

### XIII. Y793605

Lherzolite, 16 grams  
“moderately weathered”



Figure XIII-1. Photograph of Martian meteorite Yamato 793605 kindly provided by Dr. H. Kojima, NIPR.

#### **Introduction**

In a survey of diogenites in the Japanese Antarctic Meteorite Collection, Yanai (1995) reported a sample of “type D orthopyroxenite” with intermediate plagioclase composition (shocked maskelynite) and speculated that it might be from Mars. This sample (originally designated Y79-25) was collected from the Yamato Mountain site in 1979 (figure XIII-1). A complete collection of papers on Y-793605 can be found together in *Antarctic Meteorites* vol 10.

Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1996b, 1997) found that Y793605 “shows strong affinities to both ALHA77005 and LEW88516 in petrography and mineral chemistry” (although it was found on the other side of the continent!). Ebihara *et al.* (1997) have shown convincingly that these samples are essentially identical.

The sample was originally apparently covered >>50% with fusion crust (Kojima *et al.* 1997).

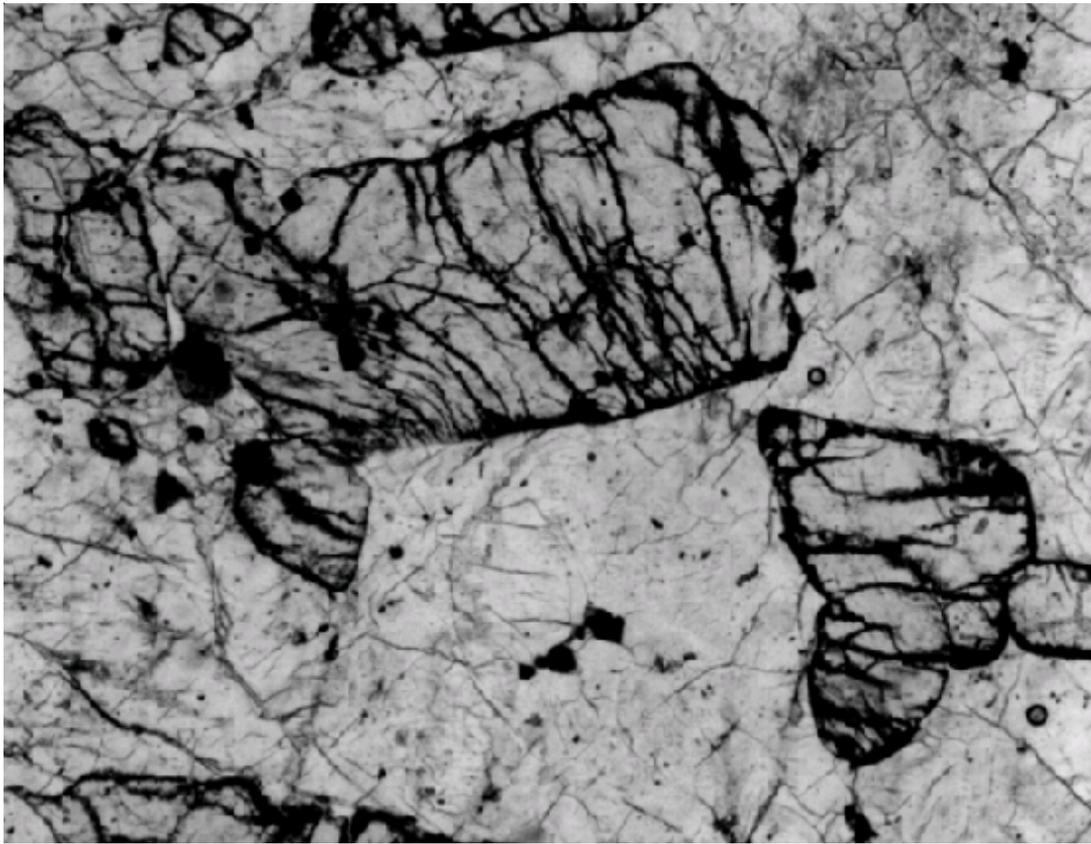
#### **Petrography**

Yanai (1995) reported a poikilitic texture, consisting mostly of coarse-grain pyroxene, granular olivine and interstitial plagioclase (maskelynite). Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1996, 1997) and Ikeda (1997) reported two

lithologies, poikilitic and non-poikilitic. In the poikilitic area (figure XIII-2), large pyroxene oikocrysts enclose rounded olivines (~1 mm) and euhedral chromites (~0.5 mm), and maskelynite is rarely observed. The non-poikilitic area is composed of subequal amounts of olivine, maskelynite and pyroxene.

A large fraction (perhaps 30%) of the sample consists of “globby enclaves and veins of a dark grey aphanitic or glassy material - presumably formed by shock melting” (Kojima *et al.* 1997). These “glassy” regions are actually microcrystalline (Kojima *et al.* 1997). In hand specimen, Y793605 is also fairly extensively weathered, with a few tiny, elongate white minerals (evaporites?). Many mineral grains show secondary alteration around their rims (Ikeda 1997). However, the thin sections of this rock do not show much of the weathering or “glass” lithology.

Ikeda (1997) reported a “shock-induced crushed zone in one thin section studied (51-1). It consists mainly of fine-grained aggregates of crushed minerals.” Overall, Y793605 is reportedly somewhat less shocked than ALHA77005 (Ikeda 1977; Nagao 1997).



**Figure XIII-2.** Photomicrograph of thin section Y793605. With permission of Dr. Kojima. Field of view 2.2 mm.

### **Mineral Chemistry**

Yanai (1995) first reported mineral compositions for “type D diogenite” - including intermediate plagioclase compositions. Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1997), Ikeda (1997) and Nagao *et al.* (1997) reported detailed mineral compositions and described, in detail, the zoning in mineral composition.

**Olivine:** The composition of olivine reported (Kojima *et al.* 1997) is Fo<sub>66-69</sub>, similar to that of LEW88516, but less Mg-rich than that of olivine in ALHA77005 (Fo<sub>72</sub>). The olivines in Y793605 are brownish-green in color (Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1997) or yellow (Ikeda 1997). Some exhibit undulatory and/or mosaic extinction in crossed Nicols (shock effect). Altered olivine is reported to be dark brown along cracks and outer boundaries.

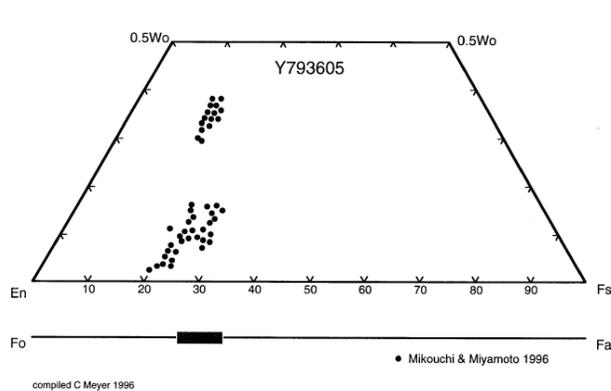
**Maskelynite:** The composition of maskelynite is An<sub>55</sub>Ab<sub>44</sub>Or<sub>1</sub> in the core and An<sub>45</sub>Ab<sub>52</sub>Or<sub>3</sub> at the rim (Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1997).

**Pyroxene:** The host pyroxene in Y793605 is pigeonite (Ikeda 1997; Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1997). Kojima *et al.* (1997) report that one grain is 8 mm across. It is chemically zoned from En<sub>76</sub>Fs<sub>21</sub>Wo<sub>3</sub> in the center to En<sub>66</sub>Fs<sub>23</sub>Wo<sub>11</sub> at the rim. Pigeonite is often rimmed by augite En<sub>52</sub>Fs<sub>16</sub>Wo<sub>32</sub> (figure XIII-3). The trace element contents of pyroxenes are reported by Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1997) and Wadhwa *et al.* (1997). There is little or no orthopyroxene in Y793605.

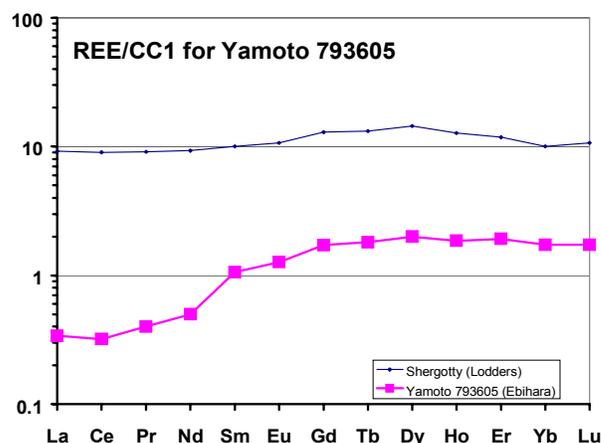
**Chromite:** Chromite is found included in olivine and pigeonite and also in contact with maskelynite (Ikeda 1997). Chromite included in olivine is richest in Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.

### **Mineralogical Mode**

	<b>Kojima <i>et al.</i> 1997</b>	<b>Ikeda 1997</b>	<b>Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1997</b>
Olivine	35 vol. %	40.4 %	40 %
Pyroxene	60	50.8	50
Maskelynite	5	7.4	8
Opaque	1	1.4	1.5



**Figure XIII-3.** Composition diagram for pyroxene and olivine in Y793605. Data replotted from Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1996).



**Figure XIII-4.** Rare earth element diagram comparing the composition of Y793605 with that of Shergotty. Data from Ebihara *et al.* (1997).

Chromite found in contact with maskelynite is zoned to ulvöspinel.

**Ilmenite:** Minor ilmenite (MgO = 5%) has been reported (Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1996b; Ikeda 1997).

**Phosphates:** An analysis of whitlockite in Y793605 is given in Nagao *et al.* (1997) and an analysis of “P-rich phase” is given in Mikouchi and Miyamoto (1997). Mittlefehldt *et al.* (1997) noted that “igneous Ca-phosphate” was highly pitted (suggestive of decomposition), which is cause for concern in the REE analysis and age dating of the rock, because the phosphate is the main host of the REE (as well as U).

**Sulfides:** Pyrrhotite analyses are reported by Ikeda (1997) and Nagao *et al.* (1997).

**Magmatic inclusions:** Small magmatic inclusions (~100 microns) were found in olivine and pigeonite including rhyolitic and “silica-predominate” glass (Ikeda 1997; Mikouchi and Miyamoto 1997).

**Shock-melted glass:** This microcrystalline material was allocated to various investigators for noble gas studies (Kojima *et al.* 1997).

**Alteration products:** Ikeda (1997) and Mittlefehldt *et al.* (1997) discuss secondary alteration of various minerals in Y793605. Silica, K-Fe-sulfate and Fe-phosphate have been recognized. Ikeda concludes that Y793605 suffered weathering alteration “probably at Antarctica. Olivine and opaque minerals, as well as phosphates, have partially or wholly altered, whereas pyroxene and maskelynite remain unaltered”.

### Whole Rock Composition

Mittlefehldt *et al.* (1997), Ebihara *et al.* (1997), Warren and Kallemeyn (1997), Warren *et al.* (1999) and Kong *et al.* (1999) reported the chemical composition of Y793605 (Table XIII-1). The trace element pattern is similar to that of LEW88516 and ALHA77005 (figure XIII-4).

### Radiogenic Isotopes

Misawa *et al.* (1997) reported U, Th and Pb systematics for Y793605 (figure XIII-5). Leached pyroxene separates gave an apparent isochron with intercepts at  $4433 \pm 9$  and  $212 \pm 62$  Ma. The Pb isotopic composition of Y793605 confirms a low- $\mu$  (high initial Pb) source of shergottites (and shergottic peridotites) compared to volcanic rocks on the Earth. Morikawa *et al.* (2001) have obtained a precise Rb-Sr internal isochron with an age of  $173 \pm 14$  Ma and  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  initial ratio of  $0.71042 \pm 7$  (figure XIII-6). Yamada *et al.* (2003) have determined a precise Sm-Nd internal isochron with an age of  $156 \pm 21$  Ma (figure XIII-8).

### Cosmogenic Isotopes and Exposure ages

Eugster and Polnau (1997) have determined an “average” cosmic ray exposure age of  $4.4 \pm 1.0$  Ma (generally similar to that of ALHA77005 and LEW88516). However, Nagao *et al.* (1997, 1998) determined  $5.4 \pm 0.3$  Ma for the non-glassy areas and 3.9 Ma for the glassy portion, indicating that Y793605 may have had two exposures (on the surface of Mars and in transit from Mars). Nishiizumi and Caffee (1997) also reported cosmogenic  $^{10}\text{Be}$ ,  $^{26}\text{Al}$  and  $^{36}\text{Cl}$ . They calculated a terrestrial age of  $35 \pm 35$  thousand

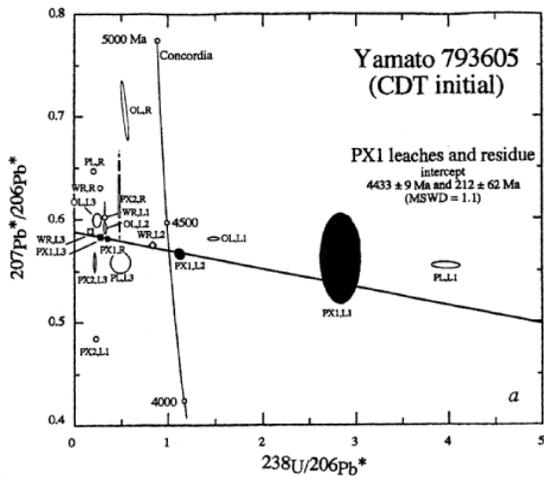


Figure XIII-5. U-Pb concordia diagram from Misawa et al. (1997).

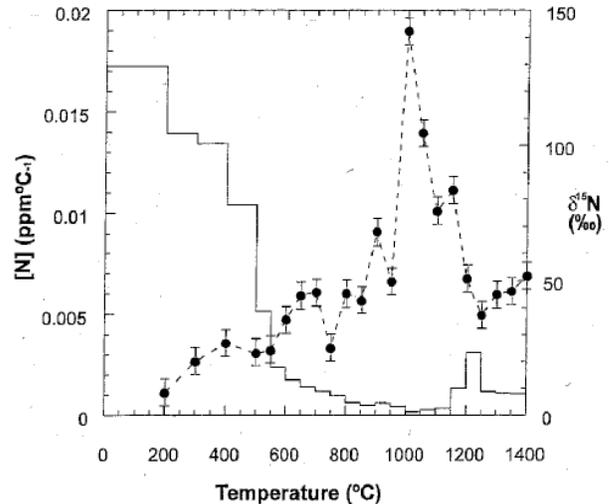


Figure XIII-7. Nitrogen release pattern for Y793605 from Grady et al. (1997), *Ant. Met.* 10, 156.

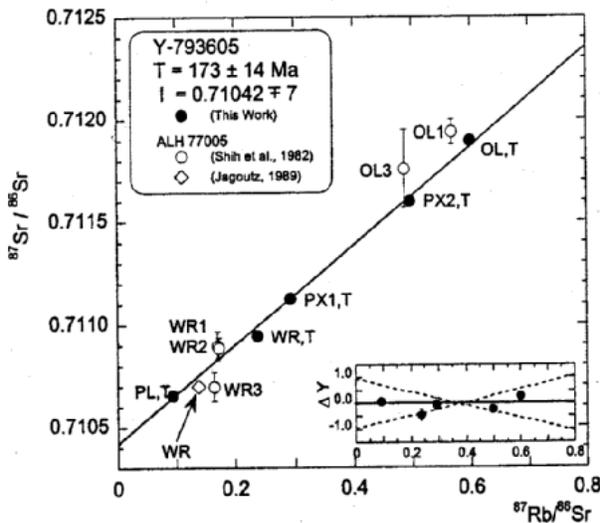


Figure XIII-6. Rb-Sr isochron diagram for Y793605 from Morikawa et al. (2001), *Ant. Met. Res.* 14, 55.

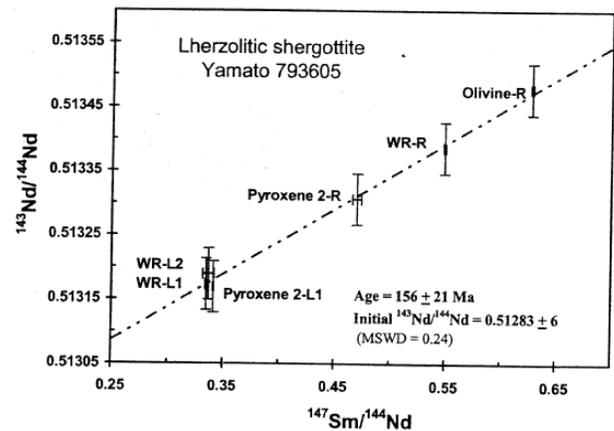


Figure XIII-8. Sm-Nd isochron diagram of Yamato 793605 as determined by Yamato et al. (2003), *International Symposium on Evolution of Solar System Materials: A New Perspective from Antarctic Meteorites*, page 148.

years based on the  $^{36}\text{Cl}$  data. This is significantly less than the terrestrial residence age of ALHA77005 ( $210 \pm 80$  thousand years).

Terribilini et al. (1998) calculate an “average” exposure age of  $3.9 \pm 0.5$  Ma and conclude the lherzolithic shergottites were ejected from Mars about 1 Ma before the basaltic shergottites.

### Other Isotopes

Mayeda et al. (1995) and Clayton and Mayeda (1996) reported oxygen isotopes for Y793605 (see figure I-3). Grady et al. (1997) reported the isotopic ratios of C and N as a function of release temperature, up to 1300C.

They found that the C and N components were from a mixture of Martian atmospheric (isotopically heavy), magmatic (isotopically light) and cosmogenic sources. They reported  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  as high as  $\sim +150$  ‰ for high temperature release (figure XIII-7 and table XIII-2).

Nagao et al. (1997, 1998) and Eugster and Polnau (1997) reported the isotopic composition of noble gases released by step-wise heating of Y793605. Nagao’s splits were carefully prepared to include; 1) only igneous rock material, 2) mostly glass.

**Table XIII-1. Chemical composition of Yamato- 793605.**

reference	Lodders98	Ebihara 97b	Ebihara 97b	Mittlefehldt 97	Warren 97	Warren 99	Kong 99	Wang 98
weight	average	123 mg			310 mg	208 mg	123 mg	
SiO2	45.4					45.35		
TiO2	0.35	0.193	(a)		0.35	(a) 0.35	(a) 0.19	(a)
Al2O3	2.32	1.43	(a)		2.32	(a) 2.32	(a) 1.28	(a)
FeO	19.7	18.13	(a)	19.3	(a) 19.68	(a) 19.68	(a) 18.14	(a)
MnO	0.48	0.53	(a)			0.48	(a) 0.53	(a)
CaO	4.06	4.35	(a)	2.7	(a) 4.06	(a) 4.05	(a) 4.35	(a)
MgO	26.2	27.36	(a)		26.2	(a) 26.2	(a) 27.36	(a)
Na2O	0.36	0.198	(a)	0.274	(a)	0.35	(a) 0.2	(a)
K2O	0.025	0.014	(a)			0.025	(a) 0.013	(a)
P2O5								
sum								
Sc ppm	25	25	(a)	20.7	(a)	25	(a) 25	(a)
V	202	281	(a)		202	(a) 202	(a) 281	(a)
Cr	6900	7290	(a)		6900	(a) 6900	(a) 7290	(a)
Co	72	72	(a)	68.8	(a)	72	(a) 72	(a) 34 (b)
Ni	28	315	(a)	326	(a)	280	(b) 315	(a)
Cu								
Zn	49	67.3	(a)	83	(a)	51	(b) 67.3	(a) 47.4 (b)
Ga	6.8	6.7	(a)			6.8	(a) 6.7	(a) 5.64 (b)
Ge						0.71	(b)	
As								
Se		<0.3	(a)			<0.42	(a)	0.15 (b)
Br					<b>Morikawa 01</b>	0.5	(a)	
Rb					0.0985	(c)		0.48 (b)
Sr					1.03	(c)	<44	(a)
Y			2.28	2.79	(d)			
Zr						<63	(a)	
Nb								
Mo							0.027	(b)
Pd ppb								
Ag ppb		1.7	(b)					
Cd ppb						6.2	(b)	2.46 (b)
In ppb								8.4 (b)
Sb ppb								12.1 (b)
Te ppb								0.82 (b)
I ppb								2.2 (b)
Cs ppm								
Ba						<0.123	(a)	29.3 (b)
La	0.29	0.108	(a)	0.0804	0.111	(d)	0.201	(a) 0.29
Ce		0.35	(a)	0.192	0.244	(d)		0.84 (a)
Pr				0.0362	0.047	(d)		
Nd				0.226	0.267	(d)		
Sm	0.45	0.205	(a)	0.156	0.175	(d)	0.298	(a) 0.45
Eu	0.21	0.103	(a)	0.0715			0.13	(a) 0.206
Gd				0.338	0.397	(d)		(a) 0.206
Tb	0.17	0.047	(a)	0.0659	0.0723	(d)	0.12	(a) 0.168
Dy				0.489	0.528	(d)		(a) 0.168
Ho				0.103	0.109	(d)		<1.6 (a)
Er				0.305	0.318	(d)		0.234 (a)
Tm				0.042	0.0434	(d)		
Yb		0.392	(a)	0.281	0.29	(d)	0.4	(a) 0.56
Lu	0.08	0.0593	(a)	0.0418	0.0422	(d)	0.065	(a) 0.39
Hf	0.51	0.456	(a)				0.39	(a) 0.08
Ta	<0.04							(a) 0.51
W ppb		10	(b)					(a) 0.51
Re ppb							<0.04	(a)
Os ppb		3.09	(b)					10 (b)
Ru ppb								0.084 (b)
Ir ppb	3	3.14	(b)					2.7 (b)
Au ppb	<0.8	0.175	(b)					3 (b)
Pt ppb		2.79	(b)					2.2 (b)
Tl ppb								2.2 (b)
Bi ppb								3.14 (b)
Th ppm	<0.06			0.0117	0.0153	(d)		0.22 (b)
U ppm				0.003	0.0042	(d)		0.175 (b)
technique	(a) INAA,	(b) RNAA,	(c) IDMS,	(d) ICP-MS				2.79 (b)
								3.83 (b)
								0.48 (b)
								<0.053 (a)
								<0.05 (a)
								0.01 (b)

**Table XIII-2. Carbon and nitrogen contents and isotopic ratios for Martian meteorites.**  
 (This is table 2 in Grady *et al.* 1997, *Antarctic Meteorites* vol. 10, 156).

Sample	[C] (ppm)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	Ref.	[N] (ppm)	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	
<b>Lherzolites:</b>						
Y-793605	3.4	-10	This study	0.34	+46	Thi
ALHA77005	8-35	-28 to -18	1			
LEW88516				0.27	+7.3	
<b>Basalts:</b>						
EETA79001; Lith A	10-24	-18 to -16	1	0.1-0.5	+7	
EETA79001; Lith B	7-18	-21 to -7	1			
QUE94201	20-38	-27	4	2.0	+28	
Shergotty	23-82	-27 to -20	1	0.1-0.8	+16 to +46	
Zagami	30-80	-26 to -23	6	0.6-3.5	-6 to -5	

### **Processing**

Yamato 793605 (collected in 1979) was processed and allocated (in 1996) by the National Institute of Polar Research to a consortium led by Drs. Kojima, Miyamoto and Warren. The sample has been widely distributed internationally (see Kojima *et al.* 1997). The black glass was avoided in preparing the split, 10 for the consortium, but chips of glass were allocated for gas studies. At least 7 thin sections are available, from two different pieces (Kojima *et al.* 1997). *This well-organized consortium study illustrates how much can be learned about another planet from just a small sample (~ 2.1 grams allocated)!*