

GLASS INCLUSIONS IN ALLENDE (CV3) OLIVINE: HEATING EXPERIMENTS.

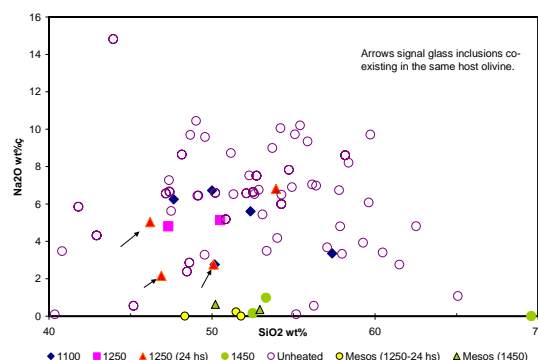
Varela, M. E.¹, Clocchiatti R.² and Kurat G.³ ¹Complejo Astronómico El Leoncito (CASLEO), Av. España 1512 sur, J5402DSP, San Juan, Argentina, evarela@casleo.gov.ar; ²Laboratoire Pierre Süe, CEA, CNRS, CEN Saclay, F- 91191 France, ³Department of Lithospheric Sciences, University of Vienna, Althanstrasse 14, 1090 Vienna, Austria.

Introduction: Glass inclusions represent small volumes of liquids enclosed by a host mineral during its growth. Heating experiments on glass inclusions allow reversing the post-entrapment processes that occurred inside the inclusions during cooling. These experiments - performed on glassy and glass-bearing inclusions in olivine - enable us to obtain information regarding the conditions prevailing during host formation, either in terrestrial or extra-terrestrial rocks [e.g., 1 – 5]. Here we report on the heating experiments performed with glass inclusions in olivine of the CV3 Allende chondrite.

Methods and Results

Heating experiments were performed in a Pt-Pt90Rh10 heating stage at 1 bar pressure in a hot He atmosphere as oxygen getter [6]. The oxygen fugacity is estimated to have been between 10^{-9} and 10^{-10} atm at 1200 °C corresponding, approximately, to the equilibrium of a mixture of Ar-H₂ (1 % H₂). Quenching times were less than 1 s. The system was calibrated at the melting point of Au (1063 °C). Runs were performed with a gradual increase rate of temperatures until the final temperature of 1100 °C, 1250 °C and 1450 °C, respectively. The final temperatures were held during two hours (with exception of a second run at 1250 °C which was held during 24 h) after which a rapid quench (less than 1 s to about 500 °C) preserved the final conditions.

The major variations observed in the chemical composition of the heated glass inclusions is an increase of the FeO and MgO contents, with values up to 9 wt% and 19.4 wt%, respectively, as compared with the unheated glasses due to dissolution of the host olivine in the melt. However, glasses seem not to have reached equilibrium with their host showing Kd(Fe/Mg) (olivine/liquid) values ranging from 0.14 to 0.4. Interesting is the content of Na₂O in the heated glass inclusions that covers the same range as those in the unheated glasses, with exception of two glass inclusions that were heated to a final temperature of 1450 °C and the glass from the mesostasis (Fig.), which apparently lost Na at that high T.



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