



**AB
GRAD
CON 23**

1
00:00:13,910 --> 00:00:10,870

[Music]

2
00:00:17,390 --> 00:00:13,920

hi I'm Miriam and I'm here to talk about

3
00:00:19,910 --> 00:00:17,400

the salt of the earth and how they could

4
00:00:20,929 --> 00:00:19,920

help when looking for life in the solar

5
00:00:24,470 --> 00:00:20,939

system

6
00:00:25,550 --> 00:00:24,480

Earth can provide us with analogs that

7
00:00:27,589 --> 00:00:25,560

can

8
00:00:29,990 --> 00:00:27,599

mimic extra planetary environments and

9
00:00:32,210 --> 00:00:30,000

one of the most ones most often used for

10
00:00:34,970 --> 00:00:32,220

Mars is the Atacama Desert I'm really

11
00:00:38,510 --> 00:00:34,980

proud of this graphic

12
00:00:40,610 --> 00:00:38,520

so in the Atacama life has been shown to

13
00:00:43,490 --> 00:00:40,620

live off the deli questions of salts but

14

00:00:46,310 --> 00:00:43,500

uh can the salts that I studied

15

00:00:48,049 --> 00:00:46,320

deliquesc in Autumn conditions so for my

16

00:00:50,389 --> 00:00:48,059

project I tried to answer two scientific

17

00:00:53,330 --> 00:00:50,399

questions could nitrate salts or their

18

00:00:55,010 --> 00:00:53,340

salt mixtures uptake water or release

19

00:00:58,970 --> 00:00:55,020

water

20

00:01:00,350 --> 00:00:58,980

autocom environmental conditions and

21

00:01:04,250 --> 00:01:00,360

could the temperature and relative

22

00:01:05,690 --> 00:01:04,260

humidity values lead to nitrate salt

23

00:01:08,450 --> 00:01:05,700

deliquescence

24

00:01:10,670 --> 00:01:08,460

so to answer this we used a Ramen

25

00:01:12,469 --> 00:01:10,680

microscope attached to an environmental

26

00:01:14,090 --> 00:01:12,479

cell in which the temperature and

27

00:01:15,530 --> 00:01:14,100

relative humidity could be controlled

28

00:01:18,050 --> 00:01:15,540

and we used this to study the phase

29

00:01:19,730 --> 00:01:18,060

transitions of our salts of interest

30

00:01:21,770 --> 00:01:19,740

so we can answer our first question

31

00:01:23,090 --> 00:01:21,780

could nitrate salts or salt mixtures

32

00:01:25,010 --> 00:01:23,100

take up water under autocommer

33

00:01:26,749 --> 00:01:25,020

conditions well yes and thank you for

34

00:01:28,310 --> 00:01:26,759

coming to my talk

35

00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:28,320

um so

36

00:01:31,609 --> 00:01:30,240

but let me tell you why and so the first

37

00:01:32,810 --> 00:01:31,619

thing that we're going to do is look at

38

00:01:35,090 --> 00:01:32,820

the spectral series of the pure

39

00:01:36,649 --> 00:01:35,100

magnesium nitrate

40

00:01:38,090 --> 00:01:36,659

um so if we look at the crystalline

41

00:01:40,010 --> 00:01:38,100

nitrate which is going to be shown by

42

00:01:41,510 --> 00:01:40,020

the black Spectra at the bottom it

43

00:01:45,289 --> 00:01:41,520

starts off at a higher wave number of

44

00:01:47,270 --> 00:01:45,299

1062 and as we increase the as we

45

00:01:48,649 --> 00:01:47,280

decrease the relative sorry increase the

46

00:01:50,690 --> 00:01:48,659

decrease the temperature and increase

47

00:01:52,069 --> 00:01:50,700

the relative humidity it's going to stay

48

00:01:53,749 --> 00:01:52,079

there until it reaches the deli

49

00:01:55,609 --> 00:01:53,759

questions relative humidity of 63

50

00:01:57,170 --> 00:01:55,619

percent

51
00:02:00,590 --> 00:01:57,180
um at which point it shifts the lower

52
00:02:01,670 --> 00:02:00,600
wave number of 1052 so it's going to

53
00:02:03,710 --> 00:02:01,680
stay here

54
00:02:06,590 --> 00:02:03,720
and this is really cool it's going to

55
00:02:07,789 --> 00:02:06,600
stay here and as we increase the

56
00:02:09,529 --> 00:02:07,799
temperature and decrease the relative

57
00:02:11,750 --> 00:02:09,539
humidity it stays at that lower wave

58
00:02:14,690 --> 00:02:11,760
number until the efflorescence relative

59
00:02:17,210 --> 00:02:14,700
humidity of 23 and that means that

60
00:02:19,309 --> 00:02:17,220
magnesium nitrate the pure one can

61
00:02:23,630 --> 00:02:19,319
maintain a metal stable brine for over a

62
00:02:27,110 --> 00:02:25,490
um so we repeated these experiments

63
00:02:28,610 --> 00:02:27,120

multiple times over different

64

00:02:29,949 --> 00:02:28,620

temperatures and we made this lovely

65

00:02:32,330 --> 00:02:29,959

phase diagram

66

00:02:34,550 --> 00:02:32,340

uh and it's as temperature versus

67

00:02:36,530 --> 00:02:34,560

relative humidity so for the pure

68

00:02:37,729 --> 00:02:36,540

magnesium nitrate has a hydrate the Dell

69

00:02:40,010 --> 00:02:37,739

questions is going to be shown by the

70

00:02:42,830 --> 00:02:40,020

blue dots and the efflorescence is shown

71

00:02:44,330 --> 00:02:42,840

by the orange squares and it was a

72

00:02:47,150 --> 00:02:44,340

relatively temperature independent and

73

00:02:49,729 --> 00:02:47,160

occurred around 25 RH

74

00:02:51,530 --> 00:02:49,739

so magnesium nitrate exhibited a very

75

00:02:53,570 --> 00:02:51,540

large hysteresis which you can tell by

76
00:02:55,490 --> 00:02:53,580
the gap between the Dell questions and

77
00:02:56,809 --> 00:02:55,500
the fluorescence relative humidity and

78
00:03:00,710 --> 00:02:56,819
this is going to be our meta-stable

79
00:03:03,949 --> 00:03:00,720
brine region but I also mentioned salt

80
00:03:06,050 --> 00:03:03,959
regions so what about them so we

81
00:03:06,890 --> 00:03:06,060
did the exact same experiment but we

82
00:03:08,990 --> 00:03:06,900
used

83
00:03:11,149 --> 00:03:09,000
um different salts so we have magnesium

84
00:03:15,470 --> 00:03:11,159
nitrate so this is a one-to-one mixture

85
00:03:18,710 --> 00:03:15,480
and we have magnesium nitrate on the

86
00:03:21,710 --> 00:03:18,720
left and magnesium per chlorate on the

87
00:03:23,570 --> 00:03:21,720
right and we see that same shift in the

88
00:03:25,369 --> 00:03:23,580

nitrate Peak which we use to determine

89

00:03:27,050 --> 00:03:25,379

when dull questions would occur

90

00:03:30,170 --> 00:03:27,060

and so

91

00:03:32,210 --> 00:03:30,180

we took different ratios of chlorate and

92

00:03:34,070 --> 00:03:32,220

nitrate and we looked at how the pcori

93

00:03:35,869 --> 00:03:34,080

can influence the water uptake of the

94

00:03:38,390 --> 00:03:35,879

nitrate salts in the soil

95

00:03:40,309 --> 00:03:38,400

and so the blue dots once again are

96

00:03:43,309 --> 00:03:40,319

going to be the Dell questions and the

97

00:03:45,170 --> 00:03:43,319

orange triangles are the efflorescence

98

00:03:47,690 --> 00:03:45,180

um and then the lines in between is the

99

00:03:49,670 --> 00:03:47,700

average of the experiment so what we can

100

00:03:52,250 --> 00:03:49,680

see is that for chlorate seem to be

101
00:03:54,830 --> 00:03:52,260
helping or assisting with the magnesium

102
00:03:57,949 --> 00:03:54,840
nitrate water uptake or deliquescence

103
00:04:00,830 --> 00:03:57,959
and so if we look at our overall picture

104
00:04:04,190 --> 00:04:00,840
so this is pure magnesium nitrate and

105
00:04:05,930 --> 00:04:04,200
its Dell questions is at 60 RH

106
00:04:08,210 --> 00:04:05,940
however if we look at our pechlorate

107
00:04:10,009 --> 00:04:08,220
mixtures we can see that the water

108
00:04:11,750 --> 00:04:10,019
uptake seems to be assisted by that and

109
00:04:13,009 --> 00:04:11,760
we see this with the downward facing

110
00:04:15,050 --> 00:04:13,019
Trend

111
00:04:16,610 --> 00:04:15,060
um so we also wanted to look at what

112
00:04:18,590 --> 00:04:16,620
affects a less hygroscopic or

113
00:04:20,629 --> 00:04:18,600

deliquescent salt would have on that and

114

00:04:22,790 --> 00:04:20,639

so we did a one-to-one mixture with

115

00:04:24,469 --> 00:04:22,800

sulfate nitrates and we saw that this

116

00:04:26,749 --> 00:04:24,479

did not inhibit the water uptake of

117

00:04:28,730 --> 00:04:26,759

nitrate because it's still below the

118

00:04:31,490 --> 00:04:28,740

deliquescence relative humidity of

119

00:04:34,790 --> 00:04:31,500

magnesium nitrate so finally we can

120

00:04:36,290 --> 00:04:34,800

answer our last question

121

00:04:38,390 --> 00:04:36,300

which is could the temperature and

122

00:04:40,790 --> 00:04:38,400

relative humidity values lead to nitrate

123

00:04:44,510 --> 00:04:40,800

salt deliquescence in the soil

124

00:04:45,890 --> 00:04:44,520

um so we took our phase diagram and we

125

00:04:47,450 --> 00:04:45,900

took relative humidity and temperature

126

00:04:49,909 --> 00:04:47,460

data from these two sites in the

127

00:04:51,770 --> 00:04:49,919

Atacama Desert and both of these sites

128

00:04:54,290 --> 00:04:51,780

contain nitrates perchlorates in the

129

00:04:57,650 --> 00:04:54,300

soil composition and also sulfates so

130

00:04:59,570 --> 00:04:57,660

site a which you see above was

131

00:05:02,450 --> 00:04:59,580

relatively close to the ocean and was

132

00:05:04,550 --> 00:05:02,460

therefore warmer and more humid this was

133

00:05:06,590 --> 00:05:04,560

likely a contributor to why the nitrate

134

00:05:08,090 --> 00:05:06,600

cells in the soil could maintain a

135

00:05:09,590 --> 00:05:08,100

stable liquid brine which is shown by

136

00:05:11,210 --> 00:05:09,600

the dark blue highlights and a

137

00:05:12,950 --> 00:05:11,220

metastable line which is the light blue

138

00:05:16,730 --> 00:05:12,960

highlights throughout most of the year

139

00:05:18,650 --> 00:05:16,740

then if we look at site B this was more

140

00:05:21,710 --> 00:05:18,660

Inland and therefore significantly drier

141

00:05:23,870 --> 00:05:21,720

and colder but despite this we do have

142

00:05:27,110 --> 00:05:23,880

points throughout the year in which the

143

00:05:29,870 --> 00:05:27,120

salts could uptake and deliquesce and

144

00:05:32,390 --> 00:05:29,880

maintain a medicinal place so of course

145

00:05:33,350 --> 00:05:32,400

this is very highly variable and that

146

00:05:35,570 --> 00:05:33,360

could be due to the different

147

00:05:37,670 --> 00:05:35,580

environmental conditions as well as the

148

00:05:39,830 --> 00:05:37,680

different soil compositions and would

149

00:05:41,330 --> 00:05:39,840

need to be further studied

150

00:05:43,310 --> 00:05:41,340

so

151

00:05:46,189 --> 00:05:43,320

um if you have any questions comments

152

00:05:47,570 --> 00:05:46,199

concerns or a job please stop by my

153

00:05:50,170 --> 00:05:47,580

poster

154

00:05:53,770 --> 00:05:50,180

um which is number 23 so thank you

155

00:05:54,330 --> 00:05:53,780

[Applause]

156

00:05:57,110 --> 00:05:54,340

[Music]

157

00:05:59,930 --> 00:05:57,120

[Applause]