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The Illick-Rockhard-Stones (IRS) Method For Culinographic Analysis Of Minerals

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Abstract: It is well known fact in the scientific community that geologists frequently lick rocks to determine their mineral composition. With this paper we aim to formalize this procedure and establish a baseline scale enabling geologists to reliably classify their favourite rocks culinographically.

1 Introduction

For millennia scientists have been using culinographic methods to determine the composition of various minerals (Fig. 1). However, no well-defined scale to quantify and categorize the complex tastes involved has been reported to date.



Figure 1: An ancient Egyptian geologist sampling a rock with complementary HCL.

This research not only presents a novel metric for culinographically categorizing and analysing various minerals but also applies this scale to some of the most elementary of all rocks.

2 Choice of sample material

In the development of our metric, determining the prominent aspects of common rock flavour profiles was the obvious first step. It was thus required to culinographically analyse some of the most ubiquitous mineral samples in modern geology. After careful consideration the following samples have been selected to enable developing an objective culinographic scale and grading these most elementary minerals using this novel method.⁴

1. *Pop rocks*

Although difficult to obtain in Europe (where this research was conducted), Pop rocks seem to be the standard for any type of geological analysis in the US. They will thus be used as a baseline comparison in this research.

2. "Rocks"

Sold to us by “Skinny Pete”, he told us this was “like the best rock in town dude, trust me bro”.² Since this rock seems to bear importance in modern popular culture and society it has been considered in this analysis (Fig. 2).



Figure 2: The “rock” provided to us by Skinny Pete.

3. Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson

Although of high cultural significance, “The Rock” turned out to be quite difficult to obtain. After repeated attempts to get hold of this extremely rare substance the research team tasked with this has been told to “bugger of you bunch of drunken morons or I’ll call the police”. No further attempts have been made.

4. Frank

Frank is a random rock sourced from the university parking lot. Frank has been included in this analysis because randomness is probably good for statistics.¹

3 Sample characterization

According to the scientifically accepted standard in culinographic analysis, each of the samples was tested in multiple ways:

- The classic way: dissolve the sample in HCL and taste the resulting solution.
- The “cool” way: heat the mineral until a significant reaction occurs, inhale the resulting fumes.
- The easy way: chew the sample and analyse the taste.

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In the following sections a description of each sample utilizing each of the aforementioned analysis methods is given.

4 Pop rock analysis

4a Classic Method

After dissolving 1g of Pop rocks in 20 mL of 1 mM HCl, Mr. Rockhard was coerced into tasting and analysing the solution. The taste was described as “horrific”, “super sour”, “metallic”, and “kinda like super cheap Sprite I guess”. This does not come as a surprise since the sample’s composition is quite similar to that of Sprite, which only differs by having a significantly higher sugar content.

It was thus concluded that a metric for acidity and a metric for metallicness was required.

4b “Cool” Method

Heating the sample to about 200 °C yielded not only a brown mass but also thick black fumes. The fumes were described as “Dude, this gives me cancer like for sure” and “*gag* *cough* *cough*”.

It was concluded that a metric for “cancerous” should be factored into the assay.

4c Easy Method

Pop Rocks taste sweet. Like what were you expecting, they are basically lumps of sugar you moron.

5 Rock analysis

5a Classic Method

After combining 0.5g of “rock” with 1 mL of 1 M HCL, the solution was diluted with 10 mL of H₂O. Unfortunately the whole sample dissolved and reacted to form a corresponding hydrochloride salt, which was confiscated by the lab supervisor for “research purposes”.

5b “Cool” Method

The remaining 10 g of the sample was equally distributed into two professional laboratory grade crack pipes and tested according to the method mentioned in section 3. One of the participants cannot remember exactly what happened and described the experience as a “normal Friday night with the boys”. The other participant is still in hospital.

It can be concluded that a metric for lethality is required to culinographically categorize rocks like this one.

5c Easy Method

Whilst analysing the sample using the “cool” method, all of it has been used up making further analysis impossible.

6 Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson

Due to the inability to obtain a sample of this substance, no further tests could be performed.

7 Frank

7a Classic Method

The sample was insoluble in concentrated HCL.

7b “Cool” Method

Even after extensive heating the sample did not gas off or melt. It is suspected that the faulty lab burner might have been the issue here. Unfortunately all of the projects funding was required to obtain notable quantities of sample number 2, making it impossible to purchase functioning lab equipment.

7c Easy Method

Even though still in hospital, Mr. Rockhard was able to perform this test on the sample. It was described as being “ouch” and “rock hard dude”. At this point it is not known

whether the sample did indeed possess a high toughness or if it was merely an attribute to Mr. Rockhards weakness.

It was concluded that metrics for solubility, toughness and lethality may be required.³

8 Qualitative Analysis

After analysing a broad collection of sample data, it has been concluded that the categories outlined in Fig. 3 are required in order to fully characterize any mineral. The values have been normalized enabling easy comparison.

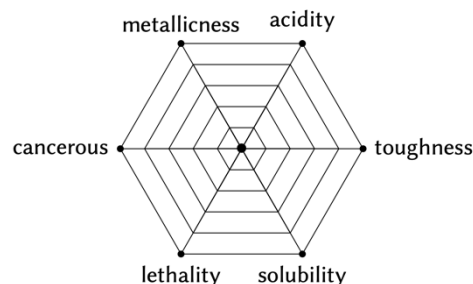


Figure 3: The Illick-Rockhard-Stones culinographic matrix.

The following diagrams present the values determined for each of the samples. Since the samples are representative of all rocks and minerals, this will allow categorizing and analysing a wide variety of minerals, finally opening up the scientific field of culinography to the geological community.

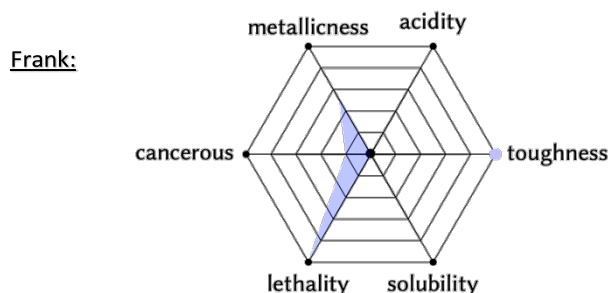
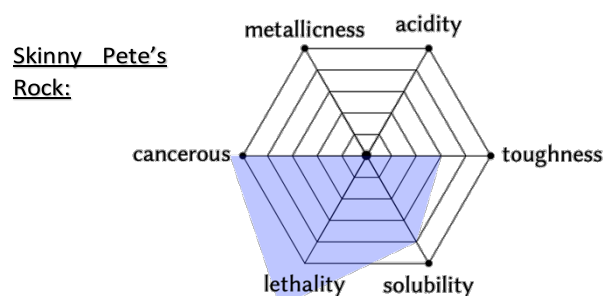
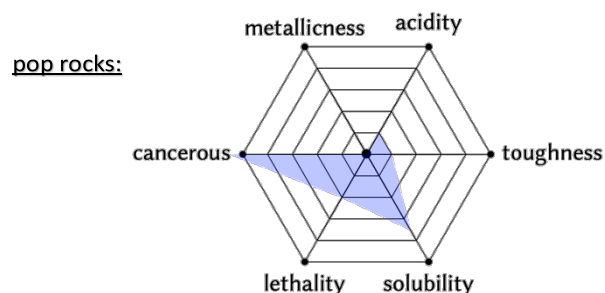


Figure 4: The Illick-Rockhard-Stones culinographic matrices for pop rocks (top), Skinny Pete's rock (middle) and Frank (bottom).

Conclusion

The research presented in this paper marks a new chapter in the history of geology by enabling access to a novel and highly effective scientific method for classification and analysis of various minerals. It will forever change how geological research is conducted as “rock licking” will no longer be a subject of mockery but a valid analytical tool. The invaluable data provided here can be used not only to establish a baseline for the IRS scale but to enable further research into the subject and deepen the knowledge and taste buds of humankind.

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Finally, we acknowledge the hard work of Mr. Rock- hard. He selflessly sacrificed himself for the noble pursuit of science. We would also like to point out that in no way are we reliably or in any way responsible for Mr. Rockhards ~~overdose~~ tragic accident.

Notes and References

- 4 Stones. “Answering the question no- body asked: What is the most important rock?” In: Journal of immaterial science (in preparation).
- 1 Rumsey. Statistics For Dummies -. New York: Wiley, 2011. isbn: 978-0-470-91108- 2.
- 2 RevoluciónKwaftWoodward. “A Scalable Synthesis of Methamphetamine”. In: Journal of immaterial science 2 (2022).
- 3 Samuel. The Bible. Jesus Christ. Chap. 1. Samuel 17. url: <https://diebibel.ibep-prod.com/bibel/LU84/1SA.17>.