



# Modeling chemical diffusion in silicate melts

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Joint Unit CNRS / Saint-Gobain





500 staff working on industrial processes and materials for construction & industry: glass, mineral wools, gypsum, mortars, composites..

## Improvement of glass products properties



2050  
NET ZERO CARBON

## Decarbonation of glass processes



# Acknowledgements

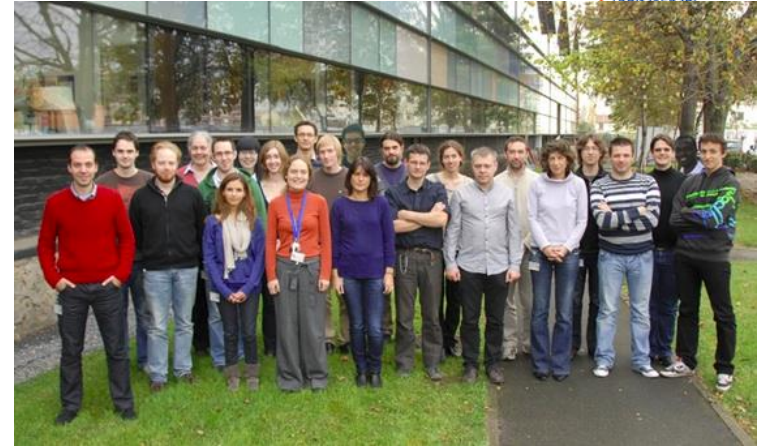
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SVI joint unit : Katia Burov, MH Chopinet, H Montigaud

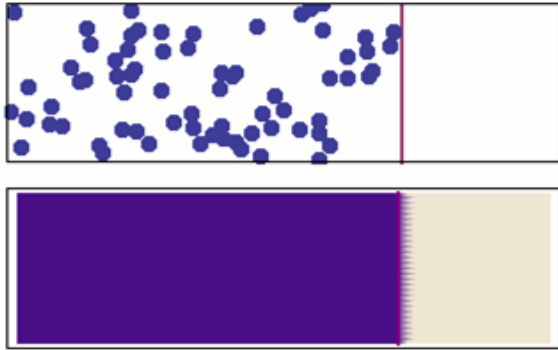
Saint-Gobain Research Paris: C. Jousseaume, S. di Pierro, S. Papin

PhD Students: W. Woelffel, C. Claireaux, M. Ficheux, M. Jacquemin, S. Ben Khemis, B. Bouteille, JT Fonné, F. Yoshizawa

Collaborations: MAGI project, M. Toplis, M. Roskosz, L. Cormier, P. Simon, C. Bessada, E. Véron, M. Salanne, S. Schuller, H. Pablo, D. Vandembroucq.

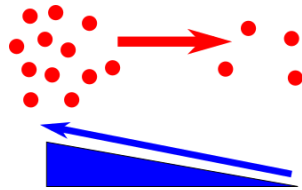


# Chemical diffusion



$$\mathbf{j} = -D\nabla C$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = D\Delta C$$



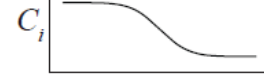
Zhang, Y., & Gan, T. (2022). Diffusion in melts and magmas. *Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry*, 87(1), 283-337.

Diffusion couple

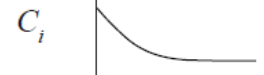
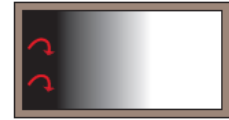
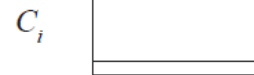
Initial ( $t=0$ )



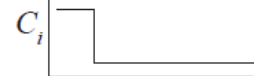
$t=t$



Sorption (constant surface)



Mineral dissolution



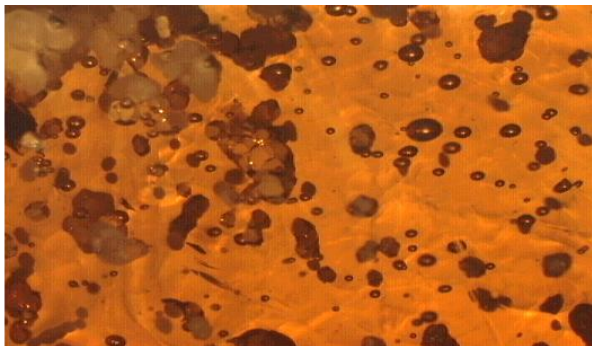
Instantaneous source (thin film)





# Consequences and applications of molecular diffusion in silicate melts

## Glass melting: batch & stones



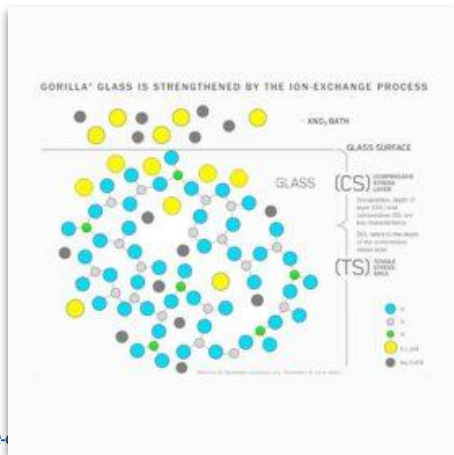
## Refractory corrosion



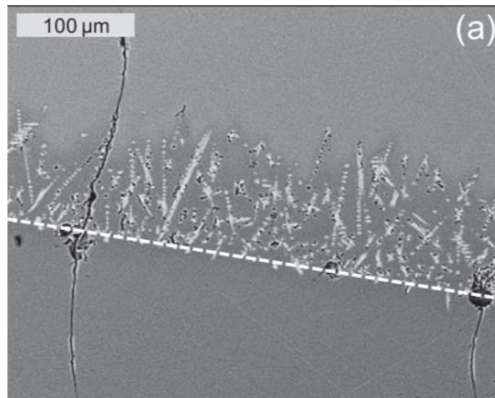
## Volatile diffusion & volcanic eruption



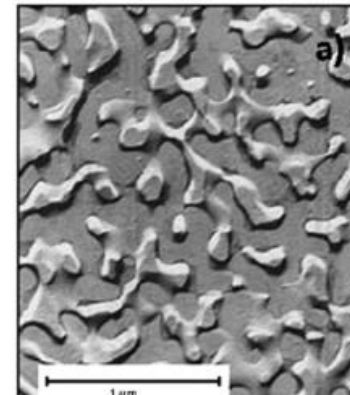
## Ionic exchange (display)



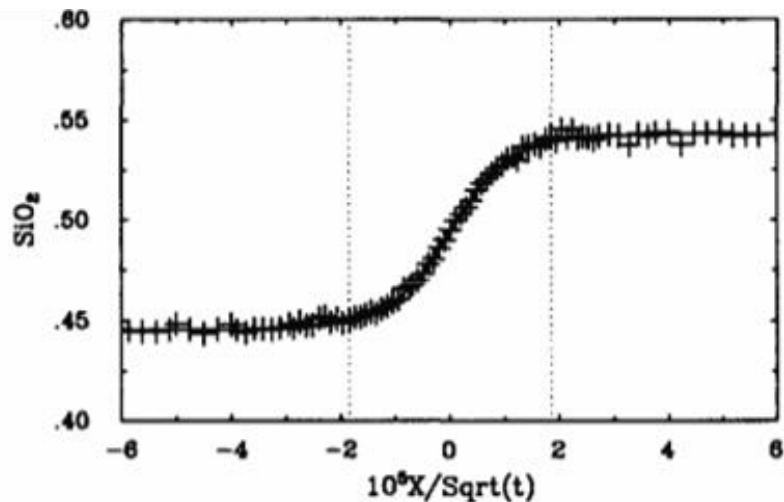
## Crystallization



## Phase separation

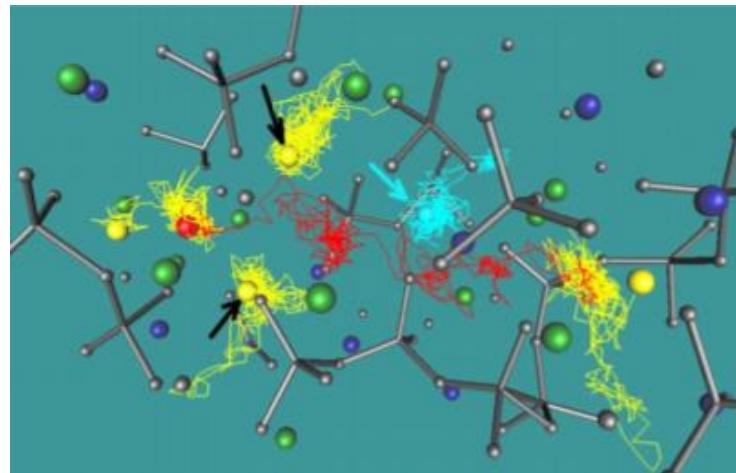


Concentration gradients (chemical concentrations, isotopes...)



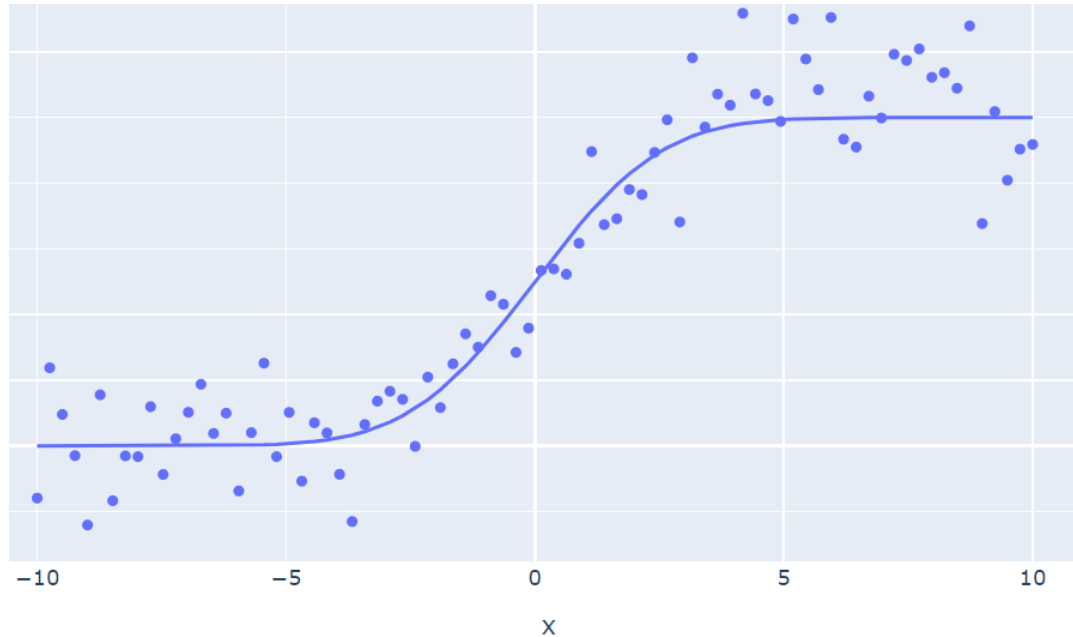
Liang, Yan, Frank M. Richter, and E. Bruce Watson. *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* 60.24 (1996): 5021-5035.

Analysis of trajectories in MD  
Einstein formula (fluctuation-dissipation relation)



Tilocca, Antonio. *The Journal of chemical physics* 133.1 (2010): 014701.

# Fitting experimental diffusion profiles



Fit known parametric laws through noisy experimental points.

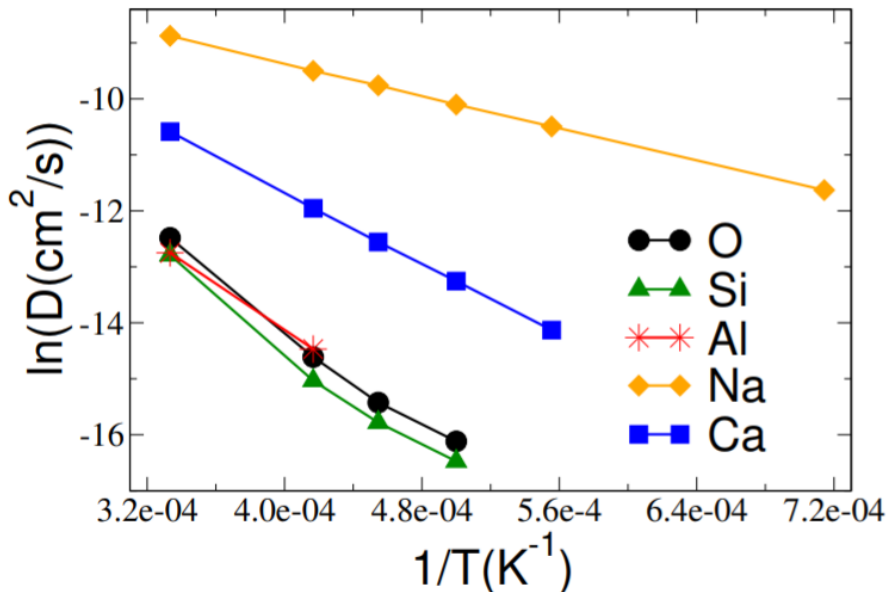
$$n(x, t) = n_0 \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{x}{2\sqrt{Dt}}\right).$$

Importance of :

- spatial resolution and number of points
- experimental noise

# Values of diffusivities in silicate melts - influence of species

Review : Zhang, Y., Ni, H., & Chen, Y. (2010).  
Diffusion data in silicate melts. *Reviews in  
Mineralogy and Geochemistry*, 72(1), 311-408.

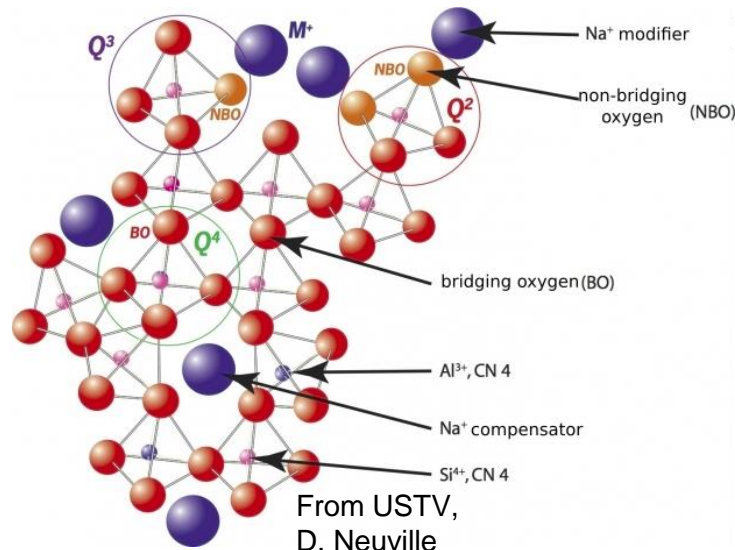


Col with Mathieu's Salanne's team: Serva, Alessandra, et al. "Structural and dynamic properties of soda-lime-silica in the liquid phase." *The Journal of Chemical Physics* 153.21 (2020): 214505.

D depends on **strength** and **number** of chemical bonds (i.e. on silicate structure)

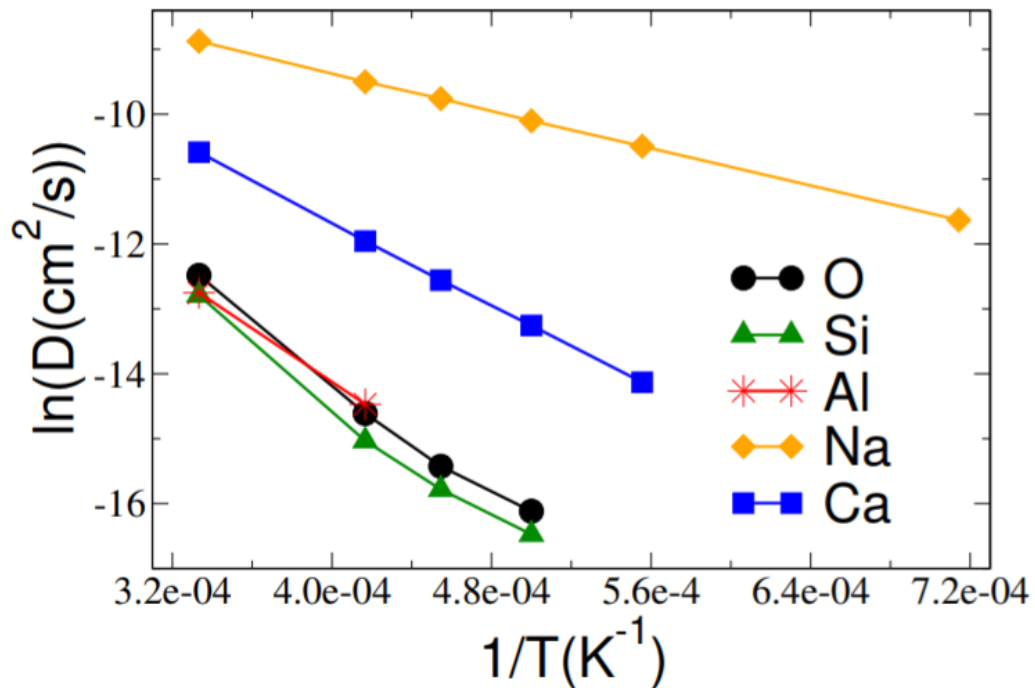
D(network modifiers) > D(network formers)

D(monovalent alkali ions) >  
D(divalent alkali-earth ions)



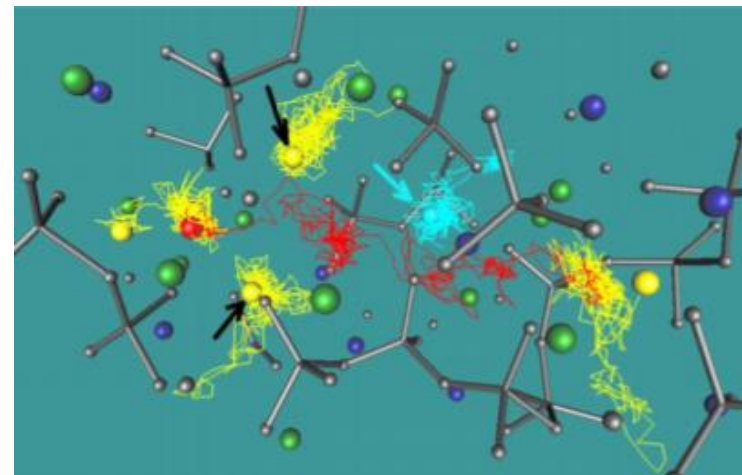


# Values of diffusivities in silicate melts - influence of temperature



Serva, Alessandra, et al. "Structural and dynamic properties of soda–lime–silica in the liquid phase." *The Journal of Chemical Physics* 153.21 (2020): 214505. Coll. M. Salanne, MAGI project

Arrhenian behaviour  
Activation energy related to chemical bonds



Tilocca, Antonio. *The Journal of chemical physics* 133.1 (2010): 014701.

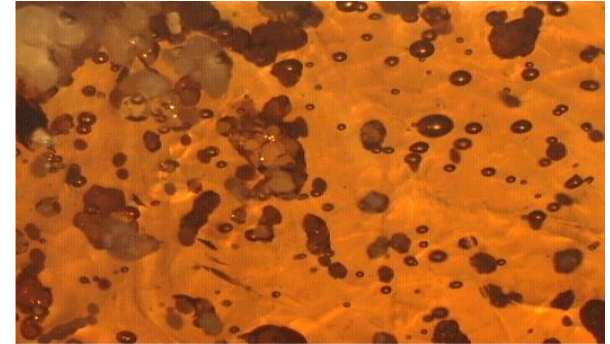
# Some orders of magnitudes

Diffusivity of Si in soda-lime silica melt at 1200°C :  $\sim 10^{-12} \text{ m}^2 \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$

in 1s:  $l \sim 1 \text{ micron}$

in 1 hour:  $l \sim 60 \text{ microns}$

in 24 hours:  $l \sim 300 \text{ microns}$



Fortunately, convection can accelerate diffusion. **Peclet number** :  $Ul / D$

# Einstein relations

$$D_i = M_i kT \gamma_i \quad \text{mobility } M_i = v/F$$

The diffusion of different kinds of species can be investigated through different physical quantities.

Charged particles: Nerst-Einstein relation

→ network modifiers

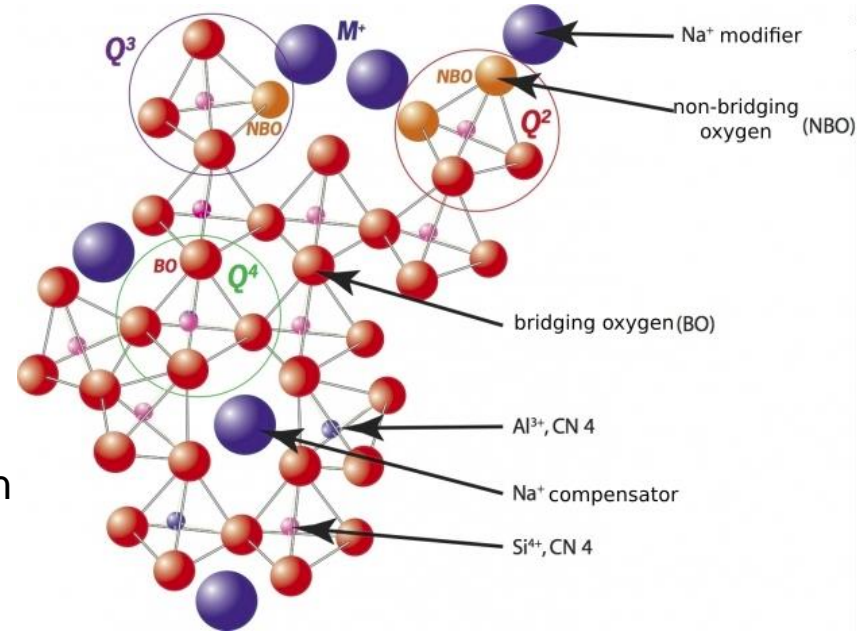
$$D = \frac{\mu_q kT}{q} \quad q: \text{charge of ions}$$

Viscous liquids: Stokes-Einstein and Eyring relation

→ network formers

$$D = \frac{k_B T}{6\pi \eta r} \quad D = \frac{kT}{2\eta r} \quad \eta: \text{viscosity}$$

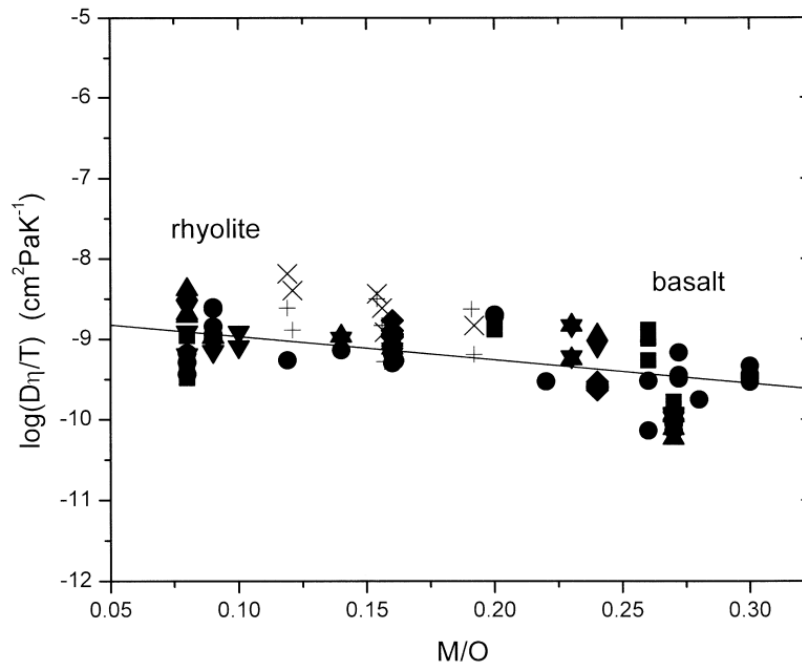
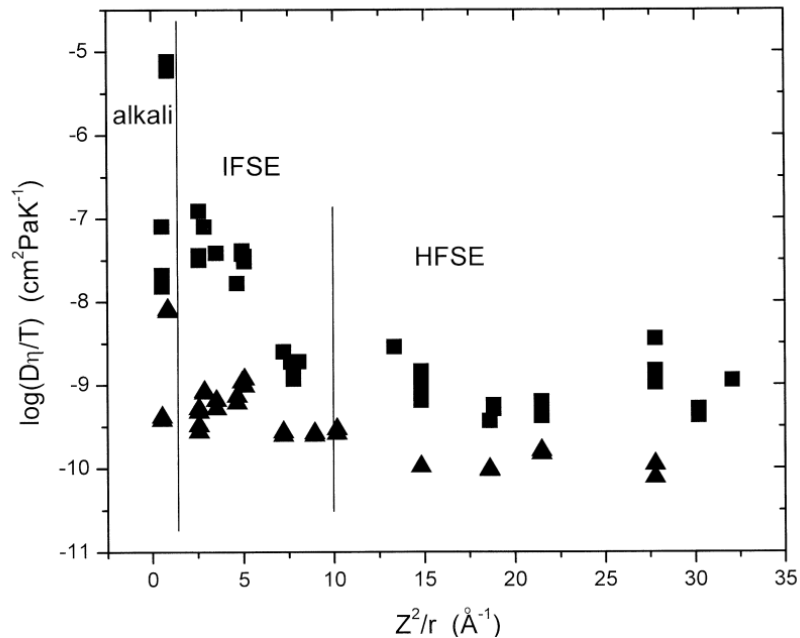
$r$ : radius of particle



from USTV website  
D. Neuville

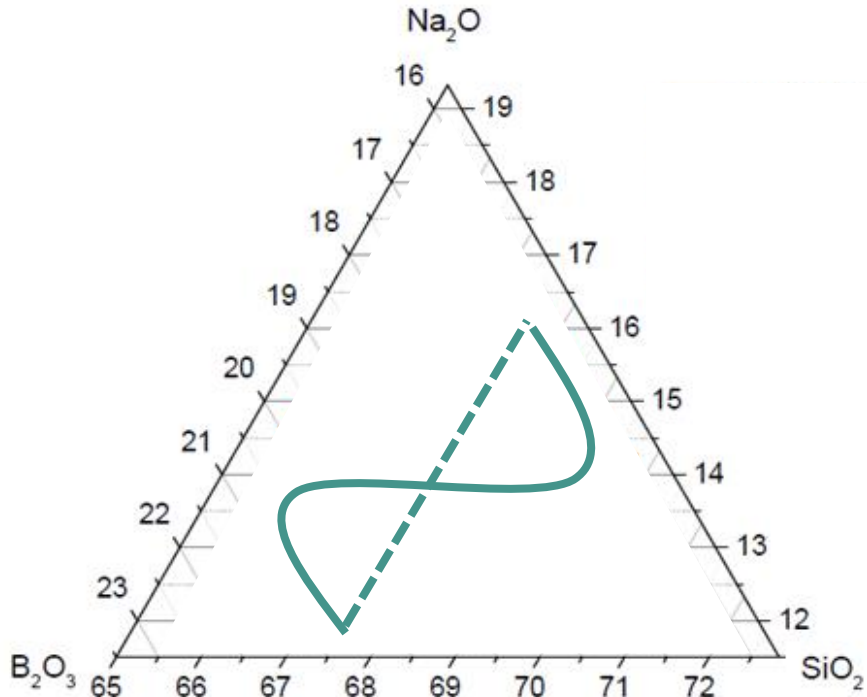
# Relating diffusion and viscosity

Viscosity and diffusion

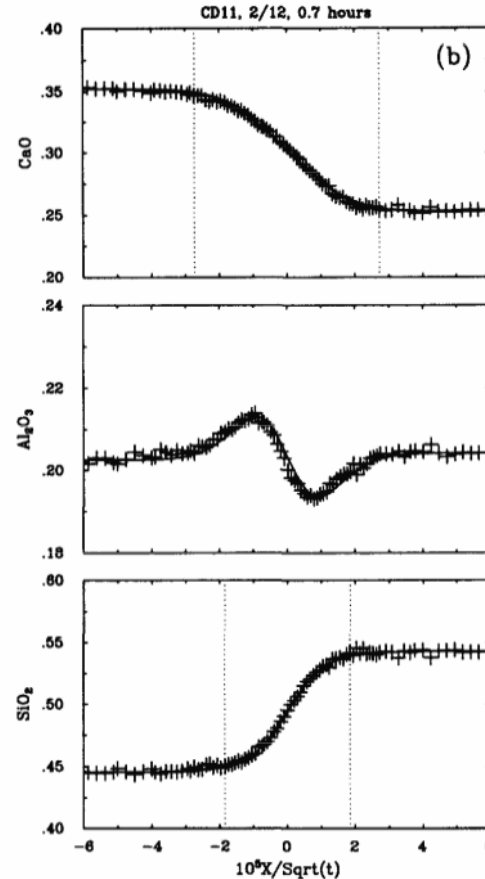


Empirical models relating viscosity and tracer diffusion in magmatic silicate melts, Mungall GCA 2002.

# Multicomponent diffusion



From Pablo et al JNCS 2019,  
coll. with the team of Sophie Schuller.



uphill diffusion

Liang, Yan, Frank M. Richter,  
and E. Bruce Watson.  
*Geochimica et Cosmochimica  
Acta* 60.24 (1996): 5021-5035.



# Diffusion matrix: how to describe multicomponent diffusion

$$\mathbf{j}_i(\mathbf{x}) = - \sum_k D_{ik} \nabla C_k(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{\partial C_i}{\partial t} = \sum_k D_{ik} \Delta C_k(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{C}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{D} \Delta \mathbf{C}(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{pmatrix} C_{\text{Na}} \\ C_{\text{Ca}} \\ C_{\text{Al}} \\ C_{\text{Si}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} D_{\text{Na,Na}} & D_{\text{Na,Ca}} & D_{\text{Na,Al}} & D_{\text{Na,Si}} \\ D_{\text{Ca,Na}} & D_{\text{Ca,Ca}} & D_{\text{Ca,Al}} & D_{\text{Ca,Si}} \\ D_{\text{Al,Na}} & D_{\text{Al,Ca}} & D_{\text{Al,Al}} & D_{\text{Al,Si}} \\ D_{\text{Si,Na}} & D_{\text{Si,Ca}} & D_{\text{Si,Al}} & D_{\text{Si,Si}} \end{pmatrix} \Delta \begin{pmatrix} C_{\text{Na}} \\ C_{\text{Ca}} \\ C_{\text{Al}} \\ C_{\text{Si}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Measured in several ternary systems,  
mostly in **geosciences**

[Liang et al., 1996], [Richter et al., 1998] :  
CaO/MgO – Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> – SiO<sub>2</sub>.

**Review by Y. Liang in 2010**

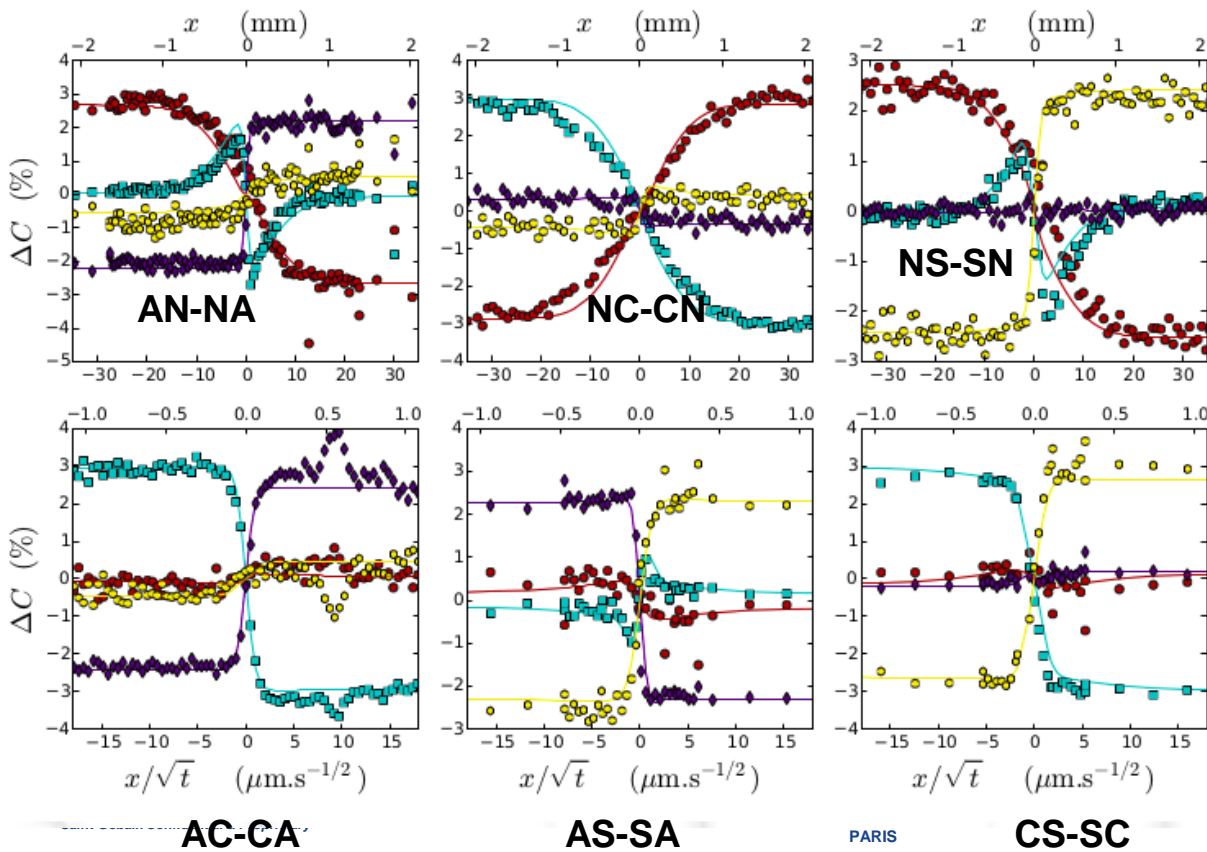
Also used in multicomponent metallic alloys.

More rigorously: thermodynamic formulation  
with activity gradient (Onsager).

**Few studies in industrial systems.**

# Example: multicomponent diffusion in a quaternary system

● Na<sub>2</sub>O   ■ CaO   ◆ Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>   ● SiO<sub>2</sub>   PhD C. Claireaux



6 diffusion-couple experiments

Claireaux, Corinne, et al. "Atomic mobility in calcium and sodium aluminosilicate melts at 1200 C." *Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta* 192 (2016): 235-247.

**multidiff** open-source code:  
diffusion matrix, **eigenvalues & eigenvectors**

[multidiff 0.1 documentation »](#)

Previous topic

[Installation](#)

Next topic

[Fitting multidiffusion profiles for three components](#)

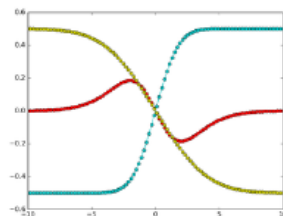
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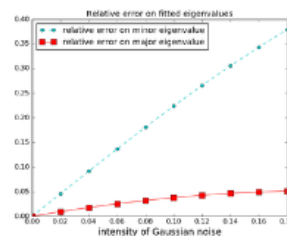
Quick search

Go

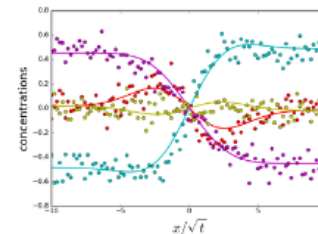
## Examples



Fitting multidiffusion profiles for three components



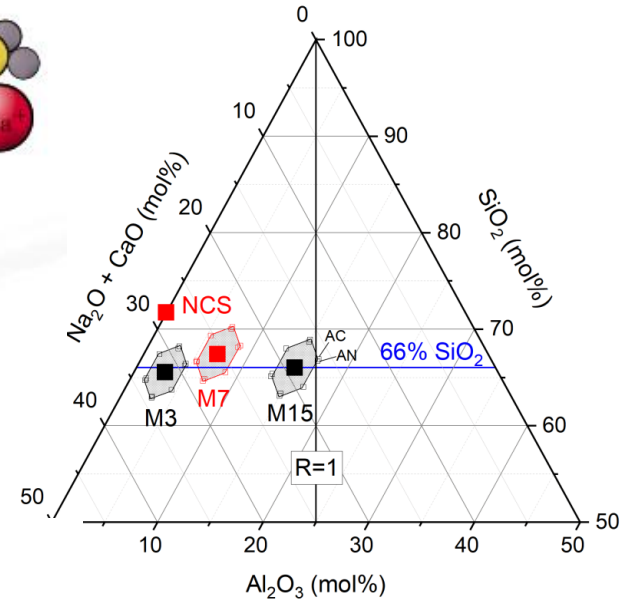
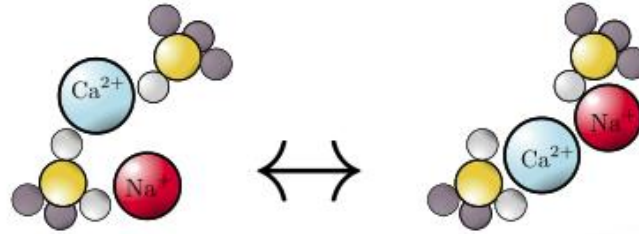
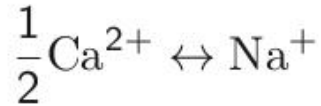
Effect of measurement noise on accuracy of fit



Effect of initialization on accuracy of fit

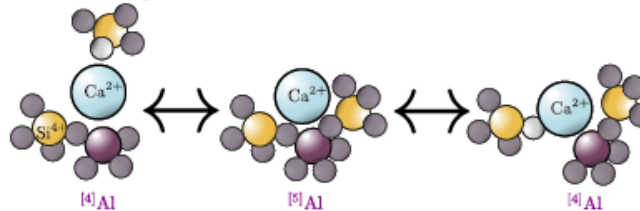
# Dominant eigenvector

$$\Delta \begin{pmatrix} C_{\text{Na}_2\text{O}} \\ C_{\text{CaO}} \\ C_{\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3} \\ C_{\text{SiO}_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



**Other eigenvectors:** involve network formers, smaller diffusivity value

**Second eigenvector** (52x less frequent)



PhD M. Jacquemin,  
ANR MAGI, CEMHTI  
P. Simon, C. Bessada,  
E. Burov

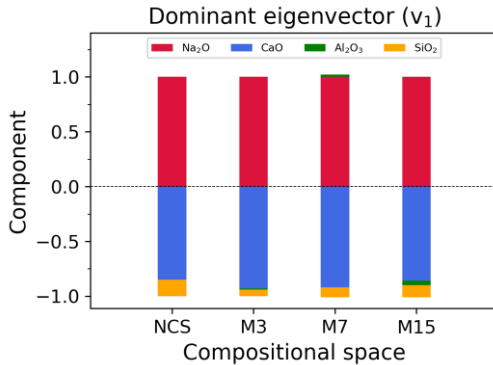
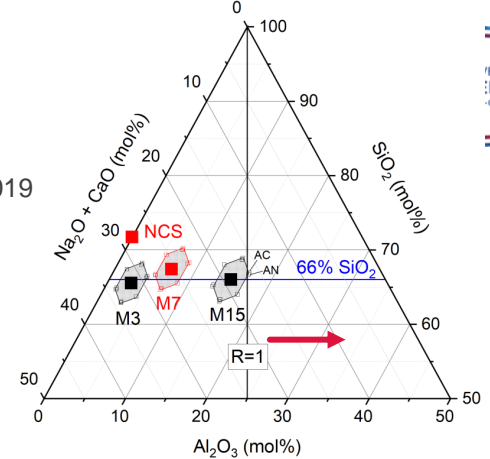
# Diffusion pathways in Peralkaline compositions area

PhD Maxime Jacquemin, MAGI project

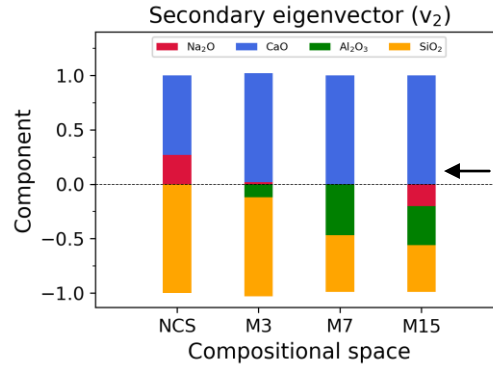
**NCS** : Trial&Spera, 1994

**M7**: Claireaux et al., *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 2016, 2019

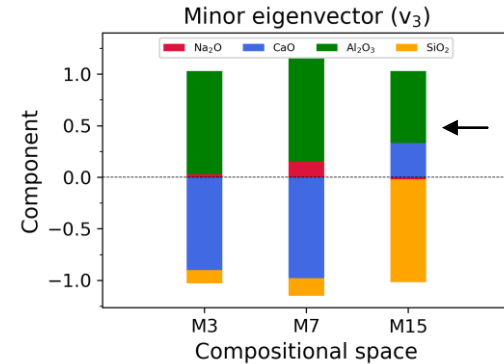
## Eigenvectors ( $\vec{v}_i$ )



$v_1$  : Na  $\leftrightarrow$  Ca



$v_2$  et  $v_3$  : Formers  $\leftrightarrow$  Ca

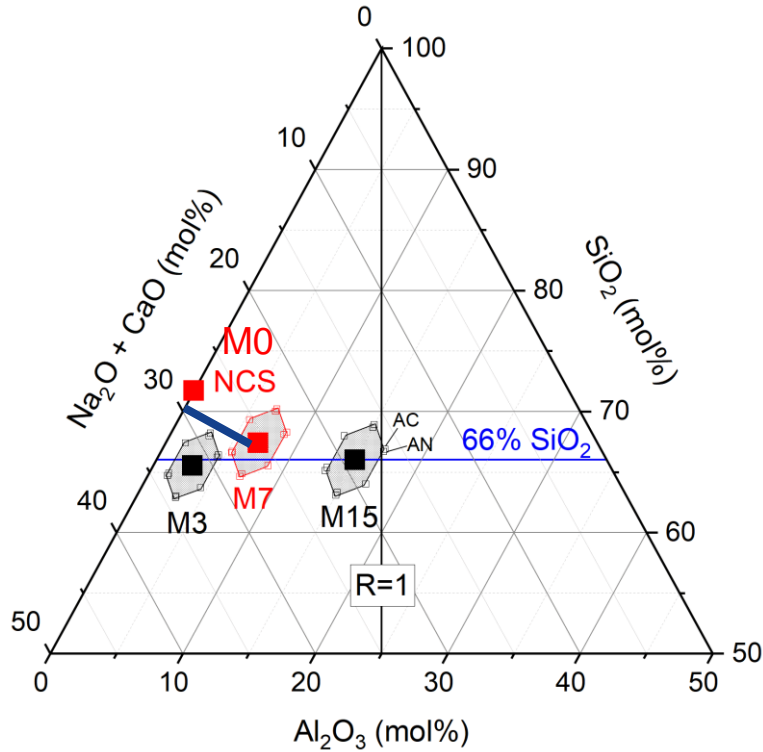


- dominant vector is always Na  $\leftrightarrow$  Ca
- Independent of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> concentration and the structures role of Na and Ca

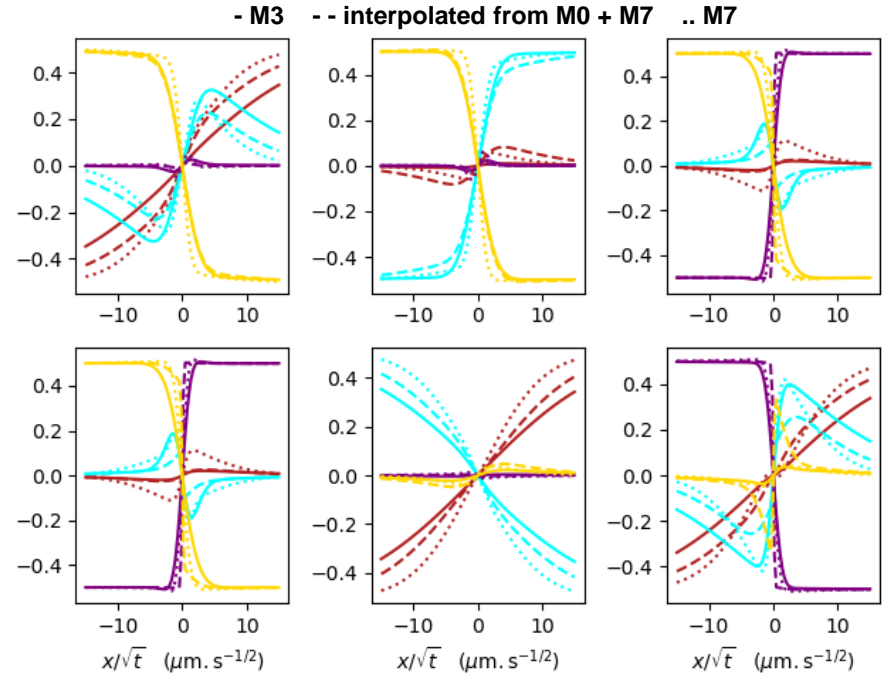
- Reaction evolution with Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> concentration
- Al is associated to the Na or Ca near R=1



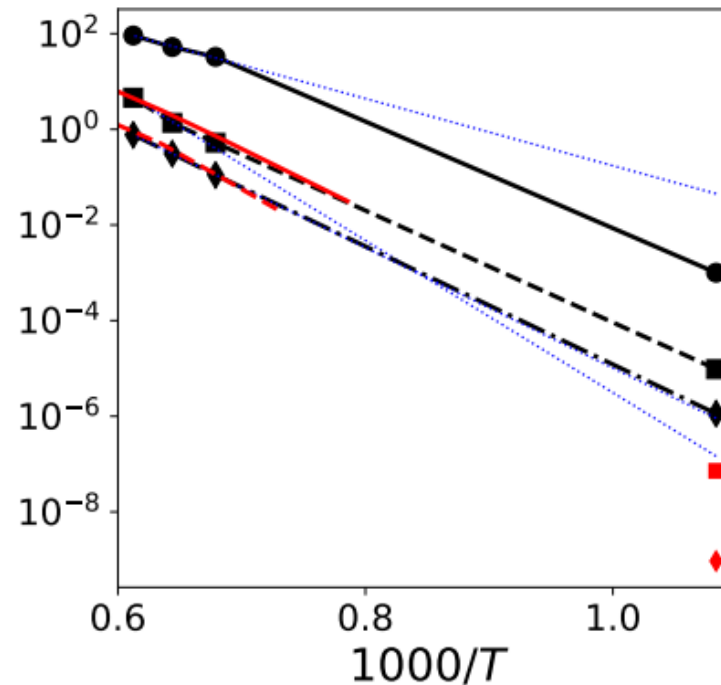
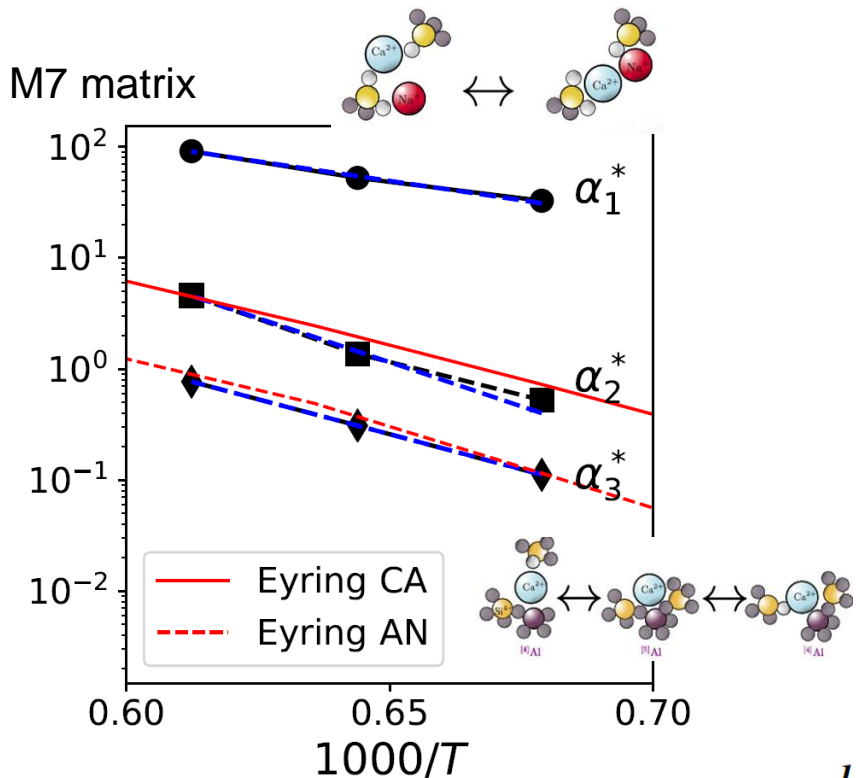
# Can we interpolate diffusion matrices ?



Na<sub>2</sub>O CaO SiO<sub>2</sub> Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



# Energetics of multicomponent diffusion



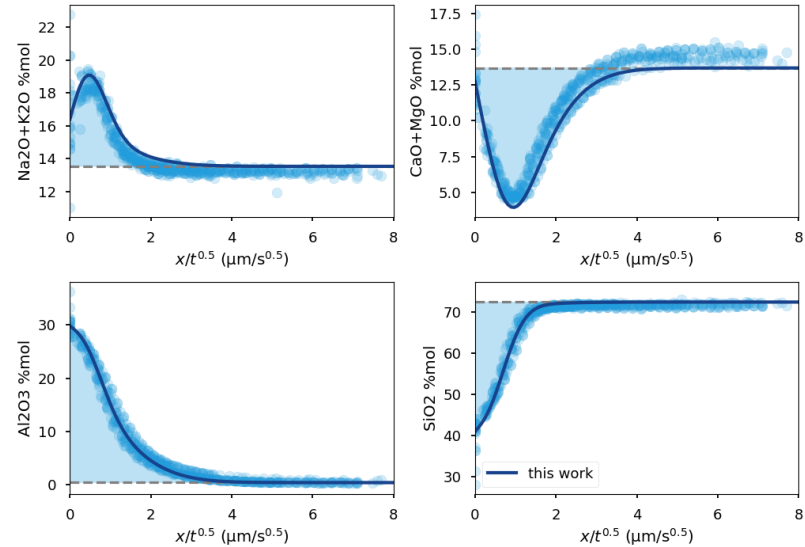
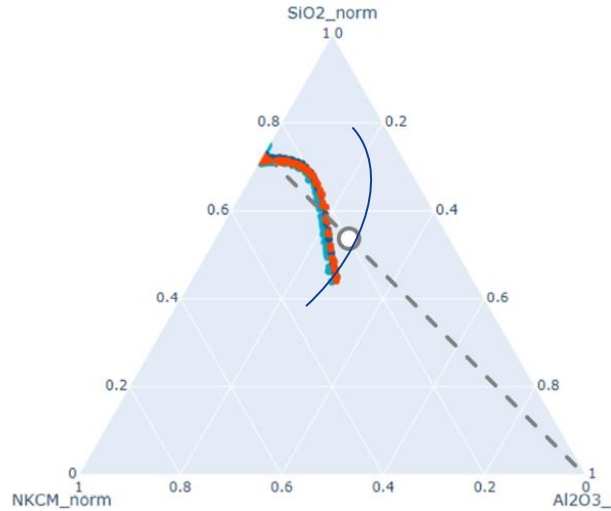
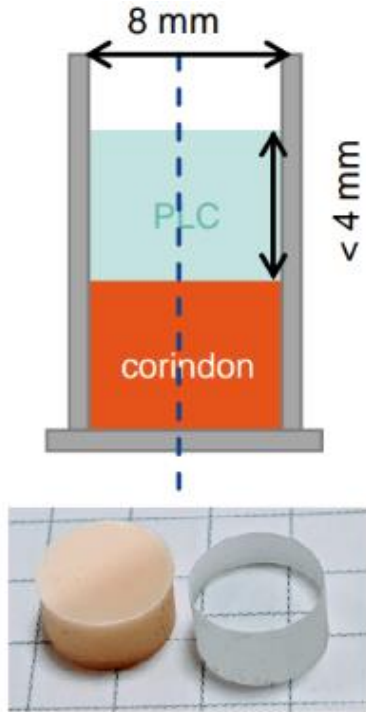
Eyring's  
diffusivity  $\frac{k_B T}{\eta d}$

SAINT-GC

PARIS

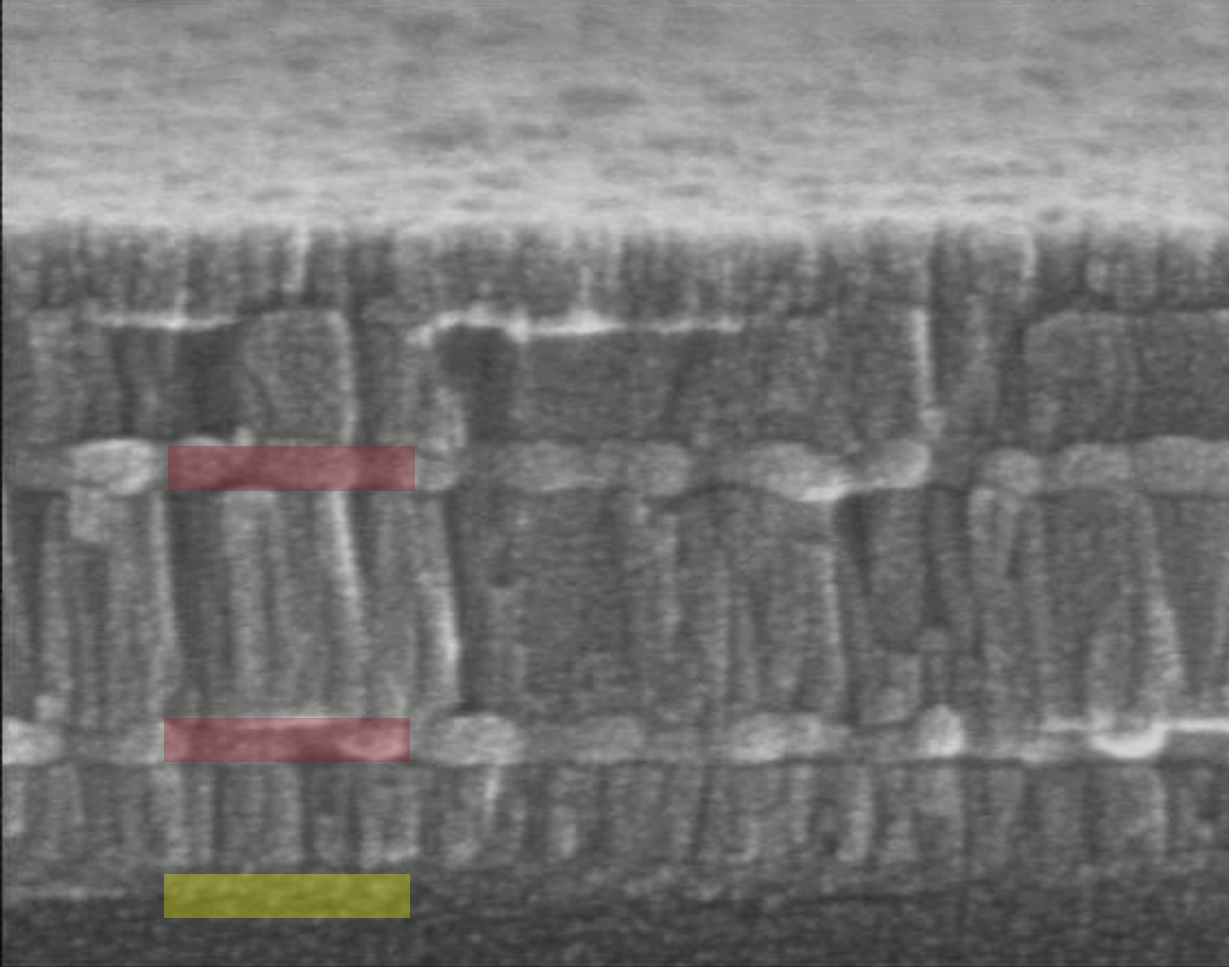
.Claireaux, Corinne, et al. "Influence of temperature on multicomponent diffusion in calcium and sodium aluminosilicate melts." *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids* 505 (2019): 170-180.

# Application: dissolution of $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ refractories, PhD F. Yoshizawa



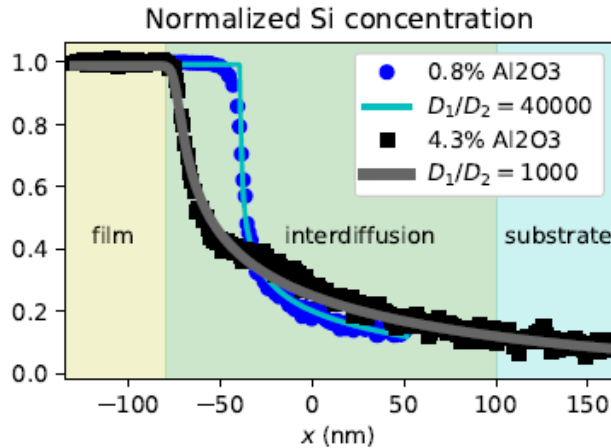
## Dissolution mechanisms of minerals in silicate liquids of industrial interest, F. Yoshizawa

Alumina Dissolution into Silicate Slag, Zhang et al. JACS 2000;  
Effects of melt viscosity and silica activity on the rate and mechanism of quartz dissolution in melts of the CMAS and CAS systems, Shaw 2004.



x200000 200nm 15kV  
#0 ECH. NON BOMBE \*SGR\* M42  
512 x 512 1-

# Diffusive dissolution of thin film and multicomponent effects



$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot (D \nabla C)$$

$D$  often considered constant, but sometimes this approximation cannot be used

silica thin film

soda-lime glass

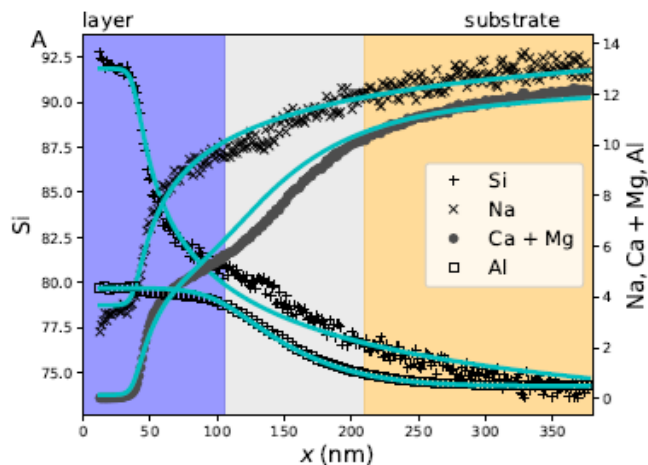
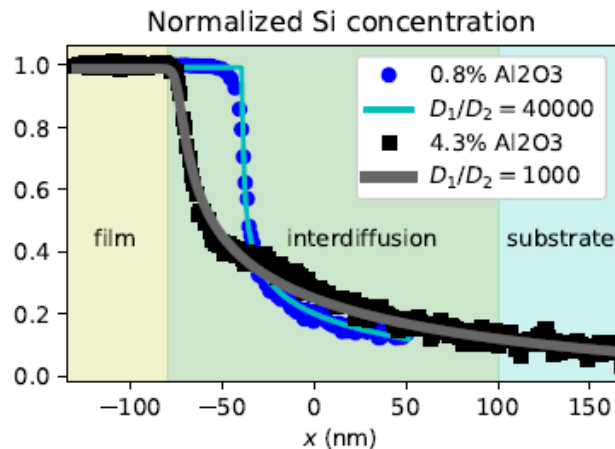
smaller  $D$

larger  $D$

PhD JT Fonné ;  
Fonné et al., JACS  
2017, JACS2018  
PhD S. Ben  
Khemis, coll. L  
Cormier, D.  
Vandembroucq



# Diffusive dissolution of thin film and multicomponent effects



High Si diffusivity (& viscosity) ratio between substrate and film  
Using Crank's model to fit profiles :

$$D_{Si} = D_0 \exp(-\beta C_{Si})$$

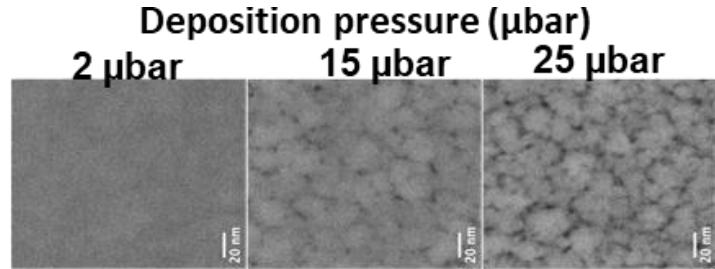
Fitted values of  $\beta$  consistent with Eyring's law and viscosity model

Use [bulk eigenvectors](#) to fit profiles

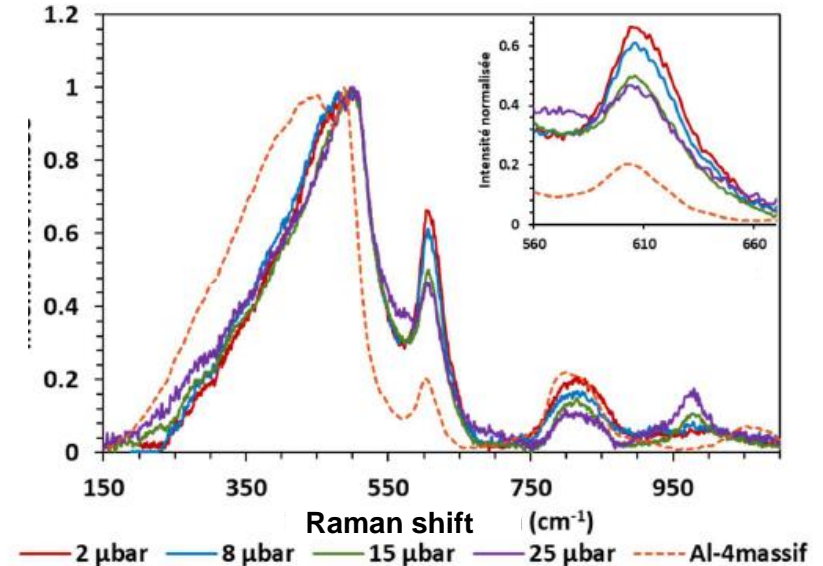
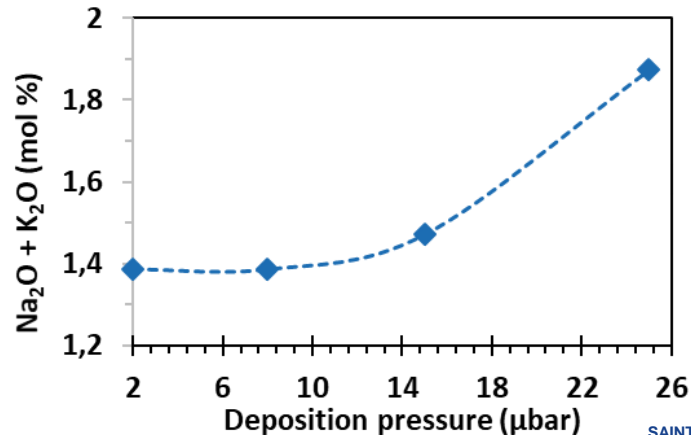
PhD JT Fonné ;  
Fonné et al., JACS  
2017, JACS2018  
PhD S. Ben  
Khemis, coll. L  
Cormier

# Diffusion and structure of thin films, PhD Sirine Ben Khemis

Silica thin films with different sputtering conditions  
MAGI project, L. Cormier (IMPMP), E. Burov (SVI)



Porosity increase



Khemis, S. Ben, et al. "Structural analysis of sputtered amorphous silica thin films: A Raman spectroscopy investigation." *Thin Solid Films* 733 (2021): 138811.

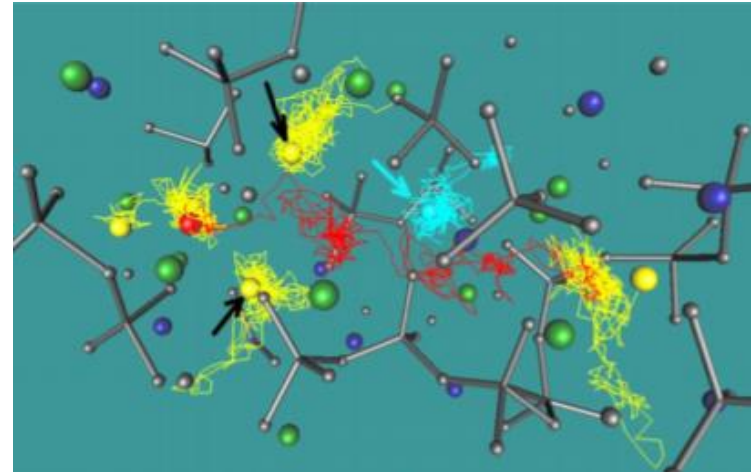
# Conclusions

Diffusion is a microscopic phenomenon, with macroscopic consequences (corrosion of refractories for example).

The complex structure of silicate melts has strong consequences about diffusion:

- $D(\text{network formers}) \ll D(\text{modifiers})$
- Strong multicomponent effects (couplings)

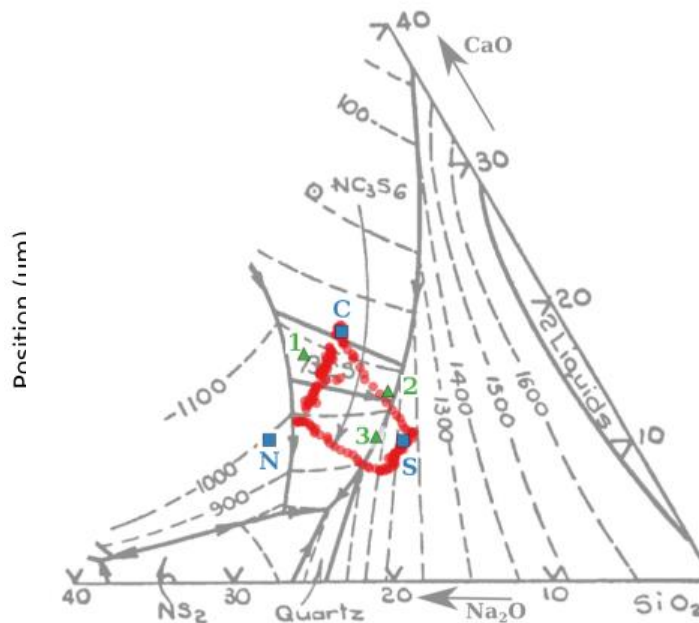
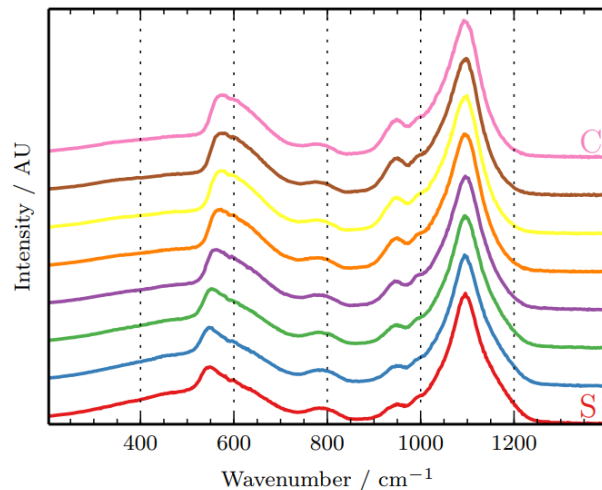
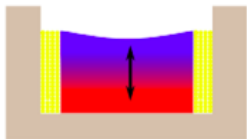
Diffusion is a thermally activated phenomenon.





**THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

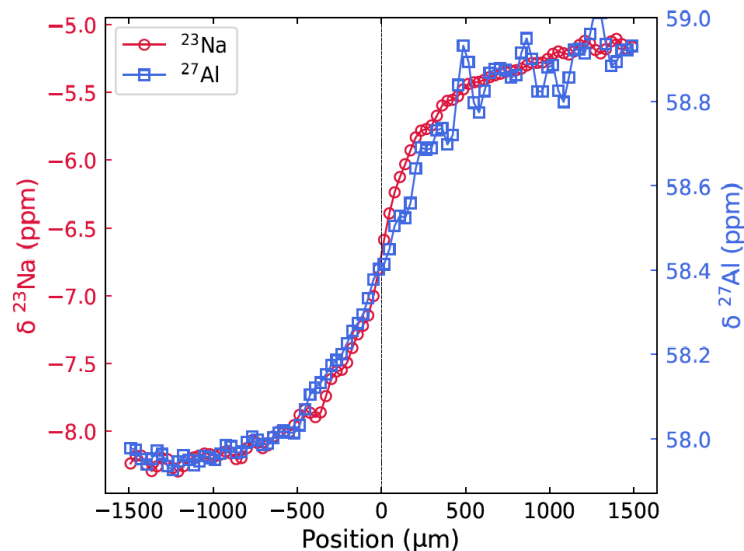
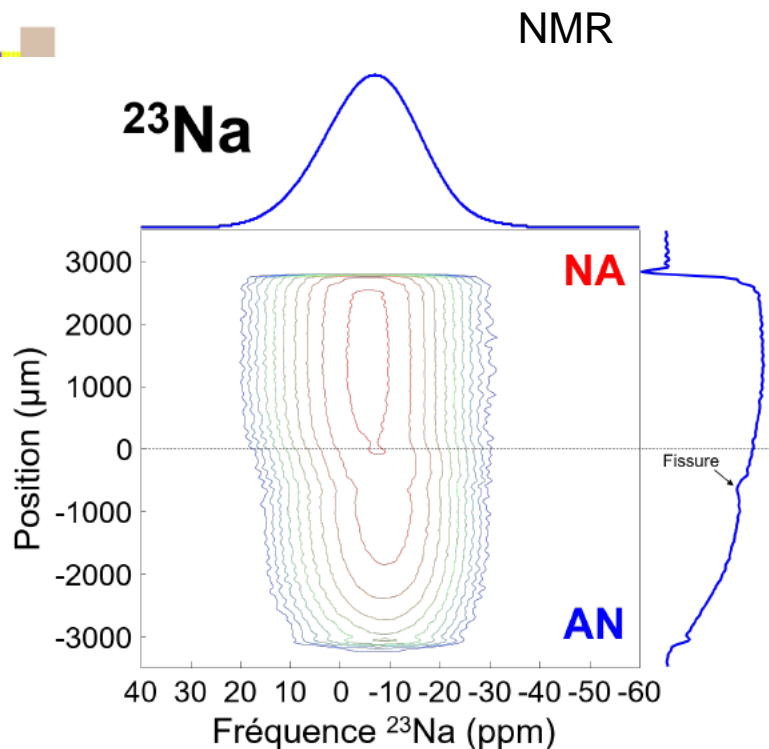
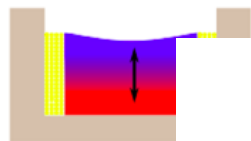
# Diffusion profiles as a tool for materials informatics



Woelffel, William, et al. "Analysis of soda-lime glasses using non-negative matrix factor deconvolution of Raman spectra." *Journal of Non-Crystalline Solids* 428 (2015): 121-131.

400 different compositions with EMPA and Raman data  
PCA analysis to reduce dimensionality of Raman data  
Model to estimate composition from Raman spectrum in NCS

# Diffusion profiles as a tool for materials informatics



Sarou-Kanian, Vincent, et al. "Metabolite localization in living drosophila using high resolution magic angle spinning NMR." *Scientific reports* 5.1 (2015): 1-5.

Coll. CEMHTI, C. Bessada, P. Simon, V. Sarou-Kanian, Pierre Florian, César Leroy, Laura Piveteau, Franck Fayon & Dominique Massiot