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1 *JAAS Technical Note*

2 **Precise determination of Os isotope ratios in 15–4000 pg range using a**  
3 **sparging method using enhanced-sensitivity multiple Faraday**  
4 **collector–inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometry†**

5  
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8 We have developed a protocol for Os isotope analysis employing a sparging method  
9 coupled with an enhanced-sensitivity multiple Faraday collector–inductively coupled  
10 plasma–mass spectrometry (MFC-ICP-MS) technique. The enhanced-sensitivity ICP  
11 interface with  $10^{12}$   $\Omega$  high-gain amplifiers allowed for the stable and precise isotopic  
12 ratio analysis of Os by sparging in a very wide concentration range of 15–4000 pg. The  
13 analytical reproducibility of Johnson Matthey chemical (JMC) Os standards at 50, 100,  
14 200, 400, and 2000 pg Os were 0.8, 0.5, 0.2, 0.1, and 0.02% within two standard  
15 deviations (2SD), respectively. The low Os (50–200 pg) results compared with those  
16 obtained by sparging multiple-ion counter (MIC)-ICP-MS and high Os (400–2000 pg)  
17 results rivalled those of desolvating nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS and negative thermal  
18 ionisation mass spectrometry (N-TIMS). The analysed geological standards consisting  
19 of JCh-1 (chert; ~15 pg,  $n = 3$ ), JMS-2 (marine sediment; ~150 pg,  $n = 5$ ), UB-N  
20 (lherzoritc peridotite; ~4 ng,  $n = 4$ ), and JP-1 (harzburgitic peridotite; ~3 ng,  $n = 5$ )  
21 showed  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.657 \pm 0.065$ ,  $0.842 \pm 0.053$ ,  $0.12752 \pm 0.00016$ , and  $0.12071 \pm$   
22  $0.00069$  (errors are in 2SD), respectively; these results are comparable with those  
23 obtained by MIC-ICP-MS and N-TIMS. The results showed that the sparging method  
24 coupled with enhanced-sensitivity MFC-ICP-MS is a strong tool for determining Os

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6 25 isotope ratios in natural samples over a wide range of Os concentrations. Simple sample  
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9 26 digestion and low procedural blanks using Carius tube digestion alone without any  
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11 27 further element separation provides an additional advantage for Os isotope analysis by  
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13 28 the method. (256 words; 4340 words in total)  
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## 1. Introduction

The sparging method employed for Os isotopic ratio analysis by inductively coupled plasma–mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) is a highly versatile technique owing to its ease of sample preparation.<sup>1-5</sup> Many sample types, including solutions and rock powders, can be digested in an inverse aqua regia solution heated at ~220–240 °C in a Carius pressure vessel tube, allowing for Os oxidation to OsO<sub>4</sub>. Oxidised Os is then vaporised by Ar-gas bubbling (sparging)<sup>1, 2, 4</sup> and transferred into the ICP apparatus for mass spectrometric analysis. No chemical separation or purification is needed because of the selective vapourisation of Os from concomitant impurities including Re and W.<sup>1, 2, 4</sup> A low total analytical blank is achievable owing to the need for less acid reagent and fewer chemical steps for sample preparation.<sup>1-4</sup> Instrumental memory effects in ICP-MS are almost nil at a few counts per second (cps),<sup>3</sup> in contrast to very strong Os memories at 0.01–0.03% Os sample signals<sup>6</sup> in normal nebulisation<sup>7</sup> or desolvating nebulisation ICP-MS,<sup>6</sup> in which glassware surfaces and desolvating membrane filters are memory sources.

Sparging ICP-MS analyses of Os isotope ratios using a single-ion counter (IC)<sup>1</sup> or multiple ICs (MICs)<sup>3</sup> have been successfully applied to natural samples with low Os contents (15–200 pg) at a precision of 2–0.5% within two-standard deviations (2SD). For a higher precision analysis, early sparging analyses used multiple Faraday collector (MFC)-ICP-MS;<sup>2, 4</sup> the necessary sample amount for a high precision analysis using this method was 10–50 ng for a precision of 0.38<sup>2</sup>–0.02%<sup>4</sup> (2SD). A large amount of sample (10–50 ng) was necessary for a precision comparable to negative thermal ionisation mass spectrometry (N-TIMS)<sup>2, 4</sup> or enhanced-sensitivity solution MFC-ICP-MS using desolvating nebulisation,<sup>6</sup> both of which required ng quantities of Os for a precision of

64 0.02% (2SD).

65 Recent developments in MFC-ICP-MS have improved instrumental sensitivities  
66 five-fold by using high-transmission sampler–skimmer cones with a high vacuum at the  
67 ICP interface.<sup>8, 9</sup> Use of high-gain amplifiers<sup>10</sup> has also improved both analytical  
68 precision and reproducibility in low-signal samples.<sup>9-12</sup> We have applied the  
69 enhanced-sensitivity interface and high-gain amplifiers with  $10^{12}$   $\Omega$  resistors toward  
70 sparging MFC-ICP-MS, and examined the applicability of this method using Johnson  
71 Matthey chemical (JMC) Os standard solutions containing 50–2000 pg Os. The results  
72 indicated a comparable precision with that of sparging MIC-MC-ICP-MS for 50–200 pg  
73 samples and N-TIMS for 400–2000 pg samples. We also report the results obtained  
74 from analysis of a chert (JCh-1 (Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ)), containing ~15 pg  
75 Os<sup>3, 13</sup>), marine sediment (JMS-2 (GSJ), ~145 pg<sup>3, 14</sup>), and two peridotite geological  
76 standard samples (UB-N (Association Nationale de la Recherche Technique (ANRT)),  
77 ~4 ng;<sup>15-18</sup> JP-1 (GSJ), ~3 ng<sup>19-22</sup>), demonstrating that the sparging MFC-ICP-MS  
78 method described herein is applicable to almost all natural rock samples containing 15–  
79 4000 pg Os.

## 81 **2. Experimental**

### 82 **2.1. Reagents**

83 Ultrapure water (electrical resistivity > 18.2 M $\Omega$  cm) produced with a Milli-Q system  
84 from Millipore (Massachusetts, USA) was used for sample preparation. HNO<sub>3</sub> (68%  
85 m/m) and HCl (20 m/m), used to prepare the inverse aqua regia reagent, were  
86 TAMAPURE AA-10 grade from Tama Chemicals Co., Ltd. (Kanagawa, Japan).

### 87 **2.2. Samples**

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6 88 Diluted Os standard solutions obtained from Johnson Matthey (London, United  
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8 89 Kingdom) as chemical standards (JMC; Alfa Aesar 1000 ICP Os standard solution) were  
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10 90 used for the experiments. Rock reference materials consisting of two sedimentary and  
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12 91 one peridotite sample provided by the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ) (JCh-1, chert;  
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14 92 JMS-2, deep-sea pelagic sediments; JP-1, harzburgite) and a peridotite rock reference  
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16 93 material (UB-N) provided by the United State Geological Survey (USGS) were  
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18 94 analysed for Os concentration and isotope ratios.

### 22 95 **2.3. Sample preparation**

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25 96 The sample preparation method is the same described by Nozaki et al. (2012),<sup>3</sup> which is  
26  
27 97 briefly described below. Powders of the rock reference materials (1–3 g) were weighed,  
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29 98 spiked with <sup>190</sup>Os, and digested in 4 mL of inverse aqua regia solution in a sealed Carius  
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31 99 tube at 220 °C for 24 h (sediments) or at 240 °C for 72 h (peridotites), dependent on  
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33 100 material and sample size<sup>3, 20</sup>. After cooling, the Carius tube was frozen in a dry ice–  
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35 101 ethanol slush and carefully opened; the solution was then transferred into a 20 mL  
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37 102 Teflon perfluoroalkoxy polymer resin (PFA) vessel. After centrifugation to remove  
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39 103 residues, the solution was transferred to a 30 mL Teflon PFA vessel and diluted with 15  
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41 104 mL of ultrapure water; this solution was used for sparging MFC-ICP-MS analysis. Os  
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43 105 concentration was also determined by the isotope dilution (ID) method combined with  
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45 106 Carius tube digestion<sup>23</sup> and sparging.<sup>1, 3, 4</sup>

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50 107 JMC standard solutions containing 6 ng of total Os were also oxidised in 4 mL of  
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52 108 inverse aqua regia solution in a sealed Carius tube under the same conditions as those  
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54 109 employed for the rock reference materials, and were split into several solutions  
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56 110 containing 50–2000 pg of total Os in of inverse aqua regia solution. After dilution by 7  
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58 111 mL of inverse aqua regia solution in a 20 or 30 mL Teflon PFA vessel, the samples were  
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112 used for sparging MFC-ICP-MS analysis.<sup>3</sup>

#### 113 **2.4. Sparging MFC-ICP-MS analysis**

114 Os isotope ratios were measured by MFC-ICP-MS (NEPTUNE; Thermo Fisher,  
115 Bremen, Germany) combined with preliminary sparging. The 20 or 30 mL Teflon PFA  
116 vessel was inserted into the sample Ar gas line of the MFC-ICP-MS instrument.<sup>3</sup> Ar gas  
117 was bubbled into and then extracted from the sample solution through a Teflon PFA  
118 transfer cap with two transfer ports attached to 1/8 inch Teflon PFA tubing.<sup>1</sup> An empty  
119 20 or 30 mL Teflon PFA vial with a transfer cap was placed between the sample vial and  
120 ICP quartz glass torch to trap any liquid droplets that may have escaped from the sample  
121 vial during sparging.<sup>2</sup>

122 The MFC-ICP-MS interface was modified by the addition of a high-efficiency  
123 rotary pump,<sup>9,24</sup> and high-transmission JET sampler and X-skimmer cones<sup>8</sup> were used  
124 along with the guard electrode (GE) turned on (electrically connected) to achieve the  
125 best instrument sensitivity ( $\sim 3000$  V ppm<sup>-1</sup> Pb in solution mode using an Aridus  
126 desolvating nebuliser).<sup>8,9</sup> Oxide molecular yield under this condition was monitored by  
127 the <sup>192</sup>Os/<sup>192</sup>Os<sup>16</sup>O ratio, which was < 5%; no mass-independent isotopic fractionation<sup>25</sup>,  
128 <sup>26</sup> was identified as indicated by the reproducible <sup>187</sup>Os/<sup>188</sup>Os isotope ratios of the JMC  
129 standard (<sup>187</sup>Os/<sup>188</sup>Os = 0.10688 ± 0.00006 (2SD) for 0.10684–0.10695;<sup>4,6</sup> see **Section**  
130 **3.1** below).

131 Configurations of the Faraday collectors (FCs) and Faraday amplifiers used are  
132 given in **Table 1** along with other instrumental settings. The high-gain amplifiers using  
133 a 10<sup>12</sup> Ω resistor were assigned to all Os isotopes apart from the spiked <sup>190</sup>Os sample,  
134 which used a 10<sup>11</sup> Ω resistor amplifier. <sup>184</sup>W and <sup>185</sup>Re were also monitored by FCs with  
135 10<sup>11</sup> Ω amplifiers (**Table 1**). The isotope ratios of <sup>186</sup>Os/<sup>188</sup>Os, <sup>187</sup>Os/<sup>188</sup>Os, <sup>189</sup>Os/<sup>188</sup>Os,

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6 136  $^{190}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$ , and  $^{192}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$ , and Os concentrations were measured by the isotope  
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9 137 dilution method (see †**E.S.I. Data Table 1**). The instrumental mass fractionation of Os  
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11 138 was corrected for by normalising  $^{192}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 3.08271^{27}$  with an exponential law. Slow  
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13 139 responses of the Faraday amplifiers<sup>28, 29</sup> were reported for transient signals, but we did  
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15 140 not see any problems with the gradual signal decay in Os sparging analyses.

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18 141 The Os signals were observed to decay to about 30% of their initial intensities after  
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20 142 ~15 min of sparging (**Fig. 1f**). Accordingly, adjustment of acquisition time is necessary  
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22 143 to obtain the best statistics in isotope ratios, as the signal intensities cannot be adjusted  
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24 144 during sparging unlike TIMS, which allows for measurement of ion yield by increasing  
25  
26 145 the temperature of the ionisation filament. We also tested for changes in signal  
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28 146 intensities, averages, and two-standard error of the mean ( $2\text{SE} = 2\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ : two-standard  
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30 147 deviation divided by square route of  $n$ , where  $n$  is scan number) values over 100 scans  
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32 148 of ~8 s data-acquisition increments (**Fig. 1**). The 2SE values improved by 60 scans and  
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34 149 almost stabilised after 60 scans for all concentration levels (see **Fig. 1a–e**). The average  
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36 150 values also stabilised after 60 scans, but gradually approached the reference value even  
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38 151 after 60 scans. We therefore chose 100 scans for all analytical runs throughout this study,  
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40 152 based on these observations.  
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### 48 154 **3. Results and discussion**

#### 50 155 **3.1. JMC Os standard solutions at 50–2000 pg**

##### 52 156 **3.1.1. Precision of $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$ isotope ratio analysis**

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55 157 The sparging method coupled with enhanced-sensitivity MFC-ICP-MS was first tested  
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57 158 by analysing the JMC standard solutions at 50, 100, 200, 400, and 2000 pg. The  
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59 159 summary of analysis is given in **Table 2** and all analytical results are given in †**E.S.I.**



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160 **Data Table 1.**

161 The typical two-standard error of the mean of JMC solutions containing 50, 100,  
162 200, 400, and 2000 pg Os were 0.8, 0.5, 0.2, 0.1, and 0.02% (2SE%), respectively (**Fig.**  
163 **2**). Based on the data, 2SE% of this sparging method can be estimated by

$$164 \quad 2SE\% = 39.4994 \times C_{Os}^{-0.97365},$$

165 where  $C_{Os}$  is amount of Os in sample in pg. By using this equation, a 20 pg sample can  
166 be measured at 2.1% (2SE%) and 5 ng sample at 0.01% (2SE%). These numbers are  
167 comparable with those obtained by desolvating nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS analyses of  
168 1.7% (2SE%) at 20 pg and 0.01% (2SE%) at 5 ng.<sup>6</sup>

169 It is noteworthy that a 2SE% of < 0.8% was achievable for the  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$  ratio at  
170 an  $^{187}\text{Os}$  0.00016 V signal intensity (**†E.S.I. Data Table 1**). This improvement is  
171 obviously attributed to the combination of the enhanced-sensitivity ICP interface and  
172 high-gain amplifiers.

173 **3.1.2. Intermediate precision of  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$  isotope ratio analysis**

174 We analysed JMC standard 3 days over six months. The instrumental sensitivity on day  
175 one was inferior, about two times lower than the others due likely to a worn-out  
176 skimmer cone. Analyses on the other two days showed reasonable sensitivities. Even so,  
177 isotope ratios were indistinguishable between the first day and the others (**Fig. 3** and  
178 **Table 2**). The grand average of JMC was  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.10688 \pm 0.00006$  (2SD) for the  
179 2 ng sample, which is in accordance with the obtained N-TIMS values of  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} =$   
180  $0.10684 \pm 0.00002$  (IFREE/JAMSTEC; **Table 2**) and  $0.10695 \pm 0.00002$ ,<sup>4</sup> desolvating  
181 nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS values of  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.10686 \pm 0.00001$  (5 ng),<sup>6</sup> and  
182 sparging MFC-ICP-MS values of  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.10694 \pm 0.00002$  (50 ng)<sup>4</sup> (**Table 2**).  
183 Considering the low sample consumption of 2 ng by our method, the precision and

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6 184 reproducibility are comparable with those of desolvating nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS  
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8 185 using 5 ng sample amounts (see **Section 3.1.1.** above).

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10 186 The above-described improvement is reasonable since the enhanced-sensitivity ICP  
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12 187 interface improved sensitivity ~3–5 times that of normal (N)-sample-X-skimmer cones.  
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14 188 This sensitivity enhancement is comparable with or slightly inferior to that of the Aridus  
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16 189 desolvating nebuliser, which exhibits a 5–7-fold improvement in sensitivity.<sup>6</sup> Additional  
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18 190 use of high-gain amplifiers helped to improve counting statistics for low signals at <sup>187</sup>Os  
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20 191 = 6.2 mV (average of 100 scans) from 2 ng Os samples (**Table 2**). This improvement  
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22 192 was also obvious by comparison to the initial sparging MFC-ICP-MS results, which  
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24 193 required 50 ng JMC samples for the precision/reproducibility found in this study (see  
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26 194 **Table 2**).<sup>4</sup>

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29 195 The sparging method presented here is free from Os memory,<sup>1-3</sup> in contrast to  
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31 196 nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS methods in which severe memory effects must be corrected  
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33 197 for.<sup>6</sup> N-TIMS is also free from memory; however, a comparable reproducibility with  
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35 198 N-TIMS<sup>4</sup> (see **Table 2**) was achieved without chemical isolation of Os after Carius tube  
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37 199 digestion, which is requisite of N-TIMS.<sup>2, 3</sup> The sparging method with  
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39 200 enhanced-sensitivity MFC-ICP-MS used here is truly advantageous for a simple, rapid,  
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41 201 precise, and reproducible Os isotopic analysis technique. Long-term stability of this  
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43 202 method is assured by the low oxide yield of Os at the enhanced-sensitivity ICP interface,  
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45 203 unlike Nd,<sup>25, 26, 30</sup> and the stable MFC–high-gain amplifier system, both of which were  
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47 204 shown to guarantee stable isotope ratio analyses and internal mass-bias corrections over  
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49 205 six months (†**E.S.I. Data Table 1**).

### 50 206 **3.2. Sedimentary rock reference materials**

51 207 To demonstrate the application of sparging MFC-ICP-MS, we analysed Os  
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6 208 concentrations and  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$  isotope ratios of standard reference sediment samples.  
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9 209 JCh-1 chert and JMS-2 marine sediment were analysed for ~15 pg and ~150 pg levels,  
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11 210 respectively.

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13 211 The Os concentration of JCh-1 was  $5.03 \pm 0.40$  ppt ( $n = 3$ , 2SD error), a 7.9% (2SD)  
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15 212 error with 0.4–0.8% (2SE) precision in each run. Those of JMS-2 were  $289 \pm 20$  ppt ( $n$   
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17 213 = 5, 2SD), a 6.9% (2SD) error with ~0.07% (2SE) precision in each run (**Table 3**). The  
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19 214 Os concentrations were in good agreement with  $5.71 \pm 0.97$  ppt by N-TIMS<sup>13</sup> and  $5.45$   
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21 215  $\pm 0.51$  ppt by MIC-ICP-MS<sup>3</sup> for JCh-1, and  $292 \pm 13$  ppt by N-TIMS<sup>14</sup> and  $264 \pm 46$  ppt  
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23 216 by MIC-ICP-MS<sup>3</sup> for JMS-2.

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27 217 The  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os}$  ratios of JCh-1 samples were  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.657 \pm 0.065$  ( $n = 3$ ), a  
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29 218 9.8% (2SD) error with 1.7–2.2% (2SE) in-run precision, and those for JMS-2 samples  
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31 219 were  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.842 \pm 0.053$  ( $n = 5$ ), a 6.3% (2SD) error with 0.12–0.14% (2SE)  
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33 220 in-run precision (**Fig. 4, Table 3**). These values were also in good agreement with JCh-1  
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35 221 values of  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.606 \pm 0.044$  by N-TIMS<sup>14</sup> and  $0.599 \pm 0.051$  by MIC-ICP-MS,<sup>3</sup>  
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37 222 and JMS-2 values of  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.823 \pm 0.035$  by N-TIMS<sup>14</sup> and  $0.787 \pm 0.036$  by  
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39 223 MIC-ICP-MS.<sup>3</sup>

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43 224 Although analysed signals for  $^{187}\text{Os}$  were ~0.14 mV for JCh-1 and ~2.76 mV for  
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45 225 JMS-2 (overall average of 100 scans, not shown), both analytical precisions and  
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47 226 analysed values compared quite well with those by MIC-ICP-MS and N-TIMS using  
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49 227 ion counter(s). Such precisions and reproducibilities are sufficient for the measurement  
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51 228 of sediments toward applications in earth science. The use of MFC is advantageous to  
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53 229 both single IC, which requires frequent gain and dead-time calibrations, and MIC,  
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55 230 which requires a standard bracketing measurement protocol.<sup>3</sup>

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57 231 **3.3. Peridotite rock reference materials**  
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6 232 We also analysed Os concentrations using isotope dilution method<sup>3, 20</sup> and  $^{187}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os}$   
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8 233 isotope ratios of UB-N and JP-1 peridotites at ~3 ng and ~4 ng levels. The Os  
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10 234 concentrations of UB-N were  $3.62 \pm 0.26$  ppb ( $n = 4$ ), a 7.2% (2SD%) with 0.3–0.8%  
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12 235 (2SE) in-run precision. Those of JP-1 were  $3.37 \pm 0.22$  ppb ( $n = 5$ ), a 6.5% (2SD%)  
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14 236 with ~0.03% (2SE%) in-run precision (**Table 3**). The Os concentrations were in good  
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16 237 agreement, with  $3.51 \pm 0.26$  ppb,<sup>15</sup>  $3.85 \pm 0.62$  ppb,<sup>17</sup> and  $3.53 \pm 0.50$  ppb<sup>18</sup> by N-TIMS  
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18 238 for UB-N and  $2.58 \pm 0.40$  ppb by N-TIMS<sup>20</sup> for JP-1.

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20 239 The  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os}$  ratios were  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.12752 \pm 0.00016$  ( $n = 4$ ), a 0.1% (2SD%)  
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22 240 with 0.03–0.07% (2SE%) in-run precision for UB-N, and  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.12071 \pm$   
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24 241  $0.00069$  ( $n = 5$ ), a 0.6% (2SD%) with 0.03–0.05% (2SE%) in-run precision for JP-1  
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26 242 (**Fig. 4, Table 3**). These were also in good agreement with  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.12722 \pm$   
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28 243  $0.00076$ ,<sup>15</sup>  $0.12737 \pm 0.00064$ ,<sup>17</sup> and  $0.12722 \pm 0.00054$ <sup>18</sup> by N-TIMS for UB-N, and  
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30 244  $^{187}\text{O}/^{188}\text{Os} = 0.12055 \pm 0.0007$  by N-TIMS<sup>20</sup> for JP-1.

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32 245 Analysed signals for  $^{187}\text{Os}$  were ~4.40 mV for UB-N and ~4.17 mV for JP-1 (both  
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34 246 overall averages of 100 scans, not shown); analytical precisions and analysed values  
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36 247 reproduced quite well with those obtained by N-TIMS using Faraday collectors.<sup>15, 18, 20</sup>  
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38 248 Such the results are more than sufficient for peridotite analyses in earth science  
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40 249 applications. The sparging method described here is advantageous over N-TIMS, which  
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42 250 requires the isolation of Os after Carius tube digestion.<sup>15, 18, 20</sup> The additional chemical  
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44 251 steps required for N-TIMS results in an increase in Os blanks and preparation time.  
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46 252 Total procedural blanks in the sparging method were 0.60–0.78 pg over 6 months with  
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48 253 average of 0.69 pg (**Table 3**). The sparging MFC-ICP-MS method with  
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50 254 enhanced-sensitivity instrumentation used in this study is anticipated to become a new  
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52 255 standard technique in geosciences for Os isotope and concentration analyses.  
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#### 257 **4. Conclusions**

258 We investigated a sparging MFC-ICP-MS technique for Os concentration and isotope  
259 ratio analyses of JMC standards and natural rock reference materials. The combination  
260 of enhanced sensitivity achieved by a high-transmission ICP interface and improved  
261 counting statistics by use of high-gain amplifiers allowed for the precise and stable  
262 analysis of Os using Faraday collectors. Less than 2% (2SE%) precision and  
263 reproducibility were achieved for ~15 pg Os samples, and < 0.03% (2SE%) precision  
264 and reproducibility were obtained for ~3 ng Os. These results are comparable with those  
265 using MIC-ICP-MS and N-TIMS. The improved instrumentation will allow the  
266 application of sparging MFC-ICP-MS to almost all of the rock samples analysed in the  
267 geosciences field. The simple and low-blank sample preparation (Carius tube digestion  
268 only) constitutes a significant improvement in Os isotope analysis throughput, which is  
269 the true benefit of this sparging MFC-ICP-MS technique.

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275 digestion. The authors also thank to an anonymous referee and Dr. Bert Muller for their  
276 constructive comments, which improved the manuscript.

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6 343 **Fig. 1** Temporal changes of average and two-standard error of the mean (2SE) values  
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8 344 with decaying Os signals over 100 scans in Os isotope measurement at various Os  
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10 345 concentrations from 50–2000 pg. Data from †E.S.I. Data Table 1.  
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15 347 **Fig. 2** Achievable analytical precision at different concentration levels by sparging  
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17 348 MFC-ICP-MS. In-run precision is given by 2SE. Data from †E.S.I. Data Table 1.  
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22 350 **Fig. 3** Analytical results of JMC standard solutions. †E.S.I. Data Table 1.  
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27 352 **Fig. 4** Analytical results of JCh-1, JMS-2, UB-N, and JP-1 geological reference  
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29 353 materials. Data from Table 3.  
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34 355 **Table 1** Mass spectrometer setup parameters for sparging MC-ICP-MS.  
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39 357 **Table 2** Analytical results of JMC Os standard solution.  
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43 359 **Table 3** Analytical results of JCh-1, JMS-2, UB-N, and JP-1.  
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48 361 †E.S.I. **Data Table 1** All analytical results of JMC Os standard solutions at various  
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50 362 concentrations.  
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54 364 **Graphical Abstract** Precise determination of Os isotope ratios in 15–4000pg Os by  
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56 365 sparging-Multiple Faraday Cup-ICP-MS (14 wards)  
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**Table 1** Mass spectrometer setup parameters for sparging-MC-ICP-MS.

Apparatus	Experimental setting
Sparging chamber	20 or 30 mL PFA Teflon jar with 1/8 inch Teflon tubing
Sparging chamber temperature	~22 °C (room temperature)
Sparging gas flow	~1.2 L/min (Ar)
MC-ICPMS	Neptune (Thermo Fisher) modified
RF-power	1200 W
Guard electrode	on (electronically connected)
Sampling cone	JET-sample cone (Ni)
Skimmer cone	X-skimmer cone (Ni)
Cooling gas (Ar)	13 L/min
Auxiliary gas (Ar)	1.2 L/min
Interface vacuum with E2M80	1.2 mbar
Mass resolution	Low resolution
Acquisition time	~8 s × 100 scans in one block
Baseline	On peak (300 s) before block
Cup configuration	
<sup>184</sup> W (10 <sup>11</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC L3 W monitor
<sup>185</sup> Re (10 <sup>11</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC L2 Re monitor
<sup>186</sup> Os (10 <sup>12</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC L1
<sup>187</sup> Os (10 <sup>12</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC Axial
<sup>188</sup> Os (10 <sup>12</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC H1 Os mass-bias correction
<sup>189</sup> Os (10 <sup>12</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC H2
<sup>190</sup> Os (10 <sup>11</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC H3 Os spike
<sup>192</sup> Os (10 <sup>12</sup> Ω amplifier)	FC H4 Os mass-bias correction

FC: Faraday cup; amplifiers used are shown in parentheses. Mass bias is corrected for using  $^{192}\text{Os}/^{188}\text{Os} = 3.08271$

**Table 2** Analytical results of JMC Os standard solution

Day	Wt.(pg)	<sup>187</sup> Os (V)	<sup>186</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SD	<sup>187</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SD	<sup>189</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SD
Day 1 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	50	0.00009	0.11888	0.01120	0.10530	0.00785	1.22118	0.00399
Day 3 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	50	0.00016	0.11946	0.00464	0.10657	0.00161	1.21914	0.00504
Day 4 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	50	0.00019	0.12031	0.00154	0.10715	0.00141	1.21975	0.00148
G.AVG/ 2SD			0.11955	0.00144	0.10634	0.00189	1.22002	0.00209
Day 1 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	100	0.00020	0.11971	0.00128	0.10667	0.00192	1.22055	0.00307
Day 3 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	100	0.00027	0.12037	0.00267	0.10712	0.00062	1.22081	0.00231
Day 4 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	100	0.00036	0.12038	0.00164	0.10690	0.00091	1.21997	0.00195
G.AVG/ 2SD			0.12015	0.00077	0.10689	0.00045	1.22044	0.00086
Day 1 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	200	0.00043	0.11962	0.00067	0.10722	0.00129	1.21958	0.00118
Day 3 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	200	0.00053	0.12013	0.00124	0.10696	0.00066	1.21970	0.00078
Day 4 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	200	0.00076	0.12034	0.00094	0.10699	0.00064	1.21968	0.00079
G.AVG/ 2SD			0.12003	0.00074	0.10706	0.00028	1.21965	0.00012
Day 1 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	400	0.00072	0.11992	0.00119	0.10683	0.00073	1.21939	0.00307
Day 2 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	400	0.00092	0.11969	0.00085	0.10686	0.00073	1.21930	0.00312
Day 3 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	400	0.00122	0.11988	0.00030	0.10694	0.00012	1.22000	0.00046
Day 4 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	400	0.00156	0.11978	0.00022	0.10688	0.00017	1.21969	0.00042
G.AVG/ 2SD			0.11982	0.00020	0.10688	0.00010	1.21959	0.00063
Day 1 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	2000	0.00447	0.11982	0.00009	0.10692	0.00005	1.21985	0.00023
Day 3 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	2000	0.00620	0.11982	0.00012	0.10687	0.00003	1.21983	0.00012
Day 4 ( <i>n</i> = 5)	2000	0.00836	0.11983	0.00006	0.10687	0.00001	1.21968	0.00008
G.AVG/ 2SD			0.11982	0.00001	0.10689	0.00006	1.21979	0.00018
IFREE/JAMSTEC								
N-TIMS	100000				0.10684	0.00002		
Makishima and Nakamura (2006); Desolvating nebulisation MFC-ICP-MS; errors in 2SE								
MFC-ICPMS	20		0.12033		0.10715	0.00185	1.22086	
MFC-ICPMS	200		0.11988		0.10662	0.00034	1.21967	
MFC-ICPMS	1000		0.11986		0.10682	0.00017	1.21976	
MFC-ICPMS	5000		0.11982		0.10686	0.00001	1.21977	
MFC-ICPMS	20000		0.11982		0.10686	0.00000	1.21978	
Schoenberg et al. (2000); Sparging MFC-ICP-MS; errors in 2SE								
MFC-ICPMS	50000		0.11983	0.00002	0.10694	0.00002		
N-TIMS	na		0.11983	0.00001	0.10695	0.00002		

AVG: average; G. AVG.: grand average; 2SD: two-standard deviation; 2SE: two-standard error of the mean ( $2SE = 2\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ : two-standard deviation divided by square route of *n*, where *n* is scan number). Note: previous works gave errors in various criteria, all of which have been re-calculated to 2SD.

**Table 3** Analytical results of JCh-1, JMS-2, UB-N, and JP-1

Day	Sample	Os (ppt)	2SE	<sup>187</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	2SE%
Sediment reference material						
[Day 2]	Blank	4.3	0.1	0.078	0.034	-
[Day 2]	JCh-1-1	5.10	0.03	0.645	0.011	1.7
[Day 2]	JCh-1-2	5.19	0.04	0.633	0.014	2.2
[Day 2]	JCh-1-3	4.81	0.02	0.694	0.014	2.0
	AVG/ 2SD	5.03	0.40	0.657	0.065	9.8
	Nozaki et al. (2012)	5.45	0.51	0.599	0.051	8.5
[Day 2]	JMS-2-1	287.6	0.2	0.8469	0.0012	0.14
[Day 2]	JMS-2-2	277.2	0.2	0.8753	0.0012	0.13
[Day 2]	JMS-2-3	288.7	0.2	0.8429	0.0012	0.14
[Day 2]	JMS-2-4	305.4	0.2	0.8009	0.0010	0.12
[Day 2]	JMS-2-5	289.2	0.2	0.8423	0.0011	0.13
	AVG/ 2SD	289	20	0.842	0.053	6.3
	Nozaki et al. (2012)	264	46	0.787	0.036	4.6
Day	Sample	Os (ppt)	2SE	<sup>187</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	2SE%
Peridotite reference material						
[Day 5]	Blank1-2	0.69	0.08	0.155	0.017	-
[Day 5]	UB-N-1	3976.3	0.8	0.12775	0.00004	0.031
[Day 5]	UB-N -2	3675.3	0.8	0.12739	0.00004	0.033
[Day 5]	UB-N -3	3423.8	0.8	0.12743	0.00009	0.073
[Day 5]	UB-N -5	3418.2	0.3	0.12749	0.00004	0.030
	AVG/ 2SD	3623	264	0.12752	0.00016	0.13
	Meisel et al. (2003) ( <i>n</i> = 15, 2SD)	3740	520	0.1278	0.0004	0.31
	Becker et al. (2006) ( <i>n</i> = 4, 2SD)	3510	260	0.12737	0.00064	0.50
	Luguet et al. (2007) ( <i>n</i> = 6, 2SD)	3660	300	0.1279	0.0010	0.78
	Puchtel et al. (2008) ( <i>n</i> = 4, 2SD)	3850	620	0.12722	0.00076	0.60
	Fisher-Gödde et al. (2011) ( <i>n</i> = 19, 2SD)	3530	500	0.12722	0.00054	0.42
[Day 5]	Blank1-2	0.69	0.08	0.155	0.017	-
[Day 5]	JP-1-1	3640.4	0.3	0.12024	0.00004	0.030
[Day 5]	JP-1-2	3557.1	0.3	0.12030	0.00004	0.031
[Day 5]	JP-1-3	3213.5	0.3	0.12192	0.00004	0.031
[Day 5]	JP-1-4	3143.6	0.3	0.12046	0.00004	0.030
[Day 5]	JP-1-5	3272.0	0.4	0.12064	0.00006	0.051
	AVG/ 2SD	3365	220	0.12071	0.00069	0.57
	Suzuki & Tatsumi (2001) ( <i>n</i> = 2, 2SD)	2580	400	0.12055	0.00070	0.58
	Shinotsuka & Suzuki (2007) ( <i>n</i> = 7, 2SD)	3430	1060	0.120	-	-

AVG: average; G. AVG.: grand average; 2SD: two-standard deviation; 2SE: two-standard error of the mean ( $2SE = 2\sigma/\sqrt{n}$ : two-standard deviation divided by square root of *n*, where *n* is scan number); 2SE% is given based on 2SE; Note: all errors are reported in 2SD (2SD%) for reference values and averaged values in this study, otherwise are given by 2SE (2SE%) in single analytical runs.

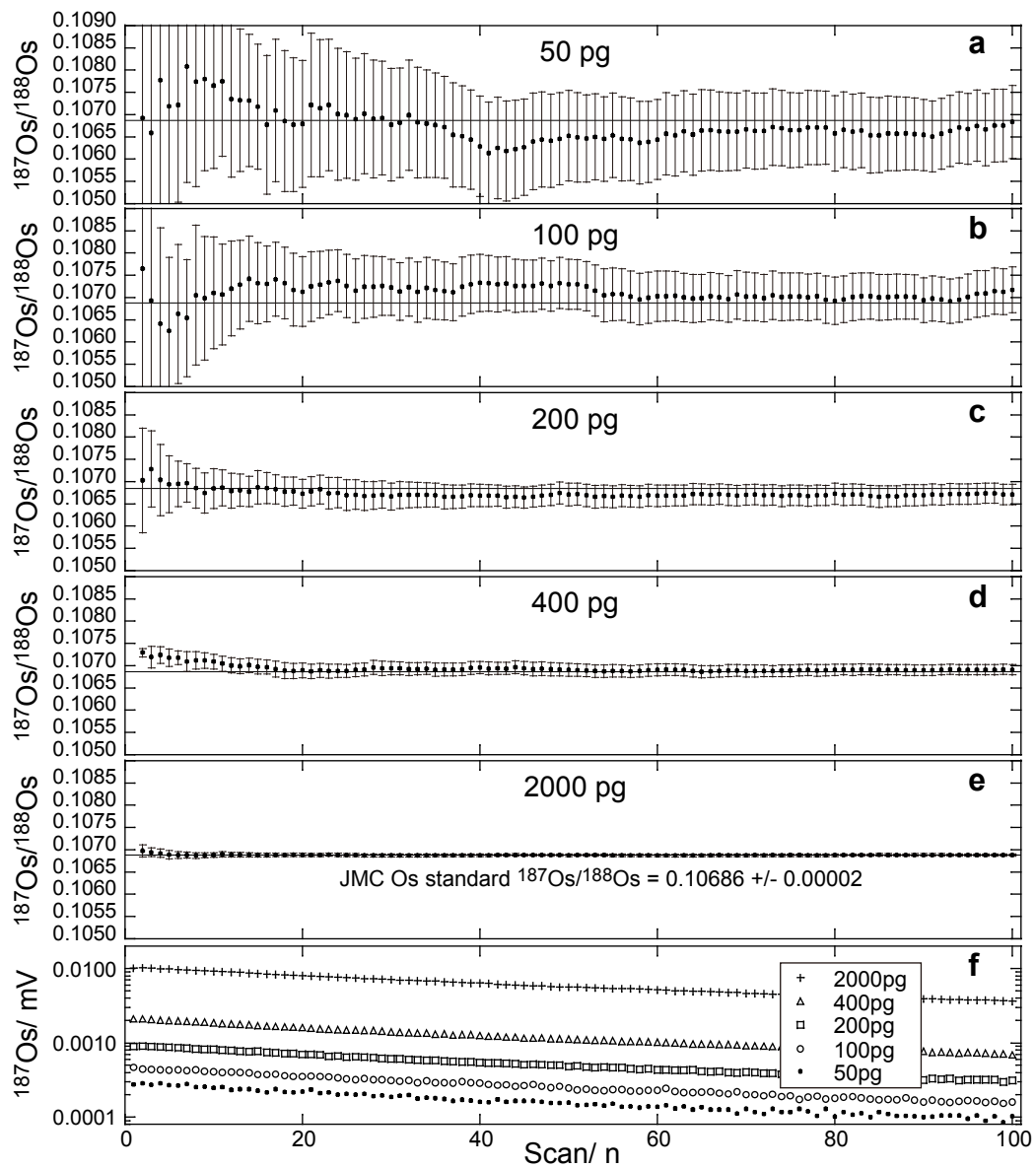


Fig. 1

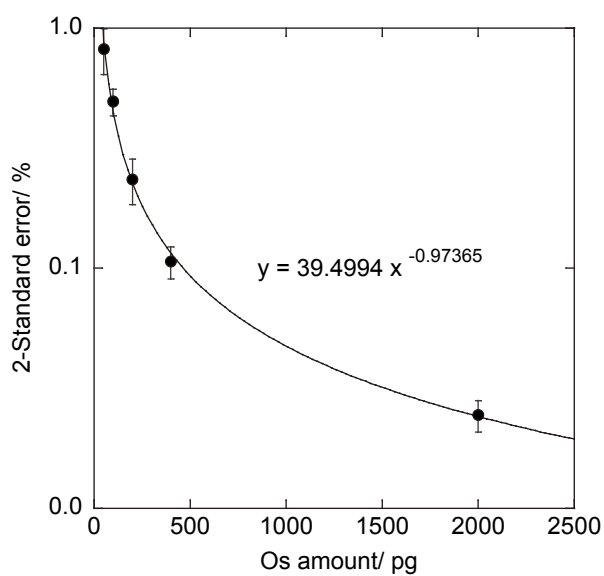


Fig. 2

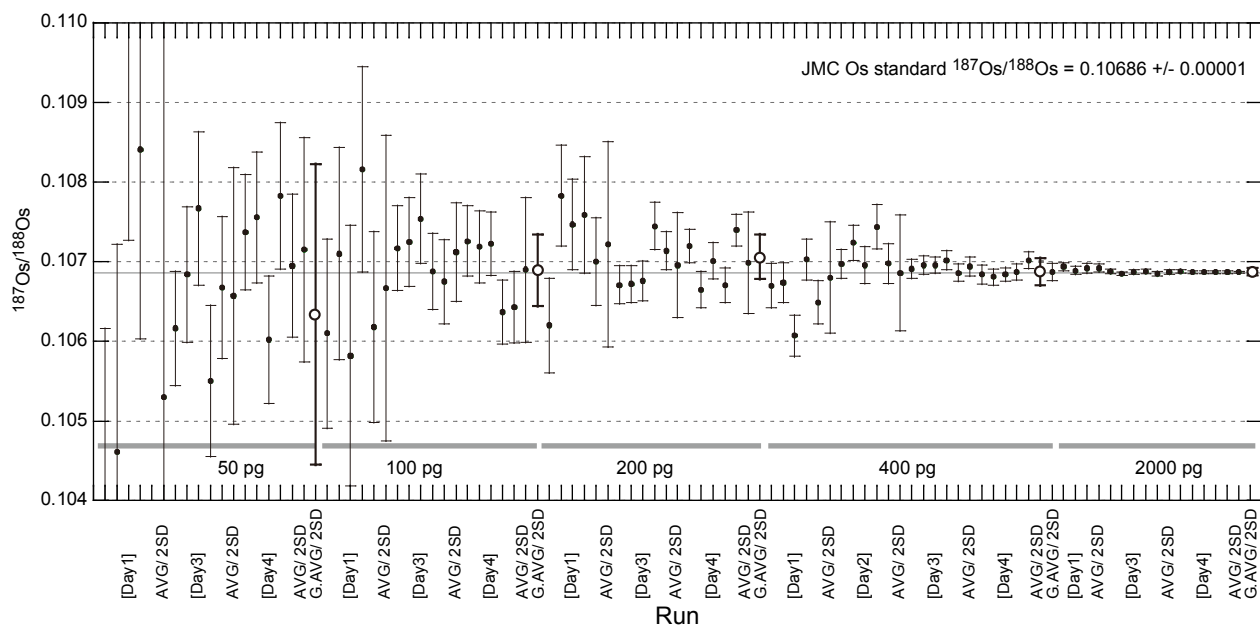


Fig. 3

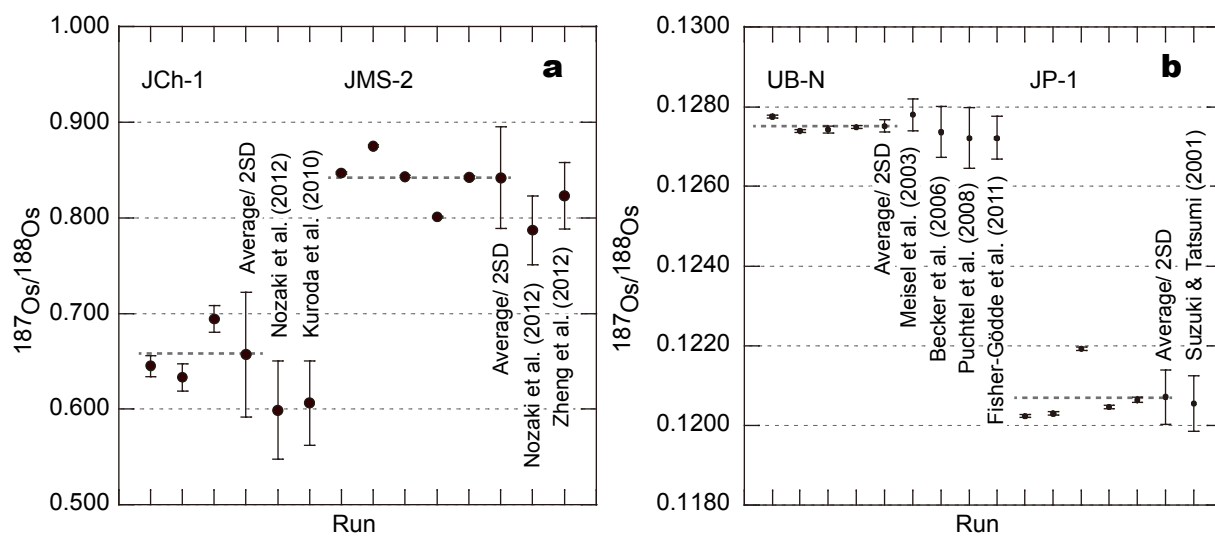
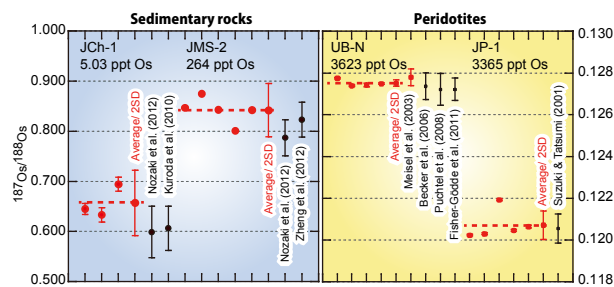


Fig. 4



Graphical abstract

Precise determination of Os isotope ratios in  
15–4000pg Os by sparging-Multiple Faraday  
Cup-ICP-MS



†E.S.I. Data Table 1 All analytical results of JMC Os standard solution at various concentrations

Day	Conc. (pg)	<sup>187</sup> Os/ V	<sup>188</sup> Os/ V	<sup>190</sup> Os/ V	<sup>192</sup> Os/ V	<sup>186</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	<sup>187</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	<sup>189</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	<sup>190</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE	<sup>192</sup> Os/ <sup>188</sup> Os	2SE
[Day1]	50	0.00007	0.00068	0.00136	0.00213	0.12435	0.00233	0.10264	0.00352	1.22013	0.00223	1.97856	0.00281	3.12023	0.00724
[Day1]	50	0.00009	0.00088	0.00175	0.00273	0.12195	0.00180	0.10461	0.00261	1.22400	0.00205	1.98825	0.00279	3.11985	0.00548
[Day1]	50	0.00009	0.00079	0.00157	0.00246	0.12211	0.00164	0.11014	0.00287	1.22254	0.00229	1.98191	0.00288	3.10842	0.00599
[Day1]	50	0.00009	0.00087	0.00174	0.00270	0.11475	0.00167	0.10841	0.00238	1.21978	0.00226	1.98519	0.00304	3.09954	0.00802
[Day1]	50	0.00008	0.00082	0.00164	0.00256	0.11122	0.00265	0.10072	0.00317	1.21942	0.00238	1.98512	0.00289	3.10147	0.00630
AVG/ 2SD						0.11888	0.01120	0.10530	0.00785	1.22118	0.00399	1.98381	0.00738	3.10990	0.01965
[Day3]	50	0.00018	0.00168	0.00337	0.00528	0.12002	0.00102	0.10616	0.00072	1.22125	0.00094	1.98490	0.00178	3.14040	0.00306
[Day3]	50	0.00016	0.00155	0.00309	0.00484	0.12200	0.00094	0.10684	0.00085	1.21986	0.00114	1.98262	0.00184	3.12959	0.00308
[Day3]	50	0.00015	0.00139	0.00278	0.00437	0.12052	0.00121	0.10767	0.00096	1.21989	0.00123	1.97939	0.00190	3.13991	0.00344
[Day3]	50	0.00015	0.00140	0.00280	0.00439	0.11579	0.00163	0.10550	0.00095	1.21992	0.00125	1.98231	0.00214	3.13284	0.00389
[Day3]	50	0.00015	0.00139	0.00278	0.00435	0.11899	0.00122	0.10668	0.00089	1.21476	0.00144	1.97932	0.00198	3.11828	0.00428
AVG/ 2SD						0.11946	0.00464	0.10657	0.00161	1.21914	0.00504	1.98171	0.00474	3.13220	0.01810
[Day4]	50	0.00021	0.00194	0.00388	0.00609	0.11960	0.00093	0.10737	0.00072	1.21946	0.00093	1.98336	0.00132	3.13608	0.00236
[Day4]	50	0.00019	0.00181	0.00362	0.00567	0.12080	0.00111	0.10756	0.00082	1.22021	0.00115	1.98253	0.00143	3.13384	0.00289
[Day4]	50	0.00019	0.00181	0.00362	0.00566	0.12119	0.00089	0.10602	0.00080	1.21884	0.00132	1.98417	0.00166	3.13010	0.00261
[Day4]	50	0.00018	0.00171	0.00342	0.00537	0.12054	0.00110	0.10783	0.00092	1.22075	0.00120	1.98084	0.00153	3.14264	0.00301
[Day4]	50	0.00018	0.00170	0.00340	0.00533	0.11941	0.00127	0.10695	0.00090	1.21948	0.00115	1.98089	0.00163	3.13980	0.00291
AVG/ 2SD		0.00019	0.00179	0.00359	0.00563	0.12031	0.00154	0.10715	0.00141	1.21975	0.00148	1.98236	0.00296	3.13649	0.00984
G.AVG/ 2SD						0.11955	0.00144	0.10634	0.00189	1.22002	0.00209	1.98263	0.00215	3.12620	0.02855
[Day1]	100	0.00020	0.00192	0.00383	0.00596	0.11870	0.00064	0.10610	0.00119	1.22076	0.00108	1.98379	0.00115	3.09939	0.00277
[Day1]	100	0.00020	0.00189	0.00376	0.00586	0.11977	0.00072	0.10710	0.00133	1.22309	0.00107	1.98487	0.00157	3.10333	0.00291
[Day1]	100	0.00019	0.00182	0.00363	0.00565	0.11985	0.00096	0.10582	0.00164	1.21923	0.00108	1.98452	0.00152	3.09738	0.00332
[Day1]	100	0.00020	0.00185	0.00369	0.00575	0.12049	0.00094	0.10816	0.00129	1.22007	0.00119	1.98351	0.00154	3.09913	0.00315
[Day1]	100	0.00019	0.00183	0.00364	0.00566	0.11973	0.00079	0.10618	0.00120	1.21957	0.00096	1.98446	0.00132	3.09512	0.00376
AVG/ 2SD						0.11971	0.00128	0.10667	0.00192	1.22055	0.00307	1.98423	0.00112	3.09887	0.00604
[Day3]	100	0.00027	0.00251	0.00503	0.00789	0.12062	0.00072	0.10717	0.00053	1.22026	0.00077	1.98400	0.00100	3.14152	0.00193
[Day3]	100	0.00028	0.00261	0.00522	0.00818	0.12156	0.00061	0.10725	0.00056	1.22174	0.00080	1.98333	0.00107	3.13672	0.00193
[Day3]	100	0.00026	0.00243	0.00487	0.00764	0.12047	0.00079	0.10754	0.00056	1.22128	0.00077	1.98453	0.00120	3.14317	0.00195
[Day3]	100	0.00027	0.00257	0.00514	0.00805	0.12109	0.00062	0.10688	0.00048	1.21905	0.00058	1.98508	0.00097	3.13660	0.00152
[Day3]	100	0.00026	0.00248	0.00497	0.00779	0.11811	0.00057	0.10675	0.00053	1.22173	0.00070	1.98355	0.00109	3.14005	0.00208
AVG/ 2SD						0.12037	0.00267	0.10712	0.00062	1.22081	0.00231	1.98410	0.00143	3.13961	0.00583
[Day4]	100	0.00037	0.00346	0.00692	0.01084	0.12103	0.00047	0.10726	0.00044	1.21945	0.00062	1.98407	0.00074	3.13664	0.00144
[Day4]	100	0.00035	0.00331	0.00663	0.01040	0.11915	0.00061	0.10719	0.00045	1.22069	0.00062	1.98426	0.00085	3.13875	0.00128
[Day4]	100	0.00037	0.00344	0.00688	0.01078	0.12098	0.00064	0.10723	0.00040	1.21951	0.00051	1.98335	0.00093	3.13472	0.00118
[Day4]	100	0.00036	0.00342	0.00685	0.01074	0.12082	0.00064	0.10637	0.00040	1.21893	0.00051	1.98254	0.00093	3.13538	0.00118
[Day4]	100	0.00035	0.00331	0.00664	0.01040	0.11991	0.00053	0.10643	0.00045	1.22128	0.00070	1.98550	0.00088	3.14097	0.00174
AVG/ 2SD		0.00036	0.00339	0.00678	0.01063	0.12038	0.00164	0.10690	0.00091	1.21997	0.00195	1.98394	0.00220	3.13729	0.00514
G.AVG/ 2SD						0.12015	0.00077	0.10689	0.00045	1.22044	0.00086	1.98409	0.00029	3.12526	0.04577

Table 1. Continue

Day	Conc. (pg)	<sup>187</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>190</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>192</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>186</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>187</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>189</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>190</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>192</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE
[Day1]	200	0.00043	0.00406	0.00807	0.01258	0.11925	0.00046	0.10620	0.00059	1.21938	0.00048	1.98258	0.00069	3.09429	0.00192
[Day1]	200	0.00044	0.00405	0.00806	0.01255	0.11996	0.00042	0.10783	0.00063	1.22009	0.00066	1.98601	0.00061	3.09561	0.00156
[Day1]	200	0.00042	0.00396	0.00788	0.01227	0.11995	0.00037	0.10747	0.00057	1.21949	0.00042	1.98478	0.00066	3.09345	0.00187
[Day1]	200	0.00042	0.00389	0.00772	0.01203	0.11933	0.00040	0.10759	0.00073	1.22020	0.00056	1.98354	0.00065	3.09478	0.00173
[Day1]	200	0.00043	0.00399	0.00793	0.01236	0.11961	0.00040	0.10700	0.00055	1.21875	0.00046	1.98286	0.00061	3.09183	0.00196
AVG/ 2SD						0.11962	0.00067	0.10722	0.00129	1.21958	0.00118	1.98395	0.00286	3.09399	0.00288
[Day3]	200	0.00053	0.00496	0.00992	0.01555	0.12008	0.00031	0.10671	0.00024	1.21976	0.00047	1.98216	0.00061	3.13491	0.00112
[Day3]	200	0.00053	0.00502	0.01004	0.01575	0.11978	0.00033	0.10672	0.00023	1.21980	0.00039	1.98300	0.00053	3.13554	0.00085
[Day3]	200	0.00053	0.00495	0.00991	0.01553	0.12104	0.00036	0.10676	0.00025	1.21909	0.00039	1.98272	0.00049	3.13572	0.00101
[Day3]	200	0.00051	0.00478	0.00956	0.01499	0.11940	0.00041	0.10745	0.00030	1.22018	0.00034	1.98408	0.00061	3.13819	0.00103
[Day3]	200	0.00055	0.00514	0.01029	0.01614	0.12038	0.00040	0.10714	0.00024	1.21965	0.00031	1.98383	0.00047	3.13748	0.00081
AVG/ 2SD						0.12013	0.00124	0.10696	0.00066	1.21970	0.00078	1.98316	0.00159	3.13636	0.00279
[Day4]	200	0.00080	0.00747	0.01494	0.02344	0.11988	0.00021	0.10720	0.00021	1.21950	0.00027	1.98273	0.00041	3.13652	0.00067
[Day4]	200	0.00075	0.00709	0.01418	0.02223	0.11996	0.00027	0.10665	0.00023	1.21921	0.00031	1.98300	0.00045	3.13552	0.00076
[Day4]	200	0.00072	0.00677	0.01356	0.02125	0.12100	0.00029	0.10701	0.00023	1.22023	0.00033	1.98400	0.00044	3.13921	0.00092
[Day4]	200	0.00073	0.00690	0.01381	0.02165	0.12064	0.00029	0.10671	0.00022	1.21954	0.00037	1.98374	0.00054	3.13746	0.00093
[Day4]	200	0.00079	0.00740	0.01481	0.02322	0.12025	0.00021	0.10740	0.00020	1.21990	0.00027	1.98270	0.00040	3.13685	0.00071
AVG/ 2SD		0.00076	0.00713	0.01426	0.02236	0.12034	0.00094	0.10699	0.00064	1.21968	0.00079	1.98323	0.00120	3.13711	0.00273
G.AVG/ 2SD						0.12003	0.00074	0.10706	0.00028	1.21965	0.00012	1.98345	0.00088	3.12249	0.04937
[Day1]	400	0.00093	0.00869	0.01728	0.02691	0.11966	0.00017	0.10670	0.00028	1.22028	0.00026	1.98339	0.00037	3.09516	0.00107
[Day1]	400	0.00091	0.00856	0.01700	0.02645	0.12011	0.00018	0.10674	0.00025	1.21959	0.00025	1.98380	0.00035	3.08904	0.00100
[Day1]	400	0.00090	0.00851	0.01683	0.02619	0.11868	0.00019	0.10607	0.00026	1.21493	0.00052	1.97889	0.00044	3.07148	0.00251
[Day1]	400	0.00090	0.00839	0.01671	0.02606	0.12016	0.00018	0.10703	0.00026	1.22068	0.00029	1.98410	0.00039	3.10777	0.00087
[Day1]	400	0.00091	0.00857	0.01707	0.02662	0.11979	0.00015	0.10649	0.00027	1.21976	0.00024	1.98363	0.00032	3.10474	0.00105
AVG/ 2SD		0.00072	0.00676	0.01346	0.02102	0.11992	0.00119	0.10683	0.00073	1.21939	0.00307	1.98309	0.00292	3.11579	0.04697
[Day2]	400	0.00109	0.01020	0.02036	0.03182	0.11951	0.00015	0.10697	0.00018	1.21960	0.00019	1.98388	0.00034	3.11914	0.00077
[Day2]	400	0.00101	0.00946	0.01887	0.02948	0.11958	0.00016	0.10724	0.00022	1.21878	0.00029	1.98353	0.00033	3.11378	0.00095
[Day2]	400	0.00094	0.00877	0.01749	0.02733	0.11971	0.00017	0.10696	0.00023	1.22049	0.00023	1.98354	0.00036	3.11410	0.00083
[Day2]	400	0.00090	0.00839	0.01671	0.02610	0.11938	0.00020	0.10744	0.00028	1.21897	0.00024	1.98247	0.00036	3.11113	0.00109
[Day2]	400	0.00088	0.00827	0.01647	0.02572	0.12012	0.00018	0.10698	0.00025	1.21982	0.00024	1.98302	0.00042	3.11067	0.00100
AVG/ 2SD		0.00092	0.00860	0.01711	0.02670	0.11969	0.00085	0.10686	0.00073	1.21930	0.00312	1.98303	0.00289	3.10480	0.02848
[Day3]	400	0.00121	0.01138	0.02275	0.03567	0.11994	0.00013	0.10691	0.00012	1.21981	0.00020	1.98290	0.00025	3.13632	0.00049
[Day3]	400	0.00123	0.01152	0.02304	0.03612	0.12003	0.00018	0.10696	0.00012	1.22028	0.00019	1.98320	0.00028	3.13691	0.00050
[Day3]	400	0.00123	0.01155	0.02310	0.03622	0.11998	0.00017	0.10696	0.00010	1.21978	0.00019	1.98315	0.00033	3.13611	0.00052
[Day3]	400	0.00120	0.01129	0.02259	0.03541	0.11968	0.00016	0.10702	0.00012	1.22019	0.00019	1.98335	0.00025	3.13728	0.00045
[Day3]	400	0.00125	0.01175	0.02350	0.03685	0.11975	0.00015	0.10686	0.00011	1.21994	0.00017	1.98336	0.00032	3.13691	0.00043
AVG/ 2SD		0.00122	0.01149	0.02300	0.03605	0.11988	0.00030	0.10694	0.00012	1.22000	0.00046	1.98319	0.00037	3.13671	0.00095
[Day4]	400	0.00153	0.01437	0.02873	0.04505	0.11979	0.00010	0.10684	0.00012	1.21933	0.00014	1.98312	0.00027	3.13565	0.00046
[Day4]	400	0.00161	0.01517	0.03034	0.04757	0.11972	0.00012	0.10681	0.00010	1.21970	0.00016	1.98321	0.00019	3.13630	0.00041

Table 1. Continue

Day	Conc. (pg)	<sup>187</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>190</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>192</sup> O <sub>s</sub> /V	<sup>186</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>187</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>189</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>190</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE	<sup>192</sup> O <sub>s</sub> / <sup>188</sup> O <sub>s</sub>	2SE
[Day4]	400	0.00150	0.01409	0.02819	0.04420	0.11970	0.00014	0.10684	0.00009	1.21986	0.00017	1.98343	0.00025	3.13684	0.00040
[Day4]	400	0.00162	0.01524	0.03049	0.04779	0.11997	0.00012	0.10687	0.00010	1.21978	0.00016	1.98343	0.00025	3.13657	0.00041
[Day4]	400	0.00153	0.01436	0.02873	0.04505	0.11975	0.00015	0.10702	0.00010	1.21977	0.00019	1.98318	0.00021	3.13628	0.00047
AVG/ 2SD		0.00156	0.01464	0.02930	0.04593	0.11978	0.00022	0.10688	0.00017	1.21969	0.00042	1.98327	0.00029	3.13633	0.00088
G.AVG/ 2SD						0.11985	0.00030	0.10687	0.00011	1.21960	0.00063	1.98314	0.00022	3.12348	0.03147
[Day1]	2000	0.00468	0.04381	0.08717	0.13584	0.11986	0.00003	0.10694	0.00005	1.21974	0.00008	1.98392	0.00010	3.10034	0.00055
[Day1]	2000	0.00455	0.04264	0.08483	0.13218	0.11977	0.00003	0.10689	0.00005	1.21985	0.00008	1.98385	0.00010	3.09967	0.00050
[Day1]	2000	0.00417	0.03909	0.07776	0.12116	0.11983	0.00004	0.10692	0.00006	1.21997	0.00009	1.98398	0.00011	3.09907	0.00047
AVG/ 2SD						0.11982	0.00009	0.10692	0.00005	1.21985	0.00023	1.98392	0.00013	3.09970	0.00127
[Day3]	2000	0.00610	0.05734	0.11471	0.17985	0.11987	0.00003	0.10688	0.00003	1.21977	0.00006	1.98306	0.00008	3.13643	0.00017
[Day3]	2000	0.00620	0.05829	0.11661	0.18283	0.11974	0.00003	0.10685	0.00002	1.21979	0.00006	1.98318	0.00008	3.13628	0.00014
[Day3]	2000	0.00643	0.06041	0.12084	0.18945	0.11988	0.00003	0.10687	0.00003	1.21991	0.00005	1.98320	0.00008	3.13625	0.00016
[Day3]	2000	0.00613	0.05757	0.11516	0.18056	0.11984	0.00003	0.10688	0.00003	1.21988	0.00005	1.98315	0.00009	3.13664	0.00015
[Day3]	2000	0.00615	0.05784	0.11571	0.18140	0.11979	0.00003	0.10685	0.00003	1.21980	0.00006	1.98314	0.00008	3.13624	0.00016
AVG/ 2SD						0.11982	0.00012	0.10687	0.00003	1.21983	0.00012	1.98315	0.00011	3.13637	0.00034
[Day4]	2000	0.00834	0.07837	0.15675	0.24571	0.11979	0.00003	0.10688	0.00002	1.21971	0.00005	1.98317	0.00008	3.13497	0.00027
[Day4]	2000	0.00856	0.08042	0.16084	0.25210	0.11985	0.00003	0.10687	0.00002	1.21965	0.00005	1.98322	0.00007	3.13388	0.00036
[Day4]	2000	0.00824	0.07745	0.15493	0.24288	0.11986	0.00002	0.10687	0.00002	1.21964	0.00005	1.98324	0.00007	3.13554	0.00021
[Day4]	2000	0.00853	0.08014	0.16028	0.25125	0.11984	0.00002	0.10687	0.00002	1.21967	0.00005	1.98317	0.00008	3.13470	0.00024
[Day4]	2000	0.00813	0.07642	0.15288	0.23968	0.11981	0.00002	0.10687	0.00002	1.21974	0.00006	1.98329	0.00008	3.13632	0.00018
AVG/ 2SD		0.00836	0.07856	0.15714	0.24632	0.11983	0.00006	0.10687	0.00001	1.21968	0.00008	1.98322	0.00010	3.13508	0.00183
G.AVG/ 2SD						0.11982	0.00001	0.10689	0.00006	1.21979	0.00018	1.98343	0.00086	3.12372	0.04162
References															
N-TIMS (IFREE/ JAMSTEC); errors in 2SE								0.10684	0.00002						
Makishima and Nakamura (2006); MC-ICP-MS by Faraday Cup; errors in 2SE															
MC-ICPMS	20					0.12033		0.10715	0.00185	1.22086					
MC-ICPMS	200					0.11988		0.10662	0.00034	1.21967					
MC-ICPMS	1000					0.11986		0.10682	0.00017	1.21976					
MC-ICPMS	5000					0.11982		0.10686	0.00001	1.21977					
MC-ICPMS	20000					0.11982		0.10686	0.000003	1.21978					
Schoenberg et al. (2000); Sparging MC-ICP-MS by Faraday Cup; errors in 2SE															
MC-ICPMS	50000					0.11983	0.00002	0.10694	0.00002						
TIMS	n.a.					0.11983	0.00001	0.10695	0.00002						