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Cosmogenic and nucleogenic ²¹Ne in quartz in a 28-meter sandstone core from the McMurdo Dry Valleys, Antarctica

Greg Balco*,a, Pierre-Henri Blardb, David L. Shusterd,a, John O.H. Stonec, Laurent Zimmermannb

Abstract

We measured concentrations of Ne isotopes in quartz in a 27.6-meter sandstone core from a low-erosion-rate site at 2183 m elevation at Beacon Heights in the Antarctic Dry Valleys. Surface concentrations of cosmogenic ²¹Ne indicate a surface exposure age of at least 4.1 Ma and an erosion rate no higher than ca. 14 cm Myr⁻¹. ²¹Ne concentrations in the upper few centimeters of the core show evidence for secondary spallogenic neutron escape effects at the rock surface, which is predicted by first-principles models of cosmogenic-nuclide production but is not commonly observed in natural examples. We used a model for ²¹Ne production by various mechanisms fit to the observations to distinguish cosmic-ray-produced ²¹Ne from nucleogenic ²¹Ne produced by decay of trace U and Th present in quartz, and also constrain rates of subsurface ²¹Ne production by cosmic-ray muons. Core samples have a quartz (U-Th)/Ne closure age, reflecting cooling below ~95°C, near 160 Ma, which is consistent with existing apatite fission-track data and the 183 Ma emplacement of nearby Ferrar dolerite intrusions. Constraints on ²¹Ne production by muons derived from model fitting are consistent with a previously proposed value of 0.79 mb at 190 GeV for the cross-section for ²¹Ne production by fast muon interactions, but indicate that ²¹Ne production by negative muon capture is likely negligible.

Key words: neon-21, cosmogenic-nuclide geochemistry, (U-Th)/Ne thermochronology, McMurdo Dry Valleys, Antarctica

1. Introduction

This paper describes mass-spectrometric measurements of neon abundance and isotope composition in quartz in a sandstone bedrock core from the Antarctic Dry Valleys.

*Corresponding author. Tel. 510.644.9200 Fax 510.644.9201 Email address: balcs@bgc.org (Greg Balco) The purpose of the measurements is to quantify the magnitude, relative importance, and depth-dependence of ²¹Ne production in near-surface rocks due to cosmic-ray neutron spallation and cosmic-ray muon interactions. In addition, we quantify non-cosmogenic production of ²¹Ne in quartz by alpha capture reactions due to decay of naturally occurring U and Th. This is important because cosmic-ray-produced ²¹Ne is commonly used in a variety of applications in Earth surface processes research, including surface exposure dating, erosion rate estimation, and burial dating (see summary in Dunai, 2010), and these applications require accurate estimates of surface and subsurface production rates by these processes.

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The various mechanisms for cosmogenic-nuclide production display different functional dependences on depth below the surface. Thus, by collecting samples at a range of depths where different production processes are dominant, one can quantify the relative magnitude of the different processes, and also obtain estimates for parameters such as attenuation thicknesses and interaction cross-sections that are necessary for production rate calculations. Cosmogenic ²¹Ne, like other commonly measured cosmic-ray-produced nuclides (e.g., ¹⁰Be or ²⁶Al), is produced at the Earth's surface primarily by spallation reactions induced by high-energy neutrons in the energy range 30 MeV - 1 GeV, the rate of which decreases exponentially with mass depth below the surface with an e-folding length in the range 140-160 g cm⁻². Production by weakly interacting muons is approximately two orders of magnitude less than spallogenic production at the surface, but decreases much more slowly with depth, so production below several meters depth is predominantly due to muons. In contrast to ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al, however, ²¹Ne is also produced in significant quantities by capture of alpha particles derived from decay of naturally occurring U and Th in minerals via the reaction $^{18}O(\alpha,n)^{21}Ne$. Because ^{21}Ne is stable and has a geologic closure temperature in quartz of ~95°C (for 10°C/Myr cooling rate; see Shuster and Farley (2005)), quartz in rocks that reside near the surface for geologically long time periods accumulates significant quantities of nucleogenic 21Ne via this process, and this can present an obstacle to accurately measuring the amount of cosmogenic ²¹Ne. Given a series of subsurface ²¹Ne measurements from a core, however, nucleogenic and cosmogenic ²¹Ne can be distinguished because cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentrations depend only on mass depth below the surface, whereas nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations are not related to mass depth, but instead depend on the U and Th concentrations and closure age for the target mineral.

In the rest of this paper, we describe measurements of Ne isotopes in the core and related samples, and fit a forward model for nuclide concentrations to the core data. This allows us to (i) quantify the depth-dependence of near-surface spallogenic production; (ii) estimate the quartz (U-Th)/Ne closure age in sandstone bedrock at this site; (iii) show that there is no evidence for significant negative muon capture production of ²¹Ne; and (iv) derive limits for the interaction cross-section for fast muon production of ²¹Ne.

2. Analytical methods

2.1. The Beacon Heights sandstone core.

In January, 2009, a group associated with the "CRONUS-Earth" project and led by John Stone collected a 27.6-meter-long, 62mm diameter core of sandstone bedrock of

the Devonian Beacon Heights Orthoquartzite (McElroy and Rose, 1987) from a plateau at 77.85°S, 160.77°W and 2183 m elevation on University Peak, in the Beacon Heights region of the Quartermain Mountains, a subrange of the Transantarctic Mountains adjacent to the McMurdo Dry Valleys. The purpose of choosing this site is that surface erosion rates are in the range of cm/Myr, most likely close to the lowest observed anywhere on Earth, and geological evidence from the Dry Valleys region indicates that the site has most likely been continuously exposed at an extremely low erosion rate for perhaps as long as ~14.5 Ma (see Lewis et al., 2007, and references therein). Thus, cosmogenic-nuclide concentrations in surface bedrock at this site are extremely high, permitting accurate measurement, and the low erosion rate implies that concentrations of radionuclides such as ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al are likely close to equilibrium concentrations where production is balanced by radioactive decay, which facilitates production rate estimates for these nuclides (Borchers et al., 2016; Phillips et al., 2016; Balco, 2017). As we will discuss below, the advantage of high concentrations in estimating production rates applies to stable nuclides, but the equilibrium simplification does not.

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Stone and co-workers at the University of Washington (UW) sectioned the core, measured the density of core segments, and supplied subsamples to a number of other laboratories for analysis. For this study, two laboratories (BGC and CRPG) made Ne isotope measurements on three lots of samples originally prepared in different laboratories (Table 1). A set of 20 samples was prepared at UW for ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al analysis by crushing, sieving to a grain size of 0.125-0.5 mm, etching in 1% HF at 50-70°C for at three periods of at least 24 hours, and sieving again to remove material less than 0.125 mm. Henceforth we refer to these samples as 'UW-sourced.' Aliquots of these etched samples were then provided to BGC for Ne analysis and measurement of U and Th concentrations. A different set of 3 samples ('Tulane-sourced') was prepared separately for analysis of in-situ-produced ¹⁴C at Tulane University by crushing, sieving to a grain size of 0.25-0.5 mm, and etching in a 1% HF / 1% HNO₃ solution at 50°C for 2 24-hour periods. Aliquots of these etched samples were also provided to BGC. A final set of 11 samples ('CRPG-sourced') was prepared at CRPG by crushing core segments, sieving, and hand-picking of quartz grains. These were not HF-etched, and Ne and U/Th measurements were made at CRPG. Lastly, CRPG provided aliquots of three of the CRPG-sourced samples, as prepared for Ne measurements, to BGC for interlaboratory comparison purposes. These were analyzed at BGC as received from CRPG without further processing. Thus, 23 HF-etched core samples were analyzed only at BGC, 8 non-etched samples were analyzed only at CRPG, and 3 non-etched samples were analyzed at both BGC and CRPG. In addition, both laboratories analyzed the the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 (Jull et al., 2015; Vermeesch et al., 2015) quartz standards at the same time as core samples.

2.2. Holocene erratics of Beacon group sandstones from Mackay Glacier.

To further investigate nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations in quartz in Beacon Group sandstones, we also made Ne measurements on a set of sandstone erratic clasts adjacent to Mackay Glacier, ca. 75 km north of the Beacon Heights core site. These samples are Beacon Group sandstones, although we do not know what stratigraphic level they originated at, that were collected for purposes of exposure-dating of Last Glacial Maximum-to-present ice sheet thinning by Jones et al. (2015) and are described in that

reference and also in Jones (2015). These samples are useful to us because they have Holocene ¹⁰Be exposure ages that record the most recent deglaciation of the site, so we assume that they originated from subglacial erosion of fresh rock that has not previously been exposed at the surface, and have only experienced a single period of surface exposure during the Holocene. Thus, we can measure total excess ²¹Ne concentrations in these samples and subtract cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentrations calculated from ¹⁰Be exposure ages to yield an estimate of nucleogenic ²¹Ne. Quartz separates were prepared from these samples by Jones at Victoria University of Wellington by sieving to extract the 0.25-0.5 mm grain size fraction and etching in 5% HF for a total of 5 days. Aliquots of the same purified quartz separate used for ¹⁰Be analysis were supplied to BGC for Ne analysis.

2.3. Neon measurements at BGC

All quartz samples received at BGC had already been purified by either HF-etching (UW-sourced, Tulane-sourced, and Mackay Glacier erratics) or hand-picking (CRPG-sourced), so we did not process them further before measurement. BGC has two noble gas analytical systems (the "MAP-II" and "Ohio" systems) that both consist of MAP-215 sector field mass spectrometers with modernized ion-counting electronics coupled to fully automated gas extraction systems. We used the MAP-II system for analysis of UW-sourced and CRPG-sourced core samples, and the Ohio system for later analysis of the Tulane-sourced core samples and the Mackay Glacier erratics.

Both systems employ a laser diode "microfurnace" heating system in which ca. 150 mg of quartz is encapsulated in a tantalum packet, and the packet is then heated with the laser under vacuum. An optical pyrometer is coaxial with the laser beam delivery optics, and laser and pyrometer are coupled to a Watlow PID controller, enabling the sample to be heated at a precisely controlled pyrometer temperature. The pyrometer temperature is calibrated for the emissivity of the Ta packet by heating a thermocouple in an identical apparatus; note, however, that precise temperature measurement is not relevant for this work. Analysis of each sample involved 2-4 heating steps with the final step at 1150-1200°C (see supplementary Table S1). In both systems, gas extracted from the sample by laser heating is reacted with one or more SAES getters and frozen to activated charcoal at 33 K. After pumping away non-adsorbed gases (presumably mostly helium in this case), neon is released into the mass spectrometer at 75 K.

In both systems, Ne signals are measured by ion counting using a Channeltron-type multiplier on masses 20, 21, and 22. Signals on masses 20 and 22 are corrected for 40 Ar⁺⁺ and CO₂⁺⁺, respectively, using a 39 Ar spike as described in Balco and Shuster (2009). Absolute calibration of Ne abundance on both systems is made by peak height comparison against aliquots of an air standard containing between 5×10^{-16} and 2×10^{-14} mol Ne, processed in the same way as the samples and analyzed several times daily. Ne sensitivity was linear within this range at all times. Corrections for mass discrimination, when necessary, are also based on the air standard. Volume calibration of the pipette systems and measurement of the pressure of the air standards during loading employed several reference volumes and Baratron capacitance manometers, and the absolute calibration is completely independent between the two systems. As discussed below, measurements of the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 standards show that there is a measurable offset between the absolute calibration of the two systems.

2.4. Neon measurements at CRPG

At CRPG, individual quartz grains were selected from unprocessed crushed samples by hand-picking under a binocular microscope and cleaned in acetone in an ultrasonic bath for 10 minutes. They were then wrapped in 0.025 mm Cu foil (Alfa Aesar, 99.8% Cu) and placed under vacuum in a steel carousel that was then baked for 10 hours at 80°C. Neon was extracted in a custom-designed single vacuum resistance furnace equipped with a boron nitride crucible (Zimmermann et al., 2012). Most samples were heated in two 25-minute heating steps at 400° and 1250°C, followed by a final step at 1250-1300°C to ensure complete extraction (see supplementary Table S2). Released gases were exposed to activated charcoal cooled to liquid nitrogen temperature, titanium sponges (Johnson Matthey mesh m3N8/t2N8) and SAES getters (ST172/HI/20-10/650C). Ne and He were not separated and both were introduced into a VG5400 mass spectrometer. Three Ne isotopes were measured using an electron multiplier and Ortec ion counter. Isobaric interferences of ⁴⁰Ar⁺⁺ on mass 20 and CO₂⁺⁺ on mass 22 were found to be negligible compared to the total amount of Ne present. The mass spectrometer sensitivity was determined by peak height comparison against a Ne standard containing 2.7×10^{-14} mol ²⁰Ne and atmospheric Ne isotope composition, and found to be linear within the range of Ne pressures observed in sample measurements. Furnace blanks at 1000-1300°C for 25 minutes were $(2.1 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-16}$, $(5.4 \pm 0.1) \times 10^{-19}$, and $(4.2 \pm 0.2) \times 10^{-17}$ mol ²⁰Ne, ²¹Ne, and ²²Ne respectively.

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2.5. U and Th measurements at BGC and Caltech

We measured U and Th concentrations in aliquots of the same purified quartz used for Ne measurements by isotope dilution mass spectrometry (Tables 1,2; supplementary Table S4). Initially, we analyzed very small (3-6 mg) aliquots of the prepared quartz at Caltech using a procedure developed for single grain (U-Th)/He chronometry (House et al., 2000), in which the sample is spiked with a mixed ²³⁵U - ²³⁰Th spike, dissolved in concentrated HF, evaporated to dryness, and redissolved in a dilute HNO₃ solution for measurement of U and Th isotope ratios by ICP-MS. Although nominal uncertainties in the resulting concentrations derived from the precision of the isotope ratio measurements are less than 1%, U concentrations in replicates of some samples differed by up to 35%, and Th concentrations by up to 60%. We attributed this to a nugget effect caused by inhomogeneity of detrital quartz grains in the sandstone combined with the small sample size, so we then analyzed much larger aliquots (100-300 mg) of UW-sourced and Tulane-sourced samples, as well as the Mackay Glacier erratics, at BGC. We used a similar procedure in which we dissolved the quartz in concentrated HF, evaporated SiF₄ to remove Si, redissolved remaining trace elements in a dilute HNO₃ - trace HF mixture, spiked a subsample of this solution with a mixed ²³³U - ²²⁹Th spike, and measured U and Th isotope ratios in the spiked subsample using a Thermo Neptune ICP-MS. Although we cannot internally verify quantitative recovery of U and Th after sample drydown using this procedure, experiments with a normal solution containing known U and Th concentrations indicated complete recovery.

Replicate measurements on large aliquots also showed large differences in U and Th concentrations (see supplementary Table S4). This is consistent with the idea that significant fractions of U and Th in these samples may be concentrated in rare individual grains, perhaps containing refractory mineral inclusions or diagenetic cements, but

also shows that the effect is not mitigated by increasing the sample size. We hypothesize that this effect may be characteristic of detrital sandstones containing quartz grains with a diverse provenance, and might not be observed in quartz in igneous or metamorphic rocks. Regardless, it is clear that the actual reproducibility of these measurements is much less precise than the nominal measurement uncertainties for each aliquot, so we have disregarded the nominal measurement uncertainties. In Tables 1 and 2, we show average U and Th concentrations for all aliquots analysed for each sample, regardless of aliquot size. Given the available data and lacking a complete explanation for excess scatter, the true measurement uncertainty for U and Th measurements is most likely best approximated by the average standard deviation of replicate measurements on samples that were analyzed multiple times, which is is 17% for U and 27% for Th. We revisit this issue later in the model-fitting section.

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2.6. U and Th measurements at CRPG

U and Th concentrations in CRPG-sourced quartz samples were measured using the standard procedure at the Service d'Analyse des Roches et des Minraux (SARM-CRPG), which consists of LiBO₂ fusion, dissolution of the fusion residue, and ICPMS measurement of U and Th concentration by peak height comparison with a standard.

2.7. Calculation of excess ²¹Ne

Neon in natural quartz is typically a mixture of (i) "trapped" neon with atmospheric isotope composition, (ii) cosmogenic neon, and (iii) nucleogenic ²¹Ne and ²²Ne derived from alpha capture reactions on ¹⁸O and ¹⁹F, respectively (Niedermann et al., 1993; Niedermann, 2002). In rare cases an additional "trapped" component with nonatmospheric isotope ratios is also present (e.g., Hetzel et al., 2002). Even in typical cases where the trapped component has atmospheric composition, it is generally not possible to accurately perform a three-component deconvolution from measurements of three isotopes, because (i) the relative abundance of O and F, and thus the isotope composition of the nucleogenic end member, are unlikely to be known, and (ii) nucleogenic neon is typically a minor component that is present at the level of analytical precision in the total neon concentration measurement, so it cannot be deconvolved precisely. In this work, we found no evidence for a non-atmospheric trapped component (see discussion below), so we assume that neon in all samples consists of a threecomponent mixture of atmospheric, cosmogenic, and nucleogenic neon. Commonly, one would estimate cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentrations in this situation by assuming that nucleogenic ²¹Ne is negligible, assuming that the sample is a two-component mixture of atmospheric and cosmogenic ²¹Ne, and computing the cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentration by a two-component deconvolution based on the ²¹Ne/²⁰Ne ratio. However, as we show below, nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations are significant in many of our samples, so we did not use this procedure and for each analysis we computed excess ²¹Ne with respect to atmospheric composition $(N_{21,xs})$ as:

$$N_{21,xs} = N_{21,m} - R_{2120,a} N_{20,m} (1)$$

where $N_{21,m}$ is the total amount of ²¹Ne released in an analysis, $N_{20,m}$ is the total amount of ²⁰Ne released in an analysis, and $R_{2120,a}$ is the ²¹Ne/²⁰Ne ratio in the atmosphere, which we take to be 0.002959. This formula can be derived by assuming that

the amount of cosmogenic 20 Ne is negligible in comparison to the amount of 20 Ne contributed by atmospheric neon. In this formulation $N_{21,m}$, $N_{20,m}$, and $N_{21,xs}$ could either pertain to a number of atoms (e.g., units of mol) or a concentration (mol g⁻¹ or atoms g⁻¹).

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Excess ²¹Ne computed in this way includes both cosmogenic and nucleogenic ²¹Ne. In subsequent sections we differentiate these two components by fitting a forward model for nucleogenic and cosmic-ray production of ²¹Ne to the data. For completeness, note that we assume that no cosmogenic ²¹Ne from initial exposure during sandstone deposition in the Devonian is present; any such ²¹Ne inventory that may have existed is expected to have been lost during reheating associated with emplacement of 183 Ma Ferrar Dolerite intrusions (see additional discussion below).

3. Results

3.1. Neon isotope ratios

Complete three-isotope results of step-degassing neon measurements are shown in the supplementary material. Neon isotope ratios in all analyses were indistinguishable from a two-component mixing line between cosmogenic and atmospheric Ne. This agrees with many previous neon measurements in quartz from Beacon Group sandstones (Summerfield et al., 1999; Balco and Shuster, 2009; Balco et al., 2014; Middleton et al., 2012; Vermeesch et al., 2015). Although we will show later that cosmogenic neon is nearly negligible in the Mackay Glacier erratics as well as some samples from deep in the core, and therefore neon in these samples must contain only atmospheric and nucleogenic components, we did not find that neon isotope ratios in these samples were distinguishable from the atmospheric-cosmogenic mixing line. Primarily this is because the precision of ²²Ne measurements is insufficient to distinguish nucleogenic from cosmogenic ²¹Ne enrichments in the presence of much larger amounts of atmospheric Ne (also see discussion in Middleton et al., 2012). In addition, it is possible that nucleogenic ²²Ne as well as ²¹Ne is present, which could make it impossible to distinguish nucleogenic from cosmogenic ²¹Ne excesses no matter what the ²²Ne measurement precision. Thus, as noted above, we have not attempted to differentiate nucleogenic and cosmogenic ²¹Ne using the isotope ratio data alone, but instead compute excess ²¹Ne with respect to atmospheric composition and then resolve this quantity into nucleogenic and cosmogenic contributions by considering the production systematics

The proportion of total neon attributable to trapped Ne with atmospheric composition varies systematically between groups of samples prepared in different laboratories. CRPG-sourced samples, that were not HF-etched, had 124 ± 30 Matoms g⁻¹ (mean and standard deviation of 11 samples) ²¹Ne attributable to atmospheric Ne. UW-sourced samples that were repeatedly HF-etched to achieve low Al concentrations necessary for ²⁶Al measurement had 49 ± 11 Matoms g⁻¹ (n = 20). This suggests that trapped atmospheric Ne is preferentially located in grain coatings or in secondary diagenetic silica cement, both of which would be removed during HF etching, rather than in quartz grains itself. However, Tulane-sourced samples and Mackay Glacier erratics, that were also HF-etched, had intermediate values of 105 ± 18 (n = 3) and 136 ± 44 (n = 13)

Matoms g⁻¹, respectively, which may instead indicate a grain-size dependence: UW-sourced samples were derived from finer grain-size fractions of crushed rock.

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On the other hand, there is no evidence that sample pretreatment affected cosmogenic 21 Ne concentrations. No such effect is expected, because measurements of Ne diffusion kinetics in quartz (Shuster and Farley, 2005) do not predict significant diffusive Ne loss from heating to $\sim 50^{\circ}$ - 70° C for several days during quartz etching. As we show later, differences in excess 21 Ne between differently-treated sample lots can be fully accounted for by differences in nucleogenic Ne concentrations that arise from corresponding differences in U and Th concentrations.

3.2. Normalization between analytical systems

Measurements of the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 quartz standards showed that the three noble gas analytical systems used for this work had significant differences in absolute calibration. Measurements of these standards at CRPG and on the BGC MAP-II system during the period of the Beacon Heights core measurements are described in Vermeesch et al. (2015) and show an offset of 13% between the two systems. Later measurements of the CRONUS-A standard on the BGC Ohio system run at the same time as core samples yielded a concentration of 319.0 ± 1.7 Matoms g^{-1} (errorweighted mean and standard error of 15 measurements), and a different set of measurements run at the same time as the Mackay Glacier samples yielded 320.1 \pm 6.8 Matoms g⁻¹ (error-weighted mean and standard error of 15 measurements), which agree with the consensus value for this standard given by Vermeesch et al. (2015), but differ from results obtained on both the CRPG and BGC MAP-II systems. In addition, as noted above, we performed replicate analyses of three core samples on the CRPG and BGC MAP-II systems, and the results of these replicates were consistent with the offset derived from the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 standards (Figure 1). To obtain an internally consistent set of excess ²¹Ne concentrations for subsequent analysis, therefore, we assumed that the offsets in replicate measurements between analytical systems reflect differences in the absolute calibration of the primary gas standards used for sensitivity calibration on each system, and renormalized all data to reference values for excess ²¹Ne concentrations given by Vermeesch et al. (2015) for CREU-1 and CRONUS-A of 348 and 320 Matoms g⁻¹, respectively, using the following procedure. First, we renormalized CRPG data to be consistent with BGC MAP-II data using the error-weighted mean of the offsets of all replicate data shown in Figure 1, which is 1.122. Second, we then renormalized the resulting combined data set to a reference value for CRONUS-A of 320 Matoms g⁻¹ using a correction factor of 0.944, which is based on a data set of 21 analyses of CRONUS-A performed on the BGC MAP-II system around the time the core samples were analysed, including the measurements reported in Vermeesch et al. (2015) as well as others. Third, measurements of CRONUS-A on the BGC Ohio system were indistinguishable from the reference value of 320 Matoms g⁻¹, so measurements on this system were not renormalized. We propose that the result of this procedure is an internally consistent set of measurements of excess ²¹Ne referenced to the summary values of CRONUS-A and CREU-1 proposed by Vermeesch et al. (2015). Note that we did not apply uncertainties in the correction factors to compute expanded measurement uncertainties for each sample in the intercalibrated data set, because if we did this, we would no longer be able to treat measurement uncertainties as independent between samples, which would complicate the model fitting exercises we describe later.

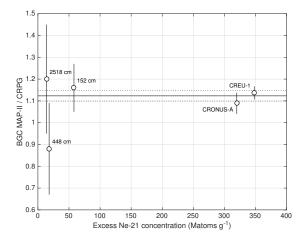


Figure 1: Offset between excess 21 Ne concentrations as measured on BGC MAP-II and CRPG systems for the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 standards and three core samples analysed on both systems. The y-axis is the ratio of the excess 21 Ne concentration as measured on the BGC MAP-II system to that measured on the CRPG system. Horizontal line shows the error-weighted mean of these data (1.123) used to normalize data from these systems to each other as well as the corresponding standard error (0.024). The reduced χ^2 statistic with respect to the error-weighted mean is 0.6.

3.3. Basic observations

Figure 2 shows excess ²¹Ne concentrations in the core, normalized to standard reference values as described above, as well as U and Th concentrations. In this section, we highlight several important aspects of the results that we will seek to explain in detail in subsequent sections.

3.3.1. Nucleogenic ²¹Ne in shielded samples

Figure 3 shows the relationship between excess ²¹Ne and eU in samples deeper than 1000 g cm⁻² in the core, where cosmic-ray production is expected to be minimal. eU approximates total alpha particle production from U and Th decay and is defined as ([U] + 0.235[Th]), where [U] and [Th] are U and Th concentrations in ppm. This relationship highlights two observations. First, U, Th, and ²¹Ne concentrations are systematically lower in UW- and Tulane-sourced quartz samples, which were prepared by HF-etching, than in CRPG-sourced samples, which were not HF-etched (also see Figure 2). This indicates that in this lithology U and Th concentrations are higher in secondary grain coatings or diagenetic silica cement, that were presumably preferentially removed by HF etching, than in the interior of the quartz grains themselves. This is not surprising if U and Th are associated with trace clays or oxide minerals that are

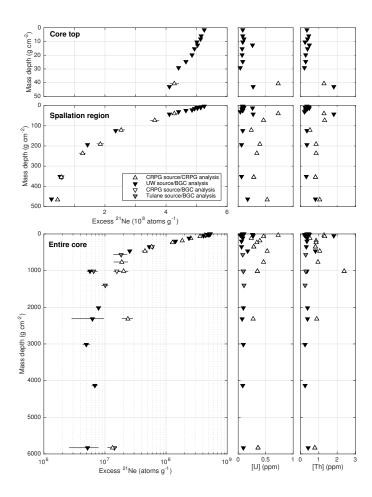


Figure 2: Excess ²¹Ne concentrations (left panels) and U and Th concentrations (right panels) in quartz samples from the Beacon Heights core. The data are the same in all three sets of panels, but the axes are different so as to adequately show details in all parts of the core. Symbol shading denotes the sample lots: black, UW-sourced, white, CRPG-sourced, and gray, Tulane-sourced. Symbol shape denotes the location of the analysis: upward-pointing triangle, CRPG; downward-pointing, BGC.

present as contaminants in diagenetic silica cement. Second, eU is correlated with excess 21 Ne in the shielded part of the core (p=0.004). Although presumably some nonzero fraction of measured excess 21 Ne in deep core samples is cosmogenic, this correlation indicates that the majority of excess 21 Ne in these samples is nucleogenic rather than cosmogenic.

Figure 3 also shows the relationship between eU and nucleogenic 21 Ne in the Mackay Glacier erratic samples. Table 2 shows the calculation of nucleogenic 21 Ne in these samples: we computed cosmogenic 21 Ne from measured 10 Be concentrations by assuming an 21 Ne/ 10 Be production ratio of 4 (see discussion below), then subtracted this from the observed excess 21 Ne concentration to yield an estimate of nucleogenic 21 Ne. eU and nucleogenic 21 Ne in these samples are correlated (p = 0.07), as expected if we have correctly estimated nucleogenic 21 Ne, U, and Th concentrations, and are consistent with the deep core samples. This also suggests that excess 21 Ne in deep core samples is predominantly nucleogenic.

Table 2 also shows calculated Ne closure ages (using Equation 3 below) for the Mackay Glacier erratics; these are scattered between 135-351 Ma with mean and standard deviation 233 ± 62 Ma. If we assume, as discussed above, that typical uncertainties in U and Th concentrations are ~20% and ~30%, respectively, this implies a total uncertainty in alpha particle production and thus in closure age estimates of ~20-25%. A 25% uncertainty on each age would imply reduced $\chi^2 = 1.1$ with respect to the mean, indicating that these estimates of closure age are imprecise but at least internally consistent. As discussed in more detail below, we expect the Ne closure age of Beacon Group sandstones to be similar to or less than the 183 Ma age of Ferrar dolerite intrusions that are pervasive within Beacon Group sandstones in the Dry Valleys (Bernet and Gaupp, 2005; Burgess et al., 2015), and these closure ages, although imprecise, are consistent with this hypothesis.

3.3.2. Limited muon-produced inventory

An additional implication of the correlation between eU and excess ²¹Ne in shown in Figure 3 is that only a small fraction of excess ²¹Ne observed in the core below 1000 g cm⁻² is cosmogenic; if excess ²¹Ne was predominantly cosmogenic, we would expect weak or no correlation with eU. Thus, the concentration of muon-produced ²¹Ne is much smaller than that of nucleogenic ²¹Ne. This potentially makes it difficult to accurately infer production rates due to muons from these data.

3.3.3. Surface fast neutron albedo effect

Figure 4 shows that nuclide concentrations near the bedrock surface diverge from the exponential relationship expected for spallogenic production. Presumably, this is due to a secondary particle escape or "albedo" effect that arises from the fact that the mean atomic weight of nuclei in rock is greater than that in air, so production of secondary neutrons with energies sufficient to induce ²¹Ne production by Si spallation is higher in rock than in air. Thus, the gradient in neutron density at the surface results in "escape" of some neutrons from rock into air, and a corresponding reduction in ²¹Ne production at the surface. This effect is predicted by first-principles particle transport models of cosmic-ray interactions with the Earth that aim to simulate cosmogenic-nuclide production (Masarik and Reedy, 1995; Masarik and Wieler, 2003; Argento

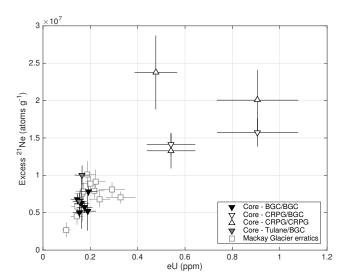


Figure 3: Relationship between eU and excess 21 Ne in samples deeper than 1000 g cm^{-2} in the core and between eU and nucleogenic 21 Ne in Mackay Glacier erratics. The symbols for core samples are the same as in Figure 2. Both eU and excess 21 Ne concentrations are significantly higher in CRPG-sourced samples that were not HF-etched. Error bars show measurement uncertainties for 21 Ne concentrations and an assumed 21 Ne uncertainty in eU (see text).

et al., 2013). However, it is not generally observed in actual data sets of cosmogenic-nuclide measurements, presumably because one would only expect to observe it where (i) the surface erosion rate is low enough to prevent advection of rock from below through the thin near-surface zone where this effect is important, and (ii) nuclide concentrations are high enough that small deviations from an exponential relationship can be accurately measured. To our knowledge, the only other data set that shows this effect is the ²⁶Al measurements from the same core (Borchers et al., 2016; Phillips et al., 2016).

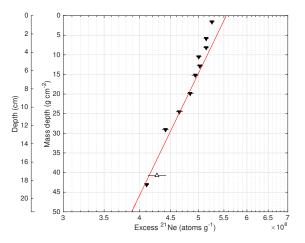


Figure 4: Excess ²¹Ne in the uppermost 50 g cm⁻² of the core compared to a representative simple exponential depth dependence with an e-folding length of 140 g cm⁻². Concentrations systematically diverge from an exponential relationship in the upper ca. 20 g cm⁻². In this plot, excess ²¹Ne concentrations have not been corrected for variable amounts of nucleogenic ²¹Ne resulting from varying [U] and [Th], so show more scatter than would be present for cosmogenic ²¹Ne alone. We discuss this in more detail in the model fitting section below.

3.3.4. Comparison to ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations

Borchers et al. (2016) as well as Balco (2017) estimated muon interaction cross-sections for ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al production by fitting a production model to ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations in the Beacon Heights core under the assumption that ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations had reached equilbrium with steady erosion, that is, the surface had been steadily eroding at the same rate for a duration of at least several half-lives of these nuclides. However, surface ²¹Ne concentrations at the site are not consistent with this assumption. Figure 5 shows surface ¹⁰Be, ²⁶Al, and ²¹Ne concentrations compared to predicted concentrations for a single period of exposure with zero erosion (the "simple exposure line") and steady erosion for a long enough period for surface nuclide concentrations to reach equilibrium between production and loss by radioactive decay (for radionuclides) and surface erosion (the "steady erosion line"). Although the ²⁶Al-¹⁰Be pair is consistent with equilibrium steady erosion, ²¹Ne concentrations are

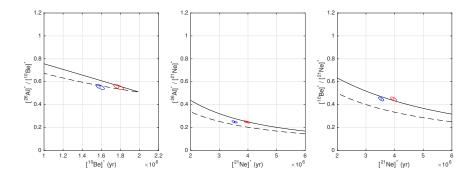


Figure 5: Paired nuclide diagrams for normalized ¹⁰Be, ²⁶Al, and ²¹Ne concentrations in the core surface sample. ¹⁰Be and ²⁶Al concentrations are from Borchers et al. (2016). In all diagrams, the solid black line is the simple exposure line and the dashed black line is the steady erosion line. Red and blue ellipses show normalized nuclide concentrations predicted by the Antarctic atmosphere model of Stone (2000) and production rate scaling methods of Stone (2000) and Lifton et al. (2014), respectively, as implemented in version 3 of the online exposure age calculators described by Balco et al. (2008) and subsequently updated. We assumed that the ²¹Ne/¹⁰Be production ratio is 4.0 for both scaling methods (Balco and Shuster, 2009; Kober et al., 2008; Amidon et al., 2009; Kober et al., 2011).

not. In contrast, ²¹Ne-²⁶Al and ²¹Ne-¹⁰Be pairs are better predicted by simple exposure at negligible erosion. This is not unexpected, because ²¹Ne is not radioactive, so it requires a much longer time to reach production-erosion equilibrium than radionuclides would require to reach production-decay-erosion equilibrium. This comparison is somewhat complicated by the facts that our assumed surface production ratios (i) do not take account of fast neutron albedo effects discussed above, and (ii) are based on some studies (e.g., Balco and Shuster, 2009) that estimated the ²¹Ne/¹⁰Be production ratio by using assumptions about muon production that we will show to be incorrect. However, these effects are much smaller than the difference in predicted ²¹Ne concentrations for steady-erosion and simple-exposure end members, so they do not affect the overall conclusion. In any case, this comparison indicates, as expected, that we cannot take advantage of the assumption that surface nuclide concentrations have reached production-erosion steady state to estimate ²¹Ne production rates at this site. It also indicates that the use of this assumption by Borchers et al. (2016) and Balco (2017) may have caused them to slightly underestimate ²⁶Al and ¹⁰Be production rates due to negative muon capture, although this effect is likely to be small.

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4. Model fitting

In this section we formulate a forward model for excess ²¹Ne concentrations in core samples and attempt to use it to constrain several unknown parameters in the model that are related to nucleogenic and muon-induced ²¹Ne production.

Measured excess ²¹Ne as calculated with Equation 1 includes nucleogenic ²¹Ne as well as cosmogenic ²¹Ne produced by cosmic-ray neutron spallation and muon interactions, as follows:

$$N_{21,xs} = N_{21,nuc} + N_{21,sp} + N_{21,\mu} + N_{21,\mu f}$$
 (2)

 $N_{21,xs}$ (atoms g^{-1}) is excess 21 Ne, $N_{21,nuc}$ (atoms g^{-1}) is nucleogenic 21 Ne, $N_{21,sp}$ (atoms g^{-1}) is 21 Ne produced by high-energy neutron spallation, N_{21,μ^-} (atoms g^{-1}) is 21 Ne produced by negative muon capture, and $N_{21,\mu f}$ (atoms g^{-1}) is 21 Ne produced by fast muon interactions.

Nucleogenic ²¹Ne due to U and Th decay is:

$$N_{21,nuc} = \sum_{i} f_i F_{T,i} Y_{\alpha,i} N_i \left(e^{\lambda_i t_c} - 1 \right)$$
 (3)

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where the index i refers to each radionuclide that acts as an alpha particle source, including 232 Th, 235 U, and 238 U. We disregard 147 Sm as insignificant. N_i is the concentration (atoms g^{-1}) of nuclide i, λ_i is the decay constant of nuclide i (yr⁻¹), $Y_{\alpha,i}$ is the yield of alpha particles throughout the decay chain of nuclide i ($Y_{\alpha,232}=6$; $Y_{\alpha,235}=7$, and $Y_{\alpha,238}=8$; we assume secular equilibrium for each decay chain), f_i is the fraction of alpha particles produced from decay of nuclide i that react with 18 O to produce 21 Ne; and t_c is a neon closure age (yr), which represents the time at which the mineral cooled sufficiently to retain 21 Ne. The fractions f_i for quartz are given by Cox et al. (2015) and are $f_{232}=6.08\times 10^{-8}$; $f_{235}=5.62\times 10^{-8}$; and $f_{238}=4.04\times 10^{-8}$. We discuss the factor $F_{T,i}$ in the next paragraph, leaving the neon closure age t_C as the only unknown parameter in this formula.

 $F_{T,i}$ is a factor that describes the fraction of alpha particles that are ejected at grain boundaries and thus cannot induce reactions within the grain (Farley et al., 1996). For samples that were prepared by HF etching, alpha-depleted grain boundaries have presumably been removed and $F_{T,i} = 1$ always. For CRPG-sourced samples that were not HF-etched, this is not the case, but the observation that bulk U and Th concentrations decrease substantially with etching indicates that U and Th are concentrated near grain boundaries, which violates the assumption of uniform U and Th distribution needed to compute $F_{T,i}$ in the usual fashion. To address this, we observe that mean eU in un-etched, CRPG-sourced samples is 2.8 times mean eU in etched samples. If we assume that the U and Th removed by etching is located exactly at the grain boundary, then 64% of eU is concentrated at the grain boundary. We can coarsely approximate F_T as a single, non-nuclide-dependent value for total alpha production by observing that if 64% of eU is concentrated at the grain boundary, and by definition half of alpha particles produced at the grain boundary are not implanted within the grain, then $F_T = (1 - (0.64/2)) = 0.68$. Although this approximation is speculative, it is consistent with the data shown in Figure 3 in that for these data the observed mean ratio of excess ²¹Ne to eU in unetched, CRPG-sourced samples is less than that in HF-etched samples. To summarize, we assume for all i that $F_{T,i} = 1$ for etched samples and $F_{T,i} = 0.68$ for un-etched samples.

The remainder of the terms in Equation 2 describe cosmogenic ²¹Ne. Cosmogenic-nuclide production due to fast neutron spallation is, in nearly all other work (e.g., Lal, 1988), assumed to decrease exponentially with mass depth below the surface such that:

$$P_{21,sp}(z) = P_{21,sp}(0)e^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_{sp}}}$$
(4)

where z is mass depth below the surface (g cm⁻²), $P_{21,sp}(z)$ is the ²¹Ne production rate due to spallation (atoms g⁻¹ yr⁻¹) at depth z, $P_{21,sp}(0)$ is the surface ²¹Ne production rate due to spallation (atoms g⁻¹ yr⁻¹), and Λ_{sp} is an effective e-folding length for spallogenic production (g cm⁻²). However, in our data set, the evidence for near-surface secondary particle escape effects shown in Figure 4 means that a single-exponential formula is not adequate. Because we do not have a first-principles estimate of the exact form of the depth-dependence of the production rate due to this effect, we approximate it by assuming:

$$P_{21,sp}(z) = P_{21,sp}(0)e^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_{sp}}} - P_{21,sp}(0)f_a e^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_a}}$$
(5)

where fa (dimensionless) and Λ_a (g cm⁻²) account for near-surface escape losses (e.g., see Phillips et al., 2001).

With this approximation, spallogenic 21 Ne as a function of mass depth z is:

$$N_{21,sp}(z) = P_{21,sp}(0) \int_0^t e^{-\frac{z+\epsilon\tau}{\Lambda_{sp}}} d\tau - P_{21,sp}(0) f_a \int_0^t e^{-\frac{z+\epsilon\tau}{\Lambda_a}} d\tau$$
 (6)

$$N_{21,sp}(z) = \frac{P_{21,sp}(0)e^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_{sp}}}\Lambda_{sp}}{\epsilon} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\epsilon}{\Lambda_{sp}}t}\right) - \frac{P_{21,sp}(0)f_ae^{-\frac{z}{\Lambda_a}}\Lambda_a}{\epsilon} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{\epsilon}{\Lambda_a}t}\right) \quad (7)$$

where t is the duration of exposure (yr) and ϵ is the surface erosion rate (g cm⁻² yr⁻¹). τ is a variable of integration.

²¹Ne production by muons is taken from Heisinger et al. (2002a,b) and is:

$$N_{21,\mu^{-}}(z) = f_{21}^{*} \int_{0}^{t} R_{\mu^{-}}(z + \epsilon \tau) f_{C} f_{d} d\tau$$
 (8)

$$N_{21,\mu f}(z) = \sigma_{0,21} \int_0^t \beta(z + \epsilon \tau) \Phi(z + \epsilon \tau) \bar{E}^{\alpha}(z + \epsilon \tau) N_i d\tau$$
 (9)

These two expressions are composed of (i) a muon flux (for fast muon interactions) or stopping rate (for negative muon capture) integrated throughout the exposure history of the sample, multiplied by (ii) a likelihood or cross-section for production of 21 Ne. The integral terms are fully defined at any depth z by formulae given in Heisinger et al. (2002a,b) (see the Heisinger papers for the definition of the symbols). We evaluate them using the "Model 1A" MATLAB code of Balco (2017), setting the parameter α to 1 (see discussion in Borchers et al., 2016; Balco, 2017). Given exposure time t and erosion rate ϵ , this leaves as remaining unknown parameters a negative muon capture probability for 21 Ne production from Si (f_{21}^* ; dimensionless), and a fast muon interaction cross-section for 21 Ne production from Si by 1 GeV muons ($\sigma_{0,21}$; barns). Although Heisinger et al. experimentally determined values for these parameters for reactions producing many cosmogenic nuclides, they did not do so for 21 Ne. Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) estimated values from analogue reactions, but one of our aims in this paper is to independently constrain the value of these parameters from measured 21 Ne concentrations in the subsurface.

Thus, ²¹Ne concentrations in our samples can be predicted with a forward model consisting of Equations 2, 3, 7, 8, and 9. Assuming the surface production rate of ²¹Ne is known, this model has 8 unknown parameters: the exposure time t; surface erosion rate ϵ , neon closure age t_C ; parameters describing the depth-dependence of spallogenic production Λ_{sp} , Λ_a , and f_a ; and muon interaction parameters f_{21}^* and $\sigma_{0,21}$. It is not possible to estimate all these parameters at once; for example, many combinations of age and erosion rate can be made to fit the data well by adjusting the muon interaction cross-sections. In the case of radionuclides (e.g., ¹⁰Be, ²⁶Al, ³⁶Cl, or ¹⁴C) measured at a site that has experienced a long period of exposure at a low erosion rate, the situation can be simplified by assuming that the exposure time has been long enough that the nuclide concentrations at any depth have reached equilibrium between production, radioactive decay, and advection toward the surface due to erosion. In that case, given that the surface production rate is known, one can determine the erosion rate and the muon interaction cross-sections simultaneously (e.g., Stone et al., 1998; Balco, 2017). If the erosion rate is low enough in relation to the decay constant of the nuclide in question, then the muon interaction cross-sections can be determined independently of the erosion rate. However, that is not possible with ²¹Ne, because, for a stable nuclide, as the erosion rate approaches zero, the time required for nuclide concentrations to reach production-erosion equilibrium approaches infinity. An additional complication (which is also applicable to radionuclides, although less important at low erosion rates), is that the erosion rate may have been unsteady, so that the effective erosion rate experienced during the time that the near-surface spallogenic ²¹Ne inventory accumulated may be different from the effective erosion rate during the longer period of time in which the subsurface muon-produced ²¹Ne inventory accumulated.

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4.1. Zero-erosion end member

$$M = \sum_{j} \left[\frac{N_{21,xs,p,j} - N_{21,xs,m,j}}{\sqrt{(\sigma N_{21,xs,p,j})^2 + (\sigma N_{21,xs,m,j})^2}} \right]^2$$
 (10)

where $N_{21,xs,m,j}$ and $\sigma N_{21,xs,m,j}$ are the measured excess ²¹Ne concentration and measurement uncertainty for sample j, and $N_{21,xs,p,j}$ is the excess ²¹Ne concentration predicted by the model for sample j. The uncertainty in the predicted concentration $\sigma N_{21,xs,p,j}$ stems from the uncertainty in estimating nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations, which is in turn derived from uncertainties in measuring bulk U and Th concentrations. As discussed above, this uncertainty is likely much greater than the nominal uncertainty in the isotope dilution measurements. Assigning an expanded uncertainty to all

samples equally, however, would not change the relative weighting of samples in the model-fitting calculation, and we have little basis for arguing that any estimate of this expanded uncertainty would be accurate, so for fitting models to the data we assume $\sigma N_{21,xs,p,j} = 0$. The only constraint we imposed on the parameter values for this fitting exercise is that all must be greater than zero.

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Figure 6 shows the result of fitting this model to the data. The minimum value of the fitting parameter M is 133 for 30 degrees of freedom (37 data less 7 fitted parameters). At face value this implies a vanishingly small probability that model-data misfit is consistent with measurement uncertainties, but this value for M is unrealistically high because we have not included any uncertainty in predicted 21 Ne concentrations stemming from uncertainty in U and Th concentrations, and also possibly because we did not include correlated uncertainties stemming from interlaboratory standardization. For example, if we assume a 25% uncertainty in estimates of nucleogenic 21 Ne (see discussion above), M = 61 for this model fit, so it is unclear how to best to evaluate the quality of the model fit. The best-fitting exposure age t is 4.1 Ma, in agreement with the apparent 10 Be exposure age, as expected from Figure 5. Optimal values of parameters related to spallogenic production are $\Lambda_{sp} = 140.2$ g cm $^{-2}$, which agrees precisely with values for 26 Al (144.7 \pm 2.3) and 10 Be (140.5 \pm 1.1) in the core determined by Borchers et al. (2016); $\Lambda_a = 6.8$ g cm $^{-2}$; and $f_a = 0.043$.

The best-fitting neon closure age t_C is 156 Ma. This implies substantial nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations in these samples, in the range 3-18 Matoms g⁻¹ for etched samples and 7-19 Matoms g⁻¹ for un-etched samples. Nucleogenic ²¹Ne accounts for nearly all ²¹Ne present in samples below ~1000 g cm⁻² depth (Fig. 6).

Because we assume a finite exposure time at zero erosion in this fitting exercise, best-fitting values for muon interaction cross-sections should provide upper limits on the true production rate due to muons. The best-fitting value for $\sigma_{0.21}$ is 0.0112 millibarns (mb). Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) estimated this cross-section to be 0.79 mb for 190 GeV muon energy, based on analogue reactions whose cross-sections at 190 GeV were experimentally measured by Heisinger et al. (2002b). In our muon calculations, as discussed above, we assume that the energy dependence exponent α for this cross-section (see Heisinger et al., 2002b; Borchers et al., 2016) is 1, in which case the value of $\sigma_{0.21}$ implied by the estimate of Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) is $0.79/(190^1) = 0.0042$ mb. This is consistent with the upper limit represented by our best-fitting value. On the other hand, our best-fitting value for the negative muon capture cross-section f_{21}^* is zero, implying that ²¹Ne is not produced by negative muon capture. This agrees with the assessment of Kober et al. (2011), who proposed that no suitable negative muon capture reaction on Si exists. However, Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) proposed several possible reactions. Our measurements are most consistent with the argument that ²¹Ne production by this pathway is negligible.

4.2. Steady-erosion end member

We now attempt to fit the data under the opposite end member assumption that the site has experienced slow erosion for a much longer period of time than implied by the apparent surface exposure age. Independent geologic evidence indicates that the last significant topographic development in the Dry Valleys preceded 14.5 Ma (Sugden et al., 1999; Sugden and Denton, 2004; Lewis et al., 2006). Thus, we assume that $t = \frac{1}{2}$

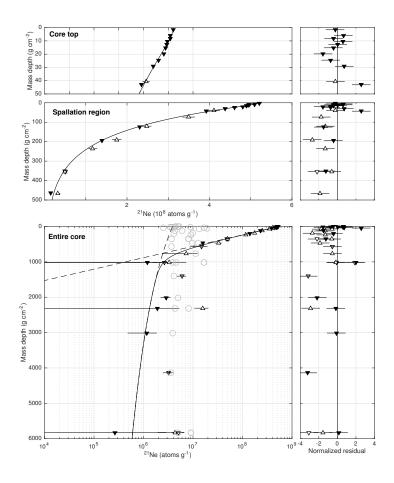


Figure 6: Fit of zero-erosion model to ²¹Ne concentrations in the core. The left panels show data with the best-fitting model; the right panels show normalized residuals. The data are the same in all panels, but the y-axes are different so as to adequately show details in all parts of the core. Gray circles (in lower panel only) show nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations predicted by best-fitting model parameters for each sample, and black symbols (with same symbology as in Figure 2) show corresponding cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentrations (thus, these are different from the data plotted in Figure 2, which are total excess ²¹Ne concentrations). The solid line shows cosmogenic ²¹Ne concentrations predicted by the best-fitting parameters, and the dashed lines in the lower panel show predictions for spallogenic and muon-produced ²¹Ne.

14.5 Ma. In addition, we simplify the optimization problem by also assuming Λ_{sp} = 140 g cm⁻². This leaves ϵ , Λ_a , f_a , t_C , $\sigma_{0,21}$, and f_{21}^* as unknown parameters. Again, here we impose only the constraint that all parameters must be positive.

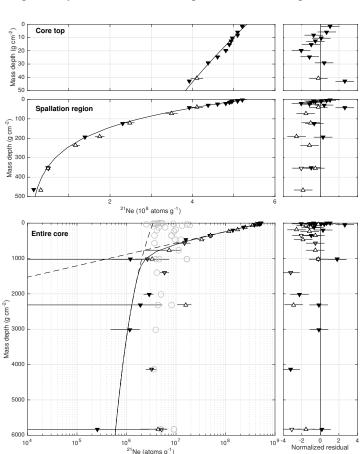


Figure 7: Fit of 14.5 Ma steady-erosion model to 21 Ne concentrations in the core. Figure elements are the same as in Figure 6.

Figure 7 shows the result of fitting this model to the data. The minimum value of the fitting parameter M is the same, and the overall fit to the data is similar, as is evident by comparison of Figures 6 and 7. The best-fitting erosion rate over 14.5 Ma is 3.3×10^{-5} g cm⁻² yr⁻¹, or 0.14 m Myr⁻¹ for the mean rock density in the core of 2.31 g cm⁻³. The best-fitting value for t_C is again 156 Ma; as we expect from the fact that U and Th concentrations are not correlated with depth in the core, this value is not sensitive to assumptions about the exposure history.

Assuming steady erosion for a long period of time makes it difficult to fit the near-surface spallogenic ²¹Ne profile; this scenario requires $\Lambda_a = 36$ g cm⁻² and $f_a = 0.15$, which are probably too large to be realistic (e.g., Masarik and Reedy, 1995; Argento

et al., 2013), and even with these much larger values the fit to the data is poor near the surface (Fig 7). Heuristically, this is not surprising, because erosion acts to replace the nuclide inventory produced at the surface with that produced in the subsurface region that is not affected by albedo effects. Thus, in the presence of erosion, a more extreme reduction in the production rate at the surface is needed to yield an observable effect in the near-surface concentrations. The difficulty of fitting the near-surface profile with a steady-erosion model would tend to suggest that the true exposure history of the site is transient and involves relatively rapid removal of meter-scale layers of rock, with near-zero erosion between stripping events. This is potentially consistent with the stratified nature of the bedrock: erosion at this site could occur primarily by lateral backwearing of successive strata rather than steady surface degradation.

Again, the best-fitting value for f_{21}^* is zero, implying no production of 21 Ne by negative muon capture. The best fitting value of the fast muon interaction cross-section $\sigma_{0,21}$ for this scenario is 0.0033 mb. Given the assumption that the total exposure history of the site can span no more than 14.5 Ma, this should provide a minimum constraint on the muon production rate, so again this is consistent with the estimate from analogue reactions by Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008).

4.3. Uncertainty analysis

The fact that models with very different exposure histories can be equivalently fit to the data indicates that an attempt to estimate a formal uncertainty in any of our parameter estimates for a particular one of these models would not be meaningful. However, one important conclusion of the discussion above is that our measurements imply that production of 21 Ne by negative muon capture is zero or at least negligible. Thus, in this section we explore further whether nonzero negative muon capture production would be consistent with the observations, or if it is entirely precluded. In addition, we investigate the uncertainty in the estimate of Ne closure age. To do this, we use a simplified model in which we assume values for the muon production parameters f_{21}^* and $\sigma_{0,21}$, and simplify Equation 7 as:

$$N_{21,sp}(z) = N_{21,sp}(0)e^{\frac{z}{\Lambda_{sp}}}$$
 (11)

The effect of this is that the spallogenic 21 Ne inventory is parameterized simply by a surface nuclide concentration $N_{21,sp}(0)$ instead of the exposure age and erosion rate, which accommodates transient exposure histories by permitting spallogenic and muon-produced inventories to reflect different effective erosion rates. In other words, it permits the muon-produced inventory to have accumulated over a longer time than the spallogenic inventory, which would take place, for example, in the scenario of unsteady erosion by backwearing of successive strata suggested above. We also disregard measurements in the upper 20 g cm⁻² of the core so that it is not necessary to fit the near-surface deviation from a single exponential profile. We then assume $\Lambda_{sp} = 140$ g cm⁻² and a total exposure time of 14.5 Ma as above. This leaves only the neon closure age t_C , the erosion rate ϵ , and the spallogenic surface nuclide concentration $N_{21,sp}(0)$ as fitting parameters. Finally, we constrain all parameters to be greater than zero, and for computational efficiency constrain the erosion rate to be less than 0.2 m Myr⁻¹,

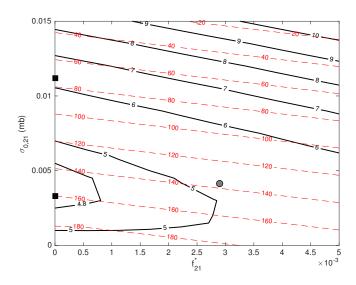


Figure 8: The solid black lines are contours of best attainable value of the reduced chi-squared misfit statistic χ^2/ν (e.g., M as defined above divided by the number of degrees of freedom) for a range of specified values of f_{21}^* and $\sigma_{0,21}$, using the simplified 14.5 Ma steady erosion model and the constraints described in the text. Note that values of the fit statistic shown here are not comparable to those discussed for the complete models in the previous section, because near-surface data have been excluded and the fitting parameters are different. In addition, they are calculated assuming zero uncertainty in predicted nucleogenic 21 Ne concentrations (see text). Thus, they should not be taken to imply a realistic probability-of-fit. The gray circle shows the values for muon interaction cross-sections proposed by Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008), and the black squares show best-fitting values for the simple-exposure and steady-erosion models described in the previous sections, which represent maximum and minimum constraints on f_{21}^* , respectively. The dashed red lines are contours of the neon closure age (in Ma) in the best-fitting model for each $(f_{21}^*, \sigma_{0,21})$ pair.

which is slightly higher than the maximum erosion rate permitted by the surface ²¹Ne concentration.

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Figure 8 shows the results of this fitting exercise for a range of values of f_{21}^* and $\sigma_{0.21}$. Although zero negative muon capture production results in the best fit, the observations can be fit nearly as well with some negative muon capture, as long as total muon production remains relatively low. This is because nearly all the observed excess ²¹Ne in deep samples is nucleogenic rather than muon-produced, which results in poor resolution on muon production rates overall. Another important point highlighted in Figure 8 is that prescribing higher values of f_{21}^* and $\sigma_{0,21}$ in this calculation, without permitting higher erosion rates than allowed by the surface ²¹Ne concentration, apportions more of the excess ²¹Ne concentration in the deep part of the core to cosmogenic rather than nucleogenic production, which decreases the best-fitting neon closure age. The approximate correspondence between the closure temperature of Ne in quartz (Shuster and Farley, 2005) and that of the apatite fission-track system implies that the true neon closure age of these samples must be greater than AFT ages of ~150 Ma at lower elevations nearby in the Dry Valleys (Gleadow and Fitzgerald, 1987, P. Fitzgerald, written communication), and in addition it must presumably be lower than the 183 Ma emplacement age of the Ferrar dolerite, sills of which intrude the Beacon Fm. close to the core site (Burgess et al., 2015). This criterion also favors lower values for muon production rates, although, again, it does not completely preclude some contribution from negative muon capture production. As discussed above, best-fitting models have a neon closure age near 160 Ma, but the data can be fit nearly as well with values between ~130-180 Ma. This is effectively indistinguishable from closure ages between 133-351 Ma obtained from the Mackay Glacier erratics discussed above.

5. Discussion and conclusions

In this section we highlight potentially useful conclusions of this study related to (i) nucleogenic ²¹Ne systematics in Beacon Group sandstone, and (ii) production of cosmogenic ²¹Ne in quartz by muon interactions.

5.1. Nucleogenic ²¹Ne and the (U-Th)/Ne age of Beacon Group sandstone in the Dry Valleys area

Quartz in Beacon Group sandstones contains significant concentrations of nucleogenic 21 Ne. The mean and standard deviation of nucleogenic 21 Ne concentrations in etched core samples implied by the best-fitting neon closure age of ~ 156 Ma is 5.2 ± 3.4 Matoms g^{-1} , which is effectively the same as 7.1 ± 2.0 Matoms g^{-1} in etched quartz measured in Mackay Glacier erratics. For un-etched core samples, it is 11.1 ± 3.6 Matoms g^{-1} . Middleton et al. (2012) also estimated nucleogenic 21 Ne concentrations in a set of Beacon Group sandstones from a different location in the Dry Valleys by inferring nucleogenic 21 Ne from measurements of fissiogenic 129 Xe concentrations and the assumption of simultaneous Ne and Xe closure. Their samples were HF-etched, but not as extensively as ours (a single 24-hour period at room temperature), and they inferred an average nucleogenic 21 Ne concentration of 7.7 ± 2.4 Matoms g^{-1} , which is consistent with our results. They did not measure U and Th concentrations. Thus, these

studies are consistent and, in addition, the observation that the best-fitting (U-Th)/Ne closure age is effectively indistinguishable from Ferrar emplacement tends to support the assumption of simultaneous Ne and Xe closure (which would be expected in the case of rapid cooling after a reheating event at shallow depth, but not in the case of prolonged cooling due to slow exhumation).

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The results of both studies are potentially useful for surface exposure dating using ²¹Ne in this lithology, because they show that it is possible to estimate nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations independently of the Ne measurements themselves either by (i) Xe measurements and the assumption of simultaneous Ne and Xe closure, or (ii) U and Th measurements and an assumed closure age. Potentially, this could significantly improve the precision of cosmogenic ²¹Ne measurements and facilitate exposure-dating of relatively young surfaces. However, both studies also show that nucleogenic ²¹Ne concentrations are quite variable among different samples of quartz from Beacon Group sandstones, and we find that they are strongly affected by sample pretreatment and etching. In addition, replicate measurements of U and Th on individual quartz samples show substantial excess scatter. These observations indicate that estimates of nucleogenic ²¹Ne based on U/Th concentrations and an assumed closure age most likely have precision no better than ~20%, and possibly much worse. If mean nucleogenic ²¹Ne in Beacon Group sandstone quartz is 7 Matoms g⁻¹, this implies an uncertainty in estimating nucleogenic ²¹Ne and thus also in estimating cosmogenic ²¹Ne of at least 1.5 Matoms g-1, which is equivalent to an uncertainty in exposure age of ca. 75,000 years at sea level or ca. 40,000 years at 1 km elevation. Thus, nucleogenic ²¹Ne estimates for this lithology are not accurate enough for ²¹Ne exposure-dating of, for example, Last-Glacial-Maximum-age deposits in the age range 15,000-25,000 years, but are likely accurate enough for useful exposure-age measurements on deposits dating to previous glacial maxima (> 0.15 Ma). The precision of nucleogenic ²¹Ne estimates could most likely be improved by investigating the causes of scatter in U and Th concentrations.

5.2. Cosmogenic ²¹Ne production by muons

We cannot precisely estimate muon interaction cross-sections from our subsurface ²¹Ne concentrations, mainly because at depths below ca. 1000 g cm⁻² where cosmogenic ²¹Ne is expected to be dominantly muon-produced, most ²¹Ne is nucleogenic and muon produced ²¹Ne represents only a small fraction of the total. In addition, steadystate assumptions that can be used for this purpose for radionuclides are not applicable for stable nuclides. However, the model-fitting exercises above place some bounds on these values. First, our measurements are most consistent with negligible ²¹Ne production by negative muon capture. As far as we are aware, there is no other observational evidence for measurable ²¹Ne production by this mechanism that would contradict this. Theoretical discussions of this production mechanism disagree: Kober et al. (2011) argued that no likely negative muon capture reactions exist, and in addition Lal (1988) did not propose any such reactions, but on the other hand Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) proposed possible reactions. Although our observations are not conclusive, they suggest that, in fact, negative muon capture production is negligible. However, our observations are consistent with measurable ²¹Ne production by fast muon interactions. Limits on the fast muon interaction cross-section derived from end-member model fitting exercises are consistent with the proposed cross-section inferred from analogue measurements by Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008) as well as the reasoning of Kober et al. (2011) that fast muon production of 21 Ne should be less than 2% of total surface production. Thus, we propose that available evidence indicates that the most sensible approach to computing 21 Ne production rates due to muon interactions is to (i) assume zero negative muon capture production, and (ii) adopt the fast muon interaction cross-section estimate of Fernandez-Mosquera et al. (2008). This approach implies that 21 Ne production by muons is 0.2 atoms g^{-1} yr $^{-1}$ (\sim 1% of total surface production) at sea level.

5.3. Effect on existing production rate estimates for ²¹Ne

Balco and Shuster (2009) estimated the ²¹Ne/¹⁰Be production ratio to be 4.08 using a set of ²¹Ne measurements on samples of Beacon Group sandstone from the Dry Valleys. This estimate (i) assumed that zero nucleogenic ²¹Ne was present, and (ii) inferred a total production rate due to muons of 0.66 atoms g⁻¹ yr⁻¹ at sea level. Our results here indicate that both (i) and (ii) are incorrect. Thus, we revised the calculations in that paper to assume that (i) nucleogenic ²¹Ne in those samples is present at the average concentration estimated here for core samples, and (ii) muon production of ²¹Ne is as suggested above. These adjustments result in a 5% increase in the estimated ²¹Ne/¹⁰Be production ratio, to 4.27. However, the measurements in Balco and Shuster (2009) were collected on the BGC MAP-II system prior to the intercomparison exercise of Vermeesch et al. (2015), and renormalizing these data to reference values for the CRONUS-A and CREU-1 standards has the opposite effect, resulting in a revised estimate of 4.03 that is effectively the same as the originally published value.

6. Data and code availability

MATLAB scripts used for model fitting and production of figures, as well as all tables and supplementary data in spreadsheet form, are available for purposes of review of this paper at the following URL:

http://hess.ess.washington.edu/repository/BCO_neon_201806

7. Acknowledgements.

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Table 1. Excess ²¹Ne with respect to atmosphere, U, and Th concentrations for Beacon Heights core samples. ²¹Ne concentrations from different labs have been normalized to a common value of the CREU-1 and CRONUS-A interlaboratory comparison standards. See text and supplementary material for details.

Depth (cm)	Midpoint mass depth (g cm ⁻²)	Excess ²¹ Ne (Matoms g ⁻¹)	No. of analyses	[U] (ppm)	[Th] (ppm)	Sample preparation at:	System for Ne analysis	U/Th analysis at:
0-1.4	1.6	525.6 +/- 5.1	3	0.085	0.356	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
2-3	5.8	514.4 +/- 4.8	4	0.077	0.437	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
3-4	8.2	514.0 +/- 5.3	3	0.109	0.385	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
4-5	10.5	500.5 +/- 5.3	3	0.087	0.258	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
5-6	12.8	502.3 +/- 5.9	2	0.276	0.453	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
6-7	15.2	493.2 +/- 6.3	2	0.073	0.336	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
8-9	19.8	484.5 +/- 6.0	2	0.070	0.266	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
10-11	24.5	465.1 +/- 6.1	2	0.069	0.262	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
12-13	29.1	441.0 +/- 5.5	2	0.041	0.196	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
17-18	40.8	427 +/- 15	1	0.726	1.279	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
18-19	43.1	411.3 +/- 3.4	4	0.258	1.468	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
31-32	73.5	363 +/- 15	1	0.459	1.332	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
51-52	120.3	253.5 +/- 12	1	0.240	0.522	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
53-54	124.9	234.4 +/- 3.2	2	0.088	0.356	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
81-82	189.4	185 +/- 12	1	0.389	0.846	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
83-84	194.1	143.9 +/- 2.4	2	0.064	0.276	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
101-102	235.9	126 +/- 10	1	0.336	0.859	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
151-152	351.1	52.6 +/- 1.5	2	0.070	0.219	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
152-153	353.4	59.5 +/- 2.2	2	0.334	1.005	CRPG	BGC-MAPII	BGC
152-153	353.4	57.6 +/- 4.8	1	0.334	1.005	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
201-202	463.8	25.1 +/- 1.1	2	0.110	0.369	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
202-203	466.0	45.3 +/- 5.5	1	0.529	1.034	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
247-248	566.2	18.5 +/- 4.8	2	0.080	0.272	Tulane	BGC-Ohio	BGC
335-336	764.8	18.8 +/- 5.0	1	0.464	0.966	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
447-448	1018	6.5 +/- 1.1	2	0.091	0.268	Tulane	BGC-Ohio	BGC
448-449	1021	15.7 +/- 1.9	1	0.348	2.375	CRPG	BGC-MAPII	BGC
448-449	1021	20.1 +/- 4.0	1	0.348	2.375	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
449-451	1024	5.72 +/- 0.67	2	0.076	0.246	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
613-615	1404	10.0 +/- 1.3	2	0.104	0.260	Tulane	BGC-Ohio	BGC
860-862	2010	7.86 +/- 0.64	2	0.122	0.302	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
996-998	2309	23.8 +/- 4.9	1	0.272	0.871	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
998-1000	2313	6.2 +/- 3.4	2	0.062	0.267	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
1300-1302	3013	5.00 +/- 0.69	2	0.054	0.157	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
1784-1786	4139	6.81 +/- 0.74	2	0.095	0.254	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC
2518-2520	5827	14.2 +/- 1.5	1	0.369	1.038	CRPG	BGC-MAPII	BGC
2518-2520	5827	13.3 +/- 2.4	1	0.369	1.038	CRPG	CRPG	CRPG
2520-2522	5832	5.2 +/- 2.6	2	0.082	0.263	UW	BGC-MAPII	BGC

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Table 2. Excess ²¹Ne, U, and Th concentrations for sandstone erratios at Mackay Glacier collected by Jones et al. (2015). Sample information and "Be concentrations are documented in that reference. Uncertainty estimates for closure ages assume 25% uncertainty in total alpha particle production; see text for details.

Sample name	Excess ²¹ Ne (Matoms g ⁻¹)	No. of Ne analyses	[N] (mdd)	[Th] (ppm)	[¹¹Be] (atoms g⁻¹)	Calculated cosmogenic 21Ne (Matoms g ⁻¹)	Calculated nucleogenic ²¹Ne (Matoms g¹¹)	²¹ Ne closure age (Ma)
1R47	8.0 +/- 1.3	က	0.085	0.344	‡	‡		+
ìR48	3.0 +/- 1.0	2	0.051	0.201	73410 +/- 3100	0.300 +/- 0.013	2.7 +/- 1.0	165 +/- 74
ìR51	6.5 +/- 1.8	2	0.100	0.286	‡	+		+
3R52	11.2 +/- 1.8	2	0.139	0.205	‡	'		+
3R53B	8.1 +/- 1.2	2	0.115	0.238	‡	+		+
3R54	9.5 +/- 1.6	2	0.175	0.198	+	'		+
3R56	7.32 +/- 0.79	9	0.210	0.505	+	+		'
3R59	8.2 +/- 1.0	4	0.137	0.345	‡	+		+
R62B	6.1 +/- 1.4	2	0.094	0.221	‡	'		+
,R64	8.2 +/- 1.0	2	0.184	0.458	‡	+		+
3R67	4.7 +/- 1.1	2	0.100	0.186	+	'		+
060	8.9 +/- 1.0	က	0.153	0.201	+	+		293 +/- 80
2623	7.0 +/- 1.1	က	0.162	0.330	‡	+	6.8 +/- 1.1	' +

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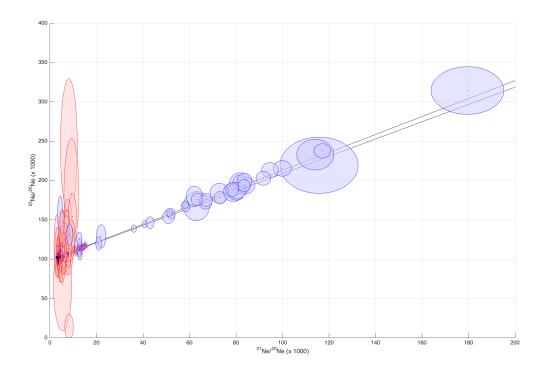
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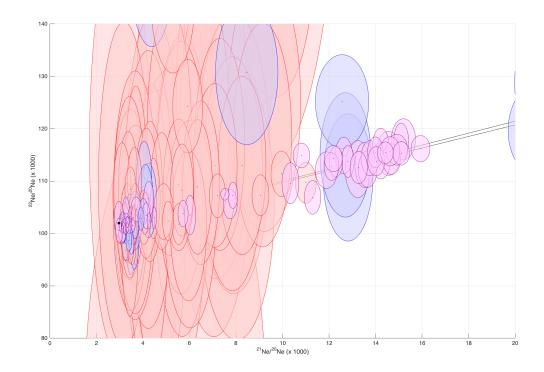
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Supplementary Figure SF1. Ne isotope ratios measured in all heating steps for all core samples. Ellipses are 68% confidence regions. The black dot is the isotope composition of atmospheric Ne and the black lines show the atmospheric-cosmogenic mixing line (Niedermann, 2000; the separation of the lines reflects the uncertainty in the isotope composition of cosmogenic Ne). The color-coding reflects extraction temperature: light blue, <500°C; light purple, 500-1000°; light red, 1000°. The data in the two panels are the same; only the axis limits differ. Note that although some of the uncertainty ellipses do not overlap the cosmogenic-atmospheric mixing line, the ellipses are supposed to be 68% uncertainty regions. Thus, if they are drawn correctly and the true isotope compositions of all heating steps do, in fact, line on the mixing line, then we expect 32% of the ellipses, or 62 of 185 ellipses shown here, to fail to overlap with the mixing line. In fact, only 23 ellipses do not overlap with the mixing line, which suggests that variance of isotope ratios around the mixing line is due to measurement error alone and also that measurement uncertainties may have been slightly overestimated.





Supplementary Figure SF2. Ne isotope ratios measured in all heating steps for all Mackay Glacier erratic samples. Ellipses are 68% confidence regions. The black dot is the isotope composition of atmospheric Ne and the black lines show the atmospheric-cosmogenic mixing line (Niedermann, 2000; the separation of the lines reflects the uncertainty in the isotope composition of cosmogenic Ne). The color-coding reflects extraction temperature: light blue, $<1000^{\circ}$ C; light red, 1000° .

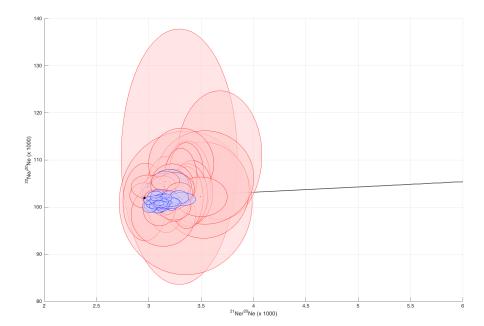


Table S1a. Complete step-degassing neon isotope measurements on Beacon Heights core samples made on BGC "MAPII" system, June-July 2010

BCO-5	BCO-4	BCO-3	BCO-2	Sample name
o & o	o a c	o a c	o o a o	Aliquot a
0.0835 0.1107 0.1316	0.0753	0.0857 0.1126 0.098	0.0935	Aliquot weight (g) 0.0791
390 780 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 780 1140	380 780 1140 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 1140	390 780 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 1140	390 1140 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 1140	Heating temperature (deg C) 390 780 1140 370 780
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	0.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2.2	000000000000000000000000000000000000000	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	Heating time (hr) 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.17 0.17
0.673 +/- 0.022 0.964 +/- 0.018 0.195 +/- 0.012 0.455 +/- 0.012 1.366 +/- 0.014 0.101 +/- 0.011 0.618 +/- 0.013 0.191 +/- 0.013 0.191 +/- 0.012	0.755 +/- 0.020 1.122 +/- 0.020 1.122 +/- 0.020 0.243 +/- 0.017 0.492 +/- 0.017 0.790 +/- 0.017 0.192 +/- 0.011 0.504 +/- 0.013 1.373 +/- 0.012	0.882 +/- 0.015 1.081 +/- 0.018 0.274 +/- 0.011 0.527 +/- 0.018 1.338 +/- 0.011 0.113 +/- 0.011 0.541 +/- 0.012 1.264 +/- 0.015 0.123 +/- 0.012	0.788 +/- 0.013 1.274 +/- 0.016 0.182 +/- 0.011 0.431 +/- 0.010 1.232 +/- 0.010 0.103 +/- 0.010 0.702 +/- 0.019 1.499 +/- 0.017 0.239 +/- 0.011 1.092 +/- 0.023 1.365 +/- 0.009	Total ²⁰ Ne released ¹ (10° atoms) 0.400 +/- 0.015 1.101 +/- 0.013 0.117 +/- 0.011 0.488 +/- 0.014 1.196 +/- 0.012 0.208 +/- 0.011
34.423 +/ 0.892 14.048 +/ 0.397 0.992 +/ 0.069 46.013 +/ 0.967 19.140 +/ 0.967 19.140 +/ 0.062 51.838 +/ 1.007 23.656 +/ 0.517 1.358 +/ 0.104	31.37 +- 0.71 15.492 +- 0.394 10.08 +- 0.082 39.847 +- 0.795 21.175 +- 0.526 12.09 +- 0.084 19.007 +- 0.406 1.202 +- 0.091	36.050 + . 0.811 16.472 + . 0.46 1.159 + . 0.088 45.327 + . 0.514 21.480 + . 0.52 1.050 + . 0.083 39.758 + . 0.839 18.086 + . 0.422 1.187 + . 0.1	39.054 +/- 0.822 18.725 +/- 0.456 11.85 +/- 0.063 41.235 +/- 0.949 17.081 +/- 0.949 17.081 +/- 0.078 44.636 +/- 0.078 44.636 +/- 0.096 21.733 +/- 0.482 13.25 +/- 0.096 39.534 -/- 0.482 18.700 +/- 0.482 1.737 +/- 0.482	Ticla ¹⁷ (Ne released ² (10° atoms) (10
50.934 +/- 1.830 14.557 +/- 0.778 6.649 +/- 0.782 99.888 +/- 0.238 13.989 +/- 0.238 6.936 +/- 1.076 83.445 +/- 1.853 15.103 +/- 0.257 7.083 +/- 0.682	42.988 +/- 1.251 13.524 +/- 0.300 4.144 +/- 0.302 80.081 +/- 2.866 7.520 +/- 0.128 9.139 +/- 0.893 83.646 +/- 2.278 14.223 +/- 0.843	40.865 +/- 0.781 15.200 +/- 0.369 4.807 +/- 0.359 84.138 +/- 2.879 15.934 +/- 0.291 9.217 +/- 1.117 73.064 +/- 0.261 14.028 +/- 0.261 9.630 +/- 1.248	51.230 +/- 1.034 114.626 +/- 0.299 6.480 +/- 0.580 94.596 +/- 2.574 13.761 +/- 0.275 7.893 +/- 1.100 63.261 +/- 0.245 5.544 +/- 0.470 36.030 +/- 0.789 13.661 +/- 0.288 5.672 +/- 0.288	² Ne/ ² Ne ³ (10 ³) 78.856 +/- 3.066 14.912 +/- 0.333 5.632 +/- 0.754 66.895 +/- 1.965 15.102 +/- 0.229 6.343 +/- 0.457
153.5 */- 60 115.3 */- 30 121.4 */- 17.6 215.2 */- 7.1 115.5 */- 2.1 128.1 */- 19.9 193.3 */- 5.5 115.3 */- 1.6 113.0 */- 11.2	146.2 +/- 5.4 113.1 +/- 3.1 107.7 +/- 8.9 186.3 +/- 8.2 107.5 +/- 0.8 118.8 +/- 15.3 199.6 +/- 6.8 116.9 +/- 2.3 101.5 +/- 10.3	144.4 +/- 3.2 118.0 +/- 2.8 108.1 +/- 8.0 193.6 +/- 7.6 116.2 +/- 18. 125.1 +/- 17.7 177.9 +/- 5.7 113.8 +/- 20.4	159.1 *** 3.7 115.7 *** 20 1109.7 *** 11.2 212.9 *** 6.9 114.4 *** 2.4 115.3 *** 19.2 175.8 *** 5.7 115.4 *** 19.2 176.8 *** 5.7 115.3 *** 9.0 138.7 *** 3.4 112.3 *** 2.5 108.3 *** 6.3	² Ne / ² Ne ³ (10°) 185.2 +/- 86 116.0 +/- 2.1 112.6 +/- 17.3 172.3 +/- 6.3 117.6 +/- 2.5 108.9 +/- 9.2
386.39 +/- 10.76 133.90 +/- 4.82 5.98 +/- 0.93 386.40 +/- 8.69 135.08 +/- 3.29 136.08 +/- 3.29 377.84 +/- 7.69 143.91 +/- 3.50 5.99 +/- 0.84	385.66 +/- 9.50 180.37 +/- 5.30 3.82 +/- 1.17 395.67 +/- 8.35 192.85 +/- 3.82 192.85 +/- 0.077 376.94 +/- 7.83 143.41 +/- 3.75 5.59 +/- 0.91	388.06 +/- 9.51 154.39 +/- 5.32 5.90 +/- 1.17 383.69 +/- 8.17 154.12 +/- 3.86 6.30 +/- 0.79 387.15 +/- 8.60 144.99 +/- 3.83 8.36 +/- 1.09	391.49 +/- 8,84 158.91 +/- 4,55 6.87 +/- 0.96 403.55 +/- 9,74 138.03 +/- 3,99 5.18 +/- 0.86 380.29 +/- 8,21 144.37 +/- 3,73 5.52 +/- 0.92 383.64 +/- 9,43 155.28 +/- 4,43 155.28 +/- 1,13	Excess *\Ne* This heating step (f0* atoms g *) 383.99 +/- 9.40 166.33 +/- 5.08 3.96 +/- 0.90 377.10 +/- 6.97 172.07 +/- 3.70 8.35 +/- 0.89
58 96 57 86 58 94 58 80 96 57 86 58 94	93 78 95 96 97 97 98	92 95 96 97 97 98	94 79 95 96 97 97 97 98 98 98 98 98	Excess ²⁷ Ne as % of ²¹ Ne released in this heating step 95 80 47 96 80 53
73 25 74 1 27 72 72 72 72	70 28 74 1 22 22 77 27 77	71 1 28 28 17 1 27 1 28 27 2 27 2 27 2	70 29 74 75 70 70 70 28 28 28 28	Percent of total excess **Ne released in this step 69 30 1
526.3 + 11.8 537.1 + 9.3 527.7 + 8.5	5497 ++ 109 537.0 ++ 9.2 525.9 ++ 8.7	548.4 +/ 11.0 544.1 +/ 9.1 540.5 +/ 9.5	557.3 +/ 10.0 544.8 +/ 10.6 540.2 +/ 9.1 547.7 +/ 10.7	Total excess **Ne (10° atoms g ') 554.3 +/- 10.7

	BCO-151		BCO-83		BCO-53				BCO-18		BCO-12		BCO-10	BCO-8		BCO-6
ъ	Ø	б	Ø	ъ	ω	۵	o	ъ	ω	ь	۵	o	a 0	. 20	ъ	20
0.1383	0.1229	0.1417	0.1225	0.1293	0.1267	0.0538	0.1102	0.1391	0.1219	0.0952	0.1273	0.0777	0.0975	0.1014	0.0934	0.094
390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	1140 390 780	390 780	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	1140 390 780 1140	780 1140 390	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140
0.2 0.2	0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2
0.337 +/- 0.011 1.279 +/- 0.015 0.143 +/- 0.012	0.276 +/- 0.016 1.209 +/- 0.012 0.093 +/- 0.010	* * *	0.255 +/- 0.016 1.180 +/- 0.015 0.081 +/- 0.011	‡ ‡ ‡	+ + + +	* *	0.214 +/- 0.013 1.114 +/- 0.012 0.078 +/- 0.011	0.439 +/- 0.009 1.244 +/- 0.011 0.073 +/- 0.010	0.462 +/- 0.011 1.230 +/- 0.011 0.058 +/- 0.013	0.433 +/- 0.011 1.055 +/- 0.015 0.100 +/- 0.011	* * *	* * * * * ·	0.4/4 +/- 0.011 1.227 +/- 0.016 0.130 +/- 0.017 0.486 +/- 0.016 1.050 +/- 0.013	+ + +	0.520 +/- 0.014 1.229 +/- 0.017 0.175 +/- 0.011	0.736 +/- 0.015 1.199 +/- 0.015 0.130 +/- 0.011
7.042 +/- 0.229 5.428 +/- 0.215 0.494 +/- 0.064	6.099 +/- 0.197 5.042 +/- 0.15 0.432 +/- 0.069	‡ ‡ ‡	16.139 +/- 0.381 7.171 +/- 0.214 0.362 +/- 0.056	* * * *	* * * *	* *	38.282 +/- 0.854 13.564 +/- 0.382 0.546 +/- 0.053	51.931 +/- 0.823 13.556 +/- 0.355 0.562 +/- 0.071	42.637 +/- 0.7 15.238 +/- 0.317 0.544 +/- 0.068	35.566 +/- 0.707 13.372 +/- 0.322 0.569 +/- 0.062	* * *	* * * *	37.310 +1- 0.77 17.514 +1- 0.425 1.050 +1- 0.071 39.648 +1- 0.816 11.075 +1- 0.310	* * * *	35.103 +/- 0.741 18.134 +/- 0.403 1.453 +/- 0.094	38.827 +/- 0.826 16.069 +/- 0.397 1.027 +/- 0.087
20.904 +/- 0.862 4.245 +/- 0.155 3.461 +/- 0.533	22.000 +/- 1.446 4.133 +/- 0.114 4.585 +/- 0.874	* * *	62.963 +/- 4.025 6.022 +/- 0.172 4.415 +/- 0.899	* * *	* * * *	‡ ‡	179.500 +/- 11.194 12.187 +/- 0.278 7.037 +/- 1.188	117.094 +/- 2.559 10.813 +/- 0.254 7.582 +/- 1.420	91.747 +/- 2.264 12.280 +/- 0.206 9.211 +/- 2.292	81.682 +/- 2.148 12.632 +/- 0.267 5.689 +/- 0.872	* * *	* * * *	14.229 +/- 0.292 8.027 +/- 1.155 8.0573 +/- 2.730 11 293 +/- 0.553	* * *	67.182 +/- 1.923 14.684 +/- 0.278 8.258 +/- 0.736	52.109 +/- 1.209 13.275 +/- 0.267 7.846 +/- 0.928
119.7 +/- 6.1 106.6 +/- 2.4 104.5 +/- 13.8	128.8 +/- 10.7 103.4 +/- 1.8 98.6 +/- 20.6	‡ ‡ ‡	167.3 +/- 13.2 103.5 +/- 2.7 106.3 +/- 25.5	* * * *	* * * *	‡ ‡	314.2 +/- 21.7 114.3 +/- 1.8 117.3 +/- 26.5	237.5 +/- 6.5 114.9 +/- 1.7 135.0 +/- 29.5	202.8 +/- 6.4 113.7 +/- 2.1 182.8 +/- 50.7	197.3 +/- 6.9 114.9 +/- 2.5 109.1 +/- 20.6	‡ ‡ ‡	* * * *	188.3 +/ 6.3 113.9 +/ 2.5 105.5 +/ 18.5 186.7 +/ 7.4 186.0 +/ 23	* * *	175.3 +/- 6.1 114.2 +/- 2.1 113.0 +/- 12.2	157.5 +/- 4.6 112.6 +/- 2.2 111.4 +/- 16.0
43.68 +/- 1.68 11.89 +/- 1.44 0.52 +/- 0.53	42.70 +/- 1.66 11.54 +/- 1.13 1.23 +/- 0.61	‡ ‡ ‡	124.81 +/- 3.14 29.49 +/- 1.70 0.96 +/- 0.53	‡ ‡ ‡ = =	+ + + +	‡ ‡	342.19 +/- 7.79 93.25 +/- 2.99 2.87 +/- 0.56	359.80 +/- 5.94 70.26 +/- 2.36 2.43 +/- 0.55	336.58 +/- 5.77 94.18 +/- 2.24 3.00 +/- 0.64	357.73 +/- 7.46 107.24 +/- 3.35 2.85 +/- 0.74	‡ ‡ ‡	* * * * * *	141.84 +/- 4.14 6.78 +/- 0.89 403.00 +/- 8.77 93.47 +/- 3.00	* * *	357.42 +/- 7.98 154.33 +/- 4.25 9.95 +/- 1.07	384.78 +/- 8.83 131.54 +/- 3.80 6.75 +/- 0.99
86 30 14	35 35	95 48 42	95 50 33	97 62 59	95 61 58	96 77	99 76 58	96 72 60	96 75 67	96 4.8	94 75 59	97 42 42	96 79 95 73	5 76 2	95 79 64	82 71 82
78 21 1	21 2	82 17	19 80	75 24 1	1 22 77 1	22 71	78 21	16 16	78 22	76 23	76 1	76 23 0	184 185	74 1	69 30 2	74 25
56.1 +/- 2.3	55.5 +/- 2.1	149.2 +/- 3.7	155.3 +/- 3.6	249.0 +/- 4.7	247.5 +/- 4.7	442.5 +/- 9.3	438.3 +/- 8.4	432.5 +/- 6.4	433.8 +/- 6.2	467.8 +/- 8.2	466.3 +/- 8.3	487.2 +/- 9.0	514.8 +/- 9.0 498.4 +/- 9.3		521.7 +/- 9.1	523.1 +/- 9.7

BCO-2520	BCO-1784	BCO-1300	BCO-998	BCO-860	BCO-201
с <u>в</u> с	a G	a o	ы	<u>в</u> С	a 0 C
0.4619 0.154 0.4436	0.409 0.1531	0.4544 0.1455	0.4446 0.1493	0.412 0.1477	0.139 0.1373 0.1298
390 780 1140 390 780 1140 390 780 1140	390 780 1140 390 780 1140	390 780 1140 390 780	390 780 1140 390 780	1140 370 780 1140 390 780 1140	390 780 1140 390 780 1140 390 780
0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0		0.2.2.2.2	0.2 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.17 0.2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
2.482 +/- 0.025 5.977 +/- 0.053 1.201 +/- 0.017 0.430 +/- 0.013 1.789 +/- 0.014 0.201 +/- 0.010 1.588 +/- 0.023 5.300 +/- 0.048 0.809 +/- 0.017	* * * * * * * * *	2.423 +/- 0.028 4.918 +/- 0.042 0.566 +/- 0.012 0.601 +/- 0.013 1.441 +/- 0.016 0.002 +/- 0.016	* * * * *		0.280 +/- 0.015 1.275 +/- 0.015 0.1077 +/- 0.012 0.297 +/- 0.011 1.252 +/- 0.011 0.068 +/- 0.011 0.451 +/- 0.013 1.173 +/- 0.013
8.773 +/- 0.224 19.381 +/- 0.431 3.925 +/- 0.149 1.758 +/- 0.091 5.934 +/- 0.0212 0.879 +/- 0.086 5.371 +/- 0.186 16.816 +/- 0.457 2.598 +/- 0.135	+++ +++ +	8.299 +/- 0.239 16.520 +/- 0.322 2.302 +/- 0.116 2.226 +/- 0.116 4.522 +/- 0.18	* * * * * *		3.555 +/- 0.138 4.440 +/- 0.157 0.451 +/- 0.064 3.848 +/- 0.121 4.671 +/- 0.213 0.206 +/- 0.054 1.919 +/- 0.108 3.510 +/- 0.177
3.499 +/- 0.081 3.211 +/- 0.059 3.242 +/- 0.120 4.045 +/- 0.236 3.277 +/- 0.109 4.301 +/- 0.382 3.410 +/- 0.105 3.169 +/- 0.059 3.203 +/- 0.164	* * * * * * *	3.392 +/- 0.090 3.327 +/- 0.048 4.038 +/- 0.210 3.660 +/- 0.201 3.101 +/- 0.119 3.170 +/- 0.784	* * * * * *	+++ +++ +	12.704 +/- 0.781 3.465 +/- 0.111 4.227 +/- 0.750 12.815 +/- 0.764 3.701 +/- 0.166 2.996 +/- 0.929 4.229 +/- 0.227 2.963 +/- 0.147
98.1 + 1.5 101.8 + 1.08 98.1 + 1.23 110.6 + 1.50 102.1 + 1.50 102.1 + 1.13 108.0 + 1.96 100.6 + 1.19 101.1 + 1.07 101.2 + 1.32	* * * * * *	98.6 +/- 1.4 101.1 +/- 0.6 103.1 +/- 3.7 102.5 +/- 4.0 100.7 +/- 27.2	* * * * * *		115.0 +/- 8.5 102.3 +/- 2.0 108.4 +/- 19.0 110.7 +/- 8.7 104.6 +/- 1.7 106.3 +/- 28.7 106.3 +/- 5.1 102.8 +/- 2.4
2.90 +/ 0.44 3.26 +/ 0.77 0.74 +/ 0.31 3.03 +/ 0.64 3.60 +/ 1.227 1.75 +/ 0.47 1.59 +/ 0.37 2.51 +/ 0.71 0.45 +/ 0.30	* * * * * *	2.31 +/- 0.48 3.98 +/- 0.52 1.34 +/- 0.26 2.90 +/- 0.84 1.41 +/- 1.19	* * * * * *	+++ +++ +	19.62 +/- 1.04 4.82 +/- 1.02 0.97 +/- 0.52 21.34 +/- 0.95 6.77 +/- 1.43 -
27 9 8 15 27 31 10 27 8 8 7 31 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	12 12 12 12 19 19	13 11 19 5	B + B B T B T B	13 0 26 14 0 26 19 13 0 26 14 0 26 19	77 30 0 0 0
10 55 55 22 42 36 22 42	9 69 23 7 33 61 C	30 52 18 67	29 7 64 9 9 29	8 29 62 14 3 56 13 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	77 19 76 4 4 24 0 0
8.5 +t- 0.9 4.5 +t- 0.9	* *	7.6 +/- 0.8 4.3 +/- 1.5	8.8 +/- 0.8 2.6 +/- 1.5	* *	25.4 +/- 1.5 28.1 +/- 1.7 5.1 +/- 1.7

Notes:

^{*}Computed by comparison to **Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-sigma uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of *Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal *Computed by comparison to *Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-sigma uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of *Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal *Computed by comparison to *Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-signal uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of *Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal *Computed by comparison to *Ne signal in the air pipettes. 1-signal are not shown. Excess *Ne concentrations were calculated by normalization to either the **Ne or *Ne signal in the air pipettes, depending on which method yielded better precision.

Table S1b: Complete step-degassing neon isotope measurements made at CRPG.

Sample name	Aliquot	Aliquot weight (g)	Grain size (mm)	Heating temperature (deg C)	Heating time (hr)	Total ²⁰ Ne released (10° atoms)	Total ² 'Ne released (10 ⁶ atoms)	²¹ Ne / ²⁰ Ne (10 ⁻³)	²² Ne / ²⁰ Ne (10 ⁻³)	Excess ²¹ Ne This heating step (10 ⁶ atoms g ⁻¹)	Excess ²¹ Ne as % of ²¹ Ne released in this heating step	Percent of total excess ²¹ Ne released in this step	Total excess ²¹ Ne (10° atoms g ⁻¹)
BHC-A (17-18 cm)	ಬ	0.1518	0.5-1	800 1220	1.4	7.09 +/- 0.13 1.231 +/- 0.025	73.3 +/- 1.2 12.24 +/- 0.31	10.34 +/- 0.26 9.95 +/- 0.32	109.6 +/- 2.8 111.4 +/- 3.1	345 +/- 14 56.7 +/- 2.8 208 +/- 0.58	72 71	1 4 4 5	403 +/- 14
BHC-B (31-32 cm)	۵	0.0992	0.5-2	400 1250 1340	0.4	0.2180 +/- 0.0078 3.926 +/- 0.074 0.0287 +/- 0.0066	2.74 +/- 0.15 43.29 +/- 0.93 0.232 +/- 0.052	12.56 +/- 0.82 11.0 +/- 0.32 8.1 +/- 2.6	125.2 +/- 6.4 109.7 +/- 2.8 244 +/- 61	21.1 +/- 2.0 319 +/- 14 1.48 +/- 0.83	77 73 64	6 93	342 +/- 14
BHC-C (51-52 cm)	۵	0.0824	0.5-2	400 1260	0.4	0.1272 +/- 0.0070 3.125 +/- 0.060	1.08 +/- 0.11 28.26 +/- 0.61	8.46 +/- 0.96 9.05 +/- 0.26	130.8 +/- 9.9 107.3 +/- 2.8	8.5 +/- 1.6 231 +/- 11	68	96	239 +/- 11
BHC-D (81-82 cm)	tu tu	0.0441	0.5-1	400 1250	0.4	-0.0033 +/- 0.0065 1.805 +/- 0.035	0.290 +/- 0.060 13.00 +/- 0.38	7.20 +/- 0.25	107.2 +/- 3.0	<dl<sup>1 174 +/- 11</dl<sup>	59	100	174 +/- 11
BHC-E (101-102 cm)	ω	0.0387	0.5-1	400 1270	0.4	-0.0042 +/- 0.0065 1.780 +/- 0.035	-0.029 +/- 0.041 9.85 +/- 0.31	7 +/- 15 5.54 +/- 0.21	101.8 +/- 2.8	<dl 118.5 +/- 9.8</dl 	47	100	119 +/- 10
BHC-F (152-153 cm)	w	0.1133	0.5-1	1200 1280	0.4	2.905 +/- 0.056 0.0003 +/- 0.0065	14.75 +/- 0.41 0.001 +/- 0.040	5.08 +/- 0.17 4 +/- 156	102.4 +/- 2.7	54.3 +/- 4.5 <dl< td=""><td>42</td><td>100</td><td>54.3 +/- 4.5</td></dl<>	42	100	54.3 +/- 4.5
BHC-G (202-203 cm)	ω	0.0525	0.5-2	800 1220	0.4	1.950 +/- 0.038 0.504 +/- 0.012	7.04 +/- 0.18 2.46 +/- 0.14	3.61 +/- 0.12 4.88 +/- 0.30	101.7 +/- 2.8 104.2 +/- 3.8	24.2 +/- 4.3 18.5 +/- 2.9	18	57 43	42.7 +/- 5.2
BHC-I (335-336 cm)	w	0.1088	0.5-1	800 1220	0.4	4.363 +/- 0.085 0.2076 +/- 0.0078	14.22 +/- 0.42 1.229 +/- 0.084	3.26 +/- 0.12 5.92 +/- 0.46	103.2 +/- 2.7 124.3 +/- 6.4	12.1 +/- 4.6 5.65 +/- 0.91	9	68 32	17.7 +/- 4.7
BHC-J (448-449 cm)	œ	0.1129	0.5-2	1250	0.4	4.214 +/- 0.080	14.60 +/- 0.32	3.46 +/- 0.10	97.7 +/- 2.5	18.9 +/- 3.8	15	100	18.9 +/- 3.8
BHC-M (996-998 cm)	D	0.0837	0.2-0.5	400 1270 1400	0.4	0.0852 +/- 0.0067 2.938 +/- 0.056 0.1248 +/- 0.0071	0.372 +/- 0.061 10.16 +/- 0.32 0.659 +/- 0.078	4.37 +/- 0.80 3.46 +/- 0.13 5.28 +/- 0.69	158 +/- 16 98.7 +/- 2.6 146 +/- 11	1.44 +/- 0.82 17.5 +/- 4.5 3.5 +/- 1.1	4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	6 78 15	22.4 +/- 4.7
BHC-P (2518-2520 cm)	۵	0.2072	0.2-1	1250	0.4	4.373 +/- 0.086	15.53 +/- 0.34	3.55 +/- 0.10	97.7 +/- 2.6	12.5 +/- 2.2	17	100	12.5 +/- 2.2

Notes:

¹ Below detection limit

Table S1c: Complete step-degassing neon isotope results for replicate No-21 measurements made on the BGC "MAPII" system of samples prepared at CRPG.

BHC-CRPG-2518	BHC-CRPG-448	BHC-CRPG-152	BHC-CRPG-152	Sample name
ρυ	۵	σ	۵	Aliquot
0.3279	0.2708	0.118	0.1538	Aliquot weight (g)
390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	390 780 1140	Heating temperature (deg C)
0.2 0.2	0.2	0.2 0.2	0.2 0.2 0.2	Heating time (hr)
4.683 +/- 0.097 11.584 +/- 0.117 2.964 +/- 0.051	5.274 +/- 0.105 10.570 +/- 0.227 2.905 +/- 0.065	1.615 +/- 0.069 3.820 +/- 0.039 1.108 +/- 0.045	2.580 +/- 0.100 4.302 +/- 0.096 1.269 +/- 0.024	Total ²⁰ Ne released ¹ (10 ⁹ atoms)
14.649 +/- 0.251 35.947 +/- 0.476 10.504 +/- 0.281	16.318 +/- 0.331 32.753 +/- 0.544 10.326 +/- 0.281	5.541 +/- 0.144 16.072 +/- 0.247 4.857 +/- 0.168	9.177 +/- 0.177 19.186 +/- 0.356 5.103 +/- 0.18	Total ² 'Ne released ² (10° atoms)
3.175 +/- 0.062 3.133 +/- 0.033 3.597 +/- 0.063	3.147 +/- 0.066 3.114 +/- 0.031 3.607 +/- 0.083	3.478 +/- 0.162 4.256 +/- 0.056 4.447 +/- 0.205	3.624 +/- 0.140 4.483 +/- 0.065 4.080 +/- 0.122	²¹ Ne / ²⁰ Ne ³ (10 ⁻³)
101.1 +/- 2.1 101.6 +/- 0.8 103.0 +/- 1.6	100.6 +/- 1.8 100.9 +/- 0.5 100.8 +/- 2.1	100.1 +/- 5.7 102.4 +/- 1.1 106.7 +/- 5.5	98.7 +/- 4.0 103.0 +/- 1.5 103.8 +/- 2.9	²³ Ne / ²⁰ Ne ³ (10 ⁻³)
3.08 +/- 0.89 6.15 +/- 1.17 5.77 +/- 0.58	3.66 +/- 1.29 6.05 +/- 1.24 6.95 +/- 0.91	7.10 +/- 2.13 41.98 +/- 1.87 13.98 +/- 1.82	11.15 +/- 2.24 42.63 +/- 2.06 9.25 +/- 1.02	Excess ² Ne This heating step (10 ⁶ atoms g ⁻¹)
7 6 18	18	15 31 34	19 34 28	Excess ²¹ Ne as % of ²¹ Ne released in this heating step
38 38	22 36 42	11 67 22	18 68 15	Percent of total excess 2*Ne released in this step
15.0 +/- 1.6	16.7 +/- 2.0	63.1 +/- 3.4	63.0 +/- 3.2	Total excess ^{2*} Ne (10 ⁶ atoms g ⁻¹)

¹ Computed by comparison to ²⁹Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-sigma uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of ²⁹Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ² Computed by comparison to ²⁹Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-sigma uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of ²⁹Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ³ isotope ratio measured internally during each analysis does not move normalization to the Ne isotope signals in the air pipettes.

Table S1d: Complete step-degassing neon isotope measurements made on the BGC "Ohio" system in 2017.

Sample name	Aliquot	Aliquot weight(g)	Heating temperature (deg C)	Heating time (hr)	Total ²⁰ Ne released ¹ (10° atoms)	Total ²¹ Ne released ² (10 ⁶ atoms)	Total ²² Ne released ³ (10 ⁶ atoms)	²¹ Ne / ²⁵ Ne ⁴ (10 ⁻³)	²² Ne / ²⁰ Ne ⁴ (10 ⁻⁴)	Excess ² 'Ne This heating step (10° atoms g ⁻¹)	Excess ² 'Ne as % of ²¹ 'Ne released in this heating step	Percent of total excess ²¹ Ne released in this step	Total excess ²¹ Ne (10 ⁶ atoms g ³)
BC0247	ь	0.1689	850	0.25	6.354 +/- 0.062	21.148 +/- 0.458	649.203 +/- 8.965	3.328 +/- 0.038	102.2 +/- 0.8	13.89 +/- 1.48	11	93	15.0 +/- 1.6
			1200	0.25	<u></u>	*	<u></u>	*	*	1.12 +/- 0.52	20	7	
	c	0.1234	850	0.25	4.161 +/- 0.062	14.846 +/- 0.328	422.354 +/- 6.363	3.568 +/- 0.067	101.5 +/- 0.8	20.54 +/- 2.29	17	94	21.8 +/- 2.4
			1200	0.25	*	*	*	*	*	1.28 +/- 0.66	14	6	
BCO447	σ	0.1447	850	0.25	4.150 +/- 0.042	12.920 +/- 0.31	427.294 +/- 6.166	3.113 +/- 0.048	103.0 +/- 0.9	4.42 +/- 1.42	GT.	71	6.2 +/- 1.5
			1200	0.25	0.186 +/- 0.015	0.813 +/- 0.072	18.942 +/- 3.278	4.378 +/- 0.500	102.0 +/- 19.0	1.82 +/- 0.58	32	29	
	c	0.1535	850	0.25	3.970 +/- 0.058	12.737 +/- 0.262	404.596 +/- 6.094	3.208 +/- 0.053	101.9 +/- 0.7	6.45 +/- 1.41	8	97	6.7 +/- 1.5
			1200	0.25	*	*	*	*	*	0.21 +/- 0.44	4	ω	
BC0613	σ	0.1604	850	0.25	5.990 +/- 0.058	18.886 +/- 0.438	608.369 +/- 8.457	3.153 +/- 0.044	101.6 +/- 0.8	7.24 +/- 1.70	6	86	8.4 +/- 1.8
			1200	0.25	*	1.353 +/- 0.088	38.087 +/- 3.281	*	*	1.17 +/- 0.60	14	14	
	c	0.1645	850	0.25	6.167 +/- 0.091	19.896 +/- 0.378	620.837 +/- 9.098	3.226 +/- 0.048	100.7 +/- 0.6	10.02 +/- 1.83	œ	85	11.8 +/- 1.9
			1200	0.25	+	+	*	+		1.74 +/- 0.57	19	10	

Computed by comparison to "Ale signal in air pipettes, 1-signa uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of "Na signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal in air pipettes, 1-signa uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of "Na signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal in air pipettes, 1-signa uncertainty nucleas measurement uncertainty of "Na signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal in air pipettes, 1-signa uncertainty nucleas measurement uncertainty of "Na signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal in air pipette, 1-signal uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of "Na signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal" in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of Computed by comparison to "Ne signal" in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal of the signal of

Table S3. Complete step-degassing neon isotope measurements on erratics of Beacon Sandstone from Mackey Glacier, BGC "Ohio" system, 2017-18.

Note: aliquots of CRONUS-A run at the same time as these analyses yielded 320.1 +/- 6.8 Malomsig cosmogene. "Ne (mean and standard deviation of 15 measurements). Thus, no correction is required to normalize these results to the consensus value for CRONUS-A.

	GR62B				GR59						GR56		GR54		GR53B		GR52		GR51		GR48			GR47	Sample name
																									ame
o	ь	۵	c	ь	۵	-	Ф	۵	c	ь	ø	ь	ø	ь	ø	ь	ø	ь	۵	ь	ø	c	ь	Ð	Aliquot
0.1662	0.1521	0.1237	0.1527	0.1587	0.1477	0.1146	0.1333	0.1428	0.1538	0.1748	0.1639	0.1572	0.1437	0.1519	0.1604	0.1453	0.1482	0.1432	0.1345	0.1469	0.1345	0.1558	0.1612	0.1281	Aliquot weight (g)
800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	800 1100	Heating temperature (deg C)
0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	0.25 0.25	Heating e time (hr)
1.4	1.6	0.8	1.0	1.0	. <u>.</u> 6	0.6	0.5	0.6	5.8	0 6	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.3	0.5	1.8	1.4	1.8	7	0.3	0.3	1.6	1.6	0.5	
6.8795 +/- 0.0983 1.4922 +/- 0.025	6.5887 +/- 0.1145 1.6417 +/- 0.0303	5.8285 +/- 0.083 0.8916 +/- 0.0146	6.3355 +/- 0.0912 1.3532 +/- 0.0228	6.7033 +/- 0.12 1.1815 +/- 0.0222	6.1714 +/- 0.071 1.1655 +/- 0.0175	4.8351 +/- 0.0699 0.6849 +/- 0.0127	5.3157 +/- 0.0753 0.7322 +/- 0.0126	5.3939 +/- 0.0547 0.9565 +/- 0.0114	5.8184 +/- 0.061 0.774 +/- 0.0093	6.473 +/- 0.1128 0.996 +/- 0.0193	6.0705 +/- 0.0688 1.3102 +/- 0.018	6.4785 +/- 0.1133 1.3701 +/- 0.0257	5.724 +/- 0.0645 1.7045 +/- 0.0228	4.8506 +/- 0.0848 0.3614 +/- 0.0116	5.3 +/- 0.0593 0.5469 +/- 0.0118	4.8671 +/- 0.087 1.1193 +/- 0.0212	4.4173 +/- 0.0504 1.3032 +/- 0.0181	7.3138 +/- 0.1252 1.8453 +/- 0.0335	7.456 +/- 0.1074 1.558 +/- 0.0241	1.8387 +/- 0.0261 0.3414 +/- 0.0164	1.8703 +/- 0.0289 0.3416 +/- 0.0108	6.2638 +/- 0.0907 1.2783 +/- 0.0229	6.5392 +/- 0.0728 1.4242 +/- 0.0217	5.1132 +/- 0.0696 0.8187 +/- 0.0158	Total [∞] Ne released¹ (10° atoms)
21.318 4.706	20.282 5.043	18.535 3.123	20.029 4.27	20.933 3.544	19.971 3.764	15.198 2.368	16.496 2.228	17.307 3.298	18.64 2.5	20.334 3.238	19.168 4.593	20.285 4.524	17.915 5.555	15.369 1.199	17.137 1.949	15.656 3.639	14.812 4.12	22.351 5.778	22.54 5.017	5.766 1.286	6.016 1.158	19.683 3.791	20.821 4.52	16.908 2.597	Total ²¹ (11
+/- 0.405 +/- 0.143	+/- 0.512 +/- 0.168	+/- 0.481 +/- 0.145	+/- 0.366 +/- 0.129	+/- 0.492 +/- 0.153	+/- 0.567 +/- 0.185	+/- 0.453 +/- 0.121	+/- 0.462 +/- 0.124	+/- 0.348 +/- 0.13	+/- 0.301 +/- 0.113	+/- 0.508 +/- 0.131	+/- 0.447 +/- 0.249	+/- 0.511 +/- 0.153	+/- 0.4 +/- 0.248	+/- 0.377 +/- 0.079	+/- 0.391 +/- 0.187	+/- 0.427 +/- 0.149	+/- 0.483 +/- 0.21	+/- 0.534 +/- 0.188	+/- 0.521 +/- 0.255	+/- 0.211 +/- 0.089	+/- 0.269 +/- 0.157	+/- 0.393 +/- 0.129	+/- 0.61 +/- 0.196	+/- 0.443 +/- 0.186	Total ²¹ Ne released ² (10 ⁶ atoms)
695.942 151.18	670.901 166.868	589.461 92.664	640.009 140.768	679.103 123.117	613.974 120.161	494.517 72.428	534.726 74.509	543.364 98.073	590.352 79.467	649.933 99.679	608.739 132.395	654.142 141.141	566.88 174.753	493.967 39.422	534.8 57.381	491.262 116.923	444.212 132.614	732.899 188.011	745.818 160.28	190.075 38.017	195.39 34.408	629.115 130.615	664.973 142.092	522.284 80.496	Total ²² (1
+/- 10.17 +/- 3.044	+/- 10.552 +/- 3.261	+/- 10.612	+/- 9.642 +/- 2.98	+/- 10.682	+/- 6.66	+/- 9.099	+/- 9.642	+/- 7.049	+/- 7.489 +/- 4.54	+/- 10.589	+/- 6.491 +/- 4.178	+/- 10.493 +/- 2.845	+/- 6.853 +/- 4.495	+/- 8.07 +/- 1.79	+/- 6.412	+/- 7.983 +/- 2.722	+/- 5.343	+/- 11.262 +/- 3.562	+/- 8.547	+/- 3.985 +/- 3	+/- 4.791 +/- 3.708	+/- 9.086 +/- 2.933	+/- 9.872 +/- 3.614	+/- 6.686	Total ²² Ne released ³ (10 ⁶ atoms)
3.068 3.138	3.073 3.063	3.101 3.416	3.129 3.139	3.118 2.991	3.204 3.221	3.065 3.37	3.027 2.965	3.127 3.379	3.122 3.165	3.137 3.242	3.125 3.496	3.127 3.294	3.097 3.249	3.164 3.309	3.198 3.535	3.213 3.244	3.316 3.135	3.053 3.125	3.007 3.184	3.053 3.678	3.199 3.352	3.11 2.95	0.0	3.289 3.138	
68 +/- 0.045 38 +/- 0.087	73 +/- 0.043 63 +/- 0.081	01 +/- 0.04 16 +/- 0.14	29 +/- 0.043 39 +/- 0.086	18 +/- 0.036 91 +/- 0.115	04 +/- 0.075 21 +/- 0.152	65 +/- 0.06 37 +/- 0.159	27 +/- 0.051 65 +/- 0.152	27 +/- 0.049 79 +/- 0.13	22 +/- 0.033 65 +/- 0.141	37 +/- 0.043 42 +/- 0.115	25 +/- 0.056 96 +/- 0.181	27 +/- 0.044 94 +/- 0.091	97 +/- 0.052 49 +/- 0.135	64 +/- 0.041 09 +/- 0.223	98 +/- 0.055 35 +/- 0.335	13 +/- 0.057 44 +/- 0.115	16 +/- 0.095 35 +/- 0.152	53 +/- 0.036 25 +/- 0.079	07 +/- 0.05 84 +/- 0.154	53 +/- 0.084 78 +/- 0.288	99 +/- 0.133 52 +/- 0.455	.11 +/- 0.05 95 +/- 0.095	3.1 +/- 0.044 3.1 +/- 0.11	89 +/- 0.066 38 +/- 0.22	²¹ Ne / ²⁰ Ne ⁴ (10 ⁻³)
101.4 +/- 0.5 101.6 +/- 1.5	101.9 +/- 0.4 101.7 +/- 1.4	100.8 +/- 0.9 103.2 +/- 4.8	101.2 +/- 0.7 104.4 +/- 1.6	101.4 +/- 0.6 104.3 +/- 1.8	100.8 +/- 0.8 104.3 +/- 3.5	102 +/- 1 105.1 +/- 6.4	100.4 +/- 0.9 101.1 +/- 5.9	100.4 +/- 0.9 102.5 +/- 4.8	101.1 +/- 0.9 102.7 +/- 5.8	100.5 +/- 0.6 100.2 +/- 2.1	101.5 +/- 0.9 102.2 +/- 3	101.1 +/- 0.5 103.1 +/- 1.5	100.2 +/- 1 103.8 +/- 2.5	102 +/- 0.6 109.2 +/- 5.4	102.1 +/- 1 106.3 +/- 7.1	101.1 +/- 0.7 104.6 +/- 2	101.7 +/- 1 103.1 +/- 2.9	100.3 +/- 0.5 102 +/- 1.2	100.1 +/- 0.9 103 +/- 2.7	102.7 +/- 1.9 111 +/- 9.8	104.5 +/- 2.5 100.9 +/- 10.9	100.6 +/- 0.5 102.5 +/- 1.9	101 +/- 0.7 99.4 +/- 2.4	102.1 +/- 1 98.4 +/- 4.8	²² Ne / ²⁰ Ne ⁴ (10 ³)
										-			-												
4.52 +/- 1.61 +/-	4.95 +/- 1.12 +/-	6.69 +/- 3.3 +/-	7.08 +/- 1.6 +/-	6.72 +/- 0.24 +/-	10.25 +/- 2.08 +/-	4.5 +/- 2.46 +/-	2.72 +/- 0.03 +/-	6.37 +/- 2.82 +/-	6.17 +/- 1.04 +/-	6.6 +/- 1.62 +/-	6.17 +/- 4.31 +/-	6.93 +/- 2.93 +/-	5.5 +/- 3.45 +/-	6.57 +/- 0.83 +/-	7.93 +/- 1.97 +/-	8.52 +/- 2.2 +/-	10.66 +/- 1.55 +/-	4.8 +/- 2.15 +/-	2.66 +/- 2.62 +/-	1.18 +/- 1.67 +/-	3.34 +/-	6.08 +/-	5.72 +/- 1.25 +/-	13.19 +/- 1.15 +/-	Excess ²¹ Ne This heating step (10 ⁶ atoms g ⁻¹)
1.86 0.78	1.89 0.88	1.91 1.01	1.79 0.76	1.53 0.85	3.16 1.2	2.55 0.95	2.02 0.84	1.87 0.87	1.26 0.71	1.6 0.65	2.09 1.45	1.82 0.79	2.06 1.6	1.3 0.52	1.83 1.14	1.92 0.89	2.85 1.34	1.83	2.78 1.79	1.05 0.63	1.85 1.15	2 0.78	1.79 0.97	2.64 1.41	Ne s g ⁻¹)
																									Exces % of ²¹ N in this h
4.0	4 ω	13	σσ	→ 5	00 00	3	02	5 12	σσ	96	15	5 10	4 0	6	7 16	98	6 1	σω	7 2	3 19	7 12	0 5	44	10	Excess ²¹ Ne as % of ²¹ Ne released in this heating step
74 26	82 18	67 33	100 23	97 3	83 17	65 35	100 1	69 31	86 14	80 20	59 41	70 30	61 39	11 89	80 20	79 21	87 13	69 31	50	41 59	100 30	100 -1	182	92 8	Percent of total excess ²¹ Ne released in this step
																									f total ™Ne his step
6.13 +/-	6.07 +/-	9.99 +/-	7.08 +/-	6.96 +/-	12.33 +/-	6.96 +/-	2.72 +/-	9.19 +/-	7.21 +/-	8.22 +/-	10.48 +/-	9.86 +/-	8.95 +/-	7.4 +/-	9.9 +/-	10.72 +/-	12.21 +/-	6.95 +/-	5.28 +/-	2.85 +/-	3.34 +/-	6.08 +/-	6.97 +/-	14.34 +/- 2.99	Total excess ²⁷ Ne (10 ⁶ atoms g ⁻¹)
2.02	2.08	2.16	1.79	1.75	3.38	2.72	2.02	2.06	1.45	1.73	2.54	1.98	2.61	1.40	2.16	2.12	3.15	2.10	3.31	1.22	1.85	2.00	2.04	2.99	'Ne s gʻ¹)

		CC95			CC90		GR67					GR64
۵	c	σ	Q.	c	σ	c	σ	→	ø	a	c	σ
0.139	0.134	0.1614	0.1383	0.1456	0.1585	0.1324	0.1402	0.1314	0.1614	0.1605	0.1623	0.176
800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800
1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	1100
0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25
4.8531 +/- 0.0704	4.4464 +/- 0.0636	5.4887 +/- 0.0954	4.5563 +/- 0.0657	4.8246 +/- 0.0692	5.2237 +/- 0.0862	4.2004 +/- 0.0603	3.7346 +/- 0.0637	8.3114 +/- 0.1179	10.2585 +/- 0.1457	9.954 +/- 0.1006	9.8631 +/- 0.1	11.4659 +/- 0.1893
1.0766 +/- 0.0116	0.9861 +/- 0.0113	1.4641 +/- 0.0274	0.8978 +/- 0.011	0.9183 +/- 0.0104	1.3504 +/- 0.0248	0.2163 +/- 0.0066	0.2449 +/- 0.0089	1.4087 +/- 0.0147	1.8442 +/- 0.0277	2.0164 +/- 0.0173	1.7626 +/- 0.0157	2.0134 +/- 0.0347
15.171 +/- 0.425	14.1 +/- 0.393	17.288 +/- 0.408	14.604 +/- 0.394	15.918 +/- 0.419	16.414 +/- 0.388	13.447 +/- 0.37	11.505 +/- 0.268	25.846 +/- 0.67	32.14 +/- 0.783	31.333 +/- 0.508	30.343 +/- 0.509	35.472 +/- 0.735
3.584 +/- 0.133	3.341 +/- 0.119	4.641 +/- 0.162	3.087 +/- 0.115	3.157 +/- 0.112	4.209 +/- 0.135	0.726 +/- 0.086	0.865 +/- 0.074	4.509 +/- 0.167	6.08 +/- 0.192	6.534 +/- 0.172	5.763 +/- 0.18	6.2 +/- 0.204
493.522 +/- 9.265	457.06 +/- 8.65	555.048 +/- 9.894	462.325 +/- 8.697	488.326 +/- 9.002	528.466 +/- 9.353	427.765 +/- 8.267	374.451 +/- 6.856	839.648 +/- 14.261	1041.771 +/- 17.303	1005.154 +/- 11.189	1002.681 +/- 10.832	1160.3 +/- 19.927
111.281 +/- 4.62	105.572 +/- 4.708	155.229 +/- 3.061	96.571 +/- 4.704	94.407 +/- 4.483	140.759 +/- 3.391	24.131 +/- 4.256	25.509 +/- 1.692	145.6 +/- 4.889	191.857 +/- 5.504	204.843 +/- 4.943	181.723 +/- 4.945	205.468 +/- 4.196
3.046 +/- 0.051	3.09 +/- 0.051	3.16 +/- 0.05	3.123 +/- 0.047	3.215 +/- 0.044	3.145 +/- 0.049	3.12 +/- 0.05	3.083 +/- 0.049	3.031 +/- 0.039	3.054 +/- 0.029	3.07 +/- 0.032	2.999 +/- 0.034	3.097 +/- 0.034
3.243 +/- 0.113	3.305 +/- 0.111	3.159 +/- 0.096	3.358 +/- 0.12	3.362 +/- 0.112	3.108 +/- 0.084	3.29 +/- 0.397	3.524 +/- 0.311	3.141 +/- 0.108	3.215 +/- 0.072	3.176 +/- 0.077	3.205 +/- 0.095	3.073 +/- 0.084
101.1 +/- 1.1	102.3 +/- 1.1	100.7 +/- 0.9	101 +/- 1.1	100.7 +/- 1	100.9 +/- 0.6	101.4 +/- 1.1	100 +/- 0.9	100.6 +/- 0.6	101.2 +/- 0.5	100.7 +/- 0.6	101.4 +/- 0.6	100.9 +/- 0.4
102.5 +/- 4	106.2 +/- 4.5	105.5 +/- 1.5	106.7 +/- 5	102 +/- 4.7	103.7 +/- 2	110.7 +/- 19.4	103.6 +/- 7.3	102.6 +/- 3.2	103.3 +/- 2.5	101.7 +/- 2.3	103.2 +/- 2.7	101.5 +/- 1.4
3.04 +/- 1.79	4.35 +/- 1.69	6.86 +/- 1.69	5.42 +/- 1.54	8.5 +/- 1.47	6.13 +/- 1.63	5.11 +/- 1.59	3.32 +/- 1.3	4.56 +/- 2.48	6.06 +/- 1.85	6.87 +/- 2.01	2.45 +/- 2.08	9.01 +/- 2.21
2.2 +/- 0.88	2.55 +/- 0.81	1.82 +/- 0.87	2.6 +/- 0.77	2.55 +/- 0.7	1.27 +/- 0.71	0.54 +/- 0.65	0.99 +/- 0.53	1.95 +/- 1.16	2.93 +/- 0.82	2.73 +/- 0.97	2.68 +/- 1.03	1.31 +/- 0.96
93	10	o o	5 12	12	თ თ	⁵	4 16	6 2	& ω	7	∞ →	44
58	63	79	32	23	83	100	23	70	67	72	48	87
42	37	21	32	23	17	11		30	33	28	52	13
5.24 +/- 1.99	6.9 +/- 1.87	8.68 +/- 1.90	8.02 +/- 1.72	11.05 +/- 1.63	7.4 +/- 1.78	5.11 +/- 1.59	4.31 +/- 1.40	6.51 +/- 2.74	8.99 +/- 2.02	9.6 +/- 2.23	5.13 +/- 2.32	10.32 +/- 2.41

Computed by comparison to ²⁸Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-sigma uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of ²⁸Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ²⁸Computed by comparison to ²⁸Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-signal uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of ²⁸Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ³⁸Computed by comparison to ²⁸Ne signal in air pipettes. 1-signal uncertainty includes measurement uncertainty of ²⁸Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ³⁸Computed by comparison to ²⁸Ne signal in air pipettes. ⁴⁸Ne signal in this analysis and the reproducibility of the air pipette signal ⁴⁸Scoppe ratio measured internally during each analysis: does not involve normalization to the Ne isotope signals in the air pipettes.

Table S4. Uranium and thorium concentrations in quartz samples.

Sample	Mass (mg)	Lab	[U] (ppm)	Average	St. Dev.	% St. Dev.	[Th] (ppm)	Average	St. Dev.	% St. Dev.
Core samples (dep	ths in cm)									
0-1.4	3.1 194.1	Caltech BGC	0.0816 0.0854	0.0835	0.0027	3	0.3753 0.3560	0.3657	0.0136	4
2-3	3.5 214.6	Caltech BGC	0.0826 0.0773	0.0799	0.0037	5	0.4650 0.4365	0.4508	0.0201	4
3-4	3.5 193.8	Caltech BGC	0.1079 0.1091	0.1085	0.0009	1	0.4106 0.3852	0.3979	0.0180	5
4-5	3.4 228.4	Caltech BGC	0.0731 0.0869	0.0800	0.0098	12	0.2297 0.2578	0.2437	0.0199	8
5-6	3.4 218.3	Caltech BGC	0.2399 0.2761	0.2580	0.0256	10	0.5030 0.4532	0.4781	0.0352	7
6-7	3.4 231.0	Caltech BGC	0.0727 0.0733	0.0730	0.0004	1	0.4121 0.3360	0.3741	0.0538	14
8-9	3.4 238.0	Caltech BGC	0.0693 0.0697	0.0695	0.0003	0.4	0.2780 0.2664	0.2722	0.0083	3
10-11	3.2 233.3	Caltech BGC	0.0998 0.0692	0.0845	0.0216	26	0.2927	0.2771	0.0220	8
12-13	3.5 225.9	Caltech BGC	0.0454 0.0415	0.0434	0.0028	6	0.2443 0.1956	0.2200	0.0345	16
17-18 18-19	3.1	CRPG Caltech BGC	0.7260 0.2780 0.2580	0.7260 0.2680	0.0142	5	1.2790 2.1794 1.4683	1.2790 1.8239	0.5029	28
31-32 51-52	43.8	CRPG CRPG	0.4590 0.2400	0.4590 0.2400			1.3320 0.5220	1.3320 0.5220		
53-54	3.5 202.7	Caltech BGC	0.0884	0.0882	0.0003	0	0.3389 0.3556	0.3473	0.0117	3
81-82 83-84	3.2 226.2	CRPG Caltech BGC	0.3890 0.0690 0.0640	0.3890 0.0665	0.0035	5	0.8460 0.4495 0.2756	0.8460 0.3626	0.1230	34
101-102 151-152	3.1	CRPG Caltech	0.3360 0.0482	0.3360 0.0592	0.0156	26	0.8590 0.4334	0.8590 0.3262	0.1517	47
152-153	238.7	BGC CRPG	0.0702 0.3340	0.2883	0.0646	22	0.2189 1.0050	0.8172	0.2656	33
201-202	198.7 3.4	BGC Caltech	0.2426 0.2315	0.1707	0.0860	50	0.6293 1.2666	0.8179	0.6345	78
202-203	220.6	BGC CRPG	0.1098 0.5290	0.5290	0.0000	30	0.3693 1.0340	1.0340	0.0343	70
247-248 335-336	87.4	BGC CRPG	0.0800 0.4640	0.0800 0.4640			0.2717 0.9660	0.2717 0.9660		
447-448 448-449 449-451	159.4 3.1	BGC CRPG Caltech	0.0914 0.3480 0.1078	0.0914 0.3480 0.0916	0.0228	25	0.2678 2.3750 0.4675	0.2678 2.3750 0.3567	0.1567	44
613-614	207.4 161.7	BGC BGC	0.1078 0.0755 0.1039	0.1039	0.0228	23	0.2459	0.2603	0.1307	44
860-862	3.3 6.0	Caltech Caltech	0.0794 0.0971	0.0994	0.0213	21	0.4280 0.4664	0.3987	0.0861	22
996-998 998-1000	210.4 3.3 5.6	BGC CRPG Caltech Caltech	0.1217 0.2720 0.0832 0.0770	0.2720 0.0739	0.0111	15	0.3018 0.8710 0.3657 0.5019	0.8710 0.3784	0.1177	31
1300-1302	234.8 3.1 5.5 225.3	BGC Caltech Caltech BGC	0.0616 0.0964 0.1381 0.0544	0.0963	0.0419	43	0.2675 0.3610 0.2239 0.1573	0.2474	0.1039	42
1784-1786	3.4 4.6 207.9	Caltech Caltech BGC	0.0696 0.0982 0.0949	0.0876	0.0157	18	0.2340 0.2414 0.2540	0.2432	0.0101	4
2518-2520	246.1	CRPG BGC	0.3690 0.3449	0.3570	0.0170	5	1.0380 0.5260	0.7820	0.3620	46
2520-2522	3.2 6.1 207.2	Caltech Caltech BGC	0.0729 0.1140 0.0824	0.0898	0.0215	24	0.3359 0.6563 0.2633	0.4185	0.2091	50

Mackay Glacier sandstone erratics

GR47	265.2	BGC	0.0846	0.0846			0.3437	0.3437		
GR48	296.8	BGC	0.0510	0.0510			0.2011	0.2011		
GR51	235.9	BGC	0.0997	0.0997			0.2859	0.2859		
GR52	269.8	BGC	0.1390	0.1390			0.2052	0.2052		
GR53b	271.8	BGC	0.1155	0.1155			0.2379	0.2379		
GR54	278.6	BGC	0.2312	0.1752	0.0792	45.2	0.2406	0.1982	0.0600	30.3
	316.8	BGC	0.1192				0.1558			
GR56	235.9	BGC	0.2387	0.2103	0.0401	19.1	0.8110	0.5052	0.4324	85.6
	310.8	BGC	0.1819				0.1995			
GR59	209.5	BGC	0.1367	0.1367			0.3446	0.3446		
GR62b	229.8	BGC	0.0938	0.0938			0.2206	0.2206		
GR64	229.3	BGC	0.1880	0.1842	0.0462	25.1	0.4537	0.4575	0.1510	33.0
	210.6	BGC	0.1363				0.3084			
	314.5	BGC	0.2284				0.6104			
GR67	311.9	BGC	0.1001	0.1001			0.1861	0.1861		
CC90	315.9	BGC	0.1531	0.1531			0.2015	0.2015		
CC95	296.0	BGC	0.1616	0.1616			0.3302	0.3302		