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1 **Equation of state and phase diagram of FeO**

2  
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17  
18  
19 **Abstract**

20  
21 Wüstite, Fe<sub>1-x</sub>O, is an important component in the mineralogy of Earth's lower  
22 mantle and may also be a component in the core. Therefore the high pressure, high  
23 temperature behavior of FeO, including its phase diagram and equation of state, is

24 essential knowledge for understanding the properties and evolution of Earth's deep  
25 interior. We performed X-ray diffraction measurements using a laser-heated diamond  
26 anvil cell to achieve simultaneous high pressures and temperatures. Wüstite was mixed  
27 with iron metal, which served as our pressure standard, under the assumption that  
28 negligible oxygen dissolved into the iron. Our data show a positive slope for the  
29 subsolidus phase boundary between the B1 and B8 structures, indicating that the B1  
30 phase is stable at the  $P$ - $T$  conditions of the lower mantle and core. We have determined  
31 the thermal equation of state of B1 FeO to 156 GPa and 3100 K, finding an isothermal  
32 bulk modulus  $K_0 = 149.4 \pm 1.0$  GPa and its pressure derivative  $K_0' = 3.60 \pm 0.4$ . This  
33 implies that  $7.7 \pm 1.1$  weight percent oxygen is required in the outer core to match the  
34 seismologically-determined density, under the simplifying assumption of a purely Fe-O  
35 outer core.

36

37 **Keywords:** wüstite; high pressure; equations of state; phase equilibria; oxygen fugacity

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39

## 40 **1. Introduction**

41

42 Wüstite,  $\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}$ , is an important endmember of  $(\text{Mg,Fe})\text{O}$  in the Earth's lower  
43 mantle and possibly also a significant alloying component of the core (McDonough,  
44 2003). Iron is the most abundant multivalent element in the mantle; its oxidation state  
45 dominates the redox chemistry of the mantle, in turn controlling element partitioning,  
46 phase equilibria, diffusion, and related physical and chemical properties (Frost and

47 McCammon, 2008). If oxygen is a primary light element component in the core, then its  
48 impact on the density of Fe-rich melts is critical to interpreting the composition,  
49 dynamics, and evolution of the core. Therefore it is essential to understand the high  
50 pressure, high temperature phase relations and thermodynamics of the Fe-O system. In  
51 this study we focus on the thermal equation of state and subsolidus phase diagram of  
52 stoichiometric iron oxide, FeO.

53 Under ambient conditions wüstite is stable in the B1 (NaCl-type) crystal structure.  
54 With room temperature compression it undergoes a rhombohedral  $R\bar{3}$  (Mao et al., 1996)  
55 distortion around 17 GPa, with the transition pressure depending on the degree of  
56 hydrostaticity (Fei, 1996; Fei and Mao, 1994). This distortion has also been reported to  
57 be to a monoclinic  $C2/m$  phase, both at high pressures (Kantor et al., 2008) and at 1 bar  
58 and low temperatures (Fjellvåg et al., 2002). Diamond cell and shock wave experiments  
59 show a transformation of wüstite to the B8 (NiAs-type) crystal structure at high pressures  
60 and temperatures (Fei and Mao, 1994; Jeanloz and Ahrens, 1980; Knittle and Jeanloz,  
61 1991; Kondo et al., 2004; Murakami et al., 2004; Ozawa et al., 2010; Yagi et al., 1988),  
62 based on X-ray diffraction and electrical resistivity measurements. However, the location  
63 and slope of the B1/B8 transition is inconsistent among these studies, with some  
64 reporting a vertical slope around 70 GPa at high temperatures (Knittle and Jeanloz, 1991;  
65 Murakami et al., 2004; Yagi et al., 1988) and others indicating a strongly positive slope  
66 in pressure-temperature space (Kondo et al., 2004; Ozawa et al., 2010). Some  
67 investigators have failed to observe the transition to the B8 phase altogether (Mao et al.,  
68 1996; Sata et al., 2005; Seagle et al., 2008; Yagi et al., 1985), and have attributed this to  
69 differences in stoichiometry (Seagle et al., 2008) or kinetic barriers at room temperature

70 (Mao et al., 1996). The melting curve of  $\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}$  has been determined up to pressures and  
71 temperatures of 77 GPa and 3100 K (Fischer and Campbell, 2010), with reasonable  
72 agreement between multi-anvil press (Ringwood and Hibberson, 1990) and diamond  
73 anvil cell experiments (Boehler, 1992; Fischer and Campbell, 2010; Shen et al., 1993).

74 The thermal equation of state of FeO is important for interpreting the  
75 seismological structure of the Earth's lower mantle and the density deficit, relative to pure  
76 iron, of Earth's outer core. Room temperature studies have shown that the degree of  
77 nonstoichiometry in wüstite does not significantly affect its bulk modulus (Fei, 1996),  
78 although some ambiguity remains (Mao et al., 1996; McCammon, 1993). The equation of  
79 state and high pressure phase transition in wüstite has also been studied by shock  
80 compression (Jeanloz and Ahrens, 1980; Yagi et al., 1988). A recent static compression  
81 study expanded the equation of state of FeO to high temperatures, where the B1 (non-  
82 distorted) phase is stable to much higher pressure (Campbell et al., 2009); this yielded an  
83 isothermal bulk modulus  $K_0 = 146.9$  GPa with a fixed pressure derivative  $K_0' = 4$ .

84 In this study, we aim to constrain the B1/B8 phase boundary of FeO using X-ray  
85 diffraction in a laser-heated diamond anvil cell, to resolve between existing discrepancies  
86 in the literature data. We also aim to determine the thermal equation of state of B1 FeO at  
87 higher pressures and temperatures than previous studies (Campbell et al., 2009),  
88 extending the existing dataset into the  $P$ - $T$  region of the outer core. This will allow for  
89 calculations of the amount of oxygen required to match the observed density deficit in the  
90 outer core, and also improved understanding of the iron-iron oxide oxygen fugacity  
91 buffer at core conditions, with minimal extrapolation required over pressure and  
92 temperature.

93

94

## 95 **2. Experimental Methods**

96

97       The equation of state of FeO was determined by measuring its lattice parameter  
98 using synchrotron X-ray diffraction during laser-heating in a diamond anvil cell. The FeO  
99 was mixed with metallic Fe to ensure that the oxide was saturated in iron, and  
100 presumably stoichiometric, at high pressures and temperatures (Campbell et al., 2009;  
101 Seagle et al., 2008; Stølen and Grønvold, 1996). Seagle et al. (2008) laser heated  
102 wüstite+Fe mixtures up to 93 GPa and found the recovered samples to be stoichiometric;  
103 we assume a similar equilibration took place in our higher pressure sample, but this could  
104 not be verified directly because the anvils broke before decompression and the sample  
105 was destroyed.

106       Sample material was prepared by mixing Fe<sub>0.94</sub>O powder ( $a = 4.302 \pm 0.001 \text{ \AA}$ ;  
107 McCammon and Liu, 1984) with Fe powder in a ratio of 1:1.23 by mass, which produces  
108 a ~10 wt% oxygen content in the mixture. The mixture was mechanically ground under  
109 ethanol to a grain size of ~1  $\mu\text{m}$ , then dried in an oven at 85°C for one hour. The powder  
110 was pressed in a diamond anvil cell to form a foil approximately 70  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter and 5  
111  $\mu\text{m}$  thick. A rhenium gasket, initially 250  $\mu\text{m}$  thick, was preindented to ~27 GPa, and a  
112 hole 80  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter in the center of the indentation served as the sample chamber.  
113 Beveled diamond anvils were used, with 150  $\mu\text{m}$  flats and an 8° bevel out to 300  $\mu\text{m}$ . The  
114 sample was loaded between two layers of NaCl ~10  $\mu\text{m}$  thick, which acted as the

115 pressure medium and thermal insulator. The sample assembly was oven-dried at 85°C for  
116 one hour after cell loading but before pressurization.

117 Angle-dispersive X-ray diffraction experiments were performed at beamline 13-  
118 ID-D (GeoSoilEnviroCars) of the Advanced Photon Source, Argonne National  
119 Laboratory (Prakapenka et al., 2008; Shen et al., 2005). The incident X-ray beam was  
120 monochromatic ( $\lambda = 0.3344 \text{ \AA}$ ) and measured  $5 \text{ \mu m} \times 5 \text{ \mu m}$ . Diffracted X-rays were  
121 recorded using a MAR165 CCD detector, with the sample-to-detector distance calibrated  
122 by 1 bar diffraction of  $\text{CeO}_2$ . Exposure times were typically 5 s.

123 The X-ray diffraction patterns were integrated to produce two-theta plots using  
124 Fit2D (Hammersley et al. 2006). Peak fitting of the integrated patterns was performed  
125 using PeakFit (Systat Software). Overlapping peaks were deconvoluted in nearly all  
126 cases. Overlapped peaks that could not be deconvoluted were not used, except in a small  
127 number of cases when necessary to constrain the uncertainty for a hexagonal phase, and  
128 when their use or exclusion did not change the calculated lattice parameter within error.  
129 Pressures were determined from the volume of hcp-iron, using the thermal equation of  
130 state of Dewaele et al. (2006). This equation of state was calibrated against both room  
131 temperature and shock wave compression to  $>200 \text{ GPa}$ , and includes an explicit,  
132 theoretically derived electronic contribution. Uncertainties in pressure were calculated  
133 based on the uncertainty in temperature and the uncertainty in the lattice parameters of  
134 hcp-iron, which were determined from four to seven d-spacings.

135 Our calculation of pressure is based on the unit cell volume of iron and the  
136 temperature of the sample, corrected for an axial temperature gradient (Campbell et al.,  
137 2007). In using iron as the pressure standard, we are assuming both mechanical and

138 thermal equilibrium between the Fe and FeO, which were intimately mixed (Campbell et  
139 al., 2009). Deviatoric stresses on the sample are expected to be negligible, as are  
140 compositional inhomogeneities that might place the pressure standard and the sample  
141 material under slightly different  $P$ - $T$  conditions. We are also assuming that there is no  
142 dissolved oxygen in the iron that is altering its unit cell volume, which is supported by an  
143 earlier study of recovered Fe+FeO samples (Ozawa et al., 2010).

144         The sample was compressed to a target pressure and laser-heated from each side  
145 by 1.064  $\mu\text{m}$  Yb fiber lasers with ‘flat top’ profiles created by Pi-shaping optics, with the  
146 laser power on each side being independently adjustable (Prakapenka et al., 2008). The  
147 temperature was slowly stepped up by increasing the laser power until a target  
148 temperature was reached, and then the laser power was decreased gradually to zero, with  
149 diffraction patterns being obtained both on heating and cooling cycles. Temperatures  
150 were determined spectroradiometrically (Heinz and Jeanloz, 1987) using the graybody  
151 approximation over the 600-800 nm range of thermal emission, and were measured  
152 during the collection of each diffraction pattern. The laser-heated spots were  $\sim$ 20-25  $\mu\text{m}$   
153 in diameter, much larger than the X-ray beam to minimize radial temperature gradients,  
154 and were coaligned with the beam using X-ray induced fluorescence from the NaCl  
155 insulator. Upstream and downstream laser powers were adjusted during heating to  
156 equalize the intensity of the thermal emission on the two surfaces of the sample. All  
157 temperature measurements used in this study were recorded on the upstream side of the  
158 sample, because of technical difficulties with measurements on the downstream side  
159 during this set of experiments. Temperatures were measured from a region 5  $\mu\text{m}$  in



160 diameter in the center of the laser-heated spot, comparable in size to the area probed by  
161 the X-rays.

162         Temperatures measured on the surface of the sample were corrected downward by  
163 3% to account for an axial temperature gradient through the thickness of the sample,  
164 based on a sample thickness of  $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$  (Campbell et al., 2007, 2009). Reported  
165 uncertainties in temperature incorporate an analytical uncertainty of 100 K (Shen et al.,  
166 2001), as well as the uncertainty from the correction for the axial temperature gradient  
167 (Campbell et al., 2007, 2009).

168         To verify the accuracy of the temperature measurements, a sample of pure iron  
169 loaded in an MgO pressure medium was analyzed to check the location of the hcp-fcc  
170 phase transition in iron. The sample was pressurized to  $36.4 \pm 0.5 \text{ GPa}$  before heating,  
171 based on the lattice parameter of hcp-Fe (Dewaele et al., 2006). The phase transition in  
172 iron was bracketed between volumes and temperatures of  $6.014 \pm 0.006 \text{ cm}^3/\text{mol}$ ,  $1563 \pm$   
173  $107 \text{ K}$  (hcp-Fe) and  $6.140 \pm 0.080 \text{ cm}^3/\text{mol}$ ,  $1609 \pm 108 \text{ K}$  (fcc-Fe) on heating, which  
174 agrees with the published phase diagram of Komabayashi and Fei (2010).

175

176

### 177 **3. Results**

178

179         The pressure-volume-temperature ( $P$ - $V$ - $T$ ) data from the synchrotron X-ray  
180 diffraction experiments are listed in Table S1 of the Supplementary Material. The lattice  
181 parameters of hcp-Fe were calculated from four to seven of the following peaks: 100,  
182 002, 101, 102, 110, 103, 112. The lattice parameter of B1-FeO was determined from

183 three to six of the following peaks: 111, 200, 220, 311, 222, 400, 331, and those of B8-  
184 FeO were calculated from up to four of the following peaks: 002, 100, 101, 102, 112,  
185 104, 202. A unit cell volume for B8-FeO is only reported when at least two non-  
186 overlapping peaks were observed. In addition, the lattice parameter of B2-NaCl was  
187 determined from the observed  $d$ -spacings of three to six of the following  $hkl$  peaks: 100,  
188 110, 111, 200, 211, 220. Figure 1a and b shows a diffraction pattern collected at 144 GPa  
189 and 3025 K with peaks corresponding to B2-NaCl, B1-FeO, and hcp-Fe, while Figure 1c  
190 shows a pattern collected at 151 GPa and 1665 K with peaks corresponding to B2-NaCl,  
191 B8-FeO, and hcp-Fe.

192 Figure 2 illustrates the comparison of our B1-FeO  $P$ - $V$ - $T$  data with those of  
193 Seagle et al. (2008), Campbell et al. (2009), and Ozawa et al. (2010), which were all  
194 synchrotron X-ray diffraction studies of wüstite coexisting with metallic iron. All of these  
195 data were obtained using a laser-heated diamond anvil cell, except for the data up to  $\sim 10$   
196 GPa from Campbell et al. (2009), which were obtained in a multi-anvil press. This study  
197 and Ozawa et al. (2010) report pressures based on the unit cell volume of hcp-Fe  
198 (Dewaele et al., 2006); for comparison, the pressures of the Seagle et al. (2008) and  
199 Campbell et al. (2009) data have been recalculated based on the unit cell volume of iron,  
200 using the equation of state of hcp-Fe (Dewaele et al., 2006) or fcc-Fe (Campbell et al.,  
201 2009). These studies had originally reported pressures based on the unit cell volume of  
202 B1- or B2-NaCl; the difference in calculated pressure between the NaCl and Fe pressure  
203 standards for those data is 0.3%, on average.

204 Figure 3 shows our B8-FeO  $P$ - $V$ - $T$  data and those of Ozawa et al. (2010). Also  
205 shown for comparison are the lone data point from Kondo et al. (2004), who studied

206 Fe<sub>0.95</sub>O using ruby fluorescence to measure the pressure (Mao et al., 1978), and the lone  
207 data point from Fei and Mao (1994), who studied Fe<sub>0.98</sub>O and used the equation of state  
208 of gold (Anderson et al., 1989) to calculate the pressure.

209 Figure 4 shows the phase diagram of FeO. The B1 and B8 phases of FeO were  
210 frequently seen to coexist in these experiments. Presumably this is hysteresis from the  
211 kinetics of the transformation, as well as a contribution from the aforementioned thermal  
212 gradients in the laser-heated sample. We determined the phase boundary by monitoring  
213 the growth in relative intensities of several peaks in each phase. For example, *P-T*  
214 conditions in which the B1 peak intensities were increasing and the B8 peak intensities  
215 were decreasing relative to the previous X-ray diffraction pattern were assigned to the B1  
216 stability field (Kondo et al., 2004; Murakami et al., 2010).

217

218

## 219 **4. Discussion**

220

### 221 *4.1. B1/B8 phase transition*

222 The B1/B8 phase boundary observed in this study is broadly consistent with that  
223 of Kondo et al. (2004), but at slightly lower temperatures than would be expected from  
224 the results of Ozawa et al. (2010) (Figure 4). The disagreement between these datasets  
225 could be due to the large uncertainties in temperature reported by Ozawa et al. (2010);  
226 otherwise, the high degree of curvature required for a phase boundary to match both of  
227 those datasets, in addition to the present results, is unlikely. Our data are incompatible  
228 with the phase boundaries of Fei and Mao (1994), but it is important to note that we

229 measured the B1/B8 transition, while they measured the rhombohedral/B8 transition, at  
230 temperatures far from the triple point. However, any B1/B8/rhombohedral triple point  
231 based on our data and those of Fei and Mao (1994) would be in violation of  
232 Schreinemaker's rules (Zen, 1966), because of the angles between the phase boundaries  
233 at the B1/B8/rhombohedral triple point that are required by the combination of our data  
234 with those of Fei and Mao (1994) (Figure 4). One or more additional phase boundaries  
235 could also resolve these apparent disagreements in the phase diagram of wüstite, but no  
236 such transitions were detected in this study.

237         Our B1/B8 transition matches the shock wave results of Jeanloz and Ahrens  
238 (1980) within the large uncertainty of their temperature measurement, but it is  
239 inconsistent with the high-pressure phase transition reported by Knittle and Jeanloz  
240 (1991). Knittle and Jeanloz (1991) did not obtain any structural information, so their  
241 results could correspond to an electronic transition that is distinct from the B1/B8  
242 transition.

243         Regardless of these small inconsistencies between various studies, our phase  
244 diagram confirms the conclusion of Ozawa et al. (2010) that it is the B1 structure of FeO,  
245 not the B8 structure, that is stable under the  $P$ - $T$  conditions relevant to the Earth's lower  
246 mantle and outer core. Therefore, it is the equation of state of B1-FeO that we apply to  
247 calculations of the core density deficit and oxygen fugacity buffers (Sections 4.3 and 4.4).

248

#### 249 *4.2. Equations of state*

250         Our new higher-pressure  $P$ - $V$ - $T$  data on B1-FeO are not precisely described by an  
251 extrapolation of the equation of state of Campbell et al. (2009), with the extrapolated

252 equation of state predicting pressures in excess of 5 GPa higher than those measured.  
253 Therefore, we have redetermined the equation of state of B1-FeO, expanding the dataset  
254 used by Campbell et al. (2009) with the addition of higher  $P$ - $T$  data from this study and  
255 from Ozawa et al. (2010), which allows us to fit more parameters in the equation of state.  
256 We have also constructed an equation of state for B8-FeO, which had not previously been  
257 determined for iron-saturated wüstite.

258 We fit  $P$ - $V$ - $T$  datasets of B1- and B8-FeO to Mie-Grüneisen equations of state,

$$259 \quad P = P_{300}(V) + (\gamma/V)[E(\theta_D, T) - E_{300}(\theta_D, 300)] \quad (1)$$

260 with the 300 K isothermal pressure ( $P_{300}$ ) described by a third-order Birch-Murnaghan  
261 equation of state (Birch, 1952) and the thermal pressure term based on a Debye model of  
262 vibrational energy ( $E$ ), with Grüneisen parameter  $\gamma = \gamma_0(V/V_0)^q$  and Debye temperature  $\theta_D$   
263  $= \theta_0 * \exp[\gamma_0/q*(1 - (V/V_0)^q)]$ . We did not explicitly include any anharmonic or electronic  
264 contributions to the thermal pressure. This reduced the number of fitted parameters,  
265 which was necessary given the resolution of our data.

266 The equation of state parameters for B1- and B8-FeO are listed in Table 1. For  
267 B1-FeO, we fit the present data along with those of several previous studies (Campbell et  
268 al., 2009; Ozawa et al., 2010; Seagle et al., 2008). We fixed the parameters  $V_0$   
269 (McCammon and Liu, 1984),  $\theta_0$  (Stixrude and Lithgow-Bertelloni, 2007), and  $q$ , finding  
270 a good fit to the data for  $q = 0.5$ . Our fitted values of  $K_0$  and  $K_0'$  (149.4 GPa and 3.60,  
271 respectively) show excellent agreement with the trade-off for these parameters  
272 determined by Fei (1996) for B1-FeO, whose preferred values were 149 GPa and 3.5.  
273 Isotherms calculated from our equation of state of B1-FeO are shown in Figure 2. We  
274 find that  $K_0'$  must be less than four to fit the higher-pressure data, which explains the

275 misfit between these data and the extrapolated equation of state of Campbell et al. (2009),  
276 who fixed  $K_0'$  to 4.0 in their analysis.

277 For B8-FeO, we fit the present data along with those of Ozawa et al. (2010). This  
278 phase is not recoverable to ambient conditions, so  $V_0$  is a fitted parameter, and a  
279 reduction in the number of other fitted parameters was achieved by fixing  $K_0' = 4$  and  $q =$   
280 1 and assuming the Debye temperature to be equal to that of B1-FeO (Stixrude and  
281 Lithgow-Bertelloni, 2007). It was necessary to hold these parameters fixed due to the  
282 limited  $P$ - $T$  range of the B8 data, and as a consequence, this equation of state should not  
283 be extrapolated far outside the range of the data. The zero-pressure volume  $V_0$  for B8-  
284 FeO was found to be 2.1% smaller than that of B1-FeO (McCammon and Liu, 1984)  
285 (Table 1). We found a lower value of  $K_0$  for B8-FeO than for B1-FeO (137.8 GPa vs.  
286 149.4 GPa), but we used a higher value of  $K_0'$  for the B8 phase, so it is less compressible  
287 at the high pressure conditions under which it exists. We also found different values of  $\gamma_0$   
288 for the two phases, but their  $\gamma$  become very similar at high pressures due to the different  $q$   
289 values in the fits. Isotherms calculated from our equation of state of B8-FeO are shown in  
290 Figure 3. There is significant misfit between our equation of state and the data points of  
291 Fei and Mao (1994) and Kondo et al. (2004). Both of these studies used non-  
292 stoichiometric wüstite, while this study and Ozawa et al. (2010) used iron-saturated FeO,  
293 but stoichiometric effects should cause the data of Fei and Mao (1994) and Kondo et al.  
294 (2004) to be shifted to smaller volumes of wüstite, whereas their data have larger  
295 volumes than are predicted by our equation of state (Figure 3). The cause of this  
296 discrepancy is unknown, though it could have the same underlying basis as the  
297 disagreement over the B1/B8 phase boundary between our data and those of Fei and Mao

298 (1994) (Section 4.1). The data point of Kondo et al. (2004) does agree with our equation  
299 of state within its large pressure uncertainty, but the misfit should be greater taking into  
300 account the effects of stoichiometry.

301

### 302 *4.3. Core density deficit*

303 We can use the knowledge that wüstite is stable in the B1 structure under the  $P$ - $T$   
304 conditions of the Earth's core (Section 4.1) and our improved equation of state for B1-  
305 FeO at core conditions (Section 4.2) to evaluate the core density deficit. Several  
306 assumptions are required for this analysis. We assume the pressure at the core-mantle  
307 boundary (CMB) to be 135.8 GPa (Dziewonski and Anderson, 1981), and we use an  
308 outer core temperature of  $4000 \pm 500$  K at the CMB based on the analysis of Anderson  
309 (2003). We also assume that the outer core is convecting near adiabatic conditions (Birch,  
310 1952), and that iron and iron-rich alloys experience a 1-2% volume increase upon melting  
311 at core pressures (Anderson, 2003). Although it is likely that the outer core contains  
312 significant amounts of more than one light element, including O, S, Si, and/or C  
313 (McDonough, 2003), in this analysis we consider an outer core whose light element  
314 component is purely oxygen.

315 Figure 5 illustrates the density difference between pure iron (Dewaele et al.,  
316 2006), calculated along an adiabat, and a seismologically-determined density profile of  
317 the Earth's core, the Preliminary Reference Earth Model (PREM) (Dziewonski and  
318 Anderson, 1981). Using the assumptions described above, we find that PREM is  $10.4 \pm$   
319  $0.9\%$  less dense than solid hcp-iron at the core-mantle boundary. Approximately 1-2% of  
320 this density difference can be accounted for by the  $\Delta V$  of melting of iron (Anderson,

321 2003), but the remainder must be due to the presence of one or more light elements in the  
322 core, such as oxygen.

323 Our equation of state for B1-FeO can be used to place firm constraints on the  
324 amount of oxygen in Earth's core, because it requires no extrapolation in pressure and  
325 only a small extrapolation in temperature to be applied at the  $P$ - $T$  conditions of the CMB.  
326 For a core model containing only iron and oxygen, we find that  $7.7 \pm 1.1$  weight percent  
327 oxygen would be required in the outer core to match PREM at the core-mantle boundary.  
328 Allowing for the presence of nickel in the core slightly alters this result. Correcting the  
329 outer core density to account for a Ni/Fe atomic ratio of 0.058 in the core (McDonough,  
330 2003), we find that  $7.9 \pm 1.1$  weight percent oxygen would be necessary to match PREM  
331 at the CMB for an Fe-Ni-O core.

332 Figure 5 shows that the slopes of the adiabatic density profiles of hcp-Fe and B1-  
333 FeO do not exactly match that of PREM when these equations of state are extrapolated  
334 over the  $P$ - $T$  range of the Earth's core. Their slopes also do not match each other, due to  
335 the  $K_0'$  value for FeO being smaller than that of iron (3.60 vs. 5.38) (Dewaele et al.,  
336 2006). For this reason, we have limited our calculations of the core density deficit to the  
337 core-mantle boundary, minimizing extrapolation. If oxygen is the dominant light element  
338 in the core, these differences in curvature could be due to several factors, including:  
339 PREM not accurately describing the precise density variations through the core; the need  
340 for an additional term in these equations of state when extrapolating them to such high  
341 pressures and temperatures; a compositional gradient through the outer core; a more  
342 complex mixing relationship between Fe and FeO at these conditions; or the presence of  
343 one or more other light elements.



344

345 *4.4. Oxygen fugacity buffer*

346 Oxygen fugacity ( $fO_2$ ) governs many key physical and chemical properties of  
347 minerals, including insulator-metal transitions, diffusion rates, rheological properties, and  
348 elemental partitioning. The  $fO_2$  of the Earth's interior is dominated by the valence state of  
349 iron, the most abundant multivalent element in the planet. Therefore it is critical to  
350 understand the Fe-FeO oxygen fugacity buffer at pressures and temperatures relevant to  
351 the deep Earth. In this study we have extended the equation of state of B1-FeO to higher  
352  $P$ - $T$  conditions, allowing us to extend calculations of the Fe-FeO  $fO_2$  buffer to these more  
353 extreme conditions.

354 We have calculated this buffer by comparing the equations of state of B1-FeO  
355 (Section 4.2), fcc-Fe (Campbell et al., 2009), and hcp-Fe (Dewaele et al., 2006),  
356 following the method of Campbell et al. (2009):

357 
$$\log fO_2 = \log fO_2(1\text{bar}) + (0.8686/RT) \int \Delta V dP \quad (2)$$

358 where  $\Delta V$  is the volume difference between FeO and iron. The calculated buffer is strictly  
359 applicable only for FeO in the B1 structure, and only for high-spin FeO. Iron-poor  
360 (Mg,Fe)O in the Earth's lower mantle may undergo a spin transition to the low-spin state  
361 (Cohen et al., 1997; Lin et al., 2005), which will likely have a significant effect on the Fe-  
362 FeO oxygen fugacity buffer.

363 The calculated  $fO_2$  buffers are shown in Figure 6, and tabulated values at smaller  
364 pressure increments are shown in Table S2 of the Supplementary Material. The results  
365 found here are similar to those presented in Campbell et al. (2009), with the buffers  
366 calculated in this study differing from those of Campbell et al. (2009) by less than 0.2 log

367 units up to 100 GPa, the highest pressure shown by Campbell et al. (2009). However, this  
368 discrepancy increases with pressure, becoming larger at the higher pressures achieved in  
369 this study. We confirm the results of Campbell et al. (2009) that the absolute  $f_{\text{O}_2}$   
370 values increase with pressure at each temperature, and that the slope  $\partial(\ln f_{\text{O}_2})/\partial T|_P$   
371 decreases with pressure, eventually becoming a slope of approximately zero at 60 GPa  
372 and negative at higher pressures. Also included in Table S2 is a polynomial expression of  
373 the Fe-FeO buffer as a function of pressure and temperature, which can be used as a  
374 convenience to interpolate between the tabulated values.

375         The oxygen fugacity buffers calculated in this section are specifically for  
376 stoichiometric FeO, because that is the endmember component in the important  
377 applications to high-pressure mineral physics and the chemistry of the Earth's mantle. In  
378 applications where FeO-bearing silicates or oxides exist with Fe-bearing metal, the  
379 oxygen fugacity of a system can be determined relative to the Fe-FeO buffer. Near  
380 ambient pressure, nonstoichiometric wüstite is the stable oxide that coexists with metallic  
381 iron, so the iron-wüstite buffer is frequently applied with respect to these  
382 nonstoichiometric oxides, especially when this solid state buffer is used directly to  
383 control the oxygen fugacity in low-pressure experiments. However, above several GPa,  
384 stoichiometric FeO becomes stable in the presence of Fe (Campbell et al., 2009; Seagle et  
385 al., 2008; Stølen and Grønvold, 1996), so even when used directly to buffer a system, it is  
386 the Fe-FeO reaction that is relevant.

387         Nevertheless, it is interesting to consider whether nonstoichiometric wüstite  
388 becomes stable again at high pressures when coexisting with metallic Fe. The relevant  
389 reaction is  $\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O} + x\text{Fe} \rightleftharpoons \text{FeO}$ , and the pressure dependence of this reaction is

390 determined by the volume difference  $V(\text{FeO}) - V(\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}) - xV(\text{Fe})$ . The present study  
391 provides the equation of state of FeO, and equations of state exist for both fcc and hcp  
392 phases of Fe (e.g., Campbell et al., 2009; Dewaele et al., 2006), but the equations of state  
393 of wüstites are not precisely determined over the  $P$ - $T$  range of interest. However, it has  
394 been concluded by Fei (1996) that the bulk modulus of  $\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}$  is constant for all  $x$ ; if we  
395 suppose for purposes of this calculation that all other thermoelastic parameters are also  
396 independent of  $x$ , then we can evaluate the equation of state for any wüstite based on the  
397 equation of state parameters for FeO in this study (Table 1) and the zero-pressure lattice  
398 parameters of McCammon and Liu (1984). Our results of this calculation show that for  
399 all values of  $x$ , the volume change  $V(\text{FeO}) - V(\text{Fe}_{1-x}\text{O}) - xV(\text{Fe})$  is negative over all  
400 conditions calculated (0 to 200 GPa; 300 to 2500 K). Therefore, stoichiometric FeO, and  
401 not nonstoichiometric wüstite, remains the stable oxide coexisting with Fe at all high  $P$ - $T$   
402 conditions above the several GPa range as reported by Stølen and Grønvold (1996).

403

404

## 405 **5. Conclusions**

406

407 The phase diagram of stoichiometric FeO, and the equations of state of its B1 and  
408 B8 structures, were measured to high temperatures and pressures reaching those of the  
409 Earth's outer core. The positive slope for the phase boundary between the subsolidus B1  
410 and B8 phases of FeO is broadly consistent with those reported by Kondo et al. (2004)  
411 and Ozawa et al. (2010). These results confirm that the stable phase of FeO at conditions  
412 of the Earth's deep interior has the B1 structure, not the B8 structure. The equation of

413 state of B1-FeO reported by Campbell et al. (2009) did not precisely describe these new  
414 higher pressure data, but the updated equation of state presented here accurately describes  
415 not only our new data but also those of several previous studies (Campbell et al., 2009;  
416 Ozawa et al., 2010; Seagle et al., 2008). We also combined our data with those of Ozawa  
417 et al. (2010) to construct an equation of state for B8-FeO.

418         Using our improved equation of state for B1-FeO and earlier equations of state for  
419 fcc- and hcp-Fe (Campbell et al., 2009; Dewaele et al., 2006), we have recalculated high-  
420 pressure, high-temperature Fe-FeO oxygen fugacity buffers, improving the accuracy of  
421 these buffers over those reported by Campbell et al. (2009) at pressures >100 GPa. The  
422 equation of state for B1-FeO can be compared to that of hcp-Fe (Dewaele et al., 2006)  
423 and the seismologically determined density of the Earth's core (Dziewonski and  
424 Anderson, 1981), to analyze the core density deficit. For a core composition in which  
425 oxygen is the sole light element,  $7.9 \pm 1.1$  weight percent oxygen would be required in  
426 the outer core to match PREM at the core-mantle boundary.

427

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429

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547

548 **Figure Captions**

549

550 **Figure 1.** a: Diffraction image before integration, collected at 144 GPa and 3025 K. b:  
551 Diffraction pattern from part A integrated azimuthally. Peaks correspond to B2-NaCl,  
552 B1-FeO, and hcp-Fe. c: Diffraction pattern collected at 151 GPa and 1665 K, integrated  
553 azimuthally, with peaks corresponding to B2-NaCl, B8-FeO, and hcp-Fe.

554

555 **Figure 2.** Equation of state of B1-FeO. Filled circles: this study. Open triangles: Ozawa  
556 et al. (2010). Open squares: Seagle et al. (2008). Open diamonds: Campbell et al. (2009).  
557 All data and isotherms are color-coded by temperature range according to the legend.  
558 Isotherms are calculated using the parameters in Table 1 for the midpoint of the  
559 temperature range indicated, and they do not extend above the melting curve of Fischer  
560 and Campbell (2010).

561

562 **Figure 3.** Equation of state of B8-FeO. Filled circles: this study. Open triangles: Ozawa  
563 et al. (2010). ×: Kondo et al. (2004). Cross: Fei and Mao (1994). Errors in volume from  
564 this study were fixed at  $\pm 0.1 \text{ cm}^3/\text{mol}$  when they could not be constrained by the data.  
565 Fei and Mao (1994) do not report an error in pressure. All data and isotherms are color-  
566 coded by temperature range, as in Figure 2. Isotherms are calculated using the parameters  
567 in Table 1 for the midpoint of the temperature range indicated, and they do not extend  
568 above the melting curve of Fischer and Campbell (2010).

569

570 **Figure 4.** High  $P$ - $T$  phase diagram of wüstite. Pink symbols: stability field of B8 (NiAs-  
571 type) FeO. Blue symbols: stability field of B1 (NaCl-type) FeO. Filled circles: this study.  
572  $\times$ : Kondo et al. (2004). Open triangles: Ozawa et al. (2010). Brown lines: phase  
573 boundaries of rhombally-distorted wüstite (Fei and Mao, 1994). Black line: melting curve  
574 from Fischer and Campbell (2010), extrapolated (dashed line) using Lindemann melting  
575 law. Gray: approximate geotherm, after Boehler (1996). This study and Ozawa et al.  
576 (2010) report phase stability of stoichiometric FeO, while Kondo et al (2004) used  
577  $\text{Fe}_{0.95}\text{O}$ , Fei and Mao (1994) used  $\text{Fe}_{0.98}\text{O}$ , and Fischer and Campbell (2010) used  $\text{Fe}_{0.94}\text{O}$ .  
578

579 **Figure 5.** Core density deficit. Grey line: PREM (Dziewonski and Anderson, 1981). Blue  
580 line: density profile for B1-FeO, calculated from the parameters listed in Table 1. Orange  
581 line: density profile for hcp-Fe, calculated from the equation of state of Dewaele et al.  
582 (2006). Solid lines follow an adiabatic temperature profile for a CMB temperature of  
583 4000 K. Dashed lines indicate the effect of a  $\pm 500$  K uncertainty in the CMB  
584 temperature.  
585

586 **Figure 6.** Fe–FeO oxygen fugacity buffers at high pressures and temperatures. The 1 bar  
587 buffer curve was calculated from Chase (1998), and high pressure curves were calculated  
588 from Eq. (2) using fits to the data like those in Figure 2. These buffers are only valid for  
589 B1-FeO in the high-spin state.  
590  
591

592 **Table 1.** Equation of state parameters for B1- and B8-FeO.

593

	B1-FeO	B8-FeO
$V_0$ (cm <sup>3</sup> /mol)	<i>12.256<sup>a</sup></i>	11.997 ± 0.018
$K_0$ (GPa)	149.4 ± 1.0	137.8 ± 0.9
$K_0'$	3.60 ± 0.04	<i>4</i>
$\theta_0$ (K)	<i>417<sup>b</sup></i>	<i>417<sup>b</sup></i>
$\gamma_0$	1.41 ± 0.05	1.73 ± 0.12
$q$	<i>0.5</i>	<i>1</i>

Entries in italics were held fixed in the fit.

<sup>a</sup>McCammon and Liu (1984)

<sup>b</sup>Stixrude and Lithgow-Bertelloni (2007)

594

595

596

597 **Supplementary Material**

598

599 **Supplementary Table S1.** Pressure-volume-temperature data from synchrotron X-ray  
600 diffraction experiments. Pressures are determined from the unit cell volumes of hcp-Fe  
601 using the equation of state of Dewaele et al. (2006). Reported temperatures are corrected  
602 for an axial temperature gradient.

603

604 **Supplementary Table S2.** Tabulation of the Fe-FeO oxygen fugacity buffer at high  
605 pressures and temperatures.

Figure 1a

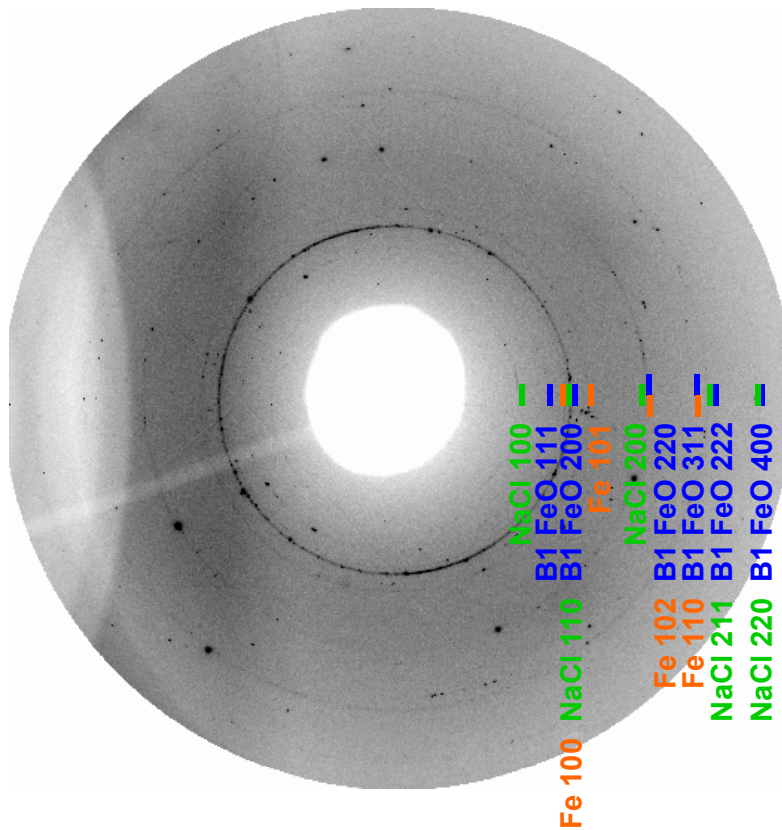


Figure 1b

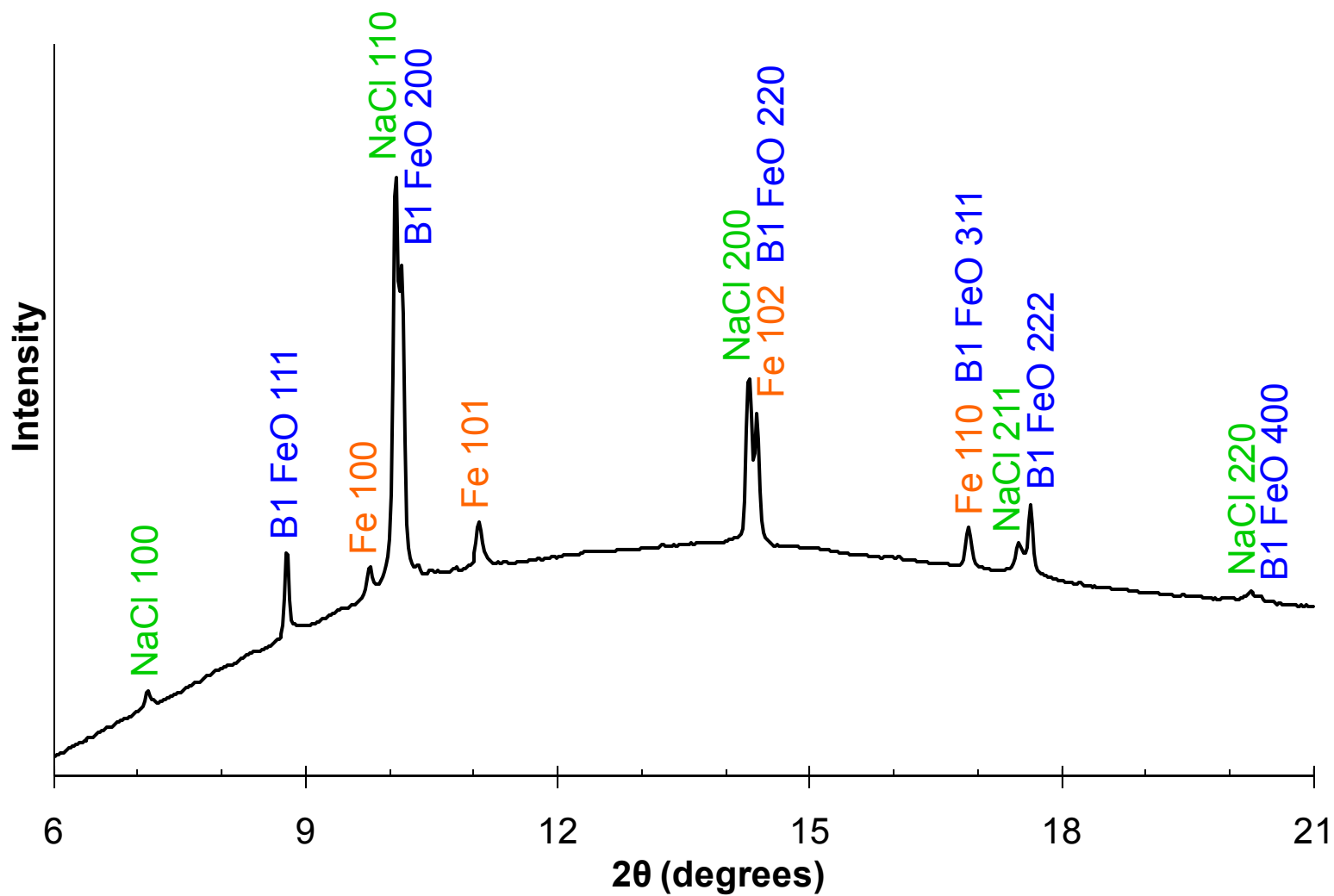


Figure 1c

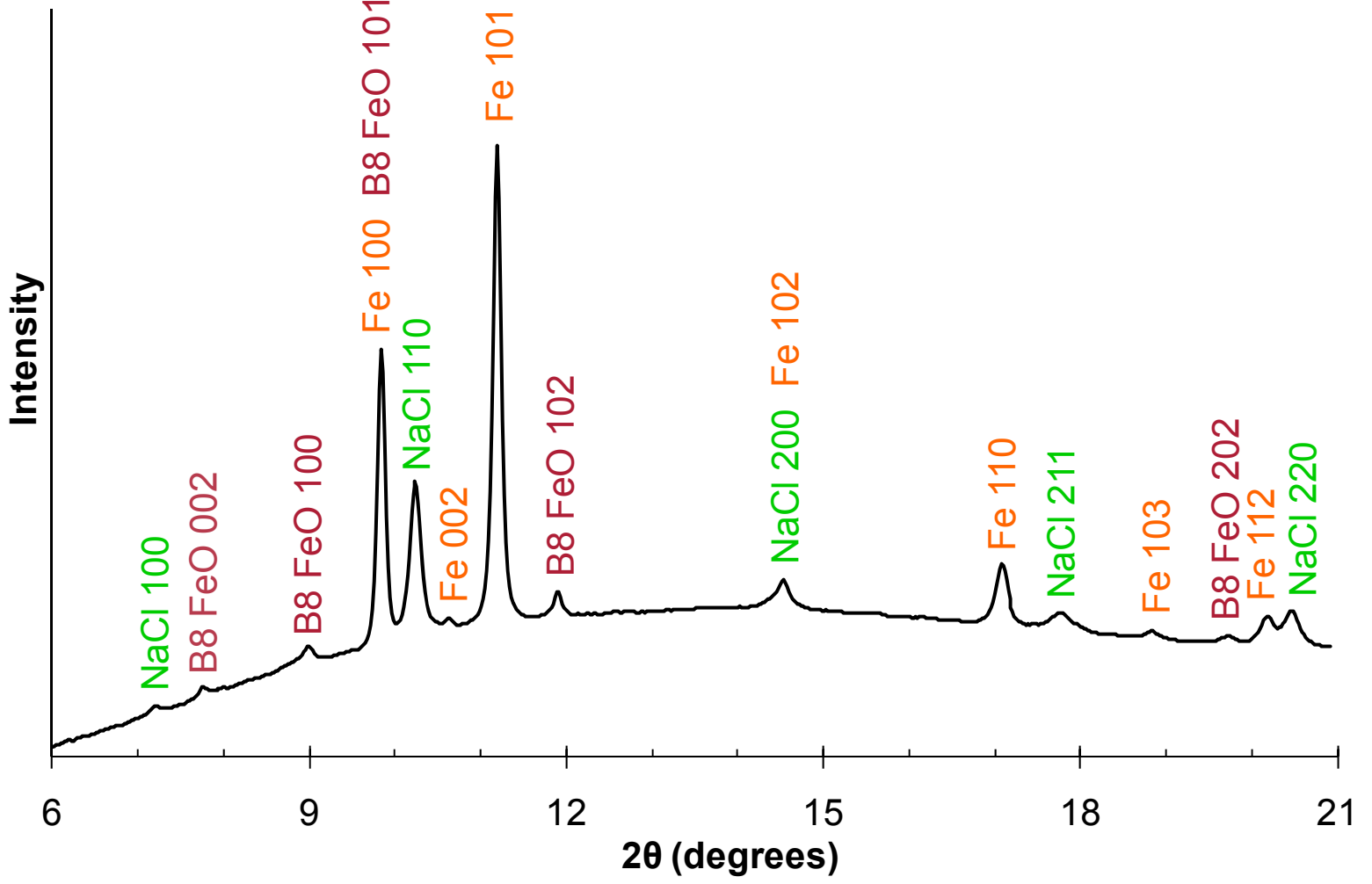




Figure 2

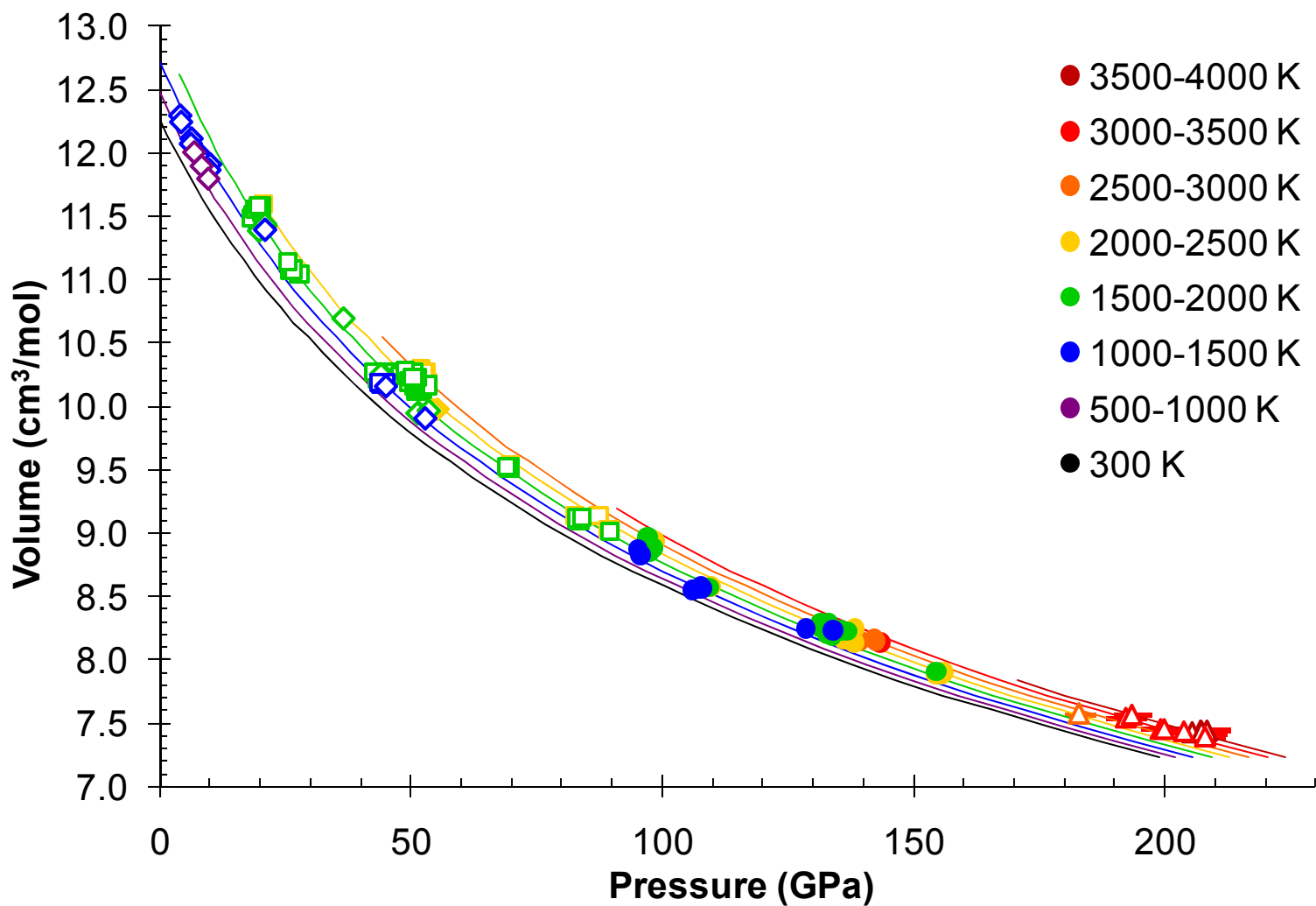


Figure 3

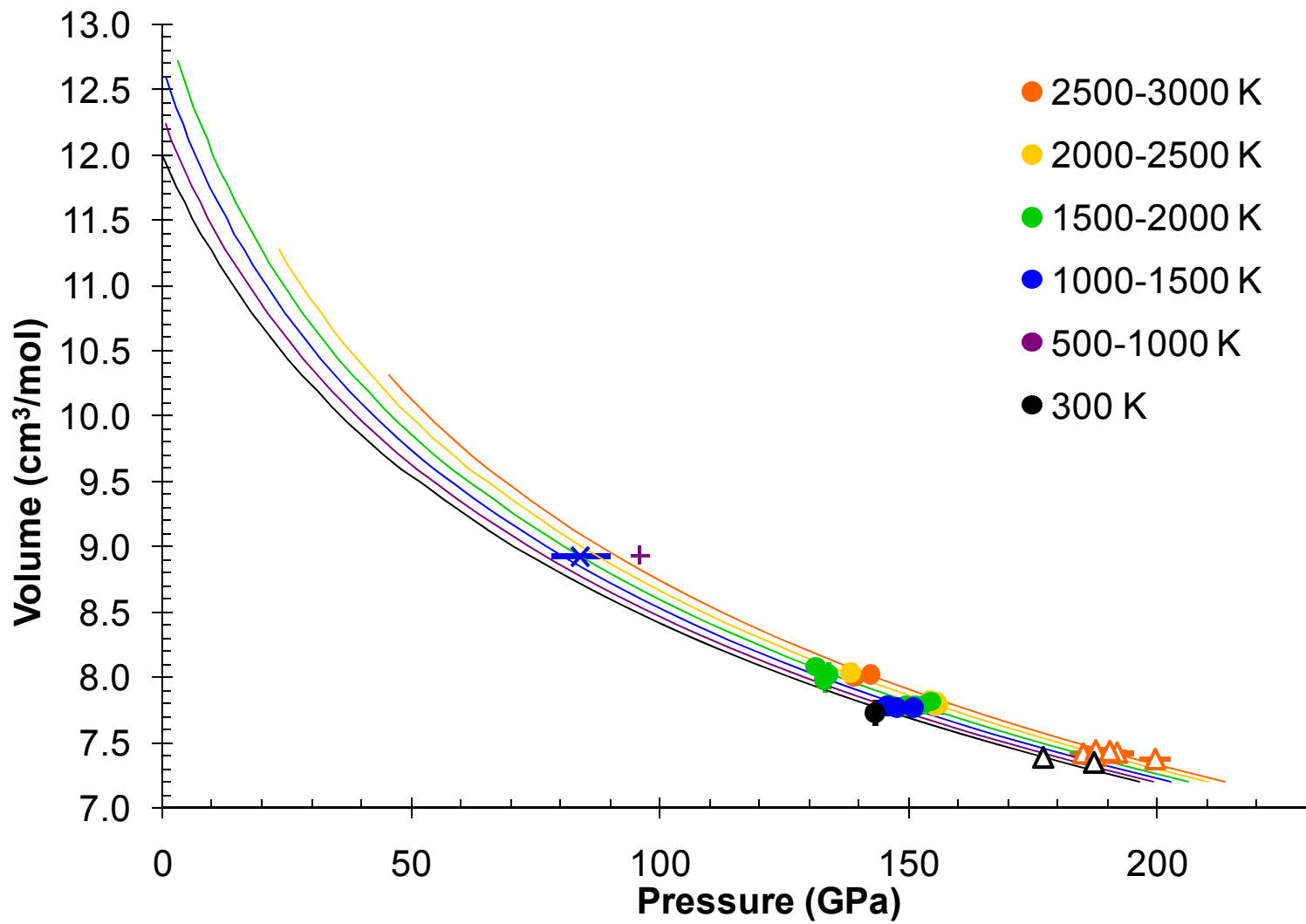


Figure 4

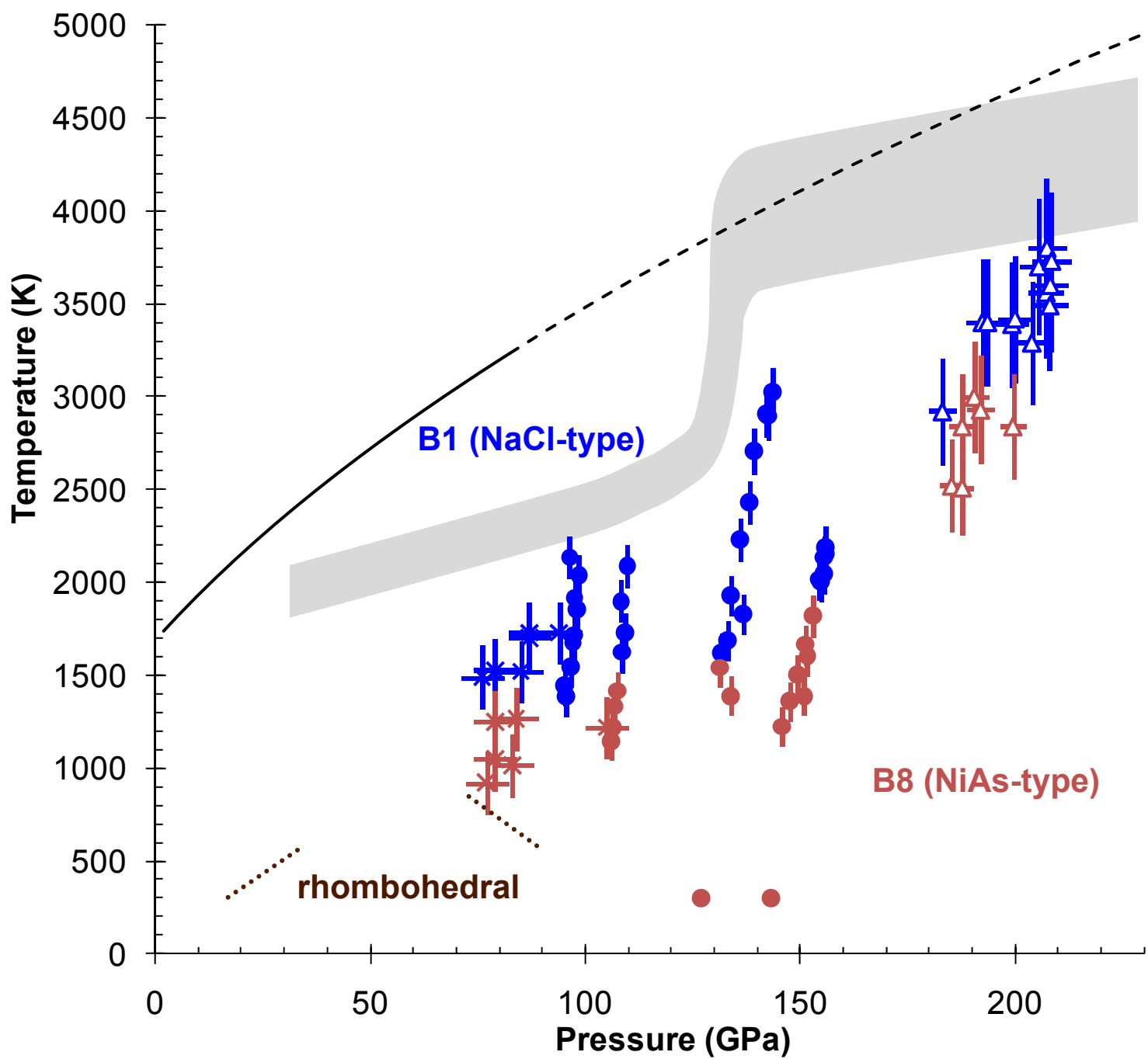


Figure 5

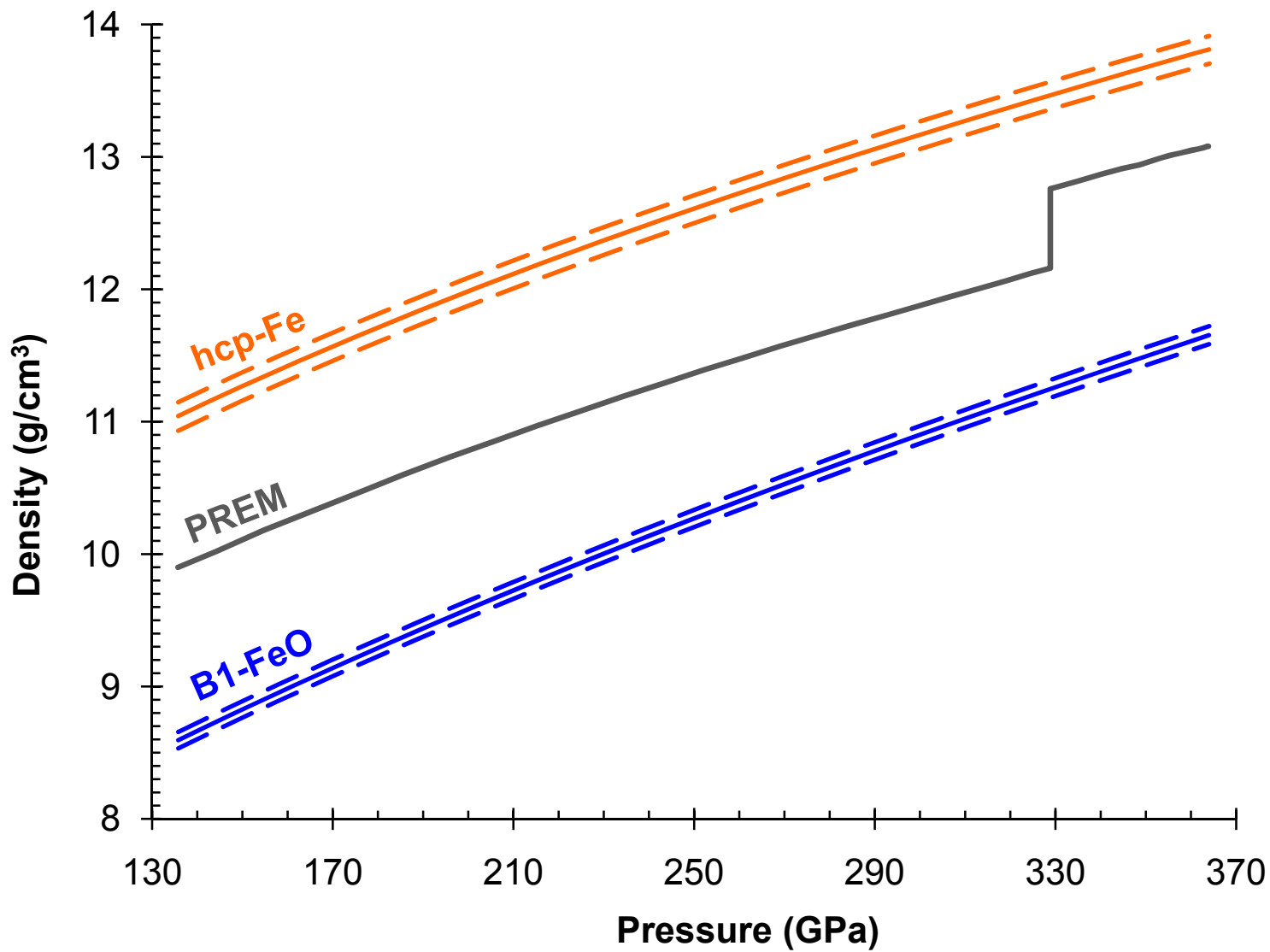


Figure 6

