

# Birnessite polytype systematics and identification by powder X-ray diffraction

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18 ABSTRACT

The polytypes of birnessite with a periodic stacking along the  $\mathbf{c}^*$  axis of one-, two-, and three-layers are derived in terms of an anion close-packing formalism. Birnessite layers may be stacked so as to build two types of interlayers: P-type in which basal O atoms from adjacent layers coincide in projection along the  $\mathbf{c}^*$  axis, thus forming interlayer prisms; and, O-type in which these O atoms form interlayer octahedra. The polytypes can be categorized into three groups that depend on the type of interlayers: polytypes consisting of homogeneous interlayers of O- or P-type, and polytypes in which both interlayer types alternate. Ideal birnessite layers can be described by a hexagonal unit-cell ( $a_h = b_h \approx 2.85$  Å and  $\gamma = 120^\circ$ ) or by an orthogonal C-centered cell ( $a = \sqrt{3} b$ ,  $b_h \approx 2.85$  Å and  $\gamma = 90^\circ$ ); and, hexagonal birnessite polytypes (1H,  $2H_1$ ,  $2H_2$ ,  $3R_1$ ,  $3R_2$ ,  $3H_1$ , and  $3H_2$ ) have orthogonal analogues (1O,  $2O_1$ ,  $2O_2$ ,  $1M_1$ ,  $1M_2$ ,  $3O_1$ , and  $3O_2$ ).

X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns from different polytypes having the same layer symmetry and the same number of layers per unit cell exhibit hkl reflections at identical  $2\theta$ 

X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns from different polytypes having the same layer symmetry and the same number of layers per unit cell exhibit hkl reflections at identical  $2\theta$  positions. XRD patterns corresponding to such polytypes differ only by their hkl intensity distributions, thus leading to possible ambiguities in polytype identification. In addition, the characteristics of the birnessite XRD patterns depends not only on the layer stacking but also on the presence of vacant layer sites, and on the type, location and local environment of interlayer cations.

Several structure models are described for birnessite consisting of orthogonal vacancyfree or of hexagonal vacancy-bearing layers. These models differ by their stacking modes and by their interlayer structures, which contain mono-, di-, or tri-valent cations. Calculated XRD patterns for these models show that the *hkl* intensity distributions are determined by the polytype, with limited influence of the interlayer structure. Actual structures of

- 43 phyllomanganates can thus be approximated by idealized models for polytype identification
- 44 purpose. General rules for this identification are formulated. Finally, the occurrence of the
- 45 different polytypes among natural and synthetic birnessite described in the literature is
- 46 considered with special attention given to poorly understood structural and crystal-chemical
- 47 features.

#### 48 Introduction

Birnessite is a hydrous layered manganese oxide (phyllomanganate). Its layers consist of edge-sharing MnO<sub>6</sub> octahedra and these layers are separated from each other by hydrated interlayer cations. These cations compensate for a layer charge deficit arising either from the presence of vacant layer sites or from the coexistence of heterovalent Mn cations in the octahedral layer. Birnessite interlayers incorporate a single sheet of interlayer H<sub>2</sub>O molecules, and exhibit a minimum periodicity along the **c**\* axis of ~7 Å (Giovanoli et al. 1970a, 1970b; Burns and Burns 1977; Chukhrov et al. 1978; Post and Veblen 1990). In the following the term "birnessite" will be used to describe all natural and synthetic materials with such a layer structure, whatever the origin of the layer charge, and the actual configuration and chemical composition of the interlayers.

Over the last few decades, birnessite has attracted a wide interest for several reasons. First, it is ubiquitous in geological environments in spite of the low abundance of Mn. It is for example a major component of Mn nodules, which cover huge areas of the ocean floor and the bottom of some lakes. It is also present in soils, sediments, and Mn-rich ore deposits (Burns and Burns 1977, 1978; Chukhrov et al. 1978, 1985; Drits et al. 1985; Golden et al. 1986; Cornell and Giovanoli 1988; Manceau et al. 2000c). It was recently shown that bacteria play a major role in the formation of birnessite in most of these environments (Tebo and He 1999; Tebo et al. 2004; and references therein). Second, this mineral plays an essential role in different ion-exchange and redox processes because of its unique surface charge, and adsorption and redox properties (Manceau and Charlet 1992; Manceau et al. 1992a, 1992b; Paterson et al. 1994; Stone et al. 1994; Tu et al. 1994; Le Goff et al. 1996; Silvester et al. 1997). In particular, birnessite plays a pivotal role in the fate of heavy metals and other pollutants in contaminated water systems and soils (Chao and Theobald 1976; Manceau et al.

1997, 1999, 2000a, 2000b). Despite its low concentration, birnessite controls the distribution of some trace elements such as radionuclides, Pt-group elements, and rare earth elements (Manceau et al. 1999). In addition, birnessite has also attracted special attention because of its potential use as materials for batteries and other industrial applications (Kim et al. 1999).

Third, birnessite can be synthesized under a variety of physico-chemical conditions and from 0 to 1000°C. Synthetic birnessite is used to mimic naturally occurring redox and adsorption processes, being considered as analogous to natural varieties. Birnessite can be synthesized by the oxidation of Mn<sup>2+</sup> in a highly alkaline medium (Giovanoli et al. 1970a, 1970b; Cornell and Giovanoli 1988; Kim et al. 2000), leading, for example, to the topotactic transformation of Mn(OH)<sub>2</sub> when subjected to the action of different oxidizers. Other methods using MnO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> as starting reagent (Herbstein et al. 1971; Ching et al. 1995, 1997a, 1997b; Chen et al. 1996a, 1996b; Ching and Suib 1997; Kim et al. 1999) include mild hydrothermal syntheses (Feng et al. 1995; Chen et al. 1996a, 1996b), sol-gel processes (Bach et al. 1990, 1993; Le Goff et al. 1994; Ching et al. 1995, 1997a; Cho et al. 1999), interactions of KMnO<sub>4</sub> with hydrochloric acid, and ion-exchange of the hydrogen form of birnessite to the Na- or K-forms (Tsuji et al. 1992; Leroux et al. 1995), and thermal decomposition of KMnO<sub>4</sub> at high temperature (Kim et al. 1999).

These different methods lead to the crystallization of birnessite having different layer stackings and different interlayer structures, which depend on the chemical nature of interlayer cations, their amounts, distribution, and coordination geometry. In addition birnessite is, as a rule, fine-grained and contains stacking faults and/or consists of interstratified layer types corresponding to different birnessite polytypes (Drits et al. 1997a, 2002; Silvester et al. 1997; Manceau et al. 2000c, 2002; Lanson et al. 2002a, 2002b). As a result, strikingly different X-ray diffraction patterns are obtained from birnessite crystallized under different physico-chemical conditions. As a consequence, there has been a lot of

confusion, even in the recent literature, as to the structure of these layer manganates (e.g., Chen et al. 1996b; Kim et al. 1999; Yang and Wang 2001). One difficulty in the interpretation of the birnessite XRD patterns is that until recently even unit-cell parameters reported in the literature were not determined unambiguously. Therefore, determination of birnessite structure was sometimes limited to a general description of the XRD patterns without any indexing or accurate determination of the unit-cell parameters (Feng et al. 1997a, 1997b; Aronson et al. 1999; Ma et al. 1999; Yang and Wang 2001). In some cases indexing of *hkl* reflections was carried out without proper justification (e.g., Le Goff et al. 1994, 1996; Ching et al. 1995; Aronson et al. 1999). Significant progress was achieved recently in the structural characterization of birnessite (Post and Veblen 1990; Kuma et al. 1994; Drits et al. 1997a, 1998, 2002; Manceau et al. 1997, 2000c, 2002; Silvester et al. 1997; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b) and specifically in the determination of their unit-cell parameters (Chen et al. 1996a, 1996b; Kim et al. 1999; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b). However, no systematic description of reliable criteria for the identification of birnessite polytypes is available, to our knowledge, in existing literature.

As for layer silicates (Bailey 1988) the optimal way to establish such criteria is to deduce theoretically all birnessite polytypes taking into account the main crystal chemical features of their layers and interlayers, to calculate the corresponding XRD patterns and to formulate diffraction criteria for their identification. This paper is devoted to such a systematic approach and describes how birnessite polytypes having the same unit-cell parameters can be identified.

#### BIRNESSITE POLYTYPE DIVERSITY

#### Polytype diversity in terms of close-packing formalism

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The two-dimensional periodicity of birnessite layers can be described either by a hexagonal unit-cell, with  $a_h = b_h \approx 2.85 \text{ Å}$  and  $\gamma = 120^\circ$ , or by an equivalent orthogonal Ccentered cell, with  $a = \sqrt{3} b$ ,  $b_h \approx 2.85$  Å and  $\gamma = 90^{\circ}$ . The orthogonal C-centered cell will be used systematically throughout the current manuscript. The birnessite layer consists of two closely packed anion sheets "sandwiching" Mn cations. The anion close-packing formalism can thus be used to describe the mutual arrangement of birnessite layers. As a first step all possible periodic stackings of birnessite layers with periodicity along the c axis of 1, 2, and 3 layers will be considered. Non-equivalent crystallographic sites of the layer oxygen atoms (O<sub>laver</sub>) will be hereafter described with capital letters A, B, and C, whereas positions of the Mn cations will be described with corresponding a, b and c letters (Fig. 1). It is systematically assumed that the lower surface of the first birnessite layer is an oxygen sheet in which Olaver occupy A sites, that Mn cations fill octahedral b positions, and that the upper surface is formed by O<sub>laver</sub> in C sites. Such a layer can be symbolically represented as AbC. In the simulation of idealized polytypes, it is assumed that the O<sub>laver</sub> in the lower sheet of the next birnessite layer in a stack can occupy A, B or C positions. If these O<sub>layer</sub> are located in C sites, O<sub>laver</sub> from adjacent layers define interlayer prisms. This type of interlayer will be referred to as a P-type interlayer and denoted with an equal sign (=). If they are located in A or B sites, Olaver from adjacent layers define interlayer octahedra. These interlayers are referred to as Otype and denoted with a dash sign (–) to distinguish them from the P-type interlayers. Using the above notions, a one-layer polytype having O-type interlayer (Fig. 1a) can be represented as:

$$144 AbC - AbC... 1H$$

Systematic consideration of possible two-layer polytypes leads to two independent hexagonal polytypes having homogeneous interlayers (Figs. 1b-c):

$$AbC = CbA = AbC... 2H_1$$

$$AbC - AcB - AbC... 2H_2$$

With this notation the first digit indicates the number of layers per unit-cell, the letter corresponds to the layer symmetry  $(H, R, \text{ and } M \text{ standing for hexagonal, rhombohedral, and monoclinic, respectively), and the final numerical subscript determines the polytype. In <math>2H_1$  and  $2H_2$  polytypes adjacent layers are rotated with respect to each other by  $180^{\circ}$  around the axis parallel to the  $\mathbf{c}$  axis and passing either through Mn atoms of adjacent layers  $(2H_1)$  or through the "lower"  $O_{\text{layer}}$  (A sites  $-2H_2$ ). In 1H and  $2H_1$  the  $Mn_{\text{layer}}$  octahedral sites overlap in projection on the  $\mathbf{ab}$  plane, whereas these sites are distributed more homogeneously in  $2H_2$ .

Analysis of three-layer polytypes leads to two independent modifications with rhombohedral symmetry (3R). These two polytypes differ from each other by their interlayer structures (Figs. 2a-b):

$$AbC = CaB = BcA = AbC \dots$$

$$3R_1$$

$$AbC - BcA - CaB - AbC \dots 3R_2$$

Two additional three-layer polytypes having O-type interlayers and hexagonal symmetry may also be derived (Figs. 2c-d):

$$AbC - AcB - AcB - AbC \dots 3H_1$$

$$AbC - AcB - CaB - AbC \dots 3H_2$$

In terms of the C-centered orthogonal unit cell successive layers in  $3R_1$  and  $3R_2$  polytypes are shifted by -a/3 and +a/3, respectively. As in  $2H_2$  polytype successive layers in  $3H_1$  and  $3H_2$  polytypes are not related by the same interlayer displacement. In addition, layers from different layer pairs are related to each other by different elements of symmetry in  $3H_1$  and  $3H_2$  polytypes. For example, layers in the first layer pair of the  $3H_1$  polytype are related by a  $180^\circ$  rotation along the  $\mathbf{c}$  axis passing through A sites, whereas they are superimposed in the second pair (Fig. 2c). In the latter layer pairs, Mn octahedral sites overlap in projection on

the **ab** plane, whereas in  $3R_1$ ,  $3R_2$  and  $3H_2$  polytypes, layer Mn cations are distributed homogeneously among all possible sites (Figs. 2a, b, d).

Heterogeneity arising from the coexistence of O- and P-type interlayers in a given birnessite polytype is likely not energetically favorable. Polytypes with alternating O- and P-type interlayers were thus excluded from the current study. However, transformation from one polytype to the other likely often occurs through layer translations. Such displacements occur, for example, as a result of cation exchange or during hydration-dehydration processes. Therefore, among birnessite polytypes some unusual modifications can be formed from one-layer polytype by shifting the layers. For example, a two-layer structure AbC – BcA = AbC with both interlayer types can be obtained if successive layers are shifted alternately by +a/3 and -a/3 along the **a** axis of the C-centered unit cell.

The above idealized birnessite polytypes are similar to those of oxides with general formula  $A_xMO_2$  (Delmas et al. 1980). These authors deduced four polytypes, T1, P2, P3, and O3, which correspond to  $1H_1$ ,  $2H_2$ ,  $3R_1$ , and  $3R_2$  modifications in the present nomenclature. Birnessite polytypes are also similar to those of natural and synthetic layer double hydroxides  $(R_{1-x}^{2+}R_x^{3+})(OH)_2(CO_3,SO_4)_{x/2}$  (Drits 1987; Bookin and Drits 1993) and to those of other natural and synthetic layered compounds (Bailey 1980).

#### Layer symmetry and polytype diversity

Structural characterization of birnessite shows layers with either hexagonal or pseudo-hexagonal symmetry. Birnessite has an hexagonal layer symmetry when octahedral vacancies represent the major source of layer charge deficit (Giovanoli et al. 1970b; Chukhrov et al. 1985; Silvester et al. 1997; Lanson et al. 2000; 2002b; Gaillot et al. 2003; 2005). By contrast, birnessite has an orthogonal layer symmetry when the main source of negative charge in vacancy-free layers is the presence of a high amount of Mn<sup>3+</sup> cations (Post and Veblen 1990;

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Drits et al. 1998; Lanson et al. 2002a; Gaillot et al. 2004). In the latter case the layers have a C-centered unit-cell with  $a > b\sqrt{3}$  (Burns and Burns 1977; Chukhrov et al. 1985; Post and Veblen 1990; Gorshkov et al. 1992; Drits et al. 1997a, 1998; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b; Gaillot et al. 2003, 2004, 2005). Orthogonal layer symmetry results from the distortion of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra because of the Jahn-Teller effect (Drits et al. 1997a). In Mn<sup>3+</sup> octahedra, two Mn<sup>3+</sup>-O distances are indeed much longer than the other four. For example, in crednerite CuMnO<sub>2</sub> Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra contain two 2.26 Å and four 1.929Å bond lengths with an average <Mn-O> distance of 2.04 Å (Töpfer et al. 1995). Similar distortions of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra have been reported by Shannon et al. (1975) for α-MnOOH (2.041 Å – Glasser and Ingram 1968),  $\gamma$ -MnOOH (2.037 Å – Dachs 1963) and  $\alpha$ -Mn<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (2.039-2.045 Å – Norrestam 1967). The random distribution of Mn<sup>4+</sup> and Mn<sup>3+</sup> cations combined with a random azimutal orientation of the long Mn<sup>3+</sup>-O bonds of the Mn<sup>3+</sup> octahedra would lead to unfavorable steric strains, because of the distortion of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra. An ordered distribution of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra all having the same azimutal orientation allows minimizing these strains. According to SAED results, in vacancy-free birnessite layers Mn<sup>3+</sup> are distributed in rows parallel to the **b** axis and have their long Mn<sup>3+</sup>-O bonds parallel to the **a** axis (Drits et al. 1997a, 1998; Lanson et al. 2002a; Gaillot et al. 2004). Because of the systematic elongation of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-ocathedra along the a axis and because the four short Mn<sup>3+</sup>-O distances (1.92-1.93 Å) are similar to Mn<sup>4+</sup>-O bond lengths (1.912 Å for  $\lambda$ -MnO<sub>2</sub>), b parameters are similar (2.83-2.85 Å) in most natural and synthetic birnessite samples regardless of the average valency of the Mn<sub>laver</sub> (Chukhrov et al. 1985; Post and Veblen 1990; Chen et al. 1996b; Ching et al. 1997a; Drits et al. 1997a, 1998; Kim et al. 1999; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b; Gaillot et al. 2003, 2004, 2005). The transition from birnessite having layers with hexagonal symmetry to that having pseudo-hexagonal symmetry leads to a modification of symbol notation for the corresponding polytypes. Specifically, hexagonal one-, two-, and three-layer polytypes (1H, 2H<sub>1</sub>, 2H<sub>2</sub>, 3H<sub>1</sub> and  $3H_2$ ) are changed to the corresponding orthogonal ones (10, 20<sub>1</sub>, 20<sub>2</sub>, 30<sub>1</sub> and 30<sub>2</sub>) whereas  $3R_1$  and  $3R_2$  are changed to  $1M_1$  and  $1M_2$  monoclinic modifications having -a/3 and +a/3 displacements of adjacent layers along the **a** axis (Table 1). In  $1M_1$  and  $1M_2$  birnessite adjacent layers may be shifted along the **a** axis by values different from  $\pm 0.333a$  (Post and Veblen 1990; Lanson et al. 2002b).

## Cation composition, interlayer structure, and polytype diversity

The arrangement of adjacent layers in different polytypes, the presence or absence of vacant layer octahedral sites, the nature of interlayer cations, and their local environments are interrelated structural characteristics. Therefore, it is reasonable to define possible interlayer structures for each particular layer stacking and specifically to propose optimum positions for interlayer cations as a function of their ionic radius and valency (Table 2). This approach also relies on existing birnessite structure models (Chukhrov et al. 1978, 1985; Post and Veblen 1990; Drits et al. 1997a, 1998, 2002; Kim et al. 1999; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b; Manceau et al. 2002; Gaillot et al. 2003, 2005). To symbolize positions for interlayer water molecules (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub>) and cations the capital letters A', B', and C', and corresponding lower case a', b', and c' will be used, respectively.

**Polytypes with hexagonal layer symmetry**. The presence of layer vacancies allows interlayer cations to share one face with vacant octahedra so as to provide local charge compensation to undersaturated  $O_{layer}$ . If birnessite interlayers contain relatively small di- or tri-valent cations, such as  $Mn^{2+,3+}$ ,  $Co^{2+,3+}$ ,  $Cu^{2+}$ ,  $Ca^{2+}$ , and  $Mg^{2+}$ , then they are commonly octahedrally coordinated by  $O_{layer}$  bound to layer vacancies and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ . Depending on the layer stacking mode the presence of octahedrally coordinated interlayer cations located above and/or below layer vacancies can give rise to three types of bonding between  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  and the nearest  $O_{laver}$  from the adjacent layer. In the first [model 1a (polytype 1*H*)] strong H-bonds

link these species as they form empty prisms with short  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ - $O_{layer}$  distances along the prism edges (2.70-2.75 Å – Fig. 3a). In the second [model 2a (polytype  $3R_1$ ), model 3a (polytype  $3R_2$ ), and model 4a (polytype  $2H_1$ )]  $O_{layer}$  and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  are linked by weak H-bonds as they form empty octahedra with long  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ - $O_{layer}$  distances (3.0-3.15 Å – Fig. 3b). In the third interlayer type [model 5a (polytype  $2H_2$ ), model 6a [polytype  $3H_1$ ], and model 7a (polytype  $3H_2$ )] empty prisms and empty octahedra formed by  $O_{layer}$  and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  coexist within a given interlayer, with prisms located on one side of the interlayer and octahedra on the opposite one (Fig. 3c).

The presence of tetrahedrally coordinated interlayer cations located above and/or below the vacant layer octahedra in model 3b (polytype  $3R_2$ ) is associated with the formation of strong H-bonds between  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  coordinating the interlayer cations and nearest  $O_{layer}$  from the adjacent layer. Both species are superimposed in projection on the **ab** plane and thus located close to each other (Fig. 3d). The coexistence of both octahedrally and tetrahedrally coordinated interlayer cations in model 5c (polytype  $2H_2$ ) leads to the formation of empty prisms between the  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  and  $O_{layer}$  (strong H-bonds) on one side of the interlayer and to short  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ - $O_{layer}$  distances on the other side (not shown).

On the other hand, if birnessite interlayers contain large mono- or di-valent cations, such as  $K^+$ ,  $Ba^{2+}$ ,  $Sr^{2+}$ ,  $Cs^+$ , then they will be located in the interlayer mid-plane either in octahedra defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers [model 5b (polytype  $2H_2$ ), and model 6b (polytype  $3H_1$ )] or in interlayer prisms [model 2b (polytype  $3R_1$ )]. In the latter case, interlayer prisms share one face with a layer octahedron and three edges with occupied octahedra of the adjacent layer. Local charge compensation is achieved when interlayer cations are distributed so that prisms share a face with vacant layer octahedra. Random distribution of interlayer cations leads to electrostatic repulsion with  $Mn_{layer}$  despite the presence of layer vacancies. Table 2 lists birnessite polytypes consisting of hexagonal vacancy-bearing layers that differ

from each other by stacking modes and interlayer structures, which are reasonable from a crystal chemical point of view.

**Polytypes with orthogonal layer symmetry**. The interlayer cations for vacancy-free layers should have six-fold coordination by  $O_{layer}$  and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ , and distributed so as to avoid direct interaction with  $Mn_{layer}$ . The 1O,  $2O_2$ ,  $3O_1$ , and  $3O_2$  polytypes are thus not suitable to host large mono- or divalent cations as they cannot avoid such interactions. In contrast, the  $1M_2$  and  $2O_1$  polytypes can host these cations in the interlayer mid-plane, with octahedral [model 3e (polytype  $1M_2$ )], or prismatic [model 4c (polytype  $2O_1$ ), and model 4e (polytype  $2O_1$ )] coordinations.

Model 2c (polytype  $1M_1$ ) represents a special case as interlayer cations cannot be located in a' or b' sites because of the interaction with  $Mn_{layer}$ . However, smaller interlayer cations, such as  $Na^+$ , can be located, together with  $H_2O_{interlayer}$ , in the interlayer mid-plane above and/or below  $O_{layer}$  of adjacent layers as was described for Na-rich synthetic birnessite, hereafter referred to as NaBi (Lanson et al. 2002b). Similarly, in  $Na^+$ -saturated  $2O_1$  polytype the interlayer cations are likely located above and/or below  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers (model 4e).

Relatively small di- and tri-valent interlayer cations may be located above and/or below empty layer tetrahedra (tridentate cavities) sharing three edges with layer Mn octahedra ( $^{VI}$ TE sites). The H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> provides octahedral coordination to these cations and may form either empty prisms [model 3d (polytype  $1M_2$ ) – Fig. 4a] or empty octahedra [model 1b, (polytype 1O), and model 4d (polytype  $2O_1$ ) – Fig. 4b], with O<sub>layer</sub> from the adjacent layer. Empty prisms and empty octahedra coexist within a given interlayer [model 5d (polytype  $2O_2$ )] if interlayer cations are octahedrally coordinated. If interlayer cations have both octahedral and tetrahedral coordination then H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> and O<sub>layer</sub> in model 5e (polytype  $2O_2$ ) form empty prisms and strong H-bonds on either side of a given interlayer.

Vacancy-free birnessite layers can have hexagonal symmetry if the long Mn<sup>3+</sup>-O bonds of the layer Mn<sup>3+</sup>-octahedra are randomly oriented with respect to the **a** axis by n60° (Gaillot et al. 2005, 2006a). Interlayer cations in such birnessite layers should be distributed so as to avoid direct interaction with the nearest Mn<sub>layer</sub>. In this case, suitable interlayer structures are those described for vacancy-free orthogonal layers (Table 2).

#### CALCULATION OF XRD PATTERNS

The XRD patterns calculated for polytypes with the same layer symmetry and periodicity along the  $c^*$  axis have the same d-spacings, but differ by their  $hk\ell$  intensity distributions. Characterization of layer silicates has shown that structures can be approximated by models for polytype identification purpose. The influence of the actual layer structure on the  $hk\ell$  intensity distributions is indeed a second-order effect compared to the differences between polytypes (Bailey 1980). Structure models were thus proposed for each birnessite variety and corresponding powder XRD patterns were calculated. All calculations were performed using the program developed by Plançon (2002) on the basis of the formalism described by Drits and Tchoubar (1990). No orientation function was considered, and no random stacking faults were introduced for the calculations.

#### **Initial structure models**

In all structure models,  $Mn_{layer}$  and  $O_{layer}$  occupy special sites in the orthogonal C-centered unit-cell: (0, 0, 0), (0.333, 0, z) and (-0.333, 0, -z), respectively, where z-coordinates (in projection on the  $\mathbf{c}^*$  axis) were equal to 1.00Å (Post and Veblen 1990; Drits et al. 1998; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b; Gaillot et al. 2003, 2005). According to the close-packing notation interlayer cations and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  also occupy special sites. In the initial structure

models, the z-coordinates of the interlayer cations (Me) and  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  are the sole variable parameters. The initial z-coordinates of Me and  $H_2O$  molecules can be estimated from typical Me-O and Me- $H_2O$  bond lengths for four- and six-fold coordinated Me and from elementary geometrical relationships between these bond lengths and corresponding z-coordinates. For example, if an interlayer cation is octahedrally coordinated above and/or below a vacant layer octahedron, then the following equations are deduced from the hexagonal symmetry of the layer (Lanson et al. 2002b):

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$$z(Me) = z(O_{layer}) + \sqrt{d^2(Me - O) - b^2/3} = z(O_{layer}) + \Delta z$$

330 and 
$$z(H_2O) = z(O_{layer}) + 2\Delta z$$

In the present work, Me-O and Me-H<sub>2</sub>O interatomic distances were determined from the effective ionic radii given by Shannon (1976). Where applicable the interlayer atomic positions were adapted from published structural determination of synthetic Na-birnessite (Lanson et al. 2002a), Ca-birnessite (Drits et al. 1998), H-birnessite (Lanson et al. 2000), and K-birnessites (Gaillot et al. 2003, 2005). In the various structure models K, Ca, Mn, Na, and/or Mg were used as interlayer cations. For the different structure models presented in Table 2, corresponding atomic positions and their occupancies are listed in Table 3.

### **Calculated XRD patterns**

Powder XRD patterns calculated for the different polytypes are shown in Figures 5-8, whereas d-values and  $hk\ell$  indices of reflections observed on the various patterns are listed in Table 4. Indexing is performed assuming an orthogonal C-centered cell for both hexagonal and orthogonal birnessite. Reflections in the 36-64° 20 CuK $\alpha$  range have  $20\ell$ ,11 $\ell$  indices (10 $\ell$  and 01 $\ell$  when using a hexagonal unit-cell), whereas they have  $31\ell$ ,02 $\ell$  indices (11 $\ell$  when using a hexagonal unit-cell) over the 64-75° 20 CuK $\alpha$  range. The XRD patterns shown in

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Figure 5 correspond to structure models in which interlayer Mn cations are located above and/or below layer sites and are octahedrally coordinated by O<sub>layer</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> (VITC sites - Table 3). The calculated XRD patterns (Figure 5) can be used to identify vacancy-bearing birnessite having one-, two- and three-layer periodicity along the c axis and different layer stacking. However, analysis of the XRD patterns calculated for a given birnessite polytype having different interlayer structures shows that for a given birnessite polytype the intensity of  $hk\ell$  reflections also depends on the chemical nature of interlayer cations, their distribution and local environment. For example, interlayer spaces of  $3R_2$  polytype (models 4a and 4b) may be occupied by Zn cations having octahedral and/or tetrahedral coordination (Manceau et al. 2000c; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a) and located in TC sites or TE sites. The replacement of tetrahedrally for octahedrally coordinated Zn cations leads to a significant decrease of 204/114, 208/118 and 20.10/11.10 peak intensity (104, 018 and 10.10 assuming a hexagonal cell), with respect to the strongest  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections (Figs. 6a-b). Location of Zn cations in <sup>IV</sup>TE sites [model 3c (polytype  $3R_2$ ) – Fig. 6c] strongly increases the 204/114 and 207/117 reflection intensities, with respect to 201/111. Important redistribution of intensities is observed also for the  $2O_1$  and  $1M_2$  polytypes when interlayers are occupied either by large K<sup>+</sup> (models 4c and 3e) or by smaller Ca<sup>2+</sup> (models 4d and 3d). The transition from model 3e to model 3d significantly increases 201, 110, 112, 203 and 11-2 and decreases the 111 and 113 intensities (Figs. 7a-b). Similarly, the transition from model 4c to 4d is accompanied by redistribution of the 112 and 114 maxima: strong 112 and moderate 114 peaks for model 4c are replaced by strong 114 and moderate 112 ones for model 4d (Figs. 7c-d).

In contrast, the relative intensity of strong, moderate and weak reflections change very little for the  $3R_1$  polytype when interlayers are occupied by either K<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>2+</sup>, or Mn<sup>3+</sup>. The only significant change in the MnBi XRD pattern compared to KBi is a strong increase of 201/111 intensity (Figs. 8a-b). For the  $2H_1$  polytype, a strong increase of 200 and 203 intensities and a

limited increase of the 206 one is visible on the XRD pattern calculated for MnBi model compared to KBi (models 4and 4b – Figs. 8c-d)

The calculated XRD patterns show the limited influence of the interlayer structure on the  $hk\ell$  intensity distribution for a given birnessite polytype. The intensity distribution is primarily determined by the polytype (Figs. 6-8). As a consequence, identification of birnessite polytypes having either hexagonal or C-centered orthogonal ( $a > b\sqrt{3}$ ) unit cells may be performed without *a priori* details of their layer and interlayer structures.

**DISCUSSION** 

# Criteria for determination of birnessite polytypes

Birnessite polytypes having the same periodicity along the **c** axis, but with different layer symmetry, differ from each other by the number of  $hk\ell$  reflections. For example, the hexagonal birnessite exhibits a single series of  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections, whereas  $20\ell$  and  $11\ell$  series of reflections are individualized for birnessite with an orthogonal layer symmetry. In addition, XRD patterns of hexagonal birnessite usually contains a diagnostic 310/020 reflection (110 when using the hexagonal cell) with  $d = (1.42 \pm 0.01)$  Å whereas for the orthogonal birnessite this reflection is split with  $d(310) > d(020) = (1.42 \pm 0.01)$  Å.

Birnessites with similar periodicity and layer symmetry can be differentiated by the intensity distribution of  $hk\ell$  reflections. Figures 9a-b show that  $hk\ell$  reflections with  $\ell = 2n$  are more intense for  $2H_1$  polytype compared to those of  $2H_2$  polytype. In contrast,  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections ( $10\ell$  and  $01\ell$  when using the hexagonal cell) with  $\ell = 2n + 1$  are significantly stronger for  $2H_2$  polytype. Similarly,  $11\ell$  and  $20\ell$  reflections with  $\ell = 2n$  are stronger than those with  $\ell = 2n + 1$  for the  $2O_1$  polytype (Fig. 9c). XRD patterns from  $3R_1$  and  $3R_2$  polytypes

also differ from each other by their intensity distributions among  $hk\ell$  reflections. The  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections with  $\ell=3n-1$  ( $01\ell$  with  $\ell=3n-1$  ones if using the hexagonal cell) are intense for  $3R_1$  polytype but not for  $3R_2$ , whereas  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections with  $\ell=3n+1$  ( $10\ell$  with  $\ell=3n+1$  ones if using the hexagonal cell) are intense for  $3R_2$  polytype and weak for  $3R_1$  (Figs. 10a-b).  $3H_1$  and  $3H_2$  polytypes differ from  $3R_1$  and  $3R_2$  by the presence of  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections with  $\ell=3n$  (Figs 10c-d). Similarly, intensity of  $20\ell/11\ell$  reflections with  $\ell=3n$  ( $10\ell$  with  $\ell=3n$  if using the hexagonal cell) is significantly lower for  $3H_2$  than for  $3H_1$  (Figs. 10c-d). The intensity distribution among  $hk\ell$  reflections described above for  $3R_1$ ,  $3R_2$ ,  $3H_1$  and  $3H_2$  polytypes remain valid for the equivalent birnessite polytypes with orthogonal layer symmetry ( $1M_1$ ,  $1M_2$ ,  $3O_1$ ,  $3O_2$ ).

Special attention should be paid to identify one- (1H and 1O) and two-layer (2 $H_1$  and 2 $O_1$ ) polytypes having the same layer symmetry. The presence of a weak 203/113 reflection is the sole distinguishing feature allowing identification of the two-layer polytypes (Figs. 5a-b). Note that the difference between XRD patterns corresponding to these two polytypes is further reduced when 1H layer pairs are present in the 2 $H_1$  polytype (that is when AbC – AbC pairs are present in crystals dominated by AbC = CbA = AbC... sequences) as the intensity of the 203/113 reflection is significantly decreased by the presence of such 1H layer pairs in a mixed-layered structure (not shown).

#### **Stacking faults**

The above described method can be used not only for the identification of birnessite polytypes and also to determine the nature of stacking faults which are typically present in natural and synthetic birnessites. Well-defined and random stacking faults significantly alter XRD patterns from defective layer structures (for definition of well-defined and random

stacking faults see Drits and Tchoubar, 1990). Well-defined stacking faults correspond to the interstratification of layer pairs having the same thickness but different internal structure and interlayer displacements within a periodic polytype. As the result of such interstratification,  $hk\ell$  reflections are shifted, and their positions become irrational.

Drits and McCarty (1996) have shown that Méring's rules, initially proposed for basal reflections (Méring 1949), can be generalized to account for the behavior of  $hk\ell$  reflections from defective layer structures. According to these generalized rules,  $hk\ell$  reflections observed from a defective layer structure are located between neighboring  $hk\ell$  reflections of periodic phases whose fragments (layer pairs in the present case) are interstratified. The actual position of  $hk\ell$  reflections corresponding to the defective layer structure depends on the relative proportion of the structure fragments and on relative intensities of the "involved"  $hk\ell$  reflections of the periodic phases.

For example, Lanson et al. (2002b – Fig. 3) showed that reflections of Zn-sorbed birnessite are located between  $hk\ell$  reflections calculated for  $3R_2$  and 1H polytypes and hypothesized that the main  $3R_2$  polytype contained some 1H layer pairs (i.e. AbC – AbC pairs are present in crystals dominated by AbC – BcA – CaB – AbC ... sequences). As a result, positions of  $hk\ell$  reflections of the main  $3R_2$  polytype should indeed be shifted from their ideal position towards those of the defect-free 1H polytype. Accordingly, the best agreement between experimental and calculated XRD patterns was obtained for a defective  $3R_2$  polytype containing 12% of 1H layer pairs (Lanson et al. 2002b). A similar approach may be applied to mixtures containing periodic and defective birnessites. For example, Figure 11 shows the best possible agreement between an experimental XRD pattern and that calculated for a mixture of four birnessites: a periodic  $2H_1$  polytype and three defective ones  $(2O_1/2H_1, 2H_1/3R_1, and 3R_1/2H_1)$ . In the three mixed-layered structures, layer pairs of the  $2H_1$  polytype are randomly

interstratified with those of the  $2O_1$  and  $3R_1$  polytypes in proportions 1:1, 7:3, and 1:9, respectively. Note on Figure 11 that each of these mixed-layered structures gives a diagnostic contribution to the calculated XRD pattern (Gaillot et al. 2004).

In our experience, one of the most effective way to study defective birnessite is to combine the above rules for polytype identification and interstratification to build up starting models for XRD pattern calculation (Manceau et al. 1997; Drits et al. 1998; Lanson et al. 2000, 2002a, 2002b; Gaillot et al. 2003, 2004, 2005). Defective birnessite may contain layer pairs which were not reported so far for natural and synthetic periodic birnessite. Therefore, all theoretically possible birnessite polytypes should be considered to determine the nature of stacking faults XRD by comparing experimental and calculated XRD patterns.

# Birnessite polytypes reported for natural and synthetic birnessites

*H* Polytype. The first detailed structural study of natural birnessite was performed by Chuckhrov et al. (1985) on monomineralic birnessite micronodules dredged from the oceanic floor. The sample has a one-layer hexagonal unit-cell and its structure corresponds to the 1*H* ploytype (model 1a) in which interlayer Mn<sup>3+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup> cations are octahedrally coordinated above and/or below vacant layer octahedra. Ca<sup>2+</sup> and Na<sup>+</sup> cations were also present in the interlayer. This structure model was further supported by X-ray absorption spectroscopy data (Manceau et al. 1992a, 1992b). Analysis of published experimental XRD patterns shows that 1*H* birnessite dominates in Mn-nodules from ocean and lake floors (Burns and Burns 1977; Drits et al. 1985). This 1*H* polytype occurs also in soil birnessite (Glover 1977).

Birnessite resulting from the equilibration at low pH of NaBi (obtained according to the Giovanoli protocol – Giovanoli et al. 1970b) was studied by Silvester et al. (1997), Drits et al. (1997a) and in more details by Lanson et al. (2000). This proton-rich birnessite, hereafter referred to as HBi, has a one-layer hexagonal unit cell and a structure similar to

model 1a. HBi can thus be considered a synthetic analogue of natural 1H birnessite. As natural 1H birnessite, HBi layers contain a significant amount of vacant layer octahedra capped by Mn<sup>2+</sup> and Mn<sup>3+</sup>. The negative layer charge of HBi is compensated for by protons and interlayer Mn cations, and the distribution of layer vacancies is inherited from the ordered Mn<sup>3+</sup> distribution in NaBi. The H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> provides octahedral coordination to Mn<sub>interlayer</sub> and forms empty prisms, and strong H-bonds, with O<sub>layer</sub> of the adjacent layer. Manceau et al. (1997) and Lanson et al. (2002b) showed that equilibration of NaBi in the presence of aqueous heavy metals (Co, Cd and Pb) leads also to the formation of the 1H polytype (model 1a). When Zn<sup>2+</sup> is present, the resulting Zn-sorbed synthetic birnessite (ZnBi) has a  $3R_2$  polytype, in which models 3a and 3b coexist. Interlayer Zn<sup>2+</sup> cations are systematically located above and/or below vacant layer sites but can have both octahedral and tetrahedral coordinations. As a result, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> providing octahedral (model 3a) and tetrahedral (model 3b) coordination of Zn form weak and strong H-bonds, respectively, with O<sub>layer</sub> of the adjacent layer.

 $1M_1$  Polytype. Na-rich birnessite synthesized at high pH (Giovanoli et al. 1970a) was first described by Post and Veblen (1990) as a one-layer monoclinic polytype ( $1M_1$  polytype, model 2c). To refine the structure they used C2/m space group and the Rietveld technique. However, their results were not precise enough to draw definitive conclusions on the origin of the layer charge. Lanson et al. (2002a) showed that NaBi has a one-layer triclinic unit-cell ( $C\overline{1}$  space group) and consists of vacancy-free layers, the layer negative charge arising from the  $Mn^{3+}$ -for- $Mn^{4+}$  substitution within octahedral layers. The orthogonal layer symmetry results from the Jahn-Teller distortion of  $Mn^{3+}$ -octahedra which all have their long  $Mn^{3+}$ -O<sub>layer</sub> bond oriented along the **a** axis. Structural sites of interlayer Na and  $H_2O$ , and their occupancies, have also been determined. The triclinic character of NaBi originates from a small layer displacement along the **b** axis.

NaBi varieties with different monovalent and divalent cations that were exchanged for Na<sup>+</sup> were studied by Post and Veblen (1990), Kuma et al. (1994) and Bartoli (1997). XRD patterns of these different birnessites can be indexed with a one-layer monoclinic unit-cell whose parameters depend on the interlayer cation. However, essential details of these birnessites remain poorly understood. For example, Mg<sup>2+</sup> cations in Mg-exchanged birnessite (MgBi) are supposedly located almost above or below octahedral sites (Post and Veblen 1990). Such a location is possible for interlayer Mg<sup>2+</sup> cations only if the underlying octahedral sites are vacant, NaBi layers being vacancy-free.

Similarly, Bartoli (1997) reported in K-exchanged birnessite the location of  $K^+$  cations in either a' or b' sites, whereas the presence of  $K^+$  cations in these sites would lead to their direct interaction with  $Mn_{layer}$  from adjacent layers, as can be seen from symbolic notations (Model 2c – Table 2). Post and Veblen (1990) reported  $K^+$  positions in KBi that are shifted from the center of the interlayer prism toward its edges.

 $Ca^{2+}$ -for- $Na^{+}$  exchange in NaBi dramatically modifies the initial one-layer triclinic structure of NaBi (model 2c) leading to a four-layer polytype in which layer pairs having orthogonal stacking are shifted alternately by  $\pm b/2$  along the **b** axis (Drits et al. 1998). Gorshkov et al. (1992) described an occurrence of natural Ca-bearing birnessite, which was analogous to the synthetic Ca-exchanged variety of NaBi.

 $3R_1$  Polytype. Chen et al. (1996b) synthesized K-rich birnessite (KBi) with a  $3R_1$  unit-cell (model 2b). The KBi layers contain only Mn<sup>4+</sup> and vacancies. From the refinement of integrated intensities they concluded that both K<sup>+</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> were not located in the prism's centers (a' and b' sites) as in the idealized model 2b but rather in the center of the prism's faces. Gaillot et al. (2005) further refined this structure and showed that interlayer prisms contain three possible K sites, each shifted from the faces of the prism toward its center. Similar positions of interlayer cations were found for Cs<sup>+</sup>, Ba<sup>2+</sup> and Sr<sup>2+</sup>-exchanged

KBi (Gaillot et al. 2006b). The  $Ca^{2+}$ -for- $K^+$  exchange in KBi modifies the initial layer stacking from the  $3R_1$  polytype (model 2b) to the 1H one (model 1a). The driving force for the KBi-to-CaBi transformation is likely the possibility of forming strong H-bonds between  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  providing octahedral coordination of Ca cations and  $O_{layer}$  of the adjacent layer (model 1a). Using mild hydrothermal conditions, Chen et al. (1996a) and Gaillot et al. (2005) synthesized directly Na-rich birnessite (NaBi<sub>h</sub>) having a  $3R_1$  unit-cell. According to these authors, these NaBi<sub>h</sub> layers consist of Mn<sup>4+</sup> cations and vacant octahedra but positions of interlayer Na<sup>+</sup> were not determined.

 $2H_1$  Polytype. Kim et al. (1999) synthesized K-rich birnessite (KBi) from the decomposition of KMnO<sub>4</sub> at temperatures ranging from 200-1000°C. Using the Rietveld technique, these authors showed that KBi obtained at 800°C has two-layer hexagonal symmetry because of the regular alternation of octahedral layers rotated with respect to each other by 180° around the axis passing through layer Mn cations (polytype  $2H_1$ , model 4b). Gaillot et al. (2003) has shown that the actual structure of KBi obtained at 800°C differs from the model of Kim et al. (1999) by several important details. First, KBi interlayers have heterogeneous cation composition with the coexistence of both K<sup>+</sup> and Mn<sup>3+</sup> cations; second, because of the layer-to-interlayer migration of Mn<sup>3+</sup> cations KBi layers contain only Mn<sup>4+</sup> cations and vacant octahedra. Finally, interlayer K<sup>+</sup> is not located in the prism's center. Rather K<sup>+</sup> is distributed over three possible sites, each of which being shifted from the center of the prism towards it faces. Thus, the idealized KBi structure corresponds to the coexistence of models 4a and 4b ( $2H_1$  polytype).

**20**<sub>1</sub> **Polytype**. KBi synthesized from the thermal decomposition of KMnO<sub>4</sub> at 1000°C has vacancy-free layers and orthogonal layer symmetry (polytype 2O1, model 5c – Gaillot et al. 2005, 2006a).

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Ambiguously determined polytypes. Kim et al. (2000) used the Rietveld technique to determine structures of synthetic K-Li-rich birnessites (Li-K-Bi) obtained from the thermal decomposition of a Mn-KNO<sub>3</sub>-LiOH mixture at 800°C and 1050°C. They concluded that the 800°C Li-K-Bi has a three layer periodicity and hexagonal symmetry of layers whereas the 1050°C Li-K-Bi has an orthogonal layer symmetry and two-layer periodicity due to an ordered rotation of layers by 180°. However, the description of these structures was rather confusing because of technical errors. In particular, symbolic notations for the structures do not correspond to the proposed structure models. For example, the 1050°C Li-K-Bi is described as AaB a' BbA b' instead of the actual notation given for model 4b (AcB a' BcA). In addition, unit-cell parameters given for the 1000°C Li-K-Bi are not consistent with the proposed space group. Similarly, interatomic Mn-O distances differ significantly from those expected when heterovalent Mn<sub>laver</sub> cations coexist within the octahedral layers. These authors also describe the structure of the Li-K-Bi sample synthesized at 800°C as AcB a' CbA c' BaC b' (model 3d, polytype  $3R_2$ ), with octahedrally coordinated interlayer K<sup>+</sup> cations. However, atomic coordinates reported for this sample (Table 1 - Kim et al. 2000) correspond to polytype  $3R_1$  (model 2b) with interlayer K<sup>+</sup> having prismatic coordination. This latter structure model is consistent with the experimental XRD pattern reported for this sample (Figure 4 – Kim et al. 2000) which is similar to those obtained by Chen et al. (1996a) and Gaillot et al. (2005) from  $3R_1$  polytypes (model 2b) synthesized under mild hydrothermal conditions. All these experimental patterns are similar to the one displayed on Figure 8a. Turbostratic samples. Finally, one has to note that among different natural

environments, and especially in soils, turbostratic birnessite is extremely common. For example, turbostratic birnessite has been reported as resulting from the bacterial oxidation of Mn<sup>2+</sup> by different strains (Mandernack et al. 1995; Villalobos et al. 2003; Jurgensen et al. 2004; Bargar et al. 2005; Webb et al. 2005) and from abiotic processes (Mandernack et al.

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1995). However, so far there is little unambiguous information derived from XRD data on the structural and crystal chemical of these varieties. Most often the structural characterization of disordered birnessite is limited to the description of 00*l* peak positions as a function of relative humidity to assess the lamellar character of these "poorly crystalline birnessites". The position of *hkl* reflections has also been used to hypothesize the actual layer symmetry (and thus the origin of the layer charge of these varieties) however without much experimental support (Villalobos et al. 2003; Jurgensen et al. 2004; Webb et al. 2005).

However, as described, birnessite having different layer symmetry may be unambiguously distinguished from each other from the shape of their hk bands (Fig. 12). A shoulder, resulting from the individualization of 20 and 11 reflections, is indeed visible on the low-angle side of main maximum of the 20,11 band for orthogonal modifications (at ~2.55 Å and 2.45 Å, respectively – Fig. 12b), whereas this shoulder is logically absent for hexagonal modifications (Fig. 12a). Similarly, the 31,02 band of the orthogonal modifications contains two distinct maxima (~1.474 Å and 1.422 Å – Fig. 12b) which are merged for the hexagonal modifications (peak at ~1.422 Å - Fig. 12a). The features described for the orthogonal modifications are like those reported for the Mn oxides resulting from the oxidation of Mn<sup>2+</sup> by Bacillus sp. strain SG-1 (Fig. 3 in Webb et al. 2005) indicating the presence of a high proportion of Mn<sup>3+</sup> within the octahedral layers of this birnessite. The presence of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-rich rows in vacancy-free layers, as in NaBi, is also supported by the splitting of the 8 Å<sup>-1</sup> feature in the EXAFS spectra (Fig. 5 in Webb et al. 2005) which has been described as characteristic of the presence of Mn<sup>3+</sup>-rich rows in the octahedral Mn layer leading to its orthogonal symmetry (Fig. 9 in Gaillot et al. 2003; Fig. 6 in Marcus et al. 2004; Fig. 5 in Manceau et al. 2004; Manceau et al. 2005). To our knowledge, XRD patterns of all other turbostratic varieties reported so far in the literature correspond to hexagonal modifications.

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In addition Villalobos et al. (2006) demonstrated the high sensitivity of XRD profiles to the layer and interlayer structure of turbostratic phyllomanganates. In their study, Villalobos et al. (2006) observed contrasting experimental modulations of the 20,11 and 31,02 bands, and successfully reproduced them assuming a turbostratic stacking. In this case, the position and profile of the bands depend essentially on the amount and atomic coordinates of both layer and interlayer species, and these authors were able to determine the amount of vacant layer sites, as well as the amount and coordinates of both "heavy" (Mn<sup>3+,2+</sup>) and "light" (Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub>) interlayer species. Such calculations also provided them with an estimate of the lateral extension of the octahedral layers (Drits and Tchoubar 1990; Jurgensen et al. 2004; Villalobos et al. 2006). The influence of the layer and interlayer structure on calculated profiles for 20,11 and 31,02 bands is illustrated in Figure 13. As compared to the structure model shown in Figure 12a (Model 1a), decreasing both the proportion of interlayer Mn and layer vacancies from 0.167 to 0.075 broadens the lineshape of the 20,11 and smoothes out the scattering dip at  $\sim 45^{\circ}$  20 CuK $\alpha$ , thus rendering the calculated hump at  $\sim 50^{\circ}$ 55° 2θ CuKα less pronounced (Fig. 12b). Moving interlayer Mn from the VITC position dramatically modifies the 20,11 lineshape, as observed when the 0.167 interlayer Mn atoms are located above and/or below the tridentate cavities (VITE sites – Fig. 13c). The sensitivity of the 20,11 profile to the position of "light" interlayer species is illustrated next by assuming either the presence of Na<sup>+</sup> above and/or below O<sub>layer</sub> [(0.333, 0.0, 0.5) – Fig. 13d] or that of K<sup>+</sup> above/below the tridentate cavities [Position (-0.222, 0, 05) and equivalent positions – Fig. 13e], H<sub>2</sub>O molecules sitting in both cases above and/or below O<sub>laver</sub>. In the second case, the 20,11 band is broadened and the "hump" observed at ~50° 2θ CuKα in Figure 13d is both shifted towards higher angles and smoothened out. Similar modulations can however result from the partial ordering of the layer stacking (e.g., Ben Brahim et al. 1983, 1984; Drits and Tchoubar 1990; Viani et al. 2002). Special attention should thus be paid to the structural

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interpretation of these modulations, and, in this respect, verifying the structural XRD mode
with independent data from another structural technique, such as EXAFS spectroscopy, i
always warranted.

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885 FIGURE CAPTIONS

FIGURE 1. Idealized structure model of birnessite polytypes. a) 1H polytype. Top: projection along the **b** axis. Open and solid symbols indicate atoms at y = 0 and  $y = \pm \frac{1}{2}$ , respectively. Large circles represent  $O_{layer}$  atoms and small circles represent  $Mn_{layer}$ , atoms. Dashed lines outline specific positions of the close-packing formalism. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers. Bottom: projection on the **ab** plane. The upper surface of the lower layer is shown as light shaded triangles whereas the lower surface of the upper layer is shown as dark shaded triangles.  $Mn_{layer}$  of the upper layer are shown as small open circles. **b**)  $2H_1$  polytype. Top: projection along the **b** axis. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers. Bottom: projection on the **ab** plane.  $Mn_{layer}$  of the lower layer are shown as small solid circles. Other symbols as in Figure 1a. **c**)  $2H_2$  polytype. Top: projection along the **b** axis. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers. Bottom: projection on the **ab** plane. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1a.

FIGURE 2. Idealized structure model of birnessite polytypes in projection along the **b** axis. **a**)  $3R_1$  polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers. **b**)  $3R_2$  polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers. **c**)  $3H_1$  polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines as in Figure 2b. **d**)  $3H_2$  polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines as in Figure 2b.

FIGURE 3. Idealized interlayer structure model in projection along the **b** axis for birnessite polytypes with layer vacancies (hexagonal layer symmetry). **a)** 1H polytype with

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octahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites (VITC position – Model 1a). Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms defined by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> coordinating the interlayer cations and O<sub>laver</sub> from adjacent layers (H-bonds). b)  $3R_1$ ,  $3R_2$  and  $2H_1$  polytypes with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites (VITC position – Models 2a, 3a and 4a, respectively). Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> coordinating the interlayer cations and  $O_{laver}$  from adjacent layers (weak H-bonds). c)  $2H_2$ ,  $3H_1$  and  $3H_2$ polytypes with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites (VITC position – Models 5a, 6a and 7a, respectively). Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms (left) and octahedra defined by H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlayer</sub> coordinating the interlayer cations and Olayer from adjacent layers (strong and weak H-bonds, respectively). d)  $3R_2$  polytype with tetrahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites (IVTC position - Model 3b). Irregular dashed line outlines the strong H-bond between H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>interlaver</sub> coordinating the interlayer cation and O<sub>laver</sub> from adjacent layers.

**FIGURE 4.** Idealized interlayer structure model in projection along the **b** axis for birnessite polytypes with vacancy-free layers (orthogonal layer symmetry). **a**)  $1M_2$  polytype with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below empty layer tetrahedra (tridentate cavities) sharing three edges with layer Mn octahedra (VITE position – Model 3d). Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms defined by  $H_2O_{interlayer}$  coordinating the interlayer cations and  $O_{layer}$  from adjacent layers (H-bonds). **b**) 1O and  $2O_1$  polytypes with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below empty layer tetrahedra (tridentate cavities) sharing three edges with layer Mn octahedra (VITE position – Models 1b and 4d, respectively). Symbols

935	and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra
936	defined by $H_2O_{interlayer}$ coordinating the interlayer cations and $O_{layer}$ from adjacent
937	layers (weak H-bonds).
938	FIGURE 5. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. a)
939	$1H$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in VITC position (Model 1a). <b>b</b> ) $3R_1$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup>
940	in $^{VI}TC$ position (Model 2a). c) $3R_2$ polytype with $Zn^{2+}$ in $^{VI}TC$ position (Model 3a).
941	<b>d</b> ) $2H_1$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in VITC position (Model 4a). <b>e</b> ) $2H_2$ polytype with
942	$Mn^{3+,2+}$ in VITC position (Model 5a). f) $3H_1$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in VITC position
943	(Model 6a). <b>g</b> ) $3H_2$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in VITC position (Model 7a).
944	XRD patterns were calculated using the idealized structure models described in
945	Table 3. $a$ and $b$ unit-cell parameters for the polytypes having a hexagonal layer
946	symmetry are 4.936 and 2.850 Å, respectively, whereas they are 5.180 and 2.850 Å,
947	respectively, for the polytypes having a orthogonal layer symmetry. In all cases the
948	minimum periodicity along the $\mathbf{c}^*$ axis is 7.10 Å. All calculations were performed
949	assuming a periodic stacking mode devoid of random stacking faults. The radius of
950	the coherent scattering domains in the ab plane was set to 150 Å for all calculations,
951	whereas the mean extent of the coherent scattering domains perpendicular to the
952	layer plane is 7 layers (maximum extent: 35 layers). The distribution of coherent
953	scattering domain size along the $\mathbf{c}^*$ axis was assumed to be lognormal (Drits et al.
954	1997b). The values of Debye-Waller thermal factor (B) were 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5 for
955	Mn <sub>layer</sub> , O <sub>layer</sub> and H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>interlayer</sub> , respectively. B factors for Me <sub>interlayer</sub> were either 1.0
956	(metal cations $Zn^{2+}$ , $Mn^{3+,2+}$ ,) or 2.0 (alkali and alkali-earth cations: $K^+$ , $Ca^{2+}$ ,).
957	<b>FIGURE 6.</b> XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite $3R_2$ polytype.
958	<b>a)</b> With Zn <sup>2+</sup> in <sup>IV</sup> TC position (Model 3b). <b>b)</b> With Zn <sup>2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position (Model 3a).
959	c) With Zn <sup>2+</sup> in <sup>IV</sup> TE position (Model 3c).

960	FIGURE 7. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. a)
961	$1M_2$ polytype with K <sup>+</sup> in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 3e). <b>b</b> ) $1M_2$ polytype with
962	$Ca^{2+}$ in VITE sites (Model 3d). c) $2O_1$ polytype with $K^+$ in the interlayer mid-plane
963	(Model 4c). <b>d</b> ) $2O_1$ polytype with $Ca^{2+}$ in <sup>VI</sup> TE sites (Model 4d).
964	FIGURE 8. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. a)
965	$3R_1$ polytype with K <sup>+</sup> in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 2b). <b>b</b> ) $3R_1$ polytype with
966	$Mn^{3+,2+}$ in VITC position (Model 2a). c) $2H_1$ polytype with $K^+$ in the interlayer mid-
967	plane (Model 4b). <b>d</b> ) $2H_1$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position (Model 4a).
968	FIGURE 9. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. a)
969	$2H_2$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position (Model 5a). <b>b</b> ) $2H_1$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup>
970	in VITC position (Model 4a). c) $2O_1$ polytype with K <sup>+</sup> in the interlayer mid-plane
971	(Model 4c).
972	FIGURE 10. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. a)
973	$3R_1$ polytype with K <sup>+</sup> in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 2b). <b>b</b> ) $3R_2$ polytype with
974	$Zn^{2+}$ in VITC position (Model 3a). c) $3H_1$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in VITC position
975	(Model 6a). <b>d</b> ) $3H_2$ polytype with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in VITC position (Model 7a).
976	FIGURE 11. Comparison between experimental and calculated XRD patterns for a K-rich
977	birnessite sample synthesized at 700°C from the thermal decomposition of KMnO <sub>4</sub>
978	(Gaillot et al. 2004). Experimental data are shown as crosses, whereas calculated
979	profiles are shown as solid lines. Arrows outline the misfits between experimental
980	and calculated patterns. Only 20l and 11l reflections are calculated. Atomic
981	coordinates and other structural parameters used for the calculations as described by
982	(Gaillot et al. 2004). (a) Optimum model and difference plot. The optimum model
983	includes contributions from a defect-free $2H$ polytype and from $2O/2H$ , $2H/3R$ , and
984	3R/2H mixed-layered structures (relative proportions 7:29:41:23). (b) Calculation

985	made replacing the optimum $2O/2H$ contribution ( $2O:2H$ ratio 50:50) by a defect-
986	free $2H$ contribution. (c) Calculation made by subtracting the $2H/3R$ contribution
987	(2H:3R ratio 70:30) from the optimum model. (d) Calculation made by subtracting
988	the $3R/2H$ contribution ( $3R:2H$ ratio 90:10) from the optimum model. Adapted from
989	(Gaillot et al. 2004).
990	FIGURE 12. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of turbostratic birnessite.
991	<b>a)</b> Birnessite with Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position (Model 1a). <b>b)</b> Birnessite with 0.67 Na <sup>+</sup>
992	and ${\rm H_2O_{interlayer}}$ in the interlayer mid-plane above below ${\rm O_{layer}}$ (Model 2c).
993	Calculations were performed assuming a turbostratic stacking (100% random
994	stacking faults). The radius of the coherent scattering domains in the ab plane was
995	set to 75 Å. All other parameters for XRD pattern calculations as described for
996	Figure 5.
997	FIGURE 13. XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of turbostratic birnessite
998	having hexagonal layer symmetry. a) Birnessite with 0.833 vacant layer sites capped
999	by Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position (Model 1a). <b>b</b> ) Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites
1000	capped by Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TC position. c) Birnessite with 0.833 vacant layer sites
1001	capped by Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup> in <sup>VI</sup> TE position (similar to Model 3d with interlayer Mn <sup>3+,2+</sup>
1002	cations). d) Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites and interlayer Na <sup>+</sup> (0.30 per
1003	octahedron) and $H_2O$ molecules (0.90 per octahedron) in c' position (+1/3, 0, 1/2). e)
1004	Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites and interlayer K <sup>+</sup> (0.30 per octahedron) in
1005	and $H_2O$ molecules (0.90 per octahedron) in a' (-0.222, 0, 1/2) and c' (+1/3, 0, 1/2)
1006	positions, respectively.
1007	Calculations were performed as described for Figure 12.

1008

**Table 1**. List of possible periodic layer stacking modes in birnessite consisting of hexagonal (vacancy-bearing) or orthogonal (vacancy-free) layers

Layer stacking	Hexagonal layers	Orthogonal layers
AbC – AbC	1 <i>H</i>	10
$AbC = CbA = AbC \dots$	$2H_1$	$2O_1$
$AbC - AcB - AbC \dots$	$2H_2$	$2O_2$
$AbC = CaB = BcA = AbC \dots$	$3R_1$	$1M_1$
$AbC - BcA - CaB - AbC \dots$	$3R_2$	$1M_2$
$AbC - AcB - AcB - AbC \dots$	$3H_1$	$3O_1$
$AbC - AcB - CaB - AbC \dots$	$3H_2$	$3O_2$

**Table 2**. Symbolic notations of birnessite consisting of hexagonal (vacancy-bearing) and orthogonal (vacancy-free) layers and differing from each other by stacking modes and interlayer structures.

		Hexago	onal layer symmetry		Layers with orthogonal symmetry				
Polyt.	Model	XRD (fig.)	Notation	Polyt.	Model	XRD (fig.)	Notation		
1 <i>H</i>	1a	5a	$AbC_{b'A'}$ , $C'b'AbC$	10	1b		AbC <sub>a'B'</sub> , B'c'AbC		
$3R_1$	$2a$ 5b, 8b $AbC_{b'A'}$ $B'a'CaB_{a'C'}$ $A'c'$		$AbC_{b'A'}{}^{B'a'}CaB_{a'C'}{}^{A'c'}BcA_{c'B'}{}^{C'b'}AbC\dots$	$1M_1$	2c		AbC c' CaB b' BcA a' AbC		
$3R_1$	2b	8a, 10a	AbC b'/a' CaB a'/c' BcA c'/b' AbC		2d		$AbC_{a'A'}\ ^{B'b'}CaB_{c'C'}\ ^{A'a'}BcA_{b'B'}\ ^{C'c'}AbC\dots$		
$3R_2$	3a	6b, 10b	$AbC_{b'A'}{}^{A'c'}BcA_{c'B'}{}^{B'a'}CaB_{a'C'}{}^{C'b'}AbC\dots$	$1M_2$	3d	7b	$AbC_{a'B'}^{ C'a'}BcA_{b'C'}^{ A'b'}CaB_{c'A'}^{ B'c'}AbC\dots$		
$3R_2$	3b	5c, 6a	$AbC_{b'B'}^{ C'c'}BcA_{c'C'}^{ A'a'}CaB_{a'A'}^{ B'b'}AbC\dots$	$1M_2$	3e	7a	AbC a' BcA b' CaB c' AbC		
$3R_2$	3c	6c	$AbC_{a'A'}, {}^{A'a'}BcA_{b'B'}, {}^{B'b'}CaB_{c'C'}, {}^{C'c'}AbC\dots$						
$2H_1$	4a	5d, 8d, 9b	$AbC_{b'A'}, {}^{A'b'}CbA_{b'C'}, {}^{C'b'}AbC\dots$	$2O_1$	4c	7c, 9c	AbC a' CbA c' AbC		
$2H_1$	4b	8c	AbC a'/C' CbA c'/A' AbC	$2O_1$	4d	7d	$AbC_{a'B'}, {}^{B'a'}CbA_{c'B'}, {}^{B'c'}AbC\dots$		
		5e, 9a		$2O_1$	4e		AbC c' CbA a' AbC		
$2H_2$	5a		$AbC_{b'A'}^{}{}^{B'c'}AcB_{c'A'}^{}{}^{C'b'}AbC\dots$	$2O_2$	5d		$AbC_{a'B'}{}^{C'b'}AcB_{a'C'}{}^{B'c'}AbC\dots$		

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$2H_2$	5b		AbC b' AcB c' AbC	$2O_2$	5e	$AbC_{a'A'}^{C'b'}AcB_{a'A'}^{B'c'}AbC\dots$
$2H_2$	5c		$AbC_{b'A'}\ ^{C'c'}AcB_{c'A'}\ ^{B'b'}AbC\dots$			
$3H_1$	6a	5f, 10c	$AbC_{b^{\prime}A^{\prime}}{}^{B^{\prime}c^{\prime}}AcB_{c^{\prime}A^{\prime}}{}^{B^{\prime}c^{\prime}}AcB_{c^{\prime}A^{\prime}}{}^{C^{\prime}b^{\prime}}AbC$			
$3H_1$	6b	5g, 10d	AbC b' AcB c' AcB c' AbC			
$3H_2$	7a		$AbC_{b'A'}{}^{B'c'}AcB_{c'A'}{}^{B'a'}CaB_{a'C'}{}^{C'b'}AbC\dots$			

**Table 3**. Atomic positions and site occupancies for the idealized structure models described in Table 2.

Model		1a	2a	2b
Polytype		1 <i>H</i>	$3R_1$	$3R_1$
XRD	Fig.	5a	5b, 8b	8a
pattern			ŕ	
Mn <sub>layer</sub>	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0
•	$y^a$	0	0	0
	ζ <sup>b</sup>	0	0	0
	occ	0.833	0.833	0.925
$O_{layer}$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333
•	$y^a$	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{\mathrm{b}}$	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00
	Occ	1 x 2	1 x 2	1 x 2
Cat. Inter.	Type	Mn	Mn	K
	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0.000	0.000	0
	$y^a$	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{\mathrm{b}}$	+/-2.15	+/-2.15	+/-3.55
	Occ	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2	0.15  x2
$H_2O$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	-/+0.333	-/+0.333	+/-0.333
	$y^a$	0	0	0
	ζb	+/-3.35	+/-3.35	+/-3.55
	Occ	0.250  x2	0.250 x2	0.300 x2
Interlayer shift		0.0	-0.333 <i>a</i>	-0.333 <i>a</i>

*Notes:*  $^{a}x$  and y atomic positions are expressed in fraction of ideal C-centered unit-cell a and b parameters, respectively. x positions are given in projection normal to the **ab** plane.  $^{b}Position \zeta$  along c is expressed in Å to emphasize the thickness of layer and interlayer polyhedra. Occupancy (occ) is given as the sum of all equivalent sites.

 Table 3. (continued).

Model		3a	3b	3c	3d	3e
Polytype		$3R_2$	$3R_2$	$3R_2$	1 <i>M</i> <sub>2</sub>	1 <i>M</i> <sub>2</sub>
XRD	Fig.	8b, 10b	5c, 6a	6c	7b	7a
pattern						
Mn <sub>layer</sub>	x <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
,	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	0	0	0	0	0
	Occ	0.833	0.833	0.833	0.833	1.000
$O_{layer}$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333
	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00
	Occ	2	2	2	2	2
Cat. Inter.	Type	Zn	Zn	Zn	Ca	K
	Xa	0.000	0.000	-/+0.333	-/+0.333	-/+0.333
	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	+/-2.20	+/-1.77	+/-1.77	+/-2.30	+/-3.55
	Occ	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2	0.150  x2
$H_2O^c$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	-/+0.333	0	-/+0.333	0	-/+0.333
	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	+/-3.55	+/-3.70	+/-3.70	+/-3.70	+/-3.55
	Occ	0.250 x2	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2	0.250  x2	0.300  x2
Int. shift		+0.333a	+0.333a	+0.333a	+0.333a	+0.333a

 Table 3. (continued).

Model		4a	4b	4c	4d	5a
Polytype		$2H_1$	$2H_1$	$2O_1$	$2O_1$	$2H_2$
XRD	Fig.	5d, 8d, 9b, 10d	8c	7c	7d	5e, 9a
pattern						·
Mn <sub>layer</sub>	x <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
•	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathrm{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	0	0	0	0	0
	Occ	0.833	0.925	1.000	1.000	0.833
$O_{layer}$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333
-	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathrm{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{ m b}$	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00	+/-1.00
	Occ	2	2	2	2	2
Cat. Inter.	Type	Mn	K	K	Ca	Mn
	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0.000	-0.222	-0.222	-/+0.333	0
	Λ	0.000	0.111/0.111	0.111/0.111	7 10.555	U
	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	-		+/-0.333	+/-0.333		
	$\zeta^{ m b}$	+/-2.15	3.55	3.55	+/-2.30	+/-2.15
_	Occ	0.0833 x2	0.100 x3	0.100  x3	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2
$H_2O^c$	xa	-/+0.333	0.333	0.333	0	-/+0.333
	$\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{x}}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{ m b}$	+/-3.35	+3.55	+3.55	+/-3.70	+/-3.35
	Occ	0.250 x2	0.600	0.600	0.250 x2	0.250 x2
$Mn_{layer}$	x <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0	0.333
	$\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{y}}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{ m b}$	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10
	Occ	0.833	0.925	1.000	1.000	0.833
$O_{layer}$	x <sup>a</sup>	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	+/-0.333	-0.333/0.000
	$\mathbf{y}_{\mathbf{x}}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0	0	0	0
	$\zeta^{\mathrm{b}}$	6.10/8.10	6.10/8.10	6.10/8.10	6.10/8.10	6.10/8.10
	Occ	2	2	2	2	2
Cat. Inter.	Type	Mn	K	K	Ca	Mn
	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0.000	0.222	0.222	-/+0.333	0.333
	••	0.000	-0.111/-0.111	-0.111/-0.111	, 0.555	0.555
	$y^a$	0	0	0	0	0
			+/-0.333	+/-0.333		
	$\zeta^{\rm b}$	4.95/9.25	10.65	10.65	4.80/9.40	4.95/9.25
TT 00	Occ	0.0833  x2	0.100  x3	0.100  x3	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2
$H_2O^c$	x <sup>a</sup>	-/+0.333	-0.333	-0.333	0	0.000/-0.333
	y <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
	ζb	3.75/10.45	10.65	10.65	3.40/10.80	3.75/10.45
1.0	Occ	0.250 x2	0.600	0.600	0.250  x2	0.250 x2
Int. shift		0	0	0	0	0

 Table 3. (continued).

N. 1.1					
Model		6a	7a		
Polytype	г: -	3H <sub>1</sub>	$3H_2$		
XRD	Fig.	51, 10c	5f, 10c 5g		
pattern	x <sup>a</sup>	0 0			
$Mn_{layer}$		$0 \\ 0$	$0 \\ 0$		
	$y^a \ \zeta^b$		0		
	5	0 0.833	0.833		
0	occ x <sup>a</sup>	+/-0.333	+/-0.333		
$O_{layer}$	Λ v <sup>a</sup>	0	0		
	y <sup>a</sup> ζ <sup>b</sup>	+/-1.00	+/-1.00		
Cat. Inter.	occ Type	2 2 Mn Mn			
Cat. Iliter.	Type x <sup>a</sup>	0	Mn 0		
		0	0		
	$egin{array}{c} y^a \ \zeta^b \end{array}$	+/-2.15	+/-2.15		
		0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2		
	occ	0.0655 XZ	0.0633 X2		
$H_2O^c$	$\mathbf{x}^{a}$	-/+0.333	-/+0.333		
1120	v <sup>a</sup>	-/±0.333 0	-/+0.333 0		
	$y^a \ \zeta^b$	+/-3.35	+/-3.35		
	5	0.250  x2	0.250  x2		
Mn	occ x <sup>a</sup>	0.230 X2 0.333	0.333		
$Mn_{layer}$	Λ v <sup>a</sup>	0.333	0.555		
	$y^a \ \zeta^b$	7.10	7.10		
		0.833	0.833		
0	occ x <sup>a</sup>	-0.333/0.000	-0.333/0.000		
$O_{layer}$	y <sup>a</sup>	0.33370.000	0.33370.000		
	ς <sup>b</sup>	6.10/8.10	6.10/8.10		
	occ	2	2		
Cat. Inter.	Туре	Mn	Mn		
Cut. Inter.	x <sup>a</sup>	0.333	0.333		
	y <sup>a</sup>	0	0.555		
	ς <sup>b</sup>	4.95/9.25	4.95/9.25		
	occ	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2		
$H_2O^c$	xa	0.000/-0.333	0.000/-0.333		
1120	$y^a$	0	0		
	ζb	3.75/10.45	3.75/10.45		
	occ	0.250  x2	0.250  x2		
Mn <sub>layer</sub>	xª	0.333	-0.333		
iayer	y <sup>a</sup>	0	0.555		
	ζb	14.20	14.20		
	occ	0.833	0.833		
$O_{layer}$	x <sup>a</sup>	-0.333/0.000	0.333/0.000		
- idyei	v <sup>a</sup>	0	0		
	$y^{a} \ \zeta^{b}$	13.20/15.20	13.20/15.20		
	occ	2	2		
Cat. Inter.	Туре	Mn	Mn		
	Xa	0.333	-0.333		
	y <sup>a</sup>	0	0		
	ζb	12.05/16.35	12.05/16.35		
	occ	0.0833 x2	0.0833 x2		
	•				
$H_2O^c$	$\mathbf{x}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0.000/-0.333	0.000/0.333		
	$\mathbf{y}^{\mathbf{a}}$	0	0		
	$\zeta^{\mathrm{b}}$	10.85/17.55	10.85/17.55		
	occ	0.250 x2	0.250 x2		
Int. shift		0	0		

**Table 4A**. Calculated d(hkl) values for birnessite polytypes consisting of vacancy-bearing layers having a hexagonal layer symmetry (See Table 1).

Polytype	1 <i>H</i>	2 <i>H</i>	3R/3H
d(hkl)	hkl	hkl	hkl
2.468	200,110	200,110	200,110
2.452	-	-	201,111
2.432	-	201,111	-
2.404	-	-	202,112
2.331	201,111	202,112	203,113
2.239	-	-	204,114
2.188	-	203,113	-
2.136	-	- -	205,115
2.026	202,112	204,114	206,116
1.917	-	-	207,117
1.863		205,115	<del>-</del>
1.810	-	-	208,118
1.708	203,113	206,116	209,119
1.613	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	20.10,11.10
1.567		207,117	<del>-</del>
1.523	-	- -	20.11,11.11
1.441	204,114	208,118	20.12,11.12
1.425	020,310	020,310	020,310
1.422	-	-	021,311
1.418	-	021,311	<del>-</del>
1.412	-	-	022,312
1.397	021,311	022,312	023,313
1.376	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>	024,314
1.365	-	-	20.13,11.13
1.364	-	023,313	<u>-</u>
1.351	-	- -	025,315
1.329	-	209,119	<del>-</del>
1.322	022,312	024,314	026,316
1.295	<u>-</u>	- -	20.14, 11.14
1.290	-	-	027,317
1.274	-	025,315	- -
1.256	-	- -	028,318
1.231	-	20.10,11.10	20.15,11.15
1.221	023,313	026,316	029,319

*Notes:* a and b unit-cell parameters are 4.936, and 2.850 Å, respectively. The minimum periodicity along the  $\mathbf{c}^*$  axis is 7.10 Å for all polytypes.

**Table 4B**. Calculated d(hkl) values for birnessite polytypes consisting of vacancy-free layers having an orthogonal layer symmetry (See Table 1)

Polytype	10	$1M_1$	$1M_2$	$2O_1/2O_2$
$\frac{1 \text{ olytype}}{\text{d}(hkl)}$	Hkl	hkl	Hkl	hkl
2.590	200	TUCU	IINI	200
2.571	200	20-1	201	200
2.548		20 1	201	201/20-1
2.517		200	200	201/20-1
2.497	110	200	200	110
2.480	110	110	110	110
2.459		110	110	111/11-1
2.433	201/20-1			202/20-2
2.431	201/20 1	11-1	111	202/20 2
2.356	111/11-1	11-1	111	112/11-2
2.329	111/11 1	20-2	202	112/11 2
2.272		20 2	202	203/20-3
2.261		111	11-1	203/20-3
2.214		201	20-1	
2.209		201	20-1	113/11-3
2.154		11-2	112	113/11-3
2.092	202/20-2	11 2	112	204/20-4
2.042	112/11-2			114/11-4
1.972	112/11-2	20-3	203	117/11-7
1.930		112	11-2	
1.914		112	11-2	205/20-5
1.875				115/11-5
1.857		202	20-2	113/11-3
1.821		11-3	113	
1.747	203/20-3	11-3	113	206/20-6
1.718	113/11-3			116/11-6
1.645	113/11 3	20-4	204	110/11 0
1.621		113	11-3	
1.597		113	11-3	207/20-7
1.574				117/11-7
1.551		203	20-3	11//11 /
1.530		11-4	114	
1.477	310	31-1	311	310
1.469	310	31 1	311	311/31-1
1.464	204/20-4			208/20-8
1.447	114/11-4			118/11-8
1.446	311/31-1	310/31-2	310/312	312/31-2
1.425	020	020	020	020
1.418	0_0	0_0	020	021/02-1
1.410				313/31-3
1.397	021/02-1	021/02-1	021/02-1	022/02-2
1.384		20-5	205	
1.370		114	11-4	
1.365				023/02-3
1.364	312/31-2	311	31-1	314/31-4
1.363		31-3	313	
1.347				209/20-9
1.334				119/11-9
1.322	022/02-2	022/02-2	022/02-2	024/02-4
1.312		204	20-4	· = · · · = ·
1.310				315/31-5
1.299		11-5	115	- · - · <del>-</del>
1.274				025/02-5
1.253	313/31-3	312/31-4	314/31-2	316/31-6
1.245	205/20-5			20.10/2010
1.234	115/11-5			11.10/1110

## Drits, Lanson, Gaillot

1.221 023/02-3 023/02-3 023/02-3 026/02-6

Notes: a and b unit-cell parameters are 5.180 and 2.850 Å, respectively. The minimum periodicity along the  $c^*$  axis is 7.10 Å for all polytypes. The  $\beta$  angle is

minimum periodicity along the  $\mathbf{c}^*$  axis is 7.10 Å for all polytypes. The  $\beta$  angle is 103.65 and 76.35° for  $1M_1$  and  $1M_2$  polytypes, respectively.





















































