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The miscibility of calcium silicate perovskite and bridgmanite: A single perovskite solid solution in hot, iron-rich regions

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Abstract

Calcium silicate perovskite and bridgmanite are two phases believed to coexist throughout the lower mantle, which at some temperature, at least theoretically, dissolve into each other to form a single perovskite solid solution (Ca\textsubscript{x}Mg\textsubscript{1-x}SiO\textsubscript{3}). This may have large seismic and geochemical implications due to the changes in density, elasticity and element partition coefficients between single and mixed phase perovskites. DFT Molecular Dynamics has been used to estimate the miscibility of bridgmanite and calcium perovskite at pressures between 25 and 125 GPa. Results at temperatures up to 2500 K indicate mixing is limited to within 4\% of the pure endmembers without additional intrinsic defects present, i.e. < 4\% CaSiO\textsubscript{3} is miscible in MgSiO\textsubscript{3} and vice versa. Therefore, in a simplified lower mantle chemistry extensive MgSiO\textsubscript{3}-CaSiO\textsubscript{3} solid solution is not expected to occur. However, a simple model was employed to test whether the presence of other elements might influence this mutual solid solution and it was demonstrated that if sufficient concentrations (> 1 at.\%) of additional elements are present then miscibility may become favourable. Of the elements likely to be present at these concentrations it appears that ferrous iron promotes, whilst aluminium inhibits, a single-phase perovskite solid solution. To a lesser extent ferric iron may both increase and decrease perovskite miscibility. Modelling for realistic mantle compositions suggests that basaltic lithologies will always retain two perovskite components, whereas a single perovskite
solid solution may be preferred in hot and/or iron-rich pyrolytic bulk compositions near the base of the lower mantle. Static calculations indicate perovskite miscibility may cause pyrolytic lithologies (with 12.5% CaSiO$_3$) to possess lower density (-0.14-0.25%), $V_s$ (-1.5-3.5%) and $V_p$ (-0.5-1.2%), and higher $V_\phi$ (+0.00-0.75%) than predicted for assemblages containing two perovskites. These seismic changes, while preliminary, are similar to those observed in the LLSVPs which are also regions that are likely hotter than the surrounding mantle and thus possess conditions promoting the formation of a single perovskite phase.

1. **Introduction:**

At depths beyond 600-700 km perovskite (ABO$_3$) solutions will predominate in both ultra-mafic and mafic lithologies and control their physical attributes (Irifune and Ringwood, 1993, O’Neill and Jeanloz, 1990, Ono et al., 2004a, Hirose et al., 2017). In the lower mantle the two perovskite phases are CaSiO$_3$ (ca-pv) and MgSiO$_3$ (bdg). While work has been done to elucidate the seismic behaviour of both bdg and ca-pv (Hirose et al., 2017, Marquardt and Thomson, 2020) in order to understand their behaviour and effect on the lower mantle, these phases may not always exist as separate phases. Despite the large size difference between Mg$^{2+}$ and Ca$^{2+}$ cations, it is possible that complete MgSiO$_3$-CaSiO$_3$ miscibility will occur at sufficiently high temperatures, such that lower mantle assemblages only possess one perovskite phase. Previous experimental studies have reported occasional lower mantle assemblages containing only one perovskite phase (for example Creasy et al. (2020), Gu et al. (2016), and Armstrong et al., 2012), which could indicate the occurrence of miscibility at high temperature. Since an intermediate phase would likely have different seismic properties from a mechanical mixture of the endmembers it is essential to establish whether this two-phase chemical mixing is possible at lower mantle conditions.

The solubility of Ca into bdg and Mg into ca-pv has been studied experimentally, although these are limited so far to maximum temperatures of 2000 K and pressures of 100 GPa (Irifune et al., 2000, Irifune et al., 1989, Tamai and Yagi, 1989, Fujino et al., 2004, Armstrong et al., 2012). At these conditions it has generally been found that there is only a small solubility of these phases into each
other at lower mantle conditions (<~1.5% at 25 GPa and 2000 K rising to ~10% at 55 GPa and 2000 K).

Theoretically Jung and Schmidt (2011) found the solubility of Ca in bdg to be ~0.5 % at 2000 K and 25 GPa while Vitos et al. (2006) found this solubility to be around an order of magnitude higher. In both theoretical papers solubility decreased with pressure in contrast to experimental results (Armstrong et al., 2012, Fujino et al., 2004) which identified strongly increasing solubility with pressure. In both theoretical and experimental cases solubility increases markedly with temperature.

From the experimental studies of Irifune et al. (2000), Fujino et al. (2004) and Armstrong et al. (2012) it is clear that Ca-pv and bdg exist as separate phases in the shallow portions of the lower mantle. The strong pressure dependence on mixing seen in Fujino et al. (2004) and Armstrong et al. (2012) suggests that at deeper and hotter portions of the lower mantle, beyond the pressures and temperatures of these experiments, a complete solid-solution may be stable. Further investigation of this potential miscibility is required to both clarify the mineral structure of perovskites at deep lower mantle conditions and to resolve the differing predictions of theory and experiments on the pressure effect of mutual solubility.

Another factor which needs to be considered is the presence of contaminants (intrinsic defects) and their effect on phase miscibility. Both Ti (Armstrong et al., 2012) and Fe (Fujino et al., 2004) have been shown to increase the mixing of these two phases but it is unclear what elements are important and how big of an effect these elements have on the overall miscibility. Additionally, Creasy et al. (2020) observed a single phase perovskite with a composition containing 18 ± 2 mol% CaSiO$_3$ component alongside an additional 0.59 cations of Al, Fe$^{2+}$ and Fe$^{3+}$ per formula unit (assuming ABO$_3$ stoichiometry).

In this work we use Density Functional Theory (DFT) to probe the mutual solubility of Ca-pv and bdg, with and without intrinsic defects, up to pressures and temperatures corresponding to the D” region adjacent to the core-mantle boundary (125 GPa and 3000 K). We build a model of Ca-pv and bdg miscibility and speculate as to whether or not this suggests a single perovskite solid solution might be stable at depth within the lower mantle. Finally, we conduct static (0 K) calculations to
estimate the seismic signature of a single-phase perovskite relative to a mechanical mixture of Ca-Pv and brg.

2. Methods

2.1 Mixing Thermodynamics

To determine whether two phases mix we determine the thermodynamic properties of the following reaction:

\[ xCaSiO_3 + (1 - x)MgSiO_3 \rightarrow Ca_xMg_{1-x}SiO_3 \]

Reaction 1 is for the pure end members. Defect elements can be introduced later by adding them to both sides of the reaction.

The Gibbs energy of this mixing reaction is defined by:

\[ \Delta G_{mix} = \Delta H_{mix} - T\Delta S_{mix} \]

Equation 1

where \( \Delta H_{mix} \) is the enthalpy of mixing, \( T \) is the temperature, \( \Delta S_{mix} \) is the entropy of mixing and \( \Delta G_{mix} \) is the free energy of mixing. Mixing will occur when \( \Delta G_{mix} \) is negative. \( \Delta S_{mix} \) is broken into two components (\( \Delta S_{mix} = \Delta S_{vib} + \Delta S_{config} \)); \( \Delta S_{vib} \) represents the vibrational entropy and \( \Delta S_{config} \) represents the configurational entropy. \( \Delta G_{mix} \) will subsequently be determined in two parts. \( S_{vib} \) will be determined using molecular dynamics and \( \Delta H_{mix} \) and \( \Delta S_{config} \) will be determined using static calculations.

Calculations were performed across a wide range of discrete PT conditions and interpolated to create a model covering conditions throughout the lower mantle. Molecular dynamics calculations were run at 25, 75 and 125 GPa and temperatures of 1000, 2000 and 3000 K. Energies were determined at Ca# = 0, 25, 50 and 100 where Ca# is Ca/(Ca+Mg) in the entire system. For a 2-perovskite phase assemblage Ca# defines the relative phase proportion of CaSiO_3 expected. Static calculations (used to determine \( \Delta H_{mix} \) and \( \Delta S_{config} \)) were performed with Ca# of 0, 12.5, 25, 50, 75, 87.5 and 100 and at pressures of 25, 75 and 125 GPa (additional pressures for \( \Delta H_{mix} \) are shown in
Table S2). All pressures are presented uncorrected, see the supplementary methods for more information.

To calculate $G_{\text{mix}}$ at specified $T$, $P$ and $Ca#$ we used the following scheme. First at each pressure (25, 75 and 125 GPa), temperature (1000, 2000 and 3000 K) and $Ca#$ (0, 25, 50 and 100) we calculated $G$ of the products and the reactants. Polynomials were fitted to the change in $\Delta G_{\text{mix}}$ as a function of $Ca#$ (e.g. Figure S1) followed by pressure at each temperature. Application of these functions allows calculation of $\Delta G_{\text{mix}}$ at any given $Ca#$ and pressure. Subsequently, polynomials were fitted as a function of $T$ (a sample is shown in Figure S2) to determine the $\Delta G_{\text{mix}}$ of the reaction at the $T$ of interest. The fits across $P$ and $T$ are relatively linear and are likely reliable at middling $Ca#$ values where there are large energy differences between the mixed and unmixed components and where mixing is controlled by configurational entropy which is well constrained by the Boltzmann entropy. Energy varies strongly as a function of $Ca#$ and inaccuracies in $Ca#$ extrapolation could lead to large errors in $G_{\text{mix}}$. The $G$ of the points at $Ca# = 25$ fit near exactly to a curve of $G$ vs $Ca#$ plotted with points at $Ca# = 0$, 50 and 100 as shown in Figure S1 which suggests that a polynomial fit of $G$ vs $Ca#$ is adequate. This fitting likely breaks down at extremely high and low $Ca#$ values which is important for harzburgite but as shown in Table S1 a solid solution model returns near identical answers and the error in the molecular dynamics is much more important.

2.2 Computational Details

For these calculations we used the VASP code version 5.4.4 (Kresse and Furthmuller, 1996b, Kresse and Furthmuller, 1996a). This is a density functional theory approach where planewave pseudopotentials are used to simulate supercells which represent infinite crystals. The PBE (Perdew et al., 1996) exchange correlation functional was used alongside the included VASP PAW potentials (Kresse and Joubert, 1999). The valence electron shells used were Ca: 3s, 3p, 4s; Mg 3s, 3p; Si 2s, 2p; O 2s, 2p. Two different sets of calculations were performed, both at static conditions and using molecular dynamics. Static calculations had planewave cut-offs of 850 eV, k-point grids of 4x4x4 in a
Monkhorst Pack grid (Monkhorst and Pack, 1976). Energies were relaxed to within $10^{-5}$ eV and forces between atoms were relaxed to below $10^{-4}$ eV/Å. For molecular dynamic runs the gamma point was used with cut-offs of 600 eV and relaxed to within $10^{-4}$ eV. 80 atom unit cells were used (2x2x1) for Pbnm and I4/mcm structures and 40 atom unit cells (2x2x2) for Pm3m structures, except for during calculation of the configurational entropy as noted below.

Elasticity calculations, on 80 atom unit cells, at static conditions used the same cut-offs listed above. MgSiO$_3$ was supposed to assume the Pbnm spacegroup, CaSiO$_3$ took the I4/mcm structure and the single-phase solid solution with Ca# = 6.5, 12.5, 25 and 50 was assigned the Pbnm spacegroup. An online script (https://github.com/andreww/elastic-constants) was employed, which calculates elasticity via the stress strain method whereby small stresses are applied in different directions to the unit cell depending upon its space group. From the resulting strain tensor the elastic constants are determined by fitting stress-strain curves and solving for $\sigma_{ij} = c_{ijkl} \varepsilon_{kj}$ where $\sigma$ is stress and $\varepsilon$ is strain. This assumes that our strain is small enough that infinitesimal strain theory applies. For orthorhombic structures 3 distortions (strains in different directions $\varepsilon_{kl}$) are required and 2 for tetragonal structures. For each distortion direction 4 strain points were used corresponding to $\varepsilon$ values of 0.01, 0.02, -0.01 and -0.02.

2.3 Phases:

MgSiO$_3$ is usually in the orthorhombic Pbnm structure (Zhang et al., 2013). There is much debate about the crystallographic structure of CaSiO$_3$ in the lower mantle (e.g. Stixrude et al. (2007), Sun et al. (2014), Shim et al. (2002), Ono et al. (2004b), Uchida et al. (2009), Komabayashi et al. (2007) and Kurashina et al. (2004)), but following Stixrude et al. (2007) and Sun et al. (2014) we assume CaSiO$_3$ possesses either the cubic Pm3m or the tetragonal I4/mcm structures. For more discussion of CaSiO$_3$ phases see the supplementary methods. All systems (end members and mixtures) were calculated in all 3 of these symmetry groups. Interpolations across Ca# and temperature were done for all 3 symmetry groups and then at any specific composition and temperature point the lowest energy structure was chosen. For Mg end members the Pbnm phase dominated, whereas the
I4/mcm or Pm\̅3m phases were dominant for Ca end members, with the Pm\̅3m phase favoured by high temperatures. The single-phase solid solution perovskite generally adopted the Pbnm structure with this always being adopted when Ca# = 25 or 50. This preference for a Pbnm structure in the mixed phase is consistent with previous experimental and theoretical observations of Armstrong et al. (2012) and Jung and Schmidt (2011) respectively.

To test whether post-perovskite phases were promoted by phase mixing, calculations were run on a mixed phase with a Cmcm structure and Ca# = 50 at 125 GPa but this post perovskite phase was found to be higher in energy than the Pbnm phase at all tested temperatures (1000, 2000 and 3000 K).

2.4 Molecular Dynamics:

To determine the vibrational entropy of each system a Velocity-Autocorrelation Function (VACF) method was used. More accurate methods, e.g. thermodynamic integration, are possible but because \( \Delta G_{\text{mix}} \) values are fairly large in magnitude the accuracy of these methods was presumed to be unnecessary. Details of this are given in the supplementary information.

All molecular dynamics runs were performed on 80 atom (2x2x1) cells (for Pbnm and I4/mcm) or 40 atom (2x2x2) cells for Pm\̅3m structures. To ensure these cell sizes were sufficient for convergence to be achieved, additional tests were also run on larger cells at 125 GPa and 2000 K; a 160 atom cell (2x2x2) for Pbnm-structured MgSiO\(_3\) and Mg\(_{0.5}\)Ca\(_{0.5}\)SiO\(_3\) and a 160 atom (2x2x2) cell for I4/mcm-structured CaSiO\(_3\). The differences in energy between 80 atom and 160 atom unit cells were < 0.40 meV/atom for MgSiO\(_3\), < 0.51 meV/atom for Mg\(_{0.5}\)Ca\(_{0.5}\)SiO\(_3\) and < 0.58 meV/atom for CaSiO\(_3\). Overall, this corresponds to a change of less than 0.51 meV/atom in \( \Delta G_{\text{mix}} \) for reaction 1, implying that good convergence is achieved using 80 atom unit cells.

The error in the energies obtained using molecular dynamics were calculated for each individual run using the method of Flyvbjerg and Petersen (Flyvbjerg and Petersen, 1989), and were less than 1.5 meV/atom in all cases. The effect of propagating these errors is explored in Table S1 but we find that within 2\( \sigma \) \( T_{\text{mix}} \) does not vary by more than 50 K for any Ca#.
2.5 Configurational Entropy:

To determine the configurational entropy of perovskite solid solutions we calculated the energy of different configurations of Mg and Ca in the unit cell. As the number of possible configurations are proportional to N factorial, 80-atom cells are too large to test all possible configurations. However, the energy difference of each configuration is independent of the simulation cell size, such that the only disadvantage of using a smaller simulation cell when determining configurational entropy is that some configurations may be somewhat under- or over-sampled. A smaller simulation cell consisting of 40 atoms (2x2x1 unit cells) for compositions with x=0.25, 0.5 and 0.75 (for Ca\textsubscript{x}Mg\textsubscript{1-x}SiO\textsubscript{3}) will not contain every configuration that would be assessed using 80 atoms, however, it does contain a sufficiently large number of configurations such that the configurational entropy in an infinite crystal is adequately approximated. For solid solutions with x=0.125 or 0.875 use of an 80 atom simulation cell was required to ensure sufficient unique configurations were probed. Thus we used a 40 atom cell for x=0.25, 0.5 and 0.75 and an 80 atom cell for x=0.125 and 0.875. For each of these configurations we calculated the enthalpy for every possible configuration of Ca and Mg in the cell and calculated the configurational entropy using the Gibb’s entropy function with details given in the supplementary methods. Our method likely underestimates the configurational entropy but as explained in the text using the maximum possible configurational entropy (the Boltzmann entropy) makes little difference to our results. This means that the deviation of our entropy from the perfect Boltzmann entropy value is not a significant control on the miscibility and any underestimation is not a significant control on our results.

3. Results:

3.1 Enthalpy and Entropy of Mixing

The miscibility of any two endmembers can be assessed using Equation 1, which evaluates the change in Gibbs energy ($\Delta G_{\text{mix}}$) were full miscibility to occur. For any two substances $\Delta S_{\text{mix}}$ will be
positive, since a single miscible solid-solution will always have more available atomic arrangements than two coexisting endmembers. Assuming that the two endmembers are naturally immiscible at low temperature, $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ is also positive because energy is required to overcome their natural aversion to mixing. As the reaction occurs when $\Delta G_{\text{mix}}$ is negative, miscibility can be achieved with increasing temperature as $-T\Delta S_{\text{mix}}$ overcomes the positive $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$, providing this occurs prior to melting or dissociation of the original endmember phases. Mutual solubility of the two endmembers occurs at thermodynamic equilibrium, when $\Delta G_{\text{mix}} = 0$, at a temperature subsequently denoted $T_{\text{mix}}$. The temperature $T_{\text{mix}}$ defines the maximum extent of the two-phase solvus.

The values of $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$, $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ calculated as described above as a function of pressure are reported in Tables S2, S3 and S4 respectively. Inspection of these parameters reveals that $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ increases with pressure, $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ only slightly increases and is almost insensitive to pressure increases and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ has a complex relationship but generally increases with pressure. The increase in $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ with pressure occurs despite the single perovskite solid solution being less dense than a mechanical mixture of two phases (Table 1). This is likely due to the energy required to replace Mg$^{2+}$ with larger Ca$^{2+}$ cations, which increases with pressure as the perovskite A-site is compressed.

Combining the pressure systematics of $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$, $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ demonstrates that increases in $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ are overcome by the growth in entropy terms at high pressure, such that $T_{\text{mix}}$ is observed to fall as pressure increases (Figure 1). This observation is consistent with the results of Fujino et al. (2004) and Armstrong et al. (2012). Inspection suggests it is the increasing magnitude of $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ that is responsible for Equation 1 becoming negative and promoting a single perovskite solid solution with pressure. This is in contrast with two previous theoretical studies, which both concluded that $T_{\text{mix}}$ should increase with pressure (Jung and Schmidt, 2011, Vitos et al., 2006). However, as both these studies only estimated $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ without calculating it, the increase in $T_{\text{mix}}$ with pressure and the high values for $T_{\text{mix}}$ (> 4000 K) obtained within these studies appear to have been caused by poor constraint on value and the changes in $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ with pressure.
Calculated values for $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ vary slightly from ideal Boltzmann entropy values, but this effect is small. If we were to replace all $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ values with those of an ideal Boltzmann mixture, $T_{\text{mix}}$ would vary by less than 75 K in all cases (less than 10 K in most occurrences). Thus, it is concluded that Ca and Mg are largely interchangeable between various different sites such that ideal mixing, as far as configurational entropy is concerned, occurs.

### 3.2 Mixing in the CaSiO$_3$-MgSiO$_3$ system:

Figure 1 plots the calculated MgSiO$_3$-CaSiO$_3$ phase diagram as a function of temperature at pressures of 25, 75 and 125 GPa (an alternative rendering as a phase diagram is shown in Figure S3). At each pressure we identify two regions in the miscibility loop structure. At low, or high, Ca# (where Ca# is Ca/(Ca+Mg)) the miscibility boundary changes rapidly with the temperature in response to the control of $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$. At intermediate Ca# values, the miscibility curve plateaus, and there is little continuing change with temperature as this region is controlled by $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$.

In the CaSiO$_3$-MgSiO$_3$ system the calculated solubility of Ca in bdg and Mg in ca-pv at 25 GPa and 2000 K are ~0.41% and ~0.18% respectively, while $T_{\text{mix}}$ (the temperature required for complete solid solution) is ~3170 K. At 75 GPa the calculated solubilities at 2000 K increase to ~0.52 and ~0.13% respectively, with $T_{\text{mix}}$ falling to ~3050 K. At 125 GPa the calculated solubilities at 2000 K are ~1.12 and ~0.07% respectively, with $T_{\text{mix}}$ ~2740 K. At 2000 K increasing the temperature has little effect on solubility. At higher temperatures increasing the pressure causes a large increase in solubility. This high temperature effect is due to the different plateau temperatures seen in Figure 1. In the theoretical study of Jung and Schmidt (2011) the solubility of Ca in bdg was found to be 0.5% and the solubility of Mg in Ca-pv to be much lower at 25 GPa and 2000 K which is similar to our work. Experimentally Fujino et al. (2004) found solubilities of ~1% Ca in bdg and 4% Mg in ca-pv at 2273 K and 30 GPa, Irifune et al. (2000) found 1.1-1.5% solubility of Ca in bdg and 2.1-3.2% of Mg in Ca-pv at 25 GPa and 1973 K and Armstrong et al. (2012) found 4.7% solubility of Mg in Ca-pv at 53 GPa and 2000 K. These experimental results all show higher solubility than we predict here. Small solubilities are the hardest to constrain as they occupy the steepest part of Figure 1. This could come either
through problems with our fitting model which extrapolates down to low Ca# numbers or through inaccuracies in our calculations. As shown in Table S1 a Margules fitting model provides the same result as our polynomial fit but more fitting parameters at lower Ca# could possibly change this outcome. At these low solubilities the main constraint is not fitting but the small energies involved. The difference between a solubility of 0.41% (predicted by us) and 1.25% at 2000 K and 25 GPa (measured by Irifune et al. 2000) is a shift in energy of R1 of less than 1 meV/atom. This is beginning to approach the limits of MD accuracy particularly without very long and costly calculations. The difference in solubility between experiment and our calculations are likely to be much larger at small solubilities where the mixing curve is steep (Figure 1) than at large solubilities on the order of mantle phase compositions where the mixing curve flattens out and small energy differences in mixing are unimportant. Thus at lower mantle conditions our solubilities should be better constrained. The small energy differences between different solubilities at very low or very Ca# means that these solubilities are also hard to constrain in experiment as small temperature or pressure differences should have large effects on the solubility. Experimentally there could be thermal lags across the system, particularly at interfaces of mixing where heat may not transfer well. If experimental temperatures at the mixing interface are higher than recorded in the sample that could explain these differences in solubility. Different experiments use different pressure scales (Armstrong et al. (2012) and Fujino et al. (2004) use ruby fluorescence, Irifune et al. (2000) Au) and the calibration of these can sometimes lead to significant differences (see for example Ye et al. (2018)) which may cause additional differences. Our pressures in this study are uncorrected for the systematic pressure errors in DFT which could lead to a shift of over -5 GPa. Compositional differences between experimental samples could also lead to solubility differences which shall be explored in the next section. Finally, another possible source of difference comes from the definition of solubility. Our study defines solubility by its thermodynamic equilibrium with no consideration of kinetics whereas the experimental studies define solubility by the disappearance of XRD or ATEM patterns. This experimental definition allows for the presence of metastable
dissolutions and problems with detection limits, both of which should increase measured solubility in the experimental case.

3.3 The Effect of Other Elements

The chemical complexity of the natural mantle means that Ca-pv and bdg are likely to contain many intrinsic defect elements when stable at lower mantle conditions. Bridgmanite crystals have been shown to be capable of hosting large (1-10 at. %) amounts of Fe and Al (Kaminski, 2017) alongside smaller quantities of several additional elements. Any additional elements, even those present in extremely small amounts, can have a large effect on $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$, whereas only elements present in large amounts will have significant effects on $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$. As there was no conceptual model for which elements will most significantly affect the thermodynamic parameters for perovskite solubility we have employed a simple defect model allowing the effect of incorporating a large number of elements (Table 2) to be examined at 25 and 125 GPa in a bulk composition of Ca#10% Ca (a roughly pyrolytic assemblage). The simple model employed relies on the following assumptions:

1) $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ is unaffected by the addition of defects. Since $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ is most strongly dependent on long-range phonons it is unlikely to be affected by low concentration defects. Defects present in large (>5%, e.g. Al or Fe) quantities are more likely to cause a significant effect. Such effects are only evaluated through changes to $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ (through static calculations) and $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$.

2) Defects follow ideal mixing, such that their effect on $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ is ideal. Variations to $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ are therefore only dependent upon the available number of lattice sites.

3) The effect of defects on $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ is linear; adding 2 iron atoms requires twice the energy of adding 1 iron atom.

4) Only one substitution mechanism is active for each defect species; defects either substitute for Mg on the A-site, Si on the B-site, undergo a coupled substitution for both Mg and Si, or exist in their most stable interstitial location (Table 2).
Prior to solid solution formation, it is assumed that each defect element partitions solely into either bdg or ca-pv (depending upon energy).

Using these assumptions, the effect of any defect element can be calculated by assessing the enthalpy and entropy change of all three phases (ca-pv, bdg and the perovskite solid solution). The enthalpy change associated with the incorporation of 1 defect atom per 80 atom simulation cell was calculated, which is an effective defect concentration of 6.25 atomic %. These changes in H were linearly propagated with composition, and combined with the changes in $S_{\text{config}}$, calculated using the Boltzmann entropy formula, to allow estimation of $\Delta T_{\text{mix}}$.

While all five of these assumptions will break down, particularly at large concentrations of defects, this method captures two of the most significant energy changes introduced by defect elements (those on $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ and $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$), and therefore permitting identification of which defect elements may significant affect ca-pv and bdg miscibility. The first assumption, that the vibrational entropy is unaffected by the presence of defects, could be erroneous especially in the presence of large amounts of defects. To test this assumption we explicitly calculated this term for a perovskite system containing an additional Fe(II) defects. The results of this calculation are given in Table 3, and demonstrate this term is small enough (<1 meV/atom at high pressure) that it can be ignored at least for ferrous iron. To test how appropriate the remaining assumptions are additional explicit calculations were also performed for the incorporation of Ti as a defect element. We calculated $\Delta S_{\text{config}}$ and $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ using the methods described for this study but over a range of Ti# (Ti/(Ti+Si)) values (0, 0.25, 0.5 and 1). A comparison between these full, and explicit, calculations and results of the simple model presented here are given in Table S5. Although there are differences between both predictions, our simple model used here identified the same magnitude of effect for Ti defect incorporation and should therefore allow qualitative prediction of which elements can alter perovskite miscibility and permit estimations of what concentrations of these elements may become significant.
Table 2 demonstrates there is no clear pattern, with charge or ionic size, for which defect elements are most likely to alter $T_{\text{mix}}$ such that individual electronic effects must be dominating estimated results. Therefore, it is difficult to predict off-hand which elements will affect $T_{\text{mix}}$ significantly and in which sense. Whilst many elements increase $T_{\text{mix}}$ others reduce $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ and thus also $T_{\text{mix}}$. The most important of those which reduce $T_{\text{mix}}$ are the noble gases (which can cause very large reductions of $H_{\text{mix}}$ due to their position as an interstitial defect). Na(I), K(I), many of the transition metals in particular Co(II), Ni(II) Sc(II) and Fe(II), and 4+ cations that replace Si such as S, Ti and C also reduce the temperature of miscibility. Some elements that strongly increase $H_{\text{mix}}$ and thus $T_{\text{mix}}$ are the larger alkaline earth metals (Sr, Ba) and B. Increasing the pressure has varied effects on these trends, increasing $H_{\text{mix}}$ for some elements and decreasing it for others, but defect induced $\Delta T_{\text{mix}}$ values are similar at 25 and 125 GPa. This is because the largest effect of defect elements on $T_{\text{mix}}$ is through modifying $S_{\text{config}}$ which in this model is pressure independent. Even though defect changes to $H_{\text{mix}}$ ($\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$) are very significant, pressure induced changes to $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ are largely insignificant compared to changes to $S_{\text{config}}$. We note that whilst we have estimated the effect of many elements on perovskite miscibility we have not explicitly calculated the solubility of each of these defects in the solid solution at mantle conditions, the predicted effects are meant to serve as illustrative.

The most notable observation from this modelling is that large amounts of defects are required to induce significant changes in $T_{\text{mix}}$. With Ca#=10, all defect atoms require a concentration greater than 0.3 atomic% for $T_{\text{mix}}$ to change by 100 K, with the required concentrations in excess of 1 atomic % for most elements. This is significant because most defects atoms which can be incorporated in bridgmanite and Ca-pv are likely to be well below this level, allowing restriction of the elements under consideration to those that are significantly abundant in the bulk mantle composition or those thought to be concentrated in certain regions. Throughout the remainder of this study we assume that the only elements likely to be significantly abundant to alter perovskite miscibility substantially are Fe and Al. High spin ferrous Fe was estimated to decrease $T_{\text{mix}}$ by up to 1000 K (Fe%=10, Ca#=10) in a pyrolytic mixture which is consistent with the observation of Fujino et
suggesting that additional iron increased the total solubility at a fixed temperature. In contrast Al appears to increase \( T_{\text{mix}} \) by up to 230 K (Al\%=5, Ca\#=10) and so somewhat counteracts the effects of ferrous iron. The presence of Al can also promote the oxidation of iron, by forming Fe-Al pairs where the iron exists as high spin on (primarily) the A site (Shim et al., 2017, Catalli et al., 2011, Kupenko et al., 2014). With the introduction of Fe-Al pairs \( T_{\text{mix}} \) is largely unaffected with \( T_{\text{mix}} \) slightly reducing by 38 K with Fe-Al\%=5 and Ca\#=10. Pure ferric iron (as a coupled substitution of two iron atoms replacing Mg-Si) only slightly decreases \( T_{\text{mix}} \) at low pressure and slightly increases it at high pressure.

The effect of these elements on some non-pyrolytic mixtures (i.e. varying Ca\#) are shown in Table S6 and S7. At Ca\# of 50 the effects of defect elements are typically reduced, such that Ca\# the change in \( T_{\text{mix}} \) (\( \Delta T_{\text{mix}} \)) is roughly half of what it would be in an equivalent pyrolytic system. The effect of defect elements in bulk compositions with high Ca\# is similar to those with Ca\#=10 (i.e. pyrolite), although the magnitude of defect element effects are slightly larger.

4. Discussion:

4.1 Single phase regions of the lower mantle

The composition of the lower mantle remains uncertain, and possible variations of Ca\# are significant. Pyrolytic compositions are generally taken to possess a Ca\# of 0.07-0.12 (Kesson et al., 1998, Irifune and Tsuchida, 2007, Mattern et al., 2005, Ringwood, 1991), whereas delpeted harzburgitic rocks have far lower Ca\# 0.01-0.03 (Ringwood, 1991, Michael and Bonatti, 1985). Mafic lithologies, such as subducted mid-ocean range basalt (MORB), is the most Ca-enriched of the commonly considered mantle lithologies, possessing Ca\# of between 0.3-0.6 (Hirose et al., 2005, Hirose and Fei, 2002, Irifune and Tsuchida, 2007, Ricolleau et al., 2010). These variations in bulk composition control the degree of miscibility required for a single-phase perovskite solid solution to form at lower mantle conditions. The required values of \( T_{\text{mix}} \) applicable to the compositional ranges...
of pyrolitic, harzburgitic and MORB bulk compositions are plotted in comparison with a mantle geotherm (Ono, 2008) in Figure 2. In defect-free pyrolytic or MORB compositions, the small variations in the possible Ca# values do not substantially alter \( T_{\text{mix}} \). \( T_{\text{mix}} \) for the most Ca-enriched and Ca-depleted pyrolytic compositions only vary by a maximum of 30 K, whereas \( T_{\text{mix}} \) for MORB compositions varies by < 5 K across the Ca# range. Due to the lower Ca-content of depleted harzburgitic mantle lithologies, small changes in the exact Ca content of the bulk composition cause significant changes in the predicted miscibility temperature according to the model employed here; e.g. \( T_{\text{mix}} \) values for Ca#=1 and Ca#=3 differ by 320 K at 25 GPa. These large differences arise because Ca# values for harzburgite occur in the region of the phase diagram where steep changes in solubility are observed, whereas those for pyrolite and MORB occur closer to the plateau regions (Figure 1). We caution that the miscibility boundary is poorly constrained at extreme values of Ca#, such that the apparent values of \( T_{\text{mix}} \) for harzburgitic compositions may be subject to significant uncertainty.

4.2 Pyrolitic Compositions

As shown in Figure 2 for a pure pyrolytic composition with no additional elements we see that it remains above the lower mantle geotherm up until the D’ at 125 GPa. Thus, pure CaSiO\(_3\) and MgSiO\(_3\) are not expected to form a single perovskite solid solution at conditions of the “normal” mantle geotherm.

Figure 3 shows the predicted effect on \( T_{\text{mix}} \) of the presence of Fe and Al compositional defects by plotting the depth in the mantle that a single perovskite solid solution is predicted to become favourable along a mantle geotherm (an alternative rendering of this graph showing \( T_{\text{mix}} \) at different pressures is provided in Figure S4 and compositional variation is shown in Figure S5 and S6). Increasing the amount of Ferrous iron increases perovskite miscibility and promotes a single-phase perovskite solid solution to become stable at shallower conditions. However, the contrasting effect of Al decreasing perovskite miscibility means that for most reasonable pyrolytic compositions \( T_{\text{mix}} \) will not be strongly affected. These predictions have assumed that the formation of Fe-Al pairs is
favoured over ferrous iron and Al-Al pairs (Mohn and Tronnes (2016)). Alternatively, if ferrous iron and Al-Al pairs dominate then the predictions are somewhat different, with miscibility expected at slightly shallower conditions (Figure S5).

While perovskite miscibility is predicted to be unfavourable in the “normal” pyrolytic mantle, hot regions such as within mantle plumes or LLSVPs, may promote formation of a single miscible perovskite solid solution. Figure 4 plots the predicted perovskite miscibility depth along a temperature profile that is 500 K above the regular mantle geotherm, which may represent conditions occurring in LLSVPs or plumes (McNamara, 2019). At these excess temperatures, miscibility of the endmember perovskite phases is more extensive and is predicted to be favourable at pressure beyond ~ 80 GPa. Therefore, it is suggested that anomalously hot peridotitic regions of the mantle may possess a phase assemblage consisting of only one-perovskite and ferropericlase.

Model predictions therefore suggest that perovskite miscibility is promoted by excess heat and high iron contents. In the natural mantle the formation of such iron-rich perovskite compositions may be limited by preferential partitioning of iron into coexisting ferropericlase. Predictions plotted in Figures 3-4 (and all similar graphs) refer exclusively to the concentration of defect elements in the perovskite phases (bdg, Ca-pv and mixed phase) which are not equivalent to the bulk composition as we have not accounted for the influence of periclase. Under normal conditions iron preferentially partitions into periclase relative to bridgmanite (Muir and Brodholt, 2016, Xu et al., 2017), with value of $K_{D^{pv-fper}} < 0.5$ in the deepest portions of the mantle ($K_{D^{pv-fper}} = \frac{[Fe_{pv}/Mg_{pv}]}{[Fe_{fper}/Mg_{fper}]}$). With increasing pressure iron increasing favours ferropericlase such that beyond ~80 GPa iron is likely constrained << 5 % Fe whereas Al should remain relatively constant >~5 %. Thus in the normal deep lower mantle iron concentration should be very limited in contrast to Al and $T_{max}$ values should remain near their defect-free values or somewhat increased. The mixed perovskite phase also favours Fe, however, and thus may compete with ferropericlase for iron which would raise the effective iron concentration in bridgmanite for considering miscibility. More data is needed to examine this point fully but in general Fe concentration in bridgmanite in the lower mantle is very
low even in iron-rich regions and thus only hot lower mantle should be a source of mixed perovskite phases.

One area of the mantle that potentially is compositionally heterogeneous are the LLSVPs (McNamara, 2019). While it is unclear what the compositional difference of these regions are, as shown in Table 2 only differences that exceed ~1 atomic% are important to mixing of the perovskites, and it remains likely that LLSVPs do not contain any defect elements at such elevated concentrations other than Fe or Al. Thus when considering LLSVPs, miscibility of the two perovskite phases should primarily be constrained by their elevated temperature, with a secondary effect for potential changes in Fe and Al content. Any exotic compositional differences that may exist are unlikely to be important for phase mixing of the perovskite. As LLSVPs are believed to be considerably hotter than the rest of the mantle they are more likely to possess a miscible perovskite solid solution.

Another area where this mixing behaviour is potentially important is in the formation of a post-perovskite (ppv) phase in bdg and hence on the D’’. As the pressure increases beyond 125 GPa the free energy of the single chemically mixed phase (Ca-pv+bdg) becomes lower than the free energy of the mechanically mixed ca-pv+bdg phases and this is particularly the case with additional iron. This is important because it means that the addition of Ca-pv at D’’ conditions stabilises the bdg perovskite structure against the ppv structure unless Ca can similarly dissolve into a ppv phase. CaSiO$_3$ adopting or dissolving into a ppv structure has been suggested to be unlikely in the literature (Fujino et al., 2009). As discussed in the methods we find that the mixed phase prefers a pv structure to a ppv structure which is additional evidence that Ca containing crystals do not like to form ppv structures. Thus at high pressures bdg in the presence of Ca-pv has two competing stabilisation reactions- one to form ppv without Ca-pv and one to form the mixed pv phase with Ca-pv. We shall attempt to consider how these stabilisation reactions compare.
To examine whether this is an important effect we compared our calculated energies of \( G_{\text{mix}} \) vs literature energies for the pv to ppv transition of bdg. To obtain energies for this latter transition we took the Clapyeron slope (9.56 MPa/K) and volume difference (1.78 Å) of the pv to ppv transition in bdg from Oganov and Ono (2004) and converted these to an energy difference of \( \sim 0.27 \) meV/f.u assuming an identical increase in enthalpy and volume with pressure for both phases. At 125 GPa and 2700 K (a rough value for the point where pv converts into ppv in pure bdg) \( G_{\text{mix}} \) is -13.7 meV/f.u for a pure mixture with Ca#=10 and -6.97 meV/fu for a mixture with Ca#=10 and 8% ferrous iron and 2% Fe-Al. These values correspond to a stabilisation of the bridgmanite phase relative to the post-perovskite phase of \( \sim 2.74 \) and 1.40 GPa respectively. These values are approximate and a full energy minimisation needs to be performed but Ca# is unlikely to be a major control on this system. Experimental determinations of the pv to ppv phase transition in bridgmanite have shown that the transition occurs at shallower depths in MORB mantle compositions compared to pyrolytic compositions (Ohta et al., 2008, Tateno et al., 2009, Grocholski et al., 2012) despite MORB compositions having more Ca than pyrolytic compositions. If Ca had a major effect on this transition then MORB compositions would see the pv to ppv transition occurring at deeper depths as Ca stabilises the pv structure relative to the ppv structure. An explanation for this anomalous behaviour is that other elements have a larger effective on the pv to ppv transition. The most likely element is Al which has high concentration in MORB mantle and thus stabilises the ppv phase despite the effect of Ca (Grocholski et al., 2012).

4.3 Harzburgitic Compositions

As shown in Figure 2 harzburgitic compositions behave largely like pyrolytic compositions but they have smaller values of \( T_{\text{mix}} \), and should therefore become miscible at shallower depths. Varying the Ca# ratio has a very large effect on \( T_{\text{mix}} \) in harzburgite because the possible Ca# values exist in an even steeper range of the solubility curve and thus the amount of Ca that is present is extremely
The effect of other elements on harzburgite mixing is shown in Figure S7 and S8 but are similar to pyrolite in that ferrous Fe increases mixing sharply.

4.4 Basaltic Compositions

A final case to consider is a descending slab or unmixed mantle with a more MORB-like composition. As is shown in Figure 2 this has quite different behaviour to the pyrolytic case. $T_{mix}$ is considerably higher in the MORB case and is considerably above the temperature of descending slabs (the coldest slab adiabat is shown in Figure 2). Varying the Ca# ratio has little effect on mixing in basaltic compositions as they exist in the plateau region of Figure 2 and thus all basaltic compositions should behave largely similarly. The effect of defect elements is shown in Figure S9-S10. Even with extremely enriched amounts of ferrous d iron (20%) $T_{mix}$ remains nearly 600 K above the temperature of the coldest adiabat at 125 GPa and thus phase mixing does not occur in descending slabs even in cases of extreme iron enrichment. MORB that exists at geotherm temperatures (for example from unmixed pyrolite) will also not mix except in the presence of large amounts of ferrous iron (>5%) with little Al which is unlikely as basalts are generally high in Al.

While we predict no mixing in the lower mantle for MORB our predicted mixing temperatures for MORB contradict an experimental study where MORB was heated until it melts at varying pressures up to CMB pressures and no sign of phase mixing was observed in the XRD spectra (Pradhan et al., 2015). While this sample contains large amounts of Al which will increase $T_{mix}$ our predicted $T_{mix}$ is still well below the melting temperature at high pressure. In this study samples were heated for 30 minutes which is similar to the heating times for experiments where mixing has been observed (Armstrong et al., 2012, Fujino et al., 2004, Irifune et al., 2000). This suggests generally that mixing had enough time to occur in these melting experiments and the lack of any mixed phase formation was not a kinetic effect. One possible solution to this is that these melting experiments had large amounts of Fe and Al when compared to the other studies and these elements would need to diffuse before and during mixing which could delay the formation of a single phase as this diffusion is slow. Alternatively our simple model may underestimate the effect
of some elements, most likely Al, in raising $T_{\text{mix}}$ and the full effect of these elements needs to be 
modelled with MD or experimentally.

4.5 Seismic Effects

The calculations presented above suggest that bdg and ca-pv may become miscible in hot and/or 
chemically anomalous regions of the deep lower mantle. If such miscibility occurs the seismological 
properties of the single-phase perovskite solid solution may be significantly different to that of a 
two-perovskite phase assemblage, such that is instructive to consider whether miscibility will alter 
the geophysical signature of these mantle portions.

The density of a single-phase perovskite solid solution of pyrolytic composition is compared with 
that of a mechanical mixture of bdg and ca-pv in Table 1. A single perovskite solid solution is less 
dense than an equivalent mechanical mixture, but this density difference is small (<0.26%) and 
therefore unlikely to have large effects without associated changes in the bulk and/or shear moduli.

In Figure 5 we consider the elasticity of these structures.

These considerations are not completely straightforward as, firstly, throughout several studies 
published across the literature the elasticity of the Ca-pv phase has proven to be difficult to 
determine, using both theoretical and experimental techniques (Thomson et al., 2019, Kawai and 
Tsuchiya, 2015). Secondly, all considerations of perovskites’ elasticities need to include possible 
temperature variations within different regions of the mantle, especially those that are most likely to 
be relevant to perovskite miscibility. Thirdly, the geophysical elasticity of a mechanical mixtures of 
ca-pv and bdg will depend upon the geometry of each component in the mixture, and without 
precise knowledge of these details any estimates will have large uncertainties. In spite of these 
difficulties the difference in elasticity between miscible one-perovskite and a mechanically mixed 
two-phase assemblage are estimated using static calculations (at 0 K) by adopting two major 
approximations. The first approximation is that all errors associated with the calculation of ca-pv’s 
velocities (which remain unknown) cancel when considering only the velocity difference between 
Ca-pv+bdg and a miscible perovskite. This assumption is justified by the observation that both sides
of the reaction contain CaO\textsubscript{12} dodecahedrons, such that any errors resulting from calculations of their elasticity are nullified. The second approximation is that the changes in elasticity induced by phase miscibility occur primarily via changes to the static bulk (K) and shear (G) moduli, and that high temperature phonons do not cause large relative changes to K or G. As shown in Table 1, static calculations predict a density change resulting from miscibility that is close to an average of high temperature results, such that it is not unreasonable to assume this assumption is justified. To assess the third difficulty, that the geometry of mechanical mixtures of bdg and ca-pv remain unknown, it is assumed that the Hashin-Shtrikman bounds provides the maximum and minimum possible values of elasticity variations (Hashin and Shtrikman, 1963). The one-phase miscible perovskite assemblage has no bounds, but its elasticity is compared with the upper and lower bounds of the two phase mixture of bdg + ca-pv (Figure 5) so that the true elasticity difference must lie between these bounds.

Employing these approximations a pyrolytic miscible one-phase perovskite (Ca\# = 12.5) possesses lower shear and compressional wave velocities (-1.5 > \(\Delta V_s\) > -3.5\%, -0.5 > \(\Delta V_p\) > -1.2\%) but a higher bulk sound speed (0 < \(\Delta V_\phi\) < 0.75\%) compared to a two-phase mechanical mixture (Figure 5). These velocity differences are potentially seismically relevant, possessing a similar magnitude to those observations made within the LLSVPs, where a drop in \(V_s\) of 1-5\% is associated with little density variation and a possible anticorrelation of \(V_s\) - \(V_\phi\) (McNamara, 2019, Koelemeijer et al., 2017). The magnitude of the predicted velocity variations increase with increasing Ca\# at 125 GPa (Figure 6), such that \(\Delta V_s\) and \(\Delta V_p\) become more negative whilst \(\Delta V_\phi\) increases. As Ca\# appears to exert a strong control on predicted velocity differences, compositions more enriched in calcium including subducted basalt would possess a larger seismic signature associated with perovskite miscibility if it occurs.

Whilst these static calculations provide some indication of the possible geophysical signature of miscibility, stronger conclusions require further calculations to be performed at high temperature and additional support for the assumptions we have made. Due to the difficulties in simulating and
measuring the elasticity of ca-pv, this may require dedicated high precision calculations or appropriate experimental studies.

5. Conclusion

In this work we observe that ca-pv and bdg are unlikely to become miscible at conditions of the lower mantle geotherm. At pressures of 25, 75 and 125 GPa we find the solubility of Ca in bdg to be 0.41/0.52/0.92 % at 2000 K and 0.72/1.07/3.30 % at 2500 K within the pure MgSiO$_3$-CaSiO$_3$ binary system. Complete perovskite miscibility is potentially possible within pyrolytic bulk compositions near the base of the mantle (> 90 GPa) in regions where temperatures are elevated, such as in an LLSVPs. Descending slabs should possess two perovskite phases across all reasonable mantle conditions.

Employing a simple model we demonstrate that only defects with large concentrations are likely to affect the miscibility of lower mantle perovskites. We find that ferrous iron increases miscibility but this is unlikely to be present in bridgmanite at conditions that lead to phase mixing due to ferropericlase partitioning and mixtures of Fe and Al either make little change to miscibility or raise it slightly. We predict phase mixing to have only a small effect on the formation of post-perovskite but more work is needed. Harzburgitic compositions mix in the deep lower mantle with and basaltic compositions remain unmixed throughout the lower mantle.

Perovskite miscibility may lead to small density decreases alongside seismically significant changes of the shear wave speed when predictions for a single-phase perovskite solid solution are compared with 2-perovskite mechanical mixtures. Additionally, our static calculations suggest an anticorrelation of shear wave velocity and bulk sound speed may occur in regions where miscibility is favourable. These predicted elasticity changes are similar to those observed within the LLSVPs, which are also believed to be regions that possess super-adiabatic temperatures. Since regions of elevated temperature are predicted to be those most likely to favour perovskite miscibility it is
feasible that this provides some explanation for the anomalous geophysical properties of these regions of the deep mantle.

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Figure 1: Solubility of Mg in Ca-pv (blue) and Ca in bdg (red) as a function of temperature and pressure (solid lines=25 Gpa, dashed=75, dotted=125). The plateau after the graph levels off is the temperature where all ratios of Ca-pv and bdg are miscible into a single phase. This graph is presented with log solubility to demonstrate the low solubility behaviour clearly, a more traditional phase diagram is presented in Figure S3.
Figure 2: Projected $T_{\text{mix}}$ for a pyrolytic (Ca#=8-12), MORB (Ca#=30-60) and harzburgitic (Ca#=1-3) composition with no defect elements. In each case the bounds represent the Ca# range with the lower bound of $T_{\text{mix}}$ corresponding to the lowest amount of Ca and the higher bound to the highest. Shown on the graph are a lower mantle geotherm (Ono, 2008), the coldest possible slab adiabat (Eberle et al., 2002) and an artificial “hot” geotherm representing hot spots in the lower mantle that is the geotherm+500 K.
Figure 3: Depth at which $T_{\text{mix}}$ crosses the geotherm for a pyrolytic (Ca# = 10) mixture with various amounts of Fe and Al as determined via the model outlined in the text. For this model the formation of Fe-Al was prioritised such that Fe-Al forms first and then leftover Fe or Al forms Ferrous iron or Al-Al pairs. Mixing depths above 1800 km and below 2800 km have been truncated to these values to follow the stability field of bdg.
Figure 4: As Figure 3 but for a “hot” geotherm (geotherm+500 K).
Figure 5: Plot of the change in $V_s$ (solid lines), $V_p$ (dashed lines), $V_\phi$ (dotted black lines) on converting from a mechanical mixture of Ca-pv and bdg to a single phase calculated directly at $Ca# = 12.5$. These calculations were run at static conditions (~0 K) and 25, 75 and 125 GPa. Ca-pv elasticity was determined in the i4/mcm phase, bdg and the mixed phase in the pbnm phase. To determine the elasticity of a mechanical mixture of Ca-pv and bdg we used the Hashin-Shtikman bounds (Hashin and Shtrikman, 1963) which are the bounds pictured, the elasticity change upon mixing must fall between these bounds.
Figure 6: As Figure 5 but showing the variation in elasticity with varied Ca# at 125 GPa. The x axis shows the amount of Ca (x) in Mg16-xCaSi16O48 such that x=1 refers to Ca.
Tables

Table 1: Change in density on forming a mixed phase for Ca# = 50 (determined from MD) and 12.5 (extrapolated from MD values at Ca# = 25 and 50) at various pressures and temperatures.

Table 2: Effect of various elements on $T_{\text{mix}}$ at 25 and 125 GPa with Ca# = 10% (Ca# = 50 and 90 values are in Table S2 and S3) which is a roughly pyrolytic mixture. Columns are name of the element, site at which that element was placed (A=Mg site, B= Si site, AB= 1 element at each, Int=interstitial), the change in $\Delta H_{\text{mix}}$ in eV from placing one defect element, proportion of this element (K) in the Ca-pv before mixing (1 is all in Ca-pv, 0 is all in bdg) and then the next 3 columns are the change in $T_{\text{mix}}$ in K with 0.1, 1 and 10 atomic % (of bridgmanite) of the element in questions.

All elements are non-spin polarised except those labelled HS which were run with their standard high spin configuration. 2H represents a water molecule where a Mg has been replaced with 2 Hydrogens in the vacancy. Fe-Al represents a high spin ferric iron replacing a Mg and an Al replacing a Si.

Table 3: Change in vibrational entropy (defined as $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ (iron containing supercell) - $\Delta S_{\text{vib}}$ (iron free supercell)) from replacing 1 Mg with 1 Fe atom in Mg$_{16}$Si$_{16}$O$_{48}$ or Mg$_8$Ca$_8$ Si$_{16}$O$_{48}$ (Fe% = 6.25) and the difference to the energy of reaction 1. The equivalent change induced to enthalpy by iron under the same conditions is -1.94 and -6.04 meV/atom at 25 and 125 GPa respectively. Thus at small pressures this vibrational entropy term borders on significance but at high pressures where mixing occurs it is negligible and well below other sources of error in DFT.
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Table 1: Change in density on forming a mixed phase for Ca# = 0.5 (determined from MD) and 0.125 (extrapolated from MD values at Ca# = 0.25 and 0.5) at various pressures and temperatures.
Table 2: Effect of various elements on $T_{mix}$ at 25 and 125 GPa with Ca#0.1 (Ca#=0.5 and 0.9 values are in Table S6 and S7) which is a roughly pyrolytic mixture. Columns are name of the element, site at which that element was placed (A=Mg site, B= Si site, AB= 1 element at each, Int=interstitial), the change in $\Delta H_{mix}$ in eV from placing one defect element, proportion of this element (K) in the Ca-pv
before mixing (1 is all in Ca-pv, 0 is all in bdg) and then the next 3 columns are the change in $T_{mix}$ in K with 0.1, 1 and 10 atomic % (of bridgmanite) of the element in question. All elements are non-spin polarised except those labelled HS which were run with their standard high spin configuration. 2H represents a water molecule where a Mg has been replaced with 2 Hydrogens in the vacancy. Fe-Al represents a high spin ferric iron replacing a Mg and an Al replacing a Si.
Table 3: Change in vibrational entropy (defined as $\Delta S_{vib}$ (iron contained supercell) - $\Delta S_{vib}$ (iron free supercell)) from replacing 1 Mg with 1 Fe atom in Mg$_{16}$Si$_{16}$O$_{48}$ or Mg$_8$Ca$_8$Si$_{16}$O$_{48}$ (Fe% = 6.25) and the difference to the energy of reaction 1. The equivalent change induced to enthalpy by iron under the same conditions is -1.94 and -6.04 meV/atom at 25 and 125 GPa respectively. Thus at small pressures this vibrational entropy term borders on significance but at high pressures where mixing occurs it is negligible and well below other sources of error in DFT.