

Mid-Infrared Reflectance Studies of Carbonaceous Chondrites and their Components. A. Morlok¹, B. Schiller¹, I. Weber¹, M. Melwani-Daswani², A.N. Stojic¹, M.P. Reitze¹, T. Gramse¹, S.D. Wolters³, K.E. Bauch¹, H. Hiesinger¹, M.M. Grady^{3,4}, J. Helbert⁵ ¹Institut für Planetologie, Wilhelm-Klemm Str. 10, 48149, Germany (morlokan@uni-muenster.de), ²Jet Propulsion Laboratory, California Institute of Technology, ³School of Physical Sciences, Open University, Milton Keynes MK76AA, UK, Dept., ⁴Earth Sciences, The Natural History Museum, London, UK, ⁵Institute for Planetary Research, DLR, Rutherfordstr. 2, 12489 Berlin, Germany

Introduction: Infrared spectroscopy is a method to investigate the surface mineralogy of planetary bodies. The mid-infrared range (here 2 μm -18 μm) is of particular interest owing to the wealth of spectral features of silicates in this region [1,2].

For the interpretation of remote sensing data, laboratory spectra are necessary. In this study, we present laboratory data for a series of size fractions of bulk carbonaceous chondrites (C4-C2). In addition, mid-infrared spectra from Calcium-Aluminum-Rich Inclusions (CAIs) from micro-FTIR analyses are presented.

The results are part of an ongoing effort to create a data base for the ESA/JAXA BepiColombo mission to Mercury [3,4], but will be also of particular interest for the comparison with spectra from primitive asteroids. Here, for the first time, spatially resolved mid-infrared data is available from two asteroids recently visited by space probes, 162173 Ryugu (Hayabusa2) [5] and 101955 Bennu (OSIRIS-REx) [6].

Samples & Techniques:

Bulk carbonaceous chondrites: We selected five carbonaceous chondrites (CC) for bulk powder analyses: HaH280 (CK4), Allende (CV3), Murchison and NWA10574 (CM2), and ungrouped C2 Tagish Lake, of which always at least 1 g of the sample was crushed and sieved into size fractions: 250 μm -125 μm , 125 μm -63 μm , 63 μm -25 μm and <25 μm . FTIR Analyses of the size fractions were made using a Vertex 70v at the IRIS laboratory, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität of Münster, using a non-specular geometry (20° incidence; 30° exit angle) after calibration on a diffuse gold standard. Each spectrum is a mean of 512 scans.

Micro-FTIR studies of CAI: Four polished blocks of CAIs in Allende (CV3), Ornans (CO3) and Vigarano (CV3) [7] were analyzed in-situ using a Perkin Elmer AutoIMAGE FTIR microscope at The Natural History Museum in London. Aperture size ranged from 20 μm to 100 μm , a gold mirror was used for calibration. 50 scans were added to calculate a mean for each spectrum.

Results: *Bulk carbonaceous chondrites:* CK4 HaH280, CV3 Allende, and CM2 chondrite NWA10574 show spectra dominated by forsterite and pyroxene features (Fig.1) [8,9]. For example, the CF (Christiansen Feature; reflectance minimum) of Allende is at 9.2 μm - 9.3 μm . The strongest RB (Reststrahl-

band) is at 11.1 μm -11.3 μm . The TF (Transparency Feature; characteristic for the smallest size fraction) is located at 12.6 μm .

Murchison CM2 and the ungrouped C2 Tagish Lake (Fig.1) show mainly phyllosilicate features [10,11]. In Murchison, the strongest RB is around 10.5 μm - 10.6 μm . A broad TF is superposed by bands from 10.8 μm - 12.3 μm , the CF is at 8.6 μm - 8.7 μm . In Tagish Lake, the CF ranges from 11.2 μm - 12.1 μm . The strongest RB is at 9.8 μm , and the CF ranges from 8.9 μm -9.0 μm .

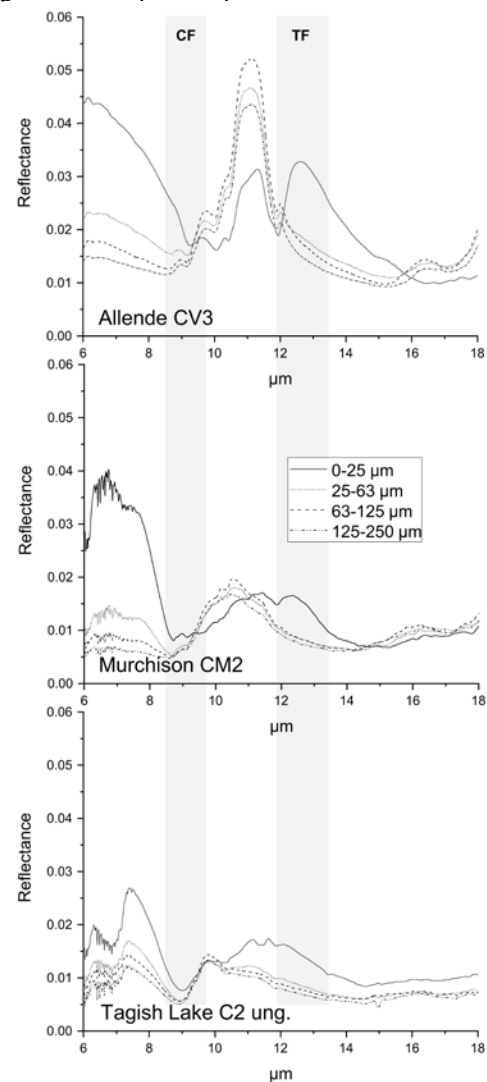


Fig.1: Mid-infrared spectra of bulk size fractions. CF=Christiansen Feature, TF=Transparency Feature.

Micro-FTIR studies of CAI: Spectra of CAIs from Allende, Vigarano, and Ornans exhibit spinel bands from 14.1 μm - 14.3 μm [14]. Melilite was found in the Vigarano and Ornans samples with features between 11.7 μm and 12.4 μm . Nepheline and sodalite features in alteration phases are around 14 μm in the Allende CAI (Fig.2).

Discussion: For comparison with remote sensing data from asteroids, spectra for the finest size fractions (<25 μm) were turned into emissivity using Kirchhoff's law (Emission=1-Reflectance) (Fig.3). A comparison of the finest size fractions with remote sensing data of asteroids shows some similarity between a linear mixture of Allende and Murchison and the spectra of D-type asteroid 253 Mathilde [13].

Conclusions & Outlook: Mid-infrared spectra of size fractions from type 2 to 4 carbonaceous chondrites show only rough similarity to C and D-type asteroids. We recommend further investigation of diverse samples, but also effects such as space weathering [14,15] in order to derive mineralogical information from asteroid spectra.

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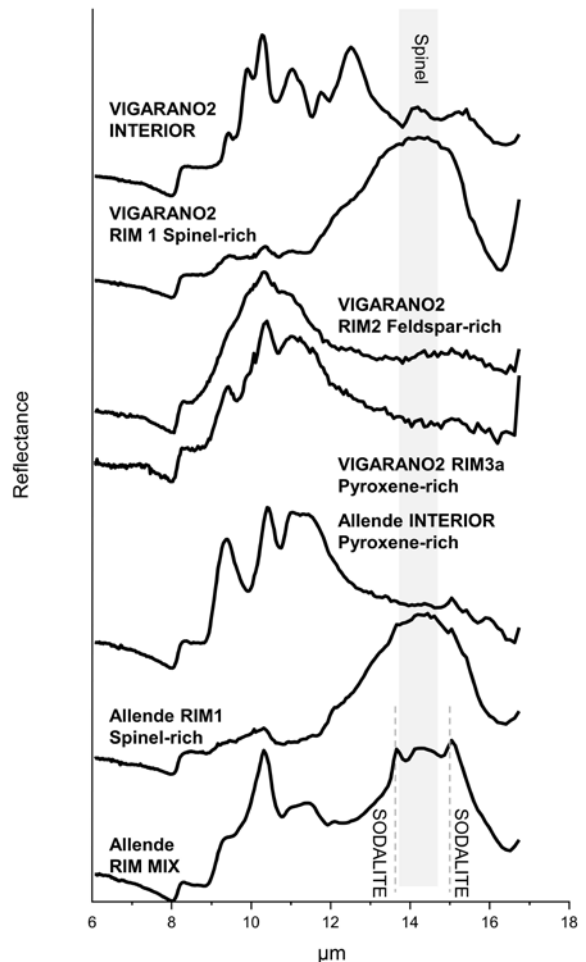


Fig.2: Spectra from micro-FTIR studies of parts in CAIs from Vigarano and Allende.

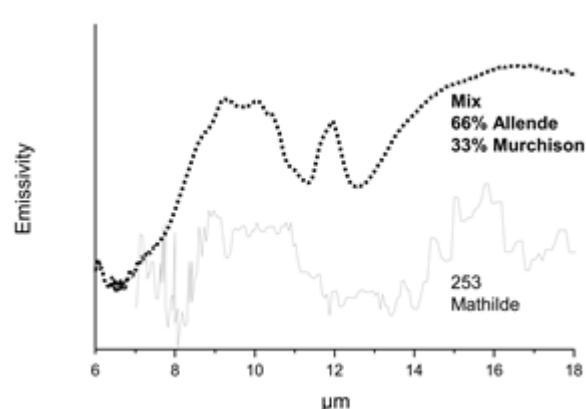


Fig.3: Comparison of a mixture of Allende and Murchison material to the Spitzer spectrum of asteroid 253 Mathilde (in emissivity).