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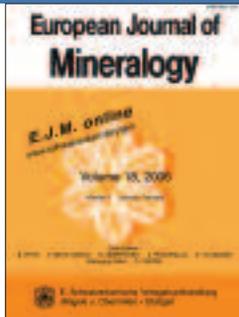
## Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie

### EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF MINERALOGY

The vehicle of scientific communication of the SFMC is the *European Journal of Mineralogy* (EJM). It was launched in 1989 as a result of the merger of three national journals, *Bulletin de Minéralogie*, published by the SFMC, *Fortschritte der Mineralogie*, published by the Deutsche Mineralogische Gesellschaft, and *Rendiconti della Società Italiana di Mineralogia e Petrologia*. Therefore the EJM is heir to a long tradition, as the *Bulletin de Minéralogie* dates back to the foundation of the SFMC in 1878, only two years after *Mineralogical Magazine* and some 38 years before *American Mineralogist* were founded. The establishment of the EJM editorial office in Paris is a consequence of this long history, and of the support of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. A recent major step in the journal's history is that the Sociedad Española de Mineralogía joined the three founding societies in 2004, thereby raising the number of individual EJM subscribers to nearly 1700. The journal is published under the auspices of the European Mineralogical Union (EMU), and as a result, individual members of any of the 23 EMU member societies may obtain EJM at a reduced rate.

EJM publishes original papers, letters and review articles. Letters receive accelerated treatment as they are intended to convey important results rapidly. The record is held by the first report of a triclinic amphibole in 1991, published only four months after submission! The thematic scope of the journal extends to Earth and materials sciences, as well as to environmental and technical studies, i.e. well beyond the classical fields of mineralogy, petrology, geochemistry and crystallography. This broad variety should be the hallmark of a learned-society journal and should also reflect the diversity in the membership of its owner societies.

There is usually one thematic issue among the six constituting the yearly volume. In odd-numbered years, one such issue derives from the 'Experimental Mineralogy, Petrology and Geochemistry' (EMPG) symposium held in even-numbered years under the auspices of EMU. Papers from EMPG X (Frankfurt/Main, April 2004) appeared in EJM 2005, volume 17, March-April issue, thanks to swift handling by guest editors Alan Woodland and Steve Foley. An uncommon but highly regarded thematic issue was the tutorial on elastic aspects of phase transitions in minerals, consisting of just two but sizeable papers by Michael Carpenter and co-workers (EJM 1998, volume 10, number 4). The most recent example is the 2005 November-December issue, with a series of original papers on the theme 'Micro- and Mesoporous Mineral Phases', edited by Stefano Merlino, which resulted from a meeting held in Rome in December 2004. The contents of these and other issues are available from the website below, and copies may be ordered from the publisher. Information for manuscript preparation and submission can be found at the same address. [www.schweizerbart.de/j/ejm](http://www.schweizerbart.de/j/ejm)



Christian Chopin  
Managing Editor

## BioMinéralisation 2006

The Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie (SFMC) is organising a workshop entitled 'Biomínéralisation and Environmental Mineralogy', to be held in Nancy, France, July 4–5, 2006, at the École Nationale de Géologie de Nancy (ENSG). This meeting will review the current state of knowledge on biomínéralisation and provide an overview of research conducted in France in this field. It will gather scientists from diverse disciplines (including mineralogy, crystallography, life sciences, organic chemistry, and others) and we expect it will foster interdisciplinary discussions and future collaborative investigations through potential integrated research programs. The meeting will feature keynote lectures and poster sessions organised around four topics:

- ✘ **Biomínerals and biogeochemical cycles:** How do biomínéralisations impact on the elemental cycles of the Earth system?
- ✘ **Structure and properties of biomínerals:** How can biomínerals be defined? What are their distinctive features?
- ✘ **Biomínéralisation and biomaterials:** What is the contribution of biology to the field of advanced technologies and materials?
- ✘ **Biomínéralisation processes:** How do organisms produce minerals? In which cases are these syntheses governed by

active and energy-dependant processes, and in which cases do they correspond to passive phenomena, leading to bioaccumulation and fossilisation?

To stimulate discussion, several round tables will be organised:

- ✘ **Biomínerals as univocal signatures of life:** What are the appropriate working scales? Are biomínéralisations relevant biomarkers in astrobiology?
- ✘ **Available technologies for biomínéralisation characterisation:** What are the contributions of in vivo/in situ instrumentations and high-resolution, non-invasive techniques?
- ✘ **An origin on the dividing line between organic and mineral chemistry:** What is the role of organic matter on the nucleation and growth of biomínerals?
- ✘ **Biomínéralisation and thermodynamics:** How can biological processes (including catalytic and kinetic effects) be reconciled with thermodynamic data and models?

The detailed program with invited speakers will be available in April. Registration deadline is May 15, 2006. An attractive fee structure will apply to students and SFMC members.

For further information:  
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### NUMERICAL MODELING OF MINERALS AND GEOCHEMICAL PROCESSES AT THE ATOMIC SCALE, LILLE, MAY 18–19

The Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie (SFMC) has launched a series of informal workshops entitled 'Numerical Modeling of Minerals and Geochemical Processes at the Atomic Scale.' The first one took place in Paris in September 2004. The idea is to provide a forum where experienced researchers can meet with colleagues seeking to use atomic-scale modeling in their research. The scientific program is organised around a few tutorial lectures and short presentations on current research. The aim is to favor networking to allow this community to expand in the next few years. The next workshop will take place in Lille (northern France) on May 18 and 19. Contact: [Patrick.Cordier@univ-lille1.fr](mailto:Patrick.Cordier@univ-lille1.fr).