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Water in eclogitic garnet and clinopyroxene with oriented quartz and pargasite inclusions, W Norway

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This study analyses the H₂O content in nominally anhydrous minerals (NAMs) in 10 eclogites from W Norway. Each sample has oriented lamellar to acicular inclusions in clinopyroxene, which are either quartz with pargasite or quartz/albite without pargasite [1]. Low-Al orthopyroxene and polycrystalline quartz inclusions in several of these samples provide evidence for UHP metamorphism in the stability fields of diamond and coesite. The H₂O content is quantified using Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR), unpolarised infrared radiation, spectra deconvolution, and the calibration of [2].

Preliminary data was obtained from the analysis of the first 5 eclogites yield for garnet 22-379 and 16-31 μ g g⁻¹ structural H₂O for samples with and without pargasite lamellae, respectively. The highest value occurs in a zoisite-bearing eclogite. If regarded separately, then the variation in the 4 zoisite-free eclogites shrinks to 16-32 μ g g⁻¹ H₂O. Absorption bands characteristic for molecular H₂O in garnet (centered at wavenumbers <3460 cm⁻¹) were not observed. The ranges for structural H₂O in clinopyroxene from these 5 samples are 125-380 and 183-564 μ g g⁻¹, respectively. The highest value occurs in a sample with intense recrystallization of clinopyroxene (but not garnet) after peak metamorphism. If regarded separately, then the total range is 125-380 μ g g⁻¹ H₂O. The obtained clinopyroxene–garnet H₂O partition coefficient has ranges of 1.0-11.0 and 11.6-18.2, respectively. The extreme values belong to the zoisite-bearing (1.0) and the strongly recrystallized (18.2) samples. If regarded separately, then the total range is reduced to 3.9-11.6.

Combining the preliminary data of the quantified structural water with petrological information tends to suggest the following relationships. (1) The current H₂O content in NAMs is affected by the presence of hydrous minerals during peak metamorphism and the retrogression history. (2) The peak UHP garnet is water-deficient unless zoisite forms part of the mineral assemblage. (3) The current H₂O content of clinopyroxene (containing oriented inclusions of quartz with and without pargasite) from "diamond-facies" UHP eclogite is lower compared to that of "graphite-facies" UHP eclogite from a similar tectonic setting that lacks such inclusion microstructures [3]. (4) Samples with oriented inclusions of pargasite in clinopyroxene tend to have lower clinopyroxene–garnet H₂O partition coefficients than those without pargasite, which suggests that pargasite lamellae formed by clinopyroxene dehydration during early decompression. Additional data will be presented to test these preliminary indications.

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