



# Northwest Africa 8694, a ferroan chassignite: Bridging the gap between nakhlites and chassignites

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## Abstract

The origin(s) of the chassignites and nakhlites, closely related martian olivine and augite cumulates, respectively, are much debated. Northwest Africa (NWA) 8694 is the third chassignite to be discovered and the most ferroan, containing 85% olivine (Fo<sub>54</sub>). Its O-isotope compositions ( $\delta^{18}\text{O} \sim 4.4\text{‰}$ ,  $\Delta^{17}\text{O} \sim 0.30\text{‰}$ ) are typical of other martian meteorites. It has adcumulate texture and contains cumulus chromite, poikilitic pigeonite (En<sub>56</sub>Fs<sub>37</sub>Wo<sub>7</sub>) and mesostasis (trapped interstitial liquid). The latter contains pyroxene and plagioclase (An<sub>23</sub> Ab<sub>70</sub> Or<sub>8</sub>) plus rare K-feldspar (Or<sub>74</sub>), and has a trachyandesitic to trachytic bulk composition. Melt inclusions in olivine contain a variety of phases including biotite and rare amphibole. Olivine, chromite, and pigeonite compositions are intermediate between those of the other chassignites and those of the nakhlites. Augite, which appears to mantle pigeonite, has a composition overlapping that in nakhlite NWA 998 and some other nakhlites at (En<sub>41–40</sub>Wo<sub>38–39</sub>). The augite lamellae in pigeonite 1–2  $\mu\text{m}$  in apparent width, and the survival of Ca zoning in olivine, suggest a near-surface cooling environment. The bulk-rock REE concentrations in the three chassignites do not correlate with Mg# but depend on the abundance of trapped liquid. The form of REE patterns calculated for olivine subtraction is very like those of nakhlite mesostases, but the observed concentrations of LREE in NWA 8694 trapped liquid have a very steep slope. This is explained by undersampling of baddeleyite and zirconolite that occur near olivine contacts with mesostasis. Though pyroxene is unzoned, its trace element variations indicate fractional crystallization. The range of olivine compositions in the three chassignites (Fo<sub>79–54</sub>) is too large to result from the crystallization sequential growth of olivine from a single magma undergoing fractional crystallization. The Ge/Si ratios show degassing of NWA 8694 which sets this chassignite apart from other chassignites and nakhlites, implying a unique batch of magma for its genesis. Many potential parent liquids are capable of generating the NWA 8694 olivine composition, though not its alkaline mesostasis. We calculated that Nakhla parent liquid NA01a (Stockstill et al., 2005) with 10% Nakhla core olivine added would produce both olivine crystals and alkaline daughter liquids with compositions matching those of NWA 8694. This meteorite is a chassignite cumulate containing nakhlitic mesostasis, a direct link between the chassignites and the nakhlites and the association of dunitic to trachytic compositions

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is reminiscent of terrestrial shield volcanoes. Chassignites and nakhlites were possibly formed when solidification fronts on chamber walls were disrupted, mainly as side eruptions of olivine-charged magmas from the deeper zones, and augite-charged fractionated magmas from nearer the summit of a volcano resembling Piton de la Fournaise on Earth.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Martian meteorites have been a major source of information on Mars since Nakhla was first recognized as having the mineral assemblage of a planetary igneous rock (Reid and Bunch, 1975) with a young crystallization age (Gale et al., 1975). That same year Mason et al. (1976) suggested that Chassigny was a cumulate from the nakhlite parent liquid. The chassignites are the least well known of the SNC meteorites (shergottites; nakhlites and chassignites), consisting until now of only two meteorites, Chassigny (Floran et al., 1978; Johnson et al., 1991) and North West Africa (NWA) 2737 (Beck et al., 2006; Treiman, 2005; He et al., 2013). Chassignites share many characteristics with nakhlites, including crystallization and ejection ages (Nyquist et al., 2001), trace element abundance patterns (Mason et al., 1976; Wadhwa and Crozaz, 1995; Beck et al., 2006; Udry and Day, 2018), and volatile element abundances (McCubbin et al., 2013). Chassignites are adcumulate dunites with cumulus olivine and chromite, while nakhlites are augite cumulates. Chassignite and nakhlite textures resemble those of cumulates in Archean rocks - dunite in komatiite flows and pyroxenite in the lower parts of associated thick differentiated tholeiitic flows (Arndt et al., 1977; Friedman-Lentz et al., 1999; Treiman, 2005; Day et al., 2006). Dunites similar to chassignites have also been observed in association with shield volcanoes, as xenoliths and as cumulates beneath basaltic lavas that are part of the same igneous complex (Babkine et al., 1966; Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019).

A genetic relationship between chassignites and nakhlites has long been considered (Mason et al., 1976; Stolper et al., 1979; McCubbin et al., 2013). There is a sequence of textures and compositions in nakhlites reflecting cooling history that allowed them to be ordered as in a single igneous body (Mikouchi et al., 2003; Day et al., 2006), with chassignites added to the base of this sequence (e.g. McCubbin et al., 2013). However, considering subtle differences in otherwise similar nakhlites and in chassignites, such as their Ar-Ar ages and augite incompatible element fractionation trends, these rocks may represent several closely related flows or shallow intrusions, possibly with different parent magmas derived from a common mantle source (Wadhwa and Crozaz, 1995; Jambon et al., 2016; Balta et al., 2017; Cohen et al. 2017; Mikouchi et al., 2017; Udry and Day, 2018). Nevertheless, the similarities of nakhlites and chassignites suggest that the most magnesian nakhlites, like NWA 998 (Treiman and Irving, 2008), could have a close physical or genetic relationship to the most evolved chassignites.

Northwest Africa 8694 is a 55 g stone obtained in Agadir in July, 2014. It has a texture and modal composition

like those of the other chassignites, but is highly ferroan (Hewins et al., 2015, 2017). The olivine composition of NWA 8694 expands the known range of Mg# ( $100 \times \text{atomic Mg}/(\text{Fe} + \text{Mg})$  ratio) in the chassignites from 77 in NWA 2737 to 54 in NWA 8694, and is intermediate between those of Chassigny and nakhlites. We have therefore undertaken a petrologic and geochemical study of this key meteorite, and compare it to the most magnesian, least fractionated, most mesostasis-poor nakhlites like NWA 998 (Mikouchi et al., 2006; Treiman and Irving, 2008). Cosmic-ray exposure (CRE) ages and noble gas compositions observed for NWA 8694 chassignite suggest it is launch-paired with Miller Range (MIL) nakhlites (Nagao et al., 2019). Our study sheds light on the origin and evolution of chassignite parent magmas, and confirms the close relationships between chassignites and nakhlites.

## 2. SAMPLES AND METHODS

### 2.1. Oxygen isotopes

Triplicate oxygen isotope analyses were performed at the Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris, over three distinct sessions. Analytical methods are similar to those documented in Rumble et al. (1997). Briefly, prior to analysis, samples were pre-fluorinated overnight using  $\text{BrF}_5$ . Both samples and garnet standard UWG-2 (Gore Mountain mine, Adirondack Mountains, New York, see Valley et al., 1995) were then analysed using laser fluorination. Oxygen isotopic ratios ( $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ ) were normalized to UWG-2 garnet with  $\delta^{18}\text{O} = 5.75\text{‰}$  (Valley et al., 1995) and reported versus the international standard, V-SMOW (standard mean ocean water) using the conventional delta-notation, where

$$\delta^{18}\text{O} = \left( \frac{^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}_{\text{sample}}}{^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}_{\text{standard}}} - 1 \right) \times 1000, \text{ with } \delta^{18}\text{O} \text{ denoting either } ^{17}\text{O} \text{ or } ^{18}\text{O}.$$

### 2.2. Mineralogy-petrology

Three parallel polished sections of NWA 8694 exposing a total area of  $\sim 3 \text{ cm}^2$  were studied using optical microscopy, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), and electron probe microanalysis (EPMA). Two sections were subsequently split horizontally to make doubly polished, double-sided epoxy mounts. Similar analyses were made on Chassigny and NWA 2737 for comparison. Backscattered electron (BSE) maps, X-ray maps, and images of selected regions were made at MNHN using a Tescan VEGA II LSU SEM in conventional mode (mainly 15 keV and  $<20 \text{ nA}$ ), and minerals were characterized with an SD3 (Bruker) Energy

Dispersive Spectrometer (EDS). We used a scan speed of 64  $\mu\text{s}/\text{pxl}$  and a pixel size of 884 nm for cartography. Phases were identified from BSE intensity and modal abundances were calculated after scanning  $\sim 200,000,000$  px<sup>2</sup> per section. Sulfide microphases were located by manual scans in the BSE mode on sections 2 and 3, and were identified with EDS. Their compositions were analyzed at 15 kV accelerating voltage by a PhiRhoZ EDS standardless procedure after careful imaging of each grain in the BSE mode at high magnification ( $\times 2,000$ – $\times 10,000$ ); information on the accuracy of this technique are given in [Gattacceca et al. \(2013\)](#). Minor-element X-ray maps of olivine crystals were also made using a Cameca SX100 electron microprobe at the Université Paris VI with a 500 nA current, after quantitative analyses because of the risk of beam damage ([Goodrich et al., 2013](#)). Quantitative analyses of all minerals except for sulfides were made by wavelength-dispersive spectrometry on the Cameca SXFive electron microprobe at the Université Paris VI, using an LaB<sub>6</sub> source, at 15 keV. The current was generally 10 nA with a focused beam but 4 nA, with  $6 \times 8 \mu\text{m}$  and up to  $12 \times 15$  rasters, was used for feldspathic and glassy material. The quality of the analyses was checked using San Carlos and Eagle Station olivine, and Astimex MINM25-53 albite, orthoclase, quartz, kaersutite, and biotite, as internal standards.

### 2.3. LA-ICP-MS

Laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) analyses with an Electro Scientific Instruments New Wave™ UP193FX excimer (ArF) laser coupled to a Thermo Element XR™ sector field ICP-MS were performed at the Plasma Analytical Facility, at the NHMFL, Florida, using methods described elsewhere ([Humayun et al., 2010](#); [Yang et al., 2015](#); [Oulton et al., 2016](#)). A total of 78 peaks of 72 elements were monitored in low mass resolving power to correct for isobaric interferences, including from doubly charged ions ([Yang et al., 2015](#)). The ICP-MS was tuned to yield  $^{238}\text{UO}^+ / ^{238}\text{U}^+ \sim 0.3\%$ . Individual mineral grains were analysed with 25 or 50  $\mu\text{m}$  spots and 5-second laser dwell time per spot, or with 100  $\mu\text{m}$  spots and 20-second laser dwell time per spot, at 50 Hz laser repetition rate. Abundances of major elements and most lithophile elements were calibrated using the USGS glass standards BCR-2g, BHVO-2g and BIR-1g ([Humayun et al., 2010](#); [Jochum et al., 2011](#)), with the remaining elements calibrated against NIST SRM 610, NIST SRM 1263a, and the iron meteorites Hoba and North Chile ([Humayun et al., 2007](#); [Yang et al., 2015](#); [Oulton et al., 2016](#)). Individual spot analyses were taken on two sections of MNHN Chassigny 2525 (Sp1 and Sp2) and on a doubly polished epoxy mount of NWA 8694. A bulk analysis of NWA 8694 was performed on the reverse side of the NWA 8694 mount with a 100  $\mu\text{m}$  spot size, rastered at 10  $\mu\text{m}/\text{s}$  with 50 Hz laser repetition rate, covering an area of  $2 \times 3$  mm.

### 2.4. ICP-AES and ICP-SFMS

A 0.136 g sample of NWA 8694 was crushed using a boron carbide mortar and pestle into a homogenous fine-

grained powder in clean room conditions at the Institut Universitaire Européen de la Mer (IUEM), Plouzané, at the same time as a 0.115 g sample of Chassigny. The powder was dissolved and analyzed for major and trace element concentrations by ICP-AES (inductively coupled plasma – absorption emission spectrometry), and by ICP-SFMS (inductively coupled plasma – sector field mass spectrometry) following the procedures described by [Barrat et al. \(2012\)](#). Based on replicate standards and samples ([Barrat et al., 2012, 2014, 2016](#)), the precision for abundances is much better than 5%. The precision for trace element ratios (e.g.,  $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*$ , where  $\text{Eu}^*$  is the interpolated Eu for a smooth CI-normalized rare earth element (REE) pattern, such that  $\text{Eu}_n^* = (\text{Sm}_n \times \text{Gd}_n)^{1/2}$ ) is better than 2.5% ( $2 \times$  relative standard deviation).

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1. Oxygen isotopes

The measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ -values ranged from 4.53 to 4.17‰ with an average value of  $4.39 \pm 0.19\text{‰}$  (1 s) within the range of previous measurements (e.g. [Franchi et al., 1999](#)).  $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$ -values [where  $\Delta^{17}\text{O} = \delta^{17}\text{O} ((\delta^{18}\text{O}/1000 + 1)^{0.5305} - 1) \times 1000$ ] varied between 0.274 and 0.358‰, averaging  $0.303 \pm 0.048\text{‰}$  ( $1\sigma$ ,  $n = 3$ , from 1 sample) values within the range of other studies (e.g.  $0.275 \pm 0.013$  using the data of [Franchi et al. \(1999\)](#) recalculated using the 0.5305 mass-exponent,  $n = 34$  from 11 samples). Our measurements are shown in [Fig. S1](#) along with the Mars Fractionation Line calculated by regression of analyses tabulated by [Ali et al. \(2016\)](#). Our values are typical of other martian meteorites and provide an independent validation that NWA 8694 originates from the parent body of other nakhlites and chassignites.

### 3.2. Petrography

The textures of the three chassignites are compared in [Fig. 1](#). NWA 8694 is a cumulate dunite with 85% olivine grains up to 1 mm in size, with similar mineral proportions and textures to the two other chassignites now known, though clearly Chassigny has the most olivine and the least intercumulus material ([Fig. 1](#)). Full resolution BSE images are given in [Fig. S2](#). Olivine displays irregular and planar fractures in NWA 8694, indicating shock as in Chassigny ([Langenhorst and Greshake, 1999](#)). Chromite is highly fractured; it is enclosed by and molded round olivine, and is euhedral where enclosed by pyroxene. The main interstitial (intercumulus or adcumulus) phases in NWA 8694 are poikilitic pigeonite and augite, both with very fine ( $\sim 1$ – $2 \mu\text{m}$ ) exsolution lamellae. The augite occurs between olivine and pigeonite in many cases, swathing the olivine, and also in mesostasis patches and melt inclusions. The pigeonite in some mesostasis patches encloses feldspar or maskelynite laths. Minor phases include apatite, and ilmenite and accessory phases are Fe-Ni (Cu) sulfides and Zr-rich oxides (baddeleyite and zirconolite).

The abundances of constituent phases identified by BSE intensity were determined by counting  $\sim 250,000,000$  px<sup>2</sup>

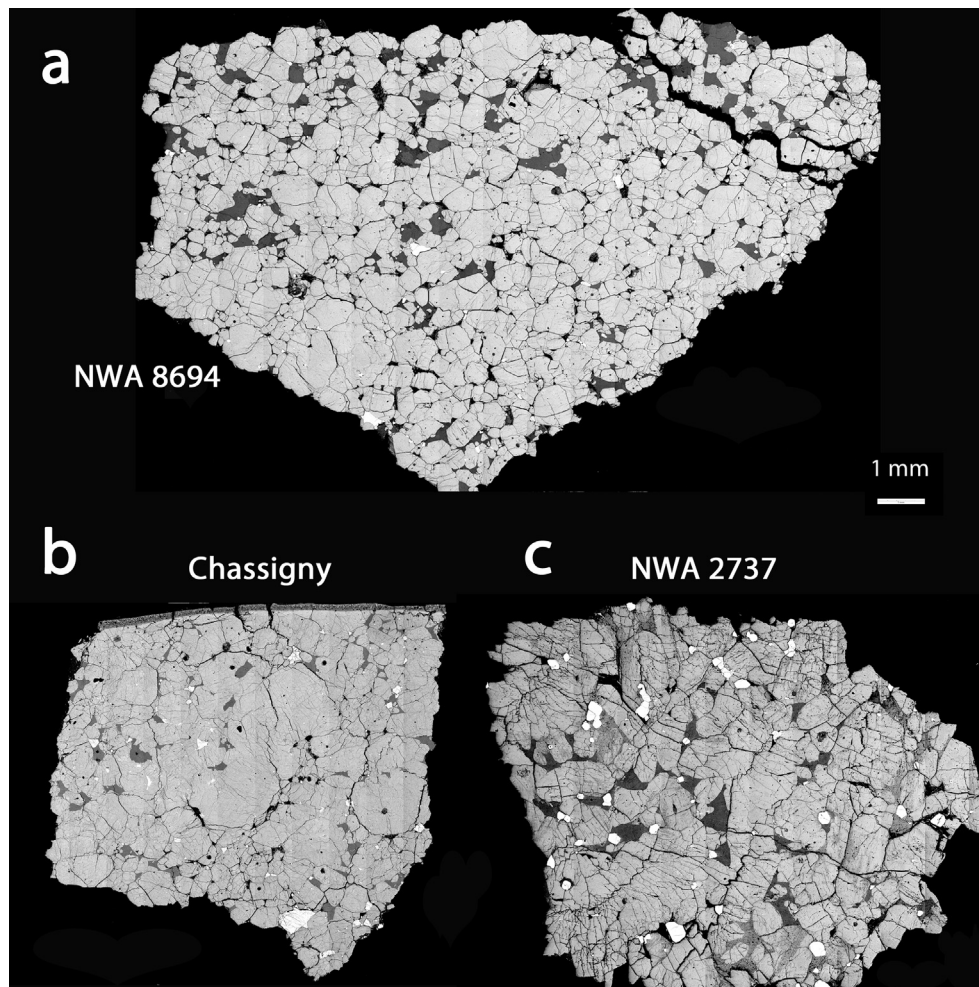


Fig. 1. Back scattered electron (BSE) maps of chassignites (a) NWA 8694 (b) Chassigny (c) NWA 2737. In each image the brightest phase is chromite, followed by olivine, then dark grey pyroxene and black feldspar and glass, but in (c) shocked olivine contains medium grey ribbons or patches.

each for three sections, and are shown in Table 1, along with those of the other two chassignites (Floran et al., 1978; Udry and Day, 2018; Mikouchi et al., 2005; Beck et al., 2006; Treiman, 2005). NWA 8694 has significantly less olivine,  $84.9 \pm 1.3\%$ , than Chassigny and NWA 2737 with  $90.5 \pm 1.3$  and  $90.7 \pm 2.4\%$  respectively; and less chromite,  $0.8 \pm 0.1$  vs.  $1.4 \pm 0.3$  and  $3.3 \pm 0.9\%$ ; but significantly more pyroxene,  $10.6 \pm 1.9$  vs.  $3.2 \pm 2.1$  and  $5.3 \pm 3.0$ , respectively. Abundances of feldspar/glass are not significantly different. Thus NWA 8694 contains more intercumulus material than the other chassignites, though these phases are heterogeneously distributed, as reflected in the different abundances in different sections of the same meteorite. The meteorite has an accumulate texture except in small patches where abundant interstitial material gives an orthocumulate texture (Fig. 1).

Interstices between olivine grains are largely filled by pigeonite and augite. The continuity of augite lamellae across different interstitial pigeonite areas (Fig. S3) indicates that the pigeonite is poikilitic to olivine and suggests that it is an accumulus phase, as in Fig. 2 of Wager et al.

(1960). The olivine contains partly crystalline melt inclusions, surrounded by radial fractures (Fig. 2a).

The main phases in melt inclusions are orthopyroxene and K- or Na-bearing glasses; minor phases include apatite (identified in half of the 25 inclusions studied for sulfides), pyrrhotite, amphibole and biotite, which are significantly less abundant. The melt inclusions may be dominated by one phase (chromite, pyroxene or Al-rich glass) but many are polymineralic.

Mesostasis occurs instead of pyroxene between some olivine grains (Fig. 2b). The pyroxene of this mesostasis (orthopyroxene, pigeonite, and augite) is partly attached to olivine walls and is partly subophitic to plagioclase laths. Feldspar is dominant in some interstitial patches, in which plagioclase is accompanied by minor K-feldspar. Other phases include apatite needles, biotite, pyrrhotite, pyrite, and ilmenite. Zirconolite and baddeleyite were identified by EDS as micron scale grains, occurring near olivine rims. These phases are partly enclosed inside ilmenite, or plagioclase, or associated with other interstitial minerals.

Table 1

Modal abundances for three sections of NWA 8694 compared to those for other chassignites.

Volume %	NWA 8694–1	NWA 8694–2	NWA 8694–3	Chassigny a	Chassigny b	NWA 2737c	NWA 2737 d	NWA 2737 e	**NWA 2737f
Olivine	85.3	85.9	83.5	89.6	91.4	90.7	89.0	89.6	85.1
Chromite	0.8	0.7	0.7	1.6	1.2	2.7	3.0	4.6	2.9
Pyroxenes	11.6	8.8	11.5	4.6	1.7	2.0	7.0	4.1	9.0
Glass/Fsp	2.4	4.6	4.4	4.1	5.7	4.6	1.0	1.6	2.2
Phosphate	*0.14			0.2				0.2	

\*From P abundance. \*\*Contains 0.9% carbonate. a: Floran et al. (1978), b: Udry and Day (2018), c: Udry and Day (2018), d: Mikouchi et al. (2005), e: Beck et al. (2006), f: Trieman (2005).

Like the other two chassignites, NWA 8694 contains trace amounts of Fe-Ni (Cu) sulfides. Euhedral (prismatic) to spherical Ni-bearing pyrrhotite crystals (1–10  $\mu\text{m}$  in maximum dimension) occur in most melt inclusions in olivine (Fig. 3a,b). Enclosed pyrrhotite often coexists with apatite, and less frequently with chromite, pyroxene and/or amphibole. Such inclusions were occasionally preserved in interstitial trapped melt. Sulfide in intercumulus spaces are either Ni-pyrrhotite (Po) enclosing occasional pentlandite blebs (Pn) or discrete pyrite (Py) which was also identified in 3 fractured melt inclusions (over the 25 studied). Both Fe sulfides occur as polyhedral blebs evenly distributed throughout the two polished thin sections investigated here. Intercumulus sulfides can occur side by side with olivine, pyroxenes, chromite and interstitial feldspathic glass (Fig. 3c,d). Pyrrhotite and pyrite have not been observed to coexist within a single sulfide bleb. Pyrite shows fracture networks filled with Fe oxyhydroxides (Fig. 3d), a well-known alteration product of Fe sulfides from hot desert meteorite finds (Lorand et al., 2015). Interstitial pyrrhotite was also locally altered. Other accessory phases include baddeleyite and zirconolite (Fig. 3e,f) both occurring close to olivine-mesostasis contacts.

### 3.3. Mineral compositions

#### 3.3.1. Olivine

The olivine composition by EMPA is  $\text{Fo}_{53.5 \pm 0.4}\text{Fa}_{46.5 \pm 0.4}$  (Tables 2a and S1), with no Fe-Mg zoning and a typical martian FeO/MnO ratio of  $48.3 \pm 1.6$  (uncertainty is standard deviation and  $n = 227$ ). Analysis of olivine (cores only) by LA-ICP-MS gives  $\text{Fo}_{54.1 \pm 0.1}$ . Fig. 4 shows that NWA 8694 is intermediate in FeO content between olivine of the other chassignites (NWA 2737 and Chassigny), and the less equilibrated nakhlites such as NWA817 where olivine cores still preserve primary compositions (Sautter et al., 2002; Trieman, 2005; Udry et al., 2012; Udry and Day, 2018). Both EMP and LA-ICP-MS data are plotted for Chassigny in Fig. 4. The olivine contains 346 ppm Ni (s.d. 5) compared to 419 ppm (Udry and Day, 2018) or 500 ppm (this work) for Chassigny, and 642 ppm for NWA 2737 (Udry and Day, 2018). Though the crystals are equilibrated in Fe-Mg, there is a large range of CaO concentrations in NWA 8694 olivine, 0.29–0.04 wt. % (Fig. 4b) in part due to the incompatible nature of Ca,

but there is a weak depletion of Ca in crystal rims close to interstitial material ( $0.18 \pm 0.02$  to  $0.10 \pm 0.02$  wt% CaO). However we did not detect zoning in X-ray maps of selected olivine grains, including for slow-diffusing elements like P.

#### 3.3.2. Pyroxenes

Chassignite pyroxene and olivine assemblages are shown in Fig. 5, with compositions given in Tables 2b and S1. The dominant pyroxene in NWA 8694 is pigeonite with composition  $\text{En}_{55.8 \pm 0.9}\text{Fs}_{37.5 \pm 1.0}\text{Wo}_{6.7 \pm 1.3}$ , and FeO/MnO of  $28.7 \pm 1.9$ . The augite is  $\text{En}_{40.6 \pm 0.2}\text{Fs}_{16.1 \pm 0.6}\text{Wo}_{43.9 \pm 0.5}$ , s.d. 0.2, 0.6, 0.5, with an FeO/MnO ratio of 27.4, s.d. 3.2, (neglecting strong overlap compositions). The minor orthopyroxene, particularly in melt inclusions in olivine, is  $\text{En}_{59.9 \pm 0.4}\text{Fs}_{37.7 \pm 0.9}\text{Wo}_{2.4 \pm 0.8}$ , with FeO/MnO ratio of  $30.2 \pm 3.0$ , and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  up to 4 wt. %. Though all NWA 8694 pyroxenes cluster in Fig. 5, we distinguish poikilitic, mesostasis and inclusion pyroxene in Fig. S4, which shows that they differ mainly in orthopyroxene abundance. Calcium variation is partly due to overlap of the EMPA beam on host and exsolution lamellae.

Although all chassignite parameters to date are more magnesian than those of nakhlites, Fig. 5 shows that the compositions of augite in NWA 8694 and in nakhlites overlap. The minor elements in augite as a function of Ca also show a partial overlap between chassignites and NWA 998, and cores in some other nakhlites (Udry and Day, 2018), as shown in Fig. 6. Other more fractionated nakhlites show a much wider range of minor element concentrations, off the scale of this figure for Al and Ti, and reaching much lower Cr values.

#### 3.3.3. Chromite

The range of chromite compositions (Tables 2a and S1) is  $\text{Spl}_{11-21}\text{Chr}_{57-76}\text{Usp}_{5-20}\text{Mag}_{7-12}$ . This range overlaps the compositions of chromite in the other chassignites, but it lacks the most Cr-rich compositions and is on average richer in Ti and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  (Fig. 7). Accessory ilmenite,  $\text{Ilm}_{96}\text{Hem}_{04}$ , present in the interstitial material is very similar in composition to ilmenite in Chassigny, except that the latter is more magnesian (Floran et al., 1978). Chromite is absent in nakhlites while ilmenite occurs primarily as lamellae in Ti-magnetite as a result of oxy-exsolution.

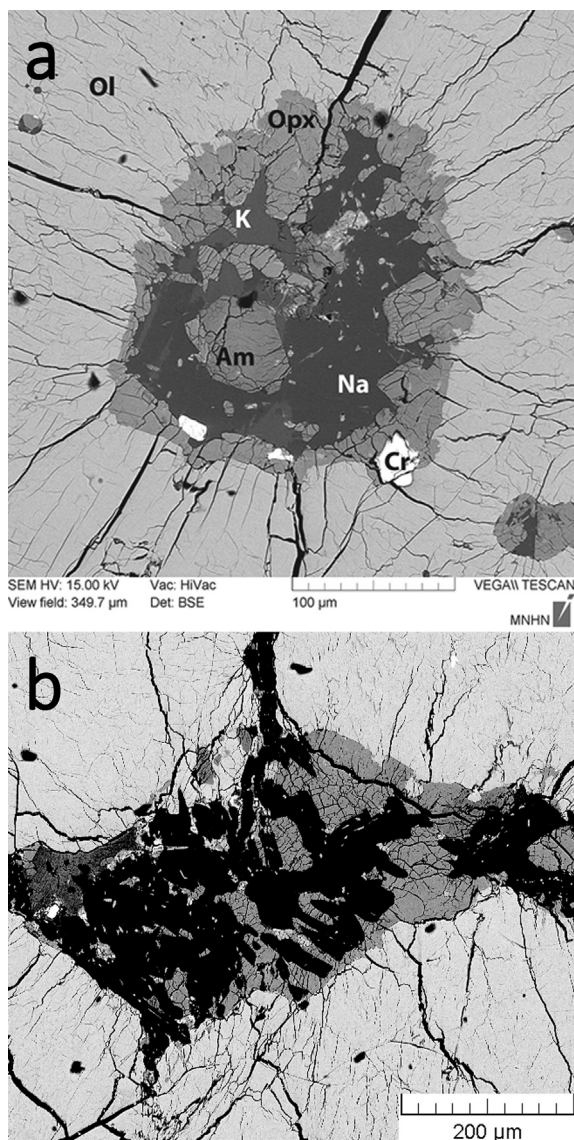


Fig. 2. NWA 8694 BSE images. (a) Melt inclusion in olivine surrounded by radial fractures: orthopyroxene (Opx); amphibole (Am); chromite (Cr); K-rich glass (K); and K-poor glass (Na). Note also tiny melt inclusions in the same olivine grain. (b) Olivine and interstitial mesostasis: subophitic pyroxene (medium grey) with feldspar or maskelynite laths (black).

### 3.3.4. Feldspars

Feldspathic material occurs in the interstitial trapped material and, though featureless in BSE, it appears to be feldspar laths embraced in part by sub-ophitic pyroxene. EPM data for this (Tables 3 and S1) are plotted in Fig. 8a. Feldspar is mainly Na-rich plagioclase ( $An_{22.5\pm 5.1} Ab_{70.0\pm 5.8} Or_{7.5\pm 2.3}$ ) with K-rich feldspar ( $An_{1.9\pm 1.0} Ab_{24.2\pm 4.9} Or_{73.9\pm 5.5}$ ) with a total range passing through intermediate alkali feldspar of  $An_{27}-Or_{79}$ .

The interstitial feldspar composition in Chassigny (this work, Floran et al., 1978) has a similar range to NWA 8694 from plagioclase to alkali feldspar as shown in Fig. 8a, but is more calcic and less potassic. These two

chassignites have feldspar compositions similar to those of the Lafayette, Nakhla and NWA 5790. Interstitial feldspar analyses for NWA 2737 shown in Fig. 8a are analbite, confirming work by Beck et al. (2006) and Treiman (2005), and in Fig. 8b plot in the field of alkali glasses in melt inclusions (see below).

Because of questions of Na loss, admittedly not usual in maskelynite but possible under the electron beam, we examine the stoichiometry of our analyses. Both Fig. 9a and 9b show half the join  $NaAlSi_3O_8-CaAl_2SiO_8$  and their proximity to the line shows that NWA 8694 feldspar analyses are stoichiometric. Bulk analyses of interstitial trapped melt analyzed by LA-ICP-MS are also shown in Fig. 9, excluding analyses with major overlaps on olivine, pyroxene or apatite. They project fairly close to feldspar compositions, consistent with the high feldspar contents of the regions analyzed.

### 3.3.5. Melt inclusion glass

Two discrete Si- and Al-bearing glass phases may be observed as anhedral patches in the melt inclusions in olivine (Fig. 2c), the higher Z phase being richer in K (up to 5 wt%  $K_2O$ ) and also Ca (Table 4). Most of the Si-Al-rich glasses shown in Figs. 8b and 9 are far from feldspar composition. The low-Z glass is very varied in composition, and we separate it into several somewhat arbitrary composition groups. These are Al- (and Na-) rich, Al-poor (though K-rich glass is also Al-poor), and cation-poor, and are distinguished in Figs. 9 and 10. They are all very Si-rich (70–79 wt%  $SiO_2$ ) except for the Al-rich group some of which are close to albite in composition.

We also plotted melt inclusion glasses in the two other chassignites in Fig. 8b. For Chassigny both Floran et al. (1978) and Johnson et al. (1991) reported K- and Na-bearing glasses, similar to the “K-rich” glass of NWA 8694, and Johnson et al. (1991) also reported albitic glass similar to the “Al-rich” glass in NWA 8694. He et al. (2013) and Beck et al. (2006) reported Si-Al-rich alkali glass in inclusions in NWA 2737 with a wide range of Na/K ratios and low Ca.

### 3.3.6. Sulfides

Sulfide compositions are shown in Table 5. MI-enclosed pyrrhotite is  $(Fe,Ni)_{0.87}S$  (monoclinic pyrrhotite). Interstitial grains show a larger compositional range from  $(Fe,Ni)S$  (troilite) to  $(Fe,Ni)_{0.82}S$  (smythite): their mean metal-to-sulfur ratio is centered on  $Fe_{0.9}S$  (hexagonal pyrrhotite) in both NWA 8694 and Chassigny (Floran et al., 1978; Lorand et al., 2018). (NWA 2737 contains troilite rather than pyrrhotite). Whether enclosed in olivine-hosted melt inclusions or occurring as interstitial grains, the NWA 8694 pyrrhotite compositions have the same Ni contents ( $1.2 \pm 0.5$  vs.  $1.1 \pm 0.5$  wt%;  $n = 16$  and 13 for enclosed and interstitial grains respectively; uncertainty is standard deviation). By comparison, the compositional range of Chassigny pyrrhotite extends to higher Ni contents (2.9 wt%; Lorand et al., 2018; Fig. 11). NWA 8694 pyrrhotite is intermediate in Ni content between Chassigny pyrrhotite and pyrrhotite of the most magnesian nakhlites (NWA 998; Nakhla;  $Ni < 0.8$  wt%; Chevrier et al., 2011). Pyrite in

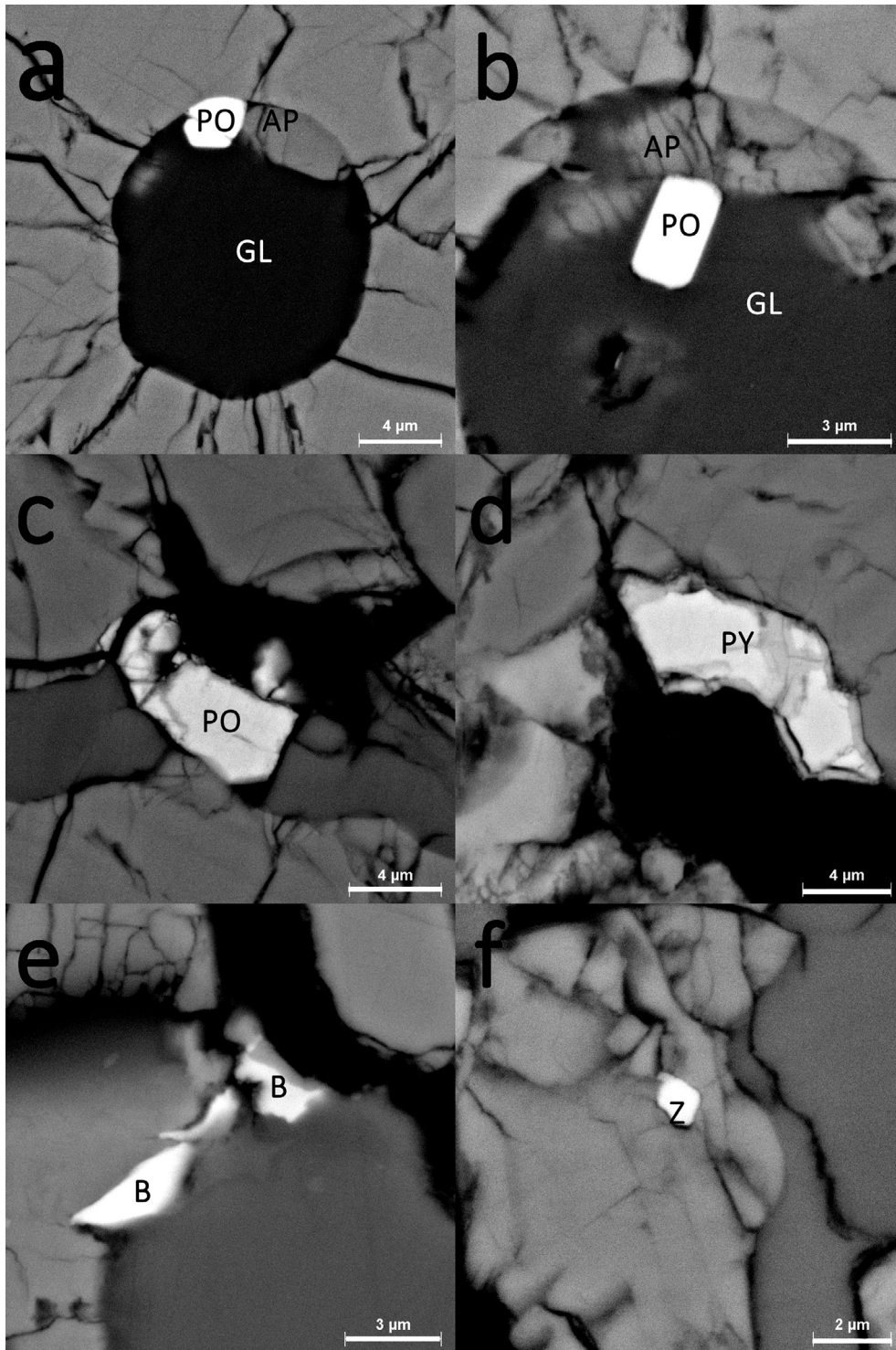


Fig. 3. BSE images of sulfides in NWA 8694. (a) Ni-bearing pyrrhotite in melt inclusion in olivine, associated with apatite and alkali feldspathic glass. (b) Enclosed euhedral Ni-bearing pyrrhotite crystal associated with fractured apatite inside alkali feldspathic glass. (c) Intercumulus pyrrhotite bleb (light grey) in contact with interstitial glass (dark grey) and olivine (medium grey). (d) Intercumulus pyrite showing fracture networks filled with Fe oxyhydroxides; this grain shares grain boundaries with olivine (light grey), pyroxene (medium grey) and interstitial glass (dark). (e) Baddeleyite and (f) zirconolite, both occurring in or near contacts between olivine and intercumulus material. PO pyrrhotite, PY pyrite, GL alkali feldspar glass, B baddeleyite, Z zirconolite.

Table 2a  
Selected analyses of olivine, chromite, biotite and amphibole.

	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	Total	Fo	Fa	
<b>NWA 8694</b>													
107/59	35.31	0.02	0.06	bd	38.71	0.80	25.75	0.09	0.01	100.63	54.25	45.75	
97/62	35.74	0.02	0.04	0.04	38.99	0.78	24.85	0.12	0.02	100.61	53.19	46.81	
LA mean	35.21	0.02	0.03	0.05	38.26	0.84	25.37	0.22	0.02	100.06	54.09	45.91	
<b>Chassigny</b>													
26	38.14	0.03	0.03	0.04	28.04	0.53	34.05	0.13	bd	101.08	68.40	31.60	
3	37.62	0.02	0.01	0.03	28.69	0.56	33.63	0.14	bd	100.76	67.64	32.36	
LA mean	36.39	0.03	0.02	0.07	28.79	0.57	33.89	0.19	0.02	99.97	67.72	32.28	
<b>NWA 2737</b>													
8184	39.16	0.02	bd	0.04	19.68	0.41	41.16	0.12	bd	100.65	78.84	21.16	
8226	39.12	0.05	bd	0.02	20.73	0.52	40.22	0.14	bd	100.83	77.58	22.42	
<b>NWA 8694</b>													
	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	MnO	MgO	CaO	Total			
25	0.08	6.91	2.16	51.46	31.00	4.92	0.36	2.32	bd	99.21			
21	0.06	7.80	4.94	42.16	33.91	8.32	0.43	2.16	bd	99.78			
<b>Chassigny</b>													
6	0.08	6.10	1.32	55.31	27.74	4.48	nd	4.09	bd	99.12			
7	0.05	10.16	3.49	45.70	30.96	4.68	nd	3.54	bd	98.58			
<b>NWA 2737</b>													
70	0.03	6.45	1.18	57.85	25.52	3.57	nd	5.70	bd	100.31			
65	0.07	10.27	1.38	51.54	27.24	4.53	nd	5.07	bd	100.11			
<b>NWA 8694</b>													
	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	F	Cl	Total*
inst biotite	40.11	12.12	0.77	0.26	11.21	0.09	20.33	0.13	0.16	8.70	0.99	0.82	95.75
M.I. biotite	39.59	13.25	0.16	0.02	11.54	0.12	20.02	0.09	0.45	8.50	0.26	0.17	94.27
M.I. amphibole	40.07	15.63	3.12	0.09	13.40	0.28	10.35	11.35	2.91	0.23	0.66	0.42	98.54

\*Corrected for O = F, Cl: 95.15, 94.12, & 98.17. LA = LA-ICP-MS, inst = interstitial, M.I. = melt inclusion, bd = below detection, nd = not determined.

NWA 8694 and Chassigny is slightly nickeliferous (0–1 wt. %); some analyses of NWA 8694 pyrite show Ni contents up to 2.8 wt.% (Fig. 11).

### 3.3.7. Other phases

Biotite, amphibole and phosphate phases are of particular interest because of the possibility of estimating H concentrations, and because of the possible presence of Fe<sup>3+</sup>. Analyses are given in Tables 2a and 4.

NWA 8694 contains Mg-rich biotite (approximately Phlog<sub>75</sub>Ann<sub>25</sub> with fairly low halogen content) in both melt inclusions and interstitial trapped melt. Although biotite ionic substitutions are particularly complicated (Dymek, 1983) this biotite seems to be close to stoichiometric with nominal valences, except for a deficiency of K in the interlayer site. Structural formulae calculated on an eleven anion basis, and on a seven cation basis (“Y”, with K excluded), give very similar results: K<sub>0.85</sub>Y<sub>6.98</sub>O<sub>11.00</sub> and K<sub>0.85</sub>Y<sub>7.00</sub>O<sub>11.03</sub>. Halide concentrations are higher in the interlayer site in the interstitial phlogopite than in the melt inclusion biotite (Fig. 12), with (X<sub>1.67</sub>F<sub>0.25</sub>Cl<sub>0.08</sub>)<sup>2-</sup> versus (X<sub>1.88</sub>F<sub>0.10</sub>Cl<sub>0.02</sub>)<sup>2-</sup>. Considering the errors in EMPA analysis there is no justification for calculating Fe<sup>3+</sup>. Ti contents are lower than in the other chassignites (Johnson et al., 1991; He et al., 2013), higher in interstitial biotite (0.2–3.8 wt%) than in melt inclusion biotite, and not correlated with any excess positive charge. The missing component X in the anion site is therefore likely to be entirely OH<sup>-</sup>.

Amphibole in a melt inclusion is shown in Fig. 2c. Its structural formulae derived on a 23 oxygen-equivalent basis

can be written as (□<sub>0.31</sub>Na<sub>0.65</sub>K<sub>0.04</sub>)<sub>1.00</sub>(Ca<sub>1.81</sub>Na<sub>0.19</sub>)<sub>2.00</sub>(Mg<sub>2.30</sub>Fe<sub>1.67</sub>Mn<sub>0.04</sub>Ti<sub>0.35</sub>Cr<sub>0.01</sub>Al<sub>0.70</sub>)<sub>5.07</sub>(Si<sub>5.96</sub>Al<sub>2.04</sub>)<sub>8.00</sub>O<sub>22</sub>(X<sub>1.58</sub>F<sub>0.31</sub>Cl<sub>0.11</sub>)<sub>2.00</sub> (where the □ denotes vacant A sites). The OH content of amphibole is difficult to define from stoichiometry, and the history of other chassignite amphiboles is complex (Watson et al., 1994; McCubbin et al., 2010; Giesting et al., 2015). The amphibole in NWA 8694 may be moderately OH-rich, and it is close to pargasite in composition. The phosphate found in the interstitial melt is Cl-rich fluorapatite (Table 3) Ca<sub>4.77</sub>A\*<sub>0.10</sub>(P, SiO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3.00</sub>(F<sub>0.62</sub>Cl<sub>0.31</sub>X<sub>0.07</sub>)<sub>1.0</sub> using a 3P + Si ion basis, where A\* is other cations and the missing fraction X is assumed to be OH<sup>-</sup>. Baddeleyite contains significant Nb, Th and U, as indicated by its EDS spectrum (no WDS analysis).

### 3.4. Whole rock and mineral geochemistry

Whole rock analyses of three chassignites by atomic emission spectroscopy (AES) and sector field mass spectrometry (SFMS) are provided in Table 6 and LA-ICP-MS analyses are in Table 7. As accurate bulk SiO<sub>2</sub> contents are difficult to obtain with available instrumental techniques, we used instead a modal recombination of EMP data for SiO<sub>2</sub> in both Florida LA-ICP-MS and Plouzané ICP-AES analyses for NWA 8694 and Chassigny for SiO<sub>2</sub> and recalculated the Florida data downwards to reflect the new analytical total of the major elements. This brought the major elements, especially Fe and Mg into agreement. Incompatible trace element concentrations remain higher in the Florida bulk composition (like those of the chassign-



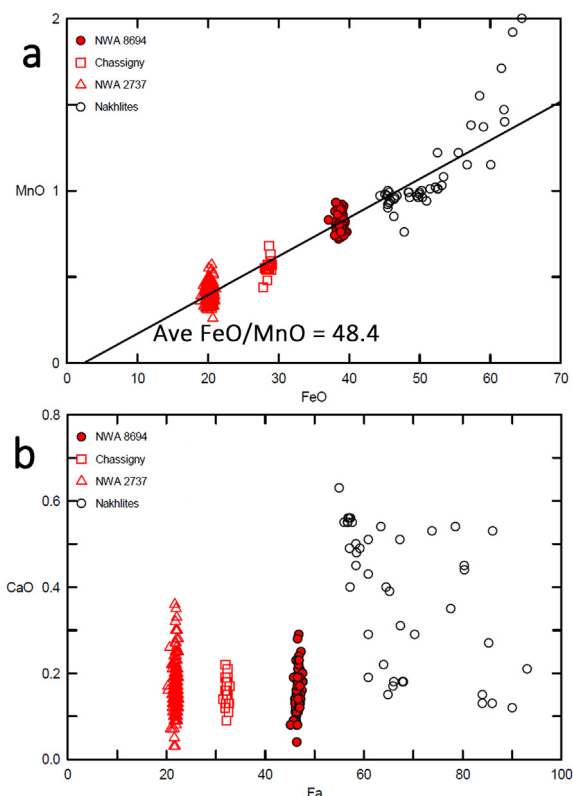


Fig. 4. Olivine compositions. Top: NWA 8694 is intermediate between the other chassignites and nakhilites in FeO content, with a typical martian FeO/MnO ratio. Bottom: Though Fe and Mg are equilibrated Ca varies due to weak zoning. Nakhilite data are from Sautter et al. (2002), Treiman (2005), Udry et al. (2012), and Udry and Day (2018).

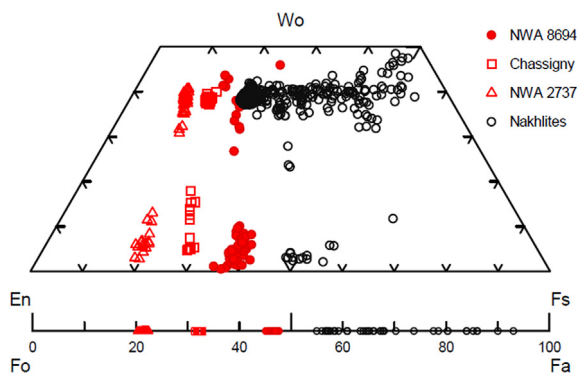


Fig. 5. Comparison of compositions of NWA 8694, Chassigny and NWA 2737 pyroxene and olivine with those of nakhilites (Treiman, 2005; Treiman and Irving, 2008; Sautter et al., 2002; Jambon et al., 2016; Treiman et al., 2005; Udry et al., 2012; and Udry and Day, 2018), showing overlap for augite in NWA 998 and Lafayette at  $\text{En}_{41-40}\text{Wo}_{38-39}$ .

nite NWA 2737) than in the Plouzané data set (like those of Chassigny).

LA-ICP-MS data for individual phases (olivine, pigeonite and mesostasis) in NWA 8694 and Chassigny are given in Tables 7 and S2. The trace element abundance patterns for bulk chassignites and mesostasis-rich nakhilites

(Jambon et al., 2016) are closely parallel (Fig. 13). For clarity, we omit mesostasis-poor nakhilites, which have trace element abundances intermediate between those of chassignites and mesostasis-rich nakhilites (Udry and Day, 2018).

The Rare Earth Element (REE) concentrations are shown in Fig. 14 along with bulk compositions. Intercumulus material has a heterogeneous distribution, as seen in Fig. 2. Modal analysis of three polished sections showed different proportions of intercumulus material. The apparent composition of mesostasis ranges from basaltic trachyandesite to trachyte. We therefore interpret the differences in the two bulk analyses (and in the other two chassignites) as due to different abundances of trapped liquid component.

Augite, chromite, and apatite are too small for easy analysis by laser. We calculated an apparent bulk composition from olivine, pigeonite, and mesostasis abundances and compositions. Compared to the true bulk composition, there is a deficiency in P and REE. We calculated that the concentration of  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  corresponds to 0.14% apatite. We assumed that this apatite contains all the REE unaccounted for. This gives an REE (Fig. S5) pattern for the missing phase close to that of Chassigny apatite (Wadhwa and Crozaz, 1995). Table 6. Whole rock analyses of three chassignites by atomic emission spectroscopy (AES) and sector field mass spectrometry (SFMS).

REE in average Chassigny olivine exhibit a V-shaped pattern enriched in both the light and the heavy REE (LREE and HREE) relative to Sm and Eu (Fig. 14a), while the average NWA 8694 olivine composition exhibits a classic olivine pattern with higher HREE than light REE. A slight uptick at La is visible. The REE patterns of pyroxenes from NWA 8694 exhibit a classic “humped” pattern of clinopyroxene with a prominent negative Eu anomaly, and heavy REE higher than bulk NWA 8694 REE abundances. Despite the different Fe/Mg ratios of the three chassignites, the REE concentrations of pigeonite show some overlap (Fig. 14a). The slope of the HREE pattern is steeper for two Chassigny pyroxene analyses than for five pigeonites in NWA 8694:  $(\text{Gd}/\text{Lu})_{\text{Cl}}$  of  $\sim 3$  vs.  $\sim 1$ . LREE concentrations for NWA 8694 and Chassigny mesostasis have similar values to those of nakhilite bulk and mesostasis (Jambon et al., 2016), but their slope is steeper (Fig. 14c).

The abundance of Be correlates with that of  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (Fig. 15),  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$  (and other alkalis). Beryllium behaves moderately incompatibly with the lowest concentrations in olivines, then pyroxenes and the highest concentrations in mesostasis (Fig. 15). The correlation is weaker in the interstitial material where the concentrations of both Be and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (or  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ) are highest, with a lower Be/Na ratio in NWA 8694 interstitial material than in Chassigny. The correlation between Be and other incompatible elements is weakened by the crystalline nature of the mesostasis. Boron exhibits a similar behavior to Be (Fig. 15). Boron abundances correlate with  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  in olivines and pyroxenes from both Chassigny and NWA 8694 with the highest concentrations in the mesostasis but the correlation is no longer evident for mesostasis analyses (Fig. 15). The tendency of incompatible element correlations to fall apart in analyses of the mesostasis does not allow us to infer that B was lost by outgassing.

Table 2b  
Selected analyses of interstitial and melt-inclusion pyroxene.

	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	Total	En	Fs	Wo
NWA 8694													
51	52.92	0.80	0.20	0.22	22.93	0.70	20.44	1.44	0.01	99.72	59.52	37.46	3.02
112	52.74	0.45	0.31	0.16	21.63	0.79	19.10	4.61	0.07	99.96	55.29	35.12	9.60
69	52.37	1.31	0.31	0.75	13.33	0.47	14.07	17.23	0.31	100.37	41.46	22.04	36.50
71	52.74	0.46	0.33	0.31	10.51	0.44	14.41	19.64	0.28	99.05	41.86	17.13	41.01
LA ave.	52.52	0.67	0.16	0.50	22.17	0.77	18.93	4.63	0.13	100.50	54.55	35.86	9.58
77 M.I.	53.16	1.14	0.20	0.10	23.43	0.75	20.46	1.09	0.08	100.40	59.49	38.22	2.28
81 M.I.	51.48	2.81	0.84	0.04	14.47	0.30	9.32	20.53	0.80	100.71	28.95	25.21	45.83
Chassigny													
60	55.23	0.29	0.13	0.27	17.72	0.57	24.03	2.29	0.02	100.58	67.47	27.90	4.63
50	55.26	0.71	0.20	0.48	15.52	0.55	22.47	6.19	0.15	101.52	63.08	24.44	12.49
LA 38Ch	53.07	0.83	0.18	0.34	15.42	0.48	23.12	6.35	0.17	100.00	63.63	23.81	12.56
53	53.47	1.09	0.26	0.78	9.40	0.28	16.42	17.96	0.24	99.91	47.44	15.25	37.31
59	53.69	1.31	0.31	0.83	9.09	0.32	16.23	18.69	0.34	100.80	46.69	14.67	38.64
LA 35Ch	51.96	1.28	0.31	0.76	9.30	0.36	17.25	18.41	0.36	100.00	48.32	14.61	37.07
NWA 2737													
141	56.43	0.38	0.40	0.19	12.29	0.42	29.01	1.53	0.04	100.82	78.40	18.62	2.98
99/51	54.43	1.16	0.10	0.47	12.23	0.38	27.70	2.86	0.04	99.40	75.66	18.74	5.60
58	55.86	0.60	0.11	0.68	11.01	0.41	25.38	6.53	0.25	100.84	70.01	17.02	12.97
145/45	54.25	0.92	0.26	0.90	6.90	0.27	18.27	18.02	0.32	100.11	52.07	11.04	36.89
145/49	53.82	1.04	0.30	0.98	6.32	0.20	17.40	19.77	0.37	100.23	49.50	10.07	40.43

LA = LA-ICP-MS; M.I. = melt inclusion.

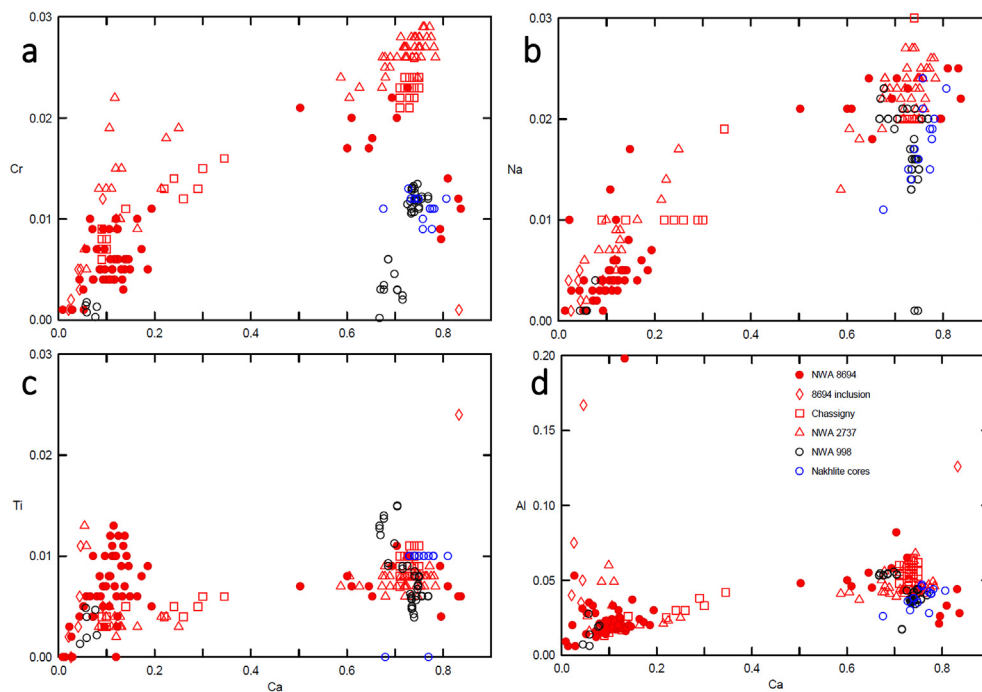


Fig. 6. Pyroxene compositions (afu) showing Ca and (a) Cr, (b) Na, (c) Ti, and (d) Al. There is a partial overlap for augite in chassignites with augite in NWA 998 and cores in some other nakhilites (Udry and Day, 2018) for incompatible minor elements. The other nakhilites show a much wider range of minor element concentrations in augite than the chassignites.

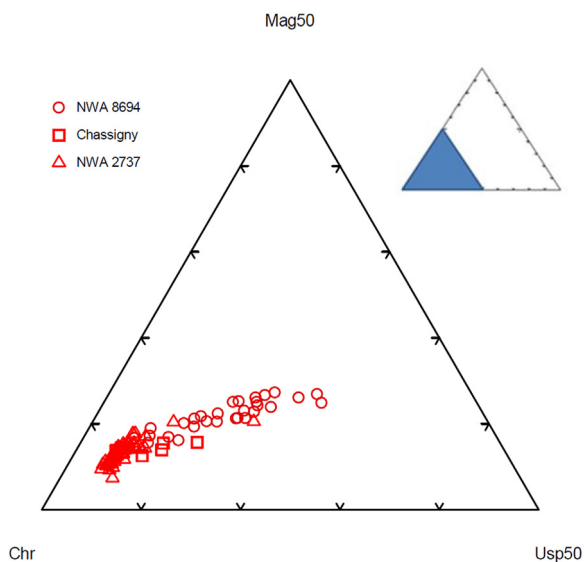


Fig. 7. Composition of chromite in chassignites projected from spinel s.s. onto the chromite-ulvöspinel-magnetite plane. NWA 8694 lacks the Cr-rich chromite found in the other chassignites.

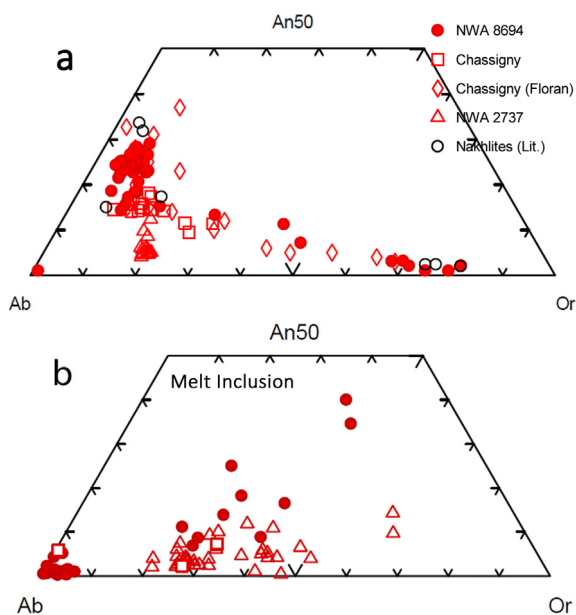


Fig. 8. Compositions of (a) interstitial feldspar for NWA 8694, Chassigny (this work, Floran et al., 1978), NWA 2737, and nakhilites (Bunch and Reid, 1975; Jambon, 2017), and (b) NWA 8694 melt inclusion glass compositions projected onto the An-Ab-Or plane, and compared to those in the two other chassignites (Mason et al., 1976; Floran et al., 1978; Johnson et al., 1991; Beck et al., 2006; Treiman et al., 2007; He et al., 2013).

## 4. DISCUSSION

### 4.1. Comparison of NWA 8694 to chassignites and nakhilites

The ferroan chassignite NWA 8694 has the lowest olivine and chromite contents, and the highest pyroxene content of the three chassignites. It has small pockets with

isolated olivine grains enclosed poikilitically by the abundant pyroxene. Phase compositions indicate a more evolved parent liquid than for the other chassignites. Mafic phases in NWA 8694 are the most fractionated among the chassignites. Its olivine has the lowest Mg and Ni contents; its chromite has the lowest Cr contents; its pyroxene the lowest Mg; and its amphibole the lowest Mg and Ti contents. Interstitial feldspar compositions are a little less calcic and more potassic than in Chassigny (Fig. 5a), ranging from oligoclase An<sub>27</sub> up to sanidine Or<sub>79</sub>. Both NWA 8694 and Chassigny show sulfides enclosed inside olivine-hosted melt inclusions, and intercumulus sulfides; however, sulfides in NWA 8694 are richer in Fe than those in Chassigny. The amphibole in melt inclusions is more ferroan and richer in Cl than in the other chassignites, though F has similar concentration ranges in all three.

Chassigny and NWA 2737 are relatively weakly and strongly shocked, respectively (Floran et al., 1978; Johnson et al., 1991; Langenhorst and Greshake, 1999; Beck et al., 2006; Treiman et al., 2007; He et al., 2013) and fracturing in NWA 8694 olivine resembles that in Chassigny implying that it shares the same shock levels as Chassigny. The same main sulfide phases (pyrrhotite, pyrite, pentlandite) identified in the Chassigny meteorite (Floran et al., 1978; Lorand et al., 2018) are also preserved in NWA 8694. The pyrite shows planar fractures consistent with weak shock (Lorand et al., 2015). NWA 2737 also shows sulfides in similar amount as in Chassigny and NWA 8694 meteorites. However, the strong shock event that liberated NWA 2737 from Mars deeply altered its igneous and hydrothermal sulfides in an assemblage of troilite and Fe-Ni metal (Lorand et al., 2012).

NWA 8694 has some properties closer to those of nakhilites than those of the other chassignites: its olivine composition Fo<sub>54</sub> (Fig. 4) approaches that of the least equilibrated nakhilites with a maximum of Fo<sub>45</sub> in NWA 817 (Udry and Day, 2018); its augite composition (Figs. 5, 6, 14) overlaps with those of the most magnesian nakhilites (Friedman-Lentz et al., 1999; Treiman, 2005; Treiman and Irving, 2008; Udry and Day, 2018) and all other nakhilites have augite cores with very similar composition. Specifically, some Lafayette and NWA 998 points (Treiman and Irving, 2008; Udry and Day, 2018) coincide at En<sub>41-40</sub>Wo<sub>38-39</sub> with analyses from NWA 8694. The heavily overlapping adjacent points in Fig. 5 are due to the most magnesian augite in five other nakhilites (Udry and Day, 2018); the minor element concentrations of these augites also overlap (Fig. 6). The minor elements in augite as a function of Ca also show a partial overlap between chassignites and augite cores in some other nakhilites (Udry and Day, 2018), as shown in Fig. 6. Major element compositions of NWA 8694 and Chassigny plagioclase and sanidine (Fig. 8a) are like those in nakhilite mesostases (Bunch and Reid, 1975; Jambon et al., 2016).

In spite of these similarities, most pyroxene rims in nakhilites are more ferroan: the more fractionated nakhilites show a much wider range of minor element concentrations in pyroxene, off the scale of Fig. 6 for Al and Ti, and reaching much lower Cr values. The partial overlap in Fe/Mg in augite (Fig. 5) indicates very similar compositions for late

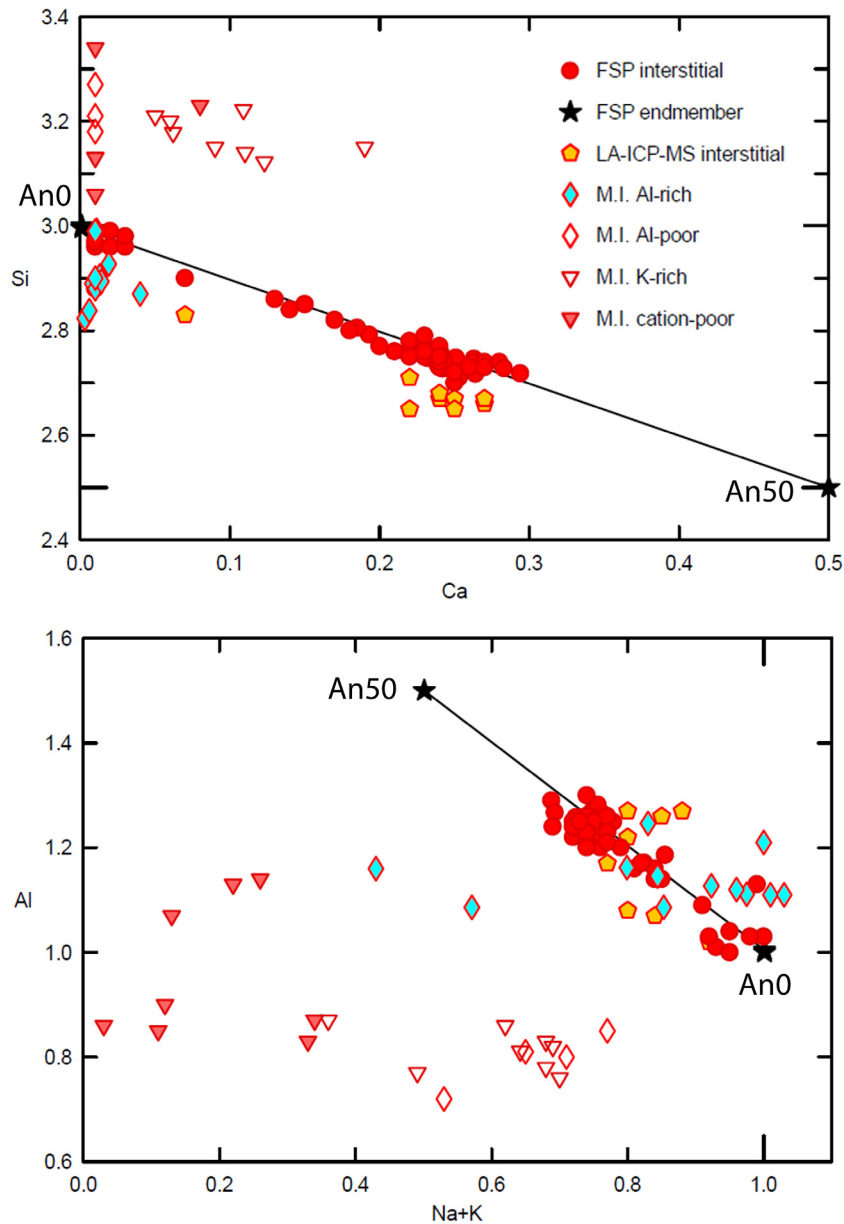


Fig. 9. Compositions of interstitial feldspar (FSP), melt inclusion (MI) phases and bulk interstitial material (the latter from LA-ICP-MS analyses) in NWA 8694 in afu on an eight oxygen basis. Half the plagioclase join  $Ab_{100} - An_{50}$  to  $An_{50} - Ab_{100}$  is shown for reference.

Table 3  
Selected analyses of feldspars.

NWA 8694	Chassigny						NWA 2737				
SiO <sub>2</sub>	60.39	63.42	63.76	64.67	62.72	63.92	63.37	63.15	66.09	65.40	68.11
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	23.38	23.04	21.54	19.16	22.33	22.11	21.51	21.05	21.06	20.96	20.05
FeO	0.53	0.34	0.37	0.47	0.57	0.42	0.40	0.35	0.16	0.21	0.11
MgO	0.01	0.06	0.09	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.06	bd	bd
CaO	5.56	3.90	2.75	0.23	3.43	3.57	2.98	2.31	1.21	1.01	0.84
Na <sub>2</sub> O	7.51	8.58	6.59	2.30	7.46	8.41	8.73	6.68	8.36	8.75	8.77
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.02	1.00	4.93	13.73	2.37	1.99	1.48	4.95	3.02	3.49	3.32
Total	98.57	100.57	100.32	100.65	99.02	100.57	98.59	98.70	99.96	99.82	101.20
An	27.27	18.56	13.27	0.99	17.37	16.90	14.49	11.40	6.09	4.82	4.04
Ab	66.67	75.26	58.16	19.80	68.37	71.92	76.92	59.57	75.93	75.36	76.85
Or	6.06	6.19	28.57	79.21	14.26	11.18	8.59	29.03	17.98	19.82	19.11

Table 4  
Selected analyses of glass, and average apatite in NWA 8694.

	Al-rich GL 27	Al-rich GL 3	K-rich GL 109	K-rich GL 78	Al-poor GL 28	Cat-poor GL 45	Fluorapatite ave
SiO <sub>2</sub>	64.74	67.23	70.24	71.35	72.51	79.44	0.48
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	21.45	21.17	16.43	15.44	16.53	17.31	0.06
FeO	1.19	1.39	0.88	1.03	0.72	0.93	0.70
MgO	0.15	0.32	0.02	b.d.	0.02	0.01	0.15
CaO	0.89	0.42	2.58	1.31	0.10	b.d.	53.48
Na <sub>2</sub> O	11.10	10.10	3.78	4.27	9.10	0.48	0.09
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.08	0.03	5.20	4.81	0.06	1.34	0.09
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	b.d.	b.d.	b.d.	b.d.	b.d.	0.02	42.00
F	b.d.	b.d.	b.d.	b.d.	0.22	n.d.	2.34
Cl	0.02	n.d.	1.38	1.18	0.06	n.d.	2.20
Total	99.68	100.65	100.53	99.47	99.41	99.53	101.68
-O = F			0.01		0.09		0.99
-O = Cl			0.31	0.27	0.01		0.49
Total			100.21	99.21	99.30		100.20
Ca	4.00	2.18	16.55	8.81	0.00	0.00	
Na	95.00	97.71	43.74	52.41	100.00	36.36	
K	1.00	0.11	39.70	38.78	0.00	63.64	

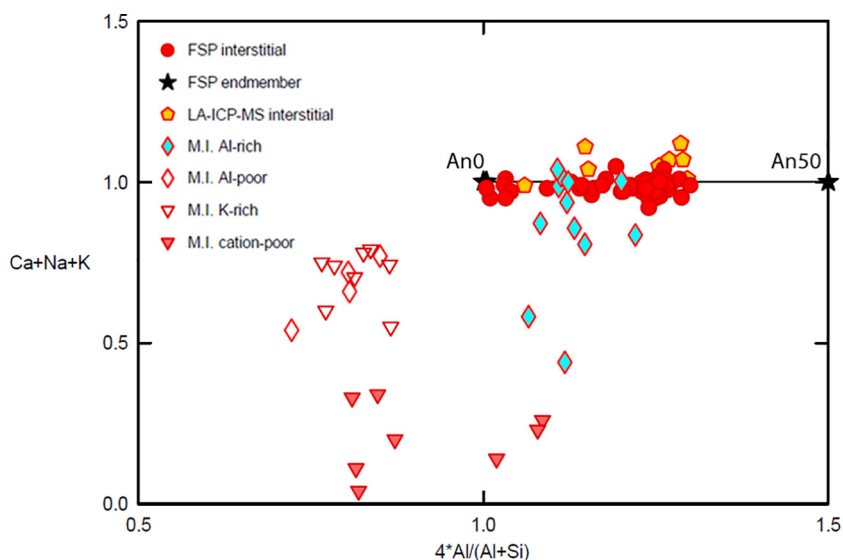


Fig. 10. Glass and feldspar compositions plotted in afu. The tieline shows the albite (orthoclase)-An<sub>50</sub> join. Some Al-rich glasses plot close to feldspar; other glasses are all Si-rich relative to feldspar, with Al-poor and K-rich points forming a cluster.

Table 5  
Mean composition of NWA 8694 sulfides.

wt.%	Enclosed pyrrhotite (n = 16)	Interstitial pyrrhotite (n = 13)	Pyrite (n = 9)	Pentlandite (n = 1)
Fe	58.1 (0.7)	59.8 (1.8)	44.7 (0.8)	46.1
Ni	1.3 (0.5)	1.1 (0.5)	0.7 (1.1)	20.8
S	39.7 (0.7)	38.9 (1.9)	54.5 (0.8)	33.7
Total	99.1	99.8	99.9	100.6
Fe + Ni/S (at.%)	0.87	0.9	0.48	1.11

n = number of analyses.

interstitial melt in NWA 8694 and parental melt of the most primitive nakhlites. The partial overlap in minor elements (Fig. 6) for all chassignites and NWA 998 and Lafayette

also indicate melt similarities at the stage of last and first augite crystallization, respectively, in chassignites and nakhlites. The increases in the incompatible Al and Ti in

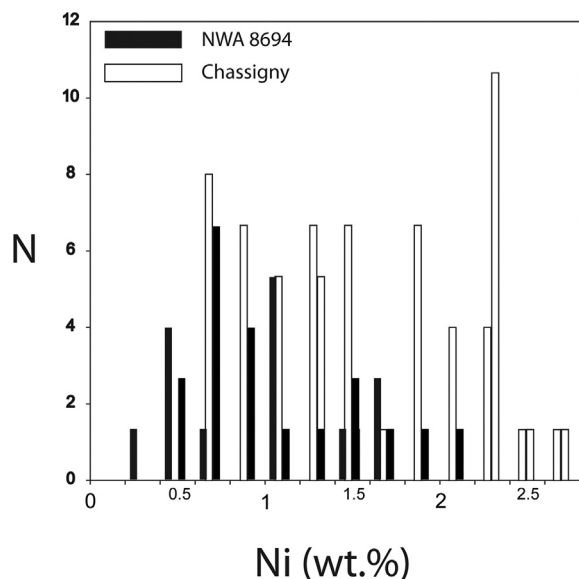


Fig. 11. Histograms of Ni content of pyrrhotite (po) and pyrite (py) in NWA 8694 and Chassigny show a shift of Ni content towards lower values in NWA 8694.

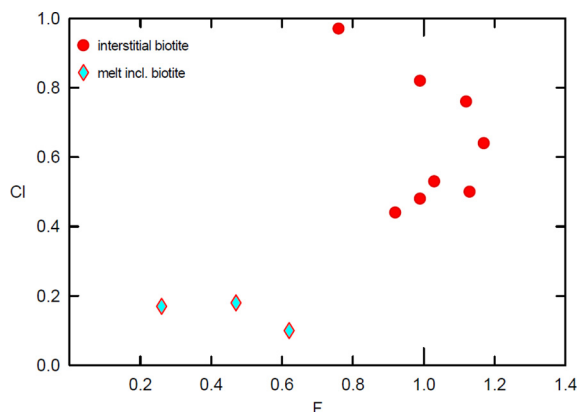


Fig. 12. Concentrations of F and Cl in biotite in wt% for NWA 8694 interstitial mesostasis and melt inclusions.

most nakhlite augite, and the decrease in its compatible Cr (Udry and Day, 2018) document that a liquid like late chassignite interstitial liquid was extensively fractionated in nakhlites. Major element compositions of NWA 8694 and Chassigny mesostasis plagioclase and sanidine (Fig. 8a) are like those in nakhlite mesostases (Bunch and Reid, 1975; Jambon et al., 2016); The bulk composition of NWA 8694 mesostasis corresponds to basaltic trachyandesite to trachyte (Tables 7 and S4), like the alkaline melt inclusions in the MIL 03346 nakhlite (Day et al., 2006). In addition, Chassigny, NWA 8694, and nakhlites have similar incompatible element concentrations in their mesostases (Figs. 13 and 14).

Chassignites and nakhlites have long been known to have similar ages and patterns of trace element distributions (e.g. Wadhwa and Crozaz, 1995; Beck et al., 2006). Here we have shown that mineral (other than cumulus olivine and

chromite) and mesostasis compositions of NWA 8694 are similar to those of nakhlites. This confirms previous conclusions that chassignites and nakhlites are genetically related rocks derived from the same mantle source (Wadhwa and Crozaz, 1995; Beck et al., 2006; Udry and Day, 2018), and is consistent with the invasion of both chassignite intercumulus liquids and nakhlite parent magma with Cl-rich fluids (McCubbin et al., 2013). Thus the parent liquid of NWA 8694 must be closely related to nakhlite liquids. We explore below whether fractional crystallization of model parent liquids, magnesian or nakhlitic, can yield olivine and late liquid of the compositions seen in NWA 8694.

## 4.2. Crystallization modeling

### 4.2.1. Magnesian parent Liquids

Udry and Day (2018) showed that subtraction of 12–15% olivine and 2–5% pyroxene from a chassignite parent magma with 15 wt % MgO would produce a composition like that of the most primitive nakhlites. This magma would resemble a depleted basaltic komatiite, except in being more ferroan. The subtraction model suggests that fractional crystallization could produce the chassignites and the nakhlites from a single magma, which appears to be consistent with trace element similarities. The complexities of modeling crystallization of martian liquid compositions are well known (e.g. Stockstill et al., 2005; Udry et al., 2014) and the three chassignites have an extensive range of olivine composition, from  $FO_{79}$  to  $FO_{53}$ . We have found that with PETROLOG (Danyushevsky and Plechov, 2011) we can explain the formation of shergottite NWA 10414 (Hewins et al., 2019). We use it here to see whether proposed chassignite parent melts could crystallize olivine and late liquid of the compositions found in NWA 8694.

The PETROLOG program calculates pseudo-liquidus temperatures using mineral-melt equilibria models for all possible minerals. We used the optional models of Sack et al. (1980) for melt oxidation state and Ariskin et al. (1993) for silicate mineral-melt equilibria, with a variable  $K_D$  for olivine/melt Fe/Mg partitioning, ranging between 0.32 and 0.35 during crystallization. Calculated pseudo-liquidus temperatures are compared to determine which phase(s) should crystallize.

We first evaluated the reconstructed parental melt composition of melt inclusions in olivine in NWA 2737 termed A# with 12.1% MgO (He et al., 2013) to see whether it could crystallize the olivine of all three chassignites. Fractional crystallization of NWA 2737 A# (Table 8) at 1 bar starts at 1335 °C and produces 21% olivine  $FO_{79-64}$ , and at 5 kb 11% olivine/  $FO_{79-73}$ , with an oxygen fugacity relative to the fayalite-magnetite-quartz oxygen buffer of FMQ –1 log units. Augite appeared too early for the ferroan composition of NWA 8694 olivine to be achieved. Similar results were obtained with many other proposed parent liquids, e.g. for Chassigny parent A\* (Johnson et al., 1991) we found  $FO_{68-61}$  was crystallized, again falling well short of NWA 8694 olivine. Clearly a more complex process than fractionation of a single magma is needed to produce the range of chassignite olivine compositions stretching to  $FO_{53}$  and the even more ferroan olivine in nakhlites. Given

Table 6  
Whole Rock analyses of three chassignites.

		NWA 2737	Chassigny	NWA 8694
Homogenized mass		0.5 g	0.115 g	0.136 g
SiO <sub>2</sub>	ICP-AES		37.0	37.41 (EMP)
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	ICP-AES	0.86	0.45	0.50
TiO <sub>2</sub>	ICP-AES	0.13	0.06	0.06
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	ICP-AES	1.71	0.52	0.34
FeO	ICP-AES	19.61	29.89	36.30
MnO	ICP-AES	0.40	0.58	0.82
MgO	ICP-AES	37.10	35.90	23.55
CaO	ICP-AES	0.84	0.65	0.82
Na <sub>2</sub> O	ICP-AES	0.17	0.10	0.17
K <sub>2</sub> O	ICP-AES	0.05	0.03	0.06
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	ICP-AES	0.10		
TiO <sub>2</sub> wt%	ICP-SFMS		0.05	0.08
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> wt%	ICP-SFMS		0.04	0.05
V	AES/SFMS	70 A	28.7 S	54.4 S
Co	AES/SFMS	78 A	111 S	115 S
Ni	AES/SFMS	875 A	430 S	308 S
Li	ICP-SFMS	3.15	2.59	3.43
Be	ICP-SFMS	0.08	0.0236	0.0378
K	ICP-SFMS		182	300
Sc	ICP-SFMS	4.6	4.78	6.42
Mn	ICP-SFMS		3526	5094
Cu	ICP-SFMS	4.3	1.45	2.49
Zn	ICP-SFMS	45	49.92	90.83
Ga	ICP-SFMS	1.43	0.58	0.91
Rb	ICP-SFMS	1.28	0.53	0.94
Sr	ICP-SFMS	27.2	11.16	22.44
Y	ICP-SFMS	1.21	0.640	0.802
Zr	ICP-SFMS	4.64	1.69	2.42
Nb	ICP-SFMS	1.04	0.314	0.554
Cs	ICP-SFMS	0.055	0.0342	0.0301
Ba	ICP-SFMS	37.5	6.20	9.95
La	ICP-SFMS	1.17	0.449	0.597
Ce	ICP-SFMS	2.87	1.11	1.47
Pr	ICP-SFMS	0.363	0.157	0.202
Nd	ICP-SFMS	1.43	0.662	0.838
Sm	ICP-SFMS	0.266	0.132	0.166
Eu	ICP-SFMS	0.0721	0.0407	0.0500
Gd	ICP-SFMS	0.237	0.121	0.150
Tb	ICP-SFMS	0.0367	0.0194	0.0242
Dy	ICP-SFMS	0.213	0.121	0.149
Ho	ICP-SFMS	0.0427	0.0257	0.0316
Er	ICP-SFMS	0.117	0.0748	0.0924
Tm	ICP-SFMS		0.0118	0.0144
Yb	ICP-SFMS	0.105	0.0803	0.0972
Lu	ICP-SFMS	0.017	0.0129	0.0152
Hf	ICP-SFMS	0.146	0.0536	0.0784
Ta	ICP-SFMS	0.062	0.0175	0.0273
W	ICP-SFMS	0.081	0.041	0.045
Pb	ICP-SFMS	0.46	0.14	0.32
Th	ICP-SFMS	0.13	0.047	0.067
U	ICP-SFMS	0.056	0.011	0.052

the prevalence of multiple magma chambers and mush zones under large volcanoes, mixing of primitive and fractionated liquids is likely, as well as contamination by wall rocks. We therefore turned our attention to liquids with closer affinities to NWA 8694.

#### 4.2.2. *Nakhlitic parent liquids*

We considered the NWA 8694 interstitial mesostasis analyses with added olivine as a possible parent melt, but this composition failed to produce sufficiently alkaline daughter liquids, probably because the mesostasis analyses

Table 7  
LA-ICP-MS average analyses for NWA 8694 and Chassigny.

n	Bulk rock NWA 8694 8	Olivine NWA8693 5	Pigeonite NWA8694 5	Mesostasis NWA8694 10	olivine Chassigny 7	augite Chassigny 2	Pigeonite#38 Chassigny 1	mesostasis Chassigny 6
SiO <sub>2</sub>	(EMP)37.41	35.21	52.24	57.60	36.39	50.01	53.1	52.97
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.50	0.02	0.67	20.90	0.03	1.43	0.83	16.00
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.06	0.03	0.16	0.07	0.02	0.31	0.182	0.43
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.49	0.05	0.48	0.01	0.10	1.02	0.50	0.09
FeOT	36.16	38.26	22.28	2.85	28.79	10.35	15.42	7.99
MnO	0.81	0.84	0.77	0.06	0.57	0.36	0.481	0.19
MgO	23.46	25.37	18.97	1.54	33.89	18.13	23.12	9.64
CaO	0.82	0.22	4.77	5.69	0.19	17.73	6.35	7.09
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.17	0.02	0.13	7.19	0.02	0.39	0.17	4.55
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.06	0.01	0.02	2.55	0.00	0.01	0.029	0.65
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.05	0.03	0.01	1.53	0.03	0.57	0.00	0.42
Li	3.43	4.49	3.82	43.58	4.29	4.58	2.58	38
Be	0.04	0.01	0.09	1.05	0.01	0.09	0.17	2.14
B	1.09	1.00	3.35	9.00	0.67	1.20	4.0	9.73
S	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.10	0.01	0.02	1.13	0.51
Sc	7.6	6.8	25.8	4.6	6.2	523	29.3	10.3
V	38	9	116	23	8	188	108	25
Cr	0.34	356	3261	39	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.1
Co	102	124	56	21	133	38	49	43
Ni	259	345	114	51	500	126	140	39
Cu	5.94	2.21	4.73	11.08	0.65	9.49	31	101
Zn	96	109	84	11	70	23	44	26
Ga	0.84	0.19	1.51	15.97	0.16	2.91	1.9	9.08
Ge	0.84	1.28	2.23	0.55	1.19	1.83	1.73	1.91
Rb	1.53	0.17	0.67	40.76	0.13	0.29	1.6	14.20
Sr	25	3.13	10.5	728	0.09	778	6.4	652
Y	1.07	0.47	2.79	8.56	0.33	14.23	5.7	12.10
Zr	9.64	0.33	2.30	153	0.18	12.2	12.1	44.9
Nb	0.58	0.01	0.31	6.47	0.01	0.17	1.0	11.9
Mo	0.11	0.09	0.10	0.48	0.07	0.06	0.065	0.44
Ag	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.081	0.26
Cd	0.05	0.13	0.01	0.14	0.09	0.09	0.11	0.18
In	0.05	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.04
Sn	0.47	0.02	0.04	0.21	0.03	0.04	0.09	0.28
Sb	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.06
Te	0.15	0.06	0.14	0.30	0.01	0.03	8.4	0.12
Cs	0.15	0.04	0.11	2.51	0.04	0.10	0.2	2.39
Ba	12.7	0.84	1.37	550	0.05	3.34	1	246
a	0.830	0.005	0.188	30.78	0.024	8.33	0.96	10.23
Ce	3.44	0.006	0.636	67.7	0.051	22.3	3.63	23.4
Pr	0.28	0.001	0.125	8.26	0.007	3.58	0.686	3.384
Nd	1.12	0.006	0.739	32.1	0.021	17.4	3.54	14.0
Sm	0.226	0.003	0.271	4.99	0.003	4.094	0.978	3.20
Eu	0.067	0.001	0.060	2.146	0.001	0.862	0.202	1.74
Gd	0.225	0.017	0.376	3.86	0.011	4.10	1.13	3.20
Tb	0.034	0.005	0.071	0.447	0.004	0.602	0.182	0.50
Dy	0.209	0.055	0.498	2.164	0.039	3.35	1.15	2.76
Ho	0.043	0.018	0.108	0.335	0.013	0.596	0.217	0.49
Er	0.125	0.071	0.317	0.653	0.050	1.414	0.583	1.11
Tm	0.018	0.013	0.044	0.060	0.010	0.155	0.073	0.119
Yb	0.117	0.092	0.273	0.276	0.071	0.801	0.398	0.58
Lu	0.020	0.018	0.043	0.033	0.014	0.101	0.055	0.071
Hf	0.255	0.008	0.071	3.63	0.006	0.608	0.365	1.24
Ta	0.039	0.000	0.013	0.622	0.000	0.013	0.076	0.593
W	0.094	0.004	0.041	0.461	0.013	0.019	0.070	0.652
Re	0.0009				0.0002		0.0000	0.0007
Os	0.0008				0.0001	0.0002	0.0004	0.0009
Ir	0.0008				0.0001	0.0001	0.0010	0.0005
Pt	0.2336				0.0003	0.0006	0.0014	0.039



Au	0.0006				0.0009	0.0007	0.0028	0.109
Tl	0.007	0.001	0.003	0.042	0.001	0.001	0.082	0.022
Pb	0.545	0.16	0.24	5.5	0.18	0.412	12.8	3.54
Bi	0.005	0.003	0.002	0.004	0.003	0.002	0.012	0.013
Th	0.092	0.001	0.032	3.014	0.001	0.351	0.106	0.82
U	0.082	0.030	0.102	0.563	0.002	0.083	0.019	0.21

Table 8  
Compositions of parent liquids and olivine used in PETROLOG calculations.

Parent Liquid	SiO <sub>2</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	Total
NWA 2737 A# (He)	49.37	1.98	8.44	0.26	19.00	0.22	12.11	6.06	1.58	0.61	0.16	99.70
Chassigny A* Johnson	51.52	1.58	8.72	0.00	19.02	0.53	7.08	8.49	2.29	0.77	0.00	100.00
Nakhla ol core (Treiman)	33.60	0.05	0.08	0.03	48.60	0.96	17.50	0.29	0.05	0.00	0.00	100.70
NA01a (Stockstill)	56.00	1.30	10.70	0.02	14.50	0.39	2.10	8.20	3.40	2.00	0.65	99.20
NA01a & 10ol	53.76	1.18	9.64	0.02	17.91	0.45	3.64	7.41	3.07	1.80	0.59	99.35
NA01a & 20ol	51.52	1.05	8.58	0.02	21.32	0.50	5.18	6.62	2.73	1.60	0.52	99.50

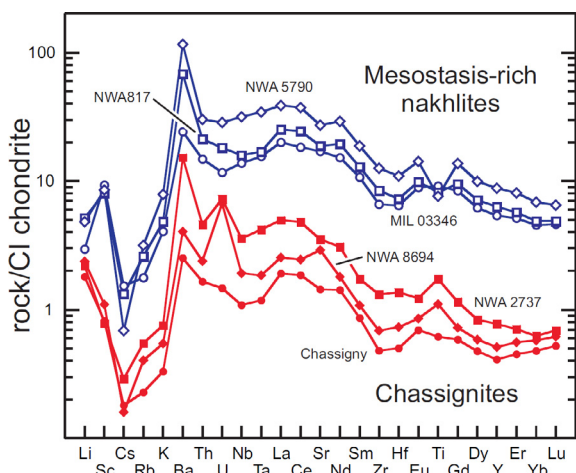


Fig. 13. ICP-SFMS analyses for chassignites and mesostasis-rich nakhrites (this work, Beck et al., 2006, and Jambon et al., 2016) normalized to CI values (Barrat et al., 2012).

are not representative of the liquid (Hewins et al., 2017). Bearing in mind the number of similarities between nakhrites and chassignites, as well as their alkaline nature (Prinz et al., 1974; Floran et al., 1978; Day et al., 2006; Nekvasil et al., 2007; Udry and Day, 2012; Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019) we next considered more alkaline parent liquids with nakhrite affinities (Table 8).

In Fig. 14, we show four bulk REE patterns for the three chassignites along with nakhrite bulk and mesostasis compositions (Jambon et al., 2016). Note that the four patterns for chassignites are nearly parallel, and reflect different quantities of trapped liquid. The chassignite patterns show a strong resemblance to those of nakhrite mesostases and bulk nakhrites. LREE contents of the NWA 8694 mesostasis liquids (as shown in Fig. 14) overlap with those of trace-element-rich nakhrites NWA817, MIL03346 and NWA5790 (Jambon et al., 2016), rather than those of trace-element-poor nakhrites (Udry and Day, 2018), though the HREE appear to be affected by undersampled carrier phases, as discussed above. In a search for a parent for

NWA 8694, we selected a relatively Na- and K-rich nakhrite reheated melt inclusion composition with intermediate silica, NA01a of Stockstill et al. (2005). This composition (Table 7) did indeed produce relatively alkaline daughter liquids with PETROLOG (Fig. 16) at FMQ-1 (consistent with an estimate of FMQ-1.3 for Chassigny (Floran et al. (1978))), and 1 bar, but was not olivine-saturated.

We added Nakhla core olivine (Treiman, 2005) to the NA01a parent in different amounts, to construct a series of olivine-saturated liquid compositions. Modeling of these parent liquids gave olivine compositions overlapping that in NWA 8694 (Fig. 17) and alkaline daughter liquids (Fig. 16). These compositions were crystallized at 1 bar and at 5 kb. The 5 kb calculations deviated further from NWA the 8694 interstitial liquid composition than the corresponding 1 bar calculations, and those runs are not illustrated in the figures. The silica enrichment trend caused by olivine crystallization was reversed when olivine gave way to pyroxene, but continued when pyroxene was joined by plagioclase. The pyroxene was augite, with no pigeonite. The daughter liquids also passed close to NWA mesostasis compositions (Fig. 16), with the composition with 10% added olivine producing a better match than that with 20% added olivine. Olivine Fo<sub>54-50</sub> formed in the 10% added olivine composition from 1144–1118 °C at 1 bar, when it was replaced by augite; augite was joined by plagioclase at 1085 °C, and the two phases cocrystallized until the liquid was 80% solidified at 797 °C. The latter calculated daughter liquids are virtually Mg-free, unlike the analyses of trapped liquid in NWA 8694 (Fig. 16), because early magnesian crystals are removed in the calculation whereas they remain in the natural mesostasis (Fig. 2d). Trapped liquids in the cumulate pile would undergo Fe-Mg exchange with cumulate minerals (e.g., Coogan and O'Hara, 2015; Lissenberg and MacLeod, 2016) limiting the extent of the Fe-enrichment achieved compared with a fractional crystallization calculation.

We have satisfied the minimum requirements of a parent magma for NWA 8694, to produce relatively ferroan olivine and alkaline mesostasis, but are far from having a unique solution and a rigorous history for the formation

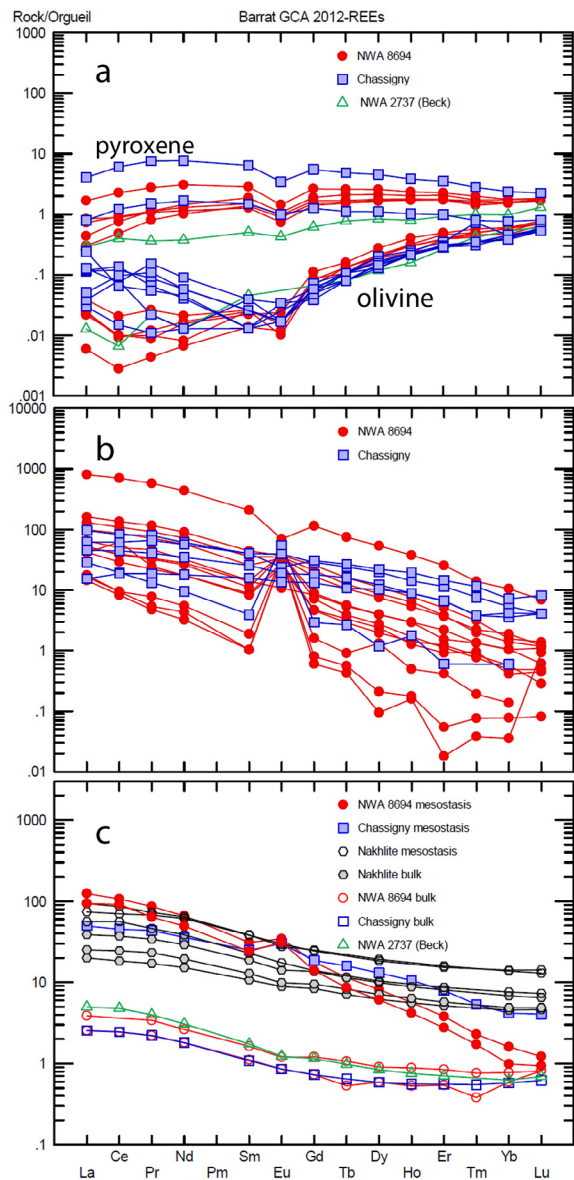


Fig. 14. REE data for NWA 8694 and Chassigny (this work); and NWA 2737 (Beck et al., 2006). (a) Olivine and pyroxene. (b) Mesostasis (interstitial trapped liquid). (c) Mesostasis and bulk compositions of chassignites compared to those of nakhlites (Jambon et al., 2016). The subsamples of NWA 8694 differ in trapped liquid content, with REE concentration pattern of that measured by LA-ICP-MS being close to that of NWA 2737, while the other is almost identical to Chassigny.

of NWA 8694. Nevertheless, we have identified a liquid composition capable of producing chassignite-like cumulates and nakhlite-like daughter liquids. The strong relationship between chassignites and nakhlites is supported, in particular in the similar alkaline nature of mesostases (Day et al., 2006).

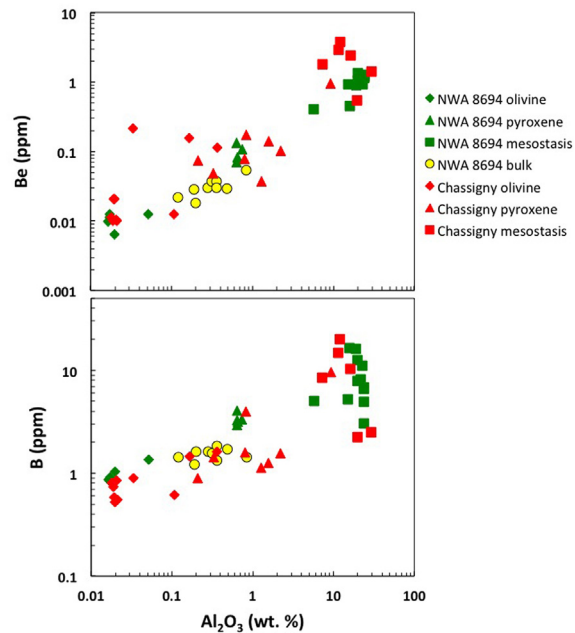


Fig. 15. Beryllium and boron abundances in NWA 8694 and Chassigny. The “bulk” measurements represent individual raster analyses.

#### 4.3. Trace element geochemistry

##### 4.3.1. REE of mesostasis and possible parental liquids

The close parallelism between incompatible trace element abundance patterns for bulk chassignites and mesostasis-rich nakhlites (Fig. 13) indicates a close genetic relationship, in which crystal fractionation must have played a role (this work, Beck et al., 2006, Jambon et al., 2016). The REE patterns for olivine indicate that small melt inclusions (enriched in LREE) are ubiquitous in the large (50–100  $\mu m$ ) spots used to analyze REE in the olivines in Chassigny, but are significantly less in olivine from NWA 8694.

Mesostasis constitutes  $\sim 5\%$  of the bulk rock, based on incompatible element ratios such as La/Yb and Gd/Yb. As we have  $\sim 4\%$  modal feldspar, this indicates that most of the pyroxene ( $\sim 9\%$ ) is accumulate in origin. The analyses of the interstitial material exhibit compositional heterogeneity that is more complex than could be produced solely by fractional crystallization. We found that the true composition of Chassigny interstitial material was difficult to determine owing to the impossibility of avoiding the surrounding mafic silicates (Table S2), but it shows significant enrichment of lithophile incompatible elements, including REE. The NWA 8694 interstitial material shows less contamination by mafic silicates, reaching extremely low MgO contents ( $< 1$  wt.%), but some analyses exhibit strong plagioclase or phosphate signatures (Fig. 14b).

Bulk REE concentrations result from the mixing of mafic silicates with average mesostasis, but mesostasis

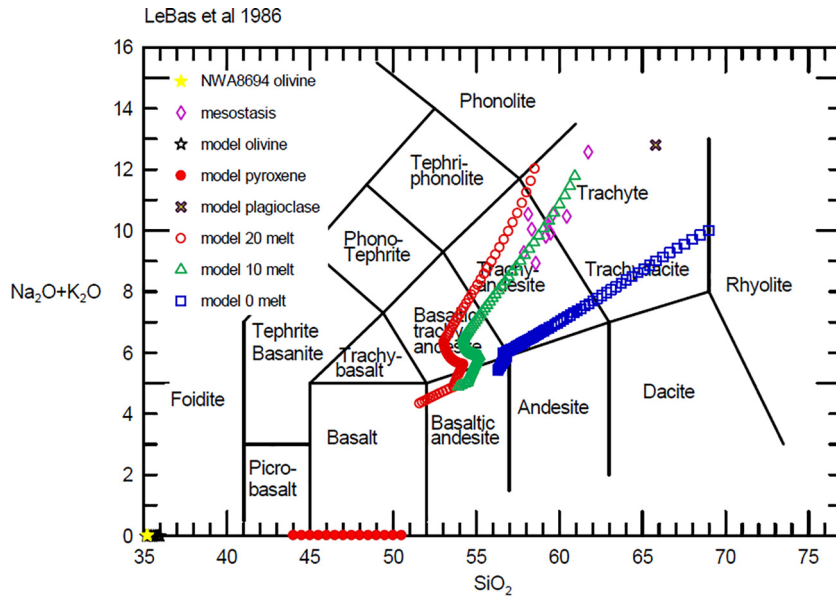


Fig. 16. TAS diagram for daughter liquids from nakhilite parent melt NA01a (Stockstill et al., 2005) with 0%, 10% and 20% added olivine. Crystallization of olivine, augite, and augite plus plagioclase at 1 bar and FMQ-1 produces a match for NWA 8694 mesostasis for the parent with 10% olivine added.

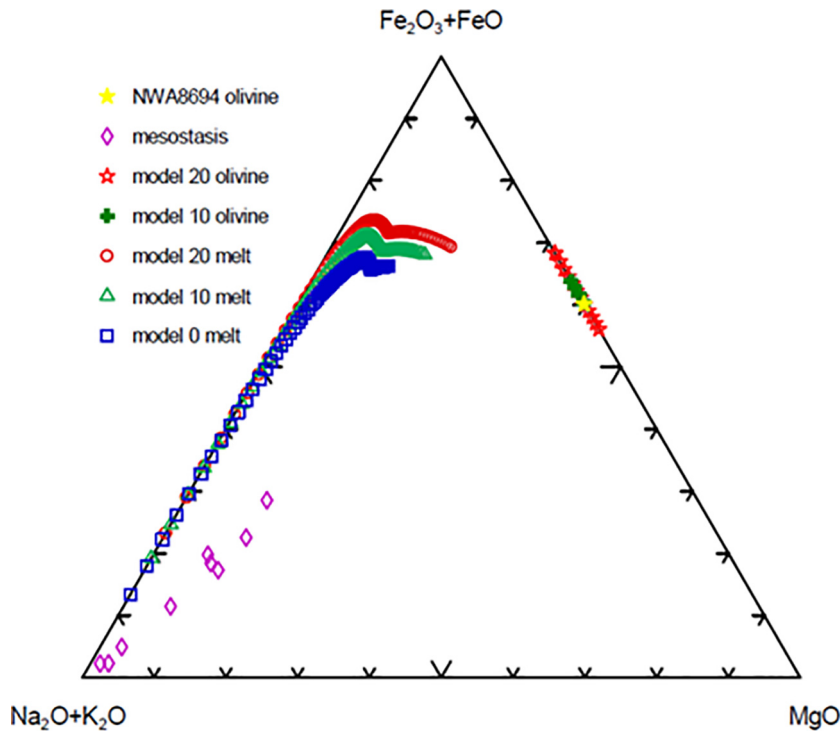


Fig. 17. AFM diagram for nakhilite parent NA01a (Stockstill et al., 2005) with 0%, 10% and 20% added olivine showing calculated olivine and daughter liquid compositions. Crystallization yields olivine matching olivine in NWA 8694, but the calculated liquid is displaced from the natural mesostasis, which retains Mg-bearing pyroxene.

exhibits great variations in REE contents. The plagioclase-dominated patterns of NWA 8694 mesostasis are low in REE abundance and exhibit large positive Eu anomalies, with Eu/Eu\* of 40–100. Fig. 18 is a plot of the Eu anomaly

against the CI-normalized La abundance ( $La_{CI}$ ) for the interstitial material and shows a mixing curve between phosphate-dominated mesostasis analyses at the high  $La_{CI}$  end with slightly negative Eu anomaly, and low  $La_{CI}$  with

large positive Eu anomalies for the plagioclase-rich analyses. A few of the Chassigny interstitial material compositions plot along the correlation defined by the NWA 8694 mesostasis analyses, but most of the Chassigny analyses plot away from the mixing curve towards the bulk and olivine + pyroxene points at lowest  $(La)_{CI}$  with small negative Eu anomalies. Fig. 18 shows that most of the NWA 8694 mesostasis patches (black diamonds) are mixtures of plagioclase and phosphate, which probably crystallized from the interstitial liquid. The average REE pattern is matched by a mixture of 96% plagioclase and 4% apatite from NWA 2737 for La-Gd (Fig. S5), while HREE were below the detection limit in plagioclase (Beck et al., 2006). Measurements of the bulk NWA 8694 composition exhibit small negative Eu anomalies. We note that most Chassigny mesostasis points but only a few NWA 8694 points plot close to the Nakhla parental magma composition (Treiman, 2005) in Fig. 18. The latter exhibits no Eu anomaly and has a  $(La/Yb)_{CI}$  ratio of 6, similar to the  $(La/Yb)_{CI}$  (5–7) of mesostasis compositions for nakhlites NWA 5790, NWA 817, and MIL 03346 (Jambon et al., 2016). The dispersion of the NWA 8694 points in Fig. 15 is a challenge in searching both for chassignite relationships and for parent magma compositions.

#### 4.3.2. Processes modifying trace element distributions

The LREE concentrations in mesostasis in NWA 8694 are similar to those of Chassigny and nakhlites (Treiman, 2015), consistent with a fractionation relationship, although the HREE are difficult to explain. Curiously, the interstitial material in both Chassigny and NWA 8694 has strongly sloping REE patterns (Fig. 14c) that exhibit a higher  $(La/Yb)_{CI}$  ratio than that of nakhlites (8–17 in Chassigny interstitial material; 48–103 in NWA 8694 interstitial material; Fig. 18). Even the phosphate-dominated mesostasis analysis from NWA 8694 has a  $(La/Yb)_{CI}$  of 74 and its REE pattern is parallel to those of the other NWA 8694 interstitial patches. Thus, fractional crystallization within the NWA 8694 mesostasis appears not to have changed the slope of the REE pattern. If these interstitial patches are the last dregs of the crystallizing magma, then interstitial material from Chassigny more closely resembles nakhlite mesostasis, and hence a nakhlite parental magma: the late liquid in NWA 8694 has a more strongly sloping REE pattern than probable nakhlite parental melt compositions by about an order of magnitude. Very few processes can fractionate heavy REE (HREE) during fractional crystallization. Neither pyroxene nor olivine removal could remove enough of the HREE to increase the slope of the REE pattern that significantly. A phase high in HREE relative to melt that possibly could be invoked is zircon, but removal of zircon would also lower the Zr-Hf abundances, which is not observed. Some HREE-rich mesostasis phases, baddeleyite and zirconolite, are attached to the surrounding olivine, and are therefore undersampled in the laser spot on plagioclase-rich mesostasis areas. This undersampling explains the steep REE pattern, as 1% baddeleyite (Zhang et al., 2009)-mesostasis mixtures give less steep patterns resembling nakhlite mesostasis (Fig. S6).

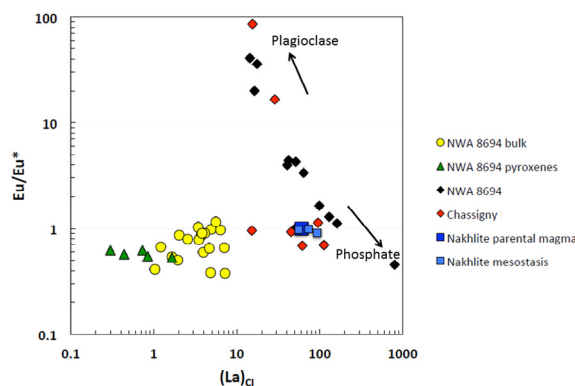


Fig. 18. Interstitial material in Chassigny (red diamonds) resembles nakhlite mesostasis, but in NWA 8694 (black diamonds) shows a mixing curve between phosphate-dominated analyses (high  $(La)_{CI}$ ) and plagioclase-rich analyses (strong positive Eu anomalies). Nakhlite data from Treiman (2005).

With the discovery of the second chassignite, NWA 2737, olivine fractionation from parental melt(s) appeared to be the major process influencing chassignite compositions (Beck et al., 2006). Other igneous processes e.g. different degrees of melting of the same source seen for nakhlites and hotspot basalts (Goodrich et al., 2013; Vlastélic et al., 2018), trapping of different amounts of liquid (Barrat and Bartélely, 2019), and migration of mesostasis liquid (Treiman, 2005) could also have influenced melt compositions. In addition, a series of interactions with the exterior, e.g. assimilation (Humayun et al., 2020), fluid infiltration (McCubbin et al., 2013; Nagao et al., 2019) and outgassing (Yang et al., 2019) have been shown to modify chassignite compositions. Fig. 19 shows the incompatible element abundances for the interstitial material plotted on a Martian mantle-normalized plot (Yang et al., 2015) with elements organized according to decreasing incompatibility from left to right. Difficulties may arise from the heterogeneity and small size of mesostasis patches, and overlap on melt inclusions and other phases for olivine and pyroxene. For example, positive anomalies in Ba and Sr in the mesostasis patches are likely due to plagioclase oversampling (Fig. 19), while the steep slope of their REE (high  $La/Yb$ ) seen in Fig. 14b and 19 may be due to undersampling of baddeleyite or oversampling of phosphate. However, other processes must be involved, as we see poor correlation between Cs (and Tl) and Rb (Tables 7 and S2) for the interstitial material with the highest Rb contents even though K, Rb, Tl and Cs are likely to be in the same phases. Here we discuss the roles of fractional crystallization versus other processes on trace element distribution during the formation of NWA 8694.

McCubbin et al. (2013) argued that chassignites and nakhlites were invaded by Cl-rich fluids after crystallization of the cumulus phases. Bellucci et al. (2016) showed that radiogenic Pb was introduced into Chassigny minerals by surface fluids entering fractures that were subsequently annealed. Hydrothermal fluids operated pervasively in Chassigny (Lorand et al., 2018); in NWA 8694 this is indicated by magmatic sulfides that were converted to pyrite.

We cannot demonstrate trace element modification by fluids, but Nagao et al. (2019) showed from noble gas data that NWA 8694, like the MIL nakhlites, had interacted with surface fluids.

The most highly incompatible elements (Cs–Nd) are concentrated by factors of 25 in NWA 8694 and Chassigny mesostasis (Fig. 19), as well as in nakhlite mesostasis, relative to the martian mantle. The bulk NWA 8694 composition plots close to martian mantle abundances (Yang et al., 2015) for Cs–Nd, with the exception of excesses of Tl and U. The abundances of these two elements might be increased by terrestrial alteration in the desert (known for U), but five spot analyses of pyroxene from NWA 8694 also exhibit positive Tl and U anomalies (Fig. 16) indicating that strong separation of U and Tl is a feature of pyroxene accumulation. Anomalies in Tl and U are not seen in the mesostasis, indicating that pyroxene fractionated from the parental melt but that mesostasis crystallization cannot account for their compositions.

Thorium and U are highly incompatible elements, with U being slightly preferred over Th in the lattice of clinopyroxene (LaTourette and Burnett, 1992). The Th/U ratio is systematically low in olivines (<0.2) from both Chassigny and NWA 8694, implying that some U is present in the olivine lattice, while Th is near the detection limit (Tables 7 and S2). The Th/U ratio is ~2 in pyroxenes from Chassigny and even lower (<0.5) in pyroxenes from NWA 8694, consistent with experimental constraints for Th–U partitioning in low-pressure pyroxenes (LaTourette and Burnett, 1992). The Th/U ratio is systematically higher in NWA 8694 mesostasis (5.1) than in Chassigny interstitial material (3.9). Nakhlites are known to exhibit a superchondritic Th/U ratio (~4), but NWA 8694 interstitial patches are even higher in Th/U than any nakhlite. These observations suggest that nakhlitic liquid crystallized pyroxene in NWA 8694 and evolved to mesostasis composition.

Bulk NWA 8694 and NWA 8694 interstitial material also exhibit a small deficiency of Nb–Ta and of Zr–Hf

(Fig. 19). The Zr–Hf deficiency is also observed in Chassigny interstitial material to a lesser degree. These Nb–Ta–Zr–Hf deficiencies point to Fe–Ti oxide crystallization since pyroxene from NWA 8694 also exhibits the Zr–Hf deficiency. Ilmenite is an accessory phase in interstitial mesostasis, as are the undersampled baddeleyite and a few Nb- and Th-rich Ca–Ti–Zr microphases, notably zirconolite, that explain the slope of the REE pattern.

The concentrations of Ge and Zn in the olivine and pyroxene in chassignites and nakhlites appear to be controlled by fractional crystallization (Yang et al., 2019). However, olivine, pyroxene, and mesostasis in NWA 8694 have lower Ge than expected from its incompatible nature (Table 7). The Ge/Si ratio is relatively constant in the martian mantle (Yang et al., 2015). The Ge contents (~2.5 ppm) and Ge/Si ratios of Chassigny interstitial material are similar to those of bulk chassignites, but the NWA 8694 interstitial material is depleted in Ge (~0.6–0.8 ppm). Melting of a more garnet-rich source for NWA 8694 interstitial material could explain both the higher (La/Yb)<sub>CI</sub> and the lower Ge/Si ratios observed, but for the Ge/Si ratio this depletion is still larger than expected. Magmatic outgassing has been shown to lower Ge/Si ratios in shergottites (Yang et al., 2019) to values similar to that observed in NWA 8694 interstitial material. Thus, a late-stage outgassing of the melts from which NWA 8694 mesostasis was trapped, or a distinct magmatic origin for the interstitial material, is indicated by the Ge–Si systematics. This evidence makes it hard to derive nakhlites by fractional crystallization from the same melt as NWA 8694, and implies that nakhlites and chassignites were derived from multiple magma bodies.

#### 4.4. Terrestrial analogues and geological setting

##### 4.4.1. A single cumulate pile or separate flows

In plutonic and most hypabyssal rocks pigeonite exsolves augite and inverts to orthopyroxene because of slow cooling (Hess, 1960; Robinson, 1980). The augite

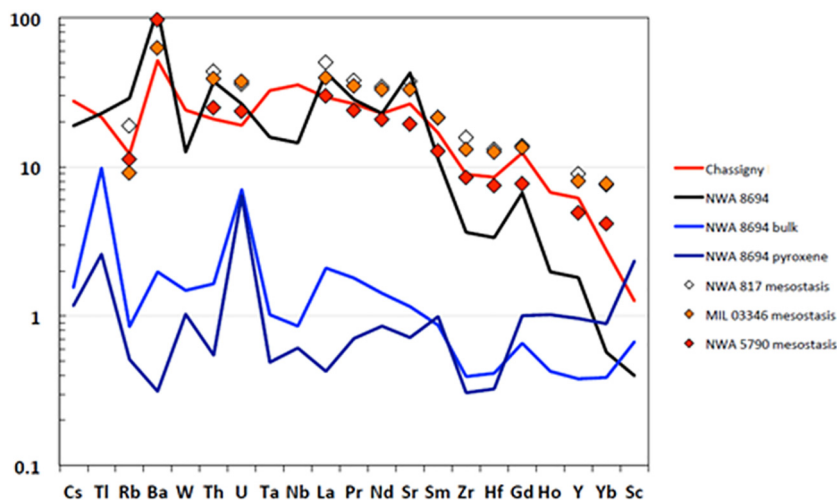


Fig. 19. Incompatible element abundances for NWA 8694 and Chassigny mesostases (top two curves) normalized to Martian mantle (Yang et al., 2015) with elements organized according to decreasing incompatibility from left to right. Chassigny mesostasis is very similar to nakhlite mesostases (Jambon et al., 2017), but that in NWA 8694 is depleted in Zr, Hf, HREE and Sc.

lamellae in pigeonite in NWA 8694 are  $\sim 2 \mu\text{m}$  in apparent width (Fig. 2b), comparable to or a little wider than those in Chassigny (Monkawa et al., 2004), suggesting a near-surface environment, such as a thick flow, or shallow reservoir, rather than plutonic cooling. The fine plagioclase laths in Nakhla mesostasis also indicate rapid cooling (Treiman, 1986). The reverse zoning of Ca in olivine indicating only partial loss of Ca (as in Chassigny), the failure of pigeonite to invert, and the fine grain size of the mesostasis, are also inconsistent with emplacement at significant depth. The adcumulate texture of chassignites does, however, indicate slower cooling than for nakhlites, raising the question of mode of emplacement.

Since nakhlites and chassignites have similar ages and trace element abundance patterns, these meteorites must be genetically related, although contextual details are lacking. Different chassignites and nakhlites may represent separate flows or shallow intrusions (Treiman, 1986; Treiman, 2005), but the idea of a single body for all nakhlites has been widely explored (Mikouchi et al., 2003; Day et al., 2006). The nakhlites and chassignites have been ordered in terms of Mg#, extent of zoning, mesostasis content, and cooling rate estimate, to give a sequence within a proposed flow unit or cumulate pile (Mikouchi et al., 2003; McCubbin et al., 2013). However, considering subtle differences between otherwise similar nakhlites, and the probability of a series of eruptions from a complex long-lived sub-volcanic zone, it is unlikely that all these rocks fit in a single flow unit. Several flows or flow lobes were proposed recently over a short time period (Jambon et al., 2016; Balta et al., 2017; Cohen et al., 2017; Udry and Day, 2018). The similarity of augite core compositions, feldspar compositions, and REE patterns in NWA 8694 and in nakhlites, suggest a close genetic relationship such as derivation from the same source. However, we have shown here from the Ge/Si ratios that they could not have formed from the same melts. They may differ in that nakhlites were emplaced at depth or extruded promptly (no degassing based on Ge/Si systematics) while NWA 8694 accumulated from a melt that outgassed in the caldera of a volcano.

#### 4.4.2. Archean komatiite-tholeiite association

The associated chassignites and nakhlites have been compared to terrestrial volcanic rocks: they are reminiscent of the association of Archean komatiites and tholeiites (Arndt et al., 1977; Friedman-Lenz et al., 1999). Tholeiitic rocks in Munro Township include layered dunite-pyroxenite flows like Theo's Flow, where the augite cumulate layer is very similar to nakhlite (Friedman-Lenz et al., 1999). However, understanding of such flows is complicated by the possibility of blanketing of hot flows by subsequent eruptions (Murri et al., 2019), and the underlying olivine layer has an orthocumulate texture (Arndt et al., 1977), not the adcumulate texture as in chassignites. In thin komatiite flows there is also only olivine orthocumulate, but thicker komatiite units ( $>150 \text{ m}$ ) have adcumulate lower dunite (B2) zones (Houlé et al., 2002). The proposed parent liquid A# of the most magnesian chassignite NWA 2737 contains 12.1% MgO (He et al., 2013) and a liquidus temperature of  $\sim 1335 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (this work). Such liquids would

be effective at melting surface rocks, causing assimilation, and cutting a channel (Hill et al., 1995). High Sn/Sm contents in NWA 2737 are evidence of such contamination (Humayun et al., 2020). The adcumulate textures of chassignites are like those of layers of adcumulate dunite in thick komatiites that were interpreted as forming as channel fill (Hill et al., 1995; Houlé et al., 2002). Thus chassignites and nakhlites are in some ways analogous to Archean komatiites and tholeiites, though the latter, while spatially related, are not closely genetically related based on trace element data (Rajamani et al., 1989; Arndt, 1991). Moreover, the differences of both olivine compositions and textures make it difficult to place most chassignites and nakhlites in the same flow unit.

#### 4.4.3. Basaltic shield volcanoes

Major volcanic centers on Earth include plume-fed shield volcanoes, e.g. on Hawai'i, Ascension, and La Réunion. Dunites have been observed in association with the Piton de la Fournaise volcano on La Réunion. They occur within layered cumulates in low altitude surface exposures and in drill cores from at least 3 km depth, as well as occurring as xenoliths in basalts (Babkine et al., 1966; Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019). The xenoliths in particular have textures very similar to those of chassignites, and the same crystallization sequence (Udry and Day, 2018; Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019). Barrat and Bachèlery (2019) showed that Chassigny had similar relationships in incompatible element distributions between trapped melt inclusions and parent magmas as at Piton de la Fournaise, implying in both cases a close relationship. The feldspar in NWA 8694 and nakhlites has a similar range to those of alkaline and nephelinitic lavas from shield volcanoes on Maui (Keil et al., 1972), though lacking calcic phenocrysts. The alkaline nature of melt inclusions in Nakhla (Day et al., 2006) and Chassigny (Nekvasil et al., 2007) also makes an origin from shield volcanoes more likely than origin from a komatiite-tholeiite association.

Magma is understood to crystallize within solidification fronts on magma chamber walls (Marsh, 1996), and in the case of Piton de la Fournaise dendritic olivine forms harriitic mush zones on the cold walls (Welsch et al., 2013). Erupting liquid can tear olivine from the fragile mush zone giving olivine-rich lavas. As such picrite flows are found on the flanks of Piton de la Fournaise at low elevations, they must come from depth in the complex magma reservoir, while evolved liquids including trachyte erupt from the summit (Famin et al., 2009). Similar processes could occur in the case of chassignites, with a nakhlitic liquid rising through the olivine mush. Though dunites occur as cumulate layers and xenoliths in shield volcanoes, major flows could also conceivably develop adcumulate dunites, as in the komatiite case.

Dating of six nakhlites using the  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  method defined at least four discrete events over a time period of  $93 \pm 12 \text{ Ma}$  between 1416 and 1322 Ma consistent with a plume-fed volcano (Cohen et al., 2017). This duration is well over an order of magnitude longer than for shield volcanoes on Earth. The long history and the general large size of martian volcanoes give opportunities for processes such

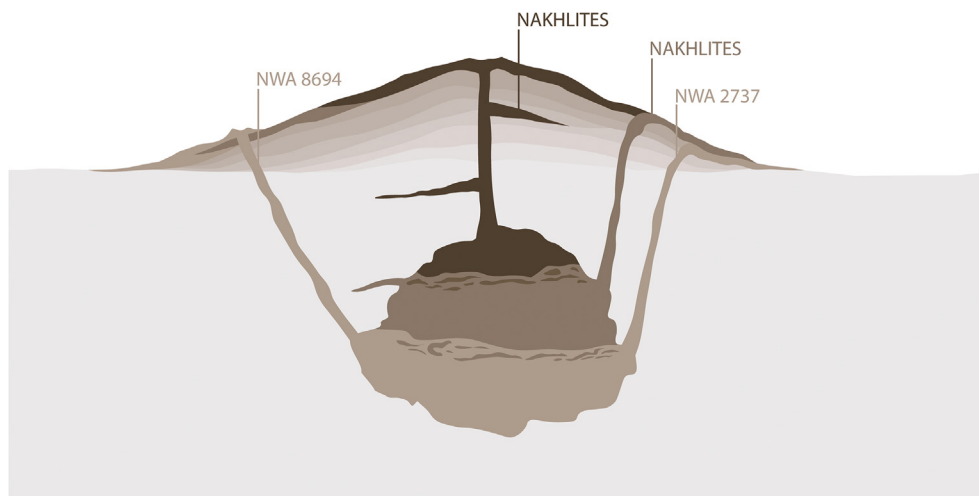


Fig. 20. A magma chamber or complex of connected reservoirs undergoing differentiation by olivine fractionation and episodic refills becoming vertically zoned, pyroxene-rich at the top and olivine-rich at the bottom (after Famin et al., 2009). Nakhilites form from dikes at the top of this storage complex as near-summit eruptions, and chassignites like NWA 2737 come from the base of the reservoir as dikes and lateral eruptions. Ge/Si data are consistent with outgassing of chassignite NWA 8694 in a lava pond. Or open rift.

as crystal fractionation, assimilation, recharge and magma mixing to occur. Treiman and Irving (2008) argued that intercumulus magma moved through and was expelled from the augite cumulate of the nakhilite NWA 998. Goodrich et al. (2013) showed that two different liquids are trapped as melt inclusions in Nakhla, a Si-rich melt in augite representing the Nakhla parent magma; and a Si-poor more primitive liquid that crystallized the olivine. The two liquids could have resulted from different degrees of melting of the same source at different depths. Goodrich et al. (2013) concluded that the Nakhla parent liquid rose through the olivine cumulates formed from the earlier Si-poor magma, incorporating olivine crystals. The parent liquids proposed for NWA 2737 (He et al. 2013) and for Chassigny (Johnson et al., 1991) are such Si-poor liquids, while we have modified a Nakhla parent liquid (Stockstill et al., 2005) to yield a less Si-poor parent capable of yielding the olivine and alkaline mesostasis of NWA 8694. The similarities of augite, feldspar, and mesostasis compositions between NWA 8694 and nakhilites are consistent with chassignites and nakhilites originating in a shield volcano. Based on Ge degassing, NWA 8694 formed from magma that communicated with the surface, in contrast to other chassignites. Eruption from the summit is possible but unlikely from density considerations, and it could have solidified in the feeder pipe. Alternatively it could have formed in the lava pond of a satellitic shield or as cumulates in a thick flow. We illustrate the latter possibilities in Fig. 20, which is based on the Piton de la Fournaise volcano (Famin et al., 2009; Welsch et al., 2013; Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019).

## 5. CONCLUSIONS

NWA 8694, the third chassignite, has an olivine composition ( $FO_{54}$ ) intermediate between those of the other chassignites and nakhilites, and has pigeonite as the dominant

pyroxene. Cumulus chromite has a similar composition range to that in Chassigny but it extends to more Fe-Ti-rich compositions. The trachytic mesostasis has feldspar compositions ( $AN_{27-OR_{79}}$ ) like those in both Chassigny and nakhilites. NWA 8694 augite is more ferroan than Chassigny augite, but has the same composition ( $En_{41-40}Wo_{38-39}$ ) as augite cores in the most primitive nakhilites, e.g. NWA 998. The igneous pyrrhotite is also slightly more ferroan ( $(Fe/Fe + Ni)_{at.} = 0.98$ ) compared to Chassigny pyrrhotite ( $(Fe/Fe + Ni)_{at.} = 0.97$ ). Mineralogically NWA 8694 constitutes a direct link between the chassignites and the nakhilites.

The bulk REE patterns of the three chassignites have the same shape as those of nakhilite mesostases, and like nakhilite mesostases, have Cs-Nd levels  $\sim 25\times$  chondrites, suggesting a nakhilite parent magma. However, the REE pattern of interstitial material in NWA 8694 is steeper than all other chassignite or nakhilite patterns, which can be explained by undersampling of baddeleyite and zirconolite that occur at olivine contacts with mesostasis. Positive Tl and U anomalies in pyroxene indicate fractional crystallization of pyroxene in NWA 8694 from its parent magma, but mesostasis is unfractionated. Th/U ratios in mesostasis are highly enriched compared to nakhilites.

Major element compositions of chassignites and Ge contents of olivine and pyroxene are consistent with crystal fractionation of olivine, chromite and pyroxene from closely related magma compositions. However, Ge-Si systematics indicate a late-stage outgassing of the melts from which NWA 8694 mesostasis was trapped, or a distinct magmatic origin of the interstitial material.

Proposed parent melt compositions such as NWA 2737 A# with 12.1% MgO (He et al., 2013) cannot produce olivine as ferroan as in NWA8694 by fractional crystallization, showing a more complex process is required, e.g. different degrees of partial melting or magma mixing. Olivine and potassic late liquid of the compositions observed

in NWA 8694 are produced by model crystallization of a nakhlite parent liquid NA01a (Stockstill et al., 2005) with 10% added Nakhla olivine.

As all chassignite olivine cannot be produced by fractionation of a single liquid, chassignites and nakhlites cannot be crystallized together in a closed system like a single thick lava flow. Chassignites and nakhlites formed as flows or hypabyssal intrusions with entrained olivine and augite crystals. They show textural and geochemical similarities to cumulates and basalts of the terrestrial shield volcano on La Réunion (Barrat and Bachèlery, 2019), where later eruptions appear to have removed crystals from the solidification fronts of earlier more magnesian magmas.

### Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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### APPENDIX A. SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gca.2020.05.021>.

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