1   **REVISION 1**
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3   **Petalite under Pressure: Elastic Behavior and Phase Stability**
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5   **Nancy L. Ross,[1*] Jing Zhao,[1] Carla Slebodnick,[2] Elinor C. Spencer, [1] and Bryan C.**
6   **Chakoumakos[3]**
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8   [1,2] Depts. of Geosciences[1] and Chemistry[2], Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061, USA

9   [3] Quantum Condensed Matter Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, P.O. Box 2008

10   MS-6393, Oak Ridge, TN 37831-6393, USA

11
12   **Abstract**
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14   The lithium aluminosilicate mineral petalite ($LiAlSi_4O_{10}$) has been studied using high-

15   pressure single-crystal X-ray diffraction (HP-XRD) up to 5 GPa. Petalite undergoes two

16   fully reversible pressure-induced first-order phase transitions, not previously reported in

17   the literature, at *ca*. 1.5 and 2.5 GPa. The first of these transforms the low-pressure α-

18   phase of petalite (*P2/c*) to an intermediate β′-phase that then fully converts to the high-

19   pressure β-phase at *ca*. 2.5 GPa. The α → β transition is isomorphic and is associated

20   with tripling of the unit cell volume. Analysis of the HP-XRD data show that although

21   the fundamental features of the petalite structure are retained through this transition, there

22   are subtle alterations in the internal structure of the silicate double-layers in the β-phase

23   relative to the α-phase. Measurement of the unit cell parameters of petalite as a function

24   of pressure, and fitting of the data with 3rd order Birch-Murnaghan equations of state, has

25   provided revised elastic constants for petalite. The bulk moduli of the α and β-phases are

26   49(1) and 35(3) GPa, respectively. These values indicate that the compressibility of the-α

27   phase of petalite lies between the alkali feldpsars and alkali feldspathoids, whereas the β-

28   phase has a compressibility more comparable with layered silicates. Structure analysis

29   has shown that the compression of the α-phase is facilitated by the rigid body movement

30   of the Si_2O_7 units from which the silicate double-layers are constructed.

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32   **Keywords:** Petalite, high-Pressure, single-crystal X-ray diffraction, equation of state,
33   phase transition
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37   **Introduction**
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39   The lithium aluminosilicate mineral petalite is one of the three most abundant naturally

40   occurring lithium-rich minerals, and is of fundamental relevance in the evaluation of

41   conditions associated with magmatic pegmatite crystallization processes. The crystal

42   chemistry of the low-pressure α-phase of petalite has been the subject of extensive study

43   (Černý & London, 1983 and references therein).

44   The petalite structure can be described as a 3-dimensional $AlSi_4O_{10}$ framework

45   consisting of puckered double-sheets of corner sharing SiO_4 tetrahedra stacked parallel to

46   the (100) plane with corner-sharing AlO_4 tetrahedra that bridge neighboring layers (Fig.

47   1). The neutrality of the structure is ensured by the presence of lithium cations residing

48   within channels that propagate through the structure in the [101] direction. The Li

49   cations are bonded to four oxygen atoms and the resulting LiO_4 polyhedra possess

50   geometries that are intermediate between those of an idealized tetrahedron and a perfect

51   square planar arrangement. Both spectroscopic and diffraction studies have shown that all

52   cation sites within naturally occurring specimens of petalite are fully ordered (Černý &

53   London, 1983; Tagai et al., 1982) and our data concur with this finding.

54   The structure of petalite was originally reported in the non-standard $P2/a$ setting of

55   space group $P2/c$ (Tagai et al., 1982). However, for the high pressure X-ray diffraction

56   (HP XRD) analysis discussed in this contribution we have chosen to represent, for

57   consistency and ease of scrutiny, all petalite phases in a standard $P2/c$ setting. The

58   crystallographic basis of this $P2/c$ setting (**a**, **b**, and **c**) is related to that of the original

59    $P2/a$ setting (**a** , **b** , and **c**) by the following expressions: $\mathbf{a} = -\mathbf{a} \quad - \mathbf{c}$; $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}$; and **c**

60    $= \mathbf{a}$. The following description of the α-phase is consistent with the structure in the

61   standard $P2/c$ format. It should be noted, however, that a non-conventional metric unit

62   cell has been chosen to ensure that the structural features align with the unit cell axes.

63   Although there are several reported studies of the relative thermodynamic stability

64   and phase equilibria of the $NaAlSiO_4$-$LiAlSiO_4$-SiO_2-H_2O system (Fasshauer et al., 1998;

65   London, 1984; Haussühl et. al., 2012), of which petalite is a key member, there is a lack

66   of accurate high pressure structural and elasticity data for petalite. The objective of this

67   study was to rectify this situation, and herein we report an extensive HP-XRD analysis of

68   petalite and describe in detail a previously undiscovered high-pressure phase of this

69   mineral (β-phase). Furthermore, we have collected precise unit cell data as a function of

70   pressure, and these have enabled us to determine accurate elastic constants for both the

71   low and high-pressure phases of petalite.

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73   **Experimental Details**
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75   Two HP-XRD experiments were performed with colorless petalite sourced from the

76   Araçuaí pegmatite district, Jequitinhonha Valley, Minas Gerais, Brazil. The first of these

77   conducted with sample 1 allowed for collection of highly accurate and precise unit cell

78   parameters as a function of pressure. These data were employed in the calculation of the

79   elastic constants of α and β-phases. The second petalite crystal (sample 2) was larger than

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80   sample 1 and was used for the measurement of diffraction data for structural analysis.

81   The following experimental details apply to both crystals unless stated otherwise.

82   A single crystal of petalite (sample 1: $140 \times 160 \times 25\ \mu m^3$, sample 2:

83    $176 \times 313 \times 30\ \mu m^3$) was loaded in to an ETH diamond anvil cell (DAC) (Miletich et al.,

84   2000) fitted with diamonds with culets $600\ \mu m$ (sample 1) or $650\ \mu m$ (sample 2) in

85   diameter. The sample chamber was a cavity drilled in a stainless-steel gasket that was

86   fitted within the DAC, and had dimensions of $300 \times 90\ \mu m^2$ (sample 1) or $400 \times 90\ \mu m^2$

87   (sample 2). In the case of sample 1 a quartz crystal ($60 \times 80 \times 30\ \mu m^3$) was included in the

88   DAC for pressure calibration measurements (Angel et al., 1997). For the experiment with

89   sample 2, a ruby ball was added to the DAC to act as the pressure calibrant (Mao et al.,

90   1978). After initial unit cell determinations at ambient pressure, a 4:1 MeOH:EtOH

91   solvent mixture was added to the DAC to act as the pressure transmitting medium; this

92   particular alcohol mixture is known to remain hydrostatic up to 9.8 GPa (Angel et al.,

93   2007).

94   Precise unit cell parameters were determined with a Huber diffractometer equipped

95   with an Eulerian cradle and point detector. The instrument was controlled with the

96   SINGLE software (Angel and Finger, 2011). The method employed for the determination

97   of the unit cell parameters was based on the 8-position centering of the sample reflections

98   (King Jr. and Finger, 1979). High-pressure unit cell data for petalite sample 1 were

99   collected over 0–4.5 GPa. When the pressure was raised to *ca*. 5 GPa the crystal

100   disintegrated, possibly due to a phase transition, and the experiment was terminated.

101   HP-XRD data for structure determinations were collected with sample 2 at room

102   temperature on an Oxford Diffraction Xcalibur II (α-phase data collections) or Xcalibur I

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103   (β-phase data collection) instrument with monochromated Mo-K_α radiation

104   ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å); these diffractometers are equipped with a point and charge-coupled

105   device (CCD) detectors, respectively. Data were processed with standard instrument

106   software (Agilent Technologies, 2012). Absorption corrections were applied with the

107   ABSORB (Angel, 2005) program, and the data corrected for DAC dips and other

108   statistical anomalies with AVERAGE. All structure solutions and refinements were

109   performed with Olex2 (Dolomanov et al., 2009). The structures of all phases of petalite

110   were solved directly from the high-pressure CCD data by direct methods. Structural

111   refinements were performed on F^2 by full-matrix least-squares refinement techniques.

112   Due to the limited data obtained from the HP-XRD data collections no anisotropic

113   parameters were refined for any of the structural models. Two of the SiO_4 tetrahedra in

114   the structural model of the β-phase were found to be disordered and were modeled

115   accordingly. It was not possible to refine the relative occupancies of the two components

116   of the disorder models so they were fixed to be 50%, and the U_{iso} values of the atoms

117   were fixed to be equal. Where necessary Si–O bond length constraints were applied to the

118   disordered components. Not surprisingly the thermal parameters for the Li^+ ions did not

119   refine to reasonable values. To overcome this issue the U_{iso} values of the two symmetry

120   independent Li^+ ions were constrained to be equal. Table 1 summaries the key

121   crystallographic refinement parameters obtained in this study. HP-XRD data in CIF

122   format for the α-phase [at room pressure, and at 0.32(5), 0.56(5), 0.89(5), and

123   1.25(5) GPa] and the β-phase [at 2.71(5) GPa] have been deposited with the American

124   Mineralogist Crystal Structure Database.

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<div align="center">**Results and Discussion**</div>

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129   **Elastic Constants**

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131   Figure 2 shows the evolution of the petalite unit cell volume with increasing pressure and

132   Table 2 lists the unit cell parameters of petalite as a function of pressure. A graphical

133   representation of these data and an F_E *vs.* f_E plot are provided in Figures 3 and 4,

134   respectively. The *P–V* data show the occurrence of two reversible pressure-induced phase

135   transitions, the first at *ca.* 1.5 GPa and the second at *ca.* 2.5 GPa. These transitions are

136   first order in nature, and proceed in the order: α-phase → β′-phase → β-phase, where the

137   β′-phase is an intermediate phase (see section 3.2.2). The overall consequence of the

138   α → β transition is a tripling of the unit cell volume; this is most obvious in the CCD

139   images of the two phases (Fig. 5) in which superlattice reflections are present at $\mathbf{q} = \frac{1}{3}\mathbf{c^*}$

140   in the diffraction pattern of the β-phase.

141   The *P–V* data for both the α and β-phases have been fitted, by a least-squares

142   technique, with 3rd order Birch-Murnaghan (BM) equations of state (EoS) (Angel,

143   EOS-FIT). These fits allow for the elucidation of the elastic constants of these two

144   phases, and these are presented in Table 3. However, attention must be given to the

145   estimated standard deviation (esd) values reported with these constants, in particular

146   those for the β-phase, as these are perhaps larger than ideal – this is a consequence of the

147   limited number of available data points to which the EoS functions are fitted.

148   Nonetheless, these constants are notably more accurate and appropriate than those

149   reported by Fasshauer et al. (1998). These authors evaluated the elastic constants for

150   petalite from synchrotron data, yet they did not account for the occurrence of the pressure

151   induced phase transitions and 'cycled' the pressure on the sample, thus forcing the

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152   crystalline sample to pass through these transitions multiple times. It is therefore not

153   surprising that their reported values for the elastic constants of petalite (Table 3) differ

154   from those determined in this study. However, our experimentally determined value of K_0

155   for the α-phase of petalite is in excellent agreement with value reported by Haussühl et al.

156   (2012), 49(1) GPa, that was derived from density functional theory (DFT) calculations

157   based on elastic stiffness coefficients determined by resonant ultrasound spectroscopy

158   (RUS) measurements conducted under ambient conditions (*i.e.* with α-phase petalite

159   samples). Yet, these authors also reported DFT calculations of the petalite unit cell

160   volume as a function of pressure (up to 30 GPa) that also failed to identify the

161   α → β′ → β phase transitions.

162   Table 4 lists elastic constants for selected tetrahedral framework minerals and layered

163   silicates for comparison with petalite. It is apparent that the bulk modulus of the α-phase

164   of petalite is slightly more compressible than the alkali feldspars and slightly less

165   compressible than the alkali feldspathoids. In contrast, the bulk modulus of the β-phase of

166   petalite is more akin to those of quartz and the archetypical layered silicate talc in which

167   the SiO_4 layers are not pillared in the third dimension by either AlO_4 or AlO_6 polyhedra,

168   and with pyrophyllite that comprises stacked aluminosilicate layers that are also not

169   covalently linked *via* bridging polyhedra. This would suggest that the presence of the

170   AlO_4 tetrahedra that interconnect the SiO_4 double sheets (Fig. 1) has a minimal impact on

171   the ability of the petalite framework to withstand pressure.

172   It would be constructive to quantify the compressibilities (β_i) of the three

173   crystallographic axes from the unit cell length *vs.* pressure data for petalite (Fig. 3). For

174   an orthogonal unit cell ($\alpha = \beta = \gamma = 90^\circ$) a reasonable approximation of a β_i value can be

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175   obtained by fitting the axis length *vs.* pressure data with an appropriate BM EoS and from

176   the axial bulk modulus (K_i) β_i can be estimated with the equation $\beta_i = (3K_i)^{-1}$. However,

177   this approximation assumes that the strain tensor is restricted, by symmetry, from

178   rotating. Yet, in the case of a monoclinic system one of the three unit cell angles is free to

179   change, thus the requisite symmetry constraints for this approximation are violated.

180   Indeed, to evaluate the axial compressibilities for a non-orthogonal unit cell it is

181   necessary to calculate the full strain tensor, yet due to the limited number of data points

182   available for α and β-phases of petalite such calculations are not feasible.

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184   **High pressure structural analysis**
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186   **α-phase compression mechanism.** To aid in the interpretation of the structural

187   changes experienced by the α-phase in response to pressure, it is beneficial to first

188   ascertain the degree of distortion exhibited by the polyhedra comprising the petalite

189   framework. Such distortion of the individual cation tetrahedra can be estimated from the

190   tetrahedral angular variance (σ_{tet}) and quadratic elongation ($<\lambda_{tet}>$) parameters (Robinson

191   et al., 1971). These distortion parameters for the AlO_4, SiO_4, and LiO_4 polyhedra within

192   the α-phase of petalite are listed in Table 5 as a function of pressure. Also included in this

193   table are the volumes of the polyhedra (V_{poly}) and the center-to-vertex distance (l_0) for a

194   geometrically ideal tetrahedron ($\sigma_{tet} = 0$, $<\lambda_{tet}> = 1$) with a volume equal to that of the

195   distorted polyhedron. It is evident that after an initial adjustment to the applied pressure

196   the nearly geometrically ideal SiO_4 tetrahedra remain unaltered with increasing pressure;

197   this finding is also reflected in the lack of statistically significant pressure-induced

198   changes in the bond lengths and angles associated with these tetrahedra (Table 6).

199   Consequently, the SiO_4 tetrahedra can be treated as rigid units, at least over the pressure

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200   range investigated (< 5 GPa). Unlike the SiO_4 tetrahedra, the AlO_4 tetrahedra are greatly

201   distorted, but the σ_{tet} values for this unit are suggestive, but not conclusive, of an overall

202   small reduction in the degree of distortion of these polyhedra with increasing pressure.

203   A rigid unit approximation cannot be extended to the LiO_4 units. These polyhedra are

204   best considered as possessing geometries that are intermediate between those of an

205   idealized tetrahedron ($\sigma_{tet} = 0$) and a perfect square planar arrangement ($\sigma_{tet} = 47.886$).

206   The variation in the elongation parameter, $<\lambda_{tet}>$, of the LiO_4 polyhedra with pressure is

207   negligible, indicating that there is virtually no change with pressure in the deviation of

208   the Li–O bond lengths from their optimum length (l_0) at that specific pressure. This

209   implies that any pressure-induced distortions of the LiO_4 polyhedra must be facilitated by

210   adjustments in the O–Li–O angles rather than by disproportionate changes in the Li–O

211   bond lengths. This conclusion is further supported by the decrease in the σ_{tet} parameter

212   with increasing pressure that signifies a reduction in angular distortion of the LiO_4 unit as

213   it tends towards a more regular tetrahedral arrangement with increasing pressure.

214   As discussed in section 3.1, the bulk modulus of the α-phase is similar to that of

215   silicate minerals composed of either silicate or aluminosilicate layers that are not

216   covalently linked in the third dimension. This result would suggest that the AlO_4

217   tetrahedra play a minor role in the compression mechanism of this phase. Consequently,

218   one must expect, perhaps counter-intuitively, that compression of the structure is enabled

219   by changes within the silicate double-layers. Further support for this hypothesis is

220   provided by the percentage decreases in the unit cell axes over the 0–1.5 GPa range:

221   ~0.9% (*a*-axis),   ~1.6% (*b*-axis),   and   ~1.4% (*c*-axis).   These   values   indicate   that

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222 compression within the silicate layers parallel to the (100) plane is favored over

223 compression in the [100] direction that lies ~51° from the a^*-axis.

224   To aid in the evaluation of the pressure response of the α-phase, the structure of the

225 silicate double-layers can be simplified by applying the rigid unit approximation to the

226 SiO_4 tetrahedra. Furthermore, as oxygen atom O3 resides on an inversion centre (2d) the

227 compressional mechanism must not incorporate any change in the Si1–O3–Si1[viii] bond

228 angle, or rotation of the connected $(Si1)O_4$ tetrahedra relative to each other. This second

229 symmetry constraint also applies to the connected $(Si2)O_4$ tetrahedra because the

230 bridging oxygen atom O5 is located on a 2-fold axis (2f). Fortuitously, although there are

231 no symmetry restrictions on the Si2–O5–Si2[ix] bond angle, there is no statistically relevant

232 change in this angle with pressure (Table 6). Consequently the Si_2O_7 units, which are

233 shown as light grey and purple in Figure 6, may also be treated as rigid entities. Therefore

234 the compression mechanism must be due primarily to tilting and/or rotation of these

235 Si_2O_7 units relative to each other.

236   The 'pivot points' for these possible motions are atoms O1, O2, O4 and O6, thus to

237 evaluate the behavior of the structure it is necessary to assess changes to the bond angles

238 involving these atoms (Table 6). The O1···O4···O2[i] and O4···O2[i]···O1[i] angles represent

239 the hinges for the corner sharing Si_2O_7 units, and they increase and decrease with

240 increasing pressure, respectively (Table 6). Moreover, the Si1[i]–O2[i]–Si2 (symmetry

241 equivalent to the Si1–O2–Si2[vii] angle in Table 6) and Si1–O4–Si2 angles decrease with

242 increasing pressure. It is the concerted changes in these angles with increasing pressure

243 that allows for contraction of the structure along the crystallographic b-axis. The

244 concomitant opening of the Si2–O6–Al1 (symmetry equivalent angle Si2[ix]–O6[ix]–Al1[x]

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245   shown in Fig. 6) hinge permits compression along the c-axis and an overall reduction in

246   the β-angle.

247   The ultimate consequence that can be envisaged as a result of these concerted hinge

248   motions is movement of Si_2O_7 units relative to each other such that there is subtle

249   lessening in the corrugation of the double-layers. This in turn will result in a small

250   decrease in the length of the a-axis in response to pressure, exactly as observed in the

251   experimental data (Fig. 3).

252   Unfortunately, the estimated standard deviation values associated with the bond

253   lengths and angles involving the Li^+ ion are too high to allow for a conclusive

254   determination of the mechanism that causes a reduction in the LiO_4 polyhedral distortion

255   with increasing pressure. However, the data do suggest that the principal driving force for

256   the decrease in distortion is facilitated by the movement of the $(Si2)_2O_7$ units, as

257   evidenced by the decrease in the Si2–O6–Li1 angle with increasing pressure and the

258   absence of changes in the Li1–O1–Si1 angles.

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260   **Crystal structure of the β-phase.** At *ca*. 1.5 GPa the compression mechanism for the

261   α-phase reaches a limiting point and the crystal undergoes a first-order phase transition to

262   an immediate phase denoted herein as the β′-phase. The quality of the diffraction data for

263   this phase precluded determination of its crystal structure, but it is likely to be a

264   composite phase comprising structural features associated with both the α and β-phases,

265   but given the unit cell parameters for this phase it is probably most akin to the structure

266   of the β-phase, and may possibly be an incommensurate phase. At *ca*. 2.5 GPa the crystal

267   fully converts to the β-phase.

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268   Given that the compression mechanism of the α-phase is enabled by the rigid motion

269   of the Si_2O_7 units, one may reasonably expect that once this mechanism reaches its

270   limiting point that the subsequent phase transition would incorporate an increase in the

271   conformational freedom of these units, perhaps *via* breaking of the inversion and 2-fold

272   symmetries of the $(Si1)_2O_7$ and $(Si2)_2O_7$ units. Therefore, the expected candidate space

273   groups for the β-phase would be the monoclinic translationengleiche subgroups (*t*

274   subgroups) of *P2/c*, *P2* and *Pc*. Yet, the klassengleiche index (*k*-index) for this first-order

275   transition equals three and this precludes the β-phase belonging to a *t* subgroup of *P2/c*.

276   In fact, the α → β transition is isomorphic with only ⅔ of the Si_2O_7 units exhibiting a

277   reduction in symmetry *i.e.* tilting/rotation of the SiO_4 units relative to each other (Fig.

278   7a).

279   Unfortunately, because of the disorder exhibited by two of the six symmetry

280   independent SiO_4 tetrahedra, which also impact the geometries of the AlO_4 and LiO_4

281   polyhedra, a comparative analysis of the tetrahedral distortion parameters for the cation

282   polyhedra would be redundant. Furthermore, a detailed discussion of the variations in the

283   construction of the four unique Si_2O_7 units (color coded in Fig. 7) is also of questionable

284   value. However, we can assess the broader structural differences between the two petalite

285   phases. The framework of the β-phase comprises structural features that are essentially

286   analogous to those observed in the crystal structure of the α-phase (Fig. 1), namely

287   silicate double layers pillared by AlO_4 tetrahedra. Yet, there are significant adaptations to

288   the internal structure of the silicate layers in the β-phase caused by the distortion in ⅔ of

289   the Si_2O_7 units. An overlay of the crystal structures of the α- and β-phases (Fig. 8) shows

290   that the major consequence of this internal rearrangement of the silicate layers is the

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291   creation of two types of interlayer channels (denoted A and B in Fig. 8) with dimensions

292   notably different from the channels in the α-phase that are all symmetry related. At

293   1.25(5) GPa the cross-sections of the channels in the α-phase are *ca.* 3.24×4.01 Å^2; for

294   the β-phase at 2.71(5) GPa the A channels are *ca.* 2.61×4.14 Å^2 and the cross-sections of

295   the B channels are *ca.* 4.42×2.64 Å^2. These cross-sectional dimensions are only

296   approximations, but they do show that by converting the dimensions of the channels

297   during the phase transition the petalite structure is able to accommodate contraction along

298   the [001] direction. This transition is also accompanied by a small reduction in the

299   interlayer distance of *ca.* 0.2 Å. However, there do not appear to be any significant

300   differences in the coordination environments of the Li cations in the two phases.

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302   **Implications**
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305   This high-pressure single-crystal XRD study of petalite has revealed, for the first time,

306   that petalite undergoes two first-order phase transitions within the 0–4.5 GPa pressure

307   range. The transformation of the low-pressure α-phase to the high-pressure β-phase

308   proceeds via an intermediate phase, β′-phase, of unknown structure. The α and β-phases

309   are structurally similar although there are small differences in the construction of the

310   silicate double-layers. The compression mechanism of the α-phase has also been

311   elucidated and it has been shown that the rigid body movement of the Si_2O_7 units

312   comprising the silicate double-layers is responsible for the compression of the structure.

313   It is of note that these modifications within the silicate layers lead to a reduction in the

314   distortion of the LiO_4 polyhedra with increasing pressure. This is also one of the first

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315   studies that provides details of how Li in 4-fold coordination with oxygen responds to

316   pressure.

317   The bulk moduli of the α- and β-phases are 49(1) and 35(3) GPa, respectively,

318   showing that the high-pressure phase (β) is more compressible than the low-pressure

319   phase (α). The bulk modulus for α is slightly lower than those reported for tetrahedral

320   frameworks such as the alkali feldspars and slightly greater than those reported for alkali

321   feldspathoids. The lower bulk modulus of the β-phase, however, is closer in magnitude to

322   values reported for layered silicates such as talc and pyrophyllite. The results of this

323   study therefore enhance our understanding of the effect of composition and mechanisms

324   that control the compression of tetrahedral framework structures.

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327   **Acknowledgments**
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Figure Captions

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397 **Figure 1.** The crystal structure of the low-pressure α-phase of petalite in the $P2/c$ setting:
398 (a) view along the [010] direction; (b) view along the [001] direction. Light and dark
399 purple tetrahedra represent symmetry independent SiO_4 units, blue tetrahedra are
400 associated with AlO_4 units, and the orange spheres represent Li^+ ions that reside within
401 the cavities of the anionic $AlSi_4O_{10}$ framework.

402

403 **Figure 2.** V–P data for petalite: data collected with two different petalite samples are
404 shown as solid (sample 1) and open circles (sample 2). Error bars have been included but
405 are smaller than the symbols. Solid black curves represent 3rd order BM-EoS fits to the
406 V–P data [$w\chi^2 = 0.8215$, α-phase, 0–1.5 GPa; $w\chi^2 = 2.4719$, β-phase, 2.5–4.5 GPa]. The
407 β-phase volume has been divided by three to normalize it with respect to the volume of
408 the α-phase.

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410 **Figure 3.** Petalite unit cell parameters as a function of pressure: (A) axes lengths [circles:
411 a-axis; squares: b-axis; diamonds: c-axis]; (B) β-angle. The β-phase c-axis length has
412 been divided by three to normalize it with respect to the length of the α-phase c-axis.

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414 **Figure 4.** F_e $vs.$ f_e plot for petalite calculated from accurate and precise unit cell data
415 determined from eight-position centering of selected sample reflections (see section 3.1
416 in the manuscript).

417

418 **Figure 5.** $0kl$ projections of the HP-XRD data recorded with a CCD detector: (left)
419 α-phase (ambient pressure); (right) β-phase at 2.71(5) GPa.

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421 **Figure 6.** Section of the silicate double-layer within the structure of the α-phase of
422 petalite showing atom labels. Symmetry codes: (i) x, $1 + y$, z; (viii) $1 - x$, $-y$, $2 - z$; (ix)
423 $1 - x$, y, $^3/_2 - z$; (x) x, y, $1 + z$.

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425 **Figure 7.** The crystal structure of the high-pressure β-phase of petalite in the $P2/c$ setting:
426 (a) view along the [010] direction; (b) view along the [001] direction. Light and dark
427 purple and brown polyhedra represent symmetry independent Si_2O_7 units. Dark blue
428 tetrahedra are AlO_4 units, and orange spheres represent Li^+ cations. For clarity, in the
429 case of disordered SiO_4 units only a single component is shown.

430

431 **Figure 8.** Overlay of the α-phase (light grey) and β-phase (multicoloured) of petalite. The
432 letters A and B denote the two symmetry independent cavities observed in the β-phase;
433 only symmetry equivalent cavities are present in the crystal structure of the α-phase; Li^+
434 cations of this phase have been omitted for clarity. Note: these are exact overlays; no
435 corrections for variations in the unit cell parameters of the two phases have been made.
436 Dotted lines represent outlines of the unit cells. The red and green lines represent the x
437 and y dimensions, respectively, used to measure the cross-sections of the channels.

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442   **Table 1.** Refinement details for petalite as a function of pressure.

	Pressure (GPa)					
	Ambient	**0.32(5)**	**0.56(5)**	**0.89(5)**	**1.25(5)**	**2.71(5)**
Phase	α-phase	α-phase	α-phase	α-phase	α-phase	β-phase
Crystal system	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic	Monoclinic
Space group	$P2/c$	$P2/c$	$P2/c$	$P2/c$	$P2/c$	$P2/c$
Z	2	2	2	2	2	6
a (Å)	11.2296(1)	11.2067(4)	11.1895(4)	11.1705(4)	11.1425(4)	10.830(1)
b(Å)	5.1396(3)	5.1228(4)	5.1100(4)	5.0963(4)	5.0723(4)	5.0530(3)
c (Å)	11.7514(5)	11.7160(7)	11.6872(7)	11.6569(7)	11.6092(7)	33.59(2)
β angle (^{o})	141.312(1)	141.243(2)	141.190(2)	141.134(2)	141.074(2)	140.6648(2)
V (Å^3)	423.95(3)	421.07(4)	418.83(4)	416.41(4)	412.26(4)	1165.2(7)
ρ_{cal} (g cm^{-3})	2.399	2.416	2.429	2.443	2.467	2.619
Unique reflns. ($I > 2\sigma I$)	398	283	449	451	429	885
R(int)	0.037	0.098	0.043	0.040	0.045	0.111
N$^{\underline{o}}$ parameters	32	32	32	32	32	106
N$^{\underline{o}}$ restraints	0	0	0	0	0	0
GoF	1.193	1.203	1.125	1.171	1.154	1.586
R1 ($I > 2\sigma I$)	0.0484	0.0456	0.0494	0.0513	0.0593	0.0955
wR2 ($I > 2\sigma I$)	0.1056	0.0999	0.1133	0.1181	0.1288	0.1748

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447 **Table 2**. Unit cell parameters for petalite as a function of pressure. Data are listed in the
448 order in which they were measured. The β-phase *c*-axis length has been divided by three
449 to normalize it with respect to the length of the α-phase *c*-axis.

450

Pressure (GPa)	*a*-axis (Å)	*b*-axis (Å)	*c*-axis (Å)	β angle	Volume (Å^3)
Sample 1					
0.000(7)	11.22860(3)	5.1385(1)	11.7486(2)	141.311(3)	423.74(4)
0.343(6)	11.20328(9)	5.1194(2)	11.7096(5)	141.239(3)	420.47(5)
0.355(7)	11.20553(4)	5.11908(9)	11.7091(2)	141.240(3)	420.50(4)
0.670(7)	11.18278(7)	5.1023(1)	11.6730(3)	141.171(4)	417.60(5)
1.041(7)	11.1547(1)	5.0822(9)	11.6290(2)	141.094(3)	414.06(4)
1.472(7)	11.12857(9)	5.0556(1)	11.5803(3)	141.076(4)	409.35(5)
2.038(8)	10.9432(2)	5.0512(2)	11.3745(3)	140.836(4)	397.08(5)
2.639(8)	10.8334(6)	5.0444(2)	11.1830(3)	140.738(4)	386.77(6)
3.33(1)	10.7221(4)	5.0348(2)	11.0256(4)	140.512(6)	378.49(4)
3.782(9)	10.6409(2)	5.0346(2)	10.9077(4)	140.302(5)	373.25(6)
4.35(1)	10.5284(2)	5.0346(2)	10.7402(4)	139.992(6)	366.00(7)
Sample 2					
0.00	11.2296(1)	5.1396(3)	11.7514(5)	141.312(1)	423.96(5)
0.32(5)	11.2067(2)	5.1228(4)	11.7160(7)	141.243(3)	421.07(7)
0.56(5)	11.1895(2)	5.1100(5)	11.6872(7)	141.190(3)	418.83(7)
0.89(5)	11.1705(3)	5.0963(4)	11.6569(8)	141.134(3)	416.41(8)
1.25(5)	11.1425(2)	5.0723(5)	11.6092(9)	141.074(3)	412.26(9)
2.07(5)	10.9342(1)	5.0507(4)	11.3647(7)	140.816(3)	396.54(7)
2.21(5)	10.9301(2)	5.0504(4)	11.3588(6)	140.809(3)	396.22(7)
2.59(5)	10.9028(3)	5.0472(4)	11.3240(7)	140.772(3)	394.082(7)
1.39(5)	11.1379(1)	5.0661(3)	11.5978(5)	141.076(1)	411.16(5)
1.69(5)	10.98981(7)	5.0571(2)	11.4321(4)	140.897(1)	400.73(4)
1.91(5)	10.93681(7)	5.0511(3)	11.3659(6)	140.826(1)	396.62(5)
2.09(5)	10.9332(2)	5.0510(6)	11.361(1)	140.825(3)	396.3(1)

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453 **Table 3.** Experimentally Determined Elastic Constants for the α and β-phases of petalite.
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Parameter	α-phase	β-phase	Fasshauer et al.[†]
K_0 (GPa)	49(1)	35(3)	33
K'	−6(1)	0.0(6)	0.1
K'' (GPa^{-1})	−2.07	−0.45	–

455 [†]Fasshauer et al. (1998). No esd values were reported for these values.
456

457 **Table 4.** Equation of state parameters of other minerals for comparison with petalite.
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Mineral	Formula	K_0 (GPa)	K' / K'' (GPa^{-1})	Reference
Albite	$NaAl_3SiO_8$	52.3(9)	8.8(6)/-2.8(2)	Benusa et al. (2005)
Microcline	$KAlSi_3O_8$	58.7(7)	3.8(5)/-0.95(17)	Ross (personal comm.)
Leucite (tetragonal) Leucite (triclinic)	$KAlSi_2O_6$	41.9(6) 33.2(5)	4 (fixed) 4 (fixed)	Gatta et al. (2008)
Nepheline	$NaAlSiO_4$	47.32(26)	2.77(24)/0.758(79)	Gatta and Angel (2007)
Pyrophyllite	$Al_2Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$	37(3)	10(1)	McCarthy et al. (2008)
Talc	$Mg_3Si_4O_{10}(OH)_2$	41(4)	6(2)	Pawley et al. (2002)
Quartz	SiO_2	37.12(4)	5.99(4)	Angel et al. (1997)

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463 **Table 5.** Distortion parameters for polyhedra in the α-phase of petalite.

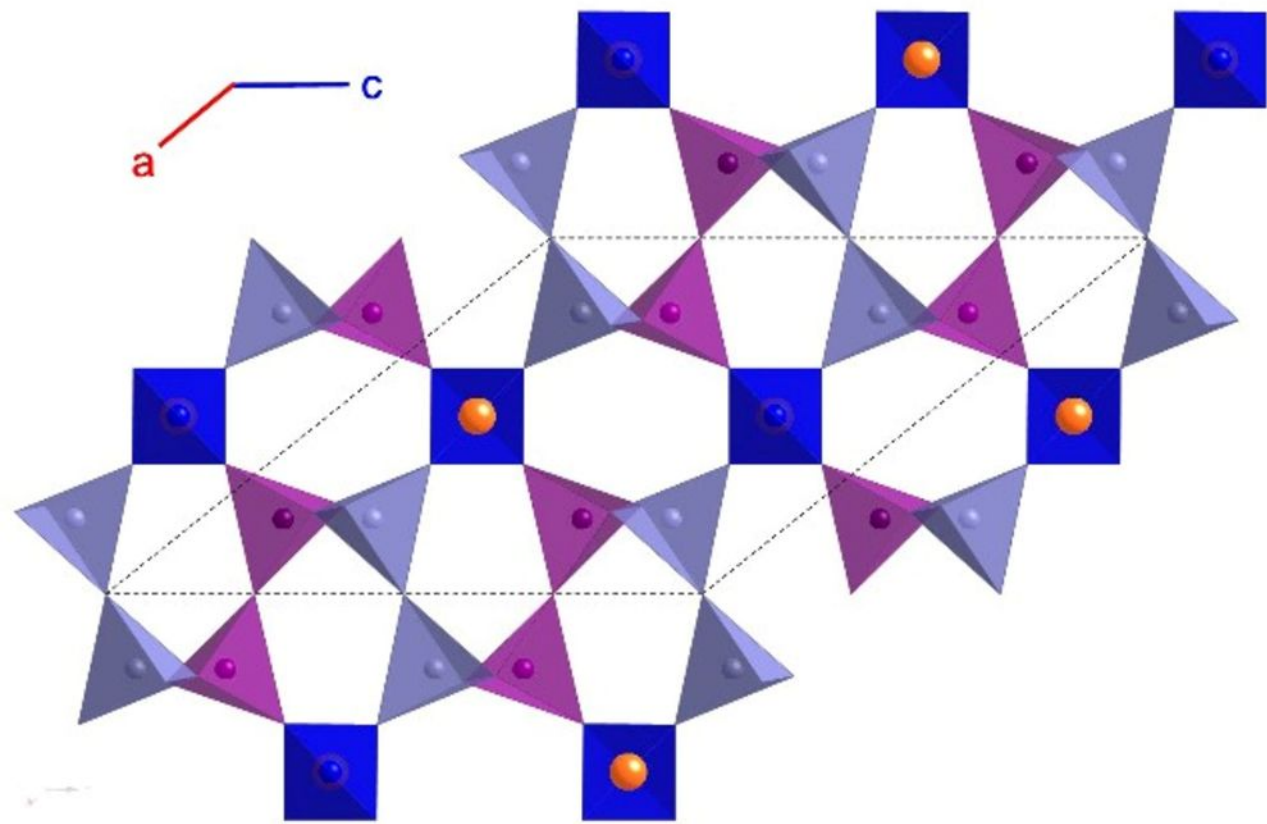| Parameter		Pressure (GPa)				
		Ambient	0.32(5)	0.56(5)	0.89(5)	1.25(5)
Si1	σ_{tet} (°)	1.336	1.589	1.499	1.491	1.381
	V_{poly} (Å³)	2.139	2.142	2.145	2.126	2.123
	l_0 (Å)	1.609	1.610	1.611	1.606	1.605
	$\langle\lambda_{tet}\rangle$	1.001	1.000	1.001	1.001	1.001
Si2	σ_{tet} (°)	1.344	1.726	1.540	1.556	1.667
	V_{poly} (Å³)	2.115	2.114	2.116	2.112	2.097
	l_0 (Å)	1.603	1.603	1.604	1.603	1.599
	$\langle\lambda_{tet}\rangle$	1.001	1.001	1.000	1.000	1.001
Al1	σ_{tet} (°)	9.134	9.457	9.424	9.342	9.211
	V_{poly} (Å³)	2.553	2.546	2.525	2.552	2.538
	l_0 (Å)	1.707	1.706	1.701	1.707	1.704
	$\langle\lambda_{tet}\rangle$	1.021	1.022	1.022	1.022	1.021
Li1	σ_{tet} (°)	20.235	19.982	19.961	19.535	19.273
	V_{poly} (Å³)	3.251	3.195	3.173	3.184	3.159
	l_0 (Å)	1.851	1.840	1.835	1.838	1.833
	$\langle\lambda_{tet}\rangle$	1.100	1.097	1.098	1.093	1.091

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490 **Table 6.** Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (o) for the α-phase of petalite as a function
491 of pressure. Parameters that exhibit statistically significant changes with pressure are
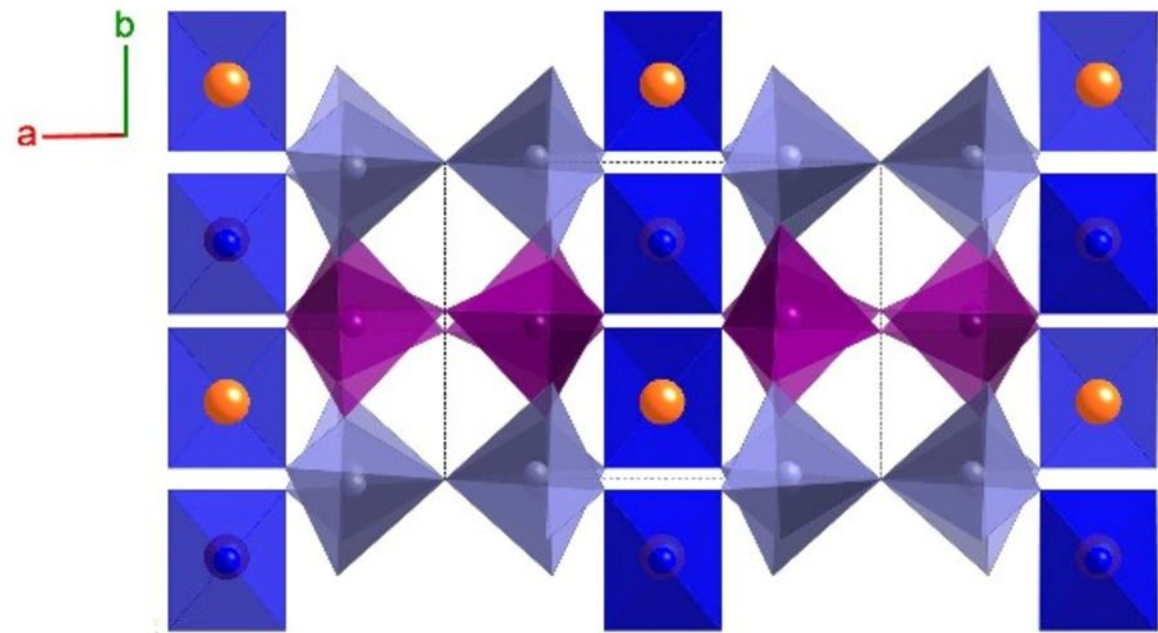492 highlighted in grey.

	Pressure (GPa)				
	Ambient	0.32(5)	0.56(5)	0.89(5)	1.25(5)
Si1–O1	1.607(10)	1.605(12)	1.618(11)	1.600(11)	1.599(14)
Si1–O2	1.608(6)	1.619(5)	1.615(5)	1.613(5)	1.614(7)
Si1–O3	1.602(2)	1.601(3)	1.596(2)	1.596(2)	1.591(3)
Si1–O4	1.622(4)	1.616(4)	1.617(4)	1.617(4)	1.619(6)
Si2–O2^{i}	1.615(5)	1.607(4)	1.612(4)	1.611(4)	1.611(6)
Si2–O4	1.600(7)	1.608(7)	1.610(7)	1.605(7)	1.596(9)
Si2–O5	1.599(4)	1.594(4)	1.594(4)	1.598(4)	1.597(5)
Si2–O6	1.600(4)	1.606(5)	1.599(4)	1.599(4)	1.594(5)
Al1–O1^{ii}	1.716(8)	1.717(9)	1.709(8)	1.723(9)	1.718(11)
Al1–O1^{iii}	1.716(8)	1.717(9)	1.709(8)	1.723(9)	1.718(11)
Al1–O6	1.733(4)	1.732(4)	1.730(4)	1.728(4)	1.725(5)
Al1–O6^{iv}	1.733(4)	1.732(4)	1.730(4)	1.728(4)	1.725(5)
Li1–O1^{v}	1.931(12)	1.905(15)	1.913(13)	1.933(14)	1.910(17)
Li1–O1^{vi}	1.931(12)	1.905(15)	1.913(13)	1.933(14)	1.910(17)
Li1–O6	1.952(11)	1.949(12)	1.933(11)	1.910(12)	1.919(14)
Li1–O6^{iv}	1.952(11)	1.949(12)	1.933(11)	1.910(12)	1.919(14)
Al1···Li1	2.578(14)	2.592(17)	2.559(14)	2.529(16)	2.541(19)
Al1···Li1^{vii}	2.562(14)	2.531(17)	2.551(14)	2.568(16)	2.532(19)
O1–Si1–O2	110.9(4)	111.7(4)	111.2(3)	111.3(4)	111.3(4)
O1–Si1–O3	110.97(17)	110.89(19)	110.83(17)	110.75(18)	110.7(2)
O1–Si1–O4	107.7(4)	107.5(4)	107.0(4)	107.1(4)	107.4(5)
O2–Si1–O3	109.2(3)	108.7(3)	109.1(3)	109.1(3)	109.0(4)
O2–Si1–O4	109.7(3)	109.6(3)	109.6(3)	109.7(3)	109.3(4)
O3–Si1–O4	108.3(3)	108.4(3)	109.1(2)	108.9(3)	109.1(3)
O2^{i}–Si2–O4	109.9(4)	110.3(4)	109.9(4)	110.3(4)	110.4(5)
O2^{i}–Si2–O5	110.6(4)	110.6(4)	110.7(4)	110.4(4)	110.5(5)
O2^{i}–Si2–O6	107.6(2)	106.9(2)	107.0(2)	107.2(2)	106.9(3)
O4–Si2–O5	108.0(3)	107.7(3)	108.2(3)	107.9(3)	107.8(4)
O4–Si2–O6	110.7(4)	110.2(4)	110.1(3)	111.1(4)	110.7(5)
O5–Si2–O6	110.1(4)	111.1(5)	110.9(4)	110.0(4)	110.5(6)
O1^{ii}–Al1–O1^{iii}	97.8(5)	97.6(5)	97.2(5)	97.7(5)	97.9(6)
O1^{ii}–Al1–O6	117.3(3)	116.9(3)	117.2(3)	117.6(3)	117.2(4)
O1^{ii}–Al1–O6^{iv}	113.7(3)	114.6(4)	114.2(3)	113.6(4)	113.9(4)
O1^{iii}–Al1–O6	113.7(3)	114.6(4)	114.2(3)	113.6(4)	113.9(4)
O1^{iii}–Al1–O6^{iv}	117.3(3)	116.9(3)	117.2(3)	117.6(3)	117.2(4)
O6–Al1–O6^{iv}	98.4(3)	97.5(3)	98.1(2)	98.0(3)	98.0(3)
O1^{v}–Li1–O1^{vi}	84.1(7)	85.4(8)	84.2(7)	84.3(8)	85.4(9)
O1^{v}–Li1–O6	124.9(3)	124.2(3)	124.4(3)	124.6(3)	124.1(3)
O1^{v}–Li1–O6^{iv}	121.8(3)	122.2(4)	121.9(3)	121.1(3)	121.2(4)
O1^{vi}–Li1–O6	121.8(3)	122.2(4)	121.9(3)	121.1(3)	121.2(4)
O1^{vi}–Li1–O6^{iv}	124.9(3)	124.2(3)	124.4(3)	124.6(3)	124.1(3)
O6–Li1–O6^{iv}	84.5(6)	83.8(7)	85.0(6)	86.1(7)	85.5(8)
Si1–O1–Al1^{ii}	147.8(4)	148.0(4)	148.1(4)	148.6(4)	149.2(5)
Si1–O2–Si2^{vii}	152.1(3)	150.2(3)	149.0(3)	147.8(3)	146.0(4)
Si1–O3–Si1^{viii}	180	180	180	180	180
Si1–O4–Si2	148.9(6)	147.8(6)	146.2(6)	145.8(6)	144.9(8)
Si2–O5–Si2^{ix}	163.1(5)	162.1(4)	162.1(4)	162.3(5)	161.8(6)
Si2–O6–Al1	145.1(2)	145.3(2)	146.1(2)	146.4(2)	147.1(3)
Si2–O6–Li1	126.0(3)	125.3(4)	125.3(3)	125.4(4)	124.5(5)
Al1–O1^{ii}–Li1^{v}	89.1(5)	88.5(6)	89.3(5)	89.0(6)	88.4(7)
Al1–O6–Li1	88.6(3)	89.3(4)	88.5(3)	87.9(4)	88.2(4)
Al1–O6^{v}–Li1	88.6(3)	89.3(4)	88.5(3)	87.9(4)	88.2(4)
Li1–O1^{v}–Si1^{v}	123.0(4)	123.4(4)	122.5(4)	122.3(4)	122.3(5)
Li1–O1^{vi}–Si1^{vi}	123.0(4)	123.4(4)	122.5(4)	122.3(4)	122.3(5)
Li1–O6^{vi}–Si2^{iv}	126.0(3)	125.3(4)	125.3(3)	125.4(4)	124.5(5)
O1···O4···O2^{i}	144.1(4)	145.6(4)	146.5(4)	147.3(5)	148.3(6)
O4···O2^{i}···O1^{i}	95.7(3)	94.0(3)	93.0(3)	92.3(3)	90.9(4)

493 Symmetry codes: (i) x, $1 + y$, z; (ii) $-x$, $-y$, $1 -z$; (iii) x, $-y$, $z - \frac{1}{2}$; (iv) $-x$, y, $\frac{1}{2} - z$; (v) $-x$, $1 -y$, $1 - z$; (vi) x, $1 - y$, $z - \frac{1}{2}$;
494 (vii) x, $y - 1$, z; (viii) $1 - x$, $-y$, $2 - z$; (ix) $1 - x$, y, $\frac{3}{2} - z$; (x) x, y, $1 + z$

(a)

(b)

(a) (b)

(a)

(b)