Raman characterization of mineral fibres: chrysotile and erionite PRIN 2017 3X8WA4

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Raman characterization of the fibres: chrysotile and erionite

Sample preparation:

• Powder fixed on a double-sided tape, covered by a glass and sealed. Sample preparation carried out in a fume-hood.

μ -Raman analysis

At Physics Department, University of Parma

- LabRam Horiba spectrometer
- Confocal microscope with objective 50x
- Laser excitations: He-Ne 632.8 nm and Nd:YAG 473.1 nm
- Density filters to reduce laser power and avoid heating effects
- Spectral resolution of $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (632.8 nm) and $\sim 2 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ (473.1 nm)

Raman characterization of the fibres

Erionite

Raman spectra of erionite and minerals found in the sample



- Erionite main Si,Al-O bending mode at 487 cm⁻¹
- Gas not detected in the CHstretching region (e.g. CH₄)
- Minerals found in the sample: quartz, calcite, feldspars (Kfeldspar, albite)



Erionite: iron compounds found on black and brownish/reddish microparticles

Microparticles of about 15-30 µm



Chrysotile Raman spectra of chrysotile





Gaft M., Reisfeld R., Panczer G., Luminescence Spectroscopy Of Minerals And Materials, Springer, Berlin Heidelberg



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Raman spectra of chrysotile – OH stretching modes

Chrysotile fibers – OH stretching modes

Black and reddish particles in Chrysotile: magnetite and akaganeite

250

200 -

100

50

CCD counts 150





Microparticles $\sim 30 \ \mu m$

Raman results

Erionite

- Main Si,Al-O bending mode at 487 cm⁻¹
- Not detected gas (CH₄, CO₂...) if trapped in the zeolite
- Minerals presence: calcite, quartz, feldspars
- Iron compounds found on reddish and black particles: hematite, goethite, magnetite (?), lepidocrocite
- Possible Fe and Mn oxides mixture

Chrysotile

- Cr³⁺ luminescence at 681 nm
- Diffuse black microparticles on the sample: magnetite
- Sparse reddish/brownish particles: akaganeite (β-FeOOH)
- Lizardite presence confirmed by OHstretching modes

Future analysis

- Micro-Raman analysis on *in vitro* samples to study possible modifications of fiber structure and composition (erionite, chrysotile and crocidolite) due to fiber-fluids interactions (from UNIGE)
- Micro-Raman characterization with different excitation lines (473, 532, 633, 785, 1064 nm)
- Effect of different crystal orientation on the Raman spectrum
- Online Raman database of mineral fibres
- Influence of cations in fibrous zeolites or amphiboles on the Raman spectra







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