

1 Silicon isotope variations in the inner solar system:  
2 Implications for planetary formation, differentiation and composition

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21

## 22 **Abstract**

23         Accurate and precise Si isotope measurements were obtained using magnesium doping  
24 and high-resolution plasma source mass spectrometry for samples representative of the Earth,  
25 as well as lunar samples, meteorites from Mars (SNC), eucrites, a howardite, carbonaceous  
26 chondrites (CC), ordinary chondrites (OC) and enstatite chondrites (EC). Our data confirm  
27 that significant Si isotope fractionations exist among the inner solar system planetary bodies.  
28 They show that the Earth and the Moon share the same Si isotopic composition, which is  
29 heavier than all other measured bodies, in agreement with most of previous studies. At the  
30 other end of the spectrum, enstatite chondrites have the lightest Si isotope compositions. In  
31 order to precisely estimate the amount of Si that may have entered the Earth's core, we  
32 developed a refined model of Si partitioning based on continuous planetary accretion that  
33 takes into account the likely variations in  $T$ ,  $P$  and  $fO_2$  during the Earth's accretion, as well as  
34 isotopic constraints involving metal-silicate partitioning derived from both experimental and  
35 natural sample data sets.

36         Assuming that the difference between the isotopic signature of the bulk silicate Earth  
37 (BSE) and chondrites solely results from Si isotope fractionation during core formation, our  
38 model implies that at least ~12wt% Si has entered the Earth's core, which is greater than most  
39 of the estimates based on physical constraints on core density or geochemical mass balance  
40 calculations.

41         This result leads us to propose two hypotheses to explain this apparent contradiction:  
42 1) At least part of the Earth's building blocks had a Si isotope composition heavier than that  
43 observed in chondrites (*i.e.*,  $\delta^{30}\text{Si} > -0.39\text{‰}$ ). 2) If on the contrary the Earth accreted only  
44 from material having chondritic  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ , then an additional process besides mantle-core  
45 differentiation is required to generate a stronger isotope fractionation and lead to the observed  
46 heavy isotope composition of the bulk silicate Earth. It may be the loss of light Si isotopes

47 during partial planetary vaporization in the aftermath of the Moon-forming giant impact. This  
48 process, which may have affected metallic cores, required a thorough isotopic re-equilibration  
49 between core and silicate to explain the similar heavy isotope composition of the silicate  
50 portions of the Earth and the Moon.

51

52 Keywords: silicon isotopes, terrestrial planets, core formation, inner solar system

## 53 1. INTRODUCTION

54 The core of the Earth has been shown to have a 5-10% density deficit relative to a pure  
55 Fe-Ni alloy (Birch, 1968; Boehler, 2000; Anderson and Isaak, 2002), suggesting significant  
56 incorporation of light elements such as C, O, S and/or Si. Given the superchondritic Mg/Si  
57 ratio of the silicate Earth and assuming that terrestrial planets have a bulk composition similar  
58 to those of chondrites (*e.g.*, Jagoutz et al., 1979; Allègre et al., 1995; McDonough and Sun,  
59 1995), Si has been considered among the most likely candidate light elements to occur in the  
60 core (*e.g.*, MacDonald and Knopoff, 1958; Allègre et al., 1995). However, the Si contribution  
61 to the light element budget of the Earth's core remains poorly constrained, reflecting the  
62 conflicting evidence from cosmochemical, experimental and theoretical studies concerning  
63 which light element(s) is/are present (*e.g.*, Poirier, 1994; Allègre et al., 1995; Sherman, 1997;  
64 Kilburn and Wood 1997; Gessmann et al., 2001; Li et al., 2001; Alfè et al., 2002; Rubie et al.,  
65 2004; Asahara et al., 2007; Badro et al., 2007; Côté et al., 2008; Corgne et al., 2009;  
66 Antonangeli et al., 2010). The determination of the Si isotope signatures (from here on  
67 expressed as permil  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ) of chondritic and Earth materials has been proposed to provide  
68 additional constraints on the amount of Si present in the Earth's core (*e.g.*, Georg et al.,  
69 2007): for a given Si isotopic fractionation between the Earth's core and the Earth's mantle,  
70 the difference in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  between the silicate portion of the Earth and the bulk Earth is indeed  
71 proportional to the fraction of total Si going into the core. Assuming that the mean Earth  
72 signature can be estimated by measuring chondritic meteorites, the difference in isotopic  
73 composition between rock samples representative of the bulk silicate Earth and chondritic  
74 materials ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Bulk Earth}} = \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$ ) can thus be used to estimate the Si content of the  
75 core.

76 With the exception of Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a), all recent studies indicate  
77 that chondritic Si isotope compositions are clearly distinct from the Earth's mantle signature

78 (Georg et al., 2007; Fitoussi et al., 2009; Zambardi et al., 2009; Ziegler et al., 2010; Armytage  
79 et al., 2011; Fitoussi and Bourdon, 2012). All these studies consider that the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$   
80 values directly result from the Si incorporation into the Earth's core during accretion.  
81 However two issues remain: (1) the measured  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  values vary from one study to  
82 another, which leads to significant variations in estimated core contents of Si and (2) the Si  
83 fractionation during terrestrial accretion must be modeled more realistically in order to better  
84 understand the relationship linking  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  to the Si content of the Earth's core. To  
85 further explore the usefulness of Si isotopes in this context, and in particular to be able to  
86 compare the Si-core content inferred from isotope data with other independent constraints, it  
87 is crucial to address these two points.

88 In addition to potential analytical bias during isotopic measurements that may be  
89 adequately addressed through interlaboratory comparison of geostandard analyses (Reynolds  
90 et al., 2007; Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011), part of the uncertainty in estimating the Si  
91 content of the core resides in the choice of which chondritic reference to use as a proxy for the  
92 bulk Earth. This is because different chondrites types do not necessarily share the same Si  
93 isotope signature, with carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites showing  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values notably  
94 higher than enstatite chondrites (Georg et al., 2007; Fitoussi et al., 2009; Armytage et al.,  
95 2011; Savage and Moynier, 2013). Furthermore, the nature of the terrestrial building blocks  
96 remain hypothetical, and different Earth forming models have been proposed, requiring the  
97 use of variable chondritic sources (*e.g.*, Allègre et al., 1995, 2001; Palme and O'Neill, 2003;  
98 Trinquier et al., 2007; Carlson et al., 2007; Leya et al., 2008; Simon and DePaolo, 2010;  
99 Javoy et al., 2010; Schönbachler et al., 2010).

100 Last but not least, another potential source of uncertainty in estimating the Si content  
101 of the Earth's core comes from the use of single-stage core formation models (Georg et al.,  
102 2007; Shahar et al., 2009; Ziegler et al., 2010; Armytage et al., 2011) that involve fixed

103 conditions of temperature ( $T$ ), pressure ( $P$ ) and oxygen fugacity ( $fO_2$ ) throughout this  
104 protracted event. Such models neglect the continuous variations of these three parameters  
105 during core-mantle differentiation, while they are known to significantly affect Si metal-  
106 silicate partitioning (*e.g.*, Gessmann et al., 2001; Corgne et al., 2008). Furthermore,  $T$   
107 variations are also known to affect isotope fractionation during metal-silicate melt partitioning  
108 (*e.g.*, Shahar et al., 2009, 2011; Ziegler et al., 2010). For these reasons, it is more appropriate  
109 to consider continuous core formation models (Wade and Wood, 2005; Corgne et al., 2008;  
110 Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010a).

111 To address these issues, we have produced new Si isotope measurements for a number  
112 of terrestrial and lunar rocks, as well as Martian meteorites, eucrites, a howardite and different  
113 types of chondrites. Our analytical approach combines Mg-doping and high-resolution mass  
114 spectrometry, which improves both data accuracy and reproducibility (Zambardi and  
115 Poitrasson, 2011). A  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  value is inferred from our data set, and incorporated into a  
116 continuous accretion elemental partitioning model (Wade and Wood, 2005; Corgne et al.  
117 2008). Our model also considers the constraints on Si isotope metal-silicate fractionation  
118 (Ziegler et al., 2010; Shahar et al., 2009, 2011). This approach allows us to refine the  
119 estimates of Si incorporated into the Earth's core as a function of the selected chondrite  
120 type(s) that contributed matter to the growing Earth. We eventually compare the expected Si-  
121 core concentrations inferred from our model to those derived from purely physical constraints  
122 and/or geochemical mass balance calculations, and then discuss the range of possible  
123 processes and materials involved in terrestrial planet formation during the early stages of the  
124 solar system.

125

## 126 **2. SAMPLES AND METHODS**

127 This study focuses on the Si isotope compositions of silicate samples spanning a large

128 range of igneous rock compositions from the inner solar system. They include samples from  
129 the Earth (11 peridotites, 4 basalts, 1 gabbro, 1 diorite, 1 dolerite and 1 komatiite), Moon (4  
130 basalts, and 1 norite), Mars (5 shergottites, 4 nakhlites and 1 chassignite), as well as HEDs (6  
131 eucrites and 1 howardite), 6 ordinary chondrites, 3 carbonaceous chondrites and 2 enstatite  
132 chondrites. Each sample group consists of a variety of rocks that reflect as much as possible  
133 the geochemical diversity of their respective parent bodies. The full sample set is listed in  
134 Table 1.

135 For meteorites and lunar samples, the aliquots used for the analyses were taken from at  
136 least 1g of well-homogenized bulk-rock powders (or at least 0.8g for Martian meteorites) to  
137 ensure that the sample is representative of the bulk rock as far as possible even for these rare  
138 samples. For the more abundant terrestrial rock samples, powders were prepared by crushing  
139 more than 100g of starting material. Since a complete description of the analytical procedure  
140 is already given in Zambardi and Poitrasson (2011), only the main steps are summarized  
141 hereafter.

142 The sample solutions were prepared using an alkali fusion method adapted from Georg  
143 et al. (2006). Silicon purification was achieved by column chromatography using Biorad  
144 AG50W-X12 cationic resins. Typical Si recovery was between 95 and 100% after the  
145 decomposition and purification steps. Procedural blanks for Si were ~30ng, corresponding to  
146 less than 0.2% of the total amount of Si analyzed per sample and were thus negligible. All  
147 measurements were performed at the Observatoire Midi-Pyrénées (Toulouse, France) and at  
148 the Open University (Milton Keynes, United Kingdom) using a Neptune (Thermo) MC-ICP-  
149 MS in medium or high-resolution mode, with wet plasma conditions and slightly acidic HCl  
150 solutions (0.05M for both samples and standard). The instrumental mass bias drift was  
151 corrected simultaneously using the sample standard bracketing (SSB) technique and by  
152 adding magnesium (Mg) as an internal standard in both standard and samples. Measurements

153 of  $^{25}\text{Mg}/^{24}\text{Mg}$  ratios were performed in the dynamic mode. The mass bias drift correction was  
 154 then applied using the Russel's exponential law (Russel et al., 1978). All the data are reported  
 155 in Table 1 as  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  (‰) relative to the NIST international standard reference  
 156 material SRM 8546 (NBS-28) following the relation:

$$157 \quad \delta^{xx}\text{Si} = \left( \frac{\left( {}^{xx}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si} \right)_{\text{Sample}}}{\left( {}^{xx}\text{Si}/^{28}\text{Si} \right)_{\text{NBS-28}}} - 1 \right) \times 1000 \quad (1)$$

158 where the superscript  $xx$  denotes the Si isotope with either mass number 30 or 29.

159 The long-term external reproducibility for  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  was given by the standard  
 160 deviation of 54 measurements of BHVO-2 over three years. It yielded 0.07‰ and 0.04‰  
 161 (2SD) for  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$ , respectively. In the following, uncertainties of planetary and  
 162 meteorite parent body means are computed as two standard error of the mean (2SE) rather  
 163 than two standard deviation (2SD) since the purpose is to indicate how well we know the  
 164 mean rather than to give a measure of the spread of a set of individual measurements around  
 165 the mean (see *e.g.*, Miller and Miller, 1993). Noteworthy, these two standard error  
 166 uncertainties represent a direct proxy of  $t$ -tests (see *e.g.*, Poitrasson et al., 2004, 2005). All  
 167 literature data have been recomputed this way to be comparable. However, whether computed  
 168 as 2SE or 2SD, it is important to keep in mind that these uncertainty estimates only include  
 169 random errors but not systematic ones potentially associated to analytical or sampling biases.

170

### 171 3. RESULTS

172 All data are given in Table 1. Bulk rock  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values for inner solar system bodies  
 173 range from -0.19‰ to -0.64‰. Comparison between  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  and  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  in a three-isotope plot  
 174 shows that these Si isotope fractionations are mass dependent (Fig. 1), in agreement with  
 175 previous data (*e.g.*, Douthitt, 1982; Molini-Velsko, 1986; Ding 1996; Georg et al., 2007;  
 176 Fitoussi et al., 2009; Savage et al., 2010; Ziegler et al., 2010; Armytage et al., 2011).



177 Terrestrial mafic rocks yield  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  ranging from -0.19‰ to -0.33‰ (Table 1; Fig 2), which  
178 includes the smaller variation range displayed by lunar mafic samples ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  ranging from -  
179 0.24‰ to -0.29‰) and therefore suggests the two bodies share similar isotopic features.  
180 Meteoritic samples including chondrites, rocks thought to originate from Mars and 4-Vesta all  
181 yield lighter  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values, ranging from -0.33‰ to -0.64‰ (Table 1; Fig. 2). Among  
182 chondrites, enstatite chondrites clearly display the lightest isotope compositions ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{EC}} = -$   
183 0.59‰ and -0.64‰) relative to both ordinary chondrites ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{OC}} = -0.47 \pm 0.01\%$  (2SE,  
184  $n=6$ )) themselves not statistically different from carbonaceous chondrites ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{CC}} = -0.43 \pm$   
185  $0.05\%$  (2SE,  $n=3$ )). As the signatures of CC and OC overlap within uncertainties, their  
186 averaged signature is reported in the following as  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{O/CC}} = -0.46 \pm 0.02\%$  (2SE,  $n=9$ ). We  
187 note that Savage and Moynier (2013) found significant differences between EL and EH  
188 chondrites, with EH being enriched in light isotopes compared to EL. Although the present  
189 study does not reproduce such an extensive E-chondrite set, it should be noticed that our two  
190 EH-chondrites do not yield comparable negative values. In fact, the two EH we measured  
191 rather plot within the range of the EL chondrites analyzed by Savage and Moynier (2013).  
192 This issue thus requires additional measurements of E-chondrites to be solved.

193 A review of previously published data reveals significant differences between  
194 laboratories, even for the same extra-terrestrial samples and terrestrial geostandards (Georg et  
195 al., 2007; Fitoussi et al., 2009; Zambardi et al., 2009; Ziegler et al., 2010; Chakrabarti and  
196 Jacobsen, 2010a; Armytage et al., 2011, 2012; Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011; Fitoussi and  
197 Bourdon 2012; Savage et al., 2012, Savage and Moynier, 2013, see Fig. 3). These variations  
198 may have multiple origins that remain complex to identify with certainty. Among them,  
199 sample heterogeneity is a plausible explanation, especially for rare samples like meteorites  
200 and lunar rocks given the limited amount of sample available for analyses. Armytage et al.  
201 (2011) previously noticed the effect of sample heterogeneity for the Martian meteorite

202 Governador Valadares, with two different preparations producing a 0.1‰ difference in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ .  
203 In the present study, sample heterogeneity was avoided as much as possible by powdering at  
204 least 0.8g of bulk SNC or 1g of bulk chondrites, achondrites and lunar samples, prior to  
205 sample preparation. Furthermore, several methodological aspects that may influence the final  
206 results are still a subject of debate in the literature (*e.g.*, Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011).  
207 These include for example the use of HCl or HNO<sub>3</sub> sample matrices (*e.g.* Cardinal et al.,  
208 2003; van den Boorn et al., 2009), removal of S from samples (van den Boorn et al., 2009),  
209 the use of a collision cell (Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010a), operating a MC-ICP-MS under  
210 dry or wet plasma conditions and more broadly, the contrasted architectures of the plasma  
211 source mass spectrometer used. Altogether, the present data are well consistent with those of  
212 Armytage et al., (2011), especially for extra-terrestrial Si isotopic compositions (Fig. 4).

213         Given that the models estimating the planetary Si-core contents are highly sensitive to  
214 the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  value (see details in section 4.3), it is extremely important to estimate each  
215 planetary  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  average as accurately and precisely as possible. In this study, the analytical  
216 protocol includes the use of Mg as an internal standard. This technique has been demonstrated  
217 to correct for isotope fractionation caused by rapid mass bias variations and matrix effects  
218 (Cardinal et al., 2003; Engström et al., 2006; Zambardi and Poitrasson, 2011). Combined with  
219 high-resolution mass spectrometry, it helps to significantly improve the reproducibility and  
220 accuracy of Si isotope measurements.

221

## 222 **4. DISCUSSION**

### 223 **4.1. $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variability among planetary bodies**

224         Planetary  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  averages calculated from our new results as well as from recent  
225 literature data are presented in Figure 4. For terrestrial samples, the effect of magmatic  
226 differentiation has been shown to increase the amount of heavy Si isotopes in the most

227 differentiated materials (Douthitt 1982; Ding et al., 1996; Savage et al., 2011). These previous  
228 results suggest that, assuming a homogeneous mantle source (see Savage et al., 2010), only  
229 mafic and ultramafic materials should be considered as representative of the bulk silicate parts  
230 of the solar system planetary bodies. We thus computed the isotopic composition of the bulk  
231 silicate Earth (BSE) following this rule. This yields for our measurements  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}} = -0.27 \pm$   
232  $0.01\text{‰}$  (2SE, n=19; see Table 1, Fig.4), in excellent agreement with values recently proposed  
233 by Savage et al. (2010, 2011), and Fitoussi and Bourdon (2012), but heavier by  $\sim 0.1\text{‰}$  than  
234 that of Georg et al. (2007) and Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a).

235 Four basalts and a norite sample allowed us to estimate the isotopic composition of the  
236 lunar mantle (BSMo). We found  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSMo}} = -0.27 \pm 0.02\text{‰}$  (2SE, n=5), which is identical to  
237 the Si isotope signature of the BSE (Fig. 4), and in agreement with the average computed by  
238 Georg et al. (2007), Armytage et al. (2012) and Fitoussi and Bourdon (2012). However this  
239 signature is significantly heavier than the signature of a lunar breccia ( $-0.45 \pm 0.05\text{‰}$ , 2SE,  
240 n=1) measured by Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a).

241 Among the Martian meteorites studied here, the Los Angeles shergottite represents the  
242 most differentiated and felspar-rich basaltic rock (Xirouchakis et al., 2002; Papike et al.,  
243 2009). Like differentiated terrestrial samples, this more felsic sample was found to have a  
244 heavier Si isotopic signature (Table 1). Los Angeles was thus omitted from the bulk silicate  
245 Mars (BSMa) calculation with only less evolved rocks (meaning all samples but Los Angeles)  
246 used to estimate the Martian mantle  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ . We thus derive a bulk silicate Mars signature  
247 ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSMa}}$ ) of  $-0.49 \pm 0.03\text{‰}$  (2SE, n=9), significantly lighter than both the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$  and  
248  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSMo}}$  (Table 1, Fig. 4). Since Nakhilites may contain up to 1wt% of secondary minerals  
249 (*e.g.*, smectite) (Bunch and Reid, 1975), their original isotopic signature could be shifted  
250 toward lower  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values, given the generally accepted effects of low-temperature alteration  
251 on Si isotopes (*e.g.*, Ziegler et al., 2005a). However, incorporation of 1% of smectite with a

252 light  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  signature of  $-2\text{‰}$  (*e.g.*, Ziegler et al., 2005b) would induce a maximum shift of  
253  $0.02\text{‰}$  on bulk Nakhilites samples, which does not lead to a significantly different  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSMa}}$   
254 value. Our  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSMa}}$  value is in excellent agreement with the  $-0.48\text{‰} \pm 0.06$  (2SE,  $n=5$ )  
255 estimate proposed by Armytage et al. (2011), is identical within uncertainties with the result  
256 of Georg et al. (2007) and again significantly differs from the value reported by Chakrabarti  
257 and Jacobsen, 2010a).

258         The study of HED meteorites helps to constrain the bulk isotope composition of their  
259 parent body, most probably asteroid 4-Vesta (Consolmagno and Drake, 1977). Eucrites are  
260 thought to be fragments of the asteroid's upper crust, whereas diogenites probably originated  
261 from deeper levels. Howardites may be mixed breccias of eucrites and diogenites (*e.g.*,  
262 Mittlefehldt, 1994). The lack of a resolvable difference in  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  between the howardite and  
263 eucrites measured in the present study suggests a homogeneous Si isotope composition for the  
264 silicate portion of the HED parent body, in contrast with Li isotope compositions (Magna et  
265 al., 2006). The HED signature of  $-0.41 \pm 0.03\text{‰}$  (2SE,  $n= 7$ ) that we obtained is in agreement  
266 with the data from Fitoussi et al. (2009), Armytage et al. (2011) and Chakrabarti and Jacobsen  
267 (2010a), but differs from data by Georg et al. (2007).

268         Lastly, the chondrite averages often vary among authors (Fig. 4), notably for the O/C  
269 groups. Given that the ordinary chondrites do not seem to show much isotopic differences  
270 among their types (*e.g.*, H, L or LL; Table 1; Armytage et al., 2011), we tentatively attribute  
271 these discrepancies to inter-laboratory biases.

272

## 273 **4.2. Planetary bulk Si isotopic compositions and chemical heterogeneity of the inner** 274 **solar system**

275         As previously shown in most of the recent studies, the lunar mantle and BSE have  
276 similar  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ , both have significantly heavier isotope compositions than Mars, 4-Vesta and

277 chondrite parent bodies (*e.g.*, Georg et al., 2007; Armytage et al., 2011, 2012, Fitoussi and  
278 Bourdon 2012, see Fig. 4). Similarities between the Earth and the Moon were also observed  
279 for other isotope systems such as O (*e.g.*, Wiechert et al., 2003; Spicuzza et al., 2007; Hallis et  
280 al., 2010), Cr (*e.g.*, Lugmair and Shukolyukov, 1998), Ti (Zhang et al., 2012), Li (*e.g.*, Magna  
281 et al., 2006), W (*e.g.*, Touboul et al., 2007) and Sr (Moynier et al., 2010), thereby supporting a  
282 genetic link between the Moon and the Earth's mantle. Assuming that chondrites are the  
283 building blocks from which the terrestrial planets formed (*e.g.*, Jagoutz et al., 1979; Allègre et  
284 al., 1995; McDonough and Sun, 1995), the heavy Si isotope composition of the Earth's  
285 mantle relative to chondrites is therefore not representative of the bulk Earth. As previously  
286 discussed in the literature, incorporation of isotopically light Si into the Earth's core is a  
287 possible explanation for this "heavy mantle" (Georg et al., 2007; Shahar et al., 2009; Fitoussi  
288 et al., 2009; Ziegler et al., 2010; Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010a; Armytage et al., 2011;  
289 Fitoussi and Bourdon, 2012).

290         The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  signatures of Mars and Vesta do not show such a shift with respect to  
291 chondrites. A possible explanation (further discussed in section 4.4) is that these bodies have  
292 not segregated a significant amount of Si into their core reflecting their relatively small size  
293 and different redox conditions of formation, in agreement with models of planetary  
294 differentiation (*e.g.*, Wade and Wood, 2005; Corgne et al., 2008).

295         To identify the process that led to the heavy Si isotope composition of the Earth's  
296 mantle, and eventually better constrain the amount of Si segregated into the Earth's core, an  
297 important objective is to obtain a precise value of the bulk-Earth signature. However current  
298 geochemical models indicate that the Earth may have accreted from C-chondrites (*e.g.*,  
299 Allègre et al., 1995, 2001; Palme and O'Neill, 2003), E-chondrites (*e.g.*, Javoy, 1995;  
300 Trinquier et al., 2007; Javoy et al., 2010), O-chondrites (*e.g.*, Carlson et al., 2007; Leya et al.,  
301 2008; Simon and de Paolo, 2010) or mixed types of chondrites (*e.g.*, Schönbächler et al.,

302 2010; Fitoussi and Bourdon 2012). Given that chondrites types do not all share the same Si  
303 isotope signature (Fig. 4), the bulk-Earth signature may then vary from -0.62‰ assuming a  
304 pure E-chondrites end-member, to -0.46‰ considering a pure O/C-chondrites end-member.

305         Given that the HED parent body and Mars did not experience significant core  
306 partitioning of Si during metal segregation (*e.g.*, Wade and Wood, 2005; Corgne et al., 2008),  
307 their mantle signature should then correspond to that of the bulk planetary body. Since the Si  
308 isotopic signature for HED samples is indistinguishable within uncertainties from that of O/C-  
309 chondrites, we infer the bulk composition of their parent body is consistent with a starting  
310 material dominated by O/C-chondrite-like materials. In contrast, our data show that the  
311 Martian isotopic composition appears slightly but significantly lighter than 4-Vesta. While  
312 this result is compatible with an O/C-chondrite-dominated Mars composition, it may betray  
313 the contribution of a significant amount of E-chondrites as well. A simple mass balance  
314 calculation can be used to give a rough estimate of the proportions of different chondrite types  
315 in the starting composition of Mars. Doing so leads to a range of 0 to 40wt% (with an average  
316 at 20wt%) E-chondrites for Mars' bulk composition. Interestingly, Sanloup et al. (1999) and  
317 Mohapatra and Murty (2003) proposed even larger contributions of E-chondrites for Mars  
318 building blocks (~70wt% E-chondrites) based on O isotope data. Despite the uncertainties of  
319 such models, these data suggest that E-chondrites could have significantly contributed to  
320 building Mars but only played a limited role in contributing to the HED parent body.  
321 Consequently, the possible distinct nature of the building blocks of 4-Vesta and Mars would  
322 argue in favor of the existence of chemical heterogeneities in the early solar system. While  
323 still a matter of debate (*e.g.*, Lewis, 1974; Morgan and Anders, 1980; Palme 2000; Taylor and  
324 Scott, 2003; Poitrasson et al., 2005), the existence of a temperature gradient in the solar  
325 nebula may have induced a chemical gradient following early condensation, with more  
326 oxidized and volatile-rich materials (C-chondrites-like) occurring preferably farther from the

327 Sun and more reduced materials (E-chondrites-like) occurring in the inner parts of the  
328 protoplanetary accretion disk.

329

### 330 **4.3. Constraints on the Earth's core composition**

331 Using the signature of the BSE estimated above ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -0.27\text{‰}$ ) and assuming the  
332 Earth accreted from chondritic materials, the difference in isotopic composition between the  
333 bulk silicate Earth and its chondritic building blocks can be calculated using  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}} =$   
334  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}} - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$ . Assuming that this difference is due to metal-silicate partitioning during  
335 mantle-core differentiation,  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  can be used to constrain both the Si concentration  
336 and isotopic composition of the core. However, the conditions under which mantle-core  
337 differentiation occurred must be known. Temperature ( $T$ ) is a critical parameter for isotope  
338 fractionation and typical equilibrium fractionations scale with  $1/T^2$  for high temperatures  
339 (Bigeleisen and Mayer, 1947). It is therefore generally accepted that the temperature  
340 dependence of the fractionation law can be written as:

$$341 \quad \epsilon_{\text{Si}}(T) = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Silicate}(T)} - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Metal}(T)} = \frac{B \cdot 10^6}{T^2} \quad (2)$$

342 where  $\epsilon_{\text{Si}}$  denotes the fractionation factor of Si given in permil and defined as  $\epsilon = 1000 \times$   
343  $\ln(\alpha)$ .

344 The value of the constant  $B$  has been estimated using either natural samples ( $7.64 \pm 0.47$ ,  
345 Ziegler et al., 2010) or from metal-silicate fractionation experiments ( $7.45 \pm 0.41$ , Shahar et  
346 al., 2011). As mantle-core differentiation occurred under high-pressure conditions, pressure  
347 ( $P$ ) may also have influenced Si fractionation, in particular through changes in the silicate  
348 melt structure. However, theoretical calculations performed by Shahar et al. (2009) suggest  
349 that the effect of  $P$  is only secondary. In the following, we will therefore consider that the  
350 isotope fractionation during accretion and core formation is only temperature dependent and

351 follows Equation (2).

352 Most recent work (Georg et al., 2007; Fitoussi et al., 2009; Shahar et al., 2009;  
353 Armytage et al., 2011; Fitoussi and Bourdon, 2012) has modeled Si isotope fractionation  
354 during mantle-core differentiation as a steady-state process at constant  $T$ , which gives the  
355 following relation:

$$356 \quad \epsilon_{\text{Si}}(T) = \frac{\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}}{F_{\text{Core}}} \quad (3)$$

357 where  $F_{\text{Core}}$  represents the Si mass fraction of the Earth present in the core. The concentration  
358 of Si in the core ( $C_{\text{Si}}^{\text{Core}}$ ) is then derived from:

$$359 \quad C_{\text{Si}}^{\text{Core}} = \left( \frac{m_{\text{BSE}}}{m_{\text{Core}}} \right) \cdot \left( \frac{F_{\text{Core}}}{1 - F_{\text{Core}}} \right) \cdot C_{\text{Si}}^{\text{BSE}} \quad (4)$$

360 knowing that  $m_{\text{BSE}}/m_{\text{core}}$ , the BSE/core mass ratio, is 2.1 (see *e.g.*, Yoder, 1995) and that the  
361 concentration of Si in BSE ( $C_{\text{Si}}^{\text{BSE}}$ ) is 21wt% (see *e.g.*, McDonough and Sun, 1995; O'Neill  
362 and Palme, 1998; Palme and O'Neill, 2003).

363 It should be noted that, in an effort to account for varying conditions of core-mantle  
364 differentiation, some authors have also considered two-stages models (Fitoussi et al. 2009),  
365 each stage corresponding to a steady-state process. The major problem with the single- or  
366 two-stage(s) approach is that geochemical and dynamical constraints indicate that core  
367 formation was a continuous process rather than a discrete one (*e.g.*, Wetherill, 1986; Canup  
368 and Asphaug, 2001; Halliday, 2008; Wood and Halliday, 2010). It is therefore more  
369 appropriate to use continuous core formation models such as the ones proposed by Wade and  
370 Wood (2005) and Corgne et al. (2008). In these models based on metal-silicate partitioning of  
371 siderophile elements,  $T$ ,  $P$  and oxygen fugacity ( $f\text{O}_2$ ) are allowed to continuously evolve as  
372 core formation proceeds. As these parameters have a major influence on elemental Si metal-  
373 silicate partitioning (*e.g.*, Corgne et al., 2008), it is crucial to consider their effects in details to  
374 obtain the most precise estimate of the Si content in the Earth's core. We thus use an approach



375 similar to that of Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a), but in the present study all parameters ( $T$ ,  
376  $P$  and  $fO_2$ ) are constrained by siderophile element abundances in the BSE and their metal-  
377 silicate partitioning behavior.

378

#### 379 **4.4. Model of continuous core formation**

380 Continuous core formation is modeled as follows:

- 381 a. Core formation takes place during Earth's accretion, with final metal-silicate equilibration  
382 at the base of a homogeneous magma ocean.
- 383 b. Growth of the Earth is linearly modeled in 100 steps. At each step, added metal represents  
384 32.3% of the added mass and is equilibrated with the total mass of the mantle. The metal  
385 then migrates to the core without further re-equilibration.
- 386 c. The pressure of final equilibration at the base of the magma ocean is assumed to increase  
387 proportionally to the pressure at the core-mantle boundary (CMB) of the growing Earth.  
388 The pressure at the base of the magma ocean is fixed at 40% of the pressure at the CMB  
389 for nickel (Ni) partitioning data (essentially pressure-dependent) to satisfy the well-  
390 constrained Ni content of the BSE (Corgne et al., 2008). This means that, at the end of  
391 accretion, the pressure at the CMB is ~135 GPa while the pressure at the base of the  
392 magma ocean is ~54 GPa.
- 393 d. The peridotite solidus as defined by Fiquet et al. (2010) provides the variation of  $T$  at the  
394 base of the magma ocean during accretion (hence during core formation (Fig. 5a)). Average  
395  $T$  and  $P$  conditions of core formation are about 2900 K and 33 GPa, respectively.

396

397 Siderophile element abundances in the BSE have been shown to be consistent with a  
398 continuous accretion model (Wade and Wood, 2005; Corgne et al., 2008; Wood et al., 2008).  
399 In particular, nickel and vanadium provide tight constraints on the required conditions of  $T$ ,  $P$

400 and  $fO_2$  during accretion and core formation, as shown in Fig. 5b. Variations of the core/BSE  
 401 Si elemental ratio during accretion can be calculated with the  $T$ - $P$ - $fO_2$  conditions and the  
 402 parameterization of the Si metal-silicate partition coefficient ( $D_{Si}$ ) given by Corgne et al.  
 403 (2008):

$$404 \quad \log D_{Si} = 2.32(\pm 0.3) - \frac{21800}{T} - \frac{11(\pm 33) \cdot P}{T} - 2 \log \left( \frac{x_{FeO}^{Silicate}}{x_{Fe}^{Metal}} \right) - \log \gamma_{Si}^{Metal} \quad (5)$$

405 where  $T$  is the temperature (K),  $P$  is the pressure (GPa),  $x_{FeO}^{Silicate}$  is the molar fraction of FeO in  
 406 the silicate mantle,  $x_{Fe}^{Metal}$  is the molar fraction of Fe in the metallic droplet, and  $\gamma_{Si}^{Metal}$  is the  
 407 activity coefficient in the metallic phase calculated from Dresler (1989). As shown in Figure  
 408 5b for a  $fO_2$  path satisfying siderophile element constraints (from Wood et al., 2008), the  
 409 core/BSE concentration ratio of Si is poorly modeled due to large uncertainties associated  
 410 with parameterizing the partitioning (Eq. 5). It is thus impossible to derive an accurate Si  
 411 content of the core using this approach (Corgne et al., 2008). Values inferred this way span a  
 412 huge and partly unrealistic range from 1 to 50wt%, considering 1SD uncertainty on the  
 413 regression coefficients. As shown below, isotopic constraints on BSE and chondrites derived  
 414 in section 3 can greatly reduce the range of estimates for the Si content of the core.

415 In the following, we present the procedure used to derive the isotopic signatures of  
 416 core and BSE. At step  $i$ , the isotope signature of the added metal (AM) subsequently going to  
 417 the core ( $\delta^{30}Si_{AM(i)}$ ) can be calculated knowing the BSE isotope signature and the metal-  
 418 silicate fractionation law at the base of the magma ocean:

$$419 \quad \delta^{30}Si_{AM(i)} = \delta^{30}Si_{BSE(i)} - \epsilon_{Si}(T_{(i)}) \quad (6)$$

420 From mass-balance considerations, the following relationship can be derived between the  
 421 isotope signatures at step  $i$  and step  $i+1$ :

$$422 \quad \delta^{30}Si_{BSE(i)} \cdot mSi_{BSE(i)} + \delta^{30}Si_{Chond.} \cdot mSi_{Chond.} = \delta^{30}Si_{BSE(i+1)} \cdot mSi_{BSE(i+1)} + \delta^{30}Si_{AM(i+1)} \cdot mSi_{AM(i+1)} \quad (7)$$

423 where  $mSi_{BSE(i)}$ ,  $mSi_{AM(i)}$  and  $mSi_{Chond.}$  are the Si mass in BSE and added metal at step  $i$ , and

424 the added Si mass from chondrites at each step, respectively. Combining (6) and (7) yields:

$$425 \quad \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i+1)} = \frac{\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i)} \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i)} + \epsilon_{\text{Si}}(T_{(i+1)}) \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(i+1)} + \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}} \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}}{m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i+1)} + m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(i+1)}} \quad (8)$$

426 Since we are interested in isotope signatures with respect to the initial chondritic material,

427  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_X$  can be replaced by  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{X\text{-Chond.}}$  in equation (8), with  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{X\text{-Chond.}} = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_X - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$ ,

428 giving:

$$429 \quad \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(i+1)} = \frac{\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(i)} \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i)} + \epsilon_{\text{Si}}(T_{(i+1)}) \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(i+1)}}{m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(i+1)} + m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(i+1)}} \quad (9)$$

430 The value of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  at the end of core formation is calculated using Eq. (9) with the

431 initial conditions  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(0)} = 0$  and  $m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(0)} = 0$  and the final condition  $m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}(100)}$

432 given by current BSE concentration models (21wt% Si, e.g., McDonough and Sun, 1995;

433 O'Neill and Palme, 1998), and using Eq. (5) to derive Si mass partitioning between the added

434 metal ( $m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}}$ ) and silicate ( $m\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$ ). The isotopic signature of the core at step  $i$  is then given

435 by the equation:

$$436 \quad \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Core-Chond.}(i)} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^i \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{AM-Chond.}(j)} \cdot m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(j)}}{\sum_{j=1}^i m\text{Si}_{\text{AM}(j)}} \quad (10)$$

437 Figure 5c presents the theoretical variations of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  during accretion for a typical

438 oxygen fugacity path satisfying siderophile element constraints, and with the fractionation law

439 given by Ziegler et al. (2010) (Eq. (2) with  $B=7.64$ ). Given the large uncertainties on

440 elemental partitioning which are incorporated into the model (see for instance Fig. 5b), the

441 predicted difference in isotopic signature between BSE and chondrites is also highly

442 uncertain, ranging between 0.03‰ and 0.5‰ in the example considered here (Fig. 5c). To

443 circumvent this difficulty, we calculated the variation during accretion of the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-}}$

444  $\text{Chond.}(i)/F_{\text{Core}(i)}$  ratio, where  $F_{\text{Core}(i)}$  is the Si fraction of the Earth contained in the core at step  $i$ .

445 The following relationship links  $F_{\text{Core}(i)}$  to the partition coefficient  $D_{\text{Si}}$ :

446 
$$\frac{1}{F_{\text{Core}(i)}} = \frac{1}{D_{\text{Si}(i)}} \frac{m_{\text{BSE}}}{m_{\text{Core}}} + 1 \quad (11)$$

447 where  $m_{\text{BSE}}/m_{\text{core}}$ , the BSE/core mass ratio, equals 2.1 (e.g. Yoder, 1995). For a single step  
 448 steady-state process (a single-stage of core formation at a fixed  $T$ ),  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}/F_{\text{Core}}$  is  
 449 simply equal to  $\epsilon_{\text{Si}}$  (Eq. 2). Considering a continuous accretion scenario, the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-}}$   
 450  $\text{Chond.}(i)/F_{\text{Core}(i)}$  ratio (Fig. 6) can be seen as the integrated fractionation factor during accretion,  
 451 up to step  $i$  ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(100)}/F_{\text{Core}(100)} = \epsilon_{\text{Si}}$ ) and taking into account all relevant effects  
 452 (effect of  $T$  on isotope fractionation,  $T$ - $P$ - $f\text{O}_2$  effects on elemental Si partitioning, effect of  
 453 isotope dilution in the mass-increasing BSE). An important outcome of the model is that the  
 454 value of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(100)}/F_{\text{Core}(100)}$  ( $= \epsilon_{\text{Si}}$ ) at the end of accretion varies little ( $0.88 \pm 0.06$ ),  
 455 regardless of the  $f\text{O}_2$  path considered (all paths span a realistic range (see insert of Fig. 6),  
 456 while remaining consistent with siderophile element constraints). To evaluate the total  
 457 uncertainty on  $\epsilon_{\text{Si}}$  inferred from the model, it is important to also take into account the  
 458 uncertainty on  $T$  through Earth's accretion. Given that  $T$  is constrained by the peridotite  
 459 solidus (Fiquet et al., 2010), we can evaluate the impact of the  $T$  uncertainty on the final  $\epsilon_{\text{Si}}$   
 460 (or  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(100)}/F_{\text{Core}(100)}$ ) using the uncertainties from their experiments ( $\pm 150\text{K}$ , see  
 461 Fiquet et al., 2010). This leads to an additional  $-0.053/+0.047$  uncertainty (approximated to  
 462  $\pm 0.05$ ), resulting in a final estimate of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(100)}/F_{\text{Core}(100)} = 0.88 \pm 0.11$ . In a steady  
 463 state model at constant  $T$  (Eq. (3)), this  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}(100)}/F_{\text{Core}(100)}$  value would correspond to  
 464 core formation at a fixed  $T$  of 2940K, close to the 3000K value proposed by Ziegler et al.  
 465 (2010).

466 In the approach detailed above, we have used the fractionation law of Ziegler et al.  
 467 (2010). More generally, it can be shown that  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}/F_{\text{Core final}}$  is proportional to  $B$  (as in  
 468 Equation (3)), yielding:

469 
$$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}/F_{\text{Core final}} = (0.115 \pm 0.008) * B \quad (12)$$

470 The integrated fractionation factor can then be used together with the isotope  
471 signatures of BSE and chondrites to estimate  $F_{\text{Core}}$ , and hence the amount of Si present in the  
472 core, using Eq. (4). Thus we derive a minimum estimated Si core content of  $12_{-2}^{+4}\text{wt}\%$  using  
473 O/C-chondrites as building material for the Earth ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-O/CC}} = 0.19$ ), and a maximal  $29_{-9}^{+21}$   
474  $\text{wt}\%$  Si using E-chondrites ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-EC}} = 0.35$ ). Any mix of chondrite types as starting  
475 materials will thus result in a  $0.19 < \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}} < 0.35$ , and therefore produce an estimated  
476 Si-core concentration in-between 12 and 29 $\text{wt}\%$  (Fig. 7). The corresponding  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  isotope  
477 signature of the core is then approximately  $-1.1 \pm 0.2\text{‰}$  according to Eq. (10).

478

#### 479 **4.5 Application of the model to literature data**

480 Applying our model to previously published data sets from various laboratories  
481 (Georg et al., 2007; Fitoussi et al., 2009; Chakrabarti and Jacobsen 2010a; Armytage et al.,  
482 2011, 2012; Fitoussi and Bourdon 2012, Savage and Moynier 2013) yields estimated Si-core  
483 concentrations varying between about 1 and 13 $\text{wt}\%$  using O/C-chondrites, and between  
484 11 $\text{wt}\%$  and 35 $\text{wt}\%$  using E-chondrites (see Table 2 for details). Since the model is very  
485 sensitive to the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  value, it is extremely important to find the most accurate  
486 estimates of both  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$  and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$ . In order to improve the statistical robustness of our  
487 model, below we computed a  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  that incorporates the previously published data.  
488 Given the significant offsets in both the Georg et al. (2007) and Chakrabarti and Jacobsen  
489 (2010a) results from all other recently published data including ours, we omit the former from  
490 the calculation. Thus using data from Fitoussi et al., (2009), Savage et al., (2010), Armytage  
491 et al., (2011), Fitoussi et Bourdon (2012), Savage and Moynier (2013) and this study, we  
492 estimate an average  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}} = -0.28 \pm 0.01\text{‰}$ , (2SE, n=62),  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{O/CC.}} = -0.46 \pm 0.01\text{‰}$ ,  
493 (2SE, n=37), and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{EC.}} = -0.64 \pm 0.03\text{‰}$ , (2SE, n=26). This result in a  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-O/CC}} = 0.18$ ,  
494 which leads to minimum estimate of  $12_{-3}^{+3}\text{wt}\%$  Si expected in the core, and a  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-EC}} =$

495 0.36, leading to a maximum estimate of  $31_{-10}^{+19}$ wt% Si expected in the core (see Table 2, Fig.  
496 7). It is worth noting that, although absolute values are apparently shifted, data from Georg et  
497 al. (2007) lead to similar results ( $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-O/CC}} = 0.20$  and Si-core = 13wt%, and/or  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-EC}}$   
498 = 0.31 and Si-core = 24wt%, see Table 2) on average.

499

#### 500 **4.6. Did the Earth accrete from chondrites only?**

501 Assuming that mantle-core differentiation is the sole process responsible for Si isotope  
502 fractionation during Earth's formation, our model suggests that the minimum expected Si core  
503 concentration is ~12wt%, using most of the available isotopic data (Table 2, Fig. 7). Such a  
504 value exceeds most of the estimates based on the expected density of Fe-Si alloys at core  
505 conditions (*e.g.*, Sherman, 1997; Alfè et al., 2002; Dobson et al., 2003; Badro et al. 2007;  
506 Brosh et al., 2009; Antonangeli et al., 2010; Ricolleau et al., 2011; Bouhifd et al., 2012) or  
507 geochemical mass balance calculations (Allègre et al., 1995; 2001; Javoy et al., 2010). The  
508 latter usually limit the Si core content at between 1 and 7wt% (in most cases between 2 and  
509 5wt%), with the exception of a few models (Ricolleau et al., 2011) that predict higher Si core  
510 contents, up to 11wt%.

511 Consequently, if the actual Si concentration of the Earth's core does not exceed 5 to  
512 7wt%, and if mantle-core differentiation is effectively the sole process responsible for the  
513 heavy isotopic signature of the BSE, then our model does not argue in favor of an Earth  
514 purely made of chondrites, but rather implies that the Earth has at least partly accreted from  
515 non-chondritic materials. Such a scenario is worth being considered further since it has  
516 already been suggested by several other studies on the basis of, for example, non-chondritic  
517  $^{142}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  ratio (Caro et al., 2008, 2010). Hence, assuming the Earth has formed from non-  
518 chondritic materials, these latter should have had a heavier Si isotope composition than that of  
519 chondrites (*i.e.*,  $\delta^{30}\text{Si} > -0.39\text{‰}$ ).

520

#### 521 **4.7. Silicon isotope fractionation by vaporization during a giant interplanetary impact?**

522         Preferential loss of Si to outer space during the Earth's accretion may provide an  
523 alternative explanation for both the superchondritic terrestrial Mg/Si ratio and the Si isotope  
524 fractionation observed between the BSE and chondrites. A study by Knight et al. (2009)  
525 shows that Si vaporization from calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions (CAIs) in meteorites  
526 results in very strong Si isotope fractionation. These authors found a constant fractionation  
527 factor  $\alpha^{29}_{\text{Si}} = 0.98985 \pm 0.00044$  for the 1600-1900°C temperature range, with the gas phase  
528 being enriched in light isotopes. Considering a ~2000K Si degassing source (*e.g.*, Poitrasson  
529 et al., 2004; Pahlevan and Stevenson, 2007), data from Knight et al. (2009) suggest that even  
530 small amounts of vaporized Si can significantly fractionate Si isotopes. Following a simple  
531 Rayleigh distillation model, we can estimate that loss of between 0.9 and 1.6wt% of the bulk  
532 Earth's Si loss through volatilization can explain the isotope fractionation we measured  
533 between the BSE and chondrites, without the need of Si isotope fractionation during mantle-  
534 core differentiation (Fig. 8A). If one now considers a chondritic Earth with 7wt% Si core  
535 content (which can be translated into a 0.12‰ decrease of the starting  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}$  *via*  
536 mantle-core differentiation; see Fig. 7), a loss of 0.4 to 1.1wt% bulk Earth's Si is sufficient to  
537 reconcile our partitioning model with isotopic observations (Fig. 8B). Interestingly, this result  
538 is almost identical to the Fe loss required through partial vaporization (between 0.5 and  
539 1wt%) to explain the observed Fe isotope differences between the Earth-Moon couple and the  
540 other solar system planetary bodies (Poitrasson et al., 2004).

541         The most widely accepted model for lunar formation involves a violent impact  
542 between the proto-Earth and a Mars-sized body (*e.g.*, Canup and Asphaug 2001; Poitrasson et  
543 al., 2004; Touboul et al., 2007). In this scenario, the ejected materials should have suffered  
544 significant vaporization during and after the impact, accompanied by isotope fractionation.

545 Elliptical trajectories of the ejecta (Cameron, 2000; Canup and Asphaug, 2001) would have  
546 facilitated the loss of light isotopes escaping from the Earth-Moon system (Poitrasson et al.,  
547 2004). This event would have been followed by a thorough homogenization process between  
548 the material that subsequently re-accreted to form the Earth and the Moon, yielding  
549 undistinguishable Si isotope compositions for the two bodies (Nimmo and Agnor, 2006;  
550 Pahlevan and Stevenson, 2007, 2011; Touboul et al., 2007). Noteworthy, the gas pressure  
551 during CAI formation was most likely different – and lower – than in the aftermath of the  
552 impact, so that the fractionation factor provided by the CAI data is possibly too high for the  
553 conditions of Earth accretion (*e.g.*, Young et al., 2002). Unfortunately, the “true” Si isotope  
554 fractionation factor during large impacts is unknown, hence this model should be considered  
555 as an end-member scenario.

556         While Fe and Si show significant mass-dependent isotopic differences between the  
557 Earth–Moon system, Mars and 4-Vesta (*e.g.*, Poitrasson et al., 2004; Georg et al., 2007), this  
558 is not the case for elements such as O, K and Mg (*e.g.*, Humayun and Clayton, 1995;  
559 Wiechert et al., 2001; Bourdon et al., 2010; Teng et al., 2010). The lack of observable mass-  
560 dependent interplanetary isotope fractionation may result from the large fractionations  
561 observed within planets for O, or because of analytical issues for K (see Poitrasson et al.,  
562 2004). A possible explanation for the difference between Mg on one hand and Fe and Si on  
563 the other hand could be the fact that Si and Fe occur in significant quantities in the Earth's  
564 core (*e.g.*, Shahar et al., 2009, 2011; Corgne et al., 2009; Ricolleau et al., 2011). One could  
565 thus hypothesize that the elemental losses and isotopic fractionation in Si and Fe  
566 preferentially result from the partial vaporization of metallic core components in the aftermath  
567 of the giant impact (see Poitrasson et al., 2004). Such a scenario suggests that the ejected Si-  
568 rich core particles have lost light Si isotopes to space before re-accretion. These core particles  
569 should then have acquired a heavier isotopic signature and subsequently re-equilibrated with



570 mantle components within the turbulent accretion disk of the new Earth-Moon system (*e.g.*,  
571 Pahlevan and Stevenson, 2007). This process may therefore have ultimately led to an  
572 isotopically heavier mantle signature. This hypothesis is in agreement with numerical  
573 simulations of interplanetary impacts that show significant ejection of metallic core particles  
574 (*e.g.*, Cameron, 2000). Additionally, experiments have demonstrated that the vaporization  
575 flux of elements is much more effective if they are initially present in metal rather than in  
576 oxide form (Wang et al., 1994).

577         The feasibility of this process can be evaluated by mass balance calculations.  
578 Assuming the Earth's core contains 7wt% Si prior to the impact, and considering the need to  
579 vaporize 1.6% (worst possible case, *i.e.*, using only E-chondrites, see Fig. 8) of the bulk  
580 Earth's Si preferentially from the core, this means that ~10% of the Si present in the core has  
581 to be lost in the aftermath of the impact, which will eventually drive the Si-core concentration  
582 to 6.2wt% after re-accretion. This concentration remains very close to the initially assumed  
583 7wt% Si-core content. If correct, this evaluation thus suggests that only marginal amounts of  
584 Si are lost from the core after the impact, given the current uncertainties on the Si-core  
585 content. This result also suggests that the minimum amount of bulk core that needs to be  
586 processed in such a case is 10%. Although no upper limit can be given, this still implies that a  
587 relatively limited core proportion may have been processed through this mechanism. In  
588 summary, the combination of a volatilization-driven isotopic fractionation process and  
589 mantle-core differentiation can produce the observed heavier Si isotope signature of the  
590 silicate Earth and Moon relative to chondrites.

591

## 592 **5. CONCLUSIONS**

593         Significant differences in Si isotope composition were found among planetary bodies  
594 of the inner solar system, in agreement with most previous studies. The bulk silicate Earth and

595 the bulk silicate Moon have the same Si isotope composition, both are isotopically heavier  
596 than O/C-chondrites, E-chondrites, achondrites from 4-Vesta and Martian meteorites. This  
597 argues in favor of a common origin for the Earth and the Moon.

598         Coupling Si isotope constraints with a realistic continuous accretion core formation  
599 model allows us to estimate the amount of Si incorporated into the Earth's core. Assuming  
600 that mantle-core differentiation is the sole process that fractionates Si isotopes, our model  
601 suggests that the Earth's core has incorporated at least ~12wt% Si. While these results are  
602 consistent with Si being a major light element in the Earth's core, this refined model requires  
603 higher Si core contents than permitted by geophysical and experimental constraints.

604         We propose two explanations to reconcile the geochemical, dynamical and  
605 geophysical data:

606         1) The Earth has – at least partly – accreted from non-chondritic materials, the latter  
607 having on average heavier Si isotopic signature than chondrites (*i.e.*,  $\delta^{30}\text{Si} > -0.39\text{‰}$ ). Such  
608 materials would be required to reduce the isotopic difference  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Bulk Earth}}$  to 0.12‰ or  
609 less, hence limiting the Si core concentration to a reasonable value (*i.e.*,  $< 7\text{wt}\%$ ).

610         2) If instead the Earth accreted only from chondritic materials and the Si core content  
611 is  $< 12\text{wt}\%$  as dictated by geophysical constraints, then mantle-core differentiation cannot be  
612 the sole mechanism from which planetary Si isotopes variations originate. An additional  
613 process is then required, particularly if the Earth accreted significant amount of E-chondrite  
614 material during its formation. We propose that volatilization-driven isotopic fractionation in  
615 the aftermath of the Moon's forming giant impact could be this process. This mechanism  
616 could have preferentially affected the metallic core, which explains the lack of isotopic  
617 variations observed for lithophile elements, such as Mg, among planetary bodies. This  
618 scenario requires a final isotopic re-equilibration on a planetary scale, leading to the heavier  
619 isotopic compositions of the lunar and terrestrial mantles.

620 Finally, it is clear from our modeling that the mantle-core differentiation process alone  
621 cannot explain the observed terrestrial planet Si isotope compositions. Our current level of  
622 knowledge however, does not allow yet favoring one of the two hypotheses (*i.e.*, non-  
623 chondritic Earth and/or impact generated Si vaporization) proposed in this study.

624

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643

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903

904 **Figure Captions:**

905 Fig. 1: Three-isotope plot showing  $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$  vs.  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  for individual analyses of all the samples  
906 from this study. The dashed line represents the theoretical mass dependent fractionation slope  
907 defined as:  $\delta^{29}\text{Si} = \delta^{30}\text{Si} \times 0.5092$ . The long-term reproducibility (2SD) is shown in the  
908 bottom left quadrant of the figure.

909  
910 Fig. 2:  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  values relative to NBS-28 for terrestrial and extraterrestrial samples.  
911 Uncertainties for individual samples are given as 2SE, computed as  $2\text{SD}/\sqrt{(n-1)} \times t$ , where  $t$  is  
912 the Student's correcting factor (Platzner et al., 1997). BSMa stands for bulk silicate Mars, and  
913 BSMo means bulk silicate Moon. All data are from Table 1.

914  
915 Fig. 3: Comparison of published  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  data relative to NBS-28 for samples from planetary  
916 bodies in the inner solar system. Uncertainties are given as 2SE, computed as  $2\text{SD}/\sqrt{(n-1)} \times t$ ,  
917 where  $t$  is the Student's correcting factor (Platzner et al., 1997). AGV-2 data is from  
918 Zambardi and Poitrasson, (2011). C.C. = carbonaceous chondrites, E.C. = enstatites  
919 chondrites, R.M. = reference materials.

920  
921 Fig. 4: Comparison of  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  averages relative to NBS-28 for planetary bodies in the inner  
922 solar system from this and previous work. All uncertainties are given as  $\pm 2\text{SE}$ .

923  
924 Fig. 5: Model of continuous core formation during Earth's accretion (Wade and Wood, 2005;  
925 Corgne et al., 2008; Wood et al., 2008). (a) Variations of  $T$  of last equilibration (at the base of  
926 the magma ocean) and FeO content of the BSE during accretion. The  $T$  profile is defined by  
927 the peridotite solidus (Fiquet et al., 2010). FeO variations correspond to the three-step profile  
928 proposed by Wood et al. (2008). Such temperatures and FeO variations lead to modeled  
929 depletions of moderately siderophile elements in the BSE consistent with observations (as  
930 shown for Ni and V in (b)). (b) Modeled core/BSE variations during accretion for Ni, V and  
931 Si using P-T-FeO conditions defined in (a) and parameterizations for metal-silicate  
932 partitioning from Corgne et al. (2008) for Ni and Si and Wood et al. (2008) for V. Note the  
933 large range of final Si core/BSE ratios (yellow path). (c) Expected variations of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}$   
934 showing an important level of uncertainty at the end of accretion, due to large uncertainties in  
935 elemental metal-silicate partitioning. Note that the prediction is independent from the type of  
936 chondrite chosen as reference.

937

938 Fig. 6: Variations of the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}/F_{\text{Core}}$  ratio during continuous core formation for  
939 several  $\text{FeO}_{\text{BSE}}$  paths (insert, same abscissa) satisfying constraints from moderately  
940 siderophile elements. The blue dashed curve is the three-step model proposed by Wood et al.  
941 (2008) and considered in Fig. 5. Taking into account the uncertainty on elemental metal-  
942 silicate Si partitioning,  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}/F_{\text{Core}}$  lies along a restricted range at the end of accretion  
943 ( $0.88 \pm 0.11$ ), regardless of the chosen FeO path.

944

945 Fig. 7: Predicted Si core (wt.%) concentrations as a function of measured  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}$ . The  
946 model (thick curve) is computed using  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}/F_{\text{Core}} = 0.88$  (see text and Fig. 6). Thin  
947 curves show the  $\pm 0.11$  variability of  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond}}/F_{\text{Core}}$ , which includes the uncertainties on  
948 both  $f\text{O}_2$  and  $T$  variations during the Earth accretion. Experimental constraints (Shahar et al.,  
949 2009) and metal-silicate Si isotope partitioning in natural samples (Ziegler et al., 2010) were  
950 also taken into account. Any mix of chondrite (whatever their type) shall lead to a  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-}}$   
951  $\text{Chond.}$  that falls on the red section of the curves. The model indicates that the initial  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-}}$   
952  $\text{Chond.}$  should have been 0.12 if one assumes a maximum possible Si core concentration of  
953 7wt% after mantle-core differentiation, which is below the minimum value given by O/C-  
954 chondrites (0.18). Hence, mantle-core differentiation alone cannot explain the observed  
955 different Si isotope composition between chondrites and the bulk silicate Earth if the accreted  
956 materials had the composition of chondrites.

957

958 Fig. 8: A) Rayleigh models predicting the variations of  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$  during a vaporization  
959 process that may have occurred along with giant interplanetary impact. The equation is  
960 defined as  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Solid residue}} = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}} \times (\alpha^{30}\text{Si}-1) \times \ln(f)$ , where  $\alpha$  is the fractionation factor  
961 of Si and  $f$  is the fraction of Si remaining in the residual solid. The computation involves a Si  
962 isotope fractionation factor during vaporization  $\alpha^{29}\text{Si} = 0.98985 \pm 0.00044$  (Knight et al.,  
963 2009), which has been converted into  $\alpha^{30}\text{Si} = 0.97893 \pm 0.00088$ , assuming the fractionation  
964 process is mass dependent. Starting  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$  values were calculated from sample  
965 measurements and considered as  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Bulk Earth}}$ .  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$  values were calculated using E-  
966 chondrites (blue), or O/C-chondrites (red). Solid lines represent the corresponding Rayleigh  
967 models. The paths delimited by dashed lines takes into considerations both the uncertainties  
968 on  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$  averages and  $\alpha^{30}\text{Si}$ . The intersection between the model and the black solid line  
969 ( $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$  value) gives the fraction Si remaining in the Earth residue at the end of the



970 vaporization process (*i.e.*, when  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}} = 0$ ). These 2 models do not consider Si isotope  
971 fractionation from mantle-core differentiation, and therefore are considered as an extreme  
972 case. B) The same Rayleigh models assuming that the mantle-core differentiation fractionated  
973 Si isotopes prior to vaporization, and the Earth's core incorporated 7wt% Si (thus leading to a  
974 0.12‰ decrease of the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  value (Fig. 7) translated on the figure into a 0.12‰ shift  
975 on the starting materials). According to these latter models, between 0.4 and 1.1wt% on  
976 average of Si loss by vaporization is enough to reconcile a chondritic Earth with isotopic  
977 observations while keeping a reasonable amount of Si in the core.

978

### 979 **Table Captions:**

980 Table 1: Silicon concentration and isotope data for the Earth, Moon and meteorite samples.  
981 Uncertainties are given as  $\pm 2\text{SE}$ , computed as  $2\text{SD}/\sqrt{(n-1)} \times t$ , where  $t$  is the Student's  
982 correcting factor (Platzner et al., 1997) and where  $n$  is the number of replicate analyses of a  
983 sample. With the exception of Enstatite chondrites, uncertainties on planetary average values  
984 are also given as  $2\text{SE}$ , computed using the same relation, where  $n$  means the number of  
985 individual samples (see text for justification). \*\*Given the E-chondrite dataset only gathers 2  
986 samples, a propagated uncertainty calculation was adopted for these data instead of the  $2\text{SE}$   
987 calculation. °Data from Zambardi and Poitrasson (2011). \*Sample not included in the bulk-  
988 silicate-body average calculation. For averages,  $N$  means the number of samples.

989

990 Table 2: Si-core concentrations inferred from our model on all available  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  data  
991 from recent literature and this study. All  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  uncertainties were propagated from the  
992  $2\text{SE}$  of both  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$  and  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Chond.}}$ . All extreme Si-core concentrations include uncertainties  
993 from both the model and the  $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chond.}}$  estimates. \*Data computed using the  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE (Mean)}}$   
994 from Savage et al. (2010), see Table 2 in Armytage et al. (2011). \*\*Data computed using an  
995 averaged E-chondrites (EH and EL)  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{EC}} = -0.67 \pm 0.04$  (2SE,  $n=13$ ) from Savage and  
996 Moynier (2013). \*\*\*Data computed from the average of all available analysis of terrestrial  
997 and chondrites samples in recent literature, with the exception of Georg et al. (2007) and  
998 Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a) data. The  $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE}}$  also includes all data from Savage et al.  
999 (2010).

$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ 

-0.8

-0.6

-0.4

-0.2

0.0

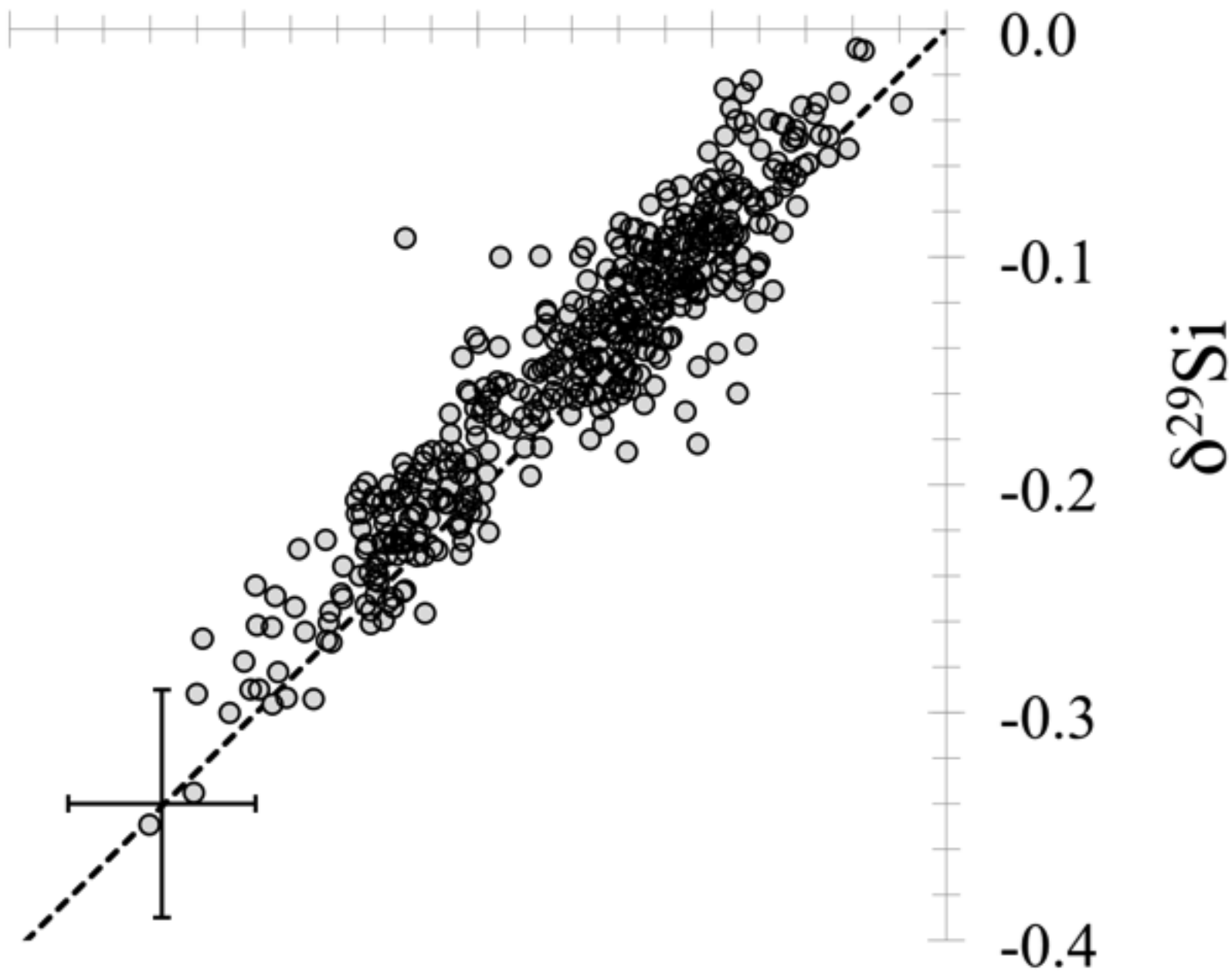
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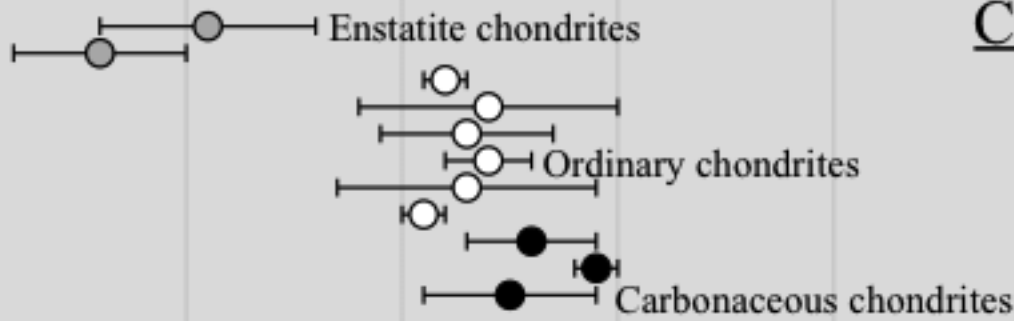
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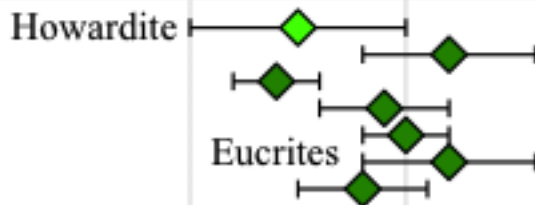
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 $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$ 

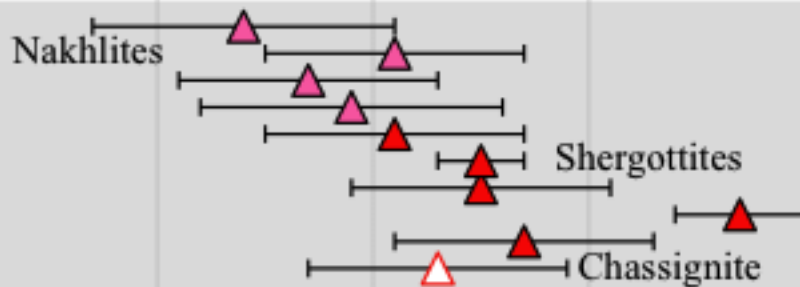
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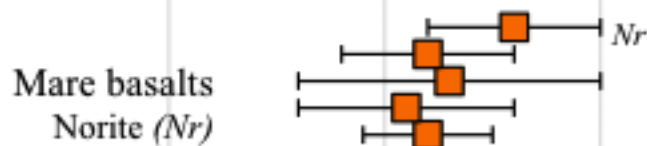
# HED



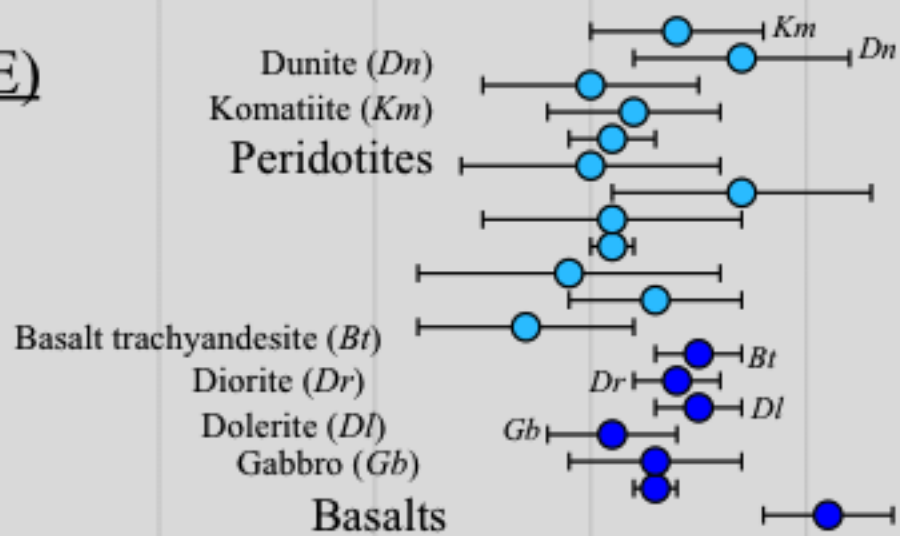
# SNC



# Moon

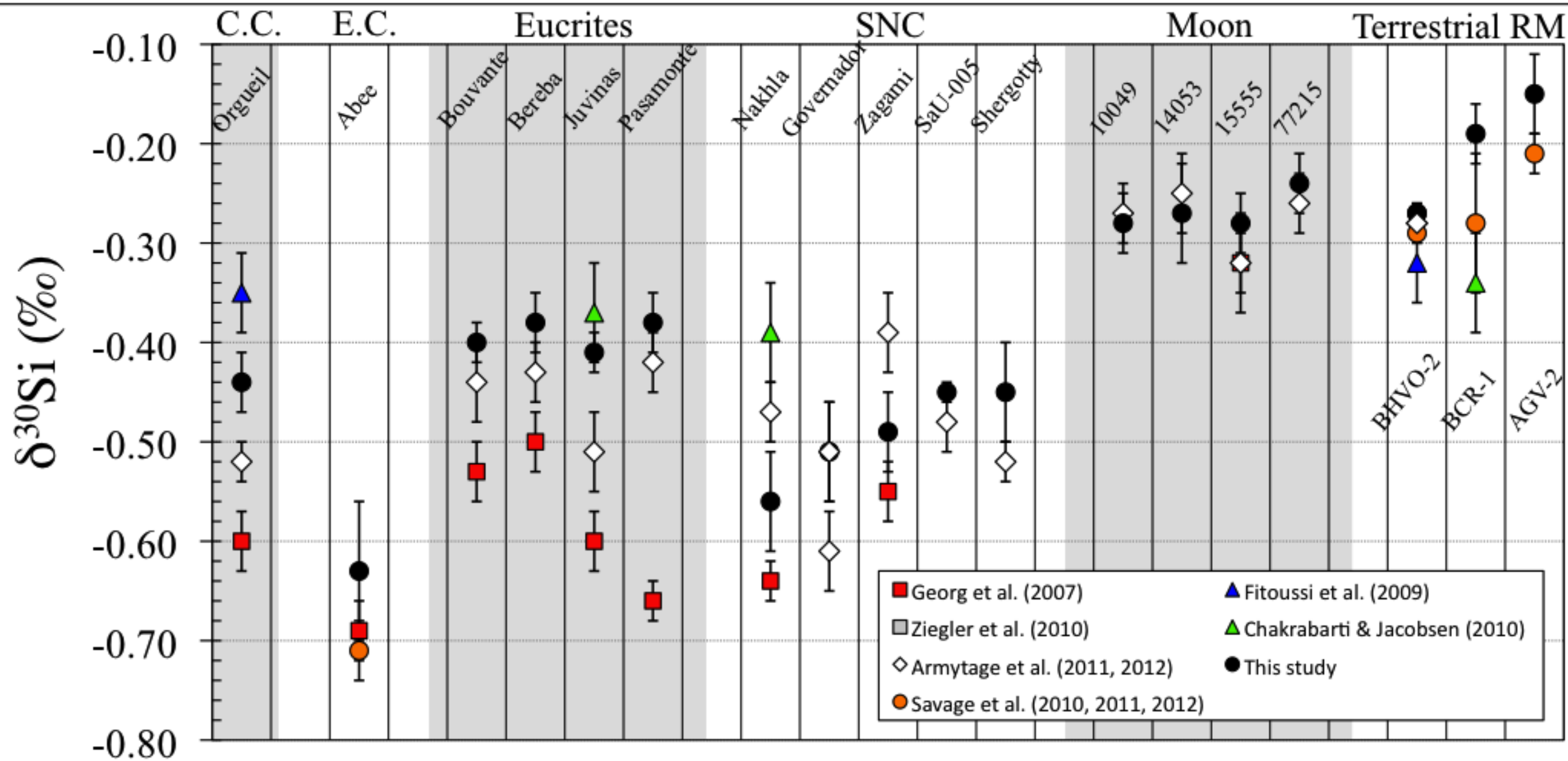


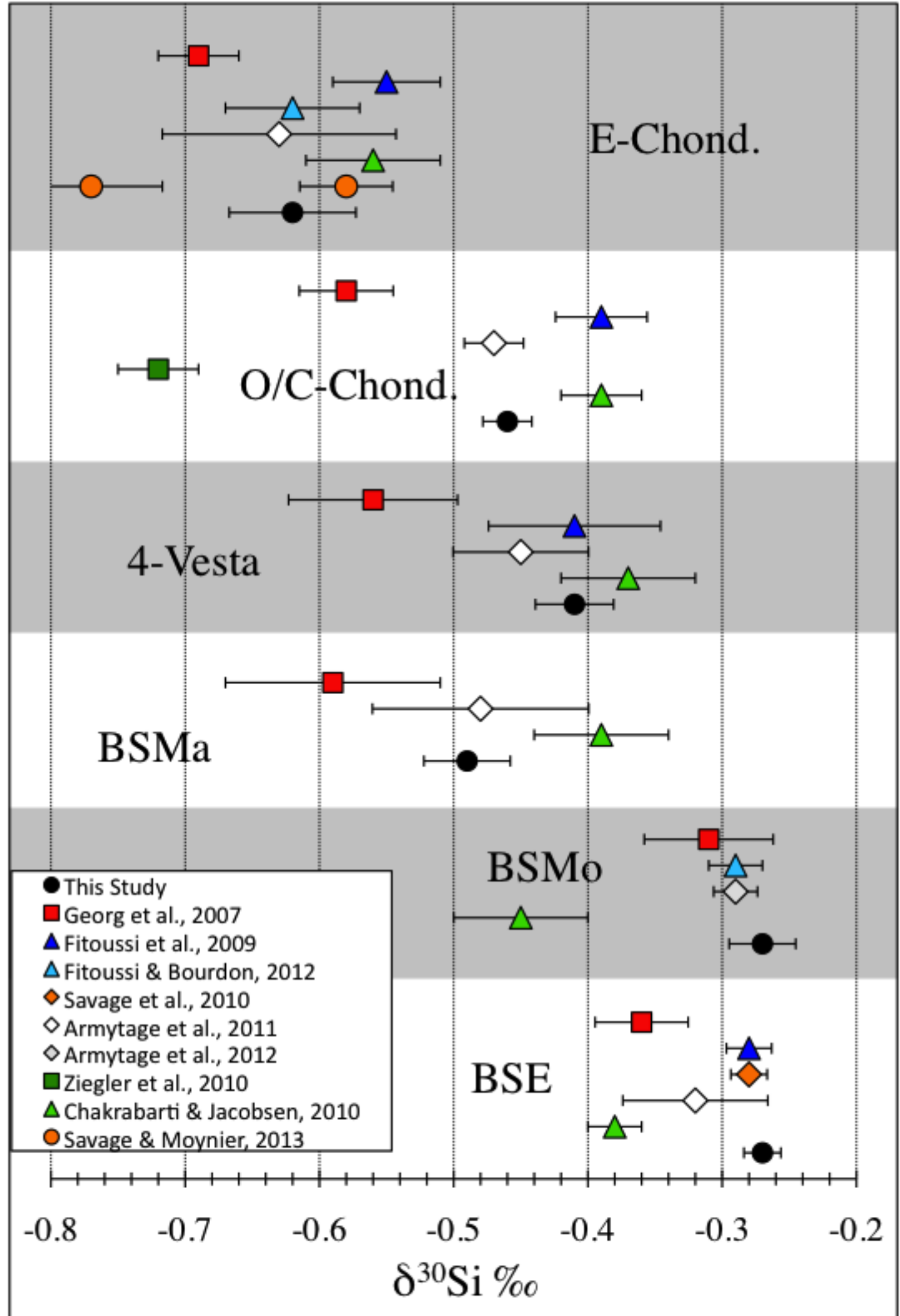
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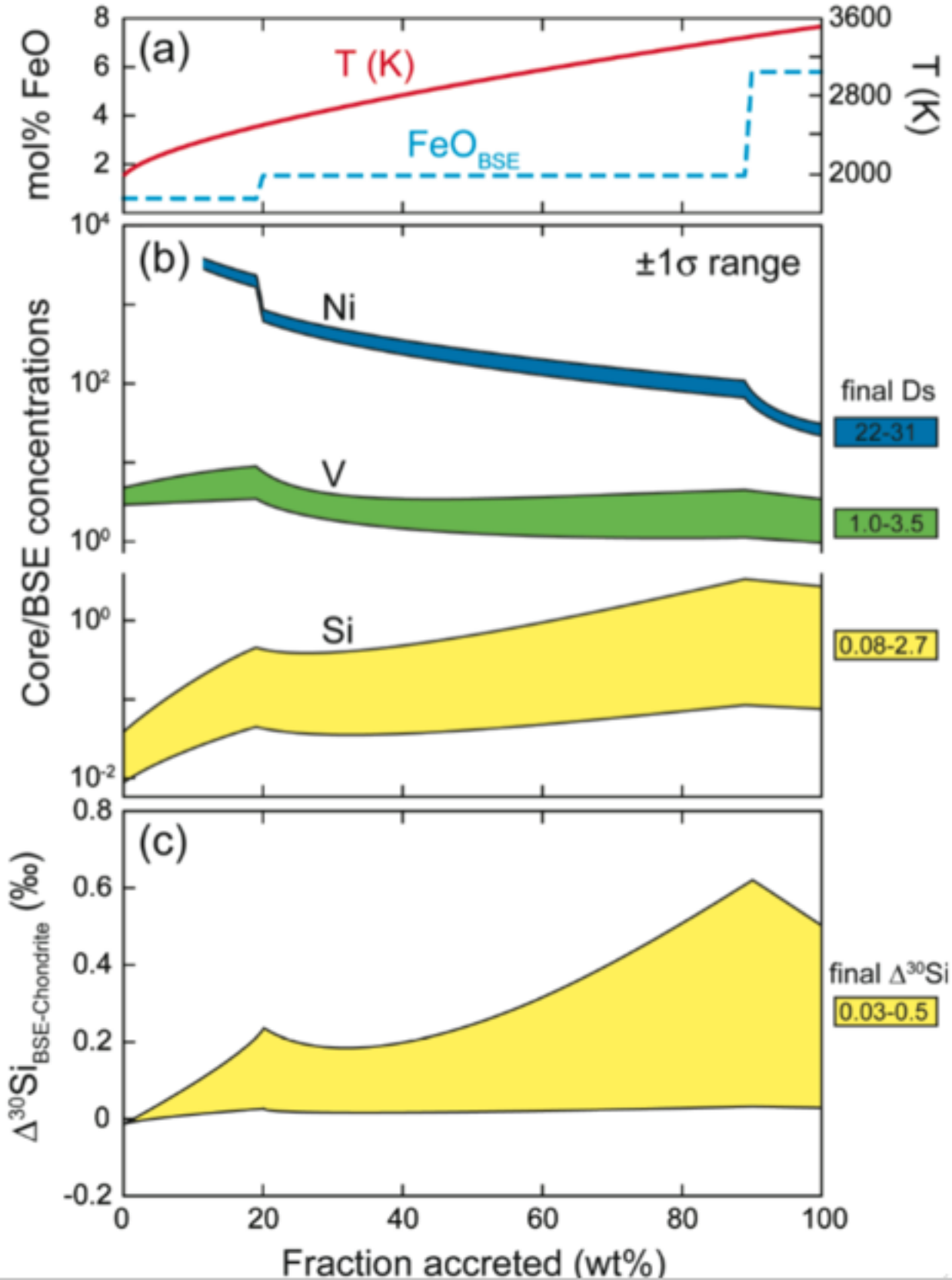


-0.7      -0.6      -0.5      -0.4      -0.3      -0.2      -0.1

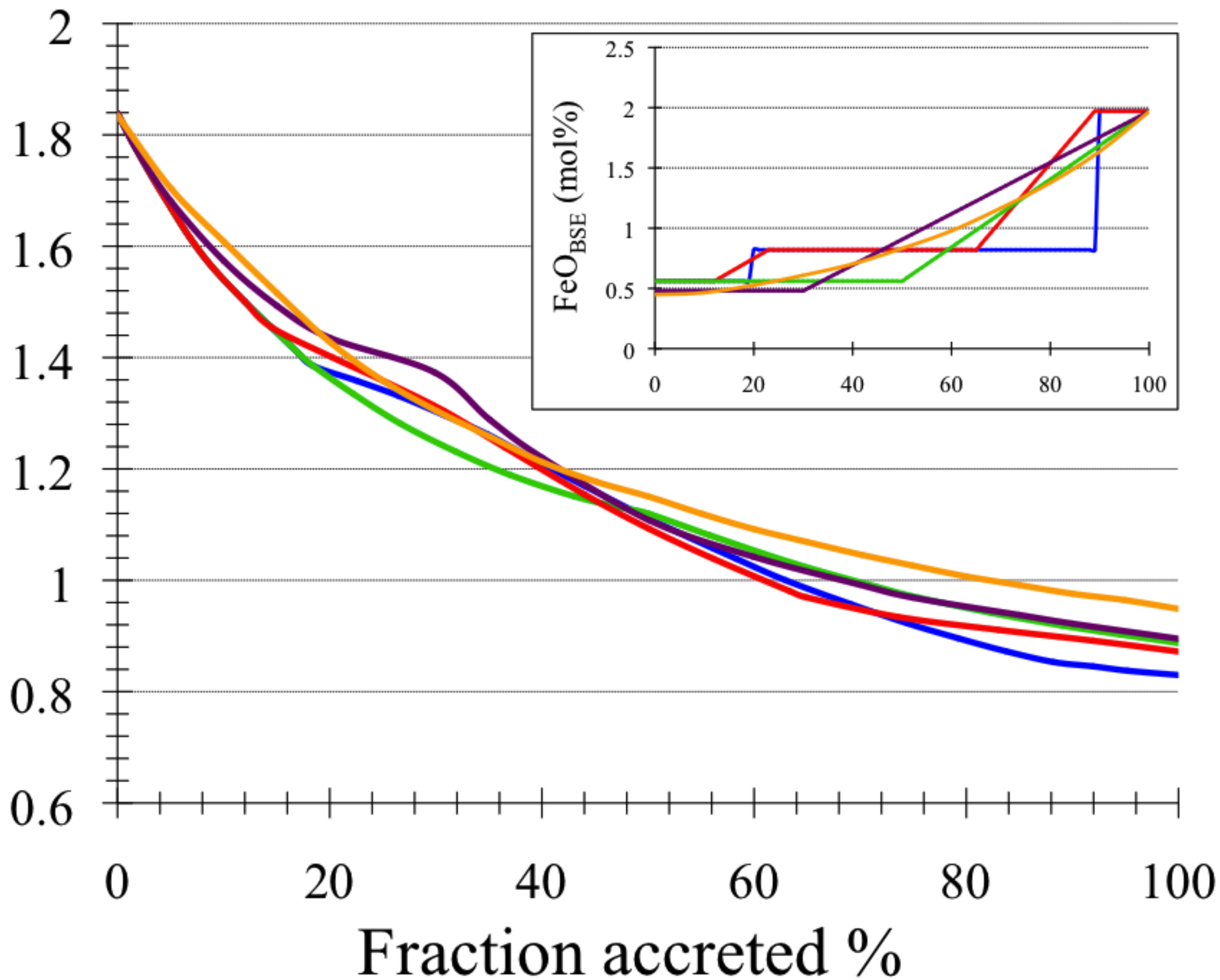
$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$  (‰)



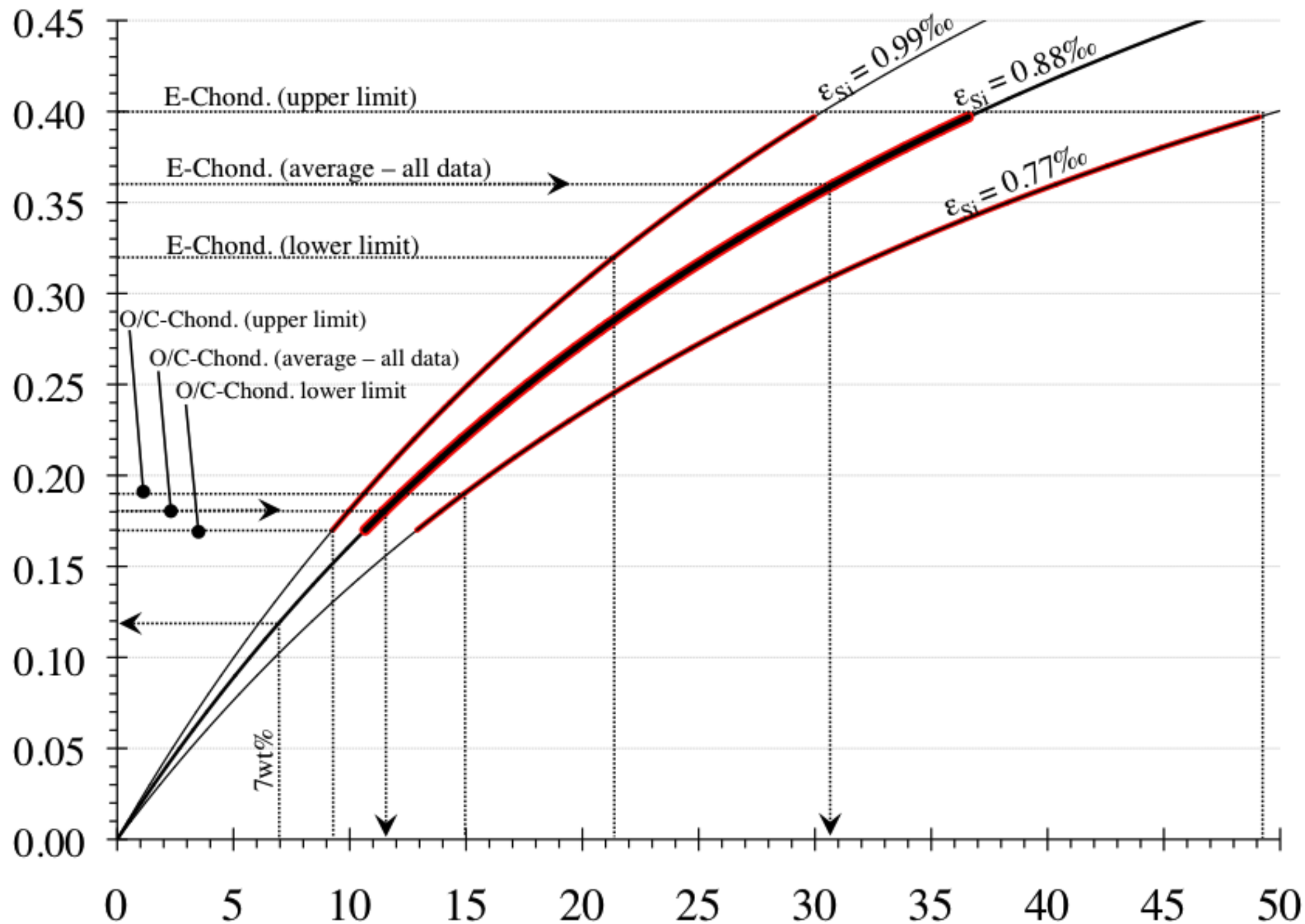




$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chondrite}} / F_{\text{Si}}$



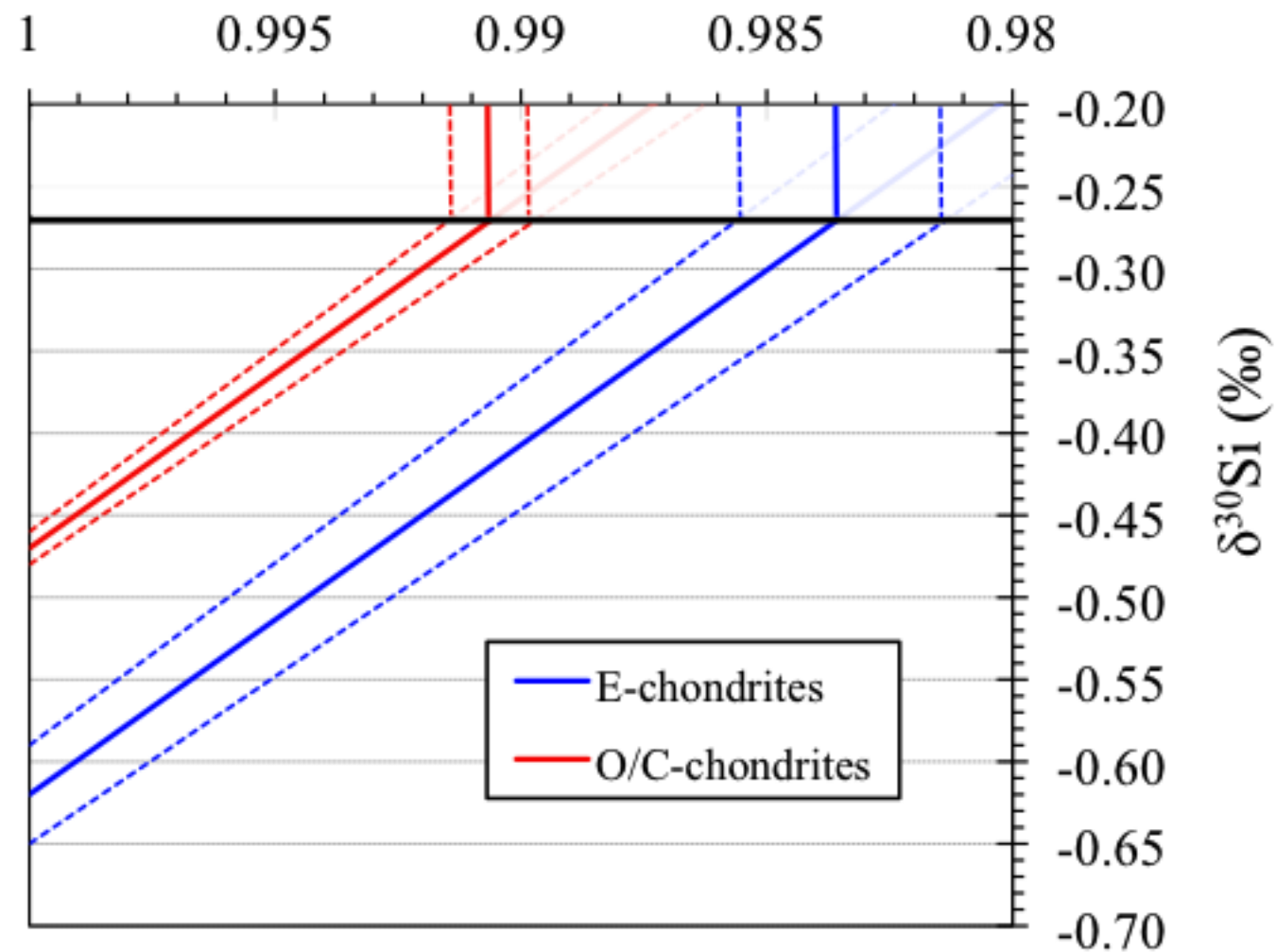
$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-Chondrite}}$



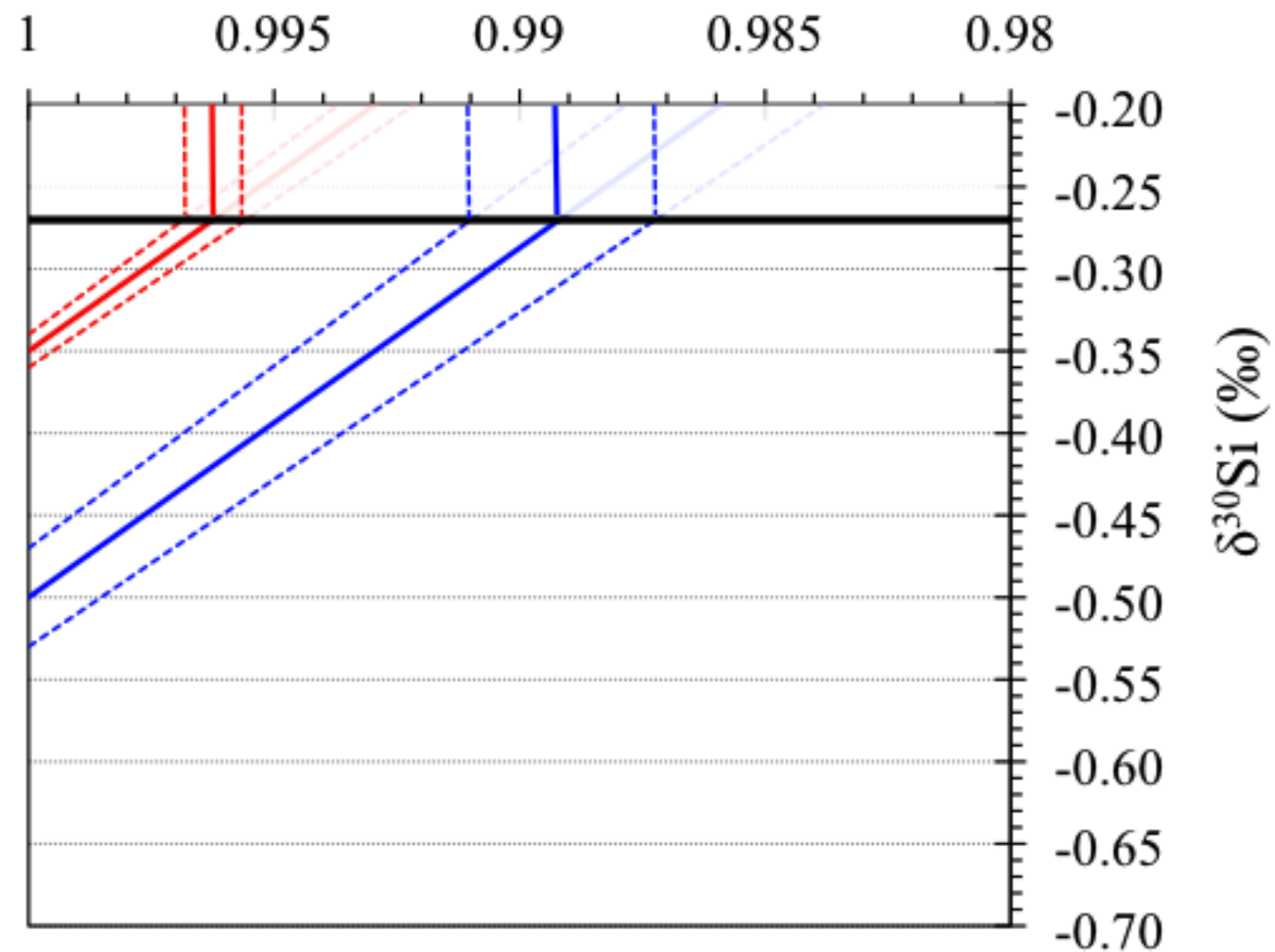
Expected Si (wt%) in the Earth's core



**A** Mass fraction Si remaining in solid Earth



**B** Mass fraction Si remaining in solid Earth



Samples	Nature	Location	SiO <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	δ <sup>30</sup> Si (‰)	2SE	δ <sup>29</sup> Si (‰)	2SE	n# analyses
<b>Terrestrial mafic rocks (BSE)</b>								
°BCR-2	Basalt	Columbia river, USA	54.0	<b>-0.19</b>	0.03	<b>-0.11</b>	0.03	6
°BHVO-2	Basalt	Hawai, USA	49.9	<b>-0.27</b>	0.01	<b>-0.14</b>	0.01	54
°BIR-1	Basalt	Reikjavik, Iceland	48.0	<b>-0.27</b>	0.04	<b>-0.12</b>	0.02	6
°PMS	Microgabbro	Pitscurrie, UK	46.9	<b>-0.29</b>	0.03	<b>-0.14</b>	0.02	6
°OU-2	Dolerite	Belford, UK	51.0	<b>-0.25</b>	0.02	<b>-0.11</b>	0.02	6
°DR-N	Diorite	Neuntelstein, France	52.9	<b>-0.26</b>	0.02	<b>-0.12</b>	0.03	6
°ES-9104	Basalt Trachyandesite	Massif d'Esterel, France	52.3	<b>-0.25</b>	0.02	<b>-0.11</b>	0.02	12
GM92-234	Peridotite	Kerguelen Island	42.2	<b>-0.33</b>	0.05	<b>-0.16</b>	0.02	3
GR97-38	Peridotite	Kerguelen Island	44.6	<b>-0.27</b>	0.04	<b>-0.12</b>	0.02	3
GR97-52	Peridotite	Kerguelen Island	44.6	<b>-0.31</b>	0.07	<b>-0.14</b>	0.04	3
JGM-92-1c	Peridotite	Kerguelen Island	42.4	<b>-0.29</b>	0.01	<b>-0.14</b>	0.02	6
°JP-1	Peridotite	Horoman, Japan	42.4	<b>-0.29</b>	0.06	<b>-0.13</b>	0.03	6
°KNO3	Peridotite	Cameroon	45.0	<b>-0.23</b>	0.06	<b>-0.11</b>	0.04	6
MG91-3	Peridotite	Kerguelen Island	39.6	<b>-0.30</b>	0.06	<b>-0.16</b>	0.04	3
NK-01	Peridotite	Cameroon	43.5	<b>-0.29</b>	0.02	<b>-0.14</b>	0.01	3
PREM89-1	Peridotite	South Africa	40.9	<b>-0.28</b>	0.04	<b>-0.14</b>	0.04	3
PREM90-24	Peridotite	South Africa	40.9	<b>-0.30</b>	0.05	<b>-0.15</b>	0.02	3
°DTS-2b	Dunite	Bellingham, USA	39.4	<b>-0.23</b>	0.05	<b>-0.10</b>	0.04	6
°WITS-1	Komatiite	Barberton, South Africa	43.3	<b>-0.26</b>	0.04	<b>-0.11</b>	0.02	9
<b>Average BSE</b>				<b>-0.27</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.01</b>	N=19
<b>Lunar samples</b>								
10049	High Ti mare basalt	1969, Mare Tranquillitatis	42.0	<b>-0.28</b>	0.03	<b>-0.13</b>	0.02	7
12054	Ilmenite basalt	1969, Oceanus Procellarum	42.2	<b>-0.29</b>	0.05	<b>-0.13</b>	0.01	9
14053	Low Ti mare basalt	1971, Fra Mauro	46.3	<b>-0.27</b>	0.07	<b>-0.10</b>	0.02	6
15555	Olv. normative mare basalt	1971, Hadley Apennines	44.6	<b>-0.28</b>	0.04	<b>-0.13</b>	0.02	8
77215	Cataclastic norite	1972, Taurus Littrow	51.2	<b>-0.24</b>	0.04	<b>-0.10</b>	0.03	6
<b>Average BSMo</b>				<b>-0.27</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.02</b>	N=5
<b>Carbonaceous chondrites</b>								
NWA-1757	CO3	Find 2001, Morocco	34.1	<b>-0.45</b>	0.04	<b>-0.21</b>	0.03	6
NWA-4425	CK3	Find 2006, Algeria	33.4	<b>-0.41</b>	0.01	<b>-0.20</b>	0.04	3
Orgueil	CI1	Fall 1864, France	20.1	<b>-0.44</b>	0.03	<b>-0.23</b>	0.02	12
<b>Ordinary chondrites</b>								
Acfer-380	H5	Find 2002, Algeria	36.2	<b>-0.49</b>	0.01	<b>-0.25</b>	0.02	3
NWA-2258	L5	Find 2001, Algeria	35.6	<b>-0.47</b>	0.06	<b>-0.23</b>	0.03	6
NWA-4278	L6	Find 2005, Morocco	40.3	<b>-0.46</b>	0.02	<b>-0.21</b>	0.02	6
NWA-4260	L6	Find 2003, Algeria	34.9	<b>-0.47</b>	0.04	<b>-0.20</b>	0.02	12
Mocs	L6	Fall 1882, Romania	38.4	<b>-0.46</b>	0.06	<b>-0.21</b>	0.03	6
Tanzrouft-065	L4	Find 2002, Algeria	39.6	<b>-0.48</b>	0.01	<b>-0.24</b>	0.05	3
<b>Average O/C-Chond.</b>				<b>-0.46</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>0.02</b>	N=9
<b>Enstatite chondrites</b>								
Abee	EH	Fall 1952, Canada	41.1	<b>-0.64</b>	0.04	<b>-0.33</b>	0.07	3
St sauveur	EH	Fall 1914, France	35.4	<b>-0.59</b>	0.05	<b>-0.30</b>	0.01	3
<b>Average E-Chond.</b>				<b>-0.62</b>	<b>0.04**</b>	<b>-0.32</b>	<b>0.03**</b>	N=2
<b>Mars (SNC)</b>								
Chassigny	Chassignite, dunite	Fall 1815, France	36.0	<b>-0.47</b>	0.06	<b>-0.21</b>	0.02	7
DaG-476	Shergottite, Ol-phyric basalt	Find 1999, Lybia	45.4	<b>-0.43</b>	0.03	<b>-0.20</b>	0.03	5
Los Angeles*	Shergottite, Px-phyric basalt	Find 1980, CA USA	48.6	<b>-0.33</b>	0.06	<b>-0.16</b>	0.02	5
SaU-005	Shergottite, Ol-phyric basalt	Find, Oman	46.3	<b>-0.45</b>	0.02	<b>-0.21</b>	0.02	5

Shergotty	Shergottite, Px-phyric basalt	Fall 1865, India	49.5	<b>-0.45</b>	0.06	<b>-0.21</b>	0.05	5
Zagami	Basalt Shergottite	Fall 1962, Nigeria	49.7	<b>-0.49</b>	0.05	<b>-0.21</b>	0.06	7
Governador	Nakhlite, cpxnite	Find 1958, Brasil	48.0	<b>-0.51</b>	0.07	<b>-0.23</b>	0.04	5
Lafayette	Nakhlite, cpxnite	Find 1931, USA	46.5	<b>-0.53</b>	0.06	<b>-0.25</b>	0.03	8
MIL-03 346	Nakhlite, cpxnite	Find 2003, Antarctica	49.1	<b>-0.49</b>	0.06	<b>-0.21</b>	0.02	5
Nakhla	Nakhlite, cpxnite	Fall 1911, Egypt	48.0	<b>-0.56</b>	0.07	<b>-0.25</b>	0.02	5
<b>Average BSMA</b>				<b>-0.49</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-0.22</b>	<b>0.01</b>	N=9
<b>4-Vesta (HED)</b>								
ALHA-78132	Eucrite	Find 1978, Antarctica	49.9	<b>-0.42</b>	0.03	<b>-0.20</b>	0.04	6
Bereba	Eucrite	Fall 1924, Burkina Faso	52.7	<b>-0.38</b>	0.04	<b>-0.15</b>	0.03	6
Bouvante	Eucrite	Find 1978, France	50.1	<b>-0.40</b>	0.02	<b>-0.19</b>	0.03	6
Juvinas	Eucrite	Fall 1821, France	50.6	<b>-0.41</b>	0.03	<b>-0.18</b>	0.02	7
NWA-1777	Eucrite	Find 2002, Algeria	49.9	<b>-0.46</b>	0.02	<b>-0.21</b>	0.02	6
Pasamonte	Eucrite	Fall 1933, NM USA	49.3	<b>-0.38</b>	0.04	<b>-0.17</b>	0.03	6
Le Teilleul	Howardite	Fall 1845, France	49.9	<b>-0.45</b>	0.05	<b>-0.20</b>	0.02	6
<b>Average 4-Vesta</b>				<b>-0.41</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-0.19</b>	<b>0.01</b>	N=7

Table 2

	$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-O/CC}}$	Si-core conc. (wt.%)	$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{BSE-EC}}$	Si-core conc. (wt.%)
Georg et al. (2007)	$0.20 \pm 0.05$	$13_{-5}^{+9}$	$0.31 \pm 0.04$	$24_{-7}^{+14}$
Fitoussi et al. (2009)	$0.11 \pm 0.04$	$6_{-3}^{+5}$	$0.27 \pm 0.05$	$20_{-7}^{+13}$
Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010a)	$0.02 \pm 0.04$	$1_{-1}^{+3}$	$0.18 \pm 0.05$	$12_{-5}^{+8}$
Armytage et al. (2011)	$0.15 \pm 0.05$	$9_{-5}^{+7}$	$0.31 \pm 0.09$	$24_{-11}^{+26}$
	$0.19 \pm 0.01^*$	$12_{-2}^{+4}$	$0.35 \pm 0.08^*$	$29_{-12}^{+29}$
Fitoussi and Bourdon (2012)	-	-	$0.34 \pm 0.05$	$28_{-9}^{+17}$
Savage and Moynier (2013)	-	-	$0.39 \pm 0.04^{**}$	$35_{-11}^{+24}$
This study	$0.19 \pm 0.01$	$12_{-2}^{+4}$	$0.35 \pm 0.05$	$29_{-9}^{+21}$
<b>All data***</b>	$0.18 \pm 0.01$	$12_{-3}^{+3}$	$0.36 \pm 0.04$	$31_{-10}^{+19}$