

Supplementary Material for Journal of Analytical Atomic Spectrometry

## SI-traceable quantification of $^{135}\text{Cs}$ in $^{137}\text{Cs}$ solution for $^{135}\text{Cs}$ standardization

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**Table S1** Operational settings for ICP-MS/MS (Agilent 8800s)

**Table S2** Results of isotope measurement for MD3 by ICP-MS

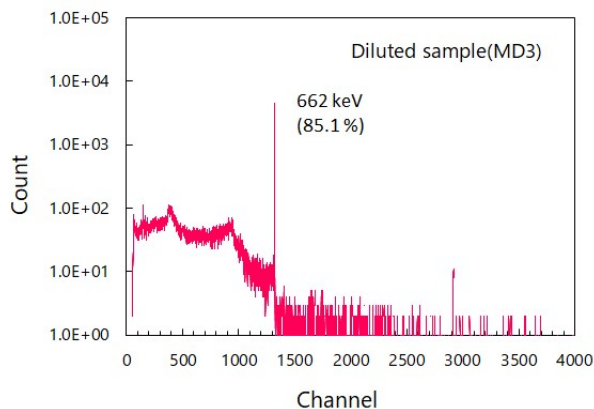
**Fig. S1** Gamma spectrum of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  liquid sample (MD3)

**Fig. S2** Cause-and-effect diagram of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction

**Fig. S3** Measured results of  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction of MD3: (a) cps vs  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction, (b) seven repeated measurements and average

### Equations for uncertainty evaluation

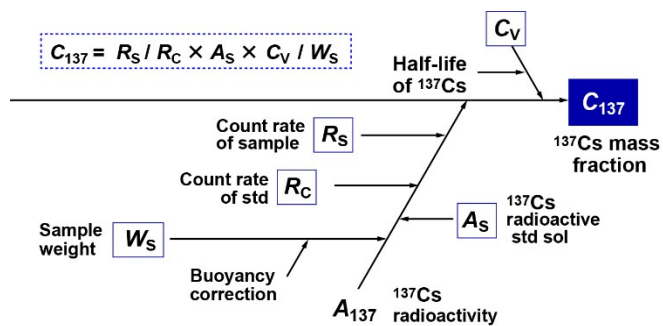
- 1) Repeatability in the determination of the  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction
- 2) Isotopic composition
- 3) Cs molar mass
- 4) Covariance between  $C_{133}$  and  $K_{135/133}$



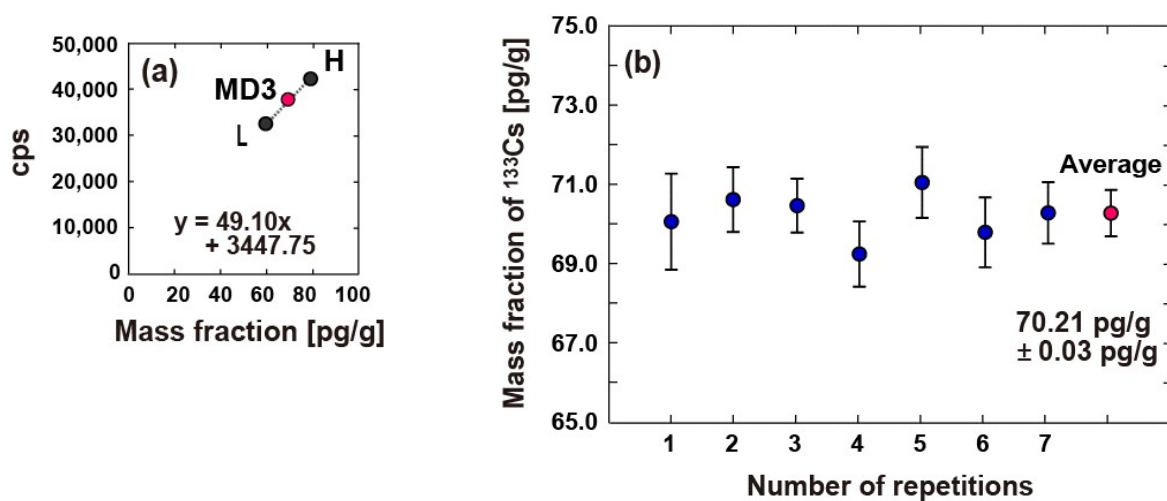
**Fig. S1** Gamma spectrum of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  liquid sample (MD3).

**Table S1** Operational settings for ICP-MS (Agilent 8800s)

RF Power	1500 [W]
Sample uptake rate	0.1 mL/min
Flow rate of Ar gas	
Carrier gas	0.68 L/min
Makeup gas	0.36 L/min
Flow rate of 4th gas ( $\text{N}_2\text{O}$ )	70% (1.05 mL/min)
Integration time	
m/z 133, 135, 137 (on-mass)	3 s
m/z 138 (on-mass)	0.1 s
Q2 peak point	1
No. of sweeps	100
No. of repetition	5



**Fig. S2** Cause-and-effect diagram of  $^{137}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction.



**Fig. S3** Measured results of  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction of MD3: (a) cps vs  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction, (b) seven repeated measurements and average.

**Table S2** Results of isotope measurement for MD3 by ICP-MS

	$^{137}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{Cs}$ molar ratio	$^{137}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{Cs}$ net cps ratio	$^{137}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{C}$ s net cps ratio, SD	Slope L	$K_{137/133}$	$^{135}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{Cs}$ net cps ratio	$^{137}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{Cs}$ net cps ratio, SD	$^{137}\text{Cs}/^{133}\text{Cs}$ molar ratio	$^{135}\text{Cs}$ mass fraction [pg/g]
1	0.3157	0.0068	0.9531	0.0117	0.9765	0.3085	0.0066	0.3005	21.559
2	0.3167	0.0037	0.9499	0.0125	0.9750	0.3086	0.0036	0.3006	21.569
3	0.3201	0.0036	0.9400	0.0150	0.9700	0.3156	0.0035	0.3074	22.056
4	0.3201	0.0036	0.9400	0.0150	0.9700	0.3144	0.0035	0.3062	21.973
5	0.3147	0.0029	0.9562	0.0110	0.9781	0.3101	0.0029	0.3021	21.675
6	0.3175	0.0054	0.9478	0.0131	0.9739	0.3137	0.0053	0.3056	21.925
7	0.3170	0.0021	0.9492	0.0127	0.9746	0.3094	0.0021	0.3014	21.624

## Equations for uncertainty evaluation

### 1) Repeatability in the determination of the $^{133}\text{Cs}$ mass fraction

$C_{133,i}$  is the  $i$ -th measured value for the  $^{133}\text{Cs}$  mass fraction ( $i = 1-7$ ):

$$C_{133,i} = (C_H - C_L) \times \frac{(A_{133,i} - A_{L,i})}{(A_{H,i} - A_{L,i})} + C_L.$$

As defined in the manuscript,

$$C_{133} = \frac{1}{7} \sum_{i=1}^7 C_{133,i}, \quad u_R = \frac{1}{C_{133}} \sqrt{\frac{1}{7-1} \sum_{i=1}^7 (C_{133,i} - C_{133})^2}.$$

Using the expression

$$C_{133} = \frac{1}{7} \sum_{i=1}^7 C_{133,i} = \frac{(C_H - C_L)}{7} \sum_{i=1}^7 \frac{(A_{133,i} - A_{L,i})}{(A_{H,i} - A_{L,i})} + C_L.$$

we can find possible uncertainty sources for  $A_{133,i}$ ,  $A_{H,i}$ ,  $A_{L,i}$ ,  $C_H$ , and  $C_L$ .

Although the uncertainty due to  $A_{133,i}$ ,  $A_{H,i}$ , and  $A_{L,i}$  is reflected in the magnitude of  $u_R$ , the relative standard deviation due to these terms is averaged over seven values as follows:

$$\frac{u_R}{\sqrt{7}}$$

We assume that the standard uncertainties of  $C_H$ , and  $C_L$  depends only on  $u_{CRM}$  as follows:

$$\frac{u^2(C_H)}{C_H^2} = u_{CRM}^2, \quad \frac{u^2(C_L)}{C_L^2} = u_{CRM}^2, \quad \frac{cov(C_H, C_L)}{C_H C_L} = u_{CRM}^2.$$

Thus, the variance of  $C_{133}$  due to  $C_H$  and  $C_L$  is evaluated as follows:

$$\left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_H}\right)^2 u^2(C_H) + \left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_L}\right)^2 u^2(C_L) + 2 \left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_H}\right) \left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_L}\right) cov(C_H, C_L) = \left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_H} C_H + \frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_L} C_L\right)^2 u_{CRM}^2.$$

Since

$$\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_H} = \frac{C_{133} - C_L}{C_H - C_L}, \quad \frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_L} = -\frac{C_{133} - C_L}{C_H - C_L} + 1,$$

the following expression holds true:

$$\left(\frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_H} C_H + \frac{\partial C_{133}}{\partial C_L} C_L\right)^2 u_{CRM}^2 = [(C_{133} - C_L) + C_L]^2 u_{CRM}^2 = C_{133}^2 u_{CRM}^2.$$

Therefore, the relative standard deviation due to  $C_H$ , and  $C_L$  expressed by  $u_{CRM}$ . These two factors are considered in Eq. (6) in the manuscript.

## 2) Isotopic composition

$A_f(x)$ : Isotopic composition of  ${}^x\text{Cs}$ ,  $R(m)$ : molar ratio of  ${}^m\text{Cs}/{}^{133}\text{Cs}$

$$\begin{aligned} A_f(133) &= 1/(1 + R(135) + R(137)) \\ A_f(135) &= R(135)/(1 + R(135) + R(137)) \\ A_f(137) &= R(137)/(1 + R(135) + R(137)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u^2(A_f(133)) &= \left(\frac{-1}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(135)) + \left(\frac{-1}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(137)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u^2(A_f(135)) &= \left(\frac{R(137) + 1}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(135)) + \left(\frac{-R(135)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(137)) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u^2(A_f(137)) &= \left(\frac{-R(137)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(135)) + \left(\frac{R(135) + 1}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(137)) \end{aligned}$$

## 3) Cs molar mass

$m_{Cs}$ : Cs molar mass,  $m_x$ : atomic mass of isotope  $x$

$$\begin{aligned} m_{Cs} &= m_{133} \times \left(\frac{1}{1 + R(135) + R(137)}\right) \\ &+ m_{135} \times \left(\frac{R(135)}{1 + R(135) + R(137)}\right) + m_{137} \times \left(\frac{R(137)}{1 + R(135) + R(137)}\right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial m_{Cs}}{\partial R(135)} \cong \frac{-2(R(137) - 1)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial m_{Cs}}{\partial R(137)} \cong \frac{2(2 + R(135))}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} u^2(m_{Cs}) &= \left(\frac{-1}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(m_{133}) + \left(\frac{-R(135)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(m_{135}) \\ &+ \left(\frac{-R(137)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(m_{137}) \\ &+ \left(\frac{-2(R(137) - 1)}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(135)) + \left(\frac{2(2 + R(135))}{(1 + R(135) + R(137))^2}\right)^2 \cdot u^2(R(137)) \end{aligned}$$

## 4) Covariance between $C_{133}$ and $K_{135/133}$

Since

$$C_{137} = C_{133} \frac{I_{137}}{I_{133}} K_{137/133} \frac{m_{137}}{m_{133}},$$

$$K_{137/133} = \frac{C_{137} I_{133} m_{133}}{C_{133} I_{137} m_{137}}.$$

Thus,

$$\frac{\partial K_{137/133}}{\partial C_{133}} = - \frac{K_{137/133}}{C_{133}}.$$

The covariance between  $C_{133}$  and  $K_{135/133}$  is derived with using Equations (9) and (10) in the main manuscript as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} u(C_{133}, K_{135/133}) &= \frac{\partial K_{135/133}}{\partial C_{133}} u^2(C_{133}) = - \Delta m_{(135-133)} \frac{\partial L}{\partial C_{133}} u^2(C_{133}) \\ &= \frac{\Delta m_{(135-133)} \partial K_{137/133}}{\Delta m_{(137-133)} \partial C_{133}} u^2(C_{133}) = - \frac{K_{137/133} \Delta m_{(135-133)}}{C_{133} \Delta m_{(137-133)}} u^2(C_{133}). \end{aligned}$$

We hence obtain

$$\frac{u(C_{133}, K_{135/133})}{C_{133} K_{135/133}} = - \frac{K_{137/133} \Delta m_{(135-133)} u^2(C_{133})}{K_{135/133} \Delta m_{(137-133)} C_{133}^2}.$$