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1 **Late Triassic orogenic assembly of the Tibetan Plateau: constraints from**
2 **magmatism and metamorphism in the east Lhasa terrane**

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23 **ABSTRACT**

24 The early Mesozoic evolution of the Lhasa terrane, which represents a major component of
25 the Himalayan-Tibetan orogen, remains highly controversial. In particular, geological units
26 and events documented either side of the eastern Himalayan syntaxis (EHS)
27 correlated. Here, we report new petrological, geochemical and geochronological data for co-
28 genetical peraluminous S-type granites and metamorphic rocks (gneiss and schist) from the
29 Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region of the eastern Lhasa terrane, located on the eastern flank of the
30 EHS. Zircon ^UPb dating indicates that these units record both Late Triassic magmatism
31 (216–206 Ma) and metamorphic (209–198 Ma) episodes. The granites were derived from a
32 Paleoproterozoic crustal reservoir with $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values (–5.5 to –16.6) and
33 $T_{\text{DM}2}$ model ages of 1.54–1.99 Ga, and are interpreted to have formed by crustal anatexis of
34 nearby metasediments during
35 The gneisses and schists experienced similar upper amphibolite-facies peak metamorphism
36 and associated partial melting, followed by decompression

37 metamorphism. These rocks were buried to lower-crustal depths and then exhumated to the
 38 surface in a collisional orogenic setting during plate convergence. From comparison of these
 39 data to other metamorphic belts with similar grades and
 40 coeval granitic magmatism widespread in the central-east Lhasa terrane, we propose that the
 41 studied magmatism and metamorphism in the North Lhasa and South Lhasa terranes
 42 records the first evidence of the Paleotethyan Wilson Cycle and provide a ‘missing link’ to correlate the geology and
 43 history of the Lhasa terrane continental crust on either side of the EHS.

47

48 **Key words:** collisional orogenesis, magmatism and metamorphism
 49 Paleotethys Ocean; Zircon U–Pb geochronology

50

51 INTRODUCTION

52 The Himalayan Range and Tibetan Plateau formed due to collision between the Indian and
 53 Asian plates and closure of the Neo-Tethys Ocean (Tapponnier *et al.*, 1986;
 54 O’Brien *et al.*, 2001; Najman *et al.*, 2010; Zhang *et al.*, 2012a; St-Onge *et al.*, 2013; Ding
 55 *et al.*, 2016) although this orogeny merely represents the youngest of multiple
 56 accretion events that have occurred along the southern margin of Eurasia since the
 57 Paleozoic (e.g. Kapp *et al.*, 2007; Yin & Harrison, 2000; Zhang *et al.*, 2014a). From north to
 58 south, the Tibetan Plateau includes the Songpan-Ganzi, Qiangtang, Lhasa, and Himalaya
 59 terranes, which are separated by the Jinsha, Bangong-Nujiang and Indus-Yarlung Tsangpo
 60 suture zones, respectively (Fig. 1a; Burg and Chen, 1984; Xu *et al.*, 1985, 2006, 2015; Searle
 61 *et al.*, 1987; Dewey *et al.*, 1988; Murphy *et al.*, 1997; Molnar *et al.*, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007,
 62 2008; Pan *et al.*, 2004, 2006, 2012; Zhang *et al.*, 2012b, c, 2013, 2014a, b, c; Zeng
 63 *et al.*, 2013, 2015, 2016; Palin *et al.*, 2014, 2015; Ding *et al.*, 2015, 2016). The Lhasa terrane
 64 records geological evidence of Paleoproterozoic magmatism (Zhang & Santosh, 2012; Lin
 65 *et al.*, 2013a), Mesoproterozoic metamorphism (Liu *et al.*, 2011), and assembly of the
 66 Mozambique Ocean during the Neoproterozoic (Zhang *et al.*, 2012b,
 67 2014a), assembly of Gondwana and subduction of the Proto-Tethyan ocean during the Early
 68 Paleozoic (Liu *et al.*, 2008; Dong *et al.*, 2009; Xie *et al.*, 2009; Zhang *et al.*, 2012, 2013; Hu
 69 *et al.*, 2013; Ding *et al.*, 2015), subduction and closure of the Paleotethys ocean (PTO) from
 70 the Permian to the Triassic (Yin *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2009a, b, 2012;
 71 Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Dong *et al.*, 2011b, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2013b; Cheng *et al.*, 2012, 2015;
 72 Weller *et al.*, 2015, 2016a, b; Chen *et al.*, 2017), and finally the formation and destruction of

73 the Bangong-Nujiang Tethyan and Neo-Tethyan oceans during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic,
 74 respectively (Allègre *et al.*, 1984; Ding *et al.*, 2003; Ma *et al.*, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007,
 75 2008; Hou *et al.*, 2004, 2006; Zhang *et al.*, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016; Zhang
 76 *et al.*, 2010, 2013, 2014c; Zhang & Santosh, 2012; Pal *et al.*, 2014,
 77 2015; Shui *et al.*, 2017).

78 Understanding the evolution of the PTO is s
 79 tectonothermal history of the Lhasa terrane in the Tibetan Plateau as a whole
 80 – as the PTO suture zone divides its central-east portions into northern and southern blocks
 81 with distinct geological histories (Fig. 1a; Yang *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Zhang *et al.*, 2014a;
 82 Cheng *et al.*, 2015; Weller *et al.*, 2015, 2016a; Chen *et al.*, 2017). Previous studies of
 83 Permian to Early Jurassic magmatic and high-grade metamorphic rocks located in central-
 84 east Lhasa terrane (westward of the eastern Himalayan syntaxis) suggest PTO subduction and
 85 ocean-closure in this region (Yang *et al.*, 2005; Yan *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Lal,
 86 2009a, b, 2012; Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Zhang *et al.*, 2014a; Cheng *et al.*, 2015; Weller *et al.*,
 87 2015, 2016a, b; Chen *et al.*, 2017). However, it is still unclear (1) if these events continued
 88 into the east Lhasa terrane, eastward of the eastern Himalayan syntaxis (EHS); (2) where the
 89 actual location of the PTO orogenic belt is in this region; and (3) the
 90 metamorphic and magmatic events in this area. Together, these represent an important gap in
 91 our understanding of the early evolution of this major orogenic system.

92 In this paper, we present new petrological, geochemical, and geochronological data for
 93 co-genetic amphibolite-facies metasediments and S-type granites from the Motuo
 94 Chayu region of the east Lhasa terrane, eastern flank of the EHS.
 95 constraints on the timing and style of collisional orogeny and PTO closure during the Early
 96 Mesozoic. These integrated data represent the first robust constraints on the location
 97 timing of North-South Lhasa microblock accretion east of the EHS.
 98 constraints for tectonic reconstructions of terrane evolution in southeast Asia prior to India-
 99 Asia collision.

100

101 **GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND AND SAMPLES**

102 The east-west oriented Lhasa terrane, southern Tibet, is 100–300 km wide and over 2000 km
 103 long (Fig. 1a). It is composed dominantly of Precambrian crystalline metamorphic basement
 104 overlain by Paleozoic to Mesozoic marine strata, volcanic rocks and metasediments, and is
 105 intruded by Mesozoic and Cenozoic plutons (Chen *et al.*, 2004, 2006, 2012; Metcalf *et al.*, 2005, 2009; Hu
 106 *et al.*, 2011, 2012, 2016; Zhang *et al.*, 2010, 2012b, 2013, 2014a). The presence of Precambrian basement is shown by the
 107 discovery of Neoproterozoic granitic and mafic rocks and amphibolite- to granulite-fa
 108

109 metamorphic rocks in northern block, and Paleo- to Meso-Proterozoic gra
 110 southern block, although these rocks were also further
 111 Neoproterozoic (Dong *et al.*, 2011a, 2020; Zhang *et al.*, 2012b, 2014a; Lin *et al.*, 2013a; Hu
 112 *et al.*, 2019 and references therein).

113 The study region discussed here is located in the easternmost segment of the
 114 terrane, east/southeast of Namche Barwa, near to the towns of Motuo, Bomi, and C
 115 (Fig. 1b). This area is characterized by regionally
 116 amphibolite-facies lithologies, Late Paleozoic to Cenozoic s
 117 intrusions, and the exposed roots of the Gangdese Batholith (Fig. 1b). These metamorphic
 118 rocks consist mainly of orthogneiss, schist, marble, migmatite and
 119 together are referred to as the Bomi
 120 *et al.*, 1999; Xie *et al.*, 2007; Dong *et al.*, 2011c, 2015). The radiogenic
 121 2264–2145 Ma, 1330–900 Ma and 600–520 Ma obtained by traditional dating methods show
 122 that remnants of Precambrian metamorphic base me
 123 *et al.*, 1999; Xie *et al.*, 2007; Dong *et al.*, 2011c, 2015), although recent metamorphic zircon
 124 U–Pb ages of ca 217 Ma and 22–16 Ma suggest that these rocks also experienced
 125 Mesozoic and Cenozoic thermal overprint (Dong *et al.*, 2011c, 2015). Late Paleozoic
 126 sediments, Mesozoic marine sediments, and minor Cenozoic sedimentary rocks mainly occur
 127 in the northeast, although Late Paleozoic sediments do not contact the Mesozoic strata and
 128 the Cenozoic sedimentary rocks unconformably overlie the Mesozoic sediments, indicating
 129 punctuated tectonics in this region. The Late Paleozoic se
 130 Devonian marine sediments and Carboniferous-Permian volcanic ro
 131 marine clastic rocks, running
 132 *et al.*, 2004; Wang *et al.*, 2008). Carboniferous, Triassic and Jurassic granites were recently
 133 recognized in this area, although these rocks have been partly transformed into orthogneiss
 134 during Mesozoic and Cenozoic
 135 *et al.*, 2004; Li *et al.*, 2013a; Dong *et al.*, 2015). The Gangdese batholith is predominantly
 136 composed of Cretaceous to Neogene granitoids, which formed as continental arc magm
 137 during subduction and closure of the Neo-Tethyan ocean (Dong *et al.*,
 138 2013; Li *et al.*, 2013b).

139 The samples documented here comprise magmatic and metamorphic rocks coll
 140 from two regions of the east Lhasa terrane (east of the EHS), but also located ~150 km apart:
 141 granites and metapelitic schists were collected from ~35 km southwest
 142 metapelitic gneisses were collected from ~25 km southwest of Bomi (Fig. 1b). This region
 143 has been relatively understudied in comparison with outcrops west of the EHS and so th
 144 degree to which geological units and tectonic events correlate either side of

145 uncertain. Outcrop and petrological information for each sample is
 146 Mineral abbreviations are after Whitney and Evans (2010).

147

148 **ANALYTICAL METHODS**

149 **Mineral composition**

150 Mineral compositions were acquired using a JEOL JXA 8900 electron microprobe (EMP)
 151 housed at the Institute of Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological
 152 Beijing. Operating conditions comprised a 15-kV accelerating voltage, 5-nA beam current,
 153 5- μm probe diameter, and count time of 10 s for peak and background, Natural
 154 biotite, plagioclase, and K-feldspar and synthetic silica
 155 calibrations and a ZAF correction algorithm. Analytical uncertainties
 156 SiO_2 , TiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , FeO , MnO , MgO , CaO , Na_2O , K_2O , and total are $<1\%$ at abundances >1
 157 wt. % and $<8\%$ at abundances $<1\%$. Compositional data collected for garnet, biotite,
 158 plagioclase, K-feldspar, and cordierite in all rock types are given in Supplementary Tables 1–
 159 5.

160

161 **Whole-rock composition**

162 All magmatic samples collected from the Chayu area were analysed for major and trace
 163 element contents, which are shown in Supplementary table 6. Whole-rock compositions were
 164 obtained at the National Research Center for Geo-Science and Technology Standards
 165 GBW07103, GBW07121, and GBW07122 were used to monitor analytical quality control.
 166 Major-element oxides, including loss on ignition (LOI), were determined by
 167 fluorescence (XRF) on a Rigaku-3080 analyser, which has an analytical uncertainty of
 168 $<0.5\%$. Concentrations of trace elements Zr, Nb, Cr, Sr, Ba, Ni, Rb and Y were determined
 169 using a Rigaku-2100 XRF analyser, which has an analytical uncertainty of $<3\text{--}5\%$. Other
 170 trace elements and rare earth elements (REEs) were determined by inductively coupled
 171 plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) using a TJA-PQ-ExCell. Detailed description of the
 172 ICP-MS method has been reported by Liang *et al.* (2000). Analytical uncertainties for ICP-
 173 MS are $1\text{--}5\%$ at abundances >1 ppm and $5\text{--}10\%$ at abundances <1 ppm.

174

175 **Zircon U–Pb and Hf isotopes and trace element analysis**

176 Radiogenic isotope geochronology was performed on four of granitoid
 177 metasediment samples to determine the timing of key tectonic events in the
 178 Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region of the Lhasa terrane. Zircon grains were separated from
 179 each sample by magnetic and conventional heavy-liquid techniques at the Hebei Institute of
 180 Regional Geology and Mineral Investigation. Cathodoluminescence (CL) images were taken

181 on a HITACHI S2250-N scanning electron microscope at the SHRIMP Unit at the Institute
 182 of Geology, CAGS. Zircon U-Pb and trace element analysis were performed
 183 simultaneously on an Agilent 7500 ICP-MS equipped with a 193 nm ArF-excimer laser at the
 184 State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University of
 185 Geosciences (Wuhan). Detailed operating conditions for the ICP-MS instrument
 186 laser ablation system are as reported by Liu *et al.* (2010). Zircon 91500 was used as external
 187 standard for U-Pb dating, which was analysed twice for every 5 analyses of the samples.
 188 SRM610 were used as external standard for the trace element analysis. Time
 189 drifts of U-Th-Pb isotopic ratios were corrected using a linear interpolation (with time) for
 190 every five analyses according to the variations of zircon 91500. Zircon GJ-1 was used
 191 standard to monitor the stability of the ICP-MS system. ^{29}Si was used as an internal standard. The U-Pb and trace element data were processed by
 192 ICPMSDataCal (Liu *et al.*, 2010) and Isoplot (Lugwig, 2003) was used to calculate isotopic
 193 ages and construct concordia diagrams. LA-ICP-MS U-Pb data and the trace element
 194 compositions of the magmatic and metamorphic rocks and metasediments are presented in Supplementary table 7.

197 *In situ* Hf isotope compositions of zircon were obtained by a Neptune MC-ICP-MS at
 198 the State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University
 199 of Geosciences (Wuhan). The laser had a beam diameter of 44 μm , a frequency of 8 Hz
 200 energy of 60 mJ, and a fluence of $2.5 \times 10^6 \text{ J m}^{-2}$. Analytical spots were chosen on the same
 201 domains with LA-ICP-MS spots. The zircon standards GJ-1 (Elhlou *et al.*, 2006) and 91500
 202 (Blichert, 2008) were analysed as reference materials. $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios of 0.282012 ± 11 (1σ , $n = 4$) and 0.282305 ± 10 (1σ , $n = 10$), respectively.
 203 These values match the recommended values of 0.282012 ± 11 (Elhlou *et al.*, 2006) and 0.282308 ± 6 for 91500, Blichert
 204 $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios were calculated using a decay constant of $4.7867 \times 10^{-11} \text{ a}^{-1}$
 205 (Soderlund, 2004). $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios were calculated using a decay constant of $1.1207 \times 10^{-11} \text{ a}^{-1}$
 206 (Soderlund, 2004). $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio of 0.0336 (Bouvier, 2008). The
 207 depleted-mantle-Hf model ages (T_{DM}) were calculated with respect to a depleted present-day
 208 mantle $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio of 0.28325 and $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio of 0.0384 (Griffin *et al.*, 2000). The
 209 Hf crustal model ages (T_{DM2}) of each zircon were calculated by assuming its parental magma
 210 to have been derived from an average continental crust with $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ of 0.15 (Griffin
 211 *et al.*, 2002). *In-situ* Lu-Hf isotopic ratios from two granites are presented in Supplementary
 212 table 8.

215

216 RESULTS

217 Petrology

218 Magmatic rocks

219 Magmatic rocks collected from the Chayu area include undeformed
 220 T145-6, T15-46-8 and T15-46-9 deformed
 221 T15-46-1, T1546-3, T1546-4, T1546-5, T1547-2 and T1547-4). The undeformed
 222 granite displays a phaneritic texture and contains 50% K-feldspar (20%),
 223 plagioclase (20–25%), biotite (2–3%) and muscovite (2–3%), with accessory zircon, apatite,
 224 and sphene (Fig. 2a and c). The weakly deformed granites display a slight foliation in outcrop
 225 and consist of quartz (45%), K-feldspar (25%), plagioclase (30%), biotite
 226 (3–5%) and variable muscovite, garnet, and accessory minerals zircon and apatite (Fig. 2b
 227 and d). The finely crystalline
 228 quartz, feldspar and biotite grains, which
 229 (Fig. 2d).

230

231 Metamorphic rocks

232 Two high-grade gneisses (T153-2-3 and T153-7) were collected from southwest of
 233 Bomi. They show prominent foliation in outcrop and comprise pale plagioclase-rich (Pl-rich)
 234 quartzofeldspathic leucosomes, which are generally aligned subparallel to the foliation, and
 235 dark melanosomes. The (Pl-rich) leucosomes range from millimeter
 236 thickness and often occur as interlayers or small- to large-scale lenses (Fig. 3).
 237 diagnostic of partial melting during metamorphism and locally melt
 238 T1532-3 is a metapelitic gneiss containing biotite, muscovite, quartz, plagioclase,
 239 garnet, with minor sillimanite, ilmenite and chlorite (Fig. 4a and b). Large porphyroblasts of
 240 garnet are set in a matrix with a foliation defined by oriented mica and quartzofeldspathic
 241 domains (Fig. 4a). Chlorite partially pseudomorphs biotite and garnet (Fig. 4a), suggesting a
 242 retrograde origin. Sample T153-7, muscovite
 243 T15-32-3, but contains additional K-feldspar (Fig. 4c). In sample T153-7, muscovite
 244 occurs as both large lath-like porphyroblasts and randomly orientated fine-grained
 245 (Fig. 4d), which suggest a retrograde origin (Ashworth, 1975, 1979; Tyler &
 246 1982). Cusped quartz also exhibits very small dihedral angles against plagioclase (Fig. 4e),
 247 and K-feldspar grains are surrounded by plagioclase rims (Fig. 4f). These microstructural
 248 features suggest the presence of partial melt during metamorphism (e.g. Holness & Clemens,
 249 1999; Holness & Sawyer, 2008; Feisel *et al.*, 2018).

250 Two metapelitic schists (T154-1 and T1543-3) were collected from southwest of
 251 Chayu. They have the appearance of stromatic migmatitic rocks and consist of millimeter to

252 centimeter thick white-beige felsic domains (leucosomes), which occur as concordant layers
 253 or small-scale rootless folds, alternating with grey domain
 254 feldspathic material with interstitial biotite (Fig. 3b). These outcrop features imply that these
 255 rocks experienced partial melting and the melt did not migrate
 256 Sample T15-43-1 is a garnet-two-mica schist containing garnet porphyroblasts with biotite,
 257 muscovite, plagioclase, quartz and minor ilmenite as matrix minerals.
 258 Muscovite occurs both as flakes that are aligned within the foliation and as larger, unfoliated
 259 and subhedral to euhedral grains against garnet rims (Fig. 5a and b). These microstructural
 260 relationships indicate two generations of muscovite growth (cf. Ashworth, 1975, 1979; Tyler
 261 & Ashworth, 1982). Garnet rims and internal fractures are
 262 aggregates of biotite, muscovite, and plagioclase (Fig. 5c).
 263 Sample T15-53 is a garnet-sillimanite-cordierite schist containing biotite,
 264 plagioclase, K-feldspar, quartz
 265 (Fig. 5c-f). The foliation is defined by aligned fibrous/prismatic sillimanite and biotite flakes that
 266 wrap around coarse K-feldspar, plagioclase and quartz in the matrix. Garnet porphyroblasts
 267 have inclusion-rich cores, containing biotite, plagioclase and quartz, whereas rim domains
 268 are mostly inclusion-free (Fig. 5d and f). Some garnets
 269 pseudomorphed at their rims by biotite and cordierite (Fig. 5d).
 270 Perthite occurs in the matrix, exhibiting micro-exsolved lamellae of plagioclase hosted by K-feldspar (Fig. 5e),
 271 and polymineralic inclusions of biotite + plagioclase + quartz are occasionally preserved in
 272 garnet cores (Fig. 5f), suggesting the studied rocks underwent
 273 partial melting (Holness & Clemens, 1999; Holness & Sawyer, 2008; Zhang et al., 2017;
 274 Feiselet et al., 2018). In all samples, garnet rims are partly replaced by biotite + plagioclase
 275 ± muscovite aggregates (Figs 5a, b, d), recording back-reaction involving melt
 276 crystallization (e.g., Waters, 2001; Kriegsman & Alvarez-Valero, 2010).

277

278 Mineral chemistry

279 Bomi gneiss

280 Bomi gneiss samples T15-32-3 and T15-33-7 contain garnet porphyroblasts of composition
 281 $X_{\text{Fe}}^{76-78} X_{\text{Mg}}^{10-12} X_{\text{Ca}}^{3-5} X_{\text{Mn}}^{8-9}$ ($X_{\text{Fe}} = \text{Fe}^{2+}/(\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mn} + \text{Mg} + \text{Ca})$), with X_{Ca} , X_{Mg} and X_{Mn} defined
 282 according to $X_{\text{Fe}}^{47-51} X_{\text{Mg}}^{4-6} X_{\text{Mn}}^{8-9}$ respectively (Supplementary table 1).
 283 Porphyroblasts in both samples thus lack systematic compositional zonation from core
 284 to rim. Matrix biotite has $X_{\text{Mg}} = \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe})$ of 0.35–0.42 in T15-32-3 and
 285 0.45–0.49 in T15-33-7. The Ti contents of each are 0.18 and 0.20 cations per
 286 formula unit (cpfu) based on an 11-oxygen calculation, respectively (Supplementary table
 287 2). Plagioclase in T15-32-3 is oligoclase with $X_{\text{Ca}} = \text{Ca}/(\text{Ca} + \text{K} + \text{Na})$ of

288 0.180.23, and also oligoclase with $X_{Ca} = 0.26-0.29$ in sample T15-3-7, whereas those
 289 surrounding dasrpear albite with $X_{Na} = 0.02-0.03$ (Supplementary
 290 and K-feldspar has $X_{Na} [= Na/(Ca + K + Na)]$ of 0.11-0.12 (Supplementary table 4).

291 These petrographic observations and patterns in mineral chemistry suggest
 292 Bombergneiss contains a plagioclase + quartz + melt for sample T15-32-3 and Grt + Sil + Bt + Kfs +
 293 Grt + Sil + Bt + Ms + Pl + Qz ± Ilm + melt for sample T15-3-7. Retrograde cooling and exhumation likely initiated
 294 Pl + Qz + melt for sample T15-3-7. Retrograde cooling and exhumation likely initiated
 295 growth of secondary Ms, Chl, and Ab surrounding some K-feldspar grains.

296

297 *Chayu schist*

298 Garnet porphyroblasts from Chayu schist show characteristic
 299 characteristics, with homogenous broad cores and weakly zoned rims. Core
 300 T15-31 have core compositions $X_{Mg} = 0.72-0.74$, $X_{Ca} = 0.16-0.18$, $X_{Mn} = 0.01-0.02$, $X_{Fe} = 0.07-0.09$ which change to outer
 301 compositions $X_{Mg} = 0.62-0.64$, $X_{Ca} = 0.18-0.20$, $X_{Mn} = 0.01-0.02$ (Supplementary Figure 6a). By contrast,
 302 garnet porphyroblasts in sample T15-3-7 have core compositions of $X_{Mg} = 0.74-0.76$, $X_{Ca} = 0.14-0.16$,
 303 $X_{Mn} = 0.01-0.02$ and rim compositions of $X_{Mg} = 0.72-0.74$, $X_{Ca} = 0.18-0.20$, $X_{Mn} = 0.01-0.02$ (Supplementary table 1; Fig.
 304 6b). These patterns are diagnostic of diffusion-driven homogenization at peak metamorphic
 305 conditions, followed by diffusion-controlled retrograde resorption during exhumation, which
 306 led to compositional inflections in outer rim domains (Florence & Spear, 1991; Spear,
 307 1991, 1993; Kohn & Spear, 2000; Caddick *et al.*, 2010).

308 In sample T15-1, biotite grains in the matrix and adjacent to garnet rims
 309 have X_{Mg} values of 0.5051 and 0.4852, respectively, although the former have higher Ti
 310 contents (~ 0.08) than the latter (~ 0.04) (Supplementary Figure 6b). These
 311 compositional patterns confirm minor breakdown of garnet during
 312 conditions, leading to biotite formation during retrogression. Plagioclase grains in the matrix
 313 and adjacent to garnet rims have similar compositions $X_{Ca} = 0.23-0.30$, (Supplementary table
 314 3). In sample T15-3, biotite inclusions within garnet cores have relative
 315 contents of 0.160.18 cpdf and low X_{Mg} values of 0.460.49, whereas biotites in the matrix
 316 have a relatively low Ti content (~ 0.01) and high X_{Mg} values of 0.79
 317 (Supplementary Figure 6c). Plagioclase in the matrix has $X_{Ca} = 0.17-0.24$
 318 (Supplementary table 3) and K-feldspar in the matrix has $X_{Na} = 0.14-0.20$ (Supplementary
 319 table 4). Cordierite grains adjacent to the garnet cores have $X_{Mg} = 0.65-0.69$ and
 320 (Supplementary table 5).

321 These petrographic observations and patterns in mineral chemistry suggest
 322 Chayu schists preserve petrographic evidence for peak metamorphism.
 323 In sample T15-1, the T15 peak metamorphic schist

324 and foliation-forming matrix minerals (Grt + Bt + ~~Mfm~~ Pl and Qtz) retrograde
 325 metamorphism induced comp
 326 (e.g. Mn spikes; cf. Kohn & Spear, 2000) peral breakdown to form secondary
 327 muscovite, biotite and plagioclase. In sample T15-43-3, peak metamorphism is characterized
 328 by garnet cores and their associate
 329 Sil + Kfs + Bt + Pl + Qz. Akin to sample T15-43-1, retrograde cooling induced garnet rims
 330 resorption and recrystallization to biotite and plagioclase, although here additional cordierite
 331 formed during decompression. These mineral assemblages and reaction textures indicate that
 332 all samples experienced a similar
 333 *P-T* conditions quantified using thermobarometry (see below).

334

335 **Whole-rock geochemistry**

336 All granites have high SiO₂ (65–76.12 wt. %), Al₂O₃ (12.13–14.58 wt. %) and
 337 Na₂O + K₂O (4.36–8.59 wt. %) contents, and low Fe₂O₃^T (0.64–4.24 wt. %), MgO (0.11–2.96
 338 wt. %), CaO (0.73–2.50 wt. %) and MnO (0.02–0.07 wt. %) contents (Supplementary table
 339 6). Most are weakly peraluminous with A/CNK values
 340 T15-46-1 and T15-46-4 atypically higher value of 1.21 and 1.20 respec
 341 (Supplementary table 6).

342 On a primitive mantle-normalized spider diagram (Fig. 7a), all samples are enriched in
 343 large ion lithophile elements (LILE), such as Rb, Th, U and K, and depleted in some high
 344 field strength elements (HFSE), such as Nb, Ta, Sr and Ti. In addition, E
 345 depleted compared to Rb and Th. When normalized to chondritic values, all granites
 346 strongly enriched and show similar fractionated REE patterns
 347 (La/Nb) 5.45–) 4.6 with LREE-enrichment, HREE-depletion
 348 anomalies ($\delta_{\text{Eu}} = 0.6$) although sample T15-46-7 is only moderately enriched
 349 (Supplementary table 6; Fig. 7b).

350

351 **Zircon U–Pb ages and Hf isotope**

352 Zircons from granites T15-46-3, T15-46-5, T15-46-7, and T15-47-2 show similar internal
 353 structures, are colourless to pale brown, euhedral to subhedral prismatic in form (70–170 μm
 354 long), and have regular oscillatory zoning with inherited detrital cores in CL images (Fig. 9a–
 355 d). Most of the analysed zircon spots have relatively high Th/U ratios (>0
 356 contents, and are characterized by fractionated REE patterns with LREE depletion, HREE
 357 enrichment, and negative Eu anomalies (Supplementary table 7; Fig. 10a)
 358 structure and compositional features suggest a magmatic origin (Hoskin and Schaltegger
 359 2003). Zircon data from these four samples yielded near-consistent ²⁰⁶Pb/²³⁸U ages, with

360 weighted mean ages ranging from 216 Ma to 206 Ma (Fig. 11a–d). These ages are
 361 interpreted to represent magma emplacement/crystallization age.

362 Zircons from the gneiss and schist samples T15–32–3, T15–33–7, T15–43–1, and T15–
 363 43–3 are mostly colourless, oval or sub-rounded in shape, and show well-preserved core-rim
 364 zonation (Fig. 9e–f). Inherited cores have a variable size, irregular form and random zoning,
 365 implying that zircon cores are detrital/xenocrystic and the protoliths of the studied samples
 366 are sedimentary rocks. In contrast, metamorphic rims show weak patchy zoning (or have no
 367 zoning at all), and have relatively low Th/U ratios, low REE contents and fractionated REE
 368 patterns with depleted LREE, flat HREE and
 369 (Supplementary table; Fig. 10b) typical of a metamorphic origin (Hoskin & Schaltegger,
 370 2003). The analysed spots of the metamorphic rims yielded clear-concordant $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages,
 371 with weighted means of $198 \pm 3.3\text{Ma}$, $202 \pm 3.4\text{Ma}$, $209 \pm 2.8\text{Ma}$ and $203 \pm 3.1\text{Ma}$ for
 372 T15–32–3, T15–33–7, T15–43–1, and T15–43–3, respectively (Fig. 11e–h).

373 Together, these data are interpreted to record Late Triassic crustal growth at
 374 216–206 Ma and regional metamorphism at 209–198 Ma in the east Lhasa terrane.

375 Zircons from two Late Triassic Lhasa gneisses (samples T15–46–3 and T15–46–5) have initial $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios ranging from 0.282308 to 0.282525
 376 and variable $t_{\text{DM}}(\text{Hf})$ values ($\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} = -8.6$ to -16.2). These values are
 377 consistent with a Paleoproterozoic crustal magma source (Supplementary Fig. 11e–h) indicating
 378 Paleoproterozoic crustal magma source.

380

381 DISCUSSION

382 Metamorphic *P–T* path of gneiss and schist

383 In order to constrain the tectonothermal evolution of metamorphic samples, a
 384 diagram-based thermobarometry and conventional techniques were employed to determine
 385 *P–T* conditions for various stages of their prograde, peak and retrograde
 386 evolutions.

387 In general, bulk-rock-specific phase diagrams (pseudosections) provide more
 388 precise constraints on conditions of metamorphism than conventional techniques
 389 (cf. Powell & Holland, 2008), thus allowing discrete changes in crustal depth and thermal
 390 history during the burial and exhumation cycle to be determined (e.g. Willett *et al.*, 2015; Palin
 391 *et al.*, 2018). Typical uncertainties associated with cation exchange thermometers and
 392 transfer barometers are at least $\pm 50\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ and $\pm 1\text{ kbar}$ at 1. S.D., which is primarily a function
 393 of uncertainty on thermodynamic end-member data and inaccuracies in the description of
 394 activity-composition relationships describing elemental mixing (e.g. Green *et al.*, 2016; Waters, 2019). While uncertainty on the absolute *P–T* path

396 assemblage field boundaries on any individual pseudosection are of a similar magnitude to
 397 those for conventional technique (Powell & Holland, 2008; Palin *et al.*, 2016), as all phase
 398 diagrams in this study were calculated using the same $a-x$ relations, similar absolute errors cancel, and the calculated phase equilibria shown below
 399 are relatively precise to within ± 0.2 kbar and $\pm 10-15$ °C (Worley & Powell, 2000). Such
 400 values allow distinct P - T paths to be determined, and discrimination of depths of burial and calculated geotherms
 401 performed with confidence (Hernández-Uriebe *et al.*, 2018; Hernández-Uriebe & Palin,
 402 2019; Li *et al.*, 2018). Nonetheless, conventional techniques must be employed in scenarios
 403 where the bulk-rock composition of a rock is not representative of reaching ‘equilibration’
 404 volume, such as for retrograde breakdown within porphyroblast st (Li *et al.*, 2013; Waters, 2019). As such, the conditions of late-stage retrograde metamorphism
 405 were identified using conventional techniques explicitly considering the minerals that formed
 406 during these events: not the surrounding peak metamorphic assemblage.

410

411 *Phase equilibria modelling*

412 All pseudosections were calculated using Perple_X (Connolly, 2005; version 1.0.0) using an
 413 internally consistent thermodynamic dataset ds-55 of Holland and Powell (1998) with the
 414 system $\text{Mn-Na-Ca-K}_2\text{O-Fe-Mg-Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-SiO}_2\text{-H}_2\text{O-TiO}_2$ (Mn-N-C-K-F-M-A-S-H-O) (Jahromi *et al.*, 2009). The following relationships were employed: garnet + biotite + quartz + plagioclase and K-feldspar (Holland & Powell, 2003), garnet + staurolite, chlorite, ilmenite and sillimanite (White, 2001), and quartz, and rutile are treated as pure phases. Pseudosections were calculated using XRF-derived bulk-rock compositions (Supplementary table 6) and fluid was considered as pure H_2O . All iron was considered as ferrous due to the lack of Fe^{3+} -rich minerals in the schists and gneisses.

422 Quantitative P - T pseudosections calculated for gneisses T15-32-3 between 600–800 °C
 423 and 4–9 kbar and T15-33-7 between 600–850 °C and 3–9 kbar are shown in Fig. 8a and b,
 424 respectively. Quartz and garnet are stable in both except for low- P conditions, where cordierite is stable
 425 instead. The measured H_2O contents for each sample saturate the solidus in each case, which
 426 is located at $\sim 660-690$ °C (Fig. 8a and b).

428 For sample T15-32-3, the overall assemblage Bt + Ms + Pl + Grt + Sil + Qz + melt is stable in a relatively broad field
 429 4.9–8.7 kbar and 670–745 °C (Fig. 8a), although isopleths for garnet inner-rim composition
 430 ($X_{\text{Mg}} = 0.10-0.12$) constrain peak conditions within this range to a minimum pressure

432 ~6 kbar (pink field in Fig. 8a). Retrograde effects where garnet compositions have
 433 modified by diffusional cation exchange with matrix phases are not considered here when
 434 determining peak metamorphic conditions. As such, sample T15-32-3 likely equilibrated at
 435 5.7–7.5 kbar and 675–725 °C. For sample T15-33-7, the observed peak mineral assemblage
 436 of Grt + Sil + Kfs + Bt + Pl + Qtz calculated to be stable
 437 3.2–9.6 kbar and 675–820 °C (Fig. 8b). This range was reduced by matching observed and
 438 calculated garnet compositions ($X_{\text{Mg}} = 0.14 - 0.16$) ($X_{\text{Ca}} = 0.04 - 0.05$) and biotite Ti contents
 439 (0.20–0.23 cpfu), as Ca in garnet and Ti in biotite have slow diffusivity. The
 440 measured concentrations should represent those obtained at peak metamorphism. Isopleths
 441 delineating these ranges constrain peak P – T conditions to 5.3–6.7 kbar and 750–765 °C (pink
 442 field in Fig. 8b).

443 The calculated P – T pseudosection for garnet-biotite schist sample T15-43-1 shows that
 444 quartz, plagioclase and biotite are stable everywhere in the
 445 P – T range, and garnet is stable everywhere except for <3.1 kbar and 675–685 °C. The fluid-
 446 saturated solidus is located at 670–690 °C, and the muscovite-out/sillimanite-in reaction has
 447 a positive slope between 630 °C and 750 °C. The observed peak-metamorphic assemblage
 448 (Grt + Bt + Ms + Pl + Qtz + melt) is stable at 5.4–10 kbar and 675–730 °C, and garnet core
 449 X_{Mg} and plagioclase X_{Ca} isopleths constrain peak P – T conditions to be >7.9 kbar and 690–720
 450 °C (pink field in Fig. 8c). Retrograde alteration at garnet rims, forming coarse aggregates of
 451 biotite, plagioclase, and muscovite, but no sillimanite, constrain
 452 retrogression to have a steep angle in P – T space. If heating had continued, or decompression
 453 had occurred isothermally, sillimanite would be expected to form within strain
 454 although this is not observed. Sample T15-43-3 contains sillimanite in the matrix, but is
 455 otherwise mineralogically similar to sample T15-43-1. In a calculated P – T pseudosection
 456 for T15-43-3, the interpreted peak assemblage of Grt + Sil + Kfs + Bt + Pl + Qtz + melt is
 457 stable at 4.6–9 kbar and 710–800 °C, whereas the retrograde-metamorphic assemblage
 458 Grt + Sil + Kfs + Crd + Bt + Pl + Qtz yields a P – T range of 3.6–5.4 kbar and 705–800 °C
 459 (Fig. 8d). The highest Ti content of biotite isopleths was used to provide the maximum
 460 temperature and constrain the peak metamorphic conditions of 4.6–8.7 kbar and 710–
 461 765 °C (pink field in Fig. 8d) and retrograde-metamorphic conditions of 3.6–4.9 kbar
 462 and 727–760 °C (blue field in Fig. 8d).

463 These calculated phase relations infer a common
 464 P – T path for metamorphic rocks from the Bomi and Chayu regions, which formed along
 465 similar geothermal gradients and reached similar P – T conditions (Fig. 8e and f),
 466 despite being located ~150 km apart along strike.

467

468 *Geothermobarometry*

469 The garnet-biotite (GB) thermometer (Holdaway, 2000) and garnet-hornblende
 470 quartz (GBPQ) barometer (W04) were applied to calculate the peak
 471 retrograde-metamorphic P - T conditions of the studied gneisses and schists. These results
 472 were used both as an independent check on the conditions calculated via phase
 473 analysis and due to local disequilibrium that may have developed during
 474 retrograde recrystallization, which obviates pseudosection modeling from interpreting
 475 P - T conditions of retrograde exhumation far below the solidus.

476 For gneiss samples, flat garnet core compositions are interpreted to be the result of
 477 homogenization of cations at the thermal peak of metamorphism (e.g. Caddick et al., 2010).
 478 Garnet core compositions alongside those of matrix biotite and plagioclase produced peak-
 479 metamorphic P - T conditions of 6.6–6.7 kbar and 673–717 °C (sample T15-32-3; yellow-
 480 filled circle in Fig. 8a) and 6.4 kbar and 703–727 °C (sample T15-33-7; yellow-filled
 481 circle in Fig. 8b) using these calibrations. For schist samples, the garnet porphyroblasts show
 482 compositional zoning, and their cores and rims are interpreted to be formed during the peak
 483 and retrograde metamorphism respectively. Therefore, compositions of
 484 matrix biotite and plagioclase that are not adjacent to garnet grains were selected to calculate
 485 the peak-metamorphic P - T conditions. These calibrations provide a T of 5.5–
 486 6.7–6.8 °C for sample T15-31 (yellow-filled circle) and garnet rim
 487 compositions were combined with compositions of neocrystalline biotite and plagioclase to
 488 constrain retrograde metamorphic P - T conditions of 3.9–4.5 kbar and 627–645 °C, shown by
 489 a blue-filled circle in Fig. 8c. No results were obtained for sample
 490 T15-43-3.

491 These peak metamorphic P - T conditions calculated via thermobarometry are similar to
 492 those constrained by phase equilibria modelling, although the calculated pressures of schist
 493 sample T15-43-1 are significantly lower than those estimated via pseudosection analysis.
 494 Given that full bulk-rock compositions are not appropriate to forward-model mineralogical
 495 changes occurring in discrete domains, such as garnet strain shadows, the P - T
 496 metamorphic conditions for sample T15-1 determined by thermobarometry are
 497 considered most reliable in this case. These conditions lie below the fluid-saturated solidus
 498 and are interpreted to correlate with the retrograde closure temperature for effective cation
 499 exchange between garnet and the adjacent matrix (Ehlers *et al.*, 1994).

500

501 **Late Triassic metamorphism in the east Lhasa terrane**

502 Petrological observations, zircon geochronology, and phase equilibria modelling show that a
 503 major metamorphic episode affected the Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region of the eastern Lhasa

504 t e r r d a u n r e i n g t h e L a t e T r i a s s i c . G n e i s s
 505 P - T conditions (5.7–7.5 kbar and 675–725 °C) to gneiss sample T15–33–7 (5.3–6.7 kbar and
 506 750–765 °C), and these are considered as peak metamorphism in the Bomi area. Given their
 507 proximity with no evident structural discontinuities between outcrops, both sample
 508 have experienced the same tectonothermal evolution, even if the former present
 509 temperature than the latter. The occurrence of fine-grained and large lath-like porphyroblasts
 510 of retrograde muscovite formed in sample T15–33–7, alongside the absence of cordierite
 511 constrains the post-peak exhumation history to involve decompressional cooling, as shown in
 512 Fig. 8e. By contrast, schists from the Chayu area ~150 km to the southeast under
 513 retrograde P - T path characterized by near-isothermal decompression at high temperatures,
 514 causing the growth of cordierite and the consumption of garnet, and then
 515 cooling towards to the inferred early prograde field (Fig. 8f) and
 516 schists thus experienced similar peak-stage upper amphibolite-facies metamorphism
 517 were buried to lower crustal levels during orogenesis. These conditions are consistent with
 518 Barrovian-type metamorphism, peaking at sillimanite-garnet
 519 characteristic of collisional orogeny (e.g. *England & Thompson, 1977; England & Thompson,
 520 et al., 2020*); especially when followed by decompression along a cooling path associated
 521 with tectonic exhumation (*England & Richardson, 1977; England & Thompson,
 522 Thompson & England, 1984; Harley, 1989*). Slight differences in the
 523 exhumation path can be attributed to local thermal gradients, such as
 524 magmatic intrusions in the Chayu region that allow the metamorphic rocks to remain hotter
 525 during retrograde exhumation than those in the Bomi area. Variations in
 526 exhumation along strike is not uncommon in collisional orogens at this length scale
 527 importantly has been well-documented in the Andes (*Lease et al., 2016*), which is a modern-
 528 day accretionary orogen with many tectonic parallels with the south Asian margin during
 529 closure of the Neo-Tethys ocean.

530 The metamorphic zircon rims from the gneisses and
 531 concentrations and fractionated REE patterns (Fig. 10b)
 532 (Fig. 10b) indicating the metamorphic zircon grew coevally with garnet and plagioclase
 533 during medium- to high-grade metamorphism (Rubatto, 2002; Rubatto & Hermann, 2007;
 534 Rubatto *et al.*, 2013). Therefore, the ages of 192 Ma obtained from these grains are
 535 taken to represent the timing of peak metamorphism, with P - T
 536 P - T conditions just above the fluid-saturated solidus for metapelitic rocks (Palin & Dyck,
 537 2020). These thermobarometric results are consistent with outcrop
 538 observations of incipient partial melt development and the generation of zircon at or soon
 539 after the onset of cooling and melt crystallization (Bea & Montero, 1999; Kunz *et al.*, 2018).

540

541 **Late Triassic magmatism in the east Lhasa terrane**

542 Four samples of granite collected from the Bomi–Chayu region of the east Lhasa
 543 terrane yielded similar zircon U–Pb crystallization ages of 216–206 Ma, which correlate with
 544 U–Pb ages of magmatic zircons in biotite-hornblende schist (c. 217 Ma) from the same area
 545 (Fig. 1; *et al.*, 2011c). The granitic rocks studied
 546 have $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of –8.6 to –16.2 and old crustal model ages (T_{MC}) of ca. 1.51 to 1.99 Ga (Fig.
 547 12) indicating that they were derived from partial melting of Paleoproterozoic
 548 materials. Diorites in the same area with a slightly younger age (c. 194 Ma) have negative
 549 $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of –0.1 to –6.5 (Dong *et al.*, 2015), and so also likely formed from these older
 550 precursor rocks. Therefore, the east Lhasa terrane must have experienced widespread crustal-
 551 derived magmatism during the Late Triassic.

552 The Late Triassic granites studied here from the Chayu region plot in the S-type granite
 553 field on an A–C–F diagram (Fig. 13a) and have relatively high Al_2O_3 contents (12.33–14.58
 554 wt. %), high A/CNK values (1.04–1.21), negative $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (–8.6 to –16.2) and are mixed
 555 magmas sourced from greywacke- and pelite-derived melts (Fig. 13b). This pattern is
 556 supported by most zircons analysed from these granites containing inherited detrital cores
 557 (Fig. 9ad) with metasedimentary protolith characteristics. These features suggest that the
 558 studied S-type granites likely formed by crustal anatexis of the metasediments during the
 559 collisional orogeny (e.g. Zhang *et al.*, 2013; Chappell & White, 1992; Barbarin, 1998;
 560 Liegeois, 1998), as S-type granites are uncommon in non-convergent plate
 561 intraplate environments.

562

563 **Tectonic implications**

564 The Lhasa terrane represents the southern margin of Tibet and so is a key tectonic unit for
 565 documenting the spatio-temporal evolution of the India-Asia collision during the Cenozoic.
 566 The terrane is bordered by the Bangong-Nujiang suture zone to the north and by the Indus-
 567 Yarlung Tsangpo suture zone to the south, was initially divided into the northern, central, and
 568 southern sub-terranes, separated by the Shiquan River–
 569 Luobadui–Milashan fault, respectively (e.g., *et al.*, 2004, 2006; Zhu *et al.*, 2011, 2013).
 570 The southern part of Lhasa terrane preserves a semi-continuous record of the
 571 northward subduction of the Neo-Tethyan ocean and the Cenozoic collision between India
 572 and Asia (e.g., *et al.*, 1984; Acharya, 2000; Yin & Ha
 573 *et al.*, 2001; Kapp *et al.*, 2003, 2007; Hou *et al.*, 2004, 2006; Chung *et al.*, 2005; Moet *et al.*,
 574 2005; Zhang *et al.*, 2010; Xi *et al.*, 2011; Pan *et al.*, 2012; Zhang & Santosh, 2012; Zhu
 575 *et al.*, 2013; Dong *et al.*, 2018). However, the recent discovery of Sumdo high-pressure (HP)

576 metamorphic belt argued that Lhasa terrane also records the subduction and closure of Paleo-
 577 T e t h y s o c e a n f r o m t h e L a t e P a l e
 578 *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2009b, 2012; Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Cheng *et al.*, 2015; Weller
 579 *et al.*, 2015, 2016a; Chen *et al.*, 2017). Together with the contemporaneous island volcanic
 580 rocks to the north, dismembered ophiolite units and the regional angular
 581 between the Middle and the Upper Permian, the belt is considered as a suture zone, which
 582 r e p r e s e n t s t h e r e l i c s o f t h e n o r t h w a r d s u
 583 *et al.*, 2009; Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2009a, b; Cheng *et al.*, 2012, 2015; Weller *et al.*,
 584 2015, 2016a). Separated by this suture zone, the Lhasa terrane is now considered to consist
 585 of two discrete crustal fragments: the North and South Lhasa terranes, with no central block
 586 (Fig. 15; Yang *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2009a, b, 2012; Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Zhang *et*
 587 *al.*, 2014a; Cheng *et al.*, 2015; Weller *et al.*, 2015, 2016a; Chen *et al.*, 2017).

588 The Sumdo Belt, central-east Lhasa terrane, contains high-pressure eclogite with a Late
 589 Permian metamorphic age of 240 Ma (Yang *et al.*, 2006, 2007, 2009; Xie *et al.*, 2007;
 590 Chen *et al.*, 2008; Li *et al.*, 2009b; Zeng *et al.*, 2009; Cheng *et al.*, 2012, 2015; Weller *et*
 591 *al.*, 2015, 2016a). These rocks must have formed prior to the onset of collisional orogeny.
 592 Studies conducted on these rocks indicate that they experienced an amphibolite-
 593 epidote-amphibolite-facies retrograde metamorphism, which matches the
 594 evolution of many other metamorphic rocks with the similar conditions and clockwise
 595 P - T path (MP amphibolite-facies, typical of the Barrovian-type metamorphism) and
 596 (Late Triassic to Early Jurassic, 225–192 Ma) along the central Lhasa terrane (Figs. 14 and
 597 15), although they have variation in the character of the paths due to different
 598 local thermal gradients in this length scale. As collisional orogenesis
 599 lithologies constitute a large-scale Late Triassic to Early Jurassic metamorphic belt striking
 600 east–west for at least 500 km, from the Nyainqentanglha in the west, through the Sumdo in
 601 the central, to the Dongjiu region adjacent to Namche Barwa in the east (Fig. 15). This linear
 602 belt is now considered as the primary record of the collisional orogeny between North and
 603 South Lhasa terranes during the Early Mesozoic, and resulted from closure
 604 (Li *et al.*, 2008, 2009a, 2011, 2012; Dong *et al.*, 2011b; Lin *et al.*, 2013b; Cheng *et al.*, 2015;
 605 Weller *et al.*, 2015, 2016a; Chen *et al.*, 2017). Additionally, the Early
 606 metamorphism along the central Lhasa terrane is associated with widespread coeval granitic
 607 magmatism, which is also interpreted to be the products of the collision between North and
 608 South terranes (Fig. 15; Kapp *et al.*, 2005; Li *et al.*, 2006; Zhang *et al.*, 2007; Li *et al.*,
 609 2008, 2009a; Zhu *et al.*, 2011; Dong *et al.*, 2015; Weller *et al.*, 2016b). Therefore, we
 610 s u g g e s t t h a t t h e L a t e T r i a s s i c m a g m a t
 611 Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region of the eastern Lhasa terrane formed in a same tectonic setting of

612 collisional orogeny between North and South Lhasa terranes, resulted from the closure of the
 613 PTO (Fig. 16). These data firstly indicate that the east Lhasa terrane east of the EHS, like the
 614 central-east Lhasa terrane to the west of the syntaxis, also recorded closure of the Paleo-
 615 Tethys oceanic basin, and the Sumdo metamorphic/orogenic belt documented in the
 616 east-central Lhasa terrane as recording the demise of the PTO should be extended eastward
 617 past the EHS into the east Lhasa terrane (Fig. 15).

618 There are key implications for this proposed extension of the Sumdo orogenic belt east
 619 of the EHS, where no HP or UHP eclogite-facies rocks have yet been discovered. The
 620 absence of canonical indicators of paleo-subduction in this region of the Lhasa terrane east
 621 of Namche Barwa, such as lithofacies that form only at convergent plate boundaries (e.g. *o*-
 622 *mélange*, blueschist, MORB-type eclogite, *q* and *De Li et al., 2013; Shier & White,*
 623 2016), has historically hindered tracing the paleo-closure of the North and South
 624 blocks. Our new data provide evidence that regional scale metamorphic overthrusting and
 625 thickening were occurring in this region simultaneously with units in the
 626 Sumdo, central Tibet (Welle et al., 2015, 2016a), where HP mafic eclogite is well exposed.
 627 Further, Carboniferous-Permian volcanic rocks are documented on the southern margin of
 628 the North Lhasa plate in both the central Lhasa block and in the Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region
 629 (Fig . 1 5) , i n d i c a t i n g c o e v a l a n c e (Li et al., 2008; Yang et al., 2009). Why, then, are there not equivalent HP eclogite exposures
 630 east of the EHS? The exhumation potential of subducted oceanic crust varies
 631 depending on a wide range of petrophysical factors (e.g. Guillot et al., 2001; Warren, 2013).
 632 Further, a wide range of mechanisms has been proposed for allowing exposure at the Earth's
 633 surface following an initial period of rapid exhumation based on positive buoyancy (e.g. St-
 634 Onge et al., 2013).

636 Firstly, it may be considered that the subducted PTO lithosphere experienced a
 637 strike variation in dip angle, as noted today in the Himalaya (e.g. Hodges et al., 2001)
 638 and proposed for the lack of Cenozoic (U)HP eclogite in the central and east Himalaya
 639 (O'Brien et al., 2001; Leech et al., 2005). Eclogite from the Sumdo complex near
 640 Basong Tso (Fig. 15) reached peak *P-T* conditions of 27 kbar and 670 °C, equivalent to
 641 transport to a depth of ~95 km before exhumation (Welle et al., 2016a). If slab subduction
 642 beneath the eastern Lhasa terrane during the Mesozoic occurred at a much steeper angle, it is
 643 possible that the subducted oceanic root achieved negative buoyancy at an equivalent time to
 644 the Basong Tso eclogites (Agard, 2009), and so upon slab fragmentation descended
 645 terminally into the lower mantle. Alternatively, if the slab angle in this region was shallower
 646 than that interpreted for Basong Tso, relatively low-pressure eclogite may have formed (e.g.
 647 Hernandez-Urbe & Palin, 2019), although such low-angle subduction is often associated

648 with formation of slab-derived magmas (adakites; Drummond *et al.*, 1996), which are absent
 649 from the Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region. Thus, this latter hypothesis appears unlikely based on
 650 the current understanding of the geology of this part of the Lhasa terrane.

651 If (U)HP eclogite formed during closure of the PTO east of the EHS, and was exhumed
 652 and incorporated into the overlying crust, it may thus be preserved
 653 subsurface, as the metamorphic pressures calculated from the rocks in this region are slightly
 654 lower than the eclogitic host gneisses in the Sumdo and Basong Tso region (cf. 9 kbar
 655 Basong Tso; Welle *et al.*, 2015). Thus, we interpret that the level of exposure of the Lhasa
 656 terrane in Motuo–Bomi–Chayu region is slightly shallower than the temporal
 657 along-strike to the west. Such an assessment of orogen-parallel variation in exhumation rate
 658 should be considered in large-scale reconstructions of the evolution of the Tibetan r
 659 prior to the onset of uplift during Cenozoic collision with India.

660

661 CONCLUSIONS

662 The east Lhasa terrane with
 663 (216–206 Ma) and regional metamorphism (199–198 Ma) Metasedimentary gneisses and
 664 schists studied from the Bomi–Chayu region, eastern
 665 experienced medium-pressure amphibolite-facies
 666 followed by a decompressional cooling retrograde. The Late Triassic granites are
 667 peraluminous S-type granites and derived from the partial melting of nearby metasediments,
 668 indicating localized melt transport. The coeval Late Triassic magmatism and metamorphism
 669 in the east Lhasa terrane are related to collision between North and South Lhasa, which
 670 resulted from closure of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean. Finally, these new data s
 671 recently discovered Sumdo metamorphic/orogenic belt that formed during closure of the PTO
 672 should be extended eastward to at least the east Lhasa terrane.

673

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 1166 subduction. *Lithos* **245**, 7–17.

1167

1168 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

1169 **Fig. 1.**(a) Simplified geological map of the Lhasa terrane, showing the main suture zones
 1170 and terranes. JSSZ, Jinsha suture zone; LSSZ, Longmu Tso-Shuanghu suture zone; BNSZ,
 1171 Bangong-Nujiang suture zone; SDSZ, Sumdo Paleo-Tethys suture zone; ITSZ, Indus-Yarlung
 1172 Tsangpo suture zone; ATF, Altyn Tagh Fault; KJF, Karakorum-Jiali Fault; RRR, Red River
 1173 Fault; EHS, eastern Himalayan syntaxis; NQ, North Qiangtang terrane; SQ, South Qiangtang
 1174 terrane; NL, North Lhasa terrane; SL, South Lhasa terrane. (b) Geological map of the east
 1175 Lhasa terrane, showing the sample locations and magmatic and metamorphic ages reported in
 1176 this work. The literature data are after Dong *et al.*, (2011c, 2015).

1177

1178 **Fig. 2.** Field photographs and photomicrographs of the magmatic rocks from the east Lhasa
 1179 terrane, showing the texture and mineral components of granite. Ms, muscovite; Bt, biotite;
 1180 Pl, plagioclase; Kfs, K-feldspar; Q, quartz.

1181

1182 **Fig. 3.** Outcrops of metapelitic gneiss (a) and schist (b) in the east Lhasa terrane.

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1184 **Fig. 4.** Photomicrographs of mineral assemblages and microstructures of the gneisses. (a) and
 1185 (b) Sample T15-32 with large garnet porphyroblasts surrounded by an aligned matrix
 1186 defined by biotite, muscovite, plagioclase, quartz and sillimanite. Garnet and biotite
 1187 are partly replaced by chlorites. (c) and (d) Sample T15-03 with
 1188 sillimanite–biotite–plagioclase–quartz matrix with garnet and K-feldspar porphyroblasts, and

1189 large lath-like or randomly orientated fine-grained muscovite. (e) A very small cusped quartz
 1190 dihedral angle against plagioclase in sample T15-33-7. (f) K-feldspar grains surrounded by
 1191 plagioclase in sample T15-33-7. Ms, muscovite; Bt, biotite; Pl, plagioclase; Kfs,
 1192 feldspar; Q, quartz; Sil, sillimanite; Grt, garnet; Chl, Chlorite; Ilm, ilmenite.

1193

1194 **Fig. 5.** Photomicrographs of mineral assemblages and microstructures of the schists. (a) and
 1195 (b) Sample T15-43-1 exhibiting large garnet porphyroblasts replaced by biotite-
 1196 muscovite-plagioclase aggregates in foliation. (c) and (d) Sample T15-43-3 containing garnet porphyroblasts surrounded by a matrix
 1197 of biotite, muscovite, plagioclase, quartz and minor ilmenite. Muscovite occurs both as aligned
 1198 flakes within foliation and as larger, subhedral to euhedral, unfoliated grains against garnet
 1199 rims. (e) and (f) Sample T15-43-3 containing garnet porphyroblasts surrounded by a matrix
 1200 of cordierite and quartz. Garnet rims are partly replaced by cordierite. (g) Micro-exsolved lamellae of plagioclase hosted by K-feldspar in sample T15-
 1201 43-3. (h) Garnet grains have inclusion-rich cores and inclusion-absent rims, indicating
 1202 textural equilibration with matrix phases. Ms, muscovite; Bt, biotite; Pl, plagioclase; Kfs, K-
 1203 feldspar; Q, quartz; Sil, sillimanite; Grt, garnet; Crd, Cordierite; Ilm, ilmenite.

1204

1205 **Fig. 6.** Compositional profiles of garnet porphyroblasts in sample T15-43-1; b, sample T15-43-3 and X_{Mg} vs. Ti (cpfu) diagram for biotite (c).

1206

1207 **Fig. 7.** (a) Primitive mantle normalized trace element diagrams and (b) chondrite normalized
 1208 rare earth element (REE) diagrams of granites. The trace element data for primitive mantle
 1209 and REE data for chondrites are after Sun and McDonough (1989).

1210

1211 **Fig. 8.** Pressure-temperature (P - T) pseudosections for samples (a) T15-32-3, (b) T15-33-
 1212 7, (c) T15-43-1 and (d) T15-43-3, calculated using the bulk-rock compositions given in
 1213 Supplement 1 and Table 6. Summary plots of P - T evolution of studied gneisses and schists respectively. The red bold fonts refer to the
 1214 observed mineral assemblage. The bold brown lines mark the positions of the solidus, bold
 1215 yellow lines mark the stability of muscovite. The blue, purple, green and pink lines
 1216 represent plagioclase, biotite (Ti) and garnet (X_{Mg}) isopleths, respectively. The pink- and blue-filled polygons represent the peak
 1217 conditions. The yellow-filled circles represent the conditions of thermobarometry. The bold black lines and dashed lines with arrow refer to the
 1218 prograde and retrograde P - T paths. Peak apparent thermal gradients were 10-15 °C/km.

1225 assuming a crustal density of 3000 kg/m^3 and a linear gradient.

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1227 **Fig. 9.** Representative cathodoluminescence (CL) images of zircon grains from studied rocks
1228 showing the analysed spot locations and related ages (in Ma).

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1230 **Fig. 10.** Chondrite-normalized REE patterns of zircons from granites (a) and metamorphic
1231 rocks (b). Chondrite values are after Sun and McDonough (1989).

1232

1233 **Fig. 11.** Zircon U–Pb concordia diagrams for studied rocks.

1234

1235 **Fig. 12.** Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values vs. U–Pb ages diagram of the Late Triassic granites.

1236

1237 **Fig. 13.** (a) A–C–F discrimination diagram for I-type and S-type magmas (after Chappell and
1238 White, 1992) and (b) Rb/Sr vs. Rb/Ba discrimination diagram for source of the
1239 (after Sylvester, 1998).

1240

1241 **Fig. 14.** Summary of the inferred P – T – t paths for the studied east Lhasa terrane gneisses and
1242 schists, and comparison with those reconstructed for
1243 metamorphic rocks from central-east Lhasa terrane.
1244 P – T paths. The geothermal gradients of 20, 27 and $45^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ are shown. Aluminosilicate
1245 phase relations are after Pattison (1992).
1246 *et al.* (2011b), Lin *et al.* (2013b), Weller *et al.* (2015) and Chen *et al.* (2017).

1247

1248 **Fig. 15** The distribution characteristics of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean orogenic belt and
1249 related magmatic and metamorphic rocks. The abbreviations are the same as in Fig. 1.

1250

1251 **Fig. 16.** Schematic plate tectonic evolution model of the east Lhasa terrane during the Early
1252 Mesozoic. The abbreviations are the same as in Fig. 1.

1253

1254 TABLE CAPTIONS

1255 **Table 1.** The major features of the studied rocks from the east Lhasa terrane.

1256

1257 **Supplementary table 1** compositions of representative garnet from the east Lhasa
1258 terrane metamorphic rocks.

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1260 **Supplementary table 2** compositions of representative biotite from the east Lhasa
1261 terrane metamorphic rocks.

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1263 **Supplementary table 3.** The compositions of representative plagioclase from the east Lhasa
1264 terrane metamorphic rocks.

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1266 **Supplementary table 4.** The compositions of representative K-feldspar from the east Lhasa
1267 terrane metamorphic rocks.

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1269 **Supplementary table 5.** The compositions of representative cordierite from the east Lhasa
1270 terrane metamorphic rocks.

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1272 **Supplementary table 6.** Major (wt. %) and trace (ppm) element data of the studied rocks
1273 from the east Lhasa terrane.

1274

1275 **Supplementary table 7.** LA-ICP-MS U-Pb dating and rare earth element results of the
1276 magmatic and metamorphic zircons.

1277

1278 **Supplementary table 8.** ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar isotopic data of zircons for the granites from the east Lhasa
1279 terrane.