

BRITISH COLUMBIA TILL GEOCHEMICAL DATAFILE

Geofile 2008_13

Ray Lett

Introduction

The BC Geological Survey (BCGS) and Geological Survey of Canada (GSC) have produced geochemical analyses of over 5000 drift samples collected across the province since 1991. Both agencies and Geoscience BC have release many of these data in digital form to the public. Ferbey (2008) has summarised the location and spatial coverage of BC Geological Survey drift prospecting surveys that have generated much the geochemical information. Jackaman (2007) compiled BCGS and GSC geochemical survey data, including the results of regional till survey sampling, for parts of the BC interior affected by the Mountain Pine Beetle

infestation. Geofile 2008_13 complements information in both publications. It contains an MS Excel file combining BCGS and GSC drift geochemical data from much of central BC including results from surveys on Vancouver Island and additional, unpublished till data from the area around Mt Milligan (NTS 93). Figure 1 shows the distribution of drift samples analysed and survey boundaries based on the index map displayed in Geofile 2008_12. While Geofile 2008_13 has instrumental neutron activation (INA), aqua regia digestion – inductively coupled plasma emission spectroscopy (AR-ICP), lithium metaborate fusion - inductively coupled plasma emission spectroscopy (LI) and Loss on Ignition (LOI) data not all of the samples have been analysed by these four techniques. Drift samples are classified by bedrock geology at the sample site based on published BCGS digital geology (Massey, 2005) and also by surficial sediment type (e.g. lodgement till, melt-out till, colluvial) from the descriptions in the source publication for the geochemical data. The MS Excel file structure is described in more detail in Table 1.

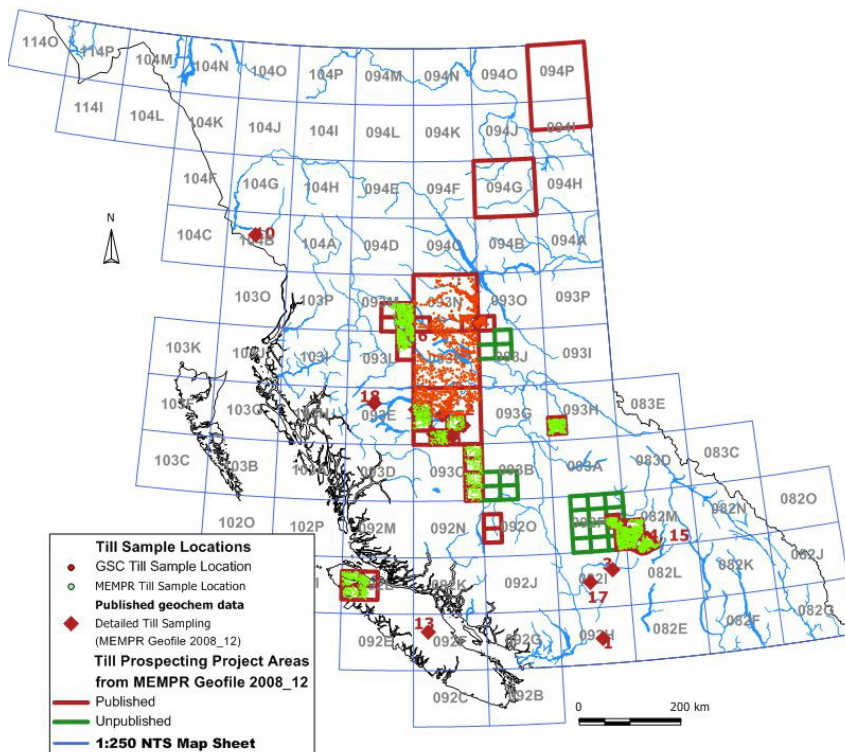


Figure 1

Till Geochemical File Structure

Column Title Primary Abbreviation	Translation	Column Title Secondary Abbreviation	Translation
MASTER_NUM	Unique samples identification – combines NTS Map Number, collection year & number. All samples are prefix TILL to distinguish from stream and lake sediments		
UNIT	Glacial sediment type (codes from GSB and GSC reports)	Mu Mb Mv Ma Mr Meb Mgb Cv Ceb Cgb FG LG R R T F FG^Mb	Morainal (till) – type unspecified by likely to be till Morainal – till blanket (> 3 m thick) Morainal – till veneer (< 3 m thick) Morainal – ablation till Morainal – resedimented Till mainly from Eagle Bay rocks Till mainly from Baldy Batholith rocks Colluvium – veneer Colluvium mainly reworked Eagle Bay rocks Colluvium mainly reworked Baldy intrusive rocks Glaciofluvial Glaciolacustrine Bedrock Resedimented Terrace Fan Sequence (e.g. glaciofluvial on till)
MAP50	NTS 1:50 000 scale map ID		
MAP 20	NTS 1:20 000 scale map ID (0 if no 1:20 000 sheet identified)		
YEAR	Year sample collected		
SURVEY_NUM	Sample number in survey		
STATUS	Quality control identifier	00 10 20 30	Routine sample First field duplicate Second field duplicate Third field duplicate
UTMZ	UTM Zone		
UTME83	UTM East Sample Coordinate-NAD 83		
UTMN83	UTM North Sample Coordinate-NAD 83		
LAT	Latitude – Decimal degrees		
LONG	Longitude – Decimal degrees		

STRAT	Bedrock Geology Code – STRAT 1 (from Massey et al, 2005)		
STRAT_NAME	Strata name (from Massey et al, 2005)		
ROCK_TYPE	Rock type summary description (from Massey et al, 2005)		
ORIGIONAL_D	Rock type original description (from Massey et al, 2005)		
REPORT	Source report for analytical data (See Ferbey, 2008, for complete listing of reports.		
LAB_1	First Laboratory responsible for analyses		ACTIVATION – Activation Laboratories Ltd. Ancaster, Ontario BECQUEREL – Becquerel Laboratories, Mississauga, Ontario.
METHOD_1	Instrumental neutron activation analysis of the < 0.063 mm fraction. Note that ach method, laboratory and elements determined are identified by separate columns (see below). symbol, method ID and unit. For example gold by instrumental neutron activation in units of parts per billion will be Au_INA_ppb. If there were two, repeat determinations for and the element (e.g. Au) the column header may be designated 1 and 2 e.g. Au1_INA_ppb and Au2_INA_ppb. Also, note that Wt is the sample weight irradiated for INAA analysis.		
As_INA_ppm	e.g. Arsenic by instrumental neutron activation in parts per million		
LAB_2	Second laboratory responsible for analyses		ACME – Acme Analytical Ltd. Vancouver, BC BONDAR – Bondar Clegg Ltd. Vancouver, BC (no longer in business). CHEMEX ALS-Chemex Ltd, North Vancouver, BC.
METHOD_2	Second method of analysing 0.063 mm fraction. Typically an aqua regia digestion of the < 0.063 mm fraction followed by inductively coupled plasma emission spectroscopy.		
LAB_3	Third laboratory responsible for analyses		ACME – Acme Analytical Ltd. Vancouver, BC
METHOD_3	Third method of analysing 0.063 mm fraction. Typically an lithium metaborate fusion of the < 0.063 mm fraction followed by inductively coupled plasma emission spectroscopy.		

Table 1: Data File structure

	Mean	median	Quartile	SD	Max	Min	50%ile	60%ile	70%ile	80%ile	90%ile	95%ile	98%ile	99%ile	Number
Au1_INA_ppb	10.1	3.0	9.0	34.0	1210.0	0.5	3.0	5.0	7.0	11.0	20.0	37.0	66.0	107.4	5741
Au2_INA_ppb	10.6	5.5	10.8	14.8	67.0	-2.0	5.5	7.0	8.5	15.0	30.5	43.5	52.7	57.9	66
Ag_INA_ppm	1.9	2.5	2.5	2.0	9.0	-5.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	1605
As_INA_ppm	13.8	10.0	16.0	32.6	2100.0	-5.0	10.0	12.0	14.0	17.2	23.8	33.0	50.1	69.5	5741
Ba_INA_ppm	833.1	810.0	990.0	314.3	4600.0	-50.0	810.0	860.0	940.0	1000.0	1200.0	1400.0	1600.0	1800.0	5741
Br_INA_ppm	3.7	0.5	2.1	22.5	770.0	-0.6	0.5	0.5	1.7	2.5	4.3	8.5	27.0	73.0	5741
Ca_INA_ppm	2.4	2.0	3.0	2.5	26.0	-1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.0	6.0	8.0	10.0	3873
Cd_INA_ppm	2.5	2.5	2.5	0.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	456
Ce_INA_ppm	55.9	47.0	62.0	29.3	310.0	2.0	47.0	51.0	57.0	70.0	92.0	115.0	149.0	168.8	5741
Co_INA_ppm	18.4	16.0	23.0	9.9	120.0	-1.0	16.0	18.0	21.0	24.0	31.0	38.0	46.2	52.0	5741
Cr_INA_ppm	122.1	100.0	150.0	100.4	2630.0	0.0	100.0	120.0	140.0	160.0	200.0	250.0	341.8	450.0	5741
Cs_INA_ppm	3.6	2.0	4.0	6.1	77.0	-1.0	2.0	3.0	3.0	4.0	5.2	8.0	29.0	37.0	5741
Eu_INA_ppm	1.5	1.5	1.7	0.5	7.3	0.1	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	2.0	2.3	2.8	3.1	5741
Fe_INA_%	4.9	4.6	5.6	1.5	17.9	0.9	4.6	5.0	5.3	5.9	6.8	7.6	8.6	9.5	5741
Hf_INA_ppm	5.7	5.0	7.0	2.1	23.0	0.5	5.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	8.0	10.0	11.0	13.0	5633
Hg_INA_ppm	0.6	0.5	0.5	3.1	48.0	-1.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	1149
Ir_INA_ppb	1.6	2.0	2.5	1.9	16.0	-5.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	1605
La_INA_ppm	29.3	24.0	32.6	16.7	190.0	3.0	24.0	27.0	30.0	37.0	51.0	63.0	80.1	92.0	5741
Lu_INA_ppm	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.2	2.2	0.0	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.0	5741
Mo_INA_ppm	1.1	0.5	1.0	2.8	41.0	-3.0	0.5	0.5	1.0	2.0	4.0	6.0	9.0	12.0	5741
Na_INA_%	1.9	1.9	2.2	0.6	4.5	0.0	1.9	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1	5741
Nd_INA_ppm	21.6	20.0	27.0	12.0	108.0	-5.0	20.0	22.0	25.0	29.0	37.0	44.0	53.0	59.0	5741
Ni_INA_ppm	42.4	10.0	61.0	96.1	1120.0	-68.0	10.0	24.0	44.0	82.0	140.0	190.0	280.0	370.0	2131
Rb_INA_ppm	56.4	51.0	71.0	36.2	300.0	-15.0	51.0	58.0	66.0	78.0	98.0	121.0	160.0	184.0	5741
Sb_INA_ppm	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.7	52.0	-0.1	1.2	1.4	1.7	2.0	2.7	3.5	5.1	6.6	5741
Sc_INA_ppm	18.4	17.0	21.0	7.0	68.0	4.3	17.0	18.0	20.0	23.0	28.0	32.0	37.7	42.0	5633
Se_INA_ppm	-0.3	0.0	2.0	2.5	31.0	-5.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	3684
Sm_INA_ppm	5.1	4.7	6.0	1.9	22.0	1.2	4.7	5.1	5.7	6.4	7.5	8.7	10.0	11.2	5741
Sn_INA_ppm	12.0	0.0	50.0	28.4	50.0	-100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	5168
Sr_INA_ppm	45.2	0.0	0.0	137.8	1100.0	-500.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	250.0	5168
Ta_INA_ppm	0.7	0.5	1.1	0.9	11.0	-0.7	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.3	1.8	2.2	3.0	3.9	5633
Tb_INA_ppm	0.6	0.6	0.9	0.5	2.9	-0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.6	5276
Te_INA_ppm	0.8	0.0	0.0	1.8	11.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5127
Th_INA_ppm	7.6	5.3	7.8	7.6	120.0	-0.2	5.3	5.8	6.9	9.6	15.0	19.6	26.8	45.0	5741
U_INA_ppm	2.5	2.2	2.9	1.9	27.0	-0.5	2.2	2.5	2.8	3.2	4.1	5.1	7.3	9.9	5741
W_INA_ppm	0.6	1.0	1.0	1.4	20.0	-1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	3.0	5.0	6.0	5741
Yb_INA_ppm	3.1	3.0	3.5	1.0	15.0	0.1	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.7	5.6	6.5	5741
Zn_INA_ppm	107.7	113.0	146.8	124.9	5700.0	-50.0	113.0	125.0	139.0	155.6	182.0	210.0	260.0	310.6	4838
Zr_INA_ppm	79.5	25.0	230.0	149.9	580.0	-50.0	25.0	25.0	210.0	250.0	300.0	340.0	400.0	450.0	456

Table 2. Statistics for instrumental neutron activation determined elements

	Mean	median	Quartile	SD	Max	Min	50%ile	60%ile	70%ile	80%ile	90%ile	95%ile	98%ile	99%ile	Number
Au_ICP_ppb	2.3	2.0	3.0	2.5	16.0	0.5	2.0	2.0	3.0	4.0	4.0	5.5	9.4	12.5	71
Ag_ICP_ppm	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	8.4	-0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	5786
Al_ICP_%	2.0	1.8	2.3	0.9	9.2	0.0	1.8	2.0	2.1	2.4	2.9	3.6	4.4	5.4	5786
As_ICP_ppm	10.5	7.0	13.0	30.9	2024.0	-2.0	7.0	9.0	12.0	15.0	21.0	30.0	45.9	60.7	5786
B_ICP_ppm	2.8	3.0	4.0	6.4	110.0	-3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	5.0	10.0	13.0	16.0	19.0	1557
Ba_ICP_ppm	156.8	140.0	207.8	105.8	2138.4	0.0	140.0	162.0	190.0	225.0	279.5	332.0	420.0	474.0	5786
Be_ICP_ppm	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	2.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.5	0.5	1859
Bi_ICP_ppm	0.9	1.0	2.0	1.6	15.0	-2.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	3.0	5.0	6.0	4683
Ca_ICP_%	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.6	28.6	0.0	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.3	2.4	3.7	6.3	8.3	5786
Cd_ICP_ppm	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.5	22.0	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.6	1.0	1.6	2.1	5786
Ce_ICP_ppm	9.3	2.0	2.0	17.6	81.0	0.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	2.0	46.0	52.1	58.0	62.0	460
Co_ICP_ppm	15.5	14.0	19.0	9.4	120.0	0.0	14.0	16.0	18.0	21.0	26.0	33.0	42.0	51.0	5786
Cr_ICP_ppm	48.9	37.0	59.0	44.7	789.0	0.0	37.0	45.0	54.0	66.0	91.0	116.0	178.0	230.4	5786
Cu_ICP_ppm	62.2	45.0	68.5	91.2	3653.0	0.0	45.0	52.0	61.6	79.0	114.0	162.8	245.1	320.3	5786
Fe_ICP_%	3.7	3.6	4.3	1.3	14.9	0.0	3.6	3.9	4.2	4.5	5.2	6.1	7.2	8.0	5786
Ga_ICP_ppm	5.2	5.0	6.4	5.3	31.0	0.0	5.0	5.0	5.7	7.4	12.1	17.0	21.0	23.0	3450
Hg_ICP_ppb	49.0	28.0	67.0	76.2	2228.0	-10.0	28.0	39.0	55.0	80.0	125.0	170.0	230.0	294.0	3621
K_ICP_%	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	2.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.7	5786
La_ICP_ppm	18.1	14.0	23.0	14.5	155.0	0.0	14.0	18.0	21.0	27.0	34.0	44.0	58.0	68.0	3300
Li_ICP_ppm	14.7	14.0	16.0	6.5	65.0	0.0	14.0	15.0	16.0	18.0	22.0	28.0	33.6	37.8	460
Mg_ICP_%	0.9	0.7	1.1	0.7	10.1	0.0	0.7	0.9	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.8	3.6	5786
Mn_ICP_ppm	720.7	650.0	875.0	413.2	6061.0	0.0	650.0	727.0	820.5	938.0	1162.5	1388.8	1824.9	2277.5	5786
Mo_ICP_ppm	1.4	1.0	1.1	2.4	61.0	-1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0	2.9	4.1	8.0	11.0	5786
Na_ICP_%	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	2.0	5786
Nb_ICP_ppm	5.3	5.0	6.0	1.2	9.0	0.0	5.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	8.0	461
Ni_ICP_ppm	43.9	32.0	51.0	56.3	1491.0	0.0	32.0	38.0	46.0	57.0	80.0	111.9	161.0	218.2	5786
P_ICP_%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	5786
Pb_ICP_ppm	12.5	9.2	14.0	18.4	779.9	-3.0	9.2	11.0	13.0	16.0	22.0	29.0	49.6	77.7	5786
Rb_ICP_ppm	36.0	25.0	57.5	30.2	109.0	10.0	25.0	34.0	48.0	67.0	81.0	94.5	102.4	106.9	71
Sb_ICP_ppm	1.1	0.7	2.0	2.8	47.0	-2.0	0.7	1.0	1.1	2.0	2.3	4.0	8.0	13.0	3717
Sc_ICP_ppm	6.9	7.0	8.0	2.9	32.0	0.0	7.0	7.0	8.0	9.0	10.0	11.0	13.0	14.4	1859
Se_ICP_ppm	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.5	7.8	-0.3	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.9	1.6	2.1	1398
Sn_ICP_ppm	10.2	10.0	10.0	6.4	135.0	0.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0	468
Sr_ICP_ppm	56.6	50.0	71.0	41.2	861.0	0.0	50.0	58.0	67.0	77.0	96.5	122.0	153.0	197.2	5786
Ta_ICP_ppm	1.0	0.0	0.0	2.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	2223
Te_ICP_ppm	0.7	0.0	0.0	1.7	13.2	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	3347
Th_ICP_ppm	5.4	4.0	7.0	4.3	32.0	-2.0	4.0	5.0	6.6	8.0	10.3	13.8	18.2	20.8	1245
Ti_ICP_%	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.5	5678
Tl_ICP_ppm	0.6	0.0	0.1	1.6	5.0	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	3348
U_ICP_ppm	4.9	5.0	5.0	1.6	30.0	0.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	9.8	510
V_ICP_ppm	75.4	71.0	90.0	31.5	419.0	0.0	71.0	77.0	85.0	95.0	113.0	130.8	153.3	170.0	5786
W_ICP_ppm	2.4	5.0	5.0	3.3	21.0	-2.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0	10.0	1529
Y_ICP_ppm	10.6	10.0	11.0	3.0	25.0	0.0	10.0	10.0	11.0	12.0	15.0	17.0	18.0	21.4	460
Zn_ICP_ppm	85.4	75.0	99.0	98.4	5067.0	0.0	75.0	83.0	93.0	106.0	126.4	157.0	205.0	271.2	5786
Zr_ICP_ppm	12.2	11.0	14.0	6.4	44.0	0.0	11.0	12.0	13.0	15.0	19.0	25.0	30.8	36.2	460

Table 3. Statistics for aqua regia - ICPES determined elements

	Mean	median	Quartile	SD	Max	Min	50%ile	60%ile	70%ile	80%ile	90%ile	95%ile	98%ile	99%ile	Number
SiO ₂ _LI_%	57.0	60.7	65.2	15.5	78.0	0.0	60.7	62.5	64.3	66.1	68.3	70.5	72.4	73.5	3701
Al ₂ O ₃ _LI_%	13.6	14.2	15.5	3.9	23.5	0.0	14.2	14.7	15.2	15.9	16.9	17.8	19.5	20.6	3701
Fe ₂ O ₃ _LI_%	6.6	6.6	8.1	2.6	18.8	0.0	6.6	7.1	7.7	8.5	9.6	10.6	12.3	13.2	3701
MgO_LI_%	2.2	1.9	3.0	1.6	21.8	0.0	1.9	2.3	2.7	3.3	4.2	5.0	6.1	7.4	3701
CaO_LI_%	3.1	2.4	4.1	2.9	36.2	0.0	2.4	3.1	3.7	4.5	6.3	8.2	10.8	12.8	3701
Na ₂ O_LI_%	2.3	2.4	2.9	1.0	30.3	0.0	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.9	4.1	3701
K ₂ O_LI_%	1.7	1.5	2.1	1.0	6.4	0.0	1.5	1.7	2.0	2.3	3.0	3.7	4.5	5.0	3701
TiO ₂ _LI_%	1.0	0.9	1.2	0.4	5.0	0.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.8	2.2	2.4	3701
P ₂ O ₅ _LI_%	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1	1.1	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	3701
MnO_LI_%	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	3701
Cr ₂ O ₃ _LI_%	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.1	3701
Ba_LI_ppm	848.8	783.0	936.0	720.3	31035.0	0.0	783.0	834.0	894.0	985.0	1164.5	1383.8	1715.3	2141.2	3116
Ni_LI_ppm	50.1	45.0	68.0	58.7	1322.0	-20.0	45.0	53.0	62.0	74.0	97.0	127.3	174.7	221.6	3116
Sr_LI_ppm	266.3	253.0	334.0	125.8	1205.0	0.0	253.0	281.0	314.0	364.0	450.0	497.0	540.0	571.9	3116
Zr_LI_ppm	193.1	174.0	230.0	92.8	1390.0	0.0	174.0	195.0	217.0	246.0	292.0	349.5	438.7	526.9	3116
Y_LI_ppm	23.6	23.0	28.0	8.8	131.0	-10.0	23.0	25.0	27.0	30.0	33.0	37.0	42.0	47.0	3116
Nb_LI_ppm	-5.8	0.0	19.0	33.5	99.0	-50.0	0.0	14.0	17.0	21.0	34.0	42.0	50.0	55.0	1993
Sc_LI_ppm	11.3	13.0	16.0	9.6	45.0	-10.0	13.0	14.0	15.0	18.0	22.0	25.0	29.0	32.0	3116
LOI_GRAV_%	6.6	5.9	7.4	4.4	54.6	0.0	5.9	6.4	7.0	7.9	10.1	13.3	20.1	27.3	3580

Table 4. Statistics for lithium metaborate fusion-ICPES determined elements

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