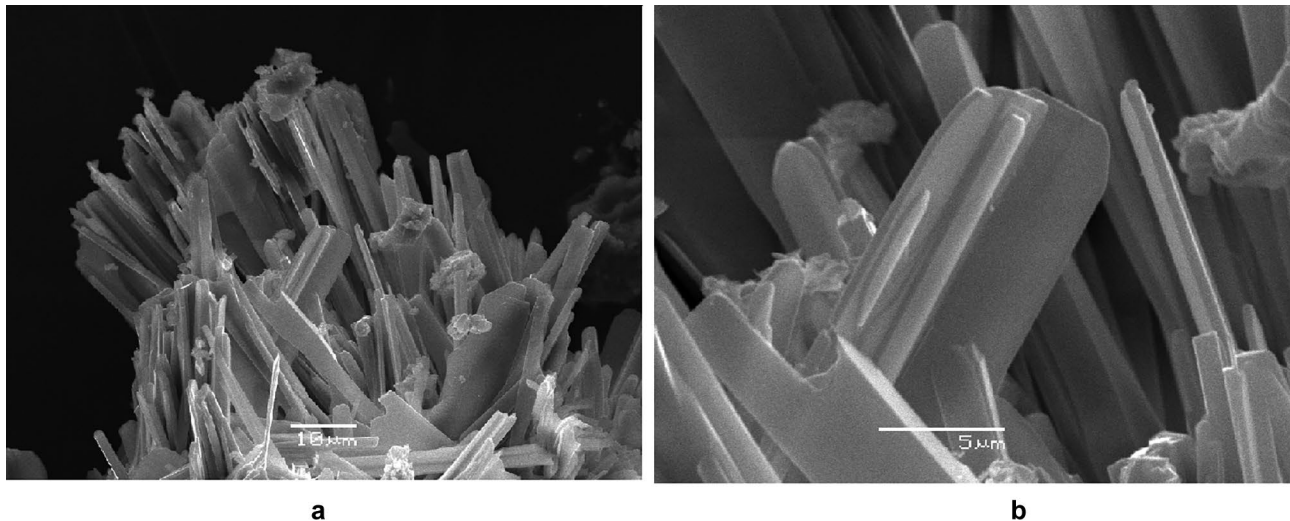
Nishanbaevite was found in a pocket about 1.3 m below the day surface, within the upper part the so-called polymineralic zone of the fumarole (zone IV: Shchipalkina et al. 2020). The temperatures measured by us using a chromel-alumel thermocouple in this area during sampling were  $380\text{--}400^\circ \text{C}$ . Walls of the pocket were covered by sublimate incrustations with dominating euchlorine. Other minerals associated with nishanbaevite are alumoklyuchevskite, langbeinite, urusovite, lammerite, lammerite- $\beta$ , ericlxmanite, kozyrevskite and hematite.

Nishanbaevite could be deposited directly from the gas phase as a volcanic sublimate or, more probably, it was formed as a result of the interaction between fumarolic gas and basalt scoria at the temperatures not lower than  $400^\circ \text{C}$ . The latter could be a source of Al which has low volatility in such post-volcanic systems at temperatures up to  $400\text{--}500^\circ \text{C}$  (Symonds and Reed 1993).

## General appearance, physical properties and optical data

Nishanbaevite occurs as long-prismatic, typically lath-like crystals up to  $0.01 \times 0.01 \times 0.05 \text{ mm}^3$ , or lamellar crystals up to  $0.02 \text{ mm} \times 0.03 \text{ mm}$  and less than  $1 \mu\text{m}$  thick. Some crystals observed under the scanning electron microscope (SEM) demonstrate signs of X-shaped interpenetration twins (Fig. 1), however, the twin law was not determined. The crystals are combined in clusters which form brush-like, open-work aggregates (Fig. 1) up to 0.5 mm across and crusts up to 1.5 mm across (Fig. 2). They overgrow incrustations of langbeinite, alumoklyuchevskite, or hematite or occur on the surface of basalt scoria altered by fumarolic gas.

The mineral is transparent, colourless in individuals and snow-white in aggregates (Fig. 2), with a white streak and a vitreous lustre. It is non-fluorescent under ultraviolet light or an electron beam. Nishanbaevite is brittle, cleavage or parting was not observed and the fracture is uneven (observed under the microscope). Density calculated using the empirical formula and unit-cell volume found from single-crystal X-ray diffraction data is  $3.012 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ .



**Fig. 1** Typical cluster of nishanbaevite crystals (**a**) and its magnified fragment (**b**). SEM images, secondary electron mode

Nishanbaevite is optically biaxial (–),  $\alpha = 1.552(2)$ ,  $\gamma = 1.567(2)$  (589 nm);  $\beta$  was not precisely determined, it is close to  $\gamma$ .  $2V_{meas}$  is small. Extinction is straight and elongation is positive. Dispersion of optical axes was not observed. In plane-polarized light, the mineral is colourless and non-pleochroic.

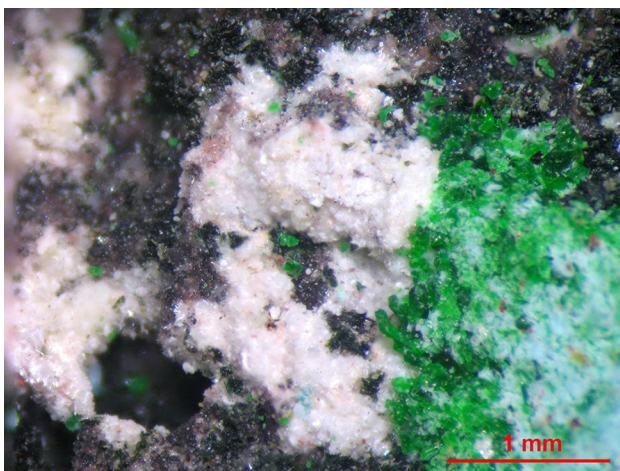
### Chemical composition

The chemical data for nishanbaevite were obtained using electron probe micro-analysis (EPMA). A Jeol JSM-6480LV scanning electron microscope equipped with an INCA-Wave 500 wavelength-dispersive spectrometer was used, with an acceleration voltage of 20 kV, a beam

current of 20 nA, and a 3  $\mu$ m beam diameter. The following natural and synthetic reference materials and the following analytical lines were used: jadeite (Na  $K\alpha$ , Al  $K\alpha$ , Si  $K\alpha$ ),  $KTiOPO_4$  (K  $K\alpha$ , P  $K\alpha$ ),  $CaSiO_3$  (Ca  $K\alpha$ ), CuO (Cu  $K\alpha$ ),  $FeS_2$  (Fe  $K\alpha$ ), GaAs (As  $L\alpha$ ), and ZnS (S  $K\alpha$ ). Peak and background counting times are 20 and (10 + 10) s, respectively. Contents of other elements with atomic numbers > 6 are below their detection limits.

The chemical composition of nishanbaevite (average of seven spot analyses, wt%, range / standard deviations are in parentheses) is:  $Na_2O$  3.79 (3.01–4.39 / 0.55),  $K_2O$  8.01 (6.90–9.06 / 0.77),  $CaO$  0.10 (0.02–0.22 / 0.08),  $CuO$  0.21 (0.04–0.44 / 0.14),  $Al_2O_3$  30.08 (26.63–32.40 / 2.29),  $Fe_2O_3$  0.50 (0.31–0.67 / 0.12),  $SiO_2$  1.62 (0.84–4.97 / 1.50),  $P_2O_5$  0.66 (0.60–0.72 / 0.04),  $As_2O_5$  32.23 (28.48–36.99 / 3.28),  $SO_3$  22.59 (21.68–23.57 / 0.62), total 99.79. Trivalent state of admixed iron is assumed because of strongly oxidizing conditions of mineral formation in the Arsenatnaya fumarole: all iron minerals known here contain only  $Fe^{3+}$  (Pekov et al. 2018; Shchipalkina et al. 2020).

The empirical formula calculated on the basis of 9 O atoms per formula unit is  $(K_{0.57}Na_{0.41}Ca_{0.01})_{\Sigma 0.99}(Al_{1.99}Fe^{3+}_{0.02}Cu_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.02}(As_{0.95}S_{0.95}Si_{0.09}P_{0.03})_{\Sigma 2.02}O_9$ . The simplified formula is  $(K,Na)Al_2O(AsO_4)(SO_4)$  and the idealised, end-member formula is  $KAl_2O(AsO_4)(SO_4)$ , which requires  $K_2O$  13.69,  $Al_2O_3$  29.64,  $As_2O_5$  33.40,  $SO_3$  23.27, total 100 wt%.



**Fig. 2** Snow-white crusts of nishanbaevite crystals with bright green euchlorine, bluish fine-grained lammerite and iron-black hematite overgrowing reddish-brown basalt scoria altered by fumarolic gas. Photo: I.V. Pekov & A.V. Kasatkin

### X-ray crystallography and crystal structure determination

Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) data of nishanbaevite (Table 1) were collected with a Rigaku R-AXIS Rapid II single-crystal diffractometer equipped with cylindrical

image plate detector ( $r = 127.4$  mm) using Debye-Scherrer geometry,  $\text{CoK}\alpha$  radiation (rotating anode with VariMAX microfocus optics), 40 kV, 15 mA, and 12 min exposure. Angular resolution of the detector is  $0.045\ 2\theta$  (pixel size 0.1 mm). The data were integrated using the software package *osc2Tab* (Britvin et al. 2017). The orthorhombic unit cell parameters refined from the powder data are:  $a = 15.505(5)$ ,  $b = 7.257(2)$ ,  $c = 6.606(2)$  Å, and  $V = 743.3(6)$  Å<sup>3</sup>.

Single-crystal XRD studies of nishanbaevite were carried out using an Xcalibur S diffractometer equipped with a CCD (charge-coupled device) detector. More than a hemisphere of three-dimensional data was collected. Data reduction was performed using *CrysAlisPro* Version 1.171.37.34 (Agilent Technologies 2014). The data were corrected for Lorentz factor and polarization effects. The crystal structure was solved by direct methods and refined using the *SHELX* software package (Sheldrick 2015) to  $R = 0.0758$  for 547 unique reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ . Crystal data, data collection information and structure refinement details are given in Table 2, coordinates and thermal displacement parameters of atoms in Table 3, selected interatomic distances in Table 4 and bond valence calculations in Table 5.

Unfortunately, even the best of tested crystals of nishanbaevite was not perfect and very small that caused rather low-quality diffraction data. However, the reasonable values of interatomic distances (Table 4) and bond valence sums (Table 5), as well as very good agreement between the measured and calculated powder XRD patterns (Table 1) show that the structure is determined correctly.

## Discussion

The crystal structure of nishanbaevite (Fig. 3) is unique. It is based on the complex heteropolyhedral (100) double layers formed by zig-zag [001] chains of Al-centred polyhedra and isolated from each other  $\text{AsO}_4$  and  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra. Within these layers two symmetrically equivalent single sheets are connected by the gliding plane  $b$ . There are two crystallographically non-equivalent Al sites which centre alternating  $\text{Al}(1)\text{O}_5$  trigonal bipyramids and  $\text{Al}(2)\text{O}_6$  octahedra sharing edges to form the chains (Fig. 3a). Adjacent chains are connected *via*  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra sharing common vertices with Al-centred polyhedra and thus forming double-layered core of the heteropolyhedral sheet. Each tetrahedron shares three vertices with the chains of one layer of the core (Fig. 4) and one vertex with the chains of the second one.  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra are linked to the external parts of the double-layered core from both sides sharing two common vertices with  $\text{Al}(2)\text{O}_6$  octahedra. The large-cation  $A$  site with disordered

**Table 1** Powder X-ray diffraction data ( $d$  in Å) of nishanbaevite

$I_{\text{obs}}$	$d_{\text{obs}}$	$I_{\text{calc}}^*$	$d_{\text{calc}}^{**}$	$h\ k\ l$
100	15.49	100	15.487	100
30	6.56	28	6.572	110
6	5.295	6	5.296	210
2	5.172	1	5.162	300
29	4.653	23	4.658	111
21	4.212	21	4.207	310
54	3.881	48	3.872	400
27	3.625	30	3.629	020
15	3.548	12, 4	3.548, 3.533	311, 120
5	3.426	2	3.416	410
52	3.298	40, 7	3.301, 3.286	002, 220
3	3.175	3	3.180	021
29	3.113	28	3.115	121
51	3.038	21, 27	3.036, 3.034	202, 411
15	2.948	12, 2	2.950, 2.942	112, 221
10	2.800	8	2.801	212
1	2.706	2	2.708	321
19	2.650	22	2.648	420
5	2.590	1, 4	2.597, 2.581	312, 600
24	2.514	23	2.512	402
14	2.440	12	2.442	022
1	2.411	1	2.412	122
9	2.360	10	2.356	520
3	2.328	2	2.329	222
2	2.307	1	2.309	230
1	2.217	1	2.219	521
3	2.181	2	2.180	231
2	2.122	1	2.116	710
2	2.084	1	2.079	331
3	2.067	2	2.065	422
5	2.038	5	2.033	602
2	2.017	1	2.015	711
2	2.007	2	2.004	621
3	1.951	2	1.950	313
2	1.940	1, 1	1.936, 1.936	132, 800
3	1.908	5	1.907	530
5	1.881	4	1.882	023
6	1.869	6	1.868	123
2	1.852	2	1.850	413
7	1.825	9	1.825	332
6	1.805	6	1.800	811
5	1.777	2, 6	1.782, 1.774	712, 622
6	1.738	9	1.739	141
3	1.727	4	1.721	900
2	1.708	1, 2	1.708, 1.707	820, 241
11	1.650	13	1.650	004
4	1.636	3, 2, 1	1.640, 1.633, 1.632	722, 730, 613
2	1.610	3	1.608	523
4	1.557	5	1.557	632
2	1.537	2	1.536	314

**Table 1** (continued)

$I_{obs}$	$d_{obs}$	$I_{calc}^*$	$d_{calc}^{**}$	$hkl$
6	1.520 4, 4		1.523, 1.518	541, 404
2	1.502 2		1.502	024
4	1.476 2, 2		1.476, 1.475	10.1.1, 224
1	1.450 2		1.448	641
4	1.428 4		1.425	813
7	1.401 2, 2, 6, 2		1.402, 1.402, 1.401, 1.400	930, 10.0.2, 424, 043
6	1.395 1, 5		1.395, 1.394	251, 143
1	1.367 1, 1		1.367, 1.366	351, 614
1	1.353 2		1.352	524

\*For the calculated pattern, only reflections with intensities  $\geq 1$  are given;

\*\*for the unit-cell parameters calculated from single-crystal data; the strongest reflections are marked in bold type

distribution of K and subordinate Na is located in the inter-layer space between  $SO_4$  tetrahedra.

A topological analysis aimed with the search of the related compounds was performed with the program package *ToposPro* (Blatov et al. 2014). The ‘Junction atoms’ algorithm (Shevchenko and Blatov 2021) was used to

simplify the nishanbaevite structure with the oxygen atoms as junctions; potassium/sodium atoms were excluded from the consideration at this step. As a result, the topological representation of nishanbaevite is consisted of centers of  $AlO_6$ ,  $AlO_5$ ,  $AsO_4$  and  $SO_4$  groups. The simplified double periodic layer is represented by a 6,6-coordinated net with  $AlO_6$ ,  $AlO_5$ ,  $AsO_4$  groups as nodes and bridging  $SO_4$  groups as links. The term “6,6-coordinated” means that the net contains two types of topologically different nodes with the number of contacts (coordination) equal to six. One type of node is represented by the  $AlO_6$  groups, while  $AlO_5$  and  $AsO_4$  groups are topologically equivalent, i.e. they are equally connected to other groups, and they represent the other type of node. The specific feature of the node formed by  $AlO_6$  is that it is bounded to all types of building units, namely  $AlO_6$ ,  $AlO_5$ ,  $AsO_4$  and  $SO_4$  and formally its coordination is equal to 8 (Fig. 5a). However, within the simplified net  $SO_4$  groups are considered as edges and thus in such approach  $AlO_6$  node is surrounded by 6 neighboring nodes. In contrast with it the coordination of  $AlO_5$  and  $AsO_4$  nodes is formed only by  $AlO_6$ ,  $AlO_5$  and  $AsO_4$  groups located within the net. The difference between  $AlO_5$  and  $AsO_4$  is in the method of connecting to the six other

**Table 2** Crystal data, data collection information and structure refinement details for nishanbaevite

Formula	$(K_{0.58}Na_{0.42})Al_2O[(As_{0.89}P'_{0.11})O_4][SO_4]^*$
Formula weight	665.24
Temperature, K	293(2)
Radiation and wavelength, Å	MoK $\alpha$ ; 0.71073
Crystal system, space group, Z	Orthorhombic, <i>Pbcm</i> , 4
Unit cell dimensions, Å $^\circ$	$a = 15.487(3)$ , $b = 7.2582(16)$ , $c = 6.6014(17)$
$V$ , Å $^3$	742.1(3)
Absorption coefficient $\mu$ , mm $^{-1}$	5.033
$F_{000}$	643
Crystal size, mm $^3$	0.01 $\times$ 0.01 $\times$ 0.02
Diffractometer	Xcalibur S CCD
Absorption correction	multi-scan Empirical absorption correction using spherical harmonics, implemented in SCALE3 ABSPACK scaling algorithm
$\theta$ range, $^\circ$	3.10–25.24
Reflections collected	5583
Unique reflections	973 ( $R_{int} = 0.1946$ )
Unique reflections [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	547
Structure solution	direct methods
Refinement method	full-matrix least-squares on $F^2$
Number of refined parameters	77
Final $R$ indices [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ]	$R1 = 0.0758$ , $wR2 = 0.1261$
$R$ indices (all data)	$R1 = 0.1506$ , $wR2 = 0.1573$
GoF	1.054
Largest diff. peak and hole, e/Å $^3$	2.04 and $-1.46$

\*Relatively light elements (Si, S and P) which partially substitute  $As^{5+}$  in the As site are formally jointed as  $P'$  during refinement

**Table 3** Atom coordinates and equivalent thermal displacement parameters ( $U_{\text{eq}}$ , in  $\text{\AA}^2$ ), site occupancy factors (s.o.f.) and site multiplicities ( $Q$ ) for nishanbaevite

Site	x	y	z	$U_{\text{eq}}$	s.o.f.	$Q$
A	0.4117(4)	-0.0355(7)	0.25	0.051(2)	$\text{K}_{0.58(4)}\text{Na}_{0.42(4)}$	4
As	0.09601(10)	0.5610(2)	0.25	0.0113(5)	$\text{As}_{0.892(14)}\text{P}'_{0.108(14)*}$	4
S	0.3619(3)	0.0494(7)	0.75	0.0323(13)	$\text{S}_{1.00}$	4
Al(1)	0.1167(3)	0.4928(5)	0.75	0.0128(11)	$\text{Al}_{1.00}$	4
Al(2)	0.2233(3)	0.25	0.0	0.0152(11)	$\text{Al}_{1.00}$	4
O(1)	0.3073(5)	0.0733(9)	0.9326(10)	0.0232(19)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	8
O(2)	0.1293(4)	0.4466(8)	0.4582(11)	0.0152(17)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	8
O(3)	-0.0091(6)	0.5780(12)	0.25	0.021(3)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	4
O(4)	0.2050(6)	0.3411(11)	0.75	0.011(2)**	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	4
O(5)	0.1358(6)	0.7727(12)	0.25	0.022(3)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	4
O(6)	0.4256(8)	0.1954(19)	0.75	0.091(6)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	4
O(7)	0.4002(10)	-0.1302(15)	0.75	0.088(6)	$\text{O}_{1.00}$	4

\*P' = Si + S + P; \*\*  $U_{\text{iso}}$ 

groups:  $\text{AsO}_4$  uses for connection only vertices (oxygen atoms), while  $\text{AlO}_5$  additionally uses two edges (Fig. 5b, c). The net has the unique topology, which has never been observed in crystal structures; we have deposited this topology in the *TopCryst* system (Shevchenko et al. 2022) under the name *dyp1*. The search in the databases of the *TopCryst* system revealed eight compounds. Among them, isotopic orthorhombic minerals cupromolybdate  $\text{Cu}_3\text{O}[(\text{Mo}_{1.94}\text{S}_{0.06})\text{O}_4]_2$  (Zelenski et al. 2012) and vergasovaite  $\text{Cu}_3\text{O}[(\text{Mo},\text{S})\text{O}_4\text{SO}_4]$  (Berlepsch et al. 1999) and synthetic solid solution series  $[\text{Cu}_{(1-x)}\text{Zn}_x]_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)_2$  (Reichert et al. 2005) and  $\text{Zn}_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)_2$  (Hase et al. 2015). Further, there are isotopic monoclinic compounds  $\text{Zn}_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)_2$  (Söhnle et al. 1996) and  $\text{Zn}_3\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)_2$  (Bald and Gruehn 1981) [the unit cell of the latter can be transformed to one close to that chosen for monoclinic  $\text{Zn}_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)_2$  using the matrix  $-1$

$0-1 / 0-1 \ 0 / 0 \ 0 \ 1]$  and glikinite  $(\text{Zn},\text{Cu})_3\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)_2$  from the same Arsenatnaya fumarole (Nazarchuk et al. 2020), a natural Cu-bearing analogue of synthetic  $\text{Zn}_3\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)_2$  (Bald and Gruehn 1981). All these sulfates and molybdates contain the nishanbaevite-like 6,6-coordinated layers as parts of the 3D framework structure. These layers are topologically close to the half of the double-layered core of the heteropolyhedral sheet in the nishanbaevite structure but differ from it in the ratio of tetrahedra and non-tetrahedral polyhedra and the presence of additional non-tetrahedral (five-fold or octahedral) polyhedra in zigzag chains. Besides glikinite, two minerals demonstrate some structural similarities with nishanbaevite, namely vergasovaite  $\text{Cu}_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)$  (Berlepsch et al. 1999) and cupromolybdate  $\text{Cu}_3\text{O}(\text{MoO}_4)_2$  (Zelenski et al. 2012) isostructural to one another (Table 6). Their structural relationship with nishanbaevite (Figs. 3 and 4) is illustrated in Fig. 6. Notably, all these minerals originate from fumaroles of the Tolbachik volcano.

Arsenate and sulfate tetrahedral anions are ordered in nishanbaevite. The As site contains admixed lighter constituents, S or/and Si and minor P (assumed based on EPMA data: see above). During structure refinement, they were formally considered together and designated as P' in Tables 2 and 3; scattering curve of P was used for P'. The sizes of  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra with  $\langle \text{As-O} \rangle 1.665 \text{ \AA}$  versus  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra with  $\langle \text{S-O} \rangle 1.461 \text{ \AA}$  also confirm the As/S segregation in nishanbaevite. The similar As/S ordering in tetrahedral sites was also revealed in vasilseverginite  $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$ , another H-free sulfate-arsenate from the Arsenatnaya fumarole (Pekov et al. 2021).

The As/S ordering and the edge-sharing Al-polyhedra in nishanbaevite is similar to that in arsensumebite  $\text{Pb}_2\text{Cu}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})$ , a member of the brackebuschite supergroup (Zubkova et al. 2002). However, there is a partial As/S-ordering in arsensumebite and the electronic contents in its tetrahedral

**Table 4** Selected interatomic distances ( $\text{\AA}$ ) in the structure of nishanbaevite

A – O(7)	2.433(12)	Al(1) – O(5)	1.727(10)
- O(6)	2.478(15)	- O(3)	1.744(10)
- O(1)	2.762(8) x 2	- O(4)	1.756(9)
- O(6)	2.775(16)	- O(2)	1.965(7) x 2
- O(7)	3.152(18)	<Al(1) - O>	1.83
- O(7)	3.376(3) x 2	Al(2) – O(4)	1.800(3) x 2
<A - O>	2.89	- O(1)	1.881(7) x 2
As – O(3)	1.632(9)	- O(2)	2.058(6) x 2
- O(5)	1.656(9)	<Al(2) - O>	1.913
- O(2)	1.686(7) x 2		
<As - O>	1.665		
S – O(7)	1.433(8)		
- O(6)	1.448(8)		
- O(1)	1.482(7) x 2		
<S - O>	1.461		

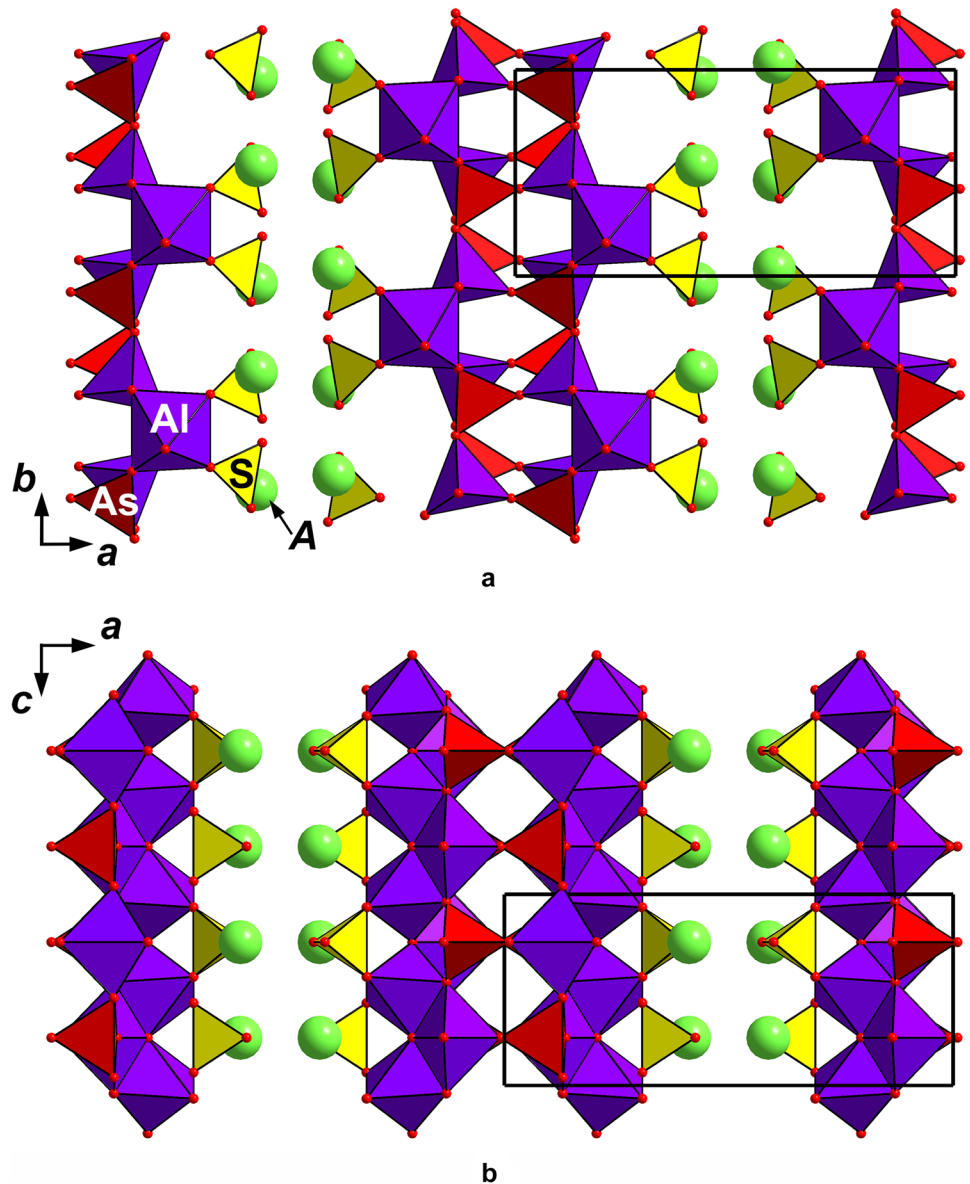
**Table 5** Bond-valence calculations for nishanbaevite. Parameters were taken from Gagné and Hawthorne (2015)

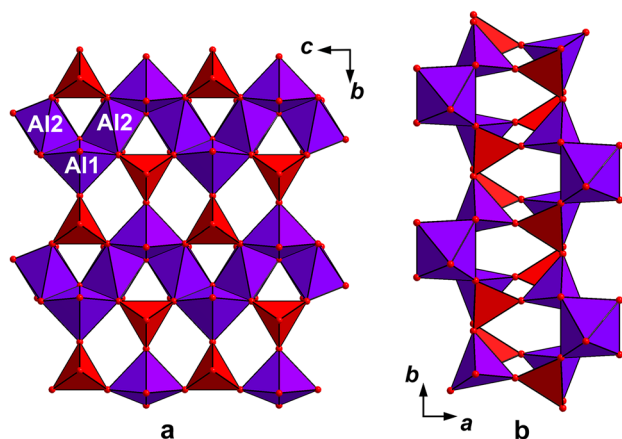
	A	As	S	Al(1)	Al(2)	$\Sigma$
O(1)	$0.13 \times 24$		$1.46 \times 24$		$0.53 \times 24$	2.12
O(2)		$1.21 \times 24$		$0.43 \times 24$	$0.34 \times 24$	1.98
O(3)		1.41		0.75		2.16
O(4)				0.73	$0.65 \times 24 \rightarrow$	2.03
O(5)		1.32		0.79		2.11
O(6)	0.27 0.12		1.59			1.98
O(7)	0.29 0.05 $0.03 \times 24 \rightarrow$		1.65			2.05
$\Sigma$	1.05	5.15	6.16	3.13	3.04	

sites correspond to the occupation of  $T1 = As_{0.63}S_{0.37}$  and  $T2 = As_{0.37}S_{0.63}$ . In common with arsentsumebite the double walls of nishanbaevite contain  $M=M-T$  chains, where  $M=M$

means edge-sharing between  $M$ -polyhedra and  $M-T$  represents corner sharing between  $M$ -polyhedra and  $TO_4$  tetrahedra (Eby and Hawthorne 1993).

**Fig. 3** The crystal structure of nishanbaevite in two projections. The unit cell is outlined





**Fig. 4** A half of a double-layer core formed by Al-centred polyhedra and  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra (a) and the double-layer core of the complete sheet (b) in the structure of nishanbaevite

The crystal chemical features of the  $\text{AsO}_4$ - $\text{SO}_4$ -ordered members of the alunite supergroup can be considered on the example of gallobeudantite  $\text{PbGa}_3(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6$ . In its structure distorted  $\text{GaO}_6$  octahedra with shared vertices form the layers topologically related to those in so-called hexagonal bronzes. The octahedra occur at the vertices of a  $6^3$  kagome plane net, forming six-membered rings. At their junction there is a three-membered ring. Ordered  $\text{AsO}_4$  and  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra are linked to these layers below and above in such a way that they are located on the same level respectively and are oriented along anti parallel directions (Jambor et al. 1996).

However, in most of arsenate-sulfates with As/S ordered structures the sulfate and arsenate tetrahedral groups perform a different function. In contrast with the acentric gallobeudantite ( $R3m$ ), the disordered As/S distribution within the same tetrahedra was revealed in chemically related beudantite  $\text{PbFe}^{3+}_3(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6$  with centrosymmetric structure ( $R-3m$ ). Both structures closely follow the alunite-jarosite model (Szymański 1988; Giuseppetti and Tadini 1989). Oberwolfachite  $\text{SrFe}^{3+}_3(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6$

with disordered As/S distribution is a new mineral of the beudantite group within the alunite supergroup which contain 10 and 53 mineral species, respectively (Chukanov et al. 2021).

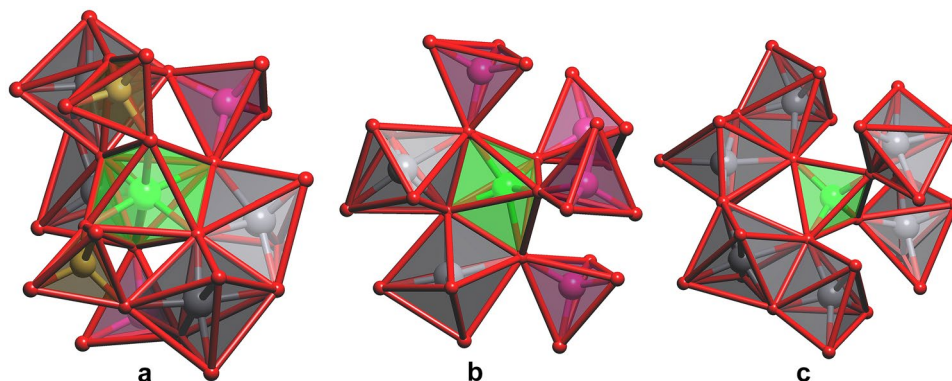
The heteropolyhedral layer in the structure of sarmientite  $\text{Fe}^{3+}_2(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH}) \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$  consists of the pairs of octahedral-tetrahedral (Fe,As) $\text{O}_n$ -chains in which  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra share all four O vertices with two nonequivalent Fe octahedra. The monodentate sulfate groups  $[\text{SO}_4]$  play the role of the branches in these chains (Colombo et al. 2014). In nishanbaevite the heteropolyhedral (Al,As)-chains form the double layers. The  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra sharing vertices with  $\text{Al}(2)\text{O}_6$  octahedra are suspended to the external parts of the layers and obviously play a subordinate role in these complexes.

The similar function of sulfate groups clearly appeared in bukovskýite  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH}) \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Majzlan et al. 2012). The dominant feature of the structure of bukovskýite is the chains composed of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  octahedra and arsenate tetrahedra with the overall composition  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{H}_2\text{O})_6(\text{OH})$ . Sulfate tetrahedra are located in the space between these chains and are linked to them by a network of H-bonds.

The heteropolyhedral layers formed by alternating corner-linked Al–O octahedra and acid-arsenate tetrahedra are the characteristic feature of juansilvaite  $\text{Na}_5\text{Al}_3[\text{AsO}_3(\text{OH})_4][\text{AsO}_2(\text{OH})_2]_2(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Kampf et al. 2017). Isolated  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra are located in the interlayer region between these layers.

The dominant structural feature of chalcophyllite  $\text{Cu}_9\text{Al}(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_{15}(\text{OH})_{12} \cdot 18\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is the arrangement of Cu and Al polyhedra into complex sheets. The As-centred tetrahedra are attached above and below these sheets by three vertices. The sheets are connected to each other by the hydrogen bonding system, where the sulfate groups are located in between (Sabelli 1980). According to (Sarp et al. 2014), the structure model of barrotite  $\text{Cu}_9\text{Al}(\text{HSiO}_4)_2[(\text{SO}_4)(\text{HASO}_4)_{0.5}](\text{OH})_{12} \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$  contains the sheets topologically identical to chalcophyllite. They are also formed by Cu- and Al-centred polyhedra whereas  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra in chalcophyllite are replaced by acidic  $\text{SiO}_3(\text{OH})$  tetrahedra in

**Fig. 5** Environment of  $\text{AlO}_6$  octahedra (a),  $\text{AlO}_5$  trigonal bipyramids (b) and  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra (c) in nishanbaevite





**Table 6** The framework Cu- and Zn-oxomolybdate and/or oxosulfate compounds with polyhedral units similar to the single sheets in the double layers of nishanbaevite

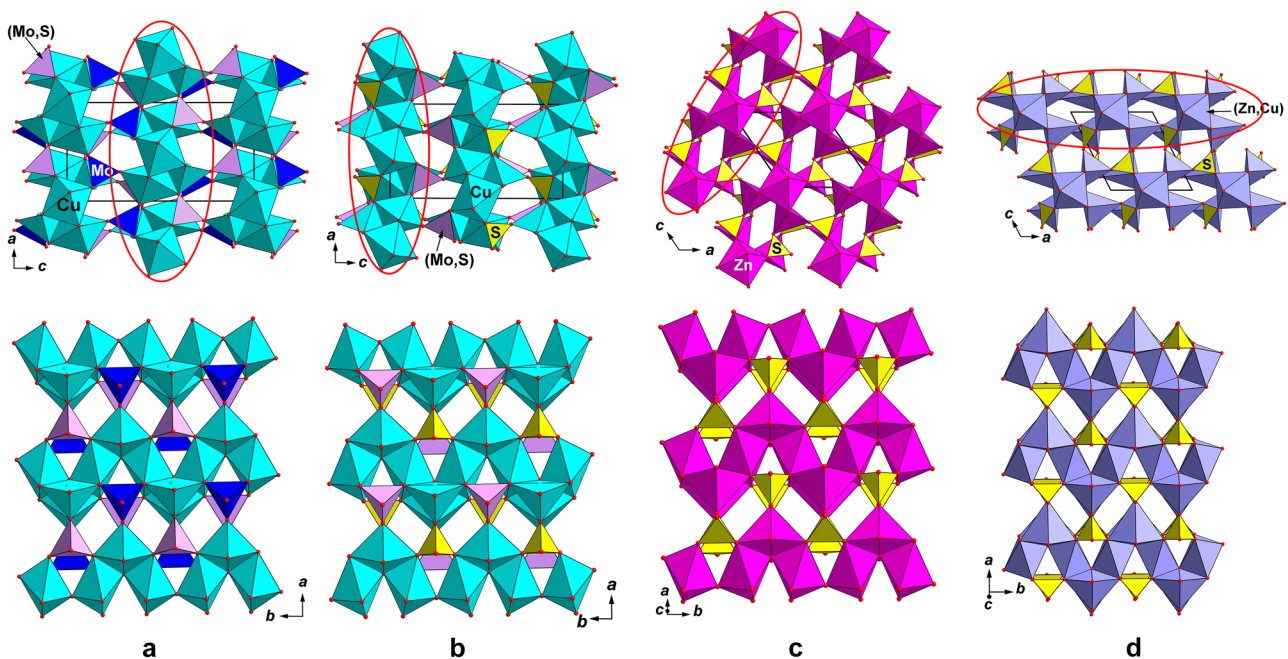
Compound / Mineral	Space group	Unit-cell parameters (Å, °)	$V, \text{Å}^3$	Reference
$Zn_3O(MoO_4)_2$	<i>Pnma</i>	7.629(1) 6.876(1) 14.573(1)	764.5	Hase et al. (2015)
$[Cu_{(1-x)}Zn_x]_3O(MoO_4)_2$	<i>Pnma</i>	7.6925(8) 6.9014(6) 14.5910(18)	774.6(1)	Reichelt et al. (2005)
$x=0.09$		7.7022(5) 6.9160(6) 14.5485(11)	775.0(1)	
$x=0.18$		7.7060(6) 6.9480(6) 14.4715(11)	774.8(1)	
$x=0.33$		7.7337(5) 6.9860(6) 14.4536(11)	780.9(1)	
$x=0.48$		7.7334(4) 7.0229(5) 14.4651(12)	785.6(1)	
$x=0.62$		7.7493(5) 7.0615(6) 14.5020(10)	793.6(1)	
$x=0.76$				
$Cu_3O[(Mo_{1.94}S_{0.06})O_4]_2$ cupromolybdite	<i>Pnma</i>	7.66380(10) 6.86700(10) 14.5554(2)	766.012(18)	Zelenski et al. (2012)
$Cu_3O[(Mo,S)O_4SO_4]$ vergasovaite	<i>Pnma</i>	7.421(2) 6.754(3) 13.624(5)	682.9	Berlepsch et al. (1999)
$Zn_3O(MoO_4)_2$	<i>P2_1/m</i>	7.7573(12) 7.1319(13) 8.370(2) 117.397(7)	411.1	Söhnel et al. (1996)
$Zn_3O(SO_4)_2$	<i>P2_1/m</i>	7.937(2) 6.690(2) 7.851(2) 124.39(1)*	344.0	Bald and Gruehn (1981)
$(Zn,Cu)_3O(SO_4)_2$ glikinite	<i>P2_1/m</i>	7.298(17) 6.588(11) 7.840(12) 117.14(3)	335.4(11) 338.34(5)	Nazarchuk et al. (2020)
$(Zn,Cu)_3O(SO_4)_2$		7.3156(6) 6.6004(5) 7.8941(7) 117.424(5)		Nekrasova et al. (2021)

\*The cell could be transformed to a standardized one with  $a=7.365$ ,  $b=6.690$ ,  $c=7.851$  Å,  $\beta=117.213^\circ$  by a matrix  $-1\ 0\ -1\ / 0\ -1\ 0\ / 0\ 0\ 1$

barrotite. It is suggested that sulfate and arsenate tetrahedra in barrotite must occupy the interlayer space.

Leogangite  $Cu_{10}(AsO_4)_4(SO_4)(OH)_6 \cdot 8H_2O$  (Lengauer et al. 2004) is another example which exhibits the topological difference between  $AsO_4$  and  $SO_4$  tetrahedra within the

same structure. It contains the thick heteropolyhedral layers which are formed by the groups of five  $CuO_5$  polyhedra (four distorted square pyramids + one distorted trigonal dipyramid) and  $AsO_4$  tetrahedra. The sulfate tetrahedra link these layers to a loose framework.



**Fig. 6** The crystal structures (upper figures) and the fragments (shown by red ellipse) close to the half of the double layer in nishanbaevite (lower figures) in: cupromolybdite, drawn after Zelenski et al. (2012) (a); ver-

gasovaite, drawn after Berlepsch et al. (1999) (b); synthetic  $Zn_3O(SO_4)_2$ , drawn after Bald and Gruehn (1981) (c) and its natural analogue glikinite, drawn after Nazarchuk et al. (2020) (d)

Thus, a large group of arsenate-sulfates exhibits the participation of  $\text{AsO}_4$  tetrahedra in combination with cationic polyhedra in the heteropolyhedral complexes whereas  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedra play a subordinate role in their structures. The different function of both  $\text{AsO}_4$  and  $\text{SO}_4$  tetrahedral groups is related with the closer values of thermochemical electronegativities between metal cations and  $\text{As}^{5+}$  vs. cations and  $\text{S}^{6+}$ . In particular, in nishanbaevite the difference of these values ( $\Delta$ ) between Al and As is 0.63 (Al 2.52 and As 3.15) whereas  $\Delta$  between Al and S is 0.92 (Al 2.52 and S 3.44) (Tantardini and Oganov 2021).

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