

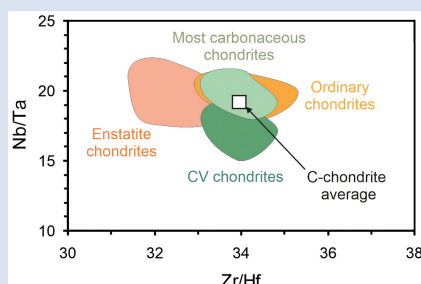
High field strength elements in chondrites and their refractory components

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Abstract



In geochemistry and cosmochemistry, chondrites provide important reference values for comparison with planetary compositions. Employing isotope dilution, we report a comprehensive high precision data set for the refractory high field strength elements (HFSEs; W-Nb-Ta-Zr-Hf) and Sm-Nd-Lu-U-Th in different types of chondrites and in refractory inclusions, mainly from CV3 chondrites. Except for U, parent body processes and terrestrial alteration appear to have negligible effects. The CI chondrite data allow calculation of canonical trace element ratios such as Nb/Ta, Zr/Nb, Zr/Hf, Hf/W or Th/U at unprecedented precision and accuracy. Enstatite chondrites exhibit resolvable lower Hf/W and Zr/Hf than carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites. Ratios of Nb/Ta are uniform between all chondrite classes and groups, except for CV chondrites, where Nb/Ta is lowered by admixture of refractory inclusions that display systematic depletions of the slightly less refractory and more siderophile Nb. Regarding parent-daughter ratios of the Lu-Hf, Sm-Nd, Hf-W, and Nb-Zr radioactive decay systems, the variations in chondrites and their refractory components must have already been established in the solar nebula by selective processing of metal and silicate components and condensation processes during CAI formation.

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Introduction

In geochemistry and cosmochemistry, the extended group of high field strength elements (HFSEs; Nb, Ta, Zr, Hf and W which are all refractory and mostly lithophile) allows us to investigate processes related to condensation in the solar nebula and to planetary differentiation. Their abundances in chondritic meteorites provide an important reference composition for bulk planets and asteroids that is not affected by volatile element fractionation. During differentiation of planetary bodies, the two HFSEs W and, to a lesser extent, Nb may behave as siderophile or chalcophile and may be hosted by metal or sulfide phases (e.g., Wade and Wood, 2001; Rubie *et al.*, 2011; Münker *et al.*, 2017). As all HFSEs have condensation temperatures above 1500 K (Lodders, 2003), they are traditionally seen as displaying little fractionation between different chondrite groups, with the notable exception of CV group carbonaceous chondrites (e.g., Münker *et al.*, 2003; Kleine *et al.*, 2004). Recent work, however, suggested that some HFSE ratios like Nb/Ta, Zr/Nb or Hf/W might be fractionated between enstatite chondrites and other chondrite classes (Barrat *et al.*, 2014; Yoshizaki *et al.*, 2021; Hellmann *et al.*, 2024). The origin of these features has remained elusive but has been ascribed to early nebular heterogeneities caused by metal-silicate distribution, variable addition of refractory inclusions or redistribution on chondrite parent bodies (e.g., Bouvier *et al.*, 2008; Barrat *et al.*, 2014). Likewise, HFSE patterns might also help to unravel the causes of the nucleosynthetic isotope dichotomy between non carbonaceous (CC) and carbonaceous (NCC) type chondrites (e.g.,

Warren, 2011), which has previously been attributed to variable admixture of refractory materials (e.g., Burkhardt *et al.*, 2019).

To better understand the HFSE inventory of chondrites and to update chondritic reference parameters, we determined the abundances of the HFSEs W, Nb, Ta, Zr, Hf and similarly incompatible and refractory elements (Th, U, Sm, Nd and Lu) in a comprehensive set of chondrites and some of their inclusions, including Ca, Al-rich inclusion (CAIs) with different refractory element depletion patterns (type II and unfractionated) as well as amoeboid olivine aggregates (AOAs). All measurements were performed on the same meteorite split and at high precision, mostly employing isotope dilution and Multicollector ICPMS (MC-ICPMS). To compare the results with previous studies and to assess open system behaviour, our data set also includes radiogenic isotope data ($^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$) and for the inclusions also a complete set of rare earth elements (REE), obtained by solution quadrupole ICPMS on the same meteorite splits used for isotope dilution measurements. Notably, the chondrite samples analysed here include homogeneous powders prepared from comparatively large chondrite samples in previous studies, including the Orgueil CI chondrite (Barrat *et al.*, 2012), the Smithsonian Allende CV chondrite powder (Jarosewich *et al.*, 1987), as well as g-sized powder aliquots of enstatite chondrites (Braukmüller *et al.*, 2025). Such homogeneous samples are particularly suited to provide representative elemental abundances.

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Sample Selection and Analytical Techniques

Details of the sample materials are given in the [Supplementary Information](#). As for the carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites, we analysed splits prepared from <0.5 g-sized specimen (see also [Münker et al., 2003](#); [Kleine et al., 2004](#)), but also powders that were prepared from 0.3–1.0 g-sized splits of the CI chondrites Orgueil ($n=5$), Ivuna, and Alais, and one powder split of the CM chondrite Nogoya. For these eight powders, a comprehensive major and trace element data set was previously reported ([Barrat et al., 2012](#)). The carbonaceous chondrite sample suite also includes different splits of the Allende USN reference powder ([Jarosewich et al., 1987](#)), of which one split was previously analysed in [Barrat et al. \(2012\)](#) and the other split together with the Münster Allende powder ([Münker et al., 2003](#)) was previously analysed by [Braukmüller et al. \(2018\)](#). We also prepared representative powders for 10 enstatite chondrites from 1–2 g-sized splits provided by NASA, analysed alongside with smaller splits prepared from *ca.* 0.5 g initial masses. Our compilation further includes complete chondrite data sets previously analysed in [Münker et al. \(2003\)](#) and [Kleine et al. \(2004\)](#), for which we now also report additional Lu and $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ data for the same splits. To understand the anomalous HFSE distributions in CV chondrites, we also analysed aliquots of 12 CAIs and 4 AOAs from the CV chondrites Allende and NWA 2086 and the H6 chondrite NWA 7924. Data for CAI samples 1–6 were previously reported in [Peters et al. \(2017\)](#), for CAI samples 7–15 in [Pfeifer \(2017\)](#) and for A-33/44 in [Jacobsen et al. \(2008\)](#).

All isotope dilution measurements of HFSEs, U–Th and REEs were performed on the same chondrite split, using *ca.* 100 mg of powder prepared from the larger initial sample masses. Prior to digestion, these samples were spiked with mixed ^{183}W – ^{180}Ta – ^{180}Hf – ^{176}Lu – ^{94}Zr , ^{149}Sm – ^{150}Nd and ^{229}Th – $^{233/236}\text{U}$ tracers that were calibrated against pure metal standards, identical to those used in the studies of [Münker et al. \(2003\)](#), [Scherer et al. \(2001\)](#) and [Thiemens et al. \(2019\)](#). Individual element cuts and a quantitative Zr/Nb fraction were separated by ion chromatography and measured by MC-ICPMS (protocols of [Münker et al., 2001](#); [Weyer et al., 2002](#); [Thiemens et al., 2019](#)). The CV chondrite inclusions were first dissolved, and two liquid aliquots were (1) spiked for the measurements above, and (2) used for complementary trace element measurements by quadrupole ICPMS to classify the inclusions (see [Supplementary Information](#)).

Results and Discussion

Measured trace element and isotope data for the individual chondrite powders and CV chondrite inclusions (CAIs and AOAs) are given in the [Supplementary Information](#). Chondrite data are plotted in [Figure 1](#), average compositions for the different chondrite classes/groups are given in [Table 1](#). Because of sample heterogeneity, powders prepared from smaller chondrite specimens (<0.5 g) appear to display larger scatter. However, most measured HFSE ratios (*i.e.* Zr/Nb, Zr/Hf, Lu/Hf) as well as present day and initial Hf–Nd isotope compositions overlap between most different chondrite classes and with previous high precision HFSE and Hf–Nd isotope studies on chondrites (*e.g.*, [Weyer et al., 2002](#); [Münker et al., 2003](#); [Bouvier et al., 2008](#); [Stracke et al., 2012](#)). Enstatite chondrites and CV group carbonaceous chondrites are two notable exceptions for Nb/Ta (lower in CV chondrites and scattering in small (<1 g) enstatite chondrite splits) as well as Hf/W and Zr/Hf (lower in enstatite chondrites). The lower Nb/Ta in Allende and other CV chondrites were previously explained by a larger proportion

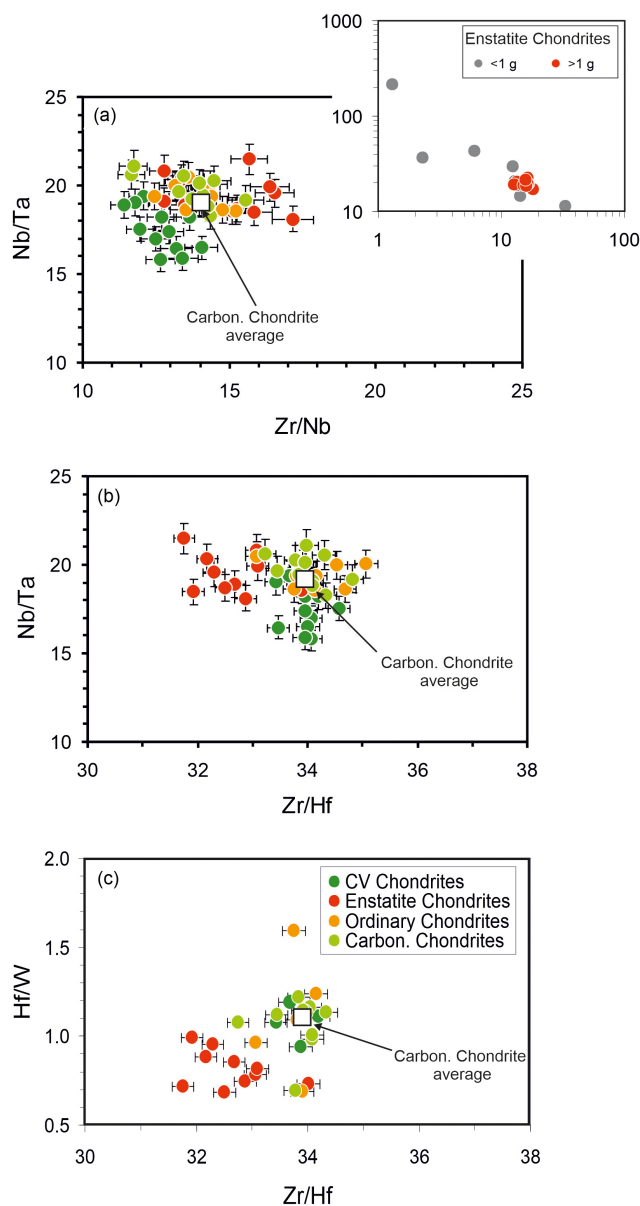


Figure 1 Plots of (a) Nb/Ta versus Zr/Nb, (b) Nb/Ta versus Zr/Hf and (c) Hf/W versus Zr/Hf, illustrating HFSE patterns in different chondrite classes and the CV group. The insert in (a) shows disturbed enstatite chondrite splits of low initial masses that exhibit a heterogeneous Nb distribution, resulting in fractionated Nb/Ta. CV group chondrites display resolvable lower Nb/Ta and enstatite chondrites lower Zr/Hf and Hf/W than all other classes/groups. The carbonaceous chondrite average shown excludes CV chondrites.

of ultra-refractory material with low Nb/Ta (*e.g.*, [Stracke et al., 2012](#); [Münker et al., 2017](#)), which can now be confirmed by the consistently lower Nb/Ta in CAIs (3.3–18.3), whereas AOAs display both lower and higher values (4.1–24).

As closest analogues to the bulk solar system composition, the CI chondrite powders of Orgueil, Ivuna and Alais (*cf.* [Barrat et al., 2012](#)) display average W, Zr, Hf and Ta contents of 95.6 ng/g, 3.62 µg/g, 107 ng/g and 13.7 ng/g, respectively, in good agreement with the CI chondrite estimates by [Palme and O'Neill \(2014\)](#), but markedly lower than reported by earlier high precision studies ([Münker et al., 2003](#); [Kleine et al., 2004](#)), where many smaller meteorite splits in the 0.1–0.2 g range were analysed. Corresponding Nb/Ta, Zr/Nb, Zr/Hf and Hf/W for CI chondrites are 19.0 ± 0.4 , 14.0 ± 0.8 , 33.9 ± 0.5 and 1.12 ± 0.07

Table 1 Average HFSE abundances and element ratios as well as radiogenic isotope compositions measured for different chondrite classes and groups. We recommend the CI averages to be used as canonical ratios in geochemical and cosmochemical studies. Except for CV chondrites (not shown, see Table S-1) and some enstatite chondrites (see Table S-2), Nb/Ta, Zr/Nb and Lu/Hf overlap between all chondrite classes and groups. Ratios of Hf/W and Zr/Hf in enstatite chondrites are resolvably lower. Note that 95 % c.i. errors include Student's *t* factors.

	Orgueil Powders			CI (Orgueil, Ivuna, Alais)			Enstatite chondrites			Ordinary chondrites		
	Mean	2 s.d.	95 % c.i.	Mean	2 s.d.	95 % c.i.	Mean	2 s.d.	95 % c.i.	Mean	2 s.d.	95 % c.i.
µg/g												
Zr	3.66	0.08	0.05	3.62	0.18	0.08	3.94	1.04	0.35	5.27	0.73	0.23
Nb	0.257	0.022	0.014	0.259	0.025	0.012	0.254	0.109	0.036	0.384	0.056	0.020
Ta	0.0138	0.0003	0.0002	0.0137	0.0005	0.0002	0.0134	0.0058	0.0019	0.0193	0.0041	0.0015
Sm	0.140	0.009	0.006	0.144	0.021	0.010	0.165	0.075	0.027	0.172	0.073	0.023
Nd	0.432	0.026	0.016	0.443	0.061	0.028	0.484	0.185	0.066	0.531	0.230	0.073
Lu	0.0254	0.0024	0.0015	0.0255	0.0020	0.0009	0.0288	0.0098	0.0033	0.0322	0.0080	0.0025
Hf	0.108	0.003	0.002	0.107	0.004	0.002	0.121	0.030	0.010	0.154	0.020	0.006
W	0.0931	0.0039	0.0024	0.0956	0.0101	0.0047	0.151	0.058	0.020	0.145	0.074	0.046
Th	0.0279	0.0010	0.0006	0.0283	0.0021	0.0010	0.0344	0.0165	0.0055	-	-	-
U	0.00766	0.00062	0.00038	0.00874	0.00392	0.00182	0.0108	0.0108	0.0036	-	-	-
¹⁷⁶ Lu/ ¹⁷⁷ Hf	0.0335	0.0024	0.0015	0.0339	0.0024	0.0011	0.0339	0.0071	0.0024	0.0299	0.0085	0.0027
¹⁷⁶ Hf/ ¹⁷⁷ Hf	0.282875	0.000221	0.000138	0.282902	0.000203	0.000094	0.282896	0.000738	0.000248	0.282550	0.000744	0.000236
εHf(0)	3.6	7.8	4.9	4.6	7.2	3.3	4.4	26.1	8.8	-7.9	26.3	8.4
εHf(4565)	2.7	1.3	0.8	2.4	1.6	0.7	2.2	6.1	2.1	2.6	2.3	0.7
¹⁴⁷ Sm/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd	0.1959	0.0013	0.0008	0.1961	0.0016	0.0008	0.1964	0.0062	0.0022	0.1956	0.0034	0.0021
¹⁴³ Nd/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd	0.512651	0.000057	0.000035	0.512654	0.000052	0.000024	0.512777	0.000114	0.000041	0.512667	0.000183	0.000114
εNd(now)	0.3	1.1	0.7	0.3	1.0	0.5	2.7	2.2	0.8	0.6	3.6	2.2
εNd(4565)	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.2	2.9	2.4	0.8	1.2	1.9	1.2
Nb/Ta	19.0	1.0	0.7	19.0	0.9	0.4	19.0	2.6	0.9	19.5	1.4	0.5
Zr/Hf	34.0	0.4	0.2	33.9	1.0	0.5	32.7	1.5	0.5	34.2	1.1	0.3
Zr/Nb	14.3	1.3	0.8	14.0	1.7	0.8	15.8	3.3	1.1	13.8	1.8	0.6
Hf/W	1.16	0.08	0.05	1.12	0.15	0.07	0.82	0.30	0.10	1.12	0.67	0.42
¹⁸⁰ Hf/ ¹⁸⁴ W	1.36	0.09	0.06	1.32	0.17	0.08	0.97	0.36	0.12	1.32	0.79	0.49
Hf/Ta	7.83	0.40	0.25	7.49	1.70	0.79	9.15	1.90	0.64	7.95	0.97	0.35
W/Th	3.34	0.24	0.15	3.38	0.38	0.18	4.53	2.28	0.77	-	-	-
W/U	12.2	1.4	0.9	11.3	3.4	1.6	15.8	10.8	3.6	-	-	-
Th/U	3.64	0.16	0.10	3.34	1.10	0.51	3.49	1.59	0.53	-	-	-

(corresponding to $^{180}\text{Hf}/^{184}\text{W}=1.32$; all errors 95 % c.i.). Measured element ratios for CM and CK chondrites as well as for ordinary chondrites overlap within error with CI chondrites (Figs. 1, S-2), although absolute element abundances can be substantially higher. The Orgueil splits yield an average Th/U of 3.64 ± 0.10 , while Alais and Ivuna deviate towards lower values, likely due to secondary U enrichment (10.5 and 12.5 ng/g U compared to 7.7 ± 0.4 ng/g U in Orgueil). Collectively, we therefore propose to use the CI chondrite averages as canonical solar system values for the HFSE W-Nb-Ta-Zr-Hf-Lu, whereas due to apparent U mobility in the Alais and Ivuna splits analysed we propose to only use the Orgueil average as canonical value for Th/U.

While Zr/Hf and Hf/W in enstatite chondrites (32.7 ± 0.5 and 0.82 ± 0.10 , respectively) are slightly lower than in other classes, Nb/Ta ratios display a vast scatter, ranging from 11.3–213, with extreme scatter displayed by samples with smallest masses of initially prepared powders. As Nb/Ta varies with Zr/Nb and Nb abundances (inset in Fig. 1a), but not with other parameters, we conclude that the scatter is caused by selective re-distribution of Nb into metal or sulfide phases, confirming earlier findings (e.g., Barrat *et al.*, 2014). Notably, except for W, Nb is the HFSE with the strongest siderophile-chalcophile affinities at more reduced conditions (e.g., Wade and Wood, 2001;

Münker *et al.*, 2017). As no positive correlation between Zr/Nb and Hf/W has been found between different classes and EL-EH groups (Fig. S-2), nebular processes are the most likely cause for the lower Hf/W in enstatite chondrites. When limited to a subset of larger initial sample mass (>1 g), Zr/Nb in the enstatite chondrites is approaching more unfractionated values, and an average Nb/Ta of 19.0 ± 0.9 (95 % c.i.) is calculated. This value is indistinguishable from the CI average, but inconsistent with previous work claiming a different average Nb/Ta for the enstatite chondrite reservoir (Yoshizaki *et al.*, 2021).

The high precision HFSE data obtained for CAIs and AOAs allow valuable insights into the mechanisms controlling the HFSE budget of chondrites (Fig. 2). Compared to chondrites, type II CAIs are markedly depleted in highly refractory elements such as Lu, Zr and Hf relative to Ta and Nb, and show correspondingly lower Zr/Nb (Table S-4), as they condensed from nebular reservoirs previously depleted in these highly refractory elements (e.g., Kornacki and Fegley, 1986). As a second competing process, Nb is always variably depleted relative to Ta, leading to overall lower Nb/Ta. This may be seen in the light of a slightly more volatile behaviour of Nb predicted from thermodynamic data (e.g., Lodders, 2003) but may also reflect more siderophile properties of Nb at the more reducing conditions prevailing during CAI formation. CAIs with unfractionated REE patterns

(“unfractionated” group in Fig. S-1; e.g., type III) display little variation in Lu-Zr-Hf, but are again variably depleted in Nb. Model calculations in Figure 2 show that admixture of 2–5 % type II or type III CAIs with their uniformly low Nb/Ta can explain the lower Nb/Ta measured in CV chondrites, in line with previous studies (e.g., Stracke *et al.*, 2012; Alexander *et al.*, 2019). With the exception of Zr-Hf, type II CAIs dominate the element budget of HFSE and REE (Fig. 2). Notably, effects on other HFSE ratios such as Zr/Hf or Lu/Hf are negligible, because Zr/Hf is only fractionated in type II CAIs with their extremely low Zr-Hf-Lu contents that insignificantly contribute to the bulk chondrite budget. Conversely, Zr/Hf or Lu/Hf are not fractionated in unfractionated CAIs that are not depleted in these elements and contribute to the chondrite budget to a larger extent. As in chondrites, refractory inclusions exhibit a somewhat larger range of Th/U (0.58–9.34), which in the light of

similarly high condensation temperatures (Lodders, 2003) and the lack of a consistent depletion or enrichment pattern, we ascribe to alteration on the parent bodies or terrestrial alteration.

Based on nucleosynthetic isotope anomalies, Burkhardt *et al.* (2019) argued that variable admixture of CAIs can explain the full compositional array from non-carbonaceous chondrites (NCCs) to carbonaceous chondrites (CCs), with CV chondrites as the most CAI-rich end member. While our HFSE data can confirm their conclusions for the carbonaceous chondrites, the difference between NCCs to CCs is difficult to explain. In this case NCCs should display resolvable higher Nb/Ta ratios than CCs, which, in contrast to CV chondrites, is not observed. The same conclusion derives from Hf/W (Fig. 3), which is lower in type II CAIs due to depletion of Hf. Admixture of type II CAIs would therefore lower Hf/W but, rather, Hf/W is lowest in the enstatite chondrites, contrary to the prediction from nucleosynthetic isotope anomalies. Likewise, combined ^{50}Ti – ^{54}Cr – ^{62}Ni nucleosynthetic isotope patterns in chondrites cannot be reproduced by simple mixing with refractory components only (Palme and Mezger, 2024). The systematically lower Hf/W found for enstatite chondrites agree with inferences from ^{182}Hf – ^{182}W relationships (Hellmann *et al.*, 2024), where the difference was attributed (1) to addition of CAIs, or (2) to chondrule formation processes. Based on HFSE systematics reported here (indistinguishable Nb/Ta), their first model can now be ruled out (even for type II CAIs), making Hf-W fractionation in the early solar nebula related to chondrule formation the most plausible explanation. Furthermore, metal or sulfide segregation can be excluded, as Zr/Nb and Hf/W lack a positive correlation (Fig. S-2).

Figure 3 illustrates the effects of refractory inclusions on parent-daughter ratios of short (^{182}Hf – ^{182}W , ^{92}Nb – ^{92}Zr) and long lived (^{176}Lu – ^{177}Hf , ^{147}Sm – ^{143}Nd) radioactive decay systems in chondrites and their components. Here, parent-daughter ratios are plotted *versus* $\text{Tm}_\text{N}/\text{Er}_\text{N}$ as measure of refractory element fractionation at high temperatures. In most cases, the element ratios are either constant or vary systematically with $\text{Tm}_\text{N}/\text{Er}_\text{N}$, illustrating that secondary redistribution during parent body alteration is rather insignificant at the sample scale. For the two long lived decay systems discussed here, effects of refractory inclusions are negligible, because all groups of inclusions overlap in their Sm/Nd and Lu/Hf with those of bulk chondrites (Fig. 3a,d). If mineral scale redistribution on parent bodies by secondary processes (e.g., for Lu by crystallisation of phosphates; e.g., Bouvier *et al.*, 2008) is neglected, most chondrites therefore show uniform parent-daughter ratios for Lu/Hf and Sm/Nd, irrespective of their petrological type and CAI contents. For the ^{92}Nb – ^{92}Zr system, the effects depend on the type of inclusion. Type II CAIs with their extremely depleted Zr contents will lower Zr/Nb, whereas unfractionated CAIs with their higher Zr/Nb and depleted Nb will increase Zr/Nb without concomitant fractionation of Tm/Er (Fig. 3c). This particularly explains the somewhat larger than analytical scatter in Zr/Nb (Fig. 1a) that is even observed within individual groups of carbonaceous chondrites that otherwise display much more homogenous HFSE ratios. In contrast to the carbonaceous chondrites, the secondary redistribution of Zr/Nb in some enstatite chondrites at smaller sample scales (insert in Fig. 1a) is linked to the chalcophile behaviour of Nb (Barrat *et al.*, 2014 and leaching experiments therein). Systematics of Hf and W in the inclusions (Fig. 3b) show similar patterns as for Zr/Nb. Here, unfractionated CAIs (and most types of AOAs) will not affect Hf/W or only cause a slight increase. Conversely, addition of type II CAIs causes a decrease of Hf/W, but this might not be resolvable, as they display low contents of Hf. Most importantly, type II inclusions cannot account for the lower Hf/W of the enstatite chondrite class (Table 1), because this would be accompanied by a marked decrease in Nb/Ta which is not observed (Fig. 1).

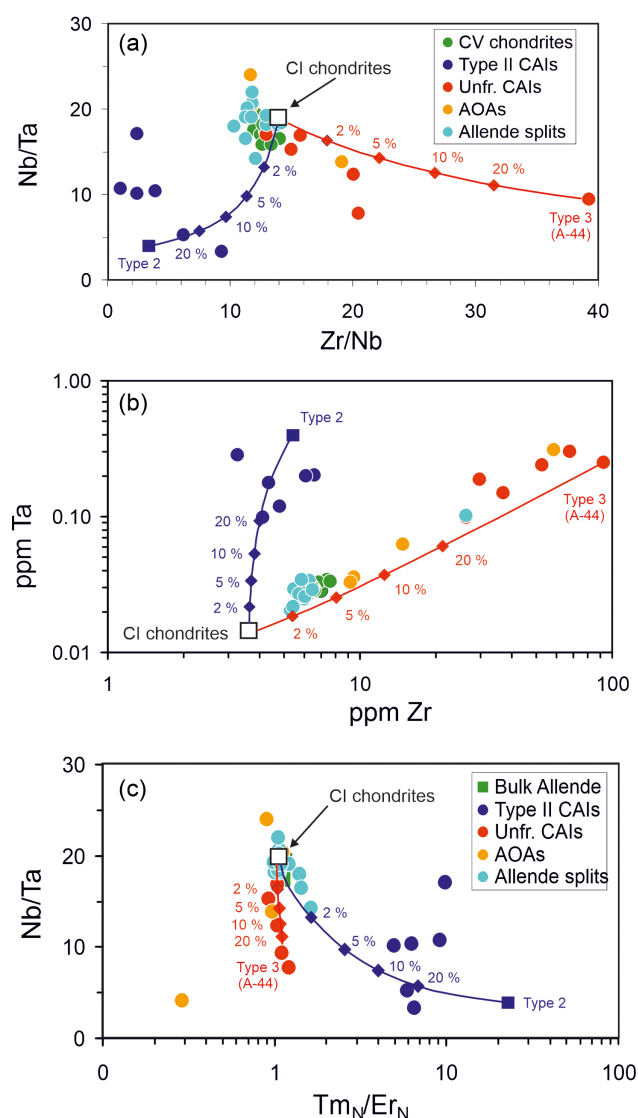


Figure 2 Plots illustrating the effect of refractory inclusions (CAIs and AOAs) on the HFSE inventory of CV chondrites. (a) Nb/Ta vs. Zr/Nb, (b) Zr vs. Ta and (c) Nb/Ta vs. $\text{Tm}_\text{N}/\text{Er}_\text{N}$. The plots also include previously published high precision HFSE data for small Allende fractions (Stracke *et al.*, 2012). Mixing lines illustrate that the distinct Nb depletions in CV chondrites result from the addition of variable proportions of both type II and unfractionated refractory material (type II CAI after Stracke *et al.*, 2012 and A-44 as unfractionated type III CAI were used as end members).

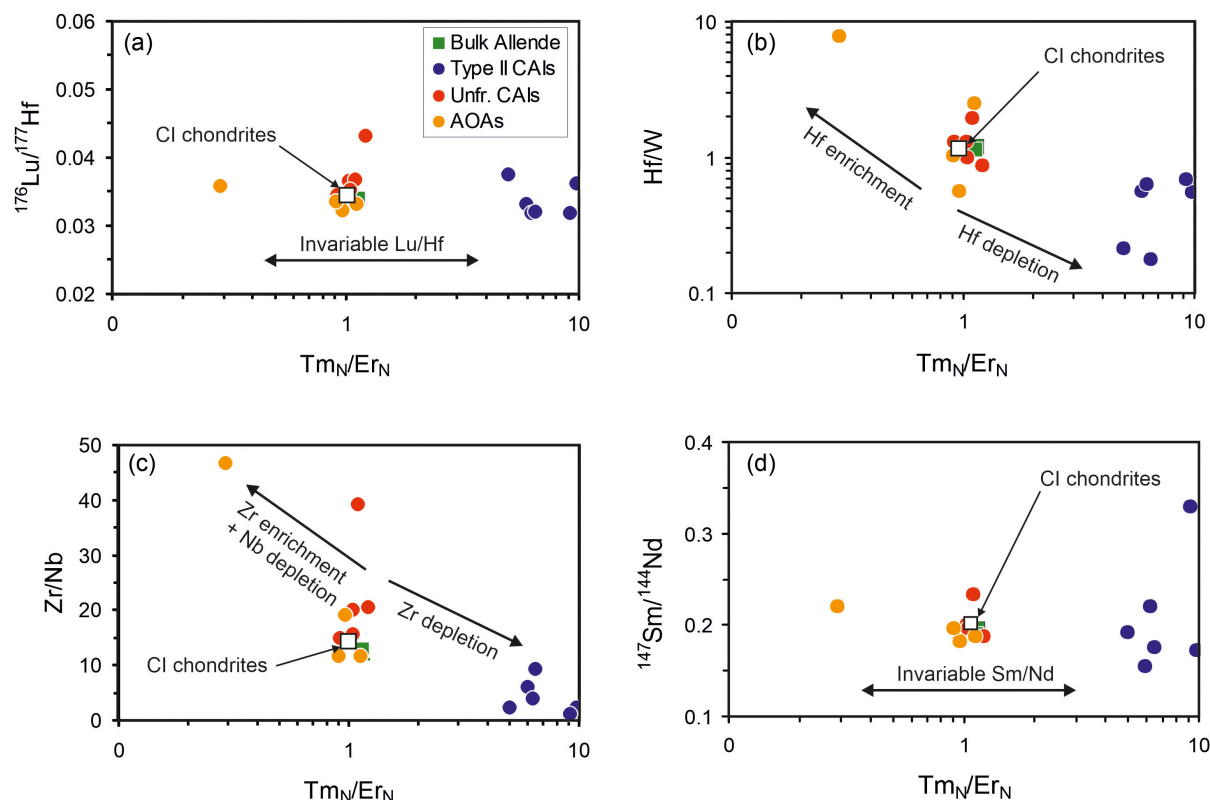


Figure 3 Plots illustrating the effect of CAIs on parent-daughter ratios of important long and short lived decay systems, where Tm_N/Er_N traces different types of refractory inclusions with different volatile depletion trends.

Hence, the low Hf/W of the enstatite chondrite group is rather an intrinsic feature of the inner solar system region. Collectively, the HFSE parent-daughter fractionations found in chondrites and their components likely mirror compositional gradients in the solar nebula before parent body formation.

Conclusions

New high precision measurements of HFSEs together with U/Th, Lu/Hf, and Sm/Nd ratios, all obtained by isotope dilution, provide more accurate chondritic reference values for these elements which are important anchors in planetary evolution studies. Collectively, HFSE compositions of chondritic meteorites from different regions of the solar system illustrate an overall solar system homogeneity for refractory HFSE (Zr, Hf, Ta), REE (Nd-Sm-Lu) and U-Th. The addition of refractory inclusions to carbonaceous chondrites of the CV group resulted in selective depletions of the slightly less refractory Nb compared to other refractory elements. Niobium also partitions into sulfides in reduced enstatite chondrites, resulting in small scale heterogeneities. Chondrites from the inner solar system exhibit resolvable lower Hf/W and Zr/Hf than those from outer regions. Parent-daughter ratios of long and short lived isotope systems studied here are uniform for Sm/Nd and Lu/Hf across chondrite-forming reservoirs. For Nb-Zr and Hf-W, the strong fractionation effects observed for inclusions and to a lesser extent for bulk chondrites originate from early processes in the solar nebula. Parent body effects are identified for Lu/Hf in ordinary chondrites and Zr/Nb in enstatite chondrites, where secondary phosphates and metals/sulfides, respectively, caused redistribution of Lu and Nb. Importantly, HFSE patterns in chondrites are inconsistent with models claiming that variable admixture of refractory material can explain the full compositional array from non-carbonaceous to carbonaceous chondrites.

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Additional Information

Supplementary Information accompanies this letter at <https://www.geochemicalperspectivesletters.org/article2533>.



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