

Sedimentary Fabric with Quartz

(Sample MC 2013/25) (Fig. 11)

Inclusions

30%. eq sr-r. < 2 mm. Single-spaced. Well-sorted. Bimodal grain size distribution.

Coarse fraction

25-35%. < 2 mm.

Common: Mono-crystalline quartz; eq. sa-sr. < 2 mm. Can show undulose extinction and fine-grained inclusions, as the results of weathering/alteration.

Common-Few: Calcite; Micrite is dispersed in voids.

Common-Few: Microfossils; < 1.5 mm

Fine fraction

65-75%

Common: Quartz

Common: Opaque inclusions

Matrix

60-65%. Light brown in XP, brownish-grey in PPL. Very homogeneous. Optically inactive, and shows evidence for bloating pores near the rim.

Voids

5-10%. Consisting mainly of micro- and meso-vughs. Micrite is dispersed in voids. Shows a preferred alignment to the margins.

Comments

The sample in this fabric contains sand-sized quartz inclusions, set in light-coloured clay with fine quartz and microfossils. The coarse quartz inclusions are well-sorted throughout the clay matrix, and are characterized by undulose extinction. Their shape, size and nature suggest that they were added deliberately. Calcitic micrite has been deposited in voids. The vessel has been wheel thrown, and has been fired at a high temperature in oxidising atmosphere. The sample comprises a fragment of an amphora, it was found on the settlement area of Forum Appii. The clay of this fabric is similar to the Sedimentary Fabric Group in that it is light-coloured and comprises fine quartz inclusions. The difference lies in the presence of augite inclusions in the Sedimentary Fabric Group; the sand-sized rounded quartz inclusions in this fabric are in keeping with the local geology, i.e. quartz of Aeolian origin.

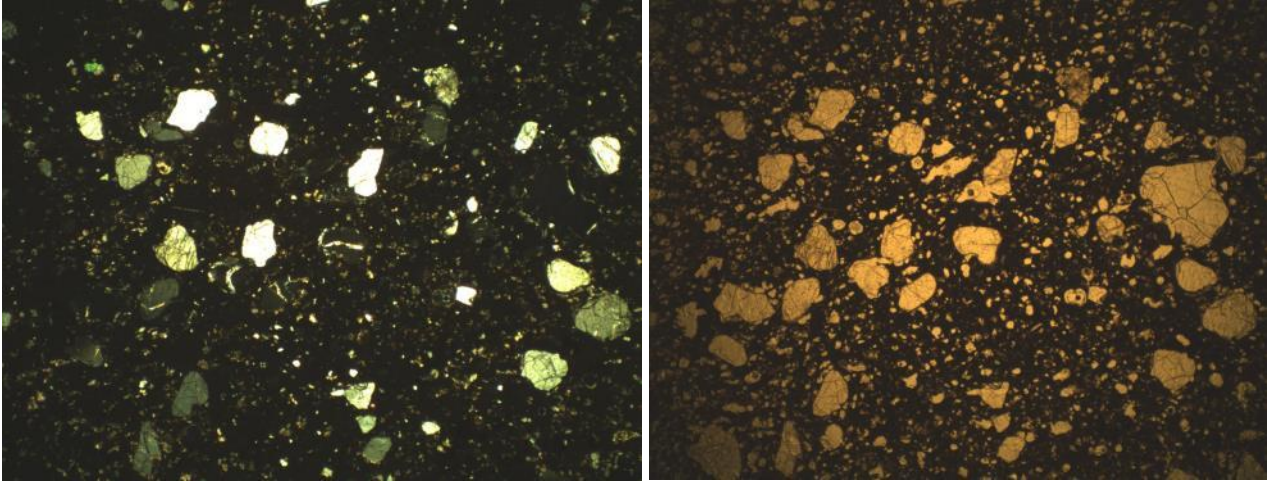


Fig. 11: Sedimentary Fabric with Quartz inclusions in XP (left) and PPL (right). Width of individual images = 5.8 mm.