THE HYDROXYL FELSPATHOIDS

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PHASE RELATIONS OF THE HYDROXYL FELSPATHOIDS

IN THE SYSTEM

NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O

By

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SCOPE AND CONTENTS: A stUdy was made of the phase relationships in the system $\text{NaAlSiO}_4\text{-NaOH-H}_2\text{O}$, at 15,000 p.s.i. and at 450°C, 520°C, 600°C and 700°C. The following phases were found and characterised: hydroxyl varieties of nosean, sodalite and cancrinite, with formulae approximating to Naa1SiO_L .NaOH.xH₂O, 1 \leq x \leq 1.5, sodic nepheline and phase X, apparently a previously unreported phase, with composition approaching $\text{Na}_{\text{4}}\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_9$. Approximate phase diagrams were deduced for the four temperatures.

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The writer is very deeply indebted to Dr. B.J. Burley, without whose continued guidance and support, this investigation would have been quite impossible. Drs. C. Calvo and H.P. Schwarcz have also been generous with time and advice, throughout the project. The assistance of others, too numerous to mention individually, has been readily given and gratefully accepted; these include most of the members of the Department of Geology. The care and resourcefulness of Mr. J. Muysson, in effecting the chemical analyses under difficult conditions, is greatly appreciated.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION, AND SYNOPSIS OF THE THESIS

This is the record of an experimental study, concerning those hydroxyl analogues of the felspathoidal minerals, which form in the $\frac{1}{4}$ system NaAlSiO $\frac{1}{4}$ -NaOH-H $\frac{1}{2}$ The intention was to delineate the properties and stability relationships of these substances, at 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure, and at temperatures from 450°C to 600°c.

The chemical compositions of this system range far from those likely to be found in nature, and the connection with natural rocks and minerals is, at first sight, tenuous. Investigation of this system is, however, a logical early step in the experimental study of the felspathoids, the natural forms of which require at least eleven ohemical components for description of their compositions.

The system Na_{2} O-A1₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O is an obvious starting point for the felspathoids, because it would appear to be the only system of four components in which representatives of all distinct groups of this type of mineral are found. In fact, the compositions of these hydroxyl felspathoids lie on, or near to, the plane $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{\downarrow} \texttt{-NaOH-H}_2$ Knowledge of the phase relationships on this plane should be an excellent foundation for extension into more complex systems.

About two hundred charges, with chemical compositions lying at various points on or near the composition plane $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{\boldsymbol{\mathcal{U}}} \text{-NaOH-H}_{\texttt{2}}\texttt{O}_1$ were held at fixed temperature and pressure for two to three weeks. The crystalline contents of the charges were then examined optically. by x-ray diffraction and by chemical analysis. and the relationships of the crystalline types were studied. The range of the investigation was somewhat extended, to include the temperature of 700°C, and some excess Na_{2} O in the range of compositions.

Five crystalline phases were encountered and characterised. Nepheline, hydroxyl-nosean, hydroxyl-cancrinite and hydroxyl-sodalite were present, as had been expected. A further substance, with composition approximating to $\text{Na}_{4}\text{Al}_{2}\text{Si}_{2}\text{O}_{9}$, appeared in many charges. This last phase was not identified with any previously reported compound, and was, with a certain lack of originality, termed "phase X". A fluid phase was commonly present.

Chemical analyses of the nosean, cancrinite and sodalite formed, gave very similar compositions for the three. these compositions being quite close to those expected by comparison with the natural forms of these phases.

The results indicate that hydroxyl-sodalite is not stable in the system, above about 520°C, although it persists to higher temperatures when enclosed in hydroxyl-nosean. Hydroxyl-cancrinite was found at 450°C and 520°C, and hydroxyl-nosean grew at and above 520°C. Nepheline and phase X were stable over the whole range of temperature. Some interesting strain and x-ray diffraction phenomena were seen in

nepheline, related to the amount of excess NaOH in the charges; these phenomena are suggestive of structural inversion on cooling.

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CHAPTER II

RELEVANT PREVIOUS INFORMATION, AND DESIGN OF THIS INVESTIGATION

This chapter contains a review of relevant earlier work, dealing first with the felspathoids, and then with work in the system Na_{2} O-Al₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O. The chapter concludes with an account of the reasons underlying the choice of the ranges of the intensive parameters, which were used in this study.

A. THE FELSPATHOIDS

The felspathoids tend to assume an analogous role, in silicaundersaturated rocks, to that occupied by the felspars, in silicasaturated and oversaturated rocks. Felspathoids are found in undersaturated rocks associated with carbonatites, in undersaturated volcanic rocks such as nepheline basalts or nosean phonolites, and in undersaturated plutonic and metamorphic complexes, such as those of southern Ontario and the Kola peninsula. In fact, the occurrence of a felspathoid is the prime indicator of silica undersaturation in felsic rocks; felspathoids are unstable in the presence of free silica.

The felspathoid families are:

- 1. Nepheline-kalsilite.
- 2. Sodalite-hackmanite.
- 3. Nosean-hauyne-lazurite.
- 4. The cancrinites.
- 5. Leucite.

The structures of all these minerals involve three-dimensional aluminosilicate frameworks, and all have Si:Al:O in the ratio 1:1:4, except leucite $(KAISi₂O₆)$, which is not a subject of this investigation.

NEPHELINE FAMILY

GENERAL. Nepheline is the best-known and commonest felspathoid, occurring usually as a primary igneous phase in both felsic and basic rocks. It is probably also of metasomatic origin, in some occurrences (Tilley, 1957, and $D.H.Z.^1$).

COMPOSITION. Nepheline in nature is a solid solution of sodic nepheline $(\texttt{NAAISiO}_\textbf{4})$ and kalsilite $(\texttt{KAIsiO}_\textbf{4})$, and tends to the composition $Na_{3}KAI_{4}Si_{4}O_{16}$, in plutonic rocks. Volcanic nepheline is generally poorer in K_2 0, but not necessarily richer in Na_2 0; there is a solid solution series between $Na_{5}KAI_{4}Si_{4}O_{16}$ and $Na_{5}Al_{5}Si_{5}O_{16}$, i.e. the "omission solid solution" of Tuttle and Smith (1958), and Donnay, Schairer and Donnay (1959) .

STRUCTURE. Nepheline is of hexagonal symmetry, with space group $P6_{\mathbf{Z}^*}$ The structure is a distorted version of the tridymite framework (Hahn and Buerger, 1955), with a=10A, c=8.4A. Two other distinct polymorphs of sodic nepheline are known; high nepheline and carnegieite. High nepheline is hexagonal, according to Donnay et al (1959), with a=10.0 $\overset{\circ}{\mathsf{a}},$ o
c≐8.3A; Tuttle and Smith (1958) report it to be orthorhombic, with a=10.2A, $b = 17.6A$, $c = 8.5A$. Carnegieite is cubic, and is reportedly not stable at a partial pressure of water of 1000 bars. Borchert and Keidel (1949 a,b)

D.H.Z.: Deer, Howie and Zussman. The Rock-forming Minerals, vol. 4, Longmans, London, 1963.

synthesised sodium-rich cubic carnegeites, which correspond in composition with an orthorhombic phase synthesised by the writer (phase X).

STABILITY OF NEPHELINE. Sodic nepheline, NaAlSiO_{$_{\rm L}$}, has often been synthesised as a stable phase in dry, atmospheric pressure experiments, and in hydrothermal, elevated pressure and temperature experiments. Good crystals can be grown from silicate liquids, or in sub-solidus systems containing some NaOH. Saha (1961) reported good crystals (= 2 mm. length) below the solidus in the system $\texttt{NAAISiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-H}_\textbf{2} \texttt{O}$, and the writer has obtained similar results, using oxide mixtures as starting reagents. As will be mentioned below, well-crystallised nepheline was not synthesised in the present study, in the absence of excess NaOH, the starting reagents being gels.

The sodic end of the system $\texttt{NAAlSiO}_{\downarrow} \texttt{-KAlSiO}_{\downarrow}$ is shown as figure A, taken from Tuttle and Smith (1958).

NOSEAN AND SODALITE

GENERAL. Nosean and sodalite are normally grouped together as one "family", for evident reasons. Less evident, but more compelling arguments indicate that attention should be directed to their differences, as well as to their similarities.

STRUCTURE. Sodalite and nosean are both cubic, with three-dimensional ہ
aluminosilicate framework structures, and cell parameters of a≐8.9Å and a=9.1A respectively. The structures are very similar (Barth, 1932 a,b). In natural sodalite, large cavities in the structure are

FIGURE A

The Sodic End of the System NaAlSiO₄-KA1SiO₄

The diagram is for dry $(P_{total} = 1$ atmosphere) conditions, and is taken from Tuttle and Smith (1958). The compositions are in weight per cent. $C_{\mathcal{S}}$ = carnegeite; Ne = nepheline; Ne_H = high nepheline.

FIGURE B

The System $Na_2O-Al_2O_3-SiO_2-H_2O$

This figure is given by Koster van Groos (1966), to illustrate the probable relationships, at 1 kilobar, in the four ternary systems bounding the system $\text{Na}_{2}O-\text{Al}_{2}O_{3}-\text{SiO}_{2}-\text{H}_{2}O$. The vapour-saturated liquidus is shown by lines with cross-hatching in the ternary systems, and by the stippled surface, in the quaternary system.

Key:

FIGURE B

 ζ,γ

occupied by Cl⁻, tetrahedrally coordinated by Na^+ . In natural nosean, one half of the cavities contain SO_{4}^{+} , distributed at random (Saalfeld, 1959, in D.H.Z.). Both have the space group $\texttt{P43m}^1(\texttt{D.H.Z.})$, and the x-ray diffraction patterns of the two phases are very similar indeed.

COMPOSITIONS. Nosean and sodalite share the same general composition ϵ NaAlSiO $_\mu$.Y, where Y is 2NaCl (sodalite) or Na $_2$ SO $_\mu$ (nosean). Nosean exhibits solid solution with the hypothetical calcium-bearing analogue $Ca_{\mu}Al_{\mu}Si_{\mu}O_{\mu}SO_{\mu}$ (Van Peteghem and Burley, 1963), the natural mineral hauyne being of intermediate composition. There appears also to be a solid solution series between nosean/hauyne and lazurite, $N a₈A¹_{6}S¹_{16}S₂_{16}S₃$ (Rogers, 1938, in D.H.Z.).

Sodalite, on the other hand, is quite constant in composition, approximating closely to $6NaA1SiO_{h}$. 2NaCl (Van Peteghem and Burley, 1961, 1963; James, 1965, and D.H.Z.). OH⁻ and S⁻ are commonly present in small amount; one or both of these are probably responsible for the tenebrescence of the hackmanite variety of sodalite.

Barth (1932a) considered nosean and sodalite to be end-members of a complete solid-solution series. This is refuted by Van Peteghem and Burley (1961, 1963), who determined the maximum solubility at 600° C to be approximately 30 percent. sodalite in nosean. Anderson (1963) found that hydroxyl forms of sodalite and nosean grew together and coexisted over a range of temperature. Clearly, there is some essential difference between the two substances, other than difference of composition and cell size.

 1 Lons and Schulz (1967) have recently shown chloride sodalite to belong to the space group \overline{PI} 3n. Saalfeld (1959) determined the space group of sulphate nosean to be $P\overline{4}3m$.

EYDROXYL VARIETIES OF NOSEAN AND SODALITE. Hydroxyl varieties of nosean and sodalite have been synthesised by Barrer and White (1952) , by Van Peteghem (1961) and by Anderson (1963), among others. The only clear distinction between the two substances is the difference of cell size. Anderson (1963) found that hydroxyl nosean is stabilised relative to hydroxyl sodalite by increase of either temperature or the NaOH content of the system.

Barrer and Falconer (1956) analysed a hydroxyl sodalite, synthesised at 100°C and 1 atmosphere, obtaining the composition (weight per cent): Na_{2} 0-22.0; Al_{2} 0₃-31.2; SiO₂-37.7; H₂0-9.2. This gives the formula, $2NaA1SiO_{\mu}$.0.32NaOH.1.51H₂O, with 0.5 excess SiO_{2} .

NATURAL ASSOCIATIONS. Nosean and sodalite in nature are associated with different rock types. Nosean is found almost exclusively in phonolites and related volcanic rocks, the only reported exception being a series of nosean-bearing syenites in northern China (Nystrom, 1927, in D.H.Z.). Sodalite is most commonly found in nepheline syenites and related plutonic rocks, as a primary igneous phase, or as a vein alteration product, but is also found in undersaturated extrusive rocks from Portugese East Africa, the Laacher See, and elsewhere.

CANCRINITE

GENERAL. "Cancrinite" is ^a general term covering ^a family of felspathoids, apparently capable of extensive or complete solid solution.

COMPOSITION. The general formula for natural varieties, is, as for sodalite and nosean, 6 NaAlSiO₄.Y, where Y is $(Na, Ca, K)_{1-2}$. $(CO_{3}, SO_{4}, Cl)_{1-2}$. The principal variation is between the $CaCO_{3}$ -rich types 1-5H₂0. (cancrinite proper) and the bisulphate-rich varieties, termed visbnevite. A rational nomenclature is given by Edgar and Burley (1963) .

STRUCTURE. The structure of cancrinite was determined by Nithollon (1956) and Jarchow (1966), both of whom confirmed the framework structure inferred by Pauling (1930) from comparison of the cell dimensions of a=12.6A, c=5.2A, with various stackings of six-membered rings of silicon, aluminum and oxygen. The space group is $P6_{\overline{3}}$ 2. Kozu and Takane (1932) had proposed a different structure, based on columns of six-membered rings of silicon-aluminum-oxygen tetrahedra, these columns being joined together by the metal ions.

NATURAL ASSOCIATIONS. Cancrinite is well-known for its association with carbonatite complexes, where it is commonly ^a primary constituent (D.H.Z., and Watkinson, 1964). Eckermann (1948) described such an occurrence, in which he considered cancrinite to be the last primary phase. Elsewhere, as in the nepheline syenite complexes of southern Ontario, cancrinite is ^a vein deposit in nepheline syenite and nepheline syenite pegmatite.

In the Gill Quarry nepheline pegmatite, near Bancroft, Ontario, cancrinite is seen in reaction zones between nepheline and calcite; elsewhere, in the same area, nepheline and calcite coexist without reaction. Eckermann (1948) considered this phenomenon in the Alno rocks

to be due to local variation of CO_2 pressure, higher P_{CO_2} favouring the formation of cancrinite.

HYDROXYL CANCRINITE. Barrer and Falconer (1956) present an analysis of "basic" cancrinite, synthesised from a gel, at 390°C, and elevated, but unspecified, pressure. They found the composition to be (in weight per cent): Na₂0-23.5; Al₂0₃-29.3; SiO₂-41.1; H₂ This gives the molecular formula, NaAlSiO₄. 0.32NaOH. 0.43H₂O, with 0.4 SiO₂ in excess. Hydroxyl cancrinite was also synthesised by Barrer and White (1952), Edgar (1961), Van Peteghem (1961) and Anderson (1963), among others.

RELATIONSHIP OF CANCRINITE AND NOSEAN. Edgar and Burley (1961, 1963) showed that some cancrinites are converted to nosean structures with rising temperature, and suggested that the change may be a polymorphic transition.

$B.$ THE SYSTEM NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O, AND ITS PARTS

NaOH-H₂O. The system NaOH-H₂O probably shows complete miscibility above the melting point of NaOH (318.4° C). Barnes and Ernst (1963) pointed out that NaOH, in aqueous solution, is only slightly dissociated, above the critical point, with consequent increase of the thermodynamic ideality of mixing of the components. The pH at high pressure and temperature is thus very much lower than at room temperature. They conclude that dilute aqueous NaOH solutions approach ideality at high pressure and temperature.

Na $A1SiO_{l_1}-H_2O$. Yoder (1958) determined the water-saturated melting point of sodic nepheline in this system; at P^T (total pressure) of 1 kilobar, nepheline melts at about 1150°C. Evidently, at temperatures of 450°C to 700°C, the solubility of nepheline in water will be small. Burnham, reported in Koster van Groos (1966) p. 17, found that nepheline melts at 1 kilobar dissolve "more $_{2}^{\text{2}}$ O" than do albite melts at the same pressure; Burnham and Jahns (1962) determined the solubility of water in albite melt at 1 kilobar and 900 $^{\circ}$ C to be 4.2 weight per cent, and the aqueous fluid to contain about 1 weight per cent of albite. The highest reported water content in natural nepheline is 1.57 weight per cent $(D.H.Z.)$.

Saha (1961) determined the curve of the reaction

nepheline hydrate I \Rightarrow nepheline + H_2O ;

the reaction proceeds to the right with increasing pressure and temperature, and crosses the 1 kilobar isobar at about 440°C.

NaAlSiO₁-NaOH. No determinations of phase relations have previously been made precisely on this join. Borchert and Keidel, in the work mentioned below, stress the importance of water in their reactions.

NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O. Borchert and Keidel (1949a) reacted kaolinite $(A1₂O₃$.2SiO₂.2H₂O) with NaOH at 1 atmosphere and temperatures of 100°C to 600° C. They worked with mixtures dried at 100° C, and deduced the composition of the resulting phases from: a) the composition of the starting charges, and b) the presence of only one phase, as seen

in x-ray powder photographs. They found, at 100°C, a solid solution series of sodalites, varying from NaAlSiO₄.nH₂O to 3NaAlSiO₄.2NaOH.Na₂O. mH_{2} O in composition; these constitute " β -hydroxysodalite". slight changes of the x-ray diffraction patterns lead them to use the term "a-hydroxysodalite". Upon heating the composition NaAlSiO₁, quickly to 500°C, a cubic phase pseudonepheline was formed; this gave way, at 600°C, to nepheline. Heating the compositions 3-4 Mol NaOH : 1 Mol kaolin to 600<mark>°C</mark> gave a "Na₂0-rich carnegi<mark>eite".</mark> The various cell dimensions given were: hydroxysodalite, a=8.72 to a=8.62A; pseudonepheline, a=8.915Å; Na₂O-rich carnegieite,a=7.273A. The cell size of hydroxysodalite decreased with increasing temperature. The apparent lack of control of $CO₂$ uptake (by the NaOH), and absence of any optical control of the phase identification and phase purity, render this work of Borchert and Keidel difficult to evaluate, in view of the serious contamination and identification problems experienced by the present writer.

Barrer and White (1952) worked extensively with the system NaAlSi04 -NaOH-H2 0, in the temperature range 150°C to **450°C,** and in systems of higher and lower silica content. Their bulk composition data was vague, and pressures were not given (estimated by this writer to be about $\frac{1}{2}$ kilobar). They synthesised, starting with gels, some zeolitic phases, and nepheline, "basic" sodalite, "basic" cancrinite and "basic" nosean. Their determinations of the pH of the residual aqueous fluids suggest that the sequence:

NaOH+nepheline-cancrinite-sodalite or nosean

is realised by progressively increasing the content of NaOH in the system.

Sand, Roy and Osborn (1957) assembled the existing data on the system Na_{2} O-A1₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O, but had only the data of Barrer and White (ibid) of direct relevance to the system $\texttt{NAALSiO}_{\mu}\texttt{-NaOH-H}_2\texttt{O}$.

Koster van Groos (1966) presents a diagram of the system $Na_2O-Al_2O_3-SiO_2-H_2O$ at 1 kilobar pressure, this being constructed chiefly from the work of Morey and Hesselgesser (1952) on Na₂0-SiO₂-H₂O, Schairer and Bowen (1956) and Aramaki and Roy (1962) on Na₂O-Al₂O₃-SiO₂. This diagram is shown as figure B.

The writer (Anderson, 1963), working in this system over a restricted temperature and composition range (440°C to 540°C), concluded that the phases increased in NaOH content in the order cancrinite ζ sodalite < nosean, and that the field of sodalite was restricted to temperatures below 520°C. Nosean and cancrinite persisted above this temperature, possibly with a polymorphic relationship. Figure C is the section $\text{NaAlSiO}_{\text{4}} \cdot \text{H}_{2} \text{O-NaOH}$, taken from that reference.

C. THE DESIGN OF THIS INVESTIGATION

GENERAL. With the exception of nepheline (and leucite), the essential conditions for felspathoid formation are known only in outline. The importance of felspathoids in undersaturated rocks renders the group worthy of further study.

FIGURE C

The Join NaAlSiO₄. H₂O-NaOH

The results of earlier work by the writer (Anderson, 1963). The compositions of the charges were points in the plane $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_\textbf{4}$ -NaOH- $\texttt{H}_\textbf{2}$ O, and were projected on to this section along lines of constant NaOH content, i.e. lines parallel to the NaAlSiO₄-H₂O join. In general, therefore, the ratio $\text{NaAlSiO}_\textbf{4}: \text{H}_\textbf{2}^\textbf{O}$ differs somewhat from $\textbf{1}_{\bullet}$

The study of minerals can usefully (but arbitrarily) be divided to two approaches: firstly, investigation of the physical and chemical properties of the several distinct mineral types; secondly, study of the physico-chemical interrelationships of these types, including their conditions of stability and of formation. The latter approach is of greater potential value to petrological theory, and was emphasised from the start, in the present work.

THE "NATURAL" FELSPATHOID SYSTEM. Natural felspathoids lie in the $system$ Na₂O-Al₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O-Cl⁻-SO₄⁻-HSO₄⁻-SO₃⁻-HSO₃⁻-CO₃⁻-CaO-K₂O-S; all of these are major constituents of one or more felspathoid type. Such a system obviously is not, taken all at once, amenable to experimental study.

THE MINIMAL FELSPATHOID SYSTEM. The simplest system in which representatives of all the felspathoid types occur, is the system $\text{Na}_{2}\text{O}-\text{Al}_{2}\text{O}_{3}$ SiO_{2} - H_{2} O, in the neighbourhood of the plane NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O. While none of the felspathoids in this system are identical in composition with the natural forms, information concerning their phase relationships should offer a versatile foundation for extension, by addition of other components of interest.

SPECIFIC PROBLEHS FOR STUDY. For purposes of comparison within the join $\texttt{NAALSiO}_\textbf{4}$ -NaOH- $\texttt{H}_\textbf{2}$ O, and with related systems, basic physical and chemical parameters of the phases must be determined, in addition to the general phase relations. Furthermore, it was desirable to resolve,

if possible, some specific questions:

- 1. Are there any crystalline phases in the system, other than those mentioned above?
- 2. What is the relationship of nosean and sodalite; do the hydroxyl forms become isomorphous under any conditions, or are they always distinct?
- 30 Are hydroxyl-nosean and hydroxyl-cancrinite polymorphic forms?

CHOICE OF VALUES FOR EXPERIMENTAL PARAMETERS, AND EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

PRESSURE. 1 kilobar was the total pressure chosen, since it is easily and reliably accessible to the available experimental equipment, and is the same as, or relatively near to, the pressures used by other experimenters in related studies, permitting better comparison with those studies than would another pressure.

TEMPERATURE. The lower temperature limit was set at 450° C, in view of Saha's (1961) finding that nepheline hydrate is stable below 440°c. 520°C was chosen for the second isothermal section, on the basis of earlier results of the writer (Anderson, 1963), which suggested that this is the temperature range above which hydroxyl sodalite is not a stable phase. 600°C was the rather arbitrary choice for the third section, as was 700 $^{\circ}$ C for the fourth; the need for results at the last temperature. to clarify the results at 600° C was realised half-way through this project.

CHOICE OF METHOD. REAGENTS AND COMPOSITIONS. In the absence of supplies of the hydroxyl felspathoids, it was necessary to determine stability by the method of synthesis. Because of the difficulty of handling NaOH solutions without contamination by H_2^0 and CO_2^{\bullet} , gels were used as starting materials; high-sodium gels are relatively easy to make and to handle. Thus, pure water would be mixed, in the correct proportion, with one of several gels of the composition $xNaA1SiO₄$.yNaOH, in order to make up a given charge. The work of Barrer and White (1952) had shown that, at given pressure and temperature, the NaOH concentration of the residual fluid (measured as pH), tended to vary with the phases present. It was thus necessary, in the present investigation, to have the water concentration as one of the measured parameters.

CHAPTER III

EXPERIMENTAL HETHOD

This chapter is a brief statement of the experimental methods employed. The actual procedures are described in detail in Appendix I, section 1.

Phase stability was determined by synthesis of phases in about 200 isolated systems of known composition, and subsequent identification of the phases formed, by optical and x-ray examination. A sample of each of the crystalline phases formed was analysed chemically, and other characteristics of these phases, such as refractive index and cell dimensions, were determined.

HYDROTHERMAL SYNTHESIS. The starting materials were eight gels, the compositions of which lay on the plane $\texttt{NAALSiO}_{\textbf{4}}\text{-Na}_{\textbf{2}}\texttt{O}-\texttt{H}_{\textbf{2}}$ Each charge was made up by sealing <mark>about 55 mg. of one of these gels, with O mg. to</mark> 35 mg. of water, in a small gold capsule. The charges were placed in heated pressure vessels, and held, for periods of two to three weeks, at a pressure of 15,000 p.s.i. (\pm 5 per cent), and at 450°C, 520°C, 600°C, or 700° C, $\pm 10^{\circ}$ C, with a precision of $\pm 2^{\circ}$ C (see p.58). At the end of this period, the pressure vessel ("bomb") was cooled as quickly as pos sible to room temperature, at which reaction rates are presumed to be very slow. About three hundred and forty charges were attempted, but

about one hundred and forty were rejected. Most of the losses were due to changes in the weights of the capsules during reaction; considerable losses also arose through power failures.

EXAMINATION OF REACTION PRODUCTS. In most cases, the capsule was opened, part or all of the contents were removed, washed in water, dried in acetone, and examined. About one-third of the charges were subjected to partial analysis of the fluid phase. These capsules were carefully perforated, and the weight loss on dehydration was determined. They were then opened under water, and the contents were washed throughly. The total sodium in the filtered washings was determined. These water and sodium determinations were taken to represent the composition of the fluid phases of the charges, to a first approximation.

OPTICAL AND X-RAY PROCEDURES. The reaction products were immersed in oils of suitable refractive index, and were examined under a petrographic microscope. Refractive index measurements were made by comparison with standard immersion oils, calibrated at intervals of .002 units. X-ray identification was effected, for the most part, with a Norelco diffractometer, the diffraction patterns so obtained being compared with those of pure samples of the phases. In some cases, a powder camera of radius 5.7 cm. was used, to detect phases present in small amount, or to obtain powder data from a single crystal, picked from a charge, and ground. Cell parameters were determined from powder data, except in the case of phase X, for which rotation and Weissenberg photographs were taken, by the writer, by Dr. C. Calvo, and by Dr. R.D. Grundy.

ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES. The reagent gels were analysed by Mr. J. Muysson, using slightly modified "Rapid Methods" (Shapiro and Brannock, 1956). The crystalline phases were also analysed by Mr. Muysson, with some assistance by the writer, using essentially the same methods as were used for the reactant gels. The small size (10 mg. to 40 mg.) of the crystalline samples necessitated some changes to the standardisation and water determination proceduros. Attempts to analyse the crystalline phases on the electron microprobe were unsuccessful, probably due to the intracrystalline water present.

CALCULATION OF CHARGE COHPOSITIONS. The compositions of the charges were calculated on an I.B.M. 7040 computer, from the known weights of water and gel in each charge. The program computed: a. total charge composition; b. the composition of the fluid phase, for those charges with fluid phase analyses; c. the composition of the solids in the charge, by subtraction of the fluid phase content from the total charge composition.

THE USE OF PALLADIUM BLACK IN CHARGES. About 0.5 mg. of palladium black was introduced into a number of the charges, to assist in distinguishing between the isotropic crystalline phases,on the one hand,and glass,on the other. The growing crystals excluded the palladium, which was concentrated in the glass, particularly around the crystal margins. The practice was discontinued, after its use had shown that the glasses were consistently of lower refractive index than the crystalline phases, and could be distinguished on this basis.

The errors in the chemical analyses are discussed in Appendix **I,** section **1, F.**

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CHAPTER IV

THE PROPERTIES OF THE PHASES

INTRODUCTION. Five crystalline phases were encountered in the study; nepheline, hydroxyl varieties of nosean, sodalite and cancrinite, and a phase X. A fluid phase was also present. The principal physical and chemical parameters of the crystalline phases are gathered in table 1, with photographs of the phases in figure D. X-ray diffraction data for selected specimens are presented in table ApP.-3. The compositions of analysed specimens are given in table ApP.-3,and are plotted in figure E. Comments on the specific types follow.

NEPHELINE. Nepheline is the most common crystalline substance in the join, and shows some curious phenomena. Usually free of inclusions, nepheline forms either anhedrally or as stubby prisms, in charges with compositions near the $\texttt{NAALSiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-H}_\textbf{2} \texttt{O}$ join. The forms shown on these crystals are (1010) and (0001). No straining is seen, and the extinction is sharp. Centered interference figures are hard to obtain in these low-NaOH charges, but one seen (charge no. 515) was perfectly uniaxial. An analysis of nepheline from a charge of low NaOH content gave the composition $Na_{0.95}Al_{0.89}Si_{3.91}(H_2O)_{0.09}$.

Nepheline formed at high NaOH concentration is markedly different. The crystals are often elongate (length/diameter varies from 1 to 5),

FIGURE D

Photographs of the Phases

- a. Nepheline, nosean and fluid. Mostly nepheline, with a large n03ean crystal above, and to the right of, centre. The immersion medium has a refractive index of 1.492 , and the focal plane is high, so that the Becke line is inside the nepheline $(R_{\bullet}I_{\bullet}=1_{\bullet}534)$, and outside the nosean $(R_{\bullet}I_{\bullet}=1_{\bullet}485)$. The fluid is represented by the dark concentration of palladium black. X 170. Charge 583.
- b. Nepheline (high relief) and nosean. The nepheline is unusual in containing quite a lot of inclusions, of both fluid and isotropic crystals. X 250. Charge 513.

c. Nepheline (to the left) and cancrinite. X 250. Charge 501.

- d. A core, from the centre of an aggregate of nosean, presumed to be sodalite. The grain generally resembles a glassy precipitate from the vapour phase, described by Koster van Groos (1966), but its enclosure by crystalline nosean shows that it is not ^a quench phenomenon. X 150. Charge 515.
- e. Nosean, enclosing trains of gas bubbles. X 500. Charge 514.
- f. Sodalite (subhedral, with higher relief) and cancrinite. X 100. Charge 625.

FIGURE D (continued)

- g. Nepheline (0001) face, showing prismatic cleavago. This is not the sodium-rich form of nepheline. A uniaxial figure was obtained from another crystal in this charge, no. 515. x 300.
- h. Nepheline of the high-sodium type, from charge 509. This crystal save a biaxial interference figure, with 2V estimated to be 40°. X 300.

i,j, More nepheline from charge 509, showing twinning (i,j), and $k₁$ cracking and strain extinction $(k, 1)$. Photographs j and 1 were taken with crossed polarisers. X 280.

 h

 $\mathbf k$

FIGURE D (continued)

- m,n. Charge 582. This charge showed a much higher concentration of sodalite, as estimated from x-ray data, than did the other charges at 700°C. These photographs show three concentric zones in the palladium-covered mass:
	- 1. an inner zone, presumed to be sodalite, with a small mass of palladium black at the centre;
	- 2. a middle zone of nosean;

3. an outer zone of fluid.

The zone boundaries are marked by Becke lines, with the outer boundary, between nosean and glass, being more clearly visible than the inner boundary, between sodalite and nosean. X 100.

- o. Charge 416 , on the NaAlSiO₄-H₂O join. The x-ray diffraction data indicates the presence of nepheline and cancrinite. The only crystal discernible is a small, anhedral nepheline, just to the left of centre. Reaction is considered to be incomplete. No palladium black was present. X 250.
- p. Nosean, with some small nepheline crystals. In some cases, nosean grew as large and flawless crystals, such as this one. X 100. Charge 514.
- q. Phase X, typical. The black masses represent a fluid phase, although no palladium was present. X 100. Charge 629.

m

q

FIGURE E

. Compositions of The Analysed Phases

Key:

- $+ \ldots$ Compositions of phases analysed in this investigation, recalculated from the data in table App.-2•
- ... The bulk compositions of the charges from which the various analysed samples came.

 $^{\bullet}$ S_{B,F} ... "Basic" sodalite, Barrer and Falconer (1956) ${}^{\bullet}$ $C_{B, F}$... "Basic" cancrinite, Barrer and Falconer (Ibid.) \bullet $\mathbf{s}_{\text{B},\text{K}}$... The range of hydroxyl sodalite compositions reported by Borchert and Keidel (1949a).

For the analyses of the present study, and the sodalite of Barrer and Falconer, the molecular proportions of $\texttt{NAALSiO}_\textbf{4}$, \texttt{NaOH} and $\texttt{H}_{\texttt{2}}$ O were calculated by ascribing one molecule of $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{h}$ to every Si atom of the analysis. For the cancrinite of Barrer and Falconer, which had a large excess of silica, the quantity $\frac{S_1+A_1}{2}$ was used as the number of NaAlSiO₄ molecules. In all of these cases, the true compositions are somewhat off this plane, in terms of the ratio Si:Al.

with an acute pyramid form, perhaps $(20\bar{2}1)$, in addition to the prism and base. In extreme cases, (e.g. charge no. 509), the symmetry is clearly. trigonal. with at least two pyramid forms. base and prism. Some such crystals exhibit apparent hemimorphism. with pyramids on one end differing from those on the other.

The nephelines from NaOH-rich charges show varying degrees of cracking or strain extinction. In the most severe cases of strain, there is no clear extinction at all. Some grains from such charges have cracked to form a number of irregular zones. each of which shows good extinction and no apparent strain, but which extinguishes at an angle to the extinction of the other zones. The x-ray diffraction pattern of the "trigonal" nepheline of charge no. 509 showed apparent splitting of some of the major reflections (see table App.-3, in which the reflections are listed), and smearing out of reflections below 20° of 26. into a single diffuse maximum. Interference figures of the same crystals were biaxial, with 2V of 30 to 40 degrees, and with the acute bisectrix lying along the trigonal d axis. The differences between the two types of nepheline are emphasised in table 2.

TABLE 1

SUMMARY OF THE PROPERTIES OF THE CRYSTALLINE PHASES

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The information is from Deer, Howie & Zussman (1963). ** Donnay, Schairer & Donnay (1959), low
temperature sodic nepheline. \bullet *** Lons and Schulz (1967), chloride sodalite.

TABLE 2

Comparison between nepheline from charges very rich in NaOH,

and those of lower NaOH content.

The peculiarities of nepheline formed at high NaOH concentrations require further study. It evidently grows as hexagonal or trigonal crystals, as the prism angles are exactly 60~ (see photographs, figure D). The diffuseness of 'the reflections below 20° of 26 (110, 001, 101, 110), the splitting of other reflections and the straining and cracking, are very suggestive of inversion during the quench. Possible products of such an inversion include: Na₂O-rich cubic carnegieite, or cubic pseudonepheline (Borchert and Keidel), 1949); low carnegieite, or orthorhombic high nepheline (Smith and Tuttle, 1957). The change of the diffraction pattern of nepheline from charge no. 509 does not suggest an increase of symmetry, and cubic carnegieite and pseudonepheline do not, therefore, appear to be likely inversion products. High nepheline is normally more stable at higher temperatures than is ordinary nepheline, and the symmetry of low carnegeite is unknown.

The x-ray diffraction patterns of nepheline synthesised on, or near, the $\texttt{NAA1SiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-H}_\textbf{2}$ O join, differed somewhat from those of nepheline crystallised in charges with about 5 mole per cent or more of NaOH. The NaOH-free nepheline gave a normal pattern, including reflections at 10.4° of 20 (100), and 17.7° (110), similar to that reported by Saha (1961). The presence of five mole per cent of NaOH in the charges resulted in the disappearance of the (100) and (110) reflections, all of which lie below 18° of 26. Barrer and White (1952), also working in the system $\texttt{NAAISiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-NaOH-H}_\textbf{2} \texttt{O}$, report no nepheline reflections below 21° of 26. Their nepheline showed other similarities to that of the present study, in that most of their specimens "... formed as elongated hexagonal prisms with pyramidal ends, terminated by basal pinacoids ...", and "The larger crystals were $l - 2$ mm in length, and under crossed nicols showed a cross-hatched structure, presumably due to complex twinning.". Since such descriptions of nepheline have not been seen elsewhere, it appears that nepheline formed in the presence of NaOH has distinctive properties, not otherwise found in this substance.

HYDROXYL NOSEAN. Chemical analysis gave the composition $\text{NaAl}_{1.04}^{\text{SiO}}$ 4.06^(NaOH).273^{(H₂O)_{0.5}, for a specimen of this phase.} Nosean was found at 520°C, 600°C and 700°C, but not at 450°C, and was usually more or less anhedral. When present, it generally constituted the largest grains in the charge. In many charges, nosean was visibly zoned, with an inner zone of slightly, but distinctly, lower refractive

index than that of the outer zone of nosean. Many of the noseans which were not seen to be zoned,may have been zoned in fact, since the phenomenon involved two isotropic phasos of very similar refractive indices. In other cases, aggregates of noscan enclosed small spherical cores, which had a nepheline crystallite, or a linear or three-pronged crack, at the centre; figure D, d, is a photograph of such a core. For reasons enumerated in the next chapter, these isotropic inner zones and cores in nosean are presumed to be sodalite. Nosean also frequently enclosed considerable quantities of nepheline or phase X.

Figure F shows the variation of nosean and sodalite cell parameters, plotted against the molar ratio NaOH/H₂O of the appropriate charges. The cell parameter changes were not correlated with variation of charge composition or temperature.

HYDROXYL SODALITE. The sodalite of this system is almost indistinguishable from the nosean; the small differences of d-spacings, seen in the otherwise virtually identical diffraction patterns, is the only clear criterion for distinguishing one from the other. Evidence from charges at 450°C, from which nosean was absent, suggest that sodalite tends to be more euhedral than does nosean, but optical methods were inadequate for positive identification of individual grains, in mixtures of the two. The outline of sodalite is usually six-sided, being similar to a (llO) section of a dodecahedron. Sodalite was found over the whole range of temperatures investigated, but the evidence indicates that it is unstable, at and above 520°C (see next chapter). Chemical analysis of a single specimen gave the composition $NAA_{1.02}Si0_{4.01} (NaOH)_{0.32} (H_2O)_{0.32}$.

FIGURE F

Cell Parameters of Hydroxyl Nosean and Hydroxyl Sodalite

The method of measurement is described in Appendix I, section 1. The length of the cell edge of each sample is plotted against the molecular ratio $NaOH/H₂O$ of the charge from which it came. Against each point are two numbers, separated by a horizontal line; the upper number is the molecular percentage of NaAlSiO_{$_{\rm L}$} in the charge, and the lower number is the temperature (in °C) at which the sample was synthesised. No correlation, between cell parameters and these other variables, was recognised.

Sodalite, like nosean, commonly contained large quantities of inclusions of fluid, X or nepheline.

Hydroxyl sodalite has received more attention from other workers than have hydroxyl nosean and hydroxyl cancrinite, particularly by Barrer and White (1952), Barrer and Falconer (1956) and Borchert and Keidel The compositions quoted by these authors are plotted in figure $(1949a)$. E. The estimation of composition by Borchert and Keidel is poorly founded, the assumption being that reaction was complete, the bulk compositions of charges therefore representing the compositions of the sodalites formed. There were, apparently, no attempts made to confirm by optical means that reaction was complete, and no precautions appear to have been taken to protect the highly alkaline charges from CO_{2} absorption. The absence of foreign lines on x-ray powder photographs was the criterion of complete reaction. By comparison: in the present study, although charges near the $\texttt{NAALSiO}_{\texttt{+}}\texttt{-H}_{\texttt{2}}\texttt{O}$ join were reacted for two to three weeks at 450°C and 520°C, at P_{H_2O} of nearly 15,000 p.s.i. (those of Borchert and 2 Keidel were dry, and reacted for about ³⁰ hours), reaction still appeared to be largely incomplete, with much remnant material of micron size. The only evidence of this fine material on the x-ray diffraction patterns was a general reduction of the intensities of the reflections from the crystalline phases. Incomplete reaction in these charges was further indicated by the results of the fluid phase analyses (see next chapter).

The sodalite composition reported by Barrer and Falconer is based on chemical analysis, and is considerably more hydrous, and less sodic, than that obtained by the writer. The difference of composition probably arises from the difference of pressure and temperature of formation; Barrer and Falconer synthesised sodolite at 100°C and 1 atmosphere, while that of the present study was formed at 450° C and $15,000$ p.s.i. The reagents were similar, in the two cases.

THE NOMENCLATURE OF HYDROXYL SODALITE AND HYDROXYL NOSEAN. "Sodalite" and "Nosean" are terms which, in general usage, connote two natural mineral types differing in chemical composition, refractive index, density, etc. In the last forty years, a difference of cell size has also been associated with the two species. In the present study, the only incontrovertible distinction between hydroxyl nosean and hydroxyl sodalite is one of cell size, and other authors have not specified any further criterion which they used for distinguishing between these two synthetic phases. No similar phase, with cell size intermediate between those of hydroxyl nosean and hydroxyl sodalite, has been reported. Thus, the borrowing of the terms "sodalite" and "nosean" for these synthetic analogues is justified by the following:

- a. The hydroxyl and natural forms have closely analogous chemical compositions, and generally similar physical properties.
- **b.** The x-ray diffraction patterns of the natural and synthetic forms are very similar.

c. The hydroxyl analogues are not mutually soluble, in the range of conditions in which they have been studied, as has been shown for synthetic sulphate and chloride forms. With the exception of the last, these are also the facts on which the naming of hydroxyl cancrinite is based.

HYDROXYL CANCRINITE. This phase grew at 450°C and 520°C, and was more specifically associated with charges of high water content, than were any of the other phases. Analysis of a specimen gave the composition $NAA1_{0.94}Si0_{3.91}(NaOH)_{0.29}(H_2O)_{0.43}$, which is very close to that of nosean, and not very different from that of sodalite. The analysis total was 95.5 per cent (see table App.-2), and since the water determination was the least reliable part of the analysis, the actual composition was probably more hydrous.

Cancrinite was subhedral to euhedral, showing $(10\overline{1}0)$ and (0001) forms only.' The ratio length:diameter was about 2:1 in the less hydrous charges, and up to 5:1, in charges with about 60 per cent, or more, of water. Hydroxyl cancrinite was usually free of inclusions, but was often coated with rounded nepheline grains of ten to thirty microns diameter.

PHASE X. Chemical analysis of a sample gave the composition $\text{Naa1}_{0.92}\text{Si0}_{3.87}\text{(Na}_{2}\text{O)}_{0.49}\text{(H}_{2}\text{O)}_{0.14}$. This phase grew in charges on, and between, the $\texttt{NAALSiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-Na}_\textbf{2} \texttt{O}$ and $\texttt{NAALSiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-NaOH}$ joins, normally in the form of long, prismatic crystals, with length;thickness ratio of 5:1 to 10:1. X is stable over the whole temperature range of the study.

Density determinations gave a value of $2.5₂$, and preliminary single-crystal x-ray studies indicate the orthorhombic cell parameters to be a=12.3Å, b=14.0Å, c=5.0Å, the cell volume being approximately $860^{\text{\AA}}_{\Lambda}{}^{3}$, and the space group P2,2,2,. The chemical analysis results, neglecting the small amount of water present, approximate to the formula $\text{Na}_{4}\text{Al}_{2}\text{Si}_{2}\text{O}_{9}$; using this formula, the unit cell contains 3 3/4 (= 4) formula units.

The acute bisectrix of X lies along c , the axis of elongation, so that acute bisectrix figures are hard to obtain. Only three such figures were seen, and indicated a 2V of about 40°, and positive optical sign. The birefringence is low, about 0.004, and no dispersion is immediately discernible. Twinning appears to be entirely absent.

An extensive search of the literature has been made, to identify this phase with a known compound; no such correspondence has been found. Borchert and Keidel (1949a,b) reported an alpha-carnegeite-like phase of the same composition $(Na₄Al₂Si₂O₉)$, but, apart from the shortcomings of these writers' compositional information, there is little chance of confusion of the cubic and orthorhombic lattices. Why they did not synthesise X_i , is not understood, since this phase grew comparatively quickly in the present study. X may be stable only at pressuresgreater than 1 atmosphere.

FLUID PHASE. The fluid phase observed was of watery consistency, in charges of lower sodium hydroxide content. At high NaOH concentrations, the fluid phase was a greyish translucent glass, largely soluble in water; the increase in viscosity is presumably due to the increased quantities of aluminum and silicon in solution. The refractive indices of the quenched glasses were about 1.47, but were generally difficult to measure, owing to attack of the exposed edges, probably by CO_{2} and $H_{2}O_{\bullet}$ Specific evidence of fluids of intermediate viscosities was not seen; such fluids would be difficult to detect, since the presence of NaOH necessitates washing of the charge contents, before microscopic examination.

CHAPTER V

THE GENERAL PHASE RELATIONSHIPS

EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS IN THE ISOTHERMAL SECTIONS. Figures G. H. I and J show the experimental results in isothermal sections of the plane NaAlSiO_h-NaOH-H₂O, at 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure. The plane is extended to include the point $2NAASi0₄$.Na₂0, because of the occurrence of phase ^X in this added segment. The detailed data for the individual charges is given in table App.-4. In these diagrams, the points representing the compositions of charges with similar phase assemblages are joined or enclosed by lines. for clarity of display. The presence of ^a fluid phase is shown in the diagrams only where it constituted most. or all. of the charge; it is very doubtful that any of the charges were entirely without fluid phases. at the end of the reaction period.¹

GENERAL RELATIONSHIPS IN THE ISOTHERMAL SECTIONS. While the relationships in the isothermal sections are difficult to interpret in detail, the following general tendencies are well-defined:

a. Hydroxyl cancrinite was not formed above 520°C.

¹ The preparation of the charges for optical examination tended to obliterate traces of a fluid phase. but positive evidence of the presence of this phase was found in all charges subjected to fluid phase analysis.

FIGURE G

Experimental Results at 450°C, 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure

Symbols:

- •••• The plotted composition of ^a single charge
- \circ The composition of the analysed crystalline phases, taken from figure E.

Ne ••••• Nepheline

No ••••• Hydroxyl nosean

C **•••••** Hydroxyl cancrinite

 S_{-} **•••••** Hydroxyl sodalite

x **•• Ct ••** Phase X

^F Fluid phase. This is shown only when it constituted most, or all, of the equilibrium assemblage.

All points representing charges with the same crystalline assemblage, are joined, or enclosed, by straight lines.

Nepheline, X, hydroxyl sodalite and hydroxyl cancrinite form in this section. The area near the $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{\textbf{4}}\texttt{-H}_{\textbf{2}}$ O join probably represents incomplete reaction, as these charges contained a preponderance of very fine grained material, which did not appear to be crystalline. Also, the proportion of cancrinite in these low-NaOH charges as estimated from the x-ray results, increases towards the NaAlSiO_{$_L$} vertex, contrary to the behaviour to be expected, con-</sub> sidering the compositions of these phases.

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FIGURE H

Experimental Results at 520°C, 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure

The symbols are the same as those of figure $G_$.

All five crystalline phases are found at this temperature. As in the case of the 450°C section, charges near the NaAlSiO₄-H₂O join represent incomplete reaction.

Sodalite was found in many of the charges which contained nosean, but in erratically varying amount, and is denoted by the symbol (S). Charge no. ⁵³⁶ was unusual, in that it contained two visually distinguishable types of homogeneous isotropic crystals: a few, large and anhedral; many, small and six-sided in outline. The former were assumed to be noscan, and the latter, sodalite, because of the similarity of form of these smaller crystals, to known examples of sodalite at 450°C. The refractive indices of all of the isotropic crystals was 1.485±O.001, but the diffraction pattern indicated that nosean and sodalite were present in similar quantity.

FIGURG I

The Experimental Results at 600° C, 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure

The symbols are the sana as those of figure G.

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Cancrinite was not found at this temperature, but sodalite again was found in several occurrences of nosean. Charge no. 509 contained nepheline which is described in chapter **IV.**

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FIGURE J

The Experimental Results at $700^{\circ}C$, 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure

The symbols are the same as those of figure G.

The data at this temperature generally resembles that at 600°C, except that nepheline was found in all charges but those containing fluid only, or $X +$ fluid only. Charge no. 582 showed some of the most striking examples of zoning seen in nosean, and a photograph of a grain from this charge is shown in figure D. Owing to breakdown of the temperature control system, charges no. 635, 636 and 637 were reacted at 710°C, but are included to show the proximity of the liquidus to charge no. 580.

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- b. Hydroxyl noscan was found at 520°C and above, but not at 450 $^{\circ}$ C, at which temperature it was presumed to be unstable.¹
- c. Hydroxyl sodalite is found as a major stable phase at 450° C, but at 520° and above, it is almost always ^a minor constituent of the charges, with the actual proportions varying erratically.
- d. The chemical analyses of all three hydroxyl felspathoids are very similar, but the obvious association of the cancrinite with high water concentrations suggests that this phase is more hydrous than the others, at the conditions of reaction.
- e. Nepheline occurs at all temperatures of the investigation, appearing in charges of progressively higher NaOH content, as the temperature increases.
- f. There is only one fluid phase, in the range of conditions studied.

QUENCH PHASES. Little evidence of phases formed during the quenching process was seen. In some of the charges, a very thin layer of extremely fine-grained material covered the much larger grains of the stable phases, and some of the glasses contained wisps of anisotropic matter.

¹ This is in accord with earlier results (Anderson, 1963), also at 15,000 p.s.i., in which hydroxyl nosean was found at 480°C, but not at 460°C. Other studies (Edgar, 1961; van Peteghem. 1961), on Other studies (Edgar, 1961; van Peteghem, 1961), on sulphate and carbonate noseans, gave comparable results.

THE INCLUSION OF PHASES. The pronounced ability of nocean and sodalite to enclose early-formed phases is a source of potential disequilibrium. These two phases commonly enclosed large quantities of nepheline and X . possibly preventing later equilibration of the enclosed phases with the fluid phase.

KINETIC EFFECT EXPERIMENTS. Charges numbered 550, and 638 to 647 inelusive, were of closely similar composition, and were reacted for differing lengths of time, at 600° C. (550 is the only number shown for this composition, in figure I.) Estimating the presence and quantities of the phases from the diffraction patterns, the short reaction periods (1 to 100 hours) produced nepheline, nosean and sodalite in similar quantities; longer reaction times produced nepheline and nosean, with very little sodalite. The results were:

These results clearly establish that sodalite is slow to break down at this temperature, pressure and composition, and strongly suggest that it is not stable at these conditions. Twenty days is ^a typical reaction period for the whole set of experiments.

THE ANOMALOUS OCCURRENCE OF SODALITE. Several lines of evidence indicate that sodalite is entirely unstable in this system, at 520° C and above:

- a. At and above 520°C, sodalite appears in variable quantity with many of the occurrences of nosean. Sodalite was not detected where the noscan was highly recrystallised, to grains of a millimetre or so in size. X-ray powder photographs of several of these large grains of nosean, separately ground and mounted, showed no sodalite reflections.
- b. No field of sodalite by itself, or of sodalite ⁺ fluid, was found, except in the 450°C section.
- c. At 520°C and above, there are fields of five phases, if sodalite is included, such as that of nepheline + nosean $+ X +$ fluid + sodalite, at 700°C. This violates the phase rule for quaternary equilibrium¹, in which the maximum number of phases in divariant fields is four. Of the five phases, sodalite is the only one with no definable field of stability, at these temperatures.
- d. All charges passed through the temperature range of sodalite stability, during the initial heating to reaction temperature, and'there was some sodalite structure present in the reactant gels.

Neglecting the small quantities of air and $CO₂$ in the capsules, the charges contained Na, Al, Si and H, with enough oxygen to satisfy all these elements. It is exceedingly unlikely that there can be more than four components in the system.

- e. The set of kinetic-effect experiments demonstrated that early-formed codalite breaks down slowly, at 600°C.
- f. The coring in nosean offers an explanation of the persistence of sodalite; if these cores are composed of sodalite, then this sodalite is isolated from reaction with the fluid phase.

It appears that, in many of the charges heated above 450° C, sodalite forms during the process of bringing the charges to the reaction temperature, probably often as spheroidal grains¹. This sodalite then becomes encased in nosean, when that phase begins to grow. Further reaction between sodalite and fluid is impeded, with consequent preservation of sodalite. Charge no. 536, at 520° C, afforded some evidence that sodalite was present in contact with the fluid phase, but there is no field of sodalite itself, at that temperature. There may be a field of sodalite just below this temperature, so that the process of breakdown to form nosean is slow, despite contact between sodalite and fluid. This is consistent with the fact that the bulk composition of charge no. 536 is very close to that of sodalite.

THE WIDESPREAD OCCURRENCE OF NEPHELINE AT HIGHER TEMPERATURES. At 600°c and 700°C, nepheline is found at the NaOH-rich liquidus. This is difficult to explain on the basis of the ternary system, in view

¹ Barrer and Falconer (1956) formed spheroidal grains of hydroxyl sodalite from gels at 100°C, and 1 atmosphere.

of the analysed compositions of the crystalline phases, and the gecmetric limitations of the ternary phase diagram. Two aspects of this phonomenon are:

- a. As the temperature increases from 450°C to 700°C, nepheline is found over an increasing area of the plane NaAlSiO_L-NaOH-H₂O, coexisting with nosean and fluid at the highly-sodic parts of the liquidus at GoO°C and 700°C, but not at 450° C and 520° C (figures G, H.I and J). At 600° C, a field of nosean + fluid was found, but at 700°C, nepheline was found in all assemblages except that of $X +$ fluid.
- b. The nepheline from these higher temperature, sodium-rich charges was euhedral, in relatively large grain size. It was deficient in certain x-ray reflections (see chapter IV), .and showed strain phenomena suggestive of inversion during the quench. Since the last two properties are not shared by nepheline reported from other systems (see, for example, Saha, 1961; Smith and Tuttle, 1957), it presumably reflects some deviation from the formula NaAlSiO_{4} , other than the well-known and common excess of SiO_{2} .

It appears, from the above, that the plane $\text{NaAlSiO}_{\downarrow}$ -NaOH-H₂O is quaternary, at the higher temperatures. If the plane were ternary, the growth in the stability fields of nepheline should cause displacement of the fields of stability of the other phases; that this does not happen, is strong evidence for a quaternary condition of the system, at these temperatures.

It also appears from the foregoing that, with increasing

temperature, nepheline is capable of accommodating increasing amounts of a component which has a high activity in the system $\texttt{NAAlSiO}_{\mu}\text{-NaOH-H}_{2}\texttt{O}$, but not in "natural" systems, and which causes the nepheline to become unstable on cooling. An obvious component for this role is NaOH, in view of the high sodium and water¹ content of the analysed specimen of nepheline, and the probability that natural environments do not contain such high NaOH concentrations.

THE FLUID PHASE ANALYSES. The details of the analytical method are given in Appendix 1, section C , and the results are shown in figure K . Sixty such analyses were made, but only 36 of these were accepted; subsequent optical examination showed, in many of the cases of rejection, that substantial amounts of glass remained with the solid phases. Several of the analyses merely confirmed the incomplete reaction near the NaAlSiO_h-H₂O join, at 450°C and 520°C.

The determined quantities of sodium and water are expressed as points on the NaOH-H₂O join, and the bulk compositions of the charges are shown. The "bulk compositions of the solid phases" were calculated, by subtracting the sodium and water of the fluid phases from the total compositions of the several charges, and plotted on the diagram. These analyses Were originally made in an attempt to derive the compositions of the solid phases, before the latter were themselves analysed.

The vater content of nepheline from charges 619 and 622 was determined as 2.2 weight per cent, in contrast with 1.57 per cent, which is the highest value quoted for natural nepheline in D.H.Z. The determined water may represent (OH), as well as $_{Z2}$ O.

FIGURE K

The fluid Phase Analyses

The method of analysis is described in Appendix I, section 1, and the numerical data is in table App.-5. The results of the sodium and water determinations are shown as points on the NaOH-H₂O join; to the left of each of these points, the crystalline assemblage and number of the charge is shown. The bulk compositions of the charges are indicated, as are the "bulk compositions of the solid phases", the latter being obtained by subtracting the sodium and water content of the fluid phase from the bulk compositions of the charges. The three points for each charge are connected by a straight line, which has no other significance. Those charges for which the "bulk compositions of the solid phases" are plotted off the left hand sides of the diagrams, showed a greater loss of weight, on dehydration, than the weight of water originally in the capsule. The excess of water was very small, in all such cases, and probably represents a slight uptake of water during the reaction. The fluid phase compositions should not be noticeably affected.

Key:

- @) •••• Bulk composition of the charge
- •••• "Bulk composition of the crystalline phases"
- •••• Analysed compositions of the fluid phases, from figure E.

₩. $\ddot{}$ The fluid phase analyses suffer from the obvious defect, that alumina and silica were not determined. The actual analytical procedures tended to underestimate the amount of water present; these amounts of water were, moreover, often near the limits of precision of the five-place balance used.

Some of the water determined may have been intracrystalline, at 15,000 p.s.i., and not a part of the fluid phase, and some sodium may have been leached from the crystalline phases.

Despite these uncertainties, the fluid phase analyses are generally consistent with the other findings. The bulk compositions of the solid phases, calculated from the fluid phase analyses, should correspond with the compositions of the analysed crystalline specimens, or should lie between the latter compositions, when more than one crystalline phase is present. To a first approximation, the two sets of analyses do correspond, and the agreement is very good, in some cases.

The most important information derived from the fluid phase analyses bears on the presence or absence of a fluid phase, in some charges. The analytical results indicate fluids with high NaOH contents, for charges containing the solid assemblages nepheline + nosean + **X,** nepheline + sodalite + X, and nepheline + sodalite + cancrinite. The water, determined in these cases, was a small quantity, and may represent:

 1 This would be contrary to the findings of Barrer and Falconer (1956), for cancrinite and sodalite; these authors found that there is no exchange of hydrogen for sodium, when hydroxyl sodalite and hydroxyl cancrinite are placed in distilled water.
- a. Fluid remaining, due to incomplete reaction. This is not considered likely, since the amounts of water obtained at 600° C and 700° C were greater than those from comparable charges at 450° C and 520° C; at the higher temperatures, reaction should be faster and more complete.
- b. Intracrystalline water. This, also, is contradicted by the greater amounts of water obtained at higher temperatures, from charges of similar compositions and identical assemblages. A given crystalline species is usually less hydrous at higher temperature.
- c. An equilibriun fluid. This explanation is consistent with the larger amounts of water found at the higher temperatures, since for given charge composition, the fluid phase should be a greater proportion of the charge, at higher temperatures.

It is therefore concluded that there was ^a liquid present in all charges, and that this liquid was an equilibrium liquid (or a close approximation to an equilibrium liquid; see chapter VI). This indicates that the plane NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O is quaternary in part, since the addition of a fluid to the fields of three crystalline phases results in fields of four phases; four phase assemblages are possible only on univariant lines, in ternary systems at equilibrium.

THE PSEUDO-TERMARY HATURE OF THE PLANE. In the more hydrous areas, and at the lower temperatures investigated, the plane $\texttt{NAALSiO}_{\textbf{4}}\text{-}\texttt{NaOH}\text{-}\texttt{H}_2\texttt{O}$ approximates quite well to a ternary system, as the compositions of the analysed crystalline phases all lie near to it. The liquids, however, prcbably have an Al:Si ratio somewhat higher than that of the solids. At S.T.P., alumina is more soluble than is silica, in NaOH solutions with a pH of nine or greater; this tendency may persist qualitatively, at higher pressures and temperatures. There is evidence of preferential solution of alumina by the fluid phase, from the compositions of the solids. Only the sodalite and nosean analysed have Al:Si approximately equal to 1. Despite the slight alumina excesses in the reagent gels, the other crystalline phases are aluminum-deficient, as were the sodalite and cancrinite reported by Barrer and Falconer. When the liquid coexisting with such aluminum-deficient crystals is ^a small proportion of the total assemblage, this liquid must contain a large excess of alumina, to satisfy the condition that Al:Si =**1,** in the bulk composition of the charge.

At the higher temperatures and less hydrous compositions, the plane $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{\downarrow}$ -NaOH-H₂O, together with that part of the NaAlSiO₄-Na₂O-NaOH join shown in figures G, H. **I,** and J, is quaternary. This is concluded from the fluid phase analyses, and from the appearance of nepheline at the highly-sodic parts of the liquidus. The four components are probably $\text{Na}_{2}\text{O}_{1}$, $\text{Al}_{2}\text{O}_{3}$, SiO_{2} and H_{2}O_{1} with departures from the ternary plane being restricted to differences of the ratio Al:Si in the several phases of a given assemblage.

SPECIFIC RELATIONSHIPS AT THE FOUR TF PERATURES. Figures L, M, N and 0 are cquilibrium diagrams referring to the four temperatures investigated. They are based primarily on the experimental results, but contain interpretive elements, where these results were considered to be ambiguous. All the diagrams are drawn for a ternary system; that is, the maximum number of phases shown is three, for divariant conditions, although the system is somewhat quaternary at 600° C, and distinctly so, at 700°C.

The fields of the pure cryztalline phases, shown in the diagrams, are small. The actual extents of these fields may be larger (or, even smaller); there *is* little evidence bearing on this point, except in the case of nepheline.

Specific comments on the individual diagrams accompany the figures.

FIGURE L

Inferred Relationships at 450°C

The results at 450° C, 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure (figure G) indicate the relationships shown. To give the best fit with the experimental data, cancrinite is placed at a much higher water content than that indicated by the analysis (figure E). The experimental results do not indicate the composition of the fluid of the assemblaGe nepheline + cancrinite ⁺ fluid.

FIGURE M

Interpretation of the Results at 520°C

The experimental results are shown in figure H. The most problematic aspect of this section is the relationship of nosean and cancrinite. Cancrinite strongly favours the area near the $_{Z2}^{\text{LO}}$ vertex. The presence of cancrinite in charges with such sodic compositions as those of charges nos. 468 and 473 (figure H) is difficult to explain. except on the basis of metastability. The possible polymorphic relationship shown in the diagram could account for a tendency to metastable formation and persistence of nosean and cancrinite, near the transition point.

FIGURE N

Inferred Relationships at 600°C

The experimental results are shown in figure I. The section is shown as a ternary system, but the appearance of small quantities of nepheline at (or very ncar to) the sodium-rich parts of the liquidus shows that the system is somewhat quaternary, at this temperature.

FIGURE O

Interpretation of the Results at ?OO°C

The results at 700°C are shown in figure **J.** The system is quaternary at this temperature, with nepheline appearing in all charges except those containing fluid, or $X +$ fluid only. In view of the unusual nature of the nepheline formed at high NaOH concentrations (similar nepheline has not been reported from systems other than the present one), and the apparent absence of X from geological systems, the ternary representation is probably more directly comparable with analogous systems, such as $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_{\textbf{4}}\texttt{-NaCl-H}_\textbf{2}$ There is no reason to suspect that the latter system is quaternary.

CHAPTER VI

DISCUSSION

DOUILIBRIUM IN THE EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS. Although stable equilibrium is probably never attained in studies involving silicate crystallisation, a reasonably close approach to these conditions is essential to any investigation such as the present one, if the results are to have any It is, however, practically impossible positively to demonmeaning. strate stable equilibrium in these experiments, and the investigator usually must be content with negative results to tests for disequilibrium. The most commonly used criteria involve the application of the phase rule, and tests to establish that reactions at postulated phase boundaries are not irreversible.

The use of the phase rule entails the correct choice of the number and characters of the components. Thus, the field at 700°C of nepheline + nosean + X + fluid could be interpreted as representing ternary disequilibrium, or quaternary equilibrium. The latter was chosen largely on the evidence of the fluid phase analyses. In fact, none of the results of the present study violate the phase rule for quaternary systems.

Testing for the reversibility of reactions was not formally attempted in the present study, since those most in need of such examination, and on which other direct evidence could not be brought

to bear, were isobaric, isothermal reactions.¹ On the other hand. there was incidental breakdown of pre-formed sodalite and nepheline structures in mony of the charges, establishing the instability of these structures under certain conditions.

Many of the charges clearly failed to reach equilibrium, in that sodalite persisted to a variable degree at temperatures above its field of stability. This is a special case of disequilibrium, resulting from isolation of the sodalite from the fluid phase. The persistence of sodalite probably caused little other change to the equilibrium assemblage, since sodalite and the nosean which apparently replaces it are of very similar compositions.

Near the NaAlSiO_h-H₂O join, the charges at 450°C and 520°C afforded visual evidence of incomplete reaction, and were largely dis-Near the H₂O vertex, at all four temperatures, the excesregarded. sive width of the fields of nepheline + cancrinite + fluid, and nepheline + nosean + fluid, are also assumed to represent disequilibrium (see figures L and N). This phenomenon may be causally related to that found by Litvin and Dem'yanets (1962); in charges of natural nepheline + carbonate ion + water, either nepheline or cancrinite crystallised, depending only on which structure was present as a seed

¹ Examples are the reactions nepheline + nosean + fluid + NaOH \neq nosean + fluid, and cancrinite + nepheline + fluid + NaOH = cancrinite + fluid, both near the NaAlSiO₄-H₂O join, and nosean + fluid + H₂O \Rightarrow cancrinite Adequate supplies of the pure phases, necessary for such + fluid. isobaric, isothermal tests, were not available.

crystal.¹ It appears that the NaAlSiO₄-H₂O join is very prone to the development of non-equilibrium assemblages.

The occurrences of nosean and cancrinite, at 520°C, are difficult to explain in detail, on the basis of equilibrium relationships, and, to a limited extent, probably represent disequilitrium. In view of the compositional similarity of those two phases, the metastable presence of one or the other should not disturb the other phase relationships.

It is clear, from the foregoing, that the results near the NaAlSiO_h-H₂O join, the persistence of sodalite at 520°C and above, and some of the charges containing nosean and cancrinite, are all expressions of disequilibrium. The rest of the results are most easily interpreted in terms of equilibrium, ternary and quaternary. Any undetected disequilibrium phenomena that may be present, must be very consistent; within the conditions of experimentation, the results were reproducible, with few, or no, exceptions.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF HYDROMYL NOSEAN AND HYDROXYL CANCRINITE. According to chemical analyses, hydroxyl nosean and hydroxyl cancrinite have almost identical compositions (see figure E), but the obvious preference of cancrinite for the area of the H_2O vertex indicates that this phase tends to be more hydrous than does nosean, at the conditions of reaction. Cancrinite may, in fact, behave in a manner analogous to that of a

¹ The temperature of the experiments was 300°C to 400°C, and the pressure was less than 1 kilobar. A temperature gradient was maintained in the system, which was not at equilibrium. These authors also report a cancrinite of the composition 3NaAlSiO₁.2NaOH, apparently formed in the system natural nepheline + water.

There are relatively large channels (Pauling, 1930); Jarchow, spenge. 1966; Barrer and Falconer, 1956) traversing cancrinite, circumscribed by twelve-membered rings of Al-O and Si-O tetrahedra. The corresponding cavities of nosean are smaller, being surrounded by six-membered rings. Both species have about the same cell volume, $\frac{1}{1}$ and the same number of NaAlSiO, units per cell; in both, the openings in the frameworks contain the NaOH and H₂O of the chemical formulae. In nosean, there is more than enough NaOH and H₂O to fill the two cavities per cell. The larger openings of cancrinite may be able to accommodate relatively large quantities of structurally unimportant water, under hydrothermal conditions, but with loss of this water, on release of the pressure. Such behaviour would explain the apparent contradiction of the similarity of the analysed compositions, and the obvious stabilisation of cancrinite by higher water concentrations.

The stabilisation of hydroxyl nosean, relative to hydroxyl cancrinite, by increase of temperature, is in accord with the findings of Edgar and Burley (1961, 1963), who pointed out that some other types of cancrinite give way to nosean structures, with rising temperature.

In the section at 520°C (figure M), it was suggested that the composition fields of hydroxyl nosean and hydroxyl cancrinite may join. A polymorphic relationship was suggested by Edgar and Burley (Ibid.)

 \circ 3 The analysed cancrinite has a cell volume of about 715 A , and that of the nosean is about 730 A. Cancrinite and nosean have 6 NaAlSiO_{μ} per cell, with two additional cation valencies, and two additional anion valencies.

for carbenate and bicarbonate forms of noscan and canorinite; in the present study, such a relationship would account for the confused relationships¹ indicated in figure H, the experimental data at 520°C.

THE RELATIONSHIP OF HYDROXYL MOSEAN AND HYDROXYL SCDALITE. The present study has reaffirmed the fact that hydroxyl sodalite and hydroxyl nosean are distinct phases, but has not yielded positive information on the nature of the differences, other than that of cell size, between the two Sodalite was found to be unstable at and above 520° C, and phases. stable at 450°C, the reverse being true for nosean.

Sodalite can persist, for a period of days or longer, at temperatures up to 700°C. The alteration of sodalite to nosean appears to take place at the surface of the grains, and to be impeded by isolation from the fluid phase. These factors suggest either a significant difference of composition between the two, or different arrangements of the alumino-Chemical analyses of the two have shown the chemisilicate frameworks. cal compositions to be very similar, with the possible exception of the water contents, and Barrer and Falconer (1956) have shown that water and sodium are quite mobile in the hydroxyl sodalite structure, at 300°C to 400° C. Thus, some difference of the aluminosilicate frameworks seems, from this data, to be more likely. This is apparently confirmed in a very recent publication (von Lons and Schulz, 1967), in which the

¹ The occurrence of cancrinite on the sodium-rich side of the field of nepheline + nosean (charges nos. 468 and 473) is difficult to explain, except by metastability. Near the conditions of a polymorphic transition, metastable persistence of one or other phase is very likely.

structure of a chloride sodalite is described. The aluminum and silicon are largely ordered, in contrast with the reported structures of nosean and hauyne (see, for example, Saalfeld, 1959, 1961). The space group of the chloride scdalite is $P\overline{4}3n$, while that of sulphate noscan is $P\overline{4}3m$. It appears, from a preliminary single-crystal study of the hydroxyl forms of the present investigation, that a similar space group difference exists. This study, by Dr. C. Calvo, of the Materials Sciences Department, McMaster University, is continuing.

The results of earlier work (Anderson, 1963) at 440°C to 540°C ara shown in figure C. The crystalline phases were not analysed at that time, and the data were taken to indicate that nosean was of a more sodie conposition that sodalite. In view of the compositional similarity now evident, the field of sodalite + nosean $($ + fluid), in figure C , may be the spurious result of kinetic factors, and the transformation of hydroxyl sodalite to hydroxyl nosean could be isothermal and polymorphic. The earlier results are now interpreted as showing that the alteration of hydroxyl sodalite to hydroxyl nosean, at 15,000 p.s.i., takes place at ^a temperature, or at temperatures, between 460° C and 480° C.

THE APPLICATION OF THESE RESULTS. As was stated in the early chapters, the purpose of this study has been, to provide a basis of information, regarding felspathoid phase relationships, which would be useful in studies of those multi-component systems in which the natural felspathoids occur. Whether or not this goal has been realised, will be shown only. when the more complex systems are attempted.

The effects of the addition of certain ionic or molecular species, to the system $\texttt{NAAlSiO}_\textbf{4}$ -NaOH-H₂O, are readily predictable from previous information. Chloride ion stabilises the sodalite structure over a large temperature range. Carbonate ion stabilises the cancrinite structure at lower temporatures, and the nosean structure at higher temperatures; similar effects are to be expected of the sulphate ion. The effects of mixtures of these, and other, ions, are not so predictable, and it is in such cases as these, that the present results should be of value.

The stabilisation of cancrinite, by very high water concentrations, may be an important factor in some equilibria. The work of von Eckermann was cited in chapter II; he concluded that the reaction,

nepheline + calcite \Rightarrow cancrinite

is pushed to the right, by high partial pressures of CO_{2} . Several other variables could influence this equilibrium, but the results of the present study indicate that particular attention should be paid to variations of the partial pressure of water.

The high-NaOH form of nepheline is interesting in itself, but does not appear to be a form found in rocks. Slow cooling of this substance should permit the observed structural changes to proceed further, so that the low temperature structure, or structures, could be identified.

<u>SUMMARY</u>. At 15,000 p.s.i. total pressure, in the system NaAlSiO₄-NaOH-H₂O, the hydroxyl felspathoids have stability fields as outlinad in figures L, M,N and O. Sodalite is stable from below 450°C to a temperature just below 520°C, and the range of stability of cancrinite extends from below

 l_1 G

450°C to a temperature between 520°C and 600°C. Nosean is stable from *a* temperature between 450°C and 5Z0°C, to above 700°C. The effects of temperature and pressure are crucial in determining which of the hydroxyl felspathoids will form, at given composition of the isolated system, as the compositions of these phases all approximate to \mathfrak{Z} NaAlSiO_{μ}. NaOH.xh₂O, with x varying from less than 1, to at least 1.5. Analyses of hydroxyl cancrinite probably indicate much lower water content than was present under hydrothermal conditions; cancrinite is clearly favoured over the other phases by highly aqueous compositions.

Two other crystalline phases occur over the whole temperature range 450°C to 700°C: sodic nepheline, including an abnormal form of higher than normal sodium content, and phase X. The latter appears to be an unreported phase, with composition close to $\text{Na}_{\text{4}}\text{Al}_{2}\text{Si}_{2}\text{O}_{9}$.

The system $\texttt{NAALSiO}_4\texttt{-NaOH-H}_2\texttt{O}$ is distinctly quaternary at $600^{\circ}\texttt{C}$ and 700°C, probably with the ratio Al:Si differing from one phase to another.

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APPENDIX I

SECTION 1 - EXPERIMENTAL METHOD

GENERAL. Phase stability was determined by synthesis from gels, using gold containers in heated pressure vessels. This chapter will describe: A. the reactant gels; B. execution of the reactions; C. treatment of the reaction products; D. optical examination of the products; E. X-ray examination of the products; F. analytical procedures.

A. THE REACTANT GELS

Because of the difficulties of handling and purifying sodium hydroxide, gels were used as starting reagents. $SiO₂$ was used in the form of a dry gel (Cab-O-Sil M5, The Cabot Chemical Co.); the Al_2O_3 and Na2 0 were weighed as the nitrates (Analytical Grade Reagents). Water was added to the weighed silica and nitrates, and stirred to a thick, cream-like consistency. Concentrated $\texttt{NH}_{\texttt{L}}$ OH $(\texttt{S.G.=O.88})$ was then added, the aluminum gelling as $A1(OH)_{3}$. The mixtures were evaporated to dryness, ground, fired at 800°C to decompose the nitrates, ground again, and stored over potassium hydroxide.

Analyses were made of the eight prepared gels (see F., below) and showed that the sodium contents were, in four cases, well below those intended (analysis results are in table App.-l). Two gels were rejected; one because of excessively low sodium, the other, because of

low $A1_2O_3$ content. The accepted gels contain some excess $A1_2O_3$ and O_2 . The low Na_{2} O content probably arose from failure to use plastic beakers in the first stage of preparation; some of the dried gels remained in the glassware uses, and must have contained a disproportionate amount of sodium.

The analyses were takon to represent the true compositions of the dry mixtures. Two of the gels used (nos. 7 and 8) were made by mixing calculated quantities of two other gels.

The gels were examined optically and by x-ray diffraction, immediately after they were made, and at the end of the whole set of experiments. On both occasions, they showed no optical evidence of crystalline structure, and the initial set of x-ray diffraction patterns showed no long-range structure. The concluding set of diffraction patterns, made two and one-half years after the first, indicated the formation of appreciable quantities of nepheline and sodalite structures; the somewhat diffuse reflections could also have resulted, in part, from the presence of cancrinite or nosean structures.

B. EXECUTION OF THE REACTIONS

Gold tubes of 22mm. I.D., 3mm. O.D. and 25mm. length were welded closed at one end and weighed. Water was inserted, using a ten microlitre syringe, and the capsule reweighed; the dry reagent was then added quickly via a small electric vibrating funnel, and the capsule again was weighed. The open end of the capaule was welded shut, inspected for leaks under a microscope, and the capsule weighed once more.

Reaction was accomplished in periods of two to four weeks in $\frac{1}{2}$ inch I.D., 2 inches O.D. bombs of 12 inches length, heated in cylindrical furnsces of 3 inches I.D. These furnacos were temperature controlled with an electronic multi-channel controller (Thermoelectric Co. Ltd.), using chromel-alumel thermocouples in the furnace windings. Temperatures were monitored using chromel-alumel thermocouples inserted in small wells in the bombs, near the charges; the potential was read from a manually-operated potentiometer with a precision of ± 0.02 mV (about $\frac{1}{2}$ °C, using chromel-alumel couples).

Tne measured temperatures normally varied less than ±2°C from the mean, for any given charge; these means were within 2°C of the set temperatures, and were probably within 3°C of the absolute values. The manufacturer of the bombs, Tem-Pres Research, Inc., state that the temperature of that part of the bomb in which the capsules were placed, is normally within 5°C of the temperature of the thermocouple well. If errors from the last-mentioned source are approximately constant, the temperatures quoted have an internal consistency of 2°C, and an absolute accuracy of $\pm 10^{\circ}$ C. Pressures were read from a Bourdon type gauge (American Instrument Co.), with a presumed overall accuracy of ±5 per cent.

The bombs, at the end of the reaction, were cooled to 450°C by an air blast (taking up to 90 seconds for this), then cooled to room temperature with a bucket of water. The end of the bomb could be held in the hand within two minutes, from any starting temperature.

After heating in the bombs, the capsules were weighed; those capsules which had changed by more than 0.03 per cent in weight were considered to have opened during the reaction. Some sets of capsules were considered to have remained closed, despite a weight change of 0.1 per cent, but this only when all capsules of the set showed similar behaviour.

A few larger capsules, of $1/3$ inch I.D. and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, were used for synthesis of analysable quantities of the various compounds.

The weighings mentioned above were carried out on a four-place balance.

£. TREATMENT OF THE REACTION PRODUCTS

The capsule was opened, and part or all of the charge removed and washed in water. After drying with acetone, the sample was ready for examination. About one third of the capsules were treated otherwise; the contents were analysed for residual water and free sodium ion.

Those capsules of which the contents were chemically analysed were held, before opening, in a Bunsen flame, for a few seconds; the internal steam pressure expanded the capsules to a nearly-cylindrical shape, at which point they were immediately quenched in water. After drying, the capsule was weighed on a five-place balance, pierced at one end with a pin, and re-weighed. They were then dried to constant weight in an oven or vacuum desiccator at 125°C to 200°C, the loss in

presumably, all water. $^{\text{1}}$. After dehydration, the capsules were opened under water, and the capsule and contents were carefully washed off, with light grinding of the contents. The washings from capsules and contents were filtered into 250 ml. graduated flasks, together with 25 ml. of 5000 p.p.m. Li⁺ solution, and 25 ml. of normal HCl eolution. The flasks were made up to volume, and the solutions compared with suitable standard solutions of NaCl, using a Perkin-Elmer model 303 atomic absorption spectrophotometer. The readings were made by J.R. Huysson, with probable accuracy of ±l per cent (absolute).

D. OPTICAL EXAMINATION OF THE REACTION PRODUCTS

Optical examination of the reaction products was carried out using white light, at various magnifications from $20X$ to $675X$. Refractive index determinations were made by observation of the Becke line, the immersion oils being calibrated at intervals of 0.002 units. The refractive indices of the oils were found to deviate from the rated values by less than 0.0007 units, upon checking with an Abbe refractometer at 25°C, in sodium light. No correction was made, when examining the reaction products, for temperature or wavelength of light.

E. X-RAY EXAMINATION OF THE REACTION PRODUCTS

For general identification purposes, X-ray diffraction patterns. were made with a Norelco diffractometer of the geiger-counter type. The

¹ Dehydrations of capsules numbered 576 or higher were effected in a vacuum desiccator. Other dehydrations were carried out in a drying oven, and some ∞ , may have been absorbed during drying, leading to an improperly low value for the water content.

normal scan rate used was 1° of the angle 20 per minute; with a chart paper speed of one inch in eight minutes, the resulting record showed eight degrees of 20 per inch. Slower scanning rates were used when more detailed examination was necessary. Nickel-filtered copper radiation was used for all dcterminationa.

Cell parameters of the isometric compounds were determined in two ways: firstly, one sample each of nosean and sodalite were examined using a powder camera of radius 5.7 cm.; reflections up to 170° of 20 were read easily, and the cell parameters were determined from the mean of the function $\sin^2\!\theta$ for the five highest-angled reflections read from the film. Secondly, when mixtures of the various compounds rendered the high-angled reflections confusing, diffractometer traces were made of the range $20=42^{\circ}$ to $20=44.5^{\circ}$, with a scan rate of $1/4^{\circ}$ of 20 per minute and chart speed of one inch in 8 minutes, and oscillating through one forwardand-backward cycle. The (411/330) reflection of nosean occurs at 44.2° to 44.5° 20; that of sodalite at about 43° 20. SrCO_x was used as an internal standard, having a reflection at 44.012° 20. The absolute accuracy of the latter method cannot be expected to be good, but it was satisfactory for purposes of comparison; replicate determinations agreed to within ±0.05 per cent.

The cell parameters of cancrinite were determined from powder photograph data, with the aid of an I.B.M. 7040 computer, and a program written by Dr. H.D. Grundy and revised by the writer. This program generates the indices and the angle 26, for all possible reflections of a crystal of known cell parameters and Bravais lattice. The cell

parameters and space group of phase X were determined by Dr. H.D. Grundy, using rotation and Weissenberg photographs. line phases are listed in table App.-3. Reflections of the crystal-

F. ANALYTICAL PROCEDURES

REAGENTS. The reagent gels were analysed by Mr. J.R. Muysson, using the standard "Rapid Method" of Shapiro and Brannock (1956), with slight modifications, for Na_{2} O, SiO_{2} , CO_{2} and $\text{Al}_{2}\text{O}_{3}$. Water was determined by the method described by Ingamells, Cruft and Muysson (1965). These analyses are shown in table App.-l.

ANALYSIS OF PRODUCTS. Nepheline, "X", nosean and cancrinite were handpicked from mixtures of phases synthesised for this purpose in larger tubes; the quantities of the mixtures available varied from 0.7 cm . to 2 gm. The quantity of picked sample varied from 10 mg. (for "X") to 40 mg. (for nosean). Water was determined by dehydration for one hour at 700°C, and soda, alumina and silica were determined by the same "Rapid Method" procedures used for the gels, except for: a. modification of the standardisation methods, because of the small sample size; **b.** the use of a Perkin-Elmer model 303 atomic absorption spectrophotometer, instead of the flame photometer used by Brannock and Shapiro.

Sodalite was not synthesised with grain-size large enough for hand separation, so was partially separated from the contaminating cancrinite by floatation in a heavy liquid, before analysis. The cancrinite content of the 365 mg. sample was estimated by point-count of about 800 points, using a petrographic microscope and automatic counting stage; the analysed composition of the sample was corrected for the amount

of cancrinito present $(10.7$ volume per cent), using the analysed composition of cancrinite for this purpose. The impure sodalite sample was . analysed by the same method used for the reagent gels, with the substitution of the atomic absorption spectrophotometer for the flame photometer. Analyses of the crystalline phases are shown in table App.-2. Weighings of small samples of nepheline, nosean, cancrinite and X, were carried out by the writer, using a microgram balance, as were the dehydrations, which are probably the greatest source of error in the determinations. No suitable standard was available to check on the completeness of dehydration for 1 hour, at 700°C. Higher temperature and longer dehydration time might have resulted in serious sodium loss.

Tne analytical accuracy, estimated, by Mr. Muysson, by analysis of National Bureau of Standards standard granite, was:

The accuracy of the analyses of nepheline, cancrinite, nosean and X samples is difficult to establish. The totals for these determinations vary from 95.5 to 98.01 , and constitute the principal source of doubt, concerning accuracy. The water determinations were the most obviously inadequate; alumina and silica, being determined from the same solution, are probably in the correct ratio, to the limits of the analysis

of sodalite. Sodium was detcrmined from a separate solution. The analyses of nepheline, cancrinite and nosean, together with that of sodalite, corresponding well with the formulas expected, by analogy with natural examples. In the opinion of the writer, all of the analyses, as plotted on figure IV-B, are correct to within two per cent, in terms of the ratio $\texttt{NaAlSiO}_\textbf{4}$:NaOH plotted on the NaAlSiO₄-NaOH join. The water content of the cancrinite is probably rather low, but the sample may have lost water before analysis.

SECTION 2 - DETAILED EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

GENERAL. The detailed experimental results are given in five tables, showing: the analyses of the reagent gels (table App.-l) and crystalline phases (table App.-2); x-ray data for the crystalline phases (table App.-3); the compositions and phase assemblages of the individual charges (table App.-4); results of the fluid phase determinations (table App.-5). The last two are the output of the computer program mentioned in the previous section, and require some explanation.

THE COMPOSITIONS AND REACTION PRODUCTS OF THE CHARGES. In table App.-4, the charges are listed in order of ascending reaction temperatures, the charges at anyone temperature being in numerical order. The charge numbers were assigned arbitrarily. The charge compositions are stated as molecular percentages, in terms of the components NaAlSiO_h , NaOH and $_{2}^{\rm H}$ O, so that charges with compositions in the system $\rm NaAlSiO_{4}$ -NaOH-Na₂C are shown with negative water content. In the latter cases, the molecular percentages of NaAlSiO_{L} and NaOH were recalculated to 100, and the charge composition was plotted on the diagrams (figures E, G, H, I, J) by producing the straight line from the $_{Z^0}$ vertex through the appropriate point on the NaAlSiO_{μ}-NaOH join, and marking off the indicated negative percentage of water. A key to the symbols used is given with the table.

THE RESULTS OF THE FLUID PHASE ANALYSES. (Table App.-5). The charges arc listed in numerical order. The results of the sodium and water determinations are expressed in molecular percentages of NaDH, as points on the NaOH-H₂O join.¹ The "bulk compositions of the solid phases", computed as, (charge composition)-(Na and $_{2}^{10}$ of the fluid phase), are given as molecular percentages of the components NaAlSiO_{h} , NaOH and $_{2}^{\text{H}}$ ₂0, for points within that system. In the cases in which NaOH or $_{\text{H}_2}$ In the cases in which NaOH or H_2O were negative, relative to that system, the compositions of the solid phases are expressed as the inverse lever ratios, referring to the plotted compositions of the charges and fluid phases. explained in table App.-5. This is further

The NaOH content was taken to be the same as the determined sodium ion content. In fact, however, part of this sodium is associated with the alumina and silica content of the fluid. The true fluid phase compositions would presumably be better represented by points of the calculated water percentage, but lying on the liquidus of figures L, M, N and 0, and by operation of the lever principle, the bulk compositions should be more sodic than they are shown to be, in the figures. Such representation could, however, be misleading, in the absence of accurate data on the position of the liquidus, or of the true NaOH, $A1_2O_3$ and SiO_2 contents of the fluid phases.

TABLE App.-1

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Analyses of the Reagent Gels·

Weight per cent:

• Analysed by J.R. Muysson

** Gels nos. 7 and 8 were not analysed, being mixtures of gels nos. 1 and 5. \mathcal{O}

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TABLE App.-2

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Analyses of the Synthetic Crystalline Phases·

• Analysed by *J.R.* Muysson and P.A.M. Anderson•

** The sodalite sample contained 10.7 volume per cent of cancrinite, as determined by counting about 800 points.

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TABLE App.-3

X-ray Reflections of the Crystalline Phases

The reflections of the crystalline phases, for copper *Ka* radiation, are given on the following five pages. The data for phase X was obtained with a Norelco diffractometer, while that for the other phases is from powder photographs taken on a camera of radius 5.7 cm. The intensities were estimated visually from the powder photographs, and the intensities given for phase X are the peak heights.

For the isometric phases, the quantity N , equal to $(h^2 + k^2 + 1^2)$, is given for each reflection. The other phases were only partially indexed.

TABLE App. - 3

X-ray Reflections of the Crystalline Phases

HYDROXYL NOSEAN

a=9.001 Å, determined by averaging the values of a for the eight highest reflec-The sample is from charge no. 623. tions.

TABLE App.-3 (continued)

HYDROXYL SODALITE

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A=8.890 A, obtained by averaging the values
for the seven highest reflections. The
sample is from charge no. 490.
TABLE App. - 3 (continued)

HYDROXYL CANCRINITE

a=12.6₈, c=5.1₄, calculated from reflections up to 50° only. The sample is from charge no. 619.

TABLE App. - 3 (continued)

1Several pairs of reflections of high NaOH nepheline appear to result from
the splitting of normal nepheline reflections. This relationship is
indicated by the lines drawn in the table.

 \bullet

TABLE App.-3 (continued)

PHASE X

From single crystal photographs, the cell
dimensions are: $a=12.3 \nightharpoonup A$, $b=14.0 \nightharpoonup A$, $c = 5.0 \, \text{\AA}.$ The sample is from charge no.508.

TABLE App. -4

Compositions and Reaction Products of the Charges

Symbols: RUN •• Charge number **T'C..** Reaction temperature PHASES, XRAY + φ PT... The phases formed, denoted thus: C· •• Hydroxyl cancrinite NE **••** Nepheline; LNE **••** Nepheline with (100) and (110) reflections; HNE **••** Nepheline without these reflections. N \cancel{q} .. Hydroxyl nosean S .. Hydroxyl sodalite VGT... "much more abundant than" L .. Glassy fluid, seen optically GT .. "more abundant than" **••** Phase X X $H2\mathcal{G}_*T$.. The molecular percentage of water in the charge NEP.T .. The molecular percentage of nepheline NA¢H.T **••** The molecular percentage of sodium hydroxide DC $\qquad \bullet$. The charge composition lies in the system $\texttt{NAA1SiO}_\textbf{4}$ -NaOH-Na₂O DS **..** The "bulk composition of the solid phases" is shown, by ^Q .. "query"; e.g. "QS" denotes that inconclusive evidence of the presence of sodalite was seen fluid phase analysis, to lie in the system $\texttt{NAAISiO}_\textbf{4} \texttt{-NaOH-Na}_2 \texttt{O} \cdot$ $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

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 \mathcal{L}^{max} .

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TABLE APP--4 (CØNTINUED)

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TABLE APP.-4 (CØNTINUED)

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TABLE APP. - 4 (CØNTINUED)

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 $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$ and $\mathcal{L}^{\text{max}}_{\text{max}}$

TABLE App.-5

Results of the Fluid Phase Analyses

Symbols: RUN •• Charge number T'C .. Reaction temperature NA.FL .. The molecular percentage of NaOH in the fluid phase, P.CENT determined as Na ion. $H2\%$. S ¢R LR !'\EP.S P .CENT \ldots The molecular percentage of water in the solid phases, or, the "lever" ratio for the solid phase compositions^{*}, for compositions outside the system $\text{NaAlSiO}_4\text{-NaOH}-\text{H}_2\text{O}$; in such cases, the last two columns are empty. •• The molecular percentage of nepheline in the solid phasea. NA¢H.S •• The molecular percentage of NaOH in the solid phases. P.CENT

- The "lever" ratio (LR) was used thus: x was measured, and y was calculated by the relationship,
	- $y = x(LR)$

TABLE APP.-5.

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