PIXE analysis of fluoride and trace elements in shark teeth

S.Sakurai, S.Onodera, Y.Horii¹, K.Sera², S.Goto³ and C.Takahashi³

Department of Environmental Science School of Information Studies, Otsuma Women's University 2-7-1 Karakida, Tama, Tokyo 206-8540, Japan

¹Hachijo Branch, Tokyo Metropolitan Center for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on Izu islands 4222 Mitsune, Hachijo-machi, Tokyo 100-1511, Japan

²Cyclotron Research Center, Iwate Medical University 348-58 Tomegamori, Takizawa, Iwate 020-0173, Japan

³Takizawa Institute, Japan Radioisotope Association 348-1 Tomegamori, Takizawa, Iwate 020-0173, Japan

Abstract

We have measured the concentration of fluoride and other elements simultaneously in shark teeth using PIXE. 17 samples taken from 10 species of shark. As a result, 18 elements were detected. Particularly, Ca, Cl, Mg, Na, P, Sr, Zn, and F showed high concentrations. There is a high statistical correlation between Ca and P in shark teeth. However, there is a low statistical correlation between Ca and F. Judging from shark teeth is composed of Apatite, it is possible to consent to the fact. We have 100 samples of Shark teeth and are planning on reporting the findings of a study with larger samples in the near future.