

A new FTIR method for estimating the firing temperature of ceramic bronze-casting moulds from early China

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Supplementary Information

Supplementary Table S1. Mineralogical composition of two mould samples.

| All phases | | | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------|------------|------|--|--|
| Sample | Quartz | Albite | Microcline | Clay | | |
| H315②:57-30 | 57% | 20% | 9% | 14% | | |
| H315:58-5 | 46% | 27% | 12% | 15% | | |

| Clay minerals | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------------------|-----|-----|------|----|------------------------|
| Sample | Clay mineral composition | | | | | Mixed-layer ratio (S%) |
| | It/S | It | Kao | It/V | Pa | It/S |
| H315②:57-30 | 72% | 25% | 3% | - | - | 40% |
| H315:58-5 | 52% | 40% | 5% | 2% | 1% | 40% |

It: Illite; Kao: Kaolinite; V: Vermiculite; Pa: Palygorskite; S: Smectite

Supplementary Table S2. Chemical composition of all mould and core samples.

| Sample | Type | Na ₂ O | MgO | Al ₂ O ₃ | SiO ₂ | K ₂ O | CaO | FeO |
|--------------------------|-------|-------------------|-----|--------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|-----|
| H315③:75-6 | mould | 1.6 | 1.0 | 12.3 | 75.3 | 2.2 | 2.1 | 4.5 |
| H315③:75-2 | mould | 1.7 | 1.1 | 13.2 | 74.9 | 2.9 | 1.5 | 4.4 |
| H315:20-6 | mould | 1.1 | Bdl | 12.3 | 74.6 | 2.2 | 2.5 | 6.3 |
| H315:69-0 | mould | 2.1 | 1.4 | 13.4 | 72.1 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 5.0 |
| H315:69-24 | mould | 2.0 | 1.1 | 12.5 | 73.4 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.3 |
| H315:69-5 | mould | 1.7 | 1.1 | 14.9 | 73.4 | 3.5 | 1.1 | 3.8 |
| H315:58-5 | mould | 2.0 | 1.1 | 15.7 | 71.2 | 3.6 | 1.4 | 4.7 |
| H315:58-7 | mould | 1.9 | 1.2 | 14.5 | 73.1 | 3.3 | 1.4 | 4.3 |
| H315②:57-30 | mould | 1.7 | 0.9 | 11.3 | 75.1 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 4.3 |
| H315②:57-30-2 | mould | 2.0 | 1.0 | 16.0 | 72.4 | 3.1 | 1.1 | 3.7 |
| Average of moulds | | 1.8 | 1.1 | 13.6 | 73.6 | 2.91 | 1.9 | 4.5 |
| H315:18-19 | core | 1.0 | Bdl | 10.3 | 80.6 | 2.2 | 1.2 | 4.7 |
| H315:7 | core | 2.1 | Bdl | 13.2 | 75.6 | 2.7 | 1.4 | 4.5 |
| H315:18-23 | core | 1.7 | Bdl | 10.7 | 80.8 | 2.5 | 1.3 | 2.8 |
| H315:4-6 | core | 2.2 | 1.0 | 13.7 | 74.7 | 2.9 | 1.6 | 3.5 |
| Average of cores | | 1.8 | 0.3 | 12.0 | 77.9 | 2.6 | 1.4 | 3.9 |

Supplementary Table S3. Estimated firing temperature ranges for all mould and core samples.

| Sample | Type | FTIR qualitative analysis | | FTIR quantitative analysis (Absorptivity Ratio Method) | | | |
|---------------|-------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Observed FTIR absorption bands (cm ⁻¹) | Firing temperature (°C) | Average absorptivity ratio (a _S /a _{IS}) | Coefficient of variation | Firing temperature (°C) | Estimation approach |
| H315:69-24 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5616 | 8.33% | 200-300 | CCA |
| H315:58-5 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5614 | 2.12% | 200-300 | CCA |
| H315:69-5 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5411 | 2.76% | 200-300 | CCA |
| H315:58-7 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5344 | 0.27% | 200-300 | RA |
| H315②:57-30-2 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5139 | 3.96% | 200-300 | RA |
| H315③:75-2 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5133 | 4.36% | 200-300 | CCA |
| H315③:75-6 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.5073 | 2.39% | 200-300 | CCA |
| H315②:57-30 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.4373 | 1.13% | 300-400 | RA |
| H315:69-0 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.4362 | 2.96% | 300-400 | CCA |
| H315:20-6 | mould | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.4262 | 3.64% | 300-400 | CCA |
| H315:18-23 | core | 3624, 1035, 520 | <500 | 0.3934 | 1.19% | 200-300 | RA |
| H315:4-6 | core | 1078, 1035 | 500-700 | 0.3307 | 5.91% | 500-600 | RA |
| H315:18-19 | core | 1078, 1035 | 500-700 | 0.3268 | 3.58% | 500-600 | RA |
| H315:7 | core | 1078 | 500-700 | 0.3259 | 1.32% | 500-600 | CCA |



Supplementary Figure S1. All bronze-casting mould and core artifacts analyzed in this study.