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Hanford Immobilized LAW Product Acceptance: Tanks Focus Area Testing Data Package II

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Summary

This status report provides the results of a continuing study to help determine the composition range of LAW glasses that will meet performance expectations of the Hanford site burial facility. This is a continuation of the Hanford Immobilized Low Activity Waste (LAW) Product Acceptance (HLP): Initial Tanks Focus Area Testing Data Package (Vienna et al. 2000). In addition to new 5000-h product consistency test (PCT), vapor hydration test (VHT), and alteration products data, some previously reported data together with relevant background information are included for an easily accessible source of reference when comparing the response of the various glasses to different test conditions. Database development, the first stage in meeting the stated goals of this task, is still in progress.

A matrix was developed, and the 55 matrix glasses were tested to identify the impact of glass composition on long-term corrosion behavior and to develop an acceptable composition region for Hanford LAW glasses. Of the 55 glasses, 45 were designed to systematically vary the glass composition, and 10 were selected because large and growing databases on their corrosion characteristics had accumulated. The targeted (expected) and measured compositions of these glasses are found in Appendix A. All glasses were fabricated according to standard procedures and heat treated to simulate the slow cooling that will occur in a portion of the waste glass after vitrification in the planned treatment facility at Hanford.

A series of modified PCTs was performed at 90°C with glass surface-area-to-solution volume ratios (S/V) of approximately 20 000 m⁻¹ for 10, 100, 1000 and 5000 h. The PCT durability, determined as functions of time from solution-composition analyses, is listed in Section 3.1. The normalized releases for the 5000-h tests range from 0.09 to 54.64 g/m² for boron. Based on the boron releases, the estimated release rates for these glasses range from 4.36×10^{-4} to 2.62×10^{-1} g/m²/d after 5000 h of testing. The glasses with the highest boron release rates were HLP- 33, -42Q, -41, -42, and -05 at 1000 h and HLP-02, -53, -38, -04, and -33 at 5000 h. For the sodium data, the release rates range from 6.63×10^{-4} to 1.58×10^{-1} g/m²/d after 5000 h. The glasses with the highest sodium release rates were HLP-52, -33, -41, -42, and -42Q at 1000 h and HLP-53, -02, -08, -38, and -04 at 5000 h. The data gathered thus far (10 to 5000 h), appear to indicate that after 100 h, the sodium and boron release rates decrease steadily up to 1000 h and then either level off or continue a gradual decrease up to the 5000-h time period. Overall, there was only one exception to this trend, HLP-02, which had a higher release rate at 5000 h for both sodium and boron. It appears that the target sodium concentrations in those HLP glasses that tend to have the largest short-term release rates based upon the PCT-B data have relatively high target Na₂O concentrations in glass. Also, in general, it appears that glasses with higher silica contents were not among the glasses with the highest sodium or boron release rates. It should be noted that these trends are based on single data points, and further testing is required before conclusions can be drawn with any certainty.

A series of VHTs was performed at temperatures from 90°C to 300°C; results from 150°C to 300°C are reported. The amount of glass converted to alteration products, m_a , is listed along with test time, t , and temperature in Appendix D and are plotted in Appendix C. The alteration rates, determined from the

linear portion of the m_a-t function, are listed in Appendix F. VHT results are discussed in Section 3.2. The rates were determined for all test matrix glasses at 200°C; they range from 0.2 to 1219 g/m²/d. The glasses with the five highest rates at 200°C are (with rate in g/m²/d) HLP-12 (1219), HLP-53 (552.6), HLP-02 (264.7), HLP-46 (254.6), and HLP-27 (84.1). The five glasses with the lowest rates at 200°C are HLP-32 (0.2), HLP-43 (0.2), HLP-42 (0.2), HLP-34 (0.4), and HLP-19 (0.4). The major crystalline alteration products were identified. The most prevalent crystalline alteration products include analcime, sodium aluminum-silicate-hydrate (or sodium aluminum silicate boron hydroxide hydrate with a similar crystal structure), and clinopyroxene. A combination of X-ray diffraction (XRD) and scanning electron microscopy/energy dispersive spectroscopy (SEM/EDS) analyses revealed that a majority of the alteration products are amorphous materials with compositions similar to those of the unreacted glass and crystalline alteration products generally appear on the surface of the specimens. The impact of inverse temperature on the logarithm of VHT rate was found to be nearly linear with slopes, E_a , ranging from 84.7 to 126.9 kJ/mol. No correlation was found between the alteration rate measured by VHT at 200°C and the normalized element releases from 1000 h or 5000 h PCT. However, a positive correlation was found between the time required to reach an acceleration in rate by VHT at 200°C and by PCT performed at 99°C with a 20 000 m⁻¹ S/V.

The final section of the main document provides a summary of the results obtained thus far, as well as recommendations for future study. In addition, the Appendices contain additional useful information that was too extensive to be included in the main text of this report.

Reference

Vienna, J. D., A. Jiricka, B. P. McGrail, B. M. Jorgensen, D. E. Smith, B. R. Allen, J. C. Marra, D. K. Peeler, K. G. Brown, and I. A. Reamer. 2000. *Hanford Immobilized LAW Product Acceptance: Initial Tanks Focus Area Testing Data Package*, PNNL-13101, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, Washington.

Glossary

Accelerated tests	Tests conducted to attain certain conditions faster than it would be possible under natural conditions or tests conducted under conditions that increase the reaction rate
AES	Atomic emission spectroscopy
AGCR	Acceptable glass composition region
Alteration Products	Thermodynamically more stable phases formed during glass corrosion. These phases may incorporate constituents from glass and other species from the solution, atmosphere, and barrier materials.
Amount of glass altered	Mass of glass converted to alteration products, calculated from the thickness of glass reacted, which is determined by subtracting the remaining glass layer thickness (determined by OM/IA) from initial glass thickness
ANL	Argonne National Laboratory
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
Behavior	The response of a material to its environment, specifically to the temperature and solution chemistry
Corrosion	The process of glass dissolution and conversion to alteration products
Corrosion layer	Layer of corrosion products formed on the surface of bulk glass
Corrosion rate	The rate at which glass is dissolved or converted to alteration products
d_i	initial glass specimen thickness
d_r	remaining glass specimen thickness
Dissolution	The process of dissolving solid material into the solution
DIW	deionized water
DOE	U.S. Department of Energy
E_a	slope of linear fit of logarithm r as a function of inverse RT, e.g., $\ln r/d[1/RT]$
EDS	energy dispersive spectroscopy
HLP	Hanford LAW product acceptance (glass nomenclature)
IA	image analysis
ICP	inductively coupled plasma
LAW	Low-activity waste
l_i	Initial glass specimen length

m_a	Mass of glass altered in g/m ²
m_i	Initial glass mass
Measured	Measured (values actually obtained from SRTC mobile lab)
NC _i	Normalized solution concentration of element, <i>i</i> in g/L
NL _i	Normalized glass loss of element, <i>i</i> in g/m ²
OM	Optical microscopy
ORP	Office of River Protection
PA	performance assessment
PCT	Product Consistency Test
PCT-A	Method A of the PCT as defined in ASTM (1998)
PCT-B	Method B of the PCT as defined in ASTM (1998) – modified version; only one test sample was run versus standard three replicates indicated in the procedure
PDF	Powder diffraction file
Performance	The ability of the burial system, primarily waste form in this work, to meet regulatory limits on release of radioactive and hazardous components
PFA	perflouroalkoxy
PNNL	Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
r	Alteration rate in g/m ² /d
Repeated glasses	Multiple glasses with the same target composition, fabricated and tested separately.
RH	Relative humidity
ρ	Glass density
SAD	Selected area electron diffraction
SEM	Scanning electron microscopy
SRTC	Savannah River Technology Center
SRTC-ML	SRTC mobile laboratory
S/V	Glass surface area to solution volume ratio
t	time
T	temperature
t_a	time to acceleration, or time to reach the third stage of alteration
Targeted	Targeted (calculated values expected according to the amounts found the original glass batch formulae)

TEM	transmission electron microscopy
TFA	Tanks Focus Area
TRTC-ML	SRTC Mobile Laboratory
VHT	Vapor Hydration Test
w_i	initial glass specimen width
XRD	X-ray diffraction

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1.0 Introduction

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Office of River Protection (ORP) intends to immobilize Hanford's low-activity waste (LAW) in the form of borosilicate glass for storage and disposal. The LAW glass will be disposed in a shallow land-burial facility. It must be demonstrated that the disposal system will adequately retain the radionuclides and prevent contamination of the surrounding environment. Waste-form performance is the first line of defense against releases of contaminants after disposal and an integral part of the multiple engineered barrier system. Mann et al. (1998) found that the release of radionuclides from the waste form via interaction/reaction with water is the prime threat to the environment surrounding the disposal site. The two major dose contributors in Hanford LAW glass that must be retained are ^{99}Tc and ^{79}Se (Mann et al. 1998).

McGrail et al. (1998) describe the strategy for testing and modeling to determine/assess the radionuclide release rates from LAW glass. This strategy requires extensive testing and modeling for each glass considered. The program includes, for example, *in situ* testing, tests with waste-package components, tests that simulate the hydrology and geochemistry of the burial site, and coupled flow-reaction modeling. The resources required to perform such a thorough study on a large number of glasses are not practical. The Tanks Focus Area (TFA) Immobilization Program, DOE-EM Office of Science and Technology, has outlined a task to help determine the composition range of LAW glasses that will meet performance expectations.

A methodology is needed to determine the range of LAW glass compositions that satisfy performance requirements for the burial facility at Hanford. Following the high-level waste glass experiences at the West Valley Demonstration Project, the Defense Waste Processing Facility, and Hanford, this methodology will be based on acceptable glass composition regions (AGCRs) determined by process and product property limits and property-composition relationships. This report summarizes the preliminary results of a study aimed at developing a series of short-term tests, test data, property restrictions, property-composition models, and ultimately an AGCR for Hanford LAW glass.

The work performed in this study was planned and conducted with the aid of an expert panel to ensure that program direction and progress were founded on a solid and defensible foundation and to avoid expending resources on approaches with low chances of successfully meeting the program needs. Vienna et al. (1999) described the initial program plan and accounted for the expert panel suggestions on implementation strategy. Vienna et al. (2000) provided an initial data package from this study, and Brown et al. (2000) summarized the mid-program review by the expert panel.

This document, which is a follow-up to the initial data package issued in February of 2000, provides additional information on long-term PCT-B^(a) tests, vapor hydration tests (VHTs), and alteration products formed on selected

(a) Method B of the product consistency test (PCT) as defined in ASTM (1998).

glasses subjected to durability testing. Much of the background information from the original document was retained for informational purposes.

2.0 Experimental Procedures

Glasses from a 55-glass test matrix were fabricated and tested. The approach for test-matrix design was reported by Vienna et al. (1999). The target glass compositions are compared to measured compositions in Appendix A. Vienna et al. (2000) describe the procedures and preliminary results for glass fabrication, heat treatment, VHTs, PCTs, and analyses of phase assemblages, density, redox, and glass compositions. Sections 2.1 through 2.4 highlight the fabrication, heat treatment, PCT, VHT, and alteration product identification procedures that are important to data interpretation; any updates to those methods are discussed.

2.1 Glass Fabrication and Heat Treatment

Matrix glasses were batched from single metal oxide or carbonate precursors for all components except SO_3 , P_2O_5 , F^- , and Cl^- , which were added as sodium salts, and B_2O_3 , which was added as H_3BO_3 . Batches sufficient to produce 500 g of glass were melted in covered Pt/Rh crucibles for 1 h, quenched on a steel plate, ground in a tungsten carbide mill, and remelted in a covered Pt/Rh crucible for 1 h. After the second melt, a portion of the melt was quenched on a steel plate. The remainder of the melt was transferred directly into a preheated furnace (in Pt or Pt/Rh containers) and heat treated according to the schedule given by:

$$T = 925.7 - 20.9 t \quad 2.1$$

where T is temperature in $^{\circ}\text{C}$, and t is time in hours. This cooling schedule was used to simulate the cooling that is expected for a volume of glass cast in the center region of a box like container previously planned for use at the Hanford LAW plant. Hanford LAW product acceptance (HLP) glasses HLP-46, -47, -52, -54, and -55 were not heat treated (to maintain the same thermal history of the glasses previously tested with the same compositions), but bars were cast and annealed for 2 h at roughly 10°C above the glass-transition temperature and slow cooled to room temperature. Glasses HLP-44 and -45 were batched with a targeted ratio of FeO to Fe_2O_3 and melted and heat treated in a controlled atmosphere furnace with CO/CO_2 ratios described in Vienna et al. (2000). This procedure was used at the Savannah River Technology Center (SRTC) to fabricate glasses HLP-13 to HLP-25 and at Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to fabricate the remaining glasses.

2.2 PCT

Both PCT-A and PCT-B were performed on each test-matrix glass to assess chemical durability as defined in American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) C-1285 (ASTM 1998). The PCT-A was conducted in triplicate for each of the LAW glasses. Duplicate blank tests with ASTM Type I water (purified water with a minimum electrical resistivity of $16.67 \text{ M}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ at 25°C) were also run within each test block. Samples were ground, washed, and prepared according to procedure. For PCT-A, 15 mL of ASTM water and 1.5 g of glass were placed into a stainless steel vessels, resulting in a glass surface area-to-solution volume ratio (S/V) of approximately 2000 m^2 . For this initial examination of the data, small

variations in S/V resulting from minor density differences were not considered. However, for the 5000-h data, these variations were factored in to relevant calculations and are given in the tables provided in Appendix B. Also, in tables where data for all four time periods are given, the S/V changes were considered, and the data values being presented were changed to reflect the differences between the estimated and actual S/V values. The vessels were closed, sealed, and placed into an oven at $90 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ where they remained for 7 days. After the 7-day test, vessels were removed from the oven and allowed to cool to room temperature. The final masses of each vessel and the solution pH were recorded on the data sheet. Test solutions were then filtered through a $0.45\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ pore size filter. Six mL of each test solution were then acidified with 4 mL of 0.4 M HNO_3 to ensure that the cations remained in solution. Test solutions and blanks were then analyzed in the SRTC mobile laboratory (SRTC-ML) for Si, B, Na, and Li concentrations with inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES). A multi-element solution standard was also submitted with the PCT solutions for control purposes. Data sheets were used to record the vessel identification number, sample ID, mass of vessel (empty), mass of vessel with glass, and the mass of vessel with glass and water.

The PCT-B series was conducted at an S/V value of approximately $20\,000\text{ m}^{-1}$ and a temperature of 90°C in Teflon[®] vessels^(a) as defined by Vienna et al. (1999). The test intervals for the PCT-B study were: 10, 100, 1000, 5000, and 10 000 h. Samples were ground, washed, and prepared according to procedure. Ten mL of ASTM water and 10.0 g of glass were placed into Teflon[®] vessels. The vessels were closed, sealed, and placed into an oven at $90 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$. After the specified test duration, the vessels were removed from the oven and were allowed to cool to room temperature. The final mass of each vessel and the solution pH were recorded on the data sheet. Test solutions were then filtered through a $0.45\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ pore size filter. Generally, 6 mL of each test solution were then acidified with 4 mL of 0.4 M HNO_3 to ensure that the cations remained in solution. Test solutions and blanks were then analyzed in the SRTC-ML for Si, B, Na, and Li concentrations using ICP-AES. A multi-element solution standard was also submitted with the PCT solutions for control purposes (results from the standards submitted with each PCT set indicated the equipment was functioning as expected and the laboratory was under control). Data sheets were used to record the vessel identification number, sample ID, mass of vessel (empty), mass of vessel with glass, and the mass of vessel with glass and water. Selected glass samples from the PCT-B tests are being evaluated for the formation of secondary phases via electron microscopy.

2.3 VHT

The VHT is performed by exposing monolithic specimens to saturated water vapor at elevated temperatures (typically 90°C to 300°C) in a sealed vessel as shown schematically in Figure 2-1. This environment greatly accelerates the progression of glass corrosion by water and can result in the formation of alteration phases. The principal uses of the test are as follows: 1) as a screening tool to quickly determine if a glass is likely to corrode at an extreme rate, 2) as a convenient means of

(a) When Teflon[®], perfluoroalkoxy (PFA), vessels are used, CO_2 diffuses into the test solution so that secondary reactions are not limited by CO_2 concentration. Also for these long test durations, the vessel mass must be tracked and water added when the water mass loss exceeds 10%.

generating, within a short period, alteration phases for analysis and 3) as a measure of the alteration rate at elevated temperatures.

The VHTs were performed according to a PNNL technical procedure.^(a) Specimens with dimensions of 10×10×1.5 mm were prepared from heat-treated glass bars with a diamond-impregnated saw. All sides were polished to 600-grit surface finishes with silicon carbide paper. Specimens, stainless steel vessels, lids, and supports were cleaned, and specimens were suspended from stainless steel supports with Pt wire. An amount of deionized water (DIW), predetermined to be appropriate for the vessel size, the temperature, and the number of specimens in the vessel, was added to each vessel. The sealed vessels were held at constant temperature in convection ovens for preset times, removed, weighed, and quenched in water. After test termination, specimens were removed from the vessels and examined for the presence of alteration products with optical microscopy (OM). The alteration products were identified by methods described in Section 2.4.

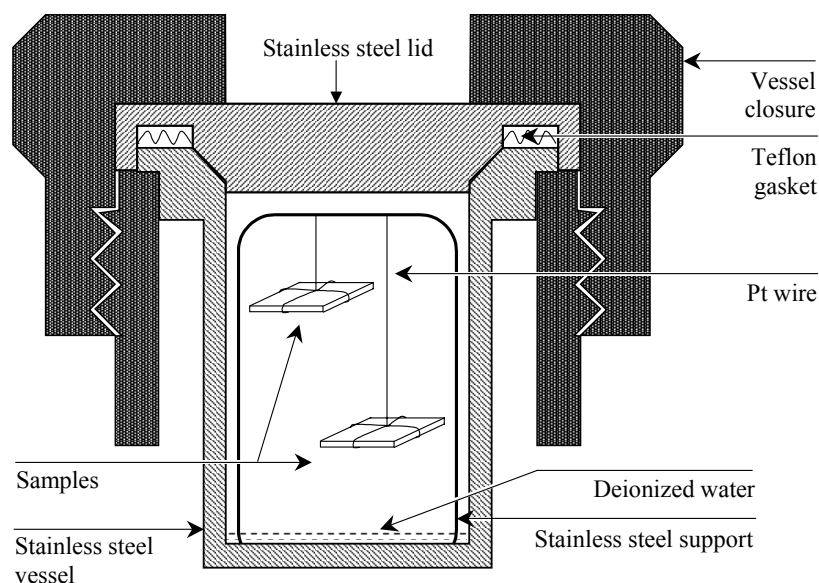


Figure 2-1. Apparatus for Conducting VHTs

The mass of glass converted to alteration products per unit surface area, m_a , was calculated from the difference between initial glass thickness and the remaining glass thickness determined from specimen cross sections with OM and image analysis (IA). The thickness of the remaining glass layer, d_r , was determined by performing 10 measurements equally distributed across the specimen and was used to calculate m_a according to:

(a) *Vapor-phase Hydration Test Procedure*, GDL-VHT, Rev. 1, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, Washington (1999).

$$m_a = \frac{1}{2} d_i \rho \left(1 - \frac{d_r}{d_i} \right) = \frac{m_i}{2 w_i l_i} \left(1 - \frac{d_r}{d_i} \right) \quad 2.2$$

where, m_i is the initial specimen mass, w_i and l_i are specimen width and length, respectively, ρ is the bulk glass density, and d_i is the initial glass thickness. For each glass and each T tested, m_a was plotted as a function of t . Several characteristic parameters were determined from the m_a - t plots as described in Section 3.2.

2.4 Identification of Alteration Products

The alteration products obtained from PCT of selected test-matrix glasses are to be identified with a combination of OM, X-ray diffraction (XRD), scanning electron microscopy (SEM), and energy dispersive spectroscopy (EDS). Approximately 20 of the 5000-h PCT-B samples were submitted to Argonne National Laboratory (ANL) for the above analyses and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) with selected area electron diffraction (SAD). These included glasses (HLP-02, -04, -06, -09, -14, -27, -28, -29, -30, -31, -33, -34, -35, -39, -41, -43, -46, -49, -51, -52, and -56) with either high- or low-sodium and high- or low-boron normalized releases, as well as other glasses of interest. The analyses were incomplete as of the writing of this report. However, the results will be included in the subsequent report for this project.

For VHT specimen analyses, XRD was performed on the flat specimen surface and on ground specimens with a Scintag PAD V diffractometer, and the data were reduced with Jade V software (MDI, Livermore, California). Semiquantitative crystal fractions were determined according to the direct comparison method (Cullity 1978). For selected specimens, the surface was repeatedly ground off, and XRD was performed to determine the progression of crystalline alteration products from the surface to the unaltered glass. Micrographs were obtained from selected specimens with a JEOL JSM-840 SEM. These included micrographs of the specimen surface, as well as cross-sectional areas. Semi-quantitative chemical analyses were performed on features or layers observed in the SEM micrographs with an Oxford ISIS 300 EDS with single element standards. In addition, several specimens were sent to ANL for characterization by TEM/SAD. These data were not yet available at the time of this report.

3.0 Results and Discussion

3.1 PCT

A modified PCT-B series was conducted on the matrix of HLP glasses. These tests differed from the PCT-A series previously described by Vienna et al. (2000) in that S/V was increased from 2000 m^{-1} to $20\,000\text{ m}^{-1}$, and the tests were carried out at intervals of 10, 100, 1000, and 5000 h rather than the standard 7 days for PCT-A. The measured elemental concentrations for these solutions are found in Appendix Tables B-3 through B-6. Due to budgetary constraints, only single tests were performed for the PCT-B experiments. Thus, the random variations in the PCT-B results for a glass are likely higher than those previously reported PCT-A values (which were based upon the means of three replicate tests) for the same glass. The PCT-B normalized release data for boron and sodium are provided in Tables B-7a (normalized using measured compositions) and Table B-7b (normalized using targeted compositions).

3.1.1 Gross Check of the PCT-B Release Data

Figure 3-1 shows the relationship between the log-normalized releases for sodium and boron for the PCT-B data collected at 10, 100, 1000, and 5000 h. The four lines provided on the figure represent the least-squares fits for the data at each time. (The uncertainties in the parameters describing these lines suggest that these lines are indistinguishable from each other.) Based on the earlier iteration of Figure 3-1, the HLP-04 and HLP-46 glasses were re-evaluated (at 10 and 100 h). However, the data were unavailable at the time of preparing this report. Similar plots will be used to identify glasses for additional testing. The gross checks illustrated in Figure 3-1 suggest that the PCT data can be used for further short-term examinations.

The differences in the NL_B/NL_{Na} with corrosion extent are generally consistent with the currently accepted model of glass corrosion. At short times, the NC_{Na} s are higher than NC_B s since ion exchange occurs to some depth in the glass surface. After longer times, NC_B s approach the NC_{Na} values because the amount of additional Na in solution from ion exchange becomes a progressively lower fraction of the total Na in solution. The lines represent the four least-squares fits through the 10, 100, 1000, and 5000-h data (excluding the 10-h values for HLP-04 and HLP-46).

3.1.2 Release Rates

The PCT releases were measured for five different time intervals (i.e., 7 days and 10, 100, 1000, and 5000 h, respectively). Figure 3-2 shows the relationship between the release, $NL_i = NC_i/(S/V)$, and time, t , in hours for the HLP-01 (center composition) and HLP-02 (low-silica composition) glasses. The 5000-h values obtained for the HLP-01 and HLP-02 glasses are consistent with the results reported earlier by Vienna (Vienna 2000). The 5000-h normalized release values for Na and B exhibited a gradual increase in normalized releases as leaching progressed from the 1000-h to the 5000-h time period. It should be noted that in some cases over time, the amount of elements (i.e., sodium) found in the leachate solution can decrease as they become incorporated in alteration phases.

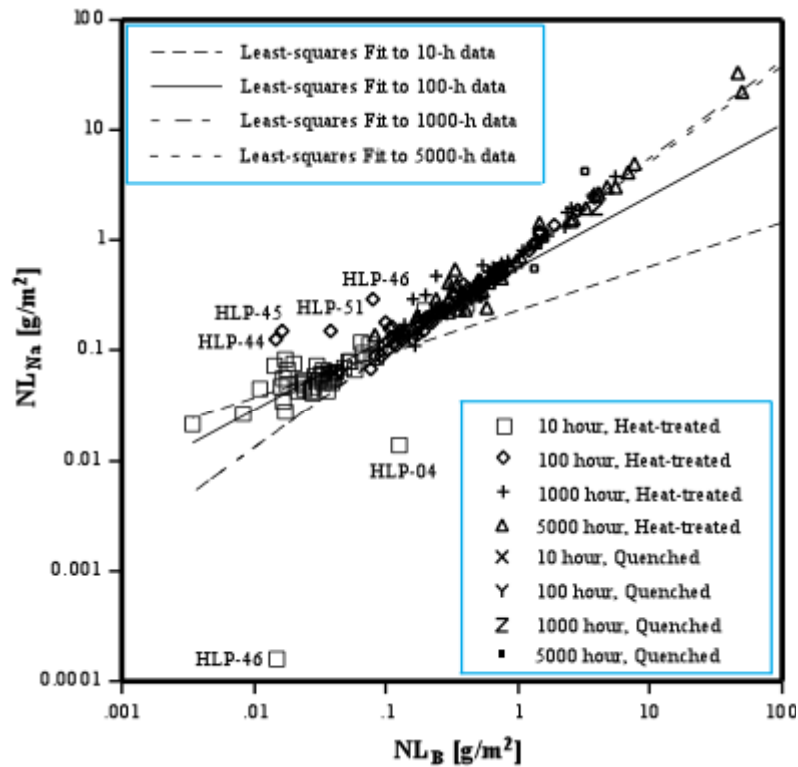


Figure 3-1. Log-Log Plot Illustrating the Normalized Sodium Versus Boron Releases for the PCT-B

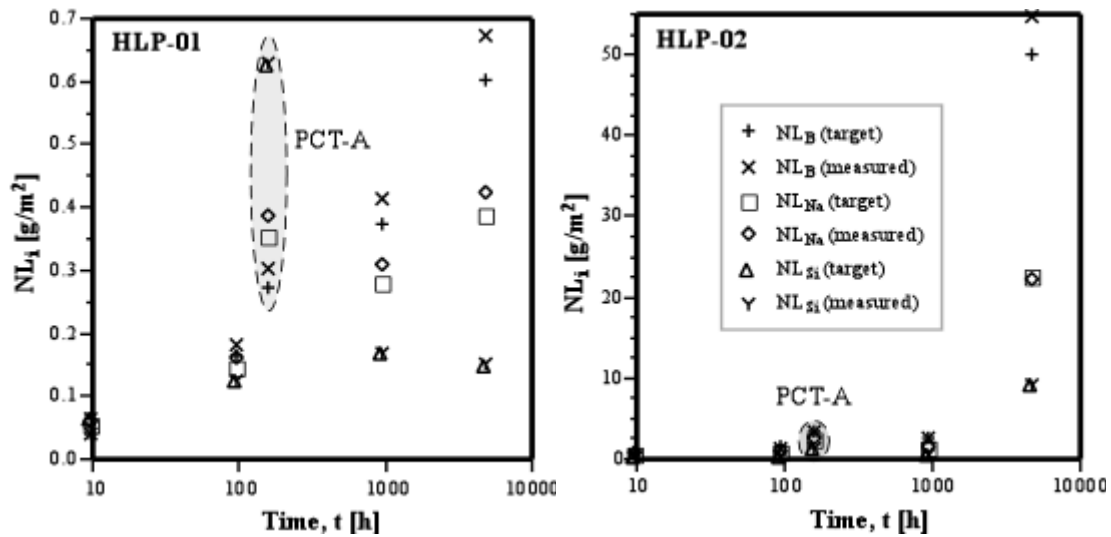


Figure 3-2. Illustration of the Relationship Between the Boron and Sodium Normalized Releases, NL_i in g/m^2 , and Time, t , in h, for the HLP-01 and HLP-02 Glasses. The PCT-A results are shaded in gray; the remaining data are the PCT-B results.

A differential release rate, r_{Δ} in $\text{g/m}^2/\text{d}$, can also be computed by taking differences in measured values at successive times, or

$$r_{\Delta} \equiv 24 \left[\frac{NL_i(t_{i+1}) - NL_i(t_i)}{t_{i+1} - t_i} \right] = 24 \left[\frac{\Delta(NL_i)}{\Delta t} \right] \quad 3.1$$

At any given time, the release, NL_i in g/m^2 , represents the concentration of constituent i in the test solution at t in hours. Thus a release rate, r in $\text{g/m}^2/\text{d}$,^(a) can be obtained by dividing the measured NL_i value (at the time tested) by the t , or

$$r = 24 \left[\frac{NL_i(i)}{t} \right] \quad 3.2$$

There are errors associated with the values obtained from any of the proposed methods of estimating the release rate from PCT-B data. The errors in the release-rate estimates from either Equation 3.1 or Equation 3.2 (assuming that the error in t is negligible) are functions of the errors in the NL_i values. However, the NL_i values are computed from various measured and assumed values, and the components of variance for the terms used to compute the NL_i values are confounded and cannot be estimated from the PCT-B data in this study. In addition, no single rate can be determined from PCT-B glass because the corrosion extent (as measured by NL_i) is not a linear function of time.

Some insight into the errors may be obtained by examining the PCT-A data (as provided in Table B-1), which were collected in triplicate. While the S/V values and ranges of measured concentrations do not completely cover those of the modified PCT-B, the tests were carried out by the same personnel, and resulting test solutions were analyzed by the same laboratory. As illustrated in Exhibit B-1, the PCT-A data suggest that the magnitude of the errors in the measured boron and sodium concentrations in the test solutions is relative to the magnitude of the corresponding concentrations. As also illustrated in Exhibit B-1 and as expected, there does not appear to be a similar trend in these PCT-A values under the natural logarithm transformation (i.e., for $\ln[p_i]$, where p_i is the concentration in ppm). Thus, the PCT-A error estimates, obtained from components of variance analysis, were used to examine the release-rate estimates from PCT-B data.

Using error propagation and assuming that the errors in the various glass composition and S/V terms are negligible (for this initial examination of the data), the error in an NL_i value, represented by s_{NL_i} , is estimated from the error in the corresponding $\ln(p_i)$, represented by $s_{\ln(p_i)}$, using the following:

$$s_{NL_i} \approx (NL_i) s_{\ln(p_i)} \quad 3.3$$

where (NL_i) is computed from a release measurement (as in the PCT-B data).

Equation 3.3 indicates that the error obtained from the transformed concentrations is an estimate of the relative error in the NL_i value. The relative errors in the NL_B and NL_{Na} values for the PCT-A data previously reported were

^a The units of $\text{g/m}^2/\text{d}$ are used in this report to allow direct comparison with existing data on glass alteration rates. To convert to the SI units of $\text{kg/m}^2/\text{s}$, the reader can multiply reported values by 1.1574×10^{-8} .

approximately 17.5 and 8.7%, respectively. The correlations between successive NL_i (or $\ln[NL_i]$) values were very large and positive (i.e., all were greater than 0.70). Using Equations 3.1, 3.2, and 3.3, the release rates, r and r_{Δ} , and their relative errors were estimated for the HLP glasses. These release-rate estimates, r and r_{Δ} , based upon the boron and sodium release data, are provided in Table B-8 and Table B-9, respectively. Using the estimates of 17.5 and 8.7%, relative errors in the NL_B and NL_{Na} values, respectively (and assuming that the error in measured time is negligible), the relative percent errors in the release rates were estimated and placed in Table 3-1.^(a)

Table 3-1. Estimated Relative Percent Standard Deviations in Release Estimates

Time (h)	Boron		Sodium	
	r	r_{Δ}	r	r_{Δ}
10	42	42	20.8	20.8
100	4.2	6.6	2.08	3.28
1000	0.42	0.66	0.21	0.33
5000	0.08	0.15	0.04	0.07

The glasses with the five largest and smallest release rates, r and r_{Δ} , from the boron and sodium PCT-B data are presented in Table 3-2 for 10, 100, 1000, and 5000 h. As illustrated in this table, while in many cases the glasses in the group remain somewhat consistent (i.e., the 10-h Na, B data), the order of the specific glasses is not the same. As no boron was added to glass HLP-52, it was not included in boron release rates, but was often represented in Na release rates. If the number of glasses considered is expanded to the 10 largest (or smallest), then a better picture of the developing trends begins to appear. As illustrated in Figure 3-3, the HLP-02, -39, -33, and -31 glasses represent some of the largest release rates for all time periods (up to 5000 h) for sodium and boron. As shown in Figure 3-4, the HLP-30, -06, -28, and -22 glasses represent some of the smallest release rates for all time periods (up to 5000 h) for sodium and boron. For these glasses, and for time periods of up to 5000 h, it appears that initially, release rates (at 10 and 100 h) are relatively high. However, as time continues, the release rates decline and appear to level off for most of the glasses in this group. There are several possible explanations for this behavior, including solution saturation and/or the build-up of a precipitation/alteration layer(s) (see also Figure 3-8) that acts to prevent or slow the release of cations (Clark and Zito 1991; Clark et al. 1994). Additional testing and characterization will be needed to confirm these trends. The only exception to note is the HLP-02 glass, which has increased boron and sodium release rates after 5000 h of testing.

From the information in Table 3-2 (rankings of all glasses for each time period are found in Appendix B, pages B-10 through B-17), no clear delineation in composition space (as presented in Appendix A) can be made between glasses tending to have large short-term release rates from those with small release rates. It appears that the target sodium concentrations in those HLP glasses that tend to have the largest short-term release rates based upon the PCT-B data have relatively high target Na_2O concentrations in glass. Also, in general, it appears that glasses with higher silica contents were not among the glasses with the highest sodium or boron release rates. More work will be needed to make clear distinctions based upon glass composition.

(a) The errors for the corrosion rates, r_{Δ} , obtained from successive differences, were estimated, neglecting the correlations between successive NL_i values; this should provide conservative estimates of the errors.

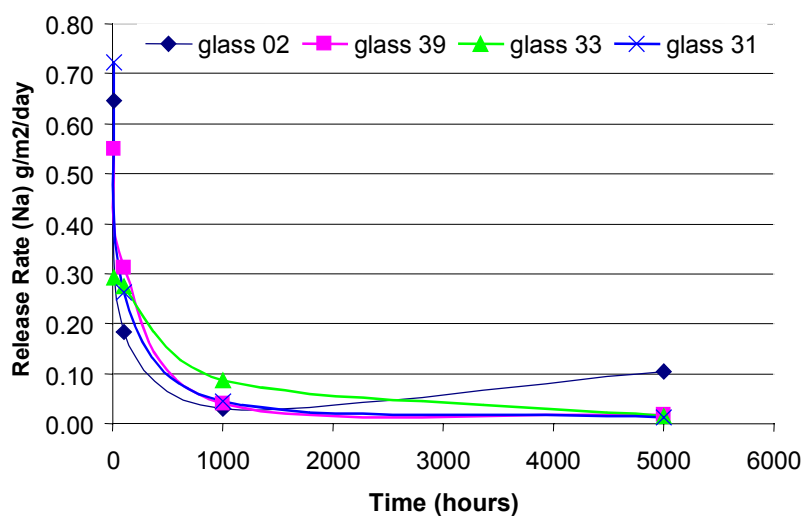
Table 3-2. Rank Ordering of Release Rates for the HLP Glasses Based Upon PCT-B Data

Release Rate Rank Ordering by HLP Glass Number					
Time (h)	Cation	Release Rates, r		Release Rates, r_A	
		Largest Five	Smallest Five	Largest Five	Smallest Five
10	B	02>31>39>41>27	30<22<34<29<46	02>31>39>41>27	30<22<34<29<46
	Na	31>02>41>39>27	46<10<09<04<30	31>02>41>39>27	46<10<09<04<30
100	B	41>39>33>31>05	44<45<51<30<28	41>39>33>05>31	44<45<51<30<28
	Na	52 ^(a) >41>39>33>31	10<30<28<09<06	52>41>39>33>31	28<30<54<06<49
1000	B	33>42Q>41>42>05	30<49<06<08<28	33>42Q>42>05>31	49<30<08<06<38
	Na	52>33>41>42>42Q	10<30<28<06<22	52>33>42>42Q>05	28<30<06<22<19
5000	B	02>53>38>04>33	30<49<45<34<19	02>38>04>43>36	41<42<33<42Q<40
	Na	53>02>08>38>04	30<49<22<06<28	53>02>38>04>40	41<42<33<42Q<40Q

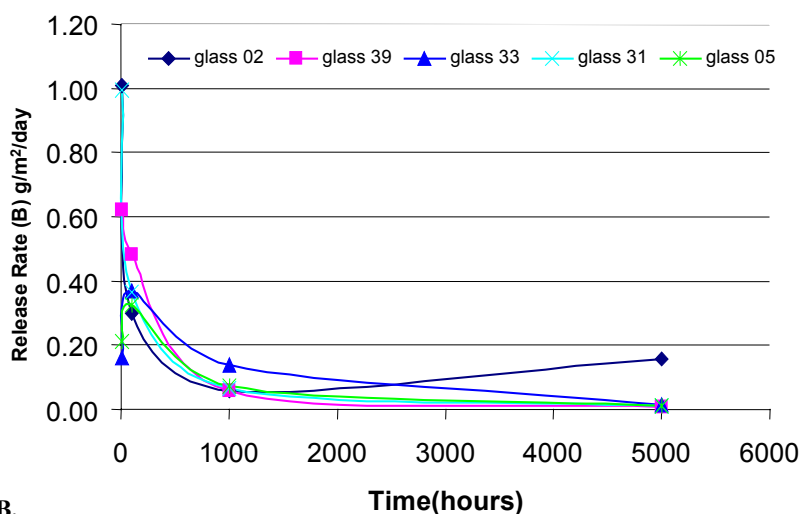
(a) There was no boron added to glass HLP-52.

3.1.3 Data Reproducibility

As part of these research activities, PCT-A (i.e., $T = 90^\circ\text{C}$, $S/V \approx 2000 \text{ m}^{-1}$, and $t = 7$ days) and PCT-B (i.e., $T = 90^\circ\text{C}$, $S/V \approx 20\,000 \text{ m}^{-1}$, and $t = 10, 100, 1000$, and 5000 h) were run at SRTC on the HLP glasses whose compositions are provided in Appendix A. Four of the HLP glasses (HLP-01, -25, -26, and -43) were batched at either SRTC or PNNL to the same target composition. Glass HLP-25 was batched at SRTC, and the remaining three were fabricated at PNNL. Both PCT-A (stainless steel) and PCT-B (in Teflon®, up to 5000 h) studies were conducted at SRTC for all four glasses. In the initial data package, PCT-A results were compared with historical data, and some statistical comparisons were also carried out. While some statistical variations were calculated between the four glasses that were not attributable to compositional variances, there were insufficient data to determine the precise cause(s) for the inconsistencies. As part of this data package, the normalized sodium, silicon, and boron releases for the aforementioned glasses are provided in Figure 3-5. As shown in Figure 3-5, the sodium, boron, and silicon release rate values for all four glasses are fairly consistent. Values range from $\sim 0.15\text{--}0.21 \text{ g/m}^2$ for silicon to $\sim 0.41\text{--}0.5 \text{ g/m}^2$ for sodium and $\sim 0.68\text{--}0.8 \text{ g/m}^2$ for boron. Glass HLP-26 exhibited the largest release for each element after 5000-h of leaching, and glass HLP-01 exhibited the smallest release for Si and Na. There is a somewhat greater spread in the 5000-h values when compared to the values obtained at 1000 h, primarily for silicon and to a lesser extent for sodium. However, all of the glasses show excellent reproducibility for boron release. When the release-rate values are calculated and plotted over time, any slight differences diminish, and all four glasses show very consistent release rates with time, as shown in Figure 3-6.



A.



B.

Figure 3-3. A) Release Rate Versus Time for Selected Glasses Representing the Largest Release Rates for Sodium. B) Release Rate Versus Time for Selected Glasses Representing the Largest Release Rates for Boron. Note that with the exception of glass HLP-05, the same glasses represent both elements with similar trends (the boron release rate value for the 10-h time period for HLP-33 was lower than the 10th largest; however, it was represented for 100-, 1000-, and 5000-h time periods).

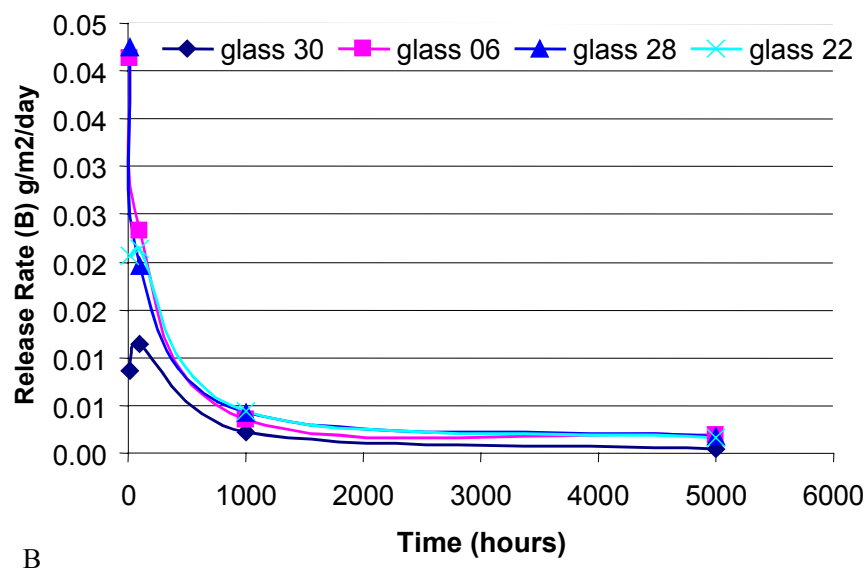
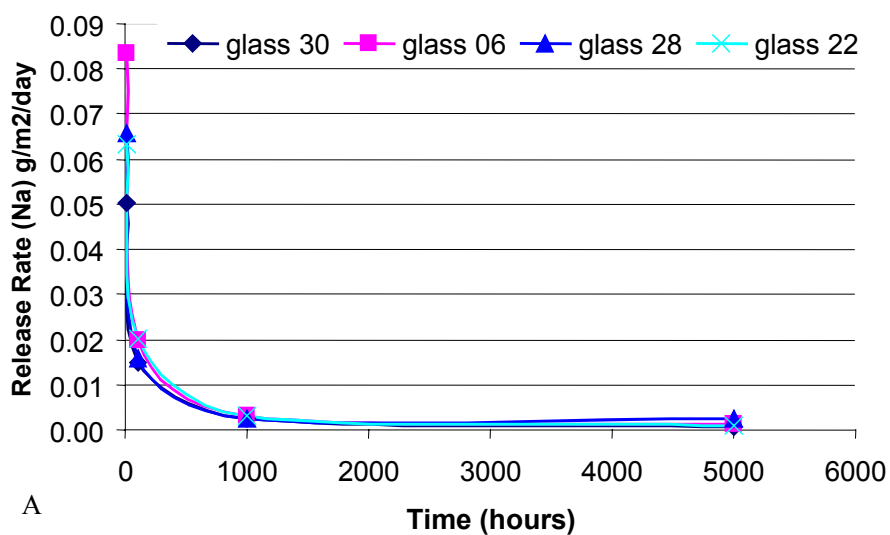


Figure 3-4. A) Release Rate Versus Time for the Selected Glasses Representing the Smallest Release Rates for Sodium. B) Release Rate Versus Time for the Selected Glasses Representing the Smallest Release Rates for Boron. Note that the same glasses are represented for both elements with similar trends.

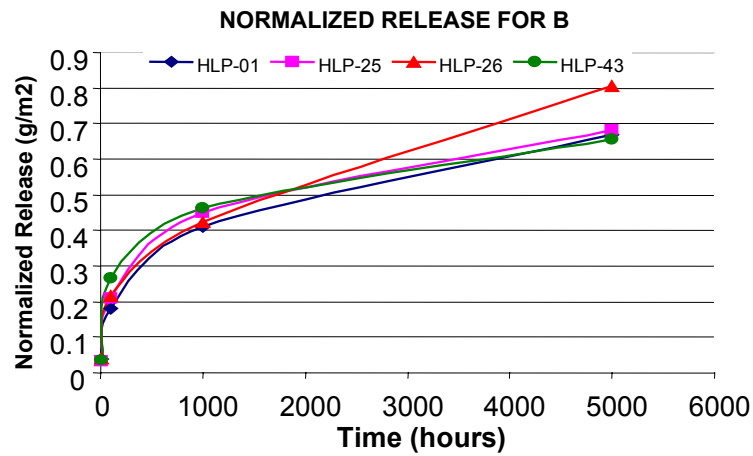
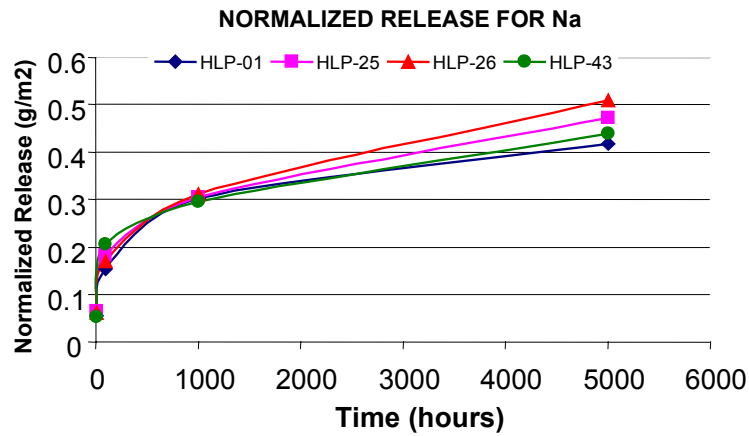
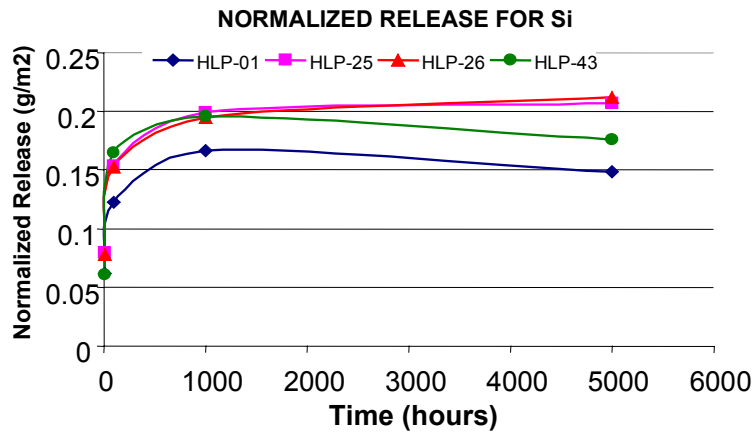


Figure 3-5. Normalized Releases Versus Time for Silicon, Sodium, and Boron for Glasses HLP-01, -25, -26, and -43

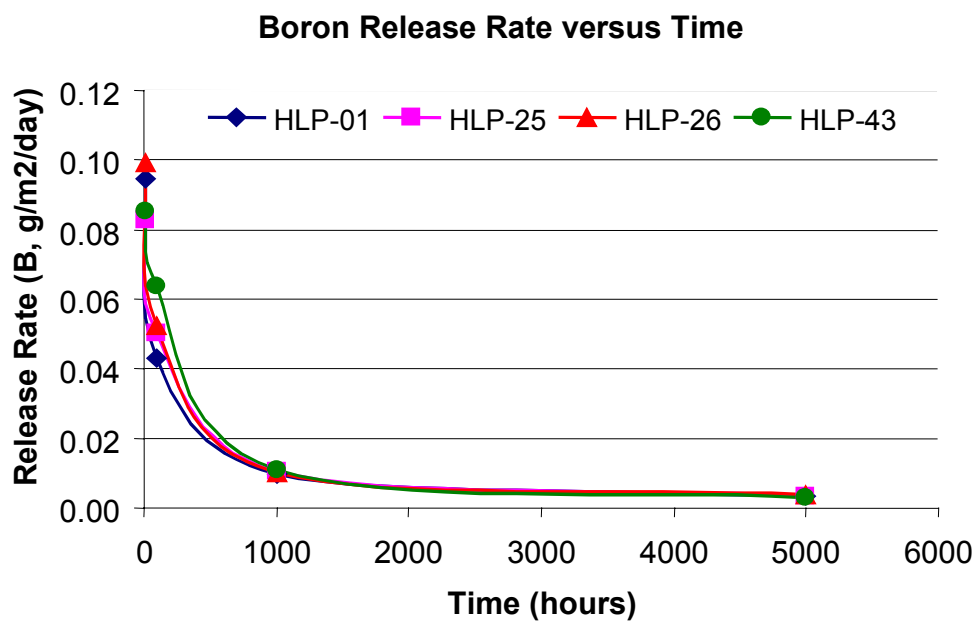
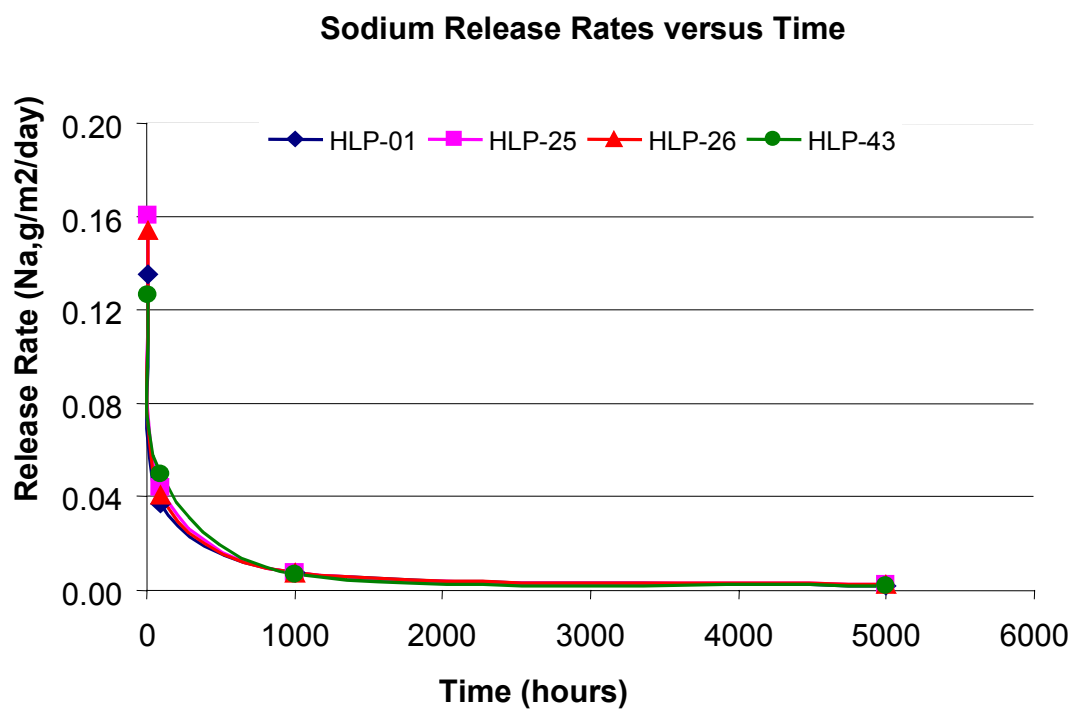
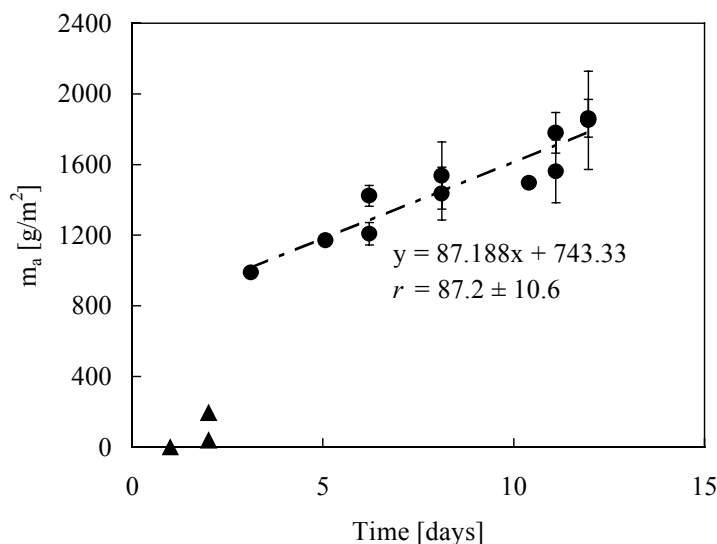


Figure 3-6. Release Rates (Sodium and Boron) Versus Time for the HLP-01, -25, -26, and -43 Glasses

3.2 VHT

The amount of glass converted to alteration products, m_a , was calculated from measured VHT data according to Equation 2.2. An example of a typical m_a - t relationship observed in VHT is shown in Figure 3-7. No observable alteration occurred in less than 1 day. This was followed by a period of high scatter in the m_a - t relationship (between 1 and 2 days), an abrupt increase in m_a (between 2 and 3 days), and finally, a nearly linear m_a - t range (>3 days). To explain these phenomena, data on glass corrosion in closed systems were examined. Figure 3-8 displays the general alteration curve for waste glasses reacting with water in a closed system. The alteration process can be divided into four distinguishable stages. The first three stages are widely recognized (Feng et al. 1993; Ebert and Bates 1991; Harvey and Larocque 1990) and are described in detail in Cunnane et al. (1994).



**Figure 3-7. Results from VHT on the HLP-46 Glass at 175°C
(data represented by triangles were omitted from the linear fit)**

In the first stage, glass reacts into the dilute solution at a roughly constant rate. This rate, the forward rate of reaction, is a function of glass composition, temperature, and solution chemistry (primarily pH). In a closed or slowly replenished system, the concentration of key reaction products increases in the solution as the reaction progresses. The second stage of reaction occurs when the concentration of solution species becomes high enough to significantly lower the reaction rate. The solution species most often accredited for reducing the alteration rate is orthosilicic acid (Advocat et al. 1990; Strachan and Croak 2000; Grambow 1987). However, other species (especially AlO_2^-) were observed to influence the alteration rate (Abraitis et al. 1998; Advocat et al. 1998). As the reaction progresses through the second stage of dissolution, the concentrations of key solution species become supersaturated in solution, with respect to any number of solid phases. At some point, one or more of the solid phases nucleate and begin to precipitate. The growth of these phases from the supersaturated solutions is generally fast. The solution concentrations of those key components incorporated into these solid phases or alteration

products decrease, thus enhancing the alteration rate and entering the third stage of dissolution. The transition from the second to the third stage of alteration requires the nucleation and growth of solid alteration products. These processes are influenced by a number of parameters that cannot be precisely controlled and therefore influence the reproducibility of the results. After this acceleration period, the fourth stage of alteration begins. The process slows down to an approximately constant dissolution rate as key components are added to the solution from glass dissolution at roughly the same rate as they are consumed in solid phase formation. It is possible to relate these four stages to the general observations of the m_a-t behavior of glass as illustrated in Figure 3-7. During the first two stages of dissolution, no solid alteration products are generated; therefore, no evidence of glass conversion to solid alteration products is detectable in VHT (e.g., before day 1 in our example). As solid alteration products begin to precipitate (Stage 3), evidence is seen in VHT corresponding to between 1 and 2 days in our example. Finally, after the rate acceleration, stage four begins—the linear portion of the VHT m_a-t curve (after day 3 in this example).

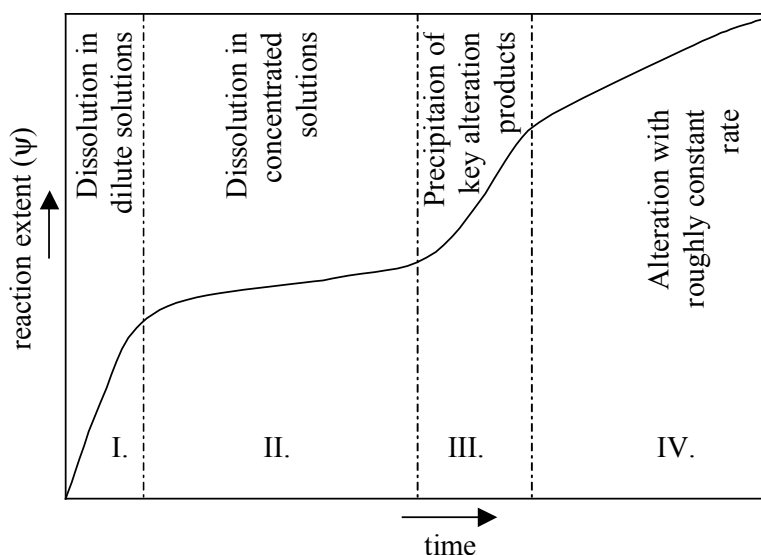


Figure 3-8. General Alteration Curve

The m_a-t relationship for glasses tested in this study are shown in Appendix C, while experimental data are reported in Appendix D. The fourth stage rate was determined for glasses tested in this study and reported in Section 3.2.1. Two other characteristics of the m_a-t relationship were tabulated for test glasses:

1. The time required to enter stage three or time to acceleration, which can be used to relate VHT data to long-term PCT or other static dissolution tests, is discussed in Section 3.2.2.
2. The intercept formed by extrapolating the linear portion of the m_a-t relationship to zero time, which gives an indication of the amount of glass dissolved before stage four is reached, is discussed in Section 3.2.3.

Appendix F lists the rates, intercepts, and time to reach Stage III of alteration for all tested glasses and temperatures.

3.2.1 Alteration Rate

The alteration rate, or the rate at which glass is converted to the alteration products, r , was determined from the linear portion of m_a-t curves. Typically, the range from 400 g/m² to 1800 g/m² was considered for the calculation. In this range, the alteration layers are well developed and cover the entire specimen. Fully converted specimens were generally excluded from the evaluation since the exact time of dissolution was unknown. The alteration rates for all matrix glasses were measured at 200°C. Selected glasses were tested at different temperatures ranging from 90°C to 300°C. However, only results from 150°C to 300°C are currently available. The alteration rates, intercepts, and time to reach Stage III are tabulated for all glasses and temperatures in Appendix F. The VHT alteration rates measured at 200°C, sorted according to glass ID, are given in Table 3-3. No correlation was found between the rates measured at 200°C with the normalized element releases measured by PCT at either 1000 h or 5000 h.

A typical example of an alteration curve for LAW glasses is displayed in Figure 3-9. The alteration rate was determined using above-mentioned criteria, the rate is defined with several data points, and the alteration curve is roughly linear with a positive intercept. There are a number of glasses (28) for which the alteration rate at 200°C could not be determined precisely. These glasses fall into three general categories, marked with a, b, or c in Table 3-3 and Appendix F. For glasses in the first category, the experimental data were not sufficient for the determination of the alteration rate at 200°C. Ten glasses are found in this category, marked with “a.” These glasses reached the 400 g/m² value of glass altered, but the data show scatter, or insufficient data were obtained to accurately determine r . Additional data may be used to improve the estimates of r for glasses in this category. An example of such a glass is shown in Figure 3-10.

Sufficient reaction extent for the rate determination (alteration extent greater than 400 g/m²) was not achieved for 16 glasses, marked with “b” in Table 3-3 and Appendix F. An example of such a glass is displayed in Figure 3-11. The water loss (as determined by vessel mass loss) is increasing with increasing reaction time, as discussed in Section 3.2.7.1. This water loss often results in nearly constant reaction extent after roughly 200 days at 200°C. The alteration rate for these glasses was calculated using the experimental data with increasing reaction extent and excluding the data with constant reaction extent. Additional data at 200°C will do little to improve rate estimates for glasses in this category.

Although only two glasses in Table 3-3 are marked with, “c,” the number of specimens with unusual alteration behavior is higher and is discussed in detail in Section 3.2.9. These glasses usually experience cracking or other problems that affect the specimen evaluation with IA.

Table 3-3. VHT Alteration Rates at 200°C

Glass ID	r [g/m²/d]^(a)		Glass ID	r [g/m²/d]		Glass ID	r [g/m²/d]	
HLP-01	2.4		HLP-20	3.2	b	HLP-39	7.4	c
HLP-02	264.7		HLP-21	2.7	a	HLP-40	1.5	b
HLP-03	0.9	b	HLP-22	1.1	b	HLP-41	8.1	a
HLP-04	34.1		HLP-23	15.3		HLP-42	0.24	c
HLP-05	2.6	a	HLP-24	2.8	b	HLP-43	0.24	a
HLP-06	1.6	a	HLP-25	5.7	a	HLP-44	1.46	b
HLP-07	13.8		HLP-26	1.3		HLP-45	3.2	a
HLP-08	7.2		HLP-27	84.1		HLP-46	254.6	
HLP-09	1.2	b	HLP-28	5.6		HLP-47	60.7	a
HLP-10	3.6		HLP-29	55.4		HLP-48	51.1	
HLP-11	6.0		HLP-30	1.7	a	HLP-49	0.6	b
HLP-12	13.6		HLP-31	78.3		HLP-51	4.8	b
HLP-13	2.6		HLP-32	0.2	b	HLP-52	1219.0	
HLP-14	14.8		HLP-33	22.3		HLP-53Q	552.5	a
HLP-15	0.7	b	HLP-34	0.3	b	HLP-54	32.8	
HLP-16	2.8	b	HLP-35	12.8		HLP-55	24.7	
HLP-17	4.8	b	HLP-36	14.9		HLP-56	5.2	b
HLP-18	16.7		HLP-37	1.8				
HLP-19	0.4	b	HLP-38	6.9				

- a) Insufficient data to accurately determine the alteration rate.
b) Sufficient alteration was not achieved before significant water loss.
c) Specimen analyses difficulties.

(a) The units of g/m²/d are used in this report to allow direct comparison with existing data on glass alteration rates. To convert to the SI units of kg/m²/s, the reader can multiply reported values by 1.1574×10⁻⁸.

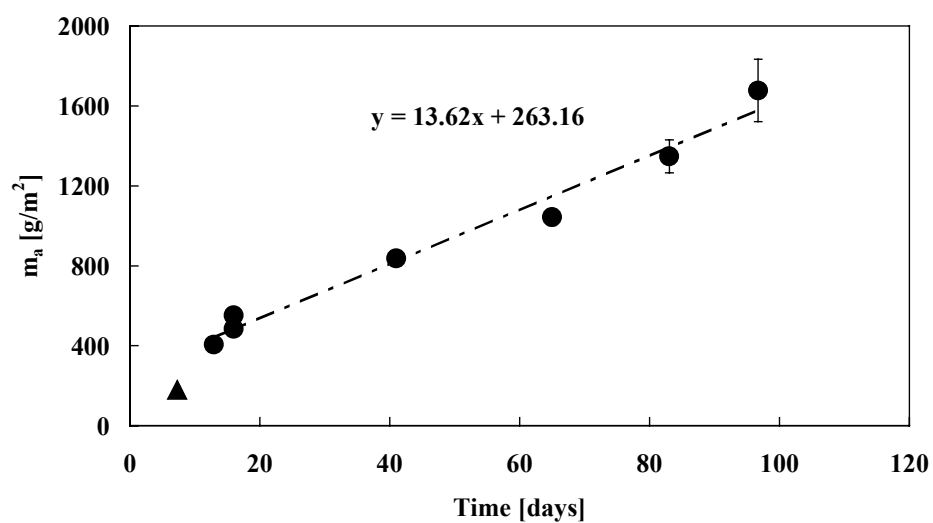


Figure 3-9. The m_a as a Function of t for HLP-12 at 200°C
(data represented by triangles were omitted from the linear fit)

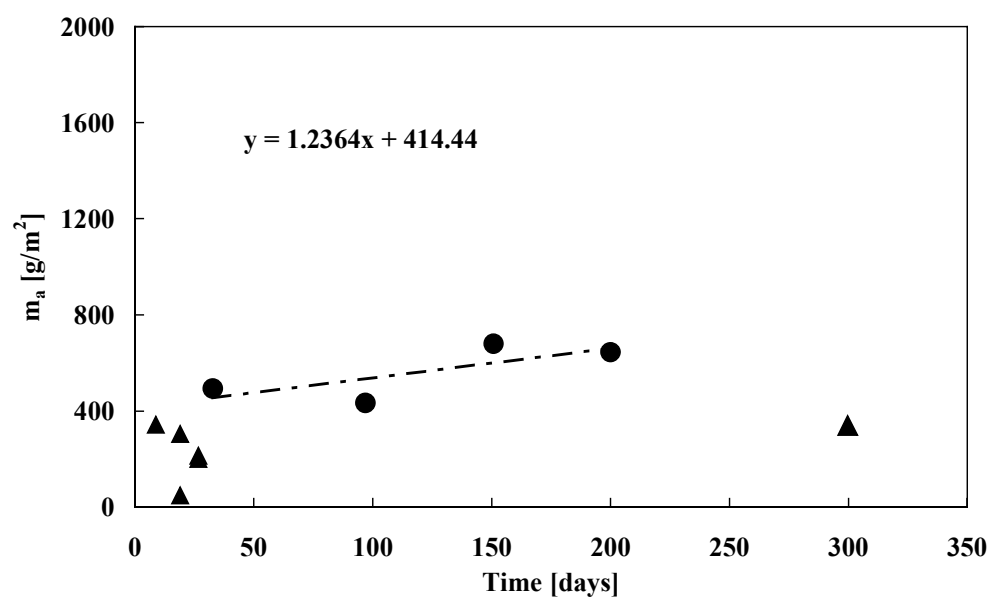


Figure 3-10. The m_a as a Function of t for HLP-09 at 200°C
(data represented by triangles were omitted from the linear fit)

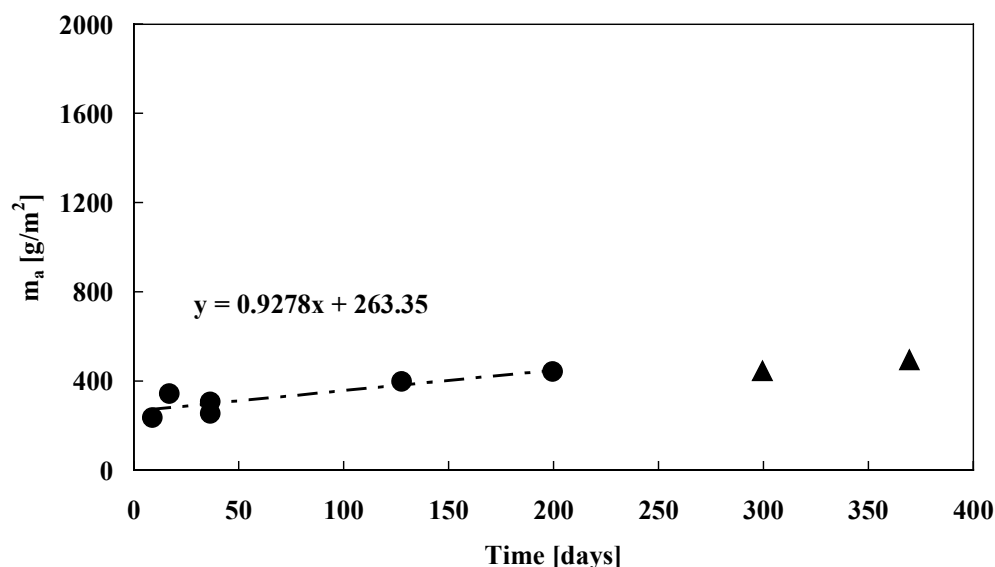


Figure 3-11. The m_a as a Function of t for HLP-03 at 200°C
(data represented by triangles were omitted from the linear fit)

Measured alteration rates at 200°C for HLP glasses are sorted by rate in Table 3-4. The alteration rates vary over nearly three orders of magnitude from 0.2 g/m²/d to 1219 g/m²/d. However, some glasses showed relatively high resistance to the VHT at 200°C, and the number of data obtained for the rate evaluation is limited. For 18 of 55 matrix glasses (those glasses marked with “b” and “c”) a precise assessment of rate is unlikely to be found. This is due to a majority of the glasses selected for study are far more resistant to the VHT than those glasses studies previously (HLP-46, -47, -48, -52, -53, -54, and -55). This suggests that there will be little trouble finding a glass composition for immobilization of Hanford LAW with high resistance to VHT at 200°C. Initial assessments of composition effects on glass resistance to VHT are discussed in Section 3.2.8.

3.2.2 Time to Acceleration

The time required to attain the accelerated phase (t_a), stage three of the water/glass reaction, was estimated for glasses exposed to VHT conditions. These t_a values are listed in Appendix F and range from approximately 0.5 to 150 days. Table 3-5 lists selected values for which acceleration in PCT-B rate at 99°C, 20 000 m⁻¹ from McGrail et al. (1999). Figure 3-12 compares the estimated times to acceleration from the two tests. Although there appears to be a trend, these data are preliminary, and further investigation of t_a by VHT and PCT is required before conclusions can be drawn.

3.2.3 Intercept

Intercept values loosely give an indication of the extent of reaction required to initiate the linear portion of the m_a - t behavior. Intercepts are listed by glass number along with r in Appendix F. They

range from approximately -274 to 2131 g/m². However, only 12 out of 113 values fell below 0, and most of those 12 were for tests with insufficient data to accurately assess r and intercept.

**Table 3-4. Alteration Rates at 200°C for Tested HLP Glasses
Sorted According to Alteration Rate**

Glass ID	r [g/m ² /d]		Glass ID	r [g/m ² /d]		Glass ID	r [g/m ² /d]	
HLP-52	1219.0		HLP-35	12.8		HLP-01	2.4	
HLP-53Q	552.6	a	HLP-41	8.1	a	HLP-37	1.9	
HLP-02	264.7		HLP-39	7.4	c	HLP-30	1.7	a
HLP-46	254.6		HLP-08	7.2		HLP-06	1.6	a
HLP-27	84.1		HLP-38	6.9		HLP-40	1.5	b
HLP-31	78.3		HLP-11	6.0		HLP-44	1.5	b
HLP-47	60.7	a	HLP-25	5.7	a	HLP-26	1.3	
HLP-29	55.4		HLP-28	5.6		HLP-09	1.2	b
HLP-48	51.1		HLP-56	5.2	b	HLP-22	1.1	b
HLP-04	34.1		HLP-51	4.8	b	HLP-03	0.9	b
HLP-54	32.8		HLP-17	4.8	b	HLP-15	0.7	b
HLP-55	24.7		HLP-10	3.6		HLP-49	0.6	b
HLP-33	22.3		HLP-45	3.2	c	HLP-19	0.4	b
HLP-18	16.7		HLP-20	3.2	b	HLP-34	0.3	b
HLP-23	15.3		HLP-16	2.8	b	HLP-42	0.2	c
HLP-36	14.9		HLP-24	2.8	b	HLP-43	0.2	a
HLP-14	14.8		HLP-21	2.7	a	HLP-32	0.2	b
HLP-07	13.8		HLP-05	2.6	a			
HLP-12	13.6		HLP-13	2.6				

- a) Not enough data to accurately determine the alteration rate
- b) Sufficient alteration was not achieved before significant water loss
- c) Specimen analyses difficulties.

Table 3-5. Estimated Time to Acceleration (t_a)

Glass ID	PCT [days] (99°C, 20 000 m ⁻¹)	VHT [days] (200°C)
HLP-10	≥ 12	≤ 3
HLP-46	≥ 10.5	≤ 1
HLP-47	≥ 41	≤ 5
HLP-52	≥ 7	≤ 0.5

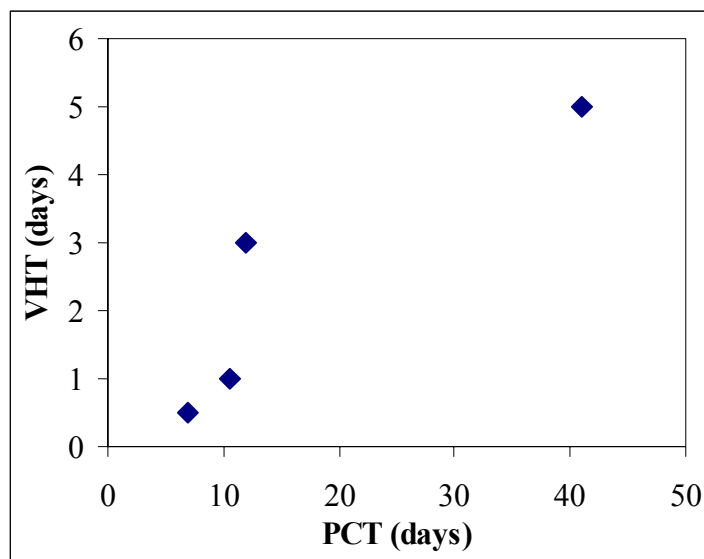


Figure 3-12. Time to Acceleration Comparison

3.2.4 Alteration Products – XRD Identification

The alteration products formed during VHT of selected glasses were characterized with XRD and SEM/EDS. Appendix E gives a series of XRD scans grouped in categories of samples with similar alteration products. Table 3-6 lists the crystalline alteration products identified in VHT specimens and Table 3-7 gives their measured concentrations by glass, test time and temperature, and analysis method. Most of the specimens tended to form analcime, sodium titanium silicate, and sodium aluminum silicate hydrate. As none of the elements were released from solution, they were available for reaction. The typical soluble component used to characterize glass dissolution was boron. Although boron alteration products were expected, only two boron-containing phases were identified (6 and 12 in Table 3-6). Another boron-containing phase is sodium-aluminum-silicate-boron-hydroxide hydrate. However, its XRD pattern is practically identical to sodium-aluminum-silicate hydrate, so its presence has not yet been confirmed. Semi-quantitative SEM/EDS analysis was performed on cross sections and surfaces of selected LAW glasses subjected to VHT.

Table 3-6. Crystalline 130 Phases Identified in VHT Samples with XRD

#	Phase	Formula	PDF# ^(a)	Formed in Glasses
1	Analcime-C	$\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	41–1478	All Except 52 and 53
2	Sodium titanium silicate	$\text{NaTiSi}_2\text{O}_6$	29–1280	All Except 06, 11, 12, 21, 23, 27, 29, 31, 35-38, 46, 48-55
3	Sodium aluminum silicate hydrate	$\text{Na}_6[\text{AlSiO}_4]_6 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	42–216	02, 19, 29, 35, 38, 48, 51, 53-55
	Sodium aluminum silicate boron hydroxide hydrate	$\text{Na}_{7.55}(\text{AlSiO}_4)_6(\text{B}(\text{OH})_4)_{1.685}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{1.97}$	83–550	
4	Sodium aluminum silicate hydrate	$\text{Na}_6\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{10}\text{O}_{32} \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$	39–219 44–103	23, 51
5	Sodium aluminum silicate hydrate	$\text{Na}_{5.7}\text{Al}_{5.7}\text{Si}_{10.3}\text{O}_{32} \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$	34–524	27
6	Tincalconite	$\text{Na}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7 \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$	7–277	30, 36
7	Spinel	$[\text{Fe}, \text{Zn}, \text{Ni}][\text{Fe}, \text{Ti}, \text{Cr}]_2\text{O}_4$	86–509	38, 42
8	Gobbsite	$\text{Ca}_{0.6}\text{Na}_{2.6}\text{K}_{2.2}\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_{10}\text{O}_{32}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_{12}$	75–1464	46
9	Sodium aluminum silicate hydrate	$\text{Na}_3\text{Al}_3\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{12}(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	84–590	09
10	Sodium aluminum silicon oxide	$\text{Na}_{2.12}\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_{8.06}$	47–716	56
11	Phillipsite	$(\text{K}, \text{Na})_2(\text{Si}, \text{Al})_8\text{O}_{16} \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	46–1427	51
12	Pinakolite	$(\text{Mg}, \text{Mn})_2\text{Mn}(\text{BO}_3)_2$	36–413	04, 37, 43, 48
13	Calcium silicate hydroxide hydrate	$\text{Ca}_{4.5}\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{15}(\text{OH})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$	43–1488	53
14	Sodium zirconium silicate	$\text{Na}_{14}\text{Zr}_2\text{Si}_{10}\text{O}_{31}$	29–1459	52
15	Hydroxycancrinite Sodium aluminum silicate hydrate	$\text{Na}_8\text{Al}_6\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ $\text{Na}_{14}\text{Al}_{12}\text{Si}_{13}\text{O}_{51} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$	46–1457 28–1036	52
16	Aegirine	$\text{NaFe}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$	34–0185	05, 12, 14, 44, 45
17	Zirconium oxide	$\text{Zr}_{0.94}\text{O}_2$	81–1322	39
18	Catapleite	$\text{Na}_2\text{ZrSi}_3\text{O}_9(\text{H}_2\text{O})_2$	72–2020	39
19	Acmite Acmite-augite	$\text{NaFe}(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6)$ $(\text{Na}, \text{Ca})\text{FeSi}_2\text{O}_6$	71–1491 18–1221	19, 40, 56
20	Unidentified	--	--	04, 21, 22, 49

(a) PDF = powder diffraction file.

Table 3-7. Crystalline Phases from Table 3-6 and Their Content (%)

Glass ID	Temp	t	Type	Crystalline Phase																				SEM
				1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
HLP-01	200	125	surf	97	3																			
HLP-02	200	30	bulk	16	15	69																		
HLP-03	200	125	surf	90	10																			
HLP-04	200	16	bulk	46	44										10									
HLP-05	300	8	surf																96				4	
HLP-06	200	106	surf	100																				X
HLP-07	200	100	bulk	94	6																			
HLP-08	200	100	surf	95	5																			
HLP-09	300	5	surf	93	4							3												X
HLP-10	200	129	surf	98	2																			
HLP-11	200	68	surf	100																				
HLP-12	200	105	bulk	82															18					X
HLP-12	300	2	bulk	45	55																			
HLP-13	200	80	surf	97	3																			
HLP-14	200	101	bulk	57															43					
HLP-15	200	75	surf	99	1																			
HLP-16	200	75	surf	98	2																			
HLP-17	200	75	surf	98	2																			
HLP-18	200	32	bulk	93	7																			
HLP-19	300	3	bulk	30		10																60		
HLP-20	200	75	surf	87	13																			
HLP-21	200	32	surf	85																			15	
HLP-22	200	32	surf	71																			29	
HLP-23	200	7	surf	95			5																	
HLP-24	200	32	surf	95	5																			
HLP-27	200	4	bulk	88				12																
HLP-27	200	100	bulk	100																				
HLP-28	200	300	surf	100																				
HLP-29	200	13	bulk	39	60	1																		
HLP-30	200	23	surf	94					6															
HLP-31	200	2	surf	100																				X
HLP-31	200	10	bulk	68	32																			
HLP-32	200	24	surf	85	15																			
HLP-33	200	129	surf	93	7																			
HLP-33	300	5	bulk	29	71																			X
HLP-34	300	8	surf	8		46							46											
HLP-35	200	21	bulk	61		39																		
HLP-36	200	32	surf	86					14															
HLP-37	200	24	surf	76											24									
HLP-38	200	24	bulk	38		2				60														

Glass ID	Temp	t	Type	Crystalline Phase																				SEM
	(°C)	(d)		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
HLP-38	200	64	bulk	24		10				66														
HLP-39	300	5	bulk																58	26	16			
HLP-40	275	5	bulk	5		33																62		
HLP-41	200	120	surf	90	10																			
HLP-42	200	68	surf	33	5					62														
HLP-43	200	33	bulk	53	6										41									
HLP-44	300	3	bulk	79															21					
HLP-45	300	3	bulk	65															35					
HLP-46	200	1	bulk	97							3													X
HLP-46	200	4	bulk	95							5													
HLP-47	200	24	bulk	97	3																			X
HLP-48	200	20	bulk	41		51									8									X
HLP-49	200	50	surf	47																		53		
HLP-51	150	187	surf	13										87										
HLP-51	200	75	bulk	19			81																	X
HLP-51	250	3	surf	70		30																		
HLP-52	200	13	bulk														38	62						
HLP-53	200	3	bulk			94										6								
HLP-54	200	41	bulk	65		45																		
HLP-55	200	14	bulk	40		60																		
HLP-56	250	7	surf	71	20																9			
HLP-56	250	5	surf	96	4																			
HLP-56	300	3	bulk	21	72								7											X

3.2.5 Alteration Products – SEM/EDS Identification

3.2.5.1 SEM/EDS on Specimen Cross-Section

Specimen cross-sections were analyzed on selected samples to help determine the location and composition of the alteration products. These current results are highlighted below.

The EDS results for HLP-09 are given in Table 3-8 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS analyses are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-13. It is apparent that the alteration products form at least three layers. These layers can also be identified with OM, as shown in Figure 3-14.

It can be assumed that no components from the glass are removed from the specimen surface during testing because of the nature of the VHT. Therefore, the differences in concentration of individual elements indicate component migration or component incorporation in alteration products. From the analyzed components, silicon, aluminum, sodium, and magnesium show the highest differences in concentration between the alteration layers.

The highest concentration of sodium was found in EDS-03, which is located under the surface alteration layer. The lowest concentration of sodium was found in the surface alteration layer (EDS-04). The content of sodium, aluminum, and silicon in EDS-04 yields the atomic ratios of $\text{Na}_{1.1}\text{Al}_{0.9}\text{Si}_{2.9}$, which roughly corresponds to the composition of analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$). Analcime was the major alteration product identified with XRD as shown in Appendix E (see Figure 3-14). The third layer, analyzed as EDS-06, appears from OM and SEM to be an intermediate between layers two and four (EDS-02 and EDS-03); the EDS composition estimates confirm this assignment.

**Table 3-8. EDS Results for HLP-09 Glass Subjected to VHT at 300°C
(normalized mass% of elements)**

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	29.3	1.8	7.3	45.2	0.7	3.5	7.6	2.4	2.2
EDS-01	24.3	1.0	13.3	51.9	0.7	2.3	4.3	1.1	1.1
EDS-02	24.4	0.7	13.3	51.7	1.1	2.4	4.1	1.1	1.2
EDS-03	33.1	2.5	2.8	47.7	0.9	3.8	6.1	1.8	1.2
EDS-04	17.7	0.6	17.0	56.1	0.3	2.1	3.9	1.1	1.2
EDS-06	30.7	1.1	11.8	46.3	1.0	2.6	4.5	1.2	0.8

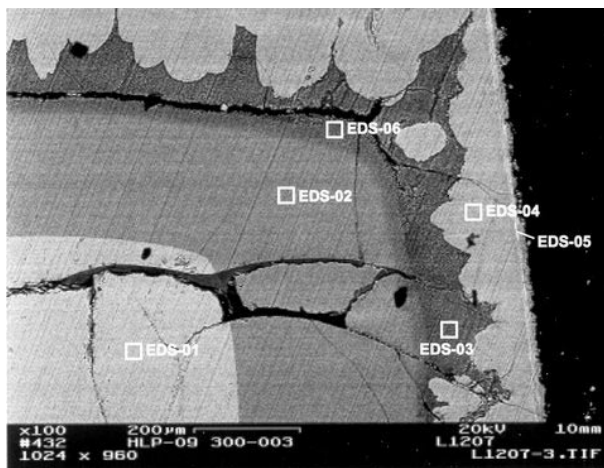


Figure 3-13. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-09 Subjected to VHT at 300°C for 3 Days

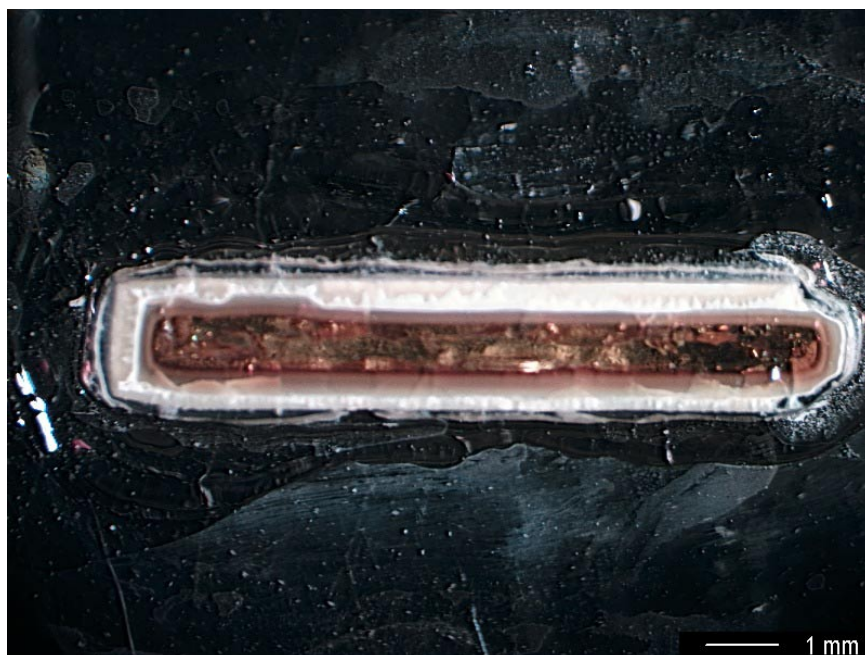


Figure 3-14. OM of HLP-09 Subjected to VHT at 300°C for 3 Days

The EDS results for HLP-12 are given in Table 3-9 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-15. The content of sodium in the alteration layers is almost constant. The biggest difference in concentration is observed for aluminum, which shows the highest concentration under the surface alteration layer and is practically depleted in the surface alteration layer. Sodium and silicon are the major components found in the surface alteration layer, which is also enriched with titanium and iron. This would indicate the presence of aegirine ($\text{NaFe}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$) or sodium titanium silicate ($\text{NaTiSi}_2\text{O}_6$). Analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$) and Na-clinopyroxene aegirine ($\text{NaFe}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$) were identified as the major crystalline phases. A large solid solution range exists between Na-Fe and Na-Ti clinopyroxenes. The EDS results from specimen cross section are not suitable for determination of atomic ratios.

Table 3-9. EDS Results for HLP-12 Glass Subjected to VHT at 200°C (normalized mass% of elements)

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	27.8	1.7	6.9	43.0	0.6	3.4	12.2	2.3	2.1
EDS-08	25.2	0.0	9.6	45.6	0.5	3.3	11.1	2.5	2.3
EDS-07	24.3	0.0	12.0	46.7	0.7	2.3	9.5	2.4	2.1
EDS-09	27.1	0.0	1.2	43.3	0.4	5.7	17.3	2.7	2.3

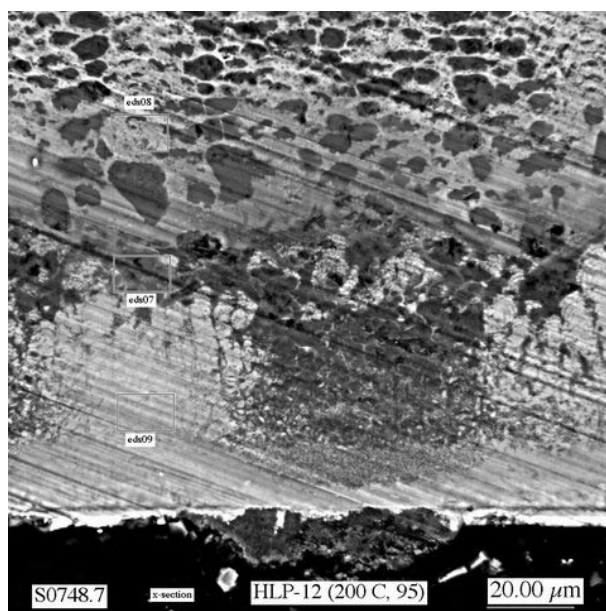


Figure 3-15. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-12 Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 95 Days

The EDS results for HLP-06 are given in normalized atomic% of elements in Table 3-10. The location of EDS measurements is displayed in Figure 3-16. Generally, it can be concluded that the content of sodium is systematically lower in EDS scans from areas showing preferential leaching. All other elements, except aluminum, are present in the amounts comparable to the target glass composition. The content of aluminum is higher because a solution with aluminum oxide was used to polish this cross section before analysis. Based on this observation, we can conclude that the fibers observed in the HLP-06 specimen after the VHT test were created by preferential leaching, and the composition of altered glass was depleted of sodium (roughly about 10 mol%). A slight increase in silica concentration (roughly 3 mol%) was also observed. The magnesium concentration is systematically lower in EDS scans from glass areas. However, fibers show slight enrichment in magnesium when compared to the glass areas.

Table 3-10. EDS Results for HLP-06 Glass subjected to VHT at 200°C

	Location	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Sum
Target	Glass	36.46	2.10	7.76	46.14	0.49	2.12	3.89	1.04	100.00
EDS-01	Glass	33.96	1.47	12.98	44.65	0.49	1.89	3.51	1.04	100.00
EDS-02	Fiber	26.54	2.02	14.87	49.57	0.40	1.72	3.83	1.06	100.00
EDS-05	Fiber	28.38	1.70	14.16	48.40	0.43	2.03	3.86	1.05	100.00
EDS-06	Glass	34.17	1.49	13.03	44.34	0.45	1.91	3.52	1.10	100.00
EDS-08	Glass	30.26	1.71	13.92	47.16	0.51	1.90	3.55	0.98	100.00
EDS-09	Fiber	27.35	1.95	14.53	48.87	0.40	2.05	3.80	1.04	100.00

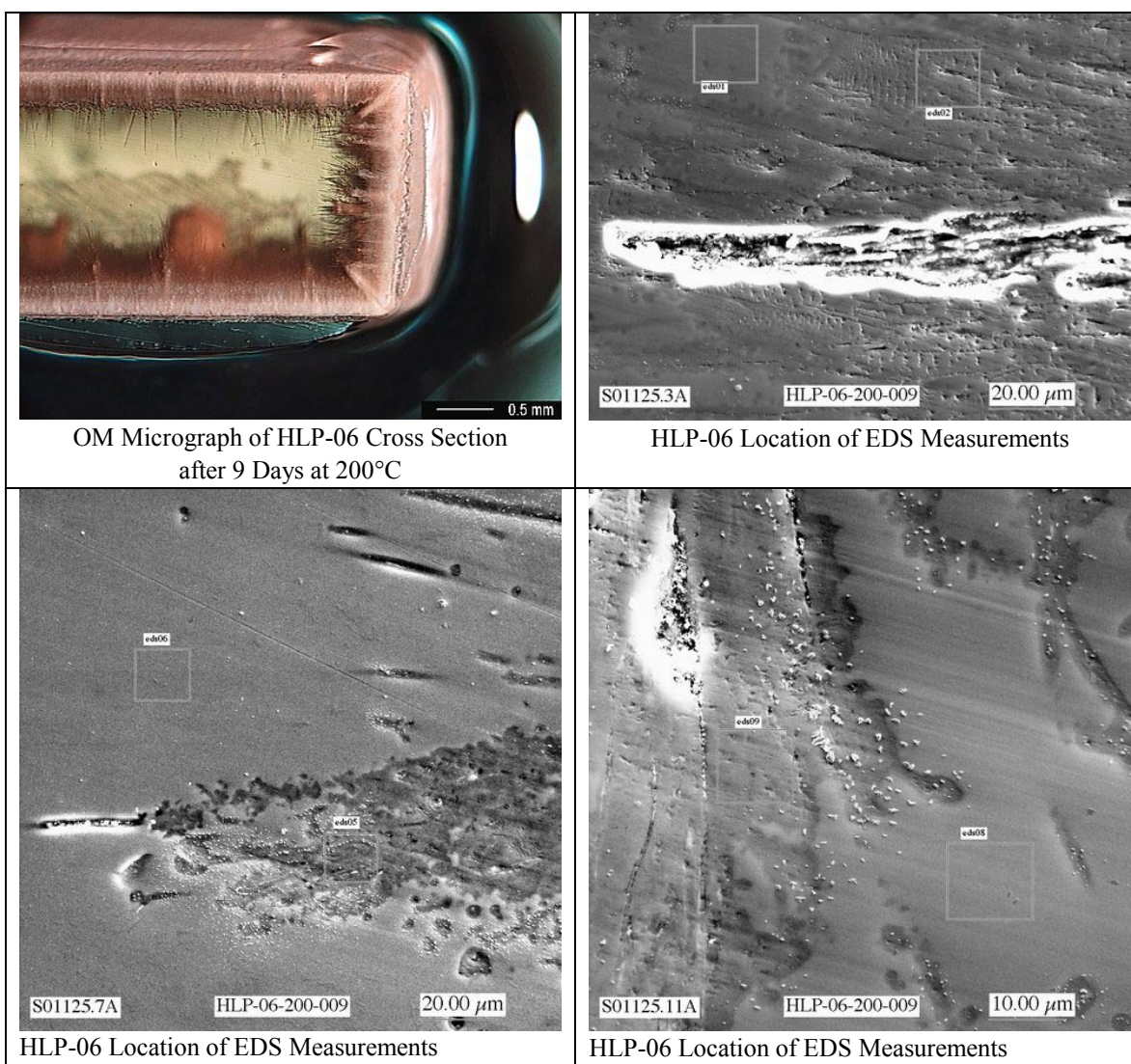


Figure 3-16. Location of EDS Spectra for HLP-06 Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 9 Days

The EDS results for HLP-47 are given in normalized atomic% of elements in Table 3-11. The location of EDS measurements is displayed in Figure 3-17. A translucent alteration layer develops during the alteration of HLP-47 glass. Surprisingly, the SEM/EDS analysis reveals that the composition of this translucent alteration layer is almost identical to the target glass composition (EDS-04, 06, and 10), showing slight depletion of sodium and possibly slight silica enrichment. White almost transparent crystals were observed inside this layer. The SEM/EDS analysis reveals high sodium content (above 80 mol%) and about 10 mol% of silica. This phase was not identified yet.

Table 3-11. EDS Results for HLP-47 Glass subjected to VHT at 200°C

	Location	Na	Al	Si	K	Fe	Zr	SUM
Target	Glass	35.88	10.90	50.30	1.77	0.70	0.45	100.00
EDS-03	Particle	81.82	3.16	14.24	0.46	0.17	0.14	100.00
EDS-04	Glass	29.85	11.40	54.99	2.05	1.03	0.67	100.00
EDS-06	Glass	29.74	11.49	55.21	1.99	1.03	0.53	100.00
EDS-07	Particle	85.93	2.64	10.83	0.31	0.17	0.11	100.00
EDS-09	Particle	83.40	3.06	12.85	0.35	0.17	0.17	100.00
EDS-10	Glass	28.94	11.70	55.49	2.03	1.09	0.76	100.00

The EDS results for HLP-48 are given in normalized atomic% of elements in Table 3-12. The location of EDS measurements is displayed in Figure 3-18. The surface layers are depleted of sodium and aluminum when compared to the inside layers and target glass composition. The content of silica does not change significantly. All other elements are present in the surface layer in concentrations higher than in the target glass composition. Although EDS-04 is located in the area that shows preferential leaching, its composition is comparable to EDS-05 (target glass), probably because the area of the measurement does not have sufficient resolution to reveal the composition of preferentially leached areas. The EDS-12 reveals that the preferentially leached areas of the specimen are depleted of sodium (roughly 10 mol% when compared to EDS-14, and roughly 17 mol% when compared to the target glass composition). EDS-12 also shows an increase in silica concentration (roughly 10 mol%) when compared to the target glass composition and possibly an increase in magnesium concentration.

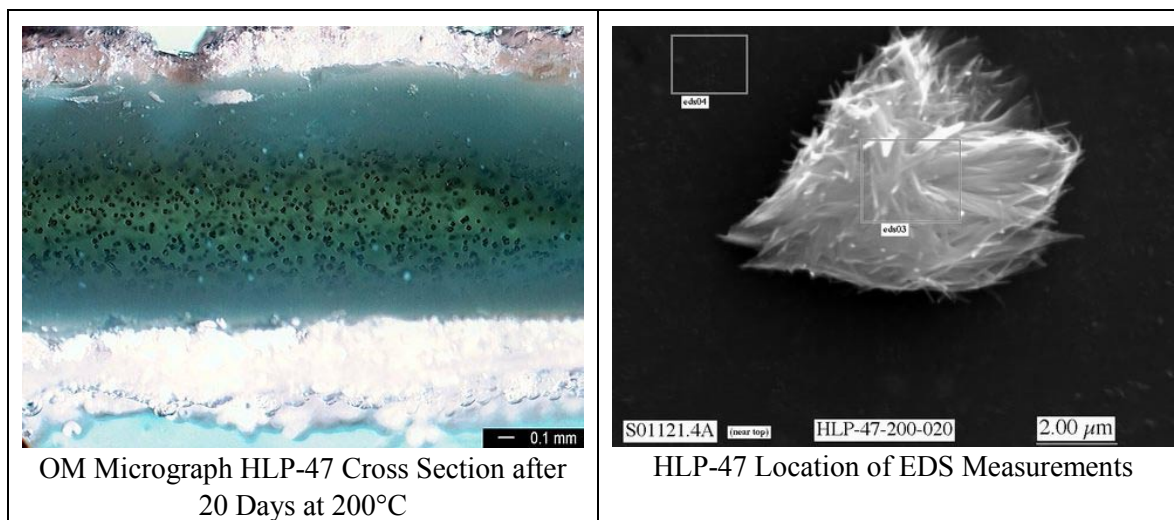


Figure 3-17. Location of EDS Measurements for HLP-47 Glass Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 20 Days

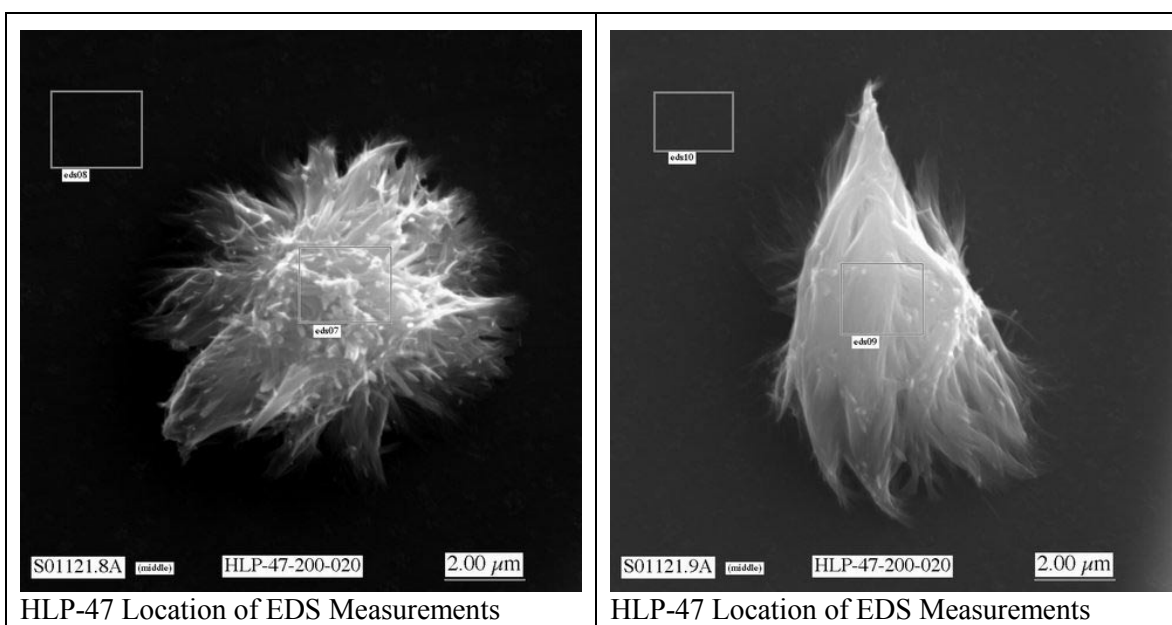


Figure 3-17 (continued)

Table 3-12. EDS Results for HLP-48 Glass subjected to VHT at 150°C

	Location	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr	SUM
Target	Glass	35.69	2.73	12.99	35.21	3.64	1.72	4.00	2.90	1.12	100.00
EDS-01	Layer 1	28.46	6.20	3.55	32.84	6.10	4.54	9.25	6.87	2.19	100.00
EDS-02	Layer 2	29.69	5.69	4.17	34.20	5.69	5.28	8.45	4.04	2.79	100.00
EDS-03	Layer 3	32.72	2.81	14.97	36.15	2.96	1.38	3.84	3.66	1.52	100.00
EDS-04	Fibers	35.80	2.87	11.95	35.03	3.35	1.97	4.45	3.11	1.46	100.00
EDS-05	Glass	36.48	2.27	12.67	35.19	3.54	1.66	3.96	3.01	1.21	100.00
EDS-12	Fibers	18.46	3.22	15.54	44.43	4.70	2.35	5.64	4.16	1.51	100.00
EDS-13	Both	23.84	2.42	15.46	41.91	4.11	1.90	4.69	4.14	1.50	100.00
EDS-14	Glass	29.08	2.48	13.88	39.29	4.10	1.91	4.47	3.53	1.28	100.00

The EDS results for HLP-51 are given in Table 3-13 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS analyses are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-19. Surface layer EDS-01 was identified as analcime with atomic ratios $\text{Na}_{1.1}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.1}$. The layer under the surface layer was depleted of sodium and aluminum. Although the layers marked with EDS-03 and EDS-04 are distinguishable with both OM and SEM/EDS, their compositions are similar, showing significant variation only in the content of sodium and aluminum. Initial glass composition corresponds to that of EDS-05, but shows lower sodium concentration.

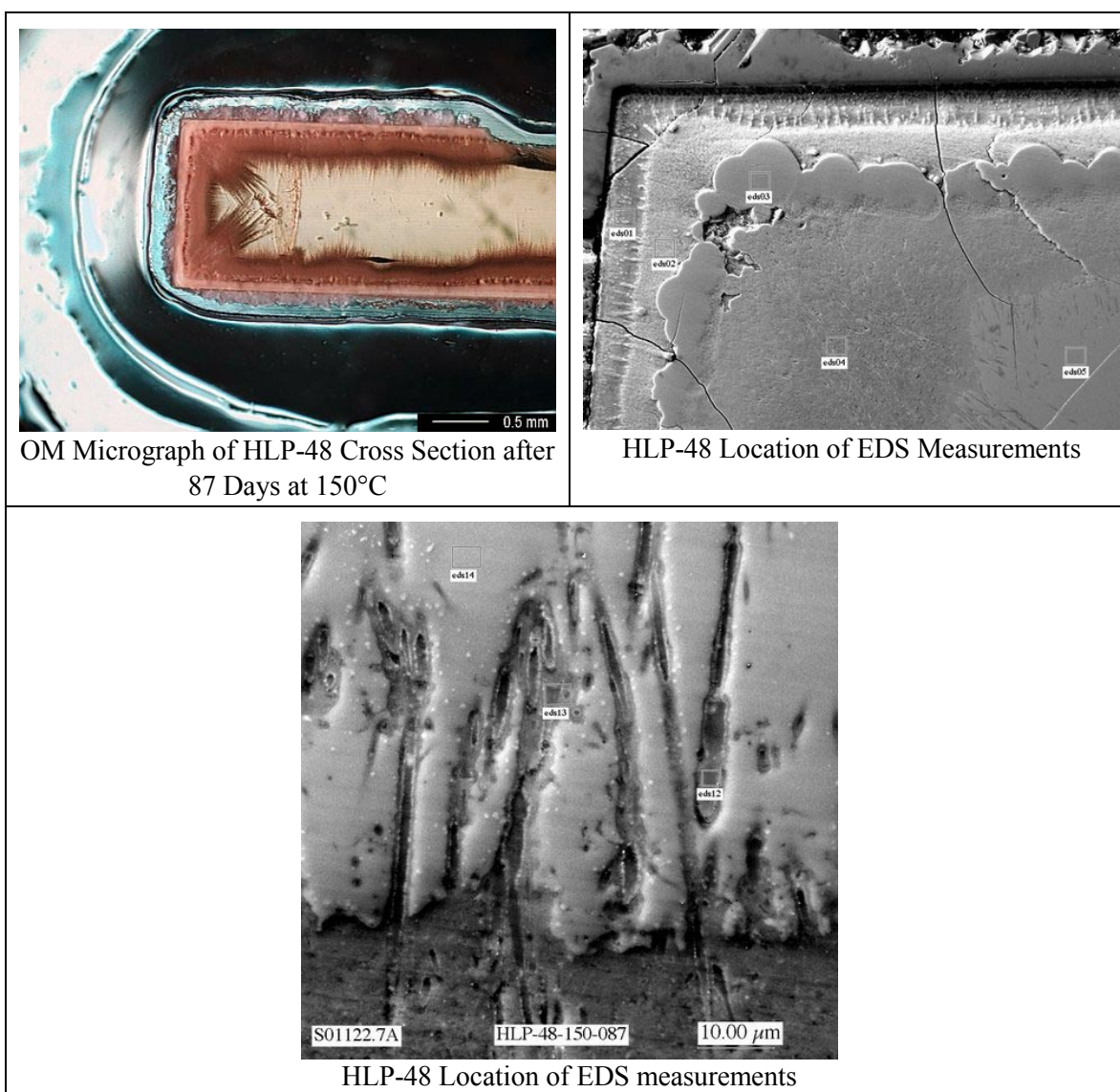


Figure 3-18. Location of EDS Spectra for HLP-48 Glass Subjected to VHT at 150°C for 87 Days

The EDS results for HLP-51 are given in normalized atomic% of elements in Table 3-14. The location of EDS measurements is displayed in Figure 3-20. Three different compositions were observed in the areas with preferential leaching. The first one matches the target glass composition and is shown in EDS-08 and EDS-11. The second composition (EDS-10) shows depletion of sodium (roughly 9 mol%) and enrichment of silica (8 mol%) and magnesium (1.5 mol%). The third composition (EDS-09) shows no magnesium and an enrichment of aluminum (4 mol%), and possibly silica (2 mol%).

Table 3-13. EDS Results for HLP-51 Glass Subjected to VHT at 200°C (normalized mass% of elements)

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	La	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	28.0	1.1	10.0	36.9	3.4	3.2	2.8	3.3	3.9	7.3
EDS-01	20.4	0.0	22.2	48.0	1.0	0.0	0.1	2.3	4.5	1.5
EDS-02	9.4	2.1	2.6	39.3	7.2	9.1	7.7	7.5	6.3	8.8
EDS-03	16.6	1.6	3.4	38.5	7.0	4.8	4.1	3.6	4.6	16.0
EDS-04	13.6	0.6	10.2	43.2	7.4	3.5	3.1	3.4	4.5	10.5
EDS-05	19.1	0.5	9.9	41.8	4.2	3.4	3.1	3.3	4.3	10.2

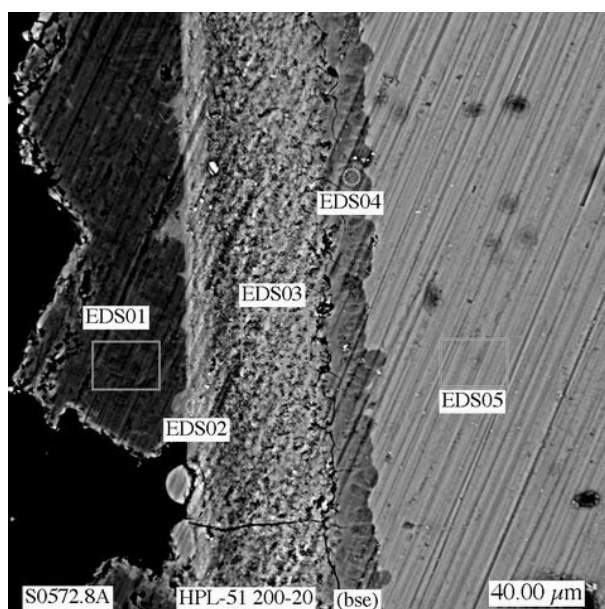
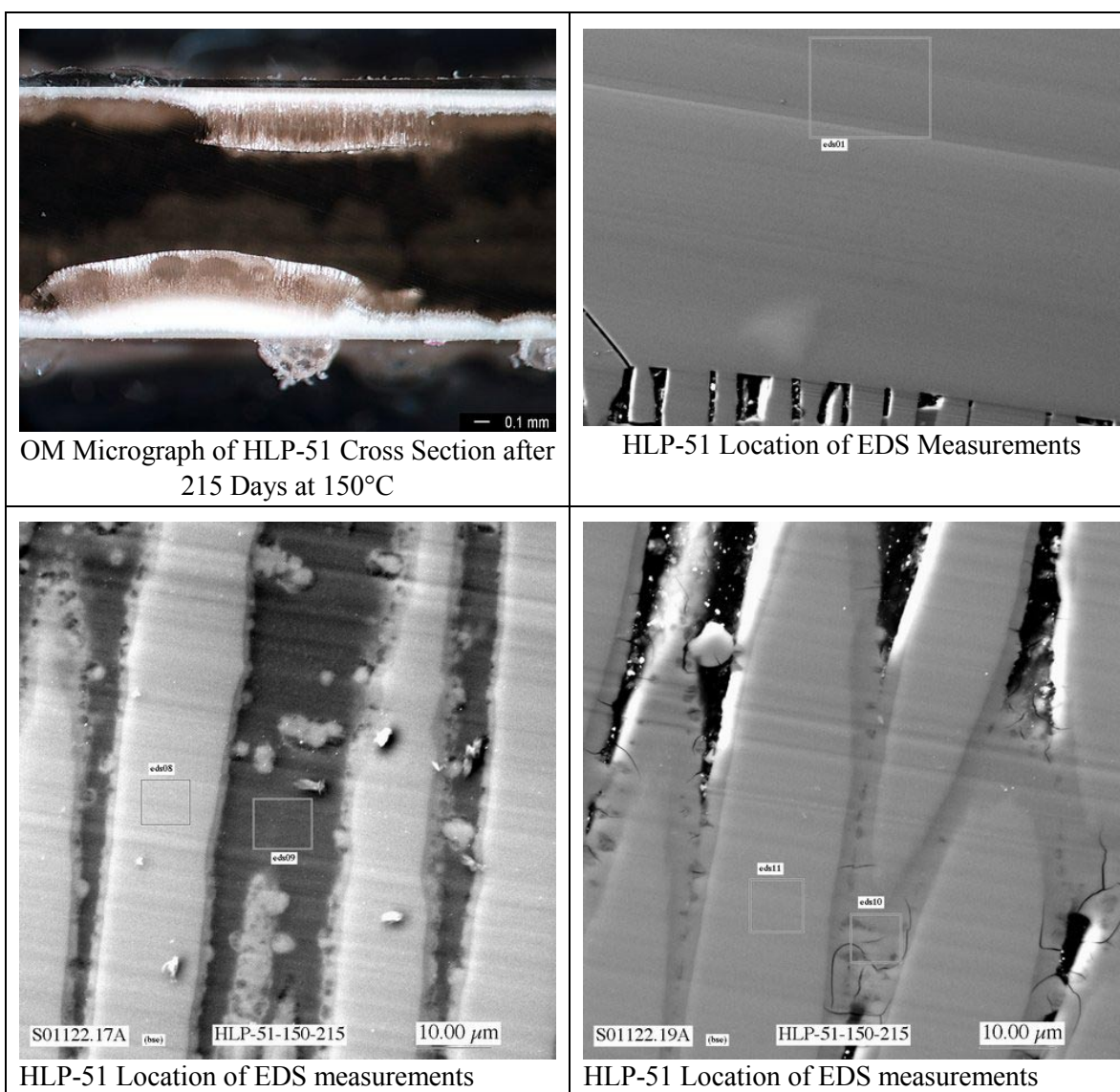


Figure 3-19. Location of EDS Measurements for HLP-51 Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 20 Days

Table 3-14. EDS Results for HLP-51 Glass Subjected to VHT at 150°C

	Location	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	SUM
Target	Glass	37.86	1.46	11.51	40.90	2.74	1.83	1.84	1.87	100.00
EDS-01	Glass	38.03	1.05	11.13	41.98	2.75	1.28	1.73	2.04	100.00
EDS-08	Glass	35.29	1.16	11.60	43.82	2.83	1.33	1.82	2.14	100.00
EDS-09	Fiber	36.66	0.00	15.59	42.59	1.10	0.87	1.00	2.19	100.00
EDS-10	Fiber	28.79	2.92	10.35	47.89	2.88	1.80	2.88	2.49	100.00
EDS-11	Glass	35.48	1.19	11.73	43.79	2.73	1.31	1.80	1.97	100.00



**Figure 3-20. Location of EDS Measurements for HLP-51
Glass Subjected to VHT at 150°C for 215 Days**

3.2.5.2 SEM/EDS on Specimen Surface

The EDS results for HLP-12 are given in Table 3-15 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-21. EDS-09 and EDS-11 show similar composition, yielding the atomic ratios of $\text{Na}_{1.6}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.8}$, which approximately corresponds to analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$). EDS-10 shows significant amounts of sodium, silicon, and iron, indicating the presence of aegirine ($\text{NaFe}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$). Aegirine was observed to a form wide range of composition, yielding possibly augite ($\text{Ca}(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe}^{2+})\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$) and its intermediate mineral aegirine-augite. It was also observed to contain minor amounts of titanium (Bates 1984) and aluminum that is substituting

silicon up to 10% (Nesse 1991). The atomic ratios for EDS-10 yield $\text{Na}_{1.4}\text{Fe}_{0.2}\text{Al}_{0.3}\text{Si}_{1.6}$ that might correspond to one of the aegirine compositions. XRD identified analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$) and Na-clinopyroxene aegirine ($\text{NaFe}(\text{SiO}_3)_2$) as the major crystalline phases.

Table 3-15. EDS Results for HLP-12 Glass Subjected to VHT at 200°C (normalized mass% of elements).

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	27.8	1.7	6.9	43.0	0.6	3.4	12.2	2.3	2.1
EDS-09	23.2	0.0	17.0	49.6	0.2	0.5	7.3	2.2	0.0
EDS-10	31.1	0.0	6.9	43.9	0.2	1.2	13.6	3.1	0.0
EDS-11	25.7	0.0	13.5	47.6	0.3	0.6	9.6	2.8	0.0

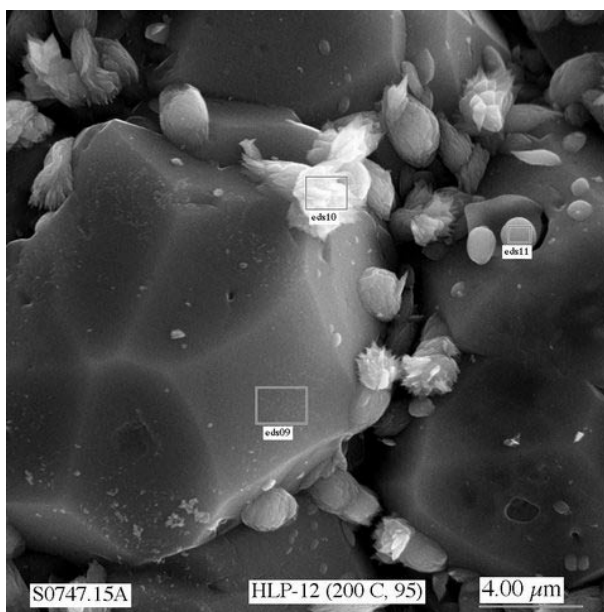


Figure 3-21. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-12 Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 95 Days

The EDS results for HLP-31 are given in Table 3-16 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-22. EDS-09 is not displayed, but its location approximately corresponds to EDS-01. Average atomic ratios from EDS-01 and EDS-09 yield $\text{Na}_{1.0}\text{Al}_{0.4}\text{Fe}_{0.1}\text{Si}_{1.8}$. Its morphology does not correspond to analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$), which was identified as a major crystalline phase, and it does not contain enough titanium to form sodium titanium silicate ($\text{NaTiSi}_2\text{O}_6$), which was identified as a second alteration product. Therefore, it must be concluded that this crystalline phase is a clinopyroxene solid solution with the composition closer to Na-Fe clinopyroxene and the crystal structure closer to Na-Ti clinopyroxene.

Table 3-16. EDS Results for HLP-31 Glass Subjected to VHT at 200°C (normalized mass% of elements)

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ca	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	34.6	1.1	4.3	49.3	0.8	0.0	2.2	4.8	1.5	1.4
EDS-01	18.6	0.0	15.3	52.5	0.2	0.0	1.5	7.4	2.5	1.8
EDS-02	33.9	1.1	7.4	48.9	0.4	0.0	1.7	3.9	1.2	1.5
EDS-09	42.5	0.0	11.1	39.8	0.0	0.0	0.7	3.3	1.1	1.4

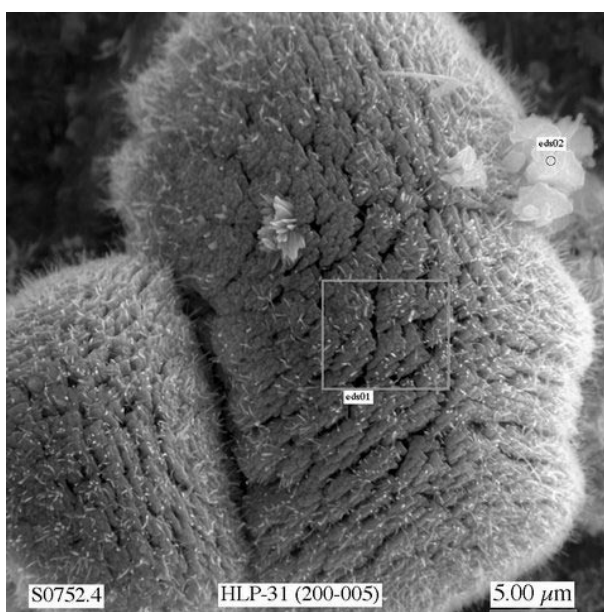


Figure 3-22. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-31 Subjected to VHT at 200°C for 5 Days

The EDS results for HLP-43 are given in Table 3-17 in mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure. Atomic ratios for EDS-01 and EDS-02 yield $\text{Na}_{1.4}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.5}$ and $\text{Na}_{3.0}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{4.4}$, respectively. Both compositions are roughly equal to analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$), but EDS-02 is depleted of aluminum. Atomic ratios for EDS-07 yield $\text{Na}_{1.3}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.6}$, which roughly equates to analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$) as well. The shape of these analcime crystals, created at 250°C, suggests that the crystals are in their cubic configuration and were created by rapid growth. EDS-05 and EDS-11 show the specimen surface between the crystalline phases. Their composition is similar. These surface layers show depletion of sodium, magnesium, silicon, potassium, and zirconium. They are rich in titanium (2× higher content than in the initial glass), iron (8× higher), and zinc (10× higher), indicating the presence of zinc iron titanium oxide (ZnFeTiO_4). However, this observation was not confirmed by XRD.

Table 3-17. EDS Results for HLP-43 Glass Subjected to VHT at 250°C (normalized mass% of elements).

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	29.3	1.8	7.3	45.3	0.7	3.5	7.6	2.4	2.2
EDS-01	14.4	0.0	20.2	58.3	0.0	0.1	2.3	4.2	0.5
EDS-02	27.4	0.0	10.6	48.4	0.3	0.1	4.6	8.7	0.0
EDS-05	3.5	0.0	3.3	3.9	0.1	8.3	57.4	23.5	0.1
EDS-11	5.6	0.0	3.3	5.6	0.2	11.0	54.3	19.8	0.2

The EDS results for HLP-48 are given in Table 3-18 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-24. Crystals marked with EDS-22 were identified as sodium chloride with the atomic ratios of $\text{Na}_{1.0}\text{Cl}_{1.1}$. The surface layer marked with EDS-23 is enriched with titanium, iron, and zinc when compared to the target glass composition. The crystalline phase was not identified yet. Atomic ratios for EDS-26 yield analcime $\text{Na}_{1.0}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.4}$. An unknown crystalline phase, marked with EDS-25, is located on top of analcime crystals. This phase is rich in zirconium and sodium and also contains silicon and aluminum.

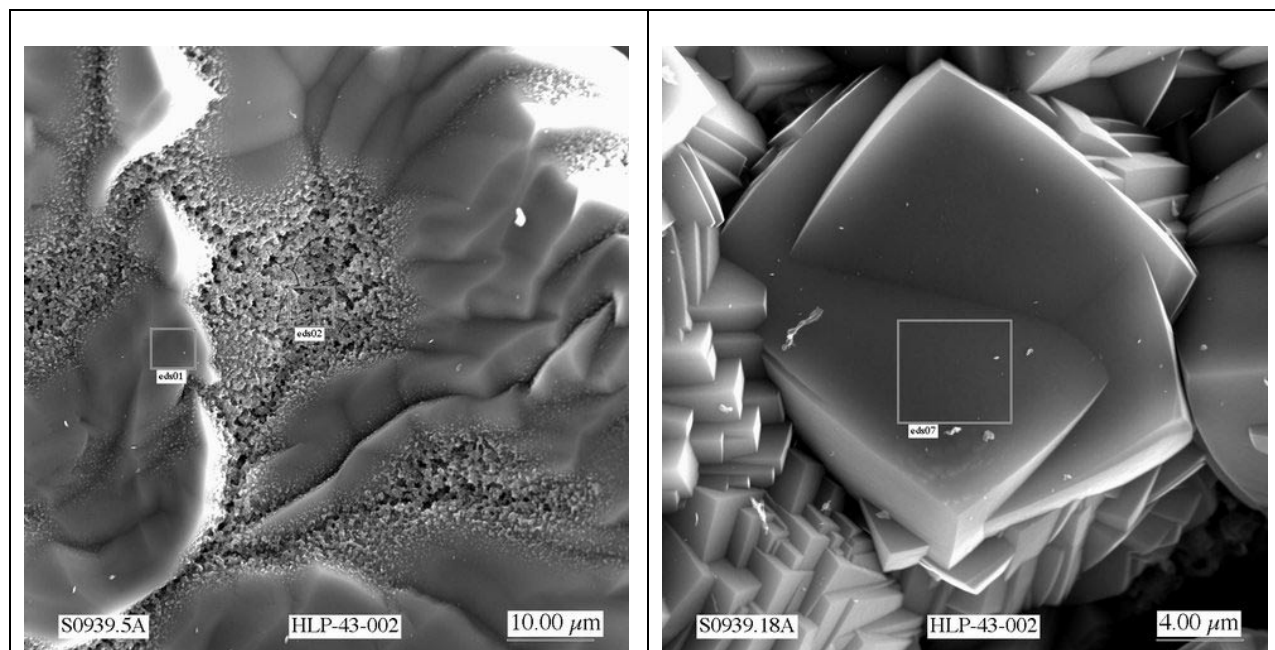


Figure 3-23. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-43 Subjected to VHT at 250°C for 2 Days

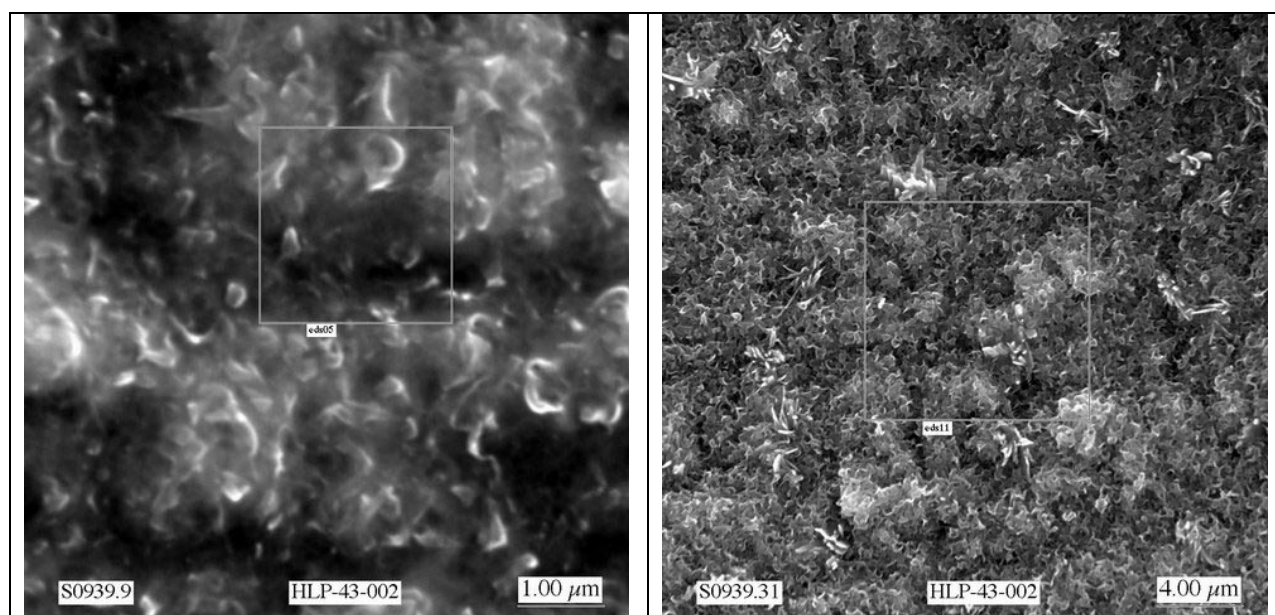


Figure 3-23 (continued)

Table 3-18. EDS Results for HLP-48 Glass Subjected to VHT at 175°C (normalized mass% of elements)

ID	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Cl	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr
Target	20.0	0.0	12.0	38.3	3.1	0.6	2.5	5.8	4.3	2.5
EDS-22	35.9	0.0	0.4	0.9	0.3	61.1	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.1
EDS-23	3.8	0.0	1.0	1.4	1.2	0.8	27.1	38.6	25.8	0.4
EDS-25	51.7	0.0	3.6	12.3	0.6	1.2	0.0	0.4	0.7	29.6
EDS-26	18.6	0.0	21.0	52.5	1.0	0.2	0.1	1.9	2.6	2.1

The EDS results for HLP-56 are given in Table 3-19 in normalized mass% of elements. The locations of EDS measurements are indicated in the electron micrograph shown in Figure 3-25. Atomic ratios for EDS-01 and EDS-04 yield $\text{Na}_{1.4}\text{Al}_{1.0}\text{Si}_{2.5}$, corresponding to analcime ($\text{NaAlSi}_2\text{O}_6 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$). EDS-02 yields the atomic ratios of $\text{Na}_{1.5}\text{Fe}_{0.5}\text{Ti}_{0.1}\text{Si}_{2.0}$, corresponding to acmite-augite ($(\text{Na}, \text{Ca})\text{FeSi}_2\text{O}_6$). Both phases were also identified with XRD.

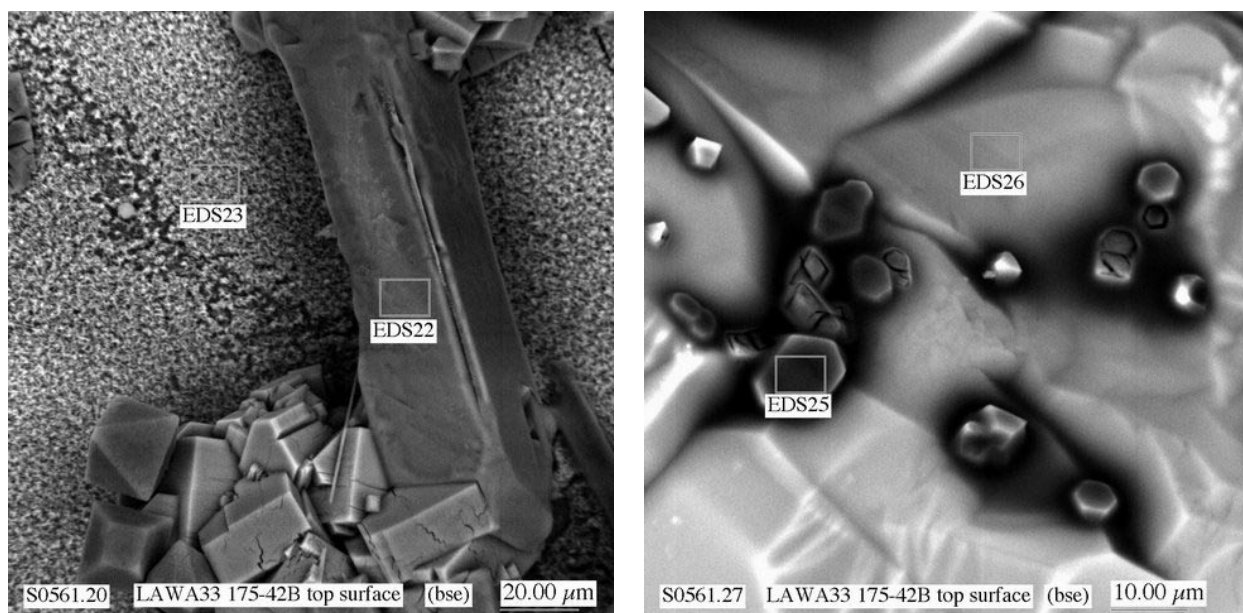


Figure 3-24. Location of EDS Measurements for HLP-48 Subjected to VHT at 175°C for 42 Days

Table 3-19. EDS Results for HLP-56 Glass Subjected to VHT at 250°C (normalized mass% of elements)

Initial Glass	Na	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ca	Ti	Fe	Zn	Zr	Re
Target	28.45	2.31	6.29	39.93	0.40	2.73	2.29	9.36	3.82	4.25	0.16
EDS-01	22.26	0.00	19.24	49.76	0.04	0.11	0.11	3.00	4.54	0.94	0.00
EDS-04	29.36	0.00	18.72	45.61	0.02	0.02	0.02	2.24	3.65	0.35	0.00
EDS-02	24.62	0.36	0.53	38.97	0.08	2.35	4.74	20.47	5.43	2.45	0.00

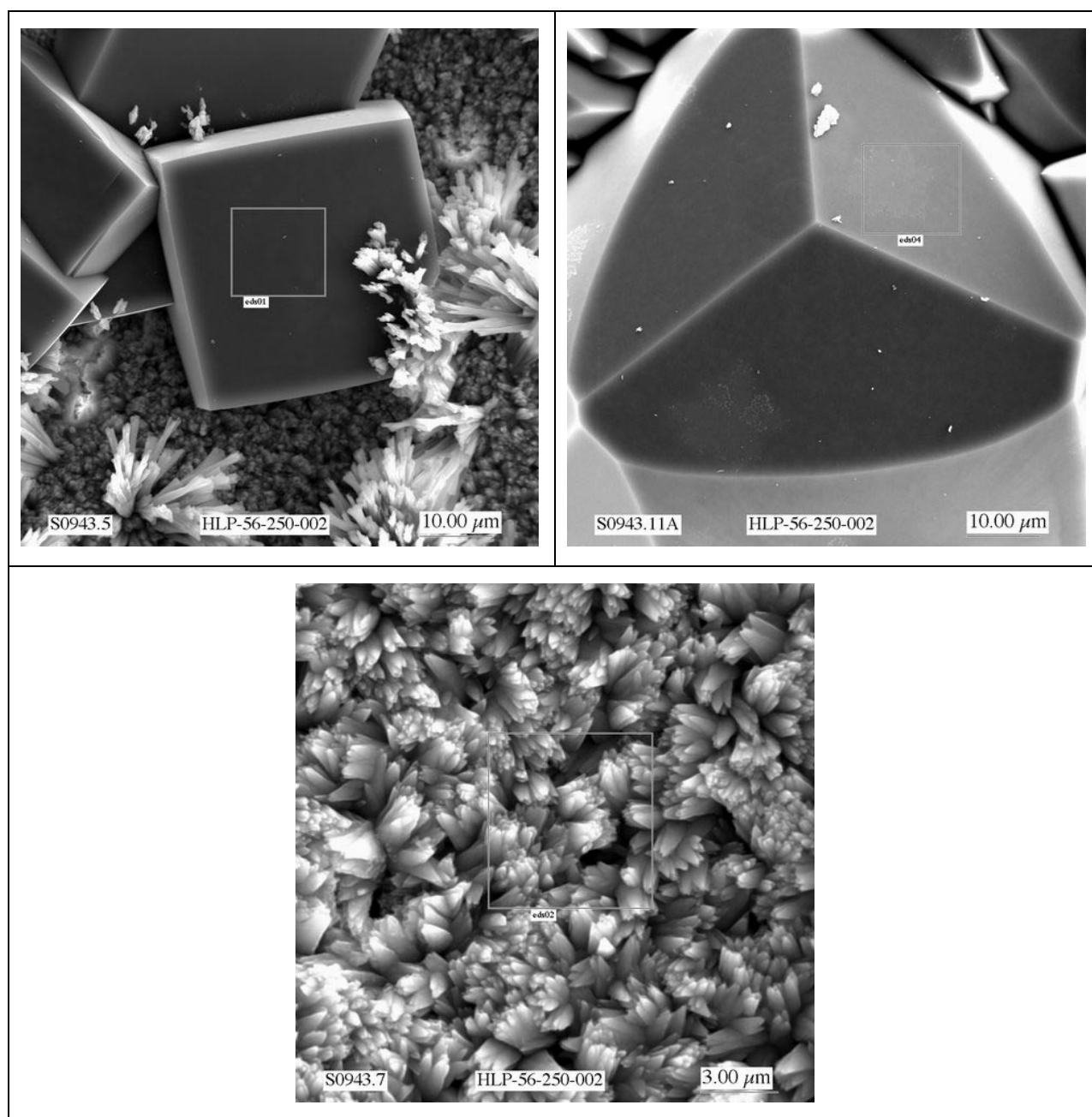


Figure 3-25. Locations of EDS Measurements for HLP-56 Subjected to VHT at 250°C for 2 Days

3.2.5.3 SEM/EDS Summary

The SEM/EDS analysis reveals additional alteration products that cannot be detected with XRD. These alteration products are usually not present in the amount sufficient for the XRD identification. However, these phases may play an important role in the alteration process, and their identification is necessary if the alteration process is to be modeled with geochemical codes. The combination of

SEM/EDS and XRD analyses suggests that the density of alteration layers is decreasing from the middle of the specimen towards the surface, except the surface layer, which consists of crystalline phases. It also reveals that most of the alteration layers are amorphous or contain only a small amount of crystalline phases and that they contain all elements present in the initial glass in levels similar to the target glass compositions.

Although SEM/EDS was shown to be more suitable for analyzing the surface of the specimen, it revealed that the fiber-like shaped abnormalities, observed in some cross sections of LAW glasses subjected to the VHT, can be described as preferentially leached areas. These areas contain channels that show primarily a depletion of sodium (roughly 10 mol% when compared to the glass composition). Enrichment in silica and magnesium was also observed.

3.2.6 Temperature Effect

The affect of temperature on the corrosion of glass in general and more specifically, if and how VHT data can be extrapolated to disposal conditions, is of primary interest to this study. Selected VHTs were started at temperatures ranging from 90°C to 300°C to determine the impact of temperature on the alteration rate. However, these low-temperature tests are still in progress, and only results from 150°C and higher temperatures are currently available and results at 150°C are still imprecise.

Alteration rates, r (as determined from the slope of the m_a vs. t), are tabulated for each glass and temperature tested in Appendix F. Table 3-20 lists the r for those glasses for which VHT was performed at three or more temperatures. Also listed are the slopes of logarithm r as a function of inverse temperature, E_a , assuming a linear relationship e.g., $\ln r = E_a/RT + \text{constant}$.

The term E_a cannot be considered an activation energy because the dissolution of even a simple mineral consists of several reaction steps (five steps in case of quartz) (Lasaga 1995); in VHT, we have changing solution chemistry with reaction extent, dissolution processes, and precipitation processes that must be considered. It should be noted that the validity of the Arrhenius empirical relationship does not imply that the mechanism is the same over the temperature interval in question and that the same alteration products are formed at high and low temperatures.

Although the E_a values range from 84.7 to 186.9 kJ/mol, a majority of the values were calculated with somewhat inaccurate rates (see comments a, b, and c for Table 3-20). Therefore, we should consider only those E_a values that are calculated without the use of suspect data: HLP-01 (120.6 kJ/mol), HLP-09 (102.6 kJ/mol), HLP-12 (101.1 kJ/mol), HLP-25 (125.4 kJ/mol), HLP-26 (126.9 kJ/mol), HLP-28 (84.7 kJ/mol), HLP-46 (88.0 kJ/mol), HLP-48 (93.7 kJ/mol), HLP-51 (96.2 kJ/mol), and HLP-56 (108.5 kJ/mol). From these glasses, E_a values range from 84.7 to 126.9 kJ/mol (or 105.8 ± 21.1 kJ/mol) with an average of 106.8 kJ/mol. Figure 3-26 shows the effect of inverse temperature on the alteration rate of tested HLP glasses. The data set contains only glasses where the rate was accurately measured for at least three temperatures. Interestingly, a single E_a value, 108.8 kJ/mol, suitably describes the impact of inverse temperature on the rate of all the glasses.

Table 3-20. VHT Rate as a Function of Temperature for HLP Glasses

Glass ID	Rate [g/m ² /d]						E _a [kJ/mol]
	150°C	175°C	200°C	250°C	275°C	300°C	
HLP-01			2.4	263.7		505.0	120.6 ^(d)
HLP-03			0.9 ^(b)	56.4		509.7 ^(a)	144.3
HLP-05			2.6 ^(a)	251.6 ^(a)		703.2 ^(a)	129.4
HLP-06			1.6 ^(a)		106.7	374.6 ^(a)	123.5
HLP-09			1.2 ^(b)	54.0	270.6	409.3	102.6 ^(e)
HLP-10			3.6	352.5		541.8 ^(a)	116.7
HLP-12			13.6	258.9		1126.3	101.1
HLP-13			2.6		212.6 ^(a)	640.0 ^(a)	126.0
HLP-15			0.7 ^(b)		219.7	517.3 ^(a)	155.9
HLP-16			2.8 ^(b)		600.0 ^(a)	670.0 ^(a)	132.8
HLP-22			1.1 ^(b)		58.4	308.0 ^(a)	124.6
HLP-24			2.8 ^(b)		116.2 ^(a)	292.5 ^(a)	106.2
HLP-25			5.7 ^(a)	156.8		655.0	125.4 ^(d)
HLP-26			1.3	224.2		685.8	126.9 ^(d)
HLP-28			5.6		89.9	247.6	84.7
HLP-32			0.2 ^(b)		87.2	477.6 ^(a)	176.5
HLP-39			7.4 ^(c)	536.6 ^(c)		2219.0 ^(c)	131.3
HLP-41			8.1 ^(a)	729.5 ^(a)		2124.0 ^(a)	128.6
HLP-42			0.2 ^(c)	47.2 ^(c)		701.0 ^(c)	186.9
HLP-43			0.2 ^(a)	233.5		720.5	128.1 ^(d)
HLP-46	18.6	87.2	254.6				88.0
HLP-48	3.4	13.7	51.1	522.2			93.7
HLP-49			0.6 ^(b)		121.9	700.0 ^(a)	157.8
HLP-51	3.7 ^(b)		4.8 ^(b)	44.2	129.3	336.4	96.2
HLP-56			5.2 ^(b)	102.9		603.0	108.5

(a) Insufficient data to accurately determine the alteration rate.

(b) Sufficient alteration was not achieved before significant water loss.

(c) Specimen analyses difficulties.

(d) E_a of HLP-01, -25, -26, and -43 were calculated using the combined rate at 200°C of 2.8 g/m²/d.

(e) The rate at 200°C was not used in the E_a calculation for HLP-09.

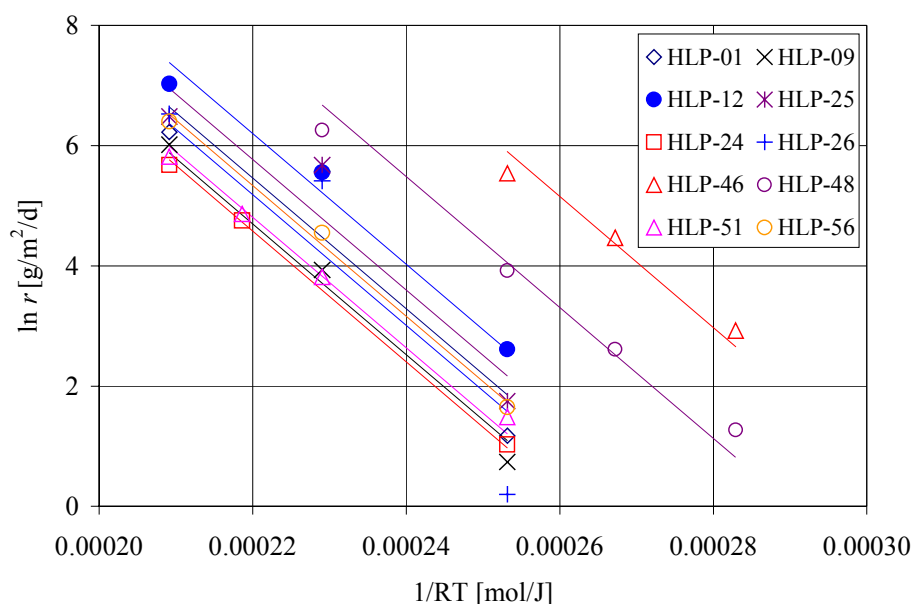


Figure 3-26. Effect of Temperature on the Alteration Rate of Tested LAW Glasses

These E_a values are at the high end of the range commonly reported for glass corrosion by other test methods, which generally range from 32 kJ/mol (for low SiO_2 glasses) to 100 kJ/mol (Lutze and Ewing 1988; Jercinovic and Ewing 1992; Westsik and Peters 1981; Abraitis et al. 1998). It is uncertain if our measured E_a values will remain constant with decreasing temperature. Mazer (1991) suggests caution in the use of temperature as an accelerating parameter until more is understood about the rate-determining mechanism at test and disposal-site temperatures.

Leturcq et al. (1998) summarized corrosion rate data for R7T7 glass within the temperature interval from 25°C to 300°C and confirmed the validity of Arrhenius behavior with a constant $E_a = 60 \pm 5$ kJ/mol. Likewise, Westsik and Peters (1981) showed that E_a for PNL 76–68 glass corrosion remained constant at 53 kJ/mol over the temperature range from 50°C to 150°C; however, the corrosion was found to change below 50°C and above 150°C. A possible explanation for the change in corrosion behavior at the extreme temperature was a change in the stage of corrosion. In the initial stage of corrosion, ion exchange occurs and pH increases rapidly; Westsik and Peters (1981) found that the normalized Na release was significantly higher than the normalized boron release for samples tested at temperatures below 50°C. In the second stage, corrosion is roughly congruent, as was found by Westsik and Peters (1981) between 50°C and 150°C, and the rate of corrosion drops as the concentration of aqueous species increases, decreasing the driving force for dissolution. In the third stage of corrosion, key mineral phases precipitate from solution, allowing the driving force for dissolution to increase and the dissolution rate to accelerate; it is believed that this stage was achieved in the Westsik and Peters (1981) tests at temperatures above 150°C.

Insufficient data are available to determine if the mechanisms that determine the alteration rate of these glasses at 200°C are similar to those that would determine the alteration rate at 15°C. The average E_a for tested LAW glasses subjected to VHT at temperatures from 150°C to 300°C, is roughly 106 kJ/mol.

3.2.7 Water Effect

3.2.7.1 Water Loss vs Time

It was found that with increasing time and temperature, the amount of water evaporated during the test changes significantly and limits the useful VHT duration. Figure 3-27 shows the water loss in mass fraction vs time for several test temperatures. These data include almost 700 tests that were conducted during the study on HLP matrix glasses over roughly 2 years of testing. It can be concluded that the rate at which water evaporates from the vessel is proportional to the test temperature. The test is considered invalid if more than 50% of the water added into the vessel evaporates (dashed line in Figure 3-27). The time for 50% of water loss is estimated at 1629, 473, 316, 113, 115, 27, 13, and 7 days at 90°C, 125°C, 150°C, 175°C, 200°C, 250°C, 275°C, and 300°C, respectively.

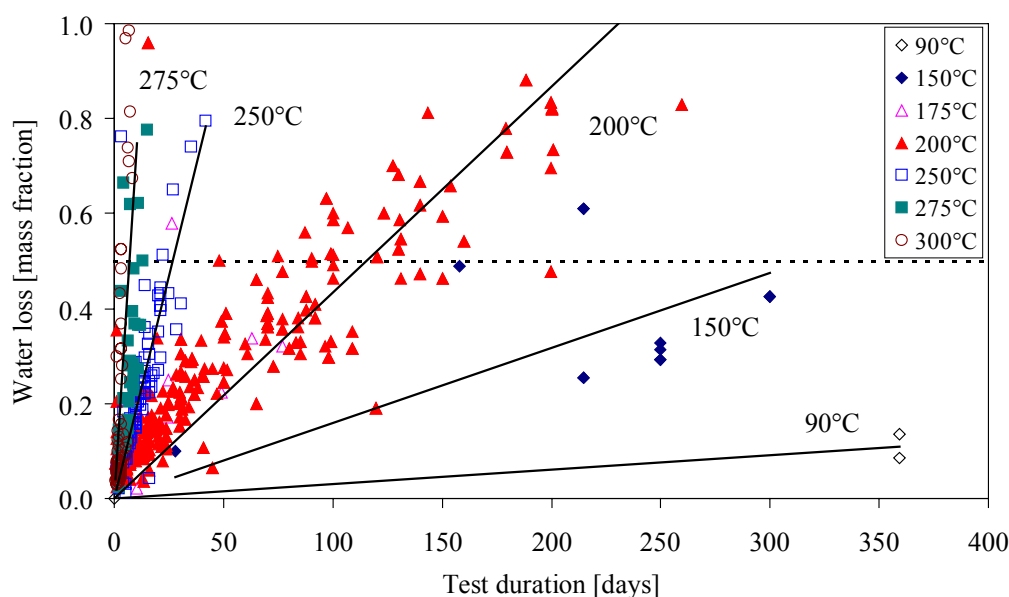


Figure 3-27. Water Loss vs Time and Temperature

All tests were conducted in stainless steel vessels with Teflon gaskets and fittings designed to withstand the temperatures up to 275°C. Tests at 300°C were conducted with fittings made from a special alloy designed for this temperature.

3.2.7.2 Volume of Water for Conducting VHT at Different Temperatures

The appropriate water volume is of fundamental importance for establishing suitable and reproducible conditions in the VHT. If the relative humidity inside the vessel is too low, little reaction will occur. Abrajano et al. (1989) observed negligible reaction below 70% relative humidity (RH) at 202°C. If the volume of water inside the vessel is too high, reflux may occur, allowing the transport of soluble species from the surface of the specimen to the solution at the bottom of the vessel. An objective of this study was to calculate and experimentally verify the volume of water needed to conduct the tests at temperatures up to 300°C at maximum alteration rate with no reflux. Tests up to 175°C were conducted with the volume of water calculated from steam tables (Haar et al. 1984) as 100% RH plus 0.05 mL of excess water per specimen. The pH of residual liquid in the vessel after the test was selected as a measure of possible reflux or dripping from the specimen. The pH was determined with a pH paper. Since the tests up to 175°C did not show elevated pH or any other indication of possible reflux, tests with different volumes of water were conducted at 200°C, 250°C, and 300°C. The volume of water plotted in the following graphs as $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ represents the difference from 100% RH calculated from steam tables (Haar et al. 1984). Results from duplicate tests on HLP-48 glass at 200°C are displayed in Figure 3-28. The volume of water used in VHT varied from -0.04 mL below 100% RH to 0.12 mL above RH. The mass of glass altered shows a slight increase at 100% RH and elevated pH for all tests conducted with higher volumes of excess water. Zero mL of excess water was selected as the most suitable condition for conducting VHT at 200°C.

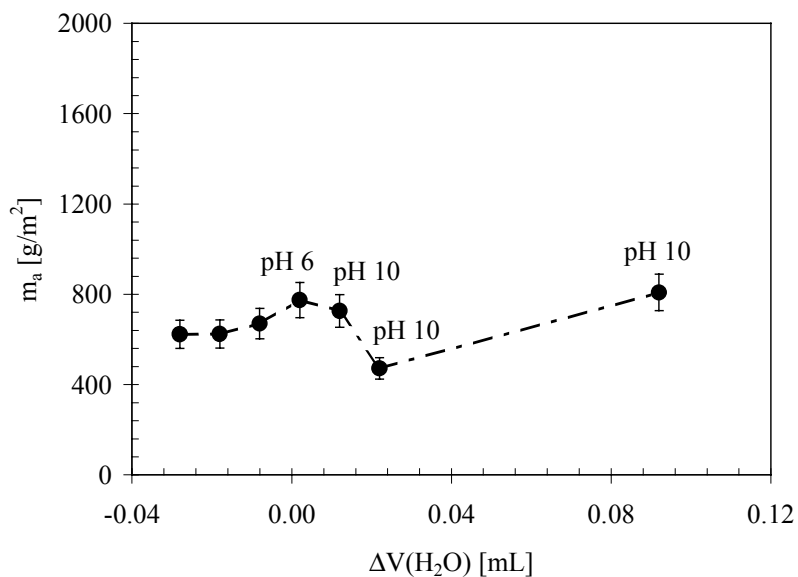


Figure 3-28. The Effect of Excess Water on the Amount of HLP-48 Glass Altered in 7 Days at 200°C

The VHTs on HLP-48 at 250°C were conducted with $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ from -0.20 mL to 0.10 mL. Results displayed in Figure 3-29 indicate that the maximum amount of glass was altered in the specimen with -0.10 mL $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$. Tests conducted with $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ greater than -0.10 mL showed elevated pH and contamination of the vessel with alteration products.

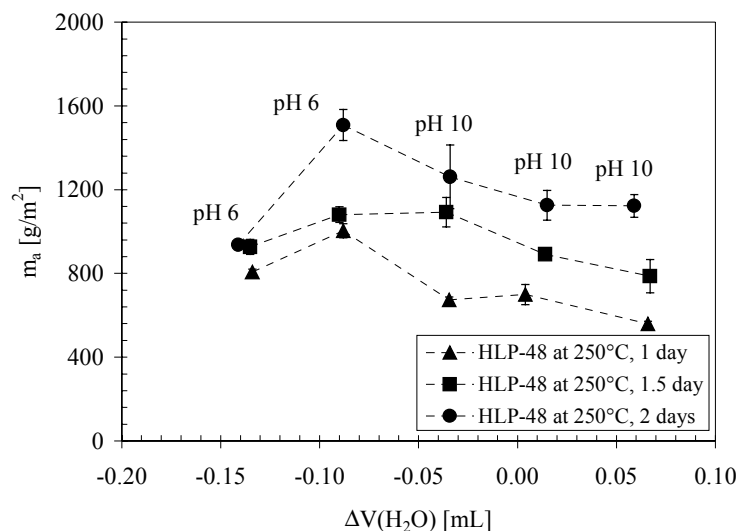


Figure 3-29. The Effect of Excess Water on the Amount of HLP-48 Glass Reacted in 1, 1.5, and 2 Days at 250°C

The alteration rates, calculated from test data, given in Figure 3-30, show almost no dependence on $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ as long as the RH at the test temperature does not decrease under 70%. The alteration rates are similar, but the intercept decreases or the time to reach the same reaction extent increases with increasing $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$. The intercept ranges from 18 g/m² to 430 g/m², and the difference in time to achieve the same reaction extent is approximately 1 day. The VHTs on HLP-51 at 300°C were conducted with $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ from -0.80 mL to 0.20 mL. Results displayed in Figure 3-31 indicate that the highest alteration rate occurs roughly at -0.65 mL $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$. However, -0.54 mL was selected as the most suitable $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ for conducting the test because it is the highest $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ for which there was no pH increase in the condensed water at the end of the test.

Similar to the tests at 250°C, the alteration rates are comparable for all $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$. Surprisingly, the intercept increases with increasing $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ as shown in Figure 3-32. The intercept ranges from 255 g/m² to 736 g/m², and the difference in time to achieve the same reaction extent was approximately 2 days. This trend is opposite to that observed at 250°C (see Figure 3-30).

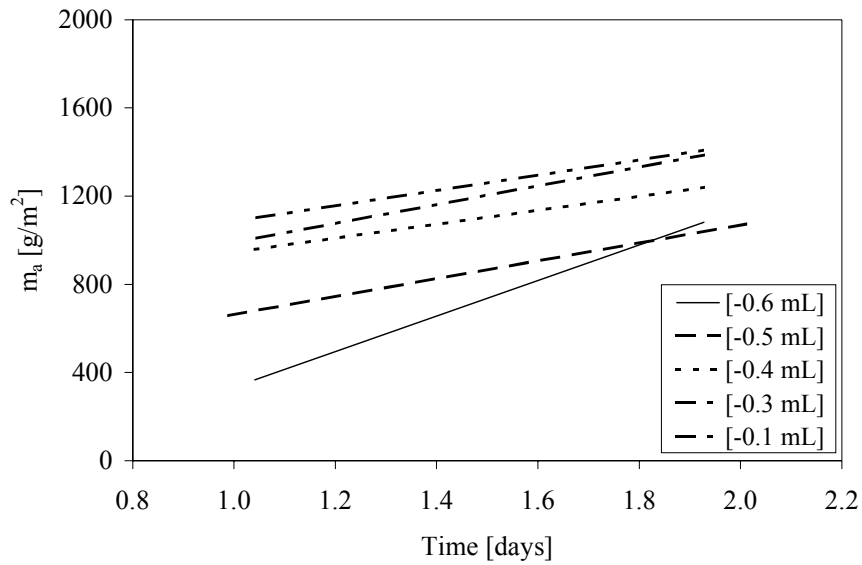


Figure 3-30. Alteration Rates for HLP-48 at 250°C for Different Volumes Of Excess Water

The volume of water calculated from steam tables (Haar et al. 1984) to achieve 100% RH plus 0.05 mL of excess water and measured values fitted by empirical function are displayed in Figure 3-33. As shown in Figure 3-34, the $\Delta V(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ ranges from +0.05 mL for $T \leq 150^\circ\text{C}$ to -0.54 mL for 300°C .

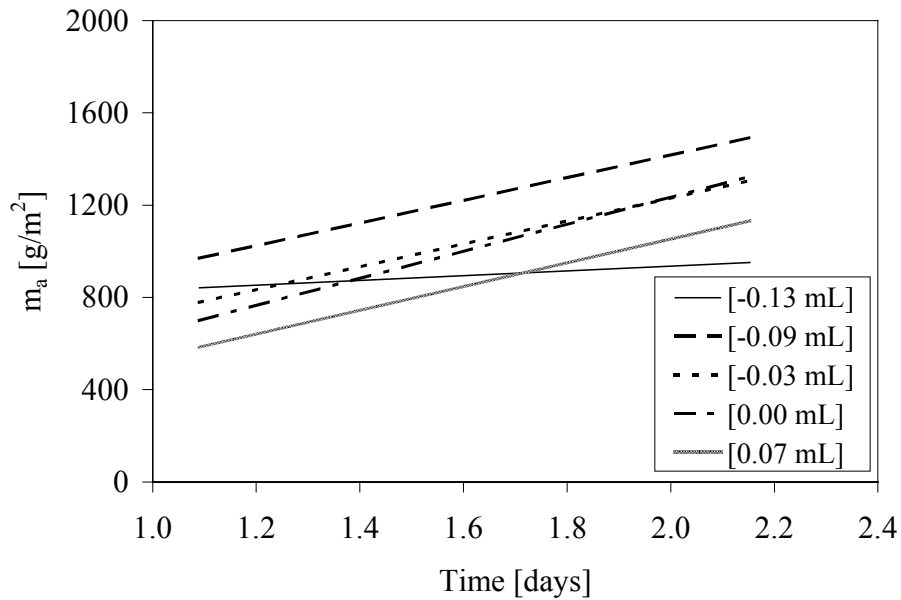


Figure 3-31. The Effect of Excess Water on the Amount of HLP-51 Glass Reacted in 1, 1.5, and 2 Days at 300°C

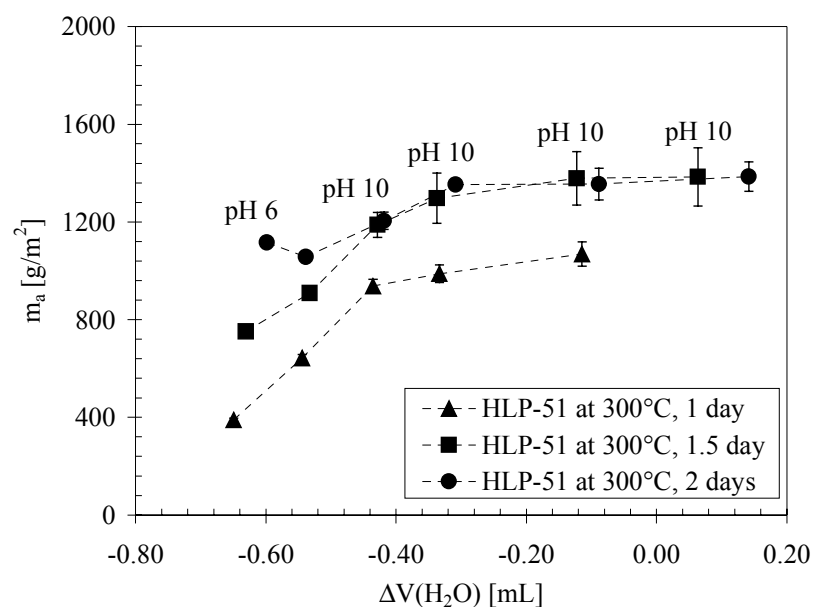


Figure 3-32. Alteration Rates for HLP-51 at 300°C with Different Volumes of Excess Water

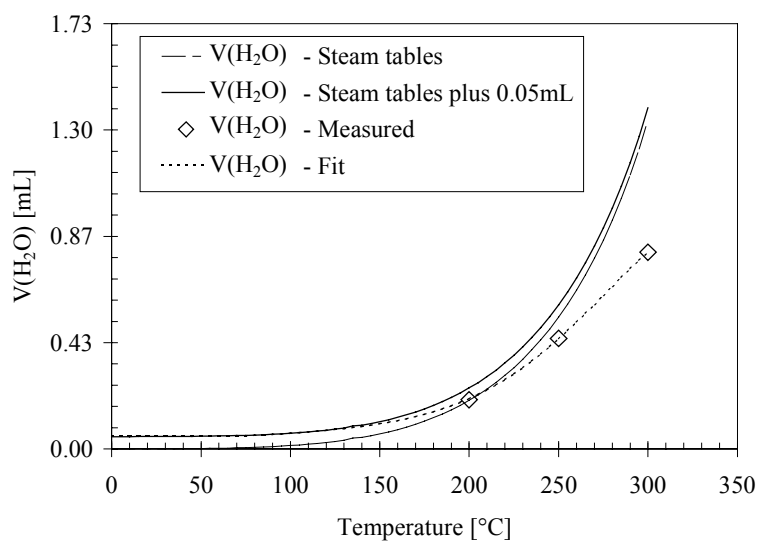


Figure 3-33. Volume of Water Calculated from Steam Tables (100%RH plus 0.05 mL of excess water) Compared to the Volume of Water Measured Experimentally

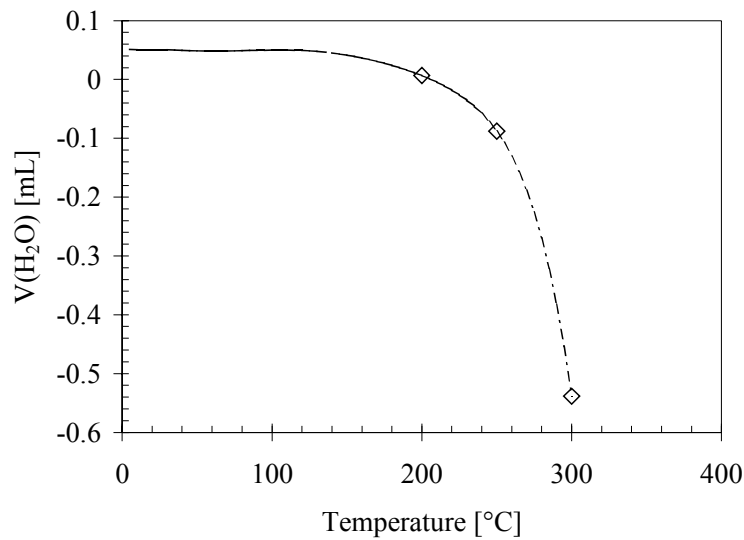


Figure 3-34. Difference in Volume of Water Calculated from Experimental Data and Volume of Water Given in Steam Tables for Achieving 100% RH, Plotted vs Temperature

Just as in a static leach test like MCC-1 and PCT, the volume of water used to conduct the VHT does not have a significant impact on the rate itself, but affects the intercept and time that is needed to achieve the same reaction extent. Figure 3-35 shows the selected volumes of water for 250°C and 300°C.

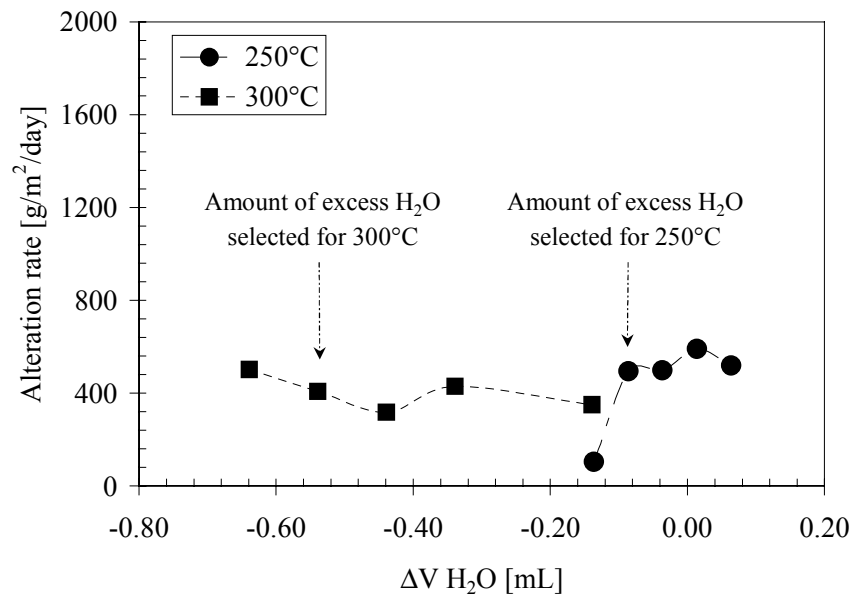


Figure 3-35. Volume of Excess Water Selected for Conducting the VHT at 250°C and 300°C

3.2.7.3 VHT with Multiple Specimens per Vessel with Different Rates

The VHT response of HLP-48 at 200°C was measured with two specimens per vessel and one specimen per vessel. One specimen of HLP-48 and one specimen of HLP-51 were tested together in each vessel along with 0.25 mL of water (0.05 mL of water were added for each specimen to the 0.15 mL calculated for achieving 100% RH). The alteration extent of HLP-51 at any given time was roughly 10× lower than that of HLP-48. After roughly 25 days, HLP-48 was completely converted to alteration products while HLP-51 was still within its incubation period. Since no water was consumed to alter HLP-51, the excess water available for corrosion of HLP-48 was significantly higher.

Tests with one specimen per vessel were conducted with 0.20 mL of water. Figure 3-36 compares the m_a for those two sets of tests. The m_a values in tests with two specimens per vessel are clearly higher than those measured in tests with one specimen per vessel. However, the rate is nearly identical (1.2% difference). The difference in m_a is attributed to the difference in available water to corrode the HLP-48 specimens. In this case, the intercept increased with increasing volume of added water, and the difference between the times needed to achieve the same reaction extent was approximately 7 days.

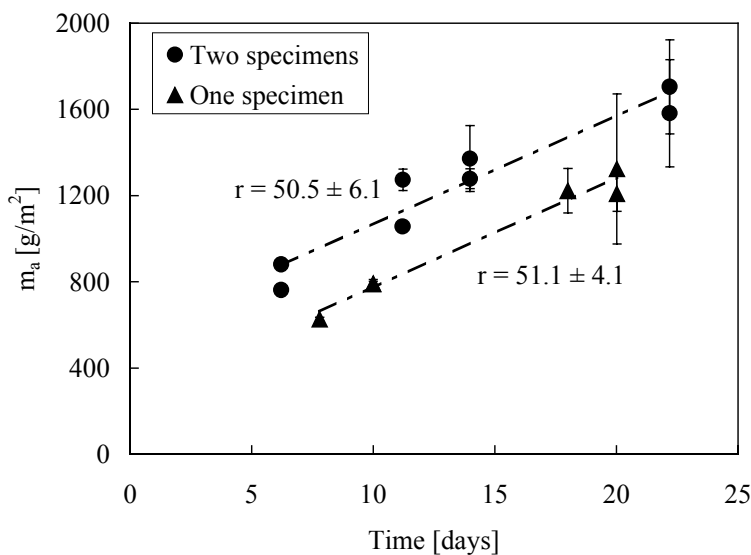


Figure 3-36. The m_a as a Function of t for HLP-48 Glass, Tested at 200°C with One and Two Specimens per Vessel

3.2.8 Composition Effects

The first 24 glasses of the matrix were designed as one-at-a-time component variations of SiO₂, Al₂O₃, B₂O₃, Fe₂O₃, TiO₂, ZnO, ZrO₂, MgO, and waste (primarily Na₂O). The variation in each component was offset by a variation in all other components in equal relative proportions. If the effect of all components on rate or logarithm of rate is linear, then a plot of component variation vs r or $\ln[r]$ would yield a series of straight lines passing through the baseline glass, and the effect of each component

could be calculated with the equation of each line. Figure 3-37 shows such a plot. However, for many of the components, the impact of their change on $\ln[r]$ is far from linear, suggesting that a model of the form

$$\ln[r] = \sum_i r_i x_i, \quad 3.4$$

where r_i and x_i are the i^{th} component coefficient and mole fraction in glass, respectively, cannot adequately describe composition effect on VHT rate. Models such as first-order empirical expansions (Hrma et al. 1994) and free energy of hydration (Paul 1977) are two examples of functions that conform to the general form of Equation (3.4). A statistical evaluation of the database shows low correlations (Pearson product-moment correlation coefficients) between only the four major components of the glasses: SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , B_2O_3 , and waste (or Na_2O). A more careful examination of the effect of these four components on the logarithm of rate by 200°C VHT was performed. The nonlinear effect of these components was also evident when considering the database as a whole. For example, the effect of a change in SiO_2 depended on the concentrations for Al_2O_3 , B_2O_3 , and waste. The non-linearity in composition effects on VHT response is likely due to the combined impacts of glass structure and solution chemistry on the rate of conversion of glass to alteration products in a closed system as was discussed by Strachan and Croak (2000). Further investigation of component effects on VHT response will include consideration of both glass-structure and solution-chemistry impacts.

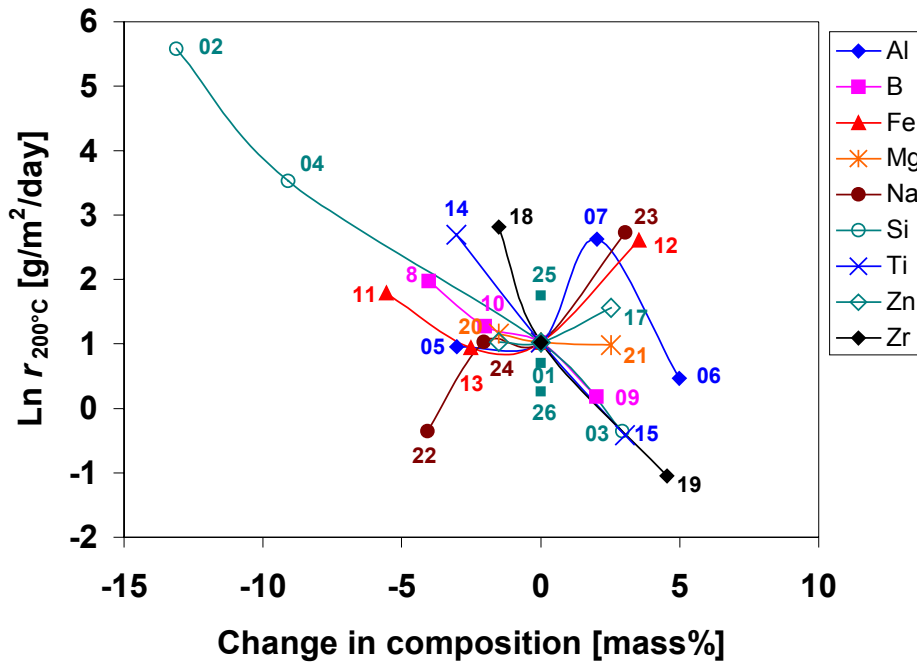


Figure 3-37. Components Effect on VHT Alteration Rate at 200°C

In the second phase of this study^(a), additional glasses will be added to the test matrix to lower the intercomponent correlations and to better understand composition effects. The primary focus of this next phase is to interpret the data, determine composition effects on test responses, and develop an acceptable glass composition envelope by linking test responses to both burial scenarios and to composition.

3.2.9 Experimental Observations

3.2.9.1 Glasses with In-Growing Phases

Several glasses were observed to form distinct ingrown phases or possibly preferably leached channels near the interface between the glass and the alteration layers. Figure 3-38 shows examples of glasses that formed ingrown phases. A certain degree of ingrown phases may be observed on specimens other than those shown in Figure 3-38. However, these glasses represent typical examples of this phenomenon.

Further investigation of glasses where this phenomenon was observed is currently in progress to determine the composition and possibly the cause for these irregularities. So far, we can conclude that this phenomenon was observed mainly at low temperatures and in the initial stages of alteration. With increasing temperature and continuing reaction progress, these ingrown phases become less visible and may cease to form during VHT.

3.2.9.2 Glasses with Translucent/Colored Alteration Layers

A majority of the VHT specimens form more than one alteration layer. These layers are typically not translucent, often show a change in color, and can be distinguished from the initial glass with OM. However, several glasses were observed to form translucent alteration layers with little or no change in color, which may cause problems during the IA evaluation.

(a) J.D. Vienna, K.G. Brown, and D.K. Peeler. 2000. *Hanford LAW Product Acceptance Testing, Phase II Test Plan*, Tanks Focus Area TTP# RL37WT31, Milestone #C.1-3, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Richland, Washington.

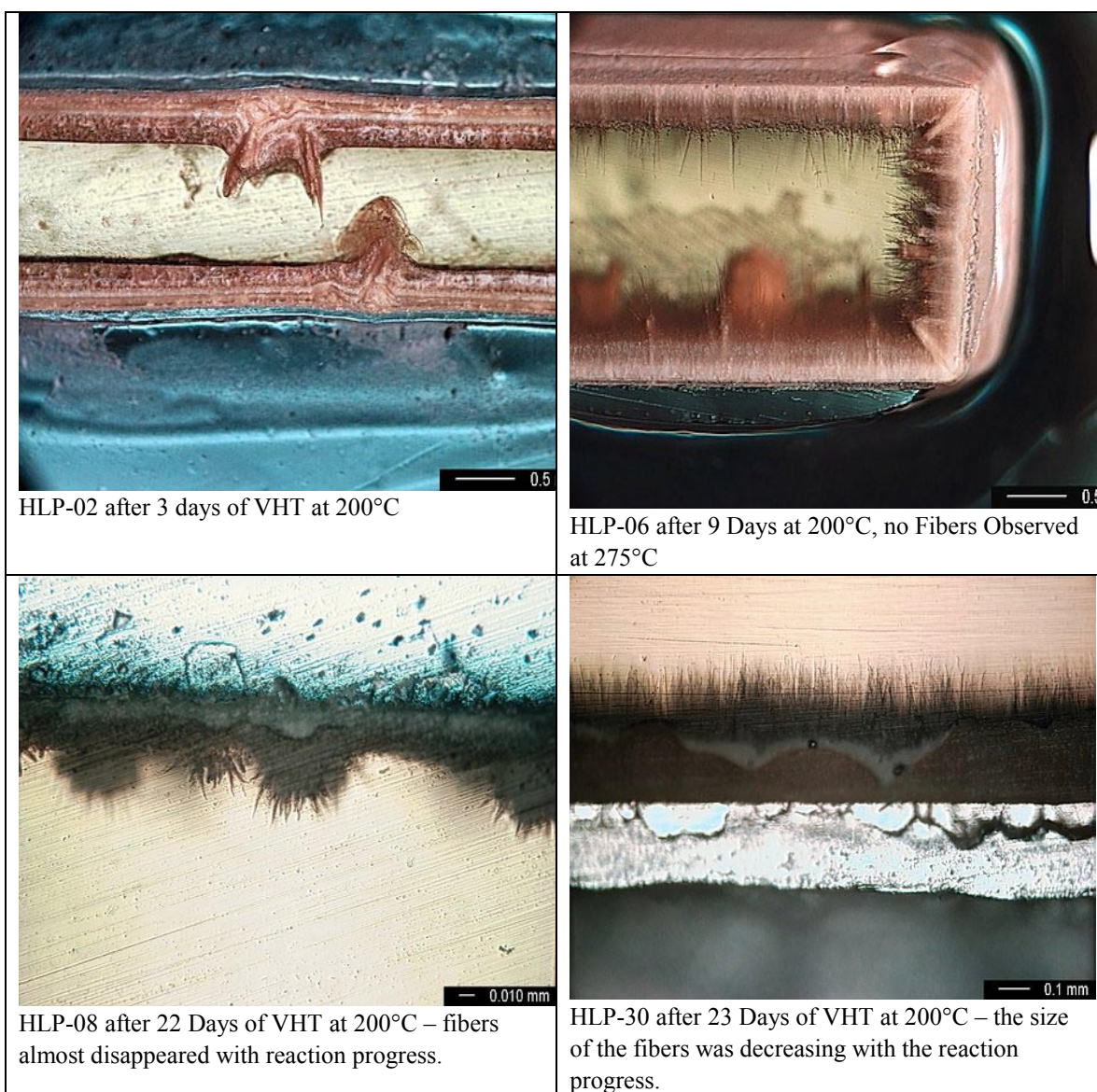


Figure 3-38. Examples of Glasses that Developed Ingrown Phases During the VHT

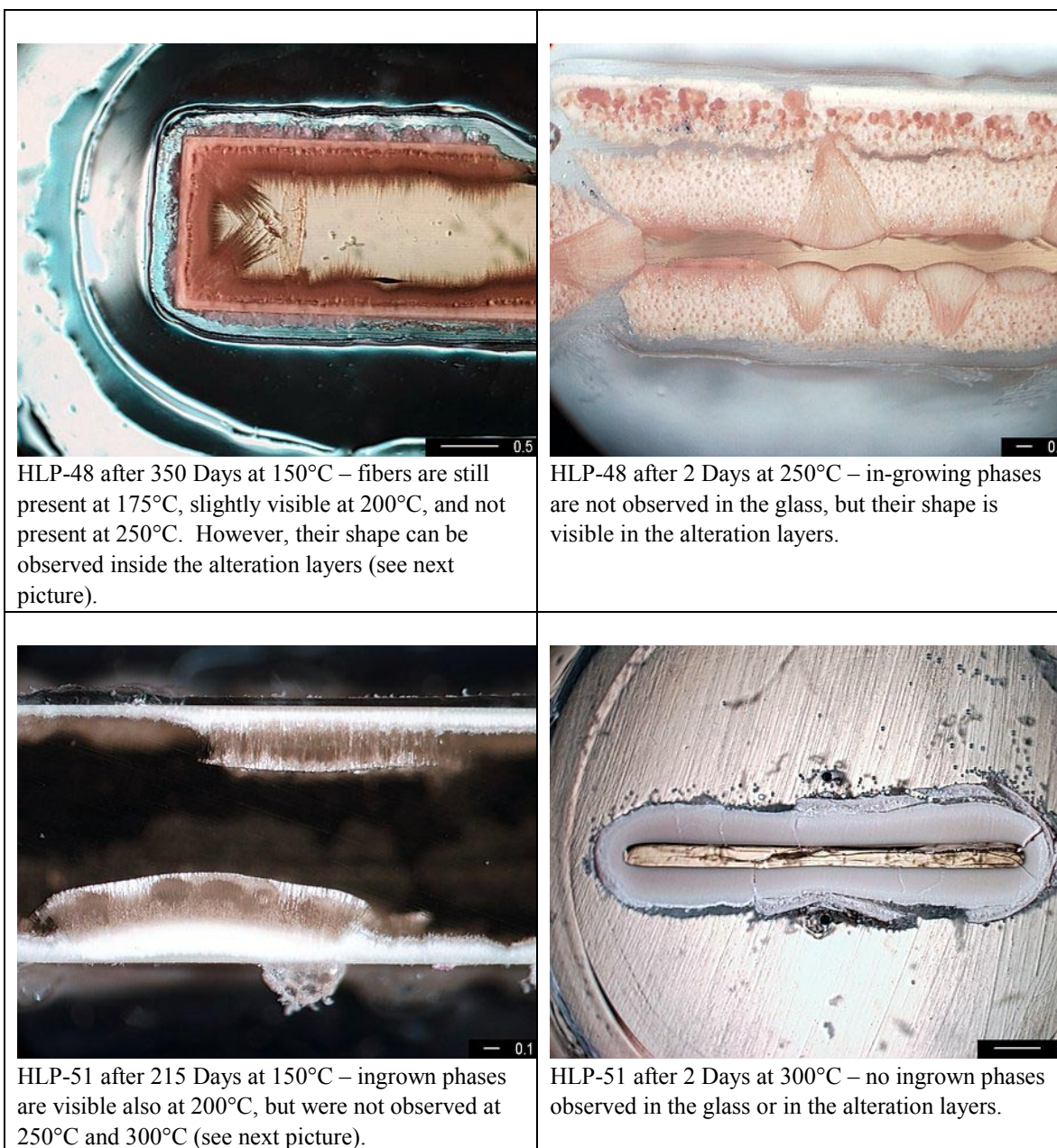


Figure 3-38 (continued)

It is possible to divide these glasses into three groups with respect to the appearance of their alteration layers:

1. Glasses that form alteration layers that are not translucent and can be easily distinguished from the remaining glass
2. Glasses that form alteration layers that are translucent and show a difference in color from the unaltered glass
3. Glasses that form translucent alteration layers with little change in color.

Some examples of these glasses are given in Figure 3-39.

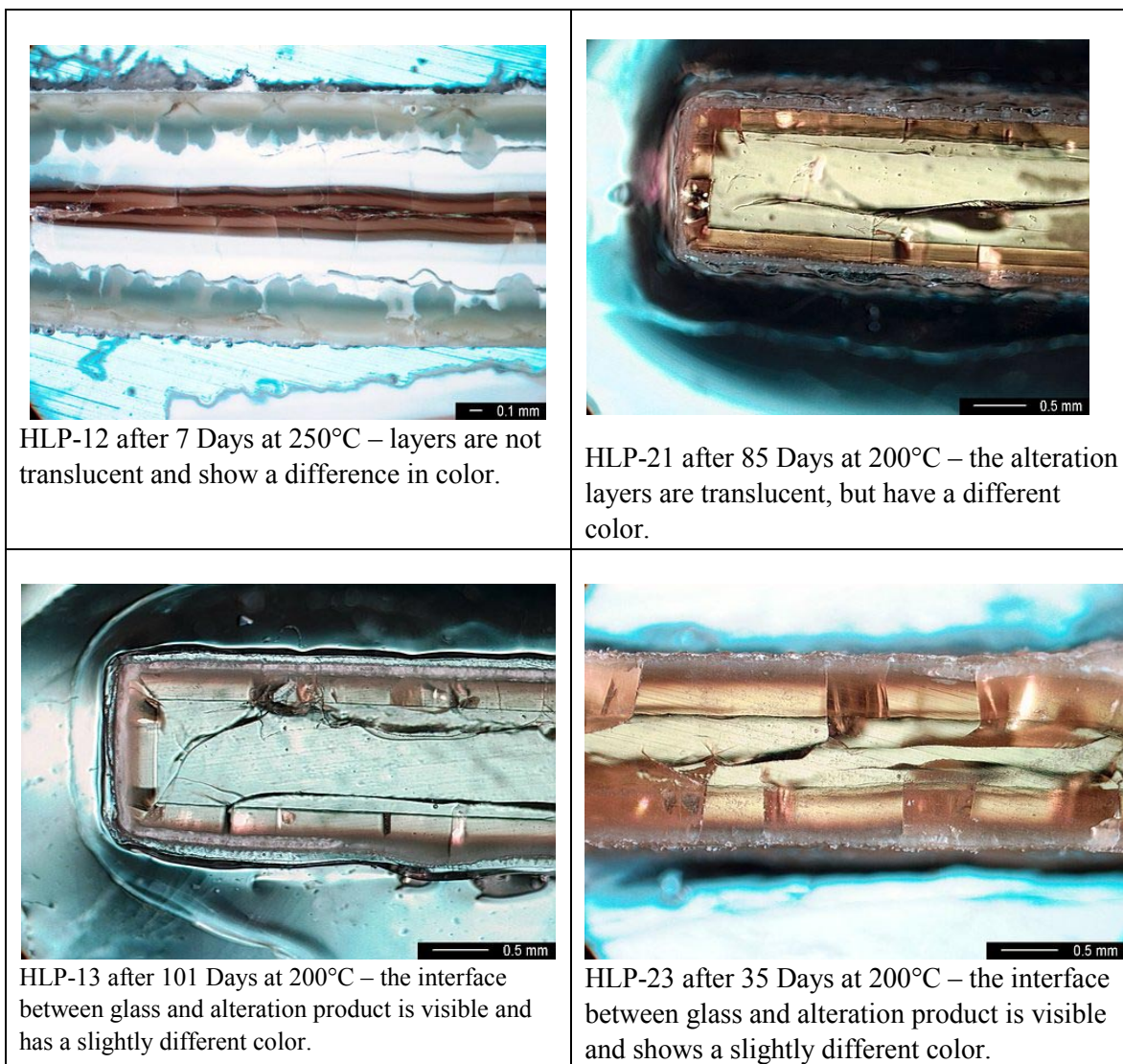


Figure 3-39. Examples of Different Types of Alteration Layers

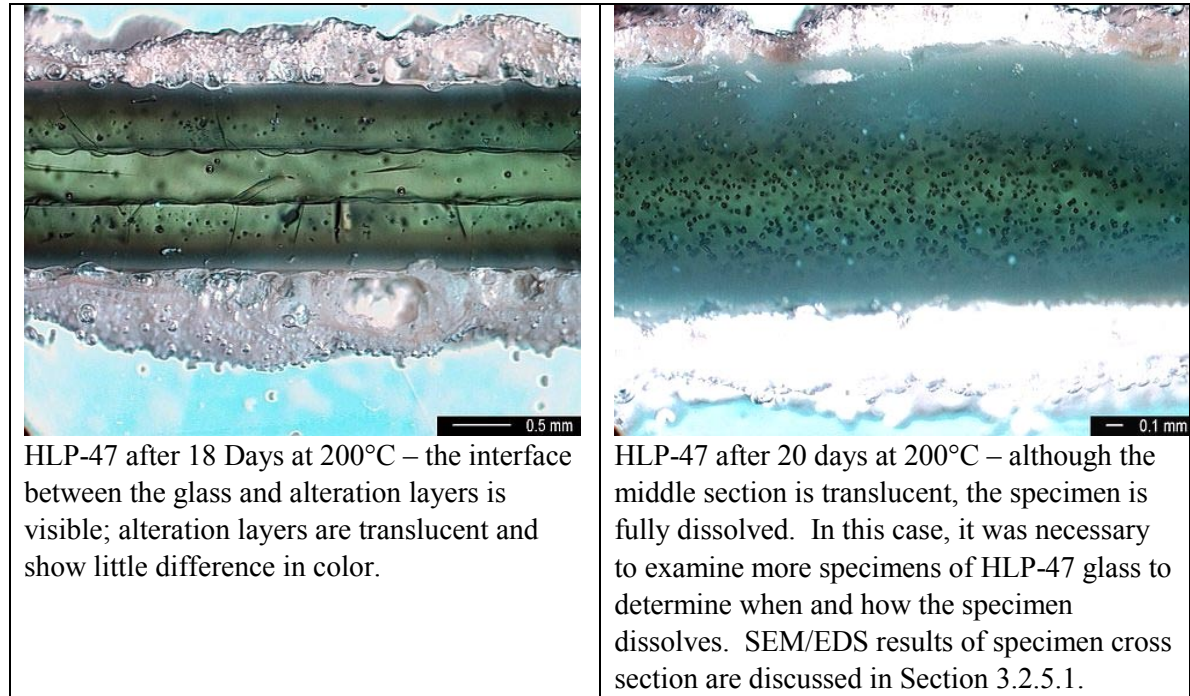


Figure 3-39 (continued)

3.2.9.3 Glasses with Cracking

Several glasses showed single/multiple cracks after the VHT, which causes difficulties in specimen evaluation. Some glasses experienced cracking only occasionally. For example, in HLP-39 and HLP-53 glasses, cracking was typical. Figure 3-40 contains some example cross sections of such glasses after the VHT termination. This cracking is caused by stresses developed through alteration processes, for example between the glass and the alteration layer or ion exchange within the glass. In most cases, the alteration occurs (horizontally) within the specimen where water reacts with the interior crack surfaces.

Two methods were used for evaluating specimens containing cracks after the VHT termination. The first method measured the thickness of the specimen only on the areas that were crack-free. The second method was using the IA system to calculate the area of initial glass, which was subsequently used to determine the thickness of unaltered glass. It was found, by comparison of these methods, that results based on the direct thickness measurement of the unaltered glass gave more reproducible results and generally yielded m_a - t behaviors more like other glasses without cracking and therefore was chosen as the method used in this study.

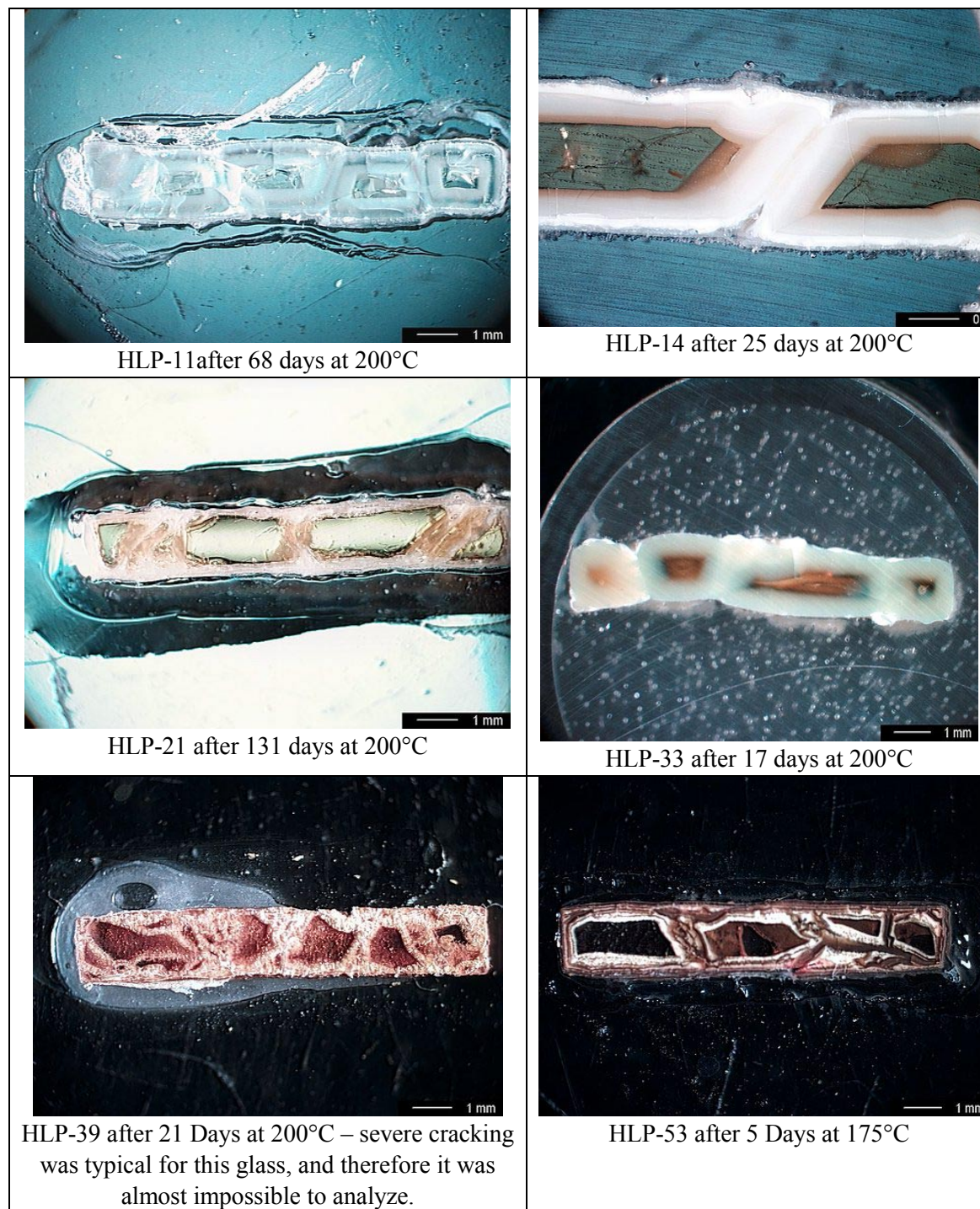


Figure 3-40. Examples of Glasses Showing Cracks after VHT Termination

3.2.10 VHT Repeatability

Baseline glasses HLP-01, HLP-25, HLP-26, and HLP-43 were fabricated with the same target composition to determine the repeatability of the VHT and PCT. Repeatability of PCT-B tests with these glasses was discussed in Section 3.1.3, and repeatability of VHT is discussed in the following section.

3.2.11 Rate

Table 3-21 compares the alteration rates measured at 200°C for the baseline glass. The measured rates do not show a good agreement and range from 0.24 g/m²/d to 5.7 g/m²/d. To determine the primary cause for this inconsistency, all measured data were compared in Table 3-21 and plotted in Figure 3-41.

Table 3-21. Comparison of Alteration Rates Measured at 200°C, 250°C, and 300°C for the Baseline Glass

Glass ID	Alteration Rate at 200°C [g/m ² /d]	Alteration Rate at 250°C [g/m ² /d]	Alteration Rate at 300°C [g/m ² /d]
HLP-01	2.4±0.4	263.7±18.7	505.0±80.0
HLP-25	5.7	291.9±22.9	655.0±166.0
HLP-26	1.3±0.4	224.2±13.8	685.8±94.5
HLP-43	0.2±0.9	233.5±7.5	720.5±146.4
combined	2.8±0.4	253.5±35.41	641.53±94.9
%RSD ^(a)	99.0	14.6	14.8

(a) Accounting for differences in multiple measurements of each specimen, differences in points from the m_a-t line, and differences between glasses

It is apparent that although the rates show an order of magnitude difference, the measured data are comparable. The main reasons for the differences in rate are the number and position of measured points. Glass HLP-43 exhibits the lowest alteration rate as only four points are available, and all of them are close to the 400 g/m² of glass altered, resulting in a rate of 0.24 g/m²/d. This glass shows a high resistance to VHT at 200°C, so it was not possible to dissolve more than 800 g/m²/d before significant loss of water occurred (see Section 3.2.7.1 for details). The alteration rate, determined by a combination of all data points, as displayed in Figure 3-41, was used as a dissolution rate for baseline glass in all calculations. The alteration rates measured at 250°C for the baseline glass are compared in Table 3-21 and plotted in Figure 3-42. The lowest alteration rate, measured for HLP-26, is 224.2 g/m²/d. The highest alteration rate, measured for HLP-25, is 291.9 g/m²/d. The average alteration rate was calculated as 253.45±35.41 g/m²/d.

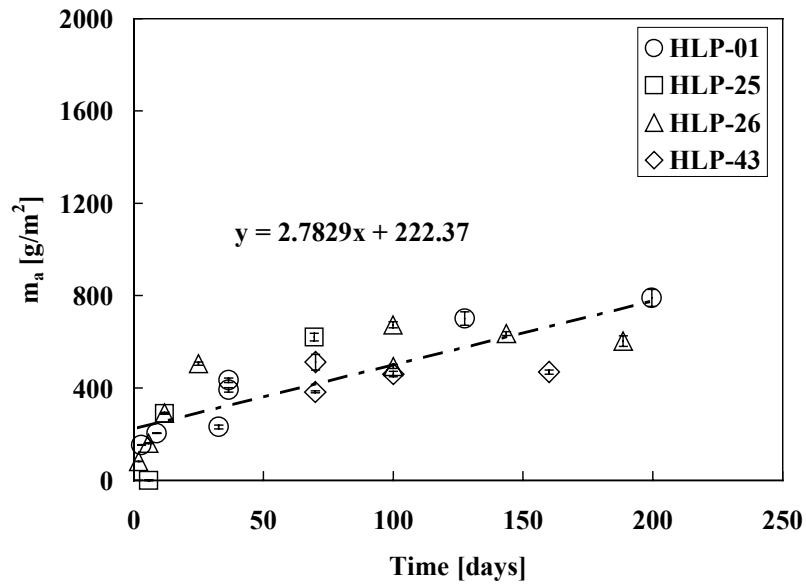


Figure 3-41. Comparison of VHT Results for Baseline Glasses at 200°C

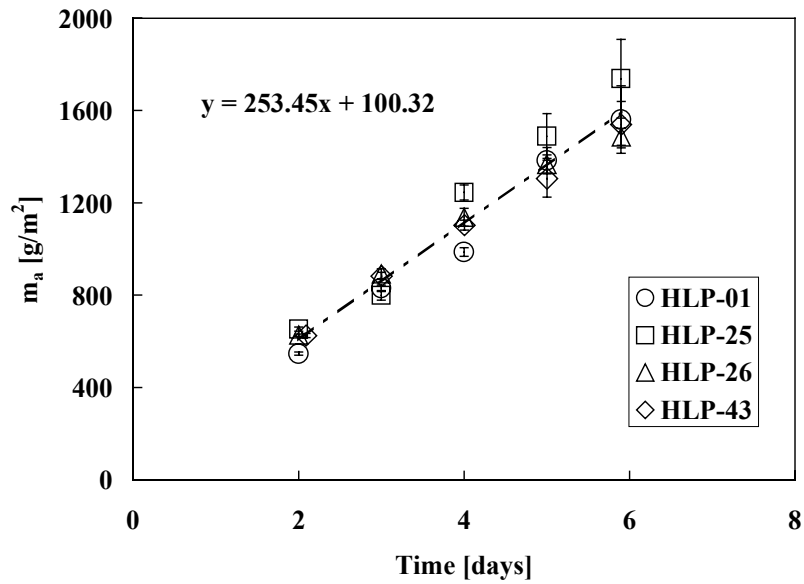


Figure 3-42. Comparison of VHT Results for Baseline Glasses at 250°C

The alteration rates measured at 300°C for the baseline glass are compared in Table 3-21 and plotted in Figure 3-43. The average alteration rate was calculated as $641.53 \pm 94.9 \text{ g/m}^2/\text{d}$.

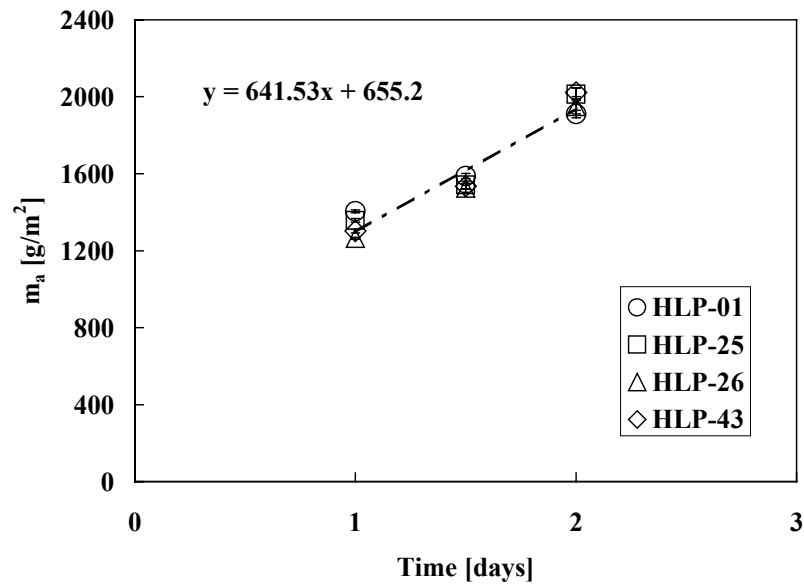


Figure 3-43. Comparison of VHT Results for Baseline Glasses at 300°C

As discussed above, the lowest testing temperature, 200°C, shows the highest uncertainty in alteration rate. This is caused mainly by the relatively high resistance of the baseline glass to VHT at 200°C, where significant loss of water occurs before the 800 g/m²/d can be reacted. The dissolution rate is also influenced by the number and position of the measured data points, which further increases the uncertainty. Higher temperatures enable the specimens to fully react before significant loss of water occurs and thus yields more consistent and reproducible results.

4.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

The goal of this ongoing study is to help determine the composition range of LAW glasses that will meet performance expectations. To accomplish this goal, the corrosion characteristics of glasses covering a broad range of compositions applicable to the LAW immobilization project at Hanford are being studied. The tests used to characterize these glasses—PCT-A, PCT-B, and VHT—are intended to determine relative behaviors of glasses in late stages of the alteration process in high S/V conditions. Criteria for acceptable response to these tests will be developed by the Hanford site Performance Assessment (PA) Program by linking test responses to bounding estimates of radionuclide releases. To date, a vast and growing database of corrosion characteristics has been developed on a systematically designed matrix of simulated LAW glasses. The conclusions drawn from the current database are described in the following paragraphs. Additional data will be developed during the next phase of the study to complete the database. Studies will be performed, in cooperation with the PA program, to help link test responses to behavior in the burial scenario. Once acceptability constraints are defined, tools will be developed to determine the acceptability of glass based on composition. Recommendations on specific studies to be performed to complete this study are listed at the end of this section.

Product Consistency Test

Data from triplicate PCT-A performed in stainless steel vessels at a temperature of 90°C and an S/V of 2000 m⁻¹ have been completed and the results reported in the initial data package. Data from the PCT-B were generated for times of 10, 100, 1000, and 5000 h at a temperature of 90°C and an S/V of approximately 20 000 m⁻¹. No significant rate increase was detected in any of the matrix glasses for times up to 5000 h. The ordering of glasses by PCT-B release data appears to be similar for all times up to 5000 h. The normalized PCT releases for the 5000-h tests range from 0.09 to 54.64 g/m² for boron and from 0.14 to 32.86 g/m² for sodium. Based upon the boron releases, the estimated release rates for these glasses range from 4.36×10^{-4} to 2.62×10^{-1} g/m²/d after 5000 h of testing. The glasses with the highest boron release rates were HLP-02, -53, -38, -04, and -33 at 5000 h. For the sodium data, the release rates range from 6.63×10^{-4} to 1.58×10^{-1} g/m²/d for 5000 h. The glasses with the highest sodium release rates were HLP-53, -02, -08, -38, and -04 at 5000 h. Expanding the glasses considered to the 10 with the highest/lowest sodium- and boron-release rates provides a better picture of the developing trends and allows comparisons of the same glasses for both sodium and boron release rates, as was illustrated in Figures 3-4 and 3-5. The HLP-02, -39, -33, -31 glasses represent some of the largest release rates for all time periods (up to 5000 h) for both sodium and boron. Likewise, the HLP-30, -06, -28, and -22 glasses represent some of the smallest release rates for all time periods (up to 5000 h) for both components. For these glasses, tested via PCT up to 5000 h, it appears that largest release rates occur between initiation of the test and 100 h. However, as the test continues for longer periods of time, the release rates decline and either appear to level off or continue to decrease. The only exception was glass HLP-02 (Na and B), which exhibited slightly higher release rates at 5000 h when compared to the 1000-h release-rate data. It appears that the target sodium concentrations in those HLP glasses that tend to have the largest short-term release rates based upon the PCT-B data have relatively high target Na₂O concentrations in glass. Also, in general, it appears that glasses with higher silica contents were not among the glasses with the highest

sodium or boron release rates. However, as stated earlier, these results are based on single data points, and additional testing is needed to confirm the observed trends.

Glasses from the 5000-h PCT have been submitted for analyses to identify any alteration products that may be present. However, as of this writing, analyses were incomplete. Results will be reported in Data Package III along with the 10 000-h PCT results.

Vapor Hydration Test

The VHT was performed on test matrix glasses at 200°C. Selected glasses were also tested as a function of temperature in the range from 90°C to 300°C. The VHT results give evidence for a fourth stage of waste-glass dissolution behavior in a closed or slowly replenished system. A great deal of evidence has accumulated to define three distinct phases of corrosion in closed systems: 1) initial stage characterized by a high dissolution rate into a dilute solution, 2) the second stage characterized by a nearly constant rate into a concentrated solution (the rate is reduced due to high concentrations of key components in solution, lowering the driving force of dissolution), 3) the third stage is marked by an abrupt increase in dissolution rate, which is caused by the precipitation of solid phases from key solution components (this increases the driving forces for dissolution). In typical closed-system dissolution tests, such as PCT, shortly after entry into the third stage of dissolution, the glass can be completely consumed. However, in VHT, there is ample glass available to continue to a new stage in the dissolution process, the fourth stage, in which the rate of conversion of the glass to solid alteration products is nearly constant. The rate of dissolution is assumed to be equal to the rate of precipitation of the key alteration products that first form in stage three.

The alteration rate from the fourth stage of dissolution was determined for all test matrix glasses at 200°C. For some glasses, insufficient data or specimen analyses difficulties cause the rate at 200°C (or other temperatures) to be imprecise. The rates at 200°C range from 0.2 g/m²/d to 1219 g/m²/d for tested glasses. The glasses with the five highest rates at 200°C are (with rate in g/m²/d) HLP-12 (1219), HLP-53 (552.6), HLP-02 (264.7), HLP-46 (254.6), and HLP-27 (84.1). The glasses with the lowest rates at 200°C are HLP-32 (0.2), HLP-43 (0.2), HLP-42 (0.2), HLP-34 (0.4), and HLP-19 (0.4). In general, those glasses with low rates by PCT (HLP-22, -06, and -30) and those glasses with high rates by PCT (HLP-53, -02, -31, -04, and -33) were also found to have low and high rates by VHT at 200°C, respectively. However, there are a few exceptions: HLP-39, -08, and -38 performed poorly by PCT, but had a slightly higher than average rate in VHT. HLP-28 performed well by PCT, but was average by VHT. It is expected that as PCT durations become longer, the ranking of glasses by the two tests will converge.

The time required for glasses to reach the third stage of dissolution was estimated using the VHT. At 200°C, this time ranged from 0.5 to 150 days. A trend was found between this time to reach the third stage of dissolution in VHT at 200°C with that in the PCT at 20 000 m⁻¹ tested at 99°C from McGrail et al. (1999). However, no correlation was found between the rates measured by VHT at 200°C and the normalized releases measured by PCT-B at either 1000 h or 5000 h. More data are required to conclusively link long-term PCT and VHT data.

The major crystalline alteration products formed during the VHT of test matrix glasses were identified. The most common crystalline phases include analcime, sodium aluminum-silicate-hydrate (or sodium aluminum silicate boron hydroxide hydrate with a similar crystal structure), and clinopyroxene. A combination of XRD and SEM/EDS analyses revealed that most of the crystalline phases appear on the surface of the specimen, while a majority of the alteration products are amorphous materials with compositions similar to those of the unreacted glass. A change in VHT temperature was found to change the proportion of crystalline alteration products observed, but not the type.

The effect of inverse temperature on the logarithm of VHT rate was found to be nearly linear. The slope of $\ln r$ as a function of $1/RT$, E_a , of the VHT rate was found to range from 84.7 kJ/mol to 126.9 kJ/mol with an average of 106.8 kJ/mol. Interestingly, a single E_a value, 108.8 kJ/mol, was able to describe the effect of temperature on all glasses within the error of rate determination. It is not yet clear what processes determine either the rate or the E_a . However, future testing will focus on obtaining a better understanding of these processes, which most likely include formation rates of key alteration products.

A preliminary glance at the effect of composition on the VHT rate at 200°C suggests that models with a linear relationship between logarithm rate and component concentrations will not adequately describe the measured relationship. Further study of these effects will be the focus of the next phase of this study.

The repeatability of the VHT rate was found to be 99.0% RSD at 200°C, 14.6% RSD at 250°C, and 14.8% RSD at 300°C for the baseline glass. This repeatability is expected to be a strong function of the resistance of the glass to VHT. At temperatures in which the resistance of a glass to VHT is small (e.g., rates above 100 g/m²/d), the repeatability will be high relative to those temperatures at which the resistance of a glass to VHT is high (e.g., rates below 5 g/m²/d).

Recommendations for Future Studies

To meet the stated goals of this study, additional studies are required. These studies include 1) completion of PCT-B and VHT on the glasses in the existing test matrix, 2) testing on the expanded test matrix, which was designed to minimize pair-wise correlations between components, thus simplifying the determination of composition effects on test responses, and 3) perform tests necessary to help link the test responses to behavior in the burial environment. The following specific activities are recommended:

1. Data collection should continue for the existing test-matrix glasses and the additional glasses designed to lower pair-wise component correlations. The VHT rates should be determined as precisely as possible for all matrix glasses at 200°C. The PCT-B should be completed for matrix glasses with times up to 10 000 h.
2. The PCT should be further accelerated by increasing test temperature. This may allow the similar reaction extents observed in VHT during similar time frames and potentially provide a link to lower temperature PCT data.

3. The alteration products formed on selected PCT and VHT samples should be identified and compared to help determine the similarity and differences in the corrosion processes that occur in the two tests and help to link test response to performance. Characterization methods for identifying these solid alteration products should be expanded to gain a clearer understanding of their structure, composition, and physical characteristics.
4. Further studies should be performed to clarify the corrosion mechanisms that determine alteration rates by VHT and how they are impacted by temperature to help understand the link between test response and performance.
5. The procedure for VHT should be further optimized and standardized to allow for comparison of VHT results from different researchers.
6. The effect of composition on test responses should be determined and modeled to help determine how glass composition impacts acceptable performance. This modeling can begin with the data currently available, but will require additional data to complete.

5.0 References

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