Zangboite TiFeSi₂

Crystal Data: Orthorhombic. Point Group: $2/m \ 2/m$. As tabular grains, to 0.15 mm.

Physical Properties: Cleavage: None discernable. Fracture: Conchoidal. Tenacity: Brittle. Hardness = ~ 5.5 D(meas.) = n.d. D(calc.) = 5.09

Optical Properties: Opague. Color: Steel gray. Streak: Black. Luster: Metallic.

Optical Class: n.d.

R (synthetic TiFeSi₂): (400) 26.41, (470) 34.90, (546) 37.45, (589) 42.10, (650) 43.86

Cell Data: *Space Group*: *Pbam*. a = 8.6053(10) b = 9.5211(11) c = 7.6436(9) Z = 12

X-ray Powder Pattern: Luobusha mining district, Shannan Prefecture, Tibet, China. 2.1291 (100), 2.0251 (65), 1.9155 (57), 3.8358 (50), 2.2318 (50), 2.3010 (30), 1.2996 (20)

Chemistry:

	(1)	(2)
Fe	34.31 - 35.38	34.92
Si	33.56 - 36.10	35.13
Ti	27.67 - 29.35	29.95
Cr	n.d 1.01	
Mn	n.d 1.03	
Zr	n.d 1.52	
Al	n.d 1.60	
Total		100.00

(1) Luobusha mining district, Qusum county, Shannan Prefecture, Tibet, China; range of 10 electron microprobe analyses, corresponding to $(Ti_{0.99} Zr_{0.01})(Fe_{1.01}Cr_{0.02}Mn_{0.02})(Si_{2.00} Al_{0.03})$. (2) TiFeSi₂.

Occurrence: In a heavy mineral separate from mining podiform chromitites hosted in harzburgite in an ophiolite complex.

Association: Native silicon, an unidentified Fe-Si mineral.

Distribution: No. 31 orebody, group II in the Luobusha mining district, Qusum county, Shannan Prefecture, Tibet, China.

Name: For the Yarlong Zangbo River (also known as the Brahmaputra River) that flows near the first described locality.

Type Material: Geological Museum of China (Beijing), (M11651).

References: (1) Guowu, L., F. Quingsong, S. Nicheng, B. Wenji, Y. Jingsui, X. Ming, M. Zhesheng, and R. He (2009) Zangboite, TiFeSi₂, a new mineral species from Luobusha, Tibet, China, and its crystal structure. Can. Mineral., 47, 1265–1274. (2) (2010) Amer. Mineral., 95, 1124 (abs. ref. 1).