

**Ti-44 AND V-49 IN SiC GRAINS OF TYPE X REVISITED.** E. Zinner<sup>1</sup>, F. Gyngard<sup>1</sup>, and Y. Lin<sup>2</sup>, <sup>1</sup>Laboratory of Space Sciences and the Physics Department, Washington University in St. Louis, One Brookings Dr., St. Louis, MO 63130, USA., [ekz@wustl.edu](mailto:ekz@wustl.edu), <sup>2</sup>Key Laboratory of the Earth's Deep Interior, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100029, China.

**Introduction:** Presolar SiC grains of type X have large  $^{28}\text{Si}$  excesses, indicative of an origin in Type II supernovae [e.g., 1, 2] since SNe produce Si with large  $^{28}\text{Si}$  excesses in the innermost zones [e.g., 3]. A SN origin is confirmed by evidence for radiogenic  $^{44}\text{Ca}$  from the decay of  $^{44}\text{Ti}$  in some X grains [4, 5]. Many X grains also exhibit large  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excesses, which Hoppe and Besmehn [6] attributed to the decay of short-lived  $^{49}\text{V}$ .  $^{44}\text{Ti}$  and  $^{49}\text{V}$  are both found in the  $^{28}\text{Si}$ -rich Si/S zone [3]. Motivated by Ca and Ti isotopic measurements in X grains from the Qingzhen meteorite [7], we are revisiting  $^{44}\text{Ti}$  and  $^{49}\text{V}$  and ask whether there are differences between two sub-classes of X grains, X1 and X2. Type X1 grains have Si isotopic ratios that plot along a line of slope  $\sim 0.65$  in a  $\delta$ -value Si 3-isotope plot, whereas X2 grains plot below this line [8]. In our comparison of the X grain data we do not limit ourselves to the Qingzhen grains but consider all available X grain data [9].

**Discussion:** Figure 1 shows Si, Ti and V isotopic ratios in the inner zones of the  $25M_{\odot}$  SN model by Rauscher et al. [3]. These are the zones that contain the short-lived nuclides  $^{44}\text{Ti}$  and  $^{49}\text{V}$ . Ratios of stable isotopes are normalized to their solar ratios. The  $^{28}\text{Si}$  excesses in X grains require contributions from these zones. The C and N isotopic ratios in the grains, on the other hand, require material from the He/N and He/C zones. Here we try to explain the Si, Ti, and V isotopic ratios of X grains by mixing of material from these different zones.

First, we investigate whether  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excesses can be explained by the decay of  $^{49}\text{V}$ . In Fig. 2a we show a plot of inferred  $^{49}\text{V}/^{51}\text{V}$  versus inferred  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios under the assumption that all  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excess originates

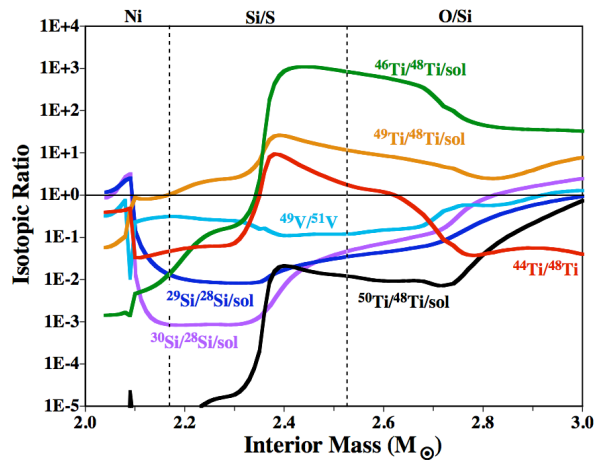


Figure 1

from  $^{49}\text{V}$  decay and compare these ratios with theoretical predictions. The diamonds are the ratios for the layers between  $2.05$  and  $3M_{\odot}$  interior mass of the  $25M_{\odot}$  SN model of [3]. The lines show compositions for mixtures with  $\text{C}>\text{O}$ , required for SiC condensation, between various inner layers and a H/N-He/C mixture that gives  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}=100$ . As can be seen, most of the grain data plot above compositions that can be obtained by the mixtures, indicating that not all the  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excesses in X grains are due to  $^{49}\text{V}$  decay. As a matter of fact, the H/N-He/C mix we used for the mixing curves has a  $\delta^{49}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  value of  $522\%$  due to neutron capture in the He/C zone [3].

In Fig. 2b we plot the  $\delta^{49}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  values of X grains against their inferred  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios together with mixing curves obtained in the same way as in Fig. 2a. The plot shows that the  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excesses of almost half of the grains can be accounted for by n-capture in the He/C zone and no contributions from  $^{49}\text{V}$  decay are required. Our assumed He/N-He/C mix has  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}=100$ . However, many grains have larger ratios (numbers next to the data symbols in Fig. 2b), implying higher  $^{49}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios because of a larger fraction of He/C material in the He/N-He/C mix. Thus it seems that most of the  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  excesses can be explained by n-capture in the He/C zone and  $^{49}\text{V}$  decay is needed only for a few grains.

In Fig. 2c and d we plot also  $^{46}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios. Plot d contains more data points than plot c because  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  data are limited. We note that several grains have large  $^{46}\text{Ti}$  deficits and even  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  deficits.  $^{46}\text{Ti}$  deficits can be explained by admixture from the inner Si/S zone (Fig. 1), but  $^{49}\text{Ti}$  deficits are more difficult to explain. From Figs. 2c and d it is apparent that any contributions from layers  $\geq 2.4M_{\odot}$  in interior mass would result in a large  $^{46}\text{Ti}$  excess, which is seen in only one grain. This indicates only small contributions from the outer Si/S and inner O/Si zone, a conclusions also reached from the lack of large  $^{54}\text{Fe}$  excesses in X grains [10].

Fig. 3 shows that X2 grains have higher inferred  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios than X1 grains. Although a correlation between  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios and Si isotopic ratios is expected since the zones containing  $^{44}\text{Ti}$  are rich in  $^{28}\text{Si}$ , such a correlation is observed only for the  $^{29}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}$  ratio (Fig. 3a). In Fig. 3, we also show (only for C>O) curves obtained by mixing a He/N-He/C mix having  $^{12}\text{C}/^{13}\text{C}=390$ ,  $^{14}\text{N}/^{15}\text{N}=100$ ,  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}=800\%$ , and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si}=1,100\%$  with material from different layers of the Ni, Si/S, and O/Si zones. Only the ratios in X1 grains can be reproduced in this way; most X2 grains plot above the mixing curves. Their  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios can be reached by mixing with the layer at  $2.4M_{\odot}$  interior

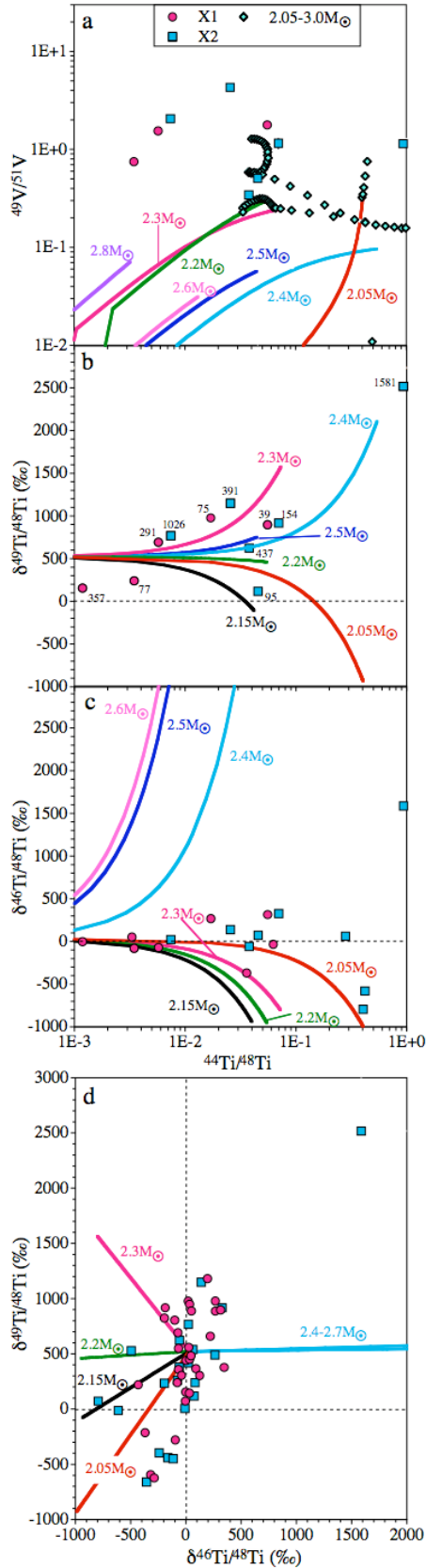


Figure 2

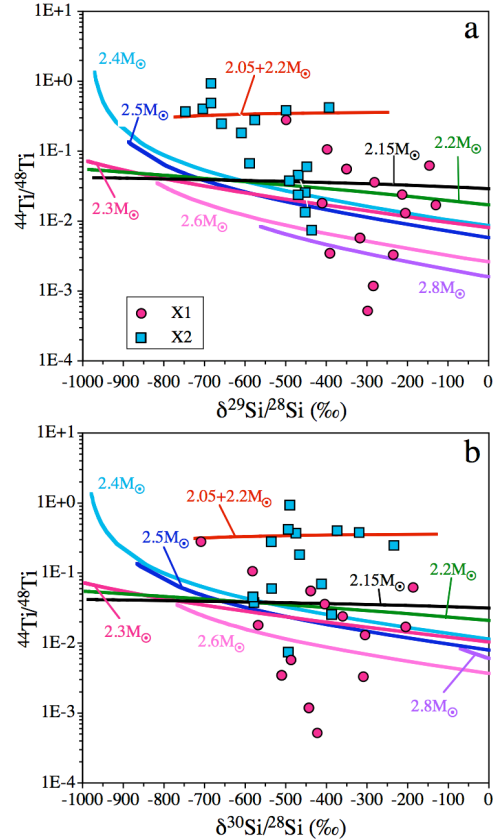


Figure 3

mass, where this ratio is highest (Fig. 1); however the corresponding Si isotopic ratios are much smaller than those in the grains. The layer at  $2.05M_{\odot}$  interior mass does not have a  $^{28}\text{Si}$  excess (Fig. 1) but has very little Si. Since it contains a lot of  $^{44}\text{Ti}$ , we can achieve the high  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios and the Si isotopic ratios observed in most X2 grains by combining contributions from this layer and from  $^{28}\text{Si}$ -rich layers in the Si/S zone. For example, the curves labeled “ $2.05+2.2M_{\odot}$ ” in Fig. 3 are obtained by mixing 10% from the  $2.05M_{\odot}$  and 0.6 to 3% from the  $2.2M_{\odot}$  layer with the remaining fraction from the He/N-He/C mixture previously described. This confirms the conclusion [2] that contributions from the Ni core are needed in order to account for the high  $^{44}\text{Ti}/^{48}\text{Ti}$  ratios of some X grains, particularly those of type X2..

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