HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRON MICROSCOPY AND ELECTRON DIFFRACTION OF PYROXENES IN TYPE B LUNAR SAMPLES FROM APOLLO 11.

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HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRON MICROSCOPY AND ELECTRON DIFFRACTION OF PYROXENES IN TYPE B LUNAR SAMPLES FROM APOLLO 11

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ABSTRACT:

Lunar pyroxene 10044 specimens cleaved and sectioned by diamond knife ultramicrotomy were examined by standard (75 to 100 kV) and high voltage (200 kV) electron microscopy and diffraction.

Salient findings based on evaluation of 2000 plates show uniform 300 to 600Å-wide bands, probably corresponding to single crystal domains, with lattice spacings of 2.5Å. These dense bands, found predominantly in lunar pyroxene, are absent in terrestrial pyroxene XYZ. Lattice spacings of 6.5Å in lunar pyroxene and 18.2Å in pyroxene XYZ were directly visualized. High resolution bright and dark field images of iron-rich and magnesiumrich crystals were compared with corresponding electron diffraction patterns. Possible relations of observed structures to magnetic domains were considered.

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In view of the unusual variations of chemical composition within each crystal of lunar pyroxene (1) and of the well known distinct phases of exsolution phenomena observed in terrestrial and meteoritic pyroxenes (2,3,4), study of the fine structure of lunar pyroxenes as revealed by electron microscopy is essential.

Separated lunar pyroxene 10044 crystals cleaved and sectioned by diamond knife ultramicrotomy (5) and mounted directly on thin film specimen grids (without water or solvent contamination) were examined by both standard (75 to 100 kV) (6) and high voltage (200 kV) electron microscopy (fig. 1) and selected area electron diffraction techniques under conditions of higher penetration power, reduced radiation damage and negligible contamination (7) in a cryogenic vacuum (figs. 2,3,12).

Based on the examination of numerous representative samples and on the quantitative evaluation of 2000 plates, we can state the following observed characteristics:

 Exceptionally regular, periodically spaced dense bands with uniform widths of 300 to 600Å (graphs).
 These straight-edged bands exhibit electron-optical phenomenon corresponding to single crystal domains (figs. 4,5,6,7,8,9,11), and they appear to be oriented with their long axis in the plane of the crystalline layers (approximately normal to crystallographic c).

- 1 -

By combined high resolution dark field electron microscopy and selected area electron diffraction (fig. 6), intrinsic lattice spacings of 2.5Å can be detected within the bands, arranged parallel to their long axis (i.e. normal to c).

Detailed studies show that these bands resemble electron-optical images of magnetic domain walls as seen in thin layers of ferromagnetic materials (8).

They are predominantly seen in iron-rich lunar pyroxene crystals, and the 2.5Å spacings could correspond to a dense population of the iron atoms at the M positions within the bands.

The single crystal band domains are absent in both terrestrial pyroxene XYZ (figs. 4,10) and in magnesium-rich lunar pyroxene 10044 specimens. The latter show instead irregular striations along the planes of the cleaved lamellae. Dense granules (ca. 100 to 1000Å in diameter) are also found in iron-rich pyroxene crystals (fig. 5).

2. Lattice spacings of 6.5Å in lunar pyroxene and 18.2Å in terrestrial pyroxene XYZ were directly visualized in high resolution bright and dark field images which could be compared with the corresponding

- 2 -

electron diffraction patterns (fig. 4).

The 18.2Å spacings may tentatively be correlated with the a axis of pyroxene XYZ, and the 6.5Å spacings may correspond to the M-M interatomic distances in the cleavage planes.

These results, which are being further analyzed, are of particular importance in determining the cationic order-disorder phenomena in these silicates (9). However, more work must be carried out to establish the precise correlation with the unit cell dimensions of lunar pyroxene crystals.

The significance of present results indicates the potential contribution of correlated electron-optical and crystallographical studies to a better understanding of the intrinsic atomic organization of pyroxenes and their possible bearing on the nature and evolution of the moon.

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- 3 -

Correlation with new observations made by S. Hafner and D. Virgo on the magnetic behavior of pyroxenes in type B lunar samples as revealed by nuclear gamma ray resonance (NGR) studies.

Dr. Stefan Hafner and Dr. David Virgo (1) have independently made Mössbauer resonant absorption studies of ⁵⁷Fe in the same lunar pyroxene type B specimen 10044 and have demonstrated that the crystal structure in these specimens is ferrimagnetically ordered.

The lunar pyroxene crystals exhibit a sharp Curie point in the range of 10° to 20° K. The spin orientations in this lunar pyroxene are assumed to be ferrimagnetic.

This result is unusual. Chain silicate crystal structures are generally not magnetically ordered, even at very low temperatures (i.e. 1.7° K), particularly when the amount of diamagnetic cations (Mg, Ca, etc.) substituting for Fe is larger than 25 per cent as is the case in lunar augite. (G.K. Shenoy, G.M. Kalvius and S.S. Hafner, J. Appl. Phys. <u>40</u>, p. 1314, 1969.)

We believe that the unusual ferrimagnetic ordering in lunar augite $(Fe_{0.34}Mg_{0.30}Ca_{0.36}SiO_3)$ is due to iron-iron clustering in the ca. 300Å wide single crystal domain bands depicted in the electron micrographs of the present report.

December 13, 1969

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Fig.I



CORRELATED LIGHT MICROSCOPY AND HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRON MICROSCOPY STUDIES OF LUNAR SAMPLES RETURNED BY APOLLO 11





LIGHT MICROSCOPY AND



Fig:4





HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRON MICROGRAPH OF Showing irregular striations 10044 RICH LUNAR PYROXENE





2.517 A AND 0.843 A Fig.6 LATTICE SPACINGS OF







Fig.8











CORRELAT	ED	HIG	H V	OLTA	GE	ELEC	TRON	Μ	ICROSO	COPY	AND	7	NDEX	ED	SELEC	TED	AREA	ELE	CTRON
DIFFRACTI	ON	OF	TER	RES	TRIA	LP	YROXE	NE	XYZ	OBT	AINE	D	FROM	DR.	. HAF	NER.	SPAC	INGS	OF
27.62 A	7.	79 A	7.5	3 A	REC	ORDE	D BY	M	IITSUO	OHT	SUKI		CAL	IBRA	TION	WIT	H GOL	D S	INGLE
CRYSTAL 2	200	PLA	NES	2.0	39 A	ΔN	D 22	0 P	LANES	1.4	42 A	K E	LECT	RON	MICR	osco	PY LAB	BORA	TORY
1.1.1.0	-		. FE	RNAM	NDEZ	MOR	AN L	INT	VERSIT	TY 01	: CH	IG	30	OCT	. 19	69			
									Fig.IC	C									



CORRESPONDING SELECTED AREA ELECTRON DIFFRACTION PATTERNS OF LUNAR PYROXENE S10044

Fig.II









Fig.12



LUNAR PYROXENE S 10044 2000 A 200 KV PYROXENE CRYSTALLINE LAYERS WITH LUNAR STRUCTURES RESEMBLING MAGNETIC DOMAIN WALLS AS REVEALED BY HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRON MICROSCOPY 1969 AND M. OHTSUKI H. FERNANDEZ MORAN

The nucleation of domains in cobalt
as the foil becomes thicker. The
edge of the foil is shown as E.
Magnetic Domain Walls in Thin Films of Nickel
and CobaltBy J. SLCOX1963PHILOSOPHICALMAGAZINE VIII/7

