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EDITORIAL

It is a pleasure for us to summarize the activities of the **Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics** (LIP) and present to you an overview of the achievements of the laboratory accomplished in 2015. This annual report will provide you with a comprehensive and easy to read snapshot of all our research activities, in a format that became well established over the past years. We do hope you enjoy reading it.

The ongoing instrumental development process with radiocarbon dating equipment has reached an advanced level of perfection and it was possible to built three new MICADAS instruments in 2015: one was set into operation at the the commissariat a l'energie atomique et aux energies alternatieves, in Gifsur-Yvette, France, a second one at the University of Bristol in the UK. The third instrument has been installed at LIP so that now also our own research activities profit from the latest stage of radiocarbon detection systems. The latter has been possible because of the generous financial support from the ETHZ Department of Earth Sciences which will be a major user of this instrument. All these instruments are equipped with the "GreenMagnet" technology and are utilizing He as stripper gas. They are the last MICADAS became fully commercialized and will be executed by the lonplus AG, an ETHZ spinoff company that was founded in 2013 to make instrumentation originally developed at LIP commercially available worldwide.

The transfer of knowledge and duties from LIP to lonplus AG goes in parallel with a drain of technical expertise and man-power, because also the technical staff responsible for the production of MICADAS instruments and related components moved to the spinoff company. This is certainly a challenge for the operation of our lab and also for our capacity for developing advanced AMS instrumentations such as a multi-isotope version of the MICADAS instrument or the development of an even simpler radiocarbon system. However, LIP maintains a technical infrastructure which still represents an ideally suited platform for conducting a large variety of application projects. This versatile instrumentation, which has been improved by the installation of the new LIP MICADAS system, will continue providing both, excellent service to our internal and external users and significant contributions to the educational program of ETH.

Our applied research fields cover the wide range from fundamental research, over operational issues of the laboratory, to the vast variety of exciting applications of our measurement technologies. We conduct these studies not only in connection with our partners at Paul Scherrer Institut, Empa, Eawag, and other ETH departments, but also with our external collaborators from Swiss, European, and overseas Universities, from national and international research and governmental organizations as well as with commercial companies. We want to thank all our internal and external partners for their confidence and support.

Of course we are grateful to all LIP staff members. They have contributed diligently, with commitment, and with remarkable passion to the LIP activities. Without such an excellent scientific, technical and administrative staff, the success of the laboratory would not have been possible.

Hans-Arno Synal and Marcus Christl

THE TANDEM AMS FACILITY



Operation of the 6MV Tandem Accelerator Remote controlled beam reduction grid High intensity isobar separation Energy straggling in gases - The high energies

OPERATION OF THE 6 MV TANDEM ACCELERATOR

Beam time statistics

Scientific and technical staff, Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics

In 2015, the 6 MV tandem accelerator was in operation for 1242 hours, similar to the previous year (Fig. 1). Again, most of the time was devoted to actual measurements or new developments, however about 11% of the time was used for conditioning and other accelerator related running times. We had five tank openings in 2015 because of a failure of the drive belt of the LE chain, a broken suppressor cable, a broken resistor in the corona regulation circuit, worn bearings on the LE drive side and a chain breakage at the HE side. During the repair of the corona regulation we also replaced the corona needles that draw current from the terminal to regulate the high voltage (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1: Time statistics of the TANDEM operation subdivided into AMS (blue), materials sciences and MeV-SIMS (green), and service and maintenance activities (red).

The AMS activities concentrated on measurements of ³⁶Cl (173 samples) and ²⁶Al (63 samples) and developments at the gas-filled magnet. June 26th 2015 marks an historic date for the Tandem with the last measurement using the data acquisition (DAQ) system HAMSTER, which had been in operation since 1996. Failure of the VME computer hard drive and processor finally forced us to put the HAMSTER into a well-earned retirement.

Subsequently we built up a new DAQ based on the FASTComTec MCA3 system and the in-house development SQUIRREL including new readout of the Faraday cups. During the upgrade numerous old signal cables were removed from the racks in the control room. First AMS measurements with the new system were made in November 2015.



Fig. 2: Corona mushroom with new needles.

About one third of the time was used for developing the new MeV-SIMS setup CHIMP where first successful measurements with Au beams of several MeV could be performed.

For materials science applications the beam time decreased from 510 to 390 hours, mainly due to the long accelerator downtime. Still, approximately 1500 samples were analyzed by IBA techniques or irradiated. This is well above the long term average but below the peak value of more than 2000 samples in 2014.

After a long break of many years we have performed again activation runs with high energy proton and deuteron beams for two external groups. For radiation safety reasons these runs took place during evening hours and the whole accelerator complex was locked.

REMOTE CONTROLLED BEAM REDUCTION GRID

Optional remote beam intensity reduction and DAQ rate control

M. George, R. Gruber

Some of the measurements performed at LIP require tunable particle rates. After the beam setup and start-up is finished, the rates are potentially too high e.g. for RBS or MeV SIMS measurements.

Thus, a manually rotatable grid was installed in the beamline some years ago. The variety of different experiments and the consequential large set of different measurement conditions required regular manual intervention to adjust the grid rotation. Besides, the installed grid only covered transmissions between 15% and 2%.

To enlarge flexibility in rate reduction, transmission values of a set of new grids was tested (Fig. 1). Out of the tested grids, model number 6 showed a wide transmission coverage between ~45% and ~3% and consequently was selected for replacing the old reduction grid.



Fig. 1: Transmission vs grid rotation for six different grid types.

With the replacement process of the grid itself, a new support structure which has a steppingmotor connected to the axis was built. The whole structure can be pushed into the beam, when a reduction is necessary. This gives the possibility to control the beam intensity over a wide range remotely. The user interface for the grid control was written in LabVIEW (Fig. 2). The desired transmission (in %) can be selected through a slider. Based on a function that was fit to the transmission values shown in Fig. 1, the transmission selected through the slider is translated to motor steps.



Fig. 2: Remote control interface for beam reduction grid.

As a further advantage, the grid control software can be linked to e.g. the RBS DAQ tool. In case a set of samples with very different properties, resulting in very different DAQ rates, is measured the beam transmission can be adapted to provide similar DAQ rates.

In the last step of the grid replacement, grid number 3 was mounted to a non-rotatable aperture, which can be placed into the beam additionally. This extends the covered beam transmission rate from \sim 45% down to \sim 0.2%.

HIGH INTENSITY ISOBAR SEPARATION

Reviving the Gas-Filled Magnet for ²⁶Al and ³²Si measurements

C. Vockenhuber, K.-U. Miltenberger, M. Suter

AMS measurements of several nuclides are challenging because of intense interference from isobars which cannot be directly resolved in the detector. Thus a significant reduction of the intensity of the isobar by several orders of magnitude is required before they can be identified in the ionization detector. One promising method is the gas-filled magnet (GFM) which separates isobars according to the different mean charge of the ions as they travel through the gas-filled magnet chamber. However, a relatively high ion energy of >1 MeV/u is required to achieve sufficient separation and keep the losses due to scattering under control. At the 6 MV EN Tandem a GFM was installed more than 20 years ago with promising first results. However, lifetime limitations of the then used plastic entrance foils prevented a use for routine measurements and no GFM measurements have been performed for many years. Now, with more robust silicon nitride (SiN) foils this drawback is gone – moreover they can be made thinner and are very homogeneous, reducing the effect of the entrance window on the final resolution.



Fig. 1: Separation of ²⁶Al from ZAL94N (blue symbols) and ²⁶Mg (red dashed line) in the GFM. The remaining ²⁶Mg counts (red symbols) are well separated in the ionization detector.

In 2014 we performed first tests for ²⁶Al-²⁶Mg separation with injection of ²⁶Al¹⁶O⁻ to improve the overall efficiency [1], but we still had substantial losses (>80 %) because the beam after the GFM was too wide for the small (6×12 mm²) detector window. In 2015 we installed a larger (30×40 mm²) Mylar detector window to increase the beam acceptance and could measure the ²⁶Al standard ZAL94N to ≈55% of its nominal value of ²⁶Al/²⁷Al = 480×10⁻¹² (Fig. 1).

Additional tests with ³²Si and ³⁶Cl showed also promising results. In the case of ³²Si the interfering isobar ³²S reaches the GFM with an intensity in the nA range. With the proper setting of the GFM the ³²S intensity is reduced to <1000 cts/s, allowing the separation of ³²Si and ³²S in the ionization detector (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2: Separation of ³²Si and ³²S in the ionization detector after the GFM.

A drawback of the present setup is leakage of detector gas through the Mylar foil into the GFM, resulting in drifts and changes of the ion energy. Furthermore, the used detector is too small for the large entrance window. A new detector is currently being designed and built for optimal performance of the GFM system.

[1] C. Vockenhuber et al., LIP Annual Rep. (2014)

ENERGY STRAGGLING IN GASES - THE HIGH ENERGIES

Complementary measurements at ETH EN Tandem and JYFL

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In 2013 we performed a series of energy-loss measurements of ²⁸Si beam in various gases (He, N_2 , Ne, Ar and Kr) at the 6 MV EN Tandem [1], where the energy range of 0.5-2.35 MeV/u was covered. In 2014 and 2015 we expanded the dataset to energies up to 12 MeV/u using the K130 cyclotron at the Accelerator Laboratory of the University of Jyväskylä (JYFL), Finland. In contrast to the measurements at ETH, where we used a windowless gas cell with a magnetic spectrometer, we measured the beam energy profile after a gas cell with Si₃N₄ windows with a double TOF setup (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Experimental setup at JFYL.

At each energy, data at several pressures were taken to confirm the linear dependence of straggling (variance Ω^2 of the energy-loss distribution) vs. gas pressure (Fig 2).



Fig. 2: Straggling vs. gas pressure at 5 MeV/u. Data (points connected with solid line) and Bohr straggling (dashed lines) are shown.

The ratio of the slope to the one calculated for Bohr straggling $(\Omega^2/\Omega_{Bohr}^2)$ is shown in Fig. 3. Excellent agreement of the results at overlapping energies (at 1-2 MeV/u) from the measurements at the ETH EN Tandem and at JYFL (from beam times in 2014 and 2015) could be obtained.



Fig. 3: Results for He, N₂ and Kr; solid lines are the theoretical curves by Sigmund et al. [2] and dashed lines are empirical Yang formula [3].

New theoretical calculations by Sigmund et al. [2] show a pronounced structure in the energy dependence (Fig. 3). The predicted peak for He gas could be confirmed, although the position and height is slightly off. Further measurements are planned to resolve the structure in more detail.

- [1] M. Thöni et al., LIP Annual Report (2013)
- [2] P. Sigmund et al., NIM B 338 (2014) 101
- [3] Q. Yang et al., NIM B 61 (1991) 149

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THE TANDY AMS FACILITY



Activities on the 0.6 MV Tandy in 2015 A new standard for low ¹²⁹I samples Improved measurements of ²⁶AI

ACTIVITIES ON THE 0.6 MV TANDY IN 2015

Beam time and sample statistics

Scientific and technical staff, Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics

In 2015, the multi-isotope facility TANDY (Fig. 1) accumulated more than 2700 operation hours.



Fig. 1: The multi isotope system TANDY.

About 8% of the beam time was dedicated to testing and developing new instrumentation (Fig. 2), while the remaining time (92%) was spent for routine AMS analyses. During this time about 2000 unknown AMS samples were analyzed for different radionuclides and various applications (Fig. 3). The numbers impressively demonstrate that, over the past few years, the multi isotope system TANDY became the working horse for all non-¹⁴C AMS applications at ETH Zurich.



Fig. 2: Relative distribution of the TANDY operation time for the different radionuclides and activities in 2015.

More than ½ of the AMS samples were analyzed for ¹⁰Be, most of them for in-situ dating applications and ice core studies. About ½ (each) were measured for ¹²⁹I and the actinides involving a broad field of applications like environmental monitoring (e.g. Fukushima), human bioassay studies, and Oceanography (e.g. in the Arctic Ocean). Currently, large surveys are carried out to map and understand the distribution of ¹²⁹I and ²³⁶U in the oceans. Therefore, we expect that the number of AMS samples for these nuclides will increase.



Fig. 3: Number of AMS samples per nuclide *measured* over the past 6 years.

In 2015, we also started with routine analyses of ²⁶Al, applying a novel absorber technique that allows the efficient detection of ²⁶Al in the 2+ charge state. Since this method now has reached application status we expect that the numbers of ²⁶Al samples will rise in 2016. Finally, a few samples were analyzed for ⁴¹Ca as part of a pilot study for biomedical applications. Since the main part of this study will be carried out in 2016, also the number of ⁴¹Ca analyses will increase in 2016.

A NEW STANDARD FOR LOW ¹²⁹I SAMPLES Calibration of the low-level ¹²⁹I/¹²⁷I standard E1

C. Vockenhuber, M. Christl, N. Casacuberta

The 500 kV TANDY facility is well suited for AMS measurements of ¹²⁹I [1]. Since the stable isobar ¹²⁹Xe does not form negative ions high ion energies are not required for discrimination in the final detector. Moreover at low ion energies (terminal voltage of 300 kV) the transmission through the accelerator for charge state 2+ is high (>50 %); together with the high ionization vield in the ion source very efficient measurements are possible. Background issues are also well controlled by (a) excellent separation against the stable isotope ¹²⁷I is provided by the spectrometer at the high energy side; (b) molecular interferences (molecules with mass 129 and charge state 2+) are sufficiently reduced by increasing the stripper gas pressure, and (c) the mass to charge ratio (m/q) is not an integer number, reducing the chance of molecular breakup-products to reach the final detector.

The main limitation for ¹²⁹I measurements with the TANDY currently is the cross-contamination in our NEC MC-SNICS ion source. The volatile nature of iodine and the positioning of the samples on a 40 position wheel that is inside the ion source volume and close to the hot ionizer increases the risk of cross-talk, so that samples with high ¹²⁹I/¹²⁷I ratios can contaminate samples with low ratios.

In order to reduce the cross-talk between the samples care must be taken to which samples are loaded in the wheel. Usually low samples (with 129 I/ 127 I < 10⁻¹²) are measured first while high samples are measured at the end of a measurement series with reduced Cs sputter intensity. For low samples our usual in-house standard D22 (129 I/ 127 I = 50.35×10⁻¹²) [2] leads to severe cross contamination. In this case our low-level Woodward (WW) iodine blanks are measured around 1-2×10⁻¹³ which is a factor 5-10 higher than the expected value.



Fig. 1: Individual measurements (blue) of the new E1 standard with the mean in red.

The standard material E1 from the original dilution series has an order of magnitude lower isotopic ratio and thus reduces the risk of cross-talk for the low ratio samples. Over the past two years we carefully calibrated the E1 against D22 in five independent measurement series (Fig. 1). The new calibrated ratio is $(4.88\pm0.10)\times10^{-12}$ based on the mean of recent measurements. Older measurements of the E1 are not taken into account, but generally agree with the new calibrated ratio. Previous measurements had much larger uncertainties (typically 3-4%) due to the limited counting statistics in measurements at higher charge states and low transmission.

With the new established E1 standard it is now possible to measure low samples (e.g. form the deep Arctic Ocean [3]) without cross-talk from the high D22 standard and the measured ratios of the WW blanks are back in the 10^{-14} range.

- [1] C. Vockenhuber et al., NIM B 361 (2015) 445
- [2] M. Christl et al., NIM B 294 (2013) 29
- [3] N. Casacuberta et al., LIP Annual Report (2015) 79

IMPROVED MEASUREMENTS OF ²⁶AI

²⁶Al standard comparison and introduction of low ZAL02 standard

K.-U. Miltenberger, M. Christl, P. W. Kubik, A. M. Müller, C. Vockenhuber

For aluminium ions in charge state 2+ the use of helium as a stripper gas in the accelerator of the ETH 500 kV AMS facility TANDY enables a high transmission of more than 50 %. However, for measurements of ²⁶Al the intense interference of ¹³C¹⁺ entering the detector has to be suppressed. This could be achieved using a newly developed absorber setup for low energy ²⁶Al²⁺ measurements [1].

To prove the applicability of this absorberdetector configuration for 26 Al measurements using the 2+ charge state, the Nishiizumi standards [2] and real samples were measured and normalized to the ETH Zurich ZAL94N standard with a nominal ratio of (480±18)×10⁻¹² [3]. Fig. 1 shows the measured to nominal ratios of the Nishiizumi standards and their overall weighted mean.



Fig. 1: Measured to nominal ²⁶Al/²⁷Al ratios of the Nishiizumi standards normalized to ZAL94N (blue) and error associated with the ZAL94N nominal ratio (gray).

The measured ²⁶Al/²⁷Al ratios agree well with earlier measurements conducted at the ETH 6 MV TANDEM AMS facility, but the statistical measurement errors are reduced significantly due to better counting statistics and more stable measurement conditions. Ratios of ²⁶Al blank material were measured in the range of $(1-3)\times10^{-14}$ and are currently limited by 26 Al cross-contamination caused by the high ratio of the ZAL94N standard in the NEC SNICS ion source.

Therefore, the new ETH Zurich standard ZAL02 with a lower nominal ²⁶Al/²⁷Al ratio was introduced, to minimize cross-contamination during the measurement of samples with low ratios. The ZAL02 standard has been independently measured several times over the last years and calibrated against the Nishiizumi standard KN01-4-2 with a nominal ratio of (30.96±1.11)×10⁻¹² [2]. All results from measurements at the Tandem and the TANDY agree very well. Again, the new low-energy setup at the TANDY achieves much smaller uncertainties.



Fig. 2: Individual measurements of the ETH Zurich standard ZAL02 and overall mean.

Based on the weighted mean of these measurements as shown in Fig. 2, the new calibrated ratio of the ETH Zurich ZAL02 standard is $(46.4\pm0.1)\times10^{-12}$. Not included in this value is the uncertainty of the primary KN01-4-2 standard (3.6 %).

- [1] A. M. Müller et al., NIM B 361 (2015) 257
- [2] K. Nishiizumi, NIM B 223-224 (2004) 388
- [3] M. Christl et al., NIM B 294 (2013) 29

THE MICADAS AMS FACILITY



Radiocarbon measurements on MICADAS in 2015 The years of MICADAS development Status of the 300 KV MICADAS accelerator

RADIOCARBON MEASUREMENTS ON MICADAS IN 2015

Performance and sample statistics

Scientific and technical staff, Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics

In 2015, we broke the barrier of 10,000 analysed sample targets, an increase of 20% over the previous year. As the present runtime of 90% of the MICADAS cannot be increased anymore, this was only possible by improving measurement efficiency.

The EA-AMS coupling runs now in routine operation and allows measuring samples more efficiently, which resulted in 2000 additionally measured gas samples! Thus, with 5220 specimens we analysed more gas samples than the 4950 solid graphite samples (see also Fig. 1). For example, bulk sediment samples are no longer graphitised, but are directly analysed as gas samples. Additionally, we have developed the so-called *Speed Dating* for fast pre-dating of wood samples [1].



Fig. 1: Samples measured on MICADAS in 2015. Graphite samples and standards prepared at ETH Zurich are in blue, samples graphitized outside ETH are in gray. Red indicates samples measured with the gas ion source.

About 10% more samples (2700) than in the previous year were measured for our partner institutions. The samples analysed for internal projects was even doubled to 1500, while the ones for commercial projects stayed constant at 2000.



Fig. 2: New cup design with a suppressor-ring at -300 V (white) at the entrance of the charge-collecting cup (green).

Besides the time used to run the large amount of samples, there was not much room left to improve the MICADAS. Nevertheless, new cups were successfully tested for the measurement of $^{13}C^+$ and $^{12}C^+$. The previously installed cups were relatively long (20 cm) to minimize steric loss of backscattered electrons when positive ions are collected in the cups. The newly developed cups (Fig. 2) are in contrast much shorter (7 cm), but equipped with a suppressor ring at a voltage of -300 V at the entrance of the cup. Free electrons formed at the ion impact cannot escape the cup anymore and thus allow very accurate and stable measurement of positively charged ions.

[1] A. Sookdeo et al., LIP Annual Report (2015) 30

THE YEARS OF MICADAS DEVELOPMENT

Instruments now ready for commercial production at lonplus AG

H.-A. Synal, S. Fahrni, M. Ruff, T. Schulze-König, M. Seiler, M. Stocker, M. Suter, L. Wacker

First experiments with a vacuum insulated high voltage platform to replace conventional accelerator technology in AMS instrumentation began in 2000, shortly after the successful demonstration that the 1+ charge state can be used to efficiently destroy molecules in multiple ion gas collisions. After a first proof-of-principle experiment performed with spectrometer components of the ETHZ Tandy AMS system in 2002, a prototype instrument named MIni CArbon DAting System (MICADAS) was set in operation in 2004. Of course being constantly improved, this system is until now the backbone of the ¹⁴C measurements at ETHZ. In 2008, a system dedicated to biomedical radiocarbon AMS analyses was developed in collaboration with Vitalea Science, and installed at Davis. California. Based on this design a highperformance dating MICADAS was built and installed at the Reiss-Engelhorn Museum in Mannheim, Germany.



Fig. 1: EchoMICADAS at Gif-sur-Yvette, France.

The next generation of MICADAS systems incorporates the hybrid gas ion source, and several interface systems were developed to enable direct analyses of gaseous CO₂ samples. Related instruments are in operation in Seville, Debrecen, Brussels, and Berne. By replacing the

 N_2 stripper gas with He, another performance upgrade was realized resulting in high ion beam transmission and related to this, an enhanced stability of the measurement conditions. The first system was installed at Aix-en-Provence in 2014. As a last development step, permanent magnets were introduced into the MICADAS setup. This reduces the electrical power to operate the instruments significantly and makes heat dissipation by water cooling obsolete. The first system was installed at Uppsala in 2014, and more recently in Gif-sur-Yvette, and Bristol (Fig. 1, 2).



Fig. 2: MICADAS at University of Bristol, UK.

The last MICADAS system built at ETHZ was completed in December 2015 and will be used by LIP to increase ¹⁴C measurement capacity, in particular for ultra-high precision dating With the integration of He measurements. stripping and the implementation of permanent magnet technology, MICADAS systems have reached a development stage, which allows commercialization of production of further instruments. Consequently, ETHZ has ceased MICADAS system development projects, and outsourced further MICADAS activities to the ETHZ-spin-off company lonplus AG [1].

[1] Ionplus AG, Dietikon, Switzerland

STATUS OF THE 300 KV MICADAS ACCELERATOR

Operational difficulties and technical improvements

S. Maxeiner, A. Herrmann, M. Christl, A. Müller, M. Suter, C. Vockenhuber, H.-A. Synal

A novel type of compact multi isotope AMS system is developed at LIP. It is based on a vacuum insulated accelerator also used in the MICADAS radiocarbon AMS systems which use acceleration voltages of up to 200 kV. To enable optimal measurements of a wide range of isotopes, acceleration voltages of up to 300 kV are desirable. Using the original MICADAS configuration though, a maximum of 260 kV could be applied to the terminal in an isolated test setup, before electric breakdown in the helium stripper gas feeding system destroyed the capillary (Fig. 1). In a subsequent test without gas feeding the full 300 kV could be applied, but after some days of operation the ceramic high voltage feedthrough broke down (Fig. 2).



Fig. 1: Electrostatics simulation of the helium gas feeding system showing the magnitude of the electric field gradient. Both fittings of the capillary are shielded from electric fields by cups, which by themselves introduce regions of higher gradients.

With electrostatics simulations (using COMSOL) such as shown in Fig. 1, special cups were designed which still shield the capillary fittings from electric fields, but at the same time move regions of high field gradients away from the capillary containing the stripper gas.

The reason for the breakdown of the high voltage feedthrough (seen as a blackened hole in Fig. 2) was suspected to be a slight bending of the high voltage cable inside of the ceramic cylinder. This was improved by introducing special spacer rings, similar to a technique used at PSI. Furthermore, the feedthrough was carefully redesigned with the help of electrostatics simulations to lower field gradients at critical positions.



Fig. 2: The ceramic of the high voltage feedthrough broke down due to excessive electric field gradients at a terminal voltage of 300 kV.

After these improvements were implemented, the accelerator could be conditioned to the full 300 kV while feeding helium gas to the terminal. The voltage could be successfully held for several days, suggesting that the unit is now ready for prolonged operation at the full 300 kV acceleration voltage required for AMS measurements.

DETECTION AND ANALYSIS



Fully digital time of flight data acquisition New RBS digital data acquisition High voltage capillary electrophoresis

FULLY DIGITAL TIME OF FLIGHT DATA ACQUISITION

An infinite STOP Time-to-Digital-Converter

M. George, M. Schulte-Borchers, A.M. Müller

For the new MeV SIMS setup at LIP [1] a fully digital data acquisition approach has been implemented. Given the experiment's characteristics of having one STOP detector and up to three different START detectors, combined with the required time resolution on the order of few ns, the CAEN DT5751 digitizer (Fig. 1) was the most suitable choice. With all four channels active and equipped with pulse shape discrimination (PSD) firmware, it provides a sampling rate of 1 GS/s at 10-bit resolution.



Fig. 1: CAEN DT5751 signal digitizer, 1 GS/s sampling rate, 4 channels, 10-bit resolution [1].

Since the detector parameters for routine operation of the MeV SIMS setup are supposed to remain unchanged, a fixed set of acquisition parameters was determined for each detector. A LabVIEW based acquisition tool was developed (Fig. 2), which controls the digitizer operation and saves the relevant data (particularly timestamps) to disk. In a second step, this tool was extended. As additional functionalities dedicated data taking modes for high rate and low rate measurements were implemented, e.g. online trigger rate displays over time. In addition, a multi-stop time of flight analysis was implemented, which saves data to temporary files and from there calculates the final spectra online. The detection of multi-stop events is necessary, because a single incoming particle can create multiple secondary particles. Heavy particles have a longer flight time through the spectrometer, than light particles. Thus, the correct spectrum can only be identified in case all secondary particles are assigned to the corresponding primary particle. Coincidence rates between the detectors are displayed for the active channels. All analysis steps are updated every 10 s.

After each run the full set of information, containing raw data to summarized DAQ monitoring parameters and final time of flight histograms, is saved to disk.



Fig. 2: MeV SIMS user interface, providing digitizer control and data analysis; here: only one START detector is active.

Stable operation was tested for trigger rates up to 18 kHz per channel in "low rate mode", which includes a spot check display of full waveforms. In "high rate mode" the waveform display is deactivated, which allows operation at trigger rates of up to 40 kHz.

In summary, the digital data acquisition has been put online for the new MeV SIMS setup and provides live information and analyses on the measurement.

- M. Schulte-Borchers, LIP Annual Report (2015) 89
- [2] www.caen.it

NEW RBS DIGITAL DATA ACQUISITION

High Resolution RBS measurements with CAEN digitizers

M. George, A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli

At the beginning of 2015 the RBS setup was revised, including installation of a new Si PIN diode, a Cremat CR-110 preamplifier and the transition to routine operation with a signal digitizer. An evaluation and testing period led to the result that for RBS measurements the CAEN DT5780 digitizer (Fig. 1) is the most suitable model.



Fig. 1: CAEN DT5780 digitizer, 100 MS/s sampling rate, 14-bit resolution [1]

The digitizer is controlled via a custom made LabVIEW application (based on [2]), which also provides a live data display. In order to achieve highest resolution, a set of test measurements was done to optimize the pulse height analysis the parameters to new detector and preamplifier. Different sets of best-resolution acquisition parameters were created. Depending on the measurement conditions (high rate, low rate, high energy, low energy), the optimized and predefined settings can be loaded from config-files.

In comparison to the previous digital acquisition system, the software has been redesigned in order to cover high rate operation. Stable data taking up to 20 kHz was realized, which is beyond common operation conditions. Tests with a pulser showed the capability to acquire at higher rates. During qualification measurements it turned out that usage of a custom-made HV and LV power supply reduces noise on the signal lines and thus increases the resolution. Hence, the package of DT5780 digitizer and external supply was put into routine operation for RBS measurements.

Altogether, parameter optimization studies allowed reaching a measurement resolution of 13 keV, e.g. visible in the 2 MeV He spectrum of a thin $Au_{0.2}Cu_{1.0}$ film on a Silicon substrate in figure 2.



Fig. 2: 2 MeV He RBS spectrum of a thin $Au_{0.2}Cu_{1.0}$ film on a Silicon substrate.

For the near future, intensive tests at high rates are planned. The aim of these measurements is to understand the hardware and software limits of high precision operation and to investigate the dependency of energy resolution versus rate. In case the measurement precision can be kept on a constant level at higher rates, the measurement time could be further reduced in the future.

- [1] www.caen.it
- [2] M. George, A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli, LIP Annual Report (2014) 32

HIGH VOLTAGE CAPILLARY ELECTROPHORESIS

High throughput separation technique for complex component mixture

S. J. Lee¹, C. Vockenhuber, H.-A. Synal, A. Manz¹

Separation of complex component mixtures is very important for figuring out the morphology of certain kinds of cell structures, unknown chemical mixtures, and biomarkers for human diseases etc. Here we propose a high throughput separation technique called capillary electrophoresis (CE) [1] with a high voltage power supply. In a first experiment we used the conventional CE process for sample injection and separation. The target sample, four amino acids (4AAs, Tab. 1) with labeled FITC, was injected using a borax buffer as a background electrolyte and a detection system based on a laser induced fluorescence (LIF) system. The separation efficiency in CE is an important factor characterize the separation to power. Separation efficiency should increase proportionally to the applied voltage. To test this we used a 300 kV high voltage power supply for CE (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Experimental setup for CE with the 300 kV high voltage power supply. A special HV setup was built to hold up to 300 kV in air. The thin capillary tube follows the orange arrow to the detection stage on ground.

	N	RSD (%)
GLN	7.42E+05	1.7
Ala	5.47E+05	1.7
Lys 5.85E+05		1.7
Glu	5.96E+05	1.8

Tab. 1: Separation efficiency (N) and Relati	ve
standard deviation of migration time (RSD,	%)
for 4AAs separation with CE at 100 kV.	

The 4AAs sample was injected at 5 kV for 3 s and subsequently separated at 100 kV. Then, the electropherogram (Fig. 2) was collected and each peak was analyzed to calculate the separation efficiency. The achieved separation efficiency was approximately 750000 which is almost two times higher than commercial CE separation for amino acid separation. In future experiments (collaboration between KIST-Europe and LIP) we will try to increase the separation efficiency for CE at even higher voltages.



Fig. 2: Electropherogram for 4AAs. at 100kV 1,2: free-FITC 3: GLN 4:Ala 5:Lys 6:Glu.

[1] R. Weinberger, Practical Capillary Electrophoresis (2000) 462

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RADIOCARBON



¹⁴C Preparation laboratory in 2015 Myth Morgarten How far can we get? Speed dating Growth constraints on a modern stromatolite Different ¹⁴C ages for different fractions of peat Lake level reconstruction of Lake Sils, Engadine Radiocarbon dating in the Falémé Project ¹⁴C ages for the "Gonja Project" Medieval capital of Cherven towns (Poland) Gródek – mysterious Cherven town (Poland) Indirect radiocarbon dating of a Pearl Oyster Can red snapper live for half a century? Investigating the organic carbon cycle in caves Particle flux processes in the Arctic Ocean Organic carbon cycling in Taiwan

25

Time-series ¹⁴C studies of ocean particles ¹⁴C age of thermal organic decomposition Pool-specific radiocarbon measurements in soils

¹⁴C PREPARATION LABORATORY IN 2015

Overview of samples prepared for ¹⁴C analysis

I. Hajdas, S. Fahrni, M. Maurer, C. McIntyre, M. Roldan, A. Synal, L. Wacker

All samples, which are submitted for ¹⁴C AMS dating, require selection of fractions that will result in accurate age determination of the sample. This is then followed by pre-treatment and conversion to graphite or CO_2 . The development in activities of the ETH preparation laboratory is summarized by the number of samples that were prepared for different types of applications during the year 2015, as compared with previous years (Fig. 1, Tab. 1).



Fig. 1: Number of samples (objects) analysed for various research disciplines during the last five years.

Research	Total	Internal
Archaeology	963	12
Past Climate	41	
Geochronology	1560	844
Art	149	
Environment	18	
Total	2731	856

Tab. 1: Number of samples analysed in 2015 for various applications. Column 'Internal' shows the number of samples prepared as a part of laboratory research and in the frame of master or term theses.

The last 2 years showed an increasing number of research projects that are shown as 'Internal'

(Fig. 1). Such projects, which are leading to a better understanding and improvement of preparation methods and radiocarbon time scale, are an important part of our laboratory development. Moreover, many 'Internal' samples are an integral part of thesis (BA, MA, term papers) or school projects. In such studies samples are often analyzed after various different preparations or fractions are compared. This is reflected in numerous targets that were prepared and analyzed in 2015.

For the past 5 years 'Archaeology' remained the main application with a slightly growing number. The growing share of 'Geochronology' reflects a shift from Climate and Environmental research to interdisciplinary projects. This is also visible in the material showing growing numbers of wood and foraminifera samples (Fig. 2). The number of samples in category of 'Art' remained stable during the last 3 years. It is important to note that most of the samples shown here were prepared as graphite samples, however in the case of low carbon content samples are measured as CO_2 using GIS.



Fig. 2: Type of material prepared and analysed at the ETH laboratory in 2015.

MYTH MORGARTEN

ETHZ dated the bolt from Hünenberg

H.-A. Synal, I. Hajdas, L. Wacker, A. Fischli Roth¹, T. Müller¹, J. Frey², R. Hugener³

To mark the 700th anniversary of the "Battle of Morgarten" possible artifacts from this event have been investigated on behalf of "Einstein", the science program of the Swiss Television SRF. One of the most exciting stories entwines around the "Hünenberger Pfeil" (Fig. 1). According to the myth, Heinrich von Hünenberg should have shot this arrow through the fortifications at Arth, to warn the troops of the Swiss Confederation, and disclose the attack plan of the impeding Habsburg army of knights. The arrow is owned by the corporation Unterallmeind Arth and is on public display together with a testimony of the Zay family issued by the Registry of the Canton of Schwyz in 1862, which certifies the oral tradition of its authenticity.



Fig. 1: Head of the crossbow bolt.

Technically seen the object is a medieval crossbow bolt. An archaeological survey showed that the arrow head may be dated in the second half of the 14th century. To verify this a ¹⁴C analysis of the wooden shank of the bolt has been carried out at ETH Zurich Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics. For this purpose, two samples were taken from the center of the shaft, processed independently and analyzed at the MICADAS. The resulting radiocarbon age of 588±10 years BP needs to be calibrated to obtain true historic age ranges corresponding to the growth of the wood from which the bolt was

made. With 95% probability these are the intervals from 1314 to 1357 AD and from 1388 to 1405 AD (Fig. 2). The historical date of the Battle of Morgarten (Nov. 15, 1315) thus lies within these time limits. Is it therefore the real "Hünenberger Pfeil"?



Fig. 2: Calibration of the result of the ¹⁴C test.

Just the outermost ring of a tree represents the date when it was cut down while the inner parts are older according to the number of annual rings. The arrow shaft consists out of several annual rings that do not originate from the outermost part of the trunk. Thus, one can assume that the cutting date is indefinitely younger than the historic date of the battle. The typological dating of the arrow head (2nd half of the 14th century) is impressively confirmed by the results of the radiocarbon analysis. Accordingly, the legendary crossbow shot, if it truly happened, took place unlikely with this arrow. However, the literary myth may continue to live on.

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HOW FAR CAN WE GET?

1‰ radiocarbon measurements on a single cathode

H.-A. Synal, S. Fahrni, A. Sookdeo, L. Wacker, D. Galvan¹

Over the last ten years, significant progress in radiocarbon AMS at our MICADAS instruments has been realized. The use of He instead of N_2 as stripper gas has improved performance with respect to overall detection efficiency, and the optimized ion optical transport results in very reproducible measurement conditions. The recent implementation of permanent magnets reduces complexity of the instruments, significantly reduces operation and installation costs, and improves measurement stability.



Fig. 1: Uncertainties of individual cathodes as function of measurement time.

As a result of these developments ¹⁴C analyses can now be performed with total uncertainties of only ~1‰ on a single cathode. Here, we report on measurements on annual tree ring samples from 780-770 AD, a time range with unexpected atmospheric ¹⁴C variations as observed by Miyake et al. [1]. In Fig. 1 reproducibility of the mean values of repeated measurements of individual samples with increasing counting statistic is demonstrated. All individual samples approach nicely the Poisson statistics limit at more than 1 million ¹⁴C counts per sample. 3 Oxa I and 4 Oxa II standards were measured resulting in an uncertainty of the normalization procedure of less than 0.5‰.

Year AD	Year BP	σ /Years
770	1322	9
771	1299	9
772	1331	9
773	1317	9
774	1293	9
775	1235	9
776	1199	9
777	1196	9
778	1171	9
779	1185	9
780	1187	9

Tab. 1: Results with 1 σ overall uncertainties.

Phthalic Anhydride, brown coal, and Kauri wood samples were used to assess blank levels. In addition, two pine wood samples cut from a tree ring grown in 1515 AD were nicely reproduced with ¹⁴C ages of 343±8 BP and 348±8 BP, respectively.



Fig. 2: Comparison with data from Miyake [1].

[1] F. Miyake et al., Nature 486 (2012) 240

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SPEED DATING

A rapid way to determine the radiocarbon age of wood by EA-AMS

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Trees are discovered in construction sites, lake sediments and rivers (Fig.1) but the ages of the trees are not known until a dendrochronology link, i.e. the analysis of tree ring growth patterns to trees of known age, is established or if a radiocarbon (¹⁴C) date is determined, both of which are time consuming and are expensive. If the trees are not in time periods of interest or in cases where dendrochronology links or ¹⁴C dates are not lacking, the effort to date these trees is frivolous. In addition, the authenticity of historical buildings or sites can be called into question and dendrochronology or radiocarbon dates can be used to prove or disprove the age of the building or site, which again is a large and expensive undertaking [1]. At the Laboratory for Ion Beam Physics (LIP) we developed a rapid and cheap method to determine a rough ¹⁴C date for wood material, using an Elemental Analyzer (EA) coupled with AMS. These ¹⁴C dates can be used to determine whether or not a site warrants further investigation and aid in placing trees in dendrochronology series. We call this method Speed Dating.



Fig. 1: Oak found at the bottom of lake Aigle, Switzerland.

Until present, we have dated at LIP over 600 samples found in France, Switzerland, Germany, and Italy. Samples speed dated from Germany have allowed for the potential extension of the Preboreal Pine Chronology (PPC) [2] to 14,500 cal. BP (Fig.2).



Fig. 2: Pines that have been placed in a dendrochronology series with the aid of speed dating.

- [1] B. Dietre et al., Quat. Int. 353 (2014) 3
- [2] M. Fredrich et al., Radiocarbon 46 (2004) 1111

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GROWTH CONSTRAINTS ON A MODERN STROMATOLITE

Stromatolite laminae as archives of reservoir age changes (S. Atlantic)

S. Bruggmann¹, I. Hajdas, C. Vasconcelos¹

As laminated biogenic or abiogenic sedimentary structures [1], stromatolites record environmental changes along growth profiles, possibly revealing changes in reservoir ages. A modern stromatolite sample (Fig. 1) was collected in Lagoa Vermelha (100 km east of Rio de Janeiro, Brasil), an area known for upwelling of South Atlantic Central Water (SACW).



Fig. 1: Lagoa Vermelha, arrow indicating north.

Hand-drilled carbonate samples from different layers were analyzed for ¹⁴C content. Recently collected shells were used to estimate the present-day reservoir age. The OxCal depositional model (Marine13 calibration curve; [2]) was used to calibrate ¹⁴C ages. The maximum age in the center of the stromatolite was in the 6th century AD and the outer crust grew in the beginning of the 20th century. The well-laminated middle part of the stromatolite transect was found to have grown in a short time period of less than 100 years, with four excursions towards older ¹⁴C ages. To detect the causes of these changes of marine ¹⁴C, calendar years assuming a stable modern reservoir age were used to simulate atmospheric ¹⁴C ages southern hemisphere ShCal13 with the atmospheric calibration curve [3]. The offset between the measured and simulated ¹⁴C ages

indicates a variability of the reservoir age between -99 and 268 ¹⁴C y. The highest reservoir corrections correlate with layers indicating environmental changes as detected by other geochemical measurements. These analyses support an increase in the intensity of upwelling, bringing old deep water enriched in ¹⁴C to the lagoon.



Fig. 2: Circles highlight three layers with excursions towards older ¹⁴C ages caused by upwelling.

This additional old carbon causing the observed excursion are very well recorded in stromatolites, making them excellent archives for reconstructing reservoir ages.

- M. Semikhatov et al., Can. J. Earth Scie. 19 (1979) 992
- [2] P. Reimer et al., Radiocarbon 55 (2013) 1869
- [3] A. Hogg et al., Radiocarbon 55 (2013) 1

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DIFFERENT ¹⁴C AGES FOR DIFFERENT FRACTIONS OF PEAT

Insights from a depth-profile in a fluvial terrace of Ticino River

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The glacial landforms in the lower valleys of northern Italy have been assigned to different ice ages by a variety of authors since the 19th century [1]. This study is part of a project that involves a broad geomorphological analysis and first-time absolute in-situ exposure dating of erratic boulders using ¹⁰Be and ³⁶Cl.

Seven radiocarbon samples were taken from a fluvial terrace outcropping over a height of 6 meters along the Ticino River (Fig. 1 and 2).



Fig. 1: Hill shaded LIDAR image of the sample location on the left bank of the Ticino River.

Where possible, the samples were sieved to separate a bulk fraction (<125 μ m) from the undefined organic fragments. During the subsequent ABA-preparation for all fractions some samples dissolved partly. This way we obtained up to four ages per initial sample; one each for the insoluble bulk fraction, the humic acid of the bulk, the organic fragments and the humic acid of the organic fragments.

The radiocarbon ages vary significantly, with 20 ky between the insoluble bulk fraction and the organic fragments. All samples of the bulk fractions gave much younger ages than of the hand-selected macro remains (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2: Outcrop with sample locations (left) and two microscopic pictures of a peat sample and selected undefined organic fragments.

Age differences can be attributed to contamination of the sampled material with young rootlets, the passage of 'young' groundwater and very low carbon contents in especially the insoluble bulk. The ages of the organic fragments showed most coherent ages over the whole profile and these fragments are least likely contaminated by younger material.

Based on our results obtained on macro remains this deposit is dated to MIS3 age. About 3 meters of sediment have been deposited here during ca. 8 ky. This could tell us more about the sediment budgets of the interstadials and the erosive power of glaciers in the Last Glacial Maximum.

[1] A. Penck and E. Brückner, 3 (1909) 1119

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LAKE LEVEL RECONSTRUCTION OF LAKE SILS, ENGADINE

Radiocarbon dating and dendrochronology of tree trunks

S. Vattioni¹, I. Hajdas, M. Strasser^{1, 2}, R. Grischott¹, T. Sormaz ³

Lake level changes influence lacustrine and fluvial sedimentation processes and therefore also the appearance of landscape. In summer 2011, the Archaeological Service of Canton Grisons found several tree trunks in about 2.5 meters depth (fig. 1). It can be assumed that they come from trees that grew there when the lake level was lower than today.



Fig. 1: Tree trunks found on the bottom of Lake Sils.

A previous study has proposed that the lake level was significantly lower in the Middle Holocene and continuously rose between 3000 and 2000 years BP [1]. This scenario could have led to the death of the trees. Therefore, in this study we dated these tree trunks using radiocarbon dating and dendrochronology to test this scenario. The results revealed four different groups of ages of the trees. The first group of trees, which dates to the 8th century BC and the second one, which dates to Roman times indicate two lake level minima of about 3 meters below the present value. This lake level correlates with climate data such as Alpine glacier fluctuations [2]. Advancing glaciers could have transported more bed load to the fan delta of Sils, which is damming Lake Sils. Therefore, the lake level was subsequently higher resulting in flooding of the trees.



Fig. 2: Map of Lake Sils showing the note about "Reusen".

The two younger groups of trees with Medieval ages and the one with an early 20th century age, can be related to human activities. The trees from Medieval period were identified as piles of fish traps (German: "Reusen", Fig. 2). None of the proposed hypotheses could be confirmed. More likely, the lake level was about 3 meters lower than today until about 200 AD, followed by a lake level rise to about today's level, which was reached at about 300 AD [3]. This study, combines which dendrochronology with radiocarbon dating, shows high potential for the reconstruction of the Quaternary landscape history in the Alpine regions.

- [1] R. Grischott, PhD thesis, ETHZ (2015)
- [2] H. Holzhauser Holocene 15 (2005) 789
- [3] S. Wohlwend MS thesis, ETHZ (2010)

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RADIOCARBON DATING IN THE FALÉMÉ PROJECT

Chronology of Human Settlement and paleoenvironment in West Africa

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Preliminary research conducted in the Falémé Valley, East of Senegal, have shown the potential of this region for allowing joint studies on both new Palaeolithic/Neolithic data and local palaeo environmental data [1]. Three main time periods are addressed: Palaeolithic, Protohistory and history of the last centuries. All archaeological and palaeo environmental studies on a section of the Falémé Valley (Fig. 1) involve geochronological investigations, which apply 2 techniques: OSL and ¹⁴C.



Fig. 1: Map of western Africa showing research area in the Falémé River Valley.

Each year a set of radiocarbon ages obtained on organic matter collected during the January-March field seasons provide a time frame for the sites surveyed and excavated. Typically, charcoal samples are collected in the field and sent to the laboratory for preparation and analysis. These are often of a very low size (Fig. 2) therefore careful monitoring of sample treatment is important. Nearly 50 samples were analyzed during the last 3 years were. The ages covered time from MIS2 to the most times.



Fig. 2: Sample of charcoal as submitted to the laboratory i.e., prior to treatment. The resulting amount of pure carbon was 0.3 mg.

One of the examples is the dating of archaeological layer at Toumboura, which allowed to attribute its occupation to the end of the Pleistocene or early Holocene [2]. More recent stratigraphic sections might contain well preserved organic matter but here another challenge of the radiocarbon dating has to be acknowledged. Calibration of radiocarbon ages for samples from historic period of the last 2 or 3 centuries results in a wide range of calendar ages. However, in this project radiocarbon chronologies can be supported by stratigraphic information allowing Bayesian models of OxCal to be applied.

- [1] E. Huysecom et al., Journal of African Archaeology 13 (2015) 7
- [2] B. Chevrier et al., Quat. Int. (in press)

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¹⁴C AGES FOR THE "GONJA PROJECT"

Preliminary results for 2015 excavation in Ghana (Northern Region)

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The state or kingdom of Gonja emerged in the mid-16th century in the savannah area of Northern Ghana extending to the north of the tropical forest. According to historical and oral traditions, its origins go back to the arrival of Mande conquerors who came from the area of Djenne to take control of the gold trade from the mines situated around Buna and Beghu. They crossed the river Black Volta and established themselves in the area known as Gonja.



Fig. 1: Old Buipe, general view of the architectural remains in Field C at the end of the season (photo Denis Genequand).

The general aim of the project is the study of the islamisation of Northern Ghana from the 16th century onwards through the archaeological study of the Gonja. The detailed study of Old Buipe (Northern Region), one of the major archaeological sites of Gonja, includes topographic survey, soundings and extensive excavations (Fig. 1) to document the ancient phases of the town (16th to 18th century). Six samples of charcoal collected in the 2015 excavations confirm the ancient settlement.



Fig. 2: Bole, the mosque seen from the north (photo Denis Genequand).

In addition to studies on the origin of Gonja, a renewed inquiry into the architecture and the date of construction of some of the last surviving traditional mosques of Northern Ghana will be made as the majority of these monuments are situated in the territory of Gonja. Their origin and date of construction are still uncertain. First results of ¹⁴C dating on samples of wood and charcoal collected at the Bole mosque (Fig. 2) confirm the construction after 1896-97 AD destruction of the town. These results are encouraging and essential for the upcoming excavations of 2016.

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MEDIEVAL CAPITAL OF CHERVEN TOWNS (POLAND)

¹⁴C chronology and palaeoenviroment of Czermno

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Early Medieval history of the territory of Hrubieszów Basin on the Bug river, that bordered Polish and Russian states at that times, has been investigated in terms of palaeoenvironment. The rich spectrum of issues associated with this region includes development of the so-called Cherven towns. One of the most recognized is the fort of Czermno. The stronghold was situated on a well-drained holm at the confluence of two rivers: Huczwa (tributary of the Bug) and its small tributary - Sieniocha. The fortifications were surrounded by a group of open settlements on the marshy bank of the Huczwa. The stronghold went out of use during the second half of the 13th century.



Fig. 1: Archaeological excavation in the outer zone of the settlement complex.

In addition to archaeological excavations (Fig. 1) environmental aspects of the location and operation of the fortified hill were investigated. The dense network of geo- and pedological drilling and precise topographical surveys were conducted. Geological cores and undisturbed samples were collected for pollen and ¹⁴C analysis. These allowed reconstruction of an early medieval relief (Fig. 2) and of the original river network systems. The development phases

of the town and its wide suburbia were also clarified.



Fig. 2: 3D model of stronghold in Czermno.

Samples of peat and organic (Fig. 3) had to be carefully sieved to remove modern rootlets. Our ¹⁴C analysis and their Bayesian age model sets the timing of this first settlement phase in the early medieval.



Fig. 3: Sequence of sediments with artifacts in the internal part of ramparts

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GRÓDEK – MYSTERIOUS CHERVEN TOWN (POLAND)

Preliminary results of 2015 field work in Eastern Poland

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The small Early Medieval stronghold of Gródek (Hrubieszów Basin, Eastern Poland) was probably called Volyn at its beginnings, as can be deduced from historical documents. Gródek belongs to the Cherven towns region together with Czermno, neighbouring it from the south.



Fig. 1: Location of stronghold at Gródek on map with main elements of relief.

The settlement complex at Gródek, some 15 ha in area, consists of the remains of a fortified hill and a number of open settlements. The ramparts were lost in some places to artillery trenches dug during the two great wars of the 20th century. Archeological excavations proved the existence of a cemetery inside the hill fortifications, out of which over forty graves contained jewelry ornamented in the style of Kievan Rus of 12th- 14th century.



Fig. 2: Present day view on the stronghold at Gródek.

One of the aims of the present study was to reconstruct geologic-hydrologic conditions of the investigated strongholds and to reconstruct the palaeoenvironment in the settlement area.

Results of multidisciplinary studies of the ¹⁴C dated peat core from the wetland on the river terrace of Huczwa (2 km from the stronghold) recorded two phases of intensified human impact on the area: end of 6th-8th century AD and end of 13th-14th century AD.

From the second half of the 10th century to the first half of the 12th century the anthropogenic effect of land cultivation is weaker coinciding with slightly drier climatic conditions.

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INDIRECT RADIOCARBON DATING OF A PEARL OYSTER

Rapid analysis of a marine carbonate sample by Laser Ablation AMS

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Precise age estimates of the black-lipped pearl oyster are of great importance for fishery regulation and protection of this endangered species [1]. The radiocarbon (¹⁴C) - record established from corals of the Kure Atoll can provide information about the life-span of the oysters. This approach requires to access the ¹⁴C-signature along the growth axis of the shell at a high spatial resolution. The fastest method so far available for this is the novel Laser Ablation (LA)-AMS technique recently installed at the LIP [2]. The carbonate sample is placed in an in-house designed LA-cell, where CO₂ is produced from the sample by focusing a UV laser onto its surface. The CO₂ is directly transported into the gas ion source of the AMS and analyzed online. Two consecutive scans in opposite direction were performed along a line across the polished section of the oyster embedded in epoxy. In order to increase the measurement precision for each growth layer, a zig-zag scanning pattern was selected. The vertical displacement covered 2 mm, while the overall scanning distance was 12 mm. The spatial resolution achieved is 220 µm and the overall analvsis time was 30 min. The unprocessed data are shown in Fig. 1.



Fig. 1: Raw data from two LA scans. Fraction modern is plotted versus position.



Fig. 2: Data from LA (red), data from analysis on graphite targets (black) and Kure Atoll Record (purple).

For the final LA-AMS data set, only regions, available where both scans are were considered. The first 2.5 mm of the scan from old to young were rejected, as parts of the epoxy were hit by the laser and caused a depleted F¹⁴C signal. The average of the two scans was taken (red circles in Fig. 2). Furthermore, data from graphite analysis (black squares) are shown. The LA-AMS data matches the graphite data within the uncertainties. Nevertheless, the slope is slightly steeper, which cannot be explained at this point. The Kure Atoll record (purple squares) was aligned with the oyster data by considering the collection year of the oyster (1994). Furthermore, the slope of the Kure Atoll record was matched with the slope of the LA-AMS data, suggesting an age of the oyster on the order of ten years.

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CAN RED SNAPPER LIVE FOR HALF A CENTURY?

Laser-Ablation AMS reveals complete bomb ¹⁴C signal in an otolith

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Red snapper (*Lutjanus campechanus*) is an important fishery species in the Gulf of Mexico. Fishery sustainability is supported by knowledge of valid life history parameters, like longevity. Estimates of maximum age for fishes were often underestimated because the method was not validated. For red snapper, otoliths (fish ear stones) are used to estimate age by counting growth zones in cross sections (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Cross-sectioned red snapper otolith aged to 50-55 years from growth zone counting.

Recently collected red snapper were estimated to live more than 50 years, leading to birth years prior to atmospheric testing of thermonuclear bombs. Given the age estimate and birth year scenario is accurate, calcium carbonate accreted during the earliest growth (otolith core in upper right of Fig. 1) would have pre-bomb ¹⁴C levels, followed by a rapid rise in ¹⁴C, terminating in a post-bomb peak and subsequent decline (Fig. 2).

The age of fishes have been validated using traditional sampling of the otolith core (earliest growth) by extracting calcium carbonate with a micromilling machine and measuring ¹⁴C for an alignment with a coral ¹⁴C reference [1]. This method is typically limited to a single sample

because the temporal specificity of micromilling becomes difficult to impossible as the otolith grows in successive layers that become thinner with increasing age (Fig. 1). Hence, a fish with a pre-bomb birth year can be aged only to the coral ¹⁴C reference inflection point at 1958 because ¹⁴C levels plateau (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2: Bomb ¹⁴C record for Gulf of Mexico from numerous coral records across the basin.

A recent application of LA-AMS to a red snapper otolith section has led to a continuous series of ¹⁴C measurements. This series has revealed prebomb ¹⁴C levels in the earliest growth out to a point where the rapid ¹⁴C increase is evident, providing a time-specific marker at a given fish age. This result provides an opportunity to age the fish with greater certainty and beyond the pre-bomb limitation at 1958.

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INVESTIGATING THE ORGANIC CARBON CYCLE IN CAVES

Extraction and measurement of ¹⁴C from organic matter in stalagmites

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Stalagmites are valuable archives for past terrestrial climate. They can be dated using the method, U-Th vielding very precise chronologies. As a multi-proxy archive, they can provide a wealth of information on past rainfall distribution, temperature, vegetation and soil conditions. Small amounts of organic carbon carbonate entrapped in stalagmite are potentially useful indicators for past surface conditions. Drip water originating from the soil above the cave carries information about the soil and vegetation system in the form of organic carbon. Radiocarbon analysis of the organic carbon fraction could therefore give valuable insights into soil cycling and karst times. However, turnover the small concentrations of OC typically found in stalagmites (e.g. 1.73-8.8 µg lipid extract/g $CaCO_3$ [1]) present analytical challenges.



Fig. 1: Schematic of a cave system and the associated hydrological and carbon cycle processes.

We conducted a series of ¹⁴C measurements on stalagmites from different locations. A wet

chemical oxidation method [2] was used in conjunction with acid digestion of the carbonate to measure the amount and ¹⁴C-concentration of organic carbon in the stalagmites.

The oxidized samples were analysed on the MICADAS using a gas ion source device to directly sample headspace CO_2 in the sample vials.



Fig. 1: Yok Balum cave, Belize, richly decorated with stalagmites, stalactites and flowstones. (Picture credit: I. Walczak)

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PARTICLE FLUX PROCESSES IN THE ARCTIC OCEAN

A coupled organic and inorganic tracer approach

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A growing body of evidence suggests that delivery of particulate matter, including associated biogeochemically relevant materials to the interior Canada Basin in the central Arctic Ocean, is dominated by lateral inputs. The magnitude and origin of lateral inputs has substantial implications for our understanding of biogeochemical cycling in the central Arctic Ocean and its impact on ecosystems as well as on records preserved in underlying sediments. In this study, organic (C/N, δ^{13} C, Δ^{14} C) and inorganic (Nd, Sr) tracers are combined to elucidate the sources of organic matter in coretop sediments and sediment traps of the North American Arctic Ocean including the Bering Sea.

Particulate organic carbon of pelagic and sea ice algae within arctic systems are depleted in ¹³C and are thus similar to ¹³C of vegetationally derived carbon, thereby complicating the deconvolution of distinct sources. Aged carbon, originating from the surrounding permafrost soils and kerogen-rich sediments delivered by rivers allows a distinction between marine and terrestrial inputs. Surface sediments represent a mixture of two end-member compositions only, modern marine organic matter and a combination of Mackenzie derived particulate organic matter and kerogen (Fig. 1). Young terrestrial carbon is of minor significance for Mackenzie Shelf sediments, which can be explained by two complementing factors, namely the remineralization within the water column and the aging of the carbon within the surface sediments. Samples of the Mackenzie and Colville Shelves approaching the compositional range of kerogen indicate the substantial input of petrogenic hydrocarbons along with aged organic matter of deep permafrost soils.



Fig. 1: Compilation of radiocarbon data. Unpublished data from this study (n=32) and literature data (n=24)^[1,2,3].

Nd and Sr isotopic com-positions, allow the identification of continental sediment sources. The Bering-Chukchi Sea region is dominated by contributions from contemporary marine productivity, whereas the Beaufort Sea and the Canada Basin receive dominantly sedimentary inputs from the Chukchi Peninsula, the Alaskan Colville and the Canadian Mackenzie River.

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ORGANIC CARBON CYCLING IN TAIWAN

Microbial oxidation of rock-derived organic carbon in tropical soils

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Oxidation of uplifted petrogenic organic carbon (OC_{petro}) is a net source of CO₂ to the atmosphere and counteracts drawdown by burial of biospheric organic carbon (OC_{bio}) in marine sediments [1]. This process is most apparent in erosive mountain systems exhibiting high OC_{petro} content, such as the Eastern Central Range (ECR) of Taiwan (Figure 1) [2]. A previous dissolved study has utilized rhenium concentrations in rivers draining the ECR to estimate that this process corresponds to a transfer of 12 - 20 tons C/km²/yr to the atmosphere [3]. However, a mechanistic understanding remains elusive.



Fig. 1: Map of the Eastern Central Range in Taiwan, emphasizing the sampling locations (LiWu and WuLu River catchments).

Here we use stable carbon isotopes (δ^{13} C), bulk radiocarbon (F_{mod}), vascular plant fatty acid F_{mod}, and OC thermal composition [4] as tracers in ECR soils and riverine suspended sediments to reveal that this process is microbially mediated within the soil column. Microbes rapidly and efficiently utilize OC_{petro} as substrate upon uplift of fresh bedrock, leading to an estimated 7 – 38 tons C/km²/yr transfer to the atmosphere, consistent with previous estimates [3]. Additionally, bacterial fatty acid (FA) biomarker δ^{13} C values in a saprolite layer indicate that microbes incorporate OC_{petro} into radiocarbondead living biomass, as has been suggested previously using culture experiments [5].



Fig. 2: OC mixing model for Taiwanese soils. Addition of OC_{bio} without OC_{petro} (blue envelope) is inconsistent with the data, which instead suggest oxidation of ~75% of bedrock OC_{petro} (gray envelope).

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TIME-SERIES ¹⁴C STUDIES OF OCEAN PARTICLES

Exploring land-ocean carbon isotope gradients in the South China Sea

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The South China Sea (SCS) borders the Pacific Ocean as one of its largest marginal seas. Sediment traps have been used to collect a time series of sinking particles in the water column in order to study sediment sources and fluxes in the SCS. The time series sediment traps (Fig. 1) were deployed on moorings at two different locations and at two water depths per mooring (1000-3000 meters depth). The traps include a carousel that enables discrete samples to be recovered each representing 18-day time-slices during the year-long mooring deployment. Intra-annual variability of particulate matter settling through the water column depends on the seasonality of marine primary productivity and continental discharge. In the case of the latter, special events such as eddies deliver huge amounts of sediments to the deep sea [1].



Fig. 1: A sediment trap recovered from the South China Sea after one year of deployment. The samples are refrigerated and transported to the laboratory.

Stable carbon and radiocarbon isotopic composition of bulk organic carbon was measured from the time series trap samples to gain insight into the provenance and type of organic matter exported from land and surface ocean waters to the deep sea. The radiocarbon isotopic composition shows subtle yet clear changes in the source material over the course of one year. During time windows when sediment fluxes were higher, radiocarbon concentrations are lower. These episodes likely reflect the export of aged terrestrial organic carbon superimposed on the pelagic background sedimentation. In the SCS, a significant part of this terrestrial component can be radiocarbon-dead organic carbon derived from bedrock erosion from Taiwan [2].



Fig. 2: One year time series (from late spring 2014) of radiocarbon isotopic composition of bulk particulate organic carbon intercepted by a sediment trap deployed at 2000 m water depth in the South China Sea. Changes in the isotopic composition reflect changes in the type of organic matter transported to 2000 meters of water depth at this sediment trap.

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¹⁴C AGE OF THERMAL ORGANIC DECOMPOSITION

Influence of lateral transport time on organic carbon degradation

R. Bao^{1,2}, M. Zhao³, A. McNichol², N. Haghipour¹, C. McIntyre¹, T. Eglinton¹

Organic matter (OM) on the continental shelf is subject to extensive degradation after laterally conveying and vertically sinking. Although previous studies proposed that transportrelated oxygen exposure time correlated with OM preservation along the continental margin [1]. However, further studies are still required to quantitatively estimate the timescale of OM lateral transport and, in particular, to establish the relationship between lateral transport time and OC degradation.



Fig. 1: Sample locations: A (dash) and B (circle) and dominant delivery direction (arrows) of marine sediments in the inner shelf of the East China Sea. Shadow area represents the mud region (modified from Xu et al., 2007)[2].

A new approach was recently developed for determination of carbon isotopic compositions of sedimentary OM using a so-called ramped pyrolysis/oxidation ("Ramped PyrOx") method [3]. This approach can provide radiocarbon analysis of the organic thermal decompositions, which are CO₂ that evolves under a linear temperature program, allowing separation of OC components in sediments based on their thermochemical stability.

Here we report the first attempt to explore the role of lateral transport time of OM associated

with different grain size in OC degradation in the inner shelf of the East China Sea (ECS). We apply the Ramped PyrOx approach to measure the ¹⁴C ages of the thermal decompositions of different grain size fractions from A and B surface sediments (Fig. 1). Our results show the squeezing of thermographic curves between A and B locations, suggesting OC degradation during lateral transport (Fig.2a). The ¹⁴C ages of the thermal decompositions become older with increasing temperature on the OM, which in B thermal decompositions are systematically older than that of A corresponding decompositions (Fig. 2b). We propose that the lateral transport time of OM may be one of the most fundamental factors to influence OC degradation in the continental margin seas.



Fig. 2: (a): Thermographic patterns of OM from different grain size fractions in location A (dash) and B (solid); (b): ¹⁴C age spectrums of thermal organic decomposition fractions (low-high temperature: T1-T5).

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POOL-SPECIFIC RADIOCARBON MEASUREMENTS IN SOILS

Comprehensive assessment of soil organic matter vulnerability

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Soil organic matter (SOM) forms the largest terrestrial pool of carbon outside of sedimentary rocks, and fulfills important ecosystem functions. Radiocarbon is a powerful tool for assessing SOM dynamics and is increasingly used in studies of carbon turnover in soils. Details on which specific fractions and compounds are responsible for SOM (in)stability remains convoluted when only measuring the bulk samples.



Fig. 1: Radiocarbon analysis of Dissolved Organic Matter (DOM) in time series in LWF site Beatenberg, Switzerland.

Therefore, this study also focuses on specific carbon fractions and compounds in order to trace specific pools within the SOM cycle. Overall, this is aimed to comprehensively assess the controls on organic matter stability and vulnerability in soils across Switzerland. Sites are part of the Long-term Forest Ecosystem (LWF) Research Program of the Swiss Federal Research Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL).



Fig. 2: Compound-specific plant wax and fraction-specific radiocarbon analysis in Beatenberg.

Initial results show that (1) Dissolved Organic Matter (DOM) signatures correlate with longterm and short-term temporal trends (Fig. 1) (2) density fractions reflect different SOM pools with largely variable turnover (3) compoundspecific mineral-bound analysis reflect a larger range of ages than fractions and therefore may represent different SOM pools (Fig. 2). This, in combination with a bulk time-series of bulk organic carbon for four soil types, gives a uniquely comprehensive overview and understanding of soil organic matter dynamics. In conclusion, this work in progress reveals interesting trends in fraction- and compoundspecific SOM pools that help to constrain poolspecific turnover. This work will be followed up with additional compound-specific work (lignin), turnover modeling and correlation to environmental parameters.

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COSMOGENIC NUCLIDES



Introducing the MECED Model Glacial history in Patagonia Latest glacier advances in the Tatra Mountains Late Glacial landscape development in Meiental Late Holocene evolution of the Triftjegletscher The lateglacial in Rhaetian Alps Reaching and abandoning the furthest ice extent The last retreat of the Reuss Glacier Late Pleistocene glaciers in northern Apennines Synchronous Last Glacial Maximum Timing of fluvial terrace formation in Europe Past landscape change in the Hohen Tauern (A) Past rock glacier activity in the northern Alps Rock avalanches in the Mont Blanc Massif (Italy) The mid-Holocene increased neotectoniv activity Dating the Sentinel Rock avalanche of Zion, Utah

Dating Holocene basalts and human footprints Isochron-burial dating: Terrace chronologies Lithology conditions sediment flux Denudation rates over space and time in Europe Denudation rates from ¹⁰Be (meteoric)/⁹Be ratios Constraining erosion rates in semi-arid regions Erosion of the Central Bolivian Andes Uplift rate distribution in the Andes (~32° S) Climate control on Alpine hillslope erosion Frost cracking as driver of Holocene erosion The impact of typhoon Morakot on erosion rate

INTRODUCING THE MECED MODEL

A <u>Multi-nuclide Exposure, Coverage and Erosion Depth profile model</u>

C. Wirsig, S. Ivy-Ochs, V. Alfimov

During the course of our project [1] we developed a model that calculates depth profiles of cosmogenic nuclide concentrations in rock surfaces depending on pre-defined exposure scenarios. For each time period, the model calculates the production and decay of ¹⁰Be, ¹⁴C and ³⁶Cl taking into account a) exposure times, b) cover times, types and thickness and c) erosion rates. The type of cover not only defines its density: Fig. 1 shows the production rate depth profile of ³⁶Cl under sediment (green lines) or ice cover (blue lines), each equivalent to 16.6 cm of rock. As ice reflects thermal neutrons that would otherwise diffuse from the rock to the atmosphere, the ³⁶Cl production through this pathway is increased in the uppermost few decimeters of rock [2]. The magenta lines show the ³⁶Cl production that is 'lost' to the rock surface, because it occurs in the cover.



Fig. 1: Production of ³⁶Cl under sediment (green lines) or ice cover (blue lines), each equivalent to 16.6 cm of rock. Calculated for sample Grub2 with (31.7 ± 0.5) ppm Cl [1].

This model can be used 1) to conduct feasibility studies that test if expected (differences in) nuclide concentrations can be measured by AMS before investing long hours in the field and laboratory, and 2) to compare predicted final nuclide concentrations of diverse exposure scenarios to concentrations derived from AMS measurements of real rock surfaces. We can then restrict the set of exposure scenarios based measured nuclide concentrations. on In particular, the model predicts the concentrations of multiple cosmogenic isotopes and demonstrates the enhanced capabilities to constrain the duration of exposure and burial as well as the depth of erosion experienced by rock surfaces in studies using same-sample multiple isotope analyses.



Fig. 2: A) Evolution of nuclide concentrations starting at 11 ka with constant exposure. Solid lines with complete cover and 0.1 mm/a erosion in the last 3 ka. **B)** Apparent ages calculated from the final concentrations of A [1].

Differences in the shape of the production rate depth profile and in the half-life of different nuclides cause characteristic patterns of apparent ages. For example, identical apparent ages indicate constant exposure, whereas cover and erosion are expected to result in apparent 36 Cl ages > 10 Be ages > 14 C ages (Fig. 2). Typical analytical uncertainties (grey areas) are low enough to allow the detection of an age mismatch between the different nuclides caused by the scenario in Fig. 2.

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GLACIAL HISTORY IN PATAGONIA

Geomorphological control on areal extent of ice

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The terminal moraines east of the Lago Buenos Aires (LBA) in Patagonia are particularly interesting because they are imbricated from the older (being around 1 Ma) to the east, to the younger, (from the Last Glacial Maximum, around 20 ka), to the west (Figs. 1 and 2). A precise chronology is however still lacking.



Fig. 1: Imbricated moraines east of LBA (adapted from [1]). M1, M3, D1, D2, T5 are the moraines for which we report an age (see fig. 3).

We sampled cobbles from the moraines outwashes and two depth profiles in Telken 5 and Deseado 2. We measured cosmogenic ¹⁰Be concentrations to determine exposure ages.



Fig. 2: View over the imbricated moraines from the top of Moreno 1 moraine.

With these ages we establish a new chronology for the area: Moreno moraines, are from the

same glacial stage (MIS 8). Deseado 1 is from MIS 12, Deseado 2 is from MIS 16, and Telken 5 probably from MIS 20 (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3: Exposure ages determined for different cobbles (filled circles), and the two depth profiles (open square) (see fig. 1).

This chronology matches rather well with the one established by [2], in the Lago Pueyrredon area, which suggest that the processes controlling the areal extent of ice have a regional impact. One glacial cycle out of two is conserved, so that some moraines are recycled in the followings. Climate seems to play a minor role in glacier areal extent. We propose, in agreement with [3], that this pattern is the morphology explained by of the overdeepening (the lake) dug by the glacier.

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LATEST GLACIER ADVANCES IN THE TATRA MOUNTAINS

Insights from geomorphological mapping and surface exposure dating

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During the Pleistocene, glaciers advanced several times in the Tatra Mountains. At the transition to the Holocene glaciers finally retreated from the massif, however, the exact timing is still under debate [1]. Therefore, the aim of this study is to determine when glaciers ultimately vanished from the Tatra Mountains using cosmogenic nuclides and relative dating methods. An additional goal is to obtain an age calibration curve which could be further applicable in similar mountain areas.



Fig. 1: Location of the Rovienky Valley site (red square) in the Tatra Mountains.

One of the most prominent and highest Lateglacial moraines within the Tatra Mountains is preserved in the upper part of the Rovienky Valley (Fig. 1), and was therefore chosen for a case study. Field work reveals an interesting spatial relation between moraines of the same age, whose geometry indicates a simultaneous occurrence of three small marginal glaciers in the valley. Well-developed and pronounced moraines, with the inner depression reaching a depth of over a dozen meters, were formed in the cirque backwalls during the last recessional stage.

We combined detailed geomorphological mapping supported by the Schmidt hammer dating method with geochronological data from ¹⁰Be surface exposure dating. In order to obtain an overall insight into the time and pattern of the final deglaciation of the Tatra Mountains the approach was applied during the preliminary

reconnaissance. Seven samples, five from boulders (Fig. 2) and two from ice-polished bedrock, were taken for dating with ¹⁰Be from Rovienky Valley. The area is built of granitoides and is lithologically uniform, prone to provide reliable results for Schmidt hammer dating, which was conducted on each site intended for cosmogenic nuclide dating.



Fig. 2: Boulder on the top of the Lateglacial moraine selected for dating (white arrow) in the forefront of the most prominent moraine.

Our preliminary results suggest that the youngest and most prominent moraine system was formed during the Younger Dryas readvance. All calculated exposure dates yield ages between 13 ka and 11 ka. Ongoing work aims to obtain additional ¹⁰Be exposure ages which in correlation with relative chronological data and morphostratygraphy will allow to determine the pattern and chronology of the massif deglaciation.

 J. Zasadni and P. Kłapyta, Geomorph. 253 (2016) 406

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LATEGLACIAL LANDSCAPE DEVELOPMENT IN MEIENTAL

Geomorphic mapping and ¹⁰Be dating of selected glacial landforms

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After the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM), several glacier readvances occurred characterized by distinct moraine complexes along mountain valleys and in cirques. Generally, the moraines of the multi-phased Egesen stadial are easily recognizable and can be found in many valleys [1]. For older stages, however, age constraints are rather rare. The aim of our study in Central Switzerland is to develop a refined relative morphostratigraphy and absolute chronology of the local glacial development and the landscape history of the Meiental (Canton of Uri) after the LGM using a multimethodological approach.



Fig. 1: Mapped moraines, local glacial morphostratigraphy and sample locations in the upper Meiental with selected ¹⁰Be-ages.

The selection of the sites was based on a geomorphic map [2]. Due to the presence of several moraines that are considered to have been deposited in the Oldest Dryas (Daun stadial or older), we have the unique possibility to derive a detailed sequence for the entire Lateglacial period. Following geomorphic mapping, more than 20 rock samples were collected from moraines for ¹⁰Be analysis. First results show that the moraines can be attributed to glacier readvances of the Oldest and Younger Dryas (Figs. 1 & 2), i.e. the time span between 10-16 kyrs BP.



Fig. 2: Lateglacial moraine (see triangle).

¹⁰Be exposure dates were calculated using the NENA production rate [3] with an erosion rate of 1 mm/ky without snow correction. Together with additional ¹⁰Be and ¹⁴C samples from the Meiental, Göschenertal, Upper Engadine and published data, sequences will be completed. This will help to derive improved estimates of equilibrium lines of altitude (ELA) of glaciers from the LGM to the beginning of the Holocene.

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LATE HOLOCENE EVOLUTION OT THE TRIFTJEGLETSCHER

Combination of mapping, surface exposure and radiocarbon dating

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To develop a better understanding of glacier fluctuation in the Alps during the Holocene, the forefields of the Triftje- and the Oberseegletscher east of Zermatt, in the Valais Alps, were investigated.



Fig. 1: Overview of the study area (reproduced with authorisation of swisstopo (JA100120)), showing the glaciers, their forefields, and the sample locations of the exposure-dated boulders (orange dots) and the radiocarbon dated wood (green dot). For scale, the left lateral moraine of the Findelgletscher is approximately 2.5 km long.

A multidisciplinary approach of detailed geological and geomorphological observations, ¹⁰Be exposure and radiocarbon dating were applied. Based on the gained results, an early Holocene glacial stage at the end of the Younger Dryas cold period, when first parts of the study area became ice free, was documented by several exposure ages from glacially polished bedrock samples (VT4, 6, 12) and two perched boulders (VT5, 11). No landforms attributable to the mid-Holocene were observed or dated. Either no glacial landforms were formed due to the generally warm climate and/or the landforms were overrun or destroyed by younger and more extensive advances.



Fig. 2: Close up of sample position of VT7 and VT8 on a small moraine that was partially buried by the big right lateral of the Oberseegletscher (reproduced with authorisation of swisstopo (JA100120)).

During the early late Holocene, several exposure ages underpin the field observations that suggest significant glacier advances (VT2, 7, 8, 12) older than the Little Ice Age (LIA). The ages show that they occurred during the Göschenen II stadial [1,2].

During the LIA, glacier advances built most of the landforms that shape the scenery nowadays. For those advances we obtained one exposure age of the right lateral moraine of the Oberseegletscher (VT1) and a radiocarbon age of wood entrained in the glacial sediment.

The youngest landforms are small (1 m) moraine ridges which rim the two lakes (ober and Blâw See) that formed during readvances of the glaciers in the 1920s and 1980s.

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THE LATEGLACIAL IN RHAETIAN ALPS

Dating Early Holocene and Egesen in Ortles-Cevedale Group with ¹⁰Be

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The Rhaetian Alps are a key site for Pleistocene paleoclimatic reconstructions providing several proxy data for investigating Lateglacial and Holocene glacial history. In particular, the Ortles-Cevedale Group, hosting the largest glacier covered massif of the Italian Alps, preserve several geomorphological evidences for characterizing the main steps of alpine glacial history [1].

The Pejo Valley is located in the southeastern sector of the Ortles-Cevedale Group and today hosts the La Mare and Careser glaciers [2, 3].

Several well-defined moraines allow us to identify different Lateglacial phases and to reconstruct the glacial history of this massif. Previous studies [3] identified the Holocene maximum extension of La Mare Glacier dated at about 1600 AD. In order to chronologically constrain the main steps of Lateglacial phases in the area, samples of erratic boulders (Fig. 1) from selected moraines were collected and dated with ¹⁰Be.



Fig. 1: Erratic boulder.

We processed samples related to Lateglacial positions of La Mare Glacier (LAM13_1/6) and Careser Glacier (POVE 1,2,3) (Fig. 2).



Fig. 2: Sample location map.

The ages obtained constrain Early Holocene and Lateglacial phases. One identified Lateglacial phase refers to the Egesen stadial correlated to the Younger Dryas.

These results, related to the geomorphological, geological and glacial settings of the area, give a more detailed knowledge of the La Mare glacier and Careser glacier history. New data are reinforced by already available ¹⁴C ages for the same area [3] and are also in agreement with exposure ages in the nearby Rabbi Valley [4].

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REACHING AND ABANDONING THE FURTHEST ICE EXTENT

Overview of timing of the Last Glacial Maximum in the Alps

S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Wirsig, K. Hippe, M. Christl



During the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) in the European Alps (late Würm) local ice caps and extensive ice fields in the high Alps fed huge outlet glaciers that occupied the main valleys and extended onto the forelands as piedmont lobes (see figure above). Records from sites on both the northern and southern side of the Alps suggest advance of glaciers beyond the mountain front at around 30 ka (for complete references see [1]). Reaching of the maximum extent occurred by no later than 27-26 ka, as exemplified by dates from the Rhine glacier area [2]. Abandonment of the outermost moraines at sites north and south of the Alps was underway by about 24 ka.

In the high Alps, systems of transection glaciers with transfluences over many of the Alpine passes dominated, for example, at Grimsel Pass. ¹⁰Be exposure ages of (23 ± 1) ka for glacially sculpted bedrock located just a few meters below the LGM trimline in the Haslital near Grimsel Pass suggest a pulse of ice surface lowering at about the same time as the foreland moraines were being abandoned [3]. Thereafter, glaciers oscillated at stillstand and minor readvance positions on the northern forelands and within the Italian amphitheatres for several thousand years forming the LGM stadial moraines. Final recession back within the mountain front took place by 19-18 ka.

Recalculation to a common basis of all published ¹⁰Be exposure dates for boulders situated on LGM moraines suggests a strong degree of synchrony for the timing of onset of ice decay both north and south of the Alps.

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THE LAST RETREAT OF THE REUSS GLACIER

Exposure ages indicate the timing of LGM downwasting

R. Reber¹ N. Akçar¹, S. Ivy-Ochs, D. Tikhomirov², R. Burkhalter³, P.W. Kubik, C. Vockenhuber, C. Schlüchter¹

The chronology of frontal and lateral moraines of the Reuss Glacier in the northern Alpine foreland was studied by surface exposure dating of erratic boulders with cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and ³⁶Cl. We conclude that the exposure ages from the lateral Seeboden moraine on the Rigi indicate an ice surface at an elevation of about 1,000 m a.s.l. until (20.4 ± 1.0) ka [1]. The onset of the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) could be established by comparing moraines in terminal and retreat positions (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Glacial morphological map of the frontal part of the LGM Reuss Glacier [1].

Our results indicate that the Reuss Glacier started to retreat at (22.2 ± 1.0) ka (Reuss-22) which seems to be synchronous with the retreat of the Valais and the Aare Lobes (Fig. 2) further to the west. The Reuss lobe retreated for 12 km to Wohlen from the frontal position (in 2-3 ka, Reuss-20 = (18.6 ± 0.9) ka; Figs. 1 and 2). After (18.6 ± 0.9) ka, rapid ice decay or even collapse of the foreland glaciers may have occurred. Lateglacial glacier advances happened only in the high-alpine valleys, e.g. during the Gschnitz stadial at (17.1 ± 1.6) ka [2]. The equilibrium line altitude (ELA) was at least 500 m higher during

the Gschnitz stadial than it was during the LGM [2]. Furthermore, our data is pointing towards a simultaneous deglaciation from frontal (Lenzburg) and lateral (Seeboden) position, which requires an active down-melting of the ice [1].



Fig. 2: Compilation of exposure ages from the northern Alpine foreland showing data from the Reuss Glacier [1], the Valais Glacier [2] and the Aare Glacier [3].

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LATE PLEISTOCENE GLACIERS IN NORTHERN APENNINES

In situ cosmogenic nuclides as a tool for constraining glacial history

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Northern Apennines (Italy) occupy a strategic position between the Alpine region and the Mediterranean basin, strongly influenced by the nearby Ligurian Sea. During the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) several valley glaciers occupied and shaped the head of the main Apenninic valleys. Geomorphological evidences also testify to distinct glacial phases after LGM.

¹⁰Be exposure ages are obtained for the first time in the Northern Apennines. Samples from erratic boulders were collected in selected key sites to outline the glacial history of the mountain range during the Late Pleistocene.



Fig. 1: Val Parma Glacier during LGM (in blue) and the last Lateglacial phase (in purple).

¹⁰Be dated samples range from the LGM to the last Lateglacial phase, tentatively related to the

Younger Dryas. During the LGM, Val Parma (Fig. 1) was occupied by a 23 km² complex valley glacier with a well-defined tongue. After the LGM, the glacier fragmented in distinct glacial bodies and progressively retreated until reaching the cirque phase during the Younger Dryas.

About 20 km southeast from Val Parma the valley glacier that developed from Monte La Nuda (Fig. 2) provides evidences of at least three Lateglacial phases.



Fig. 2: Monte La Nuda Glacier during the LGM and early Lateglacial phases (blue and orange).

Results obtained fall within the scope to reconstruct timing and entity of the last glaciation along the Northern Apennines during the Late Pleistocene. They contribute to outline the paleoclimatic dynamics that characterized the investigated area in the framework of the Western Mediterranean.

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SYNCHRONOUS LAST GLACIAL MAXIMUM

LGM equilibrium line altitude depression across Turkey

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Uludağ is a solitary mountain in NW Turkey where glacial deposits have been documented in the Kovuk Valley and where the glacial history has been reconstructed based on thirty-one cosmogenic ¹⁰Be exposure ages from glacially transported boulders and bedrock. The Kovuk Glacier began advancing before (26.5 ± 1.6) ka. It reached its maximum extent at (20.3 ± 1.3) ka, followed by a readvance at (19.3 ± 1.2) ka, both during the global Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) within Marine Isotope Stage-2 [1]. Based on the geomorphologic ice margin reconstruction and using the accumulation-ablation area ratio (AAR) approach, the LGM equilibrium line altitude (ELA) of the Kovuk LGM-maximum glacier was ca. 2000 m above sea level for an estimated AAR of 0.67.



Fig. 1: Maximum extent of glaciers in the Anatolian mountains during the Quaternary [1].

Based on the lower bounds of the modern ELA estimates, we tentatively estimated the ELA depressions for the investigated palaeoglaciers during the LGM. The ELA depression was approximately 800 – 1000 m on Uludağ, ca. 600 – 800 m in the eastern Black Sea Mts., ca. 1300 m on Mt. Erciyes, ca. 1100 m in the Dedegöl Mts., ca 900 m on Akdağ, and ca. 1000 m on Mt. Sandıras [1].



Fig. 2: Reconstructed LGM glaciers in Uludağ and in the eastern Black Sea Mountains [1].

The LGM in the Anatolian mountains can be characterized by glaciers that responded to MIS-2 cooling and reached their maximum position at (20.9 ± 1.5) ka. The lowering of the ELA of these glaciers was on the order of 1000 m compared to the modern ELA estimates. The maximum extent of Anatolian glaciers appears to be synchronous with the LGM advances in other mountains of the Mediterranean basin [1].

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TIMING OF FLUVIAL TERRACE FORMATION IN EUROPE

Age constraints by cosmogenic nuclide dating

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Age constraints of late Cenozoic fluvial deposits are important to address questions in geomorphology such as incision rates of rivers. Fluvial sequences are often dated with relative constraints such as magnetoage or biostratigraphy. Absolute age constraints of fluvial deposits are not always possible as datable material is missing (e.g. no organic matter for carbon dating) or techniques do not cover the age ranges of the fluvial deposits (e.g., carbon dating in early Pleistocene terraces). Different dating techniques based on in situproduced cosmogenic nuclides allow the age determination of fluvial deposits back to 5 Myr.



Fig. 1: Location of four terrace sequences in Europe analyzed for isochron burial dating and depth profile dating with cosmogenic nuclides.

In this study, cosmogenic depth profile dating and isochron burial dating were applied to four different river systems in Europe spanning 12° of latitude. Isochron burial age constraints of four selected terraces from the Vltava river (Czech Republic) range between (961 ± 225) to (2086 ± 507) kyr. An isochron burial age derived for the Allier river (Central France) is (2000 ± 223) kyr. Two terrace levels from the Esla river (NW Spain) were dated to (155 +62/-6) kyr and (586 +128/-198) kyr with depth profile dating. The latter age agrees with an isochron burial age of (524 ± 195) kyr. The successfully dated terrace level from the Guadalquivir river (SW Spain) resulted in an isochron burial age of (1787 ± 188) kyr.



Fig. 2: Isochron burial dating of sample 11VLT005 from the terrace sequence of the Vltava river, Czech Republic. The uncorrected values (blue ellipses) are linearized (grey ellipses). The slope through the linearized sample indicates an age of (961 ± 225) kyr.

Results indicate that the cosmogenic nuclidebased ages are generally older than the ages derived from previous relative age constraints. These results highlight a potential uncertainty in relative age constraints used to understand climate drivers for terrace formation within Europe and elsewhere.

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PAST LANDSCAPE CHANGE IN THE HOHEN TAUERN (A)

Glacial and periglacial activity before the Bølling/Allerød interstadial

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The Gschnitz stadial was the first ice re-advance after the LGM during the Alpine Lateglacial when glaciers had ice-free conditions in the forefield. Based on previous exposure dating of a terminal moraine [1] it is known that this major glacier advance occurred around 16 ka during Heinrich event 1 which resulted in a major cooling phase. However, until now no other location tentatively tied to the Gschnitz stadial has been directly dated so far in the Alps. All other sites were correlated based only on morphological features and/or on typical changes of the equilibrium line altitude.



Fig. 1: Situation in the Malta valley with reconstructed paleo-glacier.

In the Malta valley (in Carinthia) there is a textbook example of terminal moraines confining a small tongue basin. These moraines are linked to fluvial terraces indicating strong aggradation under free drainage (ice-free) conditions in the forefield of the paleo-glacier terminus. Due to the similarities with the Gschnitz type - locality this situation was perfect to test whether the assumption of simultaneous formation is true. Three orthogneiss boulders on the lateral moraines were sampled. First results show that the glacier advance of Malta occurred during the Gschnitz stadial. Paleo-permafrost investigations and the reconstruction of permafrost degradation in the Alps during the Lateglacial rely mostly on geomorphic-geological features such as relict rock glaciers. In general the elevation of a rock glacier's terminus is regarded as providing an indicator of the lower limit of discontinuous permafrost for the period when it was active. In the Malta valley findings of a series of very low reaching rock glacier deposits, i.e. up to 1300 m below modern permafrost limits in these areas [1], make formation of such features even prior to the Younger Dryas plausible. The recent ¹⁰Be dating results of two boulders indeed show that these stabilized around the transition from Oldest Dryas stadial to the Bølling/Allerød interstadial. Further work dating the rock glaciers is being done in the framework of an SNF-funded project.



Fig. 2: Surface of one of the relict rock glaciers.

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PAST ROCK GLACIER ACTIVITY IN THE NORTHERN ALPS

³⁶Cl dating of relict rock glaciers, Northern Calcareous Austrian Alps

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Rock glaciers are geomorphological features in mountainous environments showing evidence of discontinuous permafrost activity [1]. After the meltout of permafrost under warming conditions, relict rock glaciers can still be identified as bouldery tongue or lobate shaped landforms. They represent valuable climate proxies as they provide evidence of past permafrost distribution [2], which is itself a function of mean annual air temperature [3].

In the Northern Calcareous Alps of Austria relict rock glaciers are currently being investigated. They are located in the Karwendel Mountains on the north side of the "Nordkette" near Innsbruck (Tyrol) in an altitudinal belt reaching from 2100-1950 m a.s.l. Their size infers a time of activity of several hundred years. According to their altitude in association with nearby moraine systems, they can be expected to have formed during the Younger Dryas cold period (~12.8-11.7 ka) or the early Holocene [4] and stabilized during the onset of warm interglacial conditions.



Fig.1: Relict rock glacier in the Karwendel Mountains, Austria.

As Wetterstein Limestone dominates in the research area, we use surface exposure dating

with ³⁶Cl of boulders on the rock glaciers to determine the age of their final stabilization. It will allow for the first time an association of the period of activity of these landforms in the Northern Alps to a specific climatic period. They also provide first chronological information for the glacial and periglacial deposits in the Northern Alps.

By comparing the altitude of the lower limit of past permafrost with the lower limit of current permafrost, a shift in mean annual air temperature between the time of past activity and present conditions can be estimated.



Fig. 2: Relict rock glaciers and their sampling sites in the Karwendel Mountains, Austria.

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ROCK AVALANCHES IN THE MONT BLANC MASSIF (ITALY)

Chronology of repeated rock avalanches onto the Brenva Glacier

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Infrequent rock avalanches (volume greater than 10^6 m^3) are long-runout processes that may threaten populated mountain valleys. Rock avalanches also have strong implications for relief generation and destruction over time. Here we propose a chronology for seven of the rock-ice avalanches that affected a steep glacier basin on the southeast side of the Mont Blanc Holocene (Fig. 1). during the late Α geomorphological study of the runout deposits on the valley floor and the opposite side was combined with the analysis of historical sources and the use of absolute and relative dating methods, especially surface exposure dating with cosmogenic ¹⁰Be of 18 granite boulders from two deposits [1].



Fig. 1: Location of the Mont Blanc massif and shaded-relief map showing the present-day glacier extent in the massif [1].

These rock-ice avalanches are dated AD 1997 and 1920, with a rock volume in the range 2.4-3.6 and 2 x 10^6 m³, respectively; AD 1767, with a slightly shorter runout; AD 1000-1200, with a longer runout; ca. AD 500, the runout of which is uncertain; ca. 2500 years BP, the determination of which is indirect; and ca. 3500 years BP (Fig. 2), with the longest runout. [1].



Fig. 2: Exposure ages of the boulders from the ca. 3500 years BP Brenva rock avalanche deposit [1].

There is no distinct relationship between climatic periods and the occurrence of these rock avalanches. Even for the two best documented ones. Modelling suggests that the 1997 scar was characterized by permafrost close to 0°C, whereas, the 1920 scar was located in cold permafrost [1].

 P. Deline et al., Quat. Sci. Rev. 126 (2015) 186

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THE MID-HOLOCENE INCREASED NEOTECTONIC ACTIVITY

The Sennwald landslide using surface exposure dating with ³⁶Cl

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The Säntis thrust is a fold-and-thrust structure in eastern Switzerland consisting of numerous tectonic discontinuities that make the bedrock vulnerable to rock failure. The Sennwald landslide is one of these events that occurred due to the failure of Lower Cretaceous Helvetic limestones in the Rhine valley. In this study, the Sennwald landslide is displayed with the surface exposure age in relation with geological and tectonic setting, earthquake frequency, and regional scale climate/weather influence.



Fig. 1: Sampling locations and the distribution of deposits in the release area.

During the landslide the original bedrock stratigraphy was roughly preserved as geologically the top layer in the bedrock package travelled the farthest and the bottom layer came to rest closest to the release bedrock wall. Total Cl and ³⁶Cl were analyzed at the ETH AMS facility with isotope dilution methods defined in the literature [1]. Surface exposure ages of landslide deposits in the accumulation area are determined from twelve boulders.

The distribution of limestone boulders in the accumulation area (Fig. 1), the numerical runout modelling and in particular the exposure ages support the hypothesis that the landslide was a single catastrophic event.



Fig. 2: The earthquake map of Swiss Alps [2]

The Sennwald landslide is likely to have been triggered by earthquake activity. The exposure ages imply that the rock failure occurred during the middle Holocene, a period of increased neotectonic activity in Eastern Alps [3] (Fig. 2). The last 40 year's earthquake activity and historical earthquakes ($M \sim 4.0$ -6.0) also show that this region is tectonically still active (Fig. 2). This time period also coincides with notably wet climate, which has been suggested as an important trigger for landslides around this age across the Alps [4].

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DATING THE SENTINEL ROCK AVALANCHE OF ZION, UTAH

Surface exposure dating of landslide deposits with ¹⁰Be

J. Castleton¹, J.R. Moore¹, M. Christl, S. Ivy-Ochs

Blocking the mouth of Zion Canyon, Utah, over a distance of >3 km, the prehistoric Sentinel rock avalanche has had long-lasting impact on the iconic scenery of Zion National Park, once damming a large lake that filled the rocky canyon floor with sediment [1]. The massive failure also represents an extreme-magnitude hazard for Zion's nearly 3 million annual visitors.



Fig. 1: A) View over rock avalanche deposits in Zion Canyon. B) Section of Sentinel rock avalanche debris exposed by river incision. C) Lacustrine clay beds exposed near Zion Lodge. D) Partial view of the Sentinel source area.

We combine new mapping of rock avalanche and related lacustrine deposits to reconstruct topography before and after the landslide, comment on failure kinematics, and determine refined volume estimates. Cosmogenic nuclide surface exposure dating of deposited rock avalanche boulders allows us to provide the first direct age of the slide, determine rates of erosion, and explore potential triggering mechanisms. Boulders from across the slide surface were deposited simultaneously, yielding similar exposure ages and indicating a single massive and catastrophic rock slope failure [2].



Fig. 2: Sampling a boulder of Navajo Sandstone for surface exposure dating.

Geological evidence shows that following the slide, Zion Canyon contained a lake for several centuries until eventually filling with sediment, creating the modern-day flat valley floor. Longlasting geomorphic and ecological effects attest to the diverse impacts of large rock avalanches in steep desert landscapes.

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DATING HOLOCENE BASALTS AND HUMAN FOOTPRINTS

Surface exposure dating of mafic lava flows using ³He and ¹⁰Be

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The Kula volcanic field (western Turkey) comprises about 80 cinder cones and associated basaltic lava flows of Quaternary age. Human footprints in ash deposits document that the early inhabitants of Anatolia were affected by the volcanic eruptions, but the age of the footprints and the most recent volcanic activity remains poorly constrained [1]. To resolve the timing of the latest volcanic activity we determined the age of the youngest lava flows and cinder cones by applying ³He and ¹⁰Be exposure dating to olivine phenocrysts in basalt and quartz-bearing xenoliths [2].



Fig. 1: Holocene cinder cone and lava flows of the Kula volcanic field (western Turkey).

Based on geomorphological criteria and K-Ar three eruption phases can dating be distinguished in the Kula volcanic field [3, 4]. In order to constrain the age of the latest phase of volcanism, we collected samples from basaltic lava flows and cinder cones assigned to the most recent group of volcanic deposits (Fig. 1) [2, 3]. In addition, three metamorphic xenoliths were collected for ¹⁰Be dating. Two xenoliths were discovered on a lava flow and a small cinder cone, respectively. The third one was obtained from the top of a large cinder cone, whose youngest ash deposits contains the well preserved human footprints (Fig. 2).

Both, ³He and ¹⁰Be exposure dating yielded consistent results for the Holocene volcanic

rocks of the Kula volcanic field. Exposure ages from the lava flows and the small cinder cone cluster between ~1.4 and ~3.1 ka, indicating a pronounced volcanic activity that began in already historic times [2]. For the xenolith of the large cinder cone a ¹⁰Be age of ~11 ka provides the first robust age constraint for the famous human footprints that are preserved in the associated volcanic ash deposits [2].



Fig. 2: Human footprint in volcanic ash.

Our results demonstrate that cosmogenic nuclides can be applied to date very young volcanic rocks, even in regions of low elevation where nuclide production rates are low. Hence, exposure dating provides a powerful alternative to K-Ar or ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar dating of young volcanic rocks [2].

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ISOCHRON-BURIAL DATING: TERRACE CHRONOLOGIES

Quaternary uplift rates of the Central Anatolian Plateau, Turkey

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The Central Anatolian Plateau (CAP) in Turkey is a relatively small plateau (300 x 400 km) with moderate average elevations of ca. 1 km and is situated between the Pontide and Tauride orogenic mountain belts. Kızılırmak, which is the longest river (1355 km) within the borders of Turkey, flows within the CAP and slowly incises into lacustrine and volcaniclastic units before finally reaching the Black Sea. We dated the Cappadocia section of the Kızılırmak terraces in the CAP by using burial and isochron-burial dating methods with cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al (Fig. 1). Absolute dating of the terraces provides insight into long-term incision rates, uplift and climatic changes [1].



Fig. 1: Reconstructed chronologies of the *Kızılırmak River* [1].

Terraces at 13, 20, 75 and 100 m above the current river indicate an average incision rate of

 0.051 ± 0.01 mm/a since 1.9 Ma. Using the base of a basalt flow above the modern course of the Kızılırmak, we also calculated 0.05-0.06 mm/a mean incision and hence rock uplift rate for the last 2 Ma (Fig. 2) [1].



Fig. 2: Reconstructed average incision rate [1].

Although this rate might be underestimated due to normal faulting along the valley sides, it perfectly matches our results obtained from the Kızılırmak terraces. Even though it is up to 5-10 times slower, Quaternary uplift of the CAP is closely related to the uplift of the northern and southern plateau margins, respectively [1].

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LITHOLOGY CONDITIONS SEDIMENT FLUX

In-situ ¹⁰Be reveals variations in lithology-controlled sediment discharge

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We explore the influence of lithology on sediment discharge in the ca. 400 km² Glogn basin (Fig. 1), where the underlying bedrock dip is parallel to the topographic slope (dip slope situation) on the NW valley flank, while a non-dip slope situation is found on the opposite SE valley side. Accordingly, multiple landslides are perched on the dip slope side, while the opposite valley side hosts deeply dissected bedrock channels and threshold hillslopes.



Fig. 1: Glogn drainage basin, and lithotectonic architecture along with the bedding orientation of the bedrock [1].

This study [1] presents a ¹⁰Be-based sediment budget to explore how the structural architecture of this region has conditioned the erosion pattern in the region. Our ¹⁰Be based sediment budget (Fig. 2) suggests that ca. 60% of material has been derived through landsliding on the dip slope side, while the remaining 40% of sediment has been supplied from the opposite non-dip slope flank and upstream tributary basins [1]. This suggests that the tilt orientation of the bedrock exerts an important control on the erosional budget of a basin, mainly as the isoclinal tilt of the bedrock promotes landsliding on the dip slope facing valley side.



Fig. 2: Geological architecture and Setting of the Glogn basin [1]. The ¹⁰Be-based denudation rates and relative contributions to the basin's entire sediment budget along with the relative areal extents are shown.

[1] F. Cruz Nunes et al., Terra Nova 27 (2015) 370

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DENUDATION RATES OVER SPACE AND TIME IN EUROPE

Catchment-wide rates constrained by cosmogenic nuclides

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Constraints of denudation rates are important to study the interaction of climate, vegetation and tectonics with denudation. In situ-produced cosmogenic nuclide concentrations from river borne quartz grains allow the determination of catchment-wide denudation rates over space. The information of catchment-wide denudation rates is also stored in fluvial sedimentary records (e.g., the Vltava River in the Czech Republic; Fig. 1). These Paleo-denudation rates reflect possible changes in denudation over time.



Fig. 1: River and terrace sediments of the Vltava (Czech Republic) analyzed for cosmogenic nuclides to determine denudation (yellow squares, in mm/kyr) and paleo-denudation rates (white squares, in mm/kyr).

In this study, in situ-produced cosmogenic nuclides from four river systems in Europe have been analyzed. Catchment-wide denudation rates derived from active river load range between 16 and 51 mm/kyr (Fig. 2). The scatter

in denudation rates is relatively large within a catchment area because of the different sizes and geomorphologic characteristics of analyzed catchments (e.g. Allier). Paleo-denudation rates are of the same order of magnitude, but generally slightly lower.



Fig. 2: Cosmogenic nuclide-derived denudation rates plotted against age from terrace sequences in Europe.

Results indicate that small catchments show more variability in denudation rates than large catchments. Therefore, for comparison of denudation rates over time, values from larger catchments should be compared (e.g. Vltava). However, reported cosmogenic nuclide-derived denudation rates from large catchments do not only smooth the denudation rates for geomorphic variability, but also for climateinduced changes.

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DENUDATION RATES FROM ¹⁰BE(METEORIC)/⁹BE RATIOS

Testing the new proxy in small watersheds with variable lithology

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We test the 10 Be(meteoric)/ 9 Be ratio as a proxy for denudation rates [1] on the scale of small creeks in the Slavkov Forest, Czech Republic. Meteoric cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and its stable counterpart ⁹Be mix to a characteristic ratio in the Critical Zone that is dependent on the depositional flux of meteoric ¹⁰Be, the denudation rate D, the fraction of ⁹Be released from primary minerals during weathering, and the ⁹Be concentration of the parent bedrock [1]. This ratio can be determined on the reactive phase (adsorbed onto or precipitated in secondary minerals) of sediment which can be accessed using a sequential extraction method described in [2]. Unlike for in situ-produced ¹⁰Be, determining denudation rates with the ¹⁰Be(meteoric)/⁹Be ratio does not depend on the presence of quartz.

We applied this new method that has recently been successfully tested on the large Amazon Basin scale [3] to three small catchments (< 1 km²) in the Slavkov Forest. Each catchment is underlain by a different lithology, namely felsic granite (Lysina), mafic rocks like amphibolite (Na Zeleném), and serpentinite-rich ultramafic rocks (Pluhův Bor). These diverse lithologies are ideal to investigate the potential of the ¹⁰Be/⁹Be system under various geochemical conditions (e.g. variable pH, stream water chemistry).

We measured reactive ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be}$ ratios on finegrained (< 63 µm) bedload sediment to calculate catchment-wide denudation rates (Fig. 1). Denudation rates for the felsic Lysina and for the amphibolite-dominated mafic Na Zeleném catchment are similar at 114 and 121 t km⁻² y⁻¹, respectively. For the ultramafic serpentinite Pluhův Bor catchment the denudation rate is considerably lower at 55 t km⁻² y⁻¹. The relative lower denudation rate is expected given the low erodibility of serpentinite.



Fig. 1: Denudation rates calculated from ${}^{10}Be(meteoric)/{}^{9}Be$ ratios (shown in black), and in situ-produced ${}^{10}Be$ (in gray) in t km ${}^{-2}$ y ${}^{-1}$ and mm ky ${}^{-1}$. The large uncertainties result from high ${}^{9}Be$ variability in the parent bedrock material.

Sufficient amounts of quartz present in lenses and veins in the (ultra-)mafic catchments allowed comparison of these ${}^{10}\text{Be}/{}^9\text{Be}$ derived rates with *in situ* ${}^{10}\text{Be}$ denudation rates. Both methods agree within uncertainty (Fig. 1) and these new rates are further in the range of *in situ* ${}^{10}\text{Be}$ denudation rates for river catchments in middle Europe [4]. These promising results indicate that mixing of both isotopes has been accomplished at this small scale. A major advantage of this method is that it can be applied to any lithology, provided that the bedrock ${}^9\text{Be}$ concentration is known.

- [1] von Blanckenburg et al., EPSL 295 (2012) 351
- [2] Wittmann et al., Chem. Geol. 126 (2012) 318
- [3] Wittmann et al., JGR 120 (2015)
- [4] Schaller et al., EPSL 188 (2001) 441

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CONSTRAINING EROSION RATES IN SEMI-ARID REGIONS

What is the limiting factor for soil chemical weathering and erosion?

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Arid and semi-arid environments occupy around 37% of the land surface. The irregular rainfall regime with prolonged dry periods supports only sparse and patchy native vegetation cover. Sustained development of rain-fed agriculture is limited by soil and water resources [1].

This study focuses on the relationship between soil production, physical erosion, and chemical weathering. Study sites are located in the Southern Betic Cordillera (SE Spain), and selected across a spatial gradient in climatic and topographic conditions. The strong contrasts between the gently sloping hillsides of the Sierra de las Estancias, and the steep, highly dissected landscape of the Sierra Cabrera reflects the tectonic history of the Betic ranges.



Fig. 1: Sampling of soil profiles in the Sierra Estancias (southeast Spain).

Four catchments were selected to cover the range of denudation rates that were established for the Betic Cordillera [2]. In each catchment, two to three regolith profiles were sampled on exposed ridgetops to avoid the complexities of

soil forming processes associated with lateral transport of chemical fluids and soil particles along slope (Fig. 1). Total elemental composition of soil and rock samples was determined by ICP – AES (Thermo iCAP 6000 Series), and soil and sediment samples were processed for in-situ cosmogenic ¹⁰Be analyses.



Fig. 2: ¹⁰Be-derived denudation rates of soils (colored symbols) and sediments (black symbols) in the Betic Cordillera.

In the Southern Betic Cordillera, soil denudation rates are low, and range between 14 and 109 mm/kyr. Soil denudation rates are generally less than or equal to catchment-wide denudation rates measured at the outlet of small basins. Chemical weathering losses account for ~5 to 30 % of the total mass lost by denudation. Soil weathering increases (nonlinearly) with soil thickness and decreases with increasing surface denudation rates, consistent with kinetically limited weathering.

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EROSION OF THE CENTRAL BOLIVIAN ANDES

Tectonic uplift and lithology controlling ¹⁰Be-²⁶Al denudation rates

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The topographic signature of a mountain belt depends on the interplay of tectonic, climatic and erosional processes. We investigate these processes in the Rio Grande catchment which crosses orthogonally the eastern Andes orogen from the Eastern Cordillera into the Subandean Zone (Fig. 1), exhibiting a catchment relief of up to 5000 m.



Fig. 1: Location of the upper Rio Grande catchment on the eastern flank of the central Andes of Bolivia.

Our dataset of 57 cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al catchment wide denudation rates from the Rio Grande catchment reveals up to one order of magnitude higher denudation rates in the Subandean Zone compared to the upstream physiographic regions [1]. Based on cumulative rock uplift investigations and due to the absence of a pronounced climate gradient, we infer that increased tectonic activity in the Subandean belt causes the higher denudation rates (Fig. 2). Despite the enhanced tectonic activity in the Subandes, local relief, mean and modal slopes and channel steepness indices are largely similar compared to the Eastern Cordillera and the intervening Interandean Zone. However, higher

denudation rates are also associated with lower rock-strength lithologies of the Subandean sedimentary units, showing that lithology and rock strength can control high denudation at low slopes.



Fig. 2: Calculated seismically uplifted volume (with error envelopes) showing higher uplift in the Subandes (SA), corresponding to higher denudation rates.

Low denudation rates measured at the outlet of the Rio Grande catchment are interpreted to be a result of a biased cosmogenic nuclide mixing that is dominated by headwater signals from the Eastern Cordillera and the Interandean zone and limited catchment sediment connectivity in the lower river reaches.

[1] F. Kober et al., Tectonophysics 657 (2015) 230

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UPLIFT RATE DISTRIBUTION IN THE ANDES (~32° S) Surface exposure dating with ¹⁰Be

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Understanding the deformation associated with active thrust wedges is essential to evaluate seismic hazard. In the central Andean backarc, for instance, controversy exists over how deformation is distributed in a millennial scale. To address this issue, we combined a structural and geomorphological approach with surface exposure dating (¹⁰Be) of alluvial fans at ~32° S located both in the active thrust front and in the Andean interior largely considered to be a stable region (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: The study zone (yellow rectangle) in the Central Andes. Red lines: faults with Quaternary activity; Blue and purple points: <33 km earthquakes, M>5 and M<5 respectively [1].

22 surface samples (boulders or pebbles or sand) and six depth profiles on sand were sampled in these two localities. Under the assumption of negligible erosion, ages of 100-130 ka were obtained for the oldest terrace (T1), 40-95 ka from the intermediate (T2) and \sim 20 ka from the youngest (T3) at the thrust

front. In the Andean interior (Fig. 2) T1' yields ages of 117-146 ka, T2' is ~70 old and T3' has an age of ~20 ka. Vertical slip rates of 0.3-0.4 mm/yr and of 0.6-1.2 mm/yr derived from the combination of fault offsets and ¹⁰Be ages in the thrust front and in the Andean interior, respectively.



Fig. 2: Alluvial terraces in the Andean interior.

We argue that the deformation rates in the Andean interior are comparable with those along the Andean thrust front. This particular behaviour is most likely related to the reactivation of Paleozoic and Triassic structural heterogeneities and should be taken into account in terms of the direct impact in the welfare and safety of this populated area of Argentina.

[1] U.S. Geological Survey earthquake data base

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CLIMATE CONTROL ON ALPINE HILLSLOPE EROSION

Using ¹⁰Be in lake cores to reconstruct Holocene denudation rates

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Climate is a major driver of landscape denudation but disentangling its effects from that of tectonics or anthropogenic remains challenging. We reconstruct paleo-denudation rates over Holocene timescales to isolate and test the climatic forcing on denudation in an Alpine catchment [1]. To overcome potential biases associated with sediment accumulation rates as proxies for basin wide denudation fluxes, we measured cosmogenic ¹⁰Be on two sediment cores [2] from Lake Stappitz (Austrian Alps, Fig. 1) to derive a 10-kyr long paleodenudation record of the upstream Seebach alpine valley. This record was combined with a two-year time series of denudation rates in the active stream Seebach.



Fig. 1: Outline of the study area (dashed) with the extent of the connected catchment (bold).

While the record suggests a significant mixing with low-dosed glacial sediments from 10-8 kyr BP, there is a change in apparent denudation rate by a factor 2 during the period between 8 kyr BP and present that is attributed to the hillslope response to climate forcing (Fig. 2). Low hillslope erosion rates of ca. 0.4 mm/yr found during 5-8 kyr BP correlate with a stable climate, infrequent flood events and higher temperatures that favoured the widespread growth of stabilizing soils and vegetation. High hillslope erosion rates of ca. 0.8 mm/yr for the

last ~4 kyr correlate with an oscillating, cooler climate where frequent flood events increase denudation on the less protected hillslopes.



Fig. 2: Holocene denudation rates from the core and the active stream correlate with flood frequency [3] and global temperature [4].

Overall our results suggest a tight coupling of climate and hillslope erosion in Alpine landscapes. The results highlight the impact of transient climatic fluctuation on geomorphic processes and have important implications for the widespread use of cosmogenic nuclides as denudation proxy.

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- [2] A. Fritz and F. Ucik, Naturwiss. Verein für Kärnten: Klagenfurt (2001)
- [3] S.B. Wirth et al., Quat. Sci. Rev. 80 (2013) 112
- [4] S.A. Marcott et al., Science 339 (2013) 1198

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FROST CRACKING AS DRIVER OF HOLOCENE EROSION

High resolution denudation rates from sediment cores of alluvial fans

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¹⁰Be catchment-wide denudation rates (CWDR) that represent hillslope erosion have been widely used in landscape evolution studies. However, little is known about the variability of CWDRs and the potential impact of climatic fluctuations on Alpine denudation. Here, we present a 6 kyr long record of ¹⁰Be paleo-CWDRs retrieved from sediment cores and a three-year time series from the active stream in the Fedoz Valley (Eastern Switzerland).

Paleo-CWDRs decrease with time from 1.2 mm/yr at 6 kyr BP to 0.6 mm/yr at present [1]. The data correlate with a record of global temperature variation [3] but not with flood frequency [2] or glacier fluctuations [4] likely due to a missing sensitivity for perturbations on sediment transport and mixing.



Fig. 1: Paleo-CWDRs from the core and active stream plotted with flood frequency [2], global temperature [3] and glacier fluctuations [4].

Results can be further correlated with a climatic model [5] to analyse the variations of the frostcracking intensity and thus the potential variability of sediment production. Frostcracking might explain the higher denudation rate observed in the Middle Holocene as the 0°C isotherm was significantly elevated and a larger part of the catchment was affected by erosion through frost/thaw cyclicity.



Fig. 2: The two temporal endmember models of frost cracking for the Middle Holocene and today.

Our data confirm previous findings that suggest a strong dependency of erosion on altituderelated geomorphic processes. They further highlight the limitations for global predictions of climate-induced denudation rate changes given by the complex responses of the landscape.

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THE IMPACT OF TYPHOON MORAKOT ON EROSION RATE

Temporal changes in erosion rate in SOUTHERN TAIWAN

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Super-typhoon Morakot impacted Taiwan in 2009, bring a large amount of rainfall and triggering several thousand landslides in southern Taiwan. We obtained two sample sets, one in 2006, one in 2012/2014, bracketing this event, to measure its impact on ¹⁰Be concentrations and the inferred erosion rate.



Fig. 1 Geological map and sample distribution. Blue and red dots are pre-Morakot and post-Morakot samples, respectively. AFT-derived erosion rates are calculated from data published in [1] (using method of [2]).

The spatial pattern of basin-wide erosion rate correlates with topography, the average basin steepness, and the AFT-derived erosion rate, all showing a gradual increase to the north. Besides, post-Morakot samples yield higher inferred erosion rates, suggesting dilution of the sediment by quartz with low concentrations of ¹⁰Be from the deep-seated landslides triggered by Morakot.



Fig. 2 Comparison of topography with precipitation, average basin steepness and erosion rates.

Fuller et al., Tectonophysics 425 (2006) 1
 Willett and Brandon, G³ 14 (2013) 209

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ANTHROPOGENIC RADIONUCLIDES



The ²³⁶U input function for the NE-Atlantic TRANSARC II: Expedition to the Arctic Ocean The geotraces cruise GA01 First ²³⁶U data from the equatorial Pacific Ocean ¹²⁹I off the coast of Japan Artificial radionuclides off the coast of Japan Determination of Pu and U in Japanese samples Radionuclides in drinking water reservoirs

THE ²³⁶U INPUT FUNCTION FOR THE NE-ATLANTIC A first step towards ¹²⁹I/²³⁶U and ²³⁶U/²³⁸U based tracer ages

M. Christl, N. Casacuberta, C. Vockenhuber, C. Elsässer¹, P. Bailly du Bois², J. Herrmann³, H.A. Synal

Anthropogenic ²³⁶U and, to a minor extend, also ¹²⁹I have been introduced into the world oceans as a result of atmospheric nuclear bomb tests. Additionally, both radionuclides are discharged into the Northeast Atlantic Ocean by the two nuclear reprocessing facilities Sellafield (SF) and La Hague (LH, Figure 1).



Fig. 1: Map of the North Sea region showing the major currents and water masses (arrows) together with the location of the nuclear facilities (triangles).

In the North Sea region Atlantic Waters (AW) carrying the bomb fallout signature of ¹²⁹I and ²³⁶U are mixing with English Channel Waters (ECW) and with waters of the Scottish Coastal Current (SCC) that additionally carry the radionuclide signatures of LH and SF (and potentially also of the nuclear fuel producing facility Springfields, SP).

In our recent study [1] a first reconstruction of the 236 U input function for the Northeast Atlantic Ocean has been constructed and, in combination with 129 I, the input functions of 129 I/ 236 U and 236 U/ 238 U are presented (Figure 2). Our results show that, since about 1990, the 129 I/ 236 U input function steadily rises. This implies that the 129 I/ 236 U ratio can be used over the past about 25 yr to estimate tracer ages or

transit times of AW that have passed by the North Sea region before entering the Arctic Ocean via the Norwegian Coastal Current (NCC, Figure 1).



Fig. 2: Reconstruction of the ${}^{129}I/{}^{236}U$ and ${}^{236}U/{}^{238}U$ (both at/at) input functions for the North Sea region. Data points represent measured values (median data) for the respective year.

A first comparison with ¹²⁹I and ²³⁶U data from the Arctic Ocean (sampled in 2011/12) shows that the ¹²⁹I/²³⁶U and ²³⁶U/²³⁸U based tracer age concept works well if dilution effects (i.e the ongoing mixing with ¹²⁹I and ²³⁶U from global fallout) are taken into account. Our dilution corrected tracer ages correspond well with independently derived values for the Arctic Ocean. This shows that ¹²⁹I/²³⁶U can be used as a valuable new tool in tracer oceanography not only for the determination of transit times in the Arctic Ocean.

[1] M. Christl et al., JGR Oc. 120 (2015) 7282

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TRANSARC II: EXPEDITION TO THE ARCTIC OCEAN

Sampling for artificial radionuclides on board Polarstern

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The TransArc II expedition consisted of 55 scientists and 43 crew members sailing for two months (17th August - 15th October) to the Arctic Ocean on the German research ice breaker Polarstern. The aim was to track the climate change, which is particularly prominent in the Arctic Ocean e.g. with its drastic sea ice reduction. The cruise was part of the International Arctic GEOTRACES field program for 2015, together with other two expeditions from Canada (on board CCGS Amundsen) and one from USA (on board USCG Healy). At two crossover stations samples were taken by all counterparts to ensure quality and accuracy of the Arctic-wide observations.



Fig. 1: R/V Polarstern during the TransArc II.

Many parameters were sampled in 33 stations during the expedition, with the aim to determine distributions of selected trace elements and isotopes (TEIs), including their concentration, chemical speciation and physical form, and to evaluate the sources, sinks and internal cycling of these species.

Other than TEIs, transient tracers such as CFCs, 3 He, SF₆ and artificial radionuclides can provide information on circulation pathways and time scales, mixing, time of isolation of the surface water beneath the ice cover and inflow of dense shelf waters to the deep basins [1]. Our role on the TransArc II expedition was sampling for

artificial radionuclides: ¹²⁹I, ²³⁶U and Pu-isotopes. More than 150 samples were collected for each radionuclide along the transect covering the Barents Sea, the Eurasian Basin and crossing the North Pole to the Makarov Basin.



Fig. 2: Profile of ¹²⁹I in the Eurasian Basin.

Preliminary results of ¹²⁹I concentrations (Fig. 1) in the Eurasian Basin show the inflow of the Atlantic waters to the Arctic Ocean in the upper 1000 m layer. These waters carry the signal of ¹²⁹I from the two reprocessing plants of Sellafield and La Hague. Deep waters are more isolated and thus older, resulting in much lower concentrations of ¹²⁹I. A quasi-synoptic full transect of ¹²⁹I in the Arctic Ocean will be produced after gathering the results of the four Arctic expeditions.

 H. D. Livingston et al, Health Phys. 82 (2001) 656.

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THE GEOTRACES CRUISE GA01

New section for ¹²⁹I and ²³⁶U in the North Atlantic Ocean

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The North Atlantic Ocean is crucial for the Earth's climate as it represents the major overturning area of the global thermohaline circulation, the so-called Atlantic Meridional Overturning Circulation (AMOC). The net result of the AMOC is the formation of dense water of Atlantic and Arctic origin, which then transport heat, momentum and geochemical elements from surface to abyssal depths. Some of these elements (e.g. carbon) are directly involved in the cycling of atmospheric CO_2 or in the primary production (e.g. Fe, Zn, Co), while others (e.g., artificial radionuclides) can be used as tracers of circulation and particle scavenging.



Fig. 1: Mean surface distribution of major currents and water masses in the North Atlantic.

The Geovide cruise (Geotraces GA01 section, Figure 2) aimed to better know and quantify the MOC and the carbon cycle, using new key tracers. ²³⁶U has recently emerged as a potential new tracer of ocean circulation (e.g. [1]) and its combined use in a dual tracer approach $(^{129}I/^{236}U$ and $^{236}U/^{238}U)$ provides means of calculating tracer ages and ventilation rates in the North Atlantic [2]. Geovide benefits from existing ²³⁶U data for the Western North Atlantic

Ocean [3] and a strong physical oceanographic background acquired through the OVIDE project (IFREMER, 2002-2012).



Fig. 2: Cruise track of the Geovide cruise. Red dots indicate sampled locations.

Over 150 seawater samples for ²³⁶U and ¹²⁹I were collected on board *R/V 'Pourquoi Pas?'* between Lisbon, Portugal, and St. John's, Canada, in May-June 2014 (Figure 2). 14 vertical profiles and the surface ocean were sampled obtaining a full-depth high resolution along the section. After radiochemical purification, ²³⁶U and ¹²⁹I will be measured using the compact Tandy AMS system at ETH-Zürich. The new dual tracer approach shall be tested with the new data within the AMOC region.

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FIRST ²³⁶U DATA FROM THE EQUATORIAL PACIFIC OCEAN

Measurements from the GEOTRACES Equatorial Pacific Zonal Transect

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The U.S. GEOTRACES East Pacific Zonal Transect (EPZT) was sampled in October to December 2013. The transect from Peru to Tahiti included the Peru Margin, upwelling and oxygen minimum zone (OMZ), St. 11 (12°S,94°W), and the large hydrothermal plume (HP), St. 18 (15°S,113°W), originating from the southern East Pacific Rise (Fig. 1).

In total 125 4L samples were collected, acidified and spiked with ²³³U. Actinides were preconcentrated at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO) and ²³⁶U radiochemical separation was performed at CNA. Expected ²³⁶U/²³⁸U atom ratios in surface samples (above 400 m) were at the order of 10^{-10} . These samples were measured on the 1 MV CNA AMS system, which provides a $^{236}U/^{238}U$ background ratio of 7x10⁻¹¹. Deeper samples with estimated ²³⁶U/²³⁸U ratios below 10⁻¹⁰ were measured at the ETH Tandy facility, that provides a background level below 10⁻¹³.



Fig. 1: GEOTRACES East Pacific Zonal Transect

The results (Fig. 2) show that: a) Most of the samples below 600 m show very low $^{236}U/^{238}U$ ratios at the 10^{-12} level, which is close to the estimated lithogenic/natural background. These ratios are the lowest values measured so far at the ETH facility. b) Samples above 600 m show ratios around 10^{-10} , similar to values found in the shallow Equatorial North Atlantic (EqNA) [1] and clearly indicating the presence of

anthropogenic ²³⁶U. c) Similar ²³⁶U/²³⁸U ratios were found in the upper 1300 m in both, the OMZ and the HP. Below, increased ²³⁶U levels are found towards the sediment interface at the HP station, and a significant variation of ²³⁶U with depth is found in the OMZ profile. The analysis of ²³⁶U at St. 26 and 36 (Fig. 1) will provide further information to explain the observed behavior.



Fig. 2: ²³⁶U/²³⁸U in St. 11 (OMZ), St.18 (HP) and the EqNA (2.54°N 41.7°W). Hollow squares were samples measured at CNA

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¹²⁹I OFF THE COAST OF JAPAN

Continuous releases of ¹²⁹I from Fukushima in 2013 and 2014

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The nuclear Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant (1FNPP) accident that occurred in March 2011, resulted in a significant release of radionuclides to the environment. The broad suite of radionuclides emitted from the FNPP was released via atmospheric plumes and direct discharge into the nearby ocean. The releases also included the iodine radioisotopes ¹³¹I and ¹²⁹I. However, due to the short half-life of ¹³¹I (T_{1/2} = 8 days), only ¹²⁹I (T_{1/2} = 15.7 Myr) can be measured today either to retrospectively infer ¹³¹I, or as a oceanographic tracer in the Pacific Ocean.

Sources of ¹²⁹I to the marine environment are: 1) atmospheric fallout of nuclear bomb testing, 2) discharge from nuclear fuel reprocessing plant and 3) nuclear accidents. In the case of 1FNPP accident, ¹²⁹I can also serve as an indicator of polluted water discharge. The aim of this study was to determine the concentrations of ¹²⁹I at the east coast of Japan 2-3 years after the accident, to test for potential releases of this isotope. For this purpose, three sets of iodine samples ($n_{total} = 56$) were collected in 2013 and 2014 during three different expeditions (Sept 2013, May 2014 and Oct 2014). The radiochemical separation of ¹²⁹I was carried out according to [1], sample analysis was performed by AMS using the compact ETH TANDY system.

Results show high concentration of ¹²⁹I (778±13 x10⁷ at·kg⁻¹) at the closest station to 1FNPP (Figure 1). Compared with the pre-Fukushima levels of ¹²⁹I in this area (about $1x10^7$ at·kg⁻¹[2]), the above value provides strong evidence for a discharge of contaminated water from 1FNPP in September 2013. Similar results were obtained for samples in 2014, with concentrations of ¹²⁹I up to (21.0±0.4) x10⁷ at·kg⁻¹ at the same station as in 2013.



Fig. 1: Concentration of ¹²⁹*I* in surface water samples around 1FNPP in September 2013.

It has been stated in many studies (e.g. [3]) that the distribution of 1FNPP-derived radionuclides is strongly affected by the Oyashio and Kuroshio Currents. The spatial distribution of our results also reflects the transport of ¹²⁹I from North to South driven by the Oyashio current. However, even if the 1FNPP-derived ¹²⁹I is clearly detectable on a local scale, the signal is rapidly diluted while spreading into the Pacific Ocean. Thus, the clear impact of ¹²⁹I that is found around the coast off Fukushima is negligible on a larger, ocean basin wide scale.

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ARTIFICIAL RADIONUCLIDES OFF THE COAST OF JAPAN

Tracking radioactive releases 2-3 years after the Fukushima accident

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Four different cruises took place off the coast of Japan during 2013, 2014 and recently one in October 2015, with the aim to understand the sources, fate, transport and associated impact of radionuclides from Fukushima. These cruises took place within the remit of the EU FRAME project.

All four cruises collected surface and shallow depth profile samples from the same stations in order to have a time evolution within the same domain (Fig. 1). Samples for ¹³⁷Cs, ¹³⁴Cs and ⁹⁰Sr analysis were processed and measured at WHOI [1]. Long-lived radionuclides (¹²⁹I, ²³⁶U and Pu-isotopes) were analyzed at ETH Zürich.



Fig. 1: Map of the stations sampled during the cruises in 2013 and 2014. The black dashed square indicates the domain in Figure 2.

The presence of relatively high concentrations of 129 I (up to $800 \times 10^7 \text{ at-kg}^{-1}$) in the waters close to the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant (FDNPP) indicates releases of this radionuclide in the years after the accident [2].

Concentrations of ²³⁶U, sampled in 2013 and 2014 (Fig. 2), do not show a significant increase from values expected from global fallout.

Indeed, concentrations are similar to the ones found in the western North Atlantic Ocean at similar latitude [3].

 240 Pu/ 239 Pu atomic ratios range from 0.21±0.01 to 0.29±0.03, with all ratios falling within the global/regional fallout range for the Pacific Ocean (Fig. 2). Yet the highest 240 Pu/ 239 Pu atomic ratio that also corresponds to the highest 240 Pu and 239 Pu concentrations was measured close to the FDNPP. This might indicate a potential release of Pu-isotopes to the coast off Japan.



Fig. 2: ²³⁶U concentrations, ²⁴⁰Pu/²³⁹Pu atomic ratios and ²⁴⁰Pu and ²³⁹Pu concentrations from samples taken in October 2014.

- [1] M. Castrillejo et al., Environ. Sci. Technol. (2015) in press
- [2] Y.S. Lau et al., Annual Report LIP (2015)
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DETERMINATION OF PU AND U IN JAPANESE SAMPLES

Actinide investigations in environmental samples from Fukushima

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During the accident of the power plant Fukushima Daiichi only a small amount of actinides were released into the environment. Previous investigations showed a strong localization of plutonium [1]. Because of the high radiological risk if incorporated, further investigations were necessary.

In June 2013 vegetation, litter and soil drill core samples were taken at different sites in the vicinity of the damaged power plant. The sampling sites are shown in Figure 1. The core samples were taken in a depth up to 12 cm, each core was split into six equal segments. After a chemical treatment, all samples were investigated using accelerator mass spectrometry to determine the isotopic ratios Pu^{240}/Pu^{239} and U^{236}/U^{238} . These ratios are used as an indicator of the origin of the current nuclides, so it is possible to distinguish between global fallout and material of the reactor.



Fig. 1: Sampling sites in Fukushima

In total 64 samples were measured and most samples show no significant deviation from values of global fallout of Pu and the natural distribution of U. In Table 1 the values which differ most strongly are shown for both elements.

Sample	²⁴⁰ Pu/ ²³⁹ Pu	²³⁶ U/ ²³⁸ U
Lit-C	0.29 ± 0.04	
Lit4 – D	0.29 ± 0.02	
Veg – F	0.32 ± 0.05	
F1-31 3" – H	0.48 ± 0.15	
F1-06 3'' – B		1.37 * 10 ⁻⁷

Tab. 1: Results of the most relevant sample	es
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Only 4 samples show ratios indicating a contamination with plutonium from the Fukushima reactors. In most cases the plutonium is located in the upper layers like in vegetation or litter. Only in sample F1-31 3"- H the ratio is very high in the third layer of the soil core, which is absolutely unexpected and needs further investigations.

In most samples 236 U is present in a natural distribution. Only in one sample (F1-06 3" – B) the ratio is higher, which theoretically indicates an anthropogenic influence. However, such ratios were also measured in Japan before the accident happened [2].

For further investigations new samples were taken at nearly the same places in May 2015. They are processed and will be measured by AMS for their Pu and U ratios in the near future

- [1] S. Schneider et al., Sci. Rep. 3 (2013) 2988
- [2] A. Sakaguchi et al., Sci. Total Environ. 407 (2009) 4238

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RADIONUCLIDES IN DRINKING WATER RESERVOIRS

Sensitivity of reservoirs to input of man-made radionuclides

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Man-made radionuclides from nuclear facilities are deposited by precipitation, transported through the soil by percolating water, and are possibly carried to the groundwater. In a current project we are aiming to assess the sensitivity of an unconfined aquifer in Northern Germany (Fuhrberger Feld), which is used as a drinking water reservoir, with regard to introduction and accumulation of radionuclides, e.g. ¹²⁹I. Water samples are drawn from different depth (4 m, 14 m) by multilevel wells (Fig. 1) aligned in the direction of groundwater flow. A detailed description of the sample preparation is given elsewhere [1]. For the analysis of ¹²⁹I accelerator mass spectrometry (AMS) is used, concentrations are determined by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS).



Fig. 1: Drawing groundwater samples from a multilevel well.

First results reveal that ¹²⁹I concentrations as well as ¹²⁹I/¹²⁷I ratios in the water samples from Fuhrberger Feld are about one order of magnitude higher than those from water samples from other aquifers from Lower Saxony (Fig 2.). For Fuhrberger Feld, concentrations of ¹²⁹I in the ground water samples varied between 2.1x10⁻¹⁴ and 8.0x10⁻¹⁴ g kg⁻¹, and therefore lie within the range of values determined for surface water samples from Lower Saxony. In comparison, ¹²⁹I concentrations measured for samples from confined aquifers from the same region were as low as 1.3×10^{-15} to 1.1×10^{-14} .





The same is true for the 129 I/ 127 I ratio. Values of groundwater samples from Fuhrberger Feld varying between 4.1×10^{-9} and 1.5×10^{-8} were in the range of surface water samples from the same sampling area $(1.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ to } 2.0 \times 10^{-7})$, whereas measurements of samples from confined aquifers resulted in values, which were one order of magnitude lower. This indicates that 129 I from the atmosphere has already reached the Fuhrberger Feld aquifer.

 R. Michel et al., Sci. Tot. Environ. 419 (2012), 151

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MATERIALS SCIENCES



The startup and first results of MeV SIMS at ETHZ Novel approach for time of flight MeV SIMS Stoichiometry studies in pulsed laser deposition Hydrogen intake during atomic layer deposition Monolayer detection of bipyridine Composition uniformity of ablation targets Production of a thin V-48 positron source

THE STARTUP AND FIRST RESULTS OF MEV SIMS AT ETHZ

Progress of the CHIMP setup

M. Schulte-Borchers, M. Döbeli, A.M. Müller, M. George, H.-A. Synal

The new Capillary Heavy Ion MeV-SIMS Probe (CHIMP) set-up was completed early this year with attachment of a new gas detector in transmission geometry. So far it features a channeltron secondary electron detector and a micro channel plate detector for secondary ion detection at the end of the almost 0.5 m long time of flight (ToF) mass spectrometer. The primary beam is currently collimated to 1 mm diameter using an aperture. In the future this aperture will be replaced by a glass capillary for micrometer diameter beams to enable imaging of sample surfaces. Positioners for sample scanning and adjustment of the capillary angle are already included and tested in the chamber.



Fig. 1: Inside of the new CHIMP chamber. The sample is in the center (1), electron detector (2) and ToF extraction (3) are in front. Primary beam enters from the top (4) and the gas detector is at the bottom (5). To the side, entry lock and sample magazine (6) are indicated.

Recently, several system parameters have been evaluated and optimized. A mechanical adjustment of the sample holder to decrease the distance from sample to ion extraction nozzle proved necessary for better extraction.

The setup is designed for multiple measurement modes of the ion flight time: Either pulsing of the primary beam or secondary electrons from the sample can be used to start the flight time measurement. Additionally, transmitted ions can be detected with the new gas detector for thin samples. These modes have been compared to achieve optimal parameters. Best results in terms of mass resolution were achieved with the electron detector (see Fig. 2), which is now performing with good efficiency and time resolution [1].



Fig. 2: Positive secondary ion mass spectrum of a solid gold sample measured with 28 MeV Au⁶⁺primary ions. Several contamination peaks can be identified on the uncleaned surface.

In this case, a time resolution under 10 ns (FWHM) and extraction efficiencies of several percent were measured. As a next step the imaging properties of the set-up will be investigated.

 M. Schulte-Borchers, LIP Annual Report (2015) 89

NOVEL APPROACH FOR TIME OF FLIGHT MEV SIMS

Detecting primary ion hits by secondary electrons

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Typical MeV SIMS setups with Time-of-Flight (ToF) mass spectrometers use a pulsed or chopped primary ion beam. This provides a welldefined ToF start signal from the controls of the pulsing. Time resolution is then determined mainly by the length of the primary ion pulse, which is in the order of tens of nanoseconds [1] if state-of-the art fast high voltage switches are used.

The main disadvantage of such a system is the enormous decrease of duty cycle, as most of the time the beam is not on the sample. For the capillary based MeV SIMS imaging setup at LIP a high duty cycle measurement mode is needed. Capillary collimation reduces the initial beam current by a factor of about one million; an additional reduction by several orders of magnitude due to pulsing would prohibit measurements with rare beam particles such as high energy cluster ions.



Fig. 1: Sketch of the sample zone in the MeV SIMS setup. The primary beam is collimated with a capillary onto the sample. Secondary electrons and ions are extracted to the according detection systems.

It was therefore decided to use secondary electrons generated upon each primary ion impact on the sample as a fast and precise ToF start signal (Fig. 1).

By carefully adjusting the positive and negative voltages for extraction of electrons and positive ions to either side of the sample it is possible to obtain simultaneous signals from both detection systems. Fig. 2 shows a comparison of the positive ion mass spectrum obtained from a teflon sample with the existing AMS beam pulsing system and with the novel secondary electron start signal. The result is a major improvement in resolution. While the smallest observed ToF peak width with beam pulsing is about 160 ns it is less than 10 ns (FWHM) with secondary electrons. The duty cycle was increased by approximately 4 orders of magnitude.



Fig. 2: Positive secondary ion mass spectra of PTFE taken with beam pulsing and electron start signal.

 T. Tadic et al., Nucl. Instrum. Meth. B 332 (2014) 234

STOICHIOMETRY STUDIES IN PULSED LASER DEPOSITION

Angular dependence of thin copper-gold film composition

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Thin films of Cu-Au alloys were deposited in vacuum and background gas by Pulsed Laser Deposition (PLD) to investigate the composition of films deposited at different angles around the expanding plume. The target containing light and heavy atoms at a comparable ratio (50 at% Cu, 50 at% Au) was irradiated with a Nd:YAG laser at a wavelength of 355 nm. The ablated material was collected on Si substrates placed over a wide range of angles (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Setup used for deposition of Cu-Au metallic films by PLD. The laser beam is incident onto the target with Si substrates of 5x5 mm² size placed over a full hemispherical array.

The composition of the Au-Cu films was analyzed by 2 MeV He RBS. At relatively large laser fluence (5 J/cm²) the ratio of Cu to Au atoms deviates significantly from the target stoichiometry, with large depletion of the lighter component (Cu) at angles close to normal incidence (Fig. 2). This may indicate that the light species (Cu) is scattered off the plume, leading to a significant excess of Au in the deposited films.

Films produced by PLD contain large size droplets which arise from rapid melting of the subsurface layer under high laser power irradiation. RBS with 5 MeV He was therefore used to investigate the composition of films including droplets (also included in Fig. 2). A comparison between composition of films deposited in vacuum and Xe background gas is shown in Fig. 3.



Fig. 2: RBS analysis of Au-Cu films deposited in vacuum at different angles. The dashed line is the estimated ablation target composition.

It is evident that presence of Xe enhances scattering of Cu atoms in the plume, leading to a much broader distribution of Cu and Au atoms with respect to vacuum.



Fig. 3: RBS analysis of Au-Cu films deposited in vacuum (full spheres) and 0.1 mbar Xe gas (empty circles) at different angles.

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HYDROGEN INTAKE DURING ATOMIC LAYER DEPOSITION HE ERD STUDY WITH DEUTERIUM TRACER

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In Atomic Layer Deposition (ALD) a thin film is grown by sequential exposure of a surface to typically two precursor gases (Fig. 1). Especially in low temperature processes the surface reaction can be incomplete and unwanted constituents of the precursors can be built into the film. In this project the incorporation of hydrogen into Al_2O_3 , TiO₂ and ZnO via the precursors Ti(iOPr)₄ [1], Al(CH₃)₃, Zn(Et)₂ [2], and D₂O are investigated.



Fig. 1: Uniform TiO_2 coating of a carbon nanotube array by ALD.

In order to clarify the origin and the incorporation mechanism of the hydrogen a series of films have been grown at different deposition temperatures using deuterated water as oxidizing reactant. These samples have been characterized by 2 MeV ⁴He RBS and 13 MeV ¹²⁷I Heavy Ion ERDA to determine the main oxide composition and by 2 MeV ⁴He ERD with absorber foil to measure the quantitative hydrogen depth profile. For thin films H and D can be separated due to their large difference in kinematic factor and only a single ERD measurement is necessary. Fig. 2 shows an example for an aluminum oxide layer deposited at 40°C. The profiles show that the natural

hydrogen mainly diffused in from the surface after the deposition while deuterium from the D_2O precursor was homogeneously built into the material during the growth process.



Fig. 2: ERDA depth profile of an Al_2O_3 film deposited at 40° C. Atomic concentrations are normalized to Al + O = 100 %.

The measurements reveal that for 40°C ALD of Al_2O_3 , hydrogen is mainly built in from the oxidizer (about 20 at.%) and thus from unreacted OH groups while hydrogen incorporation through unreacted CH_x ligands of the metal precursors is at the 2 at.% level. These levels are high compared to TiO₂ and ZnO ALD and we presently investigate a correlation with the microstructure of the films employing XRD, XRR, SEM, and ToF-SIMS measurements.

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MONOLAYER DETECTION OF BIPYRIDINE

Structure of a monomer monolayer at the air/water interface

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Monolayer (ML) sheets with strong internal bonds in principle allow for rational structure design and placement of functional groups at predetermined sites. We have started to explore the accessibility of ML sheets including two-dimensional polymers at the air/water interface. A bipyridine based monomer (Fig. 1) was synthesized and investigated for possible metal complexation. A dilute chloroform solution of the monomer was spread at an air/water interface. The formation of a ML sheet was observed, was exposed to concentrated Ni(ClO₄)₂ metal salt solutions and horizontally transferred onto SiO₂ coated Si wafers.



Fig. 1: Structure of bipyridine-based monomer carrying three bipyridine units to serve as ligands for metal ion (e.g. Ni) complexation.

The thickness of the Ni-exposed ML is 19 Å as determined by TM-AFM. We measured the Ni coverage by RBS (Fig. 2) and the C coverage by Heavy Ion ERDA (Fig. 3). For both techniques the detection of such small quantities is very challenging. Small count rates and long measurement times have been chosen to avoid background from pulse pile-up events. Together with results from XRR, NR, XPS and AFM thickness analysis, we will build a structure model for the Ni-exposed sheet.



Fig. 2: 2 MeV^4 He RBS spectrum of the ML film. The Ni coverage is $(3.5 \pm 0.5) \cdot 10^{14} \text{ at/cm}^2$.

Although the data analysis is still in progress, it can be concluded that Ni is part of all sheets and the Ni(II):monomer ratio is on the order of 1.



Fig. 3: ERDA mass spectrum of the ML film. The carbon coverage is $(6.6 \pm 0.8) \times 10^{14}$ at/cm².

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COMPOSITION UNIFORMITY OF ABLATION TARGETS

In-air micro-PIXE study of laser ablation targets used in PLD

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In Pulsed Laser Deposition (PLD) congruent transfer of the material composition from the ablation target to the deposited film is a crucial issue. In order to investigate this problem it is necessary to measure the exact composition of both, the deposited film and the ablation target. Even if the target is made of a well-defined material it is possible that the surface is altered during the ablation process and different material phases can be formed. It is therefore necessary to map the composition on the target surface on ablated and pristine locations. Since ablation targets are rather bulky and have complicated shapes remote handling in vacuum is problematic.



Fig. 1: $CaTiO_3$ ablation target on the XY table of the in-air PIXE set-up. The beam collimating glass capillary enters from the left, the SDD X-ray detector is at the top left corner.

On these grounds, 2 MeV proton PIXE measurements on CaTiO₃ and La_{0.4}Ca_{0.6}MnO₃ targets have been performed on the LIP in-air capillary microprobe [1]. A glass capillary with an outlet diameter of about 15 μ m has been used having a wall thickness large enough to absorb the X-rays produced on the inner surface of the capillary. Therefore no extra shielding towards the SDD (Silicon Drift Diode) detector

was necessary (Fig. 1). Several line scans were carried out along the cylinder axis of the targets. Fig. 2 shows the ratio of the Ca and Ti K_{α} X-ray line intensities measured on the surface of the CaTiO₃ target along a straight line perpendicular to the well visible "zebra" pattern. This pattern is produced by the periodic linear and rotational movement of the target during laser ablation.



Fig. 2: Ratio of Ca and Ti K_{α} X-ray intensities along a linear surface scan. Red circles mark positions of dark areas in the "zebra" pattern.

The measurements reveal that the dark color change on the surface is probably due to a preferential loss of Ti in the strongly ablated areas.

The in-air capillary microprobe has proven to be a fast and simple tool to map elemental concentrations on objects that are difficult to manage in a vacuum chamber.

 M.J. Simon et al., Nucl. Instr. and Meth. B273 (2012) 237

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PRODUCTION OF A THIN V-48 POSITRON SOURCE

Proton activation of a β^+ emitter foil for positron beams

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In order to test a new technique to improve the conversion efficiency of a broad energy spectrum of beta decay into mono-energetic positrons a β^+ source on a thin foil (~1 μ m thick) is required.



Fig. 1: Special target holder designed for the foil irradiation. The W liner avoids activation of the holder and the large copper body takes up the thermal beam power.

A careful evaluation showed that ⁴⁸V with a halflife of 16 days is suitable and can be produced via the reaction ${}^{48}\text{Ti}(p,n){}^{48}\text{V}$ by irradiation of a titanium foil with protons at 8 MeV. The crosssection of this reaction is 295 mb. On the one hand this activation pathway produces only very little parasitic activity, on the other hand excessive activation of the LIP accelerator beam guiding system can be avoided at this very moderate proton energy. A special target holder was designed for the experiment. It has a solid copper body which can take up the thermal power of the beam and is lined with tungsten sheet metal to avoid activation by the beam transmitted through the foil or by stray particles. A second irradiation position allowed precise positioning of the beam spot with the mark produced by the short exposure of a piece of paper. The holder is slanted by 45° towards the incident beam direction to increase the effective target thickness during irradiation. A 1 µm thick Ti foil was irradiated in a spot of

about 5 mm² with 5.2 mC of protons at 8 MeV. The activity measurement with a Ge detector (Fig. 2) revealed that only very short lived parasitic radionuclides were produced in the foil and the actual ⁴⁸V activity was 11.9 kBq in very good agreement with 12.5 kBq expected from the published reaction cross-section.



Fig. 2: *γ*-spectrum of the activated foil compared to the spectrum of a ²²Na source of known activity. Very little parasitic activity is detected.

The activation procedure turned out to be very effective. An improvement of almost an order of magnitude for the conversion efficiency of a broad energy spectrum of beta decay into mono-energetic positrons was achieved. Preliminary simulations show that another order of magnitude could be possible with an optimized setup, thus new sources on thin foils would be required in the near future for further testing. Such an improvement would be a breakthrough in the positron community allowing for the use of sources with much lower activities.

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EDUCATION



Fruits, beetles and the Unteraargletscher ETH Project: Studienwoche 2015 Medieval past in the heart of Zurich

FRUITS, BEETLES AND THE UNTERAARGLETSCHER

¹⁴C ages of fragments of an early Holocene peat bog

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Pieces of peat found in the glacier foreland of the Unteraargletscher in the Bernese Oberland were investigated in a research school project called Maturaarbeit. The fragments of peat originated from a bog that once existed in the vicinity of the glacier and was then later overrun by the advancing ice. Radiocarbon dating was employed to estimate the time of peat bog formation. The aim of this study was to investigate macro remains preserved in the peat. Fruits and insect remains provide a detailed picture of the surroundings of the glacier in the early Holocene.

Peat fragments were soaked in potassium hydroxide and sieved through the set of different sieves (4 mm, 2 mm and 0.5 mm) in order to separate the macro remains. The remnants, which remained on the sieves were investigated under microscope. Among collected macro remains were numerous fruits and remains of insects, sometimes even completely preserved (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1: Completely preserved remains of a wasp Attractodes Mesoleptus found in peat fragment. (Photo by N. Schürch 2015).

Various specialists were involved in identification of the fruit and insect remains (Ö.

Akeret; IPNA Basel, S. Klopfstein, H. Baur, Ch. Germann; nmbe Bern, V. Puthz; Naturkundemuseum Kassel, C. van Achterberg; NBC, Leiden, and R. Bryner; Biel). Nearly 650 fruits found belonging to the family of sedges were selected. Species determinations were not possible. The insect remains were to a large extent fragments of rove beetles (Staphylinidae). Amazingly, however, parasitic wasp (Ichneumonidae and Braconidae) (Fig 1 and 2, respectively), and a butterfly caterpillar were also found.



Fig. 2: Remains of Braconidae wasp. A reflection of light on the eye is visible. Blurred parts is the thorax (Photo by N. Schürch 2015).

Two samples of macrofossils provided ¹⁴C ages of early Holocene. Based on these results it can be concluded that at this time the vegetation in the vicinity of the bog was dominated by sedges. An absence of macro remains from trees is striking. Also insects' fragments confirmed this landscape as all the species of beetle found preferred wetlands, swamps and marshes.

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ETH PROJECT: STUDIENWOCHE 2015

¹⁴C content in 'very old' wood and 'young' leaves

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The first week of June is traditionally dedicated to participants of the ETH project: *Studienwoche* for high school students who are interested in science. This year, experiments included sampling of various objects: a historic bag, fragment of compressed wood and fresh leaves (Fig. 1). These objects proved to be of a wide range radiocarbon ages.



Fig. 1: Fresh leaves were collected at the ETH campus and prepared for ¹⁴C analysis.



Fig. 2: All steps of preparation were carefully recorded.

Independent of the age all the samples were carefully treated (Fig. 2) and prepared for the AMS analysis. Most importantly, the piece of compressed fossilized wood was treated to remove modern contamination. The standard treatment of ABA (acid-base-acid) was sufficient to show that the piece found in Turbenthal is older than 50 thousand years. In fact concentrations of 14 C found in this wood were on the level of the so called blank material (14 C free).

On the other hand fresh leaves were treated with acid potential only to remove containing contamination through dust carbonate particles. The measured ¹⁴C content shows that, due to fossil fuel combustion and old CO₂ added to the atmosphere, the atmospheric ¹⁴C content is nearly at the level of pre-nuclear tests (Fig. 3).



Fig. 3: Present day atmosphere shows very low ¹⁴C content, this is best illustrated by the measurements on fresh leaves growing in 2014 and 2015 (red arrow).

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MEDIEVAL PAST IN THE HEART OF ZURICH

Students excursion to the Münsterhof excavation site in Zurich

I. Hajdas, S. Ivy-Ochs

Zurich is a very dynamic town with a long history (Fig. 1). This fortunate mixture of past and present is visible in the development of the town. Whenever new urban concepts are being implemented the town's past comes to light.



Fig. 1: Painting of Einsiedlerhof (by Hans Leu around 1500 AD), erected 1234–67 AD. (<u>https://www.stadt-zuerich.ch</u>).

The 2015 reconstructions at the Münsterhof, which replaced the parking lots (Fig. 2) by a car free space and a fountain, were closely followed by the citizens of Zurich.



Fig. 2: Parking lots in front of the Münsterhof 2004 (picture AfS/Archäologie).

The unique opportunities of public visits provided by the Archaeological Services are of great cultural and educational value. The excavations are closely related to activities of the LIP laboratory as some of the samples of bone, wood and charcoal are subject to ¹⁴C dating. A visit with students of the lecture *Quaternary Dating Methods* (ETH Zurich, fall term 2015) gave them a chance to get a direct insight into problems encountered in the field as well as a unique opportunity to see the sediments and medieval layers (Fig. 3) that soon will be covered for many decades to come.



Fig. 3: Visit to the excavation site. A group of student participants on the guided tour of Jonathan Frey (Stadt-Zurich).

PUBLICATIONS

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N. Akçar, V. Yavuz, S. Ivy-Ochs, F. Nyffenegger, O. Fredin, F. Schlunegger Rearward landsliding in sensitive clays: February 2011 massive failures at the Çöllolar coalfield, eastern Turkey Switzerland, Basel, 20.-21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

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B. Courel, P. Adam, Ph. Schaeffer, C. Féliu, S. M. Bernasconi, I. Hajdas Investigation of the content of protohistoric silos from the Bronze and Iron Age in Alsace (NE France): a biomarker approach Czech Republic, Prague, 13.-18.09.2015, 27th IMOG Meeting

A. Daraoui, C. Walther, C. Vockenhuber, H.-A. Synal *Iodine-129 in the atmosphere on the Zugspitze* Germany, Heidelberg, 27.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

A. Daraoui, B. Riebe, M. Gorny, C. Walther, K. Hürkamp, J. Tschiersch, C. Vockenhuber, H.-A. Synal *Vergleichbare* ¹²⁹*I-Konzentrationen und* ¹²⁹*I/*⁴²⁷*I-Isotopenverhältnisse in Schnee von der Zugspitze und in Nordseewasser?* Germany, Dresden, 31.08.2015, GDCh-Tagung

R. Delunel, J. Casagrande, F. Schlunegger, N. Akçar, P.W. Kubik Initiation age and incision rates of inner gorges: Do they record multiple glacial-interglacial cycles? Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

B. Dietre, M. Hirnsperger, D. Bressan, Ch. Walser, I. Hajdas, K. Lang, V. Mair, U. Nickus, D. Reidl, H. Thies, D. Tonidandel, K. Krainer, J.-N. Haas *Palynology and Palaeoecology of the Holocene Rock Glacier at Lazaun (South Tyrol, Italy)* Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

M. Döbeli *Materials characterization by IBA methods* Germany, Dresden, 07.09.2015, EU-Project Sprite Course

L. Hendriks, I. Hajdas, M. Küffner, C. McIntyre, N. C Scherrer, E. S.B. Ferreira *Microscale radiocarbon dating of paintings* USA, Chicago, 21.-22.05.2015, MaSC 2015 Meeting

C. Fogwill, C. Turney, N. Golledge, D. Rood, K. Hippe, L. Wacker, R. Wieler, E. Rainsley, R. Jones *Mechanisms Driving abrupt shifts inWest Antarctic ice stream direction during the Holocene* Austria, Vienna, 16.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

F.A. Lechleitner, R.A. Jamieson, C.McIntyre, L.M. Baldini, U.L. Baldini, T.I.Eglinton Modelling of dead carbon fraction in speleothems: a step towards reliable speleothem ¹⁴C-chronologies Austria, Vienna, 13.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

O. Fredin, N. Akçar, A. Romundset, R. Reber, S. Ivy-Ochs, P.W. Kubik, F. Høgaas, C. Schlüchter A more complex deglaciation chronology of Southern Norway than previously thought. New geochronological constraints based on cosmogenic exposure ages of marginal moraines Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

S. Hou, C. Wang, M. Christl, S. Maxeiner, H.-A. Synal, C. Vockenhuber Chronology of ²³⁹/²⁴⁰Pu and of ²³⁶U in the Miaoergou glacier from eastern Tien Shan, China USA, Denver, 22.03.2015, ACS Meeting M. George, M. Döbeli, A.M. Müller, M. Schulte-Borchers, H.-A. Synal *Digital Pulse Processing for Ion Beam Analysis at ETH Zurich* Croatia, Opatija, 15.06.2015, IBA Conference

R. Grischott, F. Kober, K. Hippe, M. Lupker, S. Ivy-Ochs, I. Hajdas, M. Christl *Climate control on alpine denudation in the Holocene – Clues from two converse datasets of paleo-CWDR* Switzerland, Basel, 21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

K. Gückel, T. Shinonaga, K. Hain, G. Korschinek, M. Christl Determination of Plutonium and Americium in snow and rain USA, Santa Fe, 13.-18.09.2015, Migration 2015 Conference

N. Haghipour, T. Eglinton, C. McIntyre, J. Darvishi Khatoono, D. Hunziker, A. Mohammadi Austria, Vienna, 30.11.2015, EGU General Assembly

I. Hajdas, L. Hendriks , A. Fontana, G. Monegato *Evaluation of preparation methods in radiocarbon dating of old wood* Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2016, EGU General Assembly

I. Hajdas, M. Maurer, M. Roldan Torres de Roettig Review of recent treatment methods in AMS radiocarbon dating Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

I. Hajdas, L. Hendriks, A. Fontana, G. Monegato *Evaluation of preparation methods in radiocarbon dating of old wood* Senegal, Dakar, 16.-20.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

I. Hajdas, M. Maurer, M. Roldan Torres de Roettig *Prospects for mortar*¹⁴C dating at ETH Zurich Switzerland, Zurich, 09.-11.09.2015, 4th International Workshop on Mortar Dating

I. Hajdas

Review of recent treatment methods in AMS 14Cdating — prospects for dating MUP transition. France, Germolles, 24.-25.08.2015, Réunion 2015 PCR Paléolithique en Bourgogne méridionale

I. Hajdas

Reservoir Ages and Calibration: Treatment issues--Study cases and potential records for database France, Paris, 01.07.2015, IntCal Focus Group on Marine Archives and Reservoir Ages

K. Hippe, K. Hammerschmidt, A. Möller, A. von Quadt, I. Peytcheva *Metamorphic zircon from the Indian Eastern Ghats Belt* Switzerland, Zurich, 10.05.2015, IGP Seminar (ETH ERDW)

K. Hippe, A. Fontana, I. Hajdas, S. Ivy Ochs Reconstructing Alpine glacier activity during 50-20 ka BP by high-resolution radiocarbon dating of the Cormor alluvial megafan (Tagliamento glacier, NE Italy) Switzerland, Basel, 21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting E. Huysecom, I. Hajdas, M.-A. Renold, A. Mayor, H.-A. Synal *The "enhancement" of cultural heritage by AMS dating: Ethical questions and practical proposals* Senegal, Dakar, 16.-20.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

S. Ivy-Ochs, S. Martin, P. Campedel, A. Viganò, S. Alberti, M. Rigo, C. Vockenhuber *The Marocche rock avalanches (Trentino, Italy)* Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

S. Ivy-Ochs, S. Martin, P. Campedel, A. Viganò, S. Alberti, M. Rigo, C. Vockenhuber *Age and geomorphology of the Marocche rock avalanches (Trentino, Italy)* Switzerland, Basel, 20.-21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

S. Ivy-Ochs

Surface exposure dating at the Flims and Tamins landslides, Switzerland Switzerland, Flims, 04.-05.06.2015, Flims Landslide Workshop

S. Ivy-Ochs

What can we learn from bedrock? Combining cosmogenic ¹⁰*Be and* ³⁶*Cl* Switzerland, Lausanne, 04.11.2015, UniL Earth Surface Dynamics Group Seminar Series

S. Ivy-Ochs

Evaluating temporal trends in the timing of Younger Dryas glacier expansions across Europe Switzerland, Riederalp, 30.09.2015, Leverhulme Network Meeting: Younger Dryas in Europe

F. Kober, K. Hippe, M. Christl, L. Wacker, W. Winkler, R. Lampe Evaluating the in-situ produced cosmogenic nuclide inventory of longshore transported sand, Fischland-Darss-Zingst peninsula, southern Baltic Sea Germany, Berlin, 05.10.2015, GeoBerlin

F. Kober, K. Hippe, B. Salcher, R. Grischott, S. Ivy-Ochs, S., R. Zurfluh, I. Hajdas, L. Wacker, M. Christl, N. Hählen

Sediment fingerprinting, mixing and geomorphic connectivity in alpine debris flow catchments (the Rotluai and Spreitlaui torrents; Guttannen) Switzerland, Innertkirchen, 18.06.2015, Jahrestagung der SGmG 2015

O. Kronig, S. Ivy-Ochs, I.Hajdas, M. Christl, C. Schlüchter Late Holocene evolution of the Triftjegletscher constrained with ¹⁰Be exposure and radiocarbon dating Switzerland, Basel, 21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

M. Gutjahr, P. Blaser, B. Antz, E. Böhm, M.L. de Carvalho Ferreira, F. Wombacher, M. Christl, S. Mulitza, S. Jaccard

Reconstructing past Ocean Circulation with ²³¹*Pa*/²³⁰*Th and Neodymium isotopes* Czech Republic, Prague, 18.08.2015, Goldschmidt Conference

M. Luetscher, S. Ivy-Ochs, M. Hof *Reconstructing the last deglaciation at Sieben Hengste, Switzerland* Switzerland, Basel, 20.-21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting S. Maxeiner, H.-A. Synal, M. Christl, M. Suter, A.M. Müller, C. Vockenhuber Development of a multi isotope low energy AMS system Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

C. McIntyre, S. Fahrni, N. Haghipour, L. Wacker, M.Usman, T. Eglinton, H.-A. Synal *High-throughput, concurrent* ¹⁴C and ¹³C analysis by EA-irMS/AMS: Earth science applications Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

C. McIntyre, S. Fahrni, N. Haghipour, L. Wacker, M.Usman, T. Eglinton, and H.-A. Synal *High-throughput, concurrent* ¹⁴C and ¹³C analysis by EA-irMS/AMS: Earth science applications Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

M.S. Schwab, J.D. Rickli, J. Blusztajn, S. Manganini, H.R. Harvey, A. Forest, R.W. Macdonald, D. Vance, C. McIntyre, T.I. Eglinton *Coupled Organic & Inorganic Tracers of Particle Flux Processes in the Western Arctic Ocean* Czech Republic, Prague, 16.08.2015, Goldschmidt Conference

M. Molnar, I. Major, R. Janovics, K. Hubay, L. Rinyu, M. Veres, M. Seiler, L. Wacker, and A.J.T. Jull *Microsample C14 AMS analyses using gas ion source at HEKAL Laboratory* Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

N. Mozafari Amiri, D. Tikhomirov, Ç. Özkaymak, Ö. Sümer, B. Uzel, S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Vockenhuber, H. Sözbilir, N. Akçar *Revealing the seismically active periods beyond the historical archives: Fault scarp dating with 36Cl* Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

N. Mozafari Amiri, Ö. Sümer, D. Tikhomirov, Ç. Özkaymak, B. Uzel, S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Vockenhuber, H. Sözbilir, N. Akçar Determination of paleoseismic activity with cosmogenic ³⁶Cl: a case study from theWestern Anatolian Extensional Province Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

N. Mozafari Amiri N., Ö. Sümer Ö., D. Tikhomirov D.,Ç. Özkaymak Ç., B. Uzel B., S. Ivy-Ochs S., C. Vockenhuber C., H. Sözbilir H., N. Akçar *Holocene destructive seismic periods in Western Anatolia: pace tracking beyond historical data* Switzerland, Basel, 20.-21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli, J. Lachner, M. Suter, H.-A. Synal *Recent gas ionization detector developments at LIP* Austria, Vienna, 15.01.2015, AMS Seminar Vienna

A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli, M. Seiler, H.-A. Synal Simple Bragg detector for low energy AMS applications Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli, J. Lachner, M. Suter, H.-A. Synal *Recent gas ionization detector developments at LIP* Spain, Seville, 07.05.2015, AMS Seminar Seville A.M. Müller, M. Döbeli, H.-A. Synal Simplified annular gas ionization chamber for backscattering experiments Croatia, Opatija, 15.06.2015, IBA Conference

A.M. Müller, H.-A. Synal Accelerator mass spectrometry basics and radiocarbon applications Germany, Rossendorf, 07.09.2015, EU-Project Sprite Course

A. Neels, X. Maeder, M. Döbeli, A. Dommann, P. Polcik, R. Rachbauer, H. Rudigier, B. Widrig, J. Ramm Cathodic Arc Evaporation of Oxide Coatings: Investigation of the Phase Transformation at the Target Surface and Deposition of Al and Hf oxides Croatia, Rovinj, 24.08.2015, European Crystallographic Meeting ECM29

R. Pellitero, B. Rea, M. Spagnolo, J. Bakke, P. Hughes, S. Ivy-Ochs, S. Lukas, H. Renssen, A. Ribolini *A Europe-wide perspective on Younger Dryas glacier-climate* Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

C. Schlüchter, N. Akçar, S. Ivy-Ochs, M. Stolz Relevance of Quaternary alpine paleoglaciations for present day geoengineering projects Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

S. Schneider, M. Christl, G. Steinhauser, C. Walther Determination of Plutonium and Uranium in Environmental samples from Fukushima USA, Kailua-Kona, 17.04.2015, MARC X Conference

S. Schneider, M. Christl, G. Steinhauser, C. Walther Determination of Plutonium and Uranium in Environmental samples from Fukushima Germany, Heidelberg, 27.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

J. Schoonejans, V. Vanacker, S. Opfergelt, Y. Ameijeiras-Mariño, P. Kubik Spatial gradient of chemical weathering and its coupling with physical erosion in the soils of the Betic Cordillera (SE Spain) Austria, Vienna, 14.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

J. Schoonejans, V. Vanacker, N. Bellin, P.W. Kubik, A. Molina, S. Opfergelt, Y. Ameijeiras-Mariño, R. Orteg-Perez

Soil formation and erosion in response to natural and anthropogenic disturbances Belgium, Louvain-la-Neuve, 31.03.2015, Scientific Symposium, Doctor Honoris Causa UCLouvain

M. Schulte-Borchers, M. Döbeli, A.M. Müller, M. George, H.-A. Synal *Recent progress on the new MeV SIMS setup at ETH Zurich* Croatia, Opatija, 16.06.2015, IBA Conference

P. Sigmund, O. Osmani, A. Schinner, C. Vockenhuber, M. Thöni, J. Jensen, K. Arstila, J. Julin, H. Kettunen, M.I. Laitinen, M. Rossi, T. Sajavaara, H.J. Whitlow *Structure in the velocity dependence of heavy-ion energy-loss straggling* Croatia, Opatija, 15.06.2015, IBA Conference

A. Sookdeo, L. Wacker, S. Fahrni, C. McIntyre, M. Friedrich, F.Reinig, B. Kromer, U. Büntgen *Speed Dating: a rapid way to determine the radiocarbon age of wood by EA-AMS* Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

M. Suter

Interaktive Programme für die Modellierung von Beschleunigermassenspektrometrie Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

H.-A. Synal

The laboratory of Ion Beam Physics Switzerland, Zurich, 20.02.2015, Scientific Advisory Board Meeting of the Cologne AMS facility

H.-A. Synal Progress in Accelerator Mass Spectrometry Croatia, Opatija, 16.06.2015, IBA Conference

H.-A. Synal *Progress in Accelerator Mass Spectrometry* Spain, Seville, 08.10.2015, International Conference on optimization of accelerators, OPAC-2015

H.-A. Synal *Progress in Accelerator Mass Spectrometry* USA, New Orleans, 14.07.2015, Current Trends in Mass spectrometry

H.-A. Synal *Progress in Accelerator Mass Spectrometry* Italy, Benevento, 23.10.2015, 1st International Conference on Metrology for Archaeology

H.-A. Synal The ETH Zurich Laboratory of Ion Beam Physics Switzerland, Basel, 12.06.2015, NuPECC Meeting Basel

H.-A. Synal, S. Fahrni, A. Sookdeo, L. Wacker, D. Galvan, T. Knowles, R. Evershed How far can we get? One permil radiocarbon measurements on a single cathode with a MICADAS instrument Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

C. Terrizzano, R. Zech, E. García Morabito, M. Yamin, N. Haghipour, L. Wüthrich, M. Christl Neotectonic deformation versus climate control in the Central Andes of Argentina, insights from¹⁰Be Surface Exposure Dating Austria, Vienna, 14.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

V. Vanacker, J. Schoonejans, N. Bellin, A. Molina, M. Christl Anthropogenic erosion rates, as a function of human disturbance to vegetation Germany, Bonn, 18.08.2015, PAGES GLOSS Workshop V. Vanacker, Y. Ameijeiras-Mariño, N. Bellin, P.W. Kubik, A. Molina, S. Opfergelt, R. Ortega-Perez, J. Schoonejans

Anthropogenic disturbances to soil systems. New insights from cultural landscapes in the Western Mediterranean

USA, Palo Alto, 15.04.2015, Invited talk, School of Earth, Energy & Environmental Services, Stanford University

V. Vanacker, Y. Ameijeiras-Mariño, N. Bellin, P.W. Kubik, A. Molina, S. Opfergelt, R. Ortega-Perez, J. Schoonejans Human disturbances to soil systems in the Western Mediterranean

USA, Denver, 17.03.2015, Invited talk, University of Colorado Denver

S. Vattioni, I. Hajdas, M. Strasser, R. Grischott, T. Sormaz Lake level reconstruction of lake Sils, Engadine valley Switzerland, Basel, 21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

C. Vockenhuber, S. Maxeiner, A.M. Müller, M. Suter, H.-A. Synal Ion Matter Interactions and its relevance for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry Denmark, Kerteminde, 22.09.2015, Eigth International Meeting on Recent Developments in the Study of Radiation Effects in Matter

C. Vockenhuber, M. Thöni, J. Jensen, K. Arstila, J. Julin, H. Kettunen, M.I. Laitinen, O. Osmani, M. Rossi, T. Sajavaara, A. Schinner, P. Sigmund, H.J. Whitlow *Energy-loss straggling of MeV heavy-ions in gases* Denmark, Kerteminde, 22.09.2015, Eigth International Meeting on Recent Developments in the Study of Radiation Effects in Matter

C. Vockenhuber, M. Thöni, J. Jensen, K. Arstila, J. Julin, H. Kettunen, M.I. Laitinen, M. Rossi, T. Sajavaara, H.J. Whitlow *Dedicated experiments for reliable measurements of energy-loss straggling* Croatia, Opatija, 15.06.2015, IBA Conference

C. Vockenhuber Isobar-separation of intense beams at 6 MV Tandem accelerators Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

L. Wacker, J. D. Galvan, J. Wunder, U. Büntgen *Extraterrestrial evaluation of global scale tree ring dating in the first millennium CE* Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

C. Welte, L. Wacker, B. Hattendorf, M. Christl, J. Koch, D. Günther, H.-A. Synal ¹⁴C Analysen von karbonatischen Klimaarchiven mittels Laser Ablation - AMS Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

C. Welte, B. Hattendorf, L. Wacker, M. Christl, J. Koch, H.-A. Synal, D. Günther *First* ¹⁴*C-Scans on Carbonate Records by Laser Ablation- AMS* Switzerland, Beatenberg, 10.04.2015, Chanalysis 2015 C. Welte, B. Hattendorf, L. Wacker, M. Christl, J. Koch, J. Fohlmeister, S.F.M. Breitenbach, L.F.Robinson, A.H. Andrews, H.-A. Synal, D. Günther

Accessing ¹⁴C Profiles in Carbonate Records using Laser Ablation - Accelerator Mass Spectrometry Czech Republic, Prague, 17.08.2015, Goldschmidt Conference

C. Welte, L. Wacker, B. Hattendorf, M. Christl, J. Fohlmeister, S.F.M. Breitenbach, L.F.Robinson, J.R. Farmer, A.H. Andrews, J. Koch H.-A. Synal, D. Günther *Rapid High Resolution* ¹⁴*C*-Analysis of Carbonate Records by Laser Ablation - AMS Senegal, Dakar, 30.11.2015, Radiocarbon Conference

C. Wirsig, S. Ivy-Ochs, N. Akçar, M. Lupker, K. Hippe, L. Wacker, C. Vockenhuber, H.-A. Synal *Erkenntnisse über die Geschichte eines Alpengletschers durch Kombination von kosmogenem Be-10, insitu C-14 und Cl-36* Germany, Heidelberg, 25.03.2015, DPG Spring Meeting

C. Wirsig, S. Ivy-Ochs, J. Reitner, M. Christl, C. Vockenhuber, M. Bichler, M. Reindl Quantifying subglacial erosion rates at Goldbergkees, Hohe Tauern (Austria) with cosmogenic ¹⁰Be and ³⁶Cl

Switzerland, Basel, 21.11.2015, Swiss Geoscience Meeting

H. Wittmann, F. v. Blanckenburg, N. Dannhaus, J. Bouchez, J. Gaillardet, J.L. Guyot, L. Maurice, H. Roig, N. Filizola, M. Christl Denudation and weathering rates from meteoric ¹⁰Be/⁹Be ratios in the Amazon basin Czech Republic, Prague, 18.08.2015, Goldschmidt Conference

L. Wüthrich, R. Zech, N. Haghipour, C. Terrizzano, M. Christl, C. Gnägi, H. Veit, S. Ivy-Ochs *Depth profile dating in the Swiss Midlands: deposition ages versus erosion* Austria, Vienna, 14.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

L. Wüthrich, R. Zech, N. Haghipour, C. Terrizzano, M. Christl, C. Gnägi, H. Veit, S. Ivy-Ochs ¹⁰Be depth profile dating in the Swiss Midlands: deposition ages versus erosion Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

S. Yeşilyurt, N. Akçar, U. Doğan, V. Yavuz, S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Vockenhuber, C. Schlüchter *Extensive ice fields in eastern Turkey during the Last Glacial Maximum* Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

C. Zabcı, T. Sançar, D. Tikhomirov, S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Vockenhuber, M. Yazıcı, B.A. Natal'in, H.S. Akyüz, N. Akçar

Understanding the intraplate deformation of the Anatolian Scholle: Insights from the study of the Ovacık Fault (Eastern Turkey)

Austria, Vienna, 12.-17.04.2015, EGU General Assembly

C. Zabcı, T. Sançar, D. Tikhomirov, S. Ivy-Ochs, C. Vockenhuber, N. Akçar The preliminary slip rates of the Ovacik Fault (Turkey) for the last 16 ka: Implications for the intraplate deformation of the Anatolian scholle Japan, Nagoya, 26.07.2015 – 02.08.2015, XIX. Inqua Congress

SEMINAR 'CURRENT TOPICS IN ACCELERATOR MASS SPECTRO-METRY AND RELATED APPLICATIONS'

Spring semester

18.02.2015

Michael Karcher (AWI Bremerhaven), Tracing the Arctic Ocean circulation with ¹²⁹Iodine

03.03.2015

Victor Alarcon Diez (Université Pierre et Marie Curie UPMC, France), Digital data acquisition with a segmented detector

04.03.2015

Kristina Hippe (ETHZ, Switzerland), Dating metamorphic zircon with U-Pb and Lu-Hf isotope analysis

11.03.2015

Jens Dilling (MPI Heidelberg, Germany), High resolution mass spectrometry of radioactive beams

18.03.2015

Ursula Sojc (ETHZ, Switzerland), Building high-resolution radiocarbon chronologies for the reconstruction of the late Holocene glacier variations and landslide events in the Mont Blanc area, Italy

01.04.2015 Alejandro Ojeda Gonzalez-Posada (PSI, Switzerland), The strong influence of background-gas pressure on the thin film composition

08.04.2015 Jean Nicolas Haas (University of Innsbruck, Austria), First high-resolution dating of a rock glacier worldwide: The Holocene Lazaun rock glacier in the Schnals Valley (South Tyrol, Italy) and its palaeoecological and palaeoclimatic significance

15.04.2015

Giulia Guidobaldi (Pisa University, Italy), Surface Exposure Dating as a tool for reconstructing Late Pleistocene glacial history in Northern Apennines, Italy

22.04.2015

Tessa van der Voort (ETHZ, Switzerland), Radiocarbon: the key to understanding soil organic matter vulnerability

29.04.2015

Jens Leifeld (Agroscope, Switzerland), Separation of old black carbon by thermal methods? A discussion

13.05.2015

Martina Schulte-Borchers (ETHZ, Switzerland), The development of an MeV SIMS

20.05.2015

Roland Purtschert (University of Bern, Switzerland), Cl-36 and Kr-81 dating of groundwater

27.05.2015

Cameron McIntyre (ETHZ, Switzerland), Tracking lab. contamination with ¹⁴C swipes

17.06.2015

Selçuk Aksay (ETHZ, Switzerland), A Landform Evolution Investigation with Cosmogenic Nuclide Dating: Sennwald Landslide

Fall semester

26.08.2015

Daniel von Kaenel (ETHZ, Switzerland), Geomorphology and Quaternary Geology of the Bächlital BE

31.08.2015

Louis Lau (University of Lancester, UK), The distribution of I-129 and U-236 off the coast of Japan (NW Pacific Ocean) after the Fukushima accident

16.09.2015

Veit Dausmann (IFM Geomar, Germany), The evolution of climatically driven weathering inputs into the western Arctic Ocean since the late Miocene

23.09.2015

Allen Andrews (NOAA, Washington, USA), Bombs and Fish – How nuclear bombs can tell us about the age of fishes

30.09.2015

Jörg Lippold (University of Bern, Switzerland), Past Ocean Circulation: New insights from Neodymium and 231Pa/230Th isotopes

07.10.2015 Morten Andersen (ETHZ, Switzerland), Uranium cycling on Earth, constraints from isotopic fingerprinting

14.10.2015 Adam Sookdeo (ETHZ, Switzerland), Speed dating - a rapid way of determining the wood's age

21.10.2015

Jakob Schwander (University of Bern, Switzerland), Searching a location to retrieve the longest ice core climate record: RADIX, a new rapid access drilling system

28.10.2015 Pavol Vojtyla (CERN, Switzerland), Radiological environmental aspects of high-power particle accelerators

04.11.2015

Urs Leuzinger (Amt für Archäologie Thurgau, Switzerland), Ein mesolithischer Abri in Muotathal SZ Bisistal-Berglibalm

11.11.2015

Elena Chamizo (CNA, Spain), Status of ²³⁶U measurements for oceanography applications at the CNA. ²³⁶U from GEOTRACES Equatorial Pacific Zonal Transect (EPZT)

12.11.2015

Christian Kuenz (ETHZ, Switzerland), Quaternary geology and surface exposure dating of erratics on the Albis – Uetliberg – Ridge and Zimmerberg, Zurich

18.11.2015

Guillaume Jouvet (ETHZ, Switzerland), Modelling the trajectory of erratic boulders in the western Alps during the last glacial maximum

25.11.2015

Chiara Uglietti (PSI, Switzerland), The debate on the age of Kilimanjaro's plateau glaciers

02.12.2015

Kevin Kröninger (TU Dortmund, Germany), An introduction to Bayesian Reasoning - Laying the foundation for statistical data analysis

09.12.2015

Tessa van der Voort, Thomas Blattmann (ETHZ, Switzerland), Radiocarbon in Aquatic and Terrestrial Spheres

16.12.2015

Kristina Hippe (ETHZ, Switzerland), Tracing Holocene climate change in the Bolivian Altiplano

THESES (INTERNAL)

Term papers/Bachelor

Bortis Amadé *Microbeam current optimization* ETH Zurich

Jari Klingler Sedimentological analysis of moraines of different ages and different glacial origin on the crest of the Albis ETH Zurich

Corinne Singeisen Morphology and sedimetology of drumlins southwest of Lake Constance and their indications of the Last Glacial Maximum ETH Zurich

Diploma/Master theses

Selçuk Aksay The geomorphological evolution of a landscape in a tectonically active region: the Sennwald landslide ETH Zurich

Silvie Bruggmann Growth Constraints and Environmental Influences on a Modern Stromatolite, Lagoa Vermelha, Brasil ETH Zurich

Christian Kuenz Quaternary geology and surface exposure dating of erratics on the Albis-Uetliberg ridge and Zimmerberg, Zurich ETH Zurich

Sandro Vattioni ¹⁴C analysis of wood from Lake Sils for reconstruction of lake level changes ETH Zurich

Daniel von Känel Geomorphology and Quaternary geology of the Bächlital BE ETH Zurich

Doctoral theses

Merle Gierga Dating buried molecules-Introducing new applications of small-scale radiocarbon analysis to disentangle the carbon cycle and solve archeological questions ETH Zurich Caroline Welte Laser Ablation coupled with Accelerator Mass Spectrometry for Online Radiocarbon Analysis ETH Zurich

Christian Wirsig Constraining the timing of deglaciation of the High Alps and rates of subglacial erosion with cosmogenic nuclides ETH Zurich

THESES (EXTERNAL)

Diploma/Master theses

Jessica Castleton The Sentinel rock avalanche of Zion Canyon, Utah University of Utah (USA)

Christian Eisenach First ¹⁰Be exposure ages from the western Vosges, France, indicating a maximum glacier extent during the Riss glaciation (MIS 6) University of Münster (Germany)

Caroline Heineke Surface exposure dating of Late Holocene basalt flows and cinder cones in the Kula volcanic field (Western Turkey) using cosmogenic ³He and ¹⁰Be University of Münster (Germany)

Louis Lau Yik Sze The distribution of I-129 off the coast of Japan (NW Pacific Ocean) after the Fukushima Accident Lancaster University (UK)

Melissa Schwab Coupled Organic and Inorganic Tracers of Particle Flux Processes in the North American Arctic Ocean ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Godfroid Thibauld Evaluation et spatialisation des services écosystemiques en Equateur UCLouvain (Belgium)

Silavn Wick Molecular and isotopic constraints on the provenance of organic carbon eroding from Alpine catchments ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Doctoral theses

Janine Brunner Insight into Ca²⁺ Dependent Lipid Scrambling from the Crystal Structure of a TMEM16 Family Member University of Zurich (Switzerland) **Ruslan Cusnir**

In-situ speciation measurements and bioavailability determination of plutonium in natural waters of a karst system using diffusion in thin films (DGT) techniques. University of Lausanne (Switzerland)

Richard Selwyn Jones Late Cenozoic behaviour of two Transantarctic Mountain outlet glaciers Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand)

Sanjay Mandal Kumar Topography in passive margins: A case study across the southern Peninsular Indian escarpment using geomorphological analyses, cosmogenic nuclides and low-temperature thermochronometry" ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Omar Pecho Relationships between 3D topology and reaction kinetics in SOFC electrodes ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Patrick Reinhard Alkali-based process and interface engineering of Cu(In,Ga)Se₂ thin film solar cells ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Mathilde Reinle-Schmitt The origin and properties of the 2D electron system at polar-oxide interfaces University of Zurich (Switzerland)

Tino Zimmerling *Electronic Disorder & Charge Trapping in Organic Molecular Semiconductors* ETH Zurich (Switzerland)

Habilitation

Bernadette Hammer-Rotzler Analysis of the nuclide inventory in MEGAPIE, a proton irradiated lead-bismuth eutectic spallation target University of Bern (Switzerland)

Tobias Lorenz Separation and analysis of long-lived radionuclides produced by proton irradiation in lead University of Bern (Switzerland)

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