

## Experiment Report Form



	<b>Experiment title:</b> Mössbauer study of high-pressure Fe <sub>7</sub> O <sub>9</sub> and Fe <sub>9</sub> O <sub>11</sub> iron oxides	<b>Experiment number:</b> HC-5325
<b>Beamline:</b> ID18	<b>Date of experiment:</b> from: 18.04.2023 to: 24.04.2023	<b>Date of report:</b> 30.08.2023
<b>Shifts:</b> 18	<b>Local contact(s):</b> Georgios Aprilis	<i>Received at ESRF:</i>
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### Report:

This experiment aimed to investigate the high-pressure and low-temperature behavior of unexplored Fe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> and Fe<sub>9</sub>O<sub>11</sub> oxides. The Fe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> and Fe<sub>9</sub>O<sub>11</sub> samples were synthesized in Bavarian Geoinstitut (BGI) using a multi-anvil apparatus in the pressure-temperature stability field of the corresponding phases. The analysis of the synthesis products showed that Fe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> samples were crystalized as high-quality single crystals. However, the synthesis of the Fe<sub>9</sub>O<sub>11</sub> samples resulted in the mixture of Fe<sub>4</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and Fe<sub>5</sub>O<sub>6</sub> phases in a proportion equal to the Fe<sub>9</sub>O<sub>11</sub> stoichiometry, likely due to the high instability of the Fe<sub>9</sub>O<sub>11</sub> phase at ambient conditions and its decomposition. In this experiment, we, thus, focused on the electronic and magnetic transitions of Fe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> at high pressure and low temperature.

During the experiment, we performed the energy-domain synchrotron Mössbauer source (SMS) spectroscopy of Fe<sub>7</sub>O<sub>9</sub> in membrane-driven cryogenic diamond anvil cells at ID18 up to 83 GPa and down to 5 K (Figure 1a). **We identified several magnetic and electronic transitions.**

In agreement with the literature data, Fe atoms on both octahedral and prismatic sites in  $\text{Fe}_7\text{O}_9$  are nonmagnetic at ambient conditions (Figure 1c). Under compression up to  $\sim 17$  GPa at room temperature or cooling down to  $\sim 240$  K at ambient pressure, Fe on octahedral and prismatic sites both simultaneously onset a magnetic ordering (Figure 1c). Upon cooling down to  $\sim 80$  K at ambient pressure, we identified another magnetic transition, clearly seen from the appearance of the new peak in the center of the spectra (Figure 1c: Unknown phase 1). The further compression and cooling down results in several other magnetic transitions in  $\text{Fe}_7\text{O}_9$  (Figures 1a and c: Unknown phase 2 and Unknown phase 3). At room temperature, the spin transition in  $\text{Fe}_7\text{O}_9$  starts at  $\sim 58$  GPa and is completed at  $\sim 83$  GPa, with Fe atoms on both octahedral and prismatic sites being completely in the low spin state (Figure 1c). **Our SMS experiments, thus, clearly demonstrate that  $\text{Fe}_7\text{O}_9$  has a very complicated high-pressure low-temperature phase diagram and further investigation is needed, particularly the structural details of the new phases.**

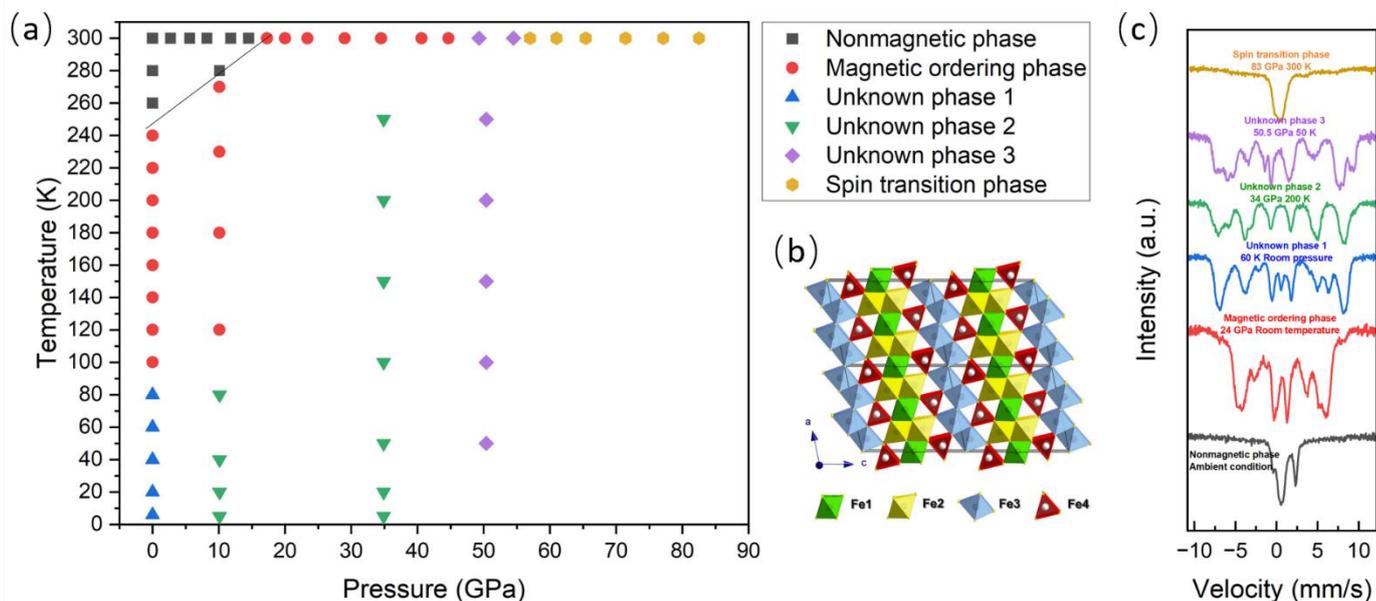


Figure 1. (a) Diagram of pressure-temperature coverage in our SMS experiments. (b) Structure of  $\text{Fe}_7\text{O}_9$  at ambient conditions. (c) Selected SMS spectra were measured at indicated pressure and temperature conditions. The colors correspond to those in (a).