

**CR2 CHONDRULE ORIGIN: OXYGEN ISOTOPES, REDOX, AND THE ROLE OF ICY BODIES IN THE DISK.**

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Chondrules in CR2 chondrites have diverse O-isotope compositions. CR2 type-I (FeO-poor) chondrules form a single group lying below the TF line and to the left of the CCAM line [1]. CR2 type-II (FeO-rich) chondrules form three distinct groups: (1) a group that overlaps the heavy end-members of type-I chondrules, (2) one on the CCAM line near the intercept with the TF line and, (3) one within the field of ordinary chondrite chondrules [2,3]. As a general rule, type-I chondrules are <sup>16</sup>O-rich compared with type-II chondrules, but no petrographic or geochemical feature other than their broad designation of type-I and type-II is correlated with their O-isotopes. The general correlation between the redox conditions and O-isotope composition strongly suggests that a process or set of processes may have controlled both characteristics of CR2 chondrules.

A set of processes that may account for the above observations is shelf-shielding followed by migration of <sup>17,18</sup>O-rich icy bodies into the chondrule-forming region(s) before transient heating. Isotope-selective dissociation of CO molecules due to absorption of UV photons can occur in regions where the photons that dissociate C<sup>17</sup>O and C<sup>18</sup>O penetrate more deeply into a body of gas than photons that dissociate C<sup>16</sup>O due to the lower column density of C<sup>17</sup>O and C<sup>18</sup>O. The result is preferential release of <sup>17</sup>O and <sup>18</sup>O from CO molecules followed by recombination into H<sub>2</sub>O, producing water enriched in heavy oxygen [4-6]. Beyond the snow line, the <sup>17,18</sup>O-rich water freezes onto mineral grains to form ice mantles, leaving the gas enriched in <sup>16</sup>O. The result is two distinct O-isotopes reservoirs. The ice-covered grains then accrete into larger bodies, meters to 10's or 100's of meters in diameter. These bodies move inward with time in the disk [7,8].

Evidence from chondrites suggests that local regions of the disk evolved from <sup>16</sup>O-rich to <sup>17,18</sup>O-rich. For example, relict forsterite grains with O-isotope compositions similar to type I chondrules within type II's suggests that redox conditions evolved from near solar, when type I chondrules and the relict grains formed, to orders of magnitude more oxidizing, when type-II chondrules formed.

In our model, type-I chondrules formed when significant H<sub>2</sub>O vapor had migrated outwards past the snow line, leaving the gas in the inner Solar System enriched in <sup>16</sup>O and a low fO<sub>2</sub>, ideal for production of type-I chondrules. Migration of icy bodies into the chondrule-forming region(s) of the inner Solar System occurred after type-I chondrules formed. During additional transient heating events, icy bodies were heated and H<sub>2</sub>O vapor was added to the ambient gas, increasing the <sup>17,18</sup>O abundances and the fO<sub>2</sub> to well above solar, which is when type-II chondrules formed.

**References:** [1] Krot et al., 2006, *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta*, 767. [2] Connolly et al., 2008 *Lunar. Plant. Sci. Conf.* #1675. [3] Connolly and Huss 2009, *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta*, submitted. [4] Theimens M. 1996 *Chondrites and the Protoplanetary Disk*, 107. [5] Young et al., 2008 *Oxygen in the Solar System, Reviews in Mineralogy*, 187. [6] Yurimoto et al., 2008 *Oxygen in the Solar System, Reviews in Mineralogy*, 141. [7] Cuzzi and Zahnle, 2004 *ApJ* 490. [8] Ciesla 2008 *Science* 613.