Earth's mantle seismic properties from laboratory experiments

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Thanks to

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Seismic properties from laboratory experiments





 $V_{\rho} = [(K+4/3G)/\rho]^{0.5}$ $V_{s} = (G/\rho)^{0.5}$ Anisotropy (c_{ij}s, CPO)

Attenuation (f-dependence)



Experimental Elasticity of Earth's Mantle - Methods

I. LVP Ultrasonics

- + High-temperature
- Pressure limited to ~25 GPa
- Polycrystalline samples
- Only average wave velocities
- Ideally need Synchrotron



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II. Light scattering techniques in DAC

- + High-pressure possible
- + Elastic anisotropy can be measured (Cijs)
- Temperature difficult (but possible)
- Polycrystalline sample measurements of unclear quality
- Non-transparent samples challenging

a ь Acoustic velocity (km s⁻¹) DAC compression axis 80 Incoming laser Diamond 70 Sample 60 Intensity (counts) Ruby 50 -1 mm Propagation direction 🗲 40 of sound waves in sample 30 20 Scattered 10 laser light -Direct laser Scattering -30 -20-100 10 angle Frequency shift (GHz)



Experimental Elasticity of Earth's Mantle - Status

Marquardt & Thomson, Nature Reviews Earth & Env., 2020

2007



2020

Experimental Elasticity of Earth's Mantle – Major gaps

Marquardt & Thomson, Nature Reviews Earth & Env., 2020



2020

Interpretive Cartoon of Mantle Seismic Structures

Marquardt & Thomson, Nature Reviews Earth & Env., 2020



Interpretive Cartoon of Mantle Seismic Structures





- Systematic variations with chemistry
- Understanding measurements on polycrystals
 - Statistics

Can only partially (or not) be done

- High-temperature (particular in DAC)
 - Time-dependence
 - Signature of phase transitions

The Iron Spin Crossover in (Mg,Fe)O



The Iron Spin Crossover in (Mg,Fe)O - Impact



Wu, *JGR*, 2016



 $Vp^2 = (\mathbf{K} + 4/3^*G)/\rho$



The "mixed" spin state is markedly different from "pure" high or low spin

- Bulk modulus softens (~50%)
- Viscosity decreases (~10-100x)
- Thermal transport properties change
- Electrical conductivity increases
 - Fe partitioning is affected

The Iron Spin Crossover in (Mg,Fe)O – Bulk modulus

-> Bulk modulus is the key parameter!



V(P) data from traditional (static) DAC experiments



Time-resolved XRD in (dynamic) DAC









PhD work Alba San José Méndez



Jenei et al., RSI, 2019;

Mendez et al., RSI, 2020

V(P) data from time-resolved (dynamic) DAC experiments



Bulk modulus softening in (Mg_{0.8}Fe_{0.2})O



Mendez et al., EPSL, in review

Bulk Modulus Softening in (Mg_{0.8}Fe_{0.2})O at High Temperature



The iron spin crossover in Earth's lower mantle



Outlook: Stress Cycling Experiments



Outlook: Stress Cycling Experiments



Towards Continuous Maps of Mantle Seismic Properties

Marquardt & Thomson, Nature Reviews Earth & Env., 2020



Potential of time-resolved XRD experiments:

- "Continuous" maps of mantle seismic properties in *P*,*T*,*C*-space
- Direct monitoring of bulk modulus (and density) across phase transitions in *P*,*T*,*C*-space
- Time-/frequency-dependence of processes (e.g. phase transitions), "resonant frequencies"



Mantle Convection and Surface Expressions

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