1	Revision 1
2	An advanced rotational rheometer system for
3	extremely fluid liquids up to 1273 K and applications
4	to alkali carbonate melts
5	Danilo Di Genova ¹ , Corrado Cimarelli ¹ , Kai-Uwe Hess ¹ , Donald B. Dingwell ¹
6	
7	¹ Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität
8	München, Theresienstrasse 41/III, 80333 Munich, Germany
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	* Corresponding author
19	Danilo Di Genova
20	e-mail: danilo.digenova@min.uni-muenchen.de
21	Tel.: +498921804218
22	Fax: +498921804176

23

ABSTRACT

24	A high temperature rhapmater equipped with a graphite furness, characterized by
24	A fingh temperature meonieter equipped with a graphite furnace, characterized by
25	an air-bearing-supported synchronous motor, has been enhanced by a custom-made Pt-
26	Au concentric cylinder assembly. With this adaptation, viscosity measurements of highly
27	fluid melts can be achieved at high temperatures, up to 1273 K.
28	Due to the air-bearing-supported motor, this apparatus can perform measurements
29	of extremely low torque ranging between 0.01 μ Nm and 230 mNm (resolution of 0.1
30	nNm), extending the typical range of viscosity measurements accessible in the present
31	configuration to $10^{-3.5} - 10^{3.5}$ Pa · s and shear rates up to 10^2 (OM) of sec ⁻¹ .
32	We calibrated the system with distilled water, silicone oils and the DGG-1
33	standard glass. We further present new data for the viscosity of Na ₂ CO ₃ , K ₂ CO ₃ and
34	Li ₂ CO ₃ liquids. Finally, a comparison between our results and literature data is provided,
35	in order to illustrate the effect of chemical composition and oxygen fugacity on the
36	viscosity of alkali carbonate melts, which serve as analogs for both volcanic melts and
37	molten systems of industrial relevance.
38	This study substantially improves the database of alkali carbonate melts and
39	dramatically increases the accuracy of previous measurement attempts. The very low
40	viscosity range data and the temperature-dependence also constrains very well the
41	activation energy of these highly fluid systems and confirms the estimate of the pre-
42	exponential factor for non-Arrhenian viscosity-temperature relationships.
43	
44	Keywords: viscosity, highly fluid melts, carbonatite, alkali carbonate melts, molten
45	carbonate fuel cells, MCFCs, high-temperature rheometry

46

47	INTRODUCTION
47	INTRODUCTION
48	Viscosity is a fundamental property influencing the fluid dynamics of natural and
49	synthetic systems. In recent years, the mobility of naturally-occurring and extremely
50	fluid, carbonatite melts, has attracted renewed interest (Liu et al. 2007; Jones et al. 2013
51	for a review). Such melts are considered to be the main transport agent of carbon from
52	the mantle to the crust and are thought to be intimately linked to the generation and
53	transport of kimberlites to the Earth's surface (Russell et al. 2012).
54	Due to the extremely low viscosity of these melts and their near ubiquitous
55	presence in the asthenosphere, carbonatite melts may play a crucial role in the relative
56	motion of tectonic plates, hence in the shaping of the Earth's crust (e.g. Hammouda and
57	Laporte 2000; Gaillard et al. 2008). Gaillard et al. (2008) proposed that high conductivity
58	values obtained for the asthenosphere would indicate the presence of small but significant
59	amounts of carbonate melt in the upper mantle.
60	From a planetary perspective carbonatite melts are believed to be involved, as
61	erosive fluids, in the formation of lava channels and valleys observed on Venus (Baker et
62	al. 1992; Kargel et al. 1994; Treiman 1995). The astonishing lengths of channel
63	landforms (up to 6800 km) and their fluvial-like shape, together with their longitudinal
64	continuity, suggest that Venusian lavas may have been characterized by extremely low
65	viscosities. As carbonatites are almost exclusively associated with alkali mafic and
66	ultramafic silicate melts on Earth (Baker et al. 1992 and references therein, Russell et al.,
67	2012), the two ultra-mafic and highly-potassic compositions (Venera 8 and 13 probes, see
68	Treiman 1995, and references therein) measured <i>in-situ</i> in the Venera 13 sample

3

12/9

69	(nephelinite) and by the Vega rover (Soviet Venera and Vega programs, 1981/5) provide
70	strong support for the presence of carbonatite melts on Venus.
71	Beyond their geologic and planetary science importance, carbonate melts are
72	assuming an increasingly important role in industrial processes. Lithium-, potassium- and
73	sodium- carbonate melts are employed as electrolytes in molten carbonate fuel cells
74	(MCFCs), which operate at high temperatures (~923 K), for the production of CO_2 -
75	emission-free electricity. For this reason MCFCs are considered one of the most
76	promising sources of green power production in the near future (Koishi et al. 2000).
77	However, it has been demonstrated that the physical properties of molten alkali
78	carbonates employed in the MCFCs affect the cell performances and durability (Reeve
79	and Tseung 1996 and references therein; Yoshiba et al. 2004). Consequently, a detailed
80	knowledge of the physical properties of molten alkali carbonates assumes a strategic
81	importance in view of future improvements and electricity generation capabilities.
82	It is therefore evident that accurate measurement of flow properties and in
83	particular the liquid viscosity is key to modeling the mobility of carbonate melts both in
84	nature and in industrial and technological processes.
85	Obtaining accurate viscosity measurements of these extremely fluid melts
86	involves several serious experimental challenges due to their high volatility, corrosive
87	action on crucible materials, as well as the very low torques to be expected in this
88	viscosity range.
89	To overcome these experimental limitations, we have customized a low-torque
90	and high-temperature commercial rheometer system to enable measurements on
91	extremely low viscosity melts. Here we present the calibration of the rheometer together

with the results of a viscosity study of different alkali carbonate melts, as a function of 92 temperature and oxygen fugacity at ambient pressure. We compare the obtained results 93 with literature values and discuss the effect of chemical composition on the viscosity 94 behaviour. 95 96 97 **INSTRUMENT DESCRIPTION** The measuring device consists of a controlled stress and strain rheometer, 98 99 incorporated air bearing-supports, and an electronically commutated (EC) synchronous motor. Fig. 1 shows the apparatus together with an illustration of both the synchronous-100 electronically-commutated (EC) motor and the measuring geometry used in this study. 101 102 In contrast to traditional controlled-strain rheometers involving rotational variable displacement transducers (e.g., Dingwell 1986), here the electrical current of the motor is 103 used as the measure of the torque. For this reason, a separate transducer measuring the 104 torque is obviated and the measured value is not influenced by the torque needed to 105

accelerate the motor (Läuger and Stettin 2010). The rheometer is air- and water-cooled to
protect and stabilise the electronics. All these features taken together yield rheological
measurements with unprecedented accuracy and precision.

Additionally, the motor, which is equipped with a permanent magnet on the rotor, is defined as a synchronous motor because the magnetic field in the stator rotates always at a speed proportional to the frequency of the applied voltage. This configuration allows the maintenance of constant motor characteristics, which prevents any drift of the registered signal and excludes any change in the relation between the applied electrical current to the motor and the measured torque. This feature represents one of the main

advantages of a synchronous motor in respect to classical drag-cup motor in performing
rheological measurements (Läuger and Stettin 2010).

Another peculiarity of the EC motor lies in the absence of mechanical contacts to excite the motor. In comparison with motors involving brush contacts to activate the rotor, this contactless solution provides several advantages, including: i) a higher reliability and lifetime of the motor, ii) a reduction of noise and iii) an overall reduction of electromagnetic interference.

122 Using the apparatus presented in this work it is possible to perform viscosity measurements characterized by very small torques of less than 0.5 mNm (which is 123 typically taken to be the lower limit of common mechanical commutation rheometers). At 124 125 the same time, this setup allows applying high torques (up to 230 mNm) for long times, thus enabling a continuous and wide dynamic range of measurements. 126 In order to perform viscosity measurements at high temperatures (up to 1273 K) 127 without the threat of reaction of sample with the viscometer materials, custom-made Pt-128 129 Au crucible and spindle have been fabricated (Fig. 1) replicating the original geometry

130 made out of steel. The measuring geometry consists of a concentric cylinder arrangement,

131 where the outer cylinder has a diameter of 24 mm and the gap between the two cylinders

is 1 mm. The furnace is an electrical resistance "convection temperature device" (CTD

133 1000), mounting a K type thermocouple positioned at the base of the measuring cup. The

134 chamber is cooled by water, while the sample is heated by convection and radiation of

heat produced by the heating elements. Finally, the geometry of the furnace is such to

136 allow for viscosity investigation under controlled gas flows including gas mixtures, such

12/9

	This is a preprint, the final version is subject to change, of the American Mineralogist (MSA) Cite as Authors (Year) Title. American Mineralogist, in press. (DOI will not work until issue is live.) DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.2138/am-2016-5537CCBYNCND	12
137	that partial pressures of active chemical components (e.g. oxygen fugacity) can be	
138	controlled.	
139		
140	INSTRUMENT CALIBRATION	
141	The instrument was calibrated in a broad viscosity (η)-shear rate ($\dot{\gamma}$)-temperature	
142	(T) interval. In particular, 53 calibration measurements were performed in the	
143	temperature range from 293 to 1273 K, at standard viscosity ranging between -3.33 and	
144	3.13 log Pa \cdot s, and shear rates from 0.5 to 70 sec ⁻¹ and using both the steel and Pt-Au	
145	assemblies. For the calibration both the steel and the Pt-Au assemblies were used. The	
146	investigated η - $\dot{\gamma}$ -T interval well overlaps with the interval relevant for volcanological and	d
147	industrially interesting carbonate and carbonatitic melts. For example, Norton and	
148	Pinkerton (1997) performed viscosity measurements of carbonatites from Lengai volcand)
149	(Tanzania) in the temperature range 773 to 923 K, applying different shear rates up to 30	
150	sec ⁻¹ . The measured viscosity ranged between 0.15 and 260 Pa \cdot s.	
151	The standard materials we used for the calibration are 1) distilled water, 2) a	
152	Newtonian silicone oil (viscosity standard Cannon N15000) and 3) a soda-lime-silicate	
153	viscosity standard glass (DGG-1, supplied by the Deutsche Glastechnische Gesellschaft)	•
154	Using DGG-1, we additionally check for thermal gradient along the crucible and/or shear	r
155	heating effect. The absolute error in temperature derived from the high-precision	
156	viscosity measurements is less than 3 K, therefore we consider this effect negligible.	
157	The calibration results are reported in Tab. 1 together with the certified viscosity	
158	values of the standards. The standard materials have been chosen to cover a wide range of	of

viscosities and temperatures against which the rheometer, equipped with both steel andcustom-made measurement geometries has been calibrated.

The measured viscosities for distilled water (using the steel assembly) are shown in Fig 2a as a function of time, temperature and shear rate. These measurements were performed at 303 and 333 K and at shear rates of 30, 50, 60 and 70 sec⁻¹. The measured viscosities range between -3.33 and -3.09 log Pa \cdot s, (0.463 to 0.807 mPa \cdot s),

165 respectively.

Before starting the viscosity measurement, the distilled water was stirred for 5 166 minutes in order to achieve thermal equilibrium of the entire system (water + steel 167 168 assembly). Additionally, due to the rapid water evaporation, the viscosity at the 333 K was measured at time intervals of 1 minute, whereas at 303 K the viscosity was measured 169 170 every 5 minutes. Measured viscosities at 333 K (Fig. 2a) are more scattered with respect to those at 303 K. This is because the sampling rate (1 min) at 333 K is probably too short 171 172 to obtain a stable value of viscosity. Despite the slight data scattering, the results match 173 very well the reference values of viscosity of distilled water at 333 K (Tab. 1). In order to 174 test the reproducibility of our results, the measurements were repeated 5 times. The precision in measuring the viscosity of water ranges between 0.001 and 0.008 log Pa \cdot s, 175 which corresponds to 0.3 and 1.9%, respectively. 176 Viscosity measurements of the Newtonian silicone standard (Cannon N15000) 177

were carried out at 298, 313, 323, 333, 353 and 373 K by using the Pt-Au spindle and

179 cup. The viscosity was measured at each temperature with 10 seconds sampling interval

180 for 5 minutes after waiting 10 minutes for thermal equilibration of the system. Moreover,

181	the reproducibility of our results was successfully verified by performing new viscosity
182	measurements decreasing the temperature from 373 to 298 K (see Tab. 1).
183	Viscosity measurements have been performed as a function of temperature at
184	different shear rates (5, 10 and 15 sec ⁻¹) showing values ranging between -0.42 and 1.58
185	log Pa \cdot s. The results are reported in Tab. 1 and shown in Fig. 2b as a function of time,
186	temperature and shear rate. As expected, viscosity decreases from 298 to 373 K and the
187	silicon standard exhibits a Newtonian behavior over the entire interval of temperature and
188	shear rate investigated. These results are in perfect agreement with the references values,
189	within $\pm 0.01 \log \text{Pa} \cdot \text{s}$.
190	Additionally, we also considered the possibility of viscous heating due to the very
191	high shear during viscosity measurements. The results showed that at high shear rate (100
192	sec ⁻¹) and at 15, 20, and 40°C a viscous heating effect was detected after few minutes (i.e.
193	an increase in temperature in the order of 0.2°C and a decrease in viscosity). For this
194	reason those viscosity measurements were not taken into account for the calibration of
195	the instrument.
196	Finally, the calibration of our device was augmented by performing high
197	temperature measurements on the DGG-1 soda-lime silicate standard glass. Initially, a
198	bubble-free glass was synthesized by melting the DGG-1 at 1773 K for 12 hours in the
199	Pt-Au cup using a Nabertherm box furnace. Afterwards, the bubble-free glass was
200	remelted in the rheometer furnace and heated to the target temperature. Finally the
201	spindle was immersed in the sample to the measuring position and allowed to thermally
202	equilibrate before starting the measurement. Viscosity measurements were carried out at
203	1273 K, the maximum temperature achievable with the rheometer furnace, for 80 minutes

204	at two different strain rates: 2.5 and 0.5 sec ⁻¹ . The average measured viscosity is 3.15
205	(±0.02) log Pa \cdot s, while the reference values is 3.17 log Pa \cdot s (Tab. 1).
206	Fig. 3 shows a comparison between the measured and the reference values. The
207	large data symbols span the error of the measurements and the 1:1 linear regression
208	agrees to within 0.004, 0.01 and 0.02 log unit for distilled water, silicone oil standard and
209	DGG-1, respectively.
210	To summarize, the calibration validates the use of this new rheometer for
211	viscosity measurements characterized by a high precision and accuracy. The
212	measurements can be carried out between ambient temperature and 1273 K, in a viscosity
213	range between -3.5 and 3.5 log Pa \cdot s.
214	
215	VISCOSITY MEASUREMENTS OF Na ₂ CO ₃ , K ₂ CO ₃ and Li ₂ CO ₃
216	As noted above, the viscosity of molten carbonates is of great importance in both
217	earth sciences and industrial processes. Notwithstanding their great importance,
218	knowledge of the physical properties of these melts is still far from complete, with many
219	of the available results being inconsistent having been apparently compromised by
220	experimental complications.
221	Janz and Saegusa (1963), Vorob'ev et al. (1966) and Sato et al. (1999) have
222	investigated the viscosity of lithium, sodium and potassium carbonate melts at/or near
223	ambient pressure. Sato et al. (1999) reported a comparison between the results obtained
224	from the different studies. According to these studies, within the investigated interval of
225	temperature (1016 - 1234 K), Li ₂ CO ₃ , Na ₂ CO ₃ and K ₂ CO ₃ melts exhibit Arrhenian
226	behavior.

12/9

227	Additionally, the viscosity data presented in Sato et al. (1999) and Vorob'ev et al.
228	(1966) are in good agreement, whereas a large discrepancy with the Janz and Saegusa
229	(1963) is observed.
230	Sato et al. (1999) observed a trend amongst the measured viscosities of the alkali
231	carbonate melts, in which the viscosity appears to be directly related to the ionic radius of
232	the cations. Nevertheless, the authors claim that two observed phenomena are difficult to
233	explain; 1) the reversal relation between the Rb ₂ CO ₃ and K ₂ CO ₃ viscosity and ionic
234	radius and 2) the similarity of viscosities of Li ₂ CO ₃ and Na ₂ CO ₃ melts.
235	We therefore performed viscosity measurements of Na-, K- and Li-carbonate (Fig.
236	4) to clarify the question of the relative viscosities of these melts and the validity of the
237	relationships presented in Sato et al. (1999). Firstly, in order to verify the chemical
238	stability of the carbonatite melts (e.g. decarbonization reactions), and the reproducibility
239	of measurements, the first measurement was performed at the highest temperature and
240	further measurements followed at 10 K intervals separated by cooling stages at 5 K min ⁻¹ .
241	The system was held at each temperature for enough time to obtain a stable value of
242	viscosity (i.e. minutes). Later, repeated viscosity measurements were performed at
243	temperature equal or very similar to the initial one. The comparison between the initial
244	measurements (during heating) and the last measurements (after cooling) shows no
245	changes of measured viscosity (see Table 2), indicating negligible influence of
246	decarbonization reactions on the viscosity measurements.
247	Viscosity measurements of Na ₂ CO ₃ , K ₂ CO ₃ and Li ₂ CO ₃ melts [from Merck,
248	purity \geq 99.9% (Na ₂ CO ₃), \geq 99.5% (K ₂ CO ₃) and \geq 99.0% (Li ₂ CO ₃)] were next carried
249	out in the temperature range of 1013-1213 K applying a shear rate of 20 sec ⁻¹ . The results

250	are reported in Tab. 2 and shown in Fig. 4 as a function of reciprocal absolute
251	temperature. The measured viscosities range between 3.6 and 14.2 mPa \cdot s, and are
252	reported in Fig. 4 together with a comparison with the results of Sato et al. (1999) and
253	Janz and Saegusa (1963). Moreover, our samples show absolute viscosities which are in
254	good agreement with those reported in Sato et al. (1999) and Vorob'ev et al. (1966) (see
255	Fig. 3 in Sato et al. 1999), while those measured by Janz and Saegusa (1963) are
256	systematically lower than those reported here and in Sato et al. (1999).
257	Our data exhibit Arrhenian behavior over the investigated interval of temperature
258	in accordance with the findings of Janz and Saegusa (1963) and Sato et al. (1999).
259	As data points follow an Arrhenian behavior, the measured viscosities can be
260	parameterized according to the following Arrhenian viscosity-temperature relationship:
261	
262	$\log \eta = A + \frac{B}{T} \tag{1}$
263	
264	where η is the viscosity in Pa \cdot s and T the absolute temperature. The fitting
265	parameters are reported in Tab. 3. Using this equation it is also possible to calculate the
266	activation energy of viscous flow [E _a , Tab. 3].
267	Calculated activation energies (27, 28 and 35 kJ mol ⁻¹ for K-, Na- and Li-
268	carbonate respectively) are comparable to those reported by Sato et al. (1999) and other
269	molten salts (Fig. 6 in Sato et al. 1999), while a big discrepancy can be observed with

data reported by Janz and Saegusa (1963). Indeed, data from Janz and Saegusa (1963)

show systematically higher activation energy of 70.71, 107.53 and 121.75 kJ mol⁻¹ for Li-

272 , Na- and K-carbonate respectively.

273

274

275	In the case of molten salts (where measurement of very low viscosities is
276	possible) the A parameter of Eq. 1 (the extrapolated viscosity at infinite temperature)
277	could be linked to a minimum relaxation time (for gases and liquids) via the Maxwell
278	relation ($\eta = G_* \cdot \tau_{S_s}$; where G_* is the shear module at infinite high frequencies and τ_S is
279	the shear relaxation time). The physical interpretation of the minimum relaxation time is
280	that of an average period of vibration of the liquid quasi-lattice of about $10^{-13.5}$ s. This
281	minimum relaxation time (in a first approximation) is supposed to be independent from
282	the composition of a liquid (Schmidtke et al., 2015). Angell (1989) found extrapolated
283	viscosity data at infinite temperature for a wide range of chemical compositions (from
284	oxides, silicates, metals to molten salts) varying only between -5 and -3 log η (Pa \cdot s).
285	Further, Russell et al. (2003) confirmed these values based on silicate melt compositions.
286	Values of the A parameter (Tab. 3) determined in this study vary between -3.8 and
287	-3.1 log η (Pa \cdot s); well within the values given by Angell (1989). On the contrary, the
288	measured viscosities from Janz and Saegusa (1963) extrapolate to a range between -7.9
289	and -5.8 log η (Pa \cdot s).
290	Therefore the results from Janz and Saegusa (1963) are not in agreement with the
291	implications of Maxwell theory and the experimental findings of Angell (1989) and seem
292	to be incorrect.
293	However, in contrast with the results presented in Sato et al. (1999), our viscosity

values for Li_2CO_3 are much higher (~3 times) than for Na_2CO_3 . This is therefore in

12/9

agreement with the theoretical behavior expected for lithium as function of thedimensions of its ionic radius (Sato et al. 1999).

Moreover, in Fig. 5 we plot the calculated viscosities for Na₂CO₃, K₂CO₃ and Li₂CO₃ melts at 1183 K ($10^4/T = 8.5$) as function of the ionic radius of cations. In doing so, contrary to how reported in Sato et al. (1999) we clearly show that there is a dependency of viscosity on ionic radius of the cation (i.e. viscosity of Li₂CO₃

higher than Na_2CO_3) and confirm that the theoretical predictions of Sato et al. (1999)

302 were correct.

303 Finally, we investigated the effect of reduced oxygen fugacity (pure CO_2 at 1 bar

pressure) on melt viscosity for the sodium carbonate melt (Tab. 2). Before starting the

305 viscosity measurements, the furnace has been previously flushed with a constant CO_2

306 flow for two hours. Then the target temperature was reached and the viscosity

307 measurements were performed. Fig. 4 shows that, under CO₂ atmosphere, higher

308 viscosity values were measured in respect to those obtained under oxidized conditions

309 (e.g. at 1173 K, η_{air} is 4.7 mPa \cdot s while η_{CO2} is 6.9 mPa \cdot s). This discrepancy in the two

values show that reduced conditions have a weak effect on the viscosity of alkali

311 carbonate melts probably due to the different (small) amount of thermodynamically

312 stable alkali oxide in the melt.

313

314

Implication and future prospective

Results presented in this study demonstrate the high value of this new adapted rheometric setup in performing high-accuracy and high-precision measurements, with particular emphasis on the rheology of melts at high temperature in general and more

12/9

318	significantly for melts that show extremely low viscosity. The importance of accuracy
319	and precision of the measurements is highlighted by the results obtained on Li-carbonate
320	melts that show for the first time a higher viscosity than Na-carbonate in agreement with
321	the theoretically derived viscosity behavior and validate the predictions of the
322	parameterization proposed by Sato et al. (1999). Our setup discloses future opportunities
323	in expanding the investigated dataset to cover the composition range matching the
324	carbonatite melt chemistry variation observed in nature.
325	
326	Acknowledgments
327	We acknowledge the Advanced Researcher Grant of the European Research
328	council (no. 247076; "EVOKES"). C. Cimarelli has been supported by an AXA Research
329	Fund grant. We like to thank J. Läuger, C. Montanaro and S. Kolzenburg for useful
330	discussions. We acknowledge one anonymous reviewer which considerably improve this
331	manuscript.
332	
333	References
334 335	Angell, C.A. (1985) Strong and fragile liquids. In relaxations in complex system, eds K. L. Ngai and G. B. Wright. National technical service US Department of Commerce.
336 337 338	Angell, C.A., Scamehorn, C.A., List, D.J. and Kieffer, J. (1989) Glass forming liquid oxides at the fragile limit of the viscosity-temperature relationship. From Proceedings of XV International Congress on Glass, Leningrad.
339 340	Baker, V.R., Komatsu, G., Parker, T.J., Gulick, V.C., Kargel, J.S., and Lewis, J.S. (1992) Channels and valleys on Venus - Preliminary analysis of Magellan data, 97.
341 342	Dingwell, D.B. (1986) Viscosity-temparature relationships in the system Na ₂ Si ₂ O ₅ -Na ₄ Al ₂ O ₅ . Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, 50, 1261–1265.

343	Gaillard, F., Malki, M., Iacono-marziano, G., Pichavant, M., and Scaillet, B. (2008)
344	Carbonatite Melts and Electrical Conductivity in the Asthenosphere. Science, 270,
345	1363–1365.
346 347	Hammouda, T., and Laporte, D. (2000) Ultrafast mantle impregnation by carbonatite melts. Geology, 28, 283–285.
348 349	Janz, G.J., and Saegusa, F. (1963) Molten carbonates as electrolytes: viscosity ad transport properties. Journal of the Electrochemical Society, 452–456.
350	Jones, A.P., Genge, M., and Carmody, L. (2013) Carbonate Melts and Carbonatites.
351	Reviews in Mineralogy and Geochemistry, 75, 289–322.
352 353	Kargel, J.S., Kirk, R.L., Fegley, B., and Treiman, A.H. (1994) Carbonate-Sulfate Volcanism on Venus? Icarus, 112, 219–252.
354 355 356	Koishi, T., Kawase, S., Tamaki, S., and Ebisuzaki, T. (2000) Computer simulation of molten Li ₂ CO ₃ -K ₂ CO ₃ mixtures. Journal of the Physics Society Japan, 69, 3291–3296.
357	Läuger, J., and Stettin, H. (2010) Differences between stress and strain control in the non-
358	linear behavior of complex fluids. Rheologica Acta, 49, 909–930.
359	Liu, Q., Tenner, T.J., and Lange, R.A. (2007) Do carbonate liquids become denser than
360	silicate liquids at pressure? Constraints from the fusion curve of K ₂ CO ₃ to 3.2 GPa.
361	Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology, 153, 55–66.
362	Norton, G., and Pinkerton, H. (1997) Rheological properties of natrocarbonatite lavas
363	from Oldoinyo Lengai, Tanzania. European Journal of Mechanics - B/Fluids, 9,
364	351–364.
365	Reeve, R.W., and Tseung, A.C.C. (1996) Factors affecting the dissolution and reduction
366	of oxygen in molten carbonate electrolytes. Part 1: Effect of temperature and alkali
367	carbonate mixture. Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry, 403, 69–83.
368 369	Russell, J.K., Giordano, D., and Dingwell, D.B. (2003) High-temperature limits on viscosity of non-Arrhenian silicate melts. American Mineralogist, 88, 1390–1394.
370 371	Russell, J.K., Porritt, L.A., Lavallée, Y., and Dingwell, D.B. (2012) Kimberlite ascent by assimilation-fuelled buoyancy. Nature, 481, 352–6.

Sato, Y., Yaegashi, S., Kijima, T., Takeuchi, E., Taman, K., Hasebe, M., Hoshi, M., and
Yamamura, T. (1999) Viscosities of molten alkali carbonates. Netsu Bussei, 13,
156–161.

375 376 377	Schmidtke, B., Hofmann, M., Lichtinger, a., Rössler, E. a., (2015). Temperature Dependence of the Segmental Relaxation Time of Polymers Revisited. Macromolecules 48, 3005–3013. doi:10.1021/acs.macromol.5b00204
378 379 380	Shannon, R. D. and Prewitt, C. T. (1969) Effective ionic radii in oxides and fluorides. Acta Crystallographica Section B Structural Crystallography and Crystal Chemistry. 925-946.
381 382 383	Treiman, A. H. (1995) Ca-rich carbonate melts: a regular-solution model, with applications to carbonatite magma + vapor equilibria and carbonate lavas on Venus. American Mineralogist, 80, 115–130.
384 385	Vorob'ev G.V., Pal'guev S.F., and Karpachev S.V. (1966) Electrochemistry of molton and solid electrolytes, vol. 3 (ed. A.N. Baraboshrin), p33 (Consultants Bureau).
386 387 388 389 390	Yoshiba, F., Morita, H., Yoshikawa, M., Mugikura, Y., Izaki, Y., Watanabe, T., Komoda, M., Masuda, Y., and Zaima, N. (2004) Improvement of electricity generating performance and life expectancy of MCFC stack by applying Li/Na carbonate electrolyte test results and analysis of 0.44 m2/10 kW- and 1.03 m2/10 kW-class stack. Journal of Power Sources, 128, 152–164.
391	
392	Figure captions
393	
394	Fig. 1 Sketch of the rheometer and the measuring geometry (concentric cylinder).
395	Additionally, a sketch of the furnace is also shown.
396	
397	Fig. 2 (a) Measured viscosity of distilled water, as a function of time (min.), at 303 and
398	333 K. The numbers in the figure show the employed strain rate (sec ^{-1}) during the
399	measurements. (b) Measured viscosity of silicone standard (Cannon N15000) as a
400	function of time. The measurements were carried out between 298 and 373 K, while the
401	numbers in the figure show the employed strain rate (sec ⁻¹) during the measurements.
402	

403 Fig. 3 Comparison between measured and reference viscosities. The viscosity measurements were performed between 298 and 1273 K, at different shear rates ranging 404 between 0.5 and 70 sec⁻¹. The error is smaller than the symbol size and the 1:1 linear 405 regression agrees to within 0.004 log unit for distilled water, 0.01 log unit for silicone oil 406 407 standard and 0.02 log unit for DGG-1 standard glass. 408 Fig. 4 Measured viscosity of Li₂CO₃ and Na₂CO₃ as a function of the reciprocal 409 temperature. In the figure it is also shown a comparison between the results obtained in 410 this study and the results presented in Janz and Saegusa (1963) Sato et al. (1999). The 411 412 error is smaller than the symbol size. 413 Fig. 5 Calculated viscosities for Na₂CO₃, K_2CO_3 and Li₂CO₃ melts at 1183 K (10⁴/T = 414 8.5) respect to the ionic radius together with data reported in Sato et al. (1999). The 415 416 viscosity was calculated using an Arrhenian viscosity-temperature relationship (Eq. 1) and fit parameters reported in Tab. 3. The error is smaller than the symbol size. 417 418

419 Figure 1



421

422 Figure 2



424



Table 1.

Viscosity data from standard materials as a function of temperature and shear rate.

Sample	Т	Shear rate	Measured log _N	Reference log _N	
	(K)	(sec ⁻¹)	(Pa · s)	(Pa [·] s)	
Distilled water	303	30	-3.095	-3.098	
Distilled water	303	50	-3.093	-3.098	
Distilled water	303	60	-3.099	-3.098	
Distilled water	303	70	-3.105	-3.098	
Distilled water	333	30	-3.328	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	50	-3.334	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	60	-3.328	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	70	-3.323	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	30	-3.325	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	50	-3.335	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	60	-3.329	-3.331	
Distilled water	333	70	-3.323	-3.331	
Cannon N15000	298	15	1.581	1.590	
Cannon N15000	298	10	1.581	1.590	
Cannon N15000	298	5	1.581	1.590	
Cannon N15000	313	15	1.059	1.063	
Cannon N15000	313	10	1.059	1.063	
Cannon N15000	313	5	1.060	1.063	
Cannon N15000	323	15	0.752	0.753	
Cannon N15000	323	10	0.752	0.753	
Cannon N15000	323	5	0.752	0.753	
Cannon N15000	333	15	0.472	0.470	
Cannon N15000	333	10	0.472	0.470	
Cannon N15000	333	5	0.473	0.470	
Cannon N15000	313	15	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	10	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	5	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	15	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	10	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	5	-0.013	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	373	15	-0.415	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	373	10	-0.415	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	373	5	-0.415	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	373	15	-0.414	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	373	10	-0.414	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	373	5	-0.413	-0.432	
Cannon N15000	313	15	-0.010	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	10	-0.009	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	5	-0.009	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	15	-0.009	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	10	-0.009	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	313	5	-0.009	-0.023	
Cannon N15000	333	15	0.479	0.470	
Cannon N15000	333	10	0.479	0.470	
Cannon N15000	333	5	0.479	0.470	
Cannon N15000	323	15	0.759	0.753	
Cannon N15000	323	10	0.760	0.753	
Cannon N15000	323	5	0.760	0.753	
Cannon N15000	313	15	1.068	1.063	
Cannon N15000	313	10	1.069	1.063	
Cannon N15000	313	5	1.069	1.063	
DGG-1	1273	0.5	3.131	3.173	
DGG-1	1273	2.5	3.135	3.173	
^a 100* (Measured viscosity – Calculated viscosity)/Calculated viscosity.					
21					

12/9

Table 2.

Viscosity data from standard materials as a function of temperature and shear rate.

Sample	Т	10 ⁴ /T	Measured log _n	Measured _n	
	(K)	(K)	(Pa · s)	(mPa · s)	
K ₂ CO ₃	1183	8.5	-2.420	3.80	
K ₂ CO ₃	1193 ⁻	8.4	-2.432	3.70	
K ₂ CO ₃	1203'	8.3	-2.444	3.60	
Na ₂ CO ₃	1153	8.7	-2.310	4.90	
Na ₂ CO ₃	1163 ⁻	8.6	-2.319	4.80	
Na ₂ CO ₃	1173'	8.5	-2.328	4.70	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1153	8.7	-2.173	6.71	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1173	8.5	-2.163	6.87	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1173	8.5	-2.175	6.68	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1173	8.5	-2.182	6.58	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1193	8.4	-2.187	6.50	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1193	8.4	-2.187	6.50	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1213'	8.2	-2.214	6.11	
Na ₂ CO _{3 (CO2)}	1213 ⁻	8.2	-2.214	6.11	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1013	9.9	-1.848	14.20	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1023	9.8	-1.866	13.60	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1033	9.7	-1.879	13.20	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1043	9.6	-1.889	12.90	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1053	9.5	-1.903	12.50	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1063 ^r	9.4	-1.907	12.40	
Li ₂ CO ₃	1073'	9.3	-1.917	12.10	
ⁱ first viscosity measurement.					

432

Table 3.

^flast viscosity measurement.

Fit parameters of experimental data according to the Eq. 1

	Α	В	lonic radius (pm) ^a	E _{a.} (kJ ∙ mol ^{−1})	
K ₂ CO ₃	-3.83 (0.02)	1671 (21)	151	32.0 (0.4)	
Na ₂ CO ₃	-3.37 (0.01)	1224 (13)	102	23.4 (0.3)	
Li ₂ CO ₃	-3.05 (0.08)	1216 (83)	59	23.4 (1.6)	
^a Shannon and Prewit (1969).					