DUBA, A., Ho, P., and Piwinskii, A. J., Electrical conductivity studies of igneous rocks: fusion of basalt, Eos Trans. AGU 56, 1075 (1975). [UCRL-77320, Abstract]

The electrical conductivity ( $\sigma$ ) of Picture Gorge basalt (augite - 50.1%, labradorite - 35.6%, olivine - 0.6%, opaques - 11.5%, glass - 1.2%, clay -1.0%; modal analysis by A. C. Waters), measured at 1000°C at an oxygen fugacity  $f(0_2)$  near the quartz-fayalite-magnetite buffer (100 kPa total pressure), is an order of magnitude lower than previously reported for basalt. This low  $\sigma$  is still 100 times greater than olivine (Fo<sub>90</sub>Fa<sub>10</sub>) at the same  $f(0_2)$  and temperature. The  $\sigma$  increases by two orders of magnitude within an hour when this basalt undergoes partial melting at temperatures up to 1160°C (solidus temperature = 1020 ± 8°C determined by R. F. Fudali). A kinetic study at 1053°C indicates that an approximate equilibrium  $\sigma$  is attained after about 130 h and that only 50% of the total increase in  $\sigma$  is observed in the first 15 h. Both the time dependence of, and increase in,  $\sigma$  could result from partial melting, disorder phenomena, or some other mineralogical reaction involving the other phases present. Regardless of the cause of the observed  $\sigma$ increase, these data indicate that time is a critical parameter in the interpretation of  $\sigma$  changes associated with phase transitions, and that  $f(0_{2})$ control is mandatory if laboratory  $\sigma$  data corresponding to geologic conditions are desired for Fe-bearing systems.

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Laue photographs of the three principal directions in olivine are presented as an aid in the correct determination of crystallographic orientation.

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