#### Die Blei-Blei Methoden

Pb produced by radioactive decay of U & Th  $^{238}U \rightarrow ^{206}Pb$  (half-life 4.47 Ga)  $^{235}U \rightarrow ^{207}Pb$  (half-life 0.70 Ga)  $^{232}Th \rightarrow ^{208}Pb$  (half-life 14 Ga) non-radiogenic <sup>204</sup>Pb used as reference

so, increase of <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb, due to U and Th decay

$$\frac{\Delta^{207} Pb / ^{204} Pb}{\Delta^{206} Pb / ^{204} Pb} = \frac{^{235} U \left( e^{\lambda_{235} t} - 1 \right)}{^{238} U \left( e^{\lambda_{238} t} - 1 \right)}$$



(Isotope ratios of Pb in troilite of the iron meteorite Canyon Diablo)



galena ores that form the basis of the 'conformable' Pb model



### The isotope geology of Pb



### The isotope geology of Pb

Range of values required to explain OIB sources using a twostage Pb evolution model. Parental mantle  $(\mu_1)$  undergoes differentiation events at different times to yield discrete OIB source domains  $(\mu_2)$ .



### The lead isotope paradox



The fact that MORBs do not plot to the left of the geochron is called the "First terrestrial lead isotope paradox"

Hofmann (2003) : Treatise on Geochemistry





• uptake of lead by the core ("core pumping")

Core Pb-pumping model (<u>Allègre *et al.*, 1982</u>) relies on the assumption that during core formation, Pb was partitioned into the core whereas U became enriched in the silicate Earth  $\rightarrow$  increase of  $\mu$ -value



Lagos et al. (2008) The Earth's missing lead may not be in the core. Nature 456

Core pumping theory evaluated by Newsome et al. (1986)





• storage of unradiogenic lead in the lower cont. crust or subcont. lithosphere



hidden reservoir with Pb isotopes to the left of the geochron



Crust and mantle:

complementary in terms of Pb-contents

but similar isotopic composition



 Ave. oceanic and cont. crust close to geochron
→ little net fractionation of U/Pb during crust-mantle differentiation

### The terrestrial Th/U ratio, $\kappa$

$${}^{208}Pb^* = {}^{232}Th(e^{\lambda_{232}t} - 1)$$
$${}^{206}Pb^* = {}^{238}U(e^{\lambda_{238}t} - 1)$$

$$\frac{{}^{208}Pb}{{}^{206}Pb} * = \frac{{}^{232}Th}{{}^{238}U} = \kappa \frac{(e^{\lambda_{232}t} - 1)}{(e^{\lambda_{238}t} - 1)}$$

$${}^{208}Pb^{*/206}Pb^{*} = \frac{({}^{208}Pb/{}^{204}Pb)_{t} - ({}^{208}Pb/{}^{204}Pb)_{T}}{({}^{206}Pb/{}^{204}Pb)_{t} - ({}^{206}Pb/{}^{204}Pb)_{T}}$$

T = initial age/age of the Earth

t = formation age of sample

\* = radiogenic (from <sup>238</sup>U and <sup>232</sup>Th) Pb

### Pb-Isotopie und Th/U-Verhältnis, κ



Die fehlende Korrelation zwischen Pb und Sr ist auf das anomale Verhalten von Blei zurückzuführen!



### Open system model of Pb isotope evolution of the Earth

Time integrated Th/U ratio (derived from Pb isotope data) of ~3.75 in MORB is much higher than the "instantaneous" presentday Th/U ratio of ~2.5!!

→ MORB reservoir is buffered over geological time by a less depleted reservoir, i.e:

→ MORB source had a brief residence time in the depleted reservoir and spend most of Earth history in a reservoir with a Th/U ratio near Bulk Earth.



Galer & O'Nions (1985) Nature 316

### The upper mantle $\mu$ -value



Instantaneous  $\mu$  value in MORB source

White (1993) EPSL 115

Übung:

# Das Alter der Erde

In der Stratigraphie eigesetzte geochemische Methoden

## Stratigraphie + Datierung = Chronostratigraphie

alle anderen Methoden der Stratigraphie werden in die chronostratigraphische Abfolge eingehängt.

### How do we know the age of the Earth?

### Radiometric dating A time machine to the past



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ZAMANS

### One Hundred Years of Geochronology

DANIEL J. CONDON and MARK D. SCHMITZ, Guest Editors

....and Counting

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Arthur Holmes 1913: *The age of the Earth* 

### Stratigraphie und Datierung (Chronostratigraphie)





### Towards a calibrated geological time scale



### Towards a calibrated geological time scale





### Radiogene Isotopensysteme



Grafik von: http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Goldschmidt-Klassifikation

### Datierungssysteme











### Laschamp

# the Earth at 40 ka

short and fast reversal of the Earth's magnetic field

short-term climate variability of the last ice age

and volcanic eruption in Italy

### **Das Laschamp Ereignis**







40.7 - 39.4 cal ka BP



34.9 - 34.5 cal ka BP



short and fast reversal of the Earth's magnetic field

short-term climate variability of the last ice age

and volcanic eruption in Italy

Why did Neanderthals become KTINCT?

### **Permo-Triassic mass extinction**





### **Permo-Triassic mass extinction**



#### Beginning of Siberian Traps volcanism: 250.0 ± 1.6 Ma (Renne et al. 1995)

The uncertainty of a data (age) is as important as the data (age) itself (Ken Ludwig)



#### The uncertainty of a date is as important as the date itself (Ken Ludwig 2003)





### Datingsmethoden und Schließungstemperatur

Closure Temp: the temperature at which a cooling mineral can no longer exchange isotopes with it's surroundings

Mineral	Method	T (°C)
Zircon	U-Pb	>800
Monazite	U-Pb	>800
Titanite (Sphene)	U-Pb	600
Garnet	Sm-Nd	>550
Hornblende	K-Ar	500
Muscovite	Rb-Sr	500
Muscovite	K-Ar	350
Apatite	U-Pb	350
Biotite	Rb-Sr	300
Biotite	K-Ar	280
K-Feldspar	K-Ar	200
Apatite	Fission Track	120

Closure temperatures for common minerals for different isotopic systems. Note that closure temperatures for different systems in the same minerals can vary.

### Datingsmethoden und Schließungstemperatur

