

## UV-Femtosecond Laser ablation MC-ICP-MS for *in situ* analyses of Si isotopes

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Here we present results from the development of a novel *in-situ* approach to measure accurate and precise  $^{30}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}$  and  $^{29}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}$  ratios in minerals and glasses. We have developed an *in situ*-method for precise and rapid measurements of  $^{29}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}$  and  $^{30}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}$  ratios in silicates at a spatial resolution of 50 micrometers using our in-house built 196nm UV-femtosecond laser ablation system coupled to high-resolution MC-ICPMS. The use of medium resolution mode ( $m/\Delta m = 8000$ ) permits to resolve spectral interferences on  $^{28}\text{Si}$ ,  $^{29}\text{Si}$  and  $^{30}\text{Si}$  as verified using a three isotope plot that shows an equilibrium mass dependent fractionation law which can be represented as  $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = 1.93 * \delta^{29}\text{Si}$ . Sample-standard bracketing is used to correct for the mass discrimination and the possible drift occurring between two measurements and thus  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  are calculated using NIST NBS28 (synthetic quartz sand) as bracketing standard. Different types of matrices have been analysed by laser ablation. Thus  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  have been determined for the silicon isotope standard IRMM-017 ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -1.26 \text{‰} \pm 0.24 \text{‰}$ ; 2 s.d. n=89) and BigBatch ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -10.55 \pm 0.42 \text{‰}$ ; 2 s.d., n=15), as well as San Carlos Olivine ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -0.81 \pm 0.19 \text{‰}$ ; 2 s.d. n=14), Caltech Rose Quartz ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = 0.10 \pm 0.13 \text{‰}$ ; 2 s.d., n=14) and JER-diopside glass ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = 0 \pm 0.09 \text{‰}$ ; 2 s.d., n=14) samples. Silicon isotope standard IRMM-018 has also been measured and confirmed to be heterogeneous.

Samples where Si is initially present in solution can also be measured. This approach has been verified by dissolving JER-diopside glass, separating the Si [Georg *et al.*, 2006; Brzezinski *et al.*, 2003] and measuring  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  by laser ablation from a film of precipitated Si-gel.

First results will be presented that show that sponge needles from a given species and environment are homogeneous within and between individual needles. In contrast, hydrothermal quartz shows substantial internal isotope zonation.

### References

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## Using isotopes to track intercontinental dust transport: Building a bridge from Hefei, China to California, Spring 2002

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Research over the past decade has highlighted the importance of intercontinental transport and exchange of atmospheric aerosols, including soil-derived dust and industrial pollutants. Principal component analysis of elemental data for aerosols collected over California has identified a persistent Asian soil dust component that peaks with Asian dust storm events [1]. Isotopic fingerprinting can provide an additional and potentially more discriminating tool for tracing sources of dust.

Sr and Nd isotopic data and chemical data have been collected for a time series of PM2.5 filter samples from Hefei, China taken in Spring, 2002; encompassing a series of dust storms. DRUM impactor samples collected on Jeju Island just south of the Korean peninsula were also analyzed. The sampling time frame overlapped with the 2002 ITCT-2K2 experiment along the Pacific coast of North America and inland California. Highs in  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  in the Hefei time series coincide with peaks in Ca and Si representing peaks in mineral particulate loading resulting from passing dust storms. Mixing diagrams identify several components; a high  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  component that we equate with mineral dust (loess), and two different low  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  components (local sources and marine aerosol). Based on our Sr isotopic data, we calculate loess PM2.5 particulate concentrations in air that range up to 40  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Marine aerosol was a major component on several different days, consistent with back-trajectories that include coastal China and/or the China Sea, and at times is associated with rain events. Jeju stage 1 samples analyzed so far have  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  consistent with a significant component of Loess Sr (up to 45%), with the remainder being marine aerosol Sr.

The results for the Hefei and Jeju samples provide a basis for our isotopic study of California mineral aerosols, including the identification and apportionment of local and far-traveled Asian dust components and their variation in time.

### References

- [1] VanCuren R.A., Cliff, S.S., Perry, K.D. and Jimenez-Cruz, M. (2005), *J. Geophys. Res.*, **110**, D09S90, doi: 10.1029/2004JD004973