

1 Revision 2

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3 **Vasilseverginite, $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$, a new fumarolic mineral with a hybrid structure**
4 **containing novel anion-centered tetrahedral structural units**

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19 **ABSTRACT**

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21 The new mineral vasilseverginite, ideally $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$, was found in the
22 Arsenatnaya fumarole at the Second scoria cone of the Northern Breakthrough of the Great
23 Tolbachik Fissure Eruption, Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka, Russia. It is associated with tenorite,
24 lammerite, stranskiite, lammerite- β , langbeinite, dolerophanite, sanidine, hematite, and gahnite.
25 Vasilseverginite occurs as prismatic crystals up to $0.02 \times 0.02 \times 0.06 \text{ mm}^3$ combined in groups or
26 interrupted crusts up to $1 \times 2 \text{ cm}^2$ in area and up to 0.1 mm thick. It is transparent, bright green, with
27 vitreous luster. D_{calc} is $4.41 \text{ g} \cdot \text{cm}^{-3}$. Vasilseverginite is optically biaxial (-), α 1.816(5), β 1.870(5), γ
28 1.897(5), estimated $2V$ is $30(15)^\circ$. Chemical composition (wt.%, electron-microprobe) is: CuO 64.03,
29 ZnO 0.79, Fe_2O_3 0.25, P_2O_5 0.05, As_2O_5 20.83, SO_3 14.92, total 100.87. The empirical formula
30 calculated on $\text{O} = 20 \text{ apfu}$ is $(\text{Cu}_{8.78}\text{Zn}_{0.11}\text{Fe}^{3+}_{0.03})_{\Sigma 8.92}\text{As}_{1.98}\text{P}_{0.01}\text{S}_{2.03}\text{O}_{20}$. Vasilseverginite is
31 monoclinic, $P2_1/n$, $a = 8.1131(4)$, $b = 9.9182(4)$, $c = 11.0225(5) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 110.855(2)^\circ$, $V = 828.84(6)$
32 \AA^3 , and $Z = 2$. The strongest reflections in the powder XRD pattern [$d, \text{ \AA}(l)(hkl)$] are: 7.13(41)(10-
33 1), 5.99(70)(110, 11-1), 5.260(100)(101), 4.642(46)(111), 3.140(31)(03-1), 2.821(35)(02-3),
34 2.784(38)(13-2, 03-2), 2.597(35)(20-4), and 2.556(50)(23-1, 212). The crystal structure, solved
35 using single-crystal X-ray diffraction data, $R_1 = 0.025$, is based upon complex $[\text{O}_4\text{Cu}_9]^{10+}$ layers
36 parallel to (-101) that are composed of edge- and corner-sharing (OCu_4) tetrahedra. The topology is
37 unprecedented in inorganic structural chemistry. The crystal structure can be considered a hybrid of
38 the structures of popovite $\text{Cu}_5\text{O}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2$ and dolerophanite $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)$ according to the scheme
39 $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2 = \text{Cu}_5\text{O}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2 + 2\text{Cu}_2\text{O}(\text{SO}_4)$. The chemical hybridization does not result in
40 a significant increase in chemical complexity of vasilseverginite compared to the sum of those of
41 popovite and dolerophanite, whereas the structural hybridization leads to the doubling of structural
42 information per unit cell. The mineral is named in memory of the outstanding Russian mineralogist,
43 geologist and chemist Vasilij Mikhailovich Severgin (1765–1826).

44 **Keywords:** vasilseverginite, new mineral, copper arsenate sulfate, popovite, dolerophanite,
45 crystal structure, oxo-centered tetrahedra, structural complexity, hybridization of mineral species,
46 fumarole sublimate, Tolbachik volcano
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INTRODUCTION

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51 From the viewpoint of geochemical and environmental importance, sulfates and arsenates
52 attract considerable attention as well, due to their existence in a wide range of geo- and
53 cosmochemical environments. The ordered combination of arsenate and sulfate anions in the same
54 mineral is rare; there are only twenty minerals known that contain both sulfate and arsenate as
55 species-defining components. Among the twenty, only two species are H-free.

56 Natural H-bearing (with OH⁻ or/and H₂O) arsenate-sulfates usually have low-temperature,
57 supergene origin and occur mainly in the oxidation zones of ore deposits. Among the members of
58 the beudantite group, a subdivision of the alunite supergroup, only beudantite,
59 PbFe³⁺₃(AsO₄)(SO₄)₂(OH)₆, is a relatively common mineral, whereas other four species are rare,
60 namely gallobeudantite, PbGa₃(AsO₄)(SO₄)(OH)₆, hidalgoite, PbAl₃(AsO₄)(SO₄)₂(OH)₆,
61 kemmlitzite, SrAl₃(AsO₄)(SO₄)₂(OH)₆, and weilerite, BaAl₃(AsO₄)(SO₄)₂(OH)₆. In the crystal
62 structures of some of these minerals, sulfate and arsenate anions are disordered, whereas others
63 demonstrate ordered distribution of S⁶⁺ and As⁵⁺ over tetrahedral sites (Bayliss et al. 2010). The
64 known hydrous Fe arsenate-sulfates are bukovskýite, Fe³⁺₂(AsO₄)(SO₄)(OH)·9H₂O (Majzlan et al.
65 2012), sarmientite, Fe³⁺₂(AsO₄)(SO₄)(OH)·5H₂O (Colombo et al. 2014), hilarionite,
66 Fe³⁺₂(AsO₄)(SO₄)(OH)·6H₂O (Pekov et al. 2014), and zýkaite, Fe³⁺₄(AsO₄)₃(SO₄)(OH)·15H₂O
67 (Čech et al. 1978). Bukovskýite and sarmientite are As,S-ordered minerals, whereas the crystal
68 structures of hilarionite and zýkaite are unknown. For mallestigitite, Pb₃Sb(SO₄)(AsO₄)(OH)₆·3H₂O
69 (Sima, 1998), the disordered distribution of As and S is likely, by analogy with other fleischerite-
70 group members. In the crystal structure of juansilvaite,
71 Na₅Al₃[AsO₃(OH)]₄[AsO₂(OH)₂]₂(SO₄)₂·4H₂O, sulfate groups and acid arsenate groups of two
72 types demonstrate ordering (Kampf et al. 2017). Seven H-bearing arsenate-sulfates contain species-

73 defining Cu^{2+} . Arsentsumebite, $\text{Pb}_2\text{Cu}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})$, a member of the brackebuschite group, has
74 partially ordered distribution of As and S (Zubkova et al. 2002), as well as sulfate-bearing variety of
75 thometzekite, a tsumcorite-group mineral with the idealized formula $\text{PbCu}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Krause et
76 al. 1998). As-S ordering was reported for chalcophyllite, $\text{Cu}_{18}\text{Al}_2(\text{AsO}_4)_4(\text{SO}_4)_3(\text{OH})_{24} \cdot 36\text{H}_2\text{O}$
77 (Sabelli 1980), tangdanite, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Cu}_9(\text{AsO}_4)_4(\text{SO}_4)_{0.5}(\text{OH})_9 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Ma et al. 2014), claraite,
78 $(\text{Cu,Zn})_{15}(\text{CO}_3)_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_{14} \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Biagioni et al. 2017), and leogangite,
79 $\text{Cu}_{10}(\text{AsO}_4)_4(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Lengauer et al. 2004), and suggested for parnauite
80 $\text{Cu}_9(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_{10} \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Mills et al. 2013). The crystal structure of barrotite,
81 $\text{Cu}_9\text{Al}(\text{HSiO}_4)_2[(\text{SO}_4)(\text{HAsO}_4)_{0.5}](\text{OH})_{12} \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Sarp et al. 2014), is still unknown.

82 The H-free arsenates-sulfates are much rarer and are represented by nishanbaevite, ideally
83 $\text{KAl}_2\text{O}(\text{AsO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)$ (Pekov et al. 2019), and vasilseverginite, $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$, the mineral
84 described herein. Both minerals demonstrate an ordered distribution of AsO_4 and SO_4 tetrahedral
85 groups and contain additional oxygen atoms O_{ad} , not bonded to As^{5+} or S^{6+} . Both minerals are
86 unique to the active, oxidizing-type Arsenatnaya fumarole at the Tolbachik volcano (Kamchatka,
87 Russia), in which they were formed as volcanic sublimates under temperatures higher than 350–
88 400°C, like other arsenates described from this locality (Pekov et al. 2018a,b).

89 The new mineral vasilseverginite (Cyrillic: *василсевергинит*) is named in memory of the
90 outstanding Russian mineralogist, geologist and chemist Vasilij Mikhailovich Severgin (1765–
91 1826), Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He wrote the first books on geology and
92 mineralogy in Russia (Severgin 1791, 1798, 1807), created the first chemical nomenclature in
93 Russian and compiled the first Russian chemical dictionary. Acad. Severgin was one of the founders
94 of the Russian Mineralogical Society in 1817.

95 Both the new mineral and its name have been approved by the Commission on New
96 Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification of the International Mineralogical Association (IMA No.

97 2015–083). The type specimen is deposited in the systematic collection of the Fersman Mineralogical
98 Museum of the Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow under the catalogue number 95280.

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100

ANALYTICAL METHODS

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102 The chemical data for vasilseverginite were obtained using a Jeol JSM-6480LV scanning
103 electron microscope equipped with an INCA-Wave 500 wavelength-dispersive spectrometer, with
104 an acceleration voltage of 20 kV, a beam current of 20 nA, and a 3 μm beam diameter. The
105 reference materials used are given in Table 1. Contents of other elements with atomic numbers
106 higher than that of carbon are below detection limits.

107 The Raman spectrum of vasilseverginite was recorded using an EnSpectr R532 spectrometer
108 with a green laser (532 nm) at room temperature. The laser beam output power was about 7 mW.
109 The spectrum was processed using the EnSpectr expert mode program in the range from 100 to 4000
110 cm^{-1} with the use of a holographic diffraction grating with 1800 lines cm^{-1} and a resolution equal to
111 6 cm^{-1} . The diameter of the focal spot on the sample was about 10 μm . The Raman spectrum was
112 acquired on a polycrystalline sample.

113 Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) study of the new mineral was carried out using a Rigaku
114 RAXIS Rapid II single-crystal diffractometer equipped with a curved image plate detector (Debye-
115 Scherrer geometry, $r = 127.4$ mm) and $\text{CoK}\alpha$ radiation source (rotating anode, 40 kV, 15 mA), with
116 Rigaku VariMax microfocus mirror optics. Imaging plate-to-profile data conversion was performed
117 using osc2xrd software (Britvin et al. 2017).

118 A single-crystal X-ray dataset was collected by means of a Bruker Kappa APEX DUO
119 diffractometer equipped with a microfocus $\text{MoK}\alpha$ radiation source. A full Ewald sphere of
120 reciprocal space was collected at a frame sweep of 1° to $2\Theta = 56^\circ$. Data collection and refinement of
121 unit-cell parameters were carried out using Bruker APEX2 software (Bruker 2003). Data processing

122 and integration routines were performed by means of a Rigaku Oxford Diffraction CrysAlisPro
123 software. The crystal structure was solved by the intrinsic phasing method implemented in a
124 *SHELXT*-2018 program (Sheldrick 2015) and refined to $R_1 = 0.025$ on the basis of 1428 unique
125 observed [$I > 2\sigma(I)$] reflections, using *SHELXT*-2015 software incorporated into Olex2 graphical
126 user interface (Dolomanov et al. 2009). A complete set of crystallographic data can be retrieved
127 from the CIF file attached as the Supplementary Material.

128 The chemical and structural complexity parameters have been calculated using the procedure
129 outlined by Krivovichev et al. (2018a,b). The chemical complexity was evaluated by the amounts of
130 chemical Shannon information per atom ($^{\text{chem}}I_G$) and per formula unit, f.u. ($^{\text{chem}}I_{G,\text{total}}$), whereas the
131 structural complexity was measured as the amounts of structural Shannon information per atom
132 ($^{\text{str}}I_G$) and per unit cell ($^{\text{str}}I_{G,\text{total}}$).

133

134 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

135 Occurrence and mineral association

136 The Arsenatnaya fumarole is situated at the apical part of the Second scoria cone of the
137 Northern Breakthrough of the Great Tolbachik Fissure Eruption of 1975–1976. This scoria cone, a
138 monogenetic volcano about 300 m high and approximately 0.1 km³ in volume formed in 1975
139 (Fedotov and Markhinin 1983), is located 18 km South of the Ploskiy Tolbachik volcano in the
140 central part of Kamchatka Peninsula, Far-Eastern Region, Russia (55°41'N 160°14'E, 1200 m asl).
141 The fumarolic activity at this scoria cone remains strong: in 2012–2018, we observed here numerous
142 gas vents with temperatures up to 490°C.

143 The specimens containing vasilseverginite were collected in July 2013 from the intermediate
144 zone of the Arsenatnaya fumarole (Pekov et al. 2018a) located at a depth of 1–1.5 m from the day
145 surface. The temperatures, measured during sampling by means of a chromel-alumel thermocouple
146 in the pockets from which these specimens originate, were 360–380°C. We believe that

147 vsailseverginite was deposited directly from the gaseous phase as a volcanic sublimate at
148 temperatures higher than 380°C.

149 On the holotype specimen, vasilseverginite occurs in intimate association with tenorite,
150 lammerite, lammerite- β , stranskiite, langbeinite, dolerophanite, hematite, As-bearing sanidine, and
151 Cu-bearing gahnite. On other specimens, the new mineral is associated also with johillerite,
152 urusovite, ericlaxmanite, kozyrevskite, popovite, tilasite, svabite, bradaczekite, apthitalite,
153 metathénardite, belomarinaite, krashennikovite, anhydrite, euchlorine, wulffite,
154 alumoklyuchevskite, cryptochalcite, fluoborite, sylvite, and halite. The associated minerals are listed
155 in order of the decrease of abundance.

156

157 **General appearance, physical properties and optical data**

158 Vasilseverginite occurs as well-formed prismatic crystals up to $0.02 \times 0.02 \times 0.06$ mm³, with
159 complex oblique terminations (Fig. 1). The crystal forms were not determined. Vasilseverginite
160 crystals are combined in groups or interrupted, typically open-work incrustations (Figs. 1 and 2) up
161 to 1×2 cm² in area and up to 0.1 mm thick, usually overgrowing basalt scoria (Fig. 2a) or crystalline
162 crusts of tenorite (Fig. 2b).

163 Vasilseverginite is transparent, bright green, in some cases with a distinct golden hue. The
164 streak is light green. The lustre is vitreous. The mineral is brittle, cleavage or parting was not
165 observed, the fracture is uneven. The density and Mohs hardness were not measured because
166 crystals of vasilseverginite are too small and aggregates are open-work. The density calculated using
167 the empirical formula is 4.409 g cm⁻³.

168 Under the microscope, in plane polarized transmitted light vasilseverginite is weakly
169 pleochroic: X = yellowish-green, Y and Z = emerald green. It is optically biaxial (-), $\alpha = 1.816(5)$, β
170 = 1.870(5), $\gamma = 1.897(5)$ (589 nm), the estimated $2V$ value is $30(15)^\circ$ and $2V_{\text{calc.}} = 69^\circ$. Such
171 difference between measured and calculated $2V$ values is probably caused by the low quality of

172 crystals, which is also reflected in the relatively high estimated errors ± 0.005 for all three refractive
173 indices. Dispersion of optical axes is weak, $r > v$.

174

175 **Chemical composition**

176 The chemical composition of the holotype specimen of vasilseverginite (in wt%, mean
177 results for five spot analyses) are given in Table 1. The empirical formula calculated on the basis of
178 20 O atoms per formula unit is $(\text{Cu}_{8.78}\text{Zn}_{0.11}\text{Fe}^{3+}_{0.03})_{\Sigma 8.92}\text{As}_{1.98}\text{P}_{0.01}\text{S}_{2.03}\text{O}_{20}$. The idealized formula is
179 $\text{Cu}_9\text{O}_4(\text{AsO}_4)_2(\text{SO}_4)_2$ which requires CuO 64.74, As_2O_5 20.78, SO_3 14.48, total 100 wt%.

180

181 **Raman spectroscopy**

182 The Raman spectrum of vasilseverginite is shown in Fig. 3. The Raman mode assignments,
183 in accordance with Nakamoto (1986), are as follows. Bands with maxima at 1204, 1103 and 1075
184 cm^{-1} correspond to antisymmetric $\text{S}^{6+}\text{-O}$ stretching vibrations, whereas those at 1007 and 982 cm^{-1}
185 correspond to symmetric stretching vibrations of $(\text{SO}_4)^{2-}$ groups. The strongest single band at 846
186 cm^{-1} corresponds to $\text{As}^{5+}\text{-O}$ stretching vibrations of $(\text{AsO}_4)^{3-}$ groups. The bands in the region 650–
187 570 cm^{-1} correspond to $\text{S}^{6+}\text{-O}$ bending vibrations. The strong band at 558 cm^{-1} could be assigned to
188 $\text{Cu}^{2+}\text{-O}$ stretching mode corresponding to short Cu–O distances, about 1.9–2.0 Å (Table 2). Bands
189 with frequencies lower than 400 cm^{-1} probably correspond to $\text{As}^{5+}\text{-O}$ bending vibrations, $\text{Cu}^{2+}\text{-O}$
190 stretching vibrations corresponding to long Cu–O distances, about 2.3–2.4 Å (Table 2), and lattice
191 modes. The absence of bands with Raman shifts higher than 1250 cm^{-1} indicates the absence of H-,
192 C- and N-bearing groups in vasilseverginite.

193

194 **Powder X-ray diffraction**

195 Powder XRD data of vasilseverginite are reported in Table 3. The powder XRD pattern of
196 the new mineral is unique and can be used as a good diagnostic tool. Parameters of the monoclinic

197 unit cell calculated from powder data are: $a = 8.113(4)$, $b = 9.918(2)$, $c = 10.992(6)$ Å, $\beta =$
198 $110.90(4)^\circ$ and $V = 826.2(8)$ Å³.

199

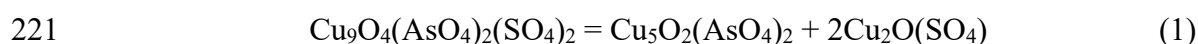
200 **Crystal structure**

201 The crystal structure of vasilseverginite demonstrates a new structure type that has no
202 analogues among minerals and synthetic inorganic materials. It contains five symmetrically
203 independent Cu sites coordinated either by five (Cu1, Cu2, Cu4) or six (Cu3, Cu5) O atoms. The
204 Cu²⁺ coordination polyhedra are strongly distorted due to the Jahn-Teller effect (Fig. 4). The
205 description of the crystal structure of vasilseverginite in terms of cation coordination polyhedra is
206 very difficult because of the very complex system of linkage involving the distorted Cu square
207 pyramids and octahedra (Fig. 5a). In contrast, the description in terms of anion-centered (OCu₄)
208 tetrahedra (Krivovichev et al. 2013) formed by additional O_{ad} atoms (not bonded to As or S) is very
209 straightforward (Figs. 5b and 6). The O9 and O10 atoms are not bonded to As or S and are
210 coordinated tetrahedrally by four Cu atoms each, thus forming (OCu₄) oxocentered tetrahedra. The
211 structure is based upon complex [O₄Cu₉]¹⁰⁺ layers composed of edge- and corner-sharing (OCu₄)
212 tetrahedra (Figs. 6c, d). The layers are parallel to (-101). The (SO₄) tetrahedra are located inside the
213 layers, whereas the (AsO₄) tetrahedra provide their linkage in the third dimension (Fig. 6a). It is
214 worthy to note that the topology of the [O₄Cu₉]¹⁰⁺ layers is novel and unprecedented among known
215 minerals and synthetic compounds.

216

217 **Hybrid character of the structure and chemical and structural complexity**

218 In terms of chemistry, vasilseverginite has the composition intermediate between popovite,
219 Cu₅O₂(AsO₄)₂ (Pekov et al. 2015), and dolerophanite, Cu₂O(SO₄) (Scacchi 1873; Effenberger
220 1985):



222 Both dolerophanite and popovite have been found in the Tolbachik fumaroles and both
223 contain structural units composed from edge- and corner-sharing (OCu₄) tetrahedra (Pekov et al.
224 2018b). However, the topologies and dimensionalities of the units are different. In dolerophanite, the
225 (OCu₄) tetrahedra form sheets (Fig. 7a), whereas the crystal structure of popovite contains chains of
226 alternating corner- and edge-linkage of (OCu₄) tetrahedra (Fig. 7b). In the dolerophanite sheet, all
227 Cu atoms are bridging between adjacent (OCu₄) tetrahedra, either by sharing edges (the Cu_{br[e]}
228 atoms) or corners (the Cu_{br[c]} atoms). In contrast, the [O₂Cu₅] chain in popovite, along with the
229 Cu_{br[e]} and Cu_{br[c]} atoms, contains also terminal Cu_t atoms that do not participate in the formation of
230 the oxocentered structural unit. The Cu_{br[e]}:Cu_{br[c]}:Cu_t ratios in dolerophanite and popovite are equal
231 to 1:1:0 and 2:1:2, respectively. The same ratio for vasilseverginite is equal to 4:3:2, which can
232 easily be obtained as a sum of 2:2:0 (double dolerophanite ratio) and 2:1:2 (popovite ratio). Indeed,
233 the topologies of the oxo-centered structural units in dolerophanite, popovite and vasilseverginite
234 can be considered as based upon the same fundamental building block (FBB) consisting of four
235 (OCu₄) tetrahedra sharing edges and corners (Figs. 6c, 7). These blocks are polymerized into infinite
236 chains in popovite and into sheets in dolerophanite. The polymerization of the FBBs in
237 vasilseverginite represents an intermediate case with the presence of terminal Cu_t atoms, but the
238 resulting topology is two-dimensional.

239 Therefore, the crystal structure of vasilseverginite can be considered as a hybrid of the
240 crystal structures of dolerophanite and popovite. The structural and chemical complexity parameters
241 for the three minerals estimated using information-based measures (Krivovichev 2012, 2013, 2014;
242 Krivovichev et al. 2018a,b) are given in Table 4. In both chemical and structural terms, the sequence
243 of minerals in the order of decreasing complexity is vasilseverginite > popovite > dolerophanite. It is
244 of interest that the chemical complexity of vasilseverginite (Vs) approximately corresponds to the
245 sum of those of popovite (Po) and dolerophanite (Do), i.e. is described by the equation (1) (Vs = Po
246 + 2Do):

247
$${}^{\text{chem}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Vs}) = 47.498 \approx {}^{\text{chem}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Po}) + 2 \times {}^{\text{chem}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Do}) = 42.867,$$

248 where ${}^{\text{chem}}I_{G,\text{total}}$ is the total amount of chemical Shannon information measured in bit per
249 formula unit.

250 In contrast, the total structural complexity of Vs is approximately doubled compared to the
251 sum of complexities of Po and Do:

252
$${}^{\text{str}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Vs}) = 268.930 \approx 2 \times [{}^{\text{str}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Po}) + 2 \times {}^{\text{str}}I_{G,\text{total}}(\text{Do})] = 282.974,$$

253 where ${}^{\text{str}}I_{G,\text{total}}$ is the total amount of structural Shannon information measured in bit per
254 reduced unit cell.

255 Thus, the chemical hybridization of popovite and dolerophanite does not result in a
256 significant increase in chemical complexity (the sum of their chemical information amounts is
257 approximately equal to that of vasilseverginite), whereas the structural hybridization leads to the
258 doubling of structural information per unit cell (the structural information of vasilseverginite is
259 doubled compared to the sum of structural information amounts of popovite and dolerophanite).

260

261

IMPLICATIONS

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263 It has recently been mentioned that one of the aspects that a new mineral discovery may
264 provide is an insight into crystal chemistry or the structures of natural and synthetic phases (Barton
265 2019). The discovery of vasilseverginite brings a new insight into the modularity of structures with
266 anion-centered tetrahedral units based upon (OCu₄) tetrahedra. Vasilseverginite is both a chemical
267 and a structural hybrid of popovite and dolerophanite, and the hybridization results in the formation
268 of a new structure type with a novel layer topology. The Cu compounds with oxo-centered clusters,
269 either polymerized or forming polyoxocuprate clusters (Kondinski and Monakhov 2017), attract
270 much attention in condensed matter physics and materials chemistry, due to their interesting

271 magnetic properties (Volkova and Marinin 2018; Botana et al. 2018; Badrtdinov et al. 2018;
272 Winiarski et al. 2019), and new mineralogical discoveries may provide important insights into
273 pathways of the preparation of novel synthetic compounds (Britvin et al. 2020; Siidra et al. 2020).
274 The concept of hybridization of mineral species developed in this work may bring new ideas for the
275 preparation of novel structural architectures on the border of stability fields of chemically and
276 structurally simpler compounds.

277 The discovery of vasilseverginite also provides further indirect evidence for the existence of
278 polynuclear oxo-centered copper clusters in the gaseous phase (Kovrugin et al. 2015), which may
279 serve as a means of transport for Cu by volcanic gases in fumaroles, thus enhancing the mobility of
280 metals in volcanic environments.

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282

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283

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420 **Figure captions**

421

422 **Figure 1.** Typical crystal group (a) and crystal crust (b) of vasilseverginite. SEM (SE) images.

423

424 **Figure 2.** Bright green aggregates of vasilseverginite on basalt scoria with iron-black tenorite and
425 white sanidine (a) and on iron-black tenorite crystal crust with light blue stranskiite (b). Photo: I.V.
426 Pekov and A.V. Kasatkin.

427

428 **Figure 3.** The Raman spectrum of vasilseverginite (only region with Raman bands is shown).

429

430 **Figure 4.** Coordination polyhedra of Cu^{2+} cations in the crystal structure of vasilseverginite.

431 Legend: Cu atoms = green; O atoms = red. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at 75% probability
432 level. Cu–O bonds longer than 2.078 Å are shown as thin grey lines.

433

434 **Figure 5.** Crystal structure of vasilseverginite shown with cation-centered coordination polyhedra
435 (a) and as a combination of $(\text{SO}_4)^{2-}$ and $(\text{AsO}_4)^{3-}$ tetrahedra and $[\text{O}_4\text{Cu}_9]^{10+}$ double layers consisting
436 of edge- and corner-sharing (OCu_4) tetrahedra (b).

437

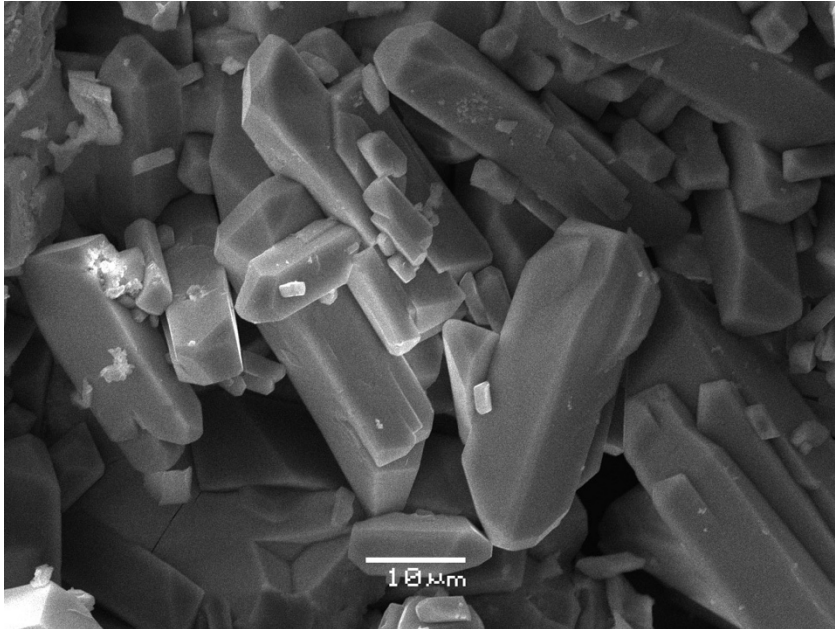
438 **Figure 6.** The $[\text{O}_4\text{Cu}_9]^{10+}$ double layer in the crystal structure of vasilseverginite surrounded by
439 $(\text{SO}_4)^{2-}$ and $(\text{AsO}_4)^{3-}$ tetrahedra (a) and the same layer shown as ball-and-stick (b) and polyhedral (c)
440 representations. The dotted line in (c) outlines the contour of the tetramer of edge- and corner-
441 sharing tetrahedra.

442

443 **Figure 7.** The $[\text{O}_2\text{Cu}_4]^{4+}$ sheet in dolerophanite (a) and the arrangement of the $[\text{O}_2\text{Cu}_5]^{6+}$ chains in
444 popovite (b). The dotted lines outline the contours of the tetramers of edge- and corner-sharing
445 tetrahedra.
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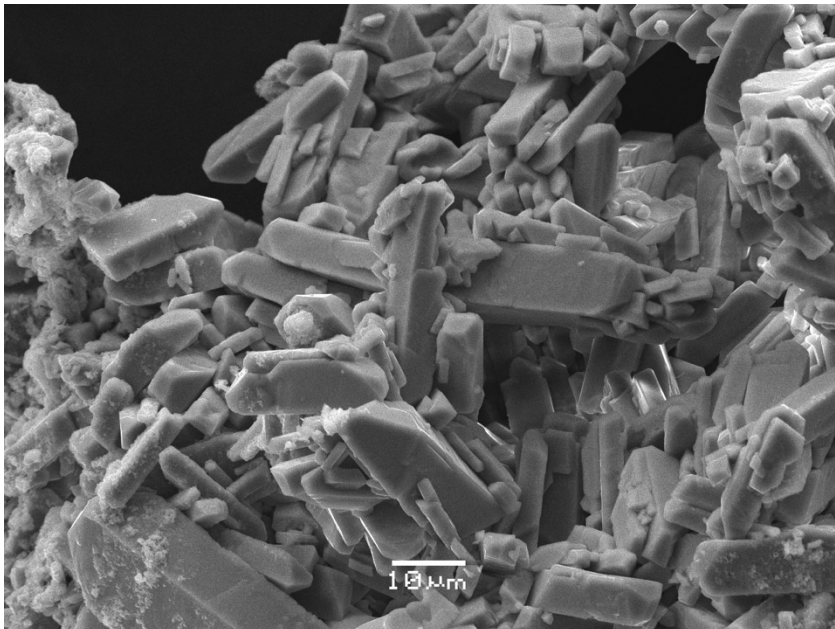
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Figure 1a

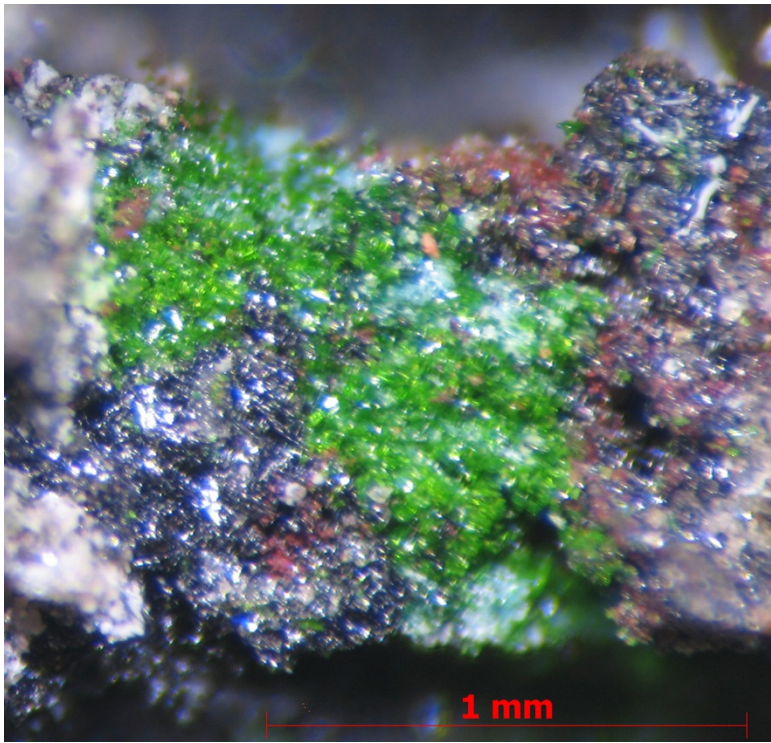


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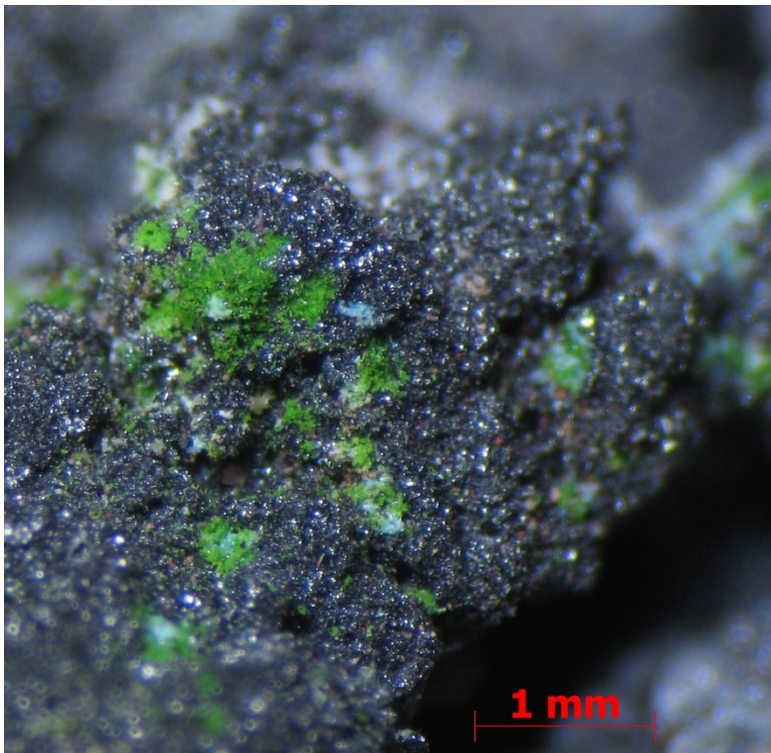
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Figure 1b



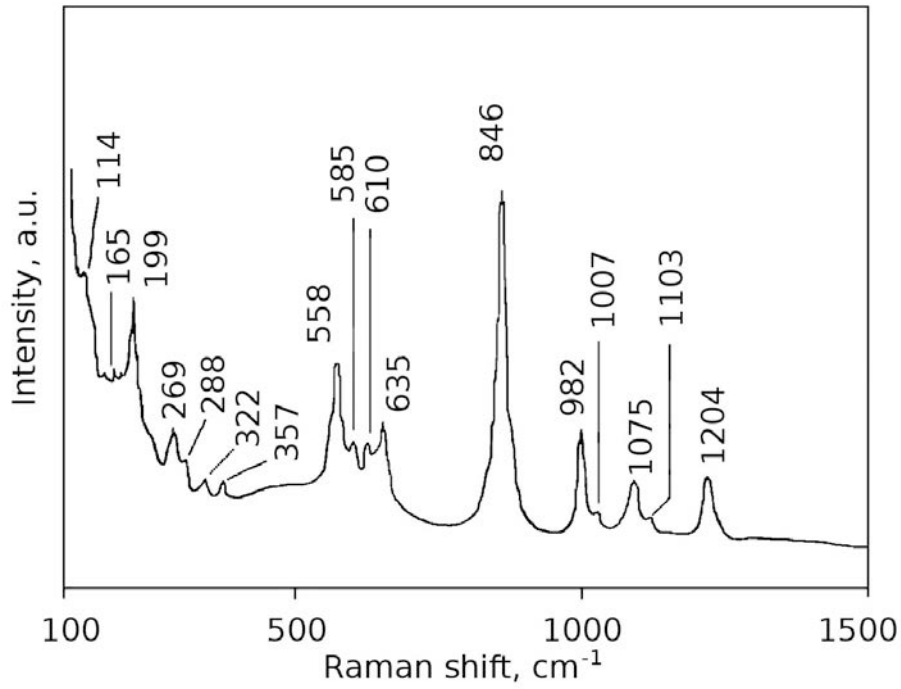
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Figure 2a



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Figure 2b



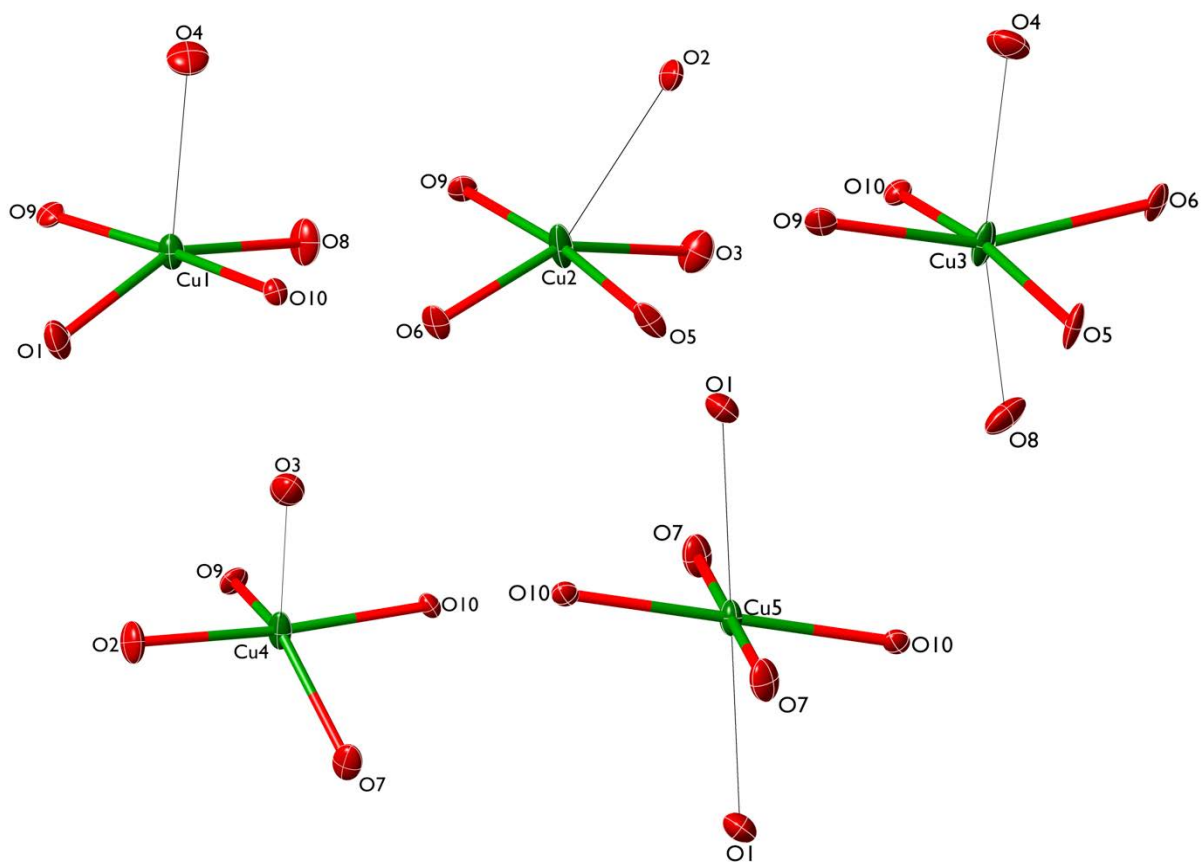
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Figure 3

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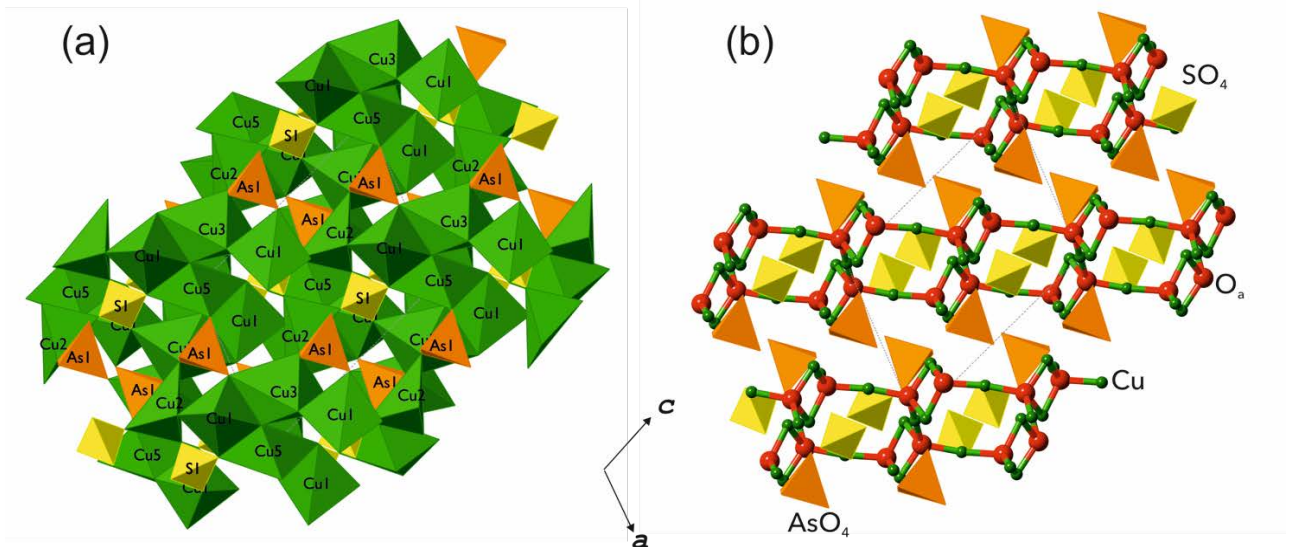
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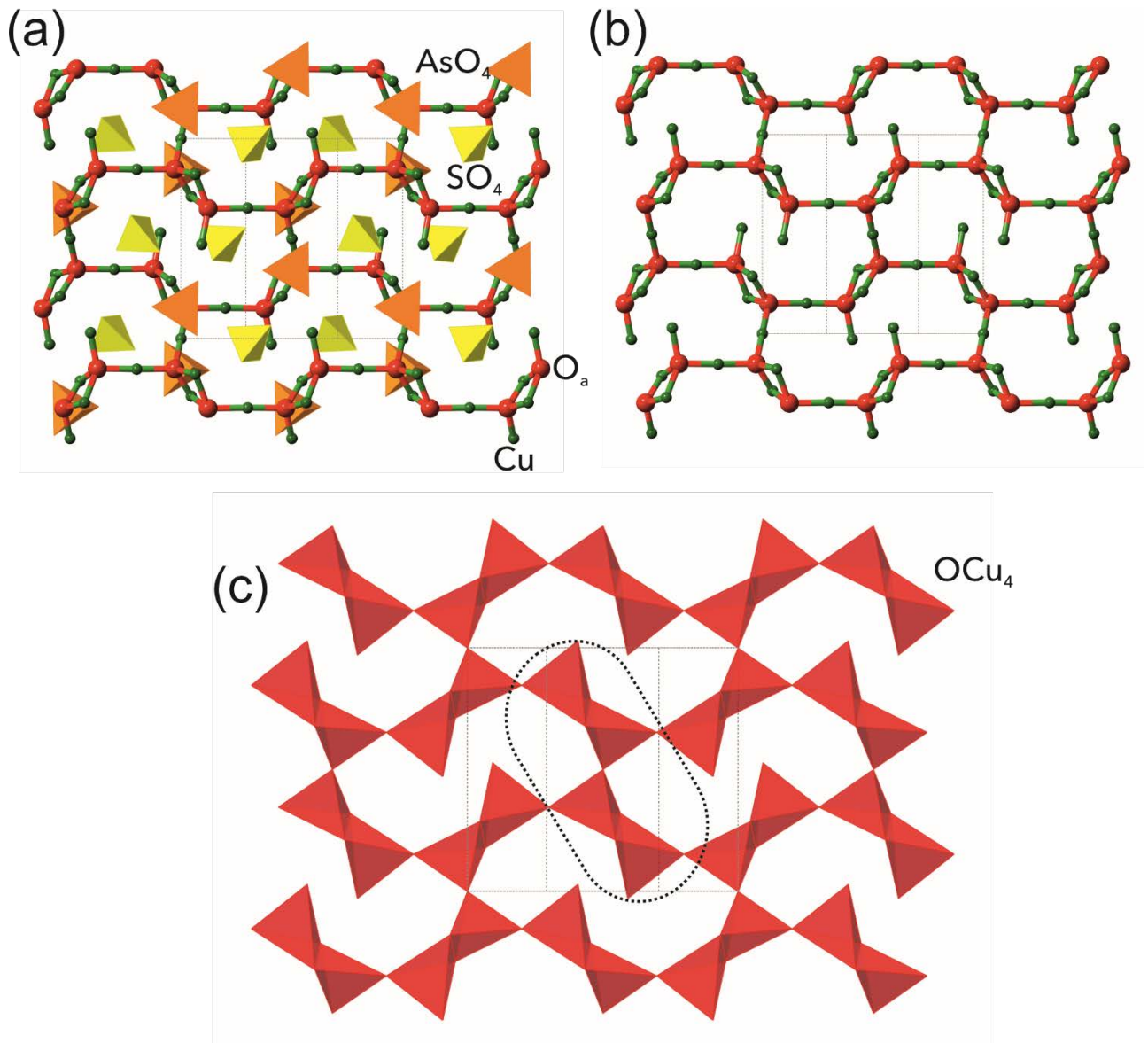
Figure 4

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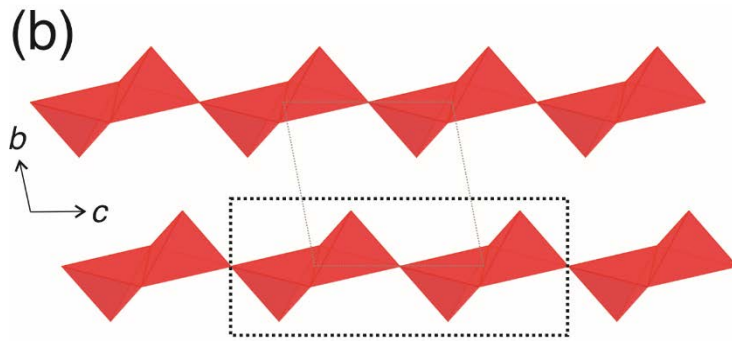
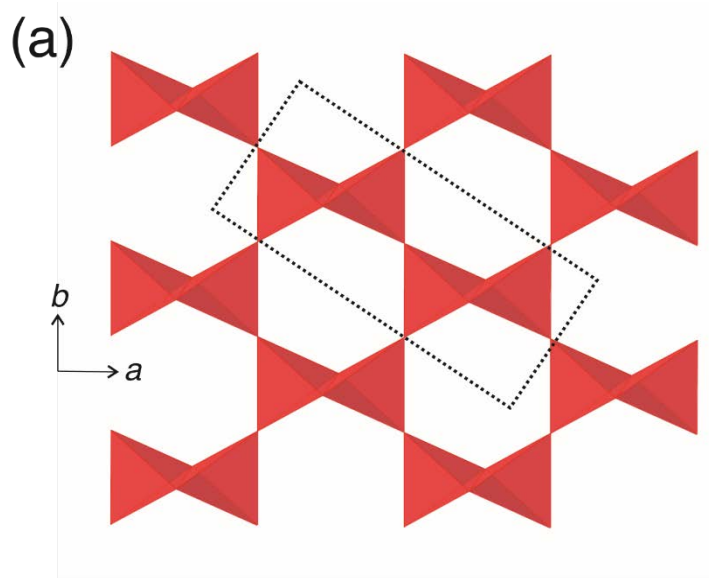
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Figure 5



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Figure 6



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Figure 7

488 **Tables**

489

490 **Table 1.** Chemical composition (wt%) of vasilseverginite

491

Constituent	Mean	Range	Standard Deviation	Reference Material
CuO	64.03	63.53–64.52	0.44	CuFeS ₂
ZnO	0.79	0.09–1.30	0.61	ZnS
Fe ₂ O ₃ *	0.25	0.00–0.60	0.25	FeS
P ₂ O ₅	0.05	0.00–0.14	0.05	GaP
As ₂ O ₅	20.83	20.13–21.48	0.56	FeAsS
SO ₃	14.92	13.14–15.83	1.03	SrSO ₄
Total	100.87			

492

493 * Fe is considered as trivalent, owing to the extremely oxidizing conditions in the Arsenatnaya
 494 fumarole (Pekov et al. 2018a).

495

496

497 **Table 2.** Selected bond lengths (Å) for vasilseverginite

Bond	Distance	Bond	Distance
Cu1–O1	2.039(3)	S–O1	1.490(3)
Cu1–O4	2.295(3)	S–O2	1.501(3)
Cu1–O8	1.986(3)	S–O3	1.504(3)
Cu1–O9	1.982(3)	S–O4	1.453(3)
Cu1–O10	1.941(3)	<S–O>	1.487
<Cu1–O>	2.049	As–O5	1.708(3)
Cu2–O3	2.071(3)	As–O6	1.702(3)
Cu2–O5	1.971(3)	As–O7	1.685(3)

Cu2–O6	1.975(3)	As–O8	1.668(3)
Cu2–O9	1.901(3)	<As–O>	1.691
Cu2–O4	2.440(3)		
<Cu2–O>	2.072	O9–Cu1	1.982(3)
Cu3–O5	1.936(3)	O9–Cu2	1.901(3)
Cu3–O6	2.027(3)	O9–Cu3	2.034(3)
Cu3–O9	2.034(3)	O9–Cu4	1.994(3)
Cu3–O10	1.886(3)	<O9–Cu>	1.978
Cu3–O4	2.530(3)		
Cu3–O8	2.641(3)		
<Cu3–O>	2.083	O10–Cu1	1.941(3)
Cu4–O2	1.965(3)	O10–Cu3	1.886(3)
Cu4–O3	2.390(3)	O10–Cu4	1.900(3)
Cu4–O7	2.035(3)	O10–Cu5	1.914(3)
Cu4–O9	1.994(3)	<O10–Cu>	1.910
Cu4–O10	1.900(3)		
<Cu4–O>	2.096		
Cu5–O1 × 2	2.390(3)		
Cu5–O7 × 2	2.031(3)		
Cu5–O10 × 2	1.914(3)		
<Cu5–O>	2.112		

498
499

500 **Table 3.** Powder X-ray diffraction data (d in Å) for vasilseverginite

I_{obs}	d_{obs}	I_{calc}^*	d_{calc}^{**}	hkl
19	7.50	13	7.515	10-1
41	7.13	40	7.144	01-1
70	5.99	31, 44	6.023, 5.990	110, 11-1
100	5.260	100	5.275	101
46	4.642	41	4.657	111
21	4.560	20	4.571	01-2
2	4.465	2	4.468	02-1
16	4.134	8, 6	4.150, 4.139	120, 12-1
18	3.780	19	3.791	200
5	3.651	3	3.655	10-3
14	3.565	14, 1	3.572, 3.541	02-2, 210
7	3.502	7	3.514	21-2
28	3.451	25	3.461	112
12	3.238	12	3.244	01-3
31	3.140	29, 4	3.148, 3.140	03-1, 22-1
11	3.049	4	3.051	211
15	3.021	13, 3, 2, 1	3.030, 3.026, 3.017, 3.012	130, 13-1, 21-3, 220
18	2.959	20	2.962	122
35	2.821	23	2.823	02-3
38	2.784	36, 25	2.791, 2.782	13-2, 03-2
27	2.668	41, 2, 1	2.675, 2.669, 2.655	113, 22-3, 11-4
18	2.630	30	2.637	202
35	2.597	68, 3	2.604, 2.592	20-4, 31-1
17	2.588	14	2.584	31-2
50	2.556	92, 11	2.563, 2.549	23-1, 212
3	2.498	11, 1	2.505, 2.493	30-3, 01-4
3	2.475	2, 1	2.482, 2.479	23-2, 040
6	2.438	5, 7	2.449, 2.429	310, 31-3
5	2.420	2	2.424	123

18	2.374	32, 14	2.381, 2.362	03-3, 32-1
15	2.353	12, 5	2.355, 3.355	32-2, 14-1
4	2.282	2	2.285	02-4
8	2.239	12, 1	2.244, 2.239	141, 14-2
4	2.207	6	2.217	311
9	2.188	10, 10	2.196, 2.192	10-5, 31-4
3	2.150	7, 5	2.157, 2.144	114, 11-5
5	2.132	8	2.135	213
2	2.108	1	2.112	21-5
9	2.067	8, 2	2.070, 2.067	24-2, 321
5	2.047	2, 1	2.052, 2.046	14-3, 23-4
7	2.022	7, 1, 1	2.028, 2.019, 2.017	40-2, 124, 01-5
6	2.003	6, 4, 2	2.010, 2.008, 2.001	04-3, 330, 223
3	1.973	5, 3	1.979, 1.964	30-5, 312
2	1.956	1, 1, 1	1.961, 1.956, 1.952	241, 41-1, 243
3	1.936	5	1.940	31-5
3	1.914	7	1.918	15-1
2	1.897	2	1.902	02-5
3	1.870	1, 4	1.874, 1.862	331, 410
12	1.853	19, 3, 1, 2, 1	1.858, 1.857, 1.851, 1.851, 1.850	322, 151, 05-2, 42-1, 143
3	1.832	1, 3	1.838, 1.830	32-5, 105
3	1.825	1, 2	1.824, 1.822	233, 34-1
5	1.804	4, 4	1.809, 1.806	23-5, 242
7	1.784	6	1.786	04-4
3	1.759	7, 2	1.762, 1.758	34-3, 250
5	1.713	1, 6	1.717, 1.717	125, 006
3	1.696	2, 6	1.698, 1.692	33-5, 01-6
4	1.671	2	1.676	341
5	1.651	10	1.653	060
2	1.628	3, 2, 1	1.632, 1.629, 1.622	06-1, 24-5, 02-6
2	1.610	2	1.612	234
3	1.593	3	1.595	51-3

6	1.569	8, 1	1.571, 1.570	05-4, 44-2
8	1.553	11, 4, 3, 1, 2	1.559, 1.555, 1.555, 1.554, 1.552	342, 35-3, 51-4, 21-7, 333
5	1.545	7	1.546	34-5
12	1.534	13, 14, 1, 6	1.537, 1.537, 1.536, 1.533	43-5, 33-6, 52-3, 11-7
7	1.494	11	1.495	351
4	1.486	5, 2	1.487, 1.487	126, 35-4
3	1.464	5	1.465	26-3
3	1.432	6, 1	1.434, 1.432	343, 235
7	1.417	7, 2, 6	1.421, 1.417, 1.414	23-7, 16-4, 511
5	1.410	3, 1	1.411, 1.408	02-7, 36-1
6	1.397	1, 3, 2, 1, 8	1.401, 1.401, 1.399, 1.396, 1.396	35-5, 262, 51-6, 423, 26- 4
3	1.376	3, 1, 2	1.378, 1.378, 1.375	530, 20-8, 305
2	1.357	3, 3	1.359, 1.356	52-6, 54-2
2	1.353	2	1.354	54-3
3	1.341	4, 1, 1, 2, 1	1.345, 1.344, 1.344, 1.343, 1.339	155, 03-7, 25-6, 60-2, 11- 8
2	1.323	4, 1, 2, 1	1.326, 1.324, 1.323, 1.321	61-4, 164, 172, 16-5
2	1.315	3, 1	1.316, 1.313	50-7, 26-5
1	1.297	2	1.298	05-6
1	1.294	3	1.293	27-3
2	1.287	3, 2	1.289, 1.285	06-5, 54-5

501 *For the calculated pattern, only reflections with intensities ≥ 1 are given; **for the unit-cell
 502 parameters calculated from single-crystal data. The strongest observed reflections are marked in
 503 bold type.

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Table 4. Information-based chemical and structural complexity parameters for dolerophanite, popovite and vasilseverginite [v in atoms per cell; I_G in bit per atom; $I_{G,total}$ in bit per formula (chem) or per cell (str)]

Mineral	Formula	Sp. gr.	Chemical complexity			Structural complexity		
			chem v	chem I_G	chem $I_{G,total}$	str v	str I_G	str $I_{G,total}$
Dolerophanite	Cu ₂ O(SO ₄)	<i>C2/m</i>	8	1.299	10.392	16	2.750	44.000
Popovite	Cu ₅ O ₂ (AsO ₄) ₂	<i>P-1</i>	17	1.299	22.083	17	3.146	53.487
Vasilseverginite	Cu ₉ O ₄ (AsO ₄) ₂ (SO ₄) ₂	<i>P2₁/n</i>	33	1.439	47.498	66	4.075	268.930

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