Modern and ancient hydrosphererock interactions constrained from triple oxygen isotope and in situ δ¹⁸O measurements

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We apply triple oxygen isotope ratios to examine waterrock reaction in modern and ancient marine hydrothermal systems. Values of Δ^{17} O, measured at per meg precision, complement $\delta^{18}O$ values by enabling study of sources of fluids, mixing, temperature of alteration, progress of waterrock reaction, near-surface boiling and effects of imposed metamorphism. We measured geothermal fluids from the Icelandic systems [see 1] and vent fluids from the Axial Seamount volcano of the Juan de Fuca ridge. These measurements define the trajectories of triple oxygen isotope exchange during water-rock reaction at >250 °C. On average the fluids are 0.01-0.02 % lower in Δ^{17} O and 0.5-2 % higher in $\delta^{18}O$ than the local sources. We also observe ± 20 ‰ fractionation of δD in Icelandic fluids owing to shallow boiling, but no significant Δ^{17} O fractionation is observed [1]. The vent fluids from the Axial Seamount system were collected at T from 173 and 341 °C; their Mg concentrations span 2-23 mM and negatively correlate with their δ^{18} O. The progress of seawater-basalt reaction is defined with the slope of 0.513 \pm 0.007 (mean \pm SE, n=11) constructed in δ^{17} O- δ^{18} O coordinates and by the lowest Δ^{17} O value of -0.026 ± 0.006 ‰. This slope characterizes the contribution of hydrothermal alteration into the triple oxygen isotope budget of terrestrial hydrosphere. In addition to the $\Delta^{17}O$, we measured $\delta^{18}O$ in situ by SIMS in single quartz crystals that were extracted from the zones of high permeability at the pillow basaltsheeted dike transition intersected by the IODP drill hole at site 504B. The studied quartz crystals contain CL-bright and CL-dark zones with distinctly different δ^{18} O values of 8.0±0.8 ‰ and 15.4±0.5 ‰. They likely record multiple regimes of hydrothermal circulation of seawater at around 330 °C and 160 °C. These in situ measurements provide a record of cooling history of the oceanic crust and help to interpret the Δ^{17} O data. Ref: [1] Zakharov et al. (2019) Chemical Geology, **530**, 119312