

1 Predicting iodine solubility at high pressure in borosilicate nuclear waste glasses using optical
2 basicity: an experimental study

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31 Abstract

32 Constraining the systematic evolution of iodine solubility in borosilicate glasses is required
33 for the formulation of adequate glass matrices able to immobilize ^{129}I representing a major
34 troublesome radioisotopes produced by nuclear anthropic activities.

35 We investigated experimentally the change in iodine solubility in a large series of borosilicate
36 glasses synthesized under high-pressure conditions (1.5 GPa) and at 1350°C. The nature of
37 network modifying cation (Na, K, Rb, Ca, Ba and Sr) and the concentration of B_2O_3 ($\sim < 10$
38 mol.% and $\sim > 10$ mol.%) have been tested. The XPS measurements showed that iodine
39 speciation in glasses is mostly represented by iodide (I^-) for a range of iodine solubility from
40 0.3 to 3.1 mol.% as determined by SEM EDS and LA-ICP-MS analyses.

41 The iodine solubility is enhanced in glasses with lower B_2O_3 content and with a higher
42 concentration in network modifying cation. Regardless of the cation nature: alkali or alkaline-
43 earth; increasing the cation size appears to induce a decrease in iodine solubility.

44 We used the optical basicity (Λ_{Glass}) and iono-covalent parameter ($\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$) to express the
45 large variety of investigated glass compositions; both relating to the electron donor capability
46 of the glass. We show that iodine solubility is positively correlated to Λ_{Glass} and accordingly
47 negatively correlated to $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$. It implies that more iodine will be dissolved in glass
48 compositions having a stronger electron donating capability. Evidence of the relationship
49 between iodine solubility and oxygen network is shown by the iodine solubility positive trend
50 with equilibrium constant of the oxygen speciation. Future work should take these parameters
51 into consideration for modeling iodine solubility in borosilicate glasses providing additional
52 information are collected such as the boron, aluminum and silicon speciation in glasses.

53 Keywords: iodine solubility, optical basicity, high-pressure, nuclear waste

54

55 1. Introduction

56 In the many radioactive elements produced by anthropic nuclear sources, iodine (I) is one
57 important volatile element representing a serious problem in the effort for the immobilization
58 of radioactive wastes [1–5]. One particular isotope (^{129}I) requires a special attention because
59 of 1) its long half-life (>15 Ma) and 2) its high mobility and volatility in environment [3, 6,
60 7]. Currently, several academic studies aim at developing durable conditioning matrices for
61 this radioisotope but no ideal industrial solution has emerged for immobilizing it in a
62 permanent and safe manner [8–17]. Although alternative surrogates have been recently
63 suggested with phosphate glasses [18, 19], the immobilization of radioactive elements is often
64 achieved in aluminoborosilicate glasses synthesized at ambient pressure, high-temperature
65 and representing a good compromise that 1) will contain high concentration in radioactive
66 elements to reduce the disposal space; 2) will be stable through time; 3) will not be damaged
67 by radiation and heating; 4) will present high chemical durability [20–24]. However, owing to
68 the high iodine volatility this protocol cannot retain efficiently ^{129}I radioisotopes that will
69 escape from the melt to the atmosphere. Previous works [25–27] showed that the iodine
70 solubility does not exceed 0.7 mol.% I in that case.

71 Recent investigations [28–30] demonstrate that the use of high-pressure synthesizing protocol
72 of aluminoborosilicate glasses can circumvent this lack of iodine dissolution. For instance,
73 Jolivet et al.[30] reached iodine solubility of 1.3 and 2.5 mol.% I in International Simple
74 Glass (ISG, [31]) and typical Low Activity Waste glass (LAW, [32]) synthesized at 1.5 GPa,
75 respectively. More recently, Morizet et al. [33] showed that the iodine solubility could be
76 further increased by using highly oxidizing conditions promoting the formation of iodate
77 species (I^{5+}) within the glass structure. Regardless, the strong increase in the iodine solubility
78 is ascribed to the increase in thermodynamic activity of the fluidic iodine in equilibrium with
79 the melt phase upon pressure [30, 34, 35]. Although, this represents a major breakthrough in

80 the race for immobilizing efficiently iodine radioisotopes, we still lack a clear fundamental
81 understanding on how iodine behave as a function of glass composition. At given intensive
82 conditions, the systematic evolution of iodine solubility as a function of glass composition is
83 currently poorly known.

84 Up to now, subsequent experimental investigations showed that iodine is sensitive to 1) the
85 presence of alkali cations in the glass [25–27, 36] and 2) the presence of boron (B_2O_3 , [28–
86 30]). For simplified aluminoborosilicate glass compositions, McKeown et al. [27] and more
87 recently Morizet et al. [37] demonstrate that iodine dissolved as I^- is surrounded preferentially
88 by Na^+ cations for charge compensation, however, it appears that Ca^{2+} can also play this role
89 but to a lower extent. The formulation of a reliable nuclear waste glass matrix extends well-
90 beyond the case of Na and Ca. For example, the SON68 glass composition used in France for
91 immobilizing High Activity nuclear waste is composed of more than 25 different oxides [38].
92 The role of each element in glasses is fairly apprehended: either network former, or charge
93 compensating cation for network species with excess negative charges (e.g. AlO_4^-), or
94 network modifying cations. The latter category regroups number of element ranging from
95 alkalis (Na^+ , K^+ , Li^+ , Rb^+), alkaline-earth (Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} , Ba^{2+} , Sr^{2+}), rare-earth elements (La^{3+} ,
96 Yb^{3+}), Bi^{3+} and others. These are supposed to be the elements that are mobilized for charge
97 compensating the I^- species as the charge compensating cation is tightly associated with the
98 network species having excess negative charges and there is no exchange between oxygen and
99 iodine atoms in network units [37]. As mentioned earlier the effect of Na^+ and Ca^{2+} on iodine
100 solubility is fairly understood; however, for the other elements we have virtually no
101 information.

102 As a result, there is a need for additional experimental investigations aiming at determining
103 systematically the change in iodine solubility as a function of glass composition in order to
104 propose the most adequate aluminoborosilicate glass formulation that can serve as a matrix

105 for the immobilization of ^{129}I radioisotopes. In the present work, we have investigated the
106 change in iodine solubility as a function of glass composition involving different alkalis or
107 alkaline-earth elements. Syntheses were done under high-pressure conditions with a I_2 fluid
108 phase as a source of iodine; and, as expected, iodine speciation is represented by iodide
109 species (I^-). The results are interpreted in terms of electrochemical parameters (optical basicity
110 and iono-covalent parameter) that traduce the glass composition. We propose a discussion and
111 some recommendations for future work to model iodine solubility and formulate an adequate
112 aluminoborosilicate glass matrix for the immobilization of ^{129}I .

113

114 2. Experimental methods

115 2.1. Starting materials

116 Three series of aluminoborosilicate glass compositions were investigated in the present work.
117 We cover a wide range of compositions having a common basis: $\text{SiO}_2\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-B}_2\text{O}_3$; completed
118 by various elements acting as network modifying or charge balancing cations: Na_2O , K_2O ,
119 Rb_2O , CaO , BaO and SrO . The first series consists in several glasses with a single network
120 modifying cation either Na, K or Rb for alkalis or Ca, Ba, Sr for alkaline-earth elements.
121 Within this group series, we prepared two different compositions: one with higher B_2O_3
122 content ($\text{B}_2\text{O}_3 > 10 \text{ mol.}\%$) than the other ($\text{B}_2\text{O}_3 < 10 \text{ mol.}\%$). The glass composition for this
123 series with single network modifying cation is shown in the Table 1 for volatile-free glass
124 synthesized at ambient pressure. The second glass series is composed of several Na-rich
125 aluminoborosilicate glasses investigated in Jolivet et al. [39]: BASN3, BASN4, LJ4b (Al-
126 free) and LJ8. Two additional compositions have been prepared, $\text{Na}_{20}\text{Ca}_{15}\text{B}_{10}\text{Bi}_0\text{-vf}$ and
127 $\text{Na}_{30}\text{Ca}_{10}\text{B}_{10}\text{Bi}_0\text{-vf}$, with the purpose of having an Iono-Covalent Parameter [40, 41] close
128 to 1.00 and 0.96, respectively. These compositions have a mixture of CaO and Na_2O for the

129 network modifying or charge balancing cations. The third glass series corresponds to the first
130 one in which a small amount of Bi_2O_3 (up to 4 mol.%) has been added.

131 The sample notation is the following: Ca20B20Bi0 that stands for the I-bearing pure Ca
132 composition with higher B_2O_3 content and without Bi_2O_3 ; Ca30B10Bi3 stands for the I-
133 bearing pure Ca composition with lower B_2O_3 content and with Bi_2O_3 . The numbers in the
134 sample name correspond to the targeted mol.% for each oxide. It should be noted that I-free
135 glass synthesized at ambient pressure are reported in Table 1 and that the extension -vf is
136 added to the sample name for simplicity; on the other hand, the I-bearing glass synthesized
137 under high-pressure conditions are given in Table 2. For glass compositions from Jolivet et al.
138 [39]: BASN3, BASN4, LJ4b (Al-free) and LJ8; we added the extension -vf and -I for I-free
139 and I-bearing glasses in Table 1 and 2, respectively. Although, a potential industrial process is
140 proscribed at pressure conditions of 1.5 GPa, this investigation has multiple objectives in the
141 fundamental understanding of iodine behavior in aluminoborosilicate glass: 1) determine if
142 iodine has higher affinity for one cation or another, 2) determine if the ratio between network
143 modifier and network former cations impacts on the iodine solubility and 3) determine the
144 influence of heavy Bi_2O_3 on iodine solubility.

145 The investigated glass compositions were prepared from a mixture of oxides (SiO_2 , B_2O_3 ,
146 Al_2O_3 and CaO) and carbonates (Na_2CO_3 , Rb_2CO_3 , BaCO_3 and SrCO_3). We used spec pure
147 oxide and carbonate powders that were mixed under ethanol in an agate mortar. Prior to high-
148 pressure experiments, the I-free starting material powders were melted at 1200°C in a Pt
149 crucible. After 1h melting, the starting material is quenched to a glass by dropping the Pt
150 crucible in a cold-water bath. Only one melting has been conducted in order to reduce the
151 possible loss of alkali or boron oxides.

152 We loaded the sample powder into 2.9 mm outer diameter Pt capsule. The iodine was loaded
153 as solid I_2 at the bottom of the capsule prior to add the glass powder. We prepared a mixture

154 with 0.01 g of I₂ and 0.04 g of glass powder that corresponds to ~10 mol.% I in the starting
155 composition. The Pt capsule is then welded shut using arc-welder at both ends. Our current
156 knowledge [30] indicates that the amount of loaded I₂ is sufficient to insure oversaturation
157 and I₂ should be in excess in the fluid phase during the experiments. For the Bi-bearing
158 sample series, the Bi-free glass powder was mixed with a small amount of Bi₂O₃ to reach 3 to
159 4 mol.% Bi₂O₃ in the collected I- Bi-bearing glass after the experiment.

160 2.2. High-pressure syntheses

161 The high-pressure I-bearing glasses were synthesized using end-load type piston-cylinder
162 apparatus (LPG Nantes). We used the same pressure and temperature conditions for all the
163 experiments: 1.5 GPa, 1350°C and for run duration of three hours insuring equilibrium to be
164 reached and comparison between the experimental results. The experiments were done using
165 ¾ inch talc-Pyrex assemblies and straight walls graphite furnace. Capsules are placed inside
166 Magnorite© ceramics preventing from a contact to the graphite furnace. Owing to the small
167 capsule diameter, two capsules are placed in the middle of the assembly; hence, both capsules
168 are experiencing the same intensive conditions (e.g. Na₃₀Ca₁₀B₁₀Bi₀ along with
169 Na₂₀Ca₁₅B₁₀Bi₀). The protocol to reach final pressure and temperature conditions is
170 described in previous works (e.g. [30, 42]): 1) increase in pressure to 1 GPa, 2) increase in
171 temperature to ~550°C for high-pressure assembly relaxation and compaction, 3) increase in
172 pressure to 1.5 GPa, and 4) increase in temperature to 1350°C. During the experiment, the
173 pressure is controlled automatically by a Stigma© needle pump; temperature is controlled by
174 a Eurotherm. The latter is accurate to ±1°C that is connected to a type B thermocouple (PtRh₆-
175 PtRh₃₀). Due to internal frictions, we applied a 10% correction to the pressure. Experiments
176 are stopped by cutting-off the power. The quench rate from 1350°C to room temperature is
177 ~100°C/s in the first 500°C. The quench is performed isobarically to prevent the formation of
178 bubbles that could distribute throughout the resulting glass.

179 The recovered samples consist in a colored (i.e. pink to brown) glass entirely coated with dark
180 coating that appears to be iodine residue. This residue implies that iodine in the fluid phase
181 was distributed throughout the experimental charge and it implies also that iodine was loaded
182 in excess prior to the experiment. We removed the excess iodine by dripping the glass pieces
183 into ethanol and then placing in a drying oven for a few minutes. Microscopic observation did
184 not reveal the presence of unwanted crystalline phases. It should be pointed out that several
185 experiments were replicated (e.g. Rb20B20Bi0-r is a replicate experiment of Rb20B20Bi0;
186 see Table 2) for insuring that measured I content is consistent, fully replicable, and not stained
187 by analytical bias.

188 2.3. Scanning Electron Microscopy with Energy Dispersive Spectrometer

189 We used Scanning Electron Microscopy with Energy Dispersive Spectrometer (SEM EDS) to
190 characterize the recovered glasses for major element and iodine concentrations. Glass chips
191 were mounted into epoxy resin plugs and subsequent polishing was done to 1 μm .
192 Measurements were conducted on a JEOL JSM 5800LV SEM (IMN Jean Rouxel), equipped
193 with a SDD SAMx dispersive spectrometer. The analytical conditions were 15 kV for voltage
194 and 0.5 nA for current. We conducted the acquisitions on a 20 μm spot size to avoid alkali (K,
195 Na and Rb) loss under the electron beam. Five scans of 1 min were collected on each sample
196 at different location on the glass chip.

197 We used the following internal standards for quantifying the elements: corundum for Al_2O_3 ,
198 wollastonite for SiO_2 and CaO , NaCl for Na_2O , BaF_2 for BaO , SrF_2 for SrO , KCl for K_2O ,
199 RbI for Rb_2O and I , Bi metal for Bi_2O_3 . We did not measure the B_2O_3 present in the
200 borosilicate glasses as it is not reliably quantified using SEM EDS due to the low boron
201 molecular mass. Based on the replicated measurements, we obtain an uncertainty on major
202 element measurements that is better than 5% in relative to the value and comparable to the
203 error reported in previous works on the same analytical equipment [30, 39]. For the particular

204 case of iodine, the typical error bar based on replicated measurement is ± 0.2 mol.%. Data in
205 mol.% are provided in Table 1 for I-free glasses and in Table 2 for I-bearing glasses along
206 with the error that is calculated from the standard deviation of the replicated measurements.
207 The reported error pictures the homogeneity in the element distribution; however, we
208 observed slight heterogeneity in the major element concentrations for Ba₃₀B₁₀Bi₀-vf
209 exhibiting larger error bars than for the other glasses.

210 2.4. Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry

211 The B₂O₃ and I contents is determined using a Laser Ablation-Inductively Coupled Plasma-
212 Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS, LPG Nantes). The spectrometer is an ArF excimer laser
213 (193 nm, Analyte G2, Photon Machines) that is coupled to a quadrupole ICP-MS (Varian
214 Bruker 820-MS). The ablation is performed in a HelEx II 2-Volume Cell with He as carrier
215 gas. We used a laser energy density of 4.54 J.cm⁻² and with a repetition rate of 10 Hz. We
216 performed the acquisition in a spot mode with a diameter of 110 μ m. We performed five
217 acquisitions on each I-bearing glass sample in static mode (i.e. point by point) on a glass
218 polished surface from the bulk and embedded into epoxy plug. The acquisition time was set to
219 30 s, preceded and followed by a 30 s blank acquisition. The washout time of the ablation cell
220 was approximately 50 s., due to the long residence time of iodine in the system. We estimated
221 the pit size to ~ 20 μ m in depth that represents a large analyzed sample volume in comparison
222 to SEM EDS analyses. Only the LA-ICP-MS signal obtained slightly below the ablation
223 surface was considered for the quantification of iodine so as to avoid possible alteration in the
224 iodine content that could be generated from sample preparation[43].

225 LA-ICP-MS acquisition for I content is designed to corroborate the I results obtained by SEM
226 EDS. The data is calibrated against several glass samples. We recorded the ¹²⁷I and ²⁷Al
227 isotopes and this latter one was used as an internal standard. We calibrated the I content with
228 two high-pressure ISG glasses [31] doped with I (1.29 and 1.34 mol.% I) and with known

229 Al₂O₃ content of 4.08 and 4.02 mol.%, respectively. For these two samples, I and Al₂O₃
230 contents have been determined using Electron Probe Micro-Analyses (EPMA, ISTO Orléans)
231 based on 400 points. We used the same protocol to quantify the B₂O₃ in glasses using LA-
232 ICP-MS. For calibrating the B₂O₃ content in our glasses, we used the aluminoborosilicate
233 glasses investigated by Jolivet et al. [39] that have been characterized using multiple
234 techniques (SEM EDS, ¹¹B MAS NMR and ICP Optical Emission Spectrometry) for the
235 quantification of B₂O₃. In particular, we used the LJ3, LJ4 and NH glasses from Jolivet et al.
236 [39] having 34.9, 30.7 and 15.1 mol.% B₂O₃, respectively. The present calibration for I and
237 B₂O₃ could not be used for I-bearing LJ4b glass sample as this glass does not contain Al₂O₃
238 currently used as the internal standard. For this sample, we considered the I content
239 determined by SEM EDS and the B₂O₃ reported in Jolivet et al. [39]. We performed three
240 analytical sessions on distinct glass chips for the Ca-bearing glass samples (Ca20B20Bi0 and
241 Ca30B10Bi0) to check for consistency.

242 2.5. X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

243 X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy (XPS) measurements were performed on each glass sample
244 to determine the I and the O signatures in our glasses. XPS spectra for crystalline standards
245 were not acquired considering that peak assignment has been previously reported for similar
246 I-bearing glasses[33, 37, 44]. We carried out the XPS analyses on a Kratos Nova spectrometer
247 (IMN Jean Rouxel) using a monochromatic Al K α radiation operating at 1486.6 eV (15 kV,
248 20 mA). We analyzed glass chips (several mm²) corresponding to a surface fracture from the
249 bulk of the experimental charge. The surfaces were not prepared and the analyses were
250 conducted on raw glass surfaces, hence avoiding possible surface contamination. The glass
251 chips were loaded into the sample chamber under high-vacuum conditions (<10⁻⁸ mbar). The
252 spot size on the sample is 300x700 μ m² area of analyses. We recorded survey spectra at a pass
253 energy of 160 eV corresponding to an overall instrument resolution measured on silver Fermi

254 edge of 1.95 eV and a step of 0.5 eV from -5 to 1200 eV. High-resolution spectra of I 3d, O
255 1s, and C 1s core levels were recorded with an instrument resolution measured on silver
256 Fermi of 0.49 eV and a step of 0.1 eV at a pass energy of 40 eV. We acquired the final
257 spectrum with a cycling mode (several scan of the sample) for each element and we did not
258 observe any modification of each individual acquisition that would suggest an alteration of the
259 glass under the X-ray beam. We calibrated the XPS spectra using the adventitious C 1s in the
260 binding energy at 284.8 eV. All spectra were treated with CasaXPS© software. We focused
261 on the I 3d_{5/2} peak in the I 3d region, which exhibits the highest intensity as compared to the
262 one for the I 3d_{3/2}. The spectra were fitted with a U2 Tougaard function for the background
263 [45]. Subsequent simulations are achieved with a pseudo-Voigt function with a Lorentzian
264 ratio of 50% for the various peaks. The determination of the I species is accurate to within
265 10% of the derived value.

266

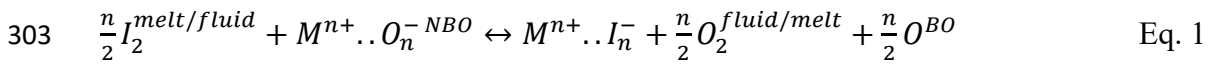
267 3. Results

268 3.1. Iodine speciation from XPS

269 For an adequate comparison, the samples have to exert the same or similar iodine speciation.
270 Iodine exhibits several redox degree ranging from -1 to +7. During the high-pressure
271 experiments, no constraints were placed on the redox conditions and the talc-Pyrex assembly
272 fixes the fO_2 intrinsically. It has been previously estimated that talc-Pyrex assembly imposes
273 fO_2 conditions relatively oxidizing at +1 log unit above the solid buffer QFM (QFM+1,
274 Quartz-Fayalite-Magnetite, [46]). Even though the redox conditions are relatively oxidizing,
275 we have previously shown that under those conditions iodine is mostly dissolved under its
276 reduced iodide form: I⁻ [30, 33].

277 The XPS results in the I 3d region is shown in Figure 1. For clarity, we show the spectra
278 obtained on the glasses with alkali and high B₂O₃ (Figure 1A) and with alkaline-earth and low
279 B₂O₃ (Figure 1B) cations; the entire set of spectra is available in the Suppl. Mat.. In addition,
280 the XPS spectra in the O 1s region (~532 eV) for the whole set of glasses were acquired. For
281 clarity, the O 1s XPS are only provided in the Suppl. Mat.. The O 1s located at ~532 eV and
282 is approximately symmetric. For the O 1s spectra, the peak maximum position has been
283 determined as a function of glass composition. In Figure 1, we choose to represent only the I
284 3d_{5/2} region that represents the most intense iodine peak. The peak located at 619 eV
285 corresponds to the signature of iodide (I⁻) species as identified in previous works [33, 37, 44,
286 47, 48]. For several samples (see Suppl. Mat.), we have observed a slight asymmetry on the
287 high-energy side (~621 eV) that could correspond to the presence of I⁰ species [49].
288 Currently, I⁰ has also been identified in previous studies for glasses [37, 44] and could
289 correspond to micrometric bubbles of solid I₂ or effectively dissolved I₂ species within the
290 glass. This aspect is not clarified yet. For K20B20Bi0, we observed an additional peak located
291 at ~624 eV that we assigned to the presence of a slight amount of iodate species (I⁵⁺, [33]). It
292 is also observed for several additional samples: Na30B10Bi0, K30B10Bi0, BASN4-I,
293 Na30Ca10B10Bi0 and Na20Ca15B10Bi0; and does not exceed 10% in relative to the iodine
294 species. Nevertheless, the existence of the most oxidized iodine species is systematically
295 observed in the most iodine rich samples. For instance, for K30B10Bi0 in which 1.9 mol.% I
296 is measured by LA-ICP-MS, the proportion of I⁵⁺ is 9.9% whereas in Rb20B20Bi0 in which
297 0.3 mol.% I is measured, the I⁵⁺ is absent. However, the proportion of I⁵⁺ is low enough for
298 samples to be compared to each other and in the present work; iodine is mostly dissolved as I⁻
299 species. The derived XI is reported along to the spectra and is determined from the spectrum
300 simulation (values are provided in Table 1). As mentioned, this result is consistent with

301 previous work [33, 37] that suggested the following dissolution mechanism for iodine in
302 aluminoborosilicate glasses:



304 In Eq. 1, the M^{n+} , O^{NBO} and O^{BO} stand for a charge compensating cation (e.g. alkali or
305 alkaline-earth cations), a Non-Bridging Oxygen and a Bridging Oxygen from the glass
306 structure, respectively. Interestingly, the chemical reaction implies that there is, at some point,
307 an interaction between I_2 molecules in the fluid phase and the oxygen atoms of the melt.
308 Moreover, the Eq. 1 also suggests that there is a transfer of negative charge from the oxygen
309 to the iodine to form iodide species. The Eq. 1 points to the fact iodine dissolution is
310 accompanied by an increase in the degree of polymerization as inferred in recent work [36].

311

312 3.2. Effect of network modifying cations on iodine solubility

313 The iodine solubility data obtained by LA-ICP-MS and SEM EDS are provided in Table 1.

314 Both acquisitions compare adequately suggesting that acquired iodine solubility data are
315 robust. As mentioned earlier, the error (in bracket) represents the homogeneity of the iodine

316 distribution within the sample (i.e. standard deviation obtained on multiple analyses).. For

317 SEM EDS measurements, the analytical error is on the order of ± 0.2 mol.% similar to the

318 error reported in Jolivet et al. [30]. The analytical error associated with LA-ICP-MS is

319 suspected to be lower (± 0.1 mol.%) and more representative of the glass iodine content. The

320 volume analyzed by LA-ICP-MS spot is larger (spot of $110 \mu\text{m}$ in diameter by $20 \mu\text{m}$ in

321 depth) than the surface analyzed by SEM EDS ($\sim 20 \mu\text{m}^2$). For the remaining of the

322 manuscript, we will preferentially consider the data obtained by LA-ICP-MS unless those are

323 not available.

324 The change in iodine solubility as a function of the network modifying cation is represented in
325 Figure 2, for glass compositions with $B_2O_3 > 10$ mol.% and with $B_2O_3 < 10$ mol.%. In Figure 2,
326 the glass compositions have been categorized in term of increasing cation charge (alkali
327 before alkaline-earth) and increasing cation size ($Na^+ \rightarrow K^+ \rightarrow Rb^+$ and $Ca^{2+} \rightarrow Sr^{2+} \rightarrow Ba^{2+}$).

328 At $B_2O_3 < 10$ mol.%, we observe that iodine solubility seems to be higher in alkali-bearing
329 glasses than in alkaline-earth bearing glasses. In detail, the iodine solubility is higher for Na-
330 bearing glass than for Ca- and Sr-bearing glasses. We observe that iodine solubility for K- Ca-
331 and Sr-bearing glasses are roughly the same. Previous investigations [27, 30, 33] suggested
332 that iodine dissolved as I^- species has a better affinity towards alkali atoms rather than
333 alkaline-earth atoms. Our results are consistent with that statement at least for Na-bearing
334 glass in comparison to alkaline-earth ones. However, at $B_2O_3 > 10$ mol.%, the evolution of the
335 iodine solubility depending on the network modifying cation nature is much more complex.
336 There is a clear decrease in the iodine solubility with increasing cation size within each
337 category: alkali, I solubility decreases from Na to Rb; alkaline-earth, I solubility decreases
338 from Ca to Ba. We observe a non-monotonic change in iodine solubility with a jump in iodine
339 solubility between Rb and Ca glass compositions. Unexpectedly, the iodine solubility appears
340 higher in alkaline-earth bearing glasses than in alkali-bearing glasses at B_2O_3 concentration
341 above 10 mol.%.

342 4. Discussion

343 4.1. Electrochemical parameters for aluminoborosilicate glass compositions and the 344 relationship to oxygen activity

345 In the present study, the range of investigated glass compositions is relatively large: different
346 boron contents, different network modifying cations, and mixing between network modifying
347 cations; therefore explaining the change in the iodine solubility requires expressing the
348 studied glass compositions with chemically relevant bulk parameters. To do so, we have

349 focused our approach on the pioneer work by Duffy [50, 51] that defined an oxide glass by its
350 optical basicity (Λ). The optical basicity takes its origin into the Lewis acidity concept. The
351 optical basicity also relates to the Jørgensen's nephelauxetic parametrization that corresponds
352 to the electron donation to cations and the resulting degree of charge reduction experienced by
353 these ions [52, 53]. The optical basicity has been applied for describing many properties such
354 as the refractive index, the UV transparency, the redox behavior of glass melts, and the
355 viscosity dependence with temperature [54]. In the present work, we have calculated the glass
356 optical basicity (Λ_{Glass}) according to the equation of Duffy [50]:

$$357 \quad \Lambda_{Glass} = \sum \frac{X_i}{\gamma_i} = \sum X_i \times \Lambda_i \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

358 In which X_i represents the molar fraction of the oxide i and γ_i corresponds to the basicity
359 moderating parameters of the oxides. For the investigated glasses, we used the γ_i or Λ_i ($1/\gamma_i$)
360 for SiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , B_2O_3 , CaO , SrO , BaO , Na_2O , K_2O , Rb_2O and Bi_2O_3 reported in previous
361 works (e.g. compilation of γ_i values in Rodriguez et al. [55]). The calculated Λ_{Glass} is reported
362 in Table 1 for volatile-free glasses and in Table 2 for I-bearing glasses. It should be pointed
363 out that the calculated Λ_{Glass} represents a theoretical value as the true optical basicity value
364 (Λ_n) can only be obtained via the glass refractive index (n) measurement [56–58]. Because of
365 the small glass sample size, we could not measure the optical refractive index.

366 The second glass bulk parameter considered here has been defined by Portier et al. [40, 41]
367 and corresponds to the Iono-Covalent Parameter (ICP). The ICP is related to the acidic
368 strength and takes into account the ionic-covalent character of a bond. In other words, the ICP
369 takes into account the ionic forces (polarizing power) and the covalent forces
370 (electronegativity). This aspect is particularly designed for glasses having both covalent and
371 ionic characters. Furthermore, providing that iodine is dissolved as I^- species it has a ionic
372 character and I^- is surrounded by network modifying cation (Na^+ or Ca^{2+} , [37]), it is likely that

373 a relationship between ICP and iodine solubility exists. The ICP_i parameter for each oxide is
374 calculated with the following equation from Portier et al. [40, 41]:

$$375 \quad ICP_i = \log\left(\frac{z_i}{r_i^2}\right) - 0.6\chi_{i(a-r)} + 1.21 \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

376 Where z_i/r_i^2 corresponds to the polarizing power of cation i and $\chi_{i(a-r)}$ is the cation
377 electronegativity as defined by Allred and Rochow [59]. The ICP for the glass is then
378 determined as follow:

$$379 \quad ICP_{Glass} = \sum X_i ICP_i \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

380 Where X_i is the molar fraction of the cation in the glass composition. The values for ICP_{Glass}
381 are provided in Table 1 and Table 2. The calculation of Λ_{Glass} and ICP_{Glass} are provided in
382 Suppl. Mat..

383 The data points are shown in Figure 3 and the ICP_{Glass} is reported as a function of Λ_{Glass} only
384 for the volatile-free glasses obtained at ambient pressure. In the present calculations, several
385 aspects related to structural information are not taken into account in the calculation of Λ_{Glass} .
386 Recent works [53, 60] indicate that the theoretical optical basicity values will be better
387 approached if we take into account 1) the distribution of BO_4 and BO_3 within the glass (i.e. N_4
388 and N_3 values, [20, 39, 61, 62]), 2) the distribution of silicate network Q^n species [63–66], and
389 the distribution in the aluminum species (i.e. 4-, 5- and 6-coordinated species, [67–69]). In the
390 present work, we do not have access to this information, as it would involve advanced NMR
391 acquisition. Furthermore, our glass samples are prepared under high-pressure conditions and
392 the effect of this intensive parameter on the optical basicity and iono-covalent parameter
393 defined by Duffy [50] and Portier et al. [40, 41] is currently not constrained but should exist.
394 For instance, Kuryaeva [70] shows that increasing pressure induces an increase in the glass
395 refractive index. The increase in the refractive index increases the oxide ion polarizability [56,

396 57, 71] and hence changes the optical basicity value [51, 57, 71]. In the Suppl. Mat. we
397 provide the same figure as Figure 3 but completed with the I-bearing data provided in Table 2.
398 The reason for which we do not include those points in the actual Figure 3 is because the
399 effect of pressure and iodine on the ICP_{Glass} and Λ_{Glass} is currently unknown.

400 Nevertheless, in Figure 3, we clearly see that there is a negative correlation between ICP_{Glass}
401 and Λ_{Glass} . This relationship is expected and has been shown in previous works [72, 73]: Λ is
402 the numerical expression of the average electron donor power of the oxide species and ICP
403 represents the influence of ionic-covalent bonding in an oxide on the acid strength of the
404 cations. Furthermore, Reddy et al. [74] demonstrated that Λ correlates linearly with the
405 average electronegativity. Hence, both parameters (ICP_{Glass} and Λ_{Glass}) are correlated to each
406 other; however, the method to calculate each parameter is different. Λ is strongly dependent
407 on the cation polarizing power: in ionic solids (i.e. cations have weak polarizing power), the
408 charges are focused on each ion and the oxygen will be able to give an important partial
409 negative charge to a new cation; in solids with important covalent character in the chemical
410 bonds, the negative charge will be shared by the cation and the anion and the oxygen will
411 have a weak electron-donating power. In the present dataset, the extremes of the trend define
412 two different glass behaviours: one more acidic at lower Λ_{Glass} and higher ICP_{Glass} , one more
413 basic at higher Λ_{Glass} and lower ICP_{Glass} . The latter case implies higher electronegativity
414 global value and a higher electron donation capacity from the oxygen atoms. From Figure 3,
415 the two investigated parameters can be used to express the bulk chemical properties of the
416 glasses. In the investigated glasses, the alkaline-earth-bearing glasses have the highest ICP_{Glass}
417 values and the lowest Λ_{Glass} . On the contrary, the alkali-bearing glasses have the lowest
418 ICP_{Glass} and the highest Λ_{Glass} . For glasses with a mixture of CaO and Na₂O, the ICP_{Glass} and
419 the Λ_{Glass} values are located in the region of the alkali-bearing data point, which could be
420 explained by the higher concentration of Na₂O in comparison to CaO (see Table 1).

421 In the present work the glass optical basicity can only be accessed through calculation;
422 however, it has been shown that Λ_{Glass} is negatively correlated to the change in O 1s peak
423 maximum measured by XPS considering that the Λ_{Glass} represents the measure of the valence
424 charge density surrounding the oxygen ion in the network [56, 75, 76]. The change in the
425 Λ_{Glass} for volatile-free glasses as a function of the O 1s peak maximum is shown in Figure 4.
426 The same figure is proposed in the Suppl. Mat. and includes the data for I-bearing glasses.
427 The correlation observed in Figure 4 witnesses that the optical basicity relates intimately to
428 the oxygen activity within the glass [77]. It also shows that the positioning of the optical
429 basicity numerical value is correct from one glass composition compared to another even
430 though the glass structure is only partially known.

431 4.2. I solubility prediction using glass optical basicity and iono-covalent parameter

432 The prime objective of this work is to investigate the change of iodine solubility as a function
433 of glass composition that can be expressed by different bulk chemical parameters. We show
434 the change in iodine solubility (in mol.% I) as a function of Λ_{Glass} and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ in Figure 5A
435 and 5B, respectively. In Figure 5, we added the data points from Jolivet et al. [30] acquired at
436 identical pressure (1.5 GPa) and for two different glass compositions: ISG and NH. The
437 recent I solubility data points from Morizet et al. [33] are also added. These data were
438 obtained on Ca- and Na-bearing aluminoborosilicate glasses synthesized at pressure
439 conditions of 1.5 GPa.

440 The data from Jolivet et al. [30] and most of the data from Morizet et al. [33] compare
441 adequately with our data in Figure 5. One data point ($\Lambda_{\text{Glass}} = 0.747$ and 3.9 mol.% I) from
442 Morizet et al. [33] seems to be off the general trend. Actually, one possible explanation is the
443 presence of a substantial quantity of I^{5+} in this glass sample that has not been accounted for
444 and would explain the high I solubility for instance for their C0N35 at 3.9 mol.% I. Although,
445 there is a significant scatter in the data, which we believe, is resulting from an inadequate

446 approximation in the Λ_{Glass} and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ as mentioned earlier; we observe a reasonable
447 correlation between iodine solubility and Λ_{Glass} and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$. There is a positive correlation of
448 iodine solubility with increasing Λ_{Glass} and a negative correlation with $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$, which is
449 consistent with the observed correlation between Λ_{Glass} and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ shown in Figure 3.

450 The results shown in Figure 5 suggest that iodine solubility in aluminoborosilicate glasses can
451 be derived providing the optical basicity or the iono-covalent parameter are known, however,
452 a better accuracy is requested in the calculation of these compositional parameters. As
453 mentioned earlier, knowledge on the distribution of boron species (i.e. N_4 and N_3) is required
454 for calculating a more accurate value for Λ_{Glass} . In Figure 5A, the NH23-1 from Jolivet et al.
455 [26] has been fully characterized in Jolivet et al. [26] that report a N_4 value at 0.45 with iodine
456 content at 1.9 mol.%. The iodine speciation for this sample is provided in Morizet et al. [33]
457 and is 100% I⁻. With the current simple calculation for the glass optical basicity: all B_2O_3 is in
458 trigonal boron unit (BO_3) configuration and considering $\gamma_{\text{BO}_3} = 2.47$ [78]; we obtain a
459 $\Lambda_{\text{Glass}}(\text{NH23-1}) = 0.730$. Taking into account the distribution of B_2O_3 as 55% BO_3 and 45%
460 BO_4 ($\text{N}_4 = 0.45$ reported in Jolivet et al. [26]) and $\gamma_{\text{BO}_4} = 4.17$ [60], we calculate a
461 $\Lambda_{\text{Glass}}(\text{NH23-1}) = 0.707$. Such a change represents a variation of ~2% in relative to the value.
462 We report the difference in $\Lambda_{\text{Glass}}(\text{NH23-1})$ in Figure 5A. Unfortunately, it appears impossible
463 to apply systematically this Λ_{Glass} variation to all the data points as the change in N_4 value is a
464 complex function of the glass composition and the optical basicity variation in the studied
465 glasses is not necessarily identical to the one calculated for NH23-1.

466 Previous works [26] suggest that N_4 value is likely to influence the iodine solubility.
467 Currently, the model from Lu et al. [79] determines the N_4 for a large range of glass
468 composition; however, this model is not designed to be applied for high-pressure glasses.
469 There is a gap in our understanding of the effect of pressure on the distribution of boron
470 species in glasses. Previous investigations [80–82] demonstrate that increasing pressure

471 provokes an increase in the N_4 value. Nevertheless, Jolivet et al. [26] showed that the change
472 in N_4 value upon pressure increase is probably dependent on the glass composition.
473 Furthermore, it is not clear if the iodine dissolution itself have or not an effect on the N_4
474 value.

475 In a similar manner, the distribution in the silicate network units (i.e. Q^n species where n
476 represents the number of bridging oxygen) should be determined for calculating an accurate
477 Λ_{Glass} as suggested by Dimitrov et al. [60]. From another viewpoint, the distribution of Q^n
478 species describes the degree of polymerization of the glass, namely, the connectivity between
479 silicate network units. The higher the SiO_2 , higher is the degree of polymerization and silicate
480 network units have higher connectivity.

481 In the present work, the use of bismuth oxide could appear odd, however, we justify the
482 addition of Bi_2O_3 to the studied glass compositions by two aspects: 1) Bi_2O_3 is often used in
483 nuclear waste glasses for its good radiation shielding ability and 2) with its low γ value, Bi_2O_3
484 could be a good oxide candidate that increases the Λ_{Glass} and hence we expect an increase in I
485 solubility with the addition of Bi_2O_3 . These two aspects are further discussed below.

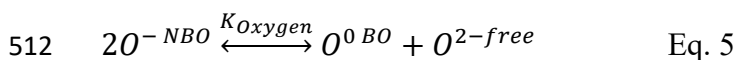
486 First of all, bismuth (present as Bi^{3+}) is recognized to present good shielding capacity to
487 irradiation [83], hence representing a pertinent oxide to add in the borosilicate glass matrix for
488 the immobilization of nuclear waste. Moreover, recent works demonstrate that bismuth is
489 gaining great interest in glass technology, in particular in optics and photonic (e.g. [84–87]).
490 As mentioned earlier, the role of bismuth in glasses is similar to the one of alkali (or alkaline-
491 earth) elements. It acts as a network modifying cation inducing a depolymerization of the
492 glass structure and high concentration of NBOs in the surrounding of Bi^{3+} ions. It is
493 recognized that these two aspects have a positive effect on the higher dissolution of iodine[30,
494 33, 36]. In Figure 5A, adding a small quantity of Bi_2O_3 seems to induce an increase in the I
495 solubility for alkali-bearing glasses. For alkaline-earth-bearing glasses, we observe that

496 adding Bi₂O₃ to Ca-bearing glasses has an opposite effect and I solubility is decreasing. This
497 aspect is currently not explained and needs further investigations.

498 Second of all, in term of optical basicity, Bi₂O₃ has a low moderating parameter ($\gamma_{\text{Bi}_2\text{O}_3} =$
499 0.84; [84]) that induces an increase in Λ_{Glass} and an increase in iodine solubility is expected.
500 Hence, the small addition of element having low moderating parameters such as Cs₂O with
501 $\gamma_{\text{Cs}_2\text{O}} = 0.60$ [51] would be beneficial for dissolving higher concentration of iodine in glasses.
502 This aspect remains to be confirmed. For instance, the Rb-bearing glass composition
503 (Rb₂₀B₂₀Bi₀-vf) for which Rb₂O has a low moderating parameter ($\gamma_{\text{Rb}_2\text{O}} = 0.67$, [53]), on the
504 contrary, does not exhibit a high iodine concentration: 0.3 mol.% I in Rb₂₀B₂₀Bi₀. Further
505 experimental work is currently required to address in more details the change in iodine
506 solubility in presence of heavy elements such as bismuth.

507 4.3. Iodine solubility and dissolution mechanism and its relationship to the glass degree of 508 polymerization

509 It has been shown that a borosilicate melt could be described by a speciation model made of
510 several equilibrium reactions. In particular, several types of oxygen species coexist within the
511 melt with the following equilibrium reaction to describe it [77, 88–90]:



513 Where $\text{O}^{-\text{NBO}}$ represents the Non-Bridging Oxygen, $\text{O}^{0\text{BO}}$ represents the Bridging Oxygen
514 and $\text{O}^{2-\text{free}}$ is a free oxygen species that could be linked to available cations such as alkalis,
515 alkaline-earth cations or bismuth. In other words, Eq. 5 represents the degree of
516 polymerization of the melt as seen from the anionic oxygen species viewpoint. From Eq. 5,
517 the equilibrium constant can be written as follow:

$$518 \quad K_{\text{Oxygen}} = \frac{a_{\text{O}^{0\text{BO}}}^{\text{Melt}} \times a_{\text{O}^{2-\text{free}}}^{\text{Melt}}}{(a_{\text{O}^{-\text{NBO}}}^{\text{Melt}})^2} \quad \text{Eq. 6}$$

519 Where a_i^{Melt} corresponds to the thermodynamic activity of the i species in the melt; that is
520 related to the actual concentration of the i species from standard thermodynamic relationship
521 such $a_i^j = X_i^j \Gamma_i^j$; where X_i^j and Γ_i^j are the molar fraction and the activity coefficient of the i
522 species, respectively. Since we do not have access to a measure of the actual molar fraction of
523 the different oxygen species, the K_{Oxygen} cannot be solved directly; nevertheless, Moretti [77]
524 mentioned that the K_{Oxygen} is related to the optical basicity by the following equation:

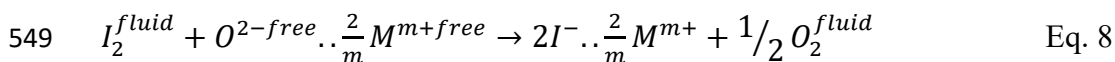
$$525 \quad K_{\text{Oxygen}} = \exp[4.662 \times (\sum X_{M^{m+}} \gamma_{M^{m+}} - \sum X_{T^{t+}} \gamma_{T^{t+}}) - 1.1445] \quad \text{Eq. 7}$$

526 In Eq. 7, the K_{Oxygen} is a function of the molar fraction (X_i) and the optical moderating
527 parameter (γ_i). The K_{Oxygen} is calculated with the difference between the network forming
528 (T^{t+}) and the network modifying cations (M^{m+}). Although Moretti [77] used this approach to
529 silicate melts and glasses, we believe that the same can apply to the present study for
530 aluminoborosilicate glasses.

531 In the present work, the network forming cations are Si^{4+} , Al^{3+} and B^{3+} whereas the network
532 modifying cations are Na^+ , K^+ , Rb^+ , Ca^{2+} , Sr^{2+} , Ba^{2+} and Bi^{3+} . The calculated values for
533 K_{Oxygen} are provided in Table 2 and we plotted the change in iodine solubility in mol.% as a
534 function of the K_{Oxygen} value in Figure 6. For the whole investigated series, there is a clear
535 increase in the mol.% I with the increase in the K_{Oxygen} value. Three series (the mixed alkali
536 and alkaline-earth, the alkali without Bi_2O_3 and the alkali with Bi_2O_3) have been fitted with an
537 exponential growth function as a guide for the reader. The K_{Oxygen} values for the alkaline-earth
538 series did not allow to fit reasonably the data.

539 Considering that the K_{Oxygen} is calculated regardless of the iodine content, the observed
540 increase in Figure 6 is related to the distribution of oxygen species concentrations. In the
541 present work we have shown that iodine is dissolved as I^- species and from previous works
542 [30, 33] it has been shown that the dissolution mechanism follows the Eq. 1 chemical reaction

543 in which I^- is charge compensated by alkali or alkaline-earth cations. From the results in
 544 Figure 6, we suggest that iodine dissolution could be related to the presence of free oxygen
 545 within the glass structure (and by extension to the presence of network modifying cations).
 546 According to the proposed model, the more free oxygen is present the more iodine can be
 547 dissolved as I^- . Hence, the iodine dissolution reaction proposed with Eq. 1 could also be
 548 rewritten by considering the presence of free oxygen such as:



550 In Eq. 8, the formation of iodide is promoted by the fact that iodine thermodynamic activity in
 551 the fluid phase is high owing to the excess iodine loaded during the experiment. Regardless of
 552 the glass compositional effect, the iodine solubility is proportional to the iodine fugacity
 553 imposed by the experimental pressure and temperature conditions: $[I^-] \propto f_{I_2}^{fluid}$. On the
 554 contrary at ambient pressure the iodine fugacity is close to 1 and the iodine solubility is low
 555 [25, 27, 36]. At high optical basicity (i.e. high K_{Oxygen} value), the high free oxygen
 556 concentration facilitates the formation of iodate species (IO_3^-), which means that free oxygen
 557 species are not entirely exsolved in the fluid phase.

558 In the mechanism proposed in Eq. 8, there is no apparent change in the degree of
 559 polymerization of the glass, however, because free oxygen is exsolved in the fluid phase upon
 560 iodine dissolution, there should be a re-equilibration in the distribution of NBO and BO
 561 concentrations. This contrasts with the recent proposition by Morizet et al. [33] in which the
 562 involved oxygen species in the iodine dissolution are NBOs that are transformed into BOs
 563 inducing an increase in the degree of polymerization of the glass. Currently, in the absence of
 564 strong advanced NMR investigations (i.e. ^{17}O NMR) we can only propose reasonable
 565 hypotheses for type of oxygen species involved in the dissolution of iodine. Nevertheless, the

566 iodine dissolution has necessarily an impact on the glass structure with a change in the
567 distribution of oxygen species.

568

569 5. Summary

570 In the present work, we have synthesized a large series of aluminoborosilicate glasses under
571 high-pressure conditions (1.5 GPa) in equilibrium with a iodine fluid phase. With the different
572 syntheses, we have tested 1) the effect of various network modifying cation (Na, K, Rb, Ca,
573 Sr and Ba), 2) the effect of boron concentration with either <10 mol.% or >10 mol.% B₂O₃
574 and 3) the effect of the addition of a small quantity of Bi₂O₃ (~4 mol.%).

575 We have shown that there is a complex change in iodine solubility with the nature of glass
576 containing cations but also dependent on the B₂O₃ concentration: at high B₂O₃, iodine
577 solubility increases with the following suite of cation: Rb < Ba = K < Na < Ca; at low B₂O₃,
578 iodine solubility increases with the following suite of cation: Ba < Sr < Ca = K < Na.

579 Increasing the B₂O₃ concentration in the glass (i.e. decreasing the network modifying cation
580 concentration) does not favor the iodine dissolution and solubility decreases. Apart for Ca-
581 bearing glasses, the addition of Bi₂O₃ induces an increase in iodine solubility that we ascribe
582 to the structural role of Bi atoms comparable to the network modifying cation.

583 We have shown that iodine solubility is correlated positively with the optical basicity (Λ_{Glass})
584 and negatively correlated to the Iono-Covalent Parameter ($\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$). This is consistent with
585 the fact that Λ_{Glass} reflects the electron donor capacity of oxygen and that there is a transfer of
586 negative charge to dissolve iodine as I⁻ species. As a result, both $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ and Λ_{Glass} could
587 serve as predicting parameters for formulating a glass matrix able to immobilize a large
588 quantity of ¹²⁹I. The most adequate glass composition should exhibit a high optical basicity;

589 however, there is a compromise to find as increasing the glass optical basicity would reduce
590 the glass chemical durability.

591

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606

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863

864 Figure caption

865 Figure 1: I 3d XPS spectra obtained on I-bearing glasses for the alkali-bearing glass
866 compositions with B₂O₃ > 10 mol.% (A): Na₂₀B₂₀Bi₀, K₂₀B₂₀Bi₀ and Rb₂₀B₂₀Bi₀; and
867 alkaline-earth-bearing glass compositions with B₂O₃ < 10 mol.% (B): Ca₃₀B₁₀Bi₀,
868 Sr₃₀B₁₀Bi₀ and Ba₃₀B₁₀Bi₀. The spectra are shown in the I 3d_{5/2} region for clarity. The
869 determined iodine speciation is reported next to each spectrum. The entire set of spectra is
870 available in the Suppl. Mat..

871 Figure 2: Change in the iodine solubility (in mol.%) as a function of glass composition
872 expressed by the cation nature (alkali and alkaline-earth) and cation size (Na⁺ → K⁺ → Rb⁺
873 and Ca²⁺ → Sr²⁺ → Ba²⁺). The data points for the two investigated glass series are shown:
874 B₂O₃ < 10 mol.% and B₂O₃ > 10 mol.%.

875 Figure 3: Change in Iono-Covalent Parameter (ICP_{Glass}) as a function of optical basicity
876 (Λ_{Glass}) for iodine-free glasses reported in Table 1. The ICP_{Glass} values are calculated
877 following the description of Portier et al. [40, 41], the Λ_{Glass} is calculated following the
878 description of Duffy [50]. There is a negative correlation between ICP_{Glass} and Λ_{Glass} that is
879 related to the overall electronic configuration of the glass composition.

880 Figure 4: Change in O 1s peak position as determined from the XPS spectra as a function of
881 Λ_{Glass} for iodine-free glasses reported in Table 1. The negative correlation observed is
882 consistent with the nature of the Λ_{Glass} that corresponds to the electron donor capacity of
883 oxygen atoms within the glass. An error of ± 0.1 eV is considered for the peak position and
884 corresponds to the actual analytical error.

885 Figure 5: Iodine solubility (in mol.%) as a function of Λ_{Glass} (A) and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ (B). The iodine
886 solubility is positively correlated and negatively correlated to Λ_{Glass} and $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$, respectively.
887 High Λ_{Glass} values represent a higher basic glass media able to share electrons from oxygen
888 atoms and high $\text{ICP}_{\text{Glass}}$ values represent a glass media with electronegative charges. These
889 aspects are favoring the iodine dissolution as I^- species. I solubility data points from Jolivet et
890 al. [30] and Morizet et al. [33] have also been added. We calculated the Λ_{Glass} for NH23-1
891 from Jolivet et al. [30] using $N_4 = 0$ and $N_4 = 0.45$ so as to show the impact of N_4 value on the
892 Λ_{Glass} .

893 Figure 6: Change in iodine solubility as a function of K_{Oxygen} for the different studied glass
894 series. The K_{Oxygen} has been calculated with the equation of Moretti [77] that relates the
895 K_{Oxygen} to the element moderating parameters (γ_i). The increase in K_{Oxygen} denotes the increase
896 in the free oxygen concentration according to Eq. 6. Several glass series: alkali with and
897 without Bi_2O_3 and mixed alkali – alkaline-earth cation; have been fitted with an exponential
898 function of the form $y = y_0 + A \times \exp(x / t)$; however, these trends remain hypothetical.

