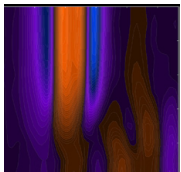


# Direct compositional evaluation of palygorskite by Near Infrared Spectroscopy

*G.D. Chryssikos, V. Gionis, G. Kacandes, M. Suárez,  
E. García-Romero and M. Sanchez del Rio*

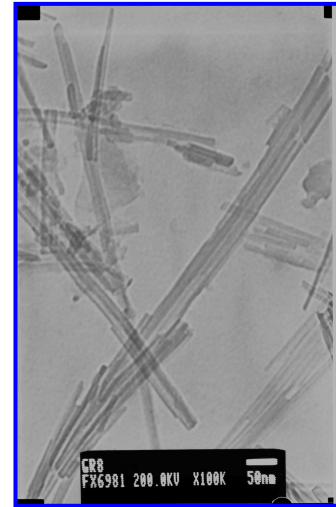
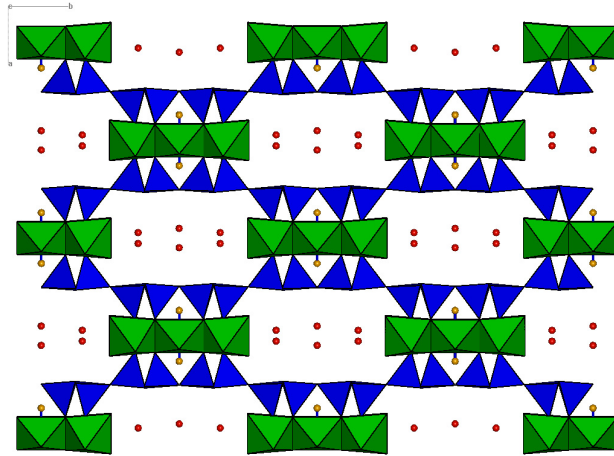
National Hellenic Research Foundation,  
Geohellas S.A.  
Universidad de Salamanca  
Universidad Complutense de Madrid  
ESRF



*September 2008*

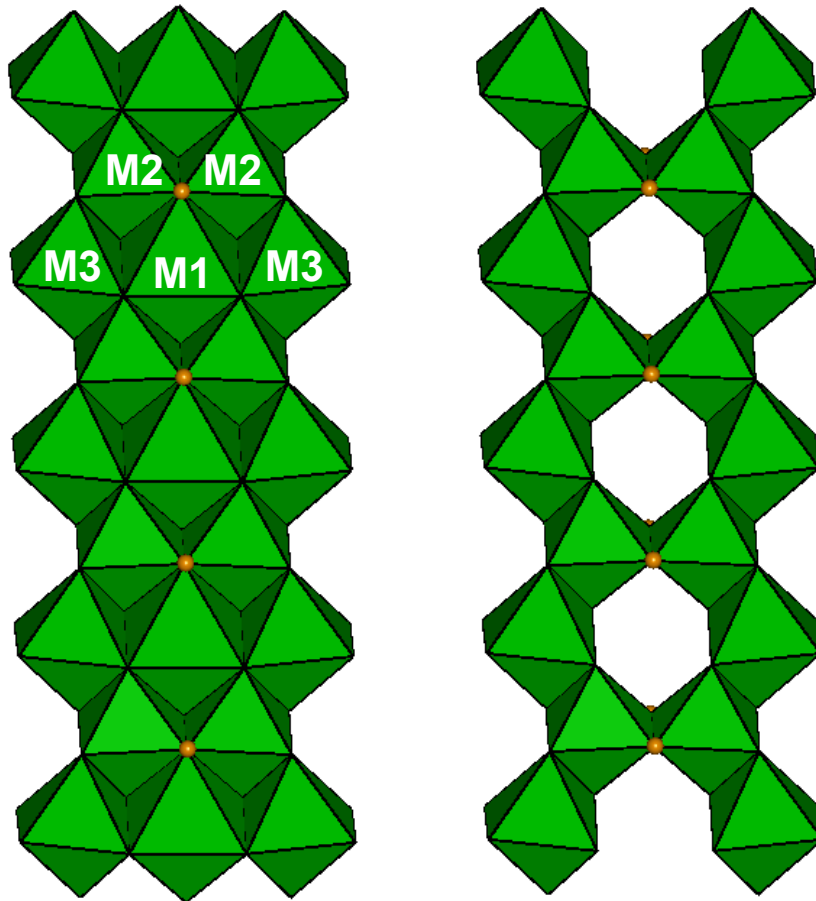


# Structure of palygorskite



XRD identification by d 110 at ca. 10.5 Å

## Structure of the octahedral sheet



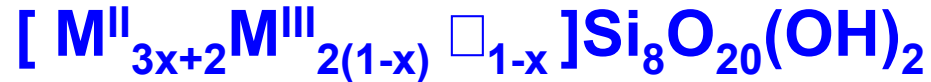
3 types of O-sites

M1M2M2OH

*All refined Pal structures concern dioctahedral specimens:*



## Chemical composition of palygorskite



no or very low CEC  
very low <sup>IV</sup>Al, less than 0.15  
variable type and number of octahedral cations



but often,  $4 < \Sigma O_c < 5, Mg > (Al+Fe)$

Paquet et al. 1985  
Galán & Carretero 1999  
Suárez et al. 2007

# OH species by mid-infrared spectroscopy

identified from the position of  $\delta(\text{OH})$ ,  $\nu(\text{OH})$

Diocahedral M2M2OH:  $\text{AlAlOH}$ ,  $\text{AlFeOH}$ ,  $\text{AlMgOH}$ ...

Triocahedral M1M2M2OH:  $\text{Mg}_3\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{Mg}(\text{Al,Fe})_2\text{OH}$ ...

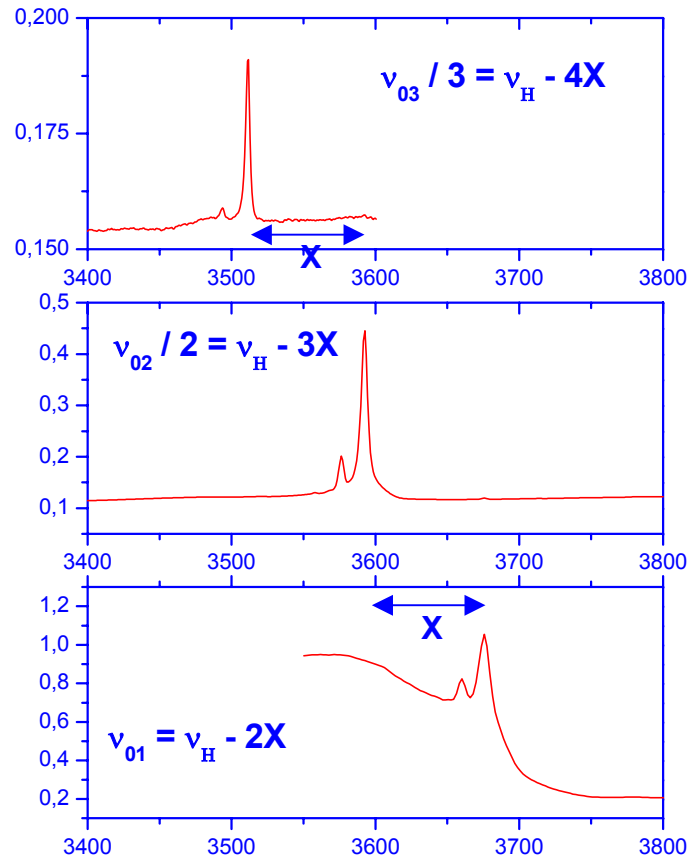
M1: Mg

M2: Al, Fe, Mg

M3: Mg

Mid-infrared: high  $\epsilon$ , effect of accessory minerals,  
overlap of OH and H<sub>2</sub>O stretching modes

# NIR spectroscopy



$$X_{\text{Mg3OH(talc)}} = 84 \text{ cm}^{-1}$$

Overtone & combination modes

Specific to O-H: non hydrous phases are silent

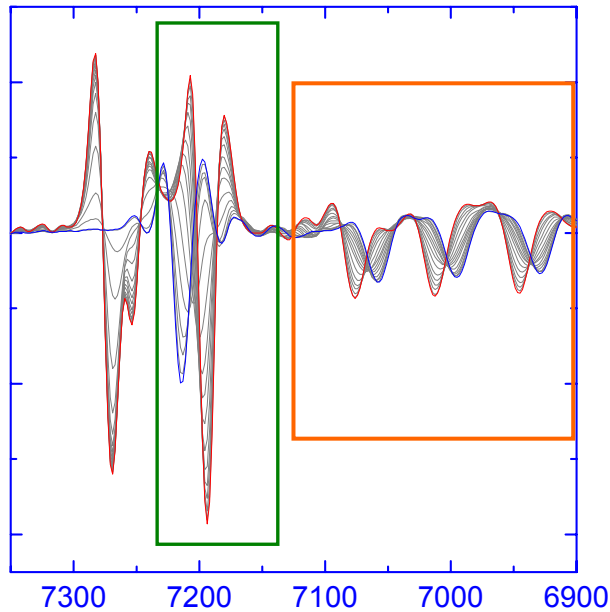
Low  $\epsilon$ : no dilution

$X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \gg X_{\text{OH}}$ : Separation of OH from H<sub>2</sub>O modes

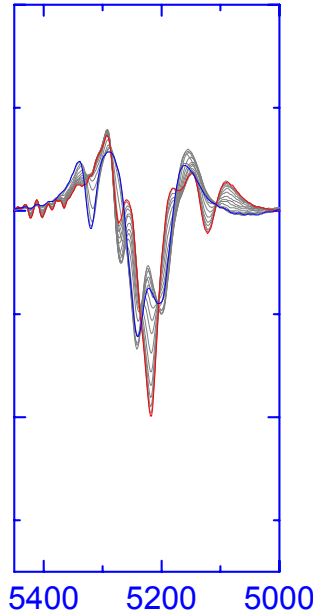
# Zeolitic dehydration of Pal

## NIR, 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative

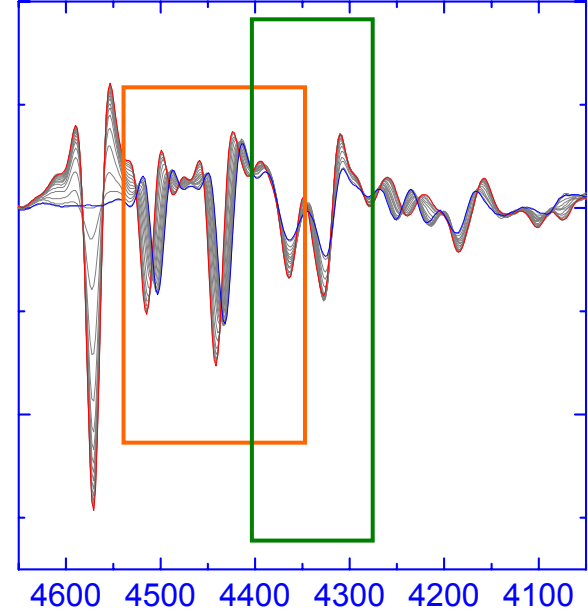
2v(OH)



v+δ(H<sub>2</sub>O)



v+δ(OH)



Di-octahedral M2M2OH: **AlAlOH, AlFeOH, FeFeOH**

Tri-octahedral M1M2M2OH: **Mg<sub>3</sub>OH**

Gionis et al., Am. Min. 2006

Several hundred samples later,

no NIR evidence for Mg in M2 sites  
no NIR evidence for Al, Fe in M1 sites

Simplified bulk Pal formula



trioctahedral

dioctahedral

$y$  independent of  $x$

$x = \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Al})$

Determination of  $x$ ,  $y$ ?

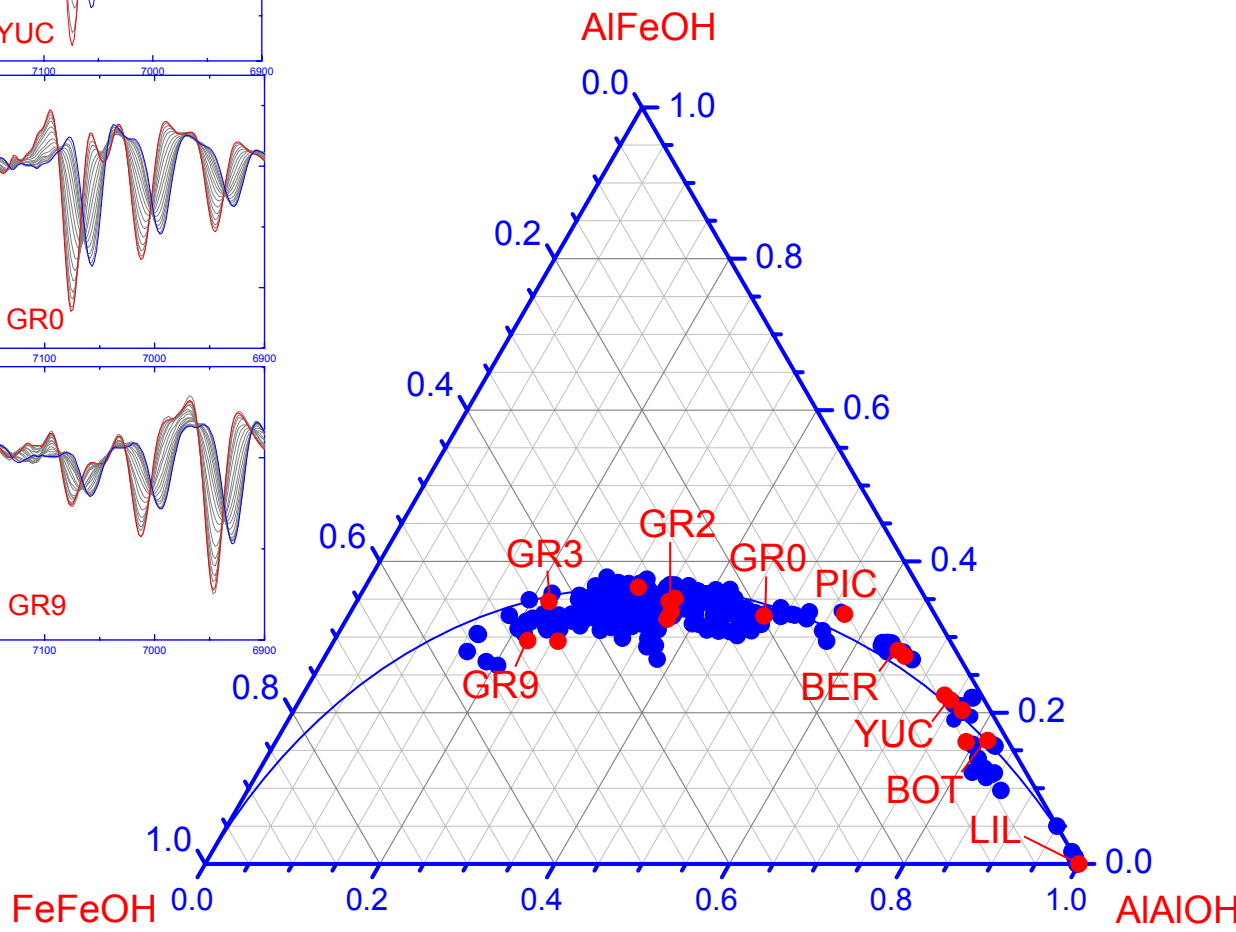
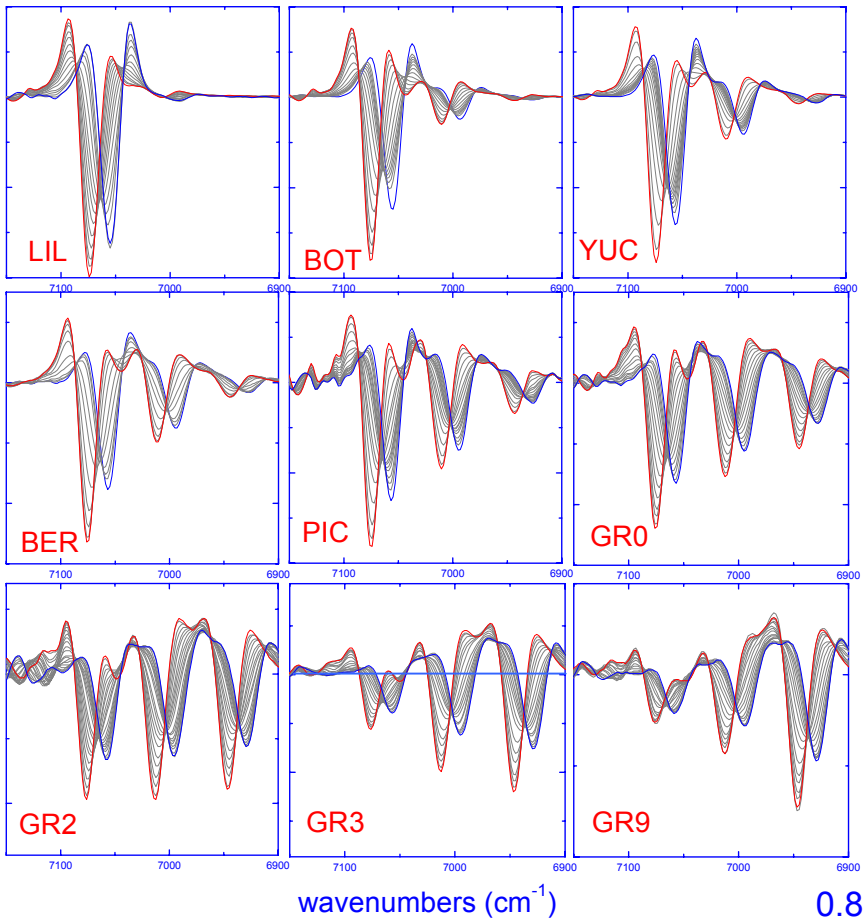
Mixture of dioctahedral & trioctahedral particles?

Limits of Pal octahedral composition?

Gionis et al., C&CM. 2007



# Determination of x from NIR



Gionis et al., C&CM. 2007 +

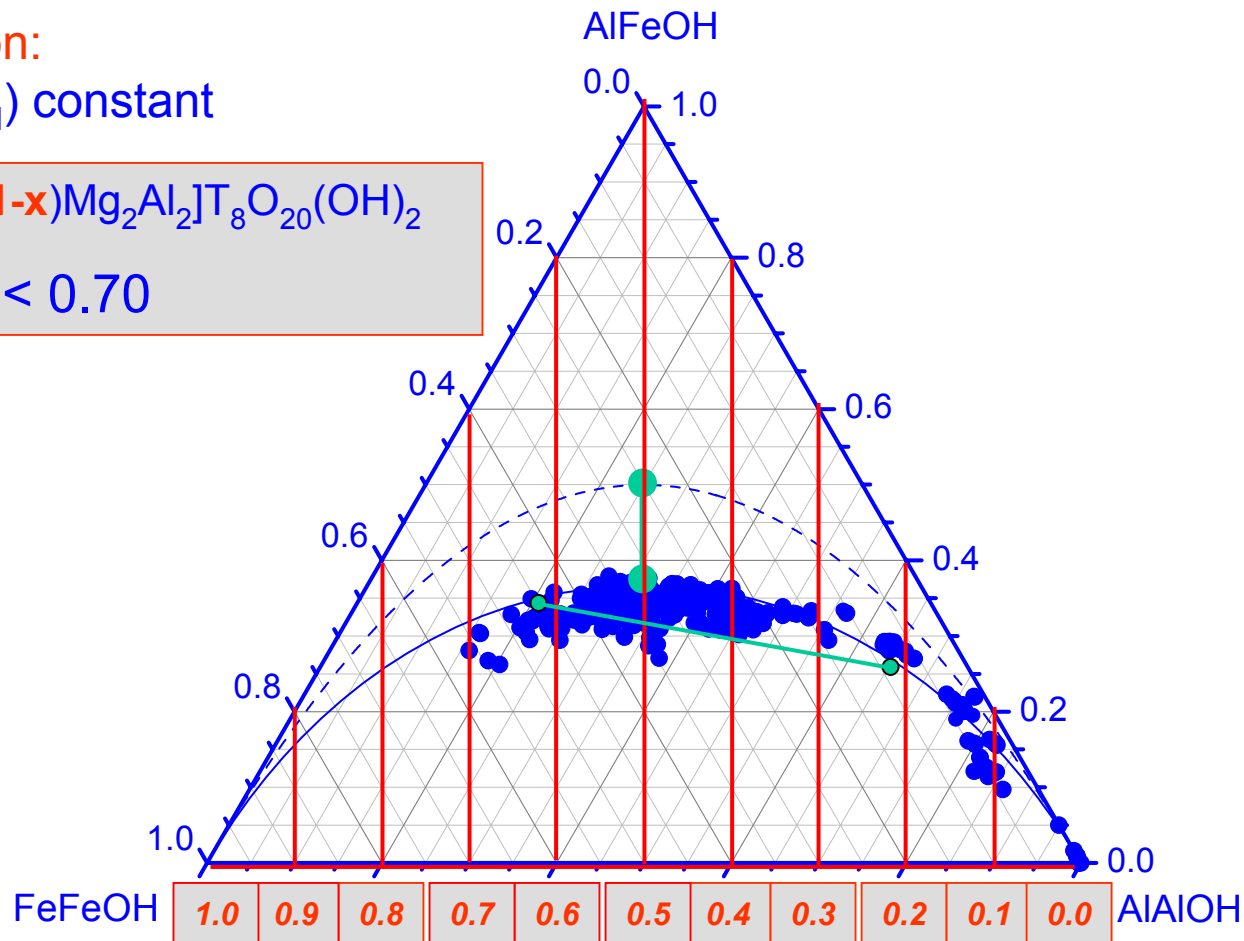
# Properties of the M2M2OH ternary plot

Assumption:

$\epsilon(2\nu_{M2M2OH})$  constant



$$0 < x(NIR) < 0.70$$

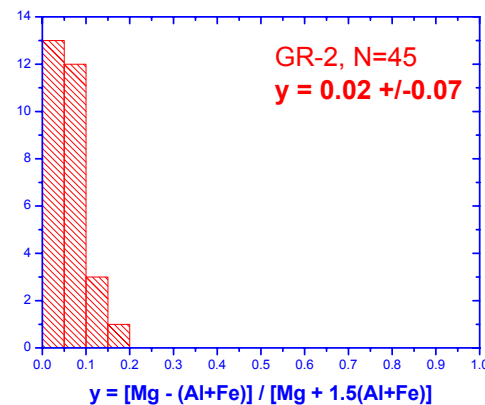
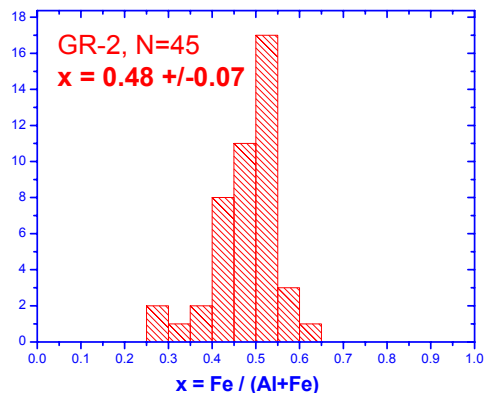
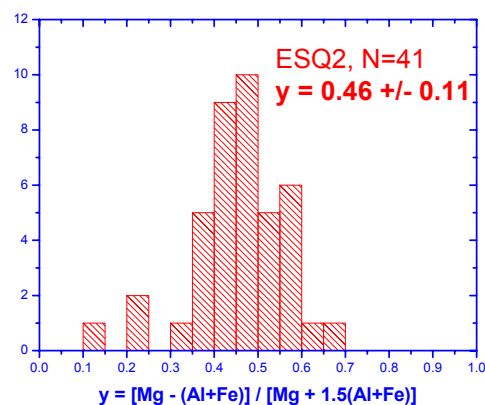
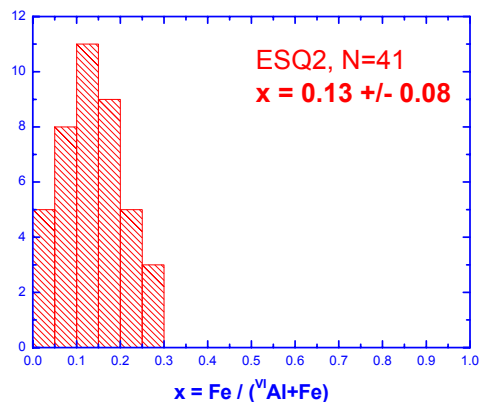


$x$ , fraction of M2 sites occupied by  $Fe^{III}$

# single particle AEM data

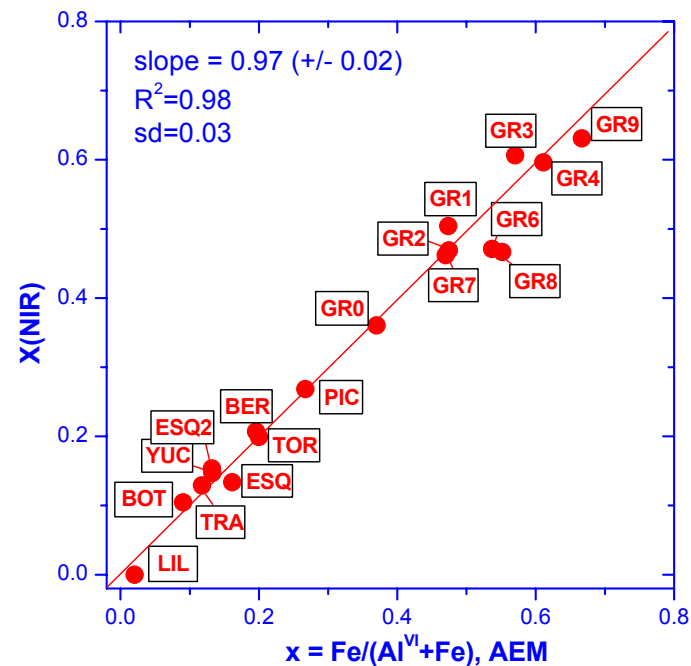
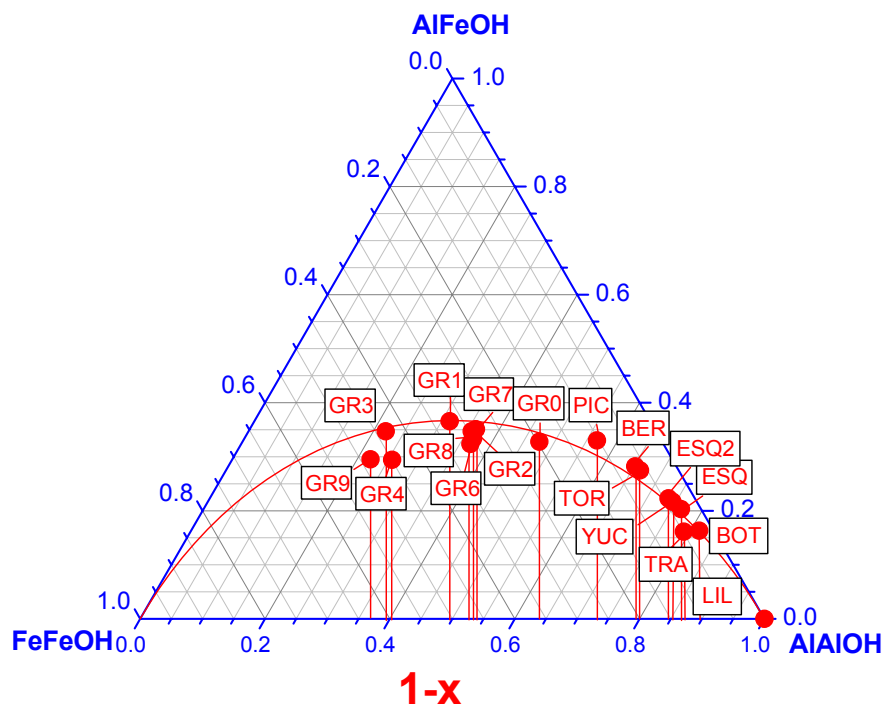
ESQ2, N=41:  $[\text{Mg}_{3.34}\text{Al}_{0.92}\text{Fe}_{0.14}](\text{Si}_{7.95}\text{Al}_{0.08})\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_2$ , 4.4 OC / 8T

GR-1, N=45:  $[\text{Mg}_{1.99}\text{Al}_{1.00}\text{Fe}_{0.90}](\text{Si}_{7.96}\text{Al}_{0.06})\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_2$ , 3.9 OC / 8T



# NIR- AEM correlation

18 pal samples, Greek & Spanish collections



average data from single particles

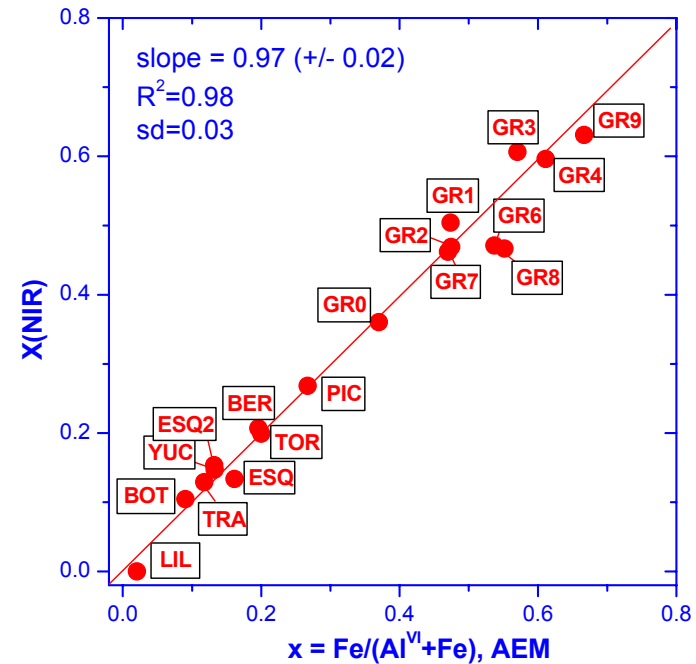
*Chryssikos, Am. Min., submitted 2008*

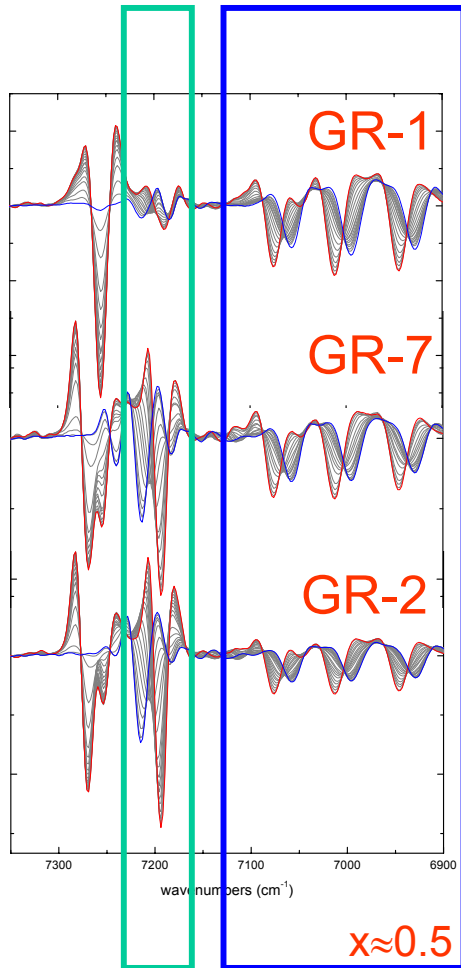
## Implications:

$^{VI}Al(AEM)$  in  $M2M2OH$  sites only.  
 $x(NIR)$  is not biased by the need to  
balance  $8T$  with  $^{IV}Al$

$Fe(AEM)$  is  $Fe^{III}$  in  $M2M2OH$  sites only.  
 $0 < x < 0.7$  (avg),  $x \rightarrow 1.0$  (particle)

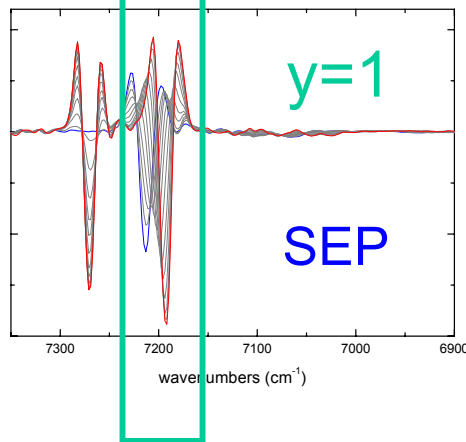
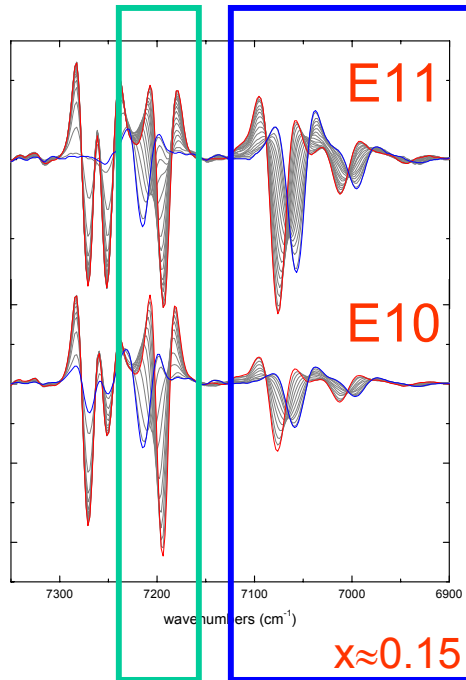
Extinction coeff  $\epsilon(2\nu_{M2M2OH})$  indeed  
constant. Sum of triplet intensity  
proportional to  $(1-y)$ .





$\propto y$

$\propto 1-y$



**Mg<sub>3</sub>OH by NIR**  
Intensity independent of **x**

Quantifying **y** from NIR

$$K_{\text{NIR}} = I_{\text{Mg3OH}} / \sum I_{\text{M2M2OH}}$$

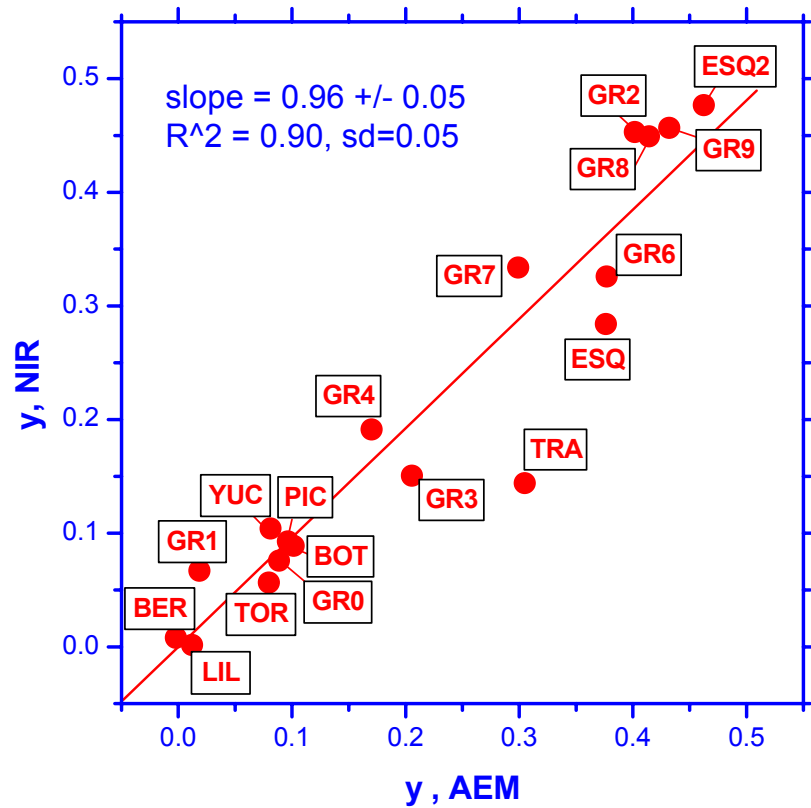
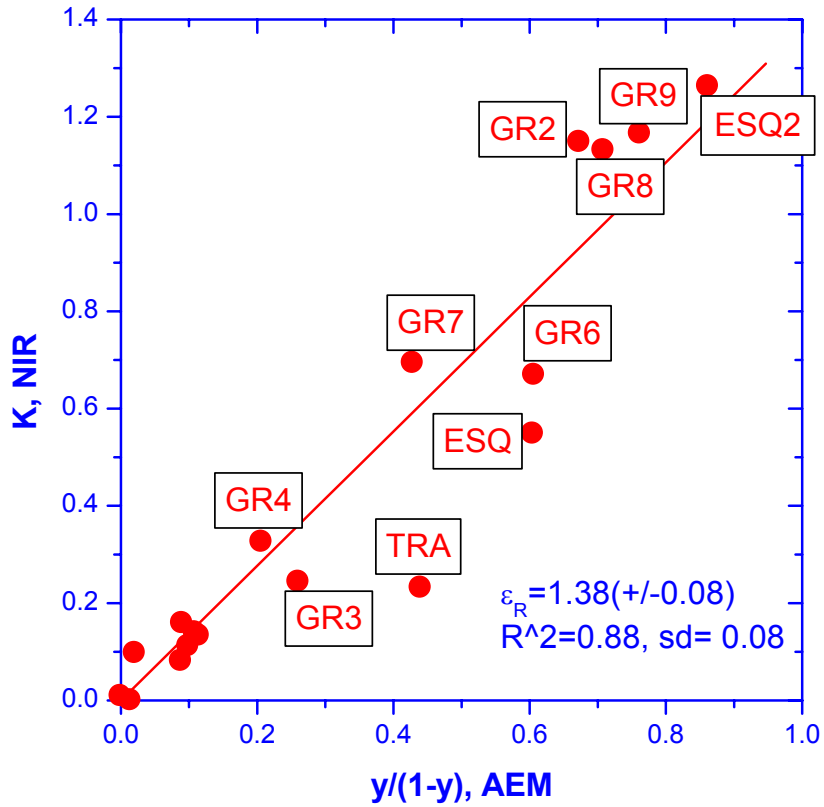
$$y/(1-y) = \epsilon_R K_{\text{NIR}}$$

$$\text{hence } y = K_{\text{NIR}} / (\epsilon_R + K_{\text{NIR}})$$

$\epsilon_R \neq 1$ ,

requires calibration from AEM

# Quantifying y from NIR



## Octahedral cation composition of Palygorskite



**x, y conveniently determined by NIR**

$$0 < x \rightarrow 1$$

Fe for Al substitution, no compositional gaps

$$0 < y \rightarrow 0.5$$

y not related to x

Pal  $\rightarrow$  Sep?