OCGC SEMINAR

Provenance vs process: Insight from combined radiogenic and stable Sr isotopes

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Abstract:

Radiogenic Sr isotopes (87/86Sr) have long been used for geochronological and isotopic provenance studies. Advances in mass spectrometry now permit the determination of differences in the stable isotope ratios of Sr (88/86Sr) produced by mass dependent fractionation as a result of geological and biological processes. The advantages of combining the stable and radiogenic isotopes of Sr are discussed via a series of wideranging studies including agro-food provenance, hydrothermal fluids and primitive Archean barites. These studies indicate that the addition of stable Sr isotopes enhances our understanding of surface processes such as weathering and soil development as well as the evolution of hydrothermal fluids.

Dr. Ross Stevenson: Ross Stevenson is a professor at Geotop and the department des Sciences de la Terre et de l'atmosphére de l'Université de Québec à Montréal (UQAM) specializing in the application of isotope geochemistry to studies of mantle and crustal evolution, paleoceanography and sediment provenance studies. His work has ranged from the crustal evolution of the Western Superior Province, to the identification of the ancient crust of the 3.8 Ga Nuvvaggituq Greenstone belt of Quebec, the paleo-circulation of the North Atlantic and Arctic Oceans, and the geochemical/isotopic relationship between terroir and agro-food produce.







