

The protracted magmatism and hydrothermal activity associated with the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit, south central British Columbia, Canada.

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Abstract

The Gibraltar porphyry-Cu deposit is a large open pit porphyry Cu mine in Canada with the geological tonnage (production and reserves) of 3.2 Mt Cu. The Gibraltar deposit is hosted by the Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB), a tonalitic batholith with the surface exposure over 150 km². All rocks within the batholith are tonalites with minor quartz diorites. The batholith intrudes into mafic volcanoclastic rocks of the Nicola group in the Quesnel terrane of the Canadian Cordillera. The Cu mineralization at Gibraltar is confined to a small 4.5 km² area in the central part of the batholith and occurs primarily as disseminated chalcopyrite.

New U-Pb dating on zircon shows protracted late Triassic magmatism spanning ~25 m.y. for the formation of the GMB. Early magmatism is dated at 229.2±4.4 Ma in unmineralized tonalites. Later, at least three magmatism form the Cu mineralization during a period spanning from 218.9±3.1 Ma to 205.8±2.1 Ma. These fertile magmas form in a more mature arc setting, superseded early barren magmatic activity in a more juvenile arc setting for the bulk of the GMB. Epidote in the GMB shows compositional zoning with Fe-poor cores and Fe-rich rims. The zoning in the mineralized intrusions likely reflects changes in hydrothermal fluid, from S-rich to S-poor.

The data from the Gibraltar deposit shows that an economic porphyry Cu deposit may be found in igneous rocks with low Sr/Y in bulk rocks and low Eu/Eu* in zircon. In the Gibraltar deposit, Ce anomalies in zircon reflect oxidation conditions and are correlated with Cu resource associated with their respective intrusion.

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CHAPTER 1.
Global Introduction

1.1 Preamble

Porphyry-type metal deposits are an important source of the world's Cu, Mo and Au. They contain over 60% of the Cu and over 90% of the world's Mo reserves (Sinclair, 2007). They occur in the root zones of stratovolcanoes, in subduction related continental or island arc settings. Porphyry deposits occur in orogen parallel belts hundreds or thousands of kilometers long during defined metalogenic epochs (exemplified by Andes and the Western Cordillera). Magmatic hydrothermal fluids released from cooling intrusions at shallow crustal levels interact with the intrusion and surrounding country rock to produce a variety of alteration. Typically, alteration includes an early proximal potassic alteration zone followed by an intermediate chlorite-sericite alteration zone, wrapped laterally by a propylitic alteration zone forming a typical telescoped pattern. Overprinting alteration is common. In some porphyry systems, much of the Cu can be contained in the sericitic zone. Mineralized intrusions have vertical extents from 2-4 km (Sillitoe, 2010).

Exploration for porphyry deposits includes examination of alteration haloes (e.g. large pyrite haloes), soil and stream sediment analysis, induced polarization and magnetic surveys (Sinclair, 2007). It is understood that porphyry-Cu deposits form in close association with highly oxidized intrusions (Ishihara, 1977; Sillitoe, 2010; Sun et al., 2013). This is attributed to the greater capacity of oxidized magma to dissolve sulfur as sulphate and transport it to shallower crustal levels (Hattori and Keith, 2001, Jugo et al., 2005). This suggests that oxidation conditions of intrusions can be used in exploration of yet undiscovered porphyry Cu deposit. One promising approach to determining oxidation conditions for porphyry intrusions uses zircon. Magmatic zircon is well known to be resistant to alteration and thus can provide information about the magmas from which it crystallizes. Many studies have used Ce anomalies in zircon as a proxy for magmatic oxidation conditions (Ballard et al., 2002; Shen et al., 2015; Hattori et al., 2017; Loader et al., 2017). Additionally, zircon can be recovered down streams and ice flow in sediments providing a vectoring tool.

Many porphyry deposits are also associated with large intrusion or batholiths (Dilles, 1987; Villeneuve et al., 2001; Whalen et al., 2001; D'Angelo et al., 2017; Whalen et al., 2017) but the role of these batholiths is poorly understood. Another attribute to economic porphyry-Cu deposits is their high (>35) Sr/Y ratios, which is suggested to be related to elevated magmatic

water contents (Loucks, 2014). Alteration minerals are also used in exploration for porphyry-Cu deposits. Epidote has been the subject of many studies regarding porphyry deposit exploration (Jago, 2008; Jago et al., 2014; Wilkinson et al., 2017; Cooke et al., 2014; Cooke et al., 2017) due to its robust nature (allowing it to survive fluvial transport and be recovered in outlying glacial till) and ability to incorporate many elements several of which show promise as pathfinders (light rare earth elements, Mn, Zn, Mo, Au, Sn, Tl, Pb, Th and U) (Jago et al., 2014). Additionally, epidote proximal to Cu-mineralization (1-2 km outside pyrite halos) has been shown to be produced by magmatic derived fluids as opposed to meteoric fluids (Cooke et al., 2014). Propylitic alteration generating epidote often has the largest footprint associated with a porphyry deposit (Sillitoe, 2010). The Gibraltar deposit provides a site to evaluate the relationship between the mineralization and the tonalitic Granite Mountain Batholith, test these fertility indicators and evaluate if zircons and epidote are potentially useful in exploration. Additionally, the Gibraltar deposit is located in a terrain variably covered in a layer of glacial till providing sample materials to identify porphyry Cu indicator minerals (Plouffe and Ferbey, 2015; Plouffe and Ferbey, 2017; Wolfe, 2017; Wolfe et al., 2017).

1.2 Research objectives

- i. Establish a magmatic history for the formation of the Granite Mountain Batholith.
- ii. Identify magmatism responsible for the Cu-mineralization of the Gibraltar deposit.
- iii. Assess the usefulness of trace element analysis of magmatic zircon in evaluating fertility of magmas.
- iv. Evaluate the applicability of fertility indicators for porphyry Cu deposits including bulk rock and zircon compositions.
- v. Assess the origin of epidote spatially associated with the porphyry-Cu mineralization in the Gibraltar deposit.

1.3 Thesis outline

This thesis comprises 6 chapters, starting with a global introduction that includes a preamble, thesis objectives, statements of original contributions and a thesis outline. The last chapter gives a global summary of the thesis and conclusions.

Chapter 2 is the geological setting of the study area including the regional geology and the Granite Mountain batholith which hosts the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit.

Chapter 3 is a manuscript published as Geological Survey of Canada Open File Report 8025 in 2015. It presents the lithology of various phases of the GMB and characterizes various alteration assemblages. It describes the occurrence of epidote alteration and igneous and alteration mineralogy. This study documents chemical variations in epidote, titanite and rutile. Chapter 3 was moved to Appendix 8 since much of the interpretations and information within is in contradiction or has been proven obsolete by later chapters.

Chapter 4 is a manuscript published as Geological Survey of Canada Open File Report 8279 in 2016. It presents the compositional variation of epidote in the GMB and Nicola volcanic rock. All studied grains of epidote in the GMB was compositionally zoned, whereas those in the Nicola volcanic rocks are Fe rich with abundant mineral inclusions. This study shows REE-rich epidote and allanite in an area close <2km to open pits. An addendum was added after Chapter 4 addressing questions and concerns discussed during the defense of this thesis and discuss some of the interpretations made in the chapter.

Chapter 5 is a publication in preparation that uses trace element and U-Pb ages of zircon determined by LA-ICPMS. The chapter reports crystallization temperatures, Ce anomalies, Eu anomalies, fO_2 and the relationship between Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} and Cu mineralization. This manuscript was submitted to be considered for publication in Economic Geology in April 2019.

1.4 Previous Work relevant to the thesis project.

1.4.1 Previous study of zircon, oxidation conditions and porphyry-Cu deposits

Ballard et al. (2002) proposed the method to calculate Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} of zircon assuming the whole rock composition represented the parental melt. They reported REE concentrations in zircon from 14 barren and 7 ore bearing calc-alkaline intrusions from the Chuquicamata-El Abra

Cu belt in northern Chile. They found higher Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} in zircon from ore bearing intrusions than those from 14 barren intrusions. They suggest that the ore bearing porphyries were more oxidized than the barren intrusions. These Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} ratios can then be used as a relative proxy for oxidation conditions of intrusions.

fO_2 values of magmas were calculated using Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} in zircon based on the calculation proposed by Smythe and Brennan (2016). Smythe and Brennan (2016) obtained the empirical equation based on the data of fO_2 and zircon compositions from three locations: The Bishop tuff (California, USA), Oba Tuff (Indonesia) and the Umiakovik pluton (Labrador, Canada).

Cerium anomalies in zircon are compared with the tonnage of porphyry copper deposits in the Central Asian Orogenic belt by Shen et al. (2015). They find that Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} from ore bearing intrusive rocks from porphyry-Cu are higher in intermediate (1.5- 4 Mt Cu) and large sized (>4 Mt Cu) porphyry compared to small sized (<1.5 Mt Cu) deposits and that Eu/Eu^* in zircon generally follows this trend.

Cerium anomalies are examined for the Cerro Cerrona porphyry-Cu-Au deposit (0.9 Mt Cu) by Hattori et al. (2017). They find Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} ranging from 354 to 570 quartile values.

Lu et al. (2016) reported Ce/Nd , Eu/Eu^* and $CeNd/Y$ in zircon from various porphyry deposits in Iran and China and compared the values from barren rocks in USA and Australia. Unless otherwise noted, all resource and reserve figures for porphyry deposits in this thesis are from Singer et al. (2008).

1.4.2 Epidote associated with porphyry-Cu deposits

Epidote is a common alteration mineral around porphyry Cu deposits. Several studies show that epidote is associated with Cu mineralization. The Elatsite porphyry Cu deposit (1.37 MtCu), Bulgaria, shows local epidote-chlorite-quartz-carbonate alteration contemporaneous with the magnetite-bornite-chalcopyrite assemblage (Strashimirov and Kanazirski, 2002 and references therein). The Qulong porphyry-Cu deposit (7.89 MtCu), Tibet, has reported Cu-mineralization in a Jurassic granite porphyry (182.3 Ma), characterized by abundant pyrite veins and quartz-sericite alteration locally with minor epidote alteration (Yang et al., 2009). Additionally, in the late Rongmucuo pluton (19.5 Ma) of the same deposit, epidote veins show many characteristics similar to the quartz - anhydrite-chalcopyrite \pm molybdenite \pm pyrite and

quartz – molybdenite ± anhydrite ± chalcopyrite ± pyrite veins such as irregular to planar shape, occurring perpendicular to veins walls, and being superimposed by late feldspar-destructive alteration (phyllic alteration). They suggest that propylitic alteration may have formed simultaneously with biotite alteration (Yang et al., 2009). The Miduk porphyry Cu deposit (1.5 MtCu), Iran, shows strongly altered sections of syn-mineralization porphyry dykes that contain epidote (Boomeri et al., 2009).

Epidote has been suggested as a possible indicator mineral for porphyry -Cu deposits (Jago, 2008; Jago et al., 2014; Wilkinson et al., 2017; Cooke et al., 2014; Cooke et al., 2017). Cooke et al. (2014), found La in epidote is high in areas adjacent to the pyrite alteration halos for porphyry-Cu deposits in the Baguio district, Philippines. Jago et al. (2014), reported a decrease in REE fractionation and decreased LREEs in epidote moving away from the Mt Milligan porphyry-Cu deposit, Canada. Jago et al. (2014), studied pyrite associated with epidote and found that epidote and pyrite are enriched in similar elements such as Mn, Zn, Mo, La, Au, Sn, Tl, Pb, Th and U. Epidote associated with sulfides is able to incorporate elements from hydrothermal fluids.

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1.5 Statement of the Author's Contribution

This thesis combines original research conducted by Christopher H. Kobylinski under the supervision of Professor Keiko Hattori at the University of Ottawa. The following outlines the contribution of the author and collaborators to each chapter.

C.H. Kobylinski, K. Hattori, A. Plouffe, and S.W. Smith

Contributions:

- C. H. Kobylinski wrote the chapter and produced all figures and tables
- Field work in the summer of 2015 and 2016 was assisted by J. Hedenquist and K. Hattori
- Thin and thick section preparation by George Masrek and Alain Mauviel at the University of Ottawa
- C. H. Kobylinski conducted petrographic studies on thin sections
- C. H. Kobylinski conducted scanning electron microscope (SEM) work with the assistance of Glenn Poirier at the University of Ottawa
- C. H. Kobylinski conducted electron probe micro-analyzer (EPMA) work with the assistance of Glenn Poirier at the University of Ottawa
- K. Hattori and A. Plouffe edited and reviewed the manuscript
- C. H. Kobylinski acted as the corresponding author during the submission and review process

Various aspects of the report were published in meeting abstracts and presented orally or by poster and are listed in Appendices 4 and 5.

Chapter 4. Protracted island arc magmatism at the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit, British Columbia: U-Pb ages and trace element geochemistry of zircon

C.H. Kobylinski, K. Hattori, A. Plouffe, and S.W. Smith

Contributions:

- C. H. Kobylinski wrote the chapter and produced all figures and tables
- Field work in the summer of 2015 and 2016 was assisted by J. Hedenquist and K. Hattori.
- Separating, mounting and polishing of zircon grains into epoxy resin by C. H. Kobylinski
- C. H. Kobylinski conducted laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICPMS) at the University of Ottawa with the assistance of Samuel Morfin and Duane Petts. C. H. Kobylinski conducted data reduction.
- K. Hattori, J. Hedenquist and A. Plouffe edited and reviewed the manuscript and provided valuable comments.
- C. H. Kobylinski acted as the corresponding author during the submission and review process

Various aspects of the report were published in meeting abstracts and presented orally or by poster and are listed in Appendix 4 and 5.

Appendix 8. Report on the composition and assemblage of minerals associated with the porphyry Cu-Mo mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south central British Columbia, Canada

C.H. Kobylinski, K. Hattori, S.W Smith and A. Plouffe

Contributions:

- Field work in the summer of 2015 was assisted by J. Hedenquist and K. Hattori
- Hand sample preparation conducted by C. H. Kobylinski
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- C. H. Kobylinski wrote the chapter and produced all figures and tables
- C. H. Kobylinski conducted petrographic studies on thin sections at the University of Ottawa
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- K. Hattori and A. Plouffe edited and reviewed the manuscript
- C. H. Kobylinski acted as the corresponding author during the submission and review process

Various aspects of the report were published in meeting abstracts and presented orally or by poster and are listed in in Appendix 4 and 5.

CHAPTER 2.
Geological setting of the study area

2.1 Regional Geology

The Quesnel terrane in the Canadian Cordillera is the host of the Gibraltar porphyry-Cu-Mo deposit (Fig. 2.1). The Quesnel terrane, a volcanic arc terrane, extends along the length of the Canadian Cordillera from central Yukon to the southern limit of British Columbia (Colpron and Nelson, 2011; Fig. 2.1). The terrane is mainly characterized by Middle to Upper Triassic mafic volcanoclastic rocks of the Nicola Group, together with Late Triassic to Early Jurassic calcalkaline and alkaline intrusions (Schiarizza, 2015). The Quesnel terrane is bounded by the oceanic Slide Mountain terrane to the east and the oceanic Cache Creek terrane to the west (Schiarizza, 2015). In the southern Quesnel terrane, intrusive rocks form four linear belts of alternating calc-alkaline and alkaline plutons, younging to the east (Fig. 2.1).

The Quesnel terrane is an allochthon formed as an oceanic arc and accreted to the North American continent from 180 to 150 Ma (Ghosh, 1995, and references therein). The Cache Creek terrane is comprised of Paleozoic to early Mesozoic carbonate rocks which are also an allochthon, accreted to the North American continent during the Mesozoic (Johnston and Borel, 2007). The GMB intrudes the Nicola mafic volcanoclastics of the Quesnel terrane. The GMB is juxtaposed against the Cache Creek rocks leading to a debate over which terrane the GMB belongs (Ash et al., 1999a, b).

The Canadian Cordillera has undergone several glaciation events. The most recent in the study area is the Late Wisconsin Fraser Glaciation (Clague and Ward, 2011). The majority of the landscape surrounding the GMB is covered in a variably thick layer of glacial till (Plouffe and Ferbey, 2015). Only near the Gibraltar Mine have three major paleo ice movement directions been identified during Late Wisconsin Fraser Glaciation.

2.2 Porphyry Copper deposits in the Quesnel terrane

The Quesnel terrane is an important metallogenic province, containing over 19 past- and present-producing mines of porphyry Cu±Mo±Au deposits in Mesozoic granitic intrusions (Fig. 2.1). In the vicinity of the study area there are several significant porphyry Cu deposits; the Highland Valley Copper deposit (3.6 Mt Cu), Mount Polley deposit (0.6 Mt Cu) (Fig. 2.1), and the Woodjam porphyry-Cu prospect (0.71 Mt Cu).

The Highland Valley Copper (HVC) deposit is the largest open pit mine in Canada as of 2019 and is located 235 km south east of the Gibraltar deposit. It is hosted by five mineralized intrusions and shows two barren precursor intrusions. The HVC deposit consists of granodiorites and granites and some porphyritic rocks.

The Mount Polly deposit also intrudes the mafic volcanoclastic rocks of the Nicola Group as multiphase intrusions consisting of syenite, diorite, and monzodiorite with comparable timing to the Gibraltar deposit at ~205 Ma (Hodgson et al. 1976; Fraser et al. 1993, 1995; Rees, 2013).

The Woodjam porphyry-Cu prospect intrudes the Nicola volcanoclastic rocks as multiple Jurassic monzonite and syenite intrusions. These intrusions are components of the mostly barren composite calcalkalic Takomkane Batholith. Mineralization and alteration style indicate that these intrusions within the Woodjam porphyry-Cu prospect are likely related (Del Real et al., 2012).

2.3 Geology of the Granite Mountain Batholith

The Gibraltar deposit was first mapped by Tipper (1959, 1978) and the GMB was mapped by Panteleyev (1978) and Ash et al. (1999a and b). Detailed studies on the geology and mineralization of the Gibraltar deposits were conducted by Sutherland Brown (1958, 1967, 1973), Eastwood (1970), Simpson (1970), Drummond et al. (1973, 1976), Bysouth et al. (1995), Raffle (1999), Ash and Riveros (2001), Oliver et al. (2009), Harding (2012), van Straaten et al. (2013), and Mostaghimi et al. (2014). A more recent study on the geological setting of the GMB by Schiarizza (2014, 2015 and references therein) divided the GMB into 4 phases based on differences in primary mineralogy and textures. The phases use the terminology of Bysouth et al. (1995). They are from south west to north east: Border phase, Mine phase, Granite Mountain Phase and Burgess Creek stock (Fig. 2.2).

Border phase: The majority of the Border phase is quartz diorite that grades locally into tonalites and diorites. It consists of white mica altered plagioclase and 25-40% chloritized hornblende and 2-15% quartz. Textures are equigranular, typically weakly to strongly foliated, and rarely isotropic (Schiarizza, 2014).

Mine phase: North east of the Border phase is the Mine phase, which hosts the Gibraltar deposit. It comprises medium to coarse-grained, equigranular, isotropic to well-foliated tonalite,

commonly with 15-25% chloritized mafic minerals and 25-30% quartz, together with sericitized plagioclase and epidote.

Granite Mountain phase: This phase comprises more than 50% of the volume of the GMB (Fig. 2.2). It is a coarse grained leucocratic tonalite with approximately equal parts plagioclase and quartz (Schiarizza, 2014). It commonly contains unaltered mafics (hornblende and biotite) and is the least altered phase of the GMB.

Burgess Creek stock: Comprised of a heterogeneous assemblage of tonalites, quartz diorites and diorites that intrude the Nicola group volcanoclastics (Schiarizza, 2014). There still is some debate as to the relationships of the Burgess Creek stock to the GMB. Previous U-Pb dating showed it to be 4-5 Ma older than the Granite Mountain phase of the GMB and interpreted to be separate from the batholith. Ages from this thesis put it in the range of the GMB.

We follow this classification in the reports comprising Chapters 3 and 4. Subsequently, it became obvious that the distribution of these phases was not well defined. Therefore, we use the simplified terms of mineralized tonalites and unmineralized tonalites for the subdivision of the GMB in the introduction (Chapter 1), summary (Chapter 6) and the manuscript comprising Chapter 5.

2.4 Cu-Mo mineralization, and hydrothermal alteration in the GMB

Cu mineralization at Gibraltar occurs primarily as disseminated chalcopyrite in foliated tonalites in the central part of the GMB. Cu content of rocks show several separate mineralized zones focused in the central part of the GMB. The largest ones are located around the Pollyanna, Gibraltar East and Granite Lake pits. There are several other isolated mineralized areas; 100m east and 200m north east of the Granite Lake pit, ~500m east and 500m north east of the Granite Lake pit, and 200m north west of the Gibraltar East pit. Cu-mineralization is vertically continuous forming chimney-like distribution of high Cu rocks. Such “chimneys” at the Granite Lake pit and Pollyanna are over 500 m to 1000 m in height. Molybdenite is not abundant and occurs as dissemination and in quartz veins.

Hydrothermal alteration is pervasive in proximity to the mineralization as revealed in the mine pits. Alteration minerals include quartz, secondary K-feldspar, secondary biotite after

hornblende, rutile and titanite in chloritized biotite, epidote after plagioclase and hornblende, and chlorite replacing biotite and hornblende.

Quartz forms veins and veinlets with chalcopyrite \pm chlorite \pm magnetite \pm epidote in mineralized intrusions. Mono-mineralic quartz veins are rare but occur in mineralized samples. Quartz veins are commonly surrounded by haloes of white mica.

Potassic alteration, forming secondary K-feldspar and secondary biotite, is only recognized in thin section from samples proximal (<1.1 km) to and within mine pits. K-feldspar grains are commonly replaced by a mixture of white mica and minor epidote and secondary biotite is recognized as aggregates of fine-grained biotite replacing hornblende crystals. Secondary biotite is extensively overprinted by chlorite. White mica is ubiquitous and prominent in hand specimens up to 2.5 km from the mine pits. White mica replaces plagioclase and forms mono-mineralic veinlets. Its abundance decreases with distance from the open pits. Potassic and white mica alteration show overlapping distribution, proximal (<1.1 km for potassic, <2.5 km for white mica) to the mine pits.

Titanite and rutile also occur as alteration minerals of biotite, forming small aggregates with chlorite.

Epidote is common in the GMB. Its abundance increases with increasing distance from mine pit. It replaces plagioclase, and forms aggregates and veins/veinlets with or without quartz. The occurrence of epidote gives a lime-green color to the white tonalitic rocks and is observed even 10 km from the mine pits in the margins of the GMB.

Chlorite is common throughout the GMB. In mineralized intrusions, it replaces mafic minerals. It is also common rimming these mafic minerals in unmineralized intrusions.

2.5 Dating of the GMB by previous workers

The U-Pb zircon ages are summarized in Schiarizza (2014). Two samples from the Burgess Creek stock have been dated by Sensitive High-Resolution Ion Microprobe (SHRIMP) and produced ages of 222.71 ± 0.22 and 221.25 ± 0.2 Ma. The north east edge of the Granite Mountain Phase has been dated using SHRIMP at 217.15 ± 0.2 Ma (Richard Friedman, cited by Schiarizza, 2014).

One U-Pb age date has been reported for the Mine phase tonalite 211.9 ± 4.3 Ma using LA-ICPMS (Oliver et al., 2009).

Harding (2012) reported Re-Os ages of molybdenite from three quartz-molybdenite veins in the Granite Lake and East pits: 215 ± 1 Ma, 212.7 ± 0.9 Ma, 210.01 ± 0.9 Ma. These are interpreted to be contemporaneous with timing of Cu mineralization at Gibraltar.

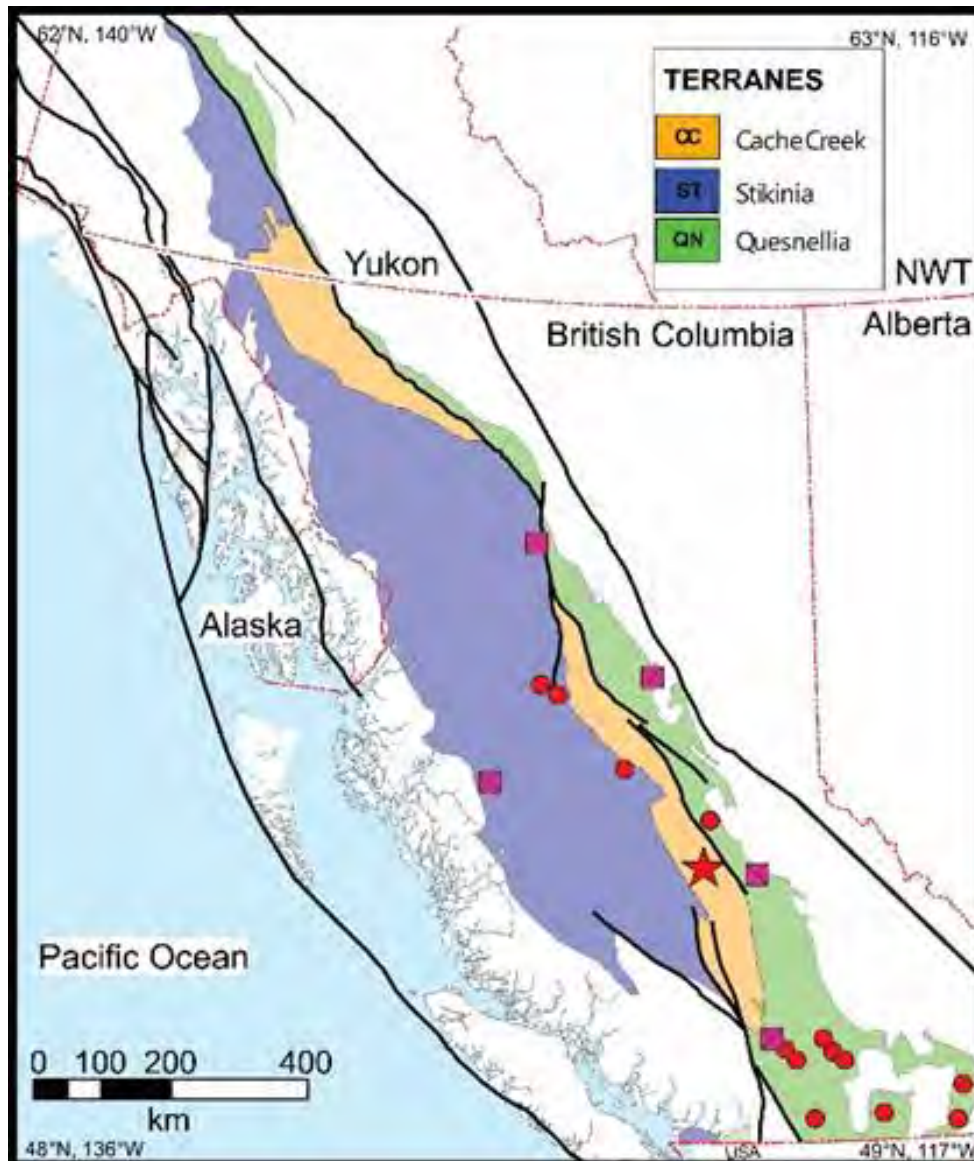


Figure 2.1: Simplified geological map of the northern Cordillera of British Columbia, Canada, modified after Nelson and Colpron (2011). The red star indicates the location of the Gibraltar porphyry Cu mine. Other porphyry Cu deposits are shown as pink squares with crosses (currently producing mine) and red circles (past producing mine).

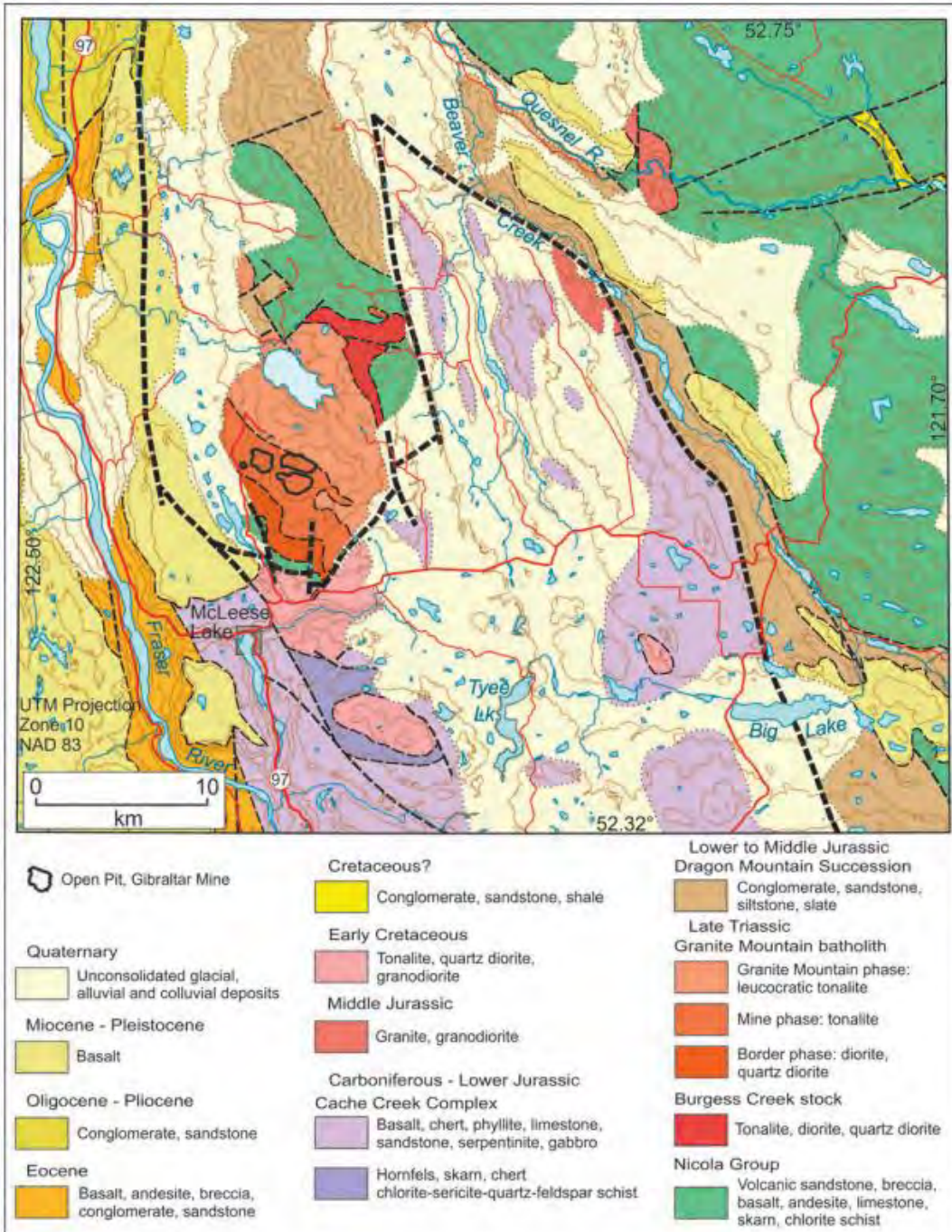


Figure 2.2: Geological map of the Gibraltar deposit, GMB and surrounding area. After Schiarizza (2014).

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CHAPTER 3

Epidote associated with the porphyry Cu-Mo mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south-central British Columbia

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Abstract

The Gibraltar porphyry-copper molybdenum deposit in the Canadian Cordillera is hosted by the late Triassic Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB). The batholith is tonalitic and composed of quartz, plagioclase and minor hornblende and biotite in varying proportions. The rocks in the batholith show phyllic and propylitic alteration. Propylitic alteration (green rock alteration) is characterized by epidote and chlorite and is extensive throughout the batholith. The name epidote is used in this paper for epidote group minerals which include clinozoisite, epidote (*sensu stricto*), allanite, ferriepidote and ferriallanite. Epidote occurs as dissemination, isolated grains, aggregates, mono-mineralic veins and epidote-bearing veins in the batholith. These veins (>2 cm in width) in the batholith generally strike towards the mineralized centre. Epidote enclosed by chalcopyrite or pyrite is compositionally homogeneous and Fe- poor, suggesting that Fe is preferentially incorporated into sulphides when epidote crystallized together with sulphide minerals. Individual grains of epidote in epidote-bearing veins show compositional zoning with Fe-poor cores and Fe-rich rims. Epidote grains disseminated in the batholith show similar compositional zoning with Fe-poor cores and Fe-rich rims. Allanite and REE-rich epidote are identified in the GMB less than 2 km from mineralization and within the Burgess Creek Stock (10 km from mineralization). Epidote containing 0.01 -1 wt.% REEs is common in aggregates throughout GMB. Epidote with high REEs (> 1 wt.% REEs) occurs only in rocks with a bulk composition >70 ppm REEs. Compositional zoning of epidote suggests that the hydrothermal history of the GMB consisted of early S-rich hydrothermal activity, followed by S-poor barren hydrothermal activity. Epidote in the Nicola volcanics and Cuisson Lake Unit near the GMB is homogeneous and Fe-rich and commonly contains inclusions of apatite and titanite. The contents of REEs in epidote in the Nicola volcanics are all below the detection limits of SEM (1000 – 5000 ppm) and EPMA (La, 470 ppm; Ce, 380 ppm; Pr, 640 ppm; Nd, 330 ppm).

3.1 Introduction

Porphyry Cu mineralization is accompanied by extensive alteration within the host rocks and surrounding country rocks (e.g. Sillitoe, 2010). Propylitic alteration associated with Cu-mineralization produces chlorite and epidote and is called green rock alteration. It can extend a few

kilometers from mineralization centres. These alteration minerals can be disseminated in the host and country rocks. Epidote can also form veins and veinlets far from the deposits. Furthermore, epidote is also a common alteration mineral of feldspars, micas, pyroxenes amphiboles and garnets and thus occur variety of rocks that are not related to porphyry Cu-Mo mineralization. Epidote is also an important constituent of greenschist facies metamorphic rocks. Although rare, epidote can occur as a primary igneous mineral in tonalites. Our objective is to identify the textural and chemical characteristics of epidote associated with porphyry Cu mineralization so that it can be used as an indicator mineral in detrital sediments (e.g. till) to detect propylitic alteration associated with Cu porphyry mineralization. This study on epidote is centered on the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit, the second largest open pit Cu mine in Canada. The deposit is hosted in the late Triassic Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB), which intruded the Nicola Group mafic volcanic rocks of the Quesnel terrane. Epidote is common within the batholith and abundant in the Nicola volcanic rocks. Furthermore, the Cretaceous Sheridan Creek Stock, which is barren and in contact with the GMB, contains abundant epidote. This paper presents the occurrence and composition of epidote group minerals in the ore zone of the Gibraltar deposit, the GMB, the Nicola volcanic rocks, the Cuisson Lake Unit, and the Sheridan Creek Stock.

3.1 Regional geology

3.1.1 Cache Creek terrane

The GMB was recently interpreted as intrusions in the Quesnel terrane close to the border with the Cache Creek terrane to the west (Schiarizza, 2014). Rocks of the Cache Creek terrane underlie the eastern and southern part of the study area (Fig. 3.1). At a regional scale, it comprises chert, limestone and basalt. Only limestone and chert are present within the study area and these rocks do not contain epidote.

3.1.2 Quesnel terrane

The Quesnel terrane, a volcanic arc terrane, extends along the length of the Canadian Cordillera from central Yukon to the southern limit of British Columbia (Colpron and Nelson, 2011). The Quesnel Terrane is in large part represented by Middle and Upper Triassic submarine

volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks, which are assigned to the Takla Group in northern and central British Columbia and to the Nicola Group in the south. The terrane is characterized by pyroxene-phyric basalt, and alkaline to calc-alkaline intrusions (Schiarizza, 2015). The Quesnel terrane is bounded by the oceanic Slide Mountain terrane to the east and the oceanic Cache Creek terrane to the west (Schiarizza, 2015). In the southern Quesnel terrane, intrusive rocks form four linear belts of alternating calc-alkaline and alkaline plutons, younging to the east, and many are accompanied by base metal mineralization (Schiarizza, 2015).

3.1.3 Nicola Group

The volcanic rocks of the Nicola Group are mostly pale green, fine to medium grained tuffs and matrix-supported lapilli tuff breccias of basaltic to andesitic compositions (Schiarizza, 2015). The Nicola Group also contains intercalated siliclastic sedimentary rocks that are dominated by laminated mudstone-siltstone and lesser medium-grained volcanic sandstone (Schiarizza, 2015).

3.2 Geology of the study area

The bedrock geology in the region of the Gibraltar deposit was mapped by Ash et al. (1999b) and more recently by Schiarizza (2014; 2015). The classification of the bedrock units presented below is based on their mapping.

3.2.1 Cuisson Lake Unit (formerly Ash Metamorphic Unit)

The Cuisson Lake Unit, consisting mainly of chlorite schist, limestone and skarn, forms a narrow belt in the southwestern part of the study area, between the GMB and the Sheridan Creek Stock (Figs. 3.1 and 3.2). Most rocks in the unit are well foliated and recrystallized, such that primary mineralogy and texture are not preserved (Schiarizza, 2015). Ash et al., (1999a) interpreted the unit as an intensely deformed and recrystallized mafic phase of the GMB. This interpretation led to the old name Ash Metamorphic Unit. Schiarizza (2015) describes the Cuisson Lake Unit as feldspathic volcanoclastic rocks intercalated with limestone which he correlates to the Nicola Group. Volcanic rocks of the Cuisson Lake Unit exposed along the east side of Gibraltar Mine Road, 4 km south of the mine are dark green, fine grained, chloritized and contain abundant epidote (>40 vol.%). They are similar in appearance to the Nicola volcanic

rocks in the northern part of the study area, but their bulk composition is slightly different. Mafic rocks of the Cuisson Lake Unit contain less SiO_2 (40.19 wt.% compared to 50.37-51.81 wt%), similar $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(\text{t})$ (11.35 wt.% compared to 9.18-13.32 wt.%), and higher CaO (27.01 wt.% compared to 8.2-8.6 wt.%) than the Nicola volcanic rocks. High CaO is explained by abundant calcite veinlets (Fig. 3.2). In the northern part of the study area (Figs. 3.1 and 3.2), Nicola volcanics are mingled with limestone. It is possible that the limestone belongs to the adjacent Cache Creek Group and that the Cuisson Lake Unit in the southern section of the study area is a metamorphic product of these mingled rocks.

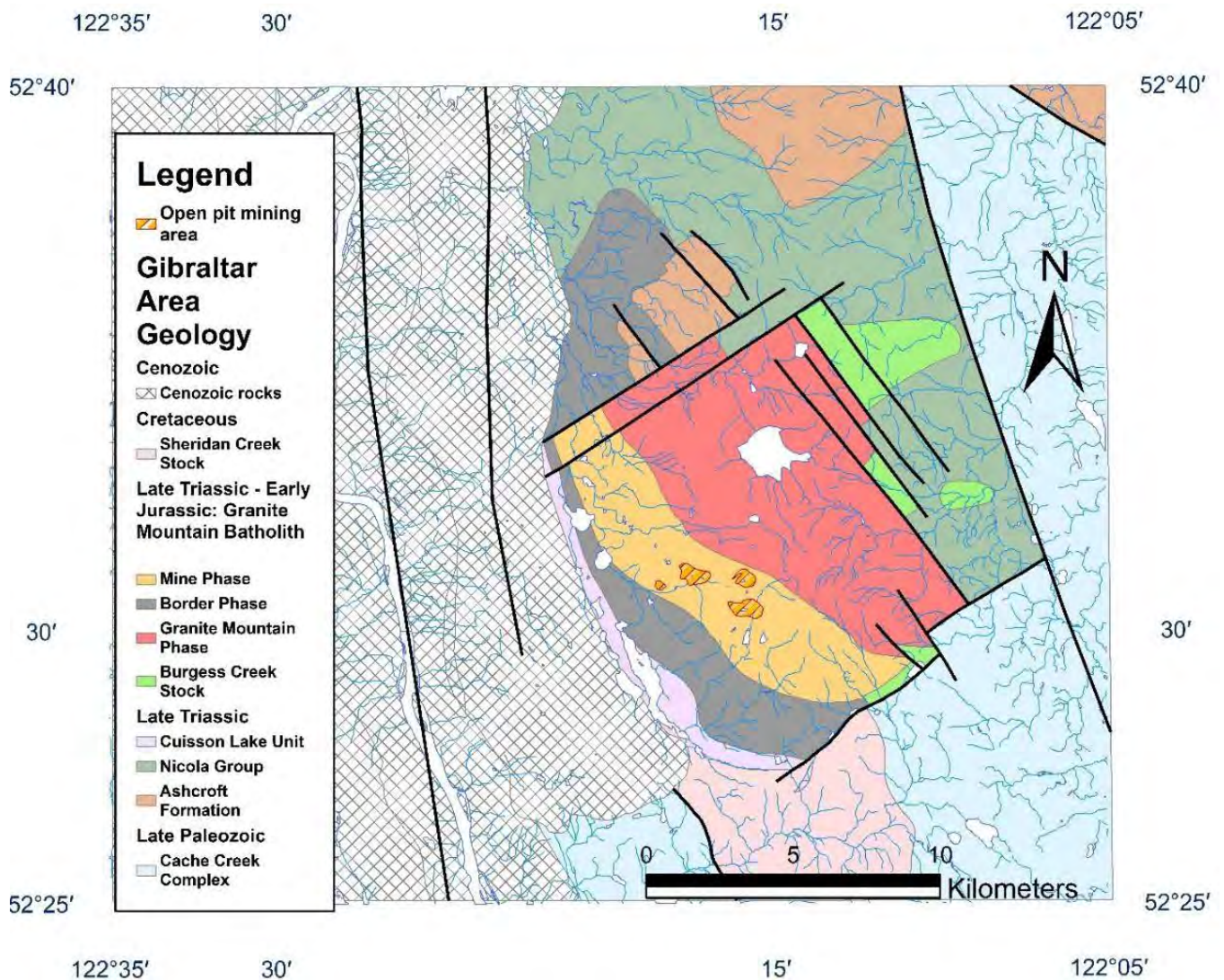


Figure 3.1. Geological map of the study area modified from Plouffe and Ferbey (2015). Names of the phases and units within the study area taken from Schiarizza (2015).

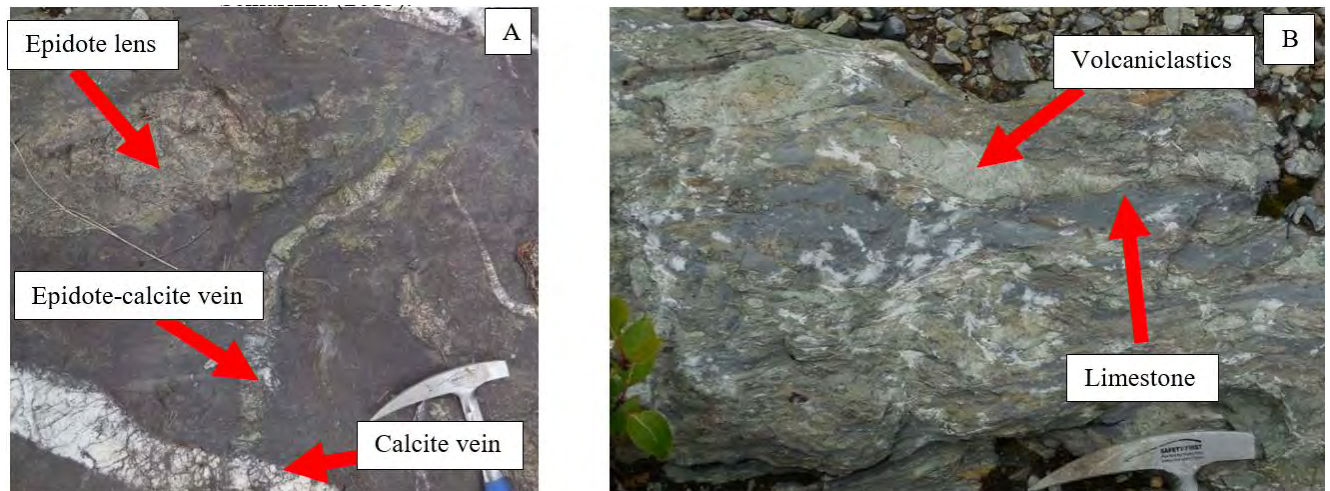


Figure 3.2. Outcrop photographs with rock hammer for scale. (A) The Cuisson Lake Unit along Gibraltar Mine road (Easting 0547384 Northing 5814942 (NAD 83, Zone 10 N)) with deformed veins of epidote, epidote-calcite and calcite and a dark green fine-grained matrix. (B) Outcrop of Nicola volcanic rocks (Easting 0549808 Northing 5829201 (NAD 83, Zone 10 N)) north of the GMB, showing green volcaniclastic rock and blue-grey limestone.

3.2.2 Granite Mountain Batholith

The GMB is divided into four phases based on mineralogy and texture (Drummond et al., 1976; Ash et al., 1999b; van Straaten et al., 2013; Schiarizza, 2014, 2015). They are the Burgess Creek Stock, Granite Mountain Phase, Mine Phase, and the Border Phase (Fig. 3.1). Propylitic alteration, characterized by epidote and chlorite, is common in all four phases of the batholith with variable intensity. Phyllic alteration, identified by the occurrence of white mica and pyrite is limited to the Mine Phase, Border Phase and the south west section of the Granite Mountain Phase, proximal to mine pits. Quartz is abundant in rocks of the GMB as a primary mineral and a major component of various veins. The Granite Mountain Phase is the least altered and the Mine Phase and Border Phase are generally more altered based on abundances of pyrite, white mica, epidote and chlorite.

Burgess Creek Stock. The Burgess Creek Stock occurs at the northeast margin of the GMB (Fig. 3.1). It consists of tonalites, quartz diorites, and diorites that intrude the Nicola Group

(Schiarrizza, 2014). The tonalitic rocks of this phase are leucocratic with less than 10 vol.% mafic minerals. The dioritic rocks contain plagioclase (60-70 vol.%) and up to 30 vol.% mafic minerals. The Burgess Creek Stock was previously interpreted to be younger than the GMB (Panteleyev, 1978; Bysouth et al., 1995). This interpretation may be in part due to its intrusive contact with the Nicola volcanic rocks, which were previously considered younger than the GMB (Ash et al., 1999a, b). The stock yielded U-Pb zircon ages of 222.7 ± 0.3 Ma and 221.25 ± 0.2 Ma (Schiarrizza 2015), which are older than the ages of the GMB. Ash et al (2001) reported 215 ± 0.8 Ma and Schiarizza (2015) obtained 217.15 ± 0.2 Ma from the adjacent Granite Mountain Phase of the batholith. These data suggest that the stock is an old unit of the GMB.

Granite Mountain Phase of the GMB. The Granite Mountain Phase is the most voluminous and most leucocratic phase of the GMB. This phase is equigranular and isotropic. It comprises tonalitic rocks with various modalities of quartz, plagioclase and minor chloritized mafic minerals (5-10 vol.%). The epidote content is low (<15 vol.%) and it replaces plagioclase. U-Pb zircon ages date the Granite Mountain Phase of the GMB at 217 ± 0.2 Ma (Schiarrizza, 2015).

Mine Phase of the GMB. The Mine Phase hosts the Cu-Mo mineralization at Gibraltar. It consists of tonalitic rocks with variable modalities of quartz, plagioclase and completely chloritized mafic minerals (15-25 vol.%). It is more leucocratic than the Border Phase. Rocks in this phase are highly foliated and equigranular. The epidote content ranges from 10-30 vol.%.

Border Phase of the GMB. The Border Phase comprises various modalities of quartz (up to 30 vol.%), plagioclase (up to 40 vol.%) and mafic minerals (up to 40 vol.%). Mafic minerals are hornblende \pm biotite and are partially to completely chloritized. It is equigranular and isotropic to slightly foliated. The epidote content is moderate (10-20 vol.%).

3.2.3 Sheridan Creek Stock

The Sheridan Stock is composed of equigranular isotropic quartz diorite and tonalite (15-25 vol.% quartz, < 70 vol.% plagioclase, 10-20 vol.% mafic minerals). Pristine unaltered plagioclase, biotite and dark brown hornblende are common minerals of the stock. U-Pb zircon date, 108.1 ± 0.6 Ma (Ash et al., 2001), confirm the late Cretaceous age of the intrusion.

Mafic minerals are dark brown hornblende and biotite with low (<10 vol.%) epidote content. Epidote-quartz veins generally strike east-west (Fig. 3.3 A).

3.3 Analytical methods

SEM-EDS

Chemical compositions of epidote group minerals were determined from 12 carbon-coated polished thin sections using a JEOL 6610LV scanning electron microscope equipped with energy dispersive detector (SEM-EDS) at the University of Ottawa. The compositions were determined using energy-dispersive spectroscopy with the acquisition time of 40 s and an accelerating voltage of 20 kV. Analyses were conducted without references for individual elements. All detected element oxide values are normalized to 100%. Detection limits are 0.1-0.5 wt% for all elements. SEM back scattered electron (BSE) images were acquired as 16 bit greyscale. Up to 256 shades of grey were used to represent different mean atomic masses of different minerals and mineral compositions. These shades were converted to up to 30 colors using imageJ photo software by assigning each shade(s) of gray to a color. Brighter areas in gray scale BSE image within epidote grain represent higher Fe content. Blue, green and magenta were used to identify titanite, chlorite and chalcopyrite respectively, and separate these minerals from similar shades of grey in epidote. The gray color of apatite was left as the original color.

EPMA

Quantitative analysis for the major and minor elemental compositions of the epidote group minerals was carried out using a JEOL 8230 electron probe micro-analyzer (EPMA) at the University of Ottawa. Epidote minerals were analyzed at an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, a beam current of 20nA using a focused beam of 1µm. Counting times were 20 s on-peak and 10 s off-peak for all elements except for F (150 s on and 75 s off), Cl (50 s on and 25 s off), Y (40 s on and 20 s off) Sc (40 s on 20 s off), Si (10 s on and 5 s off). F, Cl Y, Sc, Th, Pb, Cr, Nb and K were all below detection levels for epidote analysis by EPMA and are not reported. References and limit of detections are indicated in Table 3.1.

Field observations

The orientation of 1 to 10 epidote-bearing veins were measured at 10 outcrops for a total of 50 measurements. Six out of 10 outcrops and 36 out of 50 measurements of epidote-bearing veins were in the GMB (Fig. 3.3 A). The rest of the orientation measurements were taken on epidote-bearing veins in the Nicola volcanic rocks, the Sheridan Creek Stock or the Cuisson Lake Unit. The dominant orientation was determined after compiling all measurements from one outcrop. Typically, 80% of the veins at a site have a similar orientation with $\pm 5^\circ$ of variability which we consider the dominant orientation at the outcrop. The rest of the veins (about 20%) showed variable strikes with more than 50° difference from the dominant vein orientation.

3.5 Epidote occurrences and composition

3.5.1 Nomenclature

Epidote group minerals with the general formula $A_2M_3(T_2O_7)(TO_4)(O,F)(OH,O)$ are divided into 3 subgroups: clinozoisite, allanite and dollaseite subgroups. The clinozoisite subgroup is defined by homovalent substitution of Al by Fe^{3+} in M sites. The allanite subgroup is defined by REE rich phases where trivalent REEs reside in the A site. The third subgroup is the dollaseite subgroup with high Mg and is not found in our study area. Ferriepidote, epidote and clinozoisite form a continuous solid solution in the clinozoisite subgroup with varying Fe^{3+} and Al in the M sites (Fig. 3.4). Clinozoisite has Al in three M sites. Epidote (sensu stricto) has Al in two M sites (M1 and M2) and Fe^{3+} in the M3 site. Ferriepidote has Fe^{3+} in two M sites (M1 and M3) and Al in the M2 site (Armbruster et al., 2006) (Fig. 3.4). Epidote (sensu stricto) is defined to contain greater than 0.5 Fe^{3+} in the M3 site, whereas clinozoisite contains greater than 0.5 Al in the M3 site (Armbruster et al., 2006) (Fig. 3.4). Ferriepidote has a greater than 0.5 Fe^{3+} in the M1 and the M3 site is filled with Fe^{3+} (Armbruster et al., 2006). The $Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al]$ apfu ratios in the clinozoisite subgroup are > 0.5 for ferriepidote, 0.165-0.5 for epidote and < 0.165 for clinozoisite (Armbruster et al., 2006).

The allanite subgroup is defined to contain $[M^{3+}+M^{4+}]A_2 > 0.5$ and $[M^{2+}]M_3 > 0.5$, where M^{3+} and M^{4+} are REE, Y, U and Th substituting Ca^{2+} in the A2 site and M^{2+} a divalent cation in the M3 site to retain charge balance (Armbruster et al., 2006) (Fig. 3.4).

Epidote in the study area shows a large compositional variation mostly due to varying Fe, Al and REE contents. The atomic ratios of $\text{Fe(t)}/[\text{Fe(t)} + \text{Al}]$ are between 0.05 and 0.5 in studied samples and some grains also contain up to 21 wt.% $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Pr}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{Nd}_2\text{O}_3$.

Epidote in the GMB shows compositional zoning with Fe-poor cores and Fe-rich rims. The boundaries between cores and rims are sharp in individual grains and there is no epidote with intermediate compositions. Based on our observation of Fe-Al zoning in epidote and clinozoisite of the GMB, we define “Fe-poor epidote” as having $\text{Fe(t)}/[\text{Fe(t)} + \text{Al}]$ ratios <0.29 and “Fe-rich epidote” with ratios >0.29 . In this study, REE+Y vary from 0.01 wt.% oxides to 21.7 wt.% oxides. We classify epidote as allanite (>15 wt.% REE oxides), REE-rich (1 to 15 wt.% REE oxides) and REE-bearing (0.01-1 wt.% REE oxides).

Table 3.1. List of elements and calibration standards used for electron probe micro-analyzer.

Elements	Calibration standards	Detection limits
Si, Al, K	Sanidine	Si (180 ppm), Al (100 ppm), K (130 ppm)
Fe	Hematite	Fe (150 ppm)
F	Mg-mica	F (390 ppm)
Na	Albite	Na (110 ppm)
Cl	Tugtupite	Cl (60 ppm)
Sr	Celestine	Sr (490 ppm)
Nd	Synthetic NdPO_4	Nd (330 ppm)
Pr	PrPO_4	Pr (640 ppm)
Ce	CePO_4	Ce (380 ppm)
La	LaPO_4	La (470 ppm)
Th	ThO_2	Th (360 ppm)
Ca, Mg	Diopside	Ca (160 ppm), Mg (110 ppm)
Pb, V	Vanadinite	Pb (310 ppm), V (180 ppm)
Mn	Tephroite	Mn (440 ppm)

Y	Yttrium aluminum garnet	Y (2100 ppm)
Ti	Rutile	Ti (180 ppm)
Cr	Chromite	Cr (150 ppm)
Sc	REE-glass (synthetic glass with 1 wt.% of Sc)	Sc (200 ppm)
Nb	Synthetic manganocolumbite	Nb (540 ppm)

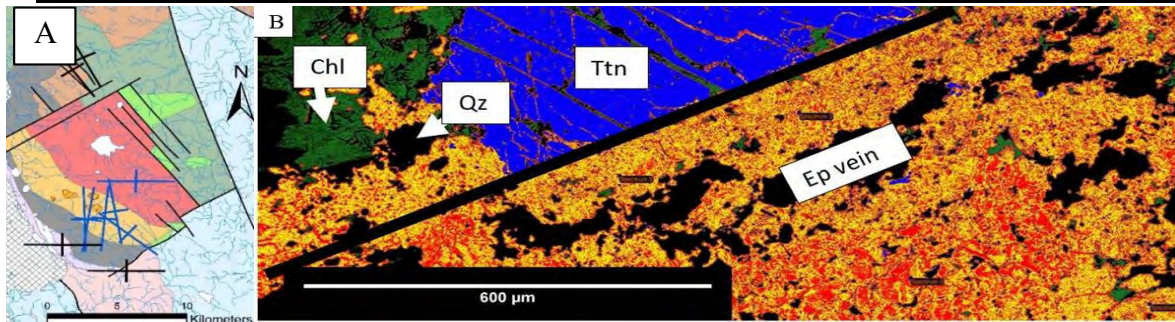


Figure 3.3. (A) Dominant orientations of epidote-bearing veins (greater than 2 cm in width) in the study area. Note dominant vein orientations in blue are in the GMB and veins strike east-west in the Granite Mountain Phase. Dominant vein orientations in black are not in the GMB. (B) Colorized SEM- BSE perpendicular to strike section of an Ep-Qz vein (1 cm in width) the Mine Phase of the batholith (sample GBR-2-7) comprising zoned epidote grains with Fe-poor centres (10.57 wt.% $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(\text{t})$, $\text{Fe}(\text{t})/[\text{Fe}(\text{t}) + \text{Al}] = 0.21$) rimmed by Fe-rich borders (16.52 wt.% $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(\text{t})$, $\text{Fe}(\text{t})/[\text{Fe}(\text{t}) + \text{Al}] = 0.33$). Epidote grains in the centre of the veins have large Fe-poor cores. Epidote grains on the border of veins have less prominent Fe-poor cores. Abbreviations: Chl – chlorite; Ep – epidote; Qz – quartz; Ttn – titanite. Sample locations and SEM data are found in Appendix 1, Tables A1-1, A1-2, A1-3 and A1-4.

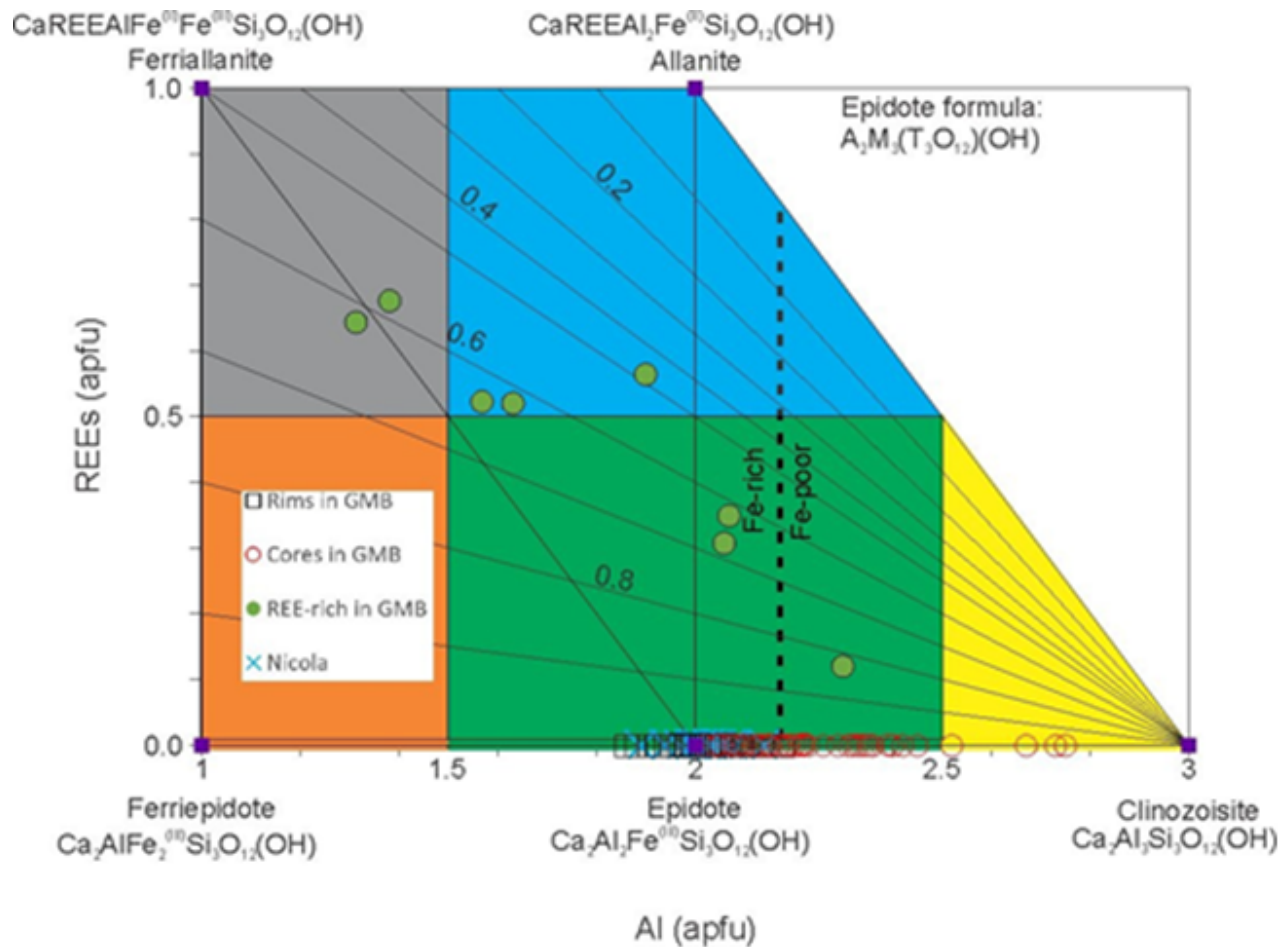


Figure 3.4. Total Al atoms per formula unit (apfu) vs. REEs (apfu) diagram showing solid solutions in the clinozoisite subgroup and the allanite subgroup after Petrik et al. (1995). Lines radiating from the clinozoisite end-member are $\text{Fe}^{3+}/(\text{Fe}^{3+}+\text{Fe}^{2+})$. End member compositions are shown as purple squares. Division of Fe-poor and Fe-rich epidotes in this study is shown with a dashed black line. The compositional ranges for epidote sensu stricto clinozoisite ferriepidote, allanite, and ferriallanite are shown as green, yellow, orange, blue and grey fields, respectively, following the classification of Armbruster et al. (2006).

3.5.2 Epidote occurrences in the GMB

Disseminated epidote. Disseminated epidote in the GMB replaces 5 to 100 vol.% of plagioclase grains (Fig. 3.5). Individual grains of epidote in plagioclase have a prismatic shape (Fig. 3.5) with up to 30 μm in length and show zoning with Fe-rich rims and Al-rich cores. Replacement of plagioclase by epidote occurs in all phases of the GMB. Total pseudomorphic replacement of

plagioclase by aggregates of epidote grains (Fig. 3.6) is common only in the Mine Phase of the GMB.

Aggregates. Epidote forms aggregates (0.5 – 1 mm) consisting of small anhedral epidote grains (50-100 μm). Grains do not contain inclusions. The individual grains within the aggregates are zoned with Fe-rich rims and Al-rich cores. Aggregates are commonly surrounded by chlorite. Epidote aggregates occur in all phases of the GMB. Grains in some aggregates are REE-bearing.

Isolated grains. Epidote forms large (up to 400 μm) isolated grains associated with quartz phenocrysts. These grains are not associated with plagioclase or chlorite. The grains are euhedral to subhedral. Their composition ranges from Fe-poor epidote in the cores to Fe-rich epidote in the rims (Fig. 3.6). Some contain significant concentrations (>5 wt.%) of REE oxides (Fig. 3.7) and these REE-rich grains are not compositionally zoned. Isolated grains of epidote occur in all phases of the GMB.

Veins and veinlets. Epidote-bearing veins and veinlets occur in all phases of the GMB. Three types of veins (1-15 cm wide) and veinlets (0.1-3 mm wide) are observed: mono-minerallic epidote, epidote- quartz and epidote-quartz-chlorite. They contain minor hydrothermal magnetite. Individual grains of epidote show compositional zoning with Fe-poor cores (Fig. 3.3). Thirty-six measurements of vein orientation within the GMB show that they generally strike towards the mineralized areas (Fig. 3.3). Epidote- bearing veins are found up to 10 km from mineralization. This is farther than the disseminated epidote which extends up to 5 km.

Epidote in ore zone in the Mine Phase of the GMB. Epidote grains in contact with, or in the proximity of pyrite or chalcopyrite (Figs. 3.8 and 3.9) are mostly subhedral and occur as aggregates (up to 600 μm) or isolated grains ranging from 50 to 400 μm . Grains enclosed by sulphides are unzoned, with low Fe ($\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_{3(t)} < 12.7$ wt.%, equivalent to $\text{Fe}(t)/[\text{Fe}(t)+\text{Al}] < 0.22$) whereas those in contact, but not totally enclosed by sulphide minerals are zoned (Fig. 3.8).

REE-bearing epidote. REE-bearing (up to 0.2 wt% REE oxides) epidote occurs in all phases of GMB as aggregates and show zoning with Fe-rich rims and Fe-poor cores in individual grains. Due to high detection limits of REEs, REE-bearing epidote was not detected with SEM-

EDS. There is a higher proportion (54 %) of epidote that is REE-bearing in samples collected proximal to mine pits (<2 km). In contrast, samples collected far (>2 km) from mine pits have a lower proportion (25 %) of REE-bearing epidote grains.

Allanite and REE-rich epidote. Allanite and REE-rich epidote are only found in REE-rich (>70 ppm) rocks of the Mine Phase, Border Phase, and the Burgess Creek Stock of the GMB (Fig. 3.10). Grains of REE-rich epidote and allanite show patchy compositional variations with Ce_2O_3 contents ranging from 5 to 15 wt.%, La_2O_3 from 6 to -10 wt.%, Pr_2O_3 from 0.3 to -1 wt.% and Nd_2O_3 from 0.4 to 1.3 wt.%. No Fe-Al zoning is observed in REE-rich epidote or allanite (Fig. 3.7).

3.5.3 Epidote in the Nicola volcanic rocks

Epidote occurs as large isolated subhedral grains (up to 400 μm , Fig. 3.5), and as aggregates (up to 500 μm) of small (<50 μm) grains. Epidote grains and aggregates are commonly associated with chlorite. Grains are homogeneous in composition and classify as Fe-rich with $Fe_2O_{3(t)} > 15.3$ wt.%. The larger isolated grains commonly contain apatite and titanite inclusions (Fig. 3.5). Nicola volcanic rocks near (< 500 m) the contact with the GMB contain more epidote (>40 vol.%) than volcanic rocks far (>500 m) from the GMB, which contain less than 30 vol.% epidote. Epidote in Nicola volcanic rocks does not contain REEs above the detection limits of SEM and EPMA. Tables 3.2 and 3.3 present a summary of epidote composition in the GMB and the Nicola volcanic rocks.

3.5.4 Epidote in the Sheridan Creek Stock

Disseminated epidote replacing plagioclase is present in the Sheridan Creek Stock. Epidote abundances are lower in the Sheridan Creek Stock (~5-10 vol.%) compared to the GMB (>10 vol.%).

3.5.5 Epidote in the Cuisson Lake Unit

In the Cuisson Lake Unit, epidote occurs in wide (>5 cm) deformed veins of epidote, epidote-quartz and epidote-calcite. Coarse grained epidote also occurs in lenses along with calcite

(Fig. 3.2). Epidote and chlorite are major components of the fine-grained matrix of the Cuisson Lake unit. In total, epidote constitutes up to 40 vol.% of this unit.

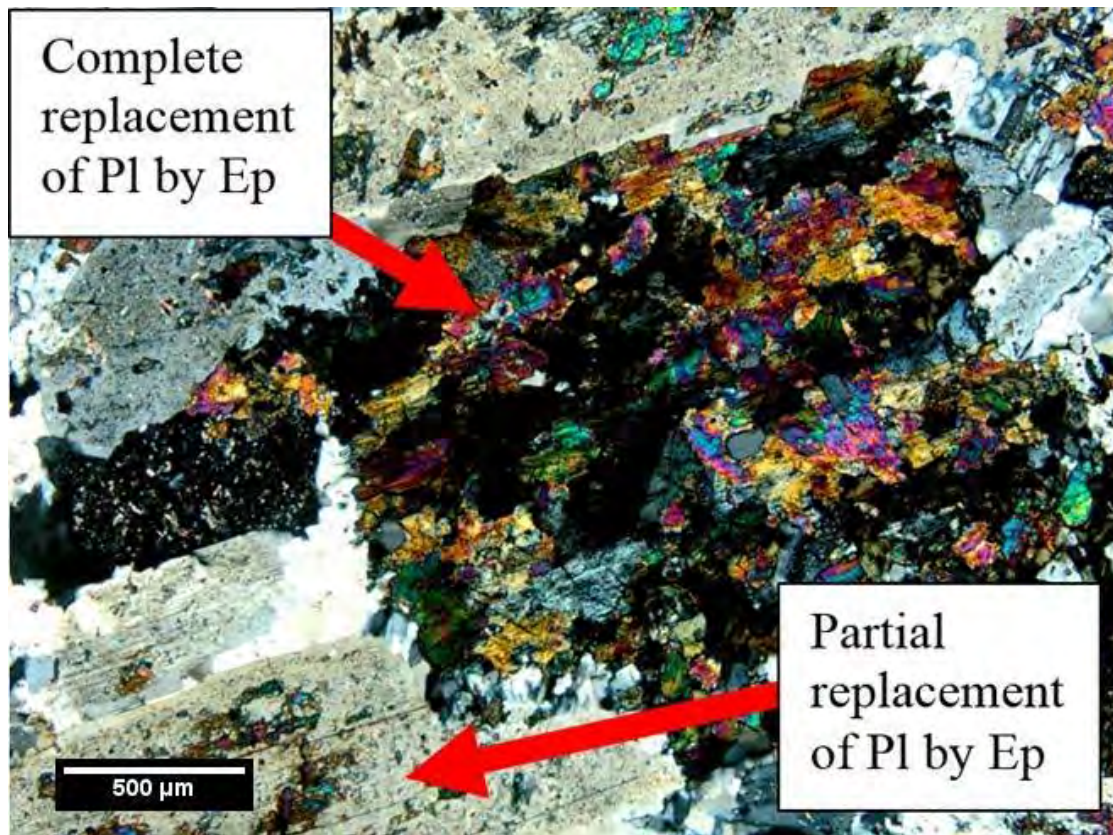


Figure 3.5. Photomicrograph showing variable degrees of replacement of plagioclase (Pl) by epidote (Ep) in the GMB. Sample number GBR-16 from the Mine Phase of the GMB, sample locations are listed in Appendix 1, Table A1-1.

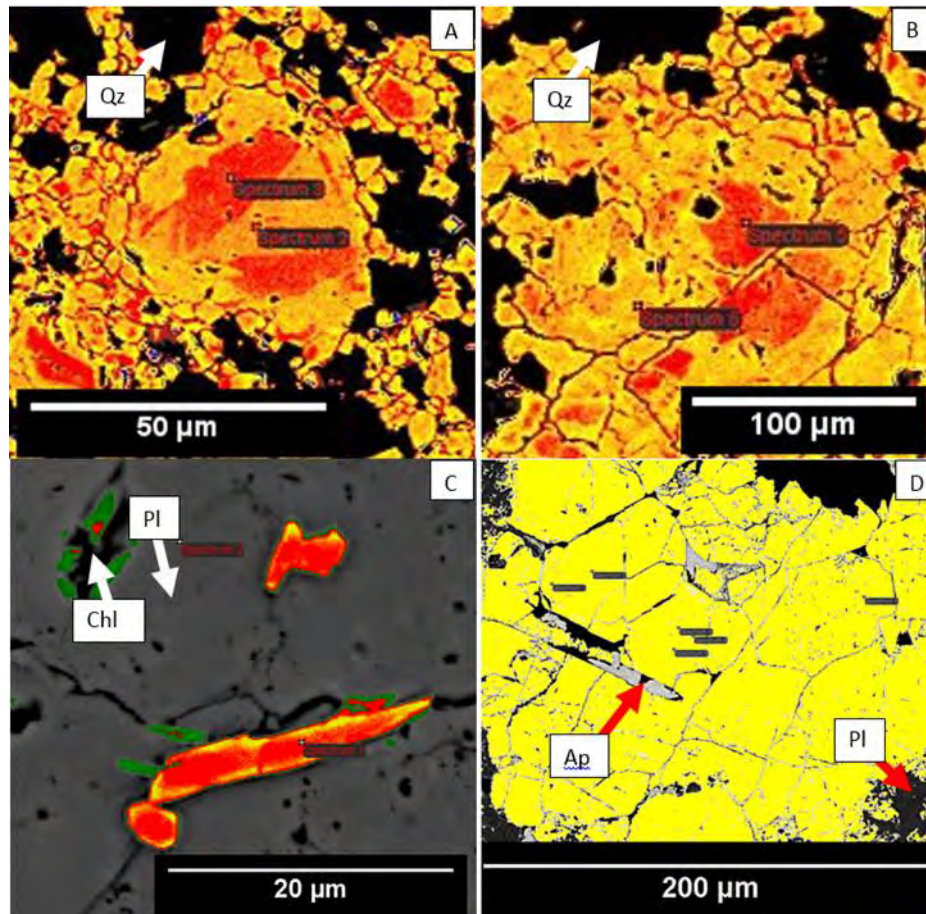


Figure 3.6. Colorized scanning electron microscopy-back scattered electron image (BSE) of epidote (Ep) surrounded by quartz (Qz) and plagioclase (Pl) in tonalitic rocks of the batholith (A, B, C) and epidote in Nicola volcanic rocks surrounded by plagioclase (D). (A) Ep aggregate in Mine Phase of the batholith showing Fe-poor cores (red, 10.07 wt.% Fe₂O₃(t), Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.2) and Fe-rich rims (yellow, 16.03 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.31); sample GBR2-10; (B) Isolated Ep grain in the Border Phase of the batholith showing Fe-poor cores (red, 11.97 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.24) and Fe-rich rims (yellow, 18.72 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.36); sample GBR2-8; (C) Disseminated Ep in Granite Mountain Phase of the batholith showing Fe-poor cores (red, 8.74 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.17) and Fe-rich rims (yellow, 18.53 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.36); sample GBR2-34; (D) Isolated Fe-rich (17.56 Fe₂O₃(t) wt.%, Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] = 0.34) epidote grain in the Nicola volcanics showing no zoning and inclusions of apatite (Ap). Sample GBR2-4. Abbreviations; Chl – chlorite, sample locations and SEM data are found in Appendix 1, Tables A1-1, A1-2, A1-3, and A1-4.

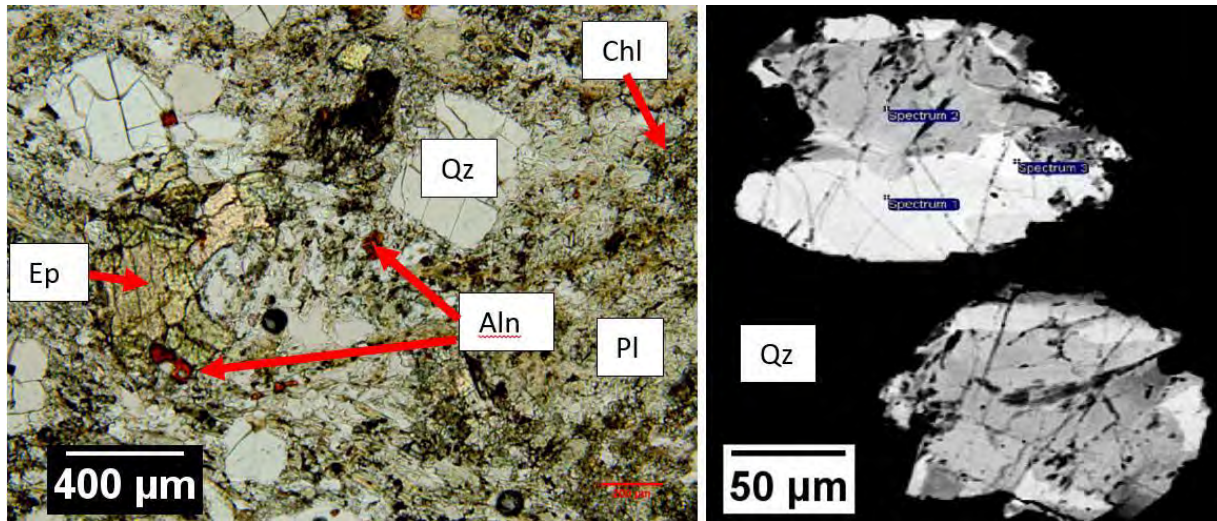


Figure 3.7. (A) Photomicrograph in PPL and (B) SEM –BSE image of allanite in the Mine Phase of the GMB; sample GBR-11. (A) Allanite (Aln, red-orange grains) surrounded by Ep, Qz and Chl.(B) Patchy zoning in allanite with brighter areas with $\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3 > 10 \text{ wt.}\%$ and darker areas with $\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3 < 5 \text{ wt.}\%$. Sample location and SEM data found in Appendix 1, Tables A1-1, A1-5 and A1-8.

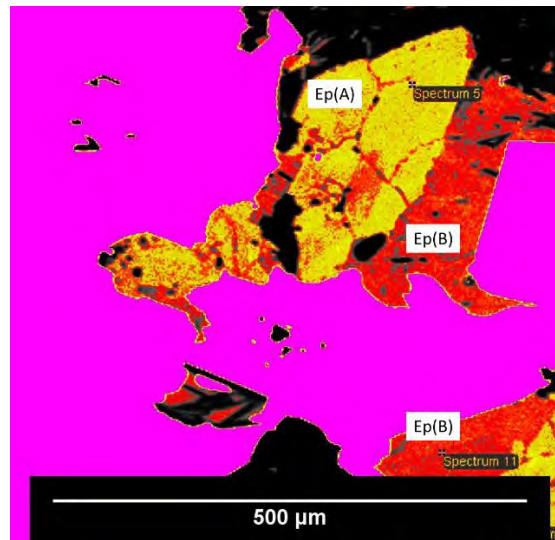


Figure 3.8. Colorized SEM-BSE of epidote (Ep) in contact with chalcopyrite (Ccp, pink) in sample SVA 7-14.13, collected in the Mine Phase of the GMB. Zoning with relatively Fe-rich rims (yellow, 13.15 wt.% $\text{FeO}(t)$, $\text{Fe}(t)/[\text{Fe}(t) + \text{Al}] = 0.25$) and Fe-poor-cores (11.02 wt.% $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(t)$, $\text{Fe}(t)/[\text{Fe}(t) + \text{Al}] = 0.21$) in Ep(A) in contact but not surrounded by Ccp. Ep (B) enclosed by Ccp shows no zoning and is Fe-poor (11.53 wt.% $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3(t)$, $\text{Fe}(t)/[\text{Fe}(t) + \text{Al}] = 0.23$). Sample location and SEM data found in Appendix 1, Tables A1-1 and A1-9.

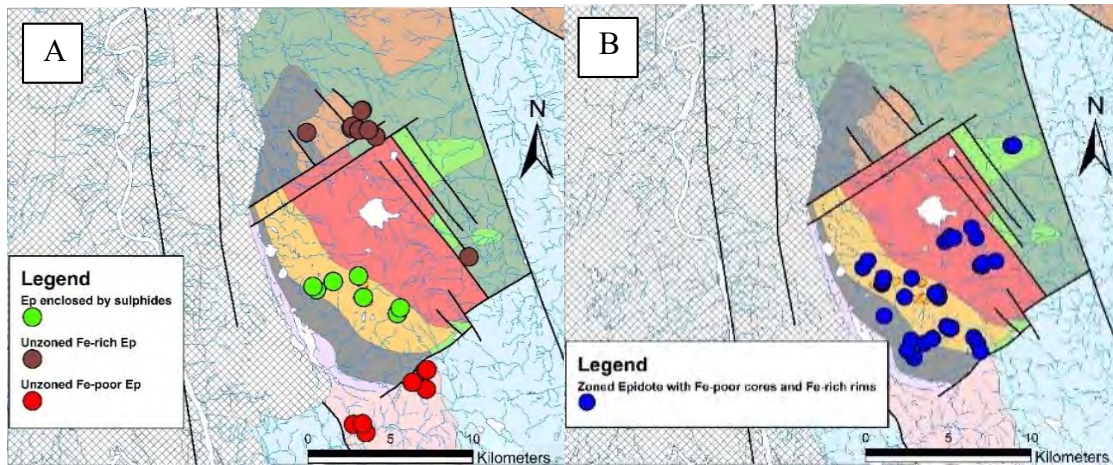


Figure 3.9. (A) Location of zoned epidote (Fe-poor cores and Fe-rich rims) in the Border Phase, Mine Phase, Granite Mountain Phase, and Burgess Creek Stock of the GMB. (B) Location of unzoned epidote in the study area. Fe-rich unzoned epidote is found in the Nicola volcanic rocks (brown), Fe-poor unzoned epidote is found replacing plagioclase in the Sheridan Creek Stock. Unzoned Fe-poor epidote is found in the Mine Phase enclosed in sulphides.

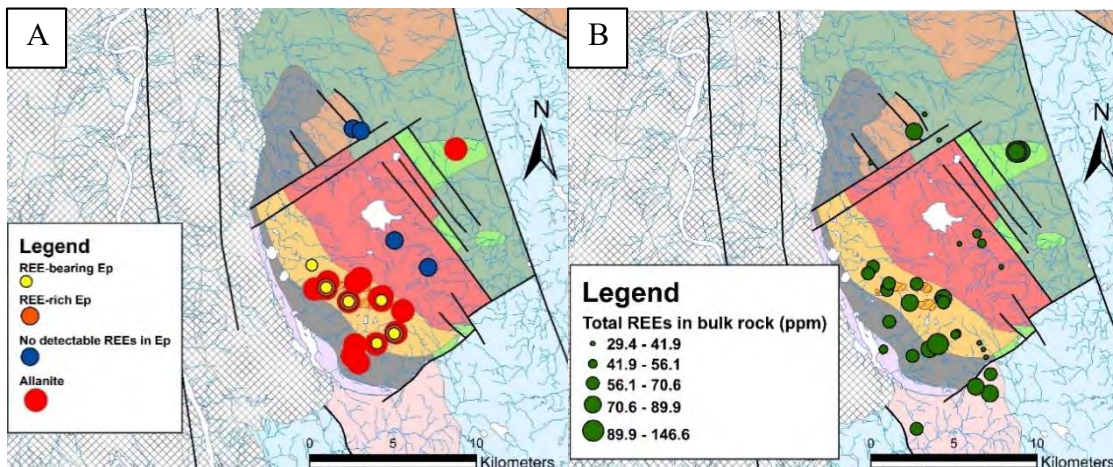


Figure 3.10. (A) Location of REE-bearing epidote, REE-rich epidote, Allanite and epidote with no detectable REEs in the GMB. (B) Whole rock REE concentrations and sample locations. Areas with REEs in epidote correlate with higher REEs in whole rock (Mine phase, Border phase and Burgess Creek Stock).

3.6 Discussion

3.6.1 Epidote in the batholith

Epidote occurs in all phases of the GMB (Fig. 3.10). A $\text{Fe}(t)/[\text{Fe}(t) + \text{Al}]$ value of 0.29 separates compositions of cores from rims in zoned epidote grains (Fig. 3.11). Epidote enclosed by chalcopyrite and pyrite is homogeneous and Fe-poor suggesting the preferential incorporation of Fe in sulfides. All other epidote in the GMB shows compositional zoning; Fe-poor, Al-rich cores and Fe-rich, Al-poor rims (Fig. 3.9). We interpret this zoning as reflecting early S-rich hydrothermal activity that produced pyrite and chalcopyrite, leaving the associated epidote relatively low in Fe. Later hydrothermal activity with relatively less S did not form sulphides leaving Fe enriched fluids for the formation of Fe-rich rims in epidote.

3.6.2 REE-bearing epidote, REE-rich epidote and allanite in the batholith

REE-bearing epidote occurs in all phases of the GMB, except in the Granite Mountain Phase (Fig. 3.9 A). Minute grains forming epidote aggregates commonly contain REEs, but the contents are lower than 1 wt.% REE oxides. On the other hand, all grains of REE-rich epidote and allanite form isolated grains. REE-rich epidote and allanite are restricted within the GMB (Fig. 3.9). They are a hydrothermal product. The presence of allanite and REE-rich epidote only in rocks that contain >70 ppm REEs suggest that the rocks and epidote were enriched in light REE during hydrothermal activity or that the original rocks contain high REEs. The allanite subgroup has the potential to substitute Y, U and Th. Allanite and REE-rich epidote in this study do not have detectable Y, U or Th.

3.6.3 Epidote veins in the batholith

Veins of epidote are common throughout the batholith and extend up to 10 km from mineralization. Some are monomineralic, some are epidote-quartz or epidote-quartz-chlorite. Epidote grains in veins carry the same zoning pattern as observed in hydrothermal epidote of the GMB indicating that the veins were produced by the hydrothermal activity for crystallization of disseminated epidote. Although the number of measurements on vein orientations is limited (n=36), the dominant orientation at each site generally strike towards the centre of the

mineralization (Fig. 3.3 A). If this is proven to be the case, epidote vein orientation in an intrusion could serve to vector towards mineralization.

3.6.4 Epidote in Nicola volcanic rocks

We suggest that epidote in the Nicola volcanic rocks near the GMB is a contact metamorphic product related to the intrusion of GMB, based on high abundance of epidote close to the contact with the GMB and that epidote in the Nicola volcanic rocks does not share the zoning pattern or composition of epidote in the GMB. Alternatively, increases in epidote modality near the contact may be due to enhanced fluid flow along the contact between the Nicola volcanic rocks and the GMB. Nicola epidote may be hydrothermal in origin, created by hydrothermal fluid input via intrusion of the GMB. Nicola epidote plots as Fe-rich (Fig. 3.11). Fe-rich composition of epidote may be explained by fluids interacting with mafic volcanic rocks because Fe/Al ratios are higher in mafic volcanic rocks compared to tonalitic rocks of the GMB.

Table 3.2. Summary, compositional zoning of epidote grains in the GMB based on SEM-EDS and EPMA determinations.

Occurrence	Zoning in individual grains	Fe₂O₃ (t) (wt.%) rims [number of grains analyzed]	Fe₂O₃(t) (wt.%) cores [number of grains analyzed]
Enclosed by Ccp or Py	No zoning Al-rich	9.96 -13.9 [3]	
In contact with Ccp or Py	Fe-rich rims, Al- rich cores	13.8 - 15.5 [5]**	9.8 – 12.3 [6]**
In veins*	Fe-rich rims, Al-rich cores	14.6 - 16.6 [13]**	10.7- 12.5 [17]**
Isolated grains/ Grains within aggregates	Fe-rich rims, Al- rich cores	13.8 - 15.3 - [24]**	8.4 - 10.9[27]**
Disseminated	Fe-rich rims, Al- rich cores	12.8 - 14.3 [7] **	2.1 – 9.4 [12] **

*Epidote grains in veins are zoned

**Presence of compositional zoning was apparent in all grains of epidotes in thin section under crossed polarizing light and also in SEM-BSE images. Only a small number of representative grains were selected for the composition analysis.

Table 3.3. Summary, epidote composition in Nicola volcanics based on SEM-EDS and EPMA determinations.

Occurrence	Zoning of grains	Fe ₂ O ₃ (t) (wt.%) average [number of grains]	Inclusions
Isolated grains	None	15.3[10]**	Apatite and titanite
Aggregates	None	15.5[7]**	Not present

**Presence of compositional zoning was absent in all grains of epidotes in thin section under crossed polarizing light and also in SEM-BSE images. Only a small number of representative grains were selected for the composition analysis.

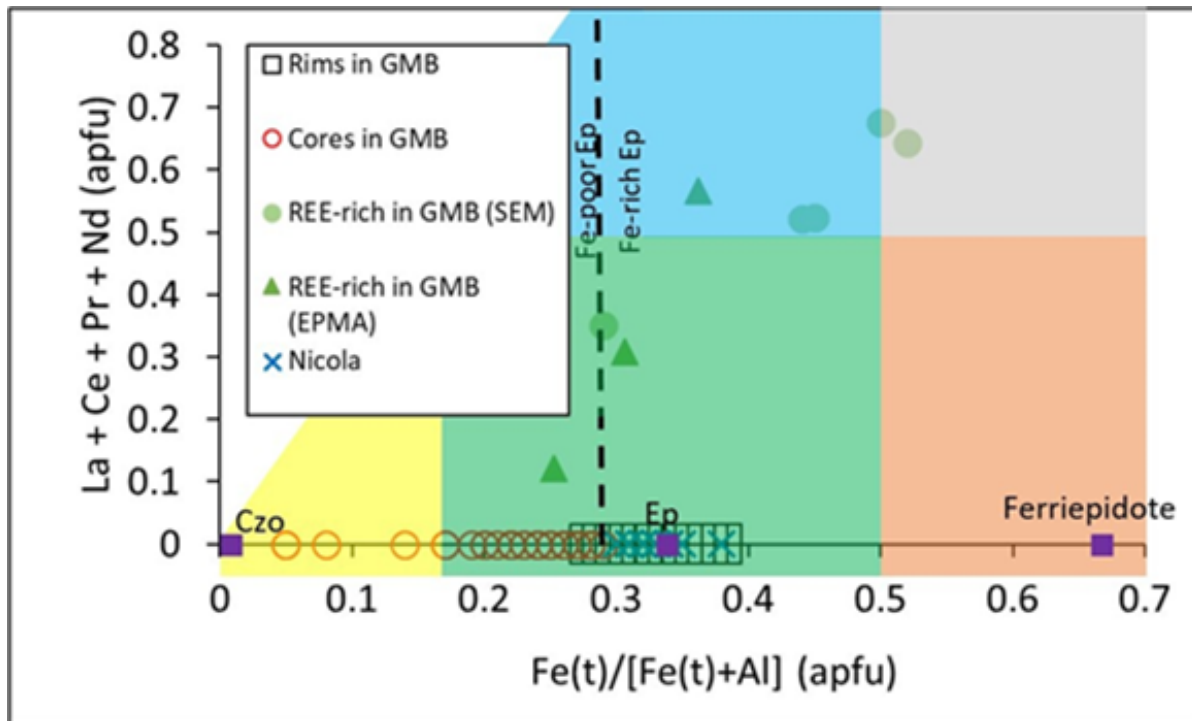


Figure 3.11. Composition of epidote in the GMB and the Nicola volcanic rocks based on SEM and EPMA data. Atom per formula unit calculated based on 12.5 O. End member compositions of clinozoisite (Czo, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_3(\text{SiO}_4)(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)(\text{O})(\text{OH})$), epidote (Ep, $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Fe}^{(\text{III})}(\text{SiO}_4)(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)(\text{O})(\text{OH})$) and ferriepidote ($\text{Ca}_2\text{AlFe}_2^{(\text{III})}(\text{SiO}_4)(\text{Si}_2\text{O}_7)(\text{O})(\text{OH})$) are shown as purple squares. Ranges for clinozoisite (yellow field), epidote (green field), ferriepidote (orange field), allanite (blue field) and ferriallanite (grey field) following the nomenclature and classification of Armbruster et al. (2006). This paper classifies epidote as Fe-rich or Fe-poor with a boundary at 0.29 $\text{Fe}(\text{t})/[\text{Fe}(\text{t})+\text{Al}]$ shown by the dashed black line. Fe-poor epidote

includes clinozoisite. Epidote in Nicola volcanic rocks are all Fe-rich, $>0.29 \text{ Fe(t)}/[\text{Fe(t)} + \text{Al}]$ ratios. REE-rich epidote and allanite contain Fe^{2+} and have ratios of $\text{Fe(t)}/[\text{Fe(t)} + \text{Al}] > 0.24$.

3.7 Summary

Epidote in the GMB shows a variety of textures, occurrences, compositions and forms: pseudomorphic replacement of plagioclase, dissemination in plagioclase, aggregates, isolated grains, veins and veinlets. Epidote grains in the GMB contain no mineral inclusions. Almost all grains show compositional zoning with Fe-rich rims and Al-rich cores except for grains enclosed by sulphides, REE-rich epidote and allanite. Grains enclosed by sulphides are all Fe-poor and REE-rich epidote and allanite are mostly Fe-rich.

REE-bearing epidote (0.01-1 wt.% REE oxides) occur as pseudomorphic replacement of plagioclase, dissemination replacing plagioclase, aggregates, isolated grains, veins and veinlets and is found in all phases of the batholith. It shows the same compositional zoning as epidote in the GMB and contains no mineral inclusions.

REE-rich epidote (1-15 wt.% REE oxides) and allanite are found in REE-rich (>70 ppm) rocks in the GMB, dominantly in less than 2 km from the mineralization and in the Burgess Creek Stock. REE-rich epidote also occurs in the Burgess Creek Stock, the oldest unit of the batholith. REE-rich epidote occurs only in REE-rich rocks suggesting that host rocks were originally rich in REE or hydrothermal enrichment in REEs.

Strike and dip measurements on a limited number ($n=36$) of epidote veins in the GMB indicate a general pattern of veins striking towards mineralization (Fig. 3.3 A). Epidote vein orientation could be a vectoring tool in mineral exploration.

The Al-Fe zoning found in most epidote grains from the GMB is not observed in epidote from the unmineralized Nicola volcanic rocks. Epidote grains in the Nicola volcanic rocks are Fe-rich and have similar compositions independent of the locations. They commonly contain inclusions of apatite and titanite. Their REE content is below detection limits of 470 ppm for La, 380 ppm for Ce, 640 ppm for Pr and 330 ppm for Nd.

Epidote could be a useful indicator mineral for porphyry Cu mineralization. Compositional zoning or REE enrichment may be used to trace towards the mineralization. Another use of epidote in exploration is mapping of vein orientations and frequency in outcrops. If epidote veins show similar signatures (consisting of zoned grains as described above), they could be used to vector towards mineralization if the strike and dip pattern discussed in this report is proven to be correct.

Acknowledgements

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3.8 Addendum: Geological Map of the GMB, and the Origin and Composition of Epidote in the GMB

This addendum describes the composition of Fe-rich and Fe-poor epidote, and discusses the origins of epidote in the GMB and Nicola volcanoclastic rocks.

Table 3.4: Number of analysis on epidote for this report.

	Number of analysis with SEM-EDS*	Number of analysis with EPMA *
Epidote Cores from GMB	50	8
Epidote rims from the GMB	50	17
Epidote from Nicola rocks	17	0
REE-bearing epidote	5	3
Epidote in contact with sulphides	11	0

*Details for each analysis in Appendix 1, Table A1-2 to A1-9

3.8.1 Geological map of the GMB.

Following the previous workers, this chapter uses names of phases in the GMB; Border phase, Mine phase, Granite Mountain phase and Burgess Creek stock (Fig. 3.1). However, since different phases and their boundaries are not well defined subsequent chapters use a simplified classification: mineralized and unmineralized tonalites in Chapters 4 and 5.

3.8.2. Definition of Fe-poor and Fe-rich epidote.

This report uses the terms Fe-rich and Fe-poor epidote. The boundary between Fe-rich and Fe-poor epidote is within the composition of epidote (*sensu-stricto*). Fe-poor epidote contains Al, greater than 2.2 Al apfu (Fig. 3.4). The clinozoisite is defined as those with more than 2.5 Al apfu, the boundary for Fe-poor and Fe-rich was selected to separate the Fe-rich rims and Fe-poor cores of epidote found in the GMB. This threshold is equivalent to 0.29 Fe(t)/[Fe(t) + Al] ratios (apfu), or 14.8 wt.% Fe₂O₃(t).

3.8.3 Origin of epidote

Epidote is commonly associated with hydrothermal activity as an important component of propylitic alteration associated with cooling intrusions at shallow crustal levels (Zaluski et al., 1994; Sheets et al., 1996; Dilles et al., 2000; Proffett, 2003). Though the occurrences are rare, magmatic epidote has been documented in tonalitic rocks (Schmidt and Poli, 2004 and references therein) and thus the possible occurrence of magmatic epidote is considered.

Bysouth et al. (1995) and Ash et al. (1999) interpret the entire GMB to have undergone greenschist facies metamorphism. Thus, the possibility of metamorphic epidote is also considered.

Possible origin as magmatic epidote. Epidote can be a minor accessory mineral in tonalitic rocks (Schmidt and Poli, 2004). Texturally, magmatic epidote tend to be euhedral to subhedral in shape with sharp and clear grain boundaries with hexagonal or prismatic shapes. Magmatic epidote usually shows an ophitic texture and is associated with primary igneous minerals such as hornblende and biotite. Magmatic epidote tends to have high TiO₂ content (>0.2 wt. %). Magmatic epidote typically shows oscillatory zoning with REE-rich cores. Magmatic epidote composition is typically 0.3 to 0.7 Fe³⁺/(Fe³⁺ +Al) (Schmidt and Poli, 2004). Magmatic epidote crystallizes above certain pressure (0.3 to 0.7 GPa) (Schmidt and Poli, 2004). These criteria exclude the possibility of GMB epidote being magmatic. Only 2 of 158 analysis by SEM-EDS and EPMA show TiO₂ > 0.2 wt.% (GBR-4 and GBR-11 respectively, Appendix 1, Tables A1-8 and A1-7). Epidote in the GMB is associated only with alteration minerals such as chlorite and white mica and is not observed to be associated with primary hornblende and biotite. Furthermore, approximately half the epidote shows Fe³⁺/(Fe³⁺ +Al) below 0.3, these epidotes (78 of 158) are mostly the Fe-poor cores of the zoned epidote of the GMB. Additionally, although we do see zoning, the Fe-poor cores of these epidotes do not contain detectable REEs. We have pressure and depth estimates using amphibole compositions (see Chapter 5, section 5.5.8) of 0.0045 GPa, equivalent to 1.5 km depth. This suggests that unless epidote crystallized much earlier than amphibole, it is unlikely that epidote in GMB is magmatic. Combining all the evidence listed above, epidote observed in GMB is unlikely of a magmatic origin.

Possible origin as metamorphic epidote. The criteria for metamorphic epidote are vague. Fe-Al compositional zoning is common and metamorphic epidote shows a compositional array ranging from 0 to 1 Fe³⁺/(Fe³⁺ +Al). Thus it cannot serve to rule out any of the epidote from the GMB. However, allanite-rich cores and REE-bearing epidotes are not metamorphic (Dawes and Evans, 1991). This rules out metamorphic origins for REE-epidote from this study. Many low-grade metamorphic rocks show Fe content in epidote decreasing with increasing metamorphic grade. For example, for the temperature range of 325 to 405°C metamorphic epidote compositions become more aluminous with increasing temperature (Apted

and Liou, 1983). This suggests that if the zoned epidote in the GMB is metamorphic, it would have to have grown during retrograde metamorphism. We cannot rule out a metamorphic origin for epidote of the GMB.

Hydrothermal epidote. If epidote in the GMB is indeed of hydrothermal origin there are several factors that affected epidote composition. The composition of epidote depends directly on the ratio of the activities of Fe^{3+} and Al^{3+} in hydrothermal fluids (Arnason et al., 1993). Small shifts in fluid composition during isothermal growth of epidote can produce compositional zoning patterns defined by Fe^{3+} and Al^{3+} substitution in the M sites of the epidote crystal structure (Arnason et al., 1993). However, host rock composition, temperature, oxygen fugacity and pH can also contribute to epidote composition. Epidote formed from a host rock with higher $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ratios are significantly higher in Fe_2O_3 (Arnason et al., 1993). As discussed in Chapter 4, activities of Al^{3+} and Fe^{3+} can affect hydrothermal epidote composition. Aqueous complexation of Al^{3+} and Fe^{3+} with OH^- , Cl^- , HS^- , SO_4^{2-} and CO_3^{2-} and the concentrations of these ligands depend on pH, sulfur fugacity, oxygen fugacity and carbon dioxide fugacity (Arnason et al., 1993). Changes in fluid composition leading to changes in epidote composition can be independent of temperature and pressure variables (Arnason et al., 1993). Higher $f\text{O}_2$ results in higher $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{total Fe}$ and thus form more Fe rich epidote (Holdaway, 1972; Liou, 1973). Since Al^{3+} and Fe^{3+} occur predominantly as hydroxide complexes, small changes in pH can cause large variations in the Fe^{3+} - Al^{3+} substitutions in epidote, with increasing pH leading to lower activity of Fe^{3+} in fluids, leading to more Fe-poor epidote. If all epidote in the GMB is hydrothermal the zoning pattern (Fe-poor cores with Fe-rich rims) can be explained by depletion of Fe via the precipitation of sulfides in a S-rich hydrothermal fluid. An increase in $f\text{O}_2$, or a decrease of pH in fluids can also form this zoning. The effect of host rock composition is likely not a large factor as most rocks of the GMB are tonalites with only minor variations in the abundances of Al and total Fe.

Since the GMB has been shown to be a composite batholith (see chapter 5, section 5.5.1), hydrothermal

origins for epidote even in distal rocks from mineralization is plausible. The zoning pattern can be produced by sulfide deposition in the mineralized intrusions, but there is little sulphides far from the mineralization. Therefore the distal (>5km from mineralized intrusions) zoned epidote is not likely related to sulphides and can perhaps be explained by the factors discussed above.

Origin of Allanite. Allanite has been reported as an igneous, metamorphic and hydrothermal product. In calc-alkaline granites igneous allanite commonly occurs as the REE-rich cores of magmatic epidote and typically displays zoning with REE-rich cores and REE-poor rims (Gieré, and Sorensen, 2004). We do not observe magmatic epidote in the GMB, thus magmatic allanite is unlikely.

Metamorphic allanite has been reported in pelitic and mafic rocks as well as in granitic gneisses and in carbonate rocks in metamorphic settings (Gieré, and Sorensen, 2004 and references therein). None of these settings applies the GMB, thus we rule out metamorphic origins for allanite.

Hydrothermal allanite crystallizes from either REE-rich hydrothermal fluids or the mobilization of REEs from other minerals. Jagged, irregular grain boundaries and patchy zoning are reported in hydrothermal allanite (Gieré, and Sorensen, 2004). Allanite in the GMB in BSE imagery shows these characteristics (Fig. 3.7). Allanite is only associated with other alteration minerals such as secondary quartz, epidote and chlorite. Additionally, allanite is only located proximal to mineralized intrusions. This combined evidence supports the hydrothermal origins of allanite in the GMB.

Origin of epidote in the Nicola volcanoclastics. The Nicola group rocks in our study area are described as sandstone and gritty pebbly sandstone with local intercalated conglomerate, mafic and felsic volcanic breccia, siltstone, limestone and basalt (Schiarizza, 2015). We only examined Nicola group rocks near the GMB and they are green mafic volcanoclastics rocks, rich in chlorite and epidote. We discount the possibility of magmatic epidote since magmatic epidote has not been observed in the types of rocks mentioned above. This leaves the possibility of epidote with metamorphic or hydrothermal origin, and since the Nicola rocks have been

documented to be intruded by the GMB, and having undergone greenschist metamorphism. We have documented a marked increase in epidote modality (>40 vol.%) proximal (<500m) to the contact with the GMB compared to rocks distal (>500m) from the GMB where epidote is less than 30 vol%. This observation has three possible interpretations. The heat from the intrusion of the GMB increased contact metamorphism locally generating more epidote. The fluids released from a cooling intrusive of the GMB interacted with the host rock to generate epidote, or a combination of the two processes. The lack of zoning in the Nicola volcanics is explained by high Fe (11-13 wt.% FeO total) and low Al (7-10 wt.%) compared to tonalitic rocks of the GMB (< 6 wt.% FeO and >13 wt.% Al₂O₃). The other possibility is that the heat from the intrusion of the GMB generated epidote through contact metamorphism. Since we only have 12 samples of the Nicola volcanics and 3 thin sections, further discussion to the origin of epidote in the Nicola rocks is impossible. We can only say that the intrusion of the GMB influenced epidote in the Nicola rocks by metamorphism, hydrothermalism or both.

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CHAPTER 4.

**Protracted magmatism and mineralized
hydrothermal activity in the Quesnelia island arc
for the Gibraltar porphyry Copper-molybdenum
deposit, British Columbia.**

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Abstract

The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit with the total tonnage of 3.2 Mt Cu in the Canadian Cordillera is hosted by the Late Triassic Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB). The batholith formed through multiple tonalitic intrusions in a period of ~ 25 m.y beginning at 229.2 ± 4.4 Ma in the Quesnel island arc. After the batholith was essentially established, fertile intrusions intruded in the centre of the batholith during at least three events over a period from 218.9 ± 3.1 Ma to 205.8 ± 2.1 Ma. These intrusions produced potassic alteration and white mica alteration and resulted in chalcopyrite-quartz veinlets and disseminated chalcopyrite. Zircon in the oldest mineralized intrusion (218.9 ± 3.1 Ma) shows high Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (680 ± 414 , $[2\sigma]$, $n=15$) compared to those (123 ± 56 , $[2\sigma]$, $n=118$) from older unmineralized intrusions. Oxidation conditions for parental magmas of intrusions were calculated based on the compositions of zircon and amphibole. The two methods yielded similar results. Mineralized intrusions are oxidized (average $\Delta FMQ = +1.7 \pm 1.8$, $[2\sigma]$, $n = 73$), whereas those for older unmineralized intrusions, have a slightly lower fO_2 (average $\Delta FMQ = +1.3 \pm 1.4$, $[2\sigma]$, $n = 108$), although the values are overlapping for the two. The bulk rocks of mineralized intrusions show low Sr/Y ratios (< 22) compared to those associated with many other porphyry Cu deposits in the world. The data suggest that igneous rocks elsewhere with low Sr/Y may have potentials to host economic Cu deposits.

Ratios of Ce/Nd and Ce/Ce^* ($=Ce/[Nd*Sm]^{1/2}$) in zircon are positively correlated with the Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} in zircon from the GMB. Since the former two ratios can be obtained solely from zircon composition, the values for detrital zircon are useful in evaluating the occurrences of oxidized intrusions in regional mineral exploration.

4.1. Introduction

Porphyry-type metal deposits commonly occur in close spatial association with large batholith-size intrusions. Examples include the Yerington porphyry-Cu deposit in the Yerington batholith, Nevada, USA (Dilles, 1987), the Highland Valley Cu deposit within the Guichon Creek batholith, British Columbia, Canada (D'Angelo et al., 2017; Whalen et al., 2017), and the Endako porphyry Mo deposit in the Endako batholith, British Columbia, Canada (Villeneuve et

al., 2001; Whalen et al., 2001). In other deposits, the occurrences of large batholiths are predicted below porphyry deposits based on plugs and stocks with similar compositions. Examples include the Bajo de la Alumbrera deposit, Argentina (Proffett, 2003), and the Endeavour deposits (Endeavour 22, 26, 27 and 48 deposits) in Australia (combined, 0.7 Mt Cu; Heithersay and Walshe, 1995; Lickfold et al., 2003). The northwestern section of the Bingham Canyon deposit, USA, may also overlie a large magma chamber that fed porphyritic dykes (Redmond and Einaudi, 2010). On the other hand, some batholiths spatially associated with porphyry Cu deposits appear to have no genetic relationship with the mineralization. For example, large intrusive bodies in the Escondida porphyry districts (144 MtCu) in Chile are barren and predate the mineralization (Hervé et al., 2012).

The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit, located in south central British Columbia, Canada, provides a site to evaluate the relationship between the mineralization and the tonalitic Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB). Following our petrographic and mineralogical study of the GMB (Kobylinski et al., 2016, 2017), this paper presents U-Pb ages and trace-element abundances of zircon grains from the representative rocks of the GMB and evaluate the relationship between the batholith and the mineralization. The paper also discusses the applicability of fertility indicator of igneous rocks, proposed by previous workers.

4.2 Geology of the study area

4.2.1 Regional geology

The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit is hosted by the GMB, which intruded the Nicola Group mafic volcanoclastic rocks of the Quesnel terrane, close to the boundary with the Cache Creek terrane (Fig. 4.1; Schiarizza, 2015). The Quesnel terrane is an allochthon formed as an oceanic arc and accreted to the North American continent during the middle Jurassic (180 - 150 Ma) (Ghosh, 1995, and references therein). The Cache Creek terrane is comprised of Paleozoic to early Mesozoic carbonate rocks which are also an allochthon, accreted to the North American continent during the Mesozoic (Johnston and Borel, 2007). The Quesnel terrane of over 1,250 km in length is an important metallogenic province, containing over 19 past- and present-

producing porphyry Cu±Mo±Au deposits in Mesozoic granitic intrusions (Fig. 4.1), including the Gibraltar and Highland Valley mines.

4.2.2. Geology of the Granite Mountain Batholith

The GMB has a surface exposure of ~150 km², ~10 km east-west and ~15 km north south. It consists of mostly tonalite with minor quartz diorite (Fig. 4.2). The rocks in the batholith are all holocrystalline with no porphyritic plugs and dikes. The GMB is in fault contact with carbonate rocks of the Cache Creek terrane in the southeast, and in intrusive contact with the Nicola group volcanoclastic rocks to the east and northeast. The western part of the batholith is covered by Cenozoic flood basalts of the Chilcotin group (Fig. 4.2).

Primary igneous minerals of GMB are plagioclase, quartz, biotite, hornblende, titanite, magnetite, zircon and apatite in order of abundance (Appendix 2, Table A2-1). The modality of these minerals varies within the batholith. Among these minerals, primary hornblende and biotite proximal (<4 km) to mine pits are recognized only by relict textures in thin sections as they are altered to secondary biotite ± chlorite and chlorite ± titanite and rutile respectively. Unaltered hornblende and biotite are observed only in unmineralized tonalites distal (> 5 km) from the mine pits. Primary titanite and magnetite are common in all rocks of the GMB. Titanite forms large euhedral crystals (up to 1 mm long and 0.3 mm wide). Primary magnetite occurs as small euhedral cubes (up to 200µm wide) in trace quantities in all samples.

Previous studies divided the GMB into four phases based on texture, lithology and degrees of alteration. They include the Border phase (quartz diorite), Mine phase (tonalite), Granite Mountain phase (leucocratic tonalite), and the Burgess Creek stock (leucocratic tonalite) in the northeastern part of the GMB (Bysouth et al., 1995; Schiarizza, 2015). As noted by previous researchers, the distribution of phases is poorly defined because intrusive contacts are not exposed. Furthermore, no distinctive features characterize each phase due to large variations in the grain size and modality of minerals and textures within one phase. Therefore, this study simply divides the rocks of the GMB into mineralized and unmineralized intrusions (Fig. 4.2). The mineralized intrusions are those containing visible chalcopyrite. Unmineralized intrusions contain less than 110 ppm Cu.

The regional geology, lithology of GMB and the mineralization are described in Sutherland Brown (1976), Drummond et al. (1976), Panteleyev (1978), Bysouth et al. (1995), Ash et al. (1999a, b), Ash and Riveros (2001), van Straaten et al. (2013), and Schiarizza (2014, 2015).

4.2.3. Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit

The Cu mineralization at Gibraltar occurs primarily as disseminated chalcopyrite and as chalcopyrite in quartz veins and veinlets in foliated tonalite in the central part of the GMB (Fig. 4.2). The contents of Cu show several mineralized areas in the central part of the GMB (Fig. 4.2). The largest ones are around the Pollyanna, Gibraltar East and Granite Lake pits (Fig. 4.2). Among these three pits, the mineralization in the Granite Lake pit is the largest at 0.72 Mt Cu of geological reserves (past production since 2004 and reserves), which is followed by 0.51 Mt Cu from the Polyanna pit and 0.26 Mt Cu from the Gibraltar East pit (compiled from annual data at www.sedar.com). There are several other isolated mineralized areas; 100m east and 200m north east of the Granite Lake pit, ~500m east and 500m north east of the Granite Lake pit, and 200m north west of the Gibraltar East pit (Fig. 4.2). The mineralization is vertically continuous forming chimney-like distribution of high Cu rocks (Fig. 4.3). Such “chimneys” at the Granite Lake pit and Pollyanna are over 500 m to 1000 m in height from the current surface. (Fig. 4.3). The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo mine is operated by Taseko Mines Ltd. Its mining began in 1972 and it was temporarily closed between 1999 and 2004 and reopened in 2004. From 1972 to 2018, 1.5 Mt Cu were extracted from the Gibraltar deposit. The estimated reserves in 2019 of the mine are 1.7 Mt Cu which makes the total tonnage (past production plus reserves) 3.2 Mt Cu (data compiled from MINEFILE No-093B-012, Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resource of British Columbia).

Molybdenite is not abundant and occurs as dissemination and in quartz veins. Molybdenite samples from quartz veins in the Granite Lake pit gave Re-Os ages of 212.7 ± 0.9 Ma and 215 ± 1 Ma and one disseminated sample from the Gibraltar East pit yielded 210.0 ± 0.9 Ma (Harding, 2012).

4.2.4. Hydrothermal alteration in Granite Mountain Batholith

Hydrothermal alteration is pervasive close to the mine pits, although the original igneous textures are well preserved. Alteration minerals include quartz, secondary K-feldspar, secondary biotite after hornblende, rutile and titanite in chloritized biotite, epidote after plagioclase and hornblende, and chlorite replacing biotite and hornblende. The potassic alteration, forming secondary K-feldspar and secondary biotite, is only recognized proximal (<1.1 km) to and within mine pits. Secondary K-feldspar forms veinlets (several mm in width) close to the mine pits and replaces plagioclase. These K-feldspar grains are commonly replaced by a mixture of white mica and minor epidote. The secondary biotite is recognized as aggregates of fine-grained biotite replacing hornblende crystals (Fig. 4.4 A). The secondary biotite is extensively overprinted by chlorite and the potassic alteration is identified only in thin sections (Fig. 4.4 A).

White mica is ubiquitous and prominent in hand specimens up to 2.5 km from the mine pits. Its abundance decreases with increasing distance from the open pits (Fig. 4.5 A). Aggregates of white mica replace plagioclase crystals (Figs. 4.4 C, D) and form mono-mineralic veinlets, up to 1 cm in width (Fig. 4.4 C). Abundant white mica with quartz is one of the characteristic features associated with the Cu mineralization.

Pyrite in unmineralized rocks is absent or rare whereas pyrite in mineralized samples is common but minor in volume. Pyrite occurs as disseminated small (up to several mm) cubes and small (20 μm) inclusions in epidote. Rare pyrite cubes are found in quartz veins.

Secondary magnetite is present in mineralized tonalite and occurs within quartz veins along with epidote, chalcopyrite, white mica and chlorite. It is distinct from primary magnetite by its anhedral form, and occurrence with alteration minerals.

Epidote is common in the GMB, but its abundance generally increases with increasing distance from mine pit (Fig. 4.5 B). It replaces plagioclase (Fig. 4.4 B), and forms aggregates and veins/veinlets with or without quartz. The occurrence of epidote gives a lime-green color to the white tonalitic rocks and is observed even 10 km from the mine pits in the margins of the batholith (Kobylnski et al., 2016).

Chlorite is common throughout the GMB. In mineralized intrusions, it commonly replaces mafic minerals, such as primary and secondary biotite and hornblende. It is also common rimming these mafic minerals in unmineralized intrusions. Titanite and rutile also occur in the alteration of biotite, forming small aggregates with chlorite. Since primary biotite contains significant Ti, chloritization of primary biotite releases Ti to form titanite (~50 μm in length, ~25 μm in width) and rutile needles (~25 μm in length, ~10 μm in width) (Kobylinski et al., 2016).

Hydrothermal quartz forms veins and veinlets with chalcopyrite \pm chlorite \pm magnetite and \pm epidote in mineralized intrusions. Mono-mineralic quartz veins are rare but occur in mineralized samples. Quartz veins are commonly surrounded by haloes of white mica.

Potassic and white mica alteration show overlapping distribution, proximal, < 1.1 km for potassic, <2.5 km for white mica, to the pits (Fig. 4.5). Furthermore, these rocks commonly contain chalcopyrite, suggesting the two alteration types are associated with mineralizing hydrothermal activity.

4.3. Samples and analytical methods

4.3.1. Sampling

A total of 101 samples were collected for the study of the GMB. After careful petrographic examinations of samples (Kobylinski et al., 2016, 2017), 16 tonalite samples were selected for trace-element study of zircon, and 10 of these samples were dated by the U-Pb zircon method, to represent different lithologies, locations, degrees of alteration and presence of Cu mineralization (Table 4.1). The sample locations are shown in Fig. 4.2. Their mineralogy, textures and location coordinates are presented in Appendix 2, Tables A2-1.

4.3.2. Analytical methods for bulk-rock compositions

Rock samples were washed with de-ionized water, and weathered sections were removed. Veins of quartz, sulfide minerals and epidote are removed before pulverization. Selected samples were stained using sodium cobaltinitrite to examine the distribution of K-feldspar. For bulk-rock analysis, pulverized samples were fused with lithium metaborate and lithium tetraborate. The

fused glass was dissolved in 5% nitric acid to determine the abundance of major, minor and trace elements using a Perkin Elmer Sciex 9000 ICP/MS at Actlabs (analytical code 4LITHOS) in Ancaster, Ontario, Canada. Precision of the analysis was determined by comparing unmarked duplicate samples. Accuracy was calculated by comparing measured values to certified values of international standards NIST 694, DNC-1, GBW 07113, LKSD-3, TDB-1, W-2a, SY-4, CTA-AC-1, BIR-1a, NCS DC86312, NCS DC70009, OREAS 100a, OREAS 101a, OREAS 101b, and JR-1. Most elements show accuracy better than 95%. Loss on ignition (LOI) was measured at the University of Ottawa using 1-5 grams of pulverized samples after heating the samples at 1050°C for 2 hours. The bulk rock compositions of samples, and the accuracy and precision of the analysis are listed in Appendix 2, Table A2-2.

4.3.3. Analytical methods for zircon

Zircon grains ranging in size from 80 to 350 μm were concentrated by magnetic and density separation, the latter with di-iodomethane (3.3 g/cm^3). Clear grains were handpicked under a binocular microscope, mounted in an epoxy resin and polished to expose the centers of grains. Zircons in epoxy resin were examined using a transmitted light microscope to identify mineral inclusions and fractures. Back scattered electron (BSE) and cathodoluminescence (CL) images were collected for individual grains using a JEOL 6610LV scanning electron microscope equipped with CL detector at the University of Ottawa. Since sector-zoned zircon is known to show highly heterogeneous distribution of elements (Griffin et al., 2002; Corfu et al., 2003), only grains without sector zoning were selected for trace-element analysis (Fig. 4.6; Tables 4.3 and 4.4).

4.3.3.1. Laser ablation ICP-MS analysis. Trace element analysis and U-Pb dating used a Photon Machines Analyte Excite 193 nm excimer laser attached to an Agilent 7700x ICP-MS (LA-ICP-MS) at the University of Ottawa. Detailed operating conditions are described in Appendix 2, Table A2-5. Counts of ^{140}Ce , ^{31}P , ^{42}Ca , ^{56}Fe , and ^{88}Sr were monitored during the analysis and high counts of any of P, Ca, Fe and Sr were discarded as they represent inclusions of calcite, phosphate minerals or Fe-oxides. Raw counts of elements were reduced using the GLITTER! software (Griffin et al., 2008).

4.3.3.2. *Trace element analysis.* The composition of 191 zircon grains was determined. The concentration of trace elements are obtained using the count ratios of the elements to Si in NIST 612G (Jochum et al., 2011) and sample zircon assuming the stoichiometric concentration of 152852 ppm Si in zircon. Accuracy and precision of the analytical data was verified using the following internal standards: 91500 zircon (Wiedenbeck et al., 1995), BCR-2G glass (Jochum et al., 2011), GSEG1 synthetic basalt glass (Jochum et al., 2011). Plešovice zircon (Sláma et al., 2008) was used as an external standard. These reference materials were ablated for every five unknown zircon grains. For the concentration of Ti, a factor of 1.16 was applied to the values to account for the matrix effect, as suggested by Page et al. (2007) and Fu et al. (2008). Analytical results with a larger than 10% error between obtained values and preferred 91500 values of any elements were discarded.

4.3.3.3. *U-Pb geochronology.* During analysis, raw counts for U-Pb dating were reduced using the UPb.age script in the R software environment (Solari and Tanner, 2011). The script removes outliers ($\pm 2\sigma$), data containing mineral inclusions, corrects for instrumental drift and downhole isotope fractionation using the accepted values of 91500 zircon (Wiedenbeck et al., 1995). Ages were calculated using $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ratios for zircons using Isoplot v.4.14 (Ludwig, 2012) and 137.818 as the present-day ratio of $^{238}\text{U}/^{235}\text{U}$ (Hiess et al., 2012). Data are plotted on a Concordia diagram with 2σ propagated systematic errors (Appendix 2, Concordia diagrams). Plešovice zircon was used as an external standard for validation of calculated ages and to calculate excess variance. Systematic uncertainty due to the ratio uncertainty of reference material [S_y , 2σ], excess variance of validation material(s) [ϵ' , 2σ] and an error of decay constant [λ] was propagated to uncertainty (S_x) of the age population. A systematic error of 6.8% for $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$ and 3.4% for $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ was identified for this study. Analytical results were discarded when there were outliers using a weight average test. Since the counts of ^{204}Pb were low, possible contribution of common Pb was not corrected.

Error propagation and validation of the data based on reference material are described in detail in Appendix 2, Table A2-4. Acquisition parameters for U-Pb and trace element data are listed in Appendix 2, Table A2-5.

4.3.4 Analytical methods for amphibole

Igneous amphibole grains were examined with a SEM to select compositionally homogeneous, unaltered grains for the quantitative analysis for the major and minor elemental abundances using a JEOL 8230 electron probe micro-analyzer (EPMA) at the University of Ottawa. The operating conditions are an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, a beam current of 20 nA using a focused beam of 5µm. Counting times were 20 s on-peak and 20 s off-peak for all elements except for F (40 s on and 40 s off), Cl (40 s on and 40 s off). Amphibole composition, reference material for quantification, accuracy, detection limits and precision of the analysis are listed in Appendix 2, Table A2-6. Amphibole analysis was conducted on the unmineralized tonalite sample GBR2-34, the nearest sample analyzed using zircon is GBR2-30 a unmineralized tonalite 200m west of GBR2-34 (Fig. 4.2).

4.4. Results

4.4.1. Bulk rock compositions

The samples used for this study are tonalitic with SiO₂ ranging from 63 to 72 wt.%. Low MgO wt.% values of unmineralized intrusions are reflected by leucocratic nature of rocks with high SiO₂, >65.5 wt.%, and low Sc, <11 ppm, whereas high MgO wt.% of mineralized intrusions are consistent with low SiO₂, <67.7 wt.% and high Sc, > 9 ppm (Fig. 4.7, Appendix 2, Table A2-2). All samples show a gently negative slope of the normalized rare earth element (REE) pattern; light REEs (La to Gd) ranging from 55 to 196 times chondrite values and heavy REEs (Tb to Lu) from 46 to 150 times chondrite values (Fig. 4.8; Appendix 2, Table A2-2). The ratios of normalized values of La/Lu, La_N/Lu_N, for all samples vary from 1.8 to 14. Unmineralized intrusions show a steeper slope (average La_N/Lu_N = 8.4) than those of mineralized intrusions (average La_N/Lu_N = 2.8; Fig. 4.8; Appendix 2, Table A2-2). This is consistent with a more evolved nature of unmineralized intrusions with lower Mg#, higher SiO₂ than mineralized intrusions. Bulk-rock Eu anomalies, Eu/Eu* (=Eu_N/(Sm_N*Gd_N)^{1/2}), range from 0.57 to 1.2. The higher values of Eu/Eu* (>0.95) are associated with unmineralized intrusions, whereas lower Eu/Eu* values (0.57-0.73) characterize the mineralized intrusions (Table 4.2).

Bulk rock Sr/Y ratios of unmineralized intrusions show a wide range from 6 to 46, whereas the values of mineralized intrusions range from 9 to 22 (Figs. 4.9, 5.11; Table 4.2). Strontium is a fluid mobile element, but the ratios of Sr/Y likely reflect the primary values, Sr contents are not correlated with the enrichment of K (correlation coefficient of 0.39). Neither Sr/Y nor 1/Sr values correlate with the degrees of alteration, as represented by LOI (1.1-3.34 wt. %) with correlation coefficients of 0.29 and 0.06, respectively.

4.4.2. Zircon composition

Zircon grains have prismatic faces with length to width ratios ranging from 1 to 3 (Fig. 4.6). Zircon grains commonly contain apatite inclusions (5–30 μm in length; Fig. 4.6 B) and these areas are avoided during LA-ICP-MS analysis. Zircon grains (n=191) show sharp oscillatory zoning in CL images (Fig. 4.6), with Th/U ratios ranging from 0.18 to 1.44 and Th concentrations of 4.9 to 90.5 ppm (Appendix 2, Table A2-3). The majority of zircon grains (182 grains out of 191) show Th/U ratios greater than 0.2 (Appendix 2, Table A2-3). These high ratios, > 0.2, confirm igneous origin of zircon (Hoskin and Ireland, 2000; Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). Combining the sharp zoning, morphology and Th/U ratios, the majority of the Gibraltar grains are considered to be magmatic zircon. Ten grains (out of 191) have low Th/U ratios, < 0.2, and the origins of these grains were examined whether they have undergone modification by subsolidus processes. Zircon grains that undergo subsolidus alteration are enriched in light rare earth elements (LREE) because LREEs are mobile compared to heavy rare earth elements (HREE) in aqueous fluids (Hoskin et al., 2000; Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). The Nd/Yb ratios of all studied zircons range from 0.0009 to 0.002 (Appendix 2, Table A2-3), independent of Th/U ratios. The Nd/Yb values in our samples are lower than the range of values, 0.003-0.01, for hydrothermal zircon reported by Hoskin et al. (2000). These observations suggest that zircon grains with low Th/U in our samples are magmatic and that the values reflect those of the parental magmas. Only one zircon grain in sample GBR-7 appears to be an exception, with resorbed core surrounded by a patchy oscillatory zoned rim. The rim has a low Th/U values (0.10) and relatively high Nd/Yb ratio (0.027), suggesting that its overgrowth may have occurred under subsolidus conditions. The compositional data of this grain was discarded. CL images of each zircon are found in Appendix 6.

4.4.3. U-Pb zircon ages

U-Pb zircon ages indicate at least four distinct intrusive events in the GMB. The oldest group, 229.2 ± 4.4 Ma ($n=11$), is obtained from unmineralized intrusions ($n=4$) (Table 4.4). These rocks (GBR2-16, GBR2-25, GBR2-30, GBR2-38) are distal (>5 km) from mine pits (Fig. 4.2) and contain unaltered primary biotite and hornblende. They show epidote, chlorite and very minor white mica and pyrite, but no evidence of potassic alteration.

Mineralized intrusions show an age range of at least 7 m.y. and three distinct age groups; 218.9 ± 3.1 Ma ($n=1$), 213.2 ± 2.4 Ma ($n=1$), 205.8 ± 2.1 Ma ($n=4$; Table 4.4). These chalcopyrite-bearing intrusions are all medium to coarse-grained equigranular foliated to isotropic tonalite. They show similar primary and alteration minerals, and texture. There are no discernible differences among intrusions of different ages in the outcrops, hand specimens and in thin sections. They all show white mica and quartz veinlets with minor epidote, chlorite, a mixture of titanite and rutile in altered biotite. Relict primary biotite is also noted in samples.

The oldest among mineralized intrusions is represented by sample GBR 7 (218.9 ± 3.1 Ma), which was collected in the Granite Lake pit and ~ 1 km south of the other two mine pits (Fig. 4.2). This sample shows pervasive white mica alteration with minor epidote. The bulk rock composition shows relatively low Cu content of 350 ppm (Appendix 2, Table A2-2), but the hand specimen contains chalcopyrite-quartz veinlets and these veins were removed before the pulverization for bulk rock analysis. The youngest age of the entire GBR was obtained from mineralized sample GBR-16 (201.9 ± 5.0 Ma), which was collected 500 m northwest of the Gibraltar East pit (Fig. 4.2) (Table 4.4). This sample is a coarse grained equigranular isotropic tonalite that shows abundant white mica with minor epidote. Again, the bulk rock contains low Cu content of 240 ppm because chalcopyrite-bearing quartz veinlets and veins were mostly removed before pulverization of bulk rock analysis.

4.5. Discussion

4.5.1. Timing of intrusion of the Granite Mountain Batholith

U-Pb zircon dating from this study suggests that the GMB formed over ~ 25 m.y. through multiple intrusive events. The oldest group of intrusions in the GMB is represented by

unmineralized rocks (average $229.2 \pm 4.4 [2\sigma]$ Ma; Fig. 4.10; Table 4.4) collected distal, > 5 km, from open pits (Fig. 4.2). These barren rocks are voluminous with large exposure (Fig. 4.2), and older than the mineralized intrusions (Table 4.4).

Previous researchers reported varying U-Pb zircon ages for the GMB. Our U-Pb zircon ages from different sites explain the reason for the wide variation in ages. Shiarizza (2015) reports U-Pb zircon ages from three locations (X_1 , X_2 , X_3 in Fig. 4.2) in the northeastern portion of the GMB, previously called the Burgess Creek Stock, which is barren with very weak white mica alteration (Fig. 4.5). The ages of 222.71 ± 0.21 Ma at the site X_1 and 221.25 ± 0.20 at X_2 are comparable to those of unmineralized intrusions in this study (Table 4.4; Fig. 4.10). The sample at the site X_3 in the central part of the GMB yielded the age 217.15 ± 0.20 Ma, which is contemporaneous with the oldest group of mineralized intrusions (Group A). A U-Pb zircon age of 215 ± 0.8 Ma is also reported by Ash et al. (1999b) for tonalite approximately 1.5 km north east of the Gibraltar mill, which is located adjacent to the Gibraltar East pit (Fig. 4.2). Oliver et al. (2009) reports an even younger U-Pb zircon age of 211.9 ± 4.3 Ma for tonalite less than 200 m from the Polyanna pit (Fig. 4.2). Although the descriptions of these dated rocks by previous researchers are not available, they are most likely intrusions related to the mineralization judging from the sample locations. These ages, 215 and 212 Ma, correspond to the periods for the intrusions of Cu fertile magmas determined in this study (Table 4.4; Fig. 4.10).

4.5.2. Tectonic setting of the Granite Mountain Batholith and mineralization

The Quesnel island arc is considered to be accreted to the North American continent at $\sim 180 - 150$ Ma (Ghosh, 1995). The ages of intrusions of the GMB obtained in this study suggest that batholith formation and the mineralization took place in the Quesnel island arc, before its accretion to the North American continent. The proposed interpretation is consistent with zircon geochemistry. The Th/U ratios of zircon in early unmineralized intrusions are low (0.15 – 0.44, average 0.28; $n=118$), and increase to higher values (0.16- 1.44, average 0.4; $n=73$) for mineralized intrusions (Table 4.3). The ratios of Th/U in zircon generally increase during fractional crystallization of magmas because Th with a larger ionic radius than U is less compatible than U within rock-forming minerals (Kirkland et al., 2015). This means that zircon in unmineralized intrusions should have higher Th/U ratios than those in later mineralized

intrusions because the earlier intrusions contain higher SiO₂ and Sc and lower MgO than the later intrusions (Fig. 4.7). Our data shows the opposite where earlier zircon grains have low Th/U.

The change in Th/U in zircon grains is likely related to the evolution of the Quesnel island arc in which GMB formed. Primitive island arc magmas contain low Th, whereas continental arc magmas show generally high Th/U ratios because crustal rocks contain high Th (Barth et al., 2017 and references therein). Zircon from continental granitic rocks shows generally high ratios of Th/U, greater than 0.4 (e.g., Belousova et al., 2005; Yang et al., 2011). By contrast, zircon from the primitive intra-oceanic island arcs shows low Th/U ratios < 0.5 (Barth et al., 2017). In the Izu-Bonin island arc, Barth et al. (2017) documented an increase in the ratios of Th/U in zircon from 0.5 to 1.4 in the period of 8 m.y. during the increasing maturity of the arc. We suggest that the overall low Th/U ratios of zircon observed in unmineralized intrusions and their increase with time in the GMB are related to the evolution of Quesnel island arc. We suggest that the bulk of the GMB formed in a primitive island arc and the younger Cu fertile magmas formed after the island arc had evolved (Fig. 4.11).

U has multiple oxidation states, 4+ and 6+ in crustal conditions. Conversely Th is almost always 4+. This may lead to a potential fractionation of Th and U since highly oxidized magmas may have more U as U⁶⁺. Zircon incorporates U⁴⁺ in the Zr⁴⁺ site then U⁶⁺ due similar charge. Thus, relatively oxidized magmas of the mineralized intrusions from this study may have a high Th/U in zircon. Based on Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺, the first mineralized magma (GBR-7, 218.9±3.1) is the most oxidized (Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ average of 681±414 [2σ], n=15) and subsequent magmas (213.2±2.4 and 205.8±2.1) are less oxidized (Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ average of 259±107 [2σ], n=14 and 189±96 [2σ], n=43, respectively), while Th/U still increases. This suggests that the effect of oxidation on the state of U in the melt may be a contributing factor when comparing relatively reduced unmineralized intrusions with oxidized mineralized intrusions, but the continual rise of Th/U through time in mineralized intrusions (Fig. 4.11) with diminishing oxidation suggests that arc evolutions plays a more important role in Th/U ratios.

4.5.3. Bulk rock Sr/Y ratios as a magma fertility indicator

High Sr/Y (>35) values of bulk-rock compositions have been suggested to be a fertility indicator of intrusions for porphyry Cu mineralization (Müller and Groves, 2000; Richards, 2011; Loucks, 2014; Fig. 4.12). A recent study by Agnew (2018) of the Bougainville island, host of the Panguna porphyry Cu-Au deposit (6.6 Mt Cu; Singer et al., 2008), appears to support this notion that Cu-fertile intrusions have high Sr/Y ratios, >35 (Fig. 4.12).

High Sr/Y ratios of magmas result from a variety of processes, including partial melting of young or delaminated slabs, and high-water content of magmas (Kay and Kay, 1993; Richards, 2011). Although such adakitic geochemical signatures are observed in many igneous rocks, few occur above young subducting slabs or delaminated slabs (e.g., Kay and Kay, 2002; Chung et al., 2003; Rodriguez et al., 2007; Chiaradia et al., 2012). Therefore, high Sr/Y ratios of igneous rocks associated with porphyry Cu deposits are attributed to a water-rich nature of the magmas (e.g., Richards, 2011; Loucks, 2014). High water contents suppress plagioclase crystallization (Sisson and Grove, 1993) and promotes crystallization of amphibole that incorporates Y, resulting in high Sr/Y values in the residual melt. Water-rich magmas for porphyry Cu mineralization are consistent with the general model for the mineralization involving immiscible separation of aqueous magmatic fluids.

Hornblende is common in intrusions in the GMB, which is consistent with water-rich nature of the parental magmas. However, mineralized rocks of the GMB show low bulk-rock Sr/Y values ranging between 8 and 22 (Fig. 4.9). Although unmineralized intrusions show higher Sr/Y than mineralized intrusions, the values are still low compared to the majority of igneous rocks associated with porphyry-type deposits in Figure 4.9. There are possible explanations for such low Sr/Y ratios in a water-rich magma. The fractional crystallization of plagioclase may have lowered Sr since Sr²⁺ can easily replace Ca²⁺ in plagioclase. This is consistent with low Eu/Eu* in bulk rocks and zircon grains discussed below. Titanite fractionation would also deplete Sr in a residual melt. Another factor that may affect Sr/Y values of bulk rock composition is alteration. Alteration may lead to Sr loss since Sr is a fluid mobile element and plagioclase is one of the most reactive mineral, however Sr values do not correlate with the Ishikawa alteration index ($= 100 \cdot (K_2O + MgO) / (K_2O + MgO + Na_2O + CaO)$), chlorite carbonate pyrite index (=

$100 * (\text{MgO} + \text{FeO}) / (\text{MgO} + \text{FeO} + \text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O})$, Na_2O wt.%, K_2O wt.% or loss on ignition %.

The Ishikawa alteration index defined by the replacement of albite by sericite the replacement of sericite by chlorite. However mineralized rocks (highly altered) do show lower Sr/Y ratios (8 - 22) when compared to relatively unaltered unmineralized rocks of this study (20 – 46) which puts back into question the effect of alteration. Sr/Y ratios in zircon show the same relationship, zircons from mineralized rocks show lower Sr/Y then zircons from unmineralized rocks, suggesting that the low Sr/Y ratios are inherited from magmas and not affected by subsequent alteration (Fig. 4.13).

Thus, our results from GMB samples associated with the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit suggest that high Sr/Y ratios are not a universally applicable indicator of fertility of igneous rocks (Figs. 4.9, 4.12), and that intrusions with low Sr/Y can also be associated with an economic porphyry Cu deposit.

4.5.4. Magma crystallization temperatures

The crystallization temperatures of zircons are calculated using Ti-in-zircon geothermometry of Ferry and Watson (2007). The calculation requires the activities of TiO_2 (αTiO_2) and SiO_2 in the melt. The activity of SiO_2 is 1 because of the abundance of quartz in the rocks. The value of αTiO_2 should be below 1 because there is no magmatic rutile in the samples. However, primary titanite is common throughout the GMB and therefore, we use a value of 0.7 for αTiO_2 , as suggested by Watson et al. (2006) and Fu et al. (2008) for titanite-bearing igneous rocks. Furthermore, experimental work by Hayden and Watson (2007) shows that αTiO_2 in a felsic to intermediate melt is generally > 0.6 at temperatures between 650 and 1200°C. To verify our assumed value of αTiO_2 , the zircon crystallization temperatures are compared to zircon saturation temperatures (described below). Similar temperatures of the two suggest that the value of 0.7 for αTiO_2 is reasonable. The use of 0.8 or 0.6 for αTiO_2 would decrease or increase the calculated temperatures by $\sim 17^\circ\text{C}$ and $\sim 14^\circ\text{C}$, respectively.

The zircon crystallization temperatures are high (average 828°C , $n=73$) for the mineralized intrusions, and lower (average = 800°C , $n=118$) for unmineralized intrusions (Table 4.3). This is consistent with higher MgO wt.% of the mineralized intrusions and more leucocratic nature of unmineralized intrusions (Fig. 4.7).

Zircon saturation temperatures are calculated from bulk-rock compositions based on the equation of Watson and Harrison (1983). Since inherited zircons were not observed in our samples, the content of Zr is considered to represent that of the parental magma and the zircon crystallization temperatures should be similar to the zircon saturation temperatures. Among 191 crystallization temperatures of zircon grains, 143 grains have temperatures within uncertainties of their respective saturation temperatures, whereas 47 grains indicate significant differences, up to 50°C, between the two. The saturation temperatures in these cases are cooler than crystallization temperatures. Among the 47 grains, 40 grains are from mineralized intrusions. The discrepancy is likely due to the alteration of these mineralized rocks, since the calculation of saturation temperatures requires concentrations of K, Na and Ca, all of which are mobile in aqueous fluids. The mineralized intrusions contain abundant white mica due to the enrichment of K during hydrothermal alteration. The mineralized intrusions contain higher K₂O (average 1.38 wt %, n=6), and lower Na₂O (average 3.29 wt %, n=6) than unmineralized intrusions (average 1.28 wt% K₂O and 4.40 wt.% Na₂O, n=10). An increase in K₂O by 0.1 wt.% and decrease in Na₂O by 1 wt.% would result in an overall decrease of 6.7°C in the calculated saturation temperature. Average CaO contents are similar for mineralized and unmineralized intrusions at 3.04 and 3.18 wt.%, respectively, but the compositions of intrusions before hydrothermal alteration are not known. For example, the mineralized intrusions likely had higher Ca before the extensive alteration considering higher Mg# and lower SiO₂ than unmineralized intrusions. Therefore, the Ti-in-zircon geothermometry likely provides the accurate temperature of crystallization.

4.5.5. Oxidation conditions of parental magmas

Oxidation conditions of magmas can be evaluated with a variety of methods, including Fe³⁺/total Fe of bulk rocks, Fe-Ti oxide composition, and the presence of minerals that reflect high *f*O₂, such as anhydrite, titanite and Fe-Ti-oxides (e.g. Hattori, 1993). Evaluating magmatic oxidation conditions using bulk rock compositions is not useful for intrusions associated with porphyry-type mineralization because hydrothermal alteration changes the compositions. The use of Fe-Ti oxides is also not suitable for plutonic rocks due to rapid re-equilibration during cooling (DeHoog et al., 2004).

The intrusions in the GMB contain primary magnetite and titanite plus relict primary hornblende, which indicates that the parental magmas had an fO_2 above FMQ (fayalite-magnetite-quartz buffer) at $\sim 650^\circ\text{C}$ and above FMQ+0.5 (+0.5 logarithmic unit above the FMQ buffer) at $\sim 700^\circ\text{C}$ (Wones, 1989). Coarse-grained titanite is clearly of igneous origin, based on its euhedral crystal habit and low Al (1-2 wt.% Al_2O_3) compared to hydrothermal titanite (2-6 wt.% Al_2O_3 ; Kobylinski et al., 2016). Zircon is a robust mineral that retains its chemical composition at the time of crystallization, generally unaffected by subsolidus processes such as alteration (Cherniak et al., 1997). Therefore, its composition is used to evaluate the oxidation conditions of parental magmas.

4.5.6 Cerium anomalies in zircon.

Cerium is present as Ce^{4+} and Ce^{3+} in a magma. Zircon $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ is a proxy to the oxidation conditions of parental magmas. From the total abundance of Ce, the $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ ratio of zircon is calculated using the bulk-rock and zircon compositions following the method of Ballard et al. (2002).

Zircon grains from the GMB show a large range in $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ (Fig. 4.14). Zircon grains in unmineralized intrusions show low values for $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$. High values of $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+} > 1000$, are found in the oldest mineralized intrusion (Group A). This intrusion (sample GBR-7) is from the Granite Lake pit which has produced consistently high Cu grade (average 0.3 %) and the largest tonnage since 2004 among three open pits (annual production data at www.sedar.com). Zircons from Groups B and C mineralized intrusions show $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ values ranging from 94 to 457 (n=14) and from 83 to 288 (n=44), respectively, where the ranges are lower and upper quartile values. Zircons from Group B are samples from the Pollyanna pit, where the second highest Cu grade (average 0.266 % Cu) and second largest tonnage was mined since 2004. Two of the 4 samples from Group C are from the Gibraltar East Pit and one is less than 500 m from the Gibraltar East pit. The Gibraltar East pit produced Cu ore with an average grade of 0.26% and the lowest tonnage among three pits since 2004 (annual production data at www.sedar.com).

Values of $\text{Ce}^{4+}/\text{Ce}^{3+}$ (86 to 415, n=73) for mineralized intrusions are markedly higher than those (38-170, n=118) for unmineralized intrusions and high values in mineralized

intrusions are spatially associated with high Cu resource. Moreover, average Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} is significantly higher in the mineralized intrusion Groups B and C (260 ± 130 , $[2\sigma]$, $n=14$ and 193 ± 140 , $[2\sigma]$, $n=44$, respectively), than those of the unmineralized intrusion (123 ± 56 , $[2\sigma]$, $n=118$) (Fig. 4.10).

4.5.7. Europium anomalies in zircon

Europium anomalies have the potential to reflect the oxidation state of magmas, given that Eu is present as $2+$ in reduced magmas and $3+$ in oxidized magmas (e.g., Drake, 1975). The GMB zircon grains show Eu anomalies, expressed as Eu/Eu^* ($=Eu_N/(Sm_N * Gd_N)^{1/2}$), varying from 0.27 to 0.31 in quartile values (Fig. 4.14; Fig. 4.15; Table 4.3). These values do not correlate with Ce/Ce^* in zircon (Fig. 4.15; Table 4.3). Thus, our data suggest that Eu anomalies are largely controlled by factors unrelated to the redox conditions of magmas. Our data support the findings of Loader et al. (2017), who suggested that Eu anomalies are primarily controlled by crystallization of plagioclase and other phases, such as titanite and hornblende. For our GMB samples, large negative Eu anomalies are likely related to fractional crystallization of plagioclase prior to zircon saturation which depletes Eu in the melt generating a negative Eu anomaly. Zircon Eu anomalies can also be affected by the prior or concurrent crystallization of titanite, which increase Eu/Eu^* because titanite has a strong affinity for middle and heavy rare earth elements (Glazner et al., 2008; Loader et al., 2017). Low Eu/Eu^* in mineralized tonalite is also reflected in bulk rock, where mineralized rocks show Eu/Eu^* ranging from (0.57-0.73) and unmineralized rocks showing Eu/Eu^* closer to unity (>0.95) (Fig. 4.15). All rock of the GMB contain both abundant plagioclase and trace igneous titanite suggesting both effects are plausible, however low Eu/Eu^* in both bulk rock and zircon suggest that overall the melt was depleted in Eu and that plagioclase fractionation is the dominant effect, especially in mineralized tonalite. The proposed interpretation of plagioclase fractionation is consistent with low Sr/Y values (exceptionally low in mineralized tonalites) (Figs. 4.9 and 4.12) because Sr is easily incorporated into plagioclase. Since, Eu/Eu^* does not correlate with Ce/Ce^* we suggest that Eu/Eu^* is a poor proxy for magmatic oxidation conditions due to confounding factors.

4.5.8. fO_2 values of magmas for the GMB

Several methods have been proposed to quantify fO_2 values of melt from zircon compositions, such as Ce anomalies alone (Trail et al., 2012; Burnham and Berry, 2012). In our study we used the model proposed by Smythe and Brennan (2016a, b), which is based on an empirical relationship observed between fO_2 and four parameters (bulk-rock composition, water content of magma, zircon crystallization temperature and Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} in zircon). The bulk rock composition and water content affect the ratios of non-bridging oxygens to tetrahedrally coordinated oxygen in a magma. Our calculation uses the ratios in hydrated magmas. Temperatures of magmas use the crystallization temperatures of zircon based on Ti-in-zircon geothermometry. Our calculation uses 0.7 as αTiO_2 , but the value has a minor effect on the results. For example, sample GBR2-15 yielded a calculated $FMQ+2\pm 1.3$ with $\alpha TiO_2=0.7$, and $\alpha TiO_2=0.4$ yields $FMQ+1.9\pm 1.2$.

The solubility water in melt is controlled by the melt composition, temperatures and pressures. An experimental study by Carroll and Wyllie (1990) shows that tonalitic magmas crystallizing biotite, hornblende and plagioclase can contain up to ~ 4.5 wt% H_2O at $\sim 825^\circ C$ and ~ 10 wt.% H_2O at $700^\circ C$ and 15 kbar (~ 5 km depth). The result is comparable with the experiment by Holtz et al. (2001) where the water content in a granitic melt was 9.97 wt.% at $800^\circ C$ at 5 kbar (~ 1.5 km depth). These data suggest that the parental magmas of the unmineralized intrusions of the GMB may have had a higher water content considering their cooler crystallization temperatures, below $\sim 800^\circ C$, than the mineralized intrusions. The maximum water content for the parental magmas in the GMB is estimated here to be 10 wt.% at $700^\circ C$ and 4.5 wt% at $800^\circ C$. The fO_2 values were calculated using 4.5 wt% H_2O . Increasing the water content from 4.5 to 10 wt.% would increase fO_2 by 1.9 to 2.6 logarithmic units.

The calculated fO_2 for GMB intrusions ranges from $FMQ+0.5$ to $FMQ+2.5$, consistent with the occurrence of titanite, magnetite and hornblende as this assemblage indicates magmatic fO_2 above FMQ (Wones 1989). Among the samples, higher fO_2 values, $> FMQ+1.3$, are obtained mostly from mineralized intrusions, and low fO_2 values are primarily obtained from unmineralized intrusions (Fig.4.16; Table 4.3). To verify the fO_2 values obtained from zircon composition, the values are also calculated using amphibole composition using the method

proposed by Ridolfi et al. (2010). Unaltered amphibole composition in unmineralized tonalite (GBR2-34, 200m east of unmineralized tonalite sample GBR2-30) yields fO_2 values of $\Delta FMQ+2.6\pm 0.4$ [2σ] ($n=25$). While the sample analyzed using amphibole to calculate fO_2 is not the same as the samples used to calculate fO_2 using zircon, they are all unmineralized tonalites and the amphibole sample is within 200m of the closest zircon sample (Fig. 4.2). The values are within the maximum uncertainty of fO_2 values obtained from zircon composition. Similar fO_2 values for the parental magmas using two different methods and minerals endorse the validity of the results.

High Ce anomalies and high fO_2 values suggest that the parental magmas for the mineralized intrusions were more oxidized than those for the unmineralized (Figs. 4.10, 4.15; Table 4.3). Mineralized intrusions show Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} ranging from 130-954 with an average of 680 ± 210 [2σ], $n=15$ for intrusive group A, 95-448 with an average of 260 ± 130 [2σ], $n=14$ for intrusive group B and 88-295 with an average 193 ± 140 [2σ], $n=44$ for intrusive group C, whereas unmineralized intrusions show Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} from 38 to 170 with an average of 123 ± 56 [2σ], $n=118$ (Fig. 4.10; Table 4.3). Ranges are given as upper and lower quartile values.

The difference in Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} in zircon reflect that of oxidation conditions of parental magmas, mineralized intrusions generally showing higher fO_2 values (FMQ+1.6–FMQ+1.9, average FMQ+1.7 \pm 1.8, [2σ], $n=73$) than unmineralized intrusions (FMQ+1.1–FMQ+1.7, average FMQ+1.3 \pm 1.5, [2σ], $n=118$) (Fig. 4.16).

4.5.9. Magmas responsible for Gibraltar porphyry Cu mineralization

The igneous rocks of the GMB are mostly tonalites with minor quartz diorite. Their primary mineralogy is similar in the GMB. All samples contain plagioclase, quartz, hornblende and biotite as major igneous minerals. Minor igneous minerals (less than 5% modality) are titanite, apatite, zircon and magnetite. Rocks are all similar independent of ages except for hydrothermal alteration. Mineralized rocks show the evidence for potassic alteration, intense white mica alteration and lesser epidote alteration. Mineralized rocks of Groups A, B and C show some minor lithological differences. Rocks of group A are medium grained, isotropic and equigranular whereas rocks from group B and C are medium grained, not equigranular with mafic minerals being larger than the quartz and plagioclase grains. Group A is foliated and

Groups B and C are intensely foliated. All three groups are similarly altered with intense white mica alteration replacing plagioclase and forming veins with lesser epidote alteration replacing plagioclase and forming isolated aggregates with chlorite. Mafic minerals are always completely chloritized in all three groups.

Our zircon age data from mineralized intrusions show at least three distinct age groups (A, B and C above); 218.1 ± 3.1 Ma, 213.2 ± 2.4 Ma and 205.8 ± 2.1 (Fig. 4.10 and Table 4.4). The time gaps between different age groups of mineralized intrusions are greater than 0.2 m.y. even considering the analytical uncertainties (Fig. 4.10 and Table 4.4). Furthermore, the age gaps are greater than the length of time generally required for the solidification of a large magma chamber (Cathles et al., 1997). Therefore, each age group is considered to represent separate magmatism.

It may be argued that the youngest group of intrusions (Group C of mineralized intrusions) brought Cu for the deposit and produced mineralization in older intrusions. We discount this possibility because all three Groups A, B and C mineralized intrusions show the evidence for the crystallization of secondary biotite and abundant white mica suggesting their parental magmas likely contributed to hydrothermal activity. Separate mineralized magmatic hydrothermal activity is supported by the occurrence of three distinct chimney-like distributions of high Cu rocks at the Gibraltar deposit (Fig. 4.3). The evidence suggests that parental magmas for Groups A, B, C intrusions likely contributed to mineralizing hydrothermal activity.

This is further supported by Re-Os ages of molybdenite, 215.0 ± 1.0 Ma and 212.7 ± 0.9 Ma, reported from the Granite Lake and Gibraltar East pits by Harding (2012). The U-Pb zircon ages of Groups A and B intrusions, 218.9 ± 3.1 and 213.2 ± 2.4 Ma, overlap with these ages, suggesting the mineralization occurred during the intrusions of Groups A and B. Thus, we suggest that the Gibraltar porphyry Cu deposit formed during at least three distinct mineralization events, separated by quiescent periods. Such repeated magmatic-hydrothermal activity likely contributed to the increased tonnage of the Gibraltar deposit.

4.5.10. Comparison with other porphyry Cu deposits

Within the Quesnel Terrane

Several porphyry Cu deposits are present in the Quesnel terrane. In the vicinity of the study area there are several significant porphyry Cu deposits; the Highland Valley Copper deposit (3.6 Mt Cu), Mount Polley deposit (0.6 Mt Cu) (Fig. 4.1), and the Woodjam porphyry-Cu prospect (0.71 Mt Cu; www.woodjamcopper.com/). Unless otherwise noted, all resource and reserve figures for porphyry deposits in this paper are from Singer et al. (2008).

The Highland Valley Copper deposit is hosted by the Guichon Creek batholith, 235 km southeast of the Gibraltar deposit (Fig. 4.1). The mineralization is hosted by Bethlehem facies (210.3±0.04 Ma, Whalen et al., 2017) and Bethsaida phase (209.1±0.3 Ma, 206.96±0.22; Whalen et al., 2017, D'Angelo et al., 2017) and these intrusive ages are similar to the Re-Os ages of molybdenite; 208.4±0.9 Ma (D'Angelo et al., 2017) and 206.3±1.2 Ma (Ash et al., 2007 cited in Whalen et al., 2017). The timing of the mineralization of the Highland Valley Copper deposit is synchronous with the emplacement of Group C of mineralized intrusions in the GMB at 205.8±2.1 Ma and corresponds to the prolific 6 Ma epoch of porphyry mineralization centered on 205 Ma within the Cordillera (Logan and Mihalynuk, 2014). Zircon trace element data from the Highland Valley Copper and Gibraltar deposits are also similar. Ward (2008) obtained high Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ ranging from 63 to 215 with an average of 189 (n=22) for zircon from mineralized intrusions in the Guichon Creek batholith. The values are comparable to the range of Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ of 93-443 with an average of 305±134 [2σ] (n=73) from all mineralized intrusions of the Gibraltar deposit (this study). Similar zircon ages and compositions from the two major deposits in the Quesnel terrane suggest that the tectonic setting of the Quesnel island arc, in the late Triassic, appears favorable for the production of Cu-fertile magmas.

Comparison with other porphyry Cu deposits worldwide

Zircon values of Eu/Eu* and Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ from the mineralized intrusions of the Gibraltar deposit are similar to those for other porphyry Cu deposits with similar tonnage reported by previous workers. They include zircon data reported by Ballard et al. (2002) for diorite porphyry hosting the Los Picos-Fortuna deposit, Chile (5.1 Mt Cu), and those reported by Shen et al. (2015) for

andesite porphyry in the Erdenet deposit (9 Mt Cu) and granodiorite porphyry associated with the Tuwu-Yandong deposit (2.1 Mt Cu) in the Central Asian Orogenic belt (Fig. 4.15).

Multiple intrusions at a focused area are features associated with large porphyry Cu deposits (Sillitoe, 2010). Recurrent magmatism in one area is also recognized as a factor contributing to large tonnage deposits. One example is at the Chuquicamata porphyry Cu-Mo deposit (126 Mt Cu), Chile, where at least two distinctly separate mineralizing events resulted in the giant deposit (Ballard et al., 2001). In the Escondida district, at least four major deposits formed in an area of $\sim 5 \times 10$ km over an interval of ~ 4 to 5 m.y. (Hervé et al., 2012).

Relatively oxidized magmas are known to be preferentially associated with porphyry Cu deposits (Ishihara, 1977; Sillitoe, 2010; Sun et al., 2013). Many igneous rocks associated with porphyry Cu deposits report fO_2 values greater than FMQ+2 for their parental magmas based on mineral assemblages, mineral chemistry and melt-inclusion studies (reviewed by Hattori, 2018). Oxidized magmas are capable to transport high concentrations of S to the mineralization site at upper crustal levels of a few km depth (Hattori and Keith, 2001).

Although oxidized conditions of magmas are important for the formation of large porphyry Cu deposits, small porphyry deposits may be formed by magmas with low fO_2 , lower than \sim FMQ+1. Examples include 17 Mile Hill deposit in Australia (0.03 Mt Cu), Catface deposit in Canada (1 Mt Cu) and the Baogutu deposit in China (0.63 Mt Cu) (Rowins, 2000; Smith et al., 2012; Cao et al., 2016).

4.5.11. Use of zircon for exploration

Cerium anomalies in zircon are evaluated in three ways in this study: Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} , Ce/Ce^* and Ce/Nd . This study shows that the values of Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} are positively correlated with Ce/Ce^* and Ce/Nd with correlation coefficients of 0.84 to 0.94, respectively (Fig. 4.17). Ce/Ce^* and Ce/Nd correlations are reliable, however, correlations with Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} become less reliable at higher Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (>500) (Fig. 4.17). High Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} of zircon grains are from intrusions associated with large tonnage Cu in the open pits. The correlation suggests that Ce/Nd or Ce/Ce^* may be used to evaluate Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} values of zircon and evaluate the potential of intrusions for Cu resource. The calculation of Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} requires the compositions of both zircon and bulk rock

because the concentrations of Ce^{3+} are obtained using partition coefficients of other REEs between zircon and bulk rock by assuming bulk rock REE abundance representing those of parental magmas. On the other hand, the ratios of Ce/Nd or Ce/Ce* can be obtained directly from zircon compositions. Therefore, these ratios are very useful for evaluating the Ce anomalies of zircon grains in highly altered rocks with no reliable REE abundances for bulk rocks. Furthermore, the bulk rock compositions of parental rocks are not available for detrital zircon grains in stream and glacial sediments. The values of Ce/Nd and Ce/Ce* from detrital zircon grains may be used to estimate the oxidation conditions of an intrusion and its fertility potential.

4.6. Conclusions

The GMB in Canadian Cordillera formed from multiple intrusions over a period of ~25 m.y. in the Quesnel island arc, prior to its accretion to the North American continent. The bulk of the GMB was emplaced before fertile tonalite magmas intruded in the central part of the batholith. The fertile magmas intruded during at least three distinct time periods (Groups A, 218.9 ± 3.1 Ma, $n=16$; Group B, 213.2 ± 2.4 Ma, $n=27$; Group C, 205.8 ± 2.1 Ma, $n=39$) with the oldest Group having the highest Ce anomalies. These magmas are spatially associated with large geological reserves totalling 3.2 Mt Cu during multiple mineralization events over ca. 10 m.y. These mineralizing intrusions show higher Ce anomalies in zircon, 305 ± 134 [2σ] ($n=73$), than early unmineralized intrusions, 123 ± 56 , [2σ] $n=118$. Zircon compositions yield fO_2 , FMQ+1.6 to 1.9, for the mineralized intrusions.

The mineralized intrusions have low Sr/Y bulk-rock compositions (< 22) and low Eu/Eu* (0.2-0.4) in zircon. The data from the Gibraltar deposit show that an economic porphyry Cu deposit may be found in igneous rocks with low Sr/Y and low Eu/Eu* in zircon.

Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} ratios of zircon correlate positively with Ce/Nd (ranging from ~1-25) and Ce/Ce* (ranging from ~3-200), with correlation coefficients, 0.94 and 0.84, respectively, suggesting that all three ratios reflect the oxidation conditions of parental magmas. Since Ce/Nd and Ce/Ce* values are determined from measured compositions of zircon, they are useful in evaluating the oxidation conditions of parental magmas for intensely altered rocks and detrital zircon in stream and glacial sediments.

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Tables

Table 4.1. List of samples used for zircon trace element analysis and U-Pb dating

	Sample number
Mineralized intrusions ¹	<u>GBR-2, GBR-7, GBR-12, GBR-15, GBR-16, GBR-21</u>
Unmineralized intrusions ²	<u>GBR2-30, GBR2-38, GBR2-25, GBR2-16, GBR-11, GBR-28, GBR-32, GBR2-26, GBR2-15, GBR2-17</u>

1: “Mineralized” is defined as samples containing visible chalcopyrite

2: “Unmineralized” samples do not contain visible grains of chalcopyrite

Samples in bold, underlined and italics used for both trace-element analysis and U-Pb dating.

Other samples used only for trace elements analysis

Table 4.2: Bulk rock composition of samples used for this study.

	Number of samples	Y (ppm)	Sr/Y	Dy _N /Yb _N	La _N /Lu _N	Eu/Eu* ¹
Mineralized intrusions	6	16-20	9-22	1.5-1.6	2.2-2.6	0.57-0.73
Unmineralized intrusions	10	7-26	6-46	0.9-1.7	1.8-13.5	0.57-1.16

1: $Eu/Eu^* = Eu_N / ((Sm_N * Gd_N)^{1/2})$

Table 4.3: Zircon trace element data

Phase		Th/U	Nd/Yb	Ti (ppm)	Zircon crystallization temperatures (°C) ¹	Eu/Eu* ²	Ce ⁴⁺ /Ce ³⁺	Ce/Ce* ⁴	Ce/Nd	Δ FMQ ⁵
Mineralized intrusions n=73	range	0.16-1.44	0.0009-0.0077	2.8-19.3	691-886	0.19-0.4	21-1780	9.6-459	2.1-35.2	1.3-2.1
	Mean	0.4	0.0029	12	828	0.29	305	87	10.1	1.7±1.8
	Median	0.32	0.0022	12.6	836	0.29	172	70	8.9	1.8±1.8
Unmineralized intrusions n=118	range	0.15-0.44	0.00005-0.017	2.9-14.8	683-869	0.18-0.59	9-555	2.6-274	1.3-25	0.5-2.5
	Mean	0.28	0.002	9.8	800	0.35	123	61	9	1.3±1.4
	Median	0.27	0.002	9.7	810	0.3	100	54	8.3	1.2±1.3

n=number of zircon grains analyzed

1: Calculated based on the equation of Ferry and Watson (2007) using activity of TiO₂ = 0.7

2: $Eu/Eu^* = Eu_N / ((Sm_N * Gd_N)^{1/2})$

3: Calculated using the method proposed by Ballard et al. (2002)

4: $Ce^* = \left(\frac{(Nd_N)^2}{Sm_N} \right)$, proposed by Loader et al. (2017)

5: Calculated based on the equation of Smythe and Brennan (2016a, b) using the values of (non-bridging oxygen)/(tetrahedrally coordinated oxygen) on hydrous melt. fO_2 expressed as logarithmic units above or below the fayalite-magnetite-quartz buffer (FMQ)

Table 4.4: Zircon U-Pb ages

Unit		Age (Ma)	MSWD	Age (Ma)	MSWD
Unmineralized intrusions		229.2±4.4 (n=11)	1.8	231.7±7.4 (n=4)	0.33
				232 ±11(n=2)	0.022
				227 ±10(n=2)	0.99
				226.8 ±8.3(n=3)	0.86
Mineralized intrusions	Group A	218.9±3.1	0.68	218.9±3.1(n=16)	0.68
	Group B	213.2±2.4	0.62	213.2 ± 2.4(n=27)	0.62
	Group C	205.8±2.1 (n=39)	2.3	206.8 ±4.0(n=11)	1.7
				205.9 ±3.7(n=12)	0.84
				205.6 ±4.4(n=9)	0.88
			201.9 ±5.0(n=7)	0.037	

n=number of zircon grains analyzed

Figures

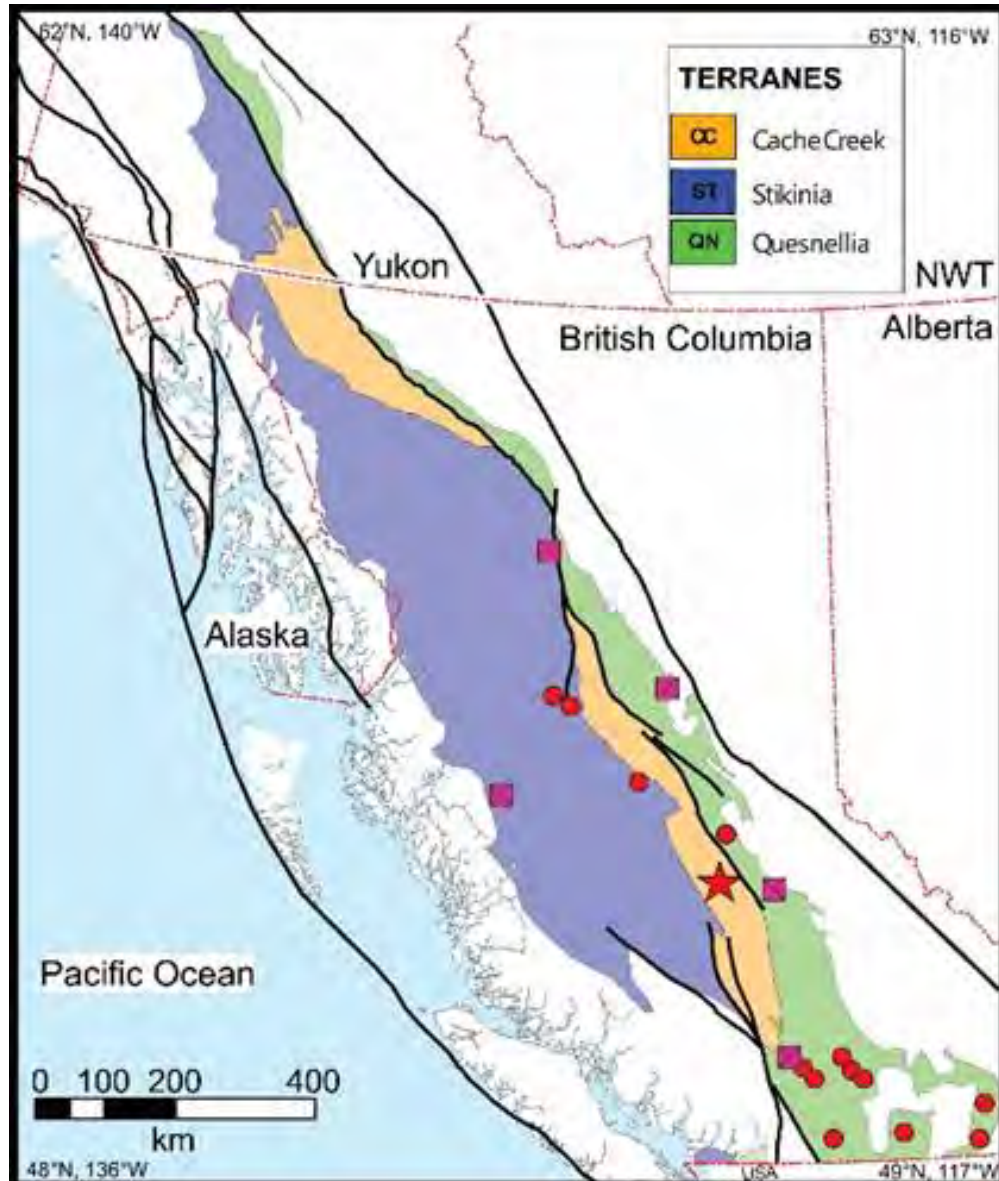


Figure 4.1. Simplified geological map of the northern Cordillera of British Columbia, Canada, modified after Nelson and Colpron (2011). The red star indicates the location of the Gibraltar porphyry Cu mine. Other porphyry Cu deposits are shown as pink squares (currently producing mine) and red circles (past producing mine).

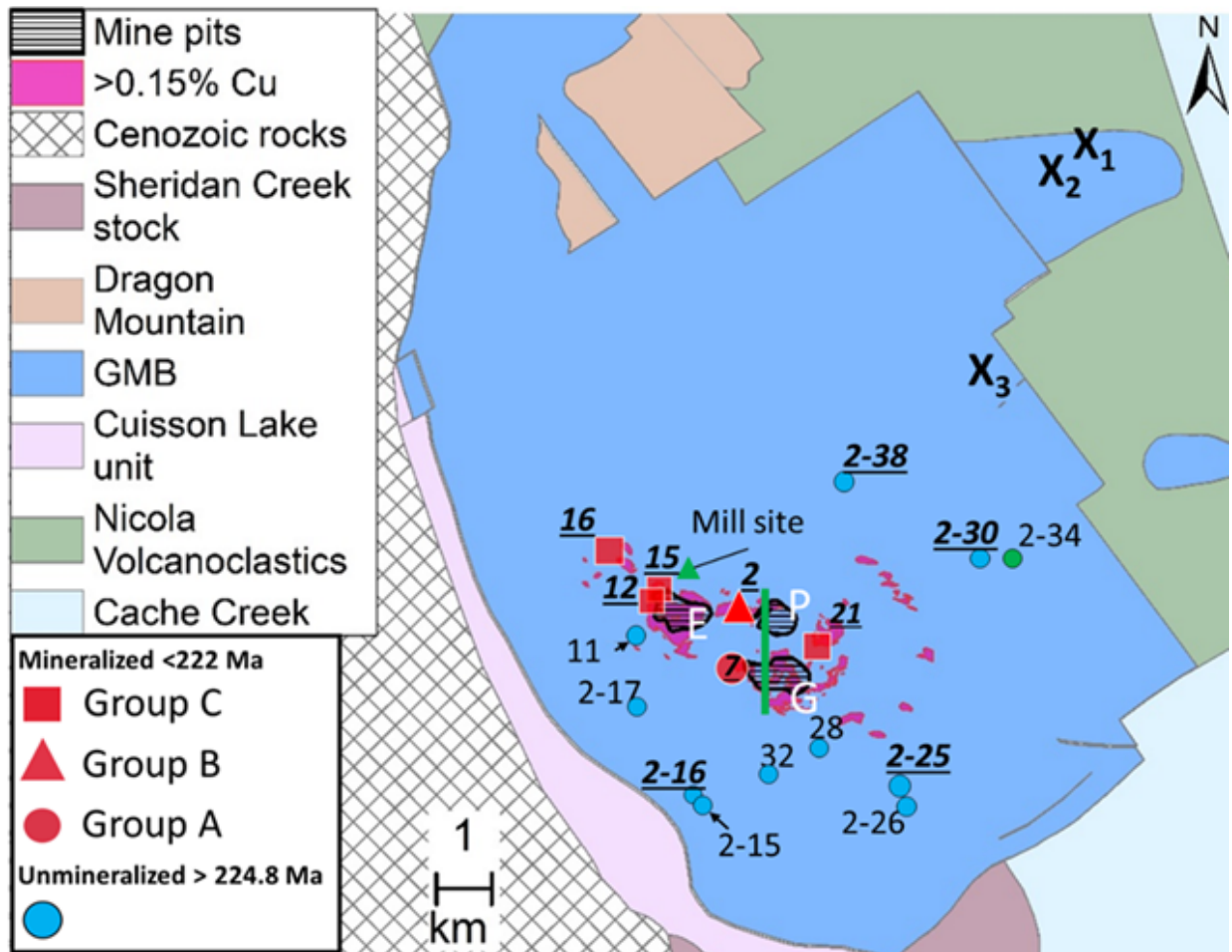


Figure 4.2. Simplified geological map of the study area, modified from Plouffe and Ferbey (2015). Sample numbers omit the prefix of “GBR-“. Sample names underlined, italic and bold correspond to age dated samples. Ages of samples are listed in Table 4.4. Open pits are labelled, E = East pit, P=Pollyanna pit and G = Granite Lake pit. Pink areas correspond to areas with >0.15% Cu shown in Fig. 4.3. X’s denote the locations of samples for U-Pb zircon dating by Schiarizza (2015). X1 = 222.71 ± 0.22 Ma, X2= 221.25 ± 0.20 Ma and X3= 217.15 ± 0.20 Ma. The green circle is the location of sample used in amphibole analysis. The thick green line is the cross section shown in Fig. 4.3.

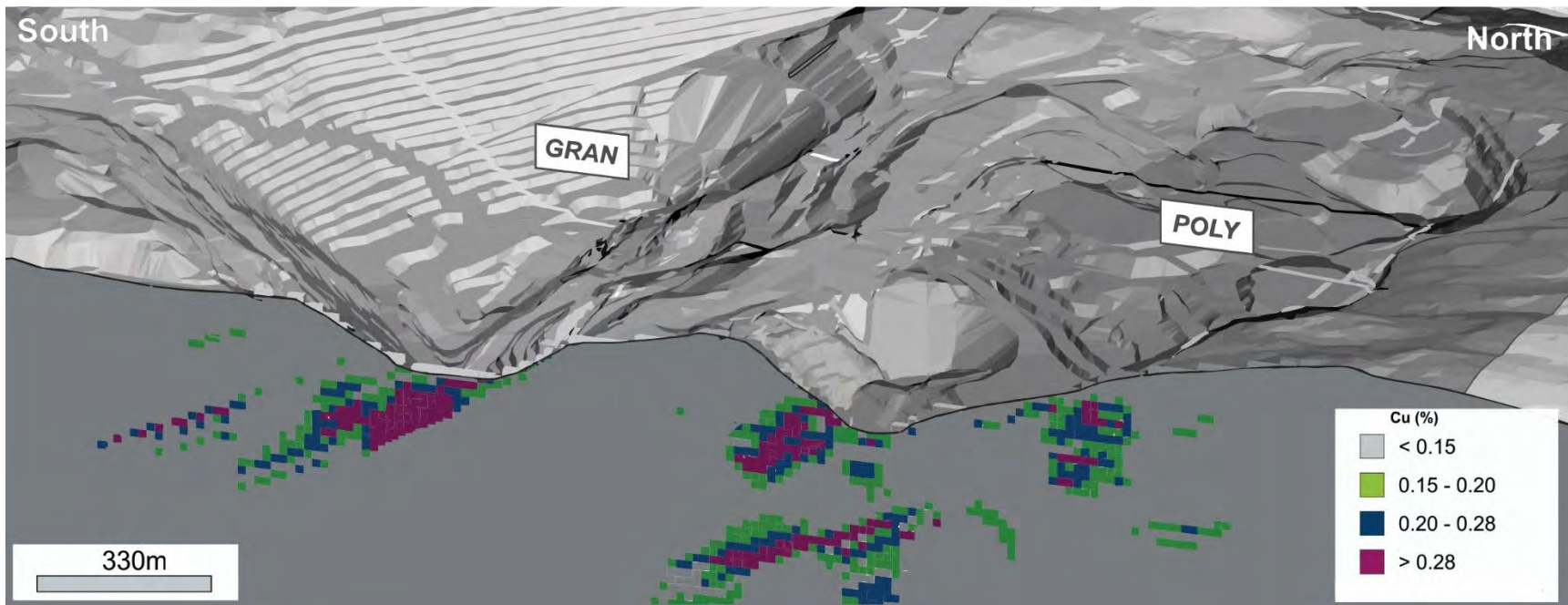


Figure 4.3. The contents of Cu along the north south cross section (shown in Fig. 4.2) through the Pollyanna (POLY) and Granite Lake (GRAN) pits. The map was based on Cu contents of drill cores in April, 2018 by Taseko Gibraltar Mines Limited. The top of the bench and the bottom of the Granite Lake pit are 1200m above sea level and 900m above sea level, respectively.

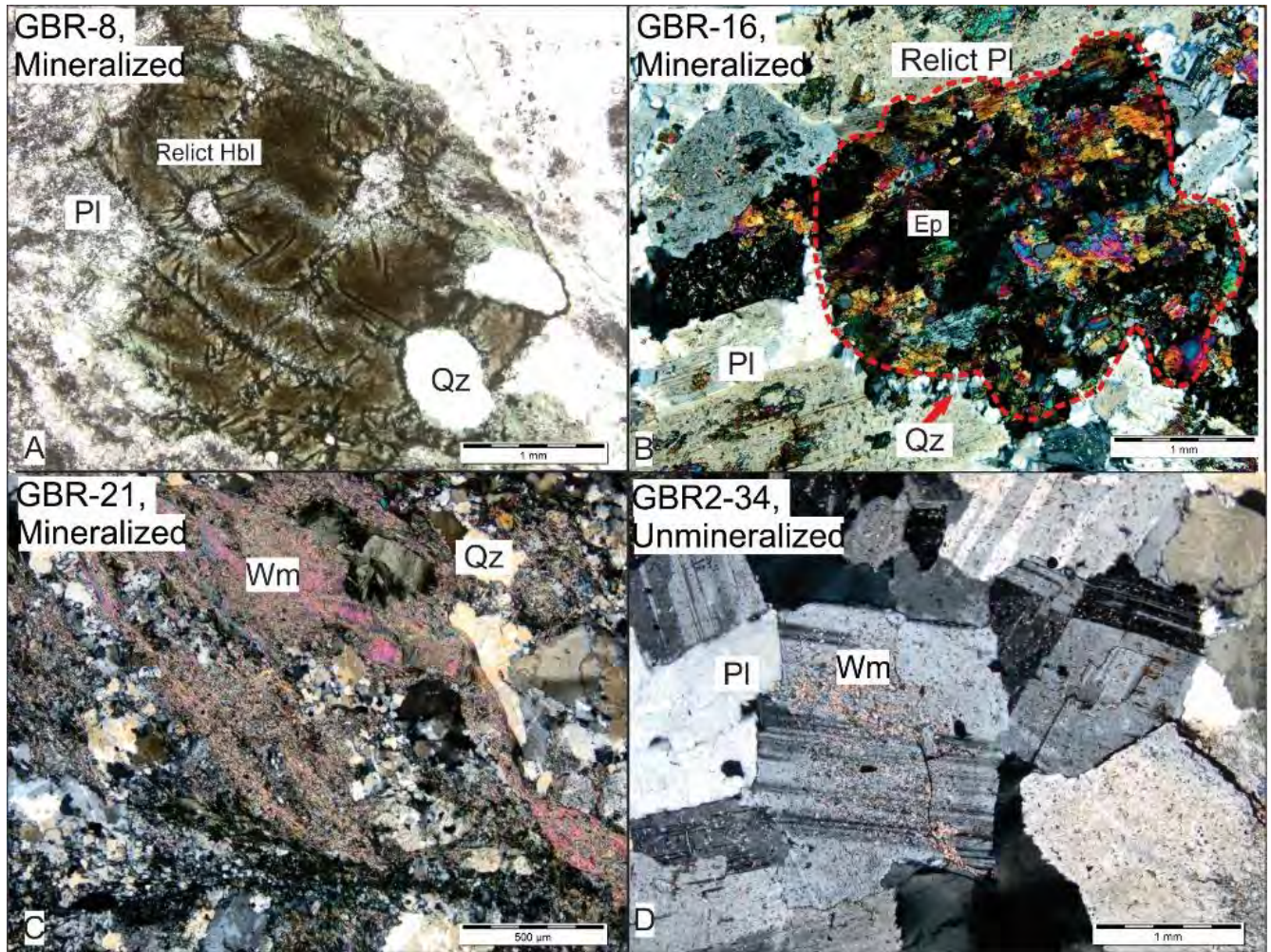


Figure 4.4. (A) Plain polarized light image of relict hornblende (Hbl) replaced by secondary biotite (Bt). Rims are replaced by chlorite (Chl). (B) Photomicrograph of epidote (Ep) replacing plagioclase (Pl) under crossed polarizers (XPL). (C) XPL photomicrograph of white mica (Wm) replacing Pl and forming a veinlet. (D) XPL photomicrograph of minor Wm in Pl. Sample locations are in the Appendix 1, Table A1-1.

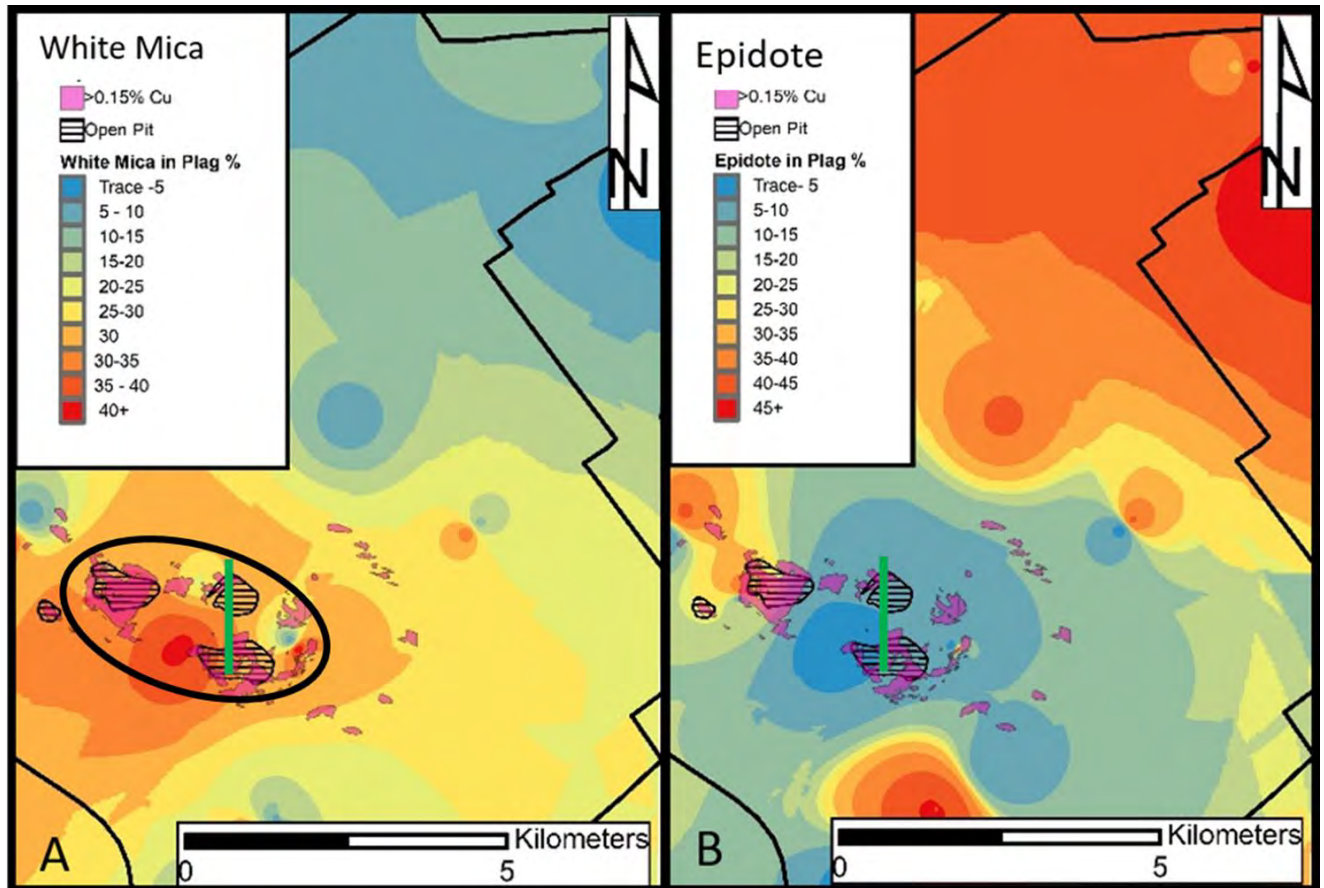


Figure 4.5. Maps showing the fraction of white mica (A) and epidote (B) replacing plagioclase. The black lines outline the GMB. Pink areas correspond to those with >0.15% Cu (Fig. 4.2).

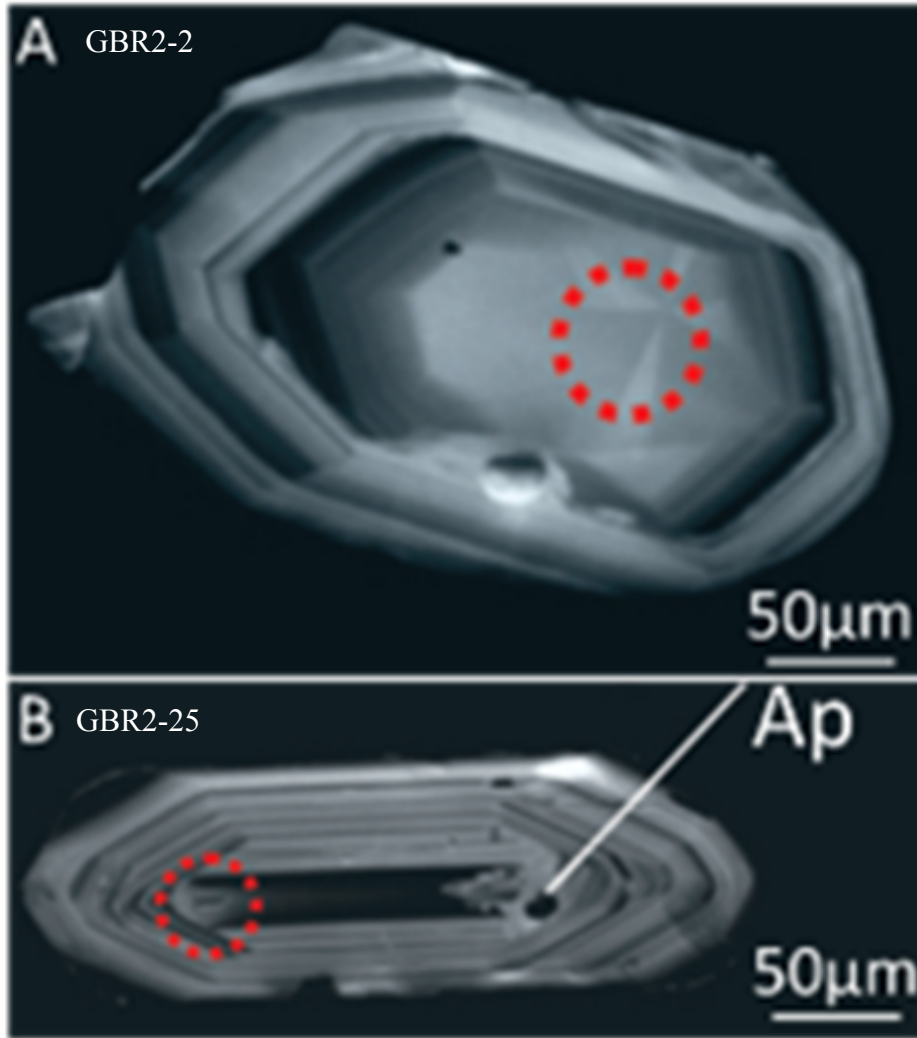


Figure 4.6. CL-SEM images of zircon from the mineralized (A) and unmineralized (B) tonalite showing oscillatory zoning and apatite (Ap) inclusion. The locations for laser ablation are shown in red dashed circles.

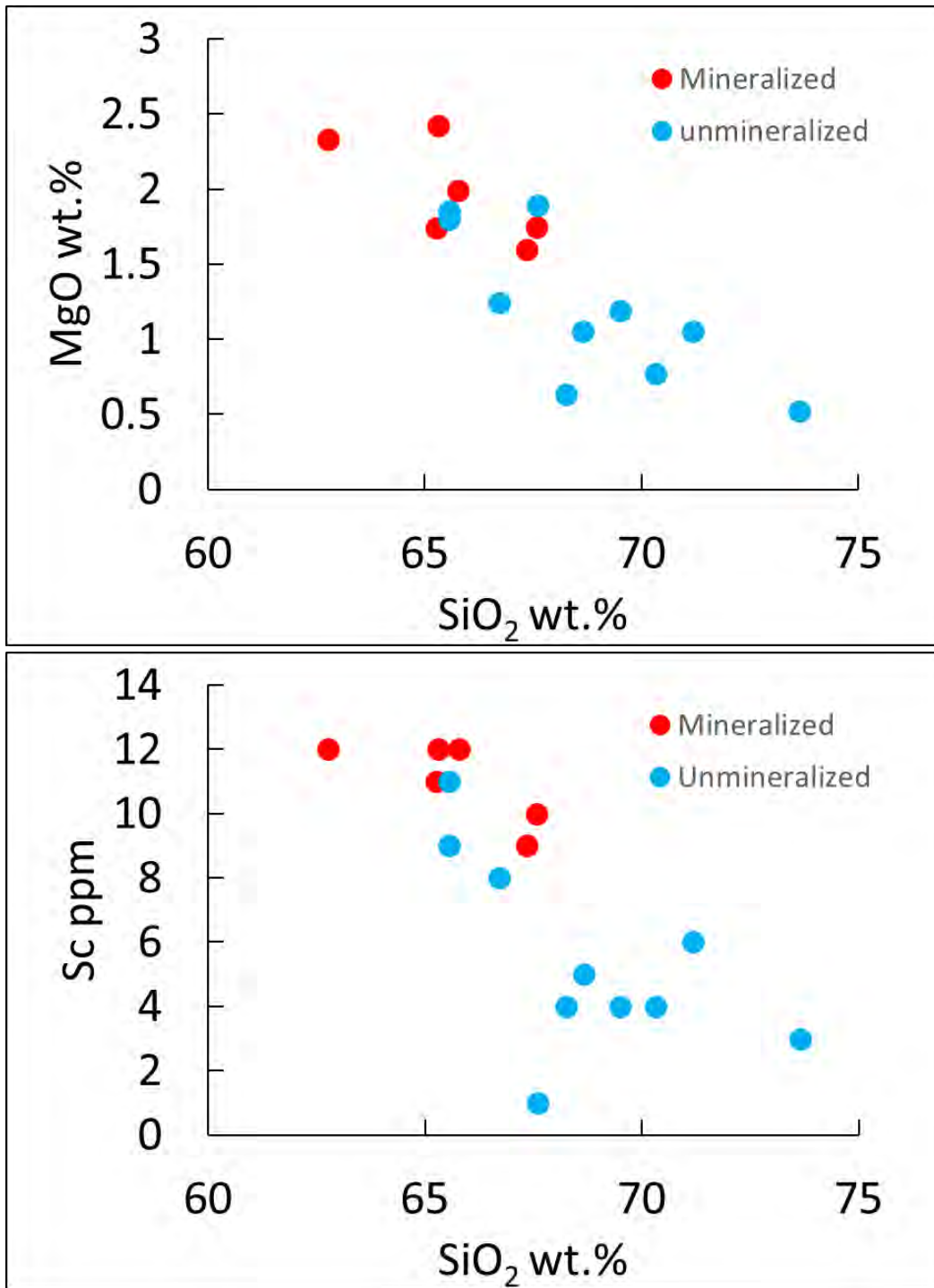
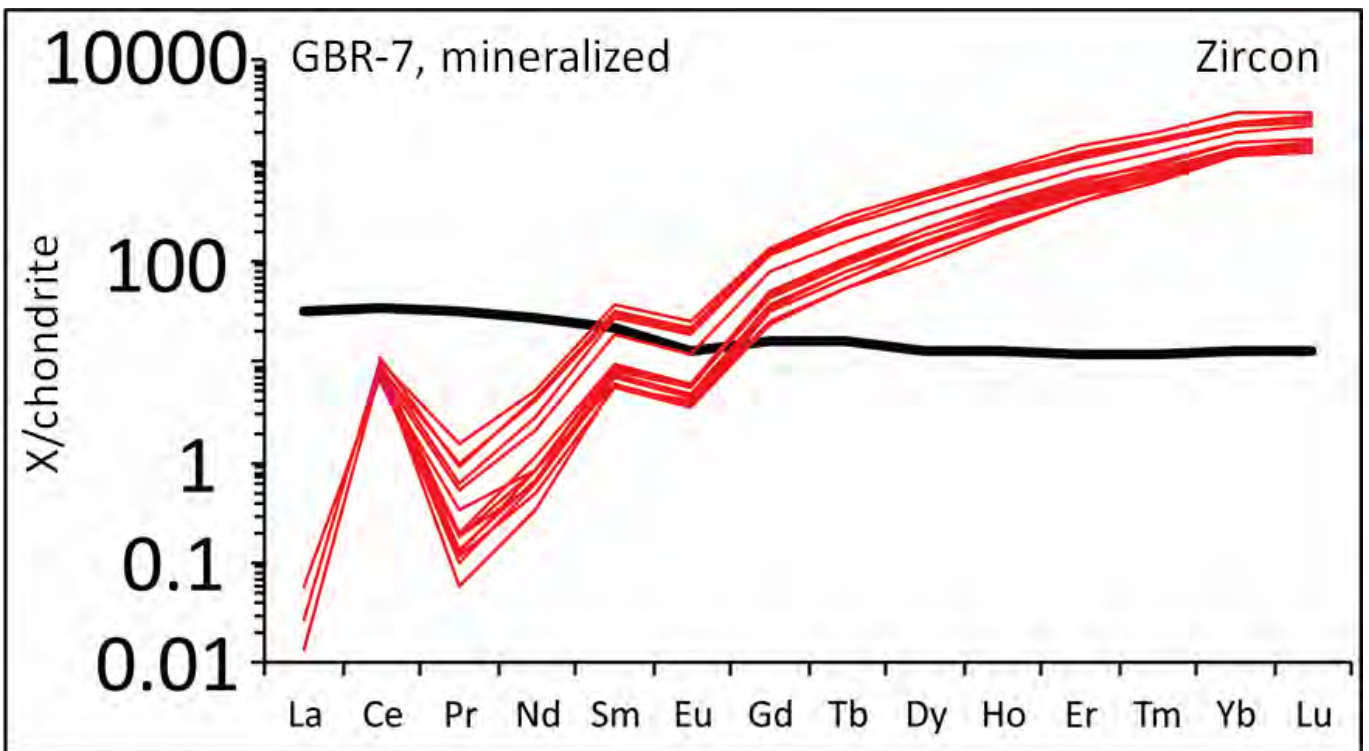
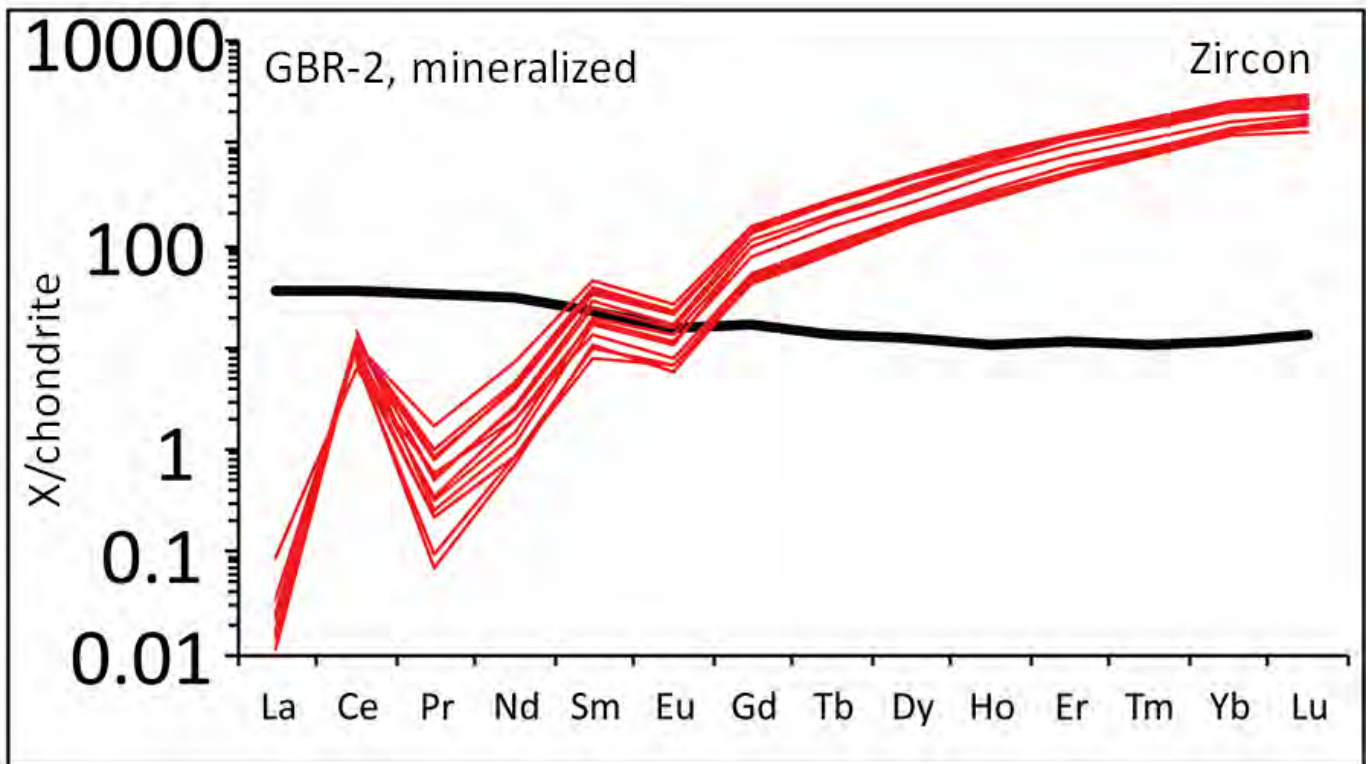
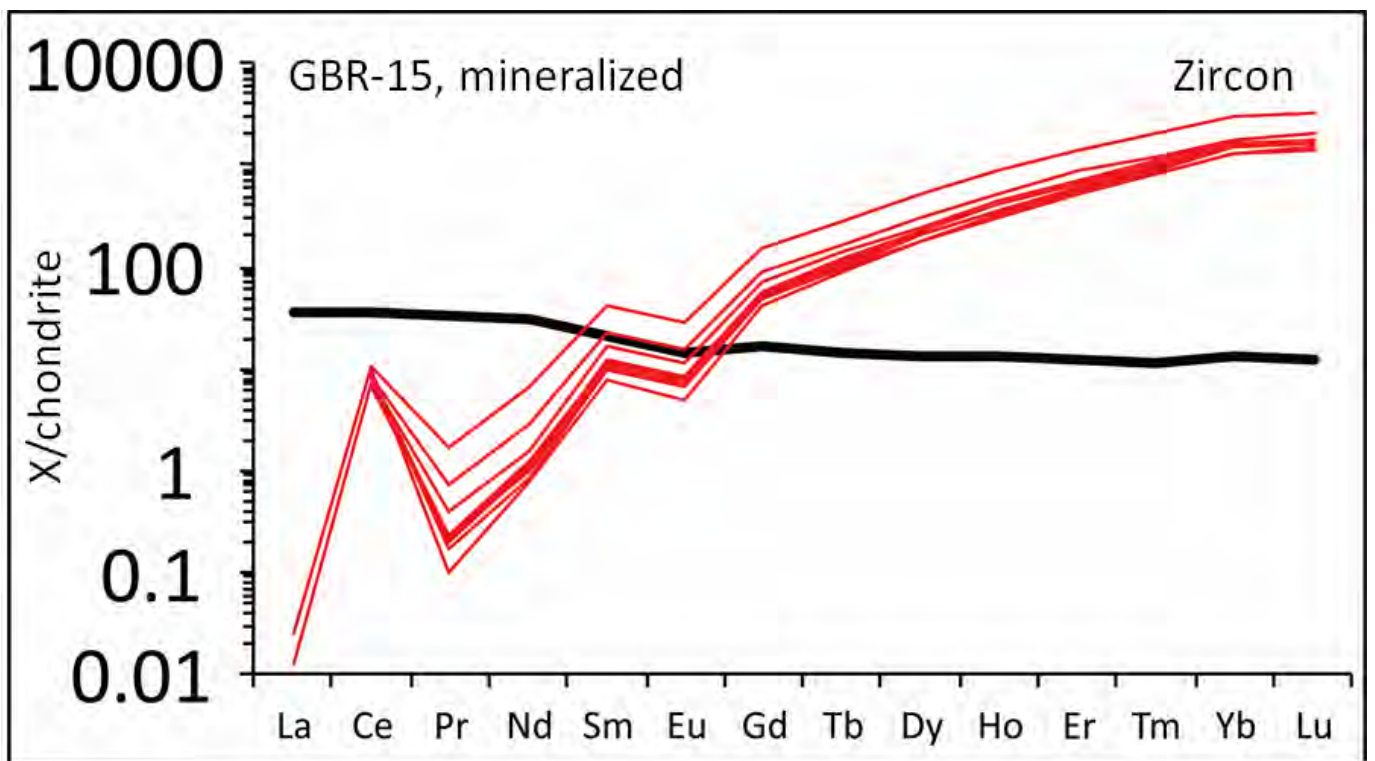
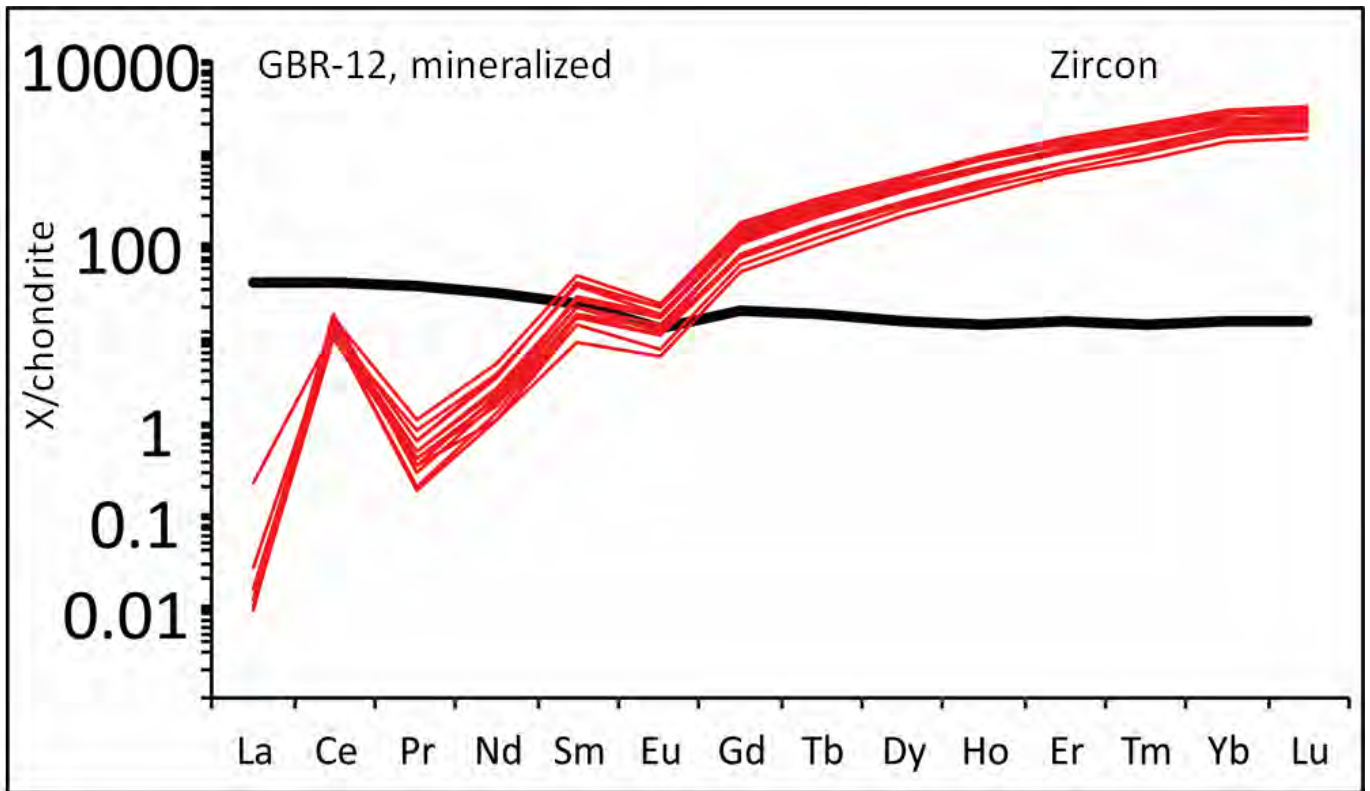
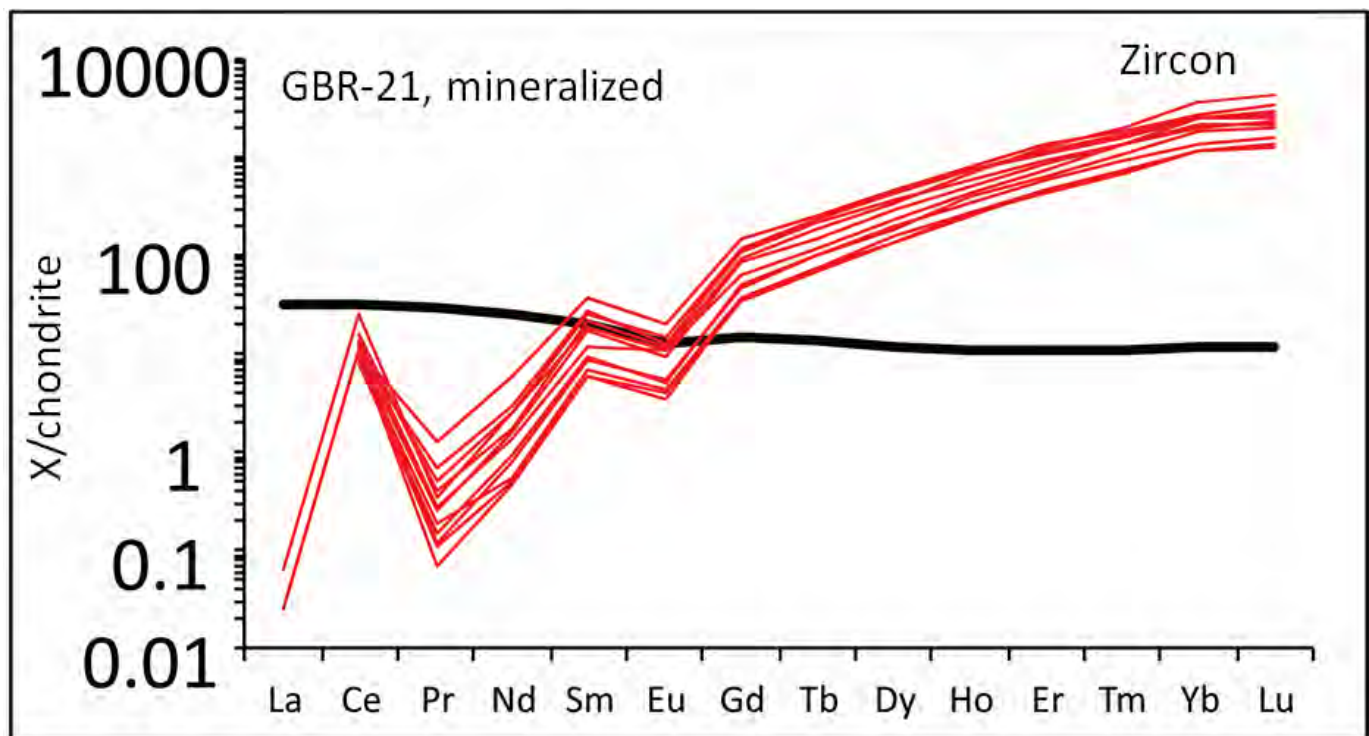
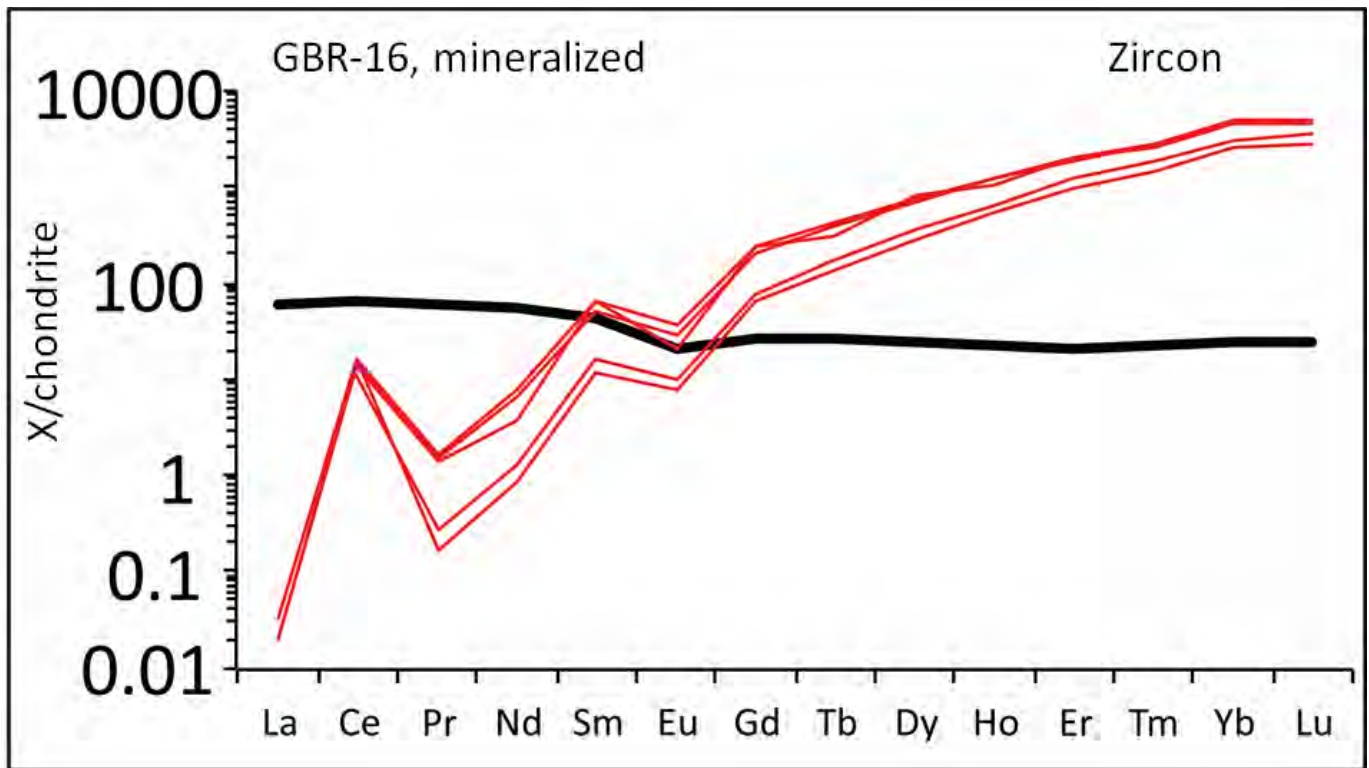
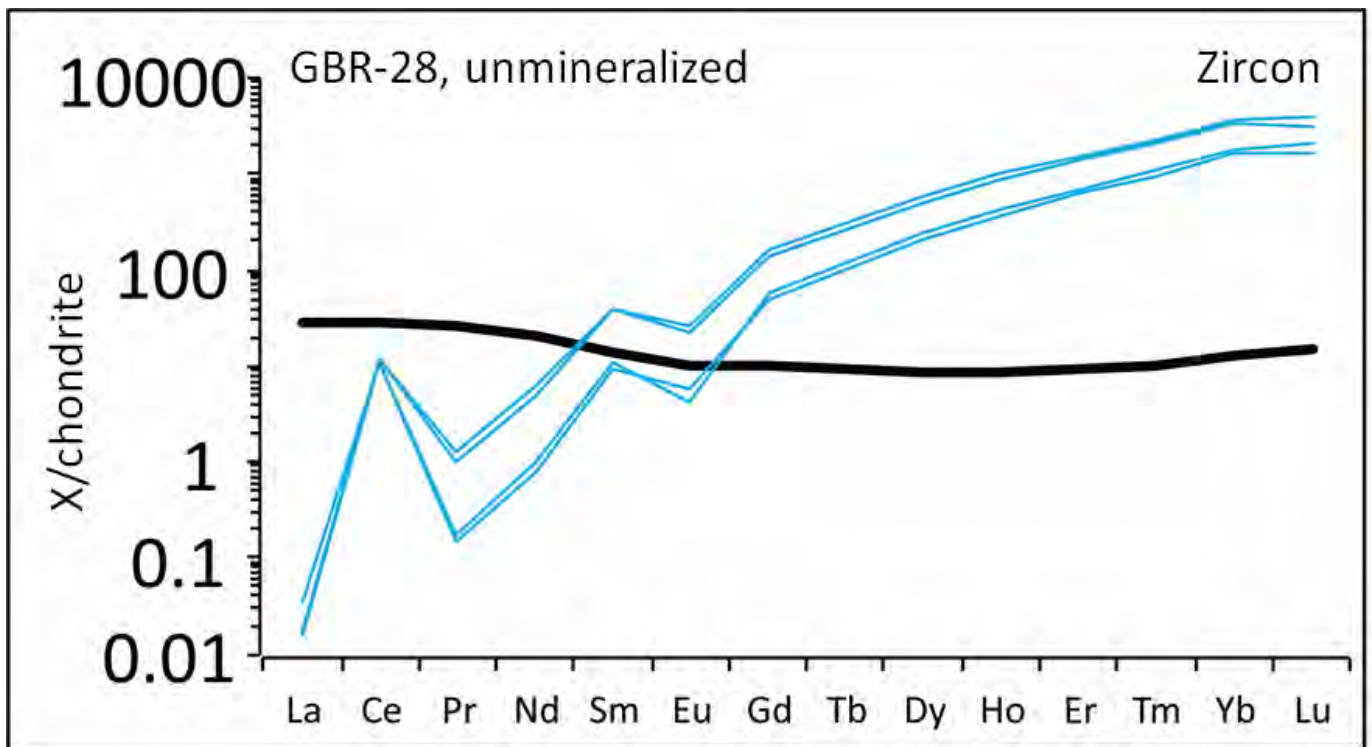
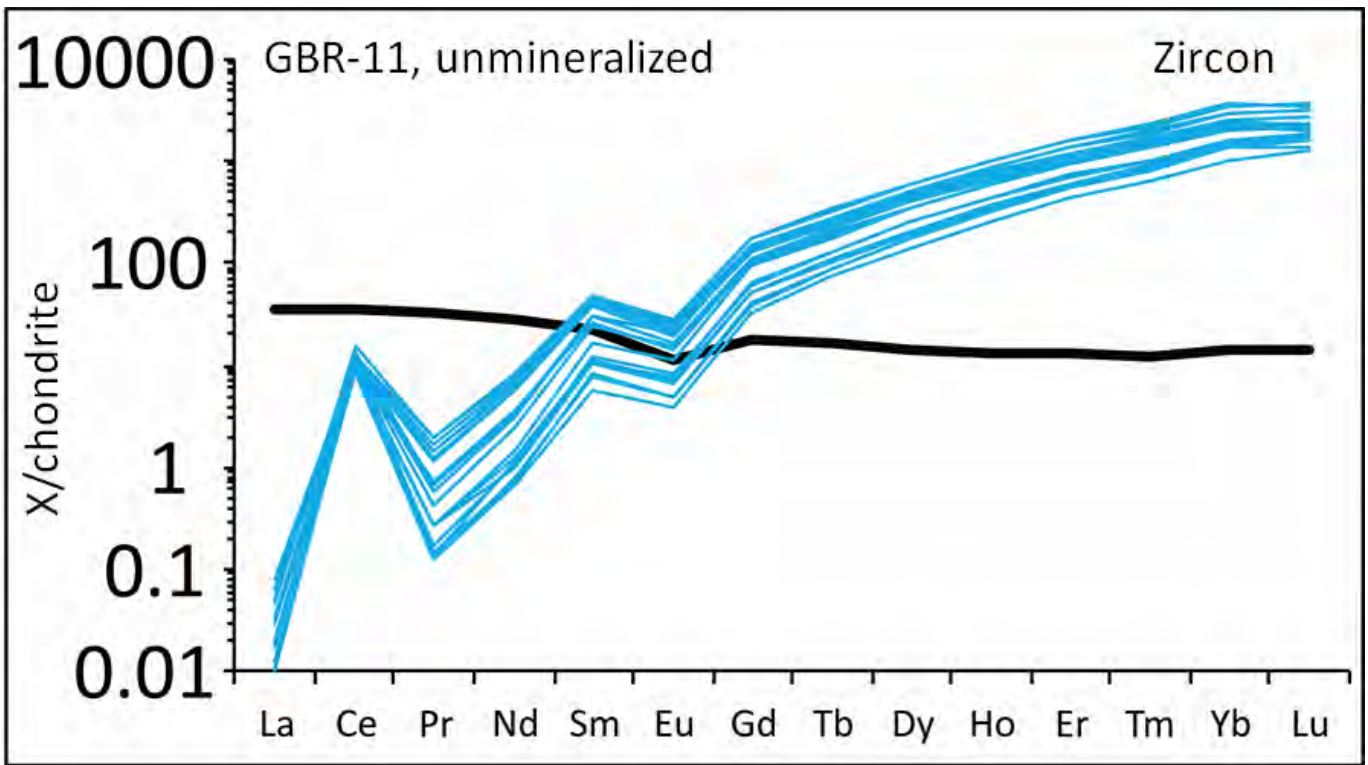


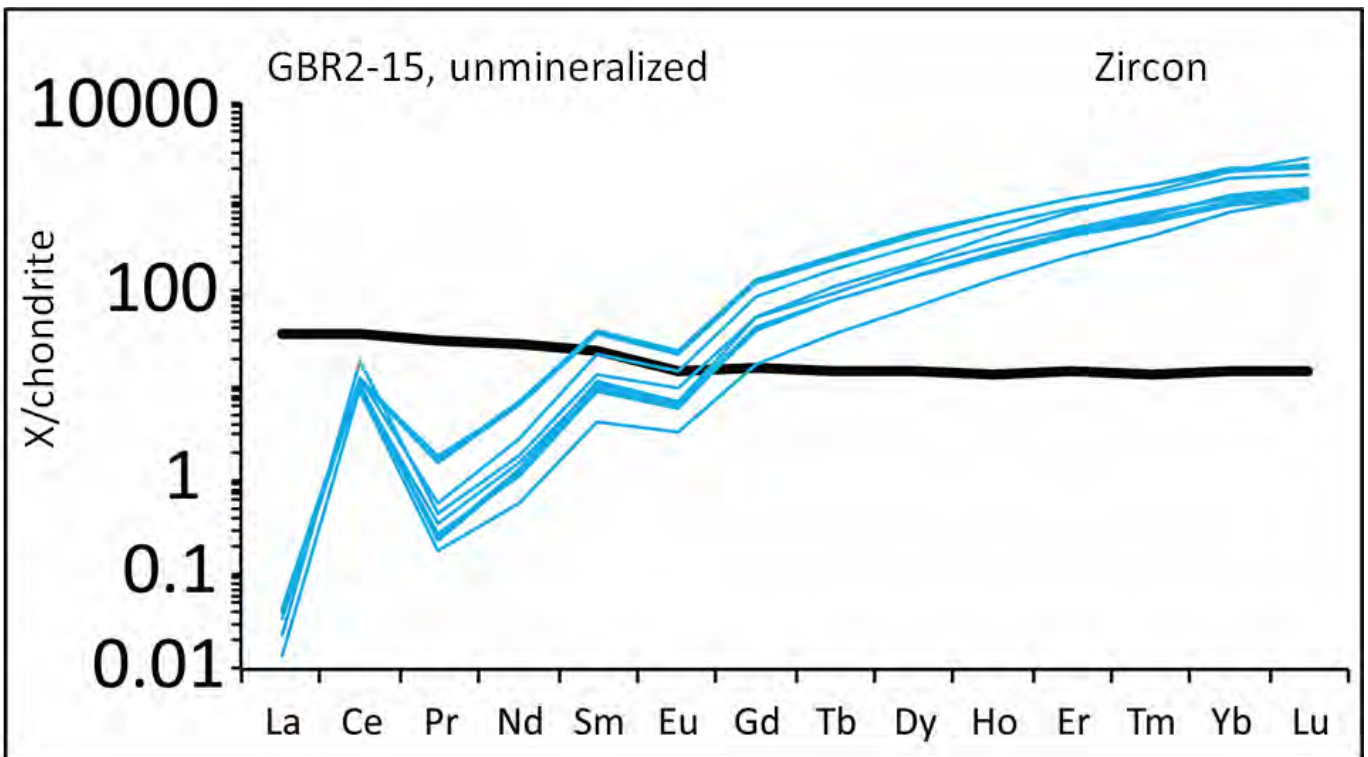
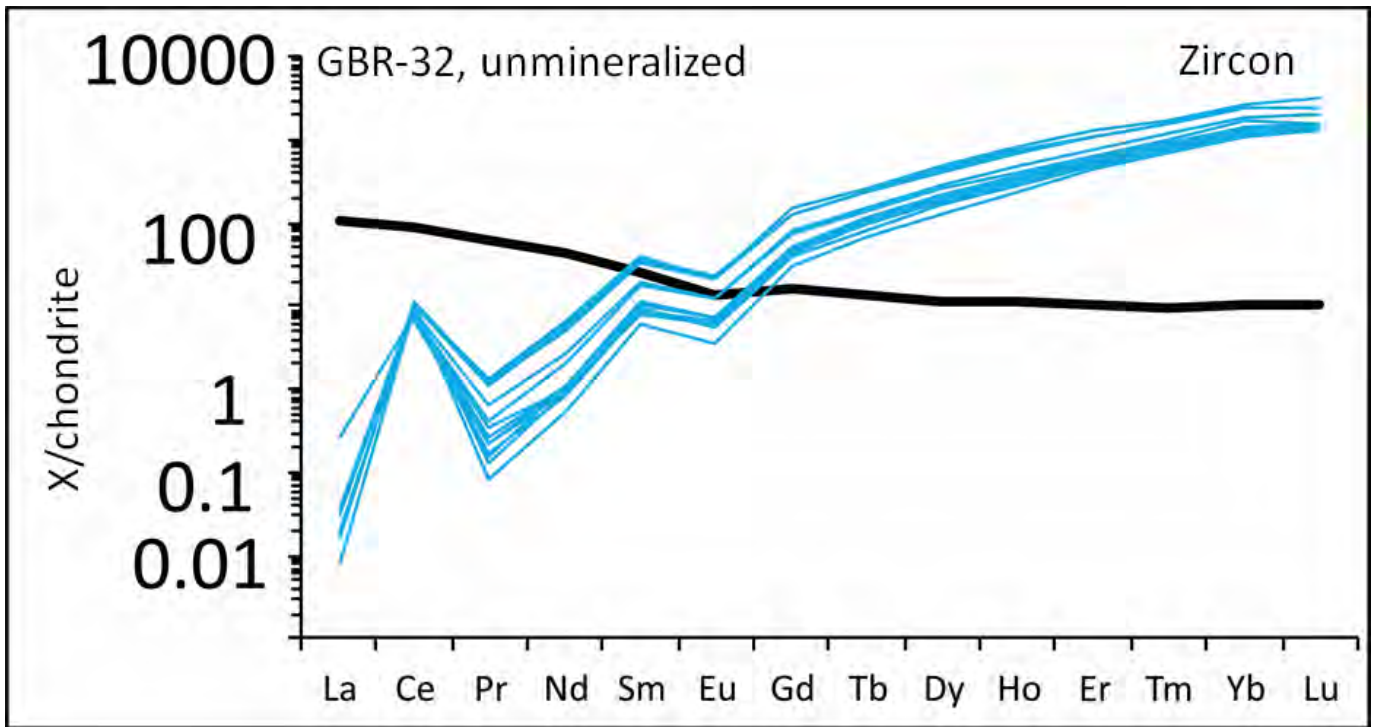
Figure 4.7. SiO₂-MgO (upper) and SiO₂-Sc (lower) plots of intrusions of GMB.

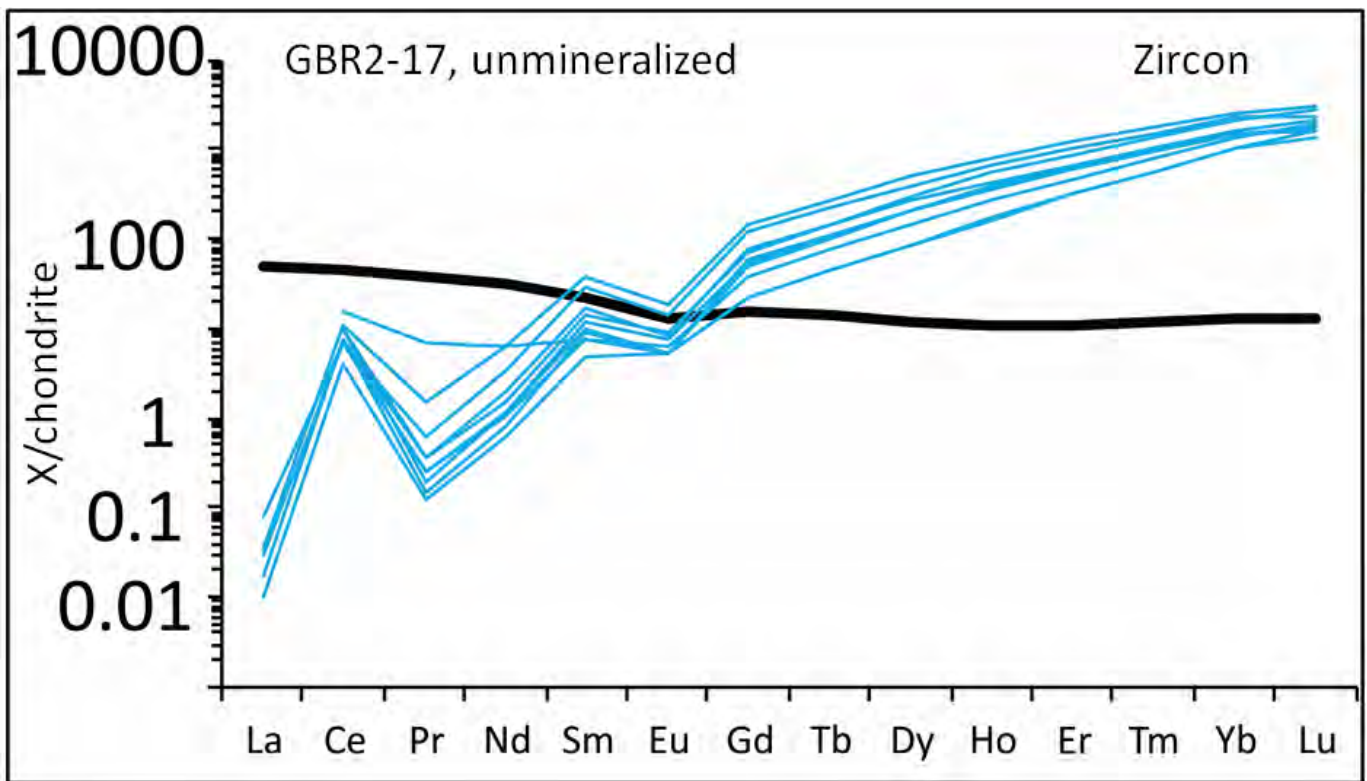
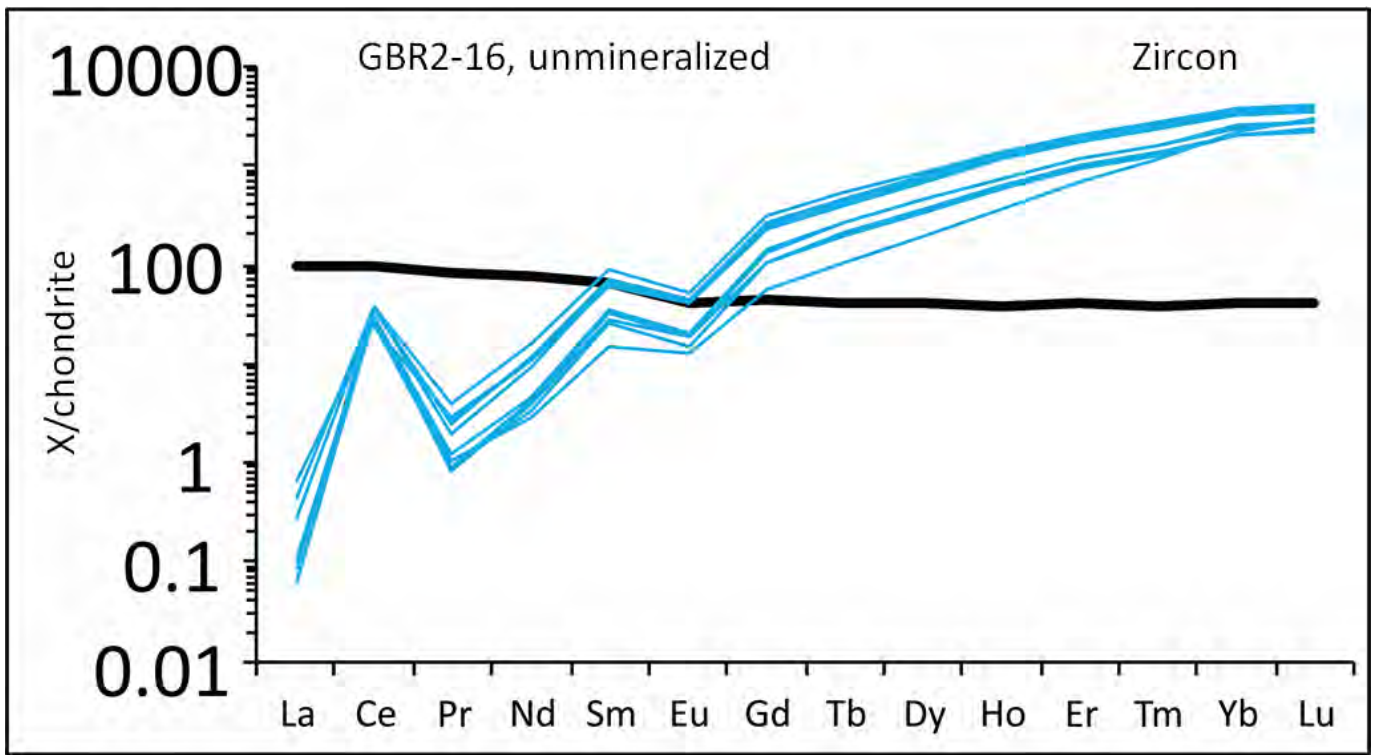


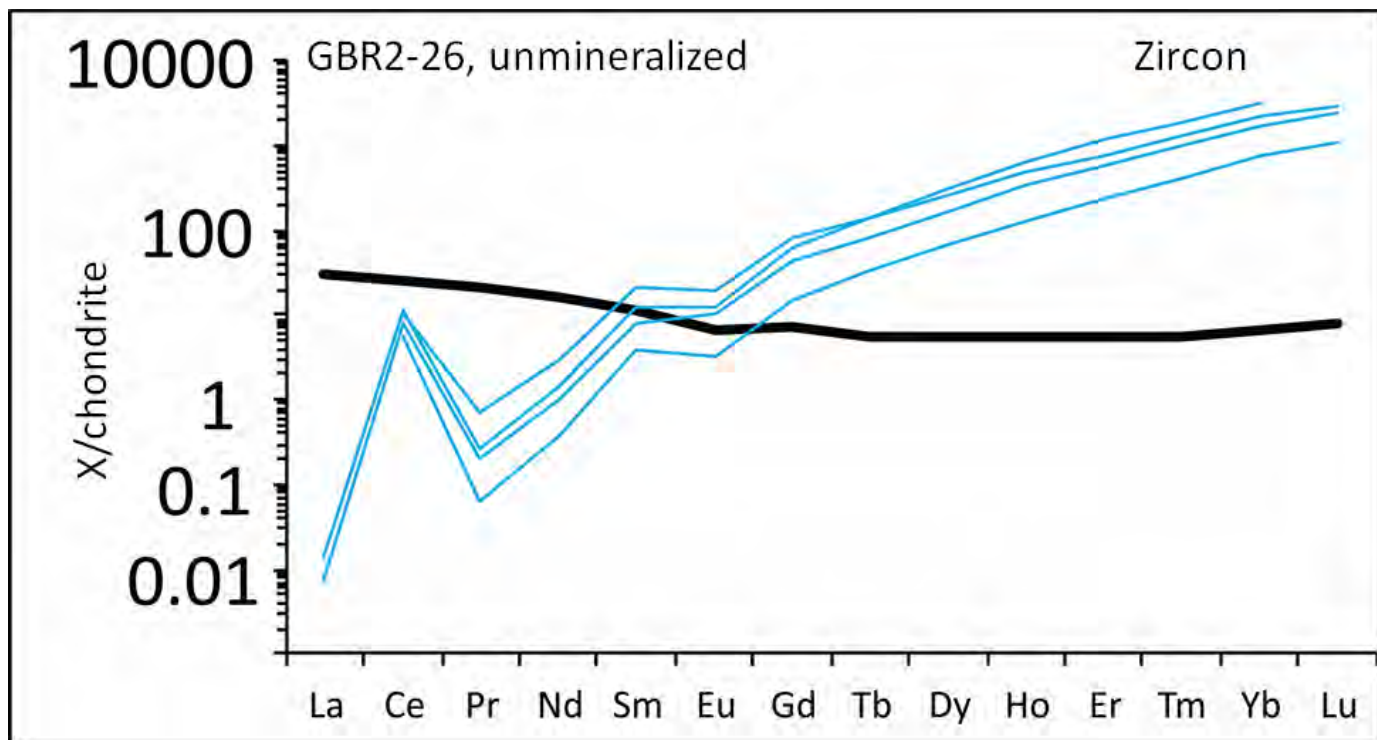
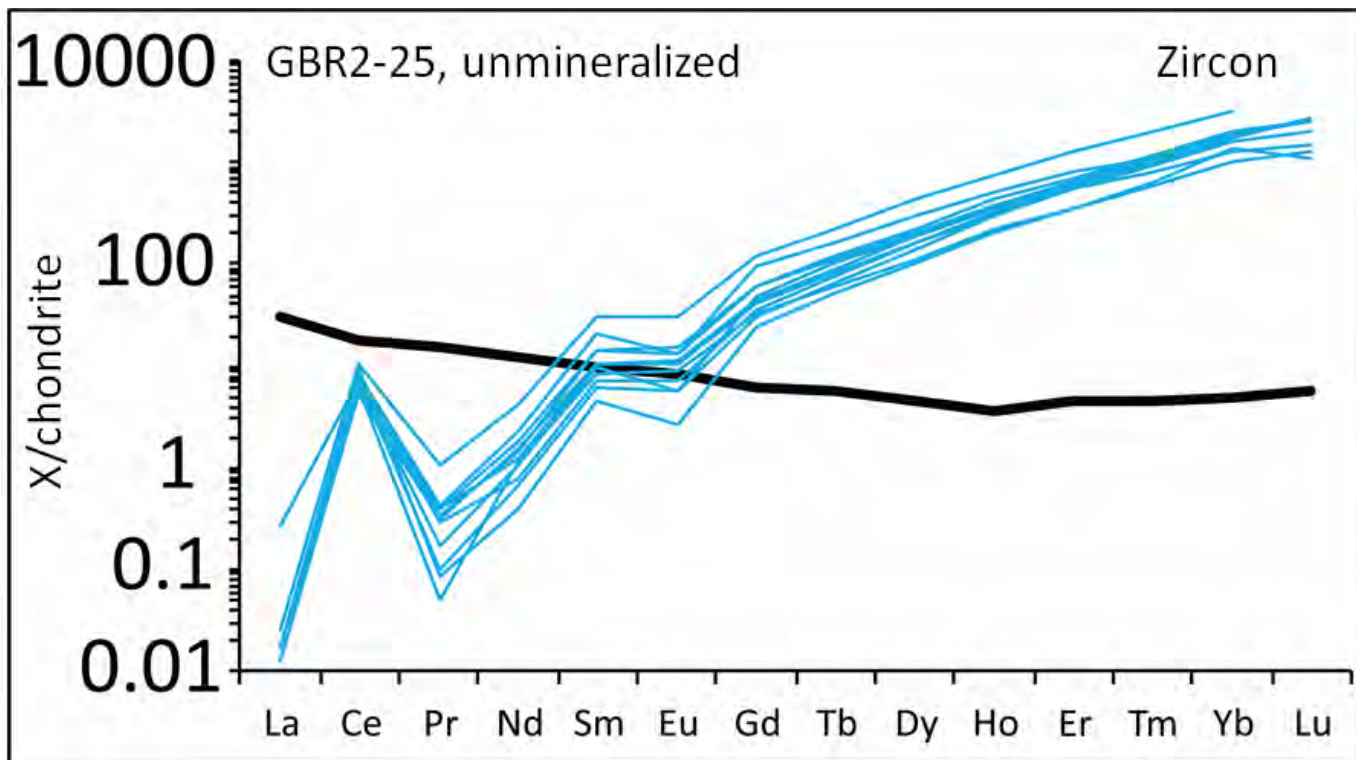












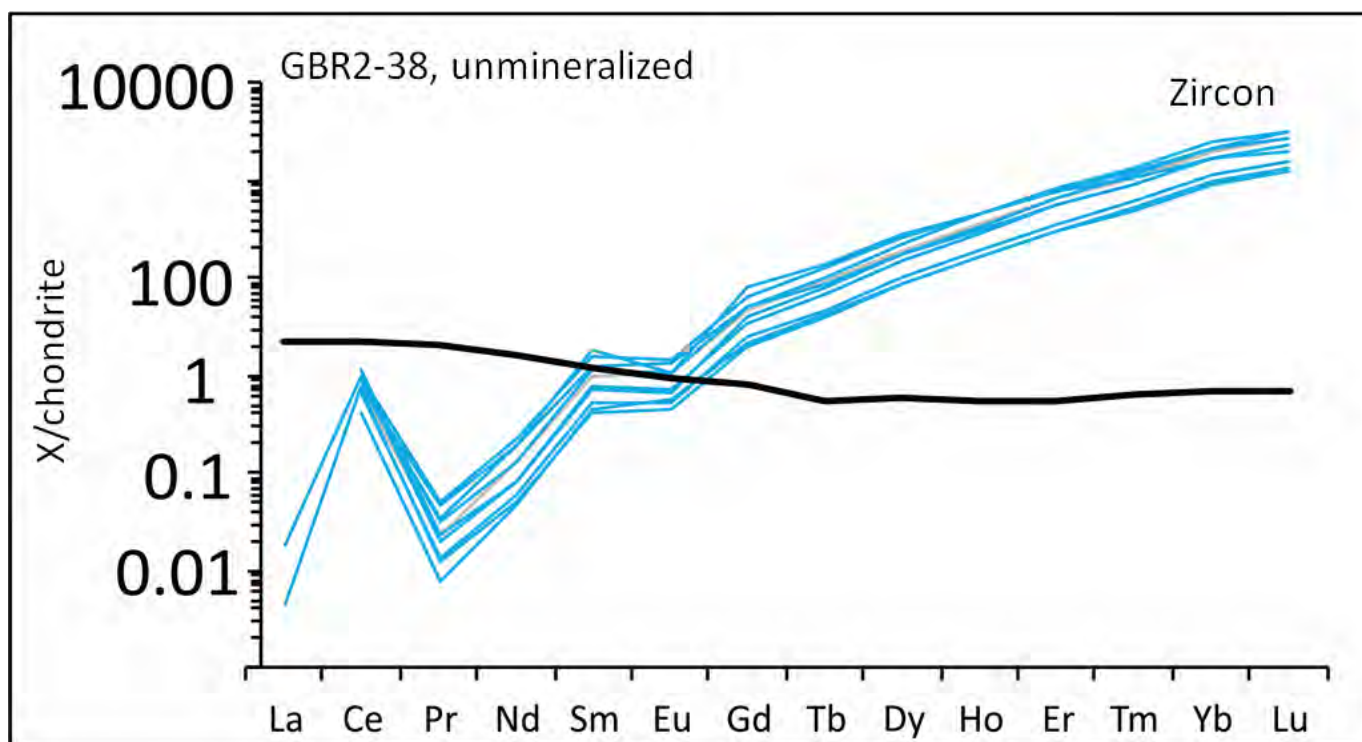
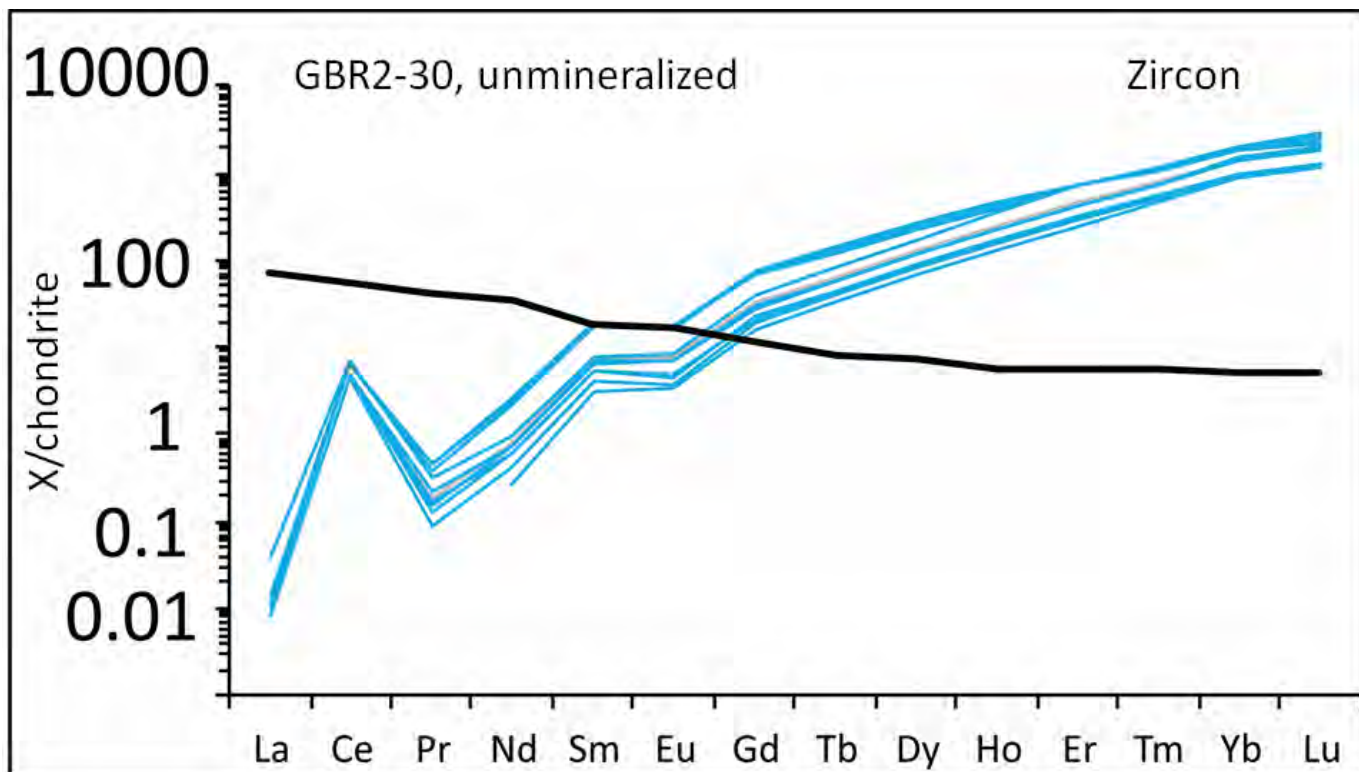


Figure 4.8. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns for zircon (red and blue lines) and its bulk rock (black thick line). Red lines are mineralized intrusions and blue are unmineralized intrusions. Chondrite values based on McDonough and Sun (1995).

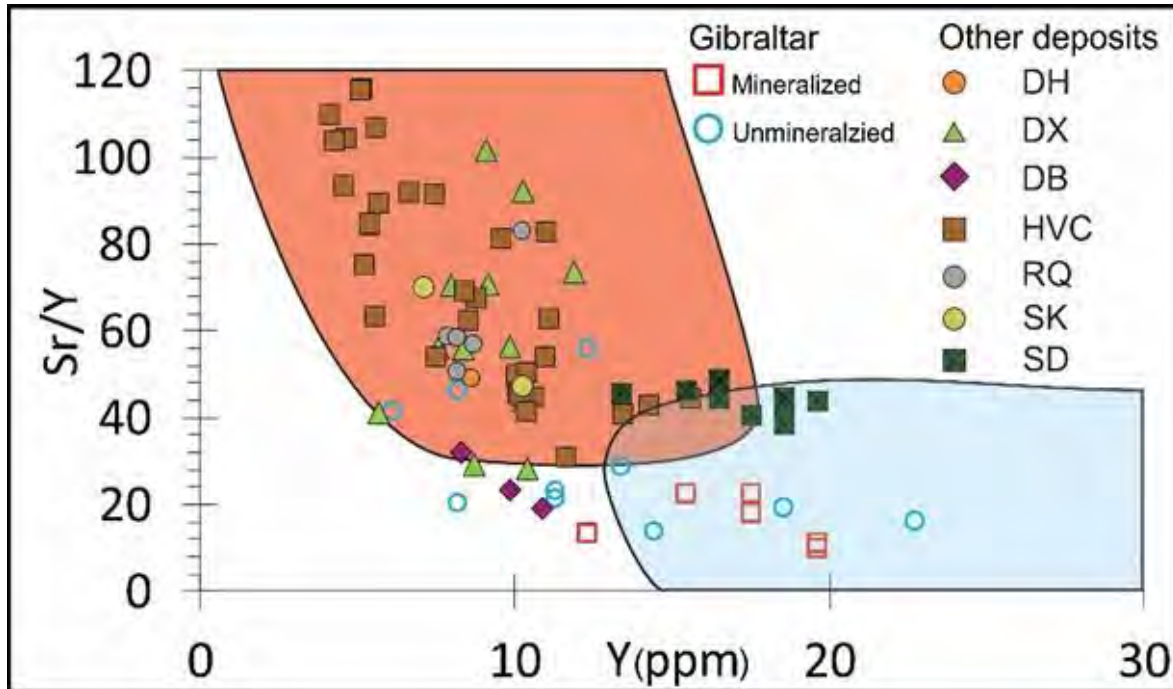


Figure 4.9. Sr/Y vs. Y diagram showing fields for adakite-like rocks (orange) and normal arc rocks (blue) from Defant and Drummond (1993). Data sources: Dexing Cu-Mo-Au deposit (DX; Zhang et al., 2013); Shadan Cu-Au (SD), Saindak Cu (SK) and Reko Diq Cu-Au (RD) (Richards et al., 2012); Duobaoshan Cu (DB) and Deheishan Cu-Mo (DH) (Ge et al., 2007); and Highland Valley Copper Cu-Mo (HVC)(Whalen et al., 2017).

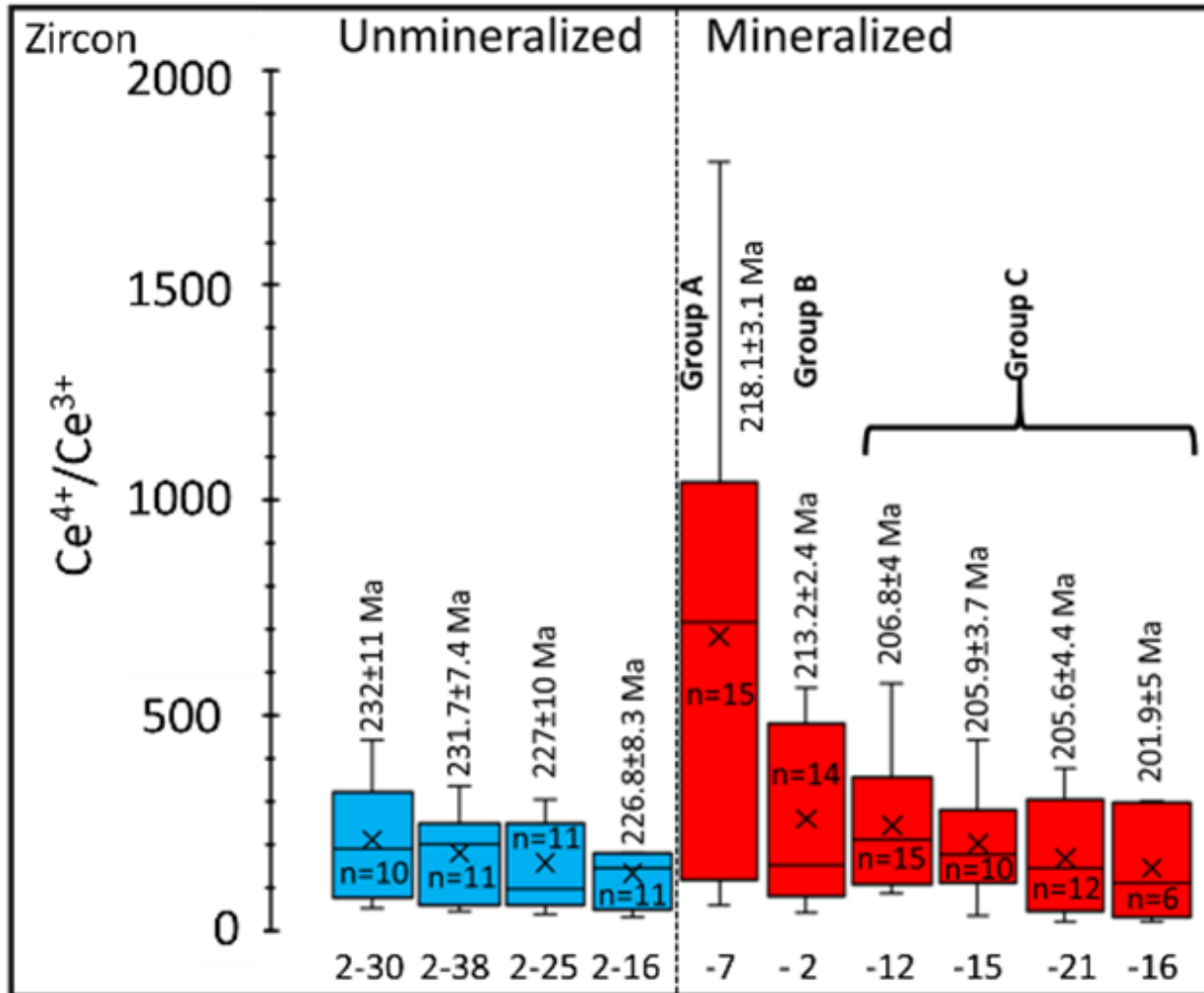


Figure 4.10. Box-and whisker plots of Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} values in zircon from the GMB. Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} is calculated using the method proposed by Ballard et al. (2002). A box is defined by upper and lower quartile values. X represents the mean value for each group. Uncertainties of ages are 2sigma. Sample numbers are indicated below each box-and whisker plot omitting the prefix “GBR”.

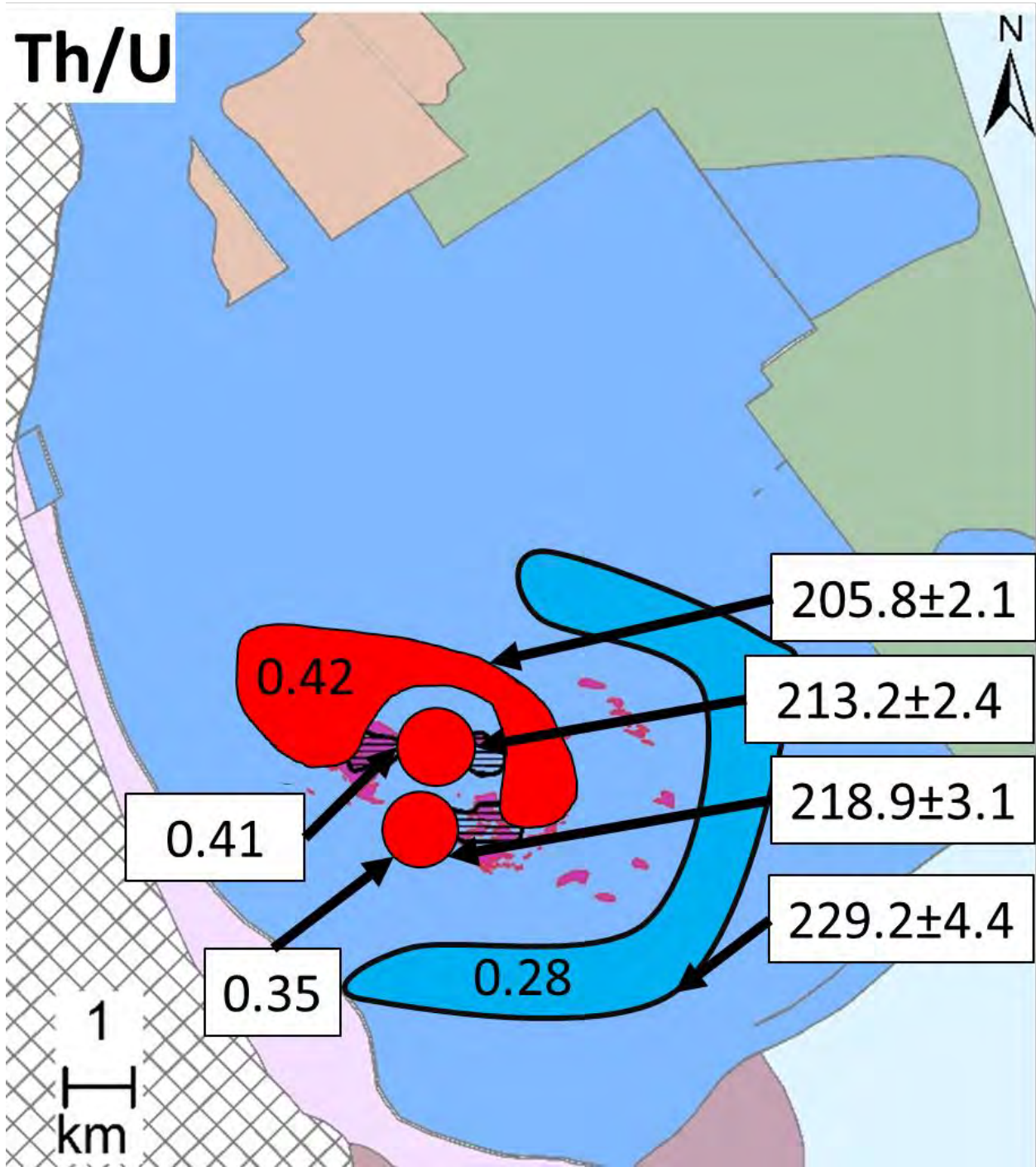


Figure 4.11: Simplified map of the GMB and the 4 identified magmas from this study. Each magma has corresponding U-Pb age data attached to it and Th/U ratios in zircon.

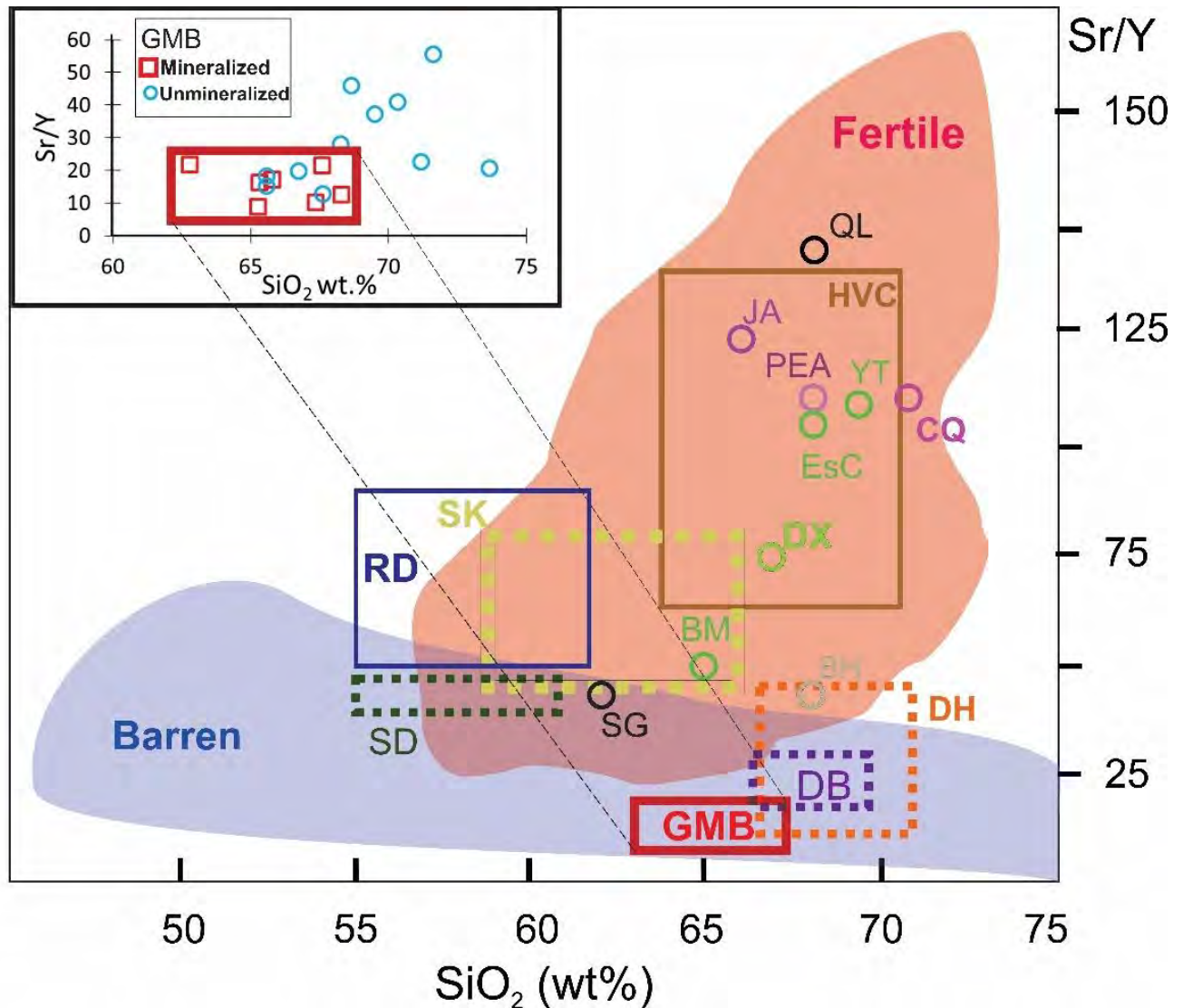


Figure 4.12. Bulk rock Sr/Y vs. SiO₂ discrimination diagram showing the compositions of fertile (dark orange) and barren (blue) intrusions, after Loucks (2014). All rectangles are full range of bulk rock data. The red square shows the range of values for the mineralized intrusions from the GMB (this study). The brown square with HVC represents rocks from the mineralized Bethesda and Bethlehem phases of the Highland Valley porphyry Cu deposit (Whalen et al., 2017). The open circles are values for deposits discussed in this paper with data from Loucks (2014). Data sources and abbreviations are the same as those for Fig. 4.9. Additional deposits are Batu Hijau Cu-Au (BH), Bingham Cu (BM), Chuquicamata Cu-Mo (CQ), Escondida Cu-Mo (EsC), Jiana Cu-Mo (JA), Pajonal El-Abra Cu (PEA), and Qulong Cu-Mo (QL) and the sources are Loucks (2014).

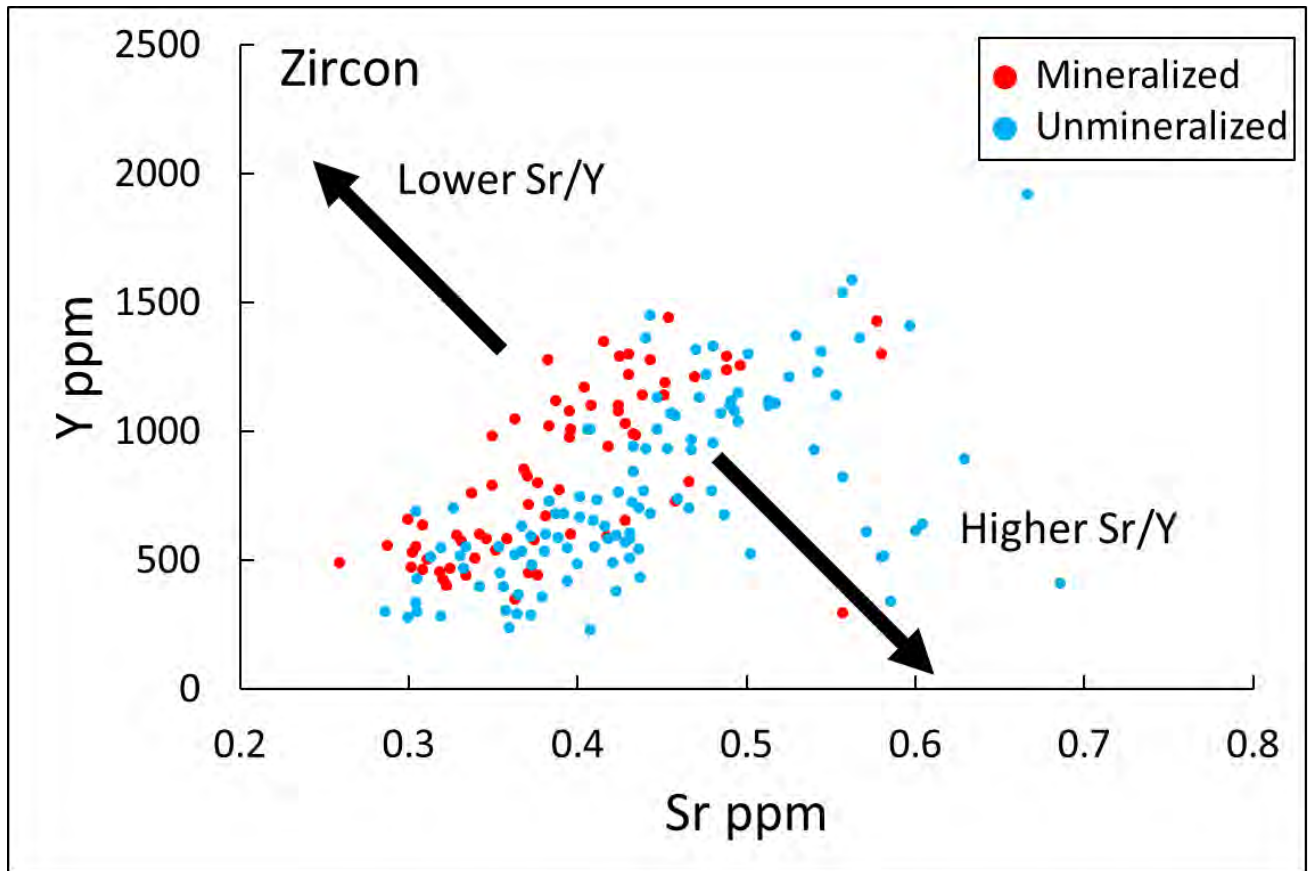


Figure 4.13. Sr-Y plot comparing mineralized and unmineralized samples of the GMB. The arrows indicate the general direction of samples that would plot with lower or higher Sr/Y ratios.

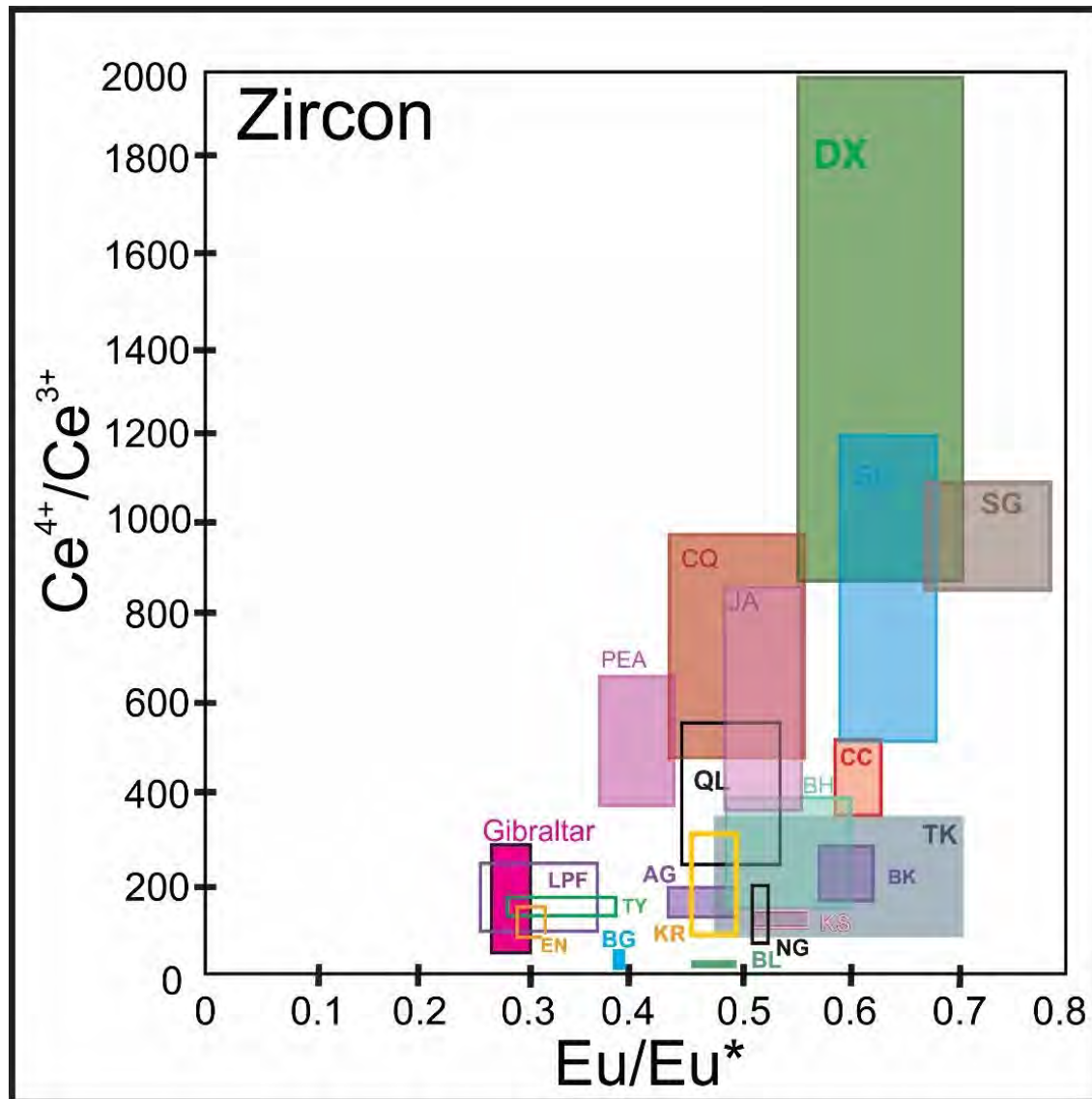


Figure 4.14. Box plots of Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} vs. Eu/Eu^* for zircons from porphyry Cu deposits. A box shows lower and upper quartile values. Data sources: Pajonal-El Abra, Los Picos-Fortuna Cu (LPF) and Chuquicamata (Ballard et al., 2002); Cerro Corona Cu-Au (CC), (Hattori et al., 2017); Baogutu Cu (BG), Borly Cu-Mo (BL), Tuwu-Yandong Cu-Au (TY), Koksai Cu-Mo (KS), Erdnet Cu-Mo (EN), Aktogai Cu-Mo (AG), Kounrad Cu (KR), Nurkazghan Cu (NG) and Bozshakol Cu-Mo (BK) (Shen et al., 2015). The values of Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} for the Batu Hijau Cu-Au (BH), Tampakan Cu-Au (TK), Dexing Cu-Mo-Au (DX), Qulong Cu-Mo (QL), Jiama Cu-Mo (JA), Sar Cheshmeh Cu-Mo-Au (SC) and Sungun Cu-Mo (SG) deposits were calculated from Ce/Nd values reported by Lu et al. (2016) using the correlation ($Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} = 7.28 (Ce/Nd(1.35))$ determined (this study). Abbreviations are the same as those for Fig. 4.9 and Fig. 4.11.

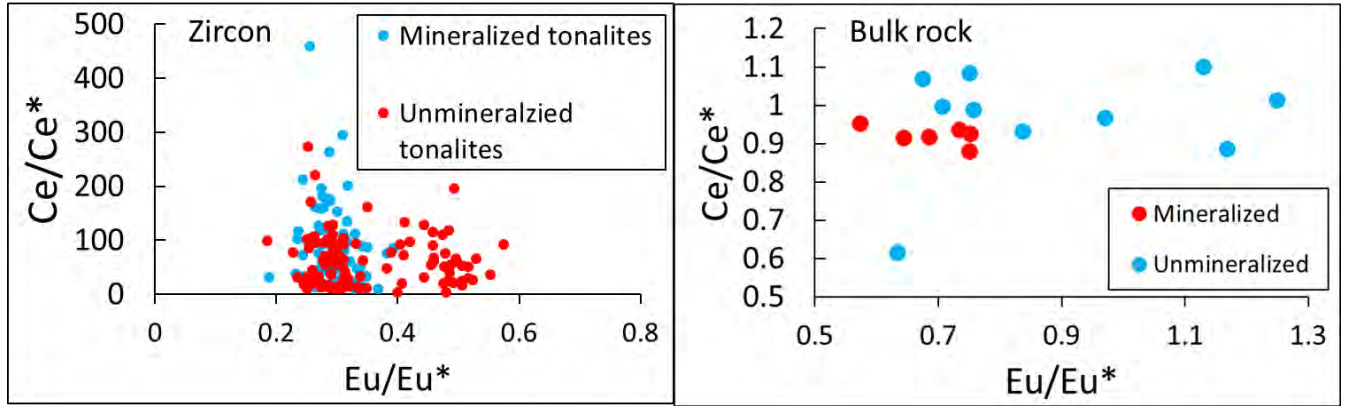


Figure 4.15. Comparison between Eu anomalies and Ce anomalies in both zircon (left) and bulk rock (right). $Eu/Eu^* = Eu_N / ((Sm_N * Gd_N)^{1/2})$ and $Ce/Ce^* = Ce_N / [Nd_N * Sm_N]^{1/2}$

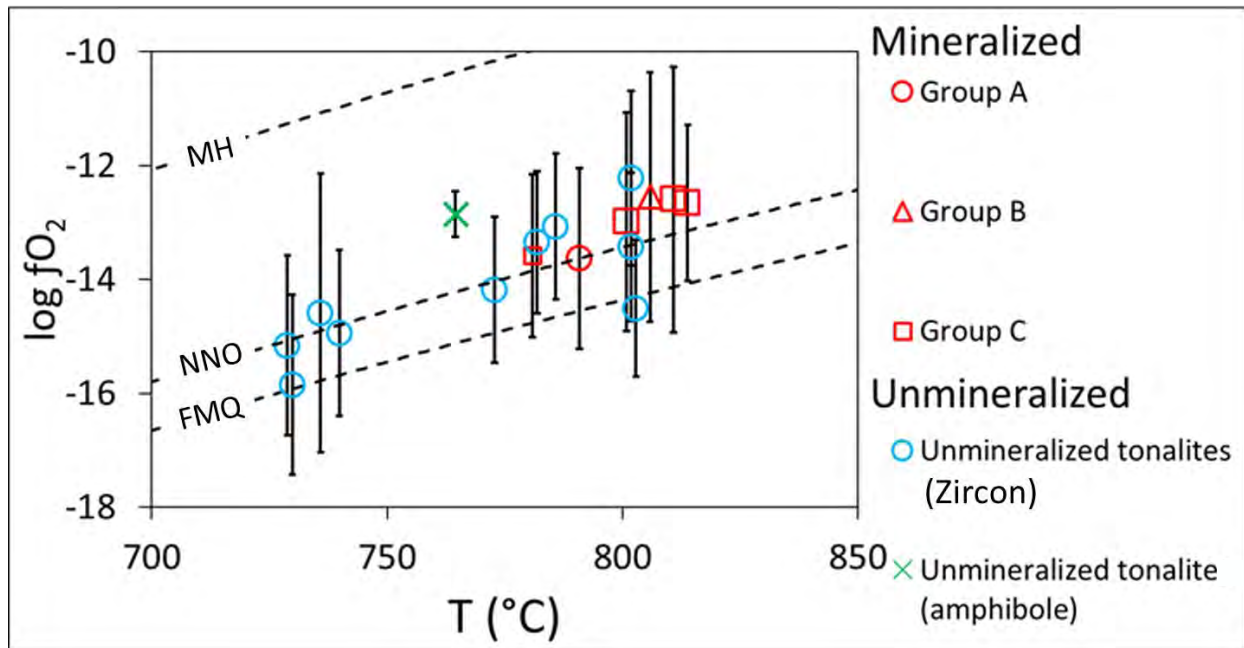


Figure 4.16. $\log fO_2$ vs. Temperature for tonalites of the GMB. Unless otherwise indicated by a parentheses in the legend, $\log fO_2$ values are calculated using zircon, based on the model of Smythe and Brenan (2016a, b) using hydrous based ratios of (non-bridging oxygen)/(tetrahedral oxygen). The calculation uses average Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} for each sample, 4.5 wt.% water content and temperatures obtained with Ti-in-zircon thermometry of Ferry and Watson (2007). fO_2 and

crystallization temperature using amphibole composition is based on the model of Ridolfi et al. (2010). Mineral redox buffers of fayalite-magnetite-quartz (FMQ), nickel-nickel oxide (NNO) and magnetite-hematite (MH) are shown as dashed black lines. Error bars are 2σ . Detailed explanations for the calculation are in the text. Uncertainties are based on propagated uncertainties of compositions of bulk rock and zircon.

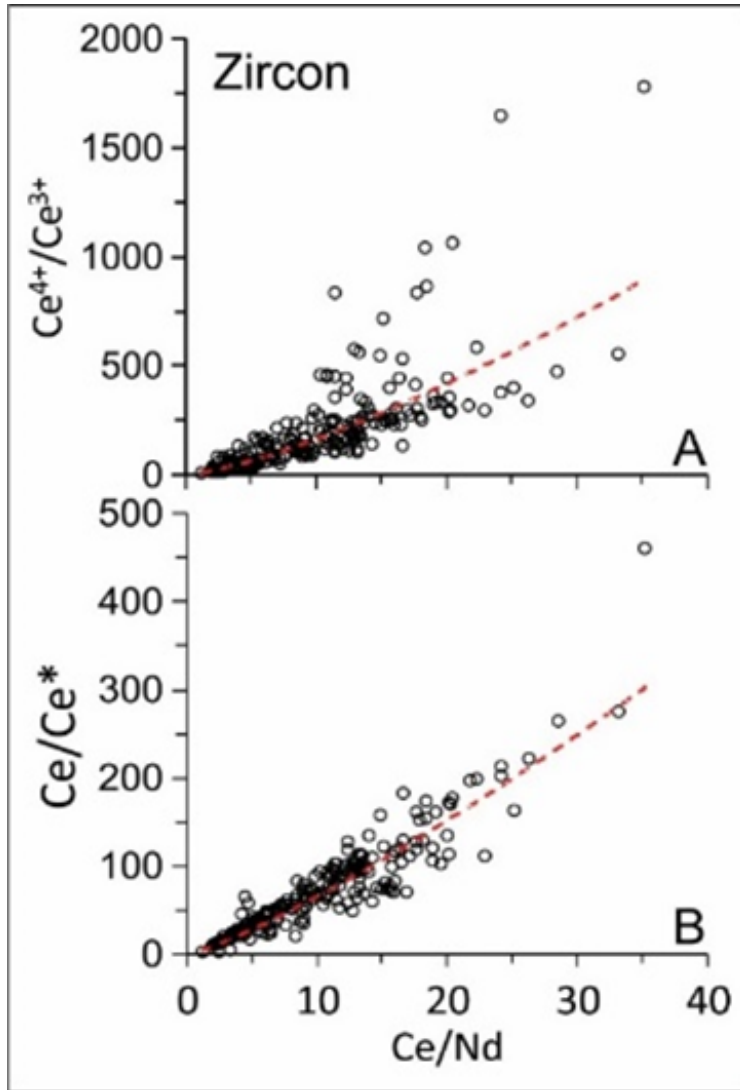


Figure 4.17. (A) Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} vs. Ce/Nd in zircon with the correlation coefficient of 0.90. The red dashed line shows the relationship of the two, $Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} = 7.28(Ce/Nd)(1.35)$. (B) Ce/Ce^* vs. Ce/Nd in zircon with a correlation coefficient of 0.94. The relationship of $Ce/Ce^* = 3.94(Ce/Nd)(1.21)$ is shown with red dashed line. Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} values are correlated with Ce/Ce^* with a correlation coefficient of 0.84 and the relationship of $Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} = 2.71 (Ce/Ce^*)0.92$.

CHAPTER 5.

Global Summary & Conclusions

5.1 Summary

Primary mineralogy

Primary mineralogy is similar throughout the GMB with all rocks being tonalite and minor quartz diorite and diorite. All rocks contain quartz, plagioclase, biotite, hornblende, titanite, apatite, zircon and magnetite. Mineralized intrusions near (< 4 km) the mine pits are highly altered and only show relict hornblende and biotite as they are replaced by secondary biotite and/or chlorite. Unmineralized intrusions show unaltered and contain partially altered hornblende and biotite.

Primary titanite forms euhedral tabular crystals with low Al_2O_3 (1.2-1.21 wt.%) and is common in all samples in this study. The occurrence of primary titanite, magnetite and hornblende suggests $f\text{O}_2 > \text{FMQ}+0.5$ at 700°C .

Primary hornblende, biotite and plagioclase suggest that the parental magmas for all rocks of the GMB likely contained more than 4.5 wt% H_2O assuming a placement depth of 5km and a crystallization temperature of 825°C .

Alteration

Alteration mineralogy varies with distance from Cu-mineralization. Alteration minerals are: Epidote, chlorite, white mica, titanite rutile, magnetite, calcite, hematite and pyrite.

Titanite occurs as an alteration mineral of biotite, forming small aggregates with chlorite. Since primary biotite contains significant Ti, chloritization of primary biotite releases Ti to form titanite (~50 μm in length, ~25 μm in width) and rutile needles (~25 μm in length, ~10 μm in width).

Epidote

Epidote is ubiquitous throughout the batholith and shows three types of occurrences within the GMB with modalities up to 40%; Small isolated grains replacing plagioclase, disseminated aggregates of epidote grains and poly- or mono-mineralic veins and veinlets. Epidote composition varies primarily due to Fe and Al contents within grains and between grains within one thin section (Chapters 3 and 4). Allanite and light rare earth element (LREE)-bearing epidote is restricted to

near mineralization (< 2 km), suggesting a mechanism for the incorporation of LREE proximal to Cu-mineralization.

Epidote from the GMB is distinct compared to epidote from the Nicola volcanic rocks. Epidote from the GMB is compositionally zoned and lacking mineral inclusions. Epidote in the Nicola mafic volcanoclastic rocks is relatively Fe-rich without significant compositional zoning and shows inclusions of apatite and titanite.

Epidote grains in the GMB show oscillatory zoning of Fe-poor and Fe-rich (Chapter 4). Some grains multiple oscillations (Appendix 3, Fig. A3-1). Epidote grains surrounded by sulphides are relatively Fe poor (9.96 - 13.9 wt.% Fe₂O₃(t)). We suggest that the composition of epidote in mineralized intrusions reflects hydrothermal fluid composition controlled by sulphide precipitation. Early fluids initially rich in S and Fe would initially precipitate sulphides. Epidote would preferentially incorporate Fe into its structure leaving the fluids relatively Fe-poor, forming Fe-poor core of epidote. Subsequently fluids low in S are introduced, and thus Fe in the hydrothermal fluids form the Fe-rich rims in epidote. The fluids generated in the mineralized intrusions would have spread to the entire GMB, producing epidote with Fe-poor ore and Fe-rich rims throughout the batholith. This process may repeat many times. This is consistent with epidote showing multiple oscillating Fe-Al rich rims around Fe-poor cores (Appendix 3, Fig. A3-1) and the identification of multiple separate magmas (Chapter 5). Epidote in unmineralized intrusions is also compositionally zoned with Fe-poor cores. The composition is likely influenced by the changes in pH, temperature of hydrothermal fluids moving away from mineralization.

U-Pb ages of Zircon

Zircon analysis from the GMB (Chapter 5) identified at least 4 distinct magmatic events forming the GMB over ~25 Ma with time gaps (>0.2Ma) between different events.

- The first magma crystallized in a juvenile oceanic arc at 229.2±4.4 Ma. It is relatively cool, reduced in oxidation state, evolved and barren for the mineralization.
- Later, at 218.9±3.1Ma, another magma crystallized in the central section of the GMB. This magma is formed in a more mature island arc setting with a thicker crust. It shows the highest average and highest third quartile value for Ce⁴⁺/Ce³⁺ among magmas for the GMB.

It is more Mg-rich, hotter and fertile than previous barren magmatism. It contributed to the Cu mineralization. This magma is associated with the Cu ore in the Granite Lake pit that produces the highest grade ore in the Gibraltar deposit.

- Another magma crystallized in the central section of the GMB at 213.2 ± 2.4 Ma. This magma is formed in a mature oceanic arc setting, shows a lower Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} than the previous magma. This magma is similarly Mg-rich and hot compared to the earlier barren magmas. It too contributed to the Cu-mineralization. This magma is associated with Cu ore in the Pollyanna pit that shows the second highest grade ore in the Gibraltar deposit.
- The youngest magma in the studied samples crystallized at 205.8 ± 2.1 Ma. It is formed in a mature island arc setting, shows the lowest average and lowest quartile range for Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} of the fertile magmas. It is similarly Mg-rich and hot compared to the last two fertile magmas in the GMB. It contributes to the Cu-mineralization. This magma is associated with Cu ore in the Gibraltar East pit, which produces the lowest grade ore among all mining pits.

5.2 Conclusions and implications

- White mica alteration is associated with the Cu-mineralization at Gibraltar.
- Unmineralized intrusions lack significant white mica alteration.
- Multiple magmas in the same area led to an overprinting alteration where early potassic alteration is only identified by relict textures.
- Epidote in the GMB shows characteristics different from epidote in the surrounding Nicola mafic volcanoclastic rocks.
- Epidote composition in the mineralized intrusions of the GMB is interpreted to reflect hydrothermal fluid composition mitigated by sulphide precipitation and S and Fe content of fluids. Multiple Fe-rich and Fe-poor rims around Fe-poor epidote cores may be related to the multiple magmas identified for formation of the GMB.

- LREE-rich epidote and allanite are found in the area near the Cu-mineralization. This suggests the incorporation of LREEs into epidote proximal to Cu-mineralization at Gibraltar.
- The first magma is a barren forming the majority of the volume of the GMB at 229.2 ± 4.4 .
- The first mineralizing fertile magma forms at 218.9 ± 3.1 . The data suggests that this magma brought a majority of Cu-mineralization.
- Two subsequent magmas brought additional Cu-mineralization, adding to the tonnage of Cu at the Gibraltar deposit at 213.2 ± 2.4 and 205.8 ± 2.1 Ma respectively.
- When compared to other porphyry Cu deposits worldwide, the mineralized magmas of the Gibraltar deposit show moderate Ce anomalies and very low Eu anomalies in zircon. Mineralized rocks of the Gibraltar deposit show very low Sr/Y ratios. This suggests that highly oxidized magmas with high Sr/Y ratios are not necessary for the formation of economic porphyry deposits. These can be formed by the emplacement of multiple moderately oxidized magmas within close proximity.
- Sr/Y ratios in bulk rock and Eu/Eu* in zircon are affected by fractional crystallization of plagioclase at Gibraltar, thus are inadequate fertility indicators.
- Ce/Nd and Ce/Ce* in detrital zircon has the potential to be used as a vectoring tool towards undiscovered buried porphyry deposits.

APPENDICES.

Appendix 1 Supplementary material for Chapter 3

Table A1-1, GPS locations, geological unit and lithology of all samples in this study

Samples	Easting*	Northing*	Classification/Unit	Lithology
Polyana pit center	549109	5818410	Mineralized Tonalite	Shear zone medium grained foliated tonalite
GBR-12 (most mineralized)	547595	5818686	Mineralized Tonalite	Shear zone medium grained foliated tonalite
GBR-01-02	549353	5818912	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz Veinlets, mineralized with Ccp and Bn
GBR-03-04	548947	5817768	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz Veinlets, mineralized with Ccp and Bn
GBR-5	549117	5817924	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz Veinlets, mineralized with Ccp and Bn
GBR-6-7-8	548947	5817768	Mineralized Tonalite	Shear zone medium grained foliated tonalite, mineralized with Ccp and Bn
GBR-9	547580	5818531	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite, very oxidized, intense Wm alteration
GBR-10	547585	5818572	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite, very oxidized, intense Wm alteration
GBR-11	547590	5818600	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz veins
GBR-12	547595	5818686	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained foliated tonalite with moderate Wm alteration
GBR-13	547604	5818717	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained foliated tonalite with large mineralized Qz veins
GBR-14	547715	5818877	Mineralized Tonalite	Intensely foliated medium grained tonalite, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-15	547683	5818931	Mineralized Tonalite	Foliated medium grained tonalite with Mal, oxidized
GBR-16	546716	5819933	Mineralized Tonalite	Foliated and fractured medium grained tonalite, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-17	546435	5819858	Unmineralized Tonalite	Foliated medium grained tonalite
GBR-18	546416	5819525	Unmineralized Tonalite	Foliated medium grained tonalite
GBR-19	550967	5818070	Mineralized Tonalite	Intensely foliated medium grained tonalite, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-20	551227	5818323	Mineralized Tonalite	Foliated medium grained tonalite, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-21	550908	5817854	Mineralized Tonalite	Leucocratic medium grained tonalite with large scale (1cm+) Ep veins, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-22	551026	5817754	Mineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with large scale (1cm+) Ep veins, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-23	550979	5817808	Mineralized Tonalite (float)	Medium grained tonalite, moderate Ep alteration, mineralized with Ccp
GBR-24	550773	5818002	Mineralized Tonalite	Melanocratic medium grained tonalite with pink alteration
GBR-25	551820	5816476	Unmineralized Tonalite	Melanocratic medium grained tonalite
GBR-26	551923	5816797	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with moderate Wm and Ep alteration
GBR-27	551791	5815919	Unmineralized Tonalite	Leucocratic medium grained tonalite with Ep veinlets
GBR-28-29	551694	5815871	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite rich in Ep veins, contains leucocratic dykes
GBR-30	551505	5816016	Unmineralized Tonalite	Leucocratic tonalite with large scale (1cm+) Ep veins
GBR-31	550921	5815385	Unknown unit	Fine grained gabbro
GBR-32	550656	5815284	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz veins, Bt intact
GBR-33	550145	5814979	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz veins
GBR-34	554832	5827378	Dragon Mountain Succession	Slaty mud and sandstones
GBR-35	555290	5826955	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl-Qz veins
GBR-36	555304	5826943	Unmineralized Tonalite	Leucocratic coarse grained tonalite, 10% fully chloritized mafics, Ep veins and apeltic dyke cross cuts
GBR-37	555304	5826943	Unmineralized Tonalite	Sample of the apeltic dyke, fine grained Qz
GBR-38	555183	5826595	Nicola volcanics (subcrop)	Medium grained mafic volcanoclastic
GBR-39	555489	5826958	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained isotropic tonalite with Ep veins and apeltic dyke
GBR-40	555489	5826958	Unmineralized Tonalite	Sample of the apeltic dyke, fine grained Qz
GBR-41	555136	5827698	Nicola volcanics	Coarse grained mafic volcanoclastics
GBR-42	555217	5827704	Nicola volcanics	Coarse grained mafic volcanoclastics with finer grained intercalated layers volcanoclastic material
GBR-43-44	554581	5827882	Nicola volcanics (float)	Coarse grained mafic volcanoclastics, intense Ep
GBR-45	556542	5828171	Unknown unit	Serpentine
GBR-46	556466	5828592	Unknown unit	Qz rich volcanoclastic sandstone, very orange oxidation
GBR-47	556834	5825064	Nicola volcanics	Coarse grained mafic volcanoclastics
GBR-48-49	556597	5825452	Unknown unit	Fine grained basalt
GBR-50-51-52	556482	5825357	Nicola volcanics	Coarse grained mafic volcanoclastics
GBR2-1	543080	5808865	Erdako mafic volcanics	Fine grained basalt
GBR2-2	546527	5826228	Unmineralized Tonalite	Melanocratic Qz-diorite
GBR2-3	550649	5827608	Nicola volcanics	Fine grained mafic volcanoclastic
GBR2-4	549132	5828117	Nicola volcanics	Medium grained mafic volcanoclastic
GBR2-5	549808	5829201	Nicola volcanics mingled with Cache Creek	Limestone and mafic volcanoclastics mixed
GBR2-6	549769	5829170	Nicola volcanics	Fine grained mafic volcanoclastic hosting larger clasts
GBR2-7	550608	5815245	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl veinlets
GBR2-8	550608	5815245	Unmineralized Tonalite	Centimetre scale Ep vein sample from GBR2-7
GBR2-9	551501	5816009	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained isotropic tonalite with Chl-Ep veinlets
GBR2-10	551741	5815902	Unmineralized Tonalite	Centimetre scale Ep vein sample from GBR2-11
GBR2-11	551741	5815902	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep veinlets
GBR2-12	549340	5815170	Unmineralized Tonalite	Melanocratic Qz-diorite
GBR2-13	549340	5815170	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep veinlets
GBR2-14	549555	5814109	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained melanocratic tonalite
GBR2-15	549195	5814506	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained leucocratic tonalite with Ep veins
GBR2-16	549133	5814555	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained isotropic tonalite with Bt intact
GBR2-17	547717	5816619	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Ep-Chl veinlets
GBR2-18	547384	5814942	Cuisson Lake Unit	Fine grained metamorphosed mafic volcanic, large Ep and Cal veins
GBR2-19	549407	5810156	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-20	550163	5809660	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-21	549954	5810203	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-22	553732	5813426	Sheridan Creek Stock	Fine grained quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-23	553845	5813494	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium grained foliated tonalite, mafics altered
GBR2-24	553144	5815364	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained foliated tonalite with Ep veins
GBR2-25	553403	5814985	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained leucocratic tonalite
GBR2-26	553564	5814516	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained foliated tonalite with Chl-Ep veinlets
GBR2-27	553564	5814516	Unmineralized Tonalite	Ep-Qz vein
GBR2-28	553813	5812316	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium grained quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-29	552957	5812733	Sheridan Creek Stock	Medium grained quartz diorite, mafics intact
GBR2-30	554452	5819974	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained leucocratic tonalite with weak Ep alteration
GBR2-31	554452	5819974	Unmineralized Tonalite	Ep-Qz vein
GBR2-32	553518	5819695	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with Chl veinlets, 15% fully chloritized mafics
GBR2-33	553649	5819685	Unmineralized Tonalite	Leucocratic coarse grained tonalite, 10% fully chloritized mafics
GBR2-34	553697	5819850	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with 10-15% fully chloritized mafics
GBR2-35	551357	5821122	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained isotropic tonalite, some mafics intact (Hbl)
GBR2-36	551672	5821442	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained tonalite, isotropic, 10-15% chloritized mafics
GBR2-37	551704	5821431	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with 15% fully chloritized mafics
GBR2-38	551911	5821353	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained tonalite, mafics intact (Hbl)
GBR2-39	553258	5821390	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained tonalite, mafics intact (Hbl)
GBR2-40	552974	5821963	Unmineralized Tonalite	Coarse grained tonalite, mafics intact (Hbl)
GBR2-41	556337	5820355	Unmineralized Tonalite	Float of Nicola rocks intruded by unmineralized tonalite
GBR2-42	546443	5827826	Unmineralized Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with 20-30% completely chloritized mafics
GBR2-43	549194	5828217	Nicola volcanics	Coarser grained mafic volcanoclastic, Ep content is moderate compared to other Nicola volcanics
GBR2-44	549605	5827998	Nicola volcanics	Medium grained mafic volcanoclastics, Ep content is highest with Ep in large cm scale veins and matrix
GBR2-45	550195	5828007	Nicola volcanics	Medium grained mafic volcanoclastic, Ep content is low compared to other Nicola volcanics
GBR2-46	547922	5830102	Dragon Mountain Succession	Mudstone intercalated with sandstone
GBR2-47	546716	5819933	Mineralized Tonalite	Same as GBR-1, duplicate, with Ep-Qz vein
GBR2-48	544126	5818205	Chicotin group volcanics	Fine grained basalt with small vesiculae and Opx phenocrysts
GBR2-49	547315	5815097	Cuisson Lake Unit	Chl schist with fine grained Ep rich horizons

*All samples were collected in Zone 10 N using NAD 83

Abbreviations: Tr = trace, Ep= epidote, Wm= white mica, Mal = malachite, Py = pyrite, Ccp= chalcopyrite, Bn = bornite, Pl = plagioclase, Qz = Quartz, Tin = titanite

Rt= rutile, Chl = chlorite, Mag = magnetite, Cal = calcite, Hbl = hornblende, Mal = malachite, Zr = Zircon, Cov = Covellite, Ol = olivine, Srp = serpentine, Px = pyroxene

Fine grained= major grains (Pl, Qz) are between <1mm

Medium grained= major grains (Pl, Qz) are between 1-2 mm

Coarse grained= major grains (Pl, Qz) are >2mm

Appendix Table A1-4. Compositions of epidote in Nicola volcanic rocks, determined with SEM-EDS

Sample	GBR-2-4			GBR-2-44								GBR-2-44					
Location*	North of GMB			North of GMB								North of GMB					
Analysis area	Rim	Core	Core	Rim	Core	Core	Rim	Core	Core	Rim	Core	Rim	Rim	Core	Core	Core	Core
Al ₂ O ₃	21.36	20.77	20.19	23.1	21.17	22.24	22.29	22.16	22.04	21.96	22.31	21.55	21.5	22.31	22.43	21.85	21.66
SiO ₂	37.59	37.74	37.96	37.84	38.17	38.96	38.03	38.92	37.9	38.13	37.81	38.38	37.72	38.38	38.16	38	38.39
CaO	22.87	23.04	22.16	23.12	22.92	22.79	23.16	23.57	23.06	23.6	22.96	22.59	23.19	22.62	22.26	22.81	22.84
Fe ₂ O ₃ (t)	17.56	17.83	19.07	15.33	17.12	15.39	15.91	15.35	16.38	15.69	16.31	16.87	16.97	16.08	16.53	16.73	16.49
Sum**	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
apfu based on 12.5 O										apfu based on 12.5 O							
Ca ²⁺	1.94	1.96	1.89	1.95	1.94	1.91	1.95	1.97	1.95	1.99	1.94	1.91	1.97	1.9	1.87	1.93	1.93
A site	1.94	1.96	1.89	1.95	1.94	1.91	1.95	1.97	1.95	1.99	1.94	1.91	1.97	1.9	1.87	1.93	1.93
Fe ^{3+***}	1.05	1.06	1.14	0.91	1.02	0.91	0.94	0.9	0.97	0.93	0.97	1	1.01	0.95	0.98	0.99	0.98
Al ³⁺	1.99	1.94	1.89	2.14	1.97	2.05	2.07	2.04	2.05	2.04	2.07	2	2.01	2.07	2.08	2.03	2.01
M site	3.04	3.01	3.03	3.05	2.99	2.96	3.01	2.94	3.02	2.97	3.04	3	3.02	3.02	3.06	3.02	2.99
Si ⁴⁺	2.98	2.99	3.01	2.97	3.02	3.05	2.99	3.04	2.99	3	2.98	3.02	2.98	3.01	3	3	3.02
T site	2.98	2.99	3.01	2.97	3.02	3.05	2.99	3.04	2.99	3	2.98	3.02	2.98	3.01	3	3	3.02
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.34	0.35	0.38	0.3	0.34	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.32	0.31	0.32	0.33	0.34	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.33

* GPS coordinates are reported in Appendix Table 1

** Anhydrous component is normalized to 100%

*** All Fe is assumed to be Fe³⁺

Appendix Table A1-5. Compositions of REE-rich epidote and allanite in the GMB, determined with SEM-EDS

Sample	GBR-28				
Location*	South east part of MP				
Analysis area	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core
MgO	<0.1	<0.1	0.99	1.59	1.29
Al ₂ O ₃	22	15.72	15.27	12.43	13
SiO ₂	38.14	34.01	34.41	34.11	33.45
CaO	17.03	14.04	13.78	11.44	11.71
MnO	1	0.89	0.89	0.99	0.99
Fe ₂ O ₃ (t)	15.86	21.36	21.43	23.82	22.67
Ce ₂ O ₃	5.58	9.99	11.01	14.62	11.02
La ₂ O ₃	1.99	6.13	5.35	4.97	9.43
Sum*	100	100	100	100	100
apfu based on 12.5 O					
Ca ²⁺	1.46	1.32	1.29	1.10	1.13
Ce ³⁺	0.16	0.32	0.35	0.48	0.36
La ³⁺	0.06	0.20	0.17	0.16	0.31
Mn ²⁺	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08
Total REEs	0.35	0.52	0.52	0.64	0.68
A site	1.77	1.91	1.88	1.82	1.88
Fe ²⁺ **	0.87	1.29	1.28	1.46	1.40
Al	2.07	1.63	1.57	1.31	1.38
Mg	<0.1	<0.1	0.13	0.21	0.17
M site	3.04	2.99	3.00	3.06	3.01
Si	3.04	2.99	3.00	3.06	3.01
T site	3.04	2.99	3.00	3.06	3.01
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.29	0.44	0.45	0.53	0.5

*GPS locations are listed in Appendix Table 1

* Anhydrous component is normalized to 100%

** All Fe is assumed to be Fe²⁺ for apfu calculations of REE-rich epidote and allanite

MP=Mine Phase

Appendix Table A1-6. Compositions of epidote rims in the GMB, determined by EPMA

Sample	GBR-16		GBR-32		GBR-28			GBR-11
Location*	East pit		South of MP		South east of MP			East pit
Analysis area	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim	Rim
CaO	22.79	23.1	22.05	22.62	22.82	22.19	23.4	22.93
SrO	0.29	0.14	0.11	0.19	0.09	0.35	0.4	0.36
Al ₂ O ₃	21.39	20.63	20.78	20.35	19.29	21.59	21.18	21.5
TiO ₂	0.04	0.04	0.17	0.1	<0.01	0.04	0.11	0.06
MnO	0.24	0.2	0.15	0.29	0.17	0.7	0.8	0.23
Fe ₂ O ₃	15.88	16.9	17.7	18.8	18.26	14.73	14.64	14.7
FeO	0.03	<0.01	0.02	0.03	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
V ₂ O ₃	0.06	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.07
La ₂ O ₃	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.03	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	<0.01
Ce ₂ O ₃	0.05	<0.01	0.05	<0.01	<0.01	0.03	<0.01	<0.01
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.04	<0.01	<0.01	0.07	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.01	<0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.03
SiO ₂	36.16	35.97	35.61	35.3	35.85	36.71	36.64	36.74
Sum	96.89	97.06	96.67	97.72	96.54	96.38	97.24	96.58
apfu based on 12.5 O								
Ca ²⁺	2	2.03	1.94	1.99	2.02	1.94	2.04	2
Sr ²⁺	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0	0.02	0.02	0.02
Mn ²⁺	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.02
Ce ³⁺	0.0001	<0.0001	<0.001	0.0004	<0.001	0	0.0003	<0.0001
La ³⁺	0.001	<0.001	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0	<0.001	<0.001
Pr ³⁺	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	<0.001	0	<0.001	<0.001
Nd ³⁺	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0	<0.001	0	<0.001	<0.001
Total REEs	0.0021	0	0.001	0.0014	0	0	0.0003	0
A site	2.03	2.05	1.96	2.01	2.04	2.01	2.12	2.04
Al ³⁺	2.06	1.99	2.01	1.97	1.88	2.08	2.03	2.07
Fe ^{3+*}	0.97	1.04	1.09	1.16	1.14	0.91	0.9	0.9
V ³⁺	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002
M site	3.04	3.04	3.11	3.13	3.02	2.99	2.93	2.97
Si ⁴⁺	2.95	2.95	2.93	2.89	2.97	3	2.98	3
Ti ⁴⁺	0.002	0.002	0.011	0.006	0	0.002	0.007	0.004
T site	2.96	2.95	2.94	2.9	2.97	3	2.99	3
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.37	0.38	0.3	0.31	0.3

Cl, F, Y, Th, Pb, Cr, Nb and Sc were all below detection limits

* GPS coordinates are reported in Appendix Table 1

** All Fe is assumed to be Fe³⁺

MP=Mine Phase

Appendix Table A1-7. Compositions of epidote cores in the GMB, determined by EPMA

Sample	GBR-16						GBR-21						GBR-28		GBR-4	GBR-11		
Location*	East pit						East of mine pits						South east of MP		East pit	East pit		
Analysis area	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core	Core
CaO	23.65	22.94	23.06	24.11	22.88	23.65	22.97	22.55	23.26	23.3	23.14	23.3	22.58	23.79	23.73	23.73	23.63	
SrO	0.33	0.3	0.25	0.18	0.43	0.25	0.33	0.18	0.25	0.06	0.17	0.33	0.12	0.23	0.29	0.15	0.26	
Al ₂ O ₃	25.39	22.14	22.51	21.71	21.75	22.21	24.7	24.74	23.83	22.68	22.99	22.7	22.3	21.99	22.9	21.82	22	
TiO ₂	0.14	0.1	0.11	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.16	0.05	0.04	0.13	0.81	0.04	0.03	0.04	
MnO	0.32	0.64	0.49	0.19	0.47	0.22	0.22	0.37	0.38	0.27	0.31	0.35	0.53	0.17	0.4	0.24	0.35	
Fe ₂ O ₃	9.6	13.4	13.67	14.13	14.3	13.24	9.98	10.3	11.2	12.91	13.1	12.77	13.72	13.65	12.67	13.92	14.06	
V ₂ O ₃	0.03	0.07	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.1	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.05	0.12	0.1	0.04	0.02	0.08	
La ₂ O ₃	<0.01	0.02	<0.01	0.05	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.01	0.08	0.02	0.03	<0.01	0.01	0.03	<0.01	<0.01	0.04	
Ce ₂ O ₃	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	0.02	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.03	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.06	<0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.04	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.02	<0.01	0.04	0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.02	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	0.01	0.03	<0.01	
SiO ₂	37.46	36.7	36.74	36.86	36.94	36.98	37.77	37.54	37.15	36.83	36.83	36.92	36.91	36.62	37.26	37.13	36.83	
Sum	96.84	96.3	96.94	97.37	96.9	96.73	96.02	95.81	96.22	96.31	96.76	96.47	96.43	97.4	97.33	97.04	97.29	
apfu based on 12.5 O																		
Ca ²⁺	2.02	2.01	2	2.09	1.99	2.06	1.98	1.95	1.97	1.98	1.96	1.98	1.92	2.06	2	2.01	2	
Sr ²⁺	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	
Mn ²⁺	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.04	
Ce ³⁺	<0.001	0.0003	<0.001	0.0007	0.0001	<0.001	<0.001	0.0001	0.002	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.0002	0.0004	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	
La ³⁺	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	
Pr ³⁺	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	
Nd ³⁺	<0.001	<0.001	0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	
Total REEs	0.001	0.0003	0.001	0.0007	0.0001	0	0	0.0001	0.002	0	0	0	0.0002	0.0014	0	0	0.001	
A site	2.06	2.06	2.05	2.12	2.05	2.08	2.01	1.98	2.03	2.02	2.01	2.05	1.99	2.08	2.07	2.05	2.07	
Al ³⁺	2.39	2.13	2.15	2.07	2.08	2.12	2.34	2.35	2.22	2.12	2.14	2.12	2.08	2.1	2.12	2.04	2.05	
Fe ^{3+**}	0.57	0.82	0.83	0.86	0.87	0.81	0.6	0.62	0.66	0.77	0.78	0.76	0.82	0.83	0.75	0.83	0.84	
V ³⁺	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.003	0	0.001	0.002	0.005	0.008	0.003	0.006	0.003	0.002	0.001	0.004	
M site	2.96	2.96	2.99	2.94	2.96	2.94	2.94	2.98	2.89	2.9	2.93	2.89	2.91	2.93	2.87	2.87	2.89	
Si ⁴⁺	2.99	2.99	2.98	2.99	3	3	3.04	3.02	2.93	2.92	2.91	2.93	2.93	2.96	2.93	2.94	2.91	
Ti ⁴⁺	0.008	0.006	0.007	0.003	0.003	0.005	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.016	0.005	0.004	0.01	0.049	0.004	0.003	0.004	
T site	3	3	2.98	2.99	3.01	3.01	3.04	3.03	2.94	2.94	2.92	2.93	2.94	3.01	2.93	2.94	2.92	
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.19	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.3	0.28	0.21	0.21	0.23	0.27	0.27	0.26	0.28	0.28	0.26	0.29	0.29	

Cl, F, Y, Th, Pb, Cr, Nb and Sc were all below detection limits

* GPS coordinates are reported in Appendix Table 1

** All Fe is assumed to be Fe³⁺

MP=Mine Phase

Appendix Table A1-8. Compositions of REE-rich epidote in the GMB, determined by EPMA

Sample	GBR-11	GBR-4	
Location*	East pit	East pit	
Analysis area	Ce rich zone	Ce rich zone	Ce rich zone
CaO	12.63	19.61	13.67
SrO	0.01	0.34	<0.01
Al ₂ O ₃	16.53	22.83	18.12
TiO ₂	0.41	<0.01	<0.01
MnO	0.74	0.29	1.14
FeO	11.9	10.75	11.16
V ₂ O ₃	0.1	0.14	0.04
La ₂ O ₃	3.9	0.93	1.49
Ce ₂ O ₃	10.38	2.37	5.15
Pr ₂ O ₃	0.99	0.21	0.9
Nd ₂ O ₃	0.69	0.35	1.24
SiO ₂	30.06	33.65	31.29
Sum	89.66	92.67	85.44
apfu based on 12.5 O**			
Ca ²⁺	1.31	1.79	1.41
Sr ²⁺	<0.01	0.02	<0.01
Mn ²⁺	0.06	0.02	0.09
Ce ³⁺	0.37	0.07	0.18
La ³⁺	0.14	0.03	0.05
Pr ³⁺	0.03	0.01	0.03
Nd ³⁺	0.02	0.01	0.04
Total REEs	0.57	0.12	0.31
A site	1.91	1.92	1.77
Al ³⁺	1.90	2.30	2.06
Fe ^{2+*}	0.98	0.78	0.91
V ³⁺	0.01	0.01	<0.01
M site	2.89	3.08	2.97
Si ⁴⁺	2.91	2.87	3.00
Ti ⁴⁺	0.03	<0.01	<0.01
T site	2.94	2.87	3.00
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.36	0.25	0.31

Cl, F, Y, Th, Pb, Cr, Nb and Sc were all below detection limits

* GPS coordinates are reported in Appendix Table 1

**apfu calculated assuming all Fe is Fe²⁺ for REE-rich epidote and

Appendix Table A1-9. Compositions of epidote in contact with Py or Ccp in the GMB, determined with SEM-EDS

Sample	SVA 7-14.13.3				SVA 7-14.13.4		SVA 7-14.13				
Location*	Granite Lake zone				Granite Lake zone		Granite Lake zone				
Analysis area	Rim 1	Rim 2	Rim 3	Rim 4	Rim 1	Enclosed 1	Core 1	Core 2	Rim 1	Rim 2	Enclosed 1
Al ₂ O ₃	21.52	22.36	22.59	22.52	23.17	25.09	24.36	25.74	23.74	24.6	25.29
SiO ₂	38.8	37.97	38.09	39.26	38.77	39.34	39.43	39.62	38.77	39.21	39.57
CaO	22.76	22.78	23.07	22.41	22.94	22.91	23.11	23.62	24.01	23.04	23.6
Fe ₂ O ₃ (t)	16.92	16.9	16.25	15.81	15.12	12.67	13.1	11.02	13.48	13.15	11.53
Sum*	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
apfu based on 12.5 O											
Ca ²⁺	1.92	1.92	1.94	1.87	1.92	1.91	1.92	1.92	2	1.91	1.95
A site	1.92	1.92	1.94	1.87	1.92	1.91	1.92	1.92	2	1.91	1.95
Fe ³⁺ **	1	1	0.96	0.93	0.89	0.67	0.76	0.63	0.79	0.77	0.67
Al ³⁺	1.99	2.07	2.09	2.07	2.13	2.3	2.22	2.31	2.18	2.25	2.3
M site	2.99	3.07	3.05	3	3.02	2.97	2.99	2.94	2.97	3.01	2.97
Si ⁴⁺	3.05	2.99	2.99	3.06	3.03	3.06	3.05	3.01	3.02	3.04	3.05
T site	3.05	2.99	2.99	3.06	3.03	3.06	3.05	3.01	3.02	3.04	3.05
Fe(t)/[Fe(t)+Al]	0.33	0.33	0.31	0.31	0.29	0.22	0.26	0.21	0.27	0.25	0.23

* GPS coordinates are reported in Appendix Table 1

** Anhydrous component is normalized to 100%

*** All Fe is assumed to be Fe³⁺

Appendix A2-1. Hand sample descriptions

Identifier	Rock name	Texture	Primary mineralogy (in order of abundance)	Alteration mineralogy (in order of abundance)	Sulfide minerals	
GBR-2	Mineralized toanlite	Tonalite	Equigranular, isotropic, M-gr	Pl, Qz, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Wm, Chl, Ep, Ttn, Rt, Py, Mag	Cpy, Py
GBR-7	Mineralized toanlite	Tonalite	Slightly foliated, equigranular, M-gr	Pl, Qz, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Wm, Chl, Ttn, Rt, Mag	Cpy, Py
GBR-12	Mineralized toanlite	Tonalite	Foliated, equigranular, M-gr	Pl, Qz, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Chl, Wm, Ep, Ttn, Rt, Mag	Cpy, Py
GBR-11	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	Foliated, equigranular, M-gr	Pl, Qz, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Wm, Chl, Ep, Ttn, Rt, Py, Mag	Trace Py
GBR-15	Mineralized toanlite	Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Qz, Pl, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Wm, Cal, Ep, Py, Mag	Cpy, Py
GBR-16	Mineralized toanlite	Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Wm, Ep, Chl, Mag, Py, Ttn, Rt	Cpy, Py
GBR-21	Mineralized toanlite	Leucocratic Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Qt, Pl, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Wm, Chl, Ep, Ttn, Rt, Mag	Cpy, Py
GBR-28	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	M-gr, slightly foliated, equigranular	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt, Py, Mag	Trace Py
GBR-32	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	Equigranular, isotropic, M-gr	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt, Mag	None
GBR2-15	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt, Py, Mag	None
GBR2-16	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Bt, Hrb Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Wm	None
GBR2-17	Unmineralized tonalite	Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Bt, Hrb, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Wm	None
GBR2-25	Unmineralized tonalite	Leucocratic Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt	None
GBR2-26	Unmineralized tonalite	Leucocratic Tonalite	M-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt	Trace Py
GBR2-30	Unmineralized tonalite	Leucocratic Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt	Trace Py
GBR2-38	Unmineralized tonalite	Leucocratic Tonalite	C-gr, equigranular isotropic	Pl, Qt, Ttn, Ap, Zr, Mag	Ep, Chl, Wm, Ttn, Rt	None

M-gr = medium grain ~1cm grains

C-gr = Coarse grained >1cm grains

Abreaveations: Ap = Apatite, Bt = Biotite, Cal = Calcite, Cpy = Chalcopyrite, Chl = Chlorite, Ep = Epidote, Hrb = Hornblende, Mag = Magnetite, Pl = Plagioclase, Qz = Quartz, Rt = Rutile, Ttn = Titanite, Zr = Zircon

Minor = 5-15% modality

Moderate =15-30% modality

Intense = >30% modality

Primary and secondary mineralogy determined by hand sample and thin section observations

Appendix A2-2. Bulk rock compositions of samples and accuracies and precisions of analysis

Mineralized tonalites

Analyte Symbol	SiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃ (T _{Fe})	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	TiO ₂	P ₂ O ₅	LOI	Total	Sc	V	Ba	Sr	Y	Zr	Co	Cu	Zn	Rb	Nb	Mo	Cs	La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu	Hf	Th	U				
Detection Limit	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.001	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.001	0.01			1	5	2	2	1	2	1	10	30	2	1	2	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.05	0.1	0.01	0.2	0.1	0.1	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm	ppm
GBR-02	65.3	17.2	3.7	0.09	2.4	3.1	3.3	1.5	0.54	0.1	2.93	100.1	12	87	585	295	18	194	7	200	100	24	2	2	< 0.5	8.8	21.9	3.09	13.8	3.5	0.9	3.4	0.5	3.1	0.6	1.8	0.3	1.9	0.3	4.9	1.5	1.5				
GBR-07	65.8	15.7	5.2	0.07	2	3.7	2.9	1.5	0.53	0.1	2.64	99.9	12	118	768	311	18	122	8	350	< 30	25	2	2	0.6	7.4	20.4	2.98	13	3.3	0.7	3.2	0.6	3.2	0.7	1.9	0.3	2.1	0.3	3.5	1.1	0.8				
GBR-12	65.3	15.8	5.5	0.07	1.7	1.8	3.1	1.9	0.51	0.1	2.96	98.8	11	94	949	179	20	123	13	340	80	33	2	9	0.7	8.6	22.2	3.09	13.1	3.2	0.6	3.4	0.6	3.5	0.7	2.1	0.3	2.2	0.4	3.4	1.4	1.3				
GBR-15	62.8	16.8	4.7	0.09	2.3	3.5	3.6	1.3	0.52	0.1	3.34	99	12	108	631	394	18	142	7	1719	80	21	2	2	< 0.5	8.4	21.8	3.05	13.5	3.2	0.8	3.3	0.5	3.3	0.7	1.9	0.3	2.1	0.3	3.8	1.5	1.2				
GBR-16	67.3	15.8	3.1	0.13	1.6	2.3	6.3	0.6	0.53	0.1	1.6	99.5	9	68	320	207	20	229	6	240	90	9	2	2	< 0.5	8.5	23.9	3.5	15.3	3.9	0.8	3.5	0.6	3.8	0.8	2.2	0.4	2.5	0.4	5.6	1.6	0.8				
GBR-21	67.6	14.9	4.4	0.06	1.8	4.1	3.4	1	0.46	0.1	2	99.7	10	97	635	347	16	127	8	1120	< 30	16	2	2	< 0.5	7.7	19.2	2.68	11.7	2.9	0.7	3	0.5	3	0.6	1.7	0.3	1.9	0.3	3.3	1.7	0.9				

Unmineralized tonalites																																												
GBR-11	67.6	15.8	5.1	0.1	1.9	3.9	ndb	1.1	0.45	0.1	ndb	>96	ndb	102	463	342	26	ndb	7	50	120	21	3	9	0.5	6.6	20.5	3.4	17.5	4	0.9	4.7	0.7	4.3	0.9	2.8	0.5	3.3	ndb	10	2.2	1.6		
GBR-28	71.2	15	2.9	0.09	1.1	2.3	3.9	1.5	0.3	0.1	1.53	99.8	6	51	802	272	12	151	6	50	40	22	2	2	0.6	5.5	14.5	2	7.8	1.7	0.5	1.8	0.3	1.8	0.4	1.3	0.2	1.8	0.3	4.5	1.9	1.4		
GBR-32	66.7	15.2	3.8	0.12	1.2	4.3	4.3	1.3	0.39	0.1	1.66	99.1	8	80	685	297	15	129	8	50	40	23	2	2	0.5	24.7	52.4	5.94	20.7	3.8	0.8	3.1	0.5	2.8	0.6	1.6	0.2	1.7	0.3	3.6	2.6	0.7		
GBR2-25	69.5	15.4	3.1	0.16	1.2	3.2	4.3	1	0.3	0.1	1.66	99.9	4	46	867	337	9	85	6	80	60	13	2	2	< 0.5	7	11.1	1.48	5.7	1.4	0.5	1.2	0.2	1.1	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.8	0.1	2.5	0.6	0.4		
GBR2-26	73.6	13.95	2.1	0.32	0.5	1.3	4.2	1.6	0.2	0.1	1.1	98.98	3	19	938	269	13	71	2	10	70	20	2	2	< 0.5	7	15.6	1.94	7.5	1.7	0.38	1.4	0.2	1.4	0.3	0.9	0.1	1.1	0.2	2.4	1.1	0.8		
GBR2-15	68.3	16.1	2.6	0.1	0.63	4.1	4.3	1.6	0.21	0.07	1.3	99.2	4	53	765	394	14	221	4	30	< 30	26	1	2	< 0.5	8.2	18.5	2.4	9.3	1.8	0.7	1.6	0.3	1.6	0.3	1.1	0.2	1.4	0.2	5.9	2	1.1		
GBR2-16	65.6	16.2	5.2	0.1	1.8	4.6	3.8	1.7	0.46	0.11	1.5	101	11	100	9	681	19	19	20	10	40	2	35	2	1	0.7	9.2	22.7	3	13.6	3.5	0.8	3.2	0.5	3.4	0.7	2.2	0.3	2.2	0.4	2.2	0.9		
GBR2-17	65.6	15.1	4.7	0.24	1.9	4.4	3.4	1.8	0.46	0.09	1.6	99.2	9	88	797	354	23	141	10	20	40	31	2	2	< 0.6	11.2	26.5	3.4	14	3.2	0.7	3.1	0.5	3	0.6	1.8	0.3	2	0.3	4.2	1.8	0.7		
GBR2-30	70.3	15.4	3	0.18	0.77	2.2	5.7	1.1	0.27	0.09	1.6	101	4	48	439	287	7	60	4	110	40	14	1	2	< 0.5	5.4	11	1.4	5.7	1.3	0.40	1.1	0.2	1	0.2	0.7	0.11	0.7	0.13	1.8	0.9	0.9		
GBR2-38	68.7	16	3.1	0.2	1.1	4	4.6	1.2	0.29	0.09	1.4	101	5	45	679	414	9	73	5	0	40	18	2	2	< 0.5	5.4	13.5	1.85	7.6	1.8	0.54	1.6	0.2	1.4	0.3	0.9	0.16	1.1	0.17	1.8	0.5	0.4		

a, Total Fe expressed as Fe₂O₃ b, nd=not determined

W, Ti, Cr, As, Ni, In, Sn, Sb, Pb, Ag and Bi are below detections limits of 1, 0.1, 20, 20, 5, 0.2, 0.5, 0.5, 5, 0.5 and 0.4 ppm respectively

Analytical conditions

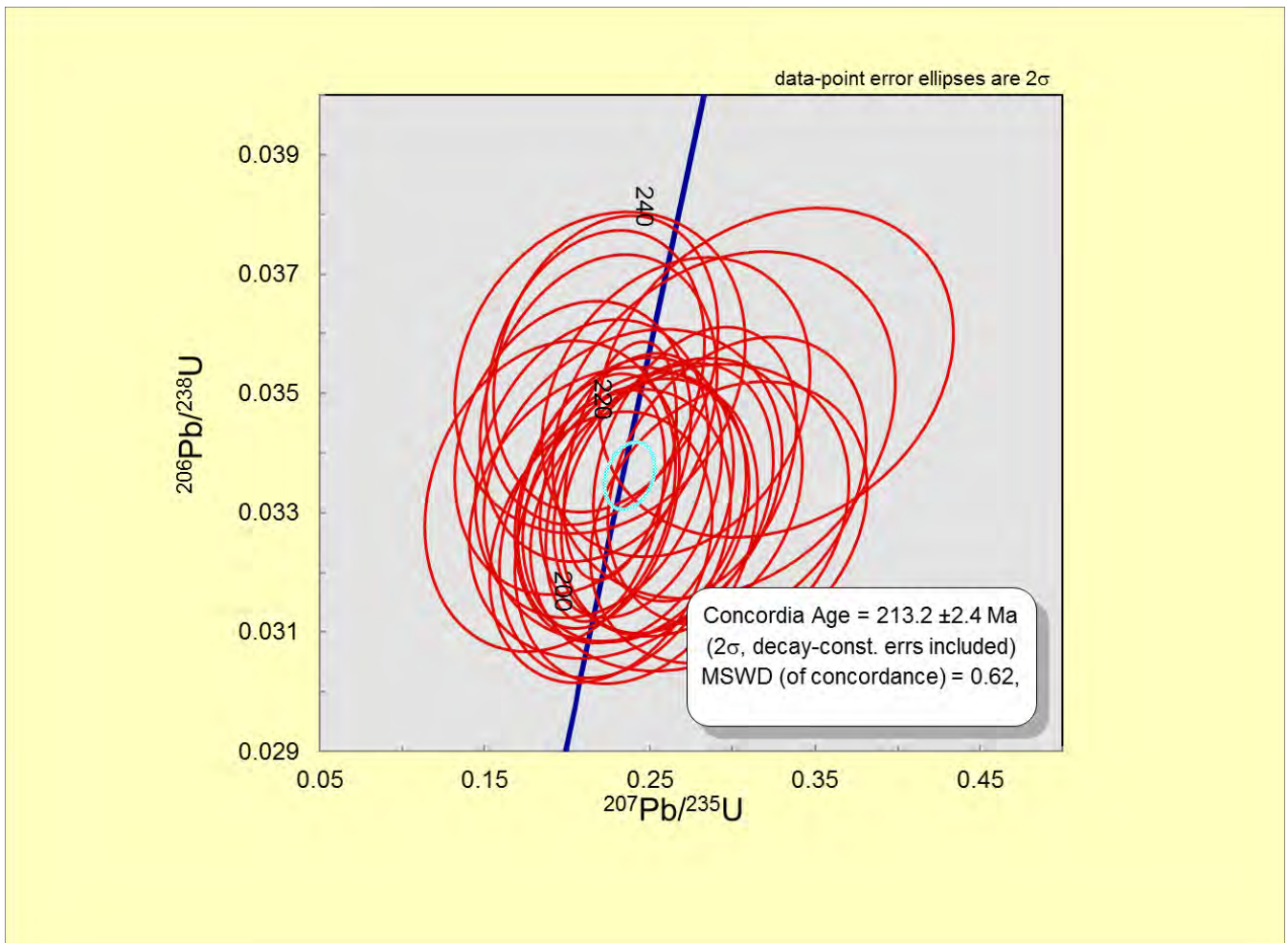
Elements	Accuracy	Precision	Detection limits
SiO ₂	99.02%	99.97%	0.01 Wt. %
Al ₂ O ₃	97.22%	97.64%	0.01 Wt. %
Fe ₂ O ₃	97.97%	99.76%	0.01 Wt. %
MnO	96.70%	99.49%	0.001 Wt. %
MgO	95.50%	97.9%	0.01 Wt. %
CaO	99.68%	99.72%	0.01 Wt. %
Na ₂ O	98.44%	99.75%	0.01 Wt. %
K ₂ O	93.82%	98.76%	0.01 Wt. %
TiO ₂	96.22%	98.9%	0.001 Wt. %
P ₂ O ₅	94.76%	88.88%	0.01 Wt. %
Sc	98.02%	100%	1 ppm
V	95.49%	98.94%	5 ppm
Ba	93.38%	99.79%	2 ppm
Sr	97.99%	99.75%	2 ppm
Y	88.85%	100%	1 ppm
Zr	96.20%	100%	2 ppm
Co	94.44%	90.9%	1 ppm
Cu	91.28%	66.66%	10 ppm
Zn	98.96%	100%	30 ppm
Rb	95.96%	100%	2 ppm
Nb	99.34%	100%	2 ppm
Ag	87.96%	83.30%	0.5 ppm
Cs	94.41%	100%	0.5 ppm
La	96.83%	95.45%	0.1 ppm
Ce	95.71%	96.15%	0.1 ppm
Pr	95.50%	96.5%	0.05 ppm
Nd	94.78%	96.9%	0.1 ppm
Sm	96.43%	95.65%	0.1 ppm
Eu	95.12%	92.06%	0.05 ppm
Gd	95.16%	91.66%	0.1 ppm
Tb	96.38%	100%	0.1 ppm
Dy	96.56%	95.83%	0.1 ppm
Ho	96.62%	100%	0.1 ppm
Er	96.64%	92.85%	0.1 ppm
Tm	94.30%	100%	0.05 ppm
Yb	97.54%	94.11%	0.1 ppm
Lu	94.91%	88.88%	0.1 ppm
Hf	96.46%	96.61%	0.2 ppm
Th	95.61%	88.88%	0.1 ppm
U	95.53%	100%	0.1 ppm

Concordia diagrams

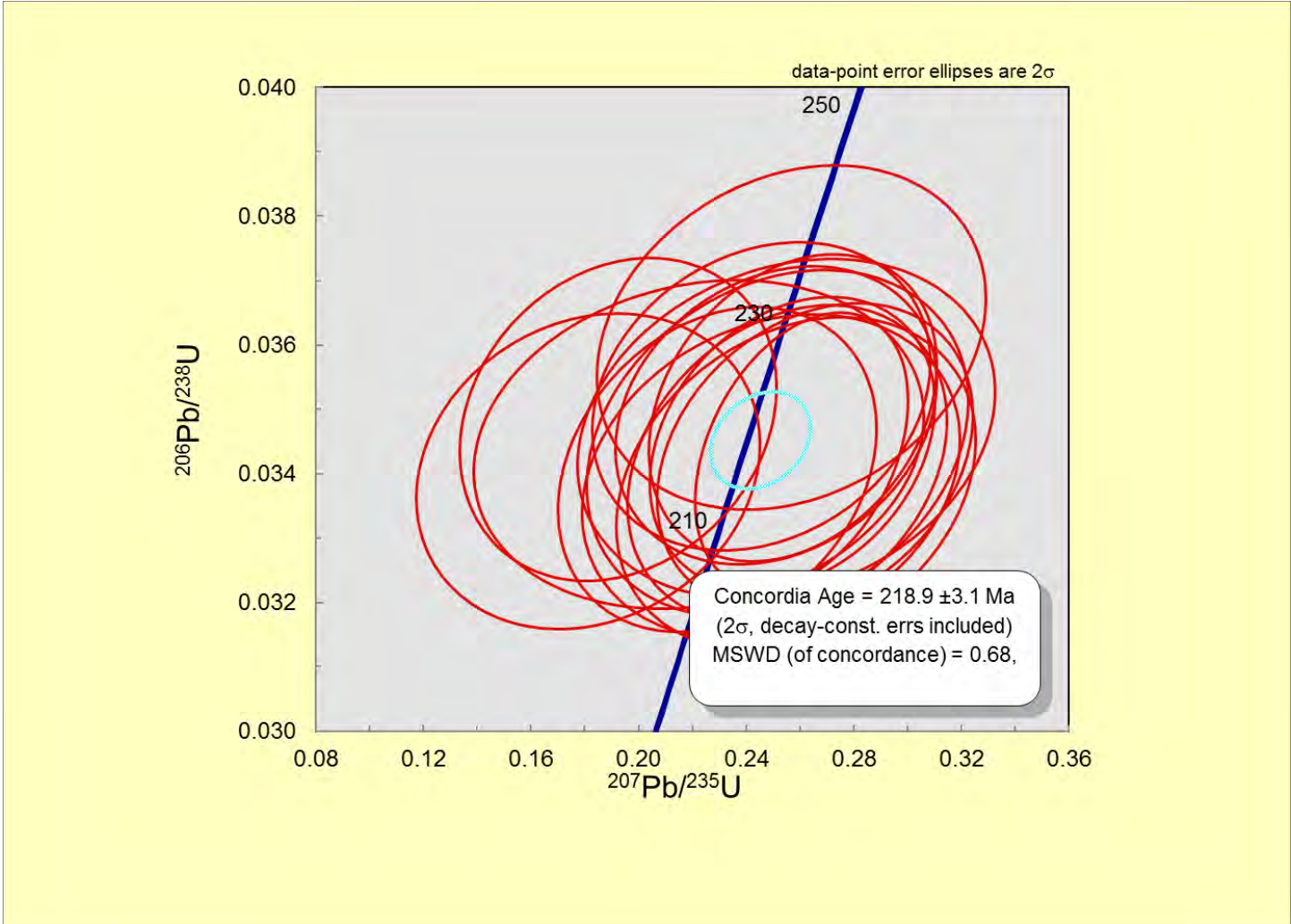
Mineralized tonalites

GBR-2, Mineralized tonalite group B.

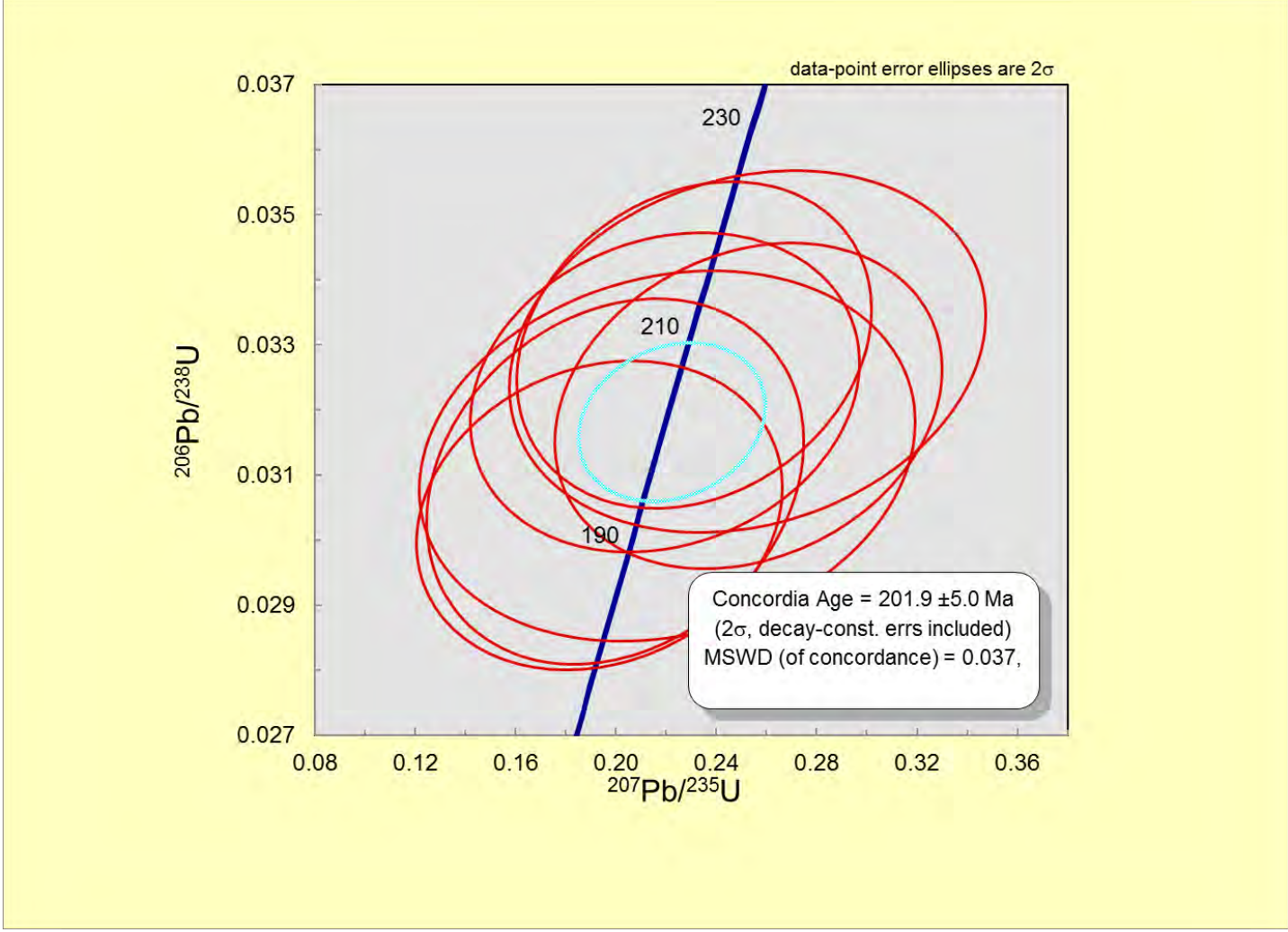
The blue circles amidst red circles represent the best-fit age area calculated from a combination of all the red circles. The diameter of each circle in the X and Y-axis represents 2σ error



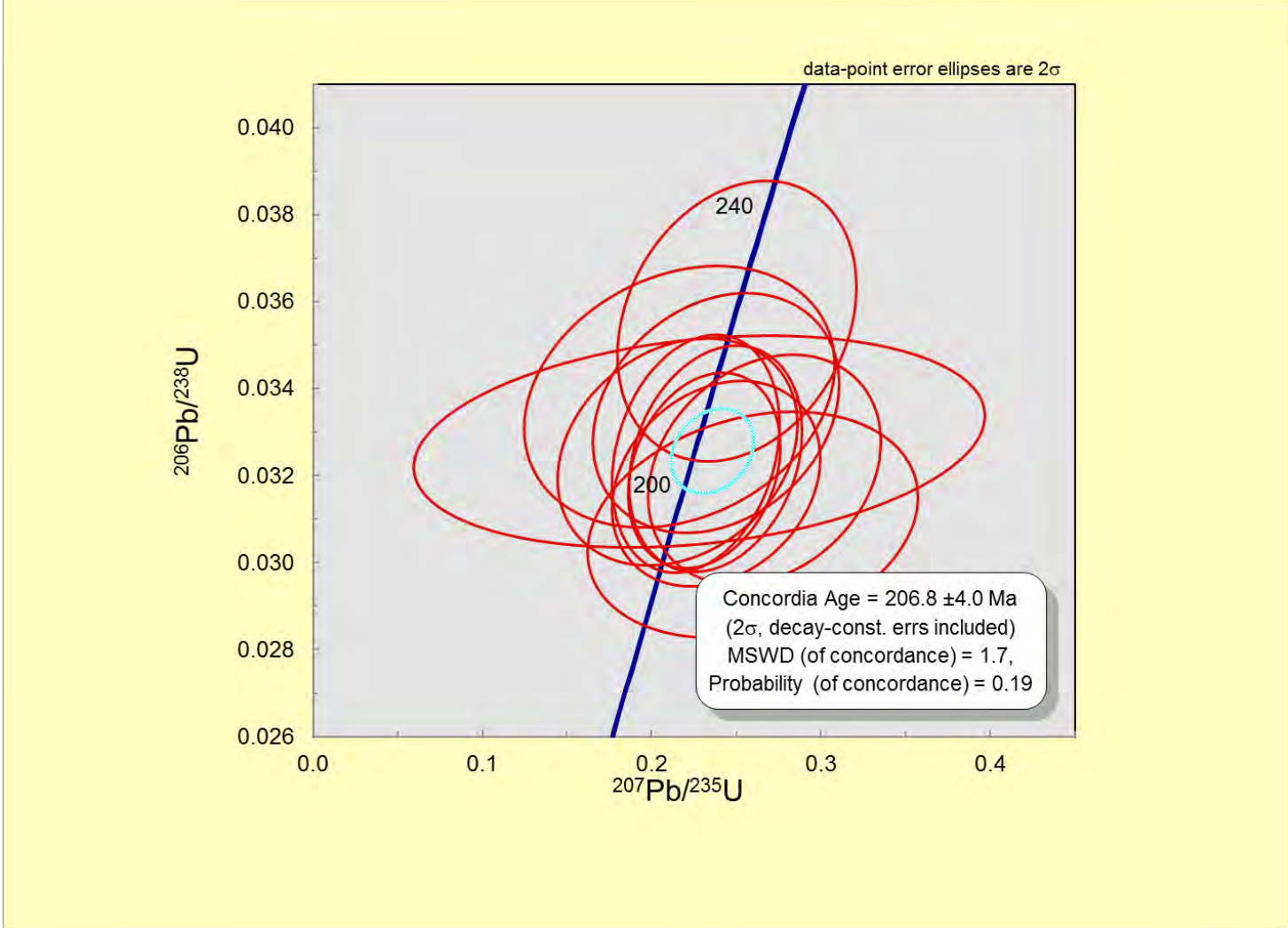
GBR-7, Mineralized tonalite group A



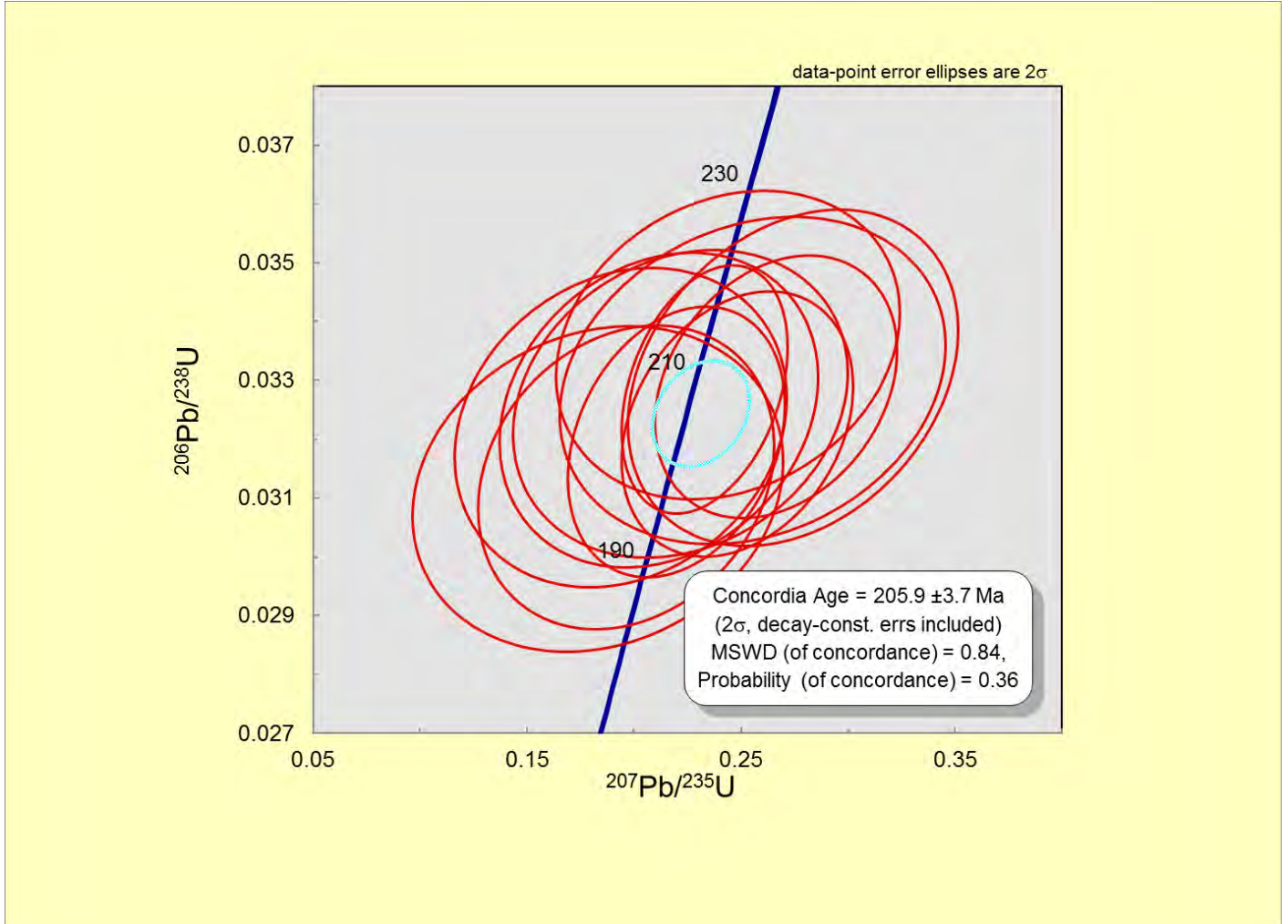
GBR-16, Mineralized tonalite group C



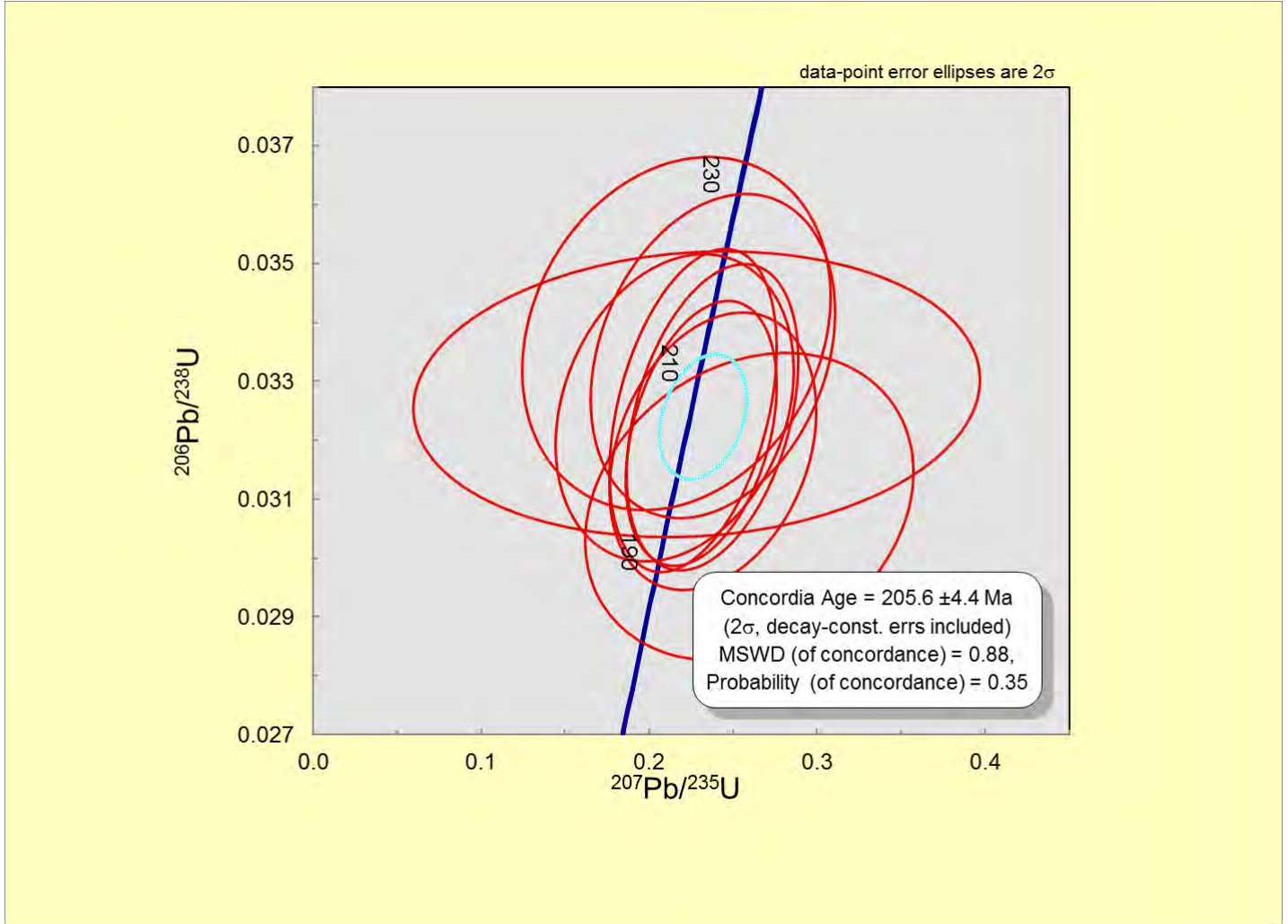
GBR-12, Mineralized tonalite group C



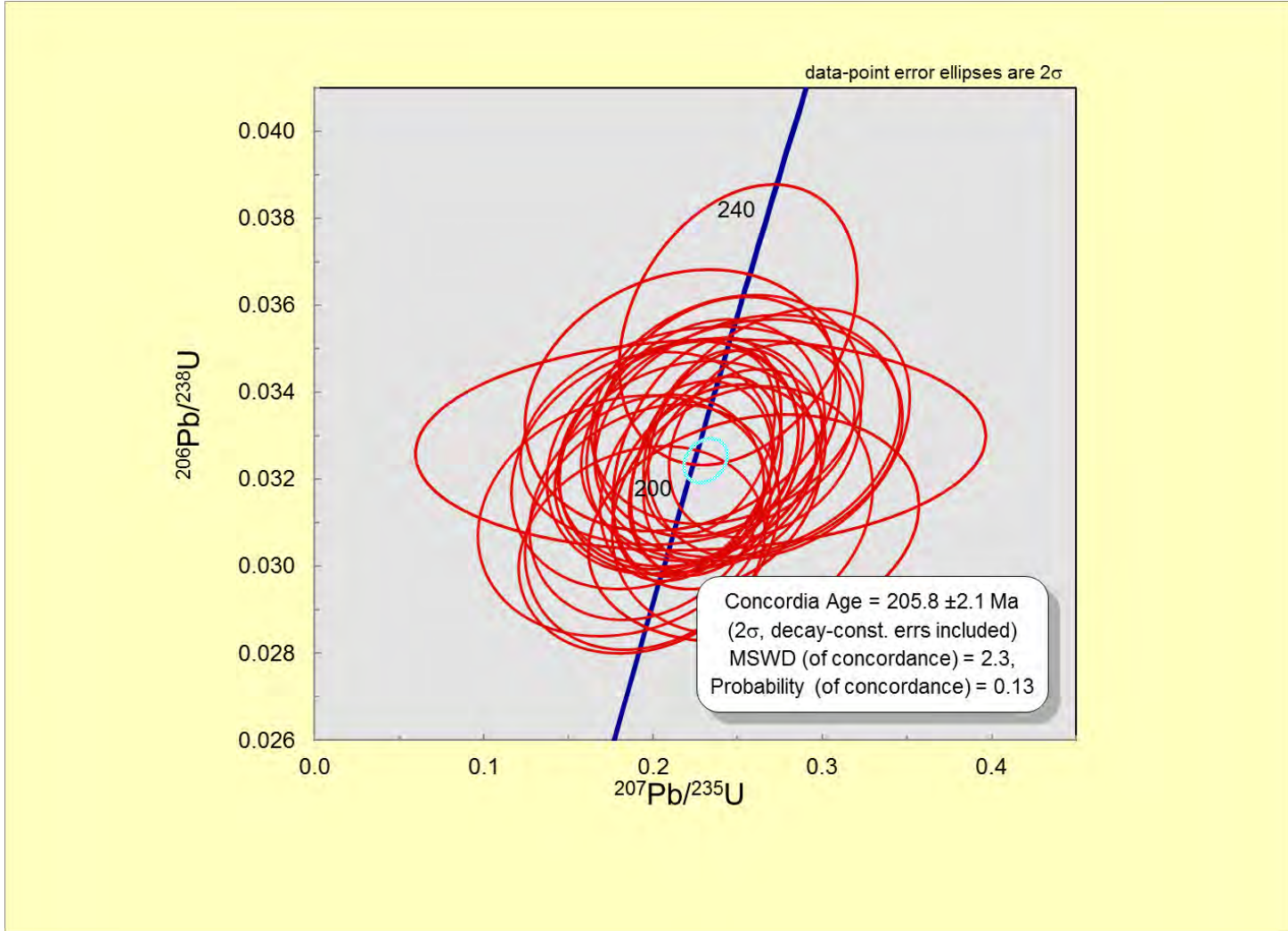
GBR-15, Mineralized tonalite group C



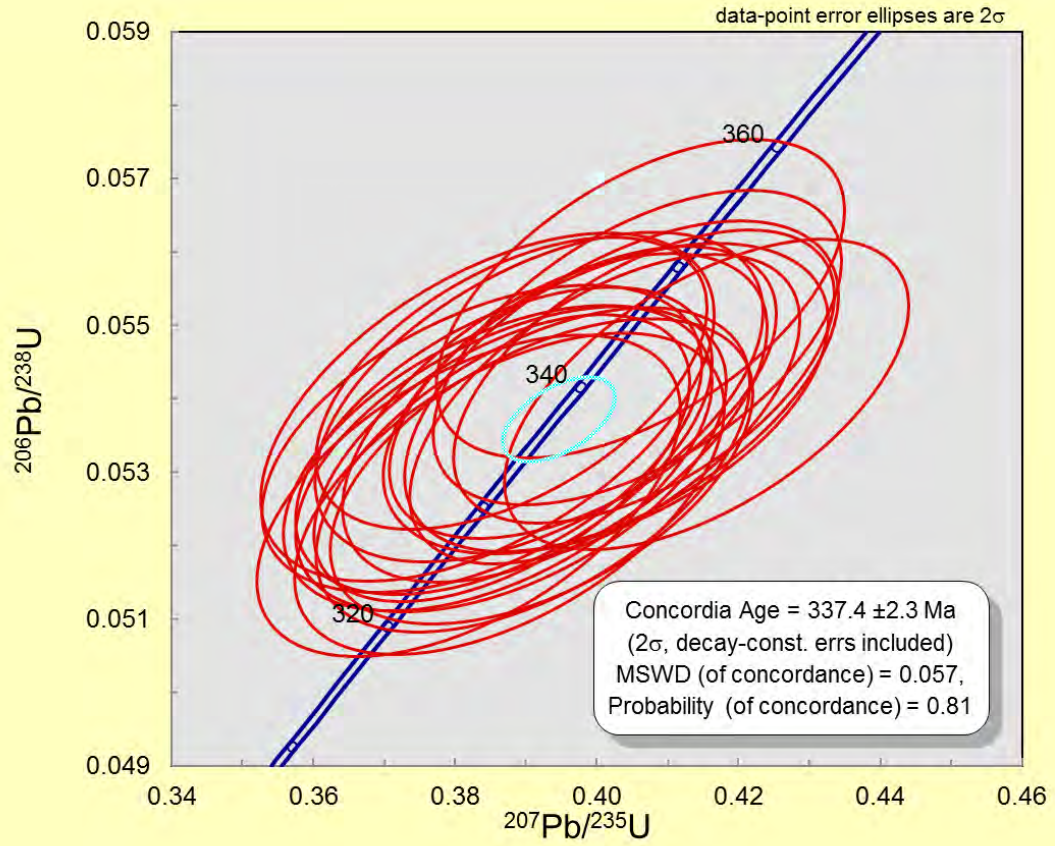
GBR-21, Mineralized tonalite group C



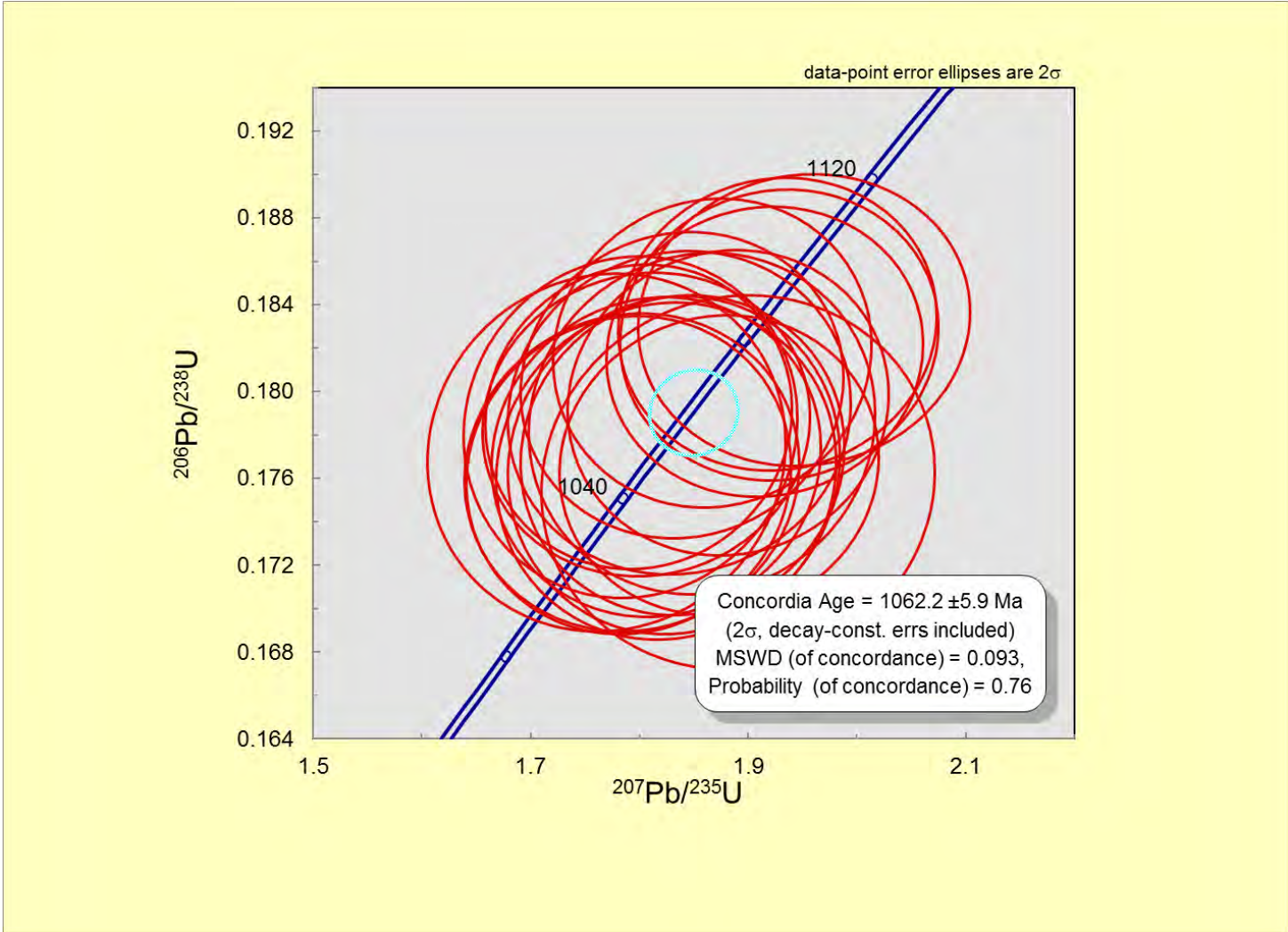
Combination of samples GBR-12-15-16-21, Mineralized tonalite group C



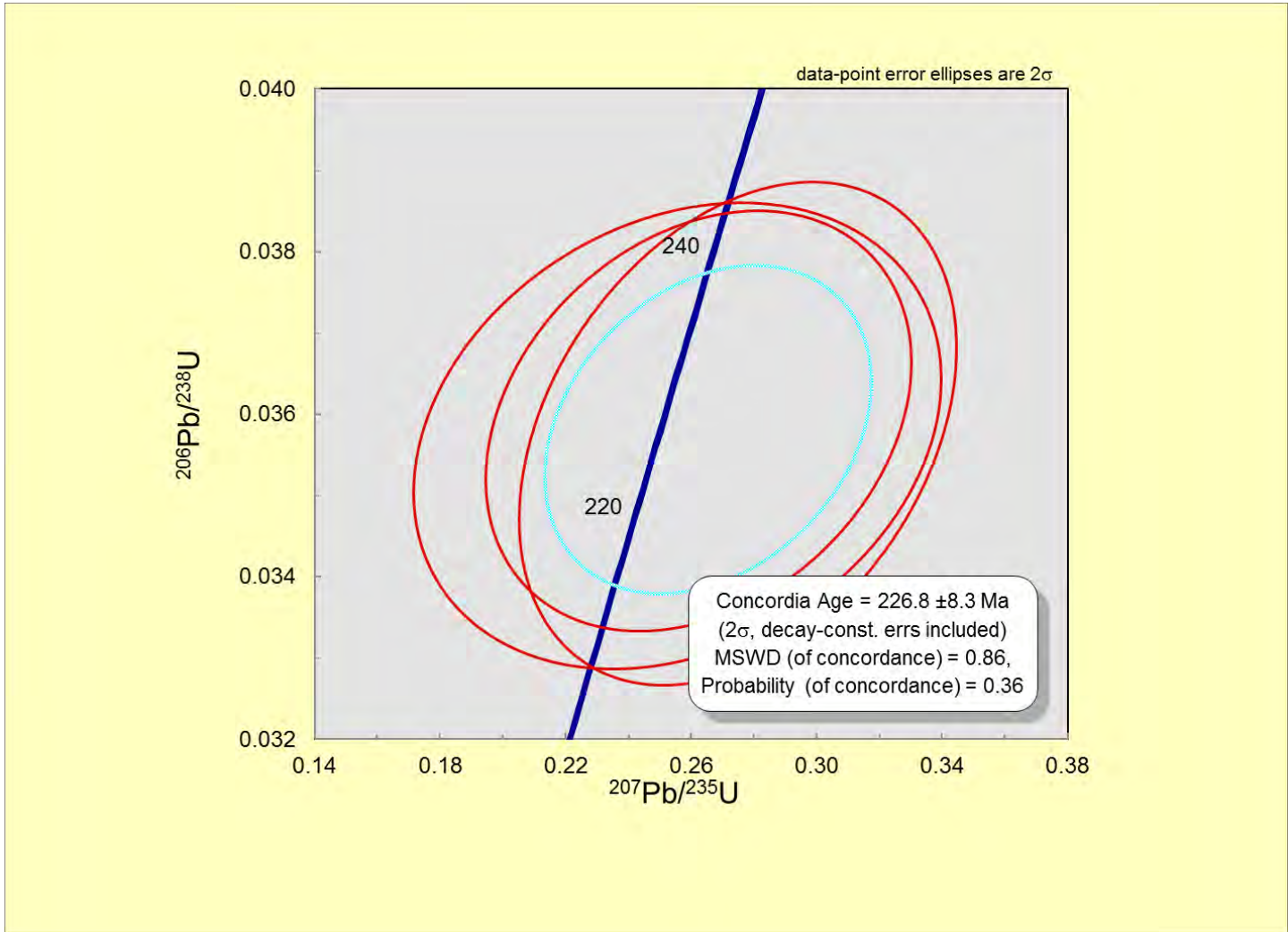
Standards, Plešovice



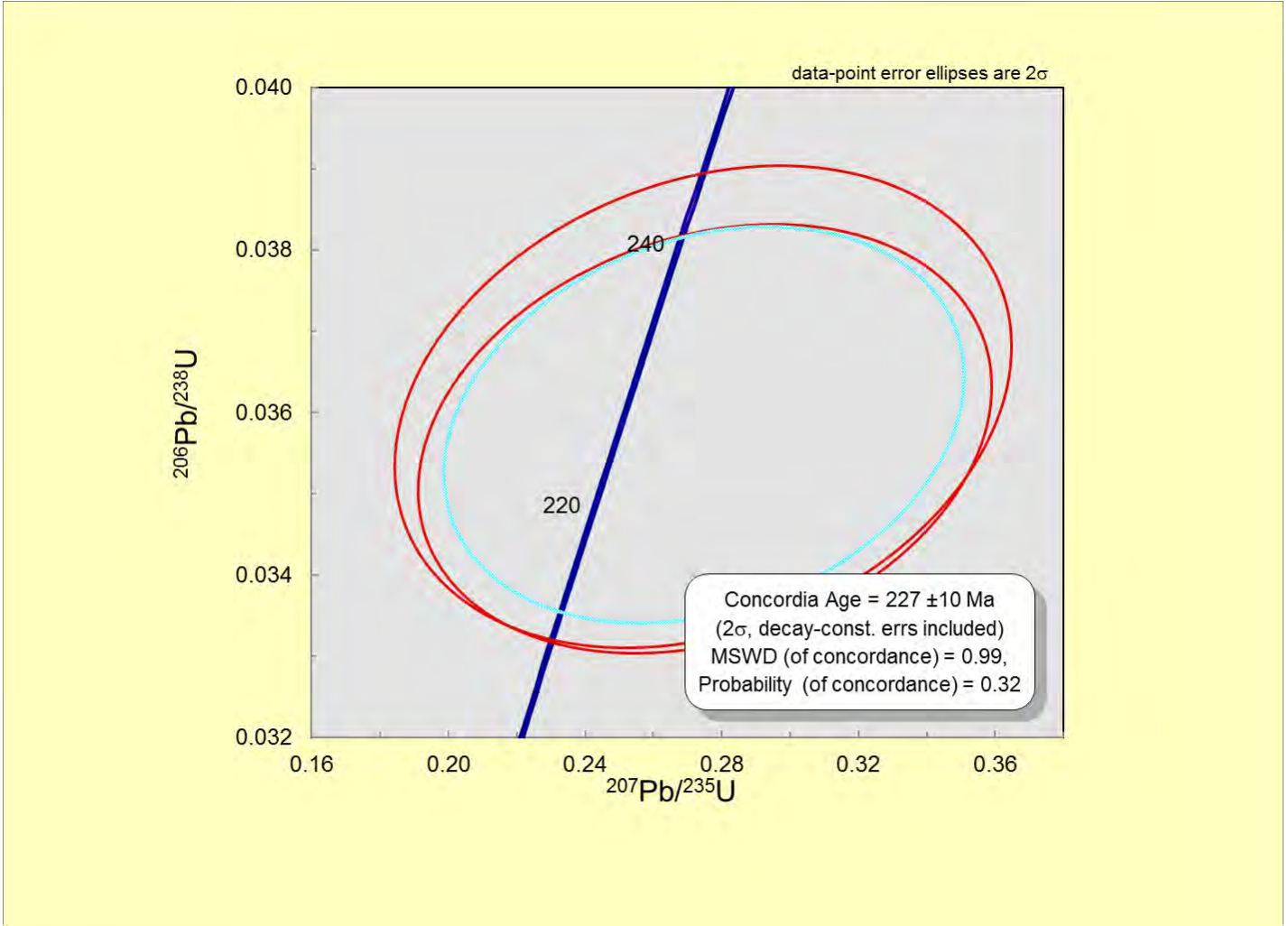
Standards, 91500



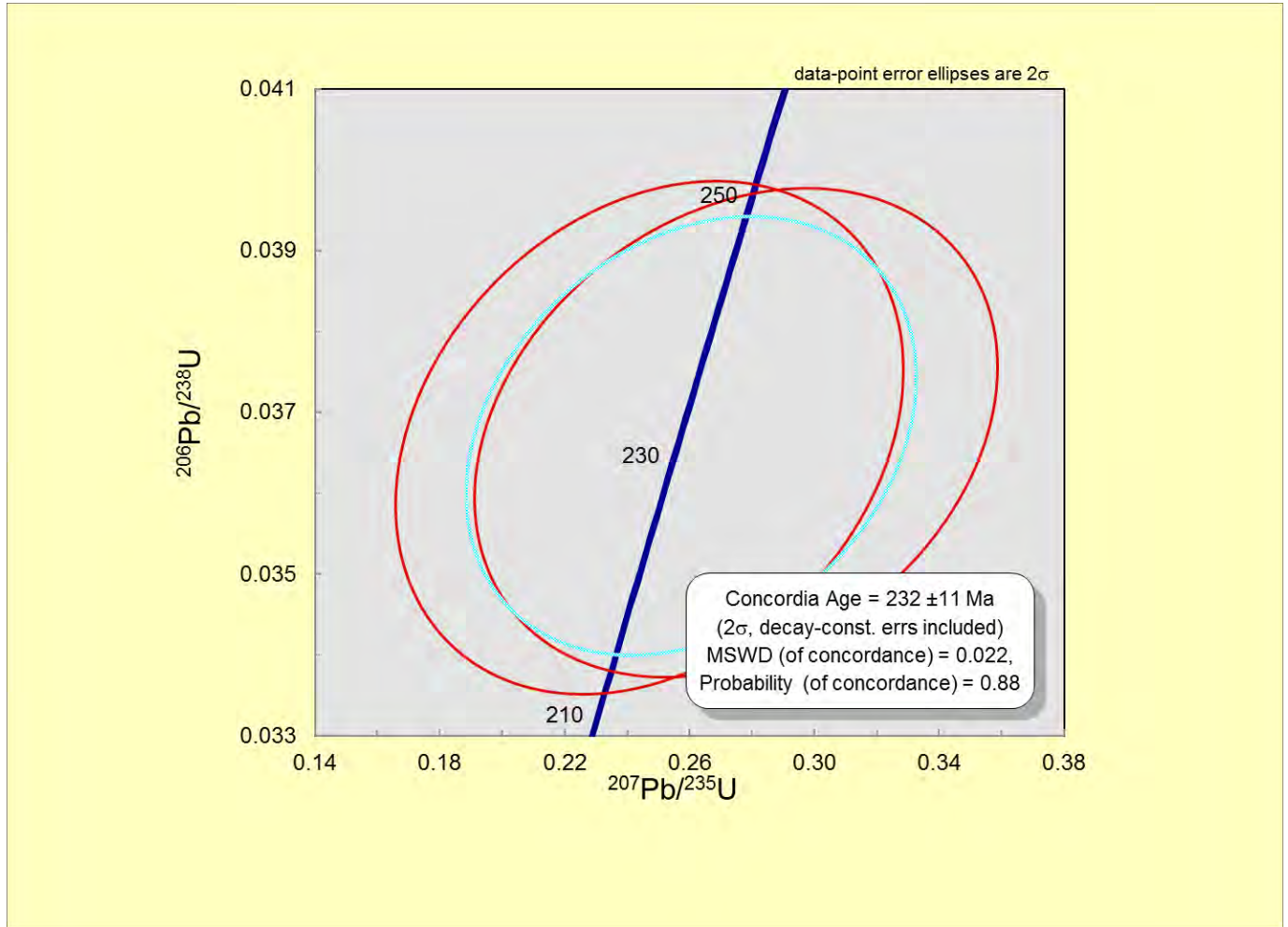
Unmineralized tonalites, GBR2-16



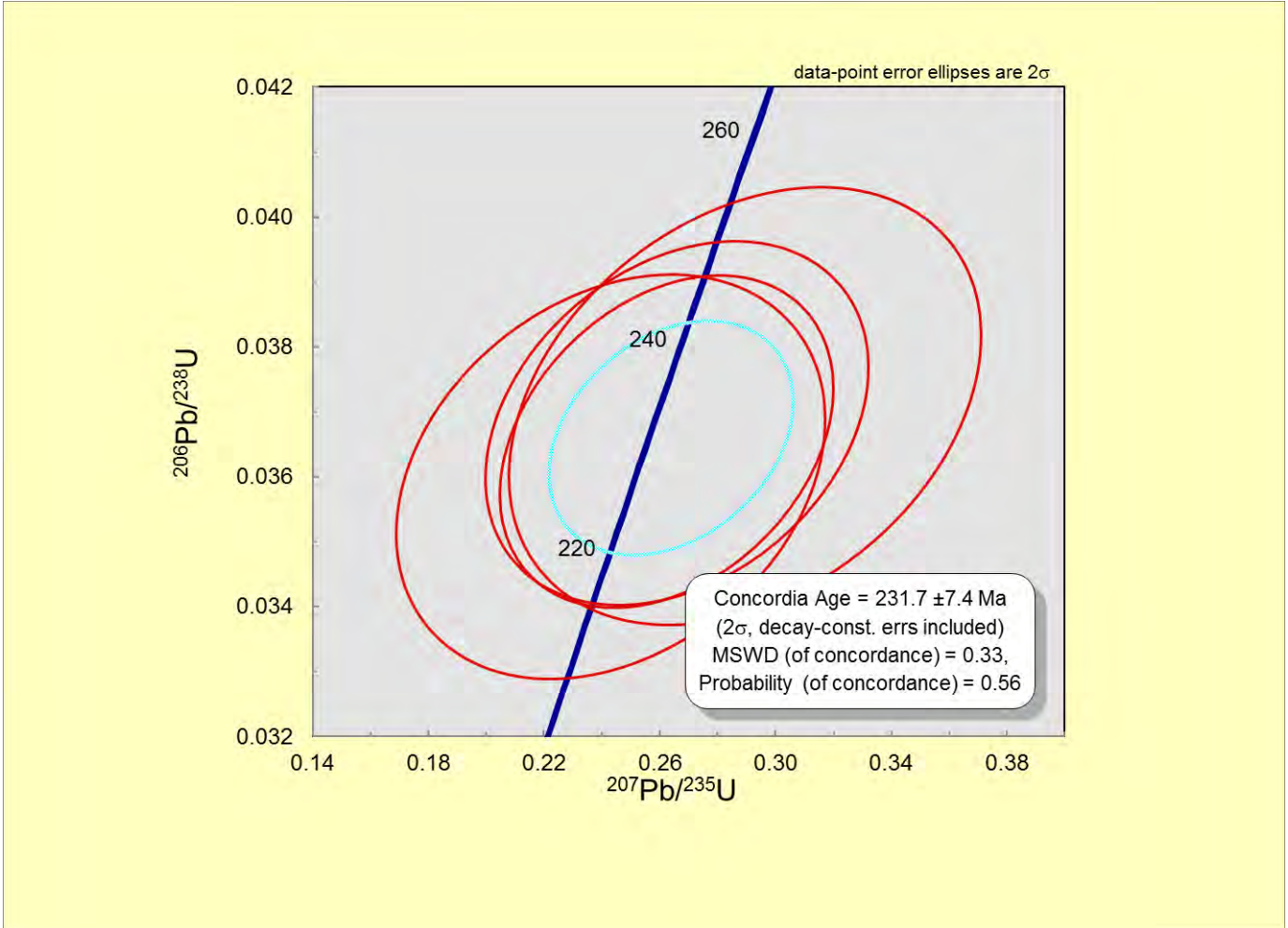
Unmineralized tonalites, GBR2-25



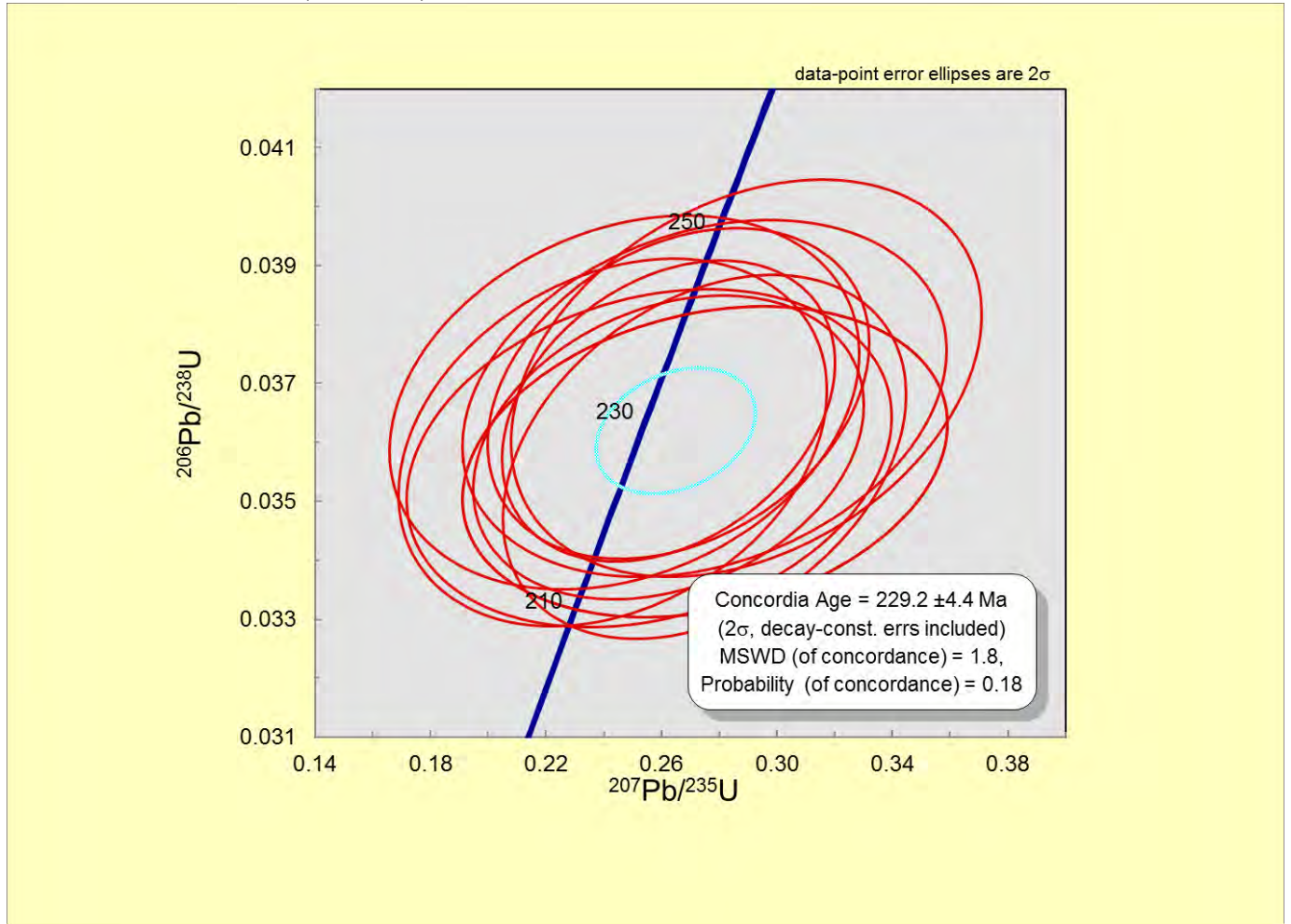
Unmineralized tonalites, GBR2-30



Unmineralized tonalites, GBR2-38



Unmineralized tonalites (combined)



Appendix A2-5. Detailed metadata for LA-ICPMS analysis

Metadata for LA-ICP-MS Trace element analysis. Analysis run on 13/09/2016	
Machine information	
Make, Model and type	Photon Machines Analyte Excite 193 nm excimer laser
Ablation cell and volume	Single volume cell
Laser wavelength (nm)	193
Fluence (J cm ⁻²)	4.72
Pulse width (ns)	4
Repetition rate (Hz)	10
Ablation duration (s)	40
Spot diameter (µm)	42
Ablation depth/ablation rate	16 mm pit depth measured using an optical microscope, SEM and interferometry, equivalent to 0.08 µm/pulse
Sampling mode	Static spot ablation
Carrier gas	He and Ar mixture
Cell carrier gas flow (l min ⁻¹)	0.9 (Ar) and 0.9 (He)
ICP-MS instrument	Agilent 7700x ICP-MS instrument
Make, Model and type	Sourced from Agilent 7700x ICP-MS instrument
Make-up gas flow (l min ⁻¹)	Single collector, electron multiplier
Detection system	1550
RF power (W)	
Integration time per peak/ dwell times (ms); quadrupole settlin	³¹ P 5 ms, ³³ P 10 ms, ⁴² Ca 10 ms, ⁴⁵ Sc 10 ms, ⁴⁹ Ti 49 ms, ⁵¹ V 10 ms, ⁵⁵ Mn 10 ms, ⁵⁶ Fe 10 ms, ⁸⁸ Sr 10 ms, ⁸⁹ Y 10 ms, ⁹¹ Zr 50 ms, ⁹³ Nb 10 ms, ⁹⁸ Mo 10 ms, ¹³⁷ Ba 20 ms, ¹³⁹ La 20 ms, ¹⁴⁰ Ce 20 ms, ¹⁴¹ Pr 20 ms, ¹⁴⁶ Nd 20 ms, ¹⁴⁷ Sm 20 ms, ¹⁵¹ Eu 20 ms, ¹⁵⁷ Gd 20 ms, ¹⁵⁹ Tb 20 ms, ¹⁶³ Dy 20 ms, ¹⁶⁵ Ho 20 ms, ¹⁶⁷ Er 20 ms, ¹⁶⁹ Tm 20 ms, ¹⁷³ Yb 20 ms, ¹⁷⁵ Lu 20 ms, ¹⁷⁷ Hf 30 ms, ²⁰² Hg 10 ms, ²⁰⁴ Pb 10 ms, ²⁰⁶ Pb 20 ms, ²⁰⁷ Pb 30 ms, ²⁰⁸ Pb 20 ms, ²³² Th 10 ms, ²³⁵ U 20 ms and ²³⁸ U 10 ms ¹⁴¹ Pr 20 ms, ¹⁴⁶ Nd 20 ms, ¹⁴⁷ Sm 20 ms, ¹⁵¹ Eu 20 ms, ¹⁵⁷ Gd 20 ms, ¹⁵⁹ Tb 20 ms, ¹⁶³ Dy 20 ms, ¹⁶⁵ Ho 20 ms, ¹⁶⁷ Er 20 ms, ¹⁶⁹ Tm 20 ms, ¹⁷³ Yb 20 ms, ¹⁷⁵ Lu 20 ms, ¹⁷⁷ Hf 30 ms, ²⁰² Hg 10 ms, ²⁰⁴ Pb 10 ms, ²⁰⁶ Pb 20 ms, ²⁰⁷ Pb 30 ms, ²⁰⁸ Pb 20 ms, ²³² Th 10 ms, ²³⁵ U 20 ms and ²³⁸ U 10 ms
Data Processing	
Gas blank	30s on-peak zero subtracted
Calibration strategy	²⁹ Trace elements calibrated from SiO ₂ (converted to Si using GLITTER) entered manually for each standard from preferred values NIST612 used and primary internal reference/normalizing material (²⁸ Si = 72.01) with GSE1G (²⁸ Si = 54.4), BCR2G (²⁸ Si = 53.7) as secondary standards and zircon 91500 used as validation Data reduction was accomplished using the GLITTER! software (Griffin et al., 2008)
Reference Material information	91500 (Wiedenbeck et al., 1995) NIST 612 (Jochum et al., 2011) GSE1G (Jochum et al., 2011) BCR2G (Jochum et al., 2011)
Data processing package used/ Correction for LIEF	Glitter version 4.4.4 software (Griffin et al., 2008) used to reduce data
Quality control/ Validation	⁴¹ P, ⁴² Ca, ⁸⁸ Sr and ¹⁶⁷ Er were used to screen for possible inclusions, samples with marked increased in these masses were screened and discarded by the GLITTER! software (Griffin et al., 2008) 91500 zircon used for validation. Analysis runs with larger than a 10% error between preferred 91500 values for trace elements and determined 91500 values were discarded
Metadata for LA-ICP-MS U-Pb dating. Analysis run on 21/12/2017	
Machine information	
Make, Model and type	Photon Machines Analyte Excite 193 nm excimer laser
Ablation cell and volume	Single volume cell
Laser wavelength (nm)	193
Pulse width (ns)	4
Fluence (J cm ⁻²)	4.72
Repetition rate (Hz)	10
Ablation duration (s)	40
Ablation depth/ablation rate	16 mm pit depth measured using an optical microscope, SEM and interferometry, equivalent to 0.08 µm/pulse
Spot diameter (µm)	32
Sampling mode	Static spot ablation
Carrier gas	He and Ar mixture
Cell carrier gas flow (l min ⁻¹)	0.9 (Ar) and 0.9 (He)
ICP-MS instrument	Agilent 7700x ICP-MS instrument
Make, Model and type	Sourced from Agilent 7700x ICP-MS instrument
Make-up gas flow (l min ⁻¹)	Single collector, electron multiplier
Detection system	1550
RF power (W)	
Integration time per peak/ dwell times (ms); Quadrupole settlin	60ms for Pb isotopes, 30 ms for Th isotopes and 30 Ms for U isotopes
Total integration time per output data point (s)	~36s
Data Processing	
Gas blank	30s on-peak zero subtracted
Calibration strategy	91500 used and primary reference material, Plešovice and NIST612 used as secondary verification/validation 91500 (Wiedenbeck et al., 1995) Plešovice (Sláma et al., 2008) NIST612 (Jochum et al., 2011)
Reference Material information	Raw count data for U-Pb were reduced using the UPb.age script in the R software environment (Solari and Tanner, 2011). The script reduces/normalizes data based on accepted values of 91500 zircon (Wiedenbeck et al., 1995). UPb.age eliminates outliers (±2σ), corrects instrument drift using a linear model and corrects for downhole fractionation using a mean method
Data processing package used/ Correction for LIEF	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²⁰⁷ Pb additionally normalized to reference material Plešovice – Wtd ave 206Pb/238U age = 33.7±2.3 (2s, MSDW = 0.057, n = 21) Systematic uncertainties for propagation are 207Pb/235U = 6.8 % (2s) and 206Pb/238U = 3.4 % (2s).
Mass discrimination	
Quality control/ Validation	¹⁴⁶ Nd, ¹⁴⁷ Sm, ¹⁵¹ Eu, ¹⁵⁷ Gd, ¹⁵⁹ Tb and ¹⁶³ Dy were used to screen for possible inclusions, samples with marked increased in this mass were screened and discarded by the GLITTER! software (Griffin et al., 2008) and UPb.age script (Solari and Tanner, 2011).

Appendix A2-6. Amphibole compositions, and accuracy, precision and detection limits of analytical data

Samples	SiO2 wt.%	TiO2 wt.%	Al2O3 wt.%	Cr2O3 wt.%	FeO wt.%	MnO wt.%	MgO wt.%	CaO wt.%	Na2O wt.%	K2O wt.%	Cl wt.%	F wt.%	TOTAL	t (°C)*	JO2	ΔFMQ*	P (MPa)*
GBR-32-amph1-1	51.18	0.44	3.65	0.02	12.70	1.55	14.92	11.68	0.69	0.30	0.01	0.09	97.24	768	-12.3	2.6	46.9
GBR-32-amph1-2	52.18	0.38	3.17	0.01	12.36	1.35	15.16	11.77	0.62	0.24	0.01	0.06	97.19	755	-12.6	2.6	41.7
GBR-32-amph1-3	51.90	0.48	3.37	0.01	12.33	1.60	15.67	11.50	0.60	0.28	0.01	0.03	97.78	780	-12.5	2.7	43.3
GBR-32-amph1-4	51.74	0.51	3.60	0.01	12.53	1.36	15.21	11.58	0.78	0.30	0.01	0.03	97.65	765	-12.4	2.6	46.1
GBR-32-amph1-5	51.42	0.40	3.63	b.d.l	12.55	1.58	15.08	11.67	0.70	0.27	0.02	0.02	97.31	769	-12.3	2.6	46.5
GBR-32-amph1-6	51.64	0.43	3.49	b.d.l	12.28	1.49	15.59	11.57	0.65	0.29	0.01	0.13	97.57	777	-12	2.7	44.8
GBR-32-amph1-7	51.63	0.50	3.68	b.d.l	12.22	1.51	15.38	11.50	0.83	0.27	b.d.l	0.08	97.61	770	-12.2	2.6	46.9
GBR-32-amph2-1	51.19	0.57	3.86	b.d.l	12.86	1.48	15.21	11.29	0.96	0.31	0.01	0.12	97.85	776	-12.1	2.6	48.9
GBR-32-amph2-2	51.80	0.45	3.31	b.d.l	12.57	1.57	15.12	11.64	0.70	0.26	0.01	0.02	97.40	761	-12.5	2.6	43.1
GBR-32-amph2-3	52.74	0.02	2.12	0.02	17.02	1.38	11.95	12.25	0.30	0.14	0.01	0.01	97.93	698	-15	1.8	32.6
GBR-32-amph2-4	53.14	0.04	1.93	0.02	16.29	1.39	12.28	12.20	0.28	0.10	b.d.l	0.11	97.56	695	-15	1.8	31.1
GBR-32-amph2-5	51.81	0.33	3.57	0.02	12.36	1.54	15.32	11.68	0.73	0.23	b.d.l	0.08	97.51	767	-12.3	2.7	45.7
GBR-32-amph2-6	52.64	0.27	2.87	0.01	12.28	1.54	15.48	11.79	0.56	0.21	b.d.l	0.01	97.63	754	-12.6	2.7	38.5
GBR-32-amph3-1	50.84	0.61	3.94	0.01	12.74	1.41	15.08	11.39	0.85	0.31	0.01	0.01	97.19	779	-12	2.6	50.3
GBR-32-amph3-2	51.29	0.55	3.78	0.01	12.51	1.46	15.40	11.46	0.75	0.30	b.d.l	0.09	97.61	781	-11.9	2.7	48.1
GBR-32-amph3-3	52.09	0.43	3.35	b.d.l	13.02	1.48	14.77	11.64	0.67	0.27	0.01	0.09	97.83	757	-12.7	2.5	43.4
GBR-32-amph3-4	51.26	0.50	3.93	0.02	12.46	1.69	15.04	11.63	0.76	0.29	0.02	0.12	97.72	776	-12.1	2.5	50.0
GBR-32-amph3-5	51.42	0.45	4.02	0.01	13.21	1.45	14.73	11.70	0.78	0.33	0.02	0.05	98.17	770	-12.3	2.4	51.0
GBR-32-amph4-1	51.73	0.53	3.63	0.01	12.36	1.54	15.51	11.21	0.91	0.31	0.01	0.15	97.90	774	-12.1	2.7	46.2
GBR-32-amph4-2	52.63	0.34	3.10	0.01	11.99	1.58	15.84	11.69	0.59	0.23	0.03	0.07	98.09	766	-12.2	2.8	40.6
GBR-32-amph4-3	51.60	0.54	3.59	0.01	12.33	1.43	15.38	11.38	0.83	0.31	0.01	0.08	97.49	769	-12.2	2.7	46.0
GBR-32-amph4-4	51.24	0.52	3.97	b.d.l	12.91	1.45	15.25	11.52	0.75	0.28	0.01	0.06	97.84	784	-11.9	2.6	50.2
GBR-32-amph5-1	52.04	0.25	3.65	0.01	12.22	1.46	15.19	11.75	0.66	0.22	0.01	0.00	97.47	765	-12.3	2.6	46.6
GBR-32-amph5-2	51.18	0.43	4.06	0.01	13.00	1.44	15.00	11.63	0.73	0.29	0.01	0.04	97.82	779	-12	2.6	51.4
GBR-32-amph5-3	51.18	0.49	3.91	0.01	12.97	1.72	15.01	11.62	0.84	0.30	0.01	0.03	98.08	777	-12.1	2.5	49.6

*For JO₂, P and T calculations see Ridolfi et al., 2010

b.d.l = below detection limits

Analytical conditions

Element/Line	Detection Limit(99%)	Accuracy (%)	Standard	Precision (%)
K ka	0.012	99.744	Sanidine	96.979
Ca ka	0.016	94.142	Diopside #1	99.368
Na ka	0.016	91.101	Albite	97.760
Al ka	0.009	99.188	Sanidine	99.243
Fe ka	0.037	98.936	Hematite	98.712
Mn ka	0.038	95.384	Tephroite	89.210
Ti ka	0.013	93.868	Rutile	98.457
Si ka	0.009	99.744	Sanidine	99.761
Mg ka	0.010	94.021	Diopside #1	99.537
Cr ka	0.016	N/A	Chromite	N/A
F ka	0.117	N/A	Fluorite	89.193
Cl ka	0.006	54.806	Tugtupite	96.066

Analytical error on F and Cr is too high, these measurements are not considered for calculations

Appendix 3. Supplementary material for Chapter 5

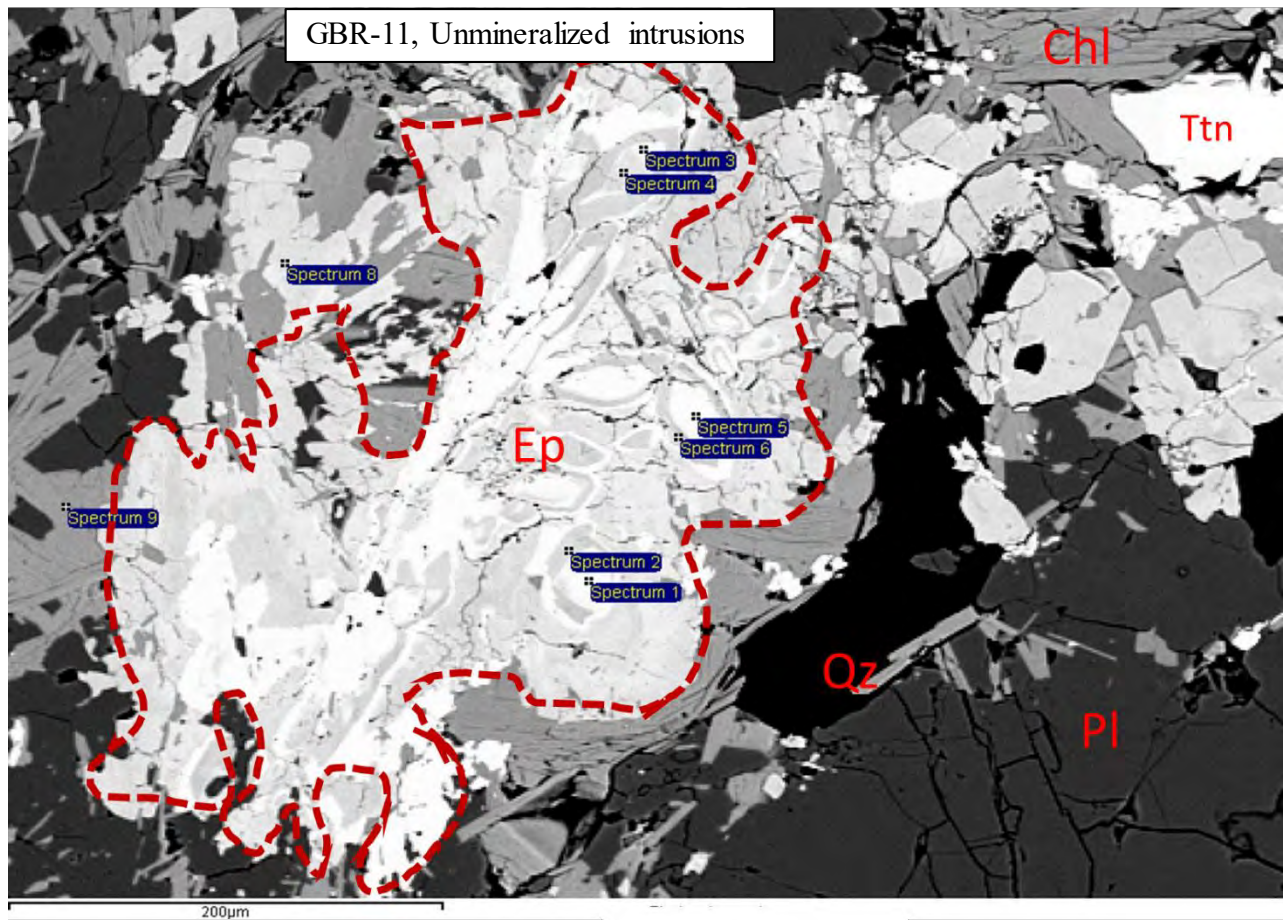


Figure A3-1: Back scatter electron image of an epidote aggregate. Area surrounded in red dashed line shows epidote grains with multiple repeating zoning patterns with variable Fe contents contributing to the changes in grey scale brightness.

Appendix 4. Abstracts of conference presentations

Abstract for poster presentation at the PDAC-SEG 2016 Student Minerals Colloquium, 2016:

Composition and assemblage of minerals associated with the porphyry Cu-Mo Mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south central British Columbia

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Glacial sediments commonly contain resistant heavy minerals, such as zircon, rutile, and epidote. To identify the source of these minerals and to use them as a tool to vector mineralization, it is critical to understand the mineral assemblages and compositional variations of heavy minerals in deposits and to determine if the signatures are distinct from barren rocks. The Gibraltar deposit in southcentral British Columbia, with the geological reserves (past production plus reserves) of 2.5 Mt Cu, is hosted by the late Jurassic Granite Mountain batholith. The batholith is mainly composed of tonalite with minor variation in modal abundance of felsic and mafic minerals. Igneous minerals include plagioclase, quartz, biotite, hornblende, titanite, zircon, apatite and magnetite. The mineralization is accompanied by extensive phyllic alteration in the tonalite, which produced illite, quartz, rutile, titanite, magnetite, apatite, chlorite and epidote. Epidote group minerals are ubiquitous alteration minerals as they replace plagioclase and hornblende, chlorite is common after hornblende and biotite, and a mixture of titanite and rutile replace biotite and hornblende. Alteration, mostly Fe-rich epidote, often appears light green in thin section but because there is a large compositional variation, even within a single sample, from Al-rich (high clinozoisite component) to significant La and Ce (allanite component) and/or Fe-rich phases, it is suggested that multiple alteration events have occurred. Another abundant igneous alteration mineral is titanite, which shows a wide compositional variation that correlates to varying concentrations of Al, Mg, and Fe. Preliminary observations suggest that in the preexisting potassic alteration zone biotite, occurring as an alteration mineral, has been replaced by chlorite. High FeOt (>25wt.%) chlorite is abundant in the rocks and appears to be related to the occurrence of epidote, whereas low FeOt (<25wt.%) and high Mg chlorite occurs as isolated aggregates. Identifying geochemical signatures of these minerals and their assemblages is a key component to developing a method of using heavy minerals as a vectoring tool.

Abstract for the poster presentation at the GAC-MAC Annual meeting 2016:

Mineral chemistry of greenrock alteration associated with the porphyry Cu-Mo mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south central British Columbia, Canada

Christopher H. Kobylinski¹, Keiko Hattori¹, Alain Plouffe², Scott Smith³

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The Gibraltar Cu-Mo porphyry deposit with the geological reserves (past production plus reserves) of 2.8 Mt Cu is hosted in the late Triassic Granite Mountain batholith the Quesnel Terrane. The batholith, which has the surface exposure of 15 km x 10 km, is mostly composed of tonalite with minor variation in modal abundances of felsic and mafic minerals. Igneous minerals are plagioclase, quartz, biotite, hornblende, with minor amounts of titanite, zircon, apatite and magnetite. Bulk rocks show a typical subduction-related geochemical signature with negative anomalies of high field strength elements, such as Nb, Ta and Ti, with minor positive and negative Eu anomalies ($Eu/Eu^*=0.09-1.2$). The mineralization is accompanied by extensive alteration in the tonalite, which produced illite, quartz, rutile, titanite, magnetite, apatite, chlorite and epidote. The high-temperature potassic alteration zone was likely present in the centre of the current mining operation, but the alteration has been obscured by the replacement of secondary biotite by chlorite. Among alteration minerals, epidote and chlorite are ubiquitous in the tonalitic rocks in and around the mine, producing green rock alteration. Epidote group minerals primarily replace plagioclase. Chlorite is also common after hornblende and biotite, and a mixture of titanite and rutile replaces biotite and hornblende. Epidote minerals are light grass green in hand specimens and also thin sections. They show a large compositional variation even within one sample from Al-rich (high clinozoisite component) to Fe-rich epidote, suggesting multiple alteration events or reflecting varying fluid composition within a hydrothermal system. Some are yellowish in thin sections and they contain significant allanite component with high La₂O₃ (up 9.54 wt%) and Ce₂O₃ (up to 14.7 wt%). These Ce-La-rich epidote grains contain higher concentrations of other REEs, Mn, Y and Th than Fe-rich epidote. These LREE-rich epidotes form isolated grains within chlorite aggregates in epidote-rich tonalities. In contrast, Fe-rich, REE-poor epidote is abundant and preferentially replaces plagioclase.

Igneous titanite (up to 2 mm) is low in Al₂O₃ (~1.2 wt%) whereas hydrothermal titanite contains high Al₂O₃ ranging from 2 to 6 wt%. Hydrothermal titanite is more abundant than its igneous counterpart, and shows a wide compositional variation of Mg and Fe. Rocks with greenrock alteration show high abundances of U, Pb and K in bulk rocks compared to epidote-poor samples. The enrichment of U and Pb in bulk rocks is likely due to their incorporation in epidote as minor components.

Abstract for poster presented at PDAC-SEG Student Minerals colloquium 2017:

Epidote and zircon associated with the porphyry Cu mineralization at the Gibraltar Mine in southcentral British Columbia

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¹Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Ottawa, Ottawa, Ontario;

²Taseko Gibraltar, McLeese Lake, British Columbia;

³Geological Survey of Canada, Ottawa, Ontario

The Gibraltar porphyry-Cu deposit in the Canadian Cordillera is hosted within the late Triassic, tonalitic Granite Mountain batholith. This study aims to link the geochemistry of key robust minerals (epidote, rutile, titanite and zircon) from the granite mountain batholith to surrounding glacial till. Additionally, this study aims to constrain the timing and paragenesis of the deposit using primary and alteration mineral geochemistry and distribution patterns. Understanding this porphyry deposit is key to refining our understanding of the mechanics that lead to formation of other porphyry deposits worldwide. The Granite Mountain batholith is composed of tonalitic rock suites that are primarily composed of quartz, plagioclase, hornblende, biotite, titanite, apatite and zircon, whereas their altered equivalents are dominated by an epidotechlorite-rutile-titanite-iron oxide mineral assemblage. Propylitic alteration (epidote-chlorite-albite) is extensive through the batholith. The epidote group minerals can be directly associated with Cu mineralization and the subsequent alteration halos that extend up to 10 km from the deposit. Epidote minerals occur as replacement phases of plagioclase, in disseminated grains and in veins of varying width. Wide epidote veins (>2cm) strike towards the mineralized centers and contain epidote zoned with Fe-rich rims and Al-rich cores. Dissemination of epidote occurs both in the tonalitic batholith rocks and the surrounding Nicola volcanic rocks, however, there is a higher concentration of disseminated epidote closer to the mineralized centers. There is a large compositional variation in the epidote group minerals, including clinozoisite and REE-rich allanite that occurs in the outer alteration halos, 1-2 km from the deposit and can be used as a tool to vector towards other similar deposits if found an outlying till. Minor and trace elements (titanium and rare earth elements) in zircon grains show cooler crystallization temperatures (785°C near mineralized phases compared to >817°C moving away from mineralized phases, as determined through Ti in zircon geothermometry). Relatively oxidized magmatic conditions are

found in the mineralized phases of the deposit using Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} as a proxy for oxidation state and a combination of the lattice strain model for mineral-melt partitioning of elements, Blundy and Wood 1994, and the calculation proposed by Ballard et al. 2004.

Tonalitic intrusions hosting the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo mine and associated green rock alteration

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The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit is hosted by the late Triassic, Granite Mountain batholith. It has three phases; Border Phase Quartz Diorite, Granite Mountain Tonalite, and foliated Mine Phase Tonalite. Zircon saturation temperatures and Ti in zircon geothermometry show hot crystallization temperatures, 780 -850 C, in the centre of the Mine Phase Tonalite compared 670-750 C recorded from other rocks. Elevated Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (32 -138 for quartile values) for zircon reflects moderately oxidized conditions of the parental magmas. The rocks in the batholith show phyllic and propylitic alteration. Propylitic alteration (green rock alteration) forms epidote, chlorite, and albite, and is extensive throughout the batholith. Epidote occurs as dissemination, isolated grains, and forms monomineralic veins and quartz-epidote veins in the batholith. These veins strike towards the mineralized centre. Epidote in contact with chalcopyrite is unzoned and Fe poor, suggesting Fe is preferentially incorporated into sulfides. Veins consist of unzoned, Fe poor epidote in the middle bordered by late-crystallizing Fe rich epidote. Disseminated epidote shows Fe poor cores and Fe rich rims. Epidote zoning suggests sulfur-rich mineralized hydrothermal activity, followed by sulfur-poor barren hydrothermal activity in the batholith. In addition, epidote in the centre of the Mine Phase Tonalite is REE-rich (high allanite component) and elevated concentrations of REEs (> 54 ppm) in bulk rocks. Allanite is not found >4km away from the mineralized centre. We suggest the mineralized hydrothermal activity is responsible for the REE enrichment in the centre of the Mine Phase Tonalite.

Abstract for poster presented at SEG meeting 2018:

Zircon from the Granite Mountain Batholith, a Host of the Gibraltar Porphyry Cu-Mo Deposit, in the Canadian Cordillera

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The Mesozoic Quesnel terrane in the Canadian Cordillera contains numerous porphyry Cu deposits, including the Gibraltar porphyry Cu deposit (3.687 Mt Cu, 0.123 Mt Mo) in south-central British Columbia. The deposit is hosted by tonalitic rocks of the Granite Mountain batholith (14 x 20 km), which intruded mafic volcanic rocks of the Nicola volcanic rocks. The Mine phase (3 x 13 km), which is primarily composed of foliated tonalite and hosts the mineralization, is extensively altered to form K-feldspar, white mica, epidote, and pyrite. U-Pb dating of zircons from the Mine phase reveals at least four age groups, ranging from 219 to 202 Ma. Zircons from the oldest group (219.6 ± 1.5 Ma) record the highest Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (680 ± 180 , 1 s, n = 14), whereas zircons from the other three groups in the Mine phase are low in Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (214 ± 64 , n = 43). Zircons from the Border and Granite Mountain phases report even lower Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} (128 ± 35 , n = 108). The oldest group of intrusions likely contributed the majority of the Cu mineralization, based on the high-Cu contents in the rocks and highly oxidized conditions of its parental magma. Younger groups of intrusions made moderate contributions to the Cu budget, whereas the youngest intrusion in the Mine phase did not contribute any Cu. Ages and Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} values of zircons from the mineralized Mine phase are very similar to the values for zircons in mineralized intrusions in the Highland Valley porphyry Cu deposit, ~ 240 km south of the Gibraltar deposit and also within the Quesnel terrane. Ce^{4+}/Ce^{3+} values positively correlate with Ce/Nd and Ce/Ce* in zircon at Gibraltar, suggesting that the compositions of zircons in glacial sediments and streams may be useful during exploration for fertile intrusions associated with porphyry Cu mineralization.

Poster presented at the GAC-MAC Annual meeting, 2016



Mineral chemistry of greenrock alteration associated with the porphyry Cu-Mo mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south central British Columbia, Canada



Introduction:

Porphyry Cu mineralization is accompanied by extensive alteration including chlorite, sericite and sericitic alteration in the host rocks and surrounding country rocks. The specific alteration products are related to the presence of oxidized and reduced. The green rock alteration is associated with the deposit and is useful in exploration for epithermal and greenschist alteration. A geochemical study was conducted to investigate the alteration associated with the mineralization. It is critical to identify the green rock alteration associated with porphyry Cu deposits from that of barren rocks. Among previous green rock alteration studies, epithermal alteration is well understood. Cooke et al. (2014) demonstrated that epithermal alteration is associated with porphyry Cu mineralization. However, the green rock alteration and associated alteration products may be helpful in exploration. In addition, epithermal alteration is well understood in green and barren environments. We started a project in the summer of 2015 to investigate the alteration assemblages and chemistry of alteration minerals associated with the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit. The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit with geothermal resource potential is located in the south central British Columbia (Figure 1).

Study area:

The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit is located in the Omineca Basin, British Columbia. It is a typical porphyry Cu-Mo deposit. The Gibraltar deposit is located in the south central British Columbia. The Gibraltar deposit is located in the south central British Columbia. The Gibraltar deposit is located in the south central British Columbia.

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Alteration assemblages:

Alteration assemblages were identified in the study area. The alteration assemblages include chlorite, sericite, and sericitic alteration. The alteration assemblages include chlorite, sericite, and sericitic alteration. The alteration assemblages include chlorite, sericite, and sericitic alteration.

Results Geochemistry: Epidote:

Episodes with the general formula $Al_2Fe_2O_7(OH)_2$ have a large compositional variation in the study area. The episodes have a general formula $Al_2Fe_2O_7(OH)_2$ and a large compositional variation in the study area. The episodes have a general formula $Al_2Fe_2O_7(OH)_2$ and a large compositional variation in the study area.

Summary:

Mineral assemblages of epidote-chlorite-sericite and chlorite-sericite are associated with the Gibraltar deposit. The mineral assemblages of epidote-chlorite-sericite and chlorite-sericite are associated with the Gibraltar deposit.

Methodology:

1. Petrographic study using photomicrographs
 2. SEM-EDS for identification of minerals and semi-quantitative analysis of minerals
 3. EMPA analysis for quantitative chemical analysis of minerals
 4. Bulk rock analysis

References:

Cooke, D.R., 2014. Green rock alteration: A review. *Journal of Geochemical Exploration*, 144, 1-15.
 Hattori, K., Plouffe, A., Smith, S., 2015. Mineral chemistry of greenrock alteration associated with the Gibraltar deposit, south central British Columbia, Canada. *Journal of Geochemical Exploration*, 144, 1-15.

Acknowledgements:

We thank Taseko-Gibraltar for supporting the production of this poster and allowing access and sampling of the Gibraltar deposit. Jeffrey Henderson is thanked for his help during the field work in July 2015.

Figure 1: Location map of the Gibraltar deposit in the south central British Columbia. The map shows the location of the Gibraltar deposit in the south central British Columbia. The map shows the location of the Gibraltar deposit in the south central British Columbia.

Figure 2: Photomicrographs of alteration assemblages. The figure shows photomicrographs of alteration assemblages. The figure shows photomicrographs of alteration assemblages.

Figure 3: Geochemical diagrams showing primitive mantle normalized and REE values chondrite normalized. The figure shows geochemical diagrams showing primitive mantle normalized and REE values chondrite normalized. The figure shows geochemical diagrams showing primitive mantle normalized and REE values chondrite normalized.

Poster presented at PDAC-SEG Student Minerals Colloquium 2017

Epidote and zircon associated with the porphyry copper mineralization at the Gibraltar mine in south central British Columbia

Introduction:

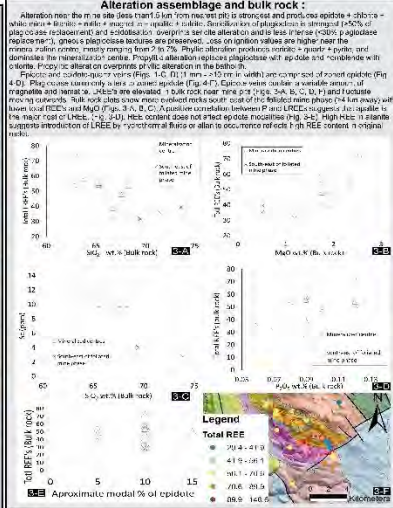
Porphyry Cu mineralization is associated with extensional tectonics, including mafic dykes, rhyolite and andesite flows, and is hosted in the Gibraltar mine. The Gibraltar mine is a large porphyry copper deposit. The host rocks are mainly volcanic rocks. The epithermal alteration (greenish alteration) extends far outside the deposit and is useful in exploration for deposits, but green alteration is also common in many areas that are not associated with the mineralization. It is important to identify the green alteration associated with the porphyry Cu deposits from that of the barren rocks. Cooke et al. (2014) observed that epidote associated with porphyry Cu mineralization occurs as a result of the pyroclastic flow and that the epidote chemistry may be helpful in exploration. In this study, we report the results of a study to identify the epidote associated with porphyry Cu mineralization and to determine the conditions of its formation.

Christopher H. Kobylinski¹, Keiko Hattori¹, Alain Plouffe², Scott Smith³

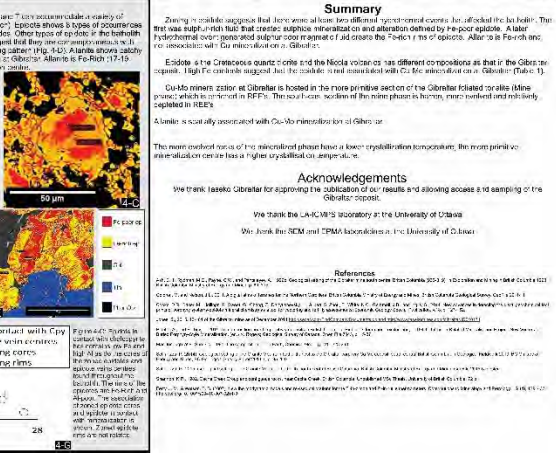
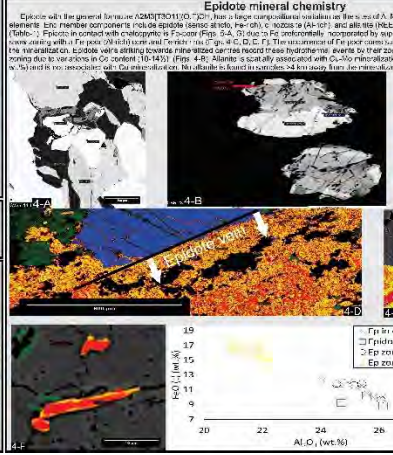
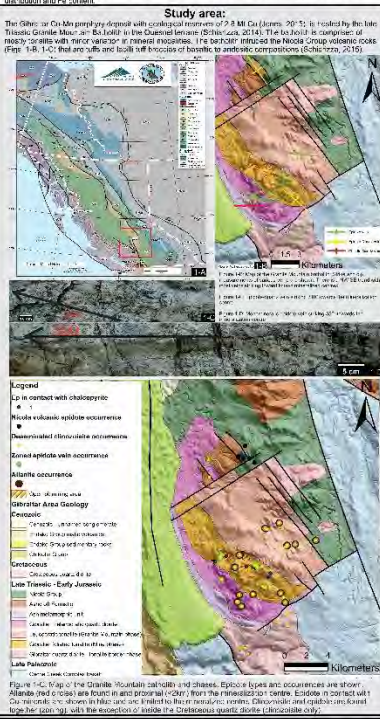
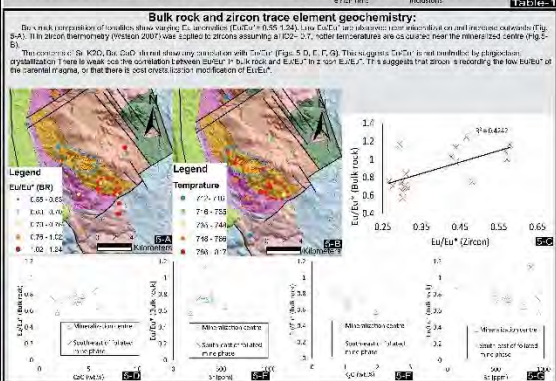
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Results



Epidote type	FeO (wt% average)	Al ₂ O ₃ (wt% average)	CaO (wt% average)	Soaking type	Textures/Inclusions
Ep 1 (A)	13.5	24.7	0.1	Soaking	Cracks, inclusions, no inclusions
Ep 2 (B)	12.25	23.07	0.01	No soaking	Cracks, inclusions, no inclusions
Ep 3 (C)	15.24	22.3	0.04	No soaking	Subhedral grains, no inclusions
Ep 4 (D)	14.7	21.7	0.14	No soaking	Cracks, inclusions, no inclusions
Ep 5 (E)	Variable (soaked)	Variable (soaked)	0.15	Soaked	Fe-oxide, cracks, inclusions
Ep 6 (F)	Variable (soaked)	Variable (soaked)	0.14	Soaked	Cracks, inclusions, no inclusions
Ep 7 (G)	Variable (soaked)	Variable (soaked)	0.11	Soaked	Cracks, inclusions, no inclusions



Methodology:

1. Mapping of alteration types
2. Petrographic study
3. SEM-EDS and EPMA for identification of minerals and analysis of their chemical composition
4. LA-ICP-MS for trace element analysis of minerals

Lithology:

The batholith consists of 4 phases: (1) mafic phase, (2) mafic phase, (3) mafic phase, (4) mafic phase. The Gibraltar mine is located in the mafic phase. The mafic phase is composed of plagioclase, quartz, hornblende, and biotite.

Summary

The results of this study suggest that the Gibraltar mine is a large porphyry copper deposit. The host rocks are mainly volcanic rocks. The epithermal alteration (greenish alteration) extends far outside the deposit and is useful in exploration for deposits, but green alteration is also common in many areas that are not associated with the mineralization. It is important to identify the green alteration associated with the porphyry Cu deposits from that of the barren rocks. Cooke et al. (2014) observed that epidote associated with porphyry Cu mineralization occurs as a result of the pyroclastic flow and that the epidote chemistry may be helpful in exploration. In this study, we report the results of a study to identify the epidote associated with porphyry Cu mineralization and to determine the conditions of its formation.

Acknowledgements

We thank Taseko Gibraltar for providing the samples and allowing access to the Gibraltar mine. We thank the SEM and EPMA laboratories at the University of Ottawa.

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Poster presented at SEG meeting 2018

Zircon from the Granite Mountain Batholith, a host of the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit, in the Canadian Cordillera

Christopher H. Kobylinski¹, Keiko Habori², Alain Plouffe³, Scott Smith¹

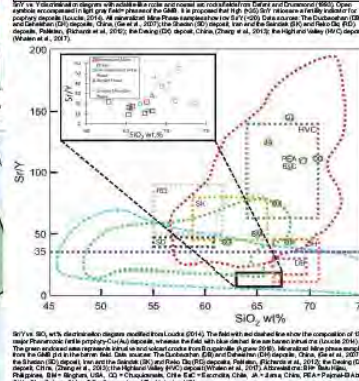
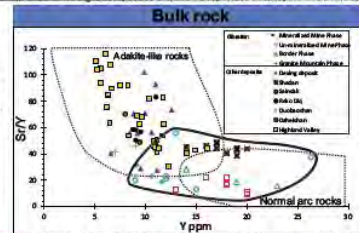
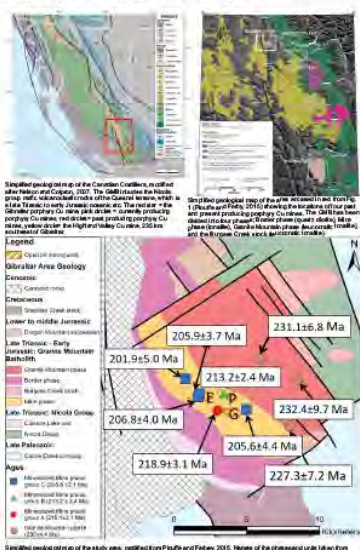
¹ Department of Earth Sciences, University of Ottawa, 25 Templeton Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1N 6N5
² Geological Survey of Canada, 601 Booth Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0E8
³ Taseko Gibraltar Mining Offices, 10251 Gibraltar Road, McLeese Lake, British Columbia, V0L 1P0

Introduction

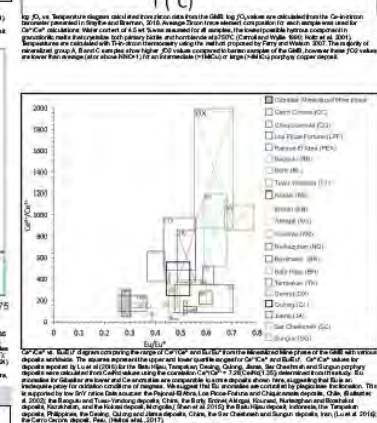
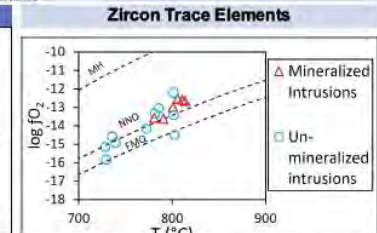
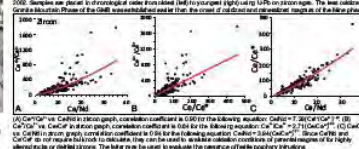
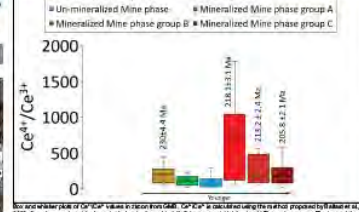
Porphyry type metal deposits are commonly found in close spatial association with large intrusions (Batholiths). The Gibraltar deposit (2.8 Mt Cu; Grunsky et al., 1998) in south central British Columbia, Canada, provided a site to evaluate the relationship between the mineralization and batholith as it is hosted by the Granite Mountain Batholith (GMB) of ~18x~15km.

We assess the nature and timing of the fertile magmas that brought Cu-molybdenum to the Gibraltar site, by examining alteration, comparing Re-Os ages with U-Pb ages and evaluating oxidation conditions of magmas.

We also evaluate the applicability of geochemical fertility indicators, such as Sr/Y ratios. We discuss the relatively low fO_2 values for mineralizing intrusions at Gibraltar and suggest multiple mineralizing events to form the economic deposit.



Zircon Trace Elements



Conclusions

- The Granite Mountain Batholith formed by multiple intrusions events over ~25 My.
- These intrusions (mineralized Mine phase groups A, B and C) are responsible for the Cu-molybdenum mineralization, being more oxidized and having a fO_2 up to previously reported Re-Os ages on molybdenite (21.0±1.5 Ma to 21.0±1 Ma, Hasting, 2012).
- Mineralized Mine phase intrusions groups A, B and C show low Sr/Y < 25, and moderately high fO_2 , fO_2 1.5 to 10⁻¹², suggesting that high fO_2 and very high fO_2 are not necessary to generate an economic porphyry deposit. A alternatively, the data from the Gibraltar deposit shows that an economic porphyry Cu deposit may be formed by the juxtaposition of several temporally distinct oxidized magmas.
- Mineralized Mine phase group A shows the highest Ce assemblage, followed by the second highest from group B and the third highest from group C intrusions. The early barren Granite Mountain phase of the GMB shows low Ce assemblage.
- Ce⁴⁺/Ce⁺ is positively correlated with Ce⁴⁺ and Ce³⁺ suggesting that all these ratios reflect the oxidation conditions of the mineral magmas. There is no correlation between Ce assemblage and Sr anomalies in zircon at Gibraltar. Sr anomalies are not a proxy for magma f_{ox} conditions because they are mostly controlled by plagioclase.

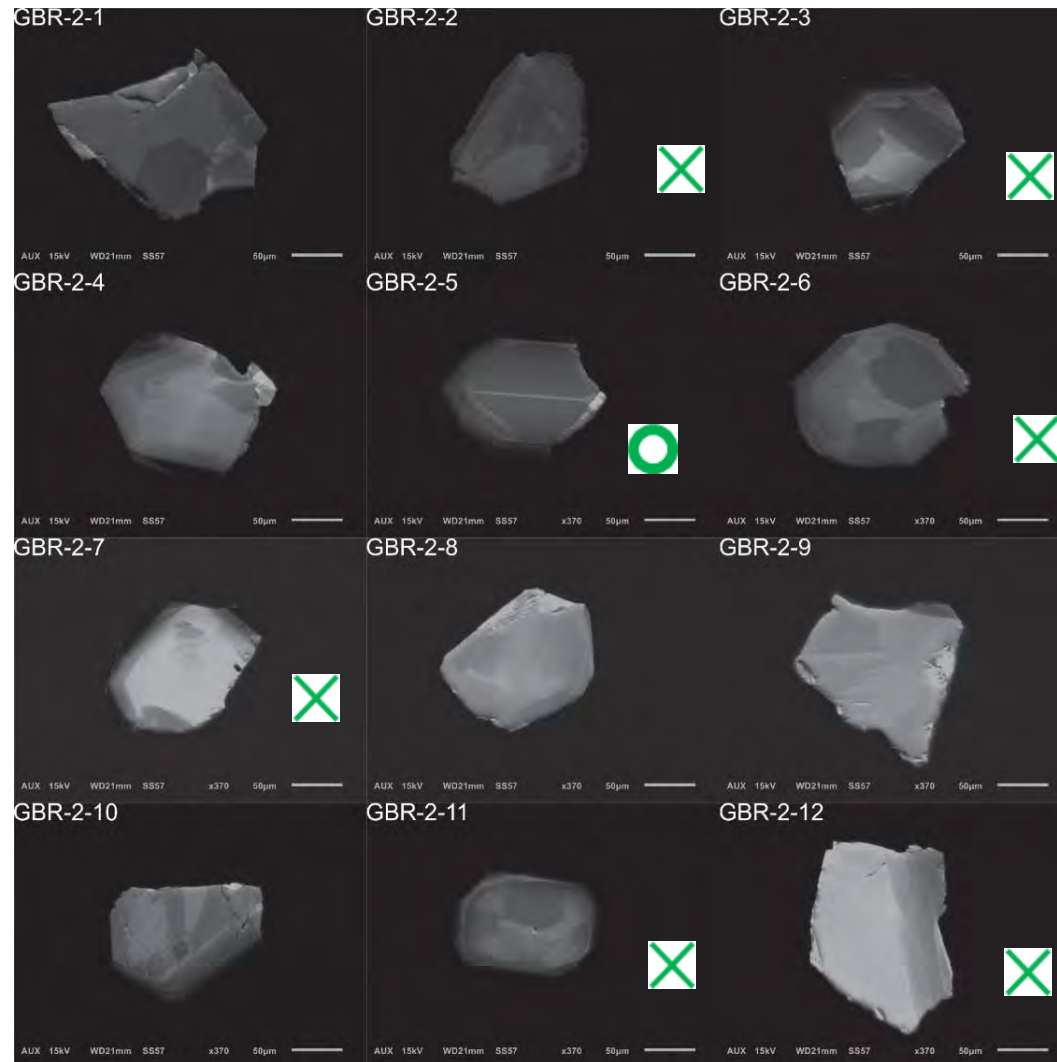
Acknowledgments
 The authors thank the following individuals for their assistance in the field and laboratory: ...

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 Grunsky, B.C., 1998. The Gibraltar porphyry copper-molybdenum deposit, British Columbia, Canada: A review of the deposit and its host batholith. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, 35, 101-114.

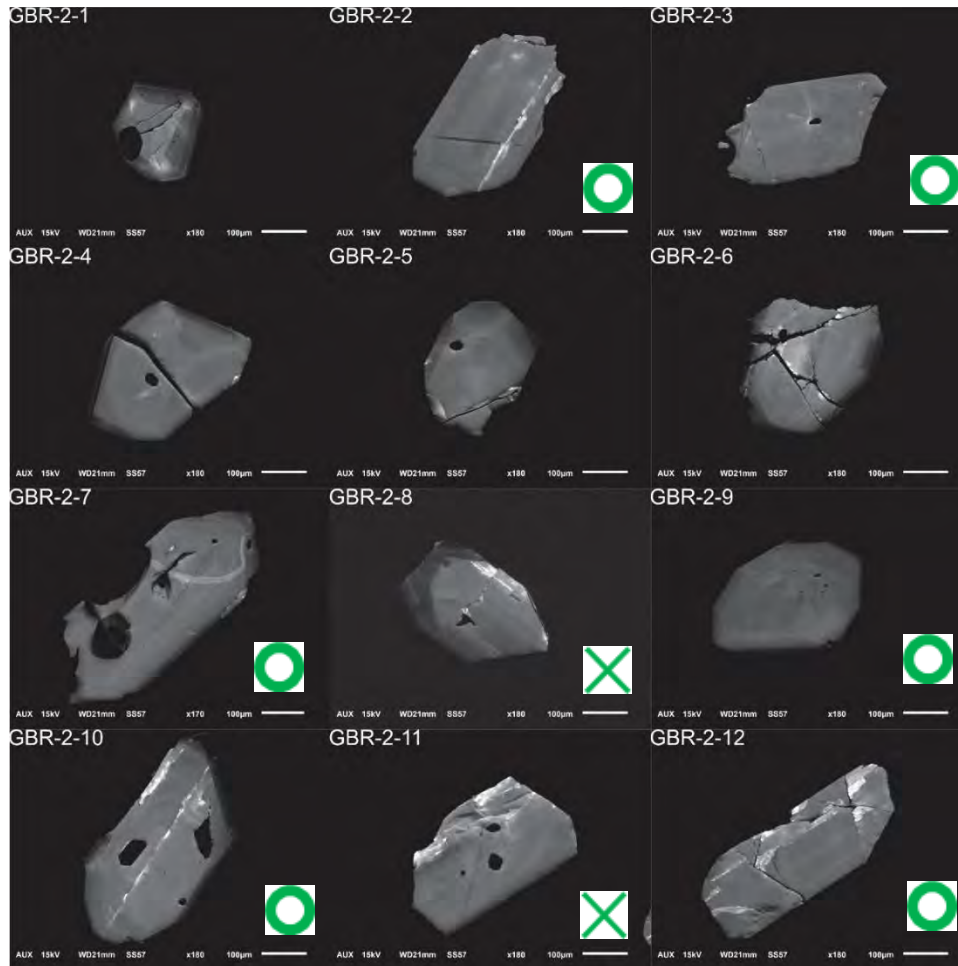
Appendix 6. SEM-CL Images of all zircon

Below are all zircons examined for this study, only grains without sector zoning were used for trace element analysis. Grains with a green X in the bottom right hand corner were used for U-Pb dating and grains with a green circle in the bottom right hand corner were used for trace element analysis. Not all grains were used. Some of the larger grains are used multiple times in different unablated areas of the grain.

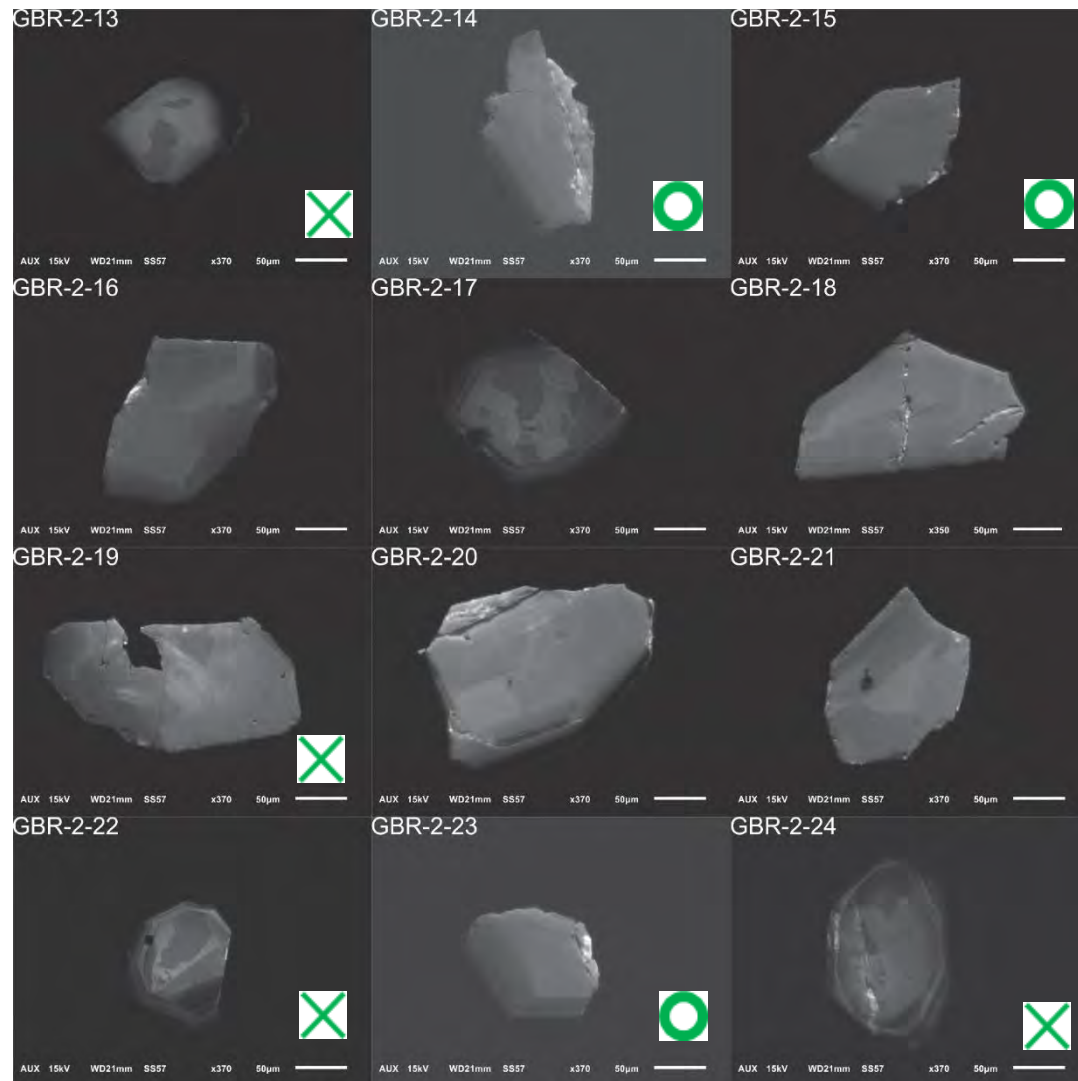
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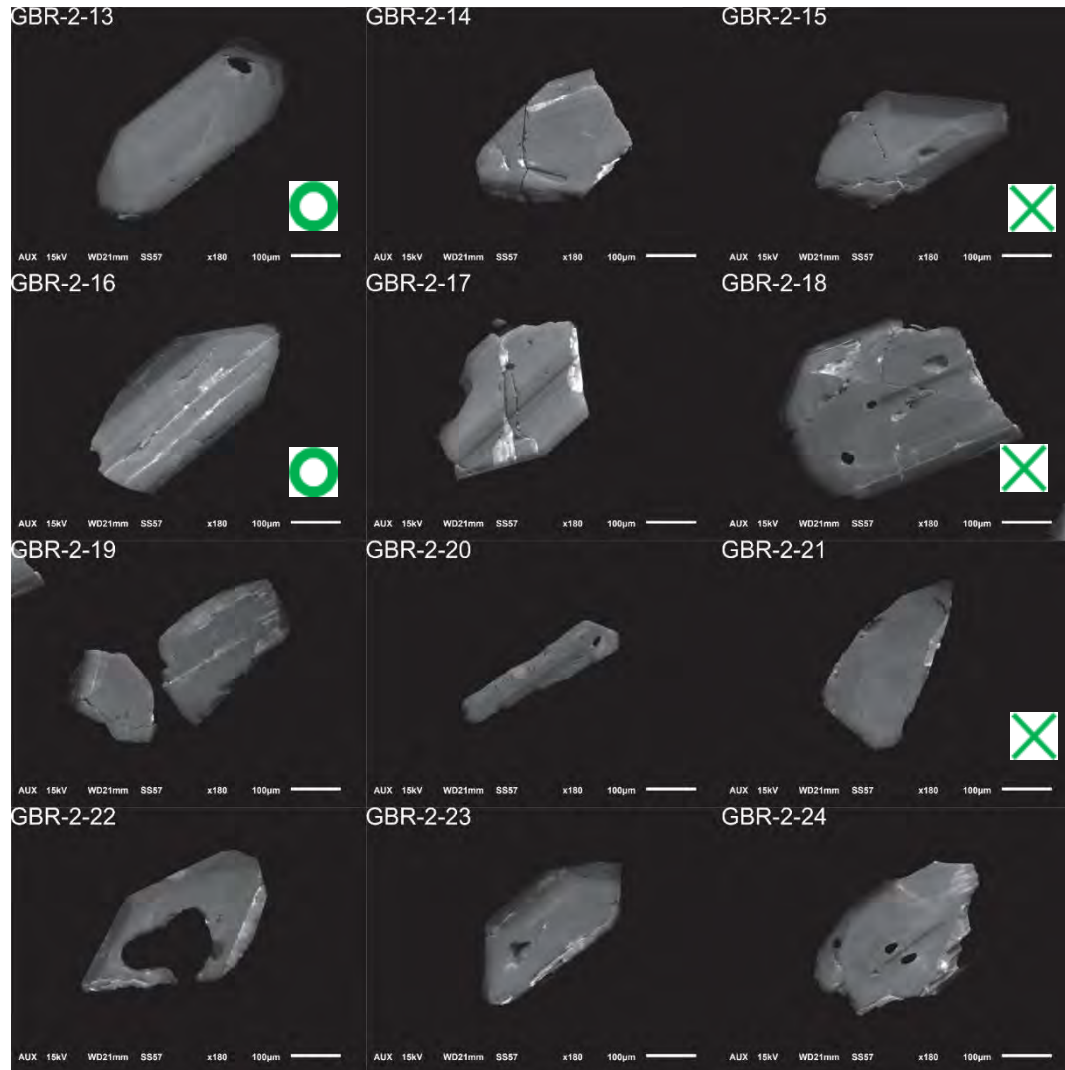
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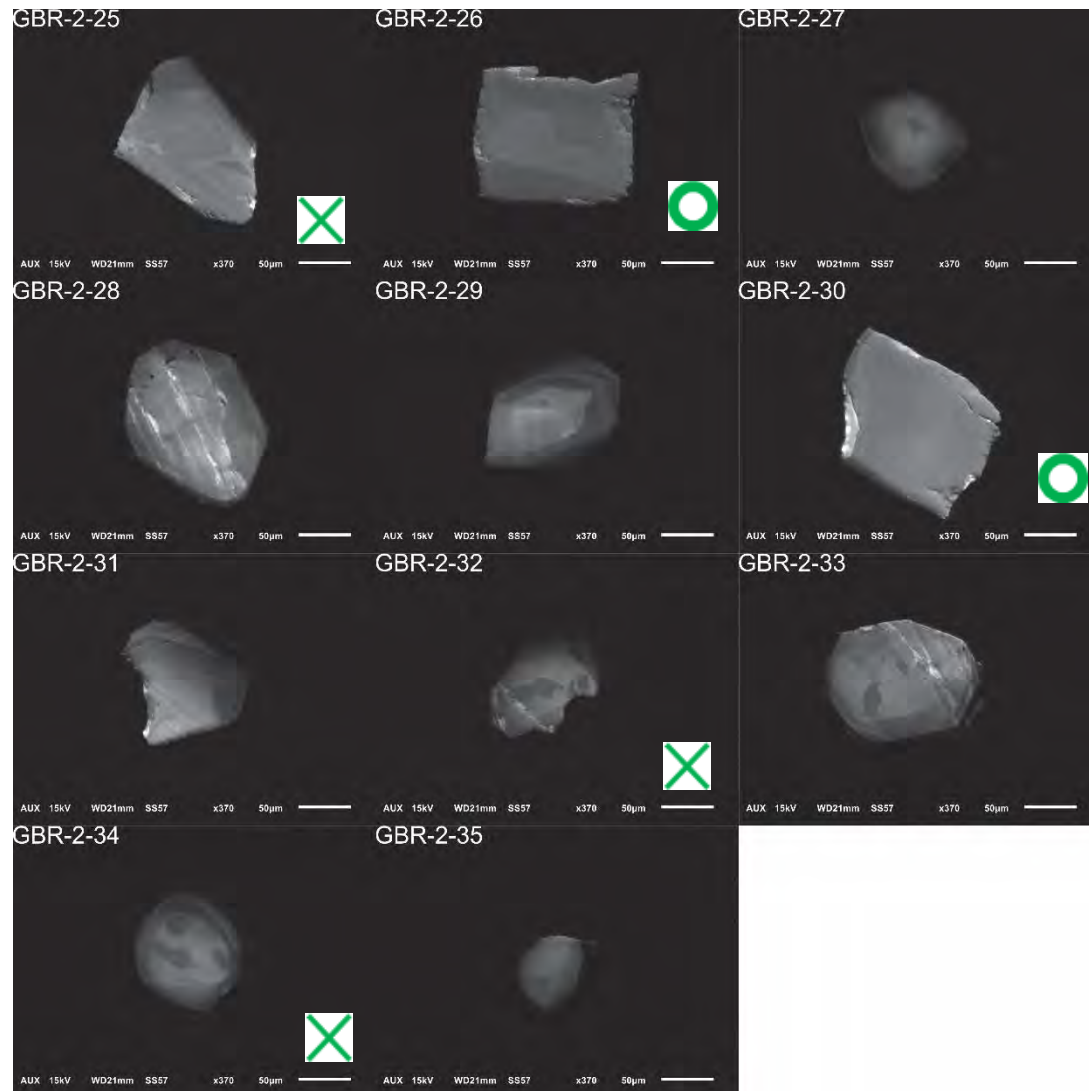
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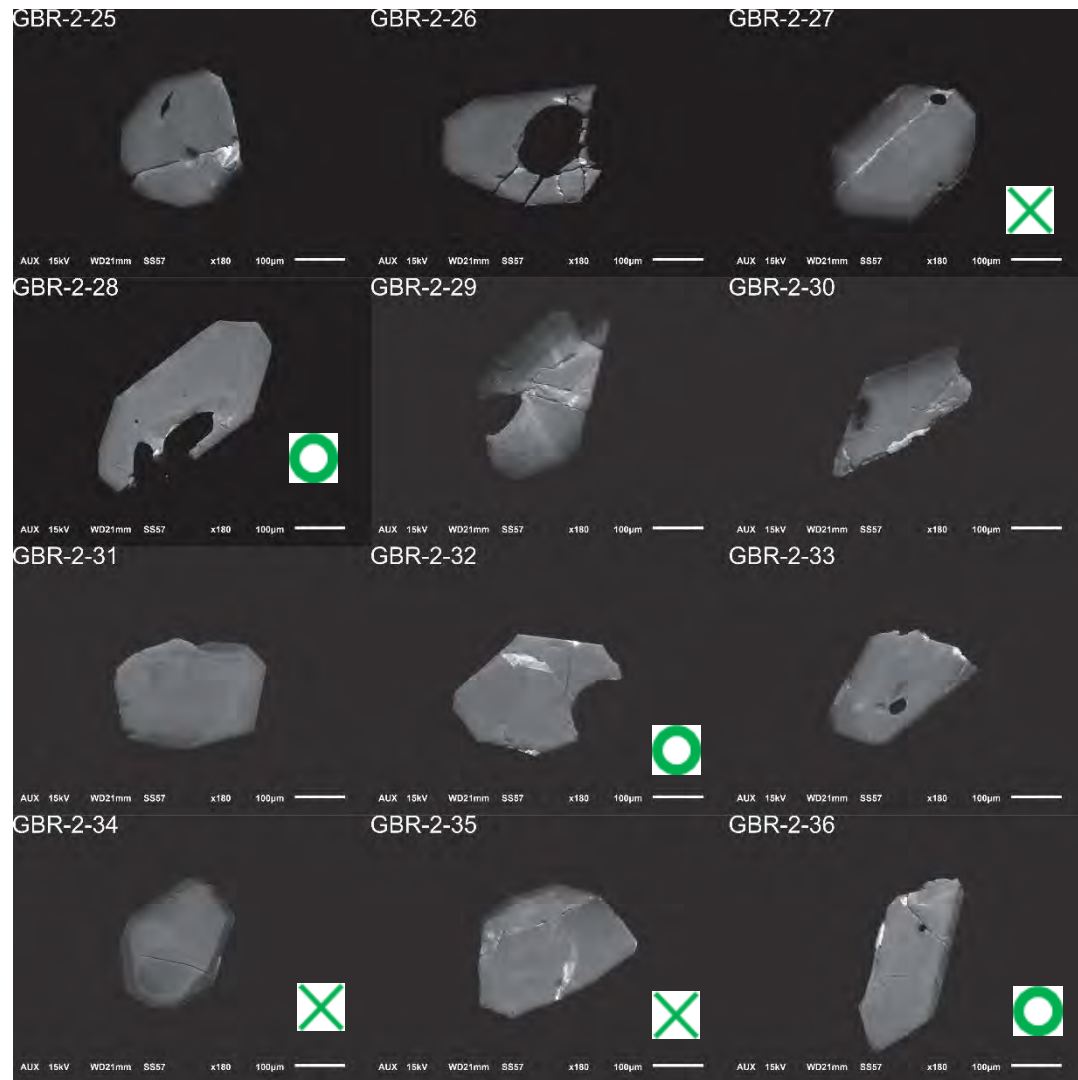
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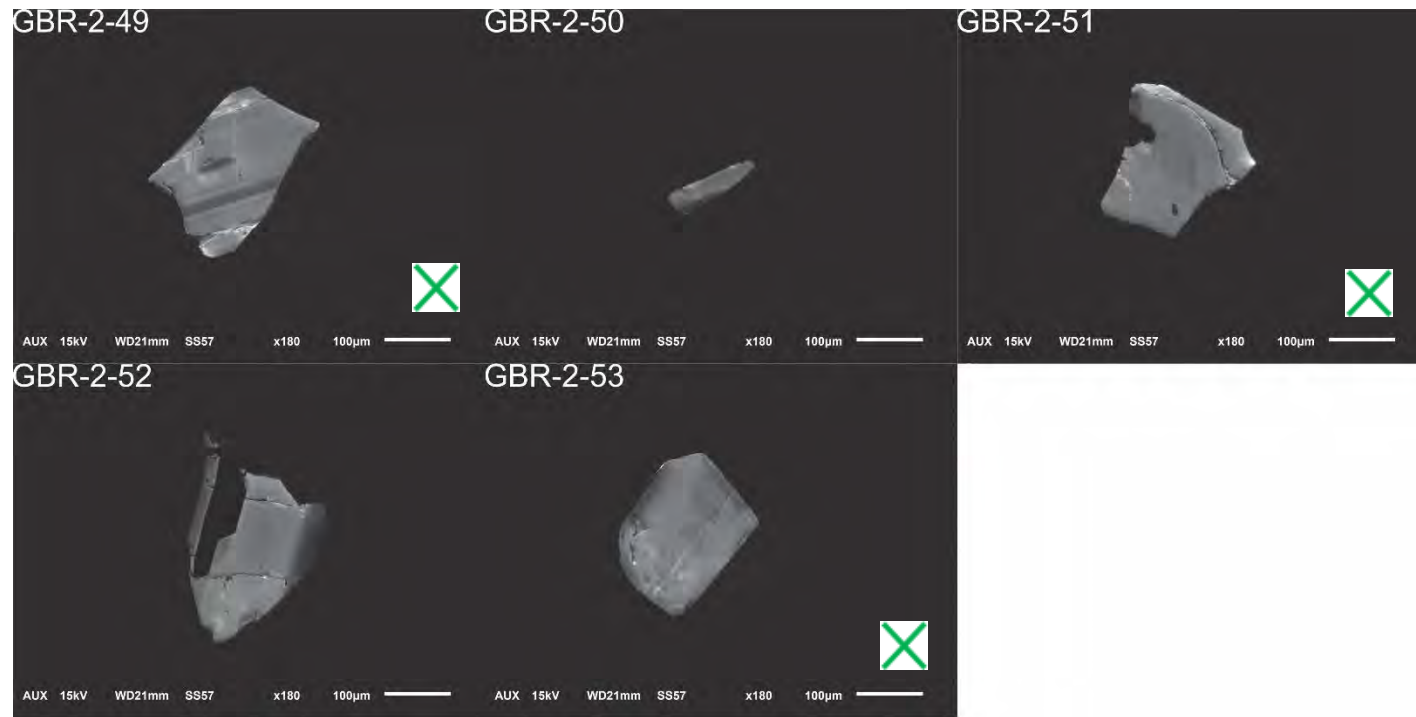
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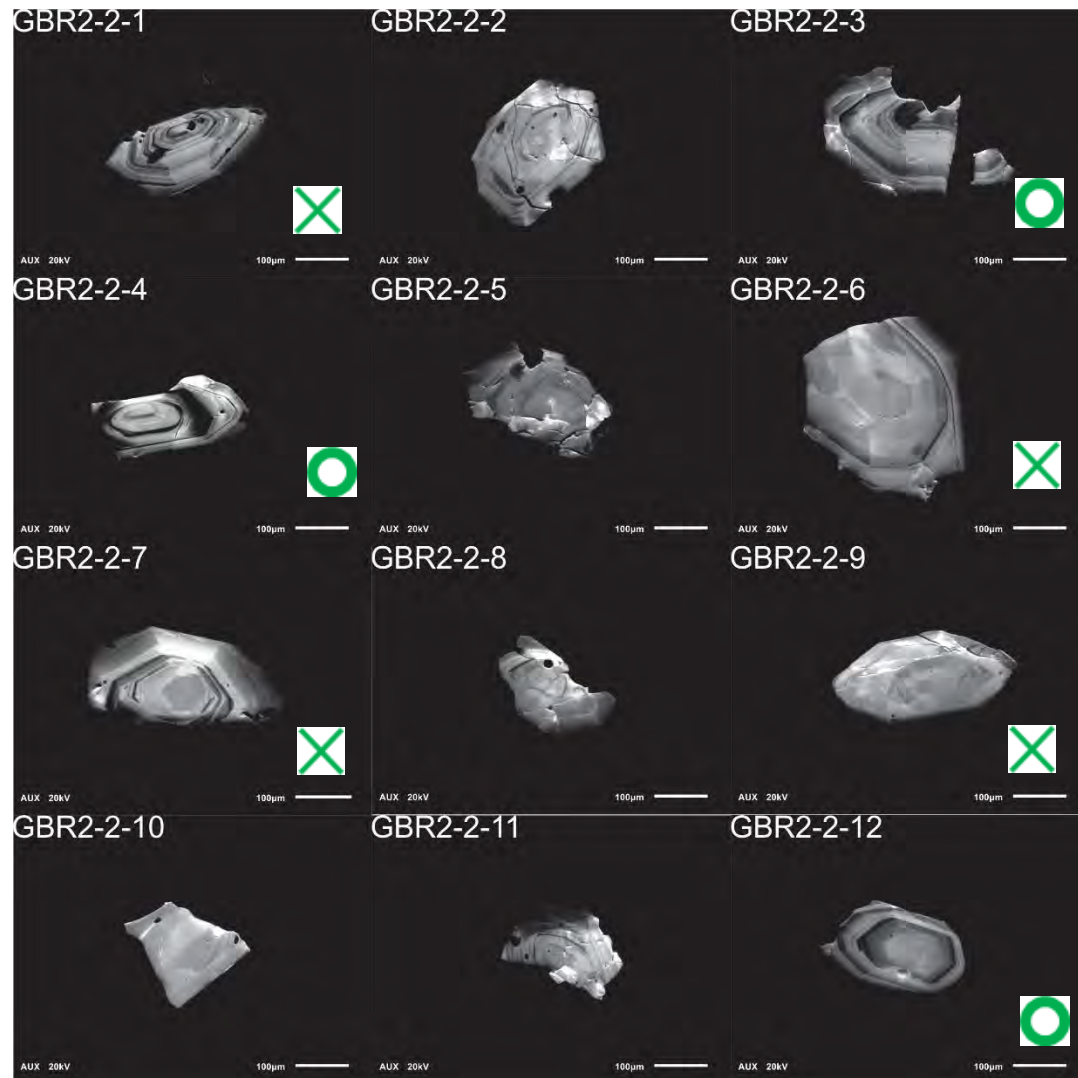
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GBR-2, 49-53, 212-350 μ m fraction



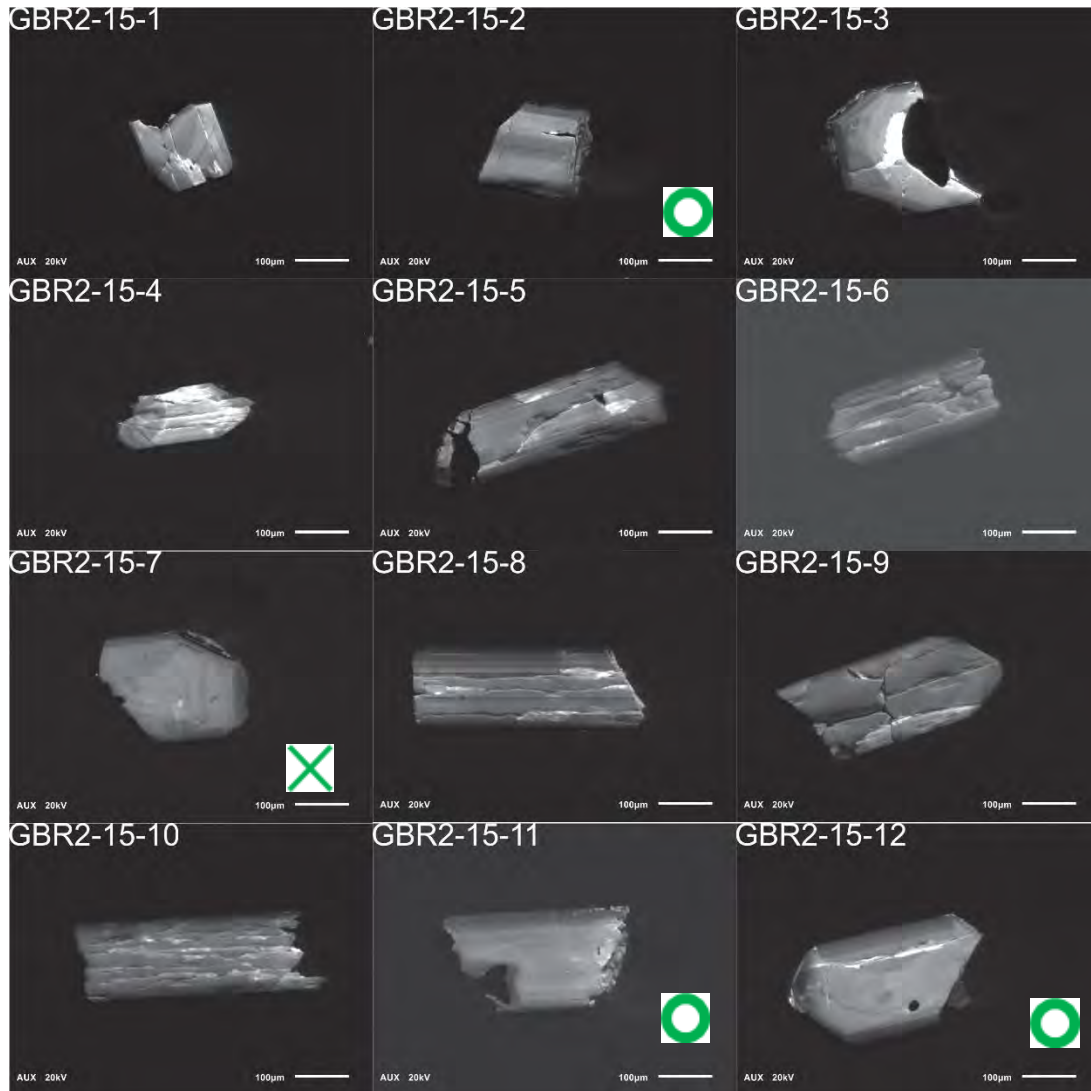
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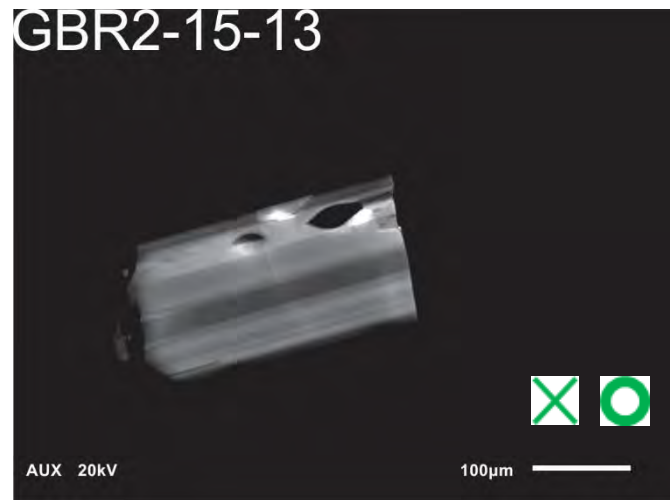
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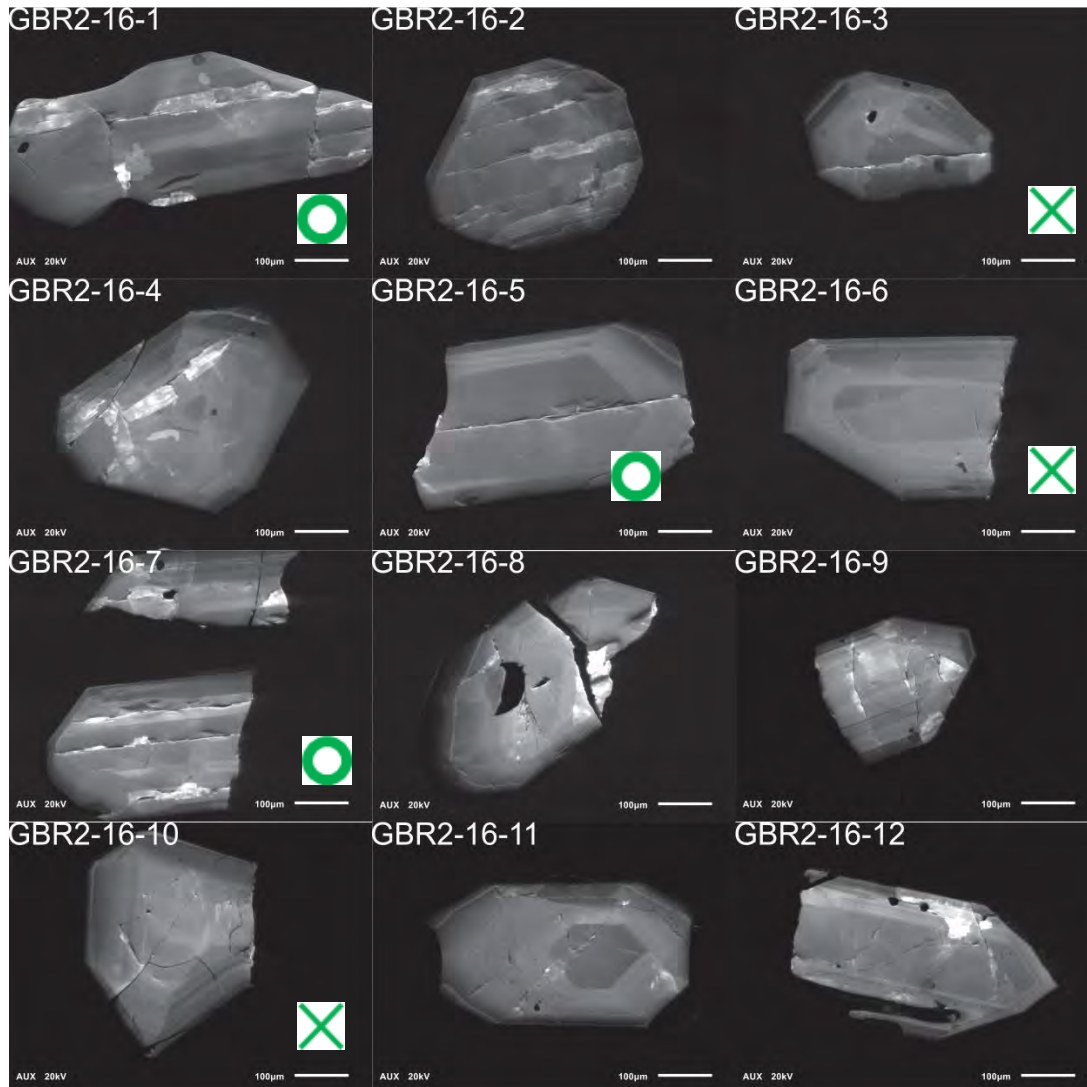
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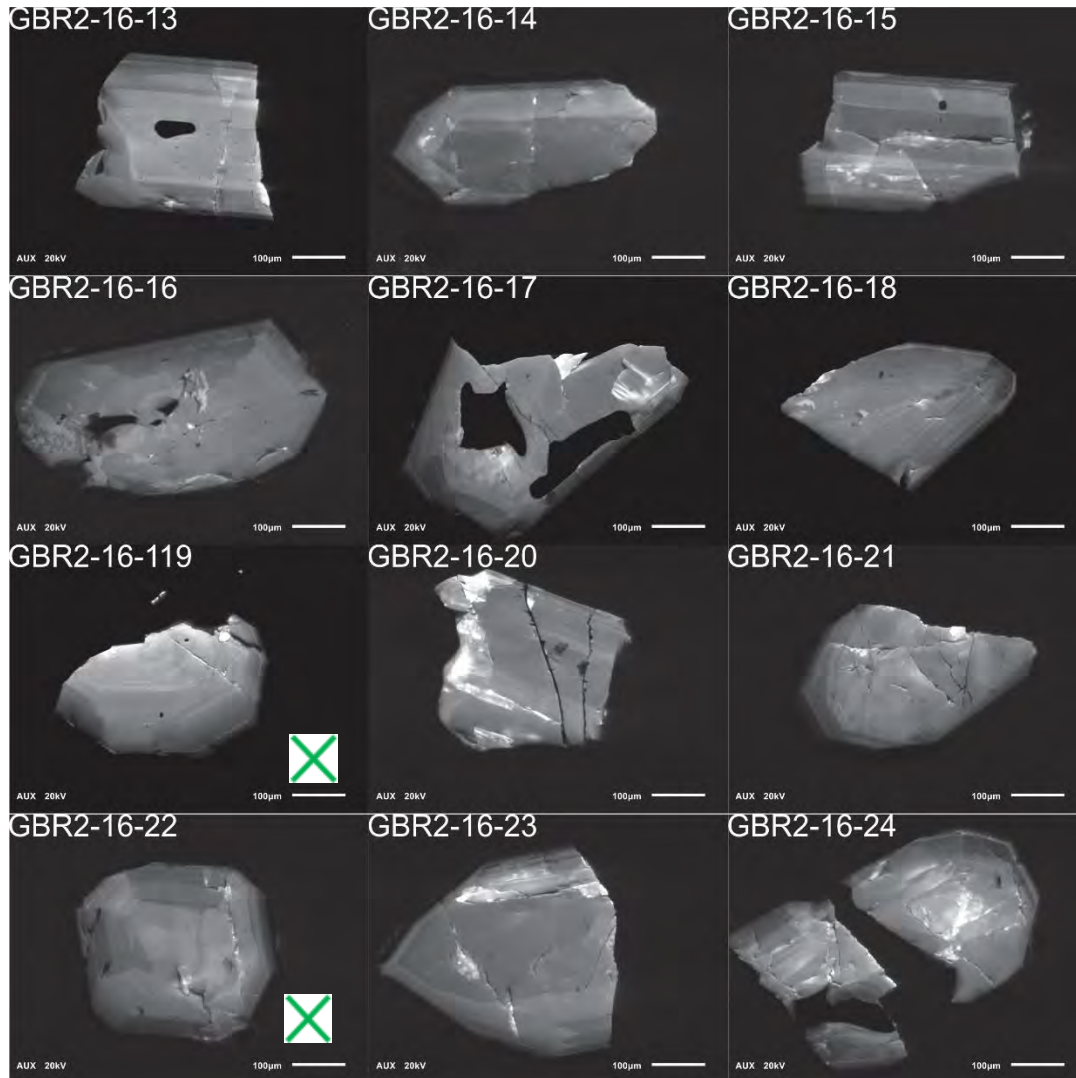
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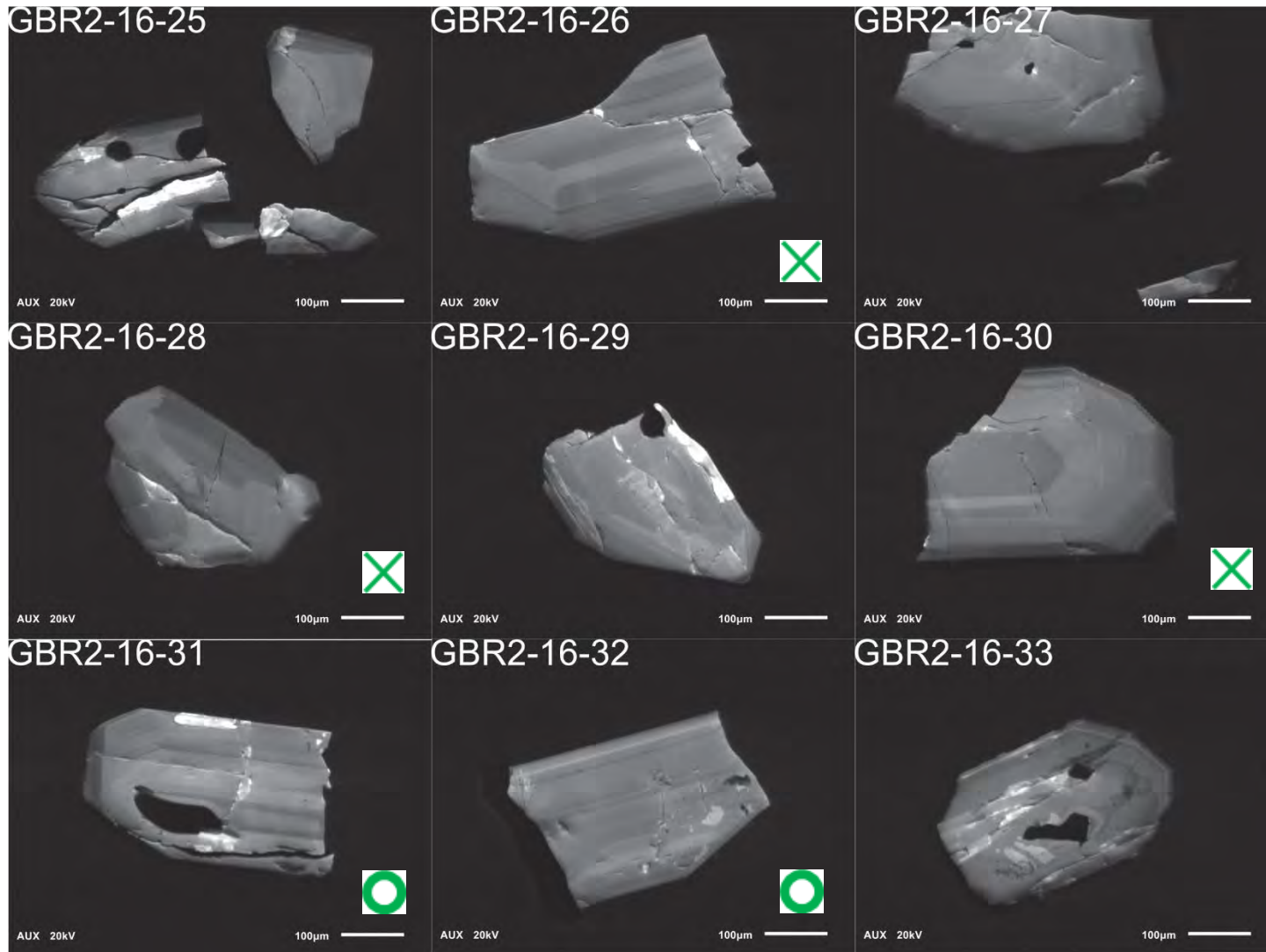
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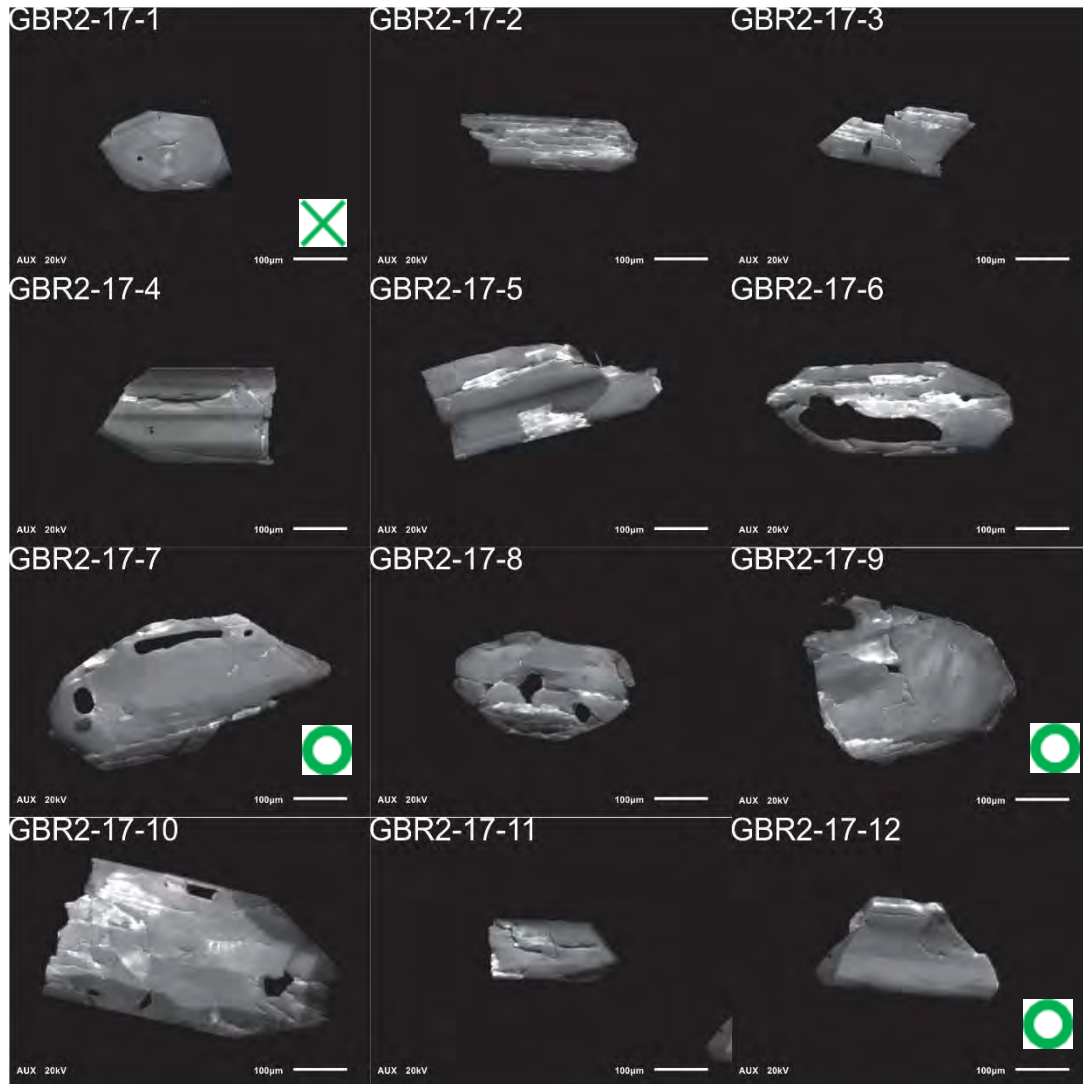
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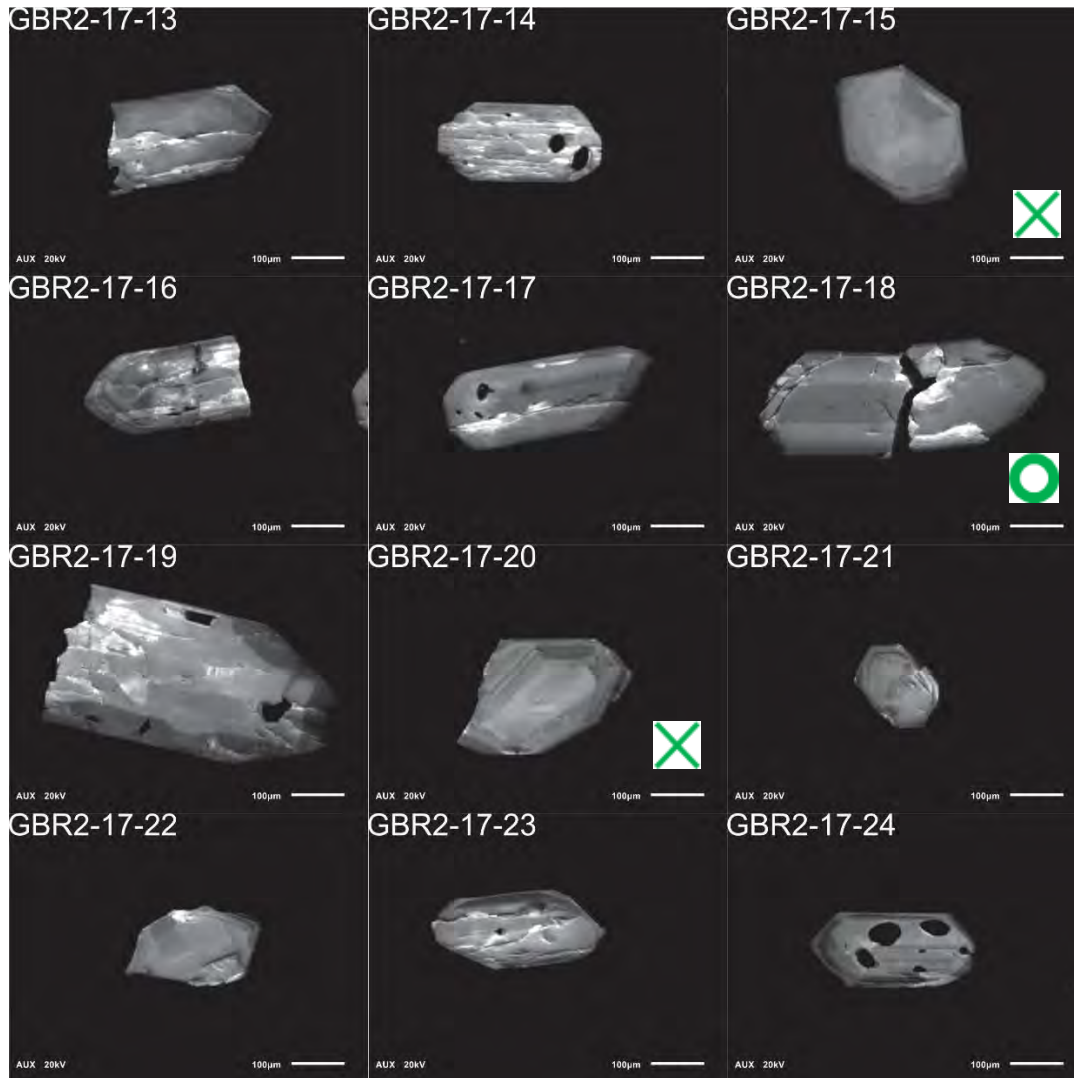
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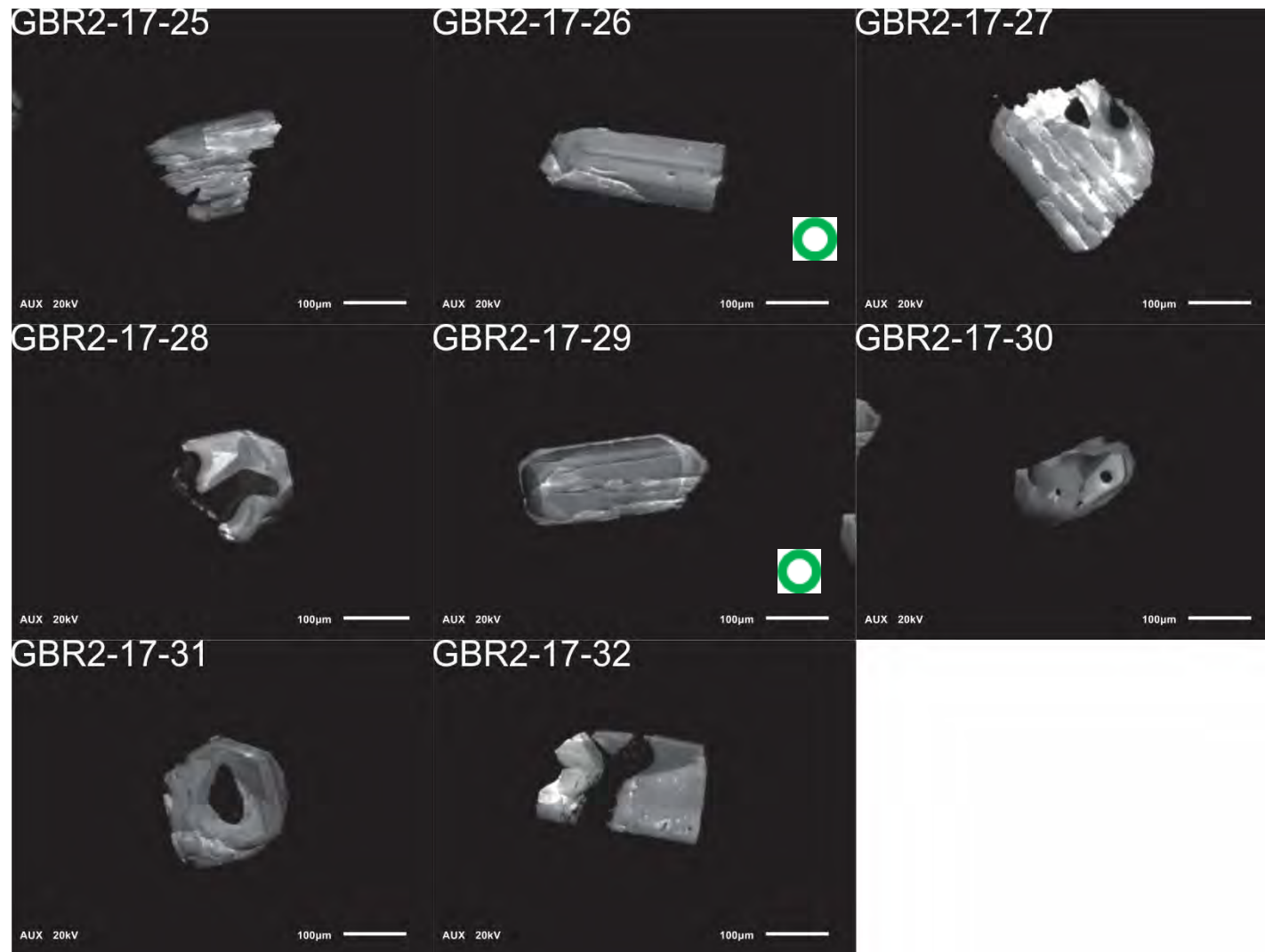
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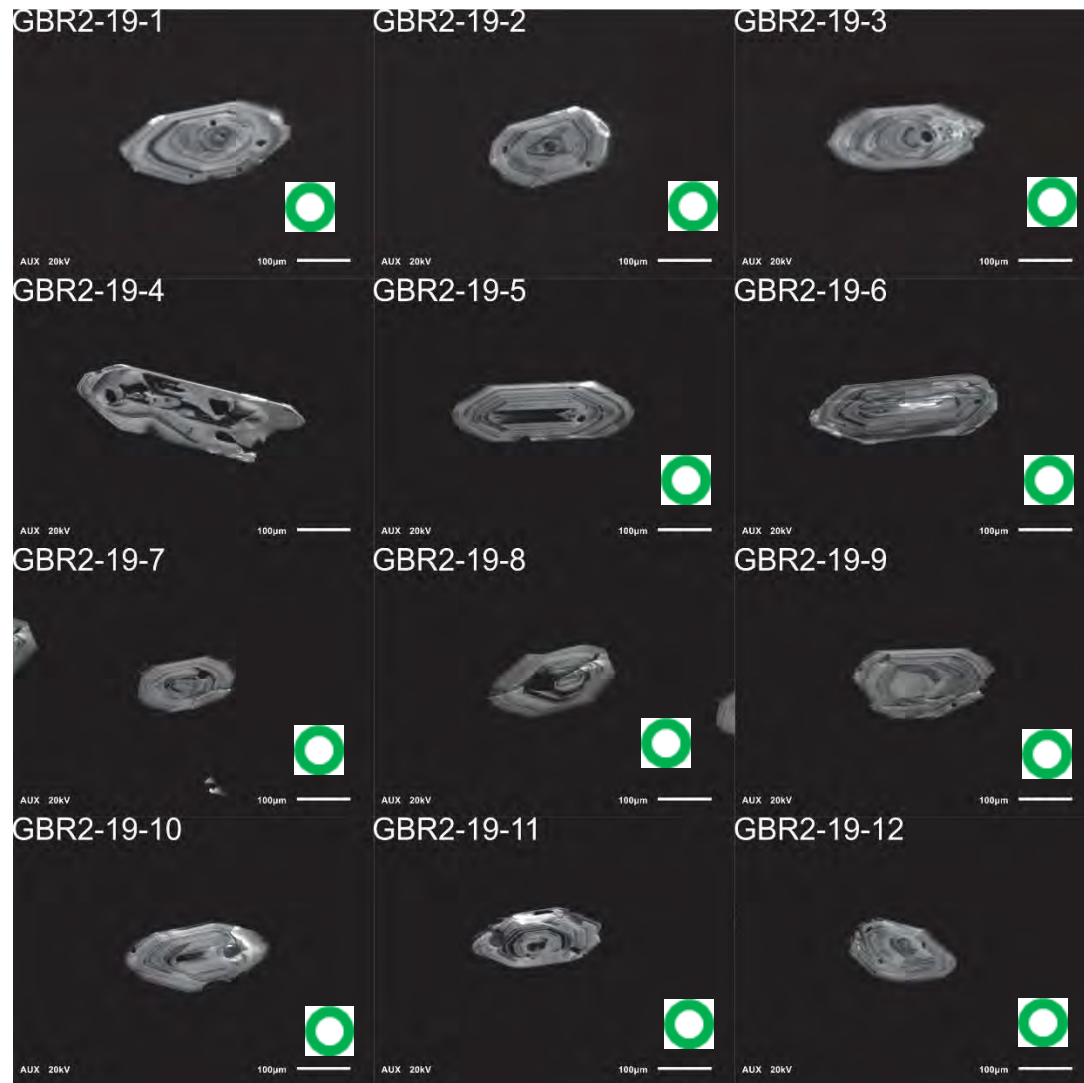
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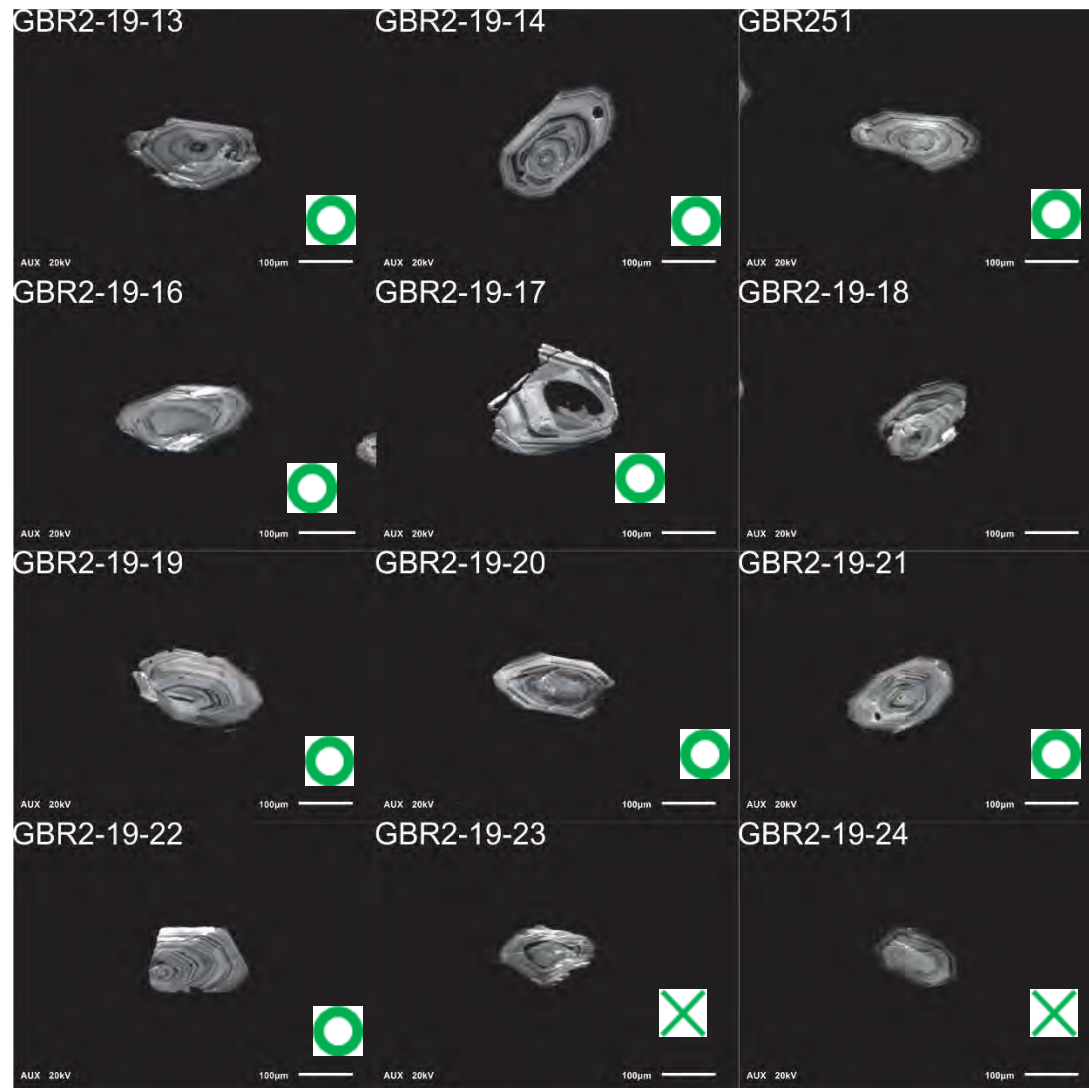
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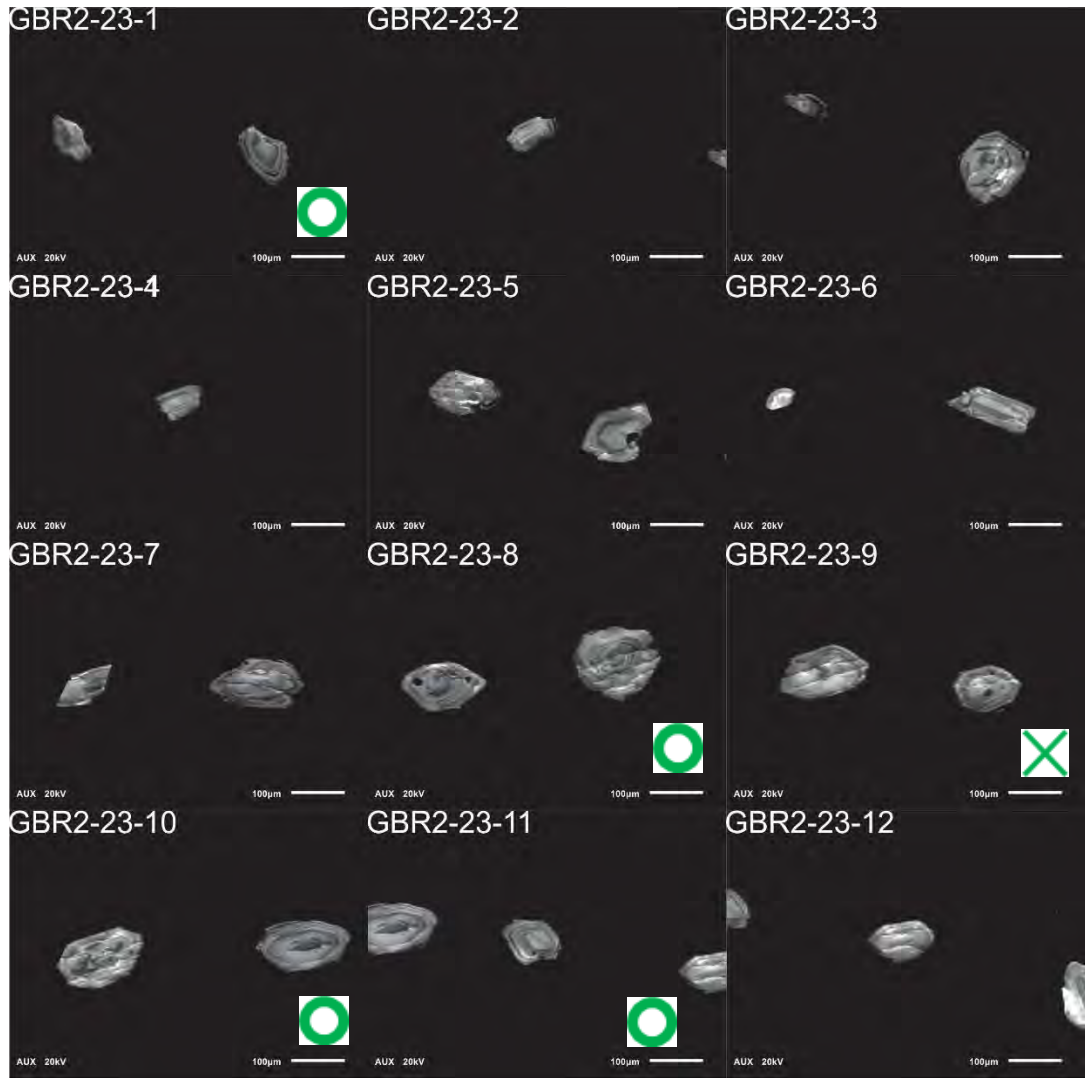
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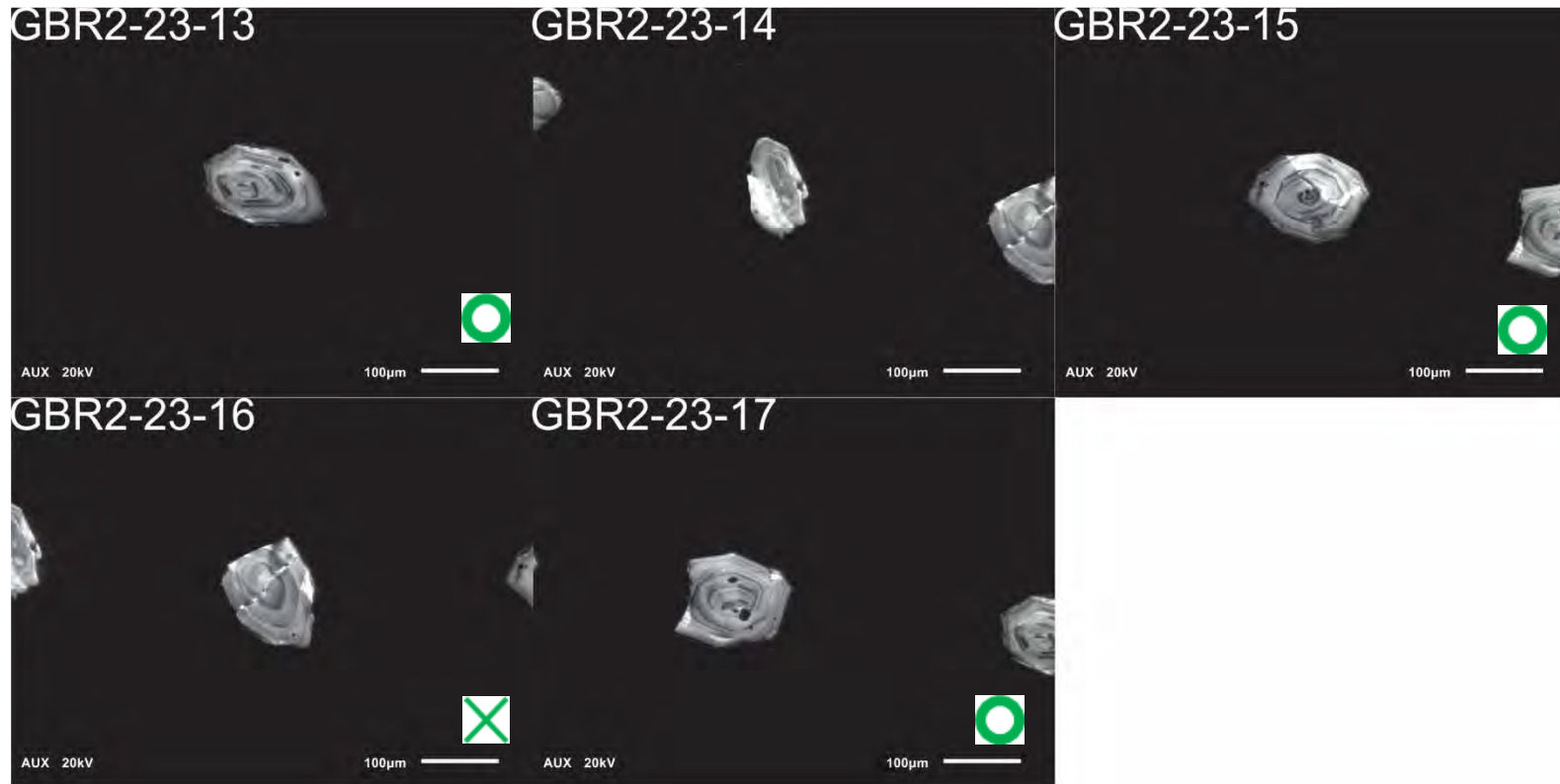
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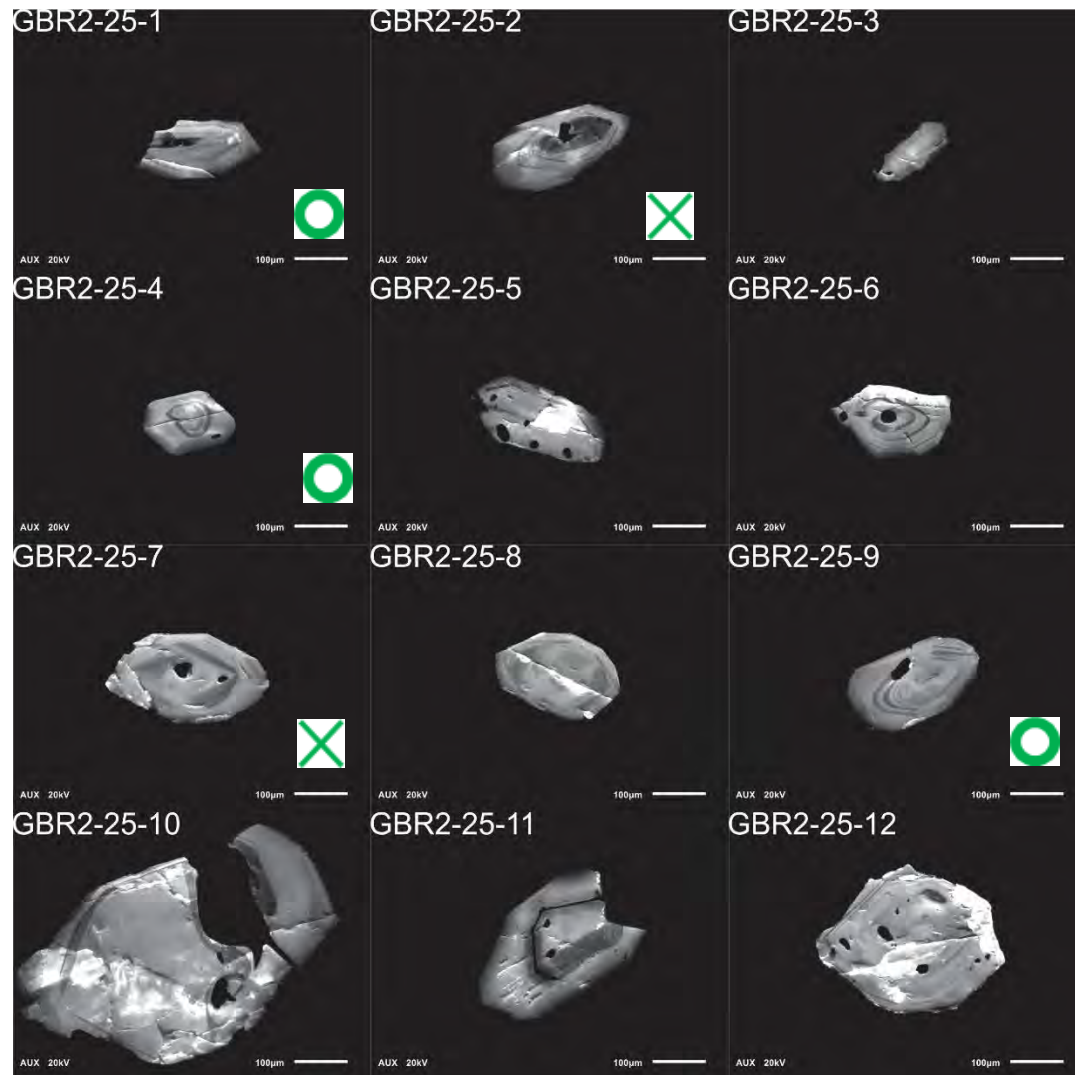
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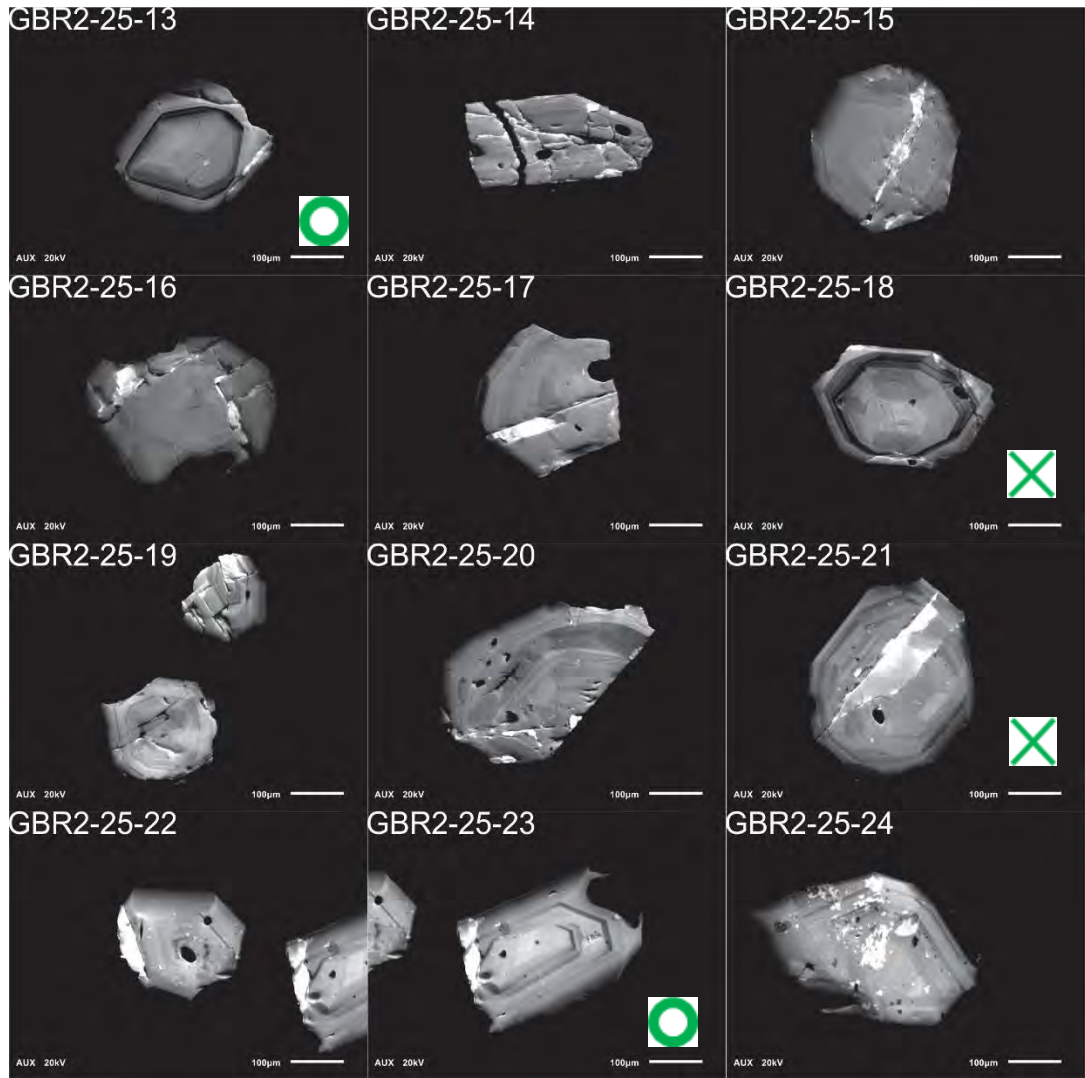
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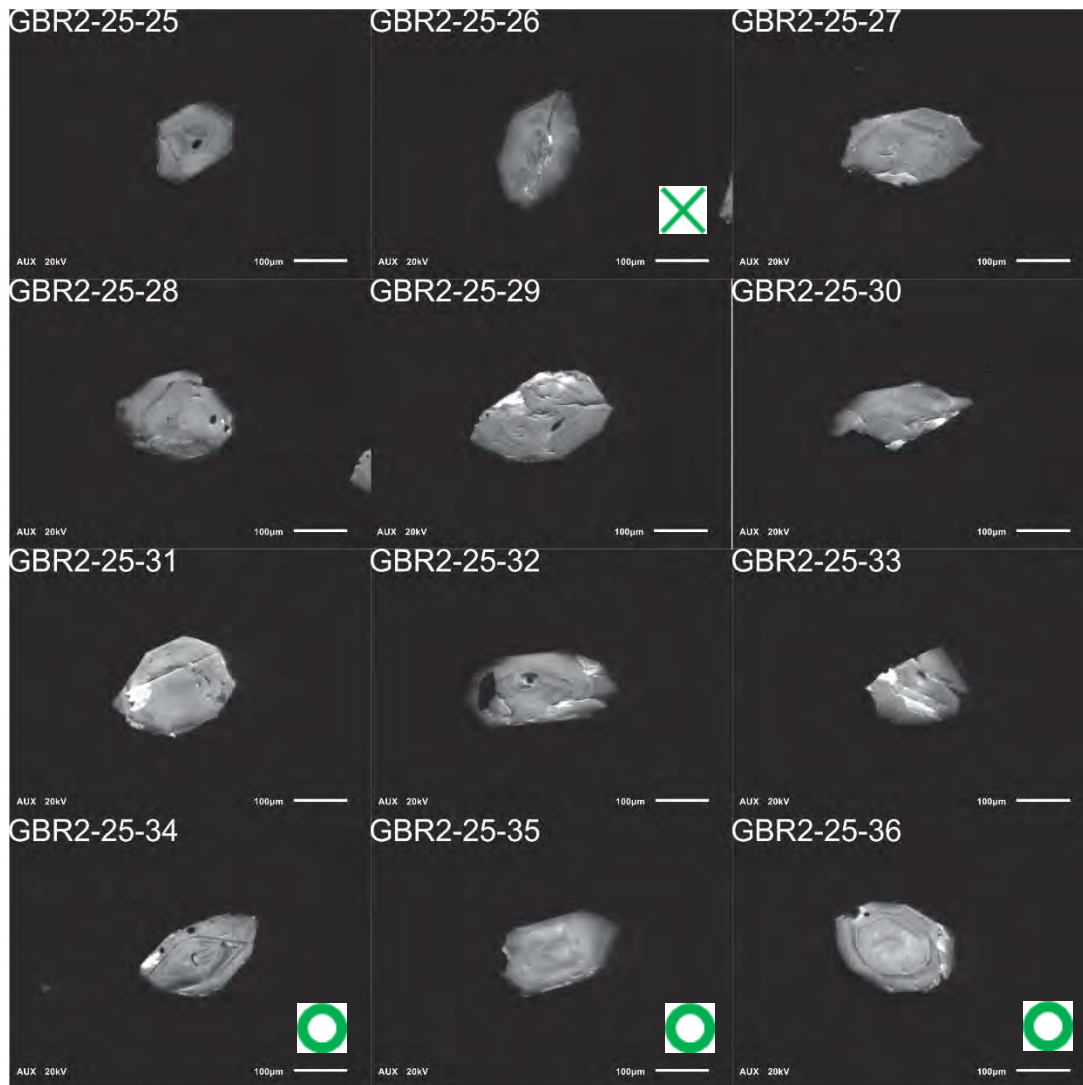
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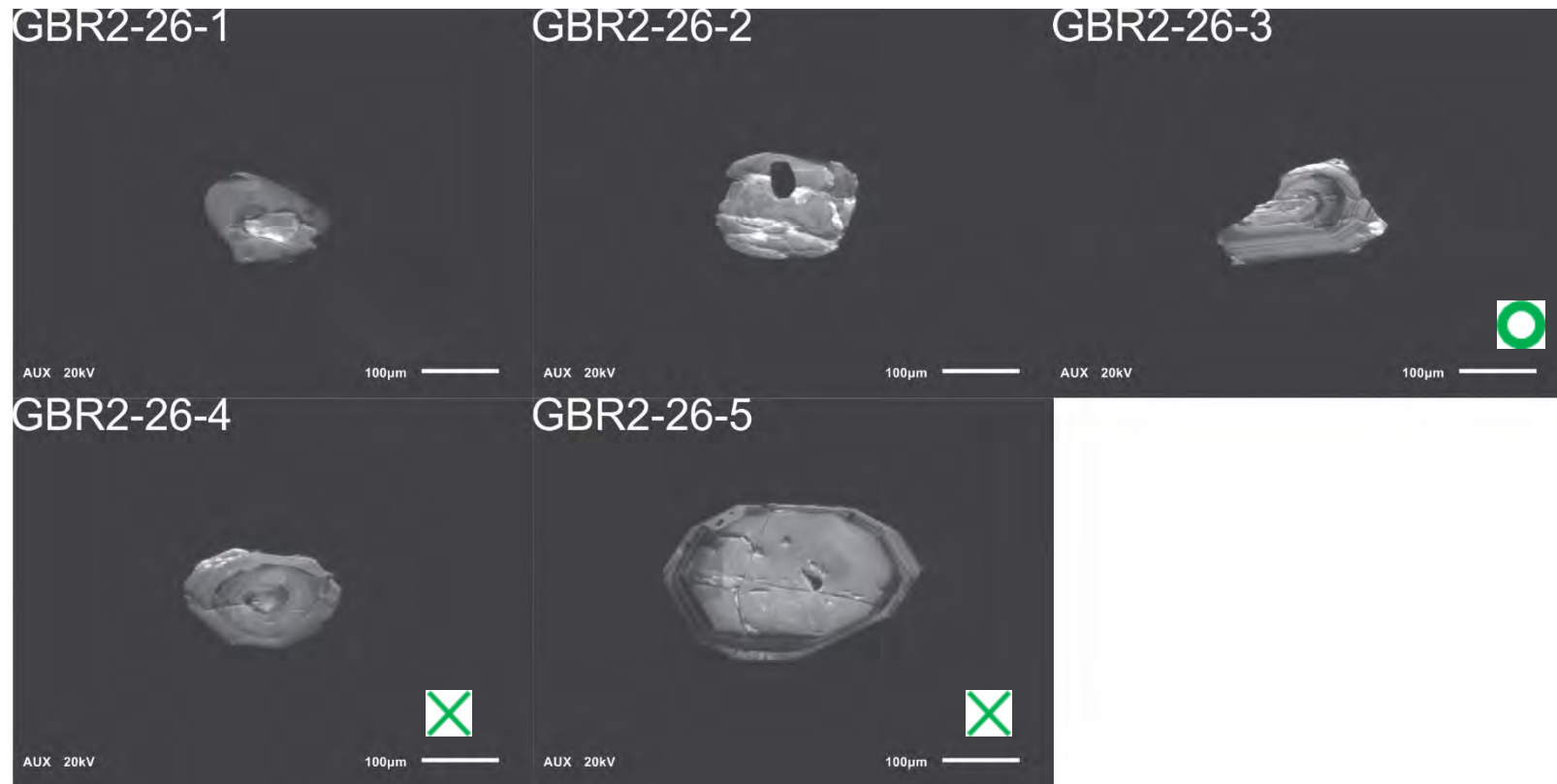
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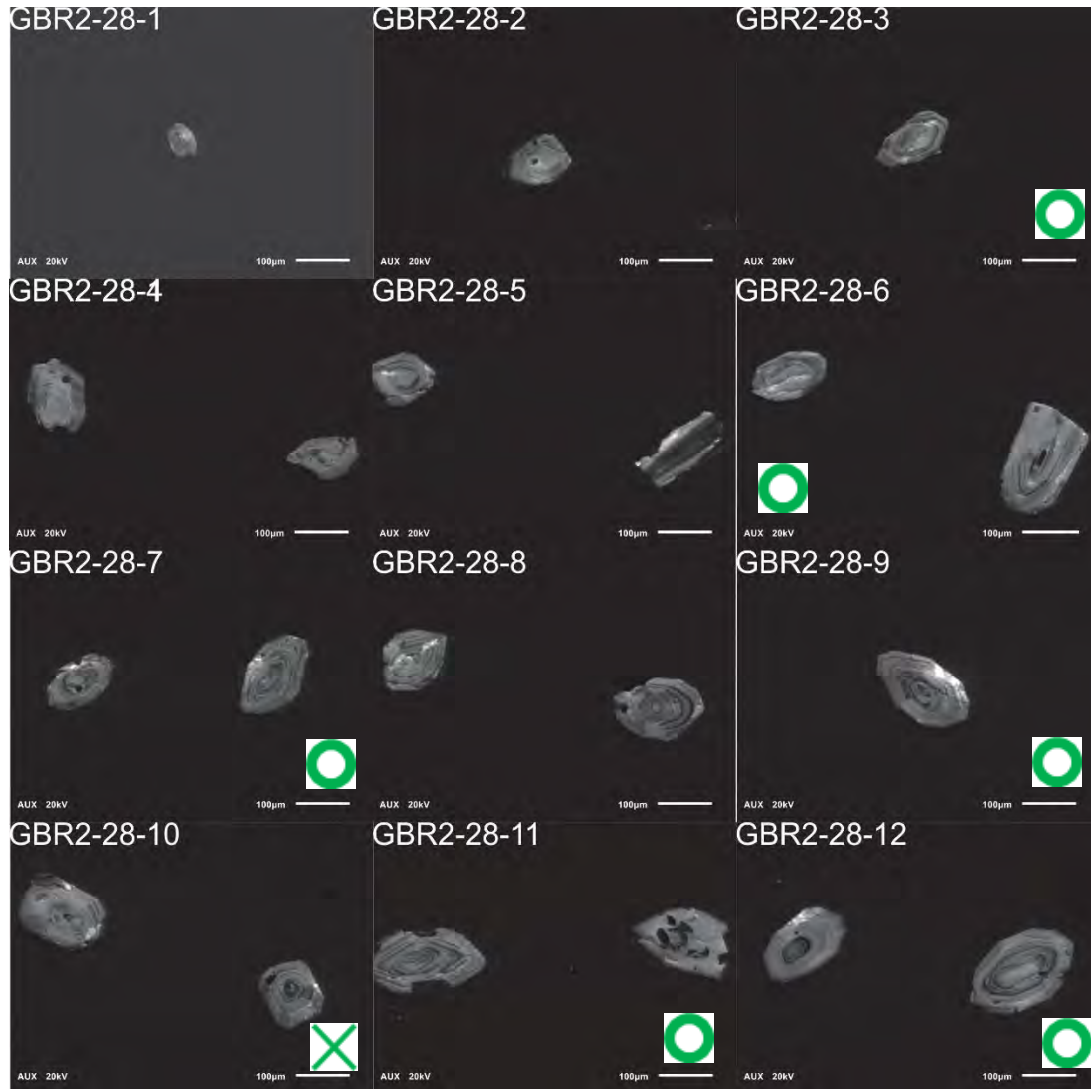
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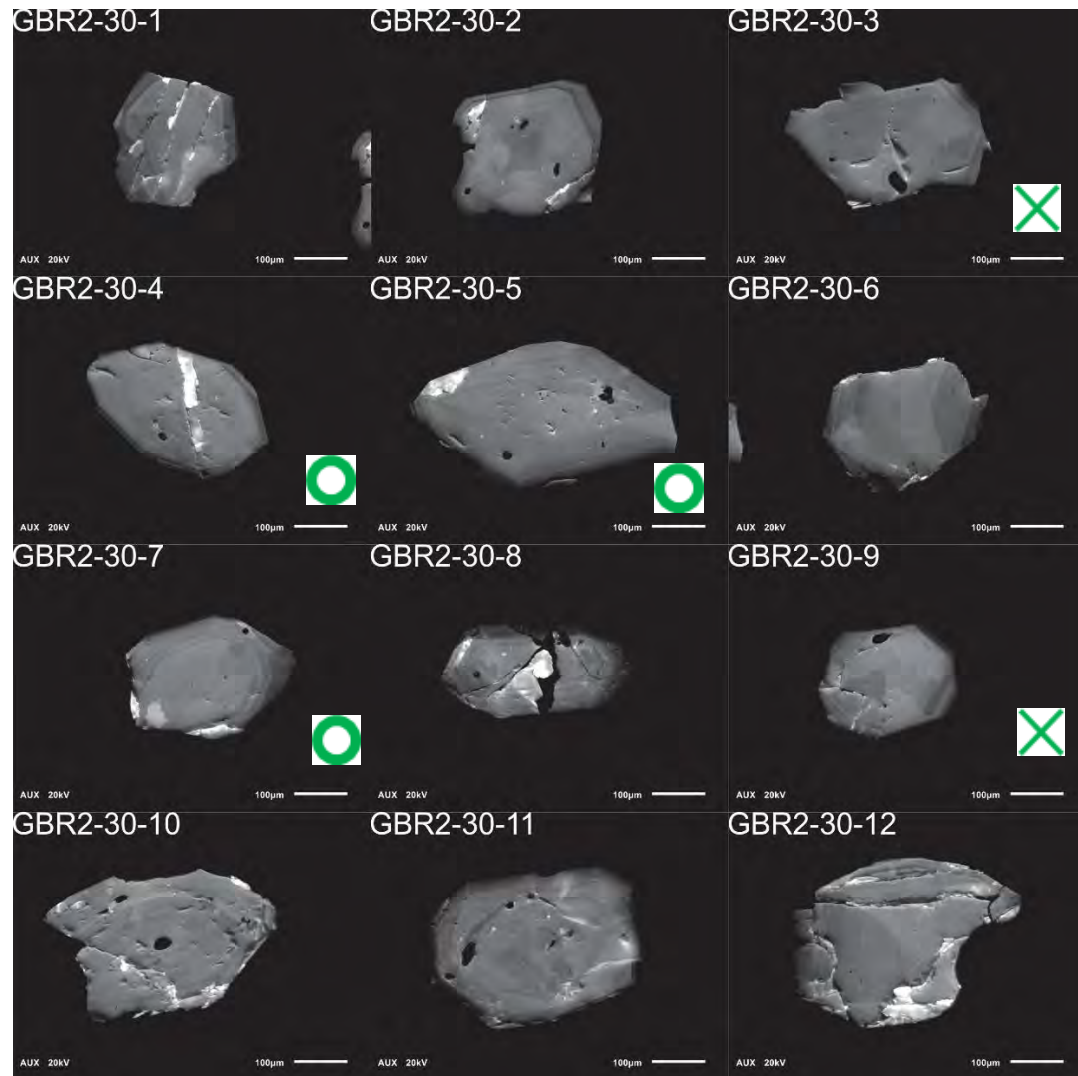
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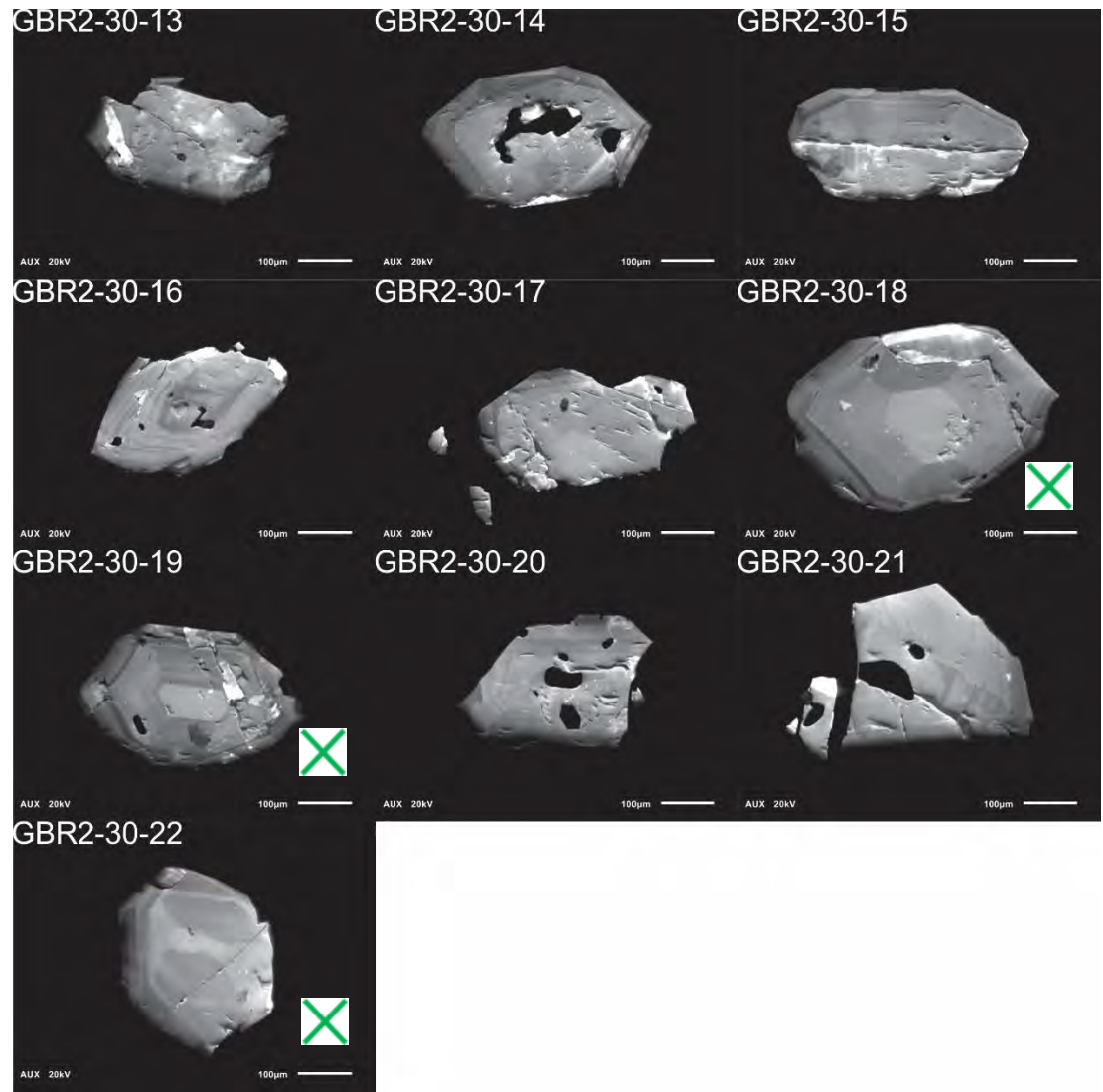
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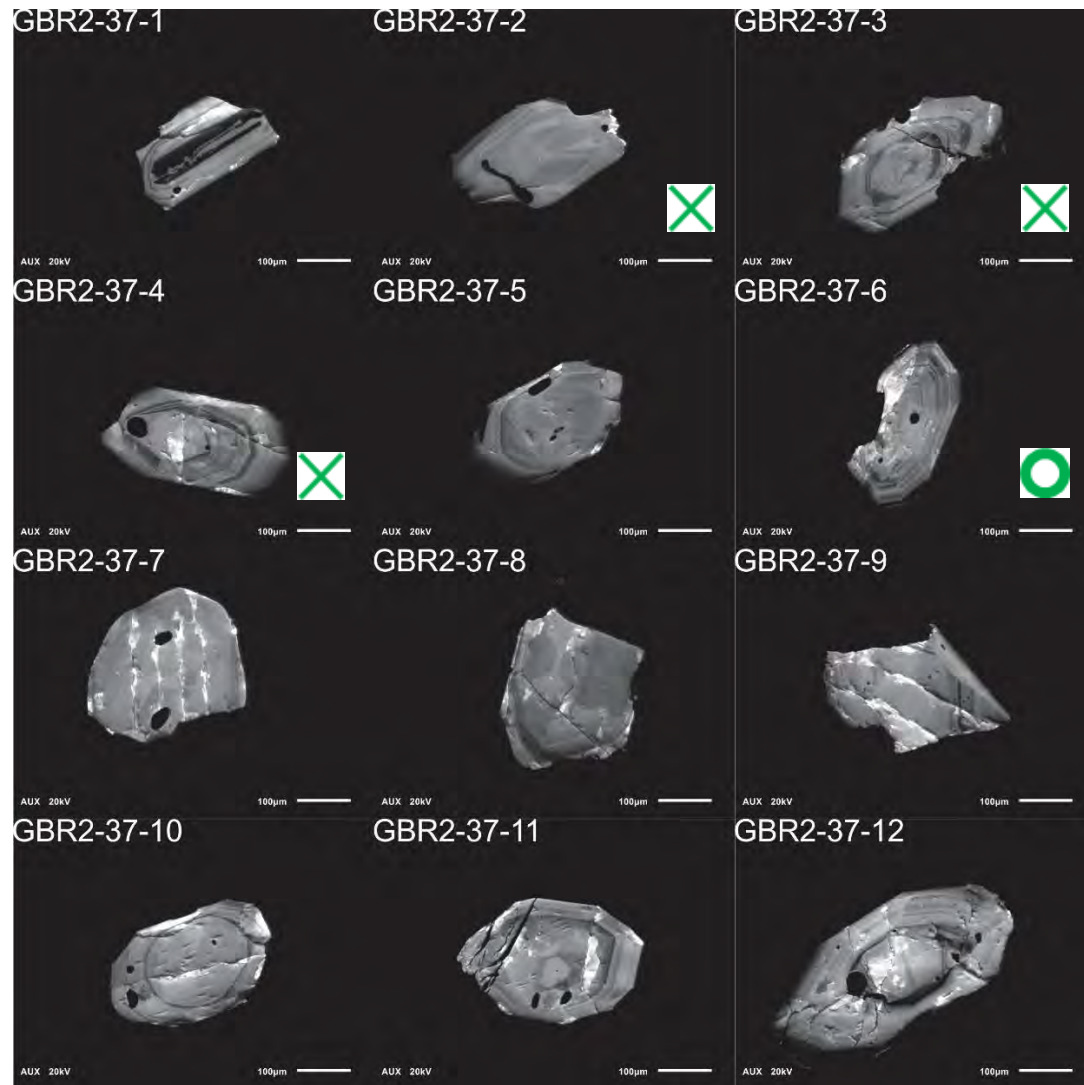
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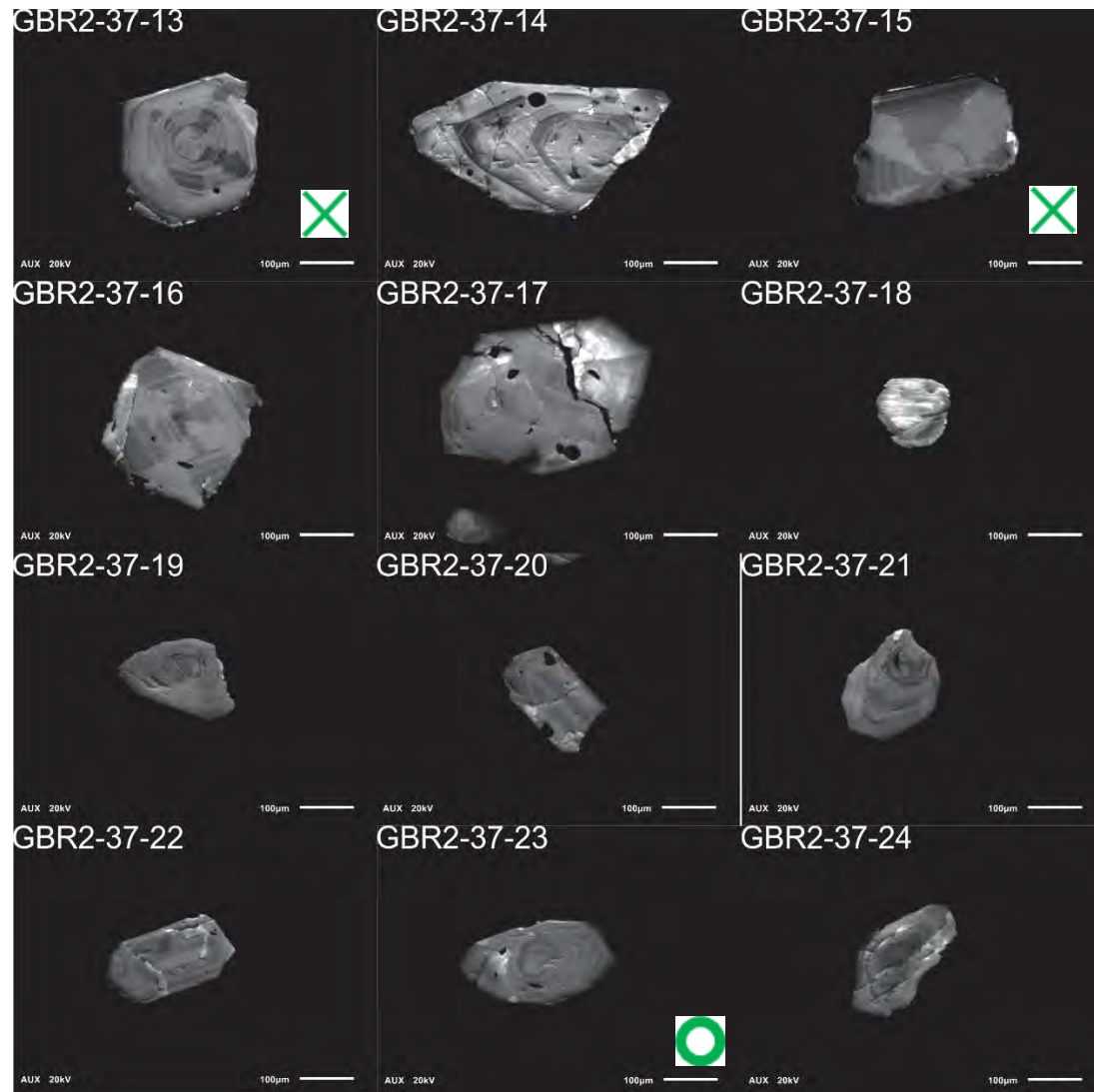
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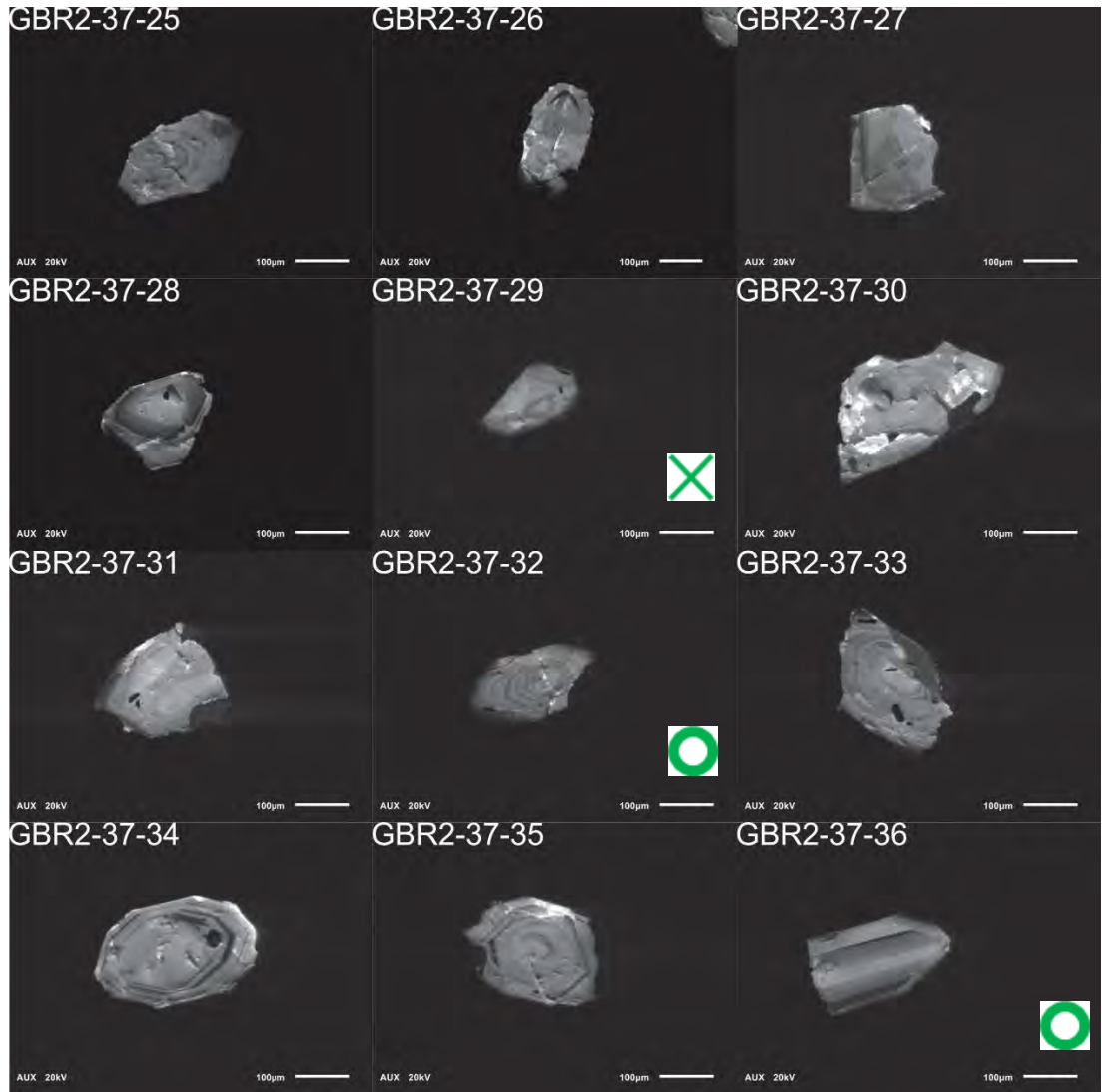
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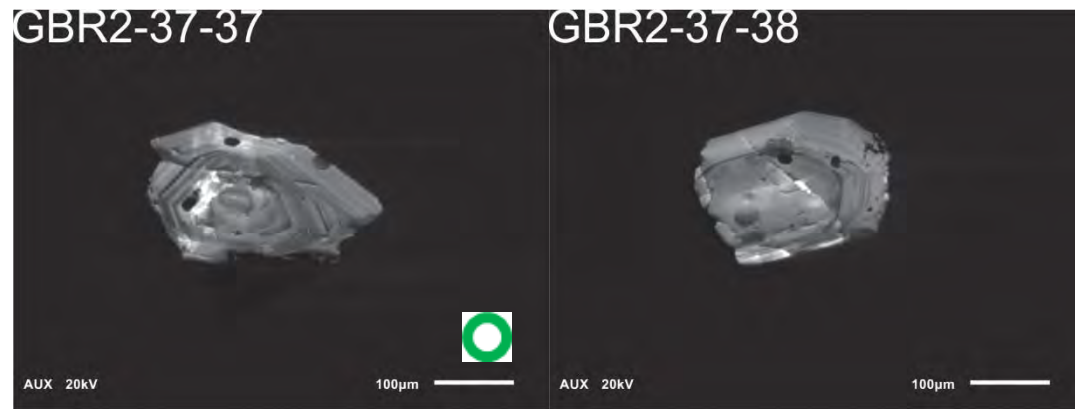
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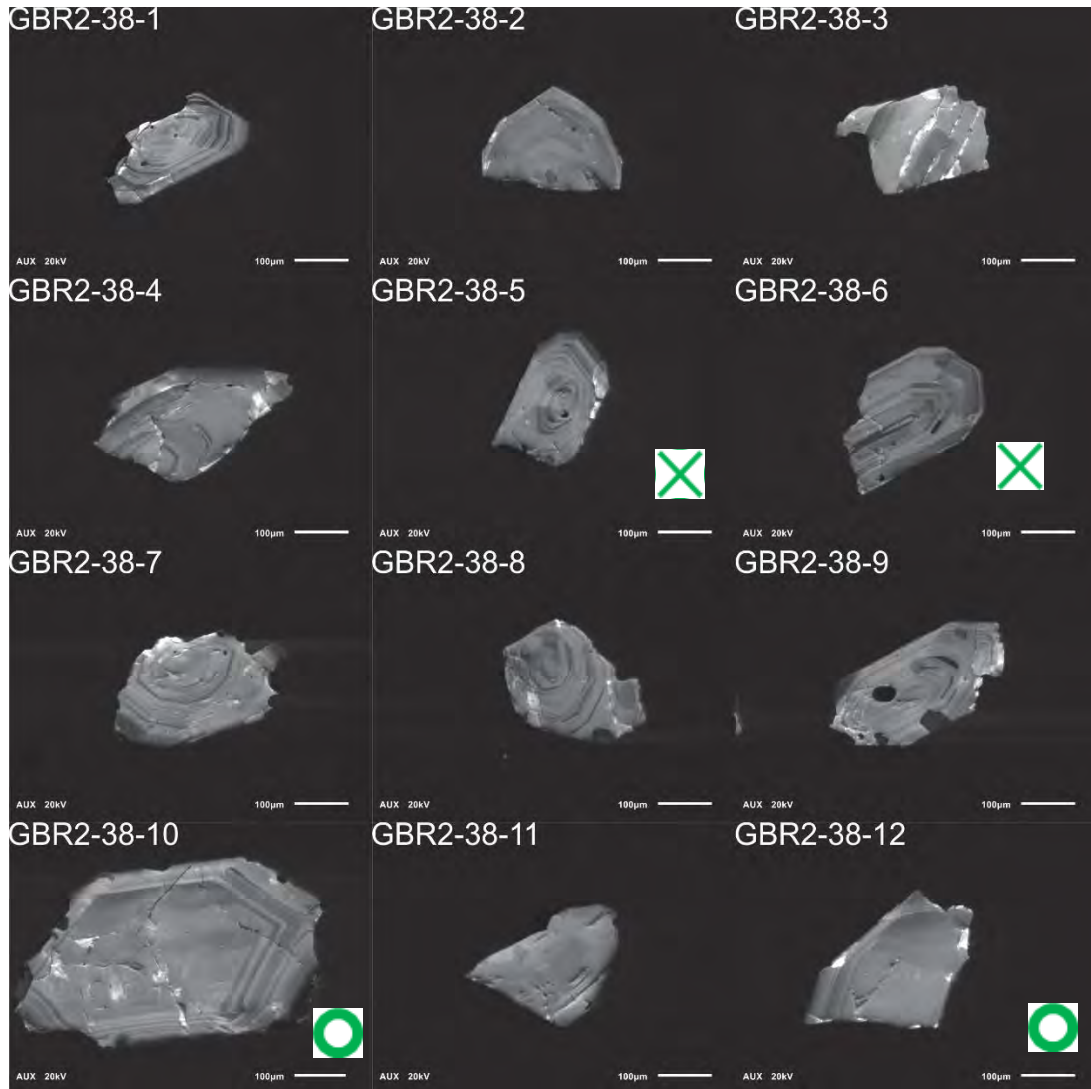
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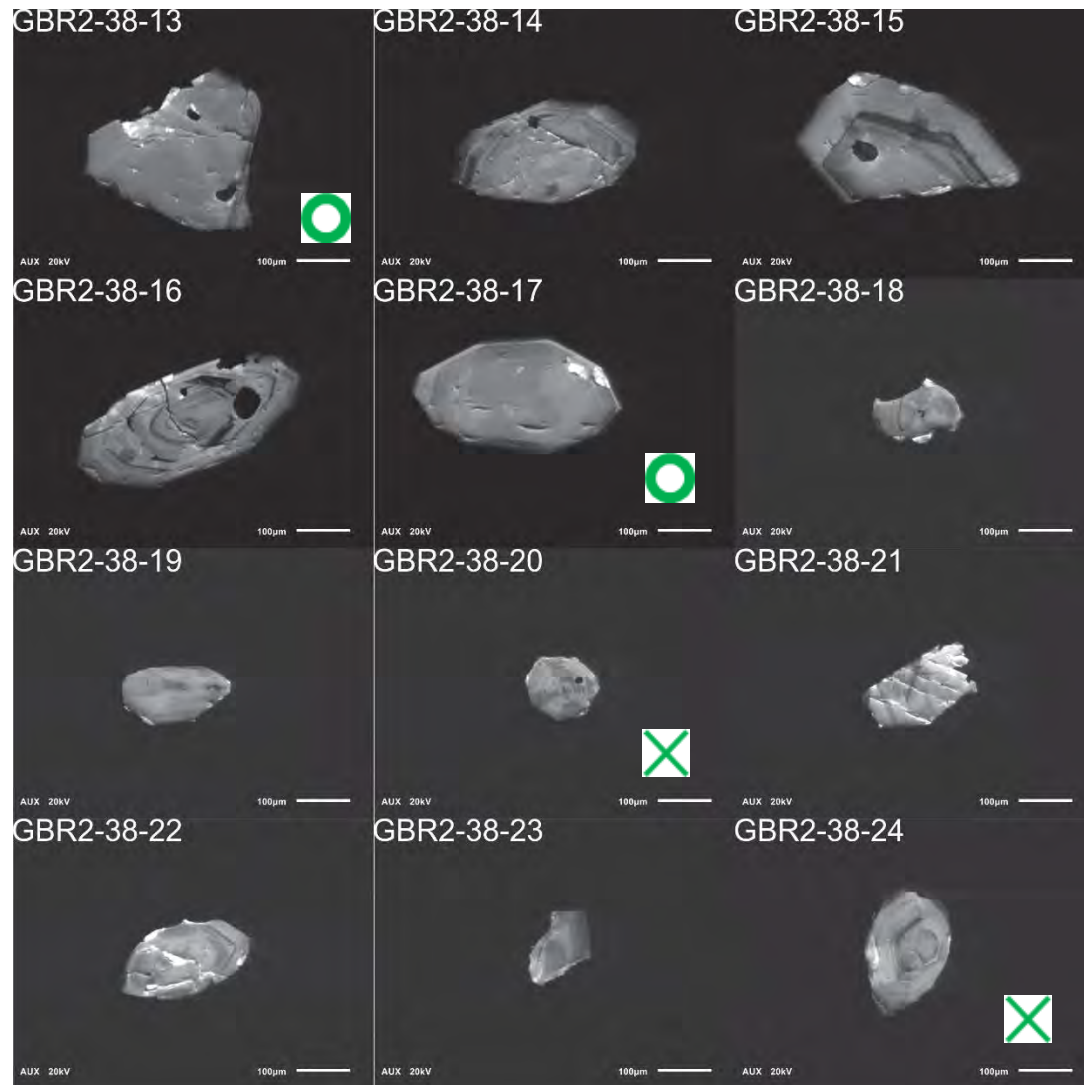
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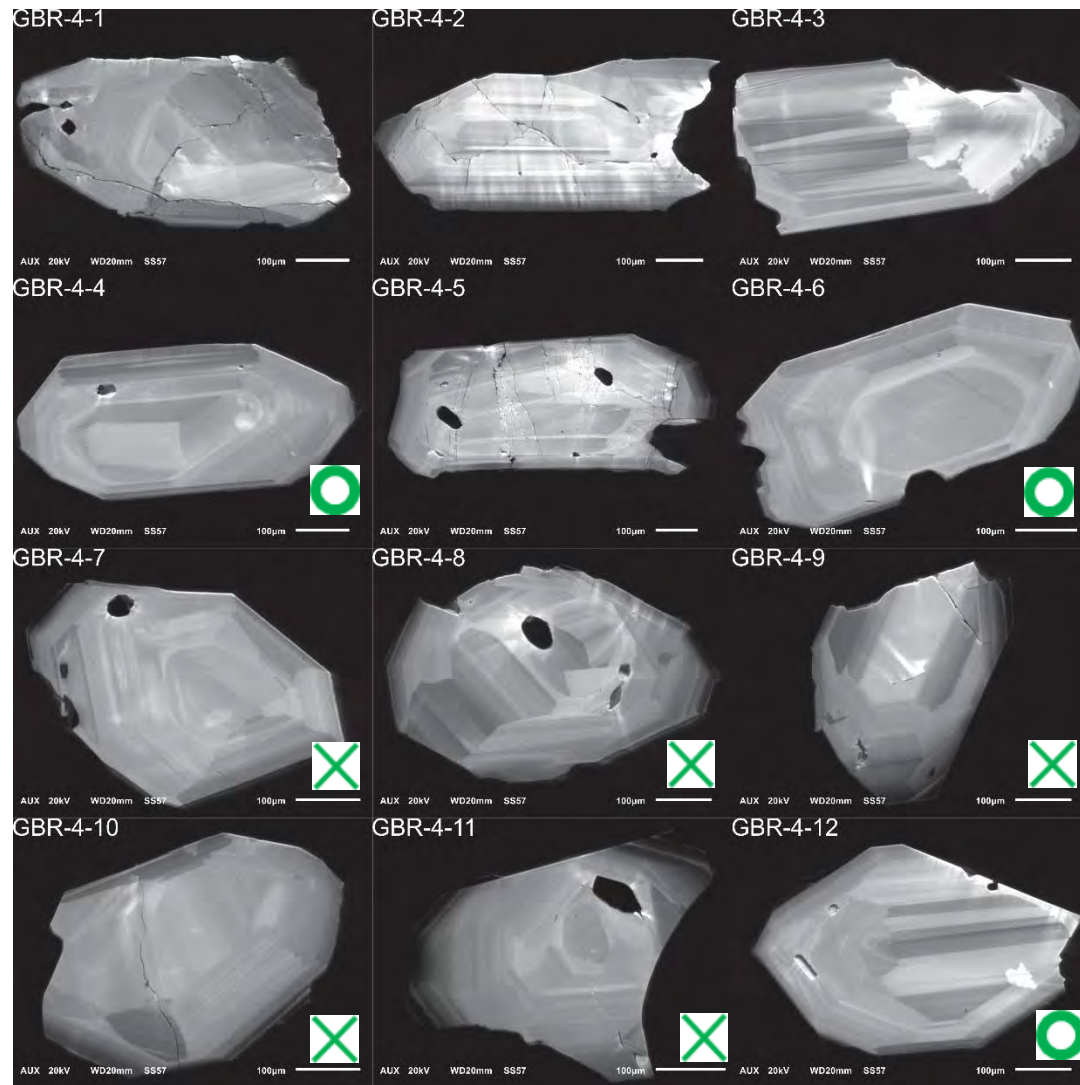
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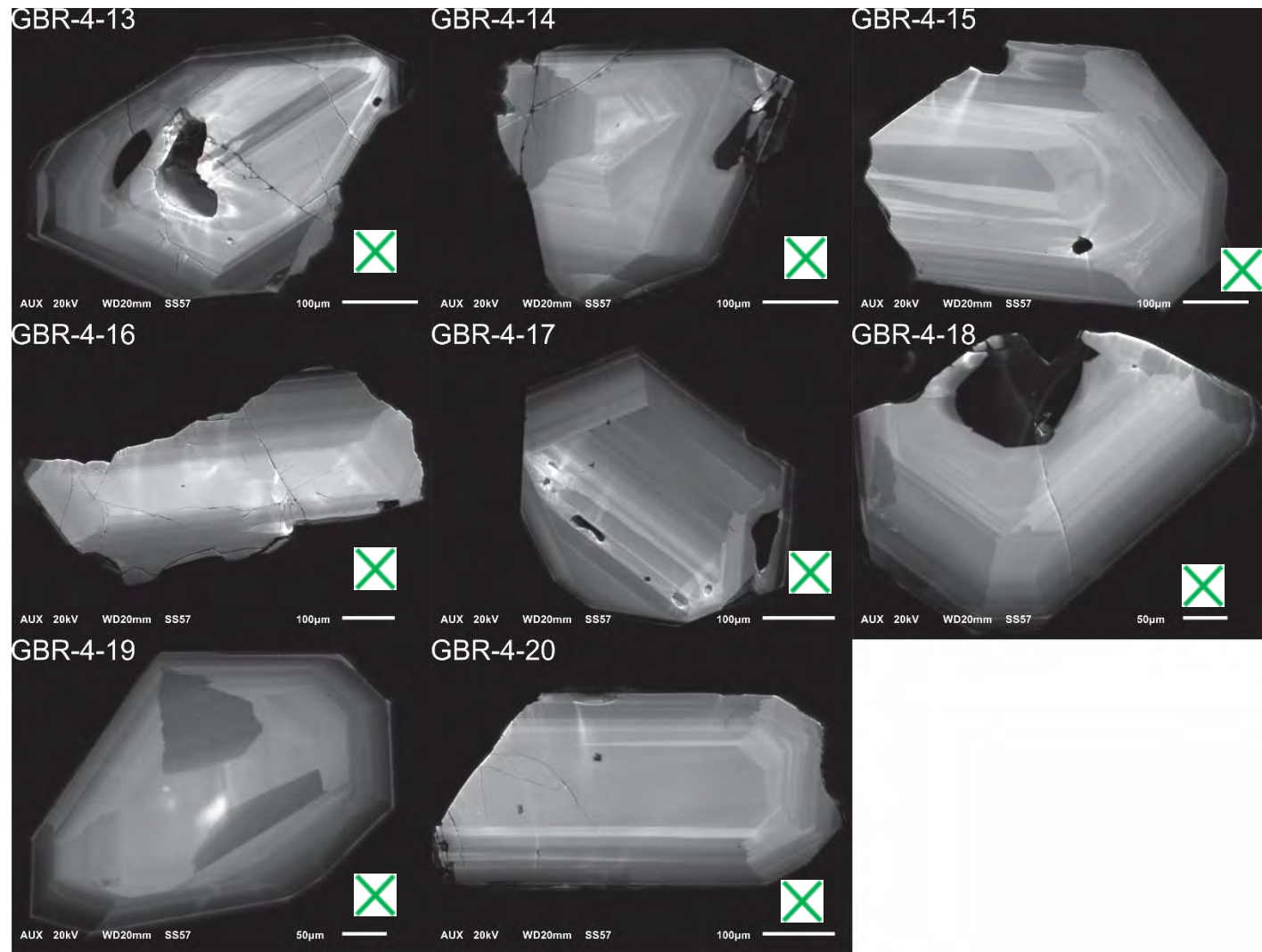
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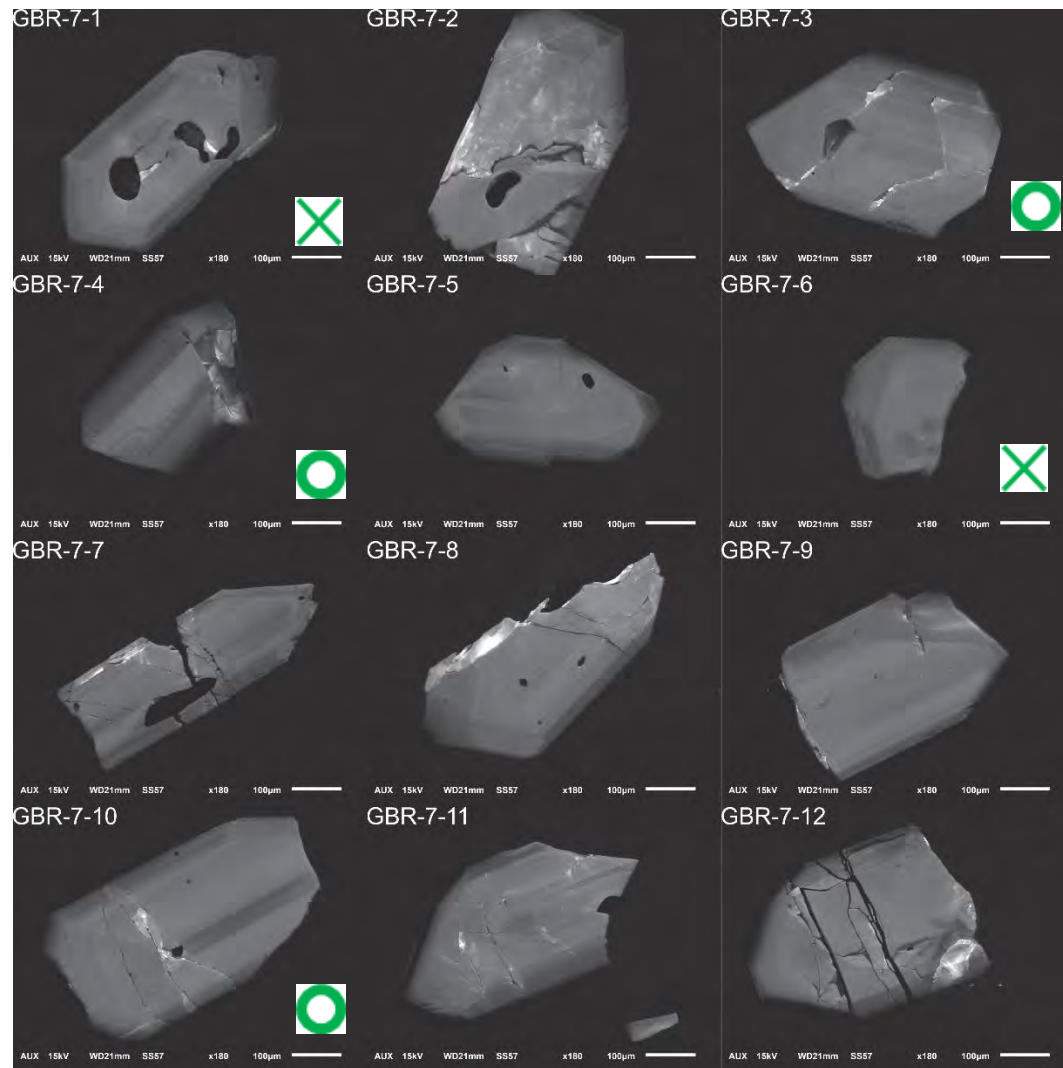
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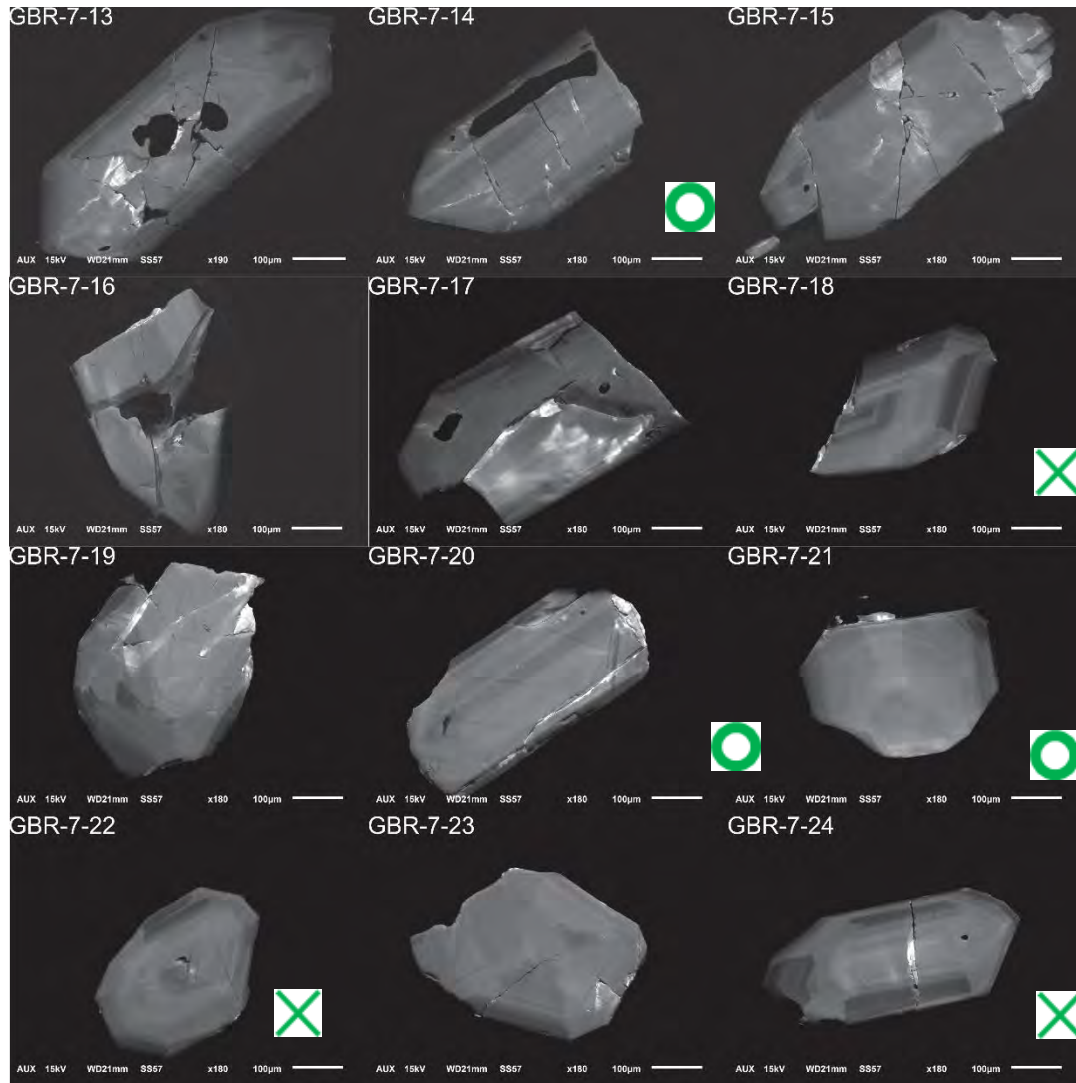
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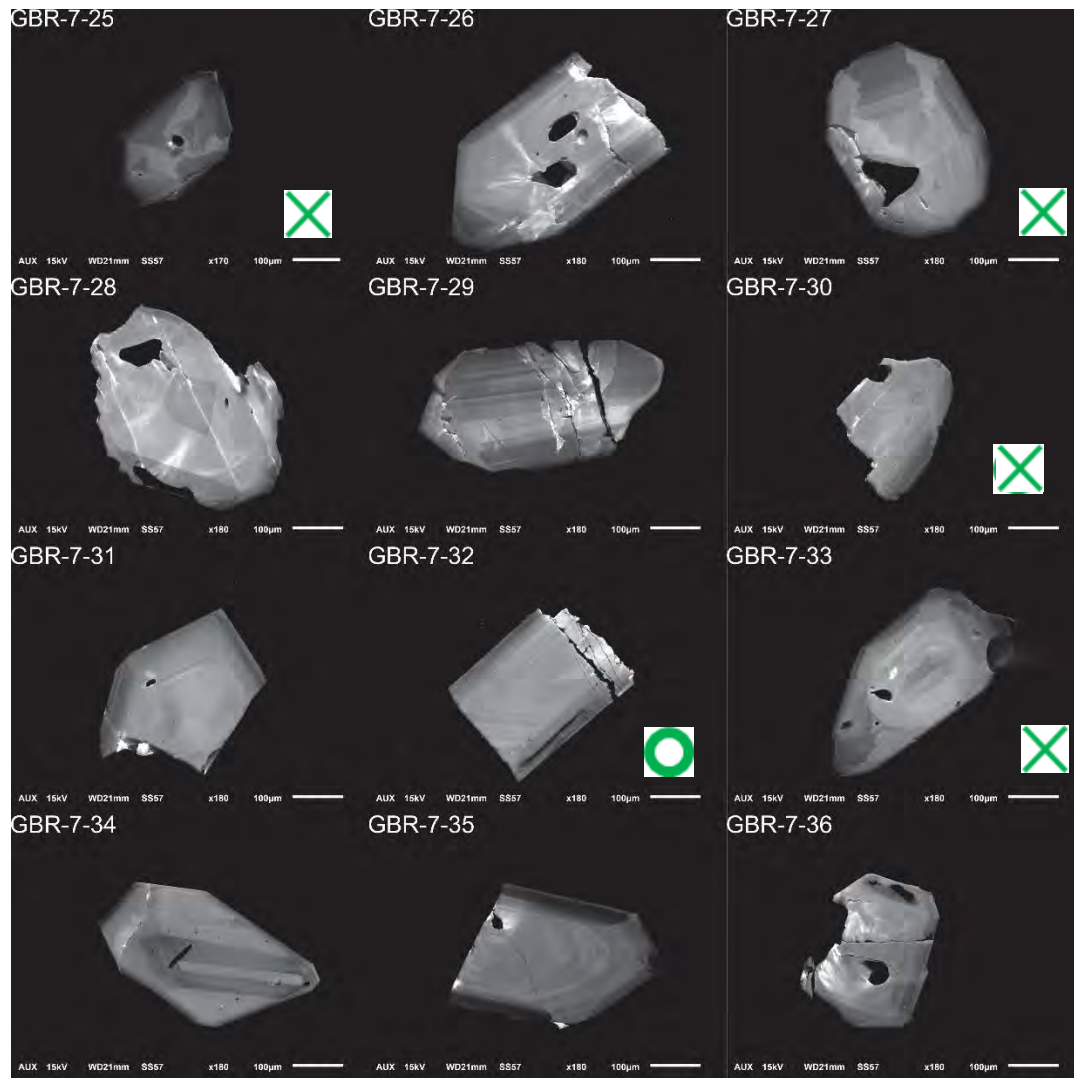
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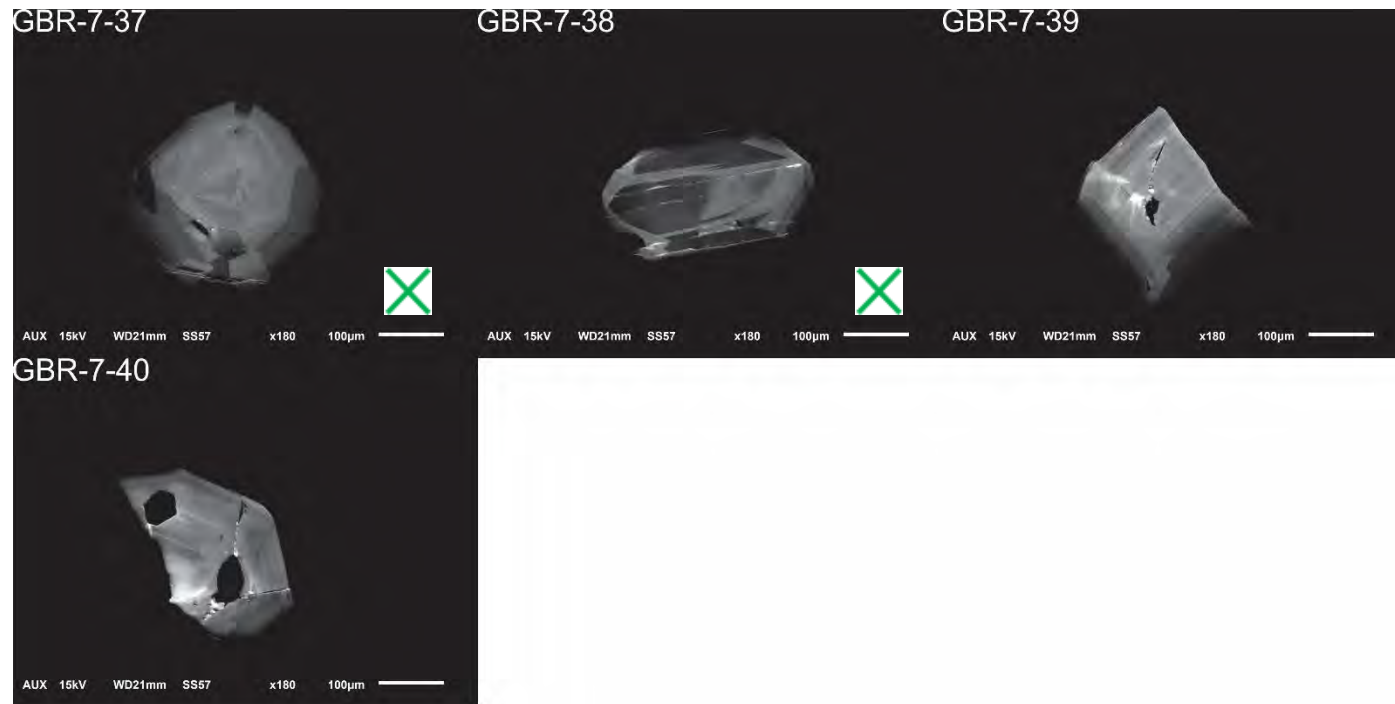
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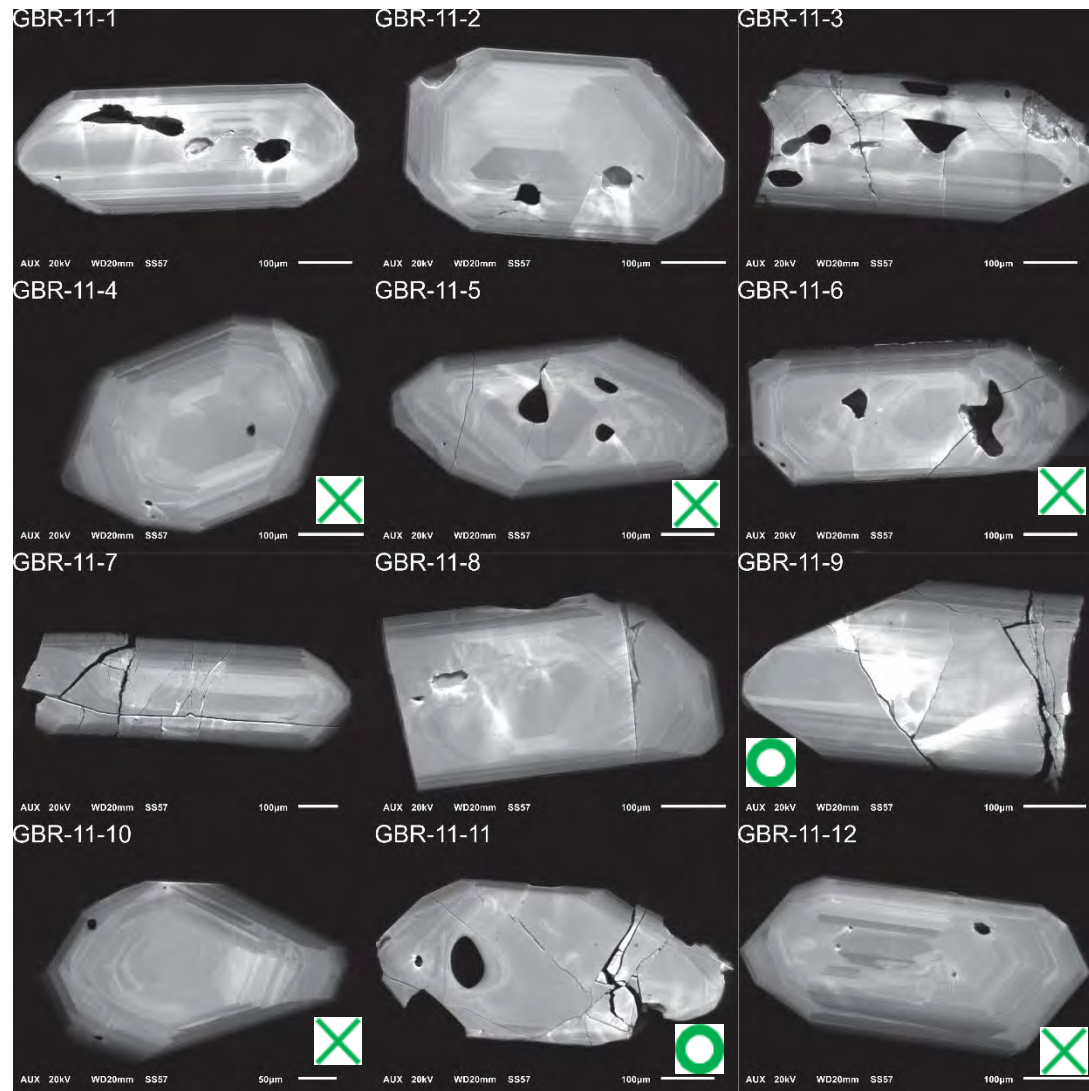
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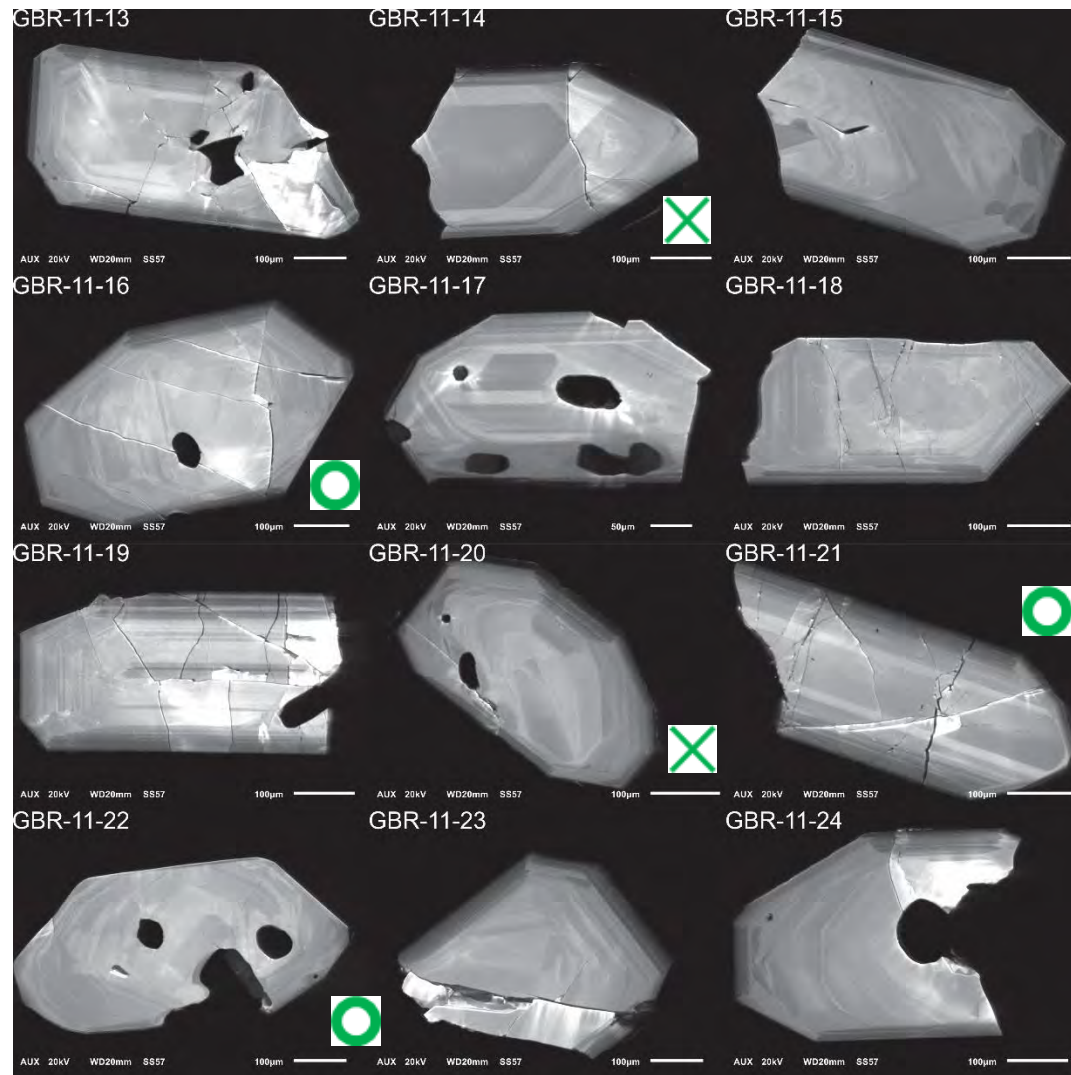
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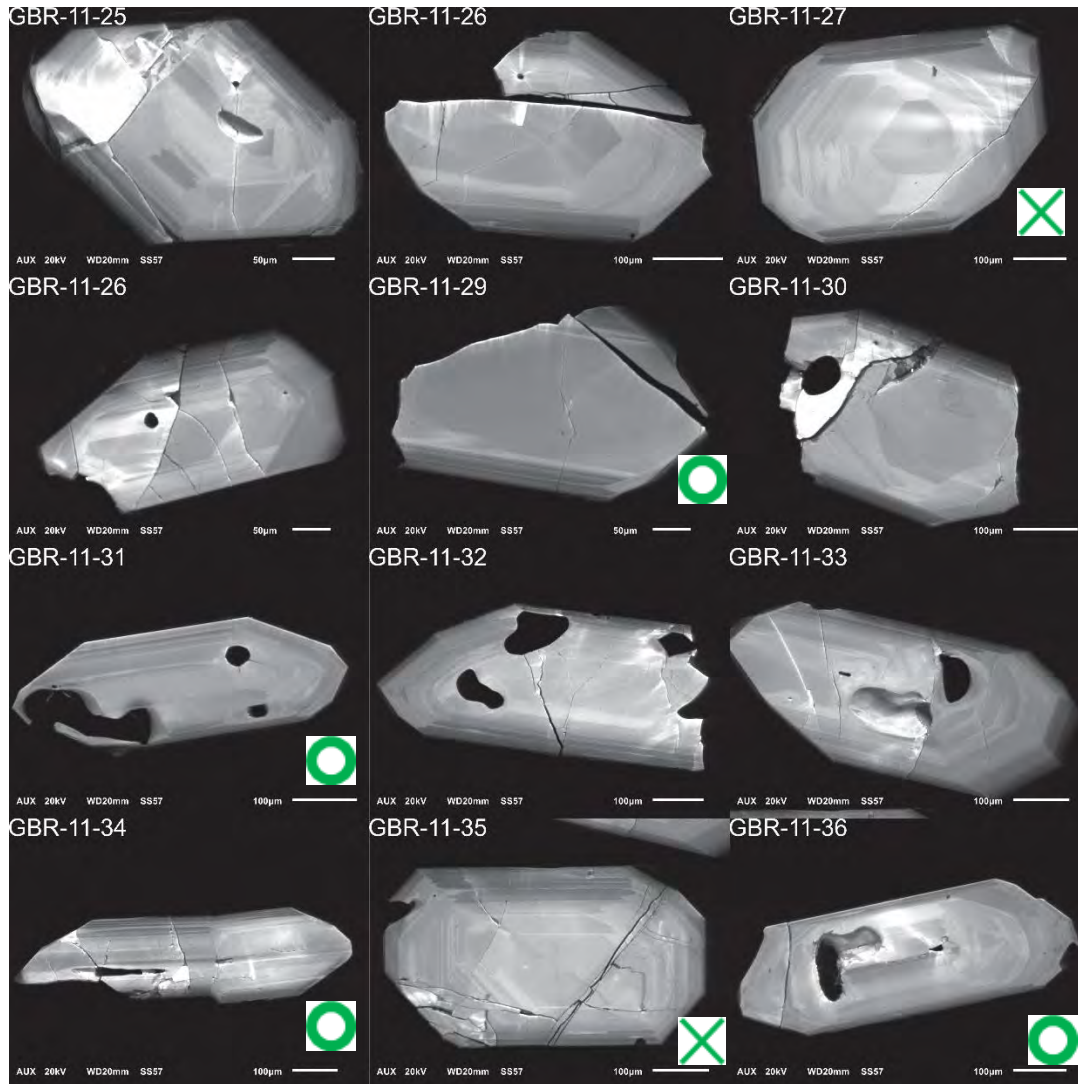
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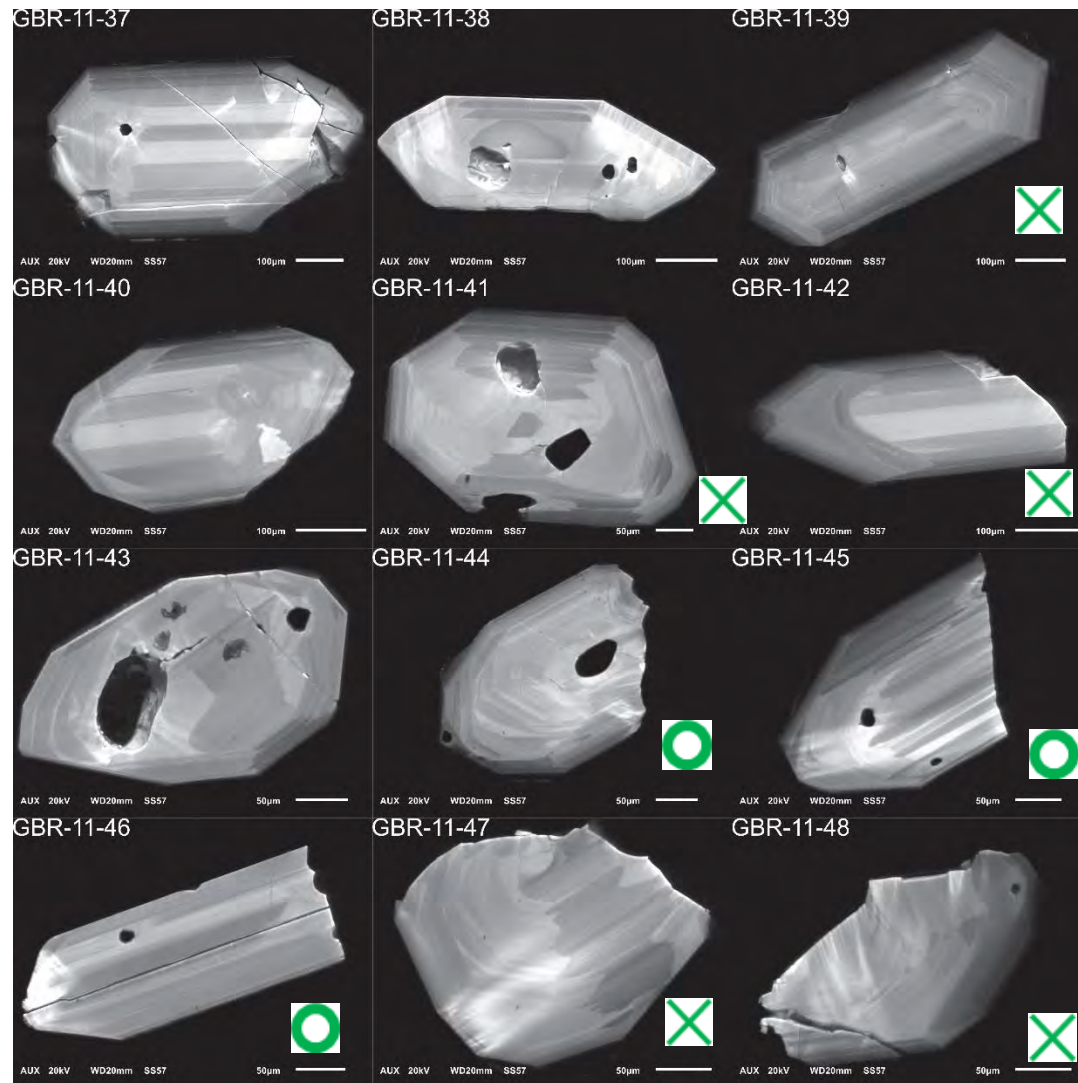
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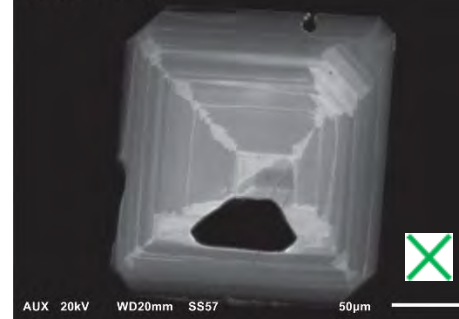


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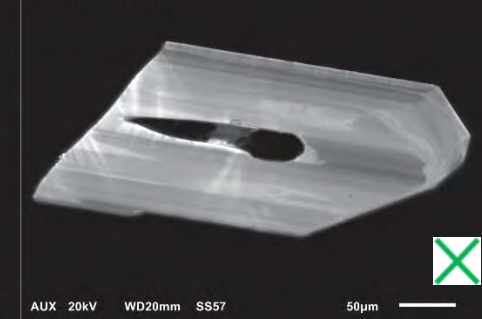
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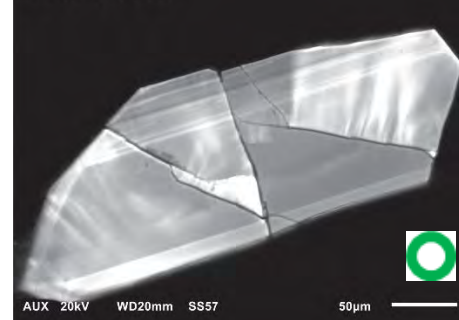
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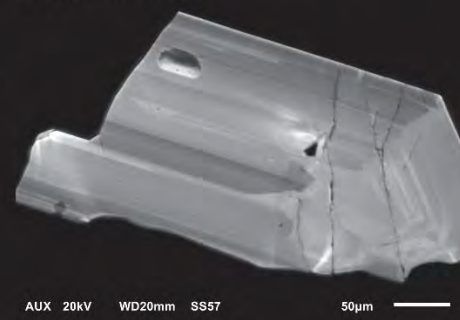
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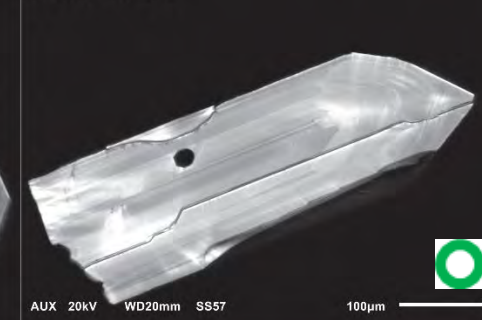
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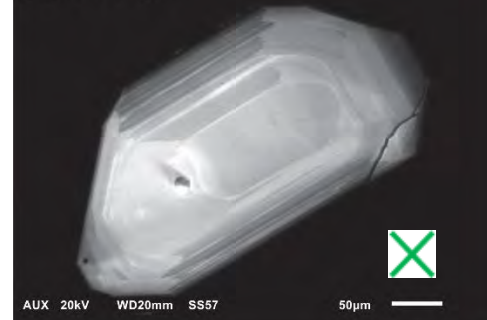
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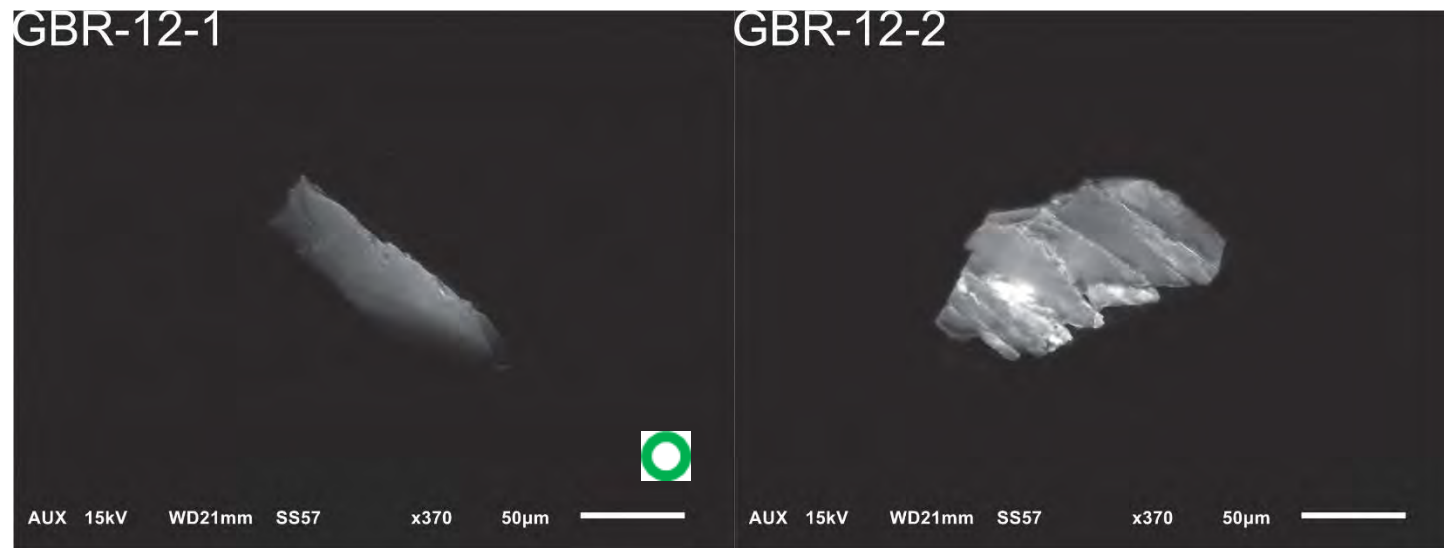
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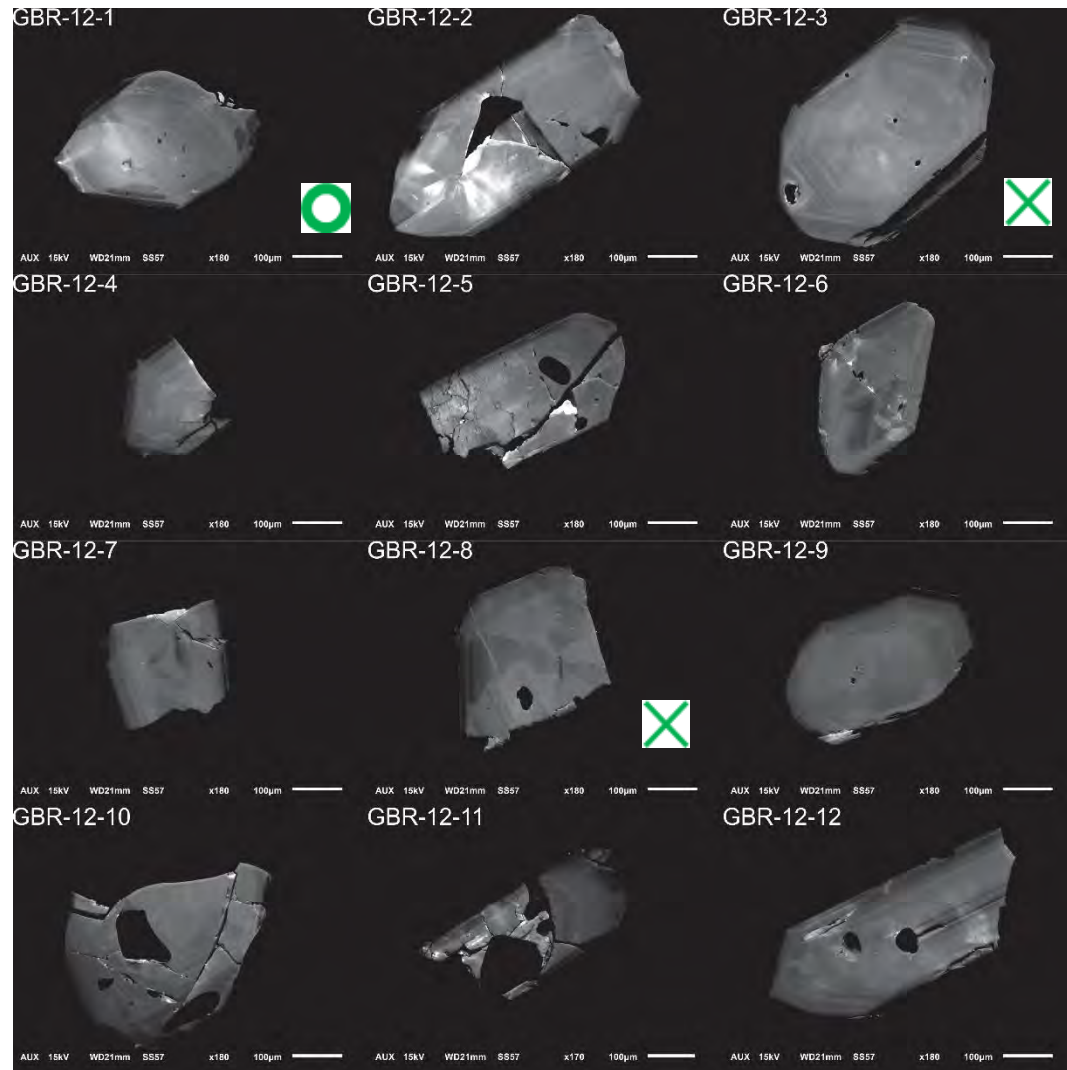
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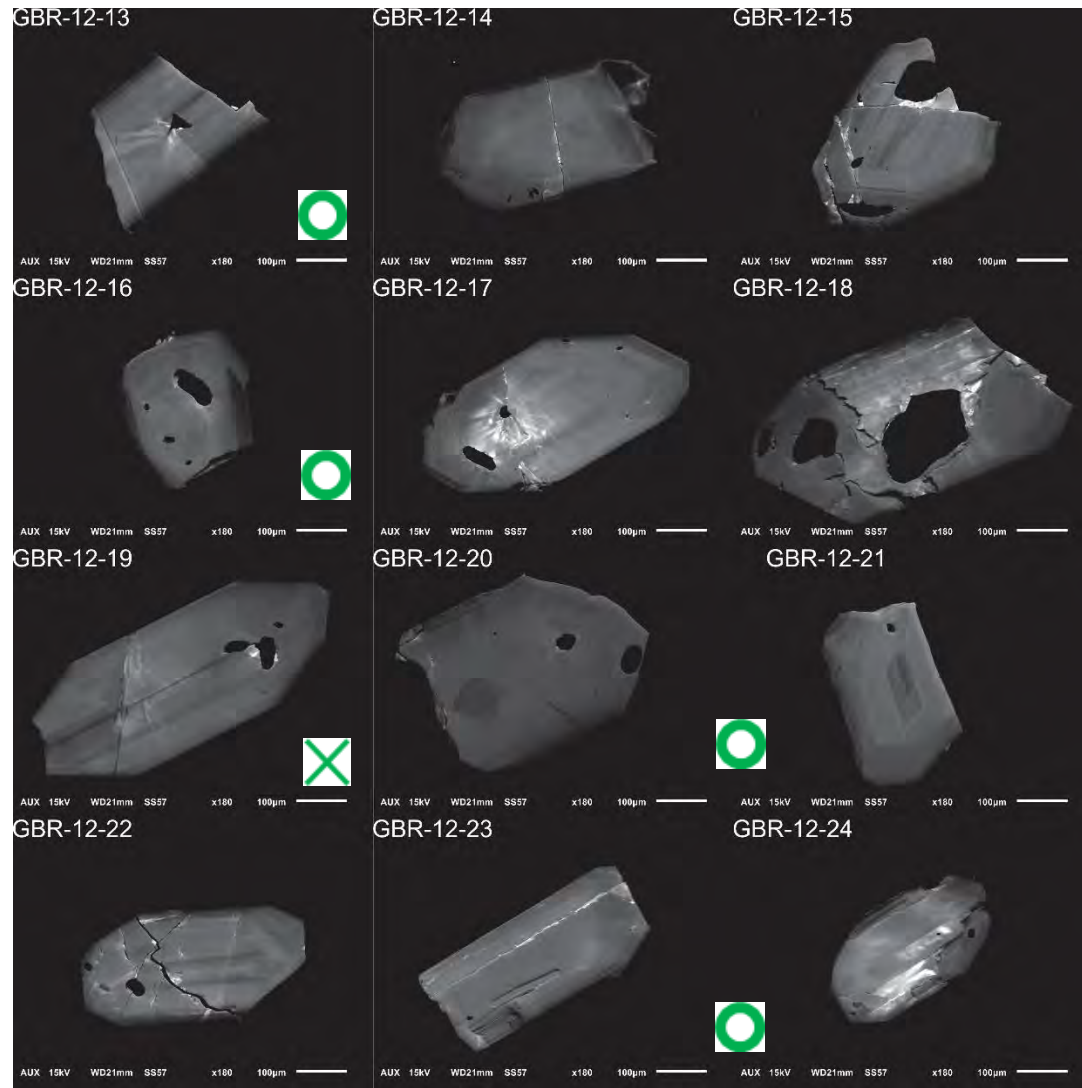
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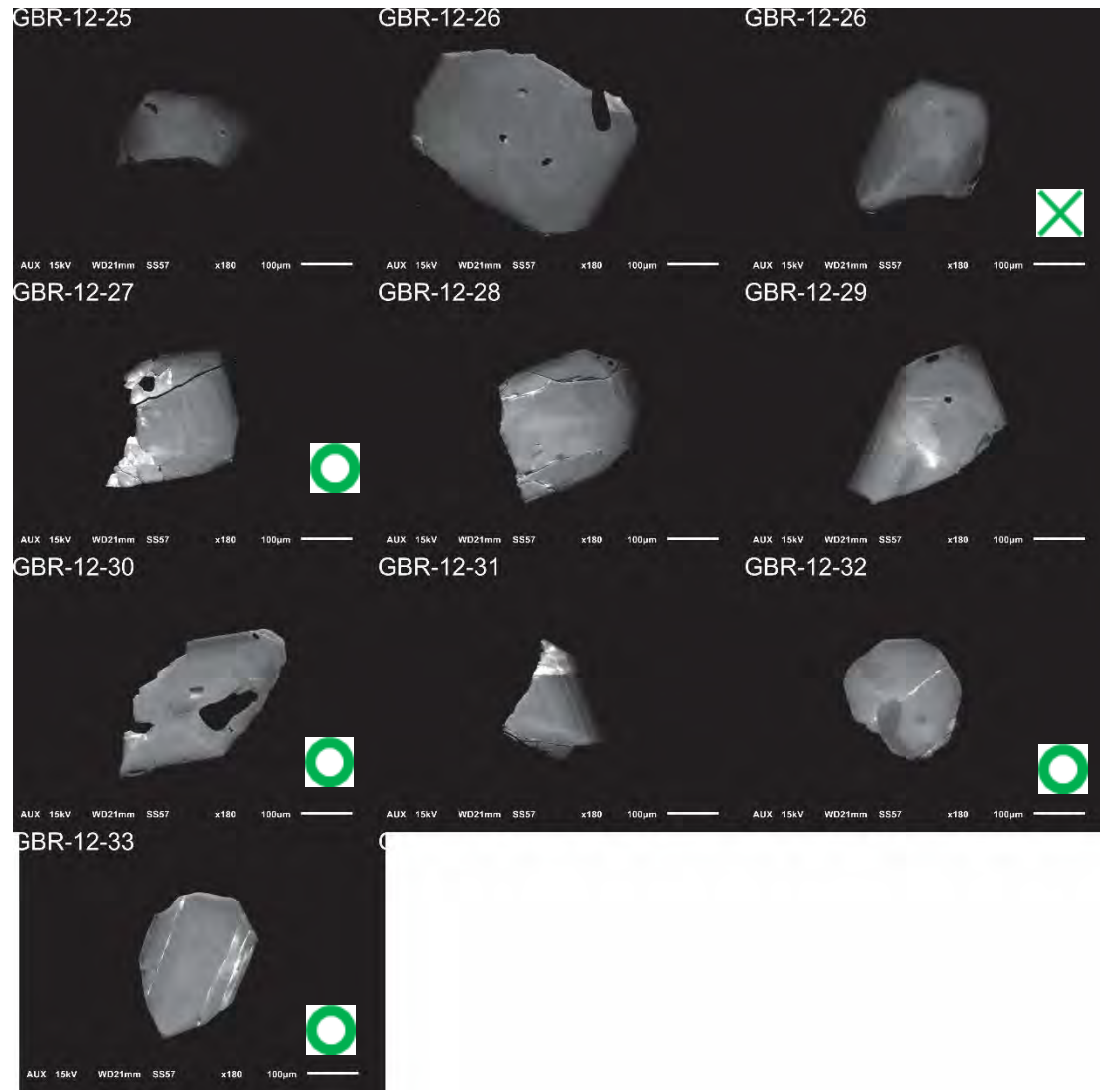
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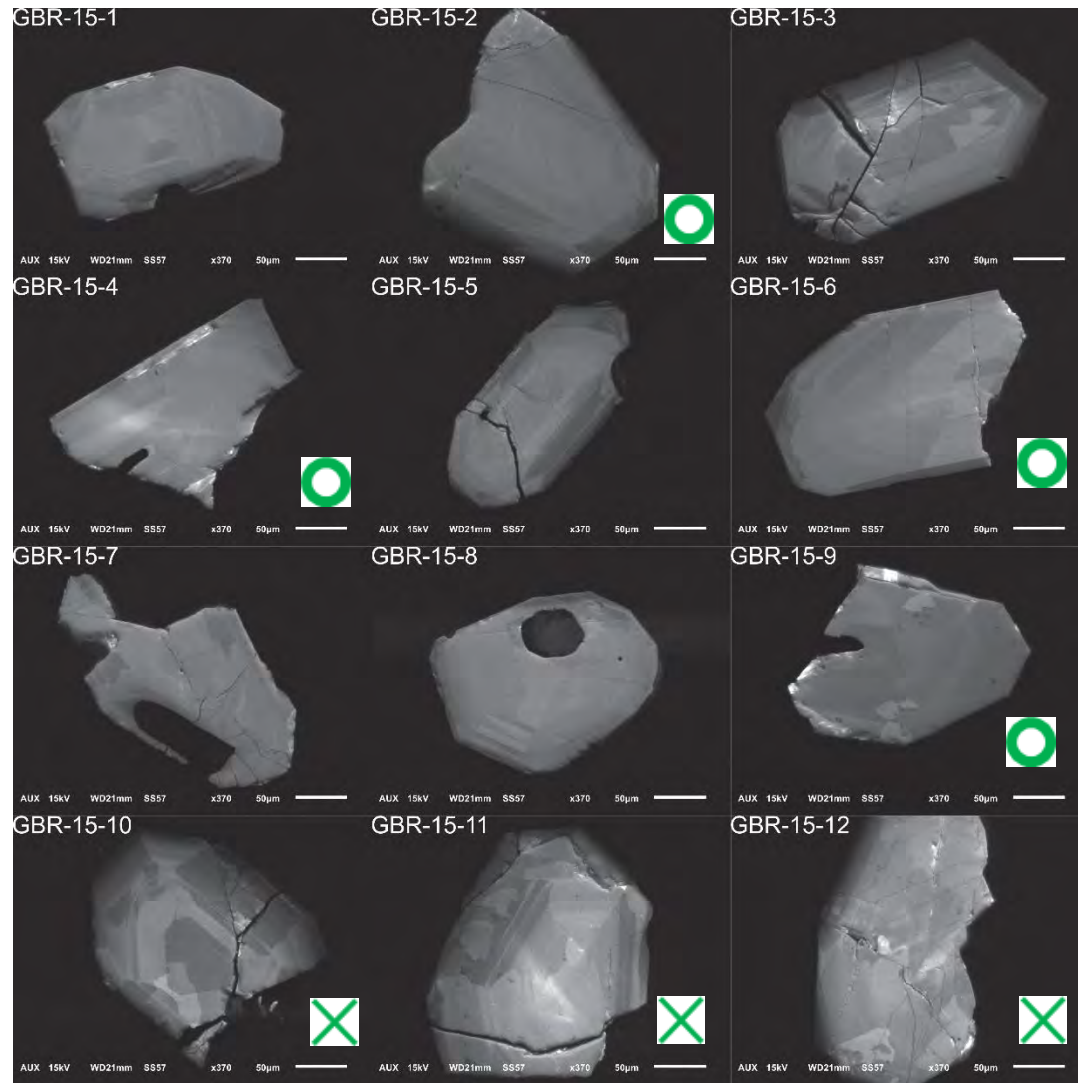
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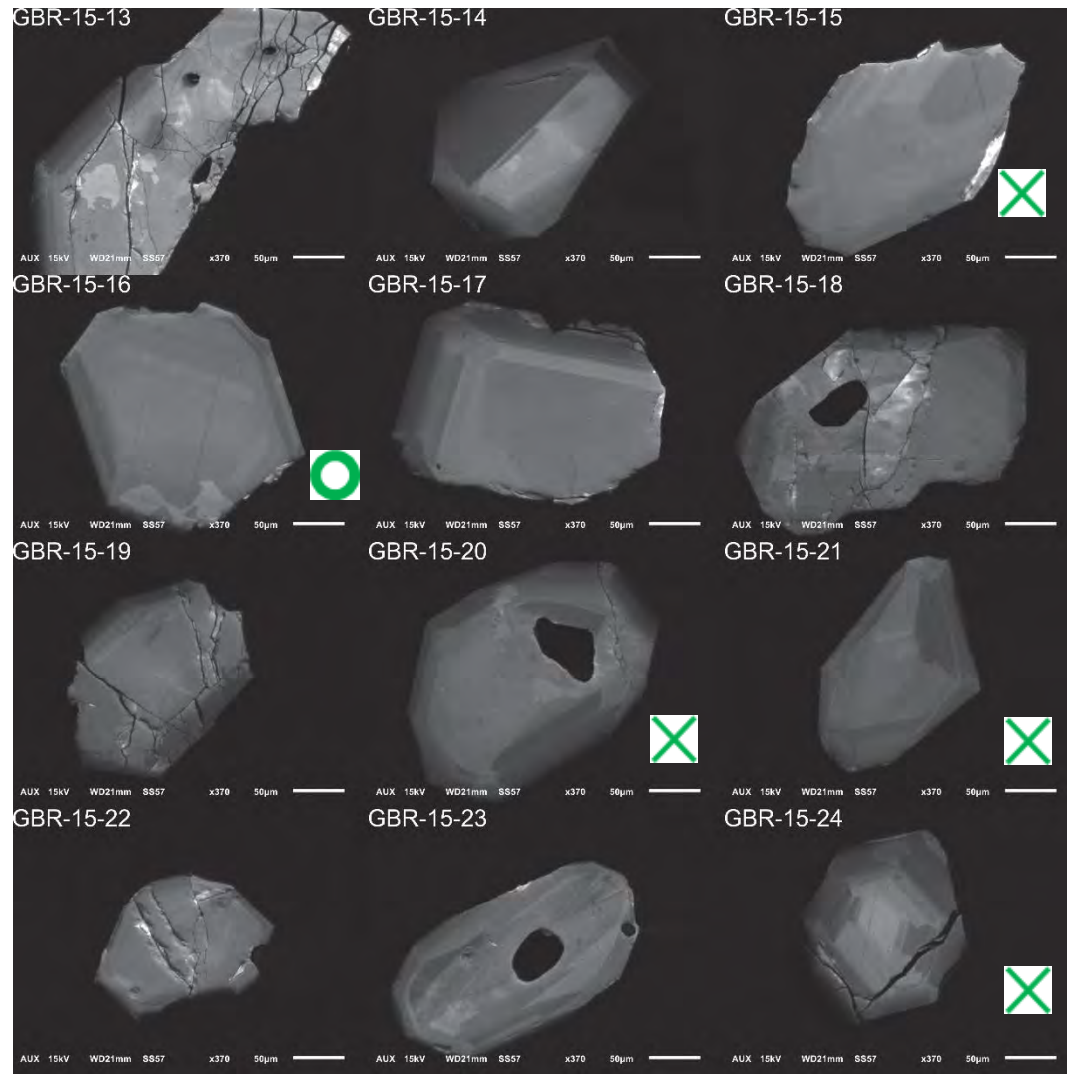
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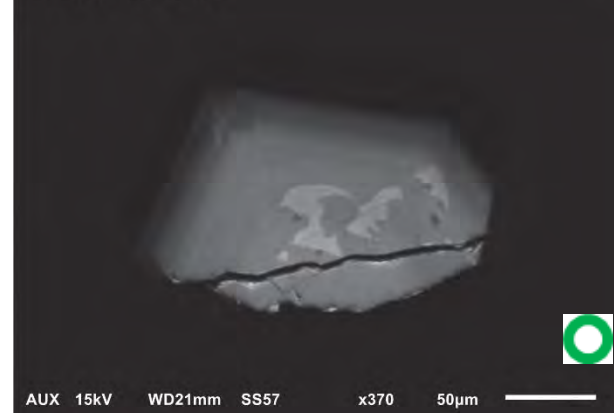


GBR-15, 13-24, 80-212µm fraction



GBR-15, 25-30, 80-212 μ m fraction

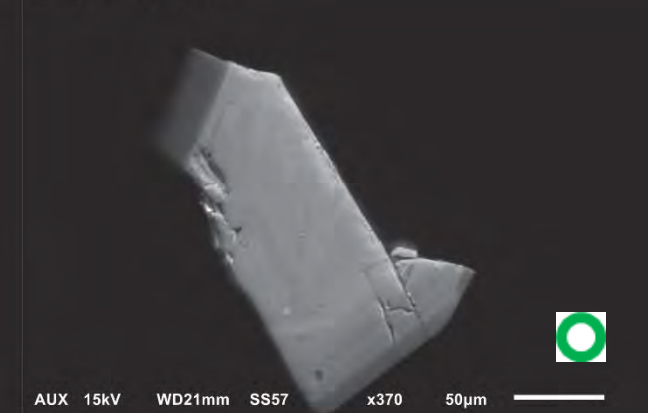
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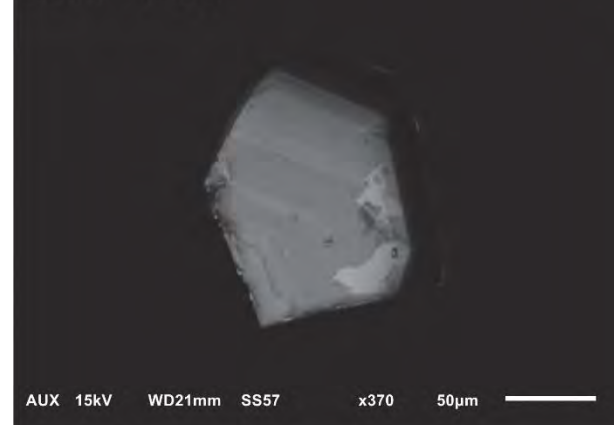
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GBR-15-27



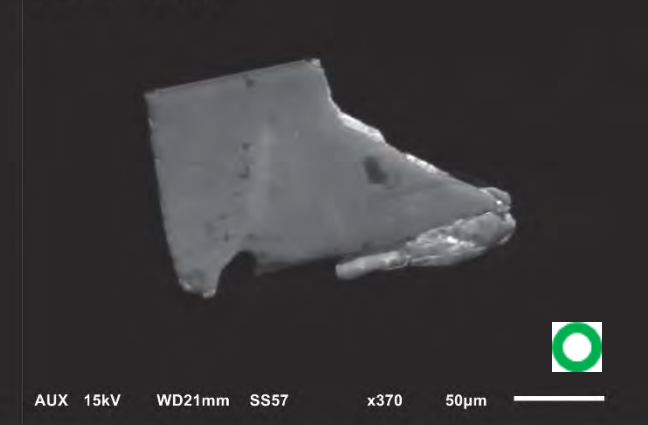
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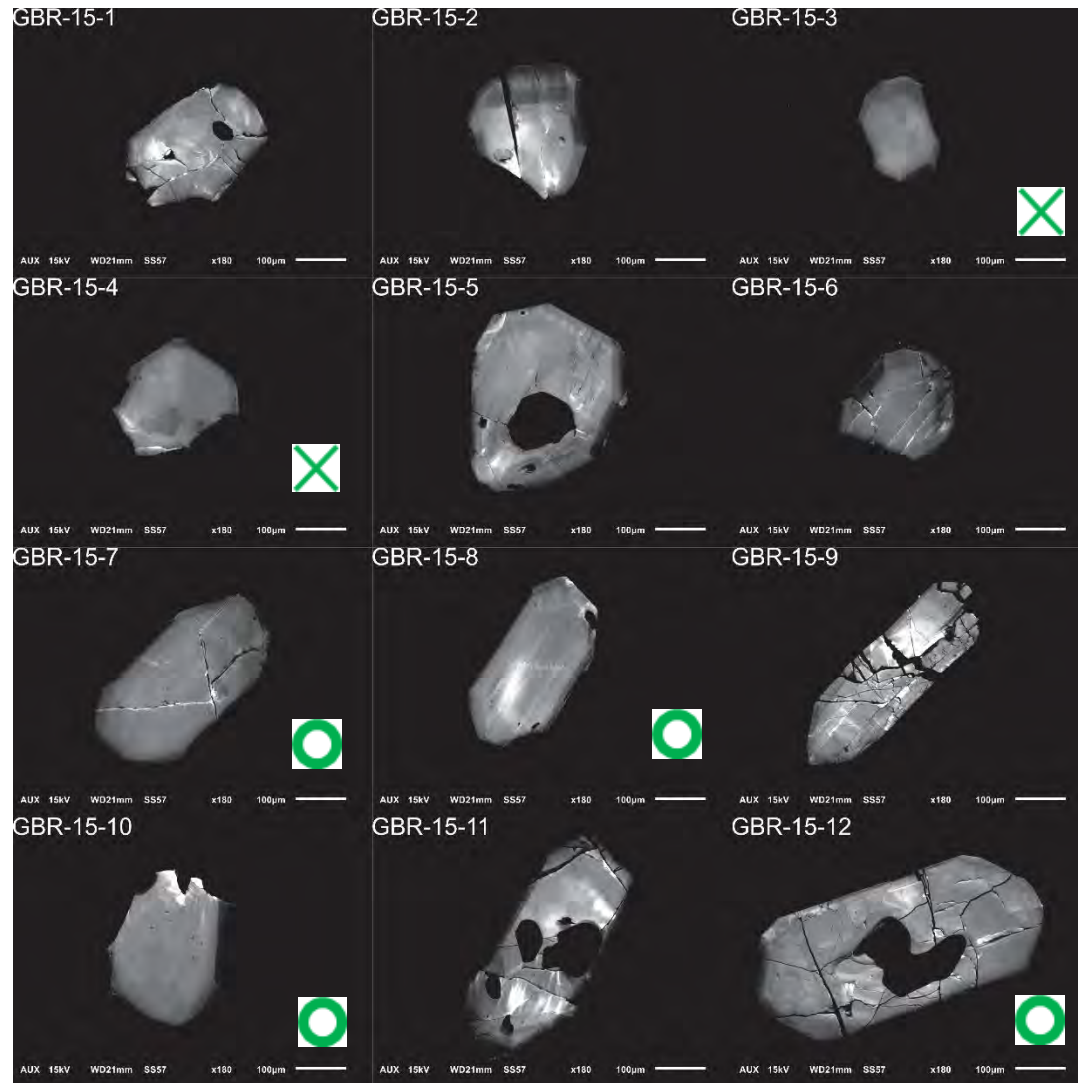
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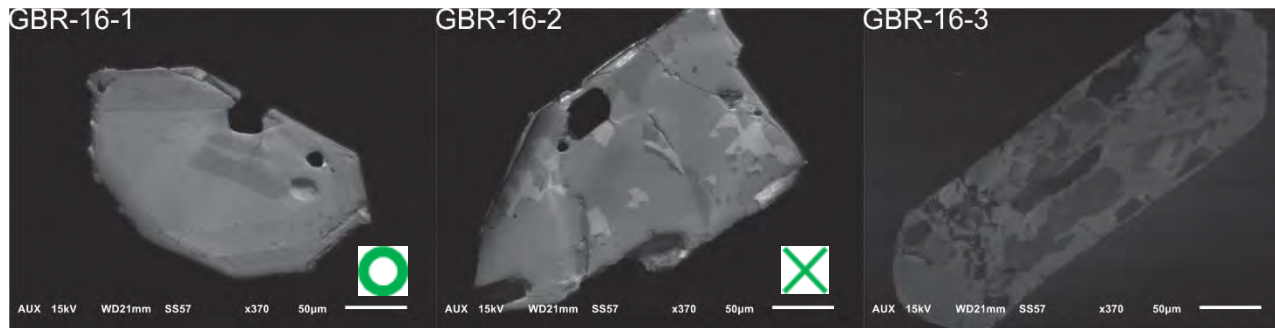
GBR-15-30



GBR-15, 1-12, 212-350µm fraction



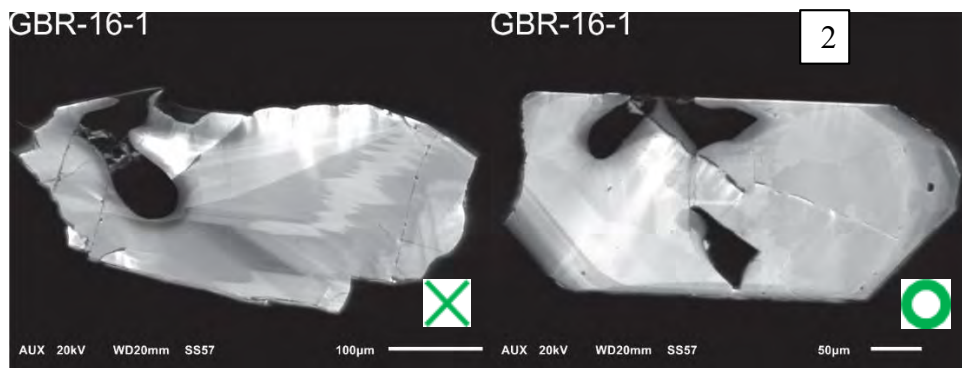
GBR-16, 1-3, 80-212 μ m fraction



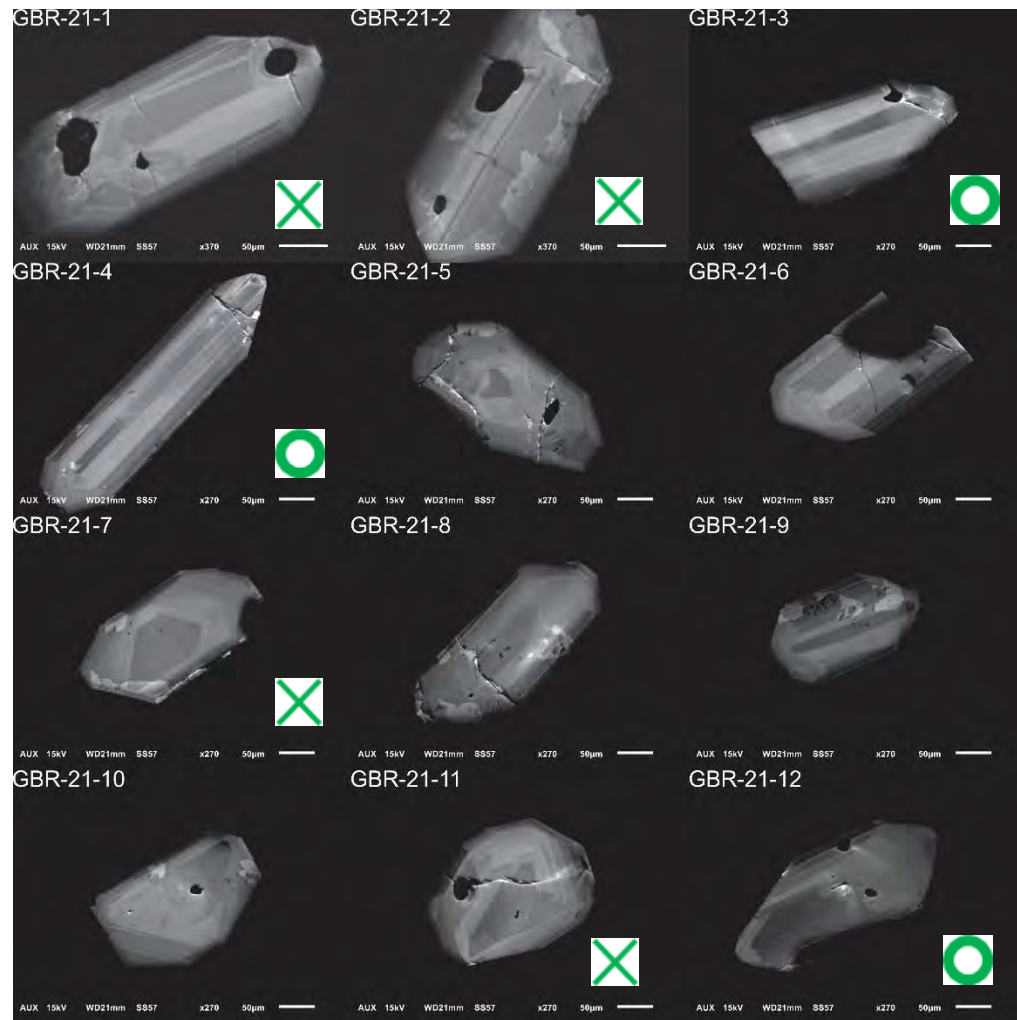
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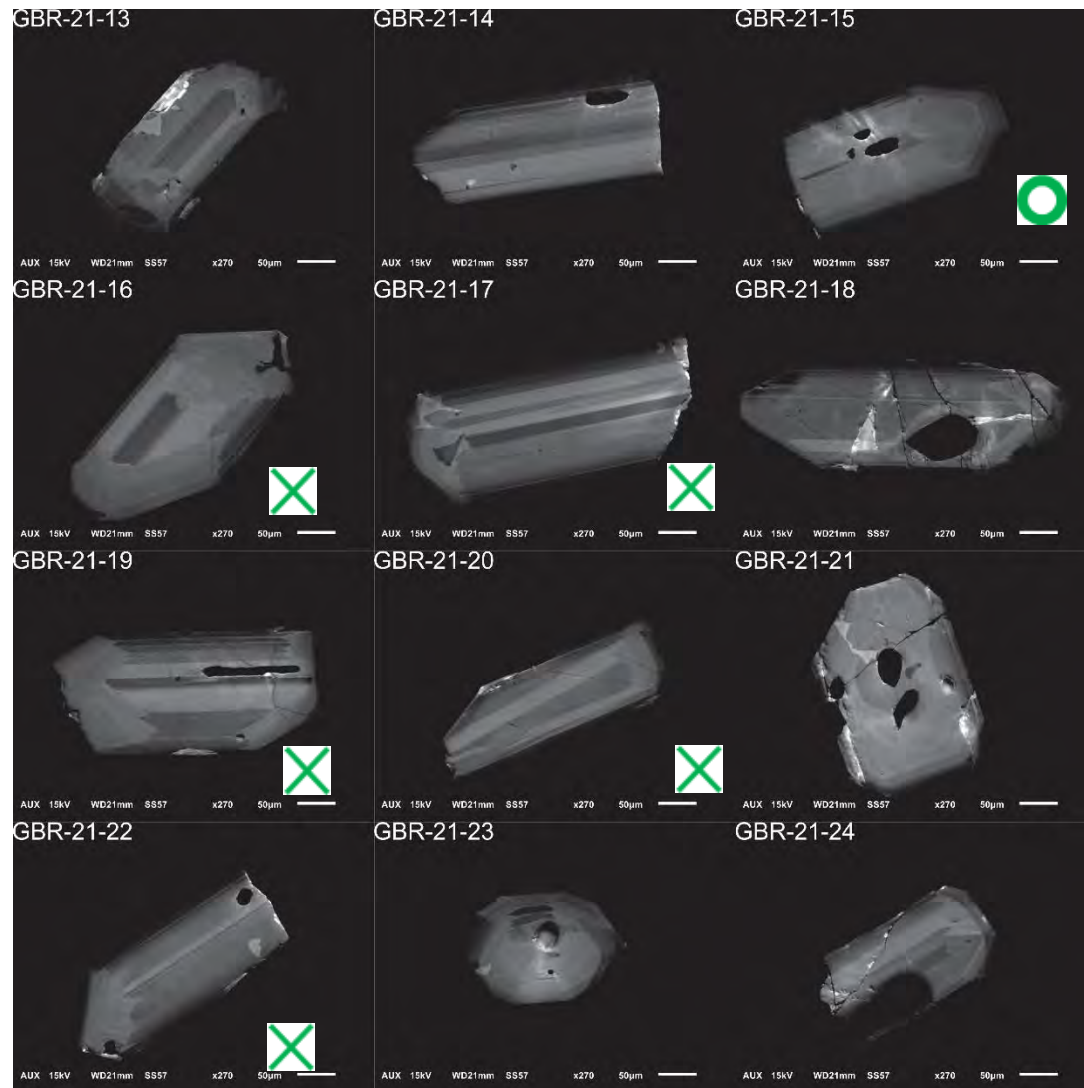
GBR-16, 1-2, 212-350 μ m fraction, second session



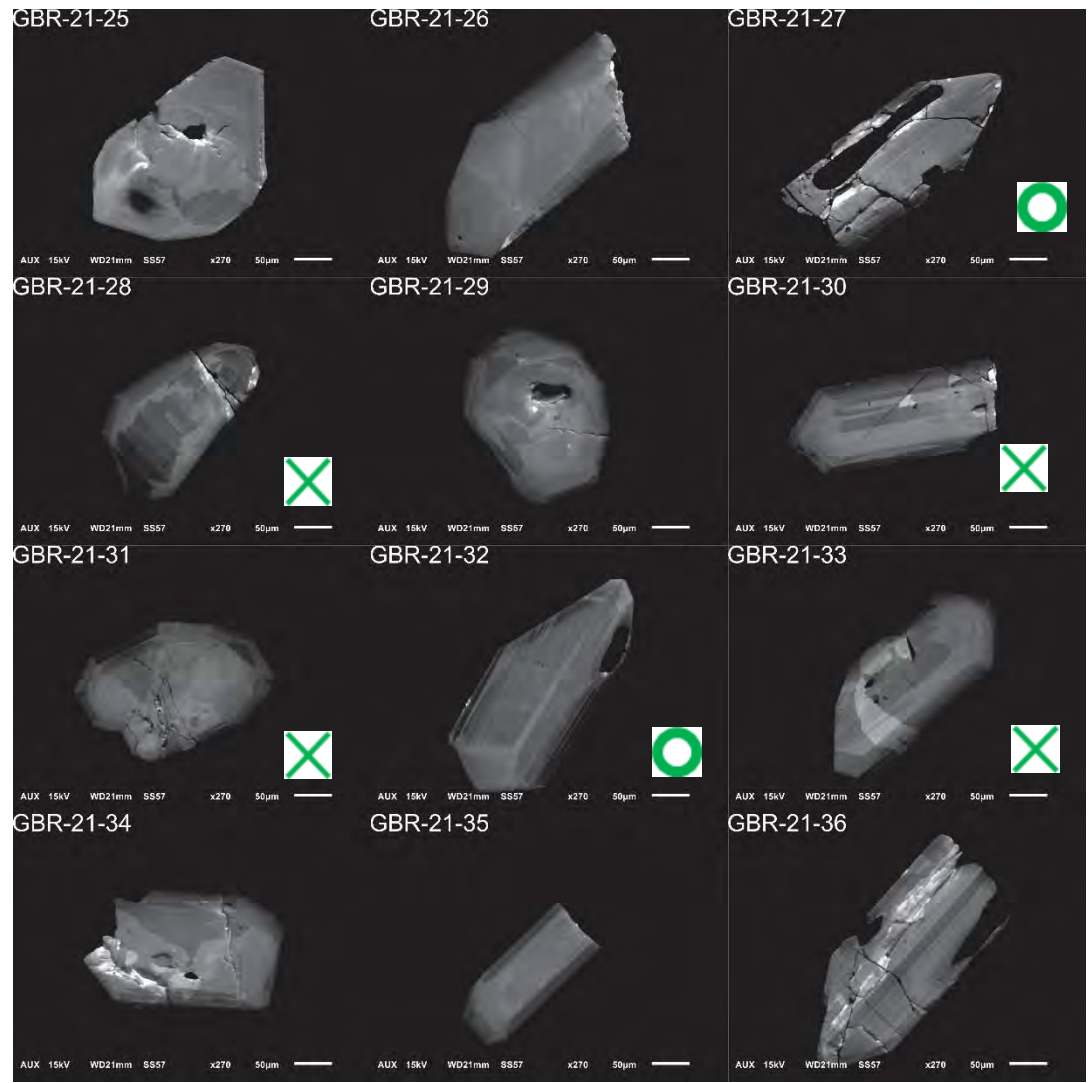
GBR-21, 1-12, 80-212µm fraction



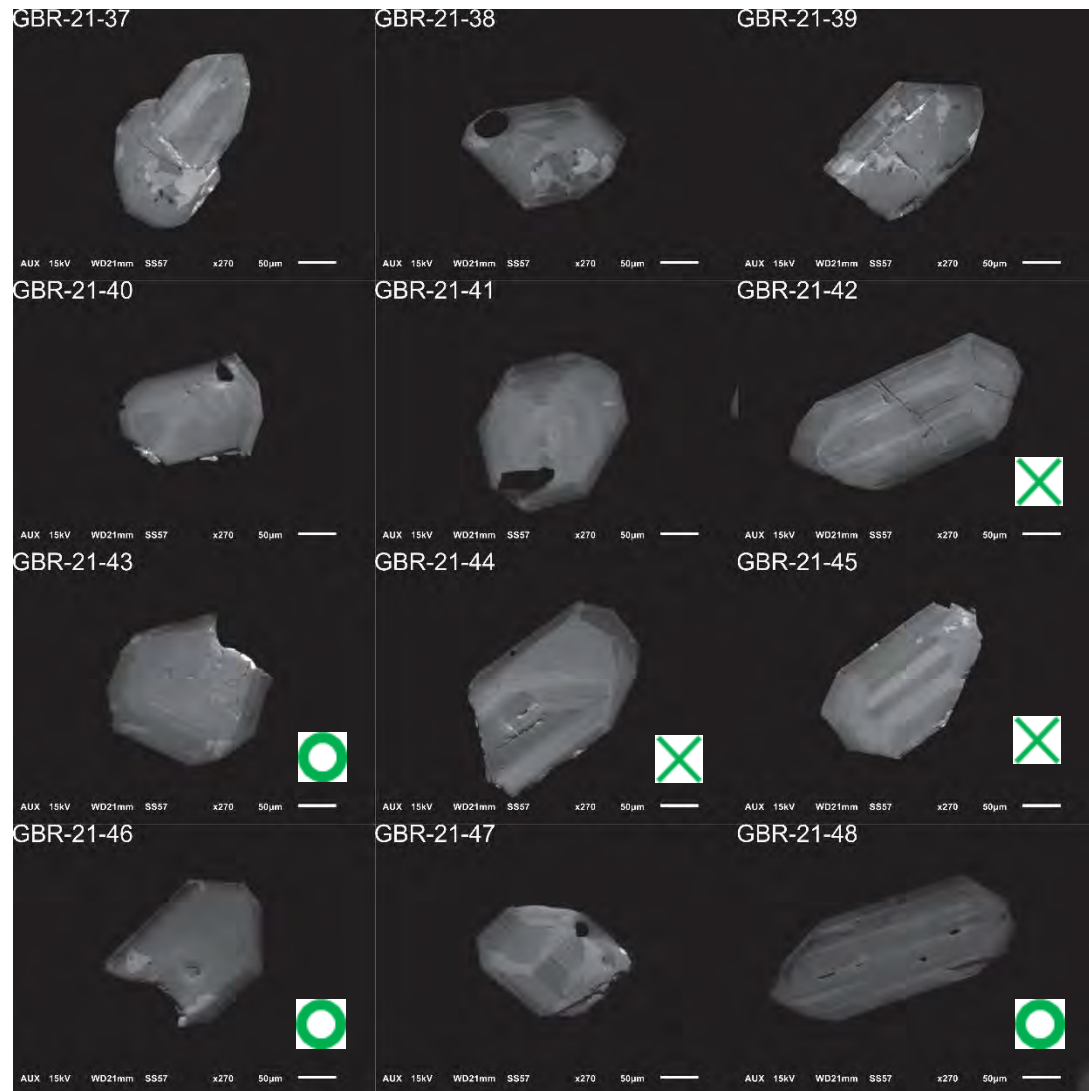
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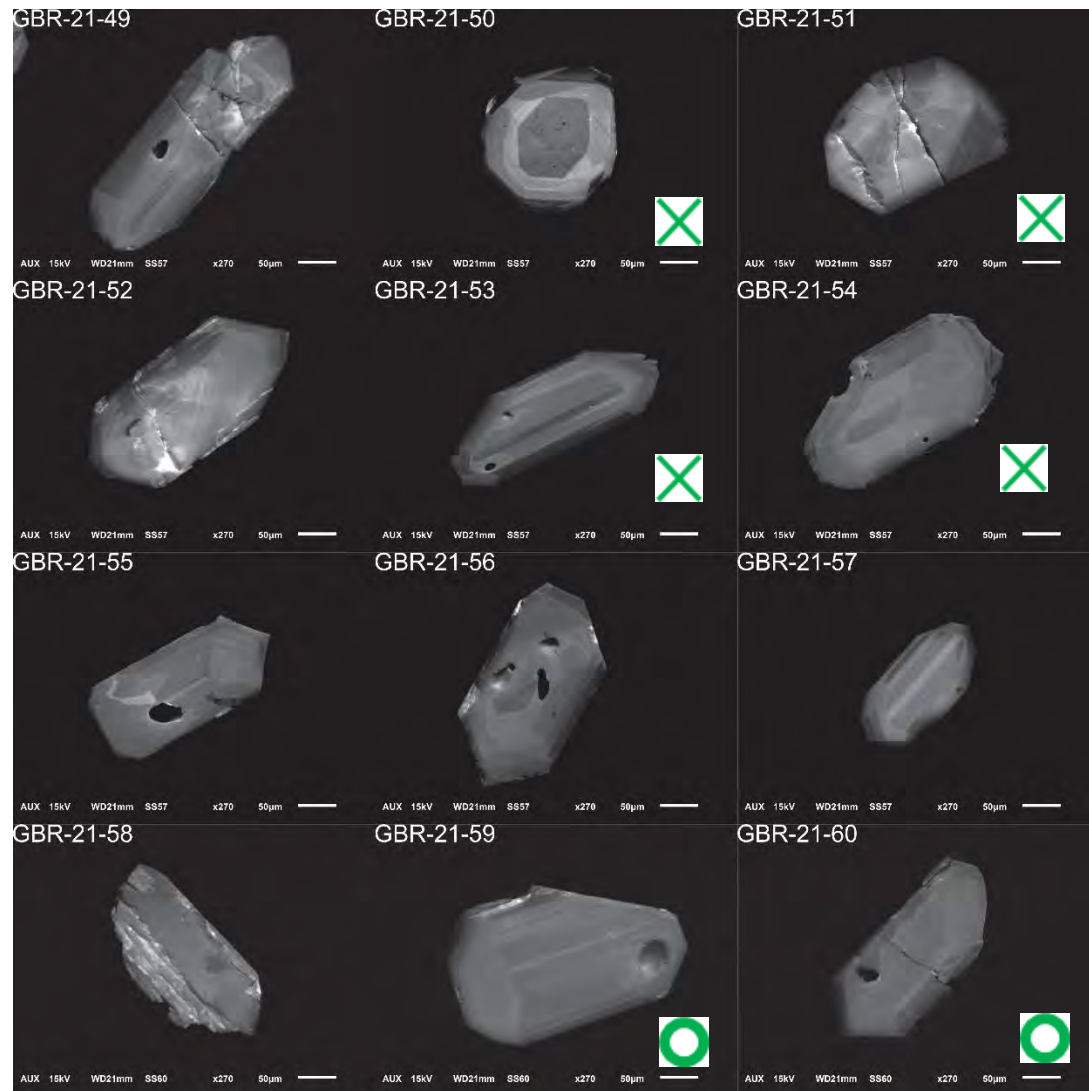
GBR-21, 25-36, 80-212µm fraction



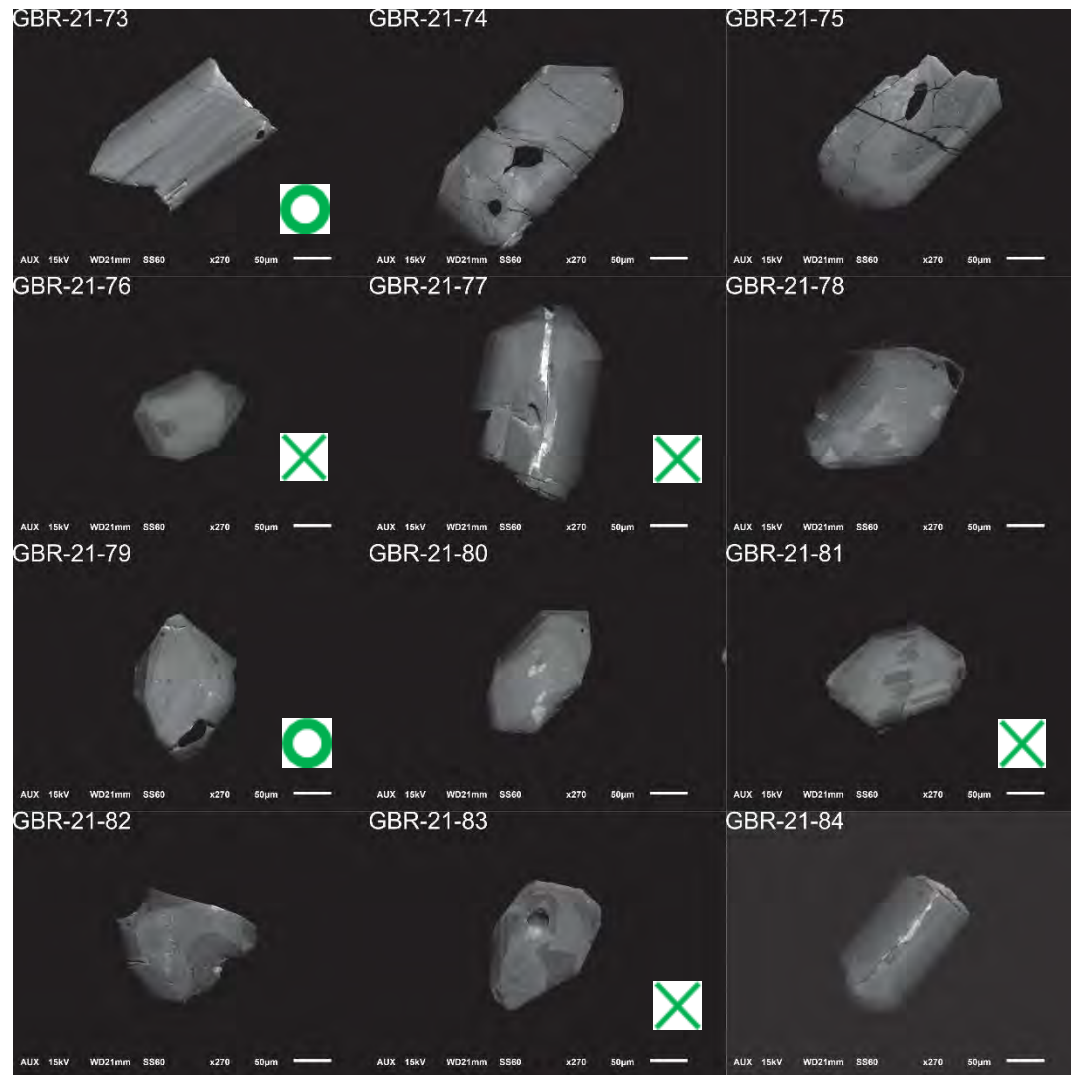
GBR-21, 37-48, 80-212 μ m fraction



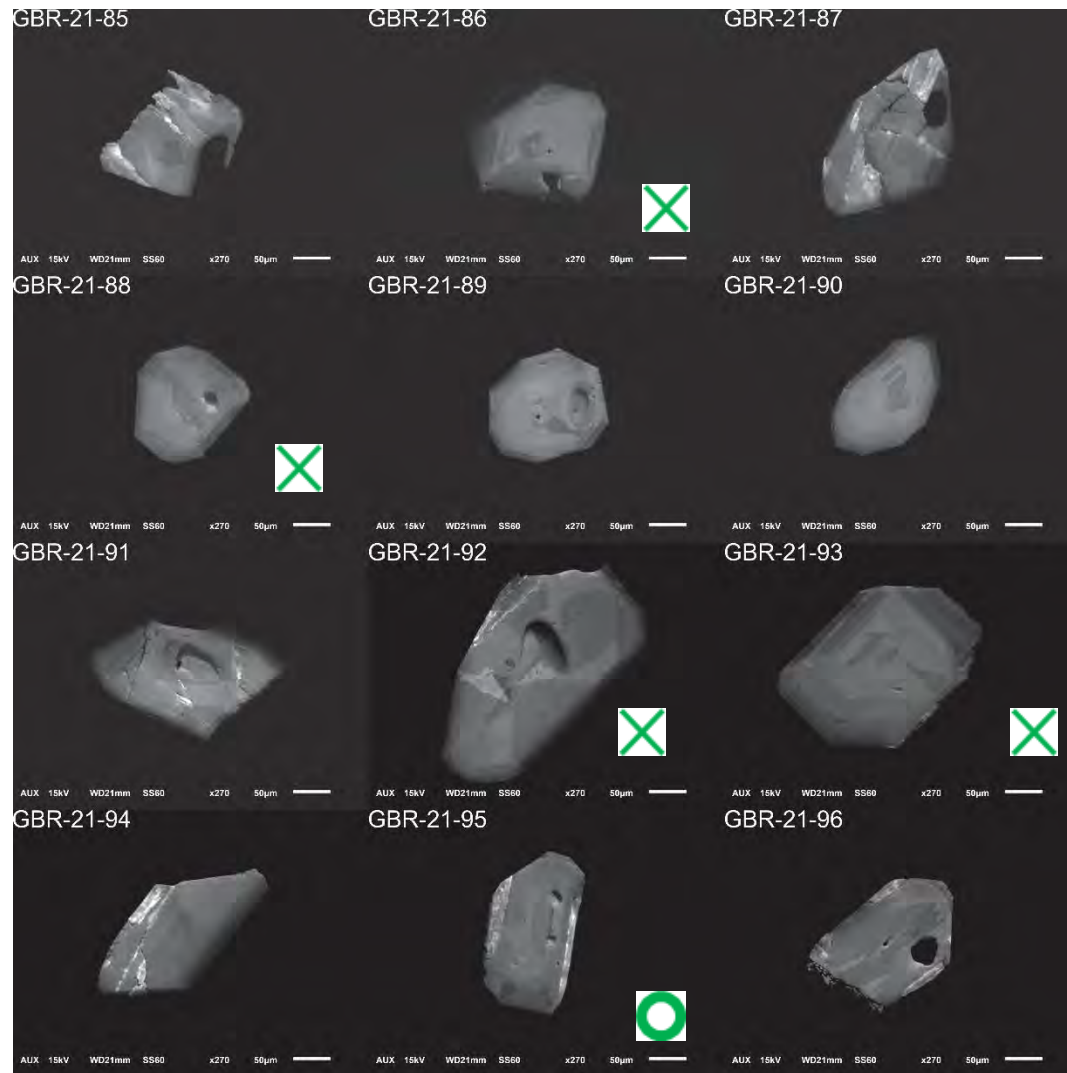
GBR-21, 49-60, 80-212 μ m fraction



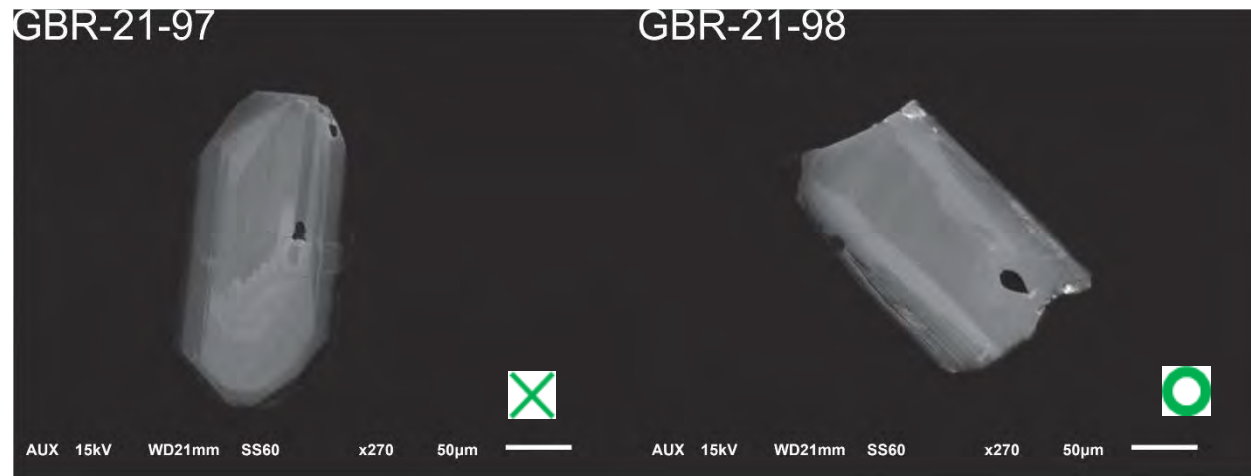
GBR-21, 73-84, 80-212 μ m fraction



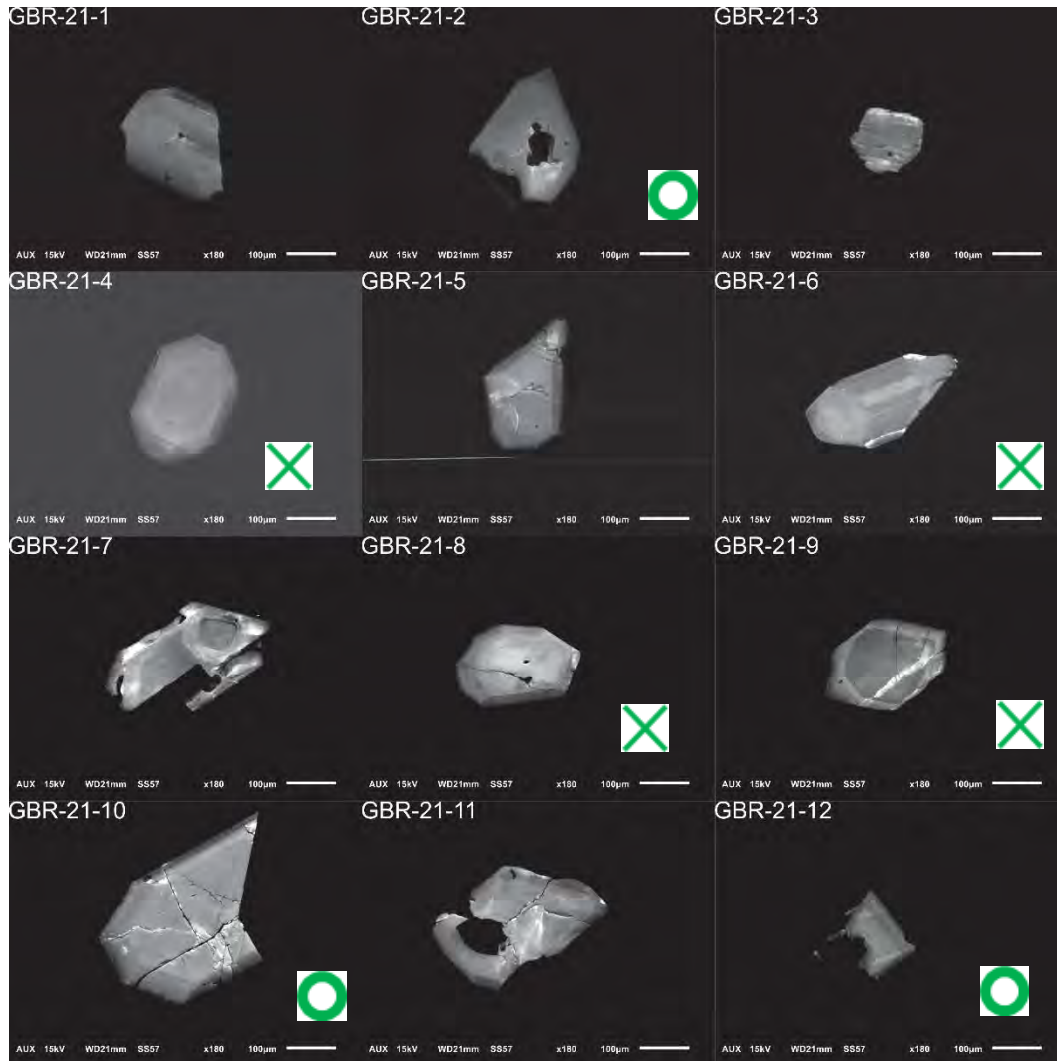
GBR-21, 85-96, 80-212µm fraction



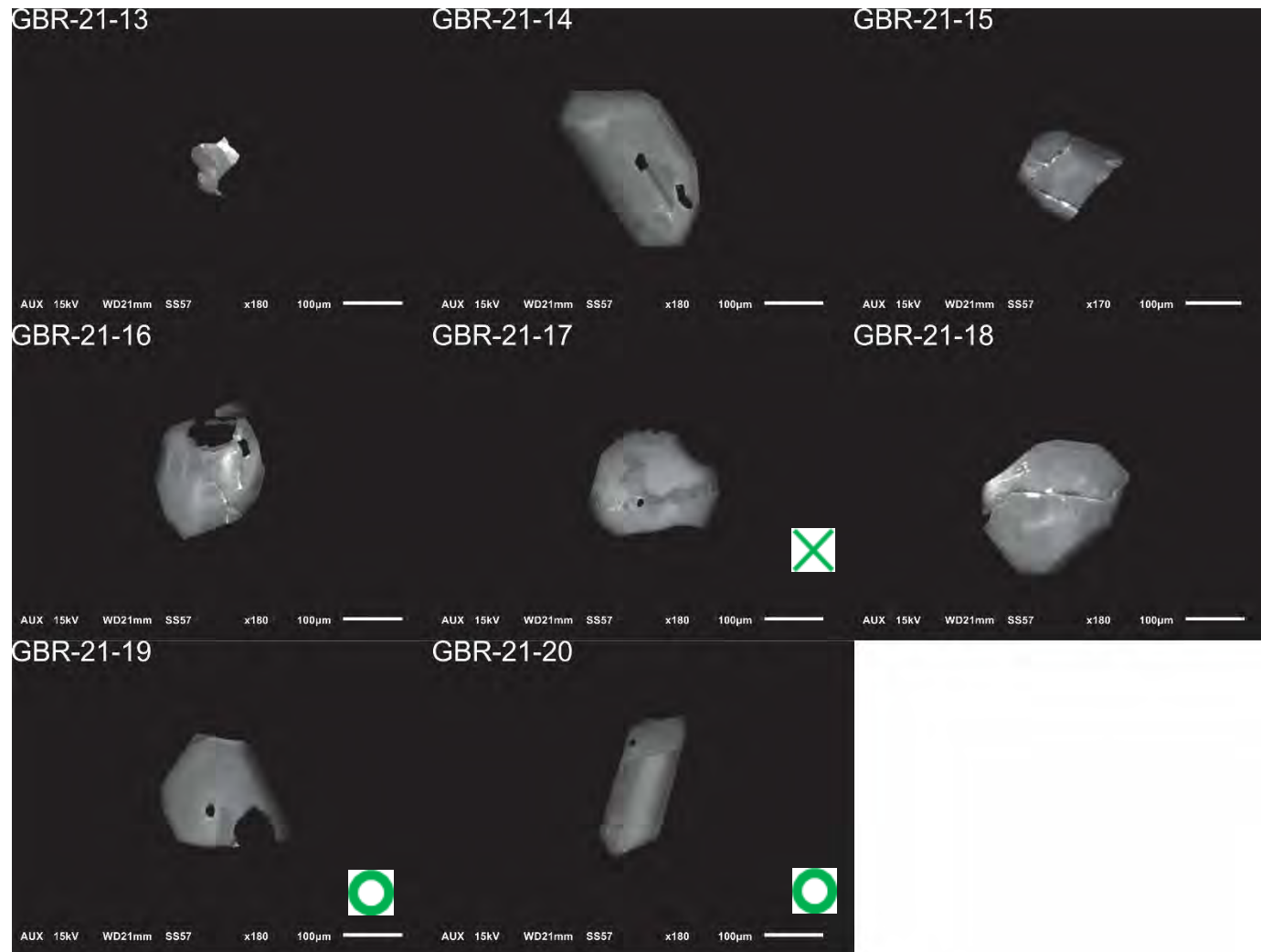
GBR-21, 85-96, 80-212 μ m fraction



GBR-21, 1-12, 212-350µm fraction

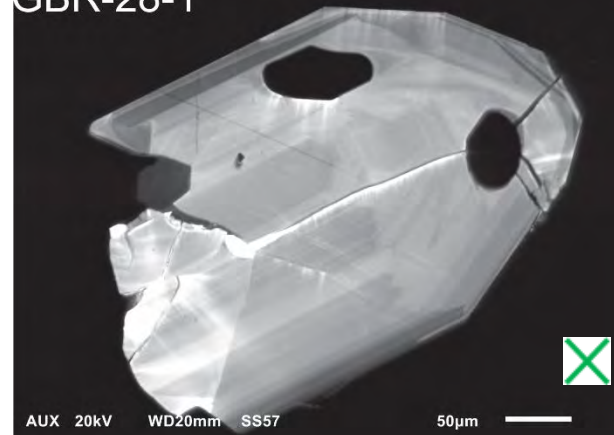


GBR-21, 13-20, 212-350μm fraction

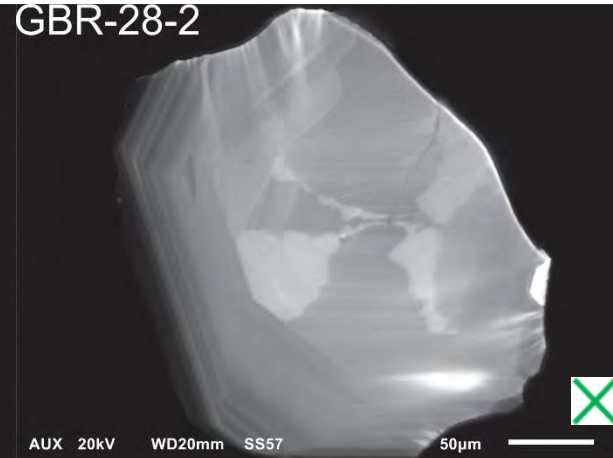


GBR-28, 1-4, 80-212 μ m fraction

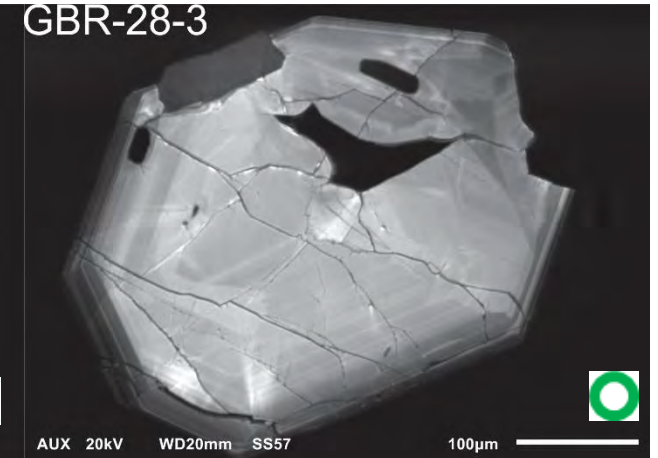
GBR-28-1



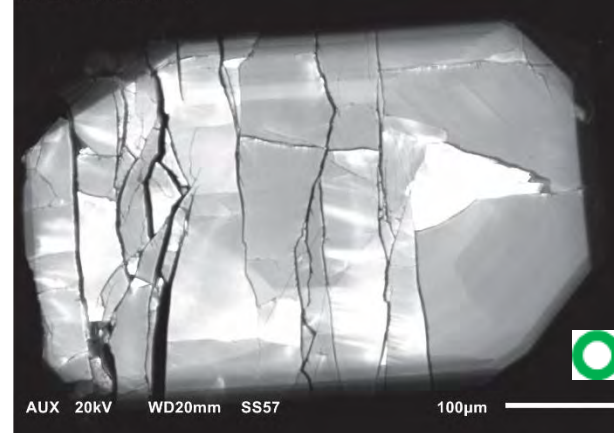
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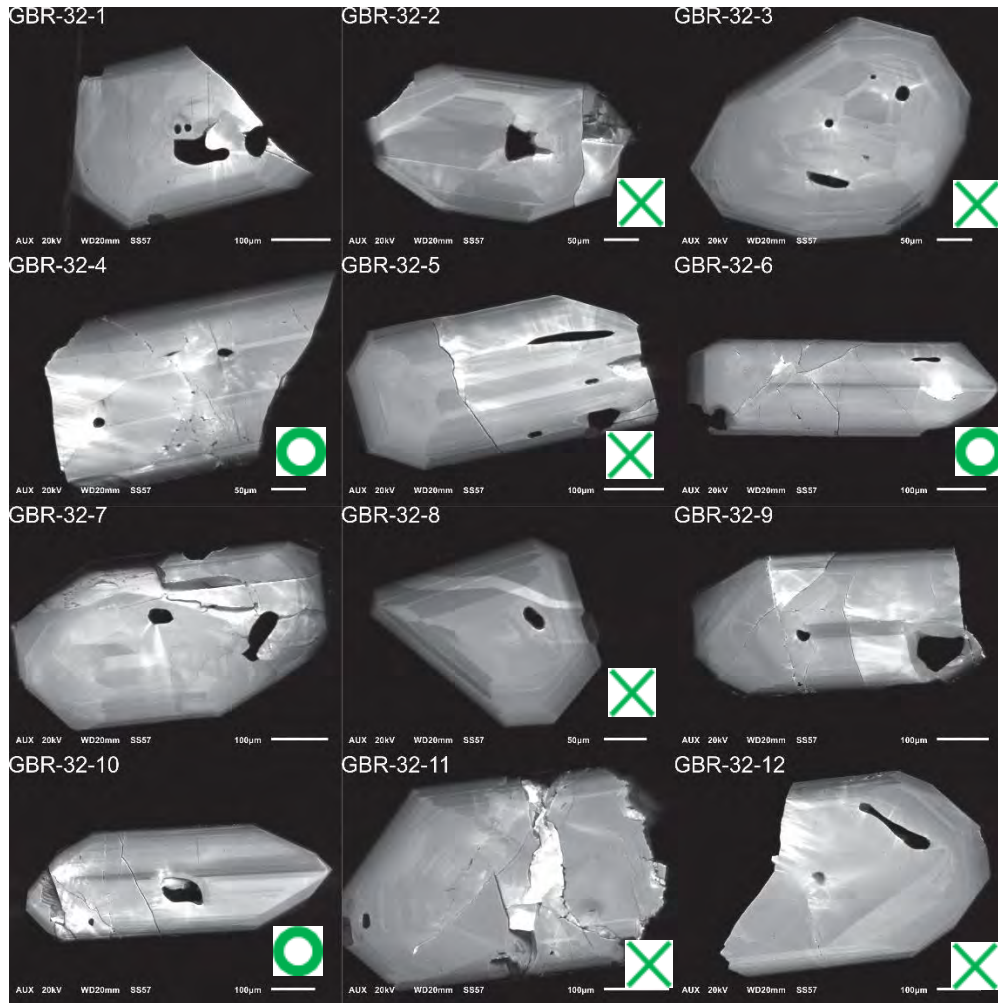
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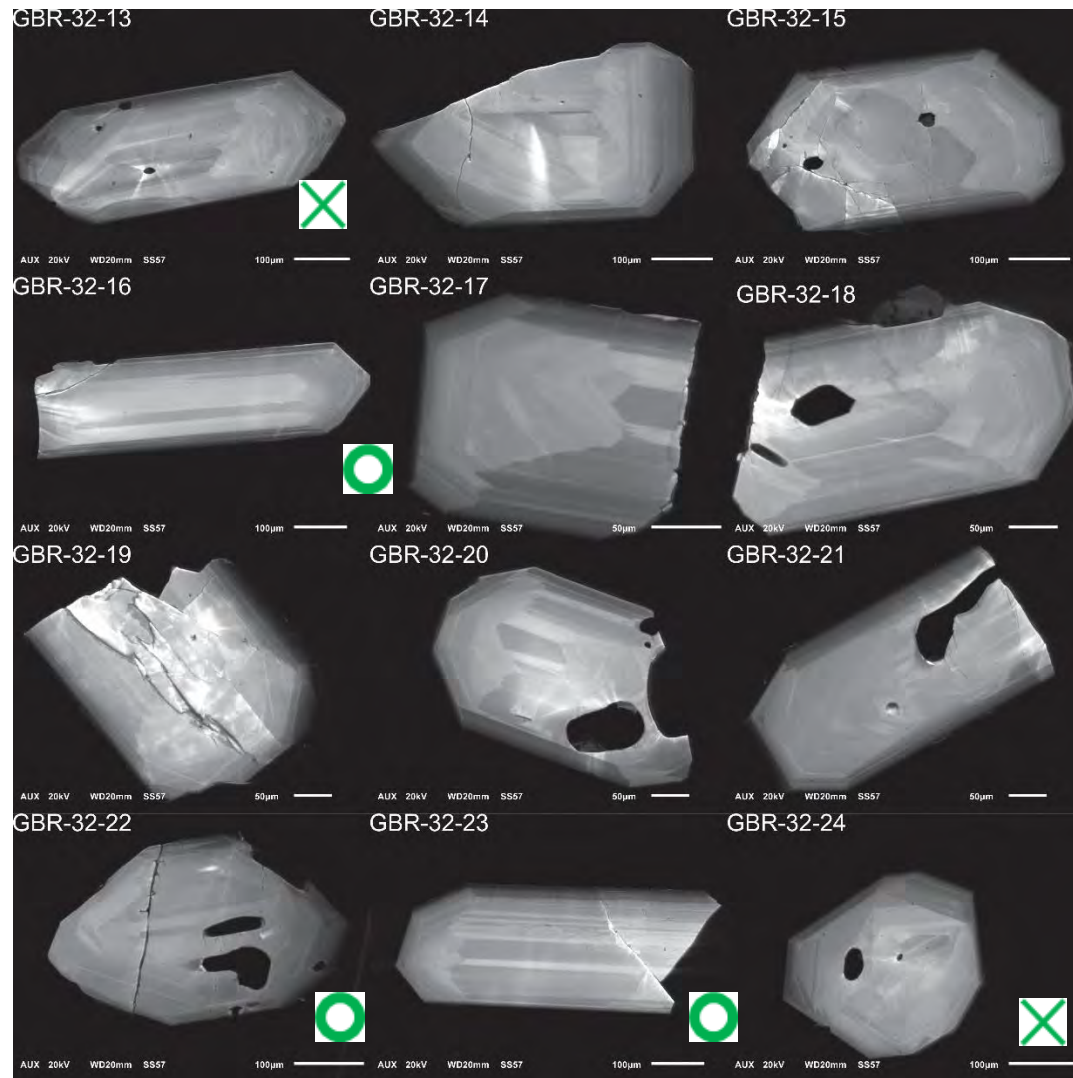
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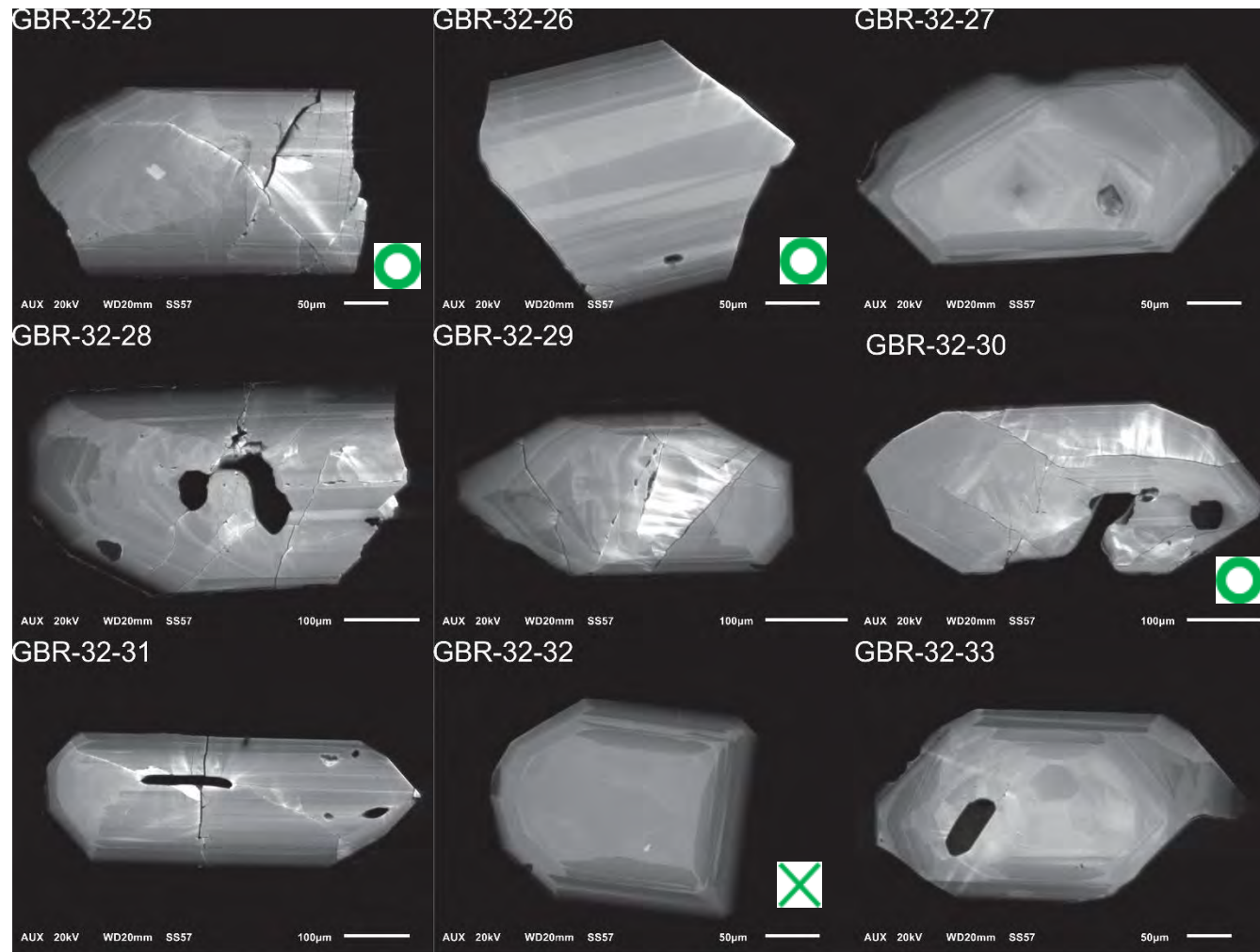
GBR-32, 1-12, 212-350µm fraction



GBR-32, 13-24, 212-350µm fraction



GBR-32, 25-33, 212-350 μ m fraction



Appendix 7. Sample descriptions

Sample	Lithology	Description	Structure	Alteration	Igneous minerals	Modality	Alteration minerals	Modality	Sulphide/oxides
GBR-1	Coarse grained tonalite	Tonalite with moderate Ep/Chl and Wm alteration, Mineralized	Porphyry texture with coarse grained Qz crystals and Pl, isotropic	Moderate white mica alteration (partial replacement of Pl) with a moderate Ep overprint (partial replacement of Pl). Some Pl is preferentially and completely replaced by Ep within Chl aggregates Ep veins/veinlets Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	30	Wm	10	Tr Ccp, Py, Bn and Mag
							Chl	10	
					Qz	40	Ep	8	
					Ttn	Tr	Ttn + Rt	2 (in Chl aggregates)	
Zr	Tr								
GBR-2	Tonalite	Medium grained mineralized tonalite with intense Wm	Weak foliation	Intense Wm alteration overprinting weak Ep alteration, 5%	Pl	25	Wm	25	Ccp and Tr Py in Chl aggregates
					Qz	25	Chl	20	
					Zr	Tr	Ep	5	

		and weak Ep alteration		of Qz is secondary, Wm forms veins Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ttn+Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-3	Tonalite	Medium grained tonalite with intense Wm alteration and calcite	Isotropic	Intense Wm alteration and weak Ep alteration, Cal forms in aggregates. Ep overprints Wm Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Qz	35	Cal	15	Tr Py, Mag
					Pl	30	Wm	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Chl	Tr	
					Zr	Tr	Ep	Tr	
GBR-4	Tonalite	Coarse grained tonalite with intense Wm alteration, mineralized	Weak foliation, not equigranular	Most Pl grains are completely altered to Wm and Ep. Relict Hbl and Bt completely biotized and/or chloritized. Ep occurs as veinlets, aggregates and disseminated, weak Cu mineralization,	Pl	40	Wm	20	Tr Bn, Ccp, Py, Mag, Mal
					Qz	25	Chl	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	5	

				<p>signs of some supergene alteration, 5 % of Qz is secondary recrystallized</p> <p>Allanite present</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Zr	Tr			
GBR-5	Tonalite	Mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic	<p>Intense Wm and weak Ep alteration. Ep and Wm occurs in aggregates and with Ccp veins</p> <p>Allanite present</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Qz	40	Wm	20	Ccp in Qt veins rimmed by Chl and in Ep Chl aggregates
					Pl	35	Chl	5	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	Tr	
					Zr	Tr			
GBR-6	Qt vein thin section	Qt – Chl vein	Vein	Chl + Wm veinlet between two quartz veins	Qz	90	Wm	5	Tr Py, Mag
							Chl	5	
							Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-7	Tonalite	Mineralized medium	Isotropic and equigranular	Isolated sections of intense Ep alteration, overall	Qz	35	Wm	20	Py, Mag, Ccp
					Pl	30	Chl	10	

		grained tonalite		intense Wm alteration, Ep-Chl-Qz veins, allanite present Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt,Hbl), fully replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ep	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn + Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-8	Leucocratic Tonalite		Isotropic	Intense Wm and moderate Ep alteration Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Qz	40	Wm	10	Tr Py, Mag
					Pl	35	Chl	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn + Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-9	Tonalite	Quartz rich tonalite, most Pl is altered Un-mineralized	Isotropic, equigranular	Intense Wm and trace Ep alteration Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Qz	35	Wm	20	Tr Py, Mag
					Pl	10	Chl	20	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	10	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn + Rt	5 (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-10	Tonalite	Mineralized rich coarse	Isotropic		Pl	40	Chl	10	Tr Py, Mag, Cov
					Qz	35	Ep	10	

		grained tonalite		Supergene alteration Allanite present 10% of Qz is secondary	Ttn	Tr	Wm	5	
					Zr	Tr			
GBR-11	Tonalite	Pl rich leucocratic medium grained unmineralized tonalite	Foliated	Tr Qz is secondary Moderate Wm alteration and weak Ep alteration Chl-Ep veinlets present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	40	Wm	10	Tr Py, Mag
					Qz	30	Chl	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-12	Tonalite	Mineralized medium grained tonalite	Foliated	Chl and Wm veins present Intense Wm alteration Weak Ep alteration Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	25	Chl	20	Tr Py, Mag, Ccp
					Qz	30	Wm	15	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	Tr	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
					Pl	40	Wm	20	Tr Py, Mag

GBR-13	Melanocratic tonalite	Coarse grained melanocratic medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Strongly foliated	<p>Chl and Ep occur is foliated aggregates</p> <p>Ep-Chl veinlets common following foliation</p> <p>Intense Wm alteration</p> <p>Weak Ep alteration</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Qz	20	Chl	15	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-14	Tonalite	Leucocratic Qz-rich coarse grained tonalite, mineralized	Isotropic, equigranular	<p>Tr Ep alteration and intense Wm alteration</p> <p>Intense Wm alteration limited to veins and area surrounding Wm-Py-Ccp-Qz veins</p> <p>Remaining areas shows weak Wm alteration with relatively fresh Pl</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Qz	50	Cal	20	Tr Py, Mag Disseminated Ccp associated with Wm
					Pl	20	Wm	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Ep	Tr	
					Zr	Tr	Chl	Tr	
							Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	

GBR-16	Quartz Diorite	Coarse grained mineralized Quartz Diorite	Isotropic, equigranular	Moderate Wm and Ep alteration	Pl	60	Wm	10	Tr Py, Mag, Ccp
				Some Pl is relatively fresh	Qz	10	Ep	10	
				Ep replaces Pl	Ttn	Tr	Chl	10	
				Allanite present	Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
				Ep and Chl are disseminated and in aggregates					
				Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt					
GBR-18	Tonalite	Coarse grained Qz-rich medium grained tonalite	Isotropic, equigranular	Intense Ep alteration with moderate Wm alteration	Qz	30	Ep	30	Tr Py, Mag
				Allanite present	Pl	20	Chl	10	
				Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	5	Wm	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-19	Tonalite	Medium grained Pl-rich mineralized tonalite	Foliated	Allanite present	Pl	30	Ep	Tr	Tr Py and Mag, Cpy
				Pl is intensely altered by Ep and Wm	Qz	30	Chl	20	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	20	

				<p>Weak Ep alteration</p> <p>Ep occurs as small isolated grains with Chl</p> <p>Pl grains are difficult to differentiate due to intense Wm alteration</p> <p>Wm veins present</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr	
GBR-21	Tonalite	Medium grained Pl-rich mineralized tonalite	Intensely foliated	<p>Allanite present</p> <p>Pl is intensely altered by Ep and Wm</p>	Pl	50	Ep	Tr	Tr Py and Mag, Ccp
					Qz	20	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	25	

				<p>Intense Wm and weak Ep alteration</p> <p>Ep occurs as small isolated grains with Chl</p> <p>WM is replacing Pl</p> <p>Pl grains are difficult to differentiate due to intense Wm alteration</p> <p>Wm veins present</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr	
GBR-22	Tonalite	Corse grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic		Pl	35	Ep	15	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	30	Chl	15	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	5	

				<p>Chl aggregates are very large (large relict Bt)</p> <p>Pl grains are recognisable with moderate replacement by Ep, twinning still discernible</p> <p>5% of Qz is secondary Qz in Ep-Chl-Qz veins</p> <p>Cross cutting Ep and Chl veinlets through Pl</p> <p>Moderate Ep alteration and weak Wm alteration</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p>	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr	
GBR-23	Tonalite	Medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic	Moderate Wm alteration	Pl	35	Ep	5	Tr Py and Mag in Chl aggregates
					Qz	45	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	15	
				Weak Ep alteration, ep					

				occurs as small isolated grains and dissemination No veins Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr	
GBR-24	Tonalite	Ep-poor Chl-rich medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic	Allanite present Disseminated Chl and Ep Ep alteration is weak, Chl and Wm are dominant alteration minerals Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	30	Ep	5	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	30	Chl	20	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	10	
					Ttn	5	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-27	Tonalite	Pl-rich un-mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic	Moderate Wm alteration Weak Ep alteration	Pl	40	Ep	Tr	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	25	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	15	

				No veins Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr	
GBR-28	Tonalite	Pl-rich un-mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic and equigranular	Most Pl Phenocrysts are partially altered to Wm and Ep Sample is moderately altered with some Pl relicts discernable and twining is still observed Allanite present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	40	Ep	5	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	20	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-30	Tonalite	Coarse grained Qt-rich un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic	Ep present in 2 distinct forms: Cross cutting veins and subhedral crystals within	Pl	35	Ep	10	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	55	Chl	5	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	5	

			Qz is coarser grained than Pl grains	plagioclase phenocrysts and within chlorite aggregates Wm contours Pl grains and weakly replaces some Pl grains Weakly altered Ep-Chl-Qz veins present Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-32	Tonalite	Pl-rich coarse grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic Qz is coarser grained than Pl grains	Moderate Ep alteration and weak Wm alteration of Pl Absence of veins Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Pl	55	Ep	10	Tr Py and Mag
					Qz	20	Chl	5	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	5	
					Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-35	Tonalite	Pl-rich relatively fresh un-	Isotropic and equigranular		Pl	30	Wm	20	Tr Py and Mag in Chl aggregates
					Qz	20	Chl	10	

		mineralized medium grained tonalite		Primary mafic minerals pseudomorphs detected partially replaced by Chl-Ttn+Rt	Hbl	15	Ep	5	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
					Ttn	Tr			
GBR-37	Tonalite	Qz-rich relatively fresh un-mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic and equigranular	Weakly altered tonalite	Pl	30	Ep	10	Tr Py and Mag in Chl aggregates
				Most Pl is unaltered, some is partially replaced by Ep and Wm	Qz	45	Chl	10	
				Many cross-cutting mono mineralic Ep veins, and Ep-Chl veins.	Zr	Tr	Wm	5	
				Primary mafic minerals pseudomorphs detected partially replaced by Chl-Ttn+Rt	Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
				Allanite present					

GBR-39	Tonalite	Pl-rich leucocratic un-mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic and equigranular	<p>Wp and Wm alteration is weak</p> <p>Pl grains are replaced by Ep and Wm</p> <p>5% of quartz is secondary Qz in the Ep-Qz vein</p> <p>Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt</p> <p>Cross cut by large cm scale Ep-Qz vein</p>	Pl	60	Ep	10	Ep vein contains Tr Ccp
					Qz	20	Chl	5	
					Zr	Tr	Wm	5	
					Ttn	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-40	Tonalite	Un-mineralized medium grained tonalite	Isotropic and equigranular	<p>Weakly altered tonalite</p> <p>Primary mafic minerals pseudomorphs detected partially replaced by Chl-Ttn+Rt</p> <p>Most Pl is unaltered, some is partially replaced by Ep and Wm</p>	Pl	35	Ep	5	Tr Py, Mag
					Qz	35	Chl	5	
					Hbl	5	Wm	5	
					Bt	5	Ttn-Rt	5 (in Chl aggregates)	
					Zr	Tr			
					Ttn	Tr			
GBR-44	Meta Basalt	Fine grained basalt	Isotropic and equigranular		Pl	20	Ep	30	N/A
					Px	10	Chl	30	

				Chl and Ep aggregates are common Pl grains are replaced by weak Wm and intense Ep and Chl			Wm	10	
GBR-45	Serpentinite	Serpentinite	Relict Ol grains evident	Serpentinization is complete	Ol	Tr	Srp	100%	N/A
GBR-49	Mafic volcanoclastic	Fine grained Nicola mafic volcanoclastic rock	No lithic fragments only fine grained volcanoclastics Coarser Pl phenocrysts in a fine-grained volcanoclastic matrix of Ep and Chl and Qt and Hbl	Presence of cross cutting Ep veinlets Intense Ep and Chl alteration	Hbl	30	Ep	20	N/A
					Pl	20	Chl	20	
					Qt	10	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR-50	Mafic volcanoclastic	Fine grained Nicola mafic	Fine grained matrix supported	Alteration is pervasive and intense with intense	Pl	30	Ep	25	N/A
					Hbl	15	Chl	10	

		volcano-clastic rock	volcanoclastic rock with larger lithic fragments imbedded	Ep and Chl alteration Ep forms veinlets Ep forms coarse grained aggregates in the lithic fragments Qz is fine grained and may be secondary	Qz	20	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR 2-7	Tonalite	Medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic equigranular	Wm alteration varies from moderate to intense and forms veins in some areas Wm alteration is weak and forms around grain boundaries within Pl and Chl aggregates after mafics Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), partially replaced by Chl±Bt±Ttn±Rt, some sections remain unaltered (centres)	Pl	30	Wm	15	Tr Py, Mag
					Qz	30	Ep	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	5 (in Chl aggregates)	
					Hbl	Tr			

GBR 2-11	Tonalite	Medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic equigranular	Moderate Wm alteration	Pl	30	Ep	10	Tr Py, Mag
				Weak Ep alteration Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Qz	20	Wm	15	
					Ttn	Tr	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR 2-14	Tonalite	Medium grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic equigranular	Intense Wm alteration and weak Ep alteration	Pl	30	Ep	10	Tr Py, Mag
				Wm veins present Ep occurs as aggregates and isolated grains Relict mafics (Bt, Hbl), fully replaced by Ch±Bt±Ttn±Rt	Qz	20	Wm	30	
					Ttn	Tr	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	
GBR 2-32	Tonalite	Coarse grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic equigranular	Weak Wm alteration and weak propylitic alteration	Pl	25	Ep	10	Tr Py, Mag
				Mafics are intact and unaltered (Hbl, Bt)	Qz	30			
					Bt	10	Wm	10	
					Hbl	10			
					Ttn	Tr			
				Zr	Tr				

GBR 2-34	Tonalite	Coarse grained un-mineralized tonalite	Isotropic equigranular	Weak Wm alteration and weak propylitic alteration Mafics are intact and unaltered (Hbl, Bt)	Pl	30	Ep	10	Tr Py, Mag
					Qz	30			
					Hbl	10			
					Bt	10	Wm	10	
					Ttn	Tr			
					Zr	Tr			
GBR 2-42	Quartz Diorite	Coarse grained diorite with a large cross cutting Ep-Cal-Chl veins that has trace Ccp and border	Isotropic	Strong propylitic alteration, replacement of Pl is partial to complete	Pl	30	Ep	40	Tr Py, Mag, Ccp
					Qz	10	Wm	10	
					Ttn	Tr	Chl	10	
					Zr	Tr	Ttn-Rt	Tr (in Chl aggregates)	

Abbreviations: Bn = bornite, Cal = calcite, Ccp= chalcopyrite, Chl = chlorite, Cov = Covellite, Ep= epidote, Hbl = hornblende, Mag = magnetite, Mal = malachite, Ol = olivine, Pl = plagioclase, Px = pyroxene, Py = pyrite, Qz = Quartz, Rt= rutile, Srp = serpentine, Tr = trace, < 2 vol%, Ttn = titanite, Wm= white mica, Zr = Zircon

Weak alteration= <10% replacement of Pl by Ep or Wm

Moderate alteration = 10-30% replacement of Pl by Ep or Wm

Intense alteration = >30% replacement of Pl by Ep or Wm

Fine grained= major grains (Pl, Qt) are between <1mm

Medium grained= major grains (Pl, Qt) are between 1-2 mm

Coarse grained= major grains (Pl, Qt) are >2mm

Appendix 8

**Report on the composition and assemblage of
minerals associated with the porphyry Cu Mo
mineralization at the Gibraltar deposit, south central
British Columbia, Canada**

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Abstract

Glacial sediments commonly contain resistant heavy minerals, such as zircon, rutile and epidote. To identify the sources of these minerals and use them as a vectoring tool for mineral deposits, it is critical to understand the compositional variations and assemblages of these minerals in mineral deposits and whether they are distinct from those in barren rocks. This paper reports the occurrence and assemblages of igneous and alteration minerals in the Gibraltar porphyry Cu deposit, south central British Columbia.

The Gibraltar deposit is the largest of three porphyry-Cu deposits in the region, the others being the Mount Polley mine and the Woodjam prospect. The Gibraltar deposit is hosted by the Granite Mountain batholith and has reserves of over 749 million tons at 0.249% Cu and 0.008% Mo. The batholith is mostly tonalite, with minor variation in modal abundances of felsic and mafic minerals. Igneous minerals are plagioclase, quartz, biotite, hornblende, titanite, zircon and apatite. The mineralization is accompanied by extensive phyllic alteration in the tonalite, which produced illite, quartz, rutile, titanite, magnetite, apatite, chlorite and epidote. Hydrothermal titanite is distinctly different from igneous titanite in crystal habits, optical properties and chemical compositions. Epidote shows a large compositional variation even within one sample from Al-rich (high clinozoisite component) to Fe-rich epidote. Some epidote grains contain significant La and Ce (allanite component), which could be diagnostic of the porphyry mineralization. Preliminary observations suggest the presence of a potassic alteration zone forming hydrothermal biotite but is now replaced by chlorite.

Introduction

Porphyry Cu mineralization is accompanied by extensive alteration within the host rocks and surrounding country rocks. Some of these minerals are resistant to weathering and erosion. They can be dispersed by glaciers and streams and may occur in glacial and stream sediments. Therefore, the assemblage of minerals common in porphyry Cu deposits in these sediments may vector to a deposit when combined with knowledge of regional ice-flow directions. Among heavy minerals, epidote (the Fe-rich end member of epidote group minerals) has the potential to be useful in mineral exploration. Cooke et al. (2014) reported that spatial variation of epidote chemistry in bedrock can be used to predict the

occurrence and size of Cu mineralization. Their study around porphyry Cu-Mo deposits (3 Mt Cu in total) found that epidote in the immediately surrounding area (up to 1.5 km from the deposit centres) contains low concentrations of light rare earth elements (LREE; < 8 ppm La in most grains) and high abundances of Pb (up to 186 ppm), As (up to 180 ppm), Sb (up to 64ppm), Zr (up to 347 ppm) and Nb (up to 1230 ppm). Epidote enriched in LREE (up to 730 ppm La) occurs farther outside of the deposits, outside the pyrite halo (2-3km from mineralization). The data demonstrate that epidote chemistry records a larger footprint of the mineralization than the traditional alteration mineral zoning. Cooke et al. (2014) suggest an exploration method based on the intensity of epidote veining and the modal distribution of this mineral. The use of epidote has also been suggested in exploration for Au deposits by Roache et al. (2011), who demonstrated a positive relationship between the abundance of Fe-rich epidote and the size of Au deposits in Archean greenstone belts in Western Australia. They also show that the composition of epidote group minerals is correlated with that of co-existing chlorite. Chlorite is a common mineral in a variety of rocks and the composition of chlorite associated with porphyry-type mineralization appears to be distinct (Wilkinson et al. 2015). The chemistry of chlorite may be useful in exploration for porphyry type deposits.

Glacial sediments in the study area contain abundant epidote, apatite, jarosite, magnetite, titanite, rutile, and zircon and their distribution has been documented by the Geological Survey of Canada researchers in collaboration with the British Columbia Geological Survey (Fig. 1; Plouffe et al., 2014; Plouffe and Ferbey, 2015). These minerals are common in mineralized rocks, as well as in barren igneous and metamorphic rocks that are not related to porphyry Cu deposits. The objective of this project is to characterize the composition of resistate minerals associated with porphyry Cu mineralization at Gibraltar and to compare them with those in barren rocks and tills. Ultimately, characterizing the composition of key minerals in till and stream sediments could be used as a fertility indicator vectoring to porphyry Cu mineralization concealed by glacial sediments. This paper reports the occurrence and major element composition of alteration minerals in samples collected in July, 2015 in the Gibraltar mine and the areas immediately surrounding the mine.

Access

The study area is located approximately 60 km north of the town of Williams Lake, and 20 km N-NE of the northeastern shore of McLeese Lake, British Columbia. The study area is accessed by highway 97 and a paved road to the mine. The eastern part of the study area has abundant logging roads, which allow the access to the eastern and northern parts of the Granite Mountain batholith, and country rocks of

the batholith. The Beaver Lake Road runs east to connect to the Philemon Lake Road (an old logging road), which leads to the northern part of the Granite Mountain batholith. The Gibraltar quartz diorite and Nicola Group volcanic rocks are exposed along this road. Farther north on the Philemon Lake Road, a foliated tonalite phase of the Granite Mountain batholith is exposed.

Regional geology

The Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposit is hosted in the Granite Mountain batholith (Fig. 2). The batholith yields U-Pb zircon ages of 217 ± 12 Ma (Bysouth et al., 1995), 215 ± 0.8 Ma (Ash et al., 1999a and b; Ash and Riveros, 2001), and 209.6 ± 6.3 Ma (Oliver et al., 2009). Drummond et al. (1976) reported K-Ar ages of 203 ± 6 and 204 ± 6 Ma on hornblende in leucocratic tonalite. Although the U-Pb zircon ages are overlapping, the age range suggest that this batholith may have formed through multiple intrusions of magmas with similar tonalitic compositions.

The batholith is variably deformed and metamorphosed under greenschist facies conditions (Ash et al., 1999b). To the south, it is in fault contact with the Cache Creek Terrane (Figs. 1, 2) that mainly consists of Paleozoic to early Mesozoic chemical and siliclastic sedimentary rocks and mafic volcanic rocks (Shannon, 1982).

There is a debate whether the Granite Mountain batholith belongs to the Paleozoic Cache Creek Terrane or Mesozoic Quesnel Terrane. The close proximity of the batholith to rocks from both terranes and the relatively poor bedrock exposure in the region have contributed to the debate. Since the batholith is in contact with late Paleozoic rocks of the Cache Creek Terrane to the south and east, Drummond et al. (1973, 1976) and Bysouth et al. (1995) suggested that the batholith belongs to the Cache Creek Terrane, with the local limestones, skarns and schists that occur along the southwest margin of the batholith interpreted to be metamorphosed Cache Creek rocks (Drummond et al., 1976; Panteleyev, 1978; Bysouth et al., 1995). On the other hand, Ash et al. (1999a, b) suggested that the Granite Mountain batholith is part of the Mesozoic Quesnel Terrane and that the batholith was faulted against Cache Creek rocks in post-Triassic time. Ductile shear zones and the associated post-mineralization deformation within the Gibraltar deposit would have formed during this tectonic event. Recent mapping by Schiarizza (2014; 2015) demonstrated that the batholith intruded Nicola Group rocks of Quesnel Terrane, confirming that the batholith does not belong to old Cache Creek Terrane.

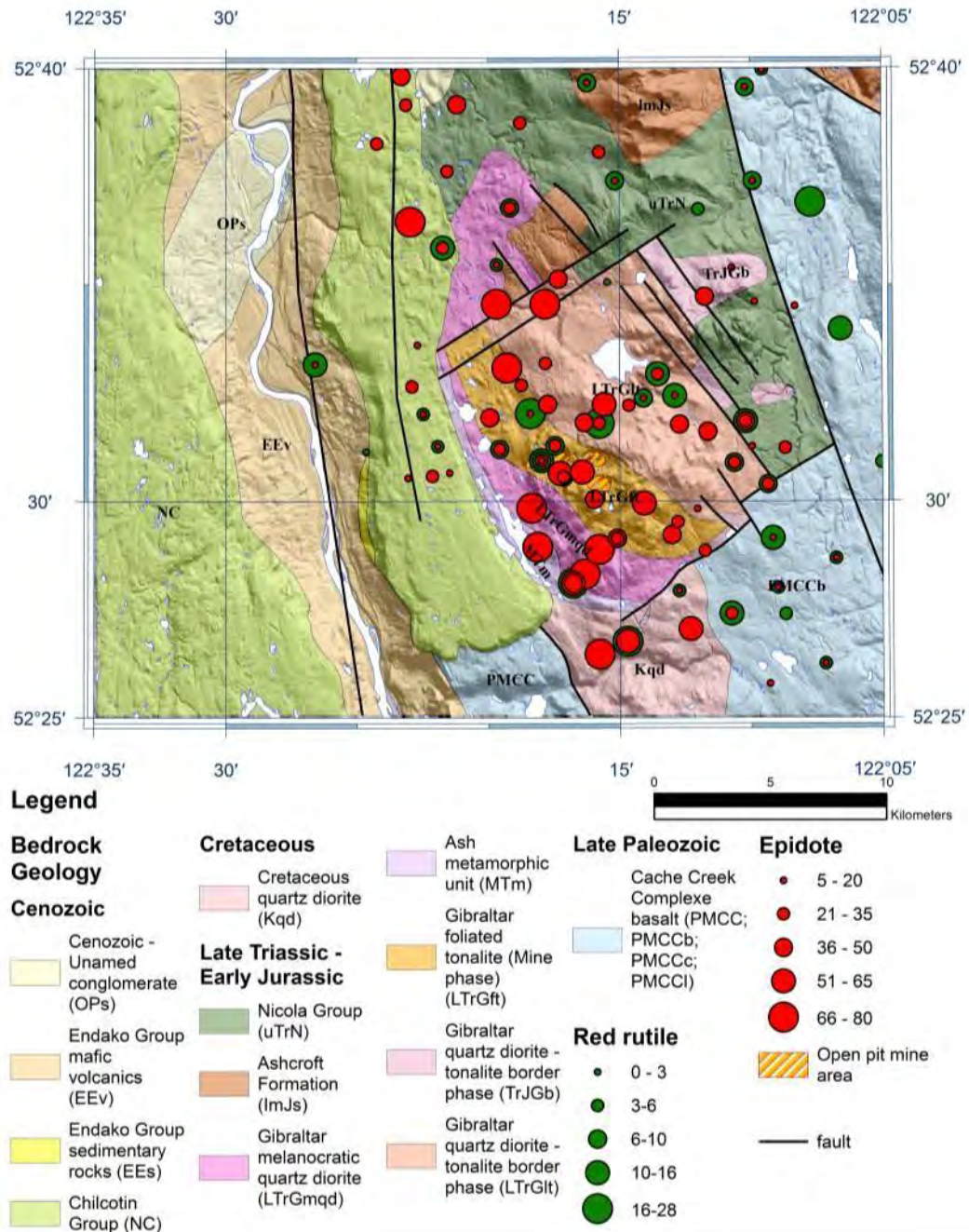


Figure 1. Bedrock geological map and the abundance of epidote and red rutile in tills in the study area. Epidote values are reported as percent of grains of heavy minerals (>3.2 g/cm³) in size fractions ranging from 0.25 to 0.5 mm. Rutile is reported as the number of grains recovered from 10 kg till samples. Abbreviations, PM: Cache Creek basalt complex, EEs: Endako Group sedimentary rocks. EEv: Endako Group mafic volcanic rocks, Kqd: Cretaceous quartz diorite, LTrGlt: Gibraltar leucocratic tonalite (Granite Mtn phase), LTrGmqd: Gibraltar quartz diorite - tonalite border phase; MTm: Ash metamorphic unit, NC: Chilcotin Group, OPs: Cenozoic sedimentary rocks, TrJGb:

Gibraltar tonalite border phase, ImJs: Ashcroft Formation, UtrN: Nichola Group volcanics. (modified after Plouffe et al., 2014).

The volcanic rocks of the Nicola Group are mostly pale green, fine to medium grained tuff and matrix-supported lapilli tuff breccias of basaltic to andesitic compositions (Schiarizza, 2015). The Nicola Group also contains intercalated siliclastic sedimentary rocks that are dominated by laminated mudstone-siltstone and lesser medium grained volcanic sandstone. These rocks in the proximity to the Granite Mountain batholith show evidence of ductile deformation and similar greenschist metamorphic conditions observed in the batholith.

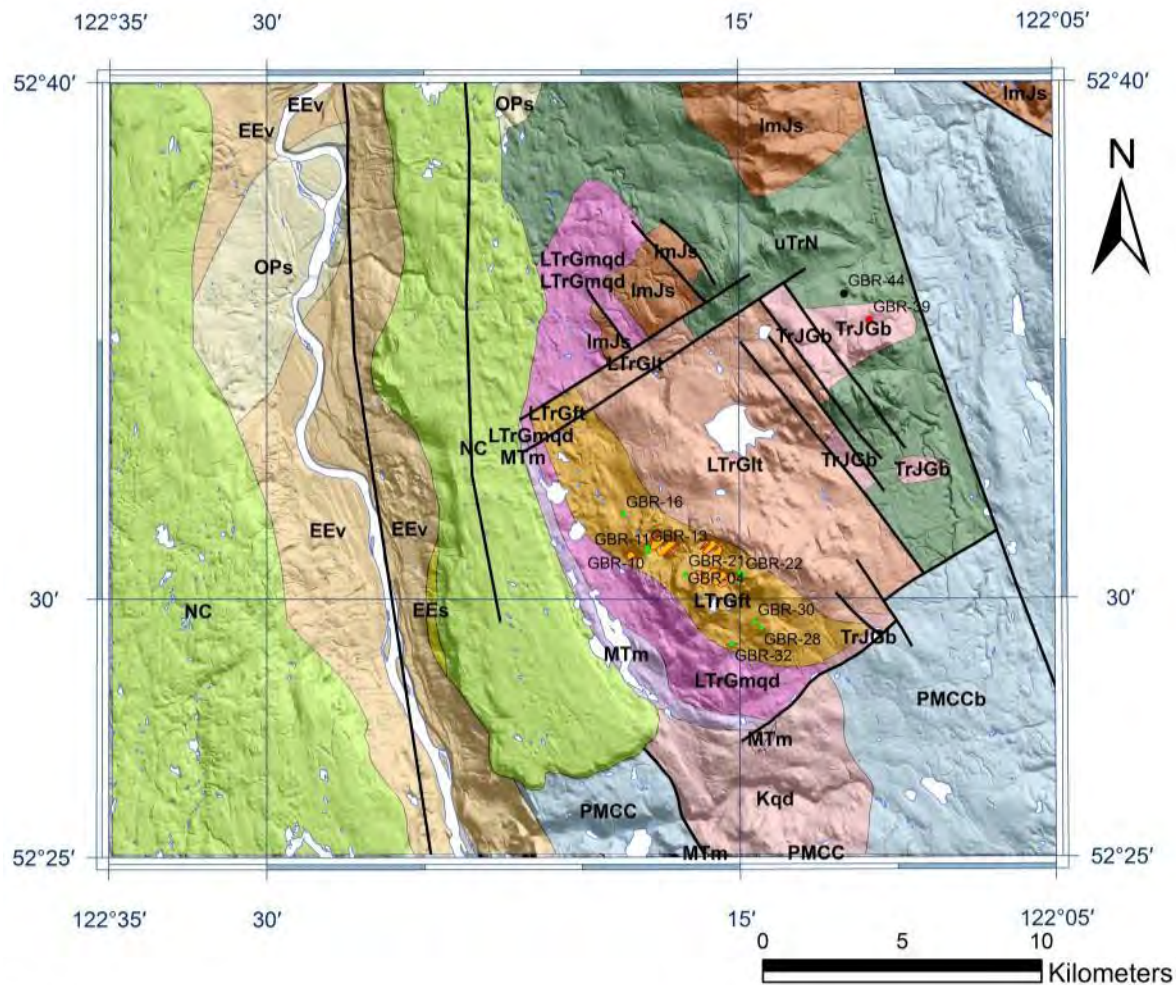
Conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone and slate present in the north central part of the batholith were originally considered to be the Ashcroft Formation (Logan et al., 2010). More recently, these rocks have been correlated to the Dragon Mountain succession which rests unconformably on the Nicola Group (Schiarizza, 2014).

Geology of the Gibraltar deposit

The Gibraltar mine is a Cu-Mo deposit and is the second largest open pit mine in Canada. The mine initially opened in 1972 and processed ore at 36,000 tons/day with 0.3% Cu. In 1996, total geological tonnage (past production plus reserves) of the mine was estimated to be 1,229 Mt ore with 0.3 % Cu (3.69 Mt Cu; Grunsky et al., 1996). It closed in 1999 and reopened in 2004 after realizing the unexploited resource of this deposit. As of 2015, ore extracted from the Gibraltar deposit is estimated to be in excess of 749 Mt at 0.256 wt. % Cu (total 1.92 Mt Cu) and 0.008 wt. % Mo (Taseko website [2015 http://www.tasekomines.com/gibraltar](http://www.tasekomines.com/gibraltar)).

Reserves and Resources of the Gibraltar deposit, December 31, 2014				
	Size (Mt)	Grade (wt%)		Tonnage of Cu (Mt)
		Cu	Mo	
Proven and probable reserves	679.481	0.256	0.008	1.74
Measured & Indicated Resources	990.646	0.254	0.008	2.51

Based on the cut-off of 0.15 wt% Cu (after Jones, 2015).



Legend

Faults



Gibraltar Area Geology

Cenozoic

- Cenozoic - Unnamed conglomerate, coarse clastic sedimentary rocks (OPs)
- Endako Group mafic volcanics (EEv)
- Endako Group sedimentary rocks (EEs)
- Chilcotin Group (NC)

Cretaceous

- Cretaceous quartz diorite (Kqd)

Late Triassic - Early Jurassic

- Nicola Group (uTrN)
- Ashcroft Formation (ImJs)
- Gibraltar melanocratic quartz diorite (LTrGmqd)
- Ash metamorphic unit (MTm)
- Gibraltar foliated tonalite (Mine phase) (LTrGft)
- Gibraltar quartz diorite - tonalite border phase (TrJGb)
- Gibraltar quartz diorite - tonalite border phase (LTrGlt)

Late Paleozoic

- Cache Creek Complex basalt (PMCC; PMCCb; PMCCc; PMCCi)
- Open pit mining area

Figure 2. Location map of the Gibraltar Cu-Mo mine and the bedrock geology of the area. Small green circles show the locations of the samples. Bedrock geological map simplified from Ash et al. (1999a), Massey et al. (2005) and Schiarizza (2014).

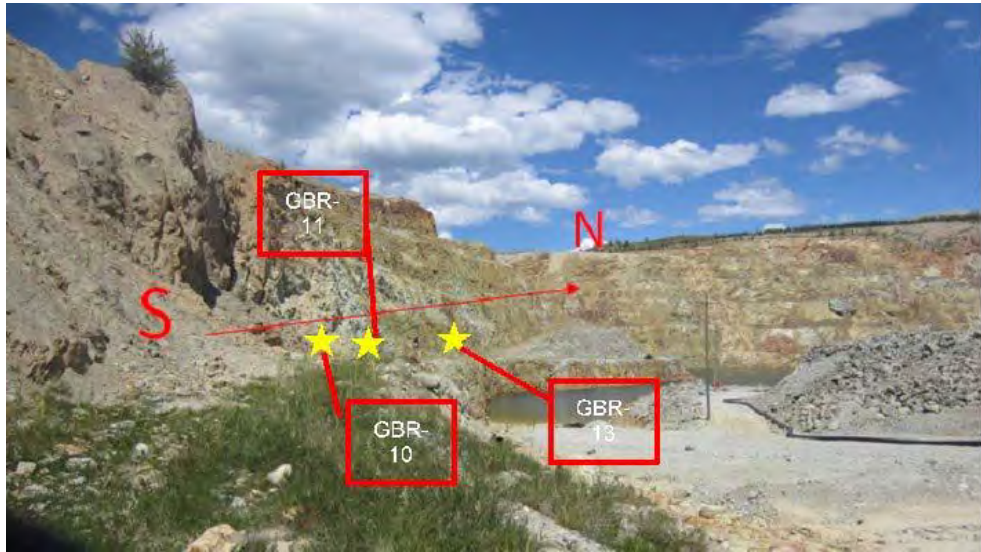


Figure 3. Photograph of the west wall of the East pit at Gibraltar mine, both diorite (GBR-13) and leucocratic tonalite (GBR-11) samples were taken along this traverse including one epidote- and rutile rich sample (GBR-10). The area is moderately mineralized with visible Cu sulphide minerals and oxidation of sulphides due to weathering from the surface. Epidote appears stable during the weathering and is omnipresent along the traverse. Distances between GBR-10 and -11 and between GBR-11 and GBR-13 are 28 m and 118 m, respectively.



Figure 4. Epidote veining (pointed with a pencil) and dissemination of chlorite-rich aggregates in the leucocratic tonalite phase of Granite Mountain batholith. Sample GBR-30 was collected at this location. Location: Easting 0551505 Northing 5816016 (NAD 83).



Figure 5. Outcrop at sample site GBR-39. Note the wide irregular epidote veining in leucocratic tonalite of the Granite Mountain batholith. Location: Easting 0555489 Northing 5826958 (NAD 83).

Methodology

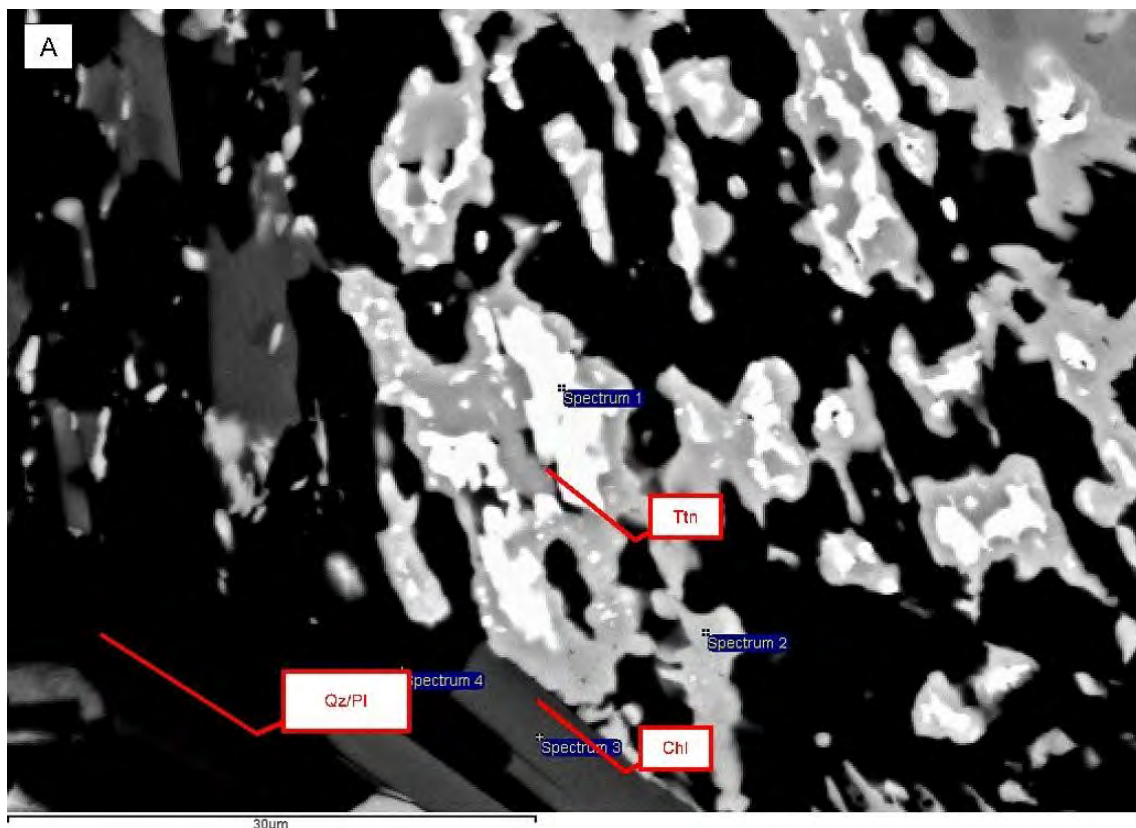
Petrographic studies using plane polarized and cross polarized transmitted and reflected light microscopy was carried out on 13 representative thin sections for this study. Chemical compositions of minerals were determined on 6 carbon-coated polished thin sections using a JEOL 6610LV scanning electron microscope equipped with energy dispersive spectroscopy (SEM-EDS) at the University of Ottawa. Total Fe content is expressed as FeO(t).

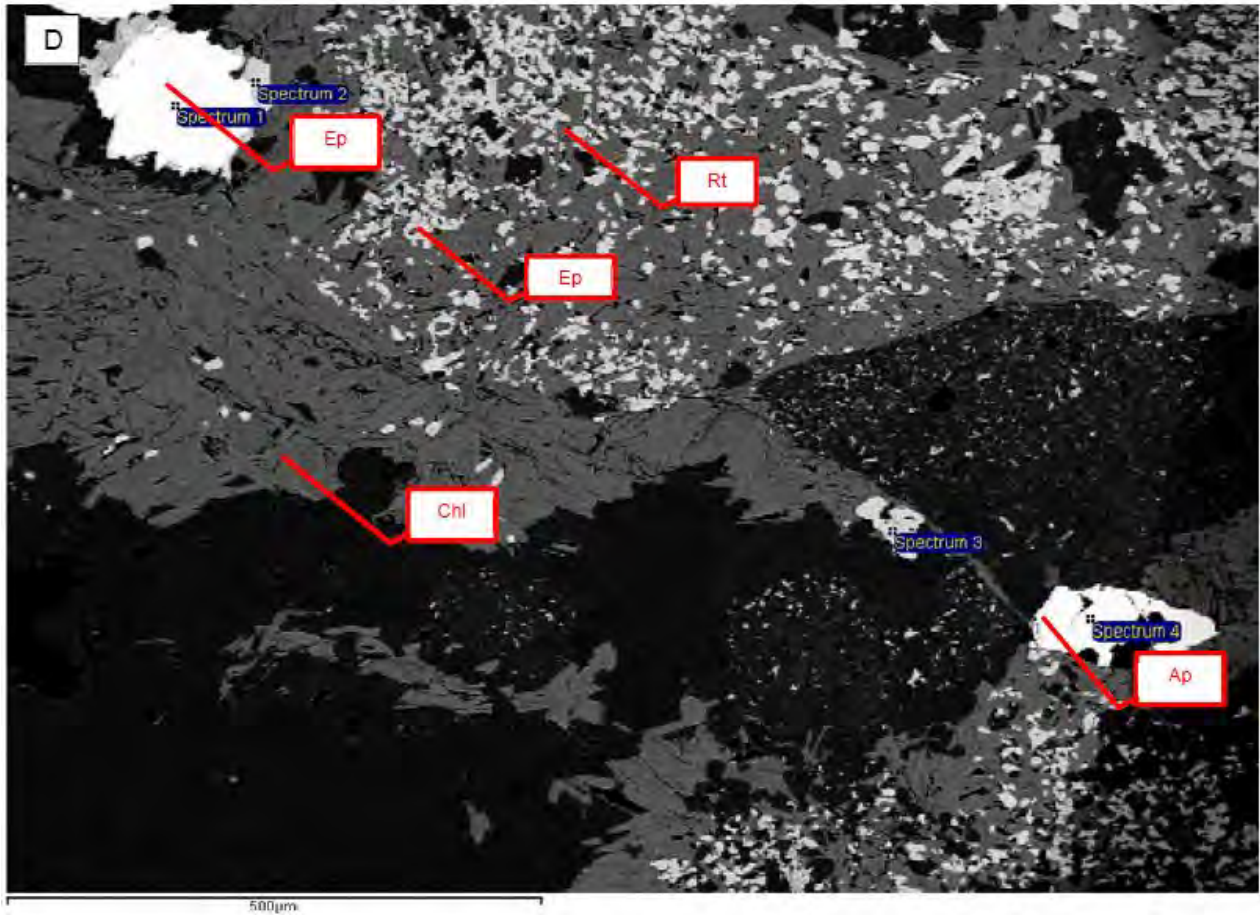
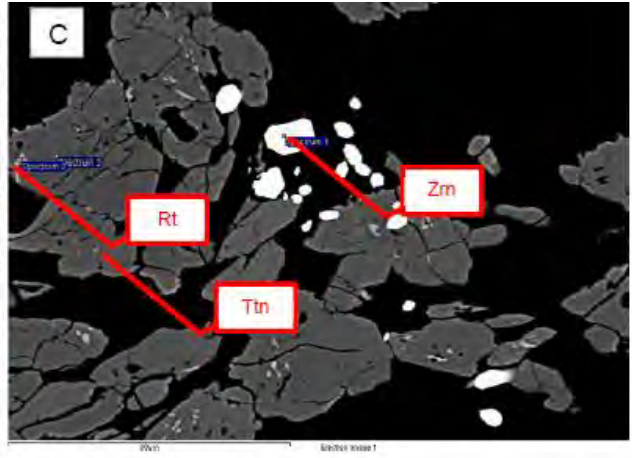
Granite Mountain batholith

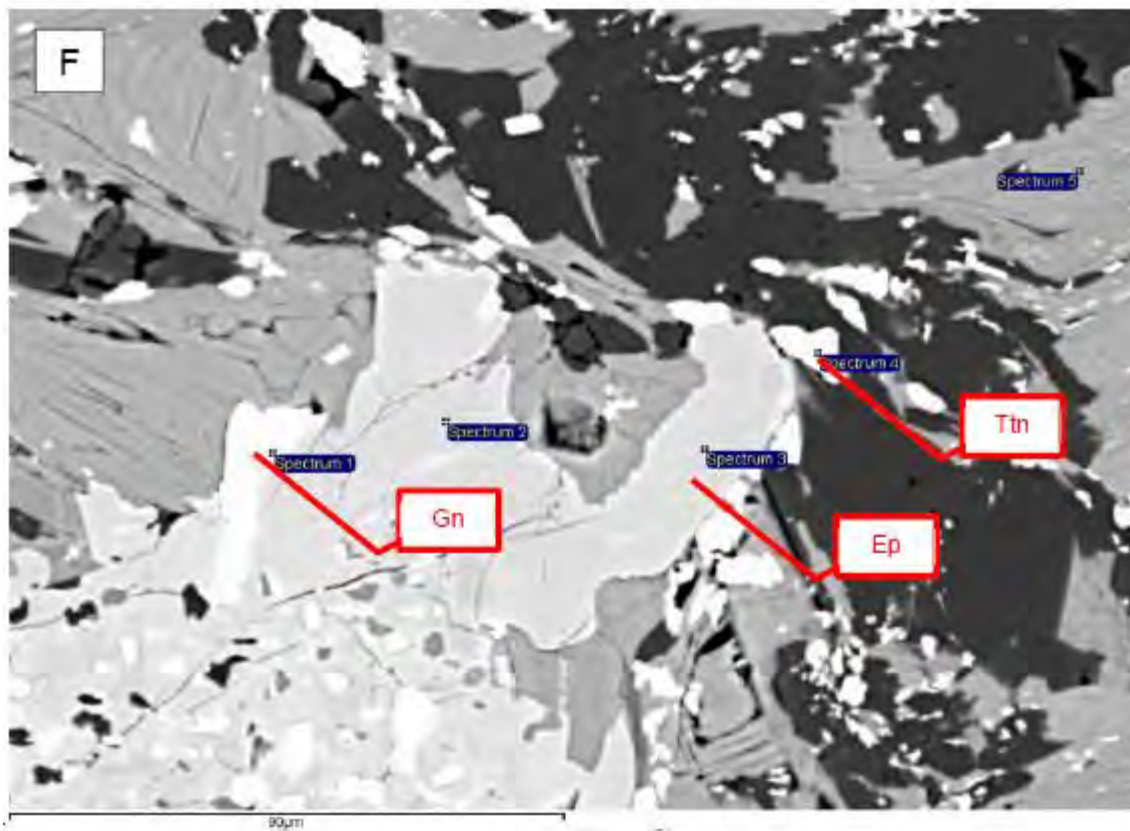
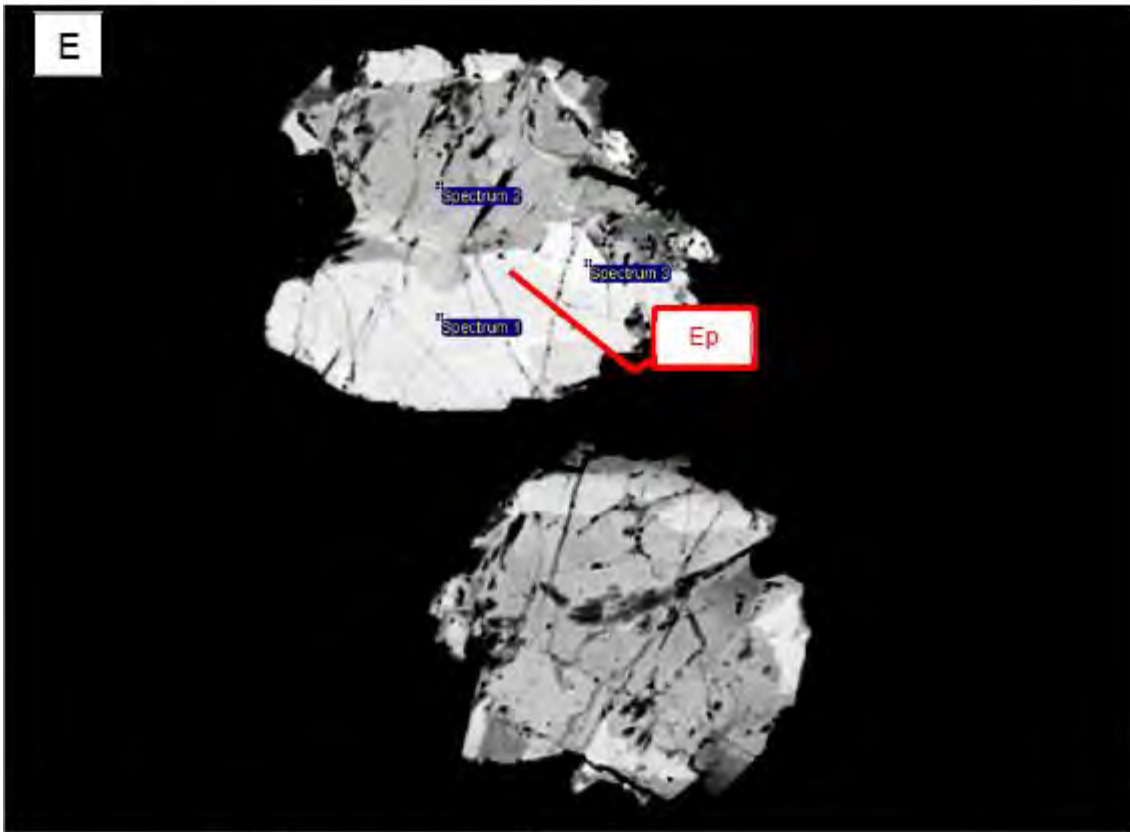
Lithology and igneous mineralogy

The rocks of the batholith in the area are mostly tonalite (Figs. 3, 4 and 5) with minor variation in abundance of quartz, plagioclase and hornblende. Some parts of the batholith are quartz diorite (Fig. 2). Cobaltinitrite staining of saw-cut hand specimens of all samples confirms the absence of K-feldspar phenocrysts in all samples. Holocrystalline rocks contain plagioclase phenocrysts (> 5 mm) and

quartz. Pegmatitic rocks are composed of coarse-crystalline quartz (< 20 mm) and plagioclase (< 20 mm). The igneous mineral assemblage is plagioclase + quartz ± biotite ± hornblende ± apatite ± zircon (Figs. 6 B, C). Epidote appears to be an alteration product, but some coarse-grained crystals and inclusions in plagioclase are possibly magmatic, as magmatic epidote has been reported in tonalitic rocks in many areas (*e.g.*, Schmidt and Poli, 2004; Masumoto et al., 2014). Some samples do not contain hornblende or biotite phenocrysts, but there is the evidence for pseudomorphic replacement of hornblende and biotite by chlorite. Pseudomorphs retain cleavages and crystal habits of the original igneous minerals. Some contain grains of columnar apatite (< 0.5 mm) and euhedral zircon (< 0.5 mm).







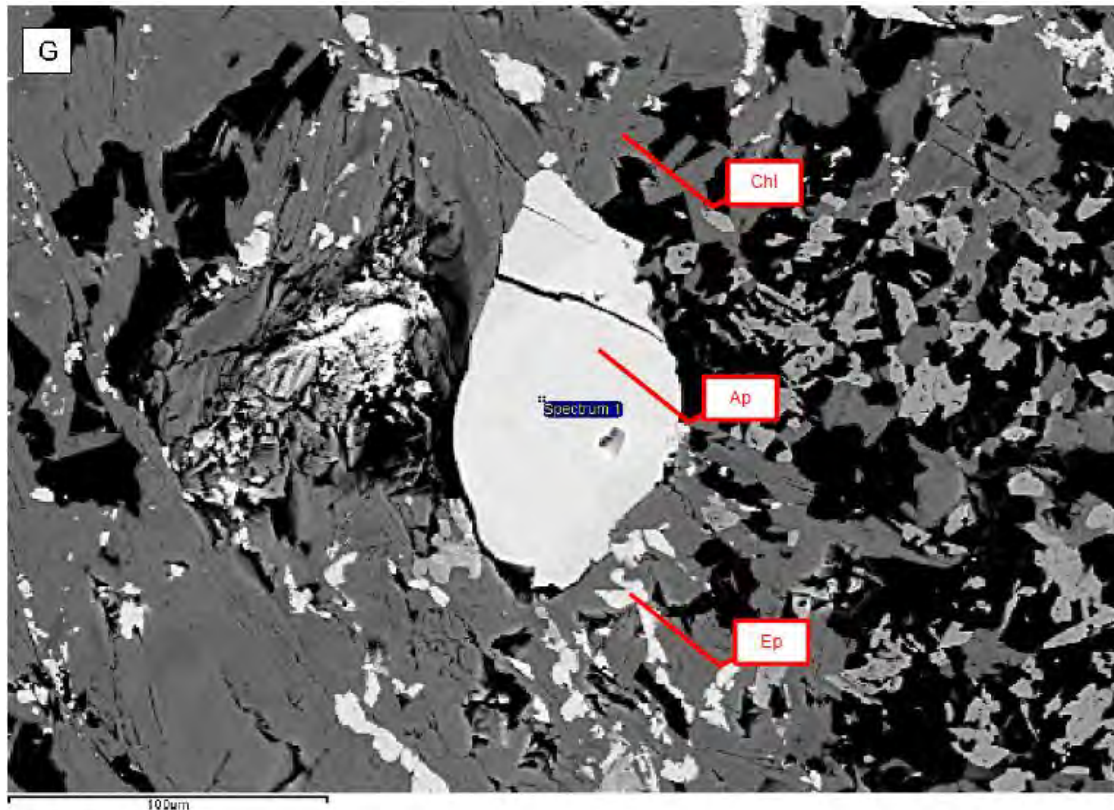


Figure 6. Backscattered electron images showing the common occurrences of titanite, rutile, and epidote. (A) Common occurrence of titanite (Ttn) around rutile (Rt) within aggregates of chlorite Chl). The aggregates are in the groundmass of quartz (Qz) and plagioclase (Pl), sample GBR-04. (B) epidote (Ep) and zircon (Zrn) in sample GBR-28, (C) titanite (Ttn), rutile (Rt) and zircon (Zrn) in sample GBR-16. (D) La- and Ce-rich epidote (Ep) within an aggregate of chlorite (Chl) in the top left and apatite (Ap) bottom right, the epidote contains 6.2 wt %La₂O₃ and 10.6 wt.%Ce₂O₃ (Analysis point 6 of Table 1), sample GBR-28. (E) Compositional zoning of REE-rich epidote (Ep). Greater abundance of La and Ce in brighter parts and the composition is close to the end member component of allanite with 5.04 wt.% La₂O₃ and 14.7 wt.% Ce₂O₃. (Analysis point 9 in Table 1). Dark part still contains significant light REE; 5.41 wt.% La₂O₃ and 11.1 wt.% Ce₂O₃ (Analysis point 7 of Table 1), sample GBR-28. (F) galena (Gn) within an aggregate of chlorite (Chl), epidote (Ep), and titanite (Ttn), sample GBR-04. (G) a subhedral apatite (Ap) within an aggregate of chlorite (Chl) and epidote (Ep) in sample GBR-04.

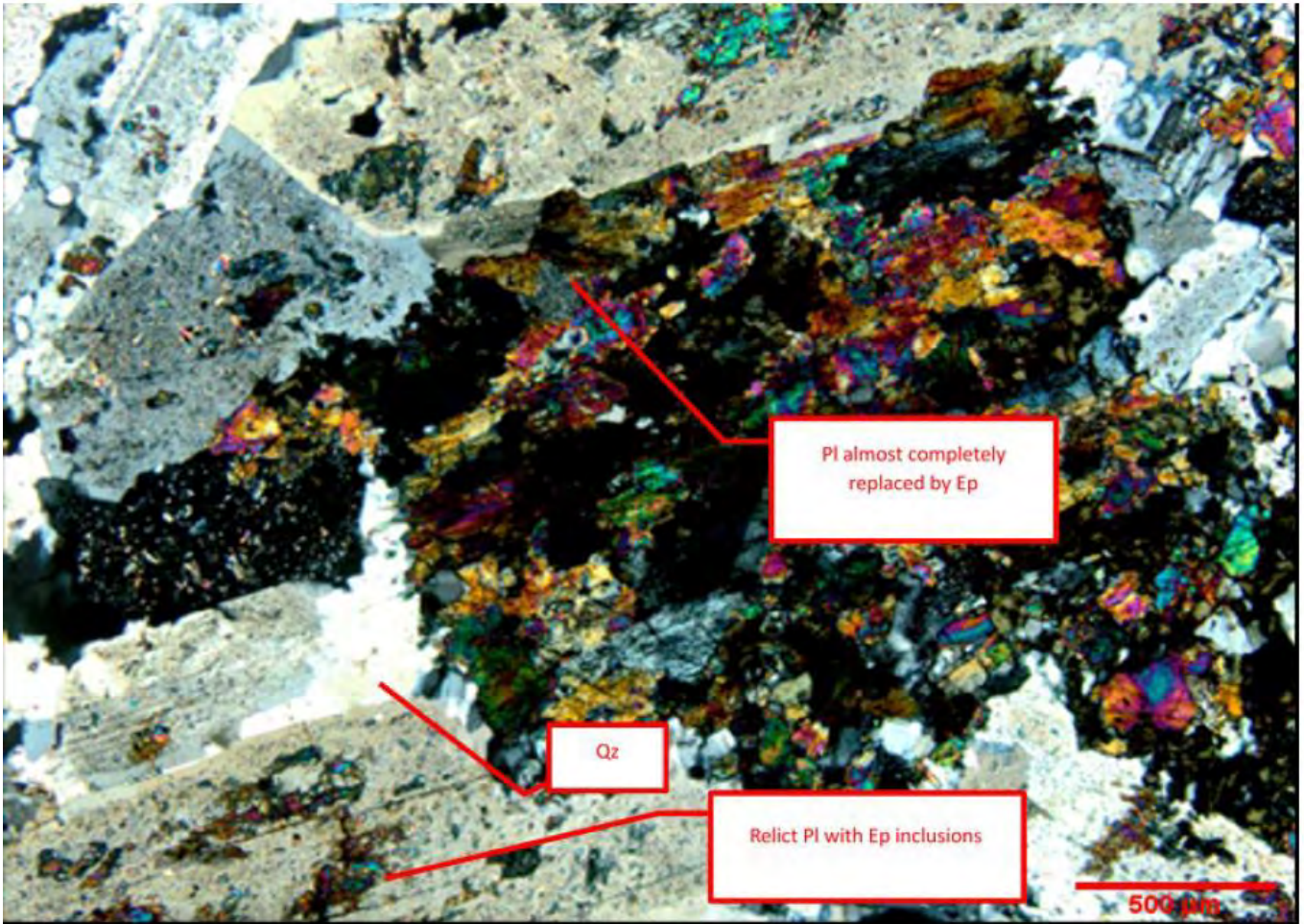
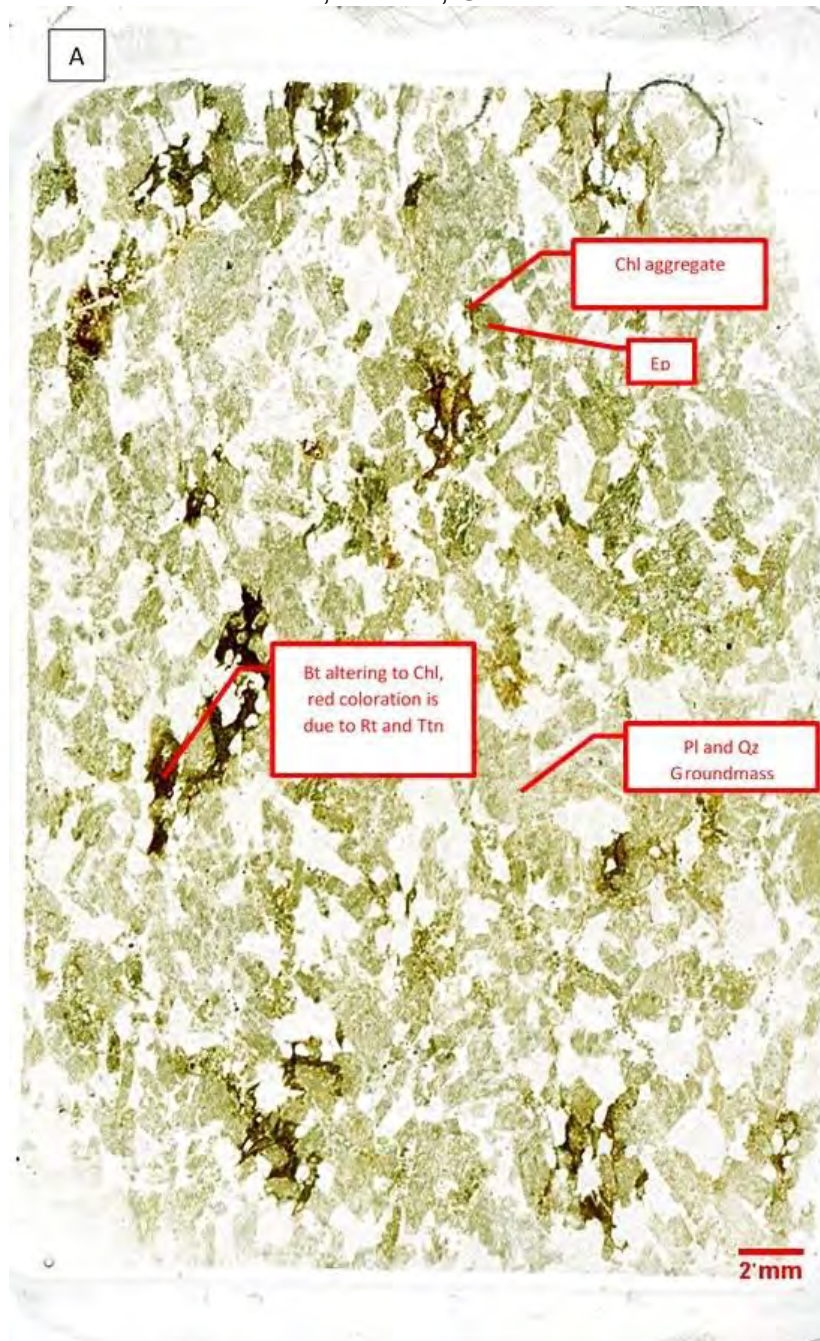


Figure 7. A photomicrograph of the area of plagioclase-rich tonalite (sample GBR-16) in the thin section shown in Fig. 8 C under cross polarized light. The sample GBR-16 was collected along the Gibraltar Mine Road at Easting of 0546717 and Northing of 5819933.

Thin Section Photographs

GBR-10

Easting 0547585, northing 5818572
West wall, East Pit, Gibraltar mine



Epidote-rich tonalite

Igneous minerals:

Plagioclase (Pl)-quartz (Qz) –biotite (Bt; partially replaced by chlorite (Chl), rutile (Rt) and titanite (Ttn).

Hornblende is not observed

Alteration minerals:

Chlorite dissemination and replacing biotite.

Epidote (Ep) within plagioclase crystals.

Apatite or zircon are not observed

GBR-04

Collected at
Easting 0548947, Northing 5817768
West wall, East Pit Gibraltar mine



Melanocratic tonalite

Igneous minerals:

Plagioclase (Pl)-quartz (Qz)-biotite (altered to chlorite)- Hornblende (Hbl); partially altered to chlorite)

Alteration Minerals:

Chlorite (Chl) –epidote (Ep) –titanite (Ttn)

Biotite (Bt)
pseudomorphically replaced by chlorite aggregates.

Hornblende (Hbl)
pseudomorphically replaced by chlorite aggregates.

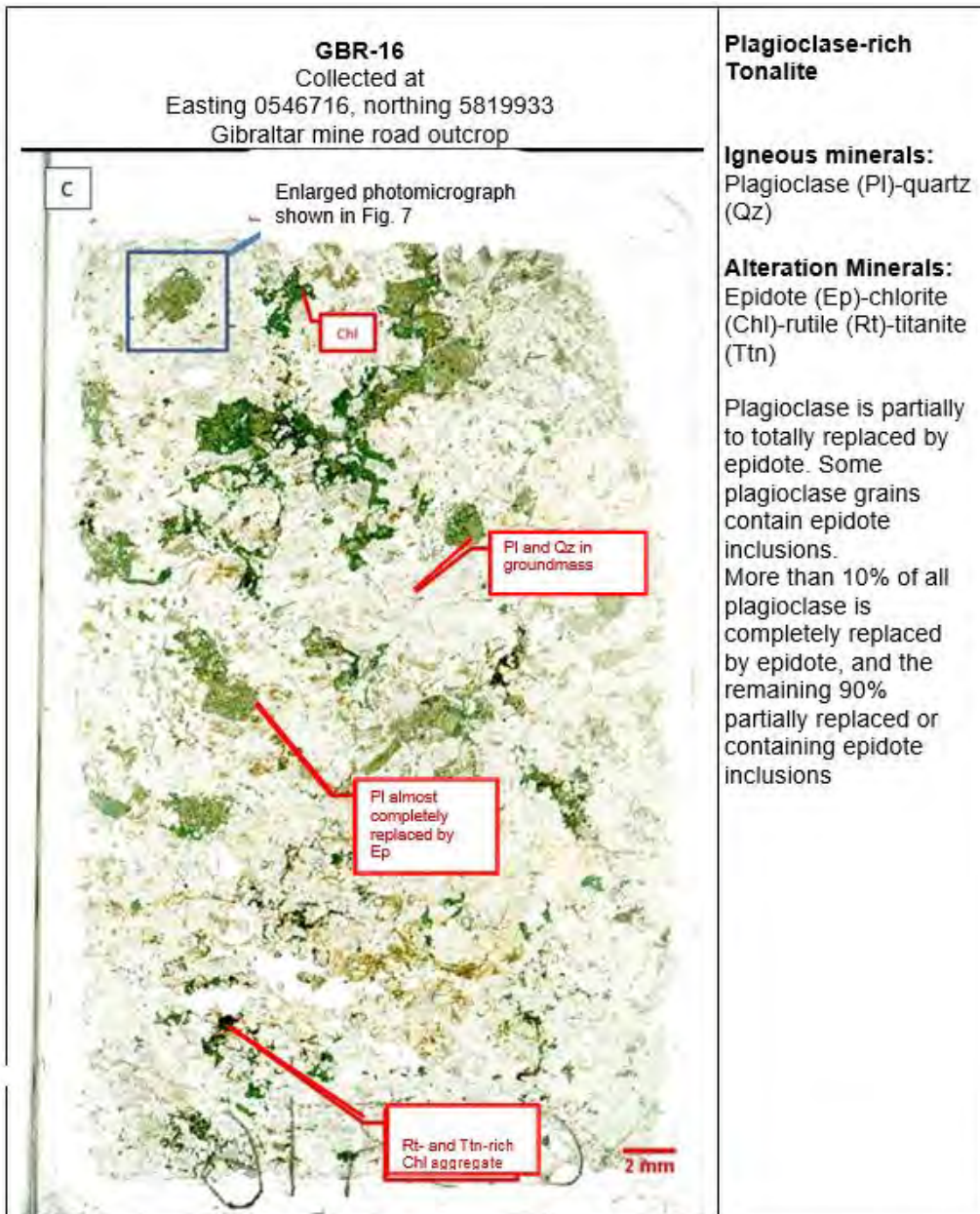


Figure 8. Photographs of thin sections of samples shown in Fig. 6. They illustrate the igneous assemblage of a plagioclase- rich tonalite in the Granite Mountain batholith. Igneous minerals, such as plagioclase, biotite and hornblende are commonly altered, and the relict morphologies give an indication of the primary mineralogy. (A) epidote-rich tonalite, sample GBR-10. (B) melanocratic tonalite, sample GBR-04. (C) leucocratic tonalite, sample GBR-16.

Hand sample photographs

Lithology and mineralogy

Easting 0547585, Northing 5818572
West wall, East Pit of the Gibraltar mine



Epidote-rich tonalite

Igneous minerals:

Plagioclase (Pl)-quartz (Qz)- biotite (Bt). Biotite is pseudomorphically replaced by chlorite aggregates.

No apatite and zircon grains are observed.

Alteration minerals:

Rutile (Rt) –titanite (Ttn) from biotite. White mica and disseminated epidote (Ep) after plagioclase

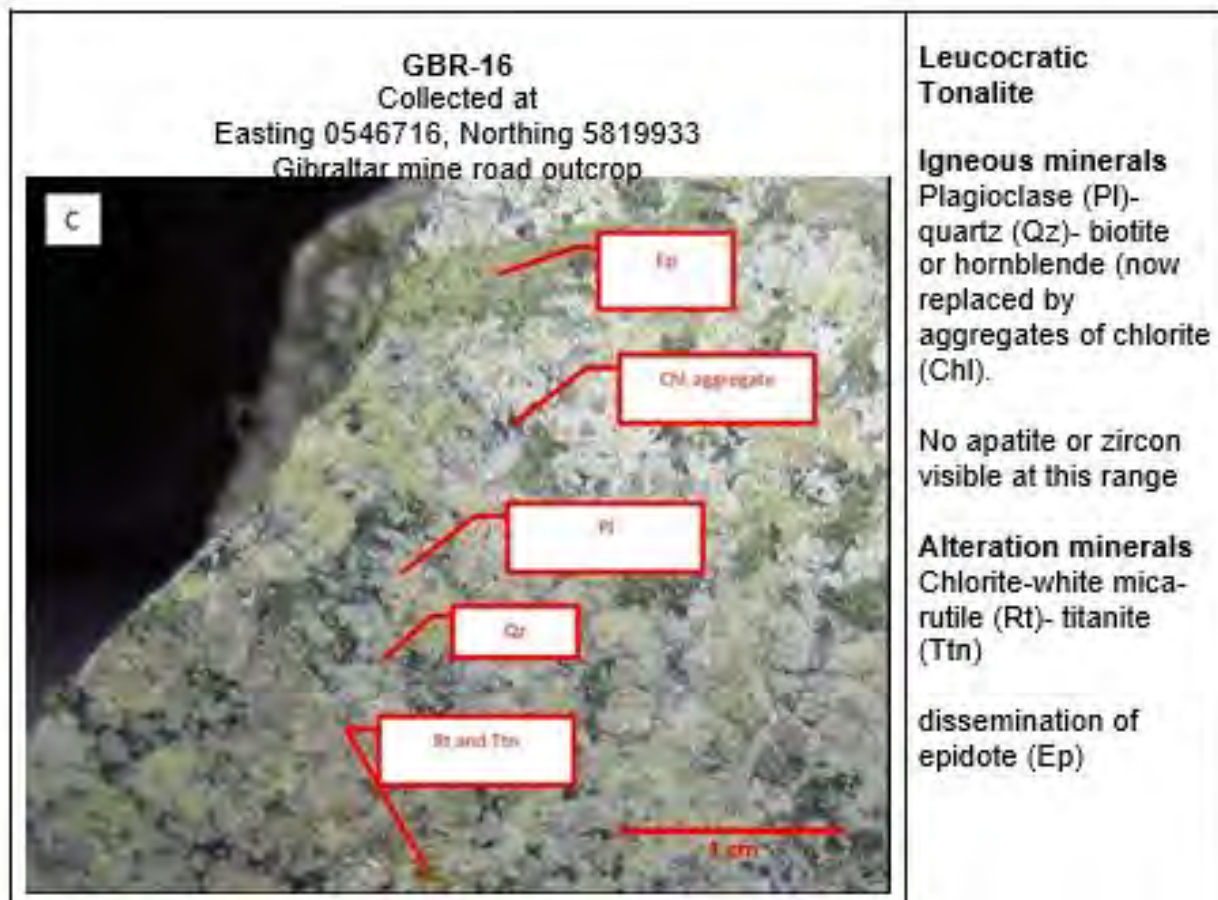


Figure 9. Representative hand sample photographs showing the primary igneous phases and alteration minerals in the tonalitic rock of the Granite Mountain batholith. (A) epidote-rich tonalite, sample GBR-10. (B) melanocratic tonalite, sample GBR-04. (C) Leucocratic tonalite, sample GBR-16.

Hydrothermal alteration and alteration minerals

The effect of hydrothermal alteration affects the minerals formed during the igneous processes. Some samples (Samples GBR-4, -10, -11, -13, and -22) are intensely altered and most igneous minerals are completely lost (Fig. 7).

Alteration assemblages

Three types of alteration assemblages are recognized. Type 1 contains epidote, chlorite, apatite, magnetite and hematite (samples GBR-21, -28, -39), Type 2 shows an assemblage of epidote, chlorite, illite, magnetite, titanite and calcite (sample GBR-30). Type 3 contains an assemblage of epidote, chlorite, illite, titanite, rutile and apatite (samples GBR-04, -11, -13, -16, and -22).

Alteration is intense along veins containing chlorite, epidote and quartz (Figs. 8 B, 9 B, 9 C). There are mono-mineralic veins of epidote, but most veins are composed of a mixture of epidote, chlorite ± quartz.

Epidote

Epidote with the general formula $A_2M_3[T_2O_7][TO_4](O,F)(OH,O)$, has a large compositional variation as the sites of A, M, and T can accommodate a variety of elements. The A site can accommodate Ca, Mn^{2+} , Na, Fe^{2+} , REEs, Sr, Ba, K, Pb and Th. The M site can accommodate Al, V, Cr, Ti, Fe^{3+} , Fe^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , Mn^{3+} , Mg and Zn. Within epidote supergroup, there are several subgroups and wide solid solution relationships among subgroups. Subgroups include allanite subgroup with high concentrations of Y and LREE, and piemontite subgroup for Mn-rich members (Armbruster et al., 2006). In hand specimens and thin sections under transmitted light, all grains in our samples are greenish colour and proper identification of epidote minerals requires quantitative analysis of their compositions. For the purpose of this open file report, all green coloured-minerals with optical properties of epidote in hand specimens and thin sections are named epidote including allanite (Figs. 9 D, E).

Epidote occurs in all samples from the study area in various degrees of modality (10- 30 vol. %). Epidote shows three types of occurrences. The first type occurs as isolated small (<100 µm) inclusions in plagioclase. The second type of epidote forms aggregates that are disseminated in rocks and plagioclase phenocrysts. Some plagioclase grains are completely replaced by aggregates of epidote while retaining the original tabular shape of plagioclase (Figs. 7, 8 C, 9 A, 9 B). Colours vary from pistachio green to pale greenish yellow even within individual grains in thin section under transmitted light. They are compositionally zoned with Fe-poor (12-15 wt%FeO(t)) cores and Fe-rich rims. The third type of epidote forms mono-mineralic veinlets (up to 10 cm in width; Figs. 4, 5). Narrow epidote veinlets are also observed in thin sections. Some veinlets cut through samples and fill fractures of minerals (Fig. 6 F). Such veinlets are commonly bordered by narrow (<0.1 mm) bands of chlorite or white mica (Fig. 6 F). Epidote in the veinlets is Fe-rich (12-15 wt% FeO(t)).

The compositions of twenty-four epidote grains were determined with SEM-EDS. Some approach the clinozoisite classification, however none of them qualify due to elevated $FeO_{(t)} > 10$ wt.% (Figs. 10 A, B). Several grains contain LREE, up to 9.54 wt.% La_2O_3 and 14.7 wt.% Ce_2O_3 , which qualifies them as allanite (Figs. 10 A, B). These grains have a brown-yellow hue in thin sections. Epidote in the Gibraltar mine pits is all low in LREE (<6 wt% total REE+Y oxides). The LREE-rich epidote

occurs >2 km south from the Gibraltar mine pits in samples GBR-16, -21 and -28 (Figs. 6 D, E). The spatial relationship between the occurrences of LREE-bearing epidote and the mineralization in the study area are consistent with the findings by Cooke et al. (2014) in the Baguio district of the Philippines, although the absolute concentrations of REE in our samples are much higher than those of their epidote samples. Cooke et al. (2014) reported low concentrations of LREE in epidote close to the mineralized areas and elevated concentrations of LREE (up to 1487 ppm La) in epidote farther outside the area surrounding the mineralization.

Table 1. Major element abundances of epidote expressed in wt. % determined with SEM-EDS.

Sample	Grain #	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	FeO _{(t)*}	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	SrO	Ce ₂ O ₃	La ₂ O ₃	Total
GBR-11	1	39.7	0.4	25.3	10.5	0.7	<0.1	23.5	<0.1	0	<0.1	<0.1	100.1
GBR-11	2	38.4	0.3	22.5	11.2	0.4	<0.1	21.6	<0.1	2.2	<0.1	<0.1	96.6
GBR-11	3	39.2	<0.1	24.9	11.4	0.6	<0.1	23.6	<0.1	0.3	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-32	4	39.9	<0.1	24.5	11.4	0.5	<0.1	23.6	<0.1	0	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-11	5	39.6	<0.1	23.9	11.6	1	<0.1	22.3	<0.1	0.8	<0.1	<0.1	99.2
GBR-11	6	39	0.5	22.6	11.6	0.3	<0.1	23.6	<0.1	2.5	<0.1	<0.1	100.1
GBR-11	7	38.4	0.4	22.4	11.8	0.5	<0.1	22	<0.1	2	<0.1	<0.1	97.5
GBR-32	8	40.1	<0.1	24.4	12.4	<0.1	<0.1	23	<0.1	0	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-32	9	42.5	<0.1	22.5	12.5	<0.1	<0.1	20.8	1.7	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-04	10	39.6	0.2	23.9	12.9	<0.1	<0.1	23.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-21	11	38.3	<0.1	22.1	12.9	<0.1	<0.1	17.1	<0.1	<0.1	5.6	<0.1	96
GBR-04	12	39.3	<0.1	23.7	13.1	<0.1	<0.1	23.9	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-28	13	39.5	<0.1	23.6	13.1	0.4	<0.1	23.3	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.9

GBR-28	14	39.2	<0.1	23.7	13.3	0.5	<0.1	23.2	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-04	15	39.4	<0.1	22.9	13.7	<0.1	<0.1	23.6	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.6
GBR-11	16	39.5	0.6	22.7	13.7	<0.1	<0.1	23.4	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-21	17	38.9	0	22.9	14.4	<0.1	<0.1	23.9	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100.1
GBR-32	18	38.9	0.3	22.2	14.7	<0.1	<0.1	23.9	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-21	19	39.9	<0.1	22.2	15	<0.1	<0.1	23	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100.1
GBR-11	20	39.3	<0.1	22.1	15.5	<0.1	<0.1	23.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-11	21	38.8	<0.1	21.7	15.6	0.2	<0.1	23.6	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-28	22	34.4	<0.1	15.9	17.5	0.9	<0.1	14.2	0.9	<0.1	10.1	6.2	100.1
GBR-28	23	34.7	<0.1	15.4	17.5	0.9	1	13.9	<0.1	<0.1	11.1	5.4	99.9
GBR-28	24	33.7	<0.1	13.1	18.5	1	1.3	11.8	<0.1	<0.1	11.1	9.5	100
GBR-28	25	34.3	<0.1	12.5	19.4	1	1.6	11.5	<0.1	<0.1	14.7	5	100

*Total Fe expressed as FeO(t)

The concentration values are based on the sum of anhydrous components to be 100 %.

Description of analyzed areas:

1= Outer darker rim of zoned grain (back scatter image), surrounded by other unzoned epidote grains within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz vein, 2= zoned epidote grain (inner brighter core (back scatter image), surrounded by other epidote grains (unzoned), within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz rich vein, 3= zoned epidote grain (outer darker rim, back scatter image), surrounded by other epidote grains (unzoned), within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz vein, 4= zoned epidote grain (inner brighter core, back scatter image), surrounded by other epidote grains (unzoned), within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz rich vein, 5= zoned epidote grain (inner brighter core, back scatter image), surrounded by other epidote grains (unzoned), within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz rich vein, 6= Unzoned epidote grain, in contact with darker epidote grains (back scatter image) with no detectable REEs and chlorite and quartz, 7= Zoned epidote grained (darker part, back scatter image) in contact with quartz grains, 8= Zoned epidote grained (brighter part, back scatter image) in contact with quartz grains, 9= Zoned epidote grained (brightest part, back scatter image) in contact with quartz grains, 10=Unzoned epidote grain in contact with titanite grain within chlorite aggregate, 11= Zoned epidote grain (inner brighter core, back scatter image), surrounded by other epidote grains (unzoned), within a chlorite and epidote rich quartz rich vein,

12= Unzoned tabular epidote grain in contact with plagioclase grains and chlorite grains, 13= Elongate epidote grain within a relict plagioclase grain, 14= Unzoned epidote grain in contact with plagioclase and chlorite within a chlorite aggregate, 15= Small epidote grain (<0.5um long) surrounded by chlorite in a quartz/chlorite vein, 16= Unzoned epidote grain in contact with chlorite within a chlorite aggregate, 17= Unzoned isolated epidote grain surrounded by chlorite in a large chlorite aggregate (1mm across), 18= Unzoned epidote on the fringe of a larger Ce/La rich epidote grain in contact with chlorite in a chlorite aggregate, 19= Unzoned epidote grain in contact with quartz and plagioclase grains, 20= Unzoned epidote grain in contact with plagioclase and chlorite grains within a chlorite aggregate, 21= Unzoned epidote grain in contact with plagioclase and other epidote grains in an epidote aggregate, 22= Unzoned elongate epidote grain within a relict plagioclase grain, 23= Unzoned elongate epidote grain within a relict plagioclase grain, 24= Unzoned epidote grain surrounded by chlorite, in a chlorite rich aggregate that contains titanite, 25= Unzoned epidote grain surrounded by chlorite in a chlorite/epidote aggregate, this aggregate contains zoned epidote grains in its center.

Titanite

Titanite has two populations; a discrete phenocryst of igneous origin and an alteration product of biotite. Two types of titanite show distinctly different crystal habits, optical properties and compositions. Igneous titanite contains lower Al₂O₃ (1.20- 1.21 wt. %) whereas hydrothermal titanite contain high Al₂O₃ ranging from 2 to 6 wt. % (Fig. 10 C). Igneous titanite forms euhedral tabular crystals (>1 mm long and >0.3 mm wide), shows brown hue with high relief. Igneous titanite is observed in samples GBR-13, -16, and -22. Hydrothermal titanite is observed in most samples within the aggregates of chlorite and epidote, and in chlorite-quartz veins. It forms needles (<50µm in length, <10µm in width; Figs. 8, 9 A). Hydrothermal titanite is almost opaque in thin sections under transmitted light.

Table 2. Major element concentrations of titanite in wt.%.

Sample	Grain#	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	FeO _{(t)*}	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	V ₂ O ₃	Total
Alteration Titanite											
GBR-	1	36.7	31.2	5.72	1.9	<0.1	<0.1	23.4	1.18	<0.1	100.1
GBR-	2	32	32.7	4.99	1.8	<0.1	<0.1	28.6	<0.1	<0.1	100.09
GBR-	3	31.6	32.7	4.95	2.9	<0.1	0.96	25.9	<0.1	1.05	100.06
GBR-	4	31.5	33.2	5.4	1.9	<0.1	0.56	27.5	<0.1	<0.1	100.06
GBR-	5	30.3	33.6	5.1	4.4	<0.1	3.13	23.5	<0.1	<0.1	100.03
GBR-	6	31.6	34.2	4.92	0.9	<0.1	<0.1	28.3	<0.1	<0.1	99.92
GBR-	7	39.5	34.4	1.14	1.5	<0.1	<0.1	23.4	<0.1	<0.1	99.94
GBR-	8	29.9	34.9	5.76	1.6	<0.1	0.57	27.2	<0.1	<0.1	99.93
GBR-	9	31.3	35.7	4.08	0.5	<0.1	<0.1	28.4	<0.1	<0.1	99.98
GBR-	10	31.7	36	3.04	1.8	0.22	1.14	26.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-	11	31.8	36.6	1.92	1.9	<0.1	0.6	27.2	<0.1	<0.1	100.02
GBR-	12	31.2	37	2.6	0.9	<0.1	<0.1	28.2	<0.1	<0.1	99.9

GBR-	13	30.9	37.7	3.09	1.7	<0.1	<0.1	26.6	<0.1	<0.1	99.99
GBR-	14	30.6	37.7	3.23	2.1	<0.1	<0.1	26.4	<0.1	<0.1	100.03
GBR-	15	30.9	38.1	2.24	1	<0.1	<0.1	27.7	<0.1	<0.1	99.94
GBR-	16	31	38.2	2.03	1.1	<0.1	<0.1	27.6	<0.1	<0.1	99.93
GBR-	17	30.8	38.3	1.78	0.8	<0.1	<0.1	28.3	<0.1	<0.1	99.98
GBR-	18	32.2	38.3	1.4	1.5	<0.1	<0.1	26.6	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-	19	31	38.5	3	1.6	<0.1	0.41	25.6	<0.1	<0.1	100.11
Igneous Titanite											
GBR-	20	30.9	38.7	1.3	1.9	<0.1	<0.1	27.1	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-	21	30.1	38.7	1.2	2.4	<0.1	<0.1	27.7	<0.1	<0.1	100.1
GBR-	22	30.3	38.8	1.3	1.8	<0.1	<0.1	27	<0.1	<0.1	99.2
GBR-	23	31	38.8	1.6	0.5	<0.1	<0.1	28.1	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-	24	31.9	38.9	1.5	1.1	<0.1	<0.1	26.5	<0.1	<0.1	99.9
GBR-	25	30.6	39.1	1.2	1.5	<0.1	<0.1	27.6	<0.1	<0.1	100
GBR-	26	30.7	39.5	1.2	1.4	<0.1	<0.1	27.2	<0.1	<0.1	100

**Total Fe expressed as FeO (t)*

Description of analyzed areas:

1= elongate grain in contact with quartz and chlorite grains, 2= isolated grain in contact with chlorite grains within a chlorite- epidote-rich quartz vein, 3= elongate grain within a titanite aggregate in contact with chlorite grains, 4= tabular grain within a titanite aggregate in contact with other grains and rutile gains, 5= isolated grain surrounded by chlorite grains within a quartz vein, 6= isolate grain in contact with quartz and epidote within a chlorite-epidote rich quartz vein, 7= grain fracture filling fractures in a quartz grain, 8= Titanite grain within the centre of a chlorite aggregate within a quartz vein, in contact with rutile in the centre of the grain, 9= subhedral grain within a chlorite aggregate in a quartz veins, 10= isolated grain surrounded by chlorite grains within a quartz vein, 11= isolated grain surrounded by chlorite grains within a quartz vein, 12=isolated grain surrounded by chlorite grains within a quartz vein, 13= subhedral grain in the centre of a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 14= subhedral grain in the centre of a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 15= subhedral grain in the centre of a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 16= subhedral grain in the centre of a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 17= subhedral grain in contact with epidote and chlorite, 18= isolated grain surrounded by chlorite grains within a quartz vein,19= grain in contact with quartz containing rutile in its centre, 20= large euhedral titanite (<100 µm) in contact with quartz, 21= large euhedral titanite (<400 µm) in contact with quartz, 22= large euhedral titanite (<400 µm) in contact with quartz, 23= Small euhedral grain in contact with quartz and titanite, 24= subhedral grain with chalcopyrite and pyrite inclusions in contact with quartz and chlorite, 25= large euhedral grain (600 µm) surrounded by plagioclase and quartz, 26= large euhedral grain (600 µm) surrounded by plagioclase and quartz

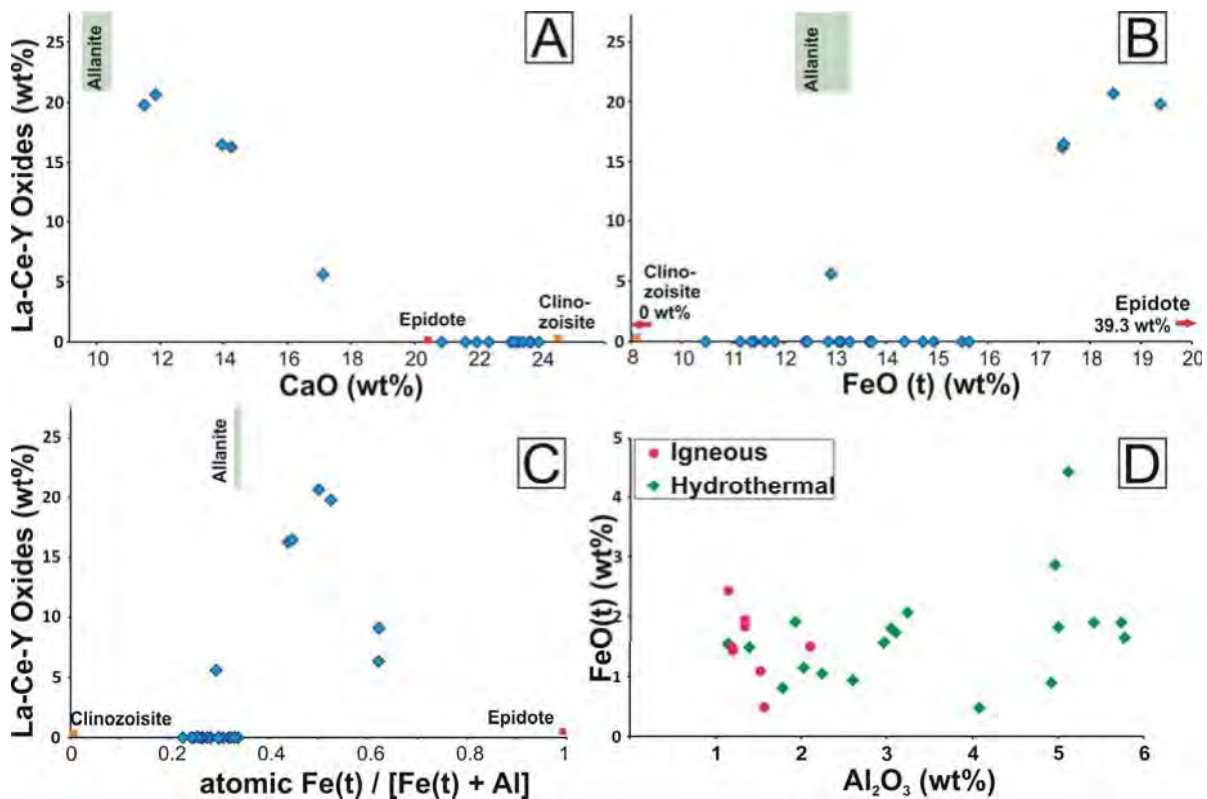


Figure 10. Binary plots of major element compositions of epidote (A, B, C) and titanite (D) in the samples. They show the end member components of epidote $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{SiO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, clinozoisite $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_3(\text{SiO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$, and allanite $\text{CaMA}_2\text{Fe}^{\text{III}}(\text{SiO}_4)_3(\text{OH})$ where M is La, Ce or Y.

Rutile

Rutile in the samples is an alteration product of biotite. Rutile occurs with titanite in the aggregates of chlorite and epidote, and in chlorite-epidote veins as small elongated crystals (<20 μm in length) within titanite aggregates in most cases. Rutile grains are opaque in thin sections under transmitted light and are disseminated within dark brown to opaque aggregates of titanite (Fig. 6 A). This makes it difficult to observe red coloration of rutile in thin sections. Large (approx. 0.2 mm long and <0.1mm wide), subhedral and red-colored rutile crystals have been observed in chlorite and epidote aggregates in 3 samples (GBR-10, -16, and -28). Rutile contains minor Al_2O_3 (up to 0.3 wt.%) and CaO (up to 3.7 wt.%) suggesting it may be derived from titanite since rutile is rimmed by titanite within altered chlorite (Fig 6 A).

Table 3. Major element concentrations of rutile expressed in wt. %

Sample	Grain #	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	CaO	FeO _{(t)*}	Total
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GBR-04	1	1.4	96.5	0.3	1.2	0.5	99.9
GBR-	2	0.3	97.7	0.3	0.9	0.9	100.1
GBR-	3	1.8	95.8	0.2	1.6	0.6	100
GBR-	4	3.6	92.4	<0.1	3.7	0.4	100.1

*Total Fe expressed as FeO (t).

Description of analyzed areas:

1= Grain in the centre of a titanite grain within a quartz vein, 2= Grain in the centre of a titanite grain within a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 3= Grain in the centre of a titanite grain within a chlorite aggregate in a quartz vein, 4= Grain in the centre of a titanite grain within a quartz vein

Apatite

Apatite occurs in most samples (GBR-04, -10,-11,-13,-16,-21,-22,-30, and -32) and shows the typical bluish grey color in thin sections under crossed polarizers. It occurs within epidote-rich aggregates, relict plagioclase and the groundmass with plagioclase and quartz. Crystals are up to 100µm in length and are typically subhedral to anhedral (Fig. 6 G). Apatite grains in GBR-04, -13, -16, -28 and -30, are most likely primary igneous, as they occur as isolated euhedral crystal of approximately 100µm in length and 50µm in width, away from veins and intensely altered areas of samples. All grains have compositions close to the ideal formula of apatite. Several grains in Sample GBR-21 contain up to 0.4 wt. % MnO, which results in Mn/Ca molar ratios up to 0.006. Apatite composition in till and bedrock near porphyry deposits of British Columbia was studied by Rukhlov et al. (2016) and Bouzari et al. (2011). They found using EPMA technics on pristine apatite grains from till near Gibraltar that average Mn content yielded $\log fO_2$ -14.1 ±0.7 and apatite showed weak positive Ce anomalies (1.00 and 1.24) and strong negative Eu anomalies (0.11 and 0.47). They suggest that higher Mn content coupled with low Mg and Sr content and strong negative Eu anomalies points to a more fractionated magma.

Table 4. Apatite compositions expressed in wt %

Sample	Grain #	SiO ₂	FeO _{(t)*}	MnO	CaO	P ₂ O ₅	Total
GBR-	1	<0.1	0	<0.1	55.8	44.2	100
GBR-	2	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	55.1	43.9	99.2
GBR-	3	0.9	0.3	0.4	54.1	44.3	100
GBR-	4	1	<0.1	0.4	54.4	44.2	100

*Total Fe expressed as FeO (t)

Description of analyzed areas:

1= large subhedral grain (100 μ m in length) in a chlorite aggregate within a epidote quartz vein, 2= large subhedral grain (100 μ m in length) in a chlorite-epidote aggregate, 3= small grain (<50 μ m) surrounded by chlorite, 4= small isolate grain (<30 μ m) surrounded by quartz, 5= large euhedral grain (250 μ m in length) in contact with chlorite and epidote altered plagioclase.

Summary

This study shows an alteration assemblage of epidote, chlorite, rutile, titanite \pm magnetite, \pm hematite associated with the Gibraltar porphyry Cu-Mo deposits. Among these alteration minerals, epidote is ubiquitous throughout the Granite Mountain batholith.

Preliminary analyses of the compositions of epidote, titanite, and rutile show very large variations. Some epidote grains contain more than 10 wt.% Ce₂O₃ and more than 5 wt.% La₂O₃, approaching allanite. Based on a comparison with the reported epidote composition near porphyry mineralization, the Ce and La enrichment in epidote at Gibraltar could be a diagnostic feature of epidote associated with mineralization.

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Addendum: Origin of apatite clarification

Appendix 8 briefly discusses the origins of apatite. Apatite is wrongly placed within the alteration assemblage type 3 in the hydrothermal alteration and alteration minerals section above. If apatite was a hydrothermal product there would need to be a mineral with the chemical elements necessary to form it (eg. P and Ca). Many studies of porphyry-Cu deposit use apatite as an indicator of various magmatic processes (degree of assimilation/fractionation, characteristics of mantle fluids and magmatic oxidation states; Bouzari et al., 2015 and references therein). Apatite is most likely magmatic in the GMB. However, apatite composition can be subsequently affected by hydrothermal fluids. A recent study of apatite from several porphyry-Cu deposits in British Columbia, Canada, found that magmatic apatite from unaltered and least altered rocks associated with these deposits was different (changes in luminescence, Mn, S, REE, Fe, Na, Cl content and Mn/Fe ratios) than apatite associated with potassic and sericite altered rocks (Bouzari et al., 2015).

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