

Phase relation of $\text{MgSO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ system under low temperature and high pressure

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In order to estimate the internal structure of icy bodies, we investigated phase transition of $\text{MgSO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ system under low temperature and high pressure. A diamond anvil cell was used for high-pressure generation. A low-temperature circulating system and a Peltier device were used for temperature control. The experimental temperature and pressure range were from -40°C to room temperature and ambient pressure to 5 GPa, respectively. We used 0, 5, 10, 15, 17, 20, and 25 wt% MgSO_4 aqueous solutions to evaluate the influence of MgSO_4 on the phase diagram of pure H_2O .

The pressure was calculated using the ruby fluorescence method. Raman spectroscopy and textural change in the sample room under optical microscope were used for phase identification in laboratory experiments.

To confirm the results of phase identification, we also conducted X-ray diffraction experiments of the solid phases of $\text{MgSO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ system up to about 5GPa at room temperature, at NE-1A station, PF-AR, KEK. We identified Ices VI and VII, magnesium pentahydrate, $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$, $\text{Mg}(\text{HSO}_4)_2$ in the samples at high pressure.

Our results were different from previous study by Ohtani and Nakamura(2011), who identified magnesium heptahydrate, $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ as the high-pressure phase .

We will report the detailed results of both Raman spectroscopy and X-ray diffraction experiments and possible phase diagram of $\text{MgSO}_4\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ system and their application to the icy bodies.

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