

Ancylite-(La)

Sr(La, Ce)(CO₃)₂(OH)•H₂O

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Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. *Point Group:* 2/m 2/m 2/m. Crystals are dipyramidal {111}, with {120}, {101}, platy or short prismatic, faces typically curved, to 2 mm; in druses and uncommonly as skeletal or dendritic aggregates.

Physical Properties: *Fracture:* Conchoidal. *Tenacity:* Brittle. *Hardness* = 4–4.5
D(meas.) = 3.69(5) D(calc.) = n.d.

Optical Properties: Translucent. *Color:* Colorless, pale yellowish gray, yellowish brown, yellow; colorless to pale yellow in thin section. *Streak:* White. *Luster:* Vitreous.

Optical Class: Biaxial (−). *Dispersion:* $r < v$. $\alpha = 1.640(3)$ $\beta = [1.717]$ $\gamma = 1.731(3)$
2V(meas.) = 70(5)°

Cell Data: *Space Group:* [Pmcn] [by analogy to ancylite-(Ce)]. $a = 5.072(3)$ $b = 8.589(3)$
 $c = 7.276(3)$ $Z = 2$

X-ray Powder Pattern: Mt. Kukisvumchorr, Kola Peninsula, Russia; nearly identical to ancylite-(Ce).

2.955 (100), 4.36 (92), 3.705 (90), 2.664 (89), 3.738 (88), 2.358 (87), 2.092 (80)

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
CO ₂	22.59	23.07
La ₂ O ₃	25.75	42.69
Ce ₂ O ₃	16.23	
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.10	
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.70	
CaO	1.69	
SrO	24.22	27.16
BaO	0.64	
H ₂ O	7.37	7.08
Total	99.29	100.00

(1) Mt. Kukisvumchorr, Kola Peninsula, Russia; by electron microprobe, average of seven analyses, H₂O by the Penfield method; corresponds to (Sr_{0.89}Ca_{0.11}Ba_{0.02})_{Σ=1.02}(La_{0.60}Ce_{0.38}Nd_{0.02})_{Σ=1.00}(CO₃)_{1.96}(OH)_{1.12}•H₂O. (2) SrLa(CO₃)₂(OH)•H₂O.

Occurrence: A rare mineral in nepheline syenites in differentiated alkalic massifs.

Association: Aegirine, astrophyllite, loparite-(Ce), donnayite-(Y), belovite-(Ce), kukharenkoite-(Y), nenadkevichite, “biotite”, eudialyte, catapleite, apophyllite, fluorapatite, calcite. (Mt. Kukisvumchorr, Kola Peninsula, Russia).

Distribution: On Marchenko Peak, northern part of Mt. Kukisvumchorr, Khibiny massif, Kola Peninsula, Russia. In Canada, from near Saint-Amable, Quebec.

Name: For its relation to ancylite-(Ce) and its dominant content of lanthanum.

Type Material: St. Petersburg Mining Institute, St. Petersburg, 2092/1; Geological Museum, Kola Scientific Center, Apatity, Russia.

References: (1) Yakovenchuk, V.N., Y.P. Men'shikov, Y.A. Pakhomovskii, and G.Y. Ivanyuk (1997) Ancylite-(La), Sr(La, Ce)(CO₃)₂(OH)•H₂O – a new carbonate from a hydrothermal vein at Kukisvumchorr Mountain (Khibiny massif) and its comparison with ancylite-(Ce). Zap. Vses. Mineral. Obshch., 126(1), 96–108 (in Russian with English abs.). (2) (1998) Amer. Mineral., 83, 652 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Dal Negro, A., G. Rossi, and V. Tazzoli (1975) The crystal structure of ancylite, (RE)_x(Ca, Sr)_{2-x}(CO₃)₂(OH)_x(2 - x)H₂O. Amer. Mineral., 60, 280–284.

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