

Melting relations of Fe-FeS system at high pressure

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Sulfur is one of the most plausible candidates for the light elements in the core. We have reported the eutectic temperature of the Fe-FeS system up to 110 GPa using laser-heated diamond anvil cell in the last joint meeting. In the study, we confirmed that the phases, Fe, Fe₂S, and Fe₃S appear up to 70 GPa under the subsolidus conditions coexisting with the melt from analysis of the recovered samples. The eutectic temperature up to 45 GPa was about 1400 K with the subsolidus phases of Fe and Fe₃S. We found also Fe₂S in the samples quenched from the condition above 50 GPa and 1500 K. In order to confirm the phase relation around 50 GPa, we performed in-situ X-ray observation of Fe-FeS system using laser-heated diamond anvil cell at SPring-8. The starting material was fine mixture of Fe and FeS with bulk composition of Fe₈₆S₁₄. Pressures were determined by both ruby fluorescence method and equation of state of Al₂O₃ or NaCl used for thermal insulation. Temperatures were measured by spectroradiometric method. The result was that Fe₃S is still observed above 60 GPa with unknown diffraction lines probably originated from Fe₂S. The appearance of Fe₂S possibly bring a drastic change of eutectic temperature around 50 GPa, then it increase gradually to 110 GPa. the melting curve to the core-mantle boundary indicates that Fe-FeS system would melt at about 2000 K, which is about 1000 degrees lower than that of the previous estimation.