

Presolar SiC grains of Type AB with isotopically light nitrogen: Contributions from supernovae?

Tuesday, 26 June 2018 19:00 (1h 30m)

Primitive solar system materials contain small concentrations of presolar grains that formed in the winds of evolved stars and in the ejecta of stellar explosions [1]. Presolar SiC is the best studied presolar mineral. Among them are so-called Type AB grains which have low $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratios of ≤ 10 . This population of presolar SiC grains appears to originate from multiple types of stellar sources, namely, supernovae (SNe) for grains with isotopically heavy N ($^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N} < 440$) [2], and born-again AGB stars [3] and in particular J-type carbon stars for grains with isotopically light N ($^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N} \geq 440$) [4].

Here, we report on high resolution (< 100 nm) measurements of C-, N-, Mg-Al-, Si-, and S-isotopic compositions of 10 SiC AB grains from Murchison separate KJD (median size 0.81 micrometer) [5] conducted with the NanoSIMS ion probe at MPI for Chemistry with Cs and Hyperion O ion sources. Except for one grain with the highest $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio we find good correlations between $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$, $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$, and $^{26}\text{Al}/^{27}\text{Al}$. There is an almost perfect 1:1 correlation between Al and N concentrations, suggestive of AlN and low levels of contamination. Magnesium is essentially monoisotopic ^{26}Mg from ^{26}Al decay (half life: 0.72 Myr). Sulfur isotope anomalies are generally small and Si-isotopic compositions plot along the SiC mainstream line. Four of our AB grains have light N with $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}$ up to 1000. The correlations between C-, N-, and Al-isotopic ratios are well explained by the 25 Msun SN model 25T-H of [6] when matter from the O/nova zone, which experienced explosive H burning, and above (6.847-13.3 Msun) is mixed with matter that experienced only partial H burning, taken from the outer layers in the 12 Msun model of [7], as suggested by [2], and if the $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}$ ratio in the 25T-H model is decreased by a factor of 3. The comparison of our data with model 25T-H suggests that SNe might have contributed not only AB grains with heavy N but also some of those with light N.

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[3] S. Amari et al., *ApJ* 559(2001)463

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[5] S. Amari et al., *GCA* 58(1994)459

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[7] S. Woosley & A. Heger, *PhR* 442(2007)269

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Session Classification: Poster session