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3 **High-pressure phase transition and equation of state of hydrous Al-bearing silica**

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11

## Abstract

12 Stishovite, a rutile-structured polymorph of SiO<sub>2</sub>, is a main component of subducted basaltic  
13 lithologies in the lower mantle. At mid lower-mantle depths, a second-order ferroelastic  
14 transition to orthorhombic CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type (post-stishovite) structure occurs, causing extensive elastic  
15 shear softening. Previous studies showed that Al incorporation can decrease the transition  
16 pressure, while it is still debated whether H has a similar effect. Here we report the equations of  
17 state, structural evolution, and phase transformation of Si<sub>0.948</sub>Al<sub>0.052</sub>O<sub>1.983</sub>H<sub>0.018</sub> (A15) stishovite  
18 and Si<sub>0.886</sub>Al<sub>0.114</sub>O<sub>1.980</sub>H<sub>0.074</sub> (A111) post-stishovite samples using diamond anvil cells in  
19 combination with synchrotron X-ray diffraction and Raman spectroscopy. The A15 sample  
20 transformed to the orthorhombic polymorph upon compression to 16 GPa, displaying a drop of  
21 ~12% in its bulk modulus across the transformation. The A111 sample did not undergo any phase  
22 transition in the pressure range investigated. Single-crystal structural refinements and Raman  
23 spectroscopy measurements on the A15 sample show that the soft optic mode B<sub>1g</sub> is decoupled  
24 from the tetragonal-to-orthorhombic structural transformation and shows a plateau in the stability  
25 field of post-stishovite, between 20 and 30 GPa. This observation indicates that the  
26 transformation is not pseudo-proper ferroelastic as in SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite and that existing Landau  
27 expansions are likely not applicable to H-rich Al-bearing silica samples. Using the equation of  
28 state parameters of orthorhombic A15 and A111 and literature data on SiO<sub>2</sub> post-stishovite we  
29 then discuss the possibility of non-ideal mixing along the SiO<sub>2</sub>-AlOOH join.

30

31 **Keywords:** stishovite, X-ray diffraction, phase transition, equation of state, nominally anhydrous  
32 minerals

33

## Introduction

34 Stishovite is a high-pressure polymorph of SiO<sub>2</sub> with rutile-type structure (space group *P4<sub>2</sub>/mnm*)  
35 that constitutes up to 25 vol.% of metabasaltic phase assemblages at lower mantle depths (e.g.  
36 Irifune & Ringwood, 1993; Ishii et al., 2019a, 2022). At about 50 GPa and room temperature,  
37 SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite was found to undergo a second-order ferroelastic phase transition to a post-  
38 stishovite phase having CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type structure (space group *Pnmm*), with a decrease from  
39 tetragonal to orthorhombic symmetry (Kingma et al. 1995; Andrault et al. 1998). Stishovite  
40 experiences extensive elastic softening across the post-stishovite transition, where its aggregate  
41 shear wave velocity ( $v_S$ ) is expected to drop by about 20% (Carpenter et al. 2000). In the last few  
42 decades, seismological studies have detected a number of plate-like seismic scattering bodies  
43 having negative shear wave velocity anomalies ( $-4\% < dv_S < -12\%$ ), but positive density  
44 anomalies ( $+2\% < d\rho < +6\%$ ) compared to the surrounding mantle at about 1600-1800 km depth  
45 (e.g. Kaneshima & Helffrich, 1999; Niu, 2014). Temperature anomalies alone cannot explain  
46 such a drastic change in the elastic properties and density of the scatterers, which were therefore  
47 argued to represent chemically heterogeneous layers of dense subducted basalt (Kaneshima and  
48 Helffrich 1999). In addition, the shear elastic softening that characterizes the post-stishovite  
49 transition in subducted basalt matches well the elastic anomalies proposed for the scatterers  
50 (Kaneshima 2019), providing evidence for the recycling of subducted oceanic plates down to the  
51 mid-lower mantle.

52 More recently, scattering bodies displaying similar features have been detected in the proximity  
53 of subducted oceanic plates sinking or stagnating in the topmost lower mantle (Kaneshima  
54 2019). These conditions are too shallow to be reconciled with the pressure and temperature  
55 conditions of the post-stishovite transition in SiO<sub>2</sub>. In a dry mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB)  
56 phase assemblage, however, stishovite is not pure SiO<sub>2</sub> and can host up to 4 mol% of AlO<sub>1.5</sub>

57 component between 25 and 60 GPa (Ono et al. 2001; Hirose et al. 2005; Ricolleau et al. 2010;  
58 Ishii et al. 2019a, 2022). In the presence of water, the solubility of Al is even higher and reaches  
59 7 mol%  $\text{AlO}_{1.5}$  component, corresponding to about 6 wt.%  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (Litasov et al. 2007). It was  
60 shown that Al-enriched stishovite samples transformed to the post-stishovite phase at lower  
61 pressures compared to pure  $\text{SiO}_2$  (Lakshtanov et al. 2005, 2007b; Bolfan-Casanova et al. 2009).  
62 In the previous study by Lakshtanov et al. (2007b), the soft optic ( $B_{1g}$ ) and acoustic modes ( $\nu_S$   
63 along the [110] direction) of a stishovite sample with composition  $\text{Al}_{0.07}\text{Si}_{0.93}\text{O}_{1.97}\text{H}_{0.016}$  showed  
64 evidence for elastic softening around 25 GPa at room temperature. At the same pressure, splitting  
65 of Bragg reflections of the tetragonal phase was also observed, confirming that the sample had  
66 transformed to orthorhombic post-stishovite (Lakshtanov et al. 2007b). The amount of Al in  
67 stishovite necessary to reduce the transition pressure of the ferroelastic transition to be in  
68 accordance with the pressure at which the seismic scattering in the topmost lower mantle are  
69 observed is, however, much higher than determined in phase relations studies of hydrous MORB  
70 (Litasov and Ohtani 2005). More recent studies showed that also H-bearing Al-free stishovite  
71 exhibits lower transition pressure relative to  $\text{SiO}_2$  (Nisr et al., 2017, 2020), suggesting that both  
72 Al and H can play a critical role in stabilizing the orthorhombic phase at lower pressures.  
73 Additionally, to date, the high-pressure structure and equation of state of hydrous Al-bearing  
74 stishovite and post-stishovite phases have been scarcely characterized, hampering our  
75 understanding of what are both individual and joint effects of H and Al on their elastic properties  
76 and transition mechanism and whether their combined presence may be a more likely  
77 explanation for the seismic scattering anomalies detected in the topmost lower mantle. For these  
78 reasons, in this study we report the high-pressure behavior of tetragonal  $\text{Si}_{0.948}\text{Al}_{0.052}\text{O}_{1.983}\text{H}_{0.018}$   
79 (A15) and orthorhombic  $\text{Si}_{0.886}\text{Al}_{0.114}\text{O}_{1.980}\text{H}_{0.074}$  (A11) silica samples analyzed by means of  
80 single-crystal X-ray diffraction (XRD) and Raman spectroscopy in diamond anvil cell (DAC).

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## Methods

### 83 Sample synthesis and characterization

84 Single crystals of hydrous Al-bearing silica were synthesized at high pressure and high  
85 temperature in the 15-MN Kawai-type multi-anvil apparatus with Osugi-type (DIA) guide block  
86 system installed at Bayerisches Geoinstitut, University of Bayreuth (Ishii et al. 2016, 2019b).  
87 The starting materials consisted of mixtures of SiO<sub>2</sub> and AlOOH-boehmite in molar ratios 95:5  
88 (run I1072) and 8:2 (run I1063). Each mixture was ground in an agate mortar before being  
89 loaded in a Pt-tube capsule which was then sealed by welding. Tungsten carbide cubes with 3  
90 mm truncated edge length were combined with a 7 mm Cr-doped MgO octahedral pressure  
91 medium and a LaCrO<sub>3</sub> heater. Temperature was monitored using a W97/Re3–W75/Re25  
92 thermocouple. In both runs, the sample was first compressed to a target press load corresponding  
93 to 28 GPa (Liu et al. 2017) and then heated for 3–4 h at 1973 K (I1072) or 2173 K (I1063).  
94 Finally, the assembly was quenched by cutting the electrical power supply and slowly  
95 decompressed to ambient conditions.

96 The chemical composition of the run products was analyzed using a JEOL JXA-8200 electron  
97 probe microanalyzer (EPMA) operated at an acceleration voltage of 15 kV and a beam current of  
98 5 nA using MgSiO<sub>3</sub> enstatite and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> corundum as standards for Si and Al, respectively.  
99 Chemical analysis revealed that the run products are chemically homogeneous throughout the  
100 entire length of each capsule based on the average of 15 data points per sample. The calculated  
101 oxide abundancies and estimated standard deviations (between parentheses) resulted to be SiO<sub>2</sub> =  
102 94.32(56) wt.%, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> = 4.36(19) wt.% for I1072 and SiO<sub>2</sub> = 87.73(43) wt.%, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> = 9.54(14)  
103 wt.% for I1063. In order to quantify the water content of the two samples, inclusion-free single

104 crystals were hand-picked and polished on both sides to obtain platelets about 15  $\mu\text{m}$  thick.  
105 Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) spectra were collected between 2000 and 10000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with a  
106 spectral resolution of 4  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  by averaging of 100-200 scans. In order to make a direct  
107 comparison with the sample of Lakshtanov et al. (2007b), H concentrations were determined  
108 using the calibration of Paterson (1982). Unpolarized FTIR measurements were conducted on  
109 randomly oriented crystals for run I1063, while polarized FTIR measurements were performed  
110 on the (100) crystallographic plane of a single crystal from run I1072. Although the FTIR  
111 measurements were conducted on different crystals than those employed in high-pressure  
112 experiments, we expect that the water concentration is homogeneous in the run products,  
113 similarly to what we found for the Al and Si content in our EPMA analyses. We found that water  
114 contents of I1063 and I1072 samples were 1.1(5) wt.% and 0.27(8) wt.%, respectively, where the  
115 numbers between parentheses represent either the standard deviation calculated from different  
116 unpolarized measurements (I1063) or the effect of using different baseline subtraction strategies  
117 (I1072). Further details about the analytical procedure and water content determination will be  
118 reported in a separate publication. The overall compositions of the two samples resulted to be  
119  $\text{Si}_{0.886(4)}\text{Al}_{0.114(2)}\text{O}_{1.980}\text{H}_{0.07(3)}$  (A11) and  $\text{Si}_{0.948(6)}\text{Al}_{0.052(2)}\text{O}_{1.983}\text{H}_{0.018(5)}$  (A15). Preliminary in-  
120 house single-crystal X-ray diffraction (XRD) measurements were performed on a Huber  
121 diffractometer equipped with  $\text{MoK}\alpha$  radiation and a point detector and driven by the software  
122 SINGLE (Angel and Finger 2011). A15 displayed tetragonal symmetry, like Al-rich stishovite  
123 samples reported in a previous study (Litasov et al. 2007), with unit-cell lattice parameters  $a =$   
124  $4.1988(1) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 2.6730(1) \text{ \AA}$  and  $V = 47.125(3) \text{ \AA}^3$ . A11, on the other hand, exhibited the high-  
125 pressure orthorhombic  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type structure of post-stishovite, with unit-cell lattice parameters  $a =$   
126  $4.2597(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 4.1831(4) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 2.6829(1) \text{ \AA}$  and  $V = 47.806(6) \text{ \AA}^3$ .

## 127 High-pressure X-ray diffraction measurements

128 Single crystals of Al5 (15x15x10  $\mu\text{m}^3$ ) and Al11 (20x10x10  $\mu\text{m}^3$ ) were loaded in a BX90-type  
129 DAC (Kantor et al. 2012) equipped with Almax-Boehler diamonds (Boehler and De Hantsetters  
130 2004) having culets of 350  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter (Supplementary Table S1). A 200  $\mu\text{m}$ -thick Re foil  
131 was indented to 51(1)  $\mu\text{m}$  and drilled using an infrared laser to obtain the sample chamber. The  
132 Al5 and Al11 samples were loaded in the same sample chamber together with a ruby sphere for  
133 pressure determination (Shen et al. 2020) and a piece of Au. Pre-compressed He gas at 1.3 kbar  
134 was loaded as quasi-hydrostatic pressure transmitting medium using the gas loading system  
135 installed at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut, University of Bayreuth (Kurnosov et al., 2007).

136 High-pressure XRD measurements were conducted at the Extreme Conditions Beamline P02.2 of  
137 PETRA III (DESY, Hamburg, Germany) using a 2 x 2  $\mu\text{m}^2$  X-ray beam of 42.7 keV and a  
138 Perkin-Elmer XRD 1621 flat panel detector (Liermann et al. 2015). Polycrystalline  $\text{CeO}_2$  and a  
139 single crystal of natural enstatite were measured to calibrate the sample-detector distance and  
140 instrument parameters for single-crystal XRD, respectively. Pressure was increased online using  
141 a gas-driven membrane up to  $\sim 50$  GPa at steps of 1-2 GPa. As it is commonly observed for  
142 ferroelastic phase transitions (e.g. Salje 1991), twin structures develop in hydrous Al-bearing  
143 stishovite upon transformation to the  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type phase (Lakshatanov et al. 2007b), where the twin  
144 law consist of a reflection of the two lattices by the  $\{110\}$  planes. The Al11 sample displayed the  
145 same type of twinning already at ambient conditions, suggesting that the same type of twinning  
146 may occur as well during crystal growth in the stability field of the  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type phase. The Al5  
147 sample was not twinned at ambient conditions, but ferroelastic twin domains developed at the  
148 onset of the phase transition to  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type phase. In the proximity of the phase transition, when  
149 the orientations of the twin components are too close to each other, peaks at low  $2\theta$  values are  
150 difficult to distinguish in single-crystal diffraction step scans. Although this problem was  
151 observed only in the Al5 sample and only in a limited pressure range, we decided to determine

152 the unit-cell parameters of both A15 and A111 (Supplementary Tables S2 and S3) by fitting 1D  
153 profiles to avoid systematic differences that could arise due to the proximity and/or overlapping  
154 of reflections between the two twin components at different pressures. For this purpose, wide-  
155 scan images were collected upon continuous rotation of the DAC between  $-20^\circ$  and  $+20^\circ$  and  
156 integrated to 1D patterns using DIOPTAS (Prescher and Prakapenka 2015). Full profile Le Bail  
157 fits were then obtained using *JANA2006* (Petříček et al. 2014).

158 Step scans were also acquired at each pressure point upon continuous rotation of the DAC  
159 between  $-35^\circ$  and  $+35^\circ$  and processed using CrisAlysPro (Agilent Technologies Ltd., Yarton,  
160 Oxfordshire, UK). Data processing included peak search and indexing, background subtraction,  
161 intensity integration, Lorentz and polarization corrections, frame scaling and empirical  
162 absorption correction based on spherical harmonics. For the A111 sample, the orientation  
163 matrices of the two twin components were sufficiently different from each other. Therefore, the  
164 intensity data from the two twin domains were simultaneously integrated and then merged in a  
165 single reflection file that was used for structural refinements. For the A15 sample, this strategy  
166 could not be applied in the proximity of the phase transformation where the reflections of the two  
167 twin components were too close to each other at low  $2\theta$  angles. For internal consistence, we  
168 decided instead to use a small mask and integrate only the most intense of the two domains at all  
169 pressure points, excluding reflections that would overlap with the other twin component. A  
170 comparison of the two integration strategies for the A15 sample at the highest pressures, where  
171 the orientations of the two twin components were sufficiently different, yielded very consistent  
172 results, with structural parameters being almost identical within their mutual uncertainties,  
173 confirming the robustness of our approach. The structures of the two phases were solved using  
174 the dual space algorithm *SHELXT* (Sheldrick 2015b) and refinements against  $F^2$  were performed  
175 with *SHELXL* in the *Shelxle* GUI (Hübschle et al. 2011; Sheldrick 2015a). Atomic scattering



176 factors were used in all refinements and site occupancies at the cation site were fixed to Si = 0.95  
177 and Al = 0.05 for Al5 and Si = 0.89 and Al = 0.11 for Al11, as determined from chemical  
178 analyses. The hydrogen atoms could not be located in the structure because of their low  
179 concentration and extremely weak scattering factor. Anisotropic displacement parameters were  
180 employed for all atoms, except for data collected at 21.75(3) and 32.21(4) GPa on Al5, where  
181 isotropic parameters were used due to the lower number of observed reflections. *R*-factors  
182 obtained for structural refinements were typically between 3% and 5% for both samples, proving  
183 the high quality of our structural models. Further information can be found in the deposited  
184 Crystallographic Information File (CIF).

### 185 **High-pressure Raman spectroscopy**

186 Two crystals with Al5 and Al11 compositions were further analyzed at high-pressure and room  
187 temperature in DACs by means of Raman spectroscopy. Several runs were performed employing  
188 BX-90 DACs with Almax-Boehler diamonds having culet diameters of 400 or 250  $\mu\text{m}$ , Re as  
189 gasket material and He or Ne as pressure transmitting media (Supplementary Table S1). A ruby  
190 sphere was loaded in each DAC as pressure standard (Shen et al. 2020). Pressure was increased  
191 manually by mechanically tightening the screws of the DACs up to about 40 or 44 GPa at steps  
192 of 0.5 - 3 GPa. Raman spectroscopy measurements were performed on a Dilor XY Spectrometer  
193 equipped with a 50x microscope objective and a 1800 groove/mm diffraction grating. The  
194 spectrometer employed a 532 nm ventus532 laser from Laser Quantum and a TE cooled  
195 Synapse<sup>TM</sup> CCD detector (1024x256 resolution) from HORIBA Jobin Yvon, and was driven by  
196 LABRAM 5 software. Raman spectra were acquired using a laser power of 200-800 mW  
197 between 150 and 500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  with a resolution of 2  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . To analyze the high-pressure Raman  
198 spectra of Al5 and Al11 samples, background was manually subtracted from each spectrum and  
199 peaks were fitted using pseudo-Voigt functions using the software package Origin 2019

200 (OriginLab corporation, Northampton, MA, USA). The peak positions of the Raman optic mode  
201 and their estimated standard deviations for A15 and A111 samples are reported as supplementary  
202 material (Supplementary Tables S4 and S5).

203

204

## Results and discussion

### 205 Equation of state of hydrous Al-bearing silica

206 The pressure evolution of the unit-cell parameters of A15 and A111 samples is shown in Figure 1.  
207 The A15 sample retained its tetragonal symmetry up to 13.83(3) GPa, after which transformed to  
208 the orthorhombic CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type phase, as observed by the divergence of the *a* and *b* unit-cell  
209 parameters (Figure 1b). The A111 sample exhibited the CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type structure of post-stishovite  
210 already at ambient conditions, suggesting that such structural modification is quenchable as long  
211 as a sufficient amount of Al and H is present in the stishovite crystal structure. The orthorhombic  
212 symmetry of A111 was retained upon compression to 50.13(4) GPa and no phase transformations  
213 were detected in the pressure range investigated. EOSFit7c in the EOSFit GUI software (Angel  
214 et al., 2014; Gonzalez-Platas et al., 2016) was used to fit 3<sup>rd</sup>-order Birch-Murnaghan (BM3)  
215 equations of state (EOS) to our *P-V* datasets (Angel et al., 2014; Birch, 1947):

$$P = \frac{3}{2}K_{T0} \left[ \left( \frac{V_0}{V} \right)^{\frac{7}{3}} - \left( \frac{V_0}{V} \right)^{\frac{5}{3}} \right] \left\{ 1 + \frac{3}{4}(K'_{T0} - 4) \left[ \left( \frac{V_0}{V} \right)^{\frac{2}{3}} - 1 \right] \right\} \quad \#(1)$$

216 Where  $V_0$  is the ambient pressure unit-cell volume,  $K_{T0}$  the isothermal bulk modulus at ambient  
217 conditions and  $K'_{T0}$  is its pressure derivative. Due to the limited pressure interval in which the  
218 tetragonal polymorph of A15 is stable, its  $K'_{T0}$  was fixed to 4.8, as reported by Zhang et al. (2021)  
219 for SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite based on single-crystal XRD measurements. The refined EOS parameters are  
220 consistent with the analysis of the  $F-f_E$  plots of both samples, as shown in the supplementary

221 material (Supplementary Figure S1). Static compression and elasticity measurements on SiO<sub>2</sub>  
222 reported, on average, a bulk modulus of 310 GPa for stishovite at ambient conditions (Weidner  
223 et al. 1982; Andrault et al. 2003; Jiang et al. 2009; Zhang et al. 2021). The  $K_{T0}$  value of our  
224 tetragonal sample A15, i.e. 299(2) GPa, is smaller than that of SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite, but larger than that  
225 of other Al-bearing samples investigated in previous studies (Figure 2). AlO<sub>1.5</sub> incorporation in  
226 dry stishovite (Bolfan-Casanova et al., 2009) seems to induce a more pronounced reduction of  
227 the bulk modulus than that observed for Al,H-bearing samples (Figure 2), possibly due to higher  
228 concentration of oxygen vacancies related to the substitution of the AlO<sub>1.5</sub> component. H-poor  
229 Al-bearing stishovite samples were also previously analyzed by Brillouin scattering (Lakshtanov  
230 et al. 2007a), showing values of the adiabatic bulk modulus,  $K_{S0}$ , similar to those of  $K_{T0}$   
231 determined in our study (Figure 2). Since  $K_{S0}$  at ambient conditions is usually only 1-2% larger  
232 than  $K_{T0}$ , the data of Lakshtanov et al. (2007a) support the observation that increasing the H  
233 content for a given Al concentration in stishovite increases the bulk modulus. At pressure higher  
234 than 16 GPa, after the tetragonal to orthorhombic transition in A15,  $K_T$  of the sample decreases  
235 by ~12% and becomes identical to that of A111 within uncertainty (Supplementary Figure S2),  
236 albeit with a slightly steeper slope due to its larger  $K'_{T0}$  (Table 1).

### 237 **Axial compressibility of hydrous Al-bearing silica**

238 Following the approach of Angel (2000) and Angel et al. (2014), we used a linearized BM3 EOS  
239 to describe the pressure evolution of the unit-cell parameters ( $l$ ) by substituting  $V$  with  $l^3$ ,  $3K_{T0}$   
240 with  $M_{l,0}$  and  $3K'_{T0}$  with  $M'_{l,0}$ :

$$P = \frac{1}{2} M_{l,0} \left[ \left( \frac{l_0}{l} \right)^7 - \left( \frac{l_0}{l} \right)^5 \right] \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{4} (M'_{l,0} - 12) \left[ \left( \frac{l_0}{l} \right)^2 - 1 \right] \right\} \quad \#(2)$$

241 Due to the little sensitivity of our dataset to the  $M'_{c,0}$  of A15, its value was fixed to 0 in the  
242 tetragonal phase (i.e. the compression of the c-axis was assumed to be linear up to 16 GPa) and

243 to 1.3 in the orthorhombic phase, the latter of which is the value determined for the A111 sample,  
244 given that the evolution with pressure of the orthorhombic *c*-axis seems identical for the two  
245 samples. A complete list of the refined EOS parameters is provided in Table 1. The *c*-axis is the  
246 most incompressible direction in both samples and seems to be not much affected by changes in  
247 the chemical composition and crystal structure of hydrous Al-bearing SiO<sub>2</sub>. By comparing the  
248 linear equations of state of tetragonal and orthorhombic A15, only a very subtle softening of the  
249 *c*-axis was detected across the phase transition (Figure 1c), consistently with previous  
250 observations on SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite (e.g. Andraut et al., 2003). The *a* and *b* lattice parameters of A15  
251 quickly diverged upon transformation to the CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type phase (Figure 1b), although their EOSs  
252 became practically subparallel to those of A111 at about 50 GPa. The resulting axial  
253 compressibility for tetragonal A15 and for orthorhombic A15 and A111 followed the schemes  $\beta_a >$   
254  $\beta_c$  and  $\beta_b > \beta_a > \beta_c$ , respectively.

### 255 **Spontaneous strains and structural distortion analysis**

256 In a ferroelastic transition, such as that of SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite, the pressure evolution of the  
257 spontaneous strains in the low-symmetry orthorhombic phase (i.e. the fractional change in the  
258 unit-cell parameters relative to the high-symmetry phase) yields important information about the  
259 anisotropic elastic properties of that material (Carpenter et al. 2000; Buchen et al. 2018; Zhang et  
260 al. 2021). In the particular case of stishovite, these strains can be defined as  $e_1 = (a - a_t)/a_t$  and  $e_2 =$   
261  $(b - a_t)/a_t$  where *a* and *b* are unit-cell lattice parameters of the low-symmetry CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type phase at a  
262 given pressure and *a<sub>t</sub>* is the *a* lattice parameter that the high-symmetry phase would have at the  
263 same pressure. When the phase transition to the low-symmetry orthorhombic phase occurs, *a* and  
264 *b* become free to vary and diverge from the value that they would have in the high-symmetry  
265 tetragonal phase. A symmetry breaking strain that quantifies the distortion of the low-symmetry

266 phase relative to the high-symmetry phase can then be defined as the difference between  $e_1$  and  
267  $e_2$ .

268 Spontaneous strains and elastic properties of a material can be related to each other using a  
269 Landau free energy expansion of the order parameter  $Q$  driving a phase transition (Carpenter et  
270 al. 1998). The order parameter is in general represented by the magnitude or amplitude of a given  
271 structural feature (e.g., atomic displacement, tilt angle, etc.).  $Q$  is, by definition, zero in the high-  
272 symmetry phase and free to vary in the low-symmetry phase. The transformation of SiO<sub>2</sub>  
273 stishovite to CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type phase is a pseudo-proper ferroelastic one, where the order parameter  $Q$   
274 can be described in terms of the octahedral tilting (as discussed in detail in the next paragraph)  
275 and is related to the soft optic mode of stishovite (Carpenter et al. 2000). Moreover,  $Q$  couples  
276 linearly with the symmetry-breaking strain, causing a violation of the Born stability criterion  $c_{11}$   
277 -  $c_{12} > 0$ , which approaches zero in the proximity of the phase transformation and causes elastic  
278 instability and shear softening along the [110] direction (Carpenter et al., 2000). For Al5, the  
279 values of  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  were calculated according to the relations reported above from the measured  
280 unit-cell lattice parameters of the low-symmetry phase at a given pressure and the unit-cell lattice  
281 parameters of the high-symmetry phase extrapolated to the same pressure using the linear EOS  
282 parameters reported in Table 1. When  $(e_1 - e_2)^2$  is plotted against pressure for SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite, a  
283 linear fit of the squared symmetry breaking strain yields the transition pressure ( $P_c^*$ ), at which  
284 elastic softening is most extensive (Carpenter et al., 2000). Spontaneous strains calculated for  
285 Al5 (Figure 3), however, show a concave trend up to 35 GPa. A linear fit of the data was only  
286 possible above this pressure and yielded  $P_c^* = 24.7(1.1)$  GPa, which is much higher than the  
287 observed transition pressure of about 16 GPa for the tetragonal-to-orthorhombic transition.

288 Further insights on the nature of the phase transition of Al5 may be obtained by considering the  
289 relationship between the crystal structures of Al-bearing stishovite and post-stishovite.

290 According to group theory, the space group of post-stishovite ( $Pnmm$ ) has the same symmetry  
291 elements as the space group of stishovite ( $P4_2/mnm$ ) apart from the 4-fold symmetry axis.  
292 Therefore,  $Pnmm$  is called a subgroup of  $P4_2/mnm$ . Note, however, that the differences between  
293 the  $Pnmm$  and  $P4_2/mnm$  structures of silica are not only in the point group symmetry, which  
294 affects the length of the  $a$  and  $b$  unit-cell edges, but also in the position of atoms in the unit-cells  
295 of the two phases. In the case of stishovite, the point symmetry at the oxygen position across the  
296  $P4_2/mnm$  to  $Pnmm$  transition changes from  $m.2m(x,-x,0)$  to  $..m(x,y,0)$  and therefore acquires one  
297 degree of freedom. As a result, the  $y$  fractional coordinate of oxygen in the orthorhombic phase  
298 (Supplementary Table S6) deviates from the value that it would have in the tetragonal phase (i.e.  
299  $-x$ ), causing the  $\text{SiO}_6$  octahedra in the  $a$ - $b$  plane of the orthorhombic phase to rotate giving rise to  
300 octahedral tilting. In Figure 4, the pressure evolution of the octahedral tilting angles ( $\eta$ ) is shown  
301 for the A15 and A111 samples. In the A15 sample, this angle is  $90^\circ$  due to symmetry constraints in  
302 the tetragonal phase and deviates from such value after transformation to the orthorhombic  
303 phase. The evolution of  $\eta$  with pressure becomes linear above 25 GPa. The octahedral tilting in  
304 the A111 sample, on the other hand, shows a linear trend throughout the entire pressure range  
305 investigated (Figure 4). Note that even at room pressure the  $\eta$  angles for A111 samples are very  
306 different from  $90^\circ$ , suggesting that the Al and H substitution affects primarily the octahedral  
307 tilting, stabilizing in this way the orthorhombic structure. Another way for quantifying the  
308 octahedral tilting is by using the irreducible representation (irrep)  $\Gamma_{2+}$  of the space group  
309  $P4_2/mnm$  (Miller and Love 1967) describing the displacement of the oxygen from the  $(x,x,0)$   
310 position.  $\Gamma_{2+}$  coincides with the order parameter  $Q$  and has the same point group symmetry as  
311 the optic soft mode  $B_{1g}$  of the stishovite structure. In  $\text{SiO}_2$  stishovite, the tilting of the  $\text{SiO}_6$   
312 octahedra is coupled with the soft optic mode  $B_{1g}$  in the tetragonal phase and is responsible for  
313 the elastic softening that has been observed in the  $[110]$  direction prior to and across the phase

314 transition (Zhang et al. 2021). In order to determine the variation of  $\Gamma_{2+}$  and thus quantify the  
315 order parameter variation as a function of pressure, a symmetry-mode decomposition analysis for  
316 the A15 sample was performed using the computer program AMPLIMODES (Orobengoa et al.  
317 2009). The input files required for calculating the amplitude of the irrep  $\Gamma_{2+}$  are the unit-cell  
318 parameters and atomic coordinate of the high- and low-symmetry phases at the same pressure  
319 conditions. As far as the orthorhombic phase is concerned, these quantities were directly derived  
320 from the analysis of diffraction patterns and single-crystal structural refinements, as described  
321 above. For the high-symmetry phase, on the other hand, the unit-cell parameters and the atomic  
322 coordinates of the Si and O sites needed to be extrapolated to the pressure range where the  
323 orthorhombic phase is stable. The unit-cell parameters of the tetragonal phase above 16 GPa  
324 were easily obtained by extrapolating the linear EOS (Equation 2) of the  $a$  and  $c$  lattice  
325 parameters determined below 16 GPa (Supplementary Table S2). The  $x$  atomic coordinate of the  
326 O atom, on the other hand, was found to be basically pressure-independent between 0 and 16  
327 GPa, having an average value of 0.3054 (Supplementary Figure S3, Supplementary Table S6)  
328 and therefore this values well describe the tetragonal oxygen position at all pressures. The  
329 position of Si is (0,0,0) in both phases. When the angle ( $\eta - 90^\circ$ ) and of the symmetry breaking  
330 strain ( $e_1 - e_2$ ) are plotted against  $\Gamma_{2+}$ , a linear relationship is found (Figure 5) as expected for the  
331 coupling between order parameter and spontaneous strain for a tetragonal ( $P4_2/mnm$ ) to  
332 orthorhombic ( $Pnmm$ ) transition. Given these relationships, also the evolution of  $\Gamma_{2+}^2$  vs  $P$  was  
333 found to be concave in the proximity of the phase transition, similarly to the case of the  
334 symmetry breaking strain, and a linear fit of the  $\Gamma_{2+}^2$  data is only possible above 35 GPa (Figure  
335 3). The resulting transition pressure would be  $P_c^* = 24.1(1.9)$  GPa, which is consistent with the  
336 value obtained from the fit of  $(e_1 - e_2)^2$  but much larger than the effective transition pressure  
337 observed by XRD.

### 338 **High-pressure evolution of the optic soft mode**

339 The low wavenumber region of Raman spectra, where the  $B_{1g}$  (tetragonal structure) and  $A_g$   
340 (orthorhombic structure) lattice modes (Supplementary Tables S4 and S5) can be observed, is  
341 shown for A15 ( $180 \sim 250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and A111 ( $180 \sim 330 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) in Figure 6a and 6b, respectively. By  
342 analyzing the full width at half maximum (FWHM) of the measured Raman peaks, we observed  
343 that the peak widths remained almost constant between 0 and 20 GPa (FWHM  $\sim 6 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) for data  
344 collected for A15, while slight broadening was detected between 20 and 30 GPa for A15 (FWHM  
345  $\sim 8 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) and between 0 and 25 GPa for A111 (FWHM  $\sim 8\text{-}14 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), where the Raman shifts of  
346 the optic modes of the two samples seem to be pressure-independent (Figure 6c). Further  
347 broadening of the peaks occurred above 30 GPa for A15 and above 25 GPa for A111, where the  
348 Raman signals could be fitted as a doublet peak. Note that, for A15, the intensity of the peak at  
349 lower wavenumber progressively decreased at higher pressures and it is only a small shoulder at  
350 38 GPa (Figure 6a). A similar behavior was observed for A111 above 25 GPa (Figure 6b). At  
351 first, a small shoulder appeared at higher wavenumber to the main peak, then it rapidly evolved  
352 into a doublet of peaks having similar intensity, with the linewidth of the peak at higher  
353 wavenumber being about 1.5-2 times larger than that of the peak at lower wavenumber. Within a  
354 few GPa interval, the intensity of the peak at higher wavenumber rapidly increased while the  
355 peak at lower wavenumber disappeared (Figure 6b, Supplementary Figure S4). Peak splitting  
356 across the post-stishovite transformation was previously reported for  $\text{SiO}_2$  stishovite upon  
357 compression under non-hydrostatic conditions (Kingma et al., 1995), but was not visible in a  
358 more recent study where Ne was employed as pressure transmitting medium (Zhang et al., 2021).  
359 In this study, Raman spectroscopy measurements at the highest pressures were conducted using  
360 He as pressure transmitting medium (Supplementary Table S1), which is known to provide an  
361 even more hydrostatic environment than Ne in the pressure interval investigated in this study. In



362 addition, single crystals used for Raman spectroscopy measurements were as thin as 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
363 Therefore, we exclude that the observed splitting of the Raman peaks of Al5 and Al11 at  
364 pressures higher than 25 GPa is related to non-hydrostatic conditions in our DACs or bridging  
365 between diamond anvils and the samples. Moreover, in the case of Al11, the shoulder completely  
366 disappeared at higher pressure without thermally annealing the sample (Figure 6b,  
367 Supplementary Figure S4). We therefore suggest that the presence of two peaks in the Raman  
368 spectra is due to fluctuations of the order parameter associated with octahedral tilting. i.e. by  
369 differences in the magnitude of the order parameter between adjacent unit-cells due to their  
370 different crystal or defect chemistry. Fluctuations are invisible to XRD techniques, which  
371 provide information only on the long-range order of the crystal structure, while Raman  
372 spectroscopy probes interactions taking place at a much shorter scale and therefore is sensitive to  
373 the different local environments arising from the substitution of  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  by  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  and  $\text{H}^+$  or from the  
374 presence of oxygen vacancies. Since Al and H occupy only a relatively small number of unit-  
375 cells (i.e. 10% in Al5 and 22% in Al11), we can expect a distribution of unit-cells displaying  
376 different tilting at the local scale. According to our interpretation, the peak at higher wavenumber  
377 would represent more distorted environments, where the structure is more affected by the  
378 substitution of Si by Al and H, while the shoulder or peak at lower wavenumber indicates  
379 regions of the sample with a smaller degree of distortion.

380 Following Carpenter et al. (2000), the square of wavenumber ( $\omega^2$ ) of the soft optic mode of  
381 tetragonal stishovite ( $B_{1g}$ ) as well as that of the  $A_g$  optic mode of orthorhombic post-stishovite  
382 have been plotted as a function of pressure for Al5 and Al11 (Figure 6c). In the figure, we have  
383 reported only the peak at higher wavenumber because (i) it was the most intense peak at the  
384 highest pressures and (ii) it was the dominant feature in the Raman spectra collected upon  
385 decompression (Figure 6a,b). It is known that some fluctuations are time-dependent and the

386 disappearance of the shoulder with increasing pressure further supports the fluctuations  
387 hypothesis. As expected,  $\omega^2$  decreases linearly for the high-symmetry phase of Al5, as observed  
388 for pure SiO<sub>2</sub>-stishovite (Kingma et al. 1995; Zhang et al. 2021) and poorly hydrated Al-bearing  
389 stishovite (Lakshatanov et al. 2007b) (Figure 6c). However, after the transformation of Al5 to  
390 orthorhombic symmetry above 16 GPa, the optic mode continues to decrease following the same  
391 trend up to ~20 GPa, then flattens and stays constant up to ~30 GPa. Only above 30 GPa, the  
392 Raman shifts starts to increase with a slope similar in magnitude to that shown by the decreasing  
393 B<sub>1g</sub> mode (Figure 6c). For Al11, a similar plateau in the high-pressure evolution of  $\omega^2$  for the  
394 optic mode A<sub>g</sub> is observed between 0 and 25 GPa (Figure 6c), despite the sample showed no  
395 evidence of structural phase transition in the investigate pressure range. Above this pressure,  $\omega^2$   
396 increases linearly with a steeper slope than that shown by Al5 above 30 GPa.

#### 397 **Effect of H on the post-stishovite transition mechanism**

398 From the combination of XRD, structural and Raman spectroscopy data, it is evident that the  
399 tetragonal-to-orthorhombic transition observed in Al5 at ~16 GPa and the optic mode plateau  
400 between 20 and 30 GPa result from a different transformation mechanism than that of the  
401 ferroelastic transition of SiO<sub>2</sub> and H-poor Al-bearing stishovite. While it appears that a higher H  
402 content than reported by Laksthanov et al. (2007b) can further reduce the transition pressure of  
403 Al-bearing stishovite, the decoupling of the structural phase transition from the soft optic mode  
404 behavior prevents us from making a more quantitative comparison with samples investigated in  
405 previous studies. In the compounds studied so far in the literature, in fact, the splitting of Bragg  
406 reflections denoting the transition to the orthorhombic structure was observed at the same  
407 pressure where the trends of soft optic mode, as well as those of the soft acoustic mode, for the  
408 high-symmetry and low-symmetry phases met (e.g., Lakshatanov et al. 2007b; Zhang et al. 2021).  
409 The decoupling between the order parameter and the soft optic mode observed in this study

410 prevents us from applying published Landau expansions for the ferroelastic transition of SiO<sub>2</sub> to  
411 our Al<sub>5</sub> sample. One possible explanation for the observed behavior could lie in the different  
412 Al/H ratios of Al-bearing silica samples investigated here (Al/H ~ 2) and in the previous study of  
413 Lakshatanov et al. (2007b) (Al/H ~ 4). The XRD data collected for Al<sub>5</sub> do not allow to refine the  
414 H position in this sample, due to the fact that only ~ 0.02 hydrogen atoms per formula unit are  
415 present. Given the strong anisotropy of polarized FTIR spectra observed in hydrous Al-bearing  
416 stishovite (Pawley et al. 1993; Litasov et al. 2007; Thomas et al. 2009), the O-H vectors have  
417 been proposed to lie perpendicular to the *c*-axis. Based on neutron diffraction measurements on  
418 isostructural H-bearing rutile, Smith et al. (1995) proposed that H atoms in stishovite have  
419 fractional coordinates (0.5,0.42,0). The related O··O vectors, however, measure about 2.3 Å in  
420 Al-bearing silica and constitute the shortest intra-octahedral distances, corresponding to the  
421 shared edge of (Si,Al)O<sub>6</sub> octahedra perpendicular to the *c*-axis. More recent first principle  
422 calculations suggested that H atoms are bonded either to the apical (H1) or the equatorial (H2)  
423 oxygens of the octahedra that host the Al impurities, with O-H vectors actually pointing towards  
424 the empty channels of the stishovite structure (Umemoto et al. 2016). The H1 position, located in  
425 the proximity of (0.5,0,0), corresponds to the position of hydrogen in δ-AlOOH (Sano-Furukawa  
426 et al. 2018) and was found to be energetically more stable than H2 (Umemoto et al. 2016).  
427 Therefore, we argue that H atoms in the hydrous Al-bearing samples analyzed in this study are  
428 incorporated as in the isostructural compound δ-AlOOH. In this scenario, the strain field induced  
429 by H incorporation in the structure of Al-bearing silica propagates at the local scale through the  
430 displacements of O atoms towards or away from H, causing a tilt of (Si,Al)O<sub>6</sub> octahedral units. If  
431 the concentration of oxygen vacancies is large enough, H atoms might not “see” each other’s  
432 strain fields as some of the O atoms through which the strain field propagates are actually  
433 missing. As a consequence, the effect of H on the post-stishovite transition might be negligible in

434 samples with a sufficiently large Al/H ratio and the transition mechanism would result similar to  
435 that of SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite (Lakshtanov et al. 2007b). The delayed response of the soft optic mode to  
436 the post-stishovite transition and the plateau of the vibrational frequencies observed in our  
437 samples would suggest that there may be two different transformations, both involving the tilting  
438 of octahedra, that take place in a relatively narrow pressure interval. Despite never being  
439 observed in stishovite samples before, a plateau of the vibrational frequencies in ferroic materials  
440 is in fact not unusual. For instance, recent resonant ultrasound spectroscopy (RUS)  
441 measurements of Co-doped Fe-pnictide at low temperature highlighted similar features, which  
442 were explained as the effect of interacting parameters driving different structural transition in a  
443 narrow temperature interval (Carpenter et al. 2019). In the light of all the above-mentioned  
444 considerations, the post-stishovite transition in H-rich Al-bearing silica cannot be regarded as a  
445 pure second-order ferroelastic transformation and further measurements of its elasticity and H-  
446 bond evolution at high pressure are required to quantitatively constrain the extent of its elastic  
447 shear softening and the involved transformation mechanism.

448 If the observed decoupling of optic mode and structural phase transitions arises from the  
449 interaction of two order parameters related to different phase transformation, a similar behavior  
450 may be expected for H-bearing davemaoite, i.e., CaSiO<sub>3</sub> with perovskite structure. This mineral  
451 is expected to undergo a second-order ferroelastic transition from tetragonal to cubic symmetry  
452 with increasing temperature driven by octahedral tilting (e.g., Komabayashi et al. 2007; Stixrude  
453 et al. 2007). Additionally, recent in-situ IR measurements showed that the O-H stretching  
454 frequency of H-bearing CaSiO<sub>3</sub> davemaoite decreases with increasing pressure, suggesting that a  
455 H-bond symmetrization may occur at pressures of the lower mantle (Chen et al. 2020). Further  
456 investigations on the H-bond evolution and transition mechanism of H-bearing CaSiO<sub>3</sub>

457 davemaoite may also help to understand whether the behavior observed in this study is unique to  
458 stishovite or is shared with other lower mantle mineral phases.

459

460

### Implications

461 As discussed above, the decoupling between the soft optic mode and the structural phase  
462 transition of hydrous Al-bearing stishovite can affect the pressure interval where elastic softening  
463 associated with the ferroelastic transition occurs. The Clapeyron slope of the post stishovite  
464 transition is positive (e.g. Nomura et al. 2010; Fischer et al. 2018), meaning that the transition  
465 pressure increases with increasing temperature. We can think of two possible scenarios where the  
466 soft acoustic mode (i.e. the  $v_S$  of stishovite along the [110] direction) would be coupled either  
467 with the soft optic mode or with the octahedral tilting. In the former case, elastic softening at  
468 room temperature would be observed in the pressure range of the plateau region of the soft optic  
469 mode (i.e., around 20-30 GPa) which overlaps with the transition pressure of about 25 GPa  
470 reported by Lakshatanov et al. (2007b). Extrapolation to subducting slab temperatures (Kirby et  
471 al. 1996; Eberle et al. 2002) would move the boundary up by about 10 GPa (Nomura et al. 2010)  
472 corresponding to the pressure range where seismic scattering anomalies have been located by  
473 seismological methods in the proximity of subducting slabs (Kaneshima 2019). In the latter case,  
474 acoustic softening would be observed in the proximity of the structural transformation (i.e.,  
475 around 16 GPa) at room temperature and extrapolation to high temperature would yield a  
476 transition pressure corresponding to the very top portion of the lower mantle, where only few  
477 seismic scatterers have been observed so far. Based on our results and on previous observations,  
478 we have suggested that not only the H content but also the Al/H ratio is a critical factor in  
479 lowering the transition pressure of hydrous Al-bearing stishovite to post-stishovite. Therefore,  
480 negative  $dv_S$  anomalies associated with seismic scattering could be explained by the presence of

481 hydrous stishovite with lower Al contents than our samples, but with similar or even lower Al/H  
482 ratios, thus closer to the SiO<sub>2</sub>-AlOOH join. Slightly lower Al content would then be in good  
483 agreement with previous experimental phase relations studies at topmost lower mantle conditions  
484 (Ono et al. 2001; Litasov and Ohtani 2005; Ishii et al. 2019b, 2022). Further elasticity  
485 measurements across the structural phase transformation of hydrous Al-bearing silica will allow  
486 to pinpoint the pressure range and the extent of its elastic shear softening, enabling us to evaluate  
487 its actual geophysical relevance.

488 Accurate EOS parameters for hydrous Al-bearing silica are also important to understand the  
489 seismic signature of Al-bearing post-stishovite and its solid solution behavior with CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type δ-  
490 AlOOH. In Figure 7, we compare the high-pressure evolution of  $K_T$  of our samples with those of  
491 isostructural SiO<sub>2</sub> and AlOOH obtained in previous studies by isothermal compression and  
492 elasticity measurements (Andrault et al. 2003; Sano-Furukawa et al. 2009; Buchen et al. 2018;  
493 Fischer et al. 2018; Zhang et al. 2021). There is clearly a large variation in the  $K_T$  behaviour  
494 among the different studies. However, when we compare our data with measurements performed  
495 under quasi-hydrostatic conditions (i.e., Zhang et al. (2021) for post-stishovite and δ-AlOOH  
496 (Sano-Furukawa et al. (2009), the  $K_T$  curves for our Al-bearing CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type samples appears  
497 above both SiO<sub>2</sub> post-stishovite and δ-AlOOH. Note that the  $K_T$  curve of Zhang et al. (2021) is in  
498 excellent agreement with the  $K_S$  values determined for the Reuss bound (isotropic stress) in the  
499 same study using Brillouin scattering. The previous study of Buchen et al. (2018) employed a  
500 sintered polycrystalline sample compressed in a Ne pressure medium, which was argued to  
501 represent the Voigt bound of the material (i.e., isotropic strain conditions) as the grain  
502 boundaries of the polycrystalline aggregate were locked together. This hypothesis is consistent  
503 with the fact that the  $K_T$  values obtained by Buchen et al. (2018) are in agreement with the Voigt  
504 bound of  $K_S$  calculated from the Brillouin scattering data reported by Zhang et al. (2021),

505 although the two trends still diverge owing to differences in  $K'_0$  (Figure 7). The  $K_T$  values  
506 predicted by Andraut et al. (2003) and Fisher et al. (2018), on the other hand, deviate more  
507 significantly from the trends observed in this study and in Zhang et al. (2021), possibly because  
508 of the use of solid pressure media (KBr, NaCl) or no pressure medium at all that can induce non-  
509 hydrostatic stress in the sample, even when thermal annealing is performed. This highlights the  
510 importance of using highly hydrostatic pressure media such as Ne and He in compressibility and  
511 elasticity studies, especially at such high-pressure conditions. For this reason, it is difficult to  
512 accurately quantify the individual effect of Al and H substitution on the compressibility of  
513 stishovite. If we restrict our comparison to the previous studies of Zhang et al. (2021) and Sano-  
514 Furukawa et al. (2009), our results suggest that the bulk modulus behavior along the solid  
515 solution between  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type  $\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{AlOOH}$  is not linear, since the  $K_T$  values determined for  
516  $\text{Al}_5$  and  $\text{Al}_{11}$  do not plot between those of the two end members. Therefore, we argue that  
517 excess molar properties may be non-negligible when modelling the thermodynamic stability and  
518 elastic properties of the  $\text{SiO}_2$ - $\text{AlOOH}$  solid solutions with  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -type structure at lower mantle  
519 conditions.

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521

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528

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- 699

700

## Figure Captions

701 **Figure 1.** Pressure evolution of the unit-cell volume (**a**) and the unit-cell lattice parameters (**b,c**)  
702 of samples A15 and A111 investigated in this study. Error bars are smaller than the symbols and  
703 thus are not shown in the figures. Splitting of the *a* and *b* unit-cell parameters of A15, indicating  
704 the tetragonal to orthorhombic phase transition, is observed at 16.09(2) GPa. Solid black symbols  
705 are tetragonal A15; empty black symbols are orthorhombic A15; empty red symbols are  
706 orthorhombic A111. Dashed black lines are BM3 fits of tetragonal A15; solid black lines are BM3  
707 fits of orthorhombic A15; solid red lines are BM3 fits of orthorhombic A111.

708 **Figure 2.** Comparison of the isothermal bulk moduli of tetragonal A15 at ambient conditions  
709 with isothermal (static compression) and adiabatic bulk moduli (elasticity) from previous studies  
710 on SiO<sub>2</sub> and aluminous stishovite. W1982: Weidner et al. (1982), Brillouin scattering (BS)  
711 measurements at room pressure. L2007: Lakshtanov et al. (2007a), BS measurements at room  
712 pressure. J2009: Jiang et al. (2009), BS measurements in DAC. G2006: Gréaux et al. (2016),  
713 ultrasonic interferometry (UI) measurements in large volume press (LVP). Z2021: Zhang et al.  
714 (2021), BS measurements at room and high pressure. A2003: Andrault et al. (2003), powder and  
715 single crystal XRD in DAC. O2002: Ono et al. (2002), powder XRD in DAC. L2005:  
716 Lakshtanov et al. (2005), powder XRD in DAC. B2009: Bolfan-Casanova et al. (2009), powder  
717 XRD in DAC. F2018: Fischer et al. (2018), powder XRD in DAC. Z2021: Zhang et al. (2021),  
718 single crystal XRD in DAC. Relatively dry Al-bearing samples (G2016, B2009) seem to show a  
719 steeper decrease in  $K_0$  with increasing Al content with respect to more H-rich samples (this  
720 study, L2007). Note that the solid and dashed line representing the SiO<sub>2</sub>-AlOOH and SiO<sub>2</sub>-AlO<sub>1.5</sub>  
721 substitution mechanisms are meant to be just a guide to the eye.

722 **Figure 3.** Pressure evolution of structural parameters related to the tetragonal-to-orthorhombic  
723 phase transition in A15 stishovite. The inset shows the direction of shortening and lengthening of



724 the unit-cell of post-stishovite, indicated by the spontaneous strains  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  (thick black  
725 arrows), as well as the direction of elastic shear softening (thin gray arrows). Green and orange  
726 curved arrows indicate the rotation of (Si,Al)O<sub>6</sub> octahedra about the  $c$ -axis, showing the effect of  
727 the  $\Gamma 2+$  distortion. The squared difference of symmetry breaking strains  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  (red squares) is  
728 non-zero above 16 GPa, but becomes linear only after 35 GPa, with a predicted transition  
729 pressure of 24.7(1.1) GPa (red line). The squared amplitude of the  $\Gamma 2+$  distortion, on the other  
730 hand, starts to increase significantly only above 20 GPa. In this case, a linear fit above 35 GPa  
731 yields a predicted transition pressure of 24.1(1.9) GPa.

732 **Figure 4.** Pressure evolution of octahedral tilting angles ( $\eta$ ) in Al5 (solid circles) and Al11  
733 (empty circles). Solid lines represent linear fit to the datapoints between 0 (Al11) or 25 (Al5) and  
734 50 GPa. Error bars are not shown as they are smaller than the symbols.  $\eta$  angles are defined by  
735 dashed lines superimposed to the crystal structures of stishovite (space group  $P4_2/mnm$ ) and  
736 post-stishovite ( $Pnm$ ) at the right of the graph.

737 **Figure 5.** Linear coupling between the amplitude of the irrep  $\Gamma 2+$  and (a) the symmetry breaking  
738 strain; and (b) the octahedral tilting angle. When not shown, errors are smaller than the symbols.

739 **Figure 6.** Stacked Raman spectra of (a) Al5 and (b) Al11 show the pressure evolution of the soft  
740 optic mode B<sub>1g</sub> (tetragonal symmetry) and the optic mode A<sub>g</sub> (orthorhombic symmetry).  
741 Pressures marked with an asterisk denote points collected upon decompression. The Raman shift  
742 of the B<sub>1g</sub> and A<sub>g</sub> mode of Al5 (a) keep decreasing even after Al5 became orthorhombic (~16  
743 GPa) up to 20 GPa and remains almost constant between 20 and 30 GPa. Only above this  
744 pressure, the Raman shift starts to increase. In the Al11 sample (b), splitting of A<sub>g</sub> mode occurs  
745 above 25 GPa upon compression with the peak at lower wavenumber becoming progressively  
746 less intense with increasing pressure. Upon decompression, only small shoulders, but no clear  
747 splitting, are observed in the same pressure interval, as shown by spectra collected at 35.50,

748 30.18 and 25.0 GPa. In (c), the squared Raman shifts of the optic modes of Al5 (red circles and  
749 solid lines) and Al11 (red squares and dashed line) are plotted against pressure and compared to  
750 the same optic mode of SiO<sub>2</sub> (Zhang et al., 2021, empty circles, dashed black lines) and Al,H-  
751 bearing stishovite (Lakshmanan et al., 2007b, empty diamonds, dotted black lines). A plateau  
752 between 20 and 35 GPa (Al5) and between 0 and 25 GPa (Al11) appears only in our AlOOH-  
753 rich compositions. This corroborates our hypothesis that the evolution of the optic mode is not  
754 only affected by octahedral tilting, but also by the concentration and bonding of the H atoms.

755 **Figure 7.** High-pressure evolution of the isothermal bulk modulus of CaCl<sub>2</sub>-type pure and Al,H-  
756 bearing SiO<sub>2</sub>, and AlOOH from this and previous studies. Z2021: Zhang et al. (2021), single-  
757 crystal XRD in DAC. A2003: Andrault et al. (2003), powder and single crystal XRD in DAC.  
758 F2018: Fischer et al. (2018), powder XRD in DAC. B2018: Buchen et al. (2018), powder XRD  
759 in DAC. S2009: Sano-Furukawa et al. (2009), powder XRD in DAC. Labels between brackets  
760 show the Al content as Al/(Al+Si). Adiabatic bulk moduli in the Reuss (solid symbols) and Voigt  
761 (empty symbols) bounds calculated from single-crystal BS measurements of Zhang et al. (2021)  
762 are shown for comparison.

763

764

## Tables

765 **Table 1.** 3<sup>rd</sup>-order Birch-Murnaghan equation of state parameters of tetragonal ( $P4_2/mnm$ ) and  
 766 orthorhombic ( $Pnmm$ ) Al5 and orthorhombic ( $Pnmm$ ) Al11. Numbers in parentheses represent  
 767 one standard deviation on the last digits.  $K'_{T0}$  of tetragonal Al5 was fixed to the value reported by  
 768 Zhang et al. (2021) for SiO<sub>2</sub> stishovite.  $M'_{c,0}$  of tetragonal Al5 was fixed to 0, while that of  
 769 orthorhombic Al5 was fixed to the same  $M'_{c,0}$  value of Al11.

	Al5		Al11
	$P4_2/mnm$	$Pnmm$	$Pnmm$
$V_0$	47.163(6)	47.44(3)	47.731(7)
$K_{T0}$	299.3(2.0)	266(4)	280.8(1.3)
$K'_{T0}$	4.8 (fixed)	4.23(13)	3.89(5)
$a_0$	4.2006(2)	4.175(2)	4.2546(1)
$M_{a,0}$	659(10)	1357(98)	760(5)
$M'_{a,0}$	28.4(1.8)	20.2(3.7)	30.0(5)
$b_0$		4.269(6)	4.1843(4)
$M_{b,0}$		327(20)	573(4)
$M'_{b,0}$		14.6(9)	9.73(15)
$c_0$	2.6734(5)	2.6757(4)	2.6828(2)
$M_{c,0}$	1578(16)	1468(8)	1447(14)
$M'_{c,0}$	0 (fixed)	1.3 (fixed)	1.3(4)

770

771

Figure 1

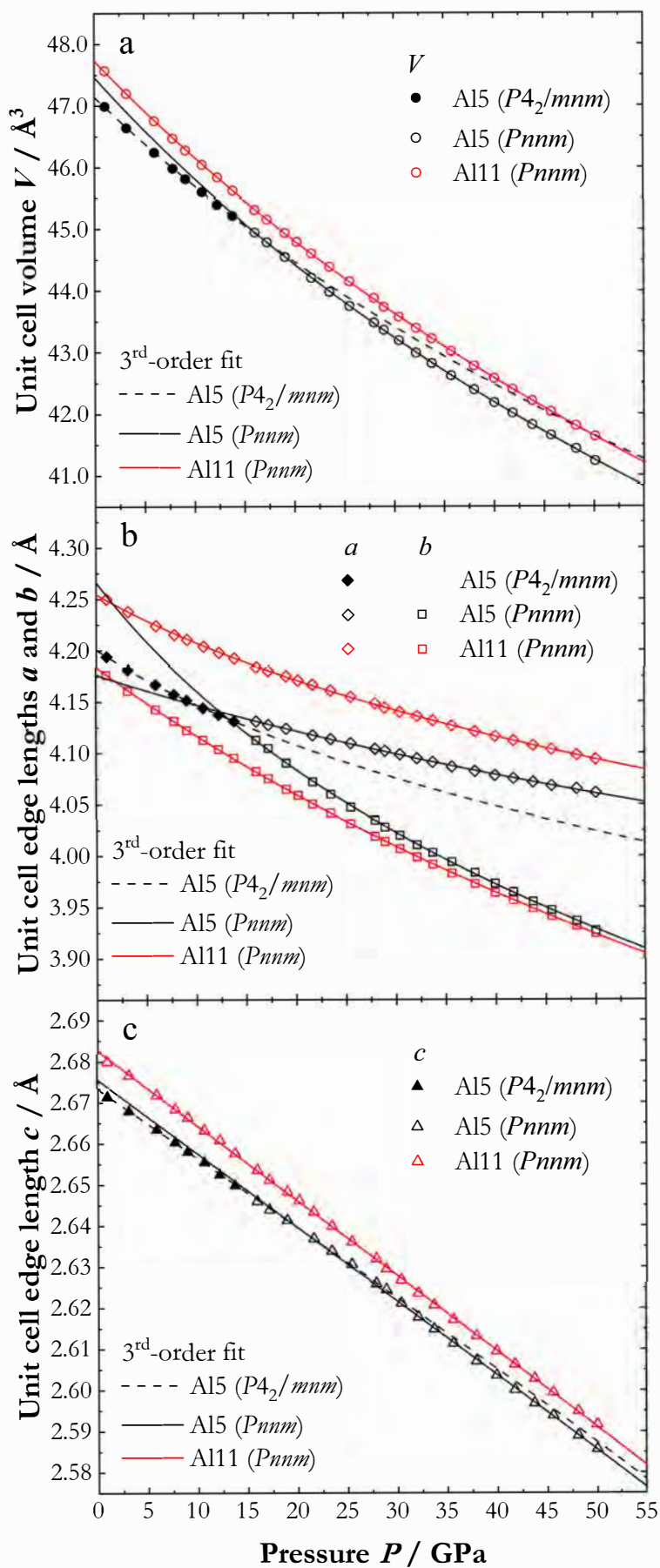


Figure 2

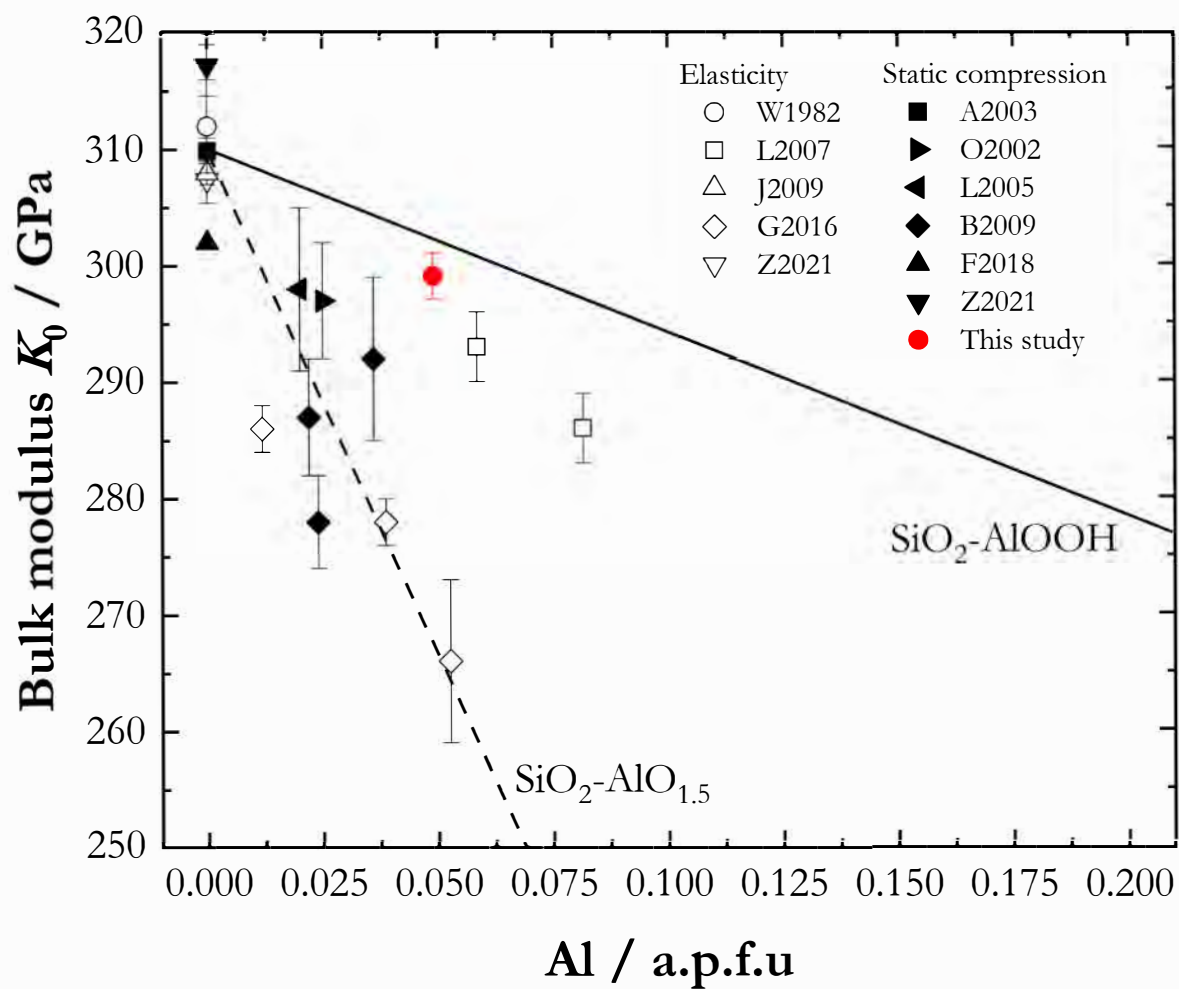


Figure 3

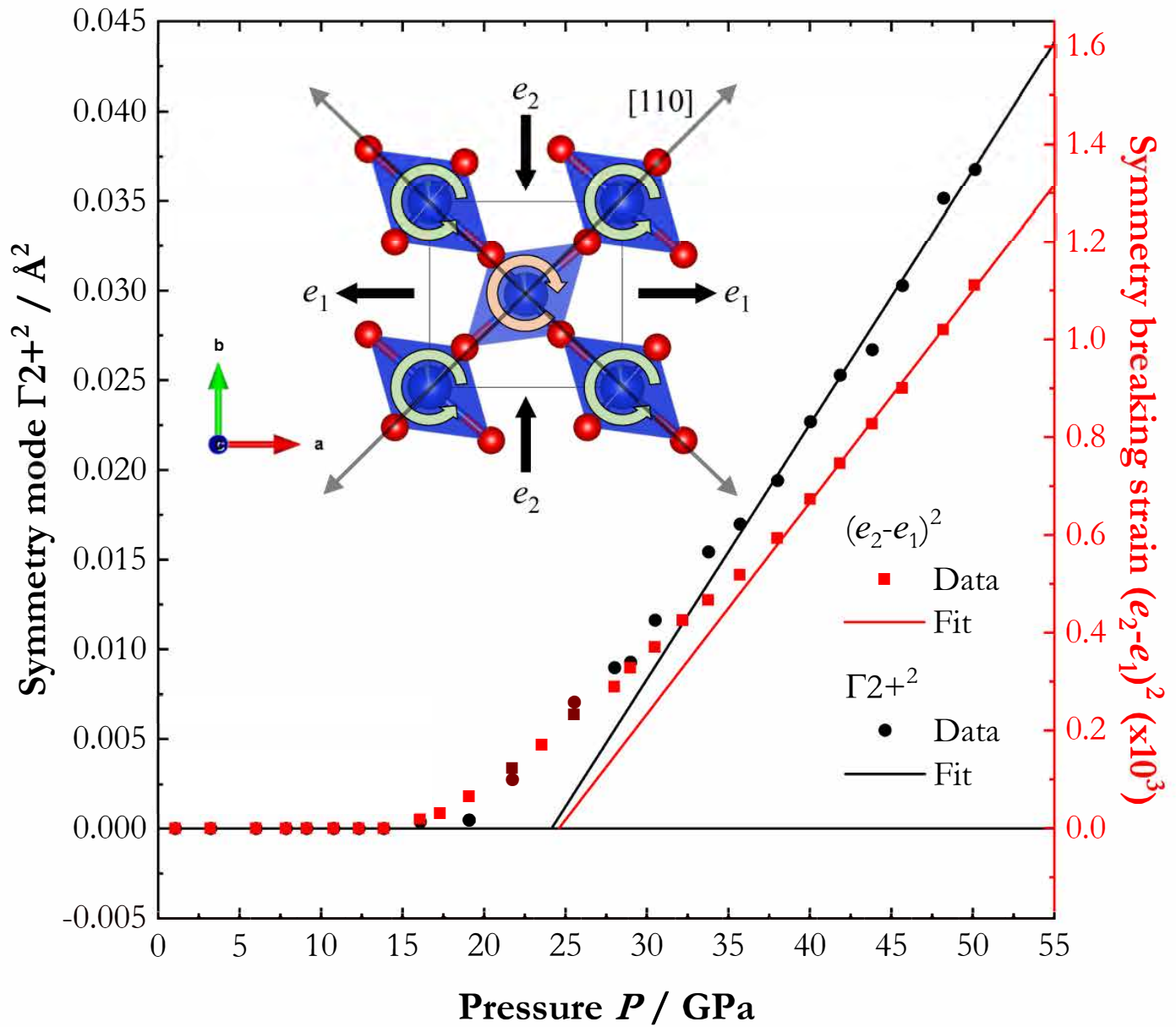


Figure 4

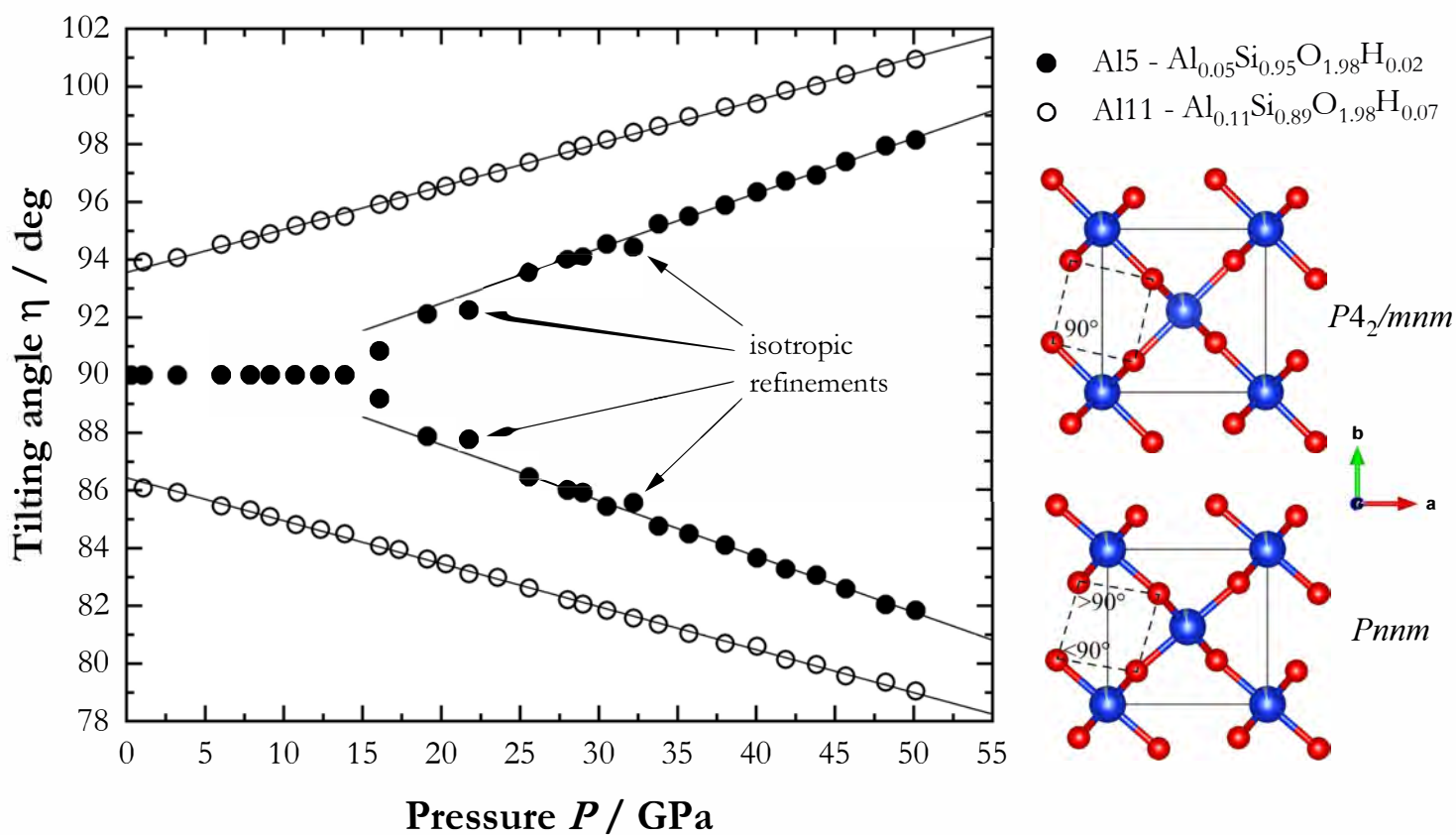


Figure 5

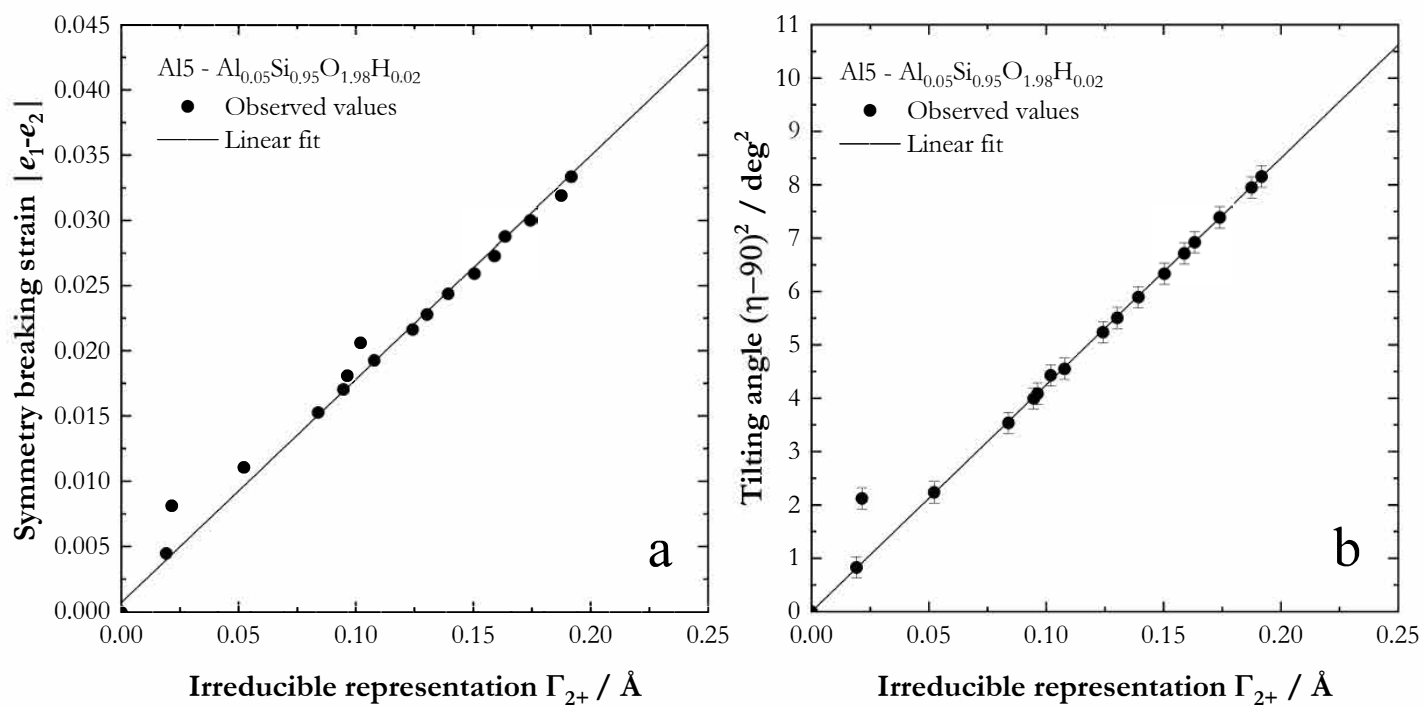




Figure 6

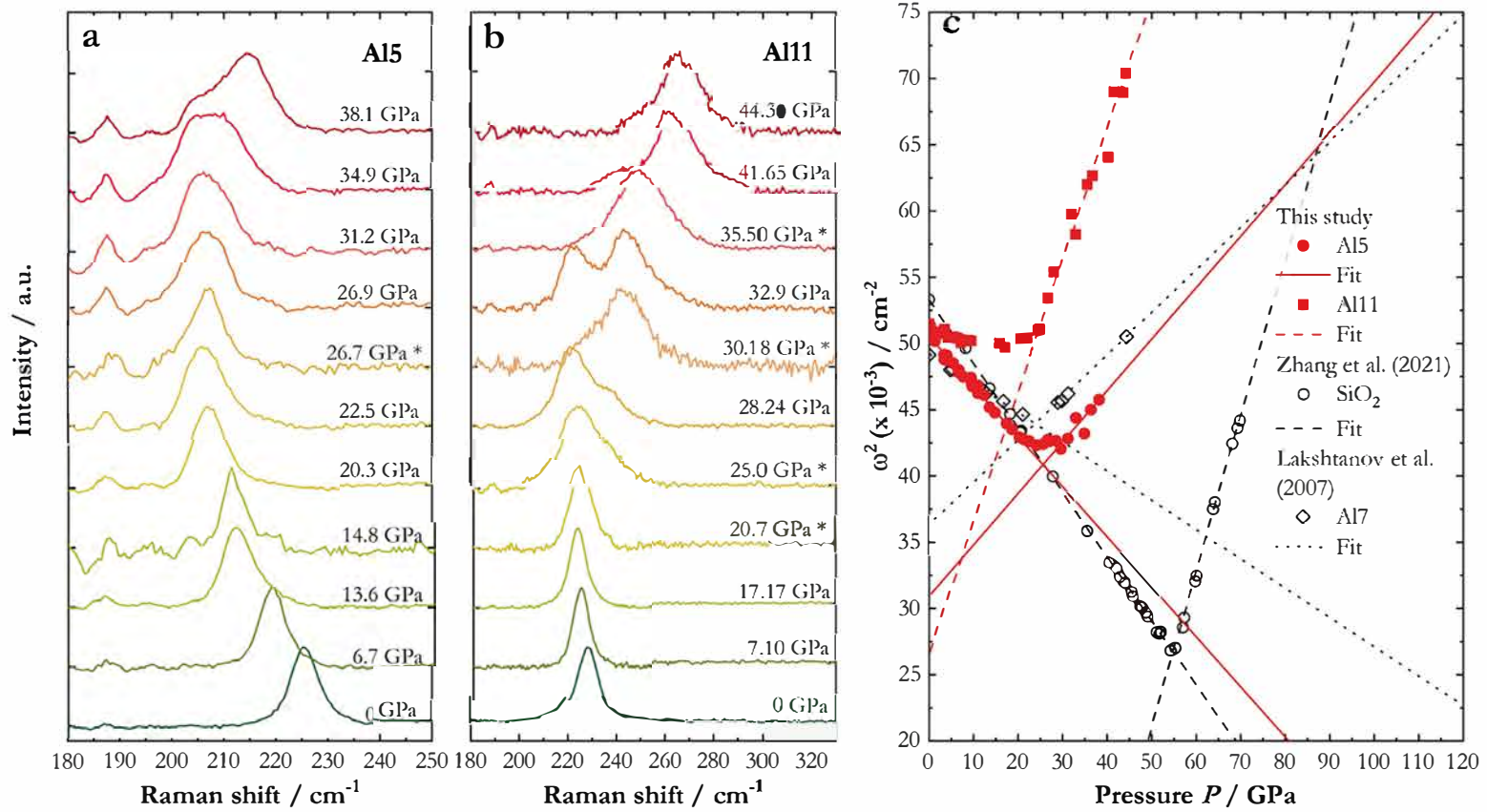


Figure 7

