Sensitive, spatially resolved U-Th dating approach using LA-ICPMS

Fact Sheet

Project Information

SPATULA
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EXCELLENT SCIENCE - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
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€ 203 149,44

Coordinated by
EIDGENOESSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE ZUERICH
Switzerland

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18 March 2020
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Project description

Improving the sensitivity of uranium–thorium dating

Uranium–thorium dating is a radiometric dating technique used to determine the age of materials ranging from a few years to over 800 000 years old. Current isotope mass spectrometry characterisation techniques are highly sensitive. Yet, the discrete sampling in the millimetric domain and the time-consuming chemical preparation procedure have been limiting factors against more widespread use. The EU-funded
SPATULA project aims to extend the resolution of age assignments to the micrometric domain. To determine the elemental composition, it will use laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry. This in situ analysis method is rapid and overcomes the time-consuming element separation processes, which also require the use of hazardous chemicals.
Coordinator

**EIDGENOESSISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE ZUERICH**

Net EU contribution

€ 203 149,44

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Region

Schweiz/Suisse/Svizzera > Zürich > Zürich

Activity type

Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Links

Contact the organisation  Website  Participation in EU R&I programmes  HORIZON collaboration network

Total cost

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**Permalink:** [https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/891710](https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/891710)

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