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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study

$T = 120$  K

Mean  $\sigma(\text{S}-\text{O}) = 0.002$  Å

$R$  factor = 0.013

$wR$  factor = 0.031

Data-to-parameter ratio = 12.4

For details of how these key indicators were  
automatically derived from the article, see  
<http://journals.iucr.org/e>.

## Potassium bis( $\mu$ -sulfato- $1\kappa\text{O}:2\kappa\text{O}'$ )bis[*cis*-dioxido-*cis*-bis(sulfato- $\kappa\text{O}$ )tungstate(VI)]

The title compound,  $\text{K}_8[\{\text{W}^{\text{VI}}\text{O}_2(\text{SO}_4)_2\}_2(\mu\text{-SO}_4)_2]$ , precipitated from a melt of tungsten trioxide and potassium sulfate in potassium pyrosulfate. The  $\text{W}^{\text{VI}}$  coordination sphere in the independent  $\text{K}_4[\text{W}^{\text{VI}}\text{O}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3]$  moiety is completed by inversion symmetry, resulting in a dimer with two bridging sulfate ligands and a unit cell with two dimeric units.

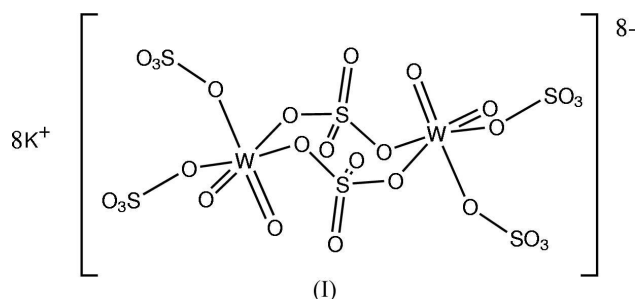
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### Comment

Studies of the vanadium-based catalyst (Topsøe & Nielsen, 1947) used in industrial sulfuric acid production, where potassium pyrosulfate is the solvent, have led to the determination of the  $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_7\text{-V}_2\text{O}_5$  phase diagram (Folkmann *et al.*, 1998), the characterization of both sodium and potassium pyrosulfate (Rasmussen *et al.*, 2001), and investigations of the ability of potassium pyrosulfate to dissolve transition metal oxides in general. A diverse range of novel sulfate compounds has precipitated from these melts (Borup *et al.*, 1990; Nørbygaard *et al.*, 1998; Berg & Thorup, 2005).



In contrast with many of the previously reported sulfate compounds precipitated from the melts, where the unit cells contain chains of anions, the unit cell of the title compound contains discrete  $[\{\text{W}^{\text{VI}}\text{O}_2(\text{SO}_4)_2\}_2(\mu\text{-SO}_4)_2]^{8-}$  dimeric units

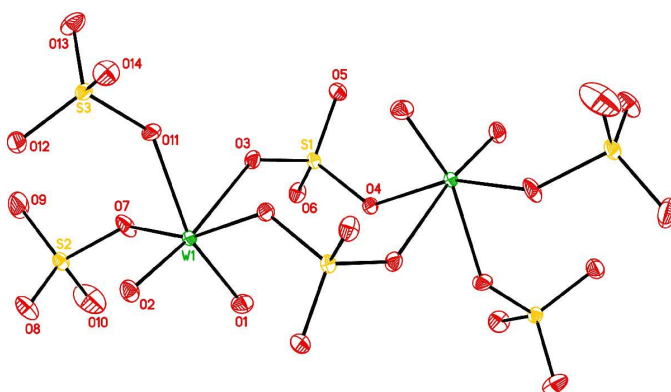
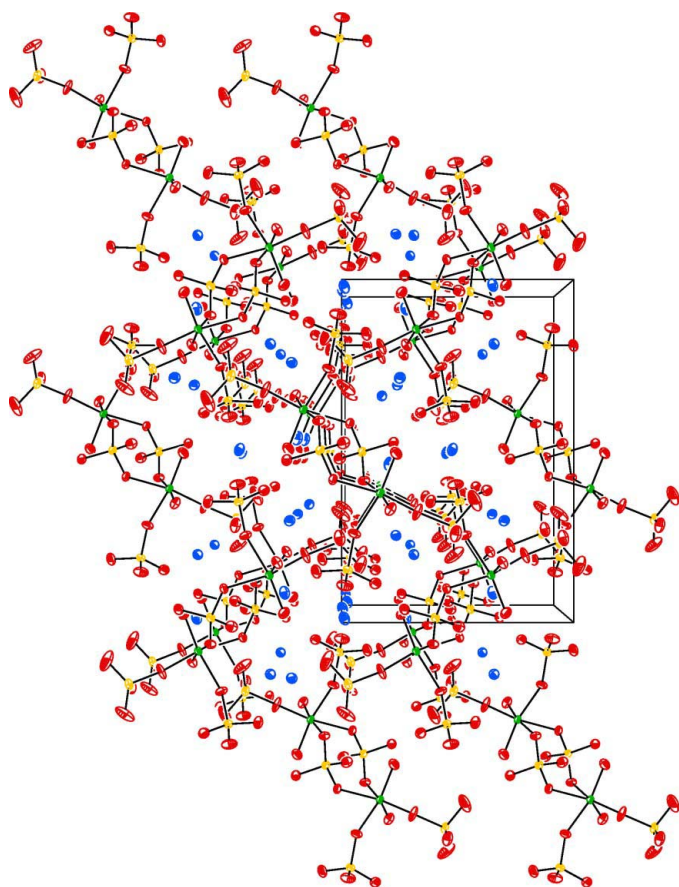


Figure 1

Plot of the anion, showing 50% probability ellipsoids. The K ions have been omitted for clarity.



**Figure 2**  
The crystal packing, viewed along the *c* axis.

(Fig. 1). Fig. 2 shows the packing of the dimers. Although dimeric anions are rare, the vanadium compound  $\text{Cs}_4[\text{V}^{\text{VO}}(\text{SO}_4)_2]_2(\mu\text{-O})$ , its K and Rb analogues (Nielsen *et al.*, 1993), and  $\text{K}_8[\text{V}^{\text{VO}}(\text{SO}_4)_2]_2(\mu\text{-O})(\mu\text{-SO}_4)_2$  are notable examples (Rasmussen *et al.*, 2003).

The coordination sphere of the W atom contains two doubly bound O atoms, two terminally bound sulfate ligands and two bridging sulfate ligands; the dimeric unit thus contains two of the eight reported sulfate coordination modes (Tamasi & Cini, 2003). The tungsten coordination sphere is distorted from octahedral, with angles between any two *cis* O atoms deviating by as much as  $18^\circ$  from ideal (see Table 1). The bond length for W1–O2 is shorter than W1–O1, consistent with the fact that O2 is *trans* to the bridging sulfate, while O1 is *trans* to a terminally bound sulfate. The bond W1–O3 *trans* to O2 is significantly longer than the other W–O bonds. The W–O bond lengths are similar to those previously reported (Salles *et al.*, 1996).

The geometry of the sulfate ligands can be described as slightly distorted from tetrahedral, with angles ranging from  $104.42(14)$  to  $114.42(14)^\circ$ . The S–O bond lengths of  $1.441(2)$ – $1.464(2)$  Å for the S atoms bound to the terminal O atoms and the slightly longer S–O bond lengths of  $1.4861(19)$ – $1.5700(19)$  Å for those bound to the coordinating O atoms compare reasonably with those previously reported

in complexes with similar coordination (Nielsen *et al.*, 1993; Rasmussen *et al.*, 2003; Berg & Thorup, 2005). The O8–K2 bond length of  $3.401(2)$  Å is the longest of the O–K bond distances; the shortest O–K bond distances range from  $2.610(2)$  to  $2.692(2)$  Å. Three of the four independent potassium cations, *viz.* K1, K2, and K3, are eight-coordinate, while K4 is nine-coordinate.

## Experimental

Crystals were grown from a melt of 20.3 mol% tungsten trioxide and 20.4 mol% potassium sulfate in potassium pyrosulfate, using the method described previously by Nørbygaard *et al.* (1998).

### Crystal data

$\text{K}_8[(\text{WO}_2)_2(\text{SO}_4)_6]$   
 $M_r = 1320.86$   
 Monoclinic,  $P2_1/n$   
 $a = 9.4362(5)$  Å  
 $b = 13.9625(7)$  Å  
 $c = 10.1948(5)$  Å  
 $\beta = 90.780(1)^\circ$   
 $V = 1343.07(12)$  Å<sup>3</sup>  
 $Z = 2$

$D_x = 3.266$  Mg m<sup>−3</sup>  
 Mo  $K\alpha$  radiation  
 Cell parameters from 5682 reflections  
 $\theta = 2.5$ – $28.0^\circ$   
 $\mu = 10.38$  mm<sup>−1</sup>  
 $T = 120(2)$  K  
 Tablet, colourless  
 $0.18 \times 0.10 \times 0.05$  mm

### Data collection

Bruker SMART/Platform CCD diffractometer  
 $\omega$  scans  
 Absorption correction: by integration (*XPREP*; Bruker, 2002)  
 $T_{\min} = 0.245$ ,  $T_{\max} = 0.619$   
 13 095 measured reflections

2458 independent reflections  
 2429 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$   
 $R_{\text{int}} = 0.019$   
 $\theta_{\max} = 25.3^\circ$   
 $h = -11 \rightarrow 11$   
 $k = -16 \rightarrow 16$   
 $l = -12 \rightarrow 12$

### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$   
 $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.013$   
 $wR(F^2) = 0.031$   
 $S = 1.13$   
 2458 reflections  
 199 parameters

$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0121P)^2 + 2.1788P]$   
 where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$   
 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{\max} = 0.001$   
 $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.58$  e Å<sup>−3</sup>  
 $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.44$  e Å<sup>−3</sup>

**Table 1**

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

W1–O1	1.7258 (19)	S2–O7	1.5700 (19)
W1–O2	1.7102 (19)	S3–O11	1.5296 (19)
W1–O3	2.2237 (19)	O2–K1	2.682 (2)
W1–O4 <sup>i</sup>	2.0302 (18)	O8–K1	2.681 (2)
W1–O7	1.9681 (19)	O6–K2 <sup>ii</sup>	2.610 (2)
W1–O11	2.0930 (18)	O5–K3 <sup>i</sup>	2.632 (2)
S1–O3	1.4861 (19)	O8–K4 <sup>iii</sup>	2.692 (2)
S1–O4	1.5349 (19)	O8–K2	3.401 (2)
O2–W1–O1	101.20 (9)	O7–W1–O11	83.92 (8)
O2–W1–O7	97.61 (9)	O4 <sup>i</sup> –W1–O11	79.70 (8)
O1–W1–O7	97.03 (9)	O2–W1–O3	170.94 (8)
O2–W1–O4 <sup>i</sup>	96.59 (8)	O1–W1–O3	87.85 (8)
O1–W1–O4 <sup>i</sup>	94.34 (9)	O7–W1–O3	81.56 (8)
O7–W1–O4 <sup>i</sup>	159.71 (8)	O4 <sup>i</sup> –W1–O3	82.13 (7)
O2–W1–O11	98.49 (9)	O11–W1–O3	72.45 (7)
O1–W1–O11	159.97 (8)		

Symmetry codes: (i)  $-x, 1-y, -z$ ; (ii)  $1-x, 1-y, -z$ ; (iii)  $\frac{1}{2} + x, \frac{1}{2} - y, \frac{1}{2} + z$ .

A final analysis of variance between observed and calculated structure factors showed no dependence on amplitude or resolution. The highest peaks in the final difference Fourier map were 0.98 and

0.87 Å from atoms W1 and O1, respectively; the deepest hole was 0.74 Å from S3.

Data collection: *SMART* (Bruker, 2002); cell refinement: *SAINTE* (Bruker, 2002); data reduction: *SAINTE*; program(s) used to solve structure: *SHELXTL* (Bruker, 2002); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXTL*; molecular graphics: *SHELXTL*; software used to prepare material for publication: *CIFTAB* in *SHELX97-2* (Sheldrick, 2001).

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