

# Fe<sup>2+</sup>-rich ferro-holmquistite from Japan: structural implications for the holmquistite group

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Ferro-holmquistite with high Fe<sup>2+</sup> content, which was previously predicted to be unlikely to occur, has been identified from a dyke composed of quartz and microcline in limestone at Mt. Hayamadake, Tamura City, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan. The specimen was collected in the 1980s and had been preserved in a private collection as an unnamed amphibole species; however, its name and features have now been revealed as ferro-holmquistite. The empirical formula, estimated on the basis of the constraints of Si = 8 is  $(\square_{0.93}\text{Na}_{0.07})_{\Sigma 1}(\text{Li}_{1.97}\text{Mg}_{0.03})_{\Sigma 2}(\text{Fe}_{2.62}^{2+}\text{Mg}_{0.20}\text{Mn}_{0.18}\text{Al}_{1.75}\text{Fe}_{0.25}^{3+})_{\Sigma 5}\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22.05}(\text{OH}_{1.96}\text{F}_{0.04})_{\Sigma 2}$  for the platy-crystal sample. The unit-cell parameters obtained from single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurements are  $a = 18.4080(3)$  Å,  $b = 17.7942(3)$  Å,  $c = 5.29463(11)$  Å, and  $V = 1734.29(6)$  Å<sup>3</sup>, with placement in the orthorhombic *Pnma* space group. Comparison of the single-crystal X-ray diffraction results with those for the holmquistite group reveals that the *M1* and *M3* octahedra expand with increasing Fe<sup>2+</sup> content. In particular, the *M3* octahedron exhibits marked distortion and anisotropic elongation, most notably along the *b*-axis. Conversely, an increase in the Fe<sup>3+</sup> content enlarges and distorts the *M2* octahedron, while mitigating deformation at the *M1* and *M3* sites. The tetrahedral chain demonstrates structural flexibility in response to these changes, either by adjustment of the tetrahedral volume and/or alteration in the degree of chain kinking. Through these changes, the low bond valence sums for O4A and O4B, which were once considered the starting point of structural limitation, remain consistently low. As a result, the previously held notion that geometric constraints inhibit the formation of Fe<sup>2+</sup>- and/or Fe<sup>3+</sup>-rich members should be reconsidered.

**Keywords:** Ferro-holmquistite, Holmquistite, Ferro-ferri-holmquistite, Amphibole, Mt. Hayamadake

## INTRODUCTION

Holmquistite, with the ideal formula of  $\square\text{Li}_2(\text{Mg}_3\text{Al}_2)\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$ , is an amphibole characterized by a crystal structure that belongs to the orthorhombic *Pnma* space group. According to Cámara and Oberti (2005), holmquistite exhibits a crystal-chemical constraint that restricts the

incorporation of cations larger than Mg and Al. The occurrence of ferro-holmquistite, defined by Fe<sup>2+</sup> > Mg, has remained extremely rare, and even in such cases, the degree to which Fe<sup>2+</sup> exceeds Mg has been minimal. However, ferro-ferri-holmquistite, in which Fe<sup>2+</sup> > Mg and Fe<sup>3+</sup> > Al, has more recently been established as a new mineral (Nagashima et al., 2022). This composition was

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unexpected, given the assumption that the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  content would decrease as  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  became more dominant in the holmquistite group. In addition to ferro-ferri-holmquistite, this study reports the occurrence of ferro-holmquistite with an equally unexpected composition, where  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  far exceeds Mg, which results in a formula that approaches the ideal composition  $\square\text{Li}_2(\text{Fe}_3^{2+}\text{Al}_2)\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$  for ferro-holmquistite.

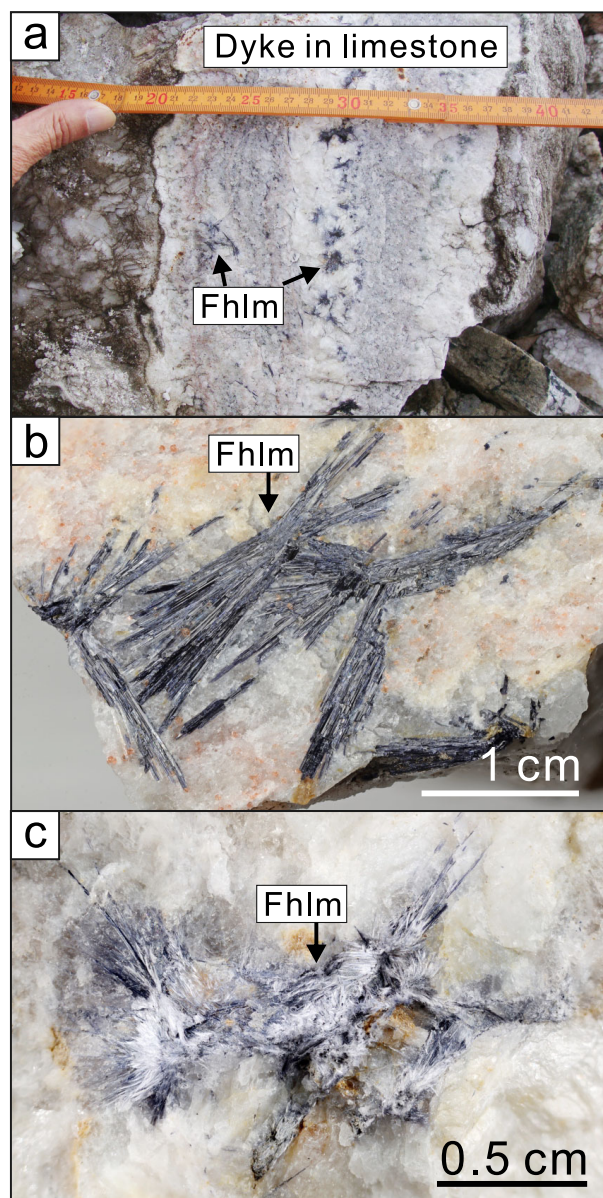
The occurrence of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ -enriched ferro-holmquistite is significant because it enables a clear distinction between the effects of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . Therefore, the description of ferro-holmquistite in the present investigation is expected to contribute to a deeper understanding of the crystal chemistry of the holmquistite group.

### OCCURRENCE AND APPEARANCE

The Abukuma Plateau, located in eastern Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, is mainly composed of Cretaceous granitic rocks (e.g., Kubo et al., 2003). In the central part of the plateau, within the Tamura City area, limestone, shale, chert, and mafic rocks occur as xenoliths or roof pendants within the granitic rocks, distributed over an area approximately 10 km in the north-south direction and 5 km in the east-west direction. These rock bodies were collectively named the Takine Group by Ehiro et al. (1989). However, because neither fossils nor stratigraphic units that can be correlated with those in surrounding regions have been identified, the age of the Takine Group remains undetermined.

Ferro-holmquistite was found at Mt. Hayamadake in Tamura City, Fukushima Prefecture, Japan ( $37^\circ25'30''\text{N}$   $140^\circ38'21''\text{E}$ ), where limestone is distributed as a roof pendant and pegmatites are known to occur (Omori and Hasegawa, 1957). The samples, including ferro-holmquistite, were collected by the authors (E. H. and S. H.) in the 1980s, and stored as amphibole specimens without a specific name for many years. Limestone is intruded by dykes composed mainly of quartz and microcline (Fig. 1a). The dyke had reacted with the surrounding limestone, and minerals such as axinite-(Fe), hedenbergite, spessartine, hellandite-(Y), pyrochlore-group minerals, löllingite, and fluorapatite had formed at the contact zone as fine particles within the dykes. Bornite and chalcopyrite were formed on the limestone side, and irregularly shaped grains of hessite, wittichenite, and parkerite ranging from a few micrometers to several tens of micrometers in size were observed within the bornite.

Ferro-holmquistite occurs as one of the constituent minerals of the dykes and is particularly abundant in their center (Fig. 1a). This occurrence suggests that most ferro-holmquistite was formed at the latest stage of the solid-



**Figure 1.** Occurrence of ferro-holmquistite (Fhlm) in a dyke (a), platy-crystal sample (b), and acicular-crystal sample (c). Even in acicular-crystal samples, a small amount of platy crystals is present.

ification of dyke. It is noted that the occurrence of tourmaline has not been confirmed in either the dykes or the limestone. The formation of axinite-(Fe) and hellandite-(Y) may have consumed boron, which prevents the formation of tourmaline, and could otherwise play a role as a host for lithium. In this dyke, the only host mineral for Li was ferro-holmquistite.

Ferro-holmquistite occurs as platy or acicular crystals. The platy crystals reach up to approximately 1 cm in length and about 2 mm in width and show dark blue color with a vitreous luster (Fig. 1b). These are commonly ac-

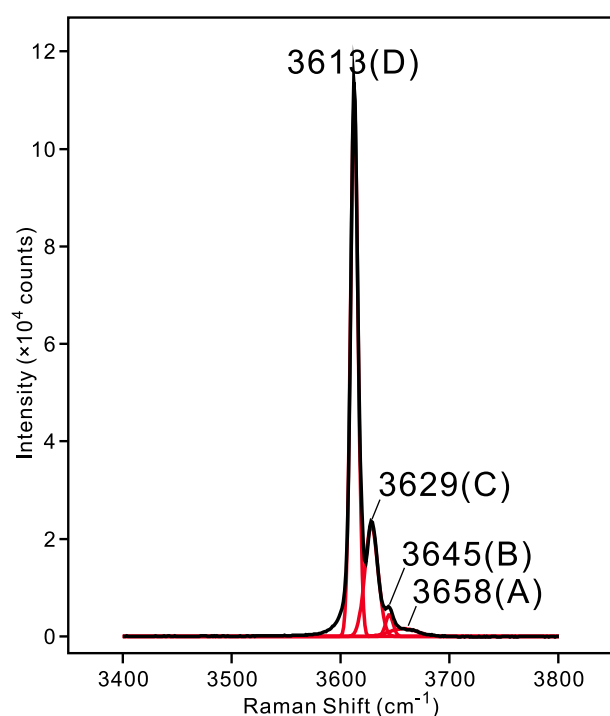
accompanied by white acicular crystals with widths of several micrometers and often occur in an asbestos-like habit (Fig. 1c); however, from one specimen, a bundled aggregate composed solely of platy crystals without associated acicular crystals was obtained (Fig. 1b).

Ferro-holmquistite is biaxial (-) with the refractive indexes of  $\alpha = 1.647(2)$ ,  $\beta = 1.659(2)$ ,  $\gamma = 1.665(2)$  under white light, with  $2V_{\text{calc.}} = 70.1^\circ$ . Pleochroism is strong and varies from colorless to deep blue. Using the empirical formula and observed and normalized wt%, the Gladstone-Dale suitability values (Mandarino, 1981) were found to range from 0.027 to 0.053 (excellent-good).

### RAMAN SPECTROSCOPY

Raman spectroscopy was conducted with a Renishaw inVia Reflex spectrometer using the green diode laser with  $\lambda = 532$  nm at the Institute for Solid State Physics (ISSP), the University of Tokyo. The laser power was approximately 10 mW. Figure 2 shows the spectrum in the ranges 3400–3800  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the platy-crystal sample.

Based on the OH-stretching bands in orthorhombic *Pnma* amphiboles such as holmquistite series, the four main bands, labeled A, B, C, and D, are assigned to local configurations as  $M1M1M3\text{-O}3\text{H-}(\square, \text{Na}): M1M1M3 =$



**Figure 2.** Raman spectrum of ferro-holmquistite. The black line is the observed spectrum after background subtraction, and the red line represents the Gaussian fitted peak. The letters in parentheses indicate local configurations (see text).

$\text{MgMgMg}$ ,  $\text{MgMgFe}$ ,  $\text{MgFeFe}$ , and  $\text{FeFeFe}$  for A, B, C, and D, respectively (e.g., Ishida and Hawthorne, 2003). Following Ishida and Hawthorne (2003), the four bands, A, B, C, and D, in holmquistite are located at 3658–3662, 3643–3648, 3628–3629, and 3611–3614  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ , respectively. Thus, the four Raman peaks observed at 3658, 3645, 3629, and 3613  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  in present ferro-holmquistite are interpreted to correspond to the A, B, C, and D bands, respectively. In ferro-holmquistite, where the *M1* and *M3* sites are occupied by  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , the predominance of the D band is reasonable, and this feature is consistent with the results of FTIR spectroscopic analysis of ferro-ferri-holmquistite (Nagashima et al., 2022).

### CHEMICAL COMPOSITION

Prior to electron microprobe analyses, the presence of Li was examined using inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES; SPECTRO ARCOS, AMETEK) at ISSP. The platy-crystal sample were ground in an agate mortar, treated with a 1:1 mixture of nitric and hydrochloric acids, and then nebulized and introduced into an Ar plasma. The emitted light released during the relaxation of excited elements to their ground states was analyzed spectroscopically, and a strong emission line characteristic of Li was clearly observed at 670.78 nm (Supplementary Fig. S1; Figs. S1–S3 are available online from <https://doi.org/10.2465/jmps.251128b>). However, because the sample was not completely dissolved and residues remained, quantitative evaluation could not be performed.

Chemical analyses were carried out using a JEOL JXA-8230 electron microprobe (WDS mode, 15 kV, 20 nA, and 1  $\mu\text{m}$  beam diameter) at Yamaguchi University. The ZAF method was used for data correction. Albite, periclase, corundum, wollastonite, manganosite, hematite, and fluorite were employed as standards for Na, Mg, Al, Si, Mn, Fe, and F respectively. Neither the aggregates of plate crystals nor the aggregates with acicular crystals showed any zoning (Fig. S2). Furthermore, the compositions of each were very homogeneous, but slightly different from each other (Table 1).

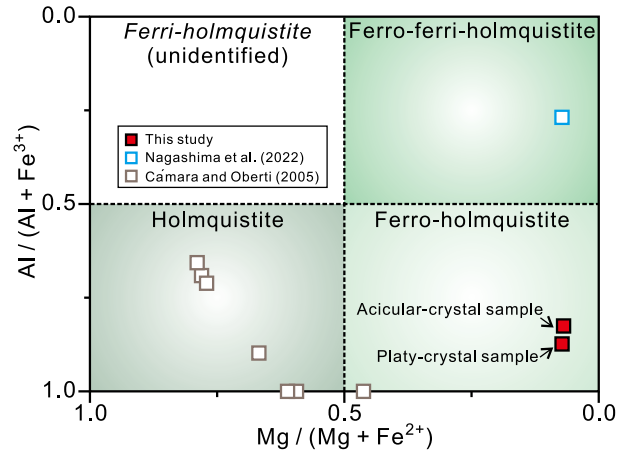
Based on the single-crystal X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis, *M1* and *M3* sites are suggested to be predominantly occupied by  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , whereas the *M2* site is occupied by Al. This site assignment is also supported by previous studies (Cámara and Oberti, 2005; Nagashima et al., 2022). Accordingly, the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ratio was estimated as follows. The chemical composition was normalized as  $\text{Si} = 8$  apfu, and  $2 - \text{Al}$  apfu was assumed to correspond to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ . The amount of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  was then calculated by subtracting  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  from the total Fe content. Allocating all Na to the *A* site results in a nearly consistent result with the sin-

**Table 1.** Chemical compositions of ferro-holmquistite by WDS analysis

Platy-crystal sample				Acicular-crystal sample			
	wt% ( <i>n</i> = 10)			wt% ( <i>n</i> = 10)			
	Avg.	Min.	Max	Avg.	Min.	Max	
SiO <sub>2</sub>	55.02	54.35	55.63	SiO <sub>2</sub>	54.98	54.00	55.39
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	10.19	9.77	10.56	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	9.63	9.39	10.01
FeO	23.64	22.97	24.12	FeO	24.25	23.31	24.84
MnO	1.43	1.21	1.62	MnO	1.66	1.47	1.85
MgO	1.06	0.96	1.13	MgO	0.98	0.92	1.02
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.25	0.15	0.35	Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.29	0.21	0.35
F	0.09	0.00	0.18	F	0.13	0.05	0.25
Total	91.68			Total	91.91		
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> *	2.32			Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> *	3.18		
FeO*	21.56			FeO*	21.38		
Li <sub>2</sub> O*	3.37			Li <sub>2</sub> O*	3.39		
H <sub>2</sub> O*	2.02			H <sub>2</sub> O*	2.00		
-O=F	0.04			-O=F	0.06		
Total	97.27			Total	97.56		
	apfu				apfu		
□	0.93			□	0.92		
Na	0.07			Na	0.08		
Σ =	1			Σ =	1		
Li	1.97			Li	1.98		
Mg	0.03			Mg	0.02		
Σ =	2			Σ =	2		
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	2.62			Fe <sup>2+</sup>	2.60		
Mn	0.18			Mn	0.20		
Mg	0.20			Mg	0.19		
Al	1.75			Al	1.65		
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.25			Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.35		
Σ =	5			Σ =	5		
Si =	8			Si =	8		
O	22.05			O	22.05		
F	0.04			F	0.06		
OH	1.96			OH	1.94		
Σ =	2			Σ =	2		

\*Calculated values normalized at Si = 8, 2-Al = Fe<sup>3+</sup>, total Fe-Fe<sup>3+</sup> = Fe<sup>2+</sup>, 2-Mg = Li, F + OH = 2 (see text).

gle-crystal XRD results. The presence of Li was confirmed, and the single-crystal XRD analysis also indicates that Li nearly fully occupies the *M4* site. Therefore, Li content was adjusted by considering Mg in the *M4* site. During this estimation, all Mn is treated as Mn<sup>2+</sup> and F + OH = 2 apfu as in previous studies (Cámara and Oberti, 2005; Nagashima et al., 2022). The back-calculated total

**Figure 3.** Comparison of chemical composition for holmquistite series.

wt% slightly below 100 may reflect the effects of beam damage. In contrast, EDS analyses performed under gentler beam conditions yield totals close to 100; however, WDS analysis is adapted to confirm the presence of F.

As a result, the empirical formulas are expressed as  $(\square_{0.93}\text{Na}_{0.07})_{\Sigma 1}(\text{Li}_{1.97}\text{Mg}_{0.03})_{\Sigma 2}(\text{Fe}_{2.62}^{2+}\text{Mg}_{0.20}\text{Mn}_{0.18}\text{Al}_{1.75}\text{Fe}_{0.25}^{3+})_{\Sigma 5}\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22.05}(\text{OH}_{1.96}\text{F}_{0.04})_{\Sigma 2}$  for the platy-crystal sample (Fig. 1b) and  $(\square_{0.92}\text{Na}_{0.08})_{\Sigma 1}(\text{Li}_{1.98}\text{Mg}_{0.02})_{\Sigma 2}(\text{Fe}_{2.60}^{2+}\text{Mn}_{0.20}\text{Mg}_{0.19}\text{Al}_{1.65}\text{Fe}_{0.35}^{3+})_{\Sigma 5}\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{22.05}(\text{OH}_{1.94}\text{F}_{0.06})_{\Sigma 2}$  for the acicular-crystal sample (Fig. 1c). These compositions are close to the ideal formula and has a much higher Fe<sup>2+</sup> content than the ferro-holmquistite reported by Cámara and Oberti (2005) (Fig. 3).

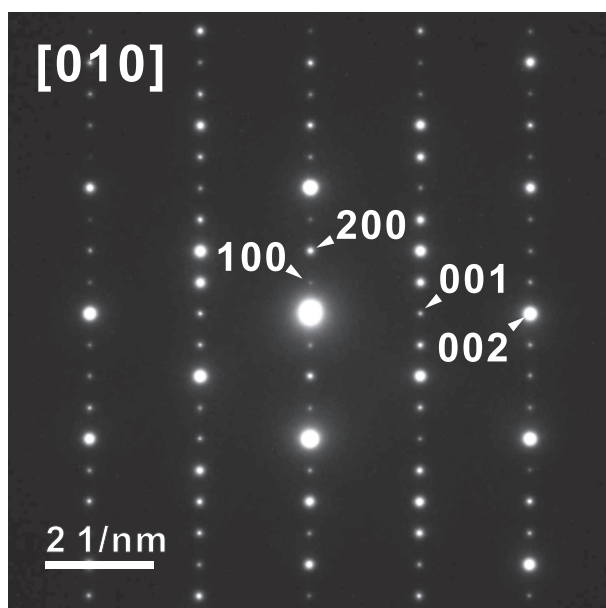
## CRYSTALLOGRAPHY

### Transmission electron microscopy

Amphiboles with vacancies at the *A* sites are known to crystallize in three structural types: proto, orthorhombic, and monoclinic structures. Among these, both the orthorhombic and monoclinic types have been reported in the holmquistite group. Therefore, it is essential to identify the structural type and corresponding proportion prior to single-crystal XRD analysis. Therefore, transmission electron microscopy (TEM) observations were conducted using a microscope (2100 TEM, JEOL) at ISSP operated at 200 kV because electron diffraction from the [010] direction provides high sensitivity to distinguish between these types. The results revealed that the ferro-holmquistite examined in this work is purely of the orthorhombic type (Fig. 4).

### Powder X-ray diffraction

The powder XRD patterns were collected at room temper-



**Figure 4.** Selected-area electron diffraction pattern from [010] direction of ferro-holmquistite. The 100 and 001 reflections are visible due to multiple diffractions.

ature using a SmartLab diffractometer (Rigaku) with CuK $\alpha$  radiation at ISSP. Because platy-crystal sample (Fig. 1b) is scarce, the acicular-crystal sample (Fig. 1c), which is more abundant, was used for this aim. The lattice parameters refined by least-squares fitting using 31 peaks with a large  $d$ -value were  $a = 18.407(7)$  Å,  $b = 17.767(6)$  Å,  $c = 5.298(2)$  Å, and  $V = 1732.6(11)$  Å<sup>3</sup> in the orthorhombic space group  $Pnma$  (#62) (Supplementary Table S1; Table S1 is available online from <https://doi.org/10.2465/jmps.251128b>). The parameters [ $d$  in Å ( $I_{\text{obs.}}$ )  $hkl$ ] for the seven observed strongest lines of the powder XRD pattern were 8.156 (69) 210, 4.442 (8) 040, 3.196 (6) 440, 3.018 (100) 610, 2.810 (6) 251, 2.721 (13) 630, and 2.659 (6) 351, while it should be noted that the observed intensities differ from the ideal intensities due to the strong preferred orientation.

### Single-crystal X-ray diffraction

The single-crystal XRD data was collected using a diffractometer (XtaLAB Synergy-R/DW, Rigaku) with MoK $\alpha$  radiation and equipped with VariMax DW optics and an HyPix6000HE detector (Rigaku) at Yamaguchi University. The crystal of platy-crystal sample (Fig. 1b) was mounted on a glass fiber, and intensity data were measured at room temperature. The diffraction data and empirical absorption correction were processed using CrysAlisPro (Agilent, 2014). The SHELXL-2019/2 software (Sheldrick, 2015) was used for refinement of the crystal structure with neutral

atom-scattering factors. The structure was solved by a direct method, and the resulting structure was found to be identical to that previously reported. Therefore, the site nomenclature follows that of the previous study (Hawthorne and Oberti, 2007). The H position was estimated from difference Fourier analysis, and the displacement parameter for the H atom was fixed at  $U_{\text{iso}} = 0.05$  Å<sup>2</sup> with application of a restraint of O-H = 0.980(1) Å (Franks, 1973).

Ferro-holmquistite contains Fe and Mn with similar X-ray scattering factors. However, since Mn is trace amounts (Table 1), the refinements were performed as Fe. The occupancies were examined for Mg and Fe at the  $M1$  and  $M3$  sites, and for Al and Fe at the  $M2$  sites. The  $M4$  site is characterized by a 5+1 coordination environment, which is considered unfavorable for Na but favorable for Mg (Cámara and Oberti, 2005). Thus, Li and Mg were examined as candidate cations for the  $M4$  site. In contrast, the  $A$  site was initially treated as vacant during structure refinement, yielding an  $R_1$  value of 1.71%. However, inspection of the difference Fourier map revealed peaks at two symmetrically related atomic positions (Fig. S3). The midpoint between these two peaks corresponds to the conventional  $A$  site; however, this residual could not be resolved by examining the temperature factor after placing Na at this position. Subsequently, Na was placed at the two peak positions identified in the difference Fourier map, and refinement was carried out. In this model, both the atomic coordinates and site occupancies were successfully refined, leading to an improved  $R_1$  value of 1.59%.

Details of the sample, data collection, and structure refinement are provided in Table 2 and the CIF, the FCF, and the RES files (Supplementary files are available online from <https://doi.org/10.2465/jmps.251128b>). The final atom coordinates, refined site occupancies, and thermal displacement parameters are summarized in Table 3. Selected interatomic distances are shown in Table 4. Table 5 lists the bond valences, which were calculated using the bond-valence parameters of Gagné and Hawthorne (2015). Both the bond-valence calculation and located hydrogen sites indicated that the O3A and O3B sites host OH groups. On the other hand, it is noted that because of the low Na occupancy, the bond-valence contributions associated with the  $A$  site were calculated to be negligible (zero) and are thus omitted from Table 5. The refined unit-cell parameters were  $a = 18.4080(3)$  Å,  $b = 17.7942(3)$  Å,  $c = 5.29463(11)$  Å,  $V = 1734.29(6)$  Å<sup>3</sup>.

The refined crystal structure of ferro-holmquistite drawn by VESTA 3 (Momma and Izumi, 2011) is shown in Figure 5. This is a three-dimensional structure in the orthorhombic  $Pnma$  space group that consists of octahedrally coordinated  $M1$ -3 sites, 5+1 coordinated  $M4$  sites, and tetrahedral double chains.

**Table 2.** Experimental details for single-crystal XRD analysis of ferro-holmquistite

Crystal size (mm)	0.32 × 0.18 × 0.08	
Space group	<i>Pnma</i>	
Unit-cell dimensions	<i>a</i> (Å)	18.4080(3)
	<i>b</i> (Å)	17.7942(3)
	<i>c</i> (Å)	5.29463(11)
	<i>V</i> (Å <sup>3</sup> )	1734.29(6)
<i>D</i> <sub>calc.</sub> (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	3.23	
Radiation	MoKα ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å)	
Monochromator	VariMax optics	
Diffractionmeter	Rigaku XtaLAB Synergy-R/DW with HyPix-6000HE	
Scan type	$\omega$ scan	
Absorption correction	CrysAlis <sup>Pro</sup> (Agilent, 2014)	
Absorption coefficient $\mu$ (mm <sup>-1</sup> )	3.17	
$\theta_{\min}$ - $\theta_{\max}$ (°)	2.2-37.8	
Collected reflections	31544	
Unique reflections ( $I > 2\sigma$ )	4199	
$R_{\text{int}}$ (%)	1.34	
Index ranges	<i>h</i>	-31 → 29
	<i>k</i>	-25 → 30
	<i>l</i>	-5 → 9
Refinement on $F^2$ using	SHELXL-2019/2 (Sheldrick, 2015)	
$R_1$ (%)	1.59	
$wR_2$ (%)	5.21	
No. of parameters	200	
Weighting scheme*	$w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.0271P)^2 + 0.5751P]$	
$\Delta\rho_{\text{max}}$ (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	0.44	
$\Delta\rho_{\text{min}}$ (e Å <sup>-3</sup> )	-0.61	

\* The function of the weighting scheme is  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (a \cdot P)^2 + b \cdot P]$ , where  $P = [\text{Max}(F_o^2) + 2F_c^2]/3$ , and the parameters  $a$  and  $b$  are chosen to minimize the differences in the variances for reflections in different ranges of intensity and diffraction angle.

## DISCUSSION

The ferro-holmquistite sample is characterized by high Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Al contents. The discovery of this particular composition enables a more detailed discussion of the structural effects of Fe<sup>2+</sup> by comparison with the data reported by Cámara and Oberti (2005), and of Fe<sup>3+</sup> through comparison with the ferro-ferri-holmquistite reported by Nagashima et al. (2022). In this study, the primary focus was the influence of Fe<sup>2+</sup> on the *M* octahedra and tetrahedra. The effect of Fe<sup>3+</sup> is also discussed in a similar context.

The *M2*-O distance is clearly shorter than the *M1*-O and *M3*-O distances (Table 4). Iron at the *M2* site is assumed to be Fe<sup>3+</sup>, while at the *M1* and *M3* sites is Fe<sup>2+</sup>, as

supported by the bond-valence sums for the octahedral sites (Table 5). Accordingly, the effect of Fe<sup>2+</sup> at the *M1* and *M3* sites, and of Fe<sup>3+</sup> at the *M2* sites on the structural variation can be evaluated on the basis of the Fe occupancies. The Mn<sup>2+</sup> content is very small compared with that of Fe<sup>2+</sup> (0.17 apfu for Mn<sup>2+</sup>; Table 1) and thus cannot be distinguished from Fe<sup>2+</sup> based on the X-ray scattering factors. Therefore, the effect of Mn<sup>2+</sup> is considered to be merged with that of Fe<sup>2+</sup> and is regarded as negligible in the present discussion.

### Effect of Fe<sup>2+</sup>

Figure 6 shows variations related to the *M* octahedra. The Al/Fe<sup>3+</sup> ratio for the ferro-holmquistite sample is within the range reported by Cámara and Oberti (2005); therefore, the effects of Fe<sup>2+</sup> in the present ferro-holmquistite sample can be better discussed based on data from Cámara and Oberti (2005). It is noted that the characteristics of ferro-ferri-holmquistite (Nagashima et al., 2022) are affected by Fe<sup>3+</sup> at the *M2* sites; therefore, although the data are plotted, they will not be considered in this discussion.

First, Fe<sup>2+</sup> is equally distributed between the *M1* and *M3* sites in the present ferro-holmquistite (Fig. 6a). On the other hand, when the Fe<sup>2+</sup> content was intermediate, Fe<sup>2+</sup> tended to be distributed more predominantly to the *M1* site, similar tendency was also found in sodic amphibole (Oberti et al., 2007). In monoclinic amphiboles, it has been suggested that, for intermediate compositions, the distribution of Fe<sup>2+</sup> between *M1* and *M3* is influenced by cation size in the *M2* site (Hawthorne, 1983), and a similar effect may occur in orthorhombic amphiboles. Also, Cámara and Oberti (2005) proposed that Fe<sup>2+</sup> increases the distortion without changing the octahedral volume. However, the present results show a clear increase in the *M1* and *M3* octahedral volumes as the Fe occupancy increases (Fig. 6b).

The distortion, as measured by the quadratic elongation, remained constant in the *M1* octahedron (especially when Fe > 0.3), which implies almost isotropic expansion (Fig. 6c). In contrast, distortion of the *M3* octahedron increased as the Fe occupancy increased (Fig. 6c). Specifically, the *M3*-O1A and *M3*-O1B bond lengths increased (Fig. 6d), while the O1A-O1B distance was slightly shortened (Fig. 6e), which suggests elongation mainly along the *b*-axis rather than the *a*-axis. An anisotropic axial response indicates a stronger correlation between Fe occupancy in the *M3* site and the *a/b* ratio compared to that with Fe occupancy in the *M2* site (Figs. 6f and 6g). This suggests that structural changes associated with an increase in Fe<sup>2+</sup> are mainly initiated by deformation of the *M3* octahedron, which is contrary to the conventional idea that the *M2* octahedron controls the structure. On the other

**Table 3.** Refined atomic positions with occupancy and anisotropic displacement parameters ( $\text{\AA}^2$ ) for ferro-holmquistite

	<i>W</i>	<i>x</i>	<i>y</i>	<i>z</i>	$U_{\text{eq}}$	Occupancy
<i>A1</i>	4 <i>c</i>	0.3294(8)	0.25	0.562(3)	0.033(4) ( $U_{\text{iso}}$ )	Na <sub>0.055(3)</sub>
<i>A2</i>	4 <i>c</i>	-0.0839(10)	0.25	0.204(3)	0.043(5) ( $U_{\text{iso}}$ )	Na <sub>0.051(3)</sub>
<i>M1</i>	8 <i>d</i>	0.12524(2)	0.15789(2)	0.39789(2)	0.00633(4)	Fe <sub>0.8504(17)</sub> Mg <sub>0.1496</sub>
<i>M2</i>	8 <i>d</i>	0.12542(2)	0.06706(2)	-0.10063(3)	0.00492(5)	Al <sub>0.8443(15)</sub> Fe <sub>0.1557</sub>
<i>M3</i>	4 <i>c</i>	0.12533(2)	0.25	-0.10262(3)	0.00594(5)	Fe <sub>0.849(2)</sub> Mg <sub>0.151</sub>
<i>M4</i>	8 <i>d</i>	0.12349(8)	-0.00860(10)	0.4012(3)	0.0191(5)	Li <sub>0.976(2)</sub> Mg <sub>0.024</sub>
Si1A	8 <i>d</i>	0.26872(2)	0.16203(2)	0.07030(4)	0.00535(4)	Si <sub>1.0</sub>
Si1B	8 <i>d</i>	-0.01819(2)	0.16237(2)	0.72689(4)	0.00542(4)	Si <sub>1.0</sub>
Si2A	8 <i>d</i>	0.27362(2)	0.07660(2)	0.57697(4)	0.00552(4)	Si <sub>1.0</sub>
Si2B	8 <i>d</i>	-0.02416(2)	0.07745(2)	0.21830(4)	0.00560(4)	Si <sub>1.0</sub>
O1A	8 <i>d</i>	0.18041(3)	0.15474(3)	0.04995(10)	0.00700(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O1B	8 <i>d</i>	0.07002(3)	0.15429(3)	0.74528(10)	0.00717(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O2A	8 <i>d</i>	0.18506(3)	0.07367(3)	0.59717(9)	0.00758(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O2B	8 <i>d</i>	0.06451(3)	0.07309(3)	0.20036(10)	0.00750(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O3A	4 <i>c</i>	0.18291(4)	0.25	0.55735(15)	0.00941(12)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O3B	4 <i>c</i>	0.06799(4)	0.25	0.23855(15)	0.00940(12)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O4A	8 <i>d</i>	0.31346(3)	-0.00277(3)	0.56929(10)	0.00923(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O4B	8 <i>d</i>	-0.06544(3)	-0.00015(3)	0.26687(10)	0.00938(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O5A	8 <i>d</i>	0.30496(3)	0.11706(3)	-0.16436(10)	0.00946(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O5B	8 <i>d</i>	-0.05398(3)	0.11603(3)	0.95771(10)	0.00950(8)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O6A	8 <i>d</i>	0.29612(3)	0.12896(3)	0.33699(10)	0.01020(9)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O6B	8 <i>d</i>	-0.04596(3)	0.13199(3)	0.45631(10)	0.01055(9)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O7A	4 <i>c</i>	0.29166(4)	0.25	0.05338(16)	0.01071(12)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
O7B	4 <i>c</i>	-0.04095(4)	0.25	0.75193(16)	0.01083(12)	O <sub>1.0</sub>
H3A	4 <i>c</i>	0.23607(10)	0.25	0.566(5)	0.05 ( $U_{\text{iso}}$ )	H <sub>1.0</sub>
H3B	4 <i>c</i>	0.0153(2)	0.25	0.212(5)	0.05 ( $U_{\text{iso}}$ )	H <sub>1.0</sub>

	$U^{11}$	$U^{22}$	$U^{33}$	$U^{12}$	$U^{13}$	$U^{23}$
<i>M1</i>	0.00771(5)	0.00651(5)	0.00477(5)	0.00002(3)	0.00051(3)	0.00005(3)
<i>M2</i>	0.00502(8)	0.00491(8)	0.00481(8)	0.00000(5)	-0.00005(5)	0.00018(5)
<i>M3</i>	0.00742(7)	0.00458(7)	0.00583(7)	0	-0.00041(4)	0
<i>M4</i>	0.0193(7)	0.0247(8)	0.0133(7)	0.0042(5)	0.0041(5)	0.0019(5)
Si1A	0.00578(7)	0.00553(7)	0.00473(7)	0.00037(5)	0.00003(5)	0.00001(5)
Si1B	0.00582(7)	0.00537(7)	0.00507(7)	-0.00035(5)	0.00009(5)	-0.00015(5)
Si2A	0.00585(7)	0.00589(7)	0.00483(7)	0.00089(5)	-0.00008(5)	0.00006(5)
Si2B	0.00588(7)	0.00604(7)	0.00489(7)	-0.00076(5)	0.00023(5)	0.00012(5)
O1A	0.00546(17)	0.00808(19)	0.00745(19)	0.00026(14)	0.00012(14)	0.00021(14)
O1B	0.00540(17)	0.00837(18)	0.00774(19)	-0.00018(14)	0.00020(14)	-0.00029(14)
O2A	0.00566(17)	0.00907(19)	0.00802(19)	0.00024(14)	-0.00009(13)	0.00002(15)
O2B	0.00569(16)	0.00927(19)	0.00752(18)	-0.00010(14)	0.00036(14)	-0.00006(15)
O3A	0.0088(3)	0.0096(3)	0.0098(3)	0	0.0006(2)	0
O3B	0.0087(3)	0.0094(3)	0.0102(3)	0	0.0005(2)	0
O4A	0.01050(19)	0.00713(19)	0.0101(2)	0.00315(15)	0.00046(15)	-0.00038(15)
O4B	0.01035(19)	0.00801(19)	0.0098(2)	-0.00336(15)	-0.00012(15)	0.00137(15)
O5A	0.00769(17)	0.0136(2)	0.00708(19)	-0.00003(15)	0.00008(14)	-0.00427(16)
O5B	0.00749(18)	0.0134(2)	0.00764(19)	-0.00033(15)	0.00029(14)	0.00429(16)
O6A	0.00916(18)	0.0138(2)	0.00760(19)	-0.00089(16)	-0.00110(15)	0.00459(16)
O6B	0.00934(18)	0.0150(2)	0.00725(19)	0.00142(16)	-0.00082(15)	-0.00491(17)
O7A	0.0111(3)	0.0053(3)	0.0158(3)	0	0.0003(2)	0
O7B	0.0116(3)	0.0053(3)	0.0156(3)	0	0.0003(2)	0

**Table 4.** Selected bond lengths (Å), volumes (Å<sup>3</sup>), and angles (°) for ferro-holmquistite

M1-	O1A	2.1044(5)	M4-	O2A	2.1224(18)	O1A-O1B	2.5945(8)	
	O1B	2.1025(5)		O2B	2.1029(17)	Si1A-Si1A	3.1307(8)	
	O2A	2.1381(5)		O4A	2.1157(15)	Si1B-Si1B	3.1186(8)	
	O2B	2.1495(5)		O4B	2.0628(15)			
	O3A	2.1275(5)		O5A	2.3622(18)	Si1A-O7A-Si1A	149.17(6)	
	O3B	2.1234(5)		O6B	2.7252(18)	Si1B-O7B-Si1B	148.52(6)	
	<M1-O>	2.1242		<M4-O>	2.2485	O5A-O6A-O5A	168.48(4)	
	Volume	12.3913				O5B-O6B-O5B	166.21(4)	
	Q.E.*	1.0209		Si1A-	O1A	1.6342(5)		
					O5A	1.6214(5)		
M2-	O1A	2.0235(5)		O6A	1.6107(5)			
	O1B	2.0285(5)		O7A	1.6239(3)			
	O2A	1.9441(5)	<Si1A-O>		1.6226			
	O2B	1.9515(5)	Si2A-	O2A	1.6344(5)			
	O4A	1.8396(5)		O4A	1.5920(5)			
	O4B	1.8471(5)		O5A	1.6514(5)			
	<M2-O>	1.9391		O6A	1.6291(5)			
	Volume	9.5958	<Si2A-O>		1.6267			
	Q.E.*	1.0101	Si1B-	O1B	1.6329(5)			
	M3-	O1A×2	2.1340(5)		O5B	1.6148(5)		
O1B×2		2.1415(5)		O6B	1.6143(5)			
O3A		2.0892(8)		O7B	1.6200(3)			
O3B		2.0921(8)	<Si1B-O>		1.6205			
<M3-O>		2.1221	Si2B-	O2B	1.6367(5)			
Volume		12.1672		O4B	1.5970(5)			
Q.E.*		1.0313		O5B	1.6360(5)			
				O6B	1.6403(5)			
				<Si2B-O>	1.6275			

\* Quadratic elongation (Q.E.) defined by Robinson et al. (1971).

**Table 5.** Bond-valence analysis results for ferro-holmquistite weighted by the refined site occupancies\*

	M1	M2	M3	M4	Si1A	Si1B	Si2A	Si2B	Sum
O1A	0.36	0.38	0.34×2↓		0.97				2.05
O1B	0.36	0.38	0.33×2↓			0.98			2.05
O2A	0.34	0.47		0.19			0.97		1.97
O2B	0.33	0.46		0.20				0.97	1.96
O3A	0.34×2→		0.37						1.05
O3B	0.35×2→		0.37						1.07
O4A		0.62		0.20			1.09		1.91
O4B		0.61		0.21				1.07	1.89
O5A				0.13	1.01		0.93		2.07
O5B						1.02		0.97	1.99
O6A					1.03		0.99		2.02
O6B				0.08		1.03		0.96	2.07
O7A					1.00×2→				2.00
O7B						1.01×2→			2.02
Sum	2.08	2.92	2.08	1.01	4.01	4.04	3.98	3.97	

\* The A sites excluded from this table because its contribution was negligible due to its very low Na concentration. In the case that the identical bonds bind to the same cation/anion, the number with the arrow (→ for anion and ↓ for cation) was added.



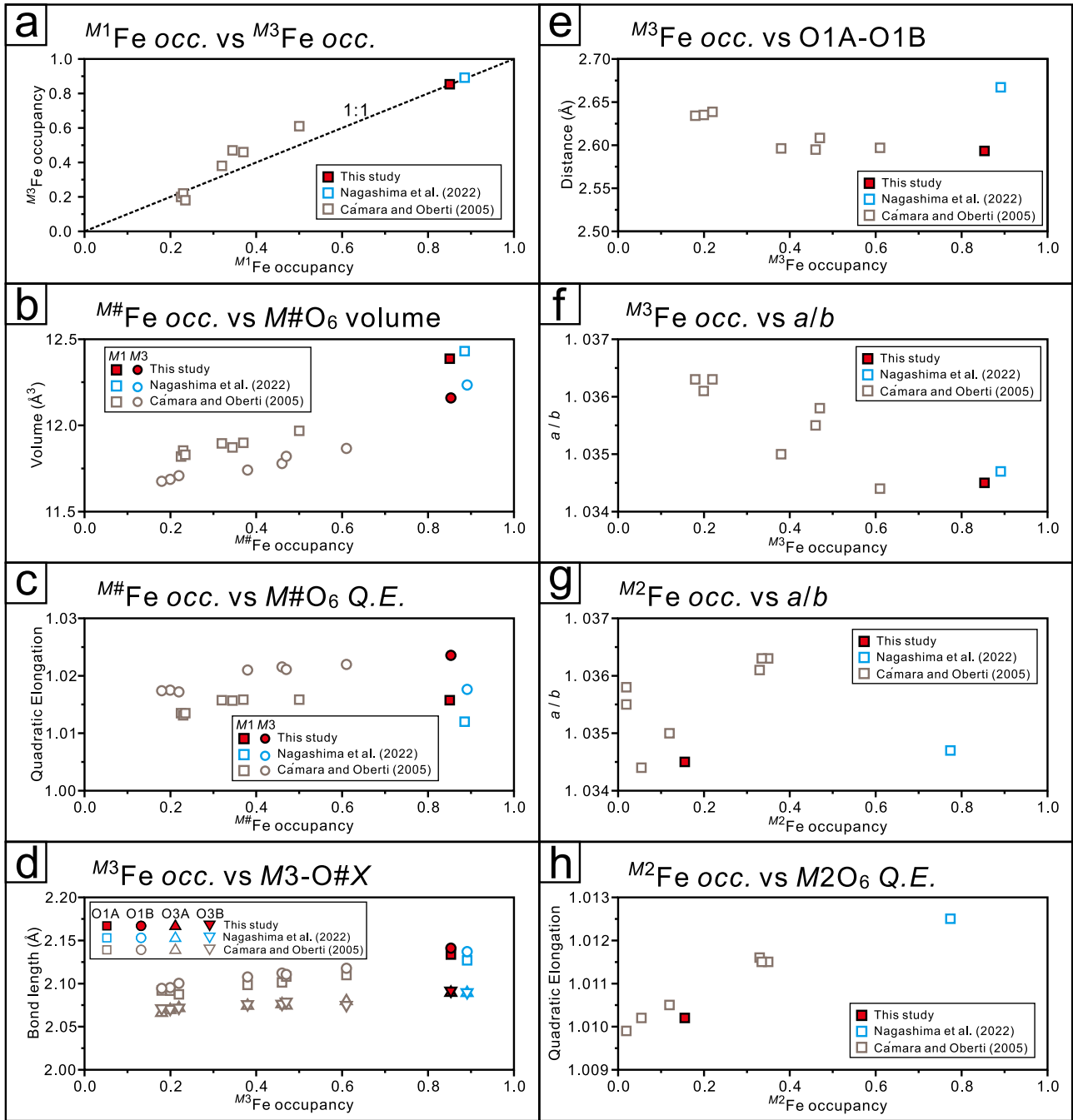


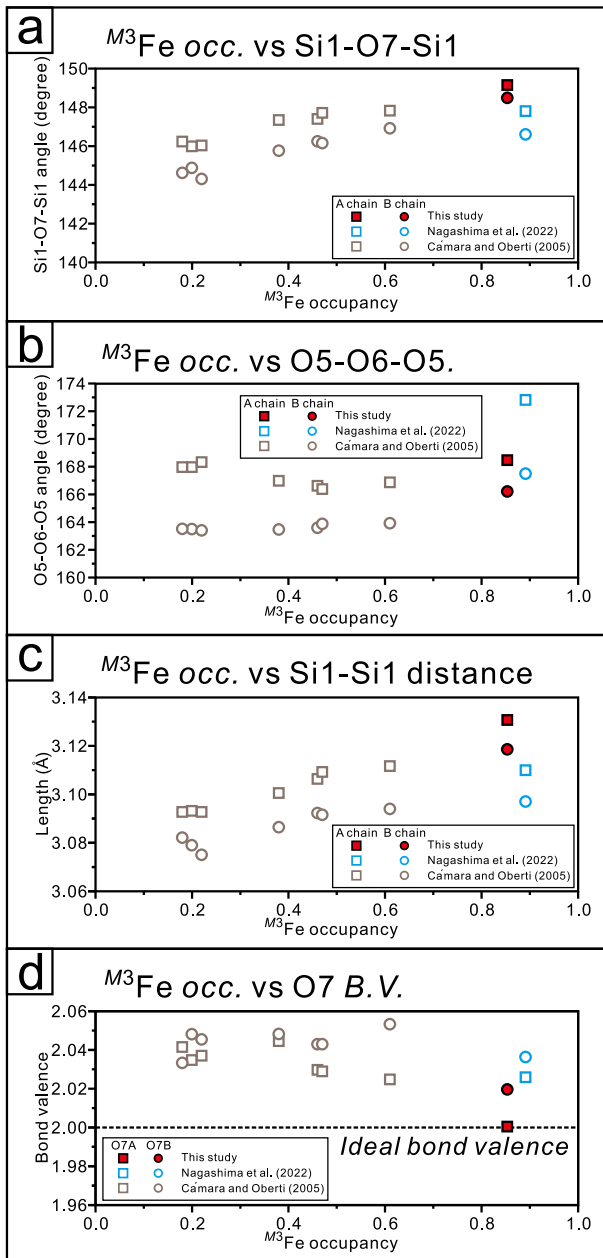
Figure 6. Variations with respect to Fe occupancies in the  $M$  sites.

$M1$  and  $M3$  octahedra (Fig. 6b). The effect of the reduction in the distortion of the  $M1$  and  $M3$  octahedra is, however, clear (Fig. 6c). The  $M2$  octahedron becomes significantly distorted with increasing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content (Fig. 6h). As a result, the  $a/b$  ratio only increases slightly, even with a large increase in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content (Figs. 6f and 6g).

The structural adjustment of the tetrahedron associated with the increase in  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content would induce bending of the chain along the  $b$ -axis (Fig. 7a) and elongation

along the  $c$ -axis (Fig. 7b). This would result in a significant decrease in the Si1-Si1 distance (Fig. 7c) and also cause the bond valence sum at O7A to deviate from the ideal value (Fig. 7d).

Taken together, within the compositional range between ferro-holmquistite and ferro-ferri-holmquistite, these observations suggest that the amount of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the  $M2$  octahedron influences the behavior of the other octahedra and tetrahedra. However, it should be noted that this

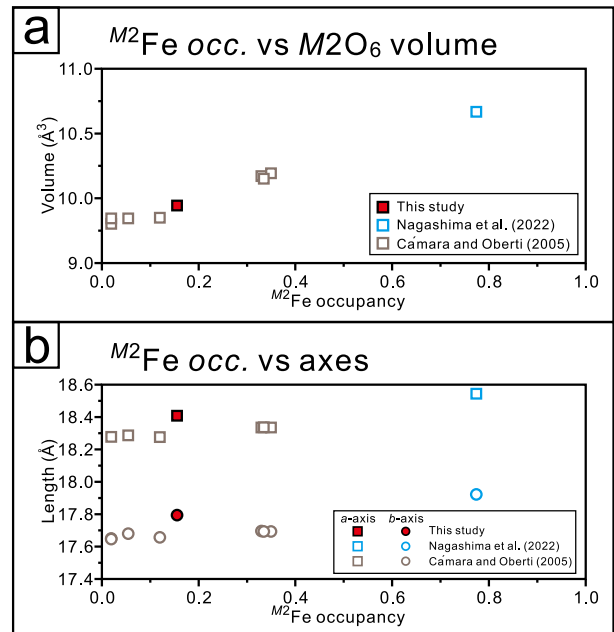


**Figure 7.** Changes in silicate chain with respect to Fe occupancy at  $M^3$  site.

does not support previous claims that the  $M^2$  octahedron controls the amount of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in the other octahedra, because the ferro-holmquistite and ferro-ferri-holmquistite samples reported by Nagashima et al. (2022) have almost identical Fe occupancies at the  $M^1$  and  $M^3$  sites (Fig. 6a). The important aspect is that the overall structure is capable of accommodating  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and/or  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ .

### Geometrical constraints

Cámara and Oberti (2005) predicted that the presence of a



**Figure 8.** Variations in  $M^2\text{O}_6$  volume and lengths of  $a$ - and  $b$ -axes as function of Fe occupancy at  $M^2$  site.

small monovalent cation such as Li at the  $M^4$  site would impose geometrical constraints on the crystal structure. They proposed that this would induce underbonding at the O4A and O4B sites, which would constrain the  $M^2$ -O4 distance to be shorter. This would result in a distortion of the  $M^2$  octahedron along the  $b$ -axis, which would exert pressure on the  $M^3$  octahedron, and ultimately limit the occupancy of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  at the  $M^3$  site.

Nevertheless, both ferro-ferri-holmquistite and the present  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ -rich ferro-holmquistite actually occur, and their Li content and degree of underbonding (bond valence sum:  $\sim 1.90$ ) at the O4A and O4B sites are comparable to those reported by Cámara and Oberti (2005). Therefore, underbonding at the O4A and O4B sites is not associated with an increase in  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and/or  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content. This suggests that even if a small cation at the  $M^4$  site causes underbonding of O4A and O4B, it does not restrict the accommodation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and/or  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in any octahedron. The overall structure instead remains flexible to accommodate  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and/or  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , and currently, no definitive geometrical constraints can be predicted in the holmquistite structure.

### CONCLUSION

In this study, ferro-holmquistite with a high  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  content was discovered, which allowed the effects of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  on the structure to be examined by comparison with previous studies.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  mainly expands the  $M^1$  and  $M^3$  octahedra, where notable anisotropic elongation and increased

strain in the *b*-axis direction of the *M3* octahedron are particularly prominent. On the other hand, an increase in Fe<sup>3+</sup> increases the volume and distortion of the *M2* octahedron, which suppresses the *M1* and *M3* octahedra. In response to these changes, the tetrahedra can modify their structural configurations through connection bending and volume change. The presence of a small cation at the *M4* site contributes to underbonding of O4A and O4B; however, it does not impose any structural constraints that limit the incorporation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> and/or Fe<sup>3+</sup>.

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### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary Figures S1–S3, Table S1, CIF, FCF, and RES files are available online from <https://doi.org/10.2465/jmps.251128b>.

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