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Note

Analysis of Rock and Sediment Standard Prepared in Japan by Neutron Activation and X-ray Fluorescence Methods

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Instrumental neutron activation analysis and X-ray fluorescence analysis were performed on rock and sediment standard or reference materials (SRM) prepared in Japan. The rock SRM in called JG-1 prepared by Geological Survey of Japan and the sediment SRM is Sanshiro Pond Sediment prepared by National Institute for Environmental Research.

KEY WORDS : SRM / Neutron activation analysis / X-ray fluorescence analysis / Neutron spectrum sensitive monitors /

1) Neutron Activation Analysis.

200 mg of samples in average were weighed in sample containers made of clean polyethylene for one hour irradiation. 20 to 30 mg of samples were taken in a similar manner for five minutes irradiation. Before packing weighed samples into an irradiation capsule, those containers were wrapped with clean polyethylene bags in order to reduce chances to be contaminated during handling and irradiation. The standard for one hour irradiation was made by spotting standard solution containing ten to fifty micro grams of Co, Cr, Sb and U on the same sheet of Millipore Filter and air dried. With the combination of these elements, neutron spectrum can be evaluated. After packed in sample containers, standards were placed at the central part of irradiation capsules so as to minimize the error caused by the neutron flux gradient within the irradiation capsules. The error caused by the flux gradient would be estimated to be ± 5 percent at most by this arrangement. The standard for five minutes irradiation was made by spotting Na and Mn solutions.

Neutron irradiation was performed with a pneumatic facility average flux and spectrum of which are described elsewhere.¹⁾ Samples irradiated for five minutes were cooled for two to three hours and those irradiated for one hour cooled for eight to ten days. γ -ray spectra were measured with a Ge(Li) detector of the active volume of 53 cc coupled to a NAIG-D 4K channels MCA which was equipped with an open reel magnetic tape out put. All the data recorded on magnetic tapes were treated by a minicomputor OKITAC 50. Calculations were made by using nuclear data such as

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Element	Nuclide	γ-ray(kev)	JG-1 Determined Content Agerage	Reported Range	Sanshiro Pond Sediment Content	Method
Fe Na K Ca Ti Sm Ce Lu U Th Cr Hf Yb Au Ba Sb As Br Cs	Fe -59 Na -24 Sm -153 Ce -141 Lu -177 Np -239 Pa -233 Cr -51 Hf -181 Yb -169 Au -198 Ba -131 Sb -122 As -76 Br -82 Cs -134	1099. 0 1368. 6 103. 18 145. 43 208. 34 277. 63 311. 98 320. 07 482. 0 197. 95 411. 8 496. 23 564. 10 559. 1 776. 5 795. 76	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Range 1.36 ~ 1.76% 2.33 ~ 2.66 4.15 ~ 5.6 ppm 41.9 ~ 47 0.22 ~ 0.52 2 ~ 4.67 11.5 ~ 15.6 31 ~ 64 3.1 ~ 3.8 1.45 ~ 2.5 430 ~ 603 0.1 ~ 2.0	Content 6. 37 \pm 0.12 (10)% 0. 537 \pm 0.014(10) 0. 715 \pm 0.018(15) 0. 620 \pm 0.013(15) 5. 17 \pm 0.013(15) 5. 17 \pm 0.14 (9)ppm 41.2 \pm 1.6 (10) 0. 30 \pm 0.02 (10) 1. 66 \pm 0.25 (10) 5. 77 \pm 0.27 (10) 74.2 \pm 3.8 (10) 3. 55 \pm 0.31 (10) 2. 14 \pm 0.19 (10) 0.09 \pm 0.12 (10) 10.5 \pm 1.0 (10) 15.3 \pm 0.7 (5) 3.87 \pm 0.42 (10)	NAA NAA XRF XRF XAF NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA N
Mn Sc Rb Co Ta Eu La Ni Cu Zn Sr Pb	Mn-56 Sc -46 Rb -86 Co -60 Ta -182 Eu -152 La -140	846. 6 889. 25 1078. 80 1173. 21 1221. 38 1408. 02 1596. 40	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA NAA XRF XRF XRF XRF XRF XRF

Table I. Neutron Activation and X-ray Fluorescence Analysis of JG-1 and Sanshiro Pond Sediment

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NAA: Neutron activation analysis, XRF: X-ray fluorescence analysis (): Number of determinations, []: Rough estimation The contents of the Sanshiro Pond sediment are based on the material dried at 110°C for 4 hrs.

T. TAKAMATSU, M. KAWASHIMA, and M. KOYAMA

Neutron Activation and X-ray Fluorescence Analysis of Geological SRM

cross sections, resonance integrals, halflives, etc. stored in a file, after evaluating neutron spectrum with monitors irradiated together with samples.¹⁾

2) X-ray Fluorescence Analysis.

X-ray fluorescence analysis was performed by a non-destructive method which utilizes internal standards such as Se and Cs of known amounts preliminarily well mixed with samples. Details are already reported elsewhere.²⁾

Both the methods described above do not require individual primary standards corresponding to elements to be determined in samples. Therefore, chance errors on making complicated mixtures can be eliminated.

3) Result.

In Table I results are shown. In case of JG-1, GSJ have been compiling data obtained by different analytical methods and from people from different disciplines.³⁰ For reference, recommended values by GSJ and ranges of reported values are cited. Pretty good agreements were obtained for most of the elements except for the cobalt concentration. Since cobalt is one of elements which are easily and accurately determined by neutron activation analysis, the value presented in this work is more accurate than the recommended. Chromium concentrations determined by neutron activation sometimes become twice as much as that of the recommended. The reason for this is not clear. Contamination of the elements during the sample preparation and irradiation is very unlikely, since blank runs so far examined never exhibited significant amounts of those elements listed in Tables.

Concentrations listed for Sanshiro Pond Sediment are corrected for 10.4 percent of the water content which was measured independently by drying samples at 110°C. Good reproducibility of the analytical data of the SRM suggests that the sample is homogeneous enough to be used to the practical purpose.

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