

1 **Dissolution Rates of Amorphous Al- and Fe-Phosphates and their Relevance to Phosphate**
2 **Mobility on Mars**

3
4 **Revision 1**

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21
22 **Abstract**

23 Phosphate is an essential element for life on Earth, and therefore if life exists or ever existed
24 on Mars it may have required phosphate. Amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates rapidly precipitate

25 from acidic solutions and amorphous Al-phosphates likely control phosphate concentrations in
26 some natural waters on Earth. The amorphous fraction of martian soils has also been shown to
27 be enriched in P, and amorphous phosphates are therefore also likely important in the phosphate
28 cycle on Mars. Despite this importance, however, few dissolution rates exist for amorphous Al-
29 and Fe- phosphates. In this study, dissolution rates of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates were
30 measured in flow-through reactors from steady state concentrations of Al, Fe and P. A pH –
31 dependent rate law, $\log R = \log k - npH$ was determined from the dissolution rates, where R is
32 the dissolution rate, k is the intrinsic rate constant and n is the reaction order with respect to H^+ .
33 For amorphous Al-phosphate, $\log k = -6.539 \pm 1.529$, and $n = 2.391 \pm 0.493$. For amorphous Fe-
34 phosphate, $\log k = -13.031 \pm 0.558$, and $n = 1.376 \pm 0.221$. The amorphous Al-phosphate
35 dissolves stoichiometrically under all experimental conditions measured, and the amorphous Fe-
36 phosphate dissolves non-stoichiometrically, approaching stoichiometric dissolution as pH
37 decreases, due potentially to Fe oxyhydroxides precipitating and armoring grain surfaces.
38 Perhaps due to these effects, amorphous Al-phosphate dissolution rates are approximately three
39 orders of magnitude faster than the amorphous Fe-phosphate dissolution rates measured under
40 these experimental conditions. Amorphous Al-phosphate dissolution rates measured in this
41 study are also faster than published dissolution rates for the crystalline Al-phosphate variscite.
42 The rapid dissolution rates of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates measured in this study therefore
43 suggest that, if these phases are present on Mars, phosphate would be rapidly released into acidic
44 environments.

45 Keywords: phosphate, Mars, mineral dissolution, kinetics, habitability, astrobiology, amorphous
46 phases, synchrotron

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Introduction

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Phosphate is an essential nutrient for life on Earth, and its release and mobility is therefore important to assessing potential habitability on Mars. The primary phosphate minerals present in martian meteorites include Cl-bearing apatite and merrillite, and recent work has indicated that release of P from these minerals is higher than that from the dominant terrestrial P-bearing mineral, fluorapatite, with important implications for P availability on Mars [Adcock et al. 2013]. Recent results from the Mars Science Laboratory Curiosity indicate that the amorphous fraction of martian soils is enriched in P [Morris et al., 2013; Vaniman et al. 2014], and phosphate release from amorphous phosphate phases may therefore also be important in interpreting phosphate availability on Mars.

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Previous work has shown that amorphous P-bearing phases are likely important in terrestrial environments. Roncal-Herrero et al. [2009] report that the first phosphate-containing phases to precipitate from super-saturated acidic fluids in laboratory experiments are amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates. In long term (up to 5 years) laboratory experiments designed to test whether amorphous Al phosphates eventually become the crystalline Al-phosphate variscite after prolonged aging, Hsu [1982a] concluded that amorphous Al-phosphates, not variscite, are the likely products of phosphate fertilizers in acidic terrestrial soils. Similar long-term aging experiments of amorphous Fe-phosphates indicated that they were unlikely to recrystallize to the crystalline Fe-phosphate strengite for up to 66 months [Hsu 1982b]. Analyses of terrestrial natural waters also indicate that Al and phosphate concentrations are consistent with control by equilibrium with either variscite or amorphous Al-phosphate under acidic conditions [Roncal-Herrero and Oelkers 2011], and sequential-fractionation data from extraction analyses of

71 cultivated sandy soils from citrus groves in Florida suggest that amorphous Al- and Fe-
72 phosphates and P associated with crystalline Al- and Fe-oxides account for a significant portion
73 of the total P [Zhang et al., 2001]. These results all suggest that amorphous Al and Fe-
74 phosphates are important on Earth, and potentially also on Mars.

75 P may also be present sorbed to surfaces in the amorphous martian material. The lack of
76 correlation between phosphorous concentrations and nanophase oxides in dusts measured by the
77 Mars Exploration Rovers indicate that sorbed phosphate may not be the dominant phase in
78 Martian soils [Morris et al., 2006], however other work suggests sorbed phosphates may be
79 present [Barger-Rampe and Morris, 2012].

80 Amorphous phosphates are therefore likely important phases on Mars. Despite their
81 potential importance, however, few experiments have examined the dissolution rates of and
82 phosphate release from amorphous phosphate-containing phases [Huffman, 1960]. In this study,
83 we measure the dissolution rates of and phosphate release from amorphous Al- and Fe-
84 phosphates, to shed light on potential phosphate mobility on Mars.

85 **Methods**

86 *Materials:*

87 Amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates were synthesized in batch reactors after Roncal-Herrero
88 et al. [2009], except that syntheses were performed at 50°C for 24 hours, continuously shaken at
89 100 strokes per minute and larger volumes were used to yield sufficient mass for dissolution
90 experiments. The use of synthetic materials was chosen to ensure consistent, pure phases for
91 reproducible results in dissolution experiments. Preliminary syntheses were performed for 12,
92 24, and 48 hour durations, and the material synthesized for 24 hours was chosen for dissolution
93 experiments because particles had coalesced to a more solid mass, but no evidence of

94 crystallinity was detected by powder diffraction (Appendix Figure 1a-b). In all cases, solutions
95 were made with 18.2 M Ω deionized water and high purity chemicals. Aqueous solutions (0.1M
96 Al- or Fe-(NO₃)₃, and 0.1M KH₂PO₄ and 0.09M KOH) were preheated to 50°C, combined while
97 continuously stirring and immediately sealed and immersed in the 50°C shaking water bath.
98 Batches were cooled to 25° C after 24 hours, and the slurry centrifuged at 9860 rpm for 2-10
99 minutes until supernatants were clear. Supernatants were decanted, and solid phases washed 3
100 times with 18.2 M Ω deionized water and air dried at room temperature for 2-5 days.

101 *Experimental Setup:*

102 In order to determine dissolution rates under Mars-relevant acidic conditions, dissolution
103 experiments of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates at pH values of 1, 2, 2.5 and 3 were
104 conducted using flow-through reactors based on those used by Weissbart and Rimstidt [2000]
105 (Figure 1). Samples were sieved to 75-150 μ m particle size, and 1.000 to 3.000 \pm 0.004 g was
106 placed on a 0.45 μ m acrylic membrane filter held in place with an acrylic sleeve within the
107 reactor, with the reactor already filled with solution to prevent the formation of bubbles. The
108 input solution consisted of a 0.01M KNO₃ solution adjusted to the pH of the experiment (1, 2,
109 2.5, or 3) with high purity 1 N HCl and 1 N NaOH. Solution was pumped up through the filter
110 using a VWR variable-speed ultra low-flow peristaltic feed pump, and the reactor was
111 continuously agitated on a shaker plate at 150 rpm. Uncertainty on flow-rates for pump 1 is \pm
112 0.029 ml/min and for pump 2 is \pm 0.048 ml/min (one standard deviation). The outlet solution
113 was filtered through a 0.45 μ m filter before entering the collection vessel, and concentrations
114 were measured until steady state was obtained, defined as at least four consecutive data points
115 of pH values that did not vary more than \pm 0.1 units, flow rates that did not vary more than \pm
116 0.05 ml/min, and concentrations that did not vary by more than 10%. In one experiment (pH =

117 2.5), the reactor was perturbed, affecting the solution concentrations (Appendix Table 2).
118 Concentrations at saturation of Fe, Al and P were also measured either in a batch reactor (Al-
119 phosphate) or a flow-through reactor with the flow rate stopped (Fe-phosphate) after ~ 2 weeks
120 (Appendix Table 17).

121 *Analyses:*

122 Outlet solutions were collected at predetermined intervals based on preliminary
123 experiments, weighed for flow rate determination, and measured for pH using a SevenEasy
124 Mettler Toledo AG pH probe. Separate aliquots were re-filtered through 0.45µm filters,
125 acidified to below pH 2 using 1 N high purity HCl for preservation, and stored at 4°C until
126 chemical analysis.

127 Aluminum concentrations were measured by the catechol violet colorimetric method
128 [Dougan and Wilson, 1974] at a wavelength of 585 nm, and phosphate concentrations were
129 determined by the molybdate blue colorimetric method [Murphy and Riley, 1962] at a
130 wavelength of 882 nm on a Thermo Scientific Genesys 10S UV-Vis Spectrophotometer. Flame
131 Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy (AAS) was used to measure Fe concentrations on a Thermo
132 Scientific iCE 3000 series AA spectrometer. The uncertainty (one standard deviation) on
133 analyses is as follows: for Fe concentrations the uncertainty is ± 0.0164 ppm, and for Al and P
134 (as phosphate) ± 0.0435 ppm. Uncertainty on analyses was estimated by repeated
135 measurements of standards and blanks, based on modified methods from Perkin-Elmer [1964].
136 The method uncertainty is documented as ± 0.19 ppm for Fe [Greenberg et al., 2005], $\pm 2\%$
137 for Al [Dougan and Wilson 1974], and $\pm 8\%$ for P as phosphate [Murphy and Riley 1962].

138 Powders were analyzed by X-ray diffraction (XRD) and indicate amorphous material
139 (Appendix Figures 1a-b). Analyses were completed using a PANalytical X'PERT Pro X-ray

140 Diffraction Spectrometer and Cu K α radiation ($\lambda = 1.5406 \text{ \AA}$) with data collected every 0.02
141 degrees 2θ at 20 mA and 40kV from 5 to 75 degrees 2θ with a step size of 0.08° in the X-ray
142 Diffraction and X-ray Fluorescence Laboratory (XXL) at UNLV. Powdered samples of
143 amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates were gold coated and observed using a JEOL JSM-6700F
144 Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (FE-SEM) at working distances of 8.0mm to
145 8.4mm at 2.0 or 5.0kV in Secondary Electron Imaging mode (SEI) and a Scanning Electron
146 Microscope (SEM) (JEOL ASM-5600), at a working distance of 20mm and accelerating voltage
147 of 15kV, with a spot-size of 20 and using Energy Dispersive Spectroscopy (EDS) for
148 composition determination in the Electron Microanalysis and Imaging Laboratory (EMIL) at
149 UNLV. Surface areas were determined using a Micromeritics ASAP 2020 Gas Sorption
150 Analyzer using N₂ and are $121.9128 \pm 0.4702 \text{ (m}^2\text{/g)}$ (amorphous Fe-phosphate) and $77.155 \pm$
151 $0.3943 \text{ (m}^2\text{/g)}$ (amorphous Al-phosphate). In order to help interpret changes to the material with
152 reaction, both unreacted amorphous Fe phosphates, and amorphous Fe phosphates reacted at pH
153 = 2.5 (from the end of the experiment) were vacuum-impregnated with epoxy, polished with 18.2
154 M Ω deionized water using 1 μm grit diamond lapping paper, and examined both optically and by
155 SEM-EDS (JEOL ASM-5600) at a working distance of 20mm and accelerating voltage of 10kV,
156 with a spot-size of 40 in SEI and using EDS for composition.

157 Unreacted and reacted iron phosphate material (pH = 3) was further analyzed by
158 synchrotron microXRD, and XANES, and reacted material (pH = 3) by TEM. Synchrotron
159 diffraction was conducted with high energy and with 10^4 times higher flux than in-house X-ray
160 sources in order to a) examine the amorphous diffraction signal of reacted and unreacted Fe-
161 phosphate over an extended Q-range and b) search for possible very small amounts of crystalline
162 phases in these materials. The synchrotron diffraction experiments were conducted at the

163 superconducting bending magnet beamline 12.2.2 ALS with a 25 keV primary beam focused to
164 $12 \times 15 \mu\text{m}^2$ at sample position. The diffraction signal was collected with a MAR 345 image plate
165 detector after 30 min of signal accumulation. Dark-colored reaction rims, μm -scale opaque
166 inclusions, and the less strongly colored core regions of reacted samples were all examined. In
167 addition, unreacted pristine Fe-phosphate was examined. In all cases, absorbance of the X-ray
168 beam by the specimens was less than 10% and no changes of the diffraction signal were
169 observed over time.

170 The TEM SAED analysis was conducted in order to identify nano-crystalline phases. High
171 resolution transmission electron microscopy (HRTEM) data were obtained using a Tecnai G²
172 F30 S-Twin TEM instrument operated at 200 kV using a field emission gun in Schottky mode as
173 an electron source at UNLV.

174 The XANES spectra were collected in transmission geometry using 0.8eV resolution
175 monochromated beam at sector 12.2.2 at the Advanced Light Source at Berkeley National
176 Laboratory. Both the reacted and unreacted samples were ground using mortar and pestle into a
177 fine powder, and subsequently filtered through a 3 μm Whatman filter. The resulting powder
178 specimens were contained between 0.5mill Kapton foil and placed in a holder on an X-Y
179 scanning stage. The synchrotron beam was focused onto a 100 μm spot on the sample using a pair
180 of Kirkpatrick Baez X-ray mirrors. Several spectra were collected at various XY coordinates on
181 each specimen to check for consistency and sample uniformity. XANES spectra were collected
182 in a 500eV window bracketing the Fe Ke-edge transition (7112eV). The resulting spectra were
183 normalized to the size of the edge jump to ensure an accurate comparison across all specimens.

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Calculations

188 *Dissolution rate calculation:*

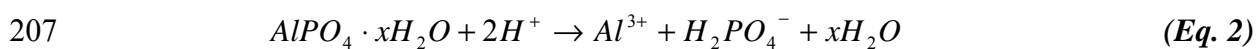
189 Dissolution rates were calculated from steady state Al, Fe and P concentrations and flow
190 rates normalized to BET surface area [White and Brantley, 1995]:

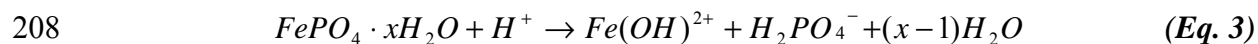
$$R = \frac{(C_{out} - C_{in})Q}{A \cdot m} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

192 where C_{out} is the measured steady state output concentration (mM), C_{in} is the input
193 concentration (mM) (assumed to be zero based on below detection measurements of all method
194 blanks), Q is the flow rate (L/s), A is the specific surface area (cm^2/g), and m is the mass (g).
195 Rates were normalized to final, assumed to be steady state, masses, multiplied by the specific
196 surface area.

197 *Rate laws:*

198 Rate laws were established for amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphate dissolution by applying
199 linear regression analysis to the log dissolution rates versus pH values from each experiment.
200 The pH dependence of dissolution of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphate is fit to the following
201 equation: $\log R = \log k - n\text{pH}$, where R is the dissolution rate, k is the intrinsic rate constant and n
202 is the reaction order with respect to H^+ . For amorphous Al-phosphate, $\log k = -6.539 \pm 1.529$,
203 and $n = 2.391 \pm 0.493$. For amorphous Fe-phosphate, $\log k = -13.031 \pm 0.558$, and $n = 1.376 \pm$
204 0.221 . Values were calculated based on 3 pH values in our experiments, 2, 2.5 and 3 because
205 the material completely dissolved in the pH=1 experiment. The larger reaction order with
206 respect to H^+ for Al versus Fe is consistent with the following dissolution equations:





209 *Saturation indices:*

210 Saturation indices were calculated for each steady state condition using PhreeqC
211 [Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999], for strengite, variscite, goethite, hematite, maghemite, vivianite,
212 ferrihydrite, 10nm goethite, 10nm maghemite, 10nm hematite, and gibbsite using values from
213 [Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999; Roncal-Herrero and Oelkers, 2011; Elwood-Madden et al., 2012]
214 (Table 3). Due to the uncertainties in the solubilities of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates
215 [Roncal-Herrero and Oelkers, 2011] saturation indices were not calculated for the amorphous
216 Al- and Fe-phosphates. However, our stopped-flow and batch experiments, which show higher
217 concentrations than the steady state concentrations from our flow through reactors at the same
218 pH, indicate that the experimental conditions are undersaturated with respect to these phases,
219 consistent with their dissolution.

220 **Results**

221 *Solution pH:*

222 Output solution pH values typically displayed one of two behaviors, with either constant
223 pH values throughout the experiment, or increasing from low initial pH values to steady state
224 values (Figure 2b, Tables 1-2, Appendix Tables 1-8).

225 *Concentrations:*

226 Fe and Al concentrations typically display one of two behaviors, either remaining steady
227 throughout the entire experiment, or decreasing from initially higher concentrations to reach
228 steady values (Figure 2c, Tables 1-2, Appendix Tables 1-8). Phosphorus concentrations
229 generally decreased over time in all experiments (Figure 2d, Tables 1-2, Appendix Tables 1-8).

230 *Stoichiometry of Release:*

231 Steady-state dissolution of amorphous Fe-phosphate was non-stoichiometric in all cases,
232 but steady-state dissolution approached stoichiometric dissolution as pH decreased (Figure 3).
233 In contrast, steady-state amorphous Al-phosphate dissolution was stoichiometric in all
234 experiments (Figure 4). The fluctuation in non-stoichiometric dissolution observed in the
235 amorphous Fe-phosphate pH = 2.5 experiment is attributed to the perturbation of the reactor
236 during this period of time.

237 *Saturation state of steady state solutions:*

238 Saturation indices determined using PhreeqC [Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999] indicate that
239 steady state solutions were undersaturated with respect to all Fe-bearing secondary phases tested
240 (Tables 4-5). Saturation indices for Al-phosphate experiments indicate that solutions are
241 undersaturated with respect to gibbsite, and over-saturated with respect to the crystalline Al-
242 phosphate variscite, which is not surprising for dissolution of an amorphous phase with the
243 same chemical composition.

244 *Reacted Material Characterization:*

245 Reacted and unreacted amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates were imaged by FE-SEM and
246 indicate a consistent decrease in the size of the globules for Al-phosphates, and a variable
247 decrease in the size of the globules for Fe-phosphates (Figures 5a-d and 6a-d) after reaction.
248 Unreacted amorphous Al-phosphate has globule sizes of ~ 45 to 64nm in diameter, and
249 unreacted amorphous Fe-phosphate globule sizes of ~ 26 to 100nm in diameter. Reacted
250 amorphous Al-phosphate material has slightly smaller diameters than that of unreacted material
251 (~ 27 to 33 nm) (Figures 5a-c), and reacted Fe-phosphate material varied from globule sizes that
252 were comparable to unreacted to slightly smaller globule sizes.

253 Optical analyses of reacted and unreacted amorphous iron-phosphate material indicate that
254 the unreacted material is a translucent, reddish color, with few, small dark inclusions (Figure 7 c
255 and d). In contrast, the reacted material has an opaque, whitish interior, with darker red rims
256 (Figures 7 a and b). In order to interpret these optical changes, we further analyzed the reacted
257 amorphous Fe phosphates using Synchrotron microXRD analysis, TEM and X-ray Absorption
258 Near Edge Structure (XANES) analysis. Synchrotron microXRD indicates that the structure of
259 the amorphous reacted and unreacted iron-phosphate is indistinguishable down to $\geq 0.8 \text{ \AA}$ (Fig
260 8). However, the unreacted phosphate contained $\sim 0.1 \%$ of micro-crystalline phases which
261 could be interpreted as belonging to goethite and bernalite (Figure 8, insert). This small amount
262 of crystalline material was not detected by in-house powder diffraction. In Figure 8, insert, the
263 diffractogram of reacted phosphate was subtracted from the diffractogram of unreacted
264 phosphate, thus removing most of the amorphous diffraction signal for the unreacted material.
265 The micro-crystalline diffraction features are clearly visible. We show the calculated diffraction
266 patterns of goethite and bernalite for comparison. We note that with increasing angle the signal
267 is somewhat suppressed as consequence of the diffraction image processing and calculated and
268 observed intensities do not fully match.

269 It is somewhat surprising that the reacted phosphate does not contain these crystalline
270 phases. Therefore, we examined the reacted material with XANES and HRTEM and found, by
271 TEM, small nano-crystalline inclusions within an amorphous phosphate matrix. The HRTEM
272 lattice interferences of the nanocrystalline phases were Fourier-transformed and integrated (Ma
273 et al 2011). Although the quality of the electron diffraction pattern suffered from low signal and
274 superimposed amorphous contributions, we tentatively identified strengite and an alkaline-
275 bearing iron oxyhydroxide with structural relation to akaganeite and priderite (Appendix Figure

276 2). The diffraction signal of nanocrystalline phases generally includes contributions from the
277 crystallite shape. In the case of TEM diffraction data, the structure factors are also affected by
278 the thickness of the sample. These parameters could not be corrected in the present case and are
279 likely to contribute to the differences between the observed and calculated diffraction patterns
280 (Appendix Figure 2).

281 The XANES spectra show that reacted and unreacted phosphate are very similar (Figure 9).
282 While there is a ~ 10% difference in the intensity of the white line, its position remains
283 unchanged. This is also true of the main edge, which is representing the probability and energy
284 of the Fe 1s → 4p and 1s → continuum transitions [Deb et al. 2005]. The absence of a shift in
285 the main edge indicates that the valence has remained unchanged during the reaction. The white
286 line energy as well as the energy of the peak at 7136 eV are consistent with literature data for
287 FePO₄ [Deb et al 2005]. However, both spectra deviate from the spectrum of pure FePO₄ in the
288 noticeably higher relative intensity of the white-line. This higher intensity of the white line has
289 been observed in the triphyllite-FePO₄ system and been correlated with octahedrally coordinated
290 Fe³⁺. The intensity of the pre-edge feature reflects this presence of octahedrally coordinated
291 Fe³⁺: the pre-edge feature is caused by the forbidden 1s → 3d transitions and in cubic crystal
292 field split into two peaks related to transitions into the d-states of e_g and t_{2g} symmetry. In
293 tetrahedral coordination and for ferric Fe the e_g state has lower energy and the pre-edge XANES
294 peak has higher intensity than the t_{2g} related peak. In octahedral coordination it is the opposite. In
295 comparison to crystalline iron phosphate the present two spectra show a higher intensity of the
296 t_{2g}-related feature though less than in triphyllite [Deb et al 2005]. The reacted sample appears to
297 have a slightly smaller ratio t_{2g}/e_g. The energies of the pre-edge features are identical to previous
298 reports [Deb et al. 2005] and do not change after reaction. Hence, there may be a minor decrease

299 in Fe^{3+} in octahedral coordination over Fe^{3+} in tetrahedral coordination which may reflect a
300 gradual progress in crystallization of the amorphous Fe phosphate to strengite. The per-mille-
301 level Fe-oxyhydroxide phases in reacted and unreacted phosphate do not make noticeable
302 contributions to the XANES spectra due to their very small amount.

303 Thus, it appears that the micro-crystalline iron oxyhydroxides of the unreacted phosphate
304 matrix dissolve or were transformed during reaction, and that a new alkaline-bearing oxy-
305 hydroxide formed, potentially both from the micro-crystalline iron oxyhydroxides, and non-
306 stoichiometric dissolution of the amorphous Fe-phosphate. Iron oxyhydroxides may therefore
307 play an important role in the dissolution processes of iron-phosphates.

308 **Discussion**

309 The amorphous Fe-phosphate dissolution rates from this study were compared to
310 dissolution rates of crystalline and colloidal Fe-phosphates from the literature [Huffman, 1960].
311 Our dissolution rates at pH 2, 2.5, and 3 are slower than the dissolution rates reported at pH 6
312 (Figure 10) possibly due to the much larger surface areas, although since dissolution rates for
313 strengite and colloidal Fe phosphate were not reported for similar experimental conditions at
314 similar pH values, rates are not directly comparable. We compared the amorphous Al-
315 phosphate dissolution rates measured in this study to the dissolution rates of the crystalline Al-
316 phosphate variscite at the same pH, and they are faster (Figure 10). This result is similar to
317 previous studies, which indicate that amorphous silica, for example, dissolves more rapidly than
318 quartz [Liang and Readey, 1987]. Based on these results, therefore, aqueous solutions
319 interacting with amorphous phases are likely to release more phosphate than is released from
320 aqueous interactions with crystalline phosphate phases.

321 The amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates used in this study are quite similar. The unreacted
322 amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates used in this study have similar large surface areas (although
323 the surface area of the Fe phosphate is approximately one and one half times greater than the
324 surface area of Al phosphate), and both consist of nanoporous material as observed by FE-SEM
325 (Figures 5a-d and 6a-d). In addition, although we did not synthesize solid solutions of
326 amorphous Al- and Fe- phosphates, many Al and ferric phosphate phases have complete solid
327 solution including strengite and variscite [Huminicki and Hawthorne, 2002; Taxer and Bartl,
328 2004] . Despite the similarities between the amorphous phases, however, the dissolution rates
329 measured here are much slower for the amorphous Fe-phosphates than for amorphous Al-
330 phosphates (Figure 10). This result is similar to previous results indicating that strengite
331 dissolves more slowly than variscite at comparable citrate concentrations and pH, with the
332 effect decreasing with increased pH [Malunda, 2000]. Perhaps explaining the difference in
333 dissolution rates between the phases, the dissolution of amorphous Al-phosphate is
334 stoichiometric, whereas the dissolution of the amorphous Fe phosphate is non-stoichiometric
335 (Figures 3 and 4).

336 Non-stoichiometric dissolution can be due to a number of causes. Common mechanisms
337 identified in the literature consist of the formation of a leached layer and effects of grinding or
338 re-precipitation. Chin and Mills [1991] observed in acidic kaolinite dissolution experiments
339 that sorption and precipitation of silica might cause incongruent dissolution. Cubillas et al.
340 [2005] observed a mineral coating of otavite on CaCO_3 in near neutral dissolution experiments,
341 which decreased dissolution rates. Hellmann et al. [2003] proposed an interfacial dissolution-
342 re-precipitation mechanism in labradorite feldspar experiments. Weissbart and Rimstidt [2000]
343 documented, in wollastonite dissolution experiments aimed at improving models of leached

344 layer formation, the formation of a hydrated silica leached layer influencing the dissolution of
345 wollastonite in solutions with pH ranging from 2 to 6. Putnis [2009] proposed an interface-
346 coupled dissolution precipitation reaction for a variety of minerals including quartz, kaolinite
347 and feldspar. Ruiz-Agudo et al. [2012] utilized Putnis' mechanism in reporting evidence that an
348 amorphous silica leached layer is formed via a tight interface-coupled two-step process:
349 stoichiometric dissolution of mineral surfaces and subsequent precipitation of a secondary phase
350 from a supersaturated boundary layer of fluid in contact with the mineral surface.

351 In dissolution experiments of Fe-bearing minerals that may be particularly relevant to
352 dissolution of the amorphous Fe-phosphates in our study, poorly crystalline iron oxyhydroxide
353 precipitation may be the controlling factor causing incongruent dissolution. Elwood Madden et
354 al. [2012] observed incongruent jarosite dissolution thought to be dependent on iron
355 oxyhydroxide reaction products formed in solutions at $\text{pH} > 3.5$. Siever and Woodford [1979]
356 described the development of a precipitated poorly crystalline Fe hydroxide layer, armoring
357 mineral surfaces of mafic minerals such as fayalite, hypersthene, basalt and obsidian. Huffman
358 et al. [1960] report incongruent dissolution of strengite and colloidal ferric phosphate in water,
359 similar to our findings. Huffman et al. [1960] also document surface coatings consisting of Fe
360 hydroxides on strengite and colloidal ferric phosphate, which they confirm by microscopic
361 examination. Malunda [2000] also observed non-stoichiometric dissolution of strengite, which
362 they attributed to the formation of a secondary phase or a surface complex of Fe. In Al- and Fe-
363 phosphate precipitation experiments, Hsu [1976] demonstrated rapid formation of Fe-oxides,
364 which they attribute to the much larger first hydrolysis constant for Fe^{3+} of 2.5×10^{-3} [Lamb
365 and Jacques, 1938], compared to the first hydrolysis constant of Al^{3+} (1.05×10^{-5}) [Frink and
366 Peech, 1963]. We therefore postulate that the non-stoichiometric dissolution of amorphous Fe-

367 phosphate and the slow dissolution rates relative to amorphous Al-phosphate observed in these
368 experiments may be due to the re-precipitation of secondary Fe-oxyhydroxide phases, similar to
369 the findings of Huffman [1960], Siever and Woodford [1979], and Elwood-Madden et al.
370 [2012], and due to the much larger first hydrolysis constant for Fe^{3+} than for Al^{3+} .

371 In order to investigate the possible formation of Fe-oxyhydroxides, the saturation state of
372 the output solutions was calculated relative to strengite, goethite, hematite, maghemite,
373 vivianite, ferrihydrite, 10nm goethite, 10nm hematite, and 10nm maghemite. [Parkhurst and
374 Appelo, 1999; Roncal-Herrero and Oelkers, 2011; Elwood-Madden et al., 2012] (Table 4), and
375 was found to be undersaturated with respect to all of these minerals. As described above, the
376 synchrotron micro-XRD and TEM analyses indicate the possible presence of goethite and
377 bernalite in the unreacted amorphous Fe phosphates, and nano-crystalline strengite and an iron
378 oxyhydroxide in the reacted material, with reaction progress towards strengite also indicated by
379 the XANES results. Due to the minimal change between the unreacted and reacted amorphous
380 Fe phosphate observed by synchrotron microXRD (Figure 8) and XANES (Figure 9), and the
381 fact that upon additional heating strengite forms from solutions of the composition used to
382 synthesize these amorphous materials, [Roncal-Herrero et al. 2009], we propose that strengite
383 was not formed during the reaction of our material in our dissolution experiments, but rather
384 was present in the unreacted material.

385 We therefore propose that, upon reaction in our experiments, the trace Fe oxides present in
386 the unreacted material dissolve, perhaps contributing to the formation of the nanocrystalline Fe
387 oxyhydroxide in the reacted material, which is likely also the result of non-stoichiometric
388 dissolution of the amorphous Fe phosphate. This result is consistent with the optical
389 observations, which indicate that the unreacted material is a translucent, reddish material

390 throughout, with dark inclusions (Figure 7 c and d), presumably the result of the goethite and
391 bernalite, respectively. The reacted material exhibits a whitish interior, with reddish rims
392 (Figures 7 a and b), presumably the result of the dissolution of the goethite and the bernalite
393 from the initial material, and the precipitation of the iron oxyhydroxide in the reddish rim of the
394 reacted material. This result is also consistent with the non-stoichiometric dissolution observed
395 in the solution chemistry, as well as with the results of Ruiz-Agudo et al., [2012], who
396 document the formation of a re-precipitated secondary phase using *in situ* atomic force
397 microscopy (AFM) and FE-SEM despite undersaturation of the bulk solution with respect to
398 secondary phases.

399 Dissolution rates were measured here in flow-through reactors, which although
400 complicated to run, yield the most easily interpreted data since secondary products do not build
401 up in solution as they do in batch reactors. In this case, an additional possibility is the transport
402 of suspended phases. Although images of unreacted and reacted phases show decreased
403 globular sizes, indicative of dissolution, previous work on natural waters has shown significant
404 transport of trace elements in the colloidal fraction [Dupre et al., 1996; Viers et al., 1997].
405 Transport by colloids may have occurred as evidenced by the presence of staining on filters,
406 indicative of transport of colloids in solution that were retained on the filters. Colloids retained
407 on the filter would have decreased the measured dissolution rates, and colloids passing through
408 the filter would have increased the rate. Transport of colloidal particles may be an important
409 process under acidic conditions on Mars as well as on Earth.

410

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Implications for Mars

412 Recent work from the MSL Curiosity indicate that the amorphous component of the martian
413 soil is enriched in P [Morris et al. 2013; Vaniman et al. 2014]. Previous terrestrial studies
414 indicate that amorphous phosphates are important in terrestrial processes, and may also be
415 important on Mars [Hsu 1982a, b; Zhang et al. 2001; Roncal-Herrero et al. 2009; Roncal-
416 Herrero and Oelkers 2011]. However, few dissolution rates for amorphous Al- and Fe-
417 phosphates exist in the literature and therefore, determination of dissolution rates and rate laws
418 for these phases are helpful to understanding phosphate mobility on Mars.

419 Amorphous Al-phosphate yields congruent dissolution rates that are faster than its
420 crystalline counterpart, variscite, and than amorphous Fe-phosphate. In contrast, the amorphous
421 Fe-phosphate dissolved incongruently and more slowly than the amorphous Al-phosphate,
422 which may be due to the re-precipitation of a nanocrystalline Fe oxyhydroxide, armoring grain
423 surfaces, and inhibiting dissolution. Rate laws of the form $\log R = \log k - npH$ were calculated
424 from dissolution rates, with values for amorphous Al-phosphate of: $\log k = -6.539 \pm 1.529$, and
425 $n = 2.391 \pm 0.493$ and amorphous Fe-phosphate, $\log k = -13.031 \pm 0.558$, and $n = 1.376 \pm 0.221$.
426 The fast dissolution rates of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates indicate rapid release of
427 phosphates into acidic environments, such as those potentially present on Mars, suggesting
428 significant phosphate mobility on that planet.

429 These results may be applicable to environments such as Meridiani Planum, where some
430 have argued for the episodic presence of acidic groundwater [Squyres et al., 2006], as well as
431 Gale Crater, where the P-enriched amorphous phases have been detected [Morris et al., 2013;
432 Vaniman et al. 2014]. The presence of acidic water would facilitate the formation of Al- and Fe
433 phosphates at Meridiani Planum [Roncal-Herrero et al. 2009], and episodic liquid water would
434 tend to favor formation of amorphous rather than crystalline phosphates on Mars [Tosca and

435 Knoll 2009]. Amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates may therefore be an important phosphate
436 source for environments such as Meridiani Planum and Gale Crater on Mars. We conclude from
437 this study that they are likely to release abundant phosphate into solution, with important
438 implications for potentially habitable environments on Mars.

439

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573 **Figure Captions:**
574

- 575 Figure 1. (A) Schematic image of flow-through reactor based on Weissbart and Rimstidt (2000).
576 Solution is pumped from the input reservoir using a peristaltic pump up through a 0.45 micron
577 filter. The reactor is agitated atop a shaker plate at 150 rpm, and then solution is filtered (0.45
578 μm filter) before entering a collection vessel for analyses. (B) Enlarged schematic image of
579 reactor showing flow of fluid up through sample suspended on the filter. The filter is being held
580 in place by an acrylic sleeve and effluent solution flowing out is filtered before being collected in
581 a vessel for analyses.
- 582
- 583 Figure 2. Representative results of dissolution of amorphous Al-phosphate (pH 2.5) (a) Flow
584 rate (mol/min), (b) output pH (c). Al (mM) and (d) P (mM) versus time. Boxes indicate steady
585 state conditions defined as described in text.
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587 Figure 3. Aqueous Fe: P ratio (mM) for each dissolution experiment of amorphous Fe-phosphate
588 (a) pH = 3 (b) pH = 2.5 (c) pH = 2 and (d) pH = 1. The solid horizontal line represents the ratio
589 of Fe: P in the amorphous Fe phosphate. Results indicate non-stoichiometric dissolution of
590 amorphous Fe-phosphate at higher pH with concentrations approaching stoichiometric release as
591 pH decreases.

592

593 Figure 4. Aqueous Al: P ratio (mM) for each dissolution experiment of amorphous Al-phosphate
594 at (a) pH = 3 (b) pH = 2.5 (c) pH = 2 and (d) pH = 1. The solid horizontal line represents the
595 ratio of Al: P in the amorphous Al phosphate. Results indicate non-stoichiometric dissolution of
596 amorphous Al-phosphate initially, which in all cases achieve stoichiometric dissolution by steady
597 state conditions.

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599 Figure 5. Micrographs of nanoporous amorphous Al-phosphate taken by Field-Emission
600 Scanning Electron Microscopy (FE-SEM). (a) 24 hour synthesized amorphous Al-
601 phosphate at 100nm magnification with particles sizes ~ 45 to 64nm in diameter, (b) 24 hour
602 synthesis of amorphous Al-phosphate zoomed out to 1 μ m, exhibiting aggregates of particles
603 within clusters, (c) 24 hour reacted amorphous Al-phosphate material magnified to 100nm,
604 demonstrating particle sizes similar to those of the unreacted, but with slightly smaller
605 diameters. (d) Aggregate of unreacted amorphous Al-phosphate synthesized at 24 hours.

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607 Figure 6. Micrographs of nanoporous amorphous Fe-phosphate taken by Field-Emission
608 Scanning Electron Microscopy (FE-SEM), charging was present on material surfaces
609 causing interference of images. (a) and (b) 24 hour synthesized amorphous Fe-phosphate at

610 100nm magnification with particles sizes ~ 26 to 100nm in diameter, (c) 24 hour reacted
611 amorphous Fe-phosphate material magnified to 100nm, demonstrating particle sizes similar
612 to those of the unreacted, but slightly smaller diameters in some instances, aggregates of
613 reacted material exhibit potentially less porosity than unreacted material. (d) Aggregate of
614 unreacted amorphous Fe-phosphate synthesized at 24 hours.

615

616 Figures 7a-d. Optical images of reacted and unreacted amorphous iron-phosphate (a) and
617 (b) Reacted 24 hour amorphous iron-phosphate mounted in epoxy and impregnated. Interior
618 material is opaque and whitish surrounded by a reddish-brown rim, potentially iron
619 oxyhydroxides. (c) and (d) unreacted 24 hour synthesized amorphous iron-phosphate
620 mounted in epoxy and impregnated. Material consists of mainly a translucent reddish color
621 with small dark inclusions

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623 Figure 8. Synchrotron diffraction data of reacted and unreacted phosphate collected with 25
624 keV energy and 10-15 μm lateral spatial resolution. Clearly, the amorphous diffraction
625 features of reacted and unreacted phosphate are indistinguishable within the examined Q-
626 range. Within this range variation in the amorphous diffraction signal was found in reacted
627 and unreacted material The unreacted phosphate contains a permille-fraction of micro-
628 crystalline FeOOH. Figure 8 insert. The diffractogram of reacted phosphate was
629 subtracted from the diffractogram of unreacted phosphate, thus removing most of the
630 amorphous diffraction signal for the unreacted material. The micro-crystalline diffraction
631 features are clearly visible. We show the calculated diffraction patterns of goethite and
632 bernalite for comparison. We note that with increasing angle the signal is somewhat

633 suppressed from the diffraction image processing and calculated and observed intensities do
634 not fully match.

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636 Figure 9. Fe K edge XANES from 7100 to 7400 eV (inset showing the region from 7100 to
637 7120 eV). The XANES spectra indicate that the unreacted and reacted amorphous Fe
638 phosphate are very similar. The absence of a shift in the position of the main edge indicates
639 that the valence of Fe has remained unchanged during the reaction, expected for dissolution
640 of a ferric phosphate under oxidizing conditions. The much higher intensity of the white
641 line relative to literature data for tetrahedrally coordinated crystalline FePO₄ [Deb et al.
642 2005] is consistent with the presence of octahedrally coordinated Fe³⁺ in our amorphous
643 materials, although the white line is less intense than in the octahedrally coordinated
644 triphyllite [Deb et al. 2005]. We therefore interpret that the XANES spectra of these
645 amorphous Fe phosphates indicate that both octahedrally and tetrahedrally coordinated Fe³⁺
646 are abundant, with some indication for a gradual progression in the crystallization of the
647 amorphous phosphate to strengite. This result is consistent with the detection of the
648 nanocrystalline strengite by TEM.

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650 Figure 10 Dissolution rates of amorphous Al- and Fe-phosphates versus pH indicate that Al-
651 phosphates dissolve more rapidly than amorphous Fe-phosphates, which may be due to
652 precipitation of Fe oxyhydroxides. Amorphous Al-phosphates measured in this study are
653 also faster than the crystalline Al phosphate variscite. Lines represent the rate laws
654 calculated as described in the text.

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Table 1
Summary of experimental conditions for the dissolution of amorphous Al-phosphates.

Material	inlet pH	outlet pH*	m _i (g) [§]	m _f (g) [§]	FR (ml/min) [¶]	BET SA (cm ² g ⁻¹) [‡]	conc. Al (mM) [*]	conc. P (mM) [*]	Al:P [¶]	Dissolution rate (mol cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	
										Based on Al [°]	Based on P [°]
amorphous Al-phosphate	3.00	3.42	1.0002	0.2571	0.0463	771550	0.387	0.376	1.03	1.509 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ ± 1.032 × 10 ⁻¹⁶	1.463 × 10 ⁻¹⁵ ± 6.115 × 10 ⁻¹⁷
amorphous Al-phosphate	2.50	3.12	2.0001	0.1517	0.0468	771550	2.34	2.40	0.978	1.558 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ ± 5.981 × 10 ⁻¹⁶	1.599 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ ± 6.101 × 10 ⁻¹⁶
amorphous Al-phosphate	2.00	2.73	2.5003	0.109	0.0395	771550	9.19	9.96	0.922	7.187 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ ± 4.066 × 10 ⁻¹⁵	7.792 × 10 ⁻¹⁴ ± 3.528 × 10 ⁻¹⁵
amorphous Al-phosphate	1.02	2.28	3.0019	-	0.03	771550	193	204	0.962	^δ	^δ

[§] Dissolution rates of amorphous Al-phosphates determined from steady-state concentrations and normalized to final mass.

[§] (mi) and (mf) refer to the initial and final mass of material used in flow-through dissolution experiment.

[‡] BET SA refers to the initial measured specific surface area

[¶] (FR) represents the solution flow-rate

*Outlet pH, flow rate (FR) and concentrations (conc.) are based on the average of four consecutive steady state data points.

[°] Material had completely dissolved by the end of the experiment, therefore no dissolution rates were calculated, although stoichiometry was.

^δ Al:P concentration ratios demonstrating stoichiometric dissolution.

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Table 2
Summary of experimental conditions for the dissolution of amorphous Fe-phosphates.

Material	inlet pH	outlet pH*	m _i (g) [§]	m _f (g) [§]	FR (ml/min) [¶]	BET SA (cm ² g ⁻¹) [‡]	conc. Fe (mM) [*]	conc. P (mM) [*]	Fe:P	Dissolution rate (mol cm ⁻² s ⁻¹)	
										Based on Fe [Ⓢ]	Based on P [Ⓢ]
amorphous Fe-phosphate	3.00	2.99	1.0003	0.5745	0.0606	1219128	0.00575207	0.0371	0.155	8.289 × 10 ⁻¹⁸ ± 4.844 × 10 ⁻¹⁹	5.353 × 10 ⁻¹⁷ ± 3.044 × 10 ⁻¹⁸
amorphous Fe-phosphate	2.50	2.48	1.999	1.1825	0.0592	1219128	0.0402608	0.0655	0.615	2.758 × 10 ⁻¹⁷ ± 2.849 × 10 ⁻¹⁸	4.483 × 10 ⁻¹⁷ ± 3.949 × 10 ⁻¹⁸
amorphous Fe-phosphate	2.00	2.10	1.0002	0.5114	0.0479	1219128	0.131732	0.17	0.774	1.688 × 10 ⁻¹⁸ ± 9.128 × 10 ⁻¹⁸	2.179 × 10 ⁻¹⁸ ± 1.034 × 10 ⁻¹⁷
amorphous Fe-phosphate	1.02	1.22	2.9996	-	0.0414	1219128	64.2933	73.7	0.876	[Ⓢ]	[Ⓢ]

[Ⓢ] Dissolution rates of amorphous Fe-phosphates determined from steady-state concentrations and normalized to final mass.

[§] (m_i) and (m_f) refer to the initial and final mass of material used in flow-through dissolution experiment.

[‡] BET SA refers to the initial measured specific surface area

[¶] (FR) represents the solution flow-rate

*Outlet pH, flow rate (FR) and concentrations (conc.) are based on the average of four consecutive steady state data points.

[Ⓢ] Material had completely dissolved by the end of the experiment, therefore no dissolution rates were calculated, although stoichiometry was.

[Ⓢ] Fe:P concentration ratios demonstrating non-stoichiometric dissolution.

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Table 3
Mineral solubility constants.

Mineral Name	Dissolution equation	log <i>K_{sp}</i>
10nm Goethite [Ⓐ]	$\text{FeOOH} + 3 \text{H}^+ = \text{Fe}^{3+} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	1.711
10nm Hematite [Ⓐ]	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 6 \text{H}^+ = 2 \text{Fe}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	2.241
10nm Maghemite [Ⓐ]	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 6 \text{H}^+ = 2 \text{Fe}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	4.1
Ferrihydrite [Ⓐ]	$\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_3 + 3 \text{H}^+ = \text{Fe}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	5.6556
Goethite [Ⓑ]	$\text{FeOOH} + 3 \text{H}^+ = \text{Fe}^{3+} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	0.5345
Hematite [Ⓑ]	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 6 \text{H}^+ = 2 \text{Fe}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	0.1086
Maghemite [Ⓐ]	$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + 6 \text{H}^+ = 2 \text{Fe}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	2.18
Strengite [Ⓑ]	$\text{FePO}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 = \text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{PO}_4^{3-} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	-26
Vivianite [Ⓑ]	$\text{Fe}_3(\text{PO}_4)_2 \cdot 8\text{H}_2\text{O} + 2 \text{H}^+ = 2 \text{HPO}_4^- + 3 \text{Fe}^{2+} + 8 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	-4.7237
Gibbsite [Ⓑ]	$\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3 + 3 \text{H}^+ = \text{Al}^{3+} + 3 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	7.756
Variscite [Ⓒ]	$\text{AlPO}_4(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2 = \text{Al}^{3+} + \text{PO}_4^{3-} + 2 \text{H}_2\text{O}$	-21

[Ⓐ] Log *K_{sp}* and dissolution equation from by Elwood-Madden et al., [2009]

[Ⓑ] Log *K_{sp}* and dissolution equation from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (llnl) database.

[Ⓒ] Log *K_{sp}* and dissolution equation from Roncal-Herrero et al. [2009]

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Table 4
Saturation indices for the average of each steady state condition.

Material	inlet pH	outlet pH	T (°C)	SI ^a								
				Strengite	Hematite	Goethite	Vivianite	Maghemite	Ferrihydrite	10nm Hematite	10nm Goethite	10nm Maghemite
Amorphous Fe-phosphate	1.02	1.22	20	-4.4	-15.7	-8.33	-15.32	-17.77	-13.45	-17.83	-9.51	-19.69
Amorphous Fe-phosphate	2.00	2.1	20	-6.4	-13.85	-7.4	-21.04	-15.92	-12.52	-15.98	-8.58	-17.84
Amorphous Fe-phosphate	2.50	2.48	20	-6.49	-12.4	-6.68	-21.5	-14.47	-11.8	-14.53	-7.86	-16.39
Amorphous Fe-phosphate	3.00	2.99	20	-6.51	-11.04	-6	-22.52	-13.11	-11.12	-13.17	-7.17	-15.03

^a Saturation index for average solutions determined by PHREEQ-C modeling using log *K_{sp}* from table 1. For saturation index of each concentration refer to the appendices.

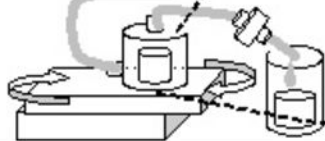
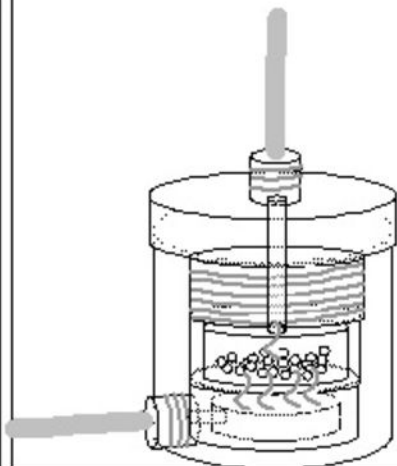
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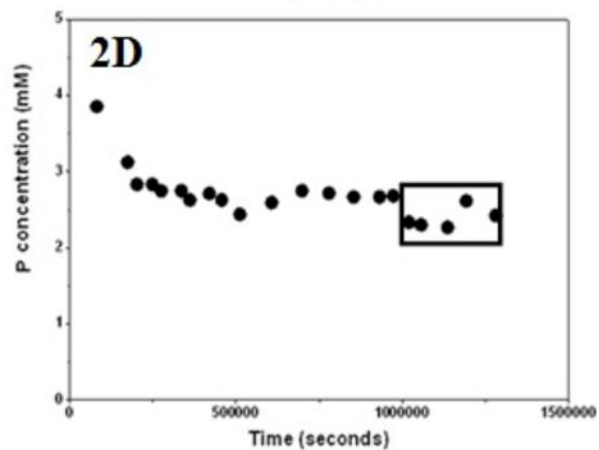
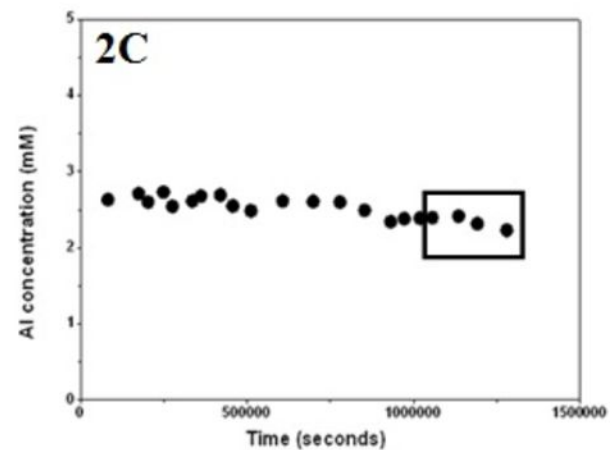
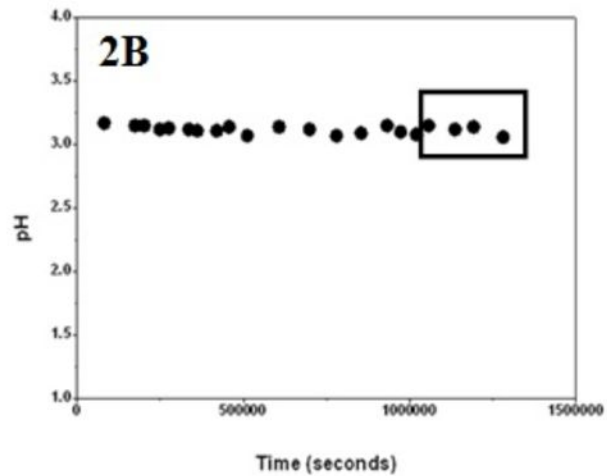
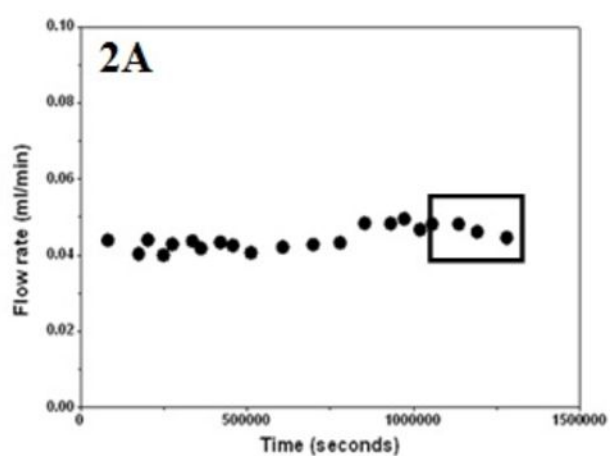
Table 5
Saturation indices for the average of each steady state condition.

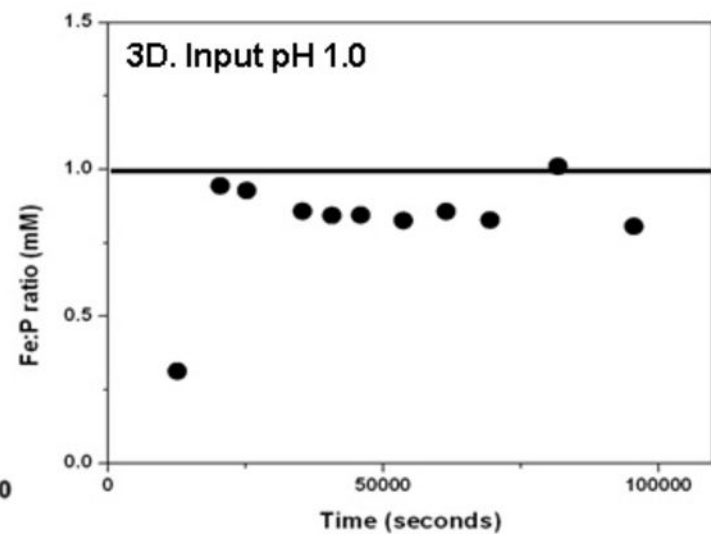
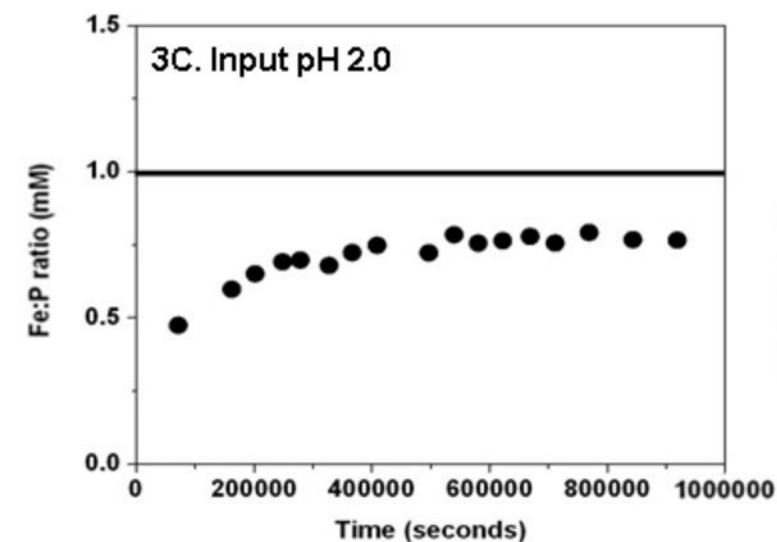
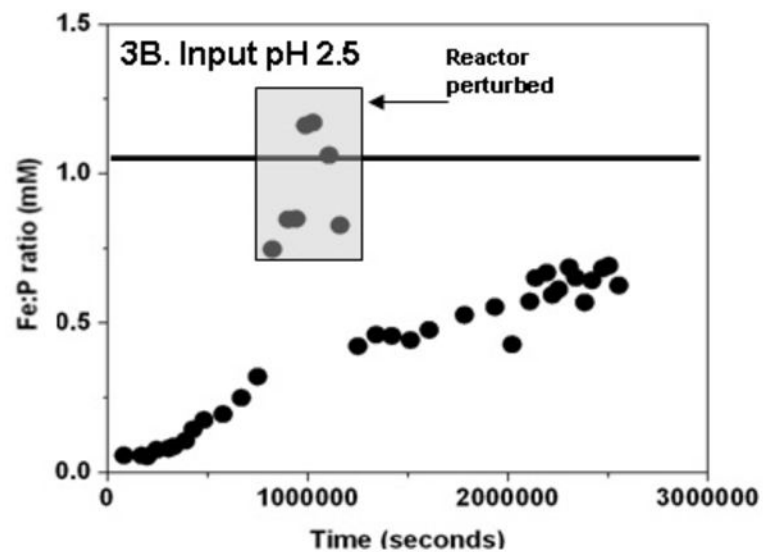
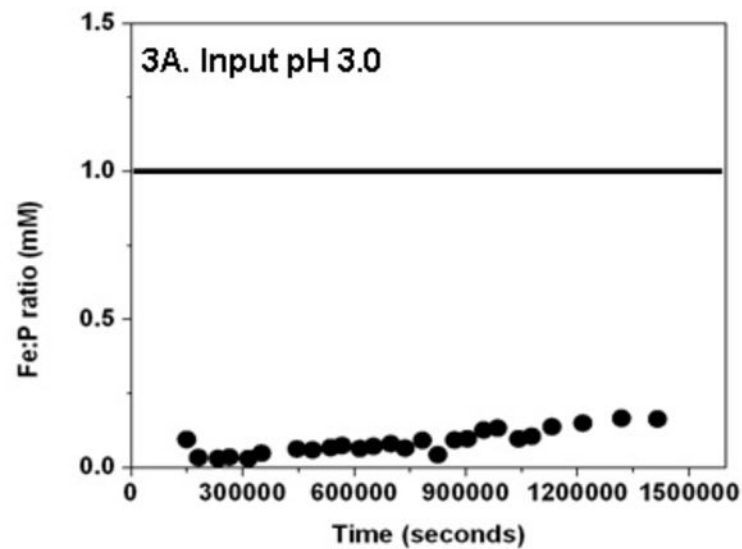
Experiment ID	inlet pH	outlet pH	T (°C)	SI ^a	
				Variscite	Gibbsite
Amorphous Al-phosphate	1.02	2.28	20	1.08	-7.44
Amorphous Al-phosphate	2.00	2.73	20	2.12	-2.12
Amorphous Al-phosphate	2.50	3.12	20	1.95	-1.42
Amorphous Al-phosphate	3.00	3.42	20	1.18	-1.1

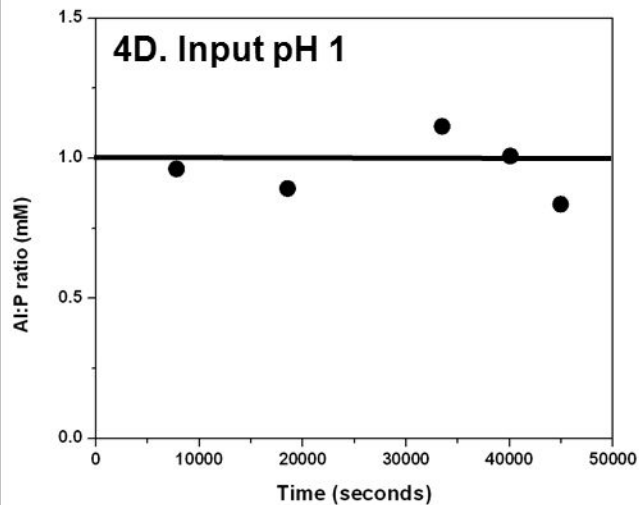
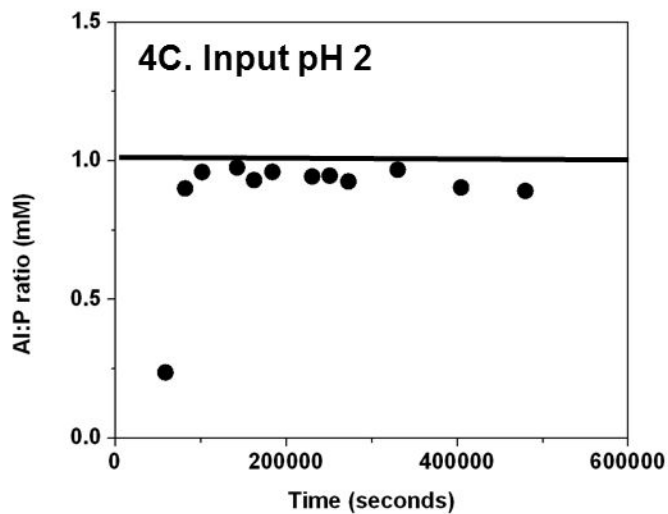
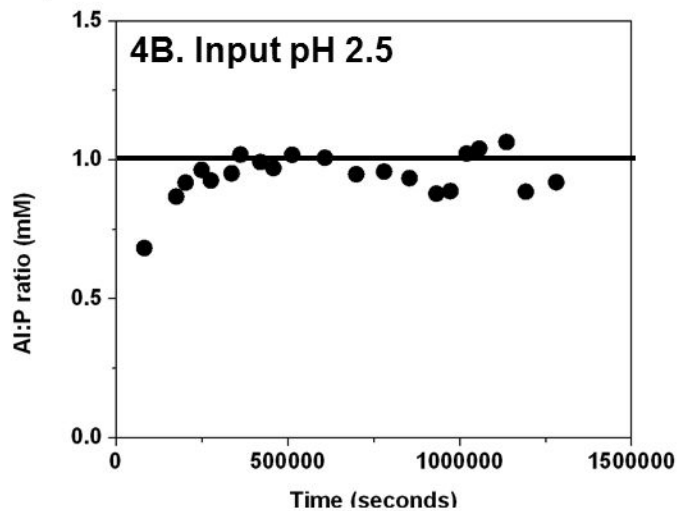
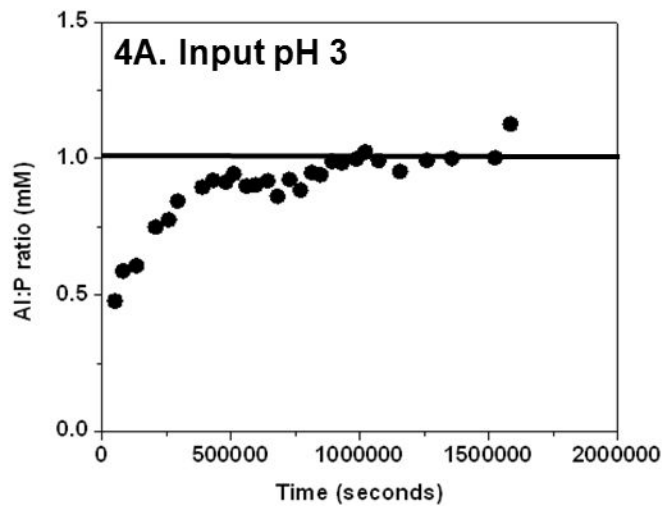
^aSaturation index for average solutions determined by PHREEQ-C modeling using log K_{sp} from table 1. For saturation index of each concentration refer to the appendices.

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1A**1B**







24hr Al, unreacted

51.8nm

63.4nm

45.6nm

A

UNLV SEI 2.0kV X65,000 WD 8.4mm 100nm

24hr Al, unreacted

B

UNLV SEI 2.0kV X5,000 WD 8.5mm 1µm

24hr Al, unreacted

C

UNLV SEI 2.0kV X500 WD 8.5mm 10µm

24hr Al, reacted

26.6nm

33.4nm

31.1nm

D

UNLV SEI 10.0kV X92,000 WD 7.5mm 100nm

