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- 1 Chemistry, Raman and infrared spectroscopic characterization of the
- 2 phosphate mineral reddingite $-(MnFe)_3(PO_4)_2(H_2O,OH)_3$ a mineral found in
- 3 lithium-bearing pegmatite
- 4
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16 Abstract

- 17 Detailed investigation of an intermediate member of the reddingite-phosphoferrite
- series, including infrared and Raman spectroscopy, scanning electron microcopy
- 19 and electron microprobe analysis has been carried out on a homogeneous sample
- 20 from a lithium bearing pegmatite named Cigana mine, near Conselheiro Pena,
- 21 Minas Gerais, Brazil. The determined formula is
- 22 $(Mn_{1.60}Fe_{1.21}Ca_{0.01}Mg_{0.01})_{\Sigma^{2.83}}(PO_4)_{2.12} \cdot (H_2O_{2.85}F_{0.01})_{\Sigma^{2.86}}$, indicating predominance
- 23 in the reddingite member.
- 24 Raman spectroscopy coupled with infrared spectroscopy supports the concept of
- 25 phosphate, hydrogen phosphate and dihydrogen phosphate units in the structure of
- 26 reddingite-phosphoferrite. Infrared and Raman bands attributed to water and
- 27 hydroxyl stretching modes are identified. Vibrational spectroscopy adds useful
- 28 information to the molecular structure of reddingite-phosphoferrite.
- 29 Keywords: Raman, infrared, molecular structure, reddingite-phosphoferrite,
- 30 phosphate, pegmatite
- 31

32 Introduction

33

Reddingite is a uncommon manganese hydrated phosphate mineral with general 34 35 chemical formula expressed as (MnFe)₃(PO₄)₂(H₂O₅OH)₃ and belongs to the 36 phosphoferrite group. In general, members have the formula $(M1)(M2)_2(PO_4)_2(H_2O,OH)_3$. The mineral forms a complex triple series with 37 phosphoferrite, its Fe^{2+} analogue and with kryzhanovskite, the Fe^{3+} analogue 38 (Moore et al. 1980). Other minerals related to the group are landesite and 39 40 garyansellite.

41

42 According to Tennyson (1954), reddingite crystallizes in orthorhombic symmetry of *Pmna* space group with unit-cell parameters a = 9.49 Å, b = 10.08 Å, c = 8.0743 Å, V = 832.24 Å³. It is a common mineral in lithium bearing pegmatites and is 44 related to the hydrothermal alteration after triphylite-lithiophilite (Roda et al. 45 2004). Moore (1973) described phosphoferrite as a late hydrothermal mineral in 46 the phosphate paragenesis of pegmatites. Nriagu and Dell (1974) carried out 47 thermochemical studies for low temperature basic iron phosphates and suggest the 48 formation of phosphoferrite-reddingite solid solution in phosphorus-rich 49 sediments, during the diagenetic process, in reducing environments. The 50 crystallization of authigenic minerals in sediments, develop an important function 51 in the removal and storage of heavy metals and phosphate pollutants. 52

53

The crystal structures of phosphoferrite and kryzhanovskite were detemined by Moore and Araki (1976), and the similarities between the two crystal structures can be applied to the crystal structure of reddingite. The structure is based on sheets of corner- and edge-linked octahedra which are oriented parallel to {100}.

The phosphate tetrahedra are situated between these symmetry-equivalent octahedral sheets and link by corner sharing. As a result, the structure is a rather rigid framework of octahedra and tetrahedra and the crystals exhibit no good cleavage.

62

As suggested by Moore and Araki (1976), the mechanism of oxidation of Fe^{2+} to 63 Fe^{3+} in the phosphoferrite-kryzhanovskite series can be expressed as $2Fe^{2+}(H_2O)$ 64 $\rightarrow 2Fe^{3+}(OH)^{-} + H_2$. The presence of OH⁻ anion is indicative of Fe³⁺ in the 65 structure. Studies concerning the mineralogy of phosphoferrite group minerals are 66 67 rare in the literature (Sturman and Dunn 1978; Dill et al. 2009) and data about spectroscopic characterization are restricted to the database of the University of 68 Arizona (rruff.info); however no interpretation is given. In the study of similar 69 70 phases, infrared spectroscopic characterization of manganese phosphate pentahydrate calcined at 400°C was carried out by Sarawadekar and Kulkarni 71 72 (1983), who also described the dehydration at temperatures up to 405°C. No Raman spectroscopic investigation of these phosphate phases related to the 73 phosphoferrite group has been published. However, in recent years, the 74 75 application of spectroscopy to understand the structure of phosphates has been on the increase (Dias et al. 2011; Frost and Xi 2012). 76

77

S. D. Ross in Farmer's treatise (1974) divided the vibrational spectra of phosphates according to the presence, or absence of water and/or hydroxyl units. In aqueous systems, the Raman spectra of phosphate oxyanions show a symmetric stretching mode (v_1) at 938 cm⁻¹, the antisymmetric stretching mode (v_3) at 1017 cm⁻¹, the symmetric bending mode (v_2) at 420 cm⁻¹ and the v_4 out-of-plane bending mode at 567 cm⁻¹. The value for the v_1 symmetric stretching vibration of

PO₄ units as determined by infrared spectroscopy was also described (Frost *et al.* 2002a; 2002b; 2002c). The position of the symmetric stretching vibration is mineral dependent and a function of the cation and crystal structure. The fact that the symmetric stretching mode is observed in the infrared spectrum affirms a reduction in symmetry of the PO₄ units.

89

The value for the v_2 symmetric bending vibration of PO₄ units as determined by 90 infrared spectroscopy was given as 438 cm^{-1} (augelite), 452 cm^{-1} (wavellite), 440 91 and 415 cm^{-1} (rockbridgeite), 455, 435 and 415 cm^{-1} (dufrenite) and 470 and 450 92 cm⁻¹ (beraunite). The observation of multiple bending modes provides an 93 indication of symmetry reduction of the PO₄ units. This symmetry reduction is 94 also observed through the v₃ antisymmetric stretching vibrations. Augelite shows 95 infrared bands at 1205, 1155, 1079 and 1015 cm⁻¹ (Frost and Weier 2004); 96 wavellite at 1145, 1102, 1062 and 1025 cm⁻¹; rockbridgeite at 1145, 1060 and 97 1030 cm⁻¹; dufrenite at 1135, 1070 and 1032 cm⁻¹; and beraunite at 1150, 1100, 98 $1076 \text{ and } 1035 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. 99

100

In the infrared study of triploidite, a basic manganese phosphate, Farmer reports the infrared spectrum with the (v_1) at 957 cm⁻¹, (v_3) at 1090, 1058, 1030 and 1010 cm⁻¹, (v_2) at 420 cm⁻¹ and the v_4 mode at 595, 570, 486 cm⁻¹ (Frost and Xi 2012). A hydroxyl stretching wavenumber of 3509 cm⁻¹ was tabled. In the infrared spectroscopic study of strengite, in the region below 400 cm⁻¹, Frost and Weier (2004) described the metal stretching vibrations for MnO and the OMnO bending modes.

In this work, samples of a pure, monomineral reddingite from the Cigana pegmatite, located in the municipality of Conselheiro Pena, Brazil has been carried out. Studies include chemistry with analysis via electron microprobe (EMP) in the WDS mode and the spectroscopic characterization of the structure with infrared and Raman.

114

115 Experimental

116 Samples description and preparation

The reddingite samples were collected from the Cigana mine (also named Jocão Claim), a lithium-bearing pegmatite located in the Conselheiro Pena Pegmatite district (CPD), one of the eleven metallogenetic subdivisions of the Eastern Brazilian Pegmatite Province (EBP)(in Minas Gerais (Pedrosa Soares *et al.* 2011). Geological description of the CPD and the complete paragenesis of the Cigana pegmatite has been described by Chaves *et al.*, (2005).

123

In the Cigana mine, brown reddish reddingite crystals up to 4.0 mm along the c 124 125 axis with octahedral morphology occur in association with vivianite, lithiophilite 126 and hureaulite. The sample came from the collection of the Geology Department of the Federal University of Ouro Preto, Minas Gerais, Brazil, with sample code 127 SAA-081. The reddingite crystals were hand selected. The sample was gently 128 crushed and the associated minerals were removed under a stereomicroscope 129 Leica MZ4. The reddingite crystals were phase analyzed by X-ray diffraction. 130 Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) was applied to support the chemical 131 characterization and indicate the elements to be analysed by EMP. 132 Thermogravimetric analysis was undertaken to support the H₂O determination. 133

134

135 X-ray diffraction (XRD)

Powder X-ray diffractograms (XRD) were obtained with a PANalytical Empyrean
diffractrometer equipped with a Cu-tube and a nickel filter in the facilities of the
Geology Department of the Federal University of Ouro Preto. The scanning was
done at 25°C from 4° to 70° (20) at 0.25° per minute with an X-ray accelerator,
using silicon as external standard. Cell parameters were calculated by Rietveld
refinement using intensity and angular weighting of the most intense peaks.

142 Thermogravimetric analysis - TG/DTG

Thermogravimetric analysis of the reddingite mineral were obtained by using TA Instruments Inc. Q500 high- resolution TGA operating at a 5 °C/min ramp with 6.0 °C resolution from room temperature to 1000 °C in a high-purity flowing nitrogen atmosphere (40 cm³/min). Approximately 65 mg of finely ground dried sample was heated in an open platinum crucible.

148

149 Electron microprobe analysis (EMP)

EMP was performed in a reddingite single crystal. The chemical analysis was 150 done on a Jeol JXA8900R with four WDS spectrometers at the Physics 151 152 Department of the Federal University of Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte. For each selected element the following standards were applied: Mn (rhodonite), Fe 153 (magnetite), Ca (Ca₂P₂O₇), Mg (MgO), F (Fluorite) and P (Ca₂P₂O₇). Samples of 154 reddingite embedded in an epoxy resin were coated with a thin layer of evaporated 155 carbon. The EMPA was performed at 15 kV of accelerating voltage and beam 156 current of 10 nA. 157

158

159 Raman microprobe spectroscopy

Crystals of reddingite were placed on a polished metal surface on the stage of an 160 Olympus BHSM microscope, which is equipped with 10x, 20x, and 50x 161 objectives. The microscope is part of a Renishaw 1000 Raman microscope 162 system, which also includes a monochromator, a filter system and a CCD detector 163 (1024 pixels). The Raman spectra were obtained using a Spectra-Physics model 164 127 He-Ne laser producing highly polarised light at 633 nm and collected at a 165 nominal resolution of 2 cm⁻¹ and a precision of ± 1 cm⁻¹ in the range between 200 166 and 4000 cm⁻¹. Repeated acquisitions on the crystals using the highest 167 magnification (50x) were accumulated to improve the signal to noise ratio of the 168 Raman spectra. Raman Spectra were calibrated using the 520.5 cm⁻¹ line of a 169

silicon wafer. The Raman spectrum of at least 10 crystals was collected to ensurethe consistency of the spectra.

172

173 Infrared spectroscopy

174 Infrared spectra were obtained using a Nicolet Nexus 870 FTIR spectrometer with 175 a smart endurance single bounce diamond ATR cell. Spectra over the 4000–525 176 cm⁻¹ range were obtained by the co-addition of 128 scans with a resolution of 4 177 cm⁻¹ and a mirror velocity of 0.6329 cm/s. Spectra were co-added to improve the 178 signal to noise ratio. The infrared spectra are given in the supplementary 179 information.

180

181 Spectral manipulation such as baseline correction/adjustment and smoothing were performed using the Spectracalc software package GRAMS (Galactic Industries 182 183 Corporation, NH, USA). Band component analysis was undertaken using the 184 Jandel 'Peakfit' software package that enabled the type of fitting function to be 185 selected and allows specific parameters to be fixed or varied accordingly. Band fitting was done using a Lorentzian-Gaussian cross-product function with the 186 187 minimum number of component bands used for the fitting process. The Gaussian-Lorentzian ratio was maintained at values greater than 0.7 and fitting was 188 undertaken until reproducible results were obtained with squared correlations of r^2 189 greater than 0.995. 190

191

193 **Results and discussion**

194

195 Mineralogical and chemical characterization

The mineral phase reddingite was identified by XRD and the diffractogram is shown in the Figure 1. The unit cell paramethers were calculated by Rietveld refinement and are given as: a = 9.4889 (7), b = 10.1260 (7) and c = 8.7102 (6) Å. The calculated values are in agreement with the phosphoferrite group and the published data for reddingite (Tennyson, 1954).

201

202 The quantitative chemical analysis of reddingite is presented in Table 1. Composition is the result of in the average of four spots. H₂O content was 203 measured by mass loss (ML) observed in the TG curve (Figure 2), where ML = 204 $H_2O + F$. The chemical formula was calculated on the basis of 11 oxygen atoms 205 (O, H₂O, F) in the structure. The spectroscopic characterization carried out in this 206 work indicates the presence of H₂O in the structure and the absence of OH⁻.The 207 TG curve of reddingite shows a total mass loss of 12.91% on heating to 950°C in 208 nitrogen flux. 209

210

The chemical composition indicates an intermediate member of the reddingitephosphoferrite series with predominance of reddingite in relation to the
phosphoferrite end member. The chemical analysis shows 28.44% of MnO and
21.87% of FeO. Traces of Ca and Mg were also found (0.10% CaO and 0.06%
MgO). Due to the absence of OH⁻ in the structure as supported by infrared and
Raman spectroscopy, the total iron content is considered as Fe²⁺, as shown in the
chemical formula:

218 $(Mn_{1.60}Fe_{1.21}Ca_{0.01}Mg_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.83}(PO_4)_{2.12} \cdot (H_2O_{2.85}F_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.86}$

219

221 Spectroscopy

The Raman spectrum over the 100 to 4000 cm⁻¹ spectral range is displayed in 222 223 Figure 3a. This figure shows the relative intensity and position of the various bands. There are parts of the spectrum where no intensity is observed. Therefore, 224 225 the spectrum is subdivided into sections depending upon the types of vibration 226 being studied. The infrared spectrum of reddingite is reported in Figure 3b. In a similar fashion, the IR spectrum is divided into sections for further detailed 227 analysis. The Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 800 to 1400 cm⁻¹ spectral 228 229 range is shown in Figure 4a. The spectrum is dominated by a sharp band at 970 cm^{-1} which may be deconvoluted into component bands at 951, 963 and 970 cm^{-1} . 230 This band is attributed to the symmetric PO_4^{3-} stretching vibration. A second 231 strong Raman band at 1007 cm⁻¹ is attributed to symmetric HOPO₃²⁻ stretching 232 vibration. The series of low intensity Raman bands at 1064, 1093, 1104 and 1193 233 cm^{-1} are assigned to the PO₄³⁻ and HOPO₃²⁻ antisymmetric stretching vibrations. 234 In the infrared spectrum (Figure 4b), a broad spectral profile is observed with 235 curve resolved band components delineated at 959, 1004, 1026, 1054 and 1086 236 cm⁻¹. These bands are a combination of the PO_4^{3-} and $HOPO_3^{2-}$ antisymmetric and 237 symmetric stretching vibrations. The low intensity infrared bands centered upon 238 673 and 739 cm⁻¹ are thought to be due to water librational modes. The 239 observation of multiple bands supports the concept that not all the water 240 molecules in the structure of reddingite are equivalent. 241

242

The Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 300 to 800 cm⁻¹ spectral range and in the 100 to 300 cm⁻¹ spectral range are reported in Figures 5a and 5b. An intense Raman band at 588 cm⁻¹ with shoulders at 549 and 569 cm⁻¹ are assigned to the v_4 out of plane bending modes of the PO₄ and HOPO₃ units. The series of bands at 420, 458, 482, 504 and 531 cm⁻¹ are attributed to the v_2 PO₄ and HOPO₃ bending modes. The low intensity Raman bands at 330 and 373 cm⁻¹ are attributed to metal-oxygen stretching vibrations. In the far low wavenumber region, strong Raman bands are found at 144, 164 and 179 cm⁻¹ with bands of lower intensity at 223, 241, 260 and 286 cm⁻¹. These bands are due to external vibrations and may simply be described as lattice vibrations.

253

The Raman spectrum of reddingite in the OH stretching region is illustrated in 254 Figure 6a, whilst the infrared spectrum in the 2800 to 3800 cm⁻¹ spectral range is 255 reported in Figure 6b. The Raman spectrum of reddingite displays a very intense 256 band at 3445 cm⁻¹ with a shoulder at 3265 cm⁻¹ and is assigned to water stretching 257 vibrations. In contrast, the infrared spectrum shows a series of overlapping bands 258 259 in quite a broad spectral profile. Infrared bands are observed at 3061, 3225, 3399 and 3459 cm⁻¹. These bands are assigned to a combination of water antisymmetric 260 261 and symmetric stretching modes. The position of the bands in both the Raman and infrared spectra supports the concept that the water molecules are involved in 262 quite strong hydrogen bonding in the structure of reddingite. This concept is 263 supported by the observation of water bending modes observed at 1641 cm⁻¹ in 264 the Raman spectrum and 1637 cm^{-1} in the infrared spectrum (Figure 7a and 7b). 265 These bands are due to the bending modes of quite strongly hydrogen bonded 266 water. In non-hydrogen bonded water as may be found in water vapour the band 267 occurs at 1595 cm⁻¹. In weakly hydrogen bonded systems, the band occurs at 1620 268 cm^{-1} . 269

271 Conclusions

- 272 An intermediate member of the reddingite-phosphofillite series was studied by
- 273 Raman and infrared spectroscopy. The chemical characterization was carried out
- by EMP and shows chemical formula expressed by
- 275 $(Mn_{1.60}, Fe_{1.21}, Ca_{0.01}, Mg_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.83}(PO_4)_{2.12}(H_2O_{2.85}, F_{0.01})_{\Sigma 2.86}$, that indicate
- 276 predominance in the reddingite member.
- 277

The spectroscopic study indicates the presence of H_2O and the absence of OH^- in the structure. Raman assigned band to water stretching vibrations were observed in the region of 3445 cm⁻¹ and 3265 cm⁻¹. The infrared spectrum shows a series of overlapping bands at 3061, 3225, 3399 and 3459 cm⁻¹, assigned to a combination of water antisymmetric and symmetric stretching modes. The absence of $OH^$ suggests the presence of Fe^{2+} . Vibrational spectroscopy enables new knowledge on the structure of reddingite to be understood.

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- **Table 1. Chemical composition of reddingite-phosphoferrite from Cigana**
- 374 pegmatite (mean of 4 electron microprobe analyses). H₂O calculated by
- 375 thermogravimetric analysis.

Constituent	wt.%	Number of Cations	Iumber of Cations Range (wt.%)	
MnO	28.44	1.60	27.10 - 29.82	Rhodonite
FeO	21.87	1.21	19.44 - 24.44	Magnetite
CaO	0.10	0.01	0.02 - 0.22	$Ca_2P_2O_7$
MgO	0.06	0.01	0.02 - 0.18	MgO
P ₂ O ₅	37.70	2.12	36.17 - 38.39	$Ca_2P_2O_7$
H ₂ O	12.91	2.85	Calculated by log	ss of mass (TG)
F	0.06	0.01	0.00 - 0.19	Fluorite
O-F	-0.03			
Total	101.17			

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Figure 1 X-ray diffraction pattern of reddingite at 25°C. The two most intensepeaks are shown.

386

- Figure 2 TG/DTG pattern of reddingite
- 388
- Figure 3 (a) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 100 to 4000 cm⁻¹ spectral range (b) Infrared spectrum of reddingite in the 500 to 4000 cm⁻¹ spectral range.

391

- Figure 4 (a) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 800 to 1400 cm⁻¹ spectral range
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394

- Figure 5 (a) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 300 to 800 cm^{-1} spectral range
- (b) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 100 to 300 cm^{-1} spectral range
- 397
- Figure 6 (a) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 2800 to 3800 cm^{-1} spectral range
- (b) Infrared spectrum of reddingite in the 2800 to 3800 cm⁻¹ spectral range.

400

- Figure 7 (a) Raman spectrum of reddingite in the 1400 to 1800 cm⁻¹ spectral range
- 402 (b) Infrared spectrum of reddingite in the 1300 to 1800 cm^{-1} spectral range.























