

1 **Two-stage exhumation of subducted Saxothuringian continental crust records underplating in**
2 **the subduction channel and collisional forced folding (Krkonoše-Jizera Mts., Bohemian Massif)**

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24 phase equilibrium modelling; Saxothuringian domain; West Sudetes; Bohemian Massif

25 **Abstract**

26 The Krkonoše-Jizera Massif in the northern part of the Variscan Bohemian Massif provides insight into
27 the exhumation mechanisms for subducted continental crust. The studied region exposes a relatively
28 large portion of a flat-lying subduction-related complex that extends approximately 50 kilometres away
29 from the paleosuture. wide extent of HP-LT metamorphism has been confirmed by new P-T estimates
30 indicating temperatures of 400–450°C at 14–16 kbar and 450–520°C at 14–18 kbar for the easternmost
31 and westernmost parts of the studied area, respectively. A detailed study of metamorphic assemblages
32 associated with individual deformation fabrics together with analysis of quartz deformation
33 microstructures and textures allowed characterisation of the observed deformation structures in terms
34 of their subduction-exhumation memory. An integration of the lithostratigraphic, metamorphic and
35 structural data documents a subduction of distal and proximal parts of the Saxothuringian passive
36 margin to high-pressure conditions and their subsequent exhumation during two distinct stages. The
37 initial stage of exhumation has an adiabatic character interpreted as the buoyancy driven return of
38 continental material from the subduction channel resulting in underplating and progressive nappe
39 stacking at the base of the Teplá-Barrandian upper plate. With the transition from continental
40 subduction to continental collision during later stages of the convergence, the underplated high-
41 pressure rocks were further exhumed due to shortening in the accretionary wedge. This shortening is
42 associated with the formation of large-scale recumbent forced folds extending across the entire studied
43 area.

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48 **1. Introduction**

49 Fossil subduction interfaces (paleo-sutures) convey significant information on the dynamics of
50 subduction and exhumation processes (Platt, 1993; Chemenda et al., 1995; Jolivet et al., 2003; Agard
51 and Vitale-Brovarone, 2013; Hacker and Gerya, 2013; Burov et al., 2014). The subduction channels are
52 defined as tabular or wedge-like areas of variable size, internal structure and compositional form
53 between the upper and lower plates during slab subduction. These zones experience complex physical
54 and chemical interactions and they are typically marked by exhumed portions of previously subducted
55 material (Hsu, 1971; Cloos, 1982). Recent studies aiming to decipher the architecture of fossil
56 subduction zones are thus inevitably linked to detailed petrology (e.g. Hacker et al., 2003; Konopásek
57 and Schulmann, 2005; Agard et al., 2010; Plunder et al., 2013, 2015; Philippon et al., 2013; Lopéz-
58 Carmona et al., 2014). At the same time, proper characterisation of the deformational record in
59 subduction channels is complicated by identical kinematic boundary conditions and parallelism of both
60 subduction and exhumation fabrics. Only a few studies have described deformation structures in
61 association with particular mineral assemblages enabling deformation processes to be linked with
62 specific parts/levels of the channel (e.g. Plunder et al., 2012; 2013; Hyppolito et al., 2015; Keppler et
63 al., 2016). In addition, large-scale forced folds associated with major detachment surfaces have been
64 repeatedly reported from fossil subduction interfaces (Searle et al., 2004; Agard et al., 2010; Plunder et
65 al., 2013; Xypolias and Alsop, 2014). On the other hand, the identification and reconstruction of mega-
66 to crustal-scale fold structures in such settings is generally impossible without complementary
67 information based on metamorphic petrology and/or deformation microstructures (cf. Konopásek et al.,
68 2001; Štípská et al., 2004; Jeřábek et al., 2008; Skrzypek et al., 2011; Morales et al., 2011).

69 The Saxothuringian domain in the NW part of the Bohemian Massif represents a passive margin
70 of the Saxothuringian/Rheic Ocean that opened in Cambrian–Ordovician and was subducted beneath
71 the easterly core of the Bohemian Massif during Devonian–Carboniferous Variscan orogeny (e.g. Matte

72 et al., 1990; Franke, 2000; Schulmann et al., 2009). The current exposure of the NE-SW trending
73 paleo-suture, identified between the lower plate Saxothuringian and the upper plate Teplá-Barrandian
74 domains, reveals along-strike variations in metamorphic conditions of subducted continental crust
75 marked by HP–UHP/MT–HT metamorphism in the SW Erzgebirge Mts. and by HP/LT metamorphism
76 in the NE West Sudetes (e.g. Cháb and Vrána, 1979; Guiraud and Burg, 1984; Kryza et al., 1990;
77 Schmädicke et al., 1992; Smulikowski, 1995; Patočka et al., 1996; Rötzler et al., 1998; Konopásek,
78 1998; 2001; Nasdala and Massonne, 2000; Žáčková et al., 2010; Kotková et al., 2011; Faryad and
79 Kachlík, 2013).

80 This work provides a detailed documentation of the tectono-metamorphic record in the
81 subduction-accretionary complex of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif in the West Sudetes. The subduction-
82 related evolution of this region is interpreted via a multidisciplinary approach combining the results of
83 field structural geology and quartz deformation microstructures and textures with petrography and
84 phase equilibrium modelling. This approach allowed us to identify an imbricated stack of high-pressure
85 slices derived from the lower plate (the Saxothuringian passive margin) which experienced two-stage
86 exhumation accommodated by two contrasting mechanisms.

87 **2. Geological setting**

88 The northeastern part of the Saxothuringian domain in the Variscan orogenic belt of Central
89 Europe is represented by the West Sudetes at the northern margin of the Bohemian Massif (Fig.1a;
90 Franke et al., 1993; Narębski, 1994; Franke and Żelaźniewicz, 2000). The Krkonoše-Jizera Massif is
91 one of several lithotectonic units defined in this area and it has been interpreted as a Variscan
92 subduction-accretionary complex related to southeastward subduction and underthrusting of the
93 Saxothuringian plate (Kachlík and Patočka, 1998; Mazur et al., 2006) below the Teplá-Barrandian
94 domain (Mazur and Aleksandrowski, 2001). In its core, the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif (Fig. 1b) comprises
95 a large body of Upper Cambrian/Lower Ordovician orthogneiss (Borkowska et al., 1980; Korytowski et

96 al., 1993; Oliver et al., 1993; Kröner et al., 2001). The gneissic core is surrounded by metamorphosed
97 volcano-sedimentary rocks of the Saxothuringian passive margin, deposited during the Early
98 Palaeozoic intracontinental rifting of the Cadomian basement and subsequent development of an
99 oceanic basin (Kryza et al., 1995; 2007; Winchester et al., 1995; 2003; Kachlík and Patočka, 1998;
100 Patočka et al., 2000; Dostál et al., 2001; Žáčková et al., 2012). The subduction and orogenic period in
101 the West Sudetes is marked by high-pressure metamorphism of the Early Palaeozoic passive margin
102 deposits (Cháb and Vrána, 1979; Guiraud and Burg, 1984; Kryza et al., 1990; Smulikowski, 1995;
103 Patočka et al., 1996, Žáčková et al., 2010), associated nappe stacking, exhumation and post-
104 metamorphic folding of the entire metamorphic complex (Mazur, 1995; Mazur and Kryza, 1996;
105 Seston et al., 2000; Mazur and Aleksandrowski, 2001; Žáčková et al., 2010). The central part of the
106 Krkonoše-Jizera Massif was at the late stages of the Variscan orogeny, between ~320 and ~315 Ma,
107 intruded by the multistage Krkonoše-Jizera granite plutonic complex (Machowiak and Armstrong,
108 2007; Žák et al., 2013).

109 The current configuration of rock complexes in the West Sudetes has been attributed to the
110 nappe tectonics identified on the basis of geochemical, geochronological, structural and metamorphic
111 data (Seston et al., 2000; Mazur and Aleksandrowski, 2001). The original nappe division was recently
112 revised by Žáčková et al. (2010) who proposed a distinction of four major tectonic units. The par-
113 autochthonous unit (i) is represented by Neoproterozoic to Upper Cambrian/Lower Ordovician
114 (meta)granitoids (Kröner et al., 1994; Tichomirowa et al., 2001) of the Lusatian and Jizera Massifs
115 (Fig. 1a) with very low-grade Neoproterozoic–Lower Palaeozoic cover (the Ještěd Unit; Chaloupský,
116 1989; Chlupáč, 1993; Kachlík and Kozdrój, 2001). The lower thrust sheet (ii) is exposed structurally
117 above the Jizera orthogneiss in the southeastern part of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif and comprises
118 mostly ± garnet-bearing micaschists with subordinate bodies of orthogneisses, quartzites, calcsilicate
119 rocks and marbles (Fig. 1b). A petrological study of garnet-bearing samples suggested blueschist-facies
120 metamorphism in the range of 18–19 kbar and 460–520°C (Žáčková et al., 2010). A thick orthogneiss

121 body with a U-shape map section is situated close to the contact of the lower and middle thrust sheet
122 (Fig. 1b). The middle thrust sheet (iii) is formed by garnet-free micaschists, phyllites and marbles with
123 a high proportion of metavolcanics (Fig. 1b). The metabasites of this unit show blueschist-facies
124 metamorphism, which reached conditions of 300–530°C and 6.5–12 kbar (Cháb and Vrána, 1979;
125 Guiraud and Burg, 1984; Kryza and Mazur, 1995; Smulikowski, 1995; Patočka et al., 1996). The
126 uppermost thrust sheet (iv) is the Leszczyńiec Unit (Fig. 1a) dominated by metabasites with low
127 intensity of deformation and medium pressure metamorphism (Kryza and Mazur, 1995; Seston et al.,
128 2000).

129 For the purpose of this article the studied area covering the lower and middle thrust sheets can
130 be divided into several belts with distinct lithological content (Figs. 1b and 2): (1) garnet-bearing
131 micaschist, (2) orthogneiss, (3) garnet-free micaschist, phyllite and metavolcanics, and (4) metabasite.
132 Garnetiferous micaschists (1) with locally preserved chloritoid inclusions in the core of garnet
133 porphyroblasts document an early high-pressure metamorphic event (Žáčková et al., 2010). Garnet-free
134 (3), as well as garnet-bearing (1) micaschists were affected by widespread blastesis of albite, which has
135 been associated with decompression from the HP-stage and release of sodium from the deforming
136 orthogneiss (Žáčková et al., 2010). The chloritoid-bearing and albite-free phyllites (3) are characterised
137 in detail in this study and two samples (collected from the areas of the Rýchory Mts. and Železný Brod
138 see Fig. 1b) were used for P-T estimates. Orthogneisses (2) appear either as an equigranular variety or
139 as typical augen orthogneiss. The link between their metamorphism and observed deformation fabrics
140 from the microstructural point of view is discussed in this study. The metabasites (4) are usually
141 greenschists with relics of blueschist-facies metamorphism (Cháb and Vrána, 1979; Guiraud and Burg,
142 1984; Patočka et al., 1996).

143 **3. Succession of deformation structures**

144 Our structural analysis revealed that the overall structure of the southern Krkonoše-Jizera

145 Massif can be interpreted as tens of kilometers-scale isoclinal folds with generally east-dipping axial
146 plane, two hinge zones and three principal limbs occupying the entire map view (Fig. 2). A recognition
147 of this large-scale structure has been hindered by 1) a complicated shape of the isoclinal folds and 2)
148 subsequent re-folding resulting in a complex final geometry of interfering folds (Fig. 2a). The
149 reconstruction of the folds is based on our extensive structural dataset consisting of ~1250 documented
150 outcrops and ~3500 structural measurements collected during 1:25 000 scale geological mapping by
151 the Czech Geological Survey. For the sake of clarity in the following text, the presumed shape of the
152 folds is revealed here so that the studied area can be divided into three regions corresponding to the
153 spatial extent of the three principal limbs of the two isoclinal mega-folds. Limb 1 is the uppermost and
154 occupies eastern part of the studied area, Limb 2 is situated in the middle and represents the central part
155 of the studied area and Limb 3 is the lowermost and crops out in the west (cf. Figs. 1b and 2b). Four
156 deformation fabrics/events have been recognized in the studied area.

157 *3.1. D1 deformation*

158 The oldest deformation fabric S1 is preserved as relics namely in the hinge zones of isoclinal F2
159 folds (Fig. 3a–e) due to the subsequent intense overprint of F2 limbs by axial planar cleavage S2. S1 in
160 the F2 limbs can be identified when present as distinct compositional layering parallel to S1 in calc-
161 silicates, metacarbonates and metabasites/metavolcanites of the southern Krkonoše-Jizera Massif.
162 However, in micaschists, quartzites and orthogneisses the distinction between parallel S1 and S2 in the
163 F2 limbs is nearly impossible. The large-scale hinge zone of the F2 mega-fold, defined by an E–W
164 trending and steeply-dipping portion of the orthogneiss body (cf. hinge 1 in Fig. 2b and Figs. 4 and 5a:
165 3), preserves the least overprinted S1 fabric. In the metabasites and metavolcanites in the east and west
166 of the studied area (Rýchory Mountains and Železný Brod, respectively; Fig 1b), S1 is defined by
167 compositional layering marked by alternation of epidote-rich, sodic amphibole and/or plagioclase-rich
168 layers (Fig. 3a) developed during blueschist-facies metamorphism (Cháb and Vrána, 1979; Guiraud and

169 Burg, 1984; Patočka et al., 1996).

170 3.2. D2 deformation

171 The D2 event is associated with the development of small to mega-scale recumbent isoclinal
172 folds F2 and formation of penetrative greenschist-facies metamorphic foliation S2, which reworks S1
173 in the limbs of the F2 folds and is axial planar in their hinges. The S2 overprinting S1 (S2/S1), which
174 are macroscopically indistinguishable in the F2 limbs, is thus the dominant fabric in the entire region
175 (Fig. 4). In metasediments and metabasites, the metamorphic foliation mainly corresponds to the axial
176 planar cleavage S2 (Fig. 3c–e) while in orthogneiss the S1 foliation is apparently well preserved in the
177 hinge of the F2 megafold (hinge 1 in Fig. 2b) and is reworked to a variable extent by S2 in F2 limbs.
178 Due to similar microscopic appearance, the distinction of S1 and S2 in F2 limbs is only possible on the
179 basis of differences in texture (CPO) and metamorphic record (see below). In the metasediments, S2 is
180 associated with the widespread occurrence of albite porphyroblasts showing syn- to mostly post-
181 kinematic relations with respect to the S2/S1 foliation (cf. Fig. 3d, e, g). In places, where S2/S1 was not
182 reoriented by subsequent upright folding D3 (e.g. 7–8 in Fig. 5a), the S1/S2 fabric is subvertical to
183 steeply eastward dipping in the eastern Limb 1 (1–2 in Fig. 5a) and becomes gently eastward dipping to
184 subhorizontal towards the west in Limbs 2 and 3 (Figs. 4 and 5a: 5–7). S2/S1 bears mineral and
185 stretching lineation, which generally plunges towards ESE (Figs. 4 and 5b). The stretching lineation is
186 best preserved in the orthogneiss, where it is defined by shape preferred orientation of recrystallised
187 quartz and feldspar aggregates. Again, the stretching lineation L1 and L2 in the orthogneiss are difficult
188 to distinguish, however their orientation in the S1- and S2-dominated regions indicates that both
189 lineations are parallel. In the metasediments, the mineral lineation defined by micas is in most cases
190 obliterated by subsequent crenulation lineation FA3 (Fig. 3h). Fold axes of macroscopic isoclinal folds
191 F2 show a distinct spatial arrangement across the studied area (Fig. 5b, crosses in the pole figures). In
192 the vicinity of the U-shape orthogneiss body in the east (Limb 1 and hinge 1; Figs. 1b and 2b), the axes

193 of F2 isoclinal folds are parallel to the E–W trending stretching lineation (Figs. 3b, 5b: 1–2). On the
194 contrary, towards the structurally higher levels of Limb 1, the isoclinally folded metabasite layering S1
195 shows F2 folds with subhorizontal but N–S trending axes (Fig. 5b: 1). The F2 folds in Limbs 2 and 3
196 are non-cylindrical (Fig. 3a, c) with the fold axes orientation ranging from subhorizontal N–S trending
197 to gently eastward plunging (Fig. 5b: 3–4). The non-cylindrical character of F2 folds is mostly
198 associated with the superposition of N–S trending fold axes during the later N–S shortening related to
199 D3 (Fig. 3a). However, Limb 2 also shows non-cylindrical isoclinal F2 folds with fold axes orientation
200 changing from N–S to E–W (Fig. 3c), which lack the overprinting relations.

201 *3.3. D3 deformation*

202 The third deformation event D3 is associated with upright folding and local development of
203 steep axial planar and low-grade cleavages resulting from generally N–S directed shortening. The trend
204 of the fold axial planes AP3 and cleavages S3 gradually changes from WNW–ESE in the east to
205 WSW–ENE in the west of the studied area (Fig. 5c: 1 to 5). Due to the gradual east to west decrease in
206 dip angle of S2/S1 (Fig. 5a: 1 to 7), prior to D3 folding, the fold axes FA3 are steep in Limb 1 in the
207 east and become shallow to subhorizontal in Limbs 2 and 3 towards the west (Fig. 5d: 1 to 5). In the N–
208 S trending orthogneiss bodies, the orthogonal geometry of S2/S1 foliation and overprinting S3 cleavage
209 locally resulted in their strongly constrictional appearance. The intersection of the two fabrics is
210 parallel to both stretching lineation L2 and L1, and fold axes FA3 (cf. Fig. 5b and d). The F3 folds
211 occur at all scales ranging from crenulation cleavages to kilometre-scale folds (Figs. 2, 3f–h and 4). A
212 kilometre-scale F3 antiform has been identified in the western Limbs 2 and 3, where metabasites and
213 metavolcanites occupy the core of the antiform (Figs. 2, 4 and 5a: 6). In the eastern Limbs 1 and 2, only
214 smaller-scale F3 folds were identified, probably due to the presence of the thick tabular orthogneiss
215 body. The asymmetry and folding patterns of F3 folds observed at the outcrop scale show parasitic
216 folds consistent with the kilometre-scale F3 antiform in the western part of Limbs 2 and 3. In contrast,

217 towards the east the asymmetry of the F3 folds is controlled by the geometry of the isoclinal mega-fold
218 F2 so that the gently N–NE-dipping Limb 2 in its eastern part shows top-to-the-south F3 vergence (Fig.
219 3f) and the gently S–SE-dipping Limb 1 shows top-to-the-north F3 vergence.

220 In the vicinity of the Krkonoše-Jizera pluton, the S2 and S3 structures are overprinted by the
221 contact and structural aureole related to the emplacement of this composite body (Žák et al., 2013).

222 *3.4. D4 deformation*

223 The deformation event D4 affecting the entire studied area is associated with the local
224 development of centimetre- to decimetre-scale folds and kink bands with steep to moderately-dipping
225 and generally NNE–SSW trending axial planes S4 and subhorizontal to moderately plunging axes.
226 These F4 folds clearly overprint the F3 folds in Limb 2 (Fig. 3h). On the other hand, we cannot exclude
227 a possibility that similar kink bands in Limb 1 with their axes perpendicular to lineation L2 may
228 represent pre-D3 structures related to the last increments of the D2 deformation. This ambiguity stems
229 from the lack of interference between D3 and D4 structures in Limb 1.

230 **4. Quartz deformation microstructures**

231 Analyses of quartz deformation microstructure and texture were carried out in samples of
232 orthogneiss and deformed quartz veins collected from the main U-shaped orthogneiss body covering
233 Limbs 1 and 2, as well as from the hinge 1 zone of the mega-scale isocline (for location see Figs. 1b,
234 2b). These analyses were aimed at the characterisation of the individual deformation fabrics and
235 internal structure of the orthogneiss body with the main focus given to the conditions and kinematics of
236 the studied deformation events. The orthogneiss shows evidence for three deformation fabrics S1, S2
237 and S3; however, the S1 and S2 show identical quartz deformation microstructures and only S3 is
238 microstructurally distinct. In the orthogneiss, the quartz aggregates are recrystallised, strongly
239 elongated and define S1 and S2 foliation, and L1 and L2 lineation. The original magmatic

240 porphyroclasts of K-feldspar and plagioclase show syndeformational chemically-driven decomposition.
241 The S1 and S2-related quartz microstructure is characterised by relatively large recrystallised grains
242 with lobate boundaries (Fig. 6a–c) typical for the transition between subgrain rotation and grain
243 boundary migration recrystallisation regimes (Stipp et al., 2002a; Jeřábek et al., 2007). The shape
244 preferred orientation of quartz grains, the grain fabric, is frequently oblique to the S1 and S2 foliations.
245 The S3-related quartz microstructure overprints the S1 and S2 microstructure and the degree of
246 overprint can vary from serration of the larger S1 and S2-related quartz grains (Fig. 6b) to intense
247 recrystallisation (Fig. 6d). The S3-related quartz microstructure is characterised by small recrystallised
248 grains occupying the triple junctions of larger S1 and S2-related grains (Fig. 6d). Such a feature is
249 typical for a low temperature bulging recrystallisation regime (Stipp et al., 2002a; Jeřábek et al., 2007).
250 Assuming the typical natural strain rates of 10^{-14} – 10^{-12} s⁻¹ and water saturated conditions, the observed
251 microstructures associated with the S1 and S2 fabrics suggests higher temperature conditions of ~450–
252 500 °C whereas microstructure of the S3 cleavage suggests lower temperature conditions of ~300
253 °C (cf. Stipp et al., 2002a, b; Jeřábek et al., 2007).

254 **5. Quartz textures**

255 The crystal preferred orientation (CPO) of recrystallised quartz grains related to the S1 and S2
256 microstructure has been determined by the electron back-scattered diffraction method from XZ sections
257 of the finite strain ellipsoid. To collect the CPO data, we used a hkl-device attached to a scanning
258 electron microscope TESCAN Vega at the Institute of Petrology and Structural Geology in Prague with
259 measuring conditions set to 20 kV acceleration voltage, 39 mm working distance, ~5 nA beam current
260 and 70° sample tilt.

261 The CPO of recrystallised quartz was determined at 22 localities from quartz veins and
262 orthogneiss samples marked as Q and G in Figure 7, respectively. In order to compare the asymmetric
263 CPO patterns among individual samples, the resulting pole diagrams are presented in the same

264 geographic reference frame defined by common, generally E–W, orientation of the stretching lineation
265 (Fig. 7). The most typical CPOs in the analysed samples show single maxima or single and crossed
266 girdles of c-axes implying activation of basal $\langle a \rangle$, rhomb $\langle a+c \rangle$ and prism $\langle a \rangle$ slip systems (e.g.
267 Schmid and Casey, 1986) in a dislocation creep regime . The inclination of single girdles with respect
268 to the S1 and S2 foliations in the $\langle c \rangle$ -axis and $\langle a \rangle$ -axis pole figures (Lister and Williams, 1979;
269 Simpson and Schmid, 1983; Schmid and Casey, 1986) indicates a prevailing top-to-the ESE shear sense
270 associated with S2 overprinting S1 fabric in the isoclinal mega-folds of Limbs 1 and 2 and a prevailing
271 top-to-the WNW shear sense associated with the S1 fabric in the hinge of this large-scale isocline (Fig.
272 7). The observed shear senses inferred from inclination of $\langle c \rangle$ -axis and $\langle a \rangle$ -axis CPOs are consistent
273 with the shear senses suggested by the obliquity between the quartz grain shape preferred orientation
274 and the S1 and S2 foliation trends (Fig. 6b, c; see e.g. Berthé et al., 1979; Simpson and Schmid, 1983).

275 **6. Metamorphic record in phyllite and orthogneiss**

276 The petrological study presented in this work was concentrated on the garnet-free phyllites from
277 the east and west of the studied Krkonoše-Jizera Massif (Fig. 1b) and also on evaluation of the
278 metamorphic record in different orthogneiss fabrics. Chemical analyses of particular minerals were
279 performed by using a Cameca SX100 microprobe at the Masaryk University in Brno with operating
280 conditions of 15 kV accelerating voltage and 10 nA beam current. The representative chemical analyses
281 of minerals are listed in Table 1. The abbreviations of minerals in the text and figures follow Kretz
282 (1983) with the exception of garnet (Gt).

283 *6.1. Orthogneiss*

284 The orthogneiss consists of relict magmatic porphyroclasts of K-feldspar and plagioclase that are
285 overprinted by the metamorphic assemblage Ab-Ms-Kfs-Qtz (Fig. 8a, b) and accessory apatite,
286 monazite and opaque minerals. Three orthogneiss samples were selected for chemical analysis of white

287 mica composition in relation to the observed deformation fabrics. These samples come from the S2/S1
288 fabrics in Limbs 1 and 2 (VU88, EL 211; for localisation see Fig. 7) and from the S1 fabric in hinge 1
289 (EL159) of the F2 mega-fold. As mentioned earlier, the S1 and S2 fabrics are similar in macroscopic
290 appearance. Our microscopic analysis also indicates that the two fabrics consist of identical mineral
291 assemblages and quartz deformation microstructures (cf. 6a–c). However, a difference between the two
292 fabrics was revealed by chemical analyses of white mica (Fig. 8a, b and Table 1). Thus while the S1
293 fabric from sample EL159 bears only highly phengitic white mica with Si ranging between 3.4 and 3.5
294 atoms per formula unit (a.p.f.u.), the white mica in samples VU88 and EL211 from the S2/S1 fabric
295 shows higher scatter of Si content ranging between 3.2 and 3.46 a.p.f.u. (Table 1). The latter samples
296 clearly show two generations of white mica (Fig. 8b and Table 1) with highly phengitic (Si=3.4–3.46
297 a.p.f.u.) cores of larger grains and less phengitic (Si=3.2–3.3 a.p.f.u.) rims and matrix grains. This
298 pattern corresponds to an overprint of S1 by the parallel S2 fabric.

299 6.2. *Phyllite*

300 Two phyllite samples, EL9/2 and EL217, from the west (Limb 3) and east (Limb 1),
301 respectively, were selected for detailed analysis (for location see Fig. 1b). Both samples are
302 characterised by the garnet-free, but chloritoid-bearing assemblage Cld-Chl-Ms-Qtz±Pg with accessory
303 apatite, tourmaline and monazite in the matrix (Fig. 8c, d). Chloritoid forms small elongated grains,
304 which are in some cases transversal to the observed metamorphic foliation (Fig. 8c). On the other hand,
305 where the foliation is dominated by white mica with a high degree of preferred orientation (probably
306 S2), chloritoid grains are also parallel to this dominant foliation (Fig. 8d). Chloritoid is rich in
307 manganese and has X_{Mg} ($X_{Mg}=Mg/(Fe+Mg)$) of 0.08–0.09 in sample EL9/2 and 0.12–0.16 in sample
308 EL217 (Table 1). Chlorite is abundant in both samples and its X_{Mg} ranges between 0.35 and 0.36 in
309 sample EL9/2 and between 0.46 and 0.52 in sample EL217 (Table 1). The white mica is phengitic
310 muscovite, represented by the Ms-Cel-Pg-Bt solid solution with 4–13 mol% of paragonite, 11–30

311 mol% of celadonite and 0–3 mol% of biotite in both samples. Si content of phengitic muscovite ranges
312 between 3.17 and 3.21 a.p.f.u. in sample EL9/2 and between 3.11 and 3.29 a.p.f.u. in sample EL217
313 (Table 1).

314 In order to characterise metamorphic P-T conditions of phyllite, the observed mineral
315 assemblage and mineral chemistry were interpreted on the basis of phase equilibrium modelling and the
316 P-T section approach. The bulk rock compositions used in the calculations correspond to the whole
317 rock compositions obtained by the X-ray fluorescence (XRF) analysis. The P-T sections (Fig. 9) were
318 calculated using the thermodynamic software package *Perple_X* (Connolly, 2005: version 6.6.6) with
319 the internally consistent thermodynamic dataset of Holland and Powell (1998: 2004 upgrade). Mixing
320 properties of phases used in the calculations were taken from Berman (1990) for garnet, Newton et al.
321 (1980) for plagioclase, Coggon and Holland (2002) for white mica, Holland et al. (1998) for chlorite
322 and Powell and Holland (1999) for biotite, staurolite and chloritoid. The manganese end-members for
323 the biotite, staurolite and chloritoid solid solution mixing models in question were incorporated after
324 Tinkham et al. (2001). Regarding the observed mineral assemblage and chemical composition of
325 studied minerals, the P-T sections for both samples were calculated in the system MnO-Na₂O-CaO-
326 K₂O-FeO-MgO-Al₂O₃-SiO₂-H₂O (MnNCKFMASH) with H₂O in excess.

327 The P-T section for sample EL9/2 was calculated with the following molar bulk-rock
328 composition: MnO = 0.10, Na₂O = 1.31, CaO = 0.03, K₂O = 3.06, FeO = 6.45, MgO = 3.16, Al₂O₃ =
329 15.86 and SiO₂ = 70.03. In the resulting P-T section (Fig. 9a), the temperature-dependent stability of
330 the observed mineral assemblage Cld-Chl-Ms-Qtz-Pg is restricted by the garnet-in reaction at higher
331 temperatures and lawsonite-out reaction at lower temperatures. A more precise estimate of pressure
332 conditions can be calculated based on the celadonite component in muscovite. Thus, by using
333 compositional isopleths of X_{Mg} in chloritoid and Si in muscovite (Table 1), the equilibrium P-T
334 conditions of the mineral assemblage in sample EL9/2 correspond to 400–450 °C at 14–16 kbar (Fig.
335 9a).

336 The P-T section for sample EL217 was calculated with the following molar bulk-rock
337 composition: MnO = 0.18, Na₂O = 0.89, CaO = 0.08, K₂O = 2.78, FeO = 7.51, MgO = 3.99, Al₂O₃ =
338 16.06 and SiO₂ = 68.51. In the resulting P-T section (Fig. 9b), the temperature-dependent stability of
339 the observed mineral assemblage Cld-Chl-Ms-Qtz-Pg is again restricted by the lawsonite-out and
340 garnet-in reactions. Compared to the calculation result for sample EL9/2 (Fig. 9a), the lawsonite-out
341 reaction curve is shifted to slightly higher temperatures. The temperature-dependent compositional
342 isopleths of X_{Mg} in chloritoid in sample EL217 (Table 1) again constrain the temperature range of the
343 observed mineral assemblage while the pressure dependent celadonite component in muscovite (Table
344 1) constrains the pressure range. Thus the Si content in muscovite together with the X_{Mg} in chloritoid
345 and X_{Mg} in chlorite (Table 1) suggests high-pressure metamorphic P-T conditions of 14–18 kbar at
346 450–520°C (Fig. 9b).

347 **7. Discussion**

348 *7.1. Metamorphic and lithostratigraphic structure of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif*

349 It has been generally accepted that the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif represents a subduction-
350 accretionary complex associated with the southeastward subduction of the Saxothuringian oceanic and
351 continental crust below the Teplá-Barrandian domain (Matte et al., 1990; Pin et al., 1998; Franke and
352 Żelaźniewicz, 2000; Mazur and Aleksandrowski, 2001). The complex is occupied by the lower plate
353 rocks, which experienced HP-LT metamorphism (Cháb and Vrána, 1979; Guiraud and Burg, 1984;
354 Patočka et al., 1996; Žáčková et al., 2010; Faryad and Kachlík, 2013). In the current erosion section,
355 this E–SE dipping wedge-shaped complex shows steep hanging wall and flat footwall contacts (Fig. 4)
356 and its spatial extent is limited by the lower-pressure metabasite Leszczyniec Unit in the east and the
357 par-autochthonous Ještěd Unit in the west. In the original nappe concept (Mazur, 1995; Mazur and
358 Kryza 1996; Seston et al., 2000; Mazur and Aleksandrowski, 2001), the HP core of the Krkonoše-Jizera
359 Massif has been associated with two nappes, the lower and the middle thrust sheet, distinguished on the

360 basis of lithology, geochronological data and inverted metamorphic field gradient (Kryza and Mazur,
361 1995). The metamorphic inversion has recently been contradicted by the P-T estimates of 460–520 °C
362 at 18–19 kbar (M1 of Žáčková et al., 2010; Faryad and Kachlík, 2013, see Fig. 10) as these conditions
363 indicate much higher pressures in the lower thrust sheet compared to the earlier estimates of 300–
364 530°C at 6.5–12 kbar from blueschists in the middle thrust sheet (Kryza and Mazur, 1995;
365 Smulikowski, 1995; Patočka et al., 1996). However, our new P-T estimates of 400–520°C at 14–19
366 kbar (Figs. 9, 10), calculated for chloritoid-bearing phyllite from the structurally lower part of the
367 middle thrust sheet, document comparable P-T conditions in both thrust sheets (Fig. 10). In addition,
368 the phengitic white mica in the orthogneiss from the lower thrust sheet, documented in this study (Fig.
369 8a, b and Table 1), indicates high-pressure conditions. These new results suggest that the HP
370 metamorphism probably affected the entire wedge complex of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif.

371 The distinction of the two nappes, however, can still be made based on the available
372 geochronology with several older Ar-Ar phengite and muscovite ages from blueschists in the middle
373 thrust sheet (364–345 Ma with a typical error of ± 2 Ma, Maluski and Patočka, 1997; Marheine et al.,
374 2002) contrasting with the younger U-Pb monazite ages and numerous Ar-Ar muscovite ages from the
375 lower thrust sheet (340–330 Ma with a typical error of ± 3 Ma for Ar-Ar and ± 6 Ma for U-Pb, Marheine
376 et al., 2002; Žáčková et al., 2010). In addition, lithological differences between the two thrust sheets,
377 characterised by metapelites interlayered with metabasites prevailing in the middle thrust sheet and
378 metapelites with quartzites that dominate the lower thrust sheet, likely correspond to a progressive
379 subduction of more distal and proximal sedimentary sequences of the Saxothuringian passive margin
380 (Winchester et al., 2003), respectively.

381 The nappe structure of the HP wedge complex is relatively simple in the eastern part of the
382 Krkonoše-Jizera Massif, where the middle and lower thrust sheets are formed by several lithological
383 belts consisting, from top to bottom (for numbering see Figs. 1b and 2b), of mafic blueschists (4) – a
384 possible relic of the Saxothuringian oceanic crust; garnet-free micaschist, phyllite and metavolcanics

385 (3) – a distal volcano-sedimentary succession of the Saxothuringian passive margin; orthogneiss (2) – a
386 slice of the Saxothuringian basement; garnet-bearing micaschist (1) – a proximal sedimentary
387 succession of the Saxothuringian passive margin. On the contrary, towards the west this simple nappe
388 structure starts to be complicated as the middle thrust sheet occurs in the footwall position of the lower
389 thrust sheet. Although such an inverted structure may be explained by its duplication related to, e.g.,
390 out of sequence thrusting, the geometry of deformation fabrics and of individual lithological belts (1–4)
391 suggests that the observed pattern corresponds to the geometry of large-scale isoclinal folds
392 reconstructed in Figure 2. Moreover, the lack of major metamorphic gaps manifested by comparable P-
393 T conditions obtained along the entire length of the single lithological belt (3) winding across the entire
394 HP wedge complex (cf. samples EL9/2 and EL217 in Figs. 1b, 2 and 10) support the fold interpretation.
395 The slightly lower temperature and perhaps also pressure conditions estimated for the western part of
396 the middle thrust sheet (sample EL9/2) compared to its eastern part (sample EL217) can be explained
397 by a different depth of burial prior to folding.

398 *7.2. Nappe stacking during cold underplating of high-pressure thrust sheets*

399 The nappe structure of the Krkonoše-Jizera HP wedge seems to record a continuous process of
400 subduction and underplating of imbricated slices derived from the Saxothuringian lower plate to the
401 base of the upper plate (Fig. 11a) interpreted as a northern continuation of the Teplá-Barrandian Unit
402 (Mazur and Alexandrowski, 2001; the Teplá-Barrandian domain of Schulmann et al., 2014). With this
403 respect the upper thrust sheet, represented by the lower-pressure Leszczyńiec metaigneous complex
404 (Kryza et al., 1995), has been previously interpreted as an accreted fragment of the Saxothuringian
405 oceanic crust (Mazur and Alexandrowski, 2001). A similar nappe structure of an accreted oceanic crust
406 and underlying subducted/underplated passive margin has been recently reported from the Tavşanlı
407 zone in west Turkey (Plunder et al., 2015). Alternatively, the Leszczyńiec complex may represent the
408 lower crust of the upper plate as it comprises numerous felsic rocks and metagabbro with aU-Pb zircon

409 age of 494 ± 2 Ma (Oliver et al., 1993). This age corresponds to a period of extensive Cambro-
410 Ordovician continental rifting related to the subsequent opening of the Saxothuringian/Rheic Ocean.
411 Similar metagabbroic complexes of identical age occur further to the SW where they intrude the base
412 of the Teplá-Barrandian Unit s.s. (Štědrá et al., 2002; Timmermann et al., 2004; Jašarová et al., *subm.*;
413 Peřestý et al., *subm.*).

414 In this context, the first clearly identified allochthonous slice that was attached to the upper
415 plate is represented by the metabasites (belt (4) in Figs. 2b and 1b) of the middle thrust sheet that
416 contain relics of blueschist facies metamorphism (Fig. 11a). It is not clear if the mafic blueschists
417 represented an oceanic crust or they belonged to the volcano-sedimentary sequence of the distal part of
418 the Saxothuringian passive margin. However, the spatially associated distal margin metasediments and
419 metabasites (belts (3) and (4) in Figs. 2b and 1b) have been merged into the middle thrust sheet until
420 additional data on this issue are available. The second allochthonous slice, subsequently attached to the
421 upper plate, is represented by the lower thrust sheet formed by an imbricated slice of basement
422 orthogneiss and metasedimentary cover of the proximal part of the Saxothuringian passive margin. It is
423 not clear whether the orthogneiss and metasediments (belts (2) and (1) in Figs. 2b and 1b) represent a
424 thick basement-cover slice that became overturned in the subduction channel and attached to the upper
425 plate, or if they are two separate thin slices that were successively attached to the upper plate.

426 It is interesting to explore the possibly thick-skinned (cover + basement) character of the lower
427 thrust sheet in contrast to the thin-skinned (only cover) character of the middle thrust sheet. Recent
428 numerical simulations demonstrated the importance of viscosity contrast at the basement-cover
429 interface for the formation of thin-skinned nappes, with high basement-cover viscosity contrast, versus
430 thick-skinned nappes, with low viscosity contrast (Bauville and Schmalholz, 2015). Passive margins
431 are typically associated with the fine-grained sediments in distal sequences (phyllite) and the coarse-
432 grained sediments in proximal sequences (quartzite) imposing high and low basement-cover viscosity
433 contrasts, respectively. Therefore the conclusions of Bauville and Schmalholz (2015) provide a good

434 reasoning for transition from the thin- to thick-skinned nappes developed as a consequence of
435 progressive subduction of distal and proximal parts of the passive margin (cf. Burov et al., 2014).

436 The juxtaposition of individual nappes in the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif has been previously
437 associated with northwestward thrusting during D1 deformation (Mazur and Kryza, 1996; Mazur and
438 Alexandrowski, 2001). Similar, top-to-the WNW, shear sense for the D1 deformation was also
439 concluded in this study from the crystallographic preferred orientation of recrystallised quartz veins
440 deformed parallel to the S1 fabric in the orthogneiss (Figs. 6 and 7). These shear senses occur
441 exclusively in the hinge zones of large-scale isoclinal folds F2 where the S1 fabric, associated with
442 phengitic white mica (Fig. 8a), was later passively rotated into a steep E–W trending orientation. The
443 analysed quartz microstructure in S1 indicates its development at 450–500 °C (cf. figure 6b and
444 microstructural calibrations of Stipp et al. 2002b; Jeřábek et al., 2007) that coincides with the
445 temperature estimates for both M1 and M2 events of Žáčková et al. (2010) shown in Figure 10. For this
446 reason it is not clear if the nappe stacking occurred during the M1 or M2 event. However, the relict
447 form of the peak-pressure assemblage M1 represented by chloritoid inclusions in garnet cores (Žáčková
448 et al., 2010), contrasting with the dominance of the matrix assemblage M2 of Žáčková et al. (2010) in
449 the S1 fabric in metapelites, suggests that thrusting occurred at M2 conditions. An alternative scenario
450 where the S1 fabric formed during continuous exhumation from M1 (18–19 kbar) to M2 (10.5–13.5
451 kbar) pressure conditions is inconsistent with the observed thrust kinematics associated with S1,
452 because synkinematic exhumation would lead to a normal-sense movement. The observed kinematics
453 thus suggests that the HP nappes were exhumed to the M2 pressures prior to the formation of S1 and
454 the associated overprint of an earlier fabric by M2 metamorphic conditions. S1-M2 is thus interpreted
455 as reflecting the deformation associated with underplating/attachment of individual nappes to the base
456 of the thickened upper plate (Fig. 11a) during ongoing underthrusting of the lower plate, which is the
457 only mechanism that can explain the formation of the observed thrust kinematics. With the absence of
458 earlier (pre-S1) deformation fabrics, it is difficult to identify unequivocally the mechanism responsible

459 for M1 to M2 exhumation. However, it is very likely that the adiabatic character of the M1 to M2
460 partial exhumation (Fig. 10) reflects exhumation in the subduction channel. Here, the difference in
461 density between subducted continental material and surrounding mantle is high and therefore
462 buoyancy-driven exhumation appears likely (e.g. Chemenda et al., 1995; Hacker and Gerya, 2013;
463 Burov et al., 2014).

464 *7.3. Large-scale folding and exhumation of the nappe stack*

465 Formation of the isoclinal mega-folds F2 covering the entire region of the Krkonoše-Jizera HP
466 wedge complex (Fig. 2) is accompanied by the development of an axial planar cleavage S2 and
467 associated greenschist facies overprint of the S1 fabric. This folding thus documents the
468 exhumation/transition from the M2 to M3 metamorphic assemblage with estimated P-T conditions of
469 470–520 °C at 10.5–13.5 kbar and <480 °C at <8.5 kbar, respectively (Žáčková et al., 2010 in Fig. 10).
470 The transition between the two assemblages/fabrics is rather continuous as manifested by the stability
471 of MP phases (garnet or chloritoid) in the S2 cleavage of some samples (Figs. 3d and 8c, d). At the
472 same time, S2 is also associated with the widespread blastesis of albite (Fig. 3d, e, g) occurring at 350–
473 450 °C and 3–7 kbar (M3 of Žáčková et al., 2010 in Fig. 10) and showing syn- to mostly post-
474 kinematic relationship with respect to S2 (cf. Fig. 3d, g). The blastesis affecting nearly the entire
475 studied region may reflect the decompression-related breakdown of paragonite (Konopásek, 1998)
476 suggesting that the higher pressure conditions are indeed characteristic for most rocks of the Krkonoše-
477 Jizera Massif. At the same time, the syn-exhumation deformation of orthogneiss could have led to
478 metasomatic enrichment of metapelites by sodium (Žáčková et al., 2010), though the unequivocal
479 spatial association of albite blastesis and the presence of orthogneiss has not been demonstrated.

480 The metamorphic and deformation record in the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif suggests that the HP-
481 MP nappes were exhumed from similar depths, marked by M2 metamorphic conditions, via
482 combination of large-scale folding and formation of detachment and thrust zones along the contact with

483 the upper and lower plates (Fig 11b), respectively (e.g. Xypolias and Koukouvelas, 2001; Searle et al.,
484 2004; Agard et al., 2010). In this respect, it is worth to note the change in the sense of shear revealed by
485 the quartz deformation microstructures and textures along the folded orthogneiss body (Figs. 2, 6 and
486 7). Figure 7 demonstrates that the hinge zones of the F2 mega-folds, dominated by the passively rotated
487 S1 fabric, are associated with the top-to-the WNW tectonic transport while the limbs, characterised by
488 S2 overprinting S1 relations, show the opposite top-to-the ESE shear sense. In the overturned Limb 2,
489 this change may be explained by both its passive 180° rotation, leading to reorientation of the incipient
490 shear sense related to D1 nappe stacking (e.g. Stünitz et al., 1991; Morales et al., 2011), or D2
491 overprint. In Limb 1; however, this change is clearly related to S2 overprint and formation of a
492 detachment zone allowing for exhumation of the HP nappe stack. This interpretation is in a good
493 agreement with extensional detachment structures that have been reported from the uppermost part of
494 Limb 1 namely along the contact with the hanging wall Leszczyńiec Unit where the Leszczyńiec
495 detachment shear zone was identified (Mazur and Kryza, 1996; Seston et al., 2000; Mazur and
496 Aleksandrowski, 2001). The internal part of the folded nappe stack, specifically the central part of
497 Limb 2, shows additional evidence for top-to-the WNW thrusting manifested by the development of
498 highly noncylindrical isoclinal folds F2 (Fig. 3c) and associated reorientation of originally N–S
499 trending fold axes towards the generally E–W orientation parallel to the stretching lineation (cf. Figs. 2
500 and 5). The central part of Limb 2, however, does not show any evidence for a major discontinuity in
501 neither metamorphic nor structural pattern and therefore it is very likely that it documents differential
502 movements related to the development of the F2 mega-folds and synchronous overall top-to-WNW
503 exhumational transport. On the contrary, the basal contact of the HP wedge with the relatively low-
504 grade metamorphic rocks of the par-autochthonous unit in the east is associated with a major gap in
505 metamorphic conditions and therefore must represent a major thrust discontinuity in the Krkonoše-
506 Jizera Massif (Kachlík and Kozdrój, 2001).

507 The orientation pattern of small-scale folds F2 characterised by nucleation at high angles to the

508 transport direction contrasts with the transport-parallel orientation of hinges of the F2 mega-folds (cf.
509 Figs. 2 and 5). It is not clear if such a geometry may reflect a complicated sheath fold structure (e.g.
510 Alsop and Holdsworth, 2012) or flow-perturbation folding related to lateral velocity gradients in the
511 exhumation channel (see Alsop and Holdsworth, 2007; Xypolias and Alsop, 2014). The latter
512 alternative may be a more realistic explanation of the observed geometry as the transport-perpendicular
513 nucleation and subsequent rotation of mega-folds would demand high strain transfer zones inside the
514 folded stack that are not evident from our structural observations.

515 The high-pressure metamorphic nappe stack of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif was exhumed from
516 a wedge-shaped domain between the easterly Teplá-Barrandian upper plate and the westerly
517 Saxothuringian lower plate. The small scale structures together with the development of F2 mega-folds
518 and overall flattening of exhumation fabric S2 away from the upper plate contact (Figs. 4 and 5)
519 suggests a geometry of an antiformal stack structure that is typical for accretionary orogenic wedges
520 (Malavieille, 2010). It is expected that the increasing thickness of the subducted passive margin leads
521 to a switch from continental subduction to continental collision at late stages of the convergence (e.g.
522 Burov et al., 2014). The consequent shortening in the wedge domain together with an increase in basal
523 friction and mechanical coupling along the subduction interface can explain the development of the
524 large-scale forced folds F2 and associated exhumation of the HP nappe stack (Fig. 11b). The M2 to M3
525 exhumation of the HP wedge may thus be accommodated by the shortening of the accretionary wedge
526 induced by the two colliding crustal blocks at late collisional stages (Platt, 1986; Platt, 1993; Burov et
527 al., 2014).

528 The last increments of exhumation in the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif are associated with the D3
529 folding induced by N–S horizontal shortening (Figs. 3 and 5) that is recorded elsewhere in the
530 Bohemian Massif (e.g. Konopásek et al., 2001; Edel et al., 2003). The D3 folding occurred prior to
531 intrusion of the Krkonoše-Jizera composite pluton (~320–315 Ma), manifested by the contact aureole
532 overprinting the F3 folds, and implying Early Carboniferous age of this deformation (Marheine et al.,

533 2002; Žák et al., 2013). Open and asymmetric character of F3 folds reported from the northern part of
534 the West Sudetes (Seston et al., 2000), contrasting with the local development of tight and cleavage
535 bearing F3 folds in the southern part of the Krkonoše-Jizera Massif, may be attributed to the decreasing
536 intensity of D3 towards the north.

537 *7.4. The Krkonoše-Jizera Massif in the context of the Variscan evolution of the Bohemian Massif*

538 The subduction of the Saxothuringian passive margin has been recently associated with the
539 major return of the buoyant lower-plate-derived felsic crust from the subduction channel to the base of
540 the upper plate Teplá-Barrandian domain (Lexa et al., 2011; Schulmann et al., 2009; 2014) following
541 the relamination concept of Hacker et al. (2011). The material from the relaminated/thickened forearc
542 domain had been subsequently redistributed by lower crustal flow towards the easterly core of the
543 Bohemian Massif represented by the Moldanubian domain (Chopin et al., 2012; Schulmann et al.,
544 2014; Maierová et al., 2014; Dymková et al., 2016). This interpretation is now supported by an
545 increasing amount of evidence for a two-stage P-T evolution of orogenic granulites in the Moldanubian
546 domain showing an early HP-(MT-HT) stage followed by MP-HT stage (Nahodilová et al., 2014;
547 Jedlička et al., 2015). In this context, the M1 to M2 buoyancy-driven partial exhumation of the
548 Krkonoše-Jizera HP rocks from deeper parts of the subduction channel to the base of the upper plate
549 may coincide with major underplating/thickening of the forearc Teplá-Barrandian domain. With this
550 respect the contrasting temperature record of medium-pressure metamorphism in the Moldanubian
551 granulites (<840°C; Nahodilová et al., 2014) and in the Krkonoše-Jizera metasediments (<520°C;
552 Žáčková et al., 2010) can be explained by the cold thermal regime in the vicinity of the ongoing
553 subduction/underthrusting of the Saxothuringian plate and elevated heat flow due to radiogenic heat
554 production in the easterly orogenic root domain (Lexa et al., 2011).

555 Recent tectonic models for the Bohemian Massif further suggest that the post-relamination
556 exhumation of the originally high-pressure units in both the easterly orogen core and the westerly

557 suture zone is associated with compression-driven exhumation at the late collisional stage (Chopin et
558 al., 2012; Jastrzębski et al., 2014; Maierová et al., 2014). During this stage the lower crustal rocks in
559 the orogen core of the Moldanubian domain were exhumed within the cores of large-scale antiformal
560 structures (Štípská et al., 2004; Schulmann et al., 2005, 2014). In contrast, the late exhumation history
561 of high pressure rocks in the former subduction channel is still poorly understood (Nasdala and
562 Massonne, 2000; Konopásek and Schulmann, 2005; Kotková et al., 2011). In this context it is
563 interesting to note the two-stage exhumation history of the subduction complex in the Krkonoše-Jizera
564 Massif described in this work.

565 **8. Conclusions**

566 The Krkonoše-Jizera Massif provides a new input to understanding of the Variscan subduction-
567 exhumation process in the Bohemian Massif. The lithostratigraphic and metamorphic data from the
568 studied region document a wide extent of the subduction-related HP-LT metamorphism M1 recorded
569 within the two main nappes derived from distal and proximal parts of the subducted Saxothuringian
570 passive margin. The new P-T estimates calculated for two chloritoid-bearing phyllite samples in the
571 lower part of the upper nappe (middle thrust sheet) revealed 400–450 °C at 14–16 kbar and 450–520 °C
572 at 14–18 kbar for the westernmost and easternmost parts of the studied area, respectively. These
573 estimates are in a good agreement with the previous data and suggest nearly 50 km lateral extent of the
574 HP metamorphic rocks. At the same time, the repetitive pattern of four lithologically distinct belts
575 winding across the studied area can be interpreted in accordance with the structural data and suggest
576 the presence of mega-scale isoclinal folds. Quartz deformation microstructures and textures in quartz
577 veins deformed parallel to the main deformation fabrics provided systematic information on
578 deformation kinematics showing thrusting in the hinge zone and normal sense of shearing in the limbs
579 of the mega-folds. It is concluded that the thrusting occurred during deformation D1, that was
580 associated with the still HP-LT metamorphic assemblage M2 formed at 470–520 °C and 10.5–13.5

581 kbar. D1-M2 reflects stacking of the two nappes and their successive attachment to the base of the
582 Teplá-Barrandian upper plate. The later normal sense of shearing is associated with folding and
583 deformation D2 characterised by a continual decrease in metamorphic conditions to the greenschist
584 facies (M3) at 350–450 °C and 3–7 kbar, and reflects exhumation of the nappe stack. The proposed
585 two-stage exhumation of HP-LT rocks from the subduction channel is based on recognition of three
586 distinct metamorphic assemblages (M1–M3) associated with two kinematically distinct deformation
587 fabrics (D1 and D2). The first stage of exhumation is marked by the change from HP-LT conditions of
588 M1 to the still HP-LT conditions of M2. With its adiabatic character, this partial exhumation is
589 interpreted as a buoyancy-driven return of material from the subduction channel leading to
590 underplating of the Teplá-Barrandian upper plate reflected by the D1-M2. The second stage of
591 exhumation is marked by a continual decrease in both P and T conditions from HP-LT, associated with
592 M2-D1, to LP-LT conditions, associated with M3-D2. This later exhumation is marked by the
593 development of isoclinal mega-folds F2 and interpreted as a result of shortening in the accretionary
594 wedge indicating a switch from continental subduction to continental collision at the late stages of
595 convergence.

596

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897

898 **Figure and table captions**

899 Fig. 1. (a) Simplified geological map of the northern part of the Bohemian Massif (after Kryza

900 and Mazur, 1995). The inset in the upper right corner shows the position of the study area with respect
901 to the major Variscan massifs. (b) Simplified geological map of the southern Krkonoše-Jizera Massif
902 (modified after Chaloupský, 1989) showing the location of the studied petrological samples. GPS
903 coordinates of sample EL9/2 and EL217 are 50.6602N, 15.26164E and 50.63941N, 15.84218E
904 ,respectively. Labels (1)–(4) in the legend correspond to the division into four lithological belts as
905 described in the text and shown in Fig. 2b.

906 Fig. 2. (a) Schematic geometry of the reconstructed mega-scale isoclinal folds F2 refolded by
907 F3. The F2 folds cover the entire studied region as demonstrated by the simplified geological map from
908 Fig. 1b inserted into the present day erosion section in (b). (b) Shows division of the studied area into
909 the three limbs and two hinges of F2 mega-folds. Labels (1)–(4) show the extent of the four major
910 lithological belts winding throughout the studied area: (1) garnet-bearing micaschist, (2) orthogneiss,
911 (3) garnet-free micaschist, phyllite and metavolcanics, and (4) metabasite (cf. Fig. 1b).

912 Fig. 3. Photographs of observed deformation structures with indicated geographic orientation
913 (AP – axial plane, FA – fold axis). F2 and F3 folds overprinting S1 compositional layering (a) in
914 metabasite near Železný Brod in the eastern part of Limb 3 and (b) in calc-silicates near Velká Úpa near
915 the hinge 1 of the isoclinal mega-fold F2 (Fig. 2). (c) Non-cylindrical folds F2 from the Jeřábek ridge
916 characteristic for the central part of the overturned Limb 2. (d) Photomicrograph and (e) photograph of
917 the isoclinal folds F2 refolded by upright folds F3 in metapelites of Limbs 2 and 3. The subhorizontal
918 axial-planar cleavage S2 is associated with widespread blastesis of albite. (f) Asymmetric folds F3 in
919 orthogneiss from the Labe valley near hinge 1 of the isoclinal mega-fold. (g) Photomicrograph
920 showing the overprint of S2, overgrown by albite porphyroblasts, by subvertical crenulation cleavage
921 S3 in Limb 2. (h) The kink bands F4 affecting S2 foliation and upright folds F3.

922 Fig. 4. Structural map of the southern Krkonoše-Jizera Massif with simplified geology of Fig.
923 1b. The map shows the interpolated traces and inclination of the main deformation fabrics S2 and S1,
924 with their L2 and L1 stretching lineation, and fold axial planes AP3 and cleavage S3 with fold axes

925 FA3.

926 Fig. 5. Spatial variations in orientation of the main deformation structures across the studied
927 region shown in pole figures 1 – max. 7 associated with regions (dashed line) in the simplified
928 geological map (for map legend see Fig. 4). (a) S1 and S2 foliations (or S2/S1 in most of the area
929 indistinguishable: see text for explanation), (b) L1 and L2 stretching lineations and FA2 fold axes, (c)
930 AP3 fold axial planes and S3 cleavages, and (d) FA3 fold axes. The distribution density function in the
931 pole figures was obtained via the Gaussian counting method (K=100) and the contours are multiples of
932 standard deviation (S). Number of structural measurements (N) and the maximum density distribution
933 contour (e.g. 12S) is indicated in individual pole figures. Crosses in pole figures in (b) correspond to
934 FA2 axes of the isoclinal F2 folds while dots indicate stretching lineation L2 and L1.

935 Fig. 6. Microstructures of deformed quartz veins and aggregates from the Jizera orthogneiss
936 (cross-polarized lambda plate photographs). (a–c) show microstructures associated with S1 or S2
937 deformation fabrics characterised by lobate boundaries of recrystallised quartz grains. (b and c) show
938 grain shape preferred orientation inclined with respect to macroscopic foliation suggesting top-to-the
939 WNW shear sense for S1 in F2 hinge (b) and top-to-the ESE shear sense for S2 in F2 limb. (d) shows an
940 overprint of S1 or S2 microstructure by S3 cleavage and associated microstructure. For location of
941 displayed samples see Fig. 7.

942 Fig. 7. Crystallographic preferred orientation of recrystallised quartz grains measured by
943 Electron Back Scattered Diffraction (EBSD) in the XZ section of the finite strain ellipsoid from 22
944 samples distributed along the U-shaped orthogneiss body. Lower hemisphere equal area projection pole
945 figures represent poles to base (0001) [c-axis], poles to the first order prism {10–10} <m-axes> and
946 poles to the second order prism {11–20} <a-axes>. Sample names with Q or G distinction, i.e. quartz
947 veins or orthogneiss samples, respectively, GPS coordinates, dip direction/dip of foliation and
948 stretching lineation, number of measured grains (N) and max of contour diagrams are also indicated.
949 Contours refer to multiples of uniform density distribution. The pole figures are shown in the same

950 geographic reference frame defined by the approximate east to the right and west to the left of each
951 pole figure, parallel to orientation of the stretching lineation. Note the asymmetric distribution of c-axes
952 and a-axes in several samples used for kinematic interpretation.

953 Fig. 8. Back-scattered electron images of two orthogneiss and two phyllite samples (for
954 locations see Figs. 7 and 1b, respectively). Orthogneiss samples EL159 (a) and VU88 (b) show
955 replacement of K-feldspar porphyroclasts by albite and phengitic white mica in S1 and S2 fabrics. (b)
956 shows highly phengitic larger flake of white mica related to S1 that is overgrown by smaller flakes of
957 less phengitic white mica related to S2. Phyllite samples EL9/2 (c) and EL217 (d) were used for
958 petrological analysis and P-T estimates. The images in (c) and (d) show the relationship of the peak
959 metamorphic assemblage with respect to S2/S1 foliation.

960 Fig. 9. The P-T sections calculated in the MnNCKFMASH system for two phyllite samples,
961 EL9/2 (a) and EL217 (b) (see figure 1b for location). The whole rock chemical compositions and
962 compositional isopleths of selected minerals are shown in each P-T section. Within the relatively large
963 stability fields, the resulting P-T estimates were delimited by the isopleths of Si content in phengitic
964 white mica and of X_{Mg} in chlorite and chloritoid.

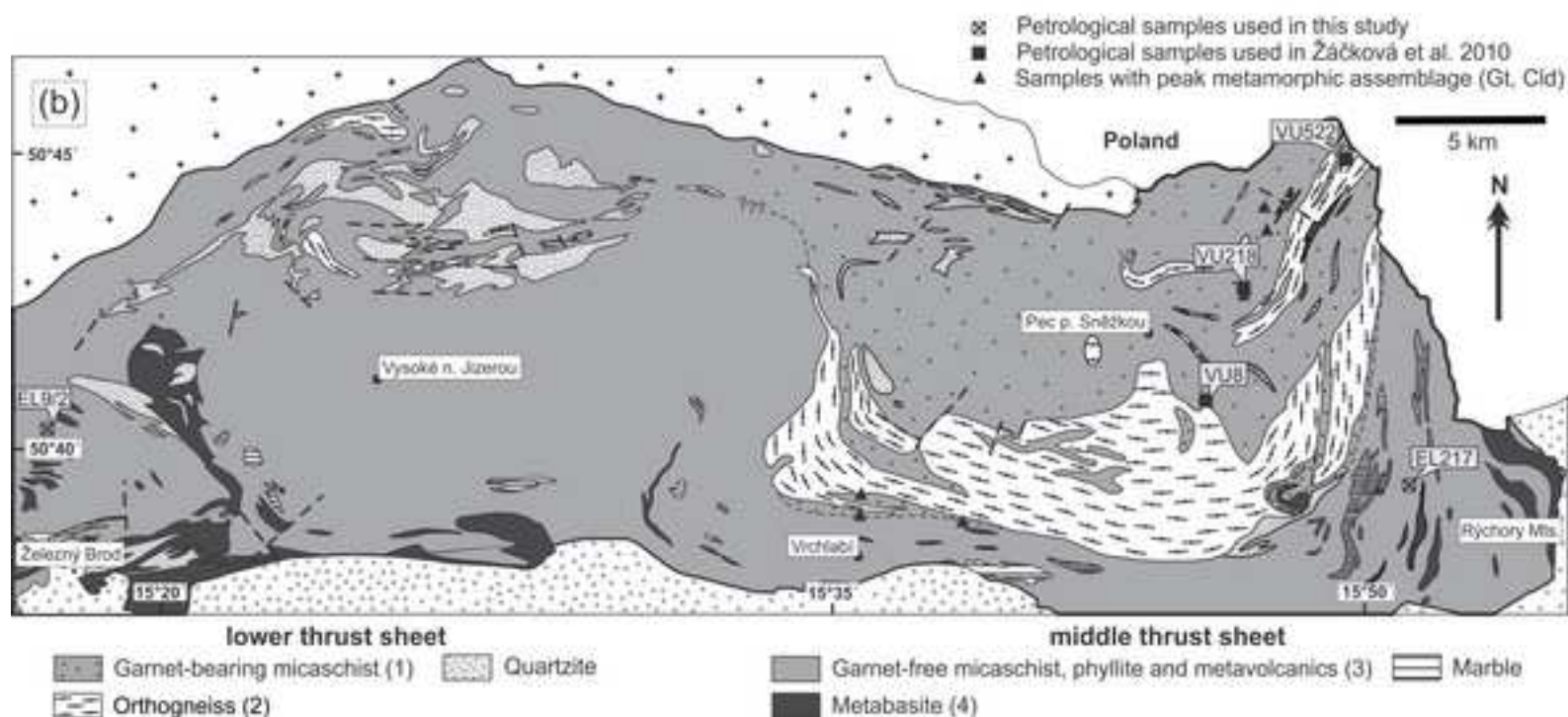
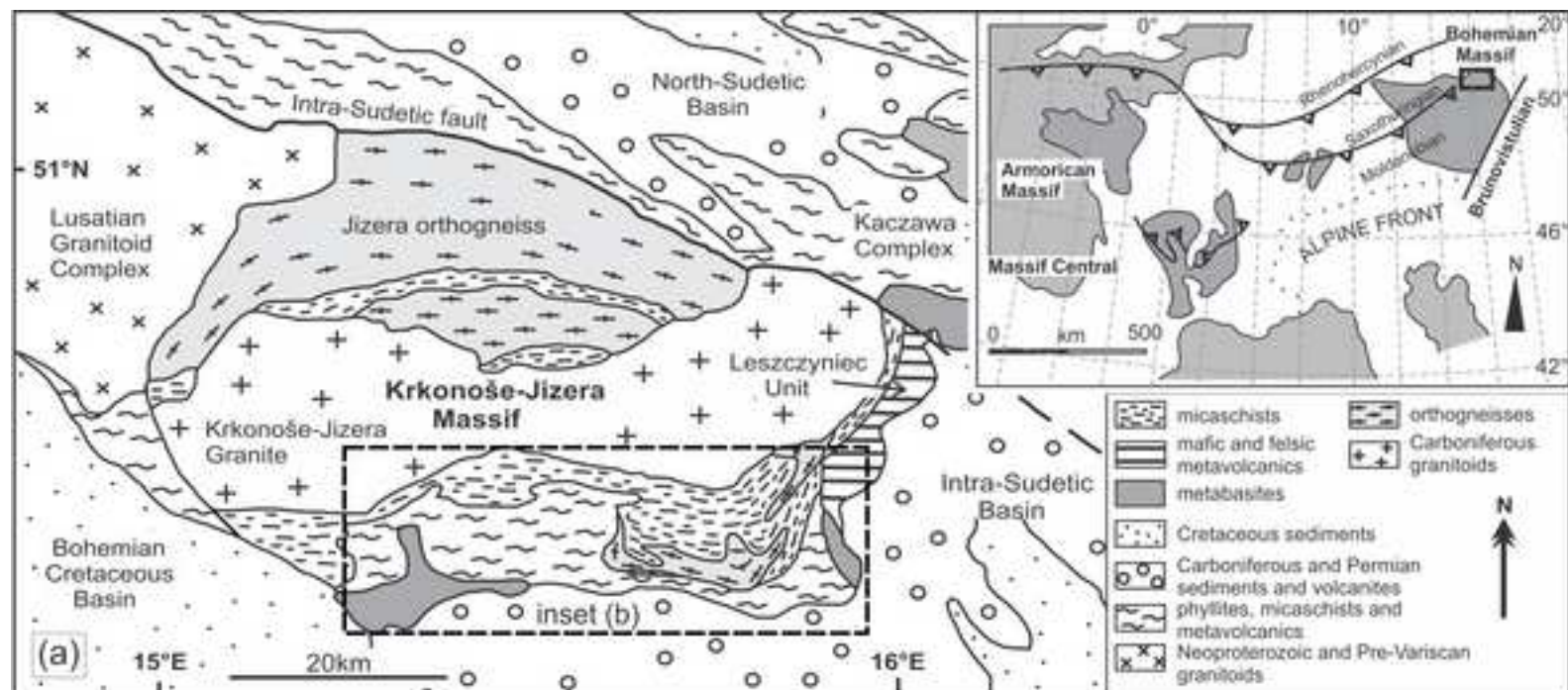
965 Fig. 10. A summary P-T diagram showing the peak metamorphic P-T conditions and
966 exhumation P-T path based on the determination of three distinct metamorphic assemblages (M1–M3)
967 and phase equilibrium modelling from several samples presented in this study, in Žáčková et al. (2010)
968 and in Faryad and Kachlík (2013). For localisation of samples see Fig. 1b.

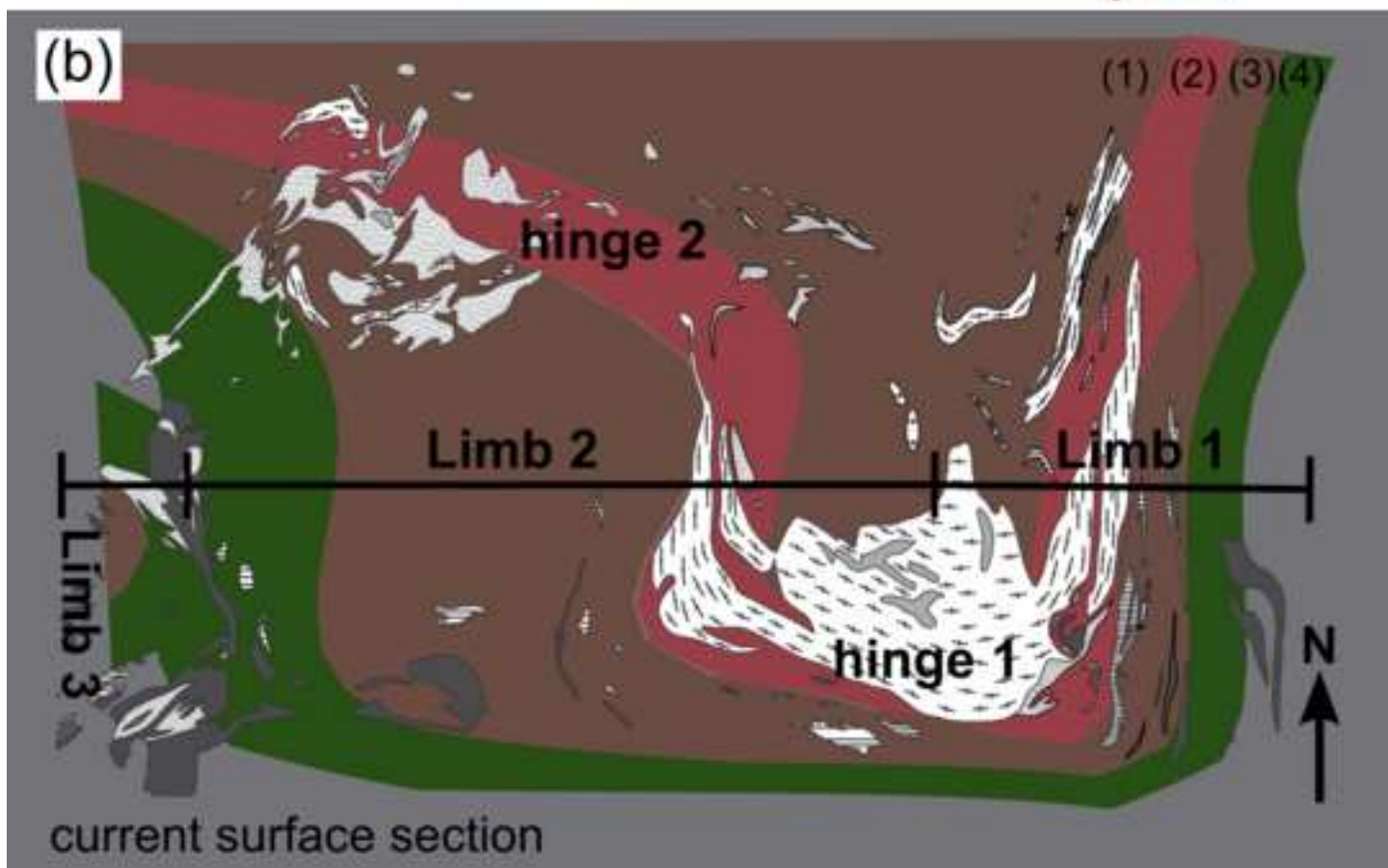
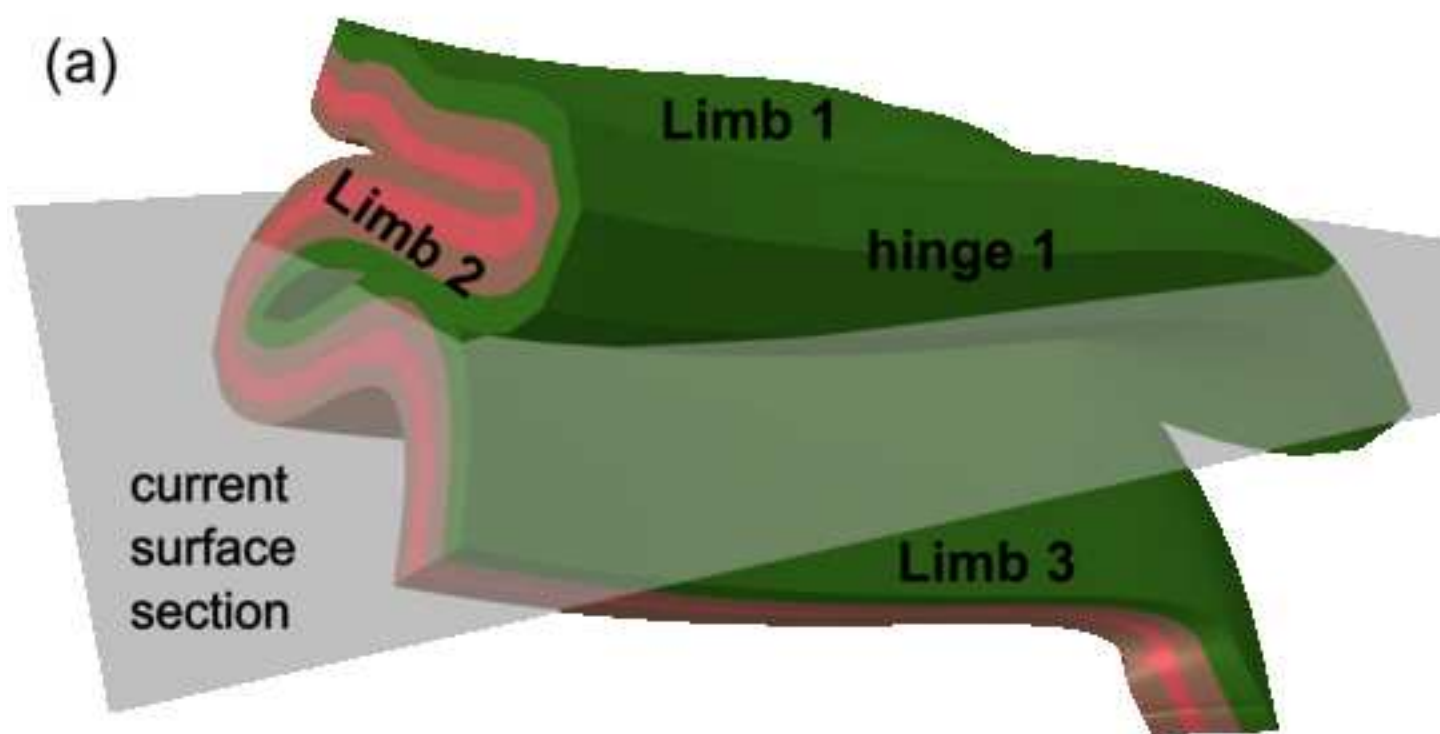
969 Fig. 11. An evolutionary scheme showing two phases of exhumation of HP rocks in the studied
970 region: (a) via adiabatic exhumation and cold underplating, relamination, in the subduction channel
971 (M1 to M2) and (b) via collisional forced folding due to shortening in the accretionary wedge at the late
972 stages of convergence (M2 to M3).

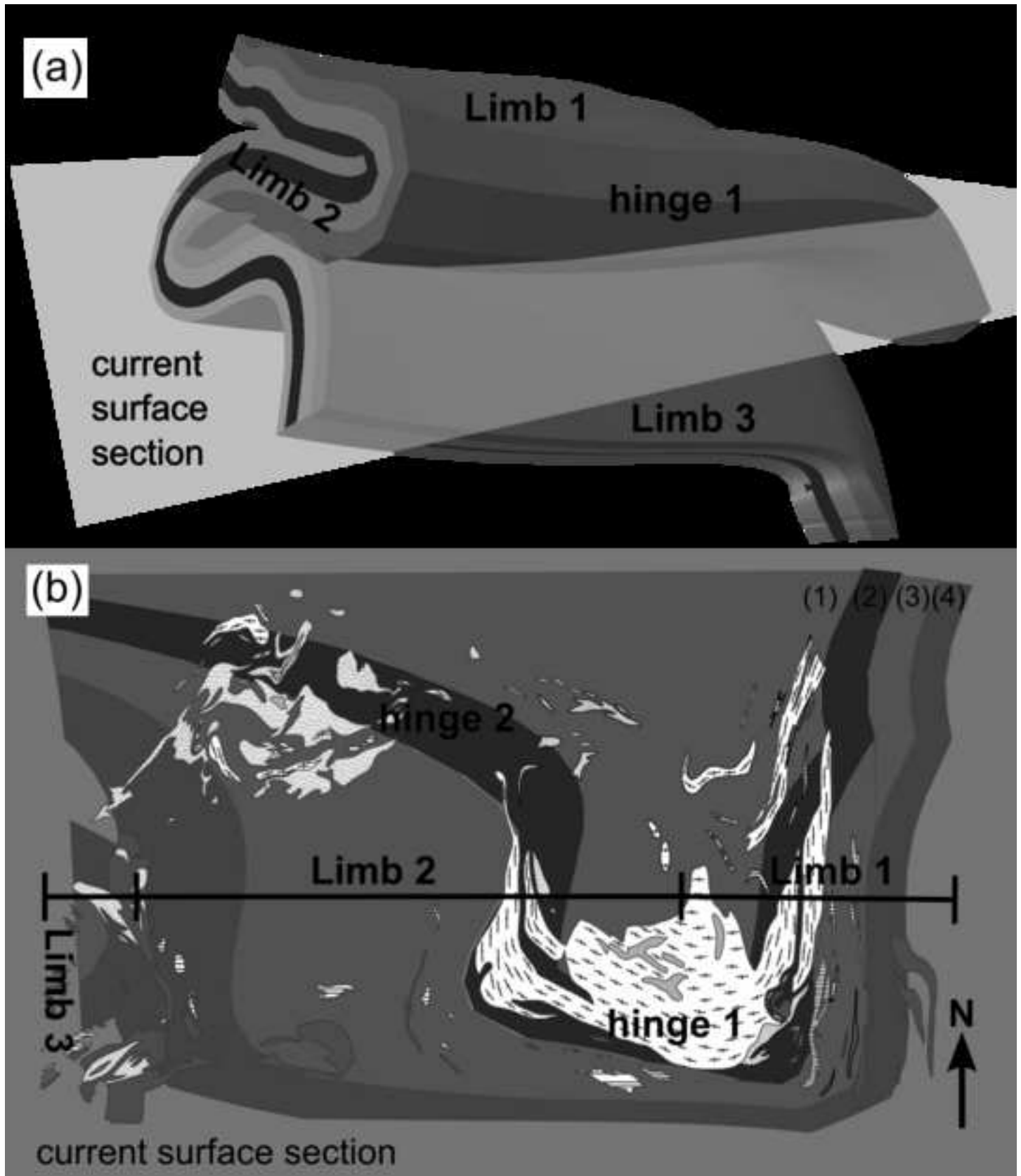
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974 Table 1. Representative microprobe analyses of selected minerals.

*Figure
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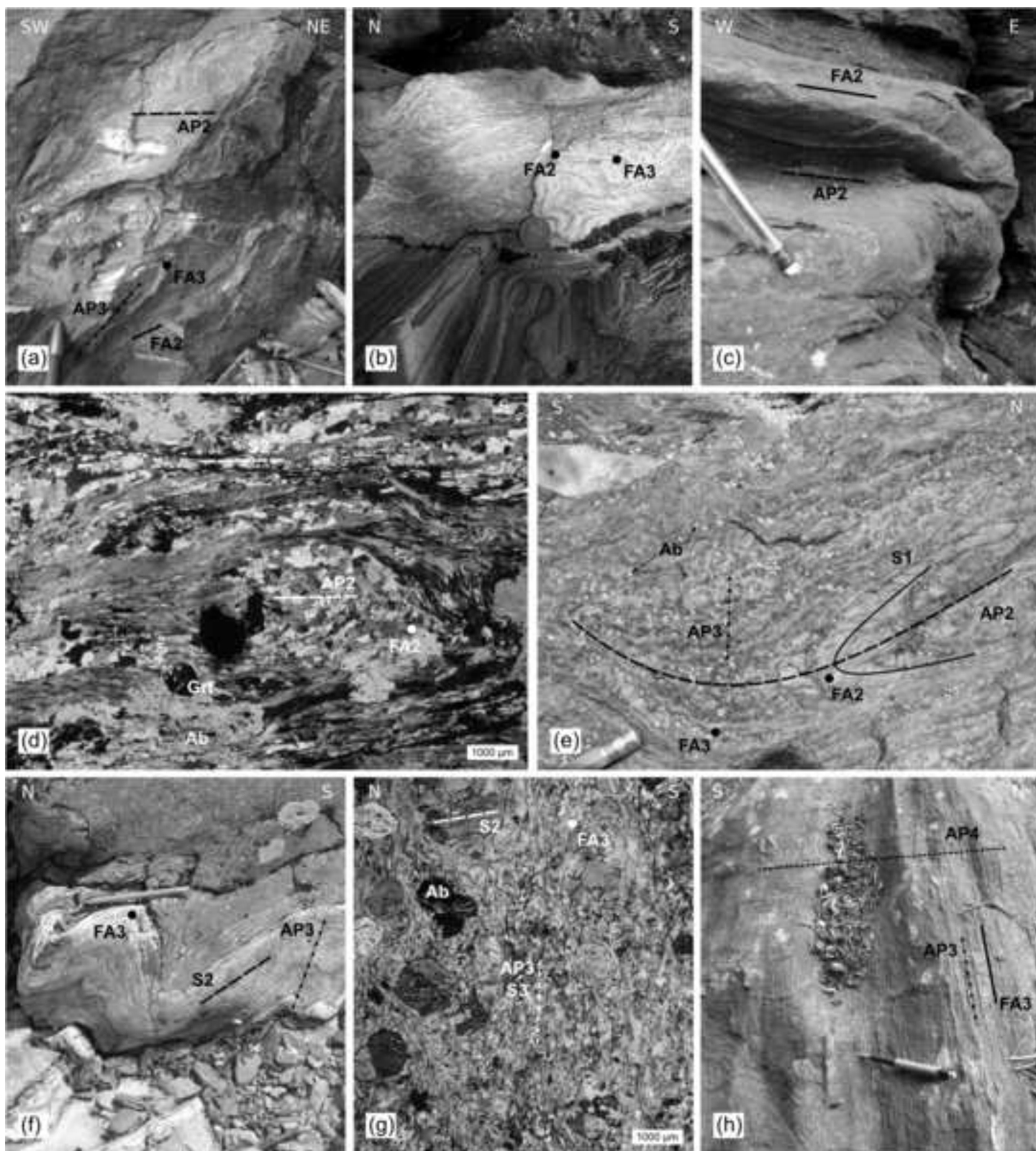




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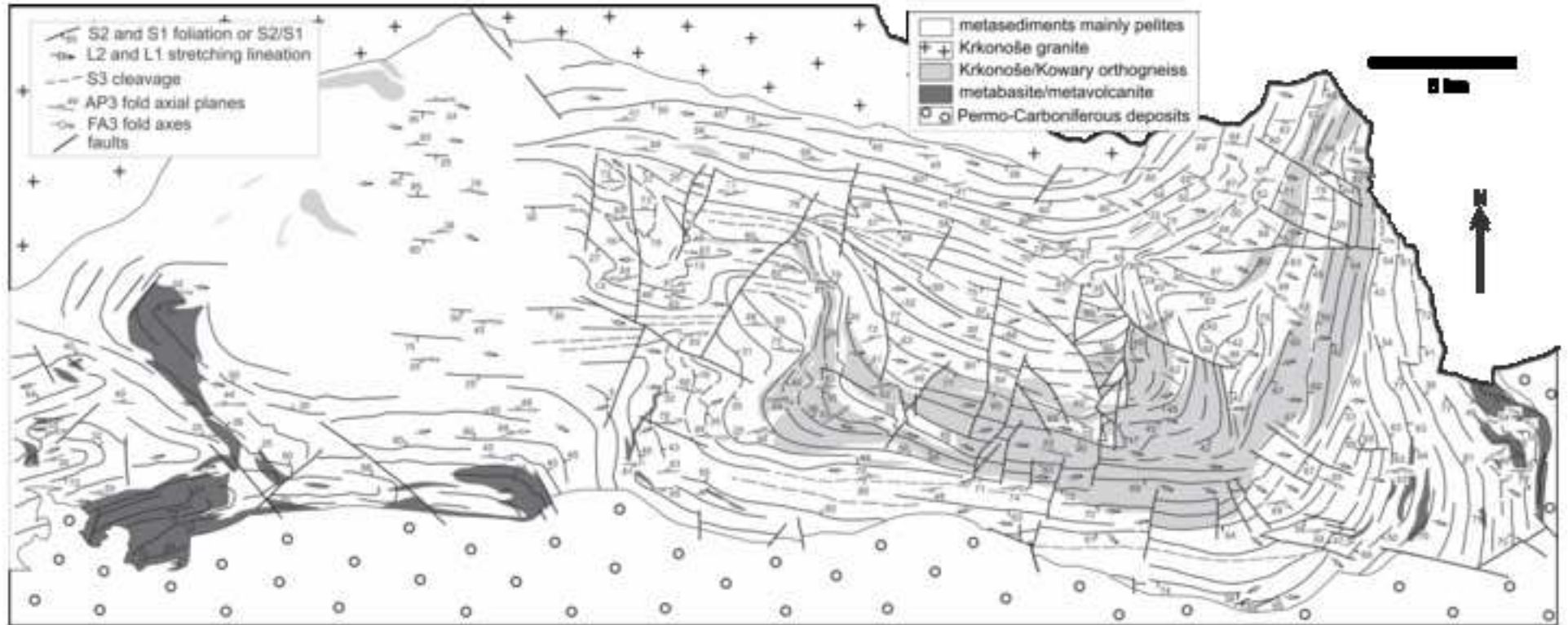


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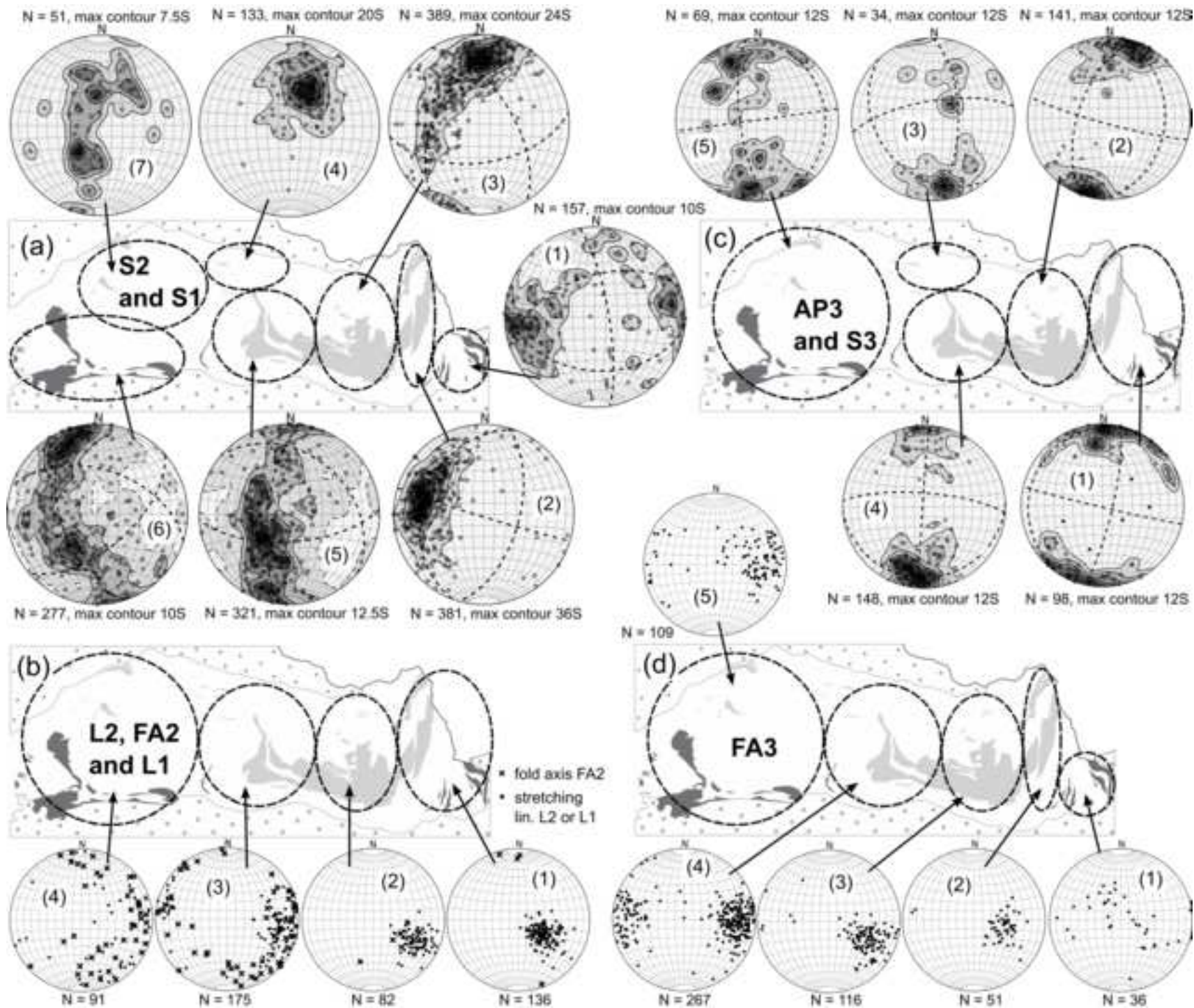


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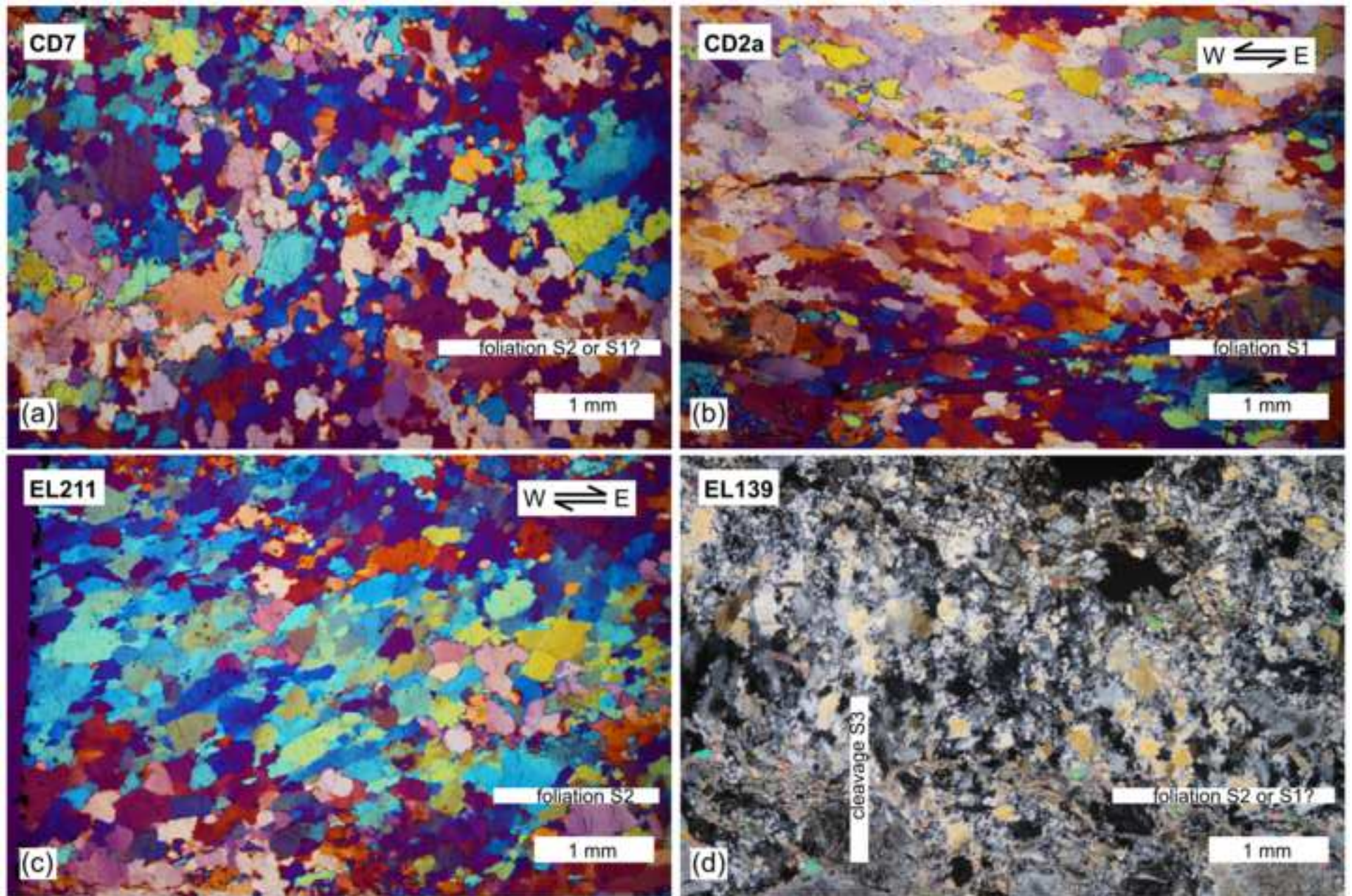
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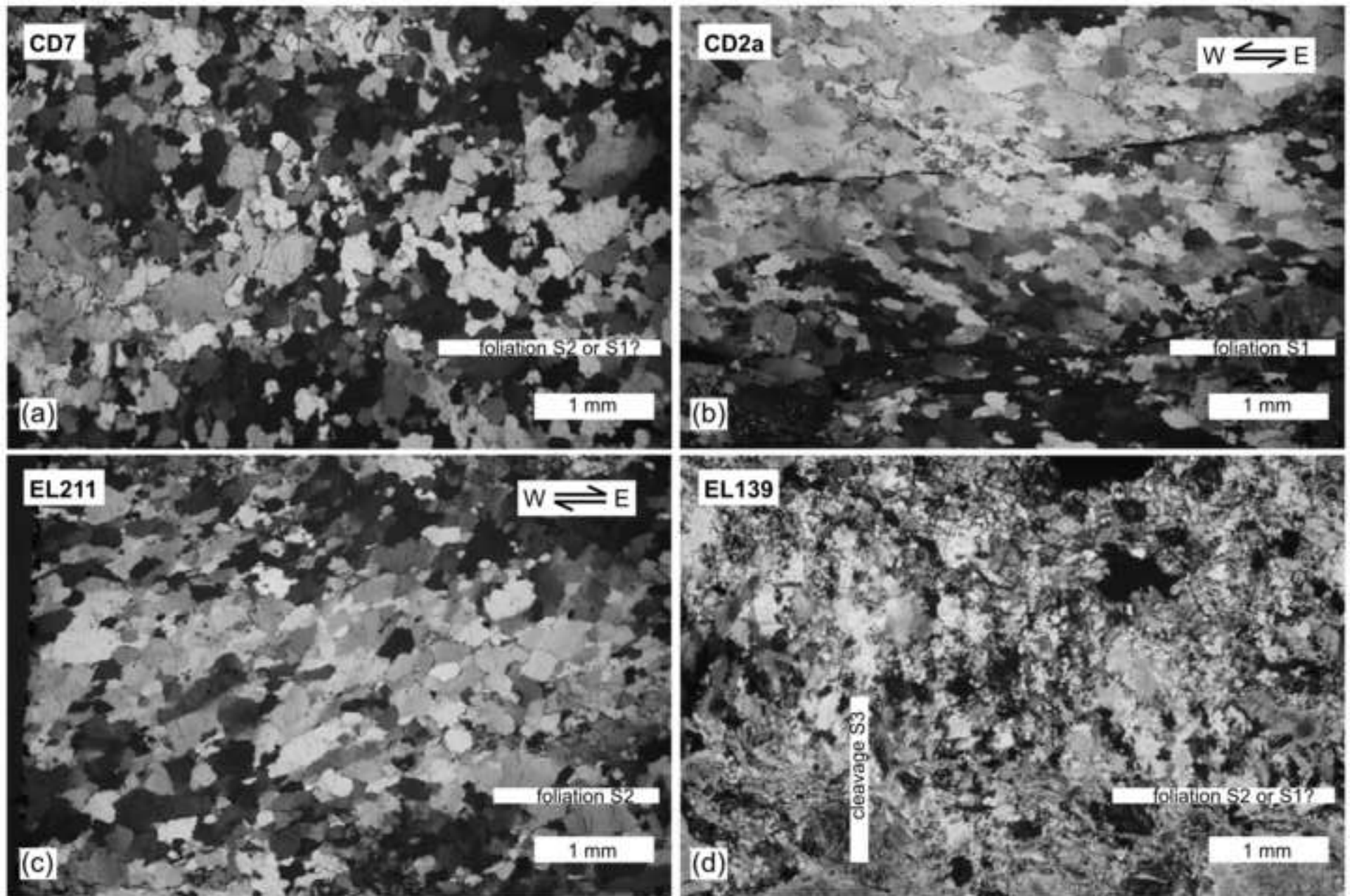
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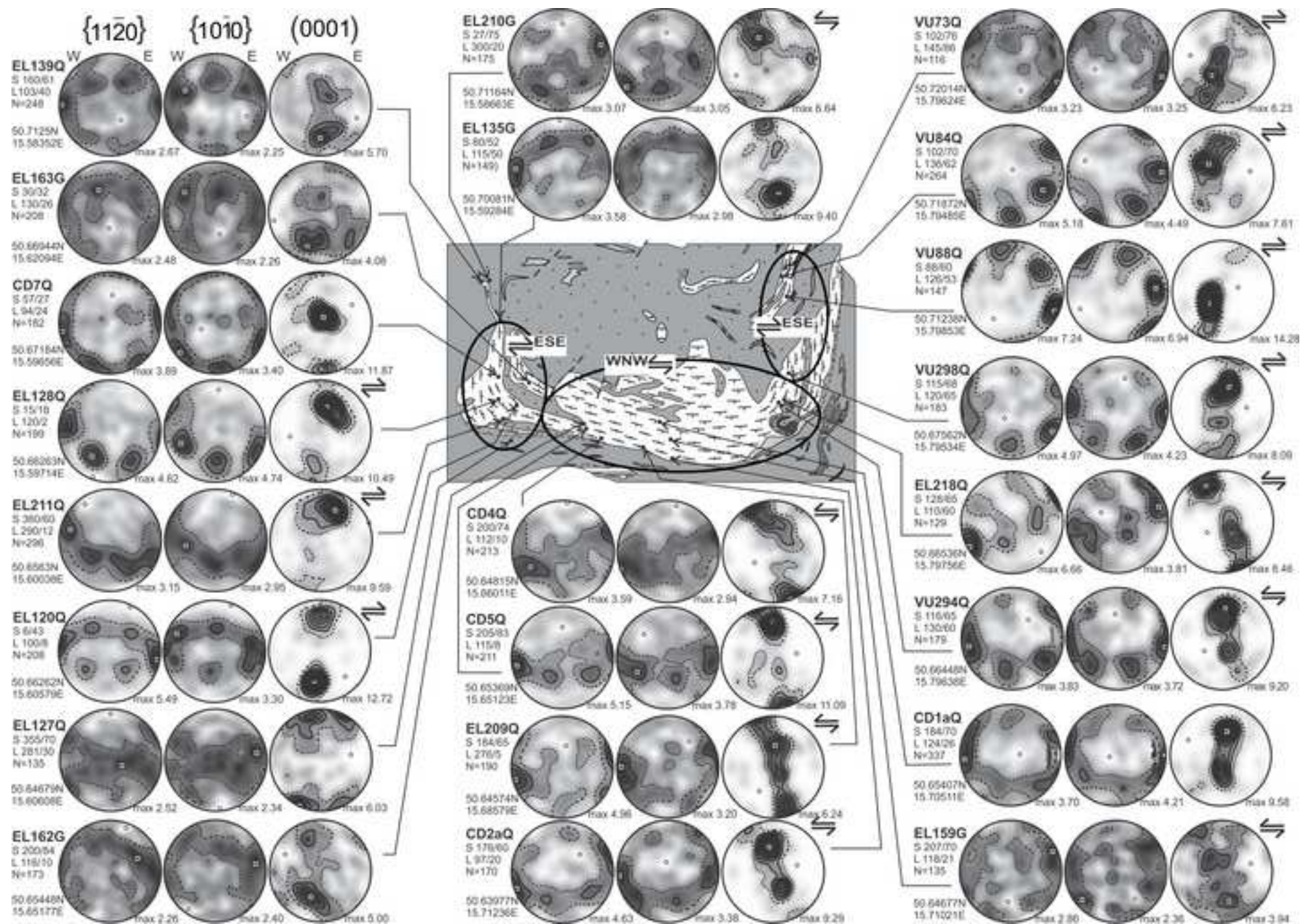
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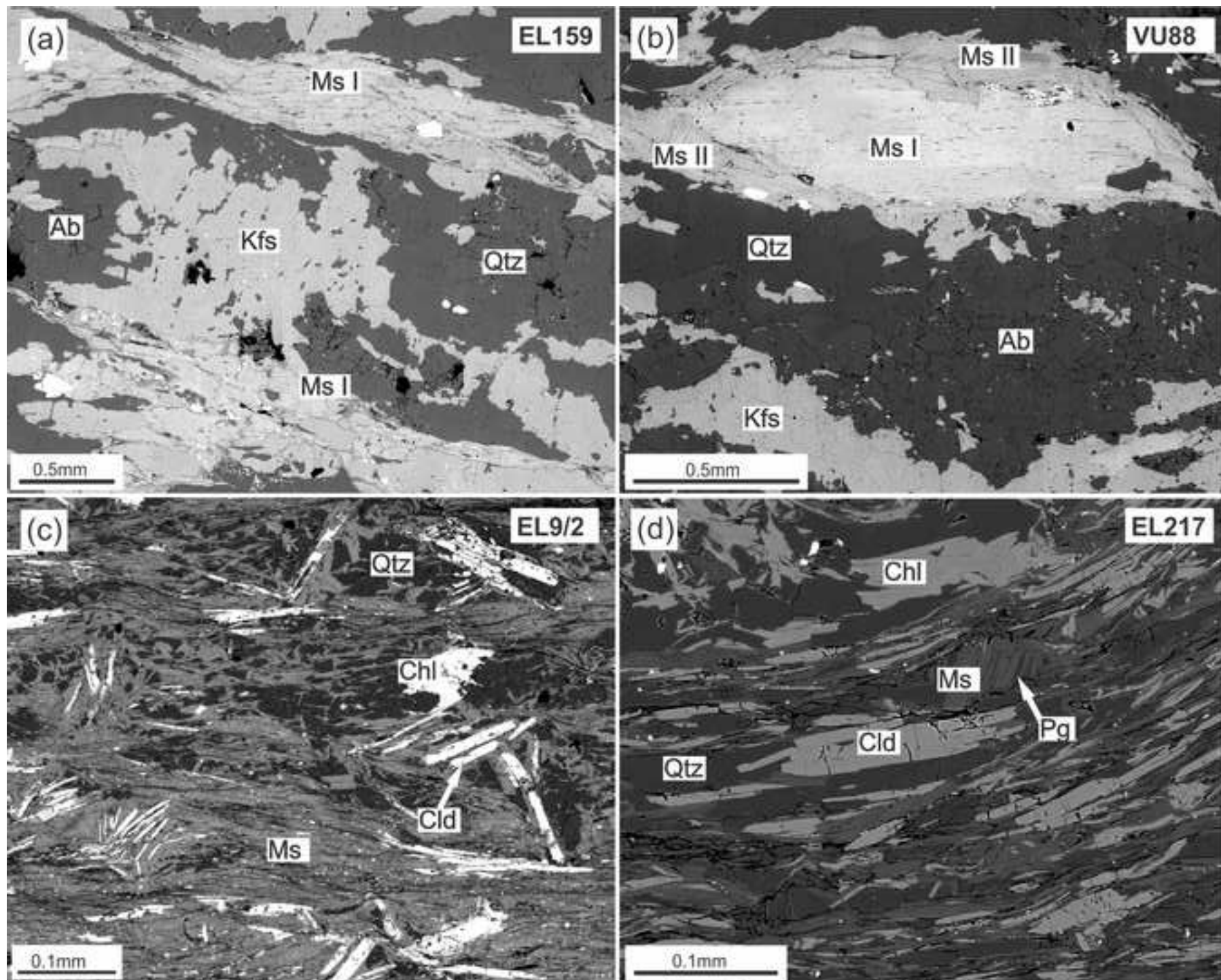
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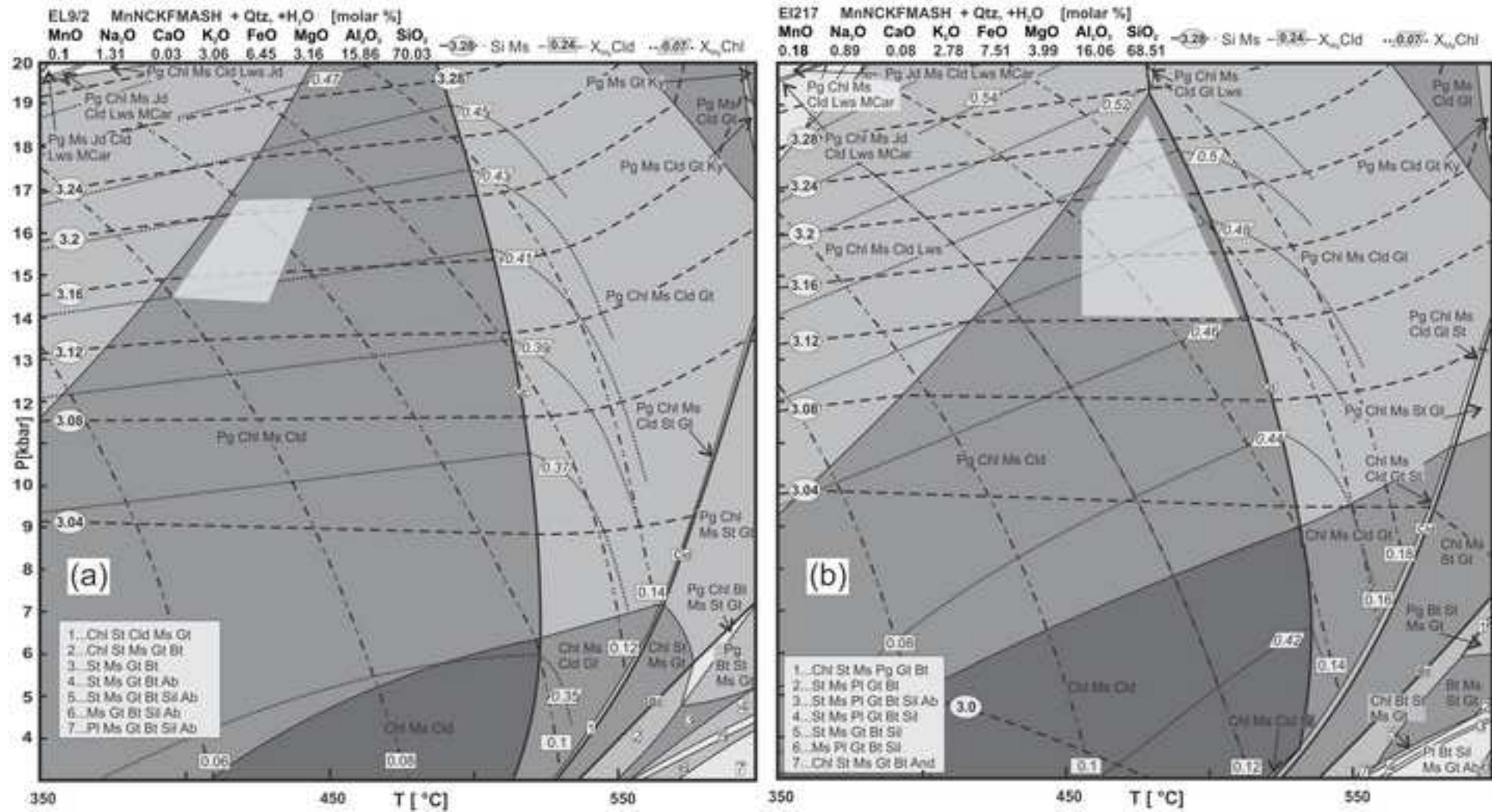
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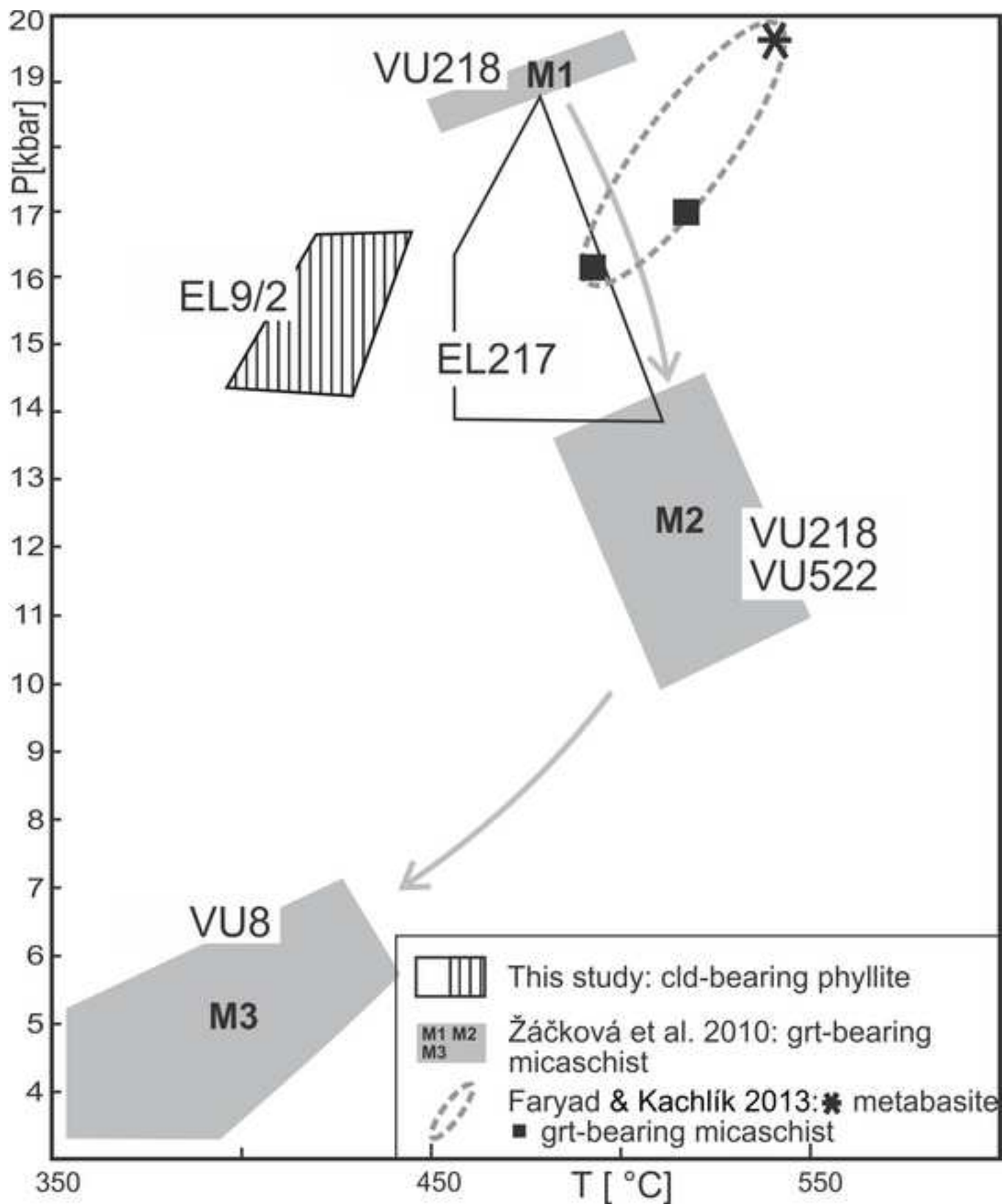
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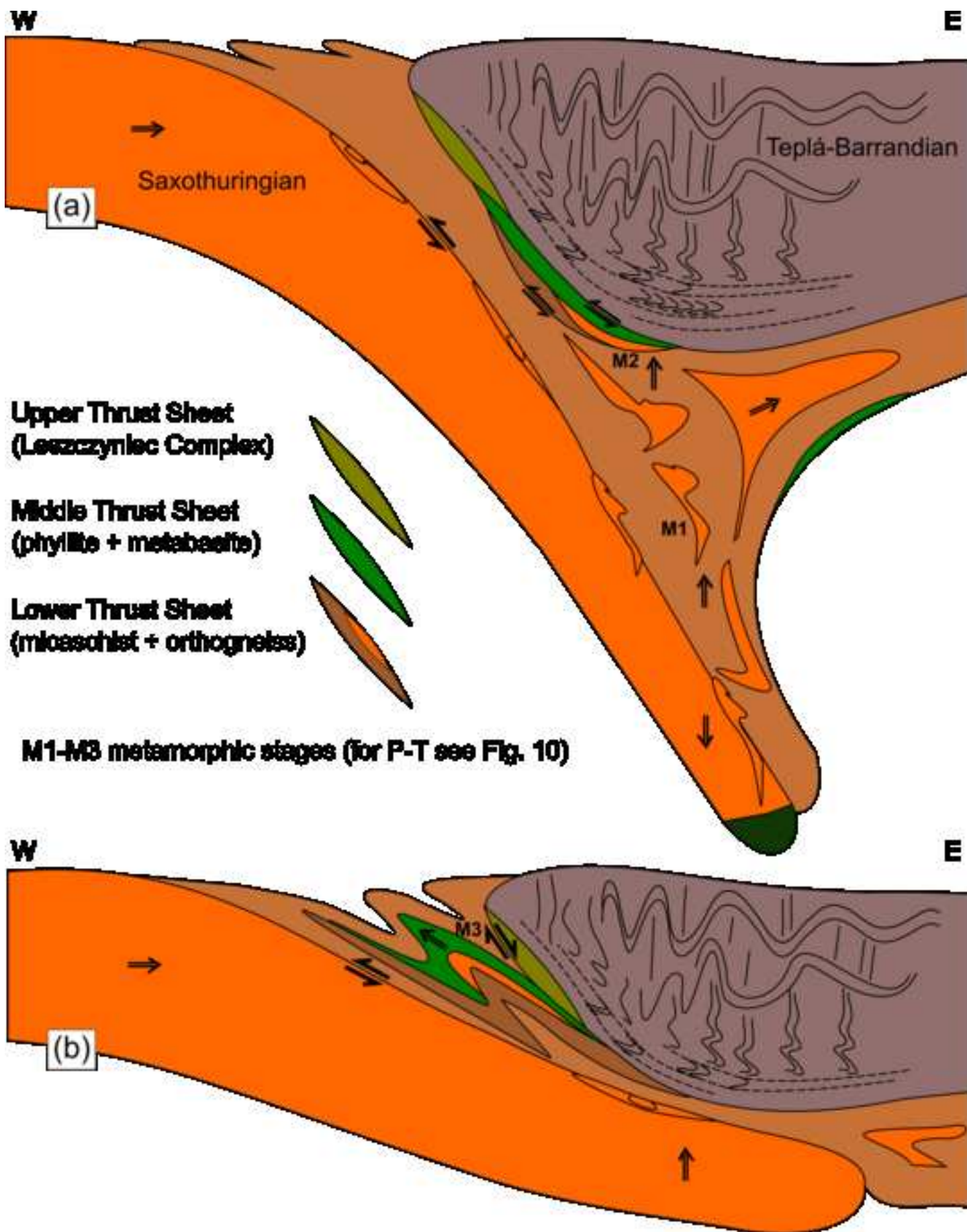


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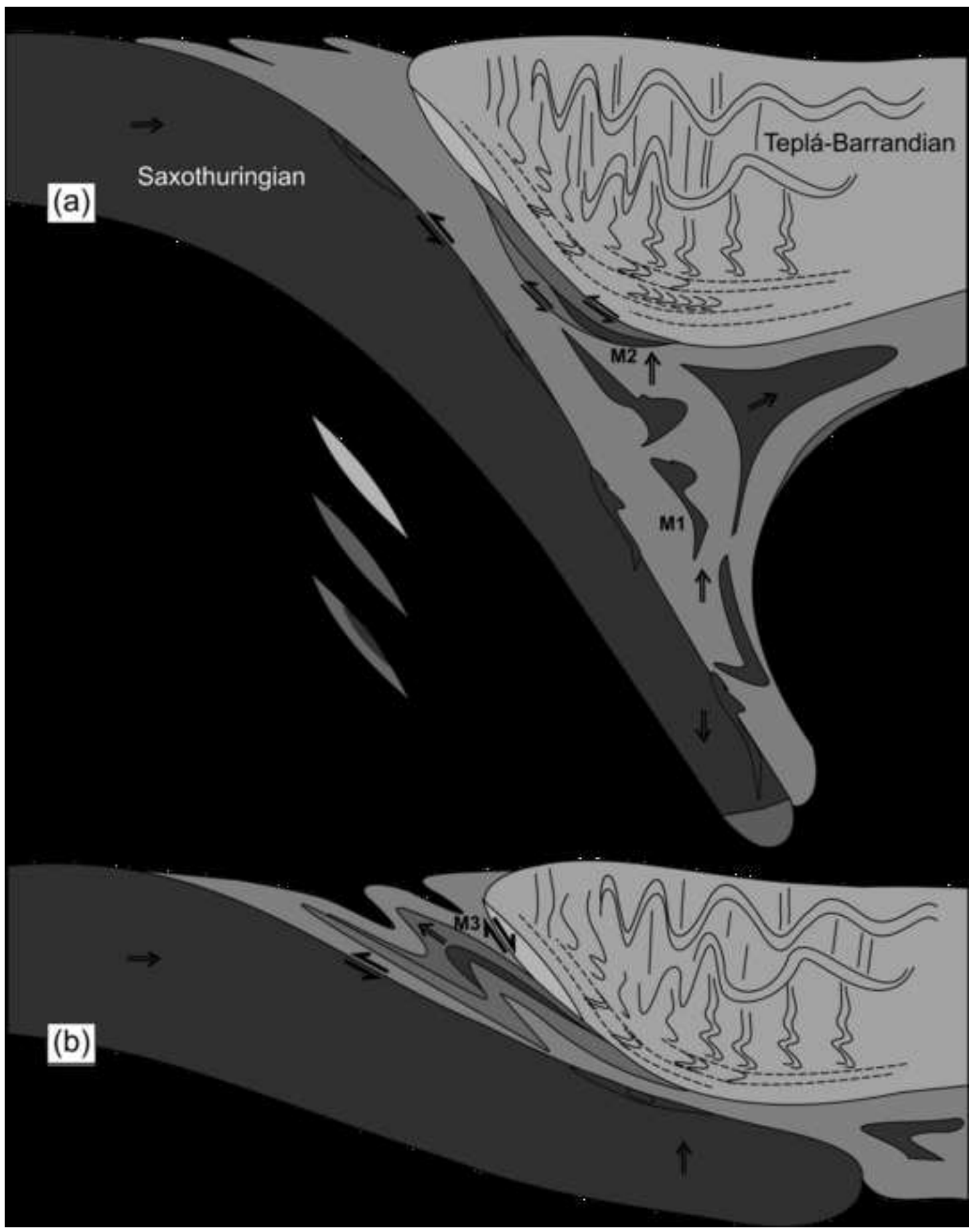


Table 1. Representative microprobe analyses of minerals

Rock	orthogneiss			phyllite					
Sample	EL159	VU88	VU88	EL217	EL217	EL217	EL9/2	EL9/2	EL9/2
Mineral	Ms I	Ms I	Ms II	Cld	Ms	Chl	Cld	Ms	Chl
Wt%									
SiO ₂	50.39	49.61	46.36	25.19	48.99	26.73	24.65	47.33	24.17
TiO ₂	0.13	0.10	0.27	0.03	0.10	0.04	0.07	0.11	0.02
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03
Al ₂ O ₃	24.23	23.92	28.07	40.33	32.26	20.87	39.66	33.19	23.56
FeO	6.89	8.57	6.50	23.92	1.51	26.05	26.53	3.00	29.74
MnO	0.09	0.11	0.12	0.63	0.00	0.32	0.92	0.03	0.35
MgO	1.09	0.89	0.73	2.37	1.63	14.21	1.31	0.72	9.22
CaO	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.03
Na ₂ O	0.03	0.05	0.17	0.00	0.50	0.00	0.01	0.95	0.03
K ₂ O	11.23	11.28	11.12	0.03	9.75	0.00	0.00	9.32	0.02
F	0.33	1.04	0.73	0.01	0.32	0.09	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cl	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	94.09	94.54	93.35	92.56	95.11	88.33	93.17	94.68	87.16
#O									
Si	3.50	3.44	3.22	2.06	3.24	5.58	2.04	3.17	5.24
Ti	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cr	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Al	1.98	1.96	2.30	3.89	2.51	5.14	3.86	2.62	6.02
Fe ³⁺	0.01	0.16	0.24	0.11	0.03	0.00	0.13	0.00	0.00
Fe ²⁺	0.39	0.34	0.13	1.53	0.05	4.55	1.70	0.17	5.40
Mn	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.06
Mg	0.11	0.09	0.08	0.29	0.16	4.42	0.16	0.07	2.98
Ca	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Na	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.00
K	0.99	1.00	0.99	0.00	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.80	0.00
F	0.07	0.23	0.16	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cl	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sum	7.00	7.00	7.00	8.00	7.00	20.00	8.00	7.00	20.00
XMg				0.16		0.49	0.08		0.36