Japan Geoscience Union Meeting 2015

(May 24th - 28th at Makuhari, Chiba, Japan)

©2015. Japan Geoscience Union. All Rights Reserved.



Room:A02

Geoscience Union

Crystallization and cooling conditions for the diogenite formation in the turbulent magma ocean of the asteroid 4 Vesta

KAWABATA, Yusuke^{1*}; NAGAHARA, Hiroko¹

¹Earth and Planetary Science, The University of Tokyo

The asteroid 4 Vesta has been completely differentiated to core and mantle despite its small size, of which surface materials are howardite-eucrite-diogenite (HED) meteorites that we know the detailed petrology, and therefor, is a good target for understanding differentiation of terrestrial planets. A new differentiation model for crust formation was developed by taking magma ocean fluid dynamics, chemical equilibrium, presence of 26 Al, and cooling into consideration with special care to crystal separation. The role of crystal size, thickness of the conductive lib, and fO₂ are evaluated as parameters. Large crystals (1cm) settle and form a km-thick cumulate layer of orthopyroxene with Mg# of 0.70-0.90 in 20 thousand years, which almost agrees with the Mg# of diogenites, whereas thinner layers are formed if the grain size is smaller.

Keywords: magma ocean, Asteroid 4 Vesta, HED meteorites