

**Crystal Data:** Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* 2/m 2/m 2/m. As cm-sized wheat-sheaf, subspherical aggregates.

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* None. *Tenacity:* Brittle. *Fracture:* Irregular. Hardness = 5-5.5  
D(meas.) = 3.05(3) D(calc.) = 3.102 Deep red fluorescence under SW UV.

**Optical Properties:** Transparent. *Color:* Pale to intense reddish pink. *Streak:* White.  
*Luster:* Vitreous.

*Optical Class:* Biaxial (+).  $\alpha = 1.663(1)$   $\beta = 1.672(1)$   $\gamma = 1.694(1)$   $2V(\text{meas.}) = 71.8(1)^\circ$   
 $2V(\text{calc.}) = 66(8)^\circ$  *Orientation:*  $X = a$ ,  $Y = c$ ,  $Z = b$ . *Dispersion:*  $r > v$ , distinct.

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* Pbca.  $a = 9.249(3)$   $b = 9.076(9)$   $c = 10.342(9)$   $Z = 8$

**X-Ray Diffraction Pattern:** N'Chwaning II mine, Kalahari Mn fields, Republic of South Africa.  
3.19 (100), 4.14 (45), 2.361 (40), 2.807 (35), 2.545 (35), 2.762 (30), 2.521 (30)

Chemistry:	(1)	(2)
SiO <sub>2</sub>	29.47	29.29
FeO	0.18	
MnO	29.28	34.58
CaO	31.33	27.34
H <sub>2</sub> O	[8.89]	8.79
Total	99.15	100.00

(1) N'Chwaning II mine, Kalahari manganese fields, Republic of South Africa; average electron microprobe analysis, H<sub>2</sub>O calculated from structure; corresponds to Ca(Mn<sub>0.85</sub>Ca<sub>0.14</sub>Fe<sub>0.01</sub>)[SiO<sub>3</sub>(OH)](OH). (2) CaMn[SiO<sub>3</sub>(OH)](OH).

**Occurrence:** A product of hydrothermal alteration of primary sedimentary and low-grade metamorphic manganese ores.

**Association:** Poldervaartite, celestine, sturmanite, bultfonteinite, hematite.

**Distribution:** From the N'Chwaning II mine, Kalahari manganese fields, Republic of South Africa.

**Name:** Honors Filippo *Olmi* (1959-2005), for his mineralogical studies at the CNR-Istituto di Geoscienze e Georisorse in Florence, Italy.

**Type Material:** Department of Earth Sciences, University of Florence, Italy (2987/I)

**References:** (1) Bonazzi, P., L. Bindi, O. Medenbach, R. Pagano, G.I. Lampronti, and S. Menchetti (2007) Olmite, CaMn[SiO<sub>3</sub>(OH)](OH), the Mn-dominant analogue of poldervaartite, a new mineral species from Kalahari manganese fields (Republic of South Africa). *Mineral. Mag.*, 71, 193-201.