

# High-pressure glass-ceramics for iodine nuclear waste immobilization: Preliminary experimental results

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2	HIGH-PRESSURE GLASS-CERAMICS FOR IODINE NUCLEAR WASTE
3	IMMOBILIZATION: PRELIMINARY EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS
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#### Abstract

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Several matrix types have been considered for the immobilization of iodine radioisotopes 31 from which glass-ceramics represent a serious candidate; however, I-bearing glass-ceramics 32 33 are challenging owing to the iodine volatility. We have synthesised glass-ceramics from the partial crystallization of a parental glass enriched with different iodine sources (I<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) 34 under high-pressure conditions (up to 1.5 GPa). The samples were characterized using 35 Scanning and Transmission Electron Microscopy and X-ray Diffraction. Using standard 36 synthesis protocol: melting, nucleation and crystal growth, we have obtained glass-ceramics 37 showing the coexistence between I-bearing glass (<0.8 mol.% I), nepheline (NaAlSiO<sub>4</sub>) and 38 39 iodosodalite (Na<sub>8</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>24</sub>I<sub>2</sub> with up to 14 mol.% I). For several samples, we observed also the presence NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> witnessing a chemical reaction between the container walls and the 40 inside experimental charge. The structure of iodosodalite is entirely resolved by Rietveld 41 refinement of the XRD pattern for I<sub>2</sub> experiments whereas it cannot be solved for I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 42 experiments suggesting a change in the iodosodalite structure probably due to the  $\beta$  cage 43 44 filling by IO<sub>3</sub> clusters instead of I<sup>-</sup>. Our present work could represent a potential solution to tackle the problem of iodine radioisotopes immobilization. 45

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47 Keywords: glass-ceramics, iodosodalite, high-pressure, nuclear waste immobilization

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#### 1. Introduction

Iodine radioisotopes are by-product of the nuclear plant industry and is of major concern in the nuclear waste immobilization [1,2]. In particular, <sup>129</sup>I is a major troublesome isotope due to its high mobility in the environment and its long half-life (15.7 My) [3-8]. Moreover, <sup>129</sup>I is shown to be the main contributor of radioactive dose at the outlet of a geological disposal site

[9,10]. For these reasons, <sup>129</sup>I represents an immediate environmental hazard and a societal 54 risk that needs to be addressed. As a matter of fact, radioactive iodine can be incorporated into 55 human body involving metabolic damages to the long term [11-14]. However, due to its high 56 volatility, iodine cannot be immobilized using classical vitrification of nuclear waste bearing 57 glass at ambient pressure [15-17]. In a recent landmark work, Riley et al. [1] reviewed this 58 problematic and enumerated possible matrix able to efficiently immobilize iodine 59 radioisotopes such as: crystalline phases (e.g. [18-21]), glass (e.g. [22-24]) or cement (e.g. 60 [25]). They also pointed out that glass-ceramics could be a good candidate for the 61 immobilization of <sup>129</sup>I with the difficulty to find a glass binder that is compatible (i.e. in 62 63 equilibrium) with the I-bearing crystalline phases. From the general viewpoint, there is a growing interest in the formulation of glass-ceramics for nuclear waste immobilisation (e.g. 64 [26-30]). Glass-ceramics have several advantages over pure crystalline or pure glass 65 immobilization matrix: 1) higher mechanical resistance with a lower fracture propagation 66 [31], 2) multiple barrier offering a better chemical stability [32,33] and 3) higher 67 incorporation of nuclear waste [34,35]. Several studies [36-40] have developed experimental 68 protocols for synthesising I-bearing glass-ceramics using iodosodalite (Na<sub>8</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>24</sub>I<sub>2</sub>) as the 69 I-bearing crystalline phase embedded in a sodium aluminoborosilicate glass binder. Although 70 71 the developed approach involves the consolidation with a glass binder, this latter phase does not contain iodine, therefore the question remains on the thermodynamic stability through 72 time in between the I-bearing crystalline phase and the I-free glass matrix. Although, 73 74 iodosodalite crystalline phase has not been studied extensively, it appears as an appropriate crystalline phase for immobilizing radioactive iodine as 1) it incorporates a large quantity of 75 iodine (>10 mol.% I) in its cage structure, 2) it is stable at high-temperature (up to at least 76 950°C, [40]), 3) it incorporates iodine under different forms, either I or IO<sub>3</sub> [41], 4) it can be 77 obtained using different methods (i.e. aqueous, hydrothermal and sol-gel syntheses, [40]) and 78

- 5) several studies measured the dissolution rate of iodosodalite [42,43], which showed good
- 80 chemical resistance to standard leaching tests.
- Obtaining a glass-ceramics requires the crystallization from a parent glass held at high
- 82 temperature and cooled down to a temperature that allows nucleation and crystallization
- processes [44,45]. As mentioned earlier, the main difficulty with iodine is its high volatility at
- ambient pressure and high-temperature that prevents from iodine retention. For instance, at
- 85 best the I solubility at ambient pressure in low activity waste glass compositions does not
- exceed 0.7 mol.% I [22]. An alternative to that problem has been developed recently by using
- high-pressure conditions for synthesising aluminoborosilicate glasses. The recent works [46-
- 88 48] showed that the confinement pressure strongly enhances the I solubility in nuclear waste
- 89 glasses. Although, this approach represents a potential solution, the chemical durability of
- those I-bearing matrices will remain to be determined in future studies [49].
- In the present study, we demonstrate for the first time the possibility to synthesise I-bearing
- 92 glass-ceramics obtained from the crystallization of a parent aluminoborosilicate glass under
- 93 high-pressure conditions. The experiments were conducted with a standard thermal path
- 94 involving melting-nucleation-crystallization steps, leading to the formation of a stable I-
- bearing silicate phase (i.e. iodosodalite) in equilibrium with a I-bearing aluminoborosilicate
- glass and showing no apparent open porosity. From electron microscopy and X-ray
- 97 Diffraction we were able to quantify the relative crystalline phase proportions. We used
- 98 different iodine sources in order to investigate the change in the iodine retention in the glass
- and crystals, which appears to influence the chemistry of the iodosodalite. We then discuss
- 100 how iodine is incorporated qualitatively and quantitatively into our glass-ceramics; and we
- propose several solutions to improve the iodine assimilation into glass-ceramics.
- 102 2. Experimental and analytical methods

2.1. Starting material and high-pressure syntheses

In the present work, we studied two starting compositions noted NH and SoNH, both prepared in the SiO<sub>2</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-CaO-Na<sub>2</sub>O system. In the investigated compositions, we did not add any nucleating agents. The glass compositions are reported in Table 1 and were chosen such as to represent close analogues to the low activity waste aluminoborosilicate glass compositions [50]. In between NH and SoNH, we changed the Na<sub>2</sub>O content in order to see if the addition of Na promotes the formation of sodalite that is a Na-rich crystalline phase. The powders were prepared from a mixture of oxides for SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and CaO and Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> for the source of Na<sub>2</sub>O. The starting powders were grinded in an agate mortar under ethanol. The dried powders were melted in a Pt crucible at 1250°C for 2h in a box furnace and then quenched in a cold-water bath. The recovered glasses were characterized for major element concentration and glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>, see Table 1). For the high-pressure experiments, the volatile-free glass powders were loaded into 2.5-2.9 mm Pt capsules along with I2 or I2O5 powders as a source of iodine during the experiments. The solid iodine source was loaded at the bottom of the capsule prior filling with the glass powder. The Pt capsule were welded shut at both ends using arc-welder. The initial loaded I2 or I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> range from 4.0 to 11.5 mol.% ensuring an excess iodine fluid phase during the highpressure experiments for comparable glass compositions [46-48]. The use of different iodine sources has been shown to have a significant effect on the resulting I solubility; hence, we wanted to test if it could have an effect on the incorporation of iodine into glass-ceramics. At high temperature, the I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> dissociates into I<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> that will impose high-oxidation state during the experiment [47]. The high-pressure experiments were conducted using pistoncylinder apparatus at 1.0 and 1.5 GPa. We used \(^3\)4 inch talc-Pyrex high-pressure assemblies in which the sample capsules were placed into MgO base ceramics. For each run, two capsules could be experimented with I<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, respectively. During the experiments, the temperature is controlled using a Eurotherm that is accurate to  $\pm 1$  °C and temperature is measured using a

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type S thermocouple PtRh<sub>10</sub>/Pt located at the top of the Pt capsules. The pressure during the 129 experiments has been controlled automatically using a Stigma© needle pump. 130 During the high-pressure experiments, we adopted a thermal path based on the results 131 132 obtained by Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) to determine T<sub>g</sub>. The experimental protocol is described in Figure 1 and is consistent with current knowledge [45]. The main 133 difference from existing experimental work is that high-pressure conditions are applied during 134 the whole experiment duration. The samples held under high-pressure conditions (1.0 and 1.5 135 GPa) were heated up between 1200 and 1300°C for melting the experimental charges during 136 1h. A cooling step of 15°C/min is applied to decrease the temperature down to ~550°C that is 137 supposed to correspond to the nucleation temperature (T<sub>n</sub>, 50°C above T<sub>g</sub>, [51]). The T<sub>n</sub> 138 duration was set to 24h; then temperature is increased to ~790°C corresponding to the 139 crystallization temperature (T<sub>c</sub>) as determined by DSC measurement. The T<sub>c</sub> duration was set 140 also to 24h then followed by the rapid isobaric quench of the high-pressure experiment 141 ( $\sim 60^{\circ}$ C/sec) by cutting of the power. It should be emphasised that the T<sub>n</sub> and T<sub>c</sub> were 142 143 determined from the DSC results obtained on I-free glasses prepared at ambient pressure and I-bearing pure glasses recovered from high-pressure experiments (see Table 1), therefore, 144 those temperature conditions are only approximate considering that the obtained T<sub>n</sub> and T<sub>c</sub> are 145 146 not determined in-situ under high-pressure conditions. Moreover, in our experiments, the temperature is measured by the thermocouple at the top of the capsules and temperature 147 gradient is occurring on the capsule length (~50°C over ~10 mm capsule length, [52]). After 148 the experiment, most of the recovered glass-ceramics are covered with a I2 black residue that 149 is removed in ethanol bath. Although we did not quantify the iodine coating, it suggests that 150 151 an excess fluid phase was always present during the experiments. The glass-ceramics were scrutinized using optical microscope to confirm the presence of both glass and crystalline 152 materials. 153

In addition, ambient pressure crystalline iodosodalite (Na<sub>8</sub>Al<sub>6</sub>Si<sub>6</sub>O<sub>24</sub>I<sub>2</sub>) has been synthesised using the protocol described in Warner et al. [53]. We used zeolite A (Na<sub>12</sub>Al<sub>12</sub>Si<sub>12</sub>O<sub>48</sub>) and NaI as precursors, mixed in 1:16 molar proportions. The powder has been homogenized in a ball milling at 400 rpm for 6h under ethanol, dried overnight at 80°C. The reaction is finalized by heating the powder at 900°C for 8h in box furnace. The obtained iodosodalite powder serves as a fingerprint for the characterization of the high-pressure glass-ceramics with X-ray Diffraction.

# 2.2. Characterization methods

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Several chips were mounted in epoxy plugs, polished under glycerol to avoid crystalline phase reaction and coated with carbon for Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) analyses. We used two types of SEM (IMN Jean Rouxel): a JEOL JSM 5800LV equipped with an Energy Dispersive Spectrometer (EDS) for the major element (including iodine) quantitative analyses, a JEOL JSM 7600F for obtaining high-resolution imaging of the crystalline phases as well as a mapping of the elemental concentration. For the JEOL JSM 5800LV SEM EDS analyses, the analytical conditions were 15 kV for voltage and 0.5 nA for current. We conducted the acquisitions on a 10 µm spot size to avoid Na loss under the electron beam. Five scans of 1 min were collected on each sample at different location on the glass chip. For the JEOL JSM 7600LV SEM mapping, the analytical conditions were 10 kV for voltage and 0.5 nA for current. The high-resolution mapping was acquired using backscattered electron. The dot mapping was acquired on 800 x 600 pixels (24 x 18 µm) at a dwell time of 15 µs per pixel and corresponding to a 20 min data collection. The element quantification was conducted using the following internal standard on the SEM EDS: corundum for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, wollastonite for SiO2 and CaO, NaCl for Na2O, RbI for I. Due to the low boron mass, we did not analyze B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> that is not correctly quantified using SEM EDS analyses. The mol.% B<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> reported in Table 1 corresponds to the shortfall obtained from SEM EDS analyses. The error

calculated on the determined mol.% major element oxides in both the I-free and I-bearing glasses and the matrix of the glass-ceramics is on the order of  $\pm 0.5$  mol.% based on the standard deviation of replicated measurements (Table 1). We also could analyze the chemical compositions of iodosodalite crystals. The I content of the iodosodalite crystals is provided in Table 2; however, it should be pointed out that, owing to the small size of this crystalline phases, the error on the reported mol.% I in Table 2 is probably large. Even though the iodosodalite mol.% I is based on multiple measurements (at least five different crystals), we cannot exclude to the measurement a potential contribution from the surrounding matrix (glass + nepheline) with low I content. We also conducted Scanning/Transmission Electron Microscopy (S/TEM) at 80 kV on a Cs probe corrected Themis Z G3 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) using the High Angle annular Dark Field (HAADF) detector (with 33-197° collection angle range) and the 4-SDD detectors (Super-X system) for EDS analysis. Samples were previously prepared by dispersing the grinded powder in ethanol and depositing a drop of this solution on a holey-carbon-coated copper grid. We performed the Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) on two different apparatus to determine T<sub>g</sub> and T<sub>c</sub>: a Q20 TA Instruments and a Sensys Evo SETARAM, at IMN Jean Rouxel. The DSC was calibrated against the melting enthalpy of lead. The blank was performed using an empty reference alumina crucible. The samples were crushed and ~20 mg of glass sample was analysed each time. The heating profile was a heating ramp from ambient temperature to 850°C at 5°C/min. The furnace was purged with inert gas (N<sub>2</sub>) with a flow of 20 mL/min during the heating cycle. The Tg value was determined using the variation of the measured heat flow (mW) and the two tangents method using the implemented software procedure in Universal Analysis 2000© for the Q20 TA Instruments and Calisto© software

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for the Sensys Evo SETARAM. The T<sub>c</sub> value is extracted from the exothermic peak on the

204 DSC curves.

For all the glass ceramic samples, the X-ray Diffraction (XRD) patterns have been obtained using and INEL XRG3500 operating at 40 kV and 20 mA at IMN Jean Rouxel allowing small sample size using capillary and Debye-Scherrer geometry. The simultaneous acquisitions were performed on a 120° angle with a step of 0.03° in 2θ. We used the Cu Kα1 wavelength at 1.5406 Å monochromated using quartz crystal. Sample acquisitions were conducted in 0.2 and 0.3 mm in diameter capillary. The acquisition duration was between 6 and 24h with a 2s time per step. As we obtained a large quantity of iodosodalite synthesised at 1 bar pressure (see Table 2, Iodo 1bar), the XRD acquisition was performed on a Bruker D8 II with a Bragg-Brentano geometry equipped with a Cu Kα1 wavelength at 1.5406 Å and monochromated using germanium (111). The obtained diffractograms were pre-treated using DIFFRAC.EVA© software and the PDF-2 database to find the association of crystalline phases present in our material. We then conducted the Rietveld refinement [54] with JANA2020© software [55] for determining the crystallographic structure of the mineral phases and their proportions (see Table 2).

# 3. Results and discussion

3.1. Thermal analyses as a function of experimental conditions and iodine content

Typical DSC curves are shown in Figure 2 and are obtained for 1) ambient pressure I-free NH and SoNH glasses and 2) I-bearing glasses synthesised at 1 GPa and 1300°C equilibrated with either I<sub>2</sub> or I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> fluid phase, SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0, respectively. The I content in the glasses is reported in Table 1: 0.6 mol.% and 1.2 mol.% for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0, respectively. The present result can be compared to the results obtained in Jolivet et al. [46] for low activity waste glasses synthesised at identical pressure (~1.5 mol.% I at 1.5 GPa). The

obtained T<sub>g</sub> is ranging from 510 to 531°C determined from the double tangent method. We observe that the T<sub>g</sub> is only weakly affected by either the high-pressure conditions or the presence of dissolved iodine in agreement with the results shown in Jolivet et al. [56] suggesting that increasing I dissolution slightly decreases T<sub>g</sub> values. It is assumed that T<sub>n</sub> value is close to T<sub>g</sub> value (~+50°C). In our case, the curves shown in Figure 2 suggest a T<sub>n</sub> value close to 560 and 590°C for SoNH\_1b and NH\_1b, respectively. As the crystallization corresponds to an exothermic phenomenon, the T<sub>c</sub> is represented by the positive peak observed in Figure 2 and is estimated to be close to 790°C. Those derived T<sub>n</sub> and T<sub>c</sub> values were used in our experimental protocol shown in Figure 1 for synthesising the glass-ceramics. However, as emphasised previously, the adopted protocol constitutes a first approach and further improvements in the temperature path and constraints are required during the high-pressure experiments. This aspect will be further discussed in the following sections.

3.2. Iodine incorporation into glass and glass-ceramics at high-pressure

We present in Figure 3 two typical SEM element mapping images obtained on a JEOL JSM 7600LV for NH\_I2-2 and NH\_I2O5-2 synthesised at 1.0 GPa with Tn = 594°C and Tc = 813°C both temperature for 24h run duration, respectively. The images in Figure 3 show the coexistence between a glass matrix in grey and disseminated euhedral crystals in bright. It should also be emphasised that there is no apparent porosity in the obtained samples that is compulsory for the glass-ceramics durability [45]. The change in brightness in between the crystals and glass suggests that the observed crystalline phases are enriched with respect to heavier elements (i.e. iodine) as compared to the matrix. In Figure 3, we have reported the elemental distribution for Si, Al, I and Pt; however, we also obtained the Ca and Na elemental mapping for the same samples but not provided here for clarity. For both samples, we observe that Al is more concentrated in the observable crystalline phase than in glass matrix; and I is much more concentrated in the observed bright euhedral crystals than in the surrounding

matrix. The I-bearing crystalline phase is interpreted as iodosodalite (Is.) and also confirmed by XRD measurements. Those results are consistent with our knowledge of the iodosodalite chemical composition that has high Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> content (20 mol.%) and high I content (13.3 mol.% I) that are contrasting with the glass Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and I contents: ~10 mol.% and <1 mol.%, respectively. We also observe from the Al and I mapping images in NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2, a crystalline phase that is enriched with respect to Al and that does not contain I and is interpreted as nepheline crystal (Neph.). Interestingly, this crystal is not observed in the backscattered image suggesting that the contrast in elemental mass in between the glass matrix and the nepheline crystals is low. This represents a major problem as the quantitative analysis of the glassceramics phase proportions (i.e. glass, nepheline and iodosodalite) is not possible from image analysis. Consequently, in Table 1, we refer to the matrix composition as an association between nepheline and glass instead of the glass composition. As shown in Table 2, the nepheline has been identified in several samples, regardless of the initial iodine source. The presence of nepheline is a negative aspect for the formulation of a reliable glass-ceramics immobilizing iodine radioisotopes. Previous studies showed that the nepheline crystallization is particularly detrimental for the durability of the nuclear waste form [29,57,58]. The presence of nepheline could have several explanations. It is possible that local iodine depletion prevents from the crystallization of additional iodosodalite crystals. Although the experiments were conducted above T<sub>g</sub> and the system is supposed to behave like a liquid (i.e. instantaneous change in the physical properties; [59]), it might be possible that the I diffusion is not fast enough and the crystallization of nepheline occurs well before an equilibration of the I content could occur. Another explanation is that the adopted experimental conditions, especially pressure conditions (1.0 and 1.5 GPa), are, at some stage, outside the thermodynamic stability field of iodosodalite and nepheline becomes the more stable crystalline phase. We also identified the presence of a Pt-rich phase that appears very bright in

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the backscattered image of the NH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2 sample. The XRD analysis revealed that it corresponds to NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> suggesting that there is a chemical reaction between the Pt capsule walls and the sample charge during the experiment.

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The SEM EDS results are given in Table 1 for 1) the pure glass either I-free or I-bearing and 2) the matrix composition of the glass-ceramics and considered to be an association between a I-bearing glass and I-free nepheline crystalline phase. The error bars on the I content based on the standard deviation of the replicated measurements is on the order of  $\pm 0.2$  mol.%. For pure glass samples, we observe that I content in the glass is higher in the case I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> is the I source as compared to I<sub>2</sub>. For instance, we measured 0.7 and 1.5 mol.% I in NH I<sub>2</sub>-0 and NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 glass loaded with I<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, respectively. The same applies to the SoNH glass composition in which we measured 0.6 and 1.2 mol.% I for SoNH I<sub>2</sub>-0 and SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0, respectively. The higher I content measured in glasses with initial I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> source is consistent with the recent results from Morizet et al. [47] suggesting that I solubility is enhanced in that case owing to the stabilization of IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> molecular groups within the glass structure. In the present work for I<sub>2</sub> experiments, the measured I solubility (0.6 and 0.7 mol.% I for SoNH I<sub>2</sub>-0 and NH I<sub>2</sub>-0, respectively) is significantly lower than the one reported in Jolivet et al. [46] (~1.5 mol.% I) for identical intensive conditions. Despite the higher Na<sub>2</sub>O content in SoNH (~24 mol.%) compared to NH (19 mol.%) the measured mol.% I is lower in SoNH. Such result was not expected considering that recent studies have shown that I solubility is positively affected by the alkali concentration [47,60]. There is also a difference in the run duration in between both glass compositions: 3h for NH and 10h for SoNH. We wanted to check if changing the run duration could induce a change in the I solubility and by extension could impact the I dissolution for glass-ceramics, which are equilibrated with longer run duration. As observed in Table 1, we suggest that there is no change in the I solubility with increasing run duration.

This implies that the equilibrium between the I-rich fluid phase and the melt at high temperature is reached early in the experiment.

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Globally, the I content measured in the matrix of the glass-ceramics appears lower than the 303 304 pure equivalent glass. This is especially true for the NH glass ceramic samples in which the I content does not exceed 0.5 mol.% I (see Table 1). This observation is less obvious for SoNH 305 glass ceramic samples. For instance, 0.8 mol.% I has been determined the glass matrix for the 306 SoNH I2-1 whereas 0.6 mol.% I has been measured in the pure glass SoNH I2-0 in 307 equilibrium with I<sub>2</sub> fluid phase and for identical pressure conditions (1.0 GPa). The decrease 308 of the I content in the glass matrix is more pronounced for the samples equilibrated with I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> 309 fluid phase: 0.7 mol.% I is measured in the SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2 glass ceramic whereas 1.2 mol.% I 310 is determined for the equivalent pure glass SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0. Moreover, in between those 311 samples, there is a difference in pressure synthesis: 1.5 GPa for the SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2 glass 312 ceramic and 1.0 GPa for the SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 glass; that would induce higher I dissolution in the 313 glass-ceramics than in glass as pressure is thought to have a positive effect on the I dissolution 314 315 [46,48,61,62]. Nonetheless, the decrease in I content in the matrix for the glass ceramic samples is explained by the fact that the crystallization of I-bearing crystalline phases depletes 316 the bulk composition with respect to iodine. Another explanation is the presence of nepheline 317 318 crystals that are I-free and are not observed using SEM. Therefore, the analysis of the matrix glass-ceramics composition will result in an even lower I content. The presence of 319 iodosodalite crystals that are Na-rich crystalline phases also points towards the depletion of 320 Na<sub>2</sub>O in the chemical composition of the glass ceramic matrices. As can be seen in Table 1, 321 the matrix compositions are systematically depleted in Na<sub>2</sub>O (~21.0 mol.% Na<sub>2</sub>O) for SoNH 322 323 glass-ceramics as compared to the pristine SoNH glass (~24.0 mol.% Na<sub>2</sub>O). As inferred earlier, the decrease in Na<sub>2</sub>O content of the glass matrix does not favour I dissolution 324

[24,48,60]; however, Na<sub>2</sub>O decrease will induce an increase in the degree of polymerization of the glass matrix network and therefore potentially increase the glass durability [29,48,63]. We have pushed further the analysis of the glass-ceramics by conducting S/TEM mapping at nm scale as shown in Figure 4 on NH-I<sub>2</sub>-2. We found sample chips exhibiting different compositions that can be attributed to the identified coexisting phases: nepheline, iodosodalite and glass. The nepheline and iodosodalite are Ca-free whereas the glass is Ca-bearing. A small amount of Ca (~1 at.%) is present in the area assigned to nepheline. This could be explained by the superposition of this phase with the glass. The iodosodalite has the following composition (with an associated error of ±20% in relative): 25.0 Na<sub>2</sub>O, 19.2 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 44.5 SiO<sub>2</sub> and 11.3 mol.% I; that is very close to the theoretical composition: 26.7 Na<sub>2</sub>O, 20.0 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 40.0 SiO<sub>2</sub> and 13.3 mol.% I. The measured glass composition is: 16.3 Na<sub>2</sub>O, 12.7 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, 61.1 SiO<sub>2</sub> and 10.0 mol.% CaO; the I content of the glass could not be determined due to the overlapping between the I Lα and Ca Kβ lines and the low I concentration in glass. The derived glass composition is strongly enriched in SiO<sub>2</sub>, depleted in Na<sub>2</sub>O and slightly enriched in CaO as compared to the initial starting glass composition (see Table 1). The crystallization of iodosodalite and nepheline will decrease significantly the Na<sub>2</sub>O of the matrix considering that those phases are Na-rich. Although the presented results provide a proof-of-concept, substantial improvements in the syntheses method are required in order to 1) avoid the crystallization of nepheline crystals during the high-pressure synthesis that is a low durability phase, 2) increase the proportion of iodosodalite crystals that are known to incorporate large amount of I under either I or IO<sub>3</sub> into the β-cage and 3) increase the size of the iodosodalite crystals for better characterization. Nevertheless, we propose the first attempt for glass-ceramics obtained from heterogeneous nucleation from the parental glass under high-pressure conditions showing the coexistence between an I-bearing glass matrix and an I-bearing crystalline phase.

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We focused on the crystal-chemistry of the obtained iodosodalite using XRD and Rietveld refinement. In Figure 5, we show one diffractogram obtained for NH I<sub>2</sub>-2 equilibrated at 1.0 GPa. Additional diffractograms are also provided in the Suppl. Mat.. The identified diffraction peaks for NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, nepheline and iodosodalite are indicated. We observe a strong non-linear background that is assigned to the contribution of the glass amorphous phase. Unfortunately, without calibration compound, we are not able to determine the proportion of the amorphous glass in the glass ceramic samples. The peaks for NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> are strong in intensity due to the high cubic symmetry (space group  $O_h^3 - Pm-3n$ , [64]). We give in Table 2 the lattice parameters derived from Rietveld refinement for crystalline phases, the associated space group and the wRp parameter. This latter parameter represents the reliability parameter with respect to the structure refinement. We also reported the I content in iodosodalite as measured from SEM EDS and based on at least 5 measurements on different crystals. It should be emphasised that, for iodosodalite structure, the Rietveld refinement has been adequately conducted for I<sub>2</sub> samples whereas it is only partially resolved for I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> samples (see Table 2). The nepheline structure shows a hexagonal lattice with a space group P63. We calculated an average value for the cell parameters and we obtained 9.940±0.012 and 8.320±0.013 Å for a and c, respectively. The small standard deviation in the cell parameters suggest that the structure of nepheline is roughly constant in between the glass ceramic samples. The nepheline structure has been investigated a long ago [65-67]. Buerger et al. [65] reported 10.05 and 8.38 Å for the lattice parameter values, which is significantly higher than the ones we obtain. We explain the lower a and c values in our nepheline by the high-pressure synthesis conditions. It is currently known that increasing pressure conditions induces a decrease in the lattice volume and parameters. Recent work by Diego Gatta and Angel [68]

showed that increasing pressure decreases the cell parameters for nepheline (i.e. K- and Nabearing natural nepheline). In their work, the a and c parameters change from 9.9995 and 8.3766 Å to 9.8499 and 8.2838 Å between ambient and 2.0 GPa pressure.

To conduct the Rietveld refinement for iodosodalite structure, we used the CIF reference 1534899 from the Crystallographic Open Database and reported in Beagley et al. [69]. The obtained lattice parameter is on the order of 9 Å with a cubic space group I-43*m* that is consistent with previous results [41,70,71]. For instance, Chong et al. [71] gives a cell parameter at 9.009 Å for iodosodalite crystals obtained by hydrothermal synthesis. Systematically, the derived cell parameter for the high-pressure iodosodalite is lower (on average 9.007±0.004 Å on the reported structures in Table 2) than the one obtained for the ambient pressure iodosodalite (9.0295 Å). As for nepheline, we suspect that the high-pressure conditions explain the decrease in the lattice parameter for iodosodalite.

We mentioned earlier that the Rietveld refinement was incomplete for  $I_2O_5$  samples as opposed to the  $I_2$  samples in which the resolution of the iodosodalite crystalline structure is complete using standard crystalline model for the structure of iodosodalite. We suspect that this reference is not adapted for the iodosodalite crystalline structure obtained in the  $I_2O_5$  glass ceramic samples. One possible reason is that the iodosodalite crystals obtained have  $\beta$  cages occupied by  $IO_3^-$  instead of  $I^-$  clusters or a combination of both species. Currently, we are unable to confirm the difference in cage occupancy.

# 3.4. Estimate of the iodine budget in glass-ceramics

In the absence of reliable quantification of the glass phase in the glass-ceramics, it is not possible to constrain the I content in the glass-ceramics. It is even more complicated by the fact that the concentration of nepheline crystals cannot be obtained from the SEM owing to the low contrast difference in between the glass phase and the nepheline crystalline phase (see

Figure 3). Currently, the only information that can be obtained is the relative proportion of the different crystalline phases. We have reported the proportion of the different phases in Figure 6 (data are provided in Table 2) as determined from XRD analyses. The wt.% for each crystalline phases is represented for each glass ceramic sample and categorized as a function of the initial iodine source (either I<sub>2</sub> or I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>). It should be pointed out that, considering the incomplete Rietveld refinement for I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> samples, the crystalline phase proportions are subject to large errors. For the I<sub>2</sub>-bearing glass-ceramics, we observe that the proportion of nepheline seems more important in the SoNH samples (>70 wt.%) than in the NH samples (<50 wt.%), for identical synthesis conditions (1.0 GPa pressure for NH I<sub>2</sub>-1 and -2 and SoNH I<sub>2</sub>-1). Conversely, it corresponds to an increased proportion of iodosodalite in NH than SoNH samples. It suggests that increasing the Na<sub>2</sub>O in the starting composition (i.e. SoNH) does not favour the crystallization of iodosodalite as initially thought. Instead, the higher Al/Na ratio in the NH compared to SoNH is likely to enhance the stability of iodosodalite that is Al-rich. Although it remains to be confirmed with additional experiments, it seems that the nepheline proportion decreases and the proportion of iodosodalite increases in I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-bearing samples in comparison to the I<sub>2</sub>-bearing samples. The proportion of NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> appears very low (<2 wt.%) or even zero in the I<sub>2</sub>-bearing samples. On the other hand, even with large associated errors the NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> is unambiguously identified in I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-bearing samples from XRD (see Figure 6). It suggests that there is a chemical reaction in between the Pt walls of the sample container with the inside fluid phase (I<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub>) and the sodium of the matrix. This reaction has been clearly identified for SoNH I2-0 and SoNH I2O5-0 glasses and is described in the Suppl. Mat.. The identified mass proportion of NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in the different samples (see Table 2) does not affect the glass composition with respect to the Na incorporation. For instance, the 16 wt.% NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-1 corresponds to 0.5 wt.% Na incorporated into the NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, which can be considered as negligible with regards to the total Na2O content within the glass matrix (~20

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wt.%) and is likely to have a minor influence on the crystallization of the Na-bearing crystalline phases (i.e. iodosodalite and nepheline).

Further experiments are required in order to improve the iodine incorporation. For instance, the percentage of I-bearing crystalline phase needs to be increased and the presence of nepheline should be avoided. We suggest that the NH composition is probably more adequate than the SoNH in the formulation of a glass ceramic for immobilizing <sup>129</sup>I nuclear waste due to the higher Al/Na ratio in NH composition. We suggested that the presence of nepheline could be due to the intensive conditions that are close to be outside the pressure and temperature stability field of iodosodalite. For instance, previous works on Cl-bearing sodalite [72,73] showed that the stability field of sodalite is located at low pressure and sodalite becomes unstable above 0.8 GPa. As a result, we should consider performing experiments at lower pressure (i.e. <0.5 GPa) that is likely to improve the stability of the iodosodalite phase. Moreover, lowering the pressure condition is also beneficial as those pressure conditions can be achieved industrially [1].

#### 4. Summary

In the present work, we demonstrate the possibility to synthesise glass-ceramics that are able to incorporate iodine content in both the glass and the crystalline phases with the objective to propose a formulation for the immobilisation of <sup>129</sup>I radioisotopes. The glass-ceramics were obtained from the nucleation and crystallization of a parent aluminoborosilicate glass under high-pressure conditions (1.0 and 1.5 GPa) and using different iodine source: I<sub>2</sub> and I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>. The glass ceramic analyses shows the coexistence between a glass matrix containing iodine (up to 0.8 mol.%) and various crystalline phases. The crystalline phases are iodosodalite, nepheline and NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. This latter phase is mostly present in the glass-ceramics equilibrated with I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> source. The presence of nepheline is detrimental for the durability of the glass-

ceramics and further improvements in the experimental protocol are required. Experiments at lower pressure might be of interest as we could avoid the crystallization of nepheline. For now, due to the small crystal size (<10 µm) we are only able to determine the local environment of iodine into the iodosodalite if it is filled with I<sup>-</sup> species. When IO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> or both species are present inside the cage (i.e. solid solution of iodate and iodide sodalite), the DRX appears limited due to the lack of structural model in that case. The obtained results are encouraging and request further experimental work for formulating a glass-ceramics able to incorporate large iodine quantities in both the glass matrix and iodosodalite crystalline phase conferring mechanical durability, chemical durability through the double barrier, and higher nuclear waste load advantages.

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646 Figure caption

Figure 1: Thermal history adopted in the experimental syntheses of the glass-ceramics under 647 high-pressure conditions. The temperature history is divided into three parts: 1) melting (T<sub>f</sub>) at 648 ~1250°C for 1h, 2) nucleation (T<sub>n</sub>) at ~550°C just above the glass transition temperature (T<sub>g</sub>) 649 determined by DSC at ~500°C and 3) crystallization (T<sub>c</sub>) at ~790°C as determined by DSC 650 measurements. The time for the T<sub>n</sub> and T<sub>c</sub> has been set to 24h. We used cooling and heating 651 ramp of 15°C/min. At the end of the experiment, the sample is rapidly quenched. 652 653 Figure 2: DSC curves obtained for ambient pressure glasses: NH 1b and SoNH 1b; and Ibearing SoNH glasses: SoNH I2-0 and SoNH I2O5-0. The reported Tg and Tn values were 654 determined using the double tangent method and the crystallization peak position, 655 respectively. 656 Figure 3: Elemental mapping obtained by high-resolution SEM on NH I<sub>2</sub>-2 and NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2 657 glass ceramic samples. The distribution of the element shows that most of the crystal are 658 enriched with respect to iodine and correspond to iodosodalite (Is.). We also identified the 659 660 presence of NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> in NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-2 and is a witness of a potential reaction in between the experimental charge and the Pt capsule walls. The crystal size does not exceed 5 µm. 661 Figure 4: Element mapping collected from S/TEM acquisition and obtained on NH I<sub>2</sub>-2 662 663 sample showing the coexistence of iodosodalite, nepheline and glass. The Ca map witnesses the presence of glass as Ca is absent from the structure of iodosodalite and nepheline. 664 Figure 5: X-ray Diffraction pattern obtained for NH I<sub>2</sub>-2 glass ceramic sample containing 665 iodosodalite, nepheline and NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. The residual suggests that the Rietveld refinement has 666 been properly performed. We also added a β cage structure typical of the iodosodalite 667 668 structure. Figure 6: The bar plot shows the proportion of each crystalline phase determined in the glass 669 ceramics from XRD treatment. Although, the refinement is incomplete for NH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-1 670

- sample, there seems to be an increase in the iodosodalite proportion from  $I_2$  to  $I_2O_5$
- experiments.

Table 1: Experimental conditions, temperature and time step for glass and glass ceramic syntheses, glass and matrix major element composition.

		w::s	_				Composition (mol.%) <sup>a</sup>			(o) <sup>a</sup>			
Sample	Pressure (GPa)	I <sup>init.</sup>	$T_{\rm g}$	$T_f/t_f$	$T_n/t_n$	$T_c/t_c$	$SiO_2$	$B_2O_3$	$Al_2O_3$	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	I	
	Gl	ass synt	thesesb				Glass						
NH_1b	0.0001	0	531	1300/2		-	39.9	19.7	10	8.6	21.8		
SoNH_1b	0.0001	0	510	1300/2			46.3	13.6	11.0	5.0	24.2		
$NH_1_2-0$	1.0	11.6		1300/3			41.5	20.7	10.5	6.9	19.7	0.7	
$NH_1_2O_5-0$	1.0	10.6		1300/3			43.6	20.7	11.1	6.9	16.2	1.5	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> -0	1.0	9.6	510	1300/10			48.6	13.6	11.3	5.3	20.5	0.6	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -0	1.0	8.7	513	1300/10			50.3	13.6	11.7	5.1	18.1	1.2	
	Glass ceramic syntheses <sup>b</sup> Matrix: Glass + nepheline												
NH_I <sub>2</sub> -1	1.0	4.6		1300/1	594/24	813/24	43.4	19.7	9.4	8.6	18	0.3	
$NH_1_2O_5-1$	1.0	4.0		1300/1	594/24	813/24	42.8	19.7	9.1	8.4	19.1	0.5	
$NH_I_2-2$	1.0	10.2		1300/1	594/24	813/24	43.3	19.7	9.7	8.2	19	0.1	
$NH_1_2O_5-2$	1.0	9.9		1300/1	594/24	813/24	45.1	19.7	10.4	7.7	16.9	0.3	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> -1	1.0	10.1		1300/2	560/24	785/24	48.9	14.4	8.1	8.1	20.3	0.8	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -1	1.0	11.5		1300/2	560/24	785/24	48.1	14.6	13.0	4.0	19.9	0.4	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> -3	1.5	11.1		1200/1	560/24	790/24	48.9	14.9	9.8	5.5	20.3	0.5	
SoNH_I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -3	1.5	9.4		1200/1	560/24	790/24	48.6	15.3	10.0	5.4	20.4	0.4	

 $<sup>^{</sup>a}$ The composition of the of the matrix is reported in mol.%. The error on each oxide is on the order of  $\pm 0.5$  mol.% based on the replicated measurements from SEM EDS. For I, the error is slightly lower at  $\pm 0.2$  mol.%. It should be pointed out that the reported compositions are for pure glass and for glass+nepheline for glass and glass-ceramic syntheses, respectively. This is due to the fact that the nepheline cannot be distinguished from the glass in the glass-ceramic matrix.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup>The experimental conditions read as follow. For glass, there is a one-step synthesis with melting at high-temperature  $(T_f)$ . For glass-ceramics, there is a three-step synthesis protocol with melting  $(T_f)$ , nucleation  $(T_n)$  and crystal growth  $(T_c)$ . The time for  $T_n$  and  $T_c$  has been set to 24h. The whole protocol was performed under high-pressure conditions.

Table 2: X-ray Diffraction and Rietveld refinement results, cell parameters, phase proportion and iodine concentration in iodosodalite.

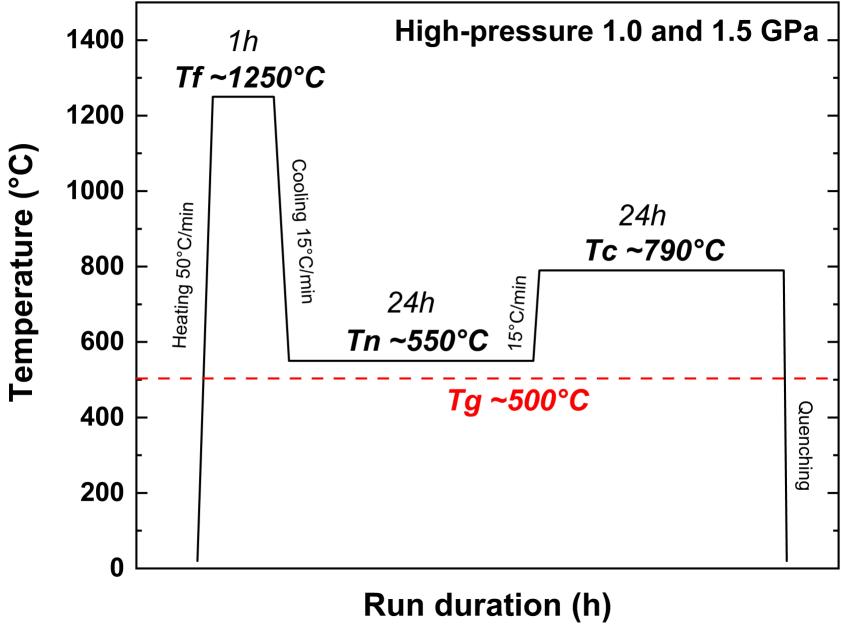
C	Cell parameters <sup>a</sup>						Cell volume (Å <sup>3</sup> )	C	D	D (0/)	Mol.% I <sup>b</sup>
Crystalline phase	a (Å)	b	c	α (°)	β	γ	Cell volume (A')	Space group	Proportion (wt.%)	wRp (%)	IVIO1.70 I
						Ioc	lo 1bar <sup>c</sup>				
Iodosodalite	9.0295(2)	9.0295	9.0295	90	90	90	736.2	I-43m	100	12.82	
						N	H_I <sub>2</sub> -1				
Iodosodalite	9.007(1)	9.007	9.007	90	90	90	730.8	I-43m	52.8±1.7	1.98	10.5
Nepheline	9.946(3)	9.946	8.326(4)	90	90	120	713.3	P63	47.2±1.6	1.96	
						N	H_I <sub>2</sub> -2				
Iodosodalite	9.008(2)	9.008	9.008	90	90	90	731.1	I-43m	59.1±1.4		9.3
Nepheline	9.949(3)	9.949	8.331(4)	90	90	120	714.1	P63	$39.0 \pm 1.4$	2.02	
NaPt <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.680(3)	5.680	5.680	90	90	90	183.3	Pm-3n	1.9±0.2		
						Sol	NH_I <sub>2</sub> -1				
Nepheline	9.937(8)	9.937	8.316(9)	90	90	120	711.1	P63	$73.6 \pm 1.7$		
Iodosodalite	9.007(7)	9.007	9.007	90	90	90	730.7	I-43m	$24.5 \pm 1.7$	2.89	10.4
NaPt <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.692(4)	5.692	5.692	90	90	90	184.4	Pm-3n	1.9±0.2		
						Sol	NH_I <sub>2</sub> -3				
Nepheline	9.921(6)	9.9212	8.299(6)	90	90	120	707.5	P63	91.7±0.9	4.06	
Iodosodalite	8.999(9)	8.999	8.999	90	90	90	728.9	I-43m	8.3±0.9	4.00	13.3
						NH	_I <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> -1 <sup>d</sup>				
Iodosodalite	9.0113(5)	9.0113	9.0113	90	90	90	731.7	I-43m	54.0±0.2		14.1
Nepheline	9.947(8)	9.947	8.327(10)	90	90	120	713.6	P63	$29.0 \pm 0.2$	2.35	
NaPt <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5.680(1)	5.680	5.680	90	90	90	183.3	Pm-3n	16.0±1.5		

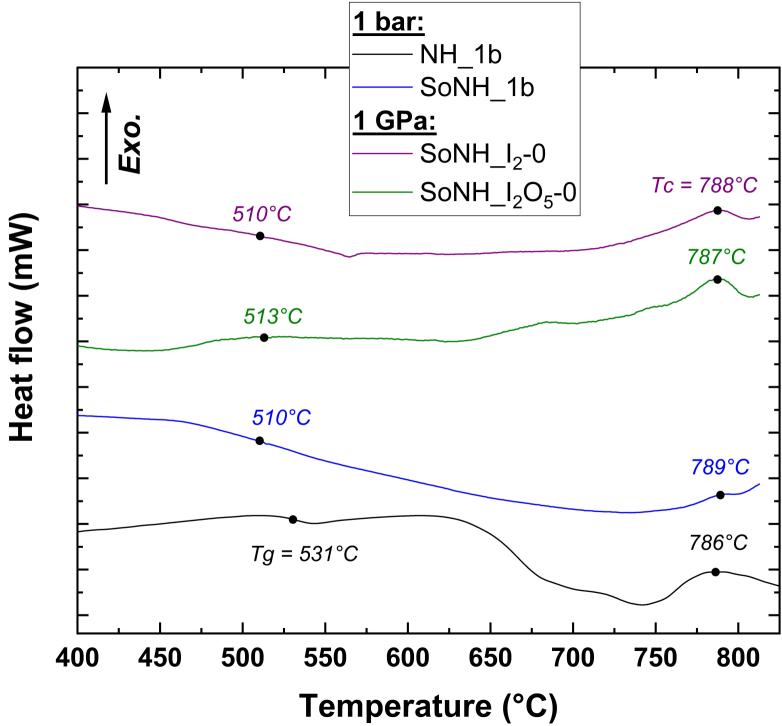
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The lattice parameters of the different crystalline phases has been determined using Rietveld refinement of the structure with JANA2020©. The error bars on each parameter is calculated with the Berar's factor and the normalized error obtained on the fit. For the different phases, we used standard crystalline structure collected from the Crystallographic Open Database. The reliability parameter (wRp) corresponds to a satisfaction parameter.

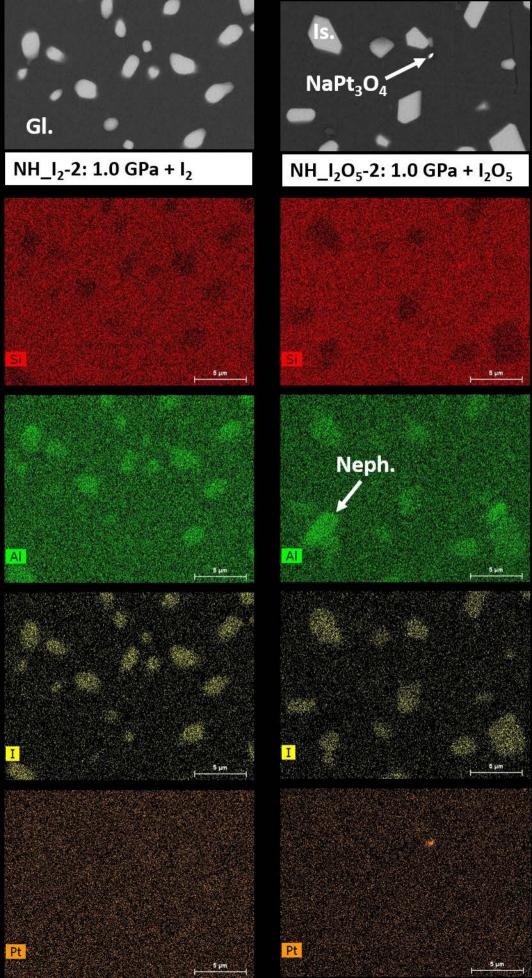
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> The mol.% I corresponds to the I concentration determined from SEM EDS measurements based on several replicated measurements.

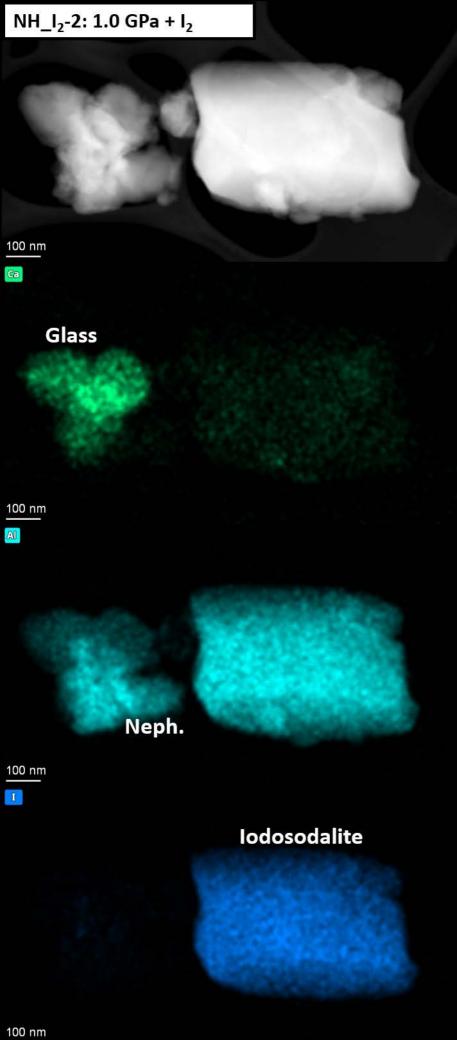
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> The XRD acquisition for this sample was carried out with a Bragg-Brentano geometry, whereas the other samples were characterized with Debye-Scherrer geometry using capillary.

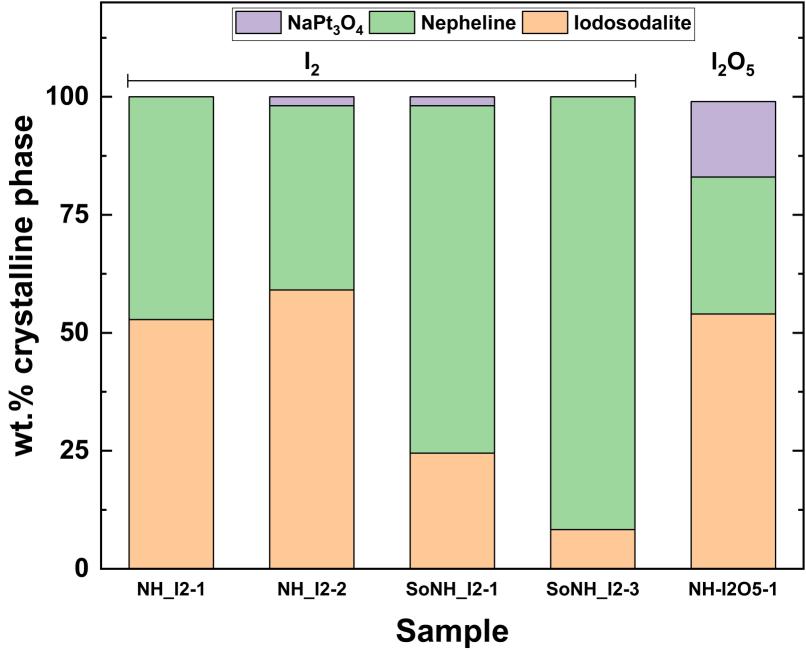
 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm d}$  For NH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-1 and for I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> glass ceramic samples, more generally, we did not manage to obtain a satisfying Rietveld refinement. Therefore, the error on the phase proportions is probably large and the cell parameters are likely to be accompanied with a large error.











#### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL: HIGH-PRESSURE REAL GLASS-CERAMICS

# FOR IODINE NUCLEAR WASTE IMMOBILIZATION: PRELIMINARY

# EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

4

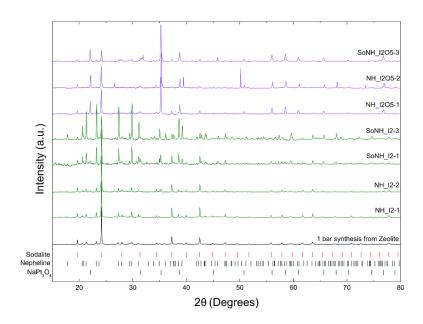
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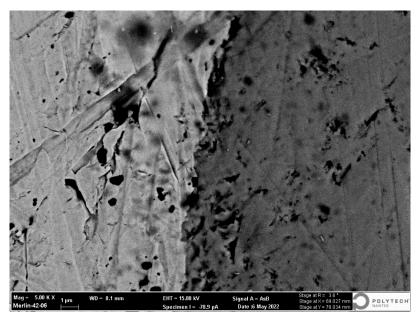
- 1. X-ray Diffraction patterns
- 6 We acquired X-ray diffraction patterns for each of the glass ceramics sample and the
- 7 iodosodalite synthesized at 1 bar pressure. The diffractograms are shown in the Figure S1.
- 8 The peaks for each crystalline phase are also shown. We do not show the Rietveld refinement;
- 9 however, refinements are available on demand for I<sub>2</sub> loaded samples.



10

- Figure S1: X-ray Diffraction patterns obtained on the glass ceramics in the present study.
- 2. Evidence for Pt capsule walls and inside experimental charge chemical reaction
- For the SoNH I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 and SoNH I<sub>2</sub>-0 glass syntheses (see Table 1) conducted at 1.0 GPa and
- 14 1300°C for 10h, we have analyzed the Pt container walls to evaluate the potential reaction
- between the inside experimental charge and the walls. The measurements were performed on
- a Wavelength Dispersive Spectroscopy Scanning Electron Microscope (WDS SEM) at the

- 17 IMN Jean Rouxel Polytech Nantes. The acquisitions are carried out on a Zeiss Merlin
- equipped with a WDS probe. We used a 15 kV acceleration current and the samples were
- mounted in an epoxy plug and analyzed without carbon coating.



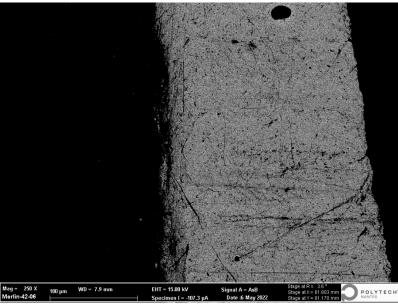


Figure S2: Backscattered Electron Microscope image obtained on the Pt capsule walls for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 (Bottom) and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 (Top) samples. The images are shown at different magnification. We observe a contrast in color for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 in the Pt walls indicating a change in the composition of the walls. The element concentration (see Table S1) shows an increase in the O concentration in the inside of the Pt capsule wall.

The images are shown in Figure S2 for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 at different magnifications and showing a portion of the Pt capsule walls. For SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0, we clearly observe that there is a contrast in the Pt wall between a brighter color on the left and a darker color on the right hand side. This is explained by a difference in the chemical composition. This difference in chemical composition within the capsule wall is not visible for the SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 sample suggesting a homogeneous composition of the Pt walls. We have quantified the element in each part of both SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 samples. The results are provided in the following Table S1.

	Na (mol.%)	Ca	О	Pt
	SoNH_I2O5-	-0		
Outer Pt wall	0	0	11.2	88.8
Inner Pt wall	6.5	1.9	37.7	53.9
	SoNH_I2-0	•		
Pt wall	0	0	6.3	93.7

Table S1: Element concentrations in mol.% determined from WDS analyses in the Pt walls for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0 and SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0. The error on the reported concentrations is on the order of ±10% in relative to the value.

For SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>-0, the capsule wall is mostly represented by Pt at 94 mol.% and is slightly enriched in O at 6 mol.%. We find roughly the same composition for the outer Pt wall for SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 sample. For the inner Pt wall of SoNH\_I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>-0 we clearly observe that there is a strong chemical reaction with the Pt alloying with the available O in the experimental charge but also Ca and Na. the O concentration measured is as high as 38 mol.%. Such a high O concentration is explained by the presence of excess O in the experimental charge coming from the dissociation of I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> into I<sub>2</sub> and O<sub>2</sub> above 350°C. The Pt-O alloying in the I<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> experiments could explain the presence of identified NaPt<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> observed from XRD (see Table 2).