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2 **Pseudomorphic 9-line silician ferrihydrite and Fe-rich serpentine-group minerals in FeTi-**
3 **oxide rich ferroan peridotite, Laramie anorthosite complex, Wyoming, U.S.A.**

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8 **ABSTRACT**

9 Low-temperature hydrous alteration of FeTi-oxide-rich ferroan peridotite, Laramie
10 anorthosite complex, Wyoming, produced silician ferrihydrite, cronstedtite, greenalite,
11 hisingerite, and talc. Ferrihydrite occurs as nanocrystals in ~ 50 nm diameter granules that form
12 monomineralic masses up to 300 μm across. It is inferred to have formed by replacement of an
13 igneous sulfide such as pyrrhotite. Electron diffraction shows the ferrihydrite to be a 9-line
14 variety. Si-rich cronstedtite formed thin rims around the ferrihydrite, and talc grew patchily
15 around the cronstedtite. Greenalite formed in ~10 μm cracks through all the above minerals and
16 olivine, and hisingerite microveinlets partially replaced olivine. Igneous minerals remaining
17 include olivine Fa_{46} , magnetite, ilmenite, hornblende, biotite, and trace clinopyroxene.
18 Correlations among the constituents of ferrihydrite determined by electron-microprobe, including
19 anhydrous totals, indicate progress during growth of two charge-balanced exchanges involving
20 silica enrichment: an inverse cronstedtite substitution $(\text{MgFe}^{2+}, \text{Si})(\text{Fe}^{3+}\text{Mn}^{3+})_{-2}$ and an inverse
21 hydrogarnet substitution SiH_4 . The cronstedtite exchange requires charge and size balance

22 across nearest-neighbor *T* and *O* crystal sites, suggesting crystal-interior rather than crystal-
23 surface control. Ferrihydrite's composition reflects time- and space-related variations in the
24 chemical potentials of components in the hydrous fluid at the site of alteration. An upper limit
25 for SiO₂ of 14 – 15 wt.%, or ≈ 1.0 Si per 5-cation formula unit, would seem to correspond to the
26 limit of availability in ferrihydrite of tetrahedral sites open to the entry of Si. Projected to zero
27 SiO₂, our EPMA data indicate an anhydrous total of ≈ 83 wt.% for end-member ferrihydrite, a
28 number that matches the formula: Fe₁₀O₁₅·9H₂O. The geochemical properties of Laramie
29 ferrihydrite are shared by some samples of altered chondritic and Martian meteorites.
30 Ferrihydrite on Earth commonly occurs as a surface deposit; unlike the Laramie occurrence,
31 these lack the microspatial coherence of replacements/pseudomorphs to show systematic,
32 structure-related element variations. The superior crystal quality of the Laramie ferrihydrite
33 likely contributed to its unique compositional variability.

34

35 Keywords: ferrihydrite, element correlations, cronstedtite, hydrogarnet, Laramie peridotite,
36 Keggin cluster

37

38 INTRODUCTION

39 Ferrihydrite was characterized as a mineral by Towe and Bradley (1967), named as such
40 by Chukhrov et al. (1971, 1974), and approved shortly after by the IMA (Fleischer et al. 1975).
41 As reviewed in Childs (1992) and Jambor and Dutrizac (1998), ferrihydrite is a nanocrystalline
42 ferric oxyhydroxide occurring on Earth as reddish-brown films and crusts in surface waters,
43 stream and lake sediments, soils of many kinds, acid mine wastes and drainage, fumaroles, hot

44 and cold springs, and sea-floor hydrothermal systems (e.g., early work by Henmi et al. 1980;
45 Carlson and Schwertmann 1981; Wilson and Russell 1983; Childs et al. 1982, 1986;
46 Schwertmann et al. 1987; Schwertmann 1988). Extraterrestrial ferrihydrite was discovered in the
47 chondrites Orgueil (Tomeoka and Buseck 1988), Kakangari (Brearley 1989) and Vigarano (Lee
48 et al. 1996), and the Nilpena ureilite (Brearley and Prinz 1992), Martian nakhlites (Treiman et al.
49 1993; Lee et al. 2015), and in interplanetary dust particles (Matrajt et al. 2002; Nakamura et al.
50 2004). It may well be present on the surface of Mars (Dehouk et al. 2017). Ferrihydrite is
51 typically a precipitate from an iron-rich aqueous fluid resulting from the supergene
52 decomposition of sulfide ore minerals, and its growth in some cases is mediated by lichen or
53 bacteria (Chukhrov et al. 1974; Cornell and Schwertmann 1979; Burford et al. 2003; Kim and
54 Kim 2003; Toner et al. 2009; Lartaud et al. 2011). In some instances, including the Laramie
55 example, it is pseudomorphic after the source mineral, so element transport attending its growth
56 was minimal; in other cases (spring and river waters) transport of iron is kilometric in scale.

57 Principal components of ferrihydrite are iron, oxygen, and hydrogen. The mineral has an
58 ephemeral existence in nature, altering with geologic time to more stable goethite (as revealed by
59 TEM in the Laramie occurrence, see below) and hematite (Chukhrov et al. 1974; Schwertmann
60 and Murad 1983; Cornell et al. 1987; Childs 1992; Jiang et al. 2018). The particle size of natural
61 and synthetic ferrihydrite varies in the range 3 to 10 nm (Jambor and Dutrizak 1998), thus
62 providing coherent-scattering domain sizes marginally sufficient for quality X-ray diffraction
63 patterns. These are conventionally labeled after the number of peaks: for example “2-line” or 2L
64 ferrihydrite with two broad reflections, or patterns with sharp “6-line” or “7-line” (6L, 7L) peaks
65 (Schwertmann 1988; Eggleton and Fitzpatrick 1988; Konishi et al. 2012), the 6-line being
66 consistent with the 1975 IMA definition of ferrihydrite (Janney et al. 2001). A structurally

67 coherent size of 20-60 domains of Fe₃O₄·OH·H₂O per particle was estimated by Childs (1992). As
68 a nanomineral it is a phase with a very-large relative surface area, equivalent to as much as 35%
69 of its volume according to Jambor and Dutrizac (1998), and so its bulk chemical composition
70 integrates surface and interior properties. These properties create ambiguity with respect to its
71 chemical formula and the structural role of some elements, for example, silicon (e.g., Cornell et
72 al. 1987; Cismasu et al. 2011). Its large surface area and great reactivity on the other hand make
73 it a mineral with important applications as an industrial adsorbent.

74 The chemical formula of this nominally simple-system (Fe-O-H) mineral has challenged
75 workers since its discovery, the problems being its content of OH and H₂O, and the role of
76 adsorbed and, in nature, possible additional elements. Formula proposals have been offered by
77 Towe and Bradley (1967), Chukhrov et al. (1971, 1974), Fleischer et al. (1975), Russell (1979),
78 Eggleton and Fitzpatrick (1988), Jambor and Dutrizac (1998), Boyd and Scott (1999), Hiemstra
79 and Van Riemsdijk (2009), Michel et al. (2007, 2010), and Hiemstra (2013). A valid formula
80 fundamentally requires, among other things, supporting high-quality crystal-structure
81 information, based on diffraction and spectroscopy; however the issue has not acquired a great
82 level of unanimity in the nanomineral community.

83 Eggleton and Fitzpatrick (1988; 1990) proposed a sheet structure for ferrihydrite with 2/3
84 octahedral and 1/3 atoms of tetrahedral iron. Their model was challenged by Manceau et al.
85 (1990), Pankhurst and Pollard (1992) and by Drits et al. (1993). Drits et al. (1993) concluded that
86 ferrihydrite consists of a basically defect-free component “f” (hexagonal with $a = 0.296$ nm and c
87 $= 0.940$ nm), a defective component (“d”) and ultradispersed hematite. In the defect-free
88 component, a close-packed arrangement of oxygen and hydroxyl layer fragments supports
89 octahedral sites 50% occupied by Fe. Using EXAFS and XANES, Zhao et al. (1994) concluded

90 that as much as 25% of Fe ions could be tetrahedral but only at the particle surface. Also, it
91 emerged that the “aging” of synthetic ferrihydrite, including the degree of dehydroxylation at its
92 surface, could influence iron coordination and the lengths and edge and corner linkages of the
93 core octahedral chains. Janney et al. (2000ab, 2001) found that, in addition to particle size, there
94 are structural differences between 2L and 6L ferrihydrite, and that the structure of 6L ferrihydrite
95 is similar to “defect-free” ferrihydrite. A neutron diffraction study by Jansen et al. (2002) found
96 support for the “f” and “d” component model of ferrihydrite (Drits et al. 1993), but not for the
97 presence of hematite.

98 In contrast to previous studies, Michel et al. (2007) argued for a “single-phase” Keggin-
99 based structural model for ferrihydrite using the PDF method (pair distribution function) for
100 analyzing total X-ray scattering data. Keggin structures are stable polyoxometalate anion clusters
101 long known as assembling in acidic aqueous solutions and consisting of a central tetrahedral
102 anion caged inside twelve octahedra. According to Michel et al. (2007), ferrihydrite is composed
103 of 2 – 6 nm domains, is hexagonal $P6_3mc$, with a unit cell $a \sim 0.595$ nm and $c = 0.906$ nm, and
104 possesses a chemical formula of $Fe_{10}O_{14}(OH)_2$ making it isostructural to the mineral akdalaite,
105 $Al_{10}O_{14}(OH)_2$. Not shown in this formula is the likely presence of particle-size dependent,
106 surface-bound water. The structure in its ideal form (larger particles) consists of 20% FeO_4 and
107 80% FeO_6 polyhedra according to Michel et al. (2007). The corresponding layered structure is
108 illustrated in Hiemstra (2013, Fig. 1). It has recently become accepted that, instead of atom-by-
109 atom growth, the iron oxide minerals form by the aggregation of tiny precursor iron-oxygen
110 clusters (Banfield et al. 2000; Baumgartner et al. 2013). In support of this model, Sadeghi et al.
111 (2015) and Weatherill et al. (2016) showed that the growth of synthetic ferrihydrite starts with
112 the nucleation of Fe^{3+} monomers with ~ 0.45 nm radius Fe_{13} Keggin clusters. These subsequently

113 aggregate into ~ 3 nm diameter 2-line ferrihydrite particles in which the Keggin motif is
114 preserved. It is not entirely clear, however, if this formation pathway is applicable to the natural
115 environment (Weatherill et al. 2016), especially to ferrihydrite produced by mineral replacement.
116 Further three-dimensional aggregation of such nucleation clusters (e.g. to particles approaching
117 10 nm in diameter) is evidently difficult. In contrast to sheet silicates like cronstedtite, lizardite,
118 and talc that can extend in classical fashion, ferrihydrite is unable to grow beyond the nanoscale.

119 The question of the presence or otherwise of core $^{IV}\text{Fe}^{3+}$ polyhedra in ferrihydrite
120 apparently remains to this day. It is an issue that has generated a great deal of diffraction and
121 spectrographic work (XRD, XANES, EXAFS, EELS, Mössbauer, XAS, XMCD, SAED),
122 seemingly conflicting results, and ongoing discussion. All investigators have worked on
123 synthetic material. Supporters of modest proportions of essential $^{IV}\text{Fe}^{3+}$, along with Eggleton and
124 Fitzpatrick (1988, 1990), have been Michel et al. (2007, 2010), Parise et al. (2010), Xu et al.
125 (2011), Harrington et al. (2011), Maillot et al. (2011), Guyodo et al. (2012), Hocking et al.
126 (2012), Peak and Regier (2012a,b) and Hiemstra (2013). The zero $^{IV}\text{Fe}^{3+}$ view has been
127 expressed by Combes et al. (1989, 1990), Manceau et al. (1990), Drits et al. (1993), Manceau
128 and Drits (1993), Rancourt and Meunier (2008), Marchand and Rancourt (2009), Manceau
129 (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012a,b), Manceau et al. (2014), Hiemstra and Riemsdijk (2009) and Paktunc
130 et al. (2013). In this paper we hope to stimulate new thoughts based on the geochemical
131 properties of ferrihydrite in a peridotite.

132 There are currently two formulae for ferrihydrite on the table for critical users. They
133 differ in their acceptance or otherwise of tetrahedral ferric iron. One accommodates 20% of
134 tetrahedral Fe^{3+} , making it an analog of akdalaite $\text{Al}_{10}\text{O}_{14}(\text{OH})_2$. The other lacks $^{IV}\text{Fe}^{3+}$ making it

135 an analog of akaganeite $(\text{Fe}^{3+}\text{Ni}^{2+})_8(\text{OH},\text{O})_{16}\text{Cl}_{1.25}$. IMA has accepted the akdalaite formula,
136 namely $\text{Fe}_{10}\text{O}_{14}(\text{OH})_2$. At face value, this formula has a non-volatile content of 98.7%.

137 Notably absent from the standard formulae for ferrihydrite is silicon, which is commonly
138 present (Fig. 1) at levels ranging from 5 to 14 wt.% SiO_2 in analyses of terrestrial and extra-
139 terrestrial ferrihydrite. The reluctance to include silicon in the standard formula derives from
140 uncertainty as to whether some or all of the Si is adsorbed at the surface and is not “in the
141 structure”. The fact that a portion of the Si can be extracted (i.e. is labile) from ferrihydrite with
142 reagents such as NaOH (Carlson and Schwertmann 1981) has supported this view. According to
143 Jambor and Dutrizac (1998, p.2563): “*Silica*’s... nonessential character is suggested by the wide
144 variation in percentages of silica (in natural ferrihydrite), and is proved by silica-free syntheses
145 in the laboratory. The syntheses indicate that only Fe, O, and H are necessary...” This view
146 seems to us to be freighted by 50 years of published work on synthesized material and overlooks
147 the requirement that a mineral is by definition a product of nature (cf. Fig.1). Aside from Fe, Mg,
148 Mn, Ni, and Ca (see below), other potential cations and anions (Ti, Al, Na, Cl, P_2O_5 , SO_3 , and
149 CO_2) figure prominently in some published analyses of ferrihydrite (e.g., Parfitt et al. 1992;
150 Jambor and Dutrizac 1998). However, given the submicroscopic grain-size of most occurrences
151 of ferrihydrite, we have to view with suspicion the acceptability of these components as
152 belonging to ferrihydrite. As we shall see below, Si plays a significant geochemical/structural
153 role in natural ferrihydrite, one that arguably might be recognized in its formula.

154 **LARAMIE FERRIHYDRITE**

155 In the course of an electron microprobe examination of a thin section of 1.43 Ga Laramie
156 complex oxide-rich peridotite (“Oxide Body”, Tutolo et al. 2019), the authors encountered,

157 enclosed in olivine, modally small amounts (around 1%) of ≈ 50 to 300 μm diameter masses of
158 highly electron-reflecting material containing predominantly iron and silicon. Initially thought by
159 us to be a high-Fe cronstedtite, a literature search showed instead that analyses of naturally
160 occurring ferrihydrite encompassed our unknown quite well in Si, Fe, Mn and Mg. Our
161 identification of ferrihydrite was subsequently confirmed by selected area electron diffraction
162 (SAED) in a transmission microscope (TEM), as detailed below. The Laramie ferrihydrite is
163 perhaps unusual in that it is a subsurface mineral replacement of primary magmatic sulfides
164 rather than a surface deposit or encrustation, and so it provided an opportunity to collect
165 petrogenetic information based on in-situ, sample-scale spatial relationships in a “rock-forming”
166 ferrihydrite. As a result, we found in our ferrihydrite intriguing correlations and counter-
167 correlations among the concentrations of Si, Mg, Mn, and total-Fe. Such correlations have not
168 been reported in previous accounts of terrestrial ferrihydrite. As discussed below, the correlations
169 are interpreted here as a crystal-chemical response in the ferrihydrite to dissolution and growth at
170 the expense of pyrrhotite or pyrite in a peridotite exposed to a low-temperature hydrous pore-
171 fluid system whose chemical potentials evolved in space and time.

172 Electron microprobe analyses (EPMA) reported here (Table 1) were obtained at the
173 University of Washington Earth and Space Sciences by wavelength-dispersive spectrometry on a
174 JEOL 733 instrument fitted with Geller Version 7 automation, using a library of synthetic and
175 mineral standards. Analytical conditions were 15kV accelerating potential, 3nA beam current,
176 defocused 3 μm beam diameter, and counting times needed to reach 0.4% error (1σ) or 40s for
177 minor elements. Concentration dependent statistical counting errors (1σ) are about 0.7% at 12.5
178 ele% Si, 1% at 36 ele% Fe, 25% at 0.2 ele% Mn, and 7% at 0.45 ele% Ca. Raw data were
179 corrected with the CITZAF package.

180 Suitable ferrihydrite samples for study by transmission electron microscopy (TEM) were
181 obtained from inclusions in olivine by handpicking with a fine-scale stainless-steel probe under
182 an optical microscope. The ferrihydrite was placed between clean glass slides, lightly crushed
183 and embedded with Embed 812 epoxy resin. A Leica Ultracut ultramicrotome was used to cut
184 ~70nm-thick slices which were placed onto 200-mesh Au TEM grids coated with 10nm-thick
185 carbon films. The ferrihydrite samples were examined with Tecnai 200 keV field-emission
186 scanning transmission electron microscopes equipped with energy dispersive X-ray analyzers
187 located in the Materials Analysis Facility of the Molecular Engineering and Sciences Institute
188 and Department of Astronomy at the University of Washington. Selected-area electron
189 diffraction (SAED) patterns were obtained by illumination of ferrihydrite patches to produce
190 partial ring patterns. A central beam blocker was used to prevent underexposure of the
191 diffraction rings. Measured d-spacings from the ring patterns were compared to X-ray diffraction
192 data from the JCPDS Mineral Powder Diffraction File (Bayliss et al. 1980), Jambor and Dutrizac
193 (1998) and Janney et al. (2000) and are shown in Table 2. Prior to obtaining the diffraction
194 patterns, qualitative and quantitative energy dispersive spectra were collected to verify
195 ferrihydrite. An evaporated Al thin-film, produced at the University of Washington, was used for
196 calibration of the camera lengths for the SAED patterns. Estimated errors for the measured d-
197 spacings are approximately 5%.

198 Our peridotite sample was taken from the Sybille pit, which exposes a FeTi-oxide-rich
199 peridotite in the Sybille monzosyenite, Laramie anorthosite complex, Wyoming. Among our four
200 course-grained samples, this oxide-rich hand-sample is unique in containing ferrihydrite.
201 Igneous minerals in our oxide-rich sample that survived alteration are euhedral olivine Fa_{46}
202 (roughly 40 modal percent), and heavily exsolved intercumulus ilmeno-magnetite and ilmenite

203 (roughly 50% modal), together with hornblende, biotite, and a trace of clinopyroxene. Hydrous
204 alteration minerals (Fig. 2) include talc (mg#70), cronstedtite, greenalite, hisingerite as
205 microvein replacements of olivine, and ferrihydrite. The hisingerite was analyzed in Tutolo et al.
206 (2019) and shown to be a magnesian variety enriched in silica. The ferrihydrite is a
207 pseudomorphic replacement of a mineral that we infer to have been a sulfide, probably
208 pyrrhotite, there being no detectable Cu or Zn in or around it at the site. The original sulfide was
209 located exclusively inside cumulus olivine. Ferrihydrite appears at low magnification in EPMA
210 beam-scanning images to be finely granular and variably porous, and at high magnification in a
211 field emission scanning electron microscope (FE-SEM) we see that the granules or spheres
212 average around 50 nm across (Fig. 3). TEM images of such ferrihydrite spheres show that they
213 are generally composed of a very large number of spikes, plates, and granules themselves mostly
214 smaller than 10 nm (e.g., Konishi et al. 2012, Figs. 3.3, 3.5). The ferrihydrite masses are
215 surrounded (Fig. 2) by an up to ≈ 50 μm -wide rim of fine-grained random aggregate of platy
216 cronstedtite with somewhat greater porosity than the ferrihydrite. We infer that the cronstedtite is
217 a marginal reaction product of ferrihydrite with a grain-boundary fluid more representative of the
218 higher Mg, Si-potential environment of the surrounding peridotite. Irregular masses of talc
219 intervene consistently between the cronstedtite and the igneous olivine (Fig. 2). Greenalite
220 occurs as veinlets crosscutting cronstedtite and ferrihydrite. We believe it is reasonable to
221 include three of these minerals - ferrihydrite, cronstedtite, and talc - in a micro-spatial
222 distribution of hydrous reaction products that formed across local compositional gradients
223 between former pyrrhotite grains and matrix olivine. Greenalite is locally replaced by hisingerite,
224 but otherwise its timing is not clear.

225 We obtained selected-area electron diffraction ring patterns (Fig. 4) from two
226 polycrystalline ferrihydrite grains poikilitically enclosed in olivine. Measured d-spacings (Table
227 2) are consistent with those reported for synthetic 6-line ferrihydrite by Janney et al. (2000b,
228 2001). Two additional rings observed in the diffraction patterns from both grains whose d-
229 spacings are larger than those reported by Jambor and Dutrizac (1998) and Janney et al. (2000a)
230 are similar to weak reflections observed in ferrihydrite XRD patterns reported by Drits et al.
231 (1993, Fig. 1). Diffraction pattern G5 (Fig. 4a), taken from a ferrihydrite grain that was in
232 contact with the olivine grain boundary, shows an additional ring of 0.52nm. We interpret this
233 ring as a (110) d-spacing of goethite. The diffraction pattern G2 (Fig. 4b) was obtained from a
234 ferrihydrite grain entirely enclosed within olivine. It conspicuously lacks the 0.52nm ring (Fig.
235 4c) observed in G5, indicating that goethite is not present. Although the 0.41/0.44nm and
236 0.33/0.35nm rings could represent cronstedtite, the composition of G2 is a perfect match for
237 ferrihydrite alone, as shown by the EDX analysis in Table 1. Any mixture with cronstedtite
238 would noticeably raise its content of MgO. This means that G2 is pure ferrihydrite, and the two
239 additional rings represent ferrihydrite, thus raising ferrihydrite's count of rings to nine. We
240 reiterate that XRD of ferrihydrite has shown traces of peaks at these d-spacings (eg. Drits et al.
241 1993). These signs of superior crystallinity of ferrihydrite would appear to reflect its unusual
242 petrogenesis in the present case. Our observations suggest that grain G5 likely experienced late-
243 stage interaction with a grain boundary fluid leading to the growth of goethite in G5, whereas the
244 absence of goethite in G2 reflects the lack of communication with late fluids due to its enclosure
245 in olivine.

246 The average and extremes of composition of the Laramie ferrihydrite obtained by
247 electron microprobe analysis are set down in Table 1. Concentrations of Ti, Al, Cr, and Ni are

248 sufficiently small that we can reasonably treat our review of compositional variation in terms of
249 the analyzed elements Si, total Fe, Mn, Mg and Ca (Fig. 5). Our 3 μ m-spot EPMA analyses
250 undoubtedly integrate unknown compositional variability from a very large number of
251 ferrihydrite nanocrystals. Figure 5 shows measured spot-compositions in terms of weight percent
252 oxide, revealing correlations positive and negative among Si, Mg, Fe and Mn. The lowest Si (8.5
253 wt.% SiO₂) and highest Fe values are found in the centers of the ferrihydrite masses. It is
254 impossible to know for certain how much of the X-ray yield in these microprobe analyses
255 represents elements adsorbed onto ferrihydrite's abundant surfaces, and how much is generated
256 from crystal cores (see below). Twenty-six spot analyses plotted in Figure 5 fall in the range 8.5
257 to 13.3 wt. SiO₂. Two outlier analyses with SiO₂ values of 15.5 and 16.05 wt.% were excluded
258 from Figure 5 because they are suspected of being admixed with cronstedtite. Figure 5 shows for
259 our ferrihydrite pseudomorphs that a weight percentage increase in SiO₂ is attended by (1) an
260 increase in MgO, and a decrease in Fe₂O₃^t + Mn₂O₃, and (2) an increase in the EPMA anhydrous
261 total (top line in Figure 5) from 83.07% (at zero SiO₂) to 86.72% at SiO₂ = 13.3 wt.%. These
262 trends are not an artifact of contamination by goethite. In this case, the analysis totals would
263 extrapolate to 89.9 wt.% when SiO₂ = 0.0 wt.%. Furthermore, no spot-analyses were obtained
264 showing SiO₂ less than 8.5 wt.%, a value marginally smaller than the main SiO₂ concentration
265 between 9 and 12 wt.%. These observations suggest to us that the coherent trends in Figure 5 can
266 be interpreted as intrinsic to the ferrihydrite, and not influenced by goethite contamination as in
267 TEM location G5. The extrapolated SiO₂-free end-member content (Fig. 5) of Fe₂O₃ + Mn₂O₃ =
268 82.81 wt.% (or 82.84 wt.% if we weigh Mn as Fe) is in excellent agreement with 83.12 wt.%
269 Fe₂O₃ in the formulae Fe₅HO₈·4H₂O of Towe and Bradley (1967) and Fe₁₀O₁₅·9H₂O of Fleischer

270 et al. (1975). Similarly, contamination of the analytical volume by surface adsorbed SiO₂ is
271 unlikely given the correlation of SiO₂ with MgO.

272 Trend (1) above, namely SiO₂+MgO replacing Fe₂O₃^t+ Mn₂O₃ (Fig. 5), can be
273 recognized as an inverse *cronstedtite exchange*. An unknown, small amount of Fe²⁺ is included
274 at this stage with Fe³⁺ in the diagram. Exchange (1) replaces heavy Fe³⁺ with light Mg and Si and
275 so should reduce the non-volatile analysis total L-to-R (Fig. 5). Instead, the reverse happens.
276 Trend (2) is accordingly interpreted as an inverse *hydrogarnet exchange*, namely the replacement
277 of H₄O₂ by SiO₂ (36.0 → 60.09 molecular weight). The inverse hydrogarnet exchange can be
278 viewed in the present case as the exchange component SiH₄ operating on initially empty
279 tetrahedral sites in the structure. Proton substitution for Si⁴⁺ in ferrihydrite was considered as a
280 possibility by Michel et al. (2010, p. 2789).

281 The relative magnitude of exchanges (1) and (2), as expressed by their production of
282 silicon, can in principle be examined without the complex weight constraints of Figure 5 by
283 using a diagram of cation proportions based on the same analytical data. Figure 6 references Fe,
284 Mn, Mg and Si to Σcations = 5.0, in line with end-member ferrihydrite's proposed formula (and
285 the formulas of cronstedtite and serpentine). We recognize that total *formula* cations of
286 ferrihydrite are rendered variable by the hydrogarnet exchange. There are two extreme
287 possibilities for trends of R³⁺ cations in the diagram with respect to x-axis silicon: (1) the inverse
288 cronstedtite exchange, with R³⁺ declining from 5.0 to 3.0 (replaced by Si, Mg and Fe²⁺), and (2)
289 the inverse hydrogarnet exchange with R³⁺ (diluted by Si) declining from 5.0 to 4.17 (= 5 X 5/6).
290 The relative progress of the two substitutions in the Laramie ferrihydrite is given by the ratio of
291 the two y-axis intercepts between (1) and (2) defined by the line-fit through our analytical data
292 for R³⁺. Ideally, this exercise requires that Fe₂O₃ be corrected for an unknown small amount of

293 Fe^{2+} that forms along with Mg in exchange (1). We provisionally assume in Figure 6 that Fe^{2+}
294 atoms are as abundant as Mg atoms. Our analytical data then define a line that strikes the y-axis
295 ($\text{Si} = 1.0$) at 3.479 (closer to the Cro line than the hydrogarnet line). In this case the proportions
296 of substitutions are (1) 59.0% and (2) 41.0%. If we had assumed that Fe^{2+} atoms = Mg/4 atoms,
297 the proportions change to (1) 42.0% and (2) 58.0%. Literature analyses provide little guidance on
298 the Fe^{2+} issue. The best we can say is that the two substitutions in the Laramie ferrihydrite are
299 likely quantitatively similar in their contributions to the uptake of Si in the mineral.

300 Although the contribution of crystal surfaces to our electron-probe analyses is unknown,
301 the element correlations basic to the cronstedtite substitution (Fig. 5), as far as we know, are not
302 a feature of surface adsorption of elements in ferrihydrite (Jambor and Dutrizac 1998). The
303 cronstedtite exchange calls for coupled nearest-neighbor octahedral- and tetrahedral-site
304 response, according to well-understood energetic and geometric factors (Bailey 1988). It is a
305 crystal-chemical feature of bulk crystals. The “type” cronstedtite exchange connects sheet-
306 silicates cronstedtite and serpentine. It is known to progress in robust ferromagnesian silicate
307 minerals in crystalline rocks. It has been recorded to be operative in clinopyroxene (Hafner and
308 Huckenholz 1971), metamorphic amphiboles (Robinson et al. 1982), sapphirine (Steffen et al.
309 1984) and phlogopite (Cruciani et al. 1995). Thus, notwithstanding its controversial qualities,
310 ferrihydrite’s crystal structure was geochemically controlling in the present case. It enabled the
311 mineral’s elemental makeup to respond to compositional changes, in time and space, in an
312 externally imposed enveloping pore-fluid at the site of alteration. Likewise, the hydrogarnet
313 exchange characterizes bulk crystals. It is found in members of the grossular-andradite series
314 occurring in metagabbros, skarns and rodingites. An alternative proton exchange producing silica
315 is $\text{Si}(\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{H}^+)_{-1}$ as proposed by Kawazoe et al. (2016) for wadsleyite. This exchange would

316 presuppose the presence of $\text{Fe}^{3+}(\text{OH})_4$ tetrahedra in end-member ferrihydrite. But, unlike
317 hydrogarnet, only one hydrogen ion rather than four is consumed to produce one silicon. The
318 increase in the non-volatile total would therefore be small.

319 The porous nature of the Laramie ferrihydrite is a primary feature that is consistent with
320 isovolumetric metasomatic replacement (Putnis 2009) of the precursor sulfide. The ferrihydrite
321 in Figure 2 is zoned with the highest contents of Mg and Si at the rim, where it is in contact with
322 cronstedtite, and closest to the enveloping peridotite, the source of the Mg and Si. Cronstedtite
323 and ferrihydrite thus constitute two basically monomineralic zones in a radial diffusion gradient
324 where Mg and Si are being exchanged for iron and sulfur. One or more of these components
325 behaved as a perfectly diffusing “K-component”, which is what enables the growth of
326 monomineralic zones (Brady 1977). We have no way of knowing how much the cronstedtite has
327 advanced at the expense of ferrihydrite, but we can reasonably view them as a paragenesis (see
328 below). High-magnification electron-beam scans show that there is very likely some physical
329 mixing on the micron scale along their mutual contact (Fig. 2), but aside from this, the
330 metasomatic mode of origin of ferrihydrite basically ensured a relatively pure (monomineralic)
331 final product.

332 We have not considered the possible influence of porosity on the EPMA totals. However,
333 the average (Table 1) of 12 analyses of the cronstedtite, whose microtexture, porosity, and
334 hydrous nature, appears to be somewhat similar to that of the ferrihydrite, has an appropriate
335 total of 99.79 wt.% when a calculated formula H_2O content of 10.64 wt.% is added to the
336 anhydrous total. Porosity notwithstanding, our anhydrous EPMA analysis total for Laramie
337 ferrihydrite, when extrapolated SiO_2 -free (83.07 wt.%, Fig. 5), is in good agreement with the
338 oxide formula of ferrihydrite: $(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3)_5 \cdot 9\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Fleischer et al. 1975; $\text{SiO}_2 = 82.8$ wt.%).

339 As reviewed earlier here, the presence or absence of Fe on *T*-sites in ferrihydrite is
340 controversial. Operation of the cronstedtite exchange, as our data suggest, not only implies Fe on
341 *T*- as well as the *O*-sites in ferrihydrite, but also seems to point to a limit where the availability of
342 *T*-sites falls to zero, namely in the region of 14 wt.% SiO₂ (Fig. 5) or Si = 1.0 per five total
343 cations (Fig. 6). It is probably no coincidence that this agrees with the same upper limit of 20%
344 Fe³⁺-sites occupied by Ge in synthetic ferrihydrite (Song et al. 2000; Paktunc et al. 2013). An
345 upper limit of ≈14 wt.% SiO₂ for the Laramie ferrihydrite agrees well with what seems to be the
346 case for the literature analyses (Fig. 1).

347 **EXTRATERRESTRIAL FERRIHYDRITE**

348 Small amounts of ferrihydrite (large in one case, Tomeoka and Buseck 1988) have been
349 described accompanying phyllosilicate alteration in a number of chondritic meteorites. These
350 occurrences resemble our Laramie example in many ways, most significantly in showing the
351 ferrihydrite to be rock-hosted. Chemical analyses (AEM) of 4-line ferrihydrite in the primitive
352 carbonaceous chondrite Acfer 094 (Greshake 1997) show familiar element correlations, notably
353 NiO and MgO with SiO₂ (Fig. 7). Assuming an inverse cronstedtite substitution for this
354 ferrihydrite, the corresponding cation balance: $\Delta\text{Si} = \Delta(\text{Mg} + \text{Ni} + \text{Fe}^{2+})$ is short by 50% if Fe²⁺ is
355 not included. Unless the Si substitution is partly balanced by another component, e.g. 4H⁺, the
356 chondrite ferrihydrite contains about 5 or 6 wt.% FeO. The precursor minerals for ferrihydrite in
357 chondrites are viewed to be Ni-pyrrhotite, pentlandite, troilite, magnetite and/or metal
358 (Hutchinson et al. 1987; Tomeoka and Buseck 1988; Brearley 1989; Keller and Buseck 1990a,
359 1990b; Lee et al. 1996; Tomeoka and Tanimura 2000; Abreau and Brearley 2011). Ferrihydrite
360 has also been reported as an alteration product in nakhlite (Martian) meteorites (Treiman et al.
361 1993; Treiman and Lindstrom 1997; Lee et al. 2015; Ling and Wang 2015),

362

NATURAL FERRIHYDRITE

363 For the formation of ferrihydrite in nature, the length-scale of aqueous iron transport is
364 typically kilometric in the case of “downstream” deposits in lakes, streams, and soils, and around
365 springs. In mine wastes the scale is mostly meters to tens or hundreds of meters. For the in-situ
366 pseudomorphic replacement of pyrrhotite or pyrite, minimal cation transport is required. As a
367 result, in these cases the minor element content of ferrihydrite may show recognizable links to
368 the geochemistry of the host. Thus, ferrihydrite in chondrites Vigarano CV3 and Acfer-094
369 shows up to 6 wt.% NiO (Lee et al. 1996; Greshake 1997). In ophiolite-hosted mine wastes and
370 in nakhlites, MgO in ferrihydrite varies up to 6 wt.% (Dinelli et al. 1998; Carbone et al. 2016;
371 Treiman et al. 1993; Treiman and Lindstrom 1997; Lee et al. 2015); and MnO can be high on
372 seamount derived ferrihydrite (Boyd and Scott 1999). Conversely, these elements have lower
373 concentrations in downstream ferrihydrite, in lakes and rivers in volcanic or basement terrains
374 (Chukhrov et al. 1974; Henmi et al. 1980; Childs 1992; Childs et al. 1982, 1986, 1990).

375 Naturally occurring ferrihydrite is not accurately represented by the simple formula in the
376 synthetic system Fe-O-H; minor amounts of Si, Mg, Mn, Ca, Ni, and very likely Fe²⁺, are real
377 and located on structural sites. Crystal-chemical factors explain why Ni, Mg, and Si co-vary
378 systematically in ferrihydrite in a chondrite, just as Mn, Mg, and Si do in the Laramie peridotite
379 ferrihydrite occurrence. Silicon is present in natural ferrihydrite at levels ranging up to 15 wt.%
380 SiO₂, so it may be argued that silicon provides the charge-balancing leverage for the uptake of
381 Mg, Fe²⁺ and Ni when these constituents are present in the system. These elements potentially
382 contribute to the survival in nature of natural ferrihydrite with respect to otherwise more stable
383 products such as goethite and hematite (Cornell et al. 1987).

384 **CRONSTEDTITE, GREENALITE AND HISINGERITE**

385 Figure 8 shows the compositions of the sheet silicates cronstedtite, greenalite, hisingerite
386 and talc that are present along with ferrihydrite in our Laramie sample. Compared to the
387 ferrihydrite, the cronstedtite rim in the Laramie sample is enriched in Si, Mg and Fe²⁺ and poorer
388 in total iron and in Fe³⁺. The formula contents of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺ of cronstedtite and the greenalite
389 are evaluated for the diagram on the assumption of a cronstedtite exchange with respect to
390 serpentine. Four of our spot analyses (between Si = 1.0 and 1.6, Fig. 8) are interpreted as
391 physical mixtures of ferrihydrite and cronstedtite, resulting from incomplete replacement of the
392 former by the latter within the analyzed volume. Indeed, the sequence from left to right with
393 increasing formula Si-contents across Figure 8 seems to be consistent with the timing of
394 formation of each mineral as judged from the petrography. Hisingerite is observed to have
395 partially replaced greenalite (as well as olivine), and a greenalite vein has cross-cut cronstedtite
396 (Fig. 2). There is also a spatial element to this sequence: former sulfide locations in contrast to
397 purely olivine locations in the sample.

398 Laramie cronstedtite is relatively siliceous (Table 1); twelve spot analyses fall in the Si
399 range 1.66 to 1.85 per 5.0 total cations (Fig. 8). This content of Si is higher than in most analyses
400 of natural cronstedtite in the literature, which vary from 1.07 to 1.54 Si pfu. At first sight, this is
401 surprising in light of the coexistence of our cronstedtite with the nominally silica-poor
402 ferrihydrite. The chemographic relations of low-temperature minerals in the triangular SiO₂ –
403 Fe³⁺O_{1.5} – (Mg,Fe²⁺)O compatibility diagram (Fig. 9) hints at a likely explanation. Possible tie-
404 lines in the two-phase field connecting Fh and Cro compositions show that an evolutionary
405 trajectory Fh → Cro starting from Si-rich ferrihydrite might simply bypass lower-Si cronstedtite.
406 Evidently, the chemical potential of pore-fluid silica in the outer, highest SiO₂ parts of the

407 ferrihydrite mass ($\text{SiO}_2 \approx 14$ wt.%), against which the cronstedtite grew, was higher than that
408 associated with “literature” cronstedtite.

409 Except for opal-A, the triangular compatibility diagram (Fig. 9) models in a schematic
410 fashion all the secondary minerals in our sample, including the patches of talc around the altered
411 sulfide areas (Fig. 2). Hisingerite alteration of olivine in our sample is not preferentially related
412 spatially to the former sulfide areas. As a result, the mutual solubility of greenalite and
413 hisingerite shown in Figure 9 (Tutolo et al., 2019, Fig. 4) fails to show up in our analyses. Our
414 hisingerite is richer in Mg/Fe than hisingerite associated with ore deposits, and as is commonly
415 the case it appears to be silica-rich (Table 1 this work, Tutolo et al. 2019, Fig. 3) compared to
416 ideal hisingerite owing to the presence of interlayered nontronite impurity (for example,
417 Eggleton and Tilley 1998).

418 **PETROGENESIS OF LARAMIE FERRIHYDRITE**

419 Although accessory in modal amount in the present case, the role of ferrihydrite as an
420 alteration product in a crystalline rock is similar to that of many sheet silicates, for example,
421 lizardite in serpentinite, clays in granites and volcanic rocks, etc., and so its inclusion among the
422 rock-forming minerals would seem to be justified (for example, Deer et al. 2013). The Laramie
423 ferrihydrite is fully enclosed in peridotite, so it is *in situ*, as it is in meteorites, and not a surficial
424 mineral in the strict sense, unlike most other known occurrences of terrestrial ferrihydrite.
425 Excluding loss by leaching at the site, no major step of aqueous transport of ferrous iron and
426 other solutes (as in rivers, springs, and fumaroles), and oxidation and precipitation on exposure
427 to air, was involved. This scenario is consistent with the growth of cronstedtite around the
428 perimeter of the ferrihydrite. Shallow underground pore water, slightly acidified by dissolution

429 of pyrrhotite, served to redistribute elements on site. Laramie ferrihydrite is clearly a
430 pseudomorphic mineral replacement, although it nucleated and grew independently of the host
431 crystal-structure. Sulfide ores are typically the chief source of the iron in surficial ferrihydrite
432 occurrences (Jambor and Dutrizac 1998). The FeTi-oxides in the Laramie peridotite suffered no
433 hydrous alteration. We view the phase boundary between ferrihydrite and rimming cronstedtite
434 as a frozen state of local equilibrium (Brady 1977) in a fluid-hosted binary diffusion gradient
435 established between decomposing sulfide and surrounding peridotite. The large $Fh \rightarrow Cro$
436 composition jump in this system (Fig. 9) suggests that the ferrihydrite had reached (at 1.0 Si
437 apfu) the limit of its intrinsic stability.

438 Contents of Mg, Mn and Fe in the Laramie ferrihydrite as measured by EPMA correlate
439 with silicon ($R^2 = 0.60, 0.34, 0.63$ respectively) to a degree that would be a challenge to explain
440 if these elements were simply adsorbed onto ferrihydrite surfaces. The cronstedtite exchange in
441 general implies occupation of structural crystallographic sites following the dictates of effective
442 cation size and the preservation of charge balance across adjacent *T* and *O* sites. It is no irony
443 that ferrihydrite's peripheral neighbor (Fig. 2) in the Laramie case is cronstedtite. In addition, we
444 have been able to recognize, in parallel with the cronstedtite exchange, progress of the purely
445 tetrahedral SiH_4 exchange, hydrogarnet in reverse. Chemical variation in ferrihydrite is heavily
446 invested in the *T*-site. We do not discount the energetic properties of ferrihydrite's crystal
447 surfaces, but would argue that their chemical manifestations seem to be dwarfed in the present
448 case by those of the interiors. This is perhaps to be explained by its growth by mineral
449 replacement.

450 The highest measured Si-content of Laramie ferrihydrite at the phase boundary (Fig. 2)
451 with cronstedtite, namely ~14 wt.% SiO_2 (Fig. 5), is matched by a compilation of analyzed

452 natural ferrihydrite from the literature. Rather than view the match as coincidental, we prefer to
453 interpret these maxima as indicative of a limit to the possible uptake of Si in ferrihydrite. The
454 few analyses of “ferrihydrite” with as much as 30 wt.% SiO₂ (Henmi et al. 1980; Anderson and
455 Benjamin 1985; Jambor and Dutrizac 1998; Gautier et al. 2006) likely represent
456 misidentifications (cronstedtite, greenalite, chamosite?). On a 5-cation basis, what seems to be an
457 upper limit for silicon is 1.0 per 5 total atoms. This would imply a maximum of 20% tetrahedral
458 sites in the structure that, in the absence of Si, could have been occupied as ^{IV}Fe³⁺. Can we
459 conclude that geochemistry has ruled on an issue (tetrahedral iron in ferrihydrite) that
460 spectroscopy and diffraction, according to recent published work, has failed to elicit unanimity?
461 The mutual correlation of cations in our ferrihydrite, with its implications for ordering on *T* and
462 *O* sites, has never before been reported in terrestrial ferrihydrite. Such geochemical relationships
463 are going to be more obvious in cases of slow, subsurface mineral replacement (taking place
464 incrementally) than when ferrihydrite forms by spontaneous surface precipitation from a
465 saturated aqueous solution.

466 Compared to more stable equivalent minerals such as goethite and hematite (plus quartz),
467 ferrihydrite has the advantage (?) of spontaneous *nucleation* from aqueous fluid in clusters.
468 *Growth* of ferrihydrite on the other hand is not accomplished classically atom-by-atom, but by
469 the more complex process of aggregation of clusters. Hence, growth beyond the nanoscale is
470 strongly retarded if not effectively stopped. Time then favors goethite and hematite once they
471 have nucleated. As far as we know, this scenario seems to apply equally to replacement
472 ferrihydrite and ferrihydrite precipitating from surface waters. The uptake of Si and Mg, and
473 attendant volatile decline in the structure of natural ferrihydrite, are thermodynamically

474 stabilizing features. However, the geologic record seems to show that ferrihydrite's survival is
475 nevertheless tenuous (Jambor and Dutrizac 1998).

476 Should consideration perhaps be given to including Si in the standard IMA formula of
477 ferrihydrite? Natural ferrihydrite (as opposed to synthetic ferrihydrite) differs compositionally
478 from goethite and hematite with respect to Si, Mg and probably Fe^{2+} . Our identification of
479 ferrihydrite in the Laramie sample was in fact delayed while we searched mineral databases for
480 one containing Fe, Si, O, and H. We suggest a ferrihydrite formula: $\text{Fe}_{4+x}\text{Si}_{1-x}\text{O}_{7.5}4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$. This
481 gives two end-members, a ferrian: ($x=1$): $\text{Fe}_5\text{O}_{7.5}4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and a silician ($x=0$): $\text{Fe}_4\text{SiO}_{7.5}4.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$.
482 The latter contains one Fe^{2+} (or Mg) atom.

483 **IMPLICATIONS**

484 Ferrihydrite may justifiably be considered as a rock-forming mineral. Its growth as a
485 pseudomorphic replacement of sulfide in a Laramie complex peridotite enabled it to respond to
486 and store a record of time and space variations in the chemical potential of its environment. The
487 uptake of Si in ferrihydrite in the present case is very roughly half controlled by a coupled
488 substitution of elements on *T* and *O* sites, namely: $(\text{Si,MgFe}^{2+})(\text{Fe}^{3+})_{-2}$, and the other half relates
489 to an inverse hydrogarnet substitution SiH_4 . These variations may have been rendered possible
490 by the unique crystal quality nine-line ferrihydrite. The content of Si appears to have an upper
491 limit of 14-15 wt.% or 20% of total cations. The IMA formula for ferrihydrite should be adjusted
492 to include the elemental substitutions found in terrestrial, subsurface occurrences.

493

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771

772 **Text Figures**

- 773 1) Analyses of Fe, Mn, Mg and Si in terrestrial and extraterrestrial ferrihydrite from the
774 literature (Chukhrov et al. 1974; Henmi et al. 1980; Carlson and Schwertmann 1981;
775 Childs et al. 1982, 1986, 1990; Wilson and Russell 1983; Parfitt et al. 1992; Treiman et
776 al. 1993; Greshake 1997; Dinelli et al. 1998; Boyd and Scott 1999; Kim and Kim 2003).
777 Not included are surficial terrestrial samples with measured phosphate, sulfate, carbonate,
778 or clay impurities.
- 779 2) Microprobe BSE image of ferrihydrite (Fh) with border of cronstedtite (Cro) in ferroan
780 peridotite “Oxide Body” from the Laramie complex. Talc (Tlc, black) rims Cro.
781 Greenalite (Gre) veins occur in Fh, Cro and olivine (Ol), and hisingerite (His) veins occur
782 in Ol. Bright white phase in veins is magnetite.
- 783 3) FE-SEM image of spherical masses of ferrihydrite in Laramie peridotite.
- 784 4) Selected-area electron diffraction TEM ring patterns obtained from two polycrystalline
785 ferrihydrite grains (G5 and G2) located within separate olivines. Measured d-spacings
786 (nm) for each ring are indicated; outer rings (0.28nm and smaller) match ferrihydrite. a)
787 Ring pattern from grain G5 which was located on the edge of the olivine and in contact
788 with the grain boundary displays additional 0.35, 0.44 and 0.52 nm rings. The 0.52 nm

789 ring is consistent with goethite while the 0.35 nm and 0.44 nm rings could represent
790 goethite and/or cronstedtite. See Table 2. b) Ring pattern from ferrihydrite grain G2
791 poikilitically enclosed in olivine, without grain boundary contact, displays identical rings
792 as (a) except for the innermost 0.52 nm ring indicating that goethite is not present in G2.
793 c) Expansion of the innermost rings in (b) showing the absence of the 0.52 nm goethite
794 ring. SAED pattern camera lengths: a) CL=300 mm, b) CL=520 mm, c) CL=1000 mm.

795 5) EPMA spot analyses (24) of oxide components in Laramie ferrihydrite (Fe_2O_3 is total
796 iron), and total anhydrous oxides (uppermost line with zero intercept value of 83.07
797 wt.%).

798 6) Electron-probe microanalyses of $\text{Fe}^{3+} + \text{Mn}^{3+}$ versus Si in Laramie ferrihydrite
799 normalized to 5 total cations. Contents of Fe^{2+} and Mg cations are taken to be the same.
800 Upper and lower lines represent inverse hydrogarnet and inverse cronstedtite exchanges.
801 Not shown: Mg variation: $y = 0.332x - 0.058$.

802 7) Positive correlation of NiO and NiO+MgO percent with SiO_2 in chondrite Acfer 094.
803 Data from Greshake (1997).

804 8) Electron-probe spot analyses of ferrihydrite (Fh) and Fe-rich serpentine-group minerals
805 cronstedtite (Cro), greenalite (Gre), and hisingerite (His), with talc (Tlc) in Laramie
806 oxide-rich peridotite. "Mixed" are compositions likely to be ferrihydrite + cronstedtite
807 not spatially resolved under the electron beam. Cations are normalized to 5.0, a procedure
808 that fails to recognize M-vacancies in hisingerite. FeII and FeIII in ferrihydrite are not
809 separated; they are calculated in cronstedtite and greenalite assuming cronstedtite
810 substitution: $(\text{MgFe}^{2+})\text{Si}(\text{Fe}^{3+})_{-2}$.

811 9) Schematic illustration of compatibilities of minerals at very low-temperature projected
812 from H₂O into the ternary system SiO₂ - Fe³⁺O_{1.5} - (Mg,Fe)O, for low levels of Mg. Non
813 is nontronite and Brc is brucite. (e.g. Bogdanov et al. 2008)

814

Table 1. Chemical Compositions of Laramie Peridotite Minerals

Mineral	Olivine	Lowest-Si Fh	Highest-Si Fh	Average Fh	EDX* Fh	Fh Rims Cro	Veinlet Gre	Ol altn. His
No. of Spots	11	1	1	26	1	12	5	17
Weight Percent								
SiO ₂	35.29	8.54	13.33	10.60	11.79	30.80	31.98	43.31
TiO ₂	0.03	0.07	0.07	0.07		0.05	0.04	0.01
Al ₂ O ₃	0.01	0.08	0.28	0.13		0.07	0.24	1.29
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.08		0.04	0.03	0.03
Fe ₂ O _{3t}		72.92	70.18	72.03	85.28			35.05
FeOt	38.19					43.26	48.23	
MnO	0.55	1.13	0.77	1.01	0.89	0.46	0.21	0.14
MgO	25.58	1.38	2.42	1.83	1.79	13.86	4.53	7.59
NiO	0.06	0.17	0.12	0.10		0.07	0.04	0.05
CaO	0.07	0.67	0.34	0.41	0.29	0.54	1.13	0.96
Anh. Total	99.82	85.01	87.56	86.26	100.0	89.15	86.42	88.43
Formula Cations								
Basis	3 cations	5 cations	5 cations	5 cations	5 cations	5 cations	5 cations	7 anh. ox.
Si	0.999	0.633	0.934	0.766	0.742	1.734	1.979	2.149
Al	0.000	0.007	0.023	0.011		0.004	0.018	0.076
Cr	0.001	0.003	0.006	0.004		0.002	0.002	0.001
FeIII _t		4.070	3.702	3.920	4.019	0.520	0.002	1.309
FeII _t	0.904					1.517	2.495	0.000
Mn	0.013	0.071	0.046	0.062	0.068	0.022	0.011	0.006
Mg	1.079	0.153	0.253	0.197	0.152	1.164	0.418	0.561
Ni	0.001	0.010	0.007	0.006		0.003	0.002	0.002
Ca	0.002	0.053	0.026	0.031	0.026	0.033	0.074	0.051

*Total normalized to 100%.

Table 2: Measured d-spacings and (hkl) planes in this study and comparative literature values for ferrihydrite and goethite.

Row	G2 This study isolated (nm)	G5 This stud grain bnd (nm)	Mineral	Fh Janney et al. (2000a) (nm)	Fh J & D (1998) (nm)	Fh J & D (1998) (hkl)	Goe JCPDS (nm)	Goe JCPDS (hkl)
1	-----	0.52	Goe	-----	-----	-----	0.498	(020)
2	0.41	0.44	Fh, Goe	-----	-----	-----	0.418	(110)
3	0.33	0.35	Fh, Goe	-----	-----	-----	0.338	(120)
4	0.27	0.28	Fh	0.29	-----	-----	-----	-----
5	0.24	0.26	Fh, Goe	0.25	0.252	(110)	0.250	(110)
6	0.22	0.23	Fh, Goe	0.228	0.223 or 0.235	(112) or (004)	0.221	(200)
7	0.19	0.20	Fh, Goe	0.202	-----	-----	0.196	(113)
8	0.175	0.18	Fh, Goe	0.176	0.188 or 0.172	(005) or (114)	0.176	(114)
9	0.167	0.16	Fh, Goe	0.156	0.172 or 0.151	(114) or (115)	0.156	(115)
10	0.13	0.14	Fh, Goe	0.148	0.146	(300)	0.148	(106)

Abbreviations: Fh=ferrihydrite, goe=goethite, bndy=boundary, J & D (1998)=Jambor and Dutrizac (1998), JCPDS=JCPDS International Center for Diffraction Data.

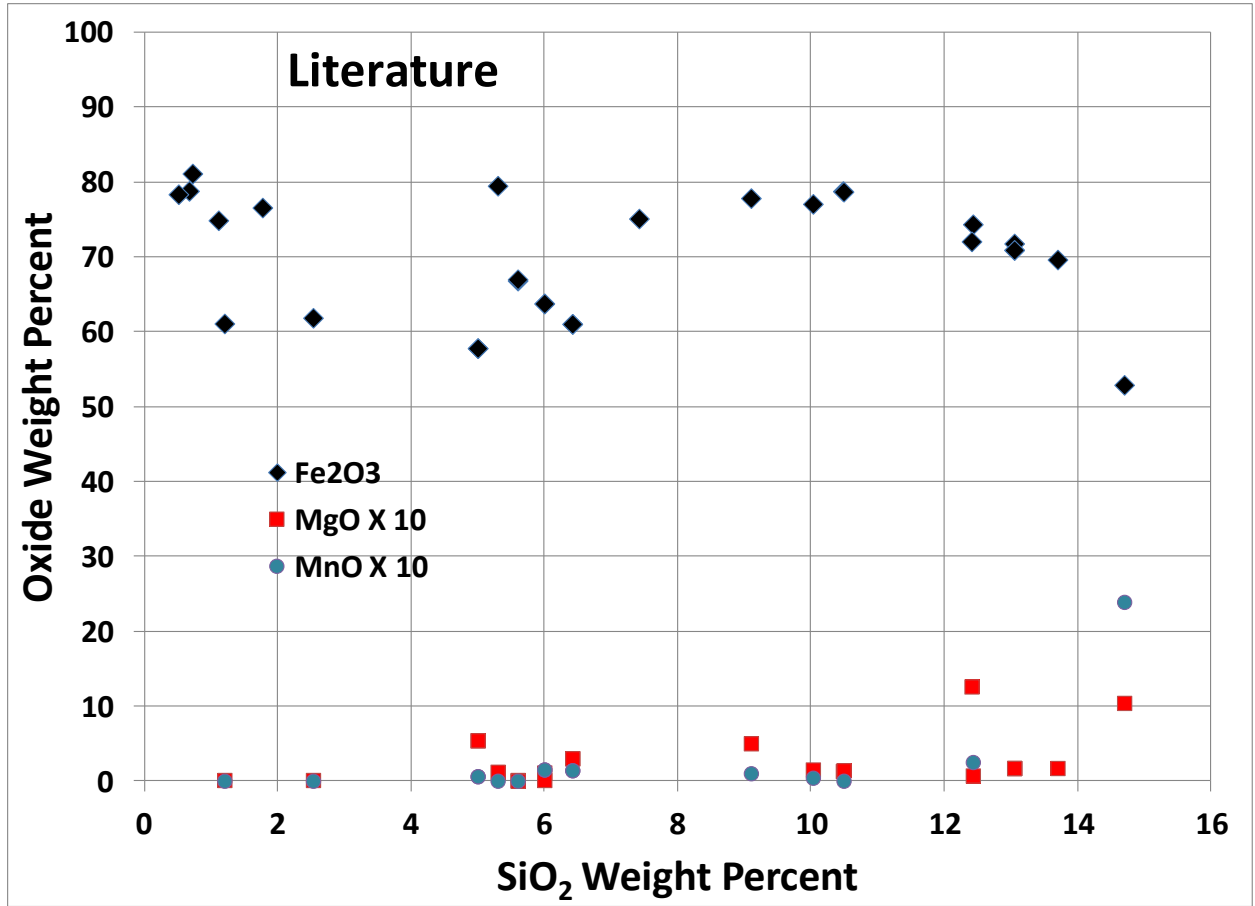


Figure 1

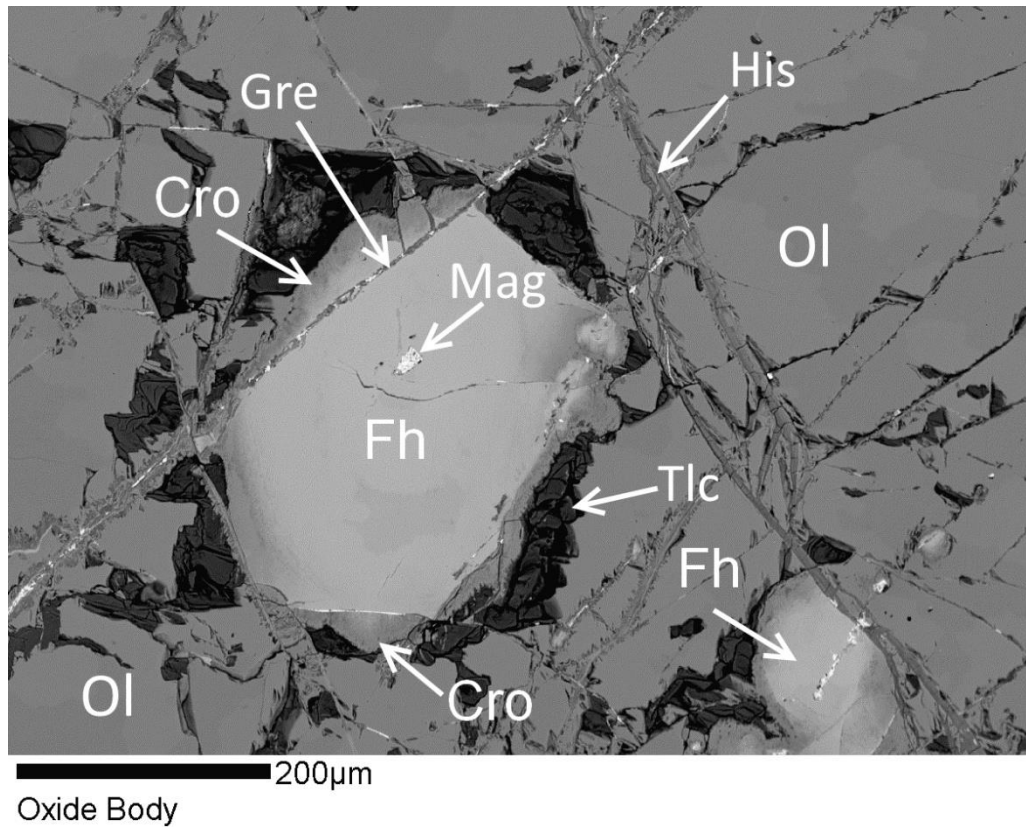


Figure 2

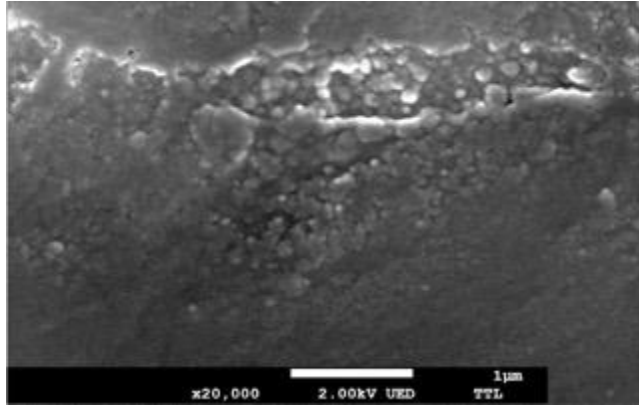


Figure 3

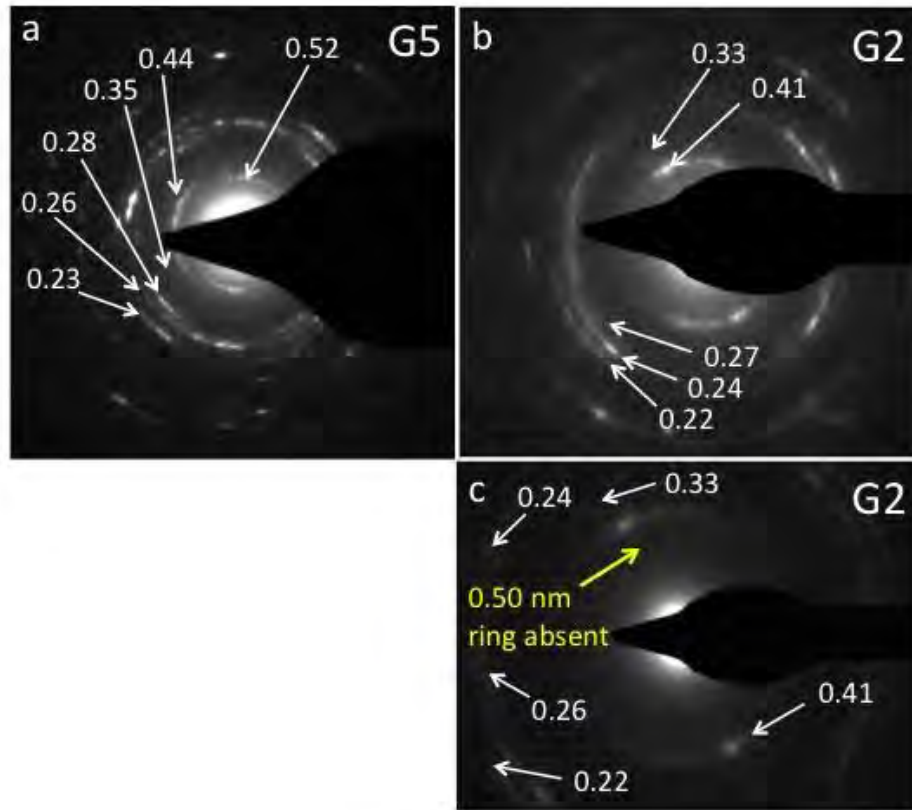


Figure 4

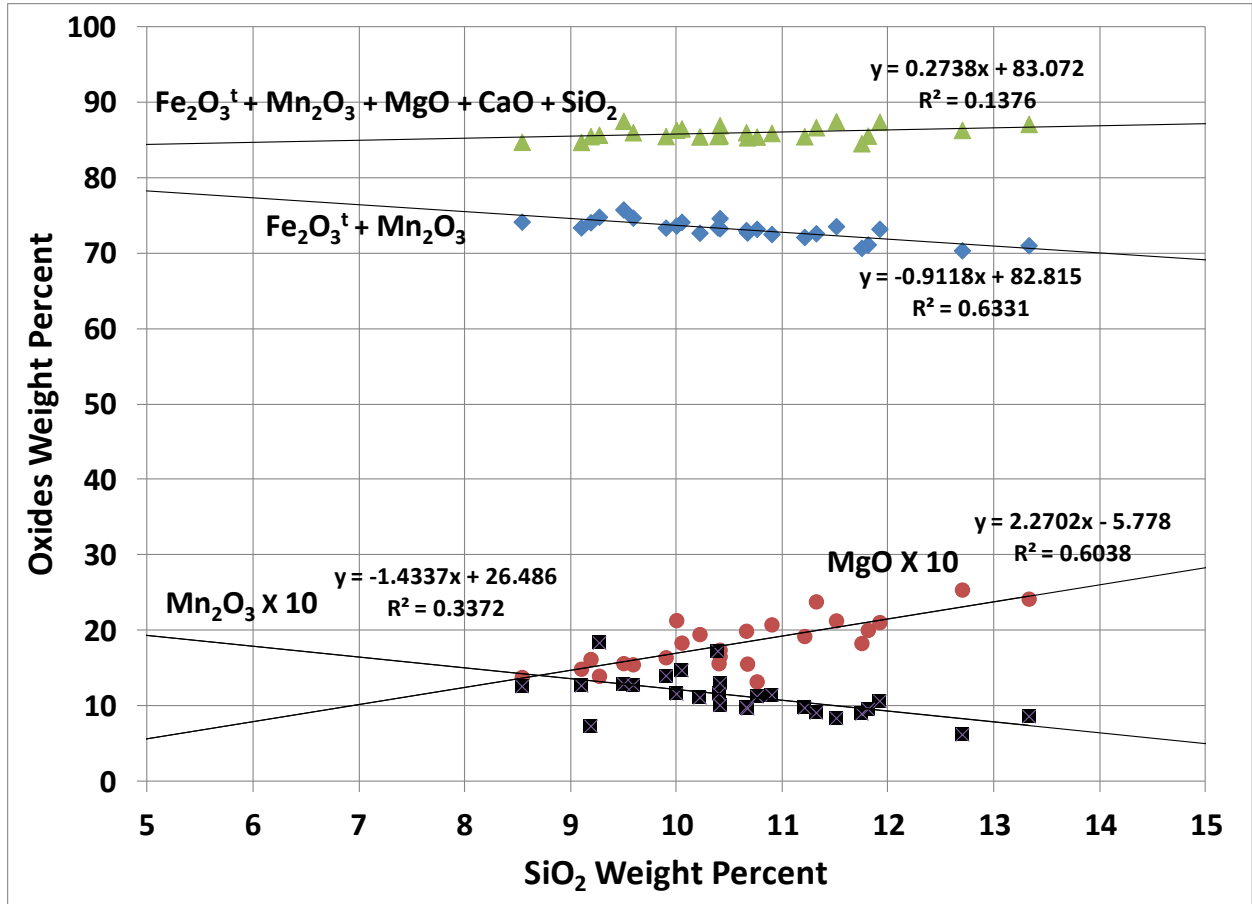


Figure 5

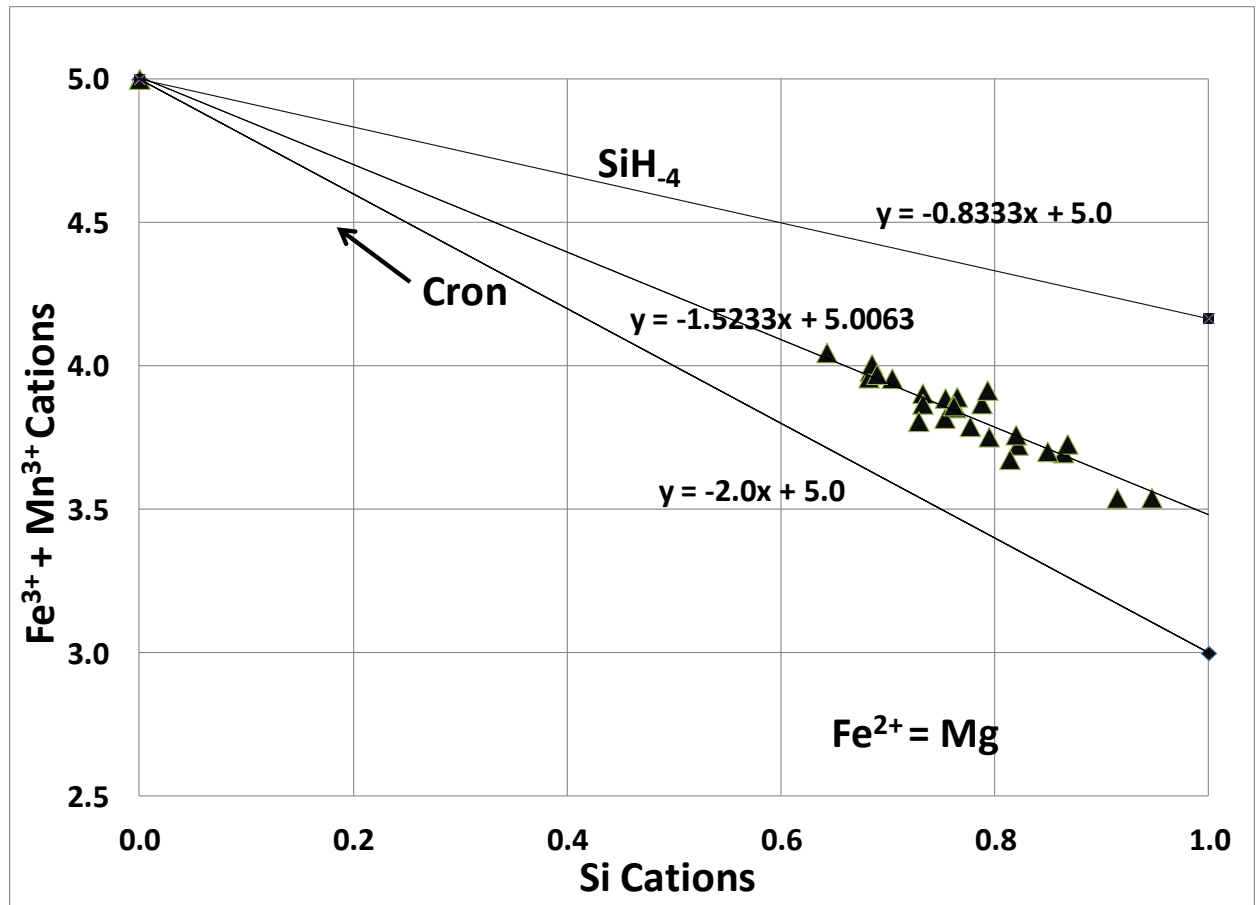


Figure 6

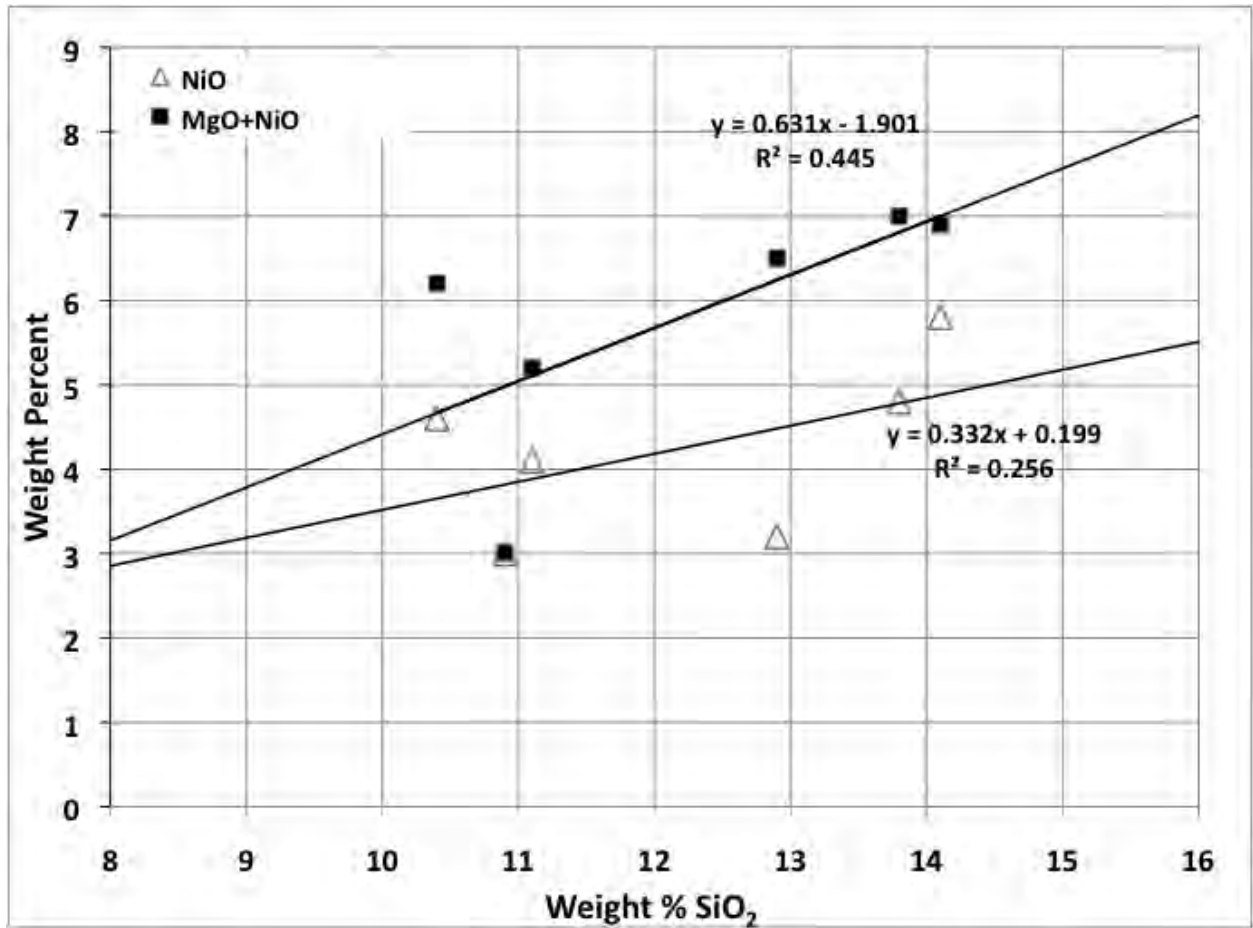


Figure 7

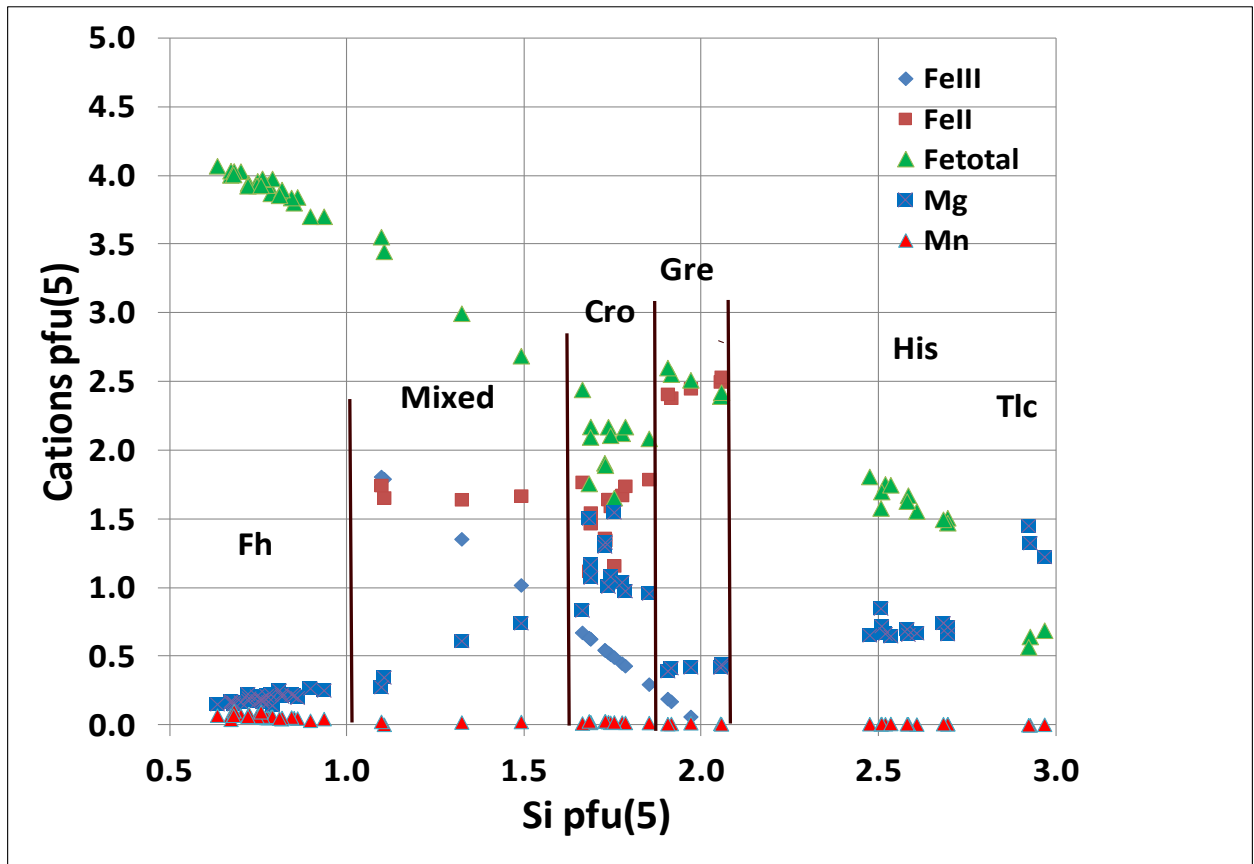


Figure 8

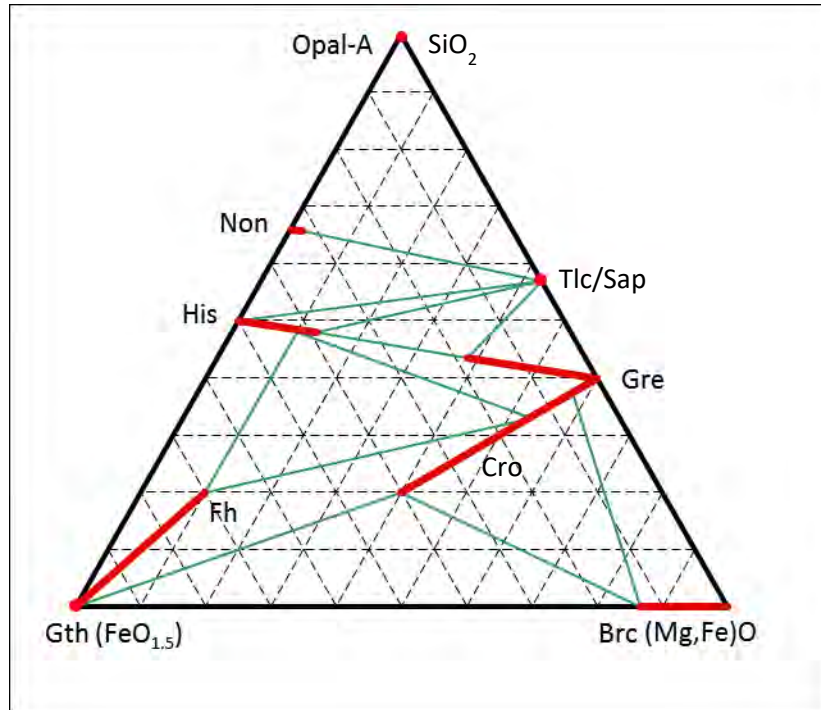


Figure 9