DI OGENITE METEORITES. David W. Mittlefehldt, C23, Lockheed Engineering and Sciences Co., 2400 Nasa Rd. 1, Houston, TX 77058.

Diogenites are coarse-grained orthopyroxene breccias of remarkably uniform major element composition. Most diogenites contain homogeneous pyroxene fragments up to 5 cm across [1] of Wo2En74Fs24 composition. Common minor constituents are chromite, olivine, troilite and metal, while silica, plagioclase, merrillite and diopside are trace phases. Diogenites are generally believed to be cumulates from the eucrite parent body [2], although their relationship with eucrites remains obscure. It has been suggested that some diogenites are residues after partial melting [3]. I have performed EMPA and INAA for major, minor and trace elements on most diogenites, concentrating on coarse-grained litho_ogic unit(s); i.e. EETA79002, and perhaps other diogenites, may be geneticic breccias. This is also suggested by major element compositions of EETA79002 orthopyroxenes (see below).

Major Element Uniformity. The igneous fractionation inferred from minor and trace elements is at odds with the general uniformity in molar 100*MgO/(FeO + MgO) (hereafter mg#) in the diogenite suite. The majority of diogenites have mg# of ~75, which implies minimal igneous fractionation (Fig. 3). These same diogenites vary in incompatible trace elements (TiO2 - 0.03 to 0.14 wt%; Sc - 9.8 to 18.1 μg/g; Yb - 30 to 290 ng/g; Fig. 3), which implies extensive igneous fractionation. Weak positive correlations between Cr2O3 and mg# have been shown for some diogenite orthopyroxenes, indicating that evidence for igneous fractionation is partially preserved in diogenite major element compositions [5]. For comparison, cumulus orthopyroxene grains from the Upper Bronzitite Zone of the Stillwater Complex generally show the expected increase in TiO2 and Yb with decreasing mg# resulting from igneous fractionation [6]. The observed scatter in TiO2 and Yb relative to mg# for Stillwater cumulus orthopyroxenes (Fig. 3) has been attributed to partial subsolidus equilibration of Fe and Mg [6].

Unusual Diogenites. Several diogenites are distinct from the majority. Manegaon is the most primitive diogenite; it has the highest mg# (78.5) and lowest Sc content (9.1 μg/g) (Fig. 3). However, Manegaon orthopyroxene contains the highest Al2O3 content (1.34 wt%) (Fig. 1), which would suggest it originated from the most evolved parent magma. Manegaon is anomalously low in TiO2, Yb and especially Sc for its...
Al₂O₃ content (Fig. 1). Therefore, Manegaon was probably not formed from the same parent melt as other diogenites. ALH84001, Garland, LEW88008 and Yamato Type B diogenites are more ferroan than typical diogenites (Fig. 3), implying that they were formed from more evolved parent melts. Garland orthopyroxene, however, contains the lowest TiO₂ (0.02 wt%) and Al₂O₃ (0.32 wt%) contents of any diogenite, and the second lowest Yb content (50 ng/g) (Fig. 1).

These low incompatible element contents suggest that Garland's parent melt was more primitive than that of the majority of diogenites. Garland also has an anomalously high Sc content for its generally low incompatible element contents and has the highest Sc/Al₂O₃ ratio of any diogenite (Fig. 1). ALH84001 and the Yamato Type B diogenites have unusually high TiO₂/Al₂O₃ and Yb/Al₂O₃ ratios (Fig. 1), and were probably formed from different parent magmas than the majority of diogenites. Chromite grains from ALH84001 and Yamato Type B diogenites contain high TiO₂ contents, about 3 times those of other diogenites, and Yamato Type B diogenites contain ilmenite as well [7]. Hence, these diogenites were likely formed from unusually TiO₂-rich magmas. Yamato Type B diogenites contain a significant amount of crystallized trapped liquid [7,8], and therefore, trace element contents are difficult to evaluate in relation to the EMPA data. LEW88008, in addition to being the second most ferroan diogenite (Fig. 3), is rich in all the incompatible elements differentate of the diogenite parent magma.

Thermometry and Subsolidus Equilibration. Mineral phases in diogenites can be used to calculate equilibration temperatures using two-pyroxene thermometry [9], and orthopyroxene-spinel thermometry [10]. Two-pyroxene thermometry yields temperatures ranging from about 900°C for ALHA77256 to about 620°C for Ibbenbüren (Table 1). Diopside grains are generally small, on the order of 10-20 μm, and were formed by subsolidus exsolution from the orthopyroxene host [11]. Orthopyroxene-spinel temperatures are in the range of 880°C to 640°C (Table 1), except for higher temperatures for Tatahouine, 960°C, and Yamato Type A diogenites (Y-74013-type), 1050°C [7]. Large, mm-sized chromite grains record higher equilibration temperatures than do small, <100 μm chromite grains (Table 1). The low orthopyroxene-clinoorthopyroxene and orthopyroxene-spinel temperatures indicate subsolidus equilibration of major elements in diogenites. This equilibration predated brecciation; in EETA79002 magnesian orthopyroxene (mg# 81) is in breccia contact with typical orthopyroxene (mg# 78), again suggesting that this is a genomic breccia.

Summary. Major element compositions of diogenites are decoupled from minor and trace element compositions; the latter record an igneous fractionation sequence that is not preserved in the former. Low equilibration temperatures indicate that major element diffusion continued long after crystallization. Diffusion coefficients for trivalent and tetravalent elements in pyroxene are lower than those of divalent elements [e.g. see 6]. Therefore, major element compositions of diogenites may represent means of unknown portions of a cumulate homogenized by diffusion, while minor and trace elements still yield information on their igneous history. The scale of major element equilibration is unknown, but is likely to be on the order of a few cm [e.g. see 6]. Therefore, the diogenite precursors may have consisted largely of cm-sized, igneous zoned orthopyroxene grains, which were subsequently annealed during slow cooling, obliteratoring major element zoning but preserving minor and trace incompatible element zoning.