

1 **Revision 2**

2 **Single-crystal elasticity of phase Egg AlSiO_3OH and $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ by Brillouin**
3 **spectroscopy**

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18

19 **Abstract**

20 Phase Egg and δ -AlOOH are two typical hydrous phases that might exist in the
21 wet sedimentary layer of subducted slabs under mantle conditions. They are thus
22 regarded as potential water carriers to Earth's deep mantle. In this letter, we report the
23 full elastic constants of both phases determined by Brillouin scattering and X-ray
24 diffraction measurements under ambient conditions. Our results indicate that the
25 hydrogen-bond configurations in the crystal structures of the two phases have a
26 profound effect on their principal elastic constants. The adiabatic bulk modulus (K_S)
27 and shear modulus (G) calculated from the obtained elastic constants using the
28 Voigt-Reuss-Hill averaging scheme are 158.3(201) GPa and 123.0(60) GPa for phase
29 Egg and 162.9(31) GPa and 145.2(13) GPa for δ -AlOOH, respectively. These results
30 allow us to evaluate elastic moduli and sound velocities of hydrous minerals in the
31 Al_2O_3 - H_2O - SiO_2 ternary system (simplified composition of subducted wet
32 sedimentary layer) at ambient conditions including the contrast of the acoustic
33 velocities V_P and V_S for the reaction production $\text{AlSi}_3\text{OH}=\delta\text{-AlOOH}+\text{SiO}_2$ (stishovite)
34 and the evolution in the elastic moduli and sound velocities of hydrous minerals as a
35 function of density.

36 **Keywords:** Phase Egg, δ -AlOOH, elasticity, anisotropy, Brillouin spectroscopy

37 **Introduction**

38 Hydrous phases which form in wet subducted lithospheric slabs are regarded as

39 potential carriers for transporting water into the Earth's deep interior. Dehydration of
40 these hydrous phases can release substantial amounts of water and significantly affect
41 physical and chemical properties of the surrounding rocks, such as the rheology and
42 electrical conductivity (Karato et al. 1986; Ohtani 2020). Researchers have examined
43 phase relations in hydrous systems with various chemical compositions that are
44 representative of sedimentary, basaltic and peridotitic layers of subducted slabs. These
45 efforts have led to the discoveries of a number of hydrous minerals stable at relevant
46 deep-mantle pressure-temperature conditions (Iwamori 2004; Litasov and Ohtani
47 2003; Schmidt and Poli 1998). Among these previously reported hydrous minerals in
48 the simplified $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-H}_2\text{O-SiO}_2$ ternary system, phase Egg and $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ are two
49 typical phases which might exist in the subducted wet sedimentary layer (Ono 1998;
50 Schmidt et al. 1998). Experimental studies on the phase stability of phase Egg show
51 that it remains stable at depths of the mantle transition zone even along a normal
52 mantle geotherm. It then decomposes to $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ and stishovite at greater depths in
53 the topmost lower mantle (25-30 GPa) (Fukuyama et al. 2017; Pamato et al. 2015;
54 Sano et al. 2004). $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ is found to survive in the lower mantle down to
55 core-mantle boundary conditions along a cold slab geotherm (Duan et al. 2018;
56 Ohtani et al. 2001; Sano et al. 2008; Yuan et al. 2019). Therefore, phase Egg and
57 $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ can form a continuous chain to transport water from the mantle transition
58 zone to the deep lower mantle through slab subduction processes. In addition, Wirth
59 et al. (2007) claimed that phase Egg occurs as inclusions in ultradeep diamonds,

60 providing geological evidence for the possible existence of phase Egg at the depth of
61 the mantle transition zone.

62 Phase Egg with an ideal formula of AlSiO_3OH was first synthesized by Eggleton
63 et al. (1978). It is monoclinic system with space group $P2_1/n$ (Schmidt et al. 1998) and
64 consists of edge-shared Si-octahedra linked to an Al_2O_{10} dimer (Figure S1a and b).
65 High-pressure X-ray diffraction studies show that the axial compressibility of phase
66 Egg is extremely anisotropic (Schulze et al. 2018; Vanpeteghem et al. 2003), which is
67 also supported by recent *first-principles* calculations (Mookherjee et al. 2019).
68 $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ is a synthetic high-pressure polymorph of diaspore ($\alpha\text{-AlOOH}$) and
69 boehmite ($\gamma\text{-AlOOH}$) that adopts a CaCl_2 -type structure with $P2_1nm$ space group
70 (Figure S1c) (Suzuki et al. 2000). In recent years, $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ has drawn increasing
71 attention due to its pressure-induced hydrogen-bond symmetrization and wide P-T
72 stability field (Hsieh et al. 2020; Sano-Furukawa et al. 2018; Sano-Furukawa et al.
73 2009). The formation of δ -phase $\text{AlOOH-FeOOH-MgSiO}_2(\text{OH})_2$ solid solutions is of
74 potential significance to deep-mantle water circulation and dynamic evolution (Yuan
75 et al. 2019). Elastic data of phase Egg and $\delta\text{-AlOOH}$ are basic physical parameters
76 and essential for interpreting seismic observations and probing the possible existence
77 of these phases in the Earth. Although *first-principles* calculations have been
78 performed to explore the elastic properties of these two phases (Mookherjee et al.
79 2019; Tsuchiya and Tsuchiya 2009), few experimental studies have reported their
80 elastic constants even under ambient conditions. To date, only one Brillouin scattering

81 study has been performed on δ -AlOOH polycrystalline aggregates (Mashino et al.
82 2016). Additionally, there are no available experimental elastic data for phase Egg
83 with the exception of bulk modulus obtained from static compression X-ray
84 diffraction experiments (Schulze et al. 2018; Vanpeteghem et al. 2003). Therefore,
85 further experimental studies are required to shed new light on the elastic properties of
86 these phases.

87 In this study, we performed Brillouin scattering and X-ray diffraction
88 measurements on single-crystal phase Egg and δ -AlOOH under ambient conditions.
89 The full elastic tensors were extracted by fitting measured acoustic velocities as a
90 function of the phonon directions using the Christoffel's equation (Every 1980). We
91 quantified the adiabatic bulk moduli (K_S), shear moduli (G), compressional-wave
92 velocities (V_P) and shear-wave velocities (V_S) of phase Egg and δ -AlOOH under the
93 Voigt-Reuss-Hill averaging scheme (Hill 1963). These results are compared with those
94 of other typical hydrous minerals in the Al_2O_3 - SiO_2 - H_2O ternary system as a function
95 of density to evaluate the correlation between these physical properties, compositions
96 and crystal structures.

97 **Experimental methods**

98 **Synthesis and characterization of single crystals**

99 High-quality single crystals of phase Egg and δ -AlOOH were synthesized at high
100 pressures and high temperatures using the Sakura 2500-ton multi-anvil apparatus at

101 the Guangzhou Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences. To
102 synthesize single-crystal phase Egg, a ground mixture of CaO, Al(OH)₃ and SiO₂ in a
103 1:4:2 mole ratio was used as the starting material and sealed in a welded gold capsule.
104 The synthesis experiment was conducted at 17 GPa and 1400 °C with a duration of 20
105 hours (run number U801). The recovered products were composed of single crystals
106 of phase Egg with maximum dimensions of 200 μm and some fine powders. The
107 chemical compositions of several selected crystals were determined by electron
108 microprobe analysis (EMPA) and are shown in Table S1. Based on these analyses, the
109 crystals have an average of 50.5(1) wt% SiO₂ and 41.7(1) wt% Al₂O₃, yielding a
110 chemical formula of Al_{0.98}Si_{1.01}O₄H_{1.02} with the H content estimated by the total
111 weight deficiency. This formula is close to the composition of the ideal formula of
112 phase Egg. The products were also tested by single-crystal X-ray diffraction and
113 unpolarized FTIR measurements. The single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurements
114 were performed on a Bruker D8 Venture diffractometer equipped with a Mo K α
115 radiation source (with a wavelength of 0.70926 Å), graphite monochromator,
116 ω -scanning and Apex II CCD detector. These aforementioned characterizations
117 confirm that the synthesized crystals are the phase Egg. The crystal structure was
118 further refined using the Olex² package (Dolomanov et al. 2009) and the detail atomic
119 parameters are available as a deposited CIF file. Unpolarized FTIR spectra in the
120 range of 600–7500 cm⁻¹ were recorded for several double-side polished crystals at
121 ambient conditions using a Bruker Vertex 70 FTIR spectrometer combined with a

122 Hyperion-2000 IR microscope and a HgCdTe (MCT) detector (Figure S2). The
123 spectra show three evident absorption bands centered at ~2140, ~2434 and ~2784
124 cm^{-1} (Figure S2), which could be assigned to be OH-stretching vibration of the phase
125 Egg.

126 Single-crystal δ -AlOOH was synthesized by following the procedure reported by
127 (Kawazoe et al. 2017). High-purity reagent-grade $\text{Al}(\text{OH})_3$ powder of high purity
128 (99.99%) was used as the starting material and the synthesis experiment was
129 conducted at approximately 20 GPa and 1000 °C for a duration of 22 hours (run
130 number U795). The recovered product is found to be composed of crystals with a
131 maximum dimension of approximately 300 μm . Analyses of synchrotron X-ray
132 diffraction patterns recorded at the 13-IDD beamline sector of GSECARS and EMPA
133 measurements verify that the synthesized crystals are chemically homogeneous and
134 pure δ -AlOOH phase (Figure S3 and Table S1).

135 **Sample preparation and Brillouin scattering measurements**

136 To precisely constrain the 13 and 9 elastic constants of phase Egg (monoclinic,
137 $P2_1/n$) and δ -AlOOH (orthorhombic, $P2_1nm$), respectively, normally at least 3-4
138 platelets with different orientations are needed for Brillouin spectroscopic
139 measurements. We carefully checked the synthesized crystals under a petrographic
140 microscope and selected a number of high-quality clean and transparent crystals with
141 homogeneous extinction for both phase Egg and δ -AlOOH. With the selected single

142 crystals of phase Egg, we prepared four double-side polished platelets with $\sim 15 \mu\text{m}$
143 thickness. To determine the crystallographic orientations and unit-cell parameters for
144 all platelets, single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurements were performed using an
145 Agilent SuperNova diffractometer (Atlas S2 CCD detector, Mo $K\alpha$ radiation, graphite
146 monochromator) in the ω -scanning mode with the scanning step of 1° per frame. The
147 scanning width varied from 80° to 100° and the exposure time varied from $7 \text{ s}/^\circ$ to 15
148 $\text{ s}/^\circ$ depending on the crystals. The obtained X-ray diffraction images were analysed
149 using the CrysAlis Pro software (Oxford Diffraction 2006). The Miller indices of the
150 polished platelets are determined to be (8, 3, -5), (0, -1, -1), (45, -6, 13) and (2, -1, 2)
151 with an estimated uncertainty less than 0.2. All four crystal platelets display very
152 similar lattice parameters and unit cell volumes, and the averaged values are $a =$
153 $7.1449(7) \text{ \AA}$, $b = 4.3295(4) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 6.9526(7) \text{ \AA}$, $\beta = 98.35(9)^\circ$ and $V_0 = 201.79(4) \text{ \AA}^3$,
154 which are consistent with values reported by previous studies (Schulze et al. 2018;
155 Vanpeteghem et al. 2003). The derived density is $3.740(2) \text{ g/cm}^3$ for phase Egg.

156 In the case of δ -AlOOH, it was difficult to prepare single-crystal platelets with
157 ideal crystallographic orientations as the synthesized crystals were often twin crystals.
158 Fortunately, some crystals were large enough to allow us to collect Brillouin
159 scattering signals from one single-crystal domain. Finally, we obtained three workable
160 platelets for Brillouin scattering measurements. The orientations and lattice
161 parameters of these platelets were determined by single-crystal X-ray diffraction
162 measurements at the 13-IDD beamline sector of GSECARS, Advanced Photon Source,

163 Argonne National Laboratory. The incident X-ray beam has an energy of 37 keV and
164 a focused beam size of 3~4 μm at the sample. The geometry parameters were
165 calibrated using LaB_6 standard. During X-ray diffraction measurements, the
166 wide-scan images of the single crystal platelets were collected from -15° to $+15^\circ$ with
167 the total exposure time of 100 s. The obtained diffraction patterns were analysed by
168 GSE ADA/RSV software to derive crystallographic orientations (Dera et al. 2013).
169 They were also integrated to one-dimensional profiles using Dioptas (Prescher and
170 Prakapenka 2015). The Miller indices of the three platelets are determined to be (0, 0,
171 1), (2, 9, 2) and (10, 7, 3). The estimated accuracy of the measured Miller indices is
172 within 0.1. The average lattice parameters of these three platelets are $a = 4.7093(8) \text{ \AA}$,
173 $b = 4.2271(1) \text{ \AA}$, $c = 2.8302(1) \text{ \AA}$ and $V_0 = 56.34(5) \text{ \AA}^3$, with a calculated density of
174 $3.536(1) \text{ g/cm}^3$.

175 Brillouin scattering measurements were conducted under ambient conditions
176 using a Brillouin Light Scattering (BLS) system at the Mineral Physics Laboratory,
177 the University of Texas at Austin (Fu et al. 2017; Fu et al. 2019; Zhang et al. 2021). In
178 the BLS system, a single-frequency 532 nm solid-state green laser (Coherent Verdi
179 V2) was used as an excitation light source and a JRS six-pass tandem Fabry–Pérot
180 interferometer equipped with a Perkin–Elmer photomultiplier detector was used to
181 record the Brillouin spectra of the sample. Samples were loaded into a
182 short-symmetrical diamond-anvil cell without a pressure transmitting medium. The
183 laser beam was focused down to the sample with a spot size of approximately 20 μm

184 in diameter. In a symmetric forward scattering geometry, acoustic velocities (v) were
185 calculated from the measured Brillouin shifts (Δv) through the equation (Whitfield et
186 al. 1976):

$$v = \frac{\Delta v \cdot \lambda_0}{2 \sin(\theta/2)}$$

187 where v is the acoustic velocity, Δv is the measured Brillouin frequency shift, λ_0 is
188 the laser wavelength of 532 nm, and θ is the external scattering angle of 48.3(1)°
189 calibrated using water as a standard.

190 **Results and discussion**

191 **Phase Egg**

192 Brillouin scattering measurements were performed for each platelet of phase Egg
193 in 19 distinct crystallographic directions by rotating the crystal in χ -circle over an
194 angular range of 180° with an interval of 10°. One typical Brillouin spectrum is
195 shown in Figure 1a. In most cases, both the compressional acoustic mode (V_p) and
196 shear acoustic modes (V_{s1} and V_{s2}) can be observed, but the V_p signal overlaps with
197 the strong V_s peak of diamond in some directions where only V_{s1} and V_{s2} were
198 observed. The dispersion of the measured acoustic velocities with the crystallographic
199 directions for the four platelets of phase Egg are depicted in Figure 2. Together with
200 the density from the single-crystal X-ray diffraction and compositional measurements,
201 the measured sound velocities are modelled to derive the 13 independent elastic
202 constants of phase Egg by nonlinear least-squares fitting to Christoffel's equation

203 (Every 1980). All the elastic constants C_{ij} based on the Cartesian coordinated system
204 where the X -axis is parallel to the a^* -axis and Y -axis is parallel to the b -axis are given
205 in Table 1 and compared with the theoretical values (Mookherjee et al. 2019). Our
206 values are systematically lower than the theoretical values of Mookherjee et al. (2019).
207 Although the reason for this discrepancy is unclear, one possible reason is thermal
208 effects due to their *first-principles* calculations being performed at $T=0$ K
209 (Mookherjee et al. 2019). Using the Voigt–Reuss–Hill averaging scheme (Hill 1963),
210 aggregate properties such as K_S , G , V_P and V_S are also calculated and given in Table 1.

211 The principal elastic constants of phase Egg exhibit the relationship $C_{11} > C_{33} > C_{22}$,
212 while the shear elastic components display the order $C_{55} > C_{66} > C_{44}$. These relations can
213 be well explained by the orientation of the hydrogen bond, which is mostly aligned
214 along the b -axis but tilted to have a component along the c -axis of the crystal structure.
215 That is, the distortion of the SiO_6 octahedron with the longer Si-OH bond lies in the
216 a - c plane (Schmidt et al. 1998; Schulze et al. 2018) (Figure S1a and b). The values of
217 the principal elastic constants with C_{11} are twice as high as C_{22} , indicating that phase
218 Egg has strikingly high anisotropy in the axial compressibility and that the b -axis is
219 the most compressible direction. These observations are in agreement with previous
220 static compression X-ray diffraction experiments (Schulze et al. 2018; Vanpeteghem
221 et al. 2003).

222 The measured elastic constants of phase Egg allow us to evaluate the azimuthal
223 anisotropy of the acoustic velocity. From 3D azimuthal images of the velocity

224 distribution (Figure S4), we notice that the compressional-wave velocity varies from
225 7.68 km/s to 11.34 km/s. The fastest compressional-wave velocity propagates along
226 the direction that deviates $\sim 38^\circ$ to the a -axis in the a - c plane, and the slowest
227 compressional-wave velocity propagates along the b -axis direction. Similarly, the
228 shear-wave velocity also exhibits a strong directional dependence. The anisotropy
229 factors of the compressional-wave and shear-wave velocities,
230 $AV = 200 \times (V_{\max} - V_{\min}) / (V_{\max} + V_{\min})$, are calculated to be $AV_P = 38.4\%$, $AV_{S1} = 21.3\%$
231 and $AV_{S2} = 21.2\%$ (Figure S4), and the shear-wave splitting factor, which is defined
232 as $AV_S = 200 \times (V_{S1} - V_{S2}) / (V_{S1} + V_{S2})$, is calculated to be 22.1% (Figure S4).

233 δ -AlOOH

234 Figure 1b shows a representative Brillouin spectrum of δ -AlOOH. The measured
235 acoustic velocities as a function of the crystallographic directions for the three
236 δ -AlOOH platelets are shown in Figure 3. The full 9 independent elastic constants of
237 δ -AlOOH were inverted by fitting all the velocity data of the three platelets using
238 Christoffel's equation and the results are given in Table 1. Our values of the elastic
239 constants are comparable to the theoretical values from *first-principles* simulations
240 (Tsuchiya and Tsuchiya 2009). We found that the principal elastic constants exhibit
241 the relation $C_{33} > C_{11} > C_{22}$ and that C_{22} is much smaller than C_{33} and C_{11} . In accordance
242 with this relation, the velocity along the c -axis is faster than those along the a -axis and
243 b -axis by approximately 7.4% and 21.1%, respectively. The relation of $C_{33} > C_{11} > C_{22}$
244 is also reflected in the strong elastic anisotropy in the axial compressibility for

245 δ -AlOOH, which is consistent with the fact that the O-H bond lies in the *a-b* plane
246 (see Figure S1c). The compressibilities of the *a*- and the *b*-axes are higher than that of
247 the *c*-axis. The anisotropic factors of δ -AlOOH are calculated to be $AV_P = 19.1\%$,
248 $AV_{S1} = 6.89\%$ and $AV_{S2} = 6.56\%$ (Figure S5). The shear-wave splitting factor is
249 calculated to be $AV_S = 12.65\%$ (Figure S5). The calculated isotropic aggregate
250 properties of δ -AlOOH are shown Table 1. Interestingly, we found that the aggregate
251 V_P and V_S values in our study are 5.2% and 8.8% higher, respectively, than those
252 determined by Mashino et al. (2016) using polycrystalline δ -AlOOH. Previous studies
253 have shown that the grain size of the polycrystalline aggregate sample and volumetric
254 fraction of grain boundaries significantly affect the obtained velocity in the Brillouin
255 scattering measurements of MgO (Gleason et al. 2011; Marquardt et al. 2011). For
256 example, Gleason et al. (2011) reported that the derived sound wave velocities of
257 MgO powder compressed under nonhydrostatic conditions were lower than those of
258 single-crystal MgO compressed under quasihydrostatic conditions. They proposed
259 that the anomalously low velocities were related to the volume fraction of grain
260 boundaries produced by crushed samples under nonhydrostatic conditions. Mashino et
261 al. (2016) used fine-grained polycrystalline δ -AlOOH in their Brillouin measurements
262 under ambient conditions. Based on the difference in experimental conditions, the
263 discrepancy between our results and those of Mashino et al. (2016) can be contributed
264 to the grain size and grain boundary effects in the polycrystalline samples. Future
265 systematic studies are needed to clarify this issue.

266 **Implications**

267 The combination of seismic observations of the deep mantle and elastic results of
268 water-bearing or hydrous minerals can be an effective means to elucidate the water
269 storage, distribution and circulation in the Earth's interior. We compiled the density,
270 aggregate elastic moduli, aggregate acoustic velocities and anisotropy factors of
271 typical mantle minerals in subducted slabs, and compare them with those of phase
272 Egg and δ -AlOOH under ambient conditions (Table S2). The AV_P and AV_S values of
273 phase Egg are higher than those of most other minerals, such as olivine, diopside and
274 wadsleyite; hence, phase Egg is likely a candidate mineral for seismic anisotropy in
275 subducting slabs. The acoustic velocities (V_P and V_S) of phase Egg are remarkably
276 higher than those of the major minerals in the upper mantle (olivine, enstatite,
277 diopside and majorite), but comparable to those of the minerals in the mantle
278 transition zone (wadsleyite and ringwoodite). The acoustic velocities of δ -AlOOH are
279 faster than those of all the minerals in the mantle transition zone and the upper mantle
280 but slower than those of the major lower-mantle mineral bridgmanite. Thus, phase
281 Egg may result in a high-velocity anomaly at the depth of the base of the upper mantle,
282 while δ -AlOOH may result in a high-velocity anomaly at the depth of the mantle
283 transition zone. As mentioned before, phase Egg decomposes to δ -AlOOH and
284 stishovite through the $AlSi_3OH = \delta\text{-AlOOH} + SiO_2$ reaction at relevant P-T conditions
285 of the topmost lower mantle along the slab geotherm. Based on the elastic data
286 obtained under ambient conditions in this study, the velocity contrast of this reaction

287 is determined to be ~17% for V_P and ~18% for V_S , which is likely detectable by
288 regional high-resolution seismic tomography. We note that the discussion above is
289 based on elastic data obtained under ambient conditions and the effects of pressure
290 and temperature on the elasticity of these phase remain to be investigated in the future.
291 As hydrogen-bond configurations and pressure-induced hydrogen-bond evolution
292 have profound effects on the elastic properties of phase Egg and δ -AlOOH
293 (Mookherjee et al. 2019; Tsuchiya and Tsuchiya 2009), future high pressure
294 experimental investigations on the elasticity of these two phases are thus critically
295 needed.

296 To systematically understand the elastic properties of hydrous minerals in the
297 sedimentary layer of subducted slabs, we have plotted the K_S , G , V_P and V_S of hydrous
298 minerals in the Al_2O_3 - SiO_2 - H_2O ternary system as a function of density (Figure 4).
299 The K_S , G , V_P and V_S values of these hydrous minerals, including kaolinite, phase pi,
300 diaspore, topaz and δ -AlOOH, exhibit a positive linear relationship with the density.
301 Such linear relationships are also observed for the phases along the forsterite-brucite
302 join of the MgO - SiO_2 - H_2O ternary system. However, the K_S , G , V_P and V_S values of
303 phase Egg significantly deviate from the linear trends with slightly lower values than
304 those predicted by the linear relationships, showing anomalous elastic behavior
305 probably due to hydrogen-bond configurations in its crystal structure.

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453

454

455 **Tables**

456 **Table 1.** Elastic properties of phase Egg and δ -AlOOH under ambient conditions.

	Phase Egg		δ -AlOOH		
	Experiment	Calculation	Experiment	Experiment	Calculation
	Single-crystal	-	Single-crystal	Polycrystal	-
	This study	Mookherjee et al. (2019)	This study	Mashino et al. (2015)	Tsuchiya and Tsuchiya (2009)
ρ (g/cm ³)	3.740(2)	3.798	3.536(1)		3.383
C_{11} (GPa)	467.2(15)	504.7	375.9(9)		314
C_{22} (GPa)	220.8(8)	280.4	295.4(11)		306
C_{33} (GPa)	305.2(7)	401.0	433.5(12)		391
C_{44} (GPa)	109.8(4)	150.3	129.2(6)		117
C_{55} (GPa)	166.0(5)	174.0	133.4(7)		115
C_{66} (GPa)	139.6(5)	159.7	166.4(6)		152
C_{12} (GPa)	115.9(9)	98.6	49.7(9)		34
C_{13} (GPa)	164.3(9)	141.6	91.9(15)		95
C_{23} (GPa)	26.3(7)	87.9	52.8(21)		67

C_{15} (GPa)	3.2(6)	7.5			
C_{25} (GPa)	20.9(9)	13.5			
C_{35} (GPa)	21.2(4)	19.8			
C_{46} (GPa)	13.7(4)	18.6			
K_{Voigt} (GPa)	178.5(8)	204.7	166.0(13)		155.9
G_{Voigt} (GPa)	128.9(3)	154.0	146.5(3)		131.1
K_{Reuss} (GPa)	138.2(46)	188.2	159.8(48)		151.2
G_{Reuss} (GPa)	117.0(17)	148.4	144.0(15)		128.8
K_{VRH} (GPa)	158.3(201)	196.4	162.9(31)		153.5
G_{VRH} (GPa)	123.0(60)	151.2	145.2(13)		130.0
V_{P} (km/s)	9.28(41)	10.25	10.04(7)	9.54(7)	9.83
V_{S} (km/s)	5.73(14)	6.32	6.41(3)	5.89(10)	6.20

457

458 **Figure captions**

459 **Figure 1.** Representative Brillouin spectra of (a) phase Egg and (b) δ -AlOOH at
 460 ambient conditions. V_{P} , V_{S1} , and V_{S2} peaks are observed in both crystals. The Miller
 461 indices of each crystal platelet is shown at the top-right corner of the panel.

462

463 **Figure 2.** Measured velocities of single-crystal phase Egg as a function of χ angle in
 464 the crystallographic plane. The Miller indices of the crystal platelets are shown in the
 465 panels. The dashed lines are calculated velocity dispersion curves using the fitted

466 elastic constants of the crystal.

467

468 **Figure 3.** Measured velocities of single-crystal δ -AlOOH as a function of χ angle in
469 the crystallographic plane. The Miller indices of the crystal platelets are shown in the
470 panels. The dashed lines are calculated velocity dispersion curves using the fitted
471 elastic constants of the crystal.

472

473 **Figure 4.** Elastic moduli and sound velocities of hydrous minerals in the
474 Al_2O_3 - H_2O - SiO_2 ternary system at ambient conditions. These minerals include
475 kl=kaolinite (Katahara 1996; Scholtzová and Tunega 2020), dia=diaspore (Jiang et al.
476 2008), pi=phase pi (Peng et al. 2017), top=topaz (Mookherjee et al. 2016; Tennakoon
477 et al. 2018), δ = δ -AlOOH (Tsuchiya and Tsuchiya 2009; this study) and egg=phase
478 Egg (Mookherjee et al. 2019; this study). (a) and (b) Adiabatic bulk moduli and shear
479 moduli. (c) and (d) Compressional wave velocities and shear wave velocities. The
480 square and circle symbols represent experimental data and theoretical data,
481 respectively. The dashed lines are linear fitting results of all the data with the
482 exception of phase Egg and the formulas are shown near the lines.







