

Influence of intensive parameters and assemblies on friction evolution during piston-cylinder experiments

PIERRE CONDAMINE^{1,*}, SIMON TOURNIER¹, BERNARD CHARLIER², ETIENNE MÉDARD³, ANTOINE TRIANTAFYLLOU⁵, CÉLIA DALOU¹, LAURENT TISSANDIER¹, DELPHINE LEQUIN¹, CAMILLE CARTIER¹, EVELYN FÜRI¹, PETE G. BURNARD¹, SYLVIE DEMOUCHY^{4,†}, AND YVES MARROCCHI¹

¹CNRS, CRPG, Université de Lorraine, F-54000 Nancy, France

²Department of Geology, University of Liège, 4000 Sart Tilman, Belgium

³CNRS, IRD, OPGC, Laboratoire Magmas et Volcans, Université Clermont Auvergne, F-63000 Clermont-Ferrand, France

⁴Géosciences Montpellier, CNRS, Université de Montpellier, F-34095 Montpellier, France

⁵Geology Laboratory of Lyon, Earth, Planets and Environment (LGL-TPE), Université Lyon 1, ENS de Lyon, CNRS, UMR 5276, Villeurbanne, France

ABSTRACT

Piston-cylinder assemblies exhibit inhomogeneous pressure distributions and biases compared to the theoretical pressure applied to the hydraulic press because of the thermal and mechanical properties of the assembly components. Whereas these effects can partially be corrected by conventional calibration, systematic quantification of friction values remain very sparse and results vary greatly among previous studies. We performed an experimental study to investigate the behavior of the most common cell assemblies, i.e., talc [$\text{Mg}_3\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$], NaCl, and BaCO_3 , during piston-cylinder experiments to estimate the effects of pressure, temperature, run duration, assembly size, and assembly materials on friction values. Our study demonstrates that friction decreases with time and also partially depends on temperature but does not depend on pressure. We determined that friction decreases from 24 to 17% as temperature increases from 900 to 1300 °C when using talc cells, indicating a friction decrease of ~2% per 100 °C increase for 24 h experiments. In contrast, friction becomes independent of time above 1300 °C. Moreover, at a fixed temperature of 900 °C, friction decreases from 29% in 6 h runs to 21% in 48 h runs, corresponding to a decrease of friction of 0.2% per hour. Similar results obtained with NaCl cell assemblies suggest that friction is constant within error, from 8% in 9 h runs to 5% in 24 h runs. At 900 °C, possible steady-state friction values are only reached after at least 48 h, indicating that friction should be considered a variable for shorter experiments. We establish that assembly materials (and their associated thermomechanical properties) influence the friction correction more than the dimensions of the assembly parts. Finally, we show that the use of polytetrafluoroethylene film instead of conventional Pb foil does not modify friction but significantly reduces the force required for sample extraction, thus increasing the lifetime of the carbide core, which in turn enhances experimental reproducibility.

Keywords: Experimental petrology, piston-cylinder, friction, assembly, calibration