OSL decomposition report *(alpha version)*

Table of Contents

[Basic idea 3](#_Toc22839689)

[Script & data parameter 4](#_Toc22839690)

[Data pre-treatment 5](#_Toc22839691)

[Step 1 – Evaluation of component number and decay constants 6](#_Toc22839692)

[Step 2 – Single curve decomposition 11](#_Toc22839693)

[Step 3 – Equivalent dose calculation 14](#_Toc22839694)

[Rejection criteria 17](#_Toc22839695)

[Paleodose and age estimation 19](#_Toc22839696)

[Summary 21](#_Toc22839697)

[References 21](#_Toc22839698)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| kürzen |  |
| Data set | BT1713\_SAR\_RT.bin |
| Script executed at | 2019-10-24 19:51:08 |

**Preface**  
This report was automatically generated using the Rmarkdown (see Xie *et al.* 2018) script EvaluateDataSet.Rmd in the **R** package OSLdecomposition written and maintained by Dirk Mittelstraß ([dirk.mittelstrass@luminescence.de](mailto:dirk.mittelstrass@luminescence.de)). The dose calculation deploys also functions of the R packages numOSL introduced by Jun Peng *et al.* (2013) and Luminescence introduced by Sebastian Kreutzer *et al.*(2012)

This report and the containing results can be used, shared and published by the data set maintainer at will. If the results are published, however, it is demanded to state the main **R** package OSLdecomposition including its version number (0.10.24.1). It is also recommended to add this report to the supplement of your publication.

A full description of the method and the algorithms involved, as well as some performance tests, can be found in the master thesis this script is based upon:

*D. Mittelstraß, ‘Decomposition of weak optically stimulated luminescence signals and its application in retrospective dosimetry at quartz’, Master thesis, TU Dresden, Dresden, 2019.*

Please refer to this thesis when publishing results gained from this script or the underlying method.

## Basic idea

The method is based on the assumption, that every OSL curve can be described as sum of signal components (Bailey *et al.* 1997). It is further assumed, that each signal component can be described by an exponential decay following first order kinetics. The shape of every CW-OSL curve can then be modelled by:

Here, *I(t)* represents the luminescence signal during continuous stimulation, *K* the number signal components, *ni* the integrated signal intensities (or just ‘signal values’) of each signal component and their decay constants. We also assume, that the set of decay constants is the same for all OSL curves in a given data set. So we can apply the following data analysis approach:

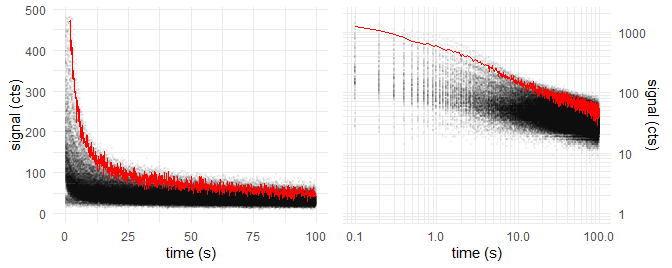
1. Determine the component number *K* and the decay parameters , …, globally by multi-exponential decay fitting at one representative superposition OSL curve
2. Determine the signal values *n1*, …, *nK*for each OSL curve by a decomposition algorithm
3. Determine the natural dose signal component-wise by building separate signal-dose growth curves for each set of *ni* values

## Script & data parameter

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Script conditions** |  |
| Script version | 2019-10-24 |
| R version | 3.6.1 |
| Packages performing calculations | OSLdecomposition 0.10.24.1 |
|  | Luminescence 0.9.5 |
|  | numOSL 2.6 |

The data set is imported to **R** using the function Luminescence::read\_BIN2R programmed by Kreutzer and Fuchs (2019). Files in the BIN and the BINX format produced by Risoe DA15, Risoe DA20, lexsyg research and lexsyg smart TL/OSL readers are supported.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Data set conditions** |  |
| Evaluated record types | OSL |
| Data set entries (aliquots) | 10 |
| Indicies of dismissed aliquots | none |
| Indicies of background measurements | none |
| Analyzed aliquots | 10 |
| OSL records per entry | 14 |
| Channels | *N* = 999 |
| Channel width | = 0.1 s |
| Measurement time | *tend* = 1e+02 |



*Figure 1: Raw data points of all OSL curves (grey opaque) and natural dose OSL curve of first aliquot (red)*

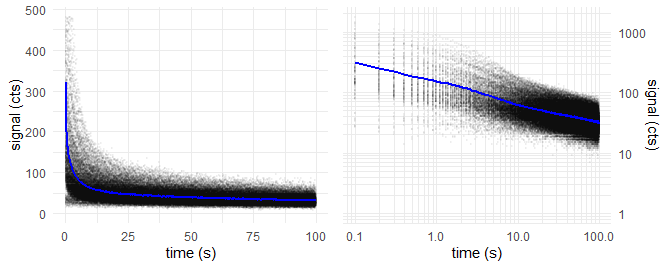
|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Sample conditions** |  |
| Sample type | coarse grain quartz |
| Expected age | ~ NA ka |
| Environmental dose rate | NA Gy ka-1 |
| Expected dose | ~ 11 Gy |
| Laboratory dose rate | 0.055 Gy s-1 |
| Stimulation wavelength | 530 nm |
| Assumed stimulation intensity | 50 mW cm-2 |
| **Algorithm settings** |  |
| Cut measurements if exceeding | *tmax* = 200 s |
| Maximum allowed components | *Kmax* = 5 |
| Threshold *F*-value | *Fthreshold* = 50 |
| Decomposition algorithm | det+nls |

## Data pre-treatment

Prior data evaluation, the records will be corrected for signal background, measurement over-length, etc., depending on the script settings and the provided data. The following corrections were performed by applying the function prepare\_OSLdata():

## Step 1 – Evaluation of component number and decay constants

For calculating the decay parameters, one representative OSL curve is needed. This is provided by combining all records to one **global mean curve**. Each data point of the global curve represents the arithmetic mean of all data point values of the same channel in all OSL curves. This increases the signal-to-noise ratio by about one to two orders of magnitude, but still maintains the decay parameter information.



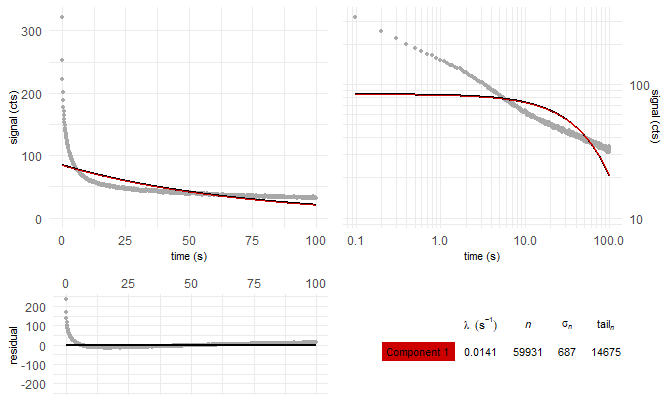
*Figure 2: Global mean OSL curve (blue) and data points of all OSL records (grey opaque)*

We take the global mean curve and perform a multiple cycles of **multi-exponential nonlinear regression**. In each cycle, the number of components *K* increases by one. With increasing number of components, decreases the signal deviation (residual curve) between the fitted model curve and the measured data and the fit gets better.

The underlying algorithm was proposed and described by Bluszcz & Adamiec (2006) and realized in **R** by the function numOSL::decomp() by Peng *et al.* (2013). Their function is used in fit\_OSLcurve(), which calculated the following series of fittings, displayed with plot\_OSLcurve():

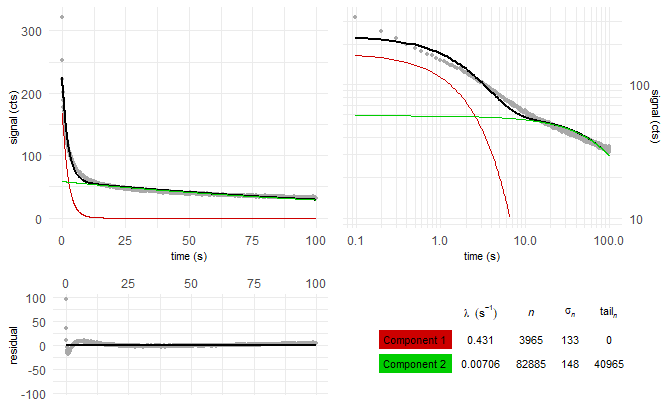
The subsequent diagrams are structured the following way:

* Upper left: Global mean curve (grey), fit model curve (black) and component signals
* Upper right: Same as log-log diagram
* Lower left: Residual curve between fit and global mean curve
* Lower right: Result table with estimated type of component names (colored)



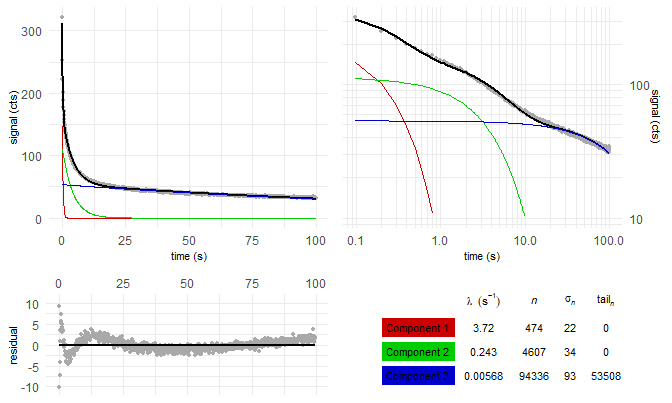
*Figure 3: Global mean curve fit with K = 1 components*

———



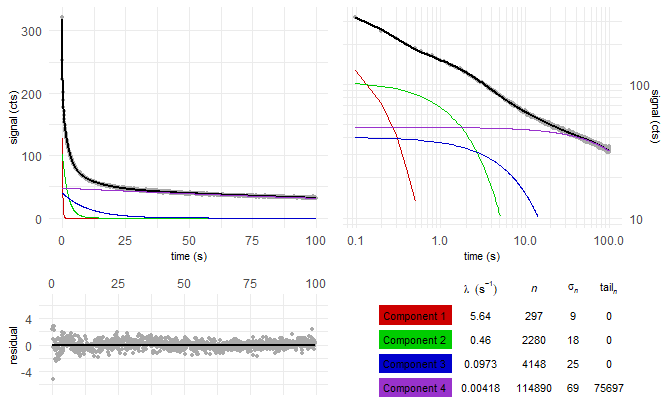
*Figure 4: Global mean curve fit with K = 2 components*

———



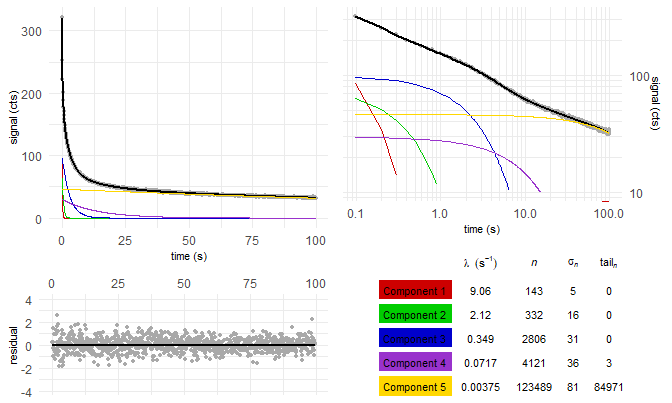
*Figure 5: Global mean curve fit with K = 3 components*

———



*Figure 6: Global mean curve fit with K = 4 components*

———



*Figure 7: Global mean curve fit with K = 5 components*

———

But which of these fittings gives back a sufficient model of the global mean curve, without over-fitting it? We solve this by comparing the residual square sum (*RSS*) of each fitting with the *RSS* value of the previous fitting. This is called *F*-test and was already proposed by Bluszcz & Adamiec:

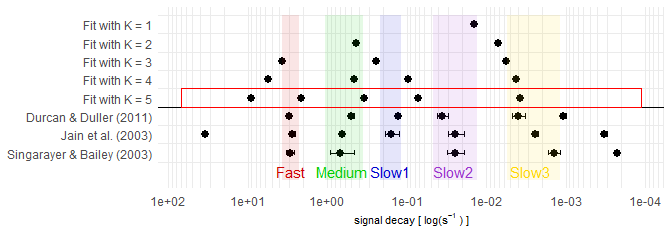
If *FK* falls below the preset threshold value of *Fthreshold* = 50, the new fitting model with *K* components is apparently not significantly better than the *K* - 1 model.

Table 1: Decay constants and fit quality parameters for multi-exponentional decay fitting with K components

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| K |  |  |  |  |  | RSS |  |
| 1 | 0.0141 |  |  |  |  | 2.69e+05 |  |
| 2 | 0.431 | 0.00706 |  |  |  | 2.07e+04 | 5.98e+03 |
| 3 | 3.72 | 0.243 | 0.00568 |  |  | 2.06e+03 | 4.5e+03 |
| 4 | 5.64 | 0.46 | 0.0973 | 0.00418 |  | 465 | 1.7e+03 |
| 5 | 9.06 | 2.12 | 0.349 | 0.0717 | 0.00375 | 354 | 154 |

The fitting with *K* = 5 components is found to be the best suiting model to describe the given sample. Signal components with not-first-order kinetics, however, can lead to over-fitting. It is recommended to take the results of the *K* = 4 fitting model also into consideration.

If the stimulation light wavelength is about 470 nm and the stimulation light intensity is 50 mW cm-2 as presetted, the photoionisation cross-sections of the components can be calculated. These can be compared with the quartz LM-OSL findings, given in literature[^7][^8][^9]



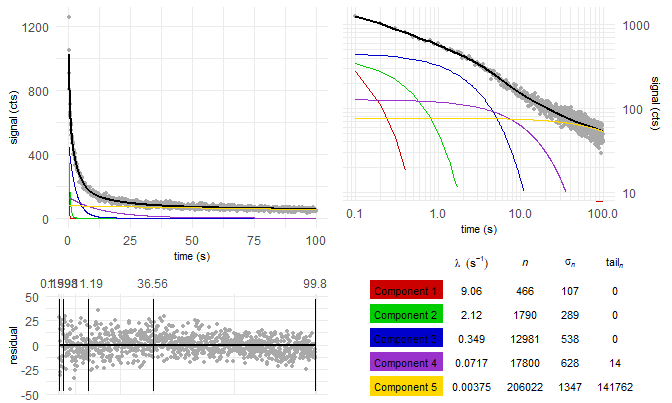
*Figure 8: Comparison of decay constants between fitting cases and comparison with reference values. Red square: Best fit*

## Step 2 – Single curve decomposition

In Step 2, we decompose each OSL curve into its signal components. We set the decay constants found in Step 1 as fixed values for all OSL curves of the data set. This allows us to apply very robust and noise-insensitve signal decomposition methods. In case, the decomposition method “det+nls” is chosen, the following workflow is applied:

1. Divide the measurement time into *K* intervals. These intervals are calculated and optimized globally by calc\_OSLintervals().
2. Integrate the signal curve of each OSL record over these intervals. From the integration values and the fitting model found in Step 1, build one equation system with *K* equations for each OSL record.
3. Solve the equation system by an analytic determinant based method, called ‘Cramer’s rule’, and get the area under the component curve or ‘intensity’ *nk* for each signal component
4. To enhance stability and precision of the method, refine the set of *nk* values in a quasi-linear regression using base::nls(). If this refining-fit fails, go on with the Cramer’s rule achieved values.
5. Calculate the standard deviation of the integration values from step 2 by the residuals between fit-model OSL curve and real data points
6. Apply the propagation of uncertainty method onto Cramer’s rule and calculate the uncertainty for each component intensity value *nk*

All steps, beside the first step, are realized in decompose\_OSLcurve(). The table in figure 9 displays the particular outcome of this method for the *K* = 5 model applied at the first OSL curve of the first aliquot as example. The parameter *tailn* gives back the area under the component which is not displayed in the OSL diagram. If the measurement was not cutted in the data-pretreatment and an appropriate background correction was performaed, *tailn* equals the not-released signal of the component.



*Figure 9: 5-component decomposition of the first OSL record in the data set. The vertical lines in the residual diagram show the integration intervals*

We assume the data set is measured in accordance to the SAR protocol defined by Murray and Wintle (2000). Then every OSL measurement is followed by the regeneration of a fixed test-dose (here 11 Gy) and the measurement of the OSL signal related to this test-dose. The testdose-related OSL signal is indicated by the variable *Ti*, the natural and regenerated dose OSL signal is indicated by the variable *Li*. The normalized OSL signal is therefore given by .

A L/T table provides a structure for the signal values and dose regeneration points we need to build dose-signal curves in Step 3 and to test for signal behaviour criteria. One L/T table per signal component and aliquot is built. To avoid some potential issues in Step 3, we apply the following conditions when assigning the signal values to the table:

* If the measurement time was not cutted: Substract the value of *tailn* from the *nk* value of the subsequent OSL measurement. This enables correctly built L/T tables for slow decaying components.
* If the measurement time was cutted: Do not build L/T tables of a component, when more than 1% of the components signal would be transferred into *tailn*. So the component can not be further evaluated and misleading conclusions are avoided.
* Set negative values to to avoid calculation issues although negative values are mathematically and physically possible (due to photo-transfer).

Table:

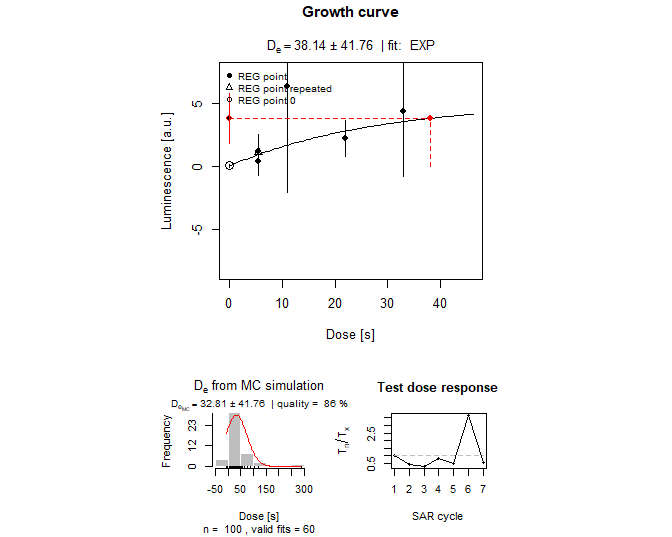
Table 2: L/T table of fastest decaying component of first aliquot for the K = 5 case. Test dose for generating all Ti is: DT = 11 Gy

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *i* | dose (Gy) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 0 | natural | 3.81 | 1.97 | 466 | 107 | 123 | 57 |
| 1 | 5.5 | 0.38 | 1.15 | 21 | 59 | 54 | 55 |
| 2 | 11 | 6.31 | 8.40 | 245 | 69 | 39 | 51 |
| 3 | 22 | 2.21 | 1.41 | 221 | 71 | 100 | 55 |
| 4 | 33 | 4.32 | 5.11 | 273 | 99 | 63 | 71 |
| 5 | 0 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 12 | 44 | 450 | 112 |
| 6 | 5.5 | 1.15 | 1.41 | 79 | 66 | 69 | 62 |

## Step 3 – Equivalent dose calculation

From the L/T table, we create a signal dose curve or “growth curve” by calling the function Luminescence::plot\_GrowthCurve()programmed by Kreutzer and Dietze (2019). The function plots the luminescence signal values against the regeneration doses *x = Di*. Several fitting models are selectable. We will use the default model:

Here *a*, *b* and *c* are the fitting factors. The factor The natural or ‘equivalent’ dose *De* related to the natural luminescence signal of this component and aliquot is calculated by solving . The uncertainty of the equivalent dose *De* is calculated by a Monte Carlo simulation. The Monte Carlo simulation assumes normal distributed values with a standard deviation equal to the calculated error . This assumption is used to build 100 randomized L/T tables. The standard deviation of the *De* distribution calculated from these tables, is then the *De* error returned by Luminescence::plot\_GrowthCurve().



*Figure 10: Signal-dose curve of the fastest decaying component of the first aliquot, plotted by Luminescence::plot\_GrowthCurve(). Lower left: Distribution of Monte Carlo simulatd* De\* values, used to calculate the *De* error value. Lower right: Variation of the normalized Test dose signal over the measurement sequence, useful to display luminescence sensitivity changes.

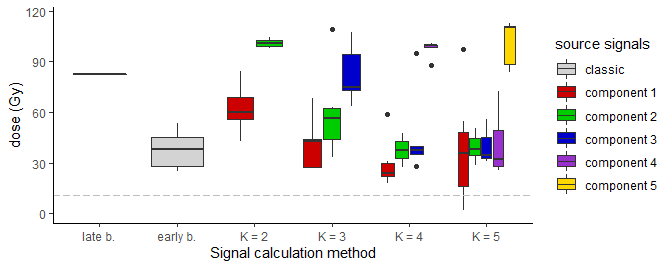
We calculate the equivalent doses *De* for all aliquots and all components for which L/T tables were built. We do this not just for the *K* = 5 case we selected per *F*-test in Step 1. We do this also for all *K* < 5, This way, we gained dose information even if the *K* = 5 doses aren’t available or reasonable due low signal-to-noise ratio or over-fitting in Step 1. For comparison, we also calculate *De* values the common way by late light background substraction and early light background substraction. The late light background substraction approach or short ‘late background’ approach was applied by Murray & Wintle (2000) in their definition of the standard SAR protocol. Here, the function calc\_classisOSLsignal() performs the signal calculation and sets the integration intervals following the rules by Murray & Wintle (2000). For the ‘early background’ approach, the rules given by Cunningham and Wallinga (2010) are applied

Table 4: Medians of the De-distributions from 10 aliquots from different signal calculation approaches. The first line lists the median values of the fastest decaying signal component, the second line the second fastest, etc.. The value inside the brackets () shows the number of sucessful calculated De’s.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Classic signal calculation approaches** | | Signal interval | | Background interval | | |
| Late light background substraction | | 0 to 0.6 s | | 94 to 1e+02 s | | |
| Early light background substraction | | 0 to 0.3 s | | 0.3 to 1.1 s | | |
| component | late b. | | early b. | | K = 1 | K = 2 | | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 119.3 Gy (2) | | 38.1 Gy (6) | | - | 62.4 Gy (7) | | 42.6 Gy (5) | 24.7 Gy (7) | 35.7 Gy (7) |
| 2 |  | |  | |  | 136.8 Gy (6) | | 56.1 Gy (6) | 37.6 Gy (2) | 38.3 Gy (7) |
| 3 |  | |  | |  |  | | 75.1 Gy (9) | 37.4 Gy (6) | 44.9 Gy (4) |
| 4 |  | |  | |  |  | |  | 109.7 Gy (10) | 32.3 Gy (7) |
| 5 |  | |  | |  |  | |  |  | 112.9 Gy (9) |

Note, that in all cases fit failures are common and can happen if the values have to large errors or don’t follow a growth curve or if is larger than the fit parameter *a*.

Table 4 vizualized in a series of box plots, we get:

 component late b. early b. K = 1 K = 2 K = 3 K = 4 1 1 119.283 Gy 38.102 Gy - 62.368 Gy 42.566 Gy 24.701 Gy 2 2 136.772 Gy 56.128 Gy 37.555 Gy 3 3 75.113 Gy 37.427 Gy 4 4 109.665 Gy 5 5  
K = 5 1 35.746 Gy 2 38.32 Gy 3 44.918 Gy 4 32.296 Gy 5 112.903 Gy

*Figure 11: Box plots of the* De*-distributions from 10 aliquots from different signal calculation approaches. The dashed line shows the expected does. Box plot rules: The whiskers enclose all four quartiles besides outlier. The rectangles enclose the second and third quartile. The middle line shows the median. See ggplot2::geom\_boxplot for a detailed explanation.*

## Rejection criteria

The equivalent doses calculated so far, are not necessarily physical meaningful. Murray and Wintle introduced two tests to detect and reject not trustworthy *De* values.

**Recycling ratio test**  
In the SAR protocol, the first and the last dose regeneration cycle apply usally the same dose (=recycled dose). The generated normalized luminescence signals and should be about equal. If the ratio between both differs significantly from one, it implicates that the applied doses cannt be monitored precisely.

Table 5: Mean and standard deviation of the recycling ratios from all successfully fitted aliquots

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| component | late b. | early b. | K = 1 | K = 2 | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 0.96 0.1 | 1.35 0.65 | 1.23 0.06 | 0.99 0.09 | 1.05 0.26 | 1.12 0.46 | 1.46 1.09 |
| 2 |  |  |  | 1.62 0.17 | 0.98 0.09 | 1.01 0.15 | 2.26 3.25 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  | 1.9 0.29 | 1.06 0.47 | 1.15 0.52 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  | 2.51 1.06 | 0.74 0.35 |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 2.63 1.27 |

Be aware, that for data sets with low signal-to-noise ratio, this recycling ratio is quite random, especially if small test doses are chosen. False positive as well as false negative aliquot rejections are likely.

**Recuperation test**  
In the regeneration cycle after the cycle with the largest applied dose, usually no dose is applied before measuring *Li*. If no dose is applied, the corresponding normalized luminescence signal should be about zero. The occurence of significant luminescence signal hints towards the appearance of charge transfer into the observed OSL traps unrelated to dose regeneration.

Table 6: Mean and standard deviation of the recuperation rates from all successfully fitted aliquots

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| component | late b. | early b. | K = 1 | K = 2 | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 0.002 0.001 | 0 0 | 0.055 0.018 | 0 0 | 0.005 0.006 | 0 0 | 0.025 0.062 |
| 2 |  |  |  | 0.024 0.009 | 0 0 | 0.007 0.005 | 0 0 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  | 0.015 0.007 | 0 0 | 0.007 0.005 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  | 0.007 0.006 | 0 0 |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0.006 0.005 |

We use the range of acceptance proposed by Murray and Wintle (2000) for both tests:

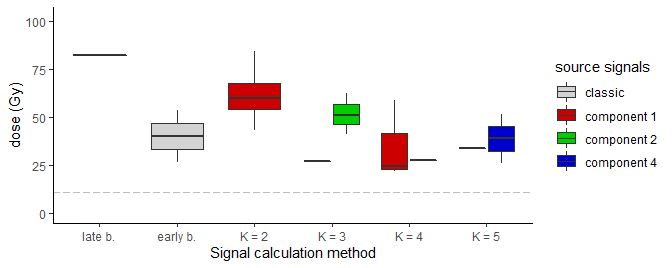
|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Criterium | Formula | Range of acceptance |
| Recycling ratio |  |  |
| Recuperation rate |  |  |

How many aliquots fullfill these criteria?

Table 7: Number of aliquots which passed rejection criteria successfully.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| component | late b. | early b. | K = 1 | K = 2 | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 2 of 10 | 2 of 10 | 0 of 10 | 5 of 10 | 2 of 10 | 3 of 10 | 0 of 10 |
| 2 |  |  |  | 0 of 10 | 3 of 10 | 1 of 10 | 1 of 10 |
| 3 |  |  |  |  | 0 of 10 | 0 of 10 | 0 of 10 |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  | 0 of 10 | 2 of 10 |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | 0 of 10 |

Applying the test criteria should reject the majority of inaccurate *De* measurements. How does this change the *De* dose distribution?



*Figure 12: Box plots of the* De*-distributions from 10 aliquots which passed the rejection criteria.*

## Paleodose and age estimation

We will use two approaches to calculating the burial age from a distribution of equivalent dose values which are common in the geoscientific community: The central age model and the minimum age model. Both models were introduced by Galbraith et al. (1999) and are comprehensibly summarized in Galbraith and Roberts (2012). We will use this step also to transform the dose values into age values, given an environemtal dose rate was given at the beginning of this script.

**Central age model**  
The central age model (short: ‘CAM’) proposed by Galbraith et al. (1999) assumes that the logarithmic values of the *De*’s are about normal distributed. But this normal distribution arises not just from measurement errors of the *De*-evaluation but also from unknown geologic or physical uncertainties. The CAM algorithm try to calculate a variance-weighted arithmetic mean from the log(*De*) values but includes an unknown uncertainty parameter in the weigthing term, called ‘overdispersion’. The overdispersion is used as second fitting parameter besides the paleodose. In case the *De*-distribution is just caused by instrumental errors, the overdisperion should be around zero. For geologic samples, overdispersions up to are common.  
In a nutshell: The CAM resulting paleodose is a kind of weighted geometric mean of the equivalent doses with an extra property (the overdispersion) indicating the pre-measurement dose uncertainty.

Table 8: Central age model obtained paleodoses. In the brackets: overdispersion b.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| component | late b. | early b. | K = 1 | K = 2 | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 127.4 27.1 Gy (0) | 37.9 11 Gy (0) | - | 74.7 16.1 Gy (0.33) | 27.2 8.4 Gy (0) | 36.7 13 Gy (0) | - |
| 2 |  |  |  | - | 50.6 10.3 Gy (0) | - | - |
| 3 |  |  |  |  | - | - | - |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  | - | 30.9 11.6 Gy (0) |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |

The central age model does not take into account that the sample might be bleached incompletely before the burial event. For that case, Galbraith et al. (1999) assume a truncated normal distribution of the *De* values spreaded towards higher doses. The central age model would lead to over-estimated paleodoses, so they added one more fitting parameter to the CAM approach to compensate for the spreading. If the MAM paleodose is significantly lower than the CAM paleodose, incomplete bleaching before burial is likely.

Be aware, the overdispersion becomes an input parameter. In lack of experimental obtained (a fully bleached sample is needed), we set per default, as proposed by Galbraith and Roberts (2012).

Table 9: Minimum age model obtained paleodoses. b = 0.2.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| component | late b. | early b. | K = 1 | K = 2 | K = 3 | K = 4 | K = 5 |
| 1 | 123.4 46.7 Gy | 37.9 16.7 Gy | - | 55.3 21.8 Gy | 27.2 12 Gy | 36.9 18.9 Gy | - |
| 2 |  |  |  | - | 50.7 15.7 Gy | - | 21.2 3.89290950564936e+184 Gy |
| 3 |  |  |  |  | - | - | - |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |  | - | 31.5 16.8 Gy |
| 5 |  |  |  |  |  |  | - |

## Summary

Time difference of 10.08445 mins

## References

Kreutzer and Fuchs (2019)

[11]: Kreutzer, S., Dietze, M., 2019. plot\_GrowthCurve(): Fit and plot a growth curve for luminescence data (Lx/Tx against dose). Function version 1.10.8. In: Kreutzer, S., Burow, C., Dietze, M., Fuchs, M.C., Schmidt, C., Fischer, M., Friedrich, J., 2019. Luminescence: Comprehensive Luminescence Dating Data AnalysisR package version 0.9.5. <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=Luminescence> [12]: A. C. Cunningham und J. Wallinga, „Selection of integration time intervals for quartz OSL decay curves“, Quat. Geochronol., Bd. 5, Nr. 6, S. 657–666, Dez. 2010.