Fractionation of Sulfur isotope analysis by ICP-MS/MS

NAOKI SUGIYAMA

Agilent Technologies Japan , 9-1 Takakura-cho, Hachioji-shi, Tokyo 192-0033, Japan (naoki_sugiyama@agilent.com)

Sufur isotope ratio is used as an important indicator in geochemical and biochemical studies [1]. The ratio to the two major stable isotopes ${}^{34}S/{}^{32}S$ varies significantly, ranging from -50% to +40%, in nature by redox reaction [2]. The isotope ratio analysis has been mostly done by gas phase isotope ratio mass spectrometer (IRMS). We applied a new apparatus ICP-MS/MS for the analysis as the faster and simpler technique.

ICP-MS/MS is a tandem MS ICP-MS featuring high capability to resolve spectra interference using reaction cell technologies With the strict controle of ions entering the cell by the first MS, the reaction cell can effciently remove the interference. For sulfur analysis, oxygen (O_2) gas was introduced to cell to convert sulfur ion (S^+) to SO⁺ to remove original interference on the S isotope mass. It allows to mesure sulfur at 100ppt level on 32S and 34 S as shown in Fig 1.

The technique was optimized and applied for S IR analysis using IAEA-S1 as IR calibration standard. The achieved accuracy and precision will be reported.



Figure 1 Spectrum of blank and 2ppb S solution

[1] J Ryu, RA Zierenberg, RA Dahlgren et al (2006), Chemical Geology 229 : 257-272 [2] H.G. Thode (1970), Mineral. Soc. Amer. Spec. Pap. 3 : 133-144