Luminescence of forsterite and clinohumite as the reflection of their crystallochemical features

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Impurity ions of transition elements may have different oxidation states and occupy different positions in crystal lattice of forsterite, and such changes are reflected in X-ray luminescence (XRL) spectra in forsterite from Pamir Mountains. Luminescence of following luminescence centers was recorded: $Mn^{2+} - 640-660$ nm, Cr^{3+} (supposedly) - 770-800 nm and Cr⁴⁺ – in 1000–1150 nm range [1]. Luminescence of Cr³⁺(M2) and V_{Mg} associates (850-900 nm), Cr4+(Si) (1120 nm) and wide-band luminescence of Cr-Li associates occupying position of Mg (950 nm) in artifical compounds was described previously [2]. The figure shows presence of these luminescence centers in studied samples. Clinohumite luminescence also may be related to Mn²⁺ (630 nm) substituting Mg2+, Cr-Li associates (950 nm) substituting Mg²⁺ and Cr⁴⁺(Si) (1000-1200 nm). Oxygen excess related luminescence in UV range may reflect oxidizing conditions of mineral formation. Besides that, there's an intensive luminescence (550 nm) related to Ti³⁺ occupying magnesium positions with following formation of exchange-bonded Ti³⁺ - Ti⁴⁺ pairs with charge transition [3].



Figure: XRL spectra of forsterite (1) and clinohumite (2)

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