Thermal infrared spectroscopy and modeling of experimentally shocked plagioclase feldspars

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ABSTRACT

Thermal infrared emission and reflectance spectra (250-1400 cm⁻¹; ~7-40 µm) of experimentally shocked albite- and anorthite-rich rocks (17-56 GPa) demonstrate that plagioclase feldspars exhibit characteristic degradations in spectral features with increasing pressure. New measurements of albite (Ab₉₈) presented here display major spectral absorptions between $1000-1250 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (8–10 μm) (due to Si-O antisymmetric stretch motions of the silica tetrahedra) and weaker absorptions between 350–700 cm⁻¹ (14–29 μ m) (due to Si-O-Si octahedral bending vibrations). Many of these features persist to higher pressures compared to similar features in measurements of shocked anorthite, consistent with previous thermal infrared absorption studies of shocked feldspars. A transparency feature at 855 cm⁻¹ (11.7 μ m) observed in powdered albite spectra also degrades with increasing pressure, similar to the 830 cm⁻¹ (12.0 μ m) transparency feature in spectra of powders of shocked anorthite. Linear deconvolution models demonstrate that combinations of common mineral and glass spectra can replicate the spectra of shocked anorthite relatively well until shock pressures of 20-25 GPa, above which model errors increase substantially, coincident with the onset of diaplectic glass formation. Albite deconvolutions exhibit higher errors overall but do not change significantly with pressure, likely because certain clay minerals selected by the model exhibit absorption features similar to those in highly shocked albite. The implication for deconvolution of thermal infrared spectra of planetary surfaces (or laboratory spectra of samples) is that the use of highly shocked anorthite spectra in end-member libraries could be helpful in identifying highly shocked calcic plagioclase feldspars.

INTRODUCTION

The structural behavior of plagioclase feldspars under high static pressures is typically studied using thermal infrared absorption spectroscopy to better constrain the processes by which planetary interiors and crusts evolve over time (e.g., Williams and Jeanloz 1988, 1989; Daniel et al. 1997; Williams 1998). Complementary thermal infrared analyses of experimentally and naturally shocked feldspars serve to better understand shock-induced structural disorder by documenting changes in the position and strength of spectral absorptions as a function of shock pressure (e.g., Stöffler 1971; Stöffler and Hornemann 1972; Arndt et al. 1982; Ostertag 1983). This information is useful when interpreting surface mineralogy and/or physical properties from remotely sensed thermal infrared observations of the terrestrial planets and asteroids (e.g., Christensen et al. 1998, 2001; Sprague et al. 2002; Salisbury et al. 1995, 1997; Morris et al. 1999; Ramsey 2002) or in laboratory studies of shocked meteorites or impact crater materials (e.g., Cooney et al. 1999; Xie et al. 2001).

Johnson et al. (2002a) acquired thermal infrared (250–1400 cm⁻¹; ~7–40 μ m) spectra of experimentally shocked anorthite samples over peak pressures from 17 to 56 GPa. They documented changes in the appearance and position of spectral bands with increasing pressure due to depolymerization of the sili-

cate tetrahedra, including strong absorption bands at 1115 cm⁻¹ and near 940 cm⁻¹, weak bands in the 500–650 cm⁻¹ region, and a transparency feature near 830 cm⁻¹ in spectra of shocked powders. In this paper, we present similar spectra of experimentally shocked albite and compare the effects of shock on thermal infrared emission and reflectance spectra of plagioclase feldspars. We also use combinatorial spectral deconvolution techniques to investigate the degree to which combinations of other minerals can replicate the spectra of shocked feldspars, and the implications for analysis of remote sensing observations.

BACKGROUND

Early studies of thermal infrared absorption spectra of naturally shocked feldspars demonstrated a decrease in the spectral detail and intensity of absorption features with increasing pressure (Lyon 1963; Bunch et al. 1967, 1968). This degradation was attributable to lattice disordering and increasing glass content, particularly at shock pressures above ~20 GPa (Stöffler 1972, 1974; Stöffler and Hornemann 1972; Arndt et al. 1982; Ostertag 1983). Modest disordering of feldspar generally begins at pressures above 15–20 GPa, whereas maskelynite (diaplectic glass) forms in feldspars between ~30–45 GPa. Significant melting occurs above ~45 GPa (Stöffler 1972; Gibbons et al. 1975; Hörz and Cintala 1997; Velde et al. 1987, 1989), although the absolute strain rate, initial temperature, and shock pulse duration probably influence the precise shock stress for melting (Stöffler 2001; DeCarli et al. 2002; Fritz et al. 2002).

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Within this pressure regime, the characteristic, fourfold (tetrahedral), strong coordination bonds of Si and Al in feldspars distort to weaker, less-polymerized bonds that approach sixfold (octahedral) coordination. The structural disorder results in the mutual existence of diaplectic glasses and crystalline phases throughout this pressure region, which provide characteristic vibrational frequencies in the thermal infrared.

Between 400 and 550 cm⁻¹, bending vibrations in the Si-O-Al planar ring structures in tectosilicates and diaplectic glasses occur. SiO₆ octahedral-stretching vibrations occur between 750 and 850 cm⁻¹, whereas Si-O-Si octahedral-bending vibrations cause several weaker absorptions between about 700 and 450 cm⁻¹. Absorptions in the 900–1200 cm⁻¹ region are due to Si-O antisymmetric stretch motions of the silicate tetrahedral units in the structure (Bunch et al. 1967; Iiishi et al. 1971; Stöffler and Hornemann 1972; Arndt et al. 1982; Velde et al. 1987; Williams and Jeanloz 1988, 1989; Daniel et al. 1995, 1997; Williams 1998).

Although spectral differences in unshocked feldspars of varying compositions are well documented (e.g., Iiishi et al. 1971; Nash and Salisbury 1991), Ostertag (1983) showed that changes in the stretching and bending modes associated with Si-O, Si-O-Si, and Si-O-Al bonds in thermal infrared absorption spectra of experimentally shocked feldspars follow similar patterns with increasing pressure. Nonetheless, the precise peak shock pressures at which structural disorder and melting occur appear to vary among feldspar compositions, with conversion to diaplectic glass occurring at lower pressures for Ca-rich plagioclase than for Na-rich plagioclase and K feldspars (e.g., Ostertag 1983; Stöffler 1984; Williams and Jeanloz 1989; Williams 1998). As shown below, comparison of thermal infrared spectra of anorthite from Johnson et al. (2002a) to the albite spectra presented here are consistent with these previous studies.

METHODS

Shock recovery experiments

The shock experiments were performed with the Flat Plate Accelerator at the Johnson Space Center, Houston. This powder propellant gun launches flat metal plates for the production of planar shock waves in targets (cf., Gibbons et al. 1975). Details of the shock experiments can be found in Johnson et al. (2002a). Briefly, the geologic target was a disc cored from the rock sample, 12 mm in diameter and 1 mm thick. The disc was encapsulated into a metal holder and placed into a vacuum chamber where it was impacted by a metal flyer plate of some measured velocity. Following an experiment, a lathe was used to remove excess metal from the holder until the silicate target could be pried from its original target well. Careful prying allowed for the recovery of relatively large chips (2–10 mm) that were separated from the more fine-grained materials. The latter were powdered to a more homogeneous grain size (<20–30 μ m). Unshocked samples also were powdered similarly and broken into smaller chips for better comparison to the shocked samples. Use of the 25 mm barrel allowed for recovery of ry of up to 400 mg. Table 1 lists the details of each experiment.

Although the small target-discs could readily be manufactured from singlecrystal feldspars, we instead used a polycrystalline and essentially monomineralic sample to avoid possible bias of crystal-lattice orientation relative to the propagating shock wave on the type and degree of shock deformation. This constraint required a target rock with millimeter-sized crystals of random orientations. One sample that fit these criteria was a low-temperature albitite acquired from the veins of a serpentine massif in Szklary Lower Silesia, Poland. This rock contains 97% albite (Ab_{98}), with minor amounts of quartz, K feldspar, amphibole, and sericite, all with grain sizes <1 mm (Muszynski and Natkaniec-Nowak 1992). The Fe contents of this sample are very low (400–1000 ppm) (Delaney et al. 2003). The density of the sample was determined to be ~2.60 g/cm³, matching the density of pure albite (2.61 g/cm³). Therkelsen (2002) described the thin section optical properties of the shocked anorthosite samples of Johnson et al. (2002a). Undulous extinction and planar deformation features are present at pressures below 25 GPa. Nearly complete undulous extinction and mosaicism is observed in the 29 GPa sample along with the formation of maskelynite in small patches. By 38 GPa, only small regions of undulous extinction occur, with the remainder nearly completely transformed to diaplectic glass, and by 50.0 GPa, the samples are completely isotropic with complete transformation to diaplectic glass.

Delaney et al. (2003) studied the changes in Fe oxidation state of the shocked albitite samples, but did not report optical properties. It is likely that similar changes in optical properties are present in the shocked albitite samples, albeit with variations in the precise pressure ranges over which the transformation from mosaicism to diaplectic glass and complete isotropy occur, as described below.

Thermal infrared spectroscopy

Infrared spectrometers at the University of Hawaii (UH) and Arizona State University (ASU) were used to obtain directional hemispherical reflectance and emissivity spectra of the larger chips and powders. Acquisition of spectra using both UH and ASU instruments allowed comparison of reflectance and emission techniques and provide checks on the reproducibility of the results (cf., Mustard and Hays 1997; Johnson et al. 2002a). The UH operates a Nicolet 740 spectrometer capable of providing directional hemispherical reflectance (715-3300 cm⁻¹; 3-14 µm) [similar to the arrangement of Salisbury et al. (1991a, 1991b, 1994)] in which the external port of the spectrometer is fitted with an integrating sphere, coated inside with a diffusely reflecting gold surface, and a liquid nitrogen-cooled Hg-Cd-Te (MCT) detector (Johnson et al. 1998). The spectrometer was configured to provide 8 cm⁻¹ resolution with 1000 scans coadded per sample spectrum, which was divided by the spectrum of a diffusely reflecting gold plate to provide a hemispherical reflectance spectrum. Unfortunately, all but the unshocked samples were insufficient in size to fully cover the infrared field of view of the spectrometer. To compensate for the small sample area, we placed the samples on cups that were plated with the same reflective gold surface as the interior of the integrating sphere and that were sufficiently large to fill the sample port. This arrangement provided consistent measurements for a sample's spectral reflectance but at the expense of uncertainties in the absolute reflectance values because a portion of the "sample" viewed by the spectrometer was the highly reflective, gold-plated sample cup. However, measurements of the larger unshocked samples that filled the sample port provided a baseline from which the shocked sample reflectance values could be scaled, and emissivity measurements of the same samples provided an additional check on the reflectance levels.

ASU operates a Nicolet Nexus 670 spectrometer equipped with an uncooled, deuterated triglycine sulfate (DTGS) detector adapted for emission spectroscopy (Ruff et al. 1997). Energy from a heated particulate sample (maintained at $80 \,^{\circ}$ C) is collected by a parabolic mirror and directed toward the interferometer, and blackbodies at 70 $\,^{\circ}$ C and 100 $\,^{\circ}$ C are used for radiometric calibration. For this instrument, the infrared beam was confined to the sample by adjusting the sample location within the optical path. The spectrometer was configured to provide 4 cm⁻¹ resolution with 180 scans co-added per spectrum.

 TABLE 1. Detailed experimental conditions for the albitite shock recovery experiments

EIL no.*	Impact velocity (km/s)	Flyer plate†	Assembly	Peak pressure (GPa)
3315	1.340	Al2024	SS304	17.0
3313	1.130	SS304	SS304	24.0
3311	1.180	SS304	SS304	25.5
3322	1.271	SS304	SS304	27.8
3312	1.320	SS304	SS304	29.0
3314	1.410	SS304	SS304	31.4
3319	1.227	FS77	SS304	34.8
3318	1.320	FS77	FS77	38.0
3320	1.139	FS77	FS77	44.6
3316	1.250	FS77	FS77	50.0
3317	1.370	FS77	FS77	55.8

* EIL No. [Running Flat Plate Accelerator experiment number in Experimental Impact Laboratory (EIL) at Johnson Space Center].

† Projectile and assembly materials (Equation of State): Aluminum2024 (Marsh 1980), Stainless Steel 304 (Marsh 1980), "Fansteel 77" (a W-Ni alloy; Jones et al. 1966), W= pure tungsten (Marsh 1980).

Spectral deconvolutions

Deconvolution of remotely sensed spectra using libraries that include spectra of experimentally shocked feldspars potentially can help identify shocked materials on planetary surfaces (e.g., Johnson et al. 2002b). One important consideration when using these spectra, however, is whether combinations of other glass and unshocked mineral spectra could replicate their spectral features, thereby causing misidentification of shocked feldspars. To test this possibility, we used a combinatorial linear deconvolution model based on the multiple endmember spectral mixing algorithm (MESMA) of Roberts et al. (1998) to deconvolve the shocked feldspar emission spectra. In this technique, a given spectrum is modeled by a linear combination of specific end-members (e.g., Thompson and Salisbury 1993; Ramsey 2002; Bandfield 2002). For our endmember spectral library, we selected 32 common minerals from the ASU database (Christensen et al. 2000b), two K-rich and Si-rich glasses from Wyatt et al. (2001) and Hamilton et al. (2001), and the unshocked albitite and anorthosite spectra (Table 2). The combinatorial deconvolution algorithm selects the best subset of components required to model the input spectrum through iterative comparisons to the spectral library in order to minimize uncertainties in the derived fractional abundances.

The algorithm initially compared all possible six-end-member combinations based on the spectral library components and a blackbody (Staid et al. 2001). The blackbody was used to compensate for grain-size variations between the library spectra and the feldspar spectra. The best model containing positive end-member abundances for each input spectrum was identified on the basis of the root-mean-square (rms) error computed for each six-end-member combination. Then, each unused library end-member was alternately added to the six end-members and a new rms error was calculated. The spectrum that provided the best improvement (and was selected with a positive abundance for all endmember components) was then kept as a seventh end-member. If no additional spectrum resulted in all positive fractions and an improved error, six end-members comprised the solution. This procedure was then repeated until as many as nine end-members were selected. The algorithm produced fractions for each member chosen from the spectral library and a blackbody component. We ran the combinatorial demixing algorithm over the spectral range 400 to 1400 cm-1 with spectra of the shocked anorthosite chips from Johnson et al. (2002a) and the shocked albitite chips spectra presented here.

RESULTS

Thermal infrared spectra

Emissivity and hemispherical reflectance spectra of the shocked albitite chips (Fig. 1) demonstrate a variety of features that change with increasing shock pressure indicative of progressive lattice disorder and formation of glass. Major absorptions at 1150, 1037, and 1005 cm⁻¹ (8.7, 9.6, and 9.9 μ m) decrease in band strength with increasing pressure and coalesce into a single broad band near 1035 cm⁻¹ (9.7 μ m) at 55.8 GPa. Weaker absorptions that also decrease in band strength with pressure include those at 655, 600, 532, 400, and 373 cm⁻¹ (15.3, 16.7, 18.8, 23.8, and 26.8 μ m). The minor sharp band at 460 cm⁻¹ (21.7 μ m) first disappears and then develops into a broader band centered near 450 cm⁻¹ (22.2 μ m) in a manner





FIGURE 1. (a) Emissivity spectra of albitite chips recovered from shock experiments, with shock pressures labeled above each spectrum. (b) Hemispherical reflectance spectra (inverted to emissivity) of the albitite chips. Vertical dotted lines indicate spectral features that vary with increasing pressure: 1150, 1037, 1005, 655, 600, 532, 460, 420, and 373 cm⁻¹ (see text). All spectra are offset from the unshocked (0 GPa) spectrum in each plot.

similar to the anorthosite spectra of Johnson et al. (2002a). Unlike the anorthosite spectra, however, no changes to the position of band centers or the Christiansen feature (the emissivity maximum near 1250 cm^{-1}) are noted for the albitite spectra.

Andesine BUR-240	Bronzite BUR-1920	Forsterite BUR-3720A	
Serpentine HS-8.4B	Muscovite WAR-5474	Oligoclase WAR-0234	
Biotite BUR-840	Albite WAR-0612	Actinolite HS-116.4B	
Enstatite HS-9.4B	Chlorite WAR-1924	Microcline BUR-3460	
Hematite BUR-2600	Quartz BUR-4120	Labradorite WAR-4524	
Augite BUR-620	Gypsum var. Alabaster ML-S11	Anhydrite ML-S9	
Calcite ML-C9	Dolomite C17	Augite NMNH-119197	
Diopside NMNH-R17421	Favalite WAR-RGFAY01	Hornblende NMNH-R7208	
Bytownite WAR-1384	Anorthite BUR-340	Kaolinite KGa-1b solid	
Ca-montmorillonite STx-1 solid	Na-montmorillonite SWy-2 solid	Nontronite WAR-5108 granular	
Fe-smectite SWa-1 granular	Hedenbergite NMNH-16168	Potassium-rich glass	
Silica-rich_glass	Albitite	Anorthosite	

Note: All end-members acquired from Christensen et al. (200b), except for K and Silica glasses, which were from Wyatt et al. (2001), Hamilton et al. (2001), and the unshocked albitite (this work) and anorthosite (Johnson et al. 2002a).

Figure 2 shows emissivity and hemispherical reflectance spectra of the shocked albitite powders. Although the fine grain size of the powder subdues most of the bands observed in the spectra of the chips (e.g., Salisbury and Walter 1989), a relative reduction in band depths with increasing pressure still occurs. Volume scattering causes a transparency band at 855 cm⁻¹ (11.7 μ m) (e.g., Salisbury 1993). This band also decreases in strength with pressure, similar to the 830 cm⁻¹ (12.0 μ m) transparency band in anorthosite powders from Johnson et al. (2002a). The Christiansen feature positions of the albitite spectra are consistent with those observed for albitite powders by Nash and Salisbury (1991).

In Figure 3, band depths for five features associated with the albitite chip spectra and the band depth of the transparency feature of the powders are shown as a function of pressure for emission and reflectance spectra. Also shown are correlation lines and their associated coefficients, which range from -0.84 to -0.99. Slight differences in correlation coefficients between emission and reflectance data likely represent the minor differences in spectral resolution and acquisition techniques between the two methods. Moreover, those band depths that are least well correlated to pressure (e.g., BD_1037, BD_1005, and BD_600) are consistently those for which the band effectively disappears at pressures above about 35 GPa.

Spectral deconvolutions

Figure 4a presents the results of the spectral deconvolutions for three representative pressures (17, 27, and 56 GPa) for the albitite and anorthosite samples (Johnson et al. 2002a). Endmember abundances are shown in Table 3, along with the resulting rms errors from the deconvolution runs. Uncertainties in the end-member abundances are about 5-10%. Experience has shown that end-members with abundances <5% are often selected by the algorithm to model minor residual spectral features and improve overall fits, although such minerals may not occur in the sample (cf., Christensen et al. 2000a; Hamilton et al. 2001; Bandfield 2002). Figure 4b presents spectra of the dominant end-members selected in the deconvolution runs (i.e., those with >5% abundance) (Table 3). Figure 5 compares the rms errors for the anorthosite and albitite deconvolution results as a function of pressure.

The anorthosite shocked to 17 GPa was modeled well with a combination of unshocked anorthosite, anorthite, and bytownite. At 27 GPa, anorthite was the dominant end-member selected, although clay minerals such as serpentine and Fesmectite were also chosen, with a corresponding increase in the rms error. At 56 GPa, anorthite and bytownite comprised 50% of the selected end-members, but were reported again in combination with 30% serpentine and Fe-smectite clays. Such clays exhibit two major absorption bands near 1050 cm⁻¹ and 450 cm⁻¹ (cf., Christensen et al. 2000b) that are grossly similar to the two main shocked anorthosite bands. The rms error was highest at this pressure, and the overall fit appears relatively poor (Fig. 4a). Figure 5 shows that the small rms errors at low pressures increase substantially between ~20 and 40 GPA, corresponding to the gradual onset and establishment of structural disorder in the feldspar lattice. The increase in rms errors at high shock levels implies that components in the spectral library cannot model the spectral shape of highly shocked anorthosite very well.

The 17 GPa albitite spectrum was modeled relatively well by the unshocked albitite and a bytownite feldspar, but with higher rms error than the 17 GPa anorthosite. The higher error may occur because albite exhibits a greater number of narrow spectral bands than anorthite, and the deconvolution technique is more sensitive to subtle variations in these bands between the 0 and 17 GPa albitite samples. At 27 GPa, the reported endmembers included clay minerals and more calcic feldspars in place of albite, with a corresponding increase in rms error. At 56 GPa, nearly 50% clay mineral abundance was reported, although the rms error was similar to the 27 GPa fit. Indeed, the albitite rms errors are more constant with increasing pressure compared to shocked anorthosite deconvolutions (Fig. 5). This result may occur because the two main bands in the Fe-smectite



FIGURE 2. (a) Emissivity spectra of albitite powders recovered from shock experiments, with shock pressures labeled above each spectrum. (b) Hemispherical reflectance spectra (inverted to emissivity) of the albitite powders. All spectra are offset from the unshocked (0 GPa) spectrum. Vertical dotted line at 855 cm⁻¹ locates a transparency feature that varies with increasing pressure as described in text.



FIGURE 3. Decrease in band depths (BD) of six bands as a function of shock pressure for emissivity (e) and (where available) hemispherical reflectance (r) spectra of albitite. Band depths computed using continuum between the following wavenumbers: BD_1150 (1110 cm⁻¹ and 1210 cm⁻¹); BD_1037, BD_1005 (960 cm⁻¹ and 1110 cm⁻¹); BD_855 (794 cm⁻¹ and 951 cm⁻¹); BD_600 (500 cm⁻¹ and 635 cm⁻¹); and BD_373 (345 cm⁻¹ and 500 cm⁻¹). All band depths are from spectra of chips except for BD_855, which is from the powders. Correlation lines shown (solid for emissivity; dashed for reflectance), with correlation coefficients listed in legend.

and serpentine clays described above are more similar to the two main bands in highly shocked albitite than the similarly shocked anorthosite (Fig. 4b).

DISCUSSION

In shocked samples, crystalline and amorphous phases are likely to coexist as intimate mixtures with the proportion of diaplectic glass increasing with shock pressure (Ostertag 1983; Heymann and Hörz 1990; Yamaguchi and Sekine 2000), resulting in the gradual disappearance of absorption bands in thermal infrared spectra. For example, small bands between 500 and 650 cm⁻¹ fade away by about 45 GPa because of depolymerization of the silica tetrahedra (e.g., Williams 1998). This behavior is similar to that observed in absorption spectra of shocked Na-rich feldspars by Ostertag (1983), as is the appearance of the band near 460 cm⁻¹ with increasing pressure (Fig. 1). The stronger Si-O stretching bands at higher wavenumbers (1150, 1037, and 1005 cm⁻¹) disappear by about 50 GPa.

The 855 cm⁻¹ transparency feature in powdered albitite samples (Fig. 2) is caused by their fine grain size, which reduces the spectral contrast of the reststrahlen bands and allows volume scattering to dominate (e.g., Salisbury et al. 1991a, 1991b). The transparency feature disappears almost completely at the highest pressures, likely because the structural disorder

TABLE 3.	Deconvolution results for selected albitite and anorthosite
	spectra

	spectra					
Pressure	Albiti	te	RMS error	Anorthos	ite	RMS error
17 GPa	Albitite	61%	0.0053	Anorthosite	47%	0.0022
	Bytownite	26%		Anorthite	26%	, D
	Andesine	4%		Bytownite	18%	, D
	Labradorite	3%		Diopside	3%	, D
	Dolomite	2%		Fayalite	2%	, D
	Calcite	2%		Dolomite	2%	, D
	Microcline	2%		K glass	1%	, D
	Fayalite	<1%		Muscovite	1%	, D
	Chlorite	<1%		Gypsum	<1%	, D
27 GPa	Bytownite	35%	0.0069	Anorthite	48%	0.0089
	Fe-smectite	26%		Serpentine	17%	, D
	Albitite	15%		Fayalite	9%	, D
	Andesine	12%		Dolomite	7%	, D
	Serpentine	7%		Fe-smectite	6%	b
	Dolomite	3%		Nontronite	4%	, D
	Hematite	<1%		Hornblende	4%	b
	Chlorite	<1%		Bytownite	3%	, D
	Microcline	<1%		Forsterite	2%	þ
56 GPa	Fe-smectite	26%	0.0065	Anorthite	37%	0.0097
	Bytownite	18%		Serpentine	17%	, D
	Serpentine	16%		Fe-smectite	13%	, D
	Anorthite	14%		Bytownite	13%	, D
	K glass	11%		Fayalite	10%	b
	Microcline	7%		Dolomite	6%	, D
	Ca-mont.	6%		K glass	3%	þ
	Dolomite	3%		Forsterite	<1%	þ
	Kaolinite	<1%				



FIGURE 4. (a) Comparison of measured (thick line) and deconvolved (modeled; thin line) spectra of albitite (left) and anorthosite (right) chips of shocked samples (17 GPa, 27 GPa, and 56 GPa) (cf., Johnson et al. 2002a). (b) Spectra of end-members selected from deconvolutions at abundances >5% (Table 3).



FIGURE 5. Comparison of rms error values from spectral deconvolution runs between albitite and anorthosite. Increase in anorthosite rms values near 20 GPa suggests that no spectral library end-members are available to model the change in spectral shape due to the onset of diaplectic glass formation. Conversely, the albitite sample has higher rms values that change relatively little with increasing pressure.

at these pressures prevents significant volume scattering. Nash and Salisbury (1991) observed a similar effect in their spectra of fused albite glass.

Figure 6 compares three spectra of albitite and anorthosite to demonstrate how the spectral features in albitite are maintained to higher pressures than similar features in anorthosite. For example, the bands near 535 and 600 cm⁻¹ (Si-O-Si bending vibrations) are still apparent at 27 GPa in the albitite spectrum but not in the anorthosite. Similarly, the Si-O antisymmetric stretching band at 1115 cm⁻¹ in anorthosite is nearly gone at this pressure whereas the 1150 cm⁻¹ band in the albitite is maintained. At the highest pressures, both types of



FIGURE 6. Comparison of anorthosite and albitite spectra of unshocked (0 GPa) and shocked samples (27 GPa, 56 GPa; with offsets as shown; cf., Johnson et al. 2002a). For plotting purposes, the spectral contrast of the unshocked albitite sample was decreased to match that of anorthosite. Note persistence of spectral features in albitite sample at 27 GPa relative to the anorthosite sample.

feldspars have lost all but two major features, the deep band near 440–460 cm⁻¹ (caused by bending vibrations in the Si-O-Al planar ring structures) and the broad Si-O stretch bands at 960 cm⁻¹ (anorthosite) and 1035 cm⁻¹ (albitite).

The persistence of the albitite bands to higher pressures than the anorthosite is consistent with previous thermal infrared absorption and Raman spectroscopic studies (e.g., Ostertag 1983; Velde et al. 1989; Heymann and Hörz 1990; Williams 1998). This difference is depicted further in Figure 7, in which the band areas between 505 and 555 cm⁻¹ are calculated from the anorthosite and albitite spectra. The anorthosite band areas approach zero around 27–29 GPa (negative band areas are



FIGURE 7. Band areas calculated between 505 and 555 cm⁻¹ for anorthosite and albitite spectra, demonstrating the greater persistence of the albitite band at higher shock pressures compared to the anorthosite band. Negative band areas in the anorthosite are caused by the shoulder of the 450 cm⁻¹ band.

caused by the shoulder of the 450 cm⁻¹ band), whereas the albitite band areas do not approach zero until about 40–45 GPa. This difference in feldspar response to high pressures may result from the higher Al content in anorthite relative to albite. Previous work has suggested that the coordination changes of tetrahedral cations appear to occur at lower pressures for AlO₄ tetrahedra than for SiO₄ tetrahedra (Williams 1998).

Spectral deconvolutions of the data presented here are valuable to determine the uniqueness of the shocked feldspar spectra relative to combinations of common minerals, which is particularly relevant to deconvolutions of remotely sensed spectra. The results shown above suggest that, although anorthosite spectra at low to intermediate shock pressures may be modeled relatively well by the dominant feldspar (plus some nearby solid-solution members and some minor minerals), once the shock pressures reach 25-30 GPa the ability to model the shocked spectra accurately decreases sharply. Conversely, deconvolutions of the albitite spectra have no apparent correlation with pressure, perhaps owing to the greater similarity of the two major clay mineral absorption features to those in more highly shocked albitites (Fig. 4b). Without this similarity, albitite probably would show the same trend of increasing rms error with pressure as does anorthosite. But because of this similarity, it is possible that deconvolutions could select these types of clay minerals in place of highly shocked albite (or vice-versa).

Implications for remote sensing

Thermal infrared emission and reflectance spectroscopy of experimentally shocked plagioclase feldspars demonstrate how the increase in structural disorder induced by high pressures is manifested in a degradation of their spectral absorptions. Characteristic absorptions related to the bending and stretching motions of Si and Al tetrahedra in the thermal infrared are lost with increasing pressure, with spectral features in albite-rich feldspars persisting to higher pressures than similar absorption bands in anorthite-rich feldspars, possibly owing to the higher Al content in anorthite. Further work on intermediate composition plagioclase feldspars could be useful in constraining this resilience to high shock pressures.

Spectra of highly shocked anorthosites are represented more poorly by linear mixtures of common minerals than are mildly shocked samples. Conversely, model errors of shocked albitite spectra show little correlation with pressure. The unique nature of highly shocked anorthosite spectra suggests that they are more appropriate to use in deconvolutions of remotely sensed spectra than are shocked albitite spectra. However, albite is not a common mineral on planetary surfaces other than on Earth. Indeed, the feldspar compositions detected on Mars by the Thermal Emission Spectrometer (TES) have been dominantly intermediate to calcic plagioclase (e.g., Christensen et al. 2001; Bandfield 2002). Johnson et al. (2002b) performed preliminary deconvolutions of TES spectra of impact crater regions on Mars using shocked anorthosite spectra in spectral end-member libraries to identify areas of highly shocked materials. Further TES data analysis is ongoing and will be combined with spectra from additional shock experiments using basaltic rocks and data from the Thermal Multispectral Imaging System currently in orbit on the Mars Odyssey spacecraft (Christensen et al. 1999) and the Mini-TES instrument carried by the Mars Exploration Rovers (Squyres et al. 2001).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank P. Lucey, K. Horton, V. Hamilton (Univ. Hawaii), P. Christensen, S. Ruff, M. Wyatt, and T. Glotch (ASU) for assistance in acquiring the lab reflectance and emission spectra and for the glass spectra, J. Haynes (JSC) for performing the shock experiments, and L. Natkaniec-Nowak (AGH/AMM, Poland) for the albitite sample. Thanks to J. Plescia, L. Gaddis, Q. Williams, and A. Sprague for helpful reviews, and B. Jolliff for editorial assistance. This work was performed under NASA contract W-19, 443 issued through the Planetary Geology and Geophysics Program.

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MANUSCRIPT RECEIVED DECEMBER 23, 2002 MANUSCRIPT ACCEPTED JUNE 5, 2003 MANUSCRIPT HANDLED BY BRAD JOLLIFF