

## Contribution submission to the conference SAMOP 2023

### Implementation of an EA-IRMS-GIS system to CologneAMS

— •MARTINA GWOZDZ, STEFAN HEINZE, MARKUS SCHIFFER, GEREON HACKENBERG, TIMM-FLORIAN PABST, DEVIN HYMERS, TOM SITTIG, ELISA CHOPAN, CARLO BADDELIYANAGE, ALFRED DEWALD, and DENNIS MÜCHER — Universität zu Köln, Germany

As part of the CRC1211 project -Evolution at the dry limit- dating analysis is asked for soil samples from the Atacama desert, resulting in ultra-small samples with a carbon content of about 2-20 $\mu$ g. The ultra-small-scale AMS  $^{14}\text{C}$  analysis will be used for the determination of ages of organic compounds isolated from the desert soils.

For this reason a new elemental analyser (EA) and an isotope ratio mass spectrometer (IRMS) have been coupled to the 6MV AMS system of CologneAMS. By only measuring one sample this will provide a fully automated, online-analysis of  $^{14}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ , and it will deliver precise values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ .

The EA-IRMS has been set up with a direct connection to the existing gas interface (GIS) and has been implemented into the software which is controlling the measurements. In this way it is possible to measure quasi-simultaneously the  $^{14}\text{C}$  concentration with the 6MV AMS system and the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  value with the IRMS device.

We will investigate whether this new set-up will enable improved fractionation correction which are used in the  $^{14}\text{C}$  data evaluation.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values will be used for correction of fractionation in the AMS system, to increase the measurement accuracy and finally, to solve dating problems in different archives of the desert.

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**Email:** mgwozdz@ikp.uni-koeln.de