OXYGEN ISOTOPIC MAPPING OF A CLAST IN FRAGMENT C0002 FROM ASTEROID RYUGU

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Introduction: The samples of Ryugu returned by the Hayabusa2 spacecraft have mineralogy similar to CI chondrites and are dominated by secondary phases (e.g., phyllosilicates, carbonates, magnetite, sulfides) from extensive parent body aqueous alteration [1,2]. Anhydrous minerals such as olivine, pyroxene, and spinel are rare and exist in phyllosilicate-rich clasts [2-4]. Oxygen isotopic studies of these minerals have shown a bimodal distribution with both ¹⁶O-rich and ¹⁶O-poor grains [3,4]. In this study, we conducted NanoSIMS isotopic mapping of a clast found in a fragment of a C0002 grain from Chamber C, which may have derived from the asteroid sub-surface, to characterize small primary minerals.

Methods: The fragment of C0002 was prepared by pressing into In. A 5 nm Pt coating was deposited on the sample mount and SEM-EDX maps were acquired using a JEOL 7600F field emission SEM at NASA JSC. The clast was identified in one fragment that was more Fe- and S-rich, and Mg- and Si-poor than the surrounding matrix. We mapped the clast for C and O isotopes, 28 Si, and 24 Mg 16 O using the CAMECA NanoSIMS 50L at NASA JSC. A ~1 pA Cs⁺ primary beam focused to ~100 nm was rastered over 20 μ m fields of view. Data were corrected for instrumental mass fractionation using San Carlos olivine. Only grains having δ^{18} O error < 10 % are considered here.

Results and Discussion: The clast had an irregular shape and was ~50 μ m in size. EDX mapping showed Mgrich grains that were smaller than ~2 μ m. One region contained a cluster of five Mg-rich silicates that had varying O isotopic compositions, with δ^{18} O ranging from 0 to -16 ‰. Collectively, the grains have a composition of δ^{17} O = -17 \pm 12 ‰, δ^{18} O = -11 \pm 4 ‰ (2 σ). Other Mg-rich silicates had δ^{18} O values ranging from -38 to 0 ‰. Some of these grains plot along the terrestrial fractionation line (TFL), though they are within error of the slope-1 line reflecting mass-independent fractionation. The analysis of larger primary minerals (~10-30 μ m) by [3] and [4] revealed a bimodal distribution of O isotopic compositions, which is not discerned in our study due to the larger analytical errors.

Two silicates had compositions similar to bulk Ryugu C0002 [5] and lie on the TFL ($\delta^{17}O = 11 \pm 38 \%$, $\delta^{18}O = 23 \pm 16 \%$; $\delta^{17}O = 14 \pm 20 \%$, $\delta^{18}O = 29 \pm 8 \%$). These grains have slightly lower 28 Si/ ^{16}O than the other silicates analyzed, and could be hydrous. Additionally, a ~1.5 µm ^{16}O -poor grain was identified having $\delta^{17}O = 37 \pm 28 \%$, $\delta^{18}O = 58 \pm 12 \%$ (2σ). The NanoSIMS analysis showed the grain to be Mg-bearing, devoid of C, and with much lower 28 Si/ ^{16}O than the ^{16}O -rich Mg-rich silicates and bulk clast. The O isotopic composition is within 2σ of both the TFL and the slope-1 line, and could reflect either mass-dependent fractionation effects, or mixing with an isotopically heavy reservoir. The O isotopic compositions of secondary dolomite in Ryugu samples showed $\delta^{18}O$ values up to ~30 % [6]. The grain in this study has heavier isotopic composition and is likely not a carbonate. A clast of probable cometary origin within LaPaz Icefield 02342 was found to contain ^{16}O -poor ($\delta^{18}O \sim 150 \%$) Na-rich sulfate that formed by reaction with isotopically heavy water and a higher abundance of presolar grains than surrounding chondrite matrix [7]. We also found the Ryugu clast to contain a higher abundance of presolar grains than the matrix [8]. It is possible that the ^{16}O -poor grain is a sulfate that formed through alteration of its precursor by heavy water. However, sulfates have not been observed in Ryugu samples [9]. Alternatively, the grain could be brucite (Mg(OH)₂), which can form by serpentinization of forsterite.

References: [1] Yurimoto H. et al. (2022) 53rd LPSC, 1377. [2] Yamaguchi A. et al. (2022) 53rd LPSC, 1822. [3] Liu M.-C. et al. (2022) 53rd LPSC, 2276. [4] Kawasaki N. et al. (2022) *in preparation*. [5] Young E.D. et al. (2022) 53rd LPSC, 1290. [6] Nagashima K. et al. (2022) 53rd LPSC, 1689. [7] Nittler L.R. et al. (2019) Nat. Astron. 3, 659. [8] Nguyen A.N. et al. (2022) this meeting. [9] Yokoyama T. et al. (2022) in preparation.

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