

MULTIPLE IMPACT DEFORMATION OF THE PUŁTUSK H-CHONDRITE.

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Introduction: The Pułtusk meteorite is an H4-5 chondritic breccia. In spite of its moderate shock index – S3 [1], it registers complicated impact history. Based on HR-XCT and microscopic observation, as well as EMPA analyses of metallic veins, igneous-textured enclaves [*sensu* 2], impact melt clasts and darkened, cataclastic zones, at least three impact events may be identified.

Synaccretional impact I₁: Large, metallic veins are composed of ameboid, connected in 3D kamacite grains. Veins are depleted in troilite (2.9 vol%), and poikilitically enclose silicate clasts. Chondritic rock around the veins is rich (2.5 vol%) in large (up to 800 μm) merrillite and plagioclase (150 μm) crystals. Such mineralogy and texture suggest that Fe,Ni-metal was unmixed from impact melt and incorporated into the partly equilibrated chondritic rock. When metal cooled slowly, phosphorous reacted with the silicates and formed merrillite. Postimpact increase in temperature explains coarse grained textures of igneous enclaves – products of fractionation and crystallization of silicate melt. Veins, phosphates and enclaves testify for synaccretional impact into parent body. Probably, I₁ is the same event as impact (~4.5 Ga) identified in Kernouvé [3], and Portales Valley [4].

Postimpact fluid activity: Two chemical types of apatite occur in Pułtusk: (1) small, equilibrated chlorapatite grains in the host rock (5.1 ± 0.8 wt% of Cl) and (2) Cl- and F- apatite with strong negative correlation of Cl and F (1.5 – 6.5 wt% of Cl and 0 – 3.3 wt% of F), overgrown with the large, postimpact I₁ merrillite grains. The two types suggest two episodes of fluidisation [5]. At the second one, after I₁ event, fluid fractionation occurred.

3.7 Ga impact I₂: Impact melt rock is minor part of the Pułtusk. It cooled with rate of ~15 °C/s – was quenched near the surface of the parent body. As the gas retention age of clasts is ~3.7 Ga [6] - similar to other H-chondrite impact melt breccias [e.g. 7, 8], I suggest that they were formed in large impact event I₂, which had place not so far from I₁ crater. Clasts were thrown from I₂ crater and incorporated into the post-I₁ rocks.

Oblique collision I₃: The most prominent in Pułtusk are cataclastic zones with pseudotachylytes and microfaults [9] cutting all the products of former impacts. As Pułtusk is weakly shocked (S3), observed high strain-rate shear deformation is related to oblique collision [9, 10, 11]. More evidence for shear-dominated impact comes from Pułtusk magnetic fabric [12]. In cataclastic zones of Pułtusk, CM2.6 xenoliths occur. They are hydrated and weakly shocked, like other CM xenoliths in H chondrites [13] but ductily sheared along with the host. They might have been incorporated during I₃, oblique collision of H and CM-like bodies.

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