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Stability of Fe₅O₆ and its relation to other Fe-Mg-oxides at high pressures and temperatures

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Abstract

The stability of Fe₅O₆ has been experimentally determined under pressure-temperature conditions relevant for the Earth's deeper upper mantle down to the

30 upper portion of the lower mantle (to 28 GPa). In addition, we investigated the
31 incorporation of Mg into Fe_5O_6 and its systematics, which allows us to discuss the
32 relevance of this phase for the mantle. Experiments were performed from 8-28 GPa
33 and 900-1600°C. Additional oxide phases may appear if the bulk composition does
34 not maintain the $\text{Fe}^{2+}_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ stoichiometry during the experiment, including
35 coexisting Fe_4O_5 or Fe_9O_{11} . Unfortunately, the similarities in Raman spectra between
36 a number of high-pressure Fe-oxide phases make this method unsuitable for
37 distinguishing which phase is present in a given sample. The stability field for Fe_5O_6
38 extends from ~9 to at least 28 GPa, but is truncated at lower temperatures by the
39 assemblage Fe_4O_5 + wüstite. Refined thermodynamic properties for Fe_5O_6 are
40 presented. The range of redox stability of Fe_5O_6 appears to be more limited than that
41 of Fe_4O_5 .

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43 Solid solution along the Fe_5O_6 - $\text{Mg}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ binary is quite limited, reaching a maximum
44 Mg content of ~0.82 cations per formula unit (i.e. $X_{\text{Mg}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6} \approx 0.27$) at 1400°C and 10
45 GPa. The observed sharp decrease in molar volume of the O_6 -phase with Mg content
46 could be a possible explanation for the limited range of solid solution. A phase
47 diagram has been constructed for a composition of approximately
48 $\text{Mg}_{0.5}\text{Fe}^{2+}_{2.5}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ stoichiometry. This small amount of Mg causes a significant
49 change in the relations between the O_6 -structured phase and the assemblage O_5 -
50 structured phase + (Mg,Fe)O. Several experiments were performed to test whether
51 the O_6 -phase can coexist with mantle silicates like wadsleyite and ringwoodite. In all
52 cases, the run products contained $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_5$ rather than the O_6 -phase, further
53 underlining the limited ability of Fe_5O_6 to accommodate enough Mg to be stable in a
54 mantle assemblage.

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56 The large stability field of Fe_5O_6 implies that this phase could likely occur in locally
57 Fe-rich environments, like those sampled by some “deep” diamonds. However, the
58 limited solubility of Mg in the O_6 -phase leads us to conclude that the O_5 -phase should
59 be of much more relevance as an accessory phase in a peridotitic mantle
60 assemblage.

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63 Key words: Fe-oxide, Fe-Mg-oxide, Fe_5O_6 , Fe_4O_5 , high pressure, high temperature,
64 phase stability, inclusion in diamond, wüstite, magnetite

65

66 Introduction

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68 The recent high-pressure synthesis of a number of new mixed-valence Fe-oxide
69 phases with different stoichiometries indicates that phase relations in the Fe–O system at
70 conditions corresponding to the deeper mantle can be quite complicated. Along with the well-
71 known minerals hematite, magnetite and wüstite, the orthorhombic-structured phases
72 $\text{Fe}^{2+}_2\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_5$ and $\text{Fe}^{2+}_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ (Lavina et al. 2011; Woodland et al. 2012; Woodland et al.
73 2015; Lavina and Meng, 2015) and the monoclinic-structured phases $\text{Fe}^{2+}_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_4\text{O}_9$ and
74 $\text{Fe}^{2+}_5\text{Fe}^{3+}_4\text{O}_{11}$ (Sinmyo et al. 2016; Ishii et al. 2018) have been synthesised at pressures in
75 excess of ~10 GPa. All four of these oxides lie compositionally between wüstite and
76 magnetite, with each phase having its own $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$. Of course the $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$ of each phase
77 can be modified through the formation of solid solutions with other cations like Mg, Cr and Al
78 (e.g. Uenver-Thiele et al. 2018).

79 The relevance of these Fe-oxides for the mineralogy of the Earth’s interior rests upon
80 the extent of their stability in terms of pressure, temperature and oxidation state. Nearly pure
81 magnetite has been reported as a rare inclusion in diamond (e.g. Stachel et al. 1998; Jacob
82 et al. 2016), but a precursor phase may have originally formed at depth rather than magnetite

83 itself (Uenver-Thiele et al. 2017b). Currently, very little information is available on the phase
84 relations involving these four Fe-oxides. The maximum pressure stability of magnetite and its
85 breakdown to Fe_4O_5 + hematite was described by Woodland et al. (2012). Myhill et al. (2016)
86 reported on the minimum pressure stability of Fe_4O_5 and provided a thermodynamic
87 framework for estimating the stabilities of Fe_4O_5 and Fe_5O_6 . A recent in situ diamond-anvil
88 study by Hikosaka et al. (2019) indicates that both Fe_4O_5 and Fe_5O_6 remain stable up to
89 nearly 40 GPa, but the actual extent of their respective phase fields and their relative redox
90 relations remain poorly constrained.

91 We have undertaken an experimental study focussed on the stability of Fe_5O_6 under
92 pressure-temperature conditions relevant for the Earth's deeper upper mantle down to the
93 upper portion of the lower mantle. Our results allow us to better constrain the thermodynamic
94 properties for this phase compared to the initial estimates provided by Myhill et al. (2016,
95 2018). We go on to describe the incorporation of Mg into Fe_5O_6 and discuss the conditions
96 necessary for this phase to be present in the Earth's mantle.

97

98 **Experimental and analytical methods**

99

100 Several different starting materials were employed for the high-pressure experiments.
101 For Fe_5O_6 , Fe_6O_7 and Fe_9O_{11} bulk compositions, stoichiometric mixtures of metallic Fe and
102 pre-synthesized magnetite were used. The magnetite was produced by reducing Fe_2O_3 in a
103 gas-mixing furnace at 1300°C and 1 bar in a 1:99 mixture of CO:CO₂, yielding an oxygen
104 fugacity of $\log f_{\text{O}_2} = -5.5$, which corresponds to the condition where magnetite is stoichiometric
105 (Dieckmann, 1982). The resulting magnetite had a unit-cell parameter of $a_0 = 8.3966(6)$ Å.
106 For the Mg-bearing experiments, a mixture of magnetite, Fe metal and either high-purity
107 (99.99%) MgO or a pre-synthesized spinel with composition MgFe_2O_4 was employed as
108 starting materials. Several experiments were conducted with a mixture of pre-synthesized
109 forsterite (Mg_2SiO_4) and a $(\text{Mg}_{0.5}, \text{Fe}_{2.5})\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ stoichiometry comprised of magnesioferrite,

110 magnetite and Fe metal to verify the stability of oxide phases in a silicate-bearing
111 assemblage.

112 The starting materials were packed into Ag-, Au- or Pt-foil capsules, depending on
113 starting material and whether the experimental conditions were above the melting point of
114 Ag. All but four experiments with Mg-free compositions employed Ag as capsule material
115 (Table 1). Most Mg-bearing experiments employed Pt capsules since the relatively high
116 oxygen fugacities (fO_2) imposed by the high Fe^{3+}/Fe^{2+} in the starting materials act to
117 minimize any Fe-loss to the Pt. Several repeat experiments using Ag foil yielded the same
118 results as the initial experiments employing Pt foil.

119 The high-pressure and high-temperature experiments were carried out at the Goethe-
120 Universität Frankfurt and the Bayerisches Geoinstitut, Bayreuth. A 800 t Walker type multi-
121 anvil press was employed in Frankfurt with an experimental setup and pressure calibration
122 as described by Brey et al. (2008). For several experiments performed at 18 GPa, the
123 pressure was calibrated using the wadsleyite to ringwoodite transformation in Mg_2SiO_4
124 (1200°C, 18 GPa; Inoue et al. 2006). Tungsten carbide anvils with truncated edge lengths of
125 4 mm or 8 mm were used along with 10 mm- or 14 mm-edged Cr_2O_3 -doped MgO octahedra,
126 respectively (the smaller being used for the 18 GPa experiments).

127 At the Bayerisches Geoinstitut three multi-anvil presses were employed up to 23
128 GPa: HYMAG MA-6/8 1000 t split-sphere-type press, Zwick 5000 t press and a Voggenreiter
129 Walker-type press. These presses have been cross-calibrated over a wide range in
130 temperature (at least 800-1800°C, see Keppler and Frost 2005). In addition, two experiments
131 were performed at 28 GPa using a 1500 t Kawai-type multi-anvil press with the Osugi-type
132 guide block system, IRIS-15 (Ishii et al. 2016; 2019).

133 The high-pressure assembly in Frankfurt includes a Re-foil furnace, whereas a
134 $LaCrO_3$ heater is employed in Bayreuth. A $W_5/Re_{95}-W_{26}/Re_{74}$ thermocouple with the
135 electromotive force uncorrected for pressure was used to monitor the temperature. After
136 compression, a heating rate of ~50 °C/min was used. The experiments were terminated by
137 turning off the power and followed by decompression. Uncertainties in pressure and

138 temperature are ± 0.5 GPa and ± 30 - 50 °C, respectively (Keppler and Frost 2005). For the
139 experiments at 28 GPa, uncertainties are ± 0.5 GPa and ± 50 °C (Liu et al. 2017).

140 The run products were analyzed by electron microprobe (EPMA) and X-ray powder
141 diffraction. Microprobe analyses were carried out with a five-spectrometer JEOL JXA-8900
142 Superprobe or a JEOL JXA-8530F plus Hyperprobe using pure MgO Fe₂O₃ and CaSiO₃ as
143 primary standards. The EPMA was operated in wavelength-dispersive mode with an
144 acceleration voltage of 15 kV, probe current of 20 nA and a spot size of 1 μ m. Integration
145 time for Fe and Mg was 40 sec on the peak while an integration time of 20 sec and 40 sec on
146 the background was set for Fe and Mg, respectively. For Si, counting times of 30 sec on the
147 peak and 15 sec on background were chosen. To verify phase homogeneity, up to four spot
148 analyses were performed on a single grain. A CITZAF algorithm was employed for matrix
149 correction (Armstrong 1993). Backscattered electron (BSE) images were used to study the
150 sample texture.

151 Raman spectra were obtained on a number of samples using a Witec confocal micro-
152 Raman spectrometer (Alpha300R) equipped with a 532nm Nd:YAG laser and a diffraction
153 grating with 1800 grooves mm⁻¹ at the Goethe Universität Frankfurt. Spectrometer calibration
154 was performed with a Hg-Ar lamp. Unpolarized Raman spectra were collected over five
155 accumulations with a 50x microscope objective and a laser power of \sim 2-3 mW. These
156 conditions were chosen to minimize laser-induced oxidation of the sample, which otherwise
157 was observed to produce hematite during the measurement. The wavenumber accuracy is \pm
158 1-2 cm⁻¹ and the focused laser spot on the sample was approximately \sim 2 μ m in diameter.

159 Powder X-ray diffraction patterns were obtained using a STOE Stadi P diffractometer
160 operating at 45 kV and 35 mA and using monochromatic Mo K α ($\lambda = 0.70926$ Å) radiation,
161 equipped with a linear PSD or a Mythen detector at the Goethe-Universität Frankfurt. The
162 samples were mounted in a 0.5 mm diameter capillary together with a small amount of silicon
163 that served as an internal standard. Diffraction patterns were collected in transmission mode
164 between 1°-100° 2 θ . For a couple of samples, powder diffraction patterns were measured
165 with a Philips X'Pert PRO diffractometer employing monochromatic Co K α ($\lambda = 1.78897$ Å)

166 radiation selected with a focusing monochromator, a symmetrically cut curved Johansson Ge
167 (111) crystal and a Philips X'celerator detector at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut. These
168 samples were ground together with Si and dispersed on a Si wafer using ethanol. Data were
169 collected between 10° and 120° 2θ at 40 kV and 40 mA. Preliminary phase identification
170 was routinely carried out using CrystalDiffract software from Crystalmaker Software Ltd.
171 (U.K.). All patterns were analysed with the General Structure Analysis System (GSAS,
172 Larson and van Dreele 1994) software package with the EXPGUI interface of Toby (2001) for
173 phase identification and to determine unit-cell parameters.

174 Transmission electron microscopic (TEM) investigations were carried out with a
175 Philips CM20FEG TEM, operated at 200 kV, at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut. Dark field TEM
176 images with target diffraction spots and selected area electron diffraction (SAED) patterns of
177 Fe_4O_5 , Fe_5O_6 and the hp- MgFe_2O_4 phase were obtained from powdered fragments deposited
178 on Lacey carbon-coated copper grids and conventional Ar-milled thin-foils after separation
179 from petrographic thin sections.

180

181 **Stability and phase relations of Fe_5O_6**

182

183 Synthesised crystals of Fe_5O_6 are jet black with a metallic luster (Fig. 1) and not
184 visibly different from Fe_4O_5 . Unfortunately, Raman spectroscopy is unsuitable for
185 distinguishing between Fe_5O_6 , Fe_4O_5 and Fe_9O_{11} since spectra from these three phases are
186 all very similar with one large peak at $\sim 660\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and two subsidiary peaks at $\sim 300\text{ cm}^{-1}$ and
187 530 cm^{-1} (Fig. 2). The only differences between the phases are slight shifts in the positions of
188 the three peaks. These spectra are also similar to that of magnetite, whose peaks are shifted
189 to higher wave numbers by $\sim 10\text{ cm}^{-1}$ (Fig. 2). It must also be noted that the Fe-oxide phases
190 are all susceptible to oxidation to hematite during a Raman measurement, necessitating the
191 use of low laser energies. This situation leaves powder X-ray diffraction as the primary
192 method for identifying the phase or phases present in the experimental run products. The
193 experimental conditions and duration, along with the resulting run products are summarised

194 in Table 1. It is clear that the stability field of Fe₅O₆ is quite large, beginning near 9.0 GPa
195 and extending to at least 28 GPa (Fig. 3). At 8 GPa, the assemblage magnetite + wüstite is
196 stable. Two experiments at 9.0 GPa (M651, M785) produced the three-phase assemblage
197 wüstite + Fe₃O₄ + Fe₅O₆, which along with several other experiments (Table 1) allows us to
198 constrain the position of the equilibrium:

199



201

202 to be described by

203

$$204 P \text{ (GPa)} = 1.86 \times 10^{-3} T \text{ (K)} + 6.107$$

205

206 This boundary has only a small temperature dependence, with a slight positive slope (Fig. 3).
207 It essentially coincides with the low-pressure boundary for Fe₄O₅ reported by Myhill et al.
208 (2016), indicating that it is the instability of magnetite that is driving reaction (1) and the
209 analogous reaction involving Fe₄O₅; which high-pressure phase appears depends on the
210 bulk Fe³⁺/ΣFe of the starting material. At higher pressures and relatively low temperatures,
211 the stability of Fe₅O₆ is limited by the equilibrium:

212



214

215 Together with an experiment at 14 GPa and 900°C (M736) that yielded all three phases and
216 several bracketing experiments at higher pressures up to 28 GPa (Fig. 3), the position of
217 equilibrium (2) can be approximated by

218

$$219 P \text{ (GPa)} = 27.7 \times 10^{-3} T \text{ (K)} - 18.48$$

220

221 A phase field for Fe_4O_5 + wüstite instead of Fe_5O_6 at relatively low temperatures was also
222 reported by Hikosaka et al. (2019), confirming the existence of equilibrium (2). However, we
223 find a significantly larger stability field for Fe_5O_6 than their study indicates (Fig. 3). This
224 discrepancy is no doubt related to the large uncertainties in their in situ temperature and
225 pressure determinations, particularly at low temperatures when using laser-heating.

226 The positions of equilibria (1) and (2) in P-T space are not consistent with the
227 thermodynamic data of Myhill et al. (2016, 2018) for high-pressure Fe-oxide phases as they
228 yield negative P-T slopes, when they should both be positive. This most likely lies with the
229 limited constraints that Myhill et al. had at the time for the properties of Fe_5O_6 . Using our new
230 phase diagram (Fig. 3), we can now improve on the Fe_5O_6 properties. Together with data for
231 magnetite taken from Holland & Powell (2011) and for “FeO” and Fe_4O_5 from Myhill et al.
232 (2016, 2018), we begin by adopting the heat capacity function of Myhill et al. (2016, 2018) for
233 Fe_5O_6 , which is based on the summation of heat capacities of magnetite and two times that
234 for stoichiometric “FeO” from Holland and Powell (2011) (i.e. $\text{Fe}_3\text{O}_4 + 2\text{FeO}$). The room
235 temperature equation of state was likewise taken from Myhill et al. (2016, 2018), including
236 the bulk modulus reported by Lavina & Meng (2015). We then refined the standard H° , S°
237 and thermal expansion coefficient for Fe_5O_6 by simultaneously considering constraints from
238 the positions of both equilibria (1) and (2). The non-stoichiometry of coexisting wüstite (Table
239 1) was accounted for with the model presented by Myhill et al. (2016) and using the
240 compositions from our experiments derived from the relationship between cell parameter and
241 composition given by McCammon and Liu (1984). Our refined thermodynamic properties for
242 Fe_5O_6 are given in Table 2. The new thermal expansion coefficient for Fe_5O_6 is now closer to
243 that of Fe_4O_5 (Myhill et al. 2018), which is consistent with the similarities in their respective
244 crystal structures.

245

246 **Stability of related Fe-oxides with Fe_5O_6**

247

248 Even when Fe_5O_6 is stable, an additional phase may appear in the experiments when
249 the bulk composition did not have exactly a $\text{Fe}^{2+}_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ stoichiometry. This can be
250 understood by considering a simple chemographic diagram for the FeO – $\text{FeO}_{1.5}$ binary
251 system (Fig. 4). In several cases, starting materials with a Fe_6O_7 or Fe_9O_{11} bulk composition
252 were deliberately employed to investigate the phase relations in more detail and test whether
253 additional phase stoichiometries could be stable (Table 1). However, the same effect may
254 occur to a lesser degree due to the difficulty in producing a completely homogeneous starting
255 material involving rather small amounts of metallic Fe powder mixed together with magnetite.
256 In addition, there is the potential for small degrees of oxidation or reduction occurring during
257 the experiment, which can shift the bulk composition of the sample off of its nominal
258 stoichiometry (Woodland et al. 2013). When an excess of Fe^{2+} is present, wüstite appears as
259 an additional phase together with Fe_5O_6 (Table 1). This means that under the pressure-
260 temperature conditions explored so far, no additional phase with a composition lying between
261 wüstite and Fe_5O_6 , such as Fe_6O_7 , was found to be stable (Fig. 4).

262 When the sample has a slight excess of Fe^{3+} , Fe_5O_6 usually coexists with Fe_4O_5 .
263 However, in a number of experiments Fe_9O_{11} was present (Table 1). This latter phase has a
264 monoclinic structure (Ishii et al. 2018) and a composition intermediate between Fe_5O_6 and
265 Fe_4O_5 (Fig. 4). Based upon its occurrence in our experiments, the stability of Fe_9O_{11} appears
266 to be limited to pressures of 9-14 GPa (Fig. 3), which is much more restricted than observed
267 for either Fe_5O_6 or Fe_4O_5 (Table 1; Myhill et al. 2016). In one experiment, both Fe_4O_5 and
268 Fe_9O_{11} occurred together with Fe_5O_6 (M733, Table 1). This is probably due to a small
269 variation in $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$ across the sample, which was subsequently homogenised for the
270 powder diffraction measurement. However, in two other cases (at 10 and 12 GPa,
271 respectively) Fe_4O_5 rather than Fe_9O_{11} appeared to coexist with Fe_5O_6 (Table 1). Although
272 this might suggest that Fe_9O_{11} is metastable, its large abundance in several other
273 experiments, along with being well crystallised as judged by the sharp reflections in the X-ray
274 diffraction diagrams argues against this interpretation. In addition, this phase has also been
275 synthesised in Mg-bearing compositions (Ishii et al. 2018 and see below).

276 The coexistence of Fe_5O_6 and Fe_4O_5 at least at $P \geq 14$ GPa defines a redox
277 equilibrium according to

278



280

281 Combining thermodynamic data for Fe_5O_6 from Table 2, along with data for Fe_4O_5 and O_2
282 from Myhill et al. (2018) and Stagno & Frost (2010), respectively, we can compute the
283 oxygen fugacity of this equilibrium as a function of pressure and temperature. The result is
284 illustrated in Figure 5 as a function of pressure at 1200°C , along with several other oxygen
285 buffer equilibria for reference. The upper redox limit for Fe_4O_5 is defined by its equilibrium
286 with hematite (i.e. $2 \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 = \text{Fe}_4\text{O}_5 + 0.5 \text{O}_2$), indicating that this phase has a redox stability
287 that extends over 4-5 log units in $f\text{O}_2$. In the process of calculating the $f\text{O}_2$ of equilibria
288 involving wüstite, it became evident that the solid solution model of Myhill et al. (2016, 2018)
289 is not consistent with the wüstite compositions observed in our experiments. As a result, we
290 are currently unable to map out the P-T- $f\text{O}_2$ relations of wüstite-bearing equilibria with either
291 Fe_5O_6 or Fe_4O_5 . Nevertheless, from Figure 5 it is apparent that the redox stability of Fe_5O_6
292 must be much more limited than that of Fe_4O_5 particularly at higher pressures since the
293 redox stability fields for both Fe_5O_6 and wüstite must lie between equilibrium (3) and the Fe-
294 wüstite buffer (Holland & Powell 2011) and there is only a difference of 3-4 log units in $f\text{O}_2$
295 between these equilibria.

296 For a Fe_3O_4 bulk composition, Woodland et al. (2012) observed the high-pressure
297 assemblage of Fe_4O_5 + hematite to extensively back react to magnetite. However, the more
298 reduced bulk compositions of this study (i.e. Fe_4O_5 , Fe_5O_6 , Fe_9O_{11} , Fe_6O_7) allowed the high-
299 pressure oxide phase(s) to be recovered. This suggests that it is the reactivity of Fe_4O_5 in the
300 presence of hematite that drives the back reaction. Even when the high-pressure oxide
301 phases are recovered, care needs to be taken during sample characterisation. For example,
302 although no deleterious effects were observed during microprobe analysis, the higher energy
303 electron beam and small volume of analysis during TEM investigation can cause local

304 reversion to magnetite during a measurement if precautions are not taken. Thermal cycling
305 even at low temperatures < 300 K during measurements of magnetic properties can also
306 induce magnetite formation (C. Krellner, pers. comm.). Anecdotal evidence suggests that
307 Fe_4O_5 may be more inclined to reversion to magnetite \pm wüstite during and after the quench
308 compared to Fe_5O_6 or Fe_9O_{11} . For example, the run products from experiments at ≥ 18 GPa
309 that produced the assemblage Fe_4O_5 + wüstite contained variable amounts of secondary
310 magnetite that had an anomalously large cell parameter $a_0 \approx 8.42$ Å (Table 1). Although
311 more detailed analysis is still warranted, we consider this indicative of a defect spinel
312 structure, where a normally unoccupied crystallographic site is occupied by Fe^{2+} , allowing its
313 composition to approach that of the initial Fe_4O_5 stoichiometry. TEM investigation of sample
314 Z1585u revealed very extensive {113} polysynthetic twinning in magnetite (Fig. 6) and such
315 twinning has been reported to occur by back reaction from Fe_4O_5 (Schollenbruch et al. 2011;
316 Myhill et al. 2016). Electron diffraction measurements of this magnetite also yielded an
317 abnormally large cell parameter of $a_0 \approx 8.42$ Å, consistent with that observed by XRD. That
318 this defect magnetite formed at the expense of Fe_4O_5 can also be demonstrated from two
319 XRD patterns of sample M639 obtained 6 months apart. The relative intensities of diffraction
320 peaks for Fe_4O_5 were markedly higher compared to those of defect magnetite and wüstite in
321 the earlier pattern obtained just after the experiment. Apparently the Fe_4O_5 in the finely
322 ground powdered sample (mixed with Si powder) continued to react to magnetite \pm
323 metastable wüstite even at room temperature on the time scale of months.

324

325 **Incorporation of Mg in Fe_5O_6**

326

327 A further series of experiments were undertaken to investigate the incorporation of
328 Mg in Fe_5O_6 (Table 3). Experiments with Mg-rich bulk compositions ($\text{Mg}_2\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ or
329 $\text{MgFe}^{2+}_2\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$) did not produce a Fe_5O_6 -structured phase. Instead, the run products
330 contained either (i) O_5 -phase + unquenchable phase or (ii) O_5 -phase + (Mg,Fe)O. For
331 example, experiment M760, with a bulk composition $\text{Mg}_2\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$, revealed an O_5 -solid

332 solution coexisting with another phase that had broken down at the end of the experiment to
333 a very fine mixture of ferropericlase and a magnesioferrite-rich spinel, as detected by X-ray
334 diffraction. Unfortunately the very fine grain size precluded chemical analysis of the individual
335 phases. However, the bulk composition of this unquenchable phase could be determined
336 from repeated large-diameter microprobe analyses to have a $Mg/(Mg+\sum Fe) = 0.51$ (isopleth
337 indicated in Fig. 7). This composition is consistent with a $(Mg,Fe^{2+})_4Fe^{3+}_2O_7$ phase, which
338 would be collinear with the compositions of the starting material and the O_5 -phase present
339 (Fig. 7; Table 4). Such an unquenchable phase is consistent with the observations of
340 Uenver-Thiele et al. (2017a), who investigated the high-pressure breakdown of
341 magnesioferrite.

342 An O_6 -structured phase was only obtained in bulk compositions with lower Mg
343 contents where a $(Mg_{0.5}Fe^{2+}_{2.5})Fe^{3+}_2O_6$ or $(Mg_{0.6},Fe^{2+}_{3.4})Fe^{3+}_2O_7$ starting composition with
344 $Mg\# = 0.167$ or 0.15 was employed (Table 3). Use of the slightly more reduced O_7 bulk
345 composition was intended to compensate for potential oxidation that might occur during the
346 experiment. Our results demonstrate not only that the $Mg_3Fe_2O_6$ endmember is unstable, but
347 that solid solution along the Fe_5O_6 - $Mg_3Fe_2O_6$ binary is quite limited. We obtained a maximum
348 Mg content of ~ 0.82 cations per formula unit (i.e. $X_{Mg_3Fe_2O_6} \approx 0.27$) at $1400^\circ C$ and 10 GPa
349 (Table 4). Unlike for the Mg-rich composition just described, there was no textural evidence
350 for an unquenchable phase with O_7 stoichiometry having been present during these
351 experiments. This is also consistent with our observations in the Mg-free system that no
352 further phases are stable with compositions lying between Fe_5O_6 and wüstite.

353 A series of experiments with a $Mg_{0.5}Fe^{2+}_{2.5}Fe^{3+}_2O_6$ starting composition allowed us to
354 construct the phase relations at high P and T (Fig. 8). Like for Fe_5O_6 , the minimum P stability
355 of the Mg-bearing O_6 -phase lies at ≈ 9 GPa. On the other hand, comparison with Figure 3
356 reveals that the addition of only ~ 0.5 cations Mg to the bulk composition significantly
357 changes the slope of the phase boundary between the O_6 -phase and the assemblage O_5 +
358 magnesiowüstite. This change in slope is likely related to differences in the thermodynamic
359 properties (Mg,Fe)O solid solutions in comparison to wüstite. For example, the unit cell

360 parameters obtained in this study exhibit strong deviations from those reported by O'Neill et
361 al. (2003), indicating a significant presence of Fe^{3+} in ferropericlase at high pressures (Table
362 3). Unfortunately, the Fe^{3+} contents could not be quantified by Mössbauer spectroscopy due
363 to the multiphase nature of our run products.

364 As described for the Mg-free experiments, additional phases may appear in an
365 experiment due to either local heterogeneities in the starting material or from small degrees
366 of oxidation or reduction occurring during the experiment. This is illustrated in Figure 9 where
367 the phase assemblages for experiments at 12 GPa are depicted. In addition, traces of
368 carbonate were detected in some experiments, presumably due to reaction between
369 adsorbed CO_2 and the starting material (Table 3). In several experiments at 12 and 14 GPa,
370 a phase with Fe_9O_{11} stoichiometry appeared that also contained Mg (Table 3, Fig. 9),
371 indicating some oxidation had occurred, increasing the bulk Fe^{3+} content from the
372 stoichiometric value for the O_6 -phase. The effect of Mg incorporation on the crystal structure
373 of Fe_9O_{11} has been detailed by Ishii et al. (2018). In other experiments at conditions where
374 the O_{11} -phase was not stable, $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_5$ and/or magnesiowüstite appeared in the
375 assemblage (Table 3).

376

377 **Coexistence with silicates?**

378

379 To explicitly test if the O_6 -phase could also coexist with mantle silicates, several
380 experiments were performed over a pressure range of 14-20 GPa using a starting bulk
381 composition of 70 % $\text{Mg}_{0.5}\text{Fe}_{2.5}\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ and 30 % forsterite (Tables 3, 4). In all cases, the run
382 products contained $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_5$ coexisting with magnesiowüstite and either wadsleyite or
383 ringwoodite. This is consistent with the results of Sinmyo et al. (2019), who found Mg-bearing
384 Fe_4O_5 coexisting with bridgmanite at 26 GPa and 1400°C. In our experiments, the silicate
385 phase reacted to incorporate a significant Fe-component of 0.35-0.40 mol % Fe_2SiO_4 (Table
386 4). Wadsleyite or ringwoodite is still the phase richest in Mg in the assemblage and the O_5 -
387 phase contains the least Mg. This agrees with the results described by Uenver-Thiele et al.

388 (2018) for experiments with higher bulk Fe^{3+} contents. The Mg-Fe partitioning systematics
389 between ringwoodite and the coexisting magnesiowüstite yield a $K_D = 0.22\text{-}0.24$ ($X_{\text{Mg}}^{\text{Si}} X_{\text{Fe}}^{\text{mw}} /$
390 $X_{\text{Fe}}^{\text{Si}} X_{\text{Mg}}^{\text{mw}}$), which agrees with earlier experiments performed under oxidising conditions (Ito
391 & Takahashi 1989; Frost et al. 2001) and suggests that Mg-Fe exchange in our experiments
392 had reached equilibrium. The Mg-bearing Fe_4O_5 was also found to incorporate only very
393 small amounts of Si, consistent with that found by Woodland et al. (2013) for Mg-free
394 compositions. We observe a slight increase in Si content with increasing pressure from 0.16
395 wt % to 0.33 wt % SiO_2 going from 14 to 20 GPa (Table 4), which corresponds to 0.008 and
396 0.15 cations per formula unit. This is much less than reported by Sinmyo et al. (2019), who
397 found up to 1.6-2.4 wt % SiO_2 in their Mg-bearing Fe_4O_5 coexisting with bridgmanite and
398 stishovite at 26 GPa. However, we note that our experiments did not contain stishovite and
399 thus had a lower silica activity.

400 These three experiments further document the relative instability of the Fe_5O_6 crystal
401 structure compared to Fe_4O_5 in Mg-bearing bulk compositions. Apparently the Mg- Fe^{2+}
402 partitioning with a Mg-rich wadsleyite or ringwoodite would require the O_6 -phase to have a
403 Mg content that exceeds its stability range (e.g. see Uenver-Thiele et al. 2018).

404

405 **Structural systematics of $(\text{Fe,Mg})_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$**

406

407 **The Fe_5O_6 endmember.** In spite of repeated attempts, the crystal quality of samples of Fe_5O_6
408 proved insufficient for a full single-crystal structural analysis. This was due either to internal
409 stress in the crystals, the occurrence of subgrain boundaries, or the partial back
410 transformation to a defect magnetite structure. In any case, the qualitative results from
411 single-crystal X-ray diffraction at least confirm that Fe_5O_6 belongs to the *Cmcm* space group,
412 making it a member of the $\text{CaFe}_{2+n}\text{O}_{4+n}$ series (with $n=2$; Evrard et al. 1980), like Fe_4O_5 . At
413 ambient conditions, the cell parameters are $a = 2.88 \text{ \AA}$, $b = 9.94 \text{ \AA}$, $c = 15.37 \text{ \AA}$, with small
414 variations between samples (Table 5). In some cases, differences in cell parameters can be
415 attributed to the influence of peak overlap with coexisting phases in the diffraction pattern. No

416 obvious correlations between the measured molar volume or individual cell parameters and
417 synthesis conditions are observable (Table 5). This is also the case for samples coexisting
418 with either Fe_4O_5 or wüstite, suggesting that this Fe_5O_6 is essentially stoichiometric. We
419 obtain an average room temperature molar volume of $66.35(4) \text{ cm}^3$ ($n=18$) for the Fe_5O_6
420 endmember, which agrees perfectly with the earlier values reported by Lavina and Meng
421 (2015) and Woodland et al. (2015).

422

423 **Mg-bearing compositions.** As described previously, solid solution along the Fe_5O_6 -
424 $\text{Mg}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ binary is very limited to a maximum of $X_{\text{Mg}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6} \approx 0.27$. Compared with Fe_5O_6 ,
425 incorporation of Mg causes the greatest change in shortening the *b*-cell parameter. As
426 expected, the molar volume of the recovered $(\text{MgFe}^{2+})_3\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ solid solutions decreases
427 systematically with increasing Mg content (Table 4; Fig. 10). It is notable that the relative
428 change in molar volume on a per Mg-cation basis is significantly greater than for analogous
429 $(\text{Mg,Fe}^{2+})_2\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_5$ solid solutions (compare Fig. 10 with Fig. 8 in Uenver-Thiele et al. 2018).
430 Although not conclusive, this sharp reduction in molar volume could provide an explanation
431 for why the O_6 -structure becomes destabilised with the addition of Mg.

432

433 **Implications of Fe_5O_6 for the Earth's mantle**

434

435 The stability field for Fe_5O_6 defined in this study suggests that it could be an accessory phase
436 from the deep upper mantle (~300 km), through the transition zone and into the lower mantle
437 at least down to ~925 km (Fig.1). In fact, Hikosaka et al. (2019) indicate that both Fe_5O_6 and
438 Fe_4O_5 remain stable up to ~38 GPa (> 1200 km depth) where they both become destabilized
439 by the appearance of orthorhombic-structured $\text{hp-Fe}_3\text{O}_4$. This stability range makes both
440 phases candidates for becoming incorporated as inclusions in diamond. On the one hand,
441 considering the rather reduced redox conditions expected in the mantle, assemblages
442 involving Fe_5O_6 should have the most relevance for the Earth, following the suggestion of
443 Myhill et al. (2016). On the other hand, the position of equilibrium (3) reveals that Fe_4O_5 has

444 a redox stability that extends over 4-5 log units in fO_2 and straddles the transition where
445 diamond and carbonate (magnesite) are stable in a peridotitic bulk composition. Thus, if
446 diamond were to form through coupled reduction of carbonate and oxidation of Fe (e.g.
447 Palyanov et al. 2002), then Fe_4O_5 would potentially be the more likely phase to be trapped
448 during diamond growth.

449 In the process of transporting materials containing Fe_5O_6 or Fe_4O_5 to the surface, it is
450 very likely that the high-pressure phase will not be preserved, even if it is encapsulated in a
451 diamond. In fact, back-reaction to magnetite is often observed on the short time scale of
452 quenching and decompressing an experiment in the laboratory (this study, Schollenbruch et
453 al. 2011; Woodland et al. 2012; Myhill et al. 2016). Aside from textural evidence, several
454 features may be used to interpret whether a given phase was stable at the conditions of the
455 experiment or whether a precursor phase was originally present. For example, polysynthetic
456 twins parallel to {113} have been reported in magnetite that formed by back reaction from
457 Fe_4O_5 (Schollenbruch et al. 2011; Myhill et al. 2016). In this study, we have observed the
458 same twinning in magnetite that had transformed from Fe_5O_6 in sample M758 (Fig. 6).
459 Considering the similarity in the crystal structures of Fe_4O_5 and Fe_5O_6 , it is perhaps not
460 surprising {113}-parallel twinning can form in magnetite during transformation from either of
461 these phases at low pressures. Thus, the twinned magnetite corona observed by Jacob et al.
462 (2016) growing on a pyrrhotite inclusion in a diamond from the Orapa Mine could have had
463 either Fe_4O_5 or Fe_5O_6 as a high-pressure precursor. Further features indicative of a high-
464 pressure precursor phase to magnetite are the presence of antiphase domains and mottling
465 in dark field TEM images (Fig. 11a, 11b). Although antiphase domains have not been
466 reported in natural magnetite up to now, this may be more due to such structures not being
467 looked for in the past. Considering the potential for subsequent annealing of such structures,
468 they are more likely to be preserved in shocked meteorites than in samples from the deep
469 Earth, the later potentially remaining at high temperatures for long periods of time.

470 As a number of studies have identified nearly pure magnetite as an inclusion in
471 diamond (e.g. Stachel et al. 1998; Jacob et al. 2016), it is clear that local environments

472 anomalously Fe-rich must exist in the deep mantle, at least where diamond forms. But the
473 'normal' mantle assemblage is dominated by Mg-rich bulk compositions. However, our study
474 indicates that the extent of Mg-incorporation in Fe_5O_6 is quite limited. In fact, our experiments
475 with Si-bearing bulk compositions produced assemblages with the O_5 -phase rather than the
476 O_6 -phase. Even in these experiments, ringwoodite and wadsleyite had $X_{\text{Mg}} \approx 0.60$ - 0.65 ,
477 which is still significantly richer in Fe than expected for a peridotitic bulk composition (i.e. X_{Mg}
478 ≈ 0.9). Thus, we conclude that in the peridotitic mantle assemblage the O_5 -phase should be
479 of much more relevance as an accessory phase than the O_6 -phase.

480

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482

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490

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- 596
- 597 Tables
- 598
- 599 Table 1 Conditions and run products of experiments in the Fe–O system along with refined
600 cell parameters of magnetite and wüstite and derived wüstite composition
- 601 Table 2 Revised thermodynamic properties of the Fe_5O_6 endmember composition
- 602 Table 3 Summary of experiments in the system MgO – FeO – $\text{FeO}_{1.5} \pm \text{SiO}_2$ along with the
603 composition and volume of coexisting (Mg,Fe)O
- 604 Table 4 Composition, unit cell parameters and volumes of run products from experiments in
605 the system MgO – FeO – $\text{FeO}_{1.5} \pm \text{SiO}_2$

606 Table 5 Cell parameters of Fe_5O_6 , Fe_4O_5 and Fe_9O_{11}

607

608 Figure captions

609

610 Fig. 1 Photomicrograph of Fe_5O_6 crystals.

611

612 Fig 2. Raman spectra of the high-pressure Fe-oxides and magnetite. The small peaks
613 marked by * are from a trace of hematite produced during the measurement.

614

615 Fig 3. Phase diagram for Fe_5O_6 . The points marked with "O5" indicate that Fe_5O_6 coexists
616 with Fe_4O_5 in these experiments, just like the square symbols indicating the coexistence
617 of Fe_9O_{11} with Fe_5O_6 . This coexistence indicates small deviations from the ideal sample
618 stoichiometry (see text). The diamond marked by "L&M" denotes the synthesis
619 conditions of Fe_5O_6 reported by Lavina and Meng (2015). The dashed line is the phase
620 boundary for equilibrium (2) ($\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_6 = \text{Fe}_4\text{O}_5 + \text{wüstite}$) reported by Hikosaka et al.
621 (2019) with the stability field for Fe_5O_6 lying on the higher temperature side of the
622 boundary.

623

624 Fig. 4 Chemographic diagram for the binary system $\text{FeO-FeO}_{1.5}$ illustrating different phases
625 found to be stable at different pressures and temperatures.

626

627 Fig. 5 Plot of $f\text{O}_2$ versus pressure at 1200°C for several equilibria involving Fe_4O_5 and Fe_5O_6 .
628 Several other redox buffers are also shown for reference, calculated using data from
629 Myhill et al. (2016, 208) for Fe_5O_6 and from Holland & Powell (2011): IW = iron-wüstite;
630 EMOD = enstatite-magnesite-olivine-diamond; EMWD = enstatite-magnesite-wadsleyite-
631 diamond; EMRD = enstatite-magnesite-ringwoodite-diamond. The EMOD, EMWD and
632 EMRD curves merge into each other where the phase transitions occur in Mg_2SiO_4 .

633

634 Fig. 6 Dark field TEM image and the corresponding selected area electron diffraction pattern
635 of sample Z1585u revealing extensive polysynthetic twinning parallel to the (131) plane
636 in magnetite that had back reacted from Fe_5O_6 .

637

638 Fig. 7 Chemographic analysis of the run products in sample M760 with a bulk composition
639 $\text{Mg}_2\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_6$ (star). The orange cross indicates the composition of the coexisting O_5 -
640 phase, as determined by EPMA. The isopleth at $\text{Mg}/(\text{Mg}+\text{Fe}_{\text{tot}}) = 0.51$ represents the
641 composition of the unquenchable phase originally present at the pressure and
642 temperature of the experiment, as obtained from microprobe analyses employing a large
643 beam diameter to obtain an “average” composition. The yellow cross represents the
644 interpreted composition of the unquenchable $(\text{Mg},\text{Fe}^{2+})_4\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_7$ phase.

645

646 Fig. 8. P-T phase diagram for the $(\text{Mg}_{0.5},\text{Fe}_{2.5})\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ bulk composition

647

648 Fig. 9. Diagram of the MgO-FeO- $\text{FeO}_{1.5}$ system illustrating phase relations in four
649 experiments performed at 12 GPa. Small and variable degrees of oxidation or reduction
650 are indicated by arrows. The star denotes the starting composition.

651

652 Fig. 10. Variation in cell parameters of $(\text{Mg},\text{Fe})_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$ solid solutions as a function of the
653 mole fraction of $\text{Mg}_3\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_6$.

654

655 Fig. 11. Dark field TEM images of a) antiphase domains in magnetite that formed by
656 backreaction from Mg-bearing Fe_5O_6 in sample M697. RS = rock salt structure (i.e.
657 wüstite) and b) mottled contrast in iron oxide back-transformed from Fe_5O_6 in sample
658 V888 (view with $g = 311$). The lower left and upper right insets are SAED patterns of the
659 nearest zone axis and the corresponding diffraction pattern to the dark field image,
660 respectively, which indicate the presence of back-reacted magnetite.

Table 1. Conditions and run products of experiments in the Fe–O system along with refined cell parameters of r

| experiment | starting stoichiometry | pressure [GPa] | temperature [°C] | duration [hr] | run products ¹ | cell parameter wüstite [Å] | Fe _x O ² |
|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|--|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| H4346 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 8 | 1000 | 4.5 | mt+wü | 4.2825(1) | 0.892 |
| H4348o ⁴ | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 8 | 1350 | 1 | mt+wü | 4.2912(1) | 0.91 |
| M786 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 9 | 800 | 5.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₉ O ₁₁ +wü | 4.2768(1) | 0.88 |
| M774 | Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | 9 | 1000 | 4 | Fe ₄ O ₅ +(Fe ₉ O ₁₁) | | |
| M651 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 9 | 1200 | 4.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +wü+mt | 4.2842(1) | 0.896 |
| M785 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 9 | 1310 | 3 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +wü+mt | 4.2844(1) | 0.896 |
| M777 ^b | Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | 9 | 1350 | 2.5 | Fe ₄ O ₅ +mt+(wü)+(Fe ₉ O ₁₁) | 4.2969(6) | 0.922 |
| M756 ^b | Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | 9 | 1500 | 1 | mt+wü+(Fe ₄ O ₅) | 4.2888(3) | 0.905 |
| M728 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 10 | 900 | 5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | | |
| M653 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 10 | 1000 | 6 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | | |
| V838 | Fe ₄ O ₅ | 10 | 1100 | 4 | Fe ₄ O ₅ +Fe ₅ O ₆ | | |
| V888 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 10 | 1200 | 4.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ (+wü) | | |
| M587 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 10 | 1200 | 3.75 | Fe ₅ O ₆ (+wü) | | |
| Z1505 ⁴ | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 11 | 1500 | 2.67 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | | |
| V889 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 12 | 1200 | 4 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| V891 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 12 | 1200 | 2.67 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +wü | 4.2980(2) | 0.925 |
| M614 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 12 | 1200 | 3 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | | |
| M733 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 13 | 1000 | 4 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| M736 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 14 | 900 | 4.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ +wü | 4.3032(2) | 0.936 |
| M755 | Fe ₉ O ₁₁ | 14 | 1500 | 1 | Fe ₉ O ₁₁ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| H4269 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 15 | 1200 | 3.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| H4270 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 16 | 1400 | 3.25 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +wü | 4.2810(1) | 0.889 |
| M639 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 18 | 1000 | 4 | Fe ₄ O ₅ +wü+dmf | 4.3019(5) | 0.933 |
| M652 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 18 | 1000 | 6 | Fe ₄ O ₅ +wü+dmf | 4.3055(4) | 0.94 |
| H4853 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 18 | 1100 | 4.25 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +(Fe ₄ O ₅) | | |
| Z1430u | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 18 | 1300 | 2.5 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | | |
| Z1585u | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 20 | 1100 | 3.5 | wü+dmf+Fe ₄ O ₅ | 4.3147(1) | 0.96 |
| H4855 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 20 | 1150 | 3 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| Z1464u | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 20 | 1300 | 0.67 | Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| Z1507 | Fe ₆ O ₇ | 20 | 1600 | 2 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | | |

| | | | | | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|----|------|---|-----------|-------|
| H4347 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 23 | 1300 | 3.67 Fe ₅ O ₆ +Fe ₄ O ₅ | | |
| IRIS 697 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 28 | 1200 | 3 Fe ₄ O ₅ +wü+dmt | 4.3188(3) | 0.968 |
| IRIS 702 | Fe ₅ O ₆ | 28 | 1500 | 1 Fe ₅ O ₆ +? | | |

¹ wü = wüstite, mt = magnetite, dmt = defect-bearing magnetite.

² calculated following formulation of McCammon and Liu (1984).

³ mole fraction of FeO in FeO-FeO_{1.5} solid solution following approach of Myhill et al. (2016).

⁴ employed Au capsule

⁵ employed Pt capsule

magnetite and wüstite and derived wüstite composition

cell parameter
XFeO³ magnetite [Å]

0.683 8.3966(1)

0.73 8.3945(1)

0.647

0.695 8.4011(6)

0.694 8.3988(3)

0.77 8.3934(3)

0.72 8.3942(1)

0.779

0.811

0.674

0.803 8.4209(5)

0.82 8.4255(13)

0.88 8.4172(7)

0.906 8.421(2)

Table 2 Thermodynamic data for Fe₅O₆. Heat capacity terms have the form: $a+bT+cT^{-2}+dT^{-0.5}$.

| | Fe ₅ O ₆ | source |
|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| H°_{1bar,298} (kJ mol⁻¹) | -1920.3 | this study |
| S°₂₉₈ (J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹) | 279.93 | this study |
| V°₂₉₈ (cm³ mol⁻¹) | 66.33 | this study |
| K_o (GPa) | 173 | Lavina & Meng (2015) |
| K' | 4 | Myhill et al. (2018)) |
| K'' (GPa⁻¹) | -2.312 e-2 | Myhill te al. (2018) |
| a_o (K⁻¹) | 2.02 e-5 | this study |
| Cp (J K⁻¹ mol⁻¹) a | 351.3 | Holland & Powell (2011) |
| b | 9.355 e-3 | from molar sum of terms |
| c | -4.3546 e6 | for "FeO" and |
| d | -1.2853 e3 | magnetite |

Table 3. Summary of experiments in the system MgO–FeO–FeO_{1.5} ± SiO₂ along with the co

| experiment | P | T | duration | phase assemblage ¹ | (Mg,Fe)O | |
|--|-------|------------|----------|--|----------|----------|
| | [GPa] | [C°] | | | [h] | nMg |
| (Mg₂Fe)Fe₂O₄ | | | | | | |
| M686 | 12 | 1300 | 1 | O ₅ + [sp + (Mg,Fe)O] | | |
| M760 | 12 | 1500 | 1 | O ₅ + [sp + (Mg,Fe)O] | | |
| (Mg₁Fe₂)Fe₂O₆ | | | | | | |
| M764 | 12 | 1300 | 3 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O + (mgs) | 0.31(1) | 0.69(1) |
| M833 | 14 | 1300 | 1 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.29(1) | 0.71(1) |
| (Mg_{0.5}Fe_{2.5})Fe₂O₆ | | | | | | |
| M719 | 8 | 1100 | 4 | O ₄ + (Mg,Fe)O | | |
| M737 | 8 | 1200 | 3 | O ₄ + (Mg,Fe)O + (mgs) | 0.121(3) | 0.879(3) |
| M749 ² | 8 | ~1200-1300 | 1 | O ₄ + (Mg,Fe)O | | |
| M723 | 10 | 1000 | 5 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O + (mgs) | 0.24(1) | 0.76(1) |
| M729 ² | 10 | 1000 | 5 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.207(3) | 0.793(3) |
| M718 | 10 | 1200 | 3 | O ₅ + (Fe,Mg)O | 0.20(1) | 0.80(1) |
| M758 | 10 | 1400 | 1 | O ₅ + O ₆ + MgO | | |
| M706 | 12 | 1000 | 5 | O ₅ + (Fe,Mg)O | 0.23(1) | 0.77(1) |
| M725 | 12 | 1200 | 3 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.244(2) | 0.756(2) |
| M697 | 12 | 1300 | 3 | O ₆ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.143(1) | 0.857(1) |
| M702 | 12 | 1300 | 4 | O ₁₁ | | |
| M724 | 14 | 1000 | 5 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.286(8) | 0.714(8) |
| M705 | 14 | 1300 | 3 | O ₅ + O ₆ + ((Fe,Mg)O) | 0.18(2) | 0.82(2) |
| M754 | 14 | 1500 | 1 | O ₆ + (O ₁₁) + ((Fe,Mg)O) | | |
| M738 | 14 | 1600 | 2 | O ₁₁ + (O ₅) | | |
| Z1804o | 16 | ~1130 | 2 | O ₅ + O ₆ + ((Mg,Fe)O) | 0.23(1) | 0.77(1) |
| Z1806u | 20 | 1300 | 3 | O ₅ + O ₆ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.284(2) | 0.716(2) |
| (Mg_{0.6}Fe_{3.4})Fe₂O₇ | | | | | | |
| M836 | 10 | 1100 | 1 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.13(1) | 0.87(1) |
| M837 | 10 | 1200 | 1 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O + (mgs) | 0.12(1) | 0.88(1) |
| M834 | 10 | 1500 | 0.67 | O ₆ + (MgFe)O + sp | 0.13(1) | 0.87(1) |
| M835 | 12 | 1200 | 1 | O ₆ + (MgFe)O + (O ₅) + (mg 0.15(1) | | 0.85(1) |

| | | | | | | |
|------|----|------|-----|----------------------------------|---------|---------|
| M838 | 14 | 1100 | 1.5 | O ₆ + (MgFe)O + (mgs) | 0.16(1) | 0.84(1) |
| M839 | 18 | 900 | 3 | O ₅ + (Mg,Fe)O + [sp] | | |

0.3 Mg₂SiO₄ + 0.7 (Mg_{0.5}Fe_{2.5})Fe₂O₆

| | | | | | | |
|--------|----|------|-----|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| M761 | 14 | 1300 | 3 | O ₅ + wads + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.198(2) | 0.802(1) |
| Z1954o | 17 | 1300 | 1.5 | O ₅ + ring + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.264(1) | 0.736(1) |
| Z1955o | 20 | 1300 | 1.5 | O ₅ + ring + (Mg,Fe)O | 0.31(1) | 0.69(1) |

¹ sp = spinel, mgs = magnesite, wads = wadsleyite, ring = ringwoodite,
 square brackets indicate quench phases, curved brackets indicate occurrence in trace amounts.

² Experiment carried out with silver capsule.

Composition and volume of coexisting (Mg,Fe)O

| <u>a_o [Å]</u> | <u>Mol Vol [cm³]</u> |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 4.2309(1) | 75.735(7) |
| 4.2304(2) | 75.706(8) |
| 4.2481(1) | 11.542(1) |
| 4.2472(1) | 11.534(1) |
| 4.2678(1) | 11.703(1) |
| 4.2692(1) | 11.714(1) |
| 4.2701(2) | 11.722(1) |
| 4.2565(4) | 11.610(3) |
| 4.2665(1) | 11.692(1) |
| 4.2538(3) | 11.588(2) |
| 4.2522(1) | 11.575(1) |
| 4.2722(2) | 11.739(1) |
| 4.2504(5) | 11.560(4) |
| 4.2653(1) | 11.682(1) |
| 4.2786(4) | 11.792(3) |
| 4.2510(3) | 11.565(1) |
| 4.2836(2) | 11.847(1) |
| 4.2668(1) | 11.695(1) |
| 4.2652(1) | 11.682(1) |
| 4.2637(1) | 11.670(1) |
| 4.2639(1) | 11.671(1) |

4.2674(1) 11.700(1)

4.2937(5) 11.917(4)

4.2485(1) 11.545(1)

4.2606(1) 11.644(1)

4.2706(1) 11.726(1)

Table 4. Composition, unit cell parameters and volumes of run products from experiment

| experiment | phase | nMg | nFe ²⁺ | nFe ³⁺ | unit-cell parameters | | |
|--|-------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| | | c.p.f.u. | c.p.f.u. | c.p.f.u. | a [Å] | b [Å] | c [Å] |
| (Mg,Fe)₃Fe₂O₆ | | | | | | | |
| M834 | | 0.37(1) | 2.63(1) | 2 | 2.8904(2) | 9.8981(7) | 15.3551(9) |
| M838 | | 0.39(2) | 2.61(2) | 2 | 2.8905(1) | 9.8999(2) | 15.3523(3) |
| M835 | | 0.40(2) | 2.60(2) | 2 | 2.8905(1) | 9.8992(3) | 15.3514(4) |
| M697 | | 0.421(6) | 2.579(6) | 2 | 2.8909(1) | 9.9000(2) | 15.3545(3) |
| M754 | | 0.51(1) | 2.49(1) | 2 | 2.8923(1) | 9.8877(4) | 15.3470(5) |
| M705 | | 0.53(2) | 2.47(2) | 2 | 2.8925(1) | 9.8876(3) | 15.3486(4) |
| Z1804o | | 0.53(4) | 2.47(4) | 2 | 2.8977(2) | 9.8711(6) | 15.3372(8) |
| Z1806u | | 0.55(2) | 2.45(2) | 2 | 2.8855(6) | 9.8972(25) | 15.3522(2) |
| M758 | | 0.82(1) | 2.18(1) | 2 | 2.8925(1) | 9.8724(4) | 15.3520(6) |
| (Mg,Fe)₂Fe₂O₅ | | | | | | | |
| M837 | | 0.18(1) | 1.82(1) | 2 | 2.8923(1) | 9.7960(4) | 12.5690(4) |
| M836 | | 0.19(1) | 1.81(1) | 2 | 2.8926(1) | 9.7958(4) | 12.5706(4) |
| M724 | | 0.27(2) | 1.73(2) | 2 | 2.8937(2) | 9.7858(6) | 12.5720(7) |
| M729 | | 0.271(4) | 1.729(4) | 2 | 2.8925(1) | 9.7939(4) | 12.5714(4) |
| M706 | | 0.31(5) | 1.69(5) | 2 | 2.8920(1) | 9.7884(4) | 12.5703(5) |
| Z1804o | | 0.31(4) | 1.69(4) | 2 | 2.8930(2) | 9.7805(6) | 12.5676(6) |
| M723 | | 0.32(3) | 1.68(3) | 2 | 2.8937(1) | 9.7846(3) | 12.5706(3) |
| Z1806u | | 0.33(1) | 1.67(1) | 2 | 2.8923(1) | 9.7816(6) | 12.5690(6) |
| M725 | | 0.374(4) | 1.626(4) | 2 | 2.8932(1) | 9.7852(3) | 12.5690(4) |
| M718 | | 0.38(2) | 1.62(2) | 2 | 2.8927(1) | 9.7874(4) | 12.5667(4) |
| M839 | | 0.38(2) | 1.62(2) | 2 | 2.886(1) | 9.777(4) | 12.575(4) |
| M705 | | 0.42(2) | 1.58(2) | 2 | 2.8900(5) | 9.799(2) | 12.563(2) |
| M758 | | 0.42(1) | 1.58(1) | 2 | 2.8921(1) | 9.7918(3) | 12.5626(4) |
| M764 | | 0.50(1) | 1.50(1) | 2 | 2.8934(1) | 9.7773(3) | 12.5629(3) |
| M833 | | 0.52(1) | 1.48(1) | 2 | 2.8930(2) | 9.7705(6) | 12.5627(6) |
| M686 | | 0.89(2) | 1.11(2) | 2 | 2.8922(3) | 9.7623(13) | 12.5586(1) |
| M760 | | 1.09(1) | 0.91(1) | 2 | 2.8922(2) | 9.7539(6) | 12.5538(6) |
| (Mg,Fe)Fe₂O₄ | | | | | | | |
| M719 | | 0.17(1) | 0.83(1) | 2 | 8.3928(1) | | |
| M737 | | 0.171(2) | 0.829(2) | 2 | 8.3895(2) | | |
| M760 | | | | | 8.4060(6) | | |
| M749 | | | | | 8.3887(4) | | |
| (Mg,Fe)₅Fe₄O₁₁ | | | | | | | |
| M702 | | 0.867(9) | 4.133(9) | 4 | 9.8441(5) | 2.8920(1) | 14.1760(6) |
| M754 | | 1.46(1) | 3.54(1) | 4 | | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|------|--|---------|---------|---|-----------|-----------|------------|
| M738 | | 1.02(3) | 3.98(3) | 4 | 9.8368(2) | 2.8927(1) | 14.1728(3) |
|------|--|---------|---------|---|-----------|-----------|------------|

Si-bearing samples

(Mg,Fe)₂Fe₂O₅

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|--|---------|---------|----------------------|-----------|------------|-------------|
| M761 | | 0.32(1) | 1.66(1) | 1.96(1) ² | 2.8925(2) | 9.7792(9) | 12.5638(8) |
| Z1954o | | 0.38(1) | 1.63(1) | 1.95(1) ² | 2.8935(1) | 9.7662(6) | 12.5532(6) |
| Z1955o | | 0.36(1) | 1.65(1) | 1.94(1) ² | 2.8926(4) | 9.7683(16) | 12.5482(13) |

(Mg,Fe)₂SiO₄

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|------|---------|---------|---------|------------|-------------|------------|
| M761 | wads | 1.27(1) | 0.68(1) | 0.08(1) | 5.7349(16) | 11.5696(34) | 8.3153(19) |
| Z1954o | ring | 1.23(1) | 0.75(1) | 0.04(1) | 8.1292(3) | | |
| Z1955o | ring | 1.30(2) | 0.68(2) | 0.03(1) | 8.1208(7) | | |

¹ sp = spinel, mgs = magnesite, wads = wadsleyite, ring = ringwoodite.

² contains traces of SiO₂ and Al₂O₃: M761 – 0.16 wt% SiO₂, 0.40 wt % Al₂O₃; Z1954o – 0.21 wt% SiO₂, 0.33 wt% Al₂O₃; Z1955o – 0.33 wt% SiO₂, 0.56 wt% Al₂O₃

ts in the system MgO–FeO–FeO_{1.5} ± SiO₂

| β [°] | <u>V [Å³]</u> | <u>Mol Vol [cm⁻³]</u> |
|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
|) | 439.30(3) | 66.137(4) |
|) | 439.316(10) | 66.139(2) |
|) | 439.256(14) | 66.130(2) |
|) | 439.445(9) | 66.158(2) |
|) | 438.89(2) | 66.075(3) |
|) | 438.959(15) | 66.085(3) |
|) | 438.70(3) | 66.046(4) |
| 9) | 438.44(9) | 66.007(13) |
|) | 438.39(2) | 66.000(3) |
|) | 356.124(14) | 53.914(3) |
|) | 356.189(15) | 53.624(3) |
|) | 356.00(2) | 53.596(3) |
|) | 356.14(1) | 53.617(2) |
|) | 355.847(2) | 53.573(1) |
|) | 355.59(2) | 53.543(3) |
|) | 355.92(1) | 53.584(2) |
|) | 355.59(2) | 53.543(3) |
|) | 355.83(1) | 53.570(2) |
|) | 355.79(1) | 53.654(2) |
|) | 354.86(15) | 53.42(2) |
|) | 355.79(7) | 53.564(10) |
|) | 355.760(12) | 53.560(2) |
|) | 355.406(10) | 53.506(2) |
|) | 355.10(2) | 53.461(3) |
| 1) | 354.58(4) | 53.382(6) |
|) | 354.14(2) | 53.318(3) |
|) | 591.17(2) | 44.500(2) |
|) | 590.48(3) | 44.448(3) |
|) | 593.96(11) | 44.71(1) |
|) | 590.32(8) | 44.436(7) |
|) | 99.956(4) | 397.50(3) 119.687(9) |

99.906(2) 397.27(1) 119.618(3)

| 355.38(3) 53.502(5)

| 354.73(2) 53.405(3)

) 354.55(4) 53.377(6)

| 551.7(1) 41.53(1)

537.21(6) 40.385(8)

535.5(1) 40.31(1)

SiO₂, 0.49 wt% Al₂O₃;

Table 5. Unit-cell parameters and volumes of high-P Fe-oxide phases

| experiment | phase | <i>a</i> [Å] | <i>b</i> [Å] | <i>c</i> [Å] | <i>V</i> [Å ³] | molar Volume [cm ³] |
|------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Fe₅O₆ | | | | | |
| H4269 | | 2.8845(1) | 9.9442(5) | 15.3632(7) | 440.68(2) | 66.344(3) |
| H4270 | | 2.8838(1) | 9.946384) | 15.3642(5) | 440.70(2) | 66.347(3) |
| H4347 | | 2.8830(1) | 9.9437(5) | 15.3600(7) | 440.34(2) | 66.293(3) |
| H4853 | | 2.8842(1) | 9.9412(3) | 15.3643(4) | 440.53(1) | 66.322(2) |
| H4855 | | 2.8840(1) | 9.9417(3) | 15.3634(4) | 440.50(1) | 66.317(2) |
| M651 | | 2.8848(4) | 9.946(2) | 15.361(2) | 440.75(8) | 66.355(12) |
| M653 | | 2.8851(1) | 9.9475(4) | 15.3751(6) | 441.26(2) | 66.432(3) |
| M728 | | 2.8834(1) | 9.9426(4) | 15.3632(5) | 440.44(2) | 66.308(3) |
| M733 | | 2.8840(1) | 9.9424(5) | 15.3646(7) | 440.57(2) | 66.328(3) |
| M736 | | 2.8838(3) | 9.9414(11) | 15.3554(13) | 440.23(4) | 66.277(6) |
| M785 | | 2.8880(8) | 9.934(3) | 15.357(3) | 440.56(11) | 66.34(2) |
| M786 | | 2.8848(5) | 9.934(2) | 15.390(3) | 441.04(8) | 66.399(12) |
| V888 | | 2.8855(1) | 9.9399(2) | 15.3666(2) | 440.74(2) | 66.353(3) |
| V889 | | 2.8851(2) | 9.9429(6) | 15.3678(11) | 440.85(3) | 66.370(4) |
| V891 | | 2.8846(1) | 9.9448(6) | 15.3679(8) | 440.90(3) | 66.377(4) |
| Z1430u | | 2.8842(1) | 9.9408(5) | 15.3606(6) | 440.40(2) | 66.302(3) |
| Z1464u | | 2.8837(1) | 9.9397(5) | 15.3602(7) | 440.27(2) | 66.283(3) |
| Z1507u | | 2.8840(1) | 9.9457(3) | 15.3678(4) | 440.81(2) | 66.364(3) |
| | Fe₄O₅ | | | | | |
| H4269 | | 2.8917(12) | 9.8006(56) | 12.5762(51) | 356.41(15) | 53.66(2) |
| H4347 | | 2.8938(3) | 9.8036(14) | 12.5721(14) | 356.66(5) | 53.695(7) |
| H4853 | | 2.8930(5) | 9.8053(23) | 12.5813(24) | 356.89(8) | 53.730(12) |
| H4855 | | 2.8926(1) | 9.8032(6) | 12.5783(7) | 356.68(2) | 53.698(3) |
| IRIS 697 | | 2.8939(2) | 9.8002(7) | 12.5696(7) | 356.49(2) | 53.670(3) |
| M639 | | 2.9097(6) | 9.7747(27) | 12.5558(26) | 357.10(9) | 53.761(14) |
| M652 | | 2.8942(3) | 9.7975(11) | 12.5626(11) | 356.23(4) | 53.630(6) |
| M733 | | 2.8936(7) | 9.7988(32) | 12.5762(30) | 356.6(1) | 53.69(2) |
| M736 | | 2.8917(1) | 9.8053(4) | 12.5777(5) | 356.63(2) | 53.691(3) |
| M755 | | 2.8934(2) | 9.8046(9) | 12.5759(10) | 356.76(3) | 53.710(5) |
| M756 | | 2.8908(3) | 9.805(3) | 12.579(3) | 356.5(1) | 53.67(2) |
| M774 | | 2.8914(1) | 9.8060(4) | 12.5688(4) | 356.365(14) | 53.651(2) |
| M777 | | 2.8928(1) | 9.8025(4) | 12.5778(4) | 356.675(13) | 53.697(2) |
| V838 | | 2.8939(1) | 9.8054(2) | 12.5820(21) | 357.028(12) | 53.751(2) |
| V889 | | 2.8959(8) | 9.8064(37) | 12.5759(48) | 357.1(1) | 53.76(2) |
| Z1464u | | 2.8923(2) | 9.8046(8) | 12.5710(9) | 356.49(3) | 53.670(5) |
| | Fe₉O₁₁ | | | | | |
| | | <i>a</i> [Å] | <i>b</i> [Å] | <i>c</i> [Å] | β (°) | <i>V</i> [Å ³] |
| M755 | | 9.8804(2) | 2.8857(1) | 14.189(7) | 99.920(6) | 398.50(2) |
| M774 | | 9.8500(51) | 2.8950(15) | 14.182(5) | 99.95(7) | 398.3(2) |
| M786 | | 9.8666(32) | 2.8901(7) | 14.185(3) | 100.08(3) | 398.26(12) |
| Z1505 | | 9.8841(6) | 2.8843(1) | 14.1920(7) | 99.923(6) | 398.54(2) |



Figure 2

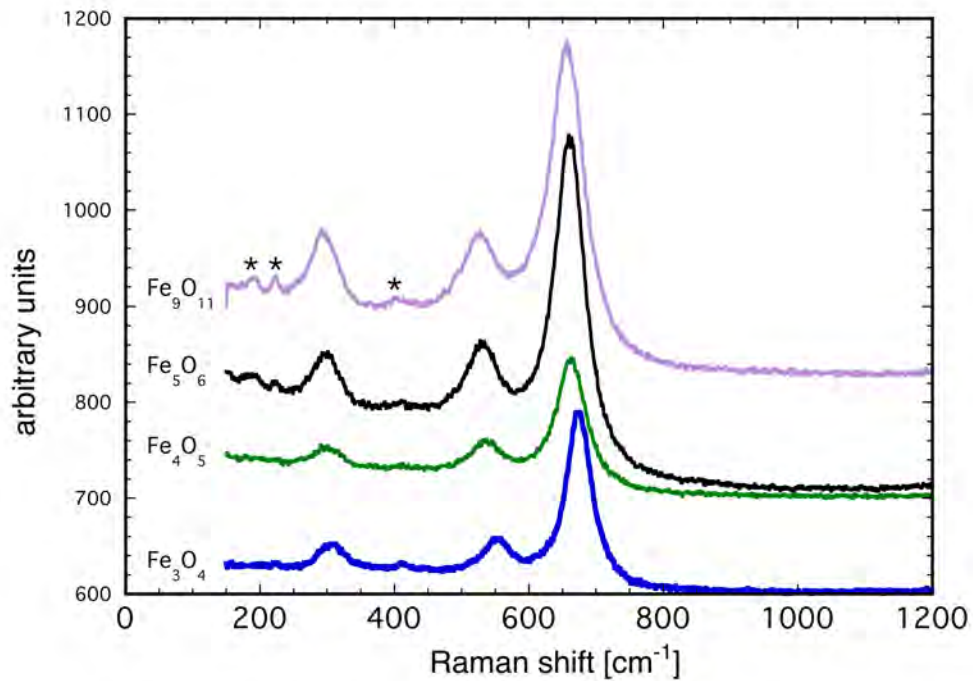


Figure 3

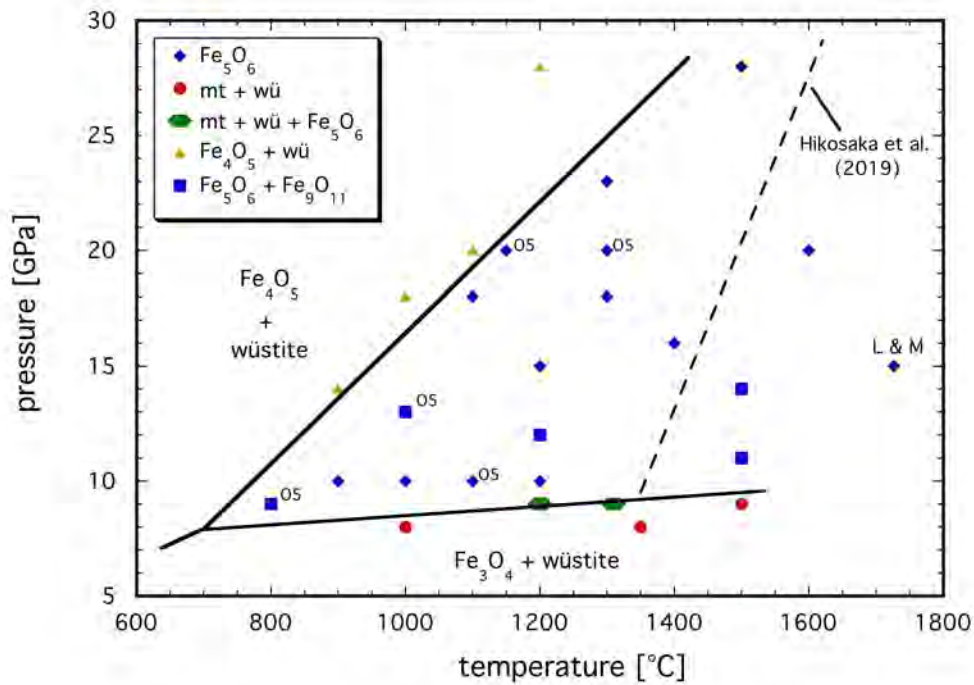


Figure 4

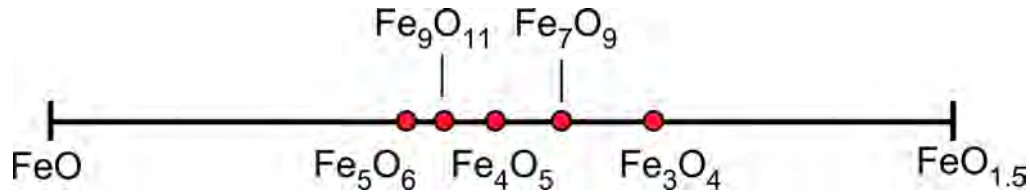
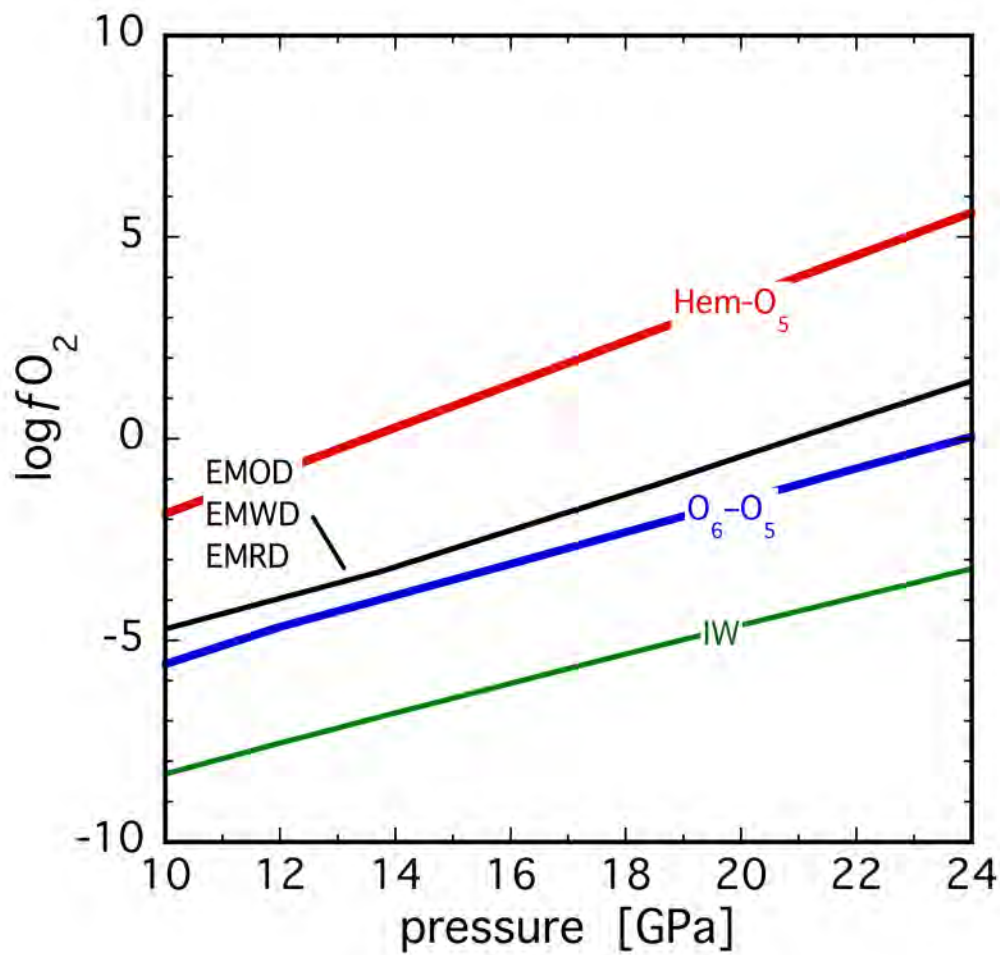
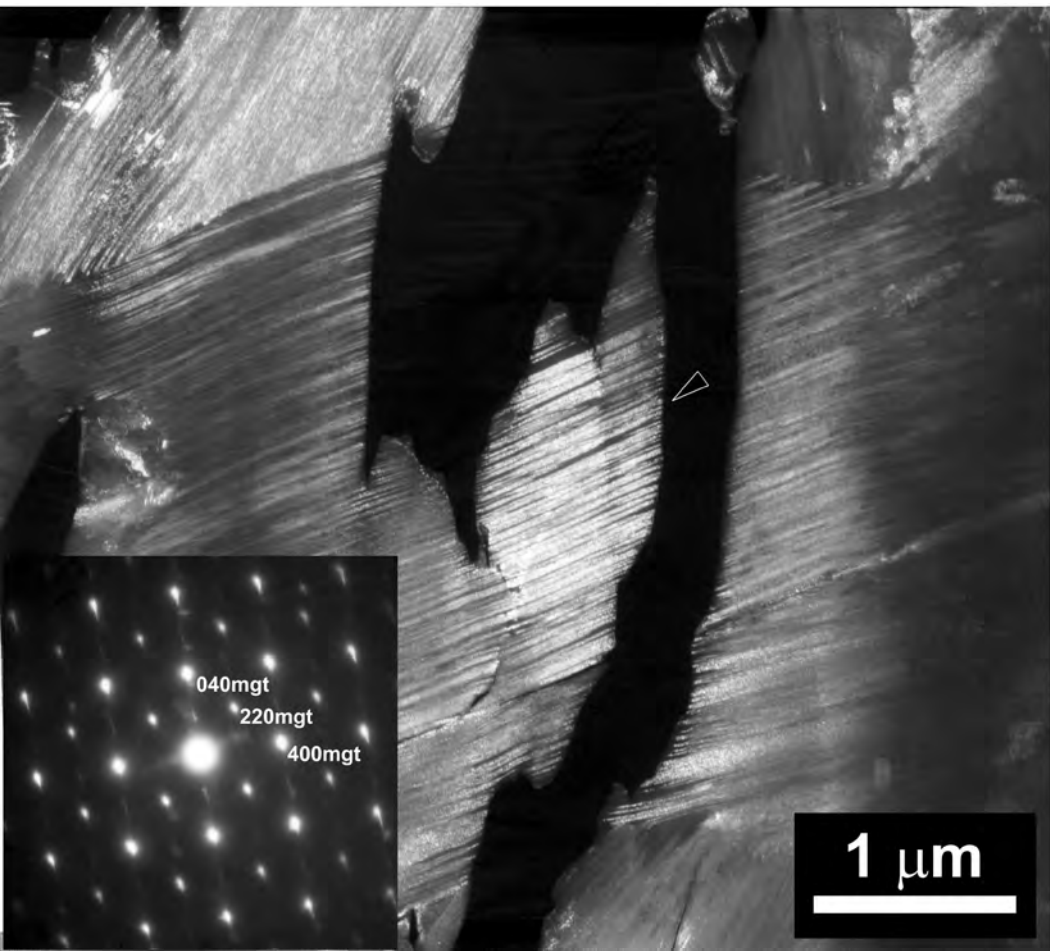


Figure 5





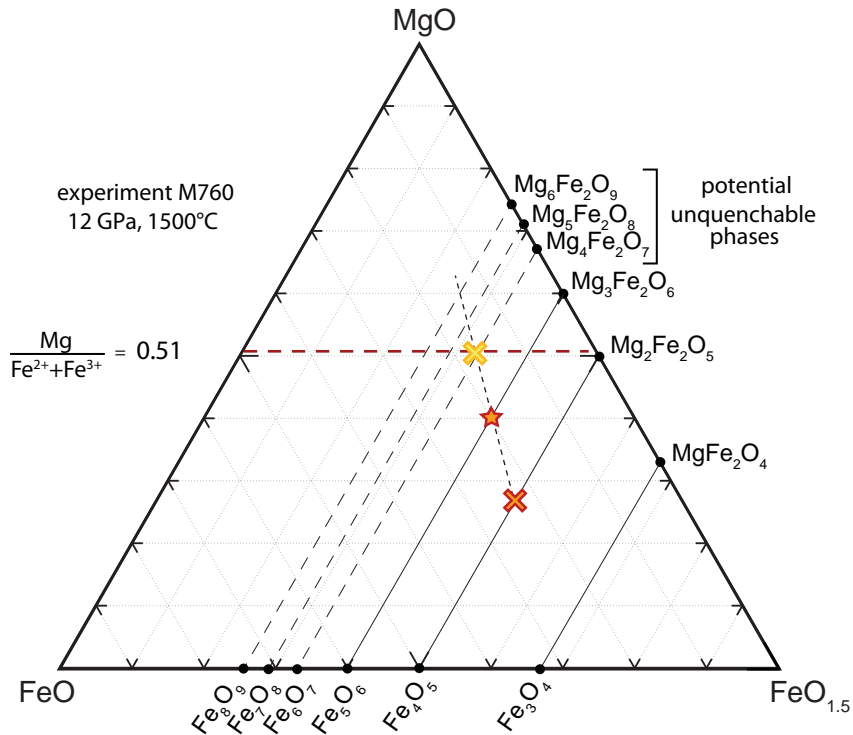
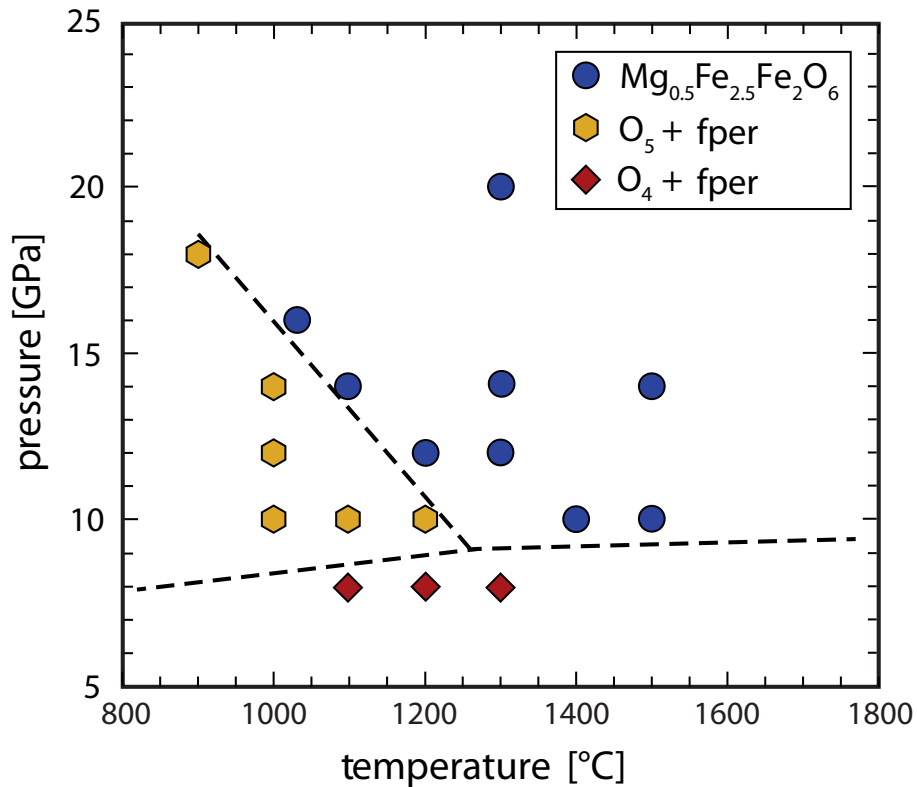
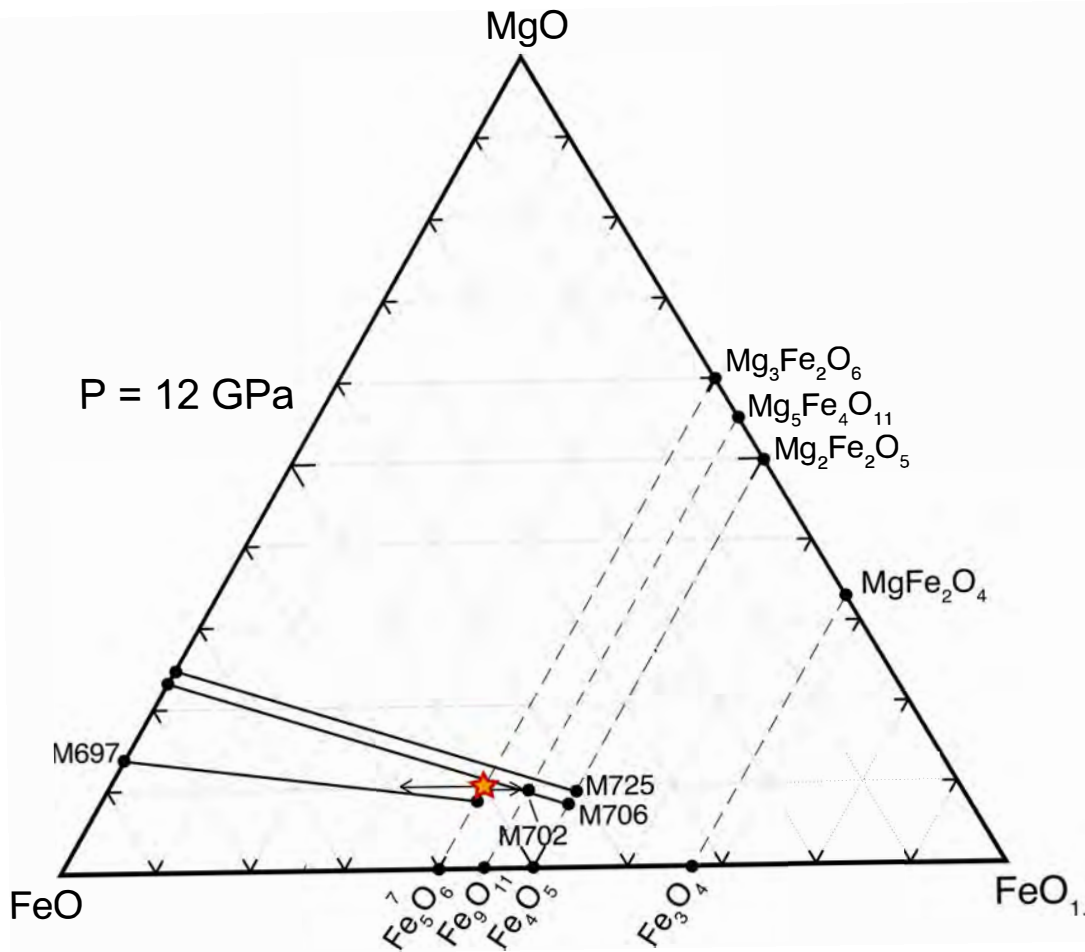
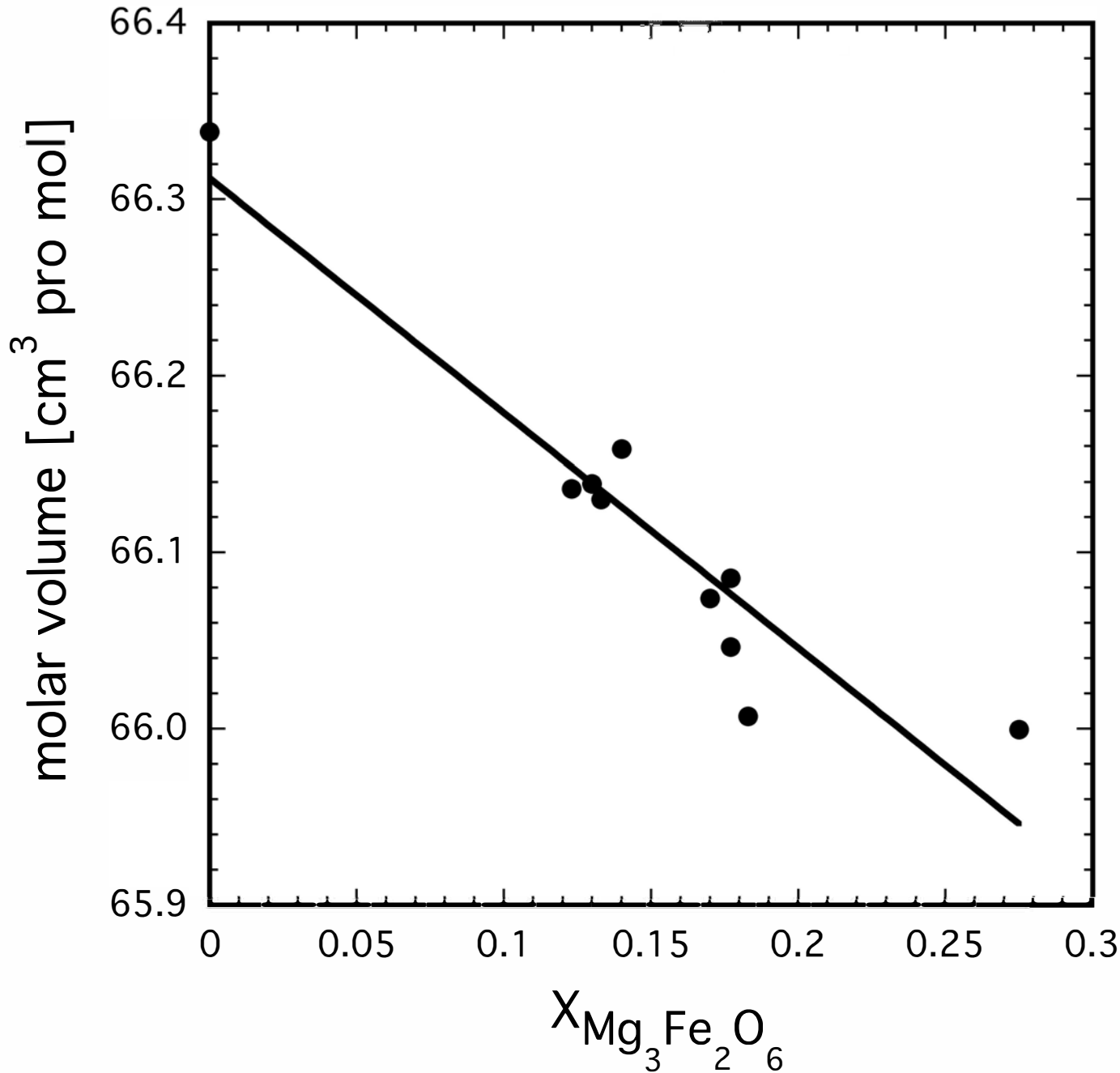


Figure 8







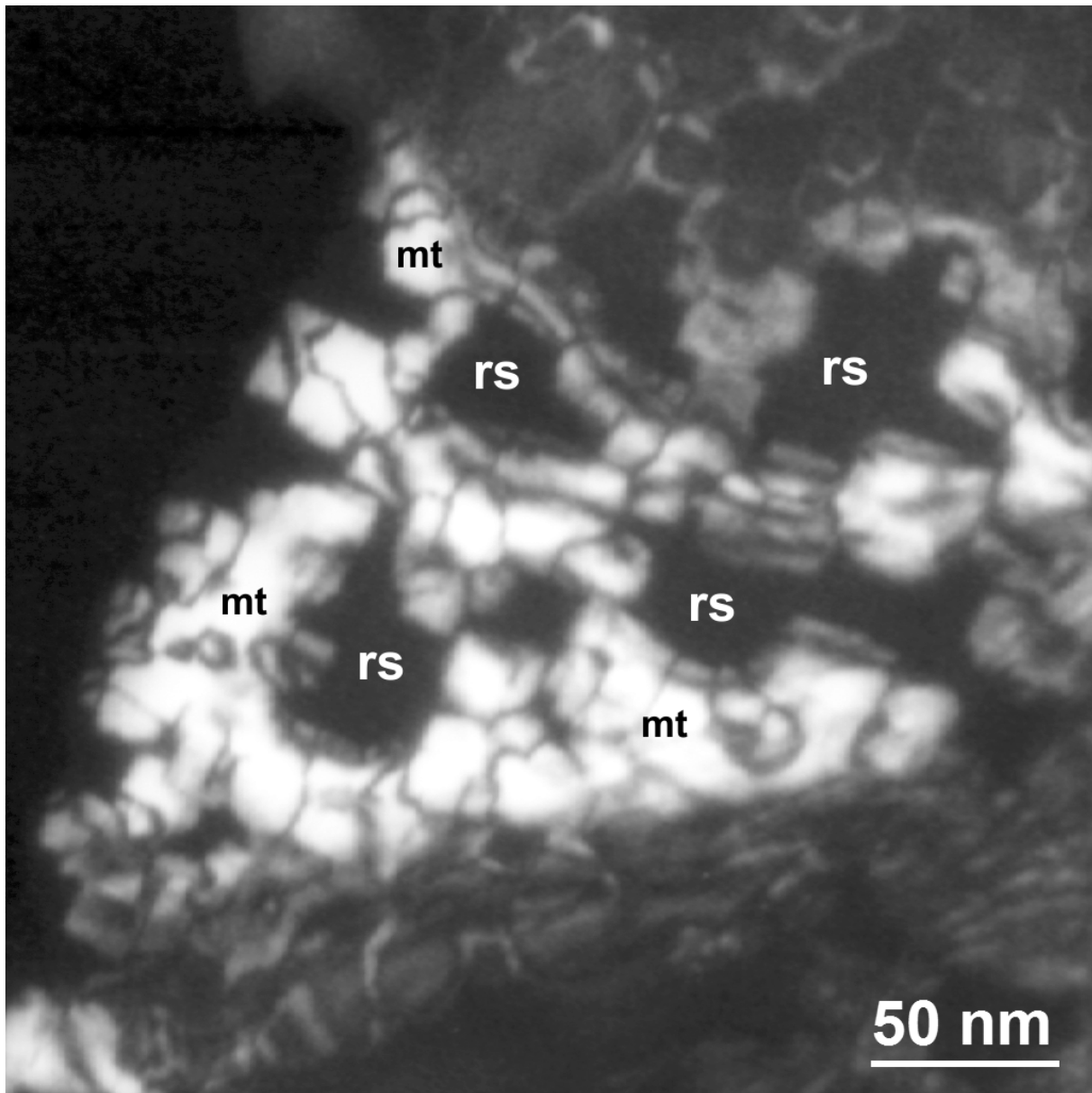


Fig. 11a. Antiphase domains in magnetite from sample M697 that formed by decomposition of the high-pressure Fe_5O_6 phase. rs = rock salt structure (i.e. wüstite), mt = magnetite.

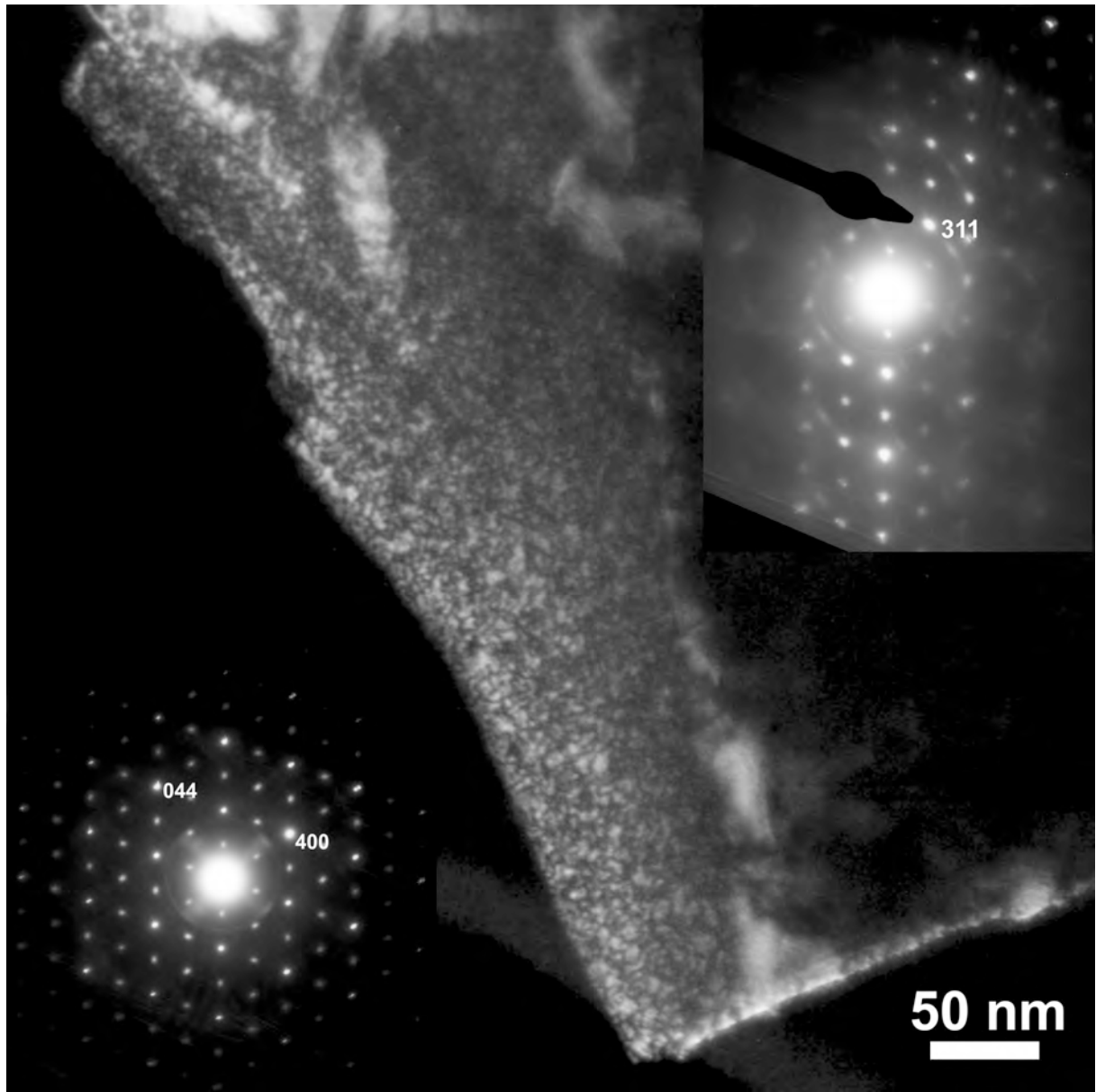


Fig. 11b. Dark-field TEM image with $g = 311$ displaying a mottled contrast in the iron oxide compound that back-transformed from Fe_5O_6 (sample V888). The lower left and upper right insets are SAED patterns of the nearest zone axis and the corresponding diffraction pattern to the DF image, respectively, indicating the presence of magnetite.