

# ILLITE-SMECTITE MIXED-LAYER MINERALS IN THE HYDROTHERMAL ALTERATION OF VOLCANIC ROCKS: I. ONE-DIMENSIONAL XRD STRUCTURE ANALYSIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF COMPONENT LAYERS

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**Abstract**—For a series of mixed-layer illite-smectite (I-S) minerals from a drillhole near the Kakkonda geothermal field, one-dimensional structure analysis by X-ray diffraction (XRD) was performed using Ca-saturated specimens in both air-dried and ethylene glycol-solvated states. The expandability characteristics of component layers were also examined by means of alkylammonium exchange and Li saturation. The K content in the illite layers was 1.5–1.7/O<sub>20</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub> in the I-S series from 3 to 85% of I-layer content (% I). The layer charge of the smectite layer varied slightly within the range of 0.3–0.5/O<sub>10</sub>(OH)<sub>2</sub> by alkylammonium exchange experiments and the expandability was independent of the beidellite content within a range of 0–0.5 by the Li-saturation test. The degree of long-range ordering represented by Reichweite (R) parameters varied from R0 to R3 via R1 and R2 with increase in % I. The I-S samples contained <10% vermiculite as the third component and the vermiculite content tended to decrease with progressive illitization.

In contrast to the smectitic R0 samples (<10% I), more illitic R0 (e.g. 35% I) and >R1 I-S samples showed complicated expandability with alkylammonium exchange. The XRD patterns of dodecylammonium-exchanged I-S samples can be interpreted by random interstratification of several types of sub-units such as layer-doublets, layer-triplets and layer-quartets present in the crystallites. This interpretation is consistent with the variation in the occurrence probabilities of layer-multiplets calculated from the junction probabilities and the proportions of layers. Because the interpretation indicates that I-S is a stack of various types of the sub-units, the smectite illitization can be described by a systematic change in the type and proportion of the sub-units constituting crystallites.

**Key Words**—Alkylammonium Exchange, Expandability, Hydrothermal System, Illite-smectite Mixed-layer Minerals, One-dimensional XRD Structure Analysis.

## INTRODUCTION

Sequential smectite-to-illite reaction *via* mixed-layer minerals (referred to hereafter as ‘smectite illitization’) has been documented in low-temperature crustal environments and is commonly associated with burial diagenesis, low-grade metamorphism, contact metamorphism and hydrothermal alteration. Despite extensive investigation over the last several decades (see the review by Meunier and Velde, 2004), many unresolved points remain, including the crystal chemical models of illite-smectite (I-S) mixed-layered structures and the illitization mechanism. Previous XRD studies of I-S minerals suggested that smectite illitization occurs with a continuous variation in the proportions of smectite (S) and illite (I) layers regardless of geological environment (e.g. Hower *et al.*, 1976 for diagenesis; Inoue *et al.*, 1978

for hydrothermal alteration). The sequence of interstratified I-S minerals with different I/S ratios also includes a continuous change in the ordering of layer stacking from smectite-rich R0 I-S to illite-rich R3 I-S, where R is the Reichweite parameter (Jagodzinski, 1949). However, recent transmission electron microscopy (TEM) studies have indicated that smectite, R1 and illite layers are abundant, whereas I-S with other types of orderings (*i.e.* R>1) are rare (Dong *et al.*, 1997; Bauluz *et al.*, 2000 and references therein). Thus the continuous change in proportion of S and I layers and the orderings indicated by XRD investigations contradicted the discontinuous change revealed by TEM observations.

Altaner and Ylagan (1997) and Plançon (2004) argued that there are two ways to describe the layer-stacking sequence of I-S interstratification from a crystallochemical points of view. One is the interstratification of two individual 2:1 layers with homogeneous smectite and illite compositions, respectively. This type of stacking model is called a non-polar 2:1 layer model (Altaner and Ylagan, 1997). The other is to describe it on the basis of stacking of two interlayer-centered

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smectite and illite in which each 2:1 layer has heterogeneous composition, and this is called a polar 2:1 layer model (Altaner and Ylagan, 1997). It is still disputed as to which is the better way to describe the layer-stacking sequence of I and S layers within a crystallite which acts as a coherent unit able to scatter X-rays. Furthermore, the questions of whether or not the third component layer, which is often called a vermiculite or 'high-charged smectite' layer, exists in I-S stacks and whether or not the formation acts as an essential step during smectite illitization are unanswered (*e.g.* Drits *et al.*, 1997a; Meunier *et al.*, 2000). Finally, since the illitization mechanism is deduced from these basic XRD and TEM data, the mechanistic relations between layer-by-layer, solid-state transformation (SST) and dissolution-crystallization (DC) models are major points of contention (Altaner and Ylagan, 1997).

Both the illitization process and the crystal chemistry of I-S depend on variables in different systems, which include temperature, compositions of fluid and rock and water/rock ratio, in addition to geological time. Among many geological environments mentioned above, hydrothermal alteration is the most appropriate to investigate illitization because we can minimize the effects of precursor materials on illitization in hydrothermally altered volcanic rocks. Although illitization in diagenesis of pelitic rocks is most common, the rocks contain precursor smectite, detrital illite and other phyllosilicates. Variability in the inherited characteristics of smectite formed during earlier periods of weathering may influence later illitization during burial diagenesis. The time factor may be ignored in the case of I-S formation in hydrothermal alteration because the formation generally takes place over a geologically short period of time in contrast to burial diagenesis.

This study investigates an I-S series which has its origin in hydrothermal alteration, *i.e.* I-S minerals from a drillhole (IT-2) near the Kakkonda active geothermal system, Japan. This field is characterized by constant, high geothermal gradients ( $\sim 15\text{--}20^\circ\text{C}/100\text{ m}$ ) up to at least 1700 m, with neither boiling nor circulation of fluids, and no alteration overprint (Inoue *et al.*, 2001). The I-S minerals are formed from Miocene to Pleistocene felsic volcanoclastic rocks with a limited range of composition under temperatures similar to the present temperature and nearly constant water/rock ratio (Inoue *et al.*, 2001; Inoue *et al.*, 2004). The occurrence, bulk mineralogy, fluid geochemistry and isotope characteristics were described in detail in these previous works. More detailed XRD and high-resolution TEM (HRTEM) characterization of selected I-S minerals has been undertaken to elucidate the unresolved points mentioned above and to understand better the mechanism of I-S formation. This work consists of two parts; special attention in the first part is paid to characterizing the expandability behavior of component layers in the Kakkonda I-S series based on one-dimensional XRD structure analysis and supplementary examinations by alkylammonium ion exchange and Li ion-saturation techniques. The results of a HRTEM study are described in part II of this work (Murakami *et al.*, 2005).

## SAMPLES AND EXPERIMENTAL METHODS

### Samples

Eleven samples were selected from an I-S series in felsic volcanoclastic rocks from a drill-core (Hole IT-2) near the Kakkonda active geothermal system, Japan. A summary of sample characteristics is provided in Table 1.

Table 1. Chemical composition, % I and formation temperature of the Kakkonda I-S samples studied (after Inoue *et al.*, 2004).

Samples	IT2-214	IT2-320	IT2-435	IT2-580	IT2-635	IT2-645	IT2-656	IT2-690	IT2-700	IT2-756	IT2-919
Tetrahedral Si	3.93	4.00	3.90	3.75	3.71	3.48	3.47	3.37	3.44	3.43	3.36
Al	0.07	0.00	0.10	0.25	0.29	0.52	0.53	0.63	0.56	0.57	0.64
Octahedral Al	1.37	1.33	1.32	1.62	1.66	1.83	1.77	1.84	1.84	1.79	1.70
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.32	0.26	0.35	0.19	0.13	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.06	0.01	0.10
Mg	0.23	0.32	0.28	0.19	0.19	0.09	0.10	0.07	0.09	0.22	0.25
Interlayer Ca	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Na	0.26	0.34	0.34	0.42	0.37	0.30	0.23	0.22	0.22	0.14	0.08
K	0.04	0.08	0.05	0.03	0.17	0.26	0.44	0.44	0.46	0.59	0.68
Layer charge [O <sub>10</sub> (OH) <sub>2</sub> ]	0.46	0.51	0.45	0.40	0.42	0.57	0.64	0.69	0.64	0.73	0.74
% I	5	13	2	4	45	45+60*	62	57	62	75	>95
Formation temp. (°C)**	68	89	111	143	154	156	158	164	166	175	205
Impurities***	pl	opal, cpt	opal, qz, sid	qz	pl, qz	qz	qz	qz	qz	qz	qz, pl, cor

\* A mixture of two phases

\*\* The temperatures are those observed at present

\*\*\* pl: plagioclase, opal: opal-CT, cpt: clinoptilolite, qz: quartz, sid: siderite, ill: illite, ab: albite, cor: corrensite

### XRD diffraction structure analysis

Structure analysis of seven samples (435 m, 580 m, 635 m, 645 m, 690 m, 700 m and 756 m) was carried out using Ca-saturated specimens to minimize the hydration heterogeneity of expandable interlayers. Separated clay fractions (<2  $\mu\text{m}$ ) were first saturated with Ca ions and then the homoionic exchanged specimens were X-rayed in two states, air-dried (at controlled relative humidity of 40%) and ethylene glycolated (saturated with ethylene glycol (EG) atmosphere at 70°C overnight). The XRD patterns were recorded using a Bruker D5000 diffractometer equipped with a Kevex Si (Li) solid-state detector and  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  radiation. Intensities were recorded at  $0.04^\circ 2\theta$  steps, from  $2-50^\circ 2\theta$ , using a counting time of 6 s per step.

A program developed by Drits *et al.* (1997a) and Sakharov *et al.* (1999) was used to fit experimental XRD profiles. Many parameters necessary for simulating XRD profiles were set as by Claret *et al.* (2004). We assumed the existence of three component layers, illite (I), smectite (S) and vermiculite (V) each composed of non-polar 2:1 layers in the simulations. The S layer is defined as a fully expandable interlayer with 2  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  molecules at 40% relative humidity or 2 EG molecules when the interlayer site is occupied by homoionic Ca ions. The V layer is defined as a partly expandable interlayer with 1  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or 1 EG molecule and the I layer as a non-expandable interlayer without  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  or EG molecules (Drits *et al.*, 1997a; Meunier *et al.*, 2000). The amount and position of interlayer species such as  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and EG molecules in addition to fixed K ions were considered as variable parameters during the fitting process. The Fe contents of octahedral sheets were also optimized during fitting. The accuracy of profile fitting was assessed by means of the residual factor (*RWP*) between experimental and simulated intensities at  $2-50^\circ 2\theta$  (Howard and Preston, 1989).

### Alkylammonium exchange

Expandability (or layer charge) characteristics of component layers in I-S were also examined using two,  $\text{C}_{12}$ -alkylammonium (dodecylammonium)- and  $\text{C}_{18}$ -alkylammonium (octadecylammonium)-exchanged, specimens. Following the protocol described by Wilson (1987), ~15 mL of pH-adjusted alkylammonium chloride solution (0.1 M for  $\text{C}_{12}$ -alkylammonium and 0.05 M for  $\text{C}_{18}$ -alkylammonium) were added to ~20 mg of Na-saturated, freeze-dried powder specimens and heated in an oil bath at 65°C for 3 days. Excess alkylammonium chloride was removed by repeated washing with 1:1 ethanol/water and pure ethanol followed by centrifugation; the paste was spread over a glass slide and kept in a vacuum desiccator. The reproducibility was checked by two mutually independent experiments.

The XRD patterns of alkylammonium (AL)-exchanged specimens were recorded using a Rigaku RAD-IB diffractometer with monochromatized  $\text{CuK}\alpha$

radiation. Intensities were recorded at steps of  $0.01^\circ 2\theta$ , from  $2$  to  $33^\circ 2\theta$ , using a counting time of 4 s per step. Peak decomposition was performed on experimental XRD profiles of  $\text{C}_{12}$ -AL-exchanged specimens over  $2-12^\circ 2\theta$  using a DECOMPXR program developed by Lanson (1997).

For comparison, vermiculite (Palabora, South Africa), two rectorite samples (Goto and Ohara, Japan) and another I-S series (Shinzan, Japan) were examined. The average layer charge of the Palabora vermiculite is  $0.83/\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$  based on data of Inoue (1984). The Goto rectorite is the same material as that studied by Lagaly (1979), though our sample contains illite and pyrophyllite as impurities. The formula of Ohara rectorite is  $(\text{K}_{0.92}\text{Na}_{0.10}\text{Ca}_{0.23})(\text{Al}_{3.86}\text{Fe}_{0.07}^{3+}\text{Mg}_{0.09}\text{Ti}_{0.01})(\text{Si}_{6.52}\text{Al}_{1.48})\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_4$  (Y. Shinohara, unpublished data). The Shinzan I-S minerals are hydrothermal alteration products of Miocene volcanoclastic rocks, and they have a composition which is similar to those of Kakkonda. The mineralogy of the Shinzan I-S series has been described by Inoue *et al.* (1978), Inoue and Utada (1983) and Inoue *et al.* (1987). The XRD and TEM characteristics have also been reported in many studies (*e.g.* Keller *et al.*, 1986; Inoue *et al.*, 1990 for XRD; Veblen *et al.*, 1990; Amouric and Olives, 1991; Olives *et al.*, 2000 for TEM). Thus the Shinzan I-S samples may be regarded as 'reference' hydrothermal I-S minerals.

### Li saturation

Distinction between montmorillonitic and beidellitic components in smectite layers was made by Li saturation (Hofmann and Klemen, 1950). A Li-saturated specimen, using a normal LiCl solution, was heated at 300°C overnight in a ceramic crucible to avoid alkali contamination from glass, then dispersed on a glass slide with water and glycerol saturated after air drying. The proportion of beidellitic component was estimated from comparison of experimental intensity ratios of 1.8 nm and 0.96 nm peaks with those of simulated XRD patterns assuming a segregation structure of beidellite and montmorillonite layers.

## RESULTS

### Interstratified structure analysis

Comparison of experimental and calculated XRD profiles at air-dried and EG-saturated states is illustrated in Figures 1–6, excluding the 580 m sample. The major structure parameters optimized by fitting are summarized in Table 2. For instance, in the 3-component layers system, the interstratified structure with  $R = 1$  can be described by nine junction probability parameters (*e.g.*  $P_{SS}$ ,  $P_{SV}$ ,  $P_{VS}$ ,  $P_{VV}$ , *etc.*), where  $P_{SS}$  denotes a junction probability of an S layer following an S layer) in addition to three parameters ( $W_I$ ,  $W_S$  and  $W_V$ ) of the proportion (or occurrence probability) of each component. Only essential parameters are listed in Table 2, and

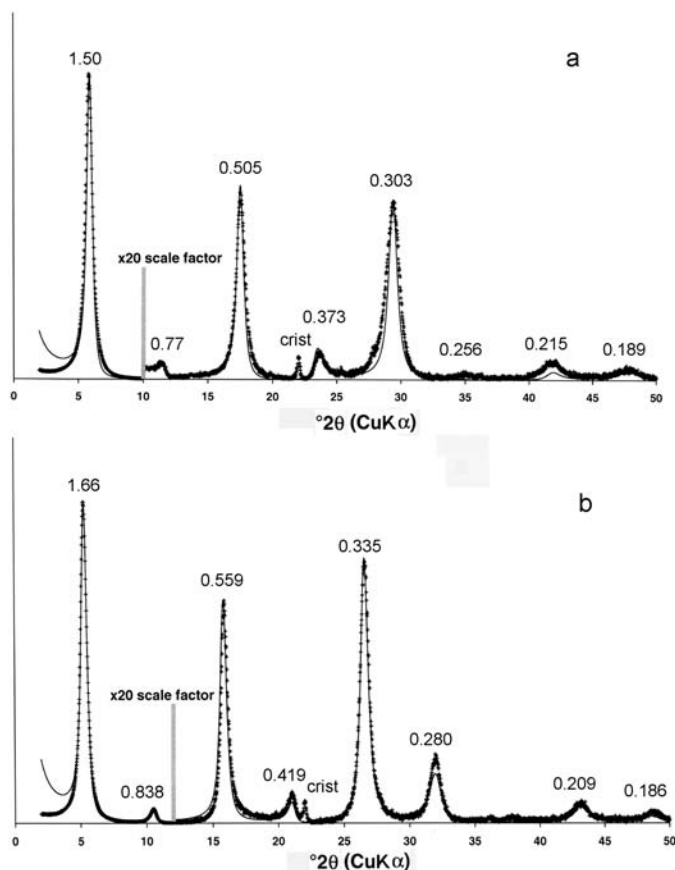


Figure 1. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 435 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. crist: cristobalite. The vertical scale at  $2-12^{\circ}2\theta$  is different from that at  $12-50^{\circ}2\theta$ . The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

all the other parameters can be easily calculated from those given in the table (Watanabe, 1988; Drits and Tchoubar, 1990). The optimized  $d_{001}$  value of the I layer was 0.998 nm for all the samples, those of the S layer were 1.52 nm in the air-dried state and 1.68 nm in the EG-saturated state, and those of the V layer varied from 1.23 to 1.25 nm in the air-dried state and from 1.29 to 1.40 nm in the EG-saturated state (Table 2). The K content of the illite was  $1.5-1.7/O_{20}(OH)_4$  in all samples. The optimized Fe contents are consistent with the electron microprobe analyses (Table 1), except for the 435 m sample. The samples studied contain small amounts of impurities as given in Table 1. We did not subtract the contribution of impurities from original the XRD profiles, and thereby the resultant  $RWP$  values became apparently large from 8.9% to 28.2%. Nevertheless, taking into account agreement in terms of the peak positions and intensities of I-S minerals between the experimental and calculated XRD profiles in both the air-dried and EG-saturated samples, the goodness of fit is satisfactory, as seen in Figures 1–6.

Two samples, 435 m and 580 m are smectite, containing  $\sim 10\%$  in total of I and V layers (Figure 1, Table 2). Assuming 1.40 nm for the  $d_{001}$  value of the

vermiculite layer gave a better fit for the EG-saturated 580 m sample, though the value was greater than the other assumed value of 1.29 nm (Table 2). The reason for the difference in the  $d$  value is unknown. The optimized Fe content in the octahedral sheets in sample 435 m is noticeably greater than that of the previous chemical analysis (Table 1). Inoue *et al.* (2004) reported that the I-S mineral coexists with siderite at 435 m. The difference in Fe content may be due to the contamination by siderite in the microprobe-analyzed sample, whereas the major impurities of the sample used in the present XRD study are cristobalite and quartz. Calculating the occurrence probabilities of layer doublets, triplets and quartets from the junction probabilities and the proportions of component layers indicates that the SS doublet is mostly dominant within crystallites of samples 435 m and 580 m (Table 3). The occurrence probabilities of SIS and VIV triplets range around 0.02–0.04 in sample 435 m and 0–0.02 in sample 580 m. The mean number of layers ( $N$ ) consisting of X-ray coherent domains is 10 for 435 m and seven for 580 m.

Sample 635 m (Figure 2) is an I-S mixed-layer mineral with  $R = 0$ ,  $W_I = 0.35$ ,  $W_S = 0.65$  in the EG-saturated state. The proportion of V layer ( $W_V$ ) was

Table 2. Optimized structural parameters of Kakkonda I-S mixed-layer minerals

Sample	Measurement conditions		Proportions of $i$ layers	$d_{001}$ (nm) — Junction probability —			N	K	Fe	RWP (%)
435 m	Ca-AD		R = 0	0.998	1.515	1.25	10	1.5	0.5	22.87
			$W_1$ 0.05 $W_S$ 0.9 $W_V$ 0.05							
	Ca-EG		R = 0	0.998	1.68	1.29	10	1.5	0.5	
			$W_1$ 0.05 $W_S$ 0.9 $W_V$ 0.05							
580 m	Ca-AD		R = 0	0.998	1.52	1.23	6.5	1.5	0.4	18.91
			$W_1$ 0.03 $W_S$ 0.88 $W_V$ 0.09							
	Ca-EG		R = 0	0.998	1.68	1.4	7	1.5	0.4	
			$W_1$ 0.03 $W_S$ 0.92 $W_V$ 0.05							
635 m	Ca-AD		R = 0	0.998	1.515	1.25	15	1.5	0.25	19.65
			$W_1$ 0.35 $W_S$ 0.55 $W_V$ 0.1							
	Ca-EG		R = 0	0.998	1.675		10	1.5	0.25	
			$W_1$ 0.35 $W_S$ 0.65 $W_V$ 0							
645 m	Ca-AD	Phase A 83%	R = 0	0.998	1.515	1.25	25	1.5	0.15	16.37
			$W_1$ 0.35 $W_S$ 0.55 $W_V$ 0.1							
	Ca-AD	Phase B 17%	R = 1	0.998	1.515	1.25	8	1.5	0.15	
			$W_1$ 0.5 $W_S$ 0.4 $W_V$ 0.1							
	Ca-EG	Phase A 80%	R = 0	0.998	1.675		12	1.5	0.15	
			$W_1$ 0.35 $W_S$ 0.65 $W_V$ 0							
	Ca-EG	Phase B 20%	R = 1	0.998	1.675		7	1.5	0.15	
			$W_1$ 0.5 $W_S$ 0.5 $W_V$ 0							
690 m	Ca-AD		R = 1	0.998	1.515	1.25	15	1.7	0.15	24.44
			$W_1$ 0.55 $W_S$ 0.4 $W_V$ 0.05							
	Ca-EG		R = 1	0.998	1.68		15	1.7	0.15	
			$W_1$ 0.55 $W_S$ 0.4 $W_V$ 0.05							
700 m	Ca-AD		R1 MPDO R = 2	0.998	1.515	1.25	10	1.7	0	28.22
			$W_1$ 0.6 $W_S$ 0.35 $W_V$ 0.05							
	Ca-EG		R1 MPDO R = 2	0.998	1.68		10	1.7	0	
			$W_1$ 0.6 $W_S$ 0.4 $W_V$ 0							
756 m	Ca-AD		R1 MPDO, R2 MPDO R = 3	0.998	1.515	1.25	19	1.5	0	18.23
			$W_1$ 0.85 $W_S$ 0.125 $W_V$ 0.025							
	Ca-EG		R1 MPDO, R2 MPDO R = 3	0.998	1.68	1.29	20	1.5	0	
			$W_1$ 0.85 $W_S$ 0.125 $W_V$ 0.025							

$d_{001}$ : basal spacing of a given layer;  $N$ : mean number of layers;  $W_i$ : proportion of  $i$  layer; K: fixed K ions ( $O_{20}(OH)_4$ ) in illite interlayer; Ca-AD: Ca-saturated, air-dried; Fe: Fe content ( $O_{20}(OH)_4$ ) in octahedral sheet; Ca-EG: Ca-saturated, EG-solvated; RWP: residual factor; shaded area: junction probabilities; MPDO: maximum possible degree of order

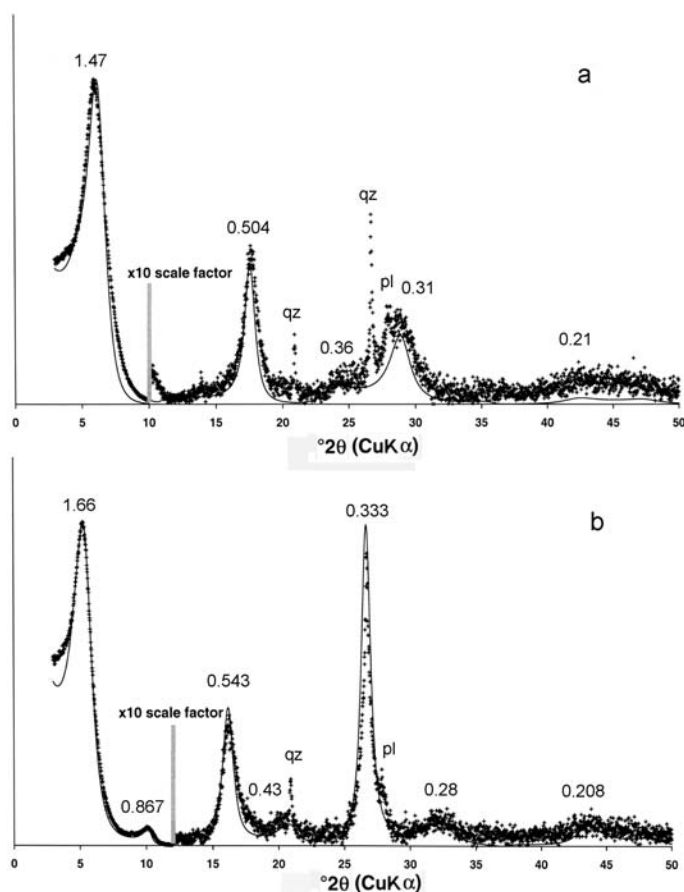


Figure 2. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 635 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. qz: quartz, pl: plagioclase. The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

estimated to be 0.1 in the air-dried state but was negligible when EG-saturated. In general, the  $W_V$  value tended to be equal at EG-solvated and air-dried states in most samples studied. In some samples, the  $W_V$  value for the EG-solvated state was smaller than that for the air-dried state (Table 2). The reason was not specified in the present study. In the 635 m sample, the I-layer percentage (% I) or  $W_I$  value determined by the present XRD analysis was underestimated in the order of  $\sim 10\%$  compared to that determined previously by a convenient saddle/peak ratio technique of Inoue *et al.* (1989) as shown in Table 1. The occurrence probability of an IS doublet ( $W_{IS}$ ) and SIS triplet ( $W_{SIS}$ ) increases to 0.23 ( $=W_I \cdot W_S$ ) and 0.15 ( $=W_S \cdot W_I \cdot W_S$ ), respectively, whereas that of an SS doublet decreases to 0.42 (Table 3) compared to those of the 435 m and 580 m samples. The mean number of layers is 15 in the air-dried and 10 in the EG-saturated states.

Sample 645 m (Figure 3) is a mixture of R0 and R1 ordered structures, of which the proportions are 80% and 20%, respectively (Table 2). The  $W_V$  value in the R0 phase was estimated to be 0.1, but that in the R1 phase was negligible when EG saturated. For the R0 phase, it is

noted that the occurrence probability of an II doublet increases and that of an SS doublet decreases, compared to those of the 635 m sample. For the R1 phase, the occurrence probabilities of II and SS doublets decrease, while those of IS doublets and SIS triplets increase remarkably (Table 3). The estimated mean number of layers is smaller in the R1 phase than in the R0 phase (Table 2). This relationship is distinct in the air-dried state, but becomes ambiguous in the EG-saturated state, as the mean number of layers is eight for the R0 phase and seven for the R1 phase.

Sample 690 m (Figure 4) is an R1 ordered structure with  $W_I = 0.55$ ,  $W_S = 0.4$ ,  $W_V = 0.05$  when EG saturated. The occurrence probabilities of  $W_{IS}$  ( $=W_I \cdot P_{IS}$ ),  $W_{IV}$  ( $=W_I \cdot P_{IV}$ ) and  $W_{II}$  ( $=W_I \cdot P_{II}$ ) were calculated to be 0.32, 0.03 and 0.20, respectively (Table 3). Compared to the R1 phase in the 645 m sample, the occurrence probabilities of the IS doublet and SIS triplet decrease and those of the II doublet, IIS triplet and IIIS quartet increase. The mean number of layers is 15 in the air-dried and EG-saturated states.

Structures of samples 700 m and 756 m (Figures 5 and 6) were determined to be R2 and R3 ordered

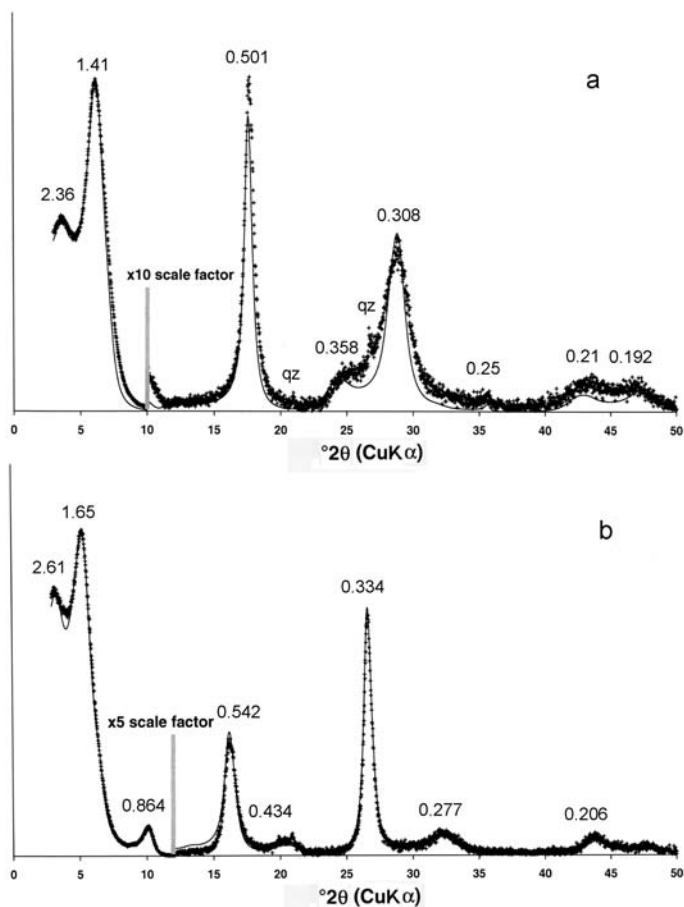


Figure 3. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 645 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. qz: quartz. The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

structures, respectively, assuming the arrangements of layers with maximum possible degree of ordering (MPDO) (Drits and Tchoubar, 1990). The proportion of V layer is negligible in the two samples. In sample

700 m, the conditions of R2 ordering with R1 MPDO,  $W_I = 0.6$ ,  $W_S = 0.4$  when EG saturated lead to  $P_{SS} = 0$  and result in  $W_{IS} (=W_I \cdot P_{IS}) = 0.40$ ,  $W_{II} (=W_I \cdot P_{II}) = 0.20$  and  $W_{SIS} (=W_S \cdot P_{SI} \cdot P_{SIS}) = 0.10$ . The occurrence prob-

Table 3. Occurrence probabilities of layers, layer doublets, triplets and quartets in I-S crystallites calculated from junction probabilities for EG-saturated samples.

Layer sequence	435 m R0	580 m R0	635 m R0	645 m		690 m R1	700 m R2	756 m R3
				R0	R1			
I	0.050	0.030	0.350	0.500	0.500	0.550	0.600	0.850
S	0.900	0.880	0.650	0.400	0.500	0.400	0.400	0.125
V	0.050	0.090	0.000	0.100	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.025
II	0.003	0.001	0.123	0.250	0.075	0.203	0.200	0.700
IS	0.045	0.026	0.228	0.200	0.425	0.320	0.400	0.125
IV	0.003	0.003	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.028	0.000	0.026
SS	0.810	0.774	0.423	0.160	0.075	0.060	0.000	0.000
III	0.001	0.000	0.043	0.125	0.011	0.075	0.050	0.576
IIS	0.002	0.001	0.080	0.100	0.064	0.118	0.150	0.103
SIS	0.041	0.023	0.148	0.080	0.361	0.186	0.100	0.018
VIV	0.041	0.000	0.000	0.005	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000
IIII	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.063	0.002	0.027	0.012	0.466
IIIS	0.000	0.000	0.028	0.050	0.010	0.043	0.037	0.110
SIIS	0.002	0.001	0.052	0.040	0.065	0.069	0.113	0.010
VIIIV	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000

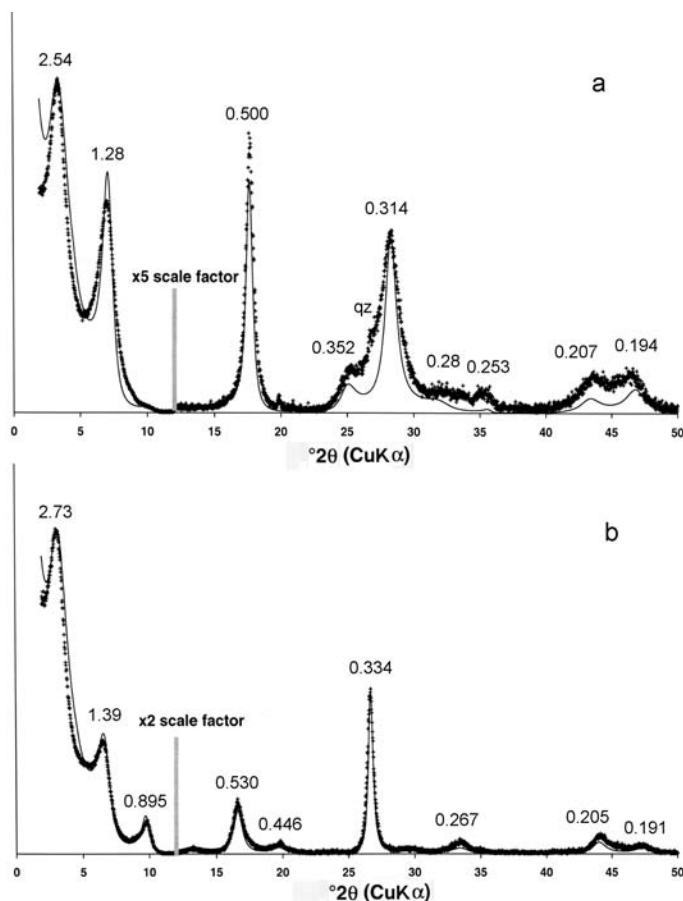


Figure 4. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 690 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. qz: quartz. The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

ability of an SIIS quartet ( $=W_S \cdot P_{SI} \cdot P_{SII} \cdot P_{IIS}$ ) is 0.11 in the 700 m sample (Table 3). The % I of the 756 m sample was underestimated in the order of 10% compared to the previous estimate (Table 1), probably due to different types of interlayer cations in the specimens used in the two XRD measurements. In the 756 m sample,  $W_{IS} = 0.13$ ,  $W_{II} = 0.70$  and  $W_{IV} = 0.03$ . The occurrence probabilities of an III triplet and an IIII quartet are extremely large compared to the other samples. The mean number of layers is 10 for the 700 m sample and 20 for the 756 m sample.

#### Alkylammonium exchange

The XRD profiles of the Kakkonda I-S series treated with  $C_{12}$ - and  $C_{18}$ -AL are illustrated in Figure 7. For comparison, XRD profiles of vermiculite and rectorite are given in Figure 8. The basal spacing of smectite increased from 1.38 nm for sample 214 m to 1.72 nm for sample 580 m for  $C_{12}$ -AL-exchanged samples and from 1.77 nm for sample 214 m to 1.9 nm for sample 580 m for  $C_{18}$ -AL-exchanged samples. The XRD peaks of AL-exchanged smectite appear to be single and symmetric, suggesting a relatively homogeneous charge distribution. The change in basal spacing corresponds to

the monolayer or bilayer arrangement of alkylammonium molecules due to increasing the mean layer charge (Lagaly, 1994). Extremely small  $d_{001}$  values (1.38 nm by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange and 1.77 nm by  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange) of sample 214 m are caused by the low-charged interlayer (Inoue *et al.*, 2004). Excluding the 214 m sample, the mean values of layer charge tend to increase with increasing depth or the formation temperature, but the extent of the increase is extremely small. The mean layer charge of expandable interlayer in Kakkonda smectite ranges between 0.3 and 0.4/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ , when the values were evaluated using the calibration curves of Olis *et al.* (1990). The Palabora vermiculite exhibited symmetric, rational series reflections of 2.3 nm by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange and of 3.1 nm by  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange (Figure 8). The basal spacing of the Palabora vermiculite is brought about by a paraffin type of arrangement of alkylammonium ions (see the definition of Lagaly, 1994) in high-charge interlayer with  $>0.75/O_{10}(OH)_2$  according to Olis *et al.* (1990). Although the XRD structure analysis recognized a maximum V layer of 9% in the air-dried state in the 435 m and 580 m samples (Table 2), a discrete vermiculite phase was not detected by the AL treatments.



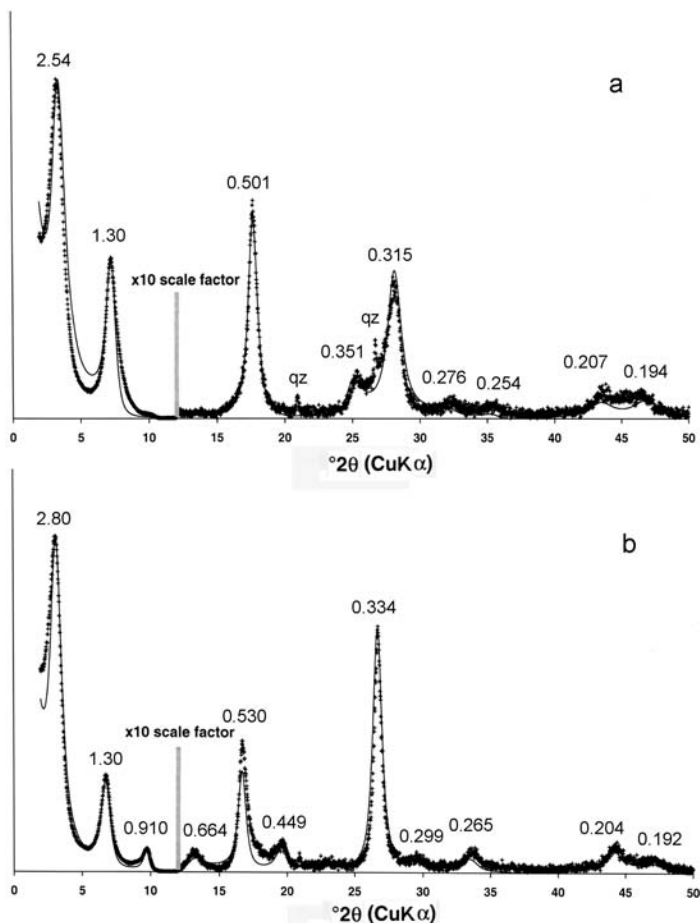


Figure 5. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 700 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. qz: quartz. The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

The 635 m sample has a R0, 35% I structure according to the present structure analysis. A major peak at 1.8 nm is associated with a broad shoulder around 2.3 nm by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange, while the two peaks shifted to 3.7 nm by  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange (Figure 7). Peak decomposition of the  $C_{12}$ -AL-exchanged sample gives two peaks at 1.8 and 2.0 nm (Figure 10). The 656 m sample with R1, ~60% I (Table 1) showed a 3.0 nm reflection for the  $C_{12}$ -AL-exchanged sample associated with the nearly rational higher-order reflections. The  $C_{18}$ -AL-exchanged 656 m sample showed a set of integral reflections of 3.3 nm (001), 1.65 nm (002) and 1.07 nm (003). The expandability behavior is similar to those of true rectorite samples from Goto and Ohara (Figure 8 and Lagaly, 1979), though the reflections of the 656 m sample become broader and greater in  $d$  value than true rectorite. I-S samples with >R3, >85% I (756 m and 919 m) showed a discrete peak around 1 nm in addition to peaks at 2.45 nm and ~1.2 nm by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange. The 2.45 nm peak is similar to that which appeared in the 635 m sample. The I-S samples with >R1, >60% I displayed a basal spacing of 3.3–3.6 nm and the rational higher-order reflections by  $C_{18}$ -AL

exchange, which is similar to the behavior of the 635 m sample but not similar to macroscopic vermiculite.

The Shinzan I-S series exhibited similar expandability behavior for  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange (Figure 9) and  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange (not presented) as functions of % I and Reichweite parameters to those of Kakkonda series mentioned above. Extra peaks by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange appeared at the low-angle side of the main peak of ~1.8 nm in all R0 samples from Shinzan. Peak decomposition of the Shinzan R0 and R1 phases, together with the Kakkonda I-S minerals, indicates that the position of extra peaks shifts gradually towards the  $d_{001}$  (2.8–3.0 nm) of R1 structure with increasing % I (Figure 10).

#### Li saturation

In the Li-saturation test, the layer charge arising from octahedral substitution in montmorillonite is neutralized by migration of Li ions on heating, whereas the charge arising from tetrahedral substitution in beidellite is not neutralized by the Li migration. As a result, 1.8 nm and 0.96 nm peaks after glycerol solvation are representative of beidellitic and montmorillonitic layers, respectively

(Wilson, 1987). The result of the Li-saturation tests (Figure 11) indicates that the proportion of beidellite component increases from ~0.1 in the 320 m sample to 0.55 in the 580 m sample and the 214 m sample contains ~0.2 of the beidellite component, which is consistent with the chemical analysis data (Table 1).

## DISCUSSION

### *Characteristics of component layers in I-S*

The one-dimensional XRD analysis of interstratification revealed that the Kakkonda I-S minerals are composed of three component (S, V and I) layers with variable proportions. The V-layer content is, in fact, very small throughout the I-S series. The optimized  $d_{001}$  value of the I layer is 0.998 nm and is similar to those for diagenetic I-S samples reported by Drits *et al.* (1997a) and Claret *et al.* (2004). Drits *et al.* (1997b) indicated that the  $d_{001}$  value of the I layer increases when the interlayer is occupied partly by  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ions. The  $\text{NH}_4^+$  ion was not detected in the Kakkonda I-S samples by preliminary Fourier transform infrared measurements (not presented). The K content of the I layer is invariably

$1.6 \pm 0.1/\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_4$  regardless of % I. The K content is smaller than that of the hypothetical end-member illite,  $1.8\text{K}/\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_4$ , which is extrapolated from a plot of fixed K content vs. % I using bulk chemical analyses of I-S minerals of various origins (Meunier and Velde, 1989; Lanson and Champion, 1991; Śródoń *et al.*, 1992). Particles of more illitic I-S samples (*e.g.* 756 m and 919 m samples) show a lath-shaped morphology (Inoue *et al.*, 2004). In general, the K content of illite is smaller in lath-shaped than in hexagonal particles (Meunier and Velde, 2004). The K content of illitic interlayer in I-S, as well as that in the end-member illite of smectite illitization, may warrant further discussion.

As for the response to alkylammonium exchange, the impurity illite present in the Goto rectorite sample did not expand with  $\text{C}_{12}\text{-AL}$  exchange. It is known that micaceous illites react very slowly with alkylammonium ions (Lagaly, 1994). If the illitic interlayer in I-S is non-expandable with  $\text{C}_{12}\text{-AL}$  exchange, sub-units of several I-layers such as III triplets and IIII quartets may behave as a segregated domain of illite present within a crystallite of I-S. This is related to the expandability behavior observed in  $\text{C}_{12}\text{-AL}$ -exchanged, 756 m and 919 m samples

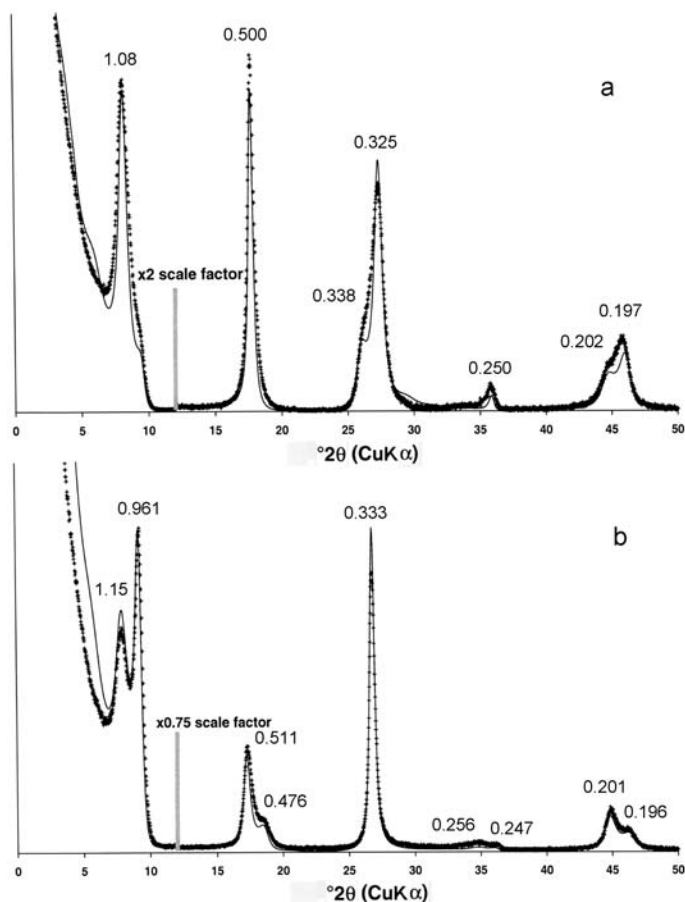


Figure 6. Comparison of experimental (+) and calculated (—) XRD patterns of sample 756 m under Ca-saturated, air-dried (a) and Ca-saturated, EG-saturated (b) conditions. The numerical values are the  $d$  values (nm) of the experimental patterns.

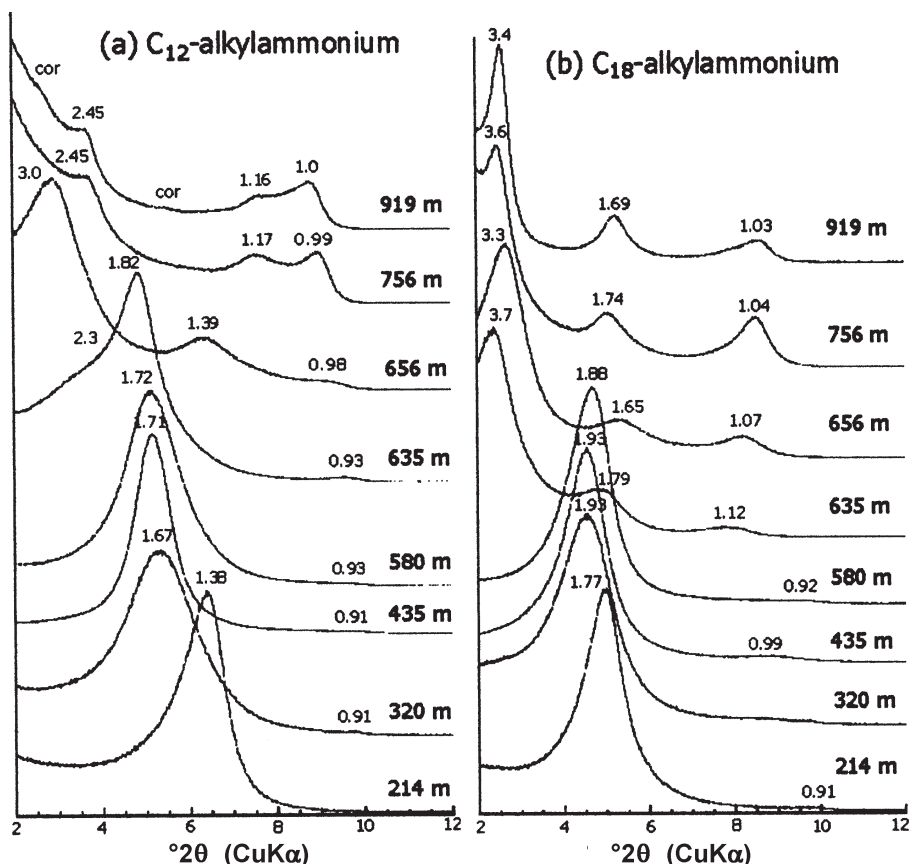


Figure 7. XRD traces of alkylammonium-exchanged specimens from Kakkonda I-S series: (a) dodecylammonium, (b) octadecylammonium, cor: corrensite.

(Figure 7). However, the illitic interlayer expands partly by  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange, and thus the  $C_{18}$ -AL exchange is inappropriate for the characterization of expandability of component layers in I-S minerals.

The S layer in the Ca-saturated Kakkonda I-S samples showed a constant expandability of 1.68 nm upon EG solvation and 1.52 nm upon air drying (Table 2). They also showed constant behavior for AL exchange so as to reflect the respective mean layer charges of 0.3–0.4/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ . As described previously, two peaks at 1.8 and 2.0–2.3 nm were observed in R0 I-S minerals (e.g. 635 m sample) by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange as well as in the Shinzan R0 I-S minerals (Figures 7 and 10). If the sample is a stack of layers with an homogeneous layer charge, the 1.8 nm  $d_{001}$  value of the major peak can be explained either by the transition of monolayer to bilayer or by that of bilayer to pseudotrimolecular layer; the estimated layer charge is 0.38 or 0.47/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ , respectively, according to Olis *et al.* (1990). The layer-charge values are less than those (<0.5/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ ) of fully expandable S interlayer, based on the data of Christidis and Eberl (2003). The second peak of 2.0–2.3 nm by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange corresponds to a range of layer charge, 0.56–0.71/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ , assuming the transition of bilayer to pseudotrimolecular layer. The

layer charge is classified into that of high-charge smectite (Christidis and Eberl, 2003) or vermiculite. The above assignment of  $C_{12}$ -AL-exchanged XRD peaks is inconsistent with the previous XRD results in which the 635 m sample consists of 35% of I layer and 65% of S layer. The I layer has  $\sim 1.6K/O_{20}(OH)_4$  and a non-expandable interlayer with  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange. Thus it is more likely that the 2.0–2.3 nm peak appearing by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange may be derived from random interstratification of IS doublets and S layers within the crystallites. A rough estimate for the 635 m sample predicts a peak generated from the random interstratification of IS and SS doublets to appear  $\sim 2.2$  nm ( $= (0.23/0.23 + 0.42) \times 2.8$  nm +  $(0.42/0.23 + 0.42) \times 1.8$  nm), assuming that the  $d_{001}$  value of an IS doublet is 2.8 nm ( $= 1.0$  nm + 1.8 nm), that of an S layer is 1.8 nm,  $W_{IS} = 0.23$  and  $W_{SS} = 0.42$ . This value is close to the observed one. As shown in Figure 10, the extra peak by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange shifts towards larger  $d$  values with increasing % I, in other words, with increasing proportion of IS doublet. This supports the above interpretation. The major 1.8 nm peak by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange is interpreted to be derived from the dominant smectitic interlayers.

The % I of 656 m I-S with  $R = 1$ , of which the % I was estimated to be 62% by Inoue *et al.* (2004), is

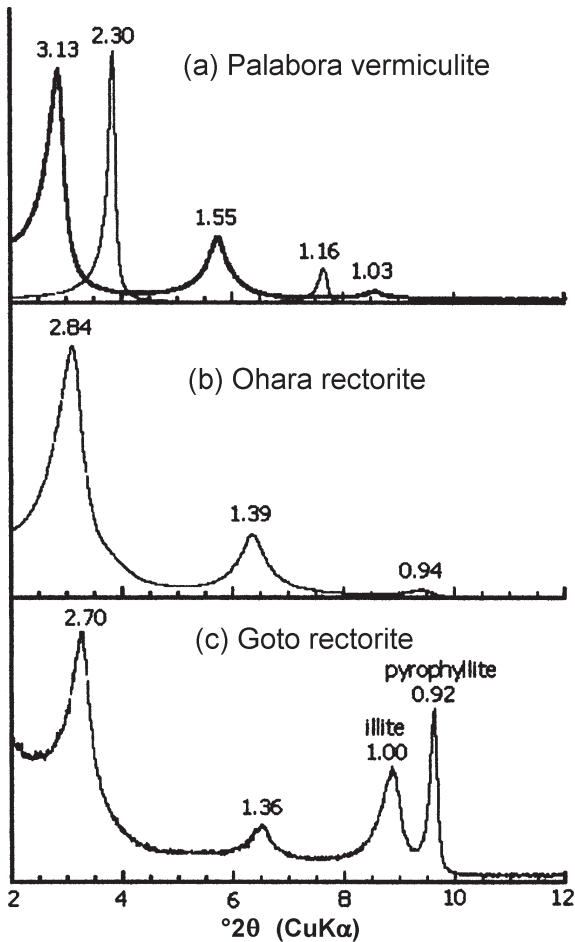


Figure 8. XRD traces of alkyammonium-exchanged vermiculite and rectorite. Thin and thick lines correspond to XRD after dodecylammonium ( $C_{12}$ ) and octadecylammonium ( $C_{18}$ ) exchange, respectively.

somewhat larger than 50% of perfectly ordered rectorite (*i.e.* the Goto and Ohara samples). The 656 m sample contains many more II doublets and IIS triplets in crystallites compared to perfectly R1-ordered rectorite, inferred from the XRD data of the 690 m sample and the R1 phase in the 645 m sample (Table 3). This results in deviation of peak position by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange from that of true rectorite, as shown by Lagaly (1979). The expandability behavior of >R3 I-S phases (*e.g.* the 756 m and 919 m samples) by  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange cannot be explained by the assumption of vermiculite layers because of their negligible amounts by EG saturation. Rather, the expandability behavior may be interpreted by random interstratification of several types of multiplets comprising abundant I layers and a few S layers. In conclusion, there is considerable variability in the response in expandability of the component layers in I-S, depending on the reagents used and the variability leads to ambiguity in the interpretation. We cannot obtain more accurate structural information on the AL-

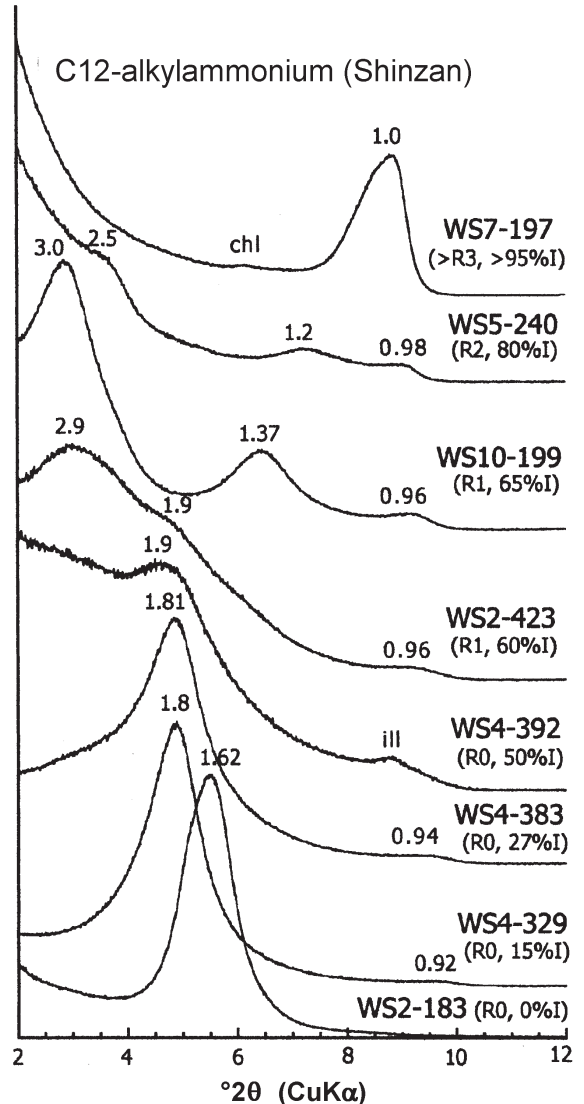


Figure 9. XRD traces of  $C_{12}$ -alkylammonium-exchanged I-S series from Shinzan. R and % I values are from Inoue *et al.* (1987). ill: illite, chl: chlorite.

exchanged I-S minerals because the detailed arrangement of intercalated AL ions in the interlayer sites is unknown. Nevertheless, it is emphasized that the  $C_{12}$ -AL exchange data, in combination with the structure data by usual  $H_2O$ - and EG-saturation, provide useful information on the stacking sequence of component layers in I-S crystallites as discussed below.

The Li-saturation test of Kakkonda smectite and R0 I-S reveals that the expandability behavior of the smectitic interlayer is independent of the beidellitic layers content, at least up to 0.5.

#### Layer stacking model of I-S

As mentioned previously, there are two models to describe the component layers constituting the I-S interstratification: non-polar and polar 2:1 layer models

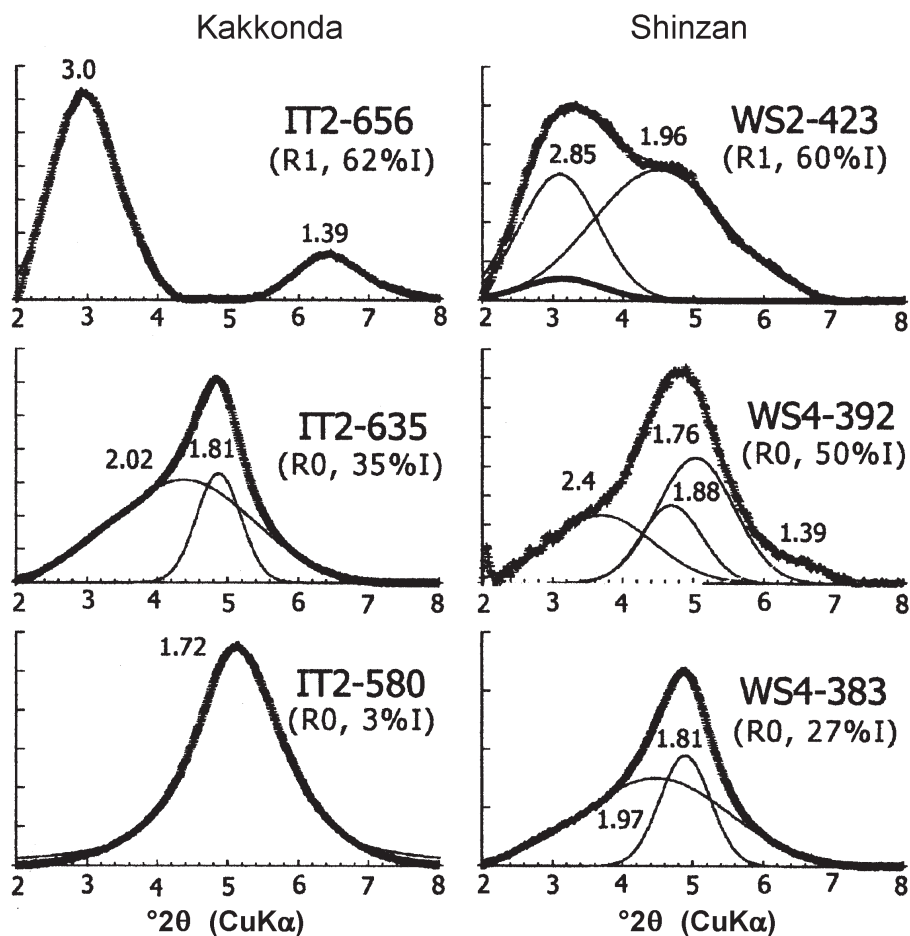


Figure 10. Decomposition of XRD patterns of  $C_{12}$ -alkylammonium-exchanged I-S minerals from Kakkonda and Shinzan. Each peak of the experimental curves (+), after subtracting the background, was decomposed by 1–4 peaks (thin curves) assuming a Gaussian shape.

(Altaner and Ylagan, 1997). Plançon (2004) demonstrated that there is no noticeable difference in simulated XRD patterns between the two models, unless the charge of the 2:1 layer is derived from the Si-Fe substitutions in tetrahedral sheets. This suggests that the structure parameters obtained in the present study may be applied to either the polar 2:1 layer model or the non-polar 2:1 layer model, though the latter model was actually used in the simulation. Previous NMR investigation of rectorite supports the polar layer model (Barron *et al.*, 1985; Altaner *et al.*, 1988; Jakobsen *et al.*, 1995). A first-principles calculation by Stixrude and Peacor (2002) demonstrated that the polar 2:1 layer structure has a total energy lower than the non-polar structure for rectorite. Lagaly (1979) explained the expandability behavior of alkylammonium-exchanged rectorite on the polar layer model scheme. In contrast to the polar layer model, in theory, three types of interlayer sites are expected within a crystallite of I-S with 2-component layers in the non-polar layer model: a low-charge interlayer behaved as smectite, a high-charge interlayer as illite and an

intermediate-charge interlayer as ‘vermiculite’, because the interstratification is composed of chemically homogeneous smectite and illite layers that are electrically neutral in each layer (Plançon, 2004). In fact, only negligible amounts of vermiculite layers were detected in the present XRD analysis of Kakkonda I-S minerals using the non-polar 2:1 layer model. Consequently, the interpretation of layer stacking in I-S minerals should be constructed consistently on the basis of the polar 2:1 layer model scheme regardless of % I values.

In order to describe the mode of layer stacking, we introduce a new symbol M, which is different from the Reichweite parameter. Following the polar layer model, and taking into account the occurrence probabilities of layer doublets, triplets and quartets (Table 3) and the expandability behavior by AL exchange, an I-S crystallite comprising several layers can be considered to consist of several types of sub-units (or modules) such as M0 (–SS–), M1 (–SIS–), M2 (–SIIS–), M3 (–SIIS–), ..., Mn (–SI...IS–), where S and I stand for the smectitic and illitic interlayers on the basis of the

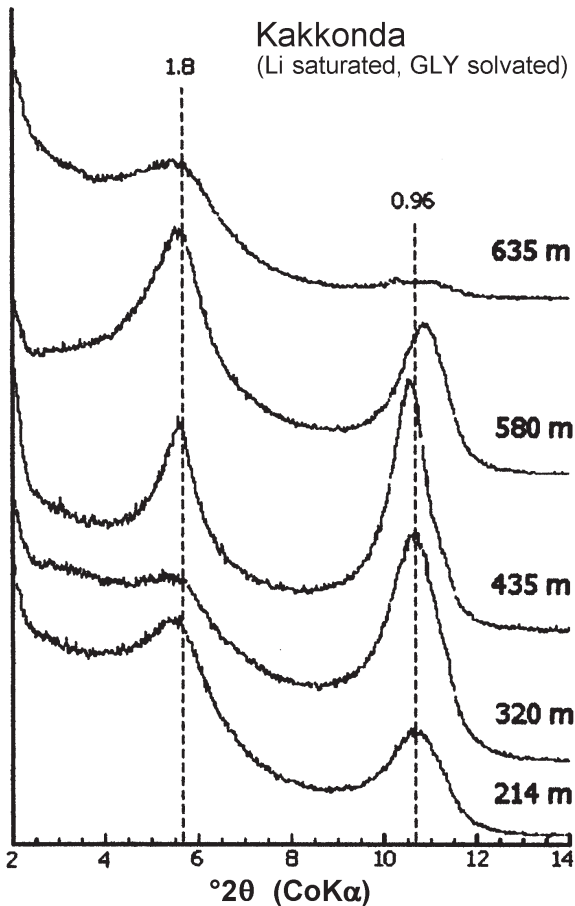


Figure 11. XRD traces of Kakkonda I-S samples after the Li-saturation test (Hofmann and Klemen, 1950).

polar 2:1 layer model. The  $-S$  and  $S-$  represent a half part of smectitic interlayer at the outermost surface and the  $n$  denotes the number of illitic interlayers sandwiched between two outermost smectitic surfaces. A similar model was applied to the interpretation of TEM images of I-S minerals by Bauluz *et al.* (2000). This module-stacking model may be useful in interpreting the XRD patterns of alkylammonium-exchanged I-S minerals as discussed above, as well as the HRTEM images (Murakami *et al.*, 2005). Since the ordering of I-S minerals (*i.e.* Reichweite) represents long-range ordering averaged over all layers that scatter X-rays, direct application of the module-stacking model to XRD data may be inappropriate at present. Nevertheless we infer that, for example, the occurrence probability of an IS doublet or a SIS triplet is related to that of M1 ( $-SIS-$ ) type of module within an I-S crystallite. The actual modes of layer stacking will be provided by the HRTEM observations of the AL-exchanged samples (Murakami *et al.*, 2005).

#### Transformation of I-S minerals

The Kakkonda I-S minerals studied here are constituents of sequential smectite illitization in hydrothermally

altered volcanic rocks as a function of temperature from 70 to 200°C (Inoue *et al.*, 2004). According to the present module-stacking model, the illitization can be described as follows. The smectite precipitated at temperatures of <140°C from solution through hydrolysis reactions of volcanic glass with meteoric water. This interpretation is supported by the textural observations and oxygen isotope measurements (Inoue *et al.*, 2004). The precipitate is a stack of the M0 type of module. The mean layer charges of product smectite (or M0 modules) are 0.3–0.4/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$ . The V-layer contents comprise 10% at most. The I-layer contents also are very small but occur as an M1 type of module in the crystallites with  $N < 10$ . As it is assumed that the composition of the original volcanic rocks and the water/rock ratio during the illitization are nearly constant at Kakkonda (Inoue *et al.*, 2004), the precipitation of modules is a function of temperature and fluid composition.

There are few occurrences of R0 I-S minerals in the studied drillhole (Inoue *et al.*, 2004). With temperature increasing only slightly to 154°C, an R0 I-S mineral with 35% I formed at 635 m depth. The mode of layer stacking in the 635 m R0 I-S sample may be described as a mixing of M0 and M1 units. The mean layer charge of smectitic interlayer increases slightly to 0.38–0.47/ $O_{10}(OH)_2$  but the K content of the illitic interlayer is constant at  $1.6 \pm 0.1/O_{20}(OH)_4$ . An I-S mineral with R1 ordering, ~60% I formed at 656 m (158°C) via the occurrence of a two-phase mixture of R0 and R1 structures at 645 m depth. The 656 m I-S mineral may be characterized by a mixture of dominant M1 modules and small amounts of >M2 modules, and a negligible amount of M0 module, inferred from the data of the 690 m sample. With further increasing depth and temperature, the R2 phase formed at 700 m (166°C) and the R3 phase at 756 m (175°C). The 756 m sample with R3, 85% I is characterized by a mixture of dominant >M2 sub-units with non-expandable illite domains. It does not contain M0 modules, and the amount of M1 module is negligible. The K ion content in the illitic interlayer of precipitating Mn ( $n \geq 1$ ) modules is systematically  $1.6 \pm 0.1/O_{20}(OH)_4$  at 70–175°C. The above transformation is described by a stepwise precipitation of various types of modules as a function of temperature, which is compared with the consecutive change in the Reichweite from R0, R1, R2 to R3. On the other hand, a model of stepwise smectite illitization process was inferred from the TEM investigation of both diagenetic and hydrothermal I-S samples (Dong *et al.*, 1997; Bauluz *et al.*, 2000; Masuda *et al.*, 2001; Tillick *et al.*, 2001; Yan *et al.*, 2001; Bauluz *et al.*, 2002). In their model, the transformation of smectite illitization is characterized by discontinuity from smectite  $\rightarrow$  R1 I-S  $\rightarrow$  illite without R0, R2 and R3 I-S, using the Reichweite parameter.

From another point of view, Drits *et al.* (1997a) noted from XRD study of pelitic rocks from the North Sea that

the proportion of V layers remained constant at levels of  $W_V = 0.04\text{--}0.08$  in the latest stage of illitization. They proposed a single interlayer transformation (SIT) mechanism *via* K fixation in the vermiculitic interlayer and succeeding transformation to illitic interlayer, which is equivalent to a layer-by-layer SST mechanism. In the Kakkonda I-S series, the V-layer content was very small as a whole and rather tended to decrease at the latest stages of illitization (Table 2). The 700 m sample has an R2 ordering, a phase considered to be relatively rare in smectite illitization (Inoue and Utada, 1983; Środoń and Eberl, 1984). It is expected that illitization by layer-by-layer SST mechanism produces R3 structure directly from R1 structure without passage *via* R2 structure (Drits, 1997). Thus the layer-by-layer transformation model *via* the formation of vermiculite layers is difficult to apply to the smectite illitization mechanism in hydrothermal alteration of volcanic rocks at Kakkonda. The transformation mechanism from R1 to R3 will be discussed in more detail based on the module-stacking model in part 2 (Murakami *et al.*, 2005).

## SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

In this study, we determined the one-dimensional layer stacking sequence of I-S including the quantification of occurrence probabilities of several types of layer-doublets, layer-triplets and layer-quartets, using an I-S series from hydrothermally altered volcanic rocks. Supplementary alkylammonium exchange and Li-saturation experiments, together with the above XRD data, provided information on the expandability and stacking characteristics of the component layers in I-S minerals. The results led to the following conclusions,

(1) The XRD analysis indicated that the smectite illitization in the Kakkonda I-S minerals series occurred with a consecutive change in the R parameter from R0 to R3 in the temperature range of 70 to 175°C.

(2) Some of the I-S minerals contained <10% vermiculite layers as the third component, but the content was small as a whole and tended to decrease with progressive illitization.

(3) The interlayer K content of the illite layer was  $1.5\text{--}1.7/\text{O}_{20}(\text{OH})_4$  through the illitization.

(4) The  $\text{C}_{12}$ -alkylammonium-exchange experiments indicated that the layer stacking of R0-type I-S minerals is composed of IS subunits and S layers, rather than individual I and S layers. The I layers within  $\geq R3$  I-S crystallites behaved as segregated domains for the  $\text{C}_{12}$ -alkylammonium exchange.

(5) The expandability behavior of smectite and R0 I-S is independent of the content of beidellitic layer at least up to 0.5.

Consequently, the layer stacking in I-S crystallites is consistently interpreted by introducing a new model in which the I-S crystallites consist of component modules such as M0, M1, ..., Mn based on the polar 2:1 layer.

The smectite illitization occurs with the appearance and disappearance of such modules as a function of temperature in hydrothermally altered volcanic rocks, but not by a layer-by-layer mechanism *via* K fixation in vermiculite layers. But it is apparent that the XRD results alone cannot assess the proposed model, and it must be ascertained by additional methods such as TEM investigation.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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