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12.001 Introduction to Geology Spring 2008

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Fluorite CaF₂ Halides
Halite NaCl
Sylvite KCl

halite x 2

fluorite x 2

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sylvite

KCI - NaCI

Data from FTsalt - FACT salt databases



Carbonates

- Second most abundant group in the Earth's crust
- Major component of limestone, marble, carbonatites
- Three major minerals:
 Calcite: CaCO₃
 Aragonite: CaCO₃
 Dolomite: (Ca,Mg)CO₃

calcite

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aragonite x 2



Figure by MIT OpenCourseWare.

Fig. 3.12



Aragonite is the high-pressure polymorph of calcite, but it is also found in shells, hot springs, and cave deposits

Phosphates

Apatite: $Ca_5(PO_4)_3S$

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apatite on calcite

70% of bone is made of "hydroxyapatite:" apatite, calcite, fluorite, calcium hydroxide; 90% of tooth enamel consists of this

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TEM image showing apatite nano-crystals in a well-preserved dinosaur bone. Huifang Xu, Madison

Sulfates

barite

anhydrite

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gypsum, gypsum, growing in mud

Sulfides

PyriteFeS2GalenaPbS

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Oxides and hydroxides

 Fe_2O_3

 Al_2O_3

 Fe_3O_4 Magnetite Hematite Corundum

magnetite

hematite x 2

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corundum x 2