¹⁸²W/¹⁸⁴W and Re-Os systematics of the Singhbhum and Dharwar komatiites, India: implications for 3.3Ga mantle evolution

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¹⁸²W is produced by β -decay of the extinct nuclide ¹⁸²Hf, which has a relatively short half-life of 8.9 million years. Hf is a lithophile and W is a siderophile; therefore, during segregation of the Earth's core, Hf remained in the silicate phase and W preferentially partitioned to the metal phase. It is expected that such Hf-W fractionation occurred prior to the extinction of ¹⁸²Hf on the early Earth. Various investigators have reported positive and negative anomalies in μ^{182} W (ppm) values, deviation relative to the present-day mantle value ($\mu^{182}W = 0$) in terrestrial systems. Most ancient rocks older than 2.5 Ga generally show relatively uniform μ^{182} W values of +10 to +15 (e.g., Willbold *et al.* 2011, Touboul et al. 2014, Liu et al. 2016, Mundl et al. 2018, Tusch et al. 2019). On the other hand, some komatiites such as Schapenburg and Komati (both having 3.5 Ga) have negative $\mu^{182}W$ value and $\mu^{182}W$ that is unresolved from modern value, respectively (Touboul et al. 2012, Puchtel et al. 2018). Also, Mei et al. (2019) presented non-positive anomaly in the W isotope of the Anshan komatiite with 3.0 Ga.

We analyzed the W isotopes of the 3.3 Ga Singhbhum and Dharwar komatiites, India, to figure out chemical evolution of the mantle from the viewpoint of μ^{182} W. The Singhbhum and Dharwar individual samples have μ^{182} W ranging from -0.5 to +5.6 (n = 3) and from -1.4 to +5.0 (n = 4), respectively. These values are much less than the range of the uniform μ^{182} W values of rocks older than 2.5 Ga as mentioned above. The results imply that deep mantle already had a low μ^{182} W during 3.5 to 3.0 Ga, probably because of late veneer of chondritic materials and/or that deep mantle of that period was heterogeneous with respect to ¹⁸²W isotope.