

Talbot et al. Strontium isotopic evidence .... Supplementary material.

## NILE SR-ISOTOPE BUDGETS - MATHCAD WORKSHEET and SPREADSHEET WITH PRIMARY DATA

### Notes

- The mass balance must be used realistically with respect to regional climate and hydrology. e.g. It would be unrealistic to put the discharge of the "torrents" at maximum when the other rivers are at a minimum. (See table of input variables on following page).
- Because of the close proximity of the Victoria inflow to the Nile outflow from L. Albert, water from Victoria does not mix thoroughly with waters originating from other parts of the Albert catchment. For this reasons the two are treated as separate entities: (i) Victoria Nile contribution, (ii) Edward/Ruwenzori/Albert catchment contribution.
- A working MathCad worksheet file is available on request from the first author (michael.talbot@geol.uib.no).

### Strontium budget for Lake Albert

(Discharge in m<sup>3</sup>/sec)

Sd := 63.4      Semliki discharge from Edward

Ssr := 0.7073      Sr isotopic composition of outflow from Edward

Sc := 8.65      Sr conc. of outflow (Palmer & Edmond - P & E)

$$S := Sd \cdot Ssr \cdot Sc \quad Sr := Sd \cdot Sc$$

Rd := 50.7      Discharge from w. Ruwenzori into Semliki R.

Rsr := 0.7108      Sr composition of w. Ruwenzori (initially same as L. George - 0.7108 - P&E)

Rc := 0.49      Sr. conc. of w. Ruwenzori rivers (same as Malagarasi - 0.49 - P&E)

$$R := Rd \cdot Rsr \cdot Rc \quad Rr := Rd \cdot Rc$$

Od := 53.9      Discharge of other rivers entering L. Albert

Osr := 0.724      Sr isotopic composition of other rivers (based on Kafu - P&E)

Oc := 0.12      Sr conc. of other rivers (based on Kafu - P&E)

$$O := Od \cdot Osr \cdot Oc \quad Or := Od \cdot Oc$$

$$Asr := \frac{S + O + R}{Sr + Or + Rr}$$

Asr = 0.7076      Composition of Albert-Edward contribution to White Nile

### BUDGET FOR WHITE NILE

Input variables:

Discharge: m <sup>3</sup> . sec-1	Mar/Apr	June	August	Oct/Nov	Dec/Jan
Ad	135	71	67	250	176
Vd	875	962	995	985	915
Td	5	205	290	290	20
SOd	46	405	636	790	393

For no overflow from Victoria, Vd=0

For no overflow from Victoria or Albert, Vd=0, Ad=0

### Contribution from L. Edward & Albert catchments

Ad := 71      Discharge from Albert other than that from Victoria

Ac := 7.44      Sr conc. of L. Albert

$$A := Ad \cdot Asr \cdot Ac \quad Ar := Ad \cdot Ac$$

### Victoria Nile below L. Kyoga (data from Shahin, Table 8.7)

Vd := 962      Discharge into L. Albert

Vsr := 0.712      (see below. Kyoga shell: 0.7154 - not from main body of lake)

Vc := 3.3      (based on 3x enrich. in Ca)

$$V := Vd \cdot Vsr \cdot Vc \quad Vr := Vd \cdot Vc$$

### Torrents (Aswa, etc.) that join Bahr el Jebel

Td := 205      Discharge

Tsr := 0.7251      (Same as Ora, Uganda - P&E)      (nb. P & E's quoted Sr conc. for the Ora - 0.94 - is unusually high for a trop. river draining cryst. basement, not just in Africa. Even if correct it probably cannot be applied to larger rivers like the Aswa)

Tc := 0.49      (Same as Malagarasi - P&E)

$$T := Td \cdot Tsr \cdot Tc \quad Tr := Td \cdot Tc$$

### Composition of Bahr el Jebel

$$B := \frac{(A + T + V)}{(Ar + Tr + Vr)} \quad B = 0.7117 \quad (\text{Composition measured at Bor} - 0.7117)$$

**Loss of water at Sudd**

$F_r \approx 0.51$  Fraction of Bahr el Jebel passing through Sudd (today ca. 0.51 - Shahin, p. 362)  
 $N_s := (A_d + T_d + V_d) \cdot F_r$

$N_s = 631.38$  Discharge from Sudd

$$N_c := \frac{A_d \cdot A_c + V_d \cdot V_c + T_d \cdot T_c}{A_d + V_d + T_d} \cdot 1.25 \quad \text{Calc. Sr concentration in Bahr el Jebel, based on Ca enrichment of 1.25}$$

$N_c = 3.84$

**Sobat River**

$S_{Od} = 405$  Discharge  
 $S_{Os} \approx 0.7062$  (same as Blue Nile in Sudan)  
 $S_{Oc} \approx 1.5$  (rivers draining Ethiopian Plateau - P&E)

**White Nile**

$$W_{sr} := \frac{N_s \cdot B \cdot N_c + S_{Od} \cdot S_{Os} \cdot S_{Oc}}{(N_s \cdot N_c + S_{Od} \cdot S_{Oc})}$$

$W_{sr} = 0.7106$  **Sr isotopic composition of the White Nile**

**Mass balance for Victoria Nile below L. Kyoga**

$V_{Nd} \approx 908$  Discharge from L. Victoria (Shahin, Tab. 8.5)

$V_{Ns} \approx 0.7114$  Composition of Victoria Nile

$V_{Nc} \approx 1.1$  Sr conc. of Victoria Nile

$K_{Rd} \approx 92.15$  Additional inflow to L. Kyoga (Shahin, Tab. 8.6)

$K_{Rs} \approx 0.7232$  Sr comp. of additional inflow (Kafu R.)

$K_{Rc} \approx 0.12$  Sr. conc. of additional inflow (Kafu R.)

$$V_{ky} := \frac{V_{Nd} \cdot V_{Ns} \cdot V_{Nc} + K_{Rd} \cdot K_{Rs} \cdot K_{Rc}}{V_{Nd} \cdot V_{Nc} + K_{Rd} \cdot K_{Rc}}$$

$V_{ky} = 0.712$  Sr. composition of Nile below L. Kyoga

P & E - Palmer and Edmond (1989)  
Discharge data from Hurst (1952) and Shahin (1985)

Table A. Analytical data

Sheet1

lab #	sample	age	87/86Sr measured	2S error	87/86Sr corrected	Locality	Material
1 mt-1972	Vic 2	Modern	0.711266	9.00E-006	0.711291	L. Victoria	mollusc
2 mt-1973	Vic 3	Modern	0.711274	8.00E-006	0.711299	L. Victoria	mollusc
3 mt-1969	Ibis 1-4/1	L. Pleistocene	0.711214	8.00E-006	0.711239	L. Victoria	mollusc
4 mt-1970	Ibis 1-4/2	L. Pleistocene	0.711224	9.00E-006	0.711249	L. Victoria	mollusc
5 mt-1971	Vic 1	Modern	0.711256	8.00E-006	0.711281	Victoria Nile	mollusc
7 mt-1974	ED 1	Modern	0.707392	9.00E-006	0.707417	L. Edward	mollusc
8 mt-1975	ED 2	Modern	0.707430	8.00E-006	0.707455	L. Edward	mollusc
9 mt-1976	ED 3	Modern	0.707433	9.00E-006	0.707458	L. Edward	mollusc
12 mt-1988	Alb 4Pc/a	Modern	0.709991	8.00E-006	0.710004	L. Albert	mollusc
13 mt-1989	Alb 4Pc/b	Modern	0.710449	9.00E-006	0.710462	L. Albert	ostracode
14	Alb 1	modern	0.710285	1.40E-005	0.710280	L. Albert	mollusc
15 mt-1990	AF 3	L. Pleistocene	0.713766	8.00E-006	0.713779	L. Albert	ostracode
17	WN13	modern	0.711663	1.40E-005	0.711658	W.Nile, Bor	mollusc
19 mt-1977	WN 1	Modern	0.709682	9.00E-006	0.709707	Esh Shawal	mollusc
20 mt-1996	WN 11	Modern	0.710886	8.00E-006	0.710899	Esh Shawal	mollusc
21	WN5 (av.)	Modern			0.710873	Esh Shawal	mollusc
mt-1981	WN 5	Modern	0.710868	8.00E-006	0.710881		mollusc
mt-2028	WN 5A	Modern	0.710778	8.00E-006	0.710803		mollusc
mt-2029	WN 5B	Modern	0.710829	8.00E-006	0.710854		mollusc
mt-2030	WN 5C	Modern	0.710827	8.00E-006	0.710852		mollusc
mt-2031	WN 5D	Modern	0.710913	8.00E-006	0.710938		mollusc
mt-2032	WN 5E	Modern	0.710885	8.00E-006	0.710910		mollusc

Table A, continued

Sheet1

22 mt-1978	WN 2	Modern	0.709499	8.00E-006	0.709524 Esh Shawal	mollusc
23 mt-1997	WN 12	11500	0.709699	9.00E-006	0.709712 Esh Shawal	mollusc
24 mt-1983	WN 7a	11300	0.709607	8.00E-006	0.709620 Esh Shawal	mollusc
25 mt-1984	WN 7b	11300	0.710870	9.00E-006	0.710883 Esh Shawal	mollusc
26 mt-1982	WN 6	11250	0.709711	9.00E-006	0.709724 Esh Shawal	mollusc
27 mt 2257	ES 2 - 100/1	11250	0.709214	9.00E-006	0.709261 Esh Shawal	mollusc
28 mt 2258	ES 2 - 100/2	11250	0.709246	8.00E-006	0.709293 Esh Shawal	catfish spine
29 mt-1987	WN 10	5500	0.709868	9.00E-006	0.709881 Guli	mollusc
30 mt-1986	WN 9	3030	0.709891	8.00E-006	0.709904 Tagra	mollusc
31 mt-1985	WN 8	8130	0.707823	9.00E-006	0.707836 Tagra	mollusc
32 mt-2033	WN 8A	8130	0.707955	8.00E-006	0.707979 Tagra	mollusc
33 mt-1991	SH 1	7050	0.708000	9.00E-006	0.708013 Shabona	mollusc
34 mt-1992	SH 2	7050	0.708460	8.00E-006	0.708473 Shabona	mollusc
35 mt-1993	SH 3	7050	0.708607	8.00E-006	0.708606 Shabona	mollusc
37 mt-1979	WN 3	Modern	0.706160	9.00E-006	0.706185 Gezira canal	mollusc
38 mt-1995	BN 2	11800	0.707052	8.00E-006	0.707065 Atra	mollusc