

Grupo de Química Teórica y Computacional de Materiales

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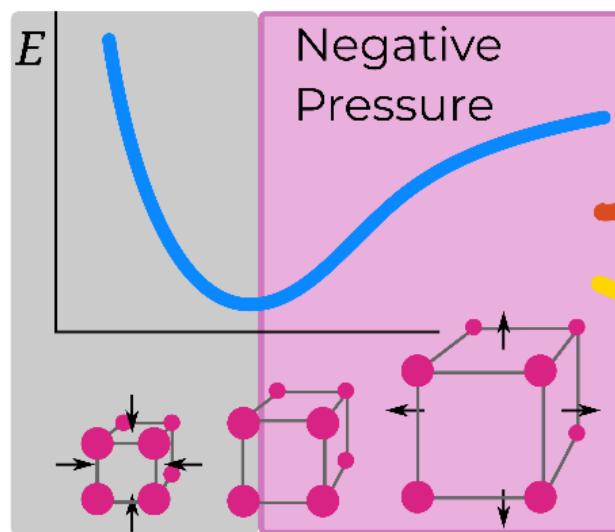
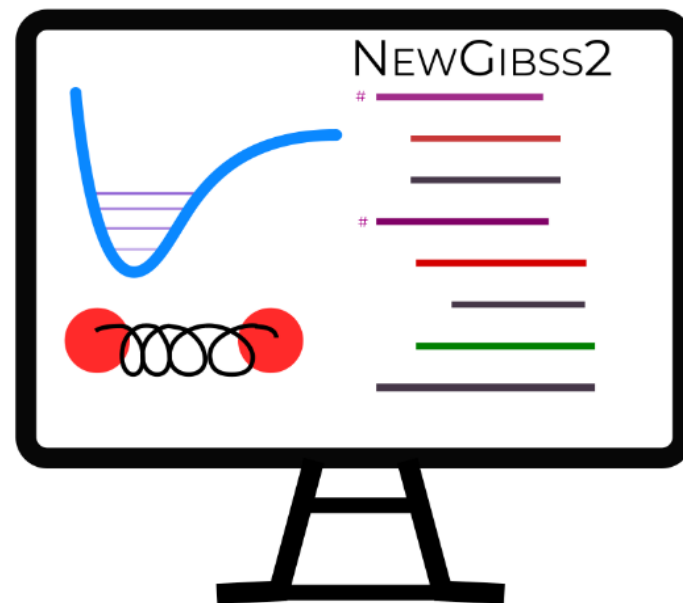
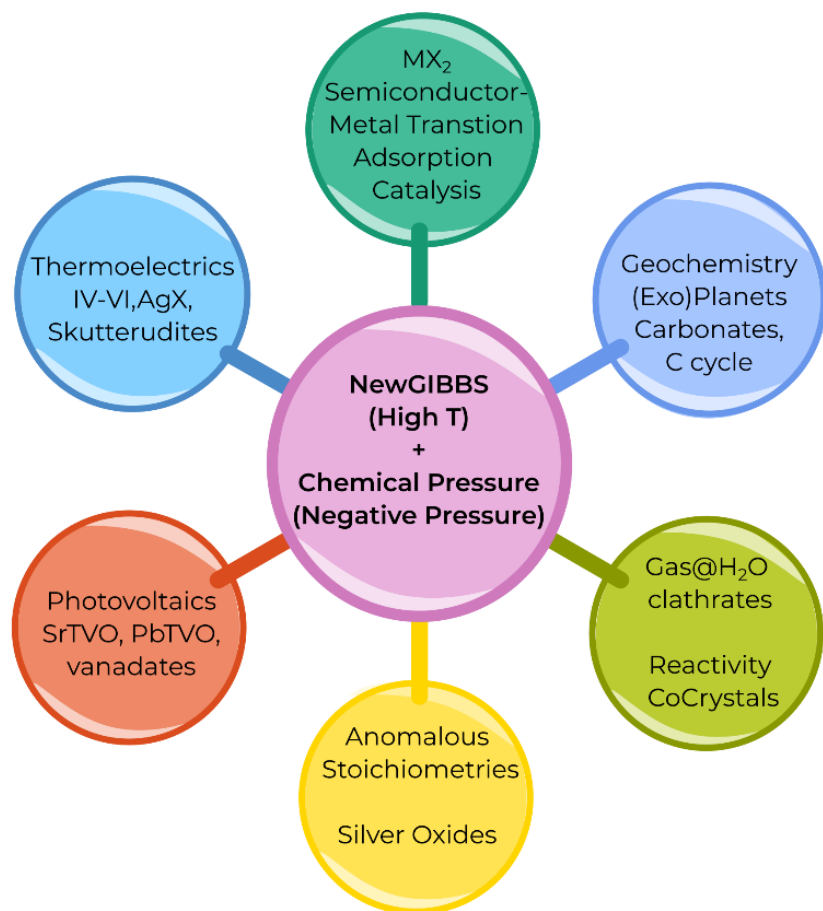
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- Lucas
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- José Antonio

MECHANOCHEMISTRY UNDER CONTROLLED CONDITIONS OF PRESSURE: HIGH TEMPERATURES AND NEGATIVE PRESSURES



Photovoltaics
SrTVO, PbTVO,
vanadates

Anomalous
Stoichiometries
Silver Oxides

Chemical Pressure

Operative definition. Chemical pressure maps

J | A | C | S
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 5991–5999

Article

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DFT-Chemical Pressure Analysis: Visualizing the Role of Atomic Size in Shaping the Structures of Inorganic Materials

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cm CHEMISTRY OF MATERIALS

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Bonding viewed
through chemical
pressure maps

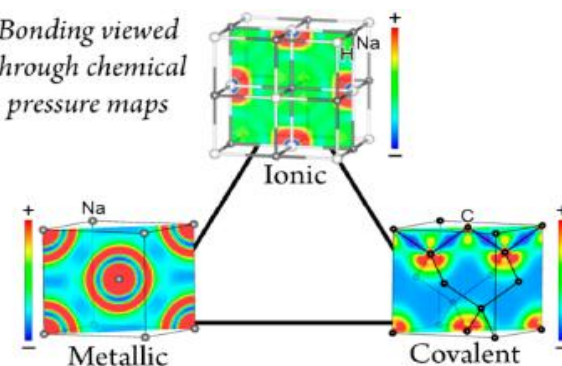
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Article

Chemical Pressure Schemes for the Prediction of Soft Phonon Modes: A Chemist's Guide to the Vibrations of Solid State Materials

Joshua Engelkemier, and Daniel C. Fredrickson

Chem. Mater., Just Accepted Manuscript • DOI: 10.1021/acs.chemmater.6b00917 • Publication Date (Web): 06 Apr 2016



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Journal of Chemical Theory and Computation

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Article

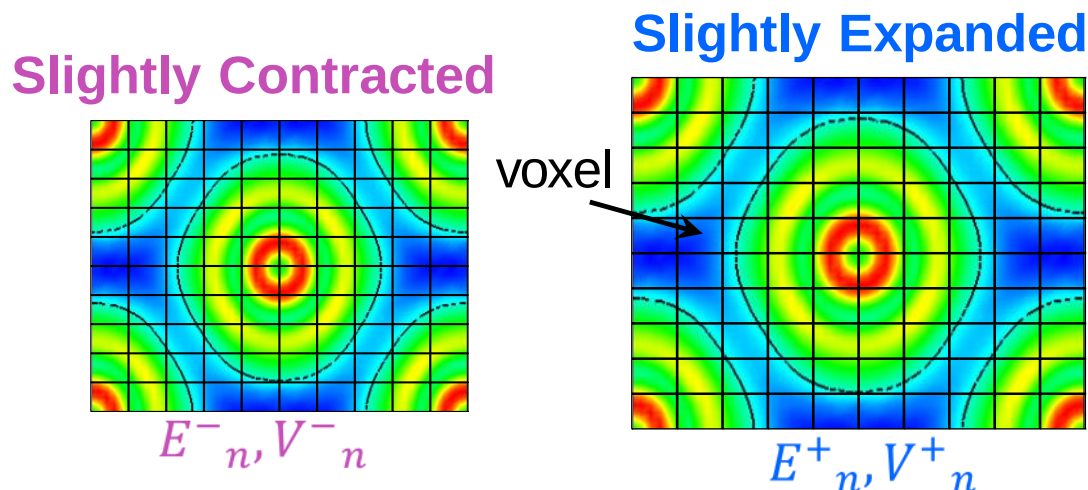
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Chemical Pressure Maps of Molecules and Materials: Merging the Visual and Physical in Bonding Analysis

Hussien H. Osman,^{†,§} Miguel A. Salvadó,[†] Pilar Pertierra,[†] Joshua Engelkemier,[‡]
Daniel C. Fredrickson,^{*,†,§} and J. Manuel Recio^{*,†,‡}

Chemical Pressure Formalism. Chemical Meaning

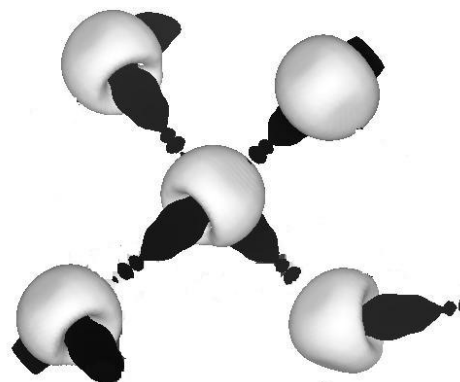
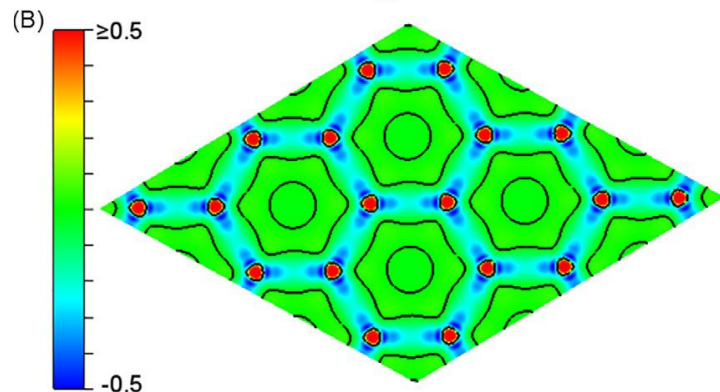
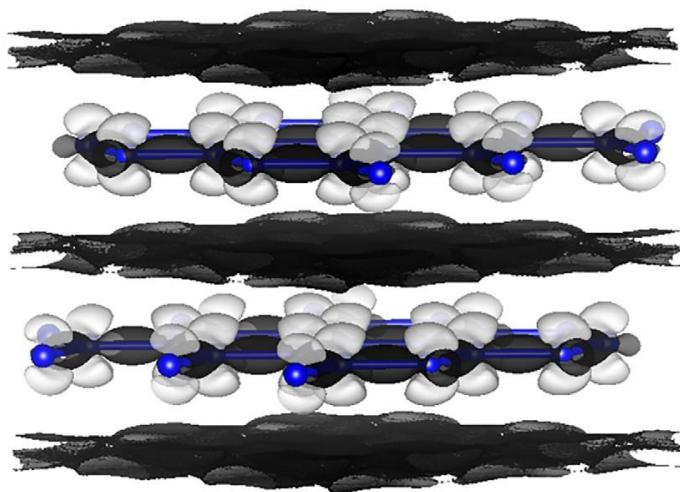
- The unit cell is divided in N_v voxels of volume V_v where the energy density function is evaluated
- **Positive CP** values are associated with non-bonding and antibonding regions. Electron density would like to expand in order to lower the energy of the system.
- **Negative CP** values are associated with bonding regions. Electron density would like to be accumulated (compressed) in order to lower the energy of the system.
- CP analysis gives a global picture of chemical interactions



$$p_n = - \frac{E_n^+ - E_n^-}{V_n^+ - V_n^-}$$

Chemical Pressure Formalism Chemical Bonding

Graphite

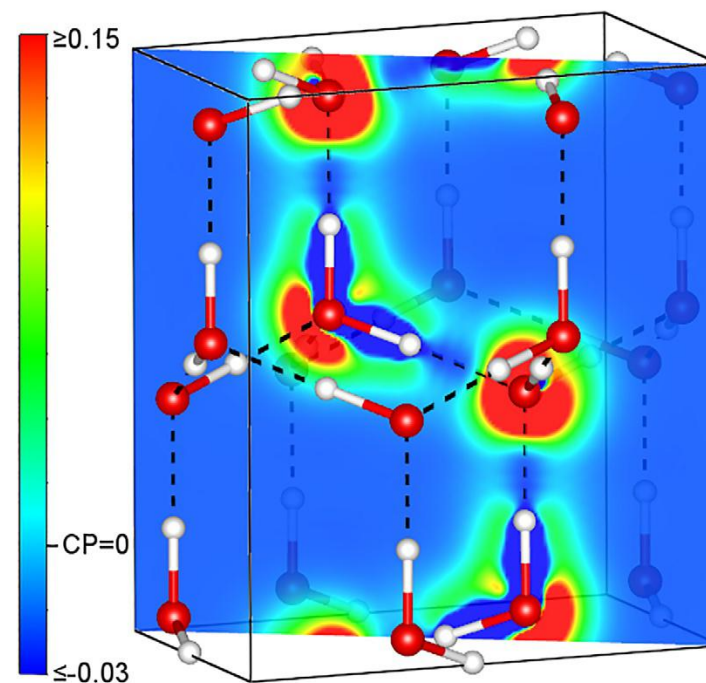
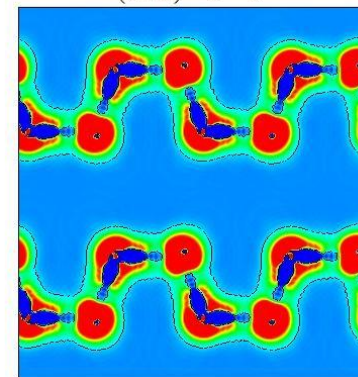


$\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{I}_\text{H}$

3.5 a.u.

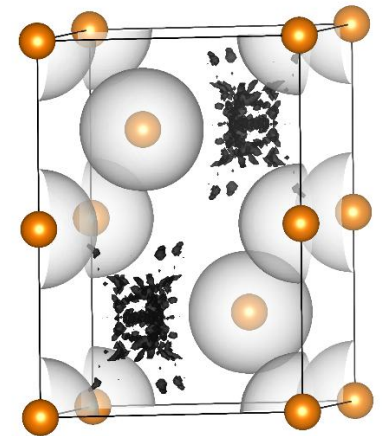
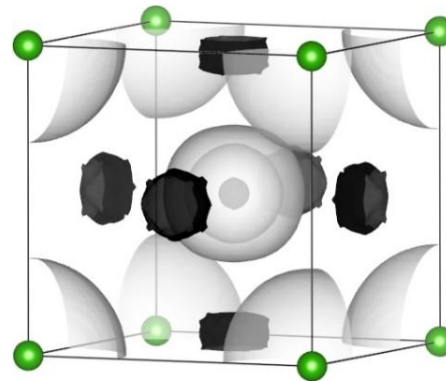
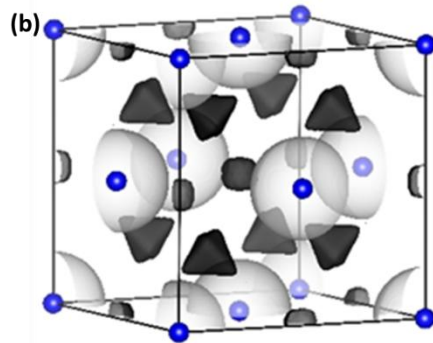
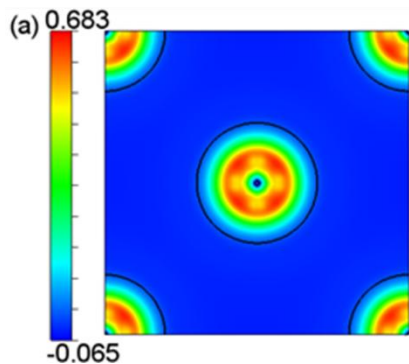
(0 1 0) $z = 0$

-1.5



Chemical Pressure. Inorganic crystal structures

- **Metallic phases:** *fcc* and *sc*-Ca, CsCl-BaSn, *hP4*-K and *fcc*-Na
- **Inorganic crystals:** CaF_2 , CaX ($\text{X} = \text{O}, \text{S}, \text{Se}, \text{Te}$), BaSnO_3 , K_2S and NaX ($\text{X} = \text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{Br}, \text{I}$).



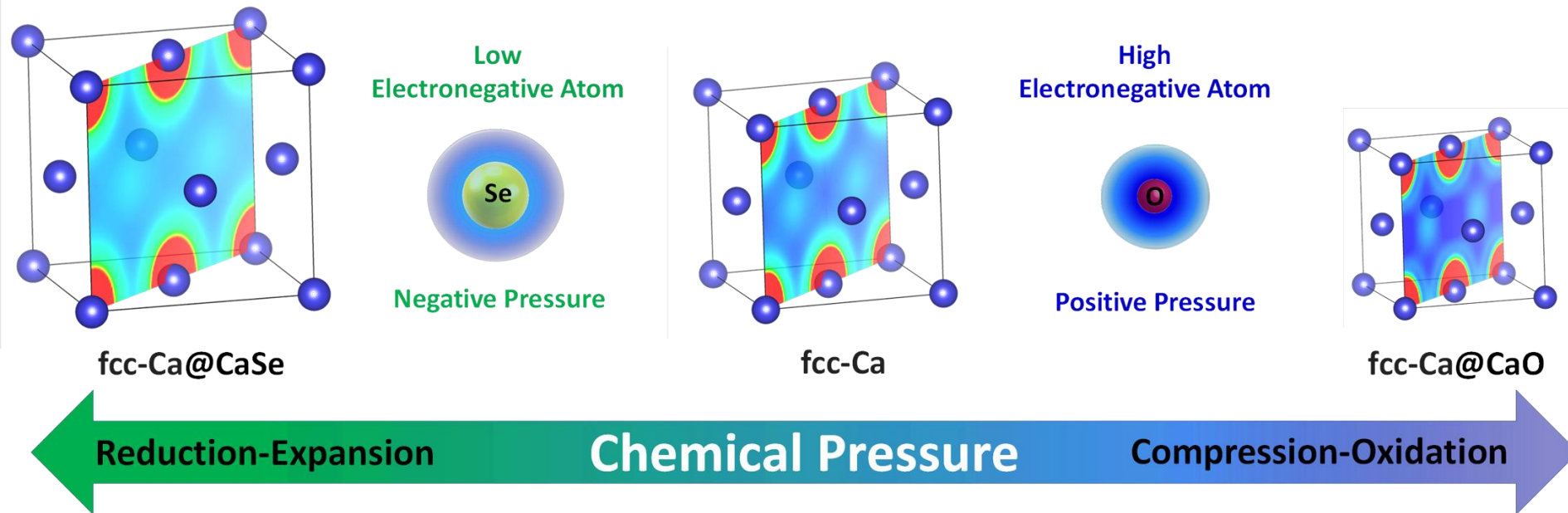
Chemical pressure (CP) analysis of *fcc*-Ca at equilibrium conditions. (a) Cross-section along the (001) plane containing the Ca atoms. The $\text{CP} = 0$ contour is shown with a black solid line. (b) 3D isosurfaces with $\text{CP} = +0.001$ (white) and $\text{CP} = -0.0274$ (black). Pressures are given in atomic units.

CP isosurfaces of BaSn lattice (Ba = green, Sn = blue) at the equilibrium volume of BaSnO_3 . White and black isosurfaces are of $\text{CP} = +0.001$ and $\text{CP} = -0.0125$ au, respectively.

3D CP isosurfaces in the *hP4* phase of metallic K at the volume of K_2S compound. White and black isosurfaces are of $\text{CP} = +0.001$ and $\text{CP} = -0.043$ au, respectively.

Generalized stress-redox equivalence

Stress-Redox Equivalence



Electronegativity and equalization principle

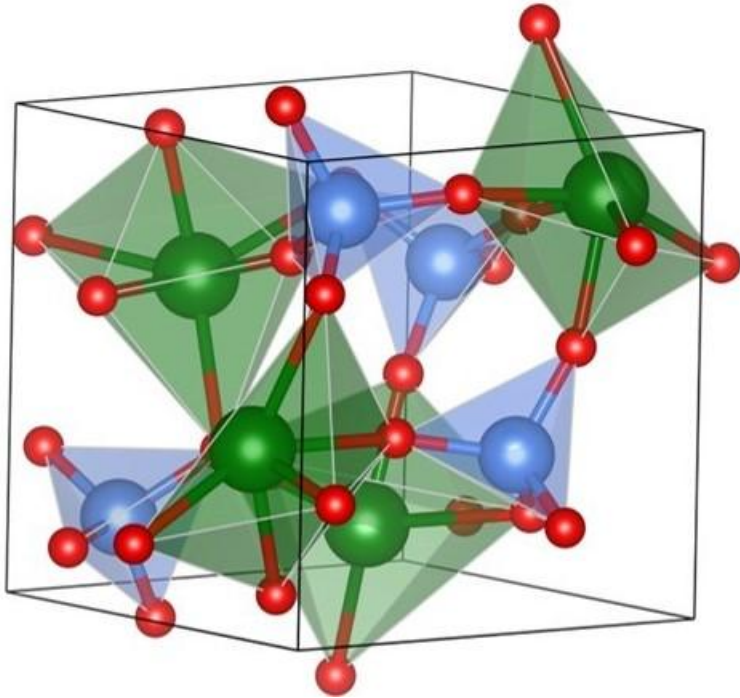
KEY-LOCK PRINCIPLE

Upon crystal formation, the metallic subarray adjust its size either reducing or increasing its volume just to match the electronegativity of the non-metallic element.



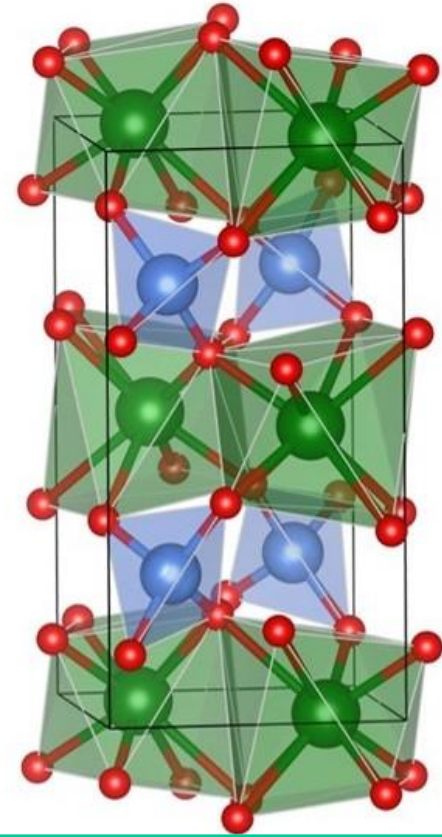
Only non-metallic elements with the electronegativity corresponding to the CP minimum value of the metallic lattice can enter in those positions and form the inorganic crystal.

Solid State Solutions. $\text{SnMo}_{(1-x)}\text{W}_x\text{O}_4$



Beta-phase. Cubic

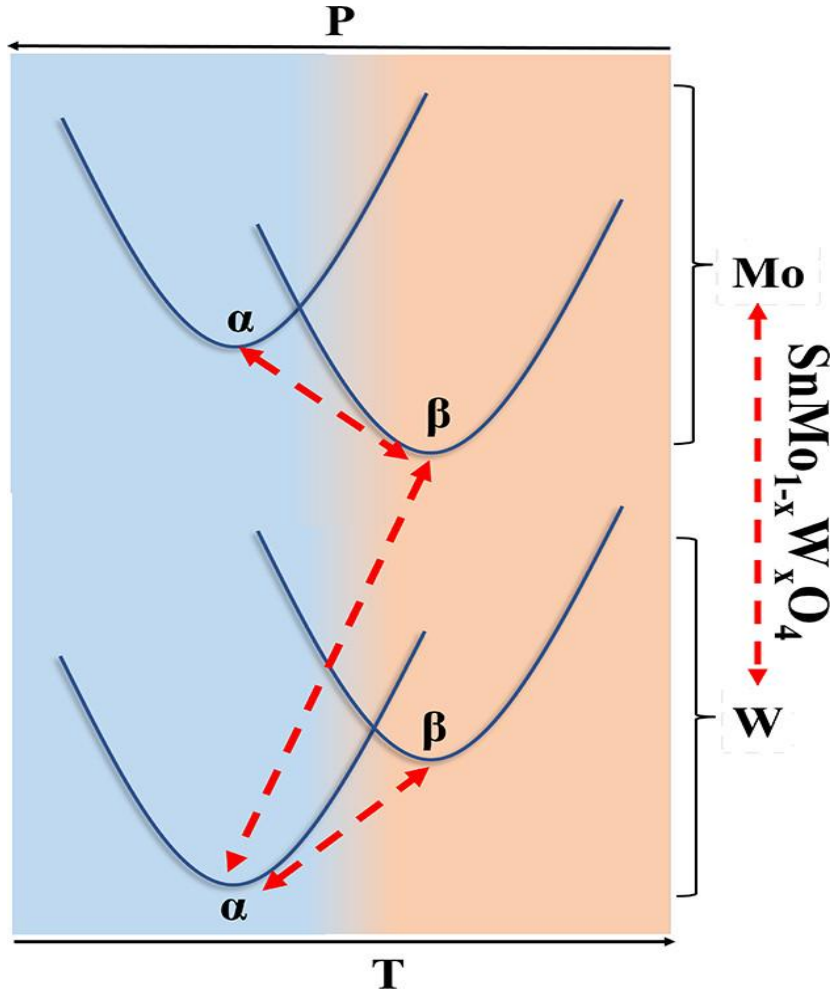
- SnMoO_4 at RCs. $V = 90.9 \text{ \AA}^3$
- SnWO_4 at high T ($p < 0$). $V = 88.5 \text{ \AA}^3$
- Direct gap
- $r(\text{Mo}^{6+}) \sim 0.41 \text{ \AA}$



Alpha-phase. Orthorhombic

- SnWO_4 at RCs. $V = 81.5 \text{ \AA}^3$
- SnMoO_4 at high p ($p > 0$). $V = 81.3 \text{ \AA}^3$
- Indirect gap
- $r(\text{W}^{6+}) \sim 0.42 \text{ \AA}$

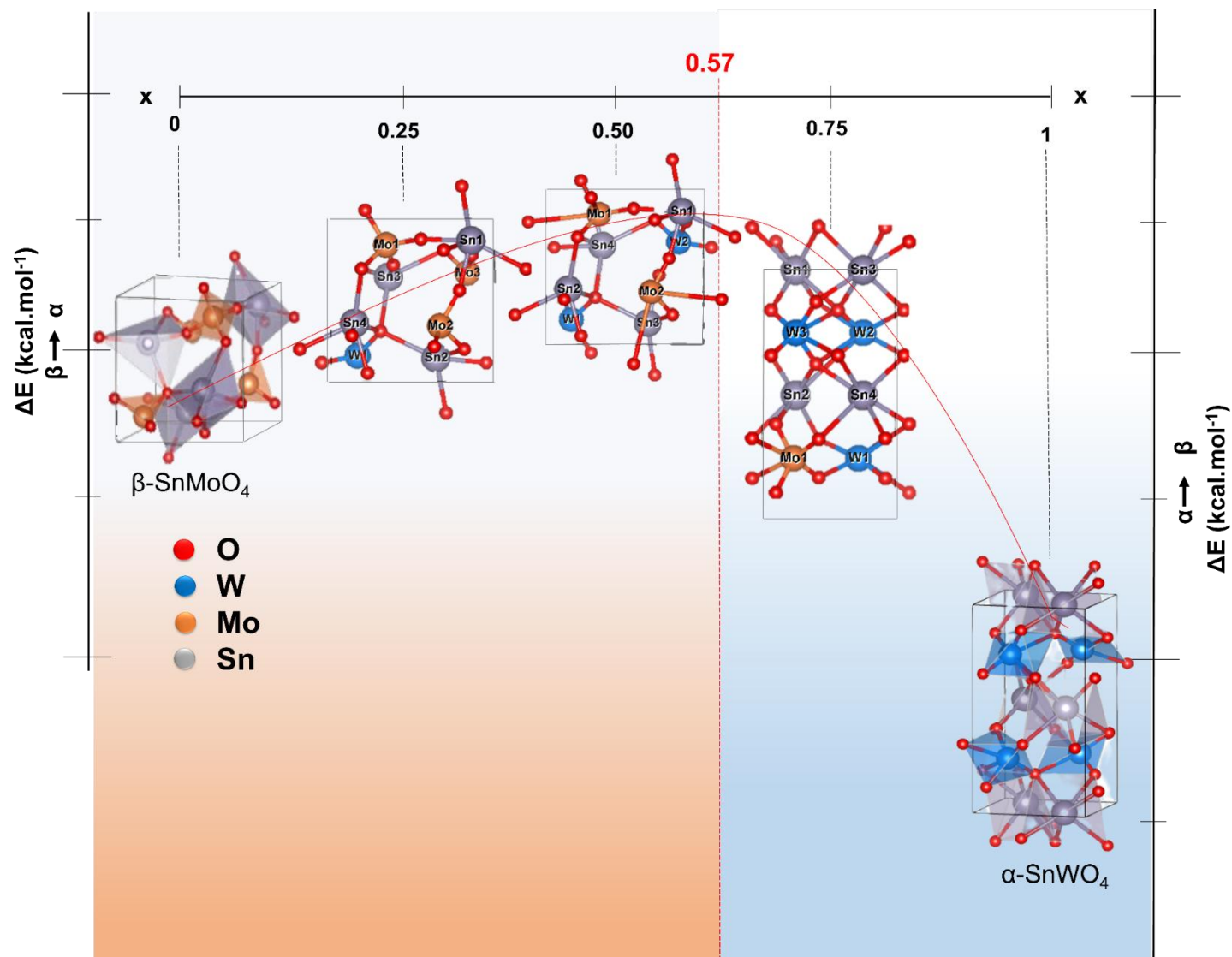
CP-PP Equivalence in $\text{SnMo}_{1-x}\text{W}_x\text{O}_4$



- Candidates to improve photocatalysis in hydrogen economy.
- SnWO_4 orthorhombic α phase. Small and indirect band gap.
- SnMoO_4 cubic β phase with a direct band gap around 1.5 eV higher than α - SnWO_4 .
- Chemical doping controls the stable structure

- $\beta\text{-SnMoO}_4 \rightarrow \alpha\text{-SnMoO}_4$ (1 GPa) / $\beta\text{-SnMoO}_4 \rightarrow \alpha\text{-SnMo}_{0.57}\text{W}_{0.43}\text{O}_4$
- $\alpha\text{-SnWO}_4 \rightarrow \beta\text{-SnWO}_4$ (1200 K (-3 GPa)) / $\alpha\text{-SnWO}_4 \rightarrow \beta\text{-SnMo}_{0.57}\text{W}_{0.43}\text{O}_4$

Polymorphism in $\text{SnMo}_{(1-x)}\text{W}_x\text{O}_4$

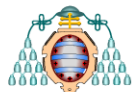


Polymorphism induced by chemical pressure

First Si+C+O mineral



EHPRG51 European High Pressure Research Group International Meeting (EHPRG 51)
1-6 September 2013
Queen Mary University of London, UK



Prediction of a novel stable SiCO crystal structure
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PHYSICAL REVIEW X **4**, 011030 (2014)

Unraveling Crystalline Structure of High-Pressure Phase of Silicon Carbonate

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²Department of Chemistry and Nebraska Center for Materials and Nanoscience, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska 68588, USA

Introduction

Although CO₂ and SiO₂ do not react at ambient conditions, their structural analogies at high pressure raise the question whether any Si-C-O crystalline phase may exist. An interface consisting of unknown SiCO compounds has been first proposed for the oxidized silicon carbide. Also, recent experiments performed by Santoro et al. at 18–26 GPa and 600–900 K by reacting silicene, a microporous zeolite, and molecular CO₂ filling the pores claimed the synthesis of a silicon carbonate phase with CO₂ units.

It opens the way for a new class of stable carbonate compounds at pressures close to the Earth's mantle conditions, with possible implications in the understanding of the deep-carbon cycle and the carbon storage. We present here results from extensive structural searches of crystalline systems containing just silicon, carbon and oxygen atoms.

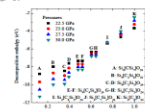
Method

- Structural searches were performed with the **USPEX** code according to the chemical reaction $x\text{SiO}_2 + y\text{SiO}_2 \rightarrow \text{Si}_x\text{C}_y\text{O}_{2(x+y)}$, x, y varying between 1 and 3, up to 4 formula units, pressures from 15 to 150 GPa.
- Underlying DFT *ab-initio* calculations were performed with the **VASP** code.
 - PBE exchange-correlation functional and PAW description of the electron-ion core interaction.
 - Lowest enthalpy structures were reoptimized with more stringent accuracy (cut-off energy: 600 eV, k-point grid spacing $2\pi \times 0.03 \text{ \AA}^{-1}$).
- Phonon frequencies were calculated using density-functional perturbation theory as implemented in the **ESPRESSO** package.
 - Full phonon dispersion curves obtained by Fourier transformation matrices computed on (4,4,4) regular q-point grids.

Is there any SiCO compound compatible with crystal-chemistry?

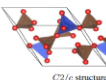
From database analysis, we found a candidate structure: $\text{U}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$ (C_{2h}/c , $Z=4$). It has the correct $\text{Si}_1-\text{C}_2\text{O}_2$ stoichiometry k : carbonate (CO₂) units when substituting U and B for Si and C, respectively. After optimization at 28 GPa, it shows distorted SiO₄ and CO₂ units, and it is unstable vs. decomposition into CO₂-III and SiO₂-stishovite.

We analyzed the relationship between carbon content and stability. Different SiCO configurations were generated replacing U and B[†] for Si and C in the conventional reference structure $\text{U}_3\text{B}_2\text{O}_4$ ($n=1-8$).



Decomposition enthalpy vs carbon content for different SiCO isomers.

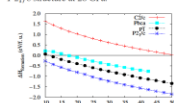
- Evolving influence of pressure over the decomposition reaction as C content increases.
- $|dH/dn|$ decreases when C content increases for a given pressure.
- SiC_2O_4 is the most plausible stoichiometry.



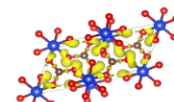
C_{2h} structure

Searches on SiC₂O₄ compounds

- $Z = 1, 2, 3, 4$. Pressures: 20, 24, 28, 32 GPa.
- Lowest enthalpy structure $P2_1/c$, $Z=2$.



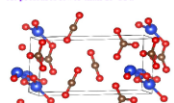
- SiO_4 tetrahedra are clearly unstable.
- The most stable structures found in the searches present SiO₄ octahedra corner-connected through almost planar CO₂ units.



- ELF isosurface (ELF=0.85) for the $P2_1/c$ structure.
- Covalent bond basin associated to the C-O bond.
- Ionic character of the Si-O bonds.

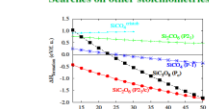
Evolution with pressure of SiC₂O₄ compounds

Searches at 0.5, 5, 15, 50, 65, 80, 100 and 150 GPa
At pressures lower than 15 GPa

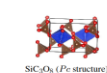


- The searches signal the decomposition into molecular units. Although the $P2_1/c$ structure is unstable versus decomposition into CO₂ and SiO₂, it is still dynamically stable.

Searches on other stoichiometries



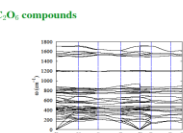
Enthalpies of formation per formula unit for $\text{Si}_x\text{C}_y\text{O}_{2(x+y)}$ isomers.



SiC_2O_4 ($P2_1/c$ structure)

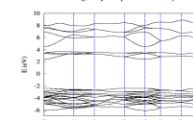


SiCO_2 ($P1$ structure)



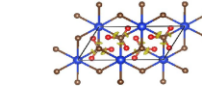
Phonon dispersion curves for the $P2_1/c$ structure at 27.5 GPa.

- Absence of imaginary frequencies → **Dynamically stable**.



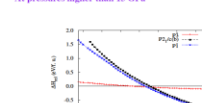
Electronic band structure of the $P2_1/c$ structure at 0 GPa.

- Insulator ($E_g = 4.8 \text{ eV}$) until very high pressures.



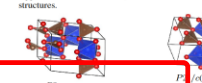
- ELF isosurface (ELF=0.85) of the SiC_2 matrix.
- In spite of its metallic character, it presents 3 ELF attractors of very high ELF value.
- The formation and localization of the oxygen anions can be related to them.

At pressures higher than 15 GPa



Enthalpies relative to the $P2_1/c$ structure vs pressure.

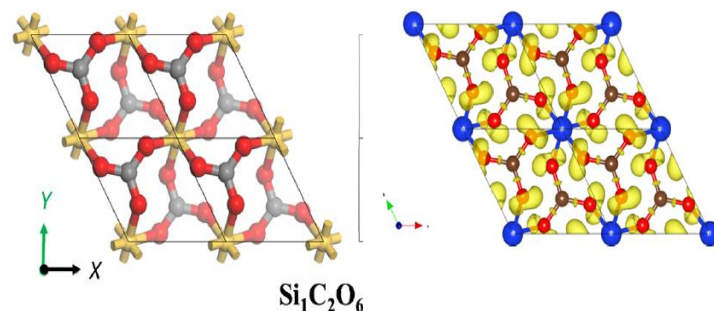
- Symmetrization towards the $P2_1/c$ structure.
- Appearance of distorted CO₂ tetrahedra in the $P1$ and $P2_1/c$ structures.



$P1$ structure

$P2_1/c$ structure

- SiC_2O_4 is the most favourable stoichiometry.
- SiC_2O_4 and SiCO_2 are also stable against decomposition.
- The most stable structures consist of SiO₄ octahedra and triangular (CO₂) or tetrahedral (CO₂) units.



PCCP

PAPER



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2015, 17, 25055

A novel crystalline SiCO compound

Miriam Marqués,^a Angel Morales-García,^b José Manuel Menéndez,^c
Valentin G. Baonza^b and José Manuel Recio^c

The previously proposed $P\bar{3}$ structure ($Z = 1$)¹² is thermodynamically stable against decomposition in a slightly smaller pressure range than the $P2_1/c$ structure, from 9.4 to 37.3 GPa (see Fig. 4).

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A Chemical Bonding Interpretation of Unusual Compressibility Trends in Hydrated Magnesium Sulfates

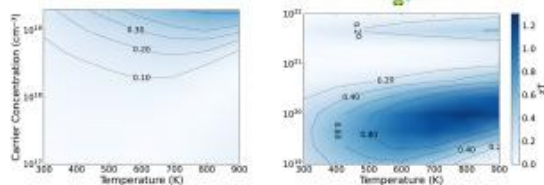
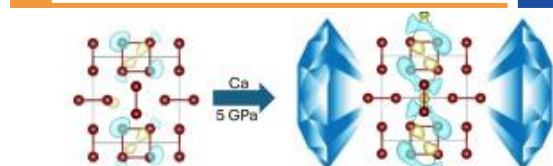
Getachew G. Kebede, Ruth Franco, Fernando Izquierdo-Ruiz, Alvaro Lobato,* and J. Manuel Recio*

Cite This: *Inorg. Chem.* 2025, 64, 17712–17721

Pressure-Driven Water Release from Magnesium Sulfate Hydrates: Thermodynamic and Mechanistic Insights

Getachew G. Kebede, Ruth Franco, Fernando Izquierdo-Ruiz, Alvaro Lobato,* and J. Manuel Recio*

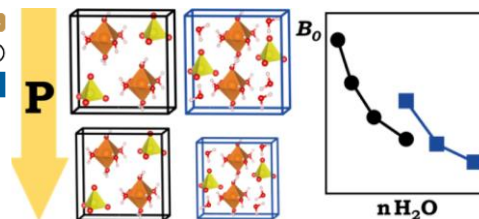
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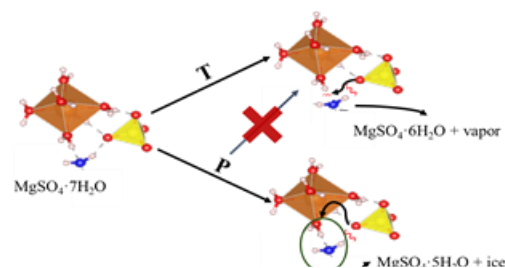
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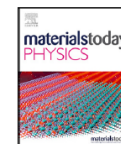
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Decoupling electronic transport properties: A combined physical and chemical pressure approach for boosting thermoelectric performance in skutterudites

Álvaro Lobato^{a,*}, Elena R. Remesal^b, Antonio M. Márquez^b, Fernando Izquierdo-Ruiz^a, Alberto Otero-de-la-Roza^c, Ernesto J. Blancas^c, J. Manuel Recio^c, José J. Plata^b

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