NEW TERNARY PHOSPHIDE Y5Pd19P12 AND IT'S CRYSTAL STRUCTURE

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A great variety of structure types characterizes the ternary systems RE-M-P containing the rare earth (RE), the transition metal (M) and phosphorus. Nearly all of these systems have representatives of the ThCr₂Si₂, TiNiSi, Hf₂Co₄P₃, and Zr₂Fe₁₂P₇ structure types [1], while some of them have only one representative.

The crystal structure of the Hf₂Co₄P₃[2] type has similar atomic arrangements to the ternary phosphides with the [3], Sc₅Co₁₉P₁₂[4], Nd₅Cu_{17.8}P₁₂[5], and Ce₅Cu₁₉P₁₂[6] structure types. The Ho₅Ni₁₉P₁₂ type crystallizes in the *P*-62*m* space group and can be obtained from the Hf₂Co₄P₃ structure by substituting the Hf atoms by the smaller transition metal atoms in the 3*f* Wyckoff site. A fully ordered distribution of all atoms in the *P*-62*m* space group Wyckoff sites is characteristic of both Hf₂Co₄P₃ and Ho₅Ni₁₉P₁₂. Worth noting that in some *RE-T*-P systems the formation of *RE*₂*T*₄P₃–*RE*₅*T*₁₉P₁₂ pairs has been observed, notably Sc₅Co₁₉P₁₂–Sc₂Co₄P₃, Sc₅Ni₁₉P₁₂–Zr₂Co₄P₃, Hf₅Co₁₉P₁₂–Hf₂Co₄P₃ and Gd₅Co₁₉P₁₂–Gd₂Co₄P₃ [1], suggesting the formation of a series of solid solutions.

For the preparation of the single crystals of the new phosphide, the mixture of the starting components (powders of yttrium, palladium and red phosphorus, all with a declared purity better than 99.99 wt.%, Alfa-Aesar, Johnson Matthey Company) in the stoichiometric ratio Y:Pd:P = = 14:57:29 was pressed under the pressure of 5 MPa. The sample was sealed in a silica tube filled with Ar under 0.4 bar in an alumina crucible, heated to 1000 °C for 72 h, sintered for 5 days and slowly cooled to 100 °C. From the crushed sample, single crystals of phosphide $Y_5Pd_{19}P_{12}$ were mechanically extracted. Data were collected using a Rigaku AFC7 diffractometer with Saturn 724 + CCD detector (MoK α radiation, $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å). All calculations used to determine and refine the crystal structure were performed using WinCSD software [7].

Crystal structure of the ternary compound Y₅Pd₁₉P₁₂ has been refined from the single crystal data: Z = 2, Th₅Fe₁₉P₁₂-type structure [8], space group C2/m, a = 32.4160(6) Å, b = 3.9311(6) Å, c = 9.7266(15) Å, $\beta = 98.205(5)^{\circ}$; residuals are $R_F = 0.0304$; $wR_P = 0.0558$.

New palladium arsenide belongs to a large family of compounds with a metal to metalloid ratio of 2:1. Atoms in this structure are placed in two mirror planes and perpendicular to short axis. Phosphorous atoms in this structure have coordination number equal to nine, where six of them are forming trigonal prisms centered by P-atoms.

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