Nucleosynthetic Anomalies in the Solar System

Reto Trappitsch Laboratory for Biological Geochemistry

March 16, 2023

EPE

30 Doradus (Credit: NASA/CXC/Penn State Univ./L. Townsley et al./ESA/CSA/STScI/JWST ERO Production Team)

Meteorites

The Solar Nebula: A Turbulent Environment





Credit: Navicore, CC BY 3.0



Credit: Navicore, CC BY 3.0



Courtesy: 2019/2020 ANSMET expedition





Courtesy: 2019/2020 ANSMET expedition

Credit: Navicore, CC BY 3.0

Reto Trappitsch (EPFL)

Nucleosynthetic Anomalies





Credit: Navicore, CC BY 3.0

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In Real Life...



Meteorite Loan Allocation Request

Please complete the form below. Your request will be reviewed and you will be notified as soon as possible. All allocated specimens are subject to the attached Field Museum loan policy.

Date: August 29, 2018

Name: Reto Trappitsch

Position: Postdoctoral Researcher

Students please provide name, e-mail and phone number of supervisor, who will be ultimately responsible for the allocated sample

Institution: Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Postal Address: 7000 East Ave. L-231

Livermore, CA 94550

925-422-1680

E-mail:

trappitsch1@llnl.gov

Meteorite(s) requested: List name, ME catalog number, minimum mass required and type

for each requested specimen. NWA 11115, 10 samples à 10mg each for He, Ne, Ar analyses,

The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496, USA Please return completed form to prheck at fieldmuseum dot org



Credit: Philipp Heck, The Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago



Nucleosynthetic Anomalies

March 16, 2023

Meteorites

Meteorites: The Poor Scientist's Space Probe

Undifferentiated



- Silicates and metals are still mixed
- Most primitive meteorites in the Solar System

Differentiated



- Heated due to radioactivity and/or impacts
- Highly altered: silicates and metals separated

Meteorite Classification after Weisberg et al. (2006)



Credit: Tobias1984 via Wikipedia (CC BY-SA 3.0)

The Solar Composition: Meteorites versus the Sun

- Comparison of elemental abundances in CI chondrites and solar photosphere shows excellent agreement over 10 orders of magnitude
- Noble gases
 - Depleted in meteorites
 - Volatile gases
- H, C, N, O
 - Depleted in meteorites
 - Form highly volatile gases
- Li depleted in Sun
 - \rightarrow Andreas' talk on Tuesday



Solar Photosphere; Si = 10⁶ atoms

Lodders (2019)

How to Display Isotope Anomalies

• δ -notation $\delta^i X_j$ in ‰:

$$\delta\left(rac{^{i}\mathrm{X}}{^{j}\mathrm{X}}
ight) = \left[rac{(^{i}\mathrm{X}/^{j}\mathrm{X})_{\mathrm{smp}}}{(^{i}\mathrm{X}/^{j}\mathrm{X})_{\odot}} - 1
ight] imes 1000$$

- ${\scriptstyle \bullet}\,$ Deviation from solar in ${\scriptstyle \%}$
- Isotope ratio normalized to one isotope (here: ⁵⁸Ni)
- Mass-dependent fractionation
- Mass-independent fractionation
 - In-situ decay of short-lived radionuclide
 - Nucleosynthetic anomalies
- Internal normalization (Δ -notation)
 - \rightarrow remove mass-dependent fractionation



Nucleosynthetic Anomalies

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- Solar nebula mixing: It was assumed the Solar System is homogeneous
- Mass-dependent fractionation: Evaporation/condensation
- Clayton et al. (1973): Oxygen isotope anomalies
 - Analyzed Allende calcium aluminum-rich refractory inclusions (CAIs)
 - Found enrichments in ¹⁶O
 - Nuclear origin?
- Oxygen isotopes heterogeneity likely due to self-shielding of solar nebula
- Determine provenance of objects in Solar System



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Ireland et al. (2020))

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Righter et al. (2011)

The Discovery of Presolar Grains

- Anomalies in noble gases
- Xenon HL could not be explained by any Solar System processes: Enrichment in Heavy and Light isotopes
- Isolation of carrier: Presolar nanodiamonds
- Presolar nanodiamonds are so small that only one in 10^6 diamonds contains a single Xe atom



Lewis et al. (1975)

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NATURE VOL. 326 12 MARCH 1987

LETTERS TO NATURE

Interstellar diamonds in meteorites

Roy S. Lewis*, Tang Ming*, John F. Wacker*‡, Edward Anders* & Eric Steel†





Pillars of Creation (Credit: NASA, ESA, CSA, STScI)

Interlude: The Age of the Solar System

- Two long-lived uranium isotopes:
 - 235 U: $T_{1/2} = 7.038 \times 10^8 \text{ a} \rightarrow ^{206}$ Pb
 - ²³⁸U: $\mathcal{T}_{1/2}^{'}=4.468 imes10^9\,\mathrm{a}
 ightarrow ^{207}\mathrm{Pb}$
- Calcium Aluminum-rich Refractory Inclusions (CAIs) incorporate U but minimal amounts of Pb
- These inclusions are also expected to condense early in Solar System
- Pb-Pb age reveals: 4.567 Ga
- "Short-lived" radionuclides (SLRs) allow us to date events relative



Connelly et al. (2012)

Presolar Grains

Timing in the Early Solar System: Measuring Isochrons



Presolar Grains

Timing in the Early Solar System: Measuring Isochrons



Timing in the Early Solar System: Measuring Isochrons

• A simple, linear regression!

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2^{6}Mg}{2^{4}Mg} &= \left.\frac{2^{6}Al}{2^{7}Al}\right|_{t_{0}} \cdot \left.\frac{2^{7}Al}{2^{4}Mg} + \left.\frac{2^{6}Mg}{2^{4}Mg}\right|_{t_{0}} \end{aligned}$$

Intercept: Sample's initial $\left.\frac{2^{6}Mg}{2^{4}Mg}\right|_{t_{0}}$
Slope: Sample's initial $\left.\frac{2^{6}Al}{2^{7}Al}\right|_{t_{0}}$

Timing in the Early Solar System: Measuring Isochrons



Presolar Grains

Homogeneous Distribution of ²⁶Al in the Solar Nebula

- Early Solar System abundance of 26 Al ($T_{1/2} = 717 \text{ ka}$)
 - Anchored by Pb-Pb ages
 - Homogeneous in all analyzed material
 - Initial ${}^{26}\text{Al}/{}^{27}\text{Al}$: 5 × 10⁻⁵
- Allows for precise, relative dating of early phases
- But where does it come from?
 - Injection prior to Solar System collapse
 - What is the astrophysical source?
- Weird things: FUN CAIs
 - Fractionated Unknown Nuclear effects
 - $^{26}\text{Al}/^{27}\text{Al}:$ $\ll 5\times 10^{-5}$



Jacobsen et al. (2008)

Presolar Grains

Radionuclides: An Important Heat Source in the Early Solar System

- Decay produces heat in the early solids in the Solar System
- Leads to melting and subsequent differentation of early, large objects
- ²⁶Al is the most important SLR heat source
- The importance of ⁶⁰Fe depends on its initial abundance



total heat output

Lugaro et al. (2018)

The ⁶⁰Fe Controversy (half-life: 2.6 Ma)

- Initial abundance of ⁶⁰Fe/⁵⁶Fe dependent on measurement technique
- $\bullet\,$ Bulk studies find Solar System initial $^{60}\text{Fe}/^{56}\text{Fe}$ of $\sim\,10^{-8}$

(Tang and Dauphas, 2015)

- ightarrow "Low" $^{60}{
 m Fe}$
- \rightarrow Consistent with galactic background
- In-situ studies by secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) show initial $^{60}Fe/^{56}Fe$ of up to $\sim 10^{-6}$ (Telus et al., 2018, Mishra and Chaussidon, 2014)
 - \rightarrow "High" 60 Fe
 - \rightarrow Co-injected with $^{26}\mathrm{Al}$ by supernova



Supernovae Co-Injection of ²⁶Al and ⁶⁰Fe?

- "High" ⁶⁰Fe: Requires an additional source
- $\bullet\,$ Co-injection of ^{26}Al and ^{60}Fe only consistent with high ^{60}Fe value
- "Low" ⁶⁰Fe: Consistent with galactic background
- Supernovae models by Jones et al. (2019)
 - Vary ${}^{59}\text{Fe}(n,\gamma){}^{60}\text{Fe}$ reaction rate by factor of 10
 - Free decay-time from production to injection: $10^5 a$
 - Injection of ²⁶Al fixed to solar nebula value

Supernova cannot be responsible for ²⁶Al injection if "low" ⁶⁰Fe value holds true (except: H-ingestion supernova models – ask Marco!)



In-situ Measurements of Meteorite Inclusions to Decipher Initial ⁶⁰Fe/⁵⁶Fe



1 Different phases incorporate different amounts of iron and nickel during condensation

- 2 Any life ⁶⁰Fe decays over lifetime of the Solar System to ⁶⁰Ni
- Slope in such an isochron diagram shows the initial ⁶⁰Fe/⁵⁶Fe ratio

Determining a Sample's ⁶⁰Ni/⁵⁸Ni Ratio is Difficult



SIMS can Effectively Only Measure Three Nickel Isotopes



SIMS can Effectively Only Measure Three Nickel Isotopes



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SIMS can Effectively Only Measure Three Nickel Isotopes



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Remeasuring a Previously Analyzed Sample

 Semarkona chondrule DAP1: A meteorite inclusion, which formed ~ 2 Myr after Solar System

Previous SIMS measurements

- Can only measure ^{60,61,62}Ni
- Evaluation revised multiple times

RIMS study by Trappitsch et al. (2018)

- New analyses by resonance ionization mass spectrometry (RIMS)
- Much smaller spot size
- No isobaric interferences
 - \rightarrow measure all Ni isotopes



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CHILI – A Resonance Ionization Mass Spectrometer for the Task



Precision in situ RIMS Analysis of DAP-1 (Trappitsch et al., 2018)

- RIMS measurements
 - Uncorrelated since normalized to abundant ⁵⁸Ni
 - No significant excesses in ⁶⁰Ni
- Re-evaluation of SIMS measurements
 - Highly correlated since normalized to ⁶¹Ni
 - No excesses in ⁶⁰Ni found
- Improper uncertainty treatment of SIMS data can result in isochron
- This Figure contains no information of elemental Fe/Ni ratio!



Re-analysis by RIMS Showed no Evidence for Live ⁶⁰Fe in DAP-1



Re-analysis by RIMS Showed no Evidence for Live ⁶⁰Fe in DAP-1



So we Re-evaluated 29 SIMS "Isochrons"

- All data by Hawaii group
- Bayes update starting with uniform prior
 - Gaussian likelihood given by calculated σ
 - Update with all 29 data sets
- Assuming that ⁶⁰Fe homogeneous in chondrule formation area
- Maximum probability of posterior distribution: \rightarrow $^{60}{\rm Fe}/^{56}{\rm Fe}$ = 1.9 \times 10 $^{-8}$
- Total probability of posterior to be below galactic background: > 78%



Other Radionuclides: A Complex GCE Story

- SLRs trace the contribution of various sources to the early Solar System
- Isolation time scales play an important role
- Some isotopes, e.g., ³⁶Cl produced (partially) in-situ by irradiation with (solar) cosmic rays
- Benjamin's talk on Friday

SLRs help to pin point injection events and associated timings in the solar neighborhood 4.5 Ga ago



Lugaro et al. (2018)

Precision Measurements show Groupings for Solar System Material



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A New Classification for Meteorites



• Warren (2011): A new classification of meteorites based on stable isotope anomalies

• The difference could be temporal or based on location of precursor formation

Jupiter: The Cause of Two Separated Reservoirs

- 182 Hf- 182 W ($T_{1/2} = 8.9 \times 10^{6}$ a) \rightarrow Date timing on core formation
- Dichotomy in in iron meteorites indicate early formation of the two reservoirs
- Most likely scenario: location based separation
- The culprit: Formation of Jupiter
 - Separates the outer from the inner Solar System
 - This dates Jupiter's core formation
- Core of Jupiter (20 $M_{igodold m}$): < 1 Ma



The Formation of Jupiter Separated the Reservoirs

- Early infall and formation of CAIs
- Late infall: Separates NC from CC
- Formation of Jupiter's core separates the two reservoirs
- After asteroids formed:
 - Migration of Jupiter, Saturn
 - Mixes material into inner Solar System (Grand Tack model)



Kleine et al. (2020)

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Kleine et al. (2020)

Solar System Started with *s*-Process Anomalies

- Stephan et al. (2019): Determined *s*-, *r*-, and *p*-composition of Solar System by presolar grain analysis
- The p/r isotope ratio seems constant
- The same is found when re-analyzing all meteorite data
- NC, CC separation indicates variation in the *s*-process component
- Also here: the p/r composition is constant
 - Are these isotopes created in the same stellar events?
 - Neutrino-driven winds?
- Earth: Between CC and NC composition



March 16, 2023

Stephan and Davis (2021)

Exciting Times are Ahead!

- SLRs: Timing of stellar injection / GCE contributions to solar nebula
 - Importance of data evaluation shown in ⁶⁰Fe story
 - Stochastic GCE important \rightarrow Talks on Friday!
- Two nucleosynthetic reservoirs NC vs. CC
 - Anomalies due to s-process variations
 - Jupiter kept the reservoirs separated
 - Origin of the variation unclear at this point

Many open questions remain, stay tuned!



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xkcd.com