

15241 and 15251

Soils

348 and 601 grams

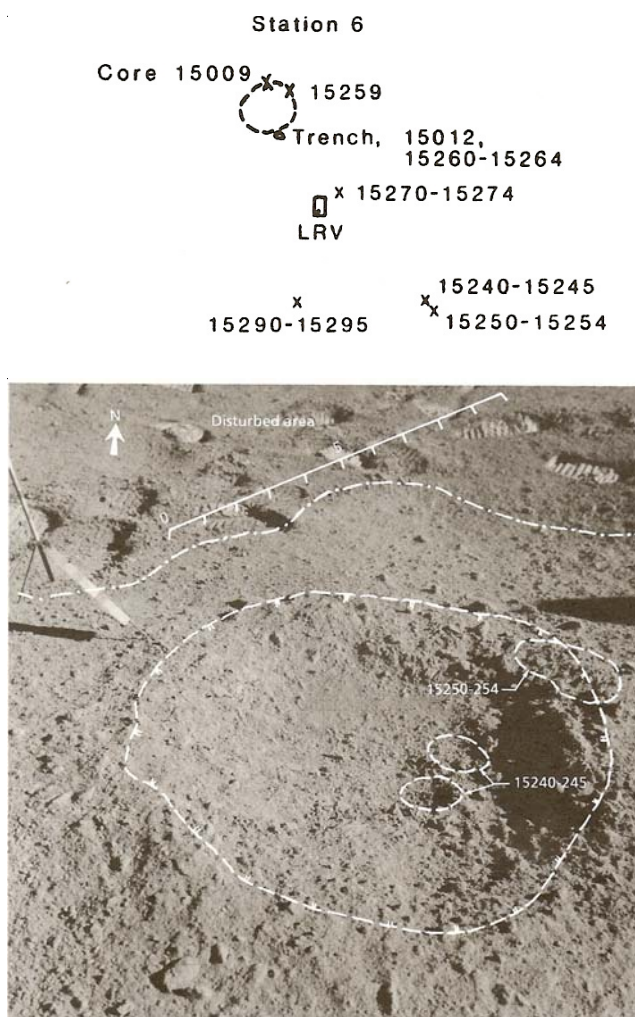


Figure 1: Location of soil samples 15241 and 15251 from bottom and rim of approx. 1 m crater at station 6 (Apennine Front). AS15-86-11610.

Introduction

Sample 15250 was collected from the rim of a 1 meter crater at station 6, Apollo 15, on the lower slopes of the Apennine Front. The lunar surface in the vicinity of the crater had numerous small rocks exposed (figure 1) indicating the crater was “fresh”. 15240 was collected from the bottom of the crater and included numerous fragments of soil breccia with glass coating, both in the coarse-fines and in the >1cm fraction (labeled 15245).

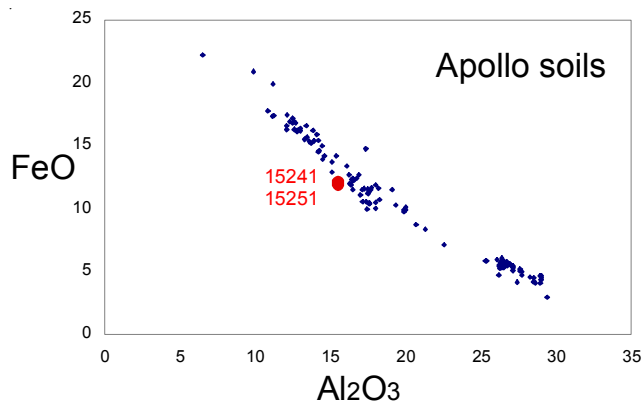


Figure 2: Composition of 15241 and 15251 compared with other Apollo soil samples.

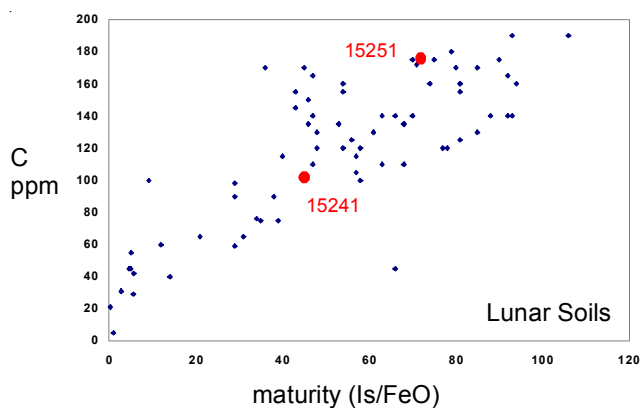


Figure 3: Carbon content and maturity of 15241 and 15251 (Moore et al. 1973; Morris 1978).

Petrography

The maturity index (I_s/FeO) for 15241 is 45 (submature); and for 15251 is 75 (mature). The average grain size is 42 microns for 15251 and 103 microns for 15241. 15241 does not have normal grain size distribution, with too many coarse particles (figure 5a).

Powell (1972) and Ryder and Sherman (1989) cataloged the coarse-fine particles.

Ryder et al. (1987) studied some of the coarse-fine particles from 15243, finding 9 KREEP basalt, 20 regolith breccia, ~13 impact melt rocks and only one cataclastic anorthosite.

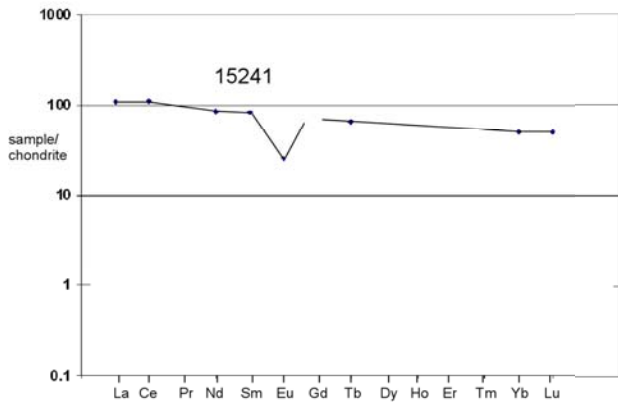


Figure 4: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for 15241.

Chemistry

Palme et al. (1978), Korotev (1987), Cuttitta et al. (1973) and other determined the chemical composition (figures 2 and 4).

Moore et al. (1973) determined 100 ppm and 175 ppm C for 15240 and 15250 respectively (figure). Reed et al. (1972) also determined the halogens, Li, Hg, Te, Ru and Os in 15251.

Walker and Papike (1981) used chemical mixing model techniques to calculate that 15251 was 30 % KREEP, 31 % mare basalt and 33 % LKFM.

Radiogenic age dating

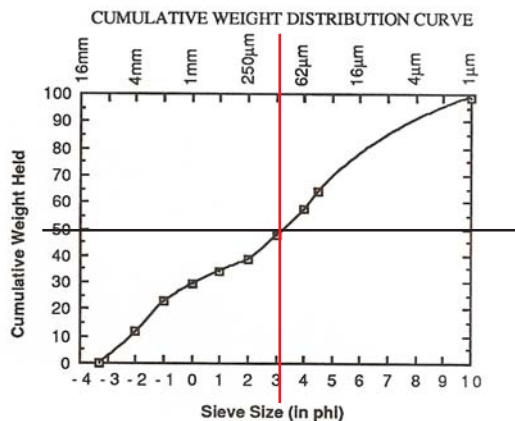
The age of this (young) crater has not been determined.

Other Studies

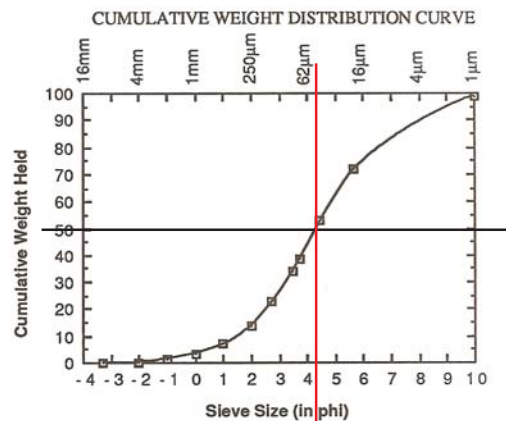
Bogard and Nyquist (1973) determined the rare gas content and isotopic ratios of 15251.

Processing

15240 and 15250 were returned in a sealed ALSRC (#1) and have only been exposed to dry GN₂ in the curation cabinets.



Average grain size = 103 microns



Average grain size = 42 microns

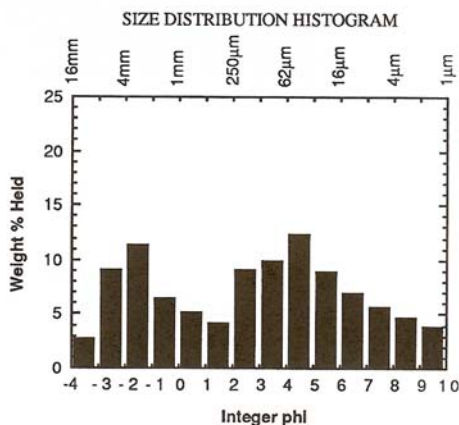


Figure 5a: Grain size distribution for 15240 (Graf 1993).

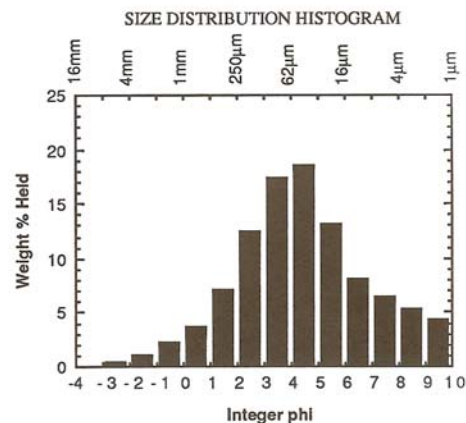


Figure 5b: Grain size distribution for 15250 (Graf 1993).

Table 1. Chemical composition of 15241.

	15245			
<i>reference weight</i>	Palme78	Korotev87	15245	Brunfelt72
SiO ₂ %	46.7	(a)		
TiO ₂	1.55		1.55	(a) 1.23
Al ₂ O ₃	16.5		16.5	(a) 15.8
FeO	12		12.4	(a) 12
MnO	0.16			(a) 0.17
MgO	10.4		10.4	(a) 9.9
CaO	11		11.3	(a) 9.8
Na ₂ O	0.48		0.46	(a) 0.46
K ₂ O	0.2			
P ₂ O ₅	0.22			
S %	0.074			
<i>sum</i>				
Sc ppm	24.7	(a) 25.4	(a)	21.9 (a)
V				76 (a)
Cr	2335	(a) 2410	(a)	2250 (a)
Co	39.6	(a) 38.8	(a)	38.8 (a)
Ni	270	(a) 212	(a)	180 (a)
Cu				
Zn				
Ga	4.3	(a)		
Ge ppb				
As				
Se				
Rb				6.3 (a)
Sr	140	(a) 155	(a)	115 (a)
Y	86	(a)		
Zr	360	(a) 390	(a)	
Nb	25	(a)		
Mo				
Ru				
Rh				
Pd ppb				
Ag ppb				
Cd ppb				
In ppb				
Sn ppb				
Sb ppb				
Te ppb				
Cs ppm	0.23	(a) 0.27	(a)	
Ba	274	(a) 262	(a)	210 (a)
La	27.2	(a) 25.5	(a)	25 (a)
Ce	71.8	(a) 67	(a)	
Pr				
Nd	45	(a) 38	(a)	
Sm	11.65	(a) 12.2	(a)	12.1 (a)
Eu	1.43	(a) 1.41	(a)	1.8 (a)
Gd	12.6	(a)		
Tb	2.43	(a) 2.38	(a)	2.71 (a)
Dy	15.6	(a)		10 (a)
Ho	3.56	(a)		
Er				
Tm	1.61	(a)		
Yb	9.23	(a) 8.1	(a)	10.7 (a)
Lu	1.26	(a) 1.23	(a)	
Hf	9.34	(a) 9.6	(a)	10.5 (a)
Ta	1.25	(a) 1.16	(a)	1.25 (a)
W ppb				
Re ppb				
Os ppb				
Ir ppb	10	(b) 8.1	(a)	
Pt ppb				
Au ppb	8	(b) 2.7	(a)	
Th ppm	3.84	(a) 4.2	(a)	3.98 (a)
U ppm	0.96	(a) 1.02	(a)	1.02 (a)

technique: (a) INAA, (b) RNAA

Table 2. Composition of 15251.

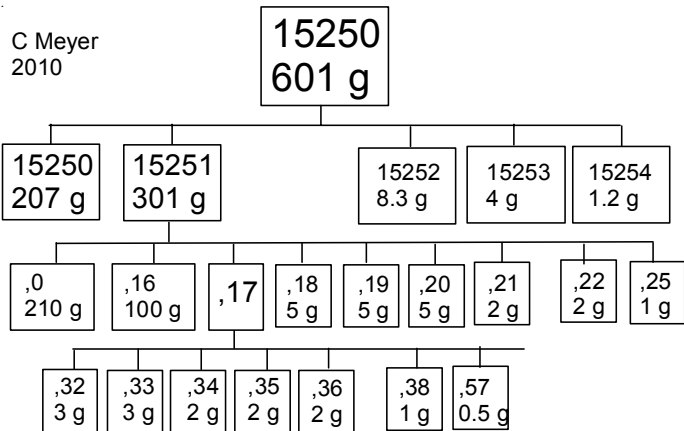
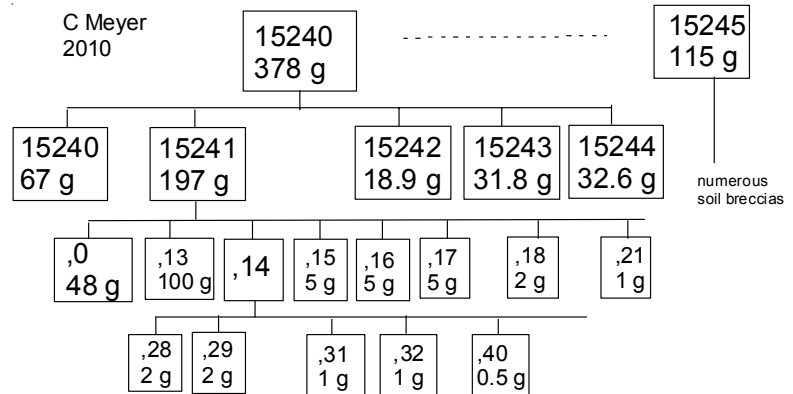
	Cuttitta73		Brunfelt72	
<i>reference weight</i>	Cuttitta73	Brunfelt72		
SiO ₂ %	47.02	(a)		
TiO ₂	1.49	(a)	1.4	(b)
Al ₂ O ₃	16.28	(a)	16.1	(b)
FeO	12	(a)	11.96	(b)
MnO	0.16	(a)	0.16	(b)
MgO	10.31	(a)		
CaO	11.25	(a)	11.9	(b)
Na ₂ O	0.54	(a)	0.46	(b)
K ₂ O	0.22	(a)		
P ₂ O ₅	0.24	(a)		
S %				
<i>sum</i>				
Sc ppm	24	(a)	23	(b)
V	85	(a)	111	(b)
Cr	2053	(a)	2430	(b)
Co	46	(a)	43.6	(b)
Ni	405	(a)	320	(b)
Cu	12	(a)	7.4	(b)
Zn	24	(a)	16	(b)
Ga	3.7	(a)	4.3	(b)
Ge ppb				
As			60	(b)
Se			300	(b)
Rb	5.4	(a)	6.1	(b)
Sr	160	(a)	108	(b)
Y	96	(a)		
Zr	350	(a)		
Nb	23	(a)		
Mo				
Ru				
Rh				
Pd ppb				
Ag ppb			21	(b)
Cd ppb				
In ppb			8	(b)
Sn ppb				
Sb ppb				
Te ppb				
Cs ppm			0.26	(b)
Ba	340	(a)	236	(b)
La	40	(a)	22	(b)
Ce			84	(b)
Pr				
Nd				
Sm			11.9	(b)
Eu			1.69	(b)
Gd				
Tb			2.28	(b)
Dy			12.6	(b)
Ho			3.1	(b)
Er			10	(b)
Tm				
Yb	11	(a)	7.4	(b)
Lu			0.87	(b)
Hf			13	(b)
Ta			1.13	(b)
W ppb			1	(b)
Re ppb				
Os ppb				
Ir ppb			7.1	(b)
Pt ppb				
Au ppb			4.8	(b)
Th ppm			3.7	(b)
U ppm			1.16	(b)

technique: (a) "microchemical", (b) INAA

Table 3. Composition of KREEP.

15243 reference weight	KREEP Ryder88 ,19	Impact Melt ,21	
SiO2 %			
TiO2			
Al2O3			
FeO	10.3	8.6	(a)
MnO			
MgO			
CaO	10.4	12.6	(a)
Na2O	0.82	0.702	(a)
K2O		0.098	
P2O5			
S %			
sum			
Sc ppm	21.9	18.3	(a)
V			
Cr	2240	1100	(a)
Co	21	21.4	(a)
Ni		58	
Cu			
Zn			
Ga			
Ge ppb			
As			
Se			
Rb	17		(a)
Sr	225		(a)
Y			
Zr	840		(a)
Nb			
Mo			
Ru			
Rh			
Pd ppb			
Ag ppb			
Cd ppb			
In ppb			
Sn ppb			
Sb ppb			
Te ppb			
Cs ppm	0.6		(a)
Ba	740	140	(a)
La	73.3	8.4	(a)
Ce	192	23.1	(a)
Pr			
Nd	116	10.5	(a)
Sm	33.1	4.25	(a)
Eu	2.69	1.58	(a)
Gd			
Tb	6.64	0.96	(a)
Dy			
Ho			
Er			
Tm			
Yb	22.3	4.1	(a)
Lu	2.99	0.57	(a)
Hf	26.7	3.68	(a)
Ta	2.81	0.55	(a)
W ppb			
Re ppb			
Os ppb			
Ir ppb			
Pt ppb			
Au ppb	< 4	< 6	(a)
Th ppm	11.4	1.37	(a)
U ppm	3	0.42	(a)

technique: (a) INAA



References for 15241 and 15251

- Best J.B. and Minkin J.A. (1972) Apollo 15 glasses of impact origin. *In The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples*, 34-39. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- Bogard D.D. and Nyquist L.E. (1973) $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{36}\text{Ar}$ variations in Apollo 15 and 16 regolith. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1975-1986.
- Brunfelt A.O., Heier K.S., Nilssen B., Steiannes E. and Sundvoll B. (1972) Elemental composition of Apollo 15 samples. *In The Apollo 15 Lunar Samples* 195-197. LPI
- Butler P. (1971) Lunar Sample Catalog, Apollo 15. Curators' Office, MSC 03209
- Cuttitta F., Rose H.J., Anell C.S., Carron M.K., Christian R.P., Ligon D.T., Dwornik E.J., Wright T.L. and Greenland L.P. (1973) Chemistry of twenty-one igneous rocks and soils returned by the Apollo 15 mission. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1081-1096.
- Epstein S. and Taylor H.P. (1972) O18/O16, Si30/Si28, C13/C12 and D/H studies of Apollo 14 and 15 samples. *Proc. 3rd Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1429-1455.
- Graf J.C. (1993) Lunar Soils Grain Size Catalog. NASA Reference Pub. 1265, March 1993
- Heiken G.H. (1974) A catalog of lunar soils. JSC Curator
- Heiken G.H. (1975) Petrology of lunar soils. *Rev. Geophys. Space Phys.* **13**, 567-587.
- Korotev R.L. (1987) Mixing levels, the Apennine Front soil component, and compositional trends in the Apollo 15 soils. *Proc. 17th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* E411-431.
- LSPET (1972a) The Apollo 15 lunar samples: A preliminary description. *Science* **175**, 363-375.
- LSPET (1972b) Preliminary examination of lunar samples. Apollo 15 Preliminary Science Report. NASA SP-289, 6-1—6-28.
- Moore C.B., Lewis C.F. and Gibson E.K. (1973) Total carbon contents of Apollo 15 and 16 lunar samples. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1613-1923.
- Morris R.V. (1978) The surface exposure (maturity) of lunar soils: Some concepts and Is/FeO compilation. *Proc. 9th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 2287-2298.
- Morris R.V., Score R., Dardano C. and Heiken G. (1983) Handbook of Lunar Soils. JSC 19069
- Palme H., Baddenhausen H., Blum K., Cendales M., Dreibus G., Hofmeister H., Kmse H., Palme C., Spettel B. Vilcsek E. and Wanke H. (1978) New data on lunar samples and achondrites and a comparison of the least fractionated samples from the Earth, the moon, and the eucrite parent body. *Proc. 9th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 25-57.
- Powell B.N. (1972) Apollo 15 Coarse Fines (4-10mm): Sample classification, description and inventory. MSC 03228 Curator's Office JSC
- Powell B.N., Aitken F.K. and Weiblen P.W. (1973) Classification, distribution and origin of lithic fragments from the Hadley-Apennine region. *Proc. 4th Lunar Sci. Conf.* 445-460.
- Reed G.W., Jovanovic S. and Fuchs L. (1972) Trace element relations between Apollo 14 and 15 and other lunar samples, and the implications of a moon-wide Cl-KREE coherence and Pt-metal coherence. *Proc. 3rd Lunar Sci. Conf.* 1989-2001.
- Ryder G., Lindstrom M.M. and Willis K. (1988) The reliability of macroscopic identification of lunar coarse fines particles and the petrogenesis of 2-4 mm particles in Apennine Front sample 15243. *Proc. 18th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 219-232. Lunar Planetary Institute, Houston.
- Ryder G. and Sherman S.B. (1989) The Apollo 15 Coarse Fines. Curators Office #81, JSC#24035
- Swann G.A., Hait M.H., Schaber G.C., Freeman V.L., Ulrich G.E., Wolfe E.W., Reed V.S. and Sutton R.L. (1971b) Preliminary description of Apollo 15 sample environments. U.S.G.S. Interagency report: 36. pp219 with maps
- Swann G.A., Bailey N.G., Batson R.M., Freeman V.L., Hait M.H., Head J.W., Holt H.E., Howard K.A., Irwin J.B., Larson K.B., Muehlberger W.R., Reed V.S., Rennilson J.J., Schaber G.G., Scott D.R., Silver L.T., Sutton R.L., Ulrich G.E., Wilshire H.G. and Wolfe E.W. (1972) 5. Preliminary Geologic Investigation of the Apollo 15 landing site. In Apollo 15 Preliminary Science Rpt. NASA SP-289. pages 5-1-112.
- Walker R.J. and Papike J.J. (1981) The Apollo 15 regolith: Chemical modeling and mare/highland mixing. *Proc. 12th Lunar Planet. Sci. Conf.* 509-517.