

Effects of SO₂-NO₂ impurities in the CO₂ stream on mineral solubility

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Two sets of laboratory fluid-mineral experiments have been performed in order to analyze the effect of SO₂-NO₂ impurities in the CO₂ stream on the chemical reactivity of (A) siderite and (B) illite. For the siderite and illite separates, baseline XRD data with Rietveld refinements revealed a composition of (A) 69.6±1.3 wt% siderite, 26.7±1.2 wt% ankerite and 3.8±0.8 wt% quartz, and (B) 73.5±1.3 wt% illite, 10.8±1.3 wt% Ca-smectite, 11.9±0.4 wt% orthoclase, and 3.9±0.2 wt% quartz, respectively. SEM-EDS analyses yield initial structural formulae of (Fe_{0.8}Mg_{0.1}Mn_{0.1})CO₃ for siderite, (Ca_{1.0}Fe_{0.9-0.1}Mg_{0.4}Mn_{0.1})(CO₃)₂ for ankerite, and K_{0.5-0.7}(Mg_{0.1-0.2}Al_{1.8-1.9})Al_{0.4-0.6}Si_{3.4-3.6}O₁₀(OH)₂ for illite. Baseline experiments were conducted using pure CO₂ and 2 M NaCl brine at 80 °C and 20 MPa. Brine to mineral weight-ratios were 20 to 1. Run durations were one week for siderite and two weeks for illite, respectively. To study the influence of impurities, repeat experiments using identical starting conditions and analogous materials but impure CO₂ are performed. Siderite is reacted with CO₂ containing 5vol% SO₂, while illite is exposed to CO₂ containing 5vol% NO₂.

Based on XRD, SEM and ICP-AES analysis the baseline experiments using pure CO₂ yield (A) stable siderite and dissolving ankerite, and (B) unaffected illite but dissolution of the Ca-smectite component. Foci of the repeat experiments are on the potential formation of sulphates, e.g., anhydrite, during the CO₂-SO₂ runs, and the incorporation of NO₂ into the illite-smectite structure during the CO₂-NO₂ runs.

DEep CARbon DEgassing: The Deep Carbon Observatory DECADE initiative

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The question whether the net flux of carbon is into the mantle via subduction or out of the mantle via mantle degassing is fundamental because it provides an important framework for understanding the distribution and isotope composition of C in the mantle, the occurrence of abiotically synthesized carbon species in the mantle and crust, the presence or absence of carbon in the Earth's core, the formation of carbonated peridotite as starting material for ocean crust as well as the effect of mantle carbon release to modulate global climate through time. The Deep Carbon Observatory (DCO) Reservoirs and Fluxes Directorate is centered around the flux of carbon between different Earth reservoirs (<https://dco.gl.ciw.edu/science/deep-carbon-reservoirs-and-fluxes>) to help address some of these issues.

Volcanoes are *the* main pathway of volatiles, including carbon, from the Earth's interior to the atmosphere and hydrosphere, yet the current estimates of global C flux from volcanic regions range from 65 [1, 2] to 540 [3] Mt/yr. This order of magnitude difference in estimates is the difference between massive subduction of surface C into the mantle versus a balance between mantle input and output, with all the implications stated above. The DECADE initiative within the DCO R&F Directorate is bringing together the scientific expertise of geochemists, petrologists and volcanologists to provide constraints on the global volcanic C flux by a) establishing a data-base of volcanic and hydrothermal gas compositions and fluxes linked to PetDB and the Smithsonian Global Volcanism Program, b) building a global monitoring network to continuously measure the volcanic C flux of 10-12 yet to be selected active volcanoes, c) measure the C flux of remote volcanoes, for which no or only sparse data are currently available, d) develop new field and analytical instrumentation for C measurements and flux monitoring, and e) establish formal collaborations with volcano observatories around the world to support volcanic gas measurement and monitoring activities.

The current governance structure of DECADE includes a board of directors, a program coordination committee and several committees responsible for the key areas of the initiative (data base, network, instrumentation, and field campaigns).

[1] Allard *et al*, GRL 19, 1479-1481; [2] Williams *et al* GCA 56, 1765-1770; [3] Burton *et al* RiMG 75, 323-354