

Condensates from vapor made by impacts between metal-, silicate-rich bodies: Comparison with metal and chondrules in CB chondrites

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Abstract

The impact hypothesis for the origin of CB chondrites was tested by performing equilibrium condensation calculations in systems composed of vaporized mixtures of projectile and target materials. When one of the impacting bodies is composed of the metal from CR chondrites and the other is an H chondrite, good agreement can be found between calculated and observed compositions of unzoned metal grains in CB chondrites but the path of composition variation of the silicate condensate computed for the same conditions that reproduce the metal grain compositions does not pass through the measured compositions of barred olivine (BO) or cryptocrystalline (CC) chondrules in the CBs. The discrepancy between measured chondrule compositions and those of calculated silicates is not reduced when diogenite, eucrite or howardite compositions are substituted for H chondrite as the silicate-rich impacting body. If, however, a CR chondrite body is differentiated into core, a relatively CaO-, Al₂O₃-poor mantle and a CaO-, Al₂O₃-rich crust, and later accretes significant amounts of water, a collision between it and an identical body can produce the necessary chemical conditions for condensation of CB chondrules. If the resulting impact plume is spatially heterogeneous in its proportions of crust and mantle components, the composition paths calculated for silicate condensates at the same P^{tot} , Ni/H and Si/H ratios and water abundance that produce good matches to the unzoned metal grain compositions pass through the fields of BO and CC chondrules, especially if high-temperature condensates are fractionated in the case of the CCs. While equilibrium evaporation of an alloy containing solar proportions of siderophiles into a dense impact plume is an equally plausible hypothesis for explaining the compositions of the unzoned metal grains, equilibrium evaporation can explain CB chondrule compositions only if an implausibly large number of starting compositions is postulated. Kinetic models applied to co-condensing metal grains and silicate droplets in a region of the plume with very similar composition, but with high cooling rate and sharply declining P^{tot} during condensation, produce very good matches to the zoning profiles of Ir, Ni, Co and Cr concentrations and Fe and Ni isotopic compositions observed in the zoned metal grains in CB chondrites but produce very large positive $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ in the cogenetic silicate, which are not found in the chondrules. © 2015 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

1. INTRODUCTION

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The CB (Weisberg et al., 2001) and CH (Weisberg et al., 1988) chondrites are volatile-depleted, chondritic breccias

containing large proportions of angular metal grains and aggregates, chondrules or clasts with chondrule-like textures made of low-FeO silicates, exotic chondrite clasts and an interstitial metal–silicate mixture thought to have formed from a shock-produced melt. Mineral-chemical and isotopic characteristics suggest that they are related to CR chondrites (Weisberg et al., 2001). The CB_as, including Bencubbin, Weatherford and Gujba, contain ~60 volume% metal, cm-sized chondrules, (Fe,Ni) metal with 5–8% Ni, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ up to ~1000‰ and rare Ca-, Al-rich refractory inclusions (CAIs). The CB_bs, including Hammadah al Hamra 237 (hereafter HH), Queen Alexandra Range 94411 (hereafter QUE), MacAlpine Hills 02675 and Isheyevo, contain ~70 volume% metal, mm-sized chondrules, (Fe,Ni) metal with 4–15% Ni, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ up to ~200‰ and minor amounts (<1%) of CAIs. The CH chondrites, including ALH85085, NWA470, PAT91456 and PCA91467, contain 20–40 volume% metal, <100 μm -sized chondrules, metal with 4–11% Ni, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ up to ~1500‰ and rare (<0.1%) CAIs. Most metal grains in CB_as are homogeneous but, in CB_bs, many metal grains with more than 7–8 wt% Ni are chemically zoned, with contents of Ni and Co (Petaev et al., 2001) and refractory PGEs (Campbell et al., 2001) decreasing, Cr increasing and Pd invariant from cores to rims. These and more complex zoning profiles are found in metal grains in CH chondrites (Petaev et al., 2007), but many of these show chemical (Campbell and Humayun, 2004) and structural (Goldstein et al., 2007) characteristics of multi-stage processing, and are not considered further in this work. Chondrules in CB_as (Weisberg et al., 2001) and CB_bs (Krot et al., 2001b) have barred olivine (BO) or cryptocrystalline (CC) textures. Both types in CB_bs are strongly alkali-depleted and Mg-rich, with only 0.7–3.8 wt% FeO in CC and 1.6–5.4 wt% FeO in BO chondrules (Krot et al., 2001b). BO chondrules have higher CaO + Al₂O₃ contents than CCs, 10.5–22.8 wt% vs <0.1–7.9 wt%.

From the covariation of Co and Ni among metal clasts in the Bencubbin CB_a, Newsom and Drake (1979) argued that the metal phase condensed from a solar gas at a total pressure, P^{tot} , ~10^{−4} bar. Meibom et al. (1999) and Petaev et al. (2001) showed that the major element zoning of metal grains in CH and CB_b chondrites, respectively, could have formed by equilibrium fractional condensation from a solar composition or modestly dust-enriched nebular region at P^{tot} = 10^{−4} bar. In later work, Petaev et al. (2003) showed that diffusive modification of such zoning profiles would have occurred if the grains condensed at a cooling rate of 10 K/day, the approximate cooling rates estimated by Meibom et al. (1999) and Petaev et al. (2001). Campbell et al. (2001) demonstrated, however, that fractional condensation was insufficient to explain gradual, core-to-rim declines in the Ir contents of the grains, and adopted instead a model involving supersaturation and kinetically controlled growth for the zoned grains in a gas of solar composition at P^{tot} ~10^{−4} bar. Campbell et al. (2005) pointed out that the very slow diffusion rate of Ir in Fe–Ni alloys makes it unlikely that diffusion played a significant role in producing the Ir profiles observed by them. Furthermore, the observation by Alexander and Hewins

(2004), Zipfel and Weyer (2007) and Richter et al. (2014) that the chemical zonation is accompanied by iron and nickel isotopic zonation from isotopically light compositions in the metal grain cores to heavier ones at their rims, is strong evidence that this metal formed by rapid disequilibrium condensation.

Campbell et al. (2002) found that the bulk Ir/Fe, Pd/Fe and Ni/Fe ratios in the unzoned metal grains in the CB_a chondrites are consistent with condensation from a gas whose partial pressures of siderophiles were 10⁷ × higher than in a gas of solar composition at P^{tot} = 10^{−4} bar, and suggested that both the metal and the low-FeO, BO and CC chondrules in the CB_as condensed from a plume generated by a protoplanetary impact between a metallic and a low-FeO silicate body. Based on metal–troilite quench textures and volatile element depletions in the unzoned metal grains of the Gujba CB_a, Rubin et al. (2003) proposed that they formed in the same plume as both the zoned metal grains and silicate globules found in the CB_bs, but in a portion of the cloud having relatively high density compared to that for the CB_bs, despite the contrastingly modest P^{tot} and dust enrichment range previously suggested for the CB_a grains (Newsom and Drake, 1979). Krot et al. (2005) used ²⁰⁷Pb–²⁰⁶Pb dating to show that chondrules from both CB_a and CB_b chondrites formed ~5 my after CAI condensation, and concluded that the components of both types formed in a giant impact. Because this time-scale is comparable to that for accretion and differentiation of solar system planetesimals (Dauphas and Chaussidon, 2011), this opens up the possibility that one or more of the impacting bodies was differentiated. Preferential sampling of the core of a differentiated planetesimal is a potential explanation for why CB chondrites are so metal-rich. Pierazzo et al. (1997) showed that the shock pressures required for vaporization of metallic iron are much greater than for dunite. Thus, in any impact involving metallic iron and silicates, it is likely that complete vaporization of a larger mass of silicates will accompany total vaporization of a metallic impactor. Fedkin and Grossman (2013) proposed that porphyritic chondrules in ordinary chondrites formed by reaching vapor-condensed phase equilibrium in impact-generated plumes.

Since a condensation origin is required to produce the elemental and isotopic zoning of the zoned metal grains, and the Pd–Ir correlation of the unzoned metal grains can be reproduced by condensation from a post-impact vapor cloud, this manuscript seeks to determine if there is a combination of physico-chemical conditions and chemical compositions of impacting bodies, including differentiated ones, that leads to simultaneous condensation of the metal grains and chondrule-like clasts in CB chondrites from the vapor produced in the impact.

2. TECHNIQUE

2.1. Equilibrium condensation models

Condensation of the unzoned metal grains was explored using equilibrium models because their chemical compositions imply that they formed in a system containing very

high partial pressures of condensable elements (Campbell et al., 2002), conditions conducive to establishment of gas-condensed phase equilibrium (e.g., Fedkin and Grossman, 2013). The VAPORS program of Ebel and Grossman (2000) was used for all equilibrium condensation calculations, and the same thermodynamic data were used as in that work. Silicate liquids are non-ideal, and two activity-composition models are accessible in VAPORS: the CMAS model of Berman (1983); and the MELTS model of Ghiorso and Sack (1995). The former is useful for modeling refractory condensate liquids in reduced systems but it cannot be used when significant FeO contents become stable. The latter is useful for liquids containing FeO and alkalis but it cannot be used for modeling refractory liquids because it employs CaSiO_3 as the calcium component. This can lead to significant underestimation of the CaO contents of high-temperature liquids because SiO_2 is much less refractory than CaO. Ebel and Grossman (2000) used the CMAS model at high temperature but switched to the MELTS model at a temperature where the liquids predicted by each model separately became close in composition. This always occurred at a high enough temperature that the FeO content of the liquid was negligible. Because of the bulk compositions, relatively high dust enrichments and high pressures considered in the present work, however, the FeO content of the liquid predicted by the MELTS model sometimes becomes significant at a higher temperature than that where the compositions of the CMAS and MELTS liquids otherwise become similar to one another. Except when otherwise noted, results reported in this work are based exclusively on the MELTS model. Under circumstances where the CMAS model is expected to give more accurate liquid compositions, i.e., at high temperatures where the FeO content of the liquid is <0.3 wt% and over which the SiO_2 contents predicted by the CMAS and MELTS models differ by more than 2 wt% absolute, those temperature intervals are indicated on the Figures.

Although VAPORS computes the Fe, Ni, Co, Cr and Si contents of the metal phase at each temperature step, Pd and Ir are not included in the full equilibrium calculation. The computation is begun at sufficiently low temperatures that they are present in only trace amounts in the metal phase, so their presence does not significantly affect the proportions of major components calculated with VAPORS. The concentrations of Pd and Ir in the alloy were calculated using their atomic abundances in the plume, the ideal gas law, the total amount of condensed metal calculated by VAPORS at each temperature, and the same data used in Campbell et al. (2001) for vapor pressures of Pd and Ir and their activity coefficients in metallic Fe.

Campbell et al. (2002) suggested that the CB chondrites originated in a system that resulted from a collision between a metallic body and a reduced (low-FeO) silicate body, and this idea was tested in the present work. The metallic body was assumed to be the core of a previously impacted planetesimal whose outer, lower-density layers were lost due to tides, shock or shear (Asphaug et al., 2006). Because the oxygen isotopic similarity between CB

and CR chondrites suggests a genetic relationship between them (Weisberg et al., 2001), and because the bulk metal in both chondrite types has approximately solar relative abundances of refractory siderophiles, the composition of the metallic body was assumed to be that of CR chondrite metal (Kong et al., 1999) in the present work. Several candidates, both chondritic and differentiated, were considered for the composition of the silicate-rich planetesimal. Low-FeO compositions investigated were that of the average H chondrite fall from Kallemeyn et al. (1989) and Jarosewich (1990), the average aubrite from Watters and Prinz (1979) and the terrestrial, “more refractory peridotite” from Michael and Bonatti (1985). The compositions of the Johnstown and Y75032 diogenites, the Kapoeta howardite and the Juvinas eucrite, all taken from Mittlefehldt et al. (1998), were also investigated as candidates for higher-FeO, differentiated bodies. Also considered were impacts between two CR chondrite bodies whose composition was based on that of Renazzo (Mason and Wiik, 1962). In the latter calculations, the CR chondrite bodies were assumed to have been differentiated previously into core, mantle and crust, and to have had various amounts of water added to them.

The impact-generated plume was assumed to mix with residual nebular gas. The persistence of gaseous disks around stars older than 3 my (Haisch et al., 2001; Bergin et al., 2013) provides partial justification for this assumption. The extent to which nebular gas can be entrained in an outward-expanding plume of vaporized rock is not known, but the mixing ratio of such gas probably increases toward the edges of the plume. The lithophile element composition of residual nebular gas was assumed to be complementary to that of H chondrites in the calculations involving impactors of H chondrite, peridotite and achondrite compositions, and complementary to that of the CR body and its water content in collisions involving that object. In these cases, the relative abundance of an element in the gas is simply the difference between its solar abundance and its relative abundance in either H or CR composition, assuming that all of the Si was removed by the condensate. The siderophile element content of the residual nebular gas was assumed to be zero in all cases except for those involving H chondrite collisions, in which cases the residual gas was assumed to have siderophile abundances complementary to those of H chondrites. In all cases explored in this work, the system bulk compositions are so heavily dominated by dust enrichment that these small differences in residual gas composition have little effect on the calculations. The VAPORS program was used to explore condensation from impact-generated plumes consisting of various combinations of silicate and metal enrichments relative to the residual nebular gas. An example of a silicate- and metal-enriched plume composition used in this work is given in column 5 of Table 1. When 6 wt% average H chondrite from column 2 is mixed with 5 wt% of its complementary nebular gas from column 3 and 89 wt% CR chondrite metal from column 4, the resulting plume has Ni/H and Si/H ratios that are 1.4×10^4 and 300 times their solar values, respectively.

Table 1
Relative atomic abundances of components used in this work.

1 Element	2 Average H chondrite ¹	3 Residual nebular gas ²	4 CR chondrite metal ³	5 Model plume composition ⁴
H	8.026E+04	2.790E+10	–	9.308E+07
He	0.000E+00	2.720E+09	–	9.067E+06
C	1.503E+04	6.834E+06	–	3.781E+04
N	0.000E+00	3.130E+06	–	1.043E+04
O	3.455E+06	1.021E+07	–	3.489E+06
Na	4.470E+04	1.270E+04	–	4.474E+04
Mg	9.591E+05	1.149E+05	–	9.595E+05
Al	6.936E+04	1.554E+04	–	6.941E+04
Si	1.000E+06	0.000E+00	–	1.000E+06
P	6.245E+03	4.155E+03	–	6.259E+03
S	1.002E+05	3.456E+05	–	1.013E+05
K	3.283E+03	4.866E+02	–	3.285E+03
Ca	5.079E+04	1.031E+04	–	5.082E+04
Ti	2.466E+03	0.000E+00	–	2.466E+03
Cr	1.159E+04	1.913E+03	2.627E+03	1.324E+05
Mn	6.933E+03	2.617E+03	–	6.941E+03
Fe	7.966E+05	1.034E+05	9.000E+05	4.219E+07
Co	2.315E+03	0.000E+00	2.250E+03	1.058E+05
Ni	4.558E+04	3.722E+03	4.930E+04	2.313E+06
Pd	1.374E+00	1.553E–02	1.390E+00	6.530E+01
Ir	6.756E–01	0.000E+00	6.610E–01	3.108E+01

¹ Si, Ti, C, H, O, P and S are from [Jarosewich \(1990\)](#); others from [Kallemeyn et al. \(1989\)](#); Pd from average H chondrite Pd/Ir of [Horan et al. \(2003\)](#), in atoms/10⁶ Si.

² After removal of average H chondrite.

³ [Kong et al. \(1999\)](#) average CR metal but Ir/Ni and Pd/Ni were assumed to be solar ([Anders and Grevesse, 1989](#)).

⁴ 89.3 wt% CR metal + 6.0 wt% H chondrite + 4.7 wt% of residual nebular gas to yield Ni/H = 1.4×10^4 and Si/H = 300 times their solar values, respectively, in atoms/10⁶ Si.

2.2. Kinetic condensation models

Formation of the zoned metal grains was explored with a model of kinetically controlled condensation because their chemical zoning indicates that they did not form at equilibrium, and their isotopic zoning suggests that they formed by rapid condensation. In an attempt to reproduce both the chemical and isotopic zoning of the metal grains and to take into account the Fe and Ni that would have entered the coexisting silicate droplets in the context of an impact plume model, the kinetic evaporation–recondensation model of [Fedkin et al. \(2012\)](#) was used in the present work. To calculate equilibrium vapor pressures, the model employs the [Berman \(1983\)](#) activity-composition model for CMAS liquids and the MELTS model of [Ghiorso and Sack \(1995\)](#) for multicomponent silicate liquids, and, for the present application, switches from the former to the latter when the FeO concentration in the silicate liquid rises above 0.3 wt%. The initial composition of the silicate droplet is assumed to be that of the silicate condensate assemblage that would have formed at equilibrium at the assumed nucleation temperature and the corresponding P^{tot} . Minor amounts of Fe, Ni and Cr in this initial composition were subtracted out before beginning the kinetic calculation. A 0.01 μm -radius nucleus is used to begin the metal grain calculation. The model employs the Hertz–Knudsen equation to compute the flux of any element or isotope of interest across gas-condensed phase interfaces.

In the metal alloy, the activity coefficients for Fe, Ni and Cr were the same as those used by [Ebel and Grossman \(2000\)](#), and those for Co, Pd and Ir were the ones used by [Campbell et al. \(2001\)](#). The same isotopic fractionation factors and evaporation coefficients for silicate liquid, and the same evaporation coefficients for metal were used as in [Fedkin et al. \(2012\)](#). In that work, isotopic fractionations of Fe were computed by writing the Hertz–Knudsen equation for each isotope, and the same procedure was adopted for both Fe and Ni in the present work. Evaporation coefficients for Ir, Pd, Co and Cr in the metal alloy were assumed to be equal to those of Fe. The evaporation coefficient for Cr in the silicate liquid was also assumed to be equal to that for Fe. The projectile and target materials were assumed to have been heated instantaneously to a temperature high enough that they evaporated completely and mixed with residual nebular gas. The system was then allowed to cool at a constant rate, from 50–150 K/h. Using a linear dependence of $\log P^{\text{tot}}$ on $1/T$, P^{tot} was allowed to decline by 1–3 log units in the 500 K interval following metal alloy nucleation. A system mass was considered that would yield a single silicate droplet of $\sim 350 \mu\text{m}$ radius when all lithophiles recondensed. Given the system composition, the proportionate amount of metal was divided into a number of grains that would each have an $\sim 200 \mu\text{m}$ radius when all siderophiles recondensed. In all cases considered, metal alloy recondensation was assumed to have been delayed until 100–150 K below the equilibrium

condensation temperature of pure Ir, the most refractory siderophile of those considered here. Nucleation of the silicate droplet was assumed to have been independent of the metal grains and was delayed by various amounts, ranging up to 175 K below the incoming temperature of the metal grains. The compositions of the separate metal grains and silicate droplets were each dictated solely by the Hertz–Knudsen equation, and were not equilibrated with one another. As in Fedkin et al. (2012), the Hertz–Knudsen equation was also used to exchange oxygen between the condensed silicate droplet and the ambient gas, causing the internal f_{O_2} of the former to equilibrate gradually with the f_{O_2} of the latter.

3. RESULTS

3.1. Equilibrium condensation from a plume made by impact between CR chondrite metal and an H chondrite

3.1.1. Metal composition

For this series of calculations, the Pd content of the average H chondrite was derived from the average Ir content of the H chondrites studied by Kallemeyn et al. (1989) and the mean Pd/Ir ratio of those analyzed by Horan et al. (2003). Shown in Fig. 1 is the computed variation in composition of the metal alloy that would condense at equilibrium over a range of P^{tot} from 10^{-2} to 10^{-8} bar from a plume whose proportions of CR chondrite metal and H chondrite are such that the Ni/H and Si/H ratios are 1.4×10^4 and 300 times those of solar composition, respectively. Calculated trends of Pd/Fe (Fig. 1a) and Ir/Fe ratios (Fig. 1b) are plotted against Ni/Fe ratios for condensate metal grains and compared to solar ratios and to bulk compositions of unzoned metal grains from Bencubbin, Weatherford and Gujba (Campbell et al., 2002) and zoned grains from QUE. The QUE bulk compositions were calculated from Campbell et al.'s (2001) linear traverses, assuming concentric zoning. The particular choice of plotted ratios is due to the fact that Campbell et al. (2002) found that the unzoned metal grains are enriched in both Pd and Ir relative to Fe compared to solar composition. They pointed out that redox processes could not be responsible because of the significantly greater enrichment of Ir, and showed that, in systems uniformly enriched in siderophiles, Pd can only become more refractory than Fe at very high partial pressures of siderophiles. At these Ni/H and Si/H enrichments, it is seen that lowering P^{tot} causes the composition paths in Fig. 1a and b to flatten significantly, such that calculated Pd/Fe and Ir/Fe ratios are much lower at the same Ni/Fe ratio at the lowest P^{tot} than at the highest one. Because of this flattening, model composition trajectories for a P^{tot} of 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} bar match the bulk compositions of most unzoned metal grains and miss many of those of the zoned grains. Model composition trends calculated for a range of P^{tot} from 10^{-5} to 10^{-8} bar envelop the bulk compositions of most of the zoned metal grains in Fig. 1a and about half of those on Fig. 1b, but miss those of most of the unzoned grains. The combination of very high siderophile enrichment and high P^{tot} needed to fit the compositions of the unzoned

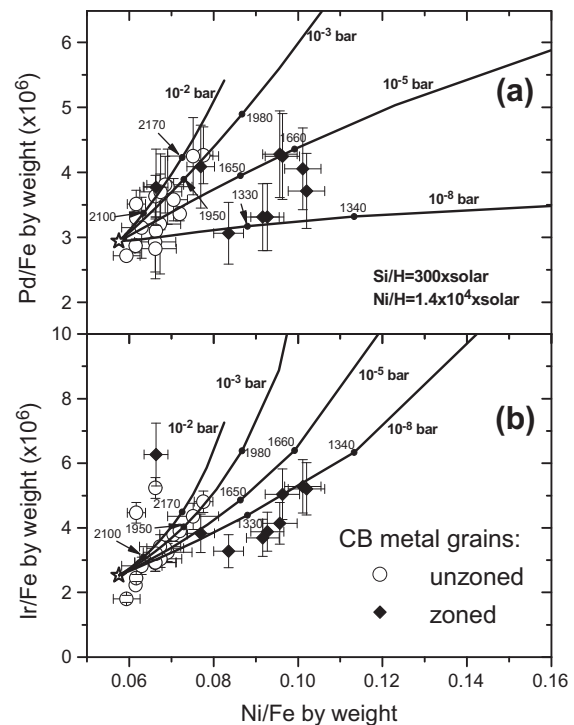


Fig. 1. Computed variation of the bulk (a) Pd/Fe and (b) Ir/Fe ratio with the bulk Ni/Fe ratio for metal grains that condense at equilibrium from a vaporized mixture of CR chondrite metal, H chondrite and residual nebular gas having enrichments in Ni/H and Si/H of 1.4×10^4 and 300, respectively, relative to solar composition at a variety of total pressures. Theoretical curves are compared to bulk compositions of unzoned metal grains in Bencubbin, Gujba and Weatherford (Campbell et al., 2002) and zoned metal grains in QUE, the latter calculated from traverses across the grains (Campbell et al., 2001). Numbers on the curves are temperatures in K. The star marks the composition of a metal alloy having solar proportions of Fe, Ni, Pd and Ir (Anders and Grevesse, 1989).

grains confirms the finding by Campbell et al. (2002) that very high partial pressures of siderophiles are required.

The offsetting effects of P^{tot} and siderophile enrichment in fitting the compositions of the unzoned grains are examined in Fig. 2 for a constant Si/H enrichment of 300 relative to solar composition. At a P^{tot} of 10^{-3} bar in Fig. 2a and b, it is seen that the best fit to the unzoned grain compositions occurs for a Ni/H enrichment of $\sim 1.4 \times 10^4$ relative to solar composition, while at a P^{tot} of 10^{-2} bar in Fig. 2c and d, an equivalent fit is obtained at a Ni/H enrichment of $\sim 1.4 \times 10^3$. For a P^{tot} of 10^{-3} bar and a Ni/H enrichment of 1.4×10^4 relative to solar composition, even a factor of ten variation in the Si/H enrichment, from 300–3000 relative to solar composition, is seen to have a negligible effect on the fits to the unzoned metal grain compositions in Fig. 3. The lowest observed Pd/Fe and Ir/Fe ratios in the unzoned metal grains are slightly below their respective solar ratios (Anders and Grevesse, 1989) and the lowest of those in the model systems, which are at the limit of total condensation of all three elements.

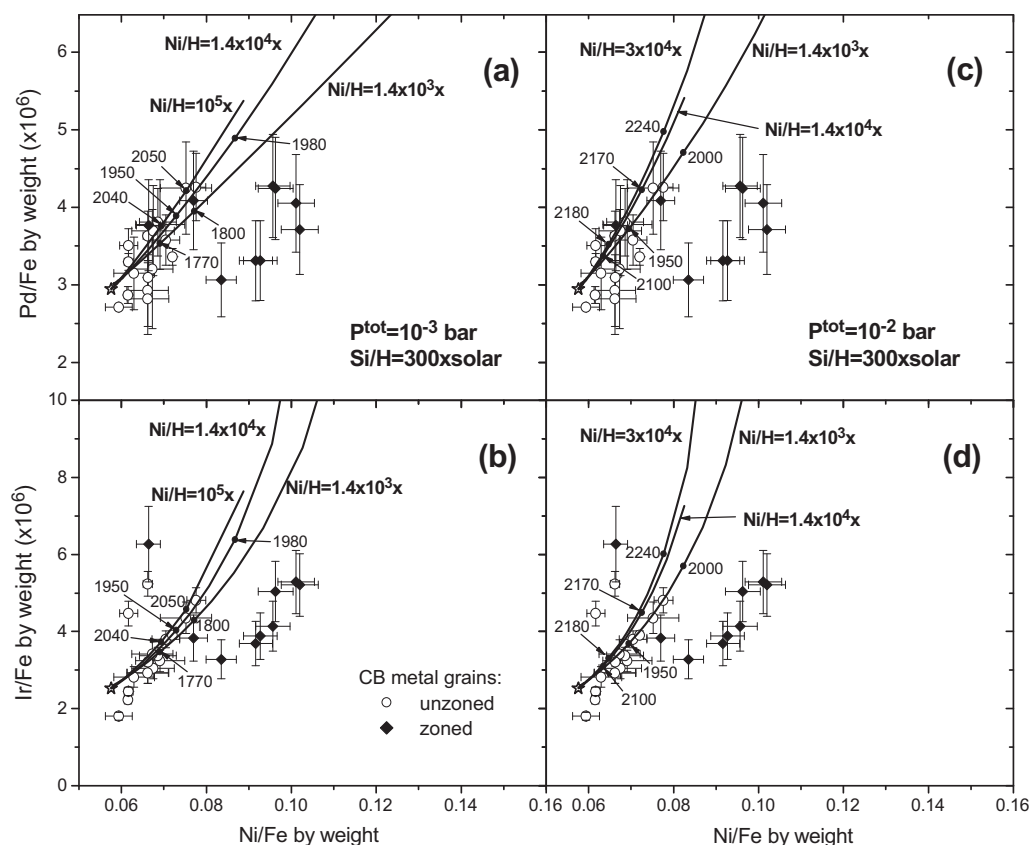


Fig. 2. Computed variation of the bulk (a, c) Pd/Fe and (b, d) Ir/Fe ratio with the bulk Ni/Fe ratio for metal grains that condense at equilibrium from a vaporized mixture of CR chondrite metal, H chondrite and residual nebular gas with a Si/H enrichment of 300 relative to solar composition and total pressures of (a, b) 10^{-3} bar and (c, d) 10^{-2} bar at a variety of Ni/H enrichments. Theoretical curves are compared to the same measured data as in Fig. 1. Numbers and symbols as in Fig. 1.

3.1.2. Silicate composition

The compositions of CC and BO chondrules from CB₆ chondrites (Krot et al., 2001a,b) are almost perfectly represented in the triangular diagram CaO + Al₂O₃–MgO–SiO₂ (Fig. 4) because the concentration of FeO, the only non-CMAS major element oxide they contain, never exceeds 5.4 wt%. As shown in Fig. 4, the CC and BO compositions lie within a range of 45–55 wt% SiO₂ along a roughly linear trend of increasing CaO + Al₂O₃ contents from CCs to BOs. Also plotted in Fig. 4, after subtraction of minor components, including FeO, and renormalization to CaO + Al₂O₃–MgO–SiO₂, is the calculated variation in bulk chemical composition of the bulk silicate assemblage that would condense at equilibrium from a plume consisting of a mixture of CR chondrite metal and H chondrite for various combinations of P^{tot} , Ni/H enrichment and Si/H enrichment investigated above. As expected from solar nebular condensation models, the bulk silicate condensate composition always begins its path at high concentrations of refractory CaO + Al₂O₃ at high temperature, heads toward the MgO corner as temperature falls, and finally increases its content of SiO₂, the most volatile of these oxides.

All of the model curves in Fig. 4 completely miss the data points for BO chondrules, passing to the low-SiO₂ side of the composition field of the latter. At constant Ni/H and

Si/H enrichments of 1.4×10^4 and 300, respectively, relative to solar composition, the silicate composition paths move closer to the BO chondrule field as P^{tot} increases from 10^{-8} to 10^{-2} bar but are still far from it at 10^{-2} bar. At constant P^{tot} and Ni/H enrichment of 10^{-3} bar and 1.4×10^4 , respectively, increasing the Si/H enrichment from 300 to 3×10^3 relative to solar composition causes the silicate composition path to move closer to the BO field but it is still far from it at 3×10^3 . Similarly, at constant P^{tot} and Si/H enrichment of 10^{-3} bar and 300, respectively, increasing the Ni/H enrichment from 1.4×10^3 to 1.4×10^4 relative to solar composition moves the path no closer to the BO field and increasing it further to 1×10^5 moves the path further away. These paths all converge when the bulk silicate reaches a SiO₂ content between 45 and 50 wt%, and evolve with sharp SiO₂ increases before crossing the CaO-, Al₂O₃-rich end of the CC chondrule trend. Neither the BO nor most of the CC chondrule compositions can be explained by equilibrium condensation from a gas made from a vaporized mixture of CR chondrite metal, H chondrite and residual nebular gas.

3.1.3. Fractionation of refractory silicates

If, however, a fraction of the Ca-, Al-rich condensate that forms at high temperature is removed from chemical communication with the vapor during continued cooling,

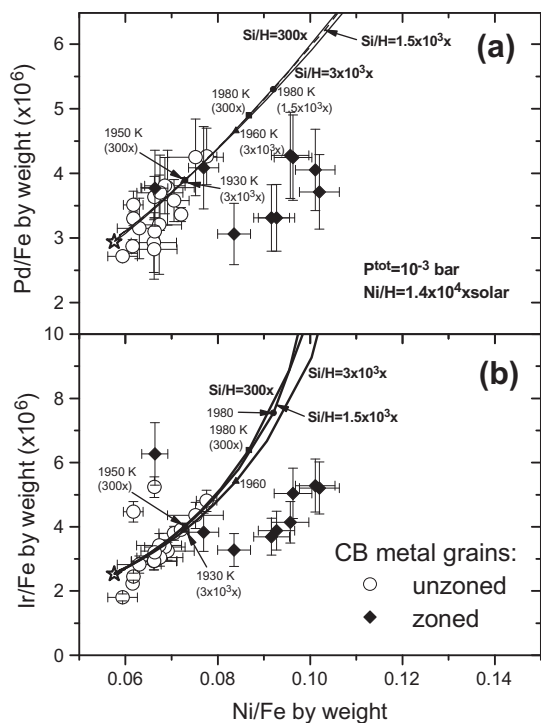


Fig. 3. Computed variation of the bulk (a) Pd/Fe and (b) Ir/Fe ratio with the bulk Ni/Fe ratio for metal grains that condense at equilibrium from a vaporized mixture of CR chondrite metal, H chondrite and residual nebular gas with a Ni/H enrichment of 1.4×10^4 relative to solar composition and total pressure of 10^{-3} bar at a variety of Si/H enrichments. Theoretical curves are compared to the same measured data as in Fig. 1. Numbers and symbols as in Fig. 1.

the resulting composition trajectory cuts across the CC array at progressively lower $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ contents with increasing fraction removed. Although not shown on Fig. 4, for the case of Si/H and Ni/H enrichments of 300 and 1.4×10^3 , respectively, at $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-2}$ bar, for example, the family of trajectories created by removing the condensate that forms at 2060 K spans almost the entire range of CC chondrule compositions but the predicted compositions are lower in FeO content than the latter. No amount of removal of early condensate that forms at any temperature allows the subsequent trajectory of condensate compositions to pass through the BO chondrule compositions on Fig. 4. Thus, fractional condensation can yield the chemical compositions of neither the CC nor the BO chondrules during cooling of the vapor produced in an impact between an H chondrite and a CR metal body.

3.2. Equilibrium condensation from plumes made by impact between CR chondrite metal and various differentiated rocks and meteorites

Shown in Fig. 5 are the composition trajectories of the bulk silicate fraction of the equilibrium condensate in mixtures consisting of CR chondrite metal (Table 1), residual nebular gas (Table 1) and various types of differentiated meteorites (Table 2). In all cases shown, proportions of

these components were selected to yield Ni/H and Si/H ratios of 1.4×10^3 and 300 relative to solar composition, and a P^{tot} of 10^{-2} bar was used. The conditions employed for Fig. 5 are thus very similar to those that produced good fits to the unzoned metal grain compositions in Fig. 2c and d.

Once again, for the plume composition made from every differentiated silicate component in Table 2, the bulk silicate composition is rich in $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at high temperature, and becomes more MgO- and SiO_2 -rich with falling temperature. For plumes made from silicate components that are relatively low in $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (e.g., average aubrite, peridotite and the Johnstown and Y75032 diogenites), the composition paths pass to the low- SiO_2 side of the CB_b chondrule array, veer toward the SiO_2 corner and then intersect the CB_b chondrule array. For plumes made from silicate components that are relatively high in $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ (e.g., Kapoeta and Juvinas), the turn toward the SiO_2 corner is more gentle, and occurs at $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ contents that are higher than that of the CB_b chondrule with the highest $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$. As a result, the latter curves do not even intersect the CB_b chondrule field. The array of chondrule compositions in CB_b chondrites cannot be explained by equilibrium condensation from a vaporized mixture of CR chondrite metal, residual nebular gas and any of the differentiated silicates investigated here.

3.3. Equilibrium condensation models in systems containing two vaporized silicate components

It was shown above that equilibrium condensation of the vapor made by an impact between CR chondrite metal and any one of many different chondritic and differentiated silicate compositions does not reproduce the bulk chemical compositions of CB_b chondrules. In general, the array of chondrule compositions lies orthogonal to the composition trajectory of the bulk silicate condensate from the vapor made from many of the investigated materials. The higher the vaporized silicate is in its $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ contents, the higher is the total $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at which the evolutionary path of its condensate composition intersects the chondrule array. This suggests the possibility that the chondrule compositions could be reproduced if two different silicate compositions were vaporized in the impact, one with high and the other with low $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$, as long as the plume of vaporized silicates were spatially heterogeneous in composition. Perhaps the metal-rich object was differentiated into a core, and a mantle and crust with different silicate compositions from one another. In the previous sections, the metallic object was assumed to have the composition of metal from CR chondrites because it fulfills the requirement of having solar proportions of refractory siderophiles (Kong et al., 1999). If it is assumed that the overall composition of each of the impacting objects was that of CR chondrites, then the vaporized silicate component of the plume would be expected to have the same isotopic composition as CR chondrites. This is an advantage, as the non-metallic fraction of CR chondrites has similar oxygen and nitrogen isotopic compositions to the silicates in CB chondrites (Weisberg et al., 2001).

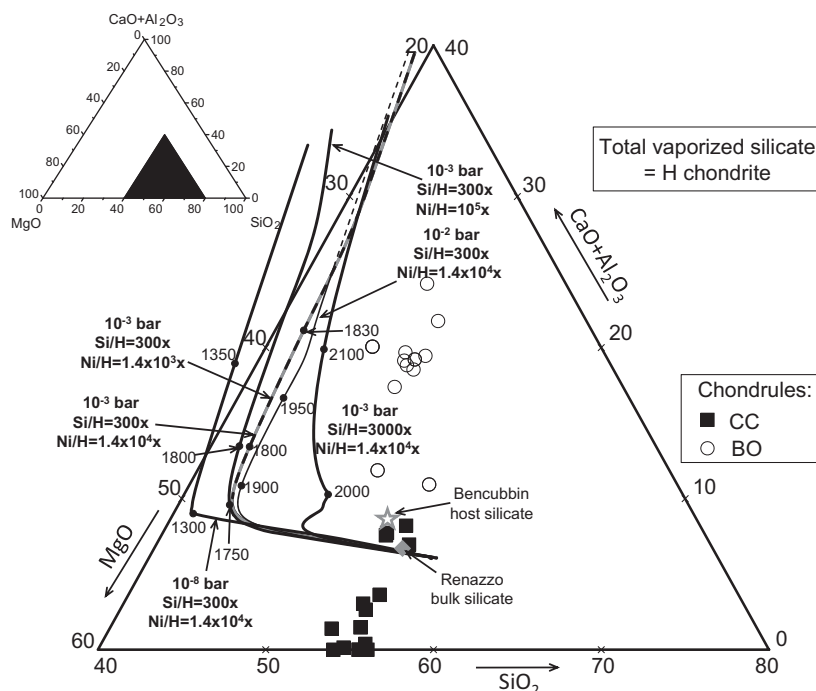


Fig. 4. Curves showing the evolution of the calculated bulk composition (wt%) of the silicate fraction of the condensate in a plume produced by impact between a CR metal body and an H chondrite body at the indicated values of P^{tot} and Ni/H and Si/H enrichments relative to solar composition, compared to bulk analyses of BO and CC chondrules from CB₆ chondrites (Krot et al., 2001a,b). Compositions are normalized to 100% (CaO + Al₂O₃) + MgO + SiO₂. Numbers on the curves are temperatures in K. Dashed portions of the curves are for temperature intervals where the SiO₂ content of the liquid calculated from the MELTS model differs from that predicted by the CMAS model by >2 wt% absolute, and the FeO content of the liquid <0.3 wt%. The curve for $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ bar, Si/H = 300 × solar and Ni/H = $1.4 \times 10^3 \times$ solar is indistinguishable from the curve for the same P^{tot} and Si/H but with Ni/H = $1.4 \times 10^4 \times$ solar. Gray diamond—Renazzo bulk silicate (Mason and Wiik, 1962); star—Bencubbin host silicate (Weisberg et al., 1990).

Accordingly, it was assumed that both of the impacting bodies were CR chondrites that had become differentiated into a core, mantle and crust during the ~5 my time interval between CAI condensation and formation of CB silicates (Krot et al., 2005). The bulk Fe, Ni and Co contents of Renazzo (Mason and Wiik, 1962) were adjusted relative to Si to yield the solar relative proportions of Fe, Ni and Co typical of the average CR chondrite (Kong et al., 1999), and the S content was adjusted downward to yield the S/Fe ratio found by Rubin et al. (2003) for Gujba. The bulk Pd and Ir contents of Renazzo were assumed to be in solar proportion to Ni, as is the case for average CR metal (Kong et al., 1999). Water was assumed to have accreted onto the CR bodies hypothesized here after they differentiated, but prior to their collision. The MELTS model (Ghiorso and Sack, 1995) was applied to the resulting bulk chemical composition of Renazzo (Table 3, column 2). First, to simulate core formation, the equilibrium metal and silicate compositions were calculated at 1900 K, high enough to ensure that metal and silicate phases were liquid, and $\log f_{\text{O}_2} = \text{IW} - 2.5$, chosen to yield silicates with small but non-zero FeO contents. In addition, all of the Pd and Ir in Renazzo were assumed to go into the CR core. Because the MELTS model does not compute the activity of Cr in the metal alloy, the partitioning of Cr between metal and silicate was calculated as in Chabot and Agee (2003). For the present purposes, the metal alloy was assumed to contain no carbon and all of the inventory

of S in the CR body but, because Chabot and Agee (2003) define f_{O_2} differently from MELTS, the f_{O_2} was recalculated from Eq. (1) of Chabot and Agee (2003), using the mole fractions of FeO in the silicate melt and Fe in the liquid metal taken from the MELTS calculation. This calculation resulted in 29.0 wt% core and 71.0 wt% mantle, whose compositions are shown in columns 3 and 4 of Table 3, respectively. The core contains 38% of the total Cr of the CR chondritic body.

MELTS was then applied to the CR mantle composition obtained from this calculation at 1460 K and the same f_{O_2} in order to further differentiate the silicate into crust and residual mantle. At this temperature, 80% of the composition is solid, which was assumed to be the residual mantle (Table 3, column 6), and 20% is liquid, which was assumed to form the crust (Table 3, column 5). The CaO + Al₂O₃ content of the residual mantle is 2.1 wt% and that of the crust is 23.8%, making the residual mantle and crust good candidates for the (CaO + Al₂O₃)-poor and -rich components, respectively.

3.3.1. Condensation conditions for plumes made by impacts between differentiated CR chondrite bodies

Condensation calculations identical to those in Sections 3.1 and 3.2 were performed on vaporized mixtures of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust and residual nebular gas compositions, all of whose compositions are in Table 3. The residual gas composition in Table 3 differs

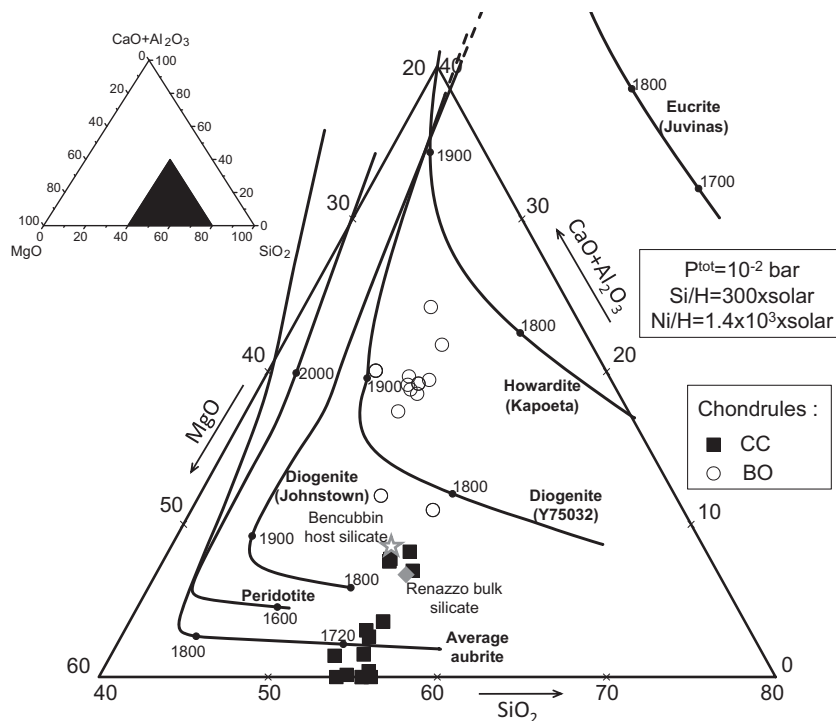


Fig. 5. Evolution of the calculated bulk composition (wt%) of the silicate fraction of the condensate in plumes produced by impact between a CR metal body and bodies with various differentiated silicate compositions at $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-2}$ bar and Ni/H and Si/H enrichments of 1.4×10^3 and 300, respectively, relative to solar composition. There was so little FeO in the aubrite case that the CMAS liquid model was used in the condensation calculation that resulted in the curve shown here. Numbers on the curves, symbols and sources of chondrule analytical data as in Fig. 4.

from that in Table 1 because it is assumed to be complementary to the bulk composition of the CR body (Table 3, column 2). In some calculations, it was also assumed that water was present on the impacting bodies, and that significant amounts of this component were also added to the impact plume. When water was assumed to be present, the residual nebular gas was modified accordingly. Values of P^{tot} and the Ni/H and Si/H enrichments selected for these calculations are based on the results of Sections 3.1 and 3.2. In this model, the impact plume is assumed to be spatially heterogeneous in composition, so the entire range of proportions of CR residual mantle to CR crust was investigated. Shown in Table 3, column 8 is the bulk composition of a plume made from equal proportions of CR residual mantle and CR crust, having Ni/H and Si/H enrichments of 3×10^4 and 500, respectively, relative to solar composition, and containing no water. Shown in the final column is the composition of a plume with the same characteristics, except that the total vaporized silicate was assumed to have contained 20 wt% water. The relative weight proportions of the vaporized components required to make these compositions are given in the footnotes to Table 3.

3.3.2. Metal condensate compositions from a plume made by impact between two differentiated CR bodies

Model metal compositions computed over a wide range of P^{tot} for the plume composition in column 8 of Table 3

are compared to bulk compositions of zoned and unzoned metal grains in CB chondrites in Fig. 6a and b. A curve is also shown for a case identical to the one at 10^{-2} bar except that the Ni/H enrichment was changed to 3×10^3 relative to solar composition. Despite the different compositions of the plume components from those in Fig. 1, the fits of the Pd/Fe and Ir/Fe *vs* Ni/Fe curves for each P^{tot} to the observed metal grain compositions are nearly identical in both Figures. Although not shown, the curves for a case identical to the one at 10^{-3} bar, except that 20 wt% water was added to the total vaporized silicate (Table 3, column 9), lie on top of those for the anhydrous case. Furthermore, although also not shown, the positions of the curves for each value of P^{tot} in Fig. 6 are nearly unchanged when the ratio of CR residual mantle to CR crust varies from one extreme to the other. Once again, the compositions of most of the unzoned grains are fit well by the curves at $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-2}$ and 10^{-3} bar, where their equilibration temperatures imply that they condensed as liquids, while those of most of the zoned grains, particularly their Pd/Fe ratios in Fig. 6a, are fit well at 10^{-5} to 10^{-8} bar, where they condense in the solid state.

Predicted Cr *vs* Ni trends for the condensate metal phase are plotted in Fig. 7a for some of the same conditions as in Fig. 6; namely, for a plume containing equal weight proportions of vaporized CR residual mantle and CR crust, a Si/H enrichment of 500 relative to solar composition and Ni/H enrichments of 3×10^4 and 3×10^3 at $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ and

Table 2

Atomic abundances of differentiated silicate components used in this work, relative to 10^6 Si, and of plumes made from them that are enriched in Ni/H and Si/H by factors of 1.4×10^3 and 300.

	Average aubrite		Juvinas		Kapoeta		Y75032		Johnstown		Peridotite	
	Pure component	Model plume composition ¹	Pure component	Model plume composition ²	Pure component	Model plume composition ³	Pure component	Model plume composition ⁴	Pure component	Model plume composition ⁵	Pure component	Model plume composition ⁶
H	0.000E+00	9.300E+07	0.000E+00	9.300E+07	0.000E+00	9.300E+07	0.000E+00	9.300E+07	0.000E+00	9.300E+07	0.000E+00	9.300E+07
He	0.000E+00	9.067E+06	0.000E+00	9.067E+06	0.000E+00	9.067E+06	0.000E+00	9.067E+06	0.000E+00	9.067E+06	0.000E+00	9.067E+06
C	0.000E+00	2.278E+04	0.000E+00	2.278E+04	0.000E+00	2.278E+04	0.000E+00	2.278E+04	0.000E+00	2.278E+04	0.000E+00	2.278E+04
N	0.000E+00	1.043E+04	0.000E+00	1.043E+04	0.000E+00	1.043E+04	0.000E+00	1.043E+04	0.000E+00	1.043E+04	0.000E+00	1.043E+04
O	3.016E+06	3.050E+06	3.268E+06	3.302E+06	3.201E+06	3.235E+06	3.104E+06	3.138E+06	3.095E+06	3.129E+06	3.719E+06	3.753E+06
Na	6.732E+03	6.774E+03	1.486E+04	1.490E+04	1.064E+04	1.068E+04	3.665E+03	3.707E+03	7.386E+02	7.809E+02	2.172E+03	2.214E+03
Mg	9.654E+05	9.658E+05	2.000E+05	2.004E+05	4.683E+05	4.687E+05	5.890E+05	5.894E+05	7.241E+05	7.245E+05	1.415E+06	1.415E+06
Al	1.862E+04	1.867E+04	3.114E+05	3.115E+05	1.945E+05	1.945E+05	7.575E+04	7.580E+04	3.367E+04	3.373E+04	5.967E+04	5.972E+04
Si	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06
P	0.000E+00	1.385E+01	0.000E+00	1.385E+01	0.000E+00	1.385E+01	0.000E+00	1.385E+01	0.000E+00	1.385E+01	0.000E+00	1.385E+01
S	1.590E+04	1.705E+04	0.000E+00	1.152E+03	0.000E+00	1.152E+03	0.000E+00	1.152E+03	2.864E+03	9.006E+03	0.000E+00	1.152E+03
K	6.644E+02	6.660E+02	7.000E+02	7.017E+02	5.579E+02	5.596E+02	1.688E+02	1.704E+02	2.673E+01	2.835E+01	0.000E+00	1.622E+00
Ca	1.581E+04	1.585E+04	2.395E+05	2.396E+05	1.108E+05	1.108E+05	7.312E+04	7.315E+04	3.735E+04	3.738E+04	4.440E+04	4.444E+04
Ti	6.528E+02	6.528E+02	9.629E+03	9.629E+03	4.485E+03	4.485E+03	3.696E+03	3.696E+03	1.432E+03	1.432E+03	5.054E+02	5.054E+02
Cr	4.118E+02	1.262E+04	4.901E+03	1.714E+04	1.091E+04	2.311E+04	1.031E+04	2.246E+04	1.235E+04	2.460E+04	8.679E+03	2.092E+04
Mn	5.882E+02	5.969E+02	8.866E+03	8.875E+03	8.335E+03	8.344E+03	9.767E+03	9.776E+03	7.809E+03	7.817E+03	0.000E+00	8.725E+00
Fe	7.669E+04	4.258E+06	3.179E+05	4.509E+06	2.910E+05	4.470E+06	2.940E+05	4.452E+06	2.561E+05	4.447E+06	1.549E+05	4.348E+06
Co	0.000E+00	1.045E+04	0.000E+00	1.048E+04	0.000E+00	1.045E+04	0.000E+00	1.040E+04	0.000E+00	1.048E+04	0.000E+00	1.048E+04
Ni	1.066E+03	2.301E+05	0.000E+00	2.296E+05	0.000E+00	2.289E+05	0.000E+00	2.278E+05	0.000E+00	2.297E+05	0.000E+00	2.297E+05
Pd	0.000E+00	6.457E+00	0.000E+00	6.473E+00	0.000E+00	6.454E+00	0.000E+00	6.422E+00	0.000E+00	6.477E+00	0.000E+00	6.475E+00
Ir	0.000E+00	3.071E+00	0.000E+00	3.078E+00	0.000E+00	5.115E+00	0.000E+00	3.054E+00	0.000E+00	3.080E+00	0.000E+00	3.079E+00

¹ 51.1 wt% CR metal + 21.9 wt% average aubrite + 27 wt% of residual nebular gas.² 49.5 wt% CR metal + 24.4 wt% Juvinas + 26.1 wt% of residual nebular gas.³ 49.9 wt% CR metal + 23.8 wt% Kapoeta + 26.4 wt% of residual nebular gas.⁴ 50.1 wt% CR metal + 23.3 wt% Y75032 + 26.6 wt% of residual nebular gas.⁵ 50.5 wt% CR metal + 23 wt% Johnstown + 26.5 wt% of residual nebular gas.⁶ 48.4 wt% CR metal + 26.1 wt% peridotite + 25.5 wt% of residual nebular gas.

Table 3
Relative atomic abundances used in the impact vaporization model of a differentiated CR chondrite body.

1 Element	2 Bulk composition of CR body ¹	3 CR core ²	4 CR mantle ²	5 CR crust ²	6 Residual CR mantle ²	7 Residual nebular gas ³	8 Model plume comp. w/o water ⁴	9 Model plume comp. w/ 20% water ⁵
H	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	2.790E+10	5.580E+07	5.580E+07
He	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	2.720E+09	5.440E+06	5.140E+06
C	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	6.636E+06	1.327E+04	1.254E+04
N	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	3.122E+06	6.245E+03	5.900E+03
O	3.746E+06	0.000E+00	3.348E+06	3.008E+06	3.444E+06	9.353E+06	3.228E+06	4.769E+06
Na	3.168E+04	0.000E+00	3.171E+04	1.427E+05	5.564E+02	0.000E+00	7.707E+04	7.707E+04
Mg	1.047E+06	0.000E+00	1.048E+06	1.910E+05	1.288E+06	0.000E+00	6.974E+05	6.974E+05
Al	8.230E+04	0.000E+00	8.232E+04	2.801E+05	2.681E+04	0.000E+00	1.632E+05	1.632E+05
Si	1.000E+06	0.000E+00	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	1.000E+06	0.000E+00	1.000E+06	1.000E+06
P	6.882E+03	0.000E+00	7.010E+03	2.567E+04	1.772E+03	3.518E+03	1.464E+04	1.464E+04
S	1.165E+04	1.232E+04	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	4.341E+05	7.012E+05	6.993E+05
K	1.363E+03	0.000E+00	1.547E+03	7.018E+03	1.063E+01	0.000E+00	3.783E+03	3.783E+03
Ca	5.629E+04	0.000E+00	5.640E+04	1.836E+05	2.067E+04	0.000E+00	1.084E+05	1.084E+05
Ti	4.080E+03	0.000E+00	4.114E+03	1.487E+04	1.094E+03	0.000E+00	8.512E+03	8.512E+03
Cr	1.298E+04	4.807E+03	1.562E+04	1.646E+03	1.969E+04	0.000E+00	2.833E+05	2.825E+05
Mn	5.820E+03	0.000E+00	6.011E+03	2.728E+04	4.132E+01	0.000E+00	1.471E+04	1.471E+04
Fe	9.000E+05	9.000E+05	4.916E+04	1.509E+04	5.872E+04	0.000E+00	5.120E+07	5.107E+07
Co	3.436E+03	3.636E+03	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	2.067E+05	2.062E+05
Ni	4.929E+04	5.214E+04	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	2.965E+06	2.957E+06
Pd	1.390E+00	1.470E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	8.358E+01	8.336E+01
Ir	6.608E–01	6.991E–01	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	0.000E+00	3.975E+01	3.964E+01

¹ Renazzo composition of [Weisberg et al. \(1993\)](#), modified as in text.

² See text.

³ See text.

⁴ 94.2 wt% CR core + 1.7 wt% residual CR mantle + 1.7% wt% CR crust + 2.4 wt% of residual nebular gas to yield Ni/H = 3×10^4 and Si/H = 500 times their solar values, respectively.

⁵ 93.5 wt% CR core + 1.68 wt% residual CR mantle + 1.68 wt% CR crust + 0.84 wt% water + 2.3 wt% of residual nebular gas to yield Ni/H = 3×10^4 and Si/H = 500 times their solar values, respectively.

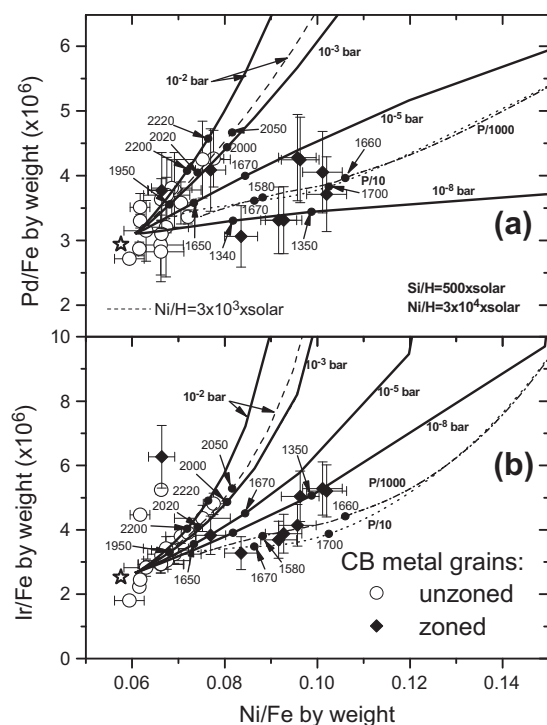


Fig. 6. Computed variation of the bulk (a) Pd/Fe and (b) Ir/Fe ratio with the bulk Ni/Fe ratio for metal grains that condense at equilibrium from a vaporized mixture of CR core, residual nebular gas, and equal weight proportions of CR crust and residual CR mantle, having enrichments in Ni/H and Si/H of 3×10^4 and 500, respectively, relative to solar composition for the total pressures shown. A second curve for 10^{-2} bar at a Ni/H enrichment of 3×10^3 is also shown. When 20 wt% water is added to the total vaporized silicate, the positions of these curves are nearly unchanged. Curves labeled P/10 and P/1000 are bulk composition variations for zoned grains that condense from a gas with Ni/H and Si/H enrichments of 2.5×10^3 and 500, respectively, when 20 wt% water is added to the total vaporized silicate, calculated using a kinetic model (see Section 3.4) at two different rates of decline of P^{tot} with temperature, i.e., by factors of 10 and 10^3 over 500 K. Theoretical curves are compared to the same measured data as in Fig. 1. Numbers and symbols as in Fig. 1.

10^{-2} bar, respectively. The 10^{-3} bar case of Fig. 7a was explored over a wide range of CR mantle/CR crust ratios, and the results are plotted in Fig. 7b. The same cases as in Fig. 7a and b were run with the addition of 20 wt% water to the total silicate. In all cases, the calculated Ni content of condensate metal falls with falling temperature, while the Cr content increases, first very gradually and then more steeply, and then decreases due to the onset of co-condensation of Cr-rich spinel. In Fig. 7a, it is seen that the Cr vs Ni trend for the 10^{-3} bar case is displaced to lower Cr contents than that at 10^{-2} bar. The Cr vs Ni trends are insensitive to the relative proportions of CR crust and CR mantle (Fig. 7b). Curves for the cases with water added, though not shown, are nearly identical to the anhydrous cases. Although the Cr content of the coexisting silicate increases by a factor of 20 in the presence of water, the

apparent insensitivity of the Cr concentration in the metal to the water abundance is due to the very low absolute Cr concentration in the silicate. Most Cr is still gaseous for Ni concentrations >6.2 wt% in Fig. 7, as the temperature is above 1600 K for this composition range.

For comparison in Fig. 7, bulk Cr and Ni contents are plotted only for subsets of the same, unzoned and zoned metal grains as in the previous figures. For the unzoned metal grains, this is because Campbell et al. (2002) measured Cr only in those from Bencubbin. For the zoned grains, only those for which electron microprobe data were obtained were used for radial averaging, as those data were of significantly higher precision than the LA-ICP-MS data (Campbell et al., 2001). For the unzoned grains, a wide range of Cr contents exists for a given Ni content, so it is impossible for a single curve to fit all the compositions. In Fig. 7a and b, it is seen that curves calculated for conditions that produce good fits to the Pd and Ir data for unzoned grains in Fig. 6a and b yield only fair fits to the Cr vs Ni data for both the unzoned and zoned grains.

3.3.3. Condensation of silicates from a plume made by impact between two differentiated CR bodies

At conditions that produce good agreement between computed metal grain compositions and those observed for unzoned metal grains in Fig. 6, the silicate condensation sequence is relatively insensitive to P^{tot} and Ni/H enrichment but does vary in a significant way with the Si/H enrichment. This is because, in hydrogen-containing systems enriched in silicate dust, evaporation of condensed MgO and SiO₂ releases free oxygen, increasing the oxygen fugacity, f_{O_2} , in proportion to the dust enrichment. This is clearly seen in Fig. 8. In it, the $\log f_{\text{O}_2}$ relative to the iron-wüstite (IW) buffer is plotted against temperature for enrichments of the Si/H ratio relative to solar composition of 300, 500 and 1.5×10^3 at a P^{tot} of 10^{-3} bar and a Ni/H enrichment of 3×10^4 for a plume containing residual nebular gas, CR core and vaporized silicate that consists of equal proportions of CR mantle and CR crust. $\log f_{\text{O}_2}$ is always highest at high temperature, reaching IW-2.95, IW-2.5 and IW-1.5 at Si/H enrichments of 300, 500 and 1500, respectively. In each case, however, $\log f_{\text{O}_2}$ decreases sharply with falling temperature as free oxygen is consumed by recombination with gaseous Mg and SiO during recondensation of magnesium silicates. Also shown on Fig. 8 are the f_{O_2} variations for cases identical to those shown for Si/H enrichments of 300 and 500, except that 15 and 20 wt% water, respectively, was added to the silicates. Note that, compared to their respective anhydrous cases, water addition not only increases the maximum f_{O_2} at 2100 K by ~ 0.5 log unit, but also significantly diminishes the rate of decline of f_{O_2} with decreasing temperature. At 1500 K, for example, addition of these amounts of water increases the f_{O_2} by 1.1 and 1.7 log units for the 300 and 500 Si/H enrichment cases, respectively. Thus, impact plumes to which significant amounts of water have been added remain more oxidizing during cooling than anhydrous plumes because a smaller fraction of the oxidizing agent becomes sequestered in condensates.

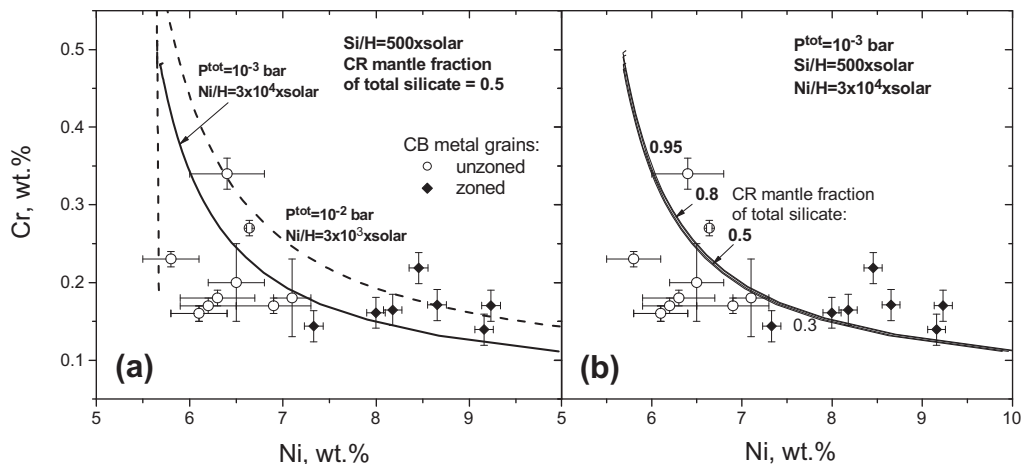


Fig. 7. Curves showing the computed variation of Cr *vs* Ni contents of metal grains that condense from a vaporized mixture of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust, and residual nebular gas. The Si/H enrichment is 500 relative to solar composition in all cases, and the Ni/H enrichment is 3×10^4 except in the 10^{-2} bar case in (a), where it is 3×10^3 . The weight proportions of CR crust to residual CR mantle are 1:1 in (a), but are variable in (b). Ni contents decrease with decreasing temperature. Also plotted for comparison are bulk compositions of unzoned metal grains in Bencubbin (Campbell et al., 2002) and zoned metal grains in QUE (Campbell et al., 2001).

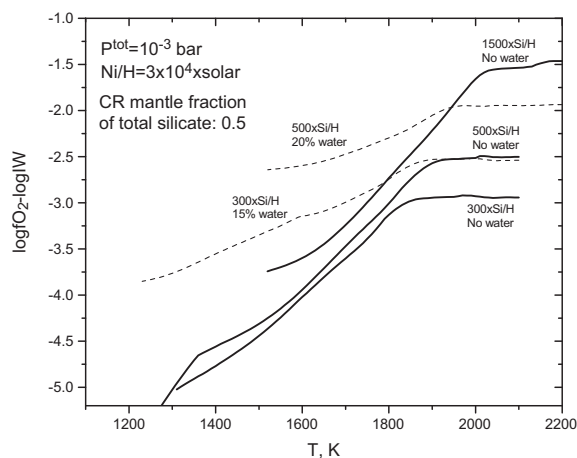


Fig. 8. Evolution of oxygen fugacity relative to the iron-wüstite buffer (IW) as a function of temperature during condensation of a vaporized mixture of residual nebular gas, CR core and vaporized silicate that consists of equal proportions of residual CR mantle and CR crust at a P^{tot} of 10^{-3} bar and a Ni/H enrichment of 3×10^4 relative to solar composition at Si/H enrichments of 300, 500 and 1.5×10^3 relative to solar composition. Also shown are curves for the 300 and 500 Si/H cases when 15 and 20 wt% water, respectively, is added to the total vaporized silicates.

3.3.4. Composition of silicate condensates from a plume made by impact between two differentiated CR bodies

3.3.4.1. Models for BO chondrule compositions. Shown in Fig. 9a is the variation in bulk chemical composition of the bulk silicate assemblage that would condense at equilibrium from plume regions consisting of mixtures of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust and residual nebular gas in which the relative contributions of CR mantle and CR crust to the total silicate are varied. Conditions selected are those that give good fits to the unzoned grain compositions shown in Fig. 6; namely, P^{tot} of 10^{-3} bar and constant

enrichments of Ni/H and Si/H of 3×10^4 and 500, respectively, relative to solar composition. For some mixtures, curves are also shown for identical cases except that 20 wt% water was added to the total vaporized silicate, yielding a mass ratio of water/silicate of 0.25. As the relative contributions of CR crust and residual CR mantle to the total Si/H enrichment vary, it is seen that a family of condensation paths is generated. As usual, all begin at high concentrations of $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ at high temperature, head toward the MgO corner as temperature falls, and finally increase their SiO_2 content sharply. As the CR mantle/total silicate ratio increases in the plume, however, the condensation paths begin their sharp increases in SiO_2 at progressively higher $\text{MgO}/(\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3)$ ratios, causing them to intersect the band of chondrule compositions at progressively lower $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ contents. As a result, BO chondrule compositions lie along condensation paths for which the CR mantle contribution to the total silicate is $\sim 40\text{--}70\%$, while many CC chondrule compositions lie along paths where the CR mantle contribution is $75\text{--}100\%$. Equilibrium condensation in plume regions in which the CR mantle fraction of the total vaporized silicate $< 40\%$ cannot produce droplets with the compositions of chondrules in CB chondrites. It is also seen that, in the vicinity of the diagram where the curves cut across the array of chondrule compositions, the presence or absence of added water has little effect on the trajectories.

The calculated variation of the FeO content of the bulk silicate with its SiO_2 content is shown in Fig. 9b for some of the same plume compositions and the same P^{tot} as in Fig. 9a, as well as for a case in which the CR mantle fraction of the total silicate is only 0.5, the Si/H enrichment is 1500 relative to solar composition, and there is no added water. Shown for comparison are the bulk compositions of the same BO and CC chondrules as in Fig. 9a. The plotted error bars are the maximum analytical errors cited by Krot et al. (2001b) for their defocused electron beam

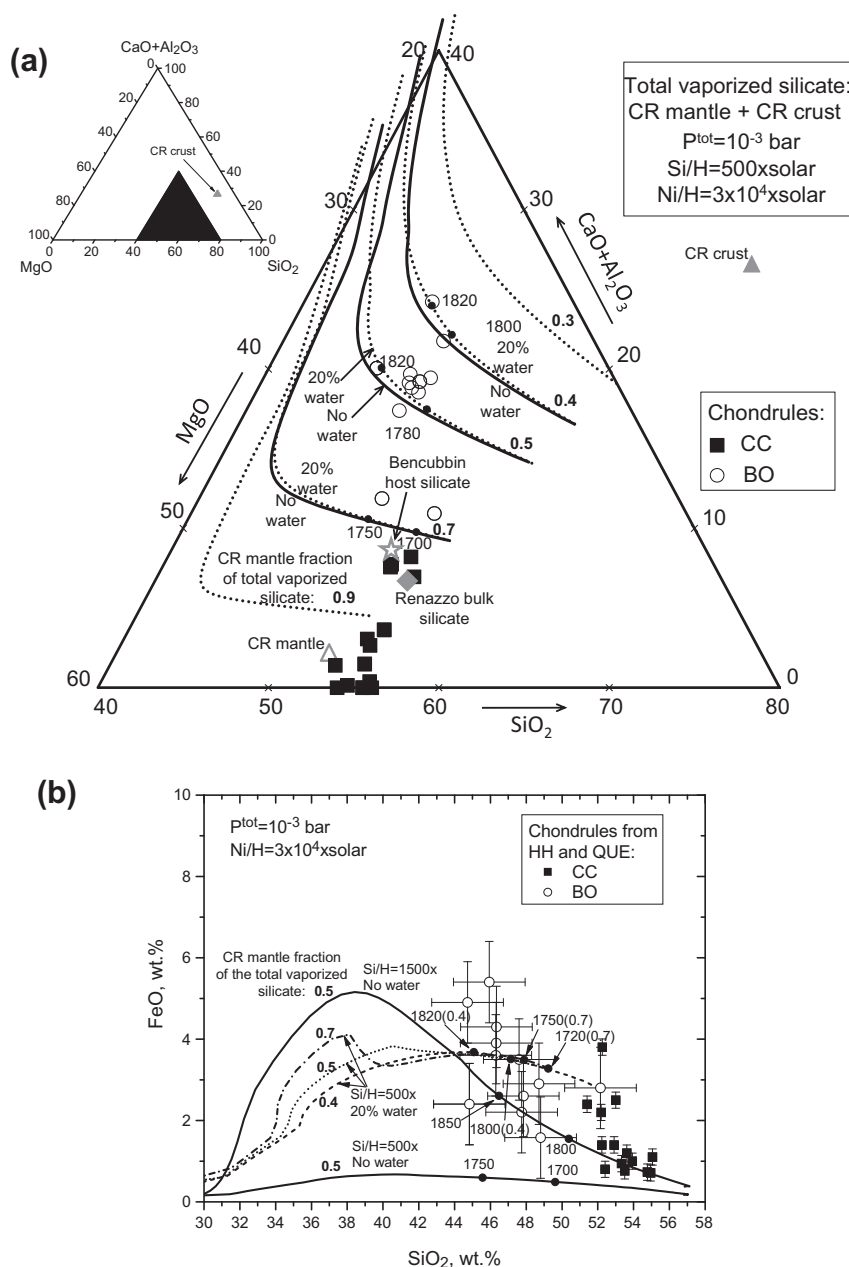


Fig. 9. Curves showing evolution of the calculated bulk composition (wt%) of the silicate fraction of the condensate in plumes produced by impact vaporization of a mixture of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust, residual nebular gas and, in some cases, water (a) normalized to 100% ($\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$) + MgO + SiO_2 , and (b) as wt% FeO vs wt% SiO_2 . All cases shown are for $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ bar and Si/H and Ni/H enrichments of 500 and 3×10^4 , respectively, relative to solar composition, except for one case in (b) at a Si/H enrichment of 1500. Curves are shown for the indicated weight ratios of vaporized mantle/total vaporized silicate. Solid curves labeled “No water” are those for plumes to which no water has been added, and broken curves labeled “20% water” are for plume compositions to which 20 g of water have been added for every 80 g of total silicate. Note that the evolutionary paths in (a) are very close to one another for a given mantle fraction whether or not water is added to the plume, but that the FeO content of the condensate in (b) is strongly dependent on the water abundance. BO chondrule compositions are best fit on (a) and (b) in plume regions where vaporized mantle composes 40–70 wt% of the total vaporized silicate. Calculated compositions of CR mantle and CR crust are shown by open and filled triangles, respectively. Numbers on curves, sources of chondrule analytical data and other symbols as in Fig. 4. In (b), numbers in parentheses are mantle fractions.

analyses; those for BO chondrules are much larger than for CC chondrules.

Note that, when the Si/H enrichment is 500, the CR mantle fraction of the total silicate is 0.5 and there is no

added water, *i.e.*, one of the cases that passes very close to the main cluster of BO chondrule compositions in Fig. 9a, the bulk FeO content of the chondrule rises slightly, reaches a broad maximum of ~ 0.7 wt% and then

gradually declines with progressively greater SiO_2 content. As a result, the curve misses not only the FeO contents of the BO chondrules to the low side in Fig. 9b but also the even lower FeO contents of the CC chondrules. When a higher Si/H enrichment, 1500 relative to solar composition, is used to increase the f_{O_2} without adding water to the mix, the FeO content of the bulk silicate increases sharply, reaches a maximum of 5 wt% and then declines with increasing SiO_2 content, passing through the composition field of the BO chondrules and ultimately entering the CC chondrule field as it does so. Agreement between the model predictions for these conditions and the chondrule compositions is an illusion, however. The decrease in FeO content from its peak level is not solely due to dilution by condensing SiO_2 . In fact, 85% of the FeO that was present in the droplet at 40 wt% SiO_2 undergoes reduction to metallic iron with falling temperature due to the aforementioned tendency of dust-enriched systems to become much more reducing with falling temperature. This process would have led to formation of several wt% metallic iron beads within these partially molten droplets. Such beads have never been observed inside the chondrules of CB_b chondrites.

As discussed in relation to Fig. 8 in Section 3.3.3, however, this process is overcome by addition of water to the plume in an amount that is large in comparison to the amount of oxygen released by evaporation of the silicates. In Fig. 9b, for example, results are shown for three cases spanning the range of CR mantle/total silicate ratios that pass through the cluster of BO chondrule compositions in Fig. 9a for a Si/H enrichment of 500 relative to solar composition and for which 20 wt% water was added to the total vaporized silicate. The FeO content of the bulk silicate rises to ~3.7 wt% with increasing SiO_2 concentration and passes through the field of BO chondrule compositions without any reduction of FeO with falling temperature.

Fractionation of an early, high-temperature condensate was investigated under these conditions for a plume in which the CR mantle fraction of the total silicate is 0.4. In this case, removal from further chemical communication with the vapor of 0–100% of the Ca-, Al-rich condensate that forms at 2040 K yields a family of condensation trajectories that passes through the entire range of chondrule compositions on Fig. 10a and also matches the compositions of the BO chondrules on the FeO– SiO_2 plot, Fig. 10b. It is important to note that the agreement between predicted and observed FeO contents on Fig. 10b occurs in the absence of FeO reduction and in the same temperature range, 1800–1850 K, as the match between predicted and observed compositions on Fig. 10a. Note that removal of high-temperature condensates from any plume region for which the CR mantle fraction of the total silicate ≤ 0.4 will produce good matches to BO chondrule compositions but, for any mantle fraction > 0.4 , this mechanism can account only for those chondrules whose $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ contents lie below the curve for that mantle fraction on Fig. 9a.

3.3.4.2. Models for CC chondrule compositions. In Fig. 11a, curves analogous to those in Fig. 9a are shown for a plume with the same components in the same proportions and P^{tot} as in that Figure, except that the Si/H enrichment is only

300 relative to solar composition. As in Fig. 9a, it is seen that curves for cases of water addition, but in an amount equal to only 15 wt% of the total vaporized silicates, yielding a water/silicate ratio of 0.176, are indistinguishable from analogous cases for which no water was added, and that the condensation trajectories for regions of the plume in which the CR mantle fraction of the total silicate ≥ 0.75 come closest to matching CC chondrule compositions. In Fig. 11b, curves for this combination of Si/H enrichment and water content also come very close to the field of CC chondrules, and no reduction of FeO occurs along the way. The only discrepancy between the model curves for these conditions and the CC chondrule compositions is that the model curves are slightly low in SiO_2 , reaching ~52 wt%, while the chondrules range from 52 to 55 wt% SiO_2 .

In Fig. 11a, for a CR mantle/total silicate ratio of 0.4, note that the BO chondrule with the highest $\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ lies very close to the condensation trajectory at 1750 K. In Fig. 12a and b, it is seen that 95–99% removal of that particular condensate composition from further chemical communication with the gas generates composition trajectories of lower-temperature condensates that extend to higher SiO_2 contents than the curves in Fig. 11a and b, thus passing directly through the compositions of almost all CC chondrules in the temperature range 1710–1720 K, again in the absence of reduction. This is reminiscent of the scenario envisioned by Krot et al. (2001a), who proposed that CC chondrules formed by condensation of the vapor remaining after condensation of BO chondrules, except that the high-temperature condensate that was removed contains only 1 wt% FeO, lower than the lowest-FeO BO chondrule.

Satisfactory matches to the range of chondrule compositions found in CB chondrites can be attained by condensation of partially molten silicates from plume regions made by impact vaporization of differentiated CR bodies. For the entire range of BO chondrule compositions, the best matches found here are for Si/H enrichments of 500 relative to solar composition and a mass ratio of vaporized water to vaporized silicate of 0.25 (Fig. 9), either from regions whose CR mantle/total vaporized silicate ratios range from 0.4–0.7 or after sequestration of variable amounts of high-temperature, Ca-, Al-rich condensates from an initially homogeneous region in which the CR mantle contribution to the total vaporized silicate ≤ 40 wt%. For the entire range of CC chondrule compositions, the best matches found are for Si/H enrichments of 300 relative to solar composition and a mass ratio of water to vaporized silicate of 0.176, following sequestration of high-temperature condensates from an initially homogeneous region in which the CR mantle contribution to the total vaporized silicate ≤ 40 wt% (Fig. 12).

3.4. Kinetically controlled condensation of metal grains

3.4.1. Elemental zoning

The kinetic evaporation-recondensation model of Fedkin et al. (2012) was applied to a plume composition consisting of equal parts CR mantle and CR crust at

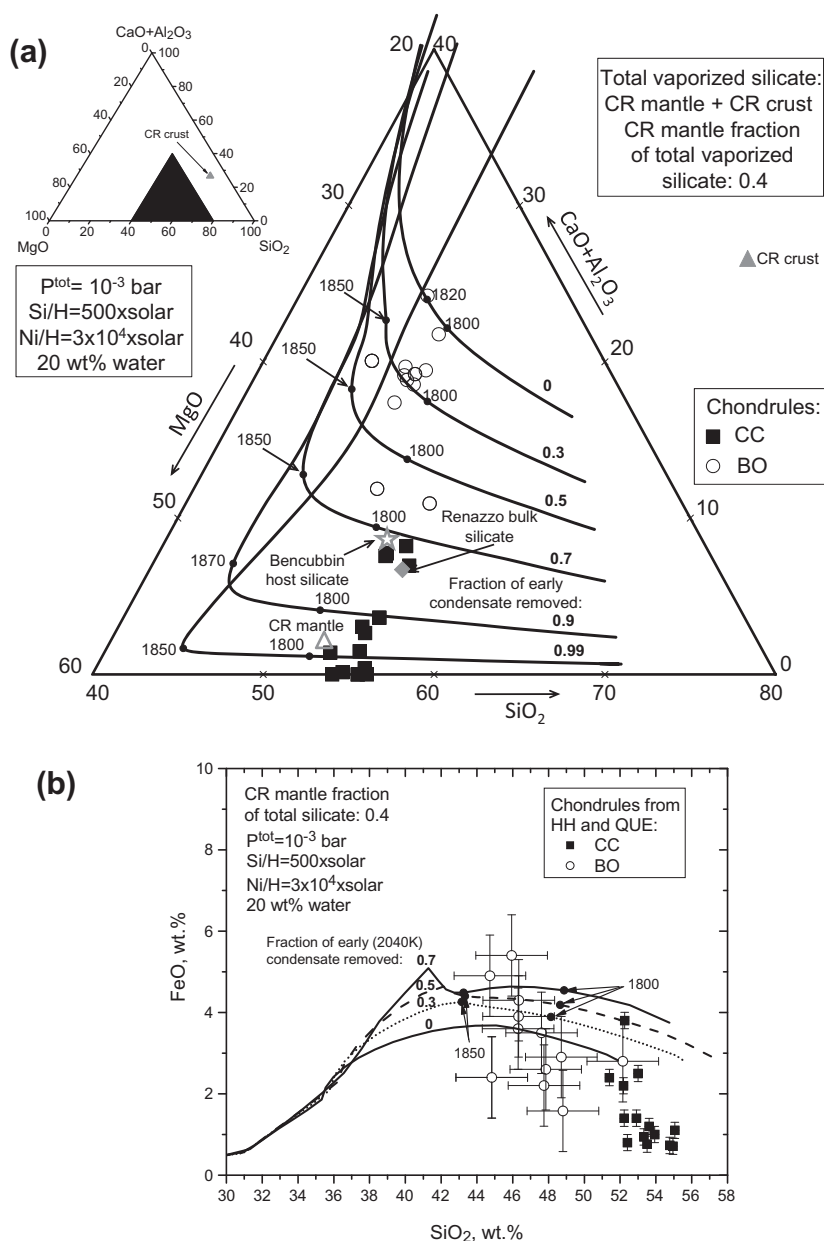


Fig. 10. Curves showing the evolution of the calculated bulk composition (wt%) of the silicate fraction of the condensate in plumes produced by impact vaporization of a mixture of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust, residual nebular gas and water (a) normalized to 100% $(\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3) + \text{MgO} + \text{SiO}_2$, and (b) as wt% FeO vs wt% SiO_2 , showing the effect of removal of the high-temperature condensate assemblage that forms at 2040 K. All cases shown are for $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ bar, Si/H and Ni/H enrichments of 500 and 3×10^4 , respectively, relative to solar composition, and CR mantle/total silicate and water/total silicate weight ratios of 0.4 and 0.25, respectively. Curves are shown for removal of the different fractions of the early condensate indicated. Note that BO chondrule compositions are best fit on both (a) and (b) at ~ 1820 K after removal of 0–70% of the early condensate. Numbers, sources of chondrule analytical data and symbols as in Fig. 9.

various combinations of P^{tot} , cooling rate, degrees of sub-cooling of silicate and metal condensates, and enrichments in Ni/H and Si/H ratios relative to solar values. Metal alloy condensate compositions are relatively insensitive to the specific mixture of silicate components in the impact plume, as the relative siderophile element abundances in the plume are dominated by those of the CR core component. Because Ir is so much more refractory than Fe, equilibrium condensate alloys will have much larger Ir enrichments in their

cores than are observed in the zoned metal grains. As recognized by Campbell et al. (2001), the way to alleviate this problem is by supersaturation of the gas. Because these are such iron-rich systems, the model silicate droplet always becomes an order of magnitude more FeO -rich at relatively low H abundances, or metallic Fe-rich at relatively high H abundances, than chondrules in CB chondrites, whenever the silicate droplet is present at the temperature of appearance of the metal grains. Delaying silicate condensation to a

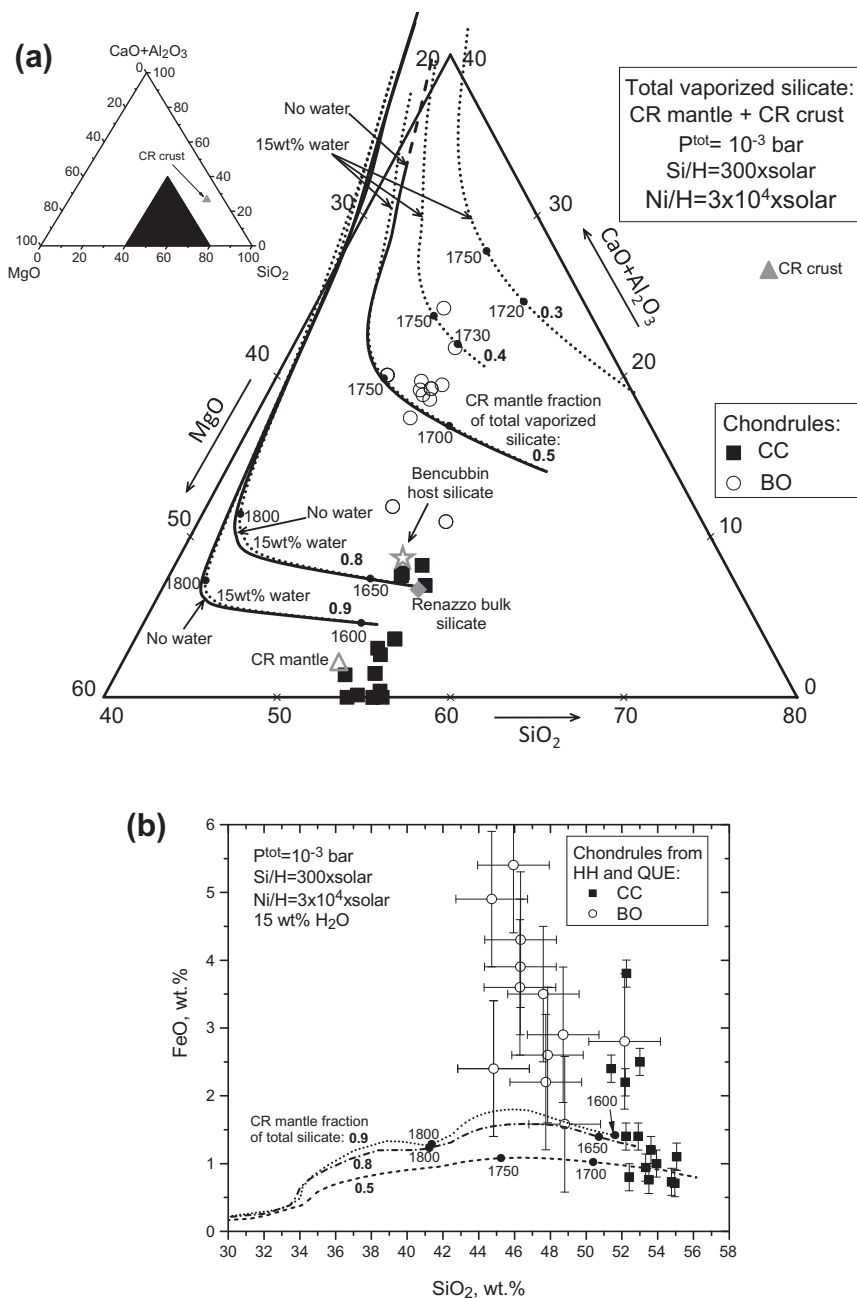


Fig. 11. Curves showing the evolution of the calculated bulk composition (wt%) of the silicate fraction of the condensate in plumes produced by impact vaporization of a mixture of CR core, CR residual mantle, CR crust, residual nebular gas and, in some cases, water (a) normalized to 100% ($\text{CaO} + \text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$) + $\text{MgO} + \text{SiO}_2$, and (b) as wt% FeO vs wt% SiO_2 . All cases shown are for $P^{\text{tot}} = 10^{-3}$ bar and Si/H and Ni/H enrichments of 300 and 3×10^4 , respectively, relative to solar composition. Curves are shown for different weight ratios of vaporized mantle/total vaporized silicate. Broken curves labeled "15% water" are for plume compositions to which 15 g of water have been added for every 85 g of total silicate. Note that the evolutionary paths for a given mantle fraction in (a) are very close to one another whether or not water is added to the plume, but the FeO content of the condensate is strongly dependent on the water abundance. CC chondrule compositions are best fit on (a) in plume regions where CR mantle ≥ 75 wt% of the total vaporized silicate. Labels, numbers, sources of chondrule analytical data and symbols as in Fig. 9.

temperature well below the onset of metal condensation circumvents this problem.

Profiles of Ir, Ni, Co and Cr concentrations calculated for condensate metal grains are compared to profiles of the same elements measured by Campbell et al. (2001) in

zoned metal grains #1, 2 and 4 from QUE in Fig. 13a, b, c and d, respectively. The geometric mid-point of each measured profile is offset from the point of highest Ir concentration, so distance along the profiles was measured from the Ir peak. Because the three grains

vaporized silicate. P^{tot} is 1.6×10^{-4} bar at the metal nucleation temperature, but $\log P^{\text{tot}}$ varies linearly with $1/T$ such that P^{tot} is either 10 times (hereafter referred to as the P/10 case) or 1000 times (the P/1000 case) lower after 500 K of cooling. Model parameters included a cooling rate of 50 K/h, a metal nucleation temperature of 1740 K and delay of silicate condensation until 1665 K. The assumed metal alloy nucleation temperature is 101 K and 146 K below the equilibrium condensation temperature of pure Ir (hereafter referred to as ΔT) for the P/10 and P/1000 cases, respectively. It is not known whether the selected rate of decline of temperature or pressure, the degree of metal supersaturation or the delay of the silicate liquid nucleation temperature are appropriate for the dynamical environment of a shock-generated vapor plume expanding rapidly into a relatively low-pressure ambient gas. The bulk composition of the system is seen to be close to plume compositions that produce very good agreement with compositions of unzoned metal grains in Fig. 6 but most of the condensation occurs at considerably lower P^{tot} than was employed to model the unzoned grains. In the present cases, both ending at 1238 K, it is seen that both curves fit well the observed Ir and Ni profiles in Fig. 13, including the sizes

of the central peaks. Both cases systematically underestimate the Co concentrations, but only by relatively small amounts. The P/10 case is low in Co by 12–15%, and the P/1000 case by only <10%. The models capture well the flatness that characterizes the observed Cr profiles from the centers of the grains outwards to 75% of their radii, and the upturn in Cr concentrations in the outer 25%. The P/10 case overestimates the steepening of the upturns at the edges by a large amount but the P/1000 case fits them well. The Cr concentrations at the edges are ~ 2.7 and ~ 1.9 times the central values in the P/10 and P/1000 cases, respectively, compared to 1.6–2.1 times in the measured grains. Increasing P^{tot} or Ni/H enrichment by a factor of 3 or more would cause metal to nucleate above its solidus, leading to homogeneous grains. Decreasing P^{tot} or Ni/H enrichment would result in smaller central peaks and shallower profiles for Ir, Ni and Co, as would higher cooling rates and larger ΔT . Smaller ΔT would yield higher central peaks and steeper profiles.

The reason for the steepening of the computed Cr profile at the edge of the grain is that Cr is more volatile than Fe, causing the Cr concentration to build up relative to Fe at relatively low temperature. This steepening is much less

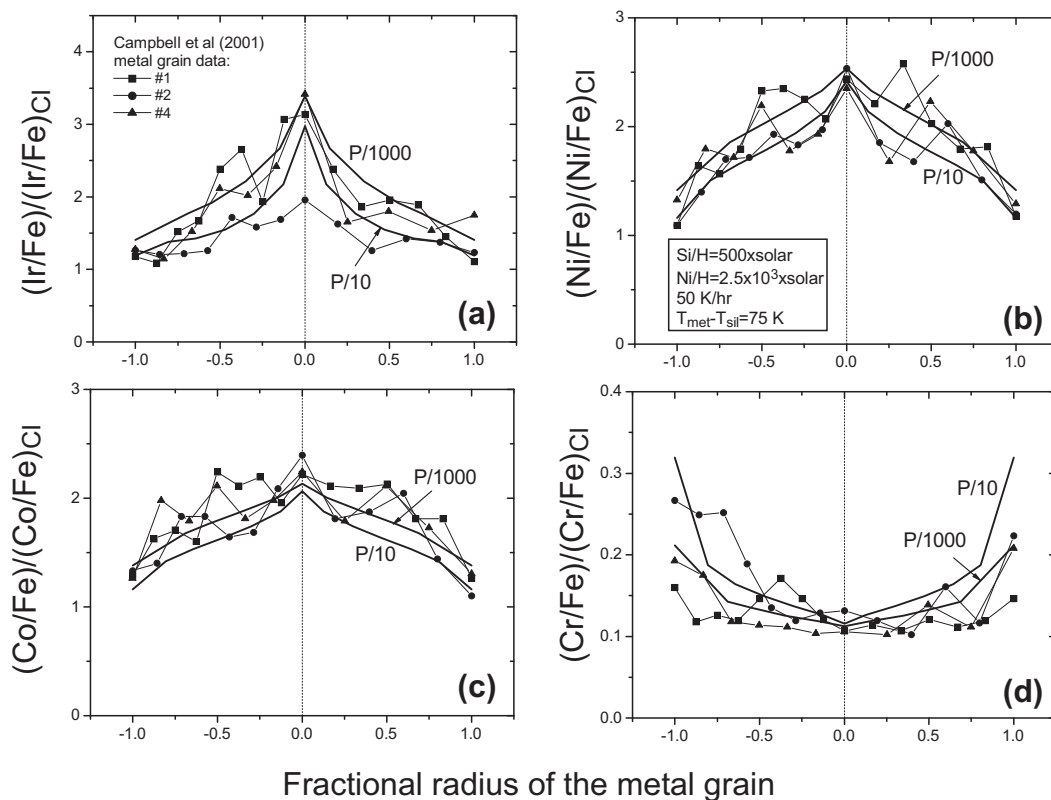


Fig. 13. Computed variation (curves with no data points) of CI chondrite-normalized (a) Ir/Fe, (b) Ni/Fe, (c) Co/Fe and (d) Cr/Fe ratios with distance from the center (most Ir-rich point) of a condensate metal alloy grain, compared to profiles measured by LA-ICP-MS across three metal grains in QUE (curves with data points). In the model, grain growth is controlled by the kinetic theory of gases, as expressed by the Hertz–Knudsen equation. P^{tot} was assumed to be 1.6×10^{-4} bar at the metal nucleation temperature, and to fall by factors of ten (P/10) and one thousand (P/1000) over the next 500 K. The gas was assumed to cool at 50 K/h, and to be supersaturated in siderophiles until the grain nucleated 101 K (P/10) or 146 K (P/1000) below the equilibrium condensation temperature of pure Ir. Continuous profiles predicted by theory were divided into 30 μm sections over which the compositions were averaged in order to match the spatial resolution of the analytical data. These averages are joined by line segments to generate the theoretical profiles on the plot.

extreme for the P/1000 case than for the P/10 one, making the P/1000 case a much better fit to the measured profiles, because of the much greater rate of decline of P^{tot} for the P/1000 case. This results in a lower condensation rate at each temperature by an amount that increases with falling temperature, and in less complete condensation by the time a given temperature is reached than in the P/10 case. Because of their relative volatilities, the reduction in the degree of condensation is greater for Cr than for Fe. At 1238 K, for example, 99.9% of the Fe and 99.3% of the Cr are condensed in the P/10 case but only 73% of the Fe and 49% of the Cr are condensed in the P/1000 case.

The evolution with temperature of the bulk chemical compositions of the zoned grains was computed by integration of the compositions of their successive shells for both the P/10 and P/1000 models. The resulting trajectories of Pd/Fe and Ir/Fe *vs* Ni/Fe ratios are plotted on Fig. 6a and b, respectively. It is seen that the composition paths traverse the field of the bulk compositions of the zoned grains. At 1238 K, the final temperature of both model calculations, the bulk composition of the zoned metal grain in the P/10 model reaches the point of convergence of all the plotted equilibrium curves, which is the limit of total condensation of all the plotted elements. For the P/1000 model, however, P^{tot} is so low at the end of the calculation that condensation has effectively ceased before complete condensation, so the low-temperature end of the curve is the final bulk composition of the grain. The bulk compositions computed for the measured grains suggest that many stopped growing before total condensation of these elements.

3.4.2. Fe and Ni isotopic zoning

The kinetically produced iron and nickel isotopic zonation trends computed for the model condensate metal alloy grains in Fig. 13 are shown in Fig. 14a and b, plots of $^{56}\text{Fe}/^{54}\text{Fe}$ and $^{60}\text{Ni}/^{58}\text{Ni}$ ratios, expressed as $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$, respectively, *vs* distance from the center of the grain. In this Figure, the computed, continuous isotopic profiles were discretized into 30 μm -sized bins by the same procedure as used above for the concentration profiles. In both cases, $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ are -18.0 and -16.8‰ , respectively, at the center and become progressively more positive toward the edge. Sequestration of light isotopes in the interior of the grain causes $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ of the coexisting vapor and, consequently, of the later-formed metal, to become progressively isotopically heavier as the temperature falls. In the P/10 case, the grain reaches 192 μm in radius, $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ in the outermost 27 μm of the grain are $+20.2$ and $+38.4\text{‰}$, respectively, and the bulk $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ of the whole grain are -1.4 and -0.86‰ , respectively. Because less Fe condenses in the P/1000 case, the grain radius reaches only 172 μm , $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ in the outermost 37 μm are -4.0 and $+7.0\text{‰}$, and the bulk $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ of the grain are -9.4 and -5.4‰ , respectively. In both cases, the greater increase in $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ compared to $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ with increasing radius is due to the fact that Ni is more refractory than Fe, so Ni is more completely condensed than Fe at any particular

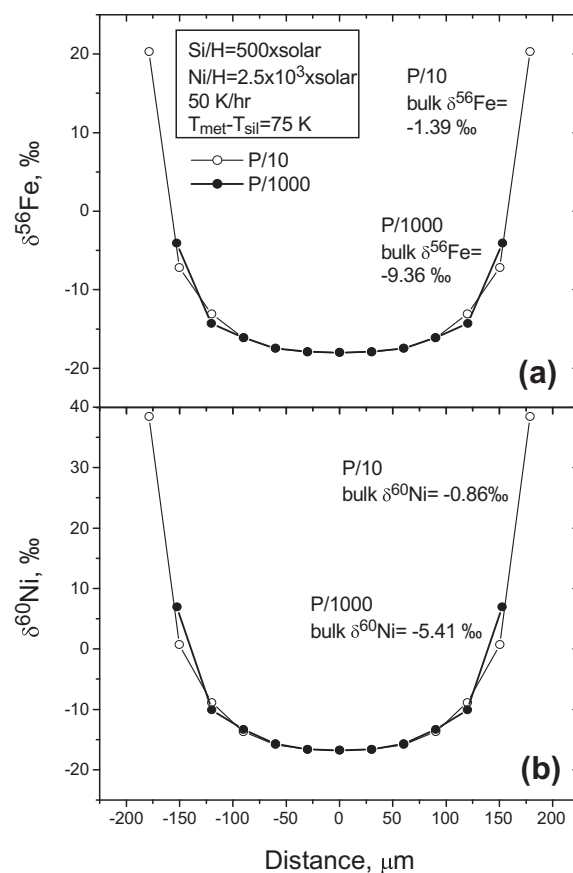


Fig. 14. Computed variation of (a) $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and (b) $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ with distance from the center of the same model condensate metal grains as in Fig. 13. The temperature interval for metal condensation is the same in both models, but the condensation rates are higher for the P/10 thermal history, resulting in more complete condensation, and a larger grain with less negative bulk $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ than in the P/1000 case. Continuous profiles predicted by theory were divided into 30 μm sections over which the compositions were averaged, as in Fig. 13.

temperature. Although Fe and Ni isotopic measurements are unavailable for any of the grains in Fig. 13, calculated profiles have core-rim variations similar to the ~ 16 and $\sim 15\text{‰}$ variations in $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$, respectively, reported by Alexander and Hewins (2004) from an HH grain, but somewhat greater than the ~ 10 and $\sim 8\text{‰}$ core-rim variations in $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$, respectively, seen by Richter et al. (2014) for grains in HH and MAC, and the 5.3‰ range in $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ found by Zipfel and Weyer (2007) in an HH grain. Richter et al. (2014) found almost no isotopic zoning in the QUE grains studied by them, despite normal elemental zoning, and attributed this to condensation from a system of unusually low mean molecular weight compared to that responsible for zoned metal grains from the other CBs that they studied. Nevertheless, the isotopic zoning computed here for the same conditions that produced the elemental zoning in the QUE grains in Fig. 13 is generally applicable to CB_b metal grains with the same elemental zoning.

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Condensation of CB metal from an impact plume

Simultaneous enrichment in refractory Ir and relatively volatile Pd, both relative to Fe, compared to solar composition is a unique feature of metal grains in CB chondrites (Campbell et al., 2002). It was shown above (Figs. 6 and 7) that the magnitudes of these enrichments, as well as the Ni and Cr contents in the unzoned grains, can be explained by equilibrium condensation from a vapor with P^{tot} of 10^{-2} bar and a Ni/H enrichment relative to solar composition of 3×10^3 , or 10^{-3} bar and 3×10^4 , respectively, regardless of the enrichment in the Si/H ratio or of the composition of the vaporized silicate. This combination of high P^{tot} and solid enrichment lies clearly outside canonical solar nebular conditions (Fedkin and Grossman, 2013), and led Campbell et al. (2002) to propose that the unzoned metal grains and chondrules in CB_as condensed from a plume of matter vaporized in a protoplanetary impact. Inspection of Fig. 6 shows that, under these conditions, the compositions of the most fractionated metal grains imply that they last equilibrated with the gas at $T \geq 1900$ K, indicating that the vapor from which they formed had to reach temperatures at least this high and that the grains condensed in the molten state, enhancing the likelihood that they would be homogeneous in composition. Under identical physico-chemical conditions, the same metal grain compositions can result from either equilibrium condensation or equilibrium evaporation. While there is evidence that non-equilibrium evaporation played an important role in the evolution of CAIs (Grossman et al., 2000), for example, evaporation into a hot, dense, impact-generated vapor plume like that envisioned here could have occurred under near-equilibrium conditions, and just such an origin has been proposed for chondrules in ordinary chondrites by Fedkin and Grossman (2013). There is little doubt that impact-generated gases can reach high temperatures, high total pressures and high dust enrichments, but it remains for detailed dynamical modeling to demonstrate whether the near-equilibrium conditions required here could have occurred in any region within a plume of matter expanding rapidly into residual nebular gas as a result of an impact between planetesimals of plausible sizes, relative velocities and porosities.

In contrast, it was seen above that elemental and isotopic zoning profiles of the zoned metal grains are best explained by rapid, non-equilibrium condensation from a region of the plume whose P^{tot} and Ni/H enrichment were lower than that of the region where the unzoned metal grains formed, and whose P^{tot} fell by as much as a factor of 10^3 over the 500 K interval below the nucleation temperature of the zoned grains. The relatively steep drop in P^{tot} over this temperature range may be due to the drop in the density of the gas due to $\sim 12\%$ of its constituent atoms condensing as metal and silicate over this interval, and to the consequent release of their latent heat.

Fe and Ni isotopic zoning of the zoned metal grains, with progressively smaller light isotope enrichments from cores to rims, strongly suggests that they formed by rapid

condensation. It was shown above that the Ir, Ni, Co and Cr concentration profiles and $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ variations across the zoned metal grains are explained well by a kinetic condensation model involving a vapor with a Ni/H enrichment of 2.5×10^3 relative to solar composition combined with a P^{tot} varying from 1.6×10^{-4} bar to a factor of 10 – 10^3 less during metal alloy condensation. These conditions yield partial pressures of siderophile elements ranging from 400 to 4×10^5 times lower than those found suitable for condensation of the unzoned metal grains, and result in condensation of siderophiles in the solid state, a phenomenon conducive to zoning at high cooling rates. The evolution of temperature with time, as well as with total pressure, is undoubtedly not the same in every part of an impact plume. Thus, it is reasonable to consider that the zoned metal grains could have formed in a separate, perhaps cooler and less dense, part of the plume from the unzoned grains, as suggested by Rubin et al. (2003).

4.2. Condensation of CB silicates from an impact plume

Subspherical silicate inclusions are found inside some CB_b metal grains (Weisberg et al., 2001). Petaev et al. (2007) analyzed a 30 μm -diameter silicate inclusion inside Grain 8, a zoned metal grain from HH. It contains an average of 0.38 wt% Cr_2O_3 and 2.20 wt% FeO, and is enclosed between the 7.9 and 7.0 wt% Ni contours of the host metal grain. This object probably coexisted with the metal grain and was trapped within it as the metal condensed. In both the P/10 and P/1000 models discussed above, silicate condensation is delayed until the gas temperature is 75 K below the nucleation temperature of metal. Over the temperature range where the metal reached the range of Ni contents observed in Grain 8, 1672–1634 K in the P/10 case and 1577–1408 K in the P/1000 case, the silicate droplet was 64–62% and 53–46% molten, respectively. The Cr_2O_3 and FeO contents of the co-condensing silicate droplet are predicted to reach 0.20 and 2.6 wt%, respectively, in the P/10 case and 0.34 and 3.8 wt%, respectively, in the P/1000 case. These values, especially for the P/1000 case, are in quite good agreement with the measurements of Petaev et al. (2007), providing important confirmation of the relevance of the model parameters.

The zones of a metal grain with this range of Ni contents would be expected to have $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ of -7.5 to $+4.5\text{‰}$, with a mean of -2.1‰ in the P/10 case; the values for $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ would be $+0.12$ to $+20.9\text{‰}$, with a mean of $+9.4\text{‰}$. In the P/1000 case, $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ would range from -5.4 to $+3.0\text{‰}$, and average -1.7‰ ; the values for $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ would be $+5.7$ to $+17.0\text{‰}$, and average $+11.6\text{‰}$. Because the metal grain and silicate droplet do not equilibrate with one another, they do not have the same isotopic composition. While the metal grain sequesters relatively light Fe and Ni in buried shells of material, the liquid droplet is assumed to homogenize its isotopic composition. Thus, while both the metal grain and the coexisting silicate droplet are immersed in a common gas, the isotopic composition of the grain surface differs from that of the droplet, causing differences in the relative net fluxes of the isotopes. Therefore, by the time the Ni content of the metal grain falls to 7 wt%, $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ of

the silicate droplet is +17.4‰ and +7.6‰ in the P/10 and P/1000 cases, respectively. Iron isotopic measurements of such silicate inclusions would provide an obvious test of the model presented herein. Those objects should have highly anomalous Fe isotopic compositions, distinct from those of the surrounding metal phase.

The bulk chemical compositions of CB chondrites call for their origin in extremely iron-rich systems; yet, the chondrules in these meteorites are quite low in total iron, containing no metallic Fe and only a few wt% FeO. The difficulty of preventing buildup of large iron concentrations in silicate droplets that nucleated at temperatures close to the nucleation temperature of the zoned metal grains was alluded to in Section 3.4.1. In such iron-rich systems as these, there is an enormous flux of iron atoms to the surface of the silicate droplet, unless nucleation of the silicate occurs well below the nucleation temperature of the metal grains, by which time a large fraction of the iron has become sequestered inside the latter. The problem with this mechanism is that the process for sequestering iron inside the zoned metal grains causes it to have large negative $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ (e.g., Fig. 14), leading to very large positive $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ in the residual gaseous iron and thus in the iron that subsequently condenses into the silicates, as seen above. Such silicates will almost always have much higher $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ than the values reported for individual Gujba chondrules, 0.01–0.90‰ (Tang and Dauphas, 2012) and silicate separates from Bencubbin, Gujba and Isheyevo, 0.07–0.27‰ (Zipfel and Weyer, 2007).

While the kinetic model presented in this work provides a reasonable explanation of the chemical and isotopic composition of the zoned metal grains, the predicted $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ of cogenetic silicate droplets would be quite distinct from those of the coexisting chondrules in the CB chondrites. In conclusion, the silicate chondrules in these meteorites did not form in the same region of the plume as the zoned metal grains. Except for the relatively small amount of silicate that became trapped inside the zoned metal, almost all silicate condensates present in the region of the plume where the zoned metal grains formed became separated from the metal grains before they accreted.

On the other hand, it was demonstrated above that, under the conditions of formation of the unzoned metal grains, partially molten silicate droplets would be expected to condense with mineralogical and chemical compositions like those of CB chondrules, as suggested by Campbell et al. (2002) and Rubin et al. (2003). The conditions required are that the ratio of vaporized metal to vaporized silicate was ~6–100 times the solar ratio, that a Ca-, Al-rich and a Ca-, Al-poor silicate component were distributed heterogeneously within this part of the impact plume, and that the weight ratio of vaporized water to vaporized silicate was ~0.176–0.25. Under the same physico-chemical conditions, equilibrium evaporation would be expected to produce the same silicate compositions if the droplets last equilibrated with the vapor at ~1800 K for the BO chondrules (Fig. 9) and ~1600 K for the CCs (Fig. 11). Although such an origin in a dense impact plume was proposed for chondrules in ordinary chondrites by Fedkin and Grossman (2013), all chondrule compositions considered in that work could be

achieved by minimal evaporation of a starting material containing chondritic proportions of condensables. In the case of CB chondrule formation by equilibrium evaporation, however, a wide range of non-chondritic starting compositions would be required, lying at more SiO₂-rich compositions than the chondrules themselves, along extensions of the condensation curves illustrated in Figs. 9 and 11.

Zipfel and Weyer (2007) and Tang and Dauphas (2012) measured $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ in coexisting metal and chondrule fractions separated from Bencubbin and Gujba, CB_as in which there are no zoned metal grains. For Bencubbin, Zipfel and Weyer (2007) found that $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ is –0.2‰ and +0.3‰ in metal and silicates, respectively, and in Gujba –0.4‰ and +0.1‰, respectively. In Gujba, Tang and Dauphas (2012) found that $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ ranged from –0.06 to –0.17‰, averaging –0.12‰, in three metal globules, and from +0.01‰ to +0.90‰, averaging +0.34‰, in 14 silicate chondrules. $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ is consistently negative in the unzoned metal grains and consistently positive in the silicates, suggesting a complementary relationship between the two phases, but the magnitudes of the mass-fractionations in the unzoned metal grains are much smaller than in the zoned ones. It is conceivable that, even at the relatively high partial pressures of iron envisioned for the region of the impact plume where the unzoned grains formed, the speed with which the metallic iron condensed could have resulted in negative $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ excursions which were not totally erased by subsequent condensation, especially if cooling and/or accretion were rapid. In the previously described models for condensation of unzoned metal grains, oxidized iron in the silicates is predicted to form by direct condensation from the last gaseous iron remaining after almost all of the metallic iron has condensed. If the unzoned metal grains condensed with slightly negative $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$, perhaps the relatively small positive values of $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ observed in CB silicates are the natural result of condensation of this complementary, thus slightly isotopically heavy, gaseous iron. In any event, the negative $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ of the unzoned metal grains argues against their being evaporation residues.

4.3. Compositions of the two silicate components

4.3.1. Major elements

The advantages of assuming that the impact plume contains the vapor from two contrasting silicate compositions were demonstrated in Section 3.3. When one silicate component is rich and the other poor in CaO + Al₂O₃, the major element compositions of BO and CC chondrules can be explained by condensation from distinct regions of the plume that differ in their mixing proportions of the two silicate components, as seen in Figs. 9 and 11. If one silicate composition were from deep within the impacting bodies and the other from shallow regions, such variation in their relative proportions within the plume would be expected to result from the spatial variation of peak pressure in the impact zone (Melosh, 1989).

While applying a one-stage equilibrium melting model to the CR chondrite body may be a gross oversimplification of the complexity of small-body differentiation, fractionation of the chondritic silicate portion of the body into

20% liquid and 80% residual solid at 1460 K does yield a relatively CaO-, Al₂O₃-poor, mafic mantle, consisting of olivine, orthopyroxene and spinel, and a relatively CaO-, Al₂O₃-rich, felsic crust, made mostly of plagioclase, clinopyroxene and silica. The computed CaO/Al₂O₃ weight ratios of crust and residual mantle are 0.72 and 0.85, below and above the solar ratio of 0.79, respectively. It was found in Section 3.3.4 that plume compositions that yield the best matches to the compositions of CB chondrules are enriched in crust relative to mantle compared to the overall CR body. For plume regions whose compositions have crustal weight fractions of the total vaporized silicates of 0.3 and 0.6, typical of those that yield good matches to the compositions of CC and BO chondrules, respectively, the CaO/Al₂O₃ weight ratios are 0.74 and 0.73, both below the solar ratio. Even when modeling chondrule compositions by fractional removal of high-temperature condensates from such regions, removal temperatures were selected such that both Ca and Al were totally condensed in the refractory condensates, thus preserving these sub-chondritic ratios in the chondrules that formed from the remaining material. Krot et al. (2001b) measured bulk compositions of CB chondrules by defocused electron beam analysis. Although the data are widely scattered and the uncertainties large, especially for the CC chondrules, the average CaO/Al₂O₃ weight ratio of the BO chondrules is 0.70, in good agreement with the above model value, 0.73. Because the error bar on the CaO/Al₂O₃ weight ratio of almost every CC chondrule overlaps the model value of 0.74, the model is also in good agreement with their compositions. Oulton et al. (2015) discussed additional chemical characteristics of Gujba chondrules that indicate that the silicate component of the impact plume must be from a differentiated body.

4.3.2. Oxygen isotopes

On a graph of $\delta^{17}\text{O}$ vs $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, the oxygen isotopic compositions of components of CR chondrites plot on a unique mixing line, along which the δ -values increase with increasing petrographic evidence of hydrous alteration (Weisberg et al., 1993). Among the analyzed components, the least altered appear to be olivine and pyroxene separates from Renazzo that average $\delta^{18}\text{O} = -0.18$ and $\delta^{17}\text{O} = -2.4\text{‰}$. Oxygen isotopic compositions of bulk CB chondrites form a linear array just below the CR mixing line (Weisberg et al., 2001), and the average whole-rock analysis of four of them, $\delta^{18}\text{O} = 1.7$ and $\delta^{17}\text{O} = -1.4\text{‰}$, is only slightly displaced from the Renazzo separates. This similarity in oxygen isotopic composition would be expected if the two colliding bodies envisioned here were of CR chondrite composition. This is because, in the plume composition shown in column 9 of Table 3, for example, 67.1 atomic% of the oxygen derives from vaporized CR silicates, and 32.6% from CR water. Although 0.3 atomic% of the oxygen comes from the residual nebular gas, it is difficult to assess what the oxygen isotopic composition of such matter would have been five million years after CAI condensation.

In Section 3.3.4, it was found that one way of generating CB chondrule compositions is by sequestering from further reaction with the gas early, high-temperature condensates

that lie along the CaO-, Al₂O₃-rich parts of the condensation trajectories in Figs. 10a and 11a. It is important to note that, along these paths, the MgO content remains low, ~1 wt%, while the SiO₂ content rises from ~10 to 30 wt%. Although CAIs are rare to minor constituents of CB chondrites, those analyzed by Krot et al. (2001b) have much lower SiO₂/MgO ratios than the model plume condensates. As a result, none of the sequestered high-temperature condensates have major element compositions like any of the CB CAIs. Furthermore, the sequestered objects would have oxygen isotopic compositions derived from those of CR chondrites, while the oxygen isotopic compositions of the CB CAIs lie along the CCAM line (Krot et al., 2001b). These CAIs are therefore general solar nebular material, not cogenetic with the chondrules in these meteorites, whose oxygen isotopic compositions lie just below the CR mixing line, resolvably above the CCAM line (Weisberg et al., 2001). Any Ca-, Al-rich condensates that were removed from further interaction with plume gases at high temperature were apparently not accreted into the CB chondrites.

4.3.3. Rare earth elements

Given the mineralogical contrast between CR crust and mantle, it is likely that the REE would have been nearly quantitatively extracted into the liquid that formed the crust, which would then have a flat, chondrite-normalized REE pattern. Thus, in a collision between two differentiated CR chondrite bodies, a plume made only of vaporized CR crust would be expected to have a flat REE pattern, and any addition of vaporized CR residual mantle to the plume would simply dilute the abundances. In this way, the absolute REE abundances in a region of the plume would have decreased with increasing proportions of CR mantle therein. Because the REE are expected to have condensed totally along with CaO and Al₂O₃ at high temperature before most of the MgO and SiO₂, chondrules that condensed from the plume would be expected to have flat REE patterns with enrichments that correlate with their contents of CaO + Al₂O₃. This is in agreement with REE measurements of CC and BO chondrules (Krot et al., 2001b).

4.4. Relative Proportions of Vaporized Components

The requirement that significant water be present in the impact plume was discussed in Section 3.3.4. In Fig. 9b, it was shown that, if a plume is enriched in vaporized, anhydrous CR silicates to a Si/H ratio of 1500 relative to solar composition, the FeO content of the silicate droplets that condense from it at high temperature is comparable to the highest FeO, 5.4 wt%, seen in CB chondrules. It was also shown that, upon cooling, much of that FeO undergoes reduction to metallic Fe, beads of which have never been observed within CB chondrules. For a plume with the same Si/H enrichment, however, if the silicates contain sufficient water to prevent reduction of FeO, the FeO content of the droplets would be much higher than found in CB chondrules. Calculations like those used for Fig. 9b, but for many combinations of Si/H enrichments and water

contents, were used to constrain the range of possible Si/H enrichments that would reproduce the FeO contents of CB chondrules. It was found by trial and error that, to constrain the FeO content of the condensing silicate droplet to ≤ 5.4 wt%, the maximum Si/H enrichment is 600 relative to solar composition for any plume with sufficient water in it to prevent subsequent reduction of the FeO. The highest bulk water content reported by [Weisberg et al. \(1993\)](#) for CR chondrites is equivalent to ~ 10 wt% of the silicate fraction. At the maximum Si/H enrichment needed to match the highest FeO content of CB chondrules, the water content of the vaporized silicates needed to prevent reduction is 20 wt%, within a factor of two of this amount. Due to its much greater volatility than the other vaporized components, water may have been evaporated from a much greater volume of the matter heated by the impact, leading to enhancement of the water abundance in the plume from which the CB chondrites condensed. If 20 wt% is the maximum water content considered reasonable for the vaporized silicate, the minimum Si/H enrichment that allows a match to the lowest FeO contents, ~ 0.7 wt%, of CB chondrules in the absence of FeO reduction is 300 relative to solar composition.

Unless some residual nebular gas mixes with the vaporized silicate, results of the present calculations would be very similar to the infinite dust enrichment cases of [Fedkin and Grossman \(2013\)](#). Plume condensates from vaporized anhydrous silicates and vaporized silicates containing 20 wt% water would resemble those from vaporized H' and CI dust, respectively, in that work. At high temperature, such condensate droplets would contain ~ 15 and ~ 35 wt% FeO, respectively. In the case of anhydrous dust, a very large fraction of the initial FeO would undergo reduction with falling temperature. In the case of the water-containing dust, the FeO content would remain very high. In neither case would the resulting droplets resemble CB chondrules.

The tradeoff between P^{tot} and Ni/H enrichment was discussed in Section 3.1.1 in the context of fitting the Pd/Fe and Ir/Fe *vs* Ni/Fe data for the unzoned metal grains. In [Fig. 6a](#) and [b](#), equivalent fits to the data points are achieved for a P^{tot} and Ni/H enrichment of 10^{-2} bar and 3×10^3 relative to solar composition, respectively, as for the combination of 10^{-3} bar and 3×10^4 . If P^{tot} were only 10^{-4} bar, a gigantic Ni/H enrichment of 3×10^5 would be required and, if a more modest Ni/H enrichment of 300 prevailed, a more substantial plume P^{tot} of 10^{-1} bar would be required for equivalent fits. Choosing an intermediate range of P^{tot} , 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} bar, as the most reasonable leads to a Ni/H enrichment in the range of 3×10^3 to 3×10^4 relative to solar composition.

The Si/H enrichments derived above for CB chondrule formation, 300–600 relative to solar composition, could have coexisted in the same plume region with the optimum Ni/H enrichments needed to account for the compositions of the unzoned metal grains. Total condensation of a plume region with Ni/H enrichments of 3×10^3 and 3×10^4 would lead to end products containing 64–78 and 94–97 wt% metal, respectively. It is interesting that independent assessments of the Si/H and Ni/H enrichments, if characteristic of

the same plume region, lead to condensation products with metal contents so similar to the 81 to 87 wt% estimates derived from literature reports of the volume% of metal in the CB_a and CB_b chondrites, respectively. This suggests that the unzoned metal grains and chondrules condensed from a common region of the plume.

When differentiated, the model CR bodies considered in this work consist of 29.0 wt% core and 71.0 wt% silicate. The latter, in turn, is differentiated into 80.0 wt% residual mantle and 20.0 wt% crust. The relative proportions of core and silicate are quite distinct from those found here for co-condensation of unzoned metal grains and chondrules, *i.e.*, a very large oversampling of core relative to silicate occurred. While the best matches to CC chondrule compositions are for CR mantle fractions of the total silicate as high as 0.75, similar to the mantle fraction of the total silicate in the CR body, some BO chondrule compositions require mantle fractions at least as low as 0.40, which represents a significant enrichment of the plume in crust relative to mantle.

Because of the variation of impact temperatures and pressures with depth, and differences in material properties between metal and silicates, these components may not have been vaporized in the same proportions as existed in the pre-impact bodies. Furthermore, during an early solar system period of high collision frequencies among differentiated protoplanets, many of these objects may have been totally destroyed by physical disruption and vaporization, and then reconstituted by recondensation and reaccretion. Such objects would have undergone dramatic changes in their bulk compositions as a result. [Asphaug et al. \(2006\)](#) and [Leinhardt and Stewart \(2012\)](#) discussed particular mechanisms for stripping of surface layers, particularly during grazing impacts, and [Yang et al. \(2007, 2010\)](#) presented evidence from specific iron meteorite types for near-total removal of silicate mantles from planetary cores by protoplanetary collisions. Perhaps one or both of the differentiated CR bodies envisioned here underwent earlier collisions that resulted in stripping of their original silicates and reaccretion of small amounts of their original mantle and crustal material in different proportions from those originally present. [Marty et al. \(2010\)](#) showed that energetic impacts continued to affect Bencubbin up until 4.2 Ga ago, long after recondensation and reaccretion of its components.

4.5. Uniqueness of mixing components

In this work, conditions were found that yield the chemical and isotopic compositions of CB metal and silicates by condensation from a plume generated by impact vaporization of two differentiated bodies of CR chondrite composition. If the oxygen and nitrogen isotopic compositions of CB chondrites are ignored, however, it is apparent that the chemical compositions of CB metal and silicates can be accounted for in plumes generated by impacts involving bodies of compositions other than CR chondrites. In particular, a metal core from any body with chondritic proportions of non-volatile siderophiles could serve as a metallic impactor, as long as core separation occurred at sufficiently

low f_{O_2} that it contained several tens of % of the planetary Cr inventory, for plumes with Ni/H enrichments of the magnitude envisioned here. Furthermore, any body with a Ca/Al ratio and relative proportions of REE that are nearly chondritic, and that differentiated into a mantle and a crust into which Ca, Al and REE were nearly totally extracted, could serve as a silicate impactor. In order to satisfy the additional oxygen and nitrogen isotopic constraints, however, CR chondrite silicates were selected for the silicate component of the plume in this study.

5. CONCLUSIONS

If a CR chondrite body is differentiated into core, relatively CaO-, Al₂O₃-poor mantle and CaO-, Al₂O₃-rich crust, and later accretes significant amounts of water, a collision between it and an identical body can produce impact vapor with an appropriate chemical composition for condensation of CB metal grains and chondrules. Good matches to the compositions of the unzoned metal grains in CB chondrites are obtained by equilibrium condensation or evaporation in a region of the plume having P^{tot} and an enrichment in Ni/H relative to solar composition of 10^{-2} bar and 3×10^3 , respectively, or 10^{-3} bar and 3×10^4 , respectively. From this gas, good matches to the compositions of BO chondrules are obtained when the Si/H enrichment is 500, the water abundance is 20 wt% and the mantle component is either 40–70 wt% of the total vaporized silicate or if refractory condensate fractionation occurs with a mantle fraction $\leq 40\%$. CC chondrule compositions arise from regions where the Si/H enrichment is 300, the water abundance is 15 wt% of the total vaporized silicate and refractory condensate separation occurs where the mantle fraction of the total silicate ≤ 40 wt%. An origin for the chondrules by equilibrium evaporation is unlikely due to the wide range of starting compositions that would be required. Kinetic models applied to co-condensing metal grains and silicate droplets in a region of the plume with very similar composition, but with high cooling rate and sharply declining P^{tot} during condensation, produce very good matches to the zoning profiles of Ir, Ni, Co and Cr concentrations and Fe and Ni isotopic compositions that are observed in the zoned metal grains in CB chondrites, but produce very large positive $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ and $\delta^{60}\text{Ni}$ in the cogenetic silicate. Because such isotopic fractionations are not found in CB chondrules, the latter are most likely cogenetic with the unzoned metal grains. Condensation from a plume of impact vapor is a viable hypothesis for making all the metal grains and chondrules of CB chondrites, but whether the required physico-chemical conditions and their spatial variation can be attained in such a setting must be addressed by detailed dynamical modeling.

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