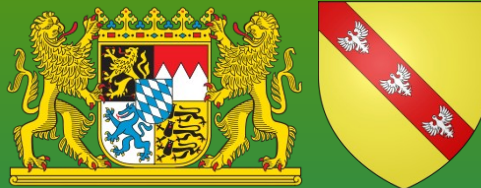




**50 Years After**  
**The Mössbauer Effect Today and in the Future**  
9-10 October 2008- München (Bayern)

**Green Rusts and Fougerite;**  
**From Mineralogy and Environmental Science to Corrosion**

**Jean-Marie R. Génin**

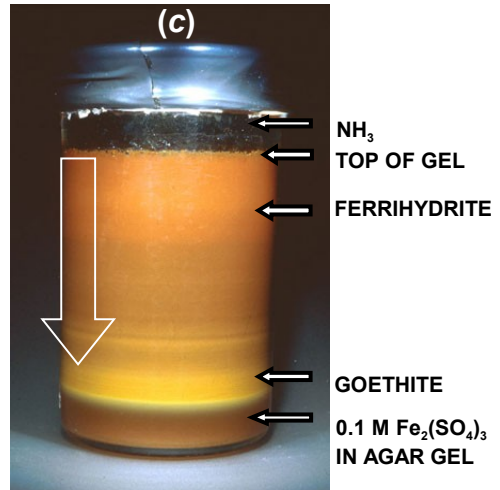
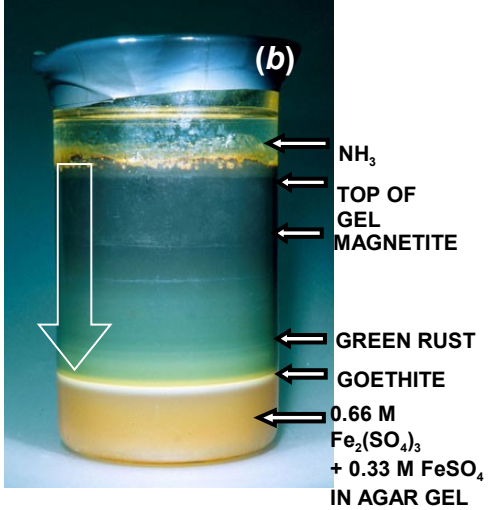
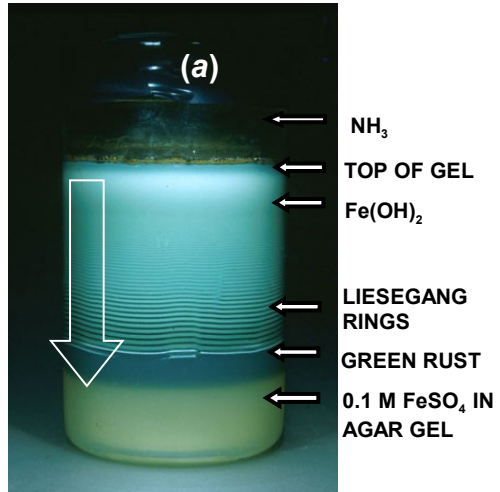
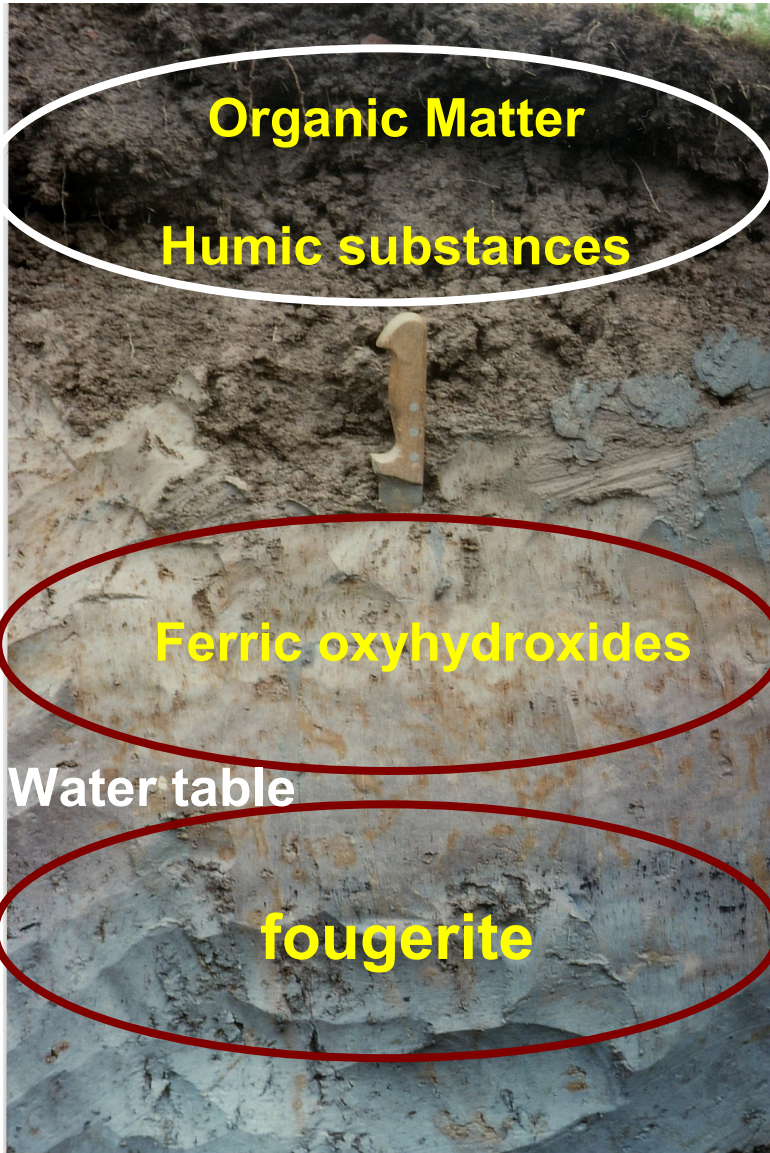


**Institut Jean Barriol**

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**France.**

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Why go to Mars when there are so many things to understand under our feet on Earth?



Simulation of chemical potential gradient showing the formation of a redox front between  $\text{NH}_3$  reducer and (a) a ferrous salt, (b) a Fe(II) Fe(III) mixture and (c) a ferric salt. The medium contains sulphate anions and the  $\text{GR}(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$  forms. Agar gel is used for maintaining the diffusion gradient.

Hydromorphic soil  
Gleysol

**About ¼ of the annual production of iron is destroyed every year by corrosion.**

**Secret of passivation!**

**Corrosion is the dissolution of a metal due to its oxidation.**

**In the case of iron, the sequence is:  $\text{Fe}^0 \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{2+} \rightarrow \text{Fe}^{3+}$**

**Oxidation of iron is**



**This is due to the reduction of oxidants, e. g.**



**$\text{Fe}^{2+}_{\text{aq}}$  exists in a wide range of pH, whereas  $\text{Fe}^{3+}_{\text{aq}}$  necessitates an acidic solution (pH < 4)**

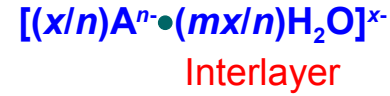
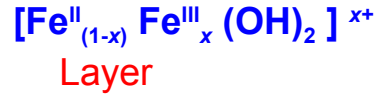
**To predict corrosion, one draws the **electrode potential**  $E_h$  versus pH graph**

**We shall complete the  $E_h$ -pH Pourbaix diagrams by introducing the intermediate  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II-III}}$  compounds, the green rusts**



# Layered double hydroxides

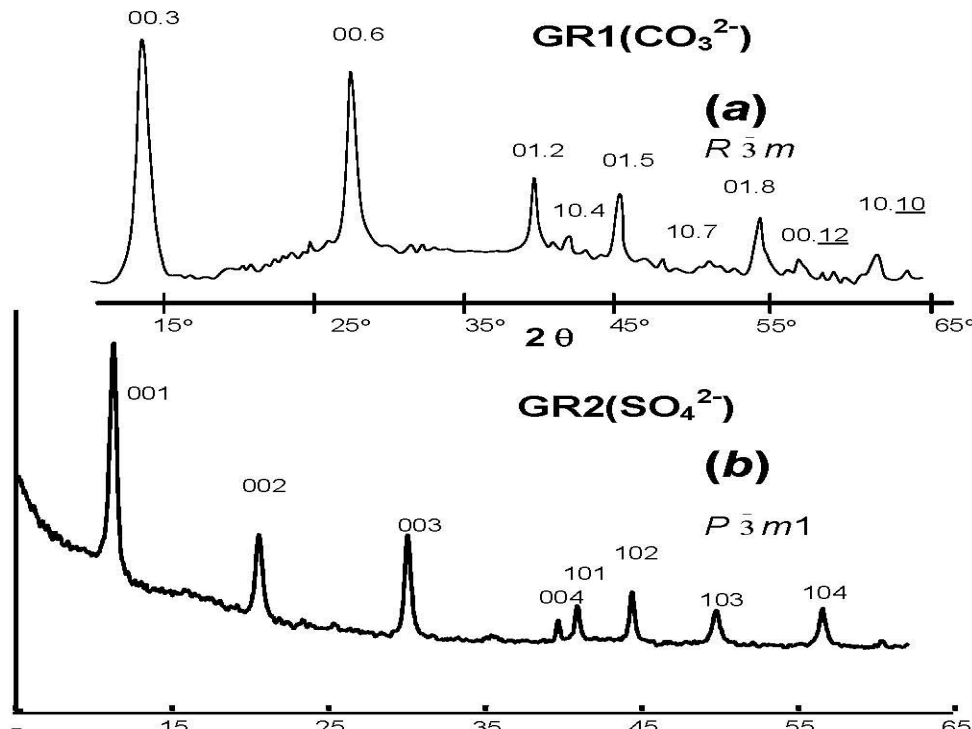
## Green rusts



### Anions

Cl<sup>-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, HCOO<sup>-</sup>, C<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>, SeO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> ...

Chloride  
Sulphate  
Carbonate



Two types of stacking

XRD pattern of  
hydroxycarbonate  
GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>).

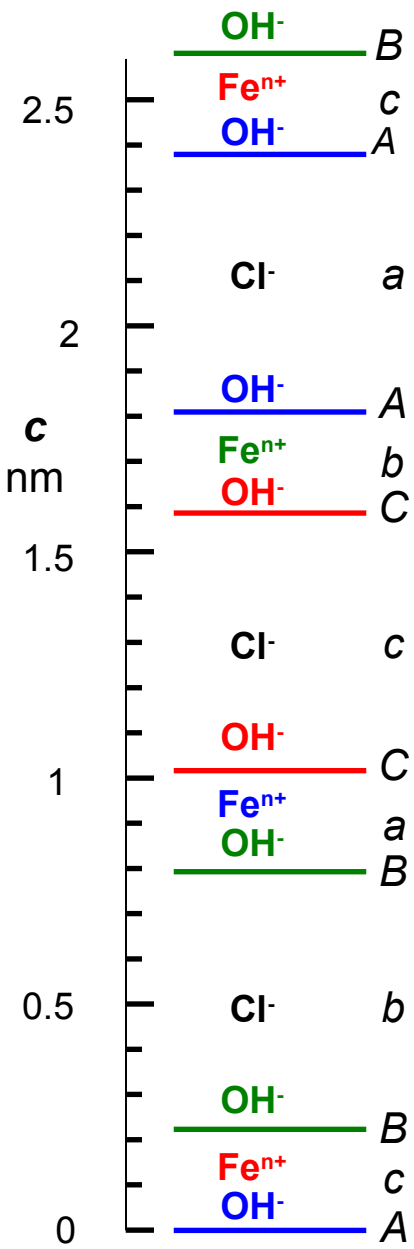
(thesis of Omar Benali 2002).

*R-3m*

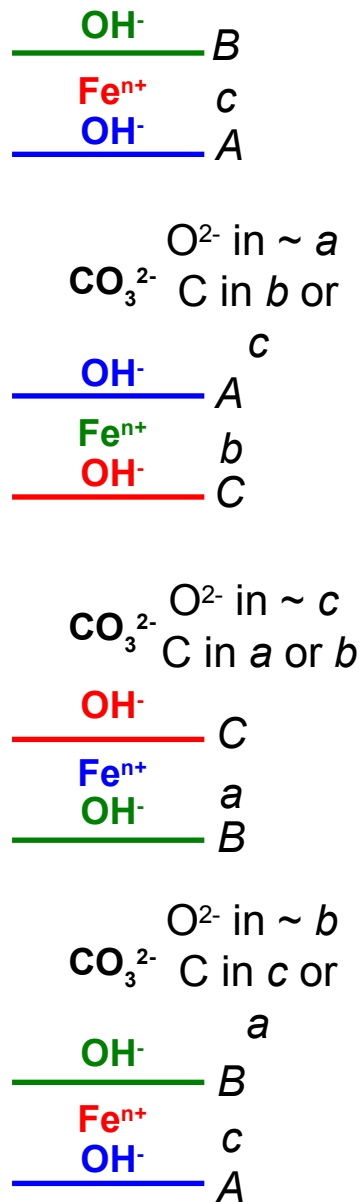
XRD pattern of  
hydroxysulphate  
GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>).

(thesis of Rabha Aïssa 2004).

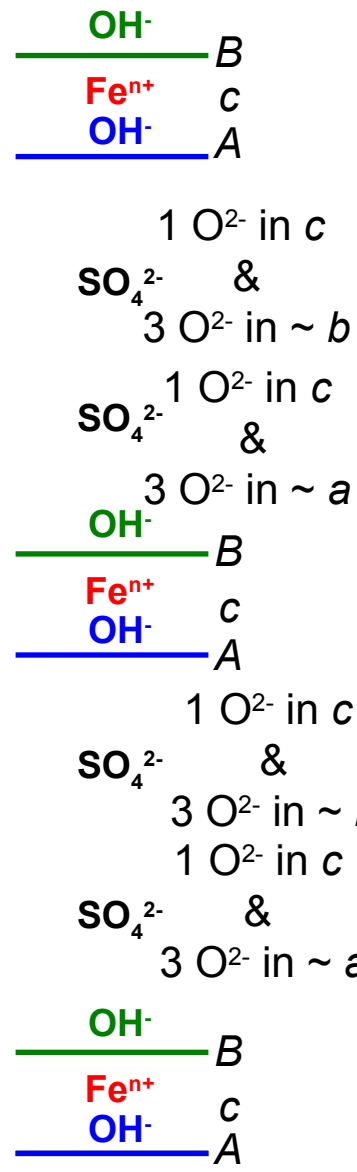
*P-3m1*



GR1(Cl<sup>-</sup>)



GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>)



GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>)

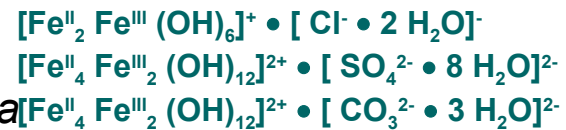
Stacking sequence at scale of the Fe cation layers

(a) CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> anion interlayers and OH<sup>-</sup> layers along the 3-fold axis of GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>);

(b) Cl<sup>-</sup> anions and OH<sup>-</sup> layers of GR1(Cl<sup>-</sup>).

(c) SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> anion interlayers and OH<sup>-</sup> layers along the 3-fold axis of GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>);

A, B, C and a, b, c positions represent the sites in the hexagonal pavement of ions.



**Transmission  
Mössbauer spectra  
measured at 78 K of  
various Green Rusts**

**2 ferrous doublets  
 $D_1$  &  $D_2$  (large  $\Delta$ )**

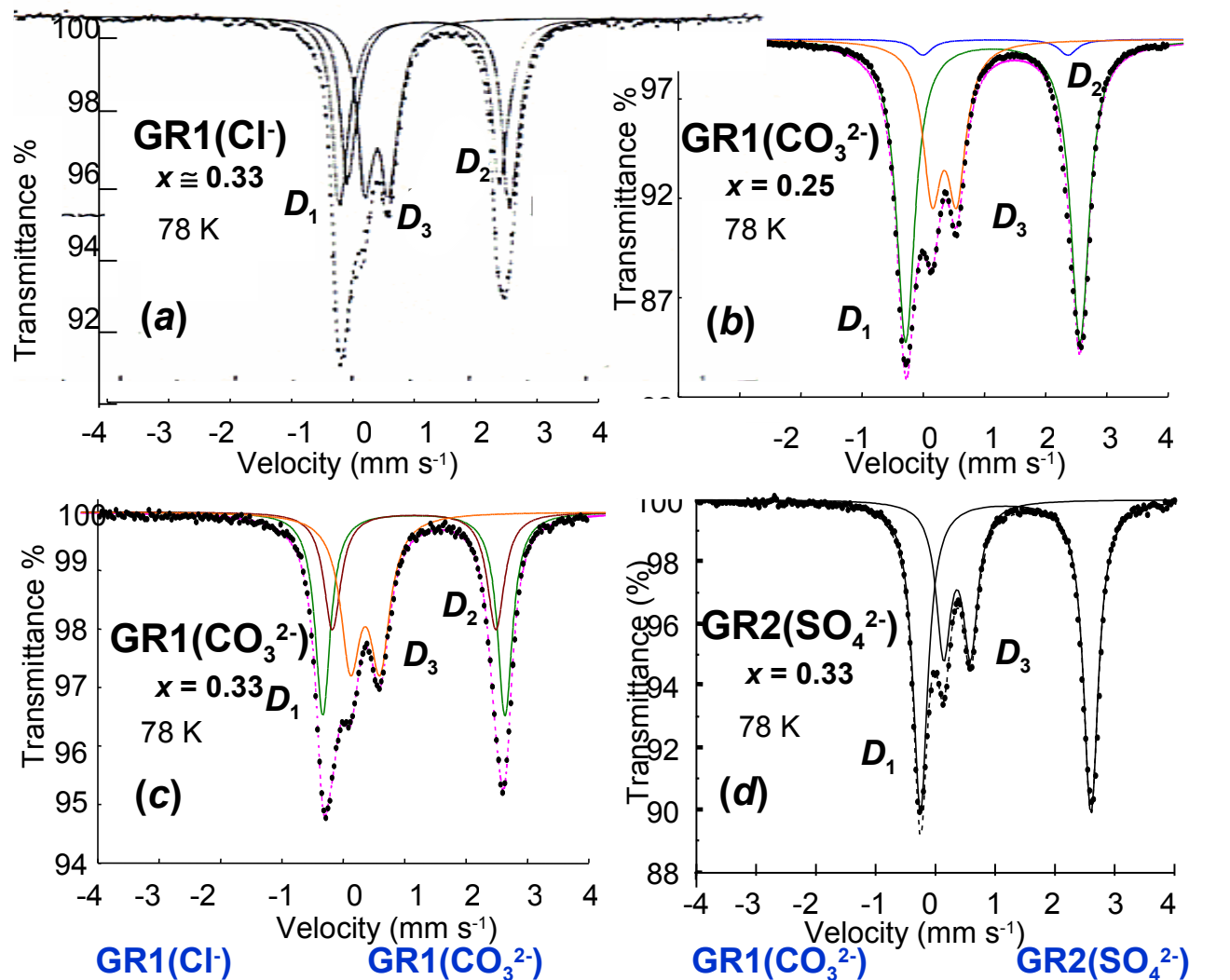
**1 ferric doublet  $D_3$   
(small  $\Delta$ )**

$$x = \text{Fe}^{\text{III}} / \text{Fe}_{\text{total}}$$

**obtained directly  
from the spectrum  
(RA of  $D_3$ )**

**Experimentally**

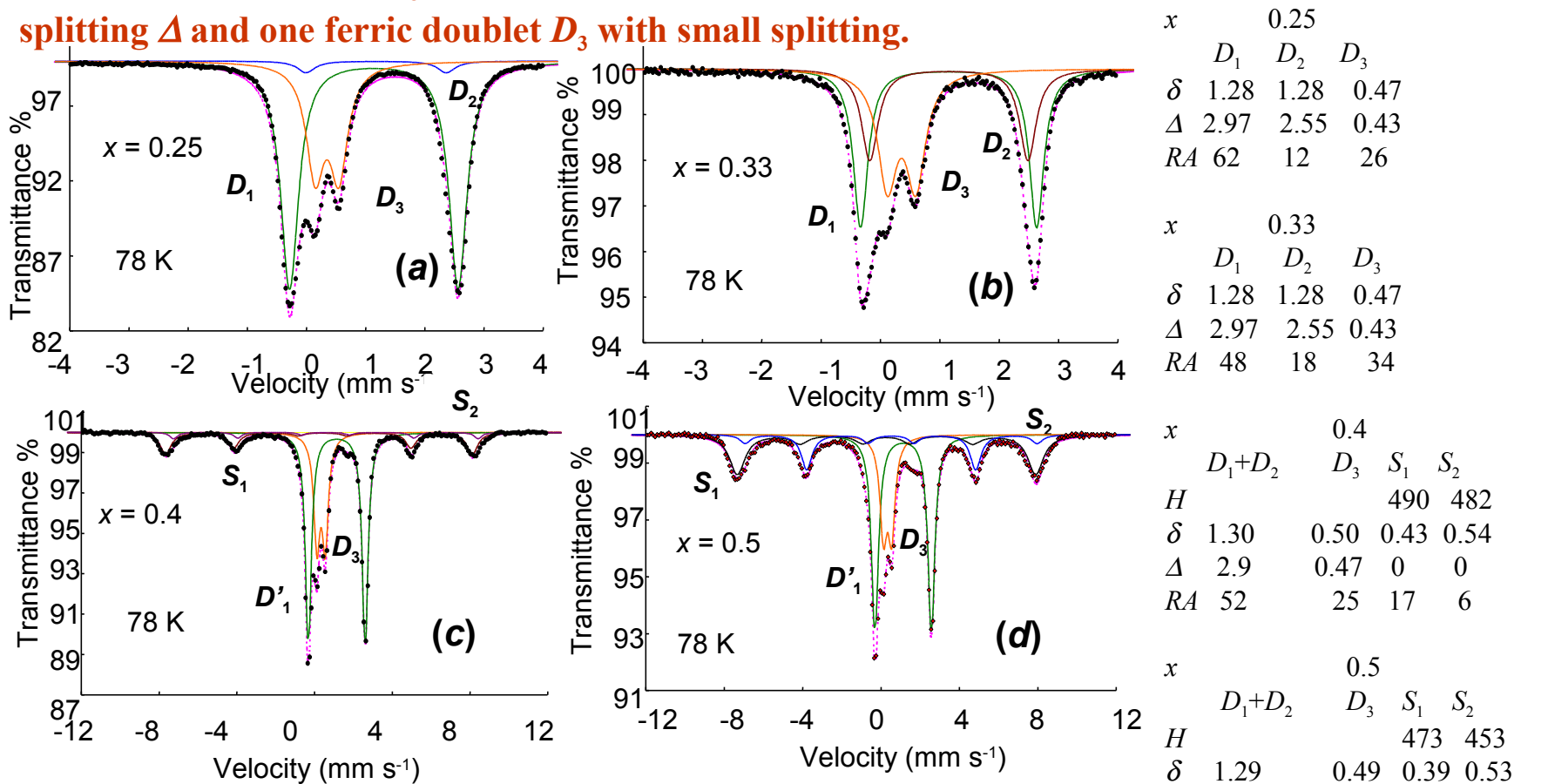
**$0.25 < x < 0.33$**



	GR1(Cl <sup>-</sup> )			GR1(CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> )			GR1(CO <sub>3</sub> <sup>2-</sup> )			GR2(SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup> )						
	$x$	$\delta$	$\Delta$	RA	$\delta$	$\Delta$	RA	$\delta$	$\Delta$	RA	$\delta$	$\Delta$	RA			
		mm s <sup>-1</sup>	%		mm s <sup>-1</sup>	%		mm s <sup>-1</sup>	%		mm s <sup>-1</sup>	%				
$D_1$	0.33	1.27	2.89	37	0.25	1.28	2.97	62	0.33	1.27	2.93	51	0.33	1.27	2.88	66
$D_2$		1.25	2.60	32		1.28	2.55	12		1.28	2.64	15				
$D_3$		0.17	0.41	31		0.17	0.43	26		0.17	0.43	24		0.17	0.44	24

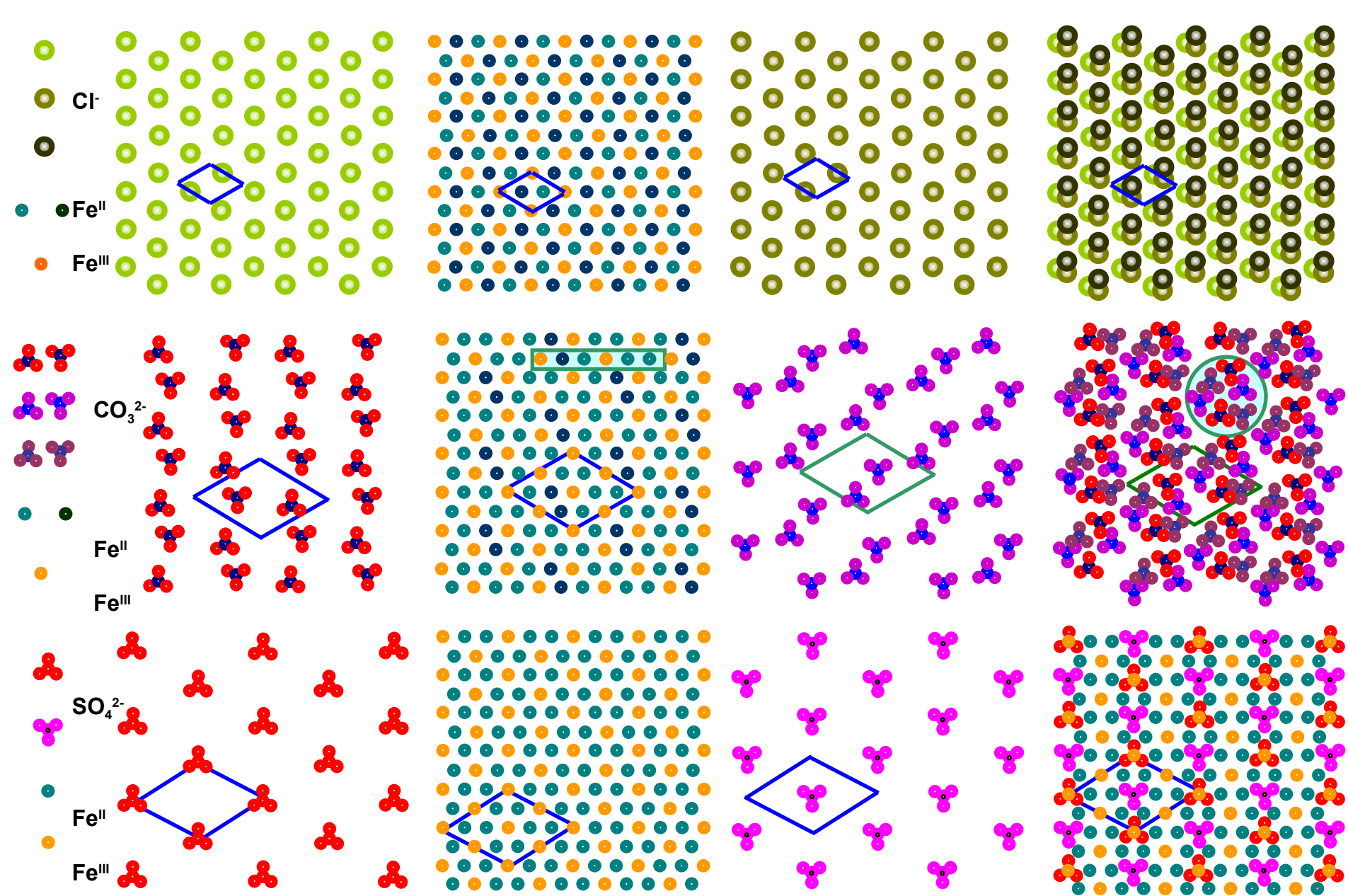
The  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II-III}}$  hydroxycarbonate can be prepared by **coprecipitation** of a mixture of ferrous and ferric salts in the presence of carbonate ions when adding NaOH solution. Mössbauer spectra measured at 78 K demonstrate that the range of composition for  $x = [\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}]/[\text{Fe}_{\text{total}}]$  is limited to  $[1/4, 1/3]$  since for  $x > 1/3$  there exists two phases, the Green rust at  $x = 1/3$ ,  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$ , and another phase,  $\alpha\text{-FeOOH}$ .

The spectrum of  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$  consists of 2 ferrous doublets  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  with large quadrupole splitting  $\Delta$  and one ferric doublet  $D_3$  with small splitting.



$\text{Fe}^{\text{II-III}}$  ions coprecipitation giving for  $x > 1/3$  a mixture of phases:  
 $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$  and goethite

$\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_{(1-y)}\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_y(\text{OH})_2 (y/2)\text{CO}_3$  with  $1/4 < y < 1/3$



Projections perpendicular to the  $c$  axis of the GR structure of, from left to right, GR1(Cl<sup>-</sup>), GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) and GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>). OH<sup>-</sup> ion layers are not taken into account; (a) one anion interlayer, (b) a Fe layer and (c) the next interlayer; (d) superimposition of (a), (b), (c) where only one Fe layer in the way between two interlayers is represented; (e) three adjacent interlayers in GR1s.



With synchrotron

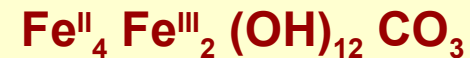
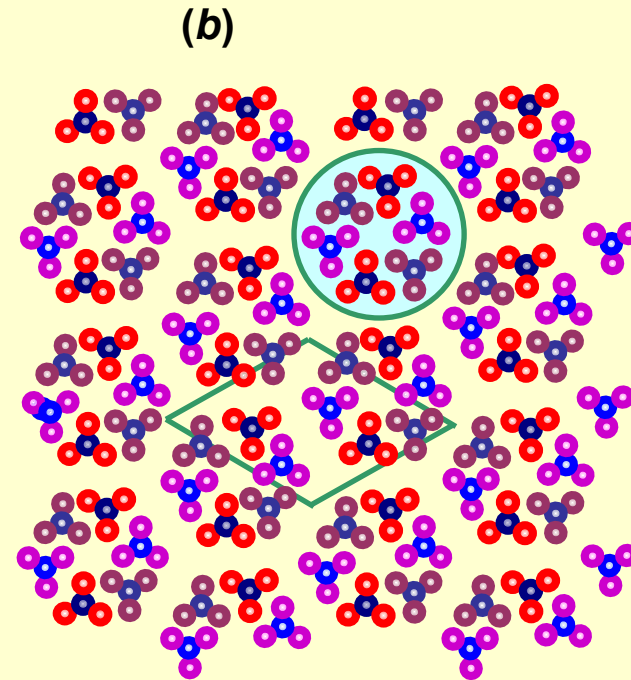
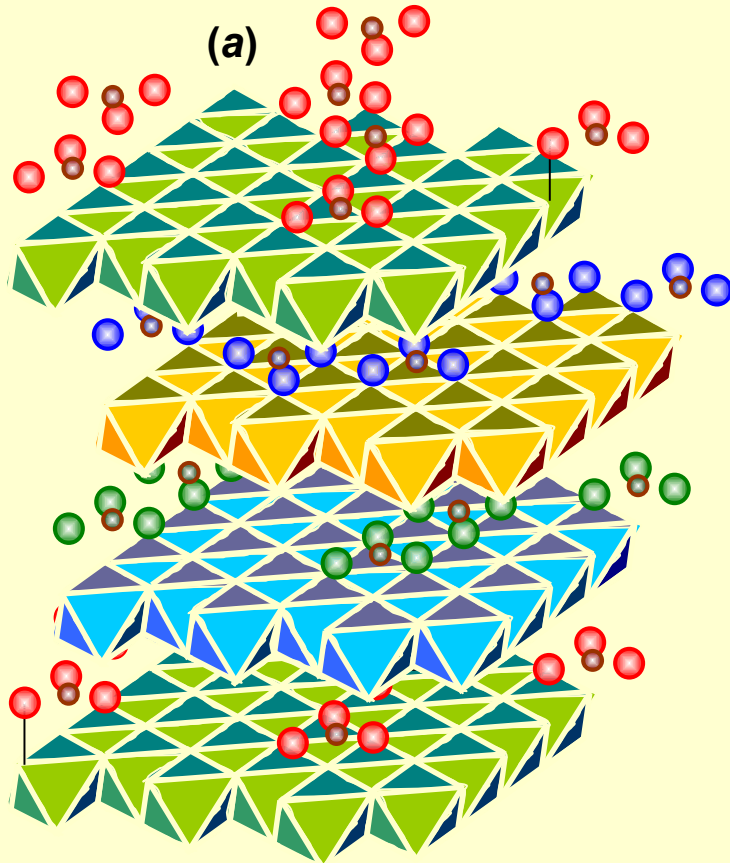
GR(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) *R(-3)m*

*a* = 0.317588(2) nm

*c* = 2.27123(3) nm

R. Aissa, M. Francois, C. Ruby, F. Fauth, G. Medjahdi, M. Abdelmoula, J.-M. Génin

Formation and crystallographical structure of hydroxysulphate and hydroxycarbonate green rusts synthesised by coprecipitation • *J. Phys. Chem. Solids*, 67 (2006) 1016-1019.



Structure of GR(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) Fe<sup>II-III</sup> hydroxycarbonate at *x* = (1/3); (a) Three-dimensional view of the stacking of brucite-like layers. OH<sup>-</sup> ions lie at the apices of the octahedrons surrounding the Fe cations. CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> ions in interlayers.

(b) Projections along the *c* axis of the CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup> anions for three interlayers constituting a repeat.

Génin, J.-M. R.; Aissa, R.; Génin, A.; Abdelmoula, M.; Benali, O.; Ernstsens, V.; Ona-Nguema, G.; Upadhyay, C.; Ruby, C. Fougerite and Fe<sup>II-III</sup> hydroxycarbonate green rust; ordering, deprotonation and/or cation substitution; structure of hydrotalcite-like compounds and mythic ferrosic hydroxide Fe(OH)<sub>(2+x)</sub>. *Solid State Sci.*, 7 (2005) 545-572.

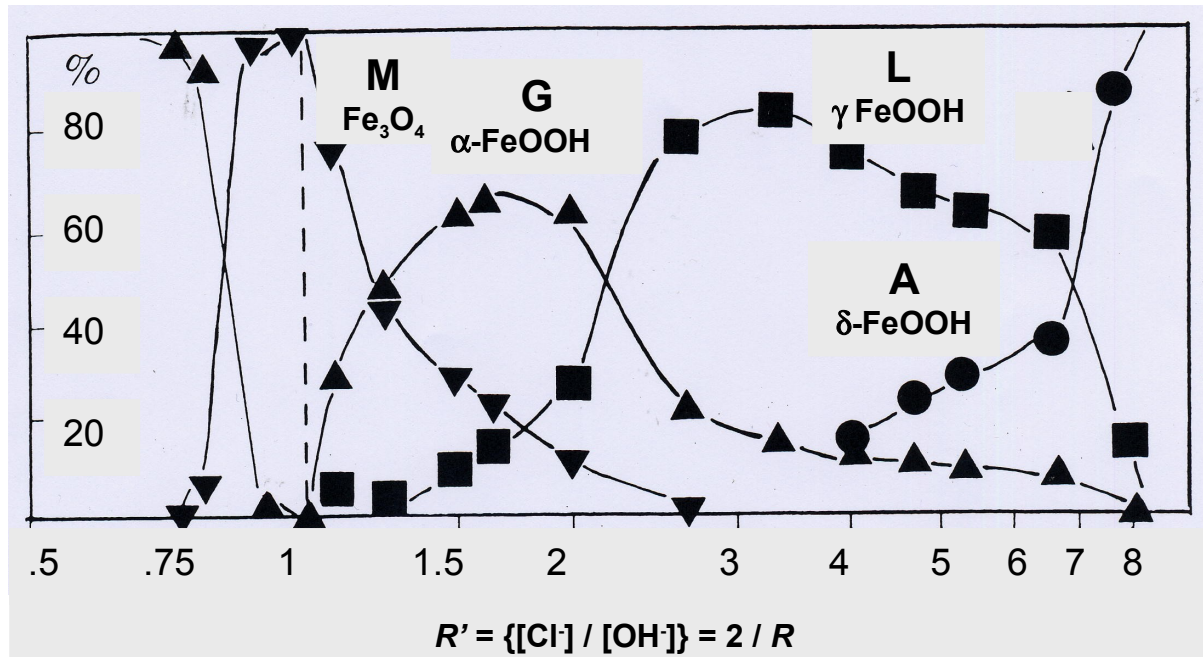
# The *usual* oxidation of green rusts by dissolution and precipitation

- Most of the time the corrosion of iron ends into a ferric oxyhydroxide that is the result of the oxidation of the green rust by dissolution and precipitation

## Chloride containing medium

## End products of oxidation

## The common rusts



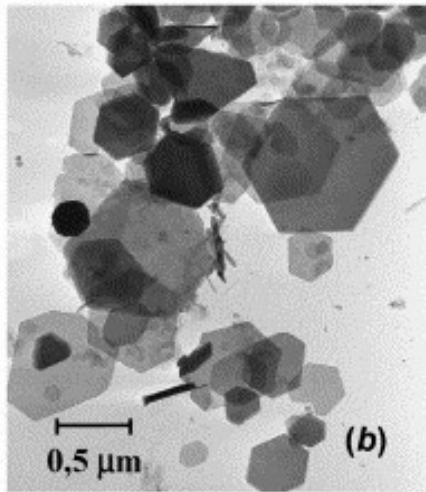
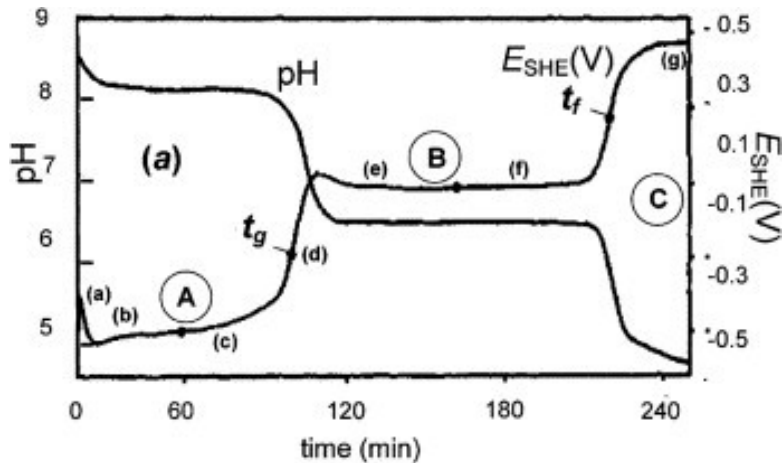
End products of the aerial oxidation of  $Fe(OH)_2$ , in the chloride containing medium with respect to the initial ratio  $R' = \frac{[Cl^-]}{[OH^-]} = \frac{2}{R}$ .

$$R = \frac{[Fe^{III}][Fe_{total}]}{[OH^-]^2}$$

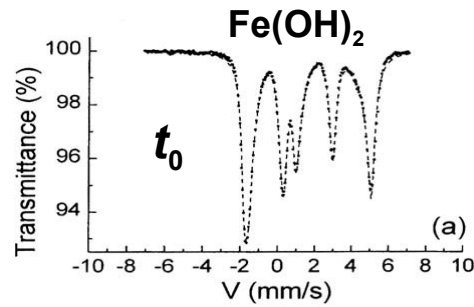
D. Rézel 1986

▼ M : magnetite, ▲ G : goethite, ■ L : lepidocrocite , ● A : akaganeite

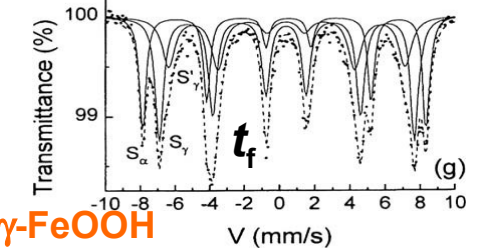
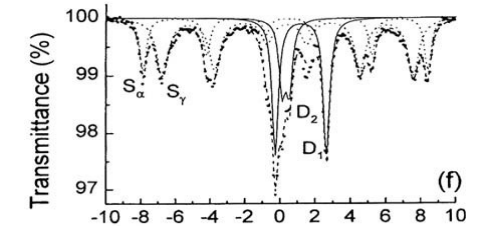
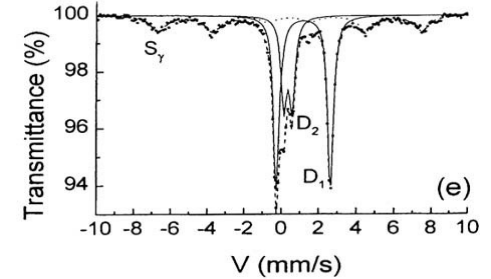
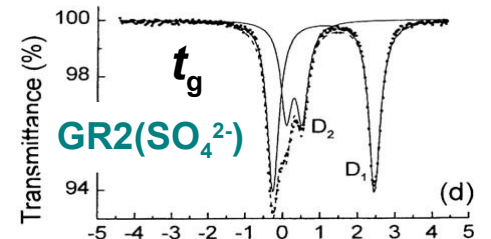
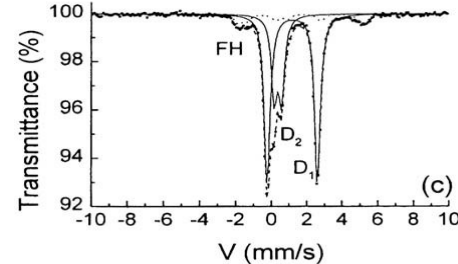
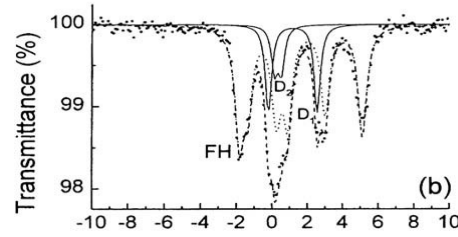
# Sulphate containing medium



**A. Olwe  
Ph. Refait**



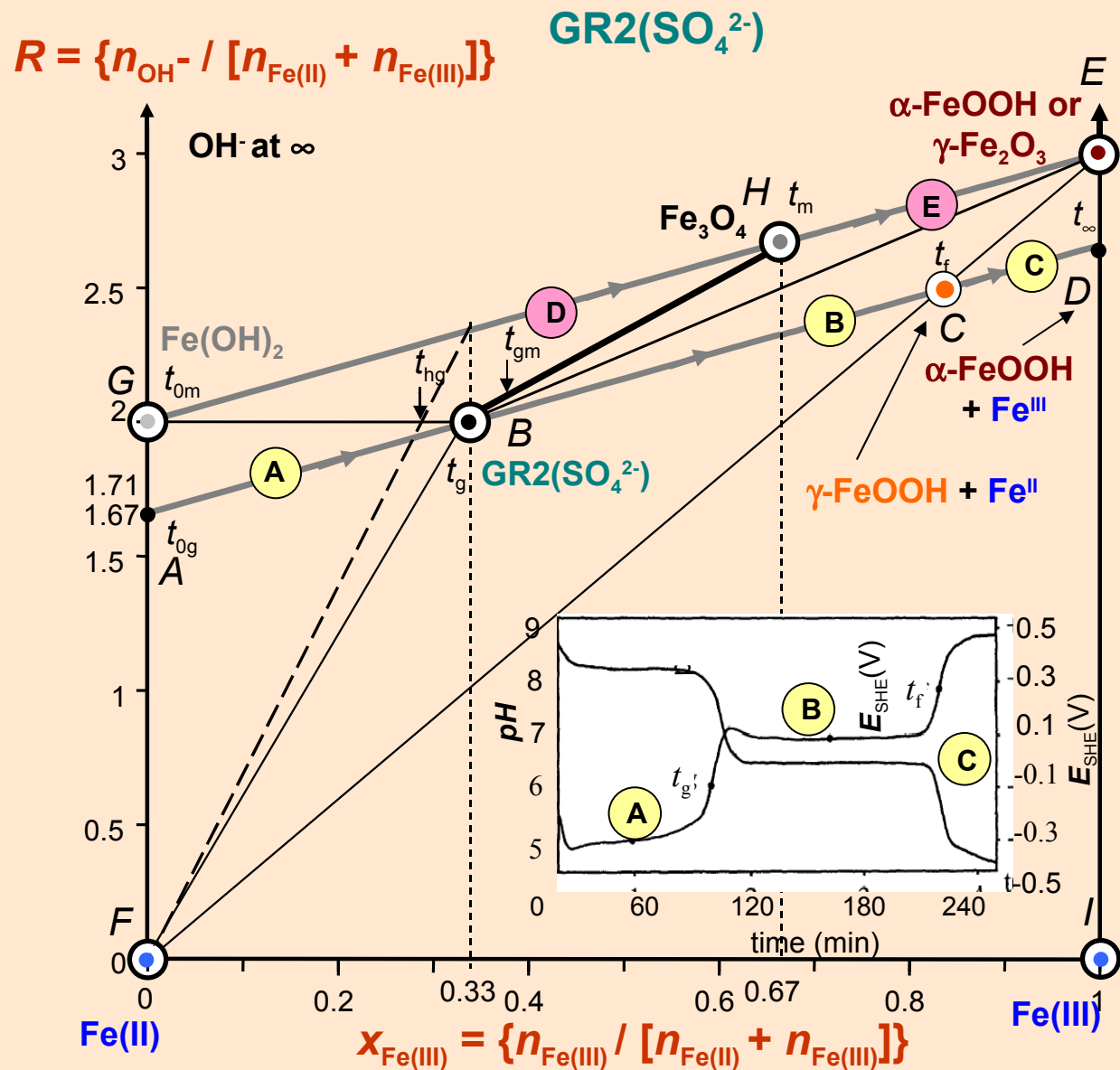
**Mössbauer spectra  
measured at 15 K**



**$\gamma$ -FeOOH**

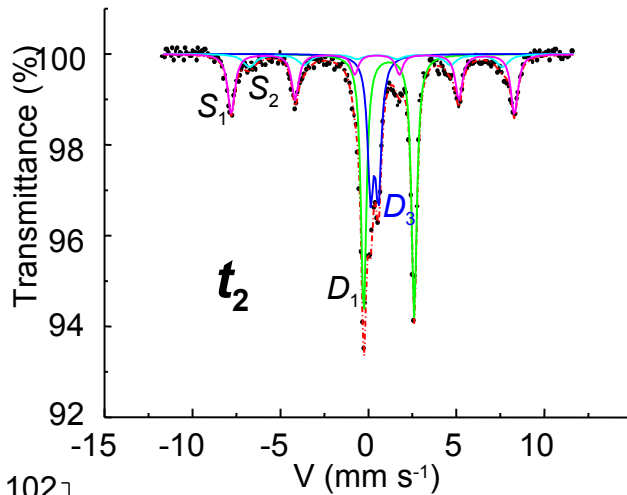
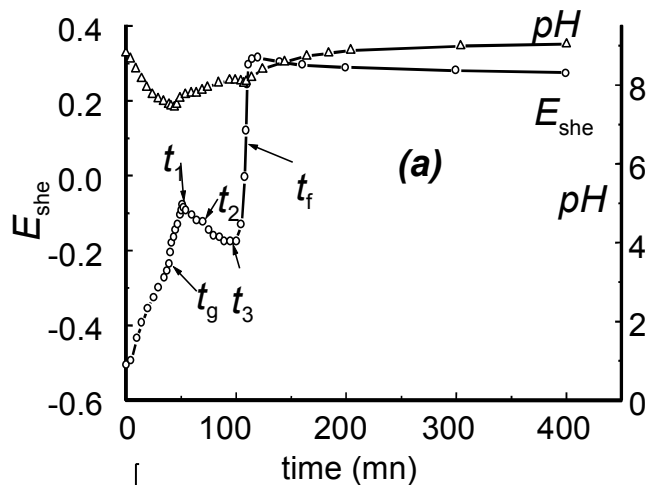
(a) Zero-current potential  $E_h$  (SHE) and pH vs. time curves recorded during the oxidation of an aerated suspension of ferrous hydroxide in a sulphate containing medium for initial ratio  $R = \{[OH^-]/[Fe_{total}]\} = R_g = 1.67$ . Three stages A, B and C illustrated by plateaus when  $E_h$  and pH stay constant correspond to three equilibrium reactions. At  $t_g$ , 100% of  $GR_2(SO_4^{2-})$  forms and at  $t_f$  there exist only one solid phase, lepidocrocite  $\gamma$ -FeOOH with  $Fe^{II}$  ions within solution. Points (a)–(g) indicate the times at which the precipitates analysed by Mössbauer spectroscopy were sampled [6]. (b) Transmission electron micrograph of sample of  $GR_2(SO_4^{2-})$  at  $t_g$  [6].

Mass balance diagram comprising stoichiometric  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II-III}}$  hydroxysulphate green rust  $\text{GR2}(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$  at  $x = 1/3$ . The path followed during the aerial oxidation of  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_2$  with an excess of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}_{\text{aq}}$  is stressed displaying the 3 stages, AB, BC, CD, as observed in  $E_n$  or pH versus time curves (inset). The final ferric oxyhydroxide is lepidocrocite at point C (stage 2) that transforms slowly into goethite (stage 3) from C to D in acidic conditions providing some  $\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}$  ions into solution..



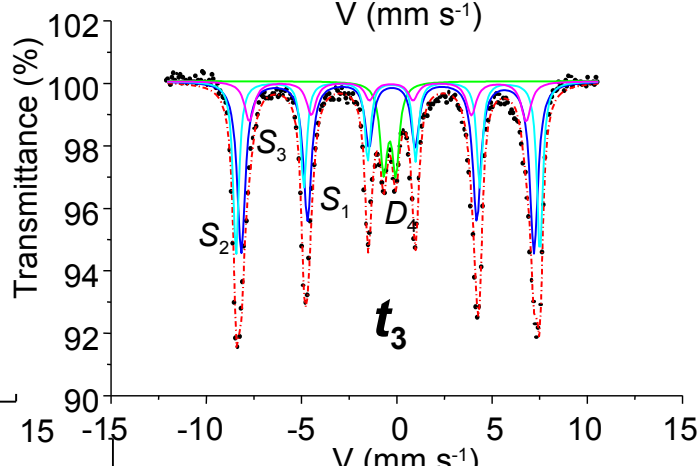
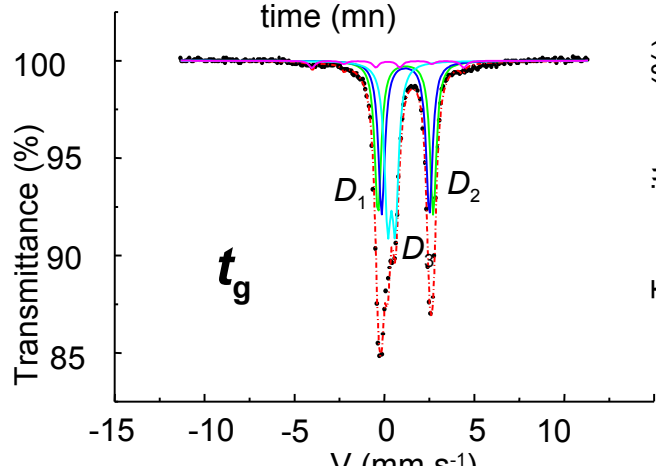
**Mass balance diagram  
of iron compounds**

**A. Géhin 2004**



## Carbonate containing medium

$D_1, D_2, D_3$  : GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) doublets  
 $S_1$  : ferrihydrite sextet  
 $S_2, S_3$  : goethite sextets  
 $D_4$  : ferrihydrite doublet

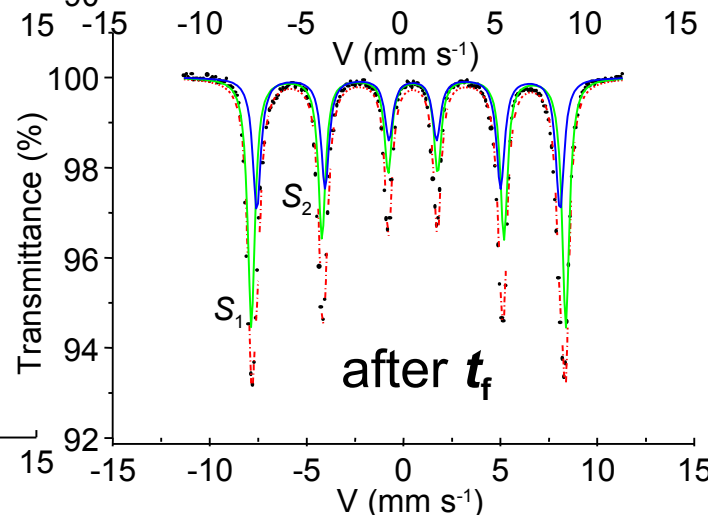
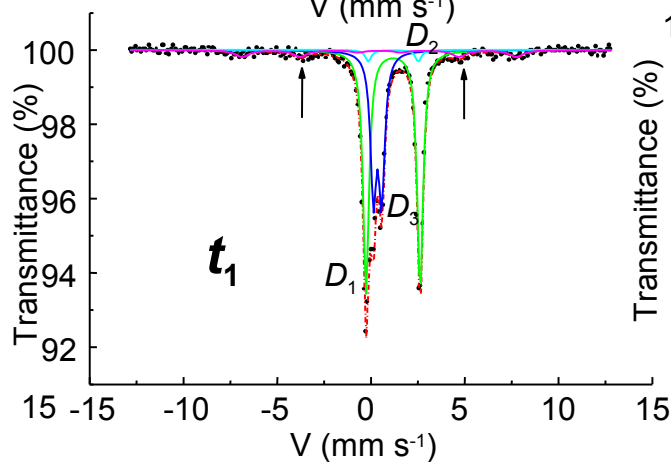


$t_g$  : GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) alone

$t_1$  : GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) + some ferrihydrite

$t_2$  : GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) + goethite + ferrihydrite

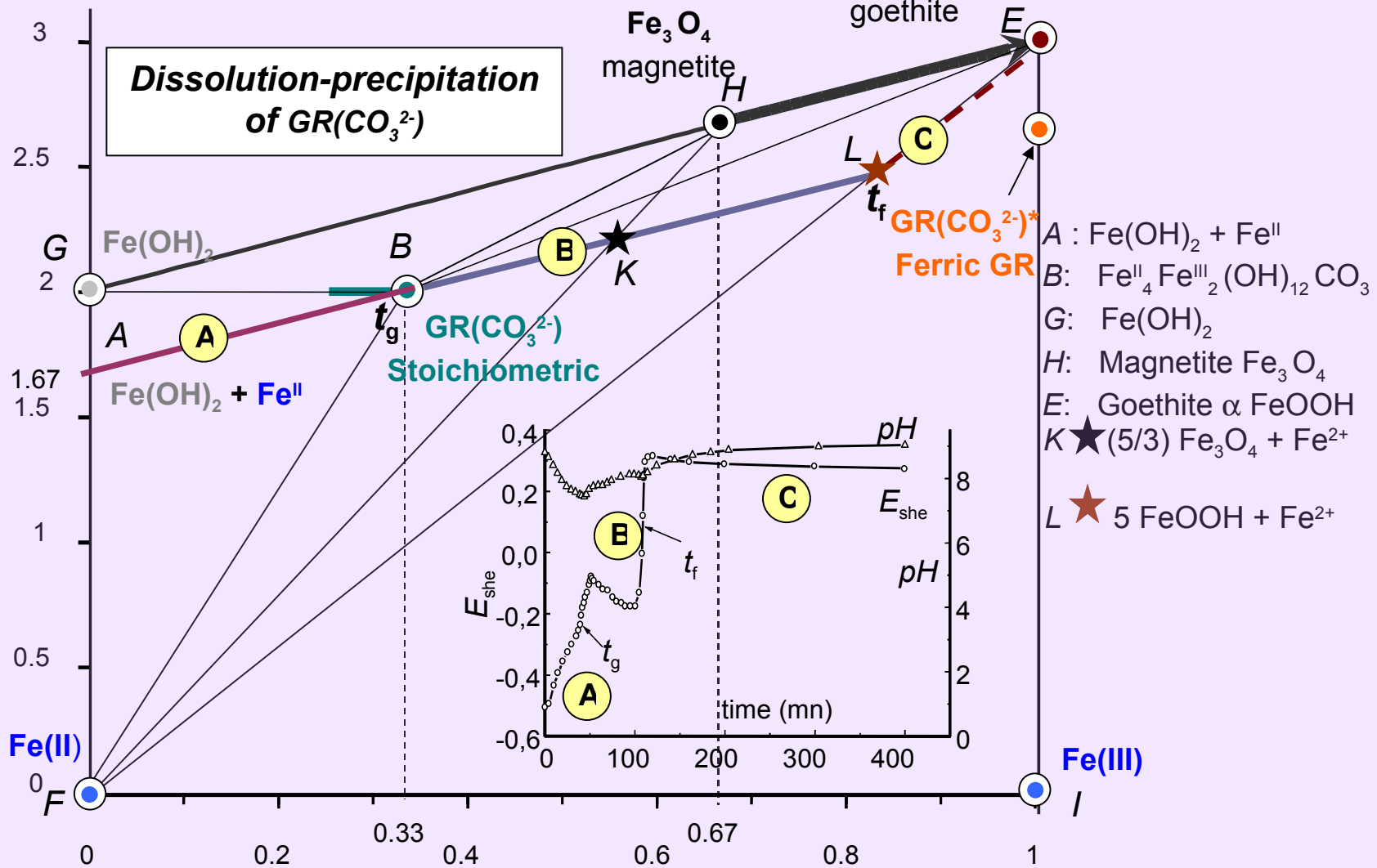
$t_3$  : goethite + ferrihydrite



After  $t_f$  : goethite alone

**O. Benali**

$$R = \{n_{OH^-} / (n_{Fe(II)} + n_{Fe(III)})\}$$

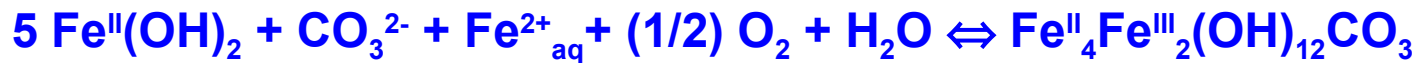
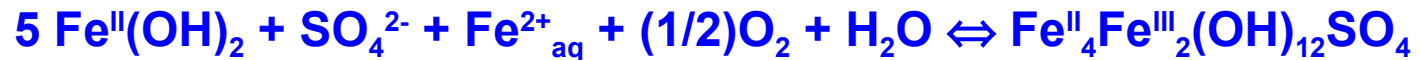


$$x_{Fe(III)} = \{n_{Fe(III)} / (n_{Fe(II)} + n_{Fe(III)})\}$$

**Mass balance diagram of iron compounds**

# Oxidation of GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>) and GR1(CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>) Lepidocrocite *versus* ferrihydrite & goethite

## Stage A



## Stage B



## Stage C



## As a whole

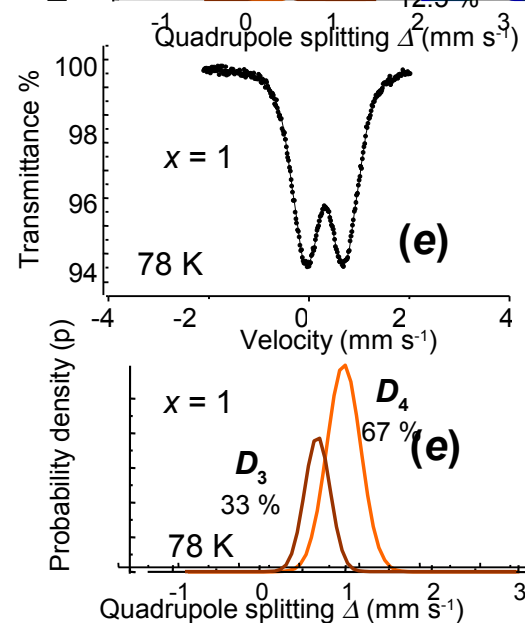
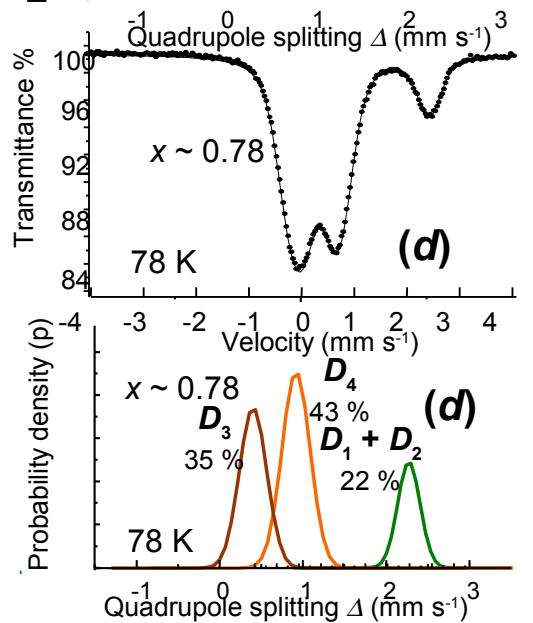
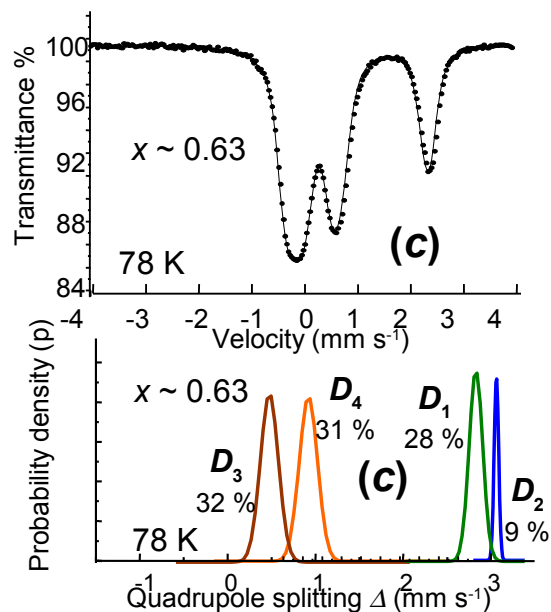
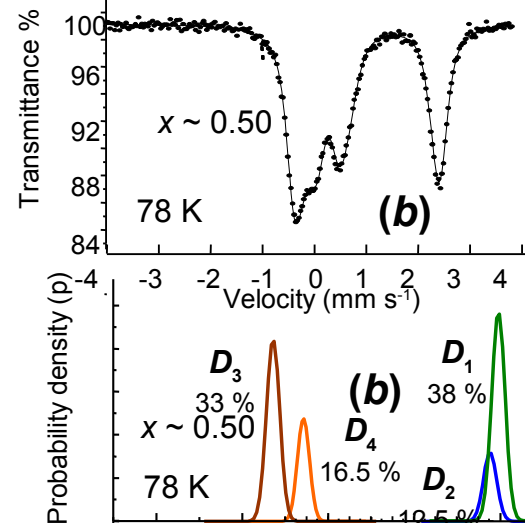
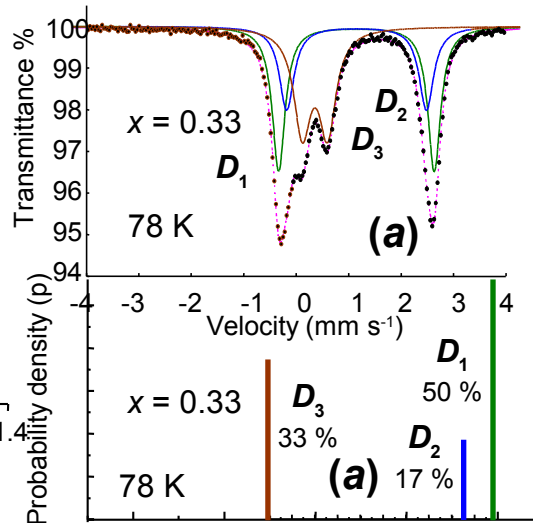
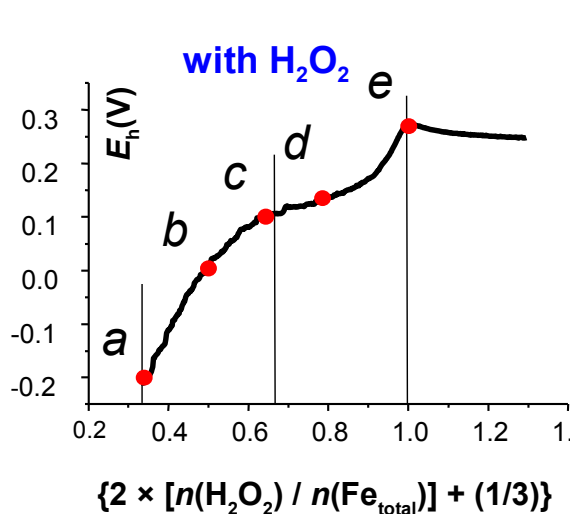


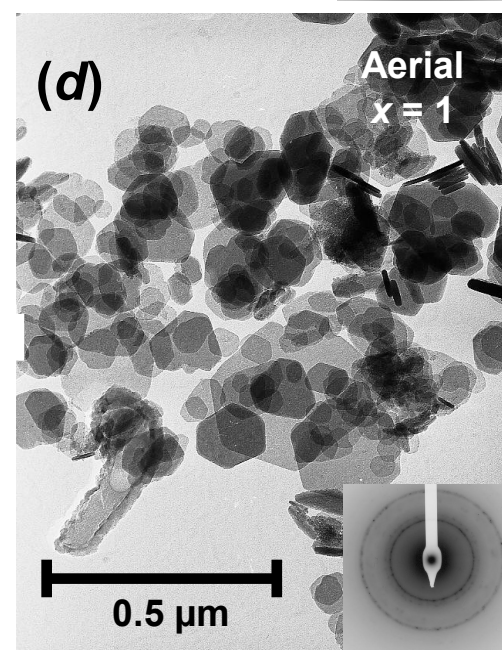
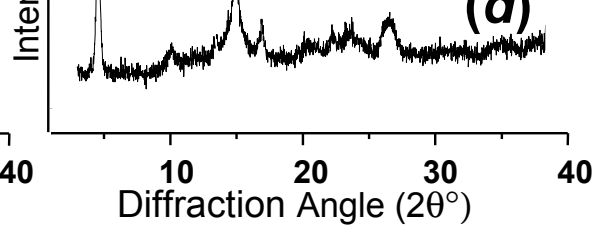
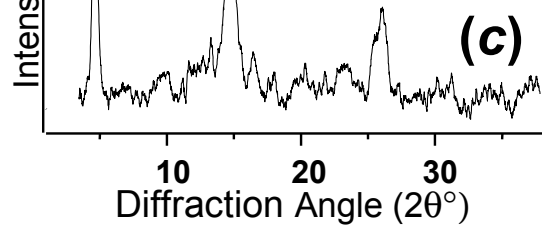
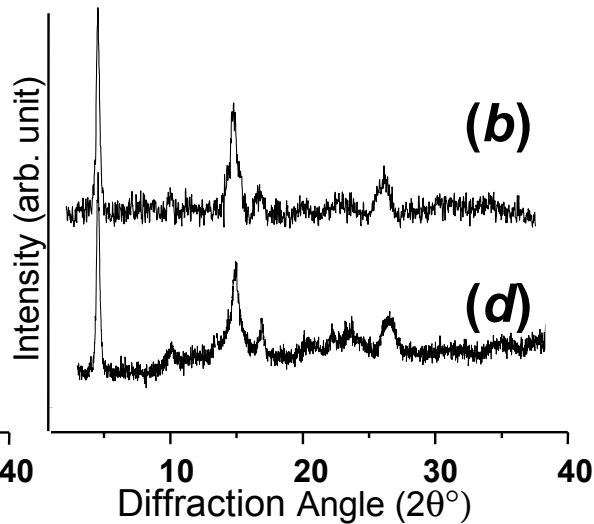
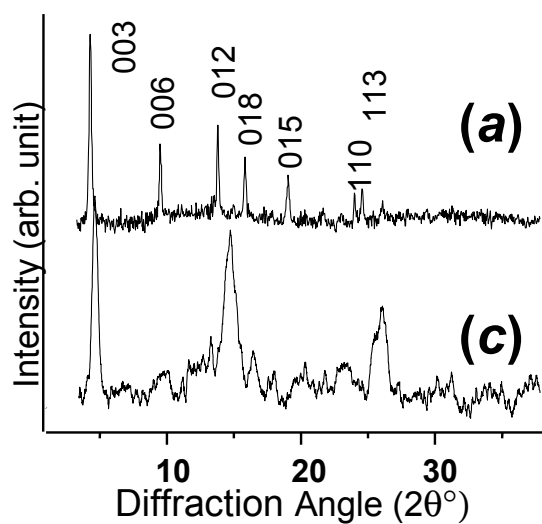
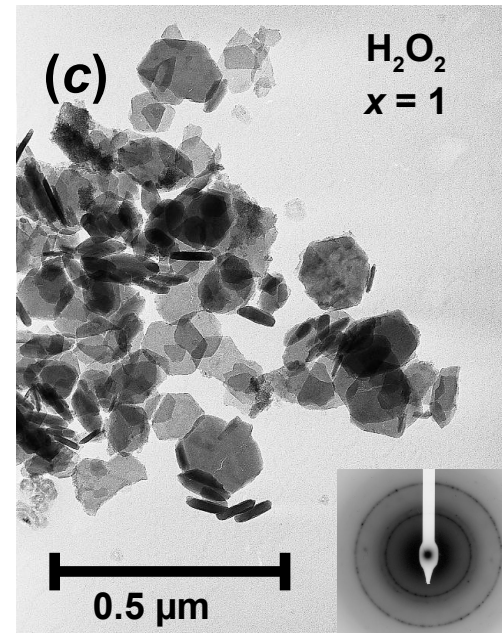
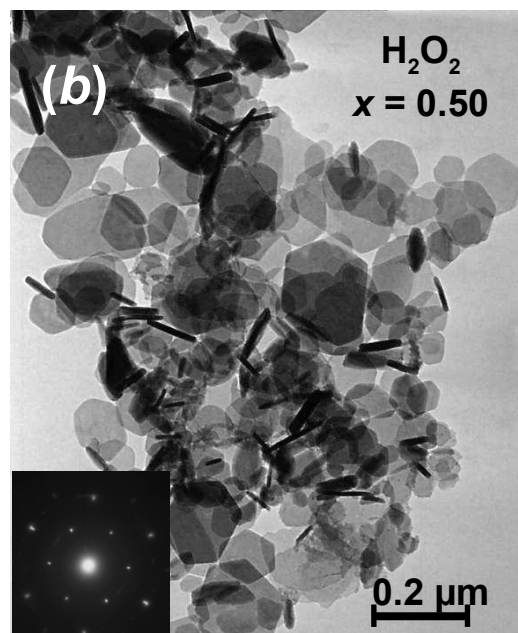
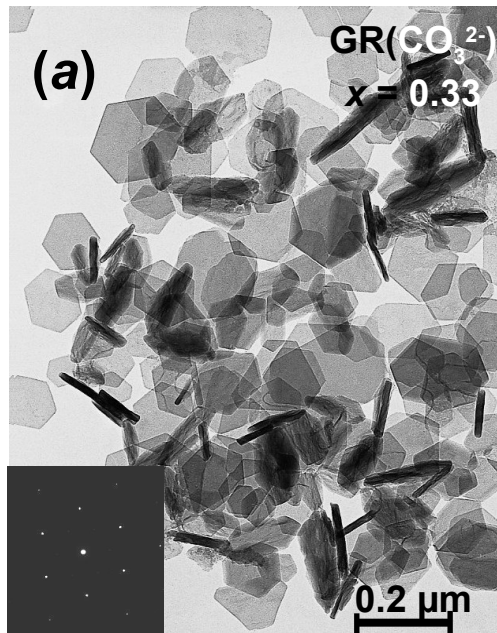


# The *in situ* oxidation of green rusts by deprotonation

Use a strong oxidant such as  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , Dry the green rust and oxide in the air,

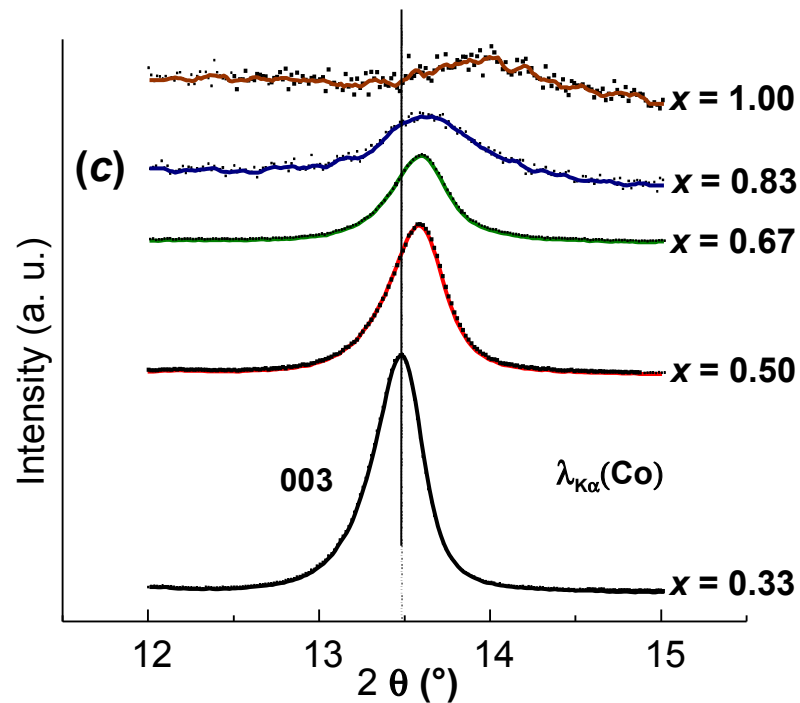
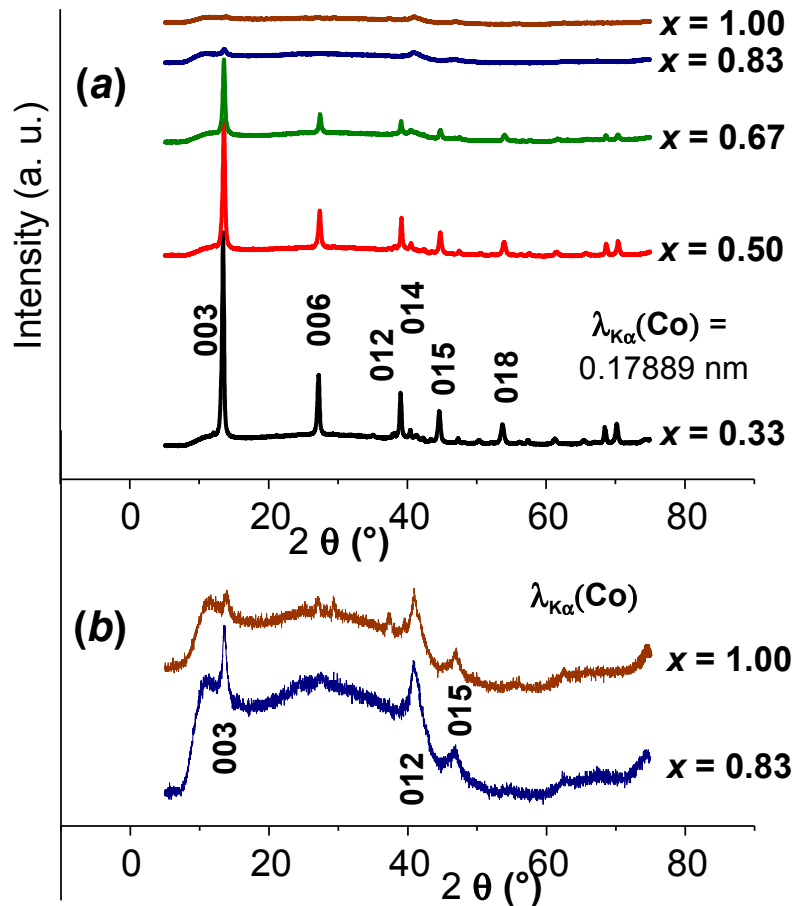
Violent air oxidation, Oxide in a basic medium...





## TEM and XRD patterns

The oxidation is in situ and does not destroy the crystals



XRD patterns of the  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II-III}}$  oxyhydroxycarbonate with respect to  $x = \text{Fe}^{\text{III}}/\text{Fe}_{\text{total}}$

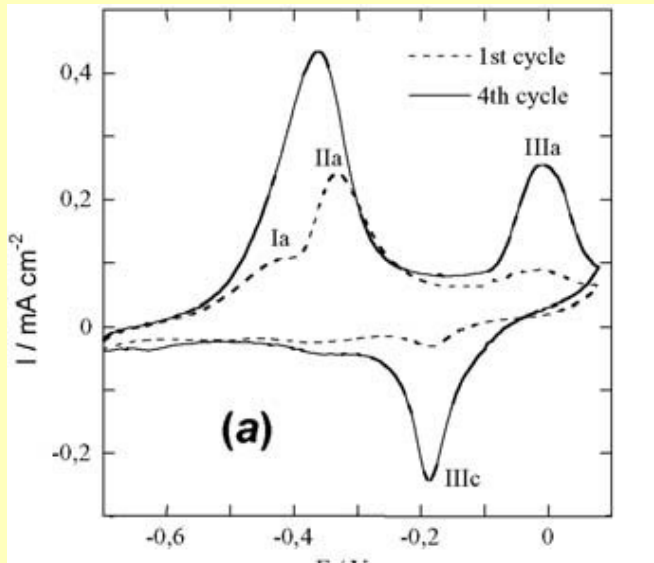
G. Ona N'Guema



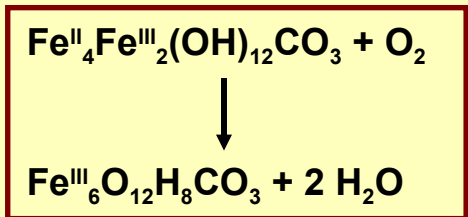
Lines of ferric GR\* ( $x=1$ ) are very weak; this explains why its existence was not discovered sooner

The oxidation or reduction of  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$  gives rise to  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$  or  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^\S$ , i.e.  $\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_{6(1-x)} \text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_{6x} \text{O}_{12} \text{H}_{2(7-3x)} \text{CO}_3$  where  $x \in [0, 1]$ ; the fougérite mineral is limited to the range  $[1/3, 2/3]$ .

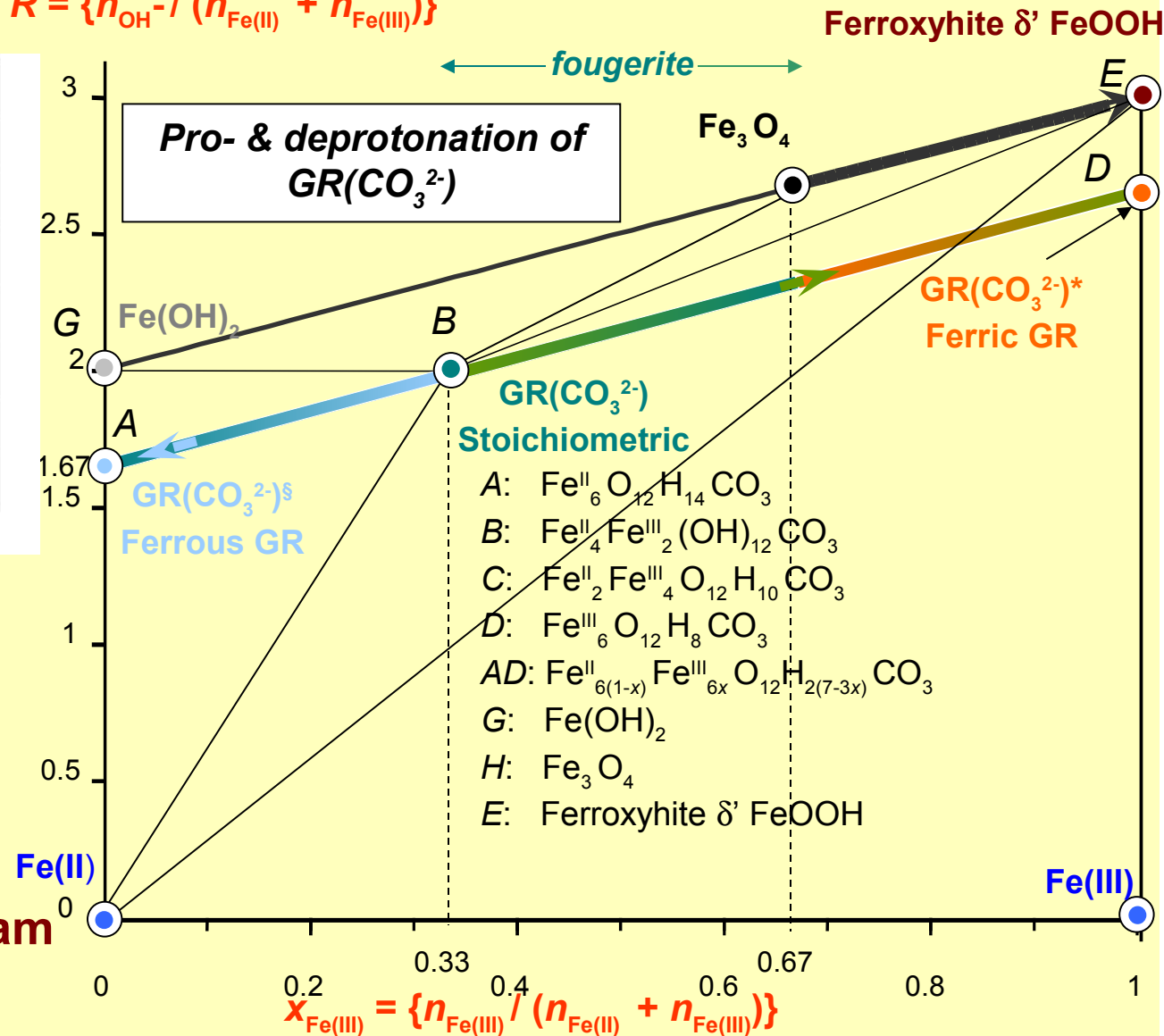
$$R = \{n_{\text{OH}^-} / (n_{\text{Fe(II)}} + n_{\text{Fe(III)}})\}$$

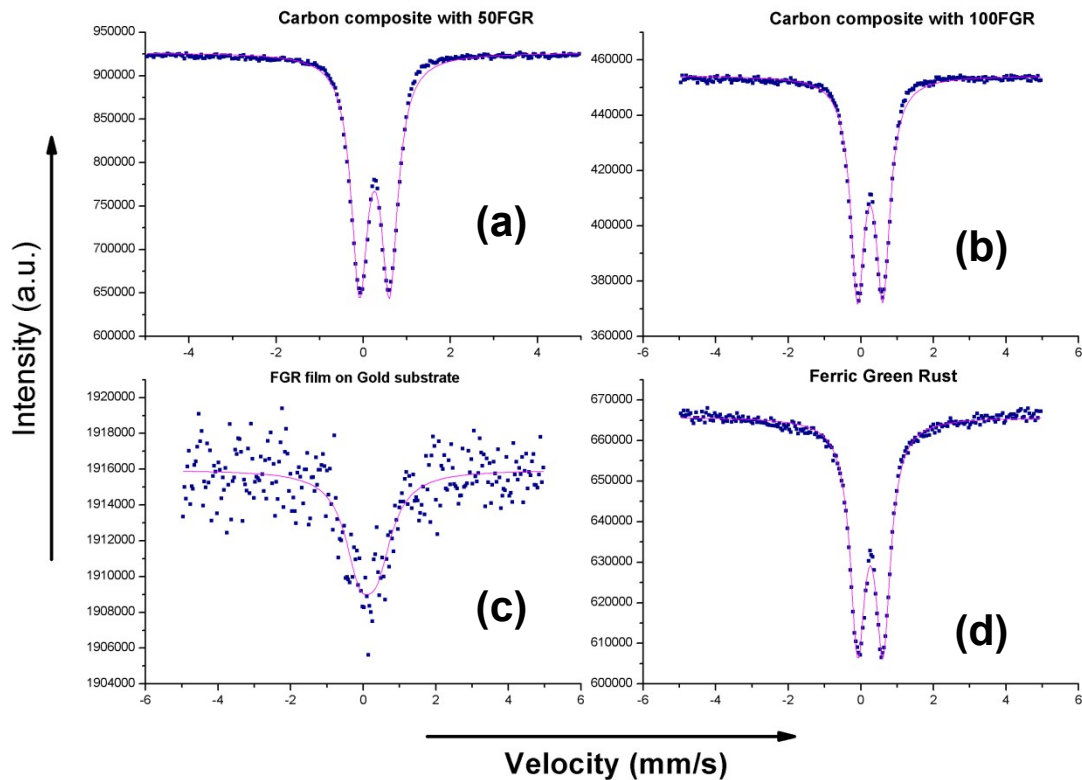


Voltammograms obtained on an iron disc at  $10 \text{ mVs}^{-1}$  in  $0.4 \text{ M NaHCO}_3$  solution at  $25^\circ \text{C}$  and  $\text{pH} = 9.6$ .



Mass balance diagram of iron compounds



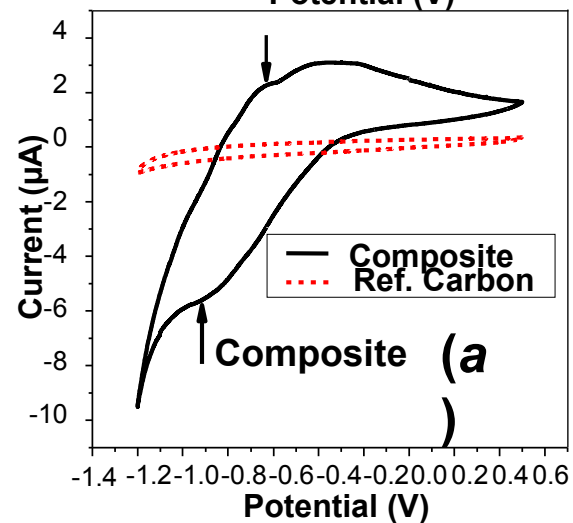
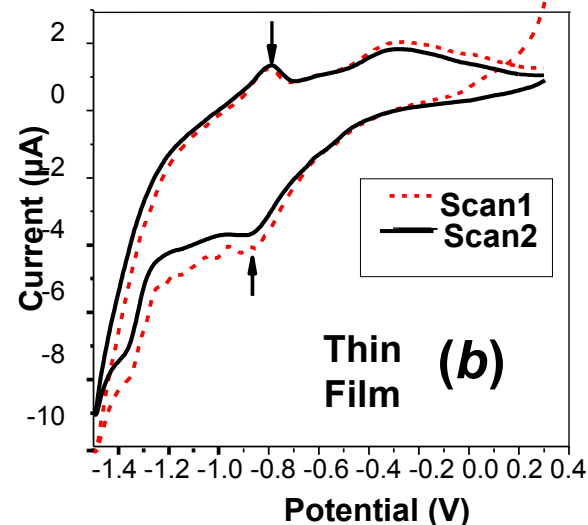


Comparative Mössbauer spectra for  
 (a) 50 mg ferric green rust in graphite  
 (b) 100 mg ferric green rust in graphite  
 (c) thin film of ferric green rust on gold  
 (d) Reference ferric green rust

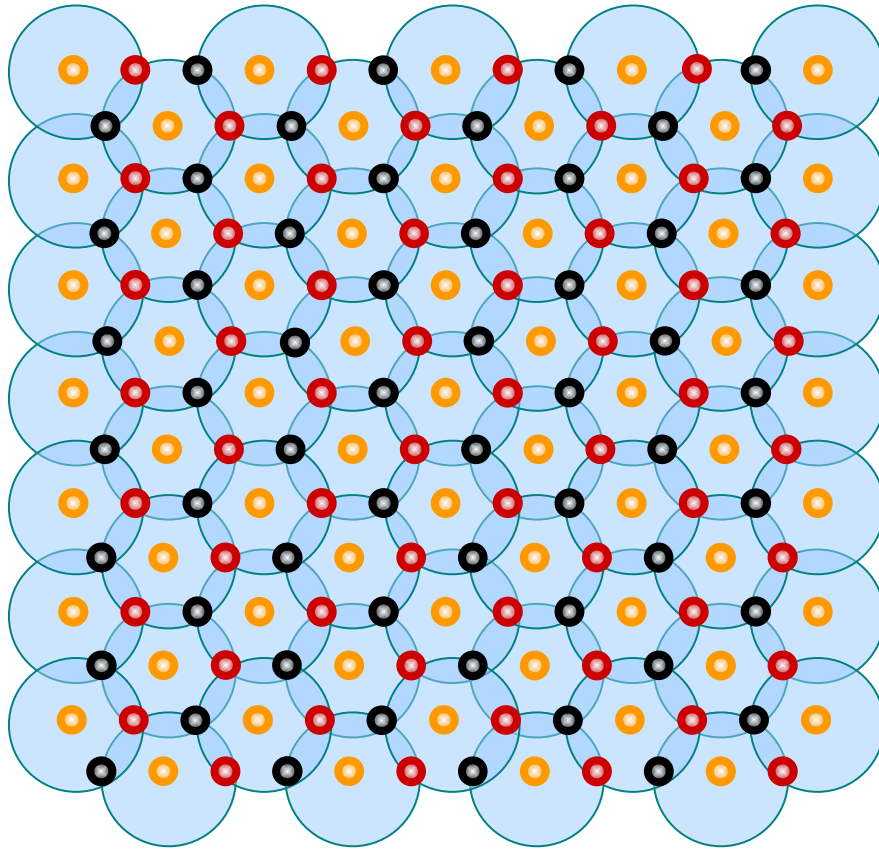


$$x \in [0 - 1]$$

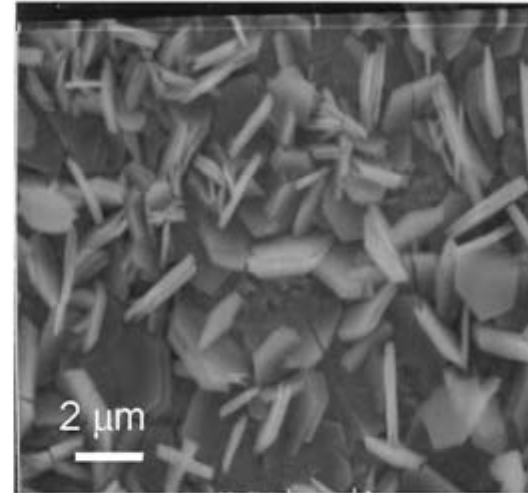
## Voltammetry



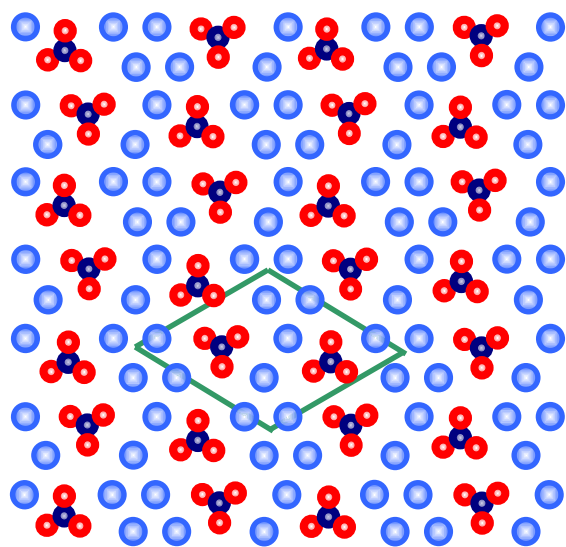
## Three sublattices



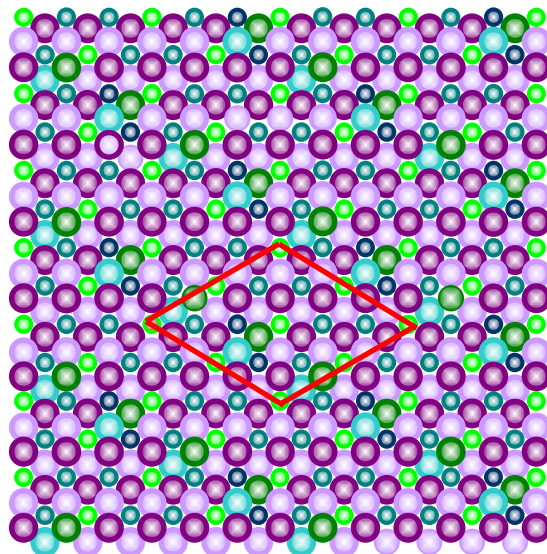
1<sup>st</sup> lattice  
2<sup>nd</sup> lattice  
3<sup>rd</sup> lattice



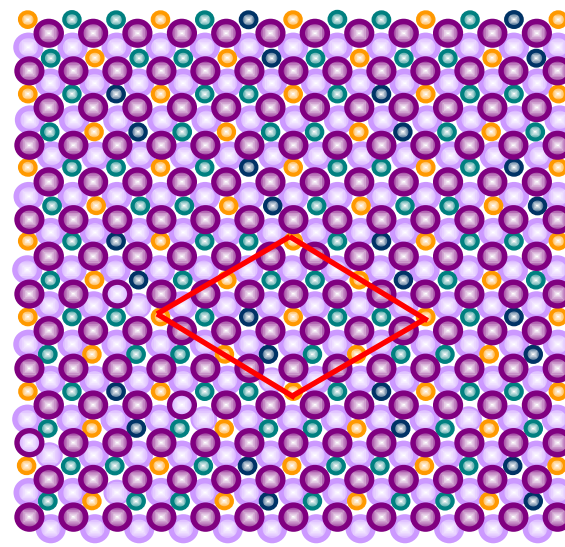
SEM image of the orange ferric compound resulting from the oxidation by air of electrochemically formed  $\text{GR1}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$  after ageing at 30 °C for 50 days.



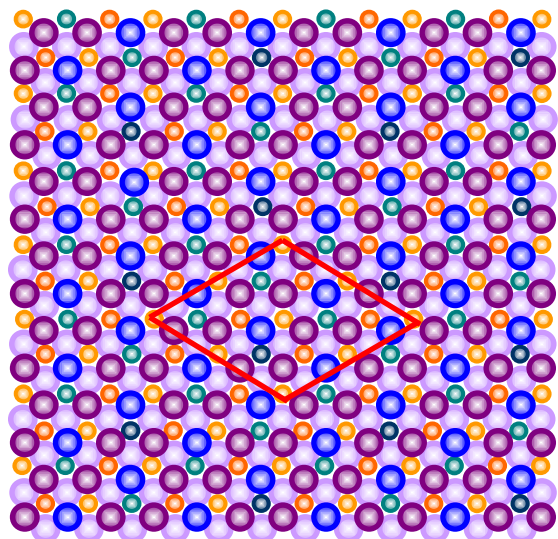
(a)



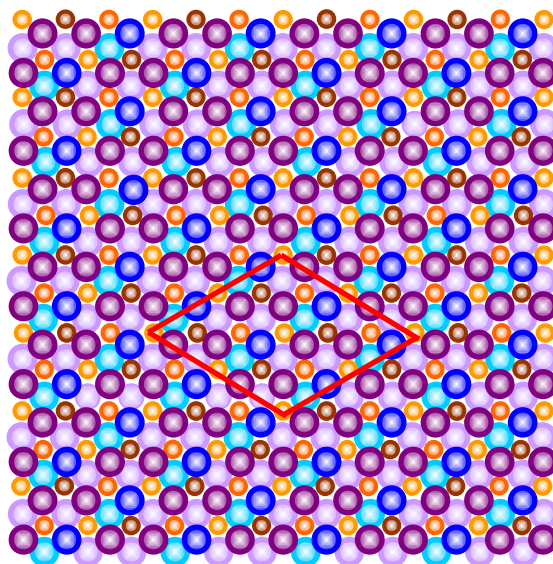
(b)  $x = 0$



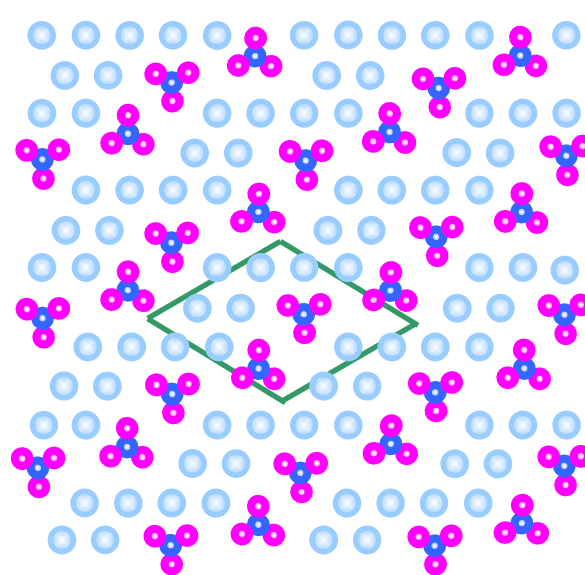
(c)  $x = 0.33$



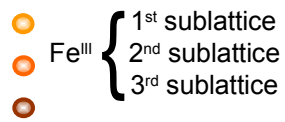
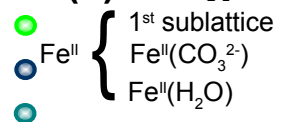
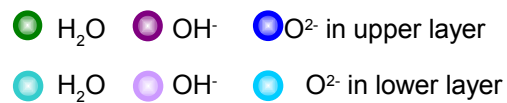
(d)  $x = 0.67$



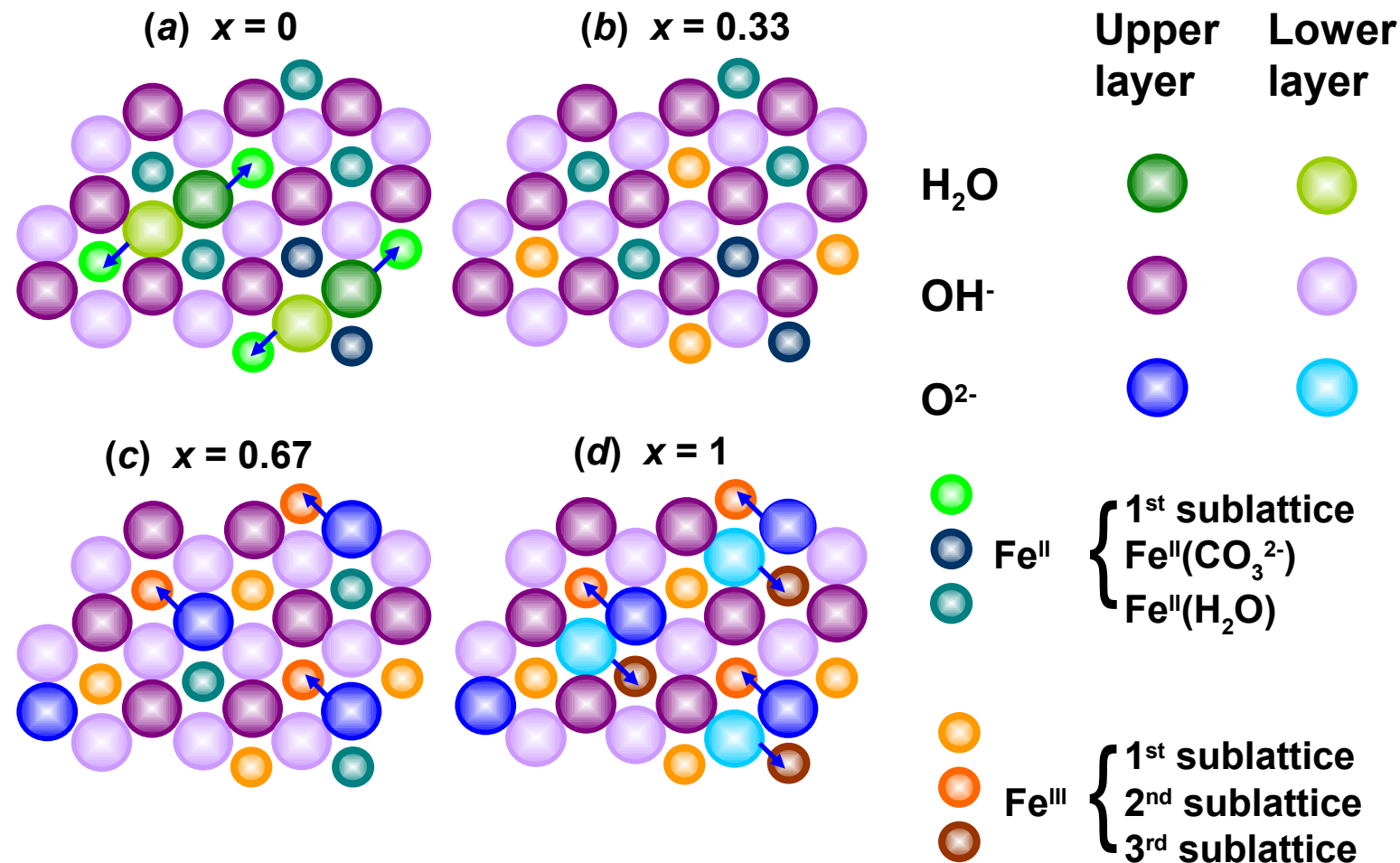
(e)  $x = 1$



(f)



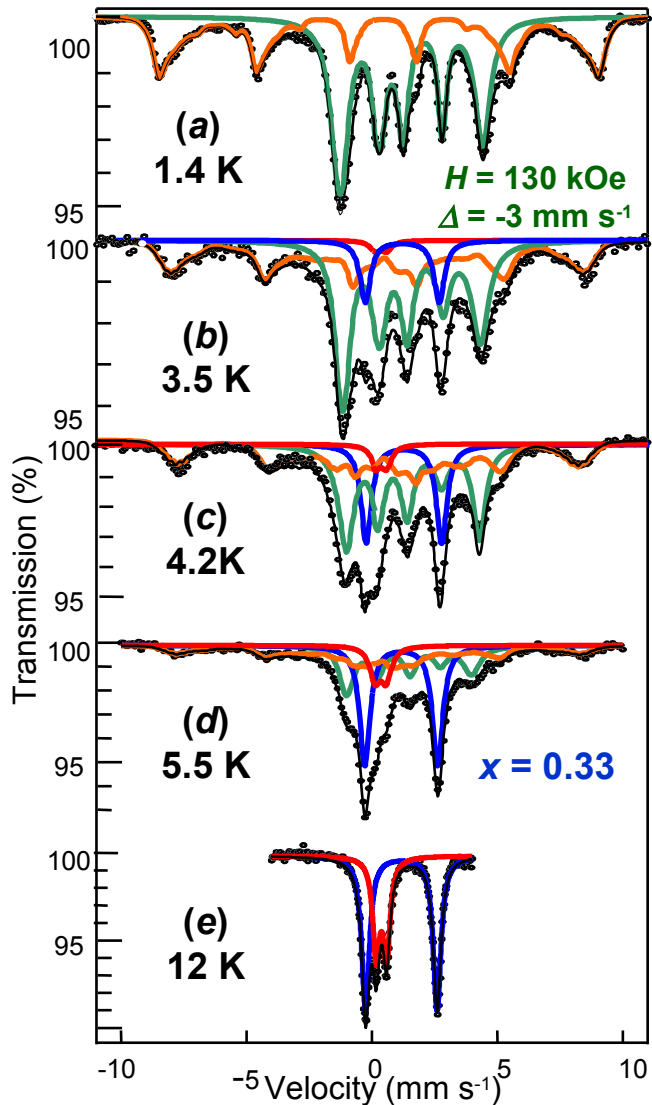
# Fe<sup>II-III</sup> oxyhydroxycarbonate



Protonation and deprotonation of OH<sup>-</sup> ions

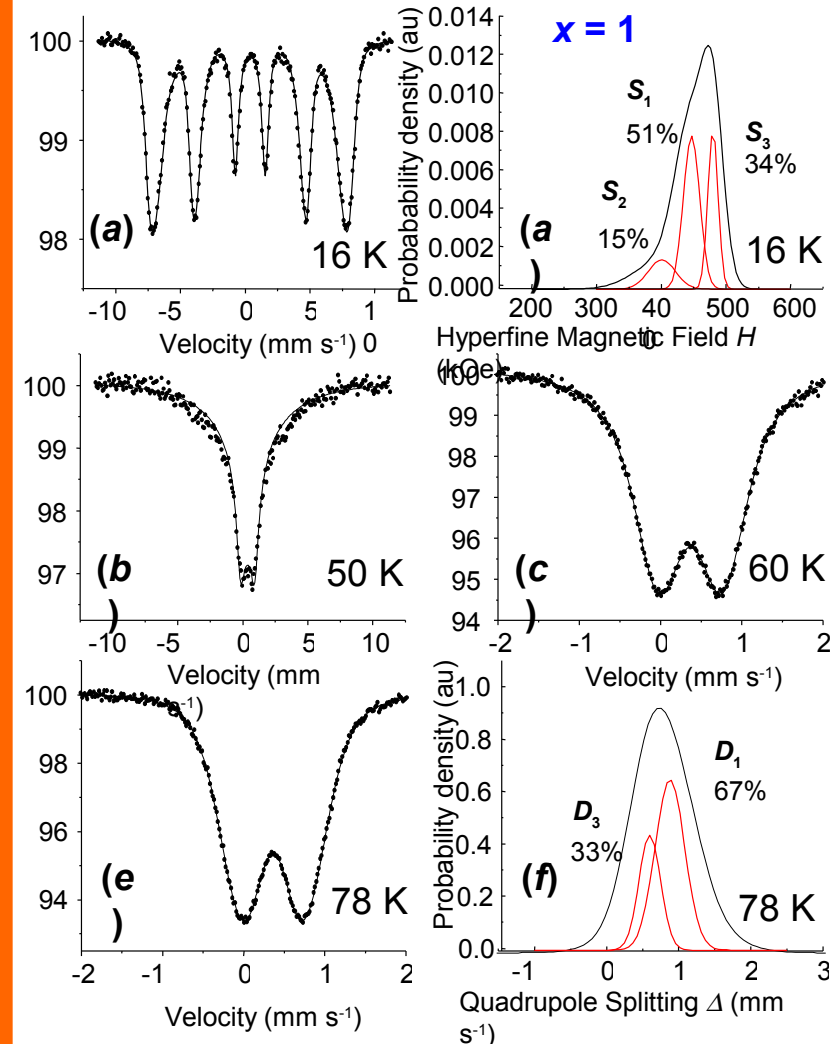


$\text{Fe}^{\text{II}}_4 \text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_2 (\text{OH})_{12} \text{CO}_3$  ferrimagnetism



- Evolution of Mössbauer spectra with measurement temperature displaying the ferrimagnetic behaviour of stoichiometric  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$  between 1.4 and 12 K.

$\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}_6 \text{O}_{12} \text{H}_8 \text{CO}_3$  ferromagnetism



Mössbauer spectra of  $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$  sample oxidised violently by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$  and named ferric  $[\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*]$ . Measurement temperatures are (a) 16 K, (c) 50 K, (d) 60 K and (e) 78 K. (b) and (f) are the hyperfine field distribution of (a) and quadrupole splitting distribution of (e) using a Voigt profile analysis, respectively.



# Aqueous corrosion of iron

Fe<sup>0</sup>

*Iron, Steels*



Fe<sup>II</sup>

*Ferrous hydroxide*



Agressive anions (Cl<sup>-</sup>, CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>, SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>)

Fe<sup>II-III</sup>

*Green rusts*

Dissolution-precipitation

*In situ deprotonation*

Fe<sup>III</sup> *Common rusts*

*Ferric green rust*

Including anions

Goethite

Magnetite

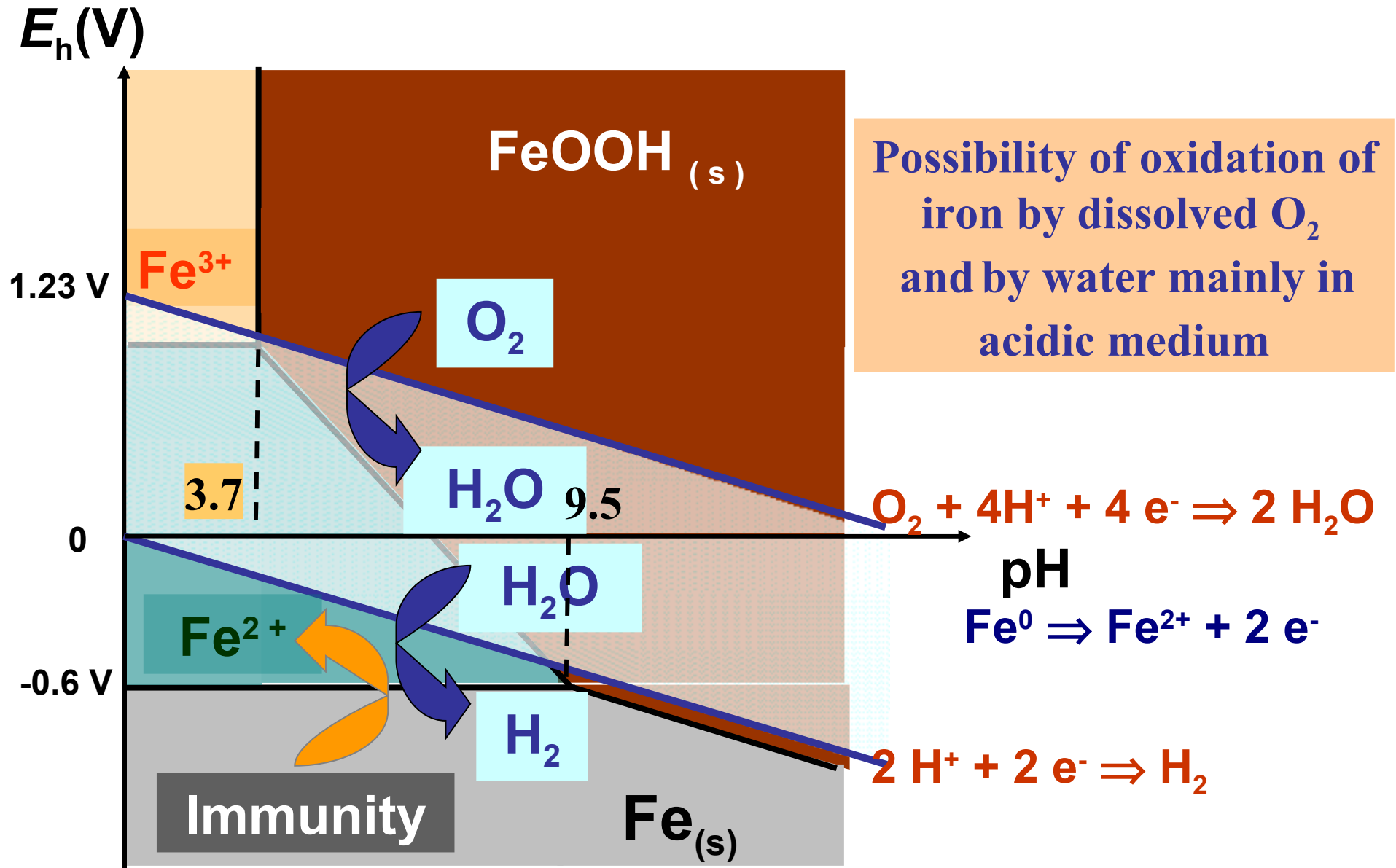
Lepidocrocite

Akaganeite

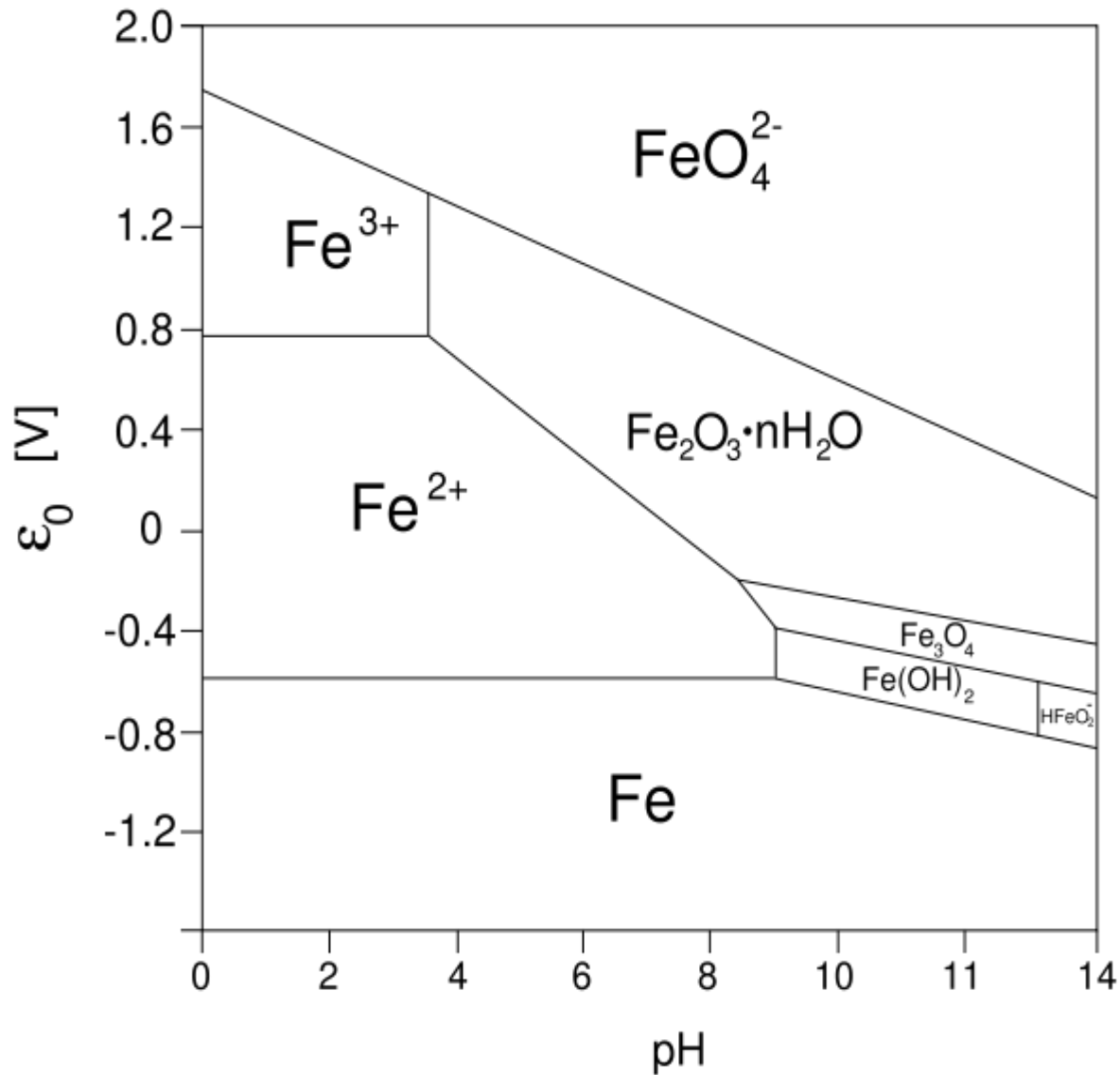
& FeOOH Ferroxihite

The secret of passivation of steel is understood

# POURBAIX diagrams of iron and water



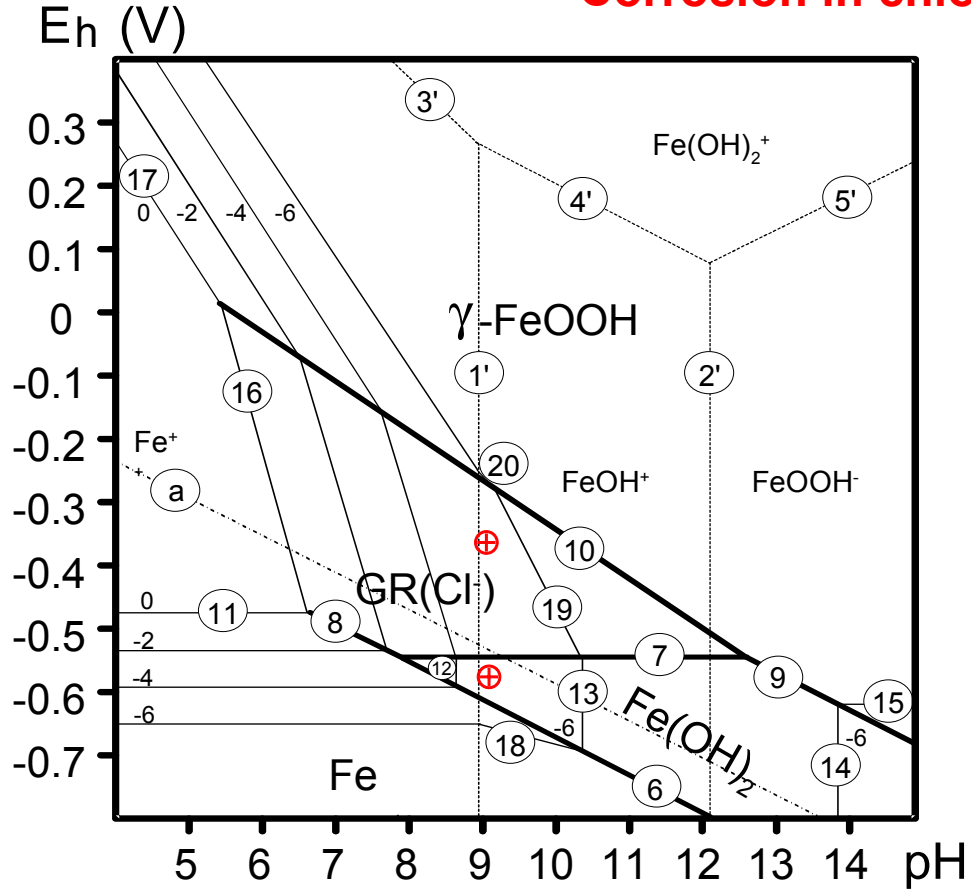
## From the atlas by Marcel Pourbaix



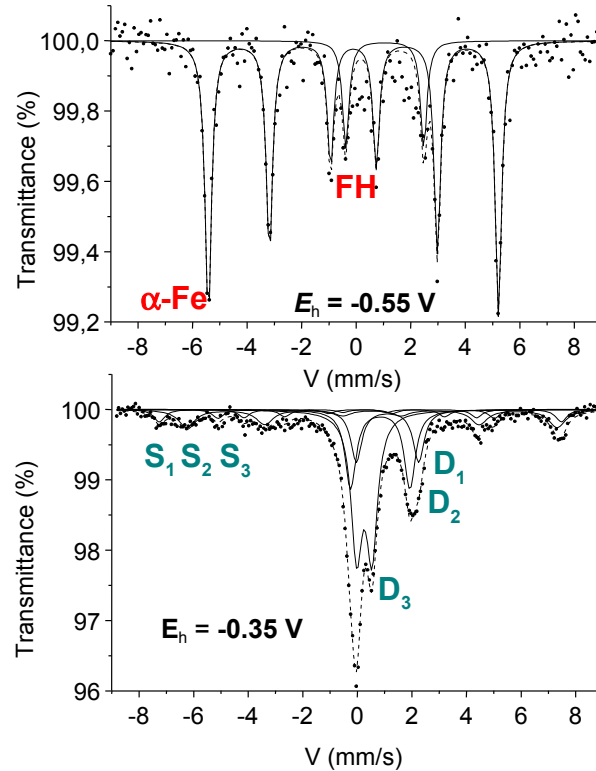
**Marcel Pourbaix**  
1904-1998

How to complete the Pourbaix diagram of iron with the domains of green rusts?

## Corrosion in chlorinated medium



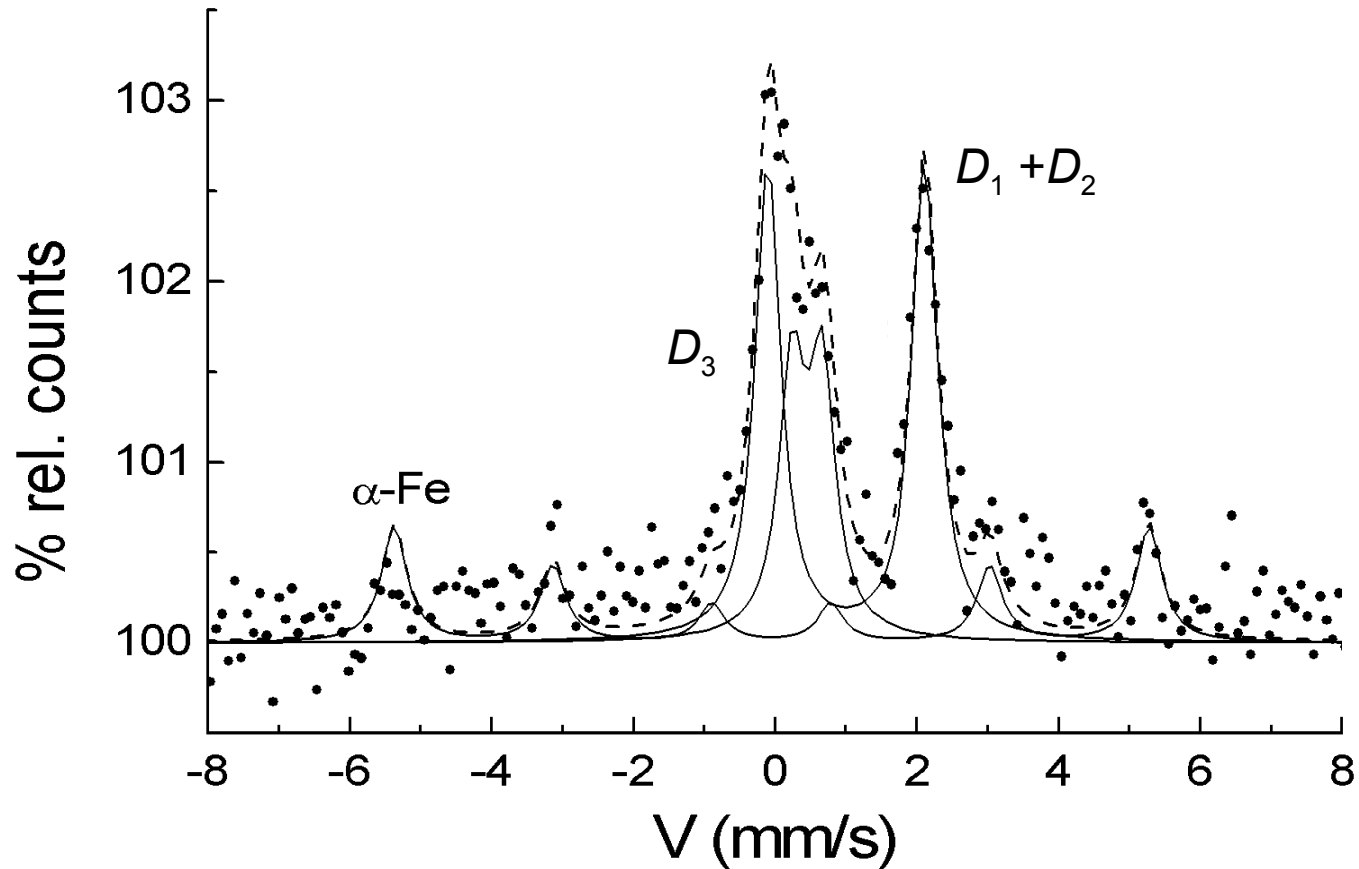
Pourbaix diagram of the Fe - H<sub>2</sub>O - Cl<sup>-</sup> system at 25 °C for a [Cl<sup>-</sup>] activity of 0.55 and *in situ* Mössbauer spectra of corrosion products of corrosion of an  $\alpha$ -iron foil obtained at  $E_h = -0.55$  V and  $-0.35$  V at pH = 9 in an electrochemical cell.  
 $\oplus$  experimental conditions.



$D_1, D_2$  and  $D_3$  are doublets of green rusts,  $FH$  is that of  $Fe(OH)_2$  and  $S_1, S_2$  et  $S_3$  are sextets due to magnetite and goethite.

[Ph. Refait, M. Abdelmoula & J.-M. Génin, Corros. Sci. 40 (1998) 1547].

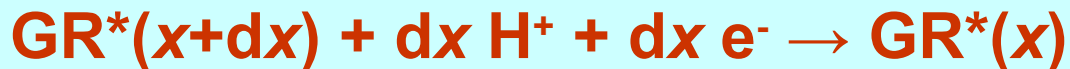
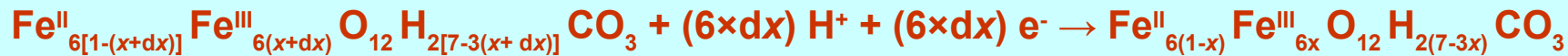
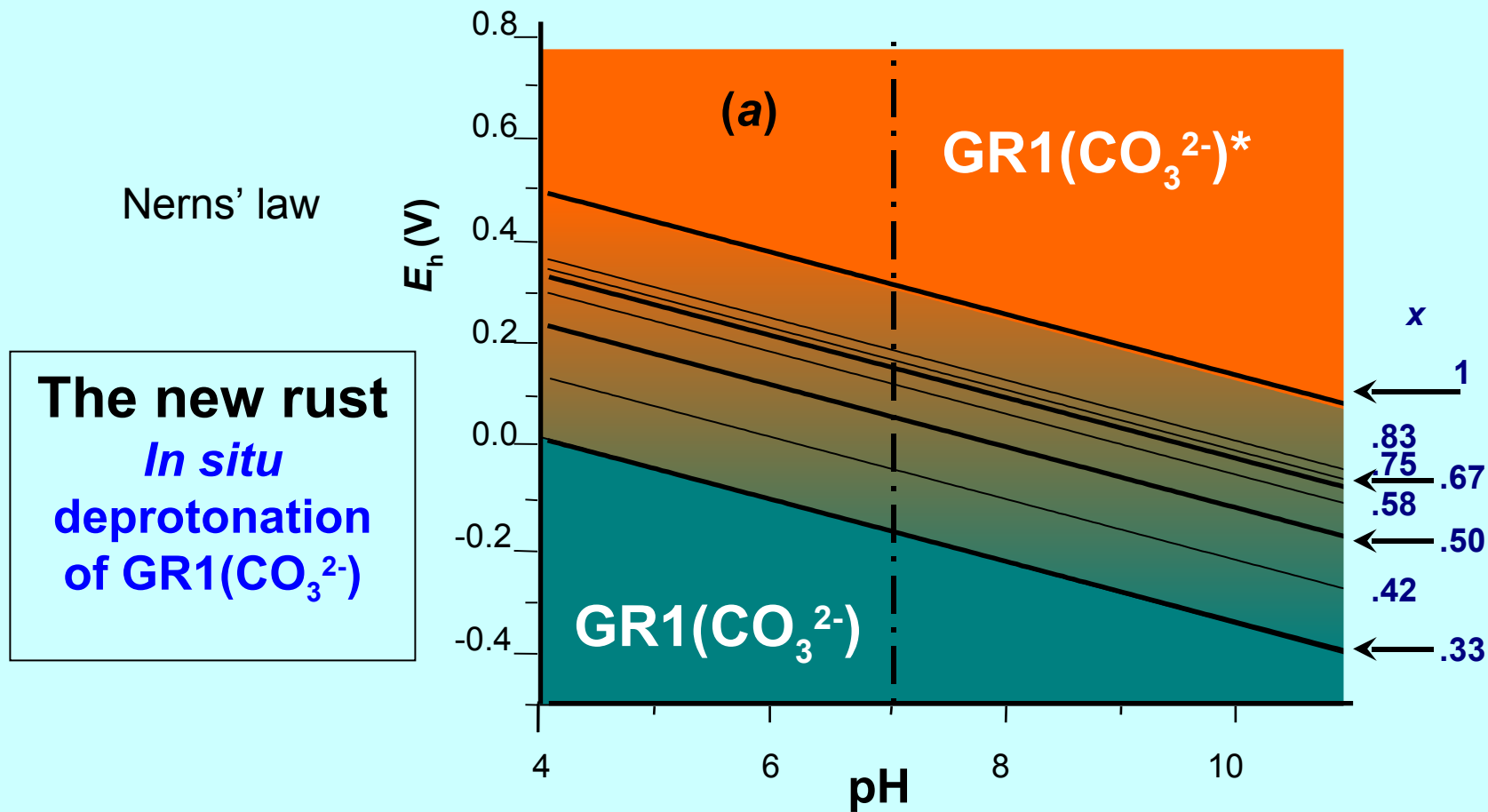
- **The first step of corrosion:  
the green rust layer**



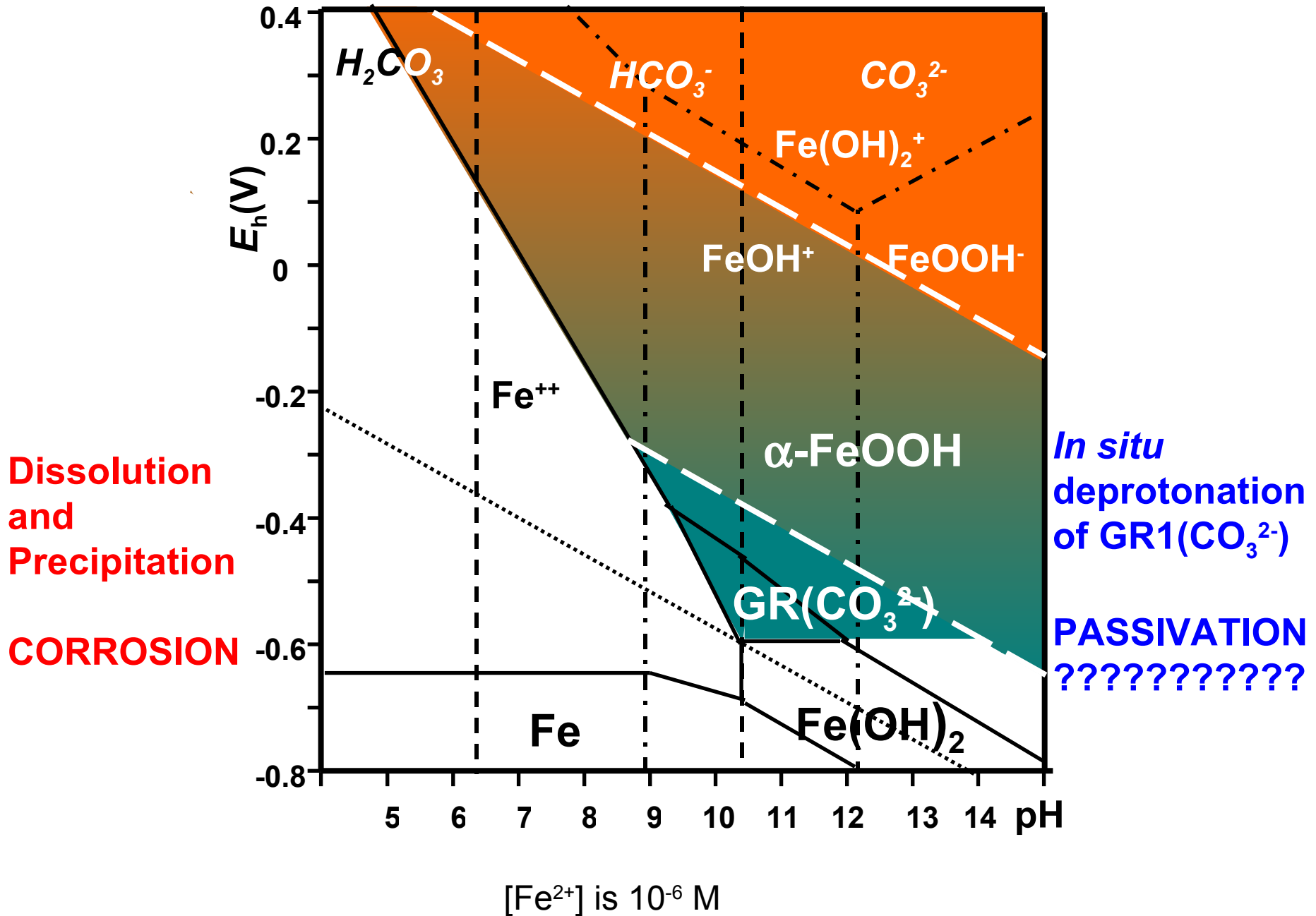
**CEMS spectrum at room temperature of a steel disk  
dipped 24 hours in a 0.1 M  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solution.**

**• • • : experimental curve, - - - : global computed  
curve. \_\_\_\_\_ : components of the spectra.**

# $E_h$ -pH Pourbaix diagram of the Fe<sup>II-III</sup> oxyhydroxycarbonate

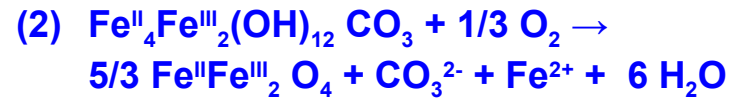
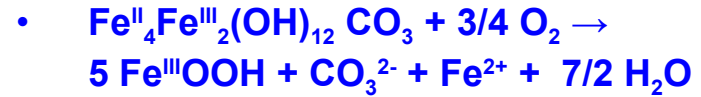




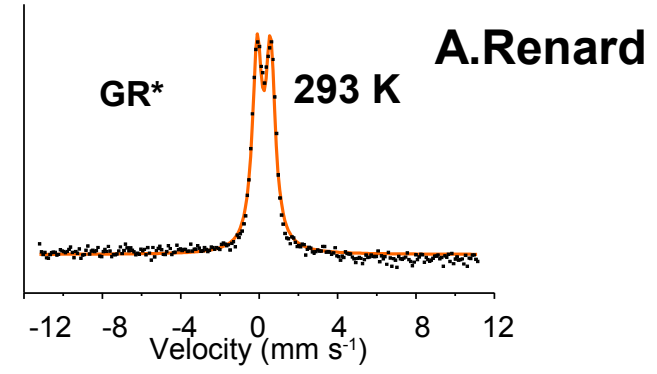
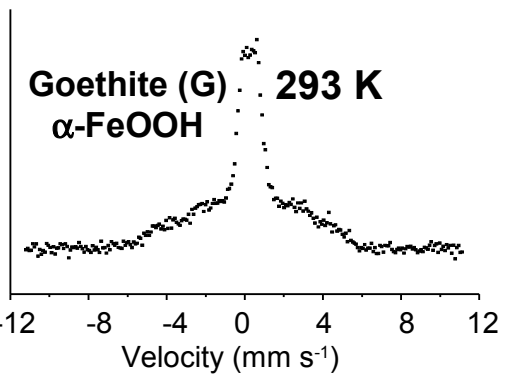
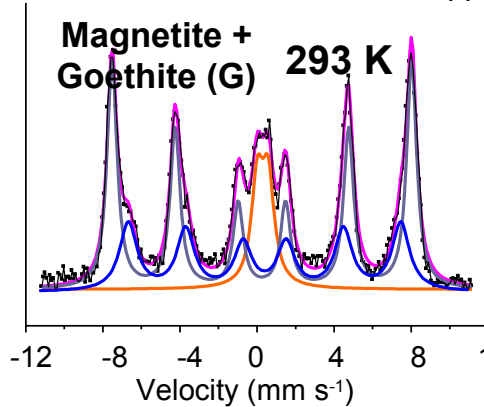
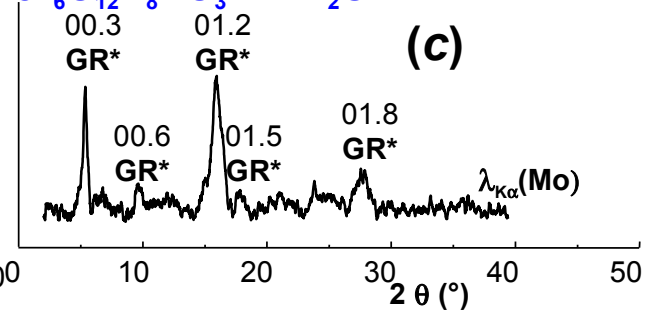
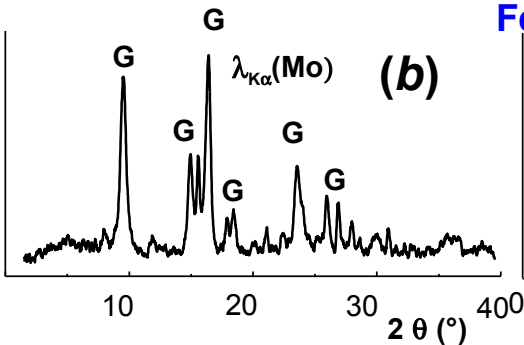
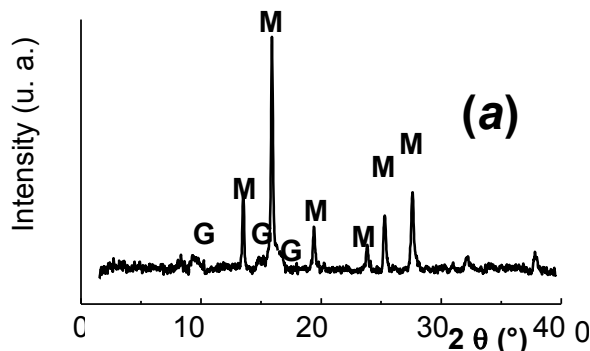
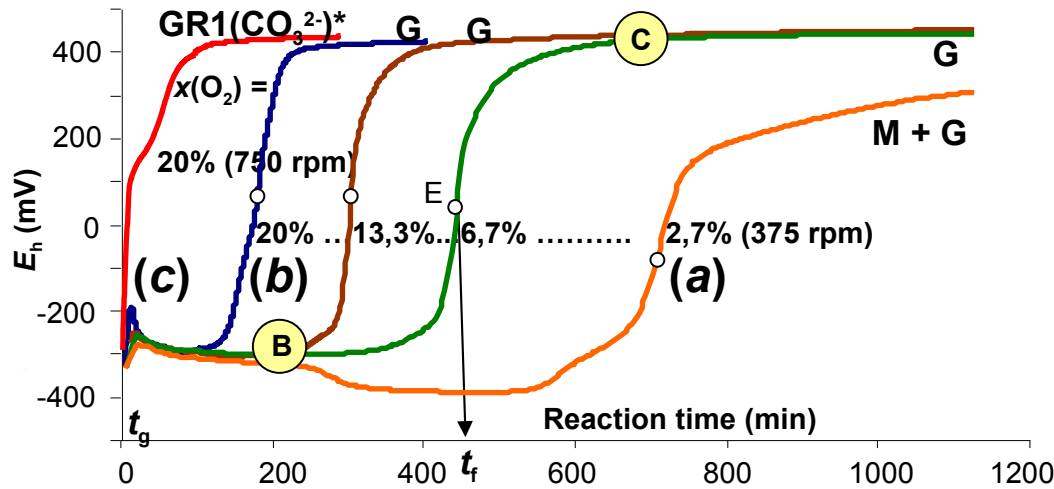
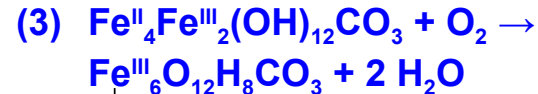


## Oxidation by oxygen

### (a) & (b) Dissolution-precipitation

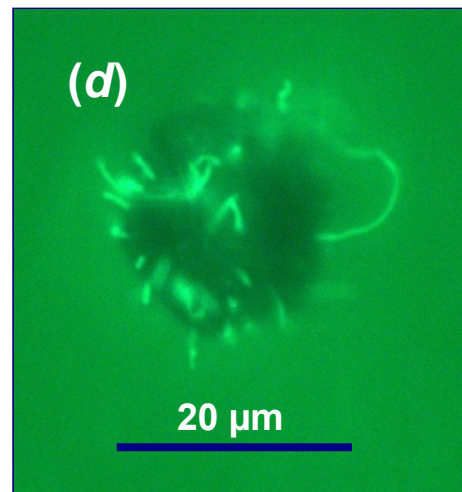
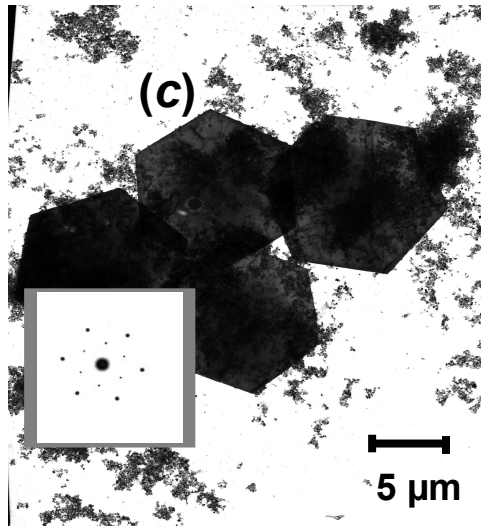
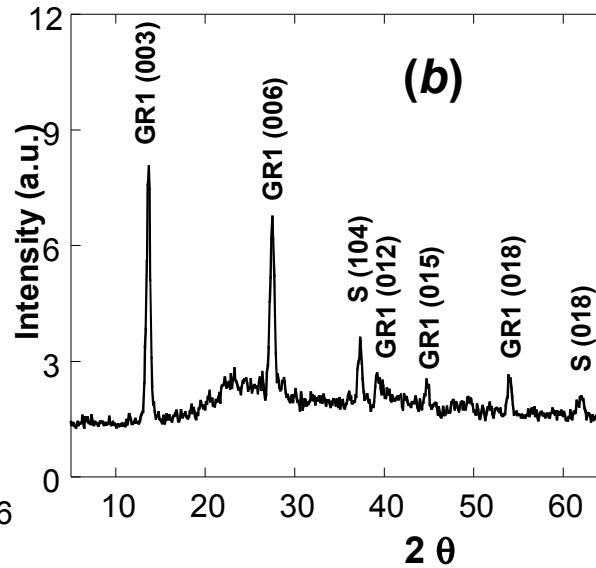
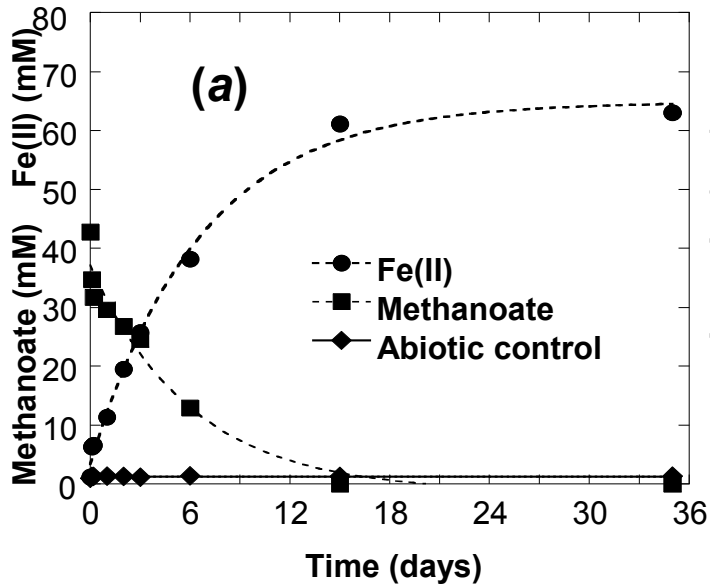


### (c) *In situ* deprotonation



A. Renard

# Bacterial reduction



- Production of Fe(II) and consumption of methanoate during culture of *Shewanella putrefaciens* in presence of lepidocrocite. The initial amount of Fe<sup>III</sup> (as lepidocrocite) and of methanoate were respectively 80 mM and 43 mM.

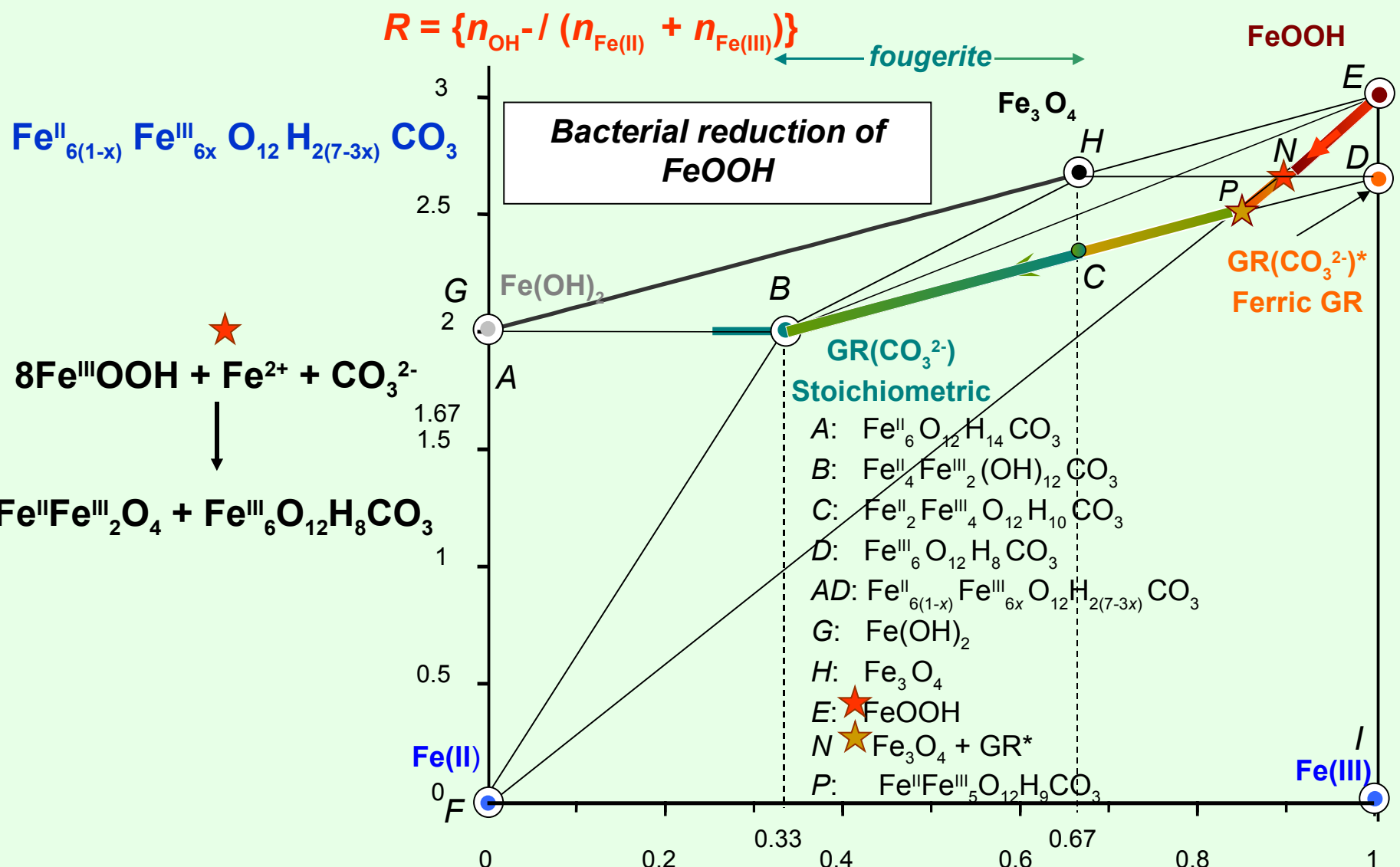
- (b) X-ray pattern of the solid phase of incubation experiments with *S. putrefaciens*: mixture of green rust (GR1) and siderite (S) obtained after 15 days of incubation

(c) TEM observations and

(d) optical micrograph of GR crystals obtained by reduction of lepidocrocite by *S. putrefaciens*; One sees the bacteria that respire GR\*.

Georges Ona-Nguema

Asfaw Zegeye



**Mass balance diagram of iron compounds**

# Microbially Influenced Corrosion and Marine Corrosion

A field study: **Steel sheet piles in harbours**

(With Laboratoire Central des Ponts et Chaussées, Dr A. Raharinaivo)

[20] J.-M. R. Génin, A. A. Olowe, N. D. Benbouzid-Rollet, D. Prieur, M. Confente, and B. Résiak, *Hyp. Int.* **69** (1991) 875.

[21] J.-M. R. Génin, A. A. Olowe, B. Résiak, N. D. Benbouzid-Rollet,

M. Confente, and D. Prieur, in **Marine Corrosion of Stainless Steels: Chlorination and Microbial Effects**. European Federation Corrosion Series n°10, (The Institute of Metals, London, 1993) p. 162.

The harbour: **Boulogne sur Mer** (late eighties)

**Wharf, half a mile long, built on big piles supporting cranes, trains and many heavy materials.**

Piles were 15 m high, made from 1 cm thick plain carbon steel sheets surrounding heavy stone blocks, gravel and sand. The external steel sheets displayed huge holes under the fouling crust, 10 cm thick, at a very specific level, that of the lowest tide (solstices), after only some years of service whereas they were planned for at least half a century.

**The corrosion diagnosis was MIC and Mössbauer spectroscopy revealed that the rust, above the hole level, was essentially constituted of sulphated green rust and magnetite.**

Some years later, the Coal and Steel European Community committed a contract to study the disorders about similar phenomena observed in other harbours. Involved companies were British Steel, Usinor (Unimétal), Hoescht, Arbed, i.e. makers of thick sheets. The disorders were found in harbours of the Atlantic Ocean, English Channel, North Sea and Baltic Sea. Curiously, there was no major problem in the Mediterranean Sea.

Anoxic conditions for long periods → MIC.

Strains of bacteria?

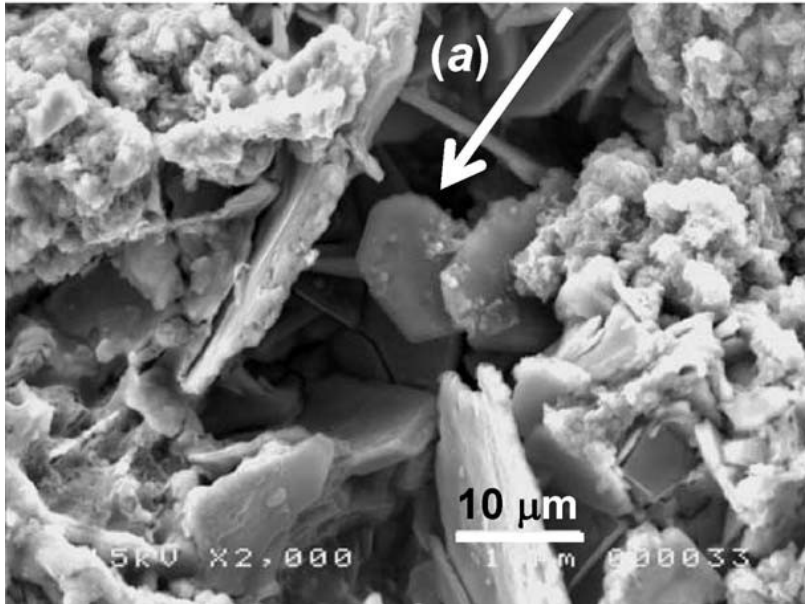
Level and specificity of pollution?

Eddy currents and redox potential?

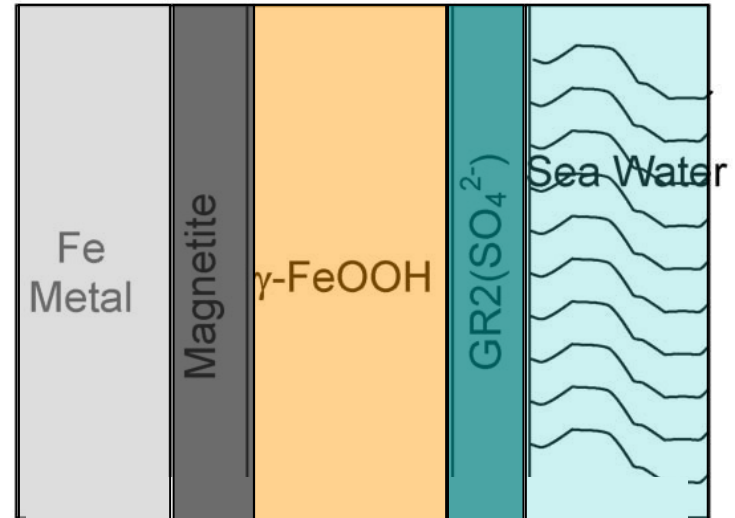
No definite answer was then proposed, except that it was most probably MIC.

How do we explain today all these features?

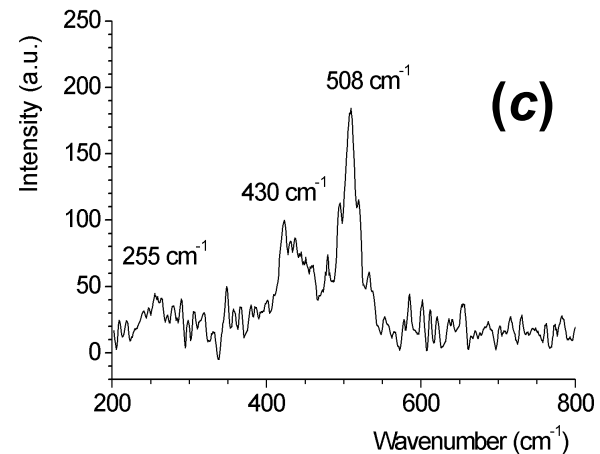
# Marine corrosion of steel



(b)

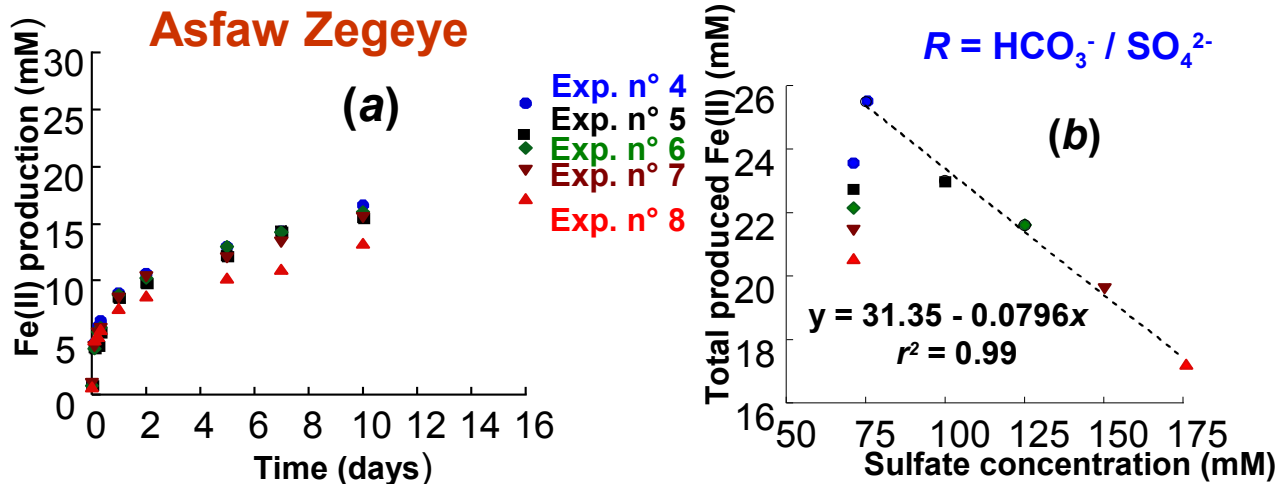


(a) SEM micrograph showing hexagonal shaped crystals of GR(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>) upon corroded steel sheet left 25 years in seawater, (b) sequence of the rust layers: metal–magnetite–lepidocrocite–GR(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>), (c) Raman spectrum of the outer part of the marine corroded layer.



Formation of the Fe(II)-Fe(III) hydroxysulphate green rust during marine corrosion of steel, Ph. REFAIT, J.B. MEMET, C. BON, R. SABOT and J.-M. R. GÉNIN *Corrosion Science* 2003, 45, 833-845

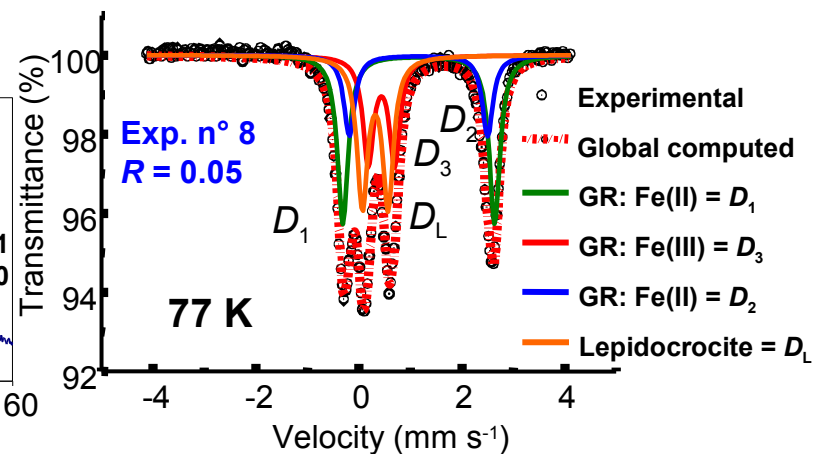
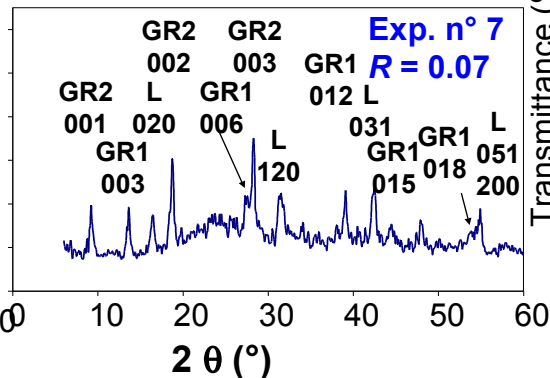
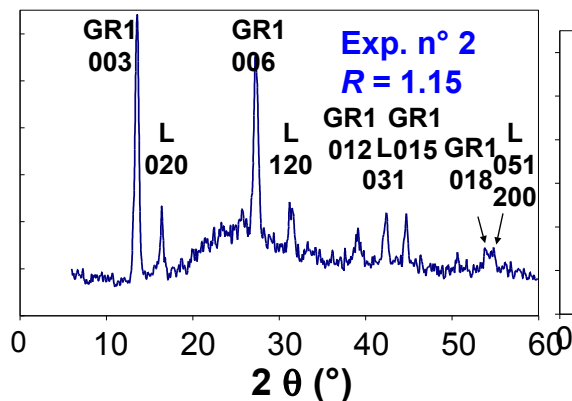
## Asfaw Zegeye



(a) Fe(II) production during bacterial reduction of lepidocrocite (80 mM) with formate (30 mM) in the presence of various concentrations of sulphate ions (from 75 to 175 mM). All experiments were realized at  $31 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$  with an initial pH of 7.6.

(b) Relationship between Fe(II) production and sulphate concentration.

Formation of  $\text{GR}_2(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$  during the reduction of  $\gamma\text{-FeOOH}$  by a dissimilatory iron-respiring bacterium, *Shewanella putrefaciens*. Reduction was performed in a non-buffered medium without any organic compounds and with 25 mM of sulphate and with a range of lepidocrocite concentrations with  $\text{H}_2$  as the electron donor under nongrowth conditions.

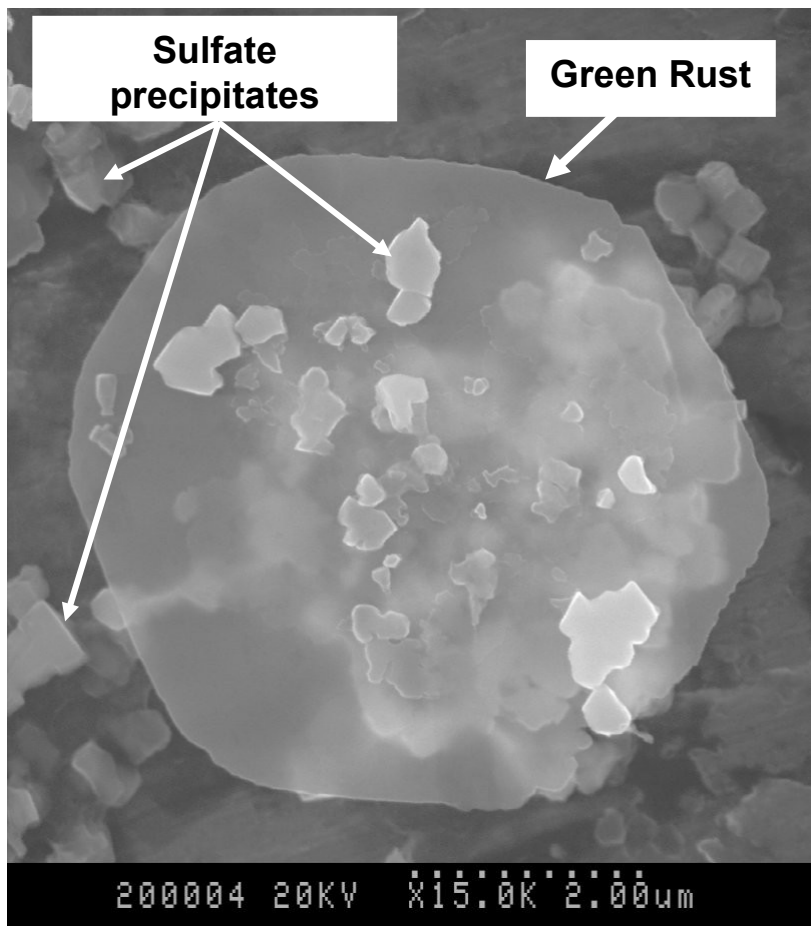


The resulting biogenic solids, after iron-respiring activity, were characterized by X-ray diffraction (XRD), transmission Mössbauer spectroscopy (TMS) and electron microscopy (SEM and TEM). The sulphate has been identified as the intercalated anion by diffuse reflectance infrared Fourier transform spectroscopy (DRIFTS). In addition, the structure of this sulphate anion was discussed. Our experimental study demonstrated that, under  $\text{H}_2$  atmosphere, the biogenic solid was a  $\text{GR}_2(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$ , as the sole iron(II-III) bearing mineral, whatever the initial lepidocrocite concentration. The crystals of the biotically formed  $\text{GR}_2(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$  are significantly larger than those observed for  $\text{GR}_2(\text{SO}_4^{2-})$  obtained through abiotic preparation,  $< 15 \mu\text{m}$  diameter as against  $0.5\text{-}4 \mu\text{m}$ , respectively.

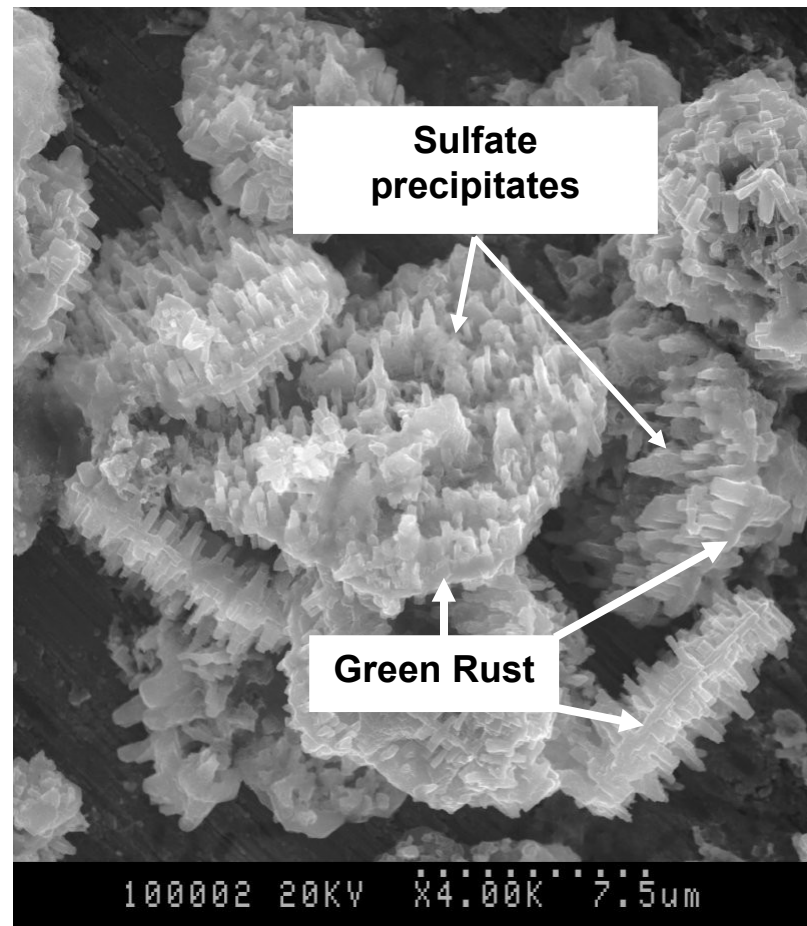
**Asfaw Zegeye**

$$R = \text{HCO}_3^- / \text{SO}_4^{2-}$$

**(a)** Exp. n° 2,  
with 25 mM of sulfate and  $R = 1.15$



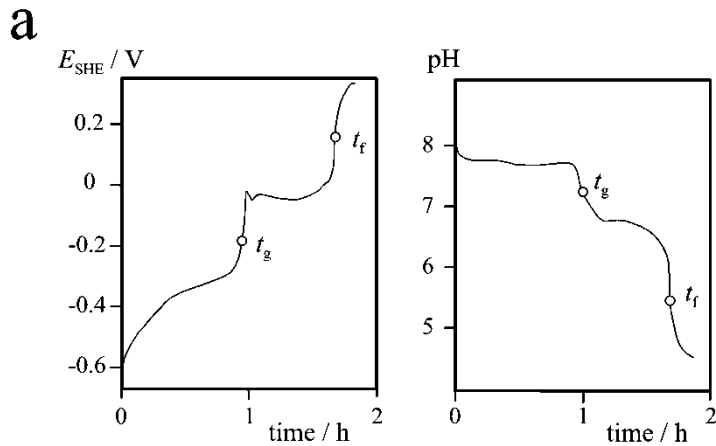
**(b)** Exp. n° 4,  
with 75 mM of sulfate and  $R = 0.17$



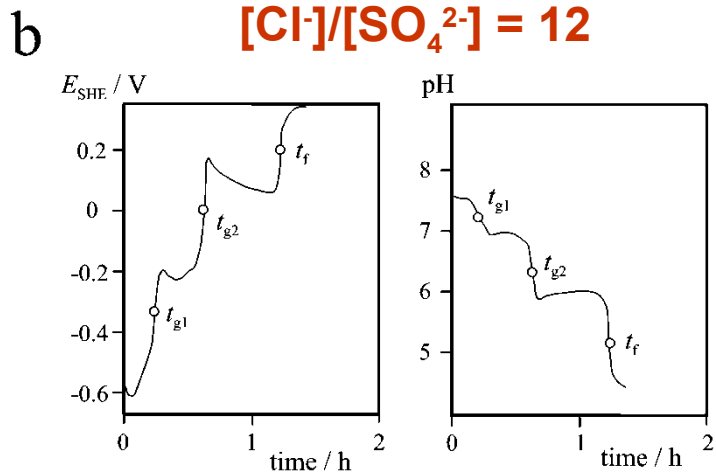
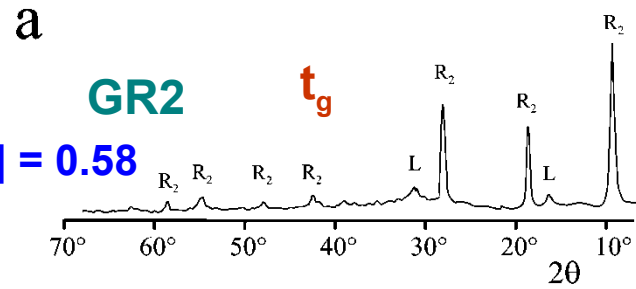


# • Marine corrosion of steel

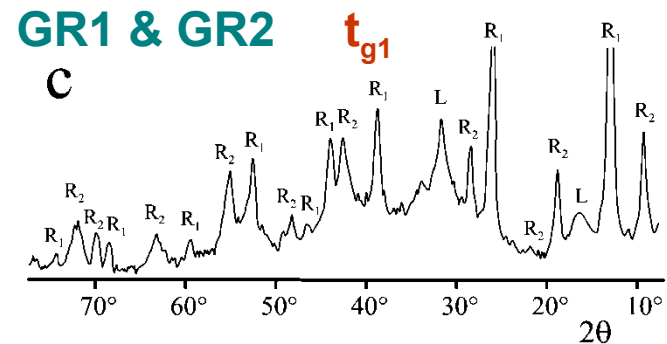
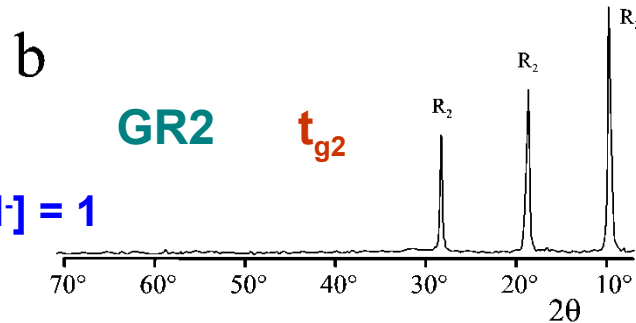
- The competition between GR1(Cl<sup>-</sup>) & GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>)



$$[\text{Fe}^{2+}]/[\text{OH}^-] = 0.58$$



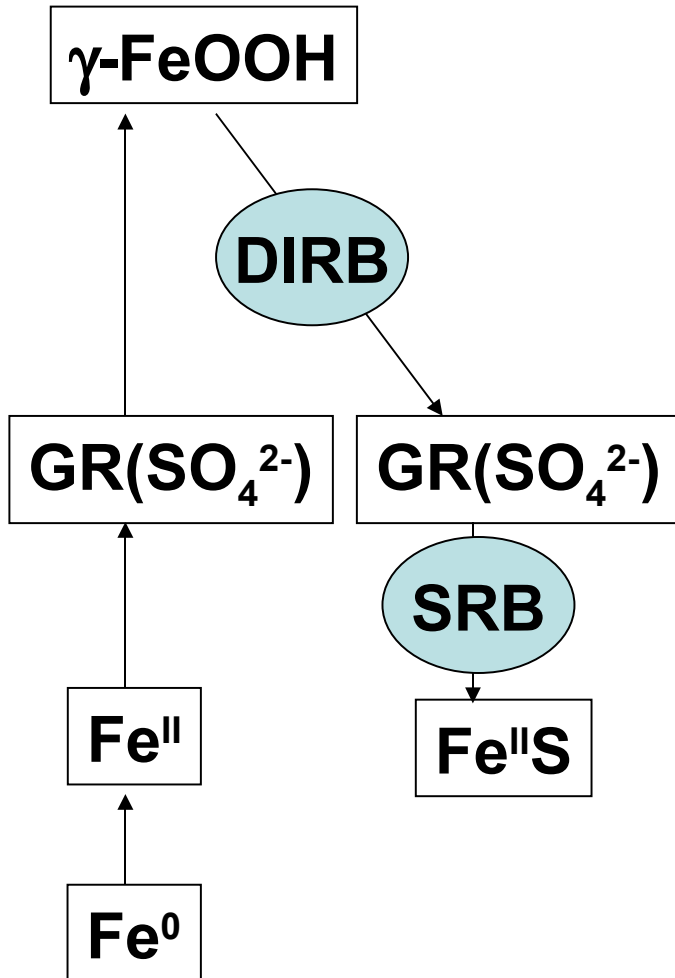
$$[\text{Fe}^{2+}]/[\text{OH}^-] = 1$$



$E_{SHE}$  (V vs SHE) and pH vs. time curves obtained during the oxidation of aqueous suspensions of Fe(II)-containing precipitates in the presence of Cl<sup>-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> ions.

$[\text{Cl}^-]/[\text{SO}_4^{2-}] = 12$ . (a)  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]/[\text{OH}^-] = 0.58$ ; (b)  $[\text{Fe}^{2+}]/[\text{OH}^-] = 1$

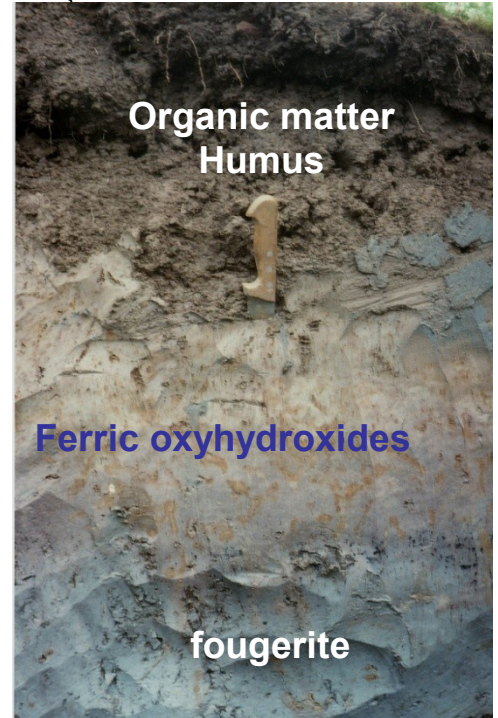
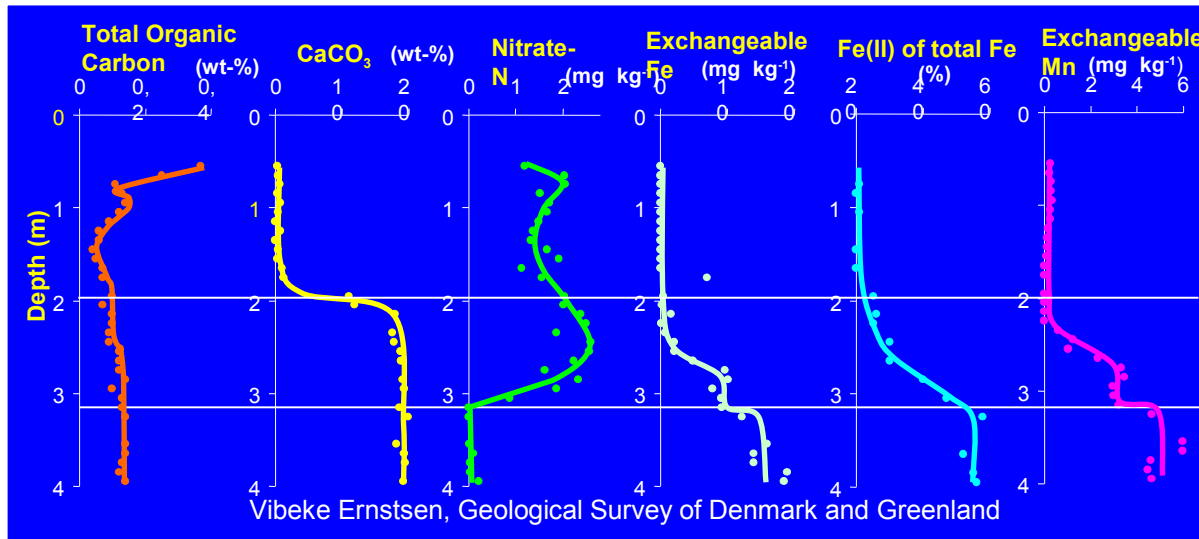
# Microbially influenced corrosion and Marine corrosion



- Ferric oxyhydroxides are reduced by dissimilatory iron-reducing bacteria,
- e.g. forming GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>) in sea water
- Then, GR2(SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>) is reduced into FeS by sulphate reducing bacteria

- The morphology of **gley soils**, first described in 1905 by G. N. Vysostskii<sup>1</sup>, remained a mystery up till recently when Mössbauer spectroscopy has been the determining tool to identify the iron containing compound that lies in **a horizon formed under waterlogged conditions in an anaerobic environment**, which encourages the reduction of iron compounds by microorganisms and often causes mottling of soil into a patchwork of greenish-blue-grey and rust colors. This finding is of utmost practical importance since there exists a correlation between the concentration of some pollutants and that of Fe<sup>II</sup> ions that are dissolved in the water table. For instance, nitrates disappear where Fe<sup>II</sup> appear in the anaerobic zone by following the water level in equilibrium with a mineral, which has been given the name of fougérite (IMA 2003-05). It occurs to be the Fe<sup>II-III</sup> **oxyhydroxycarbonate** of formula Fe<sup>II</sup><sub>6(1-x)</sub> Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>6x</sub> O<sub>12</sub> H<sub>2(7-3x)</sub> CO<sub>3</sub> where the domain of x is limited to [0.33-0.67].
- Originally studied for explaining the corrosion of iron-based materials, Fe<sup>II-III</sup> hydroxysalts belong to the family of layered double hydroxides (LDH) and are constituted of **layers**, [Fe<sup>II</sup><sub>(1-x)</sub> Fe<sup>III</sup><sub>x</sub> (OH)<sub>2</sub> ]<sup>x+</sup>, and **interlayers**, [(x/n)A<sup>n-</sup>•(mx/n)H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>x-</sup>. Here, we shall consider only the case where the anion is CO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>G. N. Vysostskii, Gley, Pochvovedeniye, 4 (1905) 291-327.



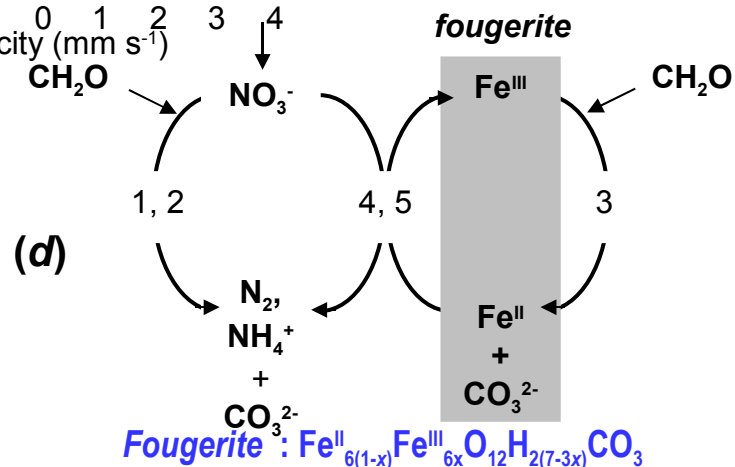
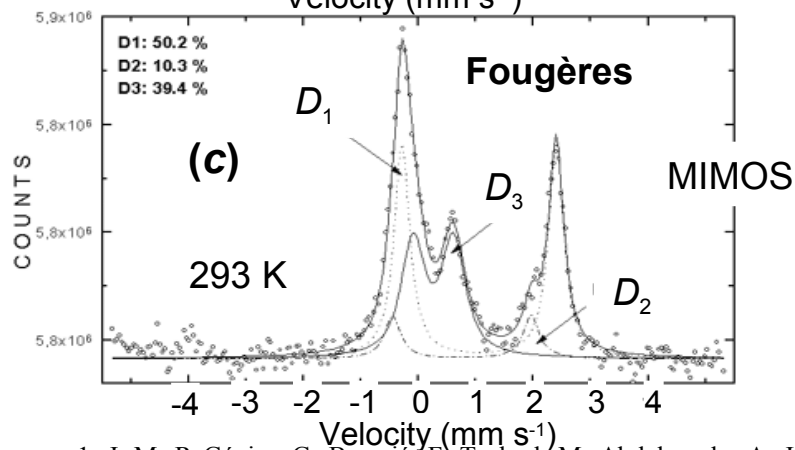
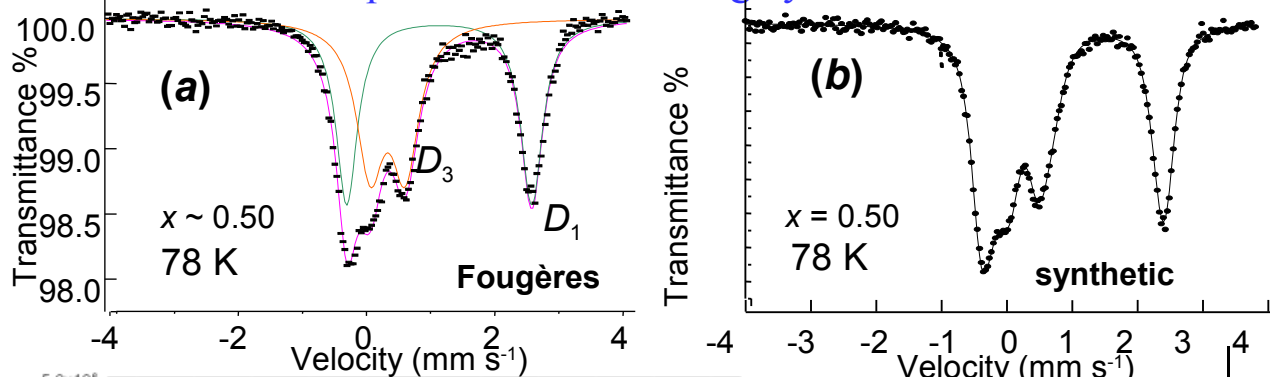
Depth profile analysis of a gleysol in Denmark through the redox zone between 2 and 3 meters deep. From left to right: Concentration of total organic carbon, calcium carbonate, nitrate, exchangeable iron, {[Fe<sup>II</sup>] / [Fe<sub>total</sub>]} and exchangeable Mn. Nitrates disappear when Fe<sup>II</sup> appears.

**Hydromorphous gley soil profile**  
Valley of the Vraire river, 10 km north of Vittel  
(France)

Vibeke Ernstsén

# Comparison between field experiments and laboratory assays

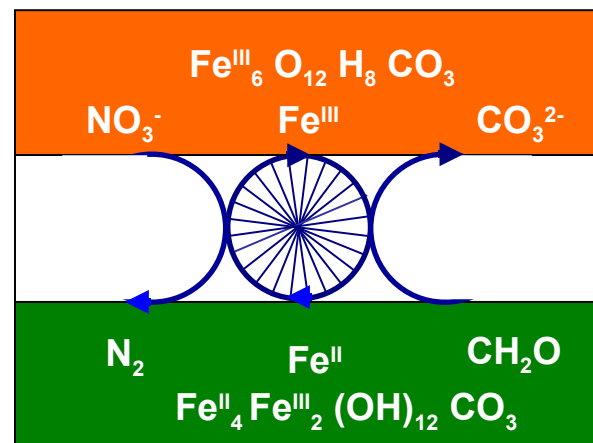
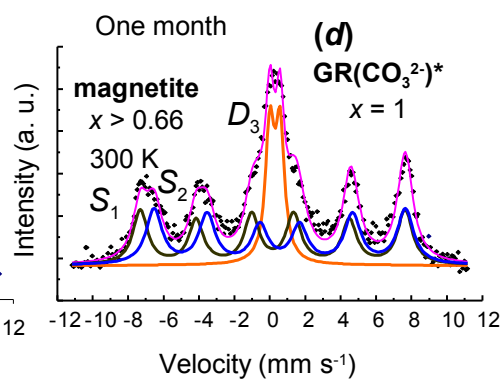
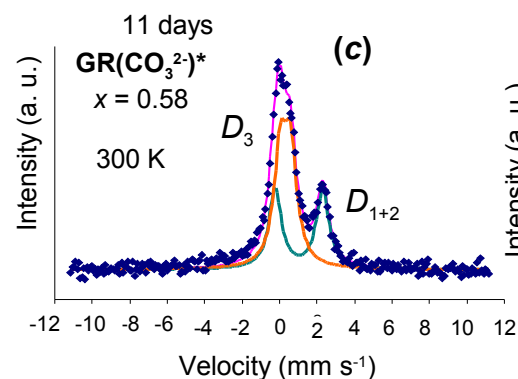
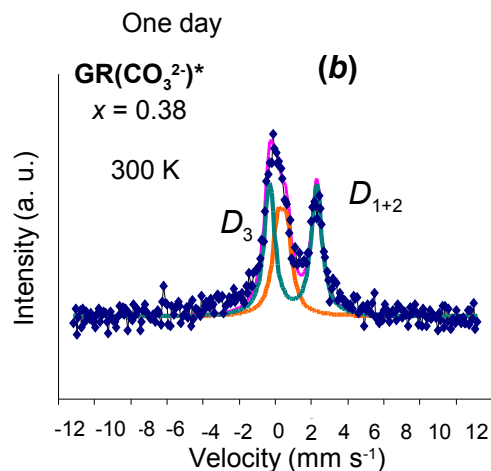
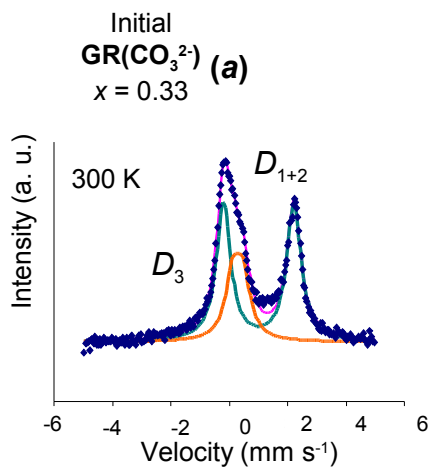
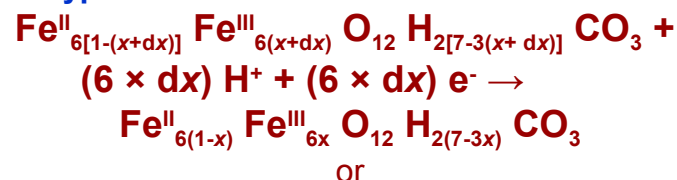
The similarity between the original spectrum obtained in 1996<sup>1</sup> (a) and that of the deprotonated oxyhydroxycarbonate<sup>2</sup> (b) is striking. More recently, field experiments were done in Fougères using **back-scattering miniaturized Mössbauer spectrometer MIMOS**<sup>3</sup> (c) to follow the value of ratio  $x$  with time and depth *in situ* within the gley soil. (d) The fougérite mineral is able to reduce pollutants within the water table such as nitrates. Dissimilatory iron reducing bacteria regenerate the fougérite active mineral<sup>4</sup>.



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2. J.-M. R. Génin, R. Aïssa, A. Géhin, M. Abdelmoula, O. Benali, V. Ernstsén, G. Ona-Nguema, C. Upadhyay and C. Ruby, Fougérite and FeII-III hydroxycarbonate green rust; ordering, deprotonation and/or cation substitution; structure of hydrocalcite-like compounds and mythic ferrosic hydroxide  $\text{Fe}(\text{OH})_{(2+x)}$ , *Solid State Sci.*, 7 (2005) 545-572.
3. D. Rodionov, G. Klingelhöfer, B. Bernhardt, C. Schröder, M. Blumers, S. Kane, F. Trolard, G. Bourrié, and J.-M. R. Génin, Automated Mössbauer spectroscopy in the field and monitoring of fougérite, *Hyperfine Interactions*, 167 (2006) 869-873.
4. C. Ruby, C. Upadhyay, A. Géhin, G. Ona-Nguema and J.-M. R. Génin, *In situ* redox flexibility of FeII-III oxyhydroxycarbonate green rust and fougérite, *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 40 (2006) 4696-4702.

## Nitrate reduction and *In situ* oxidation of $\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$

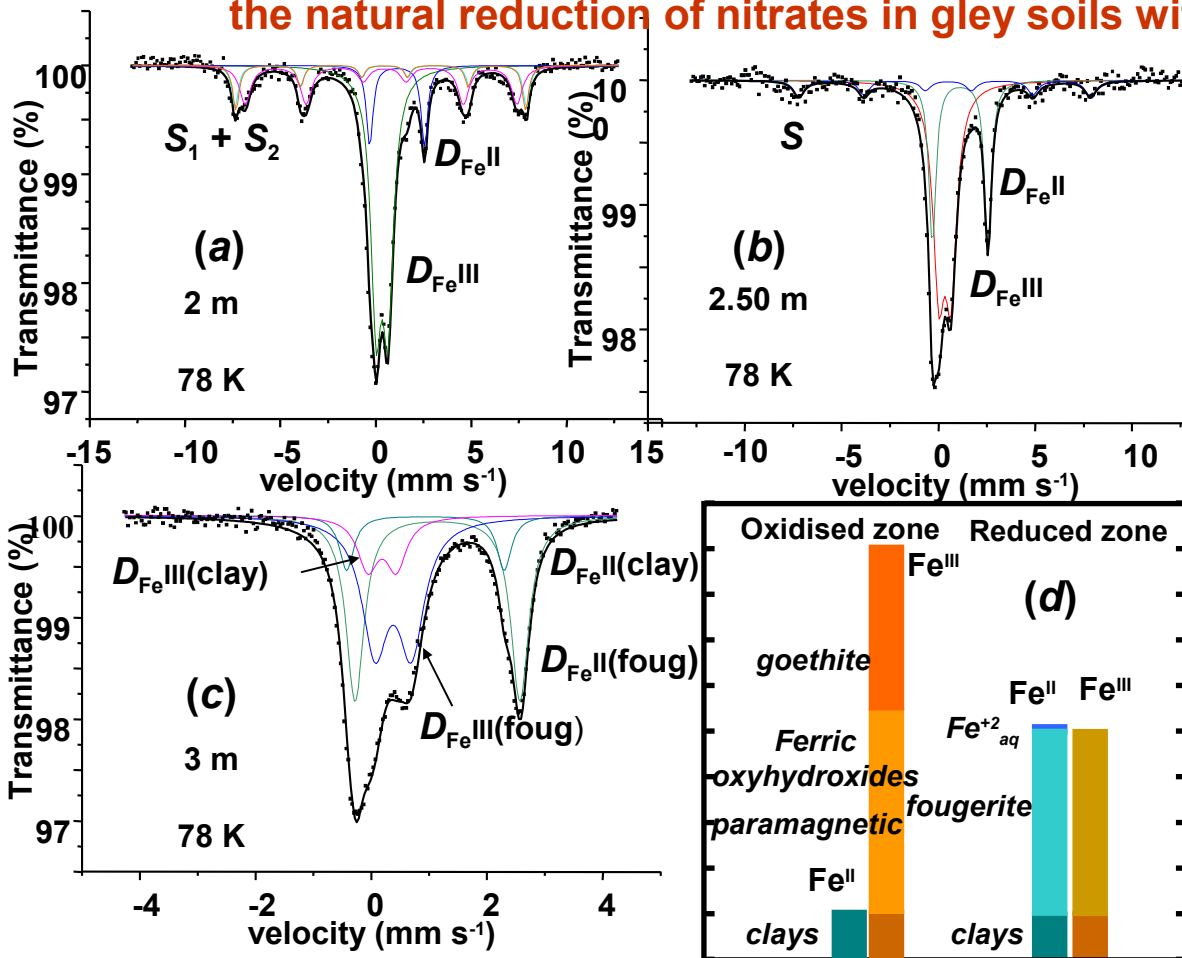
Typical time of half reaction is one week



x Fig T	$\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})$ at 0.33 (a) 300 K initial			$\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$ at 0.38 (b) 300 K, one day			$\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$ at 0.58 (c) 300 K, 11 days			$\text{GR}(\text{CO}_3^{2-})^*$ 1.00 and magnetite (d) 300 K, one month			
	$\delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	$\Delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	RA (%)	$\delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	$\Delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	RA (%)	$\delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	$\Delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	RA (%)	$\delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	$\Delta$ mm s <sup>-1</sup>	H kOe	RA (%)
$D_{1+2}$	1.12	2.4	67	0.98	2.6	62	1.03	2.53	42				
$D_3$	0.41	0.35	33	0.37	0.49	38	0.31	0.55	58	0.4	0.57		20
$S_1$										0.27		463	39
$S_2$										0.67		440	41

$\delta$ , isomer shift in mm s<sup>-1</sup> (metallic iron as reference at room temperature);  $\Delta$  quadrupole splitting in mm s<sup>-1</sup>; RA in %: relative abundance. Half widths at half maximum are 0.3, 0.35, 0.4 and 0.6 mm s<sup>-1</sup>.

## Fougerite is the active mineral that is mixed with clay minerals and responsible for the natural reduction of nitrates in gley soils within the water table.



	$\delta$ (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	$\Delta$ (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	$H$ (kOe)	$\Gamma$ (mm s <sup>-1</sup> )	$RA$ (%)
<b>Depth 2 m</b>					
$D_{FeIII}$ (para +clay)	0.39	0.65		0.67	55
(para +clay)					
$D_{FeII}$ (clay)	1.17	2.85		0.41	11.7
$S_1$ (goethite)	0.37	-0.21	474	0.41	10.6
$S_2$ (goethite)	0.38	-0.19	442	0.70	22.5
$S_1+S_2$ (goethite)					33
<b>Depth 2.50 m</b>					
$D_{FeIII}$ (para+clay+foug)	0.39	0.62		0.72	57.7
(para+clay+foug)					
$D_{FeII}$ (clay+foug)	1.18	2.86		0.44	30.4
$S$ (goethite)	0.43	-0.19	468	0.68	11.8
<b>Depth 3 m</b>					
$D_{FeII}$ (foug)	1.17	2.84		0.37	39
$D_{FeIII}$ (foug)	0.39	0.63		0.55	40.5
$D_{FeII}$ (clay)	0.96	2.71		0.30	9
$D_{FeIII}$ (clay)	0.20	0.48		0.42	11.5

Hyperfine parameters of Mössbauer spectra measured at 78 K of samples extracted in Denmark at different depths of 2 m, 2.50 m, 3 m out of hydric soils from (a) an oxidised zone to (c) a reduced zone. A mixture of fougerite, ferric oxyhydroxides and clay minerals is observed.  $H$ : hyperfine field (kOe);  $\delta$ : isomer shift (mm s<sup>-1</sup>) with respect to  $\alpha$  Fe at room temperature;  $\Delta$  or  $\epsilon$ : quadrupole splitting or shift (mm s<sup>-1</sup>);  $\Gamma$ : half-width at half maximum (mm s<sup>-1</sup>);  $RA$ : relative abundance (%).

J.-M. R. Génin, R. Aïssa, A. Géhin, M. Abdelmoula, O. Benali, V. Ernsten, G. Ona-Nguema, C. Upadhyay and C. Ruby, Fougerite and Fe<sup>II-III</sup> hydroxycarbonate green rust; ordering, deprotonation and/or cation substitution; structure of hydrotalcite-like compounds and mythic ferrosic hydroxide Fe(OH)<sub>(2+x)</sub>, *Solid State Sci.*, 7 (2005) 545-572.

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Hoping to have forgotten nobody

1980

## COMPTES RENDUS GEOSCIENCE

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**Les rouilles vertes et la fougérite  
dans le cycle biogéochimique du  
fer**

***Green rusts and fougérite in the  
biogeochemical cycle of iron***

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**In red: thesis about  
Green rusts or fougérite**



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