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# UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TORINO

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**Texturally and compositionally non-equilibrated granulitized eclogite from Punta de Li Tulchi, Sardinian Variscan chain: a microstructural and thermodynamic study**

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**Metamorphic evolution of non-equilibrated granulitized eclogite from Punta de li Tulchi (Variscan Sardinia) determined through texturally controlled thermodynamic modelling**

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**ABSTRACT**

The metamorphic evolution of a granulitized eclogite from Punta de li Tulchi NE Sardinia, Italy, reconstructed utilizing a combined microstructural (symplectitic, coronitic and kelyphytic features) and thermodynamic approach, involved a complex metamorphic history with equilibrium attained only at a domainal scale. Microstructural analysis and mineral zoning allow recognition of reactants and products involved in successive balanced mineral reactions. The  $P$ - $T$  conditions at which each microstructure was formed are further constrained by calculating isochemical phase diagrams (pseudosections) for the composition of effectively reacting domains. A pre-symplectite stage developed during prograde metamorphism under conditions ranging from 660-680°C, 1.6-1.8 GPa to 660-700°C at 1.7-2.1 GPa. Pseudosections calculated for subsequent clinopyroxene + plagioclase and orthopyroxene + plagioclase symplectitic coronae using the composition of effectively reacting microdomains suggest temperature in excess of 800°C and pressures of 1.0-1.3 GPa. Modelling the development of later plagioclase + amphibole coronae around garnet during decompression yields conditions of 730-830°C and 0.8-1.1 GPa. H<sub>2</sub>O (wt%) isomodes indicate that the granulitized eclogites were H<sub>2</sub>O-undersaturated at peak- $P$  conditions and during most of the subsequent heating and decompression. This allowed the preservation of prograde garnet zoning in spite of the strong granulite-facies overprint. The  $P$ - $T$  evolution of Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogite is very similar in shape to that registered by other NE Sardinia retrogressed eclogites thus suggesting a common tectonic scenario for their evolution.

Key words: granulitized eclogite, corona textures,  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection, Variscan Sardinia

**INTRODUCTION**

The European Variscan belt is well known for the widespread occurrence of rocks that experienced extreme metamorphic conditions, from the high/ultra-high pressure (HP/UHP) eclogite-facies conditions to high/ultra-high temperature (HT/UHT) granulite-facies conditions (e.g. Nasdala & Massonne, 2000, Massonne 2001; Lardeaux *et al.*, 2001; Rötzler & Romer, 2001). The unusual high peak  $P$ - $T$  conditions registered by these rocks suggest a tectonic scenario dominated by relatively high  $dT/dP$  gradients (e.g. O'Brien, 2008), in contrast with the low  $dT/dP$  gradients typical of mature subduction zones. Knowledge of the metamorphic evolution of these rocks is therefore highly relevant to orogenic processes. Several studies have estimated peak  $P$ - $T$  conditions of eclogites and/or granulites in the European Variscan orogen (see O'Brien & Rötzler, 2003 for a review). However, petrological modelling of the complete  $P$ - $T$ ( $t$ ) paths has only progressed in recent times. The majority of  $P$ - $T$ ( $t$ ) paths for the European Variscan eclogites and/or granulites are based on  $P$ - $T$  results of conventional thermobarometry,  $P$ - $T$  grids and/or multi-equilibrium thermobarometry (PTGibbs and TWQ methods) (e.g. Bohemian Massif: O'Brien *et al.*, 1997, Willner *et al.*, 1997, Rötzler & Romer, 2001, Nakamura *et al.*, 2004; Massif Central: Lardeaux *et al.*, 2001, Berger *et al.*, 2010; Argentera Massif: Ferrando *et al.*, 2008; SE Corsica: Giacomini *et al.*, 2008; NE Sardinia: Franceschelli *et al.*, 1998, Cortesogno *et al.*, 2004, Giacomini *et al.*, 2005a). More recently, the pseudosection approach has been successfully applied to the study of the metamorphic evolution of Variscan granulites (e.g. Štípská *et al.*, 2006; Tajčmanová *et al.*, 2006; Racek *et al.*, 2006; Cruciani *et al.*, 2011).

Independent of the method used, reconstructing the  $P$ - $T$ ( $t$ ) evolution of the European Variscan HP/HT rocks is particularly challenging because most are granulites derived from former eclogites. Consequently, original HP minerals usually show the effects of a HT overprint and are only locally preserved. For example, omphacite is commonly transformed into plagioclase +

clinopyroxene symplectites, and mineral compositions commonly re-equilibrated under high-temperature conditions. Symplectitic, coronitic and kelyphytic reaction textures are very common in these rocks and witness lack of textural equilibrium. Compositional equilibrium is at best attained at microdomainal scale. For example, plagioclase compositions may vary significantly between different reaction domains.

The success of the pseudosection method closely relies on the preliminary and detailed interpretation of the reaction textures (O'Brien & Ziemann, 2008; Powell & Holland, 2008) to identify the effectively reacting equilibration volume. This paper applies this approach to a granulitized eclogite from the Punta de li Tulchi outcrop in Variscan Sardinia. Franceschelli *et al.* (1998) already recognized the multi-stage *P-T* evolution of these rocks based on conventional thermobarometry and petrogenetic grids. However, the here presented new microstructural interpretation of reaction textures and corresponding pseudosections allows a considerable refinement of the metamorphic evolution (including the prograde segment) by solving the problem of domainal textural and compositional equilibrium.

## GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The Sardinian Variscan chain consists of the following tectono-metamorphic zones with metamorphic grade increasing from SW to NE (Fig. 1): (i) the External Zone, (ii) the Nappe Zone, further subdivided into the External and Internal Nappe Zones, and (iii) the Internal or Axial Zone (Carmignani *et al.*, 2001 and references therein). The Axial Zone is subdivided into a Migmatite Complex known as the High-Grade Metamorphic Complex (HGMC) and a southern Low to Medium-Grade Metamorphic Complex (L-MGMC) separated by the Posada-Asinara tectonic line (Fig. 1a,b). Metamorphic grade of metapelites and metapsammities in NE Sardinia rapidly increases towards the NE through a Barrovian sequence consisting of a biotite, garnet, staurolite + biotite, kyanite+biotite, sillimanite, and sillimanite + K-feldspar zone. The garnet zone is subdivided into garnet + albite and garnet + albite-oligoclase zones (Franceschelli *et al.*, 2005).

In northern Sardinia five Variscan deformations have been recognized (Franceschelli *et al.*, 2005; Helbing *et al.*, 2006). The earliest of these ( $D_1$ ) is witnessed by rare intrafoliar folds and relic  $S_1$  cleavage (Elter *et al.*, 1986),  $D_2$  generated the most pervasive folds with E-W trending axes and an associated  $S_2$  schistosity dipping S to SW. This phase has been interpreted in terms of transpressional tectonics by Carosi & Palmeri (2002). The  $D_3$  phase produced open folds associated with a spaced crenulation cleavage but attaining the character of a pervasive schistosity ( $S_3$ ) north of Olbia. In the fault rocks of the Posada Valley shear zone (Elter *et al.*, 2010), a  $D_4$  phase is recognized from shear bands and associated crenulation cleavages indicating a component of top to the NW followed by a top to the NE/SE shearing. In the same shear zone,  $D_5$  produced a large flexure parallel to the orogenic trend, witnessed by the uplift of the Axial Zone with respect to the schistose envelope (Helbing *et al.*, 2006).

Outcrops of metabasites preserving eclogite facies relicts only occur in the Axial Zone surrounded by migmatites and gneisses of the HGMC or within mylonitic schists and gneisses of the L-MGMC (Fig. 1a). Metabasites with eclogite-facies relicts are known since the pioneering work of Miller *et al.* (1976). More recent work has mainly concentrated on eclogitic rocks of the Migmatite Complex (Franceschelli *et al.*, 1998., 2007; Cortesogno *et al.*, 2004; Giacomini *et al.*, 2005a) and of the L-MGMC (Cortesogno *et al.*, 2004). Cortesogno *et al.* (2004) recognized different types of eclogites with different tectono-thermal evolution in the Migmatite Complex versus the L-MGMC. Franceschelli *et al.* (1998) and Giacomini *et al.* (2005a) recognized the polyphase metamorphic evolution of retrogressed eclogites from Punta de li Tulchi (Fig. 1c) and Golfo Aranci respectively. They distinguished five metamorphic stages corresponding to a pre-eclogite-, eclogite-, granulite-, amphibolite- and greenschist-facies conditions.

SHRIMP U-Pb dating of zircons of the Punta de li Tulchi retrogressed eclogites (Palmeri *et al.*, 2004) yielded weighted means of  $453 \pm 14$  Ma,  $400 \pm 10$  Ma and  $327 \pm 7$  Ma interpreted to represent the protolith age, the high-pressure eclogitic event (or Pb loss during the Variscan event), and amphibolite-facies retrogression, respectively. A similar protolith age ( $460 \pm 5$  Ma) was obtained by Giacomini *et al.* (2005a) from magmatic zircon preserved in the Golfo Aranci eclogites. These ages also agree with an age of  $457 \pm 2$  Ma obtained by Cortesogno *et al.* (2004) for a first zircon population recovered from an eclogite body in the Migmatite Complex. A second zircon population yielded an age of  $403 \pm 4$  Ma and was interpreted as the age of zircon crystallization during the high-grade event, probably the eclogite event. Zircon ages for eclogites of the Migmatite Complex cluster around the Early Visean (326-345 Ma), interpreted as the age of the HP event, and between the Late Visean and Stephanian (304-299 Ma), attributed to post-HP amphibolitic re-equilibration (Giacomini *et al.*, 2005b). Based on correlations between the Maures Massif, Corsica-Sardinia Block, and Northern Apennine segments of the Variscan Belt, Elter & Pandeli (2005) propose a common structural-metamorphic evolution from the Early Carboniferous syn-collisional event to the Late Carboniferous-Early Permian, extensional shearing.

### FIELD GEOLOGY

The Punta de li Tulchi retrogressed eclogite crops out as an E-W oriented, 100 m long  $\times$  20-30 m thick lens embedded within the nebulitic migmatites of Porto Ottiolu locality (Fig. 1c). The lens is parallel to the E-W-oriented pervasive regional schistosity of the hosting migmatites which also contain some decimeter-sized eclogite nodules near to the main eclogite body. Towards the south, the contact between the main eclogite body and the surrounding migmatite is marked by a meter-sized granitic body. The Punta de li Tulchi outcrop consists of a regular alternation of brownish garnet-pyroxene-rich and greenish amphibole-plagioclase-rich layers (Fig. 2a), striking E-W and dipping  $50^\circ$  N. The contact between these layers is sharp or transitional. Garnet-pyroxene-rich layers in turn exhibit an internal layering defined by alternating dark, garnet-rich, and white, clinopyroxene + plagioclase symplectite-rich, layers that are generally parallel to the  $S_2$  in the surrounding migmatites. Locally, however, individual lobes of the symplectitic lamellae are oblique to  $S_2$  (Fig. 2b,c), possibly indicating mimetic growth along a pre-existing  $S_1$  schistosity. According to Franceschelli *et al.* (2007) an amphibole-rich front with vanishing boundaries clearly cuts the  $S_2$  in the garnet-pyroxene layers. The amphibole + plagioclase-rich layers show an E-W oriented  $S_2$  foliation followed by a  $N80$ - $SE30^\circ$ -oriented  $S_3$  foliation, defined by the alignment of elongated millimeter-sized white pods (Fig. 2d). Locally, the  $S_3$  foliation is crosscut by late shear zones (Fig. 2d), containing a mylonitic foliation with aligned coarse-grained biotite flakes.

The host migmatite is an orthogneiss containing a weak  $S_2$  foliation oriented  $N 100^\circ$   $SW 45^\circ$ . The age of the igneous protolith is unknown but a similar orthogneiss from Golfo Aranci and near Tanaunella yielded zircon ages of  $469 \pm 3.7$  Ma (Giacomini *et al.*, 2006) and  $458 \pm 7$  Ma (Helbing & Tiepolo, 2005), respectively. The orthogneiss consists of zoned microcline, Na-rich plagioclase, quartz, biotite,  $\pm$  garnet, and late crosscutting muscovite. Towards Punta de li Tulchi, the biotite content of the migmatized orthogneiss decreases and the rocks acquire a nebulitic appearance. Leucosomes align parallel to the main  $S_2$  foliation and also along the later shear zones. The migmatized orthogneiss is crosscut by subvertical granitic dykes striking  $N 130^\circ$  and ranging in thickness from a few meters to a several decameters.

### PETROGRAPHY AND MICROSTRUCTURAL FEATURES

The studied granulitized eclogites contain variable amounts of garnet, omphacite, Ca-clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, amphibole, plagioclase, biotite and quartz, with accessory epidote, rutile, ilmenite and apatite, monazite, zircon and very rare titanite, Fe-oxide and Fe-sulphides (Figs

3 & 4). The modal abundances of these minerals vary significantly for garnet-pyroxene versus amphibole-plagioclase rich layers described separately below.

### Garnet + pyroxene layers

The garnet + pyroxene layers mainly consist of garnet, clinopyroxene, plagioclase and amphibole. Garnet forms anhedral, strongly fractured, poikiloblasts up to 5 mm in size (Fig. 3a) containing multiple omphacite inclusions (Cpx<sub>1</sub>, mineral abbreviations according to Fettes & Desmons, 2007) up to 300-400 μm in length (Fig. 3b). Garnet also includes euhedral amphibole grains (Am<sub>1</sub>) up to ~50-70 μm in size and quartz (Fig. 3c), as well as rounded grains of apatite. In both garnet and omphacite, several tiny rutile grains (Fig. 3b,c) and inclusions of zoned epidote grains (up to a few tens of microns in size) were found. Omphacite inclusions in garnet have a very thin and sharp, light colored rim of diopsidic clinopyroxene. Omphacite is rare in the matrix, but locally occurs as large crystals containing small quartz and Fe-sulphides inclusions. Omphacite in garnet is commonly partially replaced, mostly at the rim, by Cpx+Na-Pl symplectite.

The most striking feature of the retrogressed eclogites is the very fine grained intergrowths between clinopyroxene (Cpx<sub>2</sub>) and plagioclase (Pl<sub>1</sub>) lamellae (Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite, Fig. 3d-f), as also commonly observed in other metabasite lenses with eclogite-facies relicts from NE Sardinia (Franceschelli *et al.*, 2007). The Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite is widespread in the matrix and replaces former omphacite, only locally preserved as very rare relicts. Although pyroxene in the symplectite is mostly clinopyroxene, in a few samples symplectitic orthopyroxene (Fig. 3e) is also present. Where both ortho- and clinopyroxene occur in the symplectite, they usually occur separately in two distinct symplectite types (i.e. Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> and Opx+Pl<sub>1</sub>). However, where the two symplectites are in contact (Fig. 3e) and despite the sharp boundary between them, the orientation of the plagioclase lamellae does not vary significantly and some lamellae are continuous across this boundary (Fig. 3e). Orthopyroxene is generally found in two different microstructural positions: (i) as anhedral crystals associated with the Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite around garnet porphyroblasts, but not having themselves a symplectitic appearance (Fig. 3d,f) and, (ii) as a more or less continuous corona surrounding corroded quartz grains in the matrix (Fig. 4b). In both the cases, orthopyroxene is commonly partially replaced by cummingtonite (Am<sub>2</sub>) at the outermost rim (Figs 3f & 4b).

Garnet porphyroblasts embedded within the Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite are in turn surrounded by well-developed composite corona microstructures (kelyphites, Figs 3a,b,d,e & 4a). The kelyphite consists of a continuous, thin plagioclase layer (Pl<sub>2</sub>) associated with blebs of coronitic amphibole (Am<sub>3</sub>) and anhedral ilmenite (Fig. 4a). The thickness of the Pl<sub>2</sub>+Am<sub>3</sub> corona ranges between ~ 70 and 300 μm. Anhedral orthopyroxene and ilmenite crystals discontinuously occur at the outer margin of the Pl<sub>2</sub>+Am<sub>3</sub> corona, in contact with the Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite. Both orthopyroxene and ilmenite are locally corroded by coronitic amphibole. Amphibole also occurs as brownish to pale-green, frequently zoned crystals (Am<sub>4</sub>) in the rock matrix (Fig. 4c) and as minor late actinolitic amphibole (Am<sub>5</sub>) growing at the expense of pyroxene or Am<sub>4</sub> in the rock matrix.

Biotite occurs (i) as very rare small inclusions in garnet, (ii) as small flakes aligned along S<sub>2</sub> and S<sub>4</sub> in the matrix or corroding garnet and amphibole crystals, and (iii) in the most re-equilibrated samples also as coarse-grained up to 0.5 mm sized crystals in several decimeter-thick shear zones.

### Amphibole + plagioclase layers

The amphibole + plagioclase layers (Fig. 2a) are made up of “elongated white pods” (Franceschelli *et al.*, 1998, Fig. 2d) mainly deriving from the intimate intergrowth of plagioclase with greenish and brownish amphibole (Fig. 4d) replacing garnet, relicts of which are sometimes found in the cores of white pod. Other minerals identified in these layers are ilmenite, quartz, titanite, as well as rare biotite and chlorite. Amphibole is by far the most abundant mineral occupying up to 50-60 vol% and defining the S<sub>2</sub> foliation, whereas S<sub>3</sub> is defined by the shape elongation of the white pods.

## MINERAL CHEMISTRY

The chemical composition of minerals from two garnet-pyroxene layer samples (E9, E10) and one amphibole-plagioclase layer sample (E19) was determined with a fully automated Cameca SX 50 electron microprobe at the IGAG-CNR Roma. Operating conditions were 15 kV accelerating voltage, a beam current of 15 nA and a 5–10  $\mu\text{m}$  variable spot size. Natural and synthetic wollastonite, olivine, corundum, magnetite, rutile, orthoclase, jadeite, pure Mn, pure Cr, fluorophlogopite, and baryte were used as standards. Microstructural study, BSE imaging, and additional EDS analyses were performed with a FEI Quanta 200 SEM equipped with an EDAX-EDS detector at Cagliari University. Selected microprobe analyses of garnet, clino- and orthopyroxene, plagioclase, amphibole, and ilmenite of sample E9 are reported in Table 1, whereas those of samples E10 and E19 are reported in Tables S1, S2. Mineral compositions, including additional analyses not reported in Tables 1, S1, S2, are plotted in Figs 5, 6b, 7. Structural formulae have been calculated on the basis of 12, 6, and 8 oxygens for garnet, clinopyroxene, and plagioclase respectively.  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content has been calculated from charge balance for pyroxene and according to Droop (1987) for garnet. Amphibole structural formula has been calculated using the Amph-IMA Program with 23 oxygen and a normalization scheme according to Mogessie *et al.* (2004).

### Garnet

Garnet is almandine- (Alm = 53-65 mol%), pyrope- (Prp = 15-25 mol%) and grossularite- rich (Grs = 15-26 mol%), with minor spessartine content (Sps  $\leq$  3 mol%). Compositional traverses and qualitative X-ray maps through some selected garnet crystals (Figs 5 & 6) reveal two different domains, a core and a rim, recognizable on the basis of their spessartine content, which is low and homogeneous in the core (Sps  $\leq$  1.3 mol%) and significantly higher in the rim (Sps  $\geq$  1.3 mol%). The thickness of the rim domain is generally  $<$  100  $\mu\text{m}$  (average of 65-75  $\mu\text{m}$ ), independent of garnet diameter (Fig. 6a). As a consequence, larger garnet porphyroblasts ( $>$  1 mm in diameter) generally preserve a large core domain, whereas small garnet porphyroblasts ( $<$  500  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter) eventually do not preserve any core domain. Garnet cores show a systematic decrease of grossularite counterbalanced by a slightly increase in pyrope from an inner core to an outer core (inner core: Grs<sub>22-26</sub>, Prp<sub>17-20</sub>; outer core: Grs<sub>18-23</sub>, Prp<sub>20-23</sub>). Garnet rims have a significant higher spessartine and almandine contents (Sps<sub>1.3-3.0</sub>, Alm<sub>55-65</sub>) and lower pyrope and grossularite (Prp<sub>15-25</sub>, Grs<sub>15-23</sub>) with respect to garnet core.

### Pyroxene

Clinopyroxene inclusions in garnet (Cpx<sub>1</sub>) is omphacite (Fig. 7a) with  $X_{\text{Na}}$  between 0.34 and 0.38,  $X_{\text{Mg}}$  between 0.69 and 0.79 and a low  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content (up to 0.10 a.p.f.u.) [ $X_{\text{Na}} = \text{Na}/(\text{Na}+\text{Ca})$ ;  $X_{\text{Mg}} = \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg}+\text{Fe})$ ]. Compositional traverse through Cpx<sub>1</sub> included in garnet reveals a very thin rim characterized by a sharp decrease of Na (to  $X_{\text{Na}} \sim 0.10-0.14$ ). Omphacite in the matrix shows a lower  $X_{\text{Na}}$  content ( $X_{\text{Na}}=0.25-0.30$ ) than omphacite included in garnet, and a similar  $X_{\text{Mg}}$ . Clinopyroxene from the symplectite (Cpx<sub>2</sub>) is diopside to augite (Fig. 7b) with Ca = 0.90-0.91 a.p.f.u.,  $X_{\text{Mg}}$  between 0.70-0.80 and very low  $X_{\text{Na}}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content ( $X_{\text{Na}} = 0.03-0.06$ ;  $\text{Fe}^{3+} = 0.00-0.08$  a.p.f.u.). Orthopyroxene belongs to the enstatite-ferrosilite join (Fig. 7c).  $X_{\text{Mg}}$  ratio in orthopyroxene ranges from 0.51 to 0.54, the Al content is  $\sim 0.02$  a.p.f.u. and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content is between 0.03 and 0.13 a.p.f.u. No compositional difference has been observed between orthopyroxene in the rare symplectitic microstructures and orthopyroxene from the matrix.

### Amphibole

All amphibole textural varieties, except cummingtonite, are calcic according to Leake *et al.* (1997). Amphibole inclusions in garnet (Am<sub>1</sub>) are pargasite, aluminopargasite to magnesiohornblende with

Si = 5.87-6.00 a.p.f.u., Al = 2.60-3.49 a.p.f.u.,  $Fe^{3+}$  = 0.1-0.5, and  $X_{Mg}$  = 0.59-0.61 (Fig. 7d,e). Amphibole replacing orthopyroxene ( $Am_2$ ) is cummingtonite with  $X_{Mg}$  ~0.7. Coronitic amphibole ( $Am_3$ ) associated to coronitic plagioclase ( $Pl_2$ ) is magnesiohornblende to pargasite with Si between 6.42 and 6.65 a.p.f.u.,  $Fe^{3+}$  between 0.35-0.42 and  $X_{Mg}$  ~0.63. Brownish to greenish amphibole in the rock matrix ( $Am_4$ ), distinguished from  $Am_3$  on microstructural basis, is zoned with a composition ranging between Mg-hornblende, pargasite to edenite and  $X_{Mg}$  ratio variable between 0.55 and 0.65. Amphibole ( $Am_5$ ) replacing clinopyroxene is actinolite to ferroactinolite with  $X_{Mg}$  ranging between 0.45 and 0.55.

### Plagioclase

Plagioclase associated to clinopyroxene in the symplectite ( $Pl_1$ ) has oligoclase composition, ranging between Ab = 74-81 mol%. Plagioclase ( $Pl_1$ ) associated to orthopyroxene shows a wider range of compositions (Ab ~73-91 mol%). Plagioclase from the kelyphites ( $Pl_2$ ) shows an increase of Na content from the inner to the outer side of the corona (Ab=61-72 mol% to Ab=77-87 mol%, respectively). Plagioclase from the white pods is labradorite to andesine characterized by albite content in the range 42-61 mol%.

## METAMORPHIC EVOLUTION CONSTRAINED BY MICROSTRUCTURES

The detailed interpretation of the microstructural features previously discussed for the garnet-pyroxene layers allows reconstruction of the metamorphic evolution of the studied samples in terms of their reaction history, i.e. in terms of reactants vs. products involved in the main prograde vs. retrograde reactions (Fig. 8).

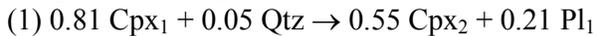
### Pre-symplectite stage

The earlier portion of the metamorphic history (pre-symplectite stage) (Fig. 8a) is recorded by mineral inclusion and compositional zoning of garnet porphyroblasts. Abundant omphacite ( $Cpx_1$ ), rutile, quartz, epidote and amphibole ( $Am_1$ ) inclusions in poikiloblastic garnet as well as the high jadeite content of omphacite ( $X_{Na}$  ratio up to 0.38) suggest that these minerals ( $Grt + Cpx_1 + Qtz + Rt$ ) represent the stable assemblage corresponding to pre-symplectite eclogite-facies conditions. Euhedral amphibole ( $Am_1$ ) and epidote only occur as inclusions in garnet and are therefore interpreted as prograde minerals. This eclogitic assemblage is also consistent with the occurrence of rare omphacite relicts in the matrix, pervasively replaced by the  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites. Although diffusion-controlled retrograde re-equilibration of garnet rims probably occurred (< 100  $\mu m$  wide) as suggested by high Mn content ( $Sps \geq 1.3$  mol%), most of the garnet zoning is likely to represent the prograde path, at least in the larger porphyroblasts as discussed further in more detail. Garnet zoning shows a progressive increase in pyrope and a decrease in grossularite components from the inner core to the outer core (Figs 5 & 6), which is consistent with growth during increasing pressure and temperature and documented previously for other Variscan granulitized eclogites (e.g. O'Brien, 1997). How and why the prograde garnet zoning survived the pervasive high temperature overprint is discussed in the following sections.

### $Cpx_2+Pl_1$ and $Opx+Pl_1 \pm Ilm$ symplectite/corona stage

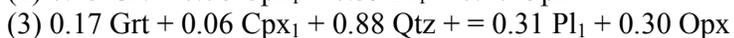
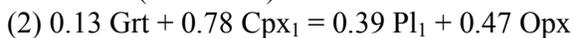
This stage corresponds to the growth of two different symplectitic microstructures, namely the  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  and the  $Opx+Pl_1$  symplectites (Fig. 8b). The  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites are more abundant, pervasively replacing omphacite in the matrix and locally also omphacite crystals included in garnet where these communicate with the matrix through fractures. Reaction modelling by the least square method (Cspace version 1.01, Djinn Works, Torres-Roldan *et al.*, 2000) applied to the composition of  $Cpx_1$  (omphacite), symplectitic plagioclase ( $Pl_1$ ) and clinopyroxene ( $Cpx_2$ ) from sample E9

(Table 1) yielded the following balanced reaction accounting for the formation of  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites, in agreement with Zhao *et al.* (2001) and Groppo *et al.* (2007a,b):

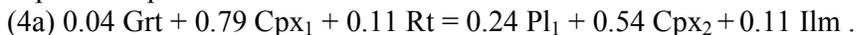


The  $Opx+Pl_1$  symplectites are very rare and, being mostly surrounded by amphibole ( $Am_3$ ), their relationships with both  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites and garnet are not unequivocal, although they always occur close to garnet porphyroblasts. Apart from the  $Opx+Pl_1$  symplectites, orthopyroxene is commonly also found as (i) anhedral crystals (partially replaced by  $Am_3$ ) at the outer margin of  $Pl_2+Am_3$  coronae of garnet, and in contact with the former  $Cpx_1$  (now replaced by  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites), and (ii) as more or less continuous  $Opx$  coronae isolating corroded quartz crystals from the former  $Cpx_1$  (now replaced by  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites). Altogether, this evidence suggest that: firstly, both garnet and the omphacitic clinopyroxene  $Cpx_1$  were likely involved in the orthopyroxene growth, whose occurrence at the outer margin of the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  corona is probably a remnant of a former  $Opx+Pl_1$  corona later replaced by the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  assemblage (cf. Zhao *et al.*, 2001); secondly, quartz and the  $Cpx_1$  were likely involved in the orthopyroxene coronitic growth around quartz in the matrix. In both the cases, the orthopyroxene growth is roughly contemporaneous to the  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites development.

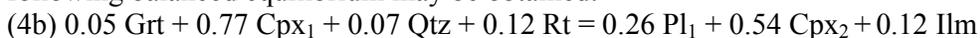
Considering the composition of omphacitic clinopyroxene ( $Cpx_1$ ), garnet outer core (i.e. before the retrograde re-equilibrated rim), orthopyroxene and symplectitic plagioclase ( $Pl_1$ ) from the same sample, the following balanced reactions can explain: (i) the development of  $Opx+Pl_1$  coronae around garnet now almost completely replaced by the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  assemblage plus the rare  $Opx+Pl_1$  symplectites (reaction 2), and (ii) the occurrence of coronitic orthopyroxene around quartz relics in the matrix (reaction 3).



At the outer margin of the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  coronae of garnet, large anhedral ilmenite grains are present, surrounded and locally partially replaced by the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  assemblage. Ilmenite occurs in a microstructural position similar to that of orthopyroxene, i.e. in between garnet and the former  $Cpx_1$  (now replaced by  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites). Ilmenite and orthopyroxene, however, were never observed occurring together at the outer margin of the coronitic microstructures. This suggests that the ilmenite development could be related to a reaction involving garnet, the former omphacite and a Ti-rich phase (rutile), but not orthopyroxene. Considering the composition of garnet outer core (i.e. before the retrograde re-equilibrated rim), omphacitic clinopyroxene ( $Cpx_1$ ), ilmenite, symplectitic plagioclase ( $Pl_1$ ) and clinopyroxene ( $Cpx_2$ ), the following balanced reaction can explain the presence of ilmenite in the coronitic structures:



Both reactions (3) and (4) involve garnet and omphacitic clinopyroxene ( $Cpx_1$ ) as reactants, and only differ from reaction (2) regarding the presence of quartz or rutile as additional reactant phases. Consequently, all these reactions probably occurred at the same  $P-T$  conditions as a function of variable compositions of micro-domains. In addition, combining reaction (4a) with reaction (1), the following balanced equilibrium may be obtained:



This more complete reaction explains the growth of both  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectites and the  $Ilm+Pl_1$  coronae between garnet and omphacite.

### **$Pl_2+Am_3$ corona stage**

This stage is documented by the development of amphibole ( $Am_3$ ) + plagioclase ( $Pl_2$ ) assemblage at the expense of the former  $Opx_1+Pl_1 \pm Ilm$  corona around garnet (Fig. 8c).  $Pl_2+Am_3$  coronae commonly replace garnet, whereas coronitic amphibole usually replaces symplectitic  $Cpx_2$  and

coronitic Opx and Ilm grains. These textures indicate that the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  coronae postdate the  $Opx+Pl_1\pm Ilm$  coronae as already concluded by Zhao *et al.* (2001) for similar granulitized eclogites.

The growth of amphibole implies that  $H_2O$  was available in the system. However, the exclusive occurrence of  $Am_3$  in coronitic microstructures suggests that  $H_2O$  was limited to these domains rather than pervading the whole rock. By combining the composition of garnet, original coronitic plagioclase ( $Pl_1$ ), actual coronitic plagioclase ( $Pl_2$ ) and amphibole ( $Am_3$ ), the following balanced reaction may account for the development of the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  corona assemblage in intermediate positions between garnet and the original  $Opx+Pl_1$  corona:



Since  $Am_4$  has a chemical composition similar to that of  $Am_3$  and has been distinguished only on microstructural basis, the growth of  $Am_4$  in the matrix should be ascribed to the same metamorphic stage.

### Late stage metamorphic evolution

The later stage of metamorphic evolution is documented by the local growth of actinolite, chlorite, very minor epidote and titanite in the rock matrix. Syn- $D_4$  biotite growth along shear bands is also tentatively attributed to this stage for which Franceschelli *et al.* (1998) estimated  $P$ - $T$  conditions of  $\sim 300$ - $400$  °C and  $< 0.2$ - $0.3$  GPa.

### METAMORPHIC EVOLUTION CONSTRAINED USING THE $P$ - $T$ PSEUDOSECTION APPROACH

The  $P$ - $T$  pseudosections have been calculated in the NCKFMASH system using *Perple\_X* (Connolly, 1990; 2009). Details of the calculation are given in the Appendix section. A detailed description of the topology of each pseudosection is considered beyond the scope of this article, therefore the variance of each field as well as the complete set of compositional isopleths and isomodes are provided as supplementary material.

### Modelling the pre-symplectite stage

Microstructural features described above suggest that the pre-symplectite equilibrium assemblage ( $Grt + Cpx_1 + Qtz + Rt \pm Am_1$ ) pervasively grew throughout sample E9, and therefore that the earlier portion of the  $P$ - $T$  evolution can be modelled based on the bulk composition measured by XRF (Table 2). The corresponding  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection is shown in Fig. 9.

Based on the observed vs. modelled mineral compositions, the following  $P$ - $T$  conditions are obtained:

- i) An early prograde stage is constrained by the composition of  $Cpx_1$  (preserved as inclusions in garnet:  $X_{Na}=0.34$ ) and garnet inner core ( $Grs=22$ - $26$  mol%;  $Prp=17$ - $20$  mol%) at  $660$ - $680$ °C and  $1.6$ - $1.8$  GPa. The equilibrium assemblage modelled at these  $P$ - $T$  conditions (i.e.  $Cpx + Grt + Qtz + Am + Qtz + Rt + Bt$ , with biotite  $< 1.5$  vol%) is consistent with most of the petrographic observations.
- ii) A later prograde stage is constrained by the composition of outer cores of garnets ( $Grs= 18$ - $23$  mol%;  $Prp=20$ - $23$  mol%), as well as by  $Cpx_1$  composition (omphacite inclusions are also preserved in the outer garnet core:  $X_{Na}=0.34$ ) at  $660$ - $700$ °C and  $1.7$ - $2.1$  GPa. These  $P$ - $T$  conditions lie inside the same four-variant  $Cpx + Grt + Qtz + Am + Qtz + Rt + Bt$  field of the earlier prograde stage, but closer to the upper boundary of the amphibole stability field.

The overall  $P$ - $T$  evolution modelled by the  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection of Fig. 9 is therefore characterized by a prograde increase in both  $P$  and  $T$  from about  $600$ °C,  $1.0$  GPa to  $690$ °C,  $1.9$  GPa. However, since the garnet rim shows evidence of a diffusion-controlled retrograde re-equilibration (i.e. the original rim composition is no more available), peak  $P$ - $T$  conditions could have been

slightly higher than that here modeled, more likely in the amphibole-absent five-variant Cpx + Grt + Qtz + Rt + Bt field.

### Modelling the symplectite and corona stages

The metamorphic stages following the eclogite-facies peak- $P$  conditions are characterized by the widespread development of symplectites, coronae and kelyphites. These microstructures are the results of metamorphic reactions occurring at the scale of small domains, not represented by whole-rock composition. In order to model  $P$ - $T$  conditions, the method of Groppo *et al.* (2007a, b) was applied (see also Cruciani *et al.*, 2008, 2011) for calculating the composition of the effectively reacting microdomains that were involved in the formation of symplectites and coronae based on mineral compositions in sample E9 (Table 1) and the stoichiometric coefficients of the previously deduced balanced reactions (2) to (5). Different  $P$ - $T$  pseudosections (compositions in Table 2) representative of the developed microstructures were then calculated as detailed below.

i) *Opx+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite/corona* – These microstructures were modelled using the effective bulk composition obtained from reaction (2). The calculated  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection, reported in Fig. 10a, shows that the equilibrium (2) is a continuous reaction that occurred across a relatively large  $P$ - $T$  interval, at  $> 800^\circ\text{C}$ . Moving along a decompression path from about 1.7 GPa to 1.0 GPa, garnet and clinopyroxene are consumed ( $\Delta\text{Grt} = -13 \text{ vol}\%$ ;  $\Delta\text{Cpx} = -9 \text{ vol}\%$ ), whereas plagioclase and orthopyroxene are produced ( $\Delta\text{Pl} = +14 \text{ vol}\%$ ;  $\Delta\text{Opx} = +10 \text{ vol}\%$ ), consistent with the predictions of reaction (2). The  $P$ - $T$  conditions at which the Opx+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectites and coronae grew are further constrained by the Pl<sub>1</sub> ( $X_{\text{Na}}=0.74\text{-}0.78$ ) and orthopyroxene ( $X_{\text{Mg}}=0.51\text{-}0.54$ ) compositions at  $> 800^\circ\text{C}$ , and 1.0-1.3 GPa (Fig. 10a).

ii) *Cpx<sub>2</sub>+Pl<sub>1</sub> symplectite and Ilm+Pl<sub>1</sub> coronae* – The effective bulk composition used to model these microstructures was obtained from the balanced reaction (4a), whose reactants are the same as in reaction (2) except for rutile. The appearance of ilmenite at the expenses of rutile (in the presence of garnet and clinopyroxene) occurs in a relatively narrow  $P$ -interval at  $> 800^\circ\text{C}$ . Passing from the rutile-bearing (and ilmenite-absent) fields at 1.5 GPa to the ilmenite-bearing (and rutile-absent) field at 0.8 GPa, garnet, clinopyroxene and rutile are consumed ( $\Delta\text{Grt} = -10 \text{ vol}\%$ ;  $\Delta\text{Cpx} = -12 \text{ vol}\%$ ;  $\Delta\text{Rt} = -4 \text{ vol}\%$ ) and plagioclase and ilmenite are produced ( $\Delta\text{Pl} = +17 \text{ vol}\%$ ,  $\Delta\text{Ilm} = +6 \text{ vol}\%$ ), in agreement with the predictions of reaction (4a). Plagioclase composition ( $X_{\text{Na}}=0.74\text{-}0.78$ ) further constrains the  $P$ - $T$  conditions at  $> 800^\circ\text{C}$  and 0.9-1.2 GPa (Fig. 10b).

iii) *Pl<sub>2</sub>+Am<sub>3</sub> corona* – The growth of the Pl<sub>2</sub>+Am<sub>3</sub> assemblage has been modelled using the effective bulk composition obtained from the balanced reaction (5). In the calculated pseudosection (Fig. 10c) this continuous reaction occurs on a large  $P$ -interval at  $> 650^\circ\text{C}$ . The calculated plagioclase ( $X_{\text{Na}} = 0.62\text{-}0.68$ ) and amphibole (Si = 6.4-6.6 a.p.f.u.;  $X_{\text{Mg}} = 0.61\text{-}0.63$ ) compositional isopleths provide further  $P$ - $T$  constraints on the formation of Pl<sub>2</sub>+Am<sub>3</sub> corona, modelled at 730-830 $^\circ\text{C}$ , and 0.8-1.1 GPa (Fig. 10c). Moving along a decompression path in this  $P$ - $T$  range, garnet is consumed ( $\Delta\text{Grt} = -2 \text{ vol}\%$ ), whereas plagioclase and amphibole ( $\Delta\text{Am} = +3 \text{ vol}\%$ ;  $\Delta\text{Pl} = +1 \text{ vol}\%$ ) are produced, in agreement with microstructural evidence. The progression of reaction (5) led to the formation of white pods (Fig. 4d) that widespread occur in the Am-Pl layers (Fig. 2d).

## DISCUSSION

### Attainment of equilibrium on a domainal scale and preservation of the prograde history

Microstructural evidence and the results of thermodynamic modelling both show that sample E9 experienced a complex polyphase metamorphic history characterized by a prograde HP eclogite-facies event followed by a HT granulite-facies stage. A temperature increase of about 150 $^\circ\text{C}$  occurred during decompression from  $\sim 2.0$  GPa to  $\sim 1.0$  GPa.

Reconstruction of the pre-granulitic history was possible thanks to the preservation not only of the prograde HP microstructures, but also of the garnet prograde compositions, in spite of the

widespread HT overprint. In particular, garnet compositional maps show that, apart from a  $\sim 100\ \mu\text{m}$  wide Mn-rich rim likely due to retrograde, diffusion controlled, re-equilibration and resorption, garnet cores preserve a well documented zoning coherent with its prograde growth at increasing pressure and temperature (i.e. Grs decreases and Prp increases from the inner to the outer core). Although the standard types of diffusion models predict that the prograde garnet zoning should be mostly reset during heating at  $> 700^\circ\text{C}$  (e.g. Caddick *et al.*, 2010), O'Brien (1997) first documented the possibility of garnet preserving its prograde compositional profile in granulitized eclogites from the Bohemian Massif. Since then, several other studies have reported examples of preserved prograde garnet zoning at high temperatures (e.g. O'Brien *et al.*, 1997; Zhao *et al.*, 2001; Štípská & Powell, 2005; Medaris *et al.*, 2006; Groppo *et al.*, 2007a, 2012; Cruciani *et al.*, 2011). The samples studied by O'Brien (1997) are characterized by abundant symplectitic and coronitic microstructures similar as described here for sample E9 and also implying attainment of equilibrium only at the scale of microdomains. This led O'Brien (1997) to suggest that grain boundary diffusion and material transport have a major influence on the development of diffusion zoning and that slow grain boundary diffusion could invalidate the standard types of diffusion models.

In the specific case of sample E9, calculated  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (wt%) isomodes (Fig. 11a) show that the amount of water available in the system progressively decreases from  $\sim 1.4\ \text{wt}\%$  at  $\sim 600^\circ\text{C}$  to  $< 0.1\ \text{wt}\%$  at the eclogite-facies peak- $P$  conditions (i.e. the system was  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated during its prograde evolution; Guiraud *et al.*, 2001). Approximately at peak- $P$  conditions, the  $P$ - $T$  trajectory becomes tangential to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  isomodes, thus implying that the mineral assemblage was  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  under-saturated during the subsequent evolution, i.e. metamorphic reactions could not proceed until  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated conditions were again reached or, alternatively,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was introduced from outside. Sample E9 remained  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -undersaturated during heating and decompression up to ca.  $800^\circ\text{C}$  at 1.5 GPa, when the  $P$ - $T$  path becomes tangential to an  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content contour (Fig. 11a) (see Guiraud *et al.*, 2001 for the interpretation of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated vs.  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -undersaturated conditions). Along the subsequent heating and decompression path, the system became again slightly  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated (i.e. the  $P$ - $T$  path intersects the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  isomode contours towards decreasing values, despite the overall  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content being extremely low), thus allowing the development of coronitic and symplectitic microstructures within very local domains. Fig. 11a shows that during cooling and further decompression, sample E9 was again  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -undersaturated (i.e. the  $P$ - $T$  path intersects the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  isomode contours toward increasing values of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content), thus implying that metamorphic reactions could have operated along this portion of the  $P$ - $T$  path only if  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  was introduced from outside. Consequently, the growth of amphibole in the  $\text{Pl}_2+\text{Am}_3$  assemblage at the expense of the former  $\text{Opx}+\text{Pl}_1$  coronae and in the rock matrix ( $\text{Am}_4$ ) required an external fluid. Depending on the amount of introduced  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and hence, on the longer or shorter persistence of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated conditions, the  $\text{Pl}_2+\text{Am}_3$  corona and the  $\text{Am}_4$  in the matrix could have developed at different scales, ranging from the thin ( $70$ - $300\ \mu\text{m}$ )  $\text{Pl}_2+\text{Am}_3$  coronae around garnet of the garnet-pyroxene layers, to the widespread plagioclase + amphibole assemblage observed in the “white pods” of the amphibole-plagioclase layers. These layers thus represent different hydration degrees of the eclogitic assemblage by migrating fluids in agreement with the observation of Franceschelli *et al.* (2007) of a late-stage “amphibolitization front” crosscutting the regional foliation.

### **The $P$ - $T$ pseudosection approach applied on non-equilibrated samples: a challenging analysis**

The concept of equilibration volume, i.e. the scale on which it is plausible to suggest that the minerals were in equilibrium with each other (e.g. Powell & Holland, 2008), plays a crucial role for thermobarometry involving pseudosections, because the chemical composition of the equilibration volume is the starting point for the calculations. Therefore, the application of the pseudosection approach to a clearly non-equilibrated sample, such as the studied granulitized eclogite E9, would seem not recommendable. On the other hand, it is the non-equilibrated nature of the sample that

allows the calculation of the equilibria relevant for the development of coronitic and symplectitic microstructures, because both the reactants and the products are still preserved. The challenge of this study has been to exploit the unique possibility offered by such microstructures for calculating balanced reactions between reactants and products at different stages of the metamorphic path, to constrain the composition of effectively reacting microdomains in which symplectites and coronae grew, and to construct corresponding pseudosections and determine  $P$ - $T$  conditions.

This study demonstrates that the bulk compositions calculated by combining mineral compositions of both reactants and products with the stoichiometric coefficients of the balanced reactions are representative of the effectively reacting symplectitic and coronitic micro-domains. The results of the pseudosection calculation may be considered reliable if the modelled isomodes and compositional isopleths are consistent with both the observed mineral assemblages/compositions and the inferred equilibria. Furthermore, if some of the domainal microstructures show mutual relationships suggesting their contemporaneous growth (such as the Opx+Pl<sub>1</sub> and the Ilm+Pl<sub>1</sub> coronae), the  $P$ - $T$  constraints obtained from the two different pseudosections should be the same. The latter provides an important additional test for the reliability of pseudosection results.

### Comparison with other Sardinian eclogites

The  $P$ - $T$  path of the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogite (Fig. 11a) is markedly similar to the paths deduced for retrogressed eclogites from the Migmatite Complex (Axial Zone) at Golfo Aranci (Giacomini *et al.*, 2005a) and for the Punta Orvili metabasite (Cruciani *et al.*, 2011) (Fig. 11b). The latter is assumed to belong to the Low to Medium Grade Metamorphic Complex (Nappe Zone), because it crops out very close to the Posada-Asinara shear zone (Fig. 1); the retrogressed eclogite there has a different bulk composition and lacks orthopyroxene (e.g. Franceschelli *et al.*, 1998; Cruciani *et al.*, 2011).

The first portion of the  $P$ - $T$  path for the three retrogressed eclogites consists of a prograde increase of both  $P$  and  $T$  to eclogite-facies peak conditions (1.9-2.1 GPa, 600-700°C). After the eclogite stage, they underwent significant re-equilibration under granulite-facies conditions (700-800°C, 1.0-1.2 GPa), followed by high- $T$  amphibolite-facies metamorphism (650-800°C; 0.7-1.0 GPa). Comparing the  $P$ - $T$  paths calculated at the same  $a\text{H}_2\text{O}$  for the eclogites from the three different localities (Fig. 11b), it appears that the Punta de li Tulchi eclogite records peak temperatures about 40-50°C higher than those of Golfo Aranci retrogressed eclogite and 90-100°C higher as those of Punta Orvili metabasite. However, changing  $a\text{H}_2\text{O}$  shifts the whole  $P$ - $T$  trajectories towards lower or higher temperatures (e.g. lowering  $a\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from 1.0 to 0.5 results in a shift of about 50°C toward lower  $T$ ; compare Fig. 11a and Fig. 11b). It is therefore difficult to assess whether the different modelled peak- $T$  for the three localities reflect true differences in temperatures, and/or are due to different  $a\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Independent of the absolute  $P$ - $T$  values registered by the Golfo Aranci, Punta Orvili and Punta de li Tulchi eclogites, however, it is worth nothing that their  $P$ - $T$  evolutions are very similar in shape, thus suggesting a common tectonic scenario for their evolution.

The new data presented for the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogite are substantially in agreement with the geodynamic scenario proposed by Cruciani *et al.* (2011) for the evolution of the NE Sardinia eclogites. According to these authors the prograde evolution of the eclogites took place under a geothermal gradient of  $\sim 10^\circ\text{C km}^{-1}$ , compatible with a relatively hot subduction of a small, young marginal basin rather than with the prolonged subduction of a wider more thermally mature oceanic plate. The subsequent increase of the geothermal gradient to  $25\text{-}30^\circ\text{C km}^{-1}$  marks the beginning of the Variscan continental collision. The following exhumation of the granulitized eclogites to relatively shallow crustal levels, was accompanied by re-equilibration under granulite-

to HT amphibolite-facies conditions, most likely during a period of protracted continental collision.

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## APPENDIX

### Pseudosection calculation.

The phases considered in the modeling are: amphibole, biotite, white mica, clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, garnet, plagioclase, zoisite/clinozoisite, ilmenite, rutile, quartz, chlorite and titanite. Solid solution models are: Holland & Powell (1998) for garnet and white mica, Holland & Powell (1996) for orthopyroxene, Green *et al.* (2007) for clinopyroxene, Holland *et al.* (1998) for chlorite, Dale *et al.* (2005) for amphibole and Newton *et al.* (1981) for plagioclase. All iron is considered as bivalent because all the phases have negligible Fe<sup>3+</sup>, and the very rare (<< 1 vol%) Fe<sup>+3</sup>-bearing epidote inclusions within garnet core are interpreted as prograde relics.

Mn has not been considered in the calculation, because its content in garnet is very low and homogeneous and it mainly enters in the diffusion-controlled retrograde rim of garnet. All the pseudosections have been calculated at *a*H<sub>2</sub>O=1.0. However, the effects, on the pseudosection topologies, of a lower *a*H<sub>2</sub>O have been also investigated. Lowering the *a*H<sub>2</sub>O results in a general shift of all the field boundaries and compositional isopleths toward lower temperatures. In particular, a shift of about 30-40°C is observed if the *a*H<sub>2</sub>O is set at 0.5.

## FIGURE CAPTIONS

**Fig. 1.** (a): Geological sketch map of NE Sardinia coast. (b): Main structural elements of the Variscan chain of Sardinia from Carmignani *et al.* (2001). PAL: Posada-Asinara Line. (c): Sketch map of Punta de li Tulchi area.

**Fig. 2.** Field photographs of Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogite. (a): Alternation of decimeter-scale (GP) Grt-Px layers and (AP) Am-Pl layers; (b): Grt-Px layers showing millimetric  $S_2$  oriented clinopyroxene + plagioclase symplectites and garnet porphyroblasts. Grt-Px layers show a decrease in crystal size resembling mylonite (M). (c): Detail of the Grt-Px layer shown in Fig. 2b (rectangle). Reddish garnet crystals with a dark corona are surrounded by the clinopyroxene + plagioclase symplectite (white). (d): White pods (WP) in the Am-Pl layers elongated as the  $S_3$  schistosity. The  $S_3$  schistosity is cut by millimeter-scale shear bands.

**Fig. 3.** Photomicrographs and BSE images showing the relevant microstructures of the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogites. (a) Overview of the granulitized eclogite (sample E9). Coronitic garnet set in a  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectite matrix. Grt-Px layer. Plane Polarized Light (PPL). (b) Coronitic garnet with inclusions of omphacite ( $Cpx_1$ ), rutile and amphibole ( $Am_1$ ). Quartz is also included in  $Cpx_1$ . Grt-Px layer. BSE image. (c) Detail of  $Am_1$ , rutile and quartz inclusions in garnet. Grt-Px layer. BSE Image. (d) Detail of  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectite matrix around garnet. Orthopyroxene occurs in the matrix and at the interface between the  $Pl_2+Am_3$  corona and the  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectite. Grt-Px layer. BSE image. (e) Rare Opx +  $Pl_1$  symplectite preserved in a Grt-Px layer sample.  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  and Opx+ $Pl_1$  symplectites are surrounded by matrix amphibole ( $Am_4$ ). BSE image. (f) Detail of orthopyroxene at the interface between  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  symplectite and  $Am_3+Pl_2$  kelyphite. Orthopyroxene is partially replaced by cummingtonite. Grt-Px layer. BSE image.

**Fig. 4.** Photomicrographs and BSE images showing the relevant microstructures of the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogites. (a) Corona around garnet made up of plagioclase ( $Pl_2$ ), amphibole ( $Am_3$ ) and anhedral ilmenite. Grt-Px layer. PPL. (b) Quartz grain surrounded by orthopyroxene and  $Cpx_2$  clinopyroxene. The contact between quartz and pyroxenes is marked by a cummingtonite layer. Grt-Px layer, BSE image. (c) Medium-grained matrix amphibole ( $Am_4$ ) showing a pale green core surrounded by a brownish discontinuous rim. Grt-Px layer. PPL. (d) Microstructural features of layers containing white pods of amphibole and plagioclase (Am-Pl layers). PPL.

**Fig. 5.** Compositional variations of garnet core and rim in mol%. (a) pyrope vs. spessartine. (b) grossularite vs. spessartine. (c) almandine vs. spessartine. Additional garnet analyses not reported in Tables 1, S1 are also shown.

**Fig. 6.** (a) Schematic sketch of garnet zoning and kelyphite microstructure (redraw of Fig. 3b). (b) Zoning profile of garnet from Fig. 3b. The trace of the profile is shown in Fig. 6a.

**Fig. 7.** (a), (b), (c) Clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene classification in the (Wo+En+Fs)-Jd-Ae and Wo-En-Fs diagrams (Morimoto, 1988). (d), (e) Ca-amphibole classification in the diagram after Leake *et al.* (1997). All textural types of amphiboles are reported. Additional pyroxene and amphibole analyses not reported in Tables 1, S1, S2 are also shown.

**Fig. 8.** Microstructure and reaction history of sample E9. (a) pre-symplectite eclogitic stage; (b)  $Cpx_2+Pl_1$  and Opx+ $Pl_1$  symplectite/corona stage; (c)  $Am_3+Pl_2$  corona stage. Fig. 8c is a redraw of part of the microstructure shown in Fig. 3d.

**Fig. 9.** (a)  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection (NCKFMASH system) calculated at  $aH_2O = 1$  for the bulk composition of Grt-Px layer sample E9 (compositions in Table 2). White, light-, medium-, and dark-grey fields are di-, tri-, quadri-, and penta-variant fields, respectively. Dotted ellipses represent

*P-T* conditions for pre-symplectite stages estimated using clinopyroxene (b) and garnet (c,d) compositional isopleths.

**Fig. 10.** *P-T* pseudosections in the NCKFMASH system calculated at  $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1$  for the bulk compositions of the effectively reacting microdomains (Table 2). White, light-, medium-, and dark-grey fields are di-, tri-, quadri-, and penta-variant fields, respectively. Dotted ellipses in (a), (b), (c) represent the inferred *P-T* conditions of formation of Opx+Pl<sub>1</sub> corona/symplectite, Ilm+Pl<sub>1</sub> corona, and Am<sub>3</sub>+Pl<sub>2</sub> corona, respectively, estimated using plagioclase, orthopyroxene and amphibole compositional isopleths. Some relevant modal abundances (vol.%) of garnet, plagioclase, pyroxenes, amphibole, rutile and ilmenite are represented by white dashed line. Isomodes of garnet, plagioclase, pyroxenes, amphibole, and ilmenite are given in Figs S1, S2, S3 of the Supplementary material.

**Fig. 11.** (a) *P-T* path of the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogites as inferred from *P-T* pseudosections reported in Figs 9, 10. The H<sub>2</sub>O isomodes (wt%) calculated for the pseudosection of Fig. 9 show that sample E9 was H<sub>2</sub>O-saturated during its prograde evolution (continuous *P-T* path), whereas it was H<sub>2</sub>O-undersaturated at peak-*P* conditions and during most of the following heating and decompression (dashed *P-T* path). Slightly H<sub>2</sub>O-saturated conditions (but with H<sub>2</sub>O < 0.1 wt%) were reached again at peak-*T* conditions, whereas during the following cooling and decompression the system was H<sub>2</sub>O-undersaturated, thus suggesting that the growth of the late amphibole + plagioclase assemblage required the introduction of H<sub>2</sub>O from outside. (b) Comparison between the *P-T* path obtained from the Punta de li Tulchi granulitized eclogite (*P-T* path 1, recalculated at  $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 0.5$  for the sake of comparison) with those obtained for the other Sardinian eclogites (Giacomini *et al.*, 2005a: retrogressed eclogites from Golfo Aranci, *P-T* path 2; Cruciani *et al.*, 2011: Punta Orvili metabasite, *P-T* path 3).

## TABLE CAPTIONS

**Table 1.** Selected microprobe analyses and structural formula of garnet, pyroxenes, plagioclase, amphibole and ilmenite for Grt-Px layer sample E9. Trivalent iron has been calculated according to Droop (1987) for garnet and by charge balance for pyroxenes. Amphibole structural formula has been calculated according to Mogessie *et al.* (2004). Asterisk indicates mineral composition used in CSpace calculation.

**Table 2.** Bulk compositions used for pseudosection calculations

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

**Table S1.** Selected microprobe analyses and structural formula of garnet, pyroxenes, plagioclase, amphibole and ilmenite for Grt-Px layer sample E10. Trivalent iron has been calculated according to Droop (1987) for garnet and by charge balance for pyroxenes. Amphibole structural formula has been calculated according to Mogessie *et al.* (2004).

**Table S2.** Selected microprobe analyses and structural formula of plagioclase, amphibole and ilmenite for Am-Pl layer sample E19. Amphibole structural formula has been calculated according to Mogessie *et al.* (2004).

**Fig. S1.** Isomodes of plagioclase (a), orthopyroxene (b), garnet (c), and clinopyroxene (d) for the *P-T* pseudosection of Fig. 10a.

**Fig. S2.** Isomodes of plagioclase (a), ilmenite (b), garnet (c), and clinopyroxene (d) for the  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection of Fig. 10b.

**Fig. S3.** Isomodes of plagioclase (a), amphibole (b), and garnet (c) for the  $P$ - $T$  pseudosection of Fig. 10c.

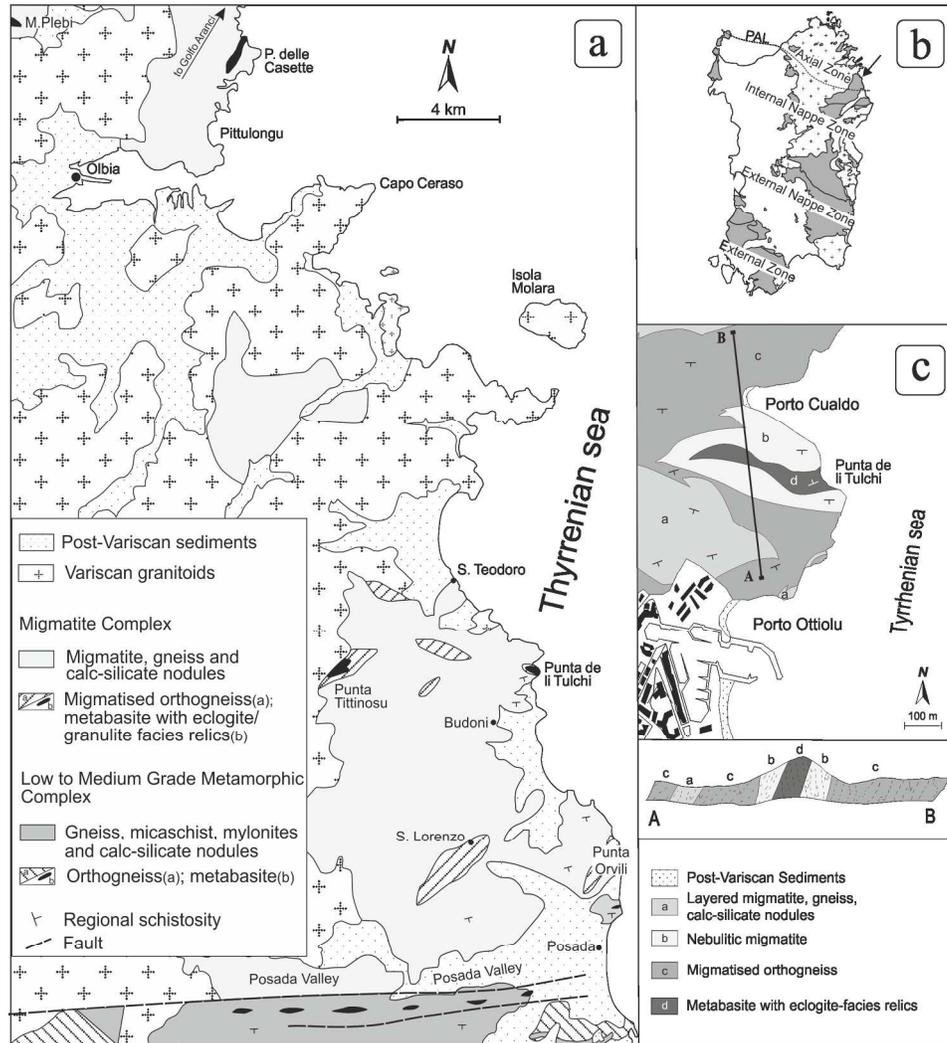


Figure 1  
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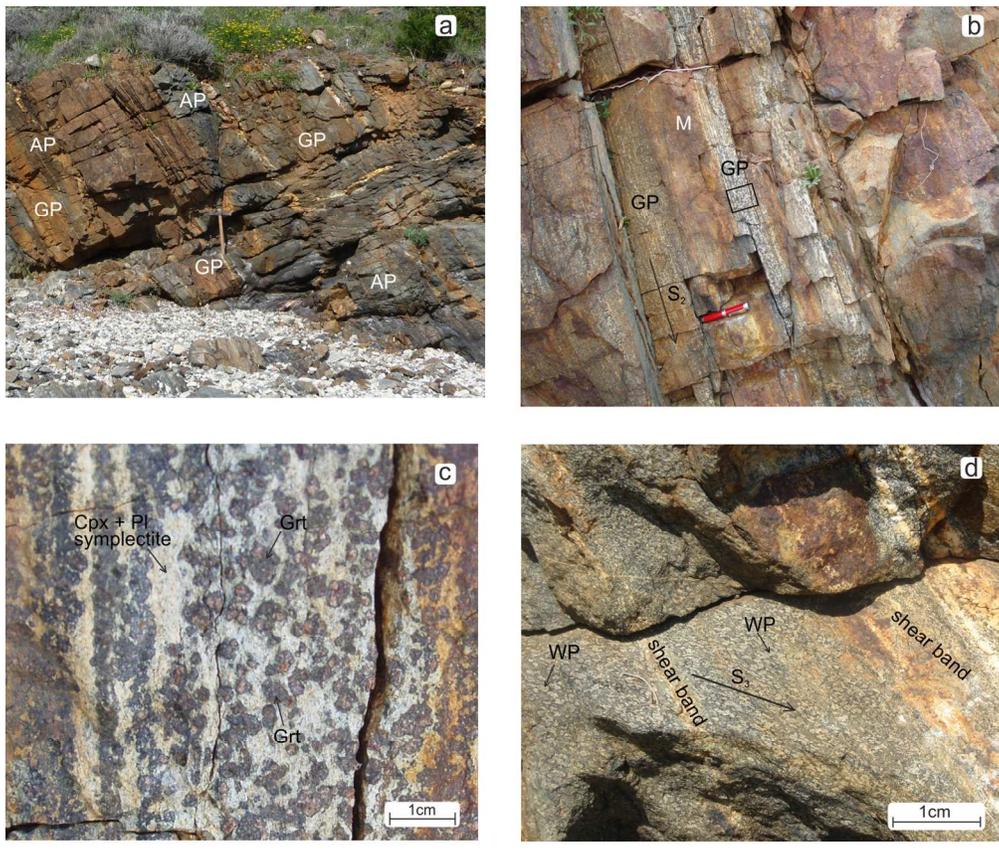


Figure 2  
144x122mm (300 x 300 DPI)

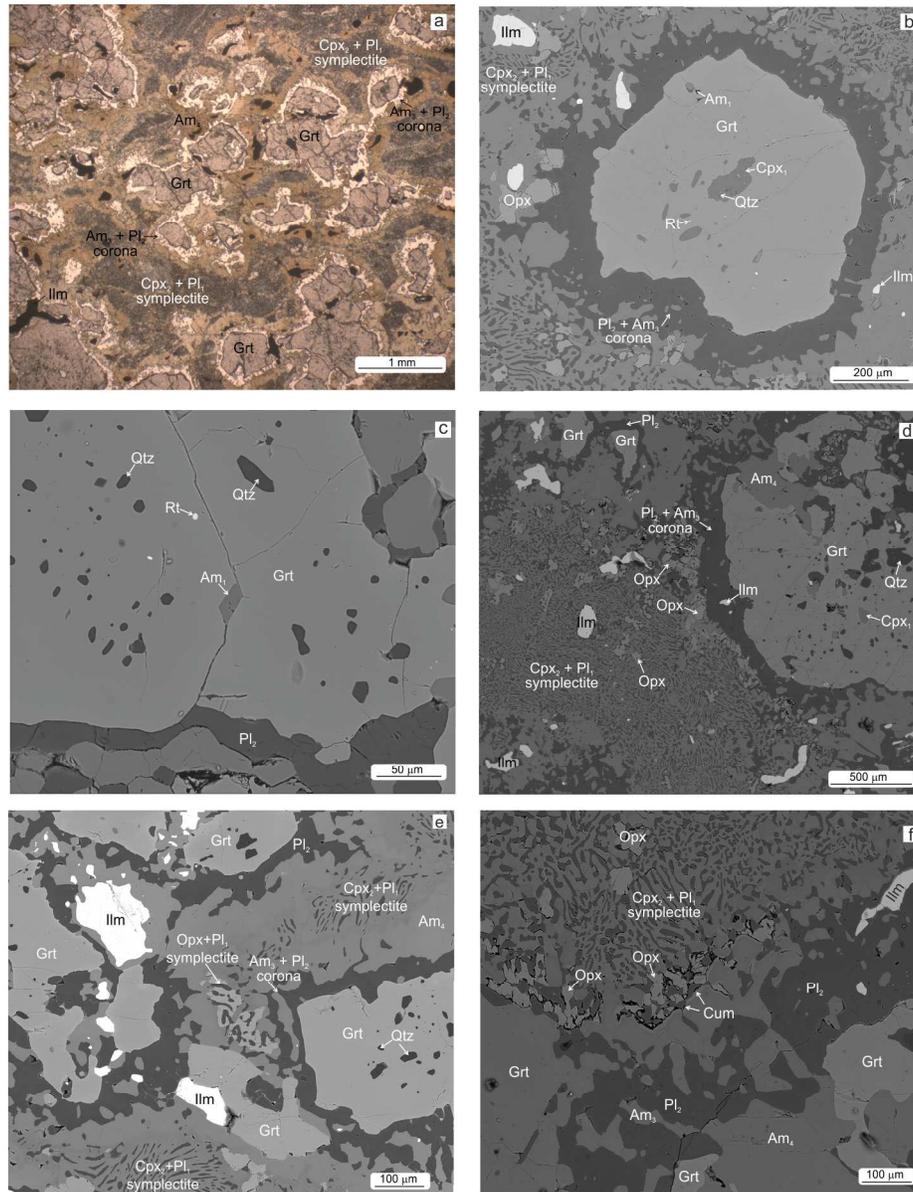


Figure 3  
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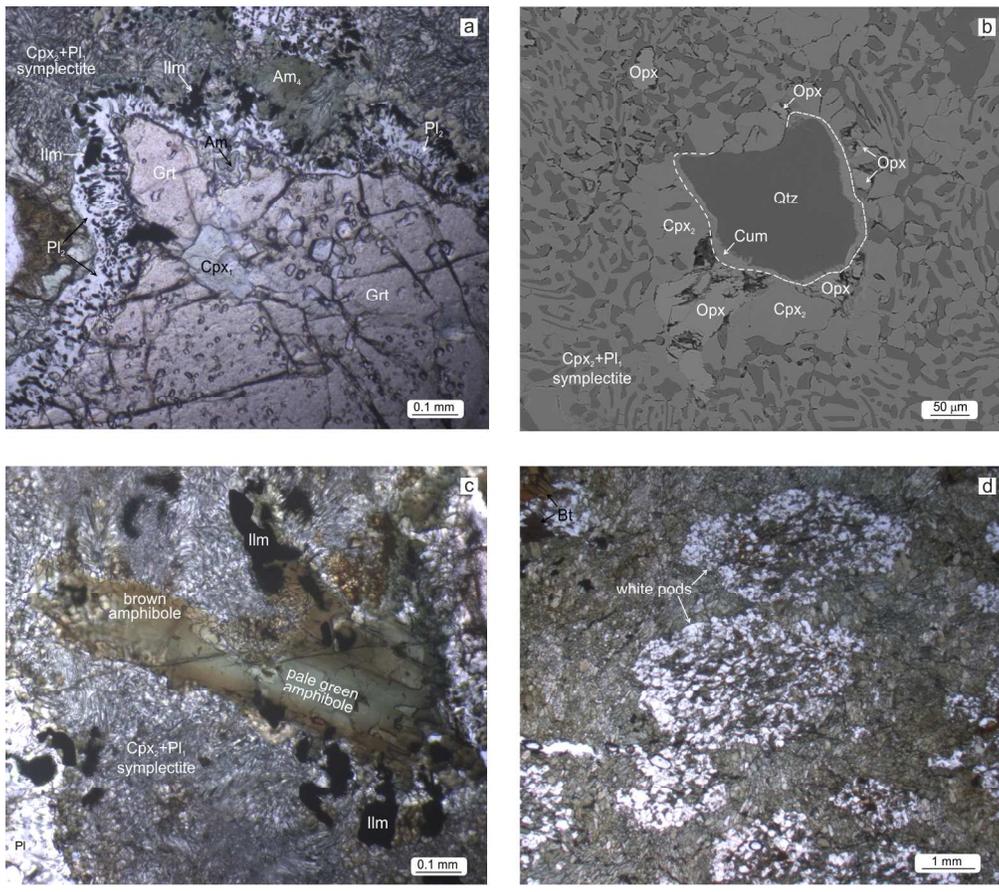


Figure 4  
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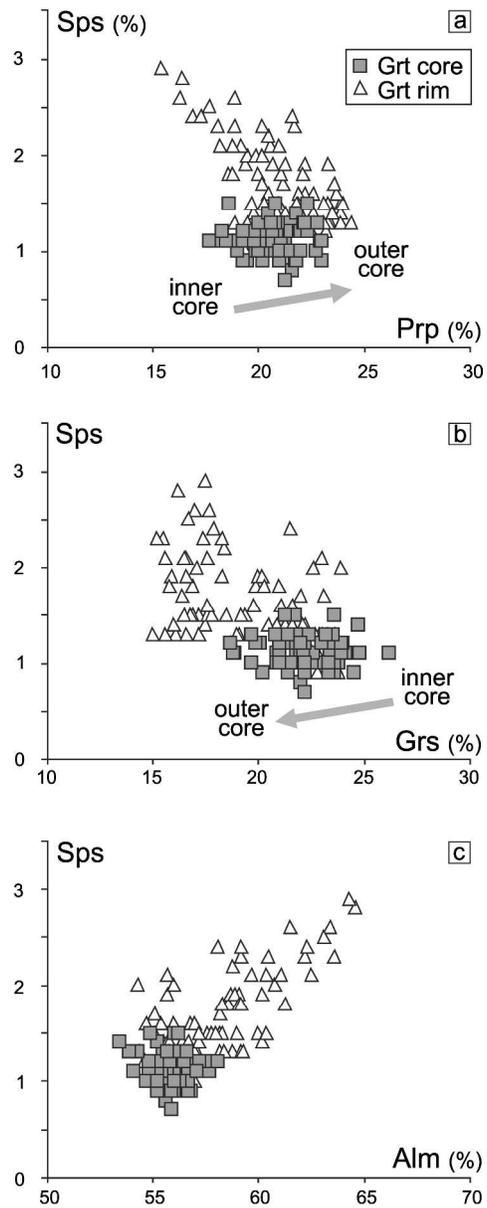


Figure 5  
212x542mm (600 x 600 DPI)

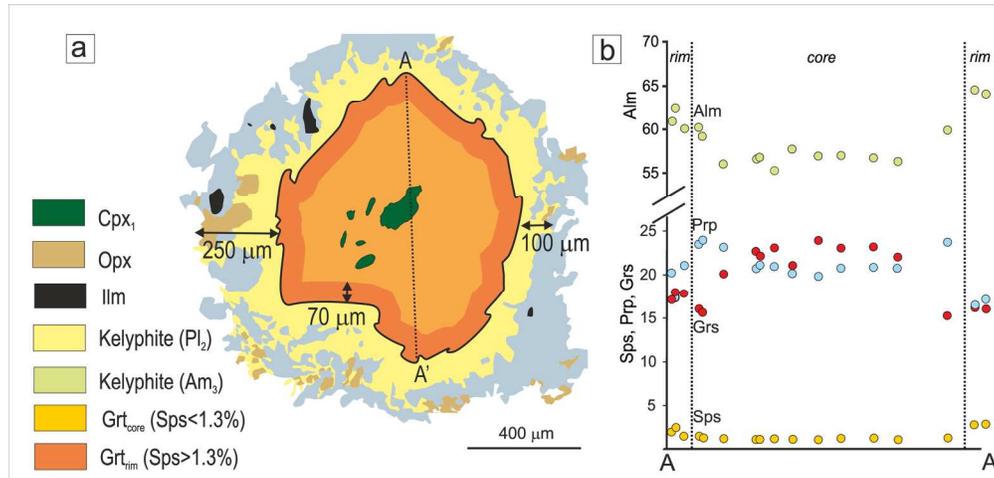


Figure 6  
175x84mm (300 x 300 DPI)

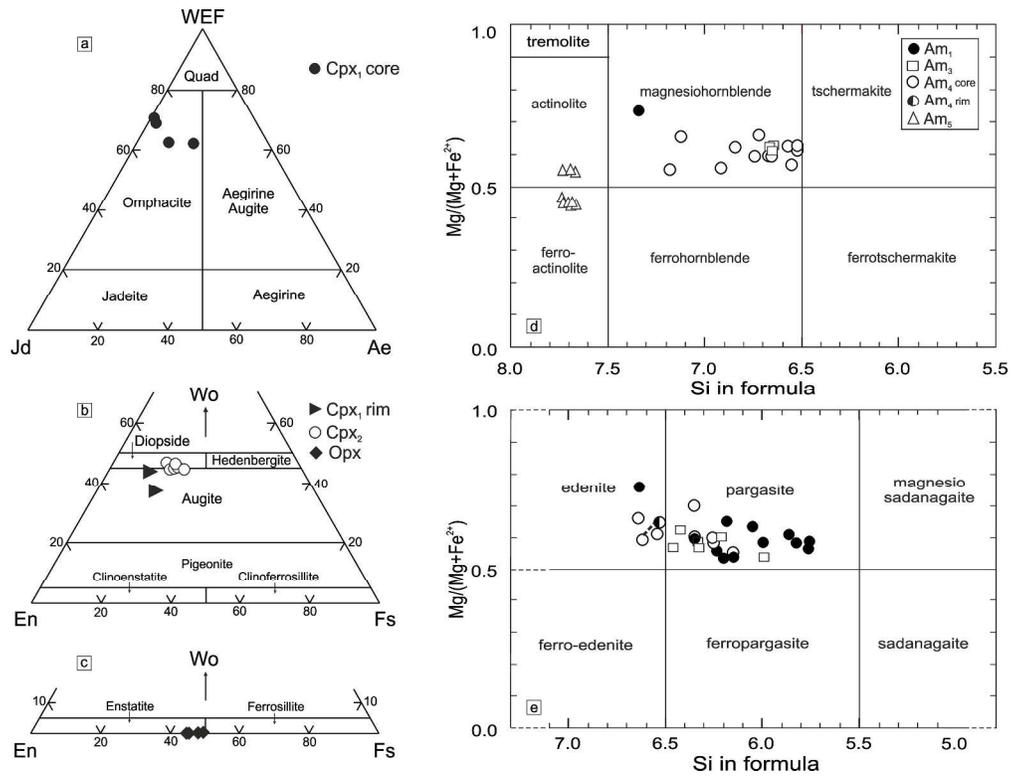
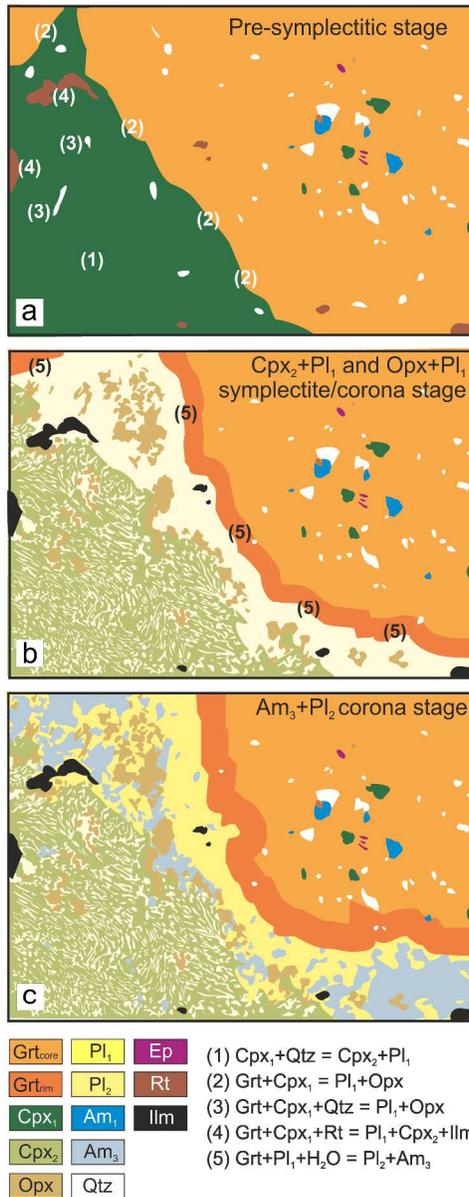


Figure 7  
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209x526mm (300 x 300 DPI)

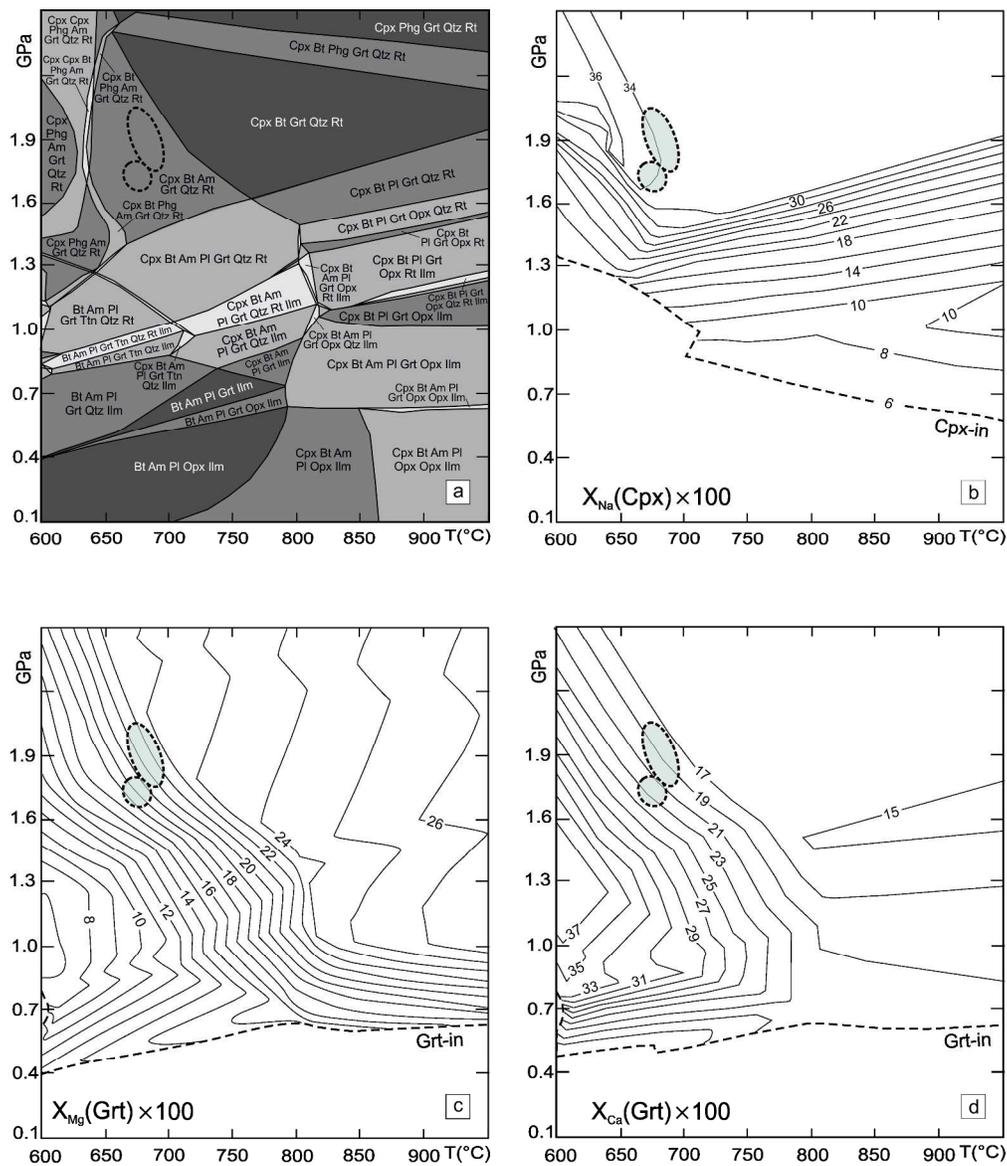


Figure 9  
296x343mm (300 x 300 DPI)

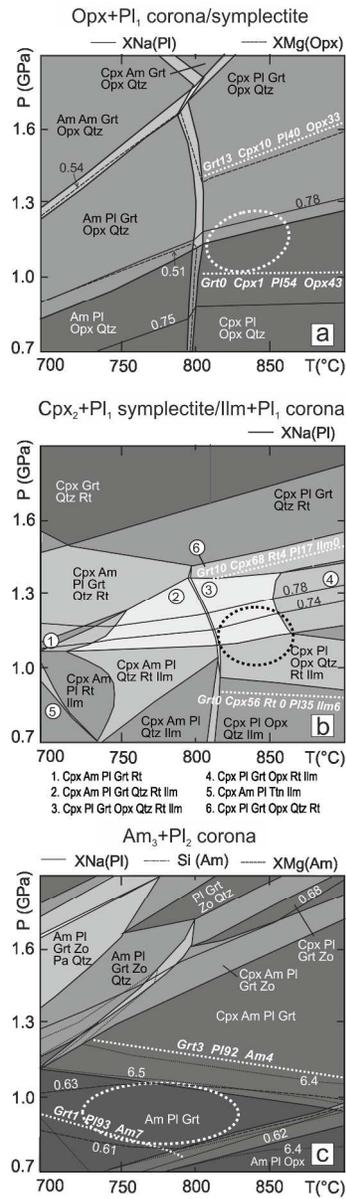


Figure 10  
 89x304mm (300 x 300 DPI)

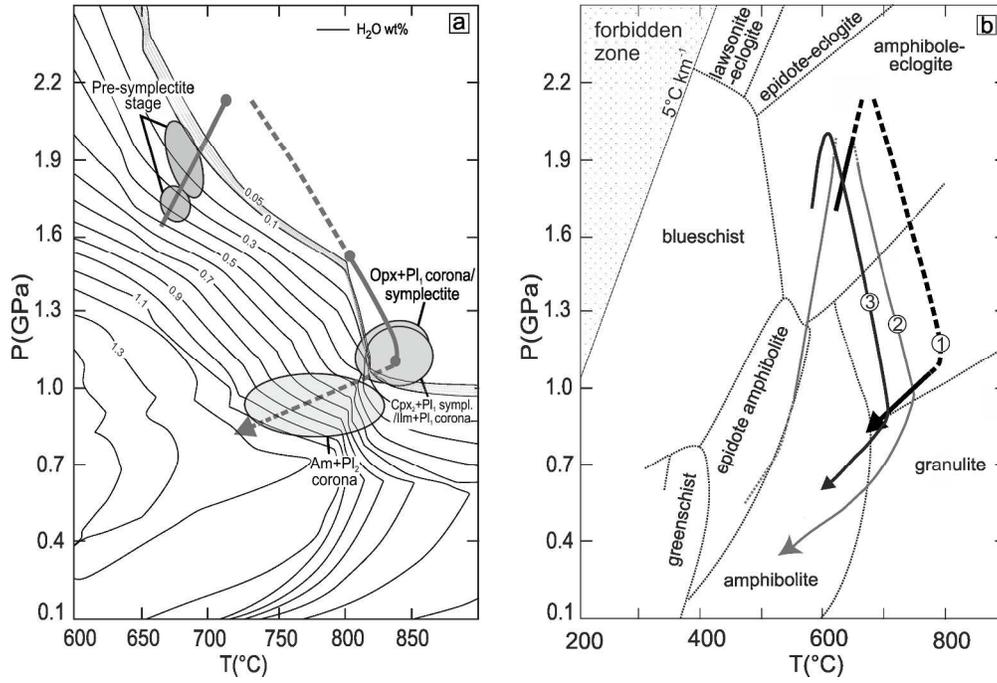


Figure 11  
247x185mm (300 x 300 DPI)

Table 1

	Grt core	*Grt out. core	Grt rim	*Cpx <sub>1</sub>	*Cpx <sub>2</sub>	*Opx	*Pl <sub>1</sub>	Pl <sub>1</sub>	Pl <sub>2</sub>	*Pl <sub>2</sub>	Am <sub>1</sub>	*Am <sub>3</sub>	Am <sub>4</sub>	Am <sub>5</sub>	Ilm
SiO <sub>2</sub>	38.56	38.98	37.97	54.57	51.58	48.84	60.71	62.02	58.00	59.44	40.09	44.63	41.95	51.63	0.02
TiO <sub>2</sub>	-	-	-	0.15	0.11	0.08	0.02	-	0.01	0.01	1.16	1.16	1.63	-	52.59
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	21.15	21.25	20.91	7.31	0.97	0.44	23.99	23.59	26.35	25.50	14.74	10.00	13.00	2.05	-
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	-	-	-	-	0.06	-	0.01	-	0.02	0.02	-	0.03	0.08	-	-
FeO	26.01	25.99	29.70	8.51	11.22	32.09	0.31	0.28	0.28	0.32	16.87	15.85	15.82	19.64	46.56
MnO	0.52	0.42	1.27	0.10	0.21	0.55	-	-	-	-	-	0.10	0.09	0.11	1.68
MgO	5.44	6.00	4.24	10.05	12.21	16.29	-	-	-	-	10.13	11.67	10.58	11.94	0.10
CaO	8.27	7.35	5.81	15.06	22.21	0.58	5.42	4.63	7.80	6.62	11.06	10.84	11.28	11.44	0.04
Na <sub>2</sub> O	-	-	-	4.29	0.39	0.01	8.46	9.02	7.12	7.73	2.70	1.83	2.09	0.15	-
K <sub>2</sub> O	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.24	0.11	0.18	0.10	-
Total	99.95	99.99	99.90	100.04	98.96	98.88	98.94	99.60	99.60	99.66	96.99	96.22	96.70	97.06	100.99
oxy	12	12	12	6	6	6	8	8	8	8	23	23	23	23	3
Si	3.01	3.03	3.01	1.99	1.97	1.94	2.73	2.76	2.60	2.66	6.00	6.65	6.27	7.69	0.00
Al	1.94	1.94	1.95	0.31	0.04	0.02	1.27	1.24	1.39	1.34	2.60	1.76	2.29	0.36	-
Ti	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	0.13	0.13	0.18	-	0.99
Cr	-	-	-	-	0.01	-	0.00	-	0.00	0.00	-	0.00	0.01	-	-
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	1.66	1.69	1.93	0.25	0.30	0.92	-	-	-	-	1.57	1.55	1.60	2.19	0.98
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.13	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.54	0.42	0.38	0.25	-
Mn	0.03	0.03	0.09	0.00	0.01	0.02	-	-	-	-	-	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04
Mg	0.63	0.69	0.50	0.55	0.70	0.97	-	-	-	-	2.26	2.59	2.36	2.65	0.00
Ca	0.69	0.61	0.49	0.59	0.91	0.02	0.26	0.22	0.38	0.32	1.77	1.73	1.81	1.83	0.00
Na	-	-	-	0.30	0.03	0.00	0.74	0.78	0.62	0.67	0.78	0.53	0.61	0.04	-
K	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.02	-
Sum	8.00	8.00	8.00	4.00	4.02	4.02	5.00	5.01	5.00	5.00	15.71	15.40	15.53	15.04	2.01
X <sub>Na</sub>				0.34	0.03		0.74	0.78	0.62	0.68					
Pyr	0.21	0.23	0.17												
Alm	0.55	0.56	0.64												
Sps	0.01	0.01	0.03												
Grs	0.23	0.20	0.16												
X <sub>Mg</sub>	0.28	0.29	0.21	0.69	0.70	0.51					0.59	0.63	0.60	0.55	

Table 2

Method	XRF	balanced reaction (2)	balanced reaction (4)	balanced reaction (5)
Micro-domain	whole rock	Opx+Pl <sub>1</sub> symp./ corona	Ilm+Pl <sub>1</sub> corona and Cpx <sub>2</sub> +Pl <sub>1</sub> symp.	Pl <sub>2</sub> +Am <sub>3</sub> corona
Figure	Fig. 9	Fig. 10a	Fig. 10b	Fig. 10c
SiO <sub>2</sub> (wt%)	45.42	56.61	51.18	57.47
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.76	0.00	4.71	0.00
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.76	11.83	8.25	25.19
FeO	16.09	15.45	9.95	1.34
MgO	6.85	9.14	7.55	1.00
CaO	10.36	2.87	15.38	8.24
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.05	4.10	2.98	6.76
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.00