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Abundant Primitive Material in Fine-grained Chondrule Rims of CR Chondrites.

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The CR chondrites are among the most primitive solar system materials and contain considerable amounts of presolar silicate stardust and isotopically anomalous organics [e.g., 1]. Recent studies have shown that stardust grains are not only found in interchondrule matrix but also in fine-grained chondrule rims [2-5]. We report results from our study of the CR chondrites GRA 95229, Renazzo, EET 92161, and the ungrouped C3 LEW 85332. Areas of interest were identified from element X-ray maps. C-, N-, and O-isotopes were studied by NanoSIMS, and TEM analysis was conducted on fine-grained rim material. We identified 26 Oanomalous grains in 7 fine-grained rims. Organic material shows excesses in ¹⁵N characteristic for CR chondrites. TEM investigations revealed the material to be a complex and highly primitive assemblage. Our results suggest accretion in the solar nebula on chondrule surfaces prior to parent body formation.

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