

Tsepinite-Na **(Na, H₃O, K, Sr, Ba, □)₂(Ti, Nb)₂(Si₄O₁₂)(OH, O)₂·3H₂O**

Crystal Data: Monoclinic. *Point Group:* *m*. In radial aggregates; as prismatic crystals to 1, showing {001}, {010}, {100}, and $\{\bar{2}01\}$, with some modified by {012} and $\{\bar{2}41\}$.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* None. *Fracture:* Uneven. *Tenacity:* Brittle. Hardness = 5
D(meas.) = 2.74(2) D(calc.) = 2.72(1)

Optical Properties: Transparent to translucent. *Color:* Colorless to white and pale brown.
Streak: White. *Luster:* Vitreous.
Optical Class: Biaxial (+). $\alpha = 1.655(2)$ - $1.658(1)$ $\beta = 1.661(2)$ - $1.668(1)$ $\gamma = 1.770(5)$
2V(meas.) = 19°-31° Nonpleochroic.

Cell Data: *Space Group:* *Cm*. $a = 14.604(7)$ $b = 14.274(8)$ $c = 7.933(2)$ $\beta = 117.40(3)^\circ$ $Z = 4$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Mt. Khibinpakhchorr, Khibiny complex, Kola Peninsula, Russia.
7.09 (100), 3.24 (90), 3.15 (80), 2.54 (70), 4.98 (60), 2.63 (60), 2.06 (60)

Chemistry:	(1)
Na ₂ O	5.48
K ₂ O	1.58
BaO	2.60
CaO	0.18
SrO	2.32
ZnO	0.04
Fe ₂ O ₃	0.25
SiO ₂	40.38
TiO ₂	14.17
Nb ₂ O ₅	20.69
<u>H₂O</u>	<u>13.18</u>
Total	100.87

(1) Mt. Khibinpakhchorr, Khibiny complex, Kola Peninsula, Russia; average electron microprobe analysis supplemented by IR spectroscopy, H₂O by TGA; corresponds to (Na_{4.21}K_{0.80}Sr_{0.54}Ba_{0.41}Ca_{0.08}Zn_{0.01}) $\Sigma=6.05$ (Ti_{4.22}Nb_{3.71}Fe³⁺_{0.07}) $\Sigma=8.00$ Si₁₆O_{70.78}H_{34.83}.

Mineral Group: Labuntsovite group, vuoriyarvite subgroup.

Occurrence: In cavities formed by hydrothermal alteration of alkaline pegmatite.

Association: Microcline, aegirine, analcime, natrolite, catapleiite, apophyllite, labuntsovite-Mn (Mt. Khibinpakhchorr); microcline, aegirine, magnesio-arfvedsonite, natrolite, eudialyte, lamprophyllite, neptunite, polyolithionite (Mt. Lepkhe-Nelm).

Distribution: From Mt. Khibinpakhchorr, Khibiny alkaline complex, and Mt. Lepkhe-Nelm, Lovozero massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia.

Name: Honors Russian microprobe analyst Anatolij I. Tsepin (b. 1946) and the suffix indicates the Na-dominant analog of *tsepinite-K* and *tsepinite-Ca*.

Type Material: A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia.

References: (1) Shlyukova, Z.V., N.V. Chukanov, I.V. Pekov, R.K. Rastsvetaeva, N.I. Organova, and A.E. Zadov (2001) Tsepinite-Na (Na,H₃O,K,Sr,Ba)₂(Ti,Nb)₂[Si₄O₁₂](OH,O)₂·3H₂O, a new mineral of the labuntsovite group. *Zapiski VMO*, (Proc. Russ. Miner. Soc.), 130(3), 43-50 (in Russ.) (2) (2002) *Amer. Mineral.*, 87, 1734 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Chukanov, N.V., I.V. Pekov, and A.P. Khomyakov (2002) Recommended nomenclature for labuntsovite group minerals. *Eur. J. Mineral.*, 14, 165-173.