



Paper

## Strontium isotopes in Denmark; new baselines with new possibilities

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### Abstract

Human migration and trade of goods as well as the patterns behind these issues are important aspects within archaeology. In order to study human and animal mobility, as well as trade throughout prehistory, many archaeologists worldwide apply methods common to natural sciences as part of their investigations. In particular, the strontium isotope system has proven to be a good mobility indicator. However, these studies necessitate the a priori knowledge of the characteristics of the expected bio-available strontium isotope range of the area of interest.

This paper aims at presenting the first two baseline maps of the bio-available strontium from Denmark. The first one is made from surface water samples; the second one is made from modern and archaeological fauna samples. This is a very important step within strontium isotope investigations in Denmark, as these baselines describe for the first time the expected range of the bio-available  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  within the Danish realm. Moreover, recent applications of this methodology will be presented as case studies, from various Danish sites. In these, both human and other organic material will be discussed.

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