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Revision 5

Luogufengite: A new nano-mineral of Fe₂O₃ polymorph with giant coercive field

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ABSTRACT

26 Luogufengite, Al-bearing ϵ -Fe₂O₃, is a new member of Fe₂O₃ polymorphs discovered in
27 late Pleistocene basaltic scoria from the Menan Volcanic Complex nearby Rexburg, Idaho. It
28 is an oxidation product of Fe-bearing basaltic glass at high temperature and is associated with
29 maghemite and hematite. Luogufengite is an euhedral or semi-euhedral nano-mineral with its
30 crystal size ranging from ~20 to ~120 nm. The mineral has a space group of *Pna*2₁; its unit-
31 cell parameters refined from synchrotron X-ray powder diffraction pattern are $a = 5.0647(3)$
32 \AA , $b = 8.7131(6) \text{\AA}$, $c = 9.3842(5) \text{\AA}$, and $Z = 4$ (calculated density = 4.905 g/cm³) with the
33 doubled hexagonal (ABAC) packing of oxygen atoms. The eight strongest lines of the
34 measured X-ray diffraction pattern [$d(\text{\AA})(I)(hkl)$] are: 3.197(27.3)(022); 2.945(29.1)(013);
35 2.708(100)(122); 2.437(35.8)(131); 1.716(24.4)(204); 1.507(40.7)(135); and
36 1.458(37.2)(330). The empirical formula is Fe_{1.71}Al_{0.24}Mg_{0.02}Ti_{0.03}O₃. The crystals display
37 (110) twins with twin boundaries of (110), (100), and (130) due to their pseudo-hexagonal
38 symmetry. Luogufengite is an important mineral that records paleomagnetism of volcanic
39 rocks because of its large magnetic coercivity. This unique magnetic property of the mineral
40 may explain the observed unusually high remanent magnetization in some igneous and
41 metamorphic rocks and even Martian rocks with high remanent magnetization. Some
42 intergrowths of magnetite with ilmenite exsolution lamellae or hematite with magnetite
43 lamellar precipitates have luogufengite-like 2-D crystalline characteristics with the doubled
44 hexagonal packing at the interface between cubic and rhombohedral structures.
45 Luogufengite-like nano-domains at the magnetite / hematite interfaces might be responsible
46 for the large coercive field of lodestones that are partially oxidized magnetite with hematite
47 micro-precipitates.

48

49 **Keywords:** luogufengite, hematite, maghemite, scoria, nano-mineral, remanent
50 magnetization, coercive field, lodestone

51

INTRODUCTION

52 The new mineral luogufengite, a Fe_2O_3 polymorph analogous to the synthetic $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$,
53 was discovered in late Pleistocene basaltic scoria from the Menan Volcanic Complex nearby
54 Rexburg, Idaho. Powder X-ray diffraction (XRD) and high-resolution transmission electron
55 microscopy (HRTEM) were used to determine its crystal structure and chemical composition.
56 There are five known crystalline polymorphs of Fe_2O_3 to date: hematite ($\alpha\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$),
57 maghemite ($\gamma\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$), luogufengite ($\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$), $\beta\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (synthetic) (Zboril et al. 1999), and $\zeta\text{-}$
58 Fe_2O_3 (synthetic) (Tucek et al. 2015). Luogufengite is a dark brown nano-mineral — an
59 intermediate polymorph between maghemite and hematite (Tronc et al. 1998; Machala et al.
60 2011; Lee and Xu 2016). Synthetic $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ phase has a broad range of applications due to its
61 unusual magnetic properties (e.g., giant coercive field, ferromagnetic resonance, and coupled
62 magneto-electrics) (Jin et al. 2004; Gich et al. 2005; Tucek et al. 2010). The coercive field
63 ($H_c = 2.0$ T) of $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ nano-crystals is much larger than those of oxide-based commercial
64 magnets of $\text{BaFe}_{12}\text{O}_{19}$ ($H_c = 0.64$ T) and Co-ferrites ($H_c = 0.74$ T) (Jin et al. 2004; Kohout et
65 al. 2015).

66 In this paper, the crystal structure, composition, and mineral association of luogufengite
67 are presented. There is a previous study on the mixture of $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ and magnetite nano-
68 crystals in subcellular phytoferritin of a plant (McClean et al. 2001). However, the published
69 electron diffraction pattern (Figure 2d in the paper) does not support the presence of $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$.
70 Herein, we describe a natural $\epsilon\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ (luogufengite) that occurs in basaltic scoria. The name
71 has been approved by Commission on New Minerals, Nomenclature and Classification
72 (CNMNC) of the International Mineralogical Association, (IMA 2016-005) (Xu and Lee
73 2016). The mineral was named after a Chinese mineralogist, Professor Luo Gufeng (born in
74 1933), who has passionately taught crystallography and mineralogy at Nanjing University of

75 China for more than 50 years. Luogufengite has been deposited in the collection of the
76 Geology Museum of the Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin-Madison, with
77 specimen numbers UWGM 2341, UWGM 2342, and UWGM 2343.

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SAMPLES AND METHODS

80 Scoria samples containing luogufengite were collected from the Menan Volcanic
81 Complex, Rexburg, Idaho. The Menan Volcanic Complex consists of broad, flat volcanoes,
82 formed by low-viscosity eruptions, with tholeiitic basalts dominating the surface exposures
83 (Hackett and Morgan 1988; Russell and Brisbin 1990). The formation of scoria was related to
84 the interaction of external water with the late-stage (late Pleistocene) eruption in the center of
85 the Menan complex (Hackett and Morgan 1988; Russell and Brisbin 1990). The scoria
86 generally resulted from rapid vesiculation during explosive eruptions of basaltic lava.
87 Luogufengite formed during the formation of scoria at high temperature. Oxidation of Fe-
88 bearing semi-plastic glass at high temperature resulted in the formation of ferric Fe-oxides of
89 luogufengite on surfaces of the vesicles associated with maghemite and hematite (Fig. 1).

90 The sample for powder X-ray diffraction was carefully scratched off from the vesicles'
91 surfaces within the collected basaltic scoria (Fig. 1). The silicate glass was removed by
92 dissolving the sample in a 10M NaOH solution at 80 °C for 2 days following procedures for
93 enriching synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃ prepared at high temperature (Gich et al. 2006; Namai et al.
94 2009). The luogufengite crystals were enriched using a weak magnetic bar. Maghemite nano-
95 crystals can be further eliminated by picking up the magnetized portion using an iron needle,
96 because super-paramagnetic maghemite nano-crystals do not have coercive field. High-
97 resolution powder XRD data were collected at beamline 11-BM of the Advanced Photon
98 Source (APS), Argonne National Laboratory. Diffraction patterns were recorded using a

99 wavelength (λ) of 0.414125 Å. Sample powders were loaded into a Kapton capillary tube that
100 was spun continuously at 5600 rpm during data collection to minimize preferred orientation.
101 Data were collected from 0.5 to 50° 2 θ in steps of 0.001° at a scan speed of 0.01°/s. The
102 instrument has a resolution of ~0.007° for the 2 θ range used in the structural refinement (2 θ :
103 3° - 25°), based on measured Cagliotti parameters using a LaB₆ standard (NIST SRM 660a)
104 (Supplementary Fig. S1). The X-ray beam size at the sample is ~ 1.5 mm (horizontal) x 0.5
105 mm (vertical).

106 The obtained synchrotron XRD data were analyzed using the Rietveld method with the
107 Jade 9.0 program. The starting structural parameters were taken from the study of a synthetic
108 ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (Gich et al. 2005). A pseudo-Voigt peak-shape function was used for fitting the peak
109 profiles. The peaks at 5.34°-5.41°, 6.79°-6.87°, 8.45°-8.54°, 9.26°-9.34°, 11.65°-11.76° and
110 14.16°-14.28° belong to an unknown phase and were thus excluded for the refinement. Our
111 TEM-EDS measurements on luogufengite reveal a total Fe and Al occupancy of Fe_{3.53}Al_{0.47}.
112 Previous study on synthetic ϵ -Al_xFe_{2-x}O₃ (Namai et al. 2009) shows that Al prefers the Fe3
113 and Fe4 sites at ~10 at. %. The ratio of Al occupancies at the Fe3 and Fe4 sites is sensitive to
114 the intensity ratio of I₍₀₁₁₎ / I₍₀₂₂₎ of luogufengite, based on simulated XRD patterns. Slight
115 differences in Al occupancies at the Fe3 and Fe sites were determined from matching in the
116 intensity ratio of I₍₀₁₁₎ / I₍₀₂₂₎ between the observed and simulated XRD patterns.

117 Other XRD patterns were collected using a Rigaku Rapid II XRD system (Mo-K α
118 radiation) in the Geoscience Department, University of Wisconsin - Madison. Diffraction data
119 were recorded on a 2-D image-plate detector. The original two dimensional diffraction rings
120 were then converted to produce conventional 2 θ vs. intensity patterns using Rigaku's 2DP
121 software.

122 HRTEM imaging, X-ray energy-dispersive spectroscopy (EDS), and selected-area

123 electron diffraction (SAED) analyses were carried out using a Philips CM200-UT microscope
124 equipped with GE light element energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) at the Materials
125 Science Center at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and operated at 200 kV. Chemical
126 analyses were obtained using the EDS (spot size 5 with a beam diameter of ~50 nm).
127 Quantitative EDS results were obtained using experimentally determined k-factors from
128 standards of albite, forsterite, anorthite, orthoclase, labradorite, fayalite, and titanite (Hill
129 2009).

130

131 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

132 The synchrotron XRD pattern shows that luogufengite is the dominant phase in a treated
133 scoria sample, together with hematite, quartz, hydronium jarosite, and an unknown phase (Fig.
134 2). A trace amount of calcite originates from the paly-dough that was used for sealing the
135 capillary tube. The XRD data with Mo-K α radiation also shows a similar pattern, except for
136 the calcite peaks (Supplementary Fig. S2). The (011), (002), (022), (013), (131), (004) and
137 (135) peaks of luogufengite do not overlap with other diffraction peaks from coexisting
138 minerals, although the strongest (122) peak of luogufengite is overlapped with the (01 $\bar{4}$)
139 peak of hematite (Fig. 2). The synchrotron XRD pattern of luogufengite shows the broad
140 peaks with a full width at half maximum (FWHM) of ~0.11°, (Table 1), indicating the
141 nanometer sizes of the crystals (Fig. 2). Diffraction peaks from hematite are sharper than
142 those from luogufengite. Likewise, diffraction peaks from quartz are much sharper than peaks
143 from other phases. Diffraction peaks with “?” marks are from an un-identified phase. Its
144 FWHM is very similar to that of hematite (Table 1).

145 The nano-crystals of luogufengite, maghemite, and hematite were identified using
146 HRTEM, Fast Fourier transform (FFT) patterns, and selected-area electron diffraction (SAED)

147 patterns (Fig. 3). The diameter of luogufengite ranges from ~20 to ~120 nm (Fig. 3A).
148 Hematite crystals are generally larger than luogufengite crystals, whereas maghemite crystals
149 are smaller than luogufengite crystals (Fig. 3B). HRTEM images show that luogufengite
150 commonly displays $\{100\}$, $\{010\}$, $\{00\bar{1}\}$, $\{011\}$, and $\{1\bar{1}1\}$ forms (Figs. 3C and 3D).
151 Synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃ crystals similarly display $\{100\}$, $\{01\bar{1}\}$ and $\{011\}$ crystallographic forms
152 (Jin et al. 2004; Lee and Xu 2016). The rod shape of luogufengite is elongated along the *a*-
153 axis (Fig. 3D). The ideal shape of luogufengite nano-mineral is constructed based on its
154 symmetry and HRTEM images (Fig. 4).

155 The chemical formulae for luogufengite (Fe_{1.71}Al_{0.24}Mg_{0.02}Ti_{0.03}O₃), maghemite
156 (Fe_{1.69}Al_{0.25}Mg_{0.04}Ti_{0.02}O₃), and hematite (Fe_{1.76}Al_{0.02}Mg_{0.03}Ti_{0.19}O₃) are calculated from X-
157 ray EDS spectra (Fig. 5 and Table 2). The luogufengite and maghemite nano-crystals contain
158 small amounts of Al because the smaller Al³⁺ (compared with Fe³⁺) prefers the tetrahedral
159 Fe³⁺ site (Namai et al. 2009; Tucek et al. 2010), whereas, co-existing hematite crystals
160 contain small amounts of Ti (Fig. 5 and Table 2).

161 Large grains of luogufengite have (110) or ($\bar{1}10$) twinning with composition planes of
162 (130) and (100) due to the pseudo-hexagonal symmetry of its crystal structure (Fig. 6A). The
163 relationship between the (110) twins is illustrated in Figures 7A and 7B. The observed
164 twinning is very similar to the (110) twinning in aragonite. The ~120° rotational relationship
165 between (010) and (110) and the displacement along the *b*/3 are also observed in the
166 luogufengite nano-crystal (Fig. 6B). The relationship is illustrated in Figure 7C. The observed
167 twin relationships are similarly identified in the synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃ crystals (Ding et al. 2007;
168 Lee and Xu 2016).

169 Rietveld refinement was performed to derive the structural parameters of luogufengite
170 on the basis of the determined space group *Pna2*₁ (Gich et al. 2005). Fractional coordinates

171 and site occupancies are listed in Table 3. The unit cell parameters of luogufengite are very
172 similar to those of synthetic Al-bearing ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (Fig. 8). The slightly larger *a* dimension may
173 be related to a small amount of Mg²⁺ in luogufengite. Table 4 lists the powder XRD data of
174 luogufengite.

175 The structure of luogufengite contains three octahedra (denoted Fe1, Fe2, and Fe4 sites)
176 and one tetrahedron (denoted as Fe3) (Fig. 9), and the structure is polar, which is associated
177 with its magnetic properties. The average bond distance (1.831 Å) between oxygen and
178 tetrahedral coordinated (Fe, Al) is slightly shorter than that in a synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃ structure
179 (1.879 Å) (Fig. 10). The Fe1 and Fe2 site are shown in the distorted Fe octahedra, whereas
180 the Fe4 sites are less distorted (Fig. 10). These distortions in the Fe sites of luogufengite are
181 responsible for a non-zero orbital component of the total Fe³⁺ magnetic moment (Gich et al.
182 2005; Tucek et al. 2010).

183 Luogufengite is a Fe₂O₃ polymorph that is considered as an intermediate phase between
184 maghemite (γ -Fe₂O₃) and hematite (α -Fe₂O₃) (Zboril et al. 2002; Sakurai et al. 2009; Lee and
185 Xu 2016). Oxygen atoms in luogufengite display the doubled hexagonal (ABAC) packing,
186 whereas oxygen atoms in maghemite and hematite have the cubic closest (ABC) and
187 hexagonal (AB) packings, respectively. Specific gravities (g/cm³) for end-member
188 maghemite, synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃, and hematite are 5.07, 5.01, and 5.27, respectively. Thus, the
189 phase transformations from γ -Fe₂O₃ → ϵ -Fe₂O₃ and ϵ -Fe₂O₃ → α -Fe₂O₃ involve changes in
190 packing of oxygen atoms. New experimental results from annealing nontronite at high
191 temperatures indicate that the stability of luogufengite in an amorphous silica matrix is size-
192 dependent (Lee and Xu 2016) (Fig. 11). Sizes of luogufengite crystals may range from ~ 10
193 to ~ 200 nm in the amorphous silica matrix. Further growth of luogufengite will result in
194 phase transformation to hematite. Synthetic luogufengite was also discovered in ancient

195 Chinese black-glazed Jian wares, which formed at $\sim 1300^{\circ}\text{C}$ (Dejoie et al. 2014). Therefore,
196 the formation mechanism of luogufengite suggests a high temperature condition coupled with
197 a fast cooling history, an environment similar to that of an explosive volcanic eruption.

198

199 **IMPLICATIONS**

200 Luogufengite is an important mineral for understanding the paleomagnetism of volcanic
201 rocks because of its unusual magnetic property. Paleomagnetism requires magnetic minerals
202 to determine Earth's ancient magnetic orientation relative to the magnetic poles at the time of
203 rock formation. Remanent magnetism is detected in some rocks containing magnetic minerals
204 such as magnetite and maghemite. Interestingly, luogufengite could be an important mineral
205 for preserving the remanent magnetic property due to its large magnetic coercivity, the ability
206 to withstand an external magnetic field. Thus, luogufengite is a promising mineral for
207 paleomagnetism studies of volcanic rocks. Ordering of Al in the tetrahedral sites will enhance
208 the magnetic property, because (001) layer with tetrahedra and the (001) layer without
209 tetrahedra have opposite magnetic moments (Tucek et al. 2010; Yoshikiyo et al. 2012).

210 The mineral with its unique magnetic property may also explain the observed unusually
211 high remanent magnetization in some igneous and metamorphic rocks (Austin et al. 2014;
212 Church et al. 2015; Rajagopalan et al. 1993; Foss and McKenzie 2011; Schmidt et al. 2007;
213 Kudo et al. 2015), Martian rocks (Acuna et al. 1999), and lodestones (natural magnet). It was
214 proposed that the interface between cubic and rhombohedral phases may play an important
215 role in remanent magnetization (McEnroe et al. 2001, 2002; Robinson et al. 2016). However,
216 the exact role of the interfaces in enhancing this remanent magnetization is still not clear. The
217 Fe-oxide minerals of magnetite with ilmenite exsolution lamellae or hematite with magnetite
218 exsolution lamellae have luogufengite-like 2-D crystals or domains with the doubled

219 hexagonal packing at the interface between cubic and rhombohedral structures. The
220 luogufengite-like nano-crystals or domains with the giant coercive fields at the interfaces
221 could be an important reason for the unusually high remanent magnetization of some rocks.
222 Lodestones with large remanent magnetization are partially oxidized magnetite intergrown
223 with maghemite and hematite (Banfield et al. 1994; Wasilewski and Kletetschka 1999; Kudo
224 et al. 2015). Hematite lamellae or micro-precipitates in the magnetite host are evident in
225 lodestone (Fig. 12A). Powder X-ray diffraction pattern of lodestone indicates that it is mostly
226 of magnetite with small amount of maghemite and hematite (Fig. 12B). The quantitative
227 analysis of mixture phase is calculated by Rietveld refinement from magnetite (Fleet 2007),
228 maghemite (Shmakov et al. 1995), and hematite (Blake and Hessevick 1966) (Fig. 12B).
229 Stacking faults in magnetite, maghemite and hematite will result in luogufengite-like layer
230 domains with the ABAC stacking locally. Luogufengite-like domains at the magnetite and
231 hematite / ilmenite interfaces are oriented nano-crystals. It is reported that oriented ϵ -Fe₂O₃
232 nano-crystals along the *a*-axis will increase the coercive field when the external magnetic
233 field is parallel to the *a*-axis (Sakurai et al. 2008). While magnetite and/or maghemite do not
234 have large enough coercive fields (Dunlop and Özdemir 1997), luogufengite-like nano-
235 domains at the magnetite / hematite interfaces might be responsible for the large coercive
236 field of lodestones.

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358

FIGURE CAPTIONS

359 **Figure 1.** (A) A scoria hand specimen showing the porous texture with vesicles covered
360 by reddish and brownish Fe-oxides of luogufengite, hematite and maghemite. (B) A polished
361 surface of a scoria thin section shows coating of the oxides on the vesicles' surfaces. Glassy
362 groundmass of the scoria contains crystals of magnetite and platy labradorite minerals. The
363 image was recorded under the reflected light mode.

364 **Figure 2.** The synchrotron XRD pattern shows diffraction peaks from luogufengite
365 (dominant), hematite, quartz, hydronium jarosite, and an un-identified phase. Diffraction
366 peaks from luogufengite, hematite, quartz and hydronium jarosite are marked below the XRD
367 pattern. Percentages of these phases were calculated using the Rietveld method. A trace
368 amount of calcite is from the platy-dough used for sealing the capillary tube. Peaks with “?”
369 marks are from an un-identified phase. Their peak width (FWHM) is very similar to that of
370 hematite. The refinement was conducted using the XRD pattern with the peaks from the
371 unknown phase removed. The residual between measured and calculated patterns is
372 illustrated right below the XRD pattern.

373 **Figure 3.** (A) Bright-field TEM images showing aggregated luogufengite with an
374 inserted SAED pattern, (B) Bright-field TEM image shows that hematite crystals are
375 generally larger than luogufengite, whereas maghemite crystals are generally smaller than
376 luogufengite, (C) An HRTEM image and its FFT pattern (inserted at the up-right corner)
377 showing single luogufengite nano-crystals from the outlined area in Figure 3B, (D) An
378 HRTEM image of the rod-shape of luogufengite elongated along the *a*-axis.

379 **Figure 4.** Proposed ideal morphology for luogufengite nano-mineral based on HRTEM
380 images.

381 **Figure 5.** Representative X-ray EDS spectra from (A) maghemite, (B) luogufengite and

382 (C) hematite nano-minerals. Cu peaks are from the lacey carbon-coated copper grid that holds
383 the TEM specimen.

384 **Figure 6.** (A) An HRTEM image showing the luogufengite in a (110) twinning
385 relationship. The composition plans are (130) and (100) due to its pseudo-hexagonal
386 structure. The [311] zone-axis from one crystal is parallel to the [021] zone-axis of its twined
387 crystal. (B) An HRTEM image showing the composition plane boundaries between (110) and
388 (010) of luogufengite and a stacking fault in a right side crystal.

389 **Figure 7.** (A) Structure model showing the (011) twin relationship between the
390 neighboring nano-crystals along the *c*-axis in Figure 6A. (B) Stereogram showing axial
391 relationship between the twined crystals in Figure 6. Red dots correspond to the axes of the
392 right crystal in the model. Blue dots correspond to the axes of the center crystal in the model.
393 (C) Structure model for Figure 6B showing ~120° rotation twin relationship with the
394 displacement of *b*/3.

395 **Figure 8.** Comparisons of unit cell parameters of luogufengite (black circle) and
396 synthetic Al-bearing ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (red squares) (Namai et al. 2009).

397 **Figure 9.** Polyhedral models showing the crystal structure of luogufengite.

398 **Figure 10.** Bond distances for the polyhedra in synthetic pure ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (Gich et al. 2006)
399 and luogufengite. The tetrahedra in the natural phase are slightly smaller than those in
400 synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃.

401 **Figure 11.** A size-dependent phase map of iron (III) oxide polymorphs (Modified from
402 Lee and Xu 2016).

403 **Figure 12.** (A) A hand sample and optical microscope image of lodestone from Utah
404 showing hematite lamellae in the magnetite host. The image was recorded under reflected
405 light mode. (B) XRD pattern from the lodestone thin section. Percentages of mineral phases

406 were calculated using the Rietveld method. The residual between the measured and calculated
407 profiles is illustrated right below the XRD pattern.

Table 1. The d-values, intensities and FWHMs of selected peaks (*hkl*) as well as crystallite size/strain analyses of observed minerals in the vesicles' coating layers.

Phase	(h k l)	d(Å)	I_{obs}	FWHM 2 (°)
Luogufengite	(0 1 1)	6.387	3.657	0.106(5)
	(0 0 2)	4.694	3.752	0.099(4)
	(0 2 2)	3.196	7.922	0.098(6)
Crystallite size (nm) = 38.8(4.9) and strain (%) = 0.102(55)				
Hematite	(0 1 2)	3.673	14.575	0.034(4)
	(1 1 3)	2.2	13.117	0.035(7)
	(1 1 6)	1.689	21.592	0.039(5)
Crystallite size (nm) = 107.7(24.5) and strain (%) = 0.042(33)				
Quartz	(0 1 0)	4.256	20.108	0.011(4)
	(0 1 1)	3.343	100	0.013(6)
	(2 1 1)	1.542	14.021	0.013(5)
Crystallite size (nm) = 832.5(109.1) and strain (%) = 0.027(5)				
Hydronium jarosite	(0 1 2)	5.105	6.262	0.021(3)
Unknown		4.42	14.305	0.029(1)
		3.487	2.564	0.031(3)
		2.795	10.567	0.034(2)

Unit cell parameters for quartz: $a_h = 4.91532(8)$, $c_h = 5.40604(11)$ Å;

for hematite: $a_h = 5.02217(7)$, $c_h = 13.70852(27)$ Å;

for hydronium jarosite: $a_h = 7.2916(1)$, $c_h = 17.5571(4)$ Å.

The instrumental resolution: 0.007° (see supplementary Fig. S1 for details).

Table 2. Chemical compositions of luogufengite, maghemite, and hematite.

Luogufengite	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Average
Fe ₂ O ₃ (wt.%)	90.03%	89.74%	89.76%	90.18%	90.01%	89.94%
Al ₂ O ₃	7.84%	8.68%	8.01%	7.62%	7.48%	7.93%
MgO	1.06%	1.06%	1.73%	0.80%	1.46%	1.22%
TiO ₂	1.07%	0.52%	0.50%	1.40%	1.05%	0.91%
Fe	1.70	1.70	1.71	1.71	1.71	1.71
Al	0.23	0.26	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.24
Mg	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
Ti	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.03
Average chemical formula: Fe _{1.71} Al _{0.24} Mg _{0.02} Ti _{0.03} O ₃						
Maghemite	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Average
Fe ₂ O ₃ (wt.%)	88.04%	88.37%	89.41%	89.13%	89.54%	88.90%
Al ₂ O ₃	9.43%	8.36%	7.87%	8.44%	8.59%	8.54%
MgO	2.14%	2.50%	2.33%	2.14%	1.62%	2.14%
TiO ₂	0.39%	0.77%	0.39%	0.29%	0.25%	0.42%
Fe	1.67	1.68	1.71	1.70	1.70	1.69
Al	0.28	0.25	0.24	0.25	0.26	0.25
Mg	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04
Ti	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Average chemical formula: Fe _{1.69} Al _{0.25} Mg _{0.04} Ti _{0.02} O ₃						
Hematite	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	Average
Fe ₂ O ₃ (wt.%)	92.85%	92.89%	92.71%	93.32%	93.04%	92.96%
Al ₂ O ₃	1.10%	0.42%	0.29%	0.78%	0.76%	0.67%
MgO	1.28%	1.20%	1.98%	1.09%	1.53%	1.42%
TiO ₂	4.77%	5.49%	5.02%	4.81%	4.67%	4.95%
Fe	1.76	1.76	1.76	1.77	1.77	1.76
Al	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
Mg	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03
Ti	0.18	0.21	0.19	0.18	0.18	0.19
Average chemical formula: Fe _{1.76} Al _{0.02} Mg _{0.03} Ti _{0.19} O ₃						

Notes: All calculations are based on 3-oxygen basis.

Table 3. Atomic coordinates of luogufengite

Space group $Pna2_1$				
Atom	Occupancy	x	y	z
Fe1	Fe 1.00	0.1941(3)	0.1569(4)	0.5789(6)
Fe2	Fe 1.00	0.6844(5)	0.0228(3)	0.7893(7)
Fe3	Fe 0.73 Al 0.27	0.1878(3)	0.1531(6)	0.0000(2)
Fe4	Fe 0.80 Al 0.20	0.8081(4)	0.1602(2)	0.3044(6)
O1	O 1.00	0.9812(3)	0.3356(3)	0.4396(5)
O2	O 1.00	0.5106(2)	0.4953(3)	0.4154(5)
O3	O 1.00	0.6477(3)	0.9869(7)	0.1961(6)
O4	O 1.00	0.1569(5)	0.1568(6)	0.1902(3)
O5	O 1.00	0.8325(5)	0.1705(4)	0.6651(3)
O6	O 1.00	0.5391(4)	0.1717(2)	0.9423(6)
Lattice parameters: $a = 5.0647(3)$, $b = 8.7131(6)$, $c = 9.3842(5)$				
Refinement agreement parameter: $R = 9.35\%$				

Table 4. Powder XRD data for luogufengite*

I_{obs}	d_{obs}	d_{clac}	I_{clac}	hkl	I_{obs}	d_{obs}	d_{clac}	I_{clac}	hkl
7.6	6.3873	6.3852	9.4	0 1 1			1.9840	4.1	2 2 2
2.1	4.6944	4.6921	1.5	0 0 2	16.8	1.9727	1.9758	8.8	0 4 2
1.7	3.9694	3.9680	3.9	1 1 1			1.9682	3.7	2 0 3
4.8	3.3033	3.3028	6.1	1 2 0			1.9622	10.2	1 3 3
27.3	3.1965	3.2013	7.8	1 1 2	7.3	1.9167	1.9199	10.6	2 1 3
		3.1926	27.0	0 2 2	6.1	1.8386	1.8407	7.4	1 4 2
4.1	3.1167	3.1155	2.5	1 2 1			1.8348	2.8	0 1 5
29.1	2.9445	2.9441	35.4	0 1 3	2.8	1.7912	1.7937	3.5	2 2 3
100.0	2.7082	2.7745	1.3	0 3 1			1.7251	1.0	1 1 5
		2.7008	100.0	1 2 2	24.4	1.7155	1.7210	13.4	2 0 4
		2.5453	15.7	1 1 3			1.7170	7.8	1 3 4
40.6	2.5343	2.5324	19.2	2 0 0			1.7133	3.1	0 5 1
		2.5195	6.9	1 3 0	6.9	1.5594	1.5628	6.5	3 1 2
		2.4449	11.2	2 0 1			1.5577	2.9	2 4 2
35.8	2.4369	2.4333	31.1	1 3 1	10.8	1.5208	1.5223	10.7	0 5 3
		2.4317	3.1	2 1 0	40.7	1.5069	1.5079	12.7	2 0 5
4.1	2.3421	2.3461	6.6	0 0 4			1.5051	36.7	1 3 5
7.8	2.2731	2.2711	7.9	1 2 3			1.4598	24.9	3 3 0
14.5	2.2231	2.2285	5.9	2 0 2	37.2	1.4582	1.4596	2.0	2 4 3
		2.2197	14.9	1 3 2			1.4528	12.1	0 6 0
2.9	2.1793	2.1783	2.9	0 4 0			1.4062	8.7	3 2 3
12.4	2.1558	2.1590	15.0	2 1 2	11.4	1.4051	1.3959	1.6	1 6 0
1.9	2.0050	2.0011	2.9	1 4 0	7.7	1.3715	1.3728	8.1	2 5 2
					8.6	1.3028	1.3047	6.4	2 5 3

*Bold values are for the eight strongest peaks.

Fig. 1

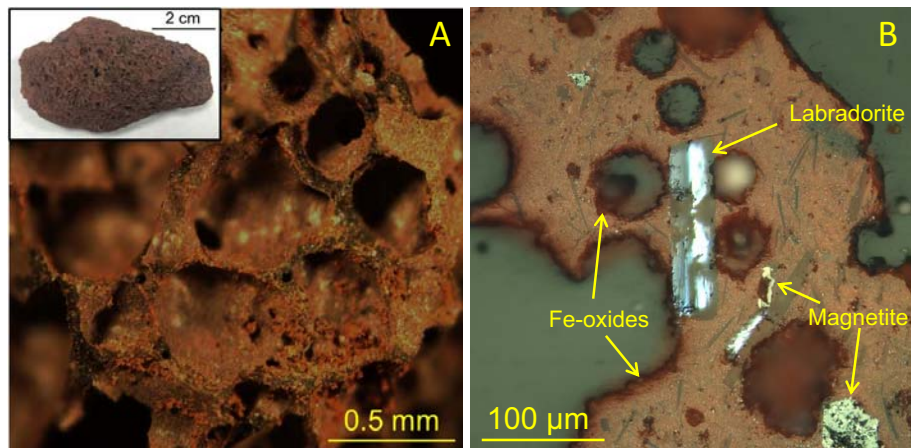


Fig. 2

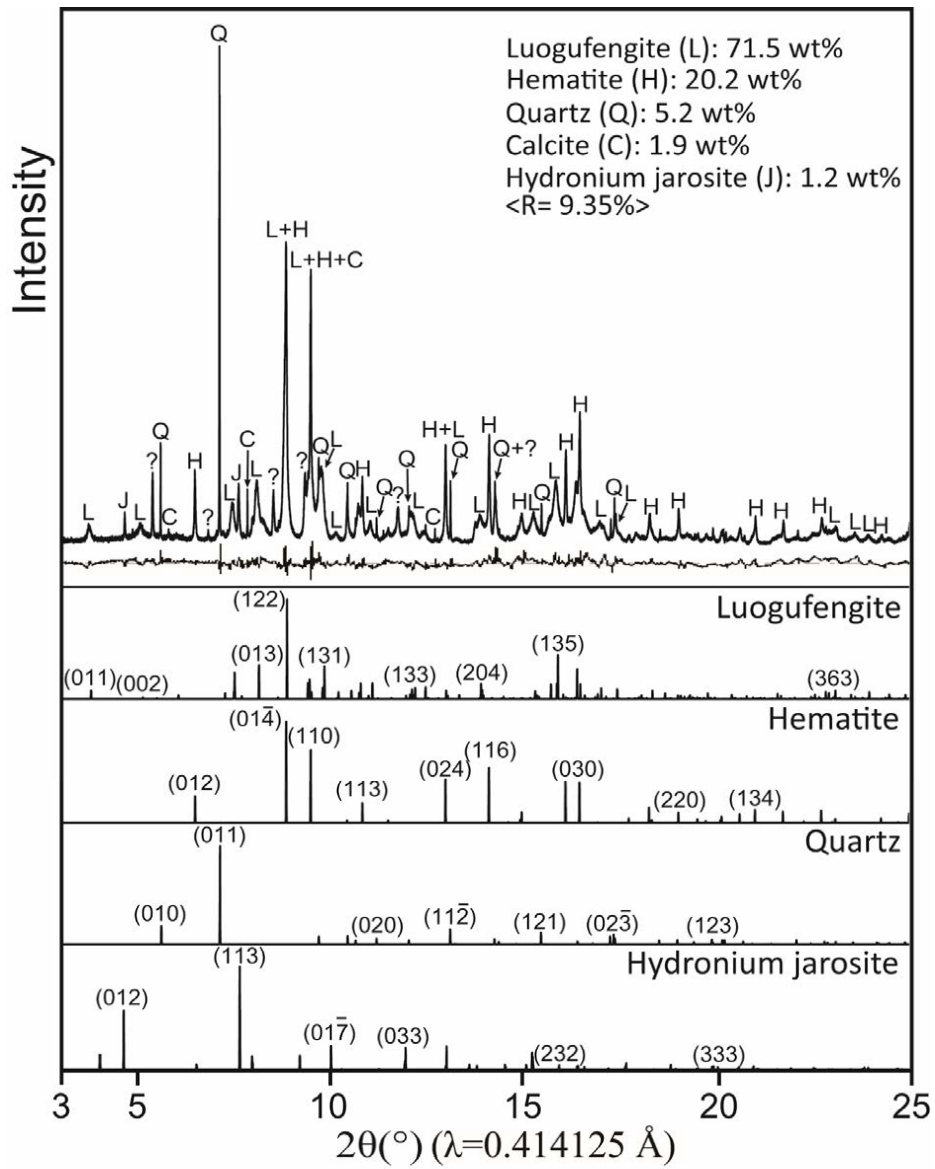


Fig. 3

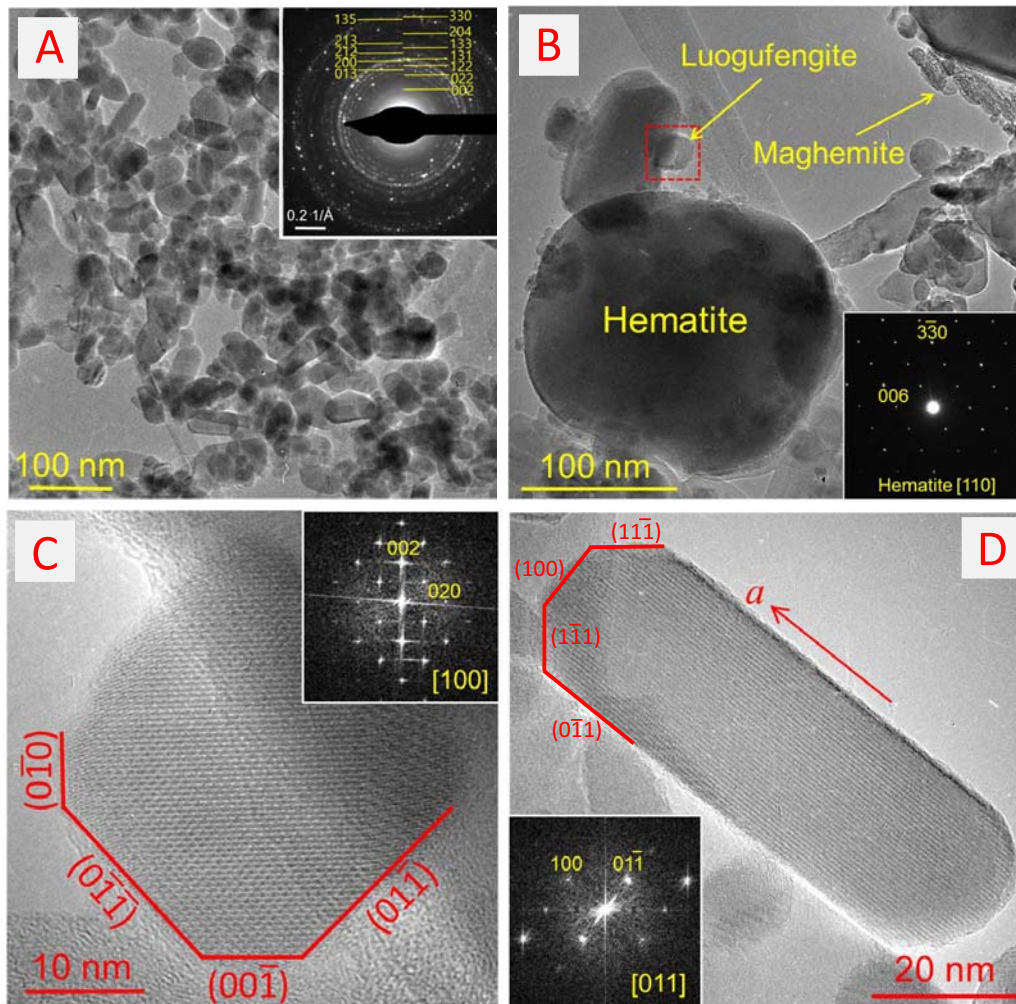


Fig. 4

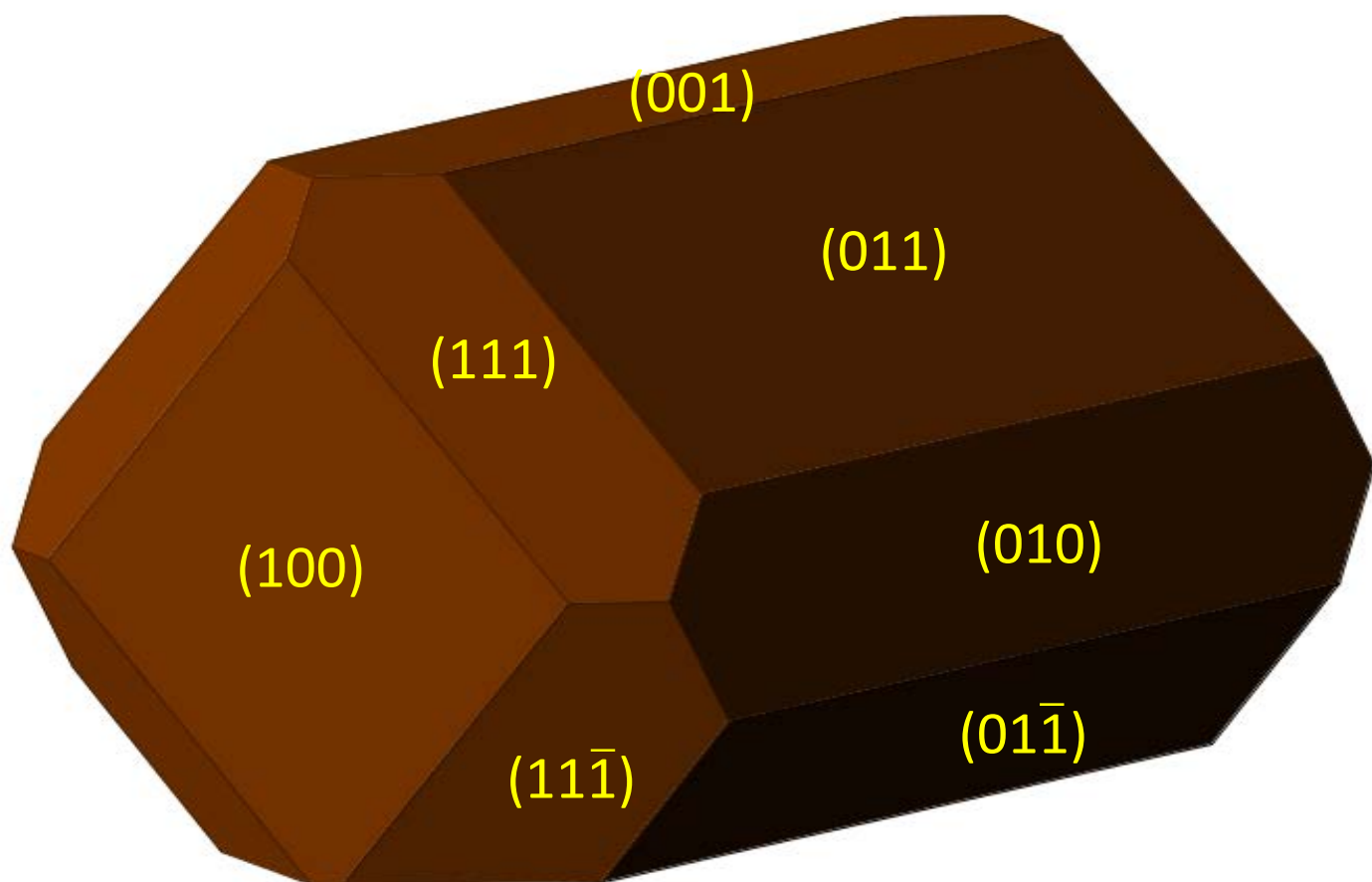


Fig. 5

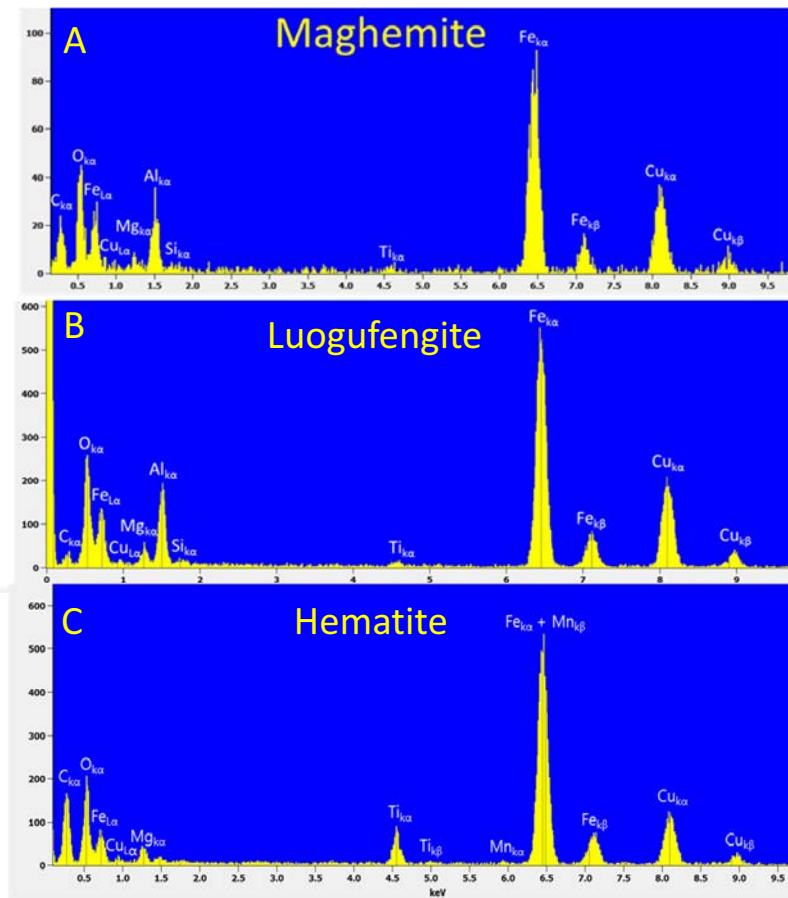


Fig. 6

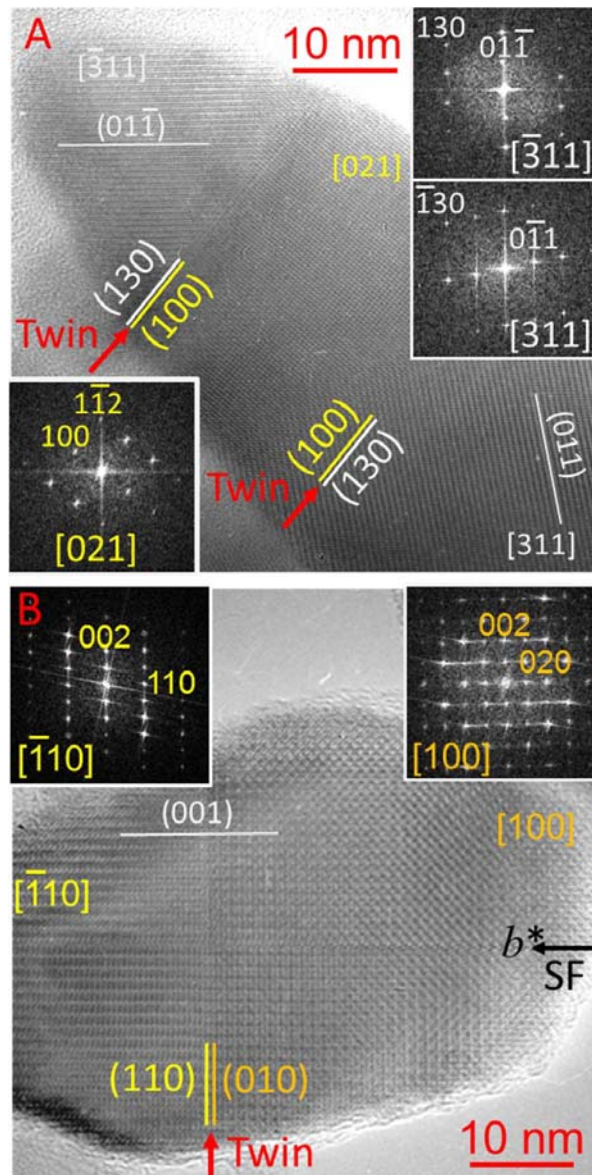


Fig. 7

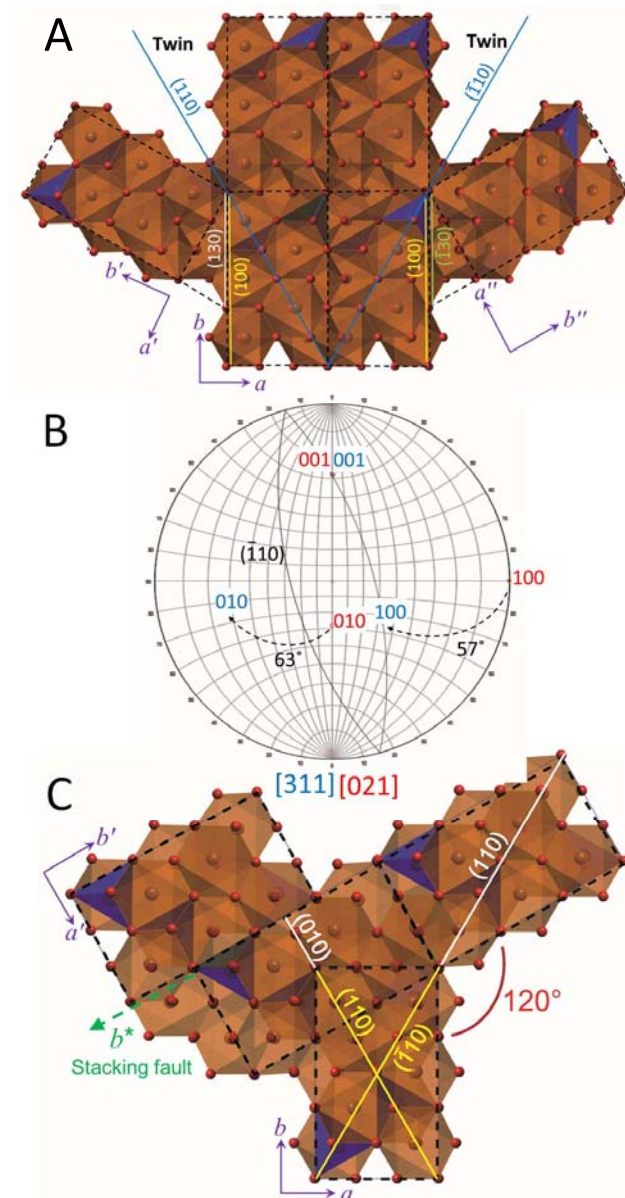


Fig. 8

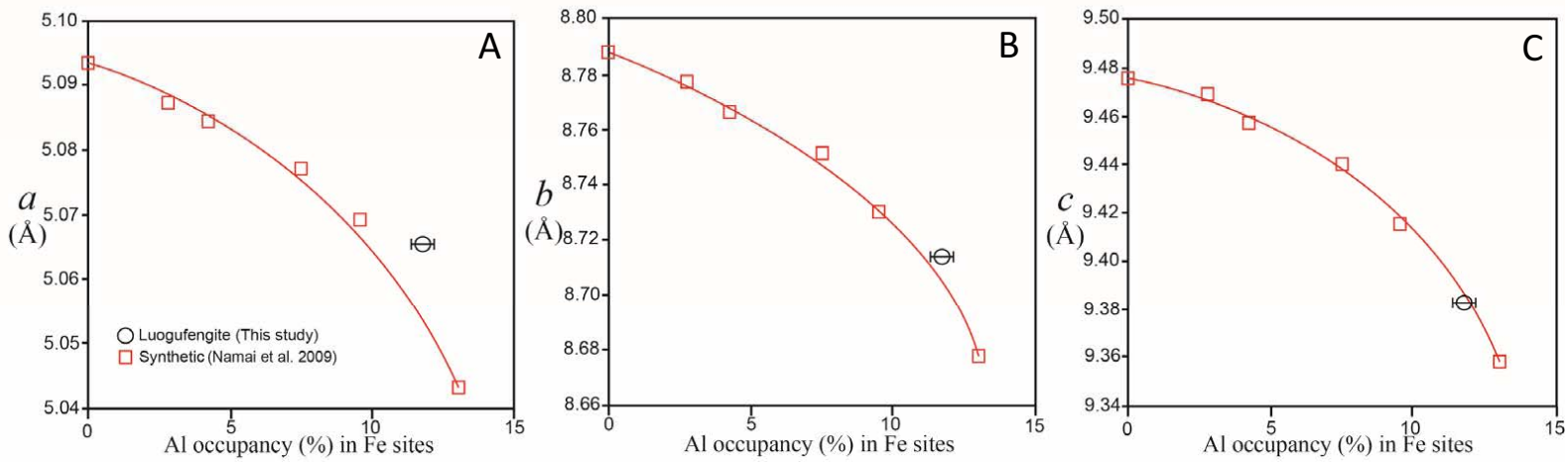


Fig. 9

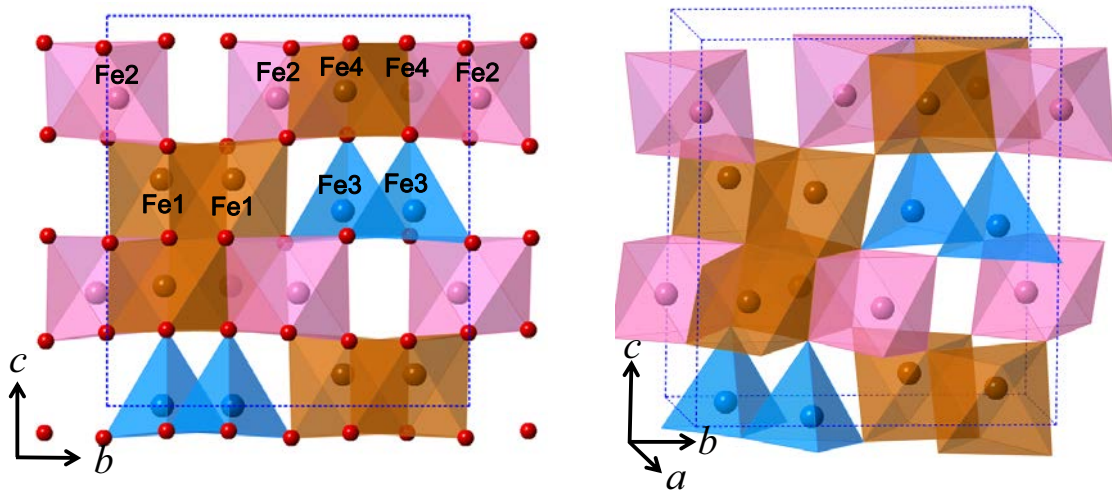
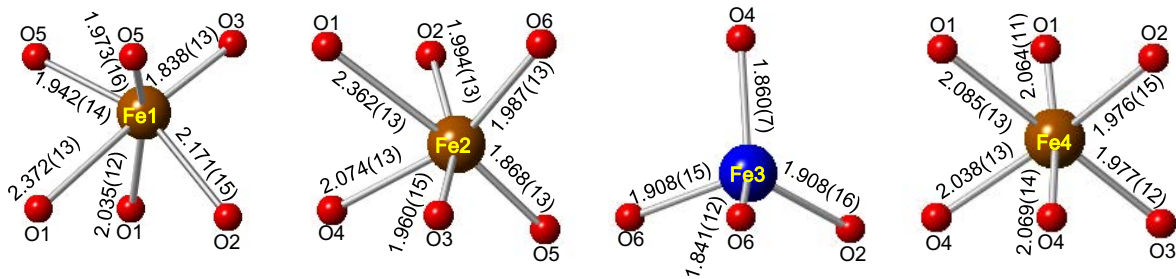


Fig. 10

Synthetic ϵ -Fe₂O₃ (Gich et al. 2006)



Luogufengite (This study)

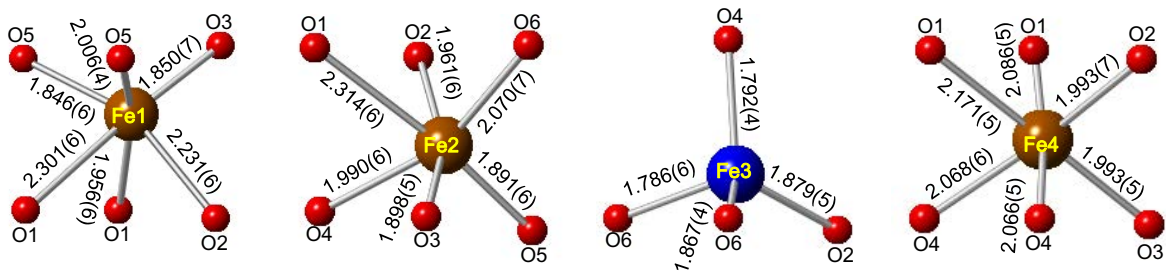


Fig. 11

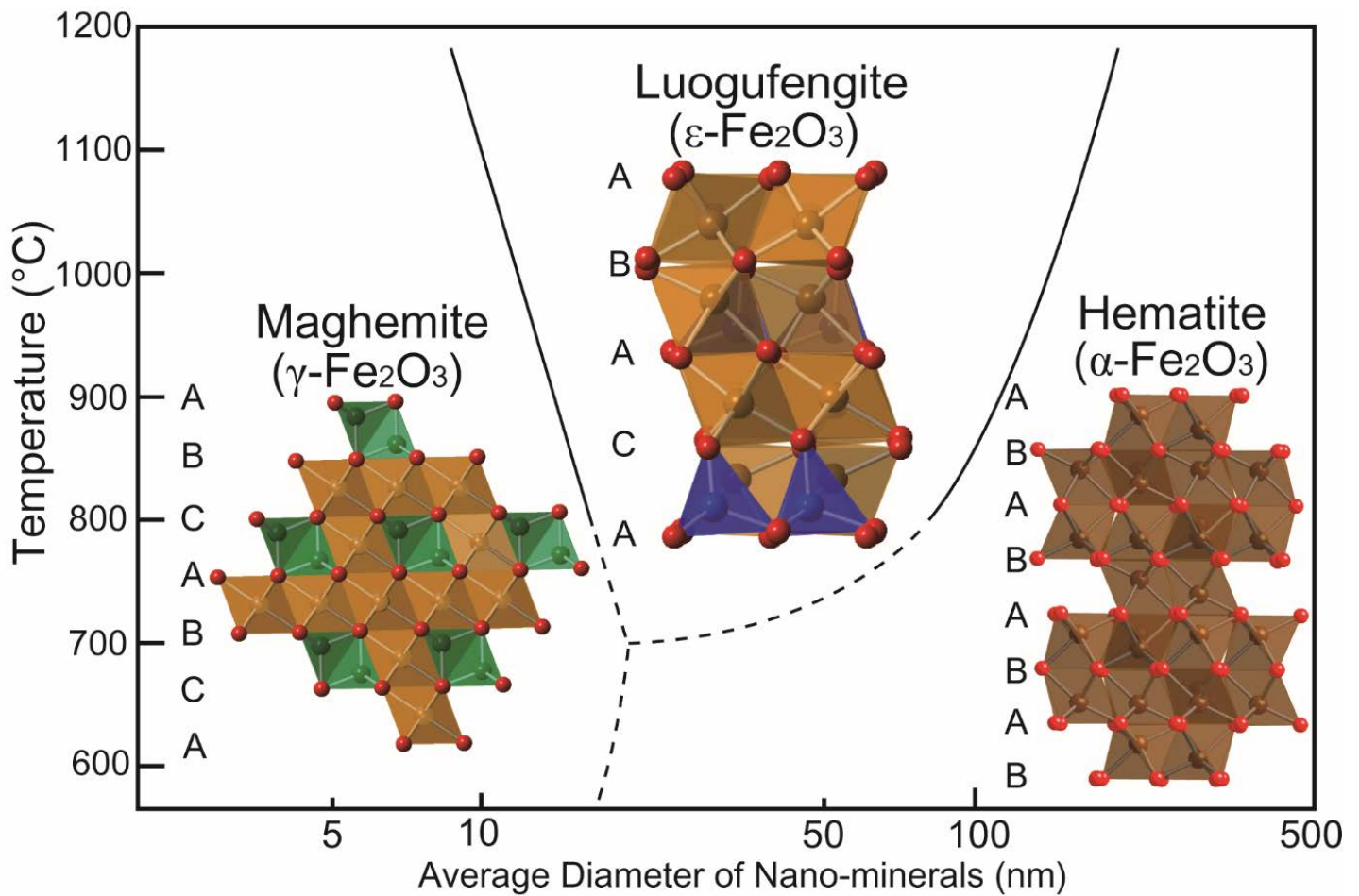


Fig. 12

