

14318
Ancient Regolith Breccia
600.2 grams



Figure 1: Photo of 14318. Sample is 10 cm long. NASA S71-29142.



Figure 2: Photo of 14318 on the lunar surface. AS14-68-9469.

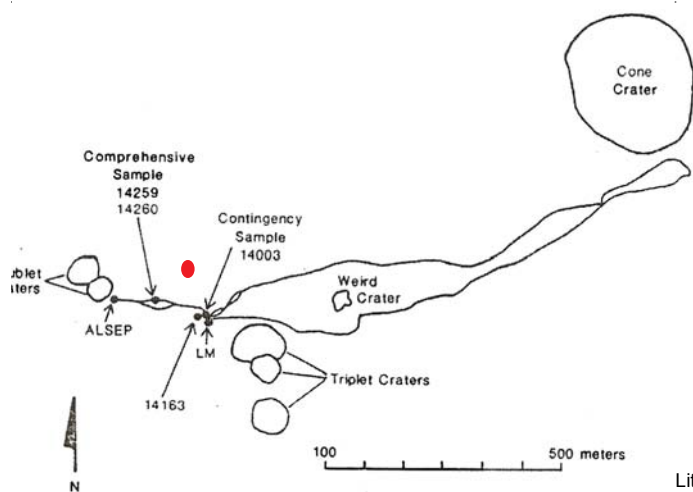


Figure 3: Location of 14318 on Apollo 14 traverse map.

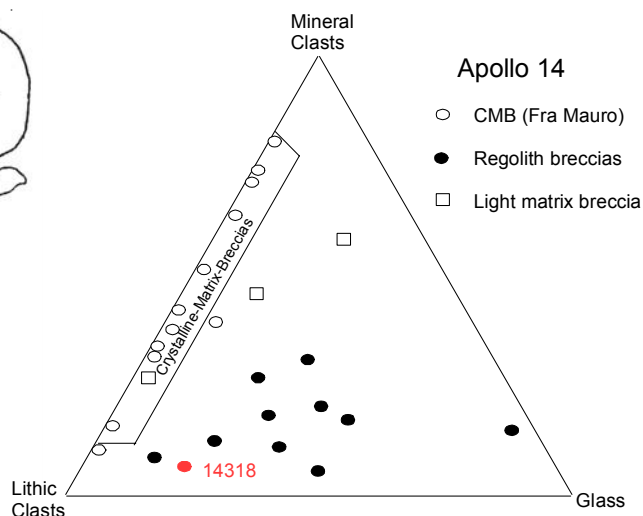


Figure 4: Simonds diagram for Apollo 14 breccias.

Mineralogical Mode for 14318

	Simonds et al. 1977	Drozd et al. 1976	Simon et al. 1989
Matrix	42.5 %		40.6
Clasts			
Plagioclase	2		4.7
Mafic	1.5		5.6
Breccia	35		
Glass	2.5	11.4	11.7
Granulite	11		
Mare basalt	4		0.1
Felds basalt	1		0.4
Agglutinate		10.2	1

Mineralogical Mode for 14318

	Drozd et al. 1977
Mineral fragments	14.7 %
Lithic fragments	59.6
Colored glass	7.7
Agglutinate glass	10.2
Colorless glass	1.2
Chondrules	4
Devitrified glass	2.5

Introduction

Fruiland (1983) and Simon et al. (1989) included 14318 in the suite of regolith breccias, while Simonds et al. (1977) termed it a vitric matrix breccia. Most notable is the abundance of chondrule-like clasts (Kurat et al. 1972; King et al. 1972), some with basaltic texture. 14318 differs from most regolith breccias by the high proportion of lithic clasts and significantly less abundance of brown matrix glass. It may have formed from an immature soil.

14318 was picked up at the “North Boulder Field” (station H) about 100 meters northwest of the LM (Swann et al. 1977). It is a blocky, angular rock, heavily pitted on all sides (figure 1). A series of well developed, parallel fractures is parallel to one surface of the rock and long axis. The rock has broken along one of these fractures and no pits are present on the broken vesicular glass. The glass-lined fractures appear to cut clasts

and matrix alike. The rock is a coherent breccia with an estimated 50 percent clasts. Of these 60 percent are judged to be light and 40 percent dark or mesocratic. One light clast has a dark clast within it and several dark clasts contain light clasts.

Horz et al. (1972) and Sutton et al. (1971) determined the orientation of 14318 on the surface from the density distribution of microcraters and by reproducing the lighting angle of the surface photography. The exposure age of 14318 is 39 m.y.

14318 was found to have “excess fission Xe” (Behrmann et al. 1973; Reynolds et al. 1974; Swindle et al. 1985) as well as an excess of implanted ⁴⁰Ar (Eugster et al. 2001). Thus it is thought to be an “ancient regolith breccia” and may prove to be a key to understanding early Earth-Moon history.



Figure 5: Photo of sawn surface of 14318. Cube is 1 cm. NASA S78-34405.

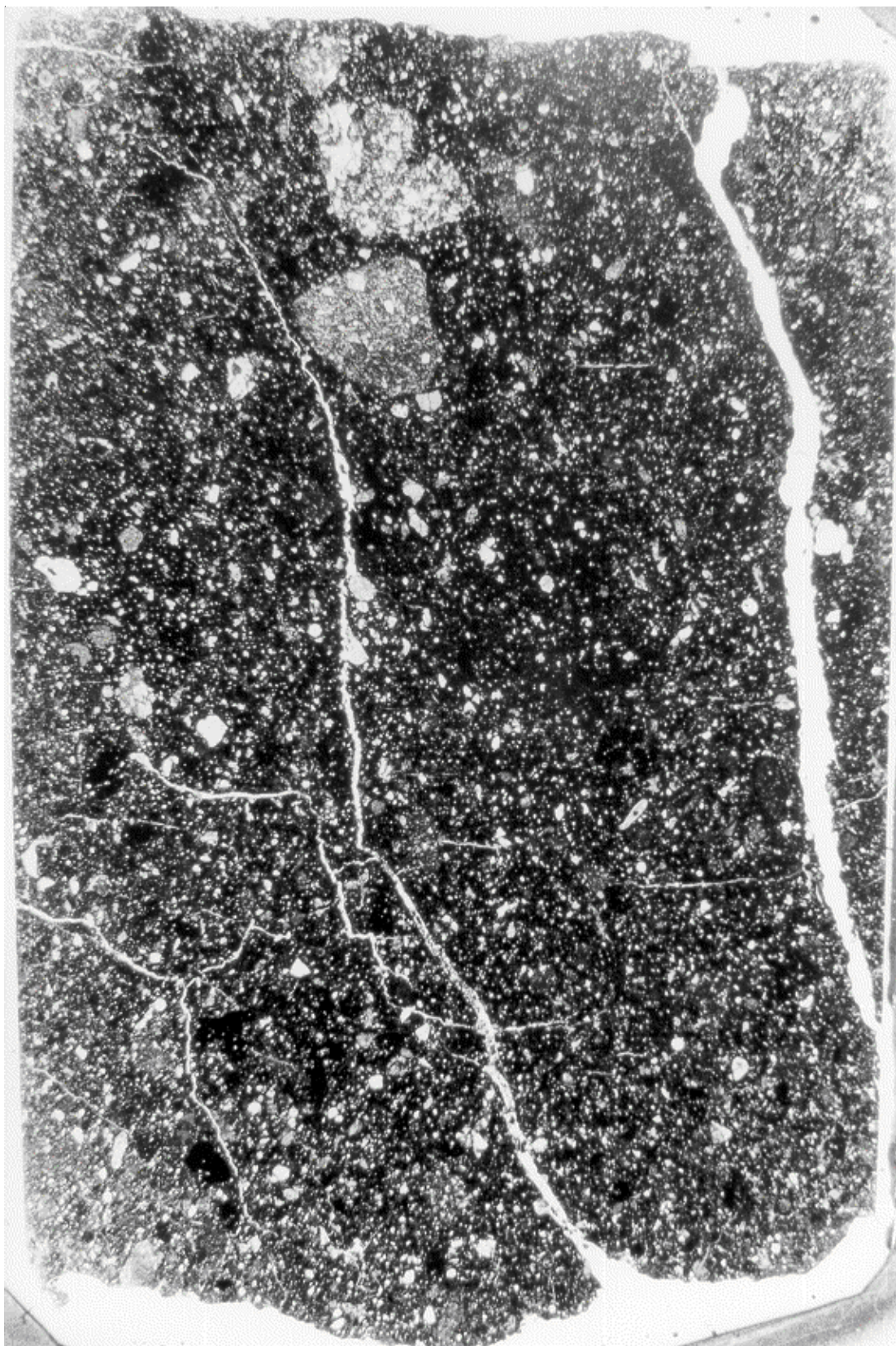


Figure 6: Photomicrograph of thin section 14318,44. Scale 1.5 x 3 cm. S71-44337.

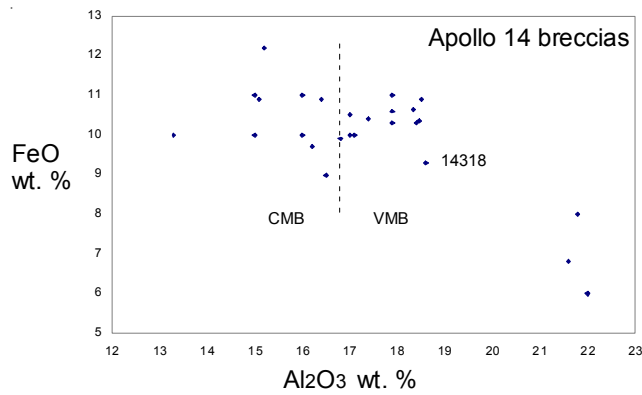


Figure 7: Composition of Apollo 14 breccias with 14318 shown.

Petrography

14318 was found near the location of 14315 and has some similar features (figure 2). Kurat et al. (1972, 1974) and King et al. (1972) described 14318 and studied the numerous chondrule-like objects (figure 11). This sample is a clast-rich, matrix-poor breccia (figure 4). It is a complex microbreccia, composed of lithic fragments, chondrules, glass spherules, glass and mineral fragments set in a fine-grained, partly glassy matrix (figure 6). The lithic fragments, chondrules, glasses etc. are welded to the matrix and partly recrystallized, indicating formation at a relatively high temperature.

Simon et al. (1989) compare 14318 with other soil breccias from Apollo 14. There is additional information about grain size chemistry/petrology in Swindle et al. (1985). Nelen et al. (1972) and Ruzicka et al. (2000), King et al. (1972) and Kurat et al. (1972) focused on the chondrules.

14318 was one of the samples studied by the Imbrium Consortium led by John Wood (Ryder et al. 1976). von Englehardt et al. (1972), Stoffler et al. (1976), Chao et al. (1972) and Quaide and Wrigley (1972) also gave petrographic descriptions. No one has looked at all the thin sections at one time.

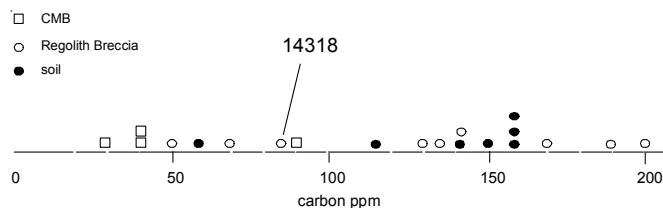


Figure 10: Carbon content of Apollo 14 samples from Moore et al. (1972).

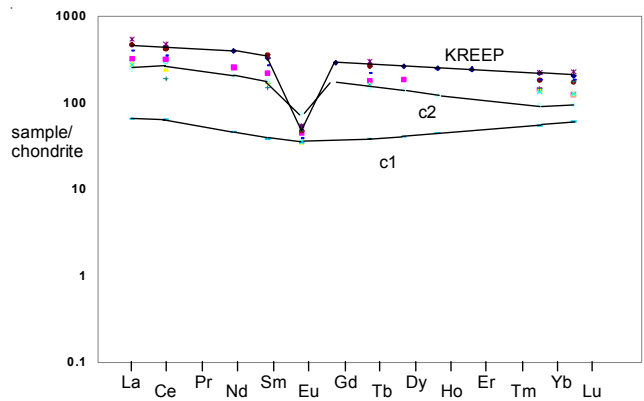


Figure 8: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for 14318 matrix and clasts. KREEP pattern is for comparison. c1 and c2 are probably pristine white clasts studied by Warren et al. (1983, 1986).

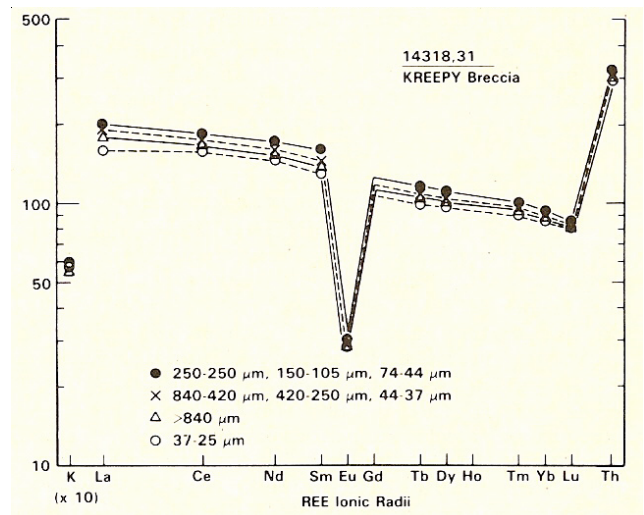


Figure 9: Normalized rare-earth-element diagram for different grain sizes of 14318 (Swindle et al. 1985).

14318 has many different lithic clasts (figure 15). Many of them are trace-element-rich alkali, high alumina basalt (AHAB = KREEP) (Kurat et al. (1974). Figure 12 compares the composition of the crystalline chondrules with the glass spherules. Warren et al. (1993) studied two large clasts and Shervais et al. (1983) reported on another.

Significant Clasts

Gabbronorite, 4

Shervais et al. (1983) studied a small clast (1.6 x 1 mm) of unshocked “gabbronorite” found in thin section. It has ~48% plagioclase (An₉₅), ~44% orthopyroxene (En₅₃₋₇₂), ~7% clinopyroxene and trace ilmenite (figure 9).

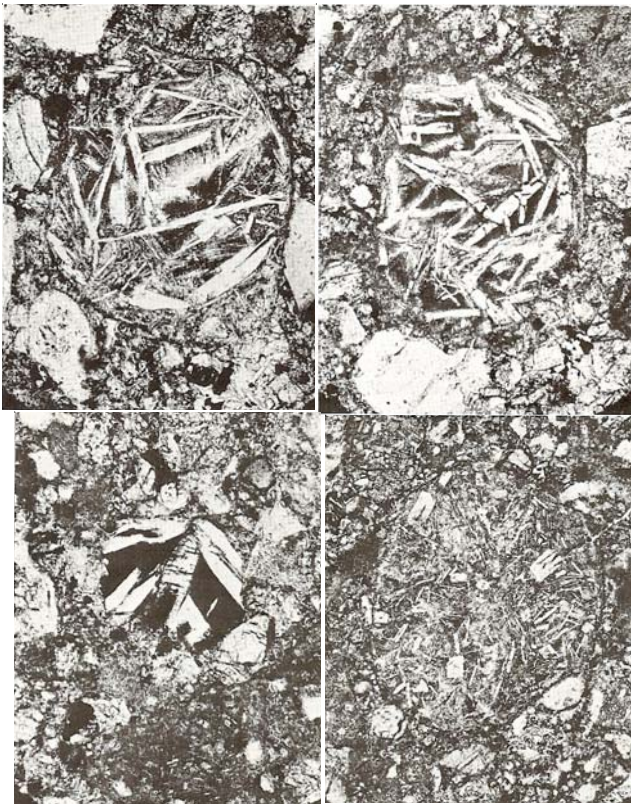


Figure 11: Chondrules from 14318 a la. Kurat et al. (1972). Scale about 200 microns each.

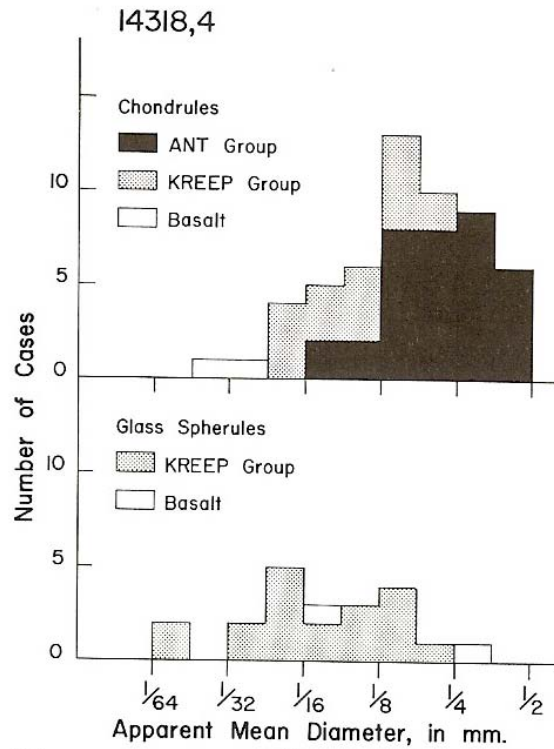


Figure 12: Comparison of crystalline chondrules and glass spherules in 14318 a la. Kurat et al. (1972).

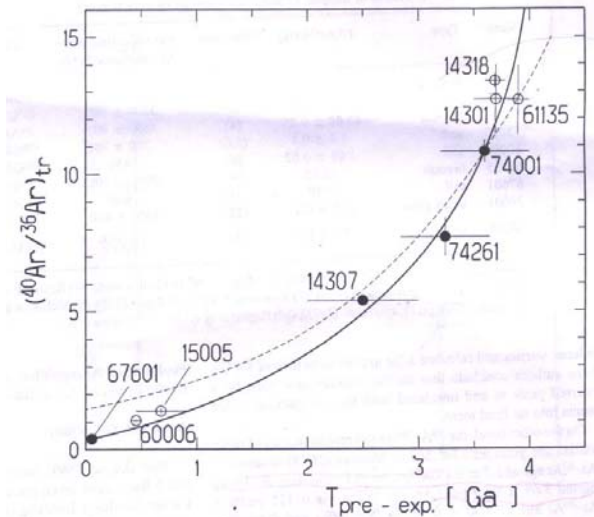


Figure 13. Excess ^{40}Ar in lunar breccia (Eugster et al. 2001).

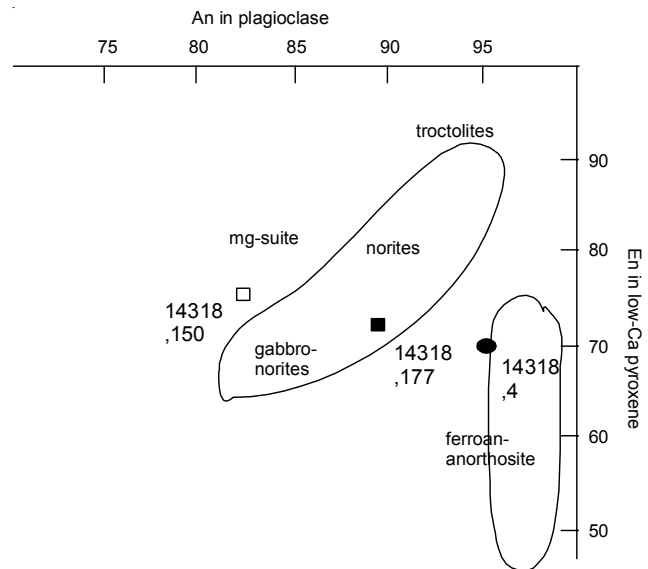


Figure 14: Composition of plagioclase and pyroxene in white clasts in 14318 (from Shervais et al. 1983).

Mg-suite olivine norite "C1", 146 TS, 149 TS, 177
 Warren et al. (1983) determined the composition of this 1.5 g clast (table 1) and gave details on the mineralogy (figure 9). Bersch et al. (1991) and Shervais and McGee (1998) studied the mineral chemistry. The

clast is composed of 55% plagioclase (An_{89}) (up to 1.7 mm), 35% orthopyroxene ($\text{En}_{72.4}$) (1 mm), ~12% olivine (Fo_{71}) (1.9 mm) with trace ilmenite, troilite and metal. It is considered "probably" pristine by Warren (1993).

Table 1. Chemical composition of 14318.

reference weight	Rose 72			Keith72	Laul72	clasts					clast	Simon 89	Kurat74	clast	
	47.9	47.97	(c)	600.2 g	sawdust						Warren83	153 mg	45	Warren86	
SiO2 %	47.9	47.97	(c)								49.4	(b)		46.6	
TiO2	1.44	1.48	(c)		1.6	1.2	1.8	1.7	1	1.1	(b) 0.62	(b) 1.67	(b) 2.6	(e) 1.07	
Al2O3	18	17.8	(c)		16.3	16.1	17.8	18.9	15.9	19.3	(b) 18.7	(b) 18.6	(b) 12.2	(e) 23.24	
FeO	9.43	9.62	(c)		9.9	10.7	9.8	11.5	7.7	7.5	(b) 7.98	(b) 9.35	(b) 18.1	(e) 5.57	
MnO	0.13	0.13	(c)		0.105	0.109	0.113	0.107	0.099	0.101	(b) 0.106	(b) 0.14	(b)	0.076	
MgO	9.63	9.79	(c)								12.27	(b) 9.8	(b) 8.3	(e) 8.95	
CaO	11.1	11.16	(c)		10	11.3	10.8	10.3	9.4	10.3	(b) 10.1	(b) 11.1	(b) 10.2	(e) 13.1	
Na2O	0.81	0.79	(c)		0.728	0.728	0.821	0.976	0.852	0.837	(b) 0.66	(b) 0.77	(b) 0.4	(e) 1.06	
K2O	0.62	0.6	(c)	0.59	(a) 0.58	0.53	0.63	0.61	3.3	2.1	(b) 0.23	(b) 0.61	(b) 0.72	(e) 0.38	
P2O5	0.55	0.56	(c)										0.85	(e)	
S %															
sum															
Sc ppm	24	22	(c)		17.9	17.1	18.6	17.5	16.6	15.3	(b) 12.8	(b) 19.1	(b)	11.7	(b)
V	50	47	(c)		46	30	46	45	24	25	(b)	38	(b)		
Cr	1232	1300	(c)		1320	1231	978	1013	828	664	(b) 1080	(b) 1230	(b)	875	(b)
Co	30	38	(c)		31	28	26	86	28	12	(b) 20.3	(b) 33	(b)	15.4	(b)
Ni	330	420	(c)								52	(b) 430	(b)	21	(b)
Cu	150	170	(c)												
Zn	15	15	(c)								3.4	(b)			
Ga	4.4	4.5	(c)								5	(b)		8.2	(b)
Ge ppb											70	(b)		8.8	(b)
As															
Se															
Rb	16	14	(c)								6.1	(b) 16	(b)	7.9	(b)
Sr	160	140	(c)									100	(b)	261	(b)
Y	260	260	(c)												
Zr	720	820	(c)		800	600	1400	950	600	1300	(b) 370	(b) 880	(b)	780	(b)
Nb	48	52	(c)												
Mo															
Ru															
Rh															
Pd ppb															
Ag ppb															
Cd ppb											44	(b)			
In ppb															
Sn ppb															
Sb ppb															
Te ppb															
Cs ppm											0.29	(b) 0.82	(b)	0.21	(b)
Ba	760	640	(c)		700	600	1100	1000	2600	1700	(b) 470	(b) 860	(b)	690	(b)
La	75	66	(c)		66	65	129	110	58	95	(b) 15.6	(b) 76.7	(b)	58	(b)
Ce					151	170	290	255	115	215	(b) 39	(b) 194	(b)	160	(b)
Pr															
Nd											21.1	(b) 117	(b)	93	(b)
Sm					26	26	51	53	22	40	(b) 5.7	(b) 32.5	(b)	26.7	(b)
Eu					2	2	3	2.7	2.7	2.2	(b) 1.96	(b) 2.54	(b)	4.2	(b)
Gd															
Tb					5.8	5.9	11	9.6	5.7	8.1	(b) 1.4	(b) 6.6	(b)	5.4	(b)
Dy											9.9	(b) 46	(b)	34.5	(b)
Ho											2.5	(b)		6.8	(b)
Er															
Tm															
Yb	22	23	(c)		23	22	37	30	24	30	(b) 8.9	(b) 23.2	(b)	15.5	(b)
Lu					3.1	3.1	5.6	4.2	4.3	4.5	(b) 1.49	(b) 3.04	(b)	2.31	(b)
Hf					20	21	42	32	23	27	(b) 8	(b) 22.8	(b)	19.2	(b)
Ta					2.3	2.4	5.1	4.6	5	3.7	(b) 0.74	(b) 3.2	(b)	1.81	(b)
W ppb															
Re ppb											0.024	(b)		0.025	(b)
Os ppb														0.39	(b)
Ir ppb											0.2	(b) 8	(b)	0.096	(b)
Pt ppb															
Au ppb											0.27	(b) 6.6	(b)		
Th ppm				12	(a) 12	13	24	18	24	17	(b) 3.8	(b) 13.3	(b)	7.6	(b)
U ppm				3.27	(a) 4.1	2.1	6.1	6	6.3	5.4	(b) 1.25	(b) 3.5	(b)	2.1	(b)

technique: (a) radiation counting, (b) INAA (c) "microchemical", (d) e. probe

Table 2: Composition of lithic fragments in 14318 (from Kurat et al. 1974).

Oxides	ANT Suite						
	Troctolitic anorthosite		Anorthositic norite	Alkalic high-alumina basalt group		Mare basalt	Dunite
	LF24	LF13	LF18	Av.	Range	LF30	LF6
SiO ₂	44.2	43.2	45.4	46.8	(45.6–50.0)	48.8	40.3
TiO ₂	0.14	0.15	0.24	1.30	(0.40–2.20)	2.69	0.32
Al ₂ O ₃	32.6	28.1	25.9	18.5	(15.8–22.2)	13.9	3.7
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.04	0.07	0.15	0.17	(0.10–0.25)	0.22	0.12
FeO	0.76	4.6	5.8	9.3	(6.7–11.7)	15.0	12.2
MnO	0.04	0.04	0.08	0.14	(0.10–0.18)	0.23	0.11
MgO	0.84	6.9	5.8	9.3	(7.1–12.3)	5.9	41.2
CaO	19.2	14.6	15.1	11.3	(9.3–13.8)	11.6	1.70
Na ₂ O	0.42	0.66	0.39	0.80	(0.38–1.17)	0.61	0.07
K ₂ O	0.06	0.09	0.17	0.47	(0.17–1.09)	0.18	0.02
P ₂ O ₅	0.06	0.08	0.08	0.52	(0.17–0.99)	0.10	0.36
Total	98.36	98.49	99.21	98.60		99.23	100.10
No. specimens	1	1	1	8		1	1

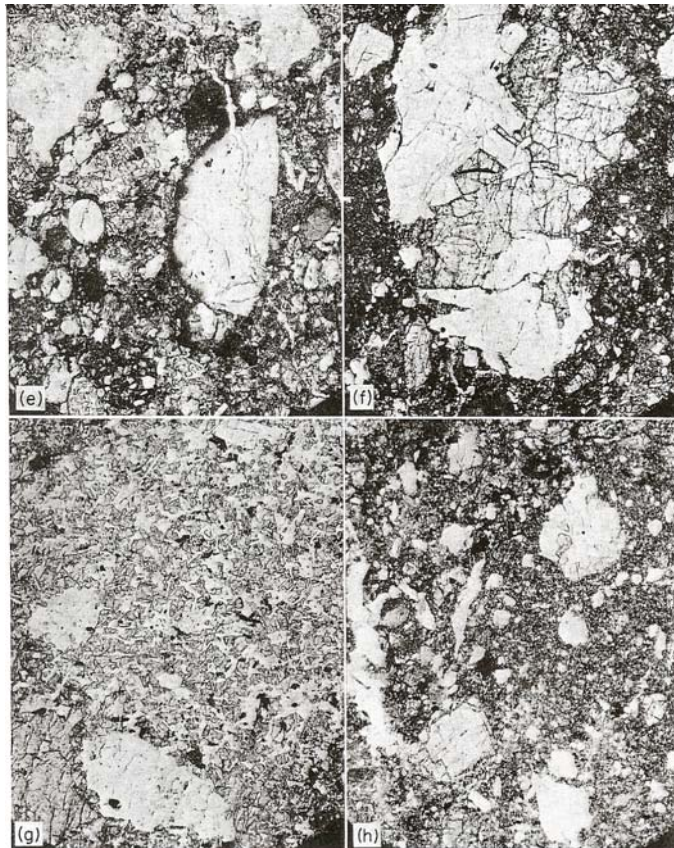


Figure 15: Glass and lithic fragments in 14318 (e) glass sphere, (f) ANT, (g) AHAB and (h) AHAB breccia (from Kurat et al. 1974).

Table 3a: Composition (averages) of glass types found in 14318 (Kurat et al. 1974).

	ANT Suite			AHAB† Group			
	Troctolitic anorthosite	Anorthositic norite		Fragments and spherules		Amoeboid matrix glass	
	G18	Av.	Range	Av.	Range	Av.	Range
SiO ₂	44.6	46.2	(44.2–47.8)	48.6	(45.5–52.4)	47.7	(47.1–48.7)
TiO ₂	0.40	0.35	(0.17–0.69)	1.02	(0.25–2.40)	0.99	(0.93–1.05)
Al ₂ O ₃	31.2	25.0	(22.5–28.5)	19.6	(14.0–22.9)	20.5	(19.7–21.2)
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.11	0.18	(0.06–0.24)	0.20	(0.13–0.32)	0.21	(0.19–0.23)
FeO	3.7	5.2	(3.6–7.0)	8.7	(6.9–11.9)	8.4	(8.3–8.6)
MnO	0.06	0.11	(0.05–0.15)	0.13	(0.04–0.20)	0.16	(0.14–0.20)
MgO	3.9	6.9	(5.7–8.6)	7.9	(6.8–9.5)	7.2	(6.8–7.7)
CaO	16.8	14.4	(13.1–16.0)	12.4	(9.9–14.4)	12.4	(12.1–12.6)
Na ₂ O	0.53	0.34	(0.01–0.59)	0.71	(0.39–1.31)	0.66	(0.64–0.69)
K ₂ O	0.23	0.10	(<0.01–0.24)	0.37	(0.17–0.99)	0.47	(0.44–0.51)
P ₂ O ₅	0.17	0.07	(0.02–0.15)	0.35	(0.01–1.06)	0.29	(0.22–0.36)
Total	101.70	98.85		99.98		98.98	
No. specimens	1	9		12		4	

Table 3b: Composition (averages) of glass types found in 14318 (Kurat et al. 1974).

High-alkali quartz basalt comp.		Basalt		Miscellaneous			
Av.	Range	Av.	Range	G39	G88	GS12	
51.6	(50.5–53.3)	44.7	(43.5–47.0)	49.3	52.9	54.7	SiO ₂
3.3	(2.85–3.9)	2.61	(2.27–3.4)	0.38	1.44	3.4	TiO ₂
10.1	(9.0–10.7)	12.2	(9.6–13.9)	29.7	19.4	10.8	Al ₂ O ₃
0.16	(0.11–0.21)	0.29	(0.22–0.33)	<0.01	0.07	0.10	Cr ₂ O ₃
16.2	(14.8–17.6)	18.1	(16.8–19.7)	0.87	9.7	15.6	FeO
0.30	(0.26–0.33)	0.28	(0.20–0.33)	0.22	0.12	0.26	MnO
5.1	(3.3–6.3)	8.3	(7.3–8.7)	0.31	6.3	4.4	MgO
8.0	(7.5–8.8)	10.2	(8.2–11.2)	12.2	10.9	8.1	CaO
1.32	(1.13–1.48)	0.40	(0.17–0.99)	2.21	0.30	0.10	Na ₂ O
1.42	(1.20–1.63)	0.72	(0.23–1.50)	1.84	0.23	1.57	K ₂ O
1.69	(1.42–1.90)	0.85	(0.30–1.86)	0.13	0.03	0.38	P ₂ O ₅
99.19		98.65		97.16	101.39	99.41	Total
							No.
4		4		1	1	1	specimens

Mg-norite “C2” ,150 TS,152

Warren et al. (1986) and Warren (1993) also list this clast as “probably” pristine. It has a high REE content, like KREEP with very high Eu. The mineral mode is 65% plagioclase (An₈₂), 25% orthopyroxene (figure 9).

Chemistry

Rose et al. (1972), Laul et al. (1972), and Simon et al. (1982) analyzed the matrix, while Warren et al. (1983, 1986) and Laul et al. (1972) analyzed some of the clasts

(table 1, figures 7 and 8). Kurat et al. (1974) also determined the composition of lithic clasts (table 2) and of compositional clusters of glass (table 3). Swindle et al. (1985) reported analyses of eight grain size separates (figure 9).

Holland et al. (1972) and Moore et al. (1972) reported the carbon content (figure 10).



Figure 16: 14318 after first saw cut with wire saw positioned for second cut to make slab. Sample is about 10 cm across. NASA S71-38662.



Figure 17: Group photo of pieces from end of 14318. Largest piece is about 1 inch.

Cosmogenic isotopes and exposure ages

14318 was found to have ^{26}Al activity of 117 dpm/kg, $^{22}\text{Na} = 41$ dpm/kg, $^{54}\text{Mn} = 10$ dpm/kg and $^{56}\text{Co} = 28$ dpm/kg (Keith et al. 1972).

Drozd et al. (1974) reported an exposure age of 38.8 ± 1.3 m.y. determined by the ^{81}Kr method. Eugster et al. (2001) found excess ^{40}Ar (figure 13).

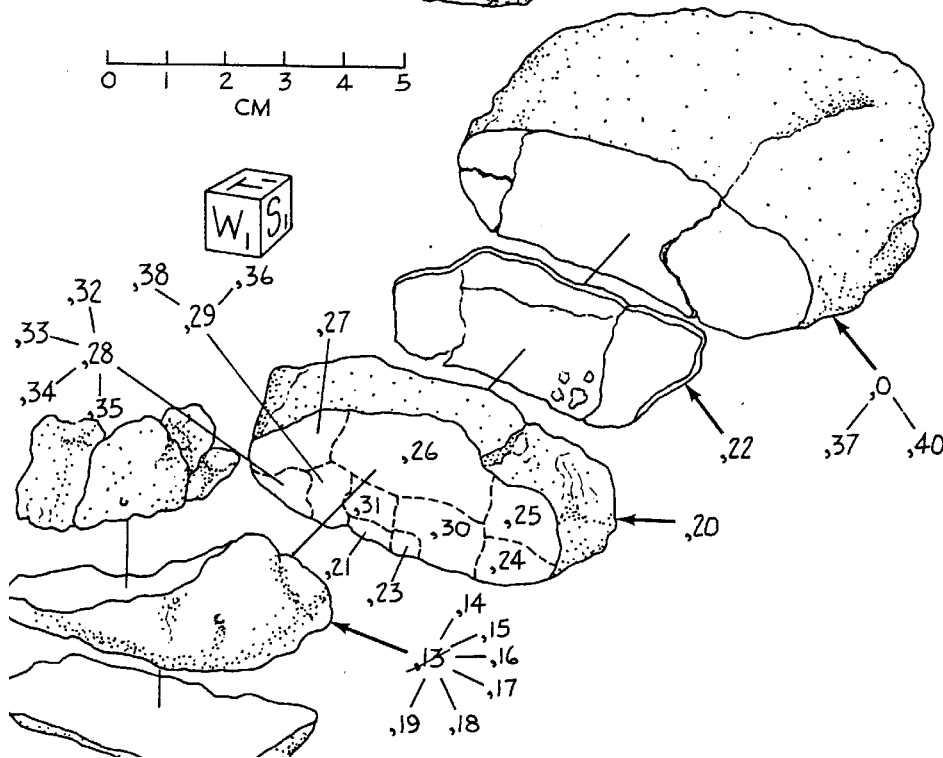
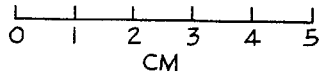
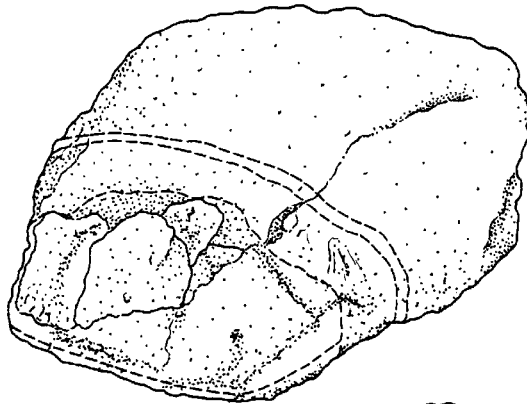
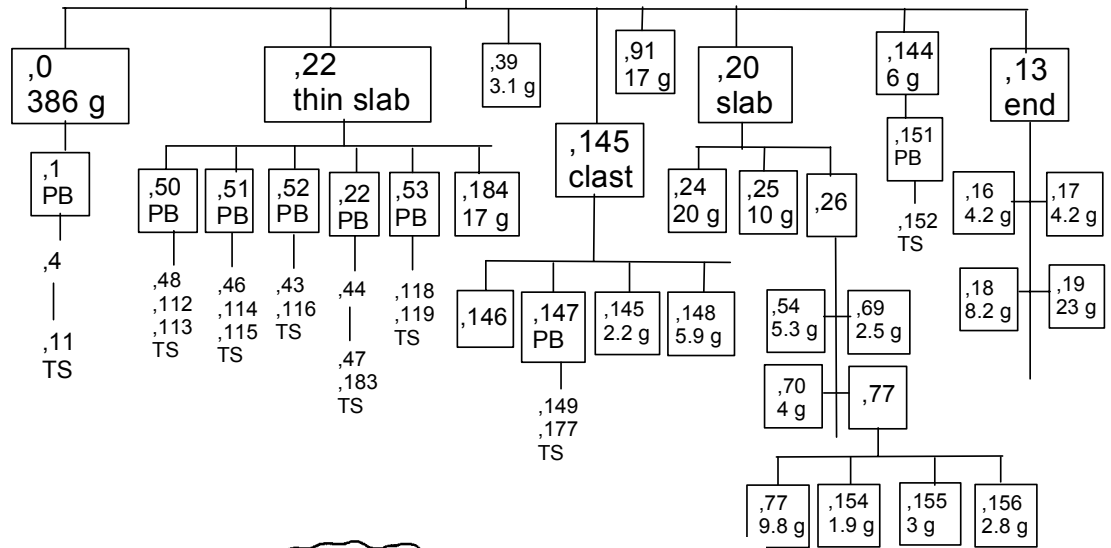
By studying grain size separates, Swindle et al. (1985) found there to be two rare gas components – a volume component and a surface component.

Other Studies

Hutcheon et al. (1972), Macdougall et al. (1973) and Graf et al. (1973) reported fossil cosmic-ray and solar-flare tracks.

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14318
600.2 g



Morrison et al. (1972), Neukum et al. (1973) and Horz et al. (1972) studied the density and distribution of zap pits.

Collinson et al. (1972) studied the magnetic properties, Chung et al. (1972) reported on the dielectric properties and Gibb et al. (1972) determined the Mossbauer spectra.

Tatsumoto et al. (1972) tried to determine the Pb isotopes.

Srinivasan (1973), Reynolds et al. (1974), Behrmann et al. (1973), Drozd et al. (1974, 75 and 76), Swindle et al. (1985) and Eugster et al. (2001) all tried to solve the puzzle of rare gases in 14318.

Processing

14318 was returned in weigh bag 1038 which was opened in the Crew Reception Area before the sample was entered into the NNPL for description. There are 37 thin sections. One end was cut off and two slabs prepared with the wire saw (figure 16 and 17).

14318 was an object of the Imbrium Consortium led by John Wood (Ryder et al. 1976).

References for 14318

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