

# Iron in silicate glasses and melts: implications for volcanological processes

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November 24, 2022

## Abstract

Iron is present in magmas at concentrations ranging from less than 1 wt% to more than 10 wt% in two valence state. In general, Fe<sup>2+</sup> is a network modifier in the melt structure while Fe<sup>3+</sup> is a weak network former. The ratio Fe<sup>3+</sup>/(Fe<sup>3+</sup> + Fe<sup>2+</sup>) depends on temperature, pressure, oxygen fugacity and melt composition. Parametric models allow its calculation, but the complex links between melt composition, iron oxidation state and coordination can be further rationalized using a ionic-polymeric model. Constraining concentration and oxidation state of iron is critical for determining magma density and viscosity, which drive exchanges of matter and heat in the Earth. At high pressures, changes in the coordination of elements, including iron, yield a stiffening and densification of magmas, potentially influencing dynamic and geochemical processes. Near surface, crystallization of Fe-bearing phases changes the residual melt composition, including iron content and oxidation state as well as volatile concentration, ultimately driving large changes in density and viscosity of magmas, and, hence, in the dynamic of fluid flow in volcanic systems. The complex interplay between magma iron content and oxidation state, major element chemistry, crystal and volatile content thus can play a large role on the dynamic of volcanic systems.

**Iron in silicate glasses and melts: implications for  
volcanological processes**

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## Abstract

Iron is present in magmas at concentrations ranging from less than 1 wt% to more than 10 wt% in two valence state. In general,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is a network modifier in the melt structure while  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  is a weak network former. The ratio  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/(\text{Fe}^{3+}+\text{Fe}^{2+})$  depends on temperature, pressure, oxygen fugacity and melt composition. Parametric models allow its calculation, but the complex links between melt composition, iron oxidation state and coordination can be further rationalized using a ionic-polymeric model.

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## Keywords

Iron, silicate melts, glass, magma, density, viscosity

## 1 Introduction

Iron is among the most important elements in telluric planets. Its proportions in the various different terrestrial reservoirs vary greatly, from  $\sim 95\%$  in Earth core (e.g. Jephcoat & Olson, 1987; Badro et al., 2014) to a few ppb in the Earth atmosphere (e.g. Kopcewicz & Kopcewicz, 1992). In magmas, iron concentration varies from thousands of ppm to 10-15 wt% (Fig. 1). As a result, iron plays an important role in many igneous processes, through its effects on the phase relationship and physico-chemical properties of magmas.

Iron is a transition element that presents two stable valence states: 2+ and 3+.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  has an  $[\text{Ar}]4s^2 3d^6$  electronic configuration when in the divalent form, and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  has half-filled  $d$  orbital ( $[\text{Ar}]4s^2 3d^5$ ). The redox ratio of iron, defined hereby as the ratio of ferri- to total iron, is determined by temperature, oxygen fugacity, iron concentration and melt composition. For instance, in first approximation, the higher the iron concentration in a melt, the more iron will be oxidized, i.e. present as  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . Increasing temperature promotes iron reduction, whereas increasing oxygen fugacity promotes its oxidation. Melt composition further plays a critical role on such relationships, leading to a complex link between thermodynamical intensive and extensive parameters and the iron oxidation state in igneous rocks.

In this chapter, we will have a glimpse at how iron is distributed in the disordered geologic matter (glasses and melts) found on Earth. The iron oxidation state in Earth's mantle and core is addressed in other chapters. We will thus essentially focus our attention on describing the proportions, oxidation state and role of iron in magmas and lavas, as well as their observed amorphous products. We will further discuss the implications of the presence of iron and it

## 2 Iron Distribution in the Different Terrestrial Envelopes

While the deepest sections of the Earth (e.g. core) have a very high iron content, its superficial sections still contain moderate but non-negligible fractions of iron. The Earth core is estimated to contain mostly an alloy with a Fe/Ni ratio of  $\sim 16$  (McDonough & s. Sun, 1995). Seismological data suggest the presence of  $\sim 5\%$  of light elements in this alloy (e.g. Jephcoat & Olson, 1987; Badro et al., 2014), the best candidate being silicon, sulfur, carbon, oxygen, and hydrogen. Based on the composition of upper mantle xenoliths or on calculations assuming the average solar system element ratios, it is possible to estimate that the Earth mantle contains  $\sim 7.2$  to  $8.1$  wt% FeO (Palme & O'Neill, 2014).

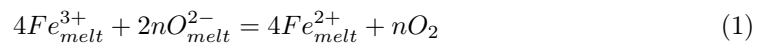
Iron in igneous rocks mostly derives from the extraction of the iron from the upper mantle assemblage through partial melting. Mid-ocean ridge basalts, formed from the partial melting of  $\sim 10\%$  of the upper mantle below accretion regions, present an average concentration of FeO of  $\sim 8$  wt% to  $12$  wt% (Jenner & O'Neill, 2012). The iron redox ratio, expressed hereby as  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  with  $\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}} = \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Fe}^{3+}$ , in such glasses has been found to be comprised between  $0.07$  and  $0.16$ , with the latest estimates from X-Ray Absorption Near the Edge Structure (XANES) spectroscopy of  $0.10(2)$  and  $0.14(1)$  (Berry et al., 2018; H. Zhang et al., 2018), of  $0.11(2)$  from wet-chemistry (Bézos & Humler, 2005), and of  $0.09(6)$  from Raman spectroscopy (Le Losq et al., 2019). Assuming a closed-system condition, such analyses place the average oxidation state of the upper mantle below accretion regions close to the Quartz-Fayalite-Magnetite (QFM) mineral redox buffer. Interestingly, arc basalt magmas present a more oxidized signature (above the QFM buffer), suggesting potentially a more oxidized character of the mantle wedge in subduction regions due to the presence of oxidized subduction fluids (e.g. Brounce et al., 2014). Observing extra-terrestrial primitive melts also reveals their enrichment into iron: the FeO content of the parental melts of martian shergottites is estimated at  $16.7$  wt% in average, and that of lunar glasses reach  $22$  wt% (Fig. 1). Iron is thus also a major element in extra-terrestrial magmas. Importantly, it most probably played a critical role on the geobiochemistry of planetary surfaces presenting extended solidified lava flows like Mars.

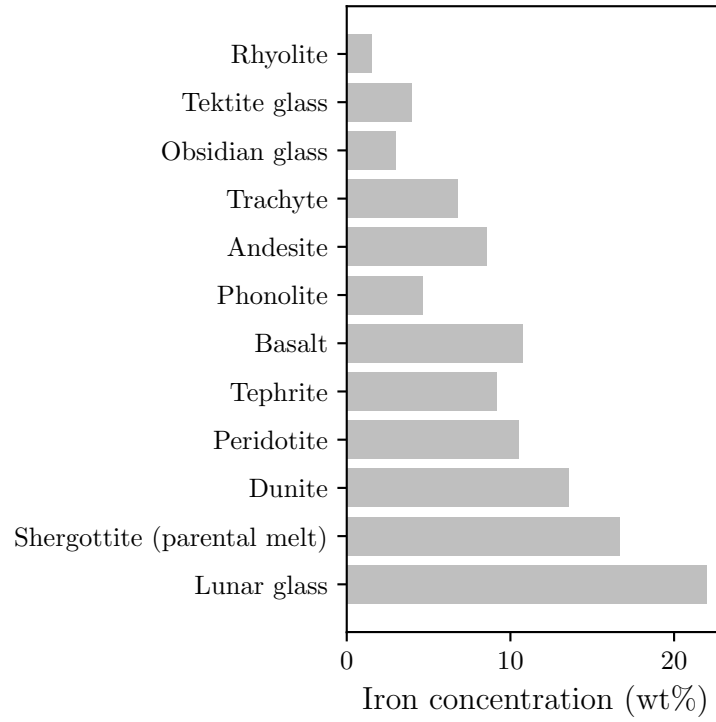
Depending on the crystallization series (tholeiitic or calc-alkaline), the iron concentration of more evolved melts can present different variations, but will ultimately decrease as evolved melts typically present low iron concentrations (Fig. 1). For instance, the rhyolite magma that was erupted during the  $3.1$  Ma caldera-forming ignimbrite of the Mt Dore in France contains only  $0.7$  wt% FeO (Le Losq & Neuville, 2013).

In all cases, iron is prevalent in most igneous rocks, and plays a critical role in determining their properties, such as, for instance, their density and their viscosity. Among major elements in igneous rocks, iron has the particularity to present two different stable valences,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , which, as we will see, play different roles in the structure of the melt, and, hence, differently influence their properties.

### 3 Redox Equilibrium in Melts

Reduction-Oxidation (redox) reactions involve the transfer of electrons between chemical species forming the redox couple of a given element, i.e.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the case of iron. In silicate melts, oxygen is generally the electron carrier, such that the redox state (ratio of the different species) of iron is driven by changes in the oxygen chemical potential. Oxygen fugacity ( $f\text{O}_2$ ) is conventionally used to describe the oxygen chemical potential. Redox equilibria in glass-forming melts have been exhaustively discussed by the early studies of Schreiber (1986, 1980, 1987). In the case of iron, its redox equilibrium can be described as:





**Figure 1.** Examples of iron concentration ([FeO] equivalent) in various igneous rocks. Data from Geomatériaux - IPGP database, except for the average FeO content of the parental melts of shergottite meteorites estimated by Sossi et al. (2016).

with  $n$  representing the number of electrons transferred. The relationship described by eq. 1 is controlled by several variables: temperature, pressure, oxygen fugacity, and bulk chemical composition. Different models exist to relate the equilibrium constant of eq. 1 to those variables. Amongst those, we can cite the models of Sack et al. (1981), Kilinc et al. (1983a), Kress and Carmichael (1991), Nikolaev et al. (1996), Jayasuriya et al. (2004) or Borisov et al. (2015). Those models relate melt composition, temperature and oxygen fugacity through parametric equations of the form:

$$\log\left(\frac{X_{FeO_{1.5}}}{X_{FeO}}\right) = k \log(fO_2) + h/T + \sum d_i X_i + c \quad (2)$$

where  $T$  is the temperature in K, and  $k$ ,  $h$ ,  $d_i$  and  $c$  are constants, and  $X_i$  are the mole fractions of oxides in the melt. Those models were established using large datasets of melts equilibrated at superliquidus temperatures to constrain the values of the different  $k$ ,  $h$ ,  $d_i$  and  $c$  constants. While such models are inherently useful, their predictions may be questioned when trying to calculate the iron oxidation state in melts at conditions far from those used in the parametrization. Furthermore, reported lower precisions for predictions of the iron redox ratio in intermediate and silicic compositions (Nikolaev et al., 1996) as well as incomplete considerations of the effect of melt chemistry on iron oxidation state (Borisov et al., 2015) highlight the limits of such models. This pushed for instance Borisov et al. (2018) to propose recently a revised equation of the form

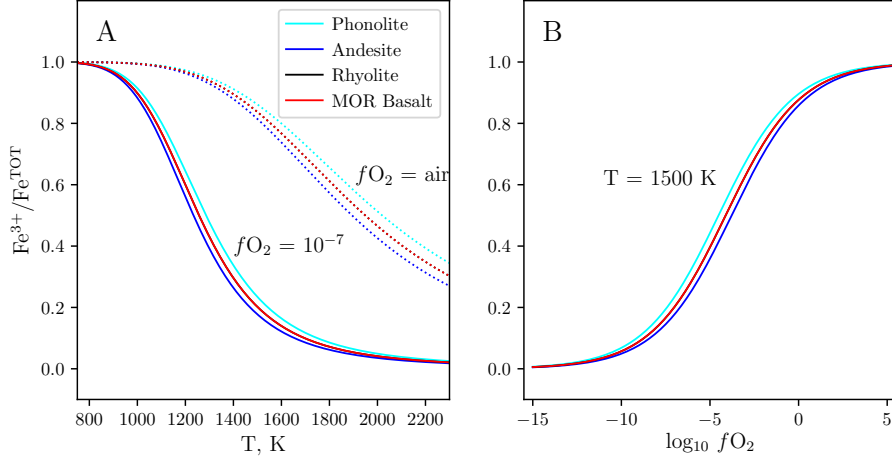
$$\log\left(\frac{X_{FeO_{1.5}}}{X_{FeO}}\right) = k \log(fO_2) + h/T + \sum d_i X_i + c + d_{SiAl} X_{SiO_2} X_{Al_2O_3} + d_{SiMg} X_{SiO_2} X_{MgO} \quad (3)$$

where the  $d_{SiAl}$  and  $d_{SiMg}$  interactive terms allow potentially to better take into account complex compositional effects. Figure 2 illustrates variations of the iron oxidation state in different natural melts as a function of temperature and oxygen fugacity calculated using this new model.

Using such model allows observing that temperature and oxygen fugacity are the main drivers of the iron oxidation state in melts. Chemical composition plays a second order but non-negligible role, particularly if one wants to precisely derive  $T$  and  $fO_2$  from measurements of the oxidation state of iron in volcanic glasses for instance (e.g. see chapter from Asimov, this publication, for an example on basalt glasses). For increased accuracy on such predictions, very precise models are thus needed. This requires the use of models based on thermodynamic and physical frameworks. Aside the problematic highlighted previously, such models further bring a framework to predict the effect of the iron oxidation state on melt properties. This is an important point, as we will see later in this chapter. Therefore, we will not describe further empirical models in the following. Details and discussions can be found in previously cited original publications, such that we refer the reader to them. Rather, we will focus on presenting the effects of extensive and intensive variables on the iron oxidation state and environment in silicate melts, and on constructing a structural background to rationalize such effects.

### 3.1 Temperature, Oxygen Fugacity and Pressure Effects

Increasing temperature favors the endothermic reaction according to the Van't Hoff law (Schreiber, 1986) and thus shifts the redox equilibrium 1 toward reduced species (Fig. 2A). The log forms of the equilibrium constants of reactions involving  $Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}$  redox pairs vary linearly with reciprocal temperature (Johnston, 1964; Mysen, 1987; Kress & Carmichael, 1991), with a slope that is equal to the enthalpy of reduction,  $\Delta H$ , via an approximation of the Van't Hoff relation (Johnston, 1964; Schreiber, 1986):



**Figure 2.** Variation of the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ( $\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}} = \text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Fe}^{3+}$ ) redox ratio as a function of (A) temperature and (B) oxygen fugacity, predicted by the model of Borisov et al. (2018) for typical phonolite (Erebus volcano lava bomb, Antarctica), andesite (1902 eruption of Mt Pelée, France), rhyolite (3.1 Ma Ignimbrite of Mt Dore, France) and Mid-Ocean Ridge (MOR) basalt (mean composition from Gale et al., 2013) melts.

$$\log\left(\frac{\text{Fe}^{2+}}{\text{Fe}^{3+}}\right) = -\frac{\Delta H}{2.303RT} + b \quad (4)$$

$\Delta H$  is endothermic, leading to iron reduction in silicate melts as temperature increases. The effect of the oxygen fugacity,  $f\text{O}_2$ , an equivalent of the partial pressure of oxygen in the melt corrected for the nonideal character of  $\text{O}_2$  (e.g. see Albarède, 2011), is opposite to that of  $T$ : increasing  $f\text{O}_2$  favors the stabilization of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  species. Similarly to eq. 4, this effect can be expressed as:

$$-\log(f\text{O}_2) = 0.25 \log\left(\frac{\text{Fe}^{2+}}{\text{Fe}^{3+}}\right) + k \quad (5)$$

The 0.25 term in eq. 5 arises from the fact that this constant usually equals to  $\frac{n}{4}$  with  $n$  the number of exchanged electrons, which is one in the case of the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  redox pair. For a given composition, and at constant temperature, the relationships described by eq. 5 should yield a straight line with slope equal to 0.25. This has been experimentally corroborated by many studies (Fudali, 1965; Schreiber, 1986; Lauer & Morris, 1977; Mysen et al., 1984). However, the melt composition influences this value, such that it may not be ideal in all cases. For example, Mysen et al. (1984) reported a slight decrease of the slope according to the ionic potential of the alkaline-earth cation in alkaline-earth silicate glasses. This trend is corroborated by the recent result of Cicconi et al. (2015), who observed that the mean ionic field strength of the alkali metal cations influences the slope of the eq. 5 relationship in multicomponent glasses.

Compared to the effects of oxygen fugacity and temperature, the impact of pressure on the oxidation state of iron has been the subject of few studies and remains not well known. In general, existing studies indicate that higher pressures promote reduced species in many multivalent compounds. For instance, reduction of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ,  $\text{Cu}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mn}^{3+}$

occurs at high pressure in solid compounds (Drickamer et al., 1970; P. Wang & Drickamer, 1973; Gibbons et al., 1974). For iron in silicate melts, experimental data confirm such a behavior between 0 and 7 GPa for basaltic and andesitic melt compositions (O'Neill, 2006; H. Zhang et al., 2017), with a decrease of a few % per GPa of the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ratio in this pressure range. Those observations agree with the thermodynamic predictions: as the partial molar volume of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  (as  $\text{FeO}_{1.5}$ ) is higher than that of  $\text{FeO}$  (see section 4.1), the volume change of eq. 1 is negative and reduction of iron is expected with increasing pressure. The study of H. Zhang et al. (2017) indicates that this behaviour remains true up to 7 GPa. However, one should be careful in extrapolating this behaviour to higher pressures, because changes in the oxygen coordination number (CN) of Fe are expected (Sanloup, Drewitt, Crépeisson, et al., 2013). Such changes in  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  CN could affect the dependence of the molar volumes of the  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  and  $\text{FeO}$  components to pressure, and, in turn, the variations of the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ratio in magmas with pressure.

## 3.2 Influence of the Melt Structure and Composition

### 3.2.1 Introductory Remarks about the Structure of Silicate Melts and Glasses

Before going further in describing the links between iron oxidation state and melt composition, we need to introduce a few basic concepts regarding the role of the different cations in silicate melts, starting from simple binary  $\text{M}^{x+}_{2/x}\text{O-SiO}_2$  alkali or alkaline-earth silicate compositions. Those compositions contain  $\text{Si}^{4+}$  “network former” cations, and  $\text{M}^{x+}_{2/x}$  “metallic network modifier” cations, such as  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  or  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Si is in tetrahedral coordination, forming  $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedral units that bond with each other through their apical oxygens, which are in this case called bridging oxygens. Tetrahedral units can be discriminated depending on the number  $n$  of bridging oxygens they carry, using the  $Q^n$  unit notation. The silica glass is mostly composed of  $Q^4$  units, i.e.  $\text{SiO}_4$  units with 4 bridging oxygens, and, hence, silica is fully polymerized and its viscosity is the highest known. Modifier cations sever Si-O-Si bonds and form non-bridging oxygen atoms (e.g., see (Dupree et al., 1986)). For instance, the sodium disilicate glass ( $\text{Na}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_9$ ) is composed of a mixture of  $\text{SiO}_4$  tetrahedral units with 2 and 3 bridging oxygens, i.e. a mixture of  $Q^2$  and  $Q^3$  units. This profoundly affects the properties of the melts compared to that of pure silica, for instance leading to decrease the melt viscosity of orders of magnitude.

In aluminosilicate glasses, metallic cations (abbrev. M) can also play the role of “compensating” cations. As trivalent Al is present in the network as  $[\text{AlO}_4]^-$  tetrahedral units, the latter carry a negative charge deficit that is counter-balanced by the compensating cations. The concentrations in modifier and compensating cations depend on the  $\text{Al}/(\text{M}+\text{Al})$  ratio. When  $\text{Al}/(\text{M}+\text{Al})$  is lower than 0.5, modifier cations will be predominant, and the proportion of compensating cations will be nearly equal to that of  $[\text{AlO}_4]^-$  tetrahedral units. For  $\text{Al}/(\text{M}+\text{Al}) \geq 1$ , we can assume at first approximation that all cations play a compensating role; such glasses are accordingly referred to as “compensated glasses”. Modifier cations can exist in compensated glasses, but in very low proportions. For further details on such concepts, we invite the reader to refer to Le Losq et al. (2014) and references cited therein. From this brief introduction, we can envision that the chemical composition of silicate melts determines the structural environment of the different cations in it, and that this interplay strongly affects the iron valence and environment in the melts (Borisov & McCammon, 2010; Dickenson & Hess, 1982; Mysen, 2006a; Kress & Carmichael, 1991).



### 3.2.2 Iron Environment in Melts and Glasses

Ferric iron,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , is mainly regarded as 4-fold coordinated, but higher coordination numbers have been also reported (Dyar, 1985; Virgo & Mysen, 1985; Hannoyer et al., 1992; Galois et al., 2001; Farges et al., 2004; Métrich et al., 2006; Wilke et al., 2007; Rossano et al., 2007; Giuli et al., 2011, 2012; Mysen, 2006b). Interpretations of  $^{57}\text{Fe}$  Mössbauer spectroscopy data by Mysen et al. (1985), Virgo and Mysen (1985) and Mysen (2006a) indicate  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in CN 4 at  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}} > \sim 0.5$ , and transferring toward a CN 6 at lower  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ratios. However, analysis of feldspar and haplo-thonalitic glasses by Rossano et al. (2007) suggest a more complex environment, with a wide range of coordinations, and variations with both composition and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  of the glasses. Interpretations of Fe K-edge X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy (XAS) data seem to support such picture, showing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  present in aluminosilicate glasses mostly in CN 4 and 5 environments (Wilke et al., 2007; Giuli et al., 2011, 2012; Métrich et al., 2006).

Ferrous iron,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , appears to have a diverse structural environment. The presence of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in CN 6 has been reported (Calas & Petiau, 1983; Virgo & Mysen, 1985), along with trigonal bipyramidal and tetrahedral coordination (Waychunas et al., 1988; Jackson et al., 1993; Rossano et al., 2007).  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  thus appears to have an average coordination close to 5, which could be possibly translated as a coexistence of 4-, 5- and 6- or just the simultaneous presence of 4- and 6- fold  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  coordinated (Cicconi et al., 2015).

### 3.2.3 Melt composition and iron oxidation state

The link between melt composition and iron oxidation state can be understood using different concepts; among those, one of the most successful is that of optical basicity (Moretti & Ottonello, 2003; Duffy & Ingram, 1976; Ottonello et al., 2001; Duffy, 1993). According to Duffy (1993), optical basicity is based on orbital expansion effects reflecting the nature of the chemical bonding between a Lewis acid-base pair; in oxide glasses, oxygens act as bases in the Lewis sense (i.e. as a donor of electron pairs) while metals act as acids. Indeed, the charge balance of the different types of oxygen atoms in the melt can be expressed as (Fincham & Richardson, 1954):

$$2\text{O}^- = \text{O}^0 + \text{O}^{2-} \quad (6)$$

with  $\text{O}^-$ ,  $\text{O}^0$  and  $\text{O}^{2-}$  non-bridging, bridging and “free” oxygens in the melt, respectively. The equilibrium constant  $K$  of eq. 6 is equal to:

$$K = \frac{[\text{O}^{2-}][\text{O}^0]}{[\text{O}^-]^2} \quad (7)$$

assuming that activities of the different oxygen species are equal to their molar concentrations. The free energy of mixing per mole of melt is:

$$\Delta G^{\text{mixing}} = \frac{[\text{O}^-]}{2} \times R \times T \times \ln(K) \quad (8)$$

with  $R$  the perfect gas constant and  $T$  the temperature. An important point is that different metal cations affect  $K$ , and thus the fractions of the oxygen species, differently. An important point of considering silicate glasses and melts through eq. 6 is that such materials presents the characteristics of an acid-base reaction, defined by Flood et al. (1947) as “the transfer of an oxygen ion from a state of polarisation to another”. The link between acid-base and redox exchanges in melts can thus be represented by the “normal oxygen electrode”:



246 Melt polymerization is affected by the Lux-Flood acid-base properties of dissolved  
247 oxides, with the involvements of free oxygens (Fraser, 1975, 1977):



248 Eqs. 10 and 11 respectively describe the acidic and basic reactions between the M  
249 central cations and the oxygen ligands ( $O^{2-}$  and  $O^-$ ) in silicate melts. The mean polar-  
250 ization state of the oxygen ligands and their ability to transfer fractional electronic charge  
251 to the M cation is represented by the optical basicity  $\Lambda$  of the system. It is defined as  
252 the ratio of the Jørgensen's function (Jørgensen, 1962) of the ligand in the polarization  
253 state of interest over that in an unpolarised state (free  $O^{2-}$  ions in an oxidic medium of  
254 reference). Different metal cations have different electronic properties and thus differ-  
255 ent oxide basicity (Table 1). It is possible to calculate the glass optical basicity from the  
256 oxide optical basicities using the following expression:

$$\Lambda = \sum_i X_{O_i} \Lambda_i \quad (12)$$

257 with  $X_{O_i}$  the proportions of oxygen atoms the  $i^{\text{th}}$  oxide contributes, and  $\Lambda_i$  its oxy-  
258 gen basicity (e.g. see Table 1). For instance, for the  $CaSiO_3$  glass, obtained from the mix-  
259 ture of 50 mol% CaO and 50 mol%  $SiO_2$ ,  $\Lambda_{CaSiO_3} = \frac{1}{3} \times 1.00 + \frac{2}{3} \times 0.48 = 0.65$ .

Oxide	$\Lambda_i$
$SiO_2$	0.48
$Al_2O_3$	0.59
$TiO_2$	0.58
FeO	0.48
$Fe_2O_3$	0.48
MgO	0.78
CaO	1.00
SrO	1.03
BaO	1.12
$H_2O$	0.39
$Li_2O$	1.00
$Na_2O$	1.15
$K_2O$	1.36

**Table 1.** Example of optical basicity  $\Lambda$  of common network formers and modifiers / charge compensators in silicate melts. Values from Ottonello et al. (2001).

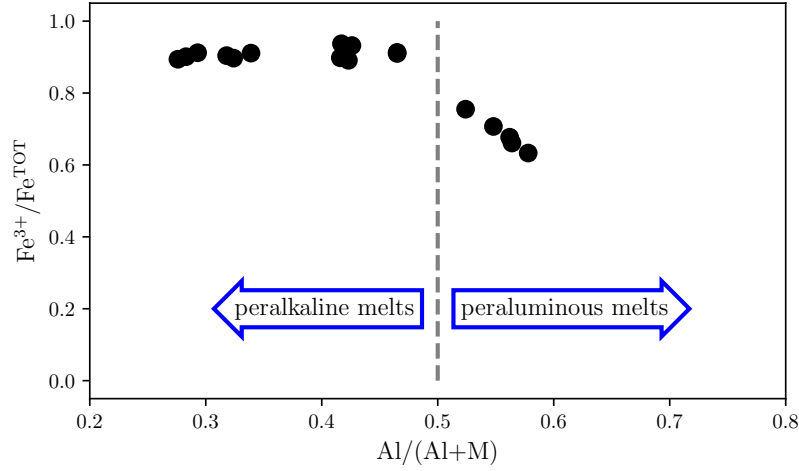
260 Optical basicities of silicate glasses correlates well with the oxidation state of iron in  
261 the melt equilibrated at given T- $fO_2$  conditions (Schreiber et al., 1994; Ottonello et al.,

2001; Moretti & Ottonello, 2003). Network former cations present close optical basicity in silicate glasses, and thus their influences on the iron oxidation state may be considered as analogous (Mysen et al., 1985; Sack et al., 1981; Kilinc et al., 1983b). In detail, changing the melt  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{Si})$  leads to small changes in its  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  (e.g. Mysen et al., 1985; Borisov et al., 2015). Metal cations present higher optical basicity than network former cations (Table 1), such that increasing their fraction generally promotes oxidation (Schreiber et al., 1994; Mysen et al., 1984) because increasing the melt basicity results in a shift of eq. 1 toward the oxidized species. However, different metal cations present different  $\Lambda$  values (Table 1), such that the effect of individual cations on the glass oxidation state is complex.

In particular, the effect of the M cation depends on both the  $\text{Al}/(\text{M}+\text{Al})$  ratio of the glass and the M cation electronic properties. The effect of the  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  ratio can be rationalized considering the fact that trivalent iron in polyhedral coordination will present a charge deficit that requires charge balance by metal cations. At  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M}) < 1$ , metal cations play a dual role of network modifiers and charge compensators, and, upon addition of trivalent cations, network modifiers can change their role into charge compensator to ensure charge balance of polyhedral units carrying trivalent cations, as shown for Ca (Neuville et al., 2004) or Na (Le Losq et al., 2014). At  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M}) \geq 1$  and assuming that  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  plays a role of network former, introduction of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the network will be difficult as metal cations will already be charge compensators of Al, such that a competition between Al and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  for charge compensation will occur. Furthermore,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  will be promoted as it will be able to participate in charge compensating Al-bearing polyhedral units. From those considerations, we expect  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  to be stable in peralkaline compositions ( $\text{Al}/(\text{M}+\text{Al}) < 0.5$ ) and suppressed in peraluminous compositions ( $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M}) \geq 1$ ). The data of Dickenson and Hess (1982) in  $\text{K}_2\text{O}-\text{FeO}-\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3-\text{SiO}_2$  melts seem to confirm this hypothesis: they clearly show that the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  fraction is not varying much with  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  in peralkaline melts, but decreases with increasing  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  at values higher than  $\sim 0.5$ , highlighting the conversion of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  into  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  due to increasing the need for Al charge compensation. Borisov et al. (2017) recently questioned such link on the basis of scatter in the data of Dickenson and Hess (1982) at high  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ratios and on the absence of such a relationship between  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{K})$  and iron oxidation state in their study. However, the potassic melts studied by Borisov et al. (2017) also contained significant amounts of MgO and CaO, such that  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  (with  $\text{M}=\text{Na}+\text{K}+\text{Mg}+\text{Ca}$ ) was never  $\geq 0.5$  in their samples. Their data are thus not relevant to comment on the links between  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  in the peraluminous domain.

Despite this, the data of Borisov et al. (2017) shed light on the fact that increasing the fractions of Ca, Na or K in natural melts yields an increase of the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  ratio in peralkaline melts. Data from Mysen et al. (1985) in Ca aluminosilicate melts also reveal a decreasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  with increasing alkaline-earth metal concentration in aluminosilicate melts, and, hence, with increasing their degree of depolymerisation. Those observations agree with earlier data from simple silicate melts of Paul and Douglas (1965), which indicate that increasing the alkali content in binary alkali silicate glasses at fixed T and  $f\text{O}_2$  leads to increasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$ . However, all observations are not unanimous regarding the correlations between metal cation concentrations and iron oxidation state. For instance, Tangeman et al. (2001) reported a decrease in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  with increasing  $[\text{K}_2\text{O}]$  in  $\text{K}_2\text{O}-\text{FeO}-\text{SiO}_2$  glasses, and increases in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  with increasing  $[\text{Na}_2\text{O}]$  and  $[\text{CaO}]$  in other binary silicate glasses.

Such complexities indicate that the concentration of metal cations by itself is not sufficient to understand the variations of iron oxidation state with melt composition. Other parameters must be taken into account, such as melt overall degree of polymerisation,  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{Si})$  and  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  ratios, as well as the ionic field strength of the metal cations in the melt. Indeed, the ionic field strength of metal cations, which plays an important role on the melt structure, correlates with the iron oxidation state (Fig. 4A). In-



**Figure 3.** Iron oxidation state in  $\text{K}_2\text{O}-\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3-\text{SiO}_2-\text{FeO}$  melts at 1673 K in air as a function of the melt  $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M})$  molar ratio. The dotted line highlight the tectosilicate join ( $\text{Al}/(\text{Al}+\text{M}) = 1$ ). Data from Dickenson and Hess (1982).

ing the ionic field strength of metal cations results in decreasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$ . Accord-  
 ing to this, it is expected that mixing metal cations will produce variations in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$   
 at fixed T and  $f\text{O}_2$  conditions. This is confirmed by the study of Cicconi et al. (2015)  
 on phonolite melts, which revealed an increasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  with increasing the  $\text{K}/(\text{K}+\text{Na})$   
 ratio in phonolite magmas, at both oxidized and reduced conditions (Fig. 4B).

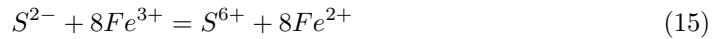
In addition of metal cations, volatile elements can further play a role on the ox-  
 idation state of iron. Considering water, the activities of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  change with wa-  
 ter content (Gaillard et al., 2003). As a result, the ratio  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  tends to increase  
 in hydrous magmas under reduced conditions, while effects under oxidized conditions are  
 more difficult to distinguish (Gaillard et al., 2003; Moretti, 2005). Sulfur forms a redox  
 couple with iron, such that changes in the redox of one affects that of the other element.  
 Considering S as present mostly as  $\text{S}^{2-}$  and  $\text{S}^{6+}$  in magmas, we have:



and combining it with the reaction

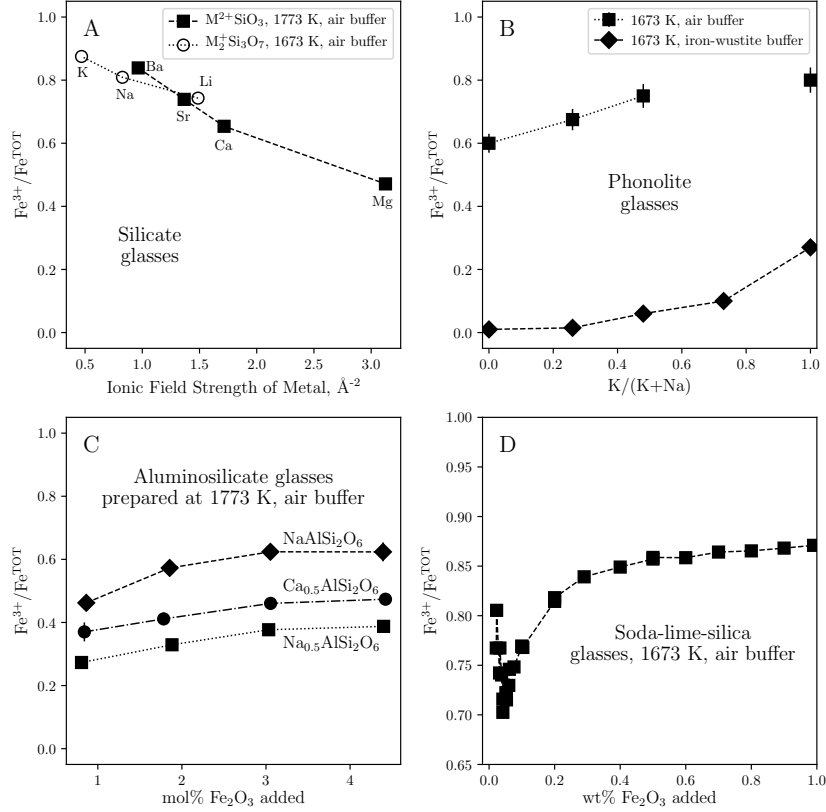


we obtain the redox couple



We see there that a small change in S oxidation state can result in larger changes in that  
 of Fe because of the high number of exchanged electrons involved in the redox reaction  
 described by eq. 15. As a result, sulfur degassing can affect  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  in magmas (e.g.  
 Moussallam et al., 2014). However, one should remember that in magmas, as in any re-  
 acting system, the redox buffer is imposed by a highly abundant component speciating  
 in a reduced and oxidized form. As a result, as Fe is the main multivalent transition el-  
 ement in magmas, their average oxidation state will be generally driven by that of Fe.

Generally, variations of iron redox ratio with melt composition must further be con-  
 sidered with keeping in mind that  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  have different roles in the glass struc-  
 ture.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  is commonly considered as a network modifier element, and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  mainly acts



**Figure 4.** Examples of compositional effects on the oxidation state of iron in magmas. (A) Generally, the ionic field strength of metal cations in melts directly influences the iron oxidation state (ionic field strength calculated for a coordination state of 6 with radius from (Whittaker & Muntus, 1970)). (B) Mixing of different metal cations can lead to linear or non-linear variations of the iron oxidation state at constant  $T$  and  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ . (C) Increasing the concentration of iron in magmas leads to an oxidation of iron. (D) In dilute concentrations, the relationship between iron oxidation state and concentration seem to become complicated. Curves are guides to the eyes. Data are from Densem and Turner (1938); Mysen et al. (1984); Mysen (2006b); Cicconi et al. (2015); Paul and Douglas (1965).

as a network former element, as shown for instance by Extended X-ray Absorption Fine Structure data (Cicconi et al., 2015) and viscosity data (see section 3.2.1). Interestingly, the change of the melt viscosity at given temperature as a function of the Fe oxidation state further depends on the metal cation in the melt, illustrating the interplay between metal cations and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  for charge compensation (see section 4.2 and figure 5). Furthermore,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  is present as an amphoteric oxide in silicate melts and glasses, i.e. it acts either as an acidic or basic oxide, depending on the bulk system basicity. As a consequence,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  can either react with bridging or with non-bridging oxygens (Ottonello et al., 2001; Moretti, 2005), and the role of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the melt/glass structure is a complex function of the overall system basicity that is dictated by its chemical composition. Another important point of consideration is that, at given  $T$ - $f_{\text{O}_2}$  conditions, the concentration of iron affects its oxidation state (Fig. 4C,D). According to the recent data of Mysen (2006a) or to the older data of Densem and Turner (1938), this effect can shift the oxidation state of iron of  $\sim 0.2 \text{ Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$ . In dilute concentration, it becomes complex as suggested

by the data of Densem and Turner (1938). The latter show that, when adding tens to hundreds of ppm of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  in a soda-lime-silica glass in air at 1400 °C,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  first decreases of  $\sim 0.1$ , and then increase of  $\sim 0.2$  with further addition of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ . Such behavior could point to different interactions between  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and the network cations at dilute or high concentrations, but, to conclude on this point, the data of Densem and Turner (1938) need to be corroborated by another study because this contrasting behaviour could also arise from an analytical effect.

#### 4 Physical Properties: Highlights on Density and Viscosity

The mobility of magmas within the Earth mantle and crust, as well as within superficial volcanic system is determined by two factors: melt density  $\rho$  and viscosity  $\eta$ . The former directly determines the melt buoyancy while the latter reflects the internal force resisting uniform melt flow. The importance of  $\rho$  and  $\eta$  is illustrated by the expression of the eruption rate  $Q$  of a magma ascending into a volcanic conduit of uniform radius  $a$  (Jaupart, 1996):

$$Q = \rho \frac{a^4}{8\eta} \left( -\frac{dP}{dz} - \rho g \right) \quad (16)$$

with  $g$  the gravitational acceleration and  $\frac{dP}{dz}$  the vertical pressure gradient. Therefore, the influence of iron on the exchange of matter in igneous geologic systems will be determined by its direct and indirect effects on the density and viscosity of magmas and lavas.

##### 4.1 Influence of Iron Content and Redox on the Density of Melts

In general, addition of iron will result in increasing the melt density, due to the large molar mass of iron. Changing the iron oxidation state in the melt will further induce changes in the melt density, because  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  present different partial molar volumes. Regarding  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , Lange and Carmichael (1987) reported a partial molar value of  $13.65 \pm 0.15 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  for the oxide component  $\text{FeO}$  at 1400 °C from density measurements in multicomponent alumino-silicate melts, which agree with the general values of 12.8 - 14.0  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  at 1400 °C reported in silica-rich melts (Bottinga & Weill, 1970; Mo, 1982; Bottinga et al., 1982; D. B. Dingwell et al., 1988; Lange & Carmichael, 1989; Liu, 2006). However, in silica-poor ferrosilicate, the partial molar volume of  $\text{FeO}$  at 1400 °C approaches 15.8  $\text{cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$ , as shown by the data of Shiraiishi et al. (1978) for instance. Therefore, the partial molar volume of  $\text{FeO}$  is composition dependent, a fact that can be explained by taking into account variations in the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  local environment with melt composition.

Regarding  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , early reports from Lange and Carmichael (1987) and D. B. Dingwell et al. (1988) indicated partial molar volumes of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  of  $42.13 \pm 0.28 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  and  $40.69 \pm 0.80 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  at 1400 °C, respectively. In  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ - $\text{FeO}$ - $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{SiO}_2$  melts, Lange and Carmichael (1989) later reported a value of  $41.78 \pm 0.41 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  at 1400 °C. The recent study of Liu (2006) report a similar value of  $41.52 \pm 0.34 \text{ cm}^3 \text{ mol}^{-1}$  from high temperature density measurements in  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ - $\text{FeO}$ - $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ - $\text{FeO}$ - $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ - $\text{SiO}_2$  melts. Those data suggest that the partial molar volume of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  is independent of temperature and composition in such melt compositions, and further indicate a  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  coordination number comprised between 4.5 and 5.0. The results of Liu (2006) tend to indicate that the partial molar volume of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  could be independent of composition over an extended range of melt chemical composition (from alkali silicate to magmatic liquids). However, data from Lange and Carmichael (1987, 1989) contradict this, showing a slight dependence of the partial molar volume of  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  on temperature.

Previously reported partial molar values for FeO and Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> were obtained from density measurements at high temperature in melts, but at room pressure. Increasing pressure changes the overall coordination states of the ions in the melt. The transition of Al from mostly four-fold to mostly six-fold coordination occurs at pressures lower than 15 GPa (Yarger et al., 1995; Allwardt, 2005a; Guillot & Sator, 2007), a phenomenon further enhanced by temperature in aluminium-rich compositions (Allwardt, 2005b; Le Losq et al., 2014). Similarly, Si will undergo a change in its coordination, from a four-fold to a six-fold site, at pressure comprised between 10 and 50 GPa (Guillot & Sator, 2007; Lee et al., 2008; Sanloup, Drewitt, Konôpková, et al., 2013; Y. Wang et al., 2014). This transition to higher coordination numbers with increasing pressure also affects network modifier cations, such as Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup> and Fe<sup>2+</sup> (Guillot & Sator, 2007; Sun et al., 2011; Sanloup, Drewitt, Crépeau, et al., 2013). Accordingly, it is expected that Fe<sup>3+</sup> coordination state also transitions toward higher number, as Al<sup>3+</sup> does. As a result, while the reported models of magma density may be relevant for sub-crustal pressure, any estimation at pressure higher than a few GPa will be affected by systematic errors due to changes in the coordination state of network former and network modifier cations in melts. Those changes in coordination of all major elements with pressure yield densification of magmas at depth, which can result in controlling the partitioning of elements or the mobility of deep melt through density traps (Sanloup, 2016).

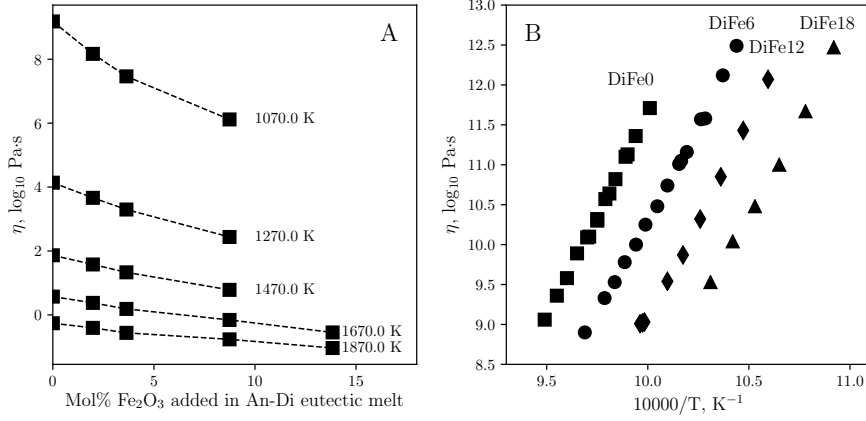
## 4.2 Iron and the Viscosity of Silicate Melts

As previously discussed, Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Fe<sup>3+</sup> have different roles in the structure of melts, with Fe<sup>2+</sup> acting as a network modifier element and Fe<sup>3+</sup> as a weak network former element. This agrees with the observed dependence of melt viscosity on iron concentration and oxidation state. Upon iron addition in a melt with a composition equal to the eutectic anorthite-diopside (CaAl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>-CaMgSi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>), the data from Chevrel et al. (2013) show that melt viscosity decreases with increasing iron concentration (Fig. 5A). We note that this effect is enhanced at undercooled temperatures where entropic effects due to chemical mixing of elements and structural disorder become important. Similarly, substituting CaO by FeO in the diopside melt composition results in a similar decrease in viscosity at undercooled temperatures (Fig. 5B and Table 2) where such melts mostly contain iron in its 3+ valence (calculation from the (Kress & Carmichael, 1991) model for Ca-Fe-Al-Si-O melts). Therefore, those data together with those in Fig. 5A indicate that Fe<sup>3+</sup> appears to act more like a network modifier than like a “traditional” network former as Al<sup>3+</sup>.

The comparison between the compositions NaAlSi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> and NaFeSi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub> further shed light on the role of Fe<sup>3+</sup> on melt viscosity (Fig. 6). If, from a structural point of view, Fe<sup>3+</sup> can be considered as a network former when in tetrahedral state (e.g. (Mysen et al., 1985)), viscosity data indicate that it does not participate in building a strong network and, hence, acts similarly as a network modifier on melt viscosity (Figs. 5, 6). This probably is due to its ionic field strength that is much weaker than that of Al<sup>3+</sup>, for instance. In line with such comment, D. B. Dingwell and Virgo (1988) noted that the relative viscosity of alumino-, ferro- and gallio-silicates are inversely correlated with the electronegativity of the trivalent cations, and assigned this to changes in the ionic character of the X<sup>3+</sup>-O<sup>2-</sup> bonds (with X any trivalent cation like Al, Ga or Fe) that ultimately influence melt structure and viscosity. Increasing the ionic character of the X<sup>3+</sup>-O<sup>2-</sup> bonds explains the decrease of viscosity observed when replacing Al<sup>3+</sup> by Fe<sup>3+</sup> in albitic melts, as shown in Figure 6.

At fixed melt composition, changing the oxidation state of iron further induces changes in the viscosity of the melt (Figure 7). At superliquidus temperatures, the measurements reported by D. B. Dingwell and Virgo (1987) and D. B. Dingwell (1989, 1991) on ferrosilicate melts indicate that a decrease of the Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fe<sup>TOT</sup> proportion from 0.9 down to 0.2 induces a decrease of viscosity by ~0.5 log units. This is consistent with data on



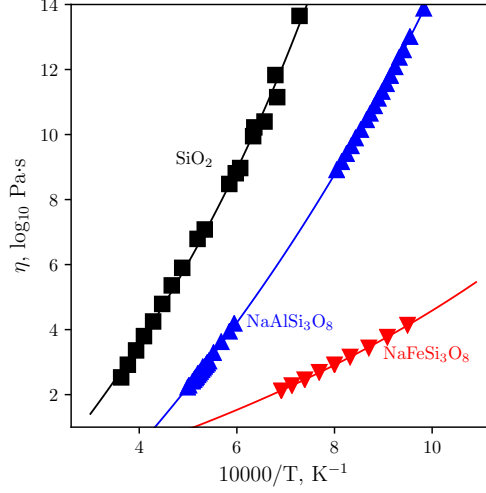


**Figure 5.** Viscosity of A) anorthite-diopside (An-Di) eutectic melt as a function of added iron, and B) of diopside melts in which CaO is replaced by FeO. In A), lines are guides for the eyes; data are from Chevrel et al. (2013). In B), DiFe0, DiFe6, DiFe12 and DiFe18 melts are compositions where CaO was replaced by FeO in proportions equal to 0, 6, 12 and 18 mol%.  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/(\text{Fe}^{2+}+\text{Fe}^{3+})$  redox ratio of those melts is higher than 98% according to the model of Kress and Carmichael (1991); see Table 2 for data.

**Table 2.** Viscosity data of DiFe0, DiFe6, DiFe12 and DiFe18 melts, where CaO was replaced by FeO in proportions equal to 0, 6, 12 and 18 mol%. Viscosity was measured following the method of Neuville (2006) between 915 and 1053 K, such that their  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/(\text{Fe}^{2+}+\text{Fe}^{3+})$  redox ratio is higher than 98% according to the model of Kress and Carmichael (1991).

DiFe0		DiFe6		DiFe12		DiFe18	
T, K	Pa.s	T, K	Pa.s	T, K	Pa.s	T, K	Pa.s
1053.7	10.06	957.9	13.49	982.9	10.87	915.8	13.47
1047.1	10.36	972.4	12.58	943.8	13.07	927.6	12.67
1041.7	10.58	984.7	12.01	954.9	12.43	939.0	12.00
1036.3	10.89	995.3	11.48	965.2	11.85	949.7	11.48
1030.9	11.09	1005.9	11.00	974.8	11.32	959.7	11.04
1029.9	11.10	1016.7	10.53	990.4	10.54	969.9	10.53
1025.6	11.30	964.2	13.12	1001.7	10.03		
1025.6	11.32	974.4	12.57	1002.6	10.02		
1021.5	11.57	983.8	12.05	1003.9	10.01		
1019.4	11.64	990.4	11.74				
1016.3	11.82	1001.2	11.25				
1011.1	12.10	1011.6	10.78				
1010.1	12.13	1021.8	10.33				
1006.0	12.36	1032.2	9.90				
999.0	12.71	981.1	12.16				





**Figure 6.** Viscosity of  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8$  and  $\text{NaFeSi}_3\text{O}_8$  melts. Data from (Hetherington et al., 1964; Urbain et al., 1982; Le Losq & Neuville, 2013; D. Dingwell et al., 1988)

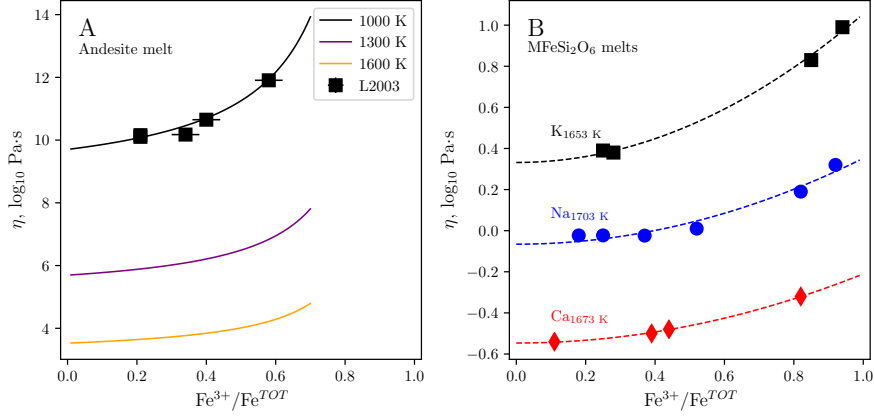
multicomponent basalt and rhyolite melts (Chevrel et al., 2013; Di Genova, Vasseur, et al., 2017). Interestingly, the change of the melt viscosity at given temperature as a function of the iron oxidation state further depends on the metal cation in the melt (Figure 7b), illustrating the interplay between metal cations and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  for charge compensation.

Close to the glass transition, data from Liebske et al. (2003) suggest a large viscosity decrease, of nearly 2 orders of magnitude, when  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  decreases from 0.6 down to 0.2 in andesitic melts (Fig. 7A). Similarly, Chevrel et al. (2013) estimated that the viscosity of depolymerized  $\text{CaO-Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2$  melts, analogous to basalts, was decreasing of  $\sim 1$  log unit with decreasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  from 0.67 to 0.18 at the calorimetric glass transition temperature. The effect of the iron oxidation state on the melt viscosity is more important near the glass transition, because, as mentioned previously, chemical and structural effects strongly affect the melt configurational entropy, and hence, viscosity at undercooled temperatures (Neuville & Richet, 1991; Richet & Neuville, 1992).

To dive deeper in such concepts, we can use the Adam and Gibbs (1965) theory, which describes viscous flow as a cooperative rearrangement of molecular subunits in the melt. Writing the melt viscosity  $\eta$  as

$$\log_{10} \eta = A_e + \frac{B_e}{T(S^{\text{conf}}(T_g) + \int_{T_g}^T C_p^{\text{conf}}/TdT)} \quad (17)$$

with  $A_e$  a constant,  $B_e$  a term proportional to the energy barriers opposed to the movement of the molecular subunits,  $S^{\text{conf}}(T_g)$  the configurational entropy of the melt at the glass transition temperature  $T_g$ , and  $C_p^{\text{conf}}$  the configurational heat capacity of the melt. actually, the term  $S^{\text{conf}}(T_g) + \int_{T_g}^T C_p^{\text{conf}}/TdT$  is the configurational entropy of the melt at the temperature  $T$ ,  $S^{\text{conf}}(T)$ . Close to the glass transition,  $S^{\text{conf}}(T_g)$  is important, implying that melt structure will be particularly influential on viscous movements (e.g. see Le Losq & Neuville, 2017). As temperature increases, the term  $\int_{T_g}^T C_p^{\text{conf}}/TdT$  increases and the melt viscous flow becomes dominated by this term that actually reflect the effect of  $T$  on the frequency of T-O bond exchanges (with T network former cations). Adoption this vision allows understanding the effect of iron oxidation state on melt viscosity: close to the glass transition, in supercooled melts, the different structural environments of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  will influence  $S^{\text{conf}}(T_g)$ , and, hence, will drive large changes in  $\eta$ .



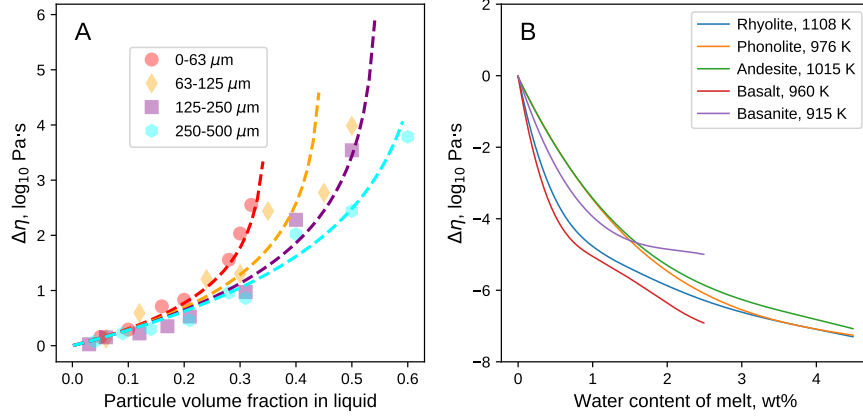
**Figure 7.** Isothermal viscosity as a function of the oxidation state of iron of A) an andesite melt close to the glass transition and B) of ferrosilicate melts at superliquidus temperatures. In A), curves are calculated from the model of Vetere et al. (2008), and symbols are data from Liebske et al. (2003). In B), curves are polynomial fits to the data from D. B. Dingwell and Virgo (1987, 1988); D. B. Dingwell (1991).

The influence of the iron oxidation state on melt viscosity remains not well constrained, such that the numbers of models that take it into account are limited. Vetere et al. (2008) proposed an equation for andesite melts that allows calculating their viscosity as a function of temperature, water content and iron oxidation state. Their model allows predictions affected by errors lower than 0.17 log units, but is only valid for  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{\text{TOT}}$  values lower than 0.7. For a broader range of compositions, we can further cite the parametric model of Duan (2014), which attempts to take into account effects of composition, pressure, water concentration and iron oxidation state in the modeling of the viscosity of natural magmas. However, predictions from such model should be interpreted with care, because the dataset that includes the effect of iron oxidation state, particularly close to the glass transition, is very limited and may be biased by experimental errors. Indeed, the study of iron-bearing geologic melts always has faced the trouble of crystallization, explaining the scarcity of data on the effect of iron oxidation state on magma viscosity.

## 5 Influences on Crystallization and Degassing in Magmatic Systems

In natural systems, crystallization generally enrich the liquid in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  as olivine and clinopyroxene preferentially incorporate  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in their lattice. Therefore, crystallization of the latter minerals will play an important role in affecting the overall redox condition of the system. Crystallization of iron-bearing oxides can further have a significant influence on the residual melt oxidation state. For instance, superficial magnetite crystallization leading to reduction of the residual melt has been proposed by Oppenheimer et al. (2011) to explain why the lava in the lava lake of Mt Erebus in Antarctica is more reduced than the melt inclusions recording the oxidation state of the magma at deeper condition (conduit / superficial magma chambers). In all cases, crystallization of Fe-bearing phases will change the major element composition of the residual melt, its iron oxidation state, and the magma crystal content. The latter effect induces order of magnitude changes in magma viscosity, as shown in Fig. 8A. It is affected by the shape and size of crystals, such that crystallization of small phases like spinels may be particularly effective in affecting magma viscosity. In addition to this physical effect, the decrease in the

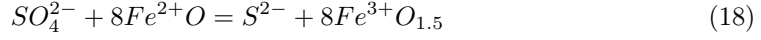
494 iron content of the residual melt further participates in increasing magma viscosity at  
 495 isothermal conditions. Building on such idea, Di Genova, Kolzenburg, et al. (2017) pro-  
 496 posed, for example, that iron-depletion of magmas by nanolite crystallization could be  
 497 an important mechanism to drive changes in the rheology of magmas and the dynamic  
 498 of eruptions of silicic volcanic systems.



**Figure 8.** Effects of the crystal (A) and water (B) contents on the viscosity of magmas at constant temperature. (A) Experiments from Del Gaudio et al. (2013) on sanidine and pyroxene crystals in silicon oil show a significant effect of the size of crystals on the relative viscosity of the oil ( $\Delta\eta = \eta_{\text{crystallized}}/\eta_{\text{crystal-free}}$ ). (B) Change in the viscosity of magmas as a function of their water content at supercooled temperatures ( $\Delta\eta = \eta_{\text{water-bearing}}/\eta_{\text{water-free}}$ ). Curves are calculated for bubble- and crystal-free magmas using equations from (Giordano & Dingwell, 2003) for a basalt magma of Mt Etna (Italy), (Whittington et al., 2000) for a basanite composition, (Vetere et al., 2006) for an andesite composition, (Le Losq, Neuville, et al., 2015) for the phonolite magma of Mt Erebus (Antartica), and (Le Losq, 2012) for the rhyolite melt of the 3.1 Ma ingimbric eruption of the Mt Dore (France).

In addition to crystallization, changes in volatile content and speciation in magmatic systems needs to be taken into account as they can further modify the oxidation state of silicate melts. Water has been shown to have only a limited effect on iron oxidation state in closed systems (Moretti, 2005; Carmichael, 1991). However, the initial concentration of water in melts is of critical importance, because water dissolved in magmas affects their viscosity by several orders of magnitude regardless of composition (Fig. 8B). Sulfur and carbon are present in concentrations much lower than that of water, but as they are redox sensitive elements, they play an important role on the magma oxidation state. As a consequence, the relationships between magma oxidation state and volatile speciation should be studied considering a multicomponent C-O-S-H gas-magma system (e.g. (Moretti & Papale, 2004)). When doing so, significant changes in the magma oxygen fugacity upon magma degassing can be predicted (Moretti & Papale, 2004; Burgisser & Scaillet, 2007). In particular, the interactions between Fe and S are particularly important as the degassing of H<sub>2</sub>S and SO<sub>2</sub> can lead to changes in the melt oxidation state, and, hence, Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Fe<sup>TOT</sup>. This, in turn, will result in a feedback loop as the melt oxidation state will further influence that of the gas. There is thus a melt-gas equilibria in closed systems, or disequilibria in open systems, that needs to be taken into account for inferring variations of the melt and gas oxidation states in degassing volcanic environments. To briefly extend on sulfur in magmas, in addition to interplays of Fe and S

during degassing, the complex interplays between the magma  $fO_2$  and its sulfur concentration needs to be mentioned. Indeed, while reduced magmas can contain a few hundred ppm of sulfur as  $S^{2-}$  before sulfide saturation, the solubility of sulfur as  $S^{6+}$  at oxidized condition is much higher, of a few thousands ppm at anhydrite saturation (see Baker & Moretti, 2011, for a review). Interestingly, magnetite saturation in the melt, which depends on its water concentration, can trigger large changes in the sulfur oxidation state (and thus solubility) as S and Fe form a redox couple in the melt as previously described in equation 15, which can be re-written in an oxyde form as (Métrich et al., 2009):

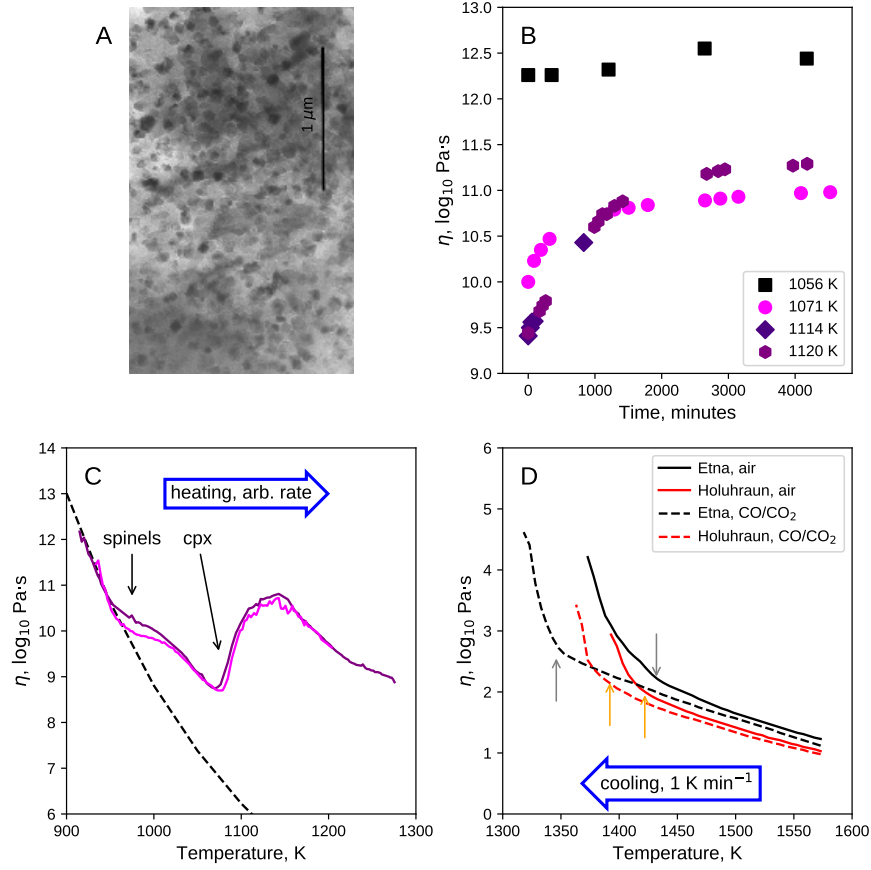


Crystallization of magnetite extracting preferentially  $Fe^{3+}$  from the melt will drive the melt  $Fe^{3+}/Fe^{TOT}$  to a decrease, this resulting in shifting eq. 18 to the right, and, hence, will trigger reduction of sulfur, and possibly sulfur saturation and precipitation of sulfide phases (Jenner et al., 2010). Similarly, S degassing will also affect the equilibrium constant of eq. 18 and, hence, it may alter the iron oxidation state in the melt.

As a result of the interplays between magma oxidation state, crystallization and degassing, the influence of the magma oxidation state on the mobility of magmas and the dynamic of volcanic eruptions is plural. Crystallization will affect the major element chemistry of the residual melt, including volatile content, as well as its oxidation state. In addition, it will add a fraction of solid inclusions in the melt. The combination of those effect will affect the effective viscosity of the magma. Degassing can further perturbate the melt's iron redox state, but, maybe more importantly, it will lead to decreasing the melt water content, this being accompanied of significant changes in the rheology of the magma (Fig. 8B) because of the destructing effects of water on melt polymerisation (e.g. see (Le Losq, Mysen, & Cody, 2015)). The combination of all those effects is very difficult to study and to model simultaneously (e.g. see (Pistone et al., 2012)). To highlight possible volcanic outcomes of such effects, we will conclude this part by focusing on the interplay between oxygen fugacity, magma crystallization and rheology.

Experiments in iron-bearing magmatic liquids always faced the problem of crystallization. The presence of iron reduces the undercooled metastable temperature domain in which the melt can be kept free from any crystals. Neuville et al. (1993) noticed this effect while studying the viscosity and heat capacity of andesite and rhyolite melts: they noticed the appearance of magnetite crystals of a scale of 100 nm in the andesite composition after annealing it at 1000 K in air during 24 hours. Nanolites of hercynite ( $FeAl_2O_4$ ) spinels and tridymite also were observed in an andesite composition rich in iron by Linard and Neuville (2000), affecting viscosity measurements (Fig. 9). TEM observation of the andesite glass after the experiments revealed crystallization of  $\sim 25$  vol% of nanolites (tablets of  $200 \times 100 \times 20$  nm; Fig. 9A); the crystallization of hercynite and tridymite phases was metastable, but drove changes in the melt composition toward a rhyolitic one. This effect, combined with that due to crystal addition (Fig. 8A), induced a large increase in the melt viscosity, for instance of more than 1.5 log unit when starting the dynamic isothermal crystallization-viscosity experiment at 1120 K (Fig. 9B).

The case of crystallisation of nanocrystals in magmatic melts during viscosity experiments was later reported by Liebske et al. (2003) and Villeneuve et al. (2008). Liebske et al. (2003) observed the crystallization of nanolites of magnetites of a size of 10 to 50 nm in andesite melts at undercooled temperatures. Villeneuve et al. (2008) later observed a similar phenomenon when performing viscosity experiments on a basalt composition at undercooled temperatures. Starting from a crystal-free glass, the authors began the viscosity experiments close to the glass transition ( $\log(\eta) \sim 10^{12}$  Pa.s; Fig. 9C). With gradually increasing temperature and measuring viscosity at the same time, they observed the occurrence of crystallization of nanolites of spinel phases at  $\sim 975$  K. Clinopyroxene



**Figure 9.** Viscosity, crystallinity and oxidation state of andesite and basalt magmas. (A) Colorized TEM picture of an andesite (ANDE060) glass from Linard and Neuville (2000) after viscosity measurements, containing  $\sim 25$  vol% of hercynite and trydimite nanocrystals; the size of the tablets are approximatively  $200 \times 100 \times 10$  nm. (B) Viscosity of the crystallizing andesite (ANDE060) melt from Linard and Neuville (2000) as a function of time. The small changes of the viscosity at 1056 K reflect the absence of extensive crystallization. The two continuous lines are two series of measurements, and the black dotted line is the viscosity of the crystal-free basalt. (C) Viscosity of the Piton de la Fournaise (France) basalt erupted in 1998, measured with increasing temperature at arbitrary rate. Arrows annotated spinels and cpx (clinopyroxene) indicated the onset of the crystallization of those phases while increasing temperature. (D) Viscosity of basalts from Etna (Italie) and Holuhraun (Island) measured with decreasing T from 1573 K at a rate of  $1 \text{ K min}^{-1}$ ; arrows highlight the onset of crystallization, which changes with the oxygen fugacity at which the experiments were performed (air, or CO/CO<sub>2</sub> in a 40/60 ratio). Data from Linard and Neuville (2000); Villeneuve et al. (2008); Kolzenburg et al. (2018).

crystallization occurred at higher temperature,  $\sim 1075$  K, causing a sharp increase in melt viscosity related to the presence of crystals as well as changes in residual melt composition, including iron oxidation state as clinopyroxene crystallization preferentially removes  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ . As Fe, Ca and Mg were removed from the residual melt, its degree of polymerisation increased, this resulting in increasing its viscosity of orders of magnitudes. Such chemical change magnifies the physical effect of the crystals on the magma viscos-

ity. At higher temperatures, Kolzenburg et al. (2018) recently reported experiments where viscosity variations during the crystallization of basaltic melts upon cooling at constant rate were measured (Fig. 9D). Those authors varied the  $fO_2$  of the experiments, and results show that the onset of crystallization upon cooling is displaced to lower temperatures under reduced conditions. Those dynamic undercooling experiments are interesting as they are representative of non-equilibrium conditions encountered during the uprise of magmas in volcanic conduits. In those experiments, the system cools down at cooling rates representative of those in natural systems, such that the degree of undercooling increases continuously, leading to an evolution of the sample crystalline state different from that that would be observed under equilibrium conditions. Such approach is of particular interest for studying the rheological evolution of lava flows, as those systems are continuously losing heat and, hence, present a degree of undercooling that increases with time. According to Kolzenburg et al. (2018), considering such dynamic evolution of the lava crystallinity is necessary to make representative predictions of the rheology of the lavas, this allowing to improve calculations of the runaway distances of lava flows for instance.

In all cases, the presence of Fe-bearing nanolites in experiments on natural samples highlights (i) the importance of iron and its crystalline phases in natural magmatic systems, and (ii) the difficulty of obtaining crystal-free samples with iron-bearing compositions and to measure their properties at under-cooled temperatures in the laboratory, as the presence of iron enhances crystallization. In particular, one should note that the synthesis of nanolite-free samples in the laboratory requires firing the melts at high temperatures to enhance the reactivity of spinel phases, because those are quite insoluble in silicate melts. Their reaction with the melt can further exhibit a complex behaviour. For instance, the dissolution of high-alumina spinels at 1600 °C in calcium aluminosilicate melts is indirect, with a Ca-Al phase that forms at the melt-crystal interface as an intermediate phase that allows dissolution of alumina into the melt (Sarpoolaky et al., 2003). Therefore, samples fired at too low temperature, even above the liquidus, or for a time too short may still contain nanolite crystals, invisible under the microscope (either binocular or scanning electron microprobe), which can affect *in fine* any data acquired on such products. The presence of small particules is of particular importance for rheology measurements, as the link between the particle concentration and the liquid viscosity is affected by particle size.

## 6 Concluding Remarks

Iron is a multivalent element present in concentrations ranging from  $\sim 1$  to more than 15 wt% in magmas. It plays a critical role on the phase diagram as well as on dynamic and thermodynamic properties of magmas, and, as such, is a key component for understanding the evolution of magmatic systems.

The review we performed showed the following key points about iron in silicate melts and glasses:

- In the melt structure,  $Fe^{3+}$  is a weak network former and  $Fe^{2+}$  is a network modifier.
- $Fe^{3+}$  and  $Fe^{2+}$  both participate in decreasing the melt viscosity;  $Fe^{2+}$  has a stronger effect on viscosity compared to  $Fe^{3+}$ .
- $Fe^{3+}$  and  $Fe^{2+}$  have different partial molar volumes, such that magma density depends on iron content and oxidation state.
- Most data suggest that  $Fe^{3+}$  is mostly present in CN 4-5 and  $Fe^{2+}$  in CN 5-6, but the diversity of results reported in literature suggest a mixture of environments with CN 4 to 6, and perhaps higher at high pressure.



- The melt composition controls in a complex way the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$  ratio, as different metal cations present different oxygen basicities, affecting the equilibrium constant of the redox reaction linking  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ .

In magmatic systems, the interplays between crystallization of iron-bearing phases, changes in the composition of the residual melt,  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  magma ratio, volatile speciation, sulfur valence and solubility, and overall melt rheology, are very complex. Understanding them is critical to model the evolution of natural magmas. In particular, considering basalt melts in deep magmatic systems, removal of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  by olivine and pyroxene crystallization can be followed by removal of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  by magnetite crystallization, this magnetite crisis leading to change the oxidation state of S in the melt, and, hence, possibly its sulfur content if at saturation. At surface, precipitation of Fe-bearing oxides can lead to further affect the rheology of magmas. Indeed, experiments show that extraction of Fe by magnetite precipitation leads to change the bulk melt composition, driving large increases in the magma viscosity and relaxation time.

Future studies will need to address such issues, particularly considering dynamic systems at meta-equilibrium conditions where crystallization of Fe-bearing phases affects melt properties. In addition to rheological and thermodynamic properties, an interesting additional area of study is iron diffusion in melts. It is important for understanding crystallisation and redox exchange phenomena for instance. Despite this, existing studies do not allow to address the effect of iron oxidation state on the bulk iron diffusion coefficient (e.g. see the review of Y. Zhang et al., 2010). As  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  have different environments, they are expected to diffuse at different rates, the bulk Fe diffusion coefficient being a linear function of those of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  at equilibrium (Y. Zhang et al., 2010). Under disequilibrium conditions as those characterizing dynamic systems (e.g. magma mixing in a reservoir), the differences in  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  diffusion rates may result in local variation of iron oxidation state (redox disequilibrium), with various possible implications for crystallisation as well as for chemical and isotopic equilibria for example. Such importance justify further efforts in better defining the diffusion coefficients of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . In general, there is a clear need of more experimental measurements on controlled systems where oxygen fugacity, temperature and pressure are well constrained. Volatile-bearing systems are of particular interest, as water for instance will influence the diffusivity of iron (e.g. González-García et al., 2017) and, in a less extent, its oxidation state (see above). It is only with such data that a complete picture of the complex links between magma composition and properties can be drawn and used for addressing various volcanological and geochemical problems.

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