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Rb-Sr ISOTOPE DATA FOR CORE SAMPLES OF THE ICDP BOSUMTWI SCIENTIFIC DRILLING PROJECT, GHANA

S. Luetke^{1, 2}, A. Deutsch^{1, 2}, and A. Sokol¹. ¹Institut für Planetologie, Universität Münster, Wilhelm-Klemm-Str.10, DE-48149 Muenster, Germany. ²ZLG, Münster, Germany. E-mail: luetke.s@uni-muenster.de

Introduction: The 1.07 Ma old Bosumtwi impact structure, Ghana (06°32'N, 01°25'W) is a young and excellent preserved complex crater. As part of the Bosumtwi Core Drilling Project (BCDP) two cores were drilled into impactites (BCDP-7A: annular moat, BCDP-8A: central uplift). In contrast to the broad spectrum of target and impact lithologies found on the crater rim, the drill cores mainly consist of meta-greywackes, phyllites and impact breccias [1, 2]. The goal of this isotope study is to constrain the precursor lithologies of Bosumtwi-related impact glasses (Ivory Coast tektites [IVC] and microtektites).

Samples: We investigated 1) six breccias of cores 7A and 8A, 2) two meta-greywackes (7A), and 3) two shales (7A). (1) consist of mineral (mainly quartz, feldspar, and calcite) and lithic fragments (meta-greywacke and a variety of shales to phyllite) ranging in diameter from 0.1 to 10 cm. The fine grained matrix additionally contains sheet silicates. To estimate the influence of clasts to the whole rock isotope systematics different parts of breccias were separated, i.e., (i) domains exclusively consisting of matrix and clasts ≤ 0.5 cm, (ii) such with matrix and clasts mainly larger than 1 cm, and (iii) single large meta-greywacke clasts (≥ 5 cm). (2) one meta-greywacke is medium grained, the other one phyllitic; (3) the shales are grey to dark grey, very fine grained, and display a foliation; they have a powdery consistence.

Rb-Sr Isotope Data: The breccias from core 8A have ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios between 0.703350 ± 14 (2 σ) and 0.708955 ± 12 , those of core 7A higher values from 0.720310 ± 13 to 0.72581 ± 10 . The breccia domains (i), (ii), and (iii) don't display large variation indicating the absence of not yet sampled target lithologies (e.g., granitoids) in the matrix. Two shales of 7A show much higher present day ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios (0.728310 ± 13 and 0.750205 ± 14) which is within the range published by [3] for shales, greywackes, and phyllites collected at the rim and in the vicinity of the crater. Reflecting the lower content of micas, greywackes of core 7A yield relatively low ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios (0.716423 ± 14 and 0.718968 ± 14), in accordance with our earlier results of core 8A [4]. Respective regression line calculations using the different lithologies result in rather low initial ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios of 0.7107 (7A) and 0.7027 (8A); the correspondent age values do not date a so far documented event, their geological relevance is questionable.

Outlook: The current set of isotope data does not allow to correlate specific target rocks with IVC. Therefore further isotope studies (Rb-Sr, Sm-Nd) as well as SEM analyses are in progress.

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ARGON AND NEON IN GENESIS ALUMINUM-COATED SAPPHIRE COLLECTORS FROM REGIME ARRAYS

J. C. Mabry¹, A. P. Meshik¹, C. M. Hohenberg¹, Y. Marrocchi¹, O. V. Pravdivtseva¹, J. Allton², R. Bastien², K. McNamara³, E. Stansbery³, and D. Burnett⁴. ¹Washington University, Physics Department, St. Louis, Missouri 63130, USA. E-mail: jcmabry@wustl.edu. ²Lockheed Martin c/o NASA/JSC, Mail Code KT, Houston, Texas 77058, USA. ³NASA/JSC, Mail Code KA, Houston, Texas 77058, USA. ⁴Geology 100–23, Caltech, Pasadena, California 91125, USA

Introduction: Here we report Ar results from the aluminum on sapphire (AlO₃) bulk regime samples, from which Ne results were obtained [1]. Ar measurements from other regimes are in progress.

Table 1.

Regime	²⁰ Ne fluence, 10 ¹² /cm ²	²⁰ Ne/ ²² Ne	²¹ Ne/ ²² Ne
Bulk	1.23 ± .11	13.96 ± .03	.0346 ± .003
IS	.352 ± .032	13.98 ± .04	.0340 ± .004
CME	.271 ± .024	13.93 ± .04	.0336 ± .004
C-H	.362 ± .032	13.94 ± .04	.0345 ± .004

Method: Since elemental and isotopic abundances of light noble gases in solar wind differ substantially from terrestrial air (usually used for calibration), we used specially tailored calibration procedures. For Ar, we lowered the ion source emission to 50 μ A, from our typical 150 μ A. Using this procedure, mass discrimination was small and reproducible at less than 0.3%/amu.

The AlO₃ samples were loaded into an extraction cell specially designed to minimize Al sputtering effects, which can contribute significantly to the blank and block the viewport. We rastered areas of 4, 10, 15, and 20 mm² for Ar and 1–2 mm² for Ne, using a Q-switched infrared laser, slightly defocused to optimize the surface energy density and the time needed to complete the raster. The corrections for ¹H³⁵Cl⁺ and ¹H³⁷Cl⁺ interferences at A = 36 and 38 were negligible, as was the ⁴⁰Ar blank ($< 5 \times 10^{-10}$ ccSTP) with observed ⁴⁰Ar/³⁶Ar ratios between 3 and 10.

Ar fluences were calibrated using both an air standard and Springwater olivine grains (mg size), with known amounts of spallogenic ³⁶Ar, ³⁸Ar, ²¹Ne, and ²²Ne [2]. These two calibrations differed by about 8%, which should improve by ongoing interlab calibrations.

Results: The Ar data from all four rastered areas formed a nearly perfect straight line when the ratios of ³⁶Ar/⁴⁰Ar versus ³⁸Ar/⁴⁰Ar were plotted, indicating a mixing of only two distinct components: solar wind and terrestrial atmosphere, no SEP or HCl effects. We calculated fluences (not corrected for backscatter) of $(2.4 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{10}$ ³⁶Ar/cm² and $(4.5 \pm 0.4) \times 10^9$ ³⁸Ar/cm². All four of our ³⁶Ar/³⁸Ar ratios agree to within 5 permil.

Table 2. ³⁶Ar/³⁸Ar ratios (from [3] and this work).

Terrestrial air	5.32
Apollo foils	5.3 ± 0.3
Lunar regolith (Zürich)	5.48 ± 0.05
Lunar regolith (Minnesota)	5.80 ± 0.06
SOHO/MTOF	5.5 ± 0.6
Regime bulk (this work, weighted average)	5.467 ± 0.010

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