Vibrational constraints on Hydrogen isotopic fractionation between Mg-Chlorite and gaseous water

T.C. HEIJBOER*AND T.W. VENNEMANN

Inst. of Mineralogy and Geochemistry, Univ. of Lausanne, CH-1015, Switzerland

(*correspondence: Tjerk.heijboer@unil.ch)

Kieffer-type [1] statistical mechanics calculations can be used to estimate the D/H reduced isotopic partition function ratio (RIPFR) for hydrous minerals [2]. By combining this RIPFR with the RIPFR for gaseous water [3], the equilibrium hydrogen isotopic fractionation (EHIF) factors between minerals and water at low pressures can be calculated. For many common minerals not all Raman and infra-red (IR) frequencies have been assigned to different vibrational modes, making it necessary to apply Kieffer's simplifying rules [4] to the density of states function.

For Mg-chlorite the simplest model, which is consistent with Raman and IR vibrational mode assignments [5,6] and which can roughly reproduce natural and experimentally observed D/H EHIF data [7,8,9] requires: 1. separate OH-librational modes between approximately 100-800 cm⁻¹ with a frequency shift of 0.73 upon deuteration [6] and 2. two times more OH-librational modes than there are OH-vibrational stretches (between $3400 - 3700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$). These features cause a minimum at intermediate temperatures and a an upwards curvature when plotted against 1000/T of the EHIF curve at low temperatures.

Recent hydrogen isotope fractionation experiments [10] between Mg-chlorite and hydrogen using the methods of Vennemann & O'Neil [11] yield an EHIF curve that is much steeper than what this simple vibrational model and previous data suggest [7,8,9].

[1] Kieffer (1982) Rev. of Geoph. and Space Phys. 20, 827-849.
[2] Horita et al. (2002) GCA 66, 3769-3788.
[3] Richet et. al. (1977) Ann. Rev. in Earth and Plan. Sci. 5, 65-110.
[4] Kieffer (1979) Rev. of Geoph. and Space Phys. 17, 35-59.
[5] Prieto et al. (1991) C&CM 39, 531-539.
[6] Shirozu & Ishida (1982) Min. Journ. 11, 161-171.
[7] Graham et al. (1987) AM
72, 566-579.
[8] Heaton & Sheppard (1977) Volcanic processes and ore genesis, 42-57.
[9] Marumo et al. (1980) EPSL 47, 255-262.
[10] Heijboer & Vennemann (2008) EGU, Vienna.
[11] Vennemann & O'Neil (1996) GCA 60, 2437-2451.

The role of volatile exsolution and sub-solidus fluid/rock interactions in producing high ⁵⁶Fe/⁵⁴Fe ratios in siliceous igneous rocks

A. HEIMANN*, B.L. BEARD AND C.M. JOHNSON

Univ. of Wisconsin – Madison, USA (*correspondence: aheimann@geology.wisc.edu) (beardb@geology.wisc.edu, clarkj@geology.wisc.edu)

Highly differentiated igneous rocks can, in some cases, have ⁵⁶Fe/⁵⁴Fe ratios that are up to 0.3 % higher than those of mafic- to intermediate-composition igneous rocks. The highest δ^{56} Fe_{IgR} values are restricted to rocks that have high Rb (> 100 ppm) and SiO₂ (> 70 wt.%) and low Fe₂O₃ (< 2 wt.%, total Fe) contents. Although in principle crystal fractionation might explain the high δ^{56} Fe values, this is inconsistent with the anomalously low Zr/Hf ratios (< 26) of high- δ^{56} Fe igneous rocks. The highest δ^{56} Fe values occur in volcanic and plutonic rocks that contain independent evidence for fluid exsolution, consistent with the low Zr/Hf ratios, suggesting that loss of a low- δ^{56} Fe chloride fluid is the most likely explanation for the high δ^{56} Fe values in the bulk rocks. The isotopic effects of fluid loss are most pronounced in the evolved rocks that lost Cl-bearing fluids at low magmatic or sub-solidus temperatures. High- δ^{56} Fe igneous rocks are not likely to have formed through fractional crystallization but by complexation of Fe with Cl in volatile-rich, high-silica magmatic systems, followed by fluid loss. Based on mineral solubility and predicted Fe isotope fractionations among silicates, magnetite, and ferrous chloride fluids, the increase in δ^{56} Fe values of bulk rocks is probably controlled by isotopic exchange between magnetite and FeCl₂, which predicts an increase in the δ^{56} Fe values of magnetite upon fluid exsolution. This is consistent with the δ^{56} Fe values measured in this study for bulk rocks, magnetite, and Fe silicates. Our results have implications for transition-metal stable isotope studies of hydrothermal ore deposits. Fluids exsolved from siliceous hydrous magmas may represent precursors to mineralizing fluids that sometimes produce porphyry-style Cu or Cu-Au mineralization. These types of deposits, as well as hydrothermal Fe deposits, may have anomalous Fe isotope compositions, and our results suggest that superposition of sub-solidus re-equilibration and precipitation of sulfides from a Cl-bearing fluid may control the Fe isotope composition of such deposits. Further detailed studies of Fe (and possibly Cu and Zn) isotopes in ore deposits may provide a unique identification of magmatic fluid contribution to hydrothermal ore deposits.