

Contents

Preface

page xvii

1	Introduction to cosmochemistry	1
	Overview	1
	What is cosmochemistry?	1
	Geochemistry versus cosmochemistry	3
	Beginnings of cosmochemistry (and geochemistry)	6
	Philosophical foundations	6
	Meteorites and microscopy	6
	Spectroscopy and the compositions of stars	9
	Solar system element abundances	10
	Isotopes and nuclear physics	11
	Space exploration and samples from other worlds	14
	New sources of extraterrestrial materials	18
	Organic matter and extraterrestrial life?	20
	The tools and datasets of cosmochemistry	20
	Laboratory and spacecraft analyses	21
	Cosmochemical theory	24
	Relationship of cosmochemistry to other disciplines	25
	Questions	26
	Suggestions for further reading	26
	References	27
2	Nuclides and elements: the building blocks of matter	29
	Overview	29
	Elementary particles, isotopes, and elements	29
	Chart of the nuclides: organizing elements by their nuclear properties	32
	Radioactive elements and their modes of decay	35
	The periodic table: organizing elements by their chemistry properties	38
	Chemical bonding	44
	Chemical and physical processes relevant to cosmochemistry	46
	Isotope effects from chemical and physical processes	49
	Summary	51
	Questions	52
	Suggestions for further reading	52
	References	52

3	Origin of the elements	54
	Overview	54
	In the beginning	54
	The Big Bang model	55
	Observational evidence	56
	Nucleosynthesis in stars	58
	Classification, masses, and lifetimes of stars	61
	The life cycles of stars	64
	Stellar nucleosynthesis processes	72
	Origin of the galaxy and galactic chemical evolution	81
	Summary	82
	Questions	83
	Suggestions for further reading	84
	References	84
4	Solar system and cosmic abundances: elements and isotopes	85
	Overview	85
	Chemistry on a grand scale	85
	Historical perspective	85
	How are solar system abundances determined?	87
	Determining elemental abundances in the Sun	88
	Spectroscopic observations of the Sun	88
	Collecting and analyzing the solar wind	96
	Determining chemical abundances in meteorites	99
	Importance of CI chondrites	99
	Measuring CI abundances	100
	Indirect methods of estimating abundances	101
	Solar system abundances of the elements	102
	Solar system abundances of the isotopes	104
	How did solar system abundances arise?	110
	Differences between solar system and cosmic abundances	111
	How are solar system abundances used in cosmochemistry?	113
	Summary	116
	Questions	117
	Suggestions for further reading	117
	References	118
5	Presolar grains: a record of stellar nucleosynthesis and processes in interstellar space	120
	Overview	120
	Grains that predate the solar system	120
	A cosmochemical detective story	122
	Recognizing presolar grains in meteorites	125

Known types of presolar grains	127
Identification and characterization of presolar grains	128
Locating and identifying presolar grains	128
Characterization of presolar grains	129
Identification of stellar sources	132
Grains from AGB stars	132
Supernova grains	139
Nova grains	139
Other stellar sources	140
Presolar grains as probes of stellar nucleosynthesis	140
Input data for stellar models	141
Internal stellar structure	141
The neutron source(s) for the <i>s</i> -process	142
Constraining supernova models	143
Galactic chemical evolution	144
Presolar grains as tracers of circumstellar and interstellar environments	146
Silicon carbide	146
Graphite grains from AGB stars	146
Graphite grains from supernovae	148
Interstellar grains	149
Presolar grains as probes of the early solar system	149
Summary	152
Questions	153
Suggestions for further reading	153
References	154
 6 Meteorites: a record of nebular and planetary processes	 157
Overview	157
Primitive versus differentiated	157
Components of chondrites	158
Chondrules	158
Refractory inclusions	163
Metals and sulfide	164
Matrix	164
Chondrite classification	165
Primary characteristics: chemical compositions	166
Secondary characteristics: petrologic types	168
Chondrite taxonomy	170
Other classification parameters: shock and weathering	170
Oxygen isotopes in chondrites	171
Classification of nonchondritic meteorites	173
Primitive achondrites	174
Acapulcoites and lodranites	175

Ureilites	176
Winonaïtes and IAB silicate inclusions	178
Magmatic achondrites	178
Aubrites	178
Howardites–eucrites–diogenites	179
Angrites	179
Irons and stony irons	180
Classification and composition of iron meteorites	180
Pallasites and mesosiderites	182
Lunar samples	182
Martian meteorites	184
Oxygen isotopes in differentiated meteorites	185
Summary	187
Questions	188
Suggestions for further reading	188
References	189
7 Cosmochemical and geochemical fractionations	192
Overview	192
What are chemical fractionations and why are they important?	192
Condensation as a fractionation process	195
Condensation sequences	196
Applicability of condensation calculations to the early solar system	201
Volatile element depletions	205
Gas–solid interactions	206
Gas–liquid interactions	208
Igneous fractionations	210
Magmatic processes that lead to fractionation	210
Element partitioning	211
Physical fractionations	213
Sorting of chondrite components	213
Fractionations by impacts or pyroclastic activity	215
Element fractionation resulting from oxidation/reduction	217
Element fractionation resulting from planetary differentiation	218
Fractionation of isotopes	220
Mass-dependent fractionation	220
Fractionations produced by ion–molecule reactions	221
Planetary mass-dependent fractionations	222
Mass-independent fractionation	222
Radiogenic isotope fractionation and planetary differentiation	224
Summary	225
Questions	226
Suggestions for further reading	226
References	227

8 Radioisotopes as chronometers	230
Overview	230
Methods of age determination	230
Discussing radiometric ages and time	231
Basic principles of radiometric age dating	231
Long-lived radionuclides	237
The ^{40}K – ^{40}Ar system	238
The ^{87}Rb – ^{87}Sr system	242
The ^{147}Sm – ^{143}Nd system	252
The U–Th–Pb system	258
The ^{187}Re – ^{187}Os system	270
The ^{176}Lu – ^{176}Hf system	274
Other long-lived nuclides of potential cosmochemical significance	276
Short-lived radionuclides	278
The ^{129}I – ^{129}Xe system	282
The ^{26}Al – ^{26}Mg system	284
The ^{41}Ca – ^{41}K system	287
The ^{53}Mn – ^{53}Cr system	288
The ^{60}Fe – ^{60}Ni system	289
The ^{107}Pd – ^{107}Ag system	291
The ^{146}Sm – ^{142}Nd system	293
The ^{182}Hf – ^{182}W system	294
The ^{10}Be – ^{10}B system	295
Other short-lived nuclides of potential cosmochemical significance	297
Summary	298
Questions	299
Suggestions for further reading	299
References	300
9 Chronology of the solar system from radioactive isotopes	308
Overview	308
Age of the elements and environment in which the Sun formed	308
Age of the solar system	315
Early solar system chronology	318
Primitive components in chondrites	319
Accretion and history of chondritic parent bodies	324
Accretion and differentiation of achondritic parent bodies	327
Accretion, differentiation, and igneous history of planets and the Moon	330
Age of the Earth	330
Age of the Moon	331
Age of Mars	332
Shock ages and impact histories	336
Shock ages of meteorites	336

Shock ages of lunar rocks	339
The late heavy bombardment	340
Cosmogenic nuclides in meteorites	340
Cosmic-ray exposure ages	340
Terrestrial ages	345
Summary	346
Questions	347
Suggestions for further reading	347
References	348
10 The most volatile elements and compounds: organic matter, noble gases, and ices	354
Overview	354
Volatility	354
Organic matter: occurrence and complexity	355
Extractable organic matter in chondrites	356
Insoluble macromolecules in chondrites	362
Stable isotopes in organic compounds	364
Are organic compounds interstellar or nebular?	366
Noble gases and how they are analyzed	370
Noble gas components in extraterrestrial samples	371
Nuclear components	371
The solar components	372
Planetary components	373
Planetary atmospheres	375
Condensation and accretion of ices	377
Summary	378
Questions	379
Suggestions for further reading	379
References	380
11 Chemistry of anhydrous planetesimals	382
Overview	382
Dry asteroids and meteorites	382
Asteroids: a geologic context for meteorites	383
Appearance and physical properties	383
Spectroscopy and classification	385
Orbits, distribution, and delivery	389
Chemical compositions of anhydrous asteroids and meteorites	390
Analyses of asteroids by spacecraft remote sensing	390
Chondritic meteorites	392
Differentiated meteorites	396
Thermal evolution of anhydrous asteroids	398

Thermal structure of the asteroid belt	403
Collisions among asteroids	406
Summary	408
Questions	409
Suggestions for further reading	409
References	410
12 Chemistry of comets and other ice-bearing planetesimals	412
Overview	412
Icy bodies in the solar system	412
Orbital and physical characteristics	413
Orbits	413
Appearance and physical properties	414
Chemistry of comets	418
Comet ices	418
Comet dust: spectroscopy and spacecraft analysis	419
Interplanetary dust particles	422
Returned comet samples	426
Ice-bearing asteroids and altered meteorites	432
Spectroscopy of asteroids formed beyond the snowline	432
Aqueous alteration of chondrites	433
Thermal evolution of ice-bearing bodies	436
Chemistry of hydrated carbonaceous chondrites	436
Variations among ice-bearing planetesimals	439
Summary	440
Questions	441
Suggestions for further reading	441
References	442
13 Geochemical exploration of planets: Moon and Mars as case studies	445
Overview	445
Why the Moon and Mars?	445
Global geologic context for lunar geochemistry	446
Geochemical tools for lunar exploration	448
Instruments on orbiting spacecraft	448
Laboratory analysis of returned lunar samples and lunar meteorites	450
Measured composition of the lunar crust	451
Sample geochemistry	451
Geochemical mapping by spacecraft	452
Compositions of the lunar mantle and core	456
Geochemical evolution of the Moon	459
Global geologic context for Mars geochemistry	462

Geochemical tools for Mars exploration	464
Instruments on orbiting spacecraft	464
Instruments on landers and rovers	465
Laboratory analyses of Martian meteorites	466
Measured composition of the Martian crust	469
Composition of the crust	470
Water, chemical weathering, and evaporites	472
Compositions of the Martian mantle and core	475
Geochemical evolution of Mars	477
Summary	477
Questions	478
Suggestions for further reading	478
References	479
 14 Cosmochemical models for the formation of the solar system	 484
Overview	484
Constraints on the nebula	484
From gas and dust to Sun and accretion disk	484
Temperatures in the accretion disk	489
Localized heating: nebular shocks and the X-wind model	492
Accretion and bulk compositions of planets	495
Agglomeration of planetesimals and planets	495
Constraints on planet bulk compositions	495
Models for estimating bulk chemistry	498
Formation of the terrestrial planets	499
Planetesimal building blocks	499
Delivery of volatiles to the terrestrial planets	503
Planetary differentiation	504
Formation of the giant planets	507
Orbital and collisional evolution of the modern solar system	511
Summary	512
Questions	513
Suggestions for further reading	514
References	514
 Appendix: <i>Some analytical techniques commonly used in cosmochemistry</i>	 518
Chemical compositions of bulk samples	518
Wet chemical analysis	518
X-ray fluorescence (XRF)	519
Neutron activation analysis	519
Petrology, mineralogy, mineral chemistry, and mineral structure	520
Optical microscopy	520
Electron-beam techniques	520

Other techniques for determining chemical composition and mineral structure	525
Proton-induced X-ray emission (PIXE)	525
Inductively coupled-plasma atomic-emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES)	525
X-ray diffraction (XRD)	525
Synchrotron techniques	526
Mass spectrometry	527
Ion sources	527
Mass analyzers	528
Detectors	530
Mass spectrometer systems used in cosmochemistry	531
Raman spectroscopy	534
Flight instruments	535
Gamma-ray and neutron spectrometers	535
Alpha-particle X-ray spectrometer	536
Mössbauer spectrometer	536
Sample preparation	536
Thin-section preparation	536
Sample preparation for EBSD	537
Sample preparation for the TEM	537
Preparing aerogel “keystones”	538
Preparation of samples for TIMS and ICPMS	538
Details of radiometric dating systems using neutron activation	539
^{40}Ar – ^{39}Ar dating	539
^{129}I – ^{129}Xe dating	540
Suggestions for further reading	541
<i>Index</i>	543