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# LINE SHAPE AND THERMAL KINETICS ANALYSIS OF THE Fe<sup>2+</sup>-BAND IN BRAZILIAN GREEN BERYL

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#### ABSTRACT

The optical absorption spectra study through isothermal treatments of the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized bands of Fe<sup>2+</sup>-band is reported. It was shown a linear correlation between these bands through thermal treatments. Irradiation with  $\gamma$ -rays from  $^{60}\text{Co}$  , showed the decrease of this band. The line shape analysis and the discussions lend us to assign the  $\pi$ - and  $\sigma$ -polarized bands to Fe  $^{2+}$ ions in the structural channels with and without neighbour water molecules, respectively. The kinetics analysis through a "bimolecular-like" model gives untrapping parameter with Arrhenius behavior. The retrapping and recombination parameters showed a behavior proportional to  $T^{\frac{1}{2}} - T^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , which were explained from free electron distribution of velocities and minimum untrapped electron energy due to a potential barrier of the trap. The kinetics cut-off temperature,  $T_{\Omega}$ , agrees with the previous experimental observation.

Beryl is a cyclo-silicate crystal with the chemical formula  $\mathrm{Be_3Al_2Si_6O_{18}}$  (Dana and Hurlbut, 1978). The coordination structure was determined by Bragg and West (1926). It belongs to the hexagonal system and the unit cell is composed by two  $\mathrm{Be_3Al_2Si_6O_{18}}$  molecules. The axial parameters of high purity beryl crystal are:  $\underline{c} = 9.17 \pm 0.01$  Å and  $\underline{a} = 9.20 \pm 0.01$  Å. These parameters are changed by the presence of alkali ions in the crystal lattice (Bakakin et al., 1967). Beryl belongs to P6/mcc space group. The  $\mathrm{Si_6O_{18}}$  rings form structural channels parallel to the crystallographic axis. The effective diameter of these structural channels varies from 2.8 Å in the  $\mathrm{Si_6O_{18}}$  ring plane to 5.1 Å in the middle of two neighbouring rings, respectively.

The blue color of natural beryl (aquamarine) is due to absorption bands in the near infrared. These bands were unanimously assigned to Fe<sup>2+</sup> impurity (Wood and Nassau, 1968; Samoilovich et al., 1971; Price et al., 1976; Parkin et al., 1977; Goldman et al., 1978; Bak et al., 1982). Several bands in the near infrared were reported: A-band around ~12,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> observed for the

incident light bean perpendicular to the c-axis ( $k \perp c$ ); B-bands composed by two bands around ~12,000 and ~10,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (k//c); C-band around ~16,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (k//c). The Mossbauer spectra of several samples showed the presence of the two Fe<sup>2+</sup> sites.

The A-band was firstly assigned to  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  in the six-coordinated Al $^{3+}$  site (Wood and Nassau, 1968; Samoilovich et al., 1971; Parkin et al., 1977). Price et al. (1978) on examining the OA, Mossbauer and ESR spectra assigned the A-band to  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  in tetrahedral site and the B-bands to  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  in the Al $^{3+}$  site. The deficciences of these assignments were pointed out by Goldman et al. (1978), which on examining the OA and Mossbauer spectra of several samples of beryl reached to the conclusion that: A-band is due to  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  in the structural channels; B-bands are due to  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  in six-fold symmetry site; C-band is due to the intervalence charge transfer between  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  and  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ions.

The IR, OA and EPR studies of green and blue beryl from Minas Gerais, Brazil (Blak et al., 1982) showed that  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$ ,  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$ , alkali and water impurities occupies different sites in the two samples. As only the A-band was present in the OA spectra of these samples, it shows

that  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  ions are in the structural channels. The EPR spectra showed the presence of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ions in the channels of green beryl and  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ions at the  ${\rm All}^{3+}$  site in green and blue beryl. Thermal treatments above  $200^{\circ}{\rm C}$  in green beryl showed the growth of the A-band and the bleaching of the EPR signal of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ion, is followed by the change of color to blue. The correlation between the A-band growth and EPR signal bleaching was shown to be linear. On the other hand, the thermal treatment above  $200^{\circ}{\rm C}$  of blue beryl does not change the A-band nor the EPR lines of the  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ions at the  ${\rm All}^{3+}$  sites, and the color remains unchanged. This shows that the  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  ions at the  ${\rm All}^{3+}$  sites are not oxidized into  ${\rm Fe}^{4+}$ .

The purpose of the present work is the analysis of the A-band in the beryl samples studied previously by Blak et al. (1982) and Dias (1981), through the line shape analysis of the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized spectra and the analysis of the kinetic mechanism of the A-band.

#### II. EXPERIMENTAL

The samples of green and colorless beryl were

obtained in Minas Gerais, Brazil and were studied previously by Blak et al. (1982) and Dias (1981). The samples were cut in the form of parallelopipeds with two faces perpendicular and parallel to the c-axis, with about 5 mm of thickness.

A Carl-Zeiss DMR 21 spectrophotometer was used for the optical absorption measurements. Polarized light measurements were done with Type II polaroid.

The thermal treatments were done in air. The stability of the furnace with useful volume  $10 \times 12 \times 15$  cm was improved to  $1^{\circ}$ C by filling with brick materials and two metallic plates. The temperature was measured using a chromel-alumel termocouple, with one junction at  $0^{\circ}$ C with ECB X-T recorder and a Keithley 160B digital multimeter. All the samples to be treated were put between previously heated metallic plates. With this set thermal equilibrium was achieved in the samples in about 40 seconds (Dias, 1981).

The samples were  $\gamma$ -irradiated using a  $^{60}$ Cosource (~400,000 Ci) from EMBRARAD S.A.. The dose was controlled by means of three processes: Ceric-Cerous dosimetric system, AECL Red Acryllic dosimetric system and UKAEA Red Perspex dosimeter.

#### III. RESULTS

In figure 1 we show the polarized spectra

## Insert Figure 1

of green beryl for  $\vec{k} \perp c$ -axis at around 12,000 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The  $\sigma$ -band ( $\vec{E} \perp c$ -axis) is at about 11,750 cm<sup>-1</sup> and the  $\pi$ -band ( $\vec{E}//c$ -axis) is at about 12,750 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

The band position at around 12,000 cm $^{-1}$  change from 11,750 cm $^{-1}$  ( $\sigma$ -band,  $\vartheta = 90^{\circ}$ ) to 12,750 cm $^{-1}$  ( $\pi$ -band,  $\vartheta = 0^{\circ}$ ) with the electrical field direction measured as the angle  $\vartheta$  between the electrical field and the c-axis. The band-position variation with  $\vartheta$  is shown in figure 2.

# Insert Figure 2

The deformation in the  $180^{\circ}$  symmetry, probably, is because the sample was not cut with enough accuracy. The  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized band positions were not changed on heating  $600^{\circ}$ C.

In figure 3 we show the growth-curves of the  $\sigma$ -polarized bands for the isothermal treatments at 411°, 492°, 525° and 600°C. The growth curves were shown as

 ${\rm I/I}_{\rm O}$  - 1 versus irradiation dose, where I is the optical absorption intensity and I  $_{\rm O}$  is the optical absorption intensity of unheated green beryl.

# Insert Figure 3

In figure 4, we show the correlation between the areas of the  $\sigma-$  and  $\pi-$ polarized bands of green beryl

# Insert Figure 4

submitted to the isothermal treatments at  $411^{\circ}$ ,  $492^{\circ}$  and  $600^{\circ}$ C. We see that the correlation is linear.

The irradiation of  $600^{\circ}$ C heated green beryl of blue-color, turns it green again. The UV band-edge shifts to the blue region of the spectrum and the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -bands decreases. In figure 5, we show the decrease of

# Insert Figure 5

the unpolarized  $\vec{k}/\!\!/\!\!/ \underline{c}$ -axis band at around 12,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> of a colorless beryl irradiated with  $\gamma$ -rays. The decay curve is normalized to the band intensity of the non-irradiated sample.

#### IV. THE LINE SHAPE ANALYSIS

The line shape analysis of the  $\sigma-$  and  $\pi-$ polarized bands were done using normalized bands for natural and  $600^{O}C$  heated green beryl samples. The plot is with the relative wavenumber  $\nu=\nu-\nu_{O}$ , where  $\nu$  is the wavenumber and  $\nu_{O}$  is the wavenumber at the maximum absorbance. In figure 6 we show these bands. The line shape of the

# Insert Figure 6

σ-polarized band does not change on heating at  $600^{\circ}C$  and show a line width of 960 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Also, the line shape of the π-polarized band is not changed on heating at  $600^{\circ}C$  and show a line width of 1200 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

We assume the Gaussian line shape model for the present line shape analysis. For this purpose we define the gaussian-functions:

$$f_{\sigma} = \exp\left\{-\ln^2\frac{(v-11,750)^2}{960}\right\},$$
 (1)

$$f_{\pi} = \exp\left\{-\ln^2\frac{(\nu - 12,750)^2}{1,200}\right\}$$
 (2)

The fit with these functions is shown in figure 6 for  $f_{\sigma}$  and for  $f_{\pi}$  . We see that this model gives a good result.

The above determined line shapes for the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized bands makes possible the evaluation of the dependence of the band positions with the electrical field direction of the light beam measured in angles between  $\vartheta=0$  for  $\pi$ -polarization and  $\vartheta=90^{\circ}$  for  $\sigma$ -polarization. By assuming the Malu's law for the polarization dependence on angle, we have for the A-band line-shape:

$$F(v) = A sen^2 \theta f_{\sigma}(v) + B cos^2 \theta f_{\pi}(v) , \qquad (3)$$

For  $\vartheta=0$   $F(\nu)=B$   $f_{\sigma}(\nu)$  and for  $\vartheta=90^{O}$   $F(\nu)=A$   $f_{\sigma}(\nu)$ . From the spectra reported by Dias (1981) we obtained B=2A. The band position,  $\nu_m$ , is obtained at the maximum of the  $F(\nu)$  line shape. This maximum is determined by equating to zero the first derivative of  $F(\nu)$ . The substitute equation:

$$\sin^2 \vartheta \frac{(v_m - 11,750)}{960^2} f_\sigma + 2\cos^2 \vartheta \frac{(v_m - 12,750)}{1200^2} f_\pi = 0$$
(4)

is a transcedental equation relating  $\nu_m$  with  $\vartheta$ . The result of the calculation of  $\nu_m$  with  $\vartheta$  using the above equation is shown in figure 6 solid line. This shows a good agreement with the experimental data.

In figure 7, we show the non-polarized OA band around 12,000 cm $^{-1}$  for k//c-axis of green and blue

#### Insert Figure 7

beryl reported by Blak et al. (1982). The asymmetry of this band was assigned to be resultant from two Gaussian lines at  $\sim 12,000~{\rm cm}^{-1}$  (line I) and  $\sim 13,000~{\rm cm}^{-1}$  (line II). The  $\sigma-$  and  $\pi-$ polarized bands analysed here are consistent with the lines I and II proposed previously. We analysed this assignment by fitting the band at figure 3 as sum of the lines  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$ . A good fit was obtained using the equations:

F (green) = 
$$0.526 + 12.3 \cdot 10^{-6} v + 0.176 f_{\sigma} + 0.144 f_{\pi}$$
 (5)

F (blue) = 
$$0.238 + 46.9 \cdot 10^{-6} v + 0.148 f_{\sigma} + 0.432 f_{\pi}$$
, (6)

as shown in figure 7.

The intensities of the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -lines are given by the coefficients of the equations 5 and 6. The ratio between the intensities of the  $\pi$ - and  $\sigma$ -lines are: 0.8 for green beryl and 2.9 for blue beryl. We see that the ratio is larger for blue beryl. This suggests that the  $\pi$ - and  $\sigma$ -polarized lines are due to two different centers.

#### V. KINETICS

The kinetics of the reduction of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  into  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  was firstly determined by Blak et al. (1982) for green beryl. An empirical analysis of the kinetics using a sum of two first-order processes (Levy et al., 1974) showed activation energies 0.30 and 0.46 ev. Also, it was shown that at room temperature the half-life of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  was 7.5 and 1.5 years, respectively. These results indicate that no green beryl should be found in nature. Since this is not true it was concluded that there is a minimum temperature necessary for the reduction of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  into  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$ . Thus, by measuring  ${\rm I}({\rm t_1})/{\rm I}({\rm t=0})$  at several

temperatures below  $400^{\circ}$ C, it was shown that the Fe<sup>3+</sup> reduction into Fe<sup>2+</sup> stop at about  $200^{\circ}$ C.

As the empirical model does not explain the stop of the kinetics, we develop at the present an study of the Blak et al. (1982) data using the method reported by Furtado (1986). Also, Blak's previous analysis using the sum of two first-order kinetics makes easy the comparison between the two methods.

Here we assume a model where  $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$  is reduced into  $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$ , thorugh the thermal induced release of holes from  $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$  ions into the valence band. Also, it was assumed that these valence holes recombine with electron trapped at a single deep trapping center. In figure 8, we show a sketch of the process proposed here.

# Insert Figure 8

The process  $\underline{a}$  is the result of the thermal reduction of  $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$  ion into  $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$  ion through the release of a hole into the valence band. The process  $\underline{b}$  is the capture process (oxidation) of a valence hole by  $\mathrm{Fe}^{2+}$  ion giving  $\mathrm{Fe}^{3+}$  ion, a process, which we call retrapping of a hole. The process  $\underline{c}$  is the electron-hole annihilation

in the R center, which we call recombination of a hole. The R center, is a center produced by the capture of electron in a crystal defect giving a deep level. The kinetic equations, using the "bimolecular-like" model (Furtado, 1986) are:

#### process a:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{3+}] = -\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{2+}] = -\frac{d}{dt} [h^{+}] = -\alpha [Fe^{3+}]$$
 (7a)

#### process b:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{2+}] = \frac{d}{dt} [h^{+}] = -\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{3+}] = -\gamma [Fe^{2+}][h^{+}]$$
(7b)

#### process c:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [h^{+}] = \frac{d}{dt} [R^{-}] = -\frac{d}{dt} [R] = -\beta [R^{-}][h^{+}] , \quad (7c)$$

where the brakets means the concentrations,  $h^+$ , holes in the valence band. The parameter  $\alpha$  is related to the probability of hole untrapping, thus obeying the Arrhenius' law. The parameters  $\gamma$  describes retrapping and  $\beta$  describes the electron-hole recombination.

From equations (7) we obtain the equations for the kinetic process proposed for the production of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  into  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$ . They are:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{3+}] = -\alpha [Fe^{3+}] + \gamma [Fe^{2+}][h^{+}]$$
 (8a)

$$\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{2+}] = \alpha [Fe^{3+}] - \gamma [Fe^{2+}][h^{+}]$$
 (8b)

$$\frac{d}{dt} [R] = -\beta [R][h^{\dagger}] , \qquad (8c)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [R] = \beta [R^{-}][h^{+}] , \qquad (8d)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} [h^{+}] = \alpha [Fe^{3+}] - \gamma [Fe^{2+}][h^{+}] - \beta [R^{-}][h^{+}] .$$
(8e)

Some of the above equations are coupled through the conditions:

(i) the total iron concentration available for the reactions is constant:

$$[Fe]_0 = [Fe^{3+}] + [Fe^{2+}]$$
 (9a)

(ii) the charge distribution is:

$$[R^{-}] = [Fe^{3+}] + [h^{+}]$$
 (9b)

Then, we obtain the following equations:

$$\frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{2+}] = \alpha \{ [Fe]_0 - [Fe^{2+}] \} - \gamma [Fe^{2+}][h^+] ,$$
 (10a)

$$\frac{d}{dt} [h^+] = \frac{d}{dt} [Fe^{2+}] - \beta \left\{ [Fe]_0 - [Fe^{2+}] + [h^+] \right\} [h^+].$$
 (10b)

These equations were evaluated for  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  using the method of Runge-Kutta, following the procedures described by Furtado (1986). The normalization of the above equations were done on the initial concentration of  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$ , giving the initial conditions,  ${\rm [Fe}^{2+}](0)=1$  and  ${\rm [h}^+](0)=0$ .

The parameters for the best fit curves shown in figure 3, are shown in table 1.

#### Insert Table 1

The parameter  $\alpha$  follows the Arrhenius law as shown in figure 9. The fit gives for the activation energy  $\Delta E = 1.03$  ev and the frequency factor is  $4.74 \times 10^7 \, 5^{-1}$ .

Insert Figure 9

The parameters  $C = \gamma/[Fe^{2+}](0)$  and  $B = \beta/[Fe^{2+}](0)$  showed a linear correlation with  $T^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , as shown in figure 10. The parameters correlation with  $T^{\frac{1}{2}}$  also shows that there is a temperature  $T_0 \simeq 473^{\circ} K$ , where these parameters turns zero. This means that the kinetic process, which concerns to

#### Insert Figure 10

retrapping and R electron-hole recombination ceases. Thus we call  $\mathbf{T}_0$  as kinetics cut-off temperature.

The present analysis for B and C behavior with temperature agrees well with the Blak et al. (1982) observation that  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  reduction into  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  stop at about 200 $^{\rm C}$ C.

#### VI. DISCUSSION

Irradiation of colorless beryl from Minas Gerais, Brazil, showed the oxidation of  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  into  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$ . On the other hand, Blak et al. (1982), through OA and EPR studies of blue beryl, showed that  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  in A& $^{3+}$  substitutional sites are not reduced on heating while

Fe<sup>3+</sup> at the channels are reduced. These observations showed that oxi-reduction process occur only for Fe in the structural channels. Also, due to different relative contribution of the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized lines in blue and green beryl we suggest that the A-band is composed by the absorbances of Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions at two different sites in the structural channels.

Now if the Fe<sup>2+</sup> are in the structural channels, we have to explain the apparently contradictory observations: similar kinetics for  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized OA bands as shown in figure 3; different relation between the  $\sigma$ - and  $\pi$ -polarized lines for k//c-axis measurements in blue and green beryl.

It was shown by Wood and Nassau (1968) that water molecules in beryl occupy two sites in structural channels. The water in site I (type I) have its  $\mathbf{C}_2$  symmetry axis perpendicular to the crystal g-axis and the water in site II (type II) have its  $\mathbf{C}_2$  symmetry axis parallel to the crystal g-axis. The type I water molecule is predominant in blue while type II water molecule is predominant in green beryl (Blak et al., 1982).

Ions of Fe can be found in the structural channels at least: (i) without neighbour water molecule;

(ii) with neighbour type II water molecule. The crystal field symmetry of  $Fe^{2+}$  water free ion will be different of that water associated Fe ion.

Type II water molecules, because the oxygen atom of the water molecule is near to the Fe<sup>2+</sup> ion will increase the dipole moment along the g-axis giving absorbance maximum for E//g-axis, i.e., the  $\pi$ -polarized line. The Fe<sup>2+</sup> water free ion have the dipole moment due to the local cage of oxygen atoms. Due to the channel structure of the oxygen piling the crystal field have its maximum perpendicular to the g-axis, and so the dipole moment will be perpendicular to the g-axis, giving absorbance maxima for E+g-axis, i.e., the g-polarized line.

The irradiation induced  $Fe^{2+}$  oxidation, probably, is due to the capture of hole from the valence band, allowed to interact with  $Fe^{2+}$  through the  $O^{2-}$  ions of the structural channels. So, possibly, the presence of water near  $Fe^{2+}$  does not changes the hole capture cross section. Otherwise, the  $Fe^{3+}$  thermal reduction into  $Fe^{2+}$ , possibly, is due to the thermal release of a hole through the  $O^{2-}$  ions of the structural channels. So, the kinetics of reduction of  $Fe^{3+}$  into  $Fe^{2+}$  is expected to be similar

for both  $\mbox{Fe}^{2+}$  with and without neighbouring water molecules. In this way, the kinetics of  $\mbox{Fe}^{2+}$  in sites giving  $\mbox{\sigma-}$  and  $\mbox{\pi-}$ -polarized absorption bands are expected to be similar.

In blue beryl alkali content is small as shown by the predominant type I water molecules. This situation is good for the association of Fe<sup>2+</sup> ions with water molecules. So, in blue beryl the  $\pi$ -polarized line is expected to be the biggest.

In green beryl alkali content is high, as shown by the predominant type II water molecule. This makes smaller the possibility of association of  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  with water molecules, thus giving bigger  ${\rm A_g/A_g}$  relation, as compared to blue beryl.

The presence of  $\pi$ -polarized band in the k//c-axis spectra is allowed if we assume magnetic dipole transition. The  $\pi$ -polarized spectra appears for E//c-axis. In this case the magnetic field radiation, H, is perpendicular to the c-axis. For k//c-axis, H, is also perpendicular to the c-axis, while E being perpendicular to the c-axis does not allow  $\pi$ -polarized spectrum. Magnetic dipole process is a weaker process, since the maximum possible values of the matrix elements  $\langle f| \mu.B|i \rangle$  (i,f =

initial and final states,  $\mu$  = magnetic dipole operator,  $\bar{B}$  = the strength of the magnetic field radiation) are smaller than the possible values of the matrix elements of  $\langle f|p.\bar{E}|i\rangle$  (p = electric dipole moment operator). Thus, when a radiative transition is forbidden by an electric dipole process (Imbusch, 1978, p. 23) it may occur an magnetic dipole process. This is consistent with the assignment of the A-band to the d-d electrical dipole forbidden transition of Fe<sup>2+</sup> (in octahedral symmetry d-orbitals are symmetric and so  $\langle f|p.\bar{E}|i\rangle$  = 0). This band is allowed by distortion of the crystal field.

The activation energy determined by us is 1.03 ev, in contrast with those obtained by Blak et al. (1982) in the two single first-order approximation of Levy et al. (1974), where it was obtained two activation energies: 0.46 and 0.3 ev. This means that the present activation energy value is at least twice of the previous ones. We assign the difference to the inclusion of recombination process which delay the kinetics, increasing the activation energy in the fit. The Blak et al. method using the equation:

$$I(t) = a_1 \exp(-b_1 t) + a_2 \exp(-b_2 t)$$
, (11)

obtained parameters  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  depending of temperature. However, being each exponential, a first-order kinetics of a single center, the expected behavior for  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are to be constant with temperature. Finally we would like to point out that the cut-off temperature, available for the parameters B and C, are not expected for  $a_1$  and  $a_2$ .

The  $T^{\frac{1}{2}}$  behavior is the result of free electron model. Let us consider N conduction electrons which through collisions with another N' hole centers, removes one electron per collision from the set N. Thus, the change in N, dN, when the electrons travel a distance dx is given by (Sears, 1963; p. 259):

$$dN = -PNdx , \qquad (12)$$

where  $\underline{P}$  is the collision probability and which is given by the product of the hole-center collision cross section,  $\sigma$ , with the number of centers, N'. Here, N is the number of holes at a certain instant, dN the number of holes which make collisions and be removed from the group after this group have traveled a distance dx. Assuming that the holes travel with speed  $\nu$  in a time interval

dt, we obtain the rate equation:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\underline{P} Nv \qquad (13)$$

. The group of N holes have different speeds. The rate equation for N  $_{i}$  holes with speed v  $_{i}$  is:

$$\frac{d\Delta}{dt} N_i = -P \Delta N_i N_i . \qquad (14)$$

The sum over all possible groups of speed gives the rate equation for  ${\tt N}:$ 

$$\frac{d}{dt} N = -\sum_{i} \underline{P} \Delta N_{i} v_{i} . \qquad (15)$$

Then for  $\Delta N_i \rightarrow 0$ , we obtain:

$$\frac{d}{dt} N = - \int P v dN \qquad (16)$$

The holes in the valence band behaves nearly like free particles. Thus we assume for dN the free particles distribution (Sears, 1963; p. 235):

$$dN = \frac{4N}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{m}{2kT}\right)^{3/2} v^2 \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT}\right) dv \qquad (17)$$

Evaluating the rate equation for this distribution and using the definition of P, we obtain:

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\sigma \overline{v} NN' , \qquad (18)$$

where

$$\overline{v} = \sqrt{\frac{8kT}{\pi m}}$$
.

The existence of a cut-off temperature shows the lattice microscopic structure. We expect small local variations in the valence band potential, with differences of around decimal electron-volts, because of the negative character of the  ${\rm Fe}^{2^+}$ , which attract holes of the neighbours, giving rise to a potential barrier.

Holes which are released from the capture centers with an energy smaller than the potential barrier will find potential maxima which will delay the propagations of the holes. On the other hand, these electrons are released through tunneling, giving a small concentrations of these holes, as related to the thermally released holes. From this, the kinetics of these delayed holes have a few contribution to the kinetics.

The holes thermally released will have an energy  ${\rm K}_0$ , above the maxima of the potential of the valence band. This energy gives rise to a minimum velocity  ${\rm v}_0=\sqrt{2{\rm K}_0/{\rm m}} \quad {\rm for~the~holes.} \qquad {\rm This~implies~that~there~will~not~be~holes~with~v<{\rm v}_0} \ , \ {\rm changing~the~distribution~proposed~above.~We~suggest~that~this~phenomenon~gives~rise~to~a~speed~screening:}$ 

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = -\sigma(v - \overline{v_0}) N \overline{N}' \qquad (19)$$

Assuming for  $v_0 = \sqrt{8kT_0/\pi m}$  we obtain

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = ctte \left(\sqrt{T} - \sqrt{T_0}\right) NN'$$
 (20)

found for B and C. This relation agrees with the present analysis for the kinetics of the reduction of  ${\rm Fe}^{3+}$  into  ${\rm Fe}^{2+}$  .

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Table 1 - Parameters fif for the kinetic equations (16) for Fe<sup>2+</sup> OA-band in brazilian green beryl.

т (к)		ά		С		В		N
673	1.00	+ 0.15	29	+ 1 - 1	9.8	+1.2	1.90	+ 0.01 - 0.01
723	3.5	+ 0.5	35.6	+0.4	12	+ 2	2.00	+ 0.01
763	4.8	+ 0.1	42	+ 1 - 1	12 .	+ 1	2.90	+ 0.01
823	23	+ 1 1	48.5	+0.5	15.5	+ 1.0	3.50	+ 0.01 - 0.01
873	59	+ 1 ~ .1	54.0	+ 0.5	18	+ 1. - 1	4.23	+ 0.01

### FIGURE CAPTIONS

- Figure 1  $\sigma$ -( $\vec{E}$   $\perp$   $\vec{c}$ -axis) and  $\pi$ -( $\vec{E}$ // $\vec{c}$ -axis) polarized spectra of green beryl at around 12,000 cm<sup>-1</sup> (A-band).
- Figure 2 A-band maxima versus  $\vec{E}$  for  $\vec{k} \perp \vec{c}$ -axis (• experimental; —— calculated).
- Figure 3 Normalized (I/I $_{0}$  1) intensities of the  $\sigma$ polarized band for isothermal treatments at
  411 $^{\circ}$ , 492 $^{\circ}$ , 525 $^{\circ}$  and 600 $^{\circ}$ C (• experimental;
  —— calculated).
- Figure 4 Correlation between the areas of the  $\sigma$  and  $\pi$ -polarized bands for isothermal treatments at 411°, 492° and 600°C.
- Figure 5 Normalized (I/I $_{\rm O}$ ) intensities of the A-band for  $\vec{k}/\!/c$ -axis versus irradiation dose ( $\gamma$ -Rays from  $^{60}$ Co).
- Figure 6 Fit of the line shapes of the  $\sigma$  (— unheated; . heated at  $600^{\circ}$ C; calculated) and  $\pi$  (--- unheated; --- heated at  $600^{\circ}$ C;

- Figure 7 Fit of the line shape of the A-band for  $\vec{k} \perp c$ -axis (—— experimental; calculated).
- Figure 8 Sketch of the kinetic processes.
- Figure 9 Parameter  $\alpha$  versus 1/T showing Arrhenius law.
- Figure 10 Parameters B and C showing  $T^{\frac{1}{2}}$  dependence.

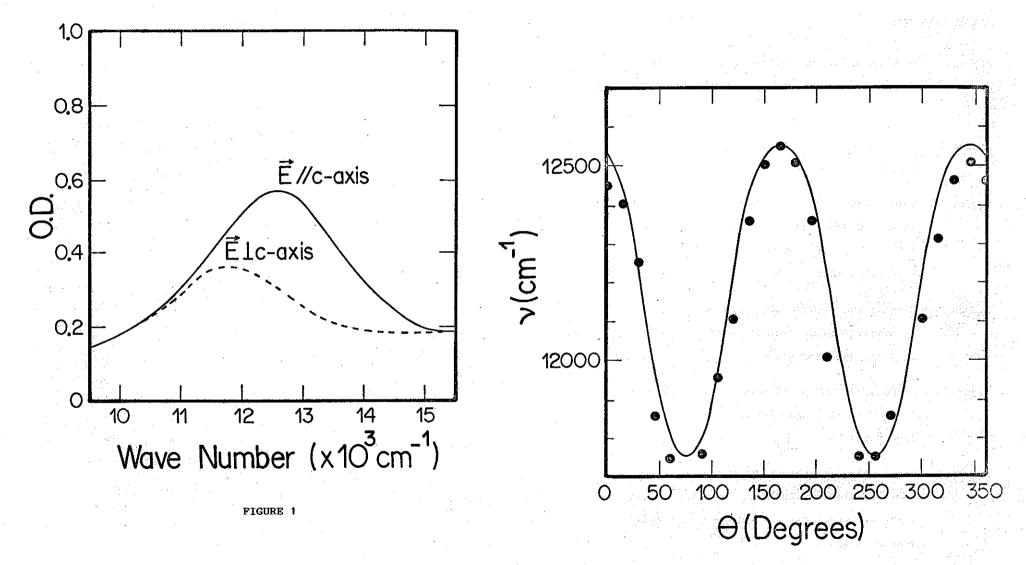


FIGURE 2

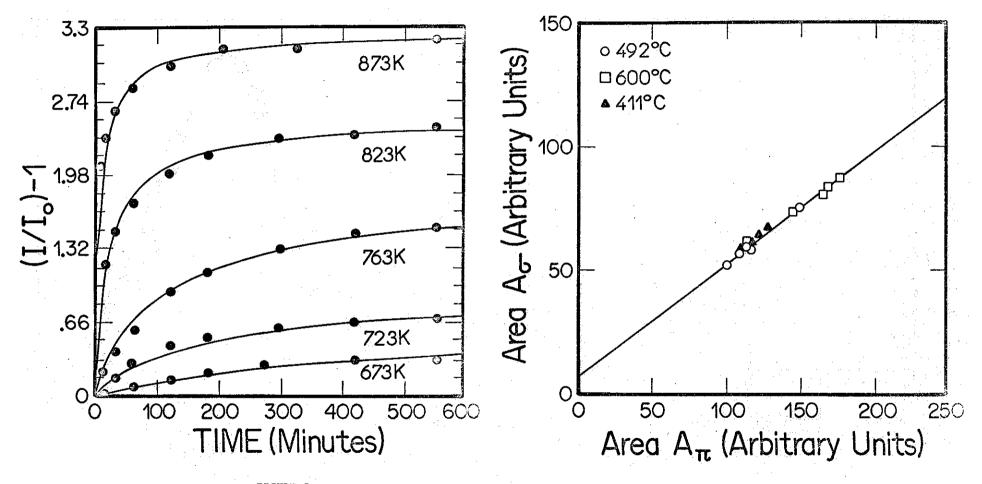


FIGURE .

FIGURE 4

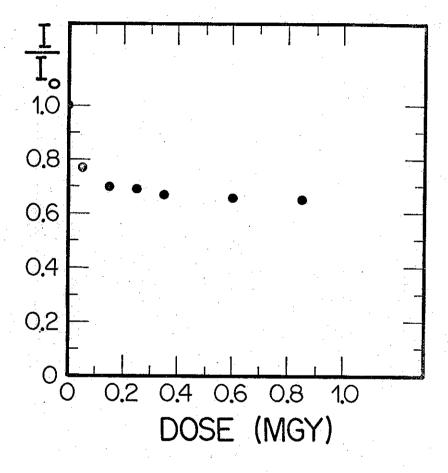


FIGURE 5

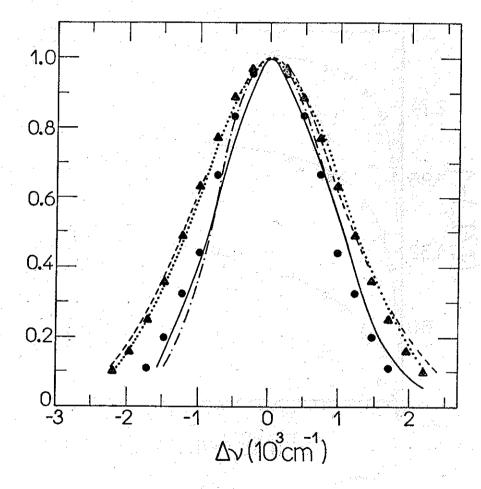


FIGURE 6

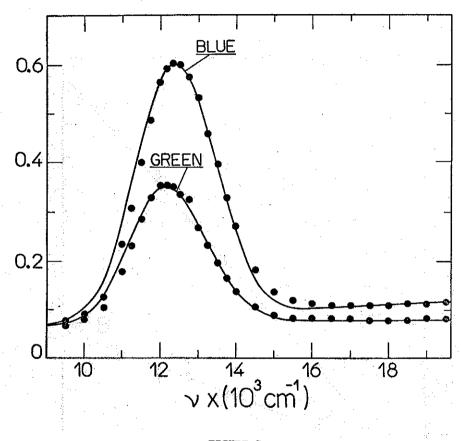


FIGURE 7

