# **Manganese Thermometer for Mantle Peridotites**

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**Abstract.** The temperature dependence of the Mn-Mg distribution between garnet and clinopyroxene, originally proposed by Carswell, was confirmed by Shimizu and Allègre (1978) using ion microprobe and electron microprobe data. High precision electron microprobe analyses of a larger set of 52 lherzolites from S. Africa and Malaita, Solomon Islands show considerable scatter in the temperature dependence of this distribution, and correlation with the CaO content of the garnet is indicated. A new distribution coefficient is based on the reaction:

 $Mn_2Si_2O_6$  +CaAl<sub>2/3</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub> + MgAl<sub>2/3</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub> Mn-pyroxene grossular pyrope  $\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6 + 2\text{MnAl}_{2/3}\text{SiO}_4$ <br>diopside spessartine spessartine

It was calibrated against temperature determined from two independent thermometers (Wells pyroxene and O'Neill-Wood garnet-olivine) for lherzolitic assemblages, and shown to to be sensitive to within  $+50^{\circ}$ C for most specimens in the range 900<sup>°</sup>- $1,300^{\circ}$  C. This distribution coefficient appears independent of pressure within the uncertainty of the available data, and has the potential to be a third independent thermometer for use in garnet lherzolites and possibly eclogites.

### **Introduction**

As part of a general program to investigate the distribution of trace elements among minerals from the upper mantle, systematic analyses are being made of nodules transported to the Earth's surface by kimberlite and other magmas.

Substitution of Mn for Mg in coexisting garnet and clinopyroxene depends on temperature (Carswell 1974; Jawardena and Carswell 1976; Shimizu and Allègre 1978), but the data sets were too small to provide a definitive caiibration. We now report electron microprobe data for the Mn/Mg/Fe/Ca distributions between coexisting garnet and clinopyroxene in many lherzolite nodules from S. African kimberlites (specimens described in Nixon and Boyd 1973a and b and Bishop et al. 1978) and from the Malaita alnöite, Solomon Islands (Nixon and Boyd 1979; Delaney et al. 1979). Examination of the new data set suggests that the Mn distribution between coexisting garnet and clinopyroxene depends on the grossular content of the garnet as well as on the temperature. A new exchange reaction which involves Ca as well as Mn and Mg is calibrated against two independent geothermometers; the Wells (1977) modification of the Wood-Banno two-pyroxene scheme, and the O'Neill and Wood (1979) garnet-olivine experimental thermometer. These calibrations are compared with the experimental observations on Mn distribution by Wood (1976) and Finnerty (1977), and with thermochemical calculations using tabulated calorimetric data.

### **Review**

Carswell (1974, Fig. 4) found that the ratio

 $(X_{\text{Mn}}/X_{\text{Mg}})_{\text{gt}}/(X_{\text{Mn}}/X_{\text{Mg}})_{\text{cpx}}$ 

decreased fourfold for garnet Iherzolites as the temperature inferred from the  $Ca/(Ca+Mg)$  ratio of the clinopyroxene increased from 800° to 1,300°C. The wide scatter of data probably results from low analytical precision for Mn in the clinopyroxene and the simplicity of the pyroxene thermometer. A further attempt to use this distribution on charnockitic minerals (Jayawardena and Carswell 1976) led to a discrepancy of  $200^{\circ}$ C with other temperature estimates.

Shimizu and Allègre (1978), as part of an ion-microprobe study of garnet lherzolite nodules in kimberlites, obtained a good correlation between  $(Mn/Mg)_{cpx}/(Mn/Mg)_{gt}$  and  $Ca/(Ca+Mg)$  $+Fe)_{\text{cpx}}$  for 11 specimens, which they compared with a temperature range of  $1,000^{\circ}$ -1,450°C from the pyroxene thermometer calibrated by Davis and Boyd (1966).



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n.a.: Not analyzed

N.D.: Not detected

Np: Not present

n.a.: Not detected<br>N.D.: Not detected<br>Np: Not detected<br>OW: O'Neill-Wood; W: Wells; nu: thermometer not usable because a mineral is absent<br>FRB-348 to 351: Bultfontein Floors, S. Africa (Boyd and Nixon, 1976)<br>PHN-1559B, 1924  $O(W: N$ ell-Wood; Wells; nu: thermometer not usable because a mineral is absent PHN-1559B, 1924, 1925, 2001: Mothae, Lesotho (Nixon and Boyd, 1973a) FRB-348 to 351 : Bulffontein Floors, S. Africa (Boyd and Nixon, 1976) PHN-1566 to 1611: Thaba Putsoa, Lesotho (Nixon and Boyd, 1973a) PHN-2302A: Liqhobong, Lesotho (Nixon and Boyd, 1973b)

PHN-2557/5, 2575/2, 2575/3. Letseng-La-Terae, Lesotho (Bloomer and Nixon, 1973)

Center of zoned grain <sup>a</sup> Center of zoned grain

Specimen	Mineral	$TiO2$ ppmw			$Cr_2O_3$ wt. $\%$			MnO ppmw			Reference
		<b>DSDN</b>	Boyd	<b>SA</b>	DSDN Boyd		SA.	<b>DSDN</b>	Boyd	SA.	
PHN 1569 <sup>a</sup>	gt	190	400	230	7.99	7.43	5.09	4,430	4.600	3.740	(a)
	cpx	200	100	150	1.30	1.70	1.30	660	700	650	
PHN 1611 <sup>a</sup>	gt	8.370	8.000	7.670	1.28	1.46	1.53	2,320	2.600	2.070	(a)
	cpx	3,100	3,000	2,800	0.49	0.49	0.46	1,130	1.300	1,050	
<b>PHN 1925</b>	gt	7.800	8,000	7.610	2.43	2.57	1.93	2.740	2.400	2,170	(a)
	срх	3,000	3.100	2,700	0.94	0.86	0.67	1,180	1.400	960	
<b>PHN 2302A</b>	gt	800	800	1.360	7.17	6.39	6.07	3,800	3,800	3,490	(b)
	cpx	450	500	510	2.87	2.81	2.40	800	600	670	
<b>FRB 348</b>	gt	200	$<$ 300	310	3.76	3.79	3.33	3.740	3.800	3,100	(c)
	cpx	100	< 300	100	1.38	1.32	1.51	650	600	660	

**Table** 3. Comparison of present electron microprobe analyses (DSDN) with ion microprobe analyses by Shimizu and All6gre (1978) and routine electron microprobe analyses by F.R. Boyd

Inhomogeneous (Boyd and Finger, 1975)

(a) Nixon and Boyd (1973a); (b) Nixon and Boyd (1973b); (c) Boyd and Nixon (1976)

Number	740	749	794	1,140	1.143B	1.149	1.156	1.352	1,359
Weight $\%$ MnO garnet	0.355	0.030	0.317	0.390	0.512	0.359	0.473	0.604	0.375
Weight $\%$ MnO cpx	0.093	0.067	0.124	0.069	0.109	0.097	0.126	0.077	0.093
$\rm ^{\circ}C$ (Wells)	1,002	—	1.007	839	828	933	1,033	735	951
°C (O'Neill-Wood)	1.040	1,016	1.125	863	826	983	1,034	-	986
Number	1,361	1.362	1.363	1.755	1,870/2	2.014/1	2,125	BT7	
Weight $\%$ MnO garnet	0.427	0.431	0.437	0.484	0.400	0.487	0.380	0.354	
Weight $\%$ MnO cpx	0.126	0.117	0.116	0.076	0.063	0.060	0.109	0.094	
$\rm{^{\circ}C}$ (Wells)	958	986	976	776		$\overline{\phantom{a}}$	994	929	
°C (O'Neill-Wood)	1.019	1,007	$\overline{\phantom{a}}$	833 926 1,114 978 -					

**Table** 4. New MnO analyses and estimated temperatures for specimens analyzed by Bishop et al. (1978)

Finnerty (1977) synthesized coexisting clinopyroxene and garnet, and found that Mn tends to move from clinopyroxene to garnet with falling temperature. However direct comparison with the present data is not possible because of absence of complete chemical analyses for the synthetic minerals. The synthesis data of Akella and Boyd (1974) and of Wood (1976) are qualitatively consistent with the distributions observed in natural lherzolites, but exact comparison is not possible because of compositional differences between synthetic and natural minerals.

#### **Samples and Analytical Techniques**

Electron microprobe analyses of silicates from 17 lherzolite and pyroxenite nodules from southern African kimberlites (Bishop et al. 1978) were augmented by new analyses for 14 lherzolite nodules measured with the same standards (Table 1). F.R. Boyd, Jr., kindly provided grain mounts of minerals from 27 nodules from S. African kimberlites. New analyses are given in Table2, five of which allow a cross-check of the analyses made by Shimizu and Allègre (Table 3). New silicate analyses for three garnet lherzolite nodules from the Malaita alnöite were cross-checked with routine analyses made by F.R. Boyd, Jr. (Nixon and Boyd 1979).

Analytical techniques at Chicago were described by Bishop et al. (1978). Routine analyses in Table 1 are given to one decimal place for numbers greater than 10 wt.  $\%$  and two decimal places for

numbers less than 10. Special analyses of high precision are given to three decimal places, and are precise to 20–50 ppmw ( $2\sigma$ ). Some analyses of MnO in Bishop et al. (1978) were made with routine procedures accurate only to  $\pm 0.02 \text{ wt.}$ % MnO(1 $\sigma$ ) and were replaced by new analyses of higher precision (Table 4). All electron microprobe analyses of MnO listed in this paper are precise to  $\pm$ 40 ppm( $2\sigma$ ), except for the routine analyses by F.R. Boyd, Jr., for which the accuracy is probably 200 ppmw( $1\sigma$ ). The Chicago analyses were standardized against synthetic Corning glass  $W$  with 0.50wt. % Mn (atomic absorption analysis by Jun Ito decreased). Special care was taken to obtain reliable analyses of CaO and MgO in the clinopyroxene, and data from spectrometer and solidstate-detector methods were cross-checked. The standard was synthetic diopside.

All the lherzolite nodules contain coarse mineral grains, and the chemical compositions are uniform within experimental error except for small variations in some elements (especially A1 and Cr) of some minerals. These variations were always less than  $10\%$  of the amount present, and for brevity a mean value is reported for analyses made on several spots. All analyses for Mn were consistent for each grain within experimental error.

In general, there is good agreement between the Chicago and Boyd analyses when account is taken of the lower precision for minor elements in the latter.

No clear trends emerge in the comparison of electron and ion microprobe analyses in Table3, especially as two specimens are known to be inhomogeneous particularly for Cr. The caliJ.S. Delaney et al.: Manganese Thermometer for Mantle Peridotites 165

bration of ion microprobe analyses is still a matter of great difficulty because of poor understanding of the physics of the sputtering process. Particularly serious is the effect of the matrix on the sputtering yield, as for example the strong effect of the Fe/Mg ratio of olivine on the yields of ions of transition metals (Shimizu et al. 1978; Steele and Hutcheon 1979). Whereas Shimizu and Allègre (1978) suggest an error of 5% for their ion microprobe analyses of Cr and Mn, and  $10\%$  for Ti, the data in Table 3 may indicate a rather larger value. In particular, their analyses of Mn in both garnet and clinopyroxene average about 11 $\%$  lower than the present electron-microprobe analyses. A detailed comparison of electron and ion microprobe analyses on exactly the same spots is needed to provide definitive data. Such comparisons at Chicago with an ARL-EMX electron microprobe and an AEI ion microprobe have indicated that it is difficult to obtain ion microprobe analyses *accurate* (not *precise)* to better than  $10-20\%$  and indeed the simplest interpretation of Table 3 is that the analyses from the CAMECA ion microprobe have a similar level of accuracy.

## **Model Reactions for Mn Distribution, and Empirical Calibration**

The distribution of Mn and Mg between garnet and clinopyroxene may be represented by an exchange reaction between components as follows:

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MnSiO3 + MgAl2/3SiO4
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for which an equilibrium constant  $K_1$  may be defined as

$$
K_1 = \frac{X_{\text{en}}}{X_{\text{rh}}}\cdot \frac{X_{\text{spess}}}{X_{\text{py}}}.
$$

Since data are available for rhodonite and not 'Mnpyroxene', we use that mineral since Navrotsky and Coons (1976) suggest that *AH* and *AS* between pyroxenoid and pyroxene are small. If all the Mg in clinopyroxene is assigned to an enstatite component, Eq. (2) is equivalent to the distribution coefficients used by Carswell and (inverted) by Shimizi and A1- 16gre. The exchange reaction assumes that Mn substitutes for Mg in the clinopyroxene structure with Ca (and other substituents) being unaffected.

Shimizu and Allègre (1978) found a linear trend for  $K_p^{Mn} = (Mn/Mg)cpx/(Mn/Mg)gt$  vs.  $Ca/(Ca+Mg)$  $+ Fe$ <sub>cpx</sub>. Our Fig. 1 for this plot shows a scatter of up to  $\pm 0.1$  in  $K_D$ , or up to 0.04 in Ca/(Ca + Mg + Fe)<sub>cpx</sub>, about the line drawn by Shimizu and Allègre, but our data for specimens studied by Shimizu and Allègre do fall close to the line. The increased scatter results from the use of a larger set of specimens and cannot



Fig. 1.  $\text{Mn}/\text{Mg})_{\text{cpx}}/(\text{Mn}/\text{Mg})_{\text{et}}$  vs.Ca/(Ca + Mg + Fe)<sub>cpx</sub> for data in Table 1 *(filled circle)* and Table 2 *(open circle)* for S. African specimens and in Delaney et al. (1979) for Malaita specimens (hexagon). The straight line is from Shimizu and Allègre (1978, Fig 1). Labeled specimens were analyzed by Shimizu and Allègre, and cross-checked at Chicago (Table 3)

be ascribed to experimental error. There is no thermochemical reasons for the relationship to be linear, and indeed for an Arrhenius dependence of  $K<sub>p</sub>$  with  $1/T$  the plot should be asymptotic to  $Ca/(Ca+Mg)$  $+ Fe$ ) = 0.5.

Arrhenius plots are shown in Fig. 2 for two independent estimates of temperature. The Wells (1977) thermometer is a modification of the two-pyroxene thermometer developed by Wood and Banno (1974) and depends largely on the variation of the Ca/(Ca  $+ Mg + Fe$ ) ratio of the clinopyroxene, and partly on the assignment of minor elements to the M1 and *M2*  sites. It is based partly on experimental data for the pyroxene quadrilateral and partly on crystal-chemical theory. Because the solvus approaches the diopside composition rather closely below  $1,100^{\circ}$  C, it is extremely important to obtain an accurate value for the ratio  $Ca/(Ca + Mg)$  of the clinopyroxene. Electron microprobe analyses made by F.R. Boyd and at Chicago gave  $Ca/(Ca + Mg + Fe)$  ratios which agreed to a mean value of 0.006. It is extremely difficult to obtain electron microprobe analyses of elemental ratios accurate to better than  $0.5\%$  when account is taken of statistical counting errors in both the standard and unknown. Certainly the electron microprobe error is trivial for temperatures above  $1,200^{\circ}$ C, but it is quite significant for temperatures below 1,000~ C where the analytical uncertainty can become equivalent to  $\sim$  50 $\degree$  C.

The O'Neill and Wood (1979) thermometer depends on the Fe/Mg distribution between olivine and garnet. The calibration is based on experimental measurements for Mg-rich compositions up to



Fig. 2a and b. In  $K_1$  vs. Wells two-pyroxene temperature (a) and O'Neill-Wood garnet-olivine temperature (b). CaO content of garnet indicated by symbols: *open symbol*, 4-5 wt. %; half-open symbol, 5-6 wt. <sup>o</sup>/<sub>0</sub>; *filled symbol*, over 6 wt. <sup>o</sup>/<sub>0</sub>. The CaO contents are listed for some extreme specimens. *Brackets* are placed around symbols for O'Neill-Wood temperatures above the range of good calibration. *Circles* and *hexagons,* respectively, denote S. Afiica and Malaita

1,400 $^{\circ}$  C, and is particularly useful below 1,200 $^{\circ}$ C where the two-pyroxene thermometer becomes less precise. Listed temperatures above  $1,200^{\circ}$ C for the O'Neill-Wood thermometer are definitely subject to an unknown extrapolation, and we consider the Wells thermometer to be more useful for temperatures above  $1,200$ °C.

For the overlapping temperature range of  $1,200^{\circ}$ - $1,000$ °C, temperatures from these two independent thermometers agree mostly within 50°C. Lack of knowledge of the  $Fe^{3+}/Fe^{2+}$  ratio produces systematic displacements in both thermometers.

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Although there is a distinct tendency for  $\ln K_1$  to increase with falling temperature using both the Wells and O'Neill-Wood calibrations, there is a large scatter especially for temperatures below  $1.100^{\circ}$ C. The scatter is larger than expected from just the analytical error, and a matrix effect or effects was suspected. No significant correlation was found for Fe and A1. The symbols in Fig. 2 are ornamented with three levels of CaO content in the garnet, and a weak trend is indicated. One specimen (2014/A) with 12.5 wt.  $\%$  CaO in the garnet stands out in Fig. 2b. Unfortunately the trend is not completely systematic and some other effect or effects as yet unknown may be responsible. Because of the strong correlation between CaO and  $Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>$  contents in garnet a similar but weaker trend was found when the latter element was plotted.

A new thermometer was developed as follows to take account of the possible effect of CaO.

Use of the  $K_1$  ratio implicitly assumes that all the Mn enters the M1 site in the clinopyroxene, but Lindstrom and Weill (1978) showed that about half of the Mn in doped clinopyroxenes substitutes for Ca in the  $M2$  site and about half for Mg in the  $M1$  site. Accordingly a more realistic reaction may be

$$
Mn_2Si_2O_6 + CaAl_{2/3}SiO_4 + MgAl_{2/3}SiO_4
$$
  
'rhodonite' grossular pyrope  

$$
\Rightarrow CaMgSi_2O_6 + 2MnAl_{2/3}SiO_4
$$
  
diopside spessartine (2)

for which the equilibrium constant may be defined as

$$
K_2 = \frac{X_{\text{spess}}^2}{X_{\text{gr}} \cdot X_{\text{py}}} \cdot \frac{X_{\text{dlop}}}{X_{\text{rh}}}.
$$

Arrhenius plots of  $K_2$  are shown in Fig. 3. Points for specimens with high and tow CaO contents in the garnet are now *randomly* intermingled. For the Wells thermometer, the scatter is quite small above  $1,100^{\circ}$ C where the thermometer is particularly sensitive, but is rather greater at lower temperatures, especially for two specimens PHN 1570 and BD 1143B. For the O'Neill-Wood thermometer, the scatter for temperatures below  $1,100^{\circ}$ C is similar to that for the Wells thermometer, and the largest deviations are again for these two specimens. The Chicago and Boyd analyses agree well for PHN 1570, and there is no obvious explanation of the deviations. Of course, equilibrium may not have been established, but both the PHN1570 and BD1143B specimens are granular lherzolites with no unusual textural features. Points with O'Neill-Wood temperatures above 1,200°C are bracketed in Fig. 3b because the thermometer was not so thoroughly calibrated there. Although these



points do not cluster as closely as the ones for the Wells thermometer, they still tend to lie at the extension of the trend for lower temperatures.

Taking the data at face value, least-square fits regressed separately on both temperature and  $K<sub>p</sub>$ gave the following equations:

Wells thermometer

$$
10^4/T = 1.0779 \cdot \ln K_2 + 10.469 \qquad r = 0.93 \tag{3}
$$

$$
\ln K_2 = 0.8002.10^4 / T - 8.687\tag{4}
$$

O'Neill-Wood thermometer

$$
10^4/T = 1.3471 \cdot \ln K_2 + 10.888 \qquad r = 0.92 \tag{5}
$$

$$
\ln K_2 = 0.6287.10^4 / T - 7.197. \tag{6}
$$

Each pair of equations is non-equivalent, as is readily seen by rewriting Eq. (4) and (6) to give Eq. (7) and (8), respectively.

$$
10^4/T = 1.2497 \cdot \ln K_2 + 10.856\tag{7}
$$

$$
10^4/T = 1.5907 \cdot \ln K_2 + 11.448. \tag{8}
$$

Unfortunately there is no standard mathematical procedure to handle least-square fits when there are comparable errors in both variables. If the ratios of the errors can be estimated, the procedure in Smith et al. (1969), developed M.H. Hey, can be used. For the present set of data it is not possible to make objective estimates of the relative errors, and empirically we suggest the use of Eqs. (9) and (10) which have a mean gradient and pass through the intersection of the pairs of equations.

Wells thermometer  $10^4/T = 1.1638 \ln K_2 + 10.663$  (9) O'Neill-Wood thermometer  $10^4/T = 1.4689 \ln K_2 + 11.1679$ . (10)

An experimental determination of  $K_2$  can then be converted directly into estimates of temperatures by Eqs. (9) and (10).

**Fig. 3a and b.** In  $K_2$  vs. Wells twopyroxene temperature (a) and O'NeiI1-Wood garnet-olivine temperature (b). *Brackets* are placed around symbols for O'Neill-Wood temperatures above the range of good calibration. *Circles and hexagons,* respectively, denote S. Africa and Malita. *Crosses* represent experimental data: horizontal (Akella and Boyd 1974); inclined (Wood 1976). The pressure is denoted in kb by the small twofigure numbers

Empirically, the Mn distribution is apparently almost independent of pressure, as indicated by comparison between data for specimens from South Africa and Malaita, Solomon Islands. The three specimens from Malaita have estimated pressures from the pyroxene barometer considerably lower than those for the S. African specimens. Whatever the details of the calibration of the pyroxene barometer, the Malaita specimens yield pressures some 20 kb lower than those of the S. African specimens (Nixon and Boyd 1979), but have temperatures near the center of the band for the S. African specimens (Fig. 3 a). Only one Malaita specimen could be plotted on Fig. 3b, and it lies inside the band but considerably displaced from the center. In the next section, thermochemical data suggests that the Mn distribution is much less sensitive to pressure than to temperature.

#### **Comparison With Thermochemical Calculations**

Using heats of formation of diopside and rhodonite (Navrotsky and Coons, 1976), spessartine (Shearer, 1973), enstatite and pyrope (Charlu et al., 1975), estimates were obtained for  $\Delta H_{\text{react}}^{\circ}$  of reactions (1) and (2). For reaction 1, the calculated value of  $-14$ J/mol has the same sign as the value of  $\sim$ **-37** kJ/mol obtained from the gradient of the leastsquares fit to the Arrhenius plots (Fig.2), but is numerically smaller. For reaction 2, the calculated value of  $-19 \text{ kJ/mol}$  also has the same sign as the value taken from the average slope of the regression lines in Fig. 3 but is considerably less than the graphical value of  $-85 \text{ kJ/mol}$ . These large discrepancies in the numerical values reflect the non-ideal character of the Mn-Mg and Mg-Ca substitutions in pyroxenes and garnet (Holst 1978). Thus the observed trends are

more sensitive to temperature than the values estimated for the assumption of ideal solution. Lack of experimental data for Mn solution in both phases precludes more detailed modeling of the non-ideality.

For Eq. (1), molar volume data from Robie et al. (1978) and density data for a high-pressure pyroxene polymorph of  $MnSiO<sub>3</sub>$  (Akimoto and Syono 1972) in preference to data for rhodonite yield a value of  $\Delta V$ of  $-0.114$ J/bar  $(-0.027 \text{ cal/bar})$ . The smallness of this value suggests that the effect of pressure should be negligible on the Mn/Mg distribution between garnet and clinopyroxene, as was found empirically in the preceding section.

For reaction 2, the calculated  $\Delta V$  of  $-0.301$  kJ/bar  $(-0.072 \text{ cal/bar})$  suggests a somewhat greater dependence of pressure for the  $Mn-Mg-Ca$  distribution but the effect should again be fairly small. The coefficient  $K_2$  should increase with pressure, but again the empirical comparison between S. African and Malaita specimens does not yield a definite effect, perhaps because of swamping by various experimental errors.

#### **Comparison With Experimental Observations**

Figure 3a contains the sparse data obtained by Akella and Boyd (1974) and Wood (1976) for pressures between 20 and 45 kb and temperatures of  $1,100^{\circ}$  and  $1,300$ °C. The combination of the two data sets provides no consistent indication of a pressure effect, but such an effect might be obscured either by scatter resulting from incomplete attainment of equilibrium or by the low precision in routine electron microprobe analyses of Mn for the fine-grained synthetic minerals.

The data points for the synthetic assemblages were plotted in Fig. 3a at the actual experimental temperature. Replacement by the Wells temperature calculated from the pyroxene compositions would cause small changes of position, but all points would remain in the general band defined by the natural specimens.

#### **Conclusion**

The present empirical data suggest that the Mn/Mg distribution between garnet and clinopyroxene provides a thermometer for deep-seated peridotites, and that the thermometer may be improved by taking account of the CaO content of the garnet. Further experimental data are needed to provide an independent calibration. The data from natural peridotites suggest that the effect of pressure is small, but no precise values could be extracted. Any uncertainties in the Wells and O'Neill-Wood thermometers must carry over to the Mn/Mg/Ca thermometer. An obvious next step, which is now under investigation, is extension to eclogites and alpine-type peridotites. As the temperature falls below  $900^{\circ}$ C, as is probable for many specimens of these two suites, the MnO content of the pyroxene should tend to fall below 100 ppm, for which concentration range the higher sensitivity of the ion microprobe ( $\sim$ 1 ppm) would be necessary. Particularly troublesome is the problem of extrapolation of the present calibrations to temperatures below  $900^{\circ}$ C, and an independent check of temperatures will be needed in order to obtain high accuracy. A further problem will be the different composition range of the garnets and clinopyroxenes from many of the eclogites since ideal-solution models are not likely to be obeyed.

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