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Ti Isotope Heterogeneities among Chondrules

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Thiemens, M.M.*, Fischer-Gödde, M., Kleine, T. *Institut für Planetologie, WWU Münster, Willhelm-Klemm Str. 10, 48149 Münster (<u>mthie_03@uni-muenster.de</u>)

Assessing the scale of nucleosynthetic isotope variations among chondrules can provide insights into the scale at which presolar dust was heterogeneously distributed in the early solar system. We present Ti isotope data, measured using the Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS in Münster, for 20 chondrules separated from the CV3 chondrite Allende. The chondrules exhibit variable 50 Ti/47 Ti ratios with a total range of ca. 6ε ($1\varepsilon = 0.01$ %), which we interpret to reflect variable proportions of distinct presolar components in the chondrules. Our data therefore indicate heterogeneous distribution of presolar dust at the scale of individual chondrules. The investigated chondrules fall into two distinct groups; one characterized by apparent ⁵⁰Ti deficits and the other by ⁵⁰Ti excesses (with respect to Earth). This may reflect the presence of CAI material within the chondrules having ⁵⁰Ti excesses, but further work is needed to test this hypothesis. Most of the investigated chondrules show apparent ⁵⁰Ti excesses indicating that within our sample set inclusion of CAI material is more commonly observed. We are currently in the process of obtaining Ti isotope data for additional chondrules, and are determining the bulk chemistry of the investigated chondrules.

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