

Diffusion-induced Li isotopic heterogeneity in the oceanization SCLM peridotites of Tibetan Yunzhug ophiolite

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This paper reports Li isotopic compositions of olivine in the oceanization subcontinent lithospheric mantle (SCLM) peridotites of the Tibetan Yunzhug ophiolite. The result shows systematic changes with relative distance from measuring point to edge of olivine grain. $\delta^7\text{Li}$ of olivine in dunite decrease from +10.46‰ to +1.33‰ with the relative distance from 26.15 μm to 124.71 μm (Fig.1A), while Li content shows a weak negative correlation with the relative distance. A negative correlation of $\delta^7\text{Li}$ and Li content in olivine from dunite and harzburgite indicates recent diffusive ingress of Li into the peridotites (Fig.1B). The extreme heavy isotopic composition required for the seawater or seawater alteration endmember in the mixing model together with mode of Li data of cratonic peridotite, likely due to Li diffusive from seawater into olivine. As in dunite, olivine in a single sample of harzburgites also shows large variations in $\delta^7\text{Li}$ as a function of distance from grain edge (e.g., 6.01 to 1.73 in sample 14YZ13). Combing the mixing model fits the Li isotope data of abyssal peridotites well, it is suggested that the behavior of Li in the oceanization SCLM peridotites may be controlled by Li diffusive from seawater since Li activity in the liquid-state is over solid-state in transporting Li through the peridotites. This study supports that seawater Li diffusion effect is one of the factors for the heterogeneity of mantle Li isotopes in ophiolites.

