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REVISION 1

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H/D methane isotopologues dissolved in magmatic fluids: Stable hydrogen isotope

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fractionations in the Earth's interior

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magmatic fluids, Raman vibrational spectroscopy

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ABSTRACT

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A series of hydrothermal diamond anvil cell experiments was conducted to evaluate the

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role of supercritical water on the isotopic equilibrium between H/D methane

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isotopologues at 600 – 800 °C and 409 – 1622 MPa. Raman spectroscopy was deployed

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to investigate the distribution of H/D isotopic molecules formed during hydrothermal

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decomposition of $\text{Si}_5\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{36}$ in H_2O - D_2O aqueous solutions. To this end, the intensities of

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the fundamental vibrational C-H and C-D modes of deuteromethanes were employed to

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determine the thermodynamic properties of isotope exchange reactions between H/D

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isotopologues and to constrain the methane D/H molar ratios. By adjusting the initial

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volume ratios of silane/ H_2O - D_2O , reactions in the CH_4 - D_2O - H_2O system were monitored

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for gaseous and supercritical-water phases. Discreet differences of the equilibrium

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constants describing the relationship between the CH_3D - CH_2D_2 - CHD_3 - CH_4 species

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dissolved in supercritical water or present as a homogeneous gas phase are revealed. The

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bulk D/H methane composition in the liquid- system is also twice that of the D/H molar

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ratios recorded in the gas-bearing system. Accordingly, condensed-phase isotope effects

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are inferred to play a key role on the evolution of H/D isotopologues, likely induced by

28 differences in the solubility of the isotopic molecules driven by the excess energy/entropy
29 developed during mixing of non-polar species in the H₂O-D₂O structure. Our experiments
30 show that isotope fractionation effects need to account for the presence of condensed
31 matter (e.g. melts, magmatic fluids), even at conditions at which theoretical models
32 suggest minimal (or nonexistent) isotope exchange, but comparable to those of the
33 Earth's interior.

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INTRODUCTION

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Theoretical studies on the distribution between and the equilibrium relationships of isotopic molecules are commonly based on statistical mechanics models that calculate the partition functions (rotational, translational, vibrational) of the molecules by adopting a Wigner-Kirkwood free energy expansion (Kirkwood, 1934; Wigner, 1932) and by assuming simple harmonic oscillators (Bigeleisen and Mayer, 1947; Bottinga, 1969). These methods adopt ideal gas behavior between species with zero intermolecular forces, and thus, do not account for solubility, molar volume, and vapor pressure induced fractionations imposed by intermolecular interactions with condensed phases such as, for example, supercritical water (Bacsik et al., 2002; Chialvo and Horita, 2003; Gomes and Grolier, 2001; Jancso et al., 1993; Muccitelli and Wen, 1978; Van Hook, 2006). Condensed-phase isotope effects are attributed to the free energy differences between the condensed and gas phase (Van Hook, 2006) as reflected, for example, in differences on the solution properties (e.g Henry's/Raoult's law) and/or the temperature and pressure dependence of isotopologues's vapor pressure and partial molar volumes (Bigeleisen, 2006; Herzfeld and Teller, 1938).

Silicate melts and coexisting magmatic fluids represent the condensed phases present in the Earth's interior. Determining the solubility and solution mechanisms of volatiles (e.g. H₂O, H₂, CO₂, CH₄,) in these phases is essential to constrain the melting and crystallization processes. Advances in our current understanding of stable isotope fractionations (e.g. ¹⁸O/¹⁶O, ¹³C/¹²C, D/H, ¹⁵N/¹⁴N) under temperature and pressure conditions corresponding to lower crustal/-upper mantle conditions, and how this behavior can be related to structural roles of C-O-H-N-bearing volatiles in fluids and

59 melts have significant implications for the development of isotope proxies to describe the
60 water cycle and to model elemental fluxes between different sources and sinks in the
61 Earth's interior.

62 To investigate the role played by the condensed state on the isotope exchange
63 reactions between deuterated and protonated molecules, Raman vibrational spectroscopy
64 is an effective probe because of the large frequency separation of the D- and H- bearing
65 functional groups [a factor of $1/\sqrt{2}$ (reduced mass effect)]. Accordingly, by combining
66 Raman vibrational spectroscopy with experimental designs that allow *in-situ* monitoring
67 of chemical processes at high temperatures and pressures (>600 °C, >300 MPa) (Bassett
68 et al., 1996), D/H exchange between functional groups can be determined as a function of
69 temperature and pressure. Thus, volume, enthalpy and entropy effects on isotopic
70 distribution can be examined while the samples are at the desired temperature and
71 pressure. For example, recent studies have shed light on the role of hydrogen bonding on
72 the distribution of deuterated hydrogen dissolved in (D₂O+H₂O) aqueous solutions
73 (Foustoukos and Mysen, 2012). These latter experiments were conducted at 300 – 800 °C
74 and pressures between ~ 0.3 and 1.3 GPa and show significant deviation of the H₂-D₂-HD
75 equilibrium relationship from the theoretical values predicted for gas phases (Bigeleisen
76 and Mayer, 1947; Richet et al., 1977). There was also an apparent negative temperature
77 effect possibly triggered by enthalpy contributions due to mixing of these species in
78 supercritical water. This behavior has been attributed to differences in the strength of
79 hydrogen bonding in the O-H···O relative to the O-D···O environment that could promote
80 species solubility in dense and polar H₂O clusters. In turn, this affects the thermodynamic

81 properties of exchange reactions between the H/D hydrogen isotopologues and the
82 coexisting H₂O-D₂O aqueous solutions.

83 Similar use of Raman spectroscopy can also be applied to study the D/H
84 fractionation of (C-H)-bearing volatiles dissolved in supercritical fluids. For example, the
85 multiple C-H bonds in methane allow for partial deuterium substitutions and result in the
86 formation of deuterated isotopologues such as CH₃D, CH₂D₂, CHD₃, and CD₄. To the
87 knowledge of the authors, only one theoretical study has been published to predict the
88 equilibrium relationships between the different H/D isotopologues of methane and to
89 model the stable hydrogen isotope fractionation of CH₄ with H₂O and H₂ over a range of
90 temperatures (Bottinga, 1969). Experimental investigation of these isotopic molecules
91 while a sample is at high temperature/-pressure, therefore, can provide ways to describe
92 exchange reactions at conditions beyond those described in theoretical models. Such
93 experiments lead to improved understanding of D/H fractionation effects in condensed
94 matter (e.g. melts, fluids) at conditions relevant to the Earth's mantle.

95 Here, we examine the equilibrium relationships of the several H/D isotopologues
96 of methane (i.e. CH₃D, CHD₃, CH₂D₂, CD₄) and evaluate the D/H molar ratios of
97 methane developed under gas and condensed-phase (supercritical water) conditions,
98 through a series of hydrothermal diamond anvil cell experiments conducted at 600 – 800
99 °C and 409 - 1622 MPa, while employing Raman vibrational spectroscopy as the
100 analytical tool to trace reaction kinetics and pathways *in-situ* at elevated temperatures and
101 pressures.

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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

104 **Hydrothermal Diamond Anvil Cell.** Experiments were performed with an externally-
105 heated hydrothermal diamond anvil cell (HDAC) (Bassett et al., 1996). The cell was
106 equipped with low-fluorescence 1-mm culet diamonds. Samples were hold between the
107 anvil faces with a 125 μm thick rhenium gasket (500 μm diameter sample chamber).
108 Prior to the actual experiments, a series of runs was conducted at 800 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ and 0.5 - 0.8
109 GPa with only H_2O in the cell to treat the gaskets hydrothermally. This procedure leads to
110 the formation of a layer of inert Re oxide on the surface of the Re metal. Temperature
111 was monitored and adjusted with chromel-alumel thermocouples in contact with the
112 upper and lower diamonds. External heating was provided by Mo wire heaters placed
113 around the tungsten carbide seats, and it was distributed homogeneously across and
114 through the whole sample chamber (± 1 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ accuracy). Pressure was derived by measuring
115 the temperature/-pressure dependent Raman frequency shift of synthetic ^{13}C diamond
116 (Schiferl et al., 1997), with an uncertainty of about ± 40 MPa (Mysen and Yamashita,
117 2010). This level of accuracy is achieved by performing acquisitions at 2400 grooves/mm
118 and then normalizing to the 584.72 nm Ne emission line; a protocol that yields a ± 0.1
119 cm^{-1} frequency uncertainty on the fundamental band of the ^{13}C diamond (Mysen and
120 Yamashita, 2010).

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122 **Raman Spectroscopy Instrumentation.** A Jasco model IRS-3100 confocal microRaman
123 spectrometer was used with a $\lambda_{\text{ex}} = 532$ nm continuous wave laser line operating at ~ 7
124 mW at the sample. The beam diameter is nearly 1 μm . Signal detection was through
125 50X/0.42 numerical aperture (N.A.) and 10X/0.28 N.A. long-working distance

126 Mitutoyo™ objective lenses. Raman signal was dispersed using 1200 grooves/mm and
127 with the spectral window centered at 1150 cm⁻¹, 2400 cm⁻¹ and 3600 cm⁻¹; and collected
128 with a Peltier-cooled CCD (Andor™ Model DV401-F1 1024x128 pixel with 25 μm pixel
129 size) with a frequency resolution of 1-2 cm⁻¹. The system is equipped with a holographic
130 notch filter. Acquisition time ranged from 150 (*in-situ* measurements) to 300 (quenched
131 samples) sec/CCD window, and 2 acquisitions per window were collected.

132 Curve-fitting and background subtraction of the Raman spectra were orchestrated
133 using the commercial software Igor from Wavemetrics™. Background subtraction was
134 conducted prior to peak integration by fitting a third-order polynomial function through
135 portions of the spectra with baseline signal intensity only. To constrain further the extent
136 of uncertainty on spectra analysis and processing, replicate acquisitions (2-4) were
137 performed at the same beam spot and with the same instrumental parameters. The
138 standard deviation between the fitted Raman spectra reflects a 5% level of uncertainty,
139 which is larger than the uncertainty estimated for the integrated area of each individual
140 Raman peak. In the Raman spectra shown, the second-order Raman signal of the ¹²C
141 diamond anvils (~ 2300 - 2800 cm⁻¹) was removed by subtracting the background
142 spectrum measured on the lower diamond and outside the sample gasket-chamber at the
143 corresponding temperature and pressure.

144

145 **Experimental Procedures.** The experiments were designed to yield deuteromethane
146 species through decomposition of Si₅C₁₂H₃₆ (tetrakis(trimethylsilyl) silane (Alfa Aesar
147 98% - natural D/H abundance) under both supercritical water and gas phase conditions.
148 The study was carried out at temperatures of 600-800 °C and pressures of 409-1622 MPa.

149 The sample consisted of H₂O:D₂O (1:1 by volume) aqueous solutions with either metallic
150 Ni (Alfa Aesar, Puratronic 99.996%, <100 μm diameter grain) or metallic Pt (100 μm x
151 70μm OD rod) with no specific in-plane crystal orientation (e.g. Ni(111), Pt(111))
152 (Table 1) (Fig. 1). Complete decomposition of Si₅C₁₂H₃₆ resulting in the formation of
153 volatiles such as H₂, D₂, HD, CH₄, CH₃D, CHD₃, CH₂D₂ and CD₄ along with the
154 precipitation of quartz (SiO_{2(s)}), occurs within 5 min at 600 °C (Si₅C₁₂H₃₆ + 10H₂O/D₂O
155 = 5SiO₂ + 12CH_xD_y + 4H_xD_y). In effect, decomposition of Si₅C₁₂H₃₆ with the use of
156 highly enriched in D₂O aqueous solutions allows for the synthesis of deuterated methane
157 species at abundances that permit quantification with spectroscopic methods. During this
158 initial, short stage of silane decomposition and deuterated isomers formation by methyl
159 radical reaction with the aqueous solution, kinetic isotope effects can be introduced.
160 However, time series measurements, *in-situ* at high temperature/-pressure, indicate that
161 chemical/isotopic equilibrium was reached within nearly 2 hours (at 600 and 800 °C) (see
162 more detail later in discussion), due to the enhanced kinetics of the exchange reactions
163 that proceed at the surface of either Ni or Pt (Beck et al., 2003; Horita, 1988; McKee and
164 Norton, 1964).

165 An important component of the experimental design is the abundance of starting
166 Si₅C₁₂H₃₆ relative to the volume of H₂O-D₂O solution encapsulated between the Re
167 gasket and the diamond culets. Two distinctly different sets of experiments (“gas phase”
168 and “liquid phase”) were conducted by adjusting the silane/water proportions based on
169 volumetric approximations. For example, use of elevated silane/water initial ratios
170 resulted in the removal of H₂O through SiO_{2(s)} precipitation at high temperature and the
171 establishment of gas phase conditions. When smaller amounts of silane were used, less

172 H/D-bearing methane species were produced and remained dissolved in the supercritical
173 aqueous solution. These processes were documented by *in-situ* visual observation of the
174 reaction progress (and the extent of quartz precipitation) (Fig. 1), and by monitoring the
175 relative abundance of the coexisting fluid through the evolution of the O-H stretching
176 band ($\sim 3600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$).

177 The Raman spectra of aqueous and gaseous species were recorded at the desired
178 temperature/-pressure conditions and also in samples quenched to ambient conditions
179 (“*ex-situ*”). Quenching was orchestrated at a rate of $\sim 600 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$ until the temperature
180 reached $100 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, and then at $25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$ to room temperature. During quenching and for
181 the “liquid phase” experiments, phase separation (degassing) occurred leaving the H/D
182 isotopologues of CH_4 and H_2 trapped in the gaseous phase (“bubble”) (Fig. 2). The
183 absence of the Raman lines assigned to the fundamental vibrational modes of HDO and
184 D_2O at $\sim 2400 - 2600 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Foustoukos and Mysen, 2012; Walrafen et al., 1996)
185 (revealed after subtracting the ν_2 lines of diamond) is consistent with spectroscopic
186 measurements on an *ex-situ* bubble. Slower rates of quenching ($10 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}/\text{min}$) were also
187 applied to determine accurately the temperature and pressure of gas-liquid phase
188 separation. At these conditions, the partial pressure of volatiles is equal to the confined
189 pressure in the HDAC, and thus, total dissolved methane concentrations ($\Sigma\text{CH}_4 = \text{CH}_4 +$
190 $\text{CD}_4 + \text{CH}_3\text{D} + \text{CH}_2\text{D}_2 + \text{CHD}_3$) (Table 1) can be retrieved from the solubility
191 relationship: $\Sigma\text{CH}_{4(\text{g})} \leftrightarrow \Sigma\text{CH}_{4(\text{aq})}$. The equilibrium constant of this reaction is calculated
192 at high temperature/-pressure by using the Helgeson-Kirkham-Flowers equation of state
193 and the SUPCRT92 code that are applicable to $1000 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and 500 MPa , effectively
194 extrapolated to 1 GPa (Johnson et al., 1992b; Manning, 1998; Shock and Helgeson,

195 1990). The concentrations of the dissolved H/D hydrogen isotopologues appear to be
196 minimal (but present) relative to methane (Fig. 2b) because of the relatively oxidizing
197 redox conditions imposed by hydrothermal oxidation of Ni and Pt metals in H₂O-D₂O
198 solutions. Manifestation of oxidizing conditions was also demonstrated by the formation
199 of CO_{2(aq)} and the precipitation of amorphous graphitic carbon at 800 °C (Table 1).
200 Solution density is calculated following the PVT data of pure H₂O (Wagner and Pruss,
201 2002) applied to the homogenization conditions, while assuming minimal solubility for
202 the crystalline phases (Ni, Pt, SiO_{2(s)}) (Johnson et al., 1992b; Robie and Hemingway,
203 1995).

204

205

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

206 Spectroscopic data were collected mainly from the two frequency regions of 1560
207 – 3140 cm⁻¹ and 2900 – 4220 cm⁻¹ (1200 grooves/mm) where several vibration modes of
208 the D- containing isotope molecules of CH₄ and H₂ are captured (Fig. 2). These species
209 were identified both *in-situ* and in the quenched samples. The Raman spectra acquired
210 from quenched bubbles allowed a detailed estimation of the relative abundances of the
211 deuterated methane isotopologues (Fig. 2a). The bands assigned to stretch vibrations in
212 these species are narrow (5-10 cm⁻¹ FWHH) and well defined, relative to those registered
213 during spectral acquisition at high-temperature/-pressure conditions.

214 The 2000 - 2400 cm⁻¹ frequency envelope accommodates the bands of the
215 asymmetric stretching and bending vibrations of the CHD₃ (2134 cm⁻¹, 2305 cm⁻¹), CH₃D
216 - CH₂D₂ (~2190 cm⁻¹) and the C-D fundamental mode of the CD₄ molecule (2098 cm⁻¹)
217 (Fig. 2a). However, because of the strong baseline correction introduced by subtracting

218 the complex group of bands assigned to the second-order vibration of the diamond anvils
219 ($\sim 2300\text{-}2800\text{ cm}^{-1}$) from sample signal(s), the integrated peak areas of these bands have
220 large uncertainties. Their intensities cannot be used, therefore, to describe equilibrium
221 relationships between the isotopologues. For this purpose, we employ the fundamental
222 harmonics at the slightly higher frequencies of 2905 cm^{-1} (CH_4), 2961 cm^{-1} (CH_3D), 2966
223 cm^{-1} (CH_2D_2) and 2984 cm^{-1} (CHD_3). Vibrational assignments are in agreement with the
224 values reported in the experimental study of Kagel (1964) (1964) and the review article
225 of Schötter and Klöckner (1979) (1979) at room-temperature conditions, and internally
226 consistent with the correlation between peak intensities and the Raman scattering cross
227 sections for the different vibrational modes of the molecules of interest (Table 2) (Kagel,
228 1964; Schrotter and Klockner, 1979). Within the same spectral window, the fundamental
229 vibrations of C_2H_6 and C_3H_8 also reside. These carbon-bearing species could possibly be
230 formed by polymerization of the methyl radicals at high temperature (Spanu et al., 2011).
231 However, in preliminary experiments involving $\text{Si}_5\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{36}$ decomposition in H_2O solution
232 at $600\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$, we did not observe their symmetric C-H and C-C vibrational bands at 2950-
233 2990 cm^{-1} and $870\text{-}995\text{ cm}^{-1}$, respectively (Atamas et al., 2004; Shimanouchi, 1972),
234 concluding, therefore, that long chain hydrocarbons ($< 100\text{ }\mu\text{molal}$ (Foustoukos, 2010))
235 were undetectable in our experimental setup.

236 From the overall intensity relationships, the distribution of the deuteromethanes
237 suggests that deuterium enrichment was enhanced when dissolved in supercritical water
238 than when present as gas phase components (Fig. 2a). This could be attributed to the D/H
239 fractionation between methane and the coexisting H_2 or H_2O , however, the former is
240 highly improbable due to the significantly lower concentrations of hydrogen relative to

241 methane (Fig. 2b). Another hypothesis involves the introduction of kinetic isotopic
242 effects during high temperature/-pressure quenching and the subsequent phase
243 segregation of volatiles from the supercritical fluid (liquid-phase experiments). To assess
244 the contribution from such processes, a series of Pt- supercritical water- bearing
245 experiments were quenched to room temperature after being equilibrated at 600 °C –
246 1093 MPa and 800 °C – 1050 MPa for 480 and 540 minutes, respectively. The samples
247 were then immediately exposed to a second heating cycle that lasted for two hours. The
248 second series of temperature-quenching was at 55 °C /min as compared with the initial of
249 600 °C/min. Comparison between the Raman spectra of the quenched bubbles from two
250 individual liquid-phase bearing HDAC experiments that underwent two heating cycles
251 reveals no differences on the relative distribution of CH_xD_y species (Fig. 3). There is,
252 therefore, no evidence for retrograde reactions and kinetic isotope effects associated with
253 phase segregation during quenching of the high temperature/-pressure chemical
254 equilibrium to room temperature conditions.

255

256 **Distribution of deuterated methane isotopologues**

257 **Ex-situ Samples:** The spectral region between ~2800 – 3100 cm⁻¹ that includes the
258 fundamental frequencies of CH₄, CH₃D, CH₂D₂ and CHD₃ (Fig. 4), allows for a detailed
259 examination of the equilibrium relationships between the isotopologues. In spectra of the
260 quenched bubbles, for example, there are well-defined peaks that can be de-convoluted
261 following Lorentzian (CH₄, CH₃D) and Gaussian (CH₂D₂) functions. Peak integration for
262 the tri-deuterated methane was carried out with both Gaussian and Lorentzian peak
263 shapes. Thus, subsequent comparison between the integrated intensities of the ν₁-CH_xD_y

264 includes the average values of the ν_1 -CHD₃ peak area following these two fitting
265 distributions. Attempts to introduce the stretching vibrational mode of D₂ in the
266 frequency spectrum of the ν_1 -CHD₃ (~2970-2985 cm⁻¹) failed, largely because the ν_1 -D₂
267 intensity is inferred to be very small due to the low abundance of H₂ and HD (Fig. 2)
268 combined with the small Raman scattering cross section of the D₂ relative to the other
269 hydrogen species (Bischel and Black, 1983; Polavarapu, 1990; Schrotter and Klockner,
270 1979).

271 The distribution of the H/D methane isotopologues calculated from the integrated
272 peak areas follows a general abundance order of CH₄>CH₃D>CH₂D₂>CHD₃. This trend
273 is consistent with other experimental results of Pt-supported H-D exchange reaction
274 between methane and deuterium at elevated temperatures (McKee and Norton, 1964),
275 and also is in accord with the overall kinetic isotope effect expected from the higher
276 activation energy required for C-D bond formation relative to the C-H bond (Anslyn and
277 Dougherty, 2006).

278

279 **In-situ Samples:** For the spectra collected at high temperature/-pressure conditions, the
280 rapid broadening of the Raman lines and the decrease of spectral resolution with
281 increasing temperature (due to black body radiation) resulted in an extensive overlapping
282 and interference between the isotopologues. Black body radiation is transmitted from the
283 furnace and sample when at temperature higher than 600 °C, causing signal deterioration
284 and an increase of the background intensity. In addition, an overall decrease on the
285 intensities of the CH_xD_y (i.e. deuteromethanes) vibrations is expected when species are
286 dissolved in the supercritical H₂O-D₂O fluid.

287 To this end, peak de-convolution was performed by fitting Lorentzian curves
288 assigned to the symmetric C-H stretching vibration of methane and to the frequency
289 envelope that encloses the stretching vibrations of the other CH_xD_y species (Fig. 4).
290 These *in-situ* measurements permit monitoring of reaction progress towards establishing
291 chemical/isotopic equilibrium in the $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{D}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_4$ system, while providing information
292 regarding the condensed-phase isotope effects associated with the solvation of the H/D
293 isotopologues in supercritical aqueous solutions.

294 To probe isotopic fractionations at experimental conditions, we employed the
295 ratio between the integrated intensities of the Raman bands assigned to the H/D-
296 isotopologue frequency envelope ($\nu_1-\text{CH}_x\text{D}_y$) and the C-H stretching of non-deuterated
297 methane ($\nu_1-\text{CH}_4$) as a function of time (Fig. 5). From these results, we conclude that
298 chemical/isotopic equilibrium was achieved within 2 hours, largely induced by the
299 catalytic activities of Ni and Pt, which are enhanced at elevated surface thermal energy
300 (Harris et al., 1991; Lutz and Bethune, 1989). There are also abundant concentrations of
301 deuterated species in the liquid-phase system with the retrieved $\text{CH}_x\text{D}_y/\text{CH}_4$ intensity area
302 ratios being nearly twice that in the gas-bearing system. Furthermore, platinum is shown
303 to more efficiently promote the H/D exchange between C-H and C-D bonds than Ni. This
304 observation is in agreement with previously published experimental and theoretical
305 studies that support the greater probability of hydrogen/deuterium atoms to exchange
306 when methyl groups bind on the Pt surface relative to when chemisorption occurs on Ni
307 substrate (McKee and Norton, 1964; Nave et al., 2010). Experimental methodologies
308 adopted, however, cannot provide further information regarding the CH_3 - dissociative
309 absorption on catalyst's surface nor the mechanism of isotope exchange reactions/-

310 diffusion (Wonchoba and Truhlar, 1996) associated with H and D atoms embedded in the
311 metal lattice (Johnson et al., 1992a; Killelea et al., 2008; Wonchoba and Truhlar, 1998).

312

313 **Condensed Phase Isotope Effects**

314 Results indicative of increased deuteration of methane when dissolved in
315 supercritical water were also obtained from interpreting Raman vibrational spectra
316 collected *ex-situ* at 25 °C (Fig. 6a). This was accomplished by combining the integrated
317 peak areas (Fig. 4) with the well-constrained relative normalized differential Raman
318 scattering cross sections (σ_j) of the stretch vibrations (Table 2). Species concentrations
319 are then considered proportional to the quotient of the integrated Raman peak areas (A_j)
320 with (σ_j) assuming that the force constants are the same for the fundamental vibrational
321 modes of CH_xD_y when instrumental parameters are constant (Kagel, 1964). Accordingly,
322 the D/H molar composition of methane can be defined as such:

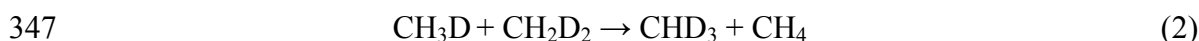
$$323 \quad D/H = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^3 \frac{A_j}{\sigma_j} \text{CH}_{4-n}\text{D}_n + \frac{A_{\text{CD}_4}}{\sigma_{\text{CD}_4}}}{A_{\text{CH}_4} / \sigma_{\text{CH}_4}} \quad (1)$$

324 Integrated area contributions from the Lorentzian peak shape of $\nu_1\text{-CD}_4$ (2098 cm^{-1}) are
325 included because D/H molar ratios estimated with or without this factor exhibit the same
326 mean values and range of uncertainties.

327 Experimental results demonstrate that the D/H molar composition of methane is
328 increased by a factor of 2 in the liquid-bearing experiments compared with the gas-
329 bearing system (Fig. 6a) (Table 3). Obvious also is the effectiveness of Pt over Ni as
330 catalyst for the reconstruction of the C-H and C-D bonds, and for possible tunneling of
331 hydrogen during chemisorption of methyl radical on hot metal surfaces (Harris et al.,

1991). Thermal vibrational energy provided by excitation of the fundamental stretch of the C-H/D bonds could also promote the reaction between H- and deuterated methyl radicals through bond cleavage (Beck et al., 2003; Crim, 2008). However, a decrease in activation barriers with increasing temperature of coexisting compounds (methane, metal) is expected to drive the process (Lutz and Bethune, 1989), especially for the low-power laser beam (7 mW) deployed. The effect of externally imposed thermal energy on D/H exchange reactions can also be inferred from the slight increase of the methane D/H molar ratios when shifting thermal conditions from 600 to 800 °C (Fig. 6a).

Kinetic isotope effects associated with hydrogen isotope fractionation between methane and water fluid could also explain the higher D/H ratio of the methane when dissolved in supercritical D₂O-H₂O aqueous solutions compared with the D/H ratio of the methane in the gas phase system. In addition, kinetic isotope effects can be introduced by the reforming of deuterated isomers on the catalyst surface. To evaluate such possible effects, the equilibrium relationship between the methane isotopologues was studied through the following reaction:



By utilizing the vibrational characteristics of the different species (i.e. A_j and σ_j) and by assuming that the activity of neutral species is equal to their concentration under homogeneous gas phase conditions and for a non-electrolyte mixture of H₂O-D₂O, the equilibrium constant of this reaction is expressed as:

$$K_{eq}(\text{CH}_x\text{D}_y - \text{CH}_4) = \frac{A_{\text{CH}_4} * A_{\text{CHD}_3}}{A_{\text{CH}_3\text{D}} * A_{\text{CH}_2\text{D}_2}} * \frac{\sigma_{\text{CH}_3\text{D}} * \sigma_{\text{CH}_2\text{D}_2}}{\sigma_{\text{CH}_4} * \sigma_{\text{CHD}_3}} \quad (3)$$

For the C-H-D system in supercritical H₂O+D₂O at 873-1073 K (Fig. 6b), estimated K_{eq} values range from 0.42 ± 0.07 (Ni) to 0.59 ± 0.12 (Pt), corresponding to ΔG_{rxn} of $7.1 \pm$

355 1.4 and 4.3 ± 1.7 kJ/mol, respectively (Table 3). Differences on the estimated K_{eq} are
356 within analytical uncertainties, and likely reflect the greater efficiency of Pt over Ni in
357 promoting D/H isotope exchange reactions (Beck et al., 2003; Horita, 1988; McKee and
358 Norton, 1964; Nave et al., 2010). This observation does not preclude the establishment of
359 equilibrium conditions supported by the *in-situ* time series measurements conducted at
360 the course of the Pt-bearing experiments (Fig. 4). It also appears to be an exothermic
361 reaction, however, the possible temperature dependence of the equilibrium constant may
362 be somewhat obscured by the analytical errors introduced after adopting the combination
363 of Lorentzian and Gaussian functions (Fig. 4) and the vigorous analytical/peak
364 integration protocols discussed earlier.

365 When these values are compared to those derived for the gas-bearing system, the
366 role of supercritical water in affecting the equilibrium between H/D methane
367 isotopologues is evident (Fig. 6b). In effect, K_{eq} is shifted to 0.27 ± 0.04 , reflecting a
368 ΔG_{rxn} of 10.7 ± 1.1 kJ/mol and minimal differences between the Ni- and Pt- catalyzed
369 experiments. Interestingly, these values are in close agreement with theoretical
370 calculations ($K_{eq} = 0.16$) conducted following standard state canonical partition functions
371 and conditions of ideal gas mixing (Bottinga, 1969); a conclusion that furthers supports
372 the establishment of chemical/isotopic equilibrium in these experiments. Most
373 importantly, the different thermodynamic properties of the equilibrium relationship
374 between H/D methane isotopologues attained for the gas- and liquid- phase system, allow
375 us to decouple possible kinetic isotope effects linked to the D/H fractionation between
376 CH_4 and H_2O with the extensive deuteration of methane observed in the liquid-bearing

377 experiments, and thus, focus on solvation effects in the condensed supercritical-fluid
378 phase.

379 Considering all of the above, the differences on the extent of D/H exchange and
380 the H/D isotopologues' distribution between the gas- and supercritical-fluid bearing
381 systems are attributed to condensed-phase isotope effects. Such processes can involve
382 changes in solubility induced by differences in Henry's law constants of the deuterium-
383 substituted isotopologues reflecting different standard-state free energies of solvation for
384 infinite dilution in the H₂O-D₂O cage (Bacsik et al., 2002; Chamberlin et al., 2006;
385 Gomes and Grolier, 2001). These effects are, in general, introduced when excess Gibbs
386 free energy of mixing is developed due to the presence of intermolecular interactions
387 between C-H-D species and the hydrogen bonded to H₂O/D₂O molecules (Jancso et al.,
388 1993; Van Hook, 2006). Here, differences in the strength of the O-D···D and O-H···H
389 bonds can influence the solvent properties of the D₂O-H₂O mixtures. In essence, titration
390 of H₂O-D₂O solutions and the formation of HDO through the endothermic reaction
391 between H₂O-D₂O has been proposed to rearrange the H and D bonding environment
392 (Graziano, 2000; Katsir et al., 2010), resulting in excess entropy costs for the solvation of
393 non-polar molecules in D₂O-H₂O. Furthermore, evidence exists for a temperature
394 dependent distribution of O-D···D and O-H···H bonds in supercritical fluids driven by the
395 increasingly stronger hydrogen bonding in H₂O relative to D₂O with temperature increase
396 (Erickson et al., 2011; Foustoukos and Mysen, 2012). Accordingly, contributions from
397 isotope effects governed by the solvent because of the employment of D₂O-enriched
398 aqueous solutions cannot be excluded.

399

400 **D/H FRACTIONATIONS IN THE EARTH'S INTERIOR**

401 Experimental results presented support extensive hydrogen isotope fractionation
402 at high temperatures/-pressures when methane is dissolved in the condensed supercritical
403 water phase relative to systems adopting ideal gas behavior. At such thermal conditions
404 statistical thermodynamic models predict small isotope effects following vibrational zero
405 point energy distributions and high temperature anharmonicity contributions for isotopic
406 molecules in ideal-gas reference state (Bottinga, 1969). These models, however, do not
407 account for solubility and solvent isotope effects associated with the solvation of H/D
408 methane isotopologues in supercritical aqueous solutions and/or silicate melts. The theory
409 of condensed-phase isotope effect follows the same Born-Oppenheimer approximation as
410 the canonical approach for calculating the potential energy surface of the isotopic
411 molecules, but also includes inputs from intermolecular forces developed in the
412 condensed phase to the shape and the kinetic energy of the potential energy surface (Van
413 Hook, 2006). In our study, the *in-situ* and *ex-situ* spectroscopic measurements of
414 deuterated methane species coexisting with supercritical water suggest a significant
415 contribution from condensed-phase isotope effects, rendering essential any further
416 theoretical studies to assess the atomistic details of the D/H fractionation mechanisms in
417 aqueous solutions (and silicate melts) at elevated temperature/-pressure conditions.

418 Condensed-phase isotope effects are expected to play a significant role on the
419 distribution of deuterium and hydrogen species between C-O-H-N-saturated melts and
420 coexisting fluids (Mysen, 2012), since this distribution can be affected by the abundance
421 ratios of the different C, N and H-bearing structural complexes in the equilibrated phases
422 (Hirschmann et al., 2012; Mysen and Fogel, 2010; Mysen et al., 2009). These structural

423 complexes in melt formed upon solution of H-bearing species likely contribute to the
424 D/H budget of the mantle and the isotopic composition of evolved magmatic fluids
425 (Kasting et al., 1993; Matthey et al., 1990).

426 For example, isotope fractionation effects between phases coexisting in Earth's
427 interior likely constrain the observed D/H disequilibrium between mantle and oceanic
428 H₂O reservoir, as well as the subduction zone contributions to the mantle-water cycle
429 (Hauri, 2002; Shaw et al., 2008) (and references therein). The disequilibrium
430 relationships between water reservoirs imply that cycling of water in the mantle is not
431 extensive and/or hydrogen isotope fractionation effects are imposed between the oceanic
432 water and the amorphous/crystalline phases of the Earth's interior (Shaw et al., 2008).

433 Magmatic degassing of C-O-H-N volatiles during magma ascent and the
434 subsolidus dehydration of hydrous minerals are also expected to induce hydrogen
435 fractionation effects between fluids and mineral phases (Suzuoki and Epstein, 1976;
436 Taylor et al., 1983). Molecular water appears to concentrate deuterium relative to silicate
437 melts/minerals, while the dehydration of OH from minerals likely yields to a decrease in
438 both D and water content (Suzuoki and Epstein, 1976). Degassing of CH₄ and H₂ from a
439 magma that contains small amounts of H₂O can also result in significant changes in the
440 δD of melt (Kyser and Oneil, 1984), driven by the possible large D/H fractionation
441 factors between CH₄ and H₂ with H₂O at high temperatures. Accordingly, further studies
442 are needed to constrain the fundamental mechanisms of stable isotope fractionation
443 between C-O-H-N species and functional groups dissolved in phases and at conditions
444 resembling those of the Earth's interior.

445

446

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452 her efforts are greatly appreciated.

453

454

Table 1. Description of the H₂O-D₂O-methane bearing HDAC experiments

T (K)	P (MPa)	Reaction Time (min)	T _h ^a (°C)	P _h ^a (MPa)	ΣCH _{4(aq)} (M)	Catalyst	Oxidized C
<i>Gas phase experiments</i>							
873	577 ± 2	320				Ni	
1073	758 ± 99	204				Ni	Graphite ^b
873	514 ± 18	510				Pt	
1073	1105 ± 182	410				Pt	CO ₂ ^c
<i>Liquid phase experiments</i>							
873	409 ± 26	435	342	314	1.73	Ni	
1073	1622 ± 131	545		<i>fluid density 0.6 g/cm³</i>			CO ₂
873	1093 ± 157	480	350	774	0.27	Pt	
1073	1050 ± 157	540		<i>fluid density 0.57 g/cm³</i>			CO ₂

^a Temperature and pressure of the gas-liquid phase homogenization/separation. At these conditions, dissolved volatile species separate from the supercritical fluid forming a gas phase. ^b Precipitation of amorphous graphitic carbon was documented in the retrieved solid reaction products by the strong presence of the D (~ 1325 cm⁻¹) and G (~ 1570 cm⁻¹) bands accompanied by their second-order overtone and combination scattering at 2670 cm⁻¹ (S₁) and 2910 cm⁻¹ (S₂). ^c Spectroscopic evidence for the formation of CO₂ in both the high temperature/-pressure and quenched samples is the presence of frequency splitting of the ν₁:2ν₂⁰ Fermi diad at 1275 cm⁻¹ and 1378 cm⁻¹.

455

Table 2. Relative normalized differential Raman scattering cross sections of the fundamental vibrational frequencies of D-H isotopologues normalized to the value of the CH₄ molecule (25 °C)

	σ _j (σ _{CH₄} = 1)	Ref.
CH ₃ D	0.75	
CH ₂ D ₂	0.55	Schrötter and Klöckner (1979), Bermejo et al. (1977)
CHD ₃	0.33	
CD ₄	0.73	
CH ₃ D	0.78	
CH ₂ D ₂	0.52	Kagel (1964)
CHD ₃	0.36	
CD ₄	0.71	

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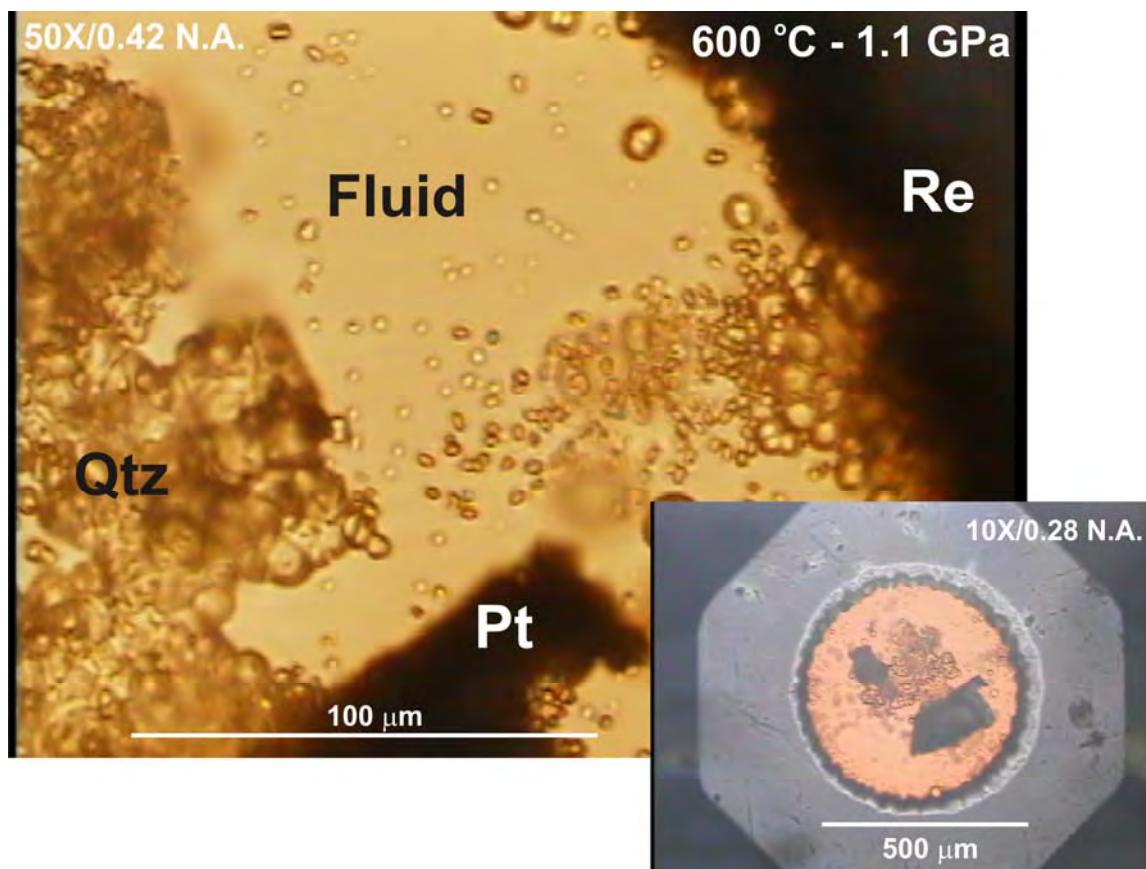
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Table 3. Thermodynamic properties estimated for the $\text{CH}_3\text{D} + \text{CH}_2\text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{CHD}_3 + \text{CH}_4$ reaction from *ex-situ* measurements

T (°C)	P (MPa)	Metal	K_{eq}	ΔG_r (kJ/mol)
<i>Gas phase experiments</i>				
600	577 ± 2	Ni	0.31 ± 0.05	8.6 ± 1.2
800	758 ± 99	Ni	0.26 ± 0.02	12.2 ± 0.7
<i>average</i>			<i>0.28 ± 0.04</i>	<i>10.4 ± 1.0</i>
600	514 ± 18	Pt	0.27 ± 0.04	9.5 ± 1.2
800	1105 ± 182	Pt	0.25 ± 0.04	12.5 ± 1.3
<i>average</i>			<i>0.26 ± 0.04</i>	<i>11.0 ± 1.2</i>
<i>Liquid phase experiments</i>				
600	409 ± 26	Ni	0.43 ± 0.08	6.1 ± 1.4
800	1622 ± 131	Ni	0.40 ± 0.06	8.2 ± 1.4
<i>average</i>			<i>0.42 ± 0.07</i>	<i>7.1 ± 1.4</i>
600	1093 ± 157	Pt	0.60 ± 0.11	3.7 ± 1.3
800	1050 ± 157	Pt	0.58 ± 0.13	4.9 ± 2.0
<i>average</i>			<i>0.59 ± 0.12</i>	<i>4.3 ± 1.7</i>

459



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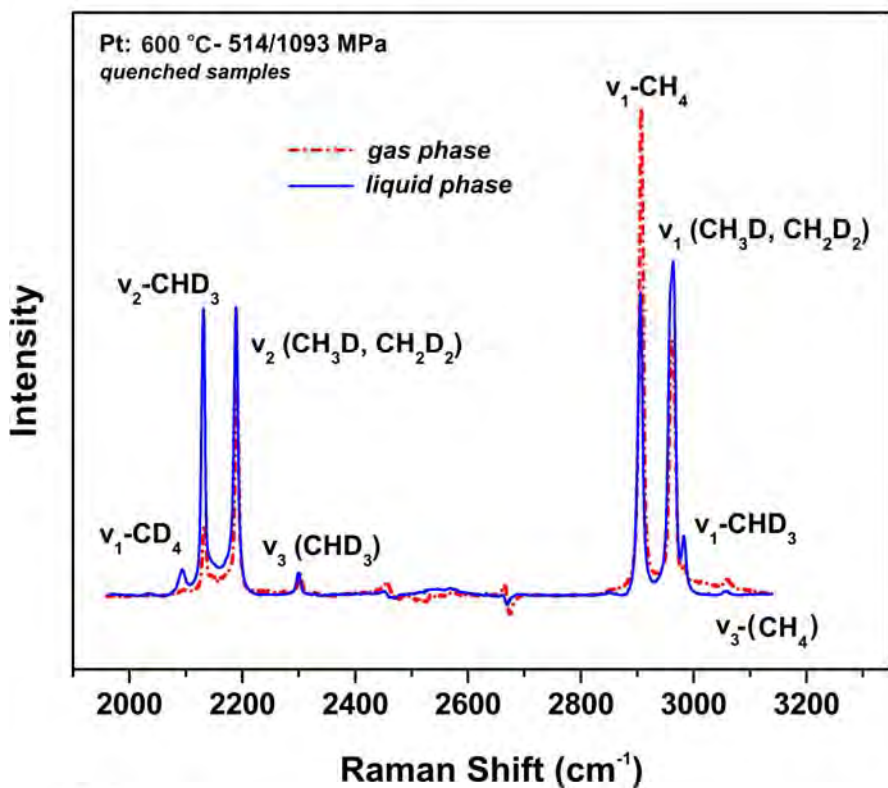
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462 **Figure 1.** Microphotographs depicting phases involved in the high temperature/-pressure
463 HDAC experiments. Hydrothermal decomposition of $\text{Si}_5\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{36}$ in D_2O - H_2O aqueous
464 solution and in the presence of metal catalyst (Ni, Pt) resulted to the formation of H/D
465 methane isotopologues, and the precipitation of $\text{SiO}_{2(s)}$.

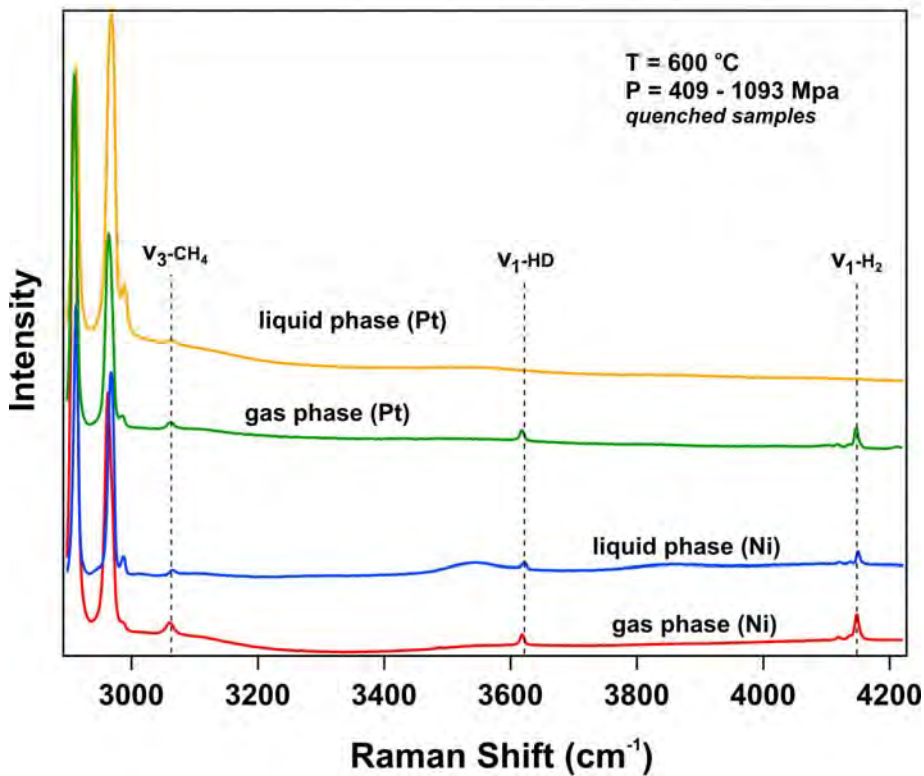
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a)



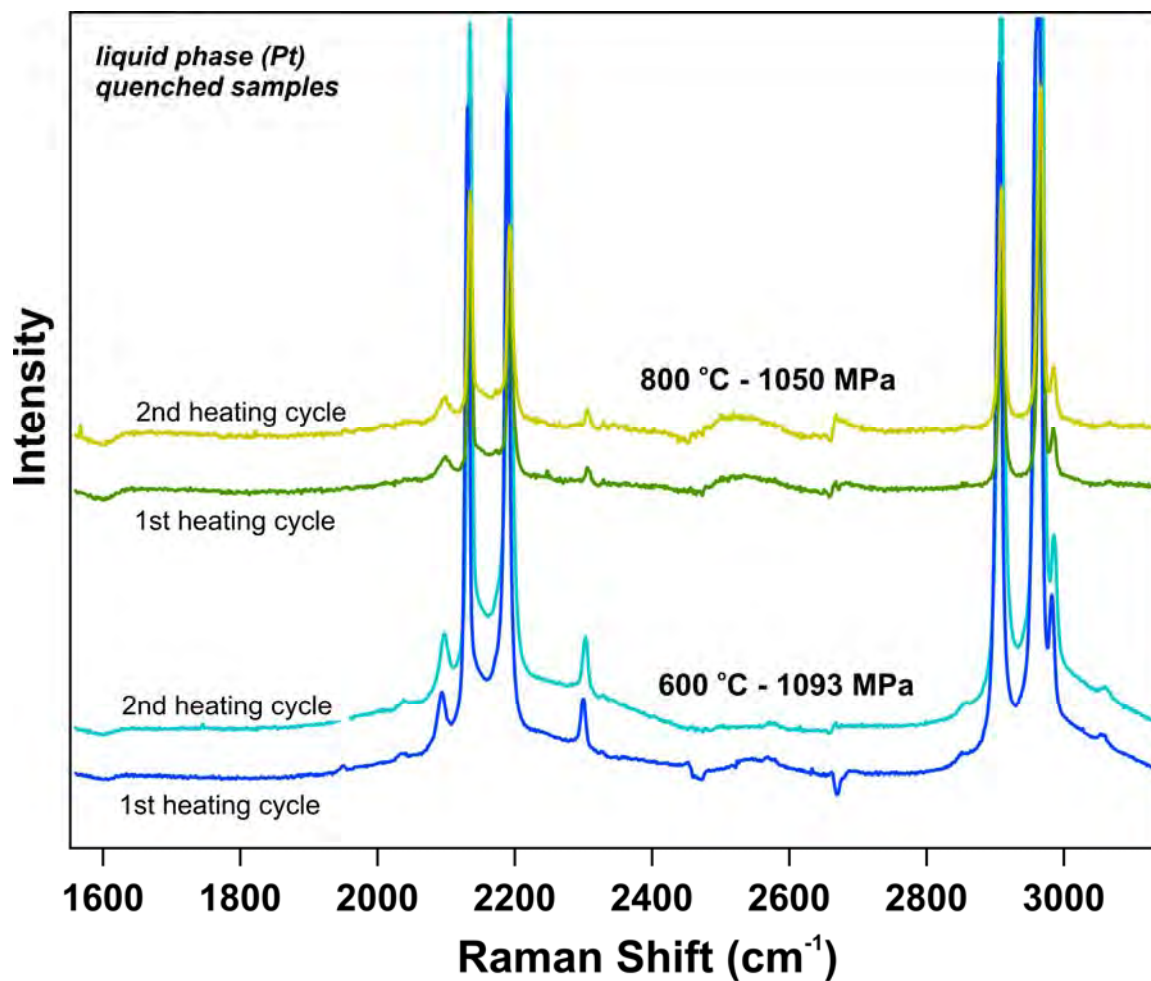
b)



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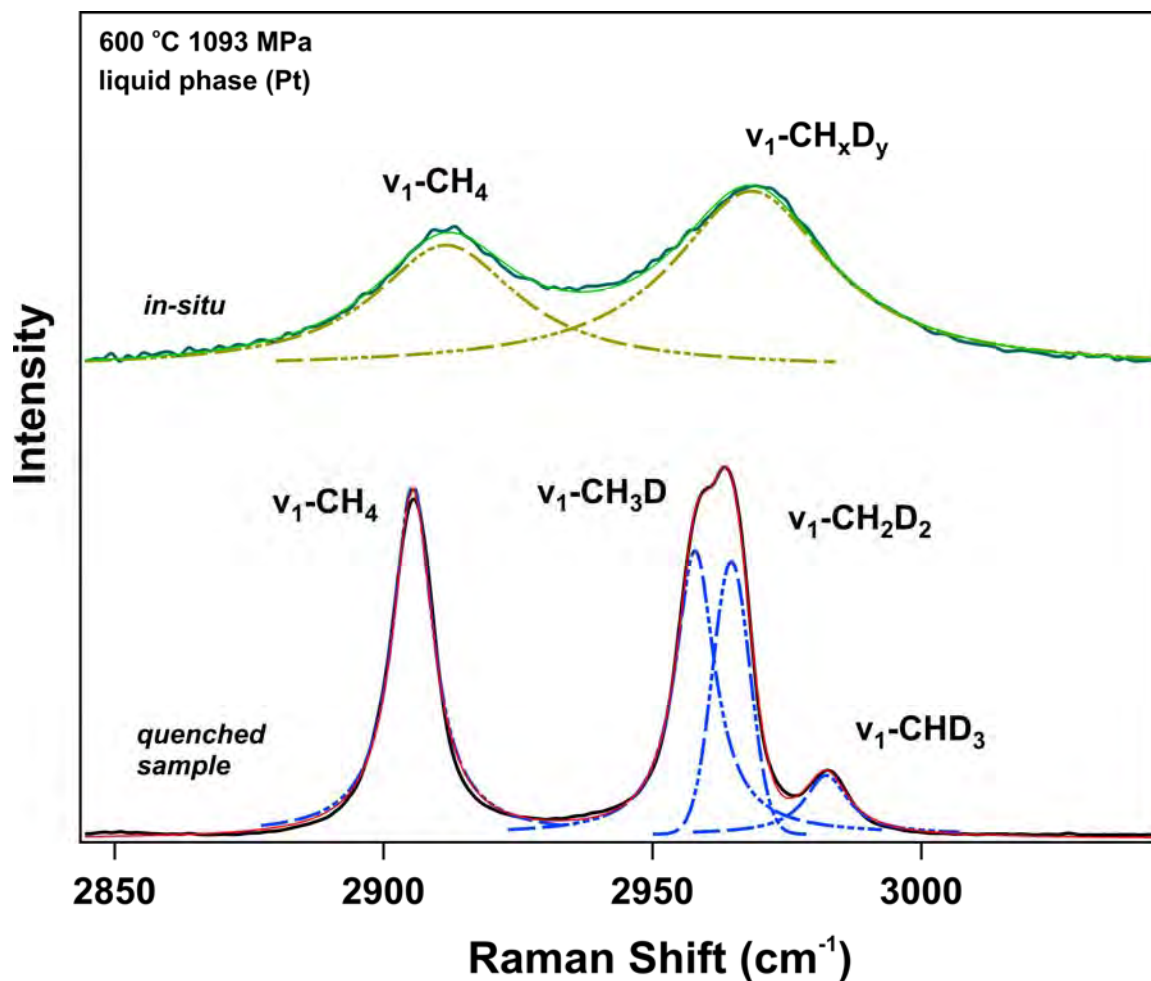
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469
470 **Figure 2.** Examples of Raman spectra collected in samples quenched from high
471 temperature/-pressure conditions. Degassing processes induced during quenching allow
472 the formation of gas bubbles that contain H/D isotopologues of methane (a) and hydrogen
473 (b).
474
475



476

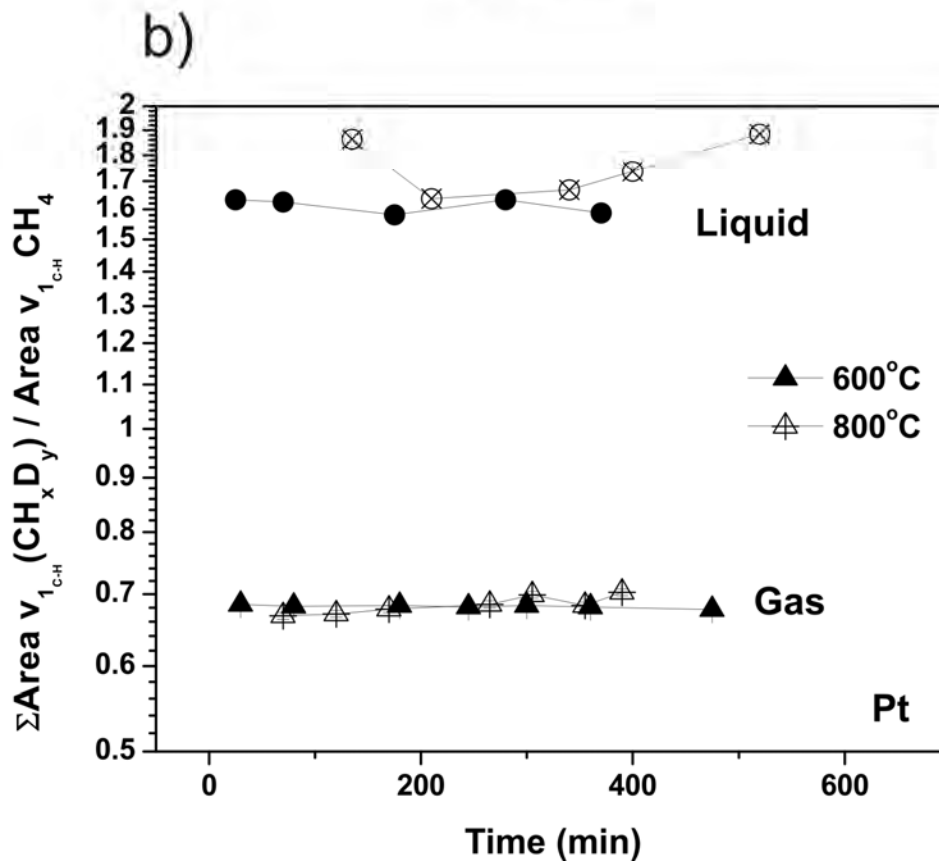
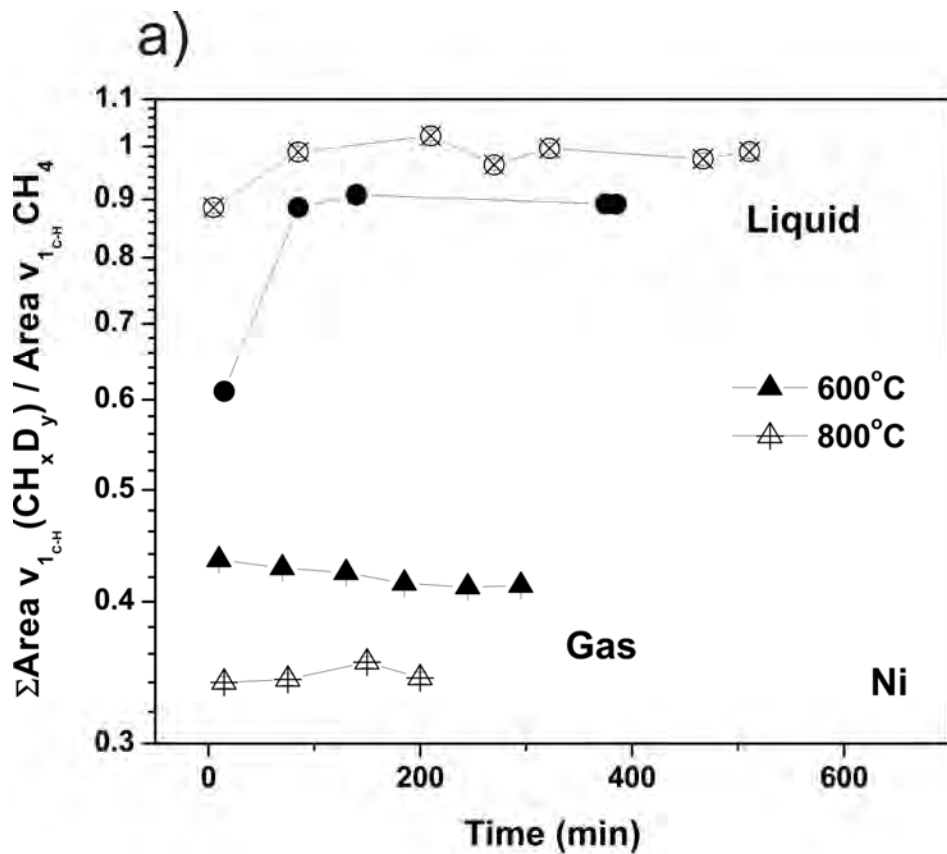
477 **Figure 3.** Vibrational spectra collected in samples from two distinct liquid-phase (Pt)
478 HDAC experiments at 600 °C and 800 °C that were subjected to two heating cycles and
479 then quenched at two different rates. Peak assignments are comparable to those shown in
480 figure 2a.



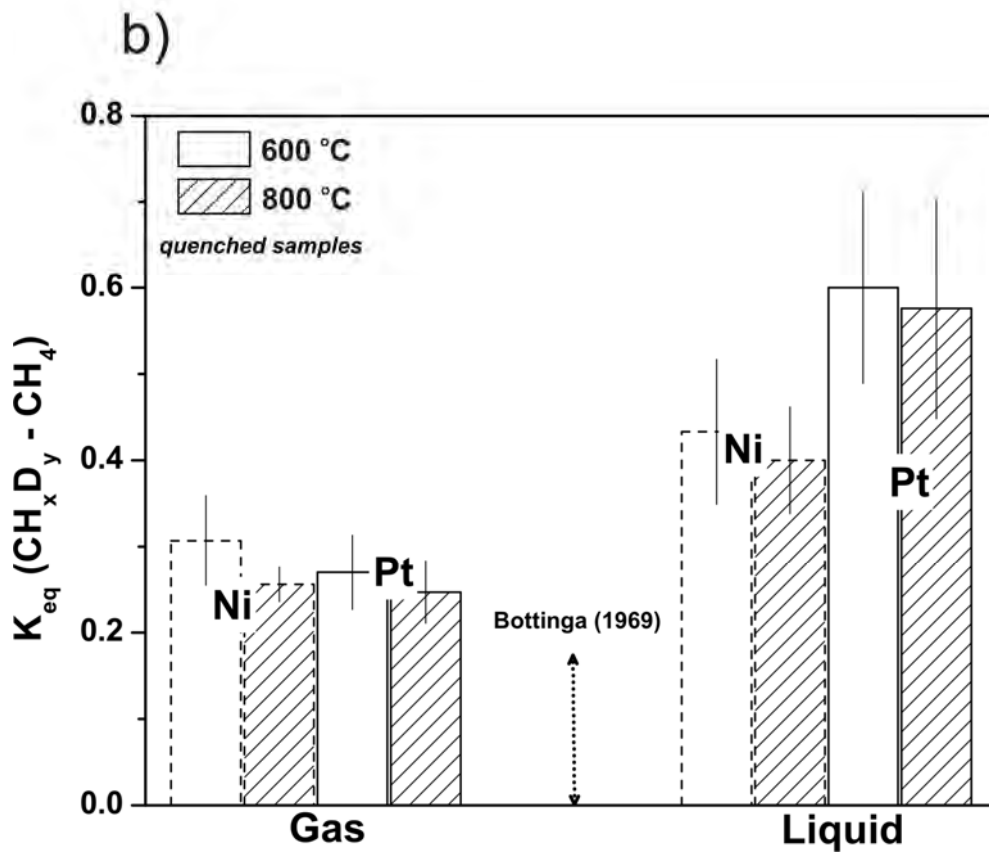
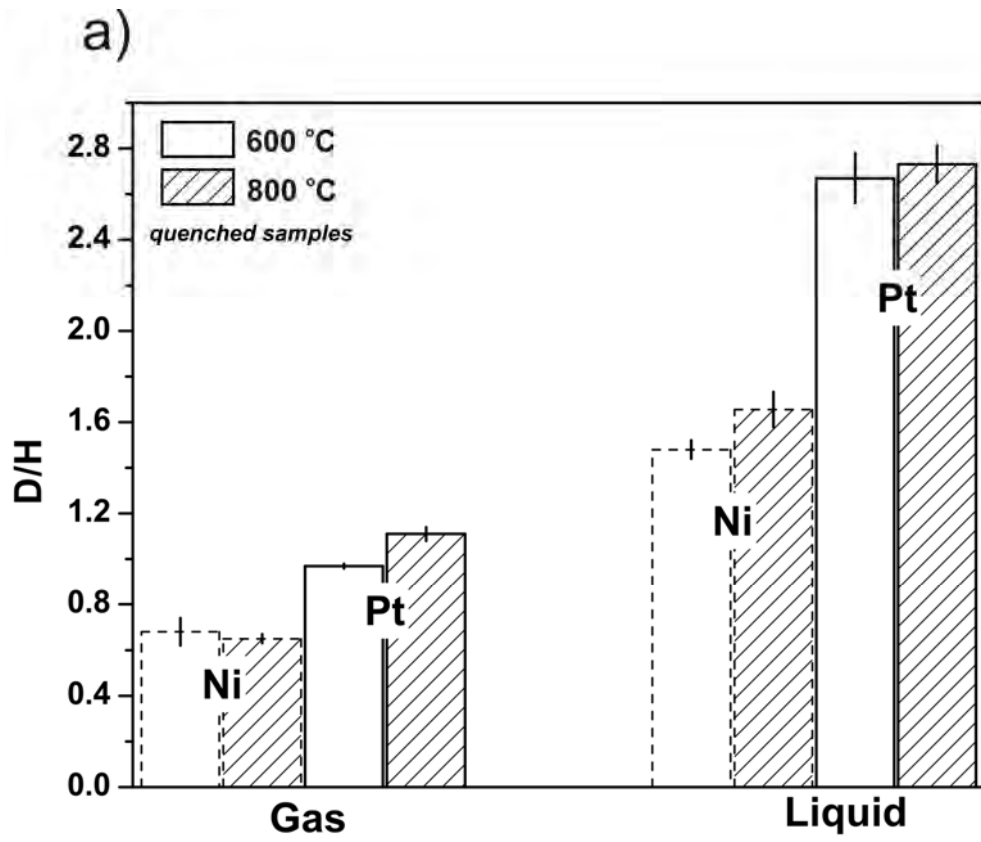
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482 **Figure 4.** Examples of curved-fitted Raman spectra recorded within the 2800 – 3100 cm^{-1}
483 1 frequency region that encompasses the fundamental frequencies of CH_4 , CH_3D , CH_2D_2
484 and CHD_3 .

485



487 **Figure 5.** Times series measurements conducted *in-situ* at high temperature/-pressure and
488 in the presence of either Ni (a) or Pt (b) metal catalyst to describe the evolution of the
489 ratio between the integrated peak areas of the frequency envelope that encompasses the
490 ν_1 -CH_xD_y and the stretching vibrational mode of CH₄.
491



492

31

493 **Figure 6.** (a) The D/H molar ratios of methane measured in quenched samples as
494 function of the temperature, the metal catalyst and the phases present. Uncertainties
495 shown reflect the standard deviation between ratios estimated with/without contributions
496 from the ν_1 -CD₄ (b) The relationship between isotopologues is examined through the
497 equilibrium constant of the reaction: $\text{CH}_3\text{D} + \text{CH}_2\text{D}_2 \rightarrow \text{CHD}_3 + \text{CH}_4$. Experimental data
498 are compared to statistical models developed for ideal-gas reference state (Bottinga,
499 1969). Estimated errors correspond to the different integrated peak areas calculated
500 through a combination of Lorentzian and Gaussian functions for the de-convolution of
501 the CH_xD_y frequency envelope at 2900 - 2990 cm^{-1} .

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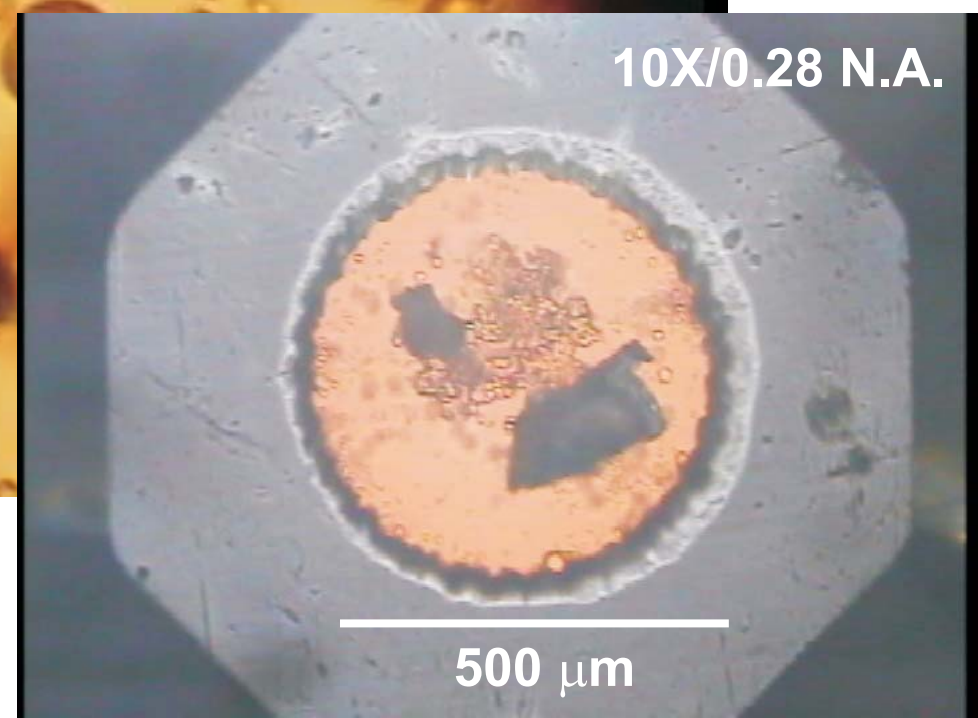
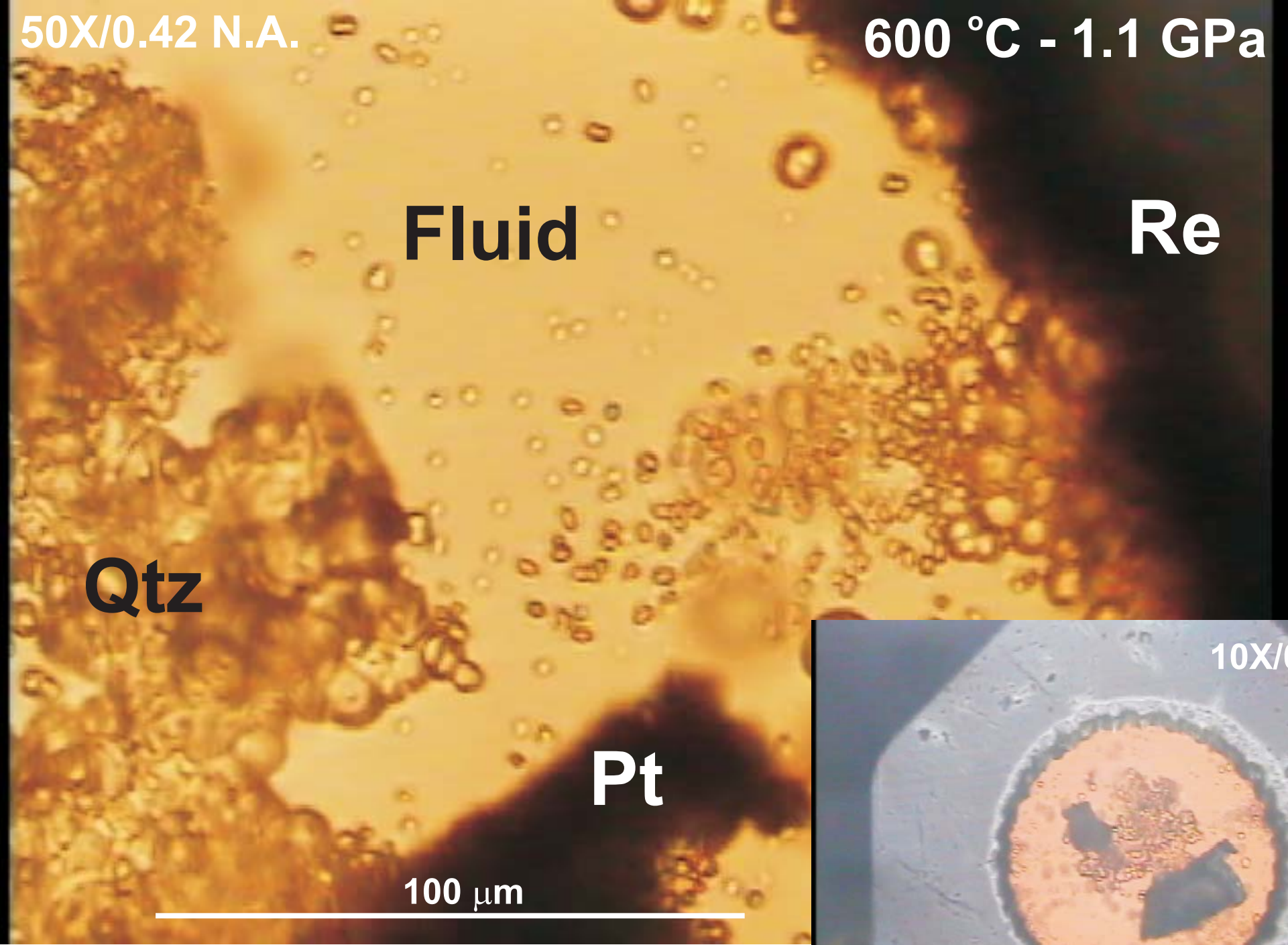
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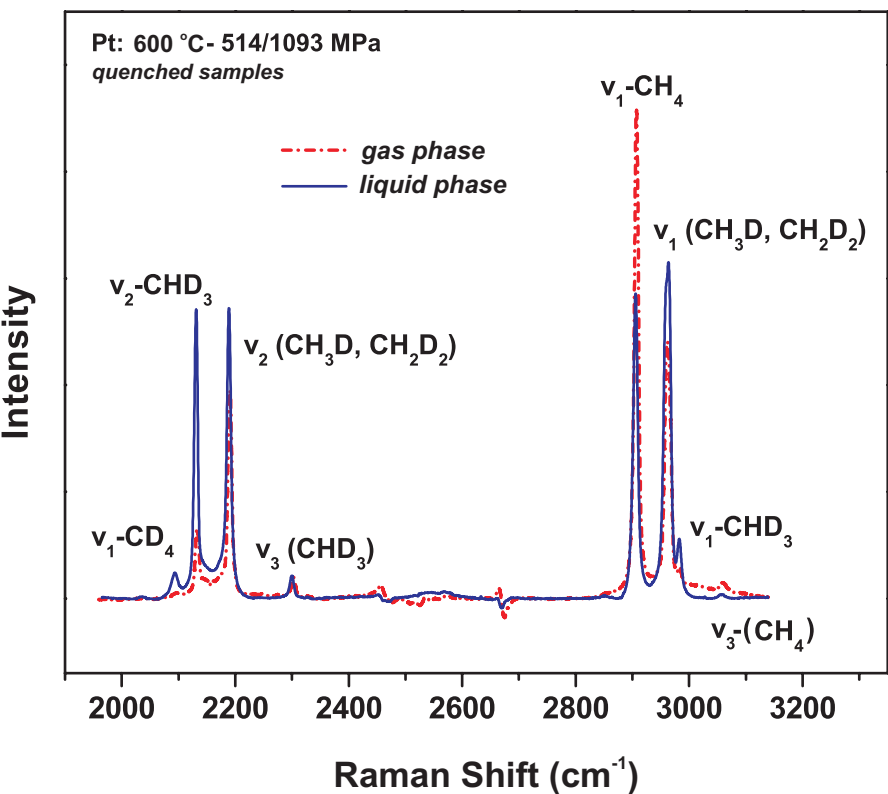
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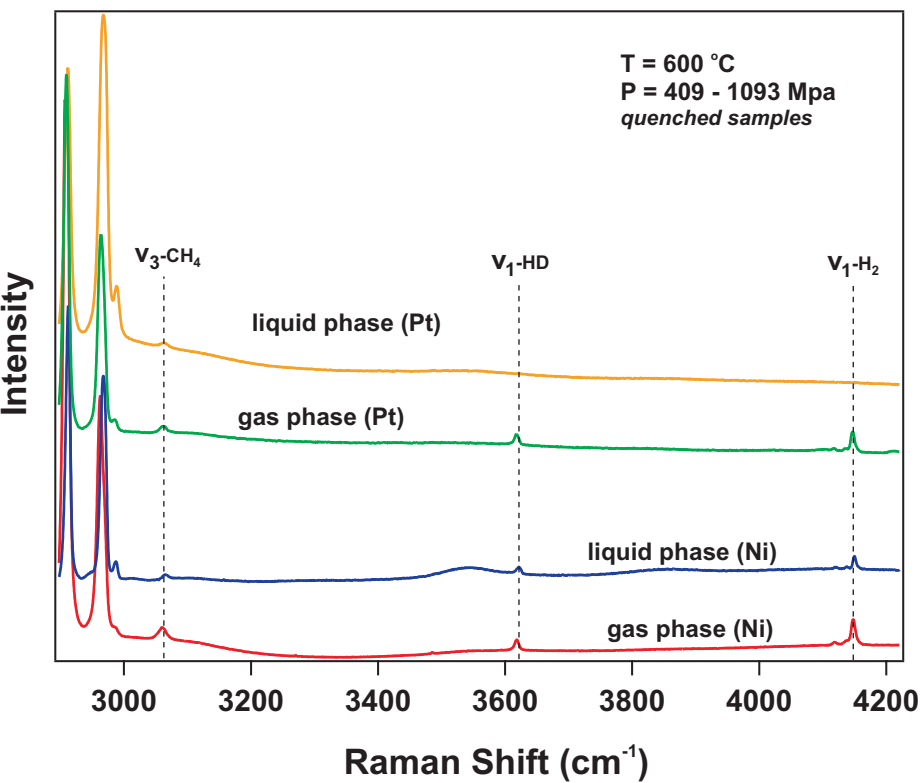
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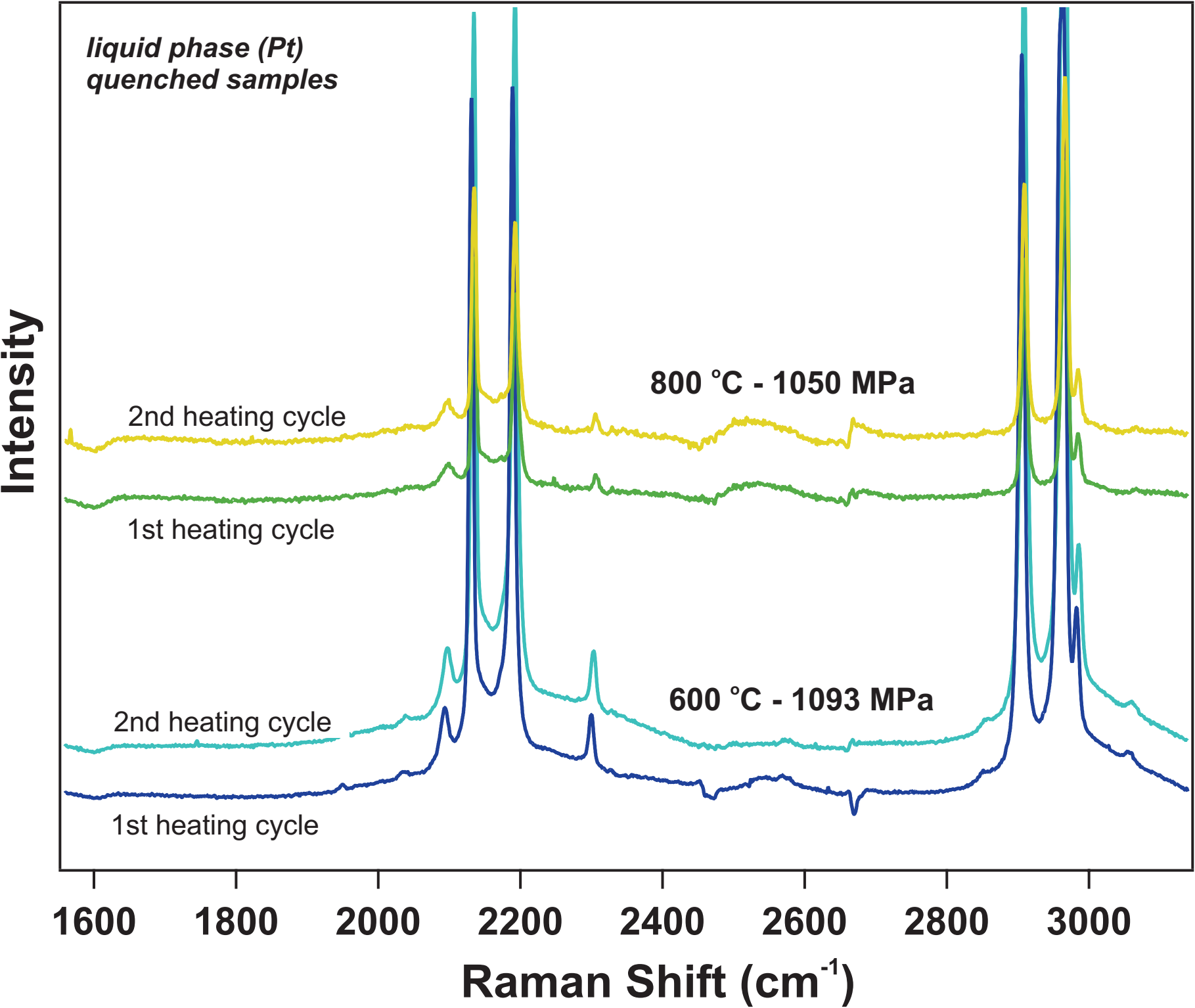


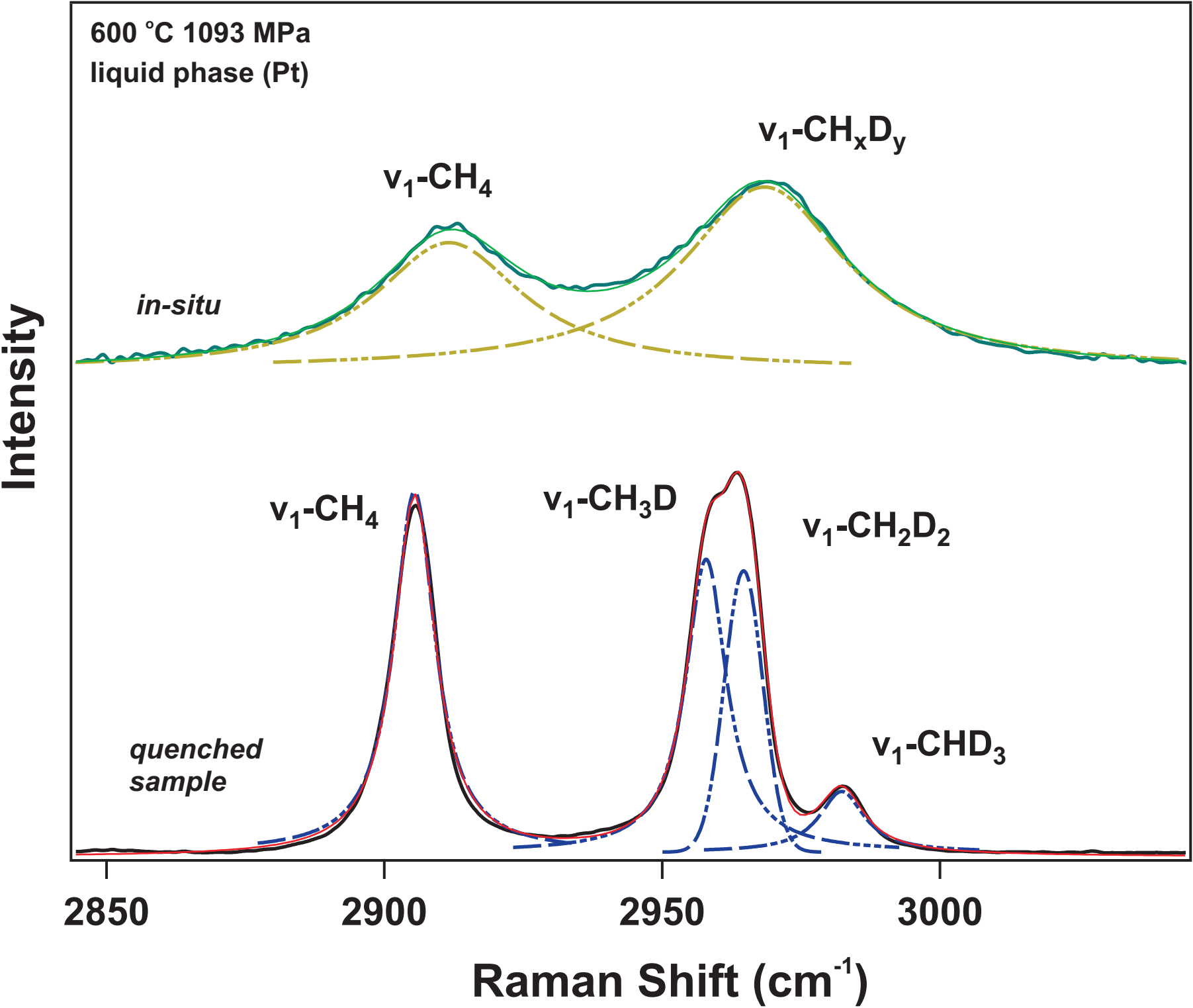
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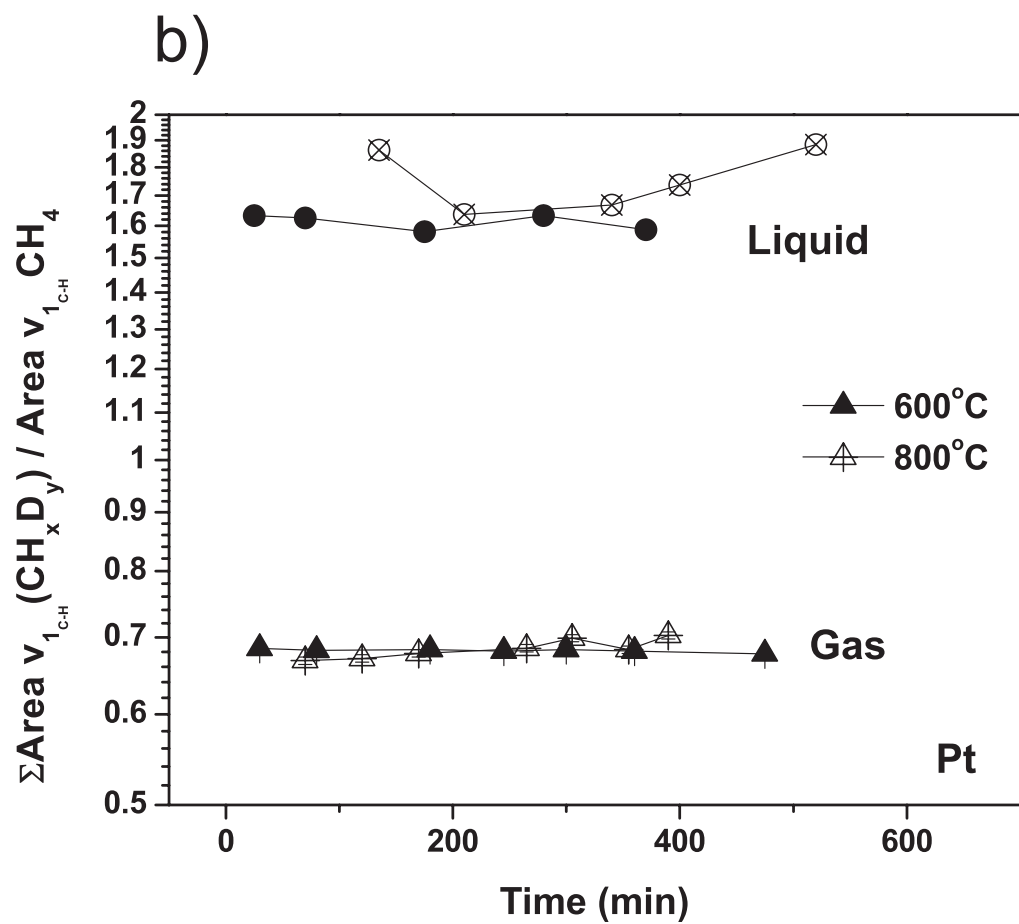
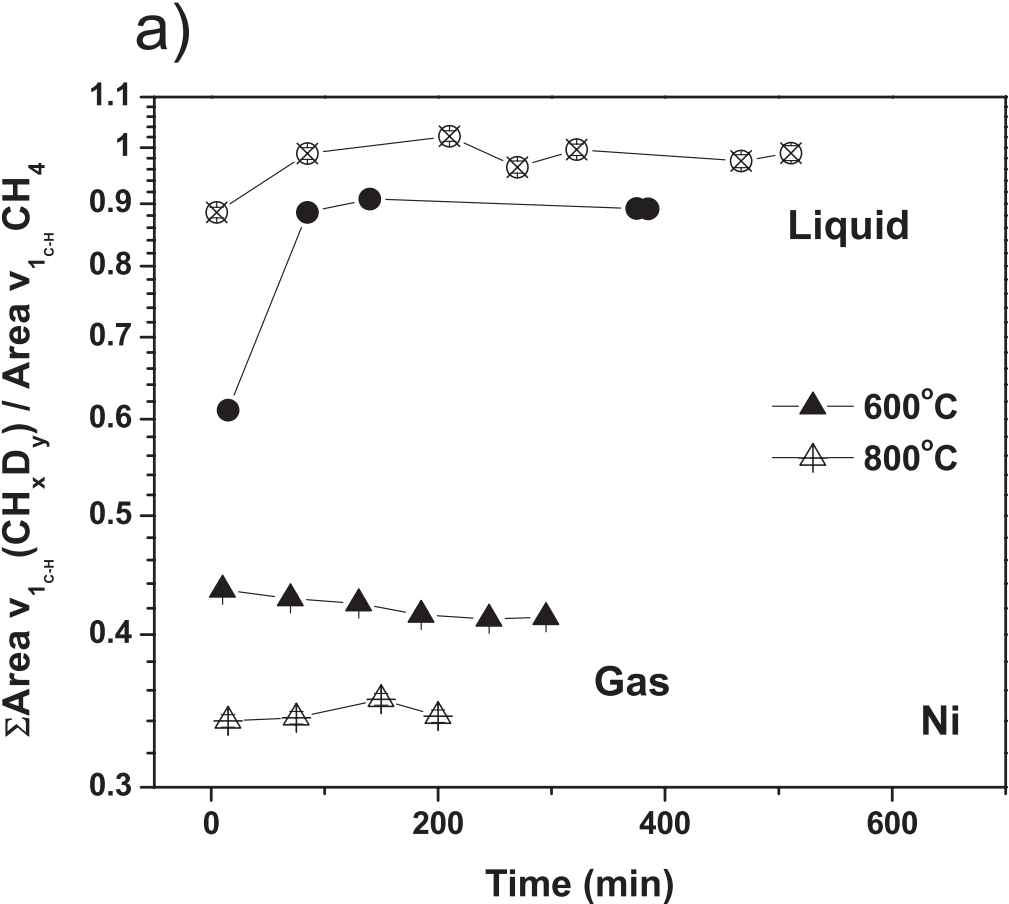


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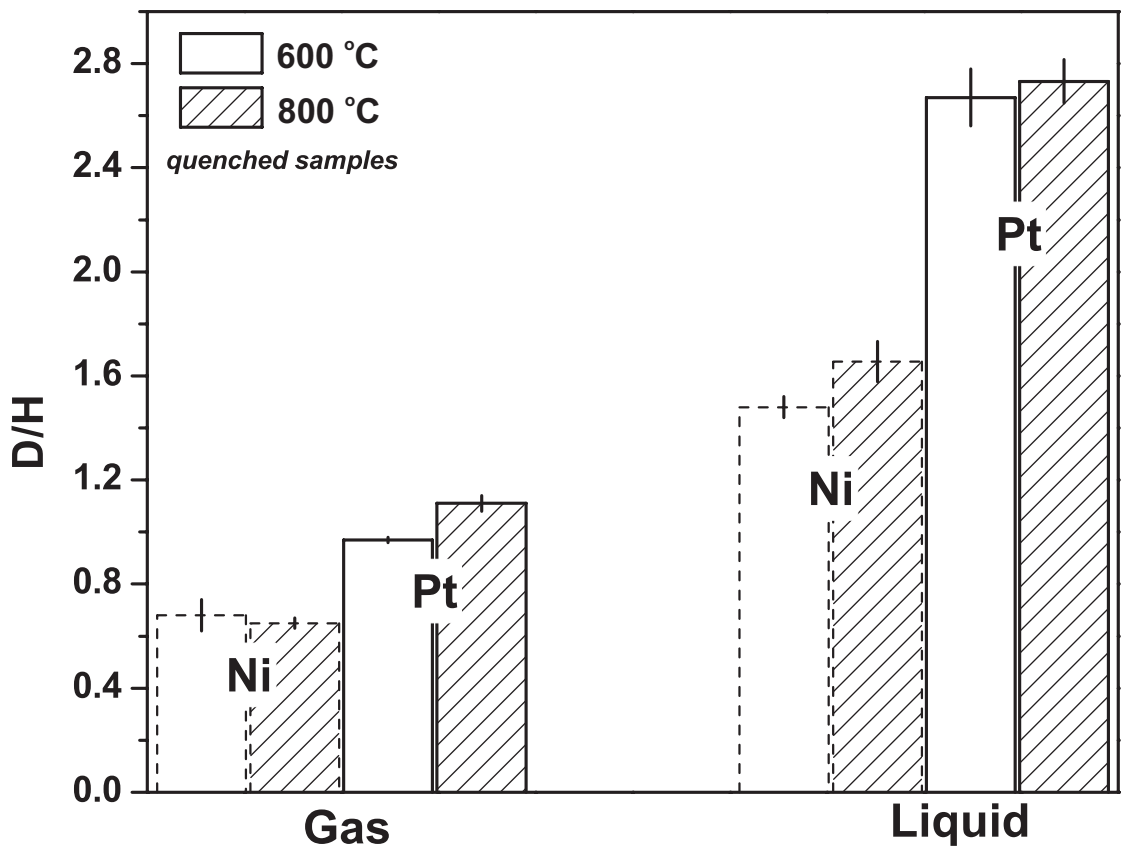








a)



b)

