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## Ion microprobe analysis of oxygen isotopes in garnets of complex chemistry

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2 **Abstract**

3 Accurate ion microprobe analysis of oxygen isotope ratios in garnet is possible if  
4 appropriate standards are employed to correct for instrumental bias, a component of which  
5 depends on the cation chemistry of the analyzed mineral. In this study, 26 garnet standards  
6 (including 14 new standards) that span the compositional range of pyrope, almandine,  
7 grossular, spessartine, and andradite were analyzed repeatedly by ion microprobe to develop  
8 a new method of correcting for instrumental bias in garnets. All analyses were normalized to  
9 a single master garnet standard (*UWG-2*) before bias from cation composition was  
10 considered. Bias due to cation composition in garnet was found to correlate with grossular  
11 content in pyrope garnets and with andradite in ugrandite garnets. Bias is correlated with  
12 molar volume in garnets of all compositions in this study. Although this correlation is  
13 suitable as a correction scheme for bias, a more accurate correction scheme based on the  
14 grossular and andradite compositions of garnet is proposed. This method reproduces the bias  
15 of all but one standard to within a range of 0.4‰, an accuracy that is on the same order as the  
16 reproducibility ( $\pm 0.3\%$ , 2 S.D.) of the master garnet standard *UWG-2*, but that remains an  
17 independent source of error. The new correction scheme is used to successfully reproduce  
18 laser fluorination analyses along a traverse of a polymetamorphic, zoned skarn garnet from  
19 the Adirondack Mountains. While previous analyses were at the mm-scale, the new data  
20 resolve a gradient of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of 2.1‰ over 16  $\mu\text{m}$ . If experimentally derived diffusion  
21 coefficients are correct, these new results show that granulite-facies metamorphism was  
22 significantly faster than previously assumed and the thermal peak was less than 5 Myr.

23

24

## 25 **1. Introduction**

26           Metamorphism in hydrothermal systems or skarns is often accompanied by radical  
27 shifts in fluid composition and temperature over short time scales (e.g., Taylor and O'Neil,  
28 1977; Bowman, 1998). In response to these changes, garnets and other minerals may form  
29 oscillatory zoning patterns in their major and trace element chemistry (e.g., Yardley et al.,  
30 1991; Jamtveit et al., 1993) as well as their oxygen isotope ratios (e.g., Clechenko and  
31 Valley, 2003). These micro-scale chemical and isotopic variations can be used to reconstruct  
32 ancient metamorphic fluid regimes. In particular, the oxygen isotope ratio of metamorphic  
33 garnet is a powerful tracer of hydrothermal systems because of the strong isotopic contrast  
34 between meteoric and most magmatic fluids (Valley, 1986) and the ability of garnet to  
35 preserve these ratios because of slow intragranular diffusion (e.g., Coghlan, 1990; Lancaster  
36 et al., 2009). However, the scale of isotopic heterogeneity within skarn minerals is generally  
37 much smaller than the volume of material required for analysis by conventional methods.  
38 Because of this, skarn garnets are an excellent target for oxygen isotope analysis by ion  
39 microprobe, and two studies have used single-collector ion microprobes to show that garnets  
40 preserve a detailed oxygen isotopic record of hydrothermal fluid history (Jamtveit and  
41 Hervig, 1994; Crowe et al., 2001).

42           The most recent generation of multicollector ion microprobes has allowed significant  
43 advances for in situ oxygen isotope analysis both in terms of reduced analysis spot size and  
44 in analytical precision. Analyses of minerals with limited cation solid solution, such as zircon  
45 and quartz, have improved from  $\pm 2\%$  (2 S.D.) on 30  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter pits (e.g., Valley and  
46 Graham, 1991) to  $\pm 0.7\%$  (2 S.D.) on 20  $\mu\text{m}$  pits (Cavosie et al., 2005) to  $\pm 0.3\%$  (2 S.D.) on  
47 10  $\mu\text{m}$  pits (Kelly et al., 2007; Kita et al., 2009; Valley and Kita, 2009). For ultra-small spots

48 (< 1 $\mu$ m in diameter) Page et al. (2007) attained a precision of  $\pm 2\%$  (2 S.D.). The smaller  
49 spot sizes and better precision can be attributed to improvements in technology and to  
50 refinements in technique, which include tuning and operation of the instrument, sample  
51 preparation, and standardization (Kita et al., 2009; Valley and Kita, 2009). For some  
52 minerals, including magnetite and hematite, the orientation of the crystal lattice has been  
53 shown to affect the instrument bias (Huberty et al. 2009), however, the data reported here  
54 show that any such orientation effect is smaller than the grain-to-grain precision of  $\pm 0.3\%$   
55 that is regularly attained for randomly orientated grains of garnet. Due to the significant  
56 instrument bias inherent in ion microprobe analysis (e.g., Shimizu and Hart, 1982), accurate  
57 measurements of stable isotope ratios must be empirically corrected by regular and frequent  
58 analysis of well-characterized reference material. Because variable cation composition of  
59 some minerals or glasses contributes to the instrumental bias (the "matrix effect" or  
60 instrumental mass fractionation e.g., Eiler et al., 1997; Valley and Kita, 2009), most ion  
61 microprobe studies of oxygen isotope ratios have been confined to phases of limited solid  
62 solution (e.g., zircon, quartz, calcite). In addition, many papers that address instrumental bias  
63 and propose correction schemes were developed for a previous generation of single-collector  
64 ion microprobes that made use of extreme energy filtering with only one collector and  
65 relatively low mass resolution (e.g., Hervig et al., 1992; Riciputi and Paterson, 1994; Eiler et  
66 al., 1997; Riciputi et al., 1998). Under these conditions, the instrumental bias can be in  
67 excess of 50% for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ . More recently, Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) addressed the issue of bias in  
68 a large-radius multicollector ion microprobe, specifically in aluminous  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ -Mg-Ca garnets,  
69 and developed a new correction scheme to allow relatively accurate analyses of these  
70 compositions ( $\pm 1$ -2%, 30-50 $\mu$ m pits). The instrument bias for these analyses at high mass-

71 resolution (MRP~2500) and low energy offset was significantly lower, below 7‰. The  
72 cation compositional range of the standards introduced by Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) are  
73 sufficient to address the instrumental bias in Al-rich Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Mg-Ca (pyralspite) garnets  
74 commonly found in metasedimentary, metamafic, and some igneous rocks. There are several  
75 studies that have established oxygen isotope zoning in garnets of these compositions (e.g.,  
76 Kohn et al., 1993, 1994, 1997; Skelton et al., 2002; Peck and Valley, 2004) and some that  
77 have made use of ion microprobe analysis of zoned pyralspite garnets (Vielzeuf et al.,  
78 2005a,b; Martin et al., 2006; Lancaster et al., 2009). However, hydrothermal skarn garnets  
79 are most commonly Ca-rich with variable Fe<sup>3+</sup>/Al (ugrandite) and the Vielzeuf et al. (2005a)  
80 standard set and correction scheme does not extend to these compositions.

81         The present study uses new, higher precision analyses by the latest generation  
82 multicollector ion microprobe (ims-1280) to examine instrumental bias systematically from  
83 26 garnet standards covering a wide range of solid solution, including more Ca-rich grossular  
84 and andradite compositions. This study has three main goals: 1) to increase the range of  
85 possible applications of this method; 2) to develop more straightforward, flexible and  
86 accurate correction schemes; and 3) to use these methods to place constraints on the rate of  
87 oxygen diffusion in garnet. We have applied our new correction procedure in the analysis of  
88 an oscillatory-zoned garnet from the Willsboro Mine, a polymetamorphosed garnet-diopside-  
89 wollastonite skarn from the Adirondack Mountains, New York, USA, described by  
90 Clechenko and Valley (2003).

91

## 92 **2. Garnet Standards**

93 In this study, 27 garnet standards were used to evaluate matrix effects in oxygen  
94 isotope analysis by ion microprobe (Table 1). All of these standards were evaluated for  
95 oxygen isotopic homogeneity by ion microprobe, and for cation homogeneity by electron  
96 microprobe (Supplementary Table A). Oxygen isotope ratios were determined by laser  
97 fluorination for all new standards, and in some cases existing standards were analyzed as  
98 well for comparison to values in the literature. The standards used in this study and their  
99 average cation and isotopic compositions and observed isotopic variability are recorded in  
100 Table 1; cation compositions are shown in Figure 1; electron microprobe analyses, cation  
101 variability and formula calculation are found in Table A, supplementary electronic materials.

102 Five garnet standards (Fig. 1) from Eiler et al. (1997) provide near-end-member  
103 compositions for grossular (*GrsSE*) and spessartine (*SpsSE*) garnets as well as slightly more  
104 dilute almandine (*AlmSE* & *AlmCMG*), and one intermediate almandine-pyrope (*UWG-2*)  
105 that is an extremely well-characterized standard for laser fluorination analysis of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
106 (Valley et al., 1995). Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) increased the cation compositional range of ion  
107 microprobe garnet standards, particularly along the pyrope-almandine join by including an  
108 end-member pyrope from the Dora Maira quartzite (*PypDM*) and five more intermediate  
109 compositions (*PypMM*, *PypAk*, *PypAA*, *Bal509*,  $\beta 114$ ). In addition, they included one more  
110 standard on the almandine-grossular join (*2B3*). Detailed information on the origins of these  
111 standards as well as chemical composition and unit cell dimensions can be found in Vielzeuf  
112 et al. (2005a).

113 In addition to these existing standards, we introduce 6 garnet standards from eclogitic  
114 xenoliths in kimberlite with intermediate almandine – pyrope compositions and from 7 to 61  
115 mol % grossular. Standards *13-63-21*, *13-62-27*, *13-62-29*, *13-63-20*, and *13-63-44* were

116 separated by Dan Schulze from xenoliths found in the Blaauwbosch kimberlite, South Africa  
117 (Ford, 1987; Schulze et al., 2003). Standard *R-53* is from an eclogitic xenolith found in the  
118 Roberts-Victor kimberlite (Garlick et al., 1971; MacGregor and Manton, 1986). To  
119 supplement the grossular-rich standard (*GrsSE*) used by both Eiler et al. (1997) and Vielzeuf  
120 et al. (2005a), we introduce three more grossular-rich garnets (*92W-1*, *10691*, *AF749A*) from  
121 garnet-diopside-wollastonite skarn metamorphosed to the granulite facies (Willsboro-Lewis  
122 skarn belt, Adirondack Mts., Kohn and Valley, 1998). An additional grossular-rich sample,  
123 *MexGrs* (Riciputi et al. 1998) was also analyzed but was excluded from the standard set  
124 because of numerous inclusions. Finally, to investigate matrix effects on the grossular-  
125 andradite join, we include four more standards (*92Lew-2*, *92Lew-7*, *92Lew-8*, *92Lew-10*)  
126 with the compositional range  $\text{And}_{49-91}$ , from the same skarn belt (Kohn and Valley, 1998).

127

### 128 **3. Analytical Methods**

#### 129 *3.1 Sample Preparation*

130 Garnet standards were crushed by hand, cast in 25 mm epoxy disks, and polished. All  
131 garnet standards and samples were mounted within 5 mm of the center of the epoxy disk, and  
132 all mounts include multiple grains of the *UWG-2* standard at the center of the mount.  
133 Standards vary in grain size from ~150  $\mu\text{m}$  to up to 5 mm, depending on the nature of the  
134 source material; between 3 and 36 grains of each standard were mounted in standard blocks.  
135 A zoned grossular-andradite garnet from the Willsboro wollastonite skarn (Adirondack  
136 Highlands, New York) that was previously analyzed for traverses of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  at mm-scale by  
137 laser fluorination (garnet 1a of Clechenko and Valley, 2003) using a thin saw-blade  
138 technique (Elsenheimer and Valley, 1993) was also prepared for ion microprobe analysis.



139 The Willsboro sample consists of a 700  $\mu\text{m}$  thick polished wafer of rock (thick section)  
140 attached to a glass microscope slide with superglue from which a  $\sim 1$  mm wide strip of  
141 material that represents a core to rim garnet transect had been removed and analyzed in chips  
142 by laser fluorination. The portion of the garnet immediately adjacent to this transect was  
143 removed from the slide with acetone and cast in the center of an epoxy disk containing the  
144 *UWG-2* standard and repolished for ion microprobe analysis.

### 145 *3.2 Electron Microprobe*

146 Cation chemistry of garnets was determined using the CAMECA SX51 electron  
147 microprobe at the University of Wisconsin - Madison. Garnets were analyzed in point beam  
148 mode with an accelerating potential of 15 kV and 20 nA beam current. The counting time  
149 was 10s on peak and 5s on both sides, off-peak. Natural and synthetic silicate and oxide  
150 standards were used. Data were reduced using the Probe for Windows software (Donovan et  
151 al., 2007), and oxygen was calculated by stoichiometry.  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  was estimated by charge-  
152 balance, assuming no site vacancies or OH substitution (Afifi and Essene, 1988). Chemical  
153 analyses of all garnet standards are presented in Supplementary Table A and summarized in  
154 Table 1.

### 155 *3.3 Laser Fluorination*

156 Analysis of oxygen isotopes to calibrate ion microprobe analyses for new standard  
157 material was performed on 1-2 mg garnet chips that were treated overnight at room  
158 temperature in the sample chamber with  $\text{BrF}_5$ , then individually heated with a  $\text{CO}_2$  laser in  
159 the presence of  $\text{BrF}_5$  to release  $\text{O}_2$ , which was cryogenically purified, converted into  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  
160 and analyzed on a Finnigan MAT 251 mass spectrometer (Valley et al., 1995). Isotopic ratios  
161 are reported in per mil (‰) notation relative to standard mean ocean water (VSMOW).

162 Accuracy and analytical precision were verified during each session by multiple analyses of  
163 the garnet standard *UWG-2* (Valley et al., 1995). Raw standard  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values for each session  
164 were corrected to the accepted *UWG-2* value ( $\delta^{18}\text{O} = 5.80\text{‰}$  VSMOW) and the same  
165 correction was applied to samples. The average uncorrected  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value ( $\pm 2$  S.D.) of *UWG-2*  
166 was  $5.59 \pm 0.08\text{‰}$  (n=5).

### 167 *3.4 Ion Microprobe*

#### 168 *3.4.1 Analysis Conditions*

169 Oxygen isotopic analyses were performed on the WiscSIMS CAMECA ims-1280  
170 high-resolution, multi-collector ion microprobe at the University of Wisconsin – Madison in  
171 10 analytical sessions over the course of over 2 years. A  $^{133}\text{Cs}^+$  primary ion beam (20 kV  
172 total accelerating voltage) was focused to a diameter of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  on the gold-coated sample  
173 surface. Secondary  $\text{O}^-$  ions were accelerated away from the sample by  $-10$  kV and the  
174 analysis site was centered under a uniform electron field generated by a normal-incidence  
175 electron gun for charge compensation. Primary ion intensities were ca. 2-3 nA. The  
176 secondary ion optics were configured similarly to those reported in Kita et al. (2009) in order  
177 to achieve high secondary ion transmission. Instrument parameters include: transfer lens  
178 magnification of 200, contrast aperture (CA) 400  $\mu\text{m}$  diameter, field aperture (FA) 4000 x  
179 4000  $\mu\text{m}$  square, entrance slit width 122  $\mu\text{m}$ , energy slit width 40 eV, and exit slit width  
180 500 $\mu\text{m}$ . At these conditions, both the primary ion spot image transferred to the FA window  
181 and the crossover image through the CA and entrance slit were almost fully transmitted  
182 compared to fully opened conditions. The intensity of  $^{16}\text{O}$  was 2 to 3  $\times 10^9$  cps depending on  
183 the primary intensity (ca.  $10^9$  cps/nA). Mass resolving power (MRP,  $M/\Delta M$ ), measured at  
184 10% peak height, was set to ca. 2200, enough to separate hydride interferences on  $^{18}\text{O}$ . Two

185 Faraday cups (FC) were used to measure  $^{16}\text{O}$  and  $^{18}\text{O}$  simultaneously and the amplifiers on  
186 each were equipped with  $10^{10}$  and  $10^{11}$   $\Omega$  resistors, respectively. The base line of the FC  
187 amplifiers was measured at the beginning of each analytical session; drift during the day was  
188 insignificant compared to the noise level of the detectors ( $\leq 1000$  cps for the  $^{18}\text{O}$  FC with  $10^{11}$   
189  $\Omega$  resistor, Kita et al., 2009). The magnetic field was regulated by a Nuclear Magnetic  
190 Resonance (NMR) probe with stability of mass better than 10 ppm/10 hours. At each analysis  
191 position, any small misalignment of the secondary optics due to changing stage position was  
192 automatically re-tuned before analysis. Instrument stability during each analytical session is  
193 documented by repeated analyses of the UWG-2 standard (Supplementary Table B).

#### 194 3.4.2 Standardization

195 Minerals with limited solid solution (e.g., quartz, calcite, zircon) are corrected for  
196 instrument bias by adjusting the raw data by a factor ( $\alpha^{18}\text{O}_{\text{SIMS}}$ ) obtained by analyzing a  
197 standard of the same mineral and chemical composition embedded in the same mount.  
198 Blocks of typically 4 standard analyses (different spots on one or more grains) are made  
199 before and after each set of sample analyses. In order to isolate the variation of bias  
200 generated by matrix effects within the garnet family from other sources of bias such as  
201 variability of instrument conditions over time, raw data from all garnet analyses (sample and  
202 compositional standard) were first corrected using the bracketing analyses of the *UWG-2*  
203 standard that is embedded in each sample mount. A fractionation factor ( $\alpha^{18}\text{O}^*_{\text{SIMS}}$ ) is  
204 calculated from the bracketing analyses of *UWG-2* relative to the accepted value of *UWG-2*  
205 on the VSMOW scale (5.80‰, Valley et al., 1995) following equation 2.1 in Kita et al.  
206 (2009).

207

208 
$$\alpha^{18}\text{O}^*_{SIMS} = \frac{1 + (\delta^{18}\text{O}_{RAW}/1000)}{1 + (\delta^{18}\text{O}_{VSMOW}/1000)} \quad (3.1)$$

209 A preliminary  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value for each sample (or compositional standard) is then  
 210 calculated using  $\alpha^{18}\text{O}^*_{SIMS}$  and equation 2.5 of Kita et al. (2009).

211 
$$\delta^{18}\text{O}^* = \left\{ \left[ 1 + (\delta^{18}\text{O}_{RAW}/1000) \right] / \alpha^{18}\text{O}^*_{SIMS} - 1 \right\} \times 1000 \quad (3.2)$$

212 This preliminary corrected value is denoted as  $\delta^{18}\text{O}^*$  and is the same as  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{VSMOW}$   
 213 only for garnets with the same bias (or chemical composition) as *UWG-2* and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}^*$   
 214 increasingly differs from the VSMOW scale as garnet compositions (and biases) differ from  
 215 that of *UWG-2*. The use of a preliminary correction to  $\delta^{18}\text{O}^*$  allows comparison of data  
 216 between standard brackets or between different analysis sessions, but does not take into  
 217 account the bias generated by chemical variability among garnets. This bias observed in the  
 218 25 other (secondary) garnet standards (vs. *UWG-2*) can be expressed in permil deviation  
 219 from the bias observed in the analysis of *UWG-2* with the following relation:

220 
$$(\text{bias rel. } UWG-2) \approx \delta^{18}\text{O}^* - \delta^{18}\text{O} \quad (3.3)$$

221 where  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  is the isotopic composition of the standard on the VSMOW scale as determined  
 222 by laser fluorination. Because the bias,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}^*$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  generally differ by less than 10‰  
 223 (and in most cases, they differ by much less) this approximation is accurate to within 0.1‰  
 224 (Kita et al. 2009).

225 For analyses of sample garnets, a correction is applied based on the compositional  
 226 dependence of bias observed among standards analyzed during the same analysis session.  
 227 Different possible correction schemes are compared in section 5.4. In addition to isolating  
 228 compositional effects from other sources of bias, this correction method allows us to use a  
 229 single, particularly well-characterized standard (*UWG-2*) to evaluate spot-to-spot

230 reproducibility of analyses by emulating the standard-sample-standard bracketing correction  
231 schemes used to ensure high precision and accuracy oxygen isotopic analyses of other phases  
232 such as zircon, calcite, and quartz. Finally, using *UWG-2* as a “master standard” allows a  
233 significant practical advantage in that only one standard need be embedded in each sample  
234 mount, and other standard material used to evaluate or correct for matrix bias can be reused  
235 in separate standard mounts as long as they are also corrected to *UWG-2*. The external errors  
236 of bracketing *UWG-2* analyses were typically 0.2-0.4‰ (2 S.D.) for 10µm diameter analysis  
237 pits. After ion microprobe analysis, the bottoms of all pits were examined by scanning  
238 electron microscope in secondary electron imaging for inclusions and cracks that might affect  
239 the measured oxygen isotope ratios, and classified as “regular” or “irregular” according to  
240 Cavosie *et al.* (2005). All data used in this study are exclusively from pits that were observed  
241 to be “regular” (inclusion and crack-free).

#### 242 3.4.3 Sputter test

243 Eiler *et al.* (1997) observed a strong correlation with a single collector ion microprobe  
244 between the bias and sputter rate of glasses of various compositions and albite, and used this  
245 correlation as the foundation of a kinetic model to predict matrix effect bias. To compare the  
246 sputter rate of sample material with instrument bias, we conducted a sputtering rate test on a  
247 subset of garnet standards. The primary Cs<sup>+</sup> ion beam was focused into a point beam and  
248 rastered over a 30 x 30 µm region for 60 minutes. The dimensions of the pits were measured  
249 at nm-scale using a Zygo white-light profilometer. The rastered pits were found to have flat  
250 bottoms, and the depth was by taken as the average depth of the center portion of four  
251 transects through the center of each square pit. The reproducibility of this measurement was  
252 on the order of 2-3 nm for a single pit.

253

#### 254 **4. Results**

255 Garnet standards were analyzed in ten sessions from April 2006 to August 2008, with  
256 between 3 and 25 standards analyzed per session. Each standard was analyzed between 4 and  
257 20 times per session and bias data were corrected by the average bias calculated from the  
258 bracketing *UWG-2* analyses. Instrumental bias measured on *UWG-2* ranged from 1.5 to  
259 4.6‰ between analysis sessions, but varied by less than 0.6‰ within a single session  
260 (average reproducibility =  $\pm 0.3\%$  2 S.D.). Spot to spot reproducibility of secondary standards  
261 ranges from  $\pm 0.2$  to  $\pm 0.8\%$  (2 S.D.) with an average reproducibility of 0.4‰ (2 S.D., Table  
262 1). More than half of the standards, spanning the entire compositional range, displayed  
263 variability on the same order as the analytical uncertainty ( $\leq 0.4\%$ , 2 S.D.). The observed  
264 variability in a number of standards greater than analytical uncertainty is likely due to some  
265 small degree of natural heterogeneity. The bias relative to *UWG-2* for each standard in each  
266 session is reported in Table 2, and detailed data from each analysis session can be found in  
267 Table B of the electronic supplementary materials. When standards were analyzed multiple  
268 times over the 28-month period, bias relative to *UWG-2* was found to vary on average by  
269  $\pm 0.3\%$  and in all cases less than  $\pm 0.7\%$ .

270 The component of instrumental bias caused by matrix effects (i.e., bias rel. to *UWG-*  
271 2) of garnet standards in this study ranges from -1.1‰ for near end-member pyrope and  
272 almandine standards to +7.1‰ for the most andradite-rich standard. Low-Ca (grossular +  
273 andradite < 20 mol%) standards (pyrope, almandine, and the single spessartine) have a very  
274 limited range of bias (1.5‰) out of the total range of 8.2‰. In Al-rich, Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Ca garnets,  
275 bias ranges 4‰ (-1.1 to +2.9‰ relative to *UWG-2*) and correlates with the grossular content

276 (Fig. 2a) as previously described by Vielzeuf et al. (2005a). However, in grossular-andradite  
277 garnets bias ranges an additional 4.2‰ (+2.9 to +7.1‰ relative to *UWG-2*) and is inversely  
278 correlated with the grossular content (Fig. 2b) and positively correlated with the andradite  
279 content. Data from the sputter test are presented in Table C and are plotted in Figure A of the  
280 electronic supplementary materials; no correlation was found between sputter rate and bias  
281 for garnets, in contrast to single detector data at high energy offset for albite and silicate  
282 glasses (Eiler et al., 1997).

## 283 **5. Discussion**

### 284 *5.1 Comparison with previous work*

285         There is a broad correlation in the magnitude and sign of instrumental biases among  
286 standards of similar composition used in this study and Vielzeuf et al. (2005a). However,  
287 there are significant differences in the measured bias values between the two studies. The  
288 total range in bias varies up to 6.3‰ in Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) but varies only 4.0‰ over the  
289 same compositional range in this study. The bias on *UWG-2* ranges between 1.5 and 4.6‰  
290 between analysis sessions in this study, whereas it varies from -4.8 to 0.5‰ in Vielzeuf et al.  
291 (2005a). Although the different ranges of *UWG-2* values (range = 3.1 vs. 5.3‰) suggests  
292 greater variability in instrument conditions in one study, the differences in bias between the  
293 two multicollector ion microprobe studies are small when compared with the -60.4‰ bias  
294 generated by the analysis of *UWG-2* on a single collector ion microprobe at high energy  
295 offset (Eiler et al., 1997). A more detailed comparison between the present study and that of  
296 Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) is somewhat confounded by different standardization techniques.  
297 Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) did not run a specific standard (such as *UWG-2*) as frequently as in  
298 this study to correct for small instrumental drifts and simply reported instrumental bias for

299 each standard relative to the VSMOW scale. Because of this, measurements of instrumental  
300 bias for every garnet standard (*UWG-2* and other standards) within and among analysis  
301 sessions include changes in instrumental conditions and may not be directly compared.

## 302 *5.2 Bias and garnet composition*

303 Instrument bias in garnets is strongly correlated with Ca-content in Al-rich garnets  
304 and appears to be approximately linear for compositions of less than ~30 mol.% grossular  
305 (Fig. 2a). However, compositions of greater than 30 mol.% grossular affect bias to a lesser  
306 degree. Bias changes ~ 2‰ relative to *UWG-2* between 0-30 mol.% grossular, but only  
307 increases an additional ~2‰ between 30-90 mol.% grossular. This non-linear relationship  
308 between bias and composition is consistent with similar trends observed in feldspars,  
309 pyroxenes, olivine, and carbonates (Valley and Kita, 2009) In Ca-rich garnets, bias is  
310 inversely correlated with grossular (Al) content (Fig. 2b) and positively correlated with  
311 andradite ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ ), with one clear outlier (*MexGrs*). The instrumental bias measured for  
312 *MexGrs* is consistently > 1‰ greater than the four other grossular-rich garnets of similar  
313 composition in this study. Ion microprobe analyses of *MexGrs* suggest that the garnet itself is  
314 not strongly variable in oxygen isotopic composition ( $\pm 0.7\text{‰}$  2 S.D.). However, unlike any  
315 other garnet in this study, *MexGrs* contains a substantial number of inclusions. Although  
316 these inclusions are easy to avoid with the ion microprobe, the calibration by laser  
317 fluorination analysis constitutes a mixture of garnet and inclusion material. For this reason  
318 we exclude *MexGrs* as a standard material in our calibration, although we show the data for  
319 completeness.

320 Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) recognized a correlation between the Ca content of Al-rich  
321 garnets and bias in most of their analysis sessions. This observation is largely based on one



322 Ca-rich standard (*GrsSE*). The addition of more Ca-rich standards in this study confirms the  
323 strong correlation between Ca (grossular) and bias, and indicates that Fe<sup>+3</sup> (andradite) has an  
324 even stronger effect on instrumental bias.

### 325 5.3 Bias and molar volume

326         Andradite and grossular have a substantially larger unit cell dimension than the other  
327 garnet end-members in this study. In order to test a correlation between molar volume and  
328 instrument bias (a possibility proposed by Vielzeuf et al., 2005a), the molar volume of each  
329 garnet standard was estimated as a weighted average of the molar volumes of end-members  
330 assuming ideal mixing. Volume data for pyrope, almandine, grossular, and andradite are  
331 taken from Robie and Hemingway (1995) and volume data for spessartine and uvarovite are  
332 from Diella et al. (2004). Physical properties of garnet such as unit cell dimension have long  
333 been successfully approximated from chemical data (e.g., Novak and Gibbs, 1971). The  
334 calculated molar volume for each standard can be found in Table 1, and agree well with the  
335 molar volumes determined for the subset of standards with published volumes determined by  
336 X-ray diffraction (Vielzeuf et al. 2005a).

337         The instrumental bias for the garnet standards in this study is well correlated with the  
338 calculated molar volume (Fig. 3). A least-squares linear regression of the data for all 26  
339 standards (excluding MexGrs) yields an R<sup>2</sup> value of 0.95. However, there is substantial  
340 variability of the data about the best-fit line, greater than the degree of observed  
341 heterogeneity in both cation and isotopic composition of the garnet standards. As in the study  
342 of Vielzeuf et al. (2005a), the lone spessartine-rich standard (*SpsSE*) lies well below the  
343 correlation between molar volume and bias line. However, *SpsSE* is not an outlier in the  
344 correlation between grossular and bias among Al-rich garnets (Fig. 2a).

345           Although the correlation between molar volume and bias provides a simple linear  
346 relationship, it does not explain the relatively large degree of variability observed among  
347 standards of similar cation composition, particularly those rich in grossular (even without  
348 *MexGrs*). One possibility in the case of greater observed bias than that predicted by  
349 calculated molar volume is the presence of an end-member such as hydrogrossular or  
350 hydroandradite that is analytically difficult to measure, but has a strong effect on molar  
351 volume. However, there is no evidence of a significant detectable hydrogen-bearing  
352 component (in the form of silica deficiency) for any of these standards. Although molar  
353 volume may provide a strong control on bias, one or more additional second-order effects  
354 may be responsible for the observed variability.

#### 355 *5.4 Correction scheme*

356           Correlations between physical properties and instrumental bias have been reported  
357 before (Hervig et al. 1992, Eiler et al. 1997, Riciputi et al. 1998). These workers noted a  
358 correlation between atomic mass and bias but also observed that the presence of residuals of  
359 up to 10‰ made this correlation unsuitable as a correction scheme. Most recently, Vielzeuf  
360 et al. (2005a) reported a correlation between molar volume and bias for garnets. However,  
361 because of limited standards, this correlation was deemed unsuitable as the basis for a  
362 correction scheme.

363           With the increased number of standards in this study, the observed correlation  
364 between calculated molar volume and bias could be used as a basis for correction. A least-  
365 squares linear regression of the data for 25 standards (not including the  $2\sigma$  *SpsSE* ) yields the  
366 relation:

$$367 \quad \text{Bias (\% relative to UWG-2)} = 0.426 \times \text{calc. molar volume (cc/mol)} - 49.42 \quad (5.1)$$

368 with an  $R^2$  value of 0.97 (2 S.E. of the estimate = 0.88‰). This represents a substantial  
369 improvement in comparison to the correction scheme of Vielzeuf et al. (2005a) that was  
370 based on a linear interpolation of the bias of four standards that bracket the sample in  
371 almandine, pyrope, grossular, and spessartine content. The relation between bias and molar  
372 volume described by equation (5.1) reproduces the measured composition of 75% of the 25  
373 standards used to within  $\pm 0.5\%$  of their accepted value, 85% to within  $\pm 0.6\%$ , and 95% to  
374 within 0.7%. Despite the extension in compositional range offered by this correction scheme,  
375 the improvement in accuracy ( $\pm 0.88\%$  2 S.E. of the estimate based on 25 garnets) is still  
376 substantially worse than the precision of the method as evidenced by typical reproducibility  
377 of standard analyses on the order of  $\pm 0.4\%$  (2 S.D.).

378 Another possible correction scheme is based on compositional variables, particularly  
379 the strong correlation between bias and grossular content in pyrospite garnets and andradite  
380 in ugrandite garnets. Riciputi et al. (1998) showed that instrumental bias in grossular-  
381 andradite garnets in single-collector ion microprobes could be estimated using a linear  
382 interpolation of bias along the Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup> chemical join, and suggested that this be the basis of a  
383 correction scheme. In this study, the relationships between bias and grossular among  
384 pyrospite garnets and between bias and andradite in ugrandite garnets are non-linear (Fig. 4).  
385 However, both are well-modeled with simple polynomial functions, with far less variability  
386 than the linear regression between molar volume and bias. This non-linear relationship is  
387 similar to that observed among other silicates and carbonates (Valley and Kita, 2009). The  
388 instrumental bias of the nineteen standards with less than 5 mol.% andradite (including  
389 *SpsSE*) can be related to the mole fraction of grossular (+minor uvarovite) with the following  
390 relation:

391           Bias (% relative to UWG-2) =  $-5.04(X_{\text{Grs+Uvar}})^2 + 8.96(X_{\text{Grs+Uvar}}) - 1.09$            (5.2)

392   For the 8 garnet standards (excluding *MexGrs*) that contain less than 10% almandine +  
393   pyrope + grossular, bias can be related to andradite (+ minor CaTi garnet) as

394           Bias (% relative to UWG-2) =  $-1.92(X_{\text{And+CaTi}})^2 + 6.18(X_{\text{And+CaTi}}) - 2.87$            (5.3)

395   These two calibrations reproduce the actual compositions of the 26 garnet standards used to  
396   ± 0.40‰ (2 S.E. of the estimate), a substantial improvement to the molar volume correction  
397   that makes accuracy comparable to the reproducibility of most garnet standards.

398           It is important to stress that the calibrations above are presented to demonstrate and  
399   compare between methods of correction. The values of instrumental bias measured relative to  
400   *UWG-2* for each standard remain remarkably consistent between analysis sessions, but  
401   should in no way be the basis for correction of data collected on different instruments under  
402   different operating conditions. New calibration curves should be generated by users on their  
403   own instruments, ideally during the same analysis session as the samples to be corrected. The  
404   use of a calibration based on 26 garnet standards (or even a substantial subset thereof) that  
405   need to be analyzed during each analysis session is impractical for routine correction of  
406   garnet data. A more practical approach to a correction scheme correction is to use a subset of  
407   standards that compositionally bracket the unknown and then estimate bias based on the  
408   grossular or andradite composition as appropriate. Our preferred correction procedure is a  
409   calibration curve based on grossular or andradite composition. At least 3-4 standards are  
410   analyzed that bracket the chemical composition of the unknown sample and delineate the  
411   overall shape of the curve (e.g., both low and high grossular/andradite standards are included  
412   in each calibration to avoid artifacts that might arise from a quadratic equation fit to only  
413   three points over a narrow compositional range). Compositional standards should be

414 analyzed during the same analysis session as samples to be corrected. A number of  
415 calibration curves were generated based on 3-4 standards using this approach. As long as the  
416 standards were chosen to cover a broad range of grossular or andradite compositions, the  
417 calibrations reproduced the full 26 garnet standard set to within  $\pm 0.3-0.5\%$  (2 S.E. of the  
418 estimate). This approach yields similar accuracy to that achieved with use of all standards.

419         The use of a correction procedure in which all samples are first normalized to *UWG-2*  
420 to correct for any instrumental instability and then corrected for matrix effect bias using the  
421 grossular or andradite of at least 3 secondary standards that compositionally bracket the  
422 unknown offers significant advantages in precision, accuracy, and convenience. Correction to  
423 a master standard allows for a single consistent method of determining the precision  
424 (reproducibility) of analyses as well as the practical advantage of allowing compositional  
425 standards to be stored in standard mounts and not embedded with samples. This allows use of  
426 the best and most plentiful standard for all sample mounts, and conserves more precious  
427 materials.

428         Errors in ion microprobe analyses arise from a myriad of sources ranging from  
429 counting statistics to sample topography (e.g., Kita et al., 2009). Propagation of all these  
430 sources of error would be an extremely arduous undertaking, and for this reason the external  
431 reproducibility of a standard is the best (and most workable) metric for error estimation  
432 (Valley and Kita, 2009). An instrumental bias calibration that is dependant on compositional  
433 variables introduces a new source of error independent of that measured by standard  
434 reproducibility. Errors resulting from the calibration scheme must therefore be added in  
435 quadrature to those arising from analytical uncertainty. However, it should be noted that the  
436 proposed calibration does not fully explain all sources of instrumental bias just as counting

437 statistics do not encompass all other sources of error in an analysis. True statistical rigor in  
438 the treatment of these uncertainties is, as yet, impossible.

439

## 440 **6. Application to growth zoning and diffusion**

### 441 *6.1 Adirondack skarn garnet*

442 The Adirondack Mountains of New York, USA are a Mid-Proterozoic,  
443 polymetamorphic, granulite-facies orogenic terrane. Intrusion of anorthosite and related  
444 magmas (1155±5 Ma, McLelland et al., 2004) formed a contact metamorphic aureole  
445 including skarn rocks that predate the peak of regional metamorphism (Valley and O'Neil,  
446 1982; Valley, 1985; Valley et al., 1990). The Adirondack skarns were buried and largely  
447 recrystallized during the Ottawan (ca. 1050 Ma) regional granulite-facies metamorphism, but  
448 small domains of unrecrystallized, oscillatory-zoned skarn garnets were locally preserved at  
449 the Willsboro Mine. Clechenko and Valley (2003) analyzed the oxygen isotopic composition  
450 of one to two centimeter diameter zoned garnets from Willsboro by laser fluorination of mm-  
451 scale chips taken from a core to rim transect of the garnets removed with a thin diamond saw.  
452 The oxygen isotopic composition of this transect in combination with major and trace  
453 element data were used to infer variable mixing of metamorphic fluids from meteoric (low  
454  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , Ca-rich) and magmatic (high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , Fe-rich) sources. The garnet zoning was preserved  
455 through subsequent granulite-facies metamorphism.

456 In this study we analyze oxygen isotope ratios along a traverse in one of the garnets  
457 (garnet 1a) previously analyzed by Clechenko and Valley (2003) collected from the  
458 Willsboro Mine, NY, USA (approx. 44°18'52"N, 73°52'54"W) in order to assess the  
459 accuracy of our correction technique, as well as to search for finer-scale isotopic zoning and

460 possibly larger variation than could be resolved by the existing analyses. The previous laser  
461 fluorination data document gradients in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of  $\sim 3\text{‰}$  over 1 mm, but larger and sharper  
462 gradients are predicted for contact metamorphism. The new ion microprobe data interrogate  
463 these gradients at a scale that is up to 100 times finer in linear resolution and one million  
464 times smaller in volume.

## 465 *6.2 Analysis and correction*

466 The remainder of the polished section of garnet 1a of Clechenko and Valley (2003)  
467 was mounted in epoxy with standard *UWG-2* and repolished. The original Fe-K $\alpha$  X-ray map  
468 of the composition of this garnet is reproduced in Figure 5a with the location of the laser-  
469 fluorination traverse and the new ion microprobe traverse. The traverse in this study was  
470 located adjacent to and parallel with the previous traverse. Seventy ion microprobe analyses  
471 were performed along the 7.3 mm transect and corrected to the *UWG-2* standard. The cation  
472 composition of the garnet was determined adjacent to each ion microprobe pit by electron  
473 microprobe, and used to correct the raw data for bias. The data were corrected using four  
474 grossular standards (*GrsSE*, *92W-1*, *10691*, *AF749A*) and two intermediate grossular-  
475 andradite standards (*92LEW10*, *92LEW7*). The intermediate grossular-andradite standards  
476 were analyzed in the same analysis session as the zoned garnet (June 2007) and the four  
477 grossular standards were analyzed in a separate session (August 2008). Instrumental biases  
478 for both these sessions are reported in Table 2. *92LEW7* was analyzed during both analytical  
479 sessions, and its bias relative to *UWG-2* differed by 0.03‰. Although analysis of secondary  
480 garnet standards during the same analysis session is desirable, normalization to *UWG-2*  
481 allows this correction to be made with a negligible change in estimated precision and  
482 accuracy. Ion microprobe analyses of standards, cation compositions for each analysis point,

483 and the correction scheme used are presented in Table D and Figure B, electronic  
484 supplementary materials.

### 485 *6.3 Results and Discussion*

486 The andradite composition of garnet 1a is plotted versus distance from the garnet rim  
487 in Figure 5b. The overall pattern of chemical composition is almost identical to the traverse  
488 made by Clechenko and Valley (2003, see their Fig. 5a), but was offset ca. 300  $\mu\text{m}$  along  
489 strike of the banding. The oxygen isotopic traverse from this study is plotted in Figure 5c,  
490 superimposed on the laser fluorination data of Clechenko and Valley (2003).

491 The oxygen isotope zoning in garnet 1a measured by ion microprobe is quite well  
492 correlated with that measured by laser fluorination. Two relatively andradite-rich, high- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$   
493 zones are interspersed with andradite-poor, low- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  zones within 7300  $\mu\text{m}$  of the rim (Fig.  
494 5b). The ion microprobe analyses reproduce most of the laser fluorination traverse within the  
495 stated uncertainty of the technique. However, ion microprobe analyses of the outermost low-  
496  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  zone yield isotope ratios up to 1‰ lower than that determined by the one laser  
497 fluorination analysis at 0-1000  $\mu\text{m}$ . Although it is possible that this discrepancy is due to a  
498 source of bias that is unaccounted for in the correction scheme, this seems unlikely,  
499 especially sine there is no indication of a hydrogrossular component in this sample Other  
500 intermediate grossular composition zones in this garnet show close agreement between laser  
501 and ion microprobe analyses (e.g., 4500 $\mu\text{m}$  from the rim), suggesting that no systematic  
502 relationship between grossular and analysis misfit exists. Mixed-composition laser analyses  
503 are the most likely explanation for this discrepancy.

504 Examination of this and similar garnets from Willsboro and related nearby  
505 wollastonite skarns shows that the andradite bands parallel euhedral crystal faces of garnet



506 (Clechenko and Valley, 2003). In many cases, zoning is preserved in only parts of the garnet.  
507 In Fig. 5a, these bands can be seen to become diffuse 3-5 mm to the left of the analysis  
508 traverses because the garnet was sheared and recrystallized during granulite facies  
509 metamorphism. Similar recrystallization has affected most of the garnets at Willsboro with  
510 the result that their cation compositions are homogenized and that they record Sm-Nd ages  
511 reset during regional metamorphism at ca. 1035 Ma (Basu et al. 1988). Taken together, all  
512 data support the interpretation that zoned garnets formed at the time of contact  
513 metamorphism and were locally preserved in low strain zones during recrystallization ca. 100  
514 myr later. The sharp chemical zonation that parallels garnet crystal faces (Fig.5a) resulted  
515 from growth zoning at 1155 Ma and is texturally and chemically distinct from the more  
516 diffuse effects of granulite facies recrystallization .

517 In the unrecrystallized domains of garnet 1a, BSE imaging and electron microprobe  
518 analyses reveal oscillatory zonation in Al and Fe<sup>3+</sup> but not the multiple  $\mu\text{m}$ -scale oscillations  
519 characteristic of many skarn garnets. Ion microprobe analysis of oxygen isotope ratios in this  
520 garnet reveals a generally smooth profile with only two sharp changes in isotopic  
521 composition ( $\sim 1400$  and  $\sim 5500$   $\mu\text{m}$  from the garnet edge). One possible reason for the  
522 absence of  $\mu\text{m}$ -scale features is diffusional relaxation of chemical and isotopic gradients  
523 during the granulite-facies regional metamorphic overprint. Clechenko and Valley (2003)  
524 calculated a characteristic length scale of diffusion (distance over which 50% exchange is  
525 predicted to have taken place) of 60  $\mu\text{m}$  for oxygen in the Willsboro garnets based on the  
526 experiments of Coghlan (1990) and a thermal event of 750°C for 50 My, based on regional  
527 thermobarometry and geochronology (Bohlen et al., 1985; McLelland et al., 2001). This  
528 length-scale of homogenization is consistent with the data-set of Clechenko and Valley

529 (2003) and suggests that fine-scale chemical features were homogenized in the Willsboro  
530 garnets, and only mm-scale zonation was preserved through granulite-facies metamorphism.

531 The most important feature of the new ion microprobe data for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  is the sharp  
532 gradient between the outermost low- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  rim and high- $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  zone between 1377 to 1393  $\mu\text{m}$   
533 from the edge of the garnet (Fig. 5c). This transition represents a jump of 2.1‰ in 16  $\mu\text{m}$   
534 (measured from the center of the analysis pits) coincident with an equally sharp change in the  
535 andradite content of garnet visible in the back-scattered electron image in Figure 6a.  
536 Although  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  decreases gradually across the Fe-rich band from a maximum of 6.3‰ at  
537 2400 $\mu\text{m}$  to 4.2 ‰ at 1400 $\mu\text{m}$ , the oxygen isotope ratios measured in the outermost grossular-  
538 rich zone are constant at 1.8‰ (Fig. 5c). If the gradual decrease in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  within the more  
539 andradite-rich band were the result of diffusional relaxation after garnet growth across an  
540 original step-change in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  at 1380  $\mu\text{m}$ , a symmetrical increase in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  would occur in the  
541 adjacent grossular-rich zone approaching 1380  $\mu\text{m}$ . No gradual change is seen from 500 to  
542 1380  $\mu\text{m}$  and thus the smooth changes in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  within the andradite-rich band are interpreted  
543 as growth-zoning, as is the sharp 2.1‰ gradient at 1380 $\mu\text{m}$  between these two zones.

544 The preservation of a sharp gradient in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  at 1380  $\mu\text{m}$  provides a very tight constraint on  
545 the maximum amount of oxygen diffusion in this garnet throughout its entire history. There  
546 is no diffusional process that would sharpen a  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  gradient, once formed. Thus, the  
547 maximum amount of oxygen exchange can be estimated if the gradient is assumed to have  
548 formed as a step of 2.1‰ over 0 $\mu\text{m}$ . This is a boundary condition, and it is possible that  
549 garnet growth produced a more gradual profile, closer to that observed in this garnet. If this  
550 were the case, models based on an initial step condition will over-estimate the duration of the  
551 metamorphic event or rate of exchange.

552 Diffusion of oxygen across this boundary was modeled as a simple, 1-dimensional  
553 system using equation 3.45 of Crank (1975). Because of the small scale of diffusion (<  
554 16 $\mu\text{m}$ ) compared to the size of the garnet (> 1 cm), the 1-D model is a conservative  
555 approximation. Initial values for core and rim  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  were taken as the average of ion  
556 microprobe data within 100  $\mu\text{m}$  of the transition ( $4.3\pm 0.4\text{‰}$  and  $1.8\pm 0.5\text{‰}$ , respectively).  
557 The sharp  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Al}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  transition boundary at 1380  $\mu\text{m}$  is shown in back-scattered  
558 electron imaging in Figure 6a and analysis pits are labeled in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  VSMOW. A detail of the  
559 ion-microprobe traverse in this region is shown in Figure 6b with modeled diffusion curves  
560 superimposed on the data. At 750°C, the diffusion rate (D) of oxygen in garnet based the  
561 experiments of Coghlan (1990,  $P_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1 \text{ kbar}$ ) is estimated at  $4.2 \times 10^{-25} \text{ m}^2 \text{ s}^{-1}$ . At this rate, the  
562 observed step could only have survived a thermal event of less than 1 My. Furthermore, this  
563 calculation does not include the effects of diffusion that would have also occurred during the  
564 heating and cooling of regional metamorphism. The extremely rapid heating and cooling  
565 required by the sharp gradient in this garnet interpreted in the context of the experiments of  
566 Coghlan (1990) are in striking contrast to the slow cooling rates of  $\sim 1.5^\circ\text{C}/\text{My}$  reported by  
567 Mezger et al. (1991) for this region. Although fleeting thermal events have recently been  
568 proposed for regional metamorphism (e.g., Ague and Baxter, 2007), it seems unlikely that the  
569 mid-crustal, 7-8 Kb granulite-facies regional metamorphism of the Adirondack Highlands  
570 could have taken place over so short a time span. Coghlan (1990) reports a conservative error  
571 envelope for the diffusion coefficient used in this calculation and even at the extreme, the  
572 slowest value of D within this range (i.e., the lowest value of  $D_0$  and the highest value of  $E_A$ )  
573 is not consistent with a peak of metamorphism lasting as long as 50 Myr. Taken together, the  
574 experimental data and the measured gradient for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (Fig. 6b) are most consistent with a

575 thermal peak lasting less than 5 My. If these estimates of the diffusion rate of oxygen in  
576 garnet at 750°C are correct, then the peak of regional metamorphism in the NE Adirondack  
577 Highlands was significantly faster than has previously been assumed. With increased  
578 understanding of the diffusion rate of oxygen in garnet and with further ion microprobe  
579 studies of single crystals, time and rate estimates based on oxygen diffusion profiles in garnet  
580 (and other minerals) will become more accurate than presently possible.

581         New technology and techniques used in the analysis of oxygen isotopes by ion  
582 microprobe have greatly improved the precision of the technique in the analysis of phases  
583 with limited solid solution. The use of a single garnet standard mounted in samples, regularly  
584 analyzed as a monitor for changes in instrumental conditions, provides similar precision in  
585 the analysis of garnets. The correction of instrumental bias due to cation composition in  
586 garnets can be done readily using 3 or more compositional standards in a separate standard  
587 mount. A correction scheme based on the grossular content of pyrospite garnets and the  
588 andradite content of ugrandite garnets brings the accuracy of analyses to the same order as  
589 analytical precision with a combined uncertainty of  $\pm 0.5$  to  $0.6\%$ , 2 S.D. Application of this  
590 approach to garnets will have widespread utility for estimation of thermal and fluid history  
591 during metamorphism.

592

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747

## 748 **Figure Captions**

749

750 Figure 1. Cation compositions of garnet standards used in this study. Standards used in  
751 previous studies are keyed to the study of their first use.

752

753 Figure 2. Instrument bias for oxygen isotope analysis at WiscSIMS (‰ relative to UWG-2)  
754 as a function of cation composition of garnet standards expressed in terms of mol %  
755 garnet end-members. (a) Bias in Al-rich Mg-Fe<sup>2+</sup>-Ca-Mn garnets is correlated with  
756 grossular content (CaAl). (b) Bias in Ca- rich Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup> garnets is inversely correlated  
757 with grossular. *MexGrs* is poorly calibrated, see text.

758

759 Figure 3. Instrument bias for oxygen isotope analysis at WiscSIMS ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , ‰ relative to  
760 UWG-2) as a function of calculated molar volume of the garnet standards. Errors are  
761 plotted as 2 S.E. The line is a least-squares linear regression (equation 5.1) and yields  
762 an  $R^2$  value of 0.95. Two garnets (*MexGrs* and *SpsSE*) fall outside of 2 S.E. of the  
763 estimate.

764

765 Figure 4. Instrument bias for oxygen isotope analysis at WiscSIMS ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , ‰ relative to  
766 UWG-2) as a function of Ca-rich garnet end-members. Instrumental bias in Al-rich  
767 pyralspite garnets (plotted as open circles) increases with grossular + uvarovite  
768 content. Instrumental bias in Ca-rich ugrandite garnets (plotted as filled circles) is  
769 greater than that in pyralspite garnets and increases with andradite + CaTi garnet  
770 content. Sample *MexGrs* is poorly calibrated, see text. Error bars are 2 S.E. of  
771 multiple analyses and are smaller than the sample points in most cases. The low-  
772 andradite grossular sample *GrsSE* appears in both plots. The polynomial best fit  
773 curves (equations 5.2 and 5.3) are also shown.

774

775 Figure 5. Oscillatory-zoned skarn garnet from the granulite-facies Willsboro wollastonite  
776 skarn, Adirondack Mountains, New York, USA. (a) Fe-K $\alpha$  X-ray image of the garnet  
777 showing andradite-rich zones (purple) and grossular-rich zones (blue). Yellow and  
778 orange minerals are sphene and feldspar. The location of the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  analyses by laser  
779 fluorination (Clechenko and Valley, 2003) are shown as a thick black line, the  
780 location of the ion microprobe traverse in this study is shown as a thick white line. (b)  
781 mol % andradite determined by electron microprobe vs. distance from garnet edge  
782 (top of figure). (c) traverses of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ , open symbols represent ion microprobe analyses  
783 with  $\pm 0.6\text{‰}$  error bars that represent both the precision and accuracy of the

784 technique, black bars are the laser fluorination data of mg-size samples by Clechenko  
785 and Valley (2003).

786

787 Figure 6. Sharp  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and cation discontinuity 1377  $\mu\text{m}$  from the garnet edge (a) High-  
788 contrast back-scattered electron image of the sharp andradite-grossular transition  
789 within the garnet. Ion microprobe pits (10  $\mu\text{m}$  dia.) are labeled with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  ‰  
790 VSMOW. (b) detail of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  traverse over the same field of view with simulated  
791 diffusion profiles (see text).

792

793

Figure 1

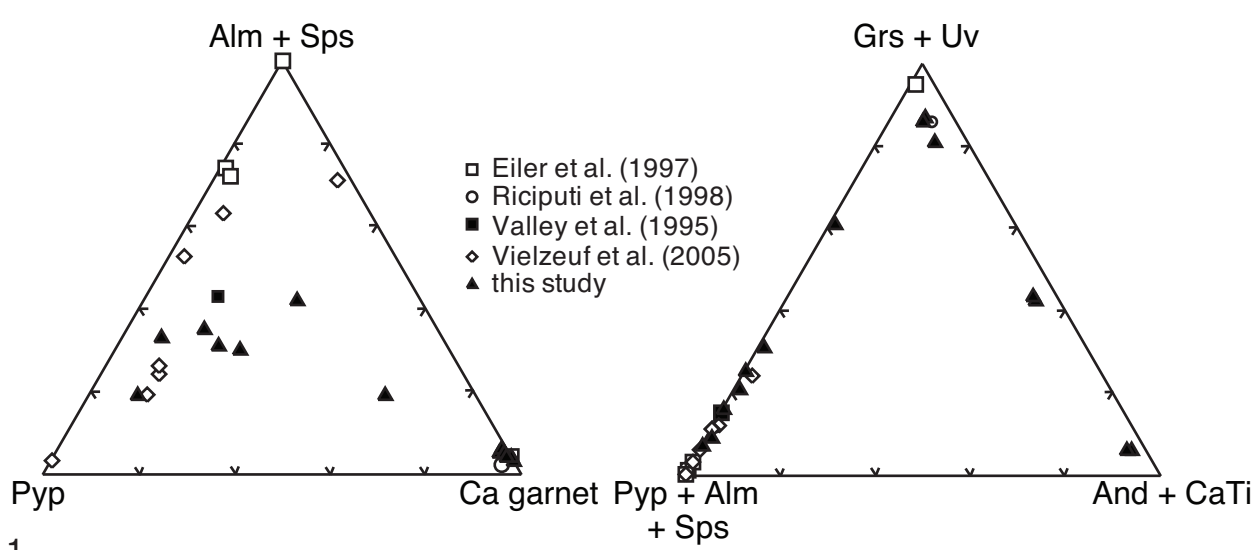


Fig. 1

Figure 2

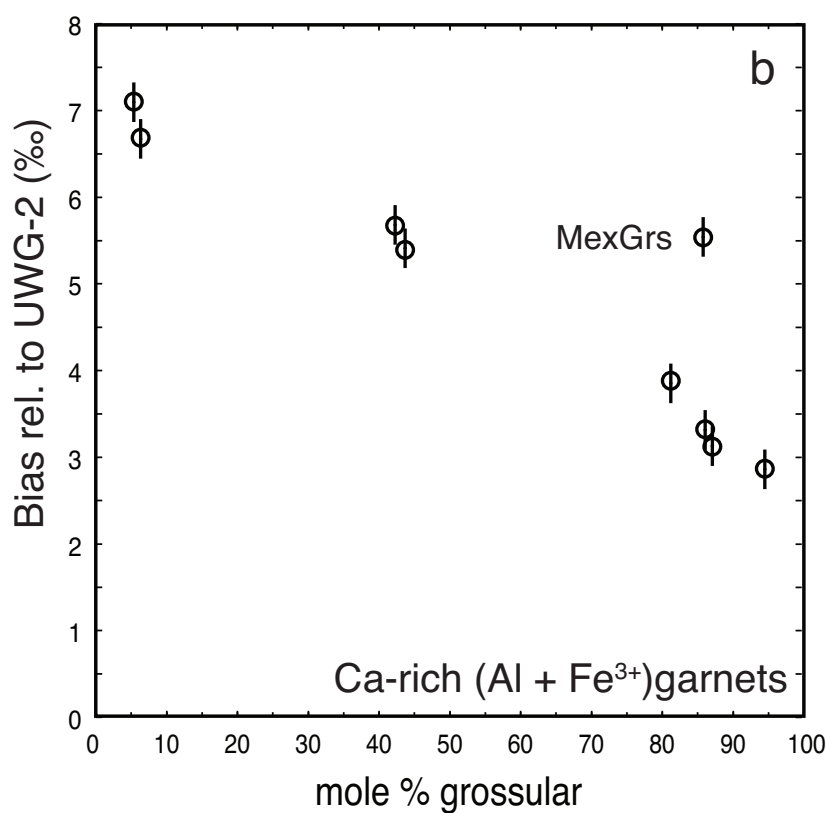
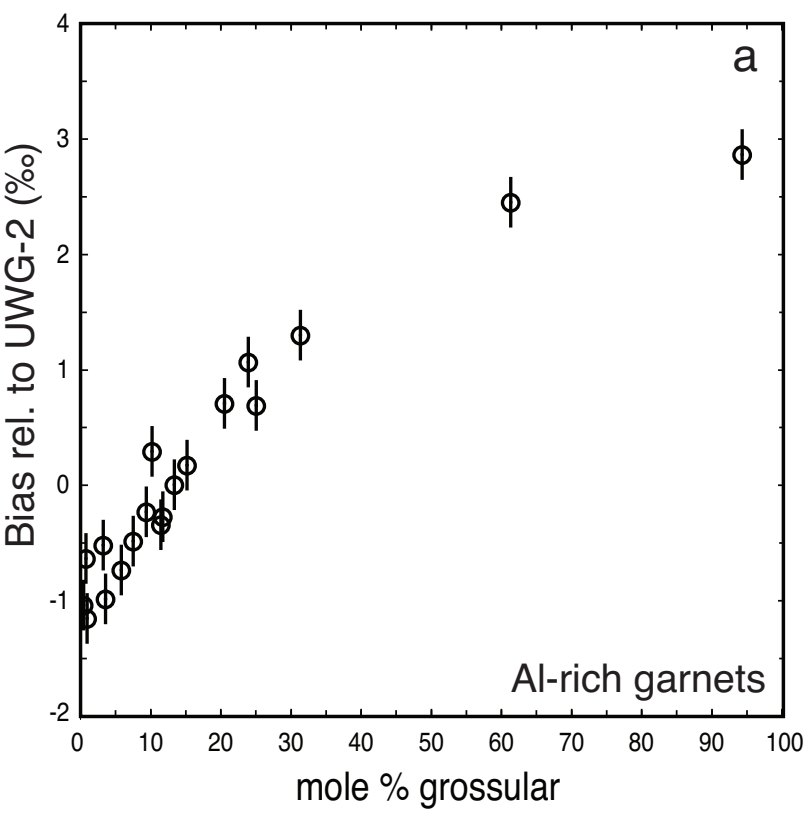


Figure 3

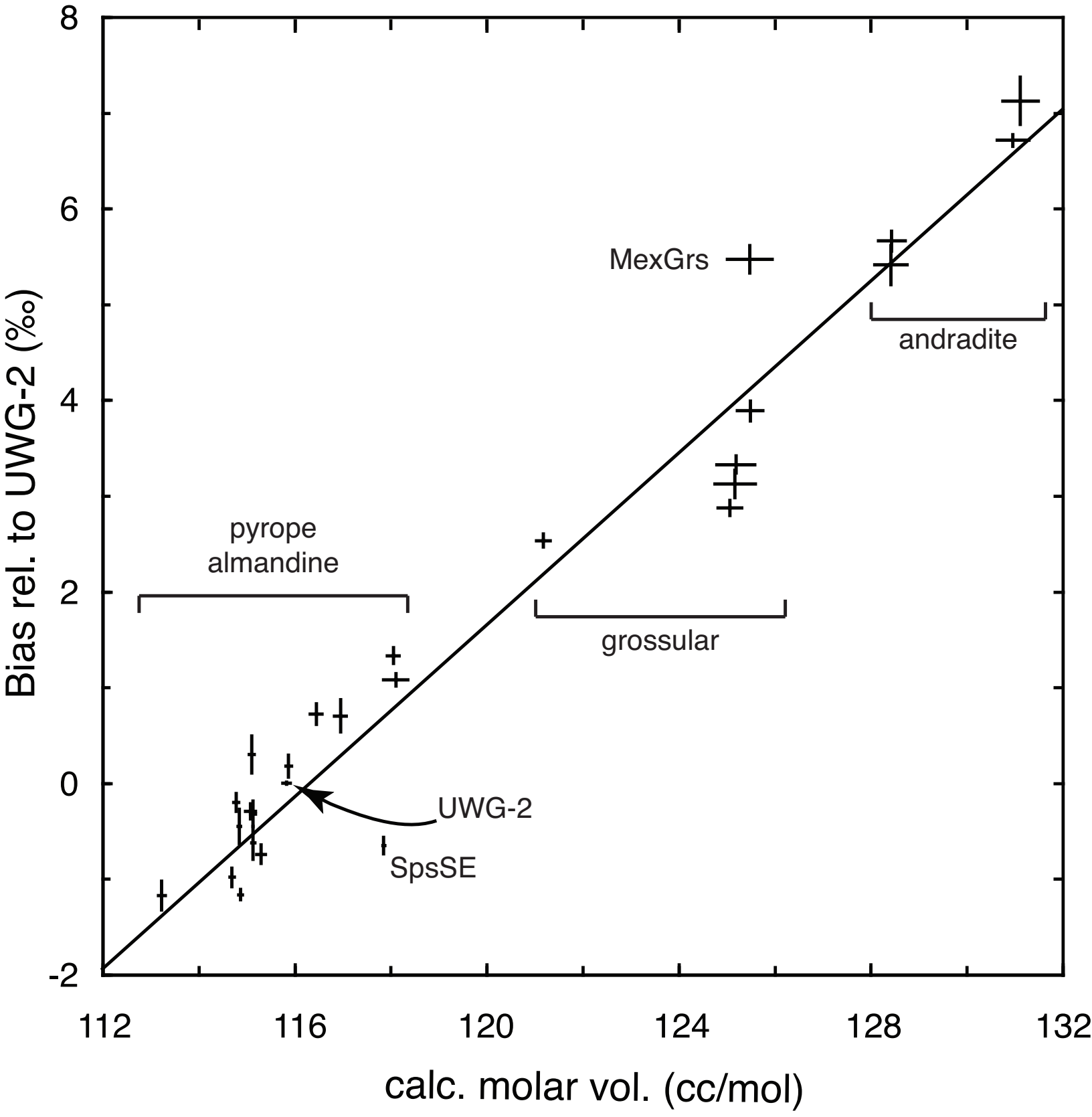


Figure 4

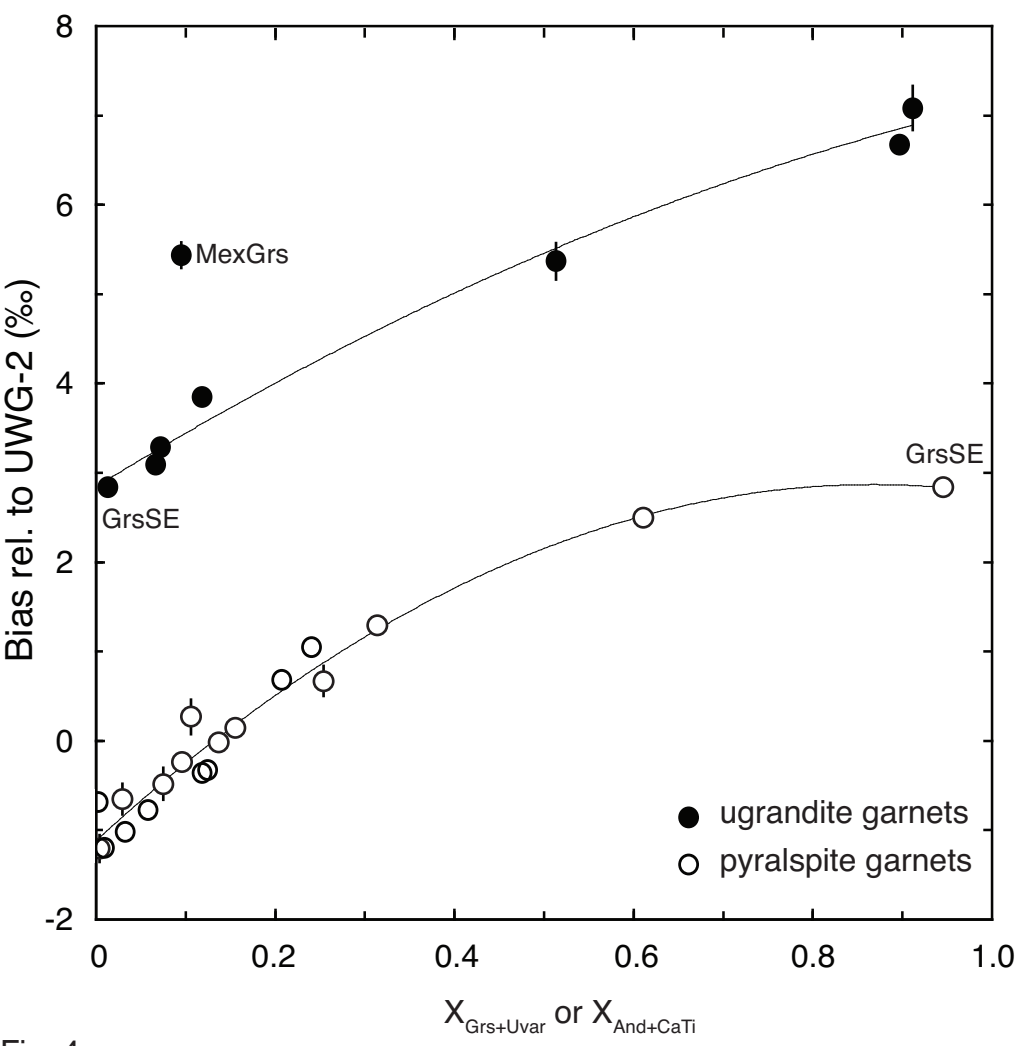
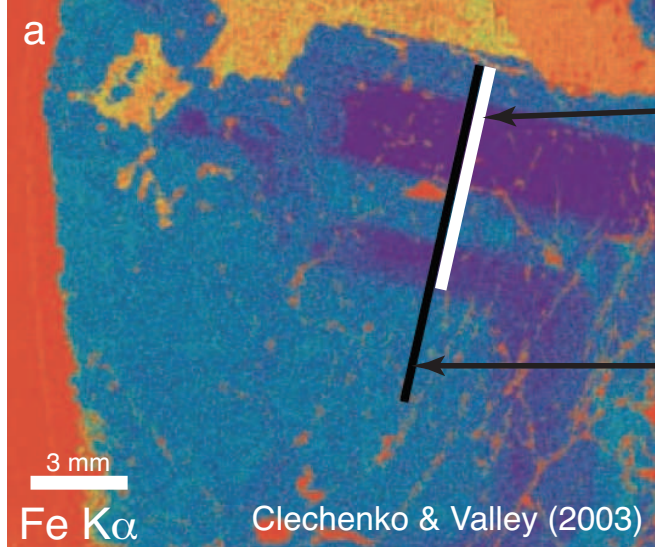


Fig. 4

Figure 5



Location of electron- and ion-microprobe traverses shown in (b) and (c).

Location of the laser fluorination  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  traverse made by Clechenko & Valley (2003). Data collected immediately adjacent to the traverse made in this study is shown in (c).

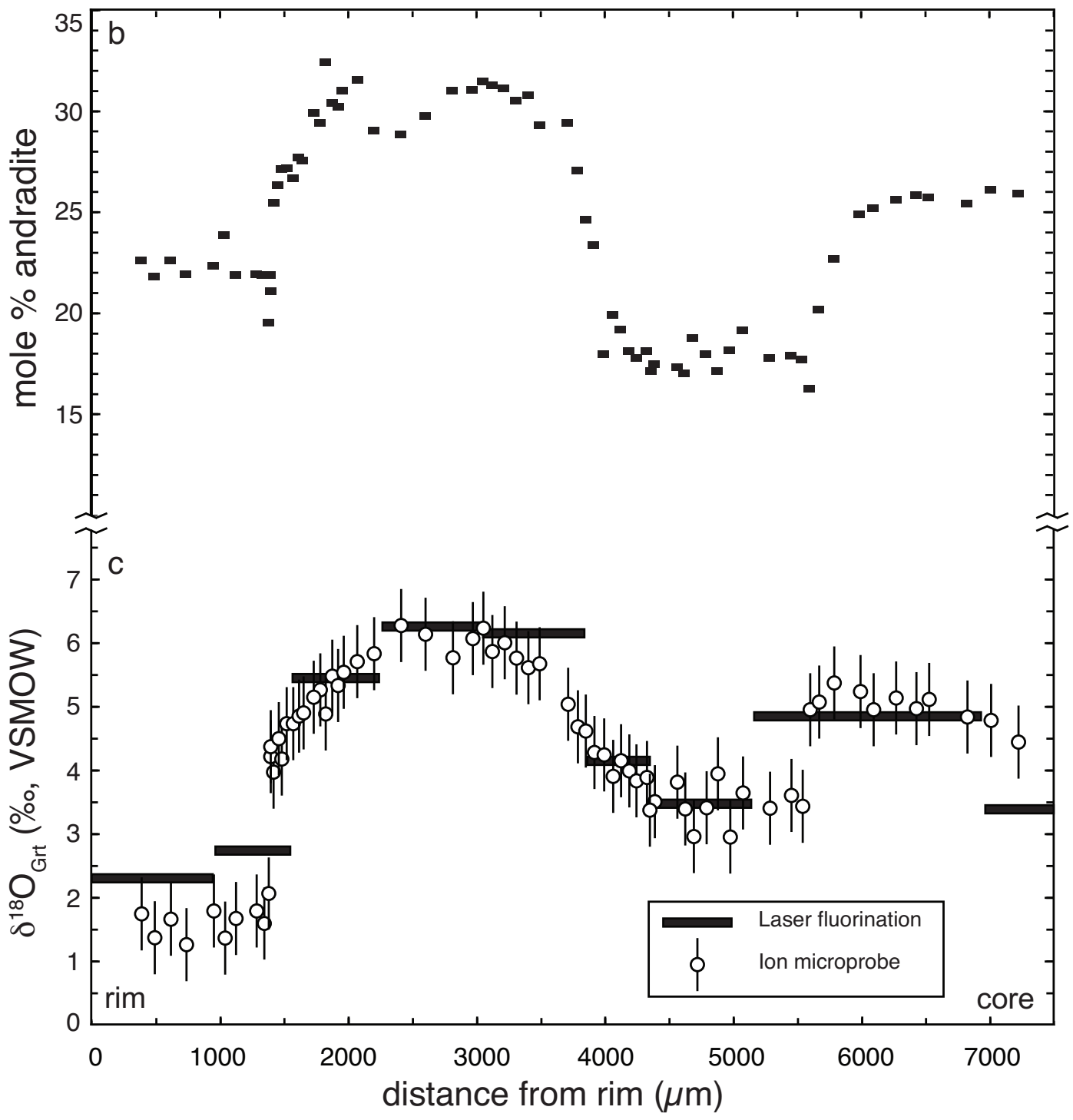


Fig. 5

Figure 6

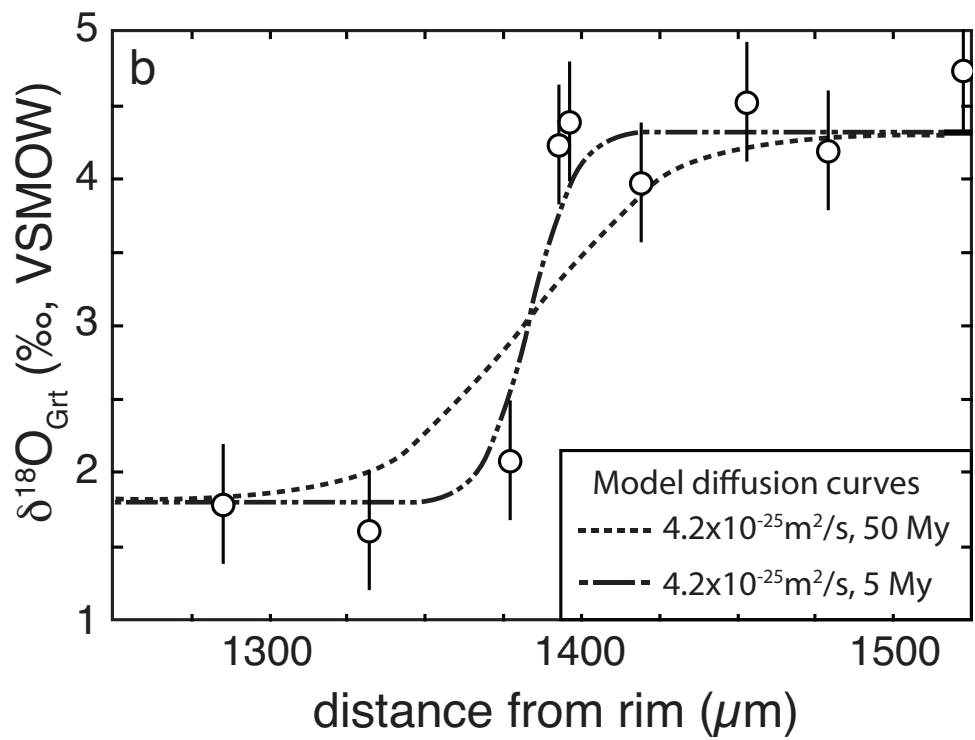
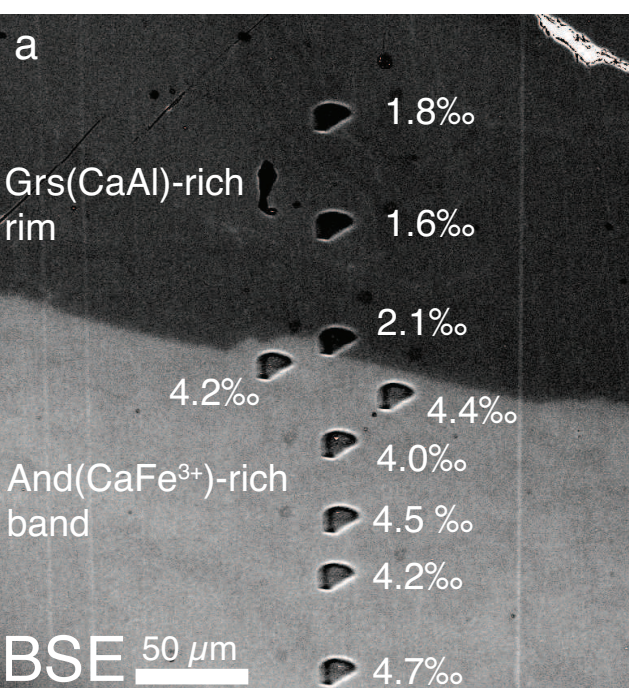


Fig. 6



**Table 1**  
[Click here to download Table: Table 1.pdf](#)

Table 1. Garnet standards analyzed for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ at WiscSIMS											
Standard	Average composition	Calculated		$\delta^{18}\text{O}^2$ (‰ VSMOW)	Average <sup>3</sup> $\delta^{18}\text{O}^*$	Average bias		2 S.D. <sup>4</sup>	n <sup>4</sup>	2 S.E. <sup>4</sup>	Ref. <sup>5</sup>
		Molar V <sup>1</sup>	2 S.D. <sup>1</sup>			‰ rel. UWG-2	%				
<u>Pyrope</u>											
PypDM	Pyp <sub>97</sub> Alm <sub>3</sub>	113.2	0.07	5.60	4.42	-1.18	0.73	23	0.15	(6)	
13-63-19	Pyp <sub>71</sub> Alm <sub>18</sub> Grs <sub>9</sub> Sps <sub>2</sub>	114.8	0.05	5.92	5.71	-0.21	0.29	10	0.09	(5)	
PypAA	Pyp <sub>69</sub> Alm <sub>18</sub> Grs <sub>11</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub> Uv <sub>1</sub>	115.1	0.10	5.50	5.20	-0.30	0.25	10	0.08	(6)	
PypAK	Pyp <sub>64</sub> Alm <sub>24</sub> Grs <sub>11</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	115.1	0.05	5.50	5.17	-0.33	0.42	10	0.13	(6)	
PypMM	Pyp <sub>63</sub> Alm <sub>25</sub> Grs <sub>11</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	115.1	0.05	5.30	5.59	0.29	0.60	10	0.19	(6)	
13-62-29	Pyp <sub>59</sub> Alm <sub>32</sub> Grs <sub>8</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	114.9	0.03	7.39	6.93	-0.46	0.56	10	0.18	(5)	
13-62-27	Pyp <sub>49</sub> Alm <sub>35</sub> Grs <sub>15</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	115.9	0.06	6.49	6.66	0.17	0.36	10	0.11	(5)	
13-63-20	Pyp <sub>48</sub> Alm <sub>31</sub> Grs <sub>20</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	116.5	0.12	6.14	6.85	0.71	0.34	10	0.11	(5)	
13-63-44	Pyp <sub>45</sub> Alm <sub>29</sub> Grs <sub>25</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	117.0	0.12	6.37	7.06	0.69	0.53	10	0.17	(5)	
<u>Almandine</u>											
AlmSE	Alm <sub>74</sub> Pyp <sub>25</sub> Grs <sub>1</sub>	114.9	0.03	8.30	7.13	-1.17	0.31	38	0.05	(2), (6)	
AlmCMG	Alm <sub>70</sub> Pyp <sub>25</sub> Grs <sub>3</sub> Sps <sub>2</sub>	115.1	0.03	7.50	6.87	-0.63	0.65	14	0.17	(2), (6)	
2B3	Alm <sub>67</sub> Grs <sub>24</sub> Sps <sub>4</sub> Pyp <sub>3</sub> And <sub>2</sub>	118.1	0.26	6.90	7.97	1.07	0.35	30	0.06	(6)	
Beta114	Alm <sub>61</sub> Pyp <sub>31</sub> Grs <sub>6</sub> Sps <sub>2</sub>	115.3	0.09	9.30	8.55	-0.75	0.45	30	0.08	(6)	
Bal509	Alm <sub>52</sub> Pyp <sub>44</sub> Grs <sub>3</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	114.7	0.04	12.30	11.31	-0.99	0.30	10	0.09	(6)	
UWG-2	Alm <sub>45</sub> Pyp <sub>40</sub> Grs <sub>14</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	115.8	0.08	5.80	5.80	0.00	0.35	357	0.02	(1), (2), (6)	
13-63-21	Alm <sub>41</sub> Grs <sub>31</sub> Pyp <sub>27</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub>	118.1	0.12	4.55	5.87	1.32	0.30	14	0.08	(5)	
<u>Spessartine</u>											
SpsSE	Sps <sub>94</sub> Alm <sub>6</sub>	117.9	0.02	5.40	4.74	-0.66	0.36	19	0.08	(2), (6)	
<u>Grossular</u>											
GrsSE	Grs <sub>94</sub> Alm <sub>4</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub> CaTi <sub>1</sub>	125.1	0.24	3.80	6.66	2.86	0.48	37	0.08	(2), (6)	
92W-1	Grs <sub>87</sub> And <sub>5</sub> Alm <sub>5</sub> Pyp <sub>2</sub> CaTi <sub>1</sub>	125.2	0.42	-0.34	2.77	3.11	0.63	20	0.14	(4)	
10691	Grs <sub>86</sub> And <sub>5</sub> Alm <sub>5</sub> Pyp <sub>2</sub> CaTi <sub>2</sub>	125.2	0.40	0.18	3.49	3.31	0.28	10	0.09	(4)	
MexGrs	Grs <sub>86</sub> And <sub>8</sub> Pyp <sub>3</sub> Alm <sub>1</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub> CaTi <sub>1</sub>	125.5	0.47	10.60	16.05	5.45	0.67	22	0.14	(3)	
AF749A	Grs <sub>81</sub> And <sub>10</sub> Alm <sub>5</sub> Pyp <sub>1</sub> Sps <sub>1</sub> CaTi <sub>2</sub>	125.5	0.26	-1.24	2.63	3.87	0.32	10	0.10	(4)	
R-53	Grs <sub>61</sub> Alm <sub>19</sub> Pyp <sub>19</sub> CaTi <sub>1</sub>	121.2	0.14	5.33	7.85	2.52	0.15	5	0.07	(5)	
<u>Andradite</u>											
92LEW2	And <sub>91</sub> Grs <sub>6</sub> Alm <sub>3</sub>	131.1	0.37	-1.47	5.63	7.10	0.78	10	0.25	(4)	
92LEW7	And <sub>89</sub> Grs <sub>6</sub> Alm <sub>4</sub> Pyp <sub>1</sub>	131.0	0.33	-1.60	5.09	6.69	0.25	18	0.06	(4)	
92LEW10	And <sub>50</sub> Grs <sub>42</sub> Alm <sub>4</sub> CaTi <sub>2</sub> Pyp <sub>2</sub>	128.4	0.28	-1.20	4.44	5.64	0.38	14	0.10	(4)	
92LEW8	And <sub>49</sub> Grs <sub>43</sub> Alm <sub>4</sub> CaTi <sub>3</sub> Pyp <sub>1</sub>	128.4	0.34	-0.93	4.46	5.39	0.64	10	0.20	(4)	

<sup>1</sup>(cm<sup>3</sup>/mol) calculated from compositional data, see text, <sup>2</sup>Values of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  were calibrated against the VSMOW scale using UWG-2 by laser fluorination and gas-source mass spectrometry, see text. <sup>3</sup>Average raw value measured by ion microprobe, corrected to UWG-2, <sup>4</sup>Variability measured by ion probe.

<sup>5</sup>(1) Valley et al. (1995), (2) Eiler et al. (1997), (3) Riciputi et al. (1998), (4) Kohn & Valley (1998), (5) Schulze et al. (2003), (6) Vielzeuf et al. (2005)

