

1 **Revision 1**

2 **A Cr<sup>3+</sup> luminescence study of natural topaz Al<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>(F,OH)<sub>2</sub> up to 60 GPa**

3 Earl F. O'Bannon III<sup>1</sup> and Quentin Williams<sup>2</sup>

4 <sup>1</sup>Physics Division, Physical & Life Sciences Directorate, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory,  
5 Livermore, CA 94551, USA

6 <sup>2</sup>Department of Earth & Planetary Sciences, University of California Santa Cruz, CA 95064 USA

7 **Abstract**

8 Topaz [Al<sub>2</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>(F,OH)<sub>2</sub>] is a subduction-related mineral that is found in metasediments and has a  
9 large pressure and temperature stability field. Here, we use luminescence spectroscopy of Cr<sup>3+</sup> to probe  
10 the Al site in topaz under high-pressure up to ~60 GPa, which corresponds to a depth of ~1400 km in the  
11 Earth. This technique allows us to probe all three unique Al environments (e.g. [AlO<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>7-</sup>, [AlO<sub>4</sub>(F)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>7-</sup>,  
12 and [AlO<sub>4</sub>OH,F]<sup>7-</sup>) simultaneously under high-pressure. We find that the R-line luminescence from all  
13 three Al environments shifts linearly to longer wavelength to ~ 40 GPa. Above ~40 GPa, they shift non-  
14 linearly and begin to flatten out at ~48 GPa, with a pressure shift of ~0 cm<sup>-1</sup>/GPa from ~48-55 GPa. Our  
15 results combined with previous high-pressure single-crystal diffraction results to ~45 GPa strongly  
16 indicate that there is a change in the compression mechanism in topaz above ~40 GPa. Our high-  
17 pressure room temperature results show that topaz' metastable persistence on compression is among  
18 the most extreme among tetrahedrally-coordinated silicates.

19 **Keywords:** Topaz, High-pressure, Cr<sup>3+</sup> luminescence, nesosilicates

20 **Introduction**

21 Metamorphic minerals transport water and volatiles to depth during subduction. The  
22 dehydration of minerals in subduction zones is well-known to cause partial melting and back arc  
23 volcanism. The water budget of a subducting slab is complex, but it is generally agreed that the amount  
24 of water subducted is substantially greater than the amount of water released above the back arc

25 (Peacock 1990; Poli and Schmidt 1995; Schmidt and Poli 1998; Williams and Hemley 2001). Minerals  
26 such as lawsonite  $[\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7(\text{OH})_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}]$ , phengite  $[\text{K}(\text{AlMg})_2(\text{OH})_2(\text{SiAl})_4\text{O}_{10}]$ , topaz  $[\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F,OH})_2]$ , and  
27 other dense hydrous phases are thought to be able to transport water and volatiles to depths greater  
28 than  $\sim 150$  km (Wunder et al. 1993; Pawley 1994; Schmidt and Poli 1994; Domanik and Holloway 1996;  
29 Ono 1998; 1999) .

30 Topaz  $[\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F,OH})_2]$  is a subduction-related mineral that is found in metasediments and has a  
31 large pressure and temperature stability field. Topaz can form in pelitic sediments in subduction zones  
32 at conditions starting near 5.0 GPa and  $\sim 600$  °C. Topaz has been shown to be stable to at least 12 GPa  
33 and  $\sim 1100$  °C (Holland et al. 1996). Hydroxyl rich topaz has also been found in high-pressure and ultra  
34 high-pressure belts of the Sulu terrane, China (Zhang et al. 2002). In order to fully understand  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and F  
35 fluorine (F) cycling in subduction zones, detailed studies of the minerals that are likely to carry  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and F  
36 to depth are required. Previous high-pressure, room temperature spectroscopic investigations focused  
37 on looking at the pressure dependence of the OH stretches and silicate vibrations (Bradbury and  
38 Williams, 2003; Komatsu et al. 2005). Spectra were collected up to  $\sim 24$  and  $\sim 30$  GPa, respectively, and  
39 no phase transitions were observed. High-pressure room temperature single-crystal X-ray diffraction  
40 studies have also been reported up to  $\sim 45$  GPa and, again, no phase transitions were observed (Komatsu  
41 et al. 2005; Gatta et al. 2006; Gatta et al. 2014). Moreover, Gatta et al. (2014) suggest that H-bonding in  
42 natural F-rich topaz likely strengthens in response to external pressure based on a *donor-acceptor*  
43 distance argument. Raman and infrared spectroscopic results reported by Bradbury and Williams (2003)  
44 and Komatsu et al. (2005) find that the H-bonding in F-rich topaz becomes weaker under pressure.  
45 Hence, there are ambiguities associated with the high-pressure response of natural F-rich topaz to  
46 pressure. More recently, using first principles techniques topaz-OH was investigated at high-pressure  
47 and two distinct spacegroups that are close in energy were found, orthorhombic *Pbnm* and monoclinic  
48 *P2<sub>1</sub>/c* (Mookherjee et al. 2016). Moreover, another first principles study investigated the effect of

49 fluorine content on the elastic behavior of topaz, and found that orthorhombic  $Pbnm$  symmetry was the  
50 lowest energy for F-topaz, but orthorhombic  $Pbn2_1$  was relevant for intermediate F/OH compositions  
51 (Ulman and Valdre 2017).

52 The luminescence spectrum of topaz has primarily been studied at ambient pressure and  
53 various temperatures (Gaft et al. 2003; Tarashchan et al. 2006). In end-member F-topaz, there is one  
54 unique Al site (Figure 1); however, in partially hydroxylated topaz, there are three unique Al  
55 environments whose abundances depend on the relative concentrations of OH and F (e.g.  $[AlO_4(OH)_2]^{7-}$ ,  
56  $[AlO_4(F)_2]^{7-}$ , and  $[AlO_4OH,F]^{7-}$ ). When trace amounts of  $Cr^{3+}$  are substituted into the lattice, these  
57 different environments give rise to three sets of overlapping transitions for each of the  $R_1$  and  $R_2$   
58 fluorescence peaks. The two split components are produced by the transition from the doubly-split  ${}^2E$   
59 level to the  ${}^4A_2$  ground state, and the three components of each of these peaks can be easily  
60 deconvolved. Here, we use luminescence spectroscopy of  $Cr^{3+}$  which substitutes into the Al sites as a  
61 probe of the octahedral site in partially hydroxylated topaz under high-pressure. Our experiments are  
62 oriented towards (1) determining if any phase transitions occur in topaz under compression, (2)  
63 measuring the pressure shift of the R-lines, and (3) determining if any changes in the compressional  
64 mechanisms of topaz occur at high pressures.

## 65 **Experimental Methods**

66 Our sample was a natural gem quality imperial topaz sample from Capao Topaz mine, Minas  
67 Gerais, Brazil. The sample identity was confirmed with Raman spectroscopy, luminescence spectroscopy,  
68 and single-crystal X-ray diffraction, all of which agree well with previous studies (Alston et al. 1928; Beny  
69 and Piriou 1987; Gaft et al. 2003; Tarashchan et al. 2006). Ambient single-crystal diffraction  
70 measurements were conducted at beamline 11.3.1 (Stan et al. 2018) at the Advanced Light Source at  
71 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in Berkeley, California. Trace element concentrations of topaz  
72 were measured with a PhotonMachines Analyte 193H, which is a 193-nm ArF excimer laser system

73 coupled with a ThermoScientific ElementXR single-collect or magnetic sector ICP-MS. The instrument  
74 was calibrated with a SRM 610 trace element glass from NIST, and Al was used as the internal standard.  
75 The following trace elements were measured, Cr 145 ±68, V 35 ±14, Fe 68 ±43, Mn 2.0 ±0.4, and Ti is  
76 below detection limits (all numbers in ppm). From single-crystal diffraction experiments we obtain unit  
77 cell parameters of  $a= 4.6441(4)$ ,  $b= 8.8122(7)$ , and  $c= 8.3596(6)$ , and we refine a F occupancy 0.743  
78 ( $\pm 0.026$ ), with the balance being hydroxyl ions, or approximately a 3:1 F/OH ratio.

79 High static pressures were generated using a symmetric type diamond anvil cell (DAC). Anvils  
80 were 16 sided type Ia diamonds with culet sizes that ranged from 500 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$  depending on target  
81 pressure, and gaskets were made from rhenium or spring steel. Gaskets were preindented to  $\sim 30 \mu\text{m}$   
82 thickness and a hole was drilled that was  $\sim 2/3$  the diameter of the diamond culet that was used.  
83 Samples were  $\sim 25 \times 20 \times 10 \mu\text{m}$  in dimensions (LxWxH). The pressure medium was either 16:3:1  
84 methanol:ethanol:water, Ne, or He depending on experimental pressure ranges. Ne and He gasses were  
85 loaded with a high pressure gas loading apparatus at the Advanced Light Source, Berkeley, CA. A single  
86 crystal of the sample along with at least two ruby spheres (Chervin et al. 2001) that were  $< 10 \mu\text{m}$  in  
87 diameter were loaded into the sample compartment. Pressures were determined using the standard  
88 ruby fluorescence pressure gauge (Dewaele et al. 2008) and data were collected on both compression  
89 and decompression.

90 Luminescence spectra were collected from 650-800 nm ( $15380\text{-}12500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) with a Horiba  
91 LabRAM HR Evolution Raman spectrometer with a spectrometer focal length of 800 mm. Spectra were  
92 collected to a pressure of  $\sim 60 \text{ GPa}$  and on decompression at 300 K using an excitation wavelength of 532  
93 nm. An Olympus BXFM-ILHS microscope with a 50x long working distance objective was used to focus  
94 the laser beam onto the sample. An 1800 lines/mm grating with a corresponding spectral resolution of  
95  $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (or, equivalently,  $\sim 0.05 \text{ nm}$ ) was utilized. Combinations of Gaussian and Lorentzian functions  
96 were fit to the luminescence spectra with Horiba Labspec6 software.

## 97 **Results and discussion**

### 98 *Emission band assignments*

99           The luminescence spectra of topaz at various temperatures are shown in Figure 2. These spectra  
100 agree well with the previous studies of Gaft et al. (2003) and Tarashchan et al. (2006). At room  
101 temperature and pressure, the sharp R-line emissions, a broad  ${}^4T_2-{}^4A_2$  transition, and vibrational  
102 sidebands are observed. At 77 K, the sharp R-lines shift to slightly shorter wavelength, and the  ${}^4T_2-{}^4A_2$   
103 transition becomes unresolvable. This assignment and observation agrees well with the ambient  
104 pressure spectra and the interpretation of Tarashchan et al. (2006). The three components of each R-  
105 line are easily observed at 77K, as well as a more complex set of lines associated with emission from  
106 neighboring  $Cr^{3+}$ -ions (N-lines).

107           Figure 3 shows a representative deconvolution of the R-lines at room pressure and temperature.  
108 Three emission bands can be fit under each R-line. Considering the O4 site is 74(3)% occupied by F, the  
109 majority of the Al sites in this topaz have the  $[AlO_4(F)_2]^{7-}$  environment, with the mixed site ( $[AlO_4OH,F]^{7-}$ )  
110 being the next most abundant, and the  $[AlO_4(OH)_2]^{7-}$  environment being the least abundant. Hence, we  
111 assign the intense 683.5 nm  $R_1$  band to the  $[AlO_4(F)_2]^{7-}$  site, the 684.7 nm  $R_1$  band to the  $[AlO_4OH,F]^{7-}$   
112 site, and the 683.1 nm  $R_1$  band to the  $[AlO_4(OH)_2]^{7-}$  site.

### 113 *High-pressure spectra*

114           Representative high-pressure luminescence spectra of the topaz R-lines up to ~55.0 GPa are  
115 shown in Figure 4. As with all  $Cr^{3+}$  R-line emissions in oxides observed to date (Kottke and Williams 1983;  
116 Dolan et al. 1986; Wamsley and Bray 1994; O'Bannon and Williams 2016; 2017; O'Bannon et al. 2018),  
117 the R-lines shift to longer wavelength under compression to ~55.0 GPa. The intensity of the R-lines  
118 decreases as a function of pressure, and they become unresolvable above ~55 GPa (they continued to  
119 be unresolvable to at least 60 GPa). On decompression from 60 GPa, the R-lines again became

120 resolvable near 55 GPa, and no hysteresis of the luminescence peaks was observed. The loss of intensity  
121 above 55 GPa is probably due to pressure-induced migration of the absorption bands in topaz to  
122 wavelengths such that pumping these transitions with 532 nm excitation becomes inefficient.

123         The pressure shifts of the R-lines of topaz are plotted in Figure 5, and they are tabulated in Table  
124 1. The R-lines are labeled in accord with their intensity. The most intense components (associated with a  
125 fully fluorinated environment) are  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ , the intermediate intensity components are  $R_1'$  and  $R_2'$  (the  
126 mixed F/OH environment), and the least intense components are labeled  $R_1''$  and  $R_2''$  (the solely OH-  
127 bearing octahedra). The pressure shifts of the R-lines are remarkably linear below  $\sim 40$  GPa suggesting  
128 that the compaction mechanism of topaz, as manifested by shifts in bonding/electron density at the Al  
129 site, remains constant up to  $\sim 40$  GPa. Above 40 GPa the pressure shifts become non-linear suggesting  
130 that the compressional mechanism changes above this pressure. This apparent shift in compressional  
131 mechanism is not concordant with the constant compressional mechanism reported based on single  
132 crystal results by Gatta et al. (2014). As a side note, such a marked decrease in the pressure dependence  
133 of the R-lines is without precedent. The luminescence of  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  in three other geologic oxides has been  
134 probed in to the pressure range in which we examine topaz: ruby, alexandrite and tourmaline. No such  
135 slope change in the pressure shift of the ruby R-lines is observed up to at least 156 GPa at room  
136 temperature (Eggert et al. 1988), and the structure of ruby does not undergo any phase transitions up to  
137 at least 176 GPa at room temperature (Jephcoat et al. 1989). Similarly, the R-lines in alexandrite  
138 ( $\text{BeAl}_2\text{O}_4$ ) shift monotonically up to at least 50 GPa (Jahren et al. 1991), as do the emission bands of  
139 dravite-tourmaline to 65 GPa (O'Bannon et al. 2018: in this case, a modest splitting occurs associated  
140 with the loss of a mirror plane at 15 GPa). This suggests that the compression mechanisms of ruby,  
141 alexandrite and tourmaline do not change up to at least 176 GPa, 50 GPa and 65 GPa, respectively, and  
142 indeed no notable change in the compression mechanism of any of these phases has been reported, and  
143 the R-lines in each phase show no marked shifts in slope.

144 Gatta et al. (2014) report that neither phase transitions, changes in compressional mechanism,  
145 nor changes in Al-site distortion are observed under compression to ~45 GPa. However, the data from  
146 their study show that the pressure dependence of the Al-site volume is essentially constant above ~40  
147 GPa (Figure 6a). The Si site volumes and bond lengths reported by Gatta et al. (2014) above ~40 GPa are  
148 a bit more scattered than those of the Al site, and do not clearly show a trend (Figure 7). The individual  
149 Al-O/F bond lengths as a function of pressure show similar behavior, with the Al-O bond lengths  
150 becoming nearly constant above about ~40 GPa (Figure 6b); the Al-F bond lengths may show similar  
151 behavior, but they are sufficiently scattered that it is difficult to conclusively resolve a trend. Notably,  
152 these changes in Al-site volume and Al-O/F bond distances were not discussed in detail by Gatta et al.  
153 (2014) since in the context of their entire data set, these deviations are not statistically significant, and  
154 they thus were likely cautious when interpreting their results. However, our fluorescence experiments  
155 were conducted using both He and Ne pressure media (Figure 5) in order to rule out the possibility that  
156 non-hydrostaticity in Ne at pressures above 40 GPa impacted our measurements. Thus, it is possible that  
157 the previous single-crystal study of Gatta et al. (2014) also observed the beginning of the change in  
158 compression mechanism that we identify using luminescence spectroscopy.

159 Given the unusual behavior of the luminescence of topaz above 40 GPa, a short assessment of  
160 the degree of nonhydrostaticity in the samples is likely of value. Clearly, from the luminescence behavior  
161 of ruby, alexandrite and tourmaline to pressures above 50 GPa (Eggert et al. 1988; Jahren et al. 1991;  
162 O'Bannon et al. 2018), non-hydrostaticity itself does not typically produce anomalous behavior of Cr<sup>3+</sup>-  
163 luminescence at extreme conditions. In terms of quantifying stress gradients, Klotz et al. (2009) report  
164 that the standard deviation in pressure in a He pressure medium at ~40 GPa is ~0.2 GPa, and the more  
165 quantitative study of Takemura and Dewaele (2008) report that the uniaxial stress component of an Au  
166 sample in a He pressure medium at ~ 40 GPa is 0.11 GPa. Might these small differential stresses  
167 generate the change in R-line slope above 40 GPa? If the pressure dependence of the topaz R-lines is,

168 through some mechanism, altered by nonhydrostatic conditions (alone among oxides probed to these  
169 pressures to date) induced by the chosen pressure media, then we would anticipate that different levels  
170 of nonhydrostaticity should induce different onset pressures of the anomalous behavior. As the  
171 standard deviation in pressure and the uniaxial stress component in a Ne pressure medium is known to  
172 be larger than in He (e.g., Klotz et al. 2009), then we would expect that the onset pressure of the change  
173 in pressure dependence of the topaz R-lines would be at lower pressures in a Ne medium versus a He  
174 medium. However, Figure 5 shows that the change in pressure dependence of the Topaz R-lines occurs  
175 at essentially the same pressure in both the He and Ne medium experiments. Thus, the change we  
176 observe is likely an intrinsic phenomenon generated by compaction of topaz, and does not appear to be  
177 correlated with non-hydrostatic effects.

#### 178 *R-line separation and FWHM*

179 The separation between the  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  bands of all three components of the R-lines increases as  
180 a function of pressure. Figure 8 shows the separation of the three components of the R-lines. All three  
181 components behave in a similar way and their separation increases as pressure increases; again, this  
182 behavior is fully reversible on decompression. As this separation arises from the distortion of the Al/Cr-  
183 octahedron from an ideal geometry (e.g., Syassen, 2008), this increase in separation implies that the Al-  
184 sites become more distorted under compression. Indeed, the calculated quadratic elongation for the Al  
185 site reported by Gatta et al. (2014) shows that the Al site becomes more distorted under compression to  
186 45 GPa. This distortion, as derived from luminescence spectroscopy, represents a measure of the  
187 distortion of the site away from ideal octahedral symmetry, and as such is a conflation of internal  
188 octahedral deformation such as (1) cation off-centeredness, (2) deviation of the anion configuration  
189 from octahedral symmetry, and (3) shifts in charge distribution induced by having both F and O as part  
190 of the octahedra. The observed decrease in the R-line separation of the  $R_1''$  and  $R_2''$  components above  
191 40 GPa is likely due to the difficulties in fitting the weak  $R_1''$  component because of peak broadening and



192 low intensity of the emission bands at the highest pressure of these experiments. There is also a change  
193 in slope above ~40 GPa in  $R_1$ - $R_2$  and  $R_1'$ - $R_2'$  (Figure 8b and 8c) which is consistent with a change in  
194 deformation mechanism, as indicated by both the R-line pressure dependences and single crystal  
195 diffraction data (Figures 5 and 6). It is possible that the deviation from the lower pressure trend of the R-  
196 line separation above 40 GPa is largest for the doubly hydroxylated site, intermediate in magnitude for  
197 the singly hydroxylated site, and smallest for the fully fluorinated site (Figure 8).

198 Full widths at half maximum (FWHM) of the topaz R-lines as a function of pressure are shown in  
199 Figure 9. The peak width of the R-lines increases as pressure increases. Notably, at the highest  
200 pressures, the peakwidth with a He medium is narrower than the peakwidth in Ne, which shows that,  
201 unsurprisingly, the He experiment is more hydrostatic than the Ne experiment. This agrees well with  
202 previously reported results on differential stress in different pressure media (Klotz et al. 2009). As with  
203 the shift in  $R_1$ - $R_2$  separation, the uniform increase in peakwidth as a function of pressure are consistent  
204 with the Al-sites becoming more distorted with pressure, although non-hydrostatic stress (even within  
205 He) is likely to also play a role in this broadening.

206 It should be noted that Gatta et al. (2014) modeled their structures as fully fluorinated, although  
207 the reported composition of their sample was  $[\text{Al}_{2.00}\text{Si}_{1.05}\text{O}_{4.00}(\text{OH}_{0.26}\text{F}_{1.75})]$ . In high-pressure single-crystal  
208 diffraction, it is sometimes necessary to simplify the structural model. In the case of topaz, modeling it  
209 as fully fluorinated is a reasonable simplification since the electron density of a bonded F and O atom  
210 are difficult to resolve within a typical high-pressure single-crystal dataset. So, the structural model of  
211 Gatta et al. (2014) is not expected to fully capture subtle differences in the compressional behavior of  
212 the three unique Al environments since their structures reflect an average change of the Al-F/OH bond  
213 length.  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  luminescence allows us to probe all three Al environments under compression and  
214 demonstrates the sensitivity of this technique to different environments. The pressure shift, R-line

215 separation, and FWHM of the Cr<sup>3+</sup> luminescence bands all behave slightly differently from one another,  
216 indicating that each Al environment responds differently to compression. Gatta et al. (2014) report that  
217 compression of topaz is mainly accommodated by contraction of the polyhedral bond distance, along  
218 with polyhedral tilting. As shown in Figure 6b, Gatta et al. (2014) report two populations of bonds in the  
219 Al-site, with the Al-O bonds being more compressible than the Al-F bonds. Moreover, the pressure  
220 dependences of the Al-O and Al-F bond lengths reported by Gatta et al. (2014) change above ~40 GPa.  
221 This change in behavior could be correlated with changes in H···H repulsive effects and/or in the H-  
222 bonding environment of the hydroxyls. Ulian and Valdre (2017) report in their density functional  
223 theoretical study of topazes with different F/OH ratios that complex H-bonding environments  
224 (bifurcated and trifurcated H-bonds) are established under compression. Moreover, our luminescence  
225 data suggest that the hydroxylated and the mixed F/OH sites show the largest changes above ~40 GPa  
226 (Figure 8a and 8c). Hence, a shift to a compressional mechanism where polyhedral tilting becomes the  
227 dominant compaction mechanism (with a possible additional role associated with tetrahedral  
228 deformation: Figure 7), with bond contraction of the Al-polyhedra ceasing to play a significant role likely  
229 occurs above ~40 GPa. This shift is likely associated with changes in H-bonding. Whether the exhaustion  
230 of octahedral bond contraction as a compressional mechanism represents precursory behavior to a  
231 higher pressure phase transition remains unclear.

## 232 **Implications**

233 Our results suggest that the compressional mechanism of topaz changes above ~40 GPa; this  
234 shift is supported by the single crystal data reported by Gatta et al. (2014), but its presence was not  
235 previously recognized. The following discussion assumes that the Cr sites that our techniques has  
236 probed reflect the bulk high-pressure behavior of the octahedral sites in topaz which is a reasonable  
237 assumption given the relatively simple topology of the topaz structure and the relatively low  
238 concentration of Cr and other elemental substituents. Thus, it seems unlikely that the Al sites would

239 behave dramatically different from the Cr sites that our technique probes. The R-line splittings and  
240 FWHM of the luminescence bands are both consistent with the Al-sites in topaz becoming more  
241 distorted under compression up to 40 GPa (which is consistent with the high-pressure single-crystal  
242 results of Gatta et al. 2014). Our results also show that the high-pressure behavior of the different Al  
243 environments (e.g.  $[\text{AlO}_4(\text{OH})_2]^{7-}$ ,  $[\text{AlO}_4(\text{F})_2]^{7-}$ , and  $[\text{AlO}_4\text{OH,F}]^{7-}$ ) are similar to one another up to 40 GPa,  
244 suggesting that these different Al environments are notably close in their energetic stabilities a result  
245 that has not been previously reported. The behavior of the emission bands above 40 GPa suggests that  
246 the Al-polyhedra become less compressible above this pressure, and that polyhedral tilting and/or  
247 tetrahedral distortion may play more major roles in the compaction of topaz above this pressure than  
248 contraction of the Al-octahedra does. This shift is likely associated with changes in the H-bonding  
249 environment of the fully hydroxylated Al-sites and the mixed OH/F Al sites.

250       Thus, this change in slope of the R-lines above ~40 GPa, and associated shift in compressional  
251 mechanism, could represent precursory behavior to a phase transition. The observation that the  
252 luminescence spectra are fully reversible following compression to 60 GPa implies that any transition is  
253 either fully reversible, or occurs above 60 GPa at 300 K. A notable aspect is that topaz is, at 300 K, one of  
254 the most metastable tetrahedrally-coordinated silicates under compression known: for comparison  
255 magnesian olivine persists to 54 GPa prior to amorphizing (Santamaria-Perez et al. 2016). This stability is  
256 plausibly a consequence of (as with olivine) its tetrahedra being surrounded by stable, highly  
257 coordinated cations in a relatively simple arrangement (Figure 1) in which compression is dominantly  
258 achieved (initially) by simple polyhedral compaction. Similarly, diopside  $[\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6]$  is a mineral that  
259 persists metastably at 300 K to very high pressures (Chopelas and Serghiou 2002; Plonka et al. 2012).  
260 Diopside undergoes a phase transition near 55 GPa where half of the Si-sites change coordination from  
261  $\text{SiO}_4$  to  $\text{SiO}_6$  (Chopelas and Serghiou 2002; Plonka et al. 2012). However, unlike topaz and olivine,

262 diopside is a chain silicate and the topology of the structure allows for nearly diffusion-less coordination  
263 changes to occur in the Si sites at high-pressure.

264         If topaz does undergo a phase transition at a pressure above ~60 GPa, this pressure corresponds  
265 to a depth of >1400 km in the Earth. Even in cold subduction zones, topaz would probably be close to  
266 being in thermal equilibrium with the surrounding mantle at these depths (as it should predominantly  
267 form near the top of the slab, in pelitic sediments). Thus, no low temperature transition in topaz is likely  
268 to occur within Earth's interior, and the major transformations undergone by topaz are likely to be  
269 either dehydration or conversion to high pressure hydrous aluminous phases (Ono, 1999;  
270 Dobrzhinetskaya and Green, 2007). Nevertheless, the high degree of metastability exhibited by topaz at  
271 300 K indicates that it could be a strong candidate to kinetically persist substantially beyond its stability  
272 field if present in lower temperature subduction zone environments.

### 273 **Acknowledgments**

274         We thank Rob Franks for assistance with the LA-ICPMS measurements, Dan Sampson for  
275 technical assistance with the Raman spectrometer detector, and Nico Giordano (CSEC U. Edinburgh) and  
276 Christine Beavers for assistance with data collection on beamline 11.3.1 and helpful discussions. A  
277 portion of this work was performed under the auspices of the US Department of Energy by Lawrence  
278 Livermore National Laboratory under Contract No. DE-AC52-07NA27344. Work partially supported by  
279 NSF through EAR-1620423 and COMPRES through NSF Cooperative Agreement EAR-1606856. This  
280 research used resources of the Advanced Light Source (beamline 11.3.1, now beamline 12.2.1) at  
281 Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory which is a DOE Office of Science User facility under Contract No. DE-  
282 AC02-05CH11231.

283 **References**

- 284 Alston, N. A., West, J., & Fellow, J. H. (1928). The structure of topaz  $\text{Al}(\text{F},\text{OH})_2\text{SiO}_4$ . *Proceedings of the*  
285 *Royal Society of London Series a-Containing Papers of a Mathematical and Physical Character*,  
286 121, 358-367.
- 287 Beny, J. M., & Piriou, B. (1987). Vibrational-spectra of single-crystal topaz. *Physics and Chemistry of*  
288 *Minerals*, 15, 148-154.
- 289 Bradbury, S. E., & Williams, Q. (2003). Contrasting bonding behavior of two hydroxyl-bearing  
290 metamorphic minerals under pressure: Clinozoisite and topaz. *American Mineralogist*, 88, 1460-  
291 1470.
- 292 Chervin, J. C., Canny, B., & Mancinelli, M. (2001). Ruby-spheres as pressure gauge for optically  
293 transparent high pressure cells. *High Pressure Research*, 21, 305-315.
- 294 Chopelas, A., & Serghiou, G. (2002). Spectroscopic evidence for pressure-induced phase transitions in  
295 diopside. *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, 29, 403-408.
- 296 Dewaele, A., Torrent, M., Loubeyre, P., & Mezouar, M. (2008). Compression curves of transition metals  
297 in the Mbar range: Experiments and projector augmented-wave calculations. *Physical Review B*,  
298 78, 104102.
- 299 Dobrzhinetskaya, L. F., & Green, H. W. (2007). Experimental studies of mineralogical assemblages of  
300 metasedimentary rocks at Earth's mantle transition zone conditions. *Journal of Metamorphic*  
301 *Geology*, 25, 83-96.
- 302 Dolan, J. F., Kappers, L. A., & Bartram, R. H. (1986). Pressure and temperature-dependence of chromium  
303 photoluminescence in  $\text{K}_2\text{NaGaF}_6:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ . *Physical Review B*, 33, 7339-7341.
- 304 Domanik, K. J., & Holloway, J. R. (1996). The stability and composition of phengitic muscovite and  
305 associated phases from 5.5 to 11 GPa: Implications for deeply subducted sediments. *Geochimica*  
306 *Et Cosmochimica Acta*, 60, 4133-4150.
- 307 Eggert, J. H., Goettel, K. A., & Silvera, I. F. (1989). Ruby at high pressure. I. Optical line shifts to 156 GPa.  
308 *Physical Review B*, 40(8), 5724.
- 309 Gaft, M., Nagli, L., Reisfeld, R., Panczer, G., & Brestel, M. (2003). Time-resolved luminescence of  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  in  
310 topaz  $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{OH},\text{F})_2$ . *Journal of Luminescence*, 102, 349-356.
- 311 Gatta, G. D., Morgenroth, W., Dera, P., Petitgirard, S., & Liermann, H. P. (2014). Elastic behavior and  
312 pressure-induced structure evolution of topaz up to 45 GPa. *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*,  
313 41, 569-577.
- 314 Gatta, G. D., Nestola, F., & Ballaran, T. B. (2006). Elastic behaviour and structural evolution of topaz at  
315 high pressure. *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, 33, 235-242.
- 316 Holland, T. J. B., Redfern, S. A. T., & Pawley, A. R. (1996). Volume behavior of hydrous minerals at high  
317 pressure and temperature .2. Compressibilities of lawsonite, zoisite, clinozoisite, and epidote.  
318 *American Mineralogist*, 81, 341-348.
- 319 Jahren, A.H., Kruger, M.B., & Jeanloz, R. (1991) Alexandrite as a high-temperature pressure calibrant,  
320 and implications for the ruby fluorescence scale. *Journal of Applied Physics*, 71, 1579-1582.
- 321 Jephcoat, A. P., Hemley, R. J., & Mao, H. K. (1988). X-ray diffraction of ruby ( $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3:\text{Cr}^{3+}$ ) to 175 GPa.  
322 *Physica B+ C*, 150(1-2), 115-121.
- 323 Klotz, S., Chervin, J. C., Munsch, P., & Le Marchand, G. (2009). Hydrostatic limits of 11 pressure  
324 transmitting media. *Journal of Physics D-Applied Physics*, 42, 075413.
- 325 Komatsu, K., Kagi, H., Okada, T., Kuribayashi, T., Parise, J. B., & Kudoh, Y. (2005). Pressure dependence of  
326 the OH-stretching mode in F-rich natural topaz and topaz-OH. *American Mineralogist*, 90, 266-  
327 270.
- 328 Kottke, T., & Williams, F. (1983). Pressure-dependence of the alexandrite emission spectrum. *Physical*  
329 *Review B*, 28, 1923-1927.

- 330 Mookherjee, M., Tsuchiya, J., & Hariharan, A. (2016). Crystal structure, equation of state, and elasticity  
331 of hydrous aluminosilicate phase, topaz-OH ( $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{OH})_2$ ) at high pressures. *Physics of the Earth  
332 and Planetary Interiors*, 251, 24-35.
- 333 O'Bannon, E. F., Beavers, C. M., Kunz, M., & Williams, Q. (2018). High-pressure study of dravite  
334 tourmaline: Insights into the accommodating nature of the tourmaline structure. *American  
335 Mineralogist*, 103, 1622-1633.
- 336 O'Bannon, E. F., & Williams, Q. (2016). Beryl-II, a high-pressure phase of beryl: Raman and luminescence  
337 spectroscopy to 16.4 GPa. *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, 43, 671-687.
- 338 O'Bannon, E. F., & Williams, Q. (2017). Delocalization in  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  luminescence of clinocllore: A pressure-  
339 induced transition from single-ion emission to pair emission. *Journal of Physics and Chemistry of  
340 Solids*, 109, 89-99.
- 341 Ono, S. (1998). Stability limits of hydrous minerals in sediment and mid-ocean ridge basalt compositions:  
342 Implications for water transport in subduction zones. *Journal of Geophysical Research-Solid  
343 Earth*, 103, 18253-18267.
- 344 Ono, S. (1999). High temperature stability limit of phase egg,  $\text{AlSiO}_3(\text{OH})$ . *Contributions to Mineralogy  
345 and Petrology*, 137, 83-89. Pawley, A. R. (1994). The pressure and temperature stability limits of  
346 lawsonite: Implications for  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  recycling in subduction zones. *Contributions to Mineralogy and  
347 Petrology*, 118, 99-108.
- 348 Peacock, S. M. (1990). Fluid processes in subduction zones. *Science*, 248, 329-337.
- 349 Plonka, A. M., Dera, P., Irmen, P., Rivers, M. L., Ehm, L., & Parise, J. B. (2012). beta-diopside, a new  
350 ultrahigh-pressure polymorph of  $\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6$  with six-coordinated silicon. *Geophysical Research  
351 Letters*, 39.
- 352 Poli, S., & Schmidt, M. W. (1995).  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  transport and release in subduction zones: Experimental  
353 constraints on basaltic and andesitic systems. *Journal of Geophysical Research-Solid Earth*, 100,  
354 22299-22314.
- 355 Santamaria-Perez, D., Thomson, A., Segura, A., Pellicer-Torres, J., Manjon, F. J., Cora, F., et al. (2016).  
356 Metastable structural transformations and pressure-induced amorphization in natural  
357  $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$  olivine under static compression: A Raman spectroscopic study. *American  
358 Mineralogist*, 101, 1642-1650.
- 359 Schmidt, M. W., & Poli, S. (1994). The stability of lawsonite and zoisite at high-pressures: Experiments in  
360 CASH to 92 kbar and implications for the presence of hydrous phases in subducted lithosphere.  
361 *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 124, 105-118.
- 362 Schmidt, M. W., & Poli, S. (1998). Experimentally based water budgets for dehydrating slabs and  
363 consequences for arc magma generation. *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, 163, 361-379.
- 364 Stan, C. V., Beavers, C. M., Kunz, M., & Tamura, N. (2018). X-Ray Diffraction under Extreme Conditions at  
365 the Advanced Light Source. *Quantum Beam Science*, 2, 4, 33 pp.
- 366 Syassen, K. (2008). Ruby under pressure. *High Pressure Research*, 28(2), 75-126.
- 367 Takemura, K., & Dewaele, A. (2008). Isothermal equation of state for gold with a He-pressure medium.  
368 *Physical review B*, 78(10), 104119.
- 369 Tarashchan, A. N., Taran, M. N., Rager, H., & Iwanuch, W. (2006). Luminescence spectroscopic study of  
370  $\text{Cr}^{3+}$  in Brazilian topazes from Ouro Preto. *Physics and Chemistry of Minerals*, 32, 679-690.
- 371 Ulian, G., & Valdre, G. (2017). Effects of fluorine content on the elastic behavior of topaz  $\text{Al}_2\text{SiO}_4(\text{F,OH})_2$ .  
372 *American Mineralogist*, 102, 347-356.
- 373 Wamsley, P. R., & Bray, K. L. (1994). High-pressure optical studies of doped YAG. *Journal of  
374 Luminescence*, 60-1, 188-191.
- 375 Williams, Q., & Hemley, R. J. (2001). Hydrogen in the deep earth. *Annual Review of Earth and Planetary  
376 Sciences*, 29, 365-418.

- 377 Wunder, B., Medenbach, O., Krause, W., & Schreyer, W. (1993). Synthesis, properties and stability of  
378  $\text{Al}_3\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7(\text{OH})_3$  (PHASE Pi), A hydrous high-pressure phase in the system  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 - \text{SiO}_2 - \text{H}_2\text{O}$  (ASH).  
379 *European Journal of Mineralogy*, 5, 637-649.
- 380 Zhang, R. Y., Liou, J. G., & Shu, J. F. (2002). Hydroxyl-rich topaz in high-pressure and ultrahigh-pressure  
381 kyanite quartzites, with retrograde woodhouseite, from the Sulu terrane, eastern China.  
382 *American Mineralogist*, 87, 445-453.
- 383  
384

- 385 Figure 1. Crystal structure of topaz looking along the  $a$ -axis. Crystal structure based on our own  
386 synchrotron X-ray structure refinement. Diagram generated in CrystalMaker<sup>®</sup> v 8.7.6.
- 387 Figure 2. Cr<sup>3+</sup> luminescence emission spectra of topaz at various temperatures. Inset shows a detailed  
388 view of the R-lines at 77 K showing the multi-component character of each R-line.
- 389 Figure 3. Deconvolution of the R-lines in topaz showing the three components of each R-line, at room  
390 pressure and temperature.
- 391 Figure 4. Representative high-pressure luminescence spectra of topaz up to ~55.0 GPa. Spectra were  
392 collected in a Ne pressure medium.
- 393 Figure 5. Pressure shift of the R-lines in topaz, triangles are in a 16:3:1 alcohol mix, circles are in He, and  
394 squares are in Ne. Error bars are smaller than the symbols.
- 395 Figure 6. Single crystal data on topaz from Gatta et al. (2014). Note both the (a) Al-site volume behavior  
396 above ~40 GPa and the (b) Al-O bond length behavior above ~40 GPa.
- 397 Figure 7. Single crystal data on topaz from Gatta et al. (2014). (a) Si-site volume and the (b) Si-O bond  
398 length.
- 399 Figure 8. R-line separation as a function of pressure (a) R<sub>1</sub>'-R<sub>2</sub>' hydroxylated site (b) R<sub>1</sub>-R<sub>2</sub> fluorinated  
400 site and (c) R<sub>1</sub>'-R<sub>2</sub>' F,OH site. Error bars are smaller than the symbols, and different pressure media are  
401 shown with the same symbols and colors as Figure 4.5.
- 402 Figure 9. Full width at half maximum of (a) R<sub>1</sub> and (b) R<sub>2</sub>. The other components of the R-lines show  
403 similar trends but are not plotted for clarity.
- 404 Table 1. Pressure shift of each component of the R-lines for all three experiments. Notably, the pressure  
405 shifts between the Ne and He experiments are essentially identical. The larger errors from the He and  
406 Ne experiments are produced by the uncertainty in deconvolving all three components of the peaks in  
407 weaker, broader bands at higher pressures.



Assignment	Pressure shift (nm/GPa)	R <sup>2</sup> value
Ne experiment (up to 40 GPa)		
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.27 ±0.10	0.997
R <sub>1</sub>	0.29 ±0.10	0.997
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.30 ±0.16	0.993
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.18 ±0.08	0.998
R <sub>2</sub>	0.20 ±0.06	0.999
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.22 ±0.08	0.998
He experiment (up to 40 GPa)		
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.27 ±0.11	0.998
R <sub>1</sub>	0.28 ±0.07	0.999
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.31 ±0.14	0.998
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.19 ±0.14	0.994
R <sub>2</sub>	0.20 ±0.10	0.997
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.22 ±0.13	0.996
16:3:1 experiment (up to 15 GPa)		
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.29 ±0.01	0.998
R <sub>1</sub>	0.29 ±0.01	0.998
R <sub>1</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.32 ±0.01	0.998
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>''</sup>	0.22 ±0.01	0.998
R <sub>2</sub>	0.22 ±0.01	0.998
R <sub>2</sub> <sup>'</sup>	0.26 ±0.01	0.998

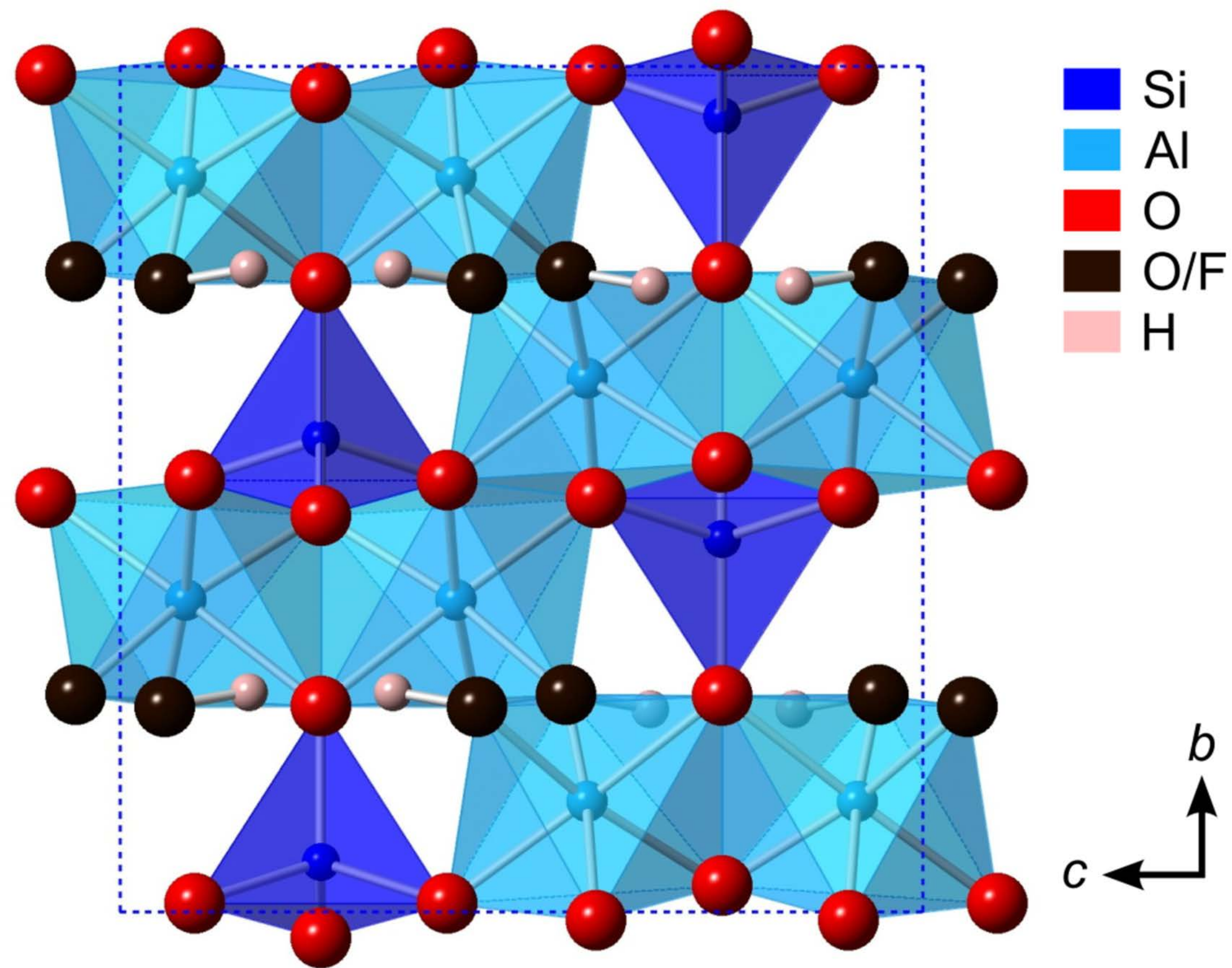


Figure 1



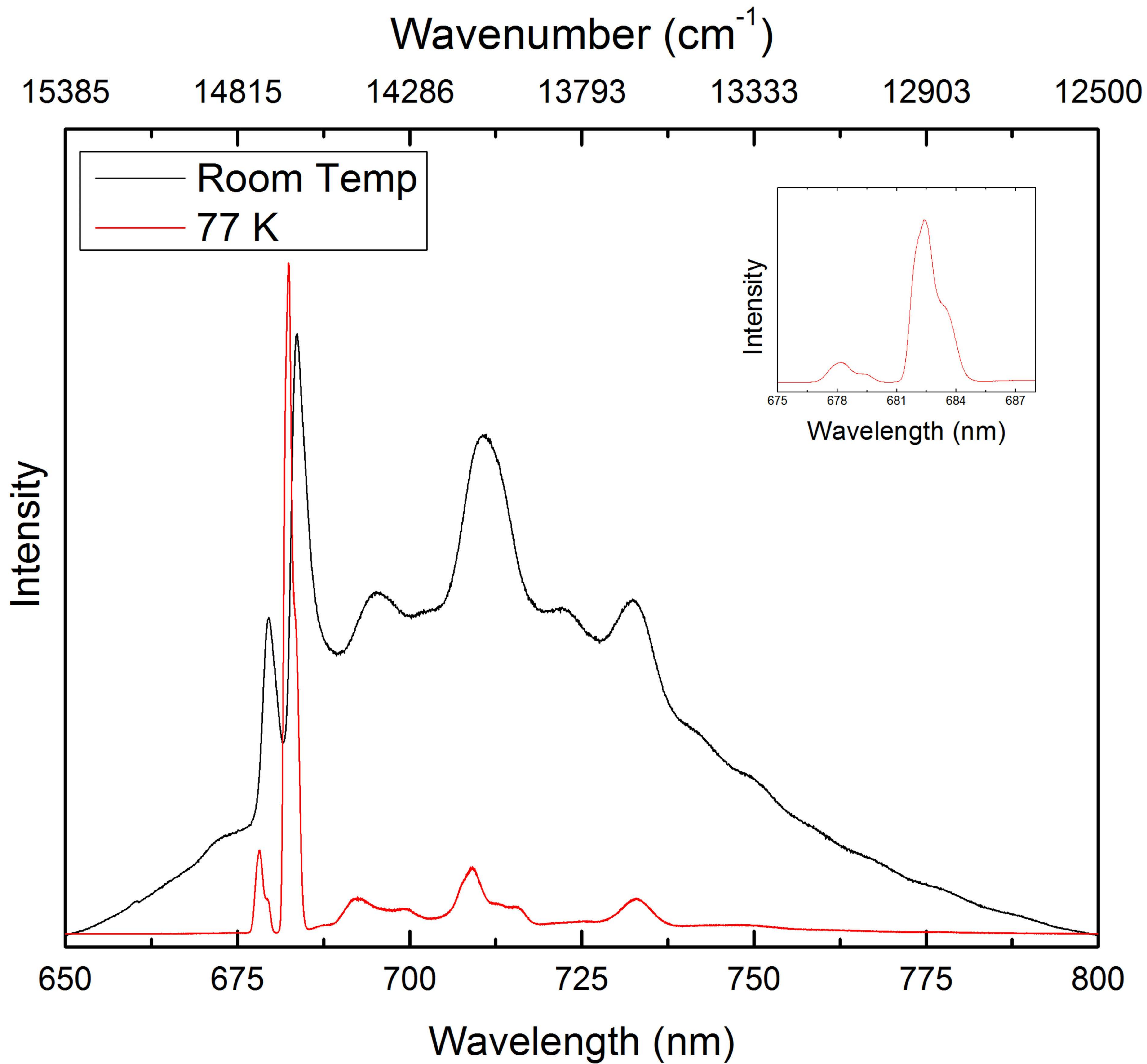


Figure 2

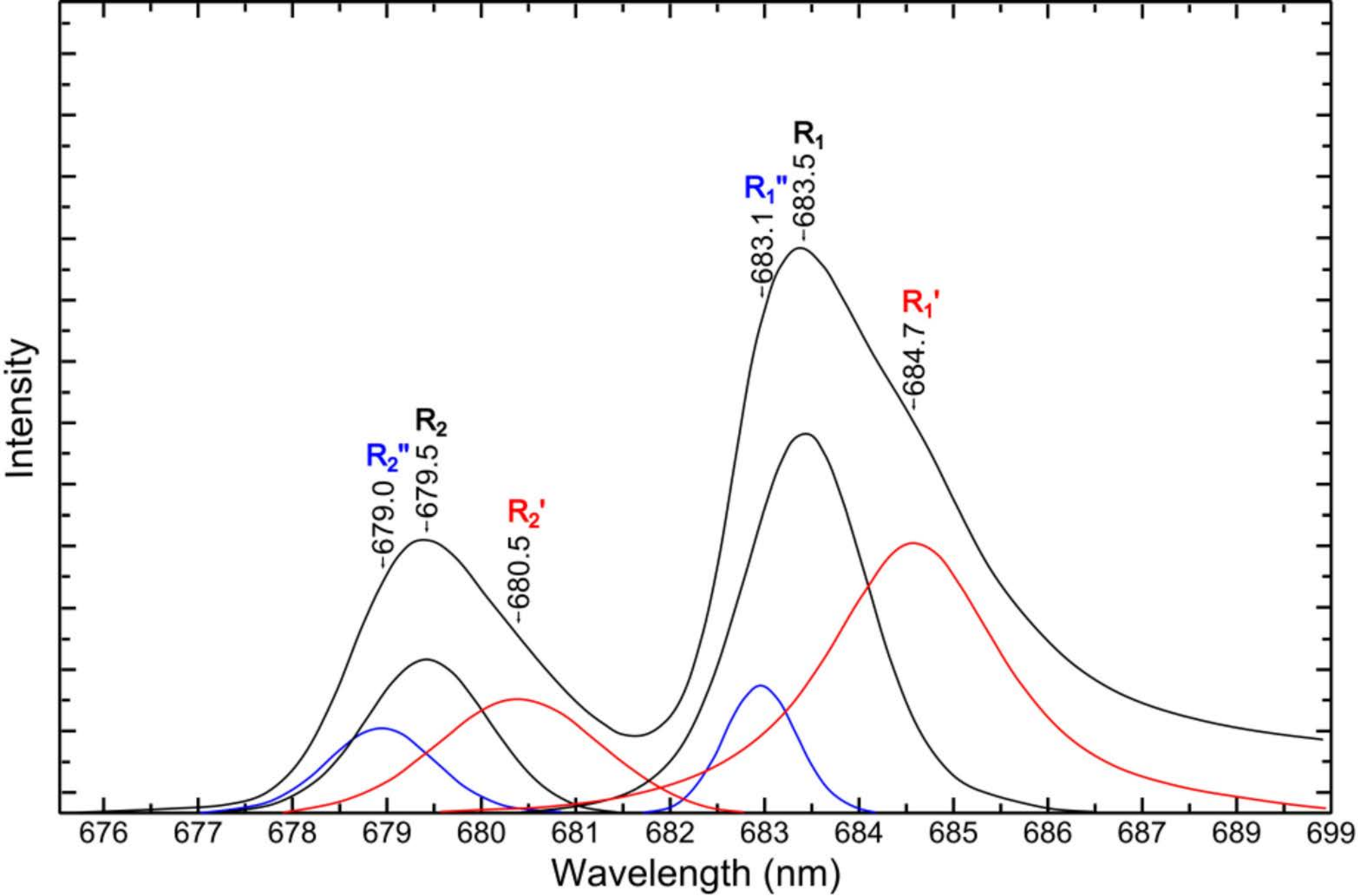


Figure 3



Wavenumber ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )

14925 14815 14706 14599 14493 14388 14286 14184

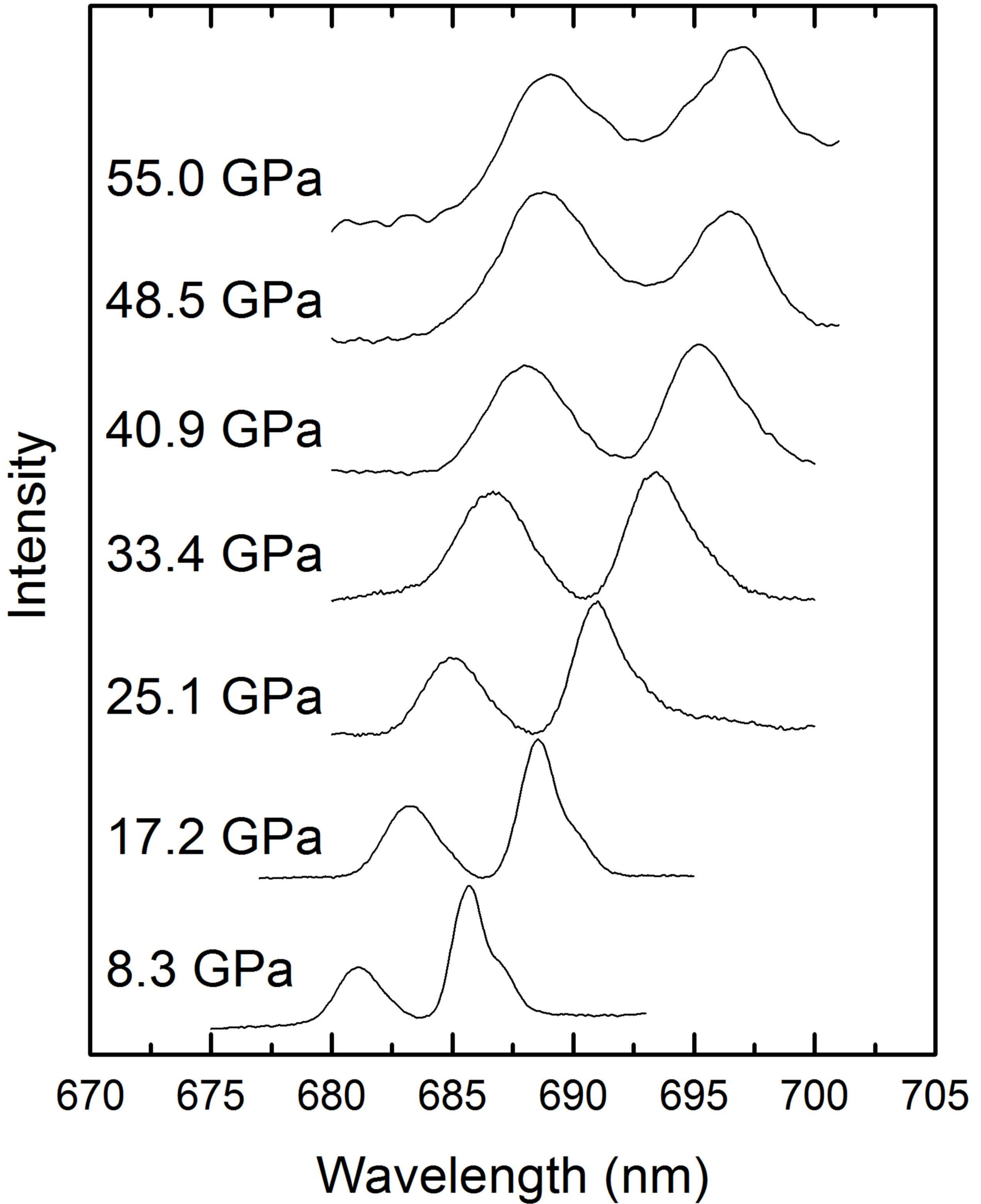


Figure 4



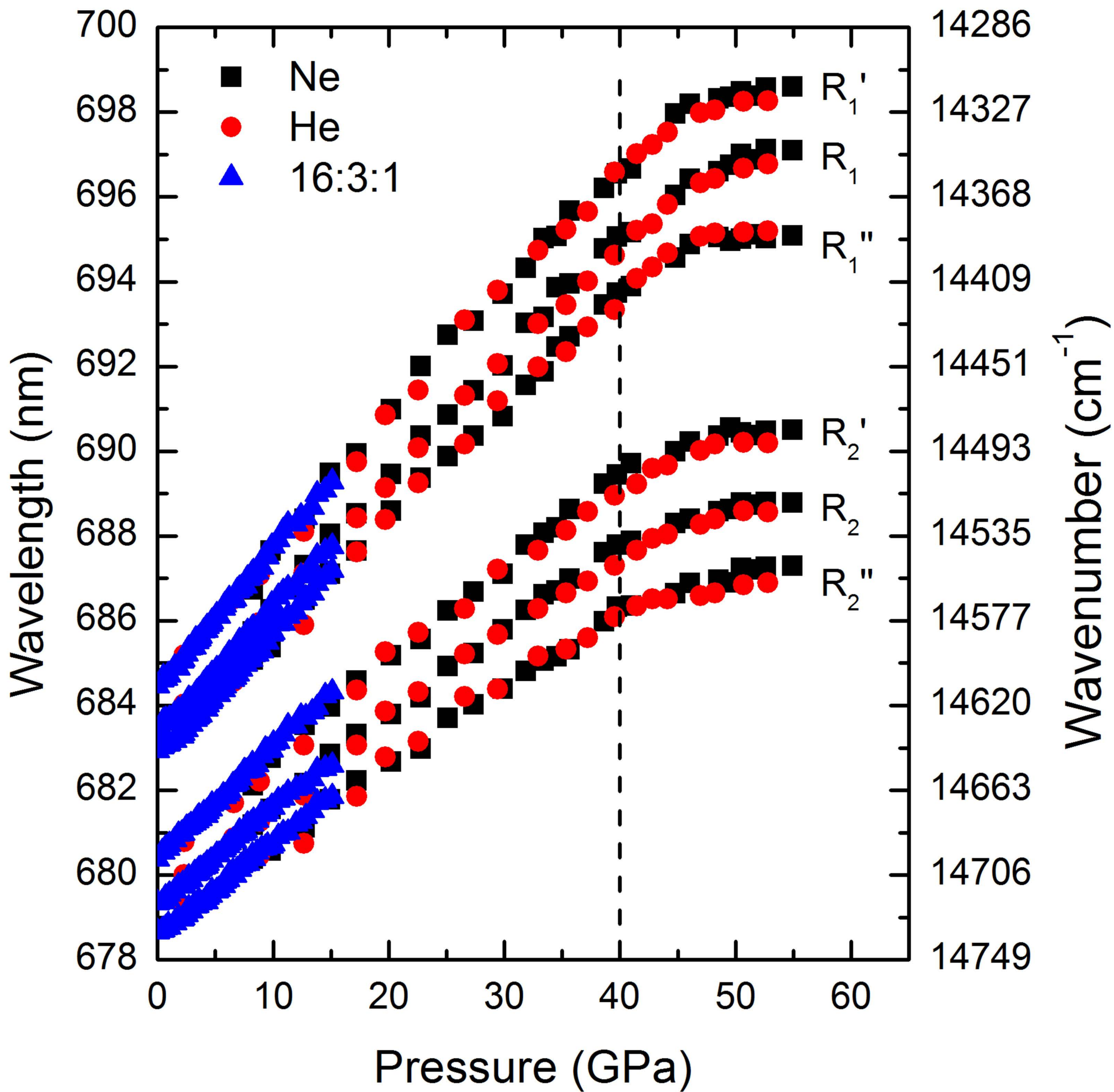


Figure 5



a

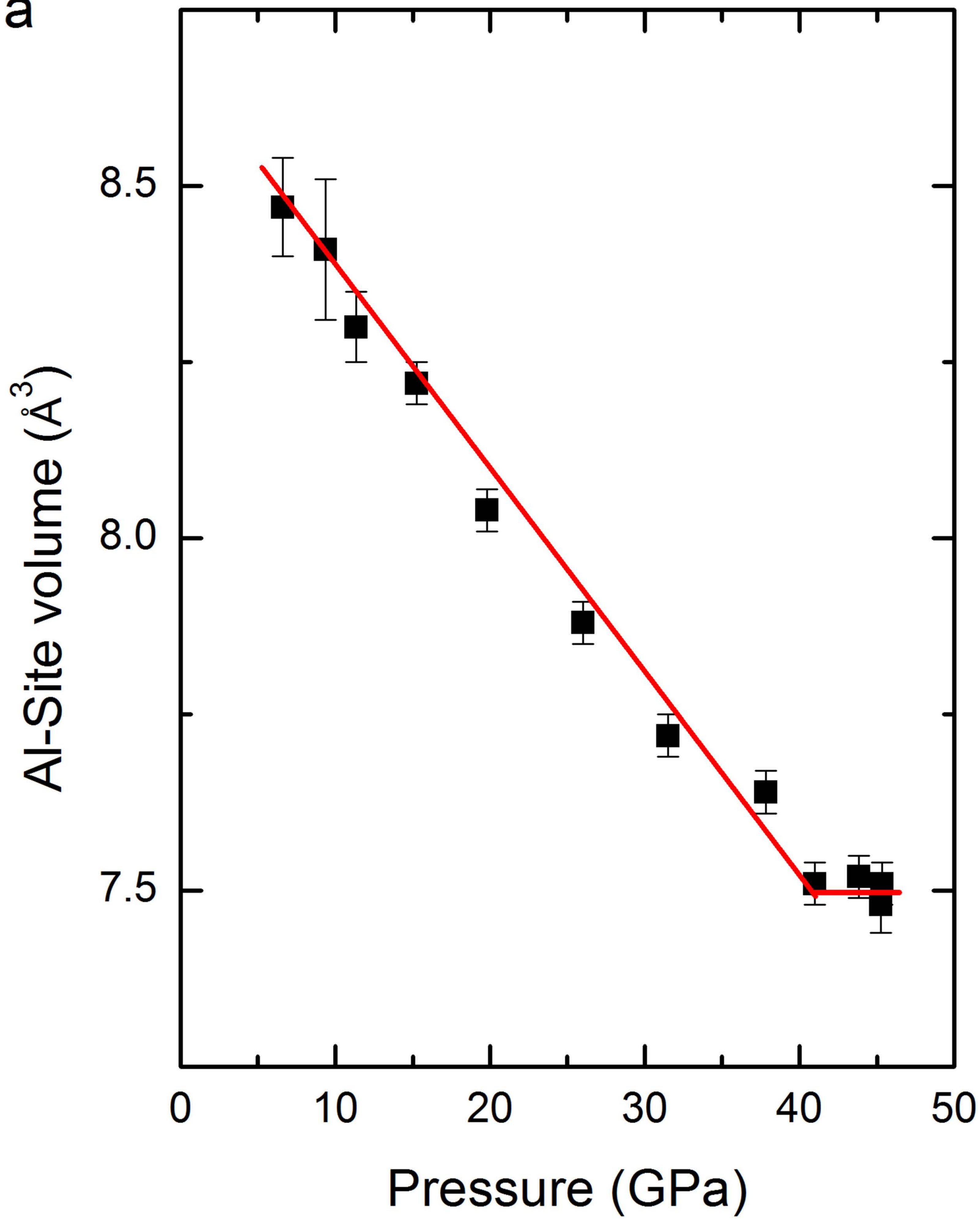


Figure 6a

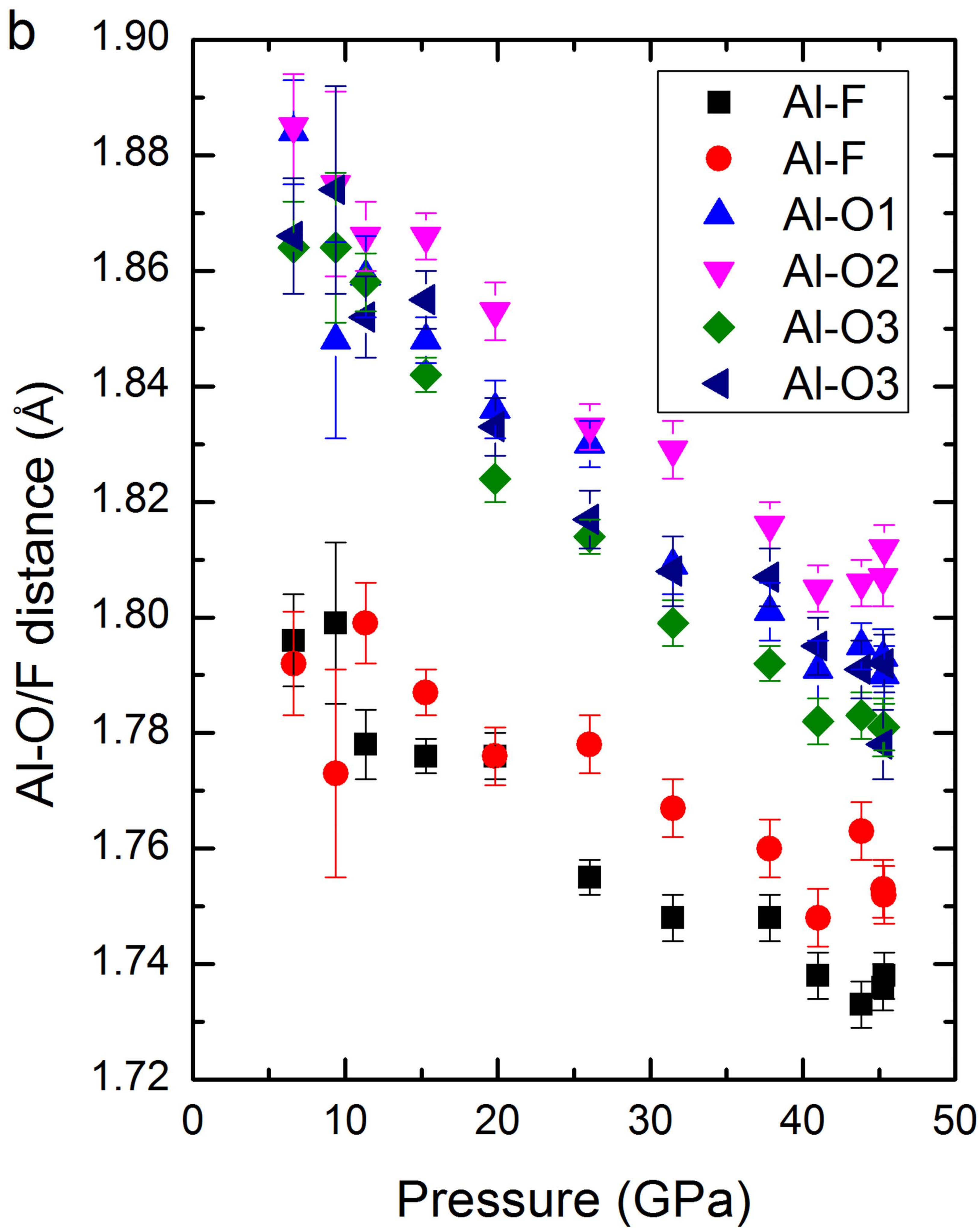


Figure 6b



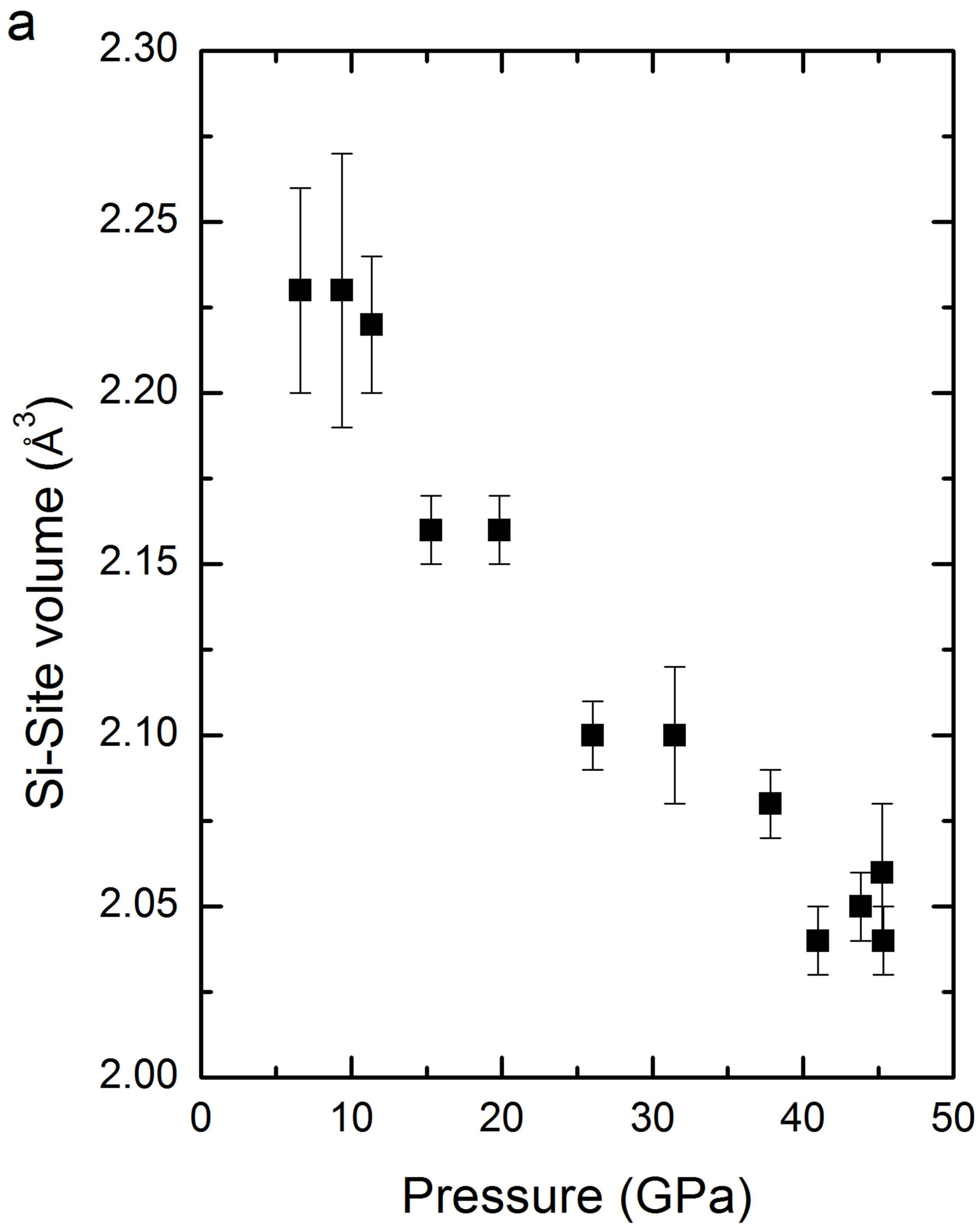


Figure 7a

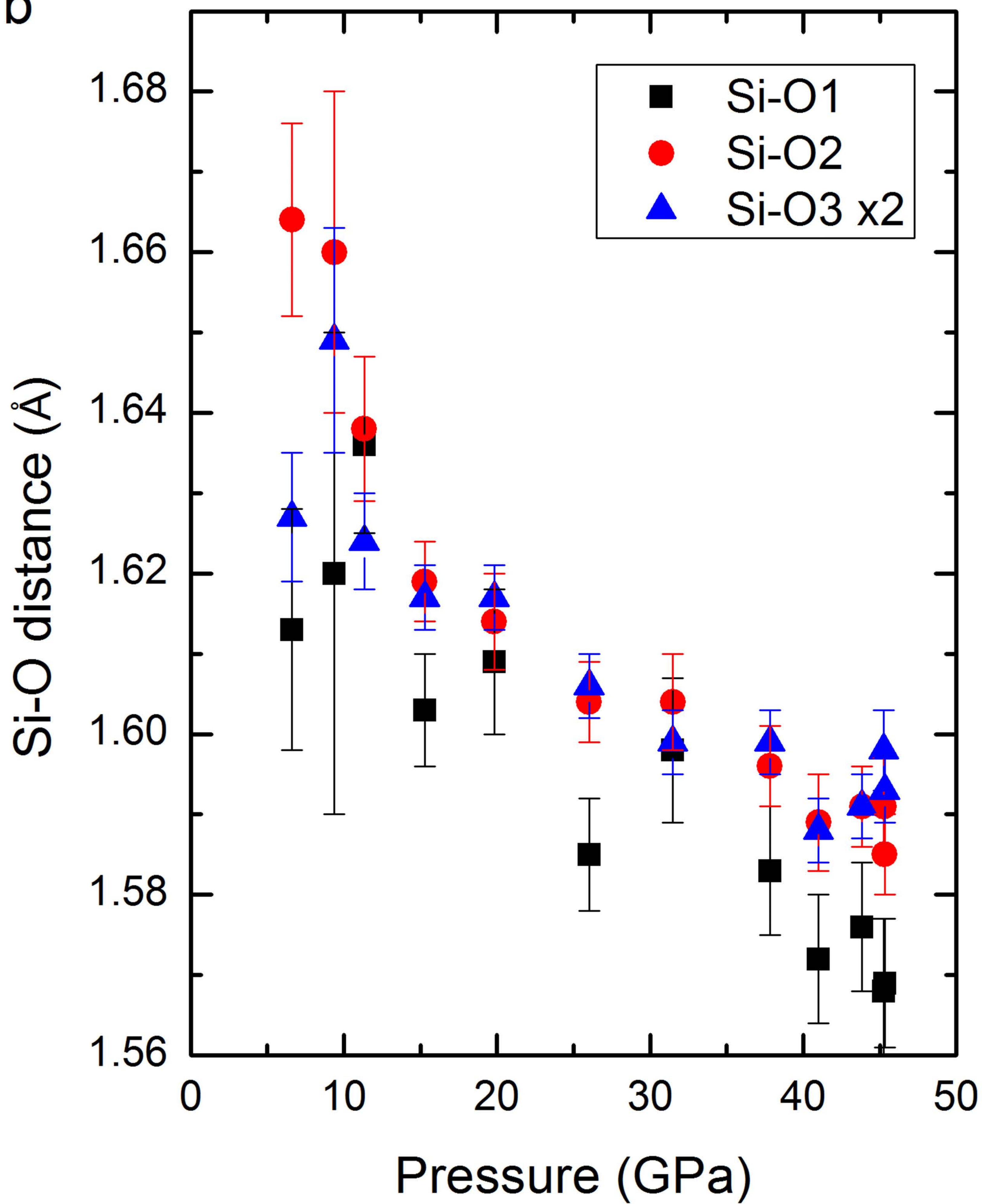
**b**

Figure 7b

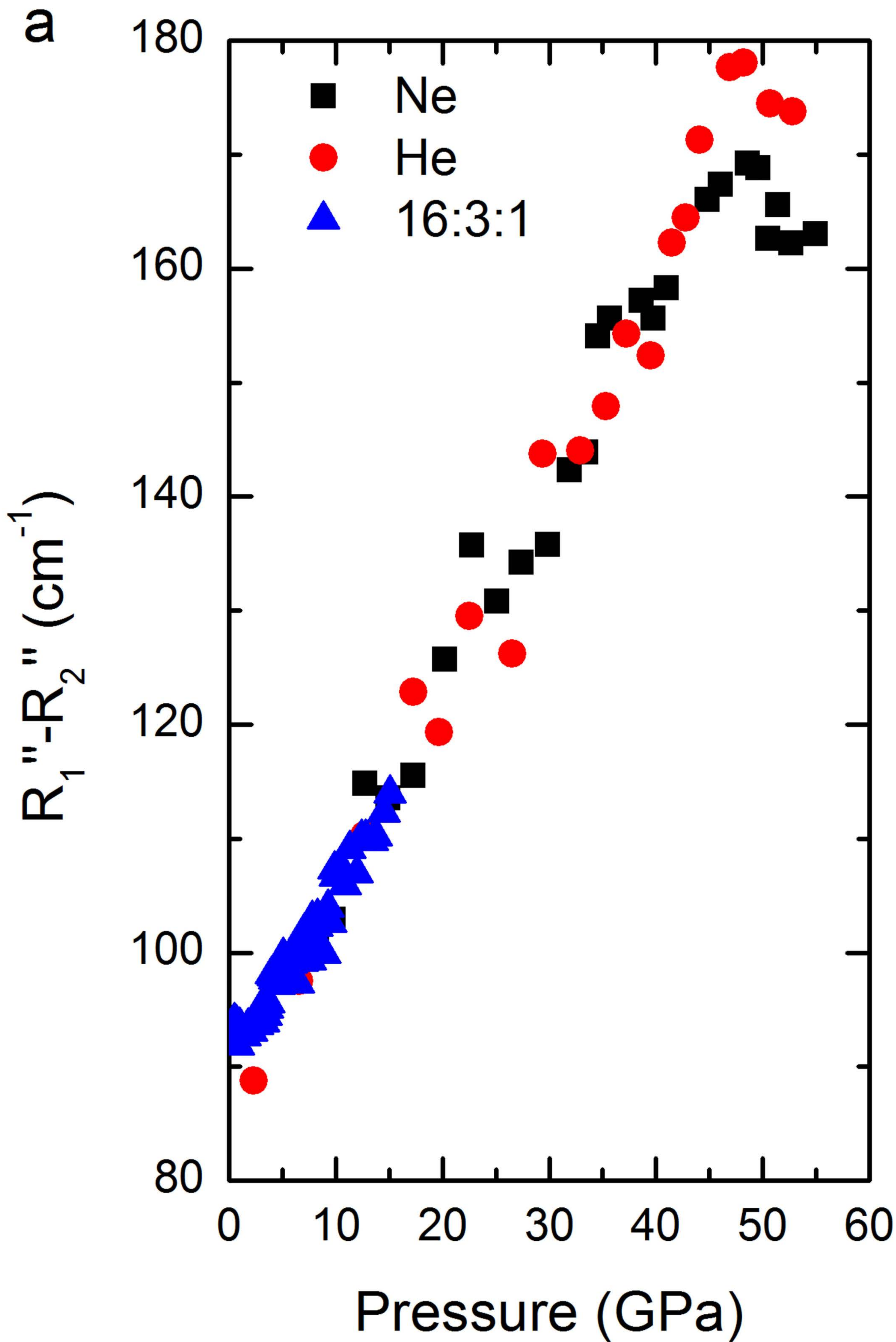


Figure 8a



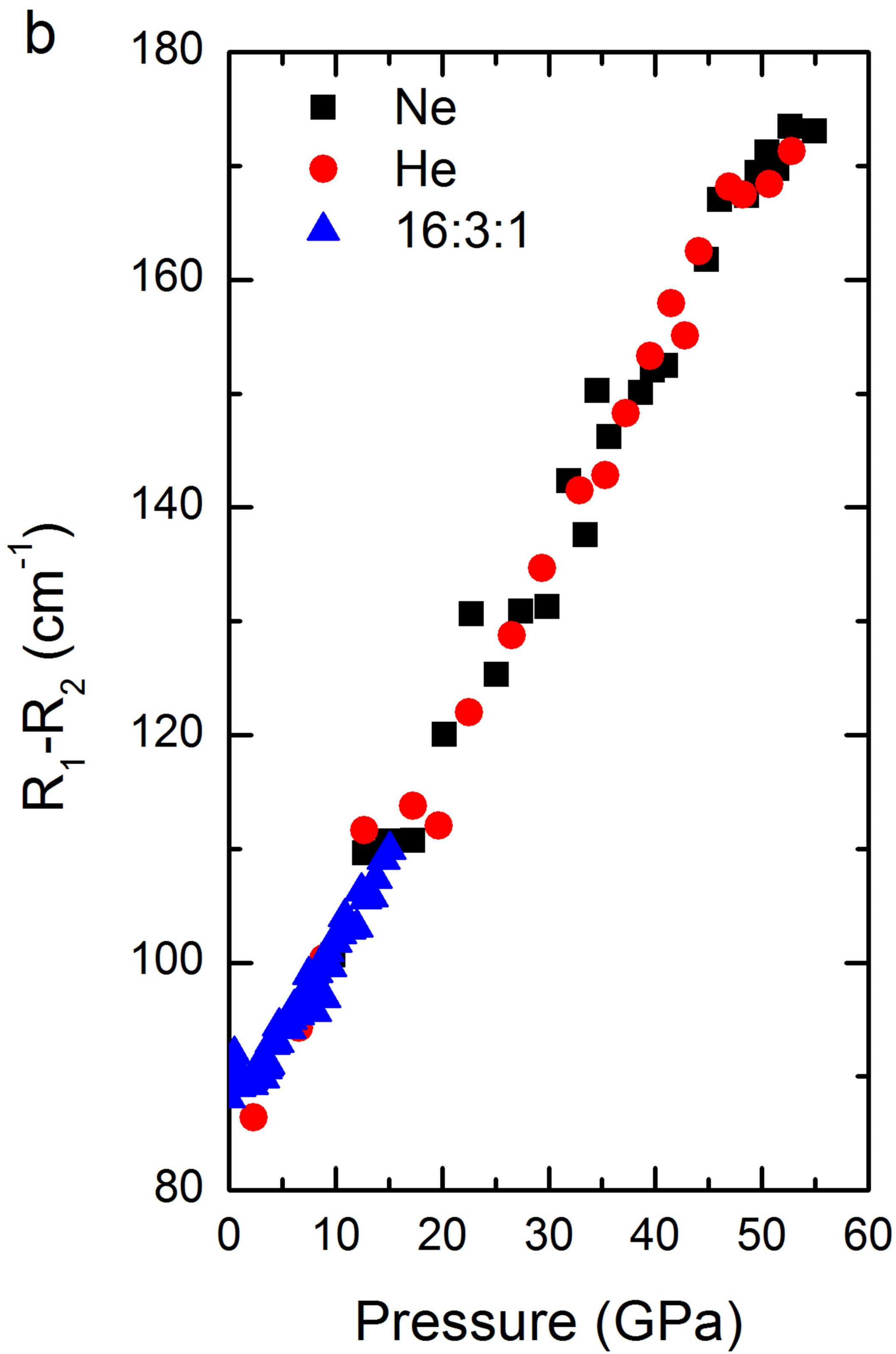


Figure 8b

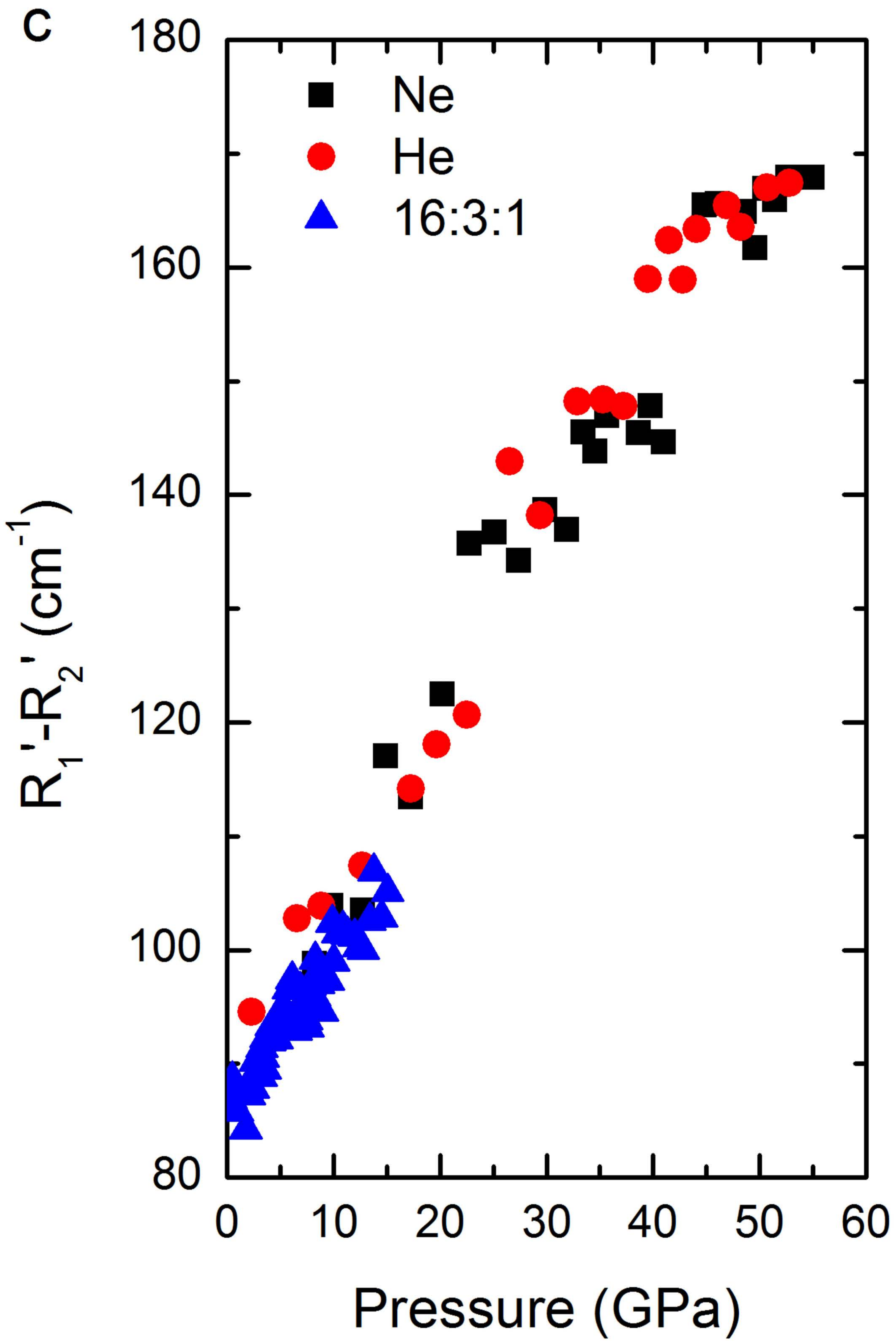


Figure 8c

a

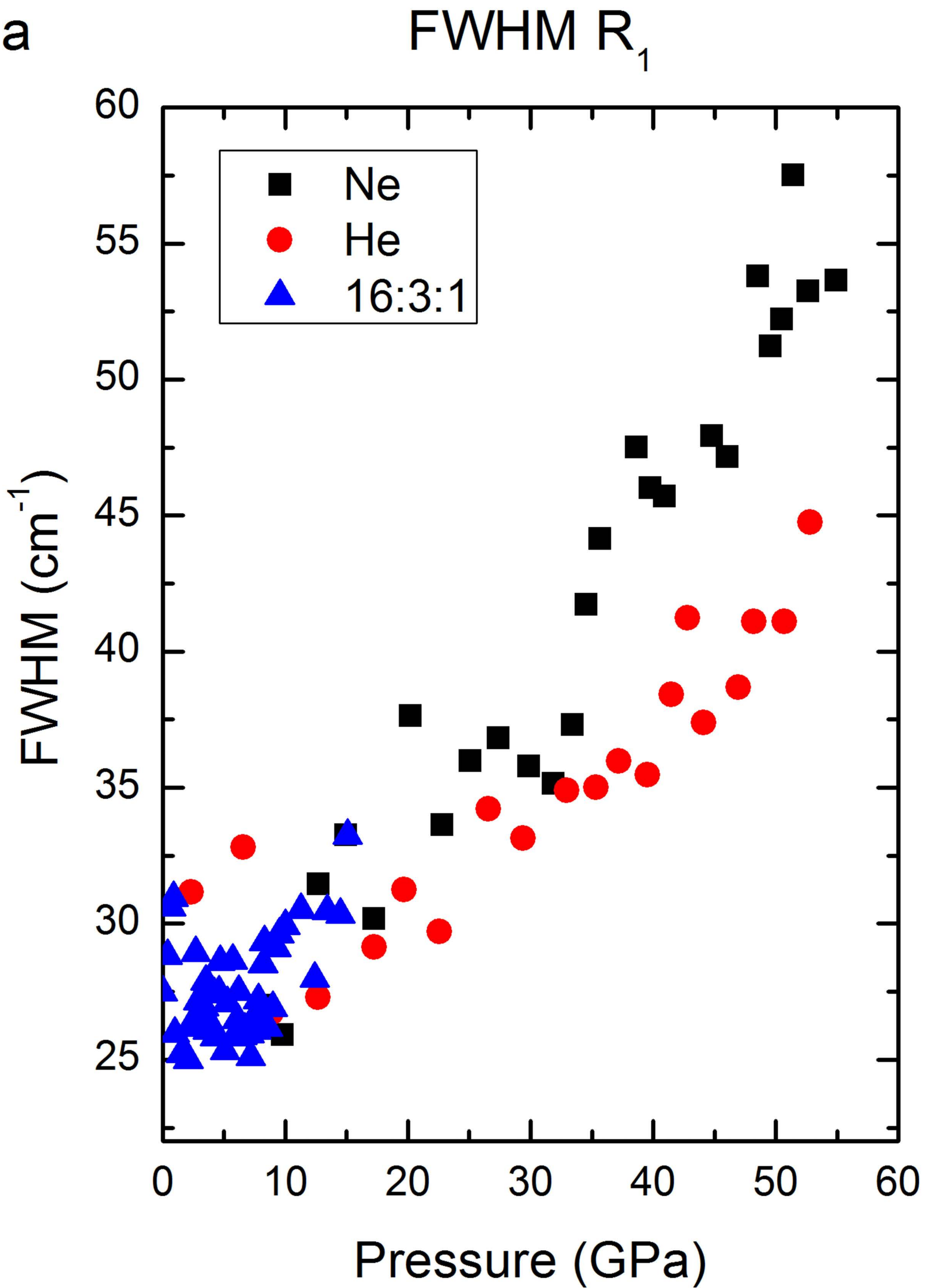


Figure 9a



b

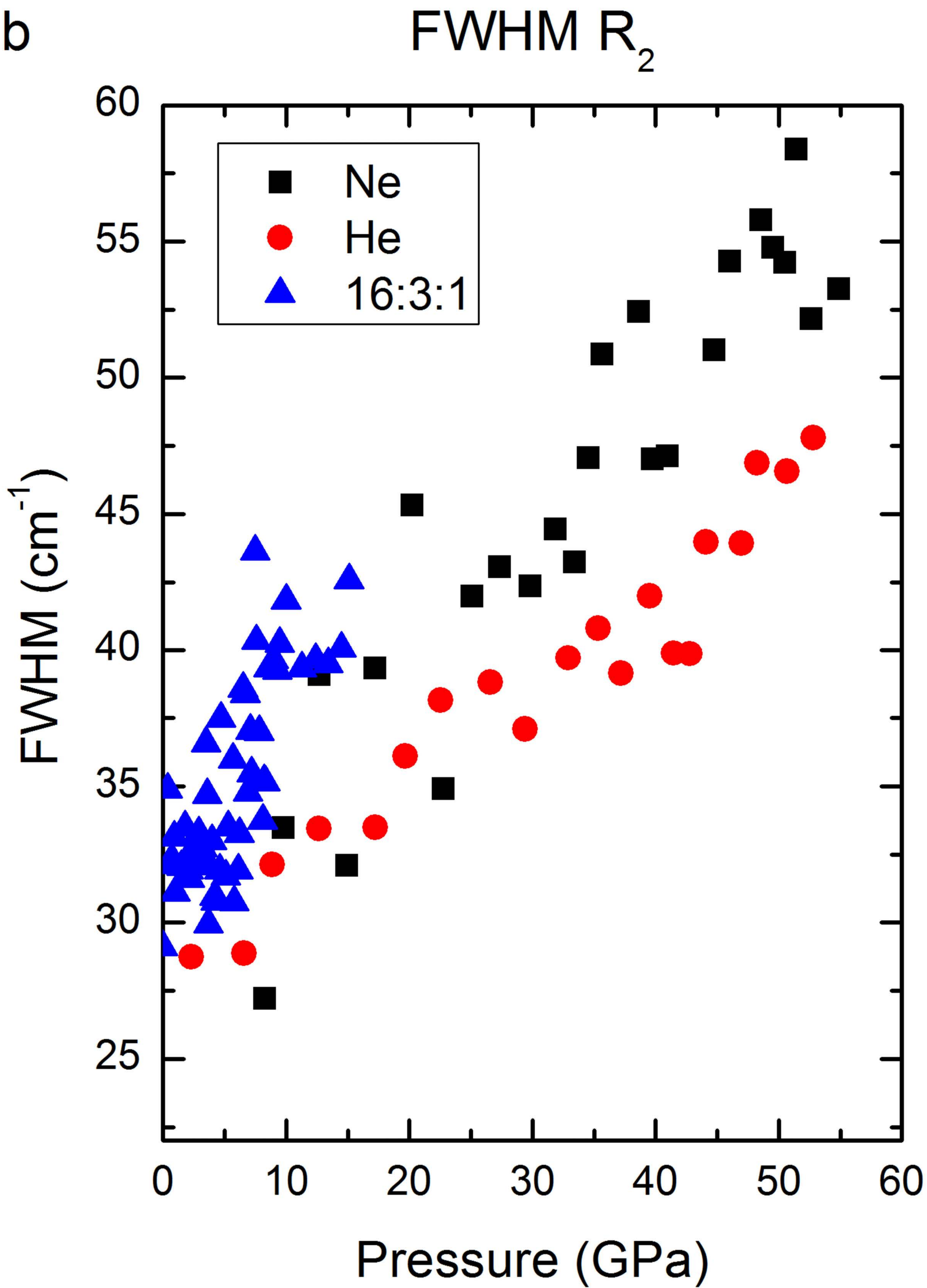


Figure 9b