

## Ferromerrillite



**Crystal Data:** Hexagonal. *Point Group:* 3m. As anhedral grains to 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

**Physical Properties:** *Cleavage:* None. *Fracture:* n.d. *Tenacity:* n.d. Hardness = ~ 5  
D(meas.) = 3.14 (Los Angeles) D(calc.) = 3.11

**Optical Properties:** Transparent. *Color:* Colorless. *Streak:* n.d. *Luster:* Vitreous.  
*Optical Class:* Uniaxial (−).  $\omega = 1.623$   $\varepsilon = 1.621$  Also anomalously biaxial with 2V up to 20°.

**Cell Data:** *Space Group:* R3c.  $a = 10.372(2)$   $c = 37.217(13)$   $Z = 6$

**X-ray Powder Pattern:** Shergotty meteorite/Los Angles meteorite.

2.861 (100)/2.86 (100), 3.191 (81)/3.19 (60), 2.594 (73)/2.594 (50), 6.46 (33)/6.42 (20),  
2.741 (21)/2.747 (20), 1.710 (21)/1.713 (20), 5.196 (20)/5.24 (10)

<b>Chemistry:</b>	(1)	(2)
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.7	1.4
CaO	46.8	47.0
MgO	1.5	0.9
FeO	3.5	5.2
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	46.2	45.7
Total	99.7	100.2

(1) Shergotty meteorite; average of 8 electron microprobe analyses; corresponds to  $\text{Ca}_{9.00}(\text{Na}_{0.60}\text{Ca}_{0.07})_{\Sigma=0.67}(\text{Fe}^{2+}_{0.53}\text{Mg}_{0.40})_{\Sigma=0.93}\text{P}_{7.08}\text{O}_{28}$ . (2) Los Angeles meteorite; average of 10 electron microprobe analyses; corresponds to  $\text{Ca}_{9.00}(\text{Na}_{0.49}\text{Ca}_{0.15})_{\Sigma=0.64}(\text{Fe}^{2+}_{0.78}\text{Mg}_{0.23})_{\Sigma=1.02}\text{P}_{7.03}\text{O}_{28}$ .

**Occurrence:** An accessory phase in the basaltic and olivine-phyric subgroups of shergottite meteorites.

**Association:** Clinopyroxene, maskelynite (impact-melted plagioclase glass).

**Distribution:** From the Shergotty and Los Angeles shergottite meteorites.

**Name:** The Fe<sup>2+</sup>-dominant analogue of *merrillite*.

**Type Material:** A.E. Fersman Mineralogical Museum, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow, Russia (3514/1).

**References:** (1) Britvin, S.N., S.V. Krivovichev, and T. Armbruster (2016) Ferromerrillite,  $\text{Ca}_9\text{NaFe}^{2+}(\text{PO}_4)_7$ , a new mineral from the Martian meteorites, and some insights into merrillite-tuite transformation in shergottites. Eur. J. Mineral., 28, 125-136. (2) (2016) Amer. Mineral., 101, 2357 (abs. ref. 1, with comment on the oxidation state of iron).