

Birnessite polytype systematics and identification by powder X-ray diffraction

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18 **ABSTRACT**

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20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 The polytypes of birnessite with a periodic stacking along the **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 **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 ($a = \sqrt{3} b$, $b_h \approx 2.85 \text{ Å}$ 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 $(1O, 1)$ $2O_1$, $2O_2$, $1M_1$, $1M_2$, $3O_1$, and $3O_2$).

31 32 33 34 35 36 37 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 2θ 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.

38 39 40 41 42 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

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

48 **INTRODUCTION**

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50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 Birnessite is a hydrous layered manganese oxide (phyllomanganate). Its layers consist of edge-sharing MnO_6 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 H₂O 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.

60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 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.

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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). 73 74 75 76

77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 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^{2+} 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 $Mn(OH)$ ₂ when subjected to the action of different oxidizers. Other methods using MnO₄ 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 KMnO4 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 KMnO₄ at high temperature (Kim et al. 1999).

90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 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. 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112

113 114 115 116 117 118 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.

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BIRNESSITE POLYTYPE DIVERSITY

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122 **Polytype diversity in terms of close-packing formalism**

123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 The two-dimensional periodicity of birnessite layers can be described either by a hexagonal unit-cell, with $a_h = b_h \approx 2.85$ 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_{layer}) 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 Olayer occupy A sites, that Mn cations fill octahedral b positions, and that the upper surface is formed by O_{layer} in C sites. Such a layer can be symbolically represented as AbC. In the simulation of idealized polytypes, it is assumed that the O_{layer} in the lower sheet of the next birnessite layer in a stack can occupy A, B or C positions. If these O_{layer} are located in C sites, Olayer 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, Olayer 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:

$$
144 \qquad \qquad \text{AbC} - \text{AbC} \dots \qquad \qquad 1H
$$

145 146 Systematic consideration of possible two-layer polytypes leads to two independent hexagonal polytypes having homogeneous interlayers (Figs. 1b-c):

$$
147 \qquad \qquad \text{AbC} = \text{CbA} = \text{AbC} \dots \qquad \qquad 2H_1
$$

148

$$
AbC - AcB - AbC...
$$

149 150 151 152 153 154 155 With this notation the first digit indicates the number of layers per unit-cell, the letter corresponds to the layer symmetry (*H*, *R*, and *M* standing for hexagonal, rhombohedral, and monoclinic, respectively), and the final numerical subscript determines the polytype. In 2*H*¹ and $2H_2$ polytypes adjacent layers are rotated with respect to each other by 180° around the axis parallel to the **c** axis and passing either through Mn atoms of adjacent layers (2*H*1) or through the "lower" O_{layer} (A sites – 2*H*₂). In 1*H* and 2*H*₁ the Mn_{laver} octahedral sites overlap in projection on the **ab** plane, whereas these sites are distributed more homogeneously in $2H_2$.

156 157 158 Analysis of three-layer polytypes leads to two independent modifications with rhombohedral symmetry (3*R*). These two polytypes differ from each other by their interlayer structures (Figs. 2a-b):

159

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

160

$$
AbC - BcA - CaB - AbC \dots
$$
 3R₂

161 162 Two additional three-layer polytypes having O-type interlayers and hexagonal symmetry may also be derived (Figs. 2c-d):

$$
163 \qquad \qquad \text{AbC} - \text{AcB} - \text{AcB} - \text{AbC} \dots
$$

164

$$
AbC - AcB - CaB - AbC ... \qquad \qquad 3H_2
$$

165 166 167 168 169 170 171 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 3*H*¹ and $3H_2$ polytypes. For example, layers in the first layer pair of the $3H_1$ polytype are related by a 180° rotation along the **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). 172 173

174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 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 Ptype 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 onelayer 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.

183 184 185 186 187 188 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 $_2$ (CO₃,SO₄)_{$x/2$} (Drits 1987; Bookin and Drits 1993) and to those of other natural and synthetic layered compounds (Bailey 1980). 3 x $(R_{1-x}^{2+}R_x^{3+})(OH)_2(CO_3, SO_4)$

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190 **Layer symmetry and polytype diversity**

191 192 193 194 195 196 Structural characterization of birnessite shows layers with either hexagonal or pseudohexagonal 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 $Mn³⁺$ cations (Post and Veblen 1990;

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*√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^{3+} -octahedra because of the Jahn-Teller effect (Drits et al. 1997a). In Mn^{3+} octahedra, two Mn^{3+} -O distances are indeed much longer than the other four. For example, in crednerite CuMnO₂ Mn³⁺-octahedra contain two 2.26 Å and four 1.929Å bond lengths with an average \leq Mn-O $>$ distance of 2.04 Å (Töpfer et al. 1995). Similar distortions of Mn³⁺-octahedra have been reported by Shannon et al. (1975) for α-MnOOH (2.041 Å – Glasser and Ingram 1968), γ-MnOOH (2.037 Å – Dachs 1963) and α -Mn₂O₃ (2.039-2.045 Å – Norrestam 1967). The random distribution of Mn^{4+} and Mn^{3+} cations combined with a random azimutal orientation of the long Mn^{3+} -O bonds of the Mn^{3+} octahedra would lead to unfavorable steric strains, because of the distortion of Mn^{3+} -octahedra. An ordered distribution of Mn^{3+} -octahedra all having the same azimutal orientation allows minimizing these strains. According to SAED results, in vacancy-free birnessite layers Mn³⁺ are distributed in rows parallel to the **b** axis and have their long Mn³⁺-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^{3+} -ocathedra along the **a** axis and because the four short Mn^{3+} -O distances (1.92-1.93 Å) are similar to Mn^{4+} -O bond lengths (1.912 Å for λ -MnO₂), *b* parameters are similar (2.83-2.85 Å) in most natural and synthetic birnessite samples regardless of the average valency of the Mn_{layer} (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). 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 The transition from birnessite having layers with hexagonal symmetry to that having

221 polytypes. Specifically, hexagonal one-, two-, and three-layer polytypes $(1H, 2H_1, 2H_2, 3H_1)$

pseudo-hexagonal symmetry leads to a modification of symbol notation for the corresponding

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and $3H_2$) are changed to the corresponding orthogonal ones $(10, 20_1, 20_2, 30_1, 30_2)$ 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). 222 223 224 225 226

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Cation composition, interlayer structure, and polytype diversity

229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 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_2O _{interlayer}) and cations the capital letters A', B', and C', and corresponding lower case a', b', and c' will be used, respectively.

239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 **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_{laver}. 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 $H₂O_{interlayer}$. 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_{layer} 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_{laver} and H₂O_{interlayer} are linked by weak Hbonds 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 2*H*2), model 6a [polytype 3*H*1], and model 7a (polytype $3H_2$)] empty prisms and empty octahedra formed by O_{layer} and H₂O_{interlayer} coexist within a given interlayer, with prisms located on one side of the interlayer and octahedra on the opposite one (Fig. 3c). 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254

255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 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).

263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 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 $2H₂$), 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. 272 273

274 275 276 277 278 279 280 **Polytypes with orthogonal layer symmetry**. The interlayer cations for vacancy-free layers should have six-fold coordination by O_{layer} and $H₂O_{interlayer}$, and distributed so as to avoid direct interaction with Mn_{layer} . The 1*O*, 2*O*₂, 3*O*₁, and 3*O*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 $2O₁$)] coordinations.

281 282 283 284 285 286 287 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 2O₁ polytype the interlayer cations are likely located above and/or below Olayer from adjacent layers (model 4e).

288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 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 (V^I TE sites). The H₂O_{interlayer} 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 1*O*), and model 4d (polytype $2O_1$) – Fig. 4b], with O_{layer} from the adjacent layer. Empty prisms and empty octahedra coexist within a given interlayer [model 5d (polytype 2*O*2)] if interlayer cations are octahedrally coordinated. If interlayer cations have both octahedral and tetrahedral coordination then $H_2O_{interlayer}$ and O_{layer} 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^{3+} -O bonds of the layer Mn^{3+} -octahedra are randomly oriented with respect to the **a** axis by n60 $^{\circ}$ (Gaillot et al. 2005, 2006a). Interlayer cations in such birnessite layers should be distributed so as to avoid direct interaction with the nearest Mn_{layer} . In this case, suitable interlayer structures are those described for vacancy-free orthogonal layers (Table 2). 297 298 299 300 301

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CALCULATION OF XRD PATTERNS

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305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 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*l 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*l 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.

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316 **Initial structure models**

317 318 319 320 321 In all structure models, Mn_{layer} and O_{layer} occupy special sites in the orthogonal Ccentered unit-cell: $(0, 0, 0)$, $(0.333, 0, z)$ and $(-0.333, 0, -z)$, respectively, where z-coordinates (in projection on the **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 H2O molecules can be estimated from typical Me-O and Me-H₂O 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): 322 323 324 325 326 327 328

329
$$
z(Me) = z(O_{layer}) + \sqrt{d^{2}(Me - O) - b^{2}/3} = z(O_{layer}) + \Delta z
$$

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

331 332 333 334 335 336 337 In the present work, Me-O and Me-H₂O 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.

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339 **Calculated XRD patterns**

340 341 342 343 344 345 Powder XRD patterns calculated for the different polytypes are shown in Figures 5-8, whereas d-values and *hk*l 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 α range have 20 ℓ , 11 ℓ indices (10 ℓ) and 01 ℓ when using a hexagonal unit-cell), whereas they have 31 ℓ ,02 ℓ indices (11 ℓ when using a hexagonal unit-cell) over the 64-75° 2θ CuKα range. The XRD patterns shown in

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_{layer} and $H₂O_{interlayer}$ (^{VI}TC 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*l reflections also depends on the chemical nature of interlayer cations, their distribution and local environment. For example, interlayer spaces of 3*R*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 ^{IV}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⁺ (models 4c and 3e) or by smaller Ca^{2+} (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). 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366

367 368 369 370 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⁺, Ca²⁺, or Mn³⁺. 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) 371 372

373 374 375 376 377 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.

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DISCUSSION

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381 **Criteria for determination of birnessite polytypes**

382 383 384 385 386 387 388 Birnessite polytypes having the same periodicity along the **c** axis, but with different layer symmetry, differ from each other by the number of *hk*l reflections. For example, the hexagonal birnessite exhibits a single series of $20\ell/11\ell$ reflections, whereas 20ℓ and 11ℓ 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.

389 390 391 392 393 394 Birnessites with similar periodicity and layer symmetry can be differentiated by the intensity distribution of *hkl* reflections. Figures 9a-b show that *hkl* reflections with $l = 2n$ are more intense for $2H_1$ polytype compared to those of $2H_2$ polytype. In contrast, $20\ell/11\ell$ reflections (10 ℓ and 01 ℓ when using the hexagonal cell) with $\ell = 2n + 1$ are significantly stronger for $2H_2$ polytype. Similarly, 11ℓ and 20ℓ reflections with $\ell = 2n$ are stronger than those with $\ell = 2n +1$ for the 2*O*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 ℓ 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 ℓ 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 ℓ with ℓ = 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 $(1M_1, 1M_2, 3O_1, 3O_2)$. 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404

405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 Special attention should be paid to identify one- (1*H* and 1*O*) and two-layer (2*H*¹ and $2O_1$) 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 $2H_1$ 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 1*H* layer pairs in a mixed-layered structure (not shown).

413

414 **Stacking faults**

415 416 417 418 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*l reflections are shifted, and their positions become irrational. 419 420 421 422

423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 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*l reflections from defective layer structures. According to these generalized rules, *hk*l reflections observed from a defective layer structure are located between neighboring *hk*l reflections of periodic phases whose fragments (layer pairs in the present case) are interstratified. The actual position of *hk*l reflections corresponding to the defective layer structure depends on the relative proportion of the structure fragments and on relative intensities of the "involved" *hk*l reflections of the periodic phases.

431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 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 1*H* layer pairs (i.e. AbC – AbC pairs are present in crystals dominated by $AbC - BcA - CaB - AbC$... sequences). As a result, positions of *hk*l reflections of the main 3*R*2 polytype should indeed be shifted from their ideal position towards those of the defect-free 1*H* polytype. Accordingly, the best agreement between experimental and calculated XRD patterns was obtained for a defective 3*R*2 polytype containing 12% of 1*H* 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). 443 444 445

446 447 448 449 450 451 452 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.

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454 **Birnessite polytypes reported for natural and synthetic birnessites**

455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 **1***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^{3+} and Mg^{2+} cations are octahedrally coordinated above and/or below vacant layer octahedra. Ca^{2+} and Na^{+} 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).

464 465 466 467 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 1*H* birnessite. As natural 1*H* birnessite, HBi layers contain a significant amount of vacant layer octahedra capped by Mn^{2+} and Mn^{3+} . 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^{3+} distribution in NaBi. The H₂O_{interlayer} provides octahedral coordination to Mn_{interlayer} and forms empty prisms, and strong H-bonds, with O_{layer} 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 1*H* polytype (model 1a). When Zn^{2+} is present, the resulting Zn-sorbed synthetic birnessite (ZnBi) has a $3R_2$ polytype, in which models 3a and 3b coexist. Interlayer Zn^{2+} cations are systematically located above and/or below vacant layer sites but can have both octahedral and tetrahedral coordinations. As a result, $H_2O_{interlayer}$ providing octahedral (model 3a) and tetrahedral (model 3b) coordination of Zn form weak and strong H-bonds, respectively, with O_{layer} of the adjacent layer. 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481

482 483 484 485 486 **1***M***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 (1*M*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 $(C^T$ space group) and consists of vacancy-free layers, the layer negative charge arising from the Mn^{3+} -for-Mn⁴⁺ 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_{layer} 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. 487 488 489 490 491 492

NaBi varieties with different monovalent and divalent cations that were exchanged for Na⁺ 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^{2+} 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^{2+} cations only if the underlying octahedral sites are vacant, NaBi layers being vacancy-free. 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500

501 502 503 504 505 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_{laver} 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.

506 507 508 509 510 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.

511 512 513 514 515 516 517 **3** R_1 **Polytype**. Chen et al. (1996b) synthesized K-rich birnessite (KBi) with a $3R_1$ unitcell (model 2b). The KBi layers contain only Mn^{4+} and vacancies. From the refinement of integrated intensities they concluded that both K^+ and H_2O _{interlayer} 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^+ , Ba^{2+} and Sr^{2+} -exchanged

KBi (Gaillot et al. 2006b). The Ca^{2+} -for-K⁺ exchange in KBi modifies the initial layer stacking from the 3*R*1 polytype (model 2b) to the 1*H* one (model 1a). The driving force for the KBi-to-CaBi transformation is likely the possibility of forming strong H-bonds between H₂O_{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_h) having a $3R_1$ unit-cell. According to these authors, these NaBi_h layers consist of Mn⁴⁺ cations and vacant octahedra but positions of interlayer $Na⁺$ were not determined. 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525

526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 **2***H***1 Polytype**. Kim et al. (1999) synthesized K-rich birnessite (KBi) from the decomposition of $KMnO_4$ 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 $^{\circ}$ 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^+ and Mn^{3+} cations; second, because of the layer-to-interlayer migration of Mn^{3+} cations KBi layers contain only Mn^{4+} cations and vacant octahedra. Finally, interlayer K^+ is not located in the prism's center. Rather K^+ 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 (2*H*1 polytype).

539 540 541 **20₁ Polytype**. KBi synthesized from the thermal decomposition of $KMnO₄$ at 1000°C has vacancy-free layers and orthogonal layer symmetry (polytype 2O1, model 5c – Gaillot et al. 2005, 2006a).

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-KNO3-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_{layer} 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⁺ cations. However, atomic coordinates reported for this sample (Table $1 -$ Kim et al. 2000) correspond to polytype $3R_1$ (model 2b) with interlayer K⁺ 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 3*R*1 polytypes (model 2b) synthesized under mild hydrothermal conditions. All these experimental patterns are similar to the one displayed on Figure 8a. 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561

562 563 564 565 566 **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 Mn²⁺ 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.

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). 567 568 569 570 571 572 573

574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 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 \sim 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 $(\sim 1.474 \text{ Å}$ and $1.422 \text{ Å} - \text{Fig. 12b})$ which are merged for the hexagonal modifications (peak at \sim 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^{2+} by *Bacillus sp*. strain SG-1 (Fig. 3 in Webb et al. 2005) indicating the presence of a high proportion of Mn^{3+} within the octahedral layers of this birnessite. The presence of Mn^{3+} -rich rows in vacancy-free layers, as in NaBi, is also supported by the splitting of the 8 Å^{-1} feature in the EXAFS spectra (Fig. 5 in Webb et al. 2005) which has been described as characteristic of the presence of Mn^{3+} -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.

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" $(Mn^{3+,2+})$ and "light" $(Na^+$, K^+ , $H_2O_{interlayer})$ 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 $\sim 45^{\circ}$ 2θ CuK α , thus rendering the calculated hump at ~ 50 -55° 2θ CuKα less pronounced (Fig. 12b). Moving interlayer Mn from the ^{VI}TC 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 (V^I TE 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⁺ above and/or below O_{layer} [(0.333, 0.0, 0.5) – Fig. 13d] or that of K⁺ above/below the tridentate cavities [Position $(-0.222, 0, 05)$ and equivalent positions – Fig. 13e], H_2O molecules sitting in both cases above and/or below O_{layer} . In the second case, the 20,11 band is broadened and the "hump" observed at \sim 50° 2 θ CuK α 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 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615

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885 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

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887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 **FIGURE 1.** Idealized structure model of birnessite polytypes. **a)** 1*H* 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_{laver} 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)** 3*R*1 polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms defined by O_{layer} from adjacent layers. **b**) $3R₂$ polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra

905 906 907 defined by O_{layer} from adjacent layers. **c**) $3H₁$ polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines as in Figure 2b. **d)** 3*H*2 polytype. Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines as in Figure 2b.

908 909 **FIGURE 3.** Idealized interlayer structure model in projection along the **b** axis for birnessite polytypes with layer vacancies (hexagonal layer symmetry). **a)** 1*H* polytype with

octahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites $(^{VI}TC$ position – Model 1a). 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**) $3R_1$, $3R_2$ and $2H_1$ polytypes with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below vacant layer sites (1) ^{VI}TC position – Models 2a, 3a and 4a, respectively). Symbols and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by H_2O _{interlayer} 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 (^{VI}TC position – Models 5a, 6a and 7a, respectively). Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer prisms (left) and octahedra defined by $H_2O_{interlaver}$ 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 $H_2O_{interlayer}$ coordinating the interlayer cation and O_{layer} from adjacent layers. 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925

926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 **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 (V^{IT} E 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**) 1*O* and 2*O*₁ polytypes with octahedrally coordinated cations above/below empty layer tetrahedra (tridentate cavities) sharing three edges with layer Mn octahedra (V^I TE position – Models 1b and 4d, respectively). Symbols

- and notations as in Figure 1. Irregular dashed lines outline the interlayer octahedra defined by $H_2O_{interlayer}$ coordinating the interlayer cations and O_{layer} from adjacent layers (weak H-bonds). 935 936 937
- 938 939 940 941 942 943 **FIGURE 5.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. **a)** 1*H* polytype with Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 1a). **b**) 3*R*₁ polytype with Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 2a). **c**) $3R_2$ polytype with Zn^{2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 3a). **d**) $2H_1$ polytype with Mn^{3+2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 4a). **e**) $2H_2$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 5a). f) 3H₁ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 6a). **g**) $3H_2$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 7a).
- 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 XRD patterns were calculated using the idealized structure models described in Table 3. *a* and *b* unit-cell parameters for the polytypes having a hexagonal layer symmetry are 4.936 and 2.850 Å, respectively, whereas they are 5.180 and 2.850 Å, respectively, for the polytypes having a orthogonal layer symmetry. In all cases the minimum periodicity along the **c*** axis is 7.10 Å. All calculations were performed assuming a periodic stacking mode devoid of random stacking faults. The radius of the coherent scattering domains in the **ab** plane was set to 150 Å for all calculations, whereas the mean extent of the coherent scattering domains perpendicular to the layer plane is 7 layers (maximum extent: 35 layers). The distribution of coherent scattering domain size along the **c*** axis was assumed to be lognormal (Drits et al. 1997b). The values of Debye-Waller thermal factor (B) were 0.5, 1.0 and 1.5 for Mn_{layer} , O_{layer} and $H₂O_{interlayer}$, respectively. B factors for Me_{interlayer} were either 1.0 (metal cations Zn^{2+} , Mn^{3+,2+}, ...) or 2.0 (alkali and alkali-earth cations: K⁺, Ca²⁺, ...). **FIGURE 6.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite 3*R*₂ polytype. **a**) With Zn^{2+} in ^{IV}TC position (Model 3b). **b**) With Zn^{2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 3a). **c**) With Zn^{2+} in ^{IV}TE position (Model 3c).
- **FIGURE 7.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. **a)** $1M_2$ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 3e). **b**) $1M_2$ polytype with Ca^{2+} in ^{VI}TE sites (Model 3d). **c**) 2O₁ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 4c). **d**) $2O_1$ polytype with Ca^{2+} in ^{VI}TE sites (Model 4d). 960 961 962 963
- 964 965 966 967 **FIGURE 8.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. **a)** $3R_1$ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 2b). **b**) $3R_1$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 2a). **c**) 2H₁ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer midplane (Model 4b). **d**) $2H_1$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 4a).
- 968 969 970 971 **FIGURE 9.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. **a)** $2H_2$ polytype with Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 5a). **b**) $2H_1$ polytype with Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 4a). **c**) $2O_1$ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 4c).
- 972 973 974 975 **FIGURE 10.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of birnessite polytypes. **a)** $3R_1$ polytype with K⁺ in the interlayer mid-plane (Model 2b). **b**) $3R_2$ polytype with Zn^2 ⁺ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 3a). **c**) 3*H*₁ polytype with Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 6a). **d**) $3H_2$ polytype with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 7a).
- 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 **FIGURE 11.** Comparison between experimental and calculated XRD patterns for a K-rich birnessite sample synthesized at 700° C from the thermal decomposition of KMnO₄ (Gaillot et al. 2004). Experimental data are shown as crosses, whereas calculated profiles are shown as solid lines. Arrows outline the misfits between experimental and calculated patterns. Only 20*l* and 11*l* reflections are calculated. Atomic coordinates and other structural parameters used for the calculations as described by (Gaillot et al. 2004). (a) Optimum model and difference plot. The optimum model includes contributions from a defect-free 2*H* polytype and from 2*O*/2*H*, 2*H*/3*R*, and 3*R*/2*H* mixed-layered structures (relative proportions 7:29:41:23). (b) Calculation

made replacing the optimum 2*O*/2*H* contribution (2*O*:2*H* ratio 50:50) by a defectfree 2*H* contribution. (c) Calculation made by subtracting the 2*H*/3*R* contribution (2*H*:3*R* ratio 70:30) from the optimum model. (d) Calculation made by subtracting the 3*R*/2*H* contribution (3*R*:2*H* ratio 90:10) from the optimum model. Adapted from (Gaillot et al. 2004). 985 986 987 988 989

990 991 992 **FIGURE 12.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of turbostratic birnessite. **a**) Birnessite with $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position (Model 1a). **b**) Birnessite with 0.67 Na⁺ and $H_2O_{interlayer}$ in the interlayer mid-plane above below O_{layer} (Model 2c).

993 994 995 996 Calculations were performed assuming a turbostratic stacking (100% random stacking faults). The radius of the coherent scattering domains in the **ab** plane was set to 75 Å. All other parameters for XRD pattern calculations as described for Figure 5.

- 997 998 999 1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 **FIGURE 13.** XRD patterns calculated for idealized structure models of turbostratic birnessite having hexagonal layer symmetry. **a)** Birnessite with 0.833 vacant layer sites capped by Mn^{3+,2+} in ^{VI}TC position (Model 1a). **b**) Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites capped by $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TC position. **c**) Birnessite with 0.833 vacant layer sites capped by $Mn^{3+,2+}$ in ^{VI}TE position (similar to Model 3d with interlayer $Mn^{3+,2+}$ cations). **d**) Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites and interlayer Na⁺ $(0.30$ per octahedron) and H₂O molecules (0.90 per octahedron) in c' position $(+1/3, 0, 1/2)$. **e**) Birnessite with 0.925 vacant layer sites and interlayer K^+ (0.30 per octahedron) in and H₂O molecules (0.90 per octahedron) in a' $(-0.222, 0, 1/2)$ and c' $(+1/3, 0, 1/2)$ positions, respectively.
- 1007 Calculations were performed as described for Figure 12.

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

Table 2.

Notes: ^ax 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. ^bPosition ζ 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).

Table 3. (continued).

Table 3. (continued).

Table 4A. Calculated d(*hkl*) values for birnessite polytypes consisting of vacancy-bearing

layers having a hexagonal layer symmetry (See Table 1).

having an orthogonal layer symmetry (See Table 1)

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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 β angle is 103.65 and 76.35° for 1*M*1 and 1*M*2 polytypes, respectively.

 $b)$

 $\mathsf{c})$

d)

