

KINETICS OF EXCHANGE REACTION WATER-CO₂ IN STRUCTURAL CHANNELS OF CORDIERITE

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Using of cordierite as a sensor of fluid environment of metamorphogenic minerogenesis predetermines the necessity of evaluating of keeping degree of fluid components in structural channels of cordierite under regressive changing of P-T parameters. In the decision of this problem the important place is borrowed with the characteristic of the diffusion process of exchanging between contents of structural channels and external fluid. It creates a basis for quantitative evaluating of changes in the fluid contents of cordierite channels during geological processes. In present work the definition of water diffusion factors in cordierite in conditions close to equilibrium is done on the basis of experiments studying the kinetics of an isotope exchange between water contents in cordierite channels and D₂O in surrounding fluid. The idea of experiments was: to place cordierite, previously saturated by water, to nonequilibrium conditions, thus to initiate partial reset of H₂O and to ensure an opportunity of exchanging between components contained in it's structural channels and surrounding fluid.

Starting Mg-cordierite was received by hydrothermal synthesis in gold ampoule at $P_{H_2O} = 275$ MPa and $T = 595$ °C during 52 hours from dried out 2MgO-2Al₂O₃-5SiO₂ gel. Starting Fe-bearing secantianite with ferruginosity $F = \frac{Fe^{2+}}{Fe^{2+} + Mg} \cdot 100 = 97,7\%$ was hydrothermally synthesized from ferrous stehiometric gel of appropriate composition under conditions of $P_{H_2O} = 200$ MPa and $T = 650$ °C during 240 hours with using of start-up pieces which were previously made from 75% Fe-bearing cordierite with using traditional two-ampoule technology with P_{O_2} -buffer. Further magnesian and ferriferous samples with the average size of crystalline grains 37 ± 2 µm were affected with various time expositions by heavy water and carbon dioxide under pressures $P = 50, 100, 150, 200$ MPa and temperatures varying from 700 up to 200 °C.

On the basis of the experimental studying of kinetic characteristics of exchange reactions $H_2O \rightarrow D_2O$ and $H_2O \rightarrow CO_2$ in structural channels of cordierite there were determined the "closing" parameters of the system (Mg, Fe²⁺)-cordierite - water-carbon dioxide fluid. With the rise of total pressure from 50 to 200 MPa in the temperature interval of 200-350 °C the exchanging of fluid components between water from cordierite and external fluid ends outside of the stability field of Mg- and Fe-cordierites.

As migration of fluid molecules in cordierite most likely occurs along its structural channels, it's quite applicable for this case the solving of one-dimensional differential equation of diffusion in the cylinder [1]. Average values of the water diffusion coefficient at $T = 700-200$ °C in Mg-cordierite are located in the interval $(2, 49 \pm 1, 15) \cdot 10^{-12} - (2, 62 \pm 0, 618) \cdot 10^{-15}$ cm²/sec, and the activation energy is appreciated as $16, 54 \pm 0, 99$ kcal/mol H₂O, the frequency factor $D_0 = (2, 71 \pm 0, 34) \cdot 10^{-8}$ cm²/sec. For secantianite the water diffusion coefficient are determined as $(1, 13 \pm 0, 33) \cdot 10^{-12} - (5, 60 \pm 0, 336) \cdot 10^{-15}$ cm²/sec in the temperature interval of 700-300 °C, activation energy makes $17, 35 \pm 1, 87$ kcal/mol H₂O, $D_0 = (1, 29 \pm 0, 76) \cdot 10^{-8}$ cm²/sec.

The activation energy of diffusion in this work coincides in the limits of accuracy with the energy of activation of the cordierite hydration reaction defined by Mirwald et al ($13 \pm 2,5$ kcal/mol H₂O) [2]. It means, that the major factor which determines the speed of reaction of hydration, is diffusion mobility of water in structural channels of cordierite. In confirmation of the results of Mirwald et al [2] the values of diffusion coefficients determined in present work are a little bit below the effective values, determined by Lepezin and Osorgin [3, 4] for conditions of dehydration.

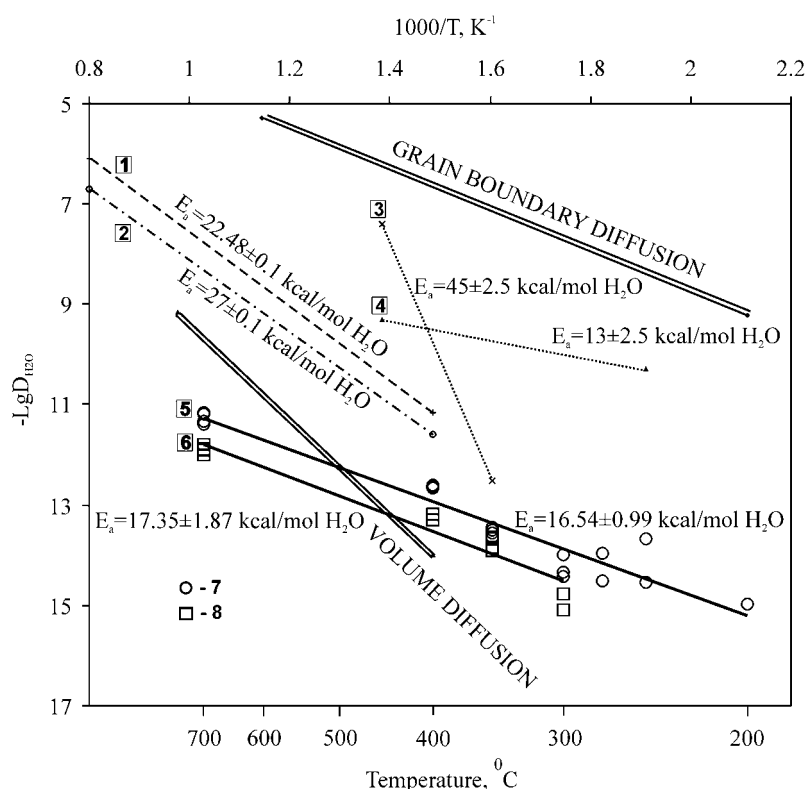


Fig.1. Definition of activation energies of water diffusion in cordierite based on experimental data: 1 – theoretical calculation based on the model of diffusion from the cylinder; 2 – theoretical calculation based on the model of diffusion from sphere; 3 – dehydration of Mg- cordierite; 4 - hydration of Mg- cordierite; 5, 6 – this work’s definitions based on the data of an isotope exchange for magnesium cordierite and secaninaite, accordingly. 7, 8 – definition diffusion coefficients of water based on isotope exchange for magnesium cordierite and secaninaite.

The grain boundary diffusion and volume diffusion are specified by [2].

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