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Revision 1

- 1 Calorimetry and structural analysis of uranyl sulfates with rare topologies
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### 10 Abstract

11 Uranyl sulfate minerals are the most rapidly expanding group of uranium minerals, with dozens 12 of species described in the past decade from the localities of White Canyon, USA and Jáchymov, 13 Czech Republic. Synthetic analogs of a suite of uranyl sulfate minerals were crystallized, 14 characterized, and the standard-state enthalpies of formation ( $\Delta H_f^{\circ}$ ) were determined. Synthetic lussierite is monoclinic, space group Cc, a = 9.2896, b = 28.685, c = 9.6155,  $\beta = 93.504$ . 15 Synthetic geschieberite is orthorhombic, space group  $Pna2_1$ , a = 13.7408, b = 7.2713, c =16 17 11.5844. The standard-state enthalpies of formation from the binary oxides for lussierite, péligotite, shumwayite, geschieberite, and bluelizardite are  $-3214 \pm 78$ ,  $-2026 \pm 33$ ,  $-587 \pm 22$ , -18 19 966.1  $\pm$  10.9, and -2084  $\pm$  21 kJ/mol, respectively, while the standard-state enthalpies of 20 formation of each phase from its elements are  $-9743 \pm 78$ ,  $-7220 \pm 33$ ,  $-5255 \pm 22$ ,  $-3916 \pm 20$ , 21 and  $-7117 \pm 21$  kJ/mol, respectively. The  $\Delta H_f^{\circ}$  of péligotite was accurately estimated using the 22  $\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}$  of lussierite, bluelizardite and literature values of the oxide components of each phase. This implies that estimates can be made accurately of the  $\Delta H_f^{\circ}$  of uranyl sulfates of minerals without 23

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- 24 synthetic analogs.
- 25
- 26 Keywords:
- 27 High temperature drop solution calorimetry; uranyl sulfate minerals; hydrogen atom positions

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### 30 Introduction

31 Uranium is of considerable societal importance: it is the primary fuel of nuclear energy, 32 essential for production of many medical isotopes, central to international security concerns 33 regarding nuclear weapons and non-proliferation, and an environmental contaminant where 34 uranium mining and nuclear fuel cycle activities occurred. Uranyl sulfates, which contain U in its hexavalent oxidation state as the  $UO_2^{2+}$  uranyl ion, are an important and rapidly growing group 35 of secondary minerals found where hydration-oxidation processes alter primary uranium 36 37 minerals and sulfides, typically in abandoned mines (Finch and Murakami, 1999; Plášil et al., 2014). Acid-mine drainage conditions promote the transport of  $UO_2^{2^+}$  and  $SO_4^{2^+}$  aqueous ions 38 through the country rock, resulting in efflorescent crusts of secondary minerals on mine walls 39 40 (Kampf et al., 2019). Until 2009, less than 20 uranyl sulfate minerals had been described, of 41 which zippeite  $(K_3(H_2O)_{3,3}[(UO_2)_4(SO_4)_2O_3(OH)])$  is the most commonly encountered. Over the 42 past dozen years studies of mining districts including White Canyon, Utah, USA, and Jáchymov, 43 Czech Republic, have tripled the number of described uranyl sulfate mineral species (IMA, 44 2023).

The structures of uranyl sulfate minerals generally consist of anionic structural units containing uranyl and sulfate polyhedra and an interstitial complex of low-valence cations and H<sub>2</sub>O (Burns et al., 1997). Uranyl oxyanion structural units in uranyl minerals have been organized into a hierarchy based on dimensionality (Burns et al., 1996; Krivovichev and Plášil, 2013), in which sheets predominate (Burns et al., 1996). The structural units of uranyl sulfate minerals are topologically and dimensionally diverse, including finite clusters, chains, and sheets of polyhedra (Gurzhiy and Plášil, 2019). Sulfate groups bond to uranyl ions in both monodentate

and bidentate fashions, which further enhances structural diversity through the multiple modes of connection between the polyhedra (Krivovichev and Plášil, 2013; Gurzhiy and Plášil, 2019). No thermodynamic data exists to help understand the formation of the unique uranyl sulfates found in White Canyon, Utah.

56 High-temperature oxide melt solution calorimetry has been extensively applied for 57 determination of the enthalpy of formation ( $\Delta H_f^{\circ}$ ) of uranyl compounds (Navrotsky, 2014) including uranyl silicates (boltwoodite, uranophane (Shvareva et al., 2011); soddyite (Gorman-58 59 Lewis et al., 2007)), uranyl carbonates (rutherfordine, grimselite, andersonite (Kubatko et al., 60 2005)), uranyl vanadates (carnotite, curienite, francevillite (Spano et al., 2017)), uranyl sulfates 61 (zippeite (Sharifironizi et al., 2016); natrozippeite, cobaltzippeite, zinczippeite (Sharifironizi and Burns, 2018)), and some U<sup>IV</sup> minerals (coffinite (Guo et al., 2015); brannerite (Simoncic and 62 63 Navrotsky, 2007); behounekite (Zhang et al., 2019)). These studies revealed relationships 64 between the enthalpy of formation and the Smith acidity of the interstitial cation (Sharifironizi 65 and Burns, 2018), the normalized charge deficiency per anion (Spano et al., 2017), and the

Table I. The	e concentration and quantit	y of ead	ch reagent	used in th	ie phase synth	lesis.	
Name	Formula	H <sub>2</sub> O (ml)	UO <sub>3</sub> (g)	18.4 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (mL)	Aliquot evaporated (mL)	5.0 M NaOH (mL)	Final Stock pH
Lussierite	$Na_{10}[(UO_2)(SO_4)_4](SO_4)_2 \cdot 3$ $H_2O$	20.0	2.6	2.2	3	*	2.6
Péligotite	$Na_6[(UO_2)(SO_4)_4] \cdot 4H_2O$	40.0	5.7	4.5	2	1.15*	2.5
Shumwayite	$[(UO_2)(SO_4)(H_2O)_2]_2 H_2O$	20.0	1.4	0.3	2	None	1.7
Bluelizardite	$Na_7[(UO_2)(SO_4)_4]Cl \cdot 2H_2O$	20.0	5.1	8.6	3	26.4†	1.8
Name	Formula	H <sub>2</sub> O (ml)	(UO <sub>2</sub> )(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O (g)		18.4 M H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (mL)	K <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub> (g)	
Geschieberite	$K_2[(UO_2)(SO_4)_2(H_2O)] \cdot H_2O$	5.0	2.	5	0.14	0.4	4

\*NaOH added to aliquot vial rather than the stock solution.

<sup>†5</sup> M solution was added to the uranyl sulfate stock, followed by 2.5 mL of 12 M HCl to adjust the pH.

<sup>‡</sup>The solution was titrated with NaOH to a specific pH and the volume was not recorded.

66 number of oxygen atoms per U (Navrotsky et al., 2013).

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Here we report synthesis of the analogs of five of the new uranyl sulfate minerals from Red Canyon and Jáchymov and determination of their enthalpies of formation. We had initially planned to measure the aqueous solubility of these minerals, but we qualitatively observed that these phases are highly soluble and accurate measurements were precluded by the large amount of material those measurements would require. This is part of our on-going efforts to develop thermodynamic data for uranyl minerals in order to better understand their occurrences and transformations.

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# 76 Methods

**Synthesis of uranyl sulfate phases.** Lab-prepared UO<sub>3</sub> was synthesized by placing (UO<sub>2</sub>)(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (International Bio-analytical Industries) into an alumina crucible, covering the crucible with a watch glass and heating the sample to 600 °C on a hot plate in a hood until the uranyl nitrate had melted and then formed a red-orange solid. The material was verified as slightly hydrated UO<sub>3</sub> via powder X–ray diffraction (PDF-00-053-0877) and was stored in a sealed container under vacuum until used as a reagent.

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Crystalline uranyl sulfate phases were synthesized from aqueous uranyl sulfate stock solutions containing various amounts of ultrapure Milli–Q H<sub>2</sub>O, UO<sub>3</sub> and concentrated H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (BDH). Different amounts of 5 M NaOH (ACS) were added to supply sodium ions and to adjust the pH. Details of the synthesis experiments are summarized in Table 1. The pH of each solution was measured using a Fisher Scientific AB150 pH/mV probe calibrated with three NIST standards (BDH). To synthesize the analog of bluelizardite, Na<sub>7</sub>[(UO<sub>2</sub>)(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]Cl·2H<sub>2</sub>O, 5 M NaOH was added to a uranyl sulfate solution until a precipitate formed. The precipitate was then

91 dissolved by adding concentrated HCl (BDH). The solutions that yielded synthetic analogs of 92 lussierite, shumwayite and bluelizardite were evaporated in Isotemp ovens at 60, 70 and 70 °C. 93 respectively, until crystals formed at the bottom of the vials and a small amount of the stock 94 solution remained. The solution that yielded the synthetic analog of péligotite was dried to 95 completion at 70 °C. After addition of K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (Fisher Chemical), geschieberite crystals 96 precipitated from the stock solution at room temperature over a few hours and were harvested 97 quickly from the mother liquor to prevent contamination by the formation of secondary 98 potassium sulfate salts. Crystals from all syntheses were harvested and rinsed with ethanol and a 99 few drops of hot ultrapure water on filter paper in a Buchner funnel to remove any impurities or 100 residual stock solution, if present. A vacuum was applied during rinsing to prevent excessive 101 dissolution of the uranyl sulfate crystals. After cleaning, all crystals were dried completely over 102 the vacuum, then recovered for further analysis.

	Lussierite	Péligotite	Shumwayite	Geschieberite	Bluelizardite
Space Group	Cc	<i>P</i> -1	$P2_{1}/c$	$Pna2_1$	C2/c
a (Å)	9.2896	9.7935	6.730	13.7408	21.162
b (Å)	28.685	9.9419	12.479	7.2713	5.3462
c (Å)	9.6155	10.615	16.881	11.5844	34.719
α (°)	90	88.659	90	90	90
β (°)	93.504	74.013	90.931	90	104.902
γ (°)	90	89.188	90	90	90
Vol (Å <sup>3</sup> )	2557.4	993.26	1417.5	1157.43	3795.9

**Table 2**. Crystallographic parameters of synthetic phases examined in this study.

104 Single Crystal X–ray Diffraction. Selected crystals from each product were immersed 105 in mineral oil and attached to cryoloops. Single-crystal X–ray diffraction (SC–XRD) data were 106 collected using a Bruker Apex II Quazar diffractometer with a micro-source sealed tube using 107 monochromated Mo  $K\alpha$  X–radiation. Data integration was done with the APEX III software and

<sup>103</sup> 

SADABS was used to apply absorption corrections (Sheldrick, 2008). All structures were solved and refined with the SHELXTL software package (Sheldrick, 2015a, b). The synthetic phases in this study diffracted well enough that the positions of all hydrogen atoms were determined. Hydrogen atoms were added to all structures at crystallographically appropriate positions based on residual electron densities. Crystallographic information files (CIF) were generated and were used to simulate powder diffractograms (Macrae et al., 2020). Crystallographic information is summarized in Table 2.

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116 **Powder X-ray Diffraction**. Dried crystals of each phase were ground into a fine powder 117 using an agate mortar and pestle. Small amounts of powder were placed on a glass slide for 118 collection of diffraction data using a Bruker D8 Advance Davinci powder X-ray diffractometer 119 (PXRD). Data were collected using monochromatic Cu K $\alpha$  radiation over the 2 $\theta$  range of 5 to 120 55°. Powder patterns of each uranyl sulfate phase were simulated using the Mercury software 121 package (Macrae et al., 2020) using the structural parameters of the synthetic phases obtained 122 during the SC–XRD analysis. Comparison of simulated and measured diffractograms of the bulk 123 powders confirmed phase identity and purity.

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Inductively Coupled Plasma Optical Emission Spectroscopy. For verification of the cation content of the phases under study, 10 mg of each powdered phase were dissolved in 5% v/v nitric acid that was analyzed in an Avio 200 PerkinElmer inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometer (ICP–OES). Each phase was analyzed in triplicate with five calibration standards, with Y used as an internal standard. The resulting compositions are in good agreement

with the ideal chemical formulas from the literature and increase our confidence that thesynthetic phases are identical to the natural minerals.

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**Thermogravimetric Analysis**. Thermogravimetric analysis (TGA) was performed using ~12 mg of each powdered phase in alumina crucibles, with an empty crucible as a blank, inside a Mettler Toledo Thermogravimetric Analyzer heated to 700 °C. Bluelizardite was heated to 800 °C, although the Cl was completely liberated by ~725 °C. The moles of water of each phase, and Cl in the case of bluelizardite, were calculated from the mass loss of the sample as measured by the TGA.

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140 Calorimetry. A Setaram AlexSYS 1000 model Calvet high temperature calorimeter was 141 used to measure the heat of dissolution of each crystalline phase. Each powdered phase was 142 pressed into ~5 mg pellets and dropped into molten solvent at 700 °C. Sodium molybdate 143 (3Na<sub>2</sub>O·4MoO<sub>3</sub>) was employed as the solvent as it is an effective solvent for uranyl phases, 144 including uranyl sulfates (Navrotsky, 1997, 2014; Sharifironizi et al., 2016; Sharifironizi and 145 Burns, 2018). Prior to calorimetric studies, pellets of each phase were dropped into molten sodium molybdate in alumina pans in a furnace at 700 °C to visually confirm complete 146 147 dissolution of the pellet. In the calorimeter, oxygen gas was bubbled through the solvent to 148 maintain oxidizing conditions and to stir the solvent to encourage dissolution of the pellets. 149 Oxygen flushing gas was used to sweep away gas and water vapor from the crucible. The heat of 150 dissolution of each phase was recorded and used in thermal chemical cycles to calculate the 151 enthalpies of formation of each compound from elements and binary oxides. The thermal 152 chemical cycles and number of drops for each phase are listed in Table 3.

153 For bluelizardite, the distribution of Cl between the solvent and gas upon dissolution at 154 700 °C was determined (Lilova et al., 2020). The  $\Delta H_{ds}$  of NaCl was measured by dropping 5 mg 155 pellets of ground reagent-grade NaCl (Fisher Chemical) into solvent in the calorimeter and 156 recording the heat of dissolution. Powdered NaCl was heated in a TGA and no mass loss was 157 observed at or below 700 °C, indicating the reagent had not absorbed ambient water. To verify 158 that Cl remained in the solvent during dissolution, alumina crucibles were prepared with 1 g of 159 freshly prepared sodium molybdate solvent in a furnace at 700 °C. Fifty mg of NaCl was added 160 (30.3 mg Cl) to four crucibles. After quenching the total mass loss was  $3.7 \pm 1.7$  mg, which was 161 comparable to the mass lost in a blank crucible loaded with only sodium molybdate solvent. 162 Analysis of the guenched solvent with SEM-EDS indicated the presence of Cl (Table S5).

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### 165 **Results and Discussion**

The refined crystal structures of the five uranyl sulfate phases under study are in good accord with the published structures of the natural phases (Table 2) (Plášil et al., 2014; Plášil et al., 2015; Kampf et al., 2017a; Kampf et al., 2017b; Kampf et al., 2019). Powder X–ray diffraction data confirmed the identity and purity of each phase (Fig. S1-S5). Chemical analysis yielded molar ratios of M:U:S (M = Na, K or no cation) within error of the ideal mineral formulas (Table S1). Thermogravimetric analysis provided the molar amounts of water and Cl of the synthetic uranyl sulfates and these are in agreement with the idealized mineral formulas

# 173 (Table

S2).



**Fig. 1**. The uranyl sulfate structural units for (a) péligotite and lussierite, (b) shumwayite, (c) geschieberite and (d) bluelizardite.

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175 The structural units of the five compounds under study are shown in Fig. 1. The earlier 176 crystal structure determinations for natural samples of geschieberite and lussierite did not include 177 the positions of H atoms. The X-ray data for the synthetic crystals readily yielded the positions 178 of all H atoms. In the case of geschieberite, Plášil et al. proposed H bonds donated by the  $H_2O$ 179 group bonded in the equatorial plane of the uranyl ion and accepted by non-bridging O atoms of 180 sulfate tetrahedra located in the same sheet as the uranyl polyhedron. There are two  $H_2O$  groups 181 in the structure: the one bonded to the uranyl ion, and another located in the interlayer where it is 182 bonded to K. In the new structure, the H bonds of the H<sub>2</sub>O group bonded to the uranyl do form 183 the predicted bonds to the sulfate groups (Fig. 2, O7). However, in the synthetic structure the 184 H<sub>2</sub>O group bonded to the uranyl ion also accepts a H bond donated by the H<sub>2</sub>O group located in 185 the interlayer (Fig. 2, O12). The other H bond emanating from the interlayer H<sub>2</sub>O group is 186 accepted by a uranyl ion oxygen atom of an adjacent sheet, such that H bonds from this 187 interlayer H<sub>2</sub>O group bridge sheets of uranyl and sulfate polyhedra (Fig. 2).





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197	The structure of lussierite contains three H <sub>2</sub> O groups located in interstitial positions,
198	where each of them is bonded to two Na cations (Fig. 3). The structural unit consists of a uranyl
199	polyhedron sharing vertices with four sulfate tetrahedra, and there are two different sulfate
200	tetrahedra in the interstitial complex. The O27 oxygen donates two H bonds that are accepted by
201	two different interstitial oxygen atoms of sulfate groups. The O28 oxygen atom donates H bonds
202	that are accepted by oxygen atoms of two sulfate tetrahedra of different structural units. As for
203	the O27 oxygen, O29 oxygen donates two H bonds that are accepted by oxygen atoms of the two

204 distinct interstitial sulfate groups (Fig. 3).



**Fig. 3**. The hydrogen bonding in lussierite. (Left) The O27 water molecule donates hydrogen bonds to two different interstitial oxygen atoms of sulfate units. (Left) The O29 water molecule also donates hydrogen bonds to oxygen atoms of two distinct, interstitial sulfate units. (Right) The O28 water molecule donates hydrogen bonds that connect to two distinct sulfate tetrahedra Always consult and cite the final, published document. See http://www.minsocam.org or GeoscienceWorld

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217 Thermodynamic cycles (Table 3) were used to calculate the standard-state enthalpy of 218 formation of each phase from the measured heats of dissolution. When sufficient sample was 219 available, additional measurements were done using a second AlexSYS calorimeter to verify 220 heat curve data. The standard-state enthalpies of formation from the binary oxides for lussierite, 221 péligotite, shumwayite, geschieberite, and bluelizardite are  $-3214 \pm 78$ ,  $-2026 \pm 33$ ,  $-587 \pm 22$ , -222 966.1  $\pm$  10.9, and -2084  $\pm$  21 kJ/mol, respectively. The standard-state enthalpies of formation of 223 each phase from its elements are  $-9743 \pm 78$ ,  $-7220 \pm 33$ ,  $-5255 \pm 22$ ,  $-3916 \pm 20$ , and  $-7117 \pm 21$ 224 kJ/mol, respectively.

225 Péligotite, lussierite and bluelizardite are structurally and chemically similar minerals, 226 which provides an opportunity to evaluate the internal consistency of the calorimetric results. 227 Each contains finite uranyl sulfate units linked through interstitial Na and  $H_2O_1$ , although 228 bluelizardite has Cl in the interstitial complex, and lussierite contains sulfate groups in the 229 interstitial complex. Literature values for  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  for H<sub>2</sub>O, NaCl, and Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> are -285.5, -411.3, 230 and -1387.8 kJ/mol, respectively (Robie et al., 1978). The  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  for péligotite, 231  $Na_{6}[(UO_{2})(SO_{4})_{4}](H_{2}O)_{4}$ , calculated from the thermochemical cycles is  $-7220 \pm 33$  kJ/mol. This 232 value can also be estimated starting with  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  (-9743 ± 78 kJ/mol) of lussierite, 233  $Na_{10}[(UO_2)(SO_4)_4](SO_4)_2 \cdot 3H_2O_5$ , by subtracting  $\Delta H_1^{\circ}$  for two moles of  $Na_2SO_4$  and adding  $\Delta H_1^{\circ}$ 234 for one mole of H<sub>2</sub>O, which yields  $-7253 \pm 78$  kJ/mol. Similarly, it can be estimated starting with

235  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  (-7117 ± 21 kJ/mol) of bluelizardite, Na<sub>7</sub>[(UO<sub>2</sub>)(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>4</sub>]Cl·2H<sub>2</sub>O, followed by subtracting 236 the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of one mole of NaCl and adding the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of two moles of H<sub>2</sub>O, which yields -7277 ± 237 21 kJ/mol.

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# 239 Implications

240 Generally, SCXRD data for new minerals is collected on the X-ray diffractometer at 241 room temperature, ~20 °C. Excepting for phases unstable at room temperature, it is normally no 242 issue to determine the true structure of a mineral with modern diffractometers due to incremental 243 improvements in detector resolution and X-ray sources. However, heavy elements such as U 244 cause excessive X-ray scattering that can make accurately determining the thermal parameters of 245 light elements as heavy as even O quite difficult. Exact H atom positions are often impossible to 246 determine from natural uranium minerals and often the H-bond network must be estimated from 247 bond valence calculations. This is further complicated by hydrous minerals that have dehydrated 248 in the field prior to collection. Synthesis of uranyl mineral analogs in laboratory conditions 249 avoids the dehydration issue with natural samples. Further, using a cryostream will both stabilize 250 phases prone to dehydration and will reduce the X-ray scatter around U atoms such that H-atom 251 positions can be more readily found, as exemplified by the phases reported in this study.

The  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  value of péligotite calculated from thermochemical cycles in this study is in close agreement with the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  calculated from the starting  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of similar minerals. This implies that estimating the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  values can be done for minerals that have yet to be synthesized in laboratory conditions. For instance, ottohahnite, Na<sub>6</sub>(UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>5</sub>(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>7</sub>·1.5H<sub>2</sub>O, is structurally similar to péligotite, lussierite and bluelizardite. Ottohahnite has no synthetic analog and its enthalpy of formation is unknown, but using the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of péligotite and literature enthalpy values

an estimate can be made of the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of ottohahnite. The literature value of  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  for UO<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O is -2747.2 kJ/mol (Glushko, 1978; Karyakin et al., 2003). Starting with  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of -7220 ± 33 kJ/mol, then adding  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  for one mole of UO<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O and  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  for 1.5 moles of H<sub>2</sub>O yields -10.395.5± 33 kJ/mol for ottohahnite.

262 The rate of new mineral discoveries, particularly uranyl sulfates, is far outpacing the rate 263 at which analogs of minerals are being synthesized in laboratories. The newly described uranyl 264 sulfate minerals are diverse in structure and chemistry, indicating variations in local geochemical 265 conditions. However, aside from the minerals described in this study and a few others, most of 266 the uranyl sulfates have not been replicated in laboratory conditions and their thermodynamic 267 data is unknown. The lack of  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  data of these new minerals hampers a deeper understanding 268 of the formation processes behind these minerals. Previous efforts have been made to accurately 269 estimate the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  values of uranyl minerals without experiment analysis or expensive DFT 270 simulations (Chen et al., 1999). The results of this study imply that accurate estimates can be made of the  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  values of mineral phases by using  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  values from chemically and 271 272 structurally similar phases. This is not only accurate, but rapid and facile. This method will likely 273 be improved with more data points for study.

The standard state entropy of formation for zippeite is three orders of magnitude smaller than the standard state enthalpy of formation (Sharifironizi and Burns, 2018; Sharifironizi et al., 2016), indicating that the standard state enthalpy is the largest contributor to the standard state free energy of the mineral. If that is the case for other uranyl sulfates, then estimating  $\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of a mineral using the method described here also allows for an accurate approximation of the  $\Delta G_{\rm f}^{\circ}$ . This is of potential value, as the high solubility of this suite of uranyl sulfates prevented experimental determination of their solubility products. Geochemists that model uranium mineral

- formation and uranium transport in acid mine conditions may therefore be interested in a means
- of predicting the  $\Delta G_{\rm f}^{\circ}$  of uranyl sulfate minerals that exist in defunct uranium mines, but have
- 283 yet to be replicated in a laboratory.
- 284 Notes:
- 285 The authors declare no competing interests.
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- 287 This work was supported by funding from the University of Notre.

**Table 3**. Calorimetry thermal cycles for determination of enthalpy of formation ( $\Delta H_f^{\circ}$ ). The number of calorimeter drops is indicated in parenthesis in the kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> column. Crystalline phase = xl; gas phase = g; solution = soln; liquid phase = l. The error was calculated as two standard deviations of the mean.

Reactions ∆H1	Compound $\Delta H_{ds}$ Lussierite	Thermal Equation $Na_{10}[(UO_2)(SO_4)_4](SO_4)_2 \cdot 3(H_2O)_{(x1, 298 K)} = 5Na_2O_{(soln, 973 K)} + UO_3$ (soln, 973 K) + 6SO <sub>3</sub> (soln, 973 K) + 3H <sub>2</sub> O (a, 973 K)	$kJ \cdot mol^{-1}$ 1120 ± 71 (5)	Reference This study
$\Delta H2$	$\Delta H_{ds}$ Péligotite	$Na_{6}^{(UO2)}(SO_{4})_{4}^{(SO_{4})} + 4H_{2}O_{(xl, 298 K)} = 3Na_{2}O_{(soln, 973 K)} + UO_{3}_{(soln, 973 K)}$	844 ± 25 (6)	This
$\Delta H3$	$\Delta H_{ds}$ Shumwayite	$ = 4SO_{3} (\text{soln}, 973 \text{ K}) + 4H_{2}O (\text{g}, 973 \text{ K}) $ $ [(UO_{2})(SO_{4})(H_{2}O)_{2}]_{2} \cdot H_{2}O (\text{xl}, 298 \text{ K}) = 2UO_{3} (\text{soln}, 976 \text{ K}) + 2SO_{3} (\text{soln}, 976 \text{ K}) $	542 ± 14 (18)	This
$\Delta H4$	$\Delta H_{ds}$ Geschieberite	$ \begin{array}{l} {}_{K_{1}}+5H_{2}O_{(soln,976K)} \\ {}_{K_{2}}[(UO_{2})(SO_{4})_{2}]\cdot2(H_{2}O)_{(xl,298K)} = 1K_{2}O_{(soln,973K)} + 1UO_{3(soln,973K)} \end{array} $	388 ± 6 (16)	study This
ΔН5	$\Delta H_{ds}$ Bluelizardite	$\begin{array}{l} {}_{K)}+2SO_{3}\left( \operatorname*{soln},973\mathrm{K}\right) +2H_{2}O\left( \operatorname*{g},973\mathrm{K}\right) \\ Na_{7}[(UO_{2})(SO_{4})_{4}]Cl\cdot 2(H_{2}O)\left( \operatorname*{sol},928\mathrm{K}\right) =3Na_{2}O\left( \operatorname*{soln},973\mathrm{K}\right) +UO_{3}\left( \operatorname*{soln},973\mathrm{K}\right) \\ {}_{973\mathrm{K})}+4SO_{3}\left( \operatorname*{soln},973\mathrm{K}\right) +NaCl\left( \operatorname*{soln},973\mathrm{K}\right) +2H_{2}O\left( \operatorname*{g},973\mathrm{K}\right) \end{array}$	838.2 ± 1.9 (9)	study This study
$\Delta H7$	$\Delta H_{ds} (UO_3)$	$UO_{3 (xl, 298 K)} = UO_{3 (soln, 973 K)}$	9.5 ± 1.5	Helean et
$\Delta H8$	$\Delta H_{ds} (SO_3)$	$SO_{3 (g, 298 K)} = SO_{3 (soln, 973 K)}$	$-203.7 \pm 4.1$	al. 2002 Navrotsky
ΔH9	$\Delta H_{ds}$ (Na <sub>2</sub> O)	$Na_2O_{(xl, 298 K)} = Na_2O_{(soln, 973 K)}$	$-217.6 \pm 4.3$	Tessier et
ΔH10	$\Delta H_{ds} \left( K_2 O \right)$	$K_2O_{(xl, 298 K)} = K_2O_{(soln, 973 K)}$	-318 ± 3	al. 2000 Tessier et
ΔH11	$\Delta H_{ds}$ (NaCl)	$NaCl_{(xl, 298 K)} = NaCl_{(soln, 973 K)}$	74.6 ± 1.1 (6)	al. 2000 This
ΔH12	$\Delta H_{hc}$ (H <sub>2</sub> O)	$H_2O_{(l, 298 K)} = H_2O_{(g, 973 K)}$	69.01	study Robie et
ΔH13	$\Delta \mathrm{H_{f}^{o}}(\mathrm{UO_{3}})$	$U_{(xl, 298 \text{ K})} + 1.5O_{2 (g, 298 \text{ K})} = UO_{3 (xl, 298 \text{ K})}$	$-1223.8 \pm 0.8$	al. 1978 Robie et
ΔH14	$\Delta H_{f}^{o}(SO_{3})$	$S_{(xl, 298 K)} + 1.5O_{2 (g, 298 K)} = SO_{3 (g, 298 K)}$	$-395.7 \pm 0.7$	al. 1978 Robie et
ΔH15	$\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}$ (Na <sub>2</sub> O)	$2Na_{(xl, 298 K)} + 0.5O_{2 (g, 298 K)} = Na_2O_{(xl, 298 K)}$	$-414.8 \pm 0.3$	al. 1978 Robie et
ΔH16	$\Delta H_{f}^{o}(K_{2}O)$	$2K_{(xl, 298 K)} + 0.5O_{2 (g, 298 K)} = K_2O_{(xl, 298 K)}$	$-363.2 \pm 2.1$	al. 1978 Robie et
ΔH17	$\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}$ (NaCl)	$Na_{(xl, 298 K)} + 0.5Cl_{2(g, 298 K)} = NaCl_{(xl, 298 K)}$	-411.30 ±	al. 1978 Robie et
ΔH18	$\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}\left(H_{2}O\right)$	$H_{2 (g, 298 K)} + 0.5O_{2 (g, 298 K)} = H_2O_{(l, 298 K)}$	$0.10 \\ -285.80 \pm 0.10$	al. 1978 Robie et al. 1978
ΔH19	$\Delta H_{f-ox}^{\circ}$ Lussierite	$5Na_{2}O_{(xl, 298 K)} + UO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + 6SO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + 3H_{2}O_{(l, 298 K)}$	$-3214 \pm 78$	
		$-\Delta H1 + 5\Delta H9 + 1\Delta H7 + 6\Delta H8 + 3\Delta H12$		
ΔΗ20	$\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}$ Lussierite	$10\text{Na}_{(xl, 298 \text{ K})} + U_{(xl, 298 \text{ K})} + 6\text{S}_{(xl, 298 \text{ K})} + 3\text{H}_{2 \text{ (g, 298 \text{ K})}} + 14.5\text{O}_{2 \text{ (g, 298 \text{ K})}} +$	$-9743 \pm 78$	
ΔH21	$\Delta H_{f-ox}$ ° Péligotite	$3Na_2O_{(xl, 298 K)} + UO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + 4SO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + 4H_2O_{(l, 298 K)}$	$-2026 \pm 33$	
лн22	AH.º Péligotite	$-\Delta H2 + 3\Delta H9 + I\Delta H/ + 4\Delta H8 + 4\Delta H12$ 6Na (1 200 K) + II (1 200 K) + 4S (1 200 K) + 4H2 (200 K) + 11O2 (200 K)	-7220 + 33	
		$-\Delta H2 + 3\Delta H9 + 1\Delta H7 + 4\Delta H8 + 4\Delta H12 + 3\Delta H15 + 1\Delta H13 +$	$-7220 \pm 55$	
ΔH23	$\Delta H_{f-ox}^{\circ}$ Shumwayite	$4\Delta H14 + 4\Delta H18$ $2UO_{3 (xL, 298 K)} + 2SO_{3 (xL, 298 K)} + 5H_2O_{(L, 298 K)}$	$-587 \pm 22$	
	-	$-\Delta H3 + 2\Delta H7 + 2\Delta H8 + 5\Delta H12$		
ΔH24	$\Delta H_{f}^{\circ}$ Shumwayite	$2U_{(xl,298K)} + 2S_{(xl,298K)} + 5H_{2(g,298K)} + 8.5O_{2(g,298K)}$	$-5255 \pm 22$	
		-ΔH3 + 2ΔH7 + 2ΔH8 + 5ΔH12 + 2ΔH13 + 2ΔH14 + 5ΔH18		

ΔH25	ΔH <sub>f-ox</sub> ° Geschieberite	$1 K_2 O_{(xl, 298 K)} + UO_{3 (xl, 298 K)} + 2 SO_{3 (xl, 298 K)} + 2 H_2 O_{(l, 298 K)}$	-966 ± 11
		$-\Delta H4 + 1\Delta H10 + 1\Delta H7 + 2\Delta H8 + 2\Delta H12$	
ΔH26	$\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$ Geschieberite	$2K_{(xl,298K)} + U_{(xl,298K)} + 2S_{(xl,298K)} + 2H_{2(g,298K)} + 12O_{2(g,298K)}$	$-3916 \pm 20$
		$-\Delta H4 + 1\Delta H10 + 1\Delta H7 + 2\Delta H8 + 2\Delta H12 + 1\Delta H16 + 1\Delta H13 + 2\Delta H14 + 2\Delta H18$	
ΔH27	$\Delta H_{f-ox}^{0}$ Bluelizardite	$\frac{3Na_{2}O_{(xl, 298 K)} + UO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + 4SO_{3(xl, 298 K)} + NaCl_{(xl, 298 K)} + 2H_{2}O_{(l, 298 K)} + \frac{1}{2}O_{(l, 298 K)} + \frac{1}{2}O_{(l$	$-2084 \pm 21$
		$-\Delta H5 + 3\Delta H9 + 1\Delta H7 + 4\Delta H8 + 1\Delta H11 + 2\Delta H12$	
ΔH28	$\Delta H_{\rm f}^{\circ}$ Bluelizardite	$7Na_{(xl, 298 K)} + U_{(xl, 298 K)} + 4S_{(xl, 298 K)} + 0.5Cl_{2(g, 298 K)} + 2H_{2(g, 298 K)} + 10O_{2(g, 298 K)}$	-7117 ± 21
		$-\Delta H5 + 3\Delta H9 + 1\Delta H7 + 4\Delta H8 + 1\Delta H11 + 2\Delta H12 + 3\Delta H15 +$	
		$1\Delta H13 + 4\Delta H14 + 1\Delta H17 + 2\Delta H18$	

289

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