Dimers of oxocentred $[OCu_4]^{6+}$ tetrahedra in two novel copper selenite chlorides, $K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2Cl$ and $Na_2[Cu_7O_2]$ $(SeO_3)_4Cl_4$, and related minerals and inorganic compounds

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ABSTRACT

Two novel copper selenite chlorides, K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl (I) and Na₂[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₄Cl₄ (II), have been synthesized by the CVT method. Their crystal structures have been solved by direct methods and refined by least-squares techniques. I is triclinic, space group $P\overline{I}$, a = 7.6821(5), b = 8.1179(5), c = 8.7836(6) Å, $\alpha = 113.193(3)$, $\beta = 108.735(4)$, $\gamma = 98.245(4)^{\circ}$, V = 453.32(5) Å³, $R_1 = 0.0481$ for 1210 unique reflections with $F \ge 4\sigma(F)$; II is triclinic, space group $P\overline{I}$, a = 7.4362(6), b = 8.3361(7), c = 9.1343(11) Å, $\alpha = 110.277(6)$, $\beta = 106.212(6)$, $\gamma = 105.158(4)^{\circ}$, V = 467.94(8) Å³, $R_1 = 0.0265$ for 2498 unique reflections with $F \ge 4\sigma(F)$. The structures of I and II can be described in terms of dimers of copper oxocentred tetrahedra. In I, two $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra share a common Cu···Cu edge to form the $[O_2Cu_6]^{8+}$ dimer, whereas the structure of II is based upon two $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra linked together by one common Cu atom resulting in the formation of the $[O_2Cu_7]^{10+}$ dimer. A comparison with related minerals and inorganic compounds is given.

Keywords: crystal structure, oxocentred tetrahedra, lone electron pair, stereoactivity, euchlorine, fedotovite, prewittite, burnsite.

Introduction

THE crystal chemistry of selenium-containing natural and synthetic oxocompounds of copper is of special interest owing to the specific structural features of both Cu^{2+} and Se^{4+} ions. Cu^{2+} may possess different and flexible coordination geometries (Burns and Hawthorne, 1995*a*,*b*; Rosner *et al.*, 2007; Melník *et al.*, 2011; Burrows *et al.*, 2012; Krivovichev *et al.*, 2012), while Se^{4+} cations form asymmetric $(SeO_3)^{2-}$ groups due to the stereochemically active behaviour of the s^2 lone electron pairs, resulting in structurally complex architectures and interesting physical properties (Mao *et al.*, 2008; Zhang *et al.*, 2010; Berdonosov *et al.*, 2013).

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Most of the naturally occurring copper selenite chlorides have been reported from fumaroles of the Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka Peninsula, Russia: ilinskite, Na[Cu₅O₂](SeO₂)₂Cl₂ (Vergasova et al., 1997; Krivovichev et al., 2012), georgbokiite, α -[Cu₅O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₂ (Krivovichev *et al.*, 1999*a*), chloromenite, $[Cu_9O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_6$ (Vergasova et al., 1999), burnsite, KCd[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₉ (Burns et al., 2002; Krivovichev et al., 2002), allochalcoselite. $Cu^{+}[PbCu_{5}^{2+}O_{2}](SeO_{3})_{2}Cl_{5}$ (Krivovichev et al., 2006), parageorgbokiite, β -[Cu₅O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₂ (Krivovichev *et al.*, 2007). prewittite, KPb_{0.5}Cu[PbCu₅O₂]Zn(SeO₃)₂Cl₁₀ (Shuvalov et al., 2013) and nicksobolevite, [Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₆ (Vergasova et al., 2014). The crystal structures of these mineral species contain so-called 'additional' or 'extra' oxygen atoms, which are coordinated solely by copper atoms to form oxocentred $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra. A number of experimental and theoretical works on structural

	I	II
Crystal data		
Crystal system	triclinic	triclinic
Space group	$P\overline{1}$	$P\overline{1}$
Unit cell dimensions a, b, c (Å),	7.6821(5), 8.1179(5), 8.7836(6),	7.4362(6), 8.3361(7), 9.1343(11),
α, β, γ (°)	113.193(3), 108.735(4), 98.245(4)	110.277(6), 106.212(6), 105.158(4)
Unit-cell volume (Å ³)	453.32(5)	467.94(8)
Ζ	2	1
Calculated density $(g \text{ cm}^{-3})$	3.920	4.160
Absorption coefficient (mm ⁻¹)	15.757	16.263
Crystal size (mm)	$0.13 \times 0.09 \times 0.07$	0.25 imes 0.21 imes 0.20
Data collection		
Temperature	293 K	293 K
Radiation, wavelength (Å)	ΜοΚα, 0.71073	ΜοΚα, 0.71073
F(000)	494	541
θ range (°)	2.95-27.46	2.60-30.52
h, k, l ranges	$-8 \rightarrow 9, -10 \rightarrow 6, -11 \rightarrow 10$	$-10 \rightarrow 10, -11 \rightarrow 11, -12 \rightarrow 13$
Total reflections collected	5607	11,190
Unique reflections (R_{int})	1749 (0.0501)	2842 (0.0474)
Unique reflections $F > 4\sigma(F)$	1210	2498
Structure refinement		
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2
Weighting coefficients a, b^*	0.0766, 0.0	0.0202, 0.0999
Extinction coefficient	0.0046(13)	0.0069(5)
Data/restraints/parameters	1749/0/128	2842/0/143
$R_1[F > 4\sigma(F)], wR_2[F > 4\sigma(F)]$	0.0481, 0.1170	0.0265, 0.0601
R_1 all, wR_2 all	0.0800, 0.1328	0.0322, 0.0621
Gof on F^2	1.014	1.070
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.620, −1.617 e Å ⁻³	$0.851, -0.954 \ e \ A^{-3}$

TABLE 1. Crystallographic data and refinement parameters for $K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2Cl$ (I) and $Na_2[Cu_7O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_4$ (II).

 $*R_{\text{int}} = \Sigma |F_o^2 - F_o^2(\text{mean})| \Sigma [F_o^2]. \text{ Gof} = S = \{\Sigma [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]/(n-p)\}^{1/2} \text{ where } n = \text{ no. of reflections, } p = \text{ no. of refined parameters. } R_1 = \Sigma ||F_o| - |F_c|| / \Sigma |F_o|. wR_2 = \{\Sigma [w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2] / \Sigma [w(F_o^2)^2]\}^{1/2}. w^* = 1/[\sigma^2 (F_o^2) + (aP)^2 + bP] \text{ where } P \text{ is } [2F_c^2 + Max(F_o^2, 0)]/3.$

descriptions of anion-centred tetrahedra in inorganic compounds has been summarized by Krivovichev *et al.* (2013).

According to the original idea proposed by Filatov *et al.* (1992), polynuclear clusters based upon oxocentred copper tetrahedra can perform the role of transport agents of copper in high temperature environments in volcanic fumaroles. Further experimental work on preparation of mineral analogues by using chemical vapour transport reactions (CVT) provided additional (though indirect) evidence in favour of this hypothesis and demonstrated the suitability of the CVT method for the synthesis of copper oxoselenites with various structural architectures (Millet *et al.*, 2001; Krivovichev *et al.*, 2004; Becker *et al.*, 2007; Berdonosov *et al.*, 2009; Zhang *et al.*, 2010). In this paper, we report on the syntheses and crystal structures of two novel copper oxoselenite chlorides, K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl (I) and Na₂[Cu₇O₂] (SeO₃)₄Cl₄ (II), obtained during exploration of synthetic copper selenite chloride systems close to ilinskite and prewittite. The structures of the new compounds are based upon topologically different types of dimers of (OCu₄)⁶⁺ tetrahedra, and herein we provide a short review of related minerals and inorganic compounds.

Experimental

Synthesis

Single crystals of $K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2Cl$ (I) and $Na_2[Cu_7O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_4$ (II), were prepared by the CVT method. Mixtures of CuO, CuCl₂, SeO₂ and

Atom	x/a	y/b	z/c	$U_{ m iso}$	U^{11}	U^{22}	U^{33}	U^{12}	U^{13}	U^{23}
Se1	1.23517(15)	1.17635(13)	0.64629(15)	0.0174(3)	0.0193(6)	0.0140(5)	0.0202(6)	0.0009(4)	0.0090(5)	0.0102(5)
Se2	0.71723(15)	0.69809(14)	0.67694(15)	0.0189(3)	0.0198(6)	0.0162(5)	0.0215(6)	0.0024(4)	0.0119(5)	0.0082(5)
Cu1	0.49212(18)	0.62544(17)	0.90290(18)	0.0192(4)	0.0216(8)	0.0128(6)	0.0247(8)	0.0014(5)	0.0122(7)	(9)9600.0
Cu2	1.46001(18)	0.93661(17)	0.80631(18)	0.0186(4)	0.0211(8)	0.0157(6)	0.0217(8)	0.0048(6)	0.0113(6)	(9)9600.0
Cu3	1.12983(18)	1.03779(18)	0.91313(19)	0.0204(4)	0.0179(8)	0.0221(7)	0.0228(8)	-0.0004(6)	0.0105(6)	0.0125(6)
K1	0.7620(4)	0.2614(4)	0.7322(4)	0.0354(7)	0.0420(18)	0.0280(14)	0.0405(17)	0.0170(13)	0.0221(15)	0.0139(13)
Cl1	0.1696(4)	0.6465(5)	0.8255(5)	0.0419(9)	0.0211(17)	0.0347(17)	0.060(2)	0.0014(13)	0.0139(16)	0.0175(17)
01	0.5028(10)	0.7348(10)	0.6123(11)	0.0265(18)	0.020(4)	0.025(4)	0.026(4)	0.008(3)	0.005(4)	0.008(4)
02	1.4202(11)	1.3595(10)	0.8331(11)	0.0266(18)	0.039(5)	0.020(4)	0.025(4)	0.005(4)	0.014(4)	0.015(4)
03	1.0784(10)	1.1176(11)	0.7258(11)	0.0264(18)	0.018(4)	0.036(5)	0.027(5)	-0.001(4)	0.009(4)	0.020(4)
04	1.3468(11)	1.0094(11)	0.6216(10)	0.0274(18)	0.038(5)	0.027(4)	0.021(4)	0.014(4)	0.012(4)	0.014(4)
05	1.4020(10)	1.1104(9)	0.9949(10)	0.0176(16)	0.022(4)	0.010(3)	0.023(4)	0.003(3)	0.013(3)	0.008(3)
90	0.8557(9)	0.9306(10)	0.8422(10)	0.0198(16)	0.008(4)	0.019(4)	0.025(4)	-0.005(3)	0.007(3)	0.008(3)
07	0.7045(11)	0.5981(10)	0.8090(11)	0.0251(18)	0.036(5)	0.025(4)	0.037(5)	0.019(4)	0.028(4)	0.022(4)

KCl for I (NaCl for II) in a 4:1:2:3 molar ratio were loaded into a fused silica tube (~15 cm), which was evacuated to 10^{-2} mbar before sealing. The tubes were placed horizontally into a two-zone tube furnace, and heated to 500°C. The temperature difference between the source and deposition zones of the tube was ~50°C. After three days, the tubes were cooled to room temperature over 24 h. Tiny, green, blocky crystals of I and II were observed in the middle parts of the tubes.

X-ray diffraction single-crystal analysis

Crystals selected for X-ray data collection were mounted on glass fibres, and studied using a Bruker X8 APEX II three-circle diffractometer equipped with a microfocus X-ray tube with MoK α radiation at 50 kV and 40 mA. Unit-cell parameters (Table 1) were refined by least-squares techniques. Data were integrated and corrected for absorption using a multiscan model implemented in the Bruker programs *APEX* and *SADABS*.

The crystal structures of I and II were solved by direct methods in space group $P\overline{1}$ and refined using least-squares techniques to $R_1 = 0.048$ for I and 0.027 for II, calculated for 1210 and 2498 observed unique reflections for I and II, respectively, using SHELXL (Sheldrick, 2008). Atom coordinates and displacement parameters are given in Tables 2 and 3; selected interatomic distances are in Tables 4 and 5. Bond valence analyses for I and II are given in Tables 6 and 7. All empirical parameters required for the bond valence calculations were taken from Brese and O'Keeffe (1991). In both structures the values of bond-valence sums of Cl anions are rather low (0.53 vu for Cl1 in I; 0.69 and 0.70 vu for Cl1 and Cl2 in II, respectively), typical of copper oxoselenite chlorides (Krivovichev et al., 2012). Additional structural information is provided in the Supporting Information (cif) which have been deposited Principal with the Editor of Mineralogical Magazine and are available from www. minersoc.org/pages/e journals/dep mat mm.html.

Results

Cation polyhedra and their arrangement

A review of the mixed-ligand CuO_mCl_n atom environments of Cu^{2+} cations was given by Krivovichev *et al.* (2012). Coordination polyhedra of the Cu^{2+} cations observed in the crystal structures of I and II are similar to those that have

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		5			111	66++	. ,33	611.4	13	564 4
Atom	x/a	y/b	z c	$U_{\rm eq}$	U	0==	U ²²	012	U^{12}	U=J
Sel	0.80394(5)	0.70487(4)	0.03921(4)	0.00933(9)	0.01006(16)	0.00726(15)	0.00905(15)	0.00281(12)	0.00426(12)	0.00214(12)
Se2	0.19751(5)	0.58188(4)	0.38951(4)	0.01030(9)	0.01288(16)	0.00626(15)	0.00850(15)	0.00156(12)	0.00387(12)	0.00191(12)
Cu1	1/2	0	1/2	0.01074(12)	0.0159(3)	0.0073(3)	0.0074(2)	0.0024(2)	0.0058(2)	0.0024(2)
Cu2	0.44487(6)	0.16460(5)	0.22254(5)	0.01188(10)	0.0153(2)	0.00841(19)	0.01058(18)	0.00455(16)	0.00297(15)	0.00480(15)
Cu3	0.39381(6)	0.75727(5)	0.13594(5)	0.01176(10)	0.0152(2)	0.00709(18)	0.00861(18)	0.00344(15)	0.00260(15)	0.00141(15)
Cu4	0.82861(6)	0.05631(5)	0.35240(5)	0.01161(10)	0.00888(18)	0.00882(19)	0.01261(19)	0.00299(15)	0.00376(14)	0.00093(15)
CI1	0.15293(12)	0.09108(12)	0.37902(10)	0.01866(18)	0.0110(4)	0.0195(4)	0.0193(4)	0.0053(3)	0.0051(3)	0.0036(3)
Cl2	0.23806(12)	-0.11216(11)	-0.03503(10)	0.01686(17)	0.0189(4)	0.0131(4)	0.0135(3)	0.0035(3)	0.0017(3)	0.0064(3)
Nal	0.7002(2)	0.59122(19)	0.31681(18)	0.0223(3)	0.0213(7)	0.0159(7)	0.0211(7)	-0.0011(6)	0.0008(6)	0.0117(6)
01	0.5442(3)	0.0106(3)	0.3057(3)	0.0084(4)	0.0097(10)	0.0063(10)	0.0092(10)	0.0031(8)	0.0045(8)	0.0029(8)
02	0.7574(4)	0.4941(3)	0.0353(3)	0.0170(5)	0.0261(13)	0.0071(10)	0.0092(10)	0.0067(10)	-0.0002(9)	0.0002(9)
03	0.3796(4)	0.3415(3)	0.1450(3)	0.0166(5)	0.0238(13)	0.0119(11)	0.0120(11)	0.0077(10)	0.0038(9)	0.0055(9)
04	0.0590(3)	0.6979(3)	0.4600(3)	0.0184(5)	0.0134(11)	0.0121(11)	0.0184(11)	0.0034(9)	0.0034(9)	-0.0013(10)
05	0.6337(4)	0.3922(3)	0.4289(3)	0.0168(5)	0.0219(12)	0.0087(11)	0.0142(11)	0.0041(10)	0.0015(9)	0.0054(9)
90	0.3492(4)	0.7335(3)	0.3429(3)	0.0182(5)	0.0319(14)	0.0086(11)	0.0106(10)	0.0013(10)	0.0118(10)	0.0031(9)
07	0.7057(3)	0.7911(3)	0.1854(3)	0.0114(4)	0.0134(11)	0.0095(10)	0.0120(10)	0.0051(9)	0.0076(9)	0.0033(9)

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K1-07	2.685(7)	Cu2-O1 ^{iv}	2.003(8)	Na1–O5	2.253(3)	Cu3–O1 ^v	1.909(2)
K1–O4 ^v	2.759(8)			Na1–O3	2.352(3)	Cu3–O6	2.073(2)
K1–O3 ^{vi}	2.850(8)	Cu3–O5	1.893(7)	Na1–O7	2.365(3)	Cu3–O7	2.156(2)
K1–O1 ^{vii}	3.072(8)	Cu3–O3	1.944(7)	Na1–O4 ^{vi}	2.371(3)	Cu3-Cl2 ^v	2.4067(9)
K1–O2 ⁱⁱ	3.138(8)	Cu306	1.945(7)	Na1–O2	2.607(3)		
K1–O4 ⁱⁱ	3.142(8)	Cu3–O6 ⁱ	2.025(7)	Na1–Cl1 ⁱⁱ	2.7603(16)	Cu4–O4 ⁱⁱ	1.925(2)
K1–O6 ^{vi}	3.288(7)	Cu3–O7 ⁱ	2.749(8)	Na1–O6	3.169(3)	Cu4–O1	1.940(2)
K1–Cl1 ^{viii}	3.495(5)	Cu3-Cl1	3.046(8)			Cu4–O7 ^{iv}	1.969(2)
K1–Cl1 ^{iv}	3.712(4)			Cu1–O1	1.919(2)	Cu4–Cl1 ^{vi}	2.2842(9)
		Se1–O3	1.675(7)	Cu1–O1 ⁱⁱⁱ	1.919(2)		
Cu1–O5 ⁱ	1.892(6)	Se1–O4	1.685(8)	Cu1–O6 ⁱⁱ	1.960(2)	Se1-O2	1.685(2)
Cu1–O2 ⁱⁱ	1.934(7)	Se1–O2	1.702(8)	Cu1–O6 ^{iv}	1.960(2)	Se1–O3 ⁱ	1.683(2)
Cu1–O7	2.053(7)	<se1-o></se1-o>	1.687			Se1-O7	1.729(2)
Cu1–O2 ⁱ	2.144(8)			Cu2–O1	1.905(2)	<se1–o></se1–o>	1.699
Cu1–Cl1	2.400(3)	Se2-O1	1.673(7)	Cu2–O5	1.943(2)		
		Se2–O7	1.675(7)	Cu2–O3	1.954(2)	Se2–O5 ⁱⁱ	1.679(2)
Cu2–O4	1.932(7)	Se2–O6	1.754(7)	Cu2–Cl2	2.3633(9)	Se2–O4	1.694(2)
Cu2–O5	1.936(7)	<se2–o></se2–o>	1.701			Se2–O6	1.717(2)
Cu2–O5 ⁱⁱⁱ	1.942(7)			Cu3–O2 ⁱ	1.902(2)	<se2–o></se2–o>	1.697

TABLE 4. Selected bond lengths (Å) in the crystal structure of K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl.*

TABLE 5. Selected bond lengths (Å) in the crystal structure of Na₂[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₄Cl₄.*

*Symmetry codes: (i) -x+2, -y+2, -z+2; (ii) x-1, y-1, z; (iii) -x+3, -y+2, -z+2; (iv) x+1, y, z; (v) -x+2, -y+1, -z+1; (vi) x, y-1, z; (vii) -x+1, -y+1, -z+1; (viii) -x+1, -y+1, -z+2.

*Symmetry codes: (i) -*x*+1, -*y*+1, -*z*; (ii) -*x*+1, -*y*+1, -*z*+1; (iii) -*x*+1, -*y*, -*z*+1; (iv) x, y-1, z; (v) x, y+1, z; (vi) *x*+1, *y*, *z*.

TABLE 6. I	Bond vale	ence analysi	s (in v	alence	units, v	vu) for	the crystal	structure	of K	[Cu ₃ O](SeO	$_{3})_{2}Cl.$
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	01	O2	O3	O4	O5	O6	07	C11	Σ
K1	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.18, 0.07			0.22	0.08, 0.05	0.89
Cu1		0.50, 0.28			0.56		0.36	0.34	2.04
Cu2	0.42			0.50	0.50, 0.49				1.91
Cu3			0.49		0.56	0.49, 0.39	0.06	0.06	2.05
Se1		1.34	1.44	1.41					4.19
Se2	1.45					1.17	1.44		4.06
Σ	1.95	2.19	2.07	2.16	2.11	2.05	2.08	0.53	

TABLE 7. Bond valence analysis (in valence units, vu) for the crystal structure of Na₂[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₄Cl₄.

02	O3	O4	05	O6	07	Cl1	C12	Σ
0.11	0.23	0.22	0.30		0.22	0.23		1.31
$2^{2x \rightarrow}$		•		$0.47^{2x \rightarrow}$				1.98
4	0.48		0.49				0.37	1.88
0.55				0.34	0.28		0.33	2.04
9		0.51			0.46	0.46		1.92
1.41	1.41				1.25			4.07
		1.37	1.43	1.29				4.09
9 2.07	2.12	2.10	2.22	2.10	2.21	0.69	0.70	
	$\begin{array}{c} 0.11\\ 52^{2x \rightarrow}\\ 54\\ 54\\ 9\\ 1.41\\ 09\\ 2.07 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$						



FIG. 1. Coordination of cations in the crystal structures of $K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2Cl(a)$ and $Na_2[Cu_7O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_4(b)$. Legend: $K^+ = pink$; $Cu^{2+} = cyan$; $Se^{4+} = orange$; $O^{2-} = red$; $Cl^- = green$.

been described in other natural and synthetic copper compounds.

The structure of I contains three symmetrically independent Cu sites (Fig. 1a). The Cu1 site is surrounded by four O and one Cl atoms to form an unusual, distorted [CuO₄Cl]⁷⁻ trigonal bipyramid with the O7, O2 and Cl1 atoms forming a triangular equatorial plane. This type of coordination geometry, [(2O+Cl)+2O], has previously been reported for the structure of β -Cu₃(SeO₃)₂Cl₂ (Becker *et al.*, 2007). The Cu1-O bond lengths vary from 1.892 to 2.144 Å; the Cu1-Cl1 bond length is equal to 2.400 Å. Cu2 has a typical square planar [CuO₄]⁶⁻ coordination, which has been observed, e.g. in the structure of francisite, [Cu₃BiO₂](SeO₃)₂Cl (Pring et al., 1990). Four oxygen atoms are located at distances ranging between 1.932 and 2.003 Å from the Cu2 atom. The Cu3 coordination polyhedron can be described as a distorted [(4O)+(O+C1)] octahedron, and is similar to that observed in the crystal structures of georgbokiite, α -[Cu₅O₂] $(SeO_3)_2Cl_2$ (Krivovichev et al., 1999a), kamchatkite, K[Cu₃O](SO₄)₂Cl (Varaksina et al., 1990) and nabokoite, K₂Cu₇(TeO₄)(SO₄)₅Cl (Pertlik and Zemann, 1988). The average <Cu3-Oeq> bond length in the equatorial plane of the octahedron is 1.952 Å. Apical O7 and Cl1 atoms are located at 2.749 and 3.046 Å from Cu3, respectively. Various Cu coordination polyhedra are combined into layers parallel to (001) (Fig. 2a). The structure of I contains two symmetrically independent Se^{4+} cations that form $(SeO_3)^{2-}$ triangular pyramids with Se located at its apical corner and a stereoactive lone pair acting as a complementary ligand. The average <Se-O> distance is 1.687 Å and 1.701 Å for the Se1 and Se2 sites, respectively. The K⁺ cation is coordinated by seven O²⁻ and two Cl⁻ anions in a distorted arrangement (Fig. 1a).

In the crystal structure of **II**, there are four symmetrically independent Cu sites (Fig. 1*b*). The Cu1 site forms a $[CuO_4]^{6-}$ square with an average <Cu1-O> bond length of 1.940 Å, similar to the Cu2 site in the structure of **I**. Cu2 and Cu4 sites are



FIG. 2. Mode of linkage of the Cu coordination polyhedra in the crystal structures of $K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2Cl(a)$ and $Na_2[Cu_7O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_4(b)$. Legend: $Cu^{2+} = cyan$; $O^{2-} = red$; $Cl^- = green$. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

coordinated by three O (<Cu2-O> = 1.934 Å, <Cu4-O> = 1.945 Å) and one Cl atom (Cu2-Cl2 = 2.363 Å, Cu4-Cl1 = 2.284 Å) to form [CuO₃Cl]⁵⁻ square planes. The same [(3O+Cl)] coordination has been observed previously in the crystal structure of ilinskite, Na[Cu₅O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₃ (Vergasova *et al.*, 1997; Krivovichev *et al.*, 2012). The Cu3 site has a triangular bipyramidal [(2O+Cl) +2O] coordination with Cu3–O bond lengths of 1.902–2.156 Å, and a Cu3–Cl2 distance of 2.407 Å. The copper polyhedra form the arrangement shown in Fig. 2*b*. Two symmetrically independent Se sites form (SeO₃)^{2–} trigonal pyramids with average <Se–O> bond lengths of 1.699 and 1.697 Å for Se1 and Se2, respectively. One symmetrically unique Na⁺ cation is surrounded by six O^{2-} and one Cl⁻ anion. The Na1– O6 contact corresponds to a weak interaction and its distance is rather long (3.169 Å), but it helps to form an approximately triangular prismatic oxygen environment for Na⁺.

Dimers of $[OCu_4]^{6+}$ tetrahedra and their linkage

By analogy with many copper minerals of fumarolic origin (see, e.g. Krivovichev *et al.* (2013); Pekov *et al.* (2013*a, b*)), analysis of the



FIG. 3. Structural units based upon oxocentred $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra and their environment in the crystal structures of Na₂[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₄Cl₄ (*a*, *b*) and K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl (*c*, *d*). Legend as in Fig. 2. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.



FIG. 4. The crystal structures of I (*a*) and II (*b*) in projections featuring the presence of dimers of (OCu₄) tetrahedra. Legend: $K^+ = pink$; $Cu^{2+} = cyan$; $Se^{4+} = orange$; $O^{2-} = red$; $CI^- = green$; the [OCu₄]⁶⁺ tetrahedra are highlighted by red. K–O, K–Cl and Cu–Cl bonds are omitted for clarity. Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level.

crystal structures of I and II in terms of oxocentred tetrahedra seems appropriate to describe the structural organization and to reveal relations between different structures with similar chemical compositions.

In the crystal structure of I, two $[OCu_4]^{6+}$ tetrahedra share a common Cu…Cu edge to form the $[O_2Cu_6]^{8+}$ dimer shown in Fig. 3*a*. The selenite groups and Cl atoms surround these dimers to form $\{[O_2Cu_6](SeO_3)_4Cl_2]\}^{2-}$ units shown in Fig. 3b, which are further interconnected into layers parallel to (001) (Fig. 4*a*). The interlayer space is occupied by K^+ cations. $(SeO_3)^{2-}$ triangular pyramids are attached to the $[O_2Cu_6]^{8+}$ cluster in such a way that four selenite triangular O-O-O bases are parallel to the four triangular Cu-Cu-Cu faces of the oxocentred tetrahedra. This mode of interaction between oxocentred tetrahedra and cation-centred groups is known as a 'face-to-face' mode and has been reported previously by Krivovichev and Filatov (1999) and Krivovichev et al. (1999b). It is of interest that the same linkage between copper oxocentred dimers and selenite triangular pyramids has been observed in a monoclinic polymorph of Cu[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₃ (Effenberger and Pertlik, 1986). It is noteworthy that, despite similarity in their chemical formulae, kamchatkite, K[Cu₃O](SO₄)₂Cl (Varaksina et al., 1990), is not isotypical with I, K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl. In contrast to the latter, the former is based upon chains of corner-sharing $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra.

The crystal structure of **II** is based upon the $[O_2Cu_7]^{10+}$ dimeric units shown in Fig. 3*c*, formed

by two $(OCu_4)^{6^+}$ tetrahedra sharing a common Cu atom. The dimers are linked by $(SeO_3)^{2^-}$ groups to produce layers parallel to (100) with the interlayer space filled by Na⁺ cations, Cl⁻ anions and lone electron pairs of Se⁴⁺ cations (Fig. 4*b*). $[O_2Cu_7]^{10+}$ dimers are coordinated by selenite groups and Cl atoms to form the { $[O_2Cu_7](SeO_3)_4Cl_4]$ }²⁻ unit shown in Fig. 3*d*. Note that in the crystal structure of **II** the selenite anions play different structural roles. Whereas the (Se2O₃) triangular pyramids are in 'face-to-face' orientations relative to the (O1Cu₄) tetrahedra, the (Se1O₃) groups are located in between the copper oxoselenite clusters and provide their linkage into the metal-oxide layers through the formation of Se–O–Cu links.

Discussion

The novel compounds **I** and **II** reported herein are new members of the structural family of minerals and synthetic compounds that are based upon dimers composed of $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ groups (Krivovichev *et al.*, 2013; Table 8). Figure 5 provides an overview of the observed coordination environments of the dimers of oxocentred tetrahedra in the crystal structures of related copper minerals and synthetic compounds.

Structures based upon dimers of edge-sharing oxocentred tetrahedra have been observed previously in two polymorphs of Cu[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₃ (Effenberger and Pertlik, 1986). Here the $[O_2Cu_6]^{8+}$

TWO NEW COPPER SELENITE CHLORIDI

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TABLE

O:Cu	Chemical formula	Mineral name	Space group	a (Å); α (°)	b (Å); β (°)	c (Å); γ (°)	$V(Å^3)$	Ref.*
2:6	NaK[Cu ₃ O](SO ₄) ₃	euchlorine	C2/c	18.41; 90	9.43; 113.7	14.21; 90	2259	1
	$K_2[Cu_3O](SO_4)_3$	fedotovite	C2/c	19.037; 90	9.479; 111.0	14.231; 90	2397	2
	KPb ₀ ₅ Cu[PbCu ₅ O ₂]Zn(SeO ₃) ₂ Cl ₁₀	prewittite	Pnnm	9.132;90	19.415; 90	13.213; 90	2343	ŝ
	$Cu[Cu_{3}O](SeO_{3})_{3}-I$	4	$P2_{1/a}$	15.990; 90	13.518; 90.5	17.745; 90	3836	4
	$Cu[Cu_{3}O](SeO_{3})_{3}-II$		$\overline{P1}$	7.992; 77.3	8.141; 66.6	8.391; 81.4	484	4
	$K[Cu_3O](SeO_3)_2CI$		$\overline{P1}$	7.682; 113.2	8.118; 108.7	8.784; 98.2	453	9
2:7	KCd[Cu ₇ O ₂](SeO ₃) ₂ Cl ₉	burnsite	$P6_{3}/mmc$	8.781; 90	8.781; 90	15.521; 90	1036	5
	$Na_2[Cu_7O_2](SeO_3)_4Cl_4$		$P\overline{1}$	7.436; 110.3	8.336; 106.2	9.134; 105.2	468	9
*1:Score	lari and Stasi (1990); 2: Starova et al. (199	1); 3: Shuvalov et al.	(2013); 4: Effenbe	rger and Pertlik (19	86); 5: Burns et al.	(2002); Krivoviche	ev et al. (2002); 6: this

dimers are surrounded by selenite groups and Cu atoms not bonded to 'additional' O atoms. Coordination environments of the dimers in the two polymorphs are different. In the monoclinic structure, four selenite anions attach to four faces of the $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra in a 'face-to-face' orientation (Fig. 5a), very similar to the arrangement observed in I. In the crystal structure of the triclinic phase, in addition to the four 'face-to-face'-attached selenite groups, each dimer is surrounded by two other selenite groups (Fig. 5b). Euchlorine, NaK [Cu₃O](SO₄)₃ (Scordari and Stasi, 1990) and fedotovite, K₂[Cu₃O](SO₄)₃ (Starova et al., 1991), were the first minerals described as being based on $[O_2Cu_6]^{8+}$ dimers. In the structures of these minerals, four sulfate tetrahedra are 'face-toface'-attached to the dimers, whereas two other sulfate tetrahedra provide their linkage in two dimensions (Fig. 5d). Very similar copper oxosulfate clusters have been observed recently in the structures of novel Cu metal-organic polymers $(NMe_2H_2)_4[Cu_6O_2](SO_4)_6(DMF)_4$ (Fig. 5e) and $(NMe_2H_2)_4[Cu_6O_2](SO_4)_6(DMF)_2$ (Fig. 5f) (Burrows et al., 2012). In the structure of prewittite, (Shuvalov $KPb_0 _5Cu[PbCu_5O_2]Zn(SeO_3)_2Cl_{10}$ et al., 2013), two adjacent heterometallic oxocentred (OCu₃Pb)⁶⁺ tetrahedra share a common Cu···Pb edge to form the $[O_2Cu_5Pb]^{8+}$ dimer (Fig. 5c). Two selenite groups are in 'face-to-face' positions relative to the oxocentred tetrahedra.

The [O₂Cu₇]¹⁰⁺ dimer formed by two cornersharing $(OCu_4)^{6+}$ tetrahedra has been described in the structure of burnsite, KCd[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₂Cl₉ (Burns et al., 2002; Krivovichev et al., 2002), and compound II described here is a second example. In contrast to the crystal structure of **II**, where the selenite groups are attached to the lateral faces of the oxocentred tetrahedra (Fig. 5g), in the structure of burnsite, selenite groups are in a 'face-to-face' orientation relative to the opposite Cu-Cu-Cu faces of the dimer so that they are parallel to each other (Fig. 5h). The resulting copper oxoselenite complexes are linked via Cu-O bonds into a 3D framework that contains large channels filled by $(KCl_6)^{5-}$ triangular prisms and $(CdCl_6)^{4-}$ octahedra. The interesting case of a $[O_4Cu_{13}]^{18+}$ tetramer formed by successive linkage of two $[O_2Cu_7]^{10+}$ dimers has recently been reported for nicksobolevite, $Cu[Cu_{13}O_4](SeO_3)_4Cl_{12}$ (Vergasova et al., 2014). The tetramers are interconnected by selenite groups and additional copper cations into ladder-like layers.

The observed complex clusters consisting of oxocentred tetrahedral units surrounded by selenite

work.

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FIG. 5. Coordination environment of the dimers composed of $[OCu_4]^{6+}$ tetrahedra in the crystal structures of different minerals and synthetic compounds. See text for details.

groups form metal-oxide backbones of many copper oxoselenite chlorides. Whereas Cu coordination is diverse and changes from structure to structure, the oxocentred units appear to be relatively robust. Their existence and frequent occurrence in different structures provides indirect evidence for the importance of such units as prenucleation building blocks existing in gaseous media as occurs in volcanic fumaroles or evacuated silica ampoules used in the CVT method. The two K[Cu₃O](SeO₃)₂Cl new compounds, and Na₂[Cu₇O₂](SeO₃)₄Cl₄, are very similar in their chemistry and structures to the natural copper oxoselenite chlorides and one may thus predict their possible formation in fumarolic environments under appropriate physical and chemical conditions. It is worth noting that recently a number of interesting new Te-bearing mineral species have been described in the literature (e.g. Kampf et al. (2010); Christy and Mills, 2013). As for Se^{4+} , Te^{4+} cations possess lone electron pairs and are able to form triangular pyramidal TeO₃ groups structurally analogous to selenite anions observed in the title compounds and in the structures of many Tolbachik minerals. However, no direct structural correspondence between tellurites and selenites can be observed, due to the possibility of Te⁴⁺ adopting different coordination numbers and the ability of Te⁴⁺O_n units to polymerize to form extended polyanions.

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