



Oceanic basalt glass: A simple relationship between the seismic parameter F and optical refractive index - Geothermal investigations

S. Maj

Institute of Geophysics, Pol.Acad.Sci., Warsaw, Poland (MAJ@IGF.EDU.PL, 0048-22-69-15-915)

A correlation between the optical specific refraction $R_{sp} = (n-1)/d$ (where n and d denote refractive index of yellow light and density medium, respectively) and hydrostatic pressure p (from 0 to about 5 GPa) for oceanic basalt glass material suggests the following characteristic equation: $F = R_{sp}/(dn/dp)$, where F is the seismic parameter and (dn/dp)

denotes the pressure gradient of refractive index. All necessary experimental data on the refractive indices and densities were taken from R.G. Kuryaeva and V.A. Kirkinskii (1997). With very good approximation R_{sp} is constant and equals 0.2035 cc/g in the whole 0-5 GPa range. In this case, the derivative $dR_{sp}/dp = 0$ and we obtain a very simple expression of the form $dn/dp = R_{sp}/F$ or $F = R_{sp}/(dn/dp)$.

Since the mean values of dn/dp are 0.013 [1/GPa] (0-1.0 GPa range),

0.016 [1/GPa] (1.0-2.1 GPa range), and 0.010 [1/GPa] (2.1-5.1 GPa range), and $R_{sp} = 0.2035$ cc/g, we estimate that the probable values of seismic parameter F are 15.65, 12.72 and 20.35 (km/s)² for basalt glass under pressures of 0-1.0, 1.0-2.1 and 2.1-5.1 GPa, respectively.

On the other hand, one of many equations applied of geothermics and mineral physics is a semi-empirical relationship between the phonon thermal conductivity (k) and seismic parameter F for silicate and oxide minerals.

At room temperature (T_0) it is of the form: $\log k = (5/6)\log F -$

0.7422, where the k -value is in W/m K and parameter F is in (km/s)².

Thus, we obtain the following three values of $k(T_0) = 1.79$ W/m K [(0-1.0)GPa range], 1.51 W/m K [(1.0-2.1) GPa range] and 2.23 W/m K [(2.1-5.1) GPa range] for oceanic basalt glass.