

First results from the C1XS X-ray spectrometer on board Chandrayaan-1

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The Chandrayaan-1 X-Ray Spectrometer (C1XS) is a UK-built instrument that was successfully launched on 22 October 2008 on India's first mission to the Moon [1,2]. By performing high spectral (~110 eV) and spatial (50 km) resolution measurements of the abundances of major rock-forming elements in the lunar surface, including the presently poorly constrained Mg abundance, C1XS will address important unresolved questions in lunar science [3]. An example of the capabilities of C1XS during an A-class solar flare is shown in Fig. 1. The spectrum shows that the Mg, Al and Si lines are detected and well-resolved. A compositional analysis of this spectrum, and comparison with the ground-truth from the Apollo 14 samples, will be presented.

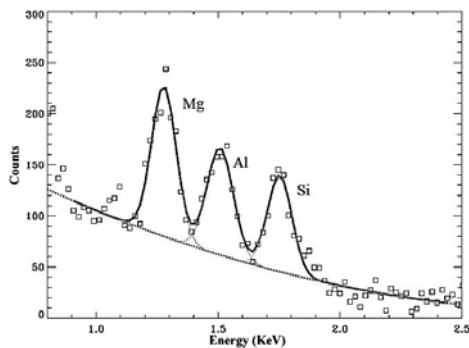


Figure 1: A spectrum obtained on 10 Jan 2009 (15:55 - 16:04 UT); corresponding to a ground track of ~50 × 750 km (including the Apollo 14 landing site at 17.5° W, 3.7° S).

[1] Grande *et al.* (in press) *Planet. Space Sci.* [2] Howe *et al.* (in press) *Planet. Space Sci.* [3] Crawford *et al.* (2008) *Planet. Space Sci* DOI: 10.1016/j.pss.2008.12.006.

Mg/Ca ocean paleo-temperatures from New Zealand foraminifera in the Eocene greenhouse world

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We have used laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) techniques to measure *in situ* element/Ca ratios of planktonic and benthic foraminifera of Early Eocene age, in order to reconstruct sea surface (SST) and bottom water (BWT) temperatures for the high-latitude South Pacific during the period 51 – 46.5 Ma, which includes the Early Eocene Climatic Optimum (EECO). The same suite of samples have been analysed for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and TEX_{86} , allowing comparison between independent geochemical temperature proxies and the Mg/Ca paleothermometer [1].

Thirteen species of planktonic and benthic foraminifera have been analysed from four samples from the mid-Waipara and Hampden sections, New Zealand (paleo-latitude ca. 55°S; paleo-depth ca. 1000 m). Electron microscopy shows that the preservation of these specimens is variable. However, the laser ablation technique permits multiple analyses per specimen, and yields a trace element/Ca profile through the test that makes it possible to identify and avoid zones of surficial and internal contamination resulting from diagenetic coatings, mineralisation and detrital sediment.

The species *Morozovella crater*, *Acarinina primitiva*, *Cibicides* spp. A, *Vaginulinopsis marshalli* and *Bulimina subbortonica* were identified as being best suited for temperature reconstructions, and used to develop inter-species Mg/Ca-temperature calibrations. Subsequently, these species were used to produce a temperature record for the EECO at ca. 200 kyr resolution. The Mg/Ca temperatures are broadly consistent with those derived from $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and TEX_{86} , with near tropical SSTs of ca. 25-30°C and BWTs of ca. 15-19°C. A cooling event of ca. 4°C occurred ca. 48.5 – 47.5 Ma, which may coincide with the *Azolla* interval of [2].

These results demonstrate the ability of LA-ICP-MS to recover reliable past ocean temperatures from less than ideally preserved foraminifera, and provide important constraints on climatic conditions in the Early Eocene.

[1] Hollis *et al.* (2009) *Geology* 37(2) 99-102. [2] Brinkhuis *et al.* (2006) *Nature* 441, 606-609.