

FRACTIONATION OF Mg ISOTOPES BETWEEN THE SUN'S PHOTOSPHERE AND THE SOLAR WIND. A. J. G. Jurewicz,¹ R. Hervig¹, D. S. Burnett², R. Wiens³, M. Wadhwa¹, and K. Rieck¹. ¹Arizona State University, Tempe AZ. ²Caltech, Pasadena CA. ³LANL, Los Alamos NM. E-mail: Amy.Jurewicz@asu.edu.

Introduction: The Genesis mission goal is to precisely determine the elemental and isotopic composition of the solar photosphere through measurements of solar wind; the photospheric composition being a proxy for the early solar nebula. So, how elements and isotopes are fractionated (or not) when accelerated out of the photosphere is fundamental to interpreting Genesis data.

Other studies indicate that light elements and isotopes of noble gases fractionate when accelerated out of the photosphere [eg, 1,2]. Lithophile elements have low First Ionization Potentials (FIP <=9) and First Ionization Times (FIT). So, if FIP and/or FIT dominate formation of solar wind, there may be minimal fractionation of these cosmochemically-interesting elements and their isotopes. Conversely, if other mechanisms predominate this apparent lack of fractionation may reflect insufficient resolution of spacecraft data.

Coulomb drag is an alternate mechanism to FIP or FIT which predicts measurable fractionation in Mg isotopes from the photosphere. There is some evidence for this fractionation at the 1-sigma level, in data from in-situ solar-wind instruments [3].

Solar Mg isotopic abundances are well constrained from cosmochemical studies and the high expected fluence of Mg in Genesis array materials (~2E12/cm²) makes Mg isotopes in Genesis-flown samples feasible. This abstract presents preliminary results on Mg fractionation during formation of solar wind.

Experimental: ²⁴Mg and ²⁶Mg were implanted (~10:1) into flight-spares Genesis diamond-like carbon (dlc) and silicon (si). The isotopic ratio was validated using MC-ICPMS; remaining implant material was used to determine the instrumental fractionation for individual SIMS measurements. Preliminary measurements on two flight samples, 60065 (dlc) and 60289 (si) show that all three isotopes of Mg are easily measured using 60% DTOS [4] on a (250µm)² rastered area. 60065 gave clean profiles, the MgH interference was insignificant, and the SIMS calibration well constrained. Because heavy and light isotopes have different depth distributions, isotopic ratios were calculated using the integrated counts for each profile. For 60289, profiles of all Mg isotopes could be measured, deconvolved from surface contamination, and seemed heavy. However, we need to validate that the ²⁴MgH interference was resolved, and to understand a persistent Mg background signal (both standard and unknown) perhaps related to using DTOS with an O₂ flood (avoid issues with transient sputtering). Accordingly, 60289 is being reanalyzed, and the conclusions here are based on preliminary 60065, dlc-data.

Results: Preliminary data from 60065 are non-chondritic outside of analytical error, suggesting that Mg isotopes are fractionated from the solar. Moreover, the direction and magnitude of the deviation are consistent with predictions of Coulomb drag and with in-situ spacecraft evidence for isotopic fractionation. Detailed results will be given at the conference.

References: [1] Bochsler P. 2007. *Astron Astrophys Rev* 14:1-40. [2] Heber V. S. et al. 2008?. *Meteoritics & Planetary Science* 2503.pdf. [3] Kallenbach R. et al. 2007. *Spa. Sci Rev* 130:173-182. [4] c.f.,Cameca: Dynamic Transfer Optical System.