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2 **HT overprint of HP granulites in the Oisans–Pelvoux**
3 **massif: implications for the dynamics of the Variscan**
4 **collision in the external Western Alps.**

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20 **ABSTRACT**

21 The Oisans–Pelvoux massif belongs to the Paleozoic basement of the External western Alps and
22 records high temperature (HT) metamorphism associated with intense migmatization during the syn to
23 post-collisional stages of the Variscan orogeny. Metamorphic assemblages related to the early collision
24 stages have been obliterated making it difficult to constrain the earlier evolution of the unit. In this
25 study, we report the finding of new bodies of high pressure (HP) mafic granulites, which preserve relics
26 of the prograde evolution. Relics of Mn-rich garnet cores containing inclusions of epidote, titanite,
27 chlorite and rare white micas constrain an early prograde stage at 460–550 °C and 0.4–1.0 GPa. The
28 HP assemblage consists in garnet + clinopyroxene + quartz + rutile ± plagioclase ± amphibole ± biotite
29 and yield peak-P conditions at 650–730 °C and 1.5–1.7 GPa. Decompression was associated with
30 heating to HT granulite-facies conditions of 800–870°C and 0.6–0.9 GPa, which led to the
31 development of granoblastic polycrystalline mosaics over the resorbing HP assemblage. The U–Pb
32 dating of magmatic zircon cores constrains the emplacement age of the mafic protoliths at 479±5 Ma.
33 Timing of the prograde to HP evolution is estimated around 345–330 Ma based on rutile U-Pb dating,
34 which is contemporaneous with HP recorded in the other crystalline massifs of the western Alps.
35 Zircon metamorphic rims yields U–Pb dates scattering between 337 and 294 Ma, which are interpreted
36 to record crystallization during decompression and heating to granulite facies. Metamorphic conditions
37 during the early prograde stage precludes scenarios involving subduction of a cold passive margin and
38 are better reconciled with thickening of an orogenic wedge during collision. In contrast with other
39 Variscan HP relics of the external Alps, the HP rocks of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif record heating to
40 HT granulitic conditions during decompression, which may result from longer residence time in the
41 lower crust before exhumation.

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44 **key words:** Variscan HP metamorphism, Petrochronology, Granulites, HT metamorphism

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49 1. INTRODUCTION

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51 High pressure (HP) metabasic rocks have been widely used as a geodynamic marker for subduction.
52 This association mainly arises from the study of active collisional and accretionary orogens, where HP
53 metabasic rocks are found in-context, leaving little ambiguity about their tectonic setting of formation:
54 tectonic accretion in a subduction wedge, subduction of oceanic lithosphere or subduction of
55 continental units containing basic protoliths (Guillot et al., 2008, Lardeaux et al., 2006). Typically,
56 eclogite-facies metabasic rocks are found in association with blueschist-facies metasediments and/or
57 serpentinites in large HP units, which extend over tens to hundreds of kilometers and define suture
58 zones, which correspond to the relics of subducted oceanic or hyperextended lithosphere basins.
59 In contrast, ancient orogens present a much more complex and ambiguous record, due to erosion of
60 upper structural levels, tectonic overprint during the late collisional stages, and partial re-equilibration
61 of HP metamorphic assemblages at lower P and/or higher T following the HP stage (O'Brien and
62 Rötzler, 2003). By analogy with active orogenic settings, these HP relics have nevertheless been
63 commonly attributed to subduction processes, and have been used to infer the position of the former
64 sutures, despite the lack of clear structural evidences indicative of a suture zone. A typical case of such
65 ambiguous records is the Variscan belt of Europe, which formed during the Devonian and the
66 Carboniferous by collision between Gondwana, Laurussia and a debated number of microplates
67 squeezed in between (Matte, 2001). HP metabasic rocks are widespread in the Variscan belt (Figure 1),
68 but they mostly occur as isolated lenses and boudins in high-grade gneiss and migmatites, which
69 otherwise rarely preserve evidences of an early HP stage. Thus, the geodynamic significance of these
70 isolated HP metabasic rocks remains controversial. They have commonly been interpreted as the relics
71 of one or several Devonian subduction zones, which would mark the suture between the different
72 continental plates involved in the Variscan collision (e.g. Pitra et al., 2021, Benmammar et al., 2020).
73 However, the continuity of these sutures across the orogen remains elusive, due to the scattering of the
74 HP relics over wide areas. Alternatively, it has been proposed that these high-grade – migmatitic –
75 domains containing HP relics are unrelated to subduction, but represent exhumed portions of the
76 orogenic lower crust, which equilibrated at eclogitic or HP granulitic conditions during the
77 Carboniferous collision (e.g. O'Brien and Rötzler, 2003; Whitney et al., 2020). This latter interpretation
78 relies on the fact that most of the HP metabasic rocks record conditions in the HT eclogite or HP
79 granulite facies, and very few were equilibrated along low-T gradients typical of oceanic subduction.

80 However, this lack of LT-HP rocks may also be a bias due to overprinting of the early metamorphic
81 assemblages during exhumation. Robust thermobarometric and geochronological data are necessary to
82 discriminate between these two models.

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87 Rare samples preserving relics of the prograde evolution are therefore invaluable, as they provide key
88 petrographic constraints to understand the geodynamic significance of the Variscan HP metabasic
89 rocks.

90 We present here new results on the Variscan basement of the external western Alps, in the
91 Oisans–Pelvoux massif. This massif has been recognized as a portion of orogenic middle-to-lower
92 crust, which has undergone HT metamorphism and intense migmatization during the syn to post-
93 collisional stages of the Variscan orogeny. This HT migmatitic stage obliterated most of the pre-HT
94 metamorphic history, and no indisputable evidence of an earlier HP metamorphic stage had been
95 recognized so far in this massif (Grandjean et al., 1996). This metamorphic record strongly contrasts
96 with that of the other basement massifs in the external western Alps, which present several relics of
97 Variscan eclogites and HP granulites (Guillot and Ménot, 2009; Jacob et al., 2021; Jouffray et al., 2020;
98 Paquette et al., 1989; Rubatto et al., 2010), but are comparatively less affected by the HT migmatitic
99 event. As a consequence, the early stages of the Variscan collision remained unconstrained in the
100 Oisans–Pelvoux massif.

101 Our recent field investigation of high-grade metamorphic domains has identified mafic HP
102 granulite bodies that contain a relict garnet-clinopyroxene HP assemblage overprinted by a HT
103 granulitic assemblage. These granulites are the first documented Variscan HP rocks in the Oisans–
104 Pelvoux massif, and they represent a unique opportunity to constrain the complete metamorphic
105 evolution from collisional to post-collisional stages. The HP granulite bodies were investigated using a
106 multi-method approach, which combined petrologic and microtextural observations, phase equilibrium
107 modeling and Zr-in-rutile thermometry to constrain the P-T evolution, and U-Pb dating of zircon and
108 rutile to constrain the timing of metamorphism. This contribution aims to present the results of these
109 detailed investigations, and discuss the implications for the Variscan geodynamic evolution of the
110 Oisans–Pelvoux massif. In particular, preservation of early prograde stages of the metamorphic

111 evolution provides important constraints regarding the thermal regime of the middle and the lower crust
112 during the early stages of collision.

113 **2. GEOLOGICAL SETTING AND FIELD DESCRIPTION**

114 **2.1. General setting and Variscan evolution**

115 The Oisans-Pelvoux massif is located in the French western Alps and belongs to the External
116 Crystalline Massifs (ECM), which form exposed portions of the Variscan basement on the former
117 European margin of the Piemonte-Liguria ocean (Guillot and Ménot, 2009; Von Raumer et al., 2009).
118 This massif has a roughly circular shape of ca. 35km in diameter and exposes high grade metamorphic
119 domains of the Variscan orogenic root (Figure 1). It is mainly composed of early to mid-Paleozoic
120 units, which were metamorphosed and intruded by granitoids during the Variscan orogeny. The
121 basement is capped by non-metamorphic sediments deposited in small pull-apart basins between the late
122 Carboniferous and the early Permian (Fernandez et al., 2002; Guillot and Ménot, 2009). The Alpine
123 collision in the early-mid Eocene (ca. 40 Ma), was responsible for burial and development of
124 greenschist-facies metamorphic assemblages (Bellanger et al., 2015), that are mostly concentrated in
125 Alpine compressional and strike-slip shear zones (Bellahsen et al., 2014; Marquer et al., 2006).
126 The pre-Variscan protoliths derive from a variety of sedimentary and igneous rocks mostly emplaced
127 during the Cambrian–Ordovician period (Fréville et al., 2018; Paquette et al., 1989; Von Raumer et al.,
128 2013). Volcano-sedimentary and bimodal plutonic series of Devonian–Tournaisian age (ca. 370–350
129 Ma, Fréville et al., 2018; Guillot and Ménot, 2009; Ménot, 1987), presumably emplaced in an arc or
130 back-arc setting, are exposed in the western part of the massif (Figure 1). They are strongly affected by
131 Variscan tectono-metamorphic events, and their formation therefore predates the main Variscan
132 collision stages.

133 The Variscan Orogeny in the ECMs occurred from ca. 350 to 295 Ma (Fréville et al., 2018;
134 Guillot and Ménot, 2009). The general tectono-metamorphic evolution is summarized here in three
135 main phases:

136 1. An early Carboniferous (Visean) collisional phase associated with nappe stacking and crustal
137 thickening, which formed E–W vergent nappes, which is associated with burying of the Devonian–
138 Tournaisian series and the development of amphibolite-facies assemblages (garnet ± kyanite ±
139 staurolite) at ca. 600–700 °C and 0.6–0.9 GPa (Fréville, 2016; Fréville et al., 2018; Guillot and Menot,
140 1999). The age of this phase is constrained at ca. 345–330 Ma by U-Pb dating on monazite and Ar-Ar

141 dating on micas (Fréville et al., 2018). U-Pb dating of zircon and rutile from eclogite relics exposed in
142 northeast Belledonne and in the other ECMs yields the same age (Jacob et al., 2021; Rubatto et al.,
143 2010; Vanandois et al., 2022), and the development of HP assemblages is therefore correlated with this
144 nappe stacking phase.

145 2. A phase of transpression, associated with the formation of penetrative, steeply dipping fabrics. In the
146 massifs of Belledonne and Grandes-Rousses, these fabrics form a ten-kilometer-wide high-strain
147 corridor marked by dextral shearing, which extends in the other ECM and is thought to represent a
148 crustal-scale dextral shear zone, which was active from ca. 325 Ma (Guillot et al., 2009; Rossi et al.,
149 2009; Simonetti et al., 2018, 2020). In the Oisans–Pelvoux massif, steep metamorphic fabrics rather
150 display sinistral shearing (Fréville, 2016) and may represent antithetic shear zones developed during
151 transpression.

152 3. Transpression progressively evolved toward transtension during the late Carboniferous (ca. 310–300
153 Ma), which resulted in the formation of kilometer to ten-kilometer scale half-graben and pull-apart
154 basins (Ballèvre et al., 2018; Fernandez et al., 2002, and references therein).

155 The older (pre-Carboniferous) metamorphic sequences are intruded by numerous Variscan
156 granitoids, which form about 25% of the exposed area in the Oisans–Pelvoux massif. These granitoids
157 were emplaced from the Viséan to the late Carboniferous – early Permian (ca. 345–295 Ma), with two
158 dominant production peaks around 345–330 Ma and 310–295 Ma (Debon and Lemmet, 1999; Fréville,
159 2016).

160 **2.2. Field description**

161 The investigated area is located in the inner part of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif and mainly exposes
162 high-grade gneiss and amphibolites identified locally as the Lavey series (Le Fort, 1971), which are
163 intruded by Carboniferous granitoids (Figure 1). Early foliation S1 associated with the nappe stacking
164 phase (1) was only observed as relics and is better preserved further west in upper structural levels
165 (Fréville et al., 2018). Two groups of metamorphic foliations have been observed in the investigated
166 area (Figure 2): (i) flat-lying fabrics (S2h), which display shear criteria and mineral lineations
167 consistent with roughly N–S directed flow (Figure 3-a); steeply-dipping fabrics striking N140° to
168 N160° (S2v), which display sinistral shear criteria (Figure 3-b). Development of both fabrics initiated
169 at supra-solidus or HT sub-solidus conditions, as evidenced by the presence of sheared leucosomes and
170 sheared amphibolite boudins (Figure 3-a,b). S2h is affected by kilometer-scale, low amplitude buckling

171 (Figure 2), which probably results from transpression associated with the formation of S2v fabrics
172 (Fréville, 2016).

173 Both felsic and mafic lithologies underwent significant partial melting and display various
174 migmatitic textures ranging from metatexites to diatexites (Figure S1 in the supplements). None of the
175 collected felsic samples preserved any pre-HT assemblage. Cordierite develops sporadically in
176 aluminous metasediments, which testifies to the high temperature of melting, probably associated with
177 biotite-breakdown reactions above 800 °C (Vielzeuf and Holloway, 1988). By contrast, some of the
178 mafic bodies display little evidence of partial melting, and may exceptionally preserve HP granulitic
179 assemblages. HP granulites are extremely rare in the Oisans–Pelvoux massif, since most of them have
180 been partly or completely retrogressed by reaction with anatectic melts or fluids released during
181 crystallization of these melts. A first occurrence of mafic granulite was found by Pecher (1970) in the
182 eastern part of the massif and reported as the Peyre-Arguet granulites (Figure 1), but early HP stages
183 remained controversial and were disregarded (Grandjean et al., 1996; Pecher, 1970). In this study, a
184 newly discovered body of HP mafic granulites was found in La Lavey valley in the central part of the
185 massif (Figure 1). It forms a hectometer-wide body embedded in flat-lying migmatitic S2h (Figure 3-c).
186 The Peyre-Arguet body lies in a N150° oriented mylonitic shear zone (S2v), and shows more intense
187 overprinting by amphibolite-facies assemblages than the Lavey granulites. The mafic granulite in the
188 Lavey body shows variable degrees of retrogression and deformation (Figure 3-d-e). Some portions are
189 composed of massive, weakly to non-foliated HP mafic granulites (Figure 3-d), whereas others portions
190 present a layered texture parallel to S2h, with alternating centimetric to metric layers of granulites and
191 garnet-free amphibolites (Figure 3-e). The plagioclase-amphibole rich layers generally display a
192 mylonitic texture, while the garnet-bearing layers are much less deformed.

193 **3. METHODS**

194 **3.1. Analytical methods**

195 Backscattered electron images were acquired at ISTERre Grenoble with a Tescan Vega 3 scanning
196 electron microscope operated with an accelerating voltage of 16 kV and a beam current of 10 nA.

197 Mineral compositions were measured using a JEOL JXA-8230 electron microprobe at ISTERre
198 Grenoble. Garnet analyses were performed with a 15 kV accelerating voltage, a 20 nA beam current
199 and a counting times of 60s for the peak and 30s for the background. The other silicates were analyzed
200 with a 15 kV accelerating voltage, a 10 nA beam current and counting times of 30s for the peak and 15s

201 for the background. The spot size was set to 1-3 μm depending on the size of minerals and the presence
202 of volatile elements. X-ray element maps were acquired with a 15 kV accelerating voltage, a 100 nA
203 beam current and a 100 ms counting time per pixel. Natural minerals and synthetic glass were used for
204 standardization, and the ZAF matrix procedure was applied for data reduction. X-ray maps were
205 processed using the XmapTools software (Lanari et al., 2014, 2018).

206 Zr and other trace elements (Nb, Fe, Cr) in rutile were measured in thin section on four
207 samples (JB-19-16; JB-19-18; JB-19-43; JB-19-55), with the JEOL JXA-8230 electron microprobe at
208 ISTERre Grenoble. The instrument was operated with an accelerating voltage of 20 kV, a beam current
209 of 600 nA, and a total counting time of 600s, with spot size set to 1-3 μm . Standardization was done on
210 synthetic and natural standards of TiO_2 , ZrO_2 , Cr_2O_3 , Fe_2O_3 and Nb. The detection limit is around 27
211 ppm for Zr and below 35 ppm for other trace elements. Accuracy check was done on standard rutile
212 R632 (Axelsson et al., 2018), which returned Zr concentrations between 2 and 5% of the reference
213 value. This uncertainty is consistent with counting error statistics returned by the JEOL microprobe
214 software for rutile analysis, which gives a 2σ uncertainty between 40 and 50 ppm. In addition, rutile
215 grains separated from sample JB-19-56 were analyzed for trace elements by LA-ICPMS at the
216 University of Bern, and were subsequently dated (see below).

217 Zircon and rutile were separated using conventional rock crushing and heavy liquids. Crystals
218 were mounted in epoxy resin and polished to expose the grain center for analysis. Charge contrast (CC)
219 images of zircon grains were obtained with a ZEISS EV050 scanning electron microscope at the
220 Institute of Geological Sciences, University of Bern, at low vacuum conditions (18 Pa), 12 kV, a beam
221 current of 100 mA and a working distance of 9.5 mm. It has been previously demonstrated that CC
222 images correlate exactly to cathodoluminescence (Watt et al., 2000). Backscattered electron images of
223 separated rutile grains were obtained at ISTERre Grenoble using the same instrument and analytical
224 conditions as described above.

225 Trace element spot analysis of separated zircon and rutile was performed with a RESolution
226 Laser System coupled to an Agilent 7900 quadrupole ICP-MS at the Institute of Geological Sciences
227 (University of Bern). A He-H₂ gas mixture was used as the aerosol transport gas. The laser spot
228 diameter was 24 and 20 μm for zircon, and 38 μm for rutile. The laser was set to 5 Hz repetition rate
229 and an energy density on the sample of 4 J/cm². Oxide interferences were reduced by maintaining
230 ThO/Th < 0.2. Sample analyses were calibrated using NIST SRM 612 (Jochum et al., 2011). Accuracy
231 was monitored using the reference material GSD-1G (Jochum et al., 2005) and zircon 91500

232 (Wiedenbeck et al., 2004), and was assessed to be better than 10% for all elements. Data reduction was
233 performed using the software Iolite (Paton et al., 2011).

234 U-Pb dating of rutile was performed with the same LA-ICP-MS system at the University of
235 Bern with conditions of 5 Hz and 3.5 J/cm². The count rate ratio for Th/U was 98-97 and the ThO/Th <
236 0.2. Measurements consisted of 30s background and 30s signal acquisition sweeping through the
237 masses ²⁰⁶Pb, ²⁰⁷Pb, ²⁰⁸Pb, ²³²Th and ²³⁸U. Spot size was 50µm with a pre-cleaning with a 60µm beam.
238 U-Pb ratios were standardized to rutile R10 (1091.6±3.5 Ma, Luvizotto et al., 2009), whereas
239 secondary reference material was rutile R632 (496±2 Ma, Axelsson et al., 2018), which returned an
240 average ²⁰⁶Pb/²³⁸U of 496±11 Ma. Data reduction was performed using the software Iolite (Paton et al.,
241 2011) running the DRS VizualAge_UcomPbine (Chew et al., 2014), although no common Pb
242 correction was applied to the data of either standards or unknown. The single spot 2σ standard error
243 external on the primary standard was 7.5% and propagated in full to the unknowns.

244 U-Pb geochronology of zircon was carried out with the SwissSIMS Cameca IMS 1280-HR at
245 Université de Lausanne, which is equipped with an high-brightness Hyperion H201 RF plasma oxygen
246 ion source. Basic instrument set up parameters were 6-8 nA, 20 µm O₂- primary beam, mass resolution
247 M/ΔM ~ 5000, energy window = 40 eV. Data were acquired in mono-collection, peak-hopping mode.
248 U-Pb-Th data were standardized to TEM2 zircon (417 Ma, Black et al., 2003) and accuracy was
249 checked with zircon standard Plešovice (337.17±0.37 Ma, Sláma et al., 2008), which were cast in the
250 same epoxy mount as the unknowns and returned an age at 337.7±3.5 Ma. The uncertainty on standard
251 ²⁰⁶Pb/²³⁸U – UO₂/U calibration was 1.0 and was propagated to the data. Common Pb correction was
252 based on the measured ²⁰⁴Pb signal (when significant relative to background) assuming the present-day
253 model terrestrial Pb composition of Stacey and Kramers (1975). Radiogenic ratios and single ages were
254 calculated using the CIPS program compiled by Martin Whitehouse. Age calculations use the decay
255 constant recommendations of Steiger and Jäger (1977). The IsoplotR package (Vermeesch, 2018) was
256 employed to plot the diagrams and calculate concordia and weighted average ages. Individual
257 uncertainties are quoted at 1σ level and the confidence level for weighted average is 95%.

258 Whole rock geochemical analyses were performed at the SARM in Nancy, using a Thermo Fischer
259 iCap6500 ICP-OES for major oxides and an iCapQ ICP-MS for minor and trace elements. Details
260 about the analytical procedures for whole rock geochemical analyses are described in Carignan et al.
261 (2001). In addition, FeO was measured by wet titration in sample JB-19-43 in order to constrain the
262 Fe³⁺/Fe²⁺ balance in the mafic granulites.

263 **3.2. Thermobarometry**

264 Zr-in-rutile temperatures for five samples were calculated using the calibration of Kohn (2020),
265 constrained with combined experimental and natural datasets. Two samples of garnet-bearing mafic
266 granulites (JB-19-43 and JB-19-56) were selected for comprehensive P-T estimations using a
267 combination of forward phase equilibrium modeling with PerpleX 6.9.0 (Connolly, 2009) and inverse
268 thermobarometry on plagioclase-amphibole pairs using the edenite-richterite exchange thermometer of
269 Holland and Blundy (1994). Phase equilibrium models were computed in the compositional space
270 MnNCKFMASHTO, using the TC-DS622 thermodynamic database of Thermocalc (Holland and
271 Powell, 2011), with a set of solution models from Fuhrman and Lindsley (1988), Green et al. (2007,
272 2016), Holland and Powell (1998,2011) and White et al. (2000, 2014). Reactive bulk compositions
273 used as input in PerpleX were obtained by re-integration of Xray maps using XmapTools 3.4.0 and by
274 ICP-OES whole rock analyses. Fe^{3+} inferred by difference between ICP-OES and wet titration
275 measurements in sample JB-19-43 was taken as a maximum value, and was then adjusted iteratively
276 using the *meemum* function of PerpleX, by modifying incrementally the amount of O_2 until a good fit is
277 obtained regarding $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}_{\text{tot}}$ ratios in garnet and clinopyroxene. No evidence of C-S-bearing volatile
278 species have been observed, so fluid was considered as pure H_2O ($a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{Fluid}} = 1$). A summary table of
279 input parameters and solution models used to compute each phase diagram is given in Table S1 the
280 online supplements.

281 P-T conditions of equilibration for the different mineral assemblages were assessed by
282 comparing predicted stable assemblages with petrographic observations, and by plotting selected
283 mineral isopleths. In addition, we used the approach described in Duesterhoeft and Lanari (2020),
284 which allows a more rigorous assessment of the match between predicted and measured mineral
285 composition than the standard isopleth approach. It relies on a set of quality factors, which are
286 computed over the whole P-T grid and take values between 0 and 1, 0 meaning very poor fit and 1
287 meaning that predicted and measured composition are indistinguishable within uncertainty.

288 **4. PETROGRAPHY AND MINERAL COMPOSITION**

289 Two samples of mafic HP granulite (JB-19-43 and JB-19-56) have been collected in a massive, weakly
290 to non-foliated domain of the Lavey granulite. Another sample (JB-19-55) was collected in a ca. 50 cm
291 thick highly strained layer retrogressed to amphibolite-facies conditions (Figure 3-c). In addition, two
292 mafic granulite samples (JB-19-16 and JB-19-18) were collected in the Peyre-Arguet granulite body,

293 but they are generally more retrogressed and do not preserve the early prograde and HP stages. The
294 well-preserved HP granulite samples from La Lavey have been used to constrain the P-T evolution, and
295 mineral assemblage and compositional zoning have been investigated in detail. The granulites from
296 Peyre-Arguet are described more briefly. Summary of sample locations and main petrographic features
297 is provided in Table 1. A set of microphotographies of the main petrographic features is shown in
298 Figure 4, and X-Ray maps and composition diagrams and profiles are shown in Figures 5 and 6. The
299 complete set of mineral analyses with additional plots are provided in the supplements.

300 **4.1. La Lavey mafic HP granulites (JB-19-43; JB-19-56)**

301 The two HP granulite samples present very similar mineral assemblages and nearly the same bulk rock
302 composition. Mineral compositions are thus very close, and composition ranges reported below apply
303 for both samples. They contain garnet, clinopyroxene, plagioclase, calcic amphibole, quartz and biotite,
304 with accessory rutile, apatite, ilmenite and zircon (Figure 4-a,b). Garnet in both samples contain
305 inclusions of quartz and rutile. In addition, garnet of sample JB-19-43 contains inclusions of epidote,
306 chlorite, titanite, amphibole and plagioclase. Rare inclusions of white mica, which do not present
307 evidence of phengite substitution, have also been observed in garnet. Epidote, chlorite and titanite are
308 absent in the matrix.

309 Garnet forms 0.5–3 mm wide grains, which are variably resorbed. The most common
310 resorption texture consists in replacement by granoblastic polycrystalline coronas rich in plagioclase
311 (Figures 4-b and 5-b). Kelyphite with plagioclase + amphibole also occur in sample JB-19-43.
312 Selected grains were imaged by X-Ray mapping in both samples, and compositional variations were
313 quantitatively assessed on 1D profiles (Figure 5). In both samples, garnet displays complex internal
314 zoning. The large garnet grain in sample JB-19-43 is considered to preserve prograde zoning, possibly
315 affected by later diffusion (Figure 5-a). Two domains are distinguished: a Ca-Mn-rich core (Grt-1:
316 $\text{Alm}_{48-49}\text{Prp}_{14-16}\text{Grs}_{29-32}\text{Sps}_{04-08}$) and a Mg-rich rim (Grt-2: $\text{Alm}_{49}\text{Prp}_{25}\text{Grs}_{25}\text{Sps}_{01}$). The boundary
317 between Grt-1 and Grt-2 has been blurred by post-growth diffusion and lies in a broad transitional
318 zone, where Ca-Mg-Mn compositions change progressively and are decorrelated from each other.
319 Within Grt-1, there is a gradual concentric increase in Ca and Mg correlated with a decrease in Fe and
320 Mn. Concentric oscillations in Ca observed within Grt-1 are interpreted to result from growth-related
321 processes.

322 Garnet grains in sample JB-19-56 are smaller and more resorbed than in sample JB-19-43 (Figure 5-b).
323 They display a broad Ca-rich core domain (Grt-1: $\text{Alm}_{45-47}\text{Prp}_{24}\text{Grs}_{28-30}\text{Sps}_{01}$) surrounded by a Mg-
324 richer and Ca-poorer domain (Grt-2: $\text{Alm}_{49}\text{Prp}_{26}\text{Grs}_{24}\text{Sps}_{01}$). Grt-1 displays patchy Ca-zoning, which
325 may be relics of an initial concentric zoning as observed in sample JB-19-43. Grt-1 and Grt-2 are
326 surrounded by a thin Fe-Mn-richer domain (Grt-3: $\text{Alm}_{52}\text{Prp}_{25}\text{Grs}_{21}\text{Sps}_{02}$), which has no equivalent in
327 sample JB-19-43.

328 *Clinopyroxene* is a Na-poor augite ($\text{Na} < 0.03$, $\text{Ca} = 0.85\text{--}0.90$ per formula unit (p.f.u), $\text{Mg\#} =$
329 $0.66\text{--}0.76$, Figure 6). It crystallizes in symplectites of plagioclase + clinopyroxene, which replaced an
330 earlier generation of coarse-grained Na-richer clinopyroxene, that is however not preserved. An
331 estimate of the composition of primary coarse-grains clinopyroxene has been obtained by re-integrating
332 the composition over a ca. $400\ \mu\text{m}$ -wide symplectite domain in sample JB-19-56 (Figure 6-a). The
333 obtained mineral formula normalized to 6 oxygens is consistent with clinopyroxene ($\text{Si} = 1.97$ p.f.u,
334 sum of cations = 3.93 p.f.u) containing $20 \pm 3\%$ jadeite (Figure 6-c). *Orthopyroxene* is an enstatite
335 ($\text{Mg\#} = 0.50\text{--}0.60$) with an Al content between $0.02\text{--}0.05$ p.f.u. It forms anhedral to sub-euhedral 100--
336 $500\ \mu\text{m}$ large grains, and also occurs in small proportions in the symplectites.

337 *Plagioclase* mainly crystallizes as fine-grained granoblastic polycrystalline coronas around
338 resorbed garnet (Figures 3-a,b and Figure 6-b). Smaller amount of plagioclase is also found in
339 symplectites with clinopyroxene, which have grown by breakdown of primary coarse-grained
340 clinopyroxene. Plagioclase composition present a large scattering from Na-rich ($\text{An}_{18}\text{Ab}_{79}\text{Or}_{03}$ for the
341 Na-richest grains) to Ca-rich ($\text{An}_{48}\text{Ab}_{51}\text{Or}_{01}$ for the Ca-richest grains) composition. Na-rich plagioclase
342 is found in the core of the grains in the granoblastic domains as well as in the symplectites, while Ca-
343 rich plagioclase is restricted to thin coronas around garnet and at grain boundaries (Figure 6-b,c).

344 *Calcic amphibole* is a magnesian and slightly titanian hastingsite ($\text{Al}^{(\text{iv})} = 1.5\text{--}1.9$ p.f.u, $\text{Mg\#} =$
345 $0.55\text{--}0.67$, $\text{Ti} = 0.16\text{--}0.27$ p.f.u, $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}+\text{Al}^{(\text{vi})} > 0.5$). It forms sub-millimetric euhedral to sub-
346 euhedral prismatic grains, which crystallize around garnet or associated with plagioclase in thin
347 kelyphites in sample JB-19-43. Compositional variations are related to textural position (Figure S7 in
348 the supplements): amphibole in contact with Na-rich plagioclase is poorer in Al ($\text{Al}^{(\text{iv})} = 1.5\text{--}1.7$) than
349 amphibole in contact with Ca-rich plagioclase ($\text{Al}^{(\text{iv})} = 1.8\text{--}1.9$).

350 *Biotite* has Mg\# between 0.48 and 0.57 and contains about $0.17\text{--}0.27$ p.f.u Ti. It forms thin
351 $100\text{--}200\ \mu\text{m}$ long rods and coarser flakes (up to 1 millimeter-long), which are frequently grouped in

352 patches associated with amphibole and plagioclase around garnet (Figure 4-b. *Quartz* occurs as small
353 (10–20 μm) inclusions in garnet and also forms larger grains (100–500 μm) in the matrix (Figure 5).

354 *Rutile* and *ilmenite* occur in both samples. Ilmenite is the main Ti-bearing phase and forms
355 100–500 μm long grains, mainly located outside of garnet (Figure 4-a,b and Figure 5). Rutile is mainly
356 preserved as inclusions in garnet, where it forms grains up to 100 μm long, which occasionally display
357 partial replacement by ilmenite and/or contain ilmenite exsolutions (Figure 6-c and Figure 7-a)-. In
358 sample JB-19-43 small (generally < 50 μm) grains of rutile also occur outside of garnet, either in
359 inclusion in amphibole or within the symplectites (Figure 7-b). No rutile was observed outside of
360 garnet in sample JB-19-56. *Zircon* is ubiquitous in the mafic granulites, and occurs either as inclusions
361 in garnet porphyroclasts or in the matrix.

362 **4.2. La Lavey garnet-free amphibolite (JB-19-55)**

363 In contrast with the HP granulites, garnet-free sample JB-19-55 is strongly deformed, with alternating
364 millimeter-thick layers of calcic amphibole and sericitized feldspar. It contains 1–5 mm wide patches
365 composed of a mosaic of equant, fine-grained (<100 μm) euhedral to sub-euhedral clinopyroxene and
366 plagioclase, which are mainly concentrated in the amphibole-rich layers (Figure 4-d). Clinopyroxene is
367 a diopside ($\text{Ca} = 0.9\text{--}0.95$ p.f.u, $\text{Mg}\# = 0.75\text{--}0.80$). Plagioclase composition ranges between $\text{An}_{39\text{--}52}$,
368 with no significant difference between the larger sericitized grains in leucocratic layers and the
369 plagioclase + clinopyroxene mosaics (Figure 6-c). Amphibole is mainly a Ti-poor pargasitic
370 hornblende ($\text{Al}^{(\text{iv})} = 1.41\text{--}1.66$, $\text{Mg}\# = 0.63\text{--}0.68$, $\text{Ti} = 0.12\text{--}0.17$ p.f.u). A few grains of actinolite are
371 also found ($\text{Al}^{(\text{iv})} = 0.30\text{--}0.75$, $\text{Mg}\# = 0.71\text{--}0.75$, $\text{Ti} = 0.02\text{--}0.06$ p.f.u). Ilmenite is the dominant Ti
372 phase and forms 100–500 μm grains, which are partly resorbed and commonly surrounded by titanite
373 coronas. Rutile is rare and forms small grains (<50 μm), that are commonly rimmed by titanite (Figure
374 7-c). Tiny grains (5–20 μm) of late rutile (Rt-II) also crystallize in association with titanite over
375 ilmenite (Figure 7-f).

376

377 **4.3. Peyre-Arguet mafic retrogressed granulites (JB-19-16; JB-19-18)**

378 Sample JB-19-16 is mainly composed of calcic amphibole, garnet, plagioclase, quartz, clinopyroxene
379 relics and accessory rutile, ilmenite, and zircon (Figure 4-e). No orthopyroxene has been observed.
380 Garnet grains are 0.5-2 mm in diameter, partly resorbed and surrounded by a corona of sericitized

381 plagioclase (Figure 4-e). Clinopyroxene occurs in coarse-grained symplectites, which locally display
382 recrystallization textures in mosaics. In this sample, rutile is only preserved in garnet where it forms up
383 to 200 μm -large inclusions (Figure 7-e).

384 Sample JB-19-18 contains the same mineral assemblage as sample JB-19-16, except that it
385 completely lacks of garnet, which has been entirely resorbed. It is mainly composed of a granoblastic
386 amphibole and sericitized plagioclase (Figure 4-f), with relics of coarse-grained symplectites of
387 clinopyroxene + plagioclase. Ilmenite is the dominant Ti-bearing phase, but rare, small grains of rutile
388 (<50 μm) are found in inclusion in feldspar and amphibole, or in the plagioclase + clinopyroxene
389 symplectites (Figure 7-f).

390 **5. BULK ROCK GEOCHEMISTRY**

391 Whole rock major and trace element compositions (Table S3 and Figure 8) were obtained on the three
392 samples from La Lavey (JB-19-43,55,56) and on one sample from the Peyre-Arguet body (JB-19-16).
393 All samples except sample JB-19-55 display major element composition of Fe-Ti-rich tholeiitic basalts
394 ($\text{Na}_2\text{O}+\text{K}_2\text{O} = 3\text{--}4 \text{ wt}\%$, $\text{SiO}_2 = 48\text{--}50 \text{ wt}\%$, $\text{TiO}_2 = 1.9\text{--}2.3 \text{ wt}\%$, molar $\text{Mg}/(\text{Mg}+\text{Fe}^{2+}) = 0.39\text{--}0.44$).
395 Trace element patterns normalized to N-MORB indicate significant enrichment in LREE and other
396 incompatible elements ($(\text{La}/\text{Yb})_{\text{N}} = 3.34\text{--}4.26$, $(\text{Th}/\text{Yb})_{\text{N}} = 2.58\text{--}7.09$). Enrichment is particularly
397 pronounced for elements that are highly mobile in fluids (Cs, Rb, U, Pb), especially in sample JB-19-
398 16, which presents strong spikes in Pb, U and Cs. There is no significant Eu anomaly ($(\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*)_{\text{N}} =$
399 $0.98\text{--}1.04$, where $(\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*)_{\text{N}} = \text{Eu}_{\text{N}}/(\text{Sm}_{\text{N}}\cdot\text{Gd}_{\text{N}})^{1/2}$) and the Nb-Ta anomaly is weak ($(\text{Th}/\text{Nb})_{\text{N}} = 1.15\text{--}$
400 1.92). Sample JB-19-55 has a distinct composition both in major and trace elements. It is much richer
401 in K_2O , Al_2O_3 and MgO ($\text{Mg}\# = 0.56$) than other samples. The LREE/HREE fractionation is
402 comparable to that of other samples ($(\text{La}/\text{Yb})_{\text{N}} = 2.56$), but REE concentrations are one order of
403 magnitude lower than in other mafic granulites. It presents extreme enrichment in fluid-mobile
404 elements, in particular Cs, Rb, Ba and Pb, it has positive anomalies in Eu ($(\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*)_{\text{N}} = 1.74$), Sr and
405 Ti, as well as negative anomalies in Nb and Ta ($(\text{Th}/\text{Nb})_{\text{N}} = 3.58$). The overall low REE, the strong
406 positive anomalies in Eu, Sr and Pb suggest a plagioclase-rich cumulates as protolith. The high K_2O
407 content and the strong enrichment in fluid-mobile elements in this sample suggest pervasive interaction
408 with crustal fluids during metamorphism.

409 **6. THERMOBAROMETRY**

410 **6.1. Inverse thermobarometry and forward thermodynamic modeling**

411 The P-T-t evolution of the Lavey granulitic body has been inferred using the three samples JB-19-43,
412 JB-19-56 and JB-19-55. These samples preserve different stages of the P-T evolution and were
413 therefore used to constrain different portions of the P-T path.

414 - sample JB-19-43 contains garnet with the most complete zoning, and preserved evidence of an early
415 prograde phase characterized by the formation of Mn-rich garnet cores containing inclusions of
416 epidote, chlorite, titanite and rare white mica. It has therefore been used to constrain the early prograde
417 evolution.

418 - sample JB-19-56 has been used to constrain peak-P / post peak-P decompression at HT based on
419 quantitative X-Ray mapping.

420 - sample JB-19-55 is heavily retrogressed in amphibolite facies and has been used to constrain
421 retrogression to lower T using inverse thermobarometry.

422 P-T phase diagrams and mineral composition contours used to constrain P-T conditions are reported on
423 Figure 9. Results of amphibole-plagioclase thermometry are reported on Table 2.

424 Inclusions of OH-bearing minerals in garnet of sample JB-19-43 indicate that garnet growth
425 initiated under H₂O-rich conditions. This is further supported by the Mn-rich composition of the garnet
426 cores, which could only be reproduced in PerpleX by adding a high amount of H₂O close to fluid-
427 saturation in the reactive bulk (Figure S4 in the supplements). The P-T phase diagram for sample JB-
428 19-43 was therefore computed using the bulk rock composition measured by ICP-OES and assuming
429 saturation in H₂O (Figure 9-a). Garnet becomes stable at ca. 0.4–0.6 GPa, and the combined presence
430 of chlorite, epidote, titanite and white mica indicates equilibration at T between 460 and 550 °C and P
431 between 0.4 and 1.0 GPa (stage 1). The presence of rutile and amphibole inclusions in the garnet core
432 and mantle mark a progressive increase in P and T over 550 °C and 0.8 GPa. This relatively mild T is in
433 line with the preservation of the Ca-Mn-rich garnet core (Grt-1). Ca-Mn isopleths indicate P-T
434 conditions around 550–600°C and 0.8–1.1 GPa for Grt-1. Smoothing of the initial garnet zoning on X-
435 Ray maps indicate post-growth diffusion, particularly for Mg. Therefore, it is likely that garnet
436 composition was partially reset by diffusion exchange and thus the P-T condition estimated for the Mn-
437 rich core is taken as maximal estimate. Increase in Mg-content between Grt-1 and Grt-2 is consistent
15

438 with increasing T and P during prograde to peak-P evolution, but any quantitative estimate is hampered
439 by post-growth diffusion and fractionation of components in the garnet core.

440 The HP stage (stage 2) has been constrained using a local composition extracted from the X-
441 Ray map in sample JB-19-56. H₂O was treated as a standard thermodynamic component with a fixed
442 amount, which was adjusted to fit with the observed proportion of OH-bearing phases (biotite and
443 amphibole) in the local domain. The mineral mode match criterion (Q_{vol}) of Duesterhoeft and Lanari
444 (2020) indicates reasonably good fit between observed and predicted modal composition ($Q_{vol} > 80\%$)
445 over a wide domain between 0.5 and 1.5 GPa (Figure S-6 in the supplements). The local composition
446 used in input is therefore considered to be appropriate within this range. The HP stage assemblage
447 (stage 2) is inferred as Grt-2-Cpx-Qtz-Rt, possibly with plagioclase, amphibole and/or biotite.
448 Although Na-rich clinopyroxene is no longer present, its composition was inferred from compositional
449 mapping through the symplectites, indicating a reintegrated composition of ca. 20% Jd. Phase diagrams
450 computed for samples JB-19-56 and JB-19-43 (Figure 9) both predict presence of OH-bearing
451 minerals, either amphibole + biotite or phengite, up to HT conditions. Some inclusions of amphibole
452 are present in garnet of sample JB-19-43 and thus, it is likely that amphibole, and possibly biotite were
453 part of the peak-P assemblage. The stability field of the HP assemblage corresponds to a broad domain
454 between 600–800°C and 1.0–1.8 GPa (Figure 9-b). Composition quality factors (Q_{cmp}) computed for
455 Grt-2 yields the best match at 650–730°C and 1.5–1.7 GPa. This P–T range is consistent with the
456 jadeite content in clinopyroxene estimated by re-integration, which constrains P around 1.55–1.65 GPa
457 for the same range of T.

458 Two HT decompression stages (stages 3 and 4) are distinguished from mineral zoning and
459 assemblages in JB-19-56. Decompression is associated with resorption of garnet and clinopyroxene,
460 which breakdown into plagioclase, Na-poor clinopyroxene, amphibole, and then orthopyroxene below
461 ca. 1.0 GPa. Biotite and quartz are also part of this assemblage. Most of the plagioclase in the
462 symplectites and the granoblastic coronas around resorbed garnet is Na-rich (An_{18-30}), which according
463 to our thermodynamic calculations indicates that most of the resorption occurred at relatively high-P
464 between 1.0 and 1.3 GPa (Figure 9-c). Temperature during this first stage of decompression (stage 3)
465 was likely relatively high, as evidenced by relatively K-rich plagioclase cores (Or_{03}), which indicates T
466 around 750–800 °C, and high Ti-content in biotite (> 0.2 p.f.u), which implies equilibration between
467 780 and 820 °C. These temperatures are consistent with those estimated by inverse thermobarometry
468 on Na-rich plagioclase – Al-poor amphibole pairs, which yield an average $T = 764 \pm 27$ °C (assuming P

469 = 1.2 GPa), both in the granoblastic coronas and in the symplectites. The formation of the thin Ca-rich
470 plagioclase rims around garnet and at grain boundaries (An_{40-48}) indicates a second stage of
471 decompression to 0.6–0.9 GPa (stage 4). This stage is associated with the formation of the thin garnet
472 rims (Grt-3) in sample JB-19-56, which presents an increase in Mn relative to Grt-2, and can only be
473 reconciled with growth at low-P close to the Grt-out boundary. Q_{cmp} computed for Grt-3 yields a good
474 fit between 0.7 and 1.0 GPa and over a wide range of T (650–900°C). The edenite-richterite
475 thermometer applied to Al-rich amphibole in contact with Ca-rich plagioclase yields high T at 833 ± 34
476 °C (assuming $P = 0.8$ GPa). Thus, sample JB-19-56 records decompression from HP conditions at 650–
477 730 °C and 1.5–1.7 GPa to 0.7–1.0 GPa and 800–870°C, which corresponds to an increase in T of ca.
478 100–200 °C during decompression.

479 Sample JB-19-55 is heavily retrogressed in amphibolite facies (stage 5). We used plagioclase-
480 amphibole pairs located at the interface between amphibole and plagioclase-rich layers to constrain T.
481 These minerals presumably crystallized during retrogression at lower P than the HT stage 4, and
482 therefore temperature estimates are reported for an assumed pressure of 0.4 GPa. Pargasitic hornblende
483 – plagioclase pairs yield an average T at 656 ± 34 °C (13 pairs), while actinolite – plagioclase pairs yield
484 an average T at 573 ± 44 °C.

485 In contrast with the Lavey HP granulites, the Peyre-Arguet granulite is more retrogressed, and
486 samples JB-19-16 and JB-19-18 are less suitable to determine P-T path, particularly for the prograde or
487 HP stages. Given the presence of retrograde textures similar to that of the Lavey samples (e.g.
488 plagioclase corona around garnet in JB-19-16, and conspicuous clinopyroxene–plagioclase symplectite
489 relics), the Peyre-Arguet samples possibly underwent a HP stage followed by HT decompression. This
490 HT metamorphism is independently confirmed by the Zr-in rutile thermometry (see below).

491 **6.2. Zr-in-rutile thermometry**

492 Rutile was analyzed in different textural settings in the five samples from La Lavey and Peyre-Arguet.
493 Several grains were analyzed in multiple spots to check possible core-rim zoning. Variation in Zr-
494 content within a single grain are generally small to insignificant, ruling out significant loss of Zr by
495 diffusion in the rims.

496 Several populations of rutile are distinguished based on textural position and Nb-Zr
497 systematics (Figure 10a). Rutile inclusions in garnet generally display low Nb content (<1000 ppm,
498 except a few grain in sample JB-19-43 with higher Nb) and large scattering in Zr (304–1119 ppm in

499 sample JB-19-43 and 355–1298 ppm in sample JB-19-16). In sample JB-19-43, highest Zr-contents are
500 observed in rutile inclusions that are partially replaced by ilmenite. Rutile grains that are located close
501 to or in contact with zircon do not display any significant difference in Zr content.

502 In contrast, matrix grains display important scattering in Nb (470–2350 ppm in sample JB-19-
503 43, 180–2310 ppm in sample JB-19-55 and 800–3750 ppm in sample JB-19-18), and high Zr content
504 (851–1291 ppm in sample JB-19-43, 803–1223 ppm in sample JB-19-55 and 1147–1593 ppm in
505 sample JB-19-18). Rutile grains separated from sample JB-19-56 and analyzed by LA-ICPMS are
506 devoid of ilmenite replacement / exsolution and form a cluster of Nb-Zr poor analyses (Nb = 500–890
507 ppm, Zr = 220–342– ppm) similar to those of rutile inclusions in garnet. No matrix rutile was observed
508 in the petrographic thin section of sample JB-19-56, and therefore it is very likely that the separated
509 grains were initially included in garnet. Finally, late rutile found around ilmenite in sample JB-19-55
510 displays very low Zr and Nb content (Nb = 28–124 ppm and Zr = 41–78 ppm).

511 Temperatures were obtained using the calibration of Kohn (2020) , which has a dependence in
512 P of ca. $+50^{\circ}\text{C.GPa}^{-1}$. According to phase diagrams computed for samples JB-19-43 and JB-19-56,
513 rutile may have equilibrated anywhere between 0.8 and 1.6 GPa during the prograde or the retrograde
514 evolution. A value of 1.2 GPa was thus used for all the grains, except for the late rutile in sample JB-
515 19-55, which is assumed to have formed during late retrogression and for which P was set to 0.4 GPa.
516 Applying a nominal P of 1.2 GPa yields to slightly underestimate or overestimate the T if the rutile
517 formed respectively at higher or lower P. Considering the possible range of P for rutile growth, this
518 uncertainty is at most $\pm 20^{\circ}\text{C}$. There are no P estimates for rutile of the Peyre-Arguet samples, but
519 considering the strong similarities in mineral assemblages with the samples from La Lavey, these rocks
520 may have evolved approximately within the same range of P. Therefore, uncertainties related to
521 unknown P during rutile growth are within the same range of $\pm 20^{\circ}\text{C}$.

522 Quartz is stable over the whole stability field of rutile (Figure 9) and zircon seems to have been reactive
523 over a large part of the P–T evolution, as suggested by the large range of U–Pb dates in metamorphic
524 zircon rims (see below). We therefore assume that rutile has grown under SiO_2 and ZrO_2 saturated
525 conditions.

526 The separated grains of rutile (JB-19-56) consistently yield low T between 611°C and 650°C
527 (Figure 10b). The large spread of Zr content in rutile inclusions (samples JB-19-43 and JB-19-16)
528 translates into a spread in temperature from 637 to 775°C in sample JB-19-43 and from 654 to 793°C
529 in sample JB-19-16. In contrast, matrix rutile yields T clustered between 743°C and 792°C in sample

530 JB-19-43, between 737 and 785 °C in sample JB-19-55 and between 778 and 818°C in sample JB-19-
531 18. Finally, low-Zr rutile in sample JB-19-55 yields low T between 457 and 499°C, although with large
532 uncertainty (ca. 40–60 °C), due to the poor precision on the Zr measurements.

533

534 **7. U-Pb GEOCHRONOLOGY**

535 **7.1. Composition and internal textures of zircon and rutile**

536 The garnet-bearing mafic HP granulite JB-19-56 was selected for U-Pb dating of zircon and rutile.
537 Zircon grains are typically 100–200 µm in size and are rounded to sub-euhedral (Figure 11-a). They
538 present CC-dark cores with common oscillatory or broad sector zoning. Most of the zircon cores show
539 homogeneous CC-bright rims of variable width (10–50 µm), which display embayments. Rutile grains
540 separated for U-Pb dating are 100–250 µm in diameter and are completely devoid of ilmenite
541 exsolutions or replacement.

542 Thorium and U content in zircon were measured during SIMS analysis and values are
543 generally consistent with LA-ICPMS data measured on the same domain, considering the different
544 volumes sampled. LA-ICPMS trace element analyses of zircon grains were filtered by monitoring P, Y,
545 Sr, Ti and Nb, and analyses presenting an unusually high concentration of these elements were
546 discarded, as they are likely sampling micro-inclusions. REE patterns normalized to chondrite
547 composition (Palme and O'Neill, 2004), Eu anomaly and Th/U ratios are used as proxies to
548 discriminate between different zircon populations (Figure 11-b).

549 The zircon cores are older (>400 Ma) with respect to the rims (<350 Ma) and have a distinct
550 Th-U and REE systematic. Grain cores generally contain 50–900 ppm U and have Th/U in the range
551 0.28–0.99, while rims contain 2–40 ppm U and their Th/U is generally lower than 0.2. The zircon cores
552 are around one or two orders of magnitude richer in REE than the younger zircon rims, they present
553 slight to strong negative Eu anomalies ($\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.17\text{--}0.47$) and are enriched in HREE with respect to
554 the L–MREE (Lu–Yb concentrations ~1000 times chondrite and $(\text{Lu}/\text{Gd})_{\text{N}} = 17\text{--}40$). Zircon rims are
555 poorer in REE with a variety of patterns ranging from flat to strongly enriched in HREE ($(\text{Lu}/\text{Gd})_{\text{N}}$
556 from 1.4 to 614). Eu anomaly ranges from weakly negative to positive ($\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.88\text{--}1.53$). There is
557 no clear relationship between the U-Pb dates and the shape of REE profiles for the rims.

558 The Ti content of zircon ranges from 4.6 to 9.9 ppm in the cores, and from 1.1 to 10.0 ppm in
559 the rims, excluding one outlier. Using the Ti-in-zircon thermometer of Ferry and Watson (2007)

560 assuming TiO_2 and SiO_2 saturation, this converts to T ranging from ca. 680 to 750 °C for the cores and
561 from 570 to 750 °C for the rims. Assuming TiO_2 activity reduced to 0.5 if ilmenite was the stable Ti
562 phase during zircon crystallization increases T estimates by ca. 70 °C (740–810°C for the cores and
563 620–820°C for the rims).

564 **7.2. Zircon and rutile U-Pb dating**

565 Most of U-Pb analyses of zircon cores are concordant (more than 95%) and yield $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ dates in
566 the range 470–492 Ma (Figure 12-a), with the exclusion of three younger outliers. The $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$
567 weighted mean age of 479 ± 5 Ma is calculated from eight zircon cores analyses and is within
568 uncertainty the same as the concordia age (480 ± 5 Ma, $\text{MSWD}_{(c+e)}=1.3$). Zircon rims analyses contain
569 more common Pb (f_{206} up to 6 %) and are best displayed in the Tera-Wasserburg diagram (Figure 12-c).
570 Analyses corrected for common Pb assuming present day $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ value according to Stacey and
571 Kramers (1975) display $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ dates between 294 and 337 Ma (Figure 12-b). Zircon U–Pb dates
572 present a bimodal distribution, with two main clusters around 318–326 Ma and 303–310 Ma. However,
573 there is no discernible correlation between U–Pb dates and composition or internal texture of the zircon
574 rims.

575 The rutile extracted from sample JB-19-56 contains significant common Pb, 43 analyses from
576 34 different grains define a linear regression in the Tera-Wasserburg diagram (Figure 12-c). The
577 intercept age is 337 ± 7 Ma ($\text{MSWD}=1.3$) and the free upper intercept for $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ is 0.80 ± 0.04 . This
578 value is within uncertainty that of the present-day value predicted by the Stacey and Kramers (1975)
579 model.

580 **8. DISCUSSION**

581 **8.1. Emplacement of the mafic protoliths**

582 The zircon cores in the dated mafic granulite sample (JB-19-56) present typical features of magmatic
583 zircon such as oscillatory or broad sector zoning, relatively high U content with respect to the rims and
584 high Th/U (Corfu et al., 2003; Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). The steep REE patterns and the negative
585 Eu anomalies are consistent with crystallization from a basaltic melt that has fractionated plagioclase
586 (Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). The Ordovician age of 479 ± 5 Ma of the zircon cores is therefore
587 interpreted as the crystallization age of the magmatic protolith. This age is within uncertainty the same
588 as that obtained for zircon in a sample from the Peyre-Arguet granulite at 471 ± 5 Ma (Fréville, 2016),

589 which suggests that these two bodies were emplaced during the same magmatic event. This Ordovician
590 age is consistent with the regional record in the ECM, where most of igneous mafic protoliths yield
591 ages between 450 and 480 Ma (Jacob et al., 2021; Paquette et al., 1989; Rubatto et al., 2010).
592 Cambrian–Ordovician magmatism is widespread in the Variscan basement of Europe (Pin and Marini,
593 1993), and is generally attributed to a regional extensional event that affected all the northern part of
594 Gondwana and resulted in the rifting of the Rheic and Saxo-Thuringian Oceans during the Early-mid-
595 Ordovician.

596 **8.2. Metamorphic evolution of the HP mafic granulites**

597 **8.2.1. P–T evolution of La Lavey granulitic body**

598 Inverse thermobarometry and forward modeling in the three samples from La Lavey provide reliable
599 constraints for five different metamorphic stages, which allow reconstructing a comprehensive P-T path
600 from the early prograde (stage 1) to the late retrograde phases (stage 5).

601 The early prograde phase (stage1) is constrained by Mn-rich garnet cores (Grt-1) in sample
602 JB-19-43, which contain inclusions of epidote, chlorite, titanite and white mica. Thermodynamic
603 modeling indicates conditions of the amphibolite-facies during stage 1 (460–550°C and 0.4–1.0 GPa),
604 which rules out possible evolution along a low-T geotherm at blueschist-facies conditions typical of
605 subduction environments. Then, progressive increase in T and P is marked by increasing modal
606 proportion of garnet, entrapment of rutile inclusion and progressive increase in Mg associated with
607 decrease in Ca from Grt-1 to Grt-2, which is observed in both samples JB-19-43 and JB-19-56. The
608 pressure peak (stage 2) is constrained at 650–730°C and 1.5–1.7 GPa based on composition of Mg-rich
609 garnet (Grt-2) and estimation of the highest jadeite content in clinopyroxene by reintegration of the
610 symplectites in sample JB-19-56.

611 Decompression following the pressure peak is associated with resorption of garnet and coarse-
612 grained clinopyroxene, which respectively break down into a polycrystalline, plagioclase-rich
613 granoblastic corona and plagioclase + clinopyroxene symplectites. Recrystallization of the symplectites
614 into a mosaic assemblage of plagioclase and clinopyroxene is observed, in particular in relict granulitic
615 domains in sample JB-19-55. These annealing textures are indicative of HT conditions during
616 decompression. They contrast with fine-grained (vermicular) symplectites commonly observed in
617 retrogressed eclogites or HP granulites, in particular in those from the other ECM of Belledonne,

618 Aiguilles–Rouges and Argentera (Jacob et al., 2021; Jouffray et al., 2020; Vanardois et al., 2022). Two
619 stages of decompression are identified (stages 3 and 4), which correspond to different compositions of
620 plagioclase (Na-rich or Ca-rich) and amphibole (Al-poor or Al-rich) measured in sample JB-19-56.
621 They occurred at high to medium P conditions (stage 3: 1.0–1.3 GPa and 730–800 °C; stage 4: 0.6–0.9
622 GPa and 800–870°C), according to forward thermodynamic modeling and inverse thermobarometry
623 performed in sample JB-19-56. According to the amount of Na vs Ca-rich plagioclase, most of the
624 retrogression has occurred during stage 3, while stage 4 is more discrete and produced only a stealth
625 overprint around garnet and at the plagioclase grain boundaries (Figure 5a). Stage 4 is associated with
626 the formation of a thin garnet rim enriched in Mn (Grt-3) in contact with Ca-rich plagioclase in sample
627 JB-19-56. This garnet overgrowth during decompression may result from local enrichment in Mn
628 around the resorbing garnet grains.

629 Finally, stage 5 corresponds to late retrogression and cooling at amphibolite-facies conditions.
630 This late stage is not observed or very discrete in the least retrogressed samples (JB-19-43 and JB-19-
631 56), but is much more pronounced in the amphibolite sample JB-19-55. In this latter sample, it was
632 associated with pervasive rehydration (metasomatism) and intense deformation, which resulted in
633 development of a layered plagioclase-amphibole assemblage, which almost completely overprinted the
634 former HT granulitic assemblage. The latter is only preserved as relics corresponding to
635 plagioclase+clinopyroxene mosaic domains. Based on plagioclase–amphibole thermometry, this
636 retrogression occurred over a large range of T from upper ($656\pm 33^\circ\text{C}$) to lower amphibolite facies
637 ($573\pm 44^\circ\text{C}$).

638 **8.2.2. Temperature constrains from Zr-in-rutile**

639 Rutile temperatures in samples from La Lavey are consistent with this P–T evolution. Rutile inclusions
640 in garnet yield T scattering between 611 and 775 °C: the lower end of this range is consistent with
641 prograde entrapment of rutile in garnet between stage 1 and stage 2, while the higher end yields
642 approximately the same T as matrix rutile, which suggests equilibration during heating and
643 decompression. Many HT rutile inclusions display textures indicative of partial replacement by
644 ilmenite, which suggests that this rutile re-equilibrated at HT conditions in the stability field of rutile +
645 ilmenite (~1.0 GPa). However, in such a situation of partial replacement of rutile by ilmenite, Zr is
646 known to remain dominantly in rutile and very few Zr is incorporated into ilmenite (Whitney et al.,
647 2015), which leads to a local increase in Zr content in the remaining rutile. The broadly higher Zr-

648 content observed in this rutile may therefore result in part from this process, and would not result only
649 from equilibration at higher T. The large spread of Zr-content in rutile inclusions is in consequence
650 complex to interpret, and probably reflects a combination of: (i) variable P-T conditions during rutile
651 entrapment; (ii) possible re-equilibration of Zr in rutile at higher-T during decompression, and (iii)
652 favorable partition of Zr during replacement by ilmenite. It is important to emphasize here that the
653 separated rutile grains that have been used for U-Pb dating do not present any trace of ilmenite
654 replacement and display low Zr-content (<350ppm), which means they have not been affected by these
655 processes.

656 Matrix rutile in samples JB-19-43 and JB-19-55 yields HT conditions (737–792 °C) consistent
657 with equilibration during decompression at HT (stage 3). The highest Zr-in-rutile T is ca. 40°C lower
658 than peak-T estimated from amphibole-plagioclase thermometry (833±35°C). We do not interpret this
659 discrepancy as the result of post peak-T diffusion, first because there is not evidence of diffusion
660 zoning in the rutile grains, and second because several studies have demonstrated that the Zr-in-rutile
661 thermometer is robust to diffusive re-equilibration up to ultra-high T conditions (e.g. Ewing et al.,
662 2013; Pape et al., 2016). We suggest instead that peak-T occurred in the stability field of ilmenite, and
663 is therefore not recorded by rutile, which rather constrains T during the last step of equilibration above
664 the Rt-out reaction between stages 3 and 4 (Figure 9).

665 Finally, late rutile in sample JB-19-55, which grows together with titanite in replacement of
666 ilmenite, yields low T between 457 and 499 °C, which is ca. 50–70°C lower than T estimated for
667 plagioclase–actinolite pairs (stage 5) and marks late retrogression to the lower amphibolite facies.

668 Despite a more pervasive retrogression, the samples from Peyre-Arguet share similarities with
669 the mafic HP granulites from La Lavey. In particular, widespread occurrence of granoblastic mosaic
670 assemblages rather than vermicular symplectites marks decompression at HT conditions following the
671 HP stage. Textures in sample JB-19-16 correspond to an intermediate state of retrogression between the
672 well-preserved HP granulites (JB-19-43;56) and the highly retrogressed sample JB-19-55. Rutile in
673 samples from Peyre-Arguet displays similar features as rutile in samples from La Lavey, with high Zr-
674 in-rutile T in matrix grains (778–818 °C) and large scattering of T in rutile inclusions in garnet (654–
675 793°C). Consequently, the Peyre-Arguet retrogressed granulites have probably undergone a similar P–T
676 evolution as the Lavey HP granulites, with a prograde to HP evolution at relatively moderate T (ca.
677 650–750 °C), followed by heating to >800 °C during decompression. However, Zr-content in rutile is

678 generally higher in samples from Peyre-Arguet than in samples from La Lavey. For the same textural
679 position (matrix or inclusions), the distribution of Zr-in-rutile data is shifted by 50 to 300 ppm toward
680 higher values in Peyre-Arguet, which may reflect slightly higher peak-P (+0.4 GPa) and/or peak-T
681 (+20°C) conditions.

682 **8.3. Timing of the metamorphic evolution**

683 Rutile from sample JB-19-56 yields an age at 337 ± 7 Ma, which is older than most of U-Pb dates
684 obtained in zircon rims of this study and predates by 30 to 40 Ma the widespread HT migmatitic event
685 recorded in the inner zone of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif (Fréville, 2016, see compilation of U-Pb data
686 on Figure 13). We therefore attribute the age at 337 ± 7 Ma to an early HP metamorphic stage that
687 predates HT decompression, rather than a cooling age after the thermal peak, which would be
688 inconsistent with the regional geochronological record.

689 Preservation of an early crystallization age in rutile is unexpected, given that Pb diffusion in
690 rutile is considered to be relatively fast at T over 600–650°C (Cherniak, 2000; Zack and Kooijman,
691 2017). However, this is not an isolated observation. Similar rutile ages around 340 Ma have also been
692 attributed to the HP stage in retrogressed Variscan eclogites from the neighboring massifs of
693 Belledonne (Jacob et al., 2021) and Aiguilles–Rouges (Vanardois et al., 2022), despite contrasted
694 exhumation path at $T > 700\text{--}750^\circ\text{C}$ (see section 8.5 below). Low Zr-content and lack of ilmenite
695 exsolution or replacement in the dated rutile grains (Figures 10-a and 11-a) indicate lack of re-
696 equilibration during HT decompression, probably due to shielding in garnet. Therefore, we tentatively
697 attribute this unusual preservation of early metamorphic ages in rutile ages to the shielding effect of
698 garnet, which may prevent both fluid access to the rutile inclusions and diffusional Pb-loss (Dahl,
699 1997). Similar preservation of prograde rutile ages due to shielding in garnet has been reported in
700 different settings (e.g; Bruguier et al., 2017), although this effect is not systematic (Zhou et al., 2020).

701 Zircon rims generally display low U and low Th/U ratios, they are depleted in REE with
702 respect to the zircon cores and they form homogeneous CC bright domains, which are typical features
703 of metamorphic zircon formed under sub-solidus conditions (Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003; Rubatto,
704 2017). U–Pb dates cover a wide range between 294 and 337 Ma, with two main clusters at 326–318 Ma
705 and 310–303 Ma. This suggests that zircon rims have crystallized during a protracted period, either
706 continuously or during multiple episodes. The large variety of zircon REE patterns, which do not
707 correlate with U-Pb dates, suggests chemical disequilibrium for REE between different domains during

708 zircon growth. Flat HREE patterns are indicative of growth in a garnet-rich bulk, which fractionates
709 HREE (Rubatto, 2002), while enrichment in HREE rather indicates zircon growth associated with
710 garnet-breakdown. The HREE-enriched rims likely formed in portions of the rock where the garnet-
711 bearing HP assemblage was resorbing and releasing HREE, while the HREE-flat rims formed in
712 portions of the rock where retrogression was less pronounced. Correspondingly, the lack of a
713 significant negative Eu anomaly in the zircon rims is not taken to signify lack of plagioclase in the
714 assemblage, but rather disequilibrium growth (e.g. Lotout et al., 2018).

715 Ti-in-zircon thermometry yields scattering temperatures, that are uncorrelated with U-Pb dates
716 and are broadly 50 to 100 °C lower than maximal Zr-in-rutile temperatures. This shift suggests rutile
717 and zircon growth are decorrelated and correspond to different stages of the P-T evolution. The
718 apparently lower T in zircon may result from crystallization under reduced a_{TiO_2} conditions, either at
719 lower P in the ilmenite stability field, or due to incomplete equilibration of Ti at the sample scale.
720 Overall, the relatively large range of zircon ages combined with non-systematic trace elements patterns
721 does not allow dating a precise P-T stage but rather indicates metamorphic zircon growth between ca.
722 340 and 295 Ma, broadly under decompression as attested by some HREE-enriched rims.

723 **8.4. Evolution at the regional scale**

724 Comparison of the zircon rims ages from this study with data from the surrounding metamorphic rocks
725 provides insight into the metamorphic evolution of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif. A summary of
726 geochronological data from Fréville (2016) and this work is presented in Figure 13. The data were split
727 by domains between the widely migmatized inner Oisans-Pelvoux zone and the lower grade cortical
728 zone in the western part of the massif (Figure 1). The distribution of zircon and monazite U-Pb dates in
729 the high grade inner zone marks three distinct peaks corresponding to the Viséan (ca. 340–325 Ma),
730 the Late Carboniferous – Early Permian (ca. 310–295 Ma) and the mid-Permian (ca. 285–270 Ma).
731 Only the Viséan peak is recorded in the lower grade cortical zone, which does not display any trace of
732 younger events.

733 Excluding the late mid-Permian stage, the regional timing of metamorphism is consistent with
734 that recorded in the HP granulites: the rutile age at 337 ± 7 Ma plots in the older end of the Viséan peak
735 and zircon rims U–Pb dates spread from the Viséan to the late Carboniferous – early Permian peak.
736 Dated rutile yields low Zr-in-rutile T consistent with the prograde evolution and zircon rims are
737 interpreted to have formed during broad decompression and heating to HT conditions (stages 3 and 4 of

738 the metamorphic evolution). Therefore, we correlate the Visean peak with the period of nappe stacking
739 and crustal thickening (D1 regional phase), during which upper and mid-crustal units of both the inner
740 and the cortical zone were buried. The upper Carboniferous – early Permian peak is in turn interpreted
741 to date heating to HT conditions during exhumation, which is only recorded in the inner zone of the
742 Oisans–Pelvoux massif and matches with the emplacement age of most of granite intrusions in this
743 domain (Fréville, 2016).

744 Interestingly, nearly all zircon of the younger populations (late Carboniferous and Permian)
745 display high Th/U > 0.1 (Figure 13b), while older zircons display more scattered Th/U between 0.001
746 and 1. High Th/U are generally indicative of crystallization in equilibrium with a melt (Hoskin and
747 Schaltegger, 2003), and therefore the lack of low Th/U zircon in the late Carboniferous population,
748 comparatively with older zircon, is another indication of a HT migmatitic environment during this
749 period. This strongly suggests that HT decompression observed in the HP granulites, emplacement of
750 granitoids and migmatization of the inner Oisans–Pelvoux zone occurred during the same late
751 Carboniferous – early Permian (ca. 310–295 Ma) HT event.

752 **8.5. Thermal state of the Variscan crust and possible geodynamic scenario**

753

754 Until recently (Guillot and Ménot, 2009, Fréville et al., 2018), Variscan eclogites and HP granulites in
755 the ECM were regarded as the relics of Cambrian-Ordovician oceanic crust subducted during the
756 Devonian (ca. 390-400 Ma), based on ID-TIMS ages on multigrain fractions of zircon obtained by
757 Paquette et al. (1989). However, both the age and P-T conditions of HP metamorphism are in
758 contradiction with this interpretation.

759 First, all HP relics in the ECM record a similar timing for prograde to peak-P metamorphism around
760 345-330 Ma (Jacob et al., 2021; Jouffray et al., 2020; Vanardois et al., 2022, this work), which is
761 inconsistent with a Devonian subduction. This timing matches instead with that of the barrovian
762 metamorphic sequence observed in the southern Belledonne massif and the cortical zone of the Oisans–
763 Pelvoux massif, which corresponds to burying of the Devonian–Tournaisian arc/back-arc series to ca.
764 0.6-0.9 GPa and 650–700°C (Fréville, 2016; Fréville et al., 2018; Guillot and Ménot, 1999). Therefore,
765 the HP stage in the ECM marks a regional MT/HP event, that we correlate to the regional D1 nappe
766 stacking.

767 Then, metamorphic P–T conditions estimated for the mafic HP granulites from La Lavey allow to
768 constrain the local geotherm during the different stages of the metamorphic evolution. Assuming a
769 crustal density of 2800 kg.m^{-3} , we estimate that early burial of the mid-crustal metamorphic nappes
770 (stage 1) occurred along a relatively mild local geothermal gradient (ca. $12\text{--}19^\circ\text{C.km}^{-1}$). Peak-P
771 conditions (stage 2) were reached at ca. $55\text{--}60 \text{ km}$ depth along a mean gradient of $12\text{--}13^\circ\text{C.km}^{-1}$, and
772 exhumation stages 3 and 4 mark progressive re-equilibration along a much warmer local geotherm (ca.
773 $25\text{--}38^\circ\text{C.km}^{-1}$).

774 Early prograde stage 1 thus occurred in a middle crust at upper greenschist-facies conditions, which
775 then reached conditions of the HP granulite-facies during stage 2. The apparent gradient during the
776 early metamorphic stages is significantly higher than what is commonly recorded during subduction of
777 a cold passive margin ($< 10^\circ\text{C/km}$, Maruyama, 1996).

778 This result is in line with early emplacement of granitoids during the Viséan (345–335 Ma), barely 5 to
779 10 Ma after the onset of collision. This implies that the crust was already relatively hot and prone to
780 melting during the early collisional stages, due to thermal inheritance from Devonian arc/back-arc
781 magmatism, which was active from ca. 370 to 350 Ma in the ECM (Fréville et al., 2018; Guillot and
782 Ménot, 2009; Ménot, 1987). We therefore suggest that the regional phase D1 corresponds to the
783 inversion of a Devonian continental back-arc during collision, which resulted in HP metamorphism at
784 MT/HT conditions.

785

786

787 Post peak-P heating to HT granulite-facies conditions ($>800^\circ\text{C}$) during the late Carboniferous
788 is only recorded in the inner zone of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif. In contrast, peak-T conditions in
789 metamorphic series exposed in the cortical Oisans–Pelvoux zone and in the southern Belledonne massif
790 (Figure 1) do not exceed $650\text{--}700^\circ\text{C}$ at $0.6\text{--}0.9 \text{ GPa}$ (Fréville et al., 2018; Guillot and Menot, 1999).
791 All the other eclogites relics in the ECM (Belledonne, Argentera, Aiguilles–Rouges) record peak-T
792 around $700\text{--}750^\circ\text{C}$ (Jacob et al., 2021; Jouffray et al., 2020; Vanardois et al., 2022). Furthermore, the
793 geochronological record in the cortical zone of Oisans–Pelvoux does not reveal any sign of a late
794 Carboniferous HT overprint (Figure 13a). We interpret the lack of HT overprint in these domains as the
795 result of relatively rapid exhumation to upper structural levels after peak-P. In contrast, the inner zone
796 of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif has remained in the lower crust until the late Carboniferous (310–300

797 Ma), where it has been heated to HT conditions. Our thermobarometric estimations indicate that peak-T
798 was reached in the lower crust (ca. 20–30 km; 0.6–0.9 GPa). Heating could have occurred
799 progressively during decompression from stage 2 to stage 4, due to thermal maturation of the lower
800 crust. However, given the relatively stealth overprint of the HP granulites during stage 4 and the
801 episodic growth of zircon and monazite in the metamorphic basement, we suggest that the HT overprint
802 was relatively short-lived and occurred after a first step of decompression from high to middle-P
803 conditions. The two possible exhumation paths (progressive heating during decompression or sharp T
804 increase after decompression) are shown with dotted lines on Figure 13. Cordierite is found in the
805 surrounding felsic migmatites (Figure S1 in the supplements), which indicates HT conditions at lower P
806 than recorded for stage 4 in the HP granulites (<0.6 GPa, White et al., 2001). This may result from the
807 juxtaposition of high-grade crustal units coming from different structural levels of the lower to middle
808 crust, which were exhumed together in a domal structure. This setting is similar for instance to the
809 Montagne Noire Axial Zone (Whitney et al., 2020), which presents similar features.

810 The sharp increase of T (ca. 100–200 °C) between stage 2 (peak-P) and stage 4 (peak-T)
811 requires important heat input, especially when considering that a significant part of the additional
812 thermal energy has been pumped out in melting reactions to form the large volumes of granite (Moyen,
813 2019). Part of this thermal energy comes from internal radiogenic heat production in the thickened
814 orogenic crust. However, the metamorphic pile in the Oisans–Pelvoux massif contains large amounts of
815 amphibolite and amphibolitic gneiss poor in radioactive elements, and the ca. 30 Ma interval between
816 peak-P and peak-T may have therefore been too short to produce this thermal overprint accounting only
817 for internal crustal heat sources (Bea, 2012; Clark et al., 2011). Mantle-derived (ultra)-potassic
818 magmatic rocks akin to the durbachites and vaugnerites series (Von Raumer et al., 2014) are ubiquitous
819 in the basement (Figure 1) and may have contributed to heating, either by underplating below the lower
820 crust or by intruding directly in the lower crust. Finally, upwelling of hot asthenospheric mantle in
821 response of slab rollback or lithospheric delamination during the post-collisional stages may be a
822 possible source for additional heating, as suggested in the French Massif Central or the Bohemian
823 Massif (e.g. Vanderhaeghe et al., 2020; Žák et al., 2018).

824 **9. CONCLUSION**

825 High-pressure mafic granulite that were newly identified in the Oisans–Pelvoux massif represents an
826 invaluable material to infer the P-T-t evolution of this widely migmatized massif that records the

827 highest metamorphic conditions in the external crystalline massifs of the French Alps. The mafic HP
828 granulites derive from ordovician tholeiitic protoliths emplaced at 479 ± 5 Ma. They preserve the relics
829 of multiple Variscan metamorphic stages, from an early prograde phase at
830 $460\text{--}550$ °C and $0.4\text{--}1.0$ GPa to peak P conditions at $650\text{--}730$ °C and $1.5\text{--}1.7$ GPa. The HP
831 assemblage was then destabilized at HT conditions during decompression and peak T of $800\text{--}870$ °C
832 was reached at $0.6\text{--}0.9$ GPa. In the best-preserved mafic HP granulites, lack of strong fluid-input
833 during cooling allowed preservation of the HP and HT assemblages, and no subsequent retrogression
834 stage is recorded. In contrast, the most retrogressed samples have undergone pervasive deformation and
835 metasomatism that were associated with crystallization of an amphibolitic assemblage from ca. 690 °C
836 to 450 °C.

837 The timing of the Variscan metamorphic evolution is constrained by a U-Pb age on rutile at
838 337 ± 7 Ma and by U-Pb dates of metamorphic zircon rims scattered between 337 and 294 Ma. Most of
839 zircon rims have crystallized during decompression, and therefore the older rutile age is interpreted to
840 date prograde or HP stages. The timing and P-T conditions of prograde to HP evolution are comparable
841 with those of other HP rocks in the ECM, and correspond to burying of continental units along a
842 medium-T geothermal gradient (ca. $12\text{--}13$ °C.km⁻¹). Upper greenschist-facies conditions during the
843 early prograde stage are inconsistent with subduction of a cold passive margin. We therefore ascribe the
844 prograde to HP evolution to thickening of a relatively hot continental crust, presumably caused by
845 inversion of a Devonian back-arc during the collision.

846 The HP rocks of the Oisans-Pelvoux massif are the only ones in the ECM to record heating to
847 HT granulitic conditions during decompression. Therefore, we suppose that unlike most other HP relics
848 in the ECM, these mafic HP granulites remained stored in the lower crust for a longer period, and
849 recorded a late heating stage possibly triggered by a combination of underplating and /or intrusion of
850 hot mantle magmas and increased basal conductive heat flux caused by asthenospheric upwelling.

851

852

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866

867 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

868

869 Additional Supporting Information may be found online in the supporting information tab for this
870 article.

871 Figure S1. Field pictures of migmatitic textures in the felsic (a–b) and intermediate / mafic (c–d)
872 protoliths in the inner Oisans–Pelvoux zone.

873

874 Figure S2. Backscattered electron images of mineral inclusions in Mn-rich garnet (Grt-1) of mafic HP
875 granulite sample JB-19-43. Representative energy-dispersive X-Ray spectra of the different inclusions
876 are shown below.

877

878 Figure S3. Complete set of mineral analyses for the samples from La Lavey, plotted on different
879 diagrams. Colors and symbols correspond to different samples and textural settings respectively. The
880 distribution of pixel composition obtained by processing of the quantitative X-Ray map (sample JB-19-
881 56) on XmapTools is reported with blue contours. a) Ternary diagram with proportion of
882 almandine+spessartine, pyrope and grossular end-members. b) Clinopyroxene analyses plotted on a Ca
883 – Mg# diagram ($Mg\# = Mg/(Fe^{2+}+Mg)$) and on a ternary showing the proportions of Augite, Jadeite
884 and Aegyrine end-members. c) Al – Mg# composition of orthopyroxene. d) Amphibole analyses plotted
885 on a Al(iv) – Mg#. The Ti distribution is added to the right. e) Proportion of anorthite in plagioclase. f)
886 Ti – Mg# in biotite.

887

888 Figure S4. P-H₂O phase diagram computed with the composition of sample JB-19-43 (HP mafic
889 granulite) and associated garnet isopleths. The bulk rock composition of this sample is very similar to
890 that of the second HP mafic granulite JB-19-56, and hence variations are expected to be the same in the
891 latter sample. According to this diagram, Ca-Mn-rich garnet can only grow at low P (<0.8 GPa) and for
892 composition close to the fluid saturation.

893

894 Figure S5. Mineral proportions (in volume %) modeled with PerpleX for the P-T phase diagram
895 computed with the bulk rock composition of sample JB-19-43.

896

897 Figure S6. Mineral proportions (in volume %) modeled with PerpleX, using the local X-Ray map
898 composition of sample JB-19-56. The fit with observed proportion (indicated on the bottom right) has
899 been assessed using the Q_{vol} criterion of Duisterhoeft and Lanari (2020). High $Q_{vol} > 80\%$ indicates
900 good match between observations and the model.

901

902 Figure S7. Quantitative composition maps of amphibole, clinopyroxene and plagioclase in sample JB-
903 19-56 processed with XmapTools.

904

905 Table S1. Settings and solution models used in PerpleX for phase equilibrium modeling

906

907 Table S2. Mineral EPMA data for the samples from La Lavey.

908

909 Table S3. Whole rock major and trace element compositions for the (retrogressed) mafic HP granulites

910

911 Table S4. Trace element analyses in rutile and Zr-in rutile temperatures computed using the calibration

912 of Kohn (2020). T uncertainty is around $\pm 20^\circ\text{C}$, which mainly arise from calibration uncertainty rather

913 than uncertainty on Zr content. The detection limit for Zr is 25 ppm with the electron microprobe, and

914 below 0.02 ppm with LA-ICPMS.

915

916 Table S5. Summary of trace element analyses in zircon, with Ti-in-zircon temperatures calculated with

917 the calibration of Ferry and Watson (2007). Chondrite composition from Palme and O'Neill (2004).

918

919 Table S6. SIMS U-Pb analyses of zircon and LA-ICPMS U-Pb analyses of rutile in sample JB-19-56

920

921 Table S7. Compilation of metamorphic zircon and monazite U-Pb dates in the Oisans–Pelvoux massif.

922 Data are from Fréville (2016) and this work.

923

924 **FIGURES AND TABLES**

925 Figure 1. Simplified geological map of the Paleozoic basement of the Oisans–Pelvoux, southern

926 Belledonne and southern Grandes–Rousses Massifs in the external western Alps, redrawn from the

927 BRGM 1:50 000 geological maps. Location of these domains in the Variscan Belt is shown in the

928 bottom left insert. Zonation of the Variscan Belt modified from Ballèvre et al. (2014).

929

930 Figure 2. Geological map and cross-sections in the inner zone of the Oisans–Pelvoux massif, showing

931 relationships between S2h (red) and S2v (black). The HP granulite formations of La Lavey are in

932 yellow. Legends are the same as on Figure 1.

933

934 Figure 3. Field photographs of the investigated area and main lithologies. (a) – S2h flat-lying foliation

935 in felsic migmatites, with sheared leucosomes marking top-to-the-South shearing. (b) – S2v steeply-

936 dipping foliation in the sub-vertical migmatitic shear zones. Deformed amphibolite boudins mark a

937 sinistral kinematics. (c) – View on the granulitic formation of La Lavey, which consist in a hectometer-
938 wide lens inserted in the flat-lying S2h. (d) – High-strain domain consisting of a mylonitic amphibole-
939 plagioclase-rich layer alternating with retrogressed garnet-bearing granulites. (e) – Close up view of a
940 massive, non-retrogressed garnet-clinopyroxene-bearing mafic HP granulite. (f) – Close-up view on a
941 retrogressed mafic HP granulite from Peyre-Arguet.

942

943 Figure 4. Microscope photographs of the granulite samples. (a) – Large field view on the mineral
944 assemblage in sample JB-19-56 (La Lavey), which shows the resorbed garnet and the destabilized
945 clinopyroxene forming the relict HP assemblage. The coarse-grained HT assemblage composed of
946 plagioclase+amphibole+biotite+orthopyroxene develops mainly around the resorbed garnet grains. (b)
947 – Large garnet grain in sample JB-19-43, partly destabilized and surrounded by a kelyphite of
948 plagioclase and amphibole. (c) – Alternating amphibole-rich and feldspar-rich layers in sample JB-19-
949 55. Patches composed of a mosaic of fine-grained (<100 µm) euhedral to sub-euhedral clinopyroxene
950 and plagioclase are preserved in the amphibole-rich layers, and interpreted as relicts of the HT granulitic
951 assemblage. (d) – Ilmenite rimmed by titanite in sample JB-19-55. (e) – Mineral assemblage in
952 retrogressed granulite sample JB-19-16. The matrix is mainly composed of plagioclase and amphibole
953 with relict clinopyroxene, and garnet grains are partly resorbed and surrounded by a rim of plagioclase.
954 Former symplectites have partly recrystallized into a mosaic assemblage of plagioclase + clinopyroxene
955 ± amphibole. (f) – Mineral assemblage in garnet-free sample JB-19-18. Mineral abbreviation follow
956 IUGS recommandation.

957

958 Figure 5. (a) – X-Ray map and composition profiles of garnet in samples JB-19-43 (a) and JB-19-56
959 (b), processed with XMapTools (Lanari et al., 2014). X-Ray maps in sample JB-19-56 were processed
960 using the internal standardization approach of Lanari et al. (2018), and are therefore fully quantitative,
961 while EDS map of sample JB-19-43 is only qualitative.

962

963 Figure 6. Quantitative X-Ray maps of clinopyroxene (a) and plagioclase (b) in sample JB-19-56,
964 processed with XmapTools. The maps correspond to the same domain as in Figure 5-b). (c) – (d).
965 Summary of clinopyroxene (c) and plagioclase (d) electron microprobe analyses in the three samples
966 from La Lavey (JB-19-43, JB-19-55, JB-19-56). Composition of the re-integrated Na-rich

967 clinopyroxene in sample JB-19-56 is shown with a blue star. Distribution of pixel composition on the
968 X-Ray map, obtained by processing with XMapTools, is represented with density contours.

969

970 Figure 7. Representative BSE images of rutile analyzed in different textural settings. (a) – (b) Rutile
971 inclusions in garnet and matrix rutile in sample JB-19-43. Some rutile inclusions on image (a) display
972 partial replacement by ilmenite; (c) – (d) primary rutile surrounded by titanite and secondary rutile
973 growing over ilmenite in sample JB-19-55. (e) – Rutile inclusions in garnet of sample JB-19-16. (f) –
974 Matrix rutile in sample JB-19-18.

975

976 Figure 8. Trace element composition of the (retrogressed) mafic granulites, normalized to the
977 composition of N-MORB from Gale et al. (2013). E-MORB composition from Gale et al. (2013) is
978 shown for comparison.

979

980 Figure 9. Phase diagrams computed with PerpleX and P–T constraints for the early prograde stage (a),
981 the HP stage (b) and HT decompression (c). See description in text. The (+H₂O) in phase diagram a)
982 means that H₂O is treated as a saturated component, which is therefore stable in all fields.

983

984 Figure 10. (a) – Zr-Nb content in rutile measured *in-situ* by electron microprobe and on separated
985 grains by LA-ICPMS. (b) – ZiR temperatures computed using the calibration of Kohn (2020),
986 assuming P = 1.2 GPa (0.4 GPa for secondary rutile in sample JB-19-55). A typical uncertainty of ±20
987 °C is inferred combining analytical and calibration uncertainties.

988

989 Figure 11. (a) – Charge Contrast (CC) images of dated zircon grains and BSE images of representative
990 rutile in sample JB-19-56, with reported positions of SIMS and LA-ICPMS spot analyses. (b) – REE
991 profiles and trace element proxies used to identify the different zircon populations. Ti-in-zircon
992 temperatures calculated using the calibration of Ferry and Watson (2007) are reported in the bottom
993 right panel.

994

995 Figure 12. U-Pb zircon and rutile dating of sample JB-19-56. (a) – Zircon core analyses defining the
996 age of the protolith; data uncorrected for common Pb. (b) – Tera-Wasserburg diagram of rutile U-Pb
997 analyses, uncorrected for common Pb. (c) – Tera-Wasserburg diagram of zircon rim analyses

998 uncorrected for common Pb. The black arrow points to the $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ value of present-day common Pb
 999 according to Stacey and Kramers (1975). (d) – Kernel density estimate and histogram of $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$
 1000 dates in zircon rims, corrected for common Pb according to the $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ present-day value of the
 1001 model of Stacey and Kramers (1975). Ellipses correspond to the 95% confidence interval of isotopic
 1002 ratios.

1003

1004 Figure 13. Compilation of metamorphic zircon and monazite data from the Oisans–Pelvoux massif,
 1005 taken from Fréville (2016) and this work. (a) Distribution of Variscan zircon and monazite $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$
 1006 dates, obtained after filtering for the most discordant analyses ($-5\% < \text{disc} < 10\%$, where discordance
 1007 is expressed as the relative difference between the $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ and the $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$ dates). Distinction
 1008 between the intensely migmatized inner domain (East) and the Cortical domain (West) devoid of HT
 1009 overprint is shown on Figure 1. (b) Plot of Th/U vs $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ dates in zircon. Not all U-Pb zircon
 1010 analyses plotted in (a) are shown here because they lack corresponding value for Th.

1011

1012 Figure 14 – Synthetic P-T-t evolution inferred for the mafic HP granulites from La Lavey (red path).
 1013 Dotted lines indicate the two possible scenarios for decompression from stage 2 to stage 4 (see
 1014 discussion in text). P–T path of retrogressed eclogites in northeast Belledonne (Jacob et al., 2021) is
 1015 shown in blue for comparison.

1016

1017 Table 1. Localization and mineral composition of the investigated samples.

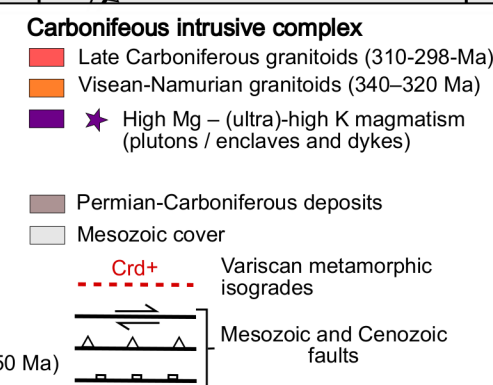
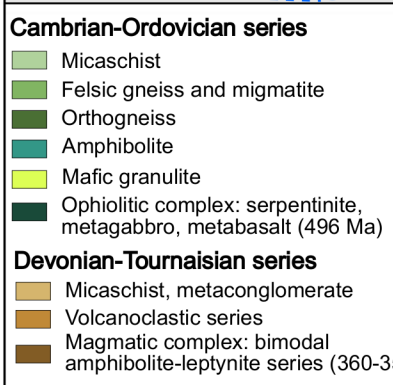
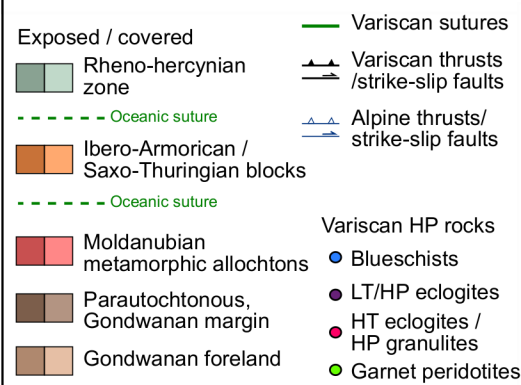
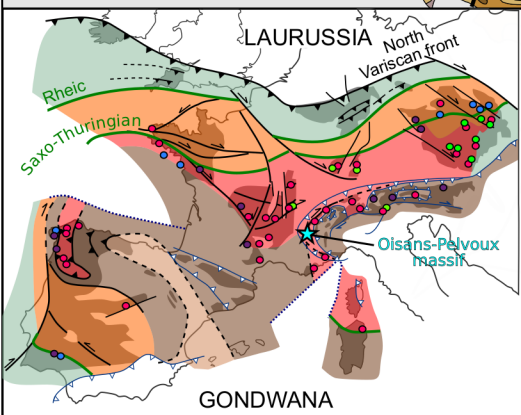
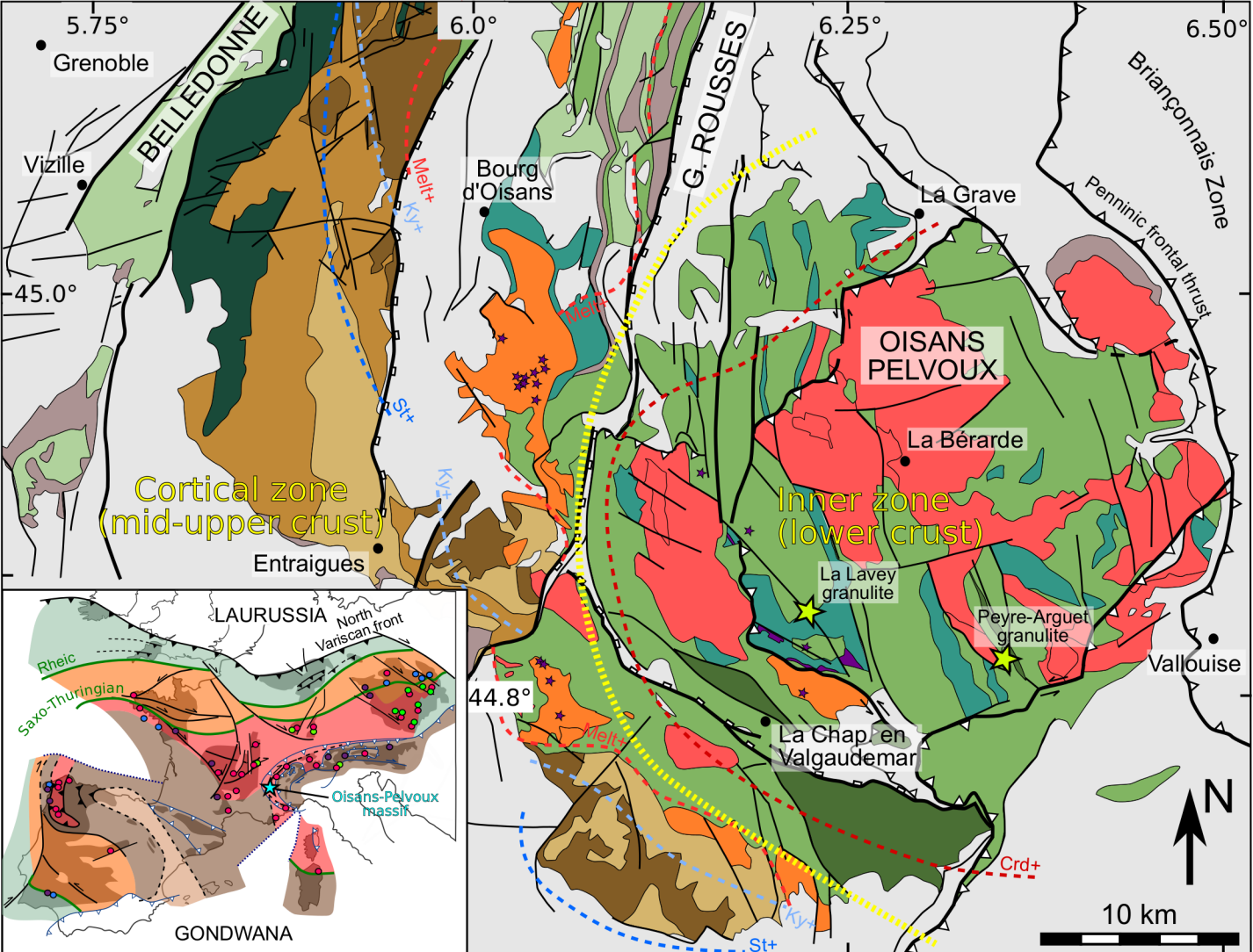
Sample	JB-19-16	JB-19-18	JB-19-43	JB-19-55	JB-19-56
Locality	Peyre-Arguet	Peyre-Arguet	La Lavey	La Lavey	La Lavey
Long °	6.35	6.35	6.22	6.22303	6.21990
Lat °	44.84	44.84	44.87	44.86517	44.86604
Alt (m)	2708	2674	2488	2731	2488
Rock type	Grt-bearing mafic granulite	Grt-free mafic granulite	Grt-bearing mafic granulite	Cpx-bearing amphibolite	Grt-bearing mafic granulite
Main minerals	Amp, Pl (sericitized), Grt, Qtz (+/-), Cpx (relics)	Amp, Cpx, Pl	Grt, Pl, Cpx, Opx, Amp, Bt, Qtz	Amp, Pl (sericitized), Cpx, rare Kfs	Grt, Pl, Cpx, Opx, Amp, Bt, Qtz
Accessory minerals	Ilm, Zrc, Rt (grt inclusions only)	Ilm, Zrc, rare Rt	Ilm, Rt (grt inclusions + matrix), Zrc	Ilm, Ttn (coronas around Ilm), rare Rt	Ilm, Rt (grt inclusions only), Zrc

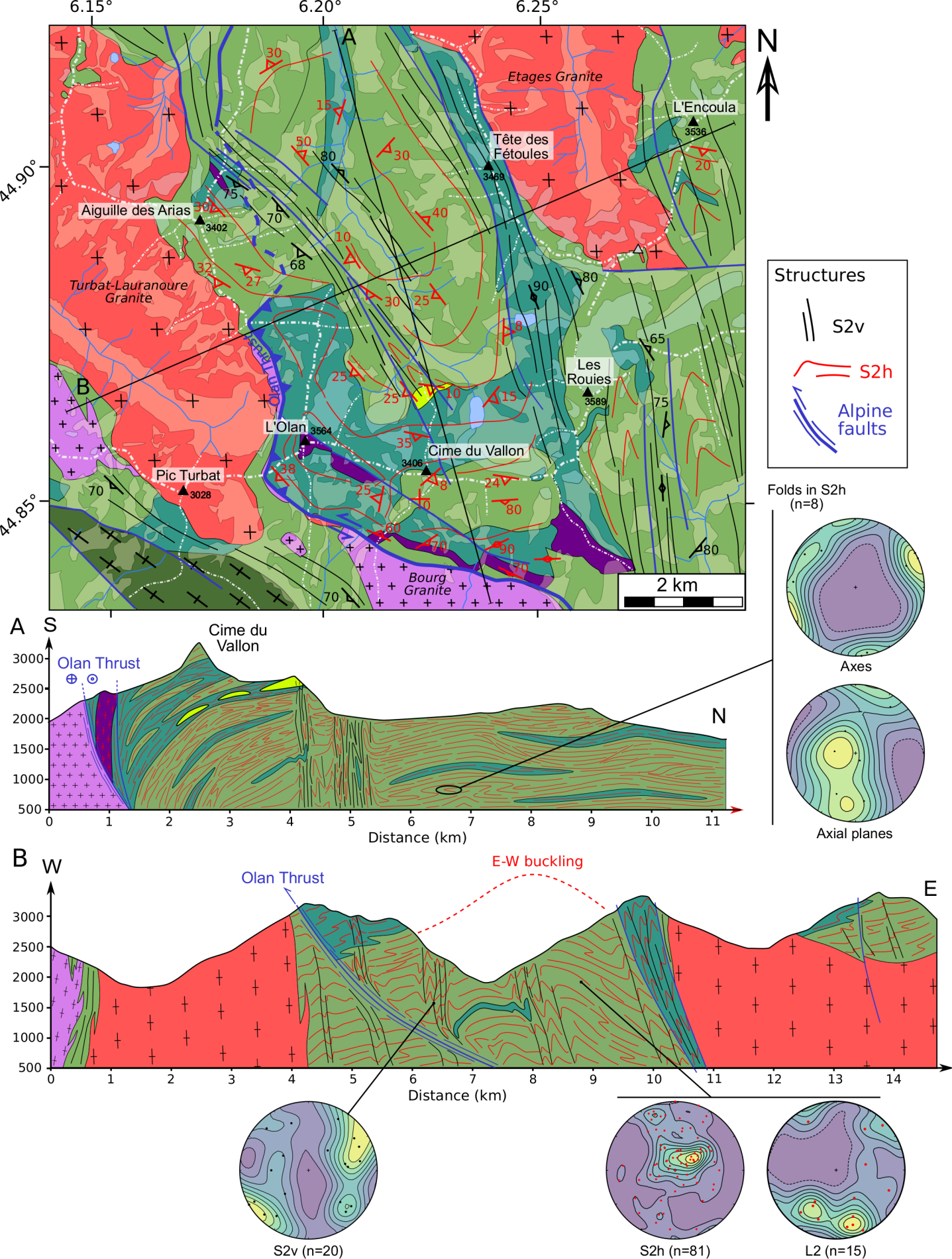
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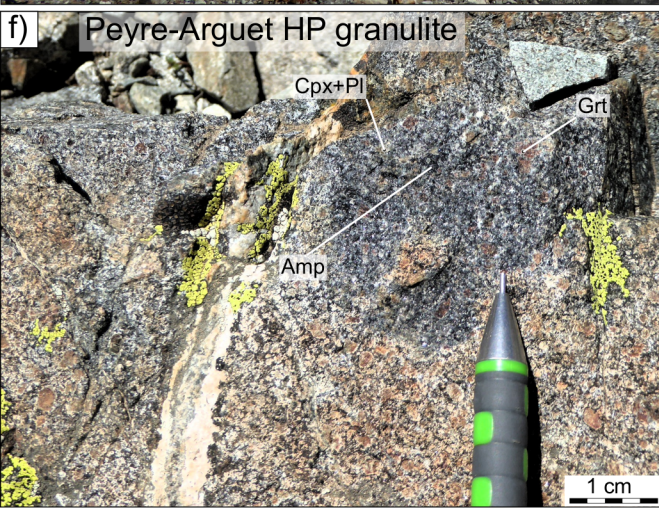
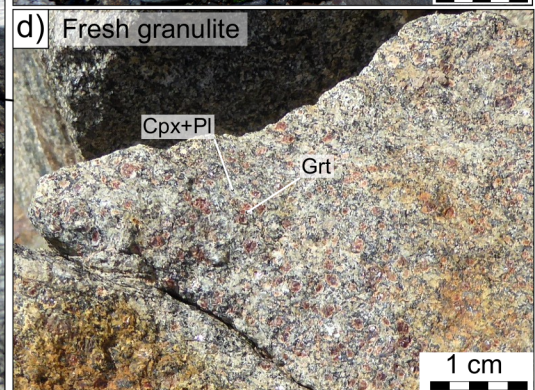
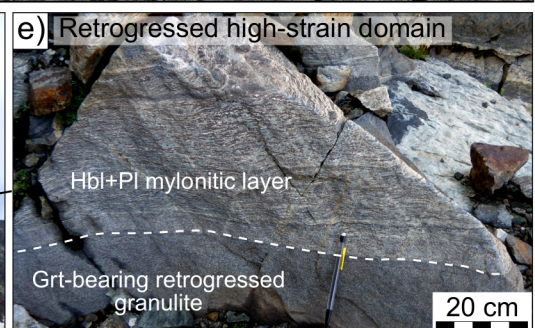
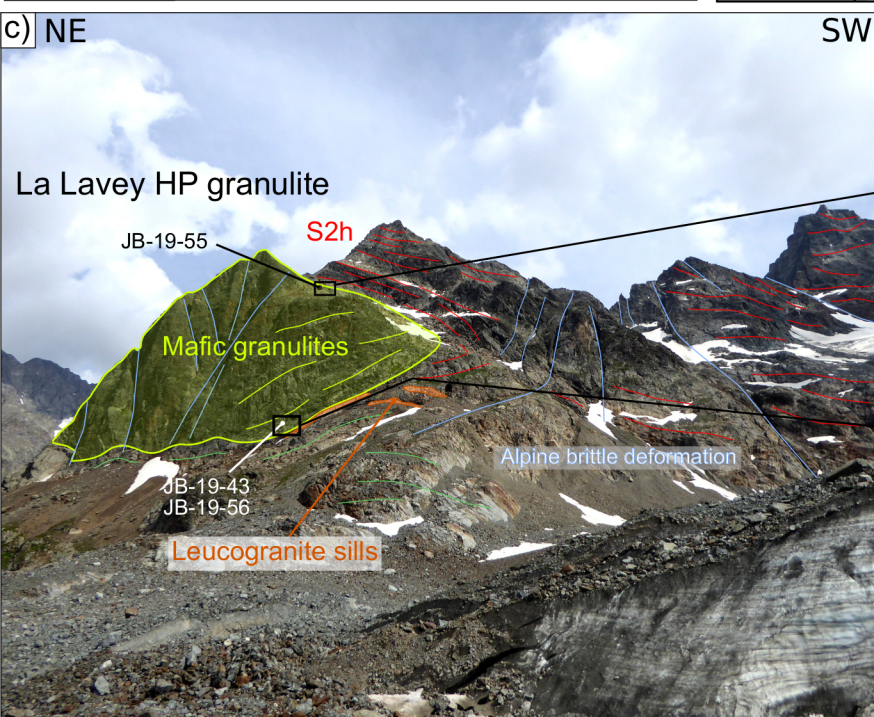
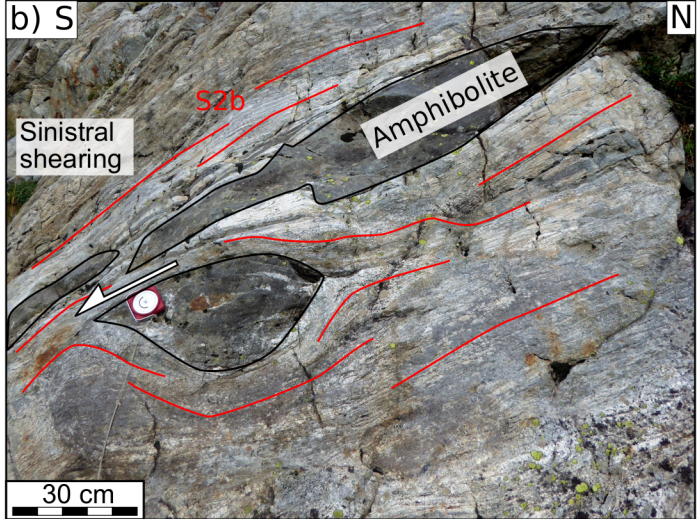
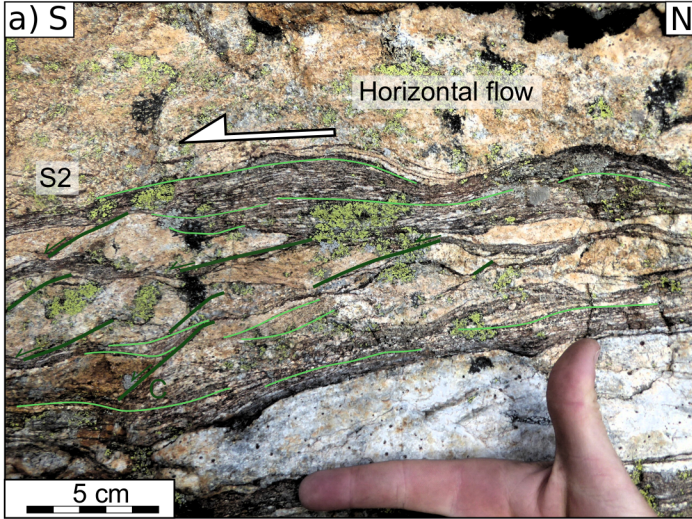
1019 Table 2. Summary of results of plagioclase-amphibole inverse thermometry (Holland and Blundy,
 1020 1994). For each sample, reported T is an average of results obtained on multiple plagioclase-amphibole
 1021 pairs. Number of pairs (n) is given for each sample, and standard deviation is reported at 1 σ .
 1022 Temperatures were calculated directly from the X-Ray map with XMapTools for sample JB-19-56.
 1023 Each pixel is treated as a single analysis, and therefore the reported number of pairs is very high.
 1024

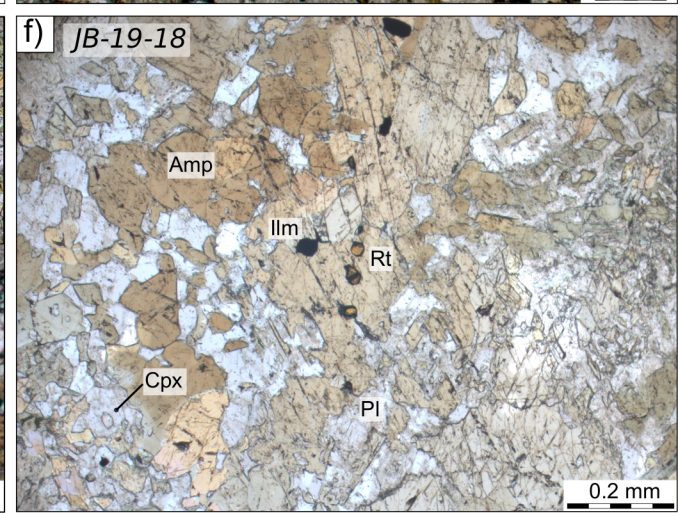
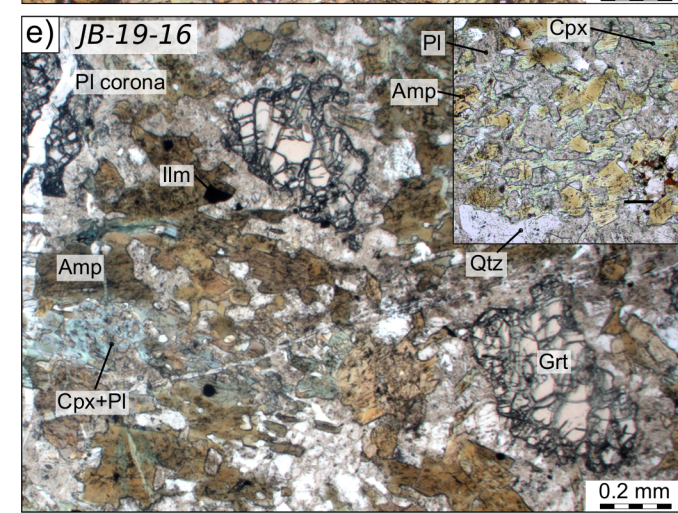
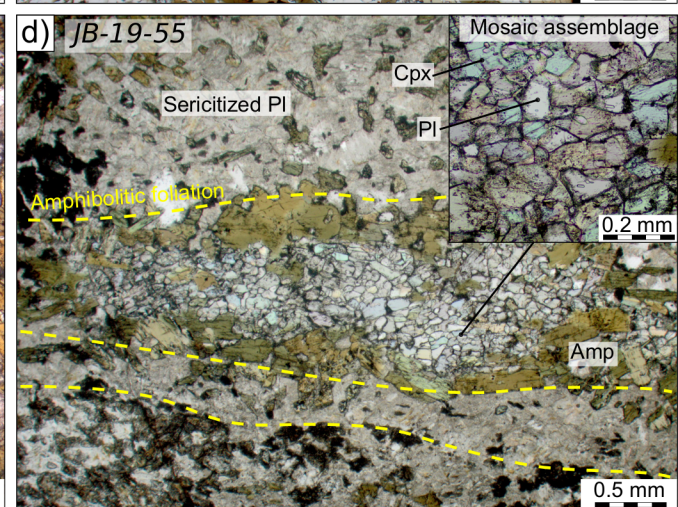
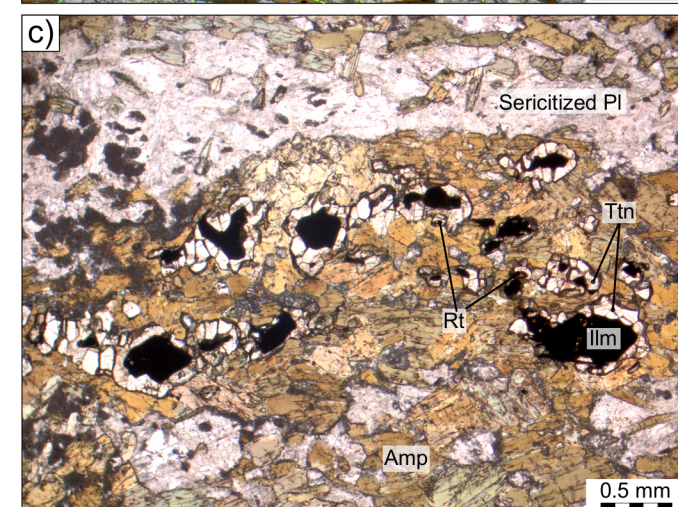
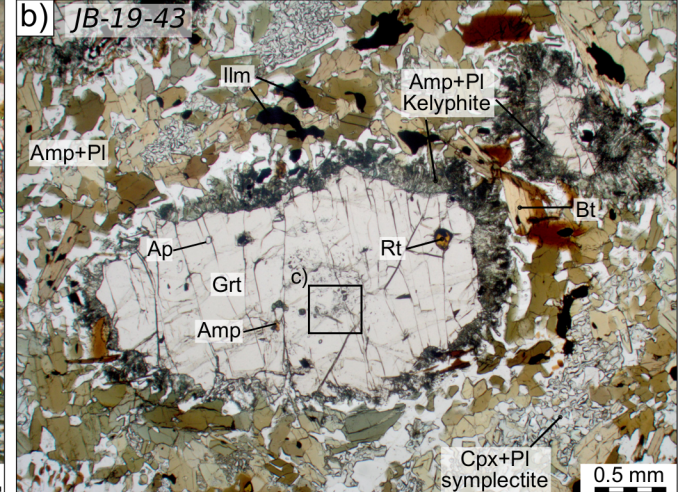
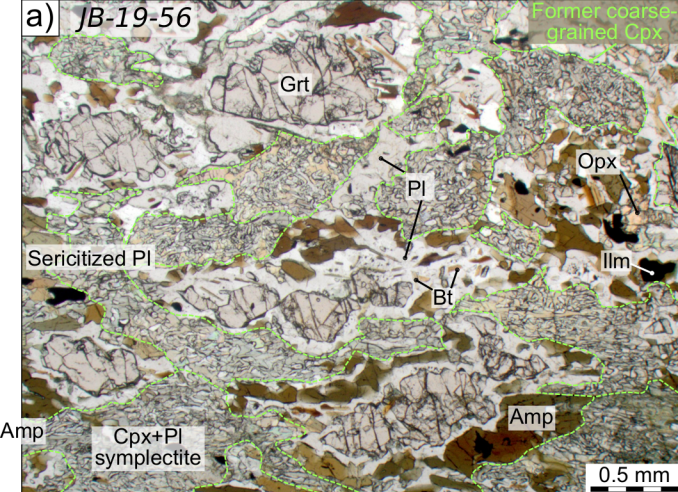
Sample	Domain	n pairs	P GPa	T °C	$\pm 1\sigma$ (°C)
JB-19-56	granoblastic coronas (Na-rich Pl)	52600	1.2	763	25
JB-19-56	Symplectites (Na-rich Pl)	23400	1.2	764	27
JB-19-56	Garnet rim (Ca-rich Pl)	12340	0.8	833	35
JB-19-55	Amp-Pl layers (Pargasitic Hornblende)	13	0.4	656	34
JB-19-55	Amp-Pl layers (Actinolite)	3	0.4	573	44

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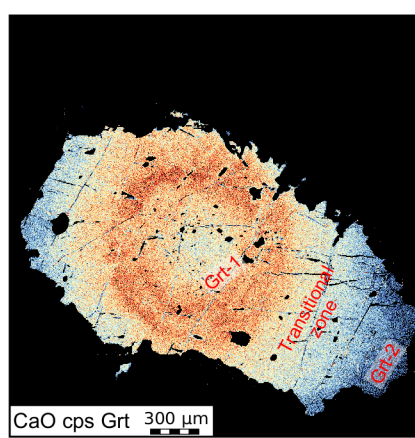
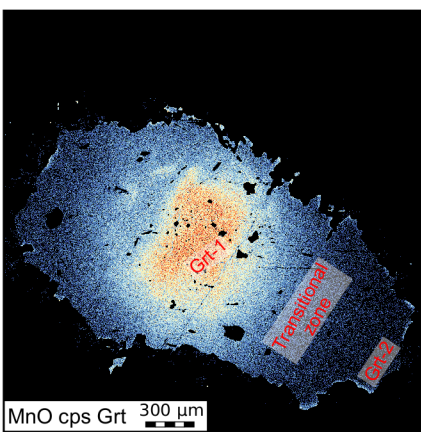
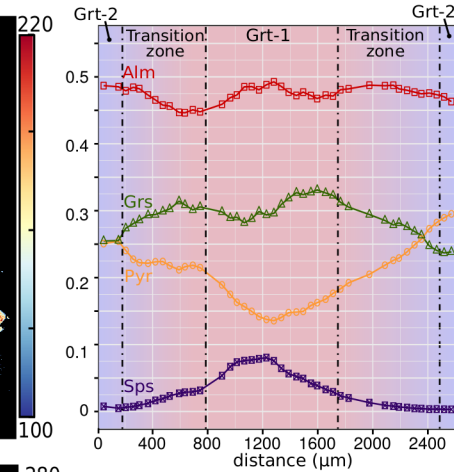
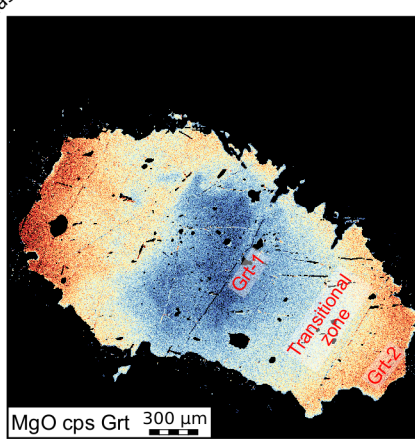
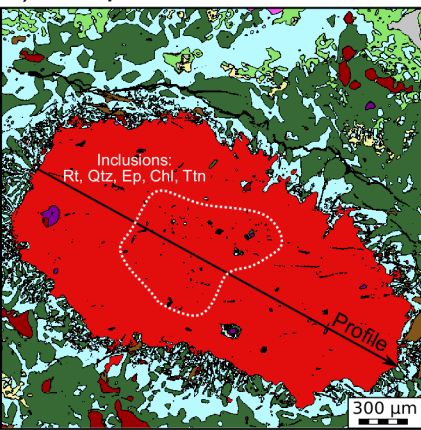




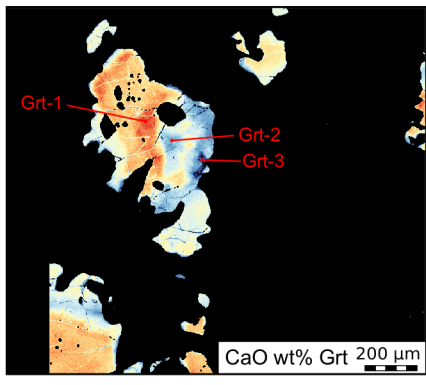
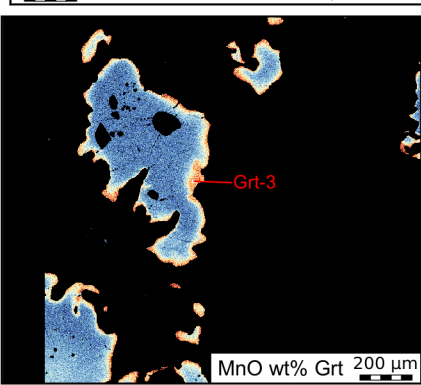
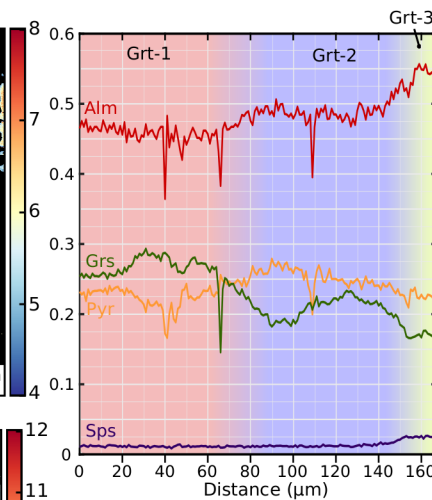
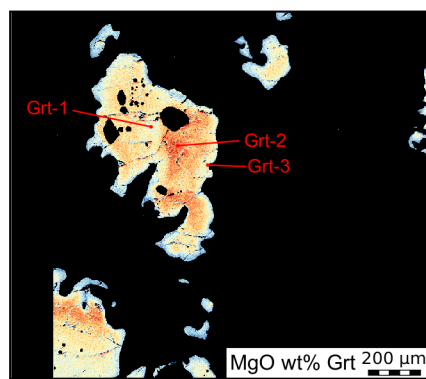
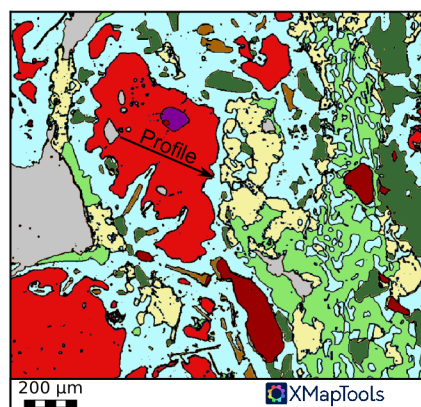


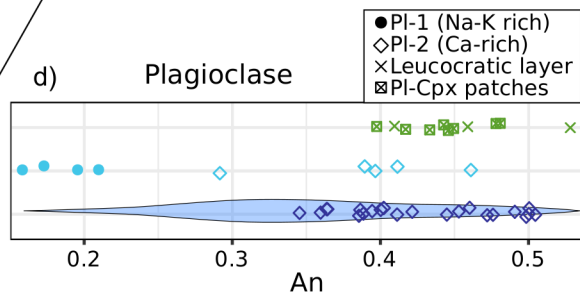
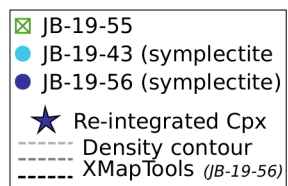
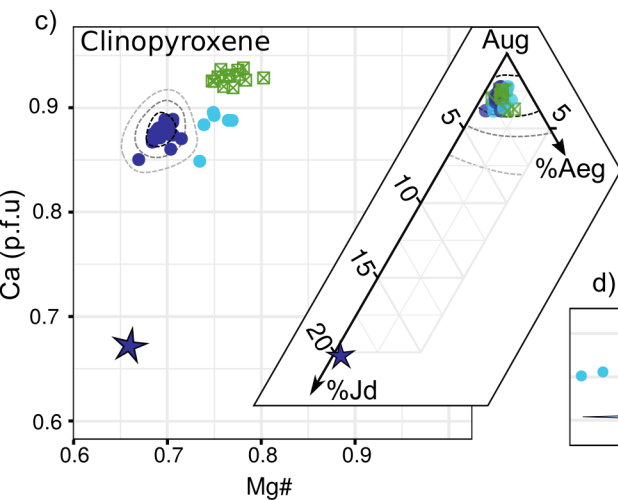
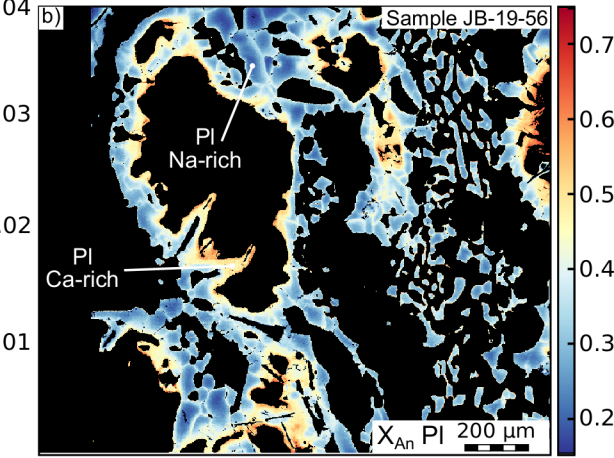
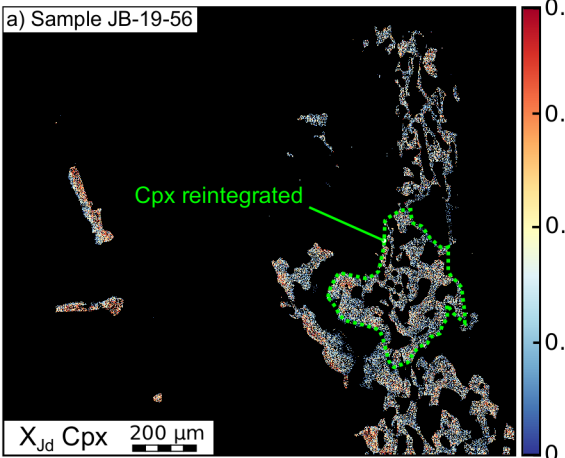


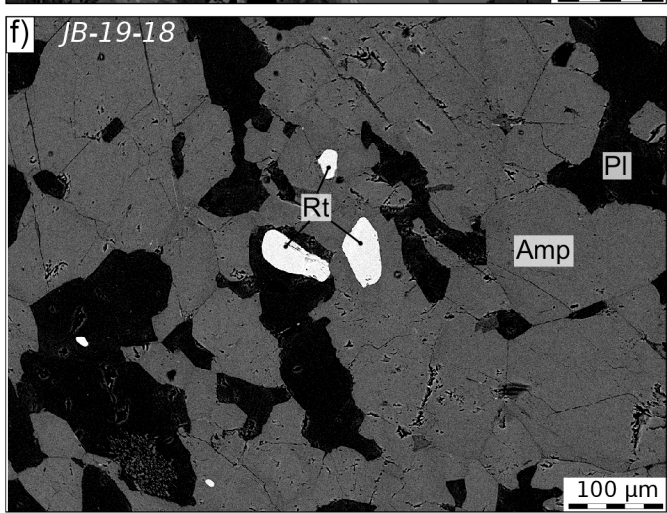
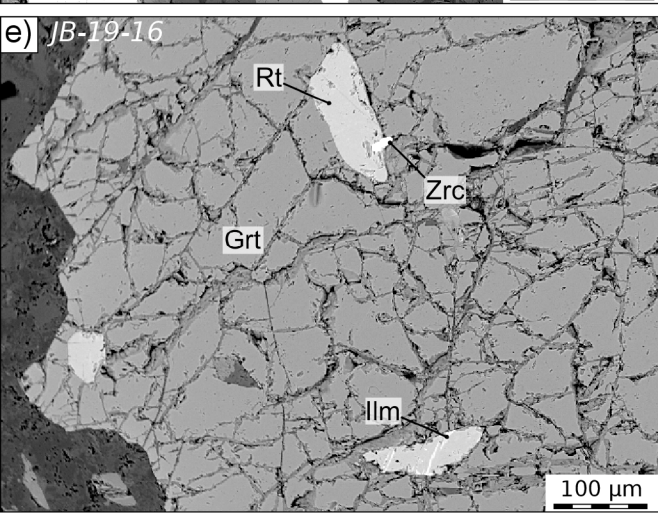
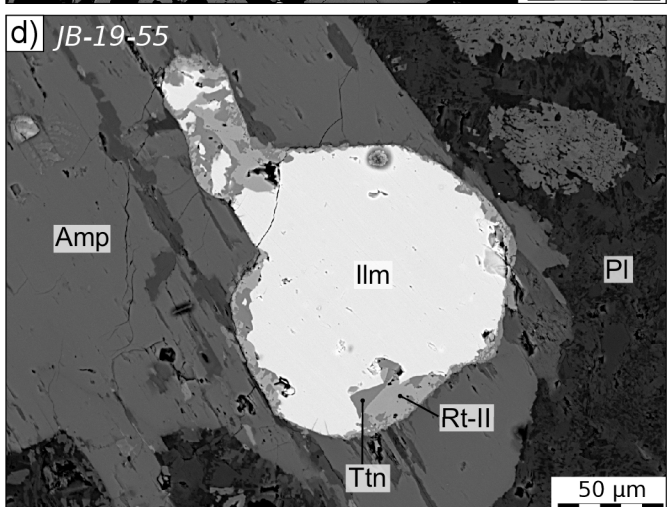
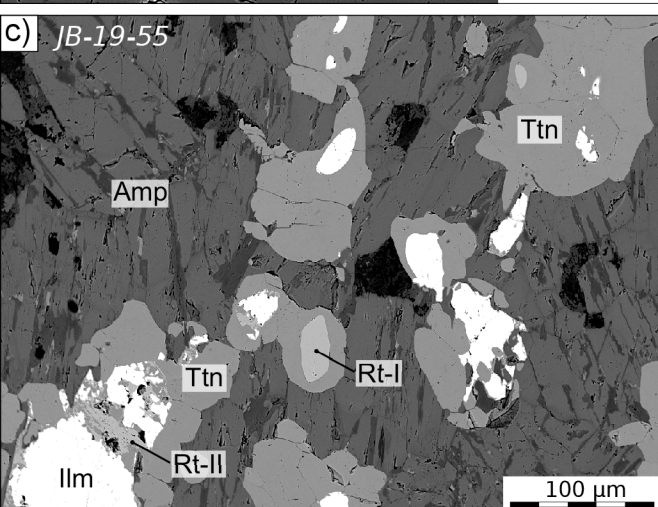
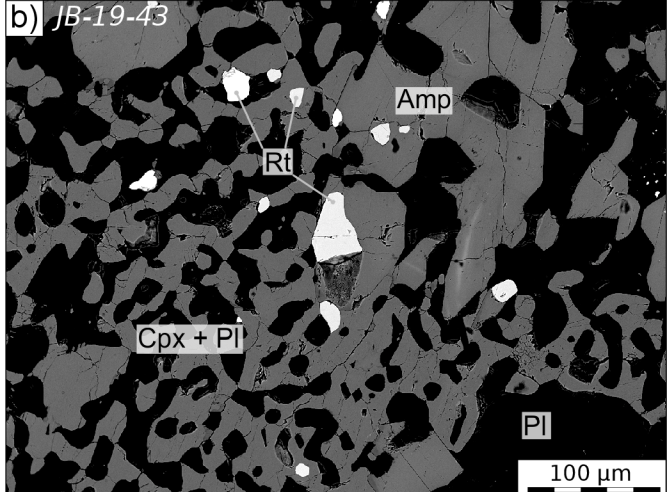
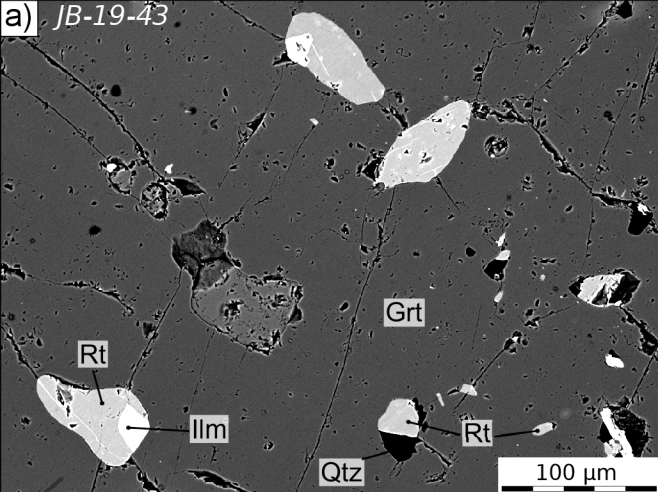
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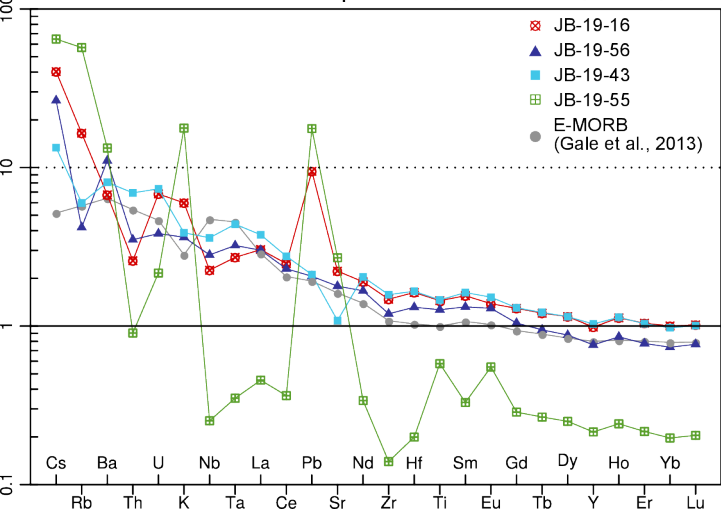
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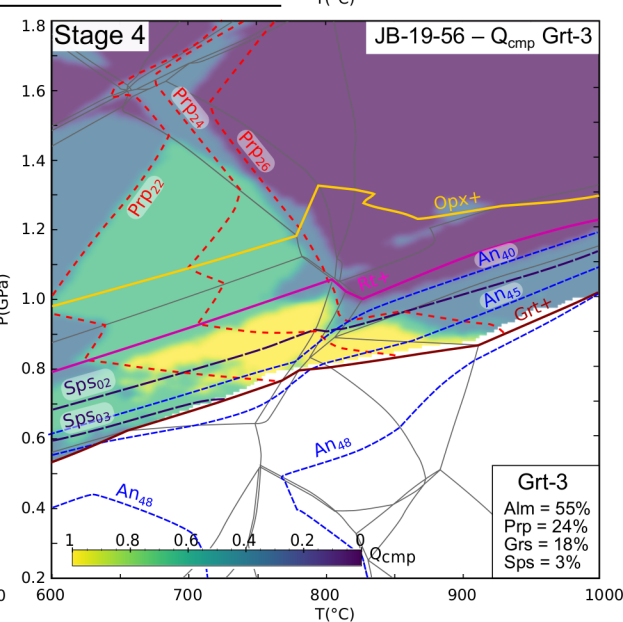
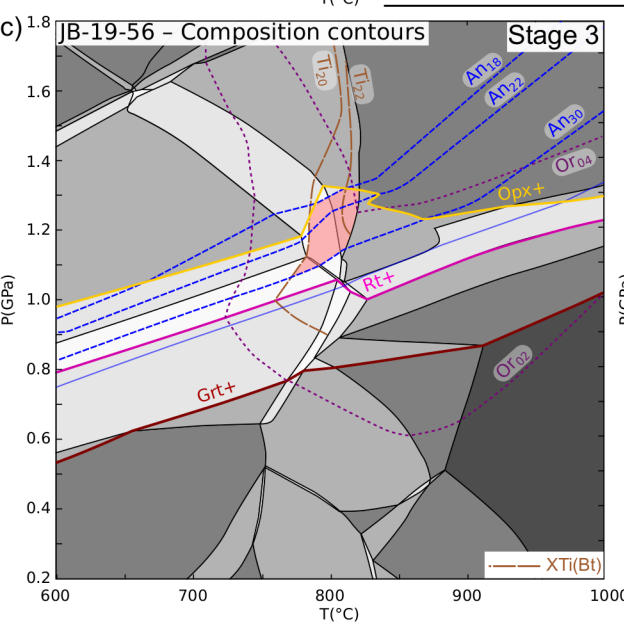
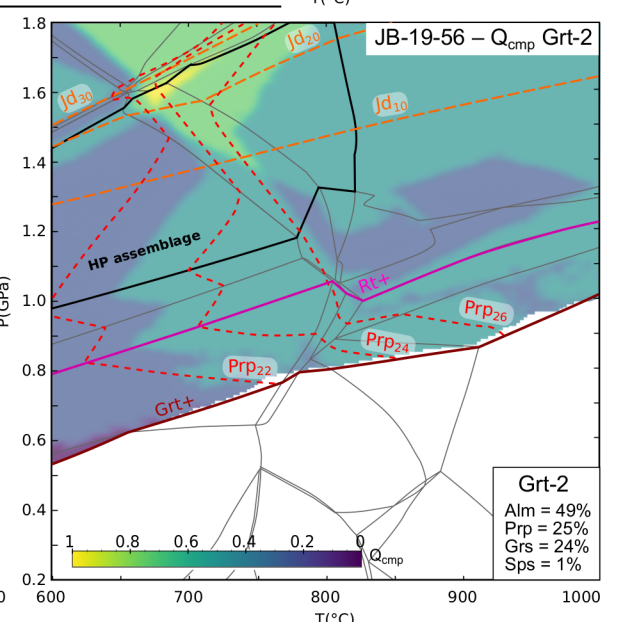
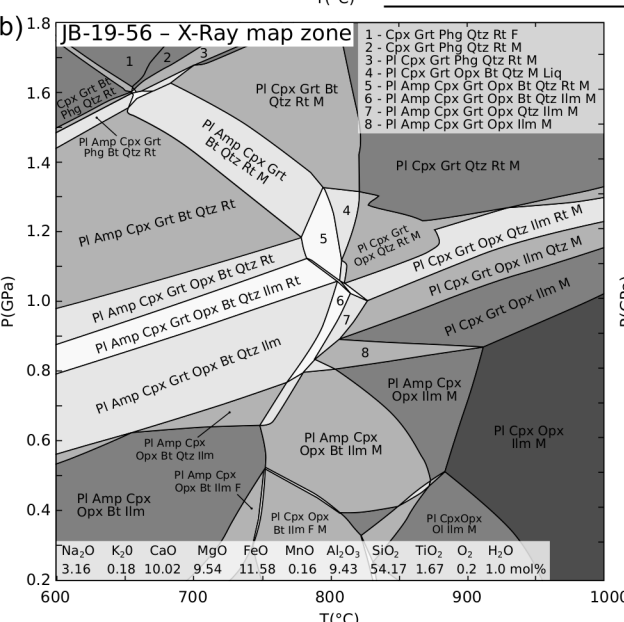
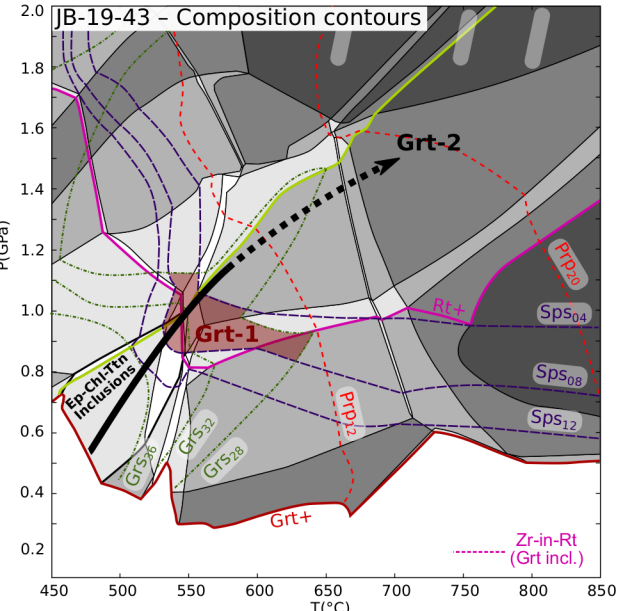
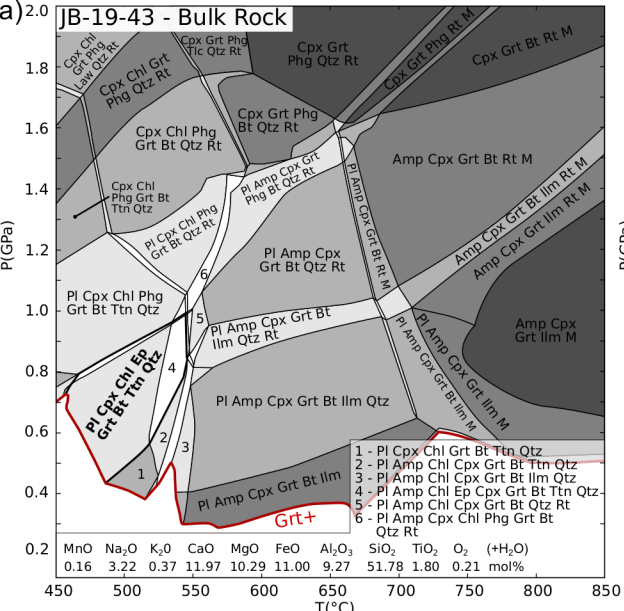


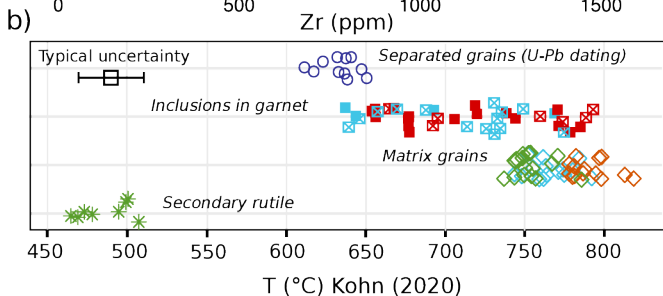
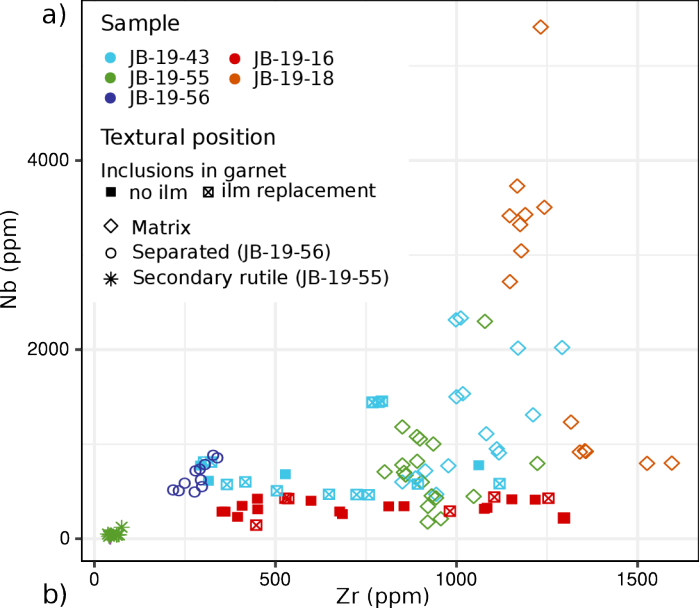


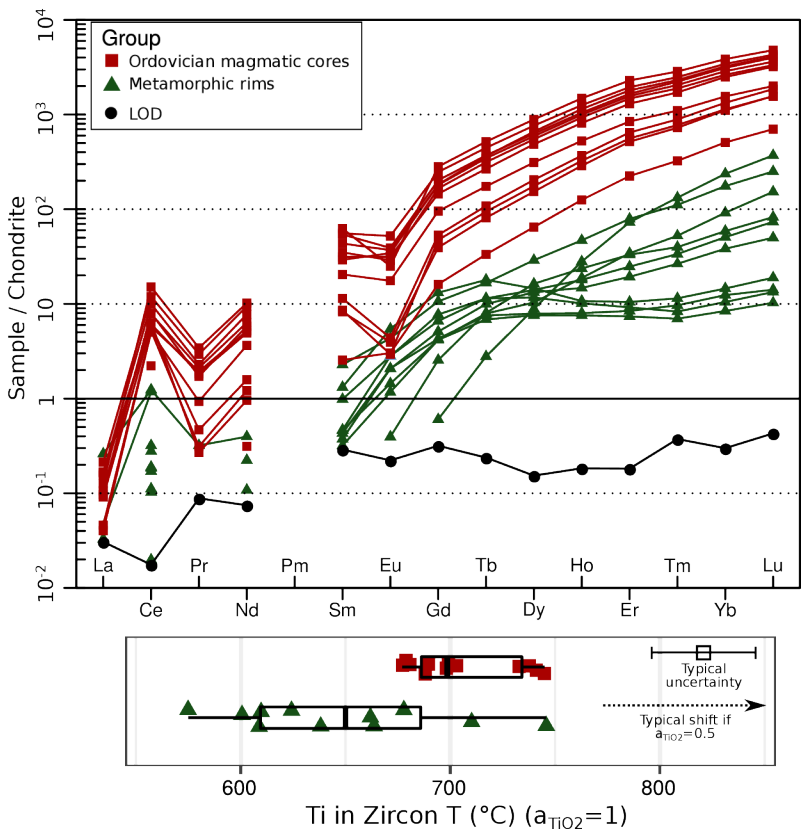
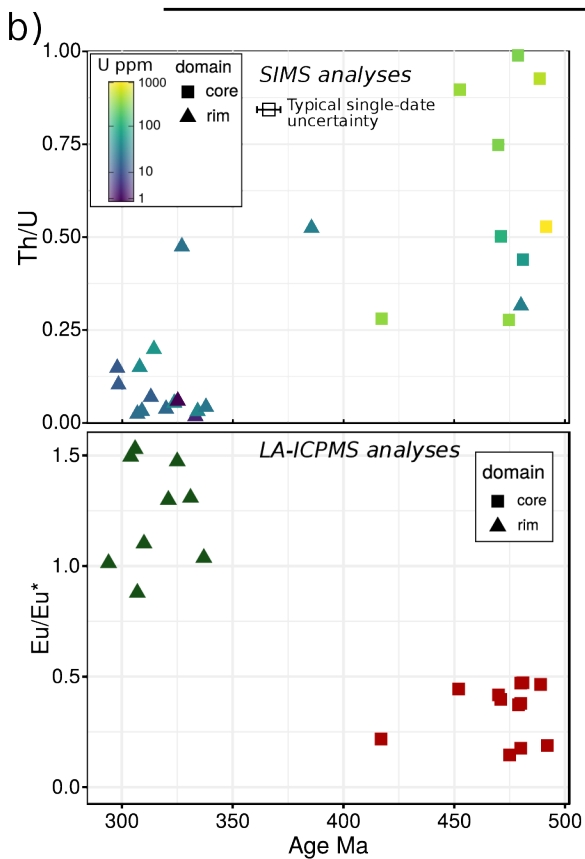
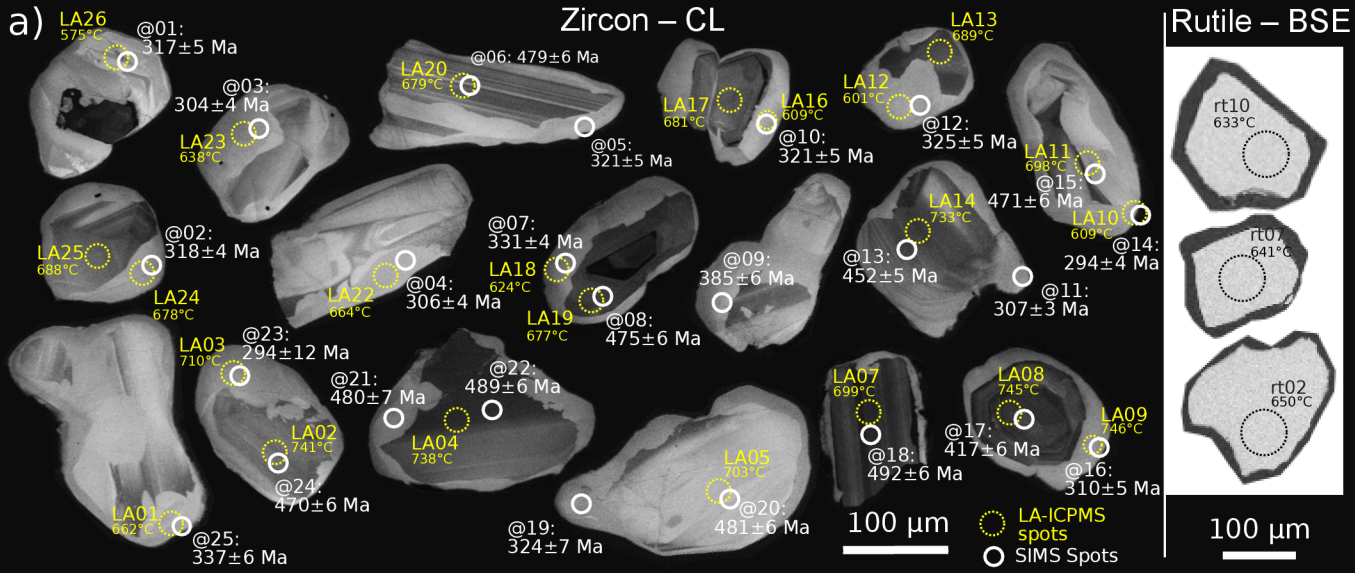


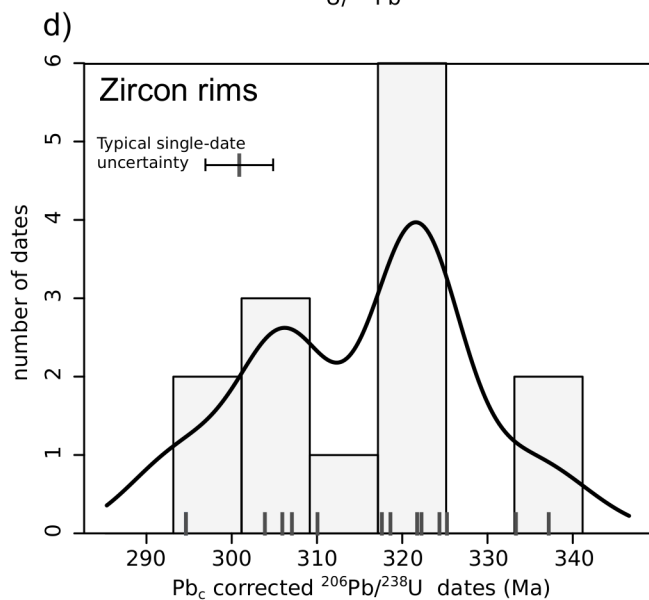
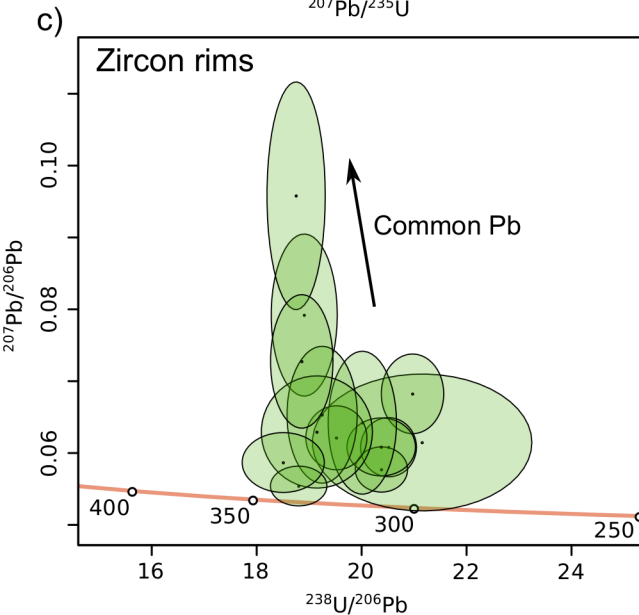
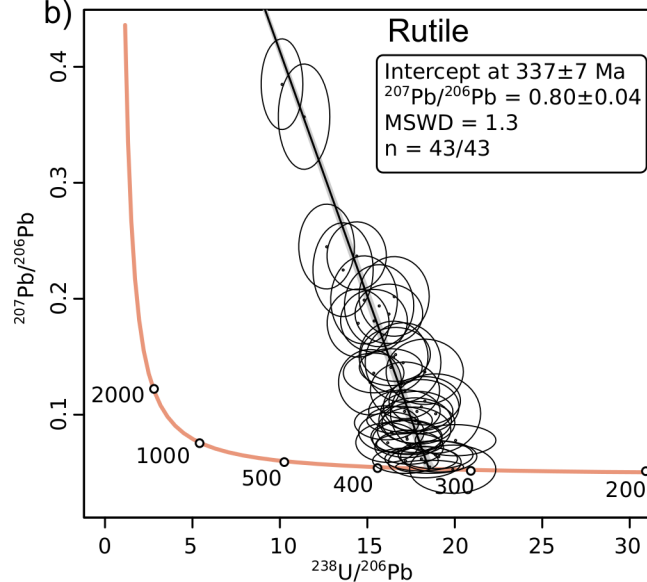
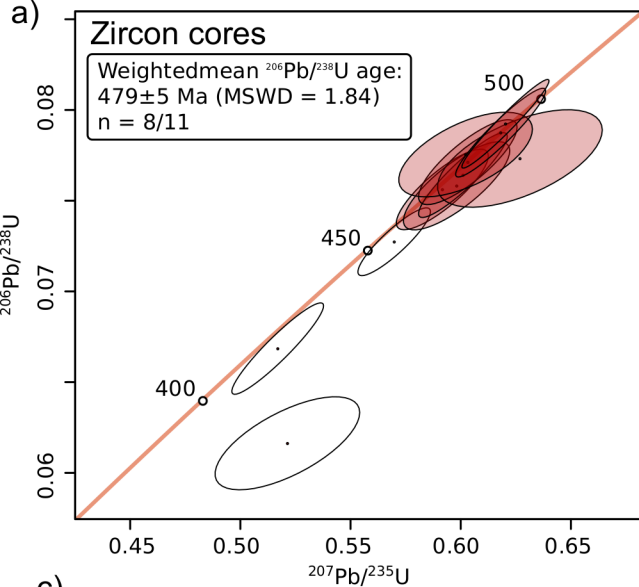
N-MORB normalized patterns (Gale et al., 2013)

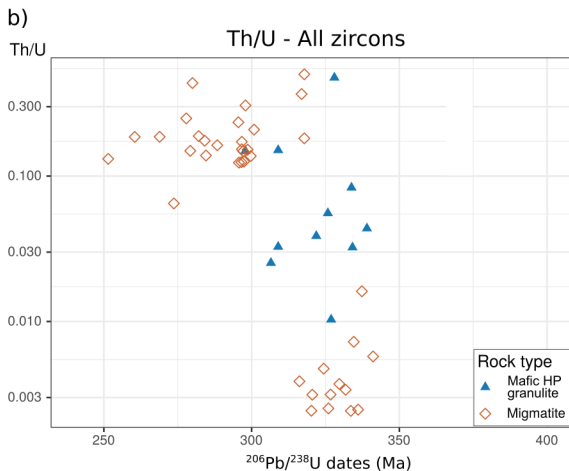
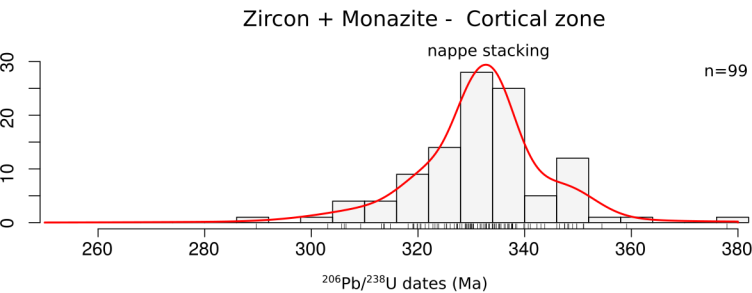
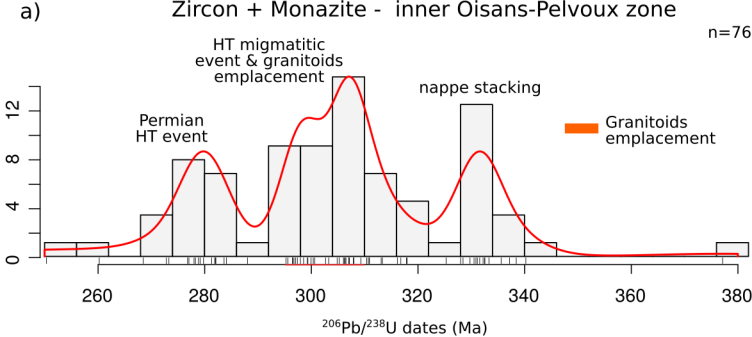


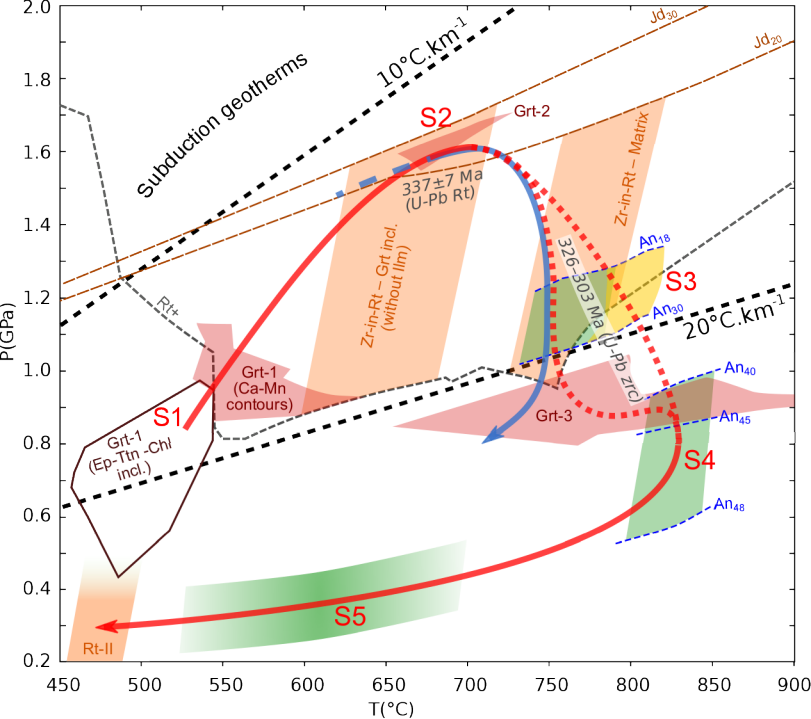












P-T paths

- Inner Oisans-Pelvoux (this study)
- NE Belledonne eclogites (Jacob et al., 2021)

Thermobarometric constrains

- Garnet
- Plagioclase-Amphibole (Holland and Blundy, 1994)
- Zr-in-Rutile (Kohn, 2020)
- Ti-in-Bt