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**THE OXYGEN ISOTOPE COMPOSITION OF DARK INCLUSIONS IN HEDs, ORDINARY AND CARBONACEOUS CHONDRITES.** R. C. Greenwood<sup>1</sup>, M. E. Zolensky<sup>2</sup>, P.C. Buchanan<sup>3</sup>, I.A. Franchi<sup>1</sup>.

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**Introduction:** Dark inclusions (DIs) are lithic fragments that form a volumetrically small, but important, component in carbonaceous chondrites [1,2]. Carbonaceous clasts similar to DIs are also found in some ordinary chondrites and HEDs [3,4]. DIs are of particular interest because they provide a record of nebular and planetary processes distinct from that of their host meteorite [1,5]. DIs may be representative of the material that delivered water and other volatiles to early Earth as a late veneer [6]. Here we focus on the oxygen isotopic composition of DIs in a variety of settings with the aim of understanding their formational history and relationship to the enclosing host meteorite.

**Materials and methods:** DIs and related materials were obtained from the following meteorites: CV3s (*Allende*, NWA 2140, NWA 2364): Samples from Allende cover all categories of the four-fold classification scheme [2] (inclusion numbers analyzed in brackets). Type A clasts (*1a1*, *4b1*, *25s1-TW1*) contain chondrules, inclusions and matrix, but are somewhat finer grained than normal Allende material. Type A/B clasts (*MZB*) are transitional between Types A and B (Fig. 1). Type B clasts (*12b1*) contain opaque matrix and olivine-rich aggregates and may have experienced a hydration-dehydration cycle [2]. Type C clasts (*5a1*, *ekpb4b1*, *MZ15*, *USNM 3876*) consist of fine-grained, opaque material similar to Allende matrix. Full descriptions for of the Allende DI samples are given in [2]. DI material from NWA 2140 analyzed for this study is Type A/B and Type A for NWA 2364. *HEDs*: (*Bholghati*, PRA 04401, SCO 06040). DIs from the howardite Bholghati have not been analyzed by us for oxygen isotopes. Instead a sequence of 5-10 mg representative whole rock samples have been run to assess its carbonaceous chondrite content. PRA 04401 is an extremely coarse-grained howardite containing a high concentration (~40-50% in places) of nearly cm-sized angular carbonaceous clasts that texturally resemble CM2 material [7]. SCO 06040 is also a coarse-grained howardite breccia, contains a lower amount (~10%) of rounded, up to 2mm diameter, CM2-like clasts [7]. *OCs*: *Sharps* (*H3.4*) is a fragmental breccia containing accessory carbonaceous clasts up to 1 cm in diameter [8].

Oxygen isotope analysis was performed by infrared laser-assisted fluorination [9]. All analyses were obtained on untreated whole rock samples (0.5-2 mg). System precision, as determined on an internal obsidi-

an standard is:  $\pm 0.05\%$  for  $\delta^{17}\text{O}$ ;  $\pm 0.09\%$  for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ;  $\pm 0.02\%$  for  $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$  ( $2\sigma$ ).

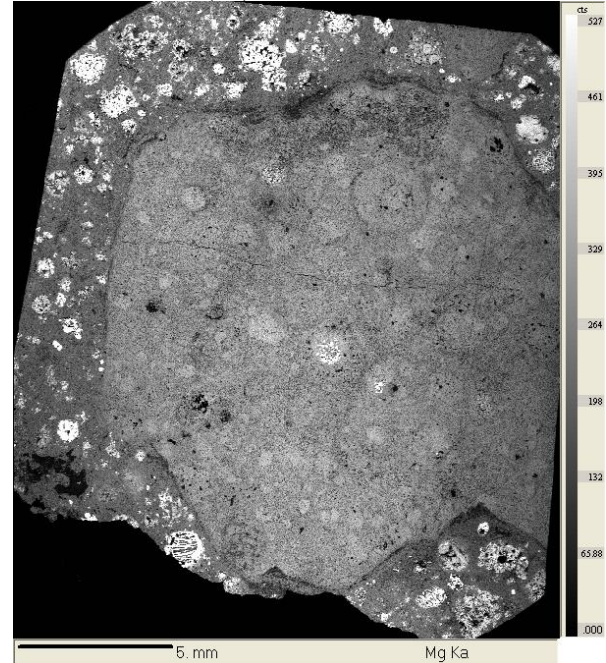


Fig. 1 Mg Map of a Type A/B Allende clast (AMNH 4301 [1]). Remnants of primary material are present in the centre of some larger chondrules.

**Results:** All of the Allende DIs are displaced slightly to the right of the CCAM line in Fig.2 and define a linear trend with a slope of  $y = -4.30 + 0.89x$   $R^2 = 0.99$ . The less altered chondrule-bearing clasts (A and A/B) plot closest to bulk Allende analysis in Fig. 2, with the most altered clast (Type B) (*12b1*) being approximately 5‰ heavier with respect to  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ . Matrix-rich Type C clasts show a narrow range of oxygen isotope variation, plotting roughly halfway between the most and least altered DIs in Fig. 2. These results are in agreement with previous studies of Allende DIs [1].

DIs in CV3s NWA 2140 and NWA 2364 (Type A/B and A respectively) plot at the higher  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values than their equivalents in Allende (Fig. 2). This is consistent with the results of previous studies [1] which found that Allende DIs are relatively  $^{16}\text{O}$ -enriched compared to inclusions in other CV3s (Fig.3).

Carbonaceous chondrite clast material from the howardite PRA 04401 plots at the extension of the CM2 field in Fig. 2 consistent with results of textural and mineralogical studies [7]. The other howardite samples analyzed in this study (SCO 06040 and Bhol-

ghati) have  $\Delta^{17}\text{O}$  values that vary from -0.265 to -0.489‰, consistent with bulk carbonaceous chondrite (CM2) contents of between about 1 and 10%.

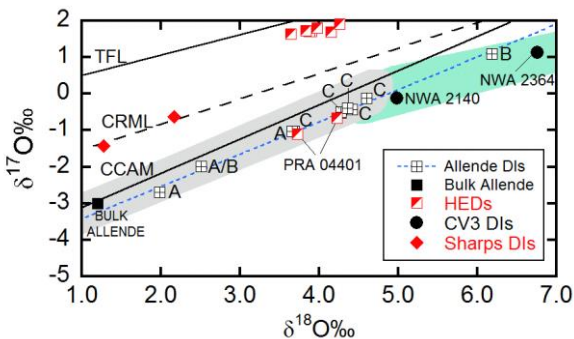


Fig. 2 Oxygen isotopic composition of Dark Inclusions. The blue dashed line is the best fit line through the Allende DIs only. Bulk Allende [10]. TFL = Terrestrial Fractionation Line, CRML = CR Mixing Line [11], CCAM = Carbonaceous Chondrite Anhydrous Mineral line [12]. CM2 field (blue shading) [12], CV-CK field (grey shading) [10].

DIs analyzed in Sharps are clearly distinct from those in either the CV3s or howardites and plot on the CR Mixing Line [11]. The composition of these DIs is not well understood, although they do not appear to be mineralogically related to CR chondrites [8].

**Discussion:** Mineralogical studies of DIs have played a crucial role in highlighting the importance of parent body processes in modifying the composition of CV chondrites [2, 13]. In particular, DI studies have shown that CV3s, previously regarded as pristine nebular condensates, underwent extensive aqueous alteration [2, 13]. Furthermore, textural evidence indicates that, following aqueous alteration, some DIs experienced a phase of thermal metamorphism, resulting in phyllosilicate dehydration and the formation of secondary Fe-rich olivine (Type B inclusions) [13]. This model was later extended to explain the origin of CV3 Fe-rich matrix olivines in general [14].

The results of previous oxygen isotope studies of DIs have also pointed to the role of aqueous alteration in modifying their primary compositions [1]. As shown in this study, DIs define linear arrays with a shallower slope than the CCAM and with less altered material plotting at the  $^{16}\text{O}$ -rich end (Type As) and more altered material (Type Bs) at the  $^{16}\text{O}$ -poor end [1]. However, with respect to phyllosilicate dehydration and secondary Fe-rich olivine formation, oxygen isotope evidence appears less clear-cut [15]. Experimental evidence indicates that dehydration will result in heavy-isotope enrichments, which for Allende matrix olivines are not seen, if the CCAM line is used as a reference [15].

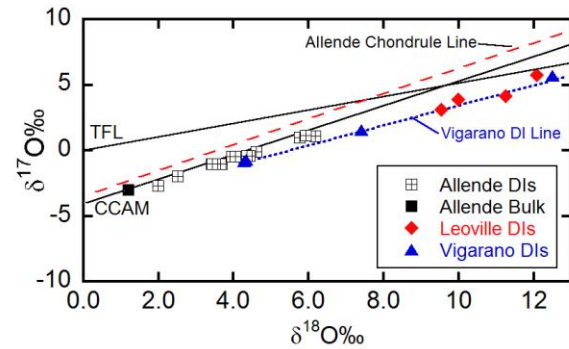


Fig. 3 Oxygen isotope composition of DIs in CV3 chondrites. Data this study and [1] (see text for details).

However, DIs in Allende may point to a possible weakness in this argument. In Fig. 2 and 3 DIs do not sit on the CCAM line, but instead define a line of lower slope (Fig. 2). In a similar way, chondrules in Allende plot on a discrete line with a steeper slope than the CCAM line. Analysis of 22 Allende chondrules (OU unpublished data) yield an array with a slope of:  $y = -3.45 + 0.97x$  (Fig. 3). If this reference line, rather than the CCAM, is used positive shifts of 7‰ along a mass fractionation line to the array defined by Vigarano DIs is feasible (Fig. 3). This is greater than required by earlier experiments [15]. More recent work has shown that shifts of 7‰ are produced during dehydration of serpentine [16]. Thus, phyllosilicate dehydration, leading to the formation of CV3 Fe-rich matrix olivines, may be a viable mechanism, provided the relevant reference line is steeper than the CCAM [17].

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