

The effects of H₂O and CO₂ in melting of Earth's mantle

shinobu Matsushita [1], Tomokazu Morikawa [2], Toru Inoue [3], Minoru Akaishi [4], Tetsuo Irifune [2]

[1] Dept. Earth Sciences, Ehime Univ., [2] Dept. Earth Sci., Ehime Univ., [3] Dept. Earth Sciences, Ehime Univ., [4] HPS, NIRIM

Melting and subsolidus phase relations in the systems pyrolite - H₂O and pyrolite - CO₂ have been investigated at pressures of 4 - 7.7 GPa and temperatures of 1300 - 1600 degrees C. Starting materials were pyrolite (MgO - Al₂O₃ - CaO - FeO - SiO₂) doped with various contents of H₂O and CO₂ (0.5wt%, 1wt%, 2wt%, 3wt%). The solidus temperatures in the both systems were guessed to be about 1400 -1500 degrees C based on the textures and also the chemical compositions of minerals. Main subsolidus phases were olivine, garnet, orthopyroxene and clinopyroxene. In the systems including 1wt% and 3wt% of CO₂, magnesite coexisted with the above phases under all experimental conditions.