Carbonate U-Pb dating by LA-ICPMS

Ten thin sections were analysed in one U-Pb LA-ICPMS analytical session at the Goethe University of Frankfurt (Germany) following the methods described by Gerdes and Zeh (2006, 2009). A Thermo Scientific Element XR sector field ICP-MS was coupled to a RESOlution 193 nm ArF Excimer laser (Compex Pro 102, Coherent) equipped with an S-155 two-volume ablation cell (Laurin Technic, Australia). Thin sections were ablated in a helium atmosphere (300 ml/min) and mixed in the ablation funnel with argon (1 L/min) and nitrogen (6-8 ml/min). Analyses were performed with squared ablation spots with side of 213 μm, 8 Hz frequency and fluence of about 2 J/cm².

Fractionation of ²⁰⁶Pb/²³⁸U, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb ratios and their drift were corrected based on repeated analyses of soda-lime glass NIST-SRM 614. WC-1 calcite RM (Roberts et al., 2017) was used to correct for matrix offset (5 %) between NIST glass and carbonate.

The carbonate phases analyzed were Cal1, Cal2 and Dol1. Dating was unsuccessful due to the high common lead and low uranium contents of these phases.

References

Gerdes, A. and Zeh, A. (2006). Combined U-Pb and Hf isotope LA-(MC-) ICP-MS analyses of detrital zircons: comparison with SHRIMP and new constraints for the provenance and age of an Armorican metasediment in Central Germany. Earth Planet. Sci. Lett., 249, 47–61.

Gerdes, A. and Zeh, A. (2009) Zircon formation versus zircon alteration-new insights from combined V-Ph and Lu-Hf in situ LA-ICP-MS analyses, and consequences for the interpretation of Archean zircon from the Central Zone of the Limpopo Belt. Chem. Geol., 261(3–4), 230–243.

Roberts, N. M., Rasbury, E. T., Parrish, R. R., Smith, C. J., Horstwood, M. S., & Condon, D. J. (2017). A calcite reference material for LA- ICP- MS U- Pb geochronology. *Geochemistry*, *Geophysics, Geosystems*, 18(7), 2807-2814.