In situ Hf isotope analysis of cassiterite by LA-MC-ICP-MS - IAG Young Scientist Medal Lecture

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We report laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICP-MS) ¹⁷⁶Hf/¹⁷⁷Hf ratios for cassiterite of known age and demonstrate that 176Hf/177Hf ratios can be measured accurately and reproducibly with adequate precision for cassiterite with Hf contents around 100 µg g⁻¹. Although cassiterite only has minor rare earth elements (REEs), corrections of Yb and Lu interferences are required as they may affect the determination of 176Hf/177Hf ratios. We determined the Hf isotope composition of several cassiterite samples that had been characterized earlier to serve as possible primary and secondary reference material for LA-ICP-MS U-Pb dating. This study expands on this earlier work, characterizing the Hf isotopic composition of those samples that had potential to serve as primary or secondary reference material for in situ Hf isotope analysis. Among the investigated samples, Rond-A has a homogeneous Hf isotopic composition. We recommend cassiterite sample Rond-A as primary reference material for in situ Hf isotope analysis. Sample Kard has a homogeneous Hf isotopic composition and is suited as primary reference material once its Hf isotopic composition has been confirmed by solutionbased MC-ICP-MS. Samples BB#7, 19MP and 19GX show minor variation in their Hf isotopic compositions and, therefore, can only be used as the secondary reference materials.

[1] M. Yang, R.L. Romer, Y.H. Yang, et al. (2022), Chemical Geology 593, 120754.