

Manuscript Number: CHEMGE13028R1

Title: Microanalysis of Cl, Br and I in apatite, scapolite and silicate glass by LA-ICP-MS

Article Type: Research paper

Keywords: Laser ablation ICP-MS; halogens; apatite; scapolite; silicate glass; polyatomic interferences

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Abstract: Constraining the abundance and distribution of halogens in geological materials has the potential to provide novel insights into a broad range of earth system processes (e.g. metasomatism, melting, volatile cycling and ore formation). In this contribution we develop analytical protocols for the in situ measurement of Cl, Br and I in widely distributed standard reference materials (apatite, scapolite, silicate glass) using readily available laser ablation ICP-MS instrumentation. Ablations were performed at a range of square spot sizes (30 - 80 μm) using a high repetition rate (25 Hz) and extended analyte dwell times (up to 250 ms) to improve sensitivity and signal stability. A comparison of LA-ICP-MS results with published halogen data was used to calculate the following theoretical limits of quantification; Cl = 360 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Br = 8 $\mu\text{g/g}$, I = 0.75 $\mu\text{g/g}$. A detailed assessment of raw signal intensities for different matrices with known halogen contents, combined with high resolution mass scans, provides new constraints on the origin of apparent halogen signals: on mass 35Cl signal excesses are likely 16O18OH and/or 17O18O; 79Br is influenced by peak shoulder overlap from 40Ar40Ar (a diargon cation, Ar₂+2) and a matrix-based interference (159Tb²⁺) for samples with Br/Tb < 0.6; 127I signals are similar for all but the highest I materials analysed here, suggesting the presence of ubiquitous gas-based interferences. The observation that false positive halogen signals only occur during sample ablation suggests that they are either matrix derived or related to the process of sample introduction. During ablation, matrix loading may reduce plasma energy, resulting in a greater proportion of polyatomic interferences in the system. For Cl, we provide a new time dependent excess apparent Cl spline correction defined by analysis of halogen-free olivine via a modified version of the Iolite Data Reduction Scheme 'X_Trace_Elements_IS'. The correction improves the limit of linearity to ~100 $\mu\text{g/g}$ for Cl in glasses down to a 38 μm spot size. We test our methodology on apatite from Permian alkaline lamprophyres in the Pyrenees (Spain) and quartz-hosted melt inclusions from rhyolitic deposits at the Taupo volcanic zone (New Zealand), obtaining results comparable to electron microprobe and SIMS data. We provide recommendations for analytical best practice and highlight the

need for well characterised matrix matched SRMs spanning a broad range of concentrations to allow for the identification and removal of non-analyte related contributions to measured signals.

Research Data Related to this Submission

Title: Data for: Microanalysis of Cl, Br and I in apatite, scapolite and silicate glass by LA-ICP-MS
Repository: Mendeley Data
<https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/7svt3gc53g/draft?a=a5aa46c0-7425-4b39-ad34-e3738781d59b>

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Microanalysis of Cl, Br and I in apatite, scapolite and silicate glass by LA-ICP-MS

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Abstract

Constraining the abundance and distribution of halogens in geological materials has the potential to provide novel insights into a broad range of earth system processes (e.g. metasomatism, melting, volatile cycling and ore formation). In this contribution we develop analytical protocols for the *in situ* measurement of Cl, Br and I in widely distributed standard reference materials (apatite, scapolite, silicate glass) using readily available laser ablation ICP-MS instrumentation. Ablations were performed at a range of square spot sizes (30 – 80 μm) using a high repetition rate (25 Hz) and extended analyte dwell times (up to 250 ms) to improve sensitivity and signal stability. A comparison of LA-ICP-MS results with published halogen data was used to calculate the following theoretical limits of quantification; Cl = 360 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Br = 8 $\mu\text{g/g}$, I = 0.75 $\mu\text{g/g}$. A detailed assessment of raw signal intensities for different matrices with known halogen contents, combined with high resolution mass scans, provides new constraints on the origin of apparent halogen signals: on mass ^{35}Cl signal excesses are likely $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{OH}$ and/or $^{17}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$; ^{79}Br is influenced by peak shoulder overlap from $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ (a diargon cation, Ar_2^{+2}) and a matrix-based interference ($^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$) for samples with Br/Tb <0.6; ^{127}I signals are similar for all but the highest I materials analysed here, suggesting the presence of ubiquitous gas-based interferences. The observation that false positive halogen signals only occur during sample ablation suggests that they are either matrix derived or related to the process of sample introduction. During ablation, matrix loading may reduce plasma energy, resulting in a greater proportion of polyatomic interferences in the system. For Cl, we provide a new time dependent excess apparent Cl spline correction defined by analysis of halogen-free olivine via a modified version of the Iolite Data Reduction Scheme ‘X_Trace_Elements_IS’. The correction improves the limit of linearity to $\sim 100 \mu\text{g/g}$

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73 for Cl in glasses down to a 38 μm spot size. We test our methodology on apatite from
74 Permian alkaline lamprophyres in the Pyrenees (Spain) and quartz-hosted melt
75 inclusions from rhyolitic deposits at the Taupo volcanic zone (New Zealand),
76 obtaining results comparable to electron microprobe and SIMS data. We provide
77 recommendations for analytical best practice and highlight the need for well
78 characterised matrix matched SRMs spanning a broad range of concentrations to
79 allow for the identification and removal of non-analyte related contributions to
80 measured signals.

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82 **Keywords**

83 Laser ablation ICP-MS, halogens, apatite, scapolite, silicate glass, polyatomic
84 interferences

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86 **1. Introduction**

87 Halogens influence fundamental magma properties such as melting behaviour and
88 melt rheology, and so affect the mobility of melts (e.g. Baasner et al., 2013). Halogens
89 also affect and track the distribution of other volatile species and incompatible
90 elements amongst the Earth's geochemical reservoirs (Kendrick et al., 2014b;
91 Kendrick et al., 2012b). Previous studies have highlighted the broad range of
92 geological applications of the halogens as key tracers of petrogenetic processes (Chu
93 et al., 2009; Ladenburger et al., 2016; Teiber et al., 2014; Wang et al., 2014),
94 magmatic degassing (Balcone-Boissard et al., 2010; Collins et al., 2009; Pyle and
95 Mather, 2009), subduction-related metasomatism (Bénard et al., 2016; Bernini et al.,
96 2013; Chavrit et al., 2016; Debret et al., 2016; John et al., 2011; Kendrick et al.,
97 2014a; Köhler et al., 2009; Manzini et al., 2017; Pagé et al., 2016; Straub and Layne,

1 98 2003), crustal recycling (John et al., 2010; Kendrick et al., 2015), magma source
2 99 characteristics and mantle melting (Beyer et al., 2016; Joachim et al., 2015; Kendrick
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4 100 et al., 2012a; Roberge et al., 2015; Schilling et al., 1980), the volatile inventory of the
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6 101 subcontinental lithospheric mantle (Broadley et al., 2016), apatite provenance studies
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8 102 (Ansberque et al., 2019), apatite fission track annealing kinetics (Green et al., 1985)
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10 103 and the distribution of magmatic volatiles in the lunar interior (McCubbin et al.,
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12 104 2011). Of societal importance is the role of halogens in the transport and precipitation
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14 105 of ore-forming metals, and thus for exploration of traditional metals and energy
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16 106 critical elements (e.g. Hedenquist and Lowenstern, 1994). The concentrations of
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18 107 halogens and other magmatic volatiles in hydrothermal fluids and gas emissions also
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20 108 constitute valuable tools for monitoring sub-volcanic processes in the magmatic
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22 109 plumbing systems of quiescent and active volcanoes (cf. Aiuppa et al., 2009 for a
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24 110 review).

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28 112 *In situ* analysis allows for mineral-specific and even zone-specific measurement of
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30 113 analytes in natural minerals and experimental charges, as well as in crystal-hosted
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32 114 melt and fluid inclusions. A variety of analytical techniques are available for *in situ*
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34 115 halogen determinations including Electron Probe Microanalysis (EPMA)
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36 116 (Ladenburger et al., 2016; McCubbin et al., 2015; Seifert et al., 2000; Zhang et al.,
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38 117 2016), Proton Microprobe (PMP) (O'Reilly and Griffin, 2000), Secondary Ion Mass
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40 118 Spectrometry (SIMS) (Cadoux et al., 2017; Kusebauch et al., 2015b; Kusebauch et al.,
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42 119 2015c; Pagé et al., 2016), Time-of-flight SIMS (TOF-SIMS) (Joachim et al., 2015),
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44 120 Proton Induced X-ray Emission (PIXE) (Bureau et al., 2000; Jochum et al., 2006),
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46 121 Laser Plasma Ionisation Mass Spectrometry (LIMS) (Jochum et al., 2006) and
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48 122 Synchrotron Radiation X-ray Fluorescence (SR-XRF) (Cadoux et al., 2017). Besides
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123 EPMA, Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICP-
124 MS) is a widely available method that has been assessed for the quantification of the
125 halogens (Chew et al., 2014; Fusswinkel et al., 2018; Hammerli et al., 2013; Heinrich
126 et al., 2003; Kendrick et al., 2020; Rottier and Audétat, 2019; Seo et al., 2011). These
127 papers have highlighted the ability of LA-ICP-MS instrumentation to achieve limits
128 of detection of $\approx 8 \mu\text{g/g}$ for bromine in scapolite (Hammerli et al., 2013), whilst
129 concentrations $\geq 500 \mu\text{g/g}$ are required for chlorine measurements (Chew et al., 2014;
130 Hammerli et al., 2013). Fusswinkel et al. (2018) report a range of detection limits for
131 halogen analysis of fluid inclusions: Cl = 5 – 487 $\mu\text{g/g}$; Br = 0.4 – 52 $\mu\text{g/g}$; I = 0.03 –
132 3.64 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Recent work by Rottier and Audétat (2019) demonstrated that it was
133 possible to analyse glasses containing several hundred $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl by employing an
134 equation linking the amount of excess Cl to the quantity of aerosol produced to
135 correct for non-sample derived Cl arising from contaminants on the inner surfaces of
136 the sample holder and tubing lines. Using 200 μm diameter laser ablation spots,
137 Kendrick et al. (2020) inferred limits of quantification of $\sim 200 \mu\text{g/g}$ for Cl and ~ 1
138 $\mu\text{g/g}$ for Br in silicate glass (after correction for laser background and REE
139 contributions), and $\sim 50 \mu\text{g/g}$ for Cl and $\sim 0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$ for Br in carbonate. These authors
140 found that iodine can be measured in carbonate and Fe-oxyhydroxide with $\mu\text{g/g}$ I
141 abundances. The sensitivity of halogen analysis in ICP ionisation is limited by their
142 high first ionisation potentials (F = 17.42 eV, Cl = 12.97 eV, Br = 11.81 eV, I = 10.45
143 eV) typically resulting in low sensitivities, while some halogen isotope determinations
144 (e.g. ^{37}Cl , ^{79}Br and ^{81}Br) are also compromised by significant argon-based polyatomic
145 interferences. The ionisation potential of F is higher than that of Ar (15.76 eV), and is
146 therefore impossible to determine by ICP-MS. Notwithstanding, LA-ICP-MS offers a
147 viable alternative to other *in situ* halogen methods based on availability, accessibility,

148 cost and sample preparation requirements compared to the techniques listed above. In
149 addition, electron microprobe analysis of apatite requires careful orientation of the
150 crystallographic c-axis of minerals to avoid halogen migration due to heating effects
151 during analysis (Stock et al., 2015).

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153 Utilising the results of recent studies designed to establish the halogen contents of
154 readily available glass and mineral reference materials (Balcone-Boissard et al., 2009;
155 Cadoux et al., 2017; Chew et al., 2014; Hammerli et al., 2013; Kendrick et al., 2013;
156 Kusebauch et al., 2015b; Kusebauch et al., 2015c; Marks et al., 2016; Marks et al.,
157 2012; Seo et al., 2011), in this contribution we develop new LA-ICP-MS protocols for
158 rapid (1 min per analysis) Cl, Br and I measurements in a range of geological
159 reference materials, to allow for matrix-matched calibration. Existing data are
160 augmented with new Combustion Ion Chromatography measurements on widely
161 distributed MPI-DING glasses ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G. We assess the impact of
162 ablation parameters including repetition rate, fluence, material hardness and ablation
163 pit aspect ratio to optimise data quality. We also investigate potential gas and matrix-
164 based interferences, along with sample homogeneity, to identify reliable reference
165 materials. We critically evaluate the capability of the technique with an in-depth
166 assessment of accuracy and precision, together with an appraisal of the limits of
167 quantification for a range of ablation spot sizes from 30 – 80 μm . Finally, we present
168 a real-world comparison of LA-ICP-MS Cl data with EPMA determinations on
169 apatite hosted in sub-volcanic lamprophyre from Iberia (Central Spain) and SIMS
170 measurements on glassy quartz-hosted melt inclusions (MI) in rhyolitic deposits from
171 the Okataina Volcanic Centre (Taupo volcanic zone, New Zealand).

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173 *1.1 Halogens in geological materials*

174 The heavier halogens (Cl, Br and I) are incompatible to highly-incompatible and are
175 typically concentrated in evolved melts and metasomatic fluids and associated
176 volatile-bearing minerals including apatite, scapolite, amphibole and mica. Cl, Br and
177 I are highly soluble in fluid phases (e.g. Bureau et al., 2016; Bureau et al., 2000;
178 Bureau and Métrich, 2003; Cadoux et al., 2018; Kusebauch et al., 2015a), whilst I
179 (and to a lesser extent, Br) are concentrated in organic-rich sediments (Pyle and
180 Mather, 2009), and in some carbonates (John et al., 2011; Kendrick et al., 2020).
181 Crucially, the halogen content of glass and volatile-rich phases can enable the
182 reconstruction of mantle-derived melt compositions, provided appropriate partition
183 coefficients are known. Apatite is a common accessory phosphate mineral in igneous
184 and metamorphic rocks that can accommodate variable amounts of Cl. Igneous apatite
185 is typically fluorapatite with a minor hydroxyl component (<0.2 wt. % Cl; e.g. Teiber
186 et al., 2015); appreciable Cl contents (≥ 0.5 wt.%) are rare and largely restricted to
187 apatite hosted in mafic rocks such as gabbros (Ladenburger et al., 2016) and highly
188 evolved systems (Webster and Piccoli, 2015). End-member chlorapatite (up to 6.8 wt.
189 % Cl) is commonly associated with the replacement of primary magmatic apatite
190 during metasomatism (e.g. Engvik et al., 2009; Harlov, 2015). Available data indicate
191 that most apatite typically contains <5 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br (Teiber et al., 2015), however
192 secondary apatite associated with metamorphic/metasomatic overprinting has been
193 found to host up to 85 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br (Kusebauch et al., 2015b). Scapolite, structural
194 formula $(\text{NaCaK})_4[\text{Al}_3(\text{Al,Si})_3\text{Si}_6\text{O}_{24}](\text{Cl,CO}_3,\text{SO}_4)$, is dominantly found in
195 metamorphic and metasomatised rocks. The anionic structure of scapolite (corner-
196 sharing Al and Si-tetrahedra that enclose large cavities) allows it to host appreciable
197 quantities of volatile species.

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198 Reference glasses are widely used for external standardisation of LA-ICP-MS data, as
199 well serving as secondary standards to monitor accuracy and precision. As discussed
200 by Jochum et al. (2010), published halogen data for geological reference materials are
201 scarce. Notwithstanding, recent work by Marks et al. (2016) reports high-precision
202 values for the complete suite of halogens in USGS synthetic basaltic glasses GSD-1G
203 and GSE-1G determined by the noble gas method. Characterisation of reference
204 materials BHVO-2 and Geological Survey of Japan standards JB-1b and JB-2
205 highlighted that mafic compositions are more reproducible, and therefore better suited
206 for halogen characterisation than more evolved material where variable fractionation
207 may lead to heterogeneous halogen concentrations (Balcone-Boissard et al., 2009).
208 However, concentrations of the halogens are typically higher in more silicic rocks,
209 and so the selection of appropriate natural glasses can be challenging. The increasing
210 availability of fused natural glasses (e.g. MPI-DING glasses) and synthetic doped
211 glasses (e.g. USGS ‘GS’ series glasses and Corning reference glasses) has served to
212 alleviate these analytical issues, however, the extent and scale of halogen
213 heterogeneity in these materials has not been fully investigated.

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215 *1.2 Reference materials used in this study*

216 A large number of apatite occurrences have been analysed for Cl contents via LA-
217 ICP-MS and EPMA (Chew et al., 2014), whilst Durango (Mexico) and Ødegården
218 apatite (Norway) have also been characterised for Cl and Br abundances using EPMA
219 and SIMS (Kusebauch et al., 2015b; Marks et al., 2012) as well as CIC and TXRF
220 (Total Reflection X-ray Fluorescence Analysis) techniques (Marks et al., 2012).
221 Teiber et al. (2015) present EPMA Cl data for Otter Lake apatite.

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222 In this study, five well known apatite occurrences were selected for analysis; a high
223 purity U-Pb dating standard (Madagascar) and four with crystals large enough to be
224 mounted parallel to the c-axis enabling analysis perpendicular to it (Durango, Otter
225 Lake, Ødegården, 815). The crystals are those characterised previously by Chew et al.
226 (2014), except Madagascar for which multiple fragments of gem roughs were
227 analysed. Chips of the gem quality scapolites BB1, SP and SY were provided by
228 Mark Kendrick. Recommended reference values for Cl, Br and I for the gem scapolite
229 standards have been established using INAA and the NG method (Kendrick et al.,
230 2013), as well as characterisation via LA-ICP-MS (Hammerli et al., 2013). An
231 additional scapolite (meionite) standard NMNH R6600 from Brazil with Cl
232 abundances determined via EPMA (Jarosewich et al., 1980; van der Zwan et al.,
233 2012) was sourced from the Department of Mineral Sciences, Smithsonian Institution.
234 A wide range of silicate glasses were analysed in this study: USGS synthetic basaltic
235 glasses GSC-1G, GSD-1G and GSE-1G; seven MPI-DING glasses spanning a range
236 of major element compositions and Cl contents (Jochum et al., 2006 cf. Table 1); the
237 synthetic archaeological Corning reference glasses A, C and D that have been
238 analysed for Cl contents via EPMA (Adlington, 2017; Vicenzi et al., 2002) and SEM
239 analysis (Kuisma-Kursula, 2000); and the widely distributed NIST Standard
240 Reference Material (SRM) glasses 610 and 612 that have been characterised for Cl
241 and Br mass fractions via LA-ICP-MS (Jochum et al., 2011; Rottier and Audétat,
242 2019; Seo et al., 2011), the noble gas method (Marks et al., 2016) and CIC (Wang et
243 al., 2010). These contributions demonstrate the poor reproducibility of selected
244 halogens in NIST SRM glasses 610 and 612 across a wide range of analytical
245 techniques. As such, these glasses represent ideal reference materials on which to test
246 the nature and origin of spurious positive halogen signals that yield erroneously high

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247 concentration values. Detailed background and location information on the origin of
248 all the reference materials listed here are included in Supplementary material file.
249 Published and preferred halogen values (INAA/NG data, agreement across multiple
250 methods/studies and/or dedicated halogen analytical studies) for all the reference
251 materials analysed in this study are summarised in Table 1.

252

253 **2. Methods**

254 2.1 Combustion Ion Chromatography

255 Combustion ion chromatography (CIC) is an automated combination of combustion
256 digestion (pyrohydrolysis) and ion chromatography. We applied combustion ion
257 chromatography at the Fachbereich Geowissenschaften, Tübingen University,
258 Germany. The system comprised a 930 Compact IC Flex chromatograph (Metrohm)
259 with chemical suppression and a peristaltic pump for regeneration (100 mmol/l
260 H₂SO₄), connected to a combustion oven and an autosampler for solid samples (MMS
261 5000; Analytik Jena).

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263 Aliquots of 50 – 100 mg of the MPI-DING glasses ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G were
264 washed three times in an ultrasonic bath in Milli-Q water and oven dried at 40°C
265 overnight. Reference materials were then powdered using an agate pestle and mortar
266 which was cleaned twice with high purity quartz sand between reference materials.

267 For combustion, a mixture of 10-15 mg of sample powder and the same amount of
268 WO₃ powder (99.995 % - Aldrich 204781) was loaded into a quartz vial that was
269 capped on both sides with quartz wool and placed into glass vessels. The quartz
270 vessels were heated in an extraction line with a constant flow of Ar (grade 6.0; 100
271 ml/min) and O₂ (grade 5.0; 300 ml/min) to 1050°C for 12 min, followed by 10 min of

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272 post-combustion and 7 min of cooling. During combustion, a constant water flow (0.2
273 ml/min) was maintained. The loaded steam was collected in an absorbance module
274 containing 4 ml of 0.5 M H₂O₂ solution. After matrix elimination (using a Metrosep A
275 PCC 2 HC/4.0 column) the solutions were injected into the ion chromatograph. We
276 used a Metrosep A Supp 5-250/4.0 (kept at 55°C) and a Metrosep A Supp 4/5/4.0
277 Guard column and an eluent consisting of a mixture of 2mmol NaOH, 1.6 mmol
278 Na₂CO₃, and 5 vol.% acetone at a flow rate of 0.7 ml/min (see Epp et al., 2019 for full
279 details). For quantification of halogen and S concentrations, a primary reference
280 solution was mixed from single element solutions (1000 mg/l; ROTH) and a quadratic
281 6-point-calibration curve that covered the concentrations to be quantified was
282 constructed using the Metrohm intelligent Partial Loop Injection Technique (MiPT).
283 The effective detection limits for powdered samples were about 10–30 µg/g for F and
284 Cl, about 5 µg/g for S, and around 0.3 µg/g for Br. Based on the frequent analyses of
285 standard solutions and various reference materials, relative uncertainties were
286 generally <10% (1σ level) for F and Cl, and up to ~20% for Br and S, depending on
287 the concentrations.

288 2.2 LA-ICP-MS

289 2.2.1 Sample preparation

290 Samples were mounted in 25 mm diameter epoxy resin pucks, taking care to orientate
291 crystals with the c-axis parallel to the exposed surface where possible. This mounting
292 procedure was undertaken to avoid halogen migration along the c-axis (cf. Stock et
293 al., 2015) during electron probe microanalysis of apatite, and allows analysis of
294 crystals with a range of techniques. Samples were mounted in Struers® EpoFix two-
295 part resin and were kept at 40°C for 48 hrs prior to polishing on a Struers® LaboPol-

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296 21 using 9, 6 and 1 μm diamond suspensions in conjunction with grinding and
297 polishing plates.

298

299 *2.2.2 Instrument setup*

300 Halogen data were acquired using a Teledyne Photon Machines Analyte G2 193 nm
301 Excimer laser ablation system coupled to a Thermo Scientific iCAP Qc ICP-MS at
302 Trinity College Dublin. Ablation was carried out within a HelEx II 2-volume ablation
303 cell and transported to a variable volume signal smoothing device (set at 5 ml) using
304 PEEK (poly ether ether ketone) tubing. The smoothing device was connected to the
305 torch using conventional 3.175 mm ID tubing, providing routine LA system washout
306 times whilst maintaining the PEEK tubing accessory used for ultra-rapid washout
307 mapping applications (not employed here). The carrier gas mixture comprised He
308 (grade 5.0, 99.999% purity; 0.35 ml/min cell, 0.05 ml/min cup) with addition of N_2
309 (13 ml/min) to aid oxide suppression and enhance signal sensitivity and Ar (0.67
310 L/min) for the nebuliser (plasma) gas. Ablation parameters comprise 25 and 50 Hz
311 repetition rates, 2.75 J cm^{-2} laser energy, 30 – 80 μm square spots, 20 s acquisition
312 time and 40 s washout, the latter portions (20 – 25 s) of which were employed for
313 baseline measurements. The selected laser energy represents a compromise in order to
314 achieve suitable ablation characteristics for the range of matrices analysed here.
315 Extended analyte dwell times of up to 250 ms were employed to improve sensitivity
316 and signal stability (e.g. Stead et al., 2017). An analyte list comprising ^{35}Cl , ^{79}Br , ^{81}Br ,
317 ^{127}I , ^{208}Pb , ^{55}Mn , ^{29}Si , ^{39}K , ^{23}Na and ^{43}Ca was selected for initial test sessions. A
318 summary of instrument conditions is detailed in Table 2. Instrument tuning was
319 performed using raster scans of NIST SRM 612 (Jochum et al., 2011) at the start of
320 each analytical session. The ICP-MS was tuned to achieve similar sensitivity across

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321 the mass range (Ce, Th and U) whilst maintaining low oxide totals (<0.2 % for
322 $^{232}\text{Th}^{16}\text{O}/^{232}\text{Th}$) and a Th/U ratio close to unity.

323

324 *2.2.3 Ablation rate*

325 Inspection of laser pits was carried out to monitor the aspect ratio of ablation volumes
326 and to determine the ablation rate of the range of geological materials analysed in this
327 study. A Filmetrics Profilm3D optical profiler was used to measure pit depths. The
328 instrument was run in vertical scanning interferometry mode and was calibrated at the
329 beginning of each session using the VLSI Standards Inc. Step Height Standard model
330 # SHS – 8.0 QC. For the ablation settings detailed in Table 2, the following average
331 ablation rates were observed: scapolite (0.07 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pulse}$), apatite (0.105 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pulse}$),
332 average silicate glass (0.105 \pm 0.05 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pulse}$) and olivine (0.09 $\mu\text{m}/\text{pulse}$). The
333 higher the ablation repetition rate (frequency), the greater the volume of sample
334 material introduced in to the ICP-MS, increasing analyte signal intensity. However,
335 for ablation pits with aspect ratios (depth:width) >1, analyte fractionation increasingly
336 becomes an issue (Woodhead et al., 2004). Accordingly, we suggest lower repetition
337 rates for most applications to preserve a 1:1 crater aspect ratio, and outline a range of
338 ablation parameters (frequency, ablation duration) that maintain these conditions for
339 all materials down to 30 μm spots (Table 4). The fluence employed here (2.75 J/cm^2)
340 provides a uniform rate of signal decay during ablation of all analysed materials. For
341 studies focusing on a single matrix type, the fluence could be optimised further.

342

343 *2.2.4 Data reduction*

344 Data processing was undertaken using Iolite software v.3 (<http://www.iolite.org.au>;
345 Paton et al., 2011) run within Igor Pro (<http://www.wavemetrics.com>). Signal

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346 integrations were typically defined for 12 – 14 s, taking care to avoid initial
347 laser/sample coupling and the last 3 s of data acquisition. Baseline time intervals of
348 20 – 25 s were defined manually between each laser firing to acquire local signal
349 minima for all analytes. For a given analytical run, unknowns were calibrated using a
350 single matrix-matched standard in Iolite: scapolites were calibrated using scapolite
351 BB1 (Cl, Br and I); apatites using Durango (Cl) and Ødegården (Br); and reference
352 glasses using NIST SRM 610 (Cl), GSD-1G and GSE-1G (Cl and Br).
353 Determinations on scapolite BB1 and Durango were calibrated using scapolite SY and
354 apatite 815, respectively. Iodine signals for GSE-1G glass were calibrated using BB1
355 scapolite. Although not matrix-matched, a dearth of iodine literature data has hindered
356 routine analytical determinations, and therefore this represents an attempt to constrain
357 the limit of quantification of iodine via LA-ICP-MS. Internal standardisation was
358 carried out using ^{43}Ca (apatite and scapolite) or ^{29}Si (glasses) and the
359 ‘X_TraceElements_IS’ data reduction scheme (DRS) in Iolite. An additional
360 correction was developed for low Cl glasses, where olivine (Cl-free) is bracketed
361 every 2-3 unknowns to account for plasma loading effects as described in section 3.5
362 (*‘Blank correction using nominally halogen-free material’*).

364 2.3 EPMA

365 Apatites hosted in 100 μm -thick polished sections were analysed for P, Ca, F, Cl and
366 S using a JEOL 8600 4-spectrometer electron microprobe at the Research Laboratory
367 for Archaeology and the History of Art, University of Oxford following the approach
368 of Stock et al. (2015). Analyses were acquired using an accelerating voltage of 15
369 keV, a beam current of 10 nA and a 10 μm beam diameter. Peak count times of 120 s
370 were used for Cl and F, 140s for S, 30 s for P and 20 s for Ca. Backgrounds were

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371 measured for half the count time either side of the peak. MgF was used as the primary
372 standard for fluorine, and the counts were collected on an LDE crystal, while both Cl
373 and S were analysed on PET crystals. BaFCl was used as the primary standard for Cl
374 and BaSO₄ was used for S. The calibration was verified by analysing Durango and
375 Wilberforce apatite crystals that were mounted with their c-axis perpendicular to the
376 beam.

377

378 **3. Results**

379 *3.1. Preliminary tests and analyte selection*

380 In Ar-based plasmas a problematic polyatomic hydride interference (³⁶Ar¹H⁺) occurs
381 on ³⁷Cl (24.2 % abundance), making ³⁵Cl (75.8 % abundance) the preferred isotope
382 for Cl concentration determinations (Chew et al., 2014; Fietzke et al., 2008). The
383 extent of this interference is apparent in Figure 1a where the background signal on
384 ³⁵Cl is ~4 kcps (thousand counts per second), whereas the ³⁷Cl background is highly
385 variable at ~200 kcps. Thus, ³⁵Cl has significantly higher signal-background ratios
386 compared to ³⁷Cl, and also exhibits more uniform peak shapes and typical ablation
387 signal decay profiles. Bromine has two isotopes ⁷⁹Br (50.7 % abundance) and ⁸¹Br
388 (49.3 % abundance), with background signals for our analytical set-up averaging ~1.7
389 and ~2.6 kcps, respectively (Fig. 1b). During preliminary analytical sessions, both Br
390 isotopes were analysed to investigate their suitability for the range of matrices
391 analysed here, and to provide guidance for characterising and minimising potential
392 interferences. A full appraisal of bromine determinations made using both isotopes is
393 presented in section 3.3, however preliminary bromine results are presented for ⁸¹Br
394 in the following section. Iodine has a single isotope (¹²⁷I) with a background signal of
395 ~10 kcps under normal running conditions (Fig. 2).

396

397 *3.2. Output for Cl, Br and I*

398 *3.2.1. Analytical limits of quantification*

399 The analytical limits of quantification (LOQ) for Cl, Br and I were constrained
400 through a comparison of new uncorrected LA-ICP-MS data with published values
401 determined via NG, SIMS, EPMA, SEM, PIXE, LIMS, CIC, LA-ICP-MS, TXRF and
402 INAA methods (Fig. 2a, see Table 1 for published values). The limit of quantification
403 represents the smallest amount that can be measured with reasonable accuracy, and
404 can be defined as:

405

406 [1] $LOQ (\mu\text{g/g}) = 10 s / m$

407

408 where s represents the standard deviation of y -intercepts for individual LA-ICP-MS
409 analytical sessions, and m represents the average slope of the same regression lines on
410 measured (y -axis) vs. published (x -axis) plots (Harris, 2010). In practice, the LOQ
411 value is rarely reported as it is appreciably higher than the commonly reported limit of
412 detection:

413

414 [2] $LOD (\mu\text{g/g}) = 3 s / m$

415

416 which represents the minimum detectable concentration (too low to measure
417 accurately; Harris, 2010).

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419 On plots of measured vs published values for ^{35}Cl , ^{81}Br and ^{127}I in apatite, scapolite
420 and silicates glasses, materials with appreciable halogen contents (≥ 700 , ≥ 32 and 0.8

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421 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively) were used to calculate regression lines. For each isotope, y-
422 intercept values for individual analytical sessions were used to calculate the
423 theoretical limits of quantification according to equation 1, giving the following
424 LOQs for our dataset; Cl = 360 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Br = 8 $\mu\text{g/g}$, I = 0.75 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Calculated LOQs for
425 Cl and Br are of the same order as the LA-ICP-MS limits of detection (LODs)
426 reported by Hammerli et al. (2013) of >500 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and ~ 8 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively. Notably,
427 significant discrepancies exist in the literature regarding the definition of the limit of
428 detection (see Pettke et al., 2012 for a detailed review). For the present study, we use
429 the *limit of detection* of Longerich et al. (1996) taken directly from Iolite, which is
430 most commonly used in the literature and uses data from individual analyses rather
431 than analytical sessions as defined here in equation [2]. Following Longerich et al.
432 (1996), we obtain the following matrix specific average LODs; $^{35}\text{Cl}_{\text{glass}} = 34 \mu\text{g/g}$,
433 $^{35}\text{Cl}_{\text{apatite+scapolite}} = 57 \mu\text{g/g}$; $^{79}\text{Br}_{\text{glasses}} = 0.6 \mu\text{g/g}$, $^{81}\text{Br}_{\text{glasses}} = 1 \mu\text{g/g}$, $^{79}\text{Br}_{\text{scapolite}} = 1.2$
434 $\mu\text{g/g}$, $^{81}\text{Br}_{\text{scapolite}} = 1.6 \mu\text{g/g}$, $^{79}\text{Br}_{\text{apatite}} = 0.1 \mu\text{g/g}$, $^{81}\text{Br}_{\text{apatite}} = 0.15 \mu\text{g/g}$; $^{127}\text{I}_{\text{all materials}} =$
435 0.03 $\mu\text{g/g}$. However, these limits of detection are deemed unrealistic on account of the
436 overwhelming interference contributions on these isotopes (see section 3.4 onwards).
437 In contrast, the limit of detection formulation of Pettke et al. (2012) (Eq. 6) yields
438 significantly higher values (similar to those provided by LOQ equation [1]), providing
439 a more reliable evaluation of the capability of the technique. Petrus et al. (2017)
440 describe the strengths and limitations of the two main approaches to LOD
441 determinations in LA-ICP-MS analysis (Longerich et al., 1996; Pettke et al., 2012).
442 Both the slopes and R^2 values of regression lines are very close to unity, attesting to
443 the excellent accuracy for the large range of compositions analysed. In all cases,
444 regression lines have significant non-zero y-intercepts (at the 2σ level) suggesting a

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445 role for non-sample related contributions to measured signals, even after gas blank
446 correction (Fig. 2a insets).

447

448 In order to better understand the reasons for the non-zero intercepts, we compared raw
449 ICP-MS signal traces in counts per second (cps) for the isotopes ^{35}Cl , ^{81}Br and ^{127}I for
450 a sequence of reference materials comprising scapolites SP, SY, BB1 and silicate
451 glasses NIST SRM 610 and GSD-1G (Fig. 2b). Notably, apparent signals (false
452 signals unrelated to material halogen content) observed in the raw data are present
453 only during laser ablation (absent within background), and most evidently in the case
454 of ^{127}I and ^{81}Br , are not related to the concentration of the analyte in the reference
455 material; at low concentrations ($<300\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$, $\sim 30\ \mu\text{g/g Br}$, $<0.75\ \mu\text{g/g I}$), different
456 reference materials return similar LA-ICP-MS results regardless of known
457 concentrations (Fig. 2b). This is the case for reference materials with established Cl,
458 Br and I concentrations below the theoretical limits of quantification. Reference
459 materials containing $\geq 400\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$ show excellent agreement between LA-ICP-MS
460 and published data, plotting on the 1:1 line (Fig. 2a). Otter Lake apatite has the
461 lowest Cl concentration of the apatites analysed here and shows a marked deviation
462 from published values; $90 \pm 40\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$ (this study) vs $300 - 400 \pm 200\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$ (see
463 Table 1). Notwithstanding the large uncertainty and lack of other low Cl examples,
464 we estimate a limit of quantification of $\sim 500\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$ for apatite. The glasses selected
465 for this study represent the only analysed reference materials with $<300\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$. In
466 summary, this set-up is suitable for analysing glasses with $>300\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$, apatite and
467 scapolite with $>500\ \mu\text{g/g Cl}$ and all materials with $\geq 30\ \mu\text{g/g Br}$ and $> 0.75\ \mu\text{g/g I}$.

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469 *3.3. Interferences and the origin of apparent signals at low halogen concentrations*

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470 In this section, we discuss the origin of apparent signals at low halogen concentrations
471 and develop an approach to correct this effect for chlorine. We define the limit of
472 linearity, which represents the concentration below which LA-ICP-MS chlorine
473 results deviate from the 1:1 line on plots of LA-ICP-MS vs. published values. The
474 limit of linearity is similar to the limit of quantification in that it also represents the
475 smallest amount that can be measured with reasonable accuracy, and here we
476 additionally incorporate a correction for non-analyte related contributions to the
477 measured signal.

478

479 *3.3.1. Instrument resolution; resolving on-mass interferences*

480 The resolution (R) of a mass spectrometer is a measure of its ability to separate ions
481 with small differences in mass. Resolution is defined as $R = m/\Delta m$ where m is the
482 mass of the lighter isotope and Δm the mass difference between the two isotopes of
483 interest. For example, a resolution of 1060 is required to separate ^{35}Cl (34.969 atomic
484 mass units (amu)) vs $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{OH}$ (35.002 amu), whilst a resolution of 5057 is necessary
485 to resolve ^{81}Br (80.916 amu) from $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{ArH}$ (80.932 amu). In normal resolution
486 mode, the iCAP Qc has a resolution of ~125. Although the resolution can be increased
487 by running in high resolution mode (albeit at the expense of sensitivity), it is clearly
488 not possible to separate these isobaric interferences from the target analytes using a
489 single quadrupole instrument. Nevertheless, our set-up provides optimised accuracy
490 and precision for Cl, Br and I analysis by LA-ICP-MS, as discussed below.

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492 *3.3.2. Collision cell approach*

493 Identical sessions run with and without the use of a collision cell unequivocally
494 demonstrate the contribution of polyatomic species. Runs employing the collision cell

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495 were run in collision cell technology sensitivity (CCTS) mode with the collision cell
496 He set at a flow rate of 4 ml/min. Whilst the signal/background ratio for ^{79}Br remains
497 constant with both analytical set-ups, the ^{81}Br signal/background ratio increases when
498 using the collision cell (on account of greater background suppression), confirming
499 the presence of a gas-based interference, likely $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{ArH}$ (Tan and Horlick, 1986).
500 Without the collision cell, elevated ^{79}Br signals for low Br samples ($\leq 1 \mu\text{g/g}$) show a
501 close correlation with measured K contents ($R^2 = 0.98$, not shown). Whilst the
502 observed correlation partly reflects interference from $^{40}\text{Ar}^{39}\text{K}$, as suggested by
503 Hammerli et al. (2013), measurement of ^{39}K is itself problematic due to ^{38}ArH , thus
504 the high correlation coefficient may also be the result of argide-based polyatomics.
505 The correlation between measured ^{79}Br and published K concentrations for glasses is
506 poor ($R^2 = 0.64$, not shown), and is considered an artefact of measurements below the
507 limit of quantification.
508
509 In order to test for S- and Cu-based polyatomic interferences such as $^{34}\text{S}^{1}\text{H}$ (^{35}Cl),
510 $^{63}\text{Cu}^{16}\text{O}$ (^{79}Br) and $^{65}\text{Cu}^{16}\text{O}$, $^{32}\text{S}^{16}\text{O}_3^{1}\text{H}$ (^{81}Br) (Tan and Horlick, 1986; Vanhoe, 1993),
511 we analysed high-grade (and assumed high purity) sulphide minerals with and without
512 the collision cell. Chalcopyrite-bearing ore was sourced from the Mount Isa inlier,
513 Queensland, Australia. We analysed pyrite from the basal conglomerates of the
514 Mississagi formation, Huronian Supergroup (Canada) where euhedral metamorphic
515 pyrite rims occur as overgrowths on rounded detrital cores (Zhou et al., 2017).
516 Importantly, none of the target analytes show a relative decrease in signal-to-
517 background ratio with the use of the collision cell (not shown), highlighting that S-
518 and Cu-based interferences do not contribute to halogen determinations in our set-up
519 (assuming the collision cell is effective in suppressing hydride molecules). The single

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520 iodine isotope (^{127}I) shows no clear improvement in the signal/background ratio with
521 the use of the collision cell. Reference materials with variable I contents yield signal
522 intensities with the same order of magnitude for measurements made below the limit
523 of quantification. This observation holds for all materials analysed here, suggesting
524 the presence of a ubiquitous matrix-independent interference on mass 127 (Fig. 2b).
525 In addition, iodine washout times during ablation of scapolites are noticeably longer
526 compared to silicate glasses with comparable iodine contents, highlighting the
527 contrasting behaviour of different matrix materials. Furthermore, it is observed that
528 the mass 127 background is highest (11 – 14 kcps \pm 7 % relative) and most variable
529 during sessions where the He cylinder pressure is \leq 6000 kPa, suggesting the
530 incorporation of ‘heavy’ contaminants that accumulate in the basal portion of the
531 cylinder. Potential contaminants include iodine itself, contributing to the observed
532 elevated, variable background. In addition, apparent ^{127}I signals are also higher during
533 low He pressure runs and so we also invoke the presence of polyatomic interferences,
534 potential candidates including ^{126}XeH (Schnetger and Muramatsu, 1996) and $^{111}\text{Cd}^{16}\text{O}$
535 (Bu et al., 2003). Accordingly, the ^{127}I data presented here are limited to analytical
536 session that maintained He pressures $>$ 7000 kPa.

537

538 *3.3.3. Mass scan approach*

539 High-resolution mass scans either side of ^{35}Cl (34.969 amu) were performed at 0.05
540 amu increments to assess the potential influence of overlap from adjacent peaks. No
541 signals were resolved on the low mass side between masses 34.5 and 34.8. Similarly,
542 no counts were observed on the high mass side from masses 35.15 to 35.4, beyond
543 which the shoulder of ^{36}Ar is detected. These tests confirm that the interference(s) on
544 ^{35}Cl are not the result of shoulder overlap from neighbouring peaks, instead indicating

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545 on-mass interference at the resolution of the ICP-MS. In order to test this hypothesis,
546 ^{35}Cl peak traces for all sample types (glass, apatite, scapolite and olivine) were plotted
547 from masses 34.8 to 35.15 at 0.05 amu increments. Samples show asymmetric peak
548 shapes, with the highest signals consistently falling on the high mass side, a feature
549 confirmed through reflecting the low mass shoulder about the atomic mass of ^{35}Cl at
550 34.969 amu (Fig. 3). The location of the apparent Cl maxima at ~35 amu suggests that
551 the excess signal may be attributed to the presence of $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{OH}$ (35.002 amu),
552 $^{17}\text{O}^{17}\text{OH}$ (35.006 amu) and $^{17}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$ (34.998 amu). The relative abundances of the
553 oxygen isotopes (^{16}O : 99.8 %, ^{17}O : 0.038 %, ^{18}O : 0.2 %) would imply that $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{OH}$
554 and/or $^{17}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$ are likely to be the most prevalent polyatomic interferences, and
555 although H_2 is not added in our set-up, the plasma does not operate under high
556 vacuum, and so the presence of atmospheric oxygen and water vapour cannot be
557 excluded. We envisage that such polyatomic interferences become more prevalent
558 under conditions of reduced plasma energy (temperature) related to sample matrix
559 loading (e.g., Fietzke and Frische, 2016; Kroslakova and Günther, 2007), leading to a
560 greater proportion of polyatomic species in the system.

561
562 To further investigate potential interferences on Br isotopes, mass scans were
563 performed at 0.1 amu from 78.5 – 81.5 in order to resolve peak shapes, excepting
564 masses 79.6 – 80.4 to avoid $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ (Fig. 4a). Scans from 79 – 79.5 highlight major
565 shoulder overlap from neighbouring peaks on the high mass side for all samples (Fig.
566 4b). The ubiquity of this interference implies that Ar based-interferences are playing a
567 significant role. In detail, the background ICP spectral features obtained by Tan and
568 Horlick (1986) for water and 5 % acid solutions clearly show the asymmetry of the
569 $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak, with a pronounced tail on the low mass side. The influence of this

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570 asymmetry is shown in Figure 4a, where the $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak can be clearly seen
571 impinging on mass 79. However, not all sample types show a common minimum at
572 mass 79.3, suggesting that Ar-based polyatomic species are not the only source of
573 peak overlap.

574

575 It is apparent from Figure 4b that the asymmetric peak shape on the high mass side of
576 mass 79 is most pronounced for NIST SRM 610, a characteristic replicated to variable
577 extents by most other reference materials, except scapolite BB1. At the resolution of
578 the scans presented in Figure 4b, we are unable to resolve the position of the
579 interfering peak. However, NIST SRM 610 has an elevated Tb concentration (437
580 $\mu\text{g/g}$), and so we attribute this feature to overlap from both the $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak and
581 from the $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ peak on ^{79}Br . This inference is consistent with the atomic mass of Tb
582 (158.925 amu), which yields a m/z of 79.463 when doubly charged. Furthermore, Tb
583 is monoisotopic and has a second ionisation energy of 11.52, and so does easily form
584 doubly charged ions. Similarly, $^{158}\text{Gd}^{2+}$ and $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$ could contribute to elevated Br
585 signals in samples with low Br contents, likely less significantly than $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ on
586 account of their lower relative abundances (see section 3.4). Thus, we propose that the
587 elevated Br content ($33 \pm 4 \mu\text{g/g}$) measured in NIST SRM 610 using ^{79}Br by Seo et al.
588 (2011) is an artefact of peak overlap from $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ (plus $^{158}\text{Gd}^{2+}$ and $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$) on a low
589 Br signal (NIST SRM 610 Br = $0.24 \mu\text{g/g}$ by the NG method, Marks et al., 2016).
590 Interference of $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ on ^{79}Br also explains the anomalously high minima measured
591 for GSE-1G at 79.3 amu (Fig. 4b) as a consequence of the elevated Br (285 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and
592 Tb (480 $\mu\text{g/g}$) content of this glass. We estimate a Br/Tb ratio for BB1 scapolite of
593 ~ 400 based on average Gd and Dy concentrations of 1.4 and 0.9 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively
594 (Kendrick et al., 2020) and a Br content of 430 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Kendrick et al., 2013). The high

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595 Br/Tb ratio of scapolite is entirely consistent with the symmetrical peak shape for
596 mass 79 shown by BB1. The signal on ^{81}Br shows no sign of interference from
597 adjacent peaks for all materials analysed (Fig. 4c).

598

599 The role of matrix effects on halogen measurements via LA-ICP-MS can be assessed
600 through comparison with data obtained using matrix-free techniques including
601 thermal extraction via CIC (Balcone-Boissard et al., 2009; Wang et al., 2010), PH-
602 ICP-MS (Balcone-Boissard et al., 2009) and the NG method (Marks et al., 2016). To
603 evaluate the influence of ^{159}Tb on Br quantification using ^{79}Br , we plotted Br
604 measured/Br published vs sample Br/Tb (Fig. 5). Results for reference glasses show
605 that materials with low Br/Tb ratios yield higher measured/published Br values,
606 confirming that Tb content correlates with the excess apparent Br. Our results suggest
607 that peak overlap has a negligible effect for samples with Br/Tb ratios ≥ 0.6 (Fig. 5),
608 returning measured/published Br values within error of 1 (for materials with Br above
609 the LOQ). In summary, the advantage of lower background on ^{79}Br is negated by the
610 peak overlap from $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ and ^{159}Tb , and the potential for $^{40}\text{Ar}^{39}\text{K}$ interference in
611 high K samples. The uniform peak shape and lack of interference from adjacent peaks
612 on ^{81}Br make it our preferred isotope for Br measurements.

613

614 *3.4. Origin of apparent halogen signals*

615 Previous studies have investigated the potential for contamination of volatile elements
616 during laser ablation sampling. Guillong et al. (2008) observed that the excess S
617 intensity during the ablation of quartz increases with crater size, but the magnitude of
618 the S/Si cps ratio decreases with increasing spot size. Similarly, a variety of ablation
619 chamber cleaning procedures were employed by Seo et al. (2011) to reduce excess S

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620 (and to a lesser extent Cl and Br) observed during quartz ablation. Apparent analyte
621 signals (and accompanying detection limits) were reduced by cleaning steps, but
622 increased again over several days, implying accumulation. Together, these
623 observations were used to support the inference that the apparent S is not derived
624 from the ablation of quartz itself, but instead from remobilisation within the ablation
625 cell (laser UV radiation) or transport tubing (scrubbing by the particle aerosol).
626 However, the extent of remobilisation is likely strongly system dependent, and so our
627 main aim here is to consider gas-based polyatomic interferences.

628

629 Figure 1a shows raw intensity cps on ^{79}Br and ^{81}Br for GSD-1G glass and Durango
630 apatite. Notably, GSD-1G yields approximately twice the signal intensity on both
631 isotopes relative to Durango, despite the more than two order of magnitude difference
632 in Br content between the two reference materials. This highlights the strong matrix
633 control on analyte signal response. The elevated apparent Br signal in apatite has been
634 shown to originate from the presence of doubly charged Rare Earth Elements (REE)
635 ions such as $^{158}\text{Gd}^{2+}$ (abundance of 24.84%) and $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$ (abundance of 25.5%) on
636 ^{79}Br and ^{81}Br respectively (Fusswinkel et al., 2018), and $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ on ^{79}Br (this study).
637 These interferences are a product of the typically high REE content of magmatic
638 apatite. Glasses ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G ($\sim 1 \mu\text{g/g Br}$) show apparent signals on ^{79}Br
639 and ^{81}Br that equate to 3 – 4.5 $\mu\text{g/g Br}$ when calibrated using GSD-1G (32 $\mu\text{g/g Br}$),
640 consistent with measurements below the calculated theoretical limit of quantification
641 (8 $\mu\text{g/g}$). The observed lower background counts on ^{79}Br and better signal shape
642 relative to ^{81}Br (for low Br materials) suggests that the apparent signals are the
643 products of relative increases in the proportion of polyatomic gas-based interferences
644 $^{38}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{ArH}$ and $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{ArH}$ reaching the detector during ablation, respectively. These

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645 observations are consistent with the relative isotopic abundances of ^{38}Ar (0.06 %) and
646 ^{40}Ar (99.6 %).

647

648 *3.5. Blank correction using nominally halogen-free material*

649 In order to investigate the source of false positive halogen signals, picritic olivine
650 from Margi (Cyprus) was used as a halogen-free material (we estimate a nominal Cl
651 value of 0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$ based on its host basaltic glass Cl content of 260 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Portnyagin et
652 al., 2002) and $D_{\text{Cl}}^{\text{ol/melt}} = 0.0012$ (Dalou et al., 2012; Fabbri et al., 2013)). Olivine
653 has low REE abundances, so the contribution from doubly charged ^{159}Tb , ^{158}Gd and
654 ^{162}Dy should be minimal. Ablation of olivine clearly shows resolvable signals at mass
655 35 and 79 above background of ~ 1200 and ~ 120 cps for a 58 μm spot, respectively
656 (Figs. 3 and 4b). Such signals are only generated during sample ablation and are not
657 present in the background. In order to elucidate the origin of these apparent signals in
658 our set-up, olivine ablations were interspersed every 2-3 unknowns during analytical
659 runs (using identical ablation parameters). Results show that apparent Cl and Br
660 signals increase with increasing spot size (30, 38, 58 μm). However, background
661 corrected $^{35}\text{Cl}/^{29}\text{Si}$, $^{79}\text{Br}/^{29}\text{Si}$ and $^{81}\text{Br}/^{29}\text{Si}$ cps ratios for olivine remain constant across
662 the range of spot sizes at $\sim 1 \times 10^{-4}$, $\sim 1.5 \times 10^{-5}$ and $\sim 1.35 \times 10^{-5}$, respectively (Fig. 6).
663 This highlights that the apparent halogen signals remain proportional to the volume of
664 olivine introduced in to the ICP-MS, demonstrating the role of sample matrix effects
665 (a shift in the sensitivity of an analyte as a function of associated elements and their
666 concentration in the ICP; e.g., Kroslovskaya and Günther (2007) and references
667 therein). The results depicted in Figure 6 show that, at a given spot size, the
668 halogen/Si ratio varies throughout the duration of a single analytical session, a feature
669 that is more apparent for smaller spots. Indeed, at smaller spot sizes the propagated

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670 uncertainties on halogen/Si ratios are appreciably larger, and are inferred to reflect
671 lower measured signal intensities.

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673 To account for time dependent variation in the contribution of matrix-derived
674 apparent Cl, we developed a modified version of the iolite Data Reduction Scheme
675 (DRS) 'X_Trace_Elements_IS' that defines an excess Cl spline based on apparent Cl
676 signals measured during ablation of nominally halogen-free olivine throughout an
677 analytical run (every 2-3 unknowns). The modified DRS includes a new input field
678 ('Halogen free RM for corr') in the DRS tab which can be used to specify the
679 halogen-free analyses used to calculate the correction factor (the following files are
680 available as electronic Supplementary material: 'X_Trace_Elements_IS.ipf';
681 'IoliteV3Procs.ipf'; supplementary_material.pdf contains detailed instructions on how
682 to use the DRS). Using this DRS effectively performs a second time-dependent
683 correction to all raw cps values (in addition to baseline subtraction) prior to
684 calibration with the external reference material. The Cl correction is most applicable
685 to low Cl materials (< 300 µg/g Cl) as the false signal is proportionally large relative
686 to true Cl. Calibration should be carried out using a reference material with a higher
687 Cl concentration than unknowns. We recommend the use of NIST SRM 610 (390
688 µg/g Cl) for calibration of unknowns with <300 µg/g Cl and GSE-1G (1220 µg/g Cl)
689 for calibration of samples with >300 µg/g Cl. In the following discussion, Cl data and
690 associated accuracy and precision for glasses with <300 µg/g Cl represent corrected
691 values (as determined in this study, Table 3 gives mean values; complete dataset is
692 included in supplementary_data.xlsx). We do not to apply a correction to the Br data
693 given our calculated limit of quantification for Br of ~8 µg/g and the apparent Br
694 signal corresponds to ~1 µg/g. As such, applying a correction to low Br samples (<10

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695 $\mu\text{g/g}$) fails to appreciably improve analytical capability, and the next lowest,
696 independently characterised GSD-1G reference glass has a Br concentration of 32 ± 2
697 $\mu\text{g/g}$, on which such a correction has a negligible effect. However, a correction would
698 become viable if reference materials with lower Br contents are available for
699 characterisation.

700

701 Although the remobilisation of transport line contamination build-up cannot be ruled
702 out, ablation of a semi-conductor grade silicon wafer using an $80 \mu\text{m}$ spot rastering at
703 $5 \mu\text{m/s}$ to ‘scrub’ the lines for 10 minutes failed to produce any discernible reduction
704 in apparent Cl and Br background signals in our set-up. However, we did observe a
705 15-20 % decrease in the ^{127}I baseline, suggesting that additional rigorous cleaning of
706 the sample stage, funnel, tubing lines and torch assembly may help to reduce the ^{127}I
707 background. Indeed, ablation of an iodine salt (RbI) using a $1 \mu\text{m}$ spot produces a
708 significant I signal that decays over a protracted period of 20 minutes, demonstrating
709 the ‘sticky’ behaviour of I in the analytical line. Periodic cleaning could be
710 particularly beneficial for systems that routinely ablate large quantities of I-bearing,
711 organic-rich sediments and/or carbonate materials. Whilst we do not test the role of
712 photochemical desorption of halogens from interior surfaces due to laser UV radiation
713 (Guillong et al., 2008; Seo et al., 2011), irradiation tests performed by Rottier and
714 Audétat (2019) failed to replicate an increase in sulphur intensity. Instead, we
715 attribute the elevated Cl and Br signals to an increase in the relative proportion of
716 polyatomic species reaching the detector caused by the reduction in plasma energy
717 due to sample loading during ablation.

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719 *3.6. Analyte Fractionation*

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720 Analytical fractionation results from the variable behaviour of analytes as a function
721 of differences in volatility. Fractionation can occur during time-dependent laser
722 ablation, aerosol transport and ionisation (e.g. Eggins et al., 1998; Horn and Günther,
723 2003; Kroslakova and Günther, 2007). Whilst factors affecting analyte transport (e.g.
724 tubing material/length, sweep gas composition/flow rates) are important
725 considerations, they are largely system dependent and a detailed discussion is beyond
726 the scope of this paper. In order to assess the role, if any, of time-dependent ablation
727 fractionation, we calculated internal standard normalised fractionation index values
728 (FI_{43} normalised to ^{43}Ca) which ratio the first half of the analytical signal to the
729 second half, whilst maintaining an ablation pit aspect ratio of ≤ 1 (Fryer et al., 1995):

730

731 [3] Fractionation index, $FI_{43} = (I_i/I_{IS})_{\text{first half}} / (I_i/I_{IS})_{\text{second half}}$

732

733 Where I_i represents the mean intensity of the analyte mass for the specified time
734 period and I_{IS} represents the intensity of the internal standard, ^{43}Ca , during the first
735 and second half of the ablation. Deviations from 1 indicate time-dependent
736 fractionation. With increasing analyte volatility, no systematic variation in
737 fractionation index is observed; almost all values plotting within 10% of unity, the
738 majority within 5% (Fig. 7). For all SRMs and spot sizes the average FI_{43} is 1.01
739 (range 0.92 – 1.12), suggesting time-dependent fractionation is minimal for our
740 analytical set-up.

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742 3.7. Ionisation

743 Ionisation conditions within the plasma are strongly controlled by torch position,
744 nebuliser gas flow and radio frequency (RF) power, careful optimisation of which

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745 ensure high sensitivity. The introduction of sample aerosol during ablation results in
746 loading of the plasma and a reduction in plasma temperature. This, in turn, leads to a
747 reduction in ionisation efficiency and a relative increase in the proportion of
748 polyatomic species. This theory agrees with the observation that excess apparent Cl,
749 Br and I signals only occur during sample ablation, and although UV scattering
750 effects cannot be ruled out, constant halogen/internal standard ratios across a range of
751 spot sizes (Fig. 6) support a significant role for polyatomic interferences resulting
752 from matrix loading of the plasma. Increased oxide production may also, in part, be
753 due to additional oxygen introduced from the sample matrix itself, but this remains
754 very difficult to quantify. However, such effects are also expected for calibration
755 standards and our analytical set-up is optimised for minimal oxide formation during
756 ablation. As discussed previously, ^{79}Br has been shown to suffer from an argon-based
757 peak shoulder overlap ($^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$) and a matrix-based interference ($^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$) for
758 samples with $\text{Br}/\text{Tb} < 0.6$.

760 **4. Discussion**

761 *4.1. Accuracy and precision*

762 Figure 8 shows plots of analytical bias (accuracy) vs relative standard deviations (2
763 RSD = precision) for Cl and Br in analysed reference materials using 58 μm square
764 spots from a minimum of $n=10$ analyses. For Cl determinations, the majority of
765 reference materials analysed yielded bias and 2 RSD values of $\leq 10\%$ (Fig. 8a). Glass
766 BCR2-G (Cl = 67 $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$) returns a respectable 2 RSD value of $\sim 10\%$, however
767 accuracy relative to bulk technique results is poor. Conversely, NIST SRM 612,
768 ML3B-G and KL2-G have good to excellent accuracy but poor reproducibility.
769 Glasses BHVO2-G, ATHO-G, StHs6/80-G, T1-G, GOR128-G and apatite Otter Lake

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770 all show significantly elevated bias in accuracy and 2 RSD values, suggesting
771 chlorine heterogeneity at the scale of $>58 \mu\text{m}$. Ødegården apatite shows excellent
772 accuracy (0.1 %), however a 2 RSD value of 8.6 % combined with the high Cl content
773 of this end-member chlorapatite has the potential to produce increased errors on the
774 calibration of more common low-Cl fluorapatites. 815 apatite represents an ideal
775 calibration standard with bias and 2 RSD values of $<5 \%$. In house Durango and
776 Smithsonian NMNH 104021 Durango apatite yielded comparable reproducibility (2
777 RSD values of 8.6 % and 7 %, respectively), however the improved accuracy (1.6 %
778 vs 8.4 % relative error, respectively) of the in house Durango likely reflects analysis
779 of a single crystal slab, rather than the small (150 – 250 μm) crystal fragments of
780 NMNH 104021 Durango. All scapolites characterised in this study represent excellent
781 reference materials for Cl measurements, with 2 RSD and bias values of $\leq 6 \%$ and
782 $\leq 2.7 \%$, respectively. Scapolite SY offers the greatest accuracy and SP the best overall
783 combination of accuracy and precision (Fig. 8a). In terms of glasses, both GSE-1G
784 and NIST SRM 610 represent optimal calibration materials with 2 RSD and bias
785 values of $\leq 9 \%$ and $\leq 3 \%$ respectively. As discussed previously, the higher Cl content
786 of GSE-1G (1220 $\mu\text{g/g}$) is well suited for calibration of glasses with $>300 \mu\text{g/g}$ Cl,
787 whereas NIST SRM 610 is recommended for standardisation of low Cl ($<300 \mu\text{g/g}$)
788 glasses. Smithsonian Corning glasses A, C and D have 2 RSD values of 6.5 – 9.5 %
789 and accuracies of $\leq 1.6 \%$, making them reliable reference glasses for intermediate to
790 high Cl applications. Of the low Cl glasses, GSD-1G yielded bias and 2 RSD values
791 of $\sim 11.3 \%$ and 2.8 % respectively, making it a suitable secondary reference standard
792 for analytical sessions involving low Cl ($\leq 150 \mu\text{g/g}$) glasses.

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794 Replicate analysis of Br in GSE-1G and GSD-1G confirm that these glasses provide
795 suitable calibration and quality monitor standards with 2 RSD of 9 and 10.5 %
796 respectively, with deviations in accuracy of ≤ 1.4 % (Fig. 8b). GSE-1G (285 $\mu\text{g/g}$) is
797 appropriate for high Br (100s $\mu\text{g/g}$) unknowns whilst GSD-1G (32 $\mu\text{g/g}$) is best suited
798 to low-intermediate Br measurements (10s $\mu\text{g/g}$). Results for scapolite SY provide the
799 best accuracy (3.9 %), with BB1 and SP yielding values of 6.2 % and 6.5 %,
800 respectively. All three gem scapolites return 2 RSD values of ≤ 6.5 % for Br
801 determinations (Fig. 8b).

802

803 Once corrected using nominally halogen-free olivine, a limit of linearity of ~ 100 $\mu\text{g/g}$
804 is achieved for Cl in glasses, a value that is well defined due to the abundance of
805 reference glasses with Cl mass fractions of 50 – 150 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Fig. 9a). For reference
806 materials with >30 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br, LA-ICP-MS data are in close agreement with published
807 values (Fig. 9b). The very clear disparity shown by NIST SRM 610 can be explained
808 by the low Br/Tb of this glass (Fig. 5). However, the scarcity of well characterised,
809 homogeneous reference materials in the 5 – 20 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br range hinders our ability to
810 test the theoretical LOQ for Br (8 $\mu\text{g/g}$). However Cadoux et al. (2017) produced well
811 characterised intermediate and evolved glasses with a useful 10 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br and high
812 Br/Tb ratios. Although not analysed here, we encourage the analysis of these glasses
813 to test the LOQ for Br using LA-ICP-MS. The low Br/Tb of low Br glasses analysed
814 here impedes an accurate assessment of the limit of linearity, however we estimate it
815 to be ~ 2 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Fig. 9b) and could be defined with greater precision with a larger
816 number of well characterised reference materials. Importantly however, Kendrick et
817 al. (2020) provide a working doubly charged REE correction that effectively lowers

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2 818 the Br LOQ in silicate glass to ~ 1 µg/g, demonstrating the potential of LA-ICP-MS
3 819 for the measurement of Br in volcanic glasses.

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7 821 *4.2. Ablation spot size/area*

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9 822 The effect of spot size/area on the analytical limit of quantification for Cl and Br was
10 823 assessed using a range of square spots from 30 – 80 µm (Figs. 10 and 11). For
11 824 chlorine, gem-quality scapolites return excellent accuracy and reproducibility across
12 825 all spot sizes (Fig 10a). Smithsonian scapolite R6600 consistently returns higher Cl
13 826 contents than the results of van der Zwan et al. (2012), with our data showing closer
14 827 agreement with the measurements of Jarosewich et al. (1980). Of the apatites analysed
15 828 here, Durango and 815 represent ideal reference standards for all spot sizes.
16 829 Madagascar shows inferior accuracy (bias = 12.6 %) relative to other apatites,
17 830 however the data are reproducible at variable spot sizes. The elevated bias values for
18 831 Madagascar likely reflect sample heterogeneity across the multiple gem roughs
19 832 analysed here, as well as the lowest Cl contents above the limit of linearity.
20 833 Accordingly, as for Durango, it is advisable to analyse a single, independently
21 834 characterised crystal fragment, to ensure reproducibility of results. In the case of
22 835 glasses, occurrences with intermediate Cl values (200 – 2000 µg/g) plot well within
23 836 error of published values for all spot sizes, with the exception of ATHO-G (Fig 10b).
24 837 Glass GSD-1G provides the most consistent results across all spot sizes and is our
25 838 preferred low-Cl glass reference material. Low-Cl (~50 µg/g, Fig. 10c) glasses show
26 839 high uncertainties (32 – 39 % 2 RSD), indicating that these concentrations are close to
27 840 the limit of detection of the technique and are in good agreement with the average of
28 841 calculated LOD values for glasses from Iolite (34 µg/g using Longerich et al., 1996).

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843 For bromine, determinations for scapolites SY and SP are comparable for spots of 30
844 – 80 μm , plotting at the upper bounds of their respective published data ranges (Fig.
845 11a and b). In contrast, scapolite BB1 also yields similar Br values, but at the lower
846 end of the known field (Fig. 11a). Glasses GSE-1G and GSD-1G yield data within
847 error of the published range, however averages at 30 and 38 μm plot at the lower
848 limits. For all reference materials, ^{81}Br determinations show closer agreement with
849 known values, a feature that is most pronounced for glasses measured using larger
850 spot sizes (58 and 80 μm).

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852 As discussed previously, Figure 1 shows clear evidence for the impingement of the
853 low mass tail of $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ on ^{79}Br , whilst Figure 7 supports the theory that the
854 magnitude of the excess positive Br signal scales with sample matrix input.
855 Accordingly, the improved accuracy of ^{81}Br measurements relative to ^{79}Br ,
856 particularly at larger spot sizes, is inferred to reflect an increase in the extent of
857 $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak broadening (Fig. 4a) as a result of reduced ionisation efficiency of the
858 plasma. Additionally, matrices with high REE contents (apatite, NIST SRM 610,
859 GSE-1G) introduce polyatomic interferences through doubly charged cations ($^{158}\text{Gd}^{2+}$
860 and $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ on ^{79}Br ; $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$ on ^{81}Br).

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862 *4.3. Reference material homogeneity*

863 In reference glasses, there is a general tendency for measured Cl concentrations to
864 deviate from accepted values at smaller spot sizes. At 30 and 38 μm , Corning glasses
865 and GSE-1G return slightly higher values, and NIST SRM glasses and GSD-1G
866 lower, relative to measurements with larger spots (58 and 80 μm). Such deviations
867 suggest sample heterogeneity at a scale smaller than the ablation spot size (Fig. 10b),

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868 however all data plot within 2s error of published values. Nevertheless, for glasses
869 with ≥ 400 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl, results show excellent agreement with independent data down to
870 30 μm spots. For all spot sizes, ATHO-G yielded elevated Cl contents relative to CIC
871 values (Fig. 10b), suggesting large scale heterogeneity in this glass. Similarly,
872 StHs6/80-G and T1-G plot at the upper limit of bulk technique results, with NIST
873 SRM 612 consistently returning low results, implying the *in-situ* method samples
874 localised heterogeneities in these glasses (Fig. 10c). Despite large uncertainties,
875 results for Hawaiian glasses KL2-G and ML3B show excellent accuracy (0.6 and 3.1
876 %, respectively) indicating that these glasses may constitute homogenous reference
877 materials suitable for in-situ techniques with higher sensitivity than LA-ICP-MS (e.g.
878 SIMS).
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880 Published Cl data for the Smithsonian Corning glasses (Adlington, 2017; Kuisma-
881 Kursula, 2000; Vicenzi et al., 2002) show significant deviation from nominal values
882 based on precursory powder mixtures reported by Brill (1972), Table 1. Our data
883 show excellent agreement with published glass determinations, with relative errors of
884 <1.6 % and 2 RSDs of <10 % (Fig. 8a). We concur with previous studies proposing
885 that lower measured glass values (Cl for Corning A = 914 $\mu\text{g/g}$, C = 690 $\mu\text{g/g}$, D =
886 1610 $\mu\text{g/g}$; this study) relative to nominal compositions (Corning A = 1000 $\mu\text{g/g}$, C =
887 1000 $\mu\text{g/g}$, D = 4000 $\mu\text{g/g}$; Vicenzi et al., 2002) likely reflect volatile loss during
888 fusion, with the degree of retention a function of individual glass compositions
889 (Adlington, 2017). Notably, Corning glass C yields low Cl contents (700 $\mu\text{g/g}$) when
890 analysed with larger beam/spot sizes of 30 μm (Kuisma-Kursula, 2000), 40 μm
891 (Vicenzi et al., 2002) and 58 μm (this study). In contrast, using a beam diameter of 10
892 μm results in a measured Cl concentration of 1300 ± 500 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Kuisma-Kursula,

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893 2000). We interpret these results to reflect small scale (~10 μm) heterogeneity with
894 highly variable Cl contents that produces low ‘averaged’ Cl mass fractions at larger
895 beam/spot sizes.

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897 For Br analyses using spots between 30 – 80 μm, all scapolite occurrences give 2
898 RSD of 5 – 10 %, with higher values for the low Br scapolite SP (Fig. 8b). USGS
899 glasses GSE-1G and GSD-1G returned 2 RSD of ≤10 % for 58 and 80 μm spots,
900 increasing to ~13 % for 38 μm spots. GSE-1G gave a 2 RSD of 16 % at 30 μm, whilst
901 a value of 23 % for GSD-1G may, in part, reflect small-scale heterogeneity.

902

903 4.4 Advancements in LA-ICP-MS halogen analysis

904 Here we employ a relatively short data integration period (12-14 s) using a high
905 ablation repetition rate (25 Hz) to achieve a high sample throughput, and by inference,
906 high signal intensity. Signal stability is enhanced for all matrices through the use of
907 extended analyte dwell times (up to 250 ms). Scanning interferometry provides
908 valuable constraints on matrix specific ablation rates that can be used to estimate
909 ablation pit depth and effectively monitor time-dependent elemental fractionation.
910 High resolution mass scans can be used to identify on mass polyatomic interferences
911 (e.g. oxides on ³⁵Cl) and the influence of overlap from neighbouring peaks (e.g.
912 ⁴⁰Ar⁴⁰Ar and ¹⁵⁹Tb²⁺ on ⁷⁹Br). We advocate this approach as an effective method for
913 identifying the origin of false positive signals in well characterised reference
914 materials. Once established, it is possible to develop protocols for reducing the limit
915 of linearity, as demonstrated here for low Cl glasses (~100 μg/g Cl). Improvements in
916 the accuracy and precision of halogen measurements using LA-ICP-MS are strongly

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2 917 dependent on the availability of matrix matched reference materials, particularly at
3 918 low concentrations.

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7 920 **5. Recommendations**

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9 921 We advise the use of ^{35}Cl and ^{81}Br isotopes for halogen determinations via LA-ICP-
10 922 MS. Chlorine measurements using LA-ICP-MS have a limit of linearity of $\sim 100 \mu\text{g/g}$
11 923 for silicate glass and an LOQ of $\sim 500 \mu\text{g/g}$ for apatite. The isotope ^{79}Br experiences
12 924 significant peak impingement from the low mass shoulder of the ubiquitous $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$
13 925 peak and the strongly overlapping $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ peak ($m/z = 79.463$) in materials with
14 926 $\text{Br}/\text{Tb} < 0.6$. The current paucity of homogeneous low Br reference materials with
15 927 $\text{Br}/\text{Tb} > 0.6$ limits the usefulness of the potential increased sensitivity provided by the
16 928 collision cell. The single isotope of iodine (^{127}I) returns a limit of quantification of
17 929 $0.75 \mu\text{g/g}$ for all analysed materials using He cylinder pressures $> 7000 \text{ kPa}$.

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21 931 Instrument parameters (spot size, repetition rate, ablation duration) should be
22 932 optimised to maximise signal intensity whilst maintaining an ablation crater aspect
23 933 ratio (depth:width) of $< 1:1$. Routine duty cycles of $< 650 \text{ ms}$ can be achieved by
24 934 selecting a restricted range of target analytes and appropriate internal standard(s) (e.g.,
25 935 ^{43}Ca or ^{29}Si), whilst extending halogen dwell times ($^{35}\text{Cl} = 100 \text{ ms}$, ^{81}Br , $^{127}\text{I} = 250$
26 936 ms).

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30 938 The three-gem quality scapolites analysed here represent excellent reference materials
31 939 for the standardisation of intermediate to high Cl and Br scapolites. Smithsonian
32 940 meionite R6600 is also ideal, and here we provide the first published Br value for this
33 941 readily available scapolite. Once independently characterised, Ødegården apatite

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942 represents an ideal calibration standard for chlorapatite, however it should be used
943 with caution for standardisation of low-Cl fluorapatites. We recommend that
944 individual crystals of all apatites, particularly Durango, Ødegården and Madagascar
945 analysed here, should be first characterised using EPMA or SEM techniques to
946 account for inter-crystal heterogeneity, using as low a beam current as possible to
947 minimise halogen migration (e.g., Ansberque et al., 2019; Stock et al., 2015). GSE-1G
948 and Corning glasses A, C and D are suitable for the calibration of intermediate to high
949 Cl content glasses (>300 µg/g). For calibration of low Cl glasses (<300 µg/g), NIST
950 SRM 610 is well suited, with GSD-1G as a secondary reference material. Despite
951 having Cl contents approaching the limit of detection for LA-ICP-MS, Hawaiian
952 glasses KL2-G and ML3B-G appear to be relatively homogeneous and suitable for
953 low-level Cl standardisation. With the low Br, low Br/Tb glasses analysed here we are
954 unable to test the theoretical calculated LOQ of 8 µg/g for Br, however we infer a
955 limit of linearity of ~2 µg/g for silicate glasses (Fig. 9b). The observed disparity in
956 analytical signal response shown by different matrices (Figs. 1b and 2b, and persisting
957 even after internal standard correction), highlights the importance of matrix matched
958 calibration and the identification of matrix dependent interferences.

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960 The limit of linearity for Cl in low Cl glasses is demonstrated to be ~100 µg/g (down
961 from 360 µg/g) through the subtraction of time-dependent apparent Cl signal
962 contributions resulting from oxygen-based polyatomic interferences. As such
963 contributions are only observed during sample ablation, the regular baseline
964 subtraction fails to correct for these analytical artefacts. Accordingly, we advocate a
965 second normalisation of raw cps ³⁵Cl data prior to calibration in order to account for
966 on mass polyatomic oxide interferences. We provide our ‘nominally halogen-free’

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967 method as an Iolite-based, time-dependent spline correction implemented through an
968 updated version of the ‘X_Trace_Elements_IS’ data reduction scheme (available as
969 electronic Supplementary material). The correction utilises apparent Cl measured in
970 halogen-free olivine to quantify and remove the portion of the raw signal originating
971 from an increase in the proportion of polyatomic oxides reaching the detector due to
972 plasma loading during sample introduction. In line with this approach, Petrus et al.
973 (2017) propose that true LODs should be calculated from a real ablation blank (rather
974 than a gas blank), by producing data from a material that is completely devoid of the
975 target analytes. For the utility of off-line data corrections (e.g. a doubly charged REE
976 correction on Br (Kendrick et al., 2020)), we recommend establishing instrument- and
977 session-specific equations based on the measurement of reference materials with
978 matching matrices and similar major and interfering element profiles.

980 **6. Case studies**

981 *6.1 Apatite in sub-volcanic lamprophyre*

982 Rim to rim Cl transects were acquired across the widths of large (2 – 5 mm length)
983 apatite grains in sub-volcanic lamprophyre Pan-57 (Galé Bornao, 2005) associated
984 with an Early Permian magmatic event in the Iberian Chain, Central Spain (Lago et
985 al., 2004). Profiles across the widths of seven large acicular apatite crystals were
986 measured to ensure the electron beam remained perpendicular to the c-axis during
987 data acquisition. The number of data points ranged from 10 – 20 depending on crystal
988 size. EPMA profiles were replicated via LA-ICP-MS analysis using 30, 38 and 58 μm
989 square spots. Laser transects were oriented parallel to EPMA profiles at a distance of
990 100 – 150 μm and the results are presented in Figure 12. In-house secondary
991 standards Durango apatite and Wilberforce apatite (Ontario, Canada) were run

1 992 periodically as data quality monitors. Electron microprobe measurements of Durango
2 993 (n = 4) and Wilberforce (n = 5) apatites (Table 3) show excellent agreement with
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4 994 published EPMA data with relative errors on F of 2.2 and 0.8 % and 2 RSDs of 2.5
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7 995 and 1.6 %, respectively based on values from Sarafian et al. (2013). The Cl mass
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9 996 fraction in Wilberforce was below the limit of detection and Durango yielded a
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11 997 relative error of 7.4 % and 2 RSD of 11.4 % using the average Cl content from
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13 998 (Kusebauch et al., 2015c, Table 1). Overall, the lamprophyre apatite LA-ICP-MS data
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15 999 agree within 0.5 – 7.3 % of the electron microprobe results. As shown in Figure 12,
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17 1000 the greatest disparity is observed for 58 µm laser spots (2.2 – 7.3 % bias), indicating
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19 1001 that the scale of Cl heterogeneity in the apatites is present at a smaller scale. Close
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21 1002 agreement between the two methods is apparent at 30 and 38 µm laser spots (0.5 – 0.9
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23 1003 % bias), suggesting that Cl is homogeneously distributed within the apatite grains at
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25 1004 the 10 – 40 µm scale. Despite the increased uncertainty associated with the 30 µm
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27 1005 analyses, attributed to reduced signal intensity, accuracy remains better than 1 %
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29 1006 relative.
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37 1008 *6.2 Quartz-hosted melt inclusions*

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39 1009 Chlorine concentrations were measured in quartz-hosted melt inclusions (MI) in
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41 1010 rhyolitic deposits from the Okataina Volcanic Centre, Taupo volcanic zone, New
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43 1011 Zealand. Inclusions were targeted in two samples; sample 559 which represents
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45 1012 juvenile material from a massive, poorly sorted pyroclastic flow from the ~50 ka
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47 1013 Rotoiti caldera forming eruption (Shane et al., 2005) and sample 853, a crystal-rich
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49 1014 pumice clast from the Earthquake Flat Pyroclastic eruption that immediately followed
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51 1015 the Rotoiti event from vents located 20km to the SW of the Rotoiti caldera rim
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53 1016 (Molloy et al., 2008). All MI are silicic in composition (72.26 – 76.22 % m/m SiO₂,
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1017 Smith et al., 2010), dominantly round to oblate, with no evidence for recrystallisation.
1018 The largest inclusions (~50 µm) were targeted for analysis. Quartz-hosted MI were
1019 previously analysed for Cl using SIMS and were found to contain 263 – 500 µg/g Cl
1020 (Smith et al., 2010). LA-ICP-MS Cl determinations were made on the same samples
1021 (but not necessarily on the same inclusions) using 40 µm square spots (or 80*20 µm
1022 rectangular slits), a 25 Hz repetition rate and 24 s data acquisition (600 shots). The
1023 isotopes ³⁵Cl, ⁸¹Br, ⁴³Ca and ²⁹Si were measured. Integrations taking in only MIs were
1024 selected by monitoring ²⁹Si, which was also used as the internal elemental standard on
1025 account of the low Ca contents. NIST SRM 610 was used as the calibration reference
1026 material and data reduced using Iolite v.3. Replicates of homogeneous low-Cl
1027 reference glasses (this study, n = 2) run as unknowns during a one-hour analytical
1028 session gave the following relative errors (%): NIST SRM 612 (11.8), GSD-1G (8.9),
1029 ML3B-G (5.9) and KL2-G (5.9) (halogen-free corrected). ⁸¹Br measurements on all
1030 MI were below the limit of quantification and are not considered in the following
1031 discussion.
1032
1033 A total of nine inclusions were analysed (one ablation spot per inclusion); five in
1034 sample 559 and four in sample 853. Sample 559 yielded two populations; two
1035 inclusions with 260 ± 70 and 248 ± 64 µg/g Cl (apparent concentrations of 590 ± 60
1036 and 598 ± 74 µg/g Cl, respectively, prior to halogen-free correction), and three
1037 inclusions with 1740 – 1960 µg/g Cl. Sample 853 returned a single population with a
1038 Cl range of 1690 – 1920 µg/g. The low Cl inclusions in sample 559 show excellent
1039 agreement with the SIMS data of Smith et al. (2010), while the higher values
1040 observed in both 559 and EQF (853) are consistent with electron microprobe matrix
1041 glass compositions (Shane et al., 2005), and clearly demonstrate the reduction in the

1042 analytical limit of quantification offered by the halogen-free correction. Additionally,
1043 our new data extend the range of Cl contents in MI hosted in both the Rotoiti and
1044 EQF eruption deposits from Okataina. All new data acquired in this study on case
1045 study samples are included in file supplementary_data.xlsx.

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1047 **7. Conclusions**

1048 Cl, Br and I can be measured reliably in geological materials via matrix-matched LA-
1049 ICP-MS analysis, without the need for pre-irradiation to remove surface-bound
1050 halogens. LA-ICP-MS provides an accessible, rapid technique (1 min per analysis)
1051 with minimal sample preparation and straightforward offline data reduction. It offers a
1052 high sensitivity/cost ratio for Cl, Br and I, variable sampling resolution, selection of a
1053 time resolved signal and minimisation of analyte volatility effects. Through the
1054 implementation of corrections for false ablation derived signal contributions, the limit
1055 of linearity in silicate glass is $\sim 100 \mu\text{g/g}$ for ^{35}Cl . We propose an estimate of $\sim 2 \mu\text{g/g}$
1056 for the limit of linearity of Br in glass. Using a large spot size (200 μm), Kendrick et
1057 al. (2020) suggested limits of quantification of $\sim 200 \mu\text{g/g}$ Cl and $\sim 1 \mu\text{g/g}$ Br in
1058 glasses after removal of laser backgrounds and correction of REE contributions.
1059 These results demonstrate the utility of LA-ICP-MS as an appropriate technique for
1060 the determination of Cl and Br in volcanic glasses. In addition, we infer a limit of
1061 quantification of $0.75 \mu\text{g/g}$ for ^{127}I in all materials characterised here. This allows LA-
1062 ICP-MS I measurements in a variety of iodine rich minerals including scapolite,
1063 carbonates and clays. The mineral phases scapolite and apatite typically contain
1064 appreciably higher Cl mass fractions, and for the latter we estimate a limit of
1065 quantification of $\sim 500 \mu\text{g/g}$. These capabilities are maintained for square ablation
1066 spots down to 38 μm (1444 μm^2) for Cl and 30 μm (900 μm^2) for Br. Accuracy and

1067 precision improve with increasing spot size and remain below 6.4 % and 12.9 %,
1068 respectively, for Cl in individual apatite crystals during matrix-matched analysis
1069 down to 30 μm square spots. Under the same conditions, analyses of scapolite return
1070 accuracy and precision better than 4.5 % and 7.1 % for Cl and 11.5 % and 10.3 % for
1071 Br. Low Cl silicate glasses ($< 300 \mu\text{g/g}$ Cl) are most affected by the presence of
1072 isobaric oxide interferences on ^{35}Cl . Accordingly, we provide a time-dependent spline
1073 correction implemented through an updated Iolite software data reduction scheme
1074 ('X_Trace_Elements_IS') in conjunction with a new DRS input field ('Halogen free
1075 RM for corr') to define the nominally volatile free analyses used to calculate the
1076 correction factor. Attempts to define limits of linearity for Br and I using a similar
1077 approach are hindered by: (1) the scarcity of SRMs with well characterised Br
1078 contents in the range 1- 20 $\mu\text{g/g}$ with Br/Tb >0.6 (we estimate it to be $\sim 2 \mu\text{g/g}$,
1079 although the glasses produced by Cadoux et al., 2017 may help to alleviate this issue);
1080 and (2) the magnitude of interference derived contribution(s) to the measured ^{127}I
1081 signal.

1082

1083 **Acknowledgements**

1084 We are grateful to the Department of Mineral Sciences, Smithsonian Institution for
1085 supplying chips of the National Museum of Natural History microbeam standards
1086 (NMNH 104021, R6600, 117218-2/3/4). Mark Kendrick is thanked for kindly
1087 providing chips of the gem quality scapolites SY, BB1 and SP. We thank Klaus
1088 Jochum and Brigitte Stoll for generously supplying aliquots of MPI-DING reference
1089 glasses ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G for CIC analysis. Sue Golding and Lingli Zhou are
1090 thanked for providing specimens of high-grade chalcopyrite and pyrite, and Carlos
1091 Galé for providing apatite rich lamprophyre PAN-57. We are very grateful for

1092 assistance from the Iolite team, particularly Tephy Marillo Sialer for help
1093 implementing the ‘Halogen free RM for corr’ DRS in Iolite. A special thanks is
1094 extended to Thomas Pettke for helpful discussions on the origin of potential Cl and Br
1095 interference signals observed in halogen-free samples. This research was funded by
1096 SFI grant 15/ERC/B3131 to Tomlinson.

1097

1098 Figure Captions

1099 Figure 1 Raw intensity counts per second (cps) signal traces for (a) ^{35}Cl and ^{37}Cl for
1100 Durango, Tioga and Ødegården apatites. Note that Tioga was only measured in
1101 preliminary test runs and not fully characterised for halogen contents in this study. (b)
1102 ^{79}Br and ^{81}Br for GSD-1G glass and Durango apatite and (c) glasses GSD-1G,
1103 ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G. Significantly, GSD-1G yields approximately twice the
1104 signal intensity on both isotopes relative to Durango, despite the more than two order
1105 of magnitude difference in Br content between the two reference materials,
1106 highlighting the strong matrix control on analytical signal response and the necessity
1107 of matrix-matched calibration. The anomalously high Br signal measured in Durango
1108 is considered to reflect the presence of $^{158}\text{Gd}^{2+}$, $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ and $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$ in REE rich
1109 apatite. ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G glasses ($\sim 1 \mu\text{g/g Br}$) show apparent signals on ^{79}Br
1110 and ^{81}Br that equate to 3 – 4.5 $\mu\text{g/g Br}$, suggesting measurements made below the
1111 limit of detection. The uniform peak shape of ^{81}Br and reduced interferences make it
1112 our preferred isotope for Br measurements (see text for a detailed discussion).

1113

1114 Figure 2. (a) Plots of measured vs published values for the isotopes ^{35}Cl , ^{81}Br and ^{127}I
1115 in apatite, scapolite and silicate reference glasses used in this study. Black symbols
1116 denote materials with appreciable halogen contents used to define the regression lines

1117 (orange dotted lines). All data represent mean values across multiple analytical
1118 sessions. Insets highlight non-zero Y-intercept values for all three isotopes. Grey
1119 symbols denote reference materials excluded from the regression equations and below
1120 the theoretical limits of quantification (LOQ). LOQ calculations (Eq. 1: $10 s / m$;
1121 Harris, 2010) are shown for each isotope with s values (standard deviation of y -
1122 intercepts for individual LA-ICP-MS analytical sessions) and m values (average slope
1123 of regression lines on measured (y -axis) vs. published (x -axis) plots) representing data
1124 from individual sessions (not shown). Apatites were explicitly excluded from the Br
1125 LOQ calculation due to a lack of published values for calibration and comparison
1126 purposes. (b) Uncorrected raw ICP-MS signal traces (cps) for the isotopes ^{35}Cl , ^{81}Br
1127 and ^{127}I for scapolites SP, SY, BB1 and glasses NIST SRM 610 and GSD-1G.
1128 Apparent signals are present only during laser ablation (absent within background),
1129 and most clearly in the case of ^{127}I and ^{81}Br , are not related to the concentration of the
1130 analyte in the reference material. The elevated Dy content of NIST SRM 610 (437
1131 $\mu\text{g/g}$) relative to GSD-1G (51.2 $\mu\text{g/g}$) contributes to the anomalously high apparent
1132 ^{81}Br signal measured in the NIST SRM glass due to $^{162}\text{Dy}^{2+}$.

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1134 Figure 3. High-resolution peak scans of ^{35}Cl ($\text{amu} = 34.969$) at 0.05 amu increments
1135 for spot analyses of reference glasses, Durango apatite, BB1 scapolite and Cypriot
1136 olivine. Mass scans show that ^{35}Cl is not affected by overlap from neighbouring
1137 peaks, instead indicating on-mass interference(s). All analysed materials show
1138 asymmetric peak shapes, with the highest signals falling on the high mass side, a
1139 feature confirmed through reflection of the low mass shoulder about the ^{35}Cl amu
1140 value of 34.969 (dashed lines). The location of the apparent Cl maxima at ~ 35 amu

1141 suggests that the excess signal may be attributed to the presence of $^{16}\text{O}^{18}\text{OH}$ (35.002
1142 amu), $^{17}\text{O}^{17}\text{OH}$ (35.006 amu) and $^{17}\text{O}^{18}\text{O}$ (34.998 amu).

1143

1144 Figure 4. (a) Background ICP spectra taken from Tan and Horlick (1986) for water
1145 and 5 % acid solutions clearly show the asymmetry of the $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak, with a
1146 pronounced tail on the low mass shoulder that visibly impinges on mass 79. (b) and
1147 (c) Raw intensity counts per second (cps) for mass scans from 78.5 – 81.5 atomic
1148 mass units (amu) at 0.1 amu increments to resolve measured peak shapes (excepting
1149 masses 79.6 – 80.4 to avoid $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ at 79.925 amu). Scans from 79 – 79.5 highlight
1150 major shoulder overlap from neighbouring peaks on the high mass side for all samples
1151 (except scapolite BB1). The high estimated Br/Tb ratio of scapolite (~400) is entirely
1152 consistent with the symmetrical peak shape at mass 79 shown by BB1. A lack of
1153 overlap on the ^{81}Br signal demonstrates an absence of interferences from adjacent
1154 peaks.

1155

1156 Figure 5. Plot of Br measured/Br published vs Br/Tb (published) to evaluate the
1157 influence of $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ on Br quantification using ^{79}Br . Deviation of measured
1158 Br/published Br = 1 is found to increase with decreasing Br/Tb, reflecting the overlap
1159 of the $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ peak on ^{79}Br . USGS glasses GSE-1G and GSD-1G give relative errors
1160 of 2.5 and 1.6 %, respectively, suggesting that accurate Br determinations using ^{79}Br
1161 can be made on samples with Br/Tb ratios ≥ 0.6 . All low Br (≤ 1 $\mu\text{g/g}$) glasses analysed
1162 here also have low Br/Tb ratios, contributing to measured Br/published Br > 1.
1163 Published Br data for NIST SRM 610, NIST SRM 612, GSE-1G, GSD-1G and
1164 BHVO2-G from Marks et al. (2016), with ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G from
1165 combustion ion chromatography (this study, Table 3). Tb values for NIST SRM 610

1166 and NIST SRM 612 from Jochum et al. (2011), ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G from
1167 Jochum et al. (2006), BHVO-2G, GSE-1G and GSD-1G represent ‘mean of new data’
1168 (GeoReM preferred values) and Durango (solution data for Dur-DCa) from Chew et
1169 al. (2016). Major element data for internal standard values of USGS glasses (Jochum
1170 et al., 2005), MPI-DING glasses (Jochum et al., 2006) and NIST SRM glasses
1171 (Jochum et al., 2011) are included in Table 3.

1172

1173 Figure 6. Plot of background corrected Cl/Si and Br/Si counts per second (cps) ratios
1174 vs spot size for 30, 38 and 58 μm square spots. Halogen/Si cps ratios for Cypriot
1175 olivine remain constant across the range of measured spot sizes, indicating that
1176 sample matrix loading of the plasma is likely responsible for the apparent positive
1177 halogen signals observed in halogen-free olivine (we estimate a nominal olivine Cl
1178 value of 0.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$ based on a glass Cl content of 260 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Portnyagin et al., 2002) and
1179 $D_{\text{Cl}}^{\text{ol/melt}} = 0.0012$ (Dalou et al., 2012; Fabbrizio et al., 2013)). For smaller spot sizes,
1180 the propagated uncertainties on halogen/Si ratios are appreciably larger, reflecting
1181 lower measured signal intensities.

1182

1183 Figure 7. Internal standard normalised fractionation index values (FI_{43} , normalised to
1184 ^{43}Ca) for LA-ICP-MS measurements on reference glasses, apatites and scapolites at
1185 (a) 25 Hz for 30, 38 and 58 μm square spots and (b) 50 Hz for 58 μm square spots.
1186 Faint symbols denote post halogen-free correction ^{35}Cl FI_{43} values for low Cl glasses
1187 GSD-1G and NIST SRM 612. With increasing analyte volatility, no systematic
1188 variation in fractionation index is observed; almost all values plotting within 10% of
1189 unity, the majority within 5%. For all SRMs and spot sizes the average FI_{43} is 1.01

1190 (range 0.92 – 1.12), suggesting time-dependent fractionation is negligible for our
1191 analytical set-up.

1192

1193 Figure 8. Plot of bias (accuracy) vs 2 RSD (precision) for (a) Cl determinations using
1194 58 μm square spots. MPI-DING glasses KL2-G, ML3B-G, GOR128-G and GOR132-
1195 G are omitted on account of their low Cl contents that are below the limit of
1196 quantification. See Table 3 for number of replicates (n) for each reference material.
1197 Durango data represent analyses on in-house c-axis parallel crystal slab. R6600
1198 scapolite reference value from (van der Zwan et al., 2012). Published values for
1199 ATHO-G and StHs6/80-G from CIC analysis (this study). (b) Br determinations using
1200 58 μm square spots for reference glasses GSE-1G and GSD-1G and gem scapolites
1201 SY, SP and BB1 for which published Br data are available and above the limit of
1202 quantification for LA-ICP-MS analysis.

1203

1204 Figure 9. LA-ICP-MS data (this study) vs published data for (a) ^{35}Cl (see Table 1 for
1205 published data). Prior to correction using the ‘nominally halogen-free’ method, the
1206 marked deviation from the 1:1 line shown by low Cl glasses (faint symbols) suggests
1207 a limit of quantification of $\sim 400 \mu\text{g/g}$, in agreement with the theoretical LOQ of 360
1208 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl (calculated using Eq. 1 and reference materials with $>700 \mu\text{g/g}$ Cl). Once
1209 corrected, all low-Cl glasses plot within error of published values (except GOR132-G,
1210 information value). Glass limit of linearity was estimated through deviation from the
1211 1:1 line for corrected LA-ICP-MS vs published data. (b) ^{79}Br . Materials with $>30 \mu\text{g/g}$
1212 Br show excellent agreement between LA-ICP-MS (this study) and published values.
1213 For glasses, the magnitude of Br excess using ^{79}Br inversely correlates with the Br/Tb
1214 of the reference material (Fig. 5) due to contributions from $^{159}\text{Tb}^{2+}$ (Fig. 4b). NIST

1215 SRM 610 (437 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Tb) returns elevated Br using ^{79}Br (33 ± 4 $\mu\text{g/g}$, Seo et al. (2011);
1216 36 ± 4 $\mu\text{g/g}$, this study) vs 0.24 $\mu\text{g/g}$ via the NG method (Marks et al., 2016).
1217 Theoretical limit of quantification (LOQ) for Br (8 $\mu\text{g/g}$) calculated using Eq. 1 and
1218 data for SRMs with >32 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br. Shaded field (5 – 20 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Br) represents range with
1219 a lack of well characterised, homogeneous SRMs, inhibiting testing of the theoretical
1220 LOQ, however the ‘A’ and ‘RD’ glasses of Cadoux et al., 2017 have suitable Br
1221 contents (~ 10 $\mu\text{g/g}$), and in the case of ‘A’ high Br/Tb (9.4), making them ideal for
1222 further analytical investigations. Low Br/Tb in the low Br glasses analysed here
1223 makes an assessment of the limit of linearity for Br difficult, but we estimate it to be \sim
1224 2 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and could be better constrained with a greater availability of suitable well
1225 characterised reference materials. Average limits of detection (LOD) calculated
1226 following Longerich et al. (1996).
1227
1228 Figure 10. Measured Cl concentrations in reference materials vs ablation spot
1229 size/area for a series of 10 analyses per spot size (30, 38, 58, 80 μm). (a) 1000 –
1230 100000 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl; The excellent accuracy and reproducibility for the gem quality
1231 scapolites is maintained across all spot sizes. Smithsonian scapolite R6600
1232 consistently returns higher Cl contents than the results of van der Zwan et al. (2012),
1233 with our data showing closer agreement with the measurements of Jarosewich et al.
1234 (1980). Durango and 815 apatites represent ideal reference standards for all spot sizes.
1235 Madagascar shows inferior accuracy (bias = 12.6 %) that likely reflects, in part,
1236 sample heterogeneity across the multiple gem roughs analysed here. (b) 200 – 2000
1237 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl; All intermediate Cl glasses (except ATHO-G) plot well within error of
1238 published values across the range of spot sizes. Glass GSD-1G provides the most
1239 consistent results across all spot sizes and is our preferred low-Cl glass reference

1240 material. (c) 20 – 200 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Cl; Ultralow-Cl (~ 50 $\mu\text{g/g}$) glasses show unacceptably
1241 high errors (32 – 39 % 2 RSD), indicating that this likely represents an estimate of the
1242 limit of detection of the technique. Error bars represent 2 σ uncertainties. Where
1243 standard ranges overlap strongly (panel c), standard fields are discontinuous to aid
1244 visualisation. The majority of analyses for this study were performed at 58 μm , Table
1245 3.

1246

1247 Figure 11. Measured Br concentrations (a) 200 – 900 $\mu\text{g/g}$; (b) 10 – 60 $\mu\text{g/g}$ vs
1248 ablation spot size/area. Bromine determinations for scapolites SY and SP are
1249 comparable for spots of 30 – 80 μm , plotting at the upper bounds of their respective
1250 published data ranges. Scapolite BB1 also yields similar Br values for all spot sizes,
1251 but at the lower end of the published field. Glasses GSE-1G and GSD-1G yield data
1252 within error of the published range for all spot sizes, however averages of 30 and 38
1253 μm spot results plot at the lower limits. For all reference materials, ^{81}Br
1254 determinations show closer agreement with known values, a feature that is most
1255 pronounced for glasses measured using larger spot sizes (58 and 80 μm). Figure 1
1256 shows clear evidence for the impingement of the low mass tail of $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ on ^{79}Br ,
1257 whilst Figure 7 supports the theory that the magnitude of the excess positive Br signal
1258 scales with sample matrix input. Accordingly, the improved accuracy of ^{81}Br
1259 measurements relative to ^{79}Br , particularly at larger spot sizes, is inferred to reflect an
1260 increase in the extent of $^{40}\text{Ar}^{40}\text{Ar}$ peak broadening as a result of reduced ionisation
1261 efficiency of the plasma. Error bars represent 2 σ uncertainties. Note, no published Br
1262 data are available for Smithsonian scapolite R6600.

1263

1264 Figure 12. Comparison of LA-ICP-MS and EPMA Cl data for closely spaced
1265 transects (100 – 150 μm apart) across the widths of seven large (2 – 5 mm length)
1266 apatite crystals hosted in sub-volcanic lamprophyre from the Iberian Chain, Central
1267 Spain (Galé Bornao, 2005). The largest crystals were analysed using 58 μm square
1268 spots, with 38 and 30 μm spots used for smaller grains. n represents the ratio of the
1269 number of EPMA spots (red) to LA-ICP-MS spots (black) used to define comparative
1270 transects for each crystal at a given spot size. The lamprophyre apatite LA-ICP-MS
1271 data agree within 0.5 – 7.3 % of the electron microprobe results. The greatest
1272 disparity is observed for 58 μm laser spots (2.2 – 7.3 % bias), indicating that the scale
1273 of Cl heterogeneity in the apatites is present at a smaller scale. Close agreement
1274 between the two methods for 30 and 38 μm laser spots (0.5 – 0.9 % bias), suggests
1275 that Cl is homogeneously distributed within the apatite grains at the 10 – 40 μm scale.

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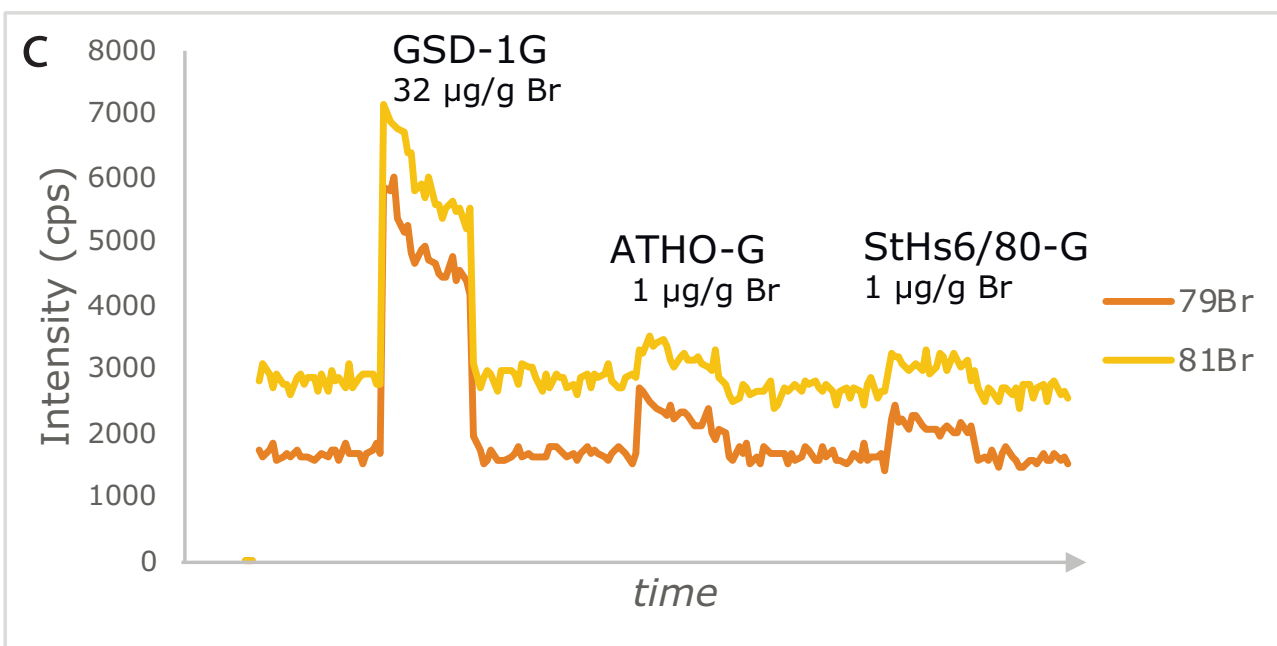
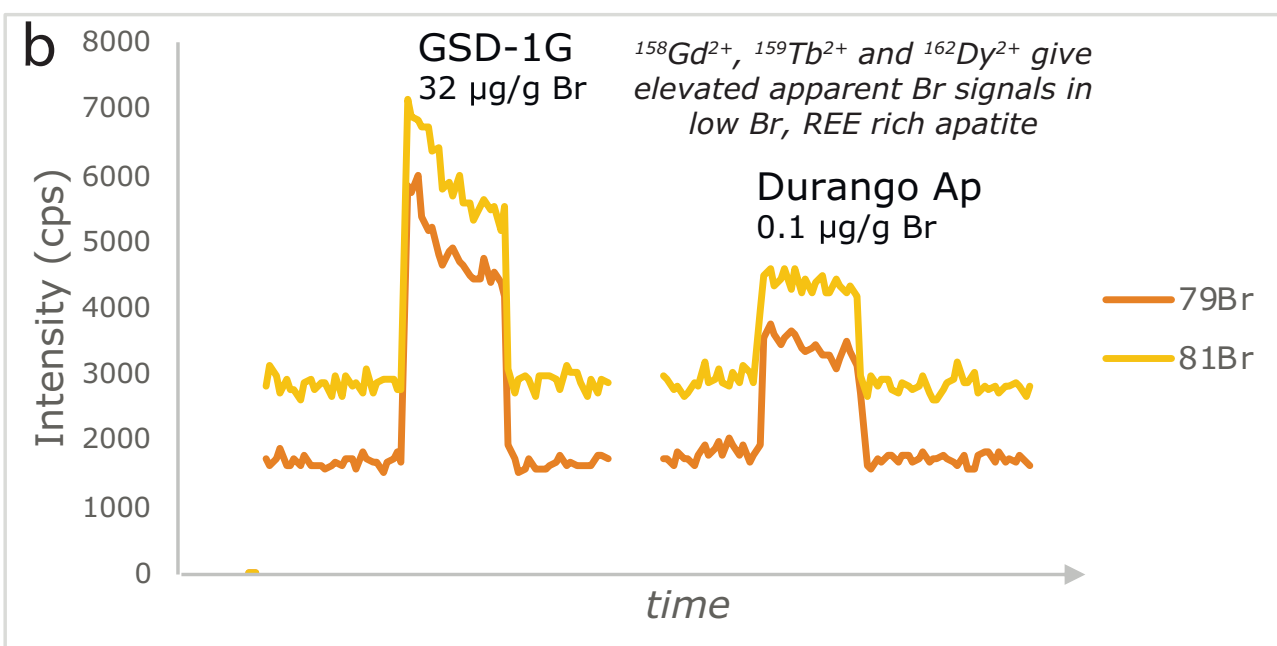
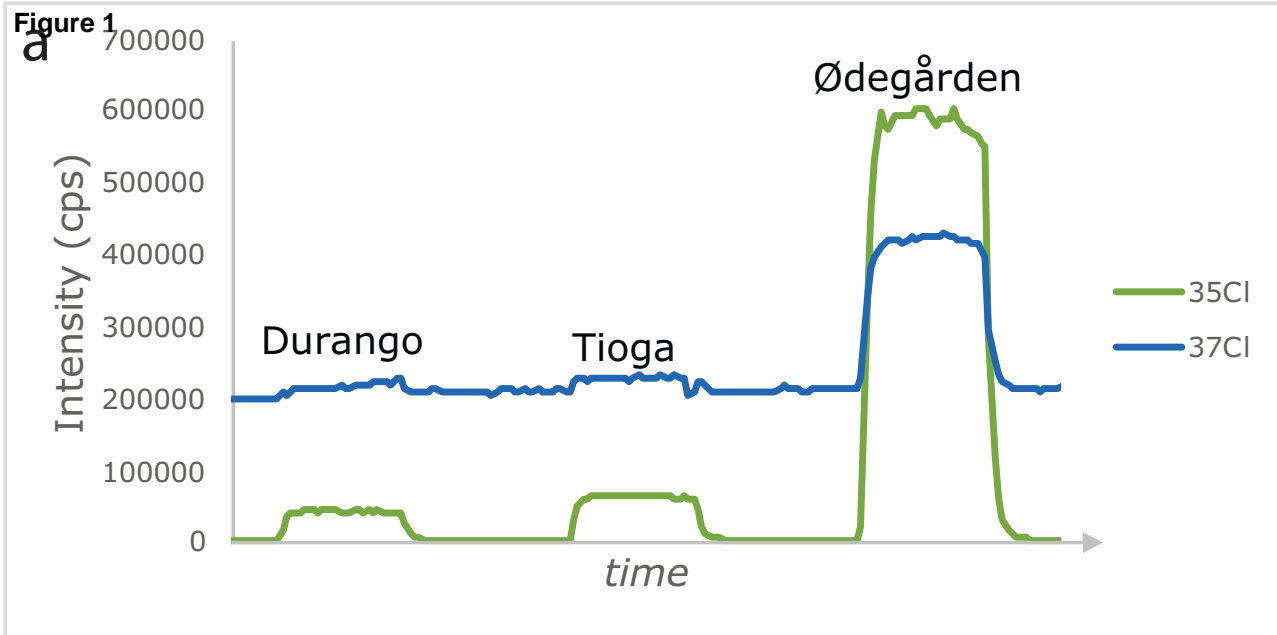


Figure 1

Figure 2

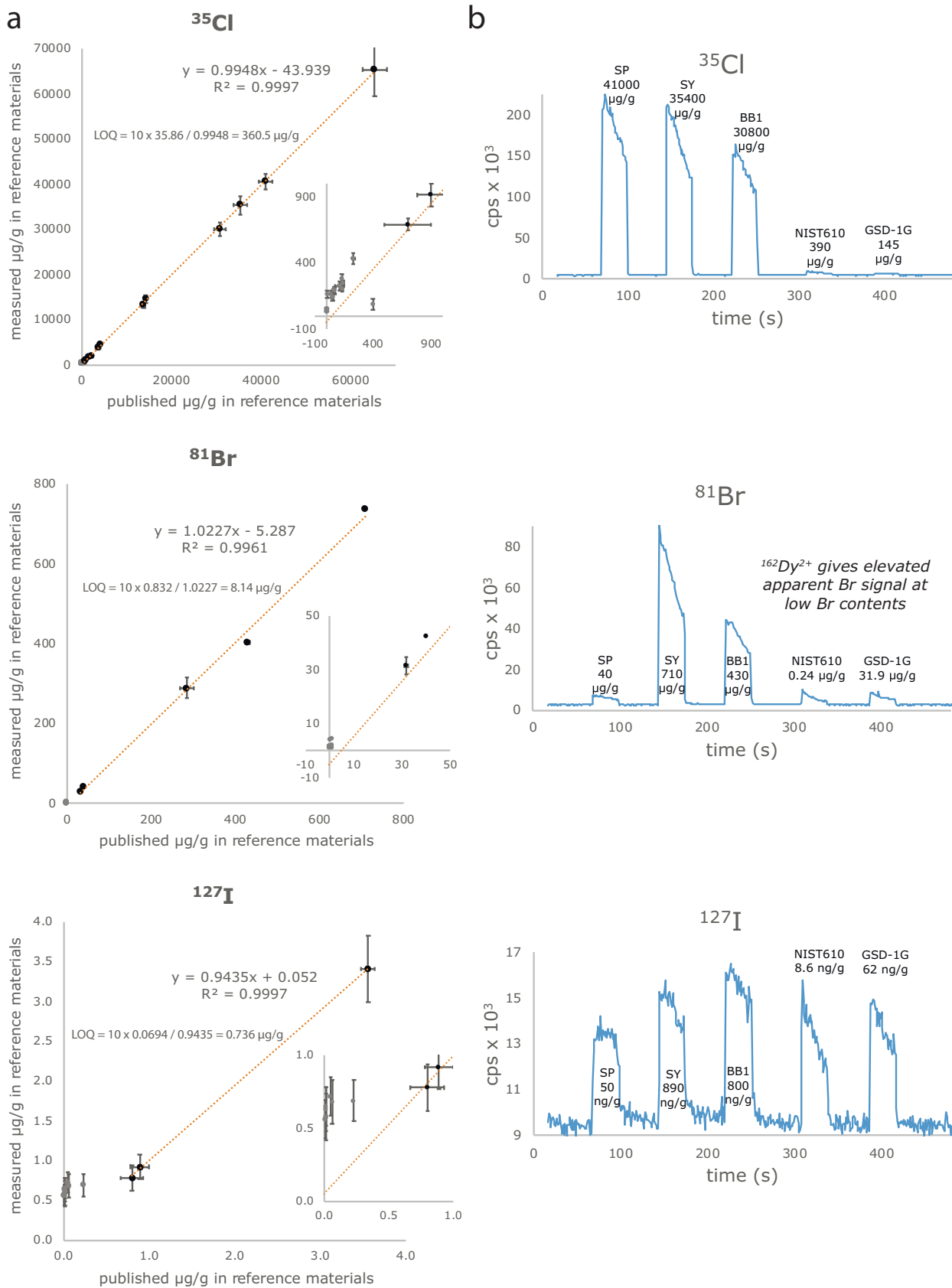


Figure 2

Figure 3

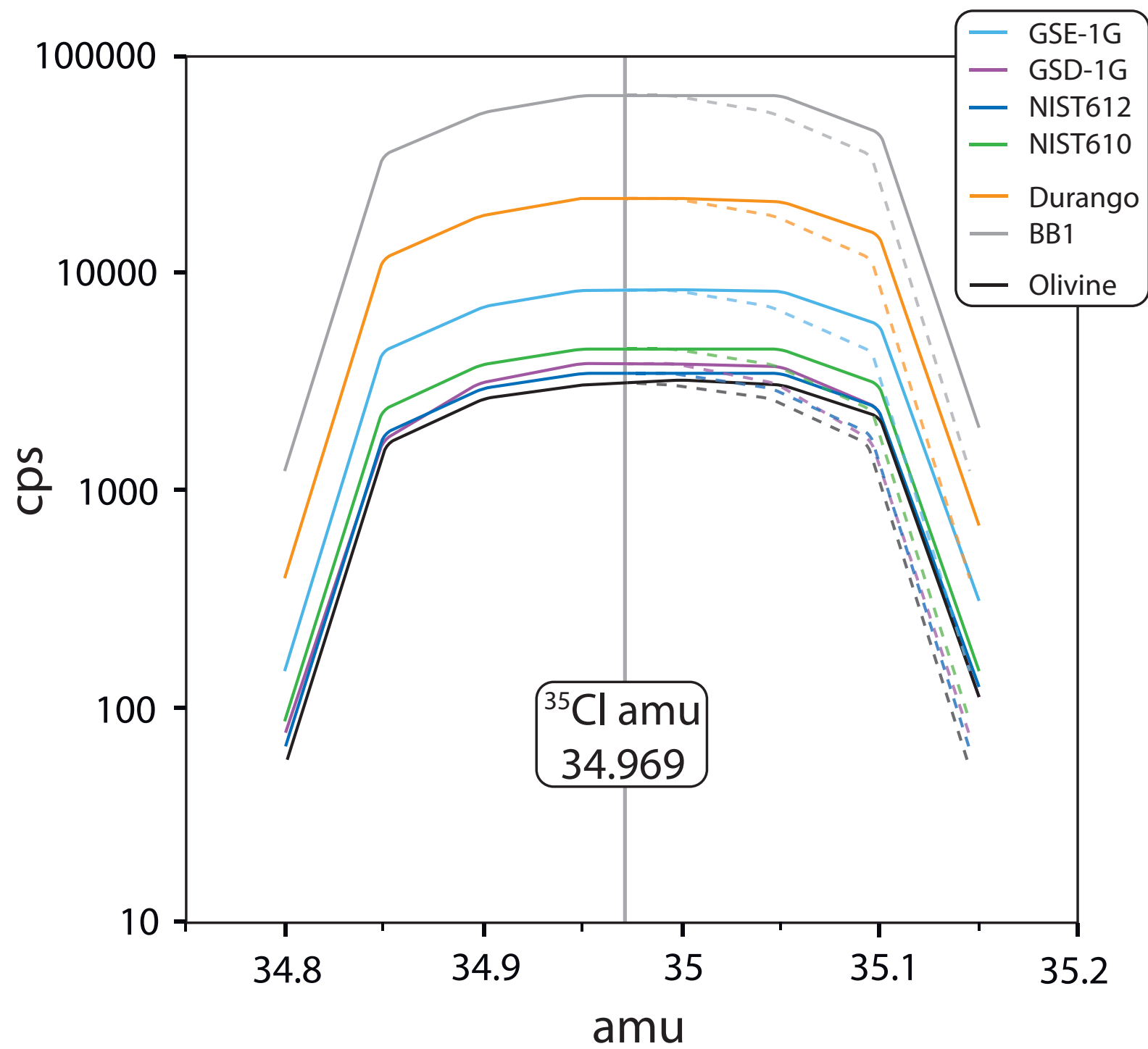


Figure 3

Figure 4

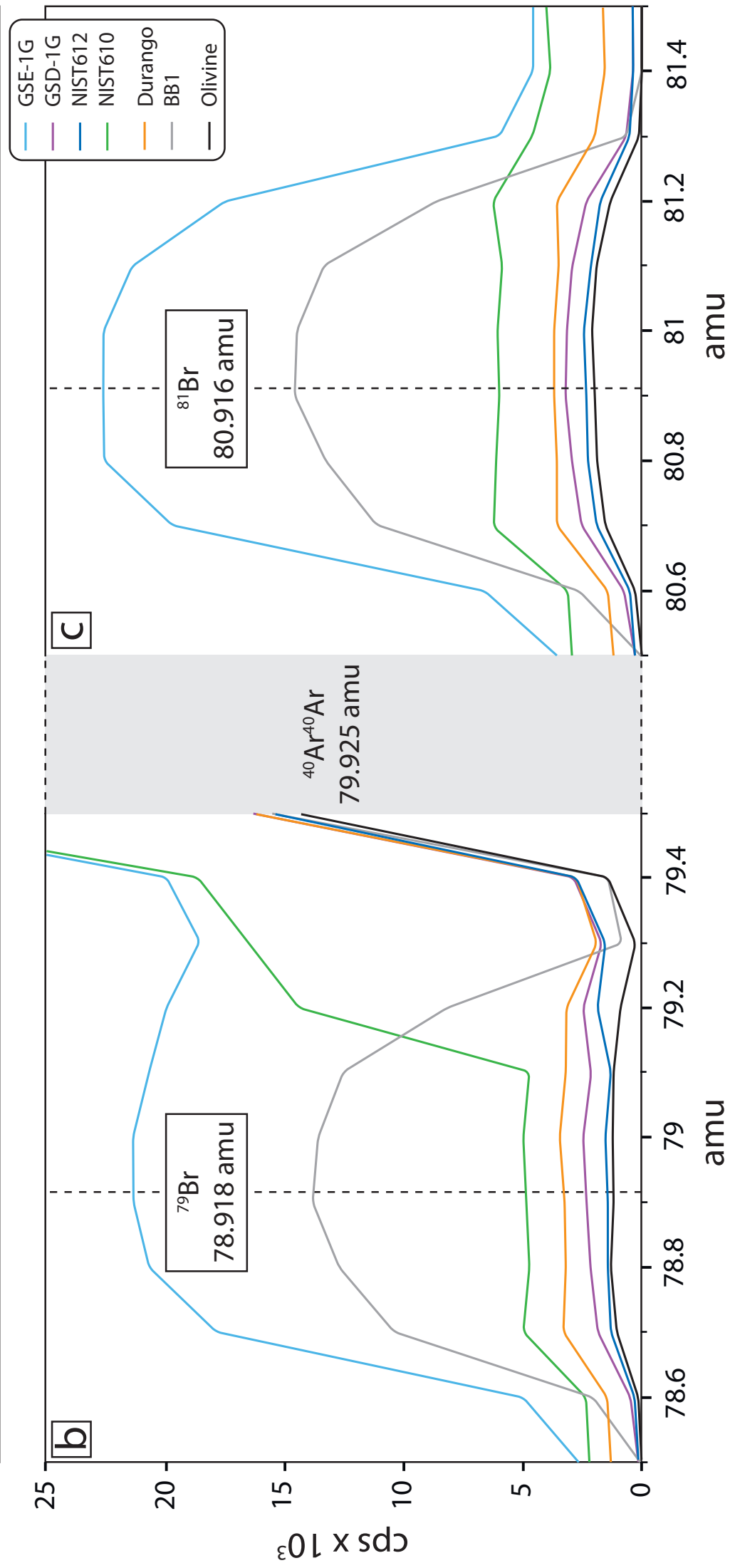
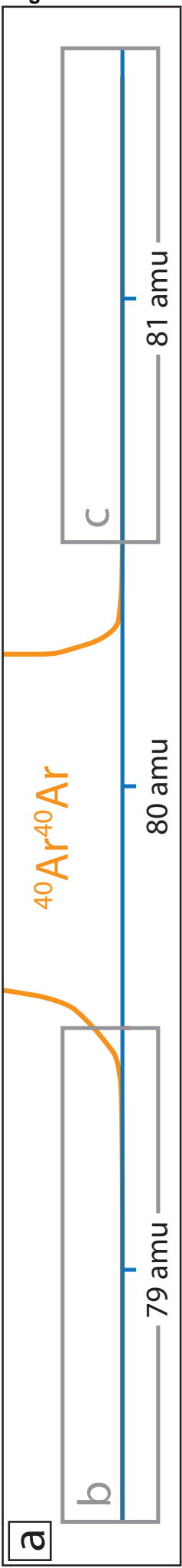


Figure 4

Figure 5

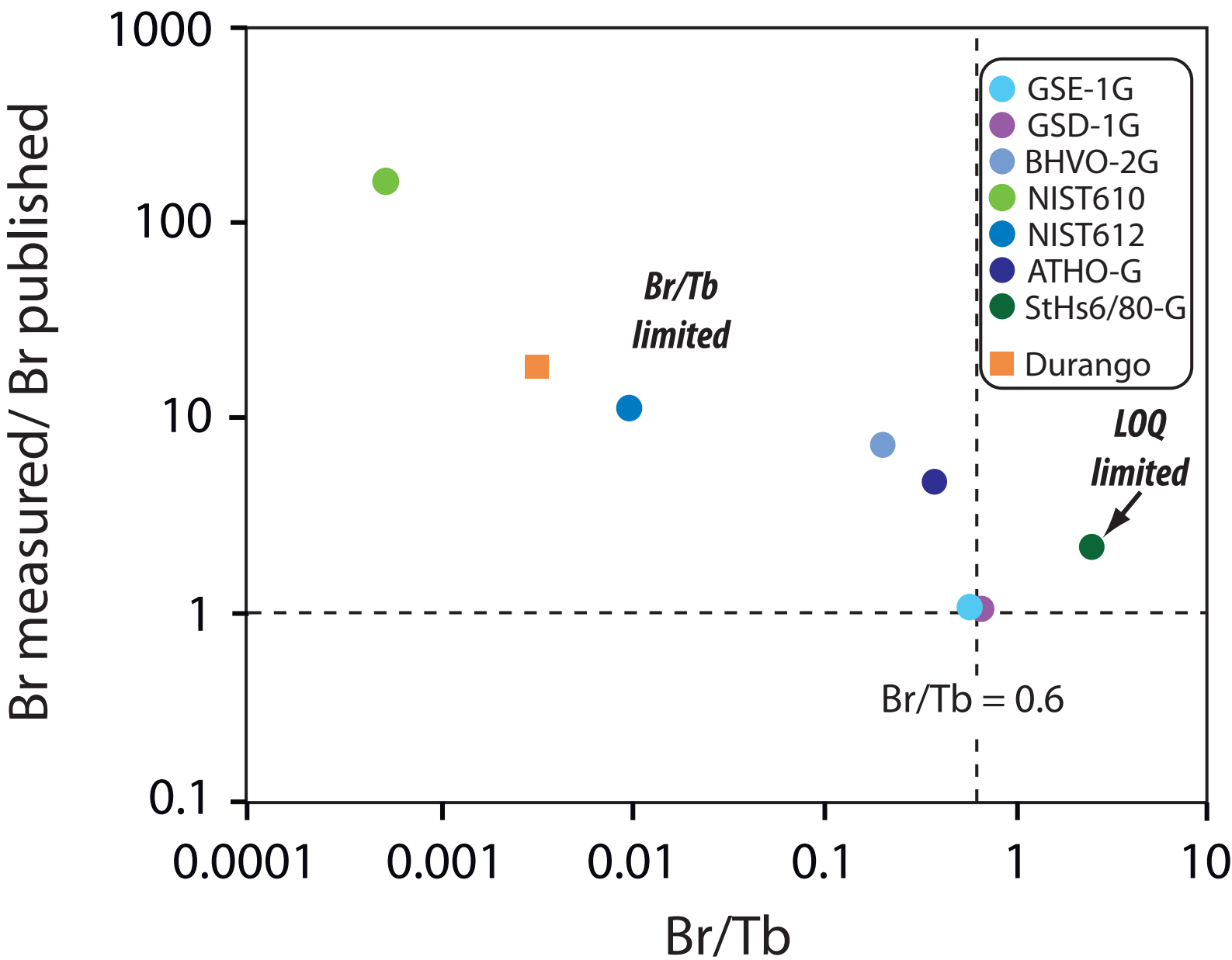
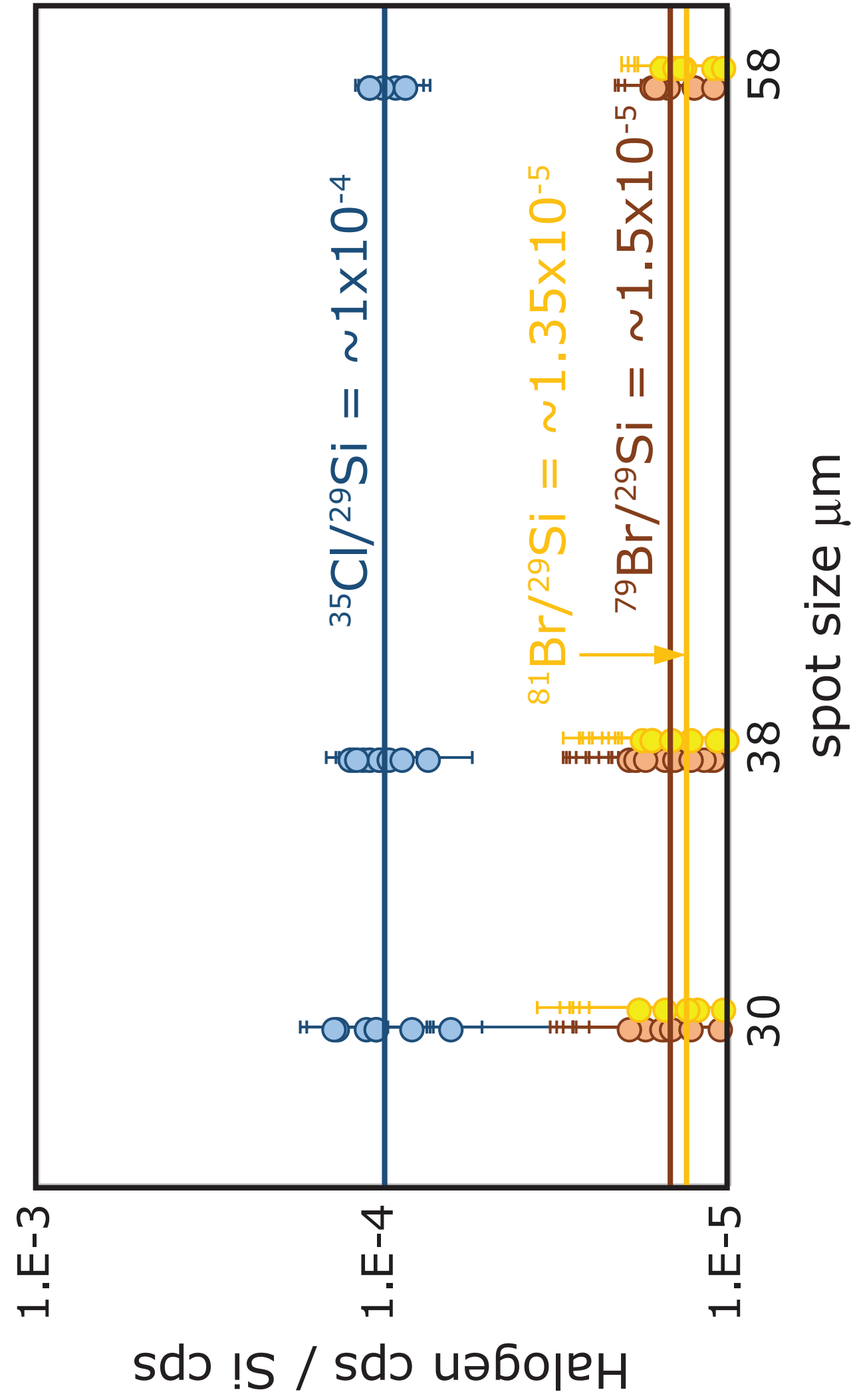


Figure 5

Figure 6



Caulfield et al. Figure 6

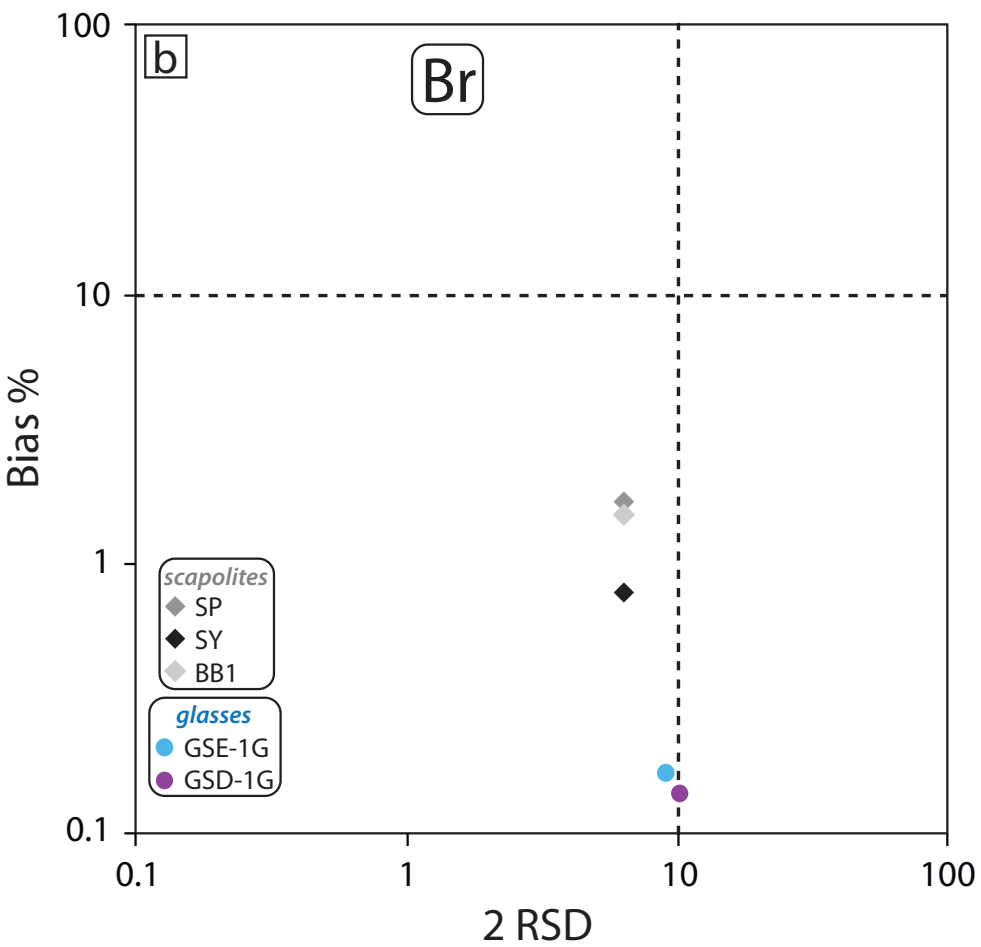
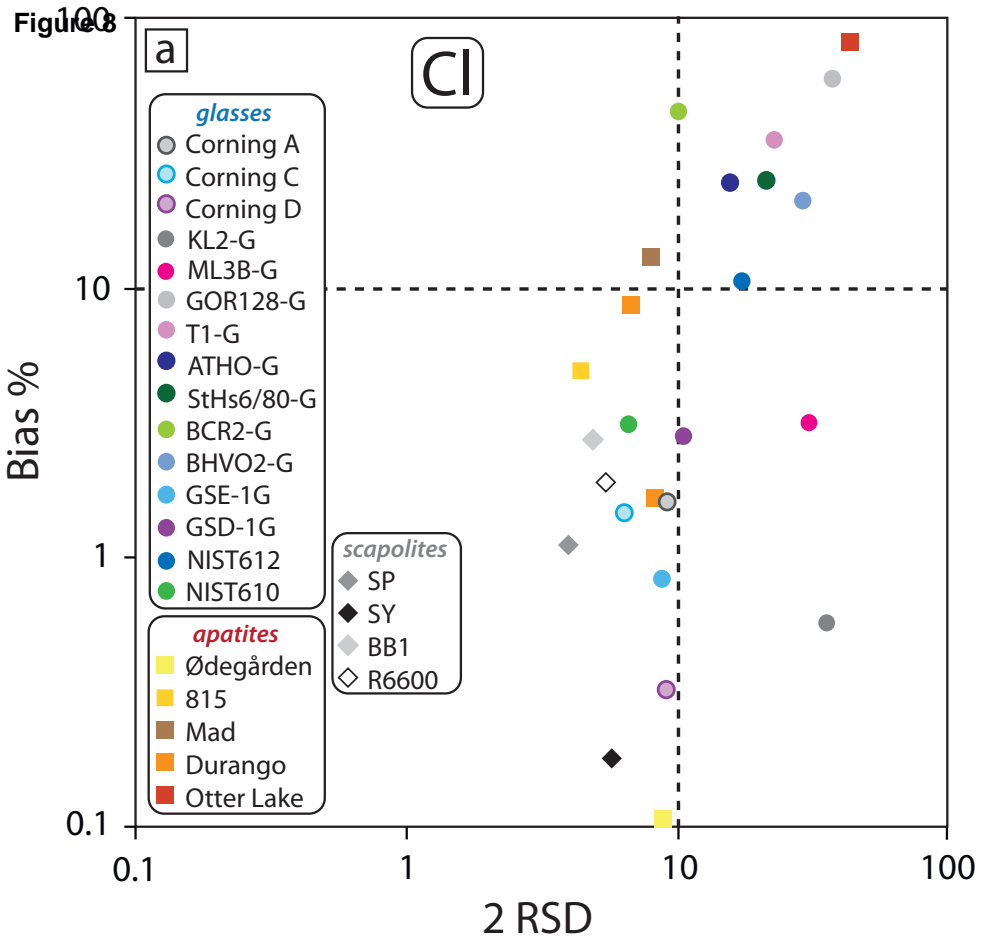


Figure 8

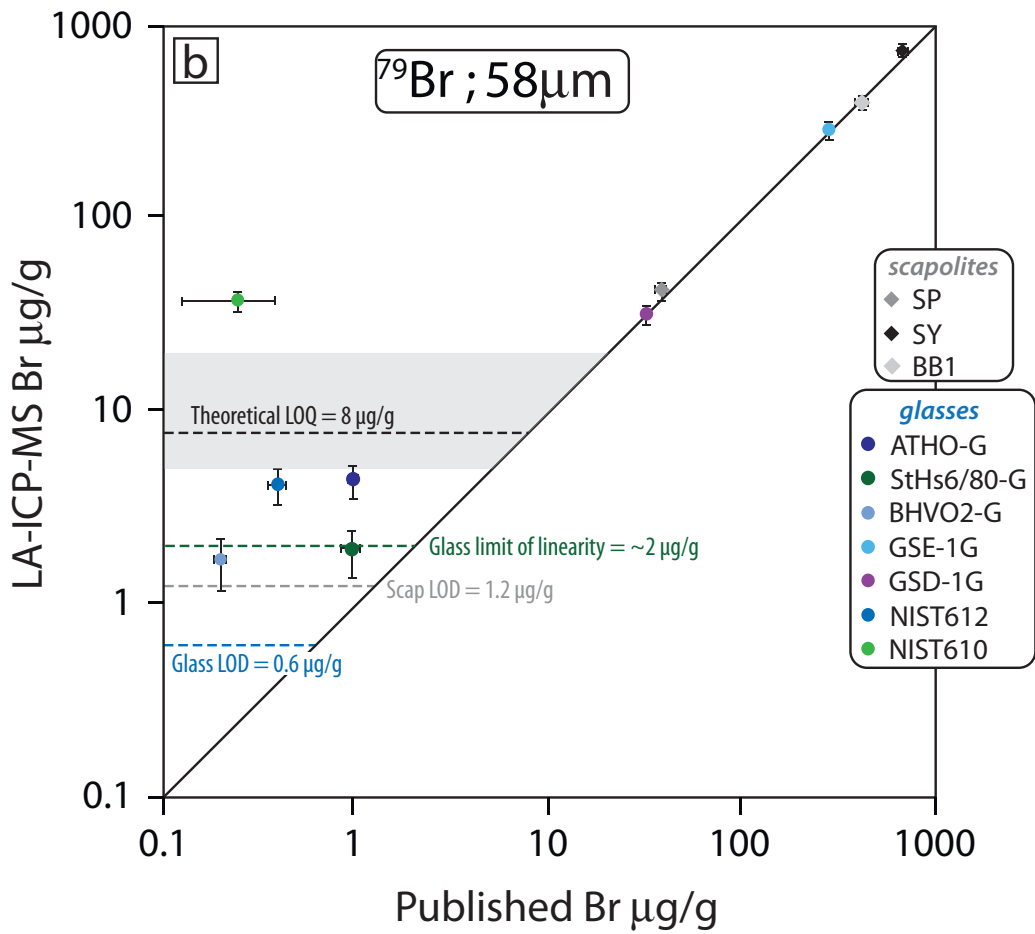
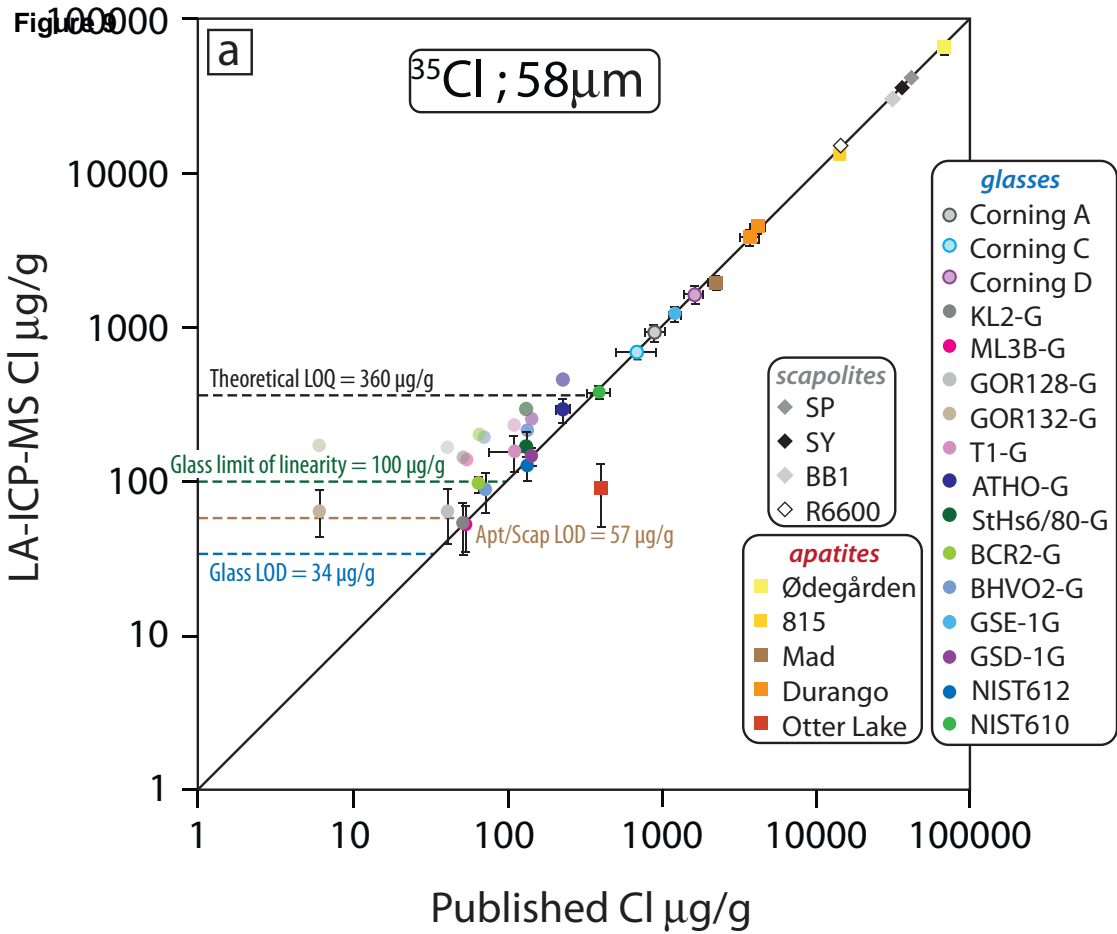


Figure 9

Figure 10

ablated area μm^2

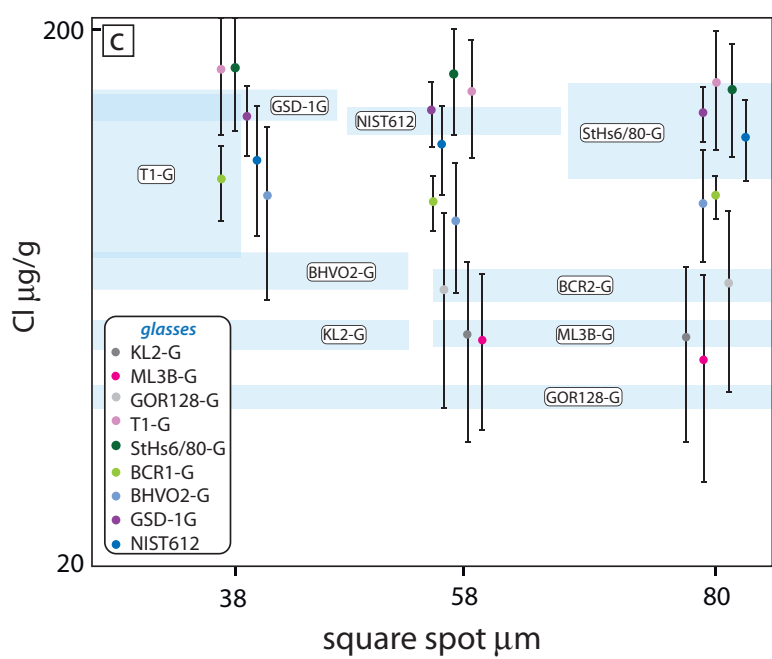
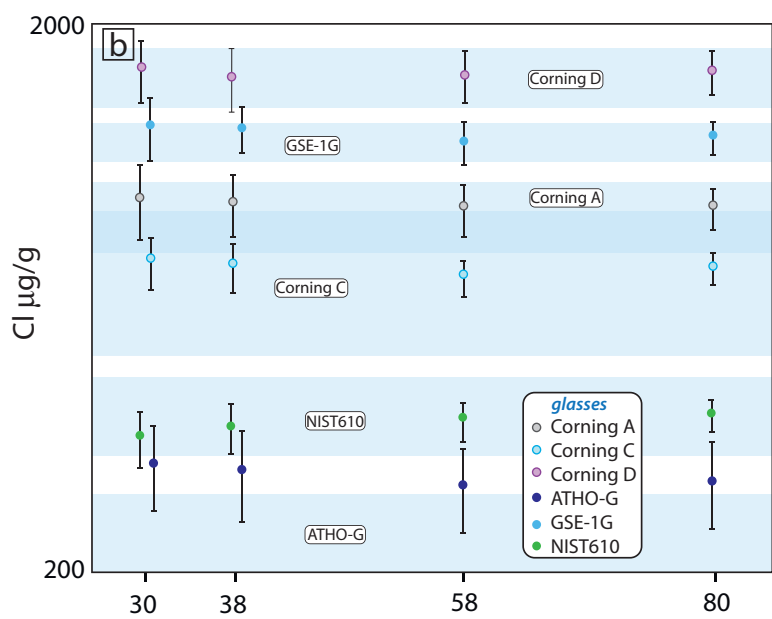
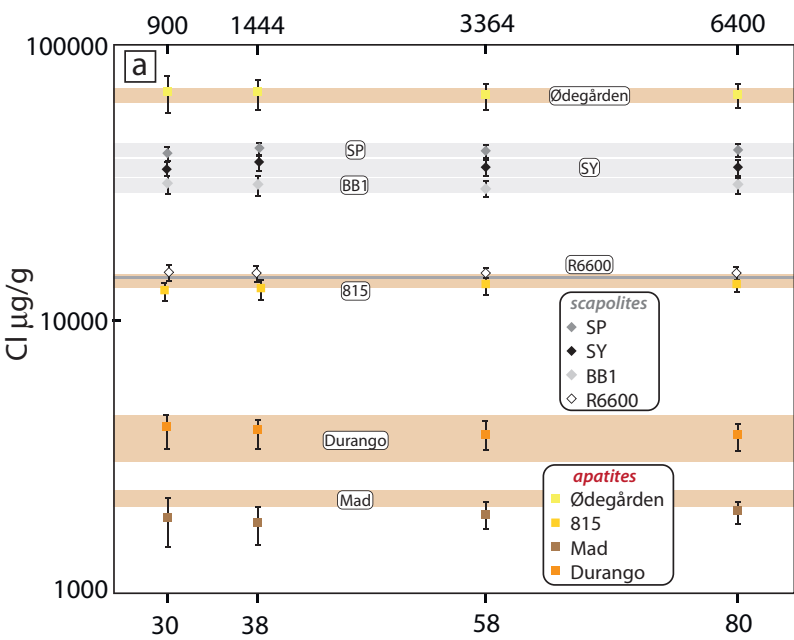


Figure 10

Figure 11

ablated area μm^2

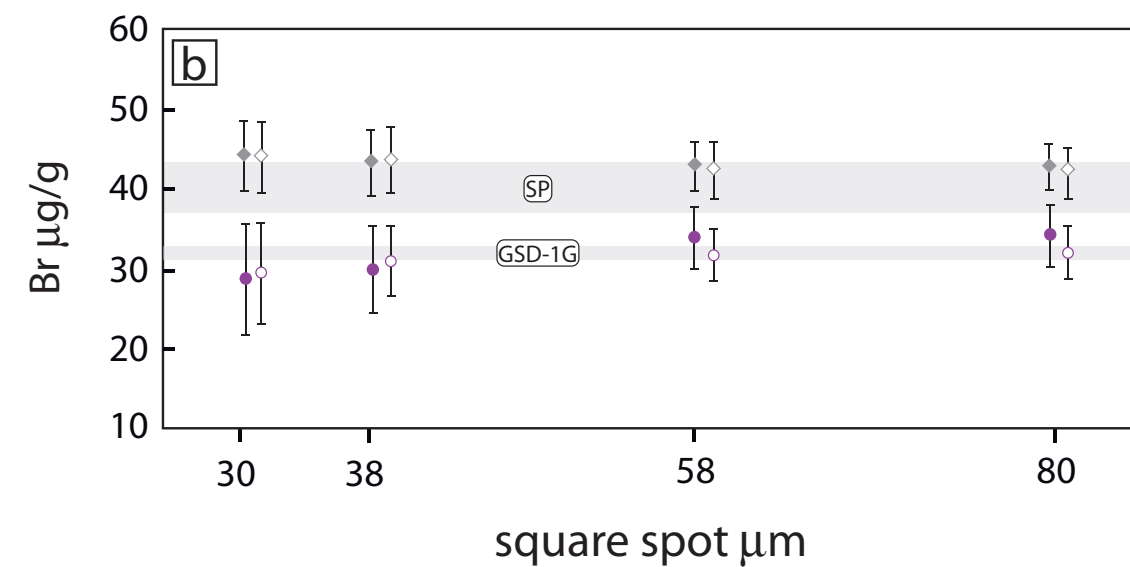
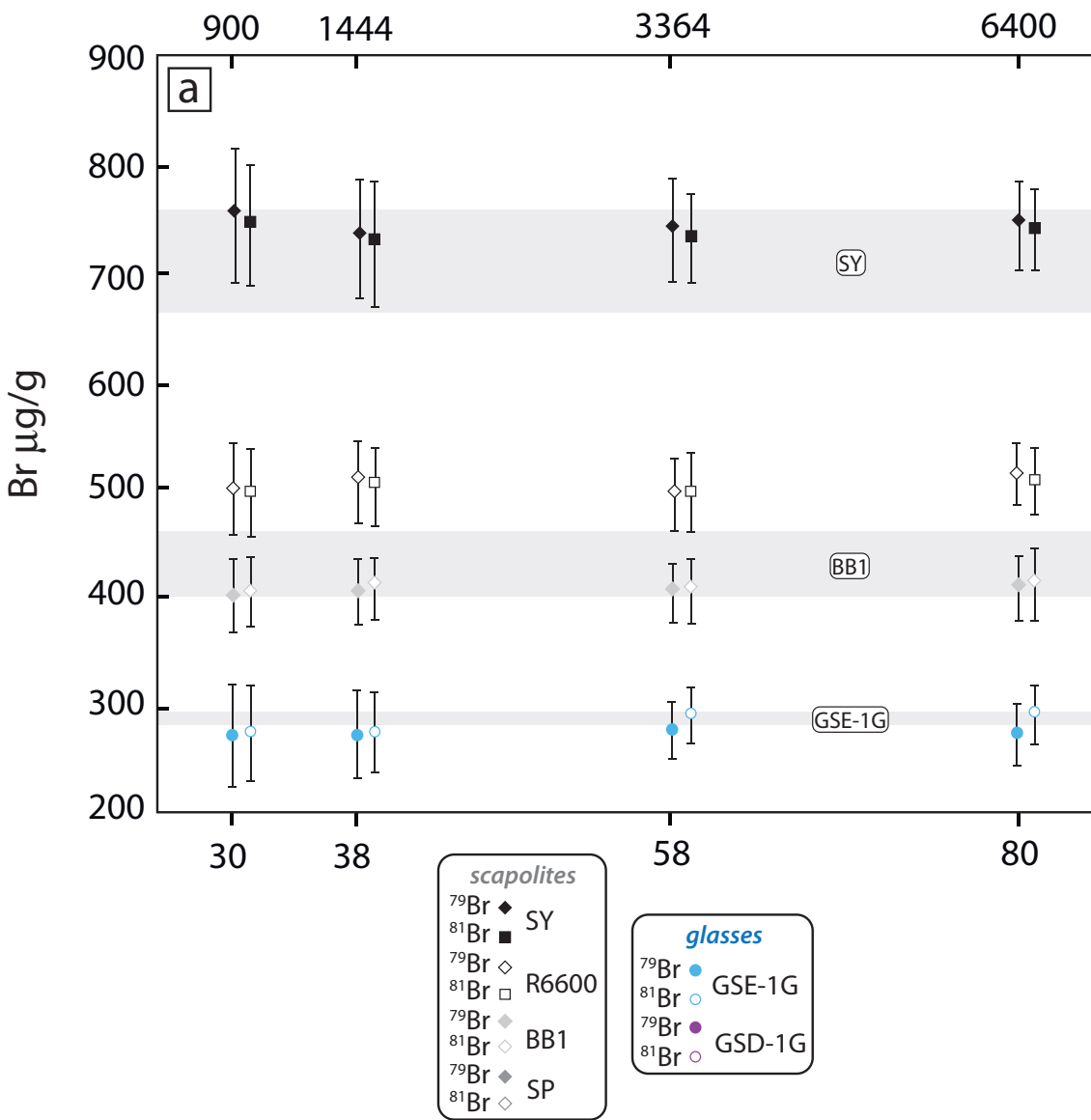


Figure 11

Figure 12

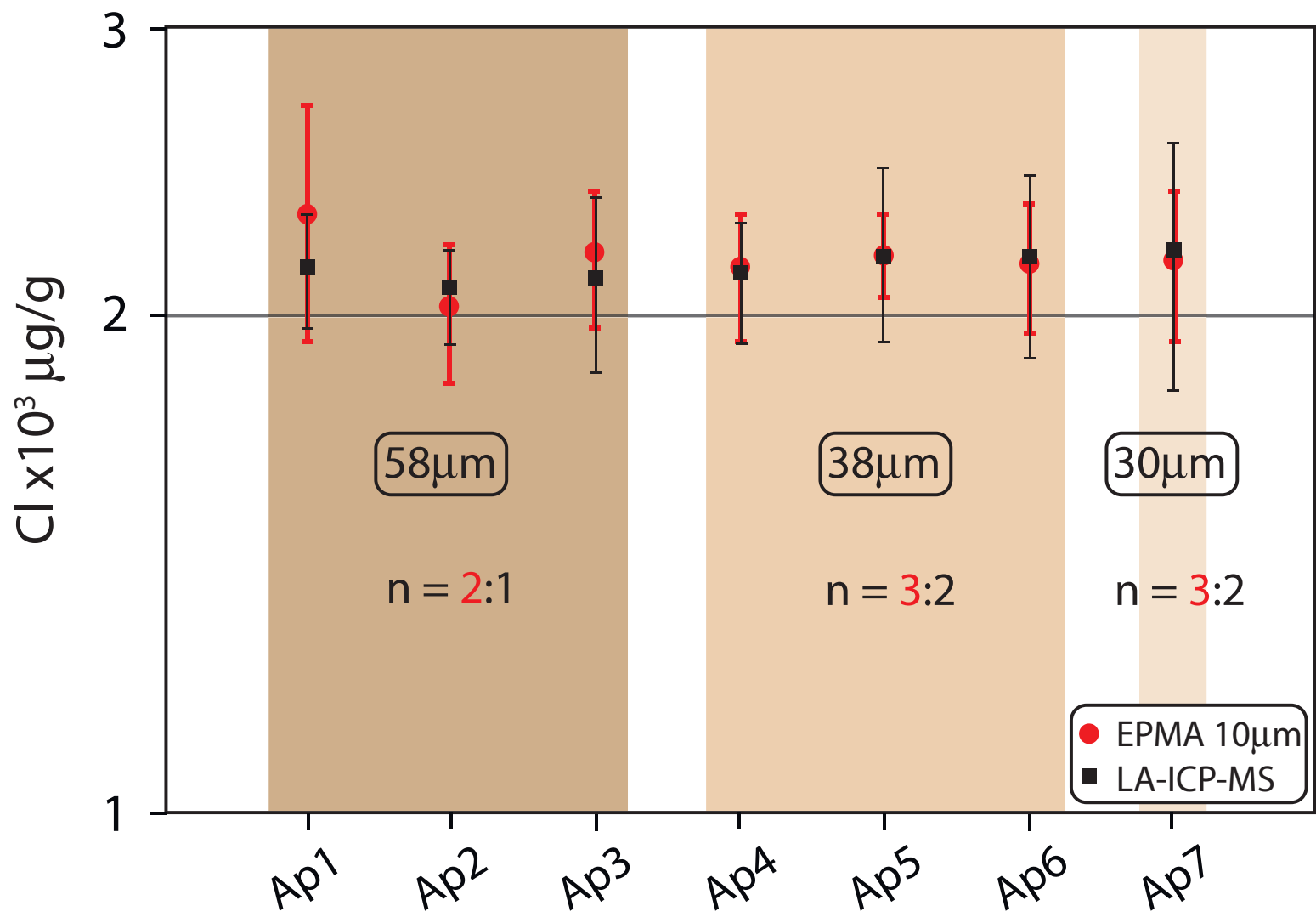


Figure 12

Table 1

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Table 1. Compilation of previously reported Cl, Br and I concentrations for apatites, scapolites and reference glasses characterised in this study.

Apatites	Classification	Source	Cl $\mu\text{g/g}$	Br $\mu\text{g/g}$	I $\mu\text{g/g}$	Method	Reference			
Durango	hydrothermal	TCD in-house	4600 \pm 736	0.1 \pm 0.05*		SIMS	Marks et al., 2012			
			3700 \pm 600*			EPMA	Chew et al., 2014			
			4099 \pm 726	0.84		PH-ICP-MS	Kusebauch et al., 2015b			
			3900 \pm 1000			EPMA	Kusebauch et al., 2015a			
Durango NMNH 104021		Smithsonian	4100*			EPMA	Jarosewich et al., 1980			
Otter Lake	hydrothermal carbonate skarn	TCD in-house	400*	<0.4*		EPMA, TXRF	Teiber et al., 2015			
Ødegården	metasomatic	TCD in-house	300 \pm 200			EPMA	Carlson et al., 1999			
			63600 \pm 7632	5.9 \pm 2.1*		SIMS	Marks et al., 2012			
			65400 \pm 2800*			EPMA	Chew et al., 2014			
			64900			EPMA	Engvik et al., 2009			
Madagascar 815	silicio-carbonatitic pegmatite Iron ore skarn	TCD in-house	2200 \pm 100*		0.23*	SIMS	Kusebauch et al., 2015a			
			13800 \pm 400*			LA-ICP-MS	Chew et al., 2014			
		TCD in-house			EPMA	Chew et al., 2014				
Scapolites										
BB1	gem quality scapolite	M. Kendrick	30800 \pm 1300*	430 \pm 30*	0.8 \pm 0.13*	INAA, NG	Kendrick et al., 2013			
SY	gem quality scapolite	M. Kendrick	30700 \pm 1700	533 \pm 15		LA-ICP-MS	Hammerli et al., 2013			
			30923 \pm 4			LA-ICP-MS	Rottier & Audétat, 2019			
			35400 \pm 1600*	710 \pm 50*	0.89 \pm 0.11*	INAA, NG	Kendrick et al., 2013			
SP	gem quality scapolite	M. Kendrick	34000 \pm 1700	852 \pm 54		LA-ICP-MS	Hammerli et al., 2013			
			41000 \pm 1500*	40 \pm 3*	0.05 \pm 0.01*	INAA, NG	Kendrick et al., 2013			
			39400 \pm 2500	50 \pm 6		LA-ICP-MS	Hammerli et al., 2013			
meionite NMNH R6600		Smithsonian	14300*			EPMA	Jarosewich et al., 1980			
			13908 \pm 49			EPMA map	van der Zwan et al., 2012			
Glasses										
GSD-1G	doped basaltic glass	USGS	145 \pm 8*	31.9 \pm 0.4*	0.062 \pm 0.002*	NG	Marks et al., 2016			
GSE-1G	doped basaltic glass	USGS	1220 \pm 80*	285 \pm 8*	3.56 \pm 0.08*	NG	Marks et al., 2016			
			1330 \pm 260			LA-ICP-MS	Marks et al., 2016			
BHVO-2G	fused basalt	USGS	72 \pm 4*	0.194 \pm 0.004*		NG	Marks et al., 2016			
BCR-2G	fused basalt	USGS	67 \pm 4*	0.090 \pm 0.006		0.016 \pm 0.004*	PH-ICP-MS	Michel and Villemant 2003		
						0.017 \pm 0.008*	NG	Marks et al., 2016		
ATHO-G	fused rhyolite	MPI-DING	430	1.2 \pm 0.3			PH-ICP-MS	Michel and Villemant 2003		
				1.01 \pm 0.02*			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006		
							SIMS	Cadoux et al., 2017		
StHs6/80-G	fused andesite	MPI-DING	360 \pm 10	0.8 \pm 0.3			LA-ICP-MS	Rottier & Audétat, 2019		
						0.95 \pm 0.05*			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006
									SIMS	Cadoux et al., 2017
GOR128-G	fused komatiite	MPI-DING	185 \pm 35			LA-ICP-MS	Rottier & Audétat, 2019			
			12 ⁱ			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006			
GOR132-G	fused komatiite	MPI-DING	41.4 \pm 2*			EPMA map	van der Zwan et al., 2012			
			6.2 ⁱ *			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006			
ML3B-G	fused basalt	MPI-DING	7.5 ⁱ			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006			
			54.7 \pm 2.4*			EPMA map	van der Zwan et al., 2012			
KL2-G	fused basalt	MPI-DING	26 ⁱ			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006			
			54.3 \pm 2.7*			EPMA map	van der Zwan et al., 2012			
T1-G	fused diorite	MPI-DING	113 \pm 37*			SIMS, EPMA, PIXE, LIMS	Jochum et al., 2006			
			148 \pm 31			LA-ICP-MS	Rottier & Audétat, 2019			
			900 \pm 200			EPMA 40 μm beam	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
Corning A NMNH 117218-4	synthetic high SiO ₂ archaeological glass	Smithsonian	1000			nominal ^a	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
			900 \pm 120*			EPMA	Adlington, 2017			
			700 \pm 200			EPMA 40 μm beam	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
Corning C NMNH 117218-2	synthetic low SiO ₂ archaeological glass	Smithsonian	1000			nominal ^a	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
			1300 \pm 1000			SEM 10 μm beam	Kuisma-Kursula, 2000			
			700 \pm 200*			SEM 30 μm beam	Kuisma-Kursula, 2000			
			1600 \pm 400			EPMA 40 μm beam	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
Corning D NMNH 117218-3	synthetic intermediate SiO ₂ archaeological glass	Smithsonian	4000			nominal ^a	Vicenzi et al., 2002			
			1700 \pm 400			SEM 10 μm beam	Kuisma-Kursula, 2000			
			1600 \pm 400			SEM 30 μm beam	Kuisma-Kursula, 2000			
			1600 \pm 180*			EPMA	Adlington, 2017			
NIST610	SRM glass	NIST	246 \pm 46			LA-ICP-MS	Jochum et al., 2011			
			274 \pm 67			Ov. Mean	Jochum et al., 2011			
			390 \pm 60*	33 \pm 8		LA-ICP-MS	Seo et al., 2011			
			273 \pm 44	0.24 \pm 0.06*	0.0086 \pm 0.0014*	NG	Marks et al., 2016			
NIST612	SRM glass	NIST	277 \pm 41			PH-IC	Wang et al., 2010			
			179			LA-ICP-MS	Rottier & Audétat, 2019			
			142 \pm 58			LA-ICP-MS	Jochum et al., 2011			
			135 \pm 6*	0.39 \pm 0.02*	0.0147 \pm 0.001*	Ov. Mean	Jochum et al., 2011			
			88 \pm 25			NG	Marks et al., 2016			
					PH-IC	Wang et al., 2010				

Abbreviations of analytical techniques: SIMS (secondary ionisation mass spectrometry), EPMA (electron probe microanalysis), TXRF (total reflection X-ray fluorescence), LA-ICP-MS (laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry), INAA (instrumental neutron activation analysis), NG (noble gas), PIXE (proton induced X-ray emission), LIMS (laser plasma ionisation mass spectrometry), PH-IC (pyrohydrolysis ion chromatography), PH-ICP-MS (pyrohydrolysis inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry). Entries from multiple techniques represent mean values.

^aCalculated from precursor mass fractions. ⁱInformation values. *Denotes reference values adopted as 'known' values (this study) and for calibration where applicable.

Uncertainties represent 2 sigma values.

Table 2[Click here to download Table: Table 2.xlsx](#)

Table 2. Instrument specifications and LA-ICP-MS running conditions.

Laser system	Teledyne Photon Machines Analyte G2 193 nm Excimer
ablation chamber	HelEx II
laser energy set point	4 mJ
laser energy density	2.75 Jcm ⁻²
repetition rate	25 & 50 Hz
spot size	30-80 μm square
signal smoothing	variable volume smoothing device set to 5 ml
acquisition time	20 s
washout	40 s
ICP-MS	Thermo Scientific iCAP Qc
MFC1 (He)	0.35 ml/min
MFC2 (He)	0.05 ml/min
MFC3 (N ₂)	13 ml/min
nebuliser gas (Ar)	0.67 L/min
RF power	1350 W
ThO/Th (NIST612)	<0.2%
analyte dwell times (ms)	<i>normal resolution:</i> ³⁵ Cl (100), ⁷⁹ Br (250), ⁸¹ Br (250) ¹²⁷ I (250), ²⁰⁸ Pb (20), ⁵⁵ Mn (20) <i>high resolution:</i> ³⁹ K (20), ⁴³ Ca (20), ²⁹ Si (20), ²³ Na (20)
duty cycle	390 – 970 ms
analysis mode	standard high sensitivity mode (STDS)
tuning (NIST612)	85 μm square, 10 Hz, 2.75 Jcm ⁻² , 40 μms ⁻¹

Table 3

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Table 3. Mean Cl, Br, I, F and S concentrations of apatites, scapolites and SEM glasses determined in this study via LA-ICP-MS, EPMA and CIC.

Apatites	n =	Cl µg/g	Br µg/g	I µg/g	F µg/g	S µg/g	Method	CaO % m/m int. std.	SiO ₂ % m/m int. std.	ref. for int. stds.	
Durango†	38	3760	320	-	-	-	LA	53.84	-	1	
	4	4400	500	-	-	-	EPMA	-	-	-	
NMNH 104021	10	4440	310	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Durango											
Otter Lake	14	90	40	-	-	-	LA	54	-	2	
Ødegården	32	65330	5600	-	-	-	LA	52.07	-	1	
Madagascar	32	1920	160	-	-	-	LA	-	-	-	
815	32	13150	600	-	-	-	LA	54.17	-	1	
Wilberforce	5	bdl.	-	-	-	-	EPMA	-	-	-	
					37900	600					
Scapolites											
BB1	32	29980	1520	403	26	0.78	0.16	LA	7	56	3
SY	28	35340	2110	738	48	0.92	0.15	LA	5.4	56	3
SP	28	40550	1660	42.6	2.8	-	-	LA	1.7	62	3
NMNH R6600 meionite	14	14570	810	494	32	1.25	0.18	LA	13.58	49.78	4
Glasses											
GSC-1G*	10	55	20	-	-	-	-	LA	7.14	53	5
GSD-1G*	26	141	16	31.5	3.3	-	-	LA	7.21	52.5	5
GSE-1G	40	1210	110	289	26	3.41	0.42	LA	7.27	52.9	5
BHVO-2G*	12	87	26	-	-	-	-	LA	11.4	49.3	5
BCR-2G*	12	96	10	-	-	-	-	LA	7.22	54.3	5
ATHO-G*	12	286	46	-	-	-	-	LA	1.7	75.6	6
	6	231	44	-	-	-	-	CIC	-	-	-
	3	-	-	0.97	0.24	-	-	CIC	-	-	-
						804	137	26	8		
StHs6/80-G*	12	164	36	-	-	-	-	LA	5.28	63.7	6
	5	132	25	0.94	0.3	-	-	CIC	-	-	-
	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	CIC	-	-	-
						290	60				
GOR128-G*	10	65	25	-	-	-	-	LA	6.24	46.1	6
GOR132-G*	10	64	22	-	-	-	-	LA	8.45	45.5	6
ML3B-G*	10	53	17	-	-	-	-	LA	10.5	51.4	6
KL2-G*	10	54	20	-	-	-	-	LA	10.9	50.3	6
T1-G*	10	152	36	-	-	-	-	LA	7.1	58.6	6
Corning A											
NMNH 117218-4	12	914	87	-	-	-	-	LA	5.03	66.56	7
Corning C											
NMNH 117218-2	12	690	45	-	-	-	-	LA	5.07	34.87	7
Corning D											
NMNH 117218-3	12	1610	150	-	-	-	-	LA	14.8	55.24	7
NIST610	26	378	26	-	-	-	-	LA	11.4	69.7	8
NIST612*	14	121	22	-	-	-	-	LA	11.9	72.1	8

All LA-ICP-MS data are for 58 µm square spots. Quoted values represent mean of *n* analyses. Complete dataset is included as a supplementary data file.

*LA-ICP-MS Cl data represent mean values from olivine correction DRS in iolite using NIST612 (390 µg/g Cl) as calibration standard, except ATHO-G that was calibrated using GSE-1G (1220 µg/g Cl).

References: 1. Chew et al., 2014, 2. Carlson et al., 1999, 3. Kendrick et al., 2013, 4. Jarosewich et al., 1980, 5. Jochum et al., 2005, 6. Jochum et al., 2006, 7. Vicenzi et al., 2002, 8. Jochum et al., 2011.

Methods: LA = laser ablation ICP-MS, EPMA = electron probe microanalysis, CIC = combustion ion chromatography.

†LA data acquired on same Durango chip characterised by EPMA by Chew et al., 2014, cf. Table 1. EPMA data acquired on University of Oxford in-house Durango chip.

Dash denotes below limit of quantification based on results of this study. bdl. = below detection limit. Blank field denotes not measured.

A Ca value of 40.04 % m/m was adopted for internal standardisation of all apatite analyses.

Table 4[Click here to download Table: Table 4.xlsx](#)

Table 4. Summary of key ablation parameters and their impact on crater aspect ratio for different materials.

Italicised, bold entries denote conditions that produce craters with aspect ratios of $\leq 1:1$ down to 30 micrometre spots. Deeper craters require larger spot sizes to maintain a 1:1 aspect ratio.

		<i>Ablation parameters</i>								
		50 Hz, 20 s, 5 ml smoothing		25 Hz, 20 s, 5 ml smoothing		20 Hz, 20 s, 5 ml smoothing		20 Hz, 18 s, 5 ml smoothing		
		1000 shots fired		500 shots fired		400 shots fired		360 shots fired		
		<i>(700 shots integrated)*</i>		<i>(350 shots integrated)*</i>		<i>(280 shots integrated)*</i>		<i>(240 shots integrated)*</i>		
		Total crater depth		Total crater depth		Total crater depth		Total crater depth		
		Crater depth		Crater depth		Crater depth		Crater depth		
Material	Abl. Rate	(μm/pluse)	(μm)	considered (μm)	(μm)	considered (μm)	(μm)	considered (μm)	(μm)	considered (μm)
Scapolite	0.07		70	59.5	35	29.8	28	23.8	25.2	21
Apatite	0.105		105	89.3	52.5	44.6	42	35.7	37.8	31.5
Glass	0.105		105	89.3	52.5	44.6	42	35.7	37.8	31.5
Olivine	0.09		90	76.5	45	38.3	36	30.6	32.4	27

*For all ablations, the first and last 3 seconds of the signal are excluded for each analytical integration in Iolite.

Crater depth considered excludes the last 3 seconds of ablation only.

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