The structure of high-pressure C2/c ferrosilite and crystal chemistry of high-pressure C2/c pyroxenes

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ABSTRACT

Single-crystal X-ray diffraction experiments in a diamond-anvil pressure cell have demonstrated that clinoferrosilite (FeSiO₃) with space group P2₁/c transforms to a pyroxene with space group C2/c at high pressure. The transformation has been reversed at room temperature and pressures between 1.48 and 1.75 GPa; it is first-order in character and is accompanied by a 3% decrease in the volume of the unit cell. The structure of this C2/c polymorph has been refined from diffraction data collected at 1.87 GPa and contains a single, symmetrically distinct silicate tetrahedral chain, with a mean Si-O bond length of 1.63 Å and a chain extension angle (O3-O3-O3) of 138.4 ± 0.9°. The M₁ and M₂ cation sites are octahedrally coordinated, with mean bond lengths of 2.14 and 2.18 Å, respectively. This clino(pyro)xyroxene is the Fe analogue of the C2/c phase found in MgSiO₃ at pressures above 7 GPa.

The high-pressure C2/c structure of ferrosilite differs considerably from the C2/c phase found at elevated temperatures, with a β angle some 7° smaller and a silicate chain significantly more kinked than in the high-temperature form. It is also substantially different from C2/c structures that contain Ca but is very similar (in terms of the sizes and distortions of the cation sites) to orthorhombic ferrosilite. The same structural relationships hold for the MgSiO₃ phases with C2/c symmetry. The chemical behavior of these C2/c forms of both MgSiO₃ and FeSiO₃ is therefore expected to resemble that of the corresponding orthopyroxenes.

INTRODUCTION

Pyroxenes make up almost 25% by volume of some mineralogical models of the Earth’s upper mantle (Ringwood, 1975). The structure of the Ca-poor pyroxene has always been considered to be an orthopyroxene, although evidence for the stability at high pressures of a Ca-poor clinopyroxene has been available for some 15 yr (e.g., Yamamoto and Akimoto, 1977; Akaogi and Akimoto, 1977). Recent petrological experiments on the MgSiO₃ system in the pressure-temperature range 7–10 GPa and 900–1700 °C (Pacalo and Gasparik, 1990; Kanzaki, 1991) in combination with in-situ single-crystal diffraction experiments to 8 GPa at room temperature (Angel et al., 1992a) have confirmed the true stability of a high-pressure clinopyroxene phase with C2/c symmetry. Orthoenstatite of composition MgSiO₃ transforms to this high-pressure clinopyroxene structure at the pressures and temperatures corresponding to a depth of 200–300 km within the Earth’s upper mantle. Unlike other transformations between pyroxene polytypes (e.g., Gasparik, 1990, and references therein), the orthoenstatite to high-pressure clinopyroxene transition involves substantial changes in the thermodynamic properties of the pyroxene: for example, the volume change at high pressure is some 3% (Angel and Hugh-Jones, 1994), and ΔS and ΔH are substantial fractions of the values associated with the higher-pressure breakdown reactions of pyroxene to either garnet or wadsleyite + stishovite (Angel and Hugh-Jones, 1994).

Further experimental work has suggested that the addition of small amounts of Ca or Al to the MgSiO₃ end-member has only a minor effect on the position of the orthopyroxene to high-pressure clinopyroxene phase boundary (Herzberg and Gasparik, 1991). However, since Fe is likely to be the largest substituent for Mg in orthopyroxenes, we are undertaking a study of the phase stabilities and properties of pyroxenes with composition FeSiO₃, to provide end-member data for the subsequent examination of the effect of Fe on the phase relations of...
Ca-free pyroxenes. The form of the phase diagram of FeSiO$_3$ (ignoring the low-pressure breakdown to fayalite + quartz and the existence of a structurally distinct C2/c phase stable at high temperatures) that can be deduced from experiments quenched from high pressures and temperatures is shown in Figure 1a. At pressures below 4 GPa, Lindsley (1965) reversed a phase boundary between orthoferrosilite and clinoferrasilite with space group P2$_1$/c, whereas Akimoto et al. (1965) reported the recovery of the same P2$_1$/c clinoferrasilite phase from experiments that would lie in the stability field of orthoferrosilite if the boundary of Lindsley were extrapolated to higher pressures (Fig. 1a). One possible solution to this apparent discrepancy is for the phase diagram of FeSiO$_3$ to have the same topology as that of MgSiO$_3$, with a stability field for a C2/c ferrosilite phase at high pressures (Fig. 1b). By analogy with MgSiO$_3$, this phase is expected to revert to P2$_1$/c clinoferrasilite upon pressure release.

We have therefore undertaken an in-situ high-pressure single-crystal X-ray diffraction study of P2$_1$/c clinoferrasilite and show that it transforms to a C2/c phase at high pressures, whose structure we have determined. The crystal chemistry of the high-pressure C2/c phases of both end-member compositions that are now known are compared in some detail with other pyroxene polymorphs of the same compositions to yield insights into the nature of the pyroxene phase diagram at high pressures and temperatures and to deduce the effect that the inversion of orthopyroxene to high-pressure clinopyroxene has on the distribution of trace elements between the pyroxene and other phases in the Earth's upper mantle.

**Experimental Details**

Clinoferrosilite was synthesized at 8.0 GPa and 1200 °C in a multianvil press at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut. The sample assembly and experimental details are essentially the same as reported in Woodland and O'Neill (1993). The starting material was a mixture of fayalite and quartz, along with 5% by weight BaO-B$_2$O$_3$ as a flux (78 wt% BaO, 22 wt% B$_2$O$_3$). A slight excess of quartz was added to compensate for the dissolution of SiO$_2$ into the flux. Ag was used as the capsule material to prevent the loss of Fe to the capsule during the experiment. The duration of the experiment at pressure and temperature was 10.5 h.

A small crystal (measuring 60 x 30 x 20 μm) was selected from the sample of synthetic clinoferrosilite on the basis of its optical quality and large size, relative to the rest of the FeSiO$_3$ crystals in the sample. The compositions of several crystals from this sample were analyzed using energy-dispersive X-ray analysis with a Philips CM20 FEG transmission electron microscope (at the Bayerisches Geoinstitut), which detected the presence of just Fe, Si, and O, indicating that the synthetic clinoferrosilite contained no impurities. Mössbauer experiments on the clinoferrosilite crystals (McCammon, personal communication) displayed no peaks attributed to Fe$^{3+}$, implying that the concentration of Fe$^{3+}$ in the sample was

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**Figure 1.** (a) The ortho-clino FeSiO$_3$ phase boundaries of Lindsley (1965) and Akimoto et al. (1965). The pressures and temperatures of Lindsley's reversals are represented by squares. Only one reversal of the boundary was obtained by Akimoto et al. (shown by the triangles); the position of the phase boundary was constrained by several synthesis experiments on either side of it. The pressure and temperature at which our clinoferrosilite crystal was synthesized is represented by the circle. (b) The FeSiO$_3$ phase diagram postulated as a result of this work (ignoring the presence of a second C2/c stability field at high temperatures), showing the position of a C2/c phase at high pressures, and uniting the results of Lindsley and Akimoto et al.
<0.8%. To check that the ferrosilite crystal was of a suitable quality for high-pressure X-ray diffraction, data were collected at ambient pressure and temperature with a glass-fiber mount before the crystal was transferred to a modified Merrill-Bassett type diamond-anvil cell (Hazen and Finger, 1982). A 4:1 methanol-ethanol mixture was used as the pressure medium, and the pressure was determined by using the R, laser-induced fluorescence from a small ruby chip included in the cell; the wavelength shifts were converted into pressures using the calibration of Mao et al. (1986), and the precision of these pressure measurements was estimated to be better than ±0.03 GPa (Angel et al., 1992b).

A Picker four-circle diffractometer equipped with a Mo X-ray tube (with Ko radiation obtained by β filtering) was used throughout the course of the experiment. Unit cells were determined at each pressure by a vector least-squares fit (Ralph and Finger, 1982) to the positions of about 25 accessible reflections in the range 8° < 2θ < 28°, centered by the method of King and Finger (1979). All the unit cells displayed monoclinic symmetry within the experimental uncertainties, and cell parameters constrained to monoclinic symmetry are reported in Tables 1 and 2.

To determine the nature of structural changes occurring, intensity data of all accessible reflections to 60° 2θ were collected, with ω scans of 1° total width and a step size of 0.025°, in a constant-precision mode to obtain I/σ(I) > 10, subject to the restriction of a maximum counting time per step of 8 s. Standard reflections were collected every 200 min to check for drift of the diffractometer and intensity decrease. No significant or systematic variations in these reflections were observed during the course of any of the data collections. Integrated intensities were obtained from the step scans using a modified Lehmann-Larsen algorithm (Grant and Gabe, 1978), with the option to reset the backgrounds interactively and so exclude any diffuse background. Intensities were corrected for absorption by the diamond, Lorentz and polarization effects, and absorption by the crystal itself (typically, μ = 72 cm−1). The reflections were averaged in Laue group 2/m. The y coordinates of the high-pressure clinofersilite structure (from the first data collection) were poorly defined as a result of lack of resolution along b*, which was caused by the orientation of the crystal within the diamond-anvil cell forced by the crystal's cleavage. Consequently the crystal was unloaded from the diamond-anvil cell and remounted in such a way that the new orientation was approximately 90° from the initial orientation. The pressure was increased to 1.88 GPa (i.e., within 1 esd of the previous pressure), and a second data set was collected. Absorption corrections were made, and the individual data sets were averaged in Laue group 2/m; then the two sets of intensity data were combined for the final structure refinement. Structure factors with F > 6σ(F) were refined using the RFINE90 program, a development version of the RFINE4 program (Finger and Prince, 1975), with reflections assigned weights of σ−2, where σ was derived from counting and averaging statistics. Refinement parameters and averaging statistics for both sets of intensity data are given in Table 3.

**RESULTS**

The structure of the clinofersilite crystal with space group P21/c was determined at room pressure, and positional parameters and bond lengths and angles are reported in Tables 4 and 5, respectively. All structural parameters are within 1 esd (combined) of those measured by Burnham (1966).

On compression to 1.43 GPa, the clinofersilite crystal exhibited P21/c cell parameters, which are characterized by a relatively large β angle of ~108°. At these low pressures, there was no significant variation in the intensities of the h + k = 2n + 1 reflections that are present in the diffraction pattern of P21/c clinofersilite. On increasing the pressure further to 1.75 GPa, these reflections disappeared from the diffraction pattern, and the unit-cell parameters underwent a discontinuous change; whereas a decreased by ~1.3%, c shortened by some 4%, and β was reduced by about 5° to a value of 103.07° (Figs. 2 and 3). The transition was accompanied by a 3% volume decrease, which indicates that the transition is first-order in character. On releasing the pressure from the crystal, the structure once again assumed the P21/c clinofersilite structure, with its large value of β. Subse-

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**TABLE 1. Unit-cell parameters for FeSiO3 and MgSiO3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>P21/c Fs</th>
<th>P21/c Fs: 1.87 GPa</th>
<th>P21/c Fs: 1050 °C</th>
<th>C2/c Fs; H-like</th>
<th>C2/c Fs; 7.93 GPa</th>
<th>C2/c Fs; 1100 °C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a (Å)</td>
<td>b (Å)</td>
<td>c (Å)</td>
<td>β (°)</td>
<td>v (Å)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.7075(5)</td>
<td>9.0807(4)</td>
<td>5.2347(5)</td>
<td>108.46(1)</td>
<td>437.70(6)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.504(1)</td>
<td>8.996(3)</td>
<td>5.009(1)</td>
<td>103.01(1)</td>
<td>418.8(2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.928(1)</td>
<td>9.179(1)</td>
<td>5.338(1)</td>
<td>110.20(1)</td>
<td>456.5(1)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.73(1)</td>
<td>9.11(1)</td>
<td>5.23(1)</td>
<td>107.8(9)</td>
<td>441.4(8)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.605(4)</td>
<td>8.814(3)</td>
<td>5.169(2)</td>
<td>108.34(4)</td>
<td>415.3(4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.201(3)</td>
<td>8.621(1)</td>
<td>4.908(1)</td>
<td>101.50(3)</td>
<td>381.5(2)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.864(6)</td>
<td>8.954(4)</td>
<td>5.333(3)</td>
<td>110.03(4)</td>
<td>442.5(5)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: data for P21/c and high-P Fs (FeSiO3) and P21/c and high-P En (MgSiO3) are from our own experiments. High-T C2/c Fs data were taken from Sueno et al. (1984); high-T C2/c En data were taken from Smith (1969). H-like data were extrapolated from data across the CaFe-FeFe join (see text).*
quint cycles of raising and lowering the pressure around the transition have yielded a reversed bracket of 1.48–1.75 GPa and show that the transformation is reversible and that the high-pressure phase is nonquenchable.

From diffraction data collected from the crystal at 1.87 GPa, it was found that all reflections with \( h + k = \text{odd} \) were absent, and, of the \( h0l \) reflections, those with \( l = \text{odd} \) were also unobserved. These systematic absences are indicative of space group \( C2/c \) or \( Cc \). An \( N(0) \) test (Wilson, 1949) on the intensities of all accessible reflections indicated that they display the statistics expected from a centric structure. A structure refinement of the combined data set was therefore carried out in space group \( C2/c \) using as initial coordinates those of the high-pressure \( C2/c \) pyroxene MgSiO\(_3\) (Angel et al., 1992a). Refined positional parameters, bond lengths, and angles are reported in Tables 4 and 5.

Using orientation matrices obtained from diffraction data collected from the clinoferrosilite crystal above and below the transition, the orientational relationship for the transformation of the low- to the high-\( P \) clinoferrosilite structures was calculated as

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
1 & 0 & 0.16 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 1
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Since this relationship between the high- and low-\( P \) structures consists of two independent components (i.e., that due to the crystallographic transition from the \( P2_1/c \) to \( C2/c \) phases and also a possible movement of the crystal within the diamond-anvil cell between experiments), the above matrix was calculated for several experimental reversals, giving the estimated uncertainties for each component of the matrix as \( \pm 0.03 \). Within these limits, the crystallographic relationship between the \( P2_1/c \) and high-\( P \) \( C2/c \) phases of FeSiO\(_3\) is identical to that calculated for MgSiO\(_3\).

**Discussion**

Nature of the \( P2_1/c \) to high-\( P \) \( C2/c \) transition in Mg and Fe end-member pyroxenes

The change in symmetry from \( P2_1/c \) to \( C2/c \) of the clinoferrosilite may be described by differences in the configuration of the silicate chains within the pyroxene framework, in a similar way to the \( P2_1/c-C2/c \) transition in the MgSiO\(_3\) end-member (Angel et al., 1992a). All pyroxene polymorphs consist of chains of corner-sharing silicate tetrahedra that crosslink, by shared O atoms, parallel bands of octahedrally coordinated cations. These tetrahedral chains may be rotated in two directions from the fully extended position, denoted O and S rotations (Thompson, 1970). The differences between these rotations are most clearly defined in terms of ideal structures with fully rotated chains (Fig. 4), with the O configuration having a chain extension angle O3-O3-O3 of 120°, and a resulting structure based on a cubic close-packed arrangement of O atoms (with a tetrahedral to octahedral edge ratio of 1:1). Hexagonal close-packing of the O atoms produces a structure with S-rotated chains whose chain extension angle is 240° by convention (Cameron and Papike, 1980). In an O-rotated tetrahedral chain, the basal triangular faces of the tetrahedra [i.e., those approximately parallel to (100)] have an orientation opposite to the triangular faces of the octahedral strip to which they are linked by the apical O1 atoms (Fig. 4a). In an S-rotated chain, however, these triangular faces have the same orientation (Fig. 4b). Both situations represent extreme rotations; in practice, the chain extension angle is never less than about 130° and is usually in the range 160–175° (Cameron and Papike, 1980). Fully extended chains in an ideal structure have an extension angle O3-O3-O3 of 180°; this structure is only possible if the tetrahedral to octahedral edge ratio is \( \sqrt{3}/2 \) (Fig. 4c). Note that the tetrahedral to octahedral edge ratio increases with the rotation of the silicate chains away from the fully extended position (in either the O or S direction), so that increased
chain rotation leads to relatively smaller octahedral cation sites (Cameron and Papke, 1980). For this last reason, Pannhorst (1979, 1981) chose to distinguish pyroxenes on the basis of the stacking sequence of nearly straight and kinked chains.

The structure of clinoferrosilite with space group $P2_1/c$ consists of two symmetrically distinct silicate chains, which are rotated in different directions. The A chain is S-rotated and is more extended with smaller tetrahedra than the B chain, which is O-rotated and considerably kinked. The edge sharing of the tetrahedra and M2 site that results from the S rotation of the A chain makes the M2 octahedral site extremely distorted. The chain extension angles of the $P2_1/c$ clinoferrosilite show very large rotations from 180°, indicating that the structure is near its stability limit. Since the SiO$_4$ tetrahedra are relatively incompressible at low pressures, increasing the pressure tends to compress the FeO$_6$ octahedra differentially, thus requiring further rotation of the tetrahedral chains from the straight configuration to stabilize the structure. Since the chains are already as kinked as they can readily become, the structure undergoes a major reconfiguration of the silicate chains between 1.43 and 1.75 GPa. Above the transition pressure, the A chain becomes O-rotated (i.e., kinked in the opposite sense from the fully extended position, relative to its kinking in the low-pressure structure) and becomes geometrically equivalent to the B chain. Note that this chain rotation also involves the breaking of the bonds between each O3 atom of the A chain and the M2 Fe atoms on one side of the chain and the formation of new bonds between the O3 and M2 sites on the other side (schematically shown in Fig. 4a, 4b). As a result, the tetrahedra in the A chain no longer share edges with the M2 sites, and this allows these octahedra to become significantly smaller. The unit-cell volume of the pyroxene is reduced by some 12 Å$^3$ by the transformation to a pyroxene with a small chain extension angle of 138.4°.

Under Pannhorst's (1979) description, the transformation involves a change in stacking sequence from $M+SS-M+KK-M$ in the $P2_1/c$ phase to $M+KK$-$M+KK-M$ for the high-pressure $C2/c$ structure, where S denotes a layer of relatively straight tetrahedral chains, K a layer of kinked chains, and M the octahedral layer.

The nature of this low- to high-P clino transformation is very similar to that occurring above 7 GPa in clinopyroxenite (Angel et al., 1992a). In both the FeSiO$_3$ and the MgSiO$_3$ end-member compositions, the transition is accompanied by a 3% volume decrease and a decrease of about 6° in $\beta$ (Figs. 2 and 3). However, the magnitude of the hysteresis loop between the high-P ($C2/c$) and low-P ($P2_1/c$) structures is much greater in the MgSiO$_3$ end-member (about 2.6 GPa) than in the ferrosilite, which is very similar to that occurring above 7 GPa in clinopyroxenite (Angel et al., 1992a). In both the FeSiO$_3$ and the MgSiO$_3$ end-member compositions, the transition is accompanied by a 3% volume decrease and a decrease of about 6° in $\beta$ (Figs. 2 and 3). However, the magnitude of the hysteresis loop between the high-P ($C2/c$) and low-P ($P2_1/c$) structures is much greater in the MgSiO$_3$ end-member (about 2.6 GPa) than in the ferrosilite, which is very similar to that occurring above 7 GPa in clinopyroxenite (Angel et al., 1992a).
The variation of $\beta$ with pressure of the clinoferrosilite ($\text{FeSiO}_3$), showing a distinct discontinuity of some 5$^\circ$ at the transition from $P2_1/c$ to $C2/c$. The uncertainties in the measurements of $\beta$ and the pressure are considerably less than the size of the symbols used.

The most striking difference between these three $C2/c$ polymorphs is the unusually small value of $\beta$ in the high-$P$ structure. This angle of about 103$^\circ$ is more than 7$^\circ$ less than that observed in the high-$T$ phase at 1050 $^\circ$C (Sueno et al., 1984) and nearly 5$^\circ$ less than that calculated for the Hd-like phase. There is evidence to show that $\beta$ may increase as much as 3$^\circ$ in a temperature rise of 1000 $^\circ$C (Smyth, 1974), in which case both the high-$T$ and the fictive Hd-like phases have a value for $\beta$ at room temperature of about 108$^\circ$. The extrapolated room-pressure unit-cell volume of the high-$P$ phase is more than 8% less than the volume of the high-$T$ phase; only about 1% of this difference arises from the thermal expansion of the pyroxene at elevated temperatures. The unit-cell volume of the high-$P$ form is also 5% less than that of the Hd-like phase, thus showing that the volumes of both the high-$T$ and the fictive Hd-like polymorphs are very similar at ambient temperature and pressure. The $a$, $b$, and $c$ cell parameters of the high-$P$ $C2/c$ phase are all significantly shorter than the corresponding cell parameters of either the high-$T$ or fictive Hd-like polymorphs, the cell parameters of these latter two phases (those of the high-$T$ form having been corrected for thermal expansion) being of a similar magnitude. These comparisons seem to suggest that, at a superficial level, the structures of the high-$T$ and Hd-like phases are similar, and both are distinct from the $C2/c$ phase found at high pressures.
The O3-O3-O3 chain extension angle of each phase (Table 5) is very important for characterizing the differences between the monoclinic pyroxene polymorphs. There is only one symmetrically distinct silicate chain in the C2/c structure, which is O-rotated to differing degrees in all the polymorphs (Table 5). It is slightly more than 10° from the fully extended position in the high-T phase [with stacking sequence M + SS – M + SS – M under Pannhorst’s classification (1979)], allowing the M2 sites to become very large and highly distorted from an ideal octahedron. In the fictive Hd-like phase, the chain extension angle is approximately 156°, and the Fe in the M2 site occupies a distorted eightfold-coordinated polyhedron with very large volume. Only the high-P clinoferrro-silite exhibits a remarkably small chain extension angle, some 20° less than the Hd-like phase, and more than 30° less than the fully extended high-T silicate chains. Extrapolation of this high-T extension to ambient temperature (by noting the effect of temperature on C2/c pyroxenes such as diopside and hedenbergite; Cameron et al., 1973) merely reduces the chain extension angle by about 3°. As far as the chain extension angles are concerned, the Hd-like structure is therefore intermediate between that of the high-P and high-T structures but is much nearer to that of the high-T structure (Fig. 5). The average Si-O bond lengths in all three phases are identical to within 1 esd (combined), though the tetrahedra are somewhat more distorted at high temperature. The M1 site does not differ significantly in either shape or size between the three C2/c phases, although it is approximately 5% larger in the high-T structure. Thermal expansion is likely to contribute up to 1.5% of this difference, and the remainder may be accounted for by the experimental uncertainties.

The most significant variation in size and shape of the cation sites in the high-P, high-T, and fictive Hd-like structures occurs at the M2 site, which is connected to the silicate chains by the long M2-O3 bonds; kinking of the chains away from the extended position inevitably leads to smaller and more regular M2 sites. Since the silicate chains are highly kinked at high pressure (with an O3-O3-O3 angle of 138.4° at 1.87 GPa), the M2 octahedron is indeed fairly regular but the M2 site becomes almost eightfold-coordinated and very distorted at high temperatures, with a dramatic increase in polyhedral volume (Fig. 5). Sueno et al. (1984) calculated the volume of this eightfold-coordinated polyhedron to be approximately 25.25 Å³, a volume that is comparable with volumes of the M2 polyhedra found in Na- and Ca-containing pyroxenes (Cameron, 1973). The M2 site in the Hd-like phase is also a distorted eightfold-coordinated polyhedron, with a similarly large volume to that at high temperature. It is likely that at high temperatures the Fe atoms vibrate more rapidly in the expanded and distorted M2 polyhedra, causing them to resemble the eightfold-coordinated polyhedra found in Ca-containing pyroxenes and also in the fictive Hd-like FeSiO₃ structure.

**MgSiO₃.** Since the Ca-poor component of pyroxene in the upper mantle is likely to have the approximate composition Mg₉3Fe₈0₄SiO₃, it would be of use to carry out the same comparisons with three Mg-rich C2/c pyroxenes. The structures of the low-P (P2₁/c) and high-P structures of clinoenstatite (MgSiO₃) have already been determined (Ohashi, 1984; Angel et al., 1992a), but no published data for a pure MgSiO₃ C2/c form stable at high temperatures are available. However, there is much experimental evidence for the existence of such a phase (e.g., Perrotta and Stephenson, 1965; Smith, 1969; Shimobayashi and Kitamura, 1991), with the temperature of the metastable low-T (P2₁/c)–high-T (C2/c) transition increasing as the Mg content is increased across the FeSiO₃–MgSiO₃ join (Prewitt et al., 1971). The only published structure of a Mg-containing C2/c pyroxene at high temperature is that of Smyth (1974), who determined the structure for the composition Mg₉2₃Fe₆₅SiO₃. We have therefore estimated the structure of a high-T C2/c MgSiO₃ phase by extrapolation along the Mg-Fe join. A model of a high-Ca structure was formed by extrapolation along the diopside-enstatite join to form a diopside-like (Di-like) structure, which is less well defined at the Mg end of the Mg-Fe solid solution because of inconsistencies in the published structural data for pyroxenes of intermediate compositions. Unit-cell parameters for the Mg-containing C2/c clinopyroxenes are given in Table 1.

Comparisons of these monoclinic polymorphs of MgSiO₃ pyroxene show that the differences between the
high-P, high-T, and Di-like polymorphs are very similar to those seen in the ferrosilite end-member. As with the high-P ferrosilite phase, the high-P C2/c phase of MgSiO3 may be distinguished by its low B angle of 101.5° and its extremely kinked tetrahedral chain (Angel et al., 1992a). This chain extension angle of 133.4° is the smallest ever reported for any pyroxene and is significantly smaller than the B chain of P2_1/c clinoenstatite (138.3°). The high-Z C2/c structure of Mg_0.92Fe_0.08FeSiO3 (Smyth, 1974), on the other hand, has extremely extended silicate chains, with a chain extension angle only 7° from the ideal straight-chain configuration. This substantial extension of the silicate chain implies that the M2 sites are both large, highly distorted, and irregular—a structural determination (Smyth, 1974) of this pyroxene at 825 °C shows that this is indeed the case. The fictive Di-like phase of MgSiO3 also has an eightfold-coordinated M2 site, though it is more regular than the high-T M2 site but has a similar volume. The silicate chains in the Di-like structure are thus less extended than the high-T chains but significantly more extended than those seen at high pressures.

The relationship between the C2/c and orthorhombic (Pbca) polymorphs

It has often been assumed for geochemical experiments that the stable upper-mantle phase of Ca-poor pyroxene is the orthorhombic polymorph (with space group Pbca) rather than this newly characterized monoclinic phase with space group C2/c, which for the FeSiO3 end-member composition becomes stable at a depth of about 50–60 km. It is useful, therefore, to compare the structures of these two phases, in particular the size and distortion of the M2 sites, to predict the effect that the orthorhombic to C2/c phase transition will have on the trace element partitioning behavior of the pyroxene. Although there is no significant difference (within the experimental uncertainties) in shape or size of the M1 sites in the Pbca phase (data for this orthorhombic phase were taken from experiments currently in progress) and the C2/c phase stable at high P, the M2 site is somewhat less distorted in the high-P C2/c polymorph. In both phases, this M2 cation is octahedrally coordinated, with identical average M2-O bond length [within 1 esd (combined)] and polyhedral volume. Within the experimental uncertainties, the tetrahedral sites in both pyroxene polymorphs discussed here are identical in both their average Si-O bond lengths and polyhedral volumes. These structural similarities of the high-P C2/c and Pbca polymorphs also apply to the MgSiO3 end-member of the ferrosilite-enstatite solid-solution, with the M2 cation site being less distorted in the

Fig. 5. The structures of (a) the high-temperature, (b) the high-pressure, and (c) the high-Ca (or Hd-like) C2/c phases of FeSiO3, projected onto (100). The tetrahedral and M1 sites are shown as shaded tetrahedra and octahedra, respectively, and the M2 sites are drawn as circles. Note the variation of the chain extension angle (O3-O3-O3) between the three structures.
The transformation is nonquenchable, so that the C2/c polymorph is the stable phase of FeSiO3 at high pressure. Temperature between 1.48 and 1.75 GPa, together with pressure release. This observation allows us to reconcile polymorph reverts to the P21/m clinoferrosilite form on approach the position of a phase boundary between reversals of the P21/m-ortho phase boundary. The syntheses experiments (and one reversal) of Akimoto et al. approximated the position of a phase boundary between ortho and C2/c ferrosilite, products from the C2/c side of the boundary quenching to P21/m clinoferrosilite. The overall topology of the phase diagram deduced from these experiments and our reversal of the P21/m-C2/c transition is shown in Figure 1b and is very similar to that of MgSiO3 (Angel et al., 1992a; Angel and Hugh-Jones, 1994), although the FeSiO3 phase boundaries and the triple point are shifted to lower pressures.

The stable form of both pure enstatite and pure ferrosilite at the temperatures and pressures of the Earth's upper mantle is thus the high-pressure C2/c pyroxene polymorph. It is reasonable to assume that the transformation of ortho-enstatite to the high-P C2/c phase also occurs for Ca-poor orthopyroxene compositions close to the MgSiO3-FeSiO3 join. Although this transformation should have significant effects on the thermodynamic parameters of the pyroxene (Angel and Hugh-Jones, 1994), the comparison of the structures of the C2/c and Pnma polymorphs of both FeSiO3 and MgSiO3 shows that the sizes and distortions of the cation sites are very similar. We therefore do not expect that the transformation at high pressures of orthopyroxene to C2/c pyroxene should have any great effect either on the solid solution limits of the pyroxene phase or upon its ability to take up trace elements. In particular, by the use of fictive high-Ca end-members, we have shown that the structures of the high-pressure C2/c phases are substantially different from those of C2/c pyroxenes containing Ca. We therefore expect the miscibility gaps between the orthopyroxenes MgSiO3 and FeSiO3 and their corresponding solid solutions, (Ca,Mg)MgSiO3 and (Ca,Fe)FeSiO3, also occur between the C2/c phases of MgSiO3 and FeSiO3 and these solid solutions.

There is also substantial evidence for the stability of a second phase with C2/c symmetry at ambient pressure and temperatures exceeding about 1000 °C in both MgSiO3 and FeSiO3 compositions (for example, Perrotta and Stephenson, 1965; Smith, 1969; Sueno et al., 1984). Our detailed comparisons of the high-pressure and high-temperature C2/c structures have shown that they are very different, even allowing for the converse effects of temperature and pressure. For example, it is unlikely that the effect of temperature on a C2/c pyroxene equilibrated at a high pressure would alter β or the chain extension angle uniformly to be characteristic of the high-temperature C2/c pyroxene. The phase diagram for the MgSiO3-FeSiO3 system therefore contains two structurally distinct C2/c phases, whose stability fields may meet at a kind of crossover transition at very high pressures and temperatures (although such a transition would probably be metastable with respect to orthopyroxene).

At ambient temperature, pyroxenes containing < 15% Ca in the Ca(Mg,Fe)SiO3-(Mg,Fe)SiO3 solid solution range are stable as a low-symmetry P21/m structure (Ohashi et al., 1975); as the temperature is increased, a high-T, high-symmetry C2/c structure is stabilized. Since the structures of the high-temperature and high-Ca C2/c phases are similar in the MgSiO3 and FeSiO3 end-members (especially in terms of the sizes and distortions of their M1 and M2 cation sites), the structural trends across the hedenbergite-ferrosilite and diopside-estanitite joins appear to be continuous at some high temperature [for example, that of the P21/m to C2/c transition in the equivalent Ca-free (Mg,Fe)SiO3 end-member]. Any variation in the structure of this high-T C2/c phase as the composition changes from Ca-rich to Ca-poor would be caused solely by the substitution of Fe for Ca in the M1 and M2 sites, the resulting structure of the pyroxene of intermediate Ca content may be postulated using the trends of Cameron and Papke (1980).

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