# Compositional relationships between meteorites and planets II

## Kevin Righter NASA Johnson Space Center





ASTROMATERIALS RESEARCH & EXPLORATION SCIENCE

#### **2nd lecture – Friday**

 a) Example 2: Mars – how can we make it?
 Core size, mass and composition constraints Mantle constraints (from SNC) Crustal constraints (new datasets)
 Problems in defining the martian bulk composition

b) Example 3: Earth-Moon system
 Earth bulk X models – upper and lower mantle, core and crust
 Moon bulk X models – core size from siderophile elements and seismology
 Bulk composition estimates

 c) Origin models for Earth-Moon Fission, capture, co-accretion do not work Giant impact satisfies many key parameters
 Lingering problems! (volatile elements, atmosphere, age of lunar materials)

d) What we don't know
 Venus, Mercury and inner solar system
 No models take metal + silicate together !
 Water storage (phyllosilicates....?????.....hornblende)

# Example 1: 4 Vesta (HED parent body)



Enhanced from Hubble Space Telescope imaging – 1995 and 1996

## Introduction: What are the HED meteorites ?



eucrite



howardite



diogenite





## Vesta/HED link and history





## Vesta: oxygen isotopes



Mixtures that satisfy O isotopes

H-CV L-CV LL,L,H-CO

Boesenberg and Delaney (1997)







## Major element evolution diagram Equilibrium with later fractionation



## Outstanding problems Volatile element depletion



# **DAWN** mission

May be able to resolve some of these outstanding questions





I= Cmr<sup>2</sup> Vesta mantle composition Volatile elements Th, K, U



# Example 2: Mars

## Martian meteorites (SNC's) n = 44?







Chassigny

Nakhlites

Shergottites

Olivine cumulate

Clinopyroxene (olivine) Basalts cumulate

Olivine phyric Olivine, Opx phyric basaltic

## Example 2: Mars How do we know these are from Mars ?

Noble gas composition
 Young ages (180 Ma, 1.3 Ga)
 Oxygen isotopes





Bogard and Johnson (1986) Becker and Pepin (1985)

# Example 2: Mars

## New missions

## New meteorites





## Yamato 980459



# Example 2: Mars Oxygen isotope models



Example 2: Mars Bulk composition from oxygen isotope models				
	Sanloup et al. (1999)	Lodders and Fegley (1997)	Dreibus and Wanke	
SiO <sub>2</sub>	37.33	36.03	34.8	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.89	2.29	2.3	
MgO	20.90	23.58	23.6	
FeO	36.66	34.76	30.98	
composition	H45, EH55	H85,CV11,CI4	SNC	

## Phase diagrams for martian mantle





From Longhi et al. (1992)

From Bertka and Fei (1997)

## Moment of inertia



 $I = Cmr^2$ 

For a homogeneous sphere, C = 2/5

Spacecraft (Viking and Pathfinder) positional data allowed C to be determined for Mars (precession of rotational axis)

→ 0.365 (can help to constrain the core size)

 Recent clues to the structure of Mars' interior came from the Pathfinder spacecraft, which helped establish the planet's "moment of inertia." Objects with mass concentrated at their centers will have lower moments of inertia and will spin faster than objects with mass distributed more to the outside, even if the size, shape and total mass are the same. Based on the moment of inertia of Mars, estimates of the radius of the central metallic core range from 1,300 to 2,400 kilometers (806 to 1,488 miles), compared to the Earth's 3,500-kilometer (2,170-mile) core.

# Martian mantle composition



#### Bertka and Fei (1998)





#### Bertka and Fei (1998)



Bertka and Fei (1998)

## Martian mantle composition



#### Bertka and Fei (1998)



# Summary for Mars

It is possible to constrain the mantle composition for Mars – it must satisfy spacecraft data, meteorites, cosmochemical constraints, and mineral physics.

But there is uncertainty introduced by composition of the metallic core

# Apollo samples from the Moon

#### 6 missions, 382 kg of samples

#### What did we find?

- Basalt volcanism
- Anorthosite ancient crust
- Breccia mixture of two from impacts







## Meteorites from the Moon



## Meteorites from the Moon



#### LAP 02205 - mare basalt



## **Exploration of the Moon - Meteorites**

84 individual samples, 37 with pairings

41 kg compared to 382 kg of Apollo samples,

Mare basalts (5) LAP02205, Y793169, A881757, NWA032\*, Dho287

Feldspathic breccias (21)

Dho081\*, Dho026\*, NWA2200, Dho302\*, Dho489, DaG400, NWA482, MAC88105\*, Y86032\*, Kalahari 008, QUE93069\*, DaG262, 1153, Dho025\*, NEA001, PCA02007, Y791197, ALH81005, Dho733, Dho490\*, Dho925\*

Mixed breccias (11)

Dho1180, Y983885, Calcalong Creek, Y793274\*, SaU169, QUE94281, MET01210, NWA3136, EET87521\*, Kalahari 009, NWA773



## Earth – Moon system

Earth and Moon have same oxygen isotopes

Moon = dry, Earth = wet Moon = small core (1%), Earth = large core (32%) Silicate Earth 8% FeO, Moon 14% FeO

Small core makes Moon Fe-depleted overall







## Origin of the Moon

theory	problems	
1) capture	plausibility, Fe depletion	
2) fission	angular momentum, resulting lunar comp.	
3) co-accretion	angular momentum, Fe depletion, 5 ° inclination	
4) giant impact	? many uncertainties ?	

Summarized from Wood (1985)

### "Giant Impact" Hypothesis

Hartmann and Davis (1975); Cameron and Ward (1976) Moon forms from debris ejected when early Earth suffered an oblique collision with another protoplanet



•Extremely high energy impact late in Earth's formation

•Coupled origin of the Earth and Moon

•Evidence of impact events believed typical of late stage terrestrial accretion <u>Key constraints</u>:

Sufficient orbiting material to form Moon beyond Roche limit  $M_D \ge 1.5 - 2 M_L$ 

- Iron-depleted protolunar material Lunar core  $\leq 0.03 M_L$
- Earth-Moon system angular momentum

#### <u>Recent work</u>: Late impact/smaller impactor (Canup & Asphaug 2001)



$$M_{Imp}: M_{Tar} = 1:9$$
  

$$M_{Tot} = 1.02M_{\oplus}$$
  

$$L_{Imp} = 1.2 L_{\oplus-M}$$
  

$$V_{Imp} = V_{esc}$$
  

$$M_D = 1.7M_L$$
  

$$M_{FE}/M_D = 0.02$$
  
•Color scales with

internal energy

### **Some implications**

• Impactor:

Impact velocity  $1 - 1.1 v_{esc}$ 

 $v_{Inf} \le 3-4 \text{ km/sec}$ 

Impactor had orbit close to that of Earth, with  $\Delta a < 0.1$ -0.2 AU

• Protolunar debris:

Mostly from impactor, with target contribution up to 10-20% by mass
Temperatures: ~ 2000 – 3000 K
Large intact clumps?

• Post-impact Earth:

Predicted temperatures ~  $4000 - 10^4$  K Acquired > 90% of its final mass

## **Summary**

- Wide variety of oblique, low-velocity impacts can produce satellites
- Class of impacts does exist that can account for final masses and angular momentum of Earth & Moon (least restrictive impact scenario is a late impact of  $\sim 0.1 M_{\oplus}$  object)
- Terrestrial feeding zones are narrow early (0.01 to 0.04 a.u.), but become wider later (mixing between inner and outer parts if inner solar system).

## **Outstanding problems**

- O isotopes significance?
- Earth-Moon compositional characteristics
- Volatile element depletion of the Moon
- no known chondrite can match Earth bulk composition

Allegre – carbonaceous chondrite

Javoy – enstatite chondrite

Earth is difficult to understand compared to Mars, Vesta

# a) oxygen diagnostic for inner solar system?



Maybe not.

Solar Wind debate (Genesis)

Mercury, Venus unknown

## b) Earth-Moon compositional characteristics Mg/Si of Earth's upper mantle



# b) Earth-Moon compositional characteristics

How to explain Earth's super-chondritic Mg/Si?

**Olivine flotation?** 

Upper mantle different from lower mantle? Geophysical models predict mostly the same UM - LM



#### Si in core ?

(but requires very reducing conditions that would produce depletions of Ga, P, Nb, and Ta that are not observed)

Conclusion: maybe Earth = non-chondritic

# EH chondrite Earth?

Satisfies oxygen, Fe-FeO balance, and Os isotopes

But not tested for trace elements, or phase equilibria

Water consumed vs. FeO added



## Material provenance

#### Local or mixing ?

Although early in process accretion occurs in narrow feeding zones, mixing between inner and outer inner solar system becomes common and extensive

(from Chambers 2001)



# How did Earth get its water? Asteroidal ? Tagish Lake

LAP 04840



nm n

from Righter and Neff (2007)

from Keller and Flynn (2001)

# How did Earth get its water?

Even small molten asteroids can hold several wt% water





# Summary

- Vesta can be made from known meteorites, but volatile element depletion remains unresolved
- Mars can also be made from some known meteorites, but uncertainties of large core composition make it somewhat problematic
- It is thought that Earth cannot be made from known meteorite groups, and may have been made from distinct material not in our collections
- sample return from Mercury, Venus, Moon, Mars, comets, asteroids
- Continued analysis of existing samples (Genesis) new experiments, measurements
- Integrating modelling with observations