

easily distinguished in large crystals or crystalline aggregates, they are difficult to separate in the minute forms in which they commonly occur as rock constituents. They have been grouped by petrographers under the general name Plagioclase (with oblique cleavage), proposed by Tschermak, who regards them as mixtures in various proportions of two fundamental compounds—albite or soda-felspar, and anorthite or lime-felspar.

They occur mostly in well-developed crystals, partly in irregular crystalline grains, crystallites or microlites. On a fresh fracture, their crystals often appear as clear glassy strips, on which may usually be detected a fine parallel lineation or ruling, indicating a characteristic polysynthetic twinning which never appears in orthoclase. A felspar striated in this manner can thus be at once pronounced to be a triclinic form, though the distinction is not invariably present. Under the microscope, the fine parallel lamellation or striping, best seen with polarized light, forms one of the most distinctive features of this group of felspars. The chief triclinic felspars are, Microcline (potash-felspar, $K_2Al_2Si_6O_{16}$), which occurs in granites, particularly as the common felspar of the graphic varieties; also in some gneisses, etc.; Albite (soda-felspar, Na_2O 11.82, Al_2O_3 18.56, SiO_2 68.62), found in some granites, and in several volcanic rocks; Oligoclase (soda-lime and lime-soda felspars, Na_2O 8.2, CaO 4.8, Al_2O_3 23.0, SiO_2 62.8) occurs in many granites and other eruptive rocks; Andesine (Na_2O 7.7, CaO 7.0, Al_2O_3 25.6, SiO_2 60.0), observed in some syenites, etc.; Labradorite (Na_2O 4.6, CaO 12.4, Al_2F_3 30.2, SiO_2 52.9), an essential constituent of many lavas, etc., abundant in masses in the azoic rocks of Canada, etc.; Anorthite (lime-felspar, CaO 20.10, Al_2O_3 36.82, SiO_2 43.08) found in many volcanic rocks, sometimes in granites and metamorphic rocks.

The triclinic felspars have been produced sometimes directly from igneous fusion, as can be studied in many lavas, where often one of the first minerals to appear in the devitrification of the original molten glass has been the labradorite or other plagioclase. In other cases, they have resulted from the operation of the processes to which the formation of the crystalline schists was due; large beds as well as abundant diffused strings, veinings, and crystals of triclinic felspar (labradorite) form a marked feature among the ancient gneisses of Eastern Canada. The more highly silicated species (albite, oligoclase) occur with orthoclase as