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Study on natural iodine isotope system

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Iodine isotopes (stable ^{127}I and long-lived radioactive ^{129}I with half-life 15.7 million year) in natural environment have potentially various applications, utilizing as a dating tool or an index of cosmic-ray intensity variation with millions to 10-million-year time scale. For these purposes, iodine isotope system in natural environment should be understood comprehensively. Important issues are:

1. Iodine dynamics in the environment.

Inventories of iodine in various sites and transition among them should be elucidated.

2. ^{129}I sources and assimilation of the iodine dynamic system.

Production rate of ^{129}I by the cosmic ray and ^{238}U spontaneous fission and how well is the produced ^{129}I is mixed with the ambient iodine should be evaluated. This is related to the equilibrium $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio. Does the globally equilibrium $^{129}\text{I}/^{127}\text{I}$ ratio exist like radiocarbon?

Student Submission

No

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