

Crystal Data: Hexagonal. *Point Group:* $\bar{3}$. As thin tabular flakes with hexagonal outline or as blades, to 2 cm; in rosettelike aggregates.

Physical Properties: *Cleavage:* On {0001}, perfect. *Tenacity:* Flexible. Hardness = ~2.5
D(meas.) = 2.627 D(calc.) = 2.640

Optical Properties: Transparent to translucent. *Color:* Colorless to white, pale green if cuprian. *Luster:* Vitreous to pearly.

Optical Class: Uniaxial (-). $\omega = 1.5607(8)$ $\epsilon = 1.5382(4)$

Cell Data: *Space Group:* $P\bar{3}$. $a = 8.3556(3)$ $c = 13.025(1)$ $Z = 2$

X-ray Powder Pattern: San Francisco mine, Chile; strong preferred orientation on {0001}.
12.95 (100), 6.501 (23), 4.339 (15), 3.258 (14), 2.967 (10), 2.523 (6), 2.676 (5)

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
SO ₃	15.33	12.79
ZnO	52.85	51.99
Na ₂ O	9.15	4.95
Cl	6.46	5.66
H ₂ O	12.33	25.89
-O = Cl ₂	1.46	1.28
Total	94.66	100.00

(1) San Francisco mine, Chile; by electron microprobe, H₂O by CHN analyzer; low analytical total due to loss of H₂O during grinding, Na too high due to peak overlaps with Zn; after adjusting Na₂O to 5.5% from AA, and partitioning H between H₂O and (OH)¹⁻ according to crystal-structure analysis, corresponds to Na_{1.54}Zn_{3.39}(SO₄)_{1.00}(OH)₆Cl_{0.95}·6H₂O.

(2) NaZn₄(SO₄)(OH)₆Cl·6H₂O.

Occurrence: In the oxidized portions of a Cu-Zn sulfide deposit (San Francisco mine, Chile); on weathered mine dumps (Helbra, Germany); on the outside oxidized portions of a sea floor chimney formed by the mixing of hydrothermal fluids with sea water (Juan de Fuca Ridge).

Association: Zincian paratacamite, anglesite, hemimorphite, christelite, quartz (San Francisco mine, Chile); connellite, anglesite, chlorian bromargyrite (Helbra, Germany); sphalerite, barite, pyrite, pyrrhotite, sulfur, iron hydroxides (Juan de Fuca Ridge).

Distribution: From the San Francisco mine, two km west of the Sierra Gorda railway station, Sierra Gorda district, Antofagasta, Chile. On the Juan de Fuca Ridge, southwest of Vancouver Island, Canada. From near Helbra, Mansfeld region, Saxony-Anhalt, Germany. At the Kamariza mine, Laurium, Greece.

Name: For the Sierra Gorda, Chile, from which the mineral was first fully characterized.

Type Material: University of Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany.

References: (1) Schlüter, J., K.-H. Klaska, K. Friese, G. Adiwidjaja, and G. Gebhard (1997) Gordaite, NaZn₄(SO₄)(OH)₆Cl·6H₂O, a new mineral from the San Francisco mine, Antofagasta, Chile. *Neues Jahrb. Mineral., Monatsh.*, 155-162. (2) (1998) *Amer. Mineral.*, 83, 185-186 (abs. ref. 1). (3) Adiwidjaja, G., K. Friese, K.-H. Klaska, and J. Schlüter (1997) The crystal structure of gordaite NaZn₄(SO₄)(OH)₆Cl·6H₂O. *Zeits. Krist.*, 212, 704-707. (4) Nasdala, L., T. Witzke, B. Ullrich, and R. Brett (1998) Gordaite [Zn₄Na(OH)₆(SO₄)Cl·6H₂O]: second occurrence in the Juan de Fuca Ridge, and new data. *Amer. Mineral.*, 83, 1111-1116.