

Calorimetry of high pressure phases of CaSiO₃ and CaSi₂O₅-CaTiSiO₅ systems and high pressure phase relations of CaSiO₃

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Low-pressure polymorphs of CaSiO₃ are rock forming minerals in the Earth' crust, and it is accepted that high-pressure CaSiO₃ perovskite is one of constituents of the lower mantle. Phase relations of CaSiO₃ have been studied by high-pressure experiment, but have not yet been fully studied by thermodynamics approaches. With increasing pressure, CaSiO₃ transforms as pseudowollastonite (pwo) - wollastonite (wo) - walstromite (wal) - CaSi₂O₅ titanite (tit) + Ca₂SiO₄ larnite (lar) - CaSiO₃ perovskite (pv), where () denote abbreviations of the phases. In this study, these polymorphs were synthesized and enthalpies of the phases were measured. Then high- pressure phase equilibrium relations of CaSiO₃ were calculated.

Among the polymorphs in CaO-SiO₂ system, CaSi₂O₅ (tit), Ca₂SiO₄ (lar), CaSiO₃ (pv) cannot be quenched at 1 atm. Drop solution enthalpy of CaSiO₃ (pv) was estimated from those of perovskite solid solutions of CaSiO₃ - CaGeO₃ system by Kojitani et al. (2001). In this study, CaSiO₃ (pwo), (wo), (wal) and titanite solid solutions of CaSi₂O₅ - CaTiSiO₅ systems were synthesized and the drop solution enthalpy of them were measured. Drop solution enthalpy of CaSi₂O₅ (tit) were estimated from those of titanite solid solutions of CaSi₂O₅ - CaTiSiO₅ system by extrapolation.

CaSiO₃(pwo) was synthesized from an equimolar mixture of CaCO₃ and SiO₂ H₂O 11 wt% by palletizing and heating at 1350 C for 30 h. CaSiO₃ (wo) was synthesized by heating at 950 C for 73 hours. CaSiO₃ (wal) was synthesized from CaSiO₃ (pwo) by keeping at 5 GPa, 1200 C for 2 hours. Titanite solid solutions of CaSi₂O₅ - CaTiSiO₅ system were synthesized from glasses of the same compositions by keeping at 11 GPa, 1300 C for 4 hours. CaTiSiO₅ (tit) was synthesized from the glass by keeping at 1100 - 1050 C for 124 hours. It was confirmed that the synthetic samples were single phase materials by using a powder X ray diffractometer.

The drop solution calorimetry was performed by using a Calvet type calorimeter kept at 978 K with 2PbO B₂O₃ solvent at Gakushuin University. Ti-contained samples are generally not easily dissolved in the solvent. Therefore Ar bubbling method was tried to quickly dissolve the samples in the solvent.

Transition enthalpies were estimated from the drop solution enthalpies, and phase boundaries were calculated. CaSiO₃ (pv) by Kojitani et al. (1994) was used in the calculation. Comparing the calculated results in this study with results of high-pressure experiments by Huang and Wyllie (1975) and Gasparik et al. (1994), it is suggested that the results in study agree with those by Huang and Wyllie (1975), but are not in harmony with Gasparik et al. (1994). It is suggested that stability field of CaSiO₃ (pv) is placed at higher pressure than that of Gasparik et al. (1994).