Contents

Preface XI

Chapter 1. Chondritic meteorites and early solar system solids 1
by **Ian S. Sanders**

1. Introduction 1
   1.1. Some essential facts about meteorites 2
   1.2. The primitive chemical composition of chondrites 3
   1.3. Chondrite classification 4
   1.4. Changes to chondrites after their accretion 6
   1.5. Differentiated meteorites 6
   1.6. The solar system in its galactic context and the origin of elements 7
   1.7. The isotopic compositions of elements in meteorites 8
   1.8. Summary 10
2. Refractory inclusions 10
   2.1. Petrography and formation 11
   2.2. Oxygen isotopes 13
   2.3. Evidence in CAIs for extinct ^{26}Al 13
   2.4. Dating of CAIs and establishing the age of the solar system 17
   2.5. Summary 18
3. Chondrules 18
   3.1. Chondrule petrography and chemistry 19
   3.2. Oxygen-isotope compositions of chondrules 22
   3.3. Chronology of chondrules 23
   3.4. Formation of chondrules 24
   3.5. Summary and future research 27
Acknowledgements 28
References 28

Chapter 2. Organics in primitive meteorites 33
by **Laurent Remusat**

1. Introduction 33
2. Spatial distribution of the organics: understanding the accretion process 35
3. Soluble organic compounds 37
   3.1. Molecular diversity of soluble organic compounds 37
   3.2. Linear and aromatic hydrocarbons 39
   3.3. Amino and hydroxyl acids 40
   3.4. Other molecules of potential biological interest 41
   3.5. Enantiomeric excesses 42
4. The insoluble organic matter: the main organic reservoir in chondrites 43
   4.1. Molecular structure of the IOM: a peculiar macromolecule 43
   4.2. Diversity among the different types of chondrites: influence of parent-body processes or source effect? 45
   4.3. Physical texture at the nanometer scale 47

5. How can we interpret the encrypted isotopic record of organics in chondrites? 49
5.1. Observations 50
5.2. Possible interpretations 52
5.3. C, O and N isotopes in IOM 55
6. IDPs, micrometeorites, Stardust: what do we learn from comets? 55
7. Conclusion 57
Acknowledgments 57
References 57

Chapter 3. Aqueous alteration in chondritic asteroids and comets from the study of carbonaceous chondrites 67
by **Josep M. Trigo-Rodríguez**
1. Introduction: searching for Solar-System primordial materials 67
2. Chondrite groups: chemical affinities, equilibration processes and parent bodies 70
3. Dating and characterizing aqueous alteration 73
3.1. Evidence of collisional processing of chondritic parent bodies 73
3.2. Dating parent-body hydration: formation of carbonates 75
4. Cometary materials: Stardust mission clues on primordial mineralogy 78
5. Discussion 80
6. Conclusions 82
Acknowledgements 83
References 83

Chapter 4. Impact metamorphism in terrestrial and experimental cratering events 89
by **Alex Deutsch, Michael H. Poelchau and Thomas Kenkmann**
1. Impacts – a growing field of research in Earth and planetary sciences 89
2. Impact metamorphism 91
2.1. Macroscopic shock effects – shatter cones 92
2.2. Microscopic shock effects 95
2.2.1. Fracturing, kink bands, mosaicism, twinning 97
2.2.2. Planar fractures 98
2.2.3. Planar deformation features 98
2.2.4. Feather features 99
3. Phase transformations to diaplectic glass and high-pressure phases 101
3.1. Diaplectic glass 101
3.2. High-pressure phases 101
3.3. Melting in impact events and the occurrence of impact glass 102
4. Shocked meteorites as clues to understanding terrestrial impact metamorphism 112
5. The MEMIN project – experimental cratering and its benefits for the understanding of shock metamorphism 113

6. Outlook 117
References 117

Chapter 5. Lunar geology 129
by **M. Anand, J.J. Barnes and L.J. Hallis**
1. Introduction 129
2. Origin of the Moon 133
3. Lunar magma ocean 135
4. Morphology of the lunar surface 136
    4.1. Impact crater and basin morphology 137
    4.2. Volcanic landforms 137
    4.3. Tectonic features 138
    4.4. Erosion and degradation by impacts 139
5. Lunar stratigraphy and surface ages 140
6. Lunar lithologies/rock types 142
    6.1. Lunar highlands 142
    6.2. Mare basalts and pyroclastic glasses 146
    6.3. Pyroclastic glasses 146
7. Mineralogy of lunar samples 147
    7.1. Pyroxene 148
    7.2. Pyroxferroite 150
    7.3. Olivine 150
    7.4. Feldspar 150
    7.5. Ilmenite 150
    7.6. Spinel 151
    7.7. Armalcolite 151
    7.8. Other oxides 152
    7.9. Sulfides 152
    7.10. Phosphates 152
    7.11. Silica 153
    7.12. FeNi metal 153
8. Lunar impact-related rocks and the regolith 153
9. Volatiles 156
10. Summary 158
Acknowledgements 158
References 159

Chapter 6. Noble gas chemistry of planetary materials 165
by **Julia. A. Cartwright**
1. Introduction to noble gases and components 165
    1.1. A brief history of noble gases 165
    1.2. Noble gas reservoirs 167
    1.3. The noble gas budget in the Solar System 168

1.4. Components and meteorites 173
1.4.1. In the neighbourhood – the rocky planets and the gas giants 173
1.4.2. Other trapped components 177
1.4.2a. Origins 178
1.4.2b. The mysterious Q phase 179
1.4.2c. Presolar graphite and SiC – G, N and R components 181
1.4.2d. Presolar diamond – HL, P3 and P6 components 182
1.4.2e. Solar-System diamond and Ureilite gases 182
1.4.2f. Subsolar gases 183
1.4.3. Components and meteorite groups 183
2. Noble gases as chronometers 183
2.1. System disturbances 184
2.2. The short-lived ^{129}I–^{129}Xe decay scheme 184
2.2.1. Methodology 185
2.3. ^{40}K-^{40}Ar and ^{40}Ar-^{39}Ar dating techniques 187
2.3.1. The curious case of possible excess Ar in shergottite meteorites ... 189
2.4. U-Th/He and U-Th/Ne dating 191
2.5. Off-shoots of chronometry 192
2.5.1. Noble gases and halogens 192
3. Noble gases from cosmic-ray exposure 193
3.1. Caveats of cosmogenic dating 198
3.2. Shielding parameters 199
3.3. Calculating production rates 200
3.3.1. Self-correcting methods 200
3.4. Distribution of cosmic-ray exposure ages of meteorites 201
3.4.1. Stony meteorite CRE ages 201
3.4.2. Iron and stony-iron CRE ages 204
3.4.3. Micrometeorite (MM) and interplanetary dust particle (IDP) CRE ages 204
4. Closing comment 204
Acknowledgements 205
References 205

Chapter 7. Isotopic analyses of primitive meteorites 213
by **Jutta Zipfel**

1. Introduction 213
2. Isotopic compositions of primitive Solar System materials 215
2.1. Isotope anomalies in presolar grains 216
2.2. Oxygen in primitive chondrites 217
2.3 Silicon, iron and minor and trace elements in chondrites 219
3. Age constraints on primitive Solar-System materials 222
4. Conclusions 223

Acknowledgements 223
References 223

Chapter 8. Shocked rocks: impacts from the laboratory to the Solar System 227
by **Mark J. Burchell**

1. Introduction 227
    1.1. Historical recognition of impact origin for terrestrial craters 228
    1.2. Hugoniot equations 230
    1.3. Linear shock wave speeds 230
2. High-speed impacts 230
    2.1. Orbital mechanics 231
    2.2. Impacts 232
    2.3. Crater formation 233
3. Calculating peak shock pressures 235
    3.1. Planar Impact Approximation (PIA) 236
    3.2. Hydrocode simulations 237
4. Impact experiments 238
    4.1. Split bar 238
    4.2. Flyer plate 238
    4.3. Two-stage light gas guns 239
5. Mechanical effects 240
    5.1. Shatter cones 240
    5.2. Planar microscopic features 241
    5.3. Diaplectic glasses 243
6. High-pressure polymorphs 244
7. Melt 245
8. Shock barometers 246
9. Conclusions 247
References 248

Chapter 9. Micrometeorites 253
by **Luigi Folco and Carole Cordier**

1. Introduction 253
2. Micrometeoroid sources and orbital evolution 259
3. Micrometeoroid atmospheric entry 260
4. Micrometeorite collections 262
5. Classification and mineralogical, textural and bulk compositional properties of micrometeorites 264
    5.1. Melted micrometeorites 264
    5.2. Partially melted micrometeorites 272
    5.3. Unmelted micrometeorites 276

6. Micrometeorite precursor materials and parent bodies 278
6.1. Melted micrometeorites related to carbonaceous and ordinary chondrite parent bodies 278
6.2. Melted micrometeorites related to Vesta-like parent bodies 281
6.3. Unmelted and partially melted silicate micrometeorites related to carbonaceous and ordinary chondrite parent bodies 283
6.4. Unmelted ultracarbonaceous micrometeorites related to comets 283
6.5. Unmelted silicate micrometeorites related to unknown differentiated bodies 284
7. Micrometeorite statistics: flux and the composition of the near-Earth micrometeoroid complex 285
8. Concluding remarks 288
Acknowledgements 289
References 289

Index **299**