Spin crossovers in iron bearing minerals of the lower mantle

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Body wave (acoustic) velocities

• Longitudinal waves (P-waves) (compressive waves)



•Transverse waves (S-waves) (shear waves)





PREM

(Preliminary Reference Earth Model)



(Density from free oscillations)

Making sense of mantle heterogeneities (Seismic Tomography)



Earth's lower mantle

CaSiO₃-Perovskite

- Lower Mantle: Ferrosilicate perovskite + ferropericlase + $CaSiO_3$
- Low iron concentration $(x \sim 0.1)$
- 2000 K < T < 4000 K
- 23 GPa < P < 135 GPa



Pressure induced spin "transition" in (Mg,Fe)O and (Mg,Fe)SiO₃

Iron Partitioning in Earth's Mantle: Toward a Deep Lower Mantle Discontinuity



James Badro,¹ Guillaume Fiquet,¹ François Guyot,¹ Jean-Pascal Rueff,² Viktor V. Struzhkin,³ György Vankó,⁴ Giulio Monaco⁴



2004

Electronic Transitions in Perovskite: Possible Nonconvecting Layers in the Lower Mantle

> James Badro,^{1*} Jean-Pascal Rueff,² György Vankó,³ Giulio Monaco,³ Guillaume Fiquet,¹ François Guyot¹

Outline

- Spin crossovers
- Thermodynamics model of a spin crossover: (Mg,Fe)O
- (Mg,Fe)SiO₃ (it is not what it seems...)
- Spin crossover in (Mg,Fe)(Si,Fe)O₃ and (Mg,Fe)(Si,Al)O₃
- Manifestation of a spin crossover in the mantle (1D and 3D models)
- Acknowledgments

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Methods

- Ab initio variable cell shape molecular dynamics (Wentzcovitch and Martins, 1993)*
- Self-consistent DFT+U (Cococcioni and de Gironcoli, 2005)
- Density Functional Perturbation Theory + U for phonons (Floris, de Gironcoli, Gross, Cococcioni, 2011)
- Quantum ESPRESSO and Wien2K (all electron code) (Giannozzi, ..., Wentzcovitch, 2009*, 2016; Blaha et al., 2010)
- QHA to compute vibrational free energy (Karki, Wentzcovitch, de Gironcoli, Baroni, 2000)*
- Semi-analytical method to compute acoustic velocities (Wu & Wentzcovitch, 2011)*
- Quasi-ideal solid solution (Wu, Justo, da Silva, Wentzcovitch, 2009)*

Spin transition (or crossover) Fe²⁺ 3d⁶

d-electrons in crystal field $M^{m+} \rightarrow$ [core] $3d^n$





Ferropericlase

ρ_{el} around Fe²⁺ (Isosurface: ρ_{el} =0.3 e/Å³)







∆V_{oct}~-8%



Tsuchiya, PRL (2006)

HS-to-LS "transition"



Tsuchiya, de Gironcoli, da Silva, and Wentzcovitch, PRL (2006)

Static equation of state



Tsuchiya et al., PRL (2006) ΔV_{HS-LS} = -2.22 nX_{Fe} cm³/mol

Thermodynamics

Quasi-ideal solid solution of HS and LS ferropericlase $(x_{Fe} = cte)$

 $n = n_{LS} / (n_{HS} + n_{LS})$

Quasi-ideal solid solution of HS and LS ferropericlase $(x_{Fe} = cte)$

 $n = n_{LS} / (n_{HS} + n_{LS})$

 $V = (1-n)V_{HS} + nV_{LS}$

 $\mathbf{G} = (1-n)\mathbf{G}_{HS} + n\mathbf{G}_{LS} + \mathbf{G}_{mix}$

Quasi-ideal solid solution of HS and LS ferropericlase $(x_{Fe} = cte)$

 $n = n_{LS} / (n_{HS} + n_{LS})$

 $V = (1-n)V_{HS} + nV_{LS}$



Free energy minimization



Vibrational Virtual Crystal Model

• Replace Mg mass by the average cation mass of the alloy

• Replace "some" inter-atomic force constants of MgO to reproduce the that the static elastic constants of the alloy







Wentzcovitch, Justo, Wu, da Silva Yuen, Kohlstedt, *PNAS* 2009

Exp: Crowhurst et al, Science 2006





LS fraction n(P,T)

(Tsuchiya et al., 2006, Wentzcovitch et al., PNAS, 2009)



x = 0.17 Lin *et al., Science* (2007)

LS fraction n(P,T)



x = 0.17 Lin *et al., Science* (2007)

Free energy shift ($E_{HS} - E_{LS} = -0.06 \text{ eV/Fe}$):



Elastic anomalies in $Mg_{1-x}Fe_xO$

Impulsive stimulated scattering: softening of C₁₁, C₁₂, and C₄₄ (Crowhurst et al., 2008, Science)

Brillouin scattering: softening of C₁₁ and C₁₂, but not C₄₄ (Marquardt et al., 2009, Science)

Inelastic X-ray scattering: softening of C₄₄ and C₁₂, but not C₁₁ (Antonangelli et al., 2011, Science)

Vibrational properties across the spin crossover

• No unstable phonons throughout the spin crossover in Fp



Marcondes, Zhang, & Wentzcovitch, PRB under review (2020)

High temperature elasticity

(Wentzcovitch et al., PNAS 2009; Wu, Justo, and Wentzcovitch, PRL 2013)

$$V(P, T, n) = n V_{LS}(P, T) + (1 - n) V_{HS}(P, T)$$

High temperature elasticity

(Wentzcovitch et al., PNAS 2009; Wu, Justo, and Wentzcovitch, PRL 2013)

$$V(P, T, n) = n V_{LS}(P, T) + (1 - n) V_{HS}(P, T)$$

Compressibility:

$$\frac{V(n)}{K(n)} = n \frac{V_{LS}}{K_{LS}} + (1-n) \frac{V_{HS}}{K_{HS}} - (V_{LS} - V_{HS}) \frac{\partial n}{\partial P} \bigg|_{T}$$

High temperature elasticity

(Wentzcovitch et al., PNAS 2009; Wu, Justo, and Wentzcovitch, PRL 2013)

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Compliances:

$$S_{ij}(n)V(n) = nS_{ij}^{LS}V_{LS} + (1-n)S_{ij}^{HS}V_{HS} - \frac{1}{9}\alpha_{ij}(V_{LS} - V_{HS})\frac{\partial n}{\partial P}\Big|_{T}$$

$$\alpha_{11} = \alpha_{12} = 1 | \alpha_{44} = 0$$

High Temperature Elastic Tensor

Karki et al., Science (1999), Wentzcovitch et al., PRL (2004), Wu & Wentzcovitch, PRB (2011)





Elastic anomalies in ferropericlase - I



Spin Crossovers in bridgmanite





"New" species of Fe²⁺: IS?

• At 0 GPa: HS state with QS = 2.4 mm/sec

•"New" Fe^{2+} (QS = 3.5 mm/s) for P > 30 GPa

• Fe²⁺ QS = 3.5 mm/s increases at the expense of the HS Fe²⁺ (QS = 2.4 mm/s)

• The two sets of peaks "merge" at P ~ 60 GPa

McCammon et al. Nature Geoscience (2008)

"New" species of Fe²⁺: IS?



HS and LS configurations at 0 GPa

 x_{Fe} = 0.25 and 0.125



Hsu, Umemoto, Blaha, and Wentzcovitch, EPSL 2009

The double-well with LDA+U_{sc}



Spin Crossover in Perovskite



 (Fe^{+3})

What we know:

Experiments		Calculations	
XES	HS → LS (<i>P</i> _T ~ 50-60 GPa)	GGA	Ground state: (A-HS, B-LS) (A-HS, B-LS) \rightarrow (A-LS, B-LS) P _T > 75 GPa Zhang & Oganov, EPSL (2006) Stackhouse <i>et al.</i> EPSL (2007)
Mössbauer (QS: ~0.5 → ~3.0 mm/s)	50% HS → LS 50% remains HS ($P_{\rm T}$ ~ 150 GPa)	Inc • <i>P</i>	consistent with Exp P_{T} too high
Catalli <i>et al</i> ., EPSL (2010)		• FI	raction of HS Fe ³⁺ too low

Relative Enthalpies (U_{SC})



 $P_{\rm T}$ observed in XES: 50-60 GPa

Hsu et al., PRL (2011)

Spin crossover in aluminous Pv



Hsu, Yu, and Wentzcovitch (EPSL 2012)

Consequences for Mantle Structure

Lower Mantle



Lower Mantle





Can we see the spin crossover in Fp in the lower mantle?



Valencia-Cardona et al., GRL 2017

Can we see spin transition in the lower mantle?



Valencia-Cardona et al., GRL 2017

Bridgmanite Enriched Mantle Structures can survive convection in the lower mantle



Ballmer, Houser, Hernlund, Wentzcovitch, Hirose, Nat. Geosc. 2017

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Bridgmanite Enriched Mantle Structures can survive convection in the lower mantle



Ballmer, Houser, Hernlund, Wentzcovitch, Hirose, Nat. Geo. 2017

But, can we see spin crossover in the lower mantle?

Elastic anomalies in ferropericlase - II

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014





Elastic anomalies in ferropericlase - II

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014



Lower mantle aggregate

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014



Predicted effect

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014

Slow (hot) anomaly (plume) with spin crossover



Predicted effect

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014

Slow (hot) anomaly (plume) with spin crossover



Potential seismic signatures of spin crossover

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014



Zhao, Gondwana Res. 2007

Potential seismic signatures of a spin crossover

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014



Potential seismic signatures of spin crossover

Wu and Wentzcovitch, PNAS 2014



Geodynamic/seismological analysis of global models

Boschi, Becker, Steinberger, G³, 2007

Simultaneous analyses of 2 global P-models and 3 global S-models



Compositional Heterogeneity in the Bottom 1000 Kilometers of Earth's Mantle: Toward a Hybrid Convection Model



Rob D. van der Hilst* and Hrafnkell Kárason



Thermal and chemical heterogeneities



Chemically homogeneous

Laterally isothermic

Can we see spin transition in the lower mantle?

- Absence of spin crossover signature in 1D models suggests the presence of silicate rich, high viscosity structures in the lower mantle (BEAMS)
- Signatures of spin crossover in Fp should be identifiable in tomographic models but co-existence with chemical heterogeneities complicates analyses of models
- Several hot spot plumes appear to display the pattern of Pheterogeneities predicted by a spin crossover in ferropericlase while S-heterogeneities do not.
- The pattern is consistent with predictions of heterogeneities caused by spin crossover in Fp

Thank you!!