Chadwickite (UO₂)(HAsO₃)

Crystal Data: Tetragonal. *Point Group*: n.d. As earthy and scaly crusts of grains to $20 \mu m$ that rarely exhibit a rectangular or square tabular (001) face.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: Perfect on $\{001\}$. Fracture: Uneven. Tenacity: n.d. Hardness = 2 D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 4.86 Nonfluorescent.

Optical Properties: Partly transparent. *Color*: Yellow. *Streak*: Yellow. *Luster*: Dull. *Optical Class*: Uniaxial (-). $\varepsilon = 1.750$ $\omega = 1.845$ *Pleochroism*: E = colorless, O = yellow.

Cell Data: *Space Group*: n.d. a = 11.00(1) c = 15.96(2) Z = 14

X-ray Powder Pattern: Sophia mine, near Wittichen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany. 4.95 (100), 5.58 (80), 3.33 (80), 4.40 (60), 3.03 (60), 2.91 (50)

Chemistry:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & & (1) \\ UO_3 & & 73.0 \\ As_2O_3 & & 25.5 \\ \underline{H_2O} & & 1.5 \\ Total & & 100.0 \\ \end{array}$$

(1) Sophia mine, near Wittichen, Baden-Württemberg, Germany; average electron microprobe analysis, H_2O by difference; corresponding to $U_{1.03}As_{1.04}H_{0.67}O_5$.

Occurrence: A secondary mineral in a uranium deposit.

Association: Uraninite, metakahlerite, abernathyite, erythrite, pitticite.

Distribution: From the dump of the Sophia mine, near Wittichen, central Black Forest, Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

Name: Honors Sir James *Chadwick* (1891-1974), English Nobel Laureate in physics for his proof of the existence of neutrons.

Type Material: Natural Science Museum, Stuttgart and the University of Stuttgart, Germany.

References: (1) Walenta, K. (1998) Chadwickite, a new uranyl arsenite from Wittichen in the Black Forest. Aufschluss, 49, 253-257 (in German, English abs.). (2) (1999) Amer. Mineral., 84, 1195 (abs. ref. 1).