Zaoyang chondrite cooling history from Fe²⁺-Mg intracrystalline ordering in pyroxenes

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Abstract

The crystal chemistry of clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene and olivine from a crushed fragment of the H5 Zaoyang chondrite has been investigated by X-ray structure refinement and detailed microprobe analysis. The meteoritic pyroxenes have cell and polyhedral volumes which compare well with such data from terrestrial pyroxenes that typically crystallize at low-pressure. Fe^{2+} and Mg are rather disordered in M1 and M2 sites of clino- and orthopyroxenes; the closure temperatures of the exchange reaction are 600 and 512°C respectively, which is consistent with a reasonably fast cooling rate, estimated to be of the order of 1°C/day.

The closure temperature for the intercrystalline Ca-Mg exchange reaction for clino- and orthopyroxenes is 900°C, as calculated from clino- and orthopyroxene intergrowth.

The cooling rates obtained from Fe^{2+} -Mg intracrystalline partitioning suggest a cooling of the order of degrees per day at temperatures of 600-500°C due to a strong loss of heat by irradiation.

KEYWORDS: chondrite, pyroxene, crystal-chemistry, cooling rate.

Introduction

THE mineralogical and petrographic features of chondrites can help to elucidate their thermal history and their cooling history constrains the various models relating to their origin (Watanabe *et al.*, 1985); these have therefore been the subject of many previous studies. Cooling rates in chondrites may be calculated in various ways, which give information on the rates through different temperature ranges. Regarding silicate minerals, which are studied in this paper, the cooling rate can be calculated at near liquidus temperature by using the morphologies of crystals in chondrules (Tsuchiyama *et al.*, 1980), while at lower temperatures (down to approximately

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1000°C) it may be estimated by using fine textures in minerals, mainly clino- and orthopyroxenes, but also plagioclases, observed by transmission electron microscopy (Kitamura *et al.*, 1983; Müller, 1991). For still lower temperatures, the cooling rate may be calculated from intracrystalline ordering processes, which have closure temperatures varying from 700 to 200°C (Ganguly, 1982). In particular, intracrystalline ordering of Fe and Mg in *M*1 and *M*2 sites in orthopyroxene has been used in meteorites to estimate the cooling history of the Johnstown diogenite (Molin *et al.*, 1991). Similar information on cooling history may also be obtained from clinopyroxene (Molin and Zanazzi, 1991). In this work, the Zaoyang chondrite has been examined. The Zaoyang ordinary chondrite fell as a single 14.15 kg mass in a field in Hubey province (China) in October 1984 and was studied petrologically by Wang and Rubin (1987) who classified it as a non-brecciated H5 chondrite, shock facies b. In this paper, X-ray single crystal diffraction data are reported for orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene and olivine. The degree of Fe-Mg order-disorder and structural features of these pyroxene crystals give information on its cooling history and therefore its relations with the parent body.

Experimental

Chemical compositions were obtained on a CAMECA-CAMEBAX electron microprobe operating at 15 kV and 15 nA sample current, using WDS spectrometers. X-ray counts were converted into oxide weight percentages using a PAP correction program provided by CAMECA. Analyses are typically accurate to within 1% for major elements and within 3% for minor ones. Analyses were performed on both isolated single crystals used for X-ray data collection, averaging about ten microprobe spots (Table 1), and on a polished thin-section. From the latter analyses have been made of pyroxenes and olivine from both matrix and chondrules, and of other phases such as kamacite, taenite and troilite. Average analytical results and standard deviations are reported in Table 2. The accessory minerals present were apatite, chromite and pure copper.

A small sample of the chondrite was crushed and single crystals of clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene and olivine (about 100 µm in size) were selected; diffraction data were obtained using a computer-controlled SIEMENS AED four-circle diffractometer with Mo-Ka radiation monochromatized by a flat graphite crystal. The equivalent *hkl* and *-hkl* pairs were measured up to $\theta < 30^{\circ}$ using the ω scan mode. Intensities were corrected for absorption following the semi-empirical method of North et al. (1968) and the values of equivalent pairs were averaged. Refinements were carried out in space groups C2/c, Pbca and Pbnm, respectively for clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene and olivine, without chemical constraints, using the STRUCSY program (STOE copyright). No violations of b, c, a glide systematic extinctions were observed in Pbca orthopyroxene. The ionization scheme used (Rossi et al., 1983) was 2.5 positive charges for Si, 1.5 negative charges for oxygen, and 2 positive charges for Mg and Fe, with the available atomic scattering factors (Int.

Tab. for X-ray Cryst., 1974; Tokonami, 1965). All structural sites were considered fully occupied. In the first stages of the refinements, isotropic temperature factors were used. The final cycles were performed allowing all parameters (atomic coordinates, anisotropic temperature factors, M1 and M2 site occupancies, scale factors and secondary extinction coefficients; Zachariasen, 1963) to vary until the shifts were less than the least-squares difference of the corresponding parameters. Reflections with $I > 3\sigma$ (I) were considered as observed and were given equal weighting when used in the refinement procedure. Table 3 shows other pertinent data.

TABLE 1. Electron microprobe analyses of single crystals used for XREF. Site populations were calculated by microprobe and electron density data on basis of 6 and 4 oxygen atoms respectively for pyroxenes and olivine.

Chemical compositions and site populations							
Clin	nopyroxene	Orthopyroxene	Olivine				
SiO ₂	53.89	56.99	39.14				
TiO ₂	0.21	0.15					
Al ₂ Õ ₃	0.34	0.53					
FeO	4.00	10.99	17.76				
MnO	0.22	0.54	0.46				
MgO	18.14	30.76	43.00				
CaO	20.58	0.90	0.03				
Na ₂ O	0.41						
Cr_2O_3	0.63	0.15					
Total	98.42	101.01	100.39				
T site							
Si	1.989	1.987	2.000				
Al ^{IV}	0.011	0.013					
Ml site							
Al ^{VI}	0.004	0.003					
Fe ²⁺	0.040	0.022	0.167				
Fe ³⁺	0.006	0.002					
Mg Ti ⁴⁺	0.926	0.966	0.843				
Ti ⁴⁺	0.006	0.004					
Cr	0.018	0.003					
Mn ²⁺			0.010				
M2 site							
Ca	0.814	0.027	0.001				
Na	0.029						
Fe ²⁺	0.078	0.296	0.207				
Mg	0.072	0.654	0.782				
Mg Mn ²⁺	0.007	0.015	0.010				
KD	0.040	0.050	0.750				

 $K_{D} = (Fe^{2+}(M1) \cdot Mg(M2))/(Fe^{2+}(M2) \cdot Mg(M1))$

	Ca-rich pyroxene	Ca-poor pyroxene	Olivine	Kamacite	Troilite	Taenite
SiO ₂	56.5(1.1)	56.6(1.0)	39.6(0.3)			
TiO ₂	0.3(0.1)	0.1(0.1)				
Al ₂ Õ ₃	3.9(3.9)	0.1(0.1)				
FeÕ	3.1(0.3)	11.0(0.3)	17.2(0.3)			
MnO	0.2(0.1)	0.5(0.1)	0.5(0.1)			
MgO	14.4(2.9)	31.2(0.6)	42.6(0.4)			
CaŎ	20.4(4.5)	0.6(0.1)	. ,			
Na ₂ O	1.5(1.4)	. ,				
Cr_2O_3	0.5(0.1)	0.1(0.1)				
Fe				94.3(1.1)	63.5(0.3)	57.4(8.0)
Ni				6.5(0.2)		42.3(8.5)
S					37.1(0.1)	
Total	100.8	100.2	99.8	100.8	100.6	99.6

TABLE 2 Average of electron microprobe analyses and estimated standard deviations for pyroxenes, olivine, kamacite and taenite.

The cation distribution among sites was obtained by the following constraints: (1) balance between atomic fractions and site electron densities from both M1 and M2 sites; (2) complete site occupancy of T, M1 and M2 sites; and (3) bulk valence balance. as that discussed in the methodological work of Skogby et al. (1992).

Mineral chemistry and classification

As regards pyroxene site partitioning, Ca, Na and Mn^{2+} were assigned to M2, and Al^{VI} , Fe³⁺ and Cr³⁺ to M1. Following this procedure, the accuracy has about the same order of magnitude A thin polished section of the specimen was used for microprobe analysis to test the homogeneity and composition of minerals in the chondrite fragment from which crystals had been taken for crystal-chemical investigations. Results agree with

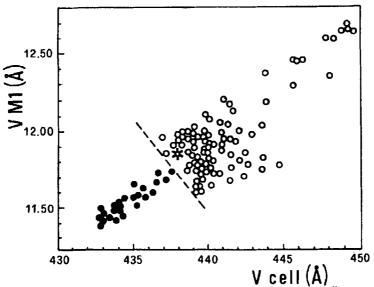


FIG. 1. Clinopyroxene M1 site volume vs. cell volume plot. Star: Zaoyang clinopyroxene. Filled circles: lherzolite clinopyroxene, open circles: volcanic clinopyroxene (Dal Negro et al., 1989). Dashed line separates crystals from low- and high-pressure terrestrial environments.

			S (bond len)	tructural j gths in Å,)		
	Clinopyroxe	ne Ortl	nopyroxene	Oliv	rine				
a (Å) b (Å) c (Å) β (°)	9.739(2) 8.908(3) 5.261(1) 106.38(2)	8 5	.286(5) .863(2) .205(2)	10.2 6.0	70(1) 59(2) 03(2)				
V (Å ³) N _{oss} R‰ _{oss}	437.87 585 2.3	843 884 3		293.75 466 1.8	9				
Clinopy	roxene								
Ml site Ml-O2 Ml-OIA Ml-OIA average V(Ml)		M2 site M2-O2 M2-O1 M2-03C1 M2-O3C2 average V(M2)	2.277(2) 2.323(2) 2.600(2) 2.751(2) 2.488 25.31	T site T-O2 T-O1 T-O3A1 T-O3A2 T-O _{nbr} T-O _{br} V(T)	1.594(2 1.612(1 1.663(2 1.679(2 1.603 1.671 2.233	l) 2)			
Orthop	yroxene	_							
Ml site Ml-OIA Ml-OIA Ml-OIB Ml-OIB' Ml-O2A M2-O2E average V(Ml)	2.151(2) 2.172(2) 2.065(2) 2.024(3)	M2 site M2-01A M2-0IB M2-02A M2-02B M2-03A M2-03B average V(M2)	2.134(2) 2.091(2) 2.055(2) 2.000(3) 2.320(2) 2.477(2) 2.180 12.85			TA site TA-OlA TA-O2A TA-O3A' TA-O3A' TA-O _{br} V(TA)	1.607(2) 1.587(2) 1.646(3) 1.664(2) 1.597 1.655 2.177	TB site TB-OIB TB-O2B TB-O3B TB-O3B' TB-O _{nbr} TB-O _{br} V(TB)	1.624(2) 1.592(3) 1.673(3) 1.674(3) 1.608 1.674 2.253
Olivine									
M1 site M1-O1 M1-O2 M1-O3 average V(M1)	2.094(1) 2.082(1) 2.152(1) 2.109 12.00	M2 site M2-Ol M2-O2 M2-O3 M2-O3' average V(M2)	2.187(2) 2.061(2) 2.232(1) 2.066(1) 2.141 12.56	T site T-O1 T-O2 T-O3 average V(T)	1.617(2 1.657(2 1.634(1 1.635 2.211	2)			

TABLE 3. Cell parameters and refinement data of single crystals used for XREF.

the data of Wang and Rubin (1987) confirming the high degree of homogeneity of the unbrecciated chondrite.

across in taenite) were found as accessory minerals.

The $Fe^{2+}/(Fe^{2+} + Mg)$ ratios of orthopyroxene and olivine are characteristic of H group chondrites. The chemical compositions and standard deviations of the silicate minerals, Fe-Ni alloys and troilite are listed in Table 2. Apatite, chromite and native copper (a plaque a few μm

Silicate crystal chemistry

Clinopyroxene (cpx). Due to its scarcity in the chondrite, only one crystal large enough $(100 \times 50 \times 50 \ \mu\text{m})$ for X-ray diffraction intensity data collection could be found. As may be inferred

from the microprobe analysis (Table 1), the tetrahedral site is mainly occupied by Si (Si = 1.989 a.p.f.u.). This is consistent with the very short mean bond length of the tetrahedron (<Si-O> = 1.637 Å, Table 3), one of the lowest observed values in lunar and terrestrial cpx (Dal Negro *et al.*, 1982, 1984, 1989; Takeda, 1972; Manoli and Molin, 1988).

The octahedral M1 site is mainly occupied by Mg (Mg = 0.926 a.p.f.u.), while the total content of trivalent ions R^{3+} ($R^{3+} =$ Al^{VI}+Fe³⁺+Cr³⁺+Ti⁴⁺) is very low (0.034 a.p.f.u.). The M1 site volume (a structural parameter strongly related to the crystallization environment) of 11.88 Å³ is a common value in terrestrial cpx from volcanic transitional basalts (Dal Negro *et al.*, 1982) and in alkali basalt to latite lavas (Faraone *et al.*, 1988).

The chemistry and hence the structure of Carich clinopyroxene changes with the pressure of crystallization (Dal Negro *et al.*, 1989). The M1 site is particularly sensitive to pressure; it contracts in volume at pressure and hosts small trivalent ions such as Al. At lower pressure the larger divalent Mg and Fe ions enter M1. The plot of cell

volume (Vcell.) vs. volume of the M1 site (VM1) (Fig. 1) places the Zaoyang cpx in the field of terrestrial low-pressure basaltic cpx.

The relationship between the M2 and M1 sites is shown by a plot of M2-Ol vs. M1-O2 bond lengths (Fig. 2). The two bond lengths are related (direct and inverse relationship respectively) to the Ca and R^{3+} ion content in terrestrial pyroxenes (Dal Negro *et al.*, 1982). The Zaoyang cpx plot in the field of transitional basalts and is close to the field of some basaltic andesites. This observation is considered later in this paper in the discussion of the Zaoyang cooling history.

Orthopyroxene (opx) is abundant in the Zaoyang chondrite. It is homogeneous (En_{82} -Wo₂-Fs₁₆) with sharp extinction. A 100 μ m single crystal was selected for XREF and EMPA (Tables 2 and 1, respectively).

The SiB site displays a very low content of Al^{VI} , as was also observed for clinopyroxene. The M1site is mainly filled by Mg (0.972 a.p.f.u.) with a very small amount of Fe²⁺. Trivalent iron is absent from the calculations due to the reducing environment in the parent body. The M2 site contains most of the Fe²⁺ (0.296 a.p.f.u.). The

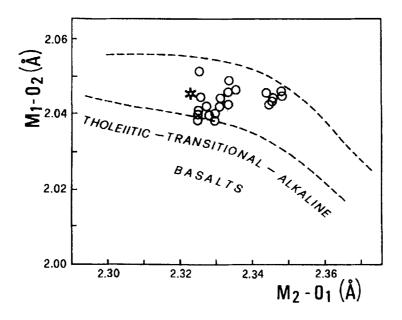


FIG. 2. Clinopyroxene M1–O2 vs. M2–O1 bond length plot. Dashed lines: field of tholeiitic to alkaline basalt clinopyroxene (Dal Negro et al., 1982). Star: Zaoyang clinopyroxene. Open circles: clinopyroxene from calcalkaline lavas (Molin and Zanazzi, 1991).

crystal-chemical configurations fit all the relationships observed in terrestrial opx (Domeneghetti *et al.*, 1985).

The cell volume and the M1 and M2 site volumes for opx vary with the pressure of crystallization. The Zaoyang volumes (cell 834 Å, M1 11.88 Å, M2 12.85 Å) are all greater than the lherzolitic values of Molin (submitted) which were 835.8–836.6 Å cell, 11.68–11.85 Å M1, 12.59–12.64 Å M2 and instead span those of low-pressure opx (Bertolo and Nimis, 1993).

Olivine is the most abundant silicate mineral in the meteorite, in both chondrules and matrix.

A single optically selected crystal (Fo81) was structurally refined. The crystal-chemical results allow us to compare the Zaoyang olivine to common basic and ultrabasic terrestrial olivines (Princivalle and Secco, 1985). Zaoyang olivine shows a $K_D = 0.75 [K_D = Mg_{(M2)} Fe^{2+}_{(M1)}/(Mg_{(M1)} Fe^{2+}_{(M2)}]$ indicative of a high degree of Fe²⁺ ordering in the M2 site.

Cooling history

Intracrystalline ordering of Fe^{2+} -Mg between the M1 and M2 sites in ortho- and clinopyroxenes gives information on their cooling history (Ganguly, 1982). Ordering is measured by the K_D of the reaction

$$Mg_{(M1)} + Fe_{(M2)}^{2+} \rightleftharpoons Mg_{(M2)} + Fe_{(M1)}^{2+}.$$

A closure temperature relevant to the observed K_D can be obtained from suitable experimental calibration, as in Molin *et al.* (1991) and Anovitz *et al.* (1988) for orthopyroxenes, or in Molin and Zanazzi (1991) for clinopyroxenes. Data on K_D can be obtained both by single-crystal diffractometry, as in this work, or by Mössbauer spectroscopy. Recently Skogby *et al.* (1992) have shown that significant differences arise between the two analytical methods if Mössbauer thickness corrections are not applied and some systematic differences also occur, especially for Al-rich and Fe-poor samples. In the present work we only use single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

As regards orthopyroxene, a semiquantitative estimate of the cooling rate can be obtained as reported by Ganguly (1982) and by Saxena and Dal Negro (1983) provided that kinetic data, a formulation for the dependence of K_D vs. the closure temperature (T_C) , and an estimated crystallization temperature are available. Kinetic data were taken from sample S95 (Saxena *et al.*, 1989) and the K_D vs. T_C equation from (Molin *et al.*, 1991). These calibrations also derive from single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

Crystallization temperature was calculated from the selected clino- and orthopyroxene single crystals at 850°C (Lindsley, 1983). A Ca-rich and Ca-poor pyroxene intergrowth yields a Ca intercrystalline closure temperature of 900°C, confirming the reliability of the chosen temperature calculations which were performed by Saxena and Dal Negro (1983). The cooling rate obtained at a closure temperature of 512°C, using an asymptotic model, was a few degrees per day.

The above cooling rate is close to that estimated from microtextural observations in the Yamato-74191 L3 chondrite $(10-100^{\circ}C/h \text{ at} 1000^{\circ})$ (Kitamura *et al.*, 1983), the Allende CV3 chondrite (from a few to a few hundred degrees/ hour between 1300°C and 1000°C) (Muller, 1991), and in three L chondrites, belonging respectively to groups 3, 3–4 and 4–5 (several degrees/hour to a few dozen from 1000 to 800°C).

However, it should be noted that the above calculation is affected by both experimental and systematic error (Ganguly, 1982; Tribaudino and Talarico, 1992). The cooling rate of few degrees per day must therefore be considered as an order of magnitude figure. Figure 3 shows the closure temperatures of a set of volcanic and metamorphic terrestrial orthopyroxenes, compared with the orthopyroxene of the Zaoyang chondrite and the Johnstown diogenite, according to the calibration of Molin et al. (1991). The closure temperature differences reflect different cooling rates of the host rocks, that are roughly estimated to be of the order of °C/hour and of °C/m.y. respectively for volcanic and metamorphic samples. The Zaoyang orthopyroxene falls between the volcanic and metamorphic ranges (closer to the volcanics), while the Johnstown diogenite plots in the metamorphic range, as expected.

Information on the cooling history may also be obtained from intracrystalline ordering in clinopyroxene and the relevant K_D . The $Fe^{2+}-Mg$ ordering in clinopyroxenes is significantly affected by cations other than Fe and Mg, like Ca, Na and trivalent ions which are present in significant quantities (Molin and Zanazzi, 1991): therefore, meaningful comparisons can only be made between samples with similar composition and crystal chemistry. The composition and crystal chemistry of the clinopyroxene of the Zaoyang chondrite are close to those of basaltic andesite clinopyroxenes, as shown by the low Na and trivalent ions and by the closeness to the field of calc-alkaline basaltic clinopyroxenes of the M1-O2 vs. M2-O1 bond length plot (Fig. 2). Therefore, it seems reasonable to compare the closure temperature of the Zaoyang clinopyroxene with that of the augite of Vulcano Island used for

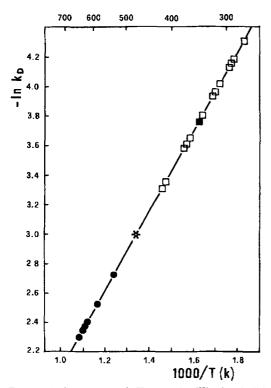


FIG. 3. Orthopyroxene $\ln K_D vs. 1/T$ (K) plot (solid line) according to calibration of Molin *et al.*, (1991). Star: Zaoyang orthopyroxene. Filled square: Johnstown diogenite orthopyroxene (Molin *et al.*, 1991). Open squares: metamorphic rock orthopyroxene (Tribaudino and Talarico, 1992). Filled circles: volcanic rock orthopyroxene (Bertolo and Nimis, 1993).

experimental calibration of K_D vs. T_C and applied to the study of the cooling history of a 4 m thick basaltic andesite lava flow (Molin and Zanazzi, 1991). The Zaoyang clinopyroxene closure temperature is 600°C, while those of the lava flow vary from 550-800°C. Applying Jaeger's cooling model for lava flows (Jaeger, 1968), cooling rates from 1-30°C/h were respectively evaluated for central areas and chilled margins, suggesting that the Zaoyang clinopyroxene underwent rather fast cooling probably of the same order of magnitude as a slowly cooled lava flow.

Discussion and conclusions

Crystal-chemical data on clino- and orthopyroxenes for the Zaoyang chondrite suggest lowpressure crystallization conditions and a cooling rate of degrees per day at lower temperatures. This cooling is consistent with other estimates for chondrites, based on microstructural features observed in chondrules.

In greater detail, the cooling rate estimated from cpx and opx in the Zaoyang chondrite seems lower than other estimates for 3, 3-4 and 4-5 type chondrites at higher temperatures. This may be due to the nature of the Zaoyang chondrite, which belongs to petrographic type 5, for which slower cooling is expected.

The above cooling rate is consistent with a rapid radiative heat-loss at low pressures near the surface or from a small fragment after shock heating due to catastrophic collision which is less probable, because there are no signs of brecciation or strong shock (shock facies b, Wang and Rubin, 1987).

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