Geophysical evolution during rocky planet formation

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Geophysical evolution during rocky planet formation



Lichtenberg, Schaefer, Nakajima, Fischer, Protostars & Planets VII

Temporal fragmentation of planet formation



Lichtenberg, Schaefer, Nakajima, Fischer 22, Protostars & Planets VII



Compositional evolution from radiogenic heating





Lichtenberg+ 16a, 18, 19a,b



Radiogenic heating drives thermal evolution



Thermal and compositional evolution highly time sensitive



Lichtenberg, Schaefer, Nakajima, Fischer 22, Protostars & Planets VII

Thermal and compositional evolution highly time sensitive

Planetesimal dehydration



Lichtenberg, Drążkowska+ 21



Compositional bifurcation by radiogenic heating



Compositional bifurcation by radiogenic heating



Iron core formation: meteorites vs. model



Iron core formation: meteorites vs. model



Lichtenberg, Drążkowska+ 21

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Aqueous alteration: meteorites vs. model



Aqueous alteration: meteorites vs. model



²⁶Al variability across planetary systems



 $\approx 10^2 - 10^8 \times \text{Earth's present-day interior radiogenic heating}$

Lichtenberg+ 16b, Parker+ 14,15,17,20, Gaidos+ 09, Pfalzner+ 15, Kuffmeier+ 16, Fujimoto+18, Lugaro+ 18, Reiter+ 20, Forbes+ 21, Fatuzzo & Adams 21

²⁶Al-heated icy planetesimals forming planets









A. Angelich (NRAO/AUI/NSF)/ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO)

²⁶Al shapes exoplanet *water* budget



Leger+ 04, Sotin+ 07, Alibert 14, Noack+ 16/17

Synthetic exoplanet populations



²⁶Al shapes exoplanet water budget



²⁶Al shapes exoplanet carbon fractionation

Final volatile (in this case CO) content of evolved planetesimals can be very different from that of microscopic dust grains at t=0, depending sensitively on radial location & both disk processes and thermal evolution of planetesimals.





Lichtenberg & Krijt (2021), ApJL



Exoplanets as a window into hothouse climates



Kite, Kreidberg+ 21, Eos

Exoplanets as a window into hothouse climates



Kite, Kreidberg+ 21, Eos

From magma- to water oceans



Orbital split between clement and magma worlds



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Volatile species fractionation





Volatile fractionation controls planet solidification

Cooling of planet via heat loss (W m⁻²)

Magma ocean





Habitable planet







solidify differently



solidify differently



Sub-Neptune opportunity



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K2-18b

Esa/Hubble, M. Kornmesser



 H_2O



No	Sι	Irfa	се	Cr	้นร	st
he	at	pro	du	ict	io	n
ant	mi	xin	g le	en	gt	h
[Da	rcy	flu	X		0

Redox-controlled climates



Redox state: planet-scale





Wordsworth+ 18, AJ

No	Sι	Irfa	се	Cr	้นร	st
he	at	pro	du	ict	io	n
ant	mi	xin	g le	en	gt	h
[Da	rcy	flu	X		0

Redox-controlled climates

Volatile mixing ratio ($\log_{10} X_i$)

IW: 2(1-x) Fe + O₂ = 2 Fe_{1-x}O

Credit: C. Dorn

Dorn & Lichtenberg 21, ApJL

Water mass fraction x_{H_2O} (wt)

Water mass fraction x_{H_2O} (wt)

Specific planets

Dorn & Lichtenberg 21, ApJL

0.07 % steam atmosphere & 2 % in magma ocean very different from Delrez+2021

magma oceans only possible with additional heating mechanisms water partitioning only marginal

Up to 1 magnitude water budget difference

Dorn & Lichtenberg 21, ApJL

Redox alteration requires reservoir mixing

Iron disproportionation

$$3Fe^{2+} \rightarrow 2Fe^{3+} + Fe^{0}$$

Frost+ 04, Wade & Wood 05, Frost & McCammon 08, Carlson+ 12

Endogenous water production

$$FeO + H_2 \rightarrow H_2O + Fe^0$$

Ikoma & Genda 06, Ikoma+ 18, Olson & Sharp 18, Kite & Schaefer 21

- Mixing: atmosphere-mantle
- Require:
- Mixing: mantle-core

Particle settling in turbulent convection

Metal core

Patočka+ 20, Phys. Rev. Fluids

Non-dimensional

Turbulent convection in sub-Neptunes

Magma ocean depth

Turbulent convection in sub-Neptunes

Expected iron droplet sizes

Rainout quenching in sub-Neptune interiors

Magma circulation affects thermal evolution

 H_2O CO_2 **SO**₂

Oxidised surfaces

Prolongs magma ocean phase

Reduced surfaces

Enhances chances for detection

Prebiotic chemistry on reduced super-Earths?

Rimmer+ 21, ApJL

Exoplanets as a window into climate diversity

Lichtenberg, Schaefer, Nakajima, Fischer 2022, Protostars & Planets VII

Kite, Kreidberg+ 21, Eos

Geophysical evolution during rocky planet formation

- Timing of formation alters geophysics internal processing
- Geophysical evolution leads to order of magnitude fractionation in volatile content
- Magma ocean atmospheres are key to decipher climate diversity

Instellation

