

The petrochronologic potential of LASS-ICPMS U–Pb dating of garnet and evidence for an ultra-high closure temperature

Horst Marschall,
Richard von Mutius,
Axel Gerdes,
Leo Millonig,
Richard Albert,
Aratz Beranoaguirre,
Dominik Hezel

Element XR single collector ICPMS & 193 nm Resonetics laser

- Screening for U-rich inclusions in the time-resolved ablation signal
- 213 x 213 μm^2 spots
- [U] = 1–90 ng/g
- age precision appr. $\pm 2\text{--}4\%$

FIERCE
Frankfurt Isotope & Element Research Center



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Earth and Planetary Science Letters

www.elsevier.com/locate/epsl



Exploring laser ablation U–Pb dating of regional metamorphic garnet – The Straits Schist, Connecticut, USA

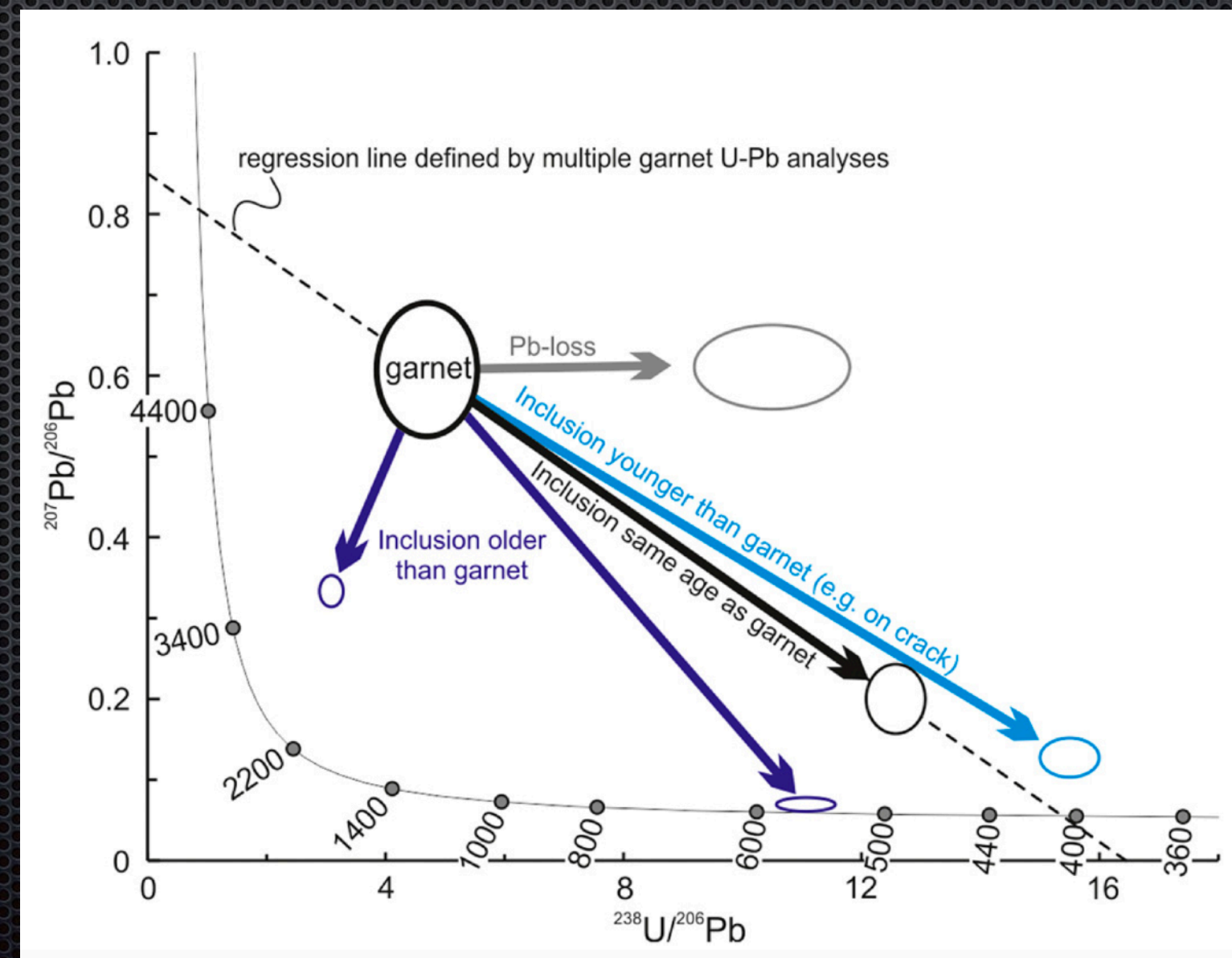
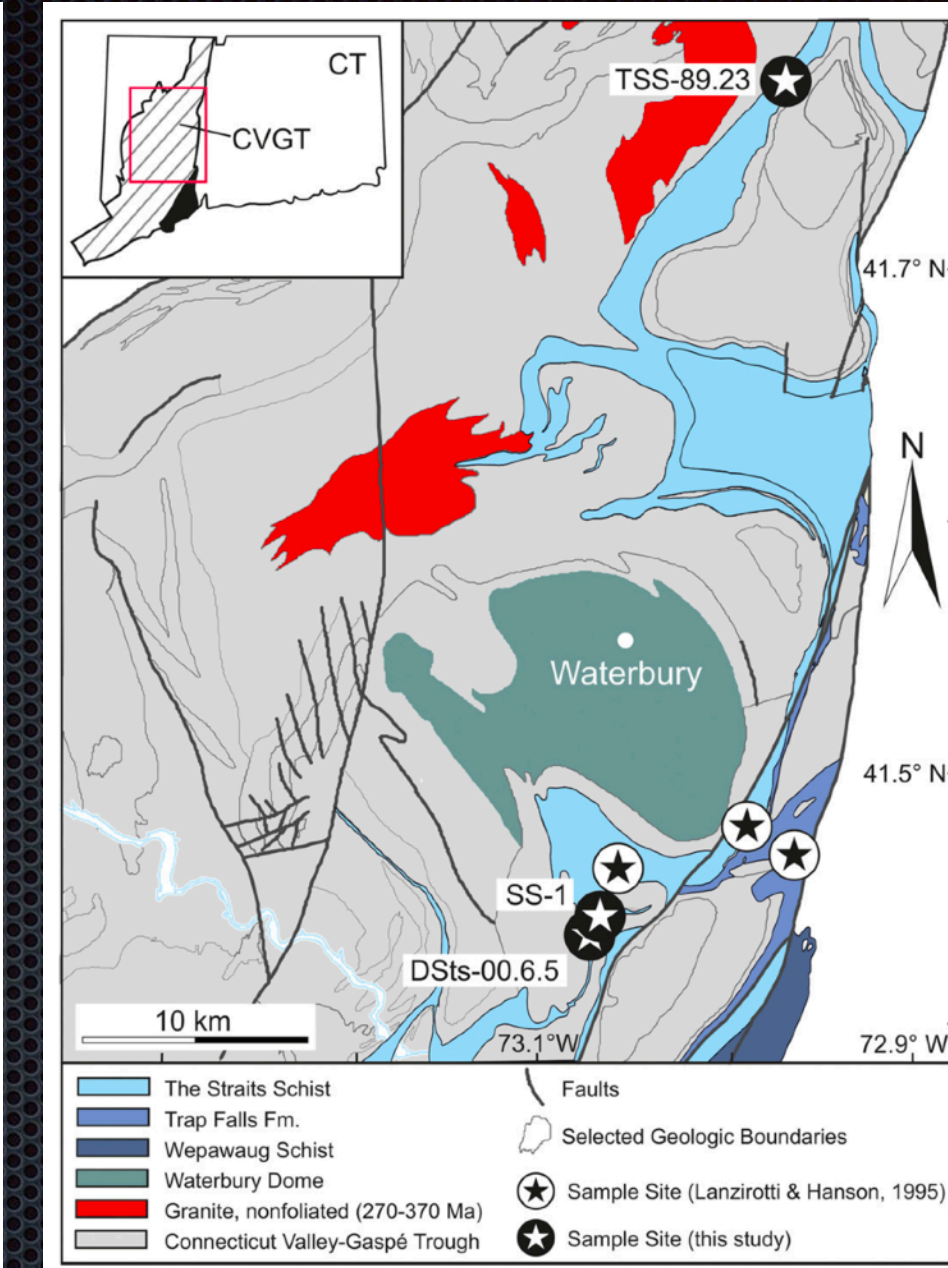
Leo J. Millonig^{a,b,*}, Richard Albert^{a,b}, Axel Gerdes^{a,b}, Dov Avigad^c, Craig Dietsch^d

^a Department of Geosciences, Goethe-University Frankfurt, Altenhöferallee 1, 60438 Frankfurt am Main, Germany

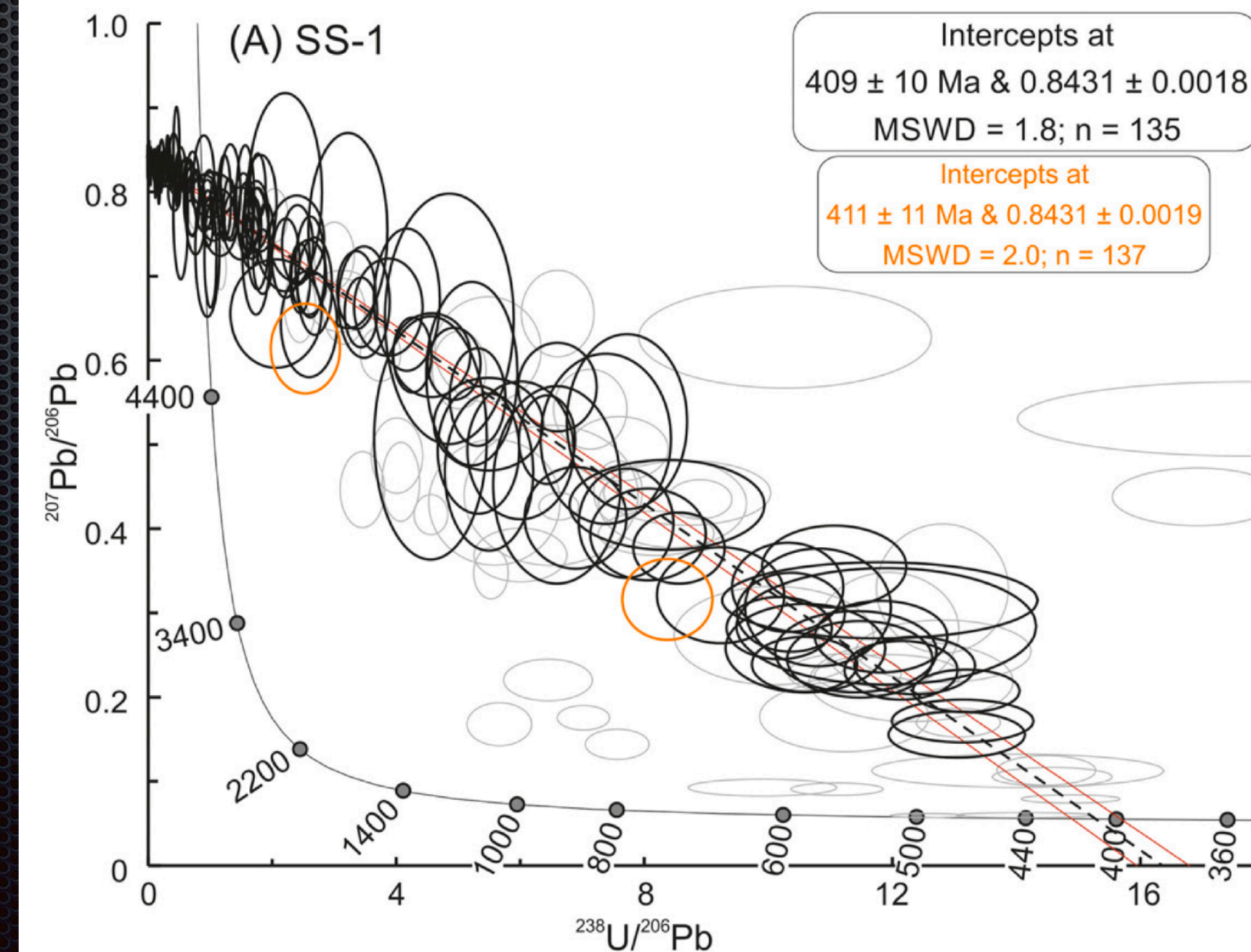
^b Frankfurt Isotope and Element Research Center (FIERCE), Goethe-University Frankfurt, Frankfurt am Main, Germany

^c Institute of Earth Sciences, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Givat Ram, 9190401, Israel

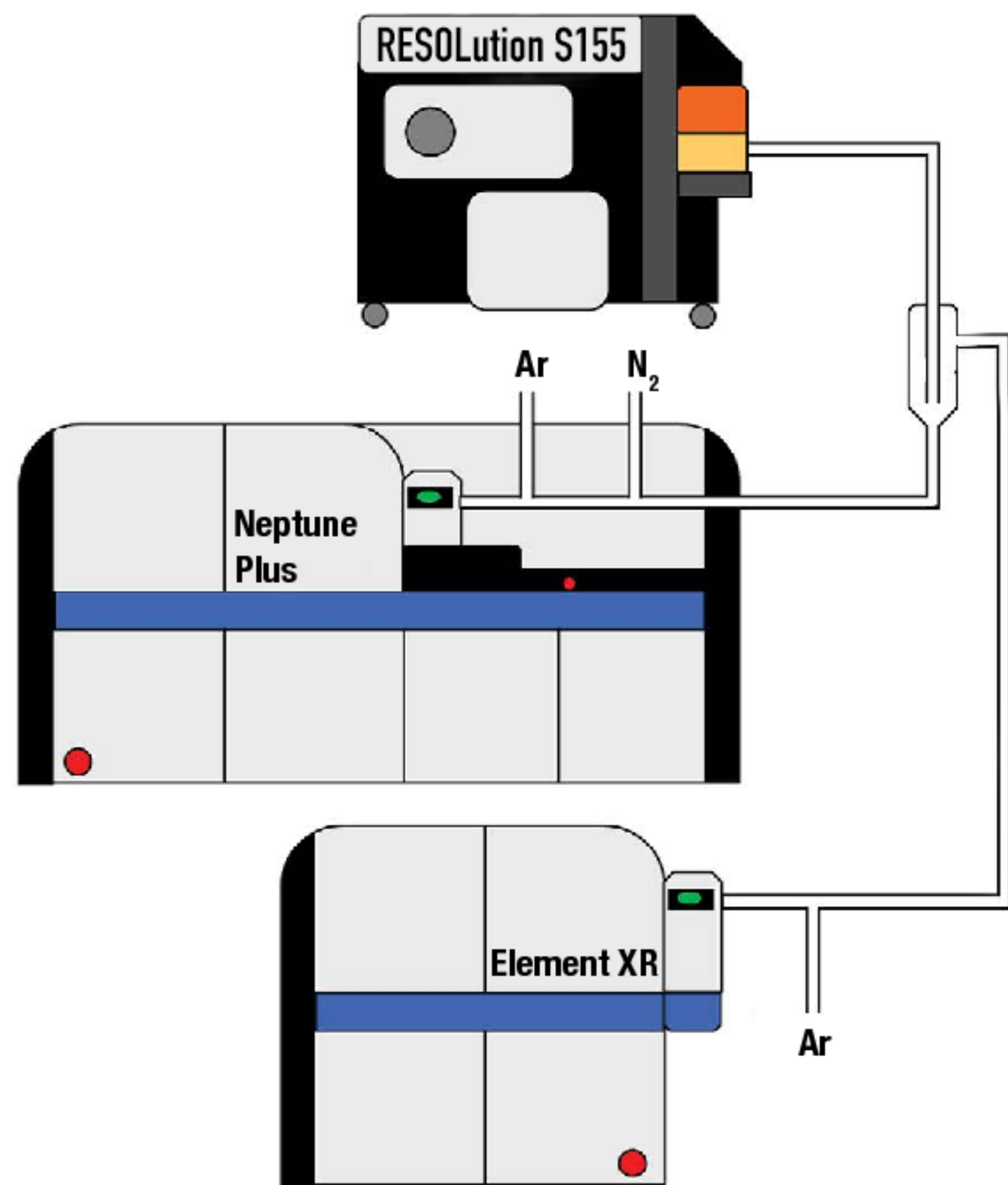
^d Department of Geology, University of Cincinnati, P.O. Box 0013, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0013, USA



L.J. Millonig, R. Albert, A. Gerdes et al.



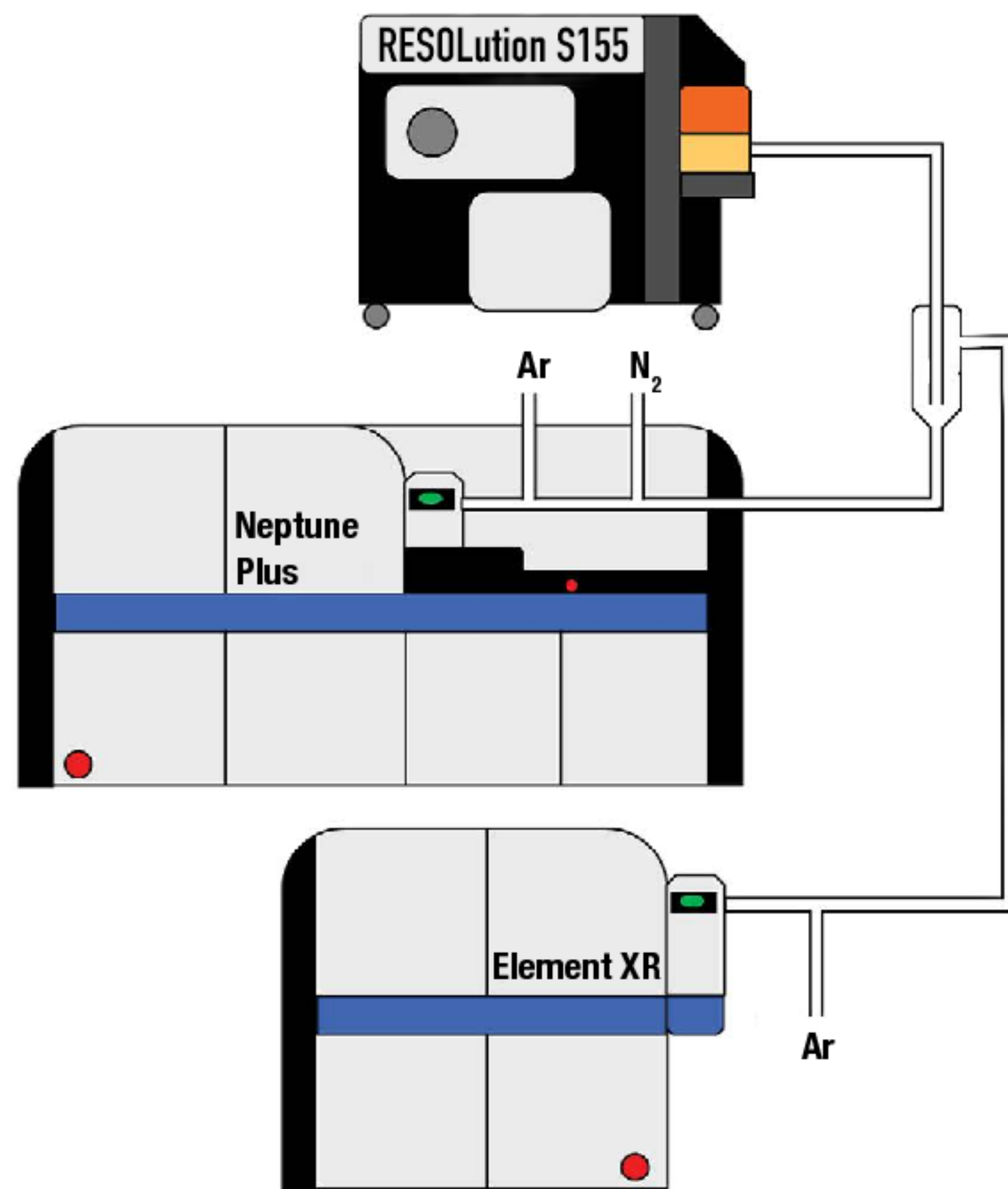
Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



193 nm laser ablation system
RESOLution S155
large two-volume ablation cell

modified from Craig et al. (2017), ThermoScientific

Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS

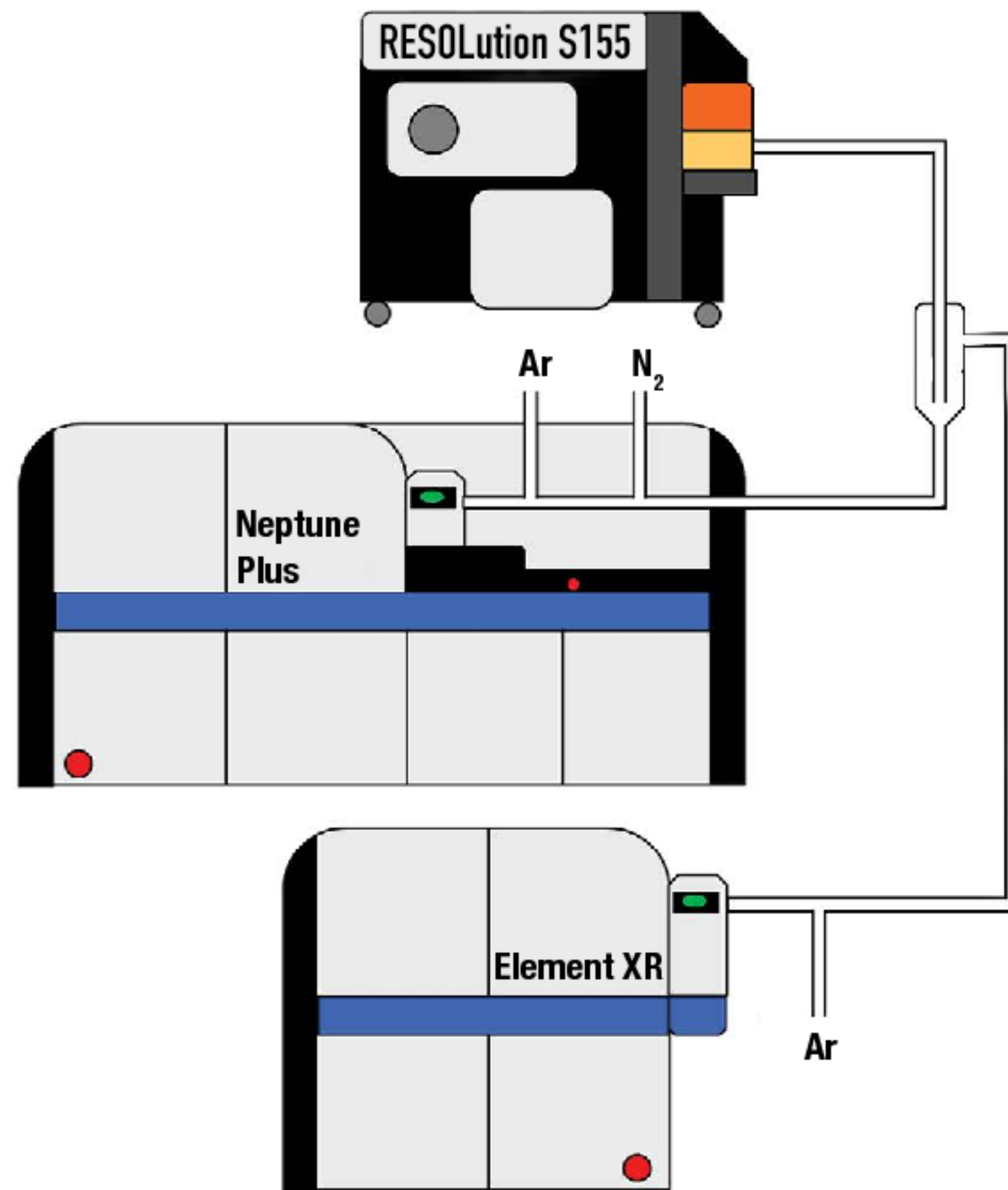


193 nm laser ablation system
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- 130 x 130 μm^2 spots

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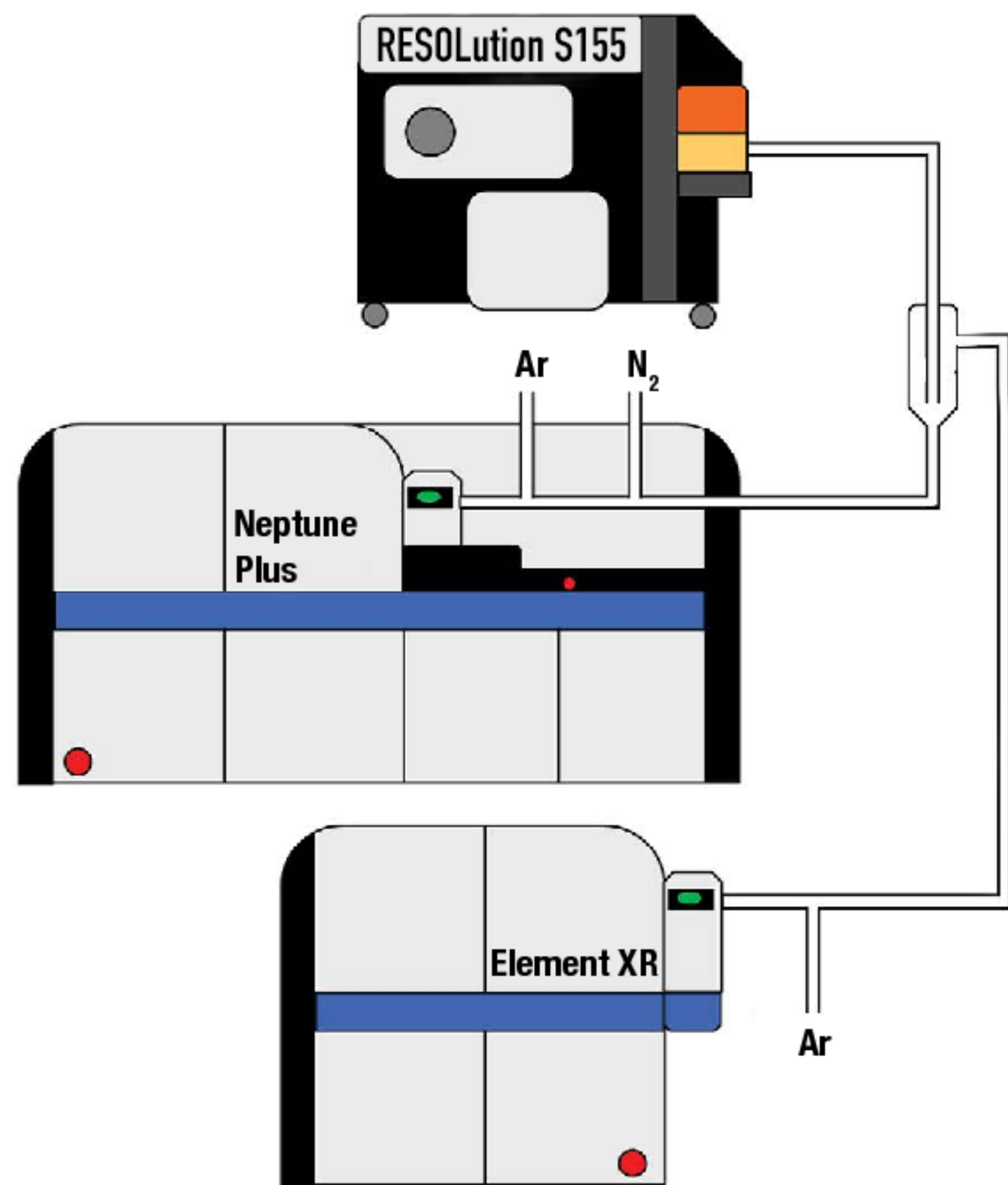


193 nm laser ablation system
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- 130 x 130 μm^2 spots
- 20 s ablation

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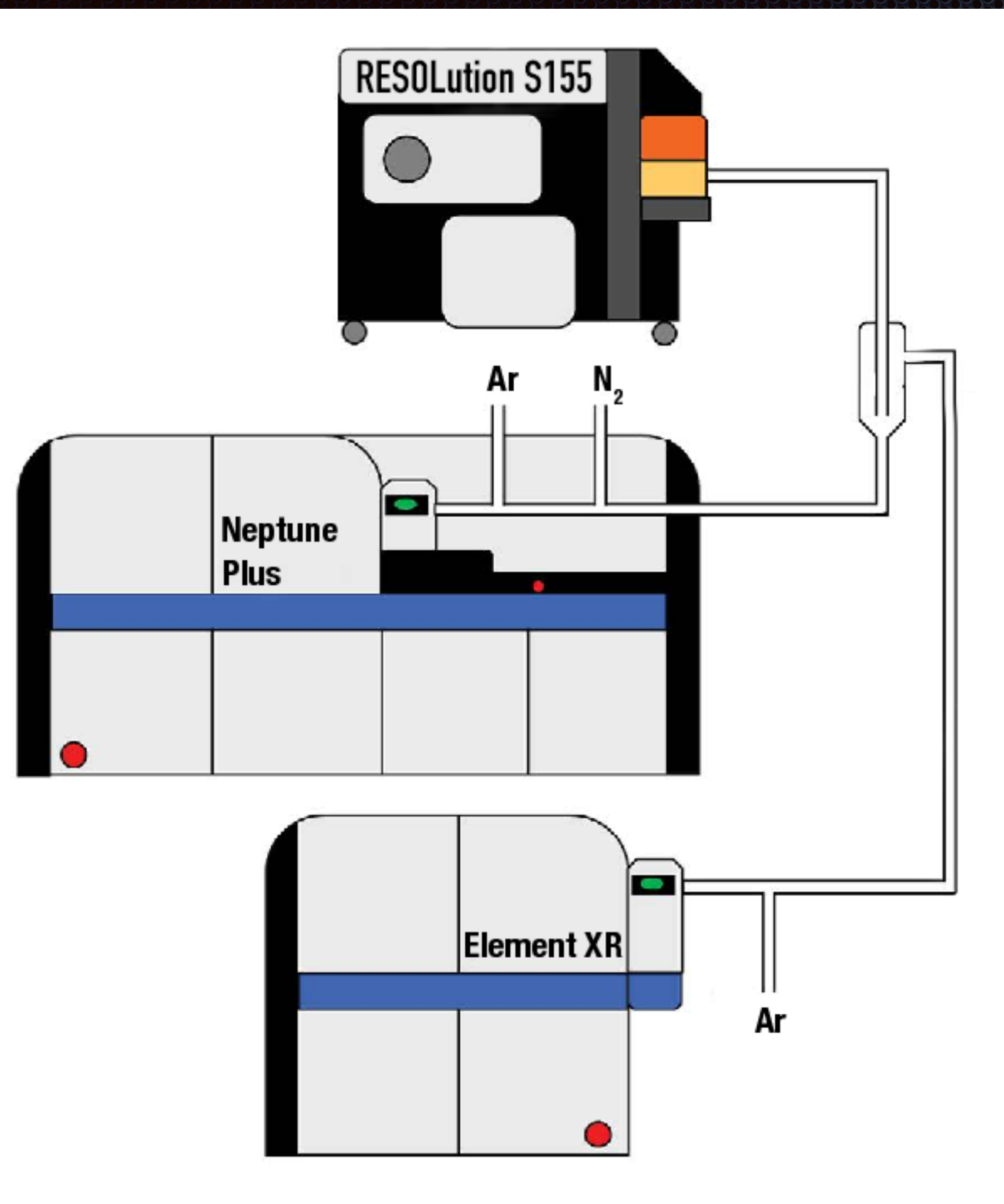


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Neptune Plus
multi-collector ICPMS
with 2 SEM, 5 CDD and
9 FC (10^{11} and $10^{13} \Omega$)

Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



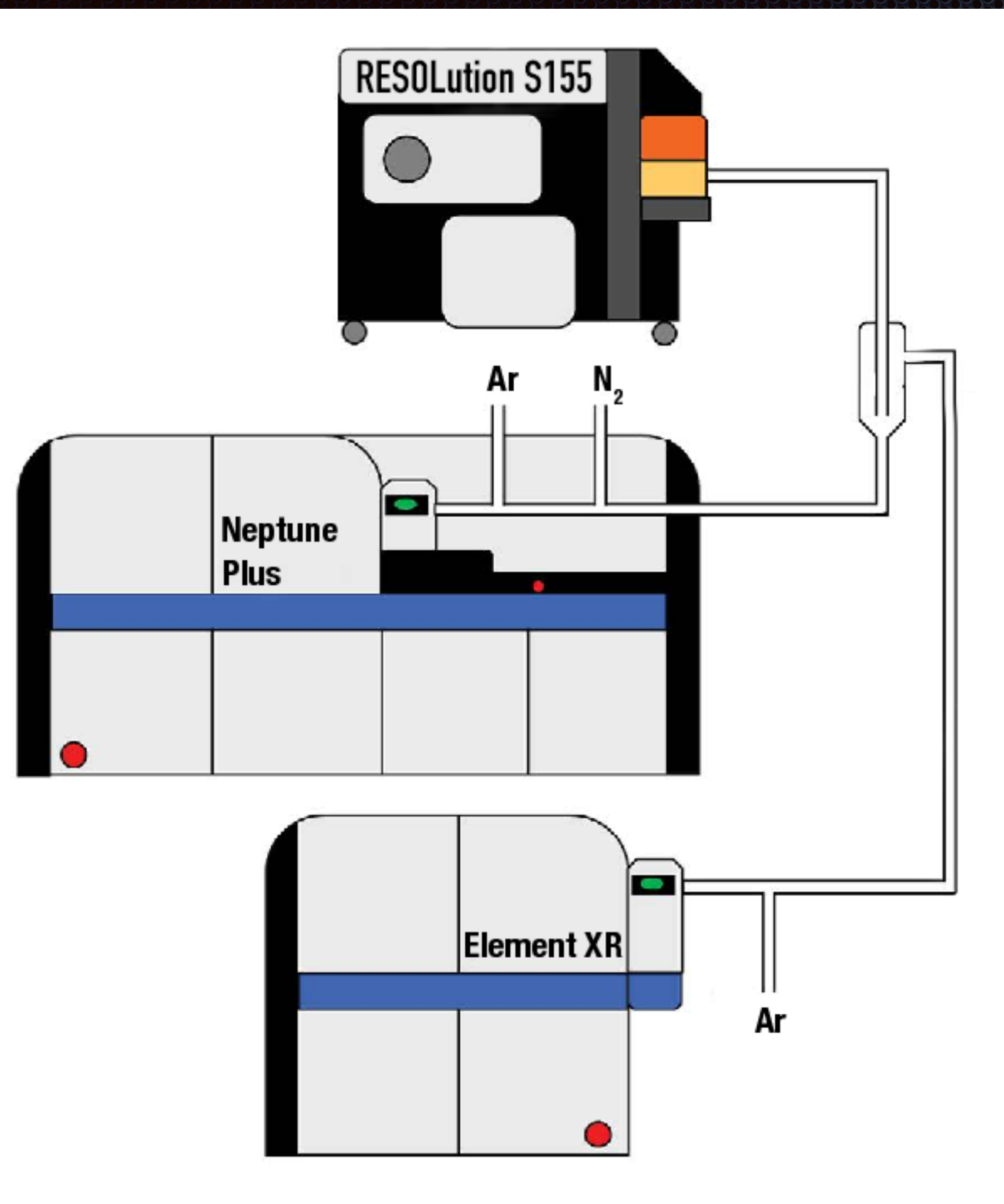
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- ^{206}Pb , ^{207}Pb and ^{238}U on ion counters

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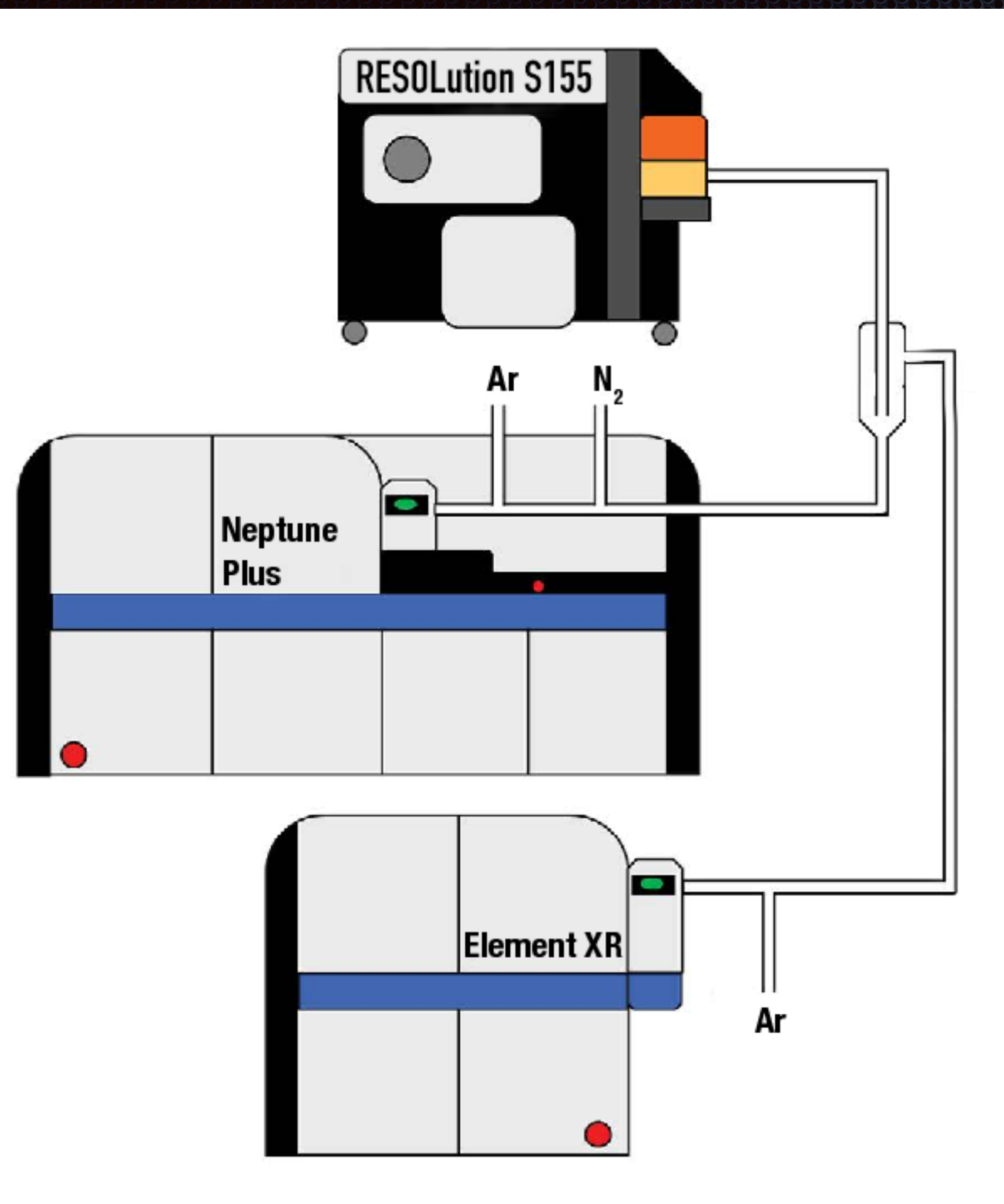
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Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



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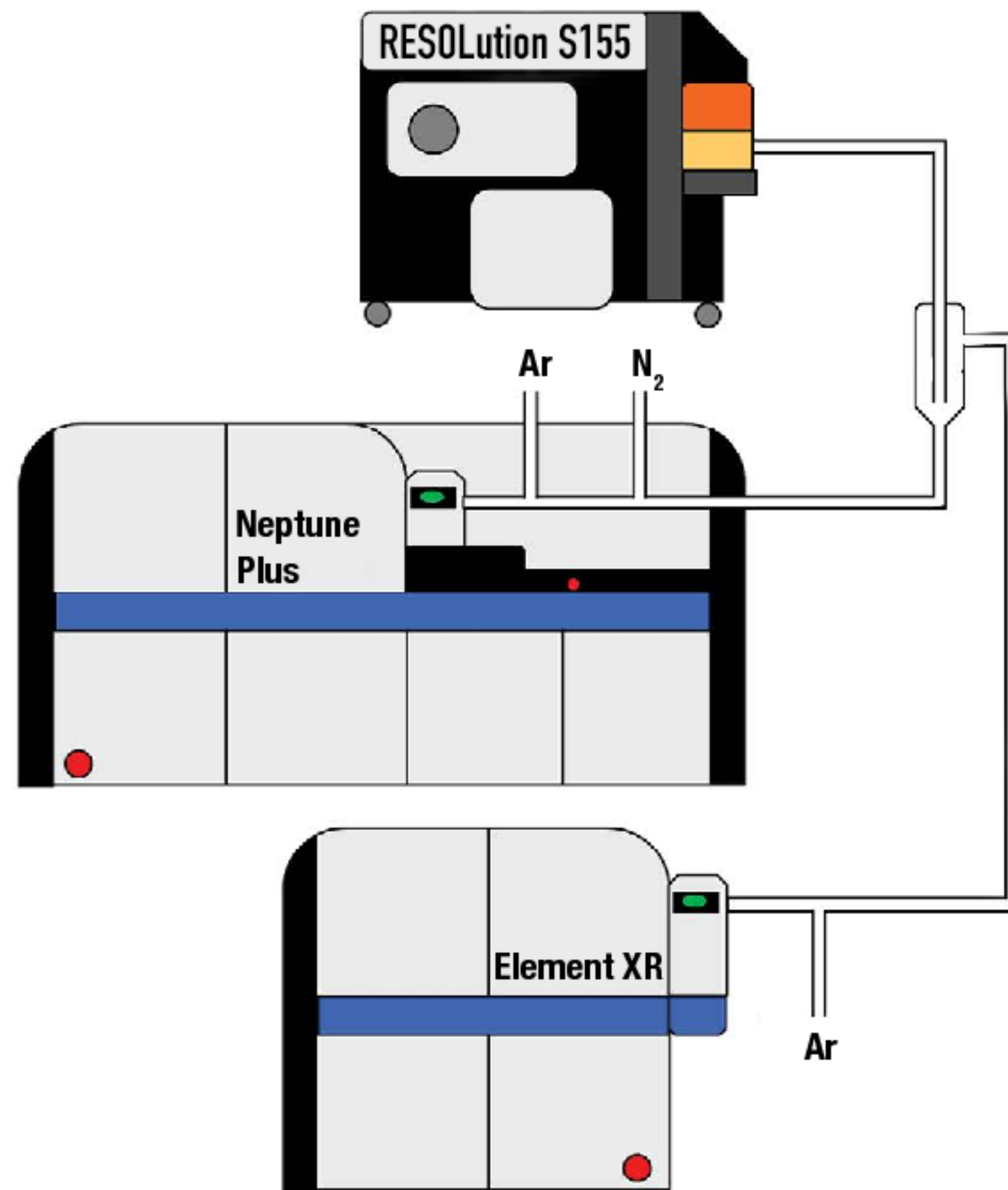
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**Element XR
single-collector ICPMS**

Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



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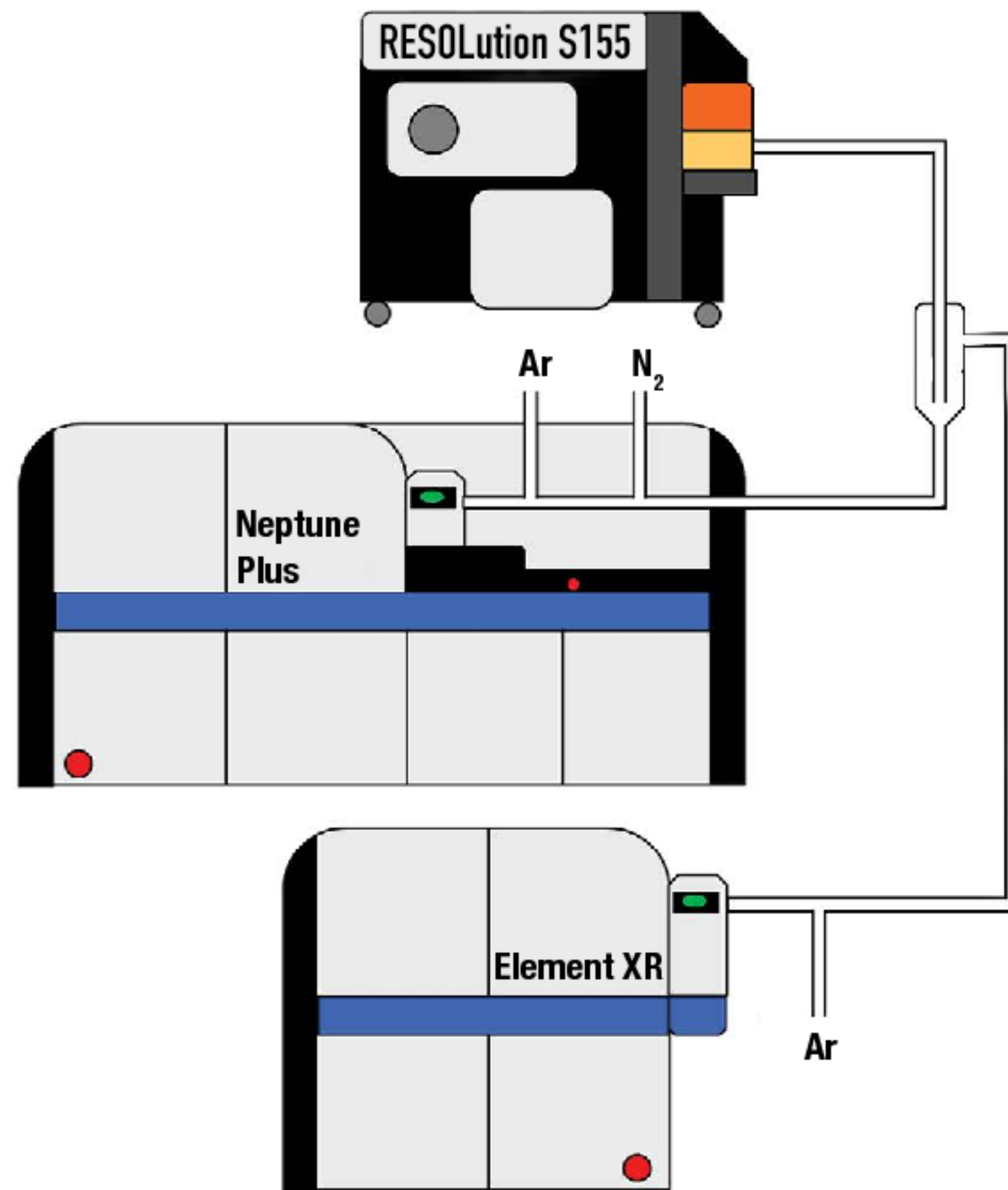
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Element XR
single-collector ICPMS

- garnet major elements (Ca, Fe, Mg, Mn)

Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



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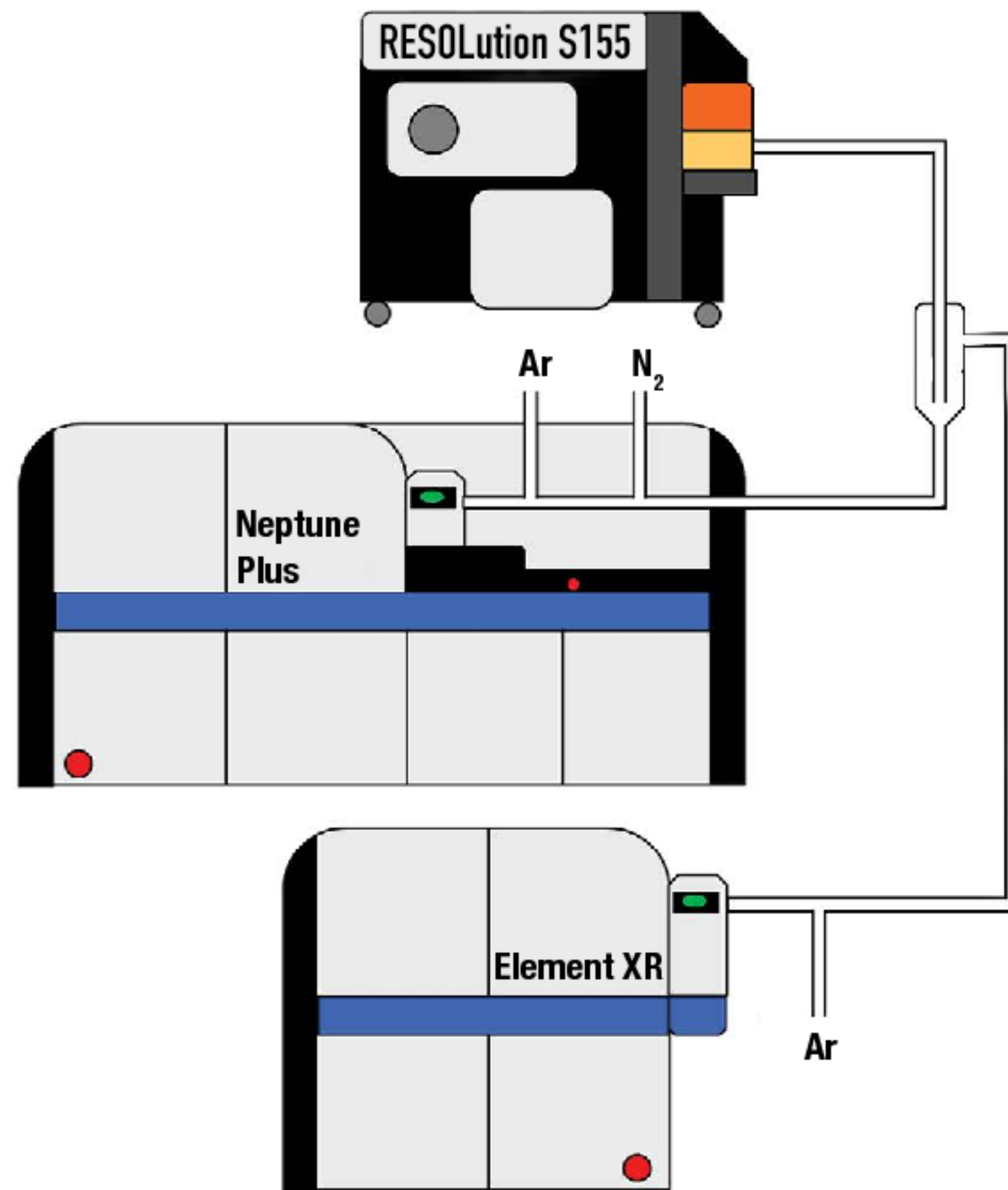
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Element XR
single-collector ICPMS

- garnet major elements (Ca, Fe, Mg, Mn)
- trace elements as accessory mineral indicator (REE, Y, Zr, Ti, Nb, P)

Laser-Ablation Split-Stream MC/SC-ICPMS



modified from Craig et al. (2017), ThermoScientific

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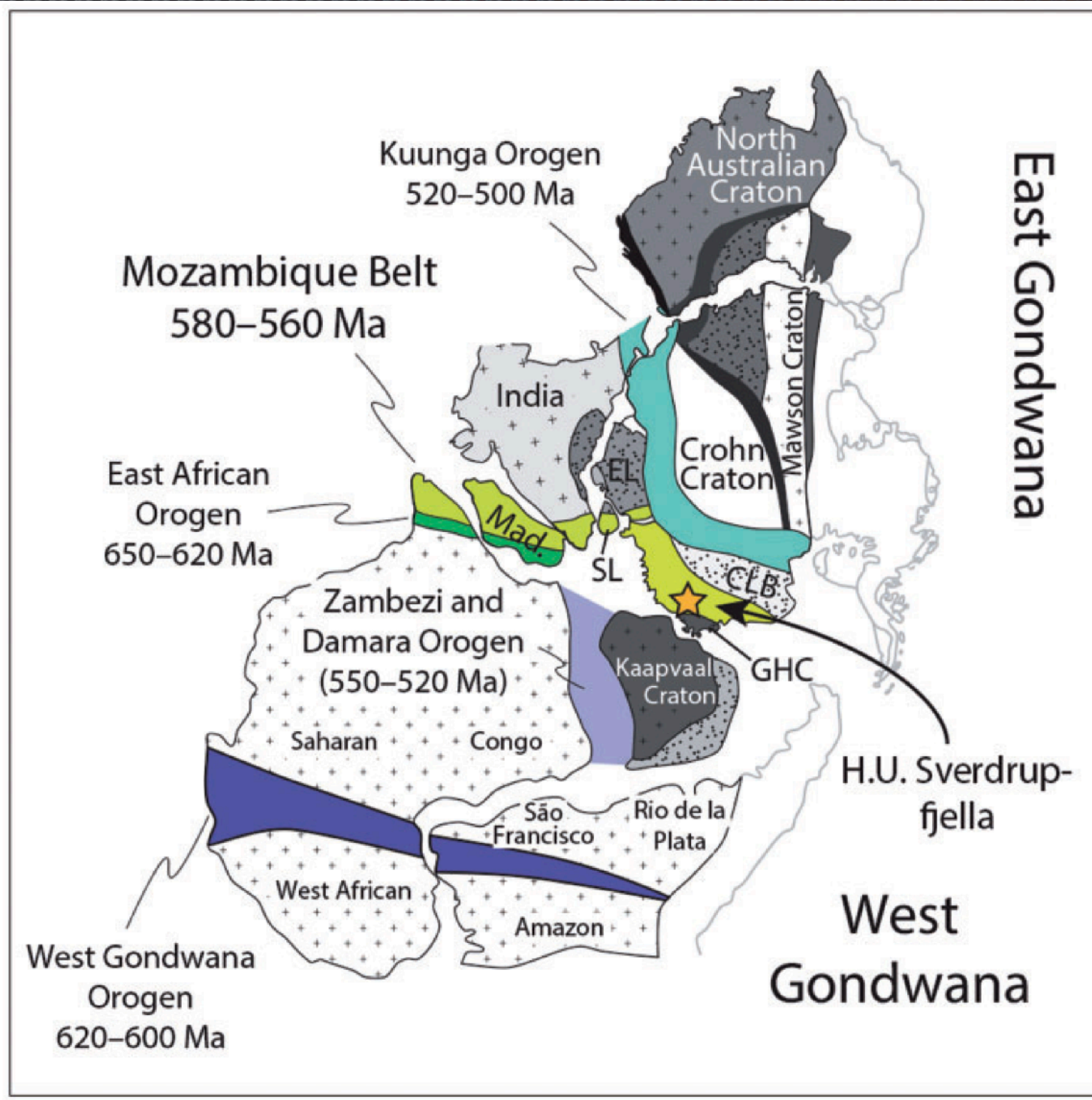
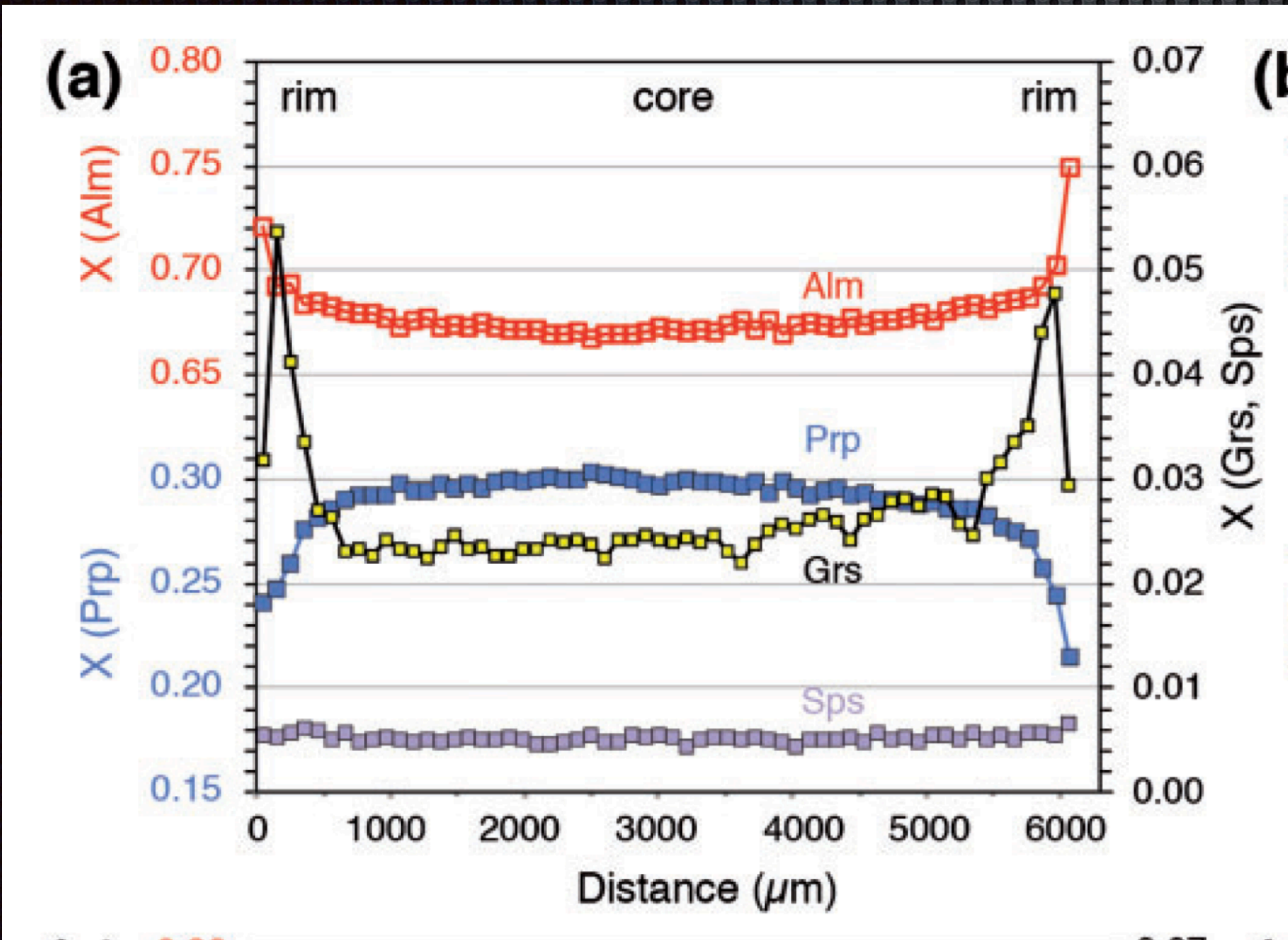
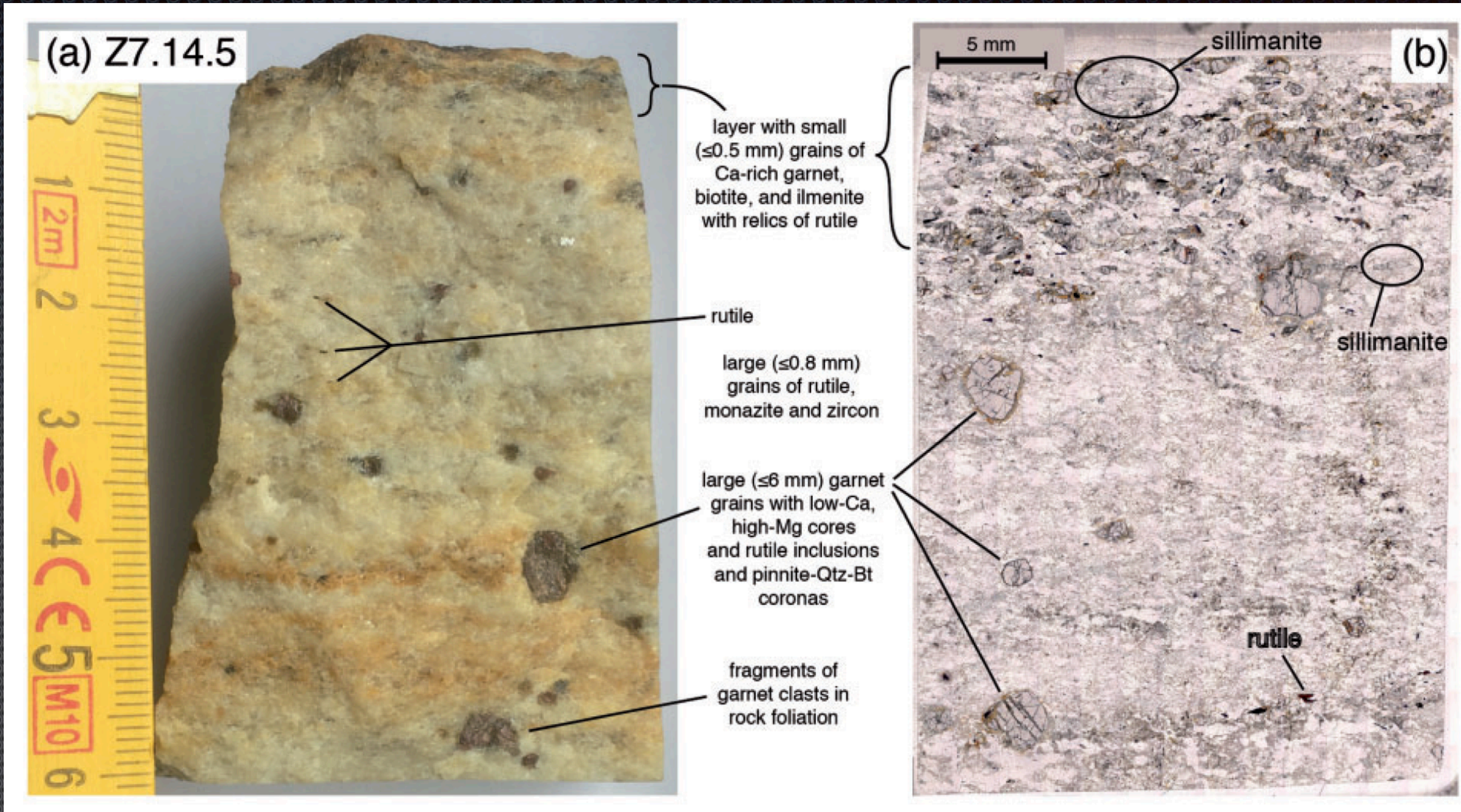
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Element XR
single-collector ICPMS

- garnet major elements (Ca, Fe, Mg, Mn)
- trace elements as accessory mineral indicator (REE, Y, Zr, Ti, Nb, P)
- trace elements as other inclusion indicator (K, Rb, Sr)

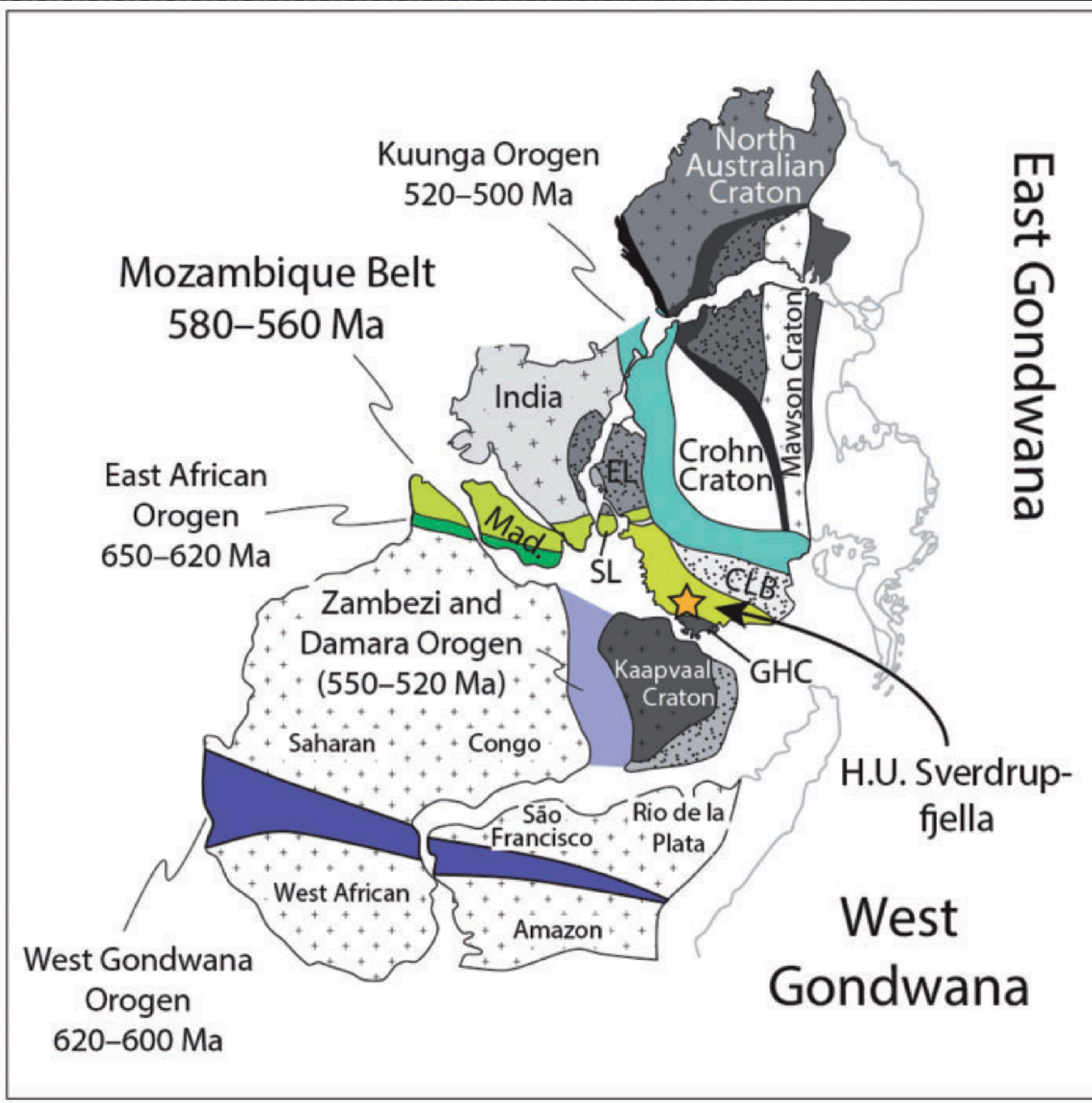
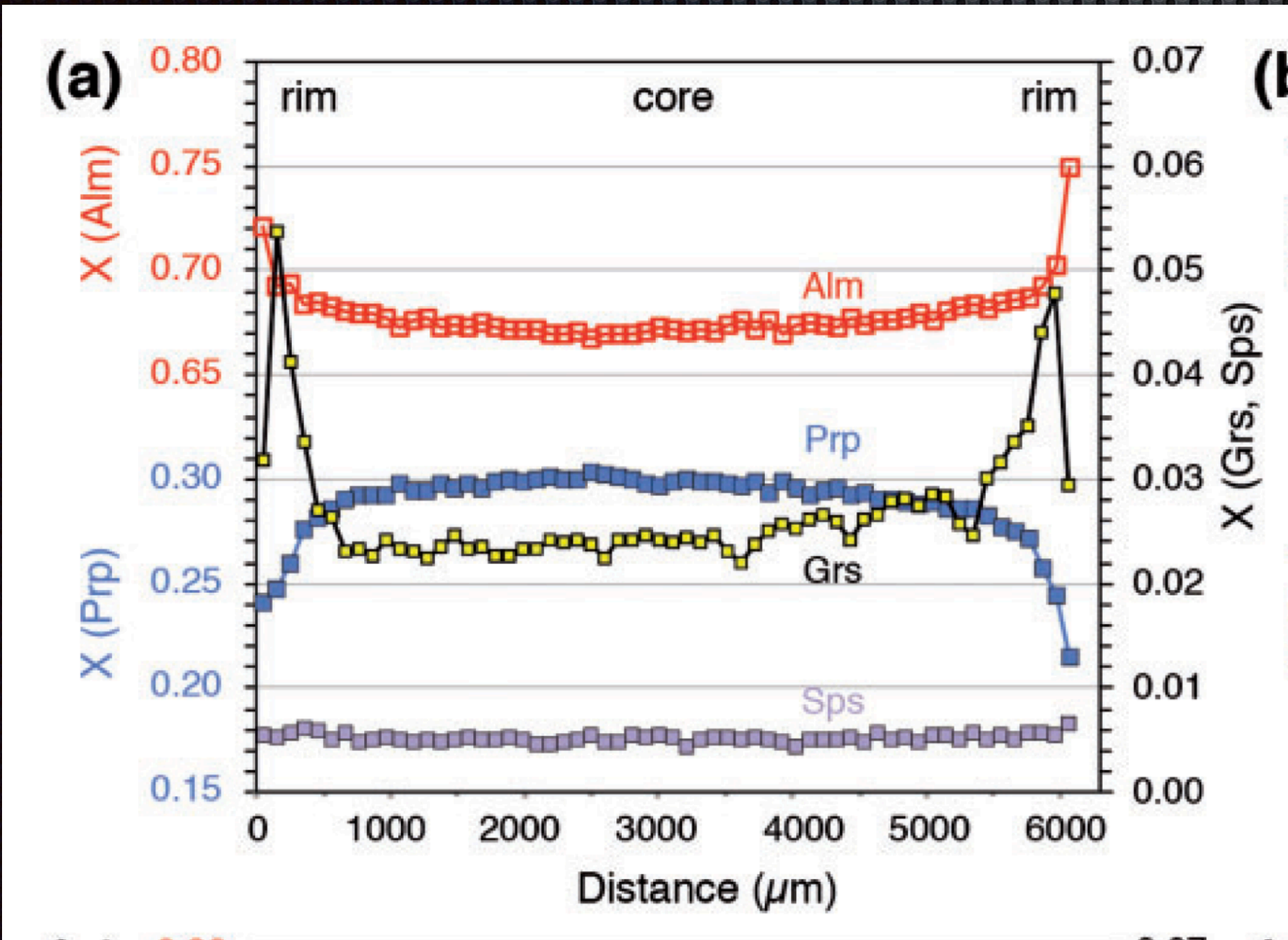
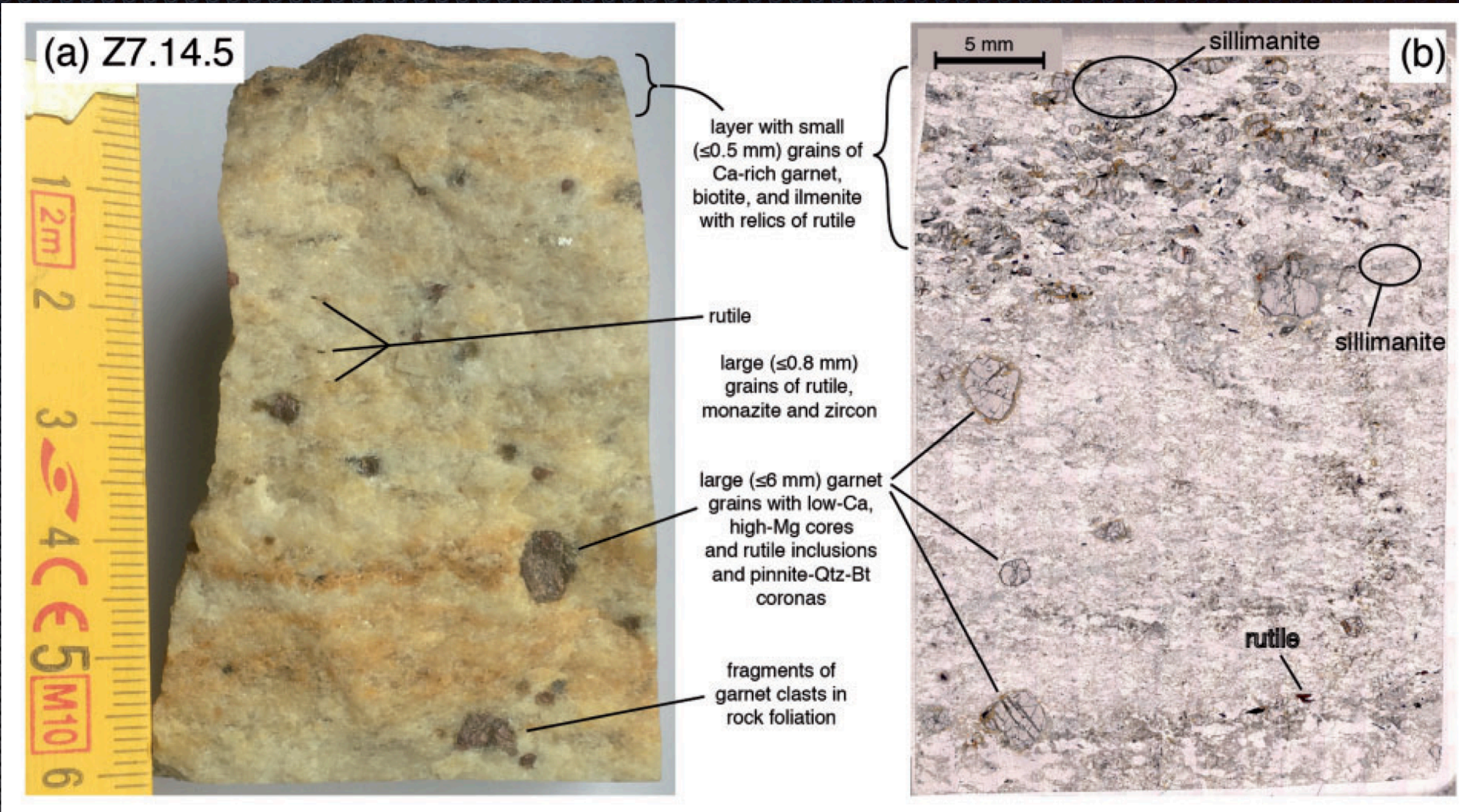
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



Pauly et al. (2016), JPet

Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

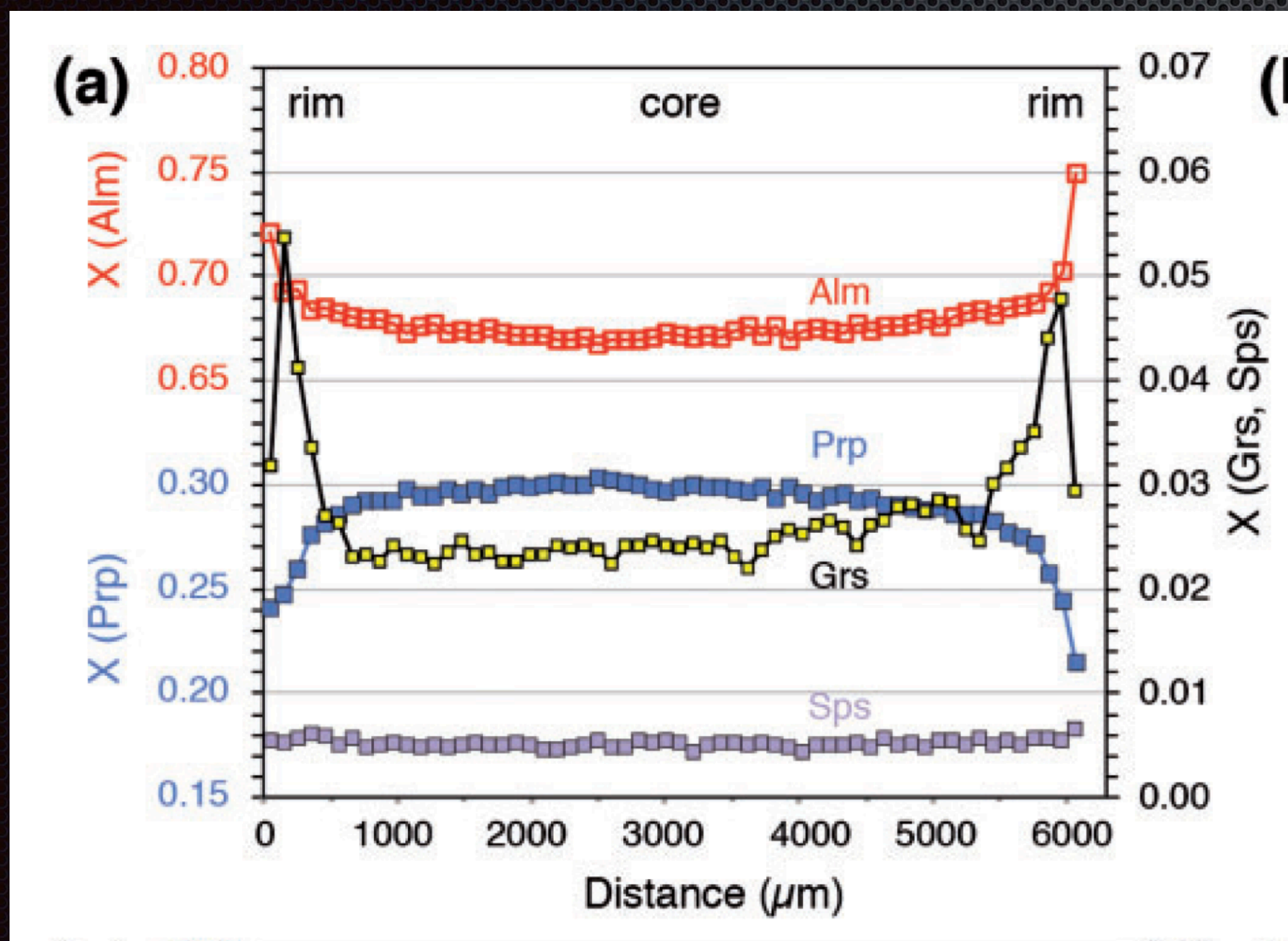
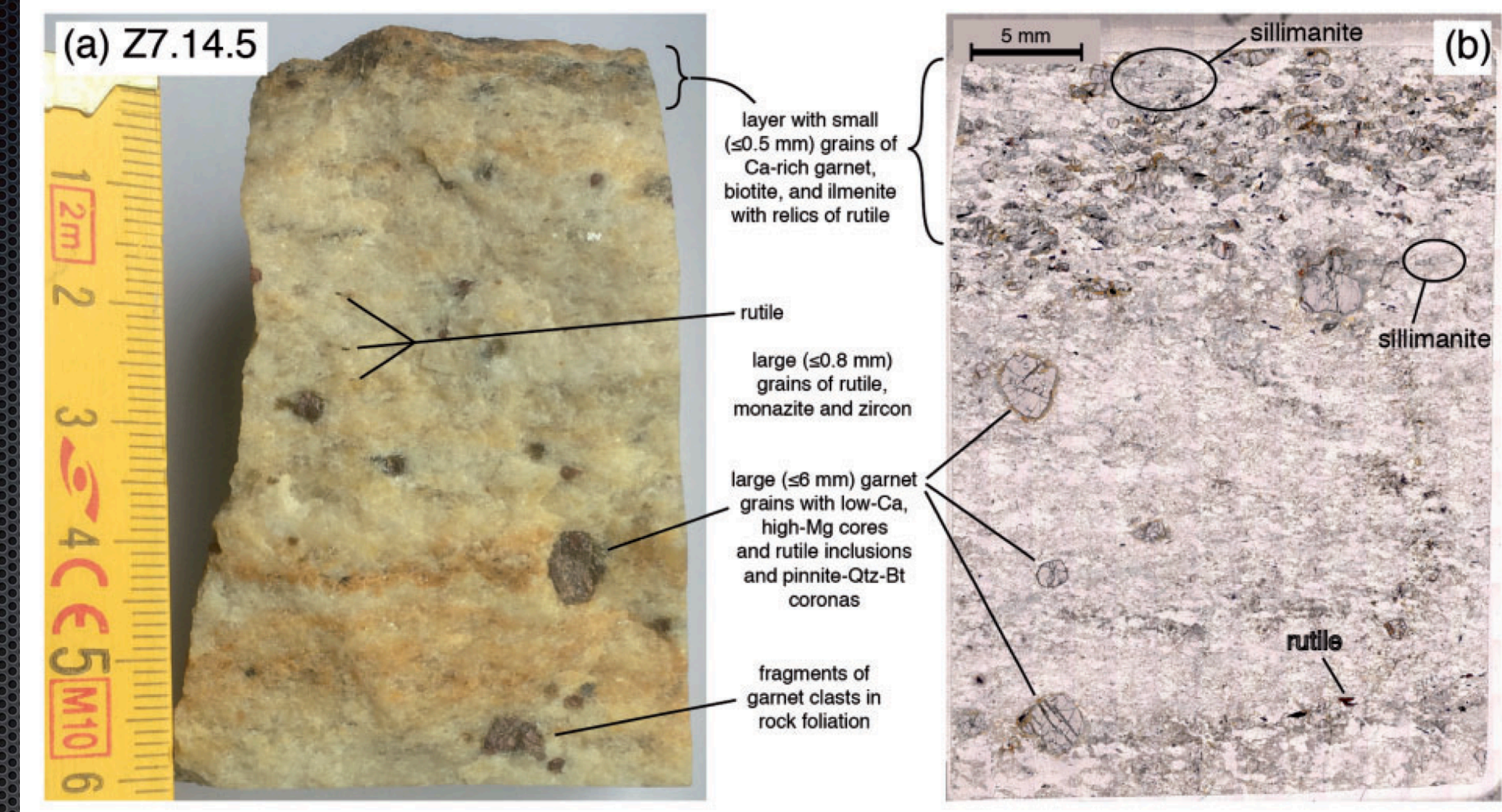
- Felsic granulite (feldspar + quartz)



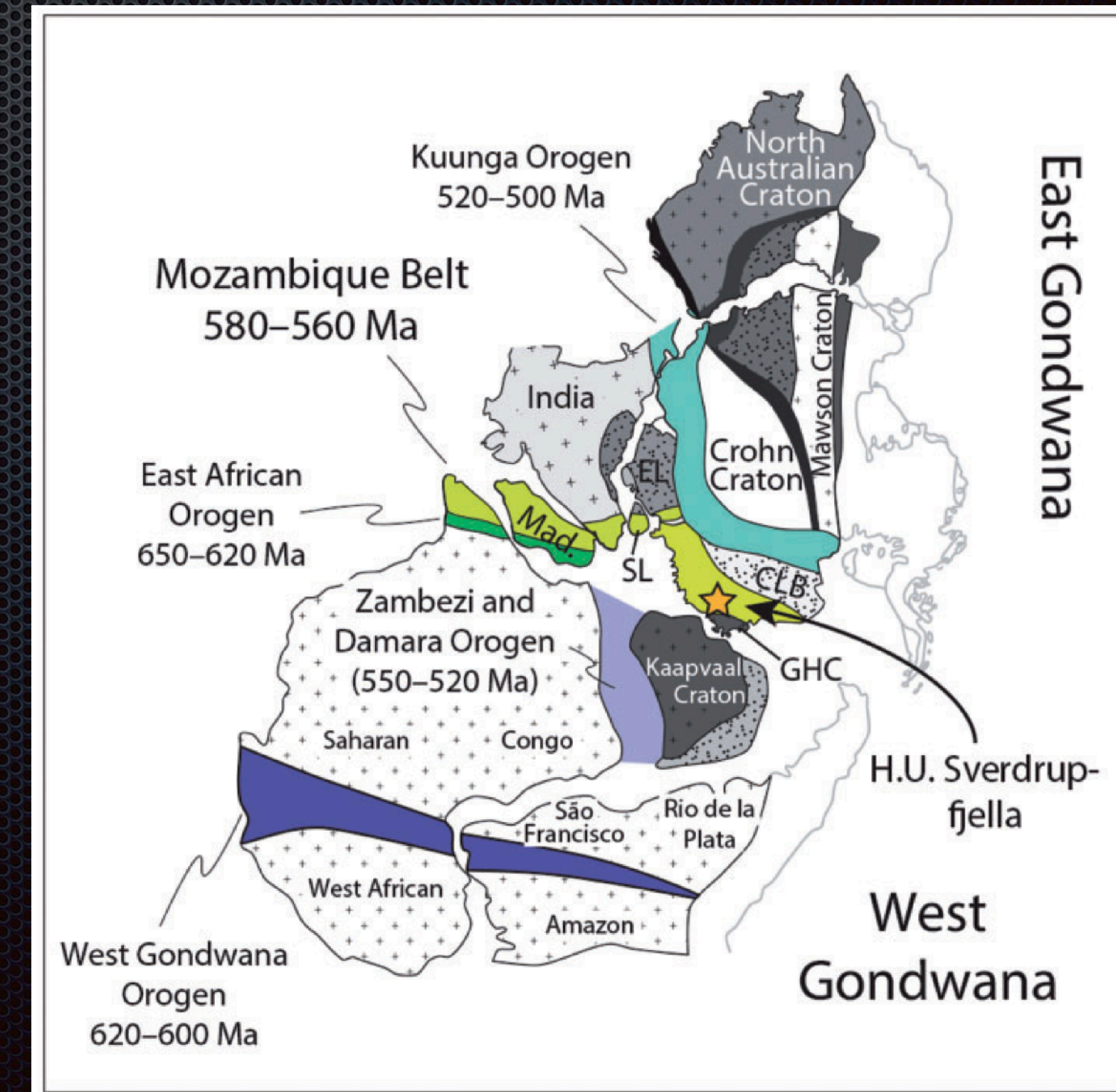
Pauly et al. (2016), JPet

Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

- Felsic granulite (feldspar + quartz)
- Sillimanite pseudomorphs after kyanite

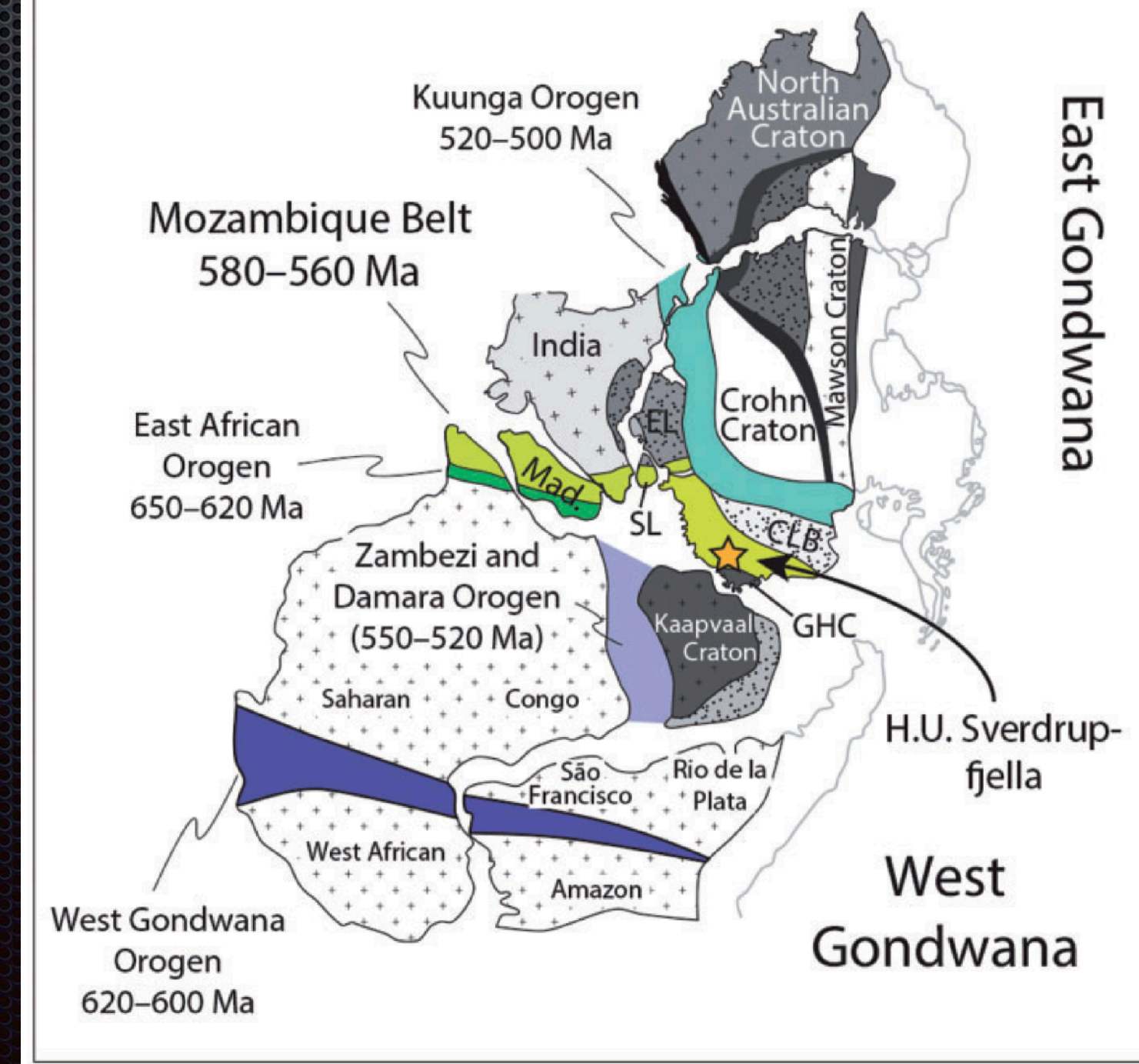
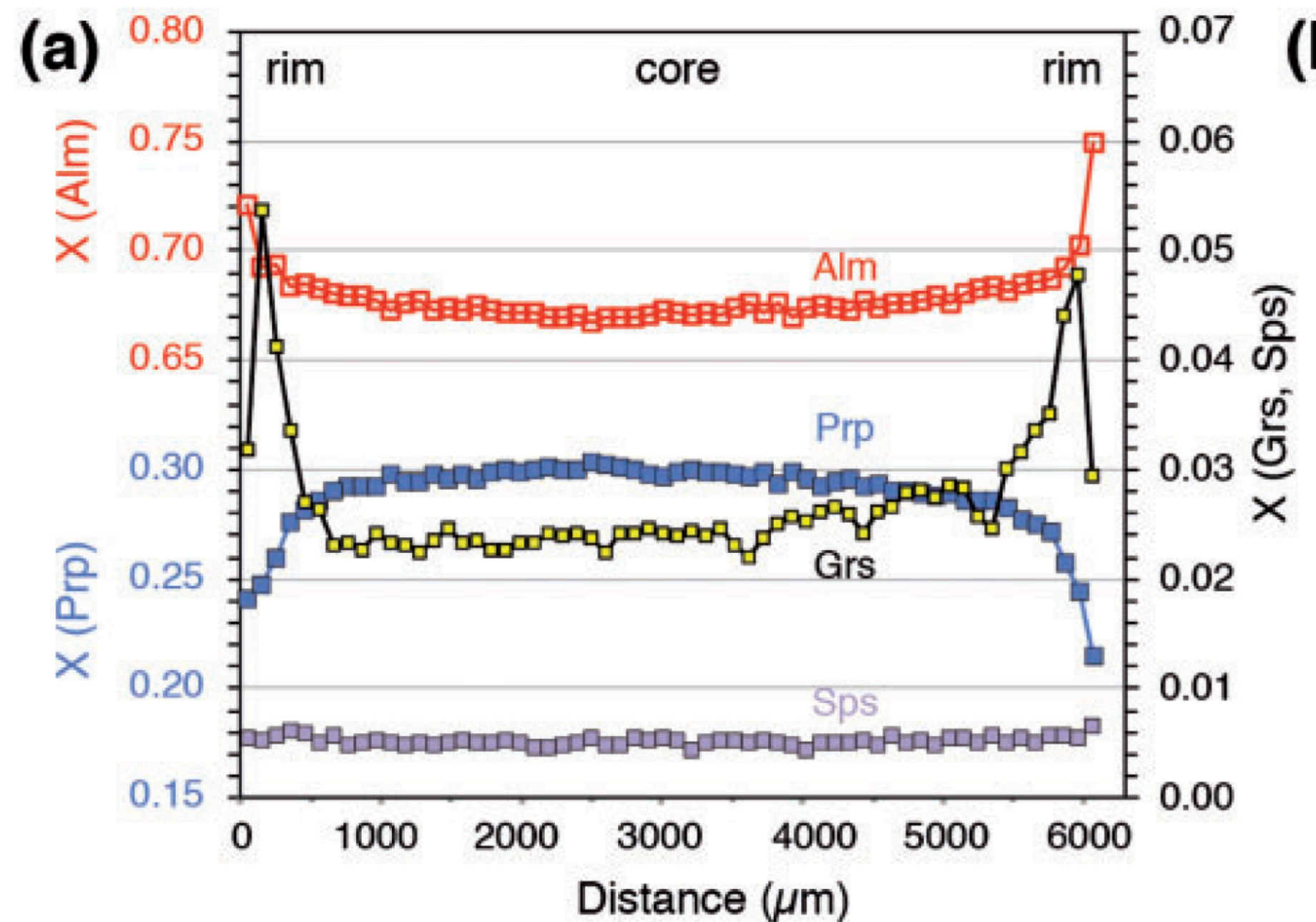
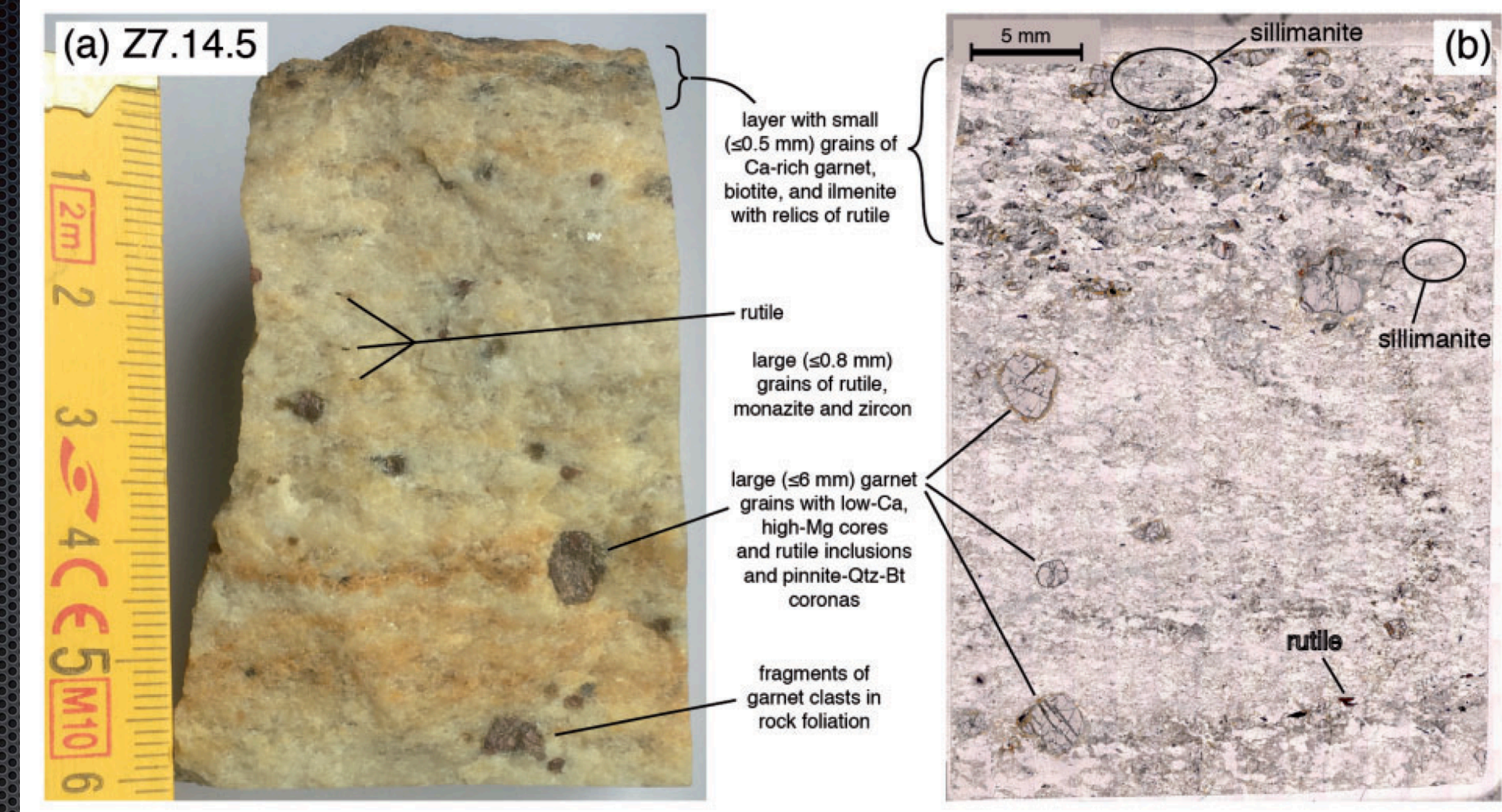


Pauly et al. (2016), JPet



Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

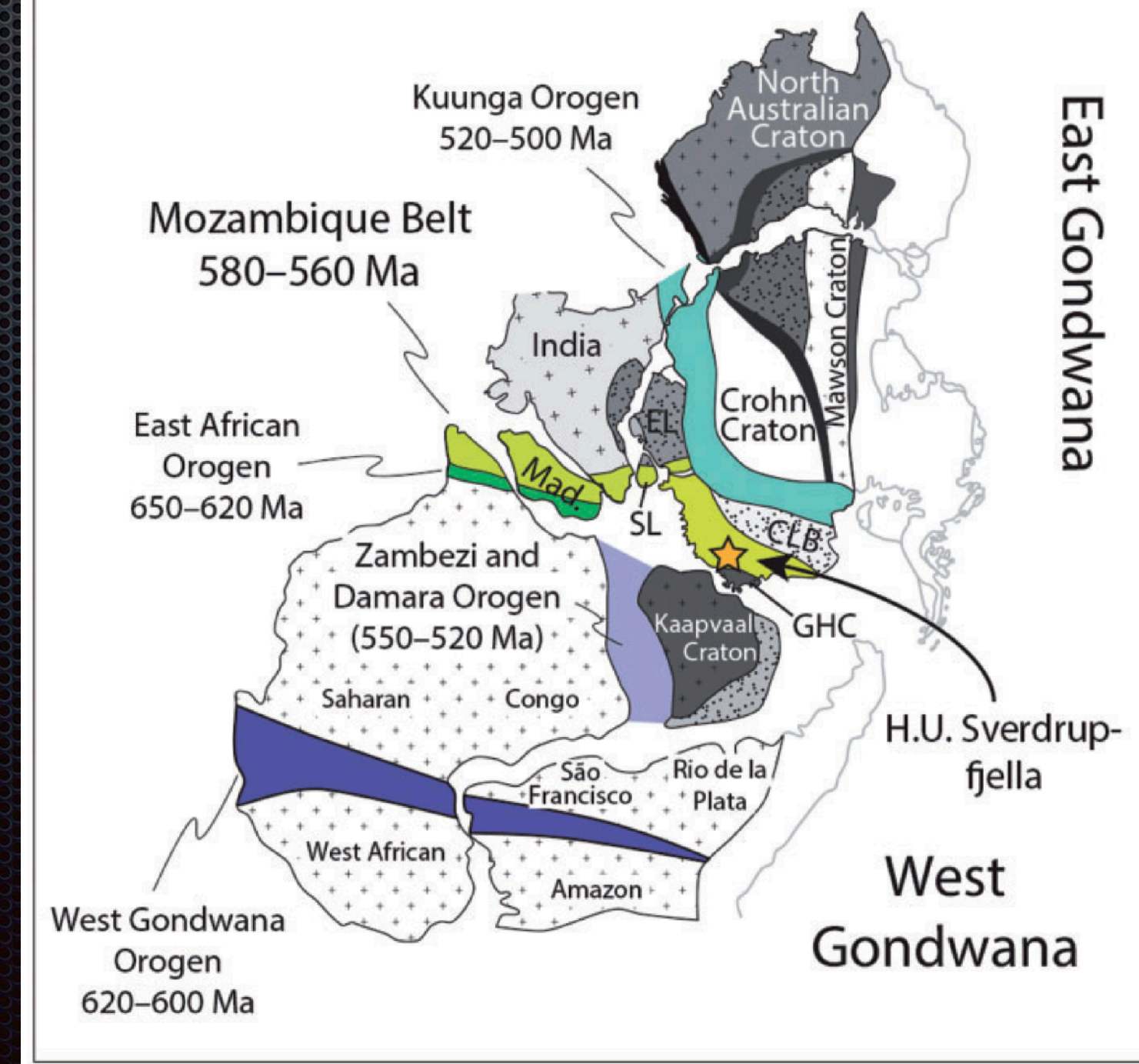
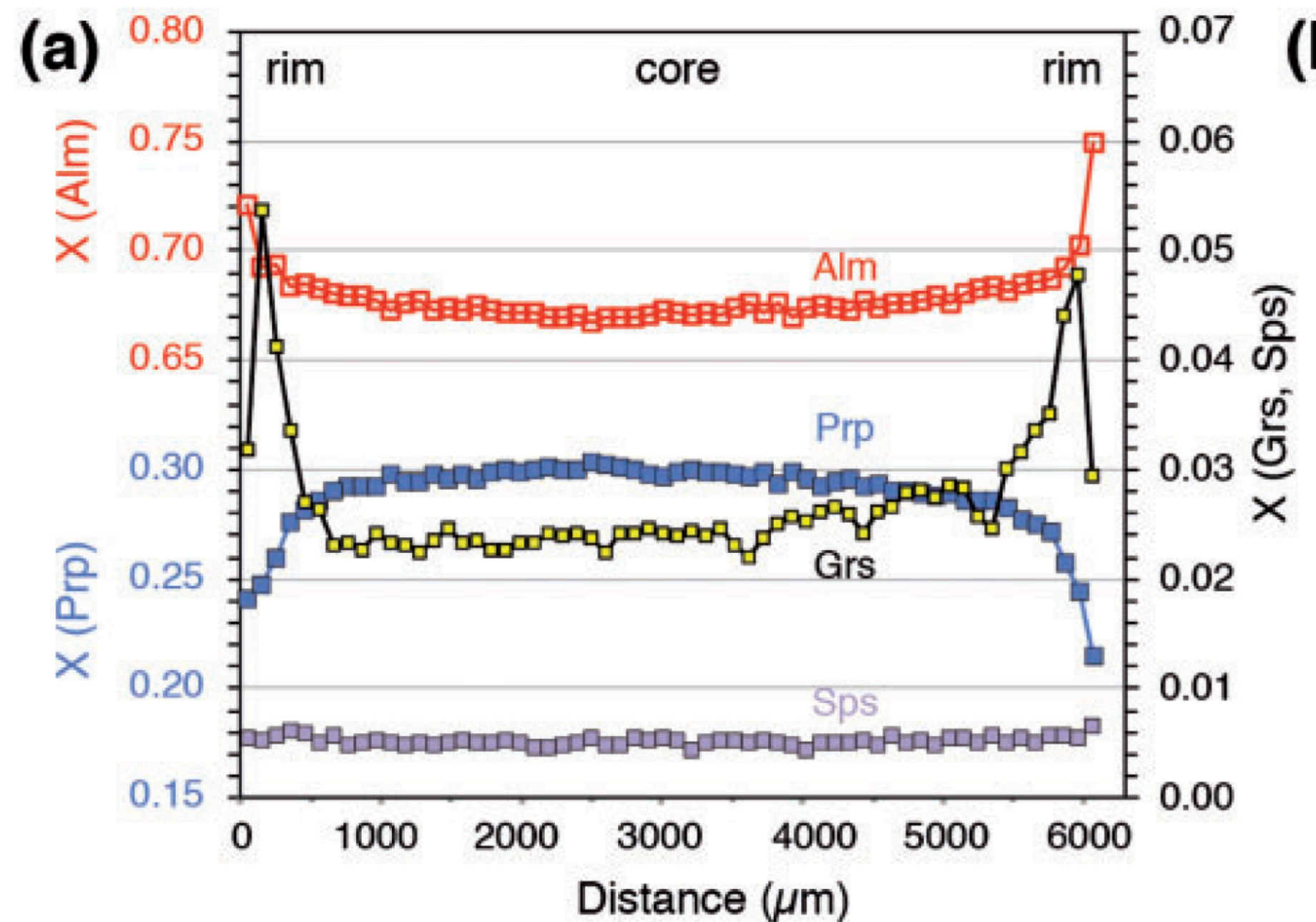
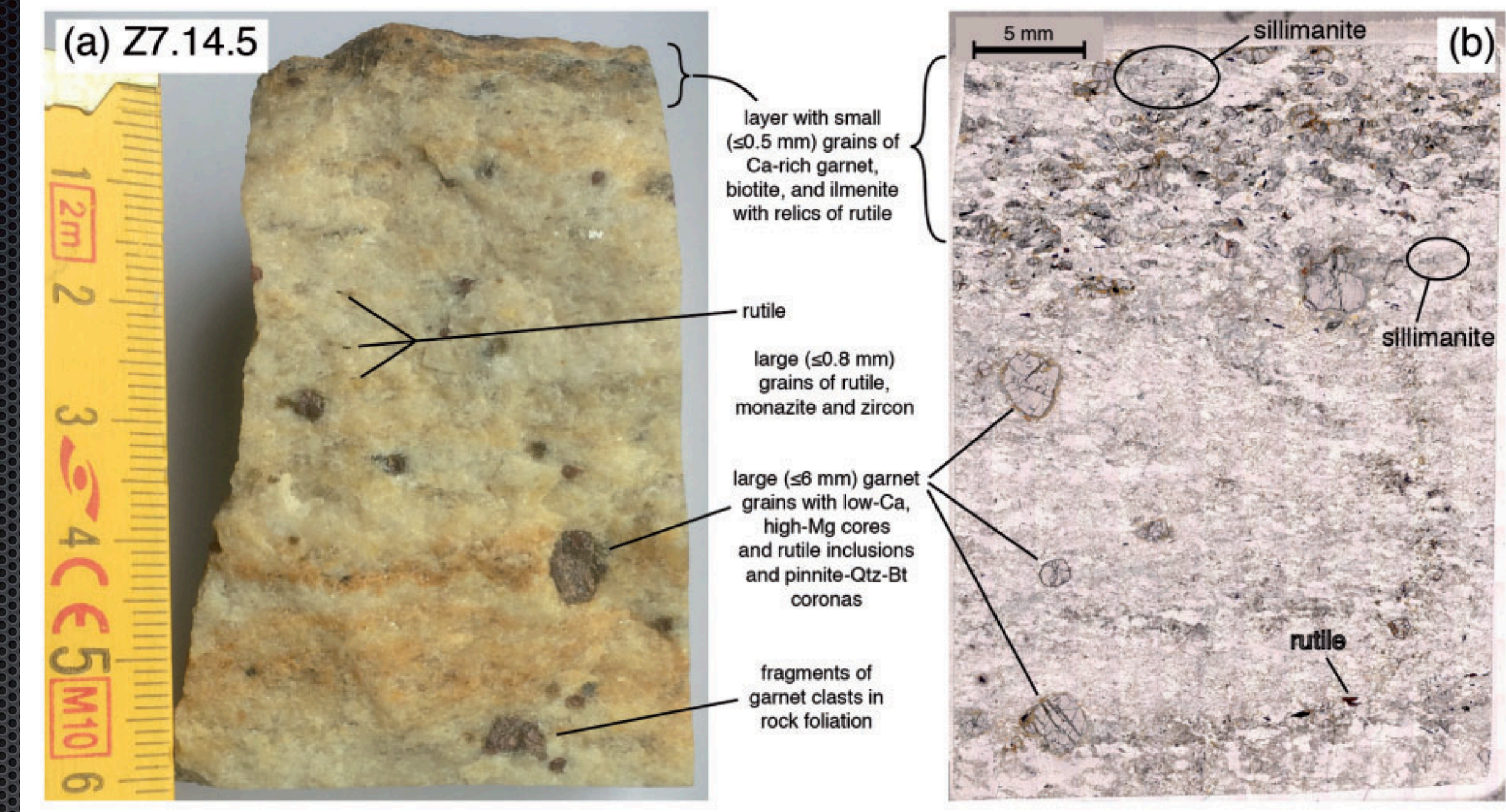
- Felsic granulite (feldspar + quartz)
- Sillimanite pseudomorphs after kyanite
- Rutile + monazite + zircon + apatite



Pauly et al. (2016), JPet

Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

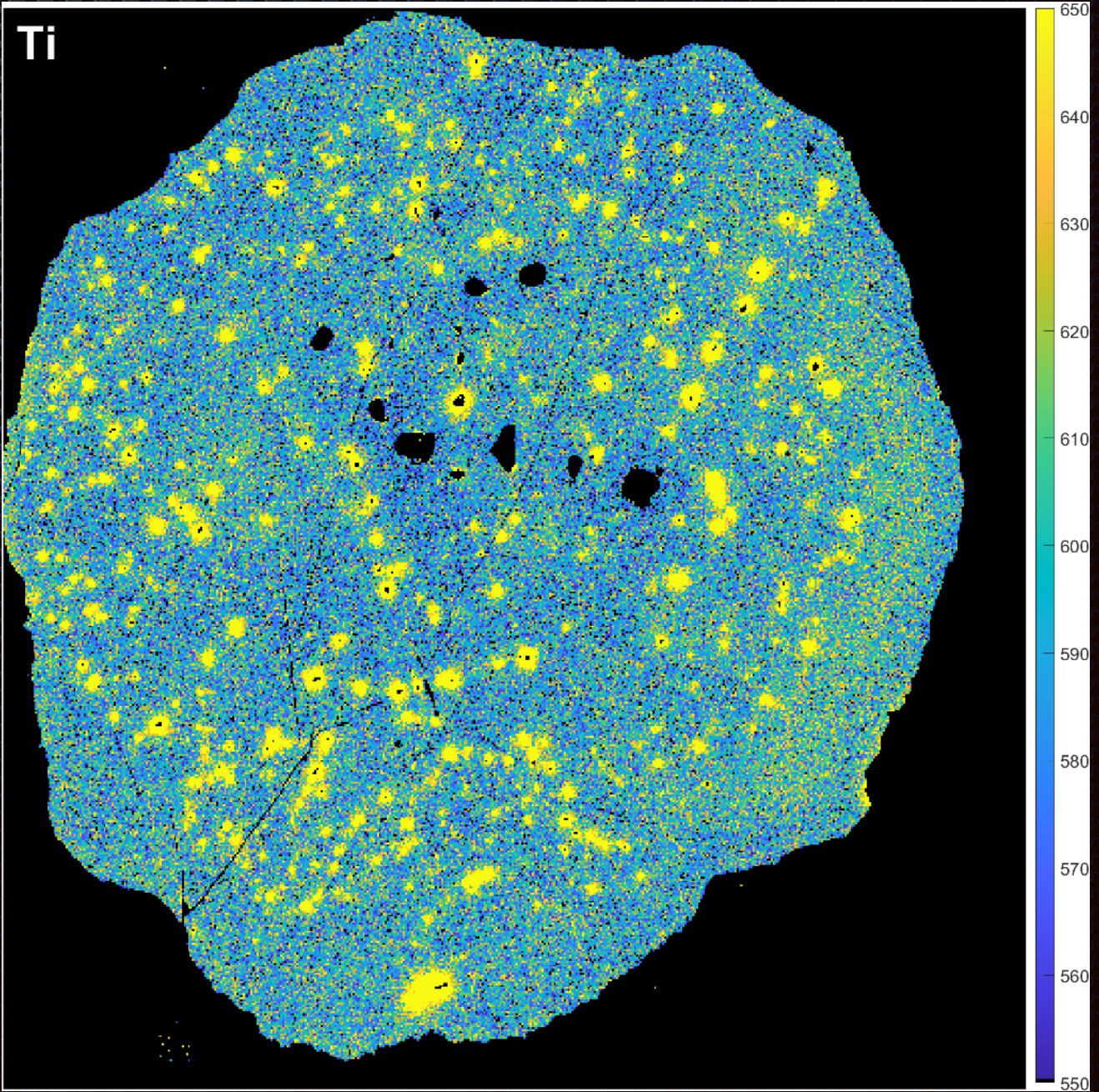
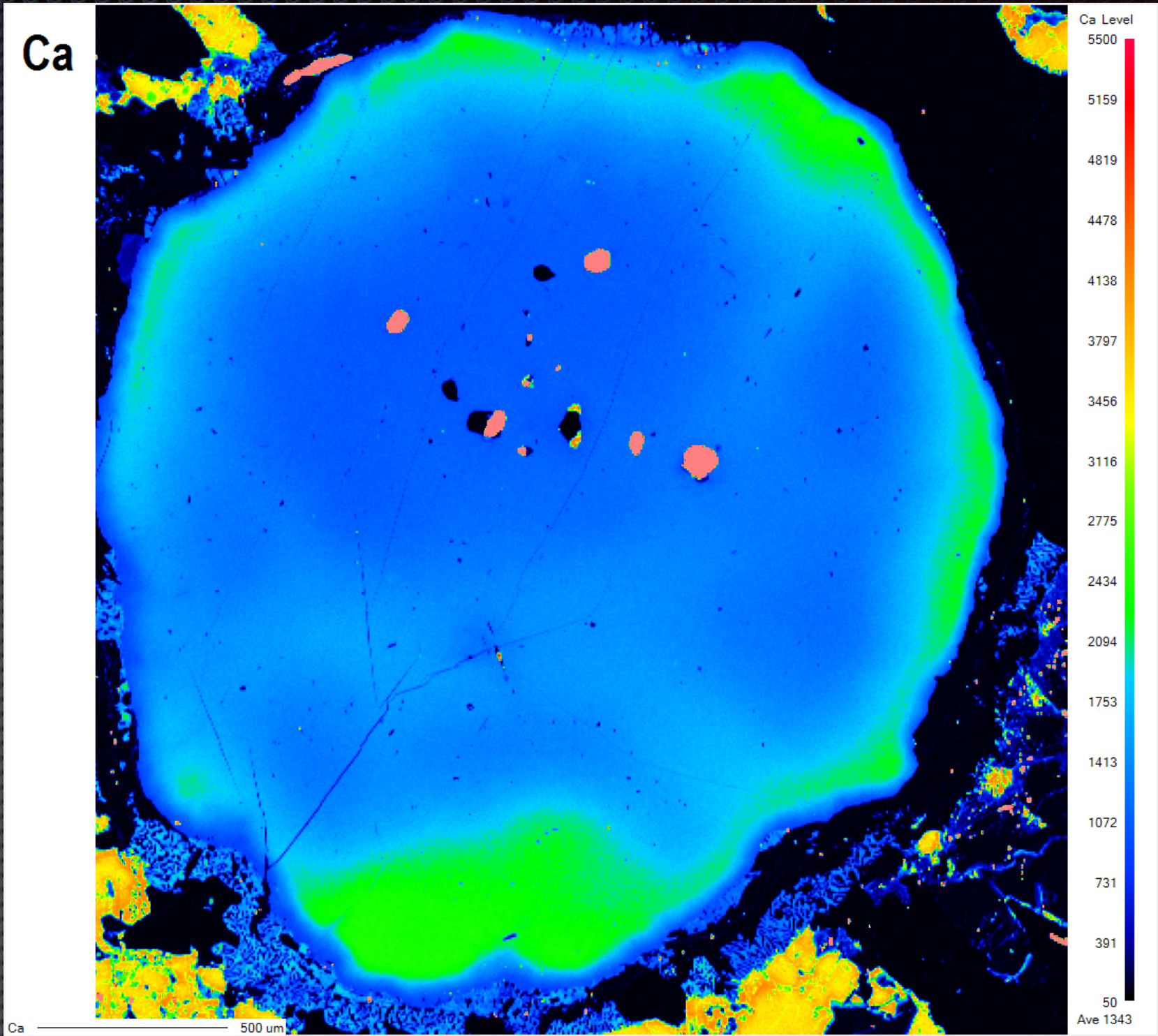
- Felsic granulite (feldspar + quartz)
- Sillimanite pseudomorphs after kyanite
- Rutile + monazite + zircon + apatite
- Garnet (up to 6 mm in diameter)



Pauly et al. (2016), JPet

Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores Stage M2a

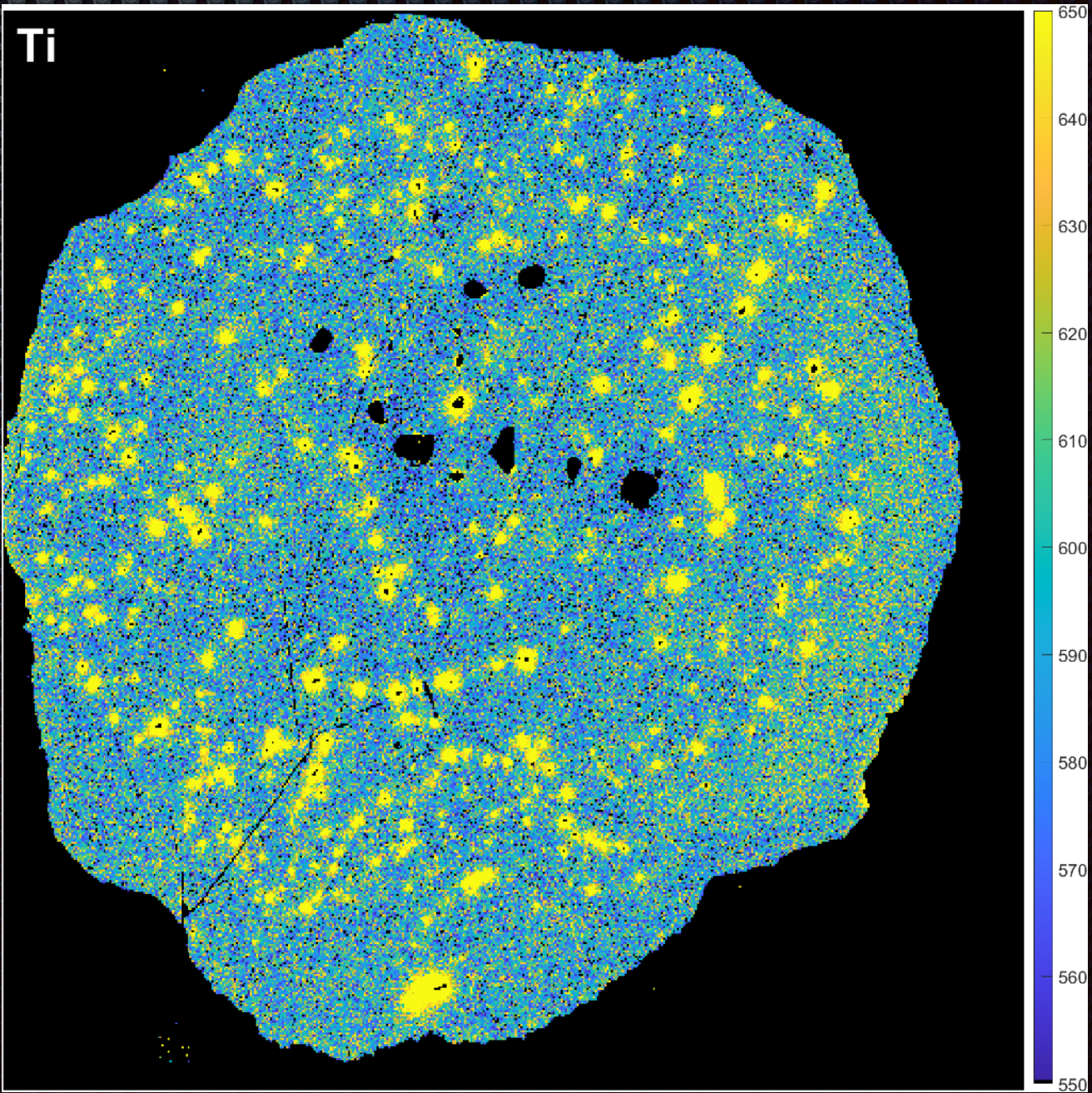
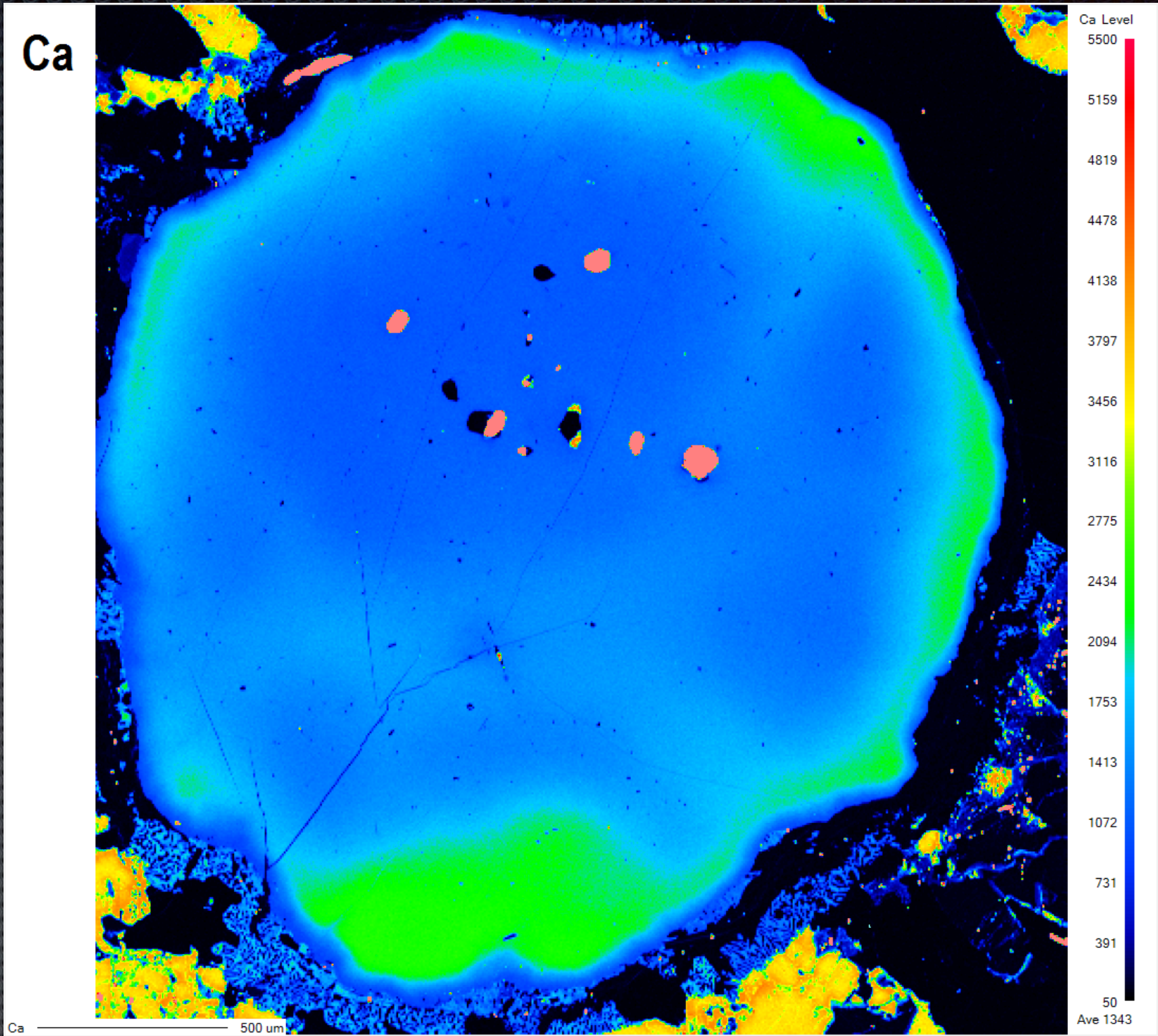


Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa

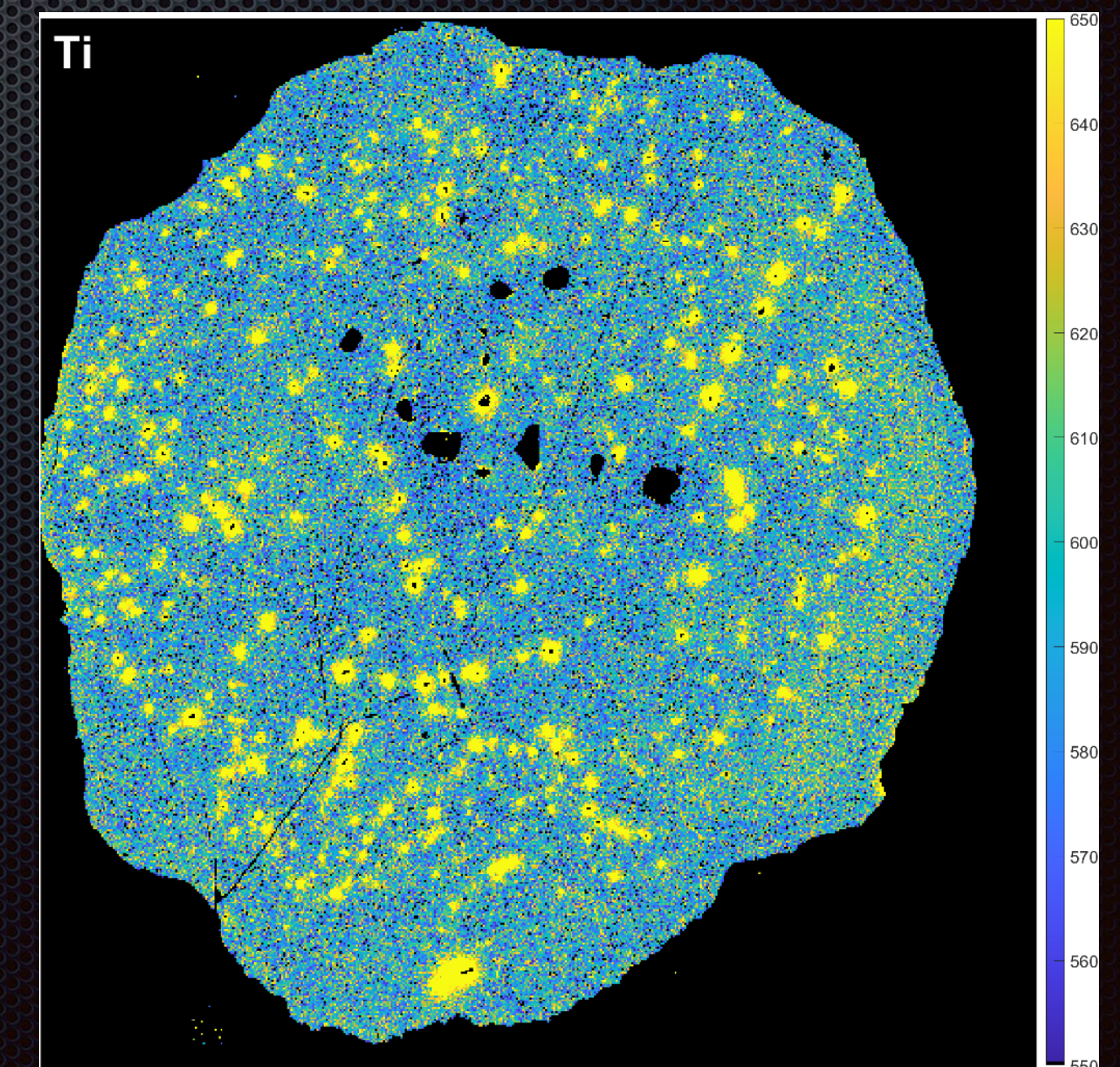
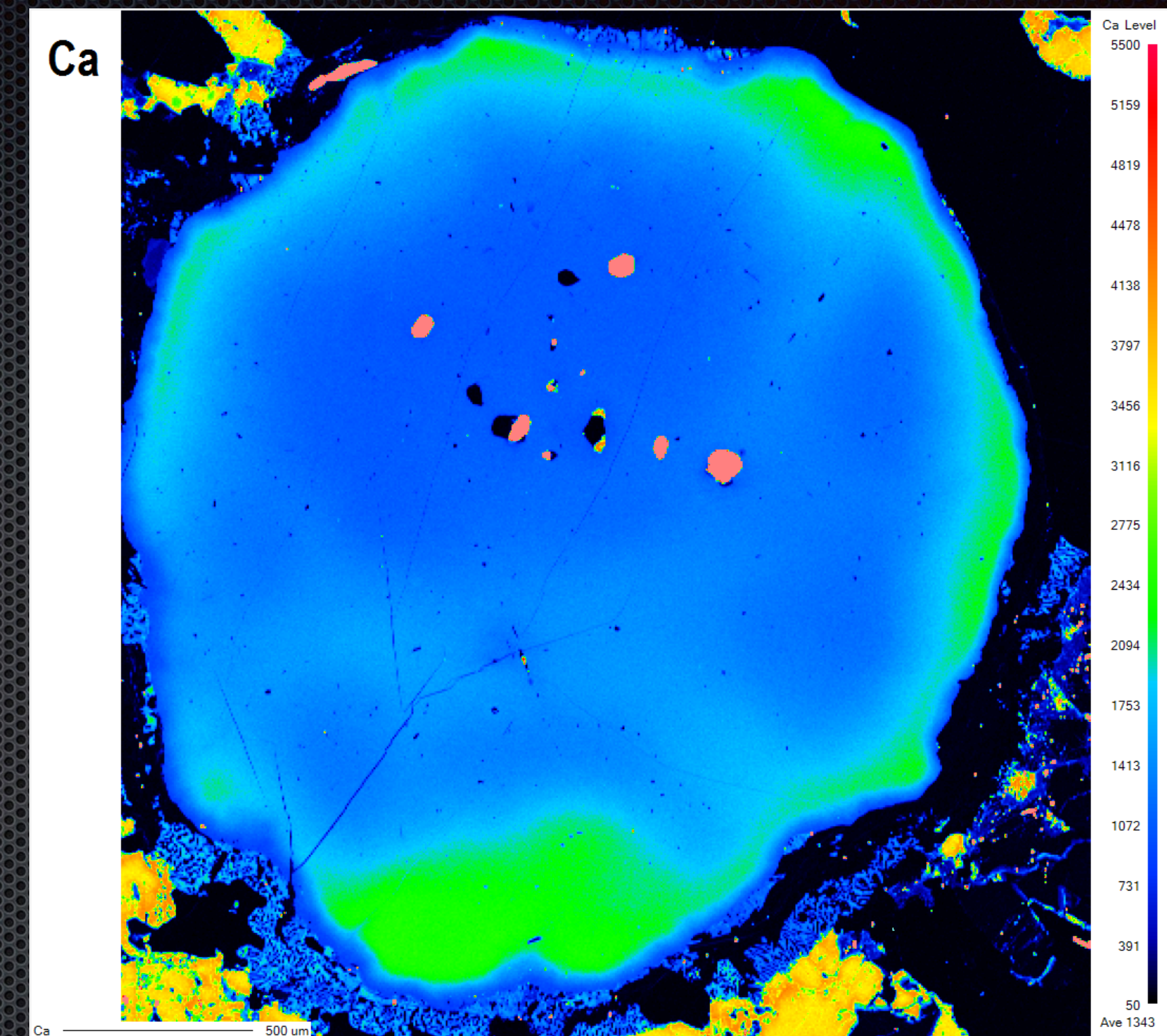


Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
- metamorphic age previously unknown (≥ 593 Ma)

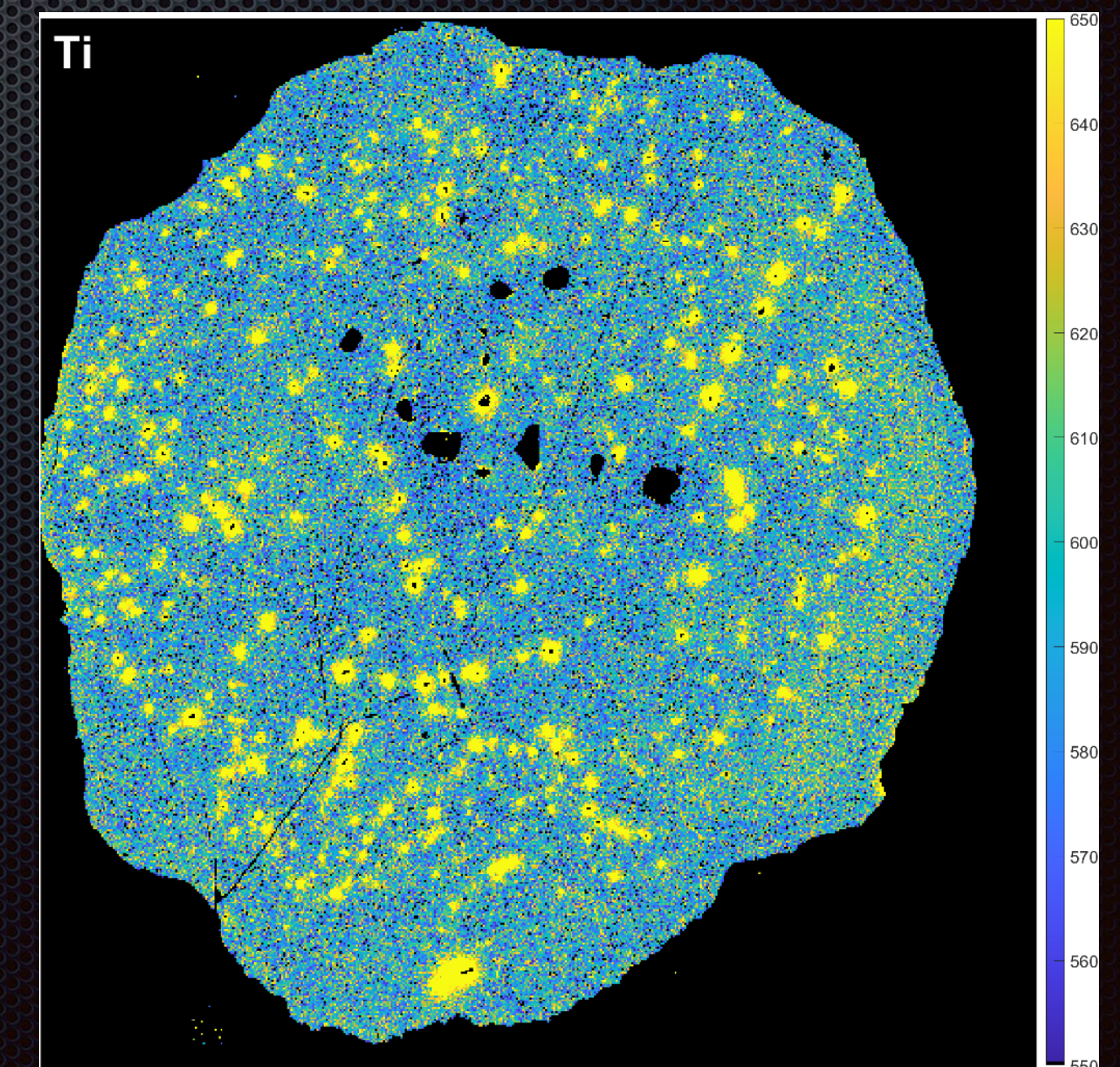
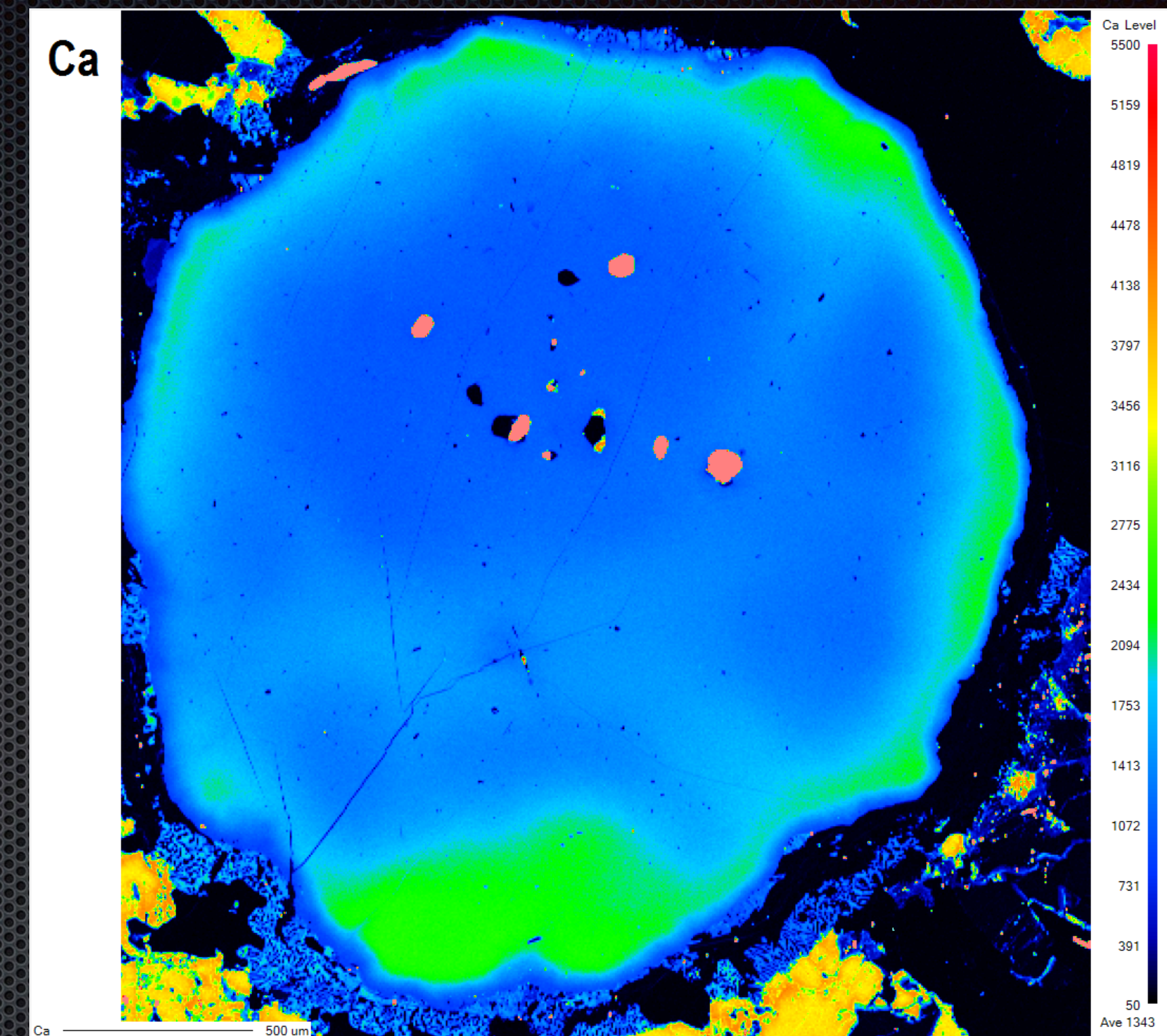


Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
- metamorphic age previously unknown (≥ 593 Ma)
- appr. 4.5 vol.% garnet in rock



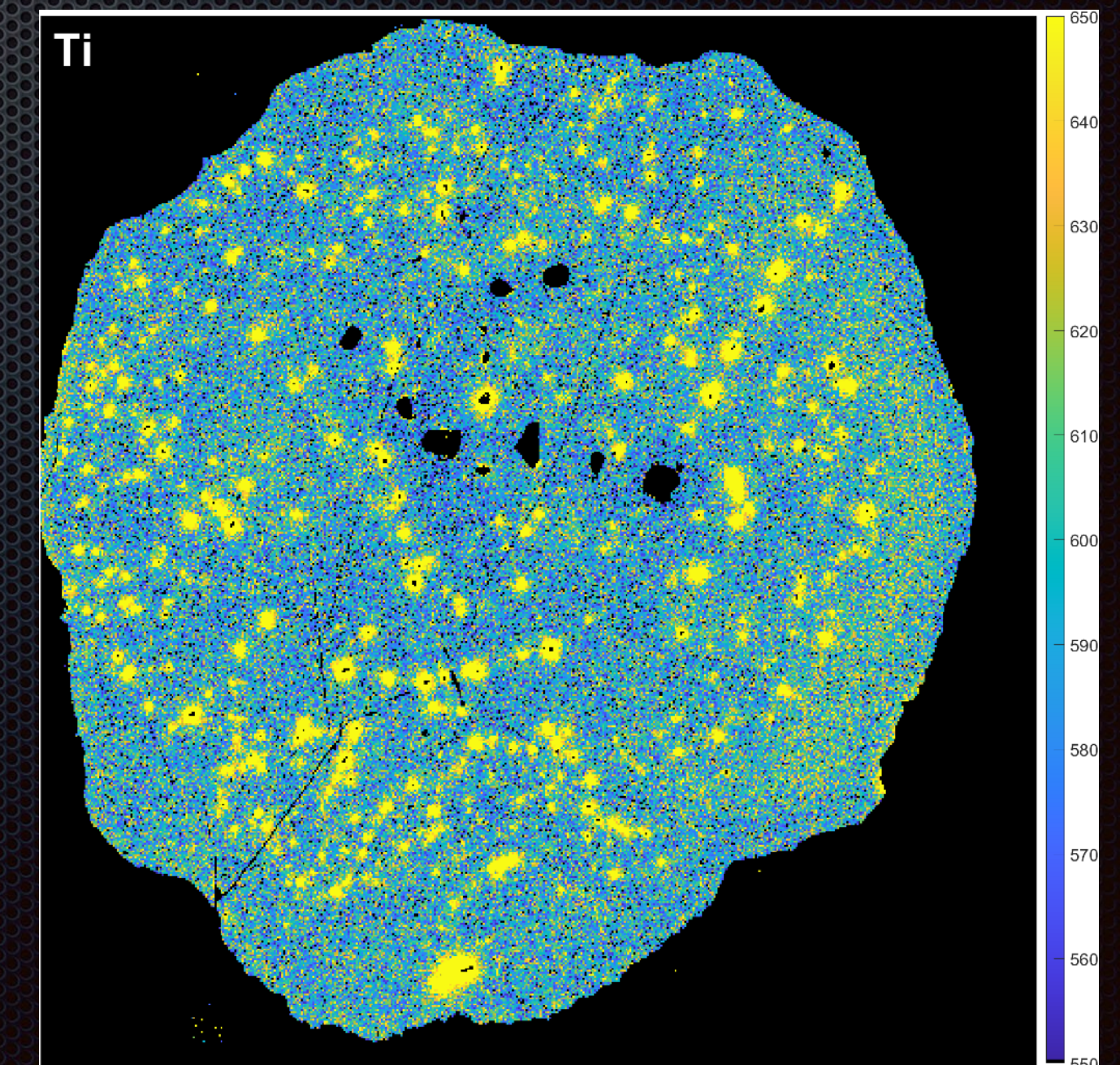
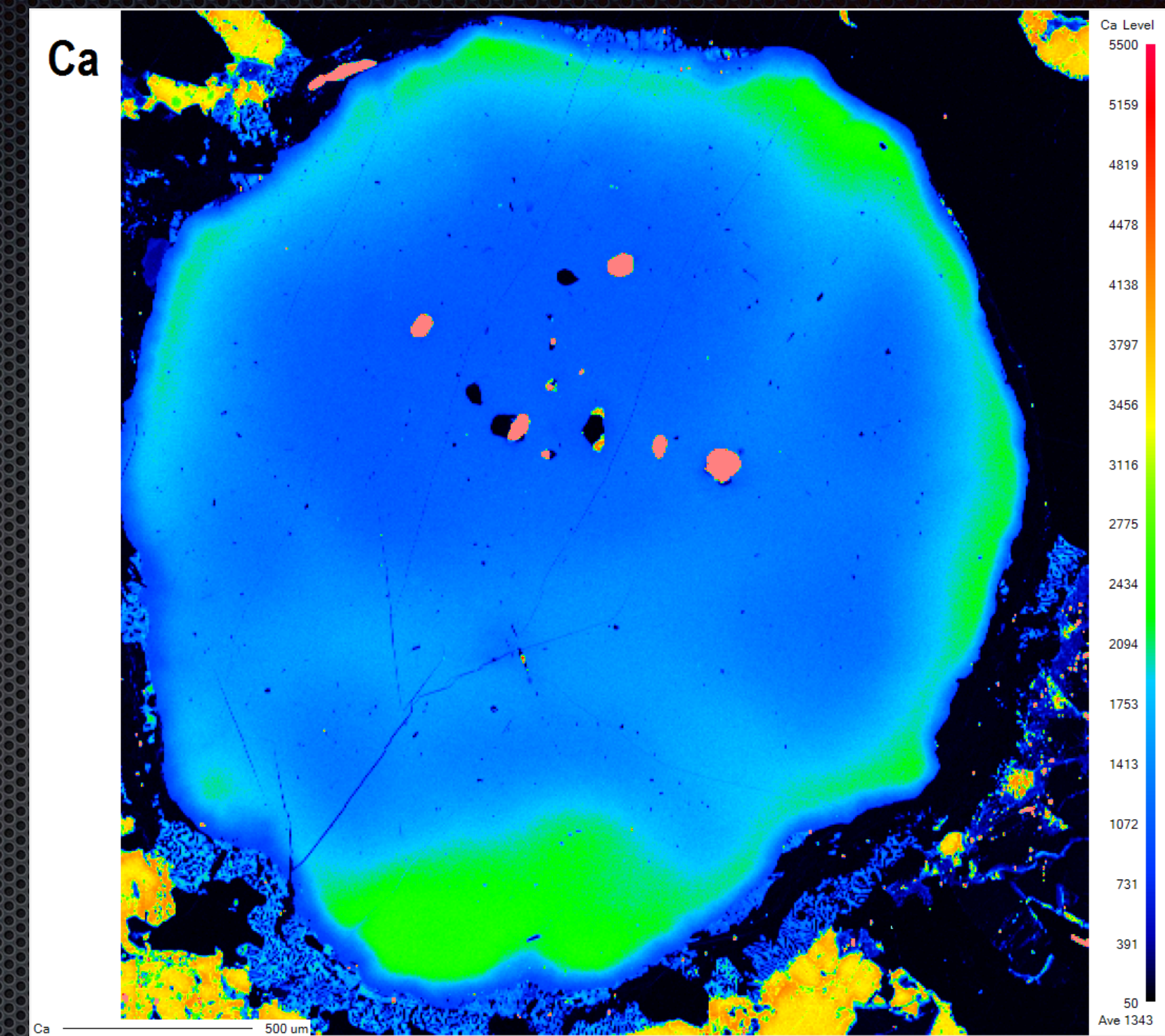
Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

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- appr. 4.5 vol.% garnet in rock

Garnet high-Ca rims



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

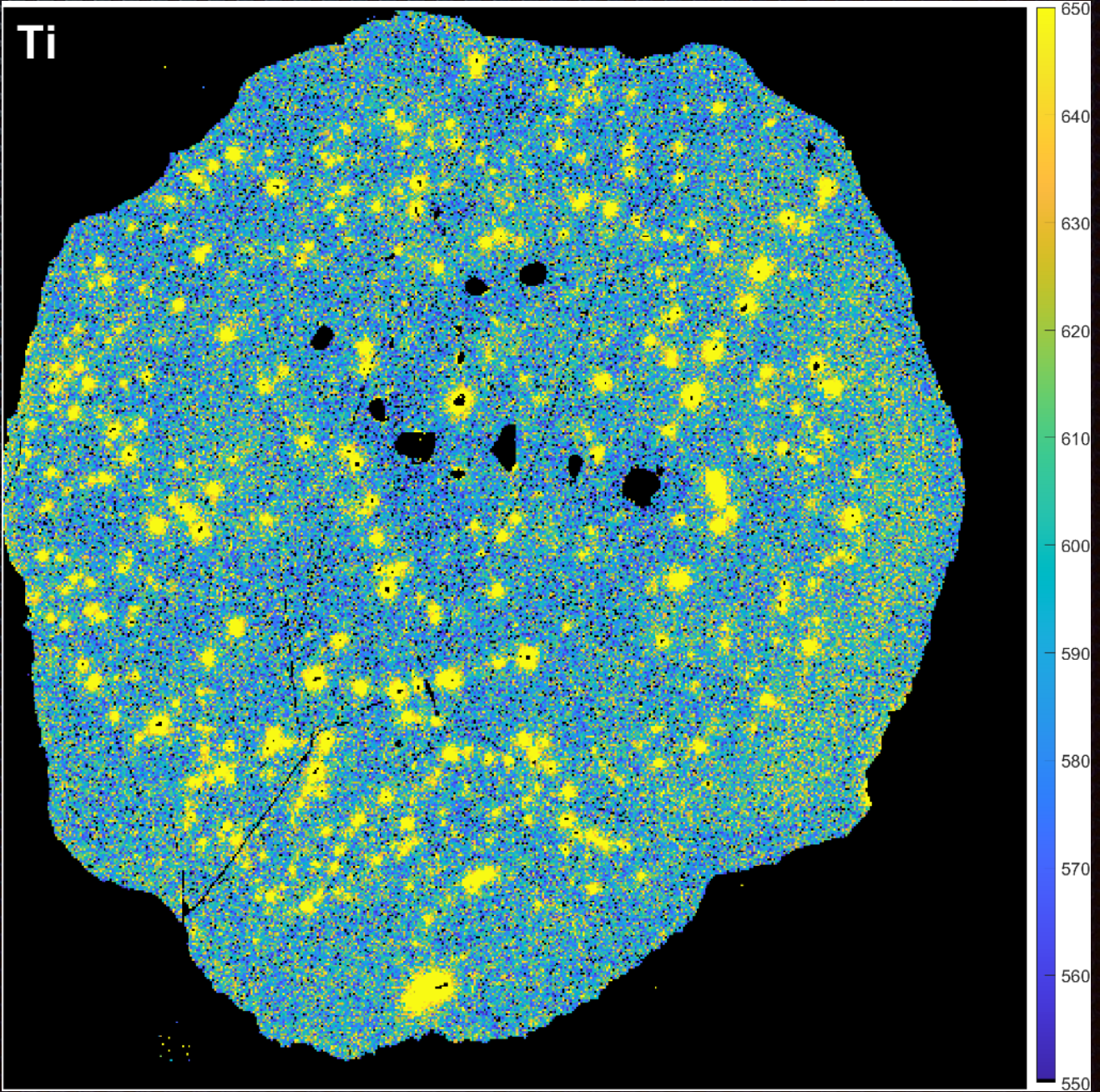
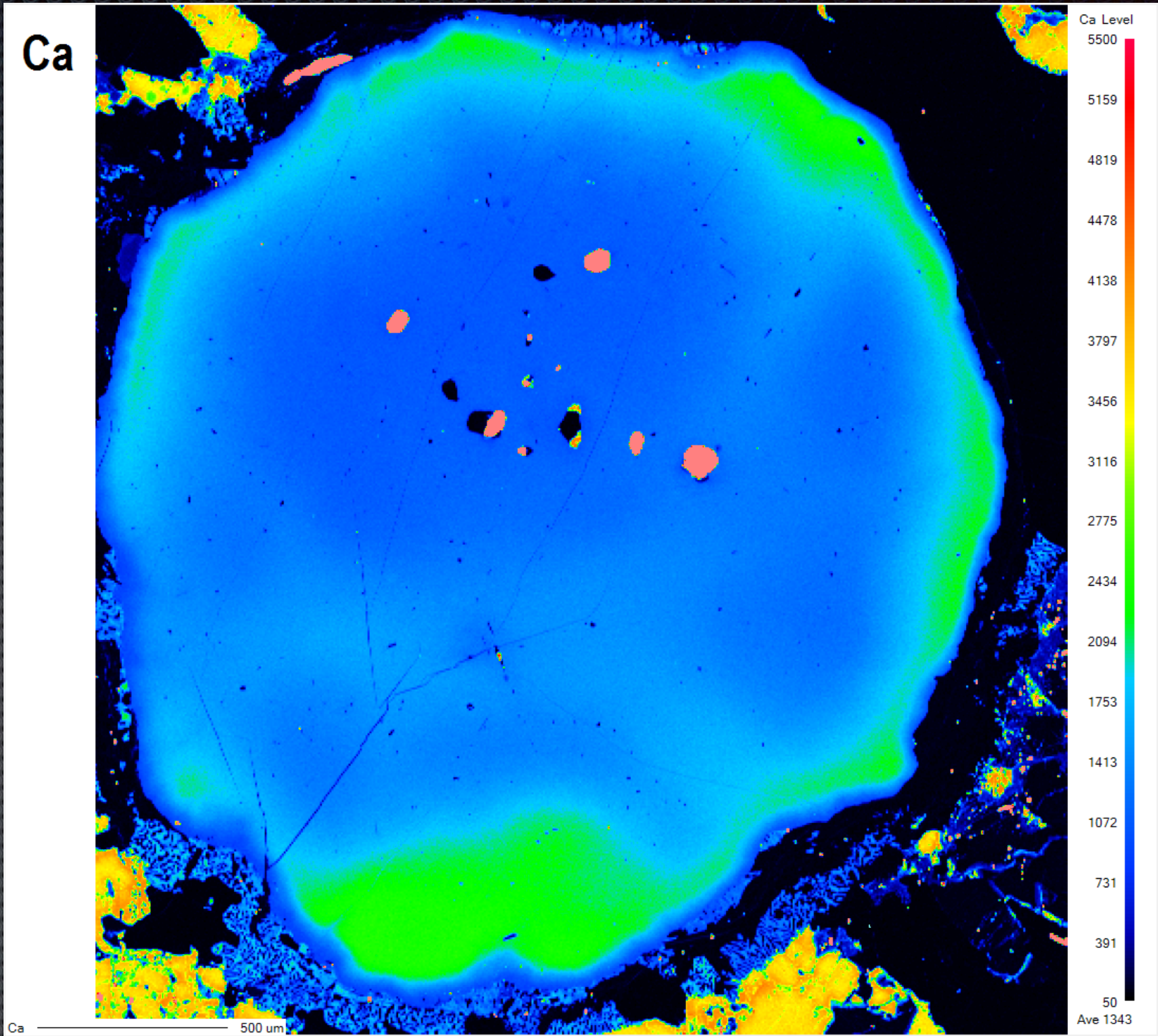
Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
- metamorphic age previously unknown (≥ 593 Ma)
- appr. 4.5 vol.% garnet in rock

Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

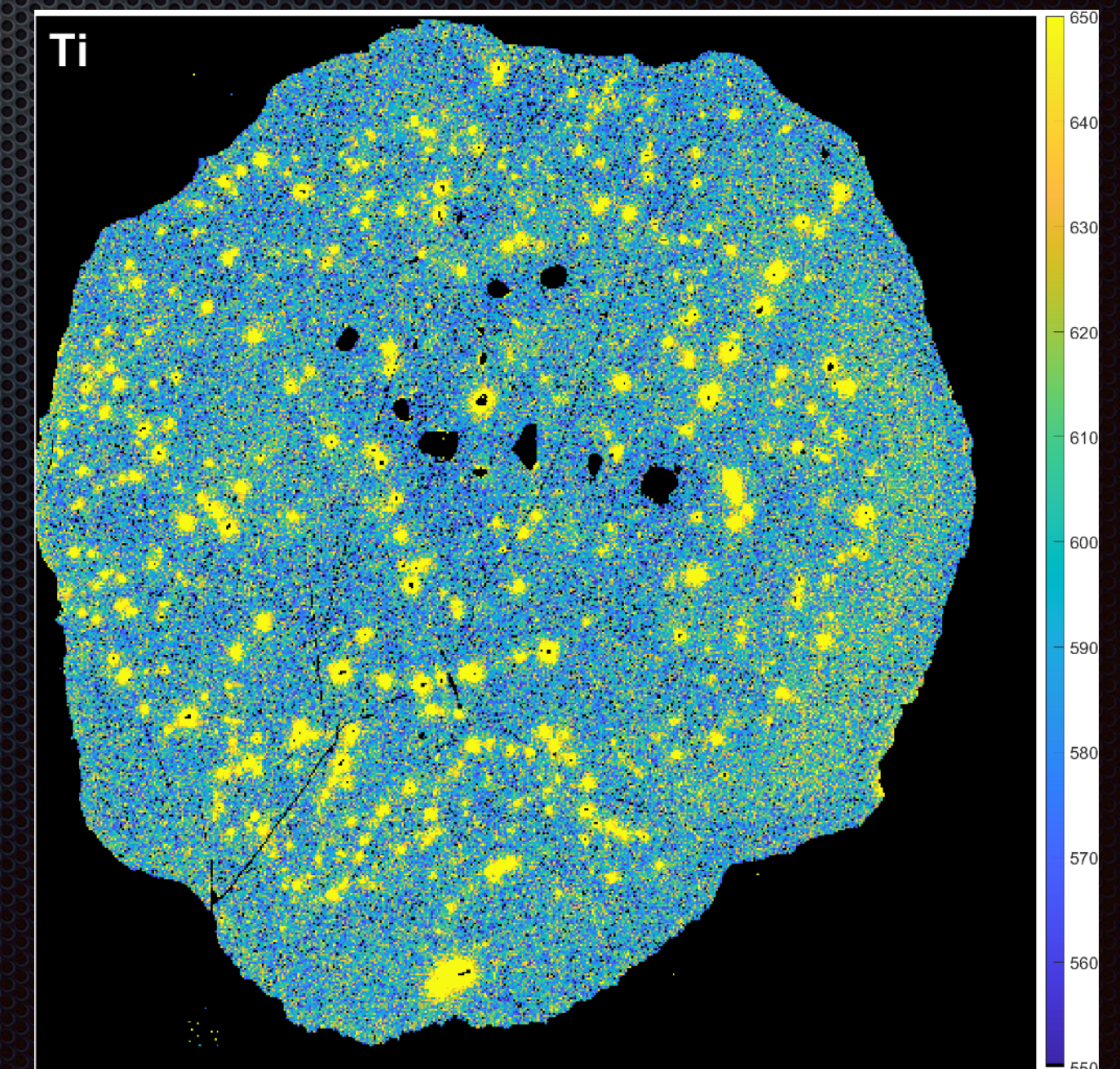
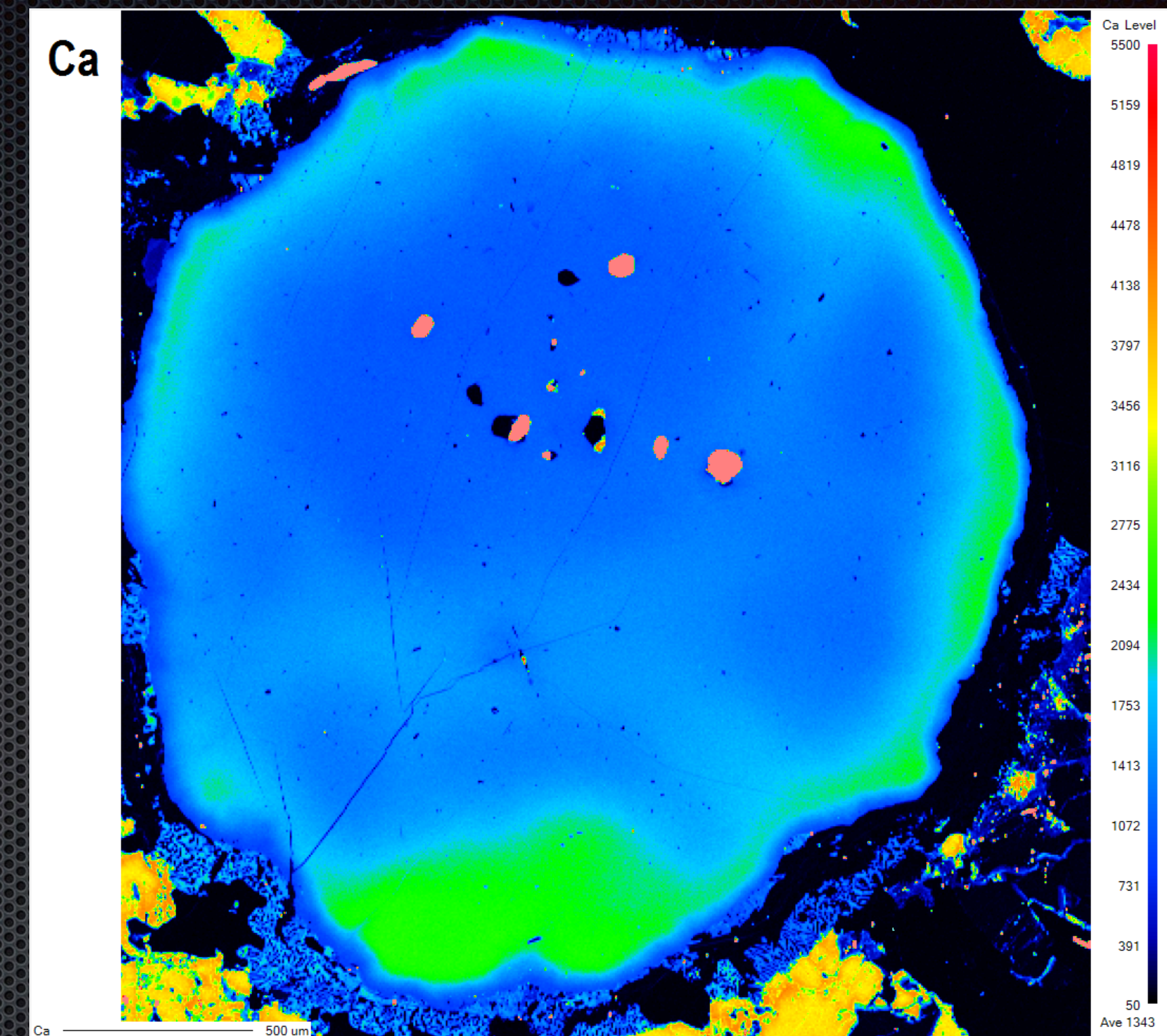
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- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
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Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

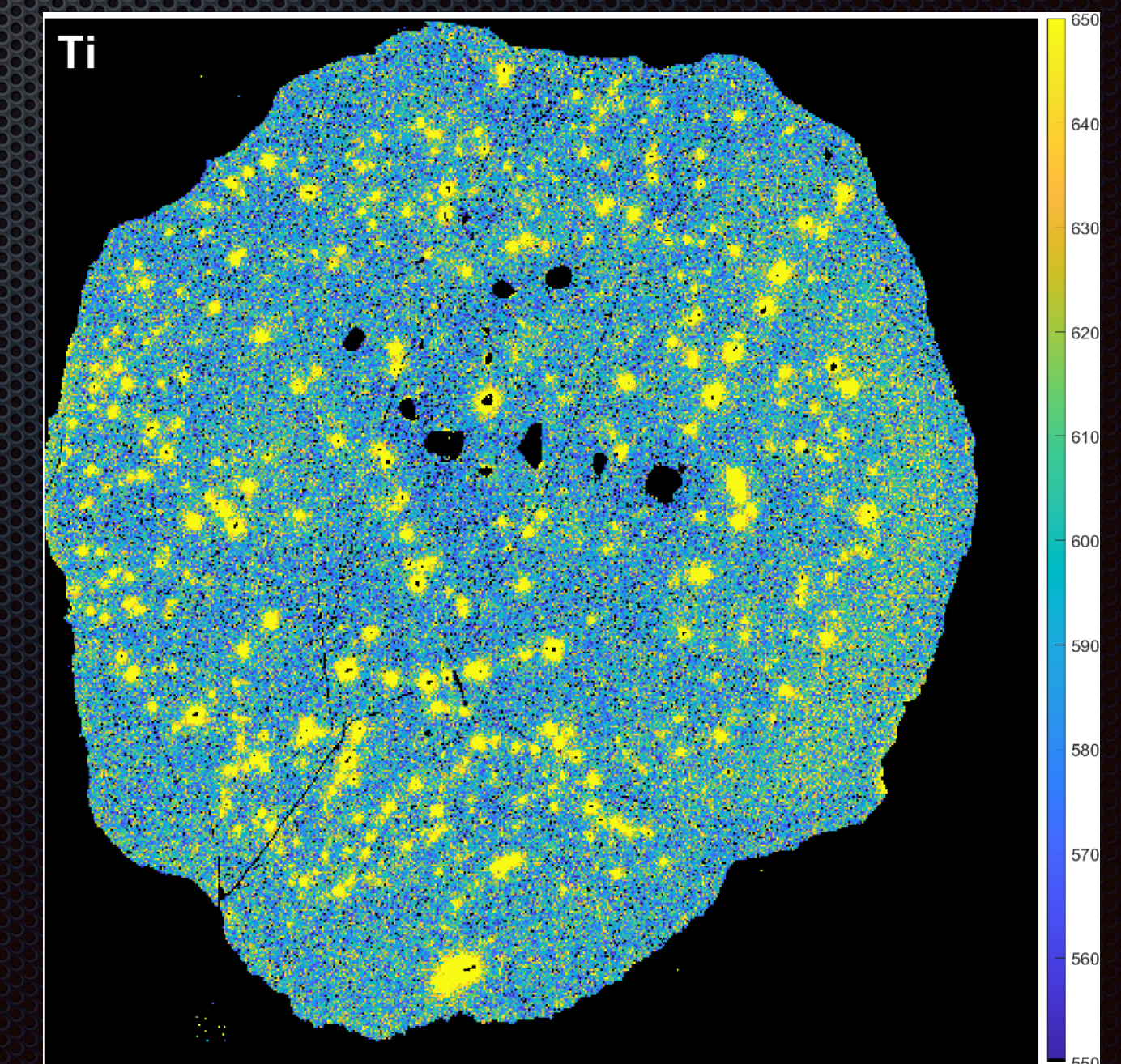
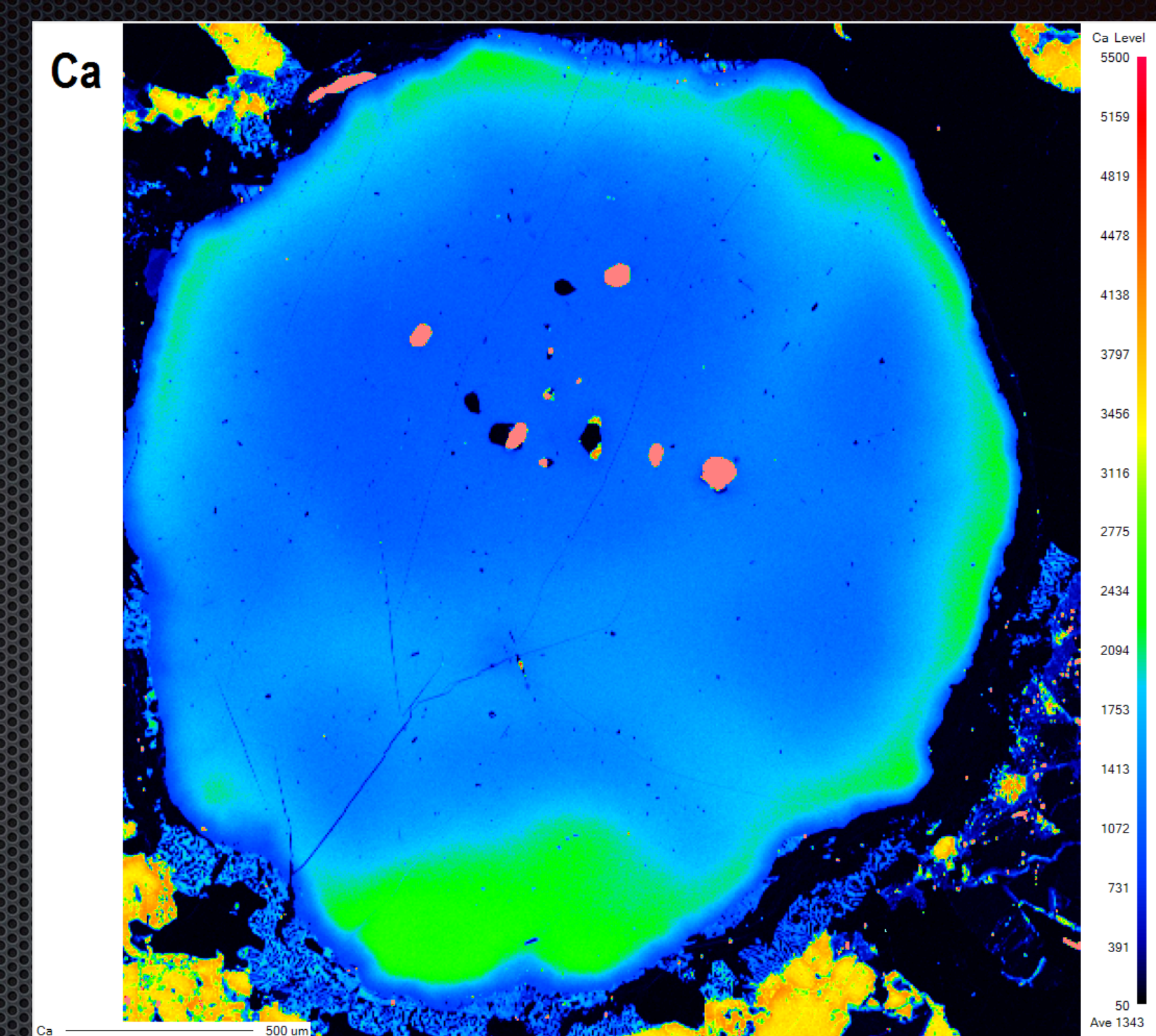
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- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
- metamorphic age previously unknown (≥ 593 Ma)
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Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

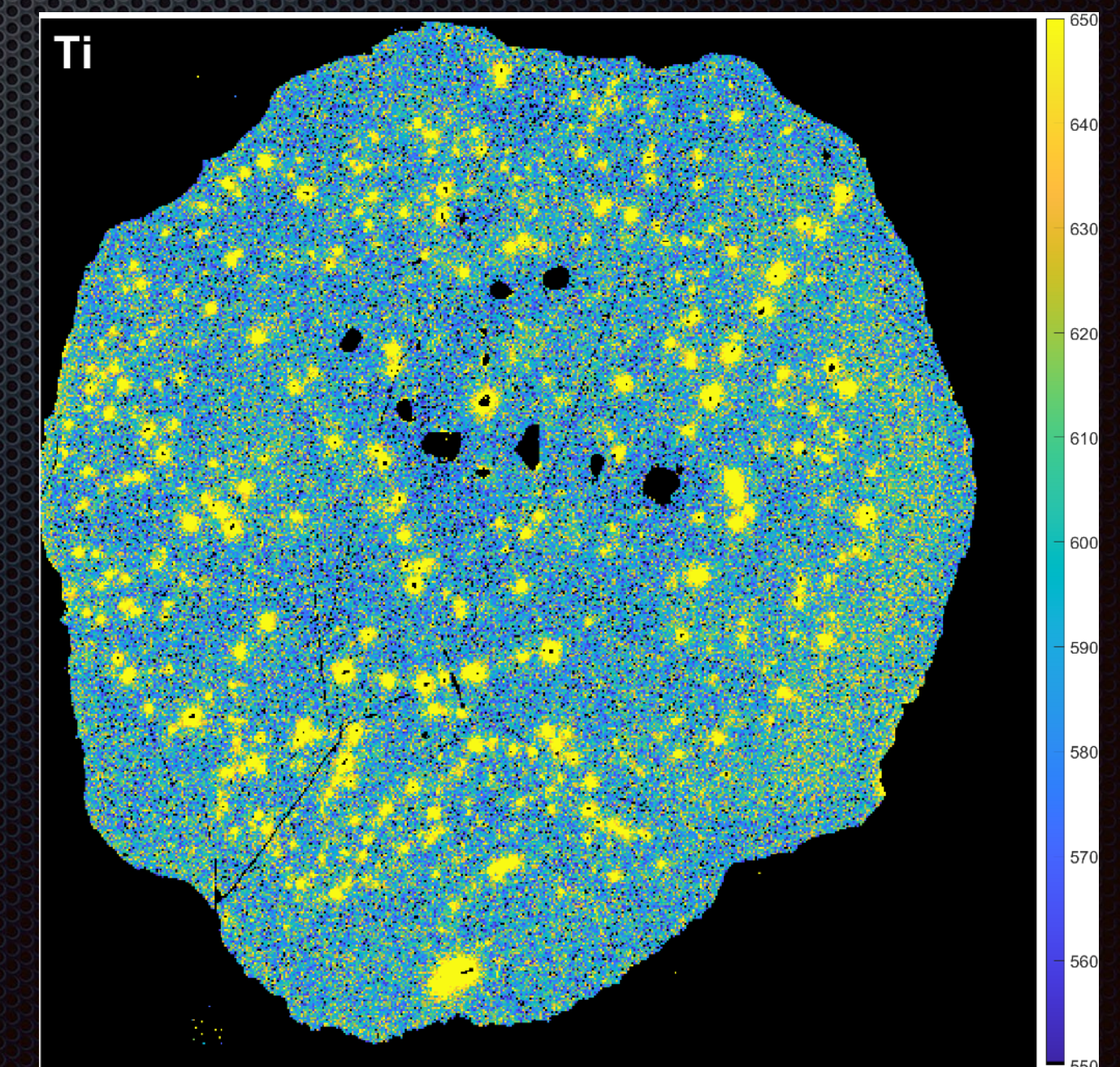
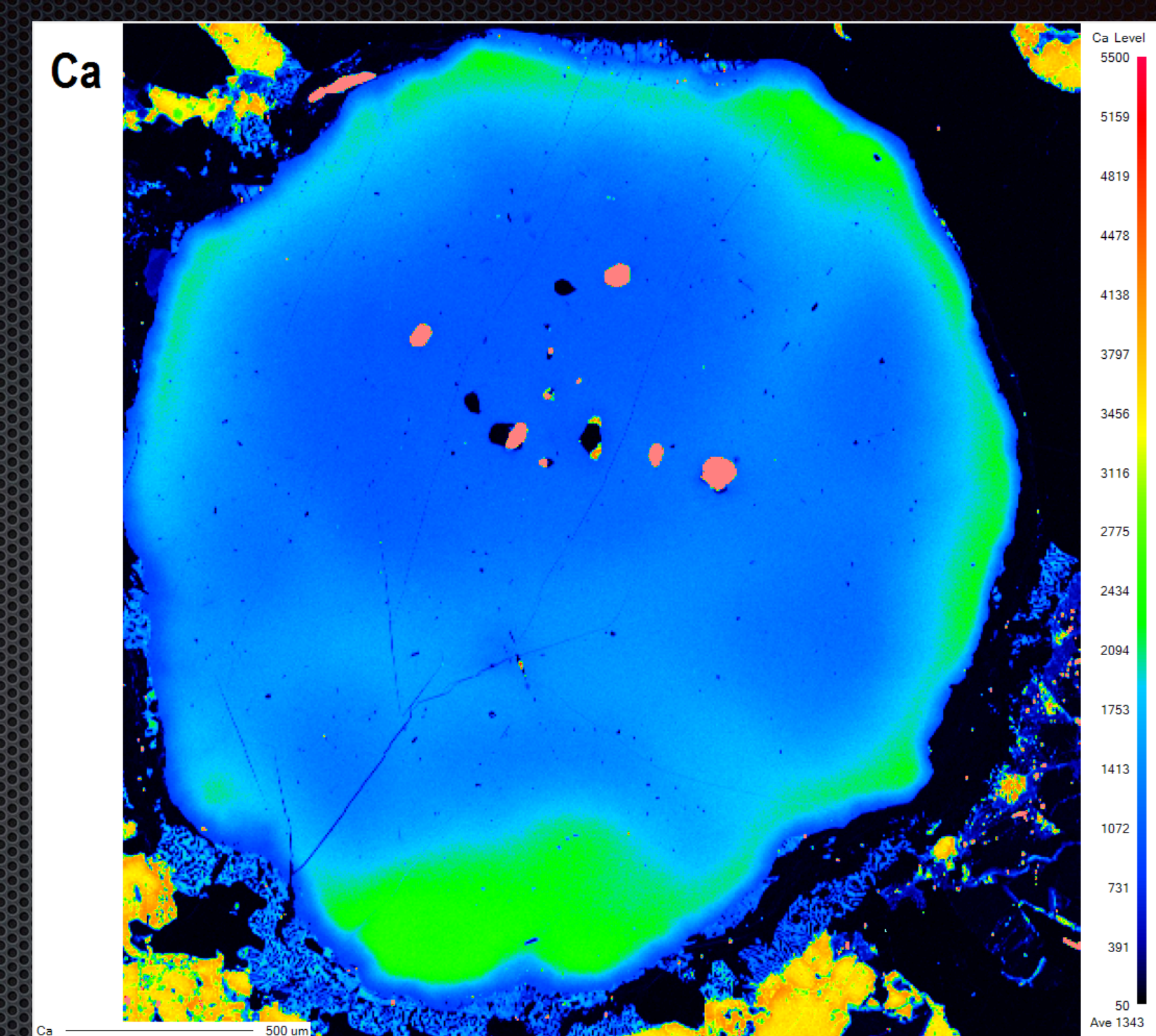
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Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma
- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

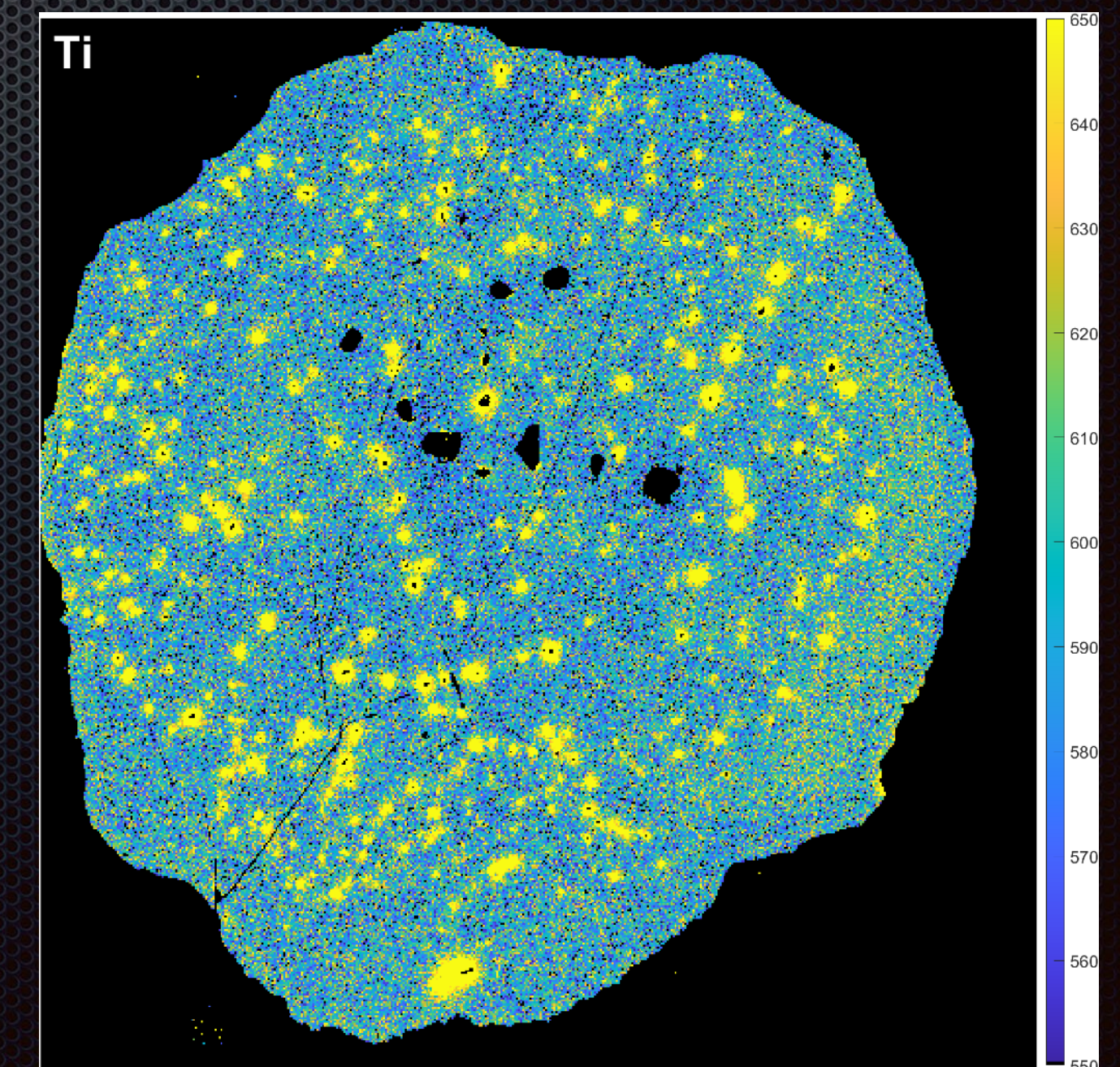
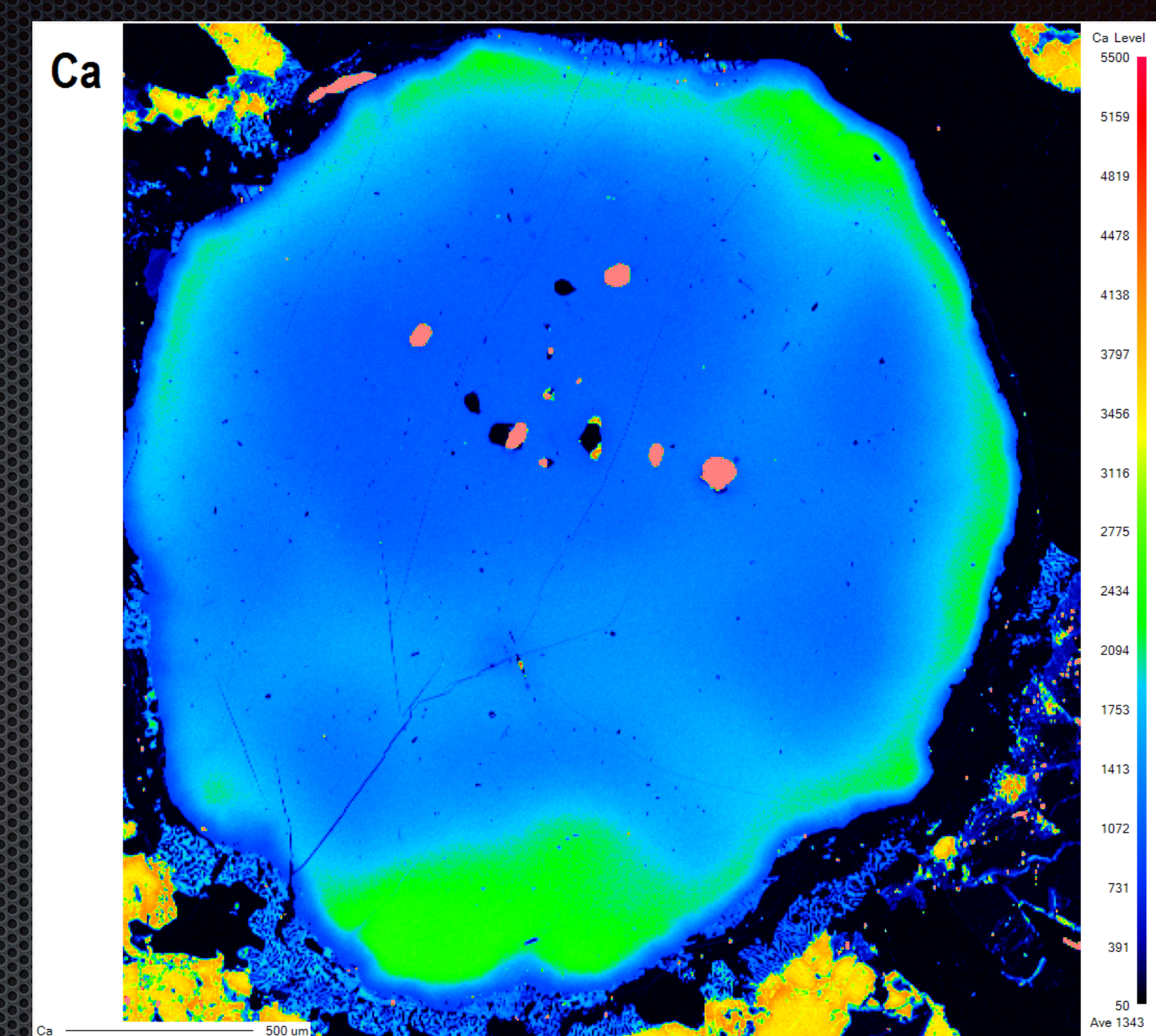
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Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

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- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%

Stage M2c (UHT)



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

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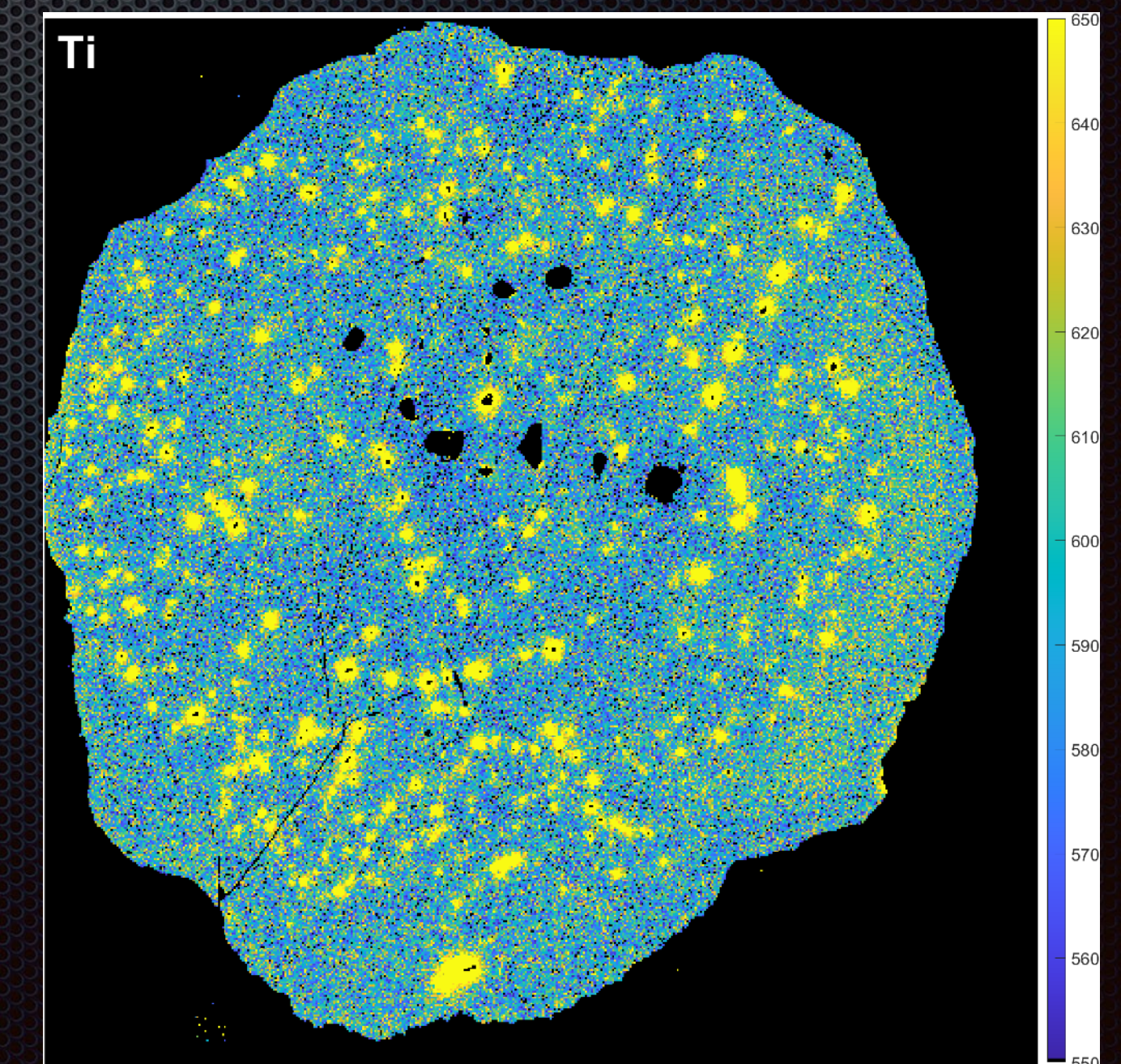
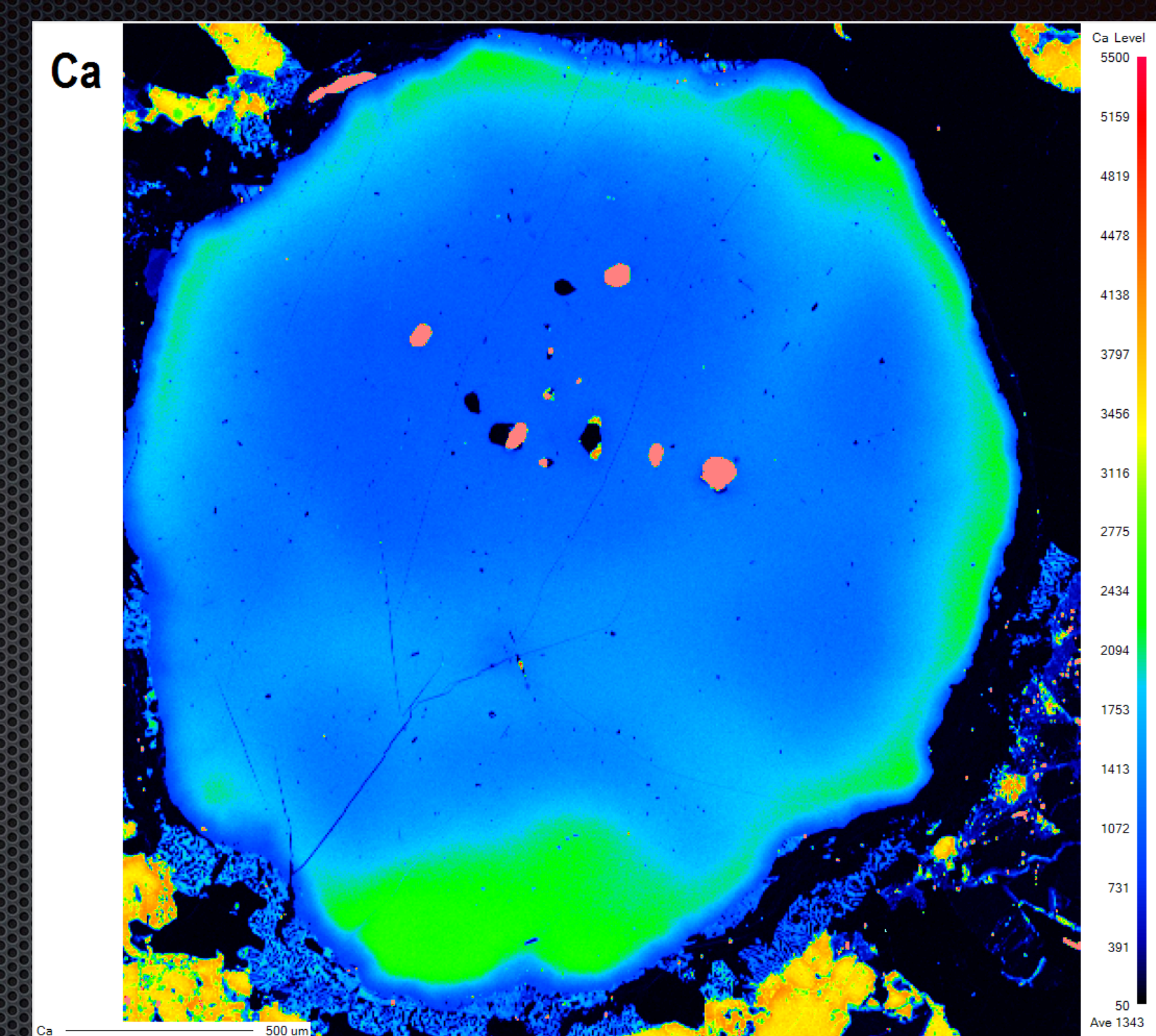
Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma
- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%

Stage M2c (UHT)

- 930 °C, 1.45 GPa



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

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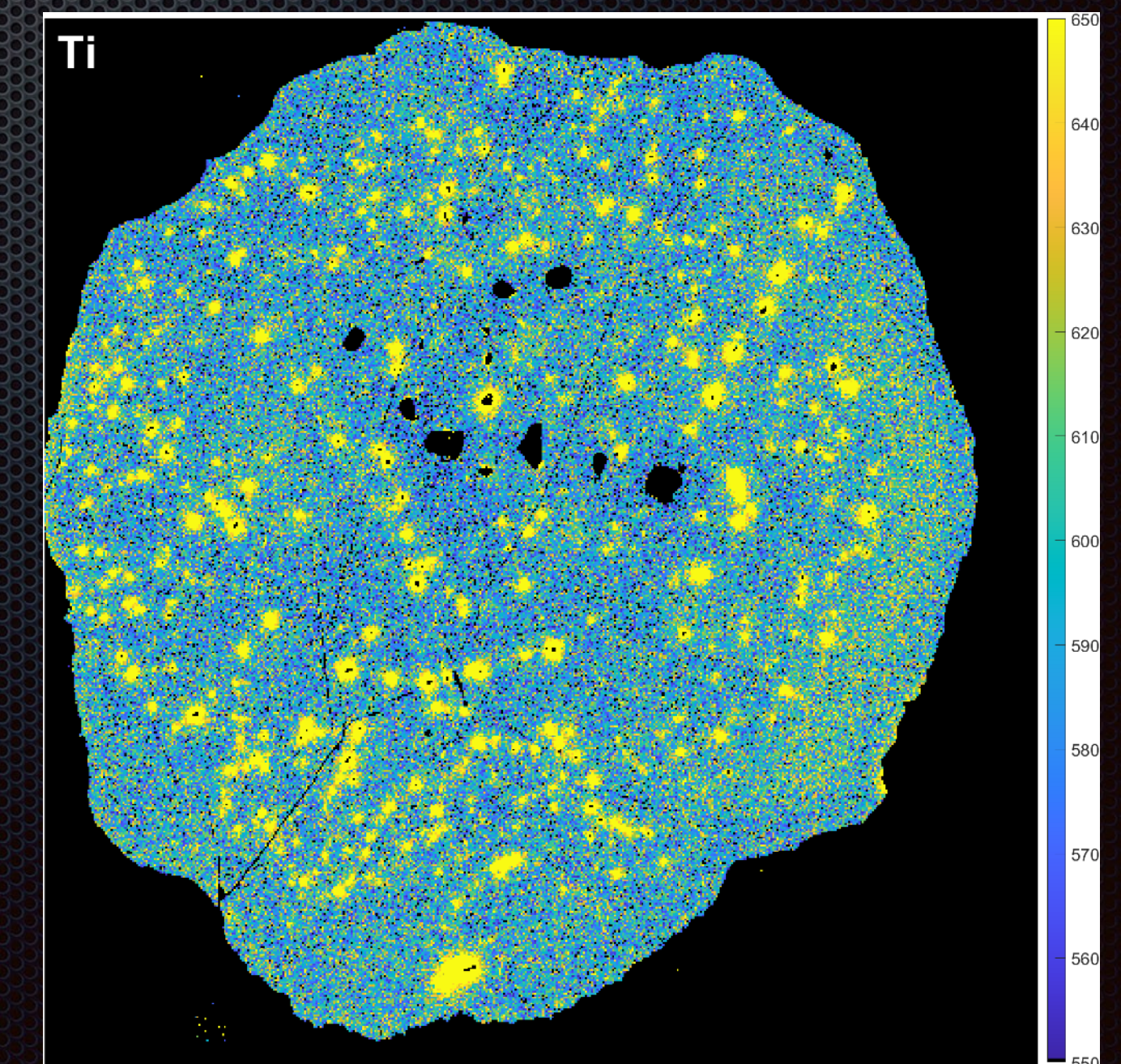
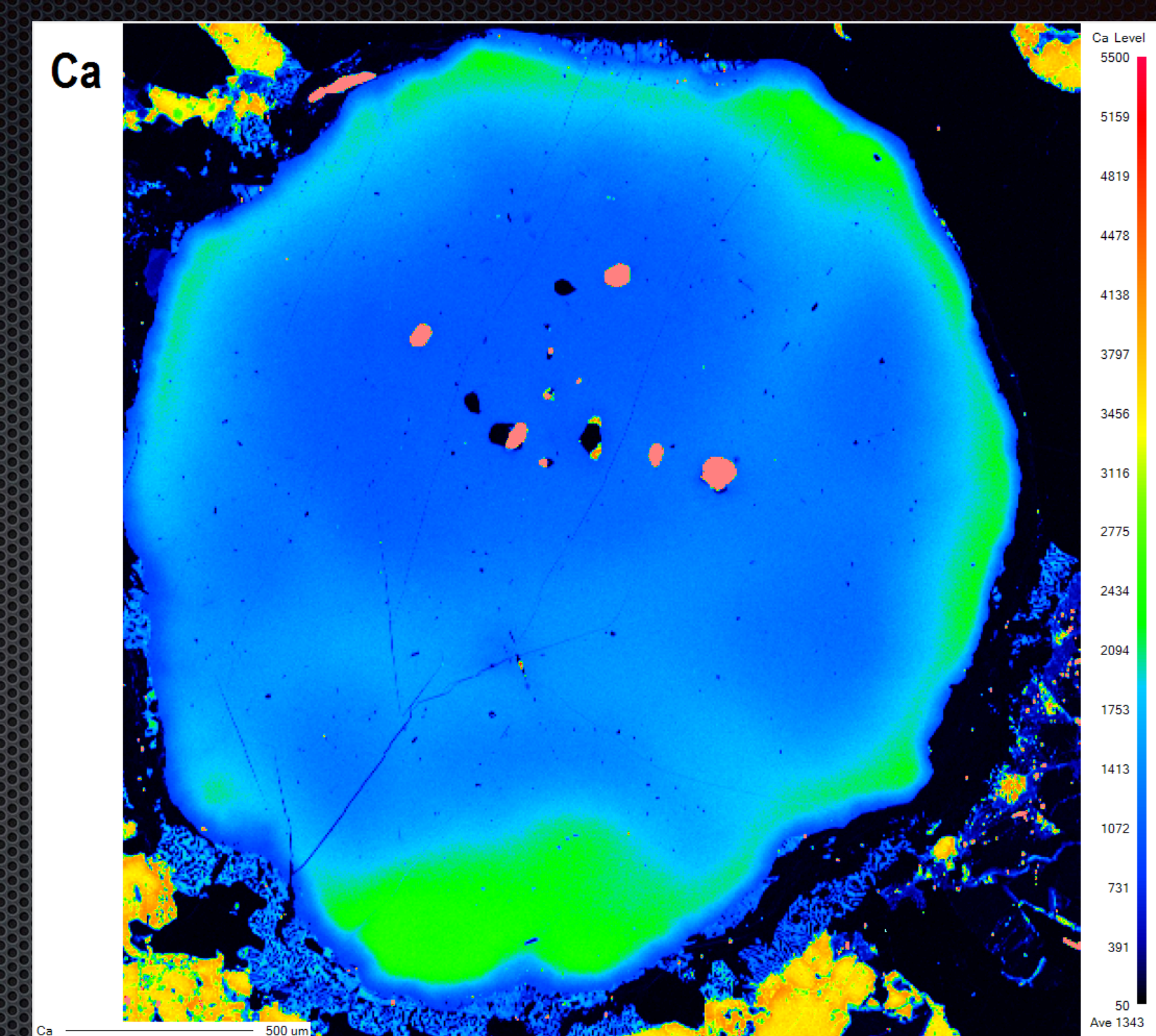
Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma
- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%

Stage M2c (UHT)

- 930 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 570 ± 7 Ma



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

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Stage M2a

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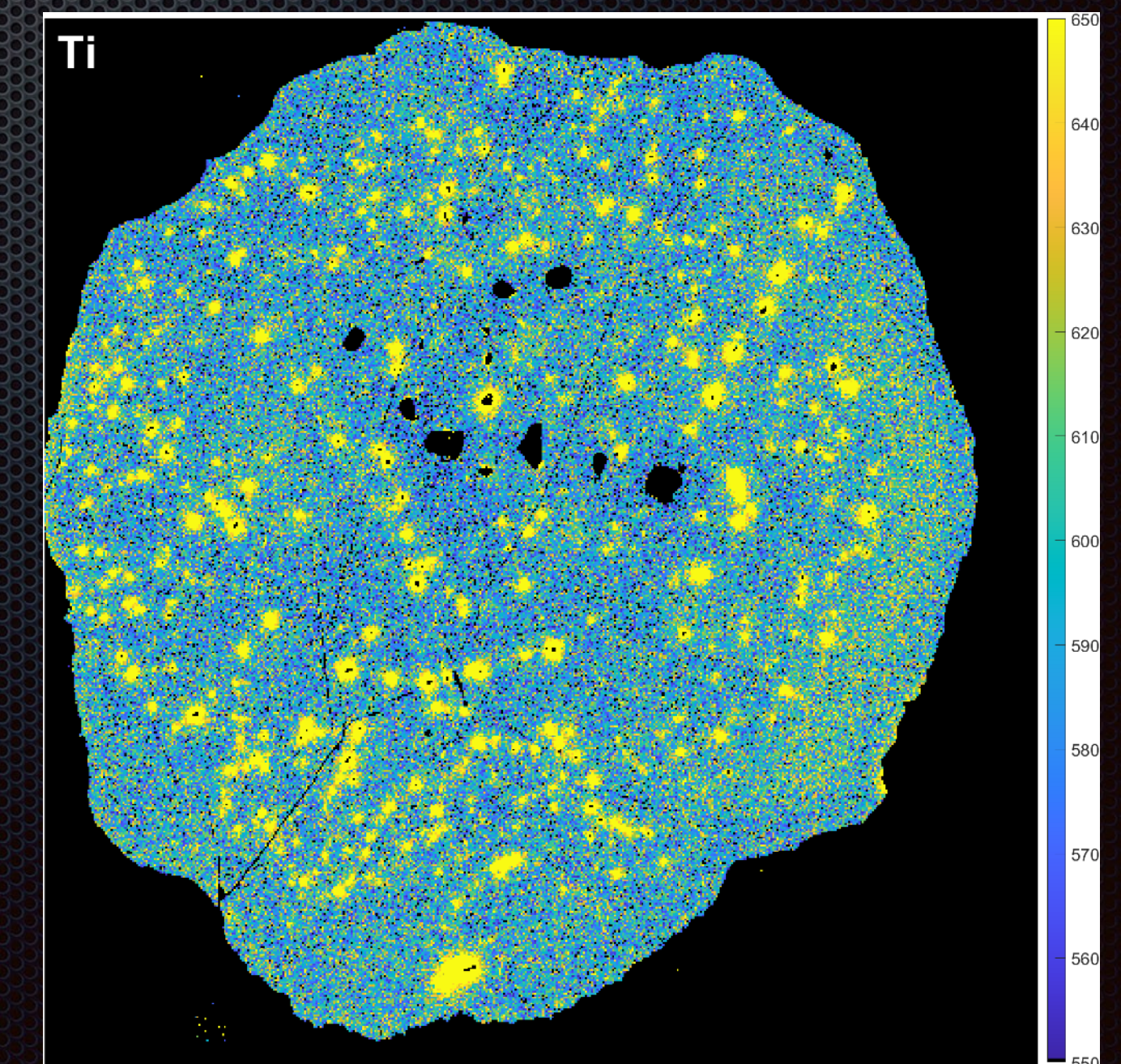
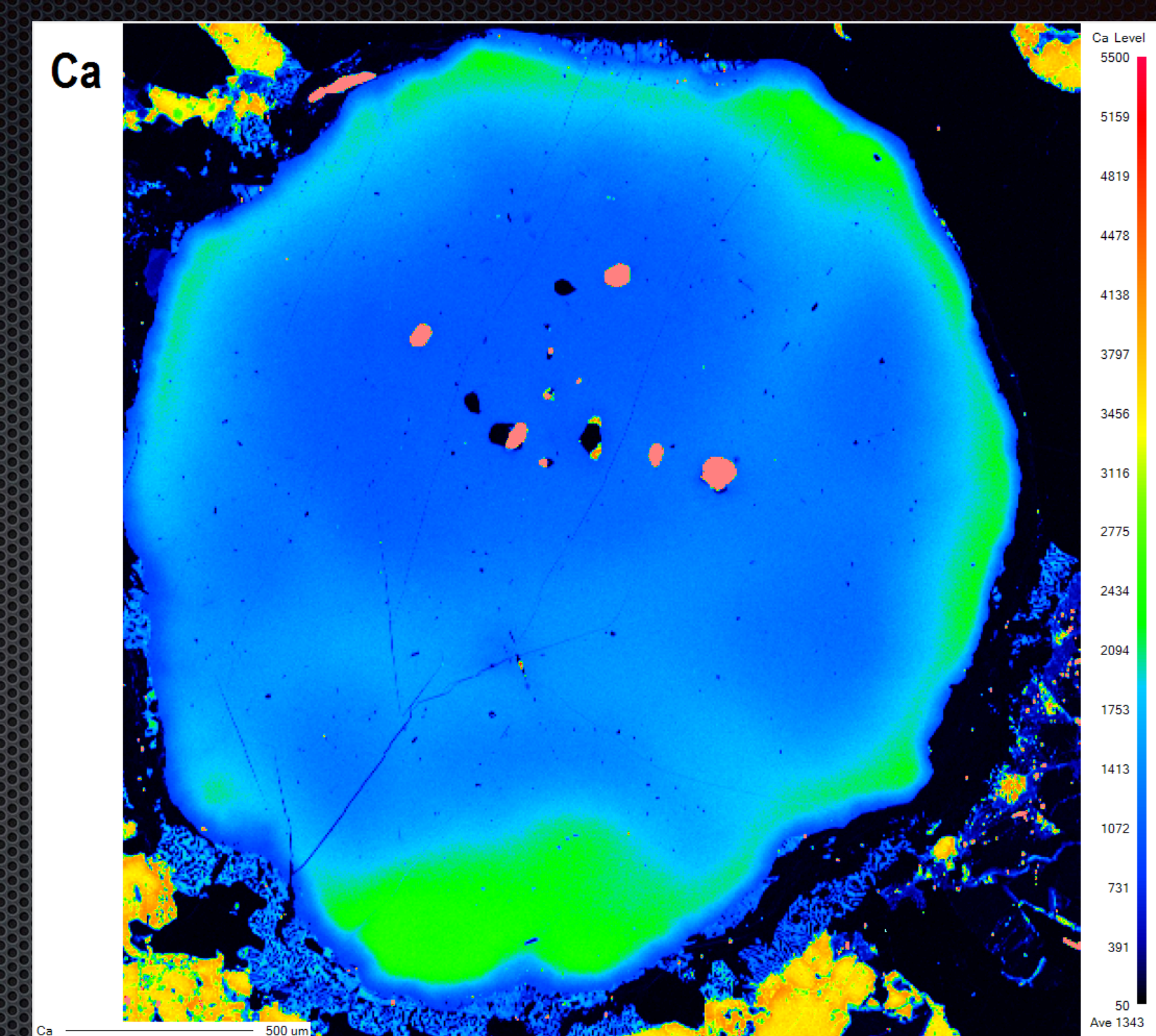
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Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma
- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%

Stage M2c (UHT)

- 930 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 570 ± 7 Ma
- duration of UHT stage appr. 1 million years



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

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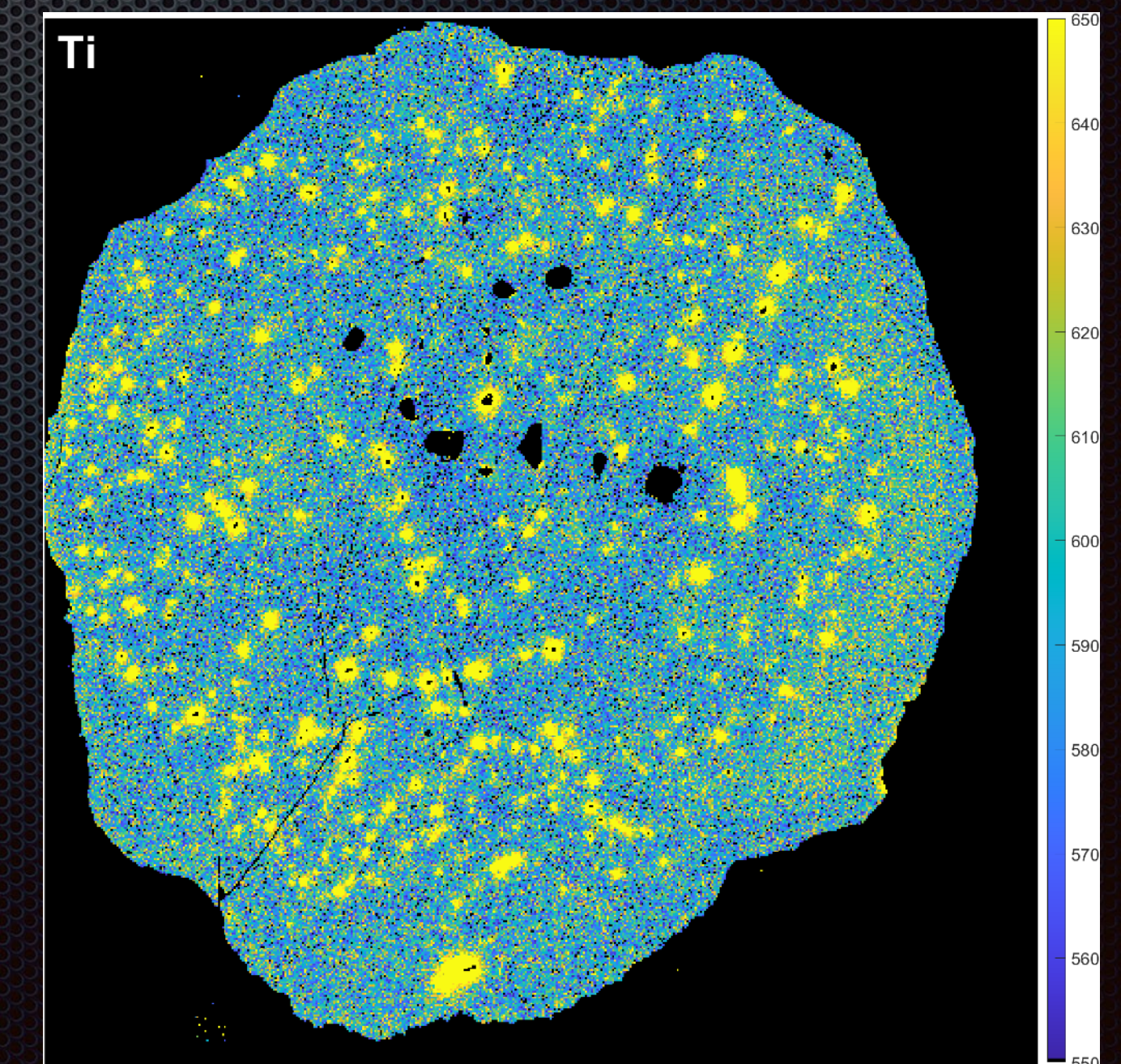
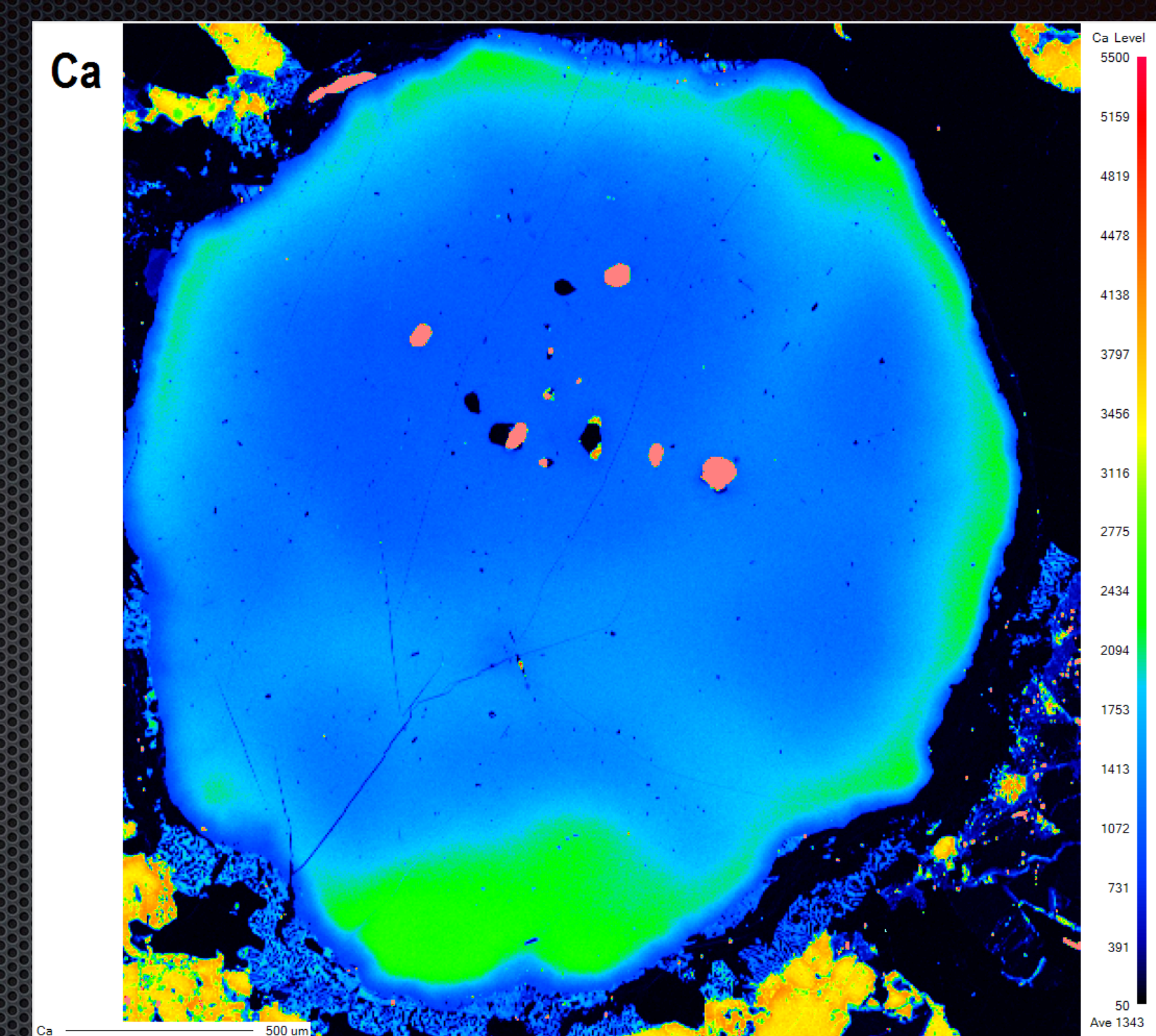
Garnet high-Ca rims

Stage M2b

- 845 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 593–570 Ma
- Garnet mode increased to 6.5 vol.%

Stage M2c (UHT)

- 930 °C, 1.45 GPa
- metamorphic age (U–Pb zircon) 570 ± 7 Ma
- duration of UHT stage appr. 1 million years
- Garnet mode constant at 6.5 vol.%



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

Garnet low-Ca cores

Stage M2a

- 790 °C, 0.95 GPa
- metamorphic age previously unknown (≥ 593 Ma)
- appr. 4.5 vol.% garnet in rock

Garnet high-Ca rims

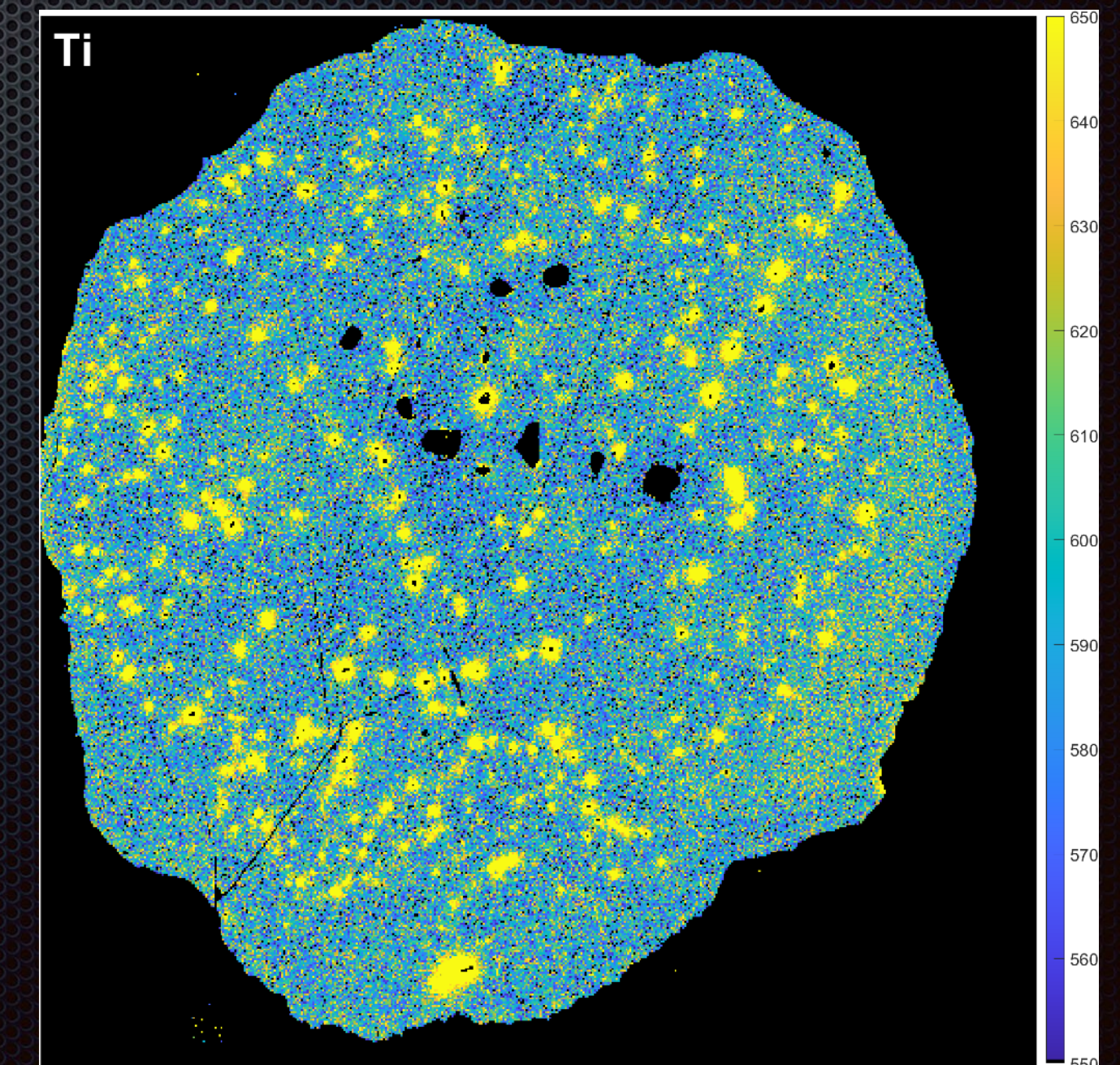
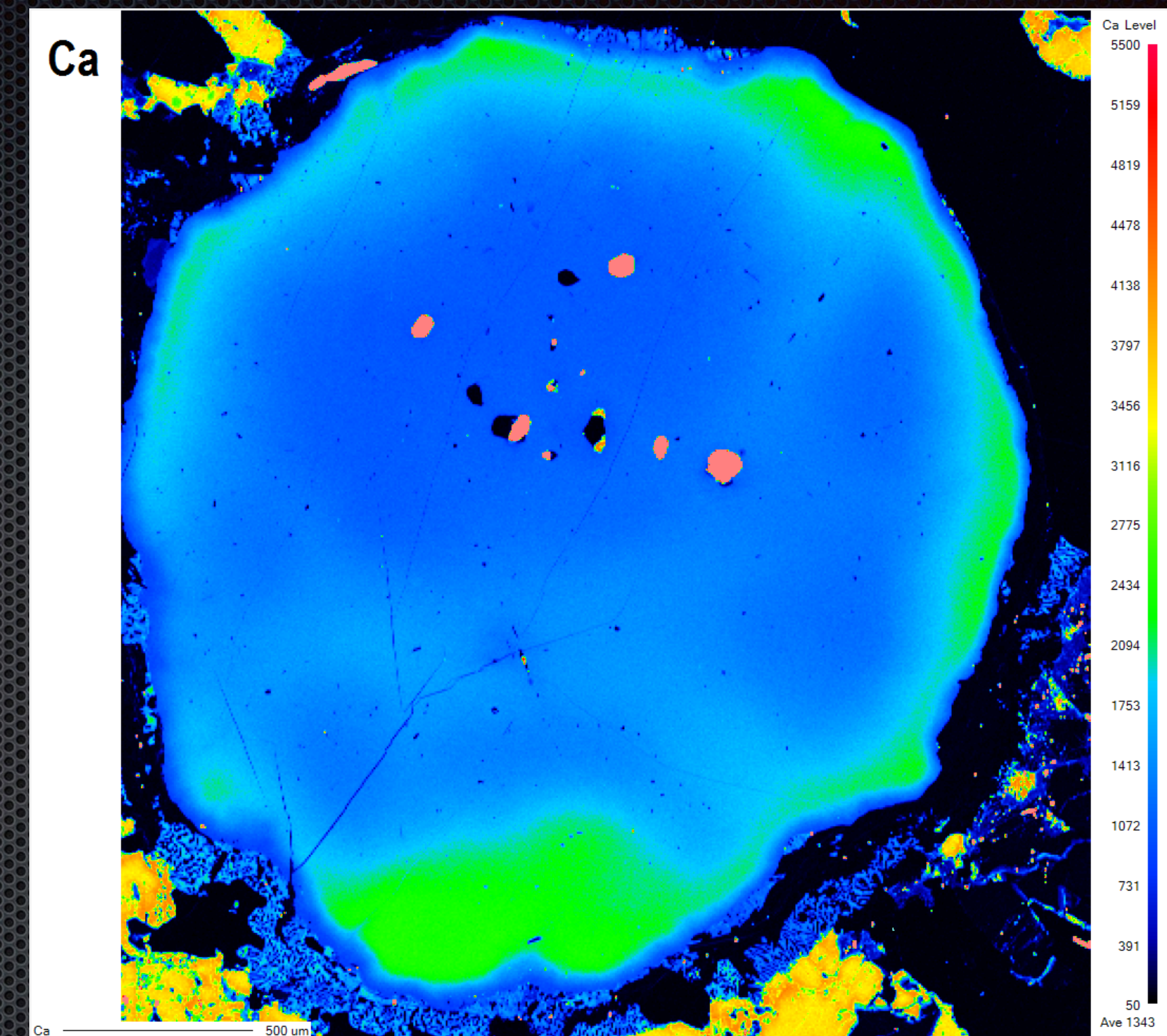
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*UHT metamorphism
930 °C at 570 Ma*



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

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Garnet high-Ca rims

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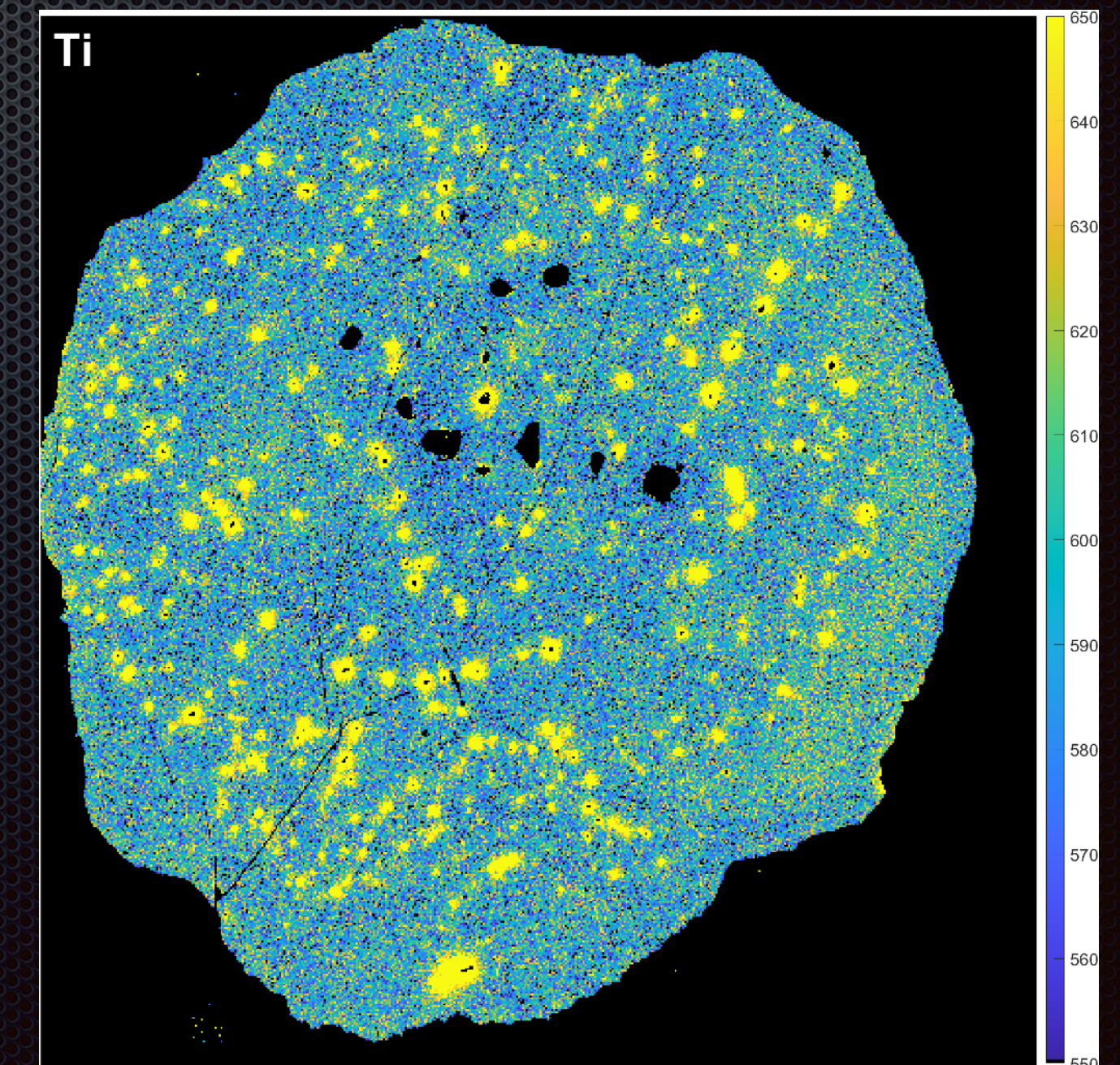
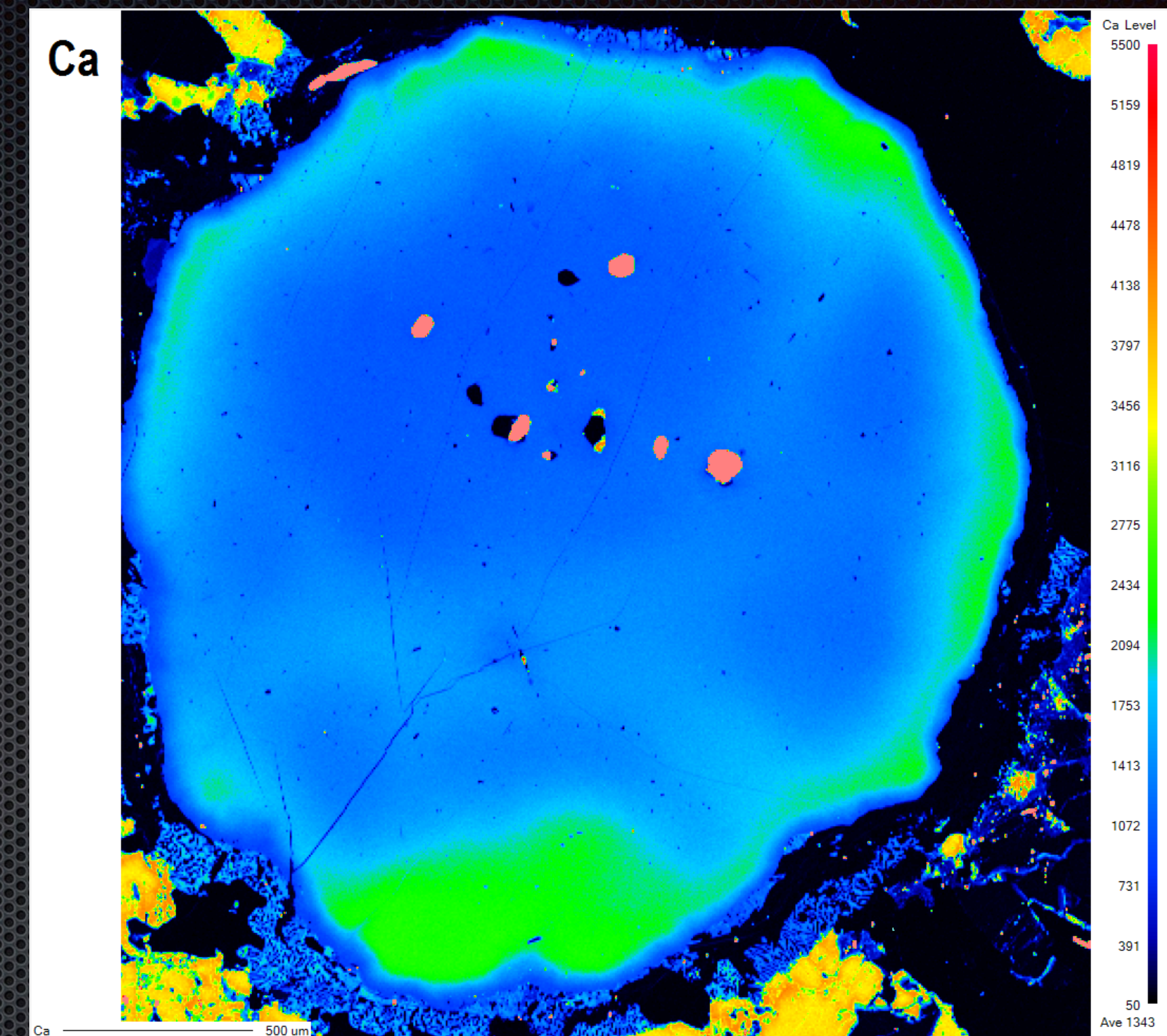
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*UHT metamorphism
930°C at 570 Ma*

*Metamorphism $\geq 800^\circ\text{C}$
for >40 million years
(593 to 550 Ma)*



Ultra-High Temperature granulite Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica

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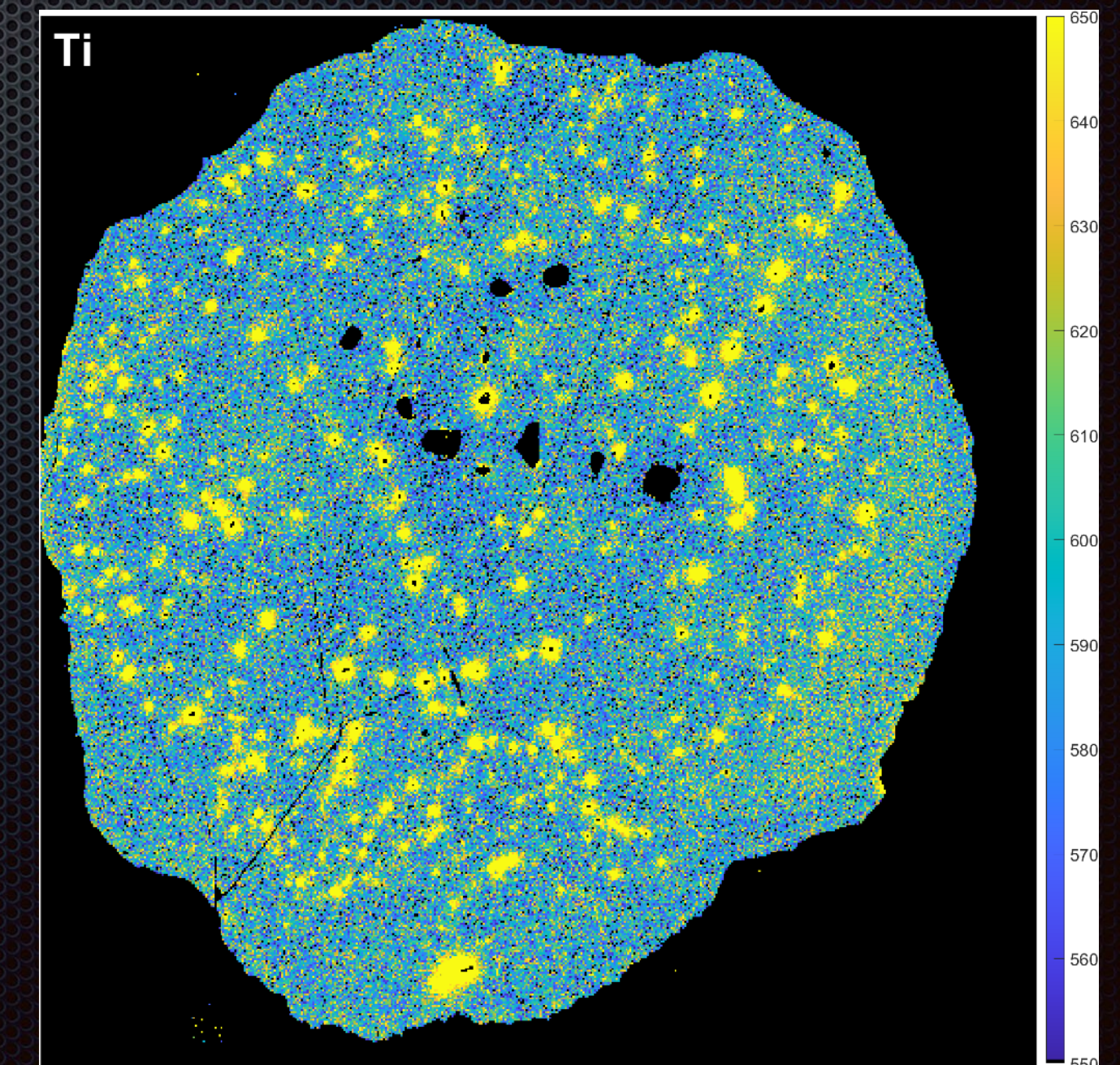
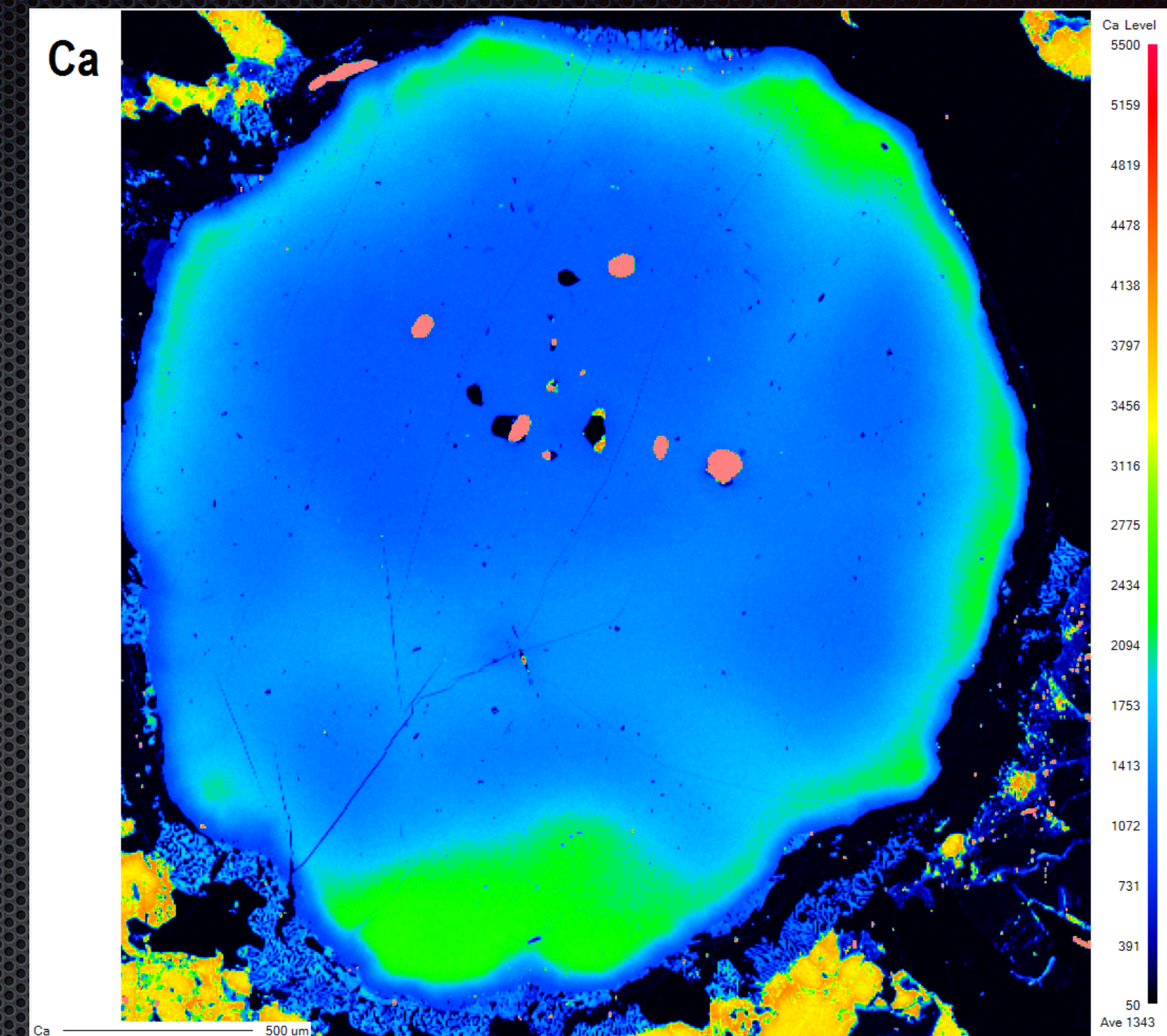
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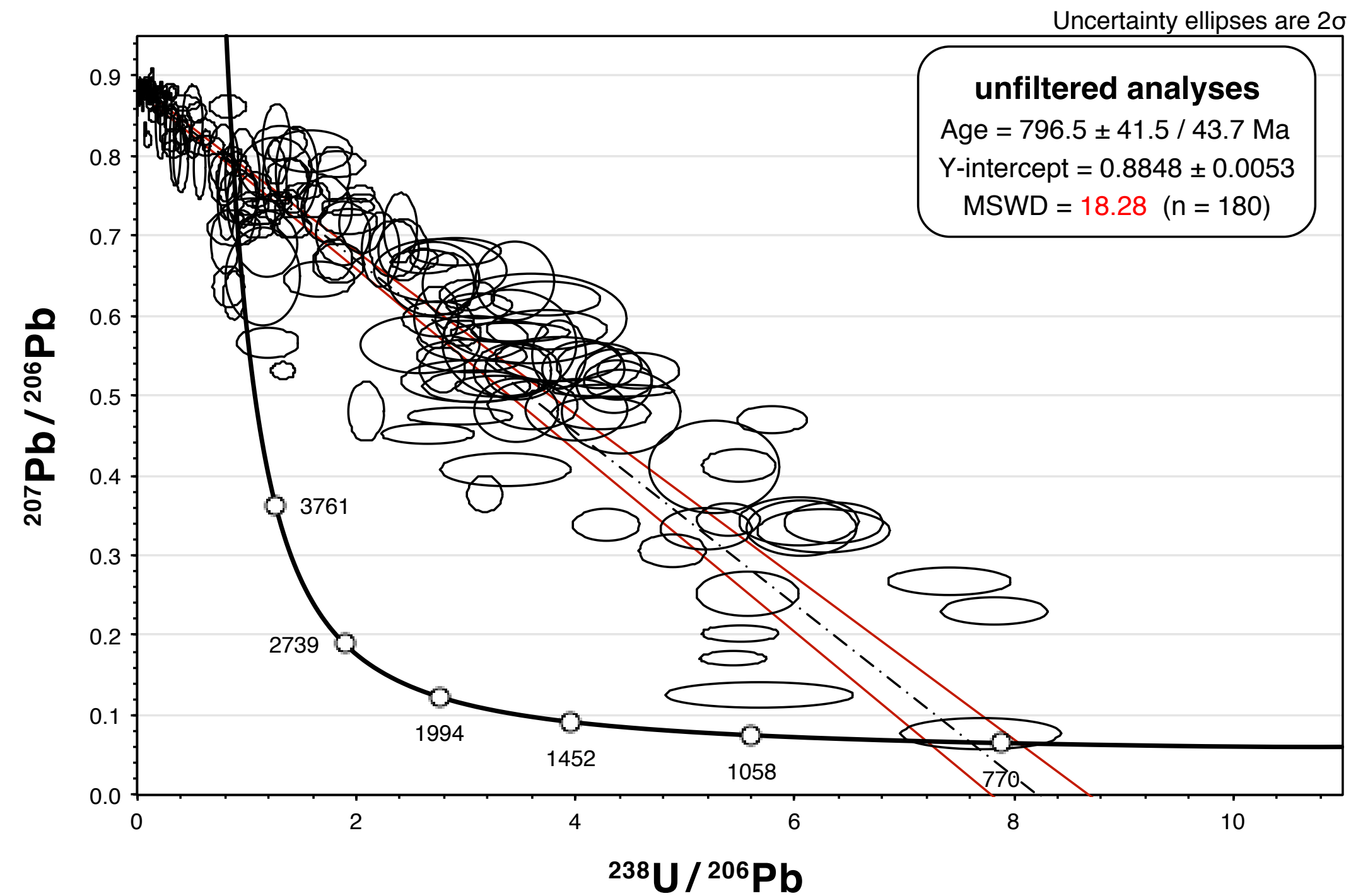
*UHT metamorphism
930 °C at 570 Ma*

*Metamorphism ≥ 800 °C
for >40 million years
(593 to 550 Ma)*

*Cooling ≤ 500 °C
at 450–410 Ma
(U–Pb rutile)*

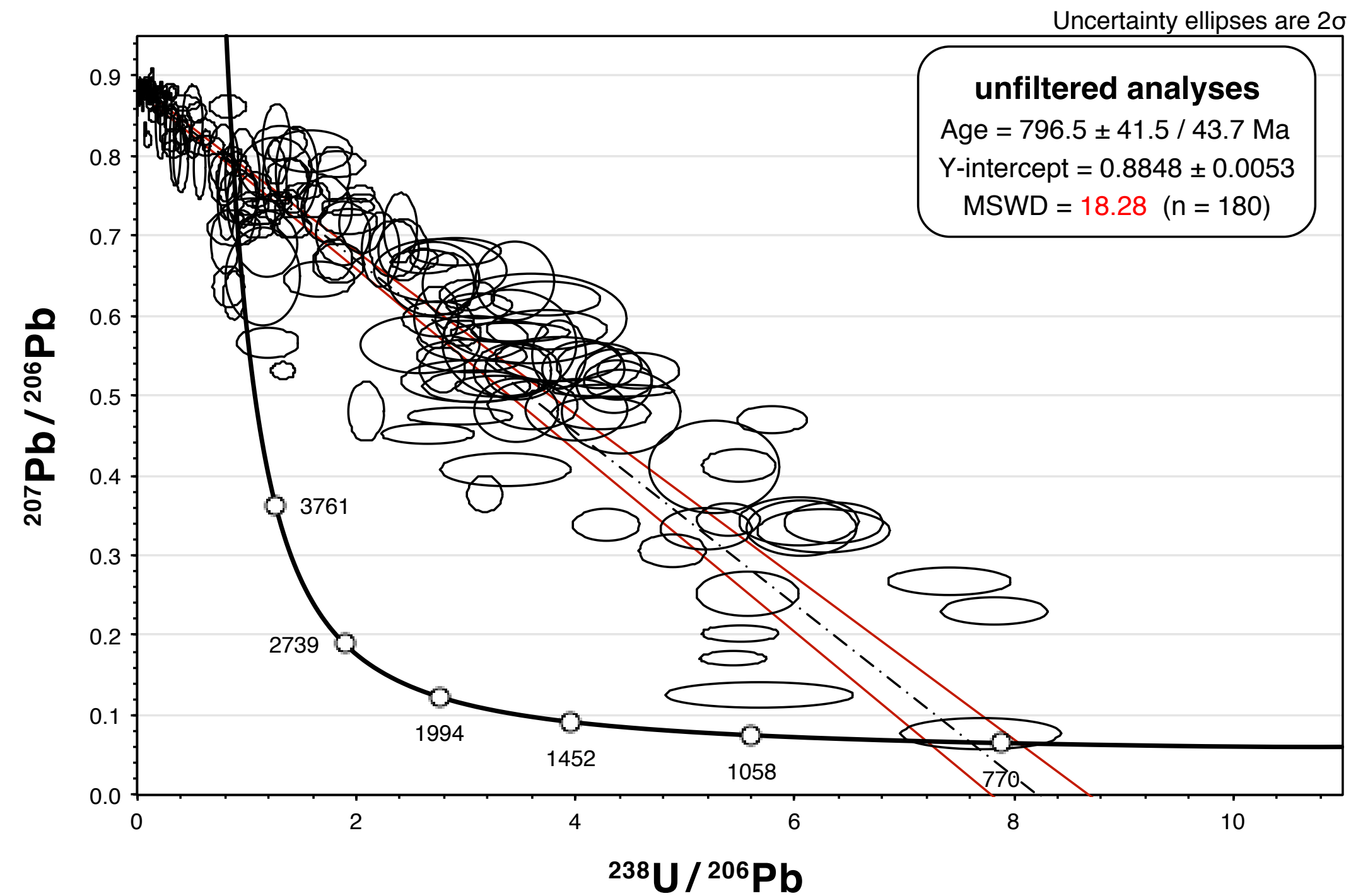


Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



Analyses of inclusion-rich
domains in garnet

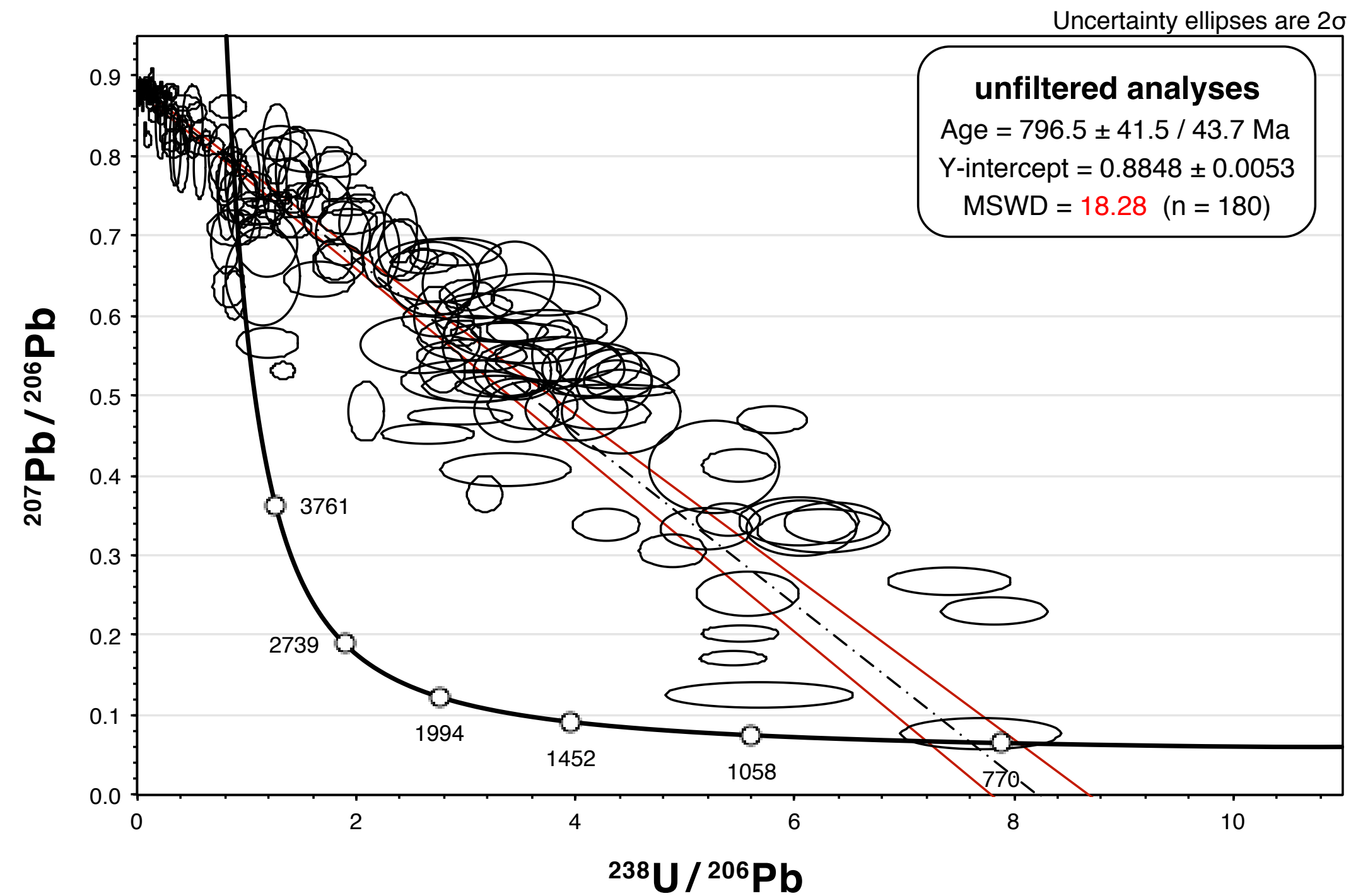
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



Analyses of inclusion-rich domains in garnet

- large scatter (large MSWD)

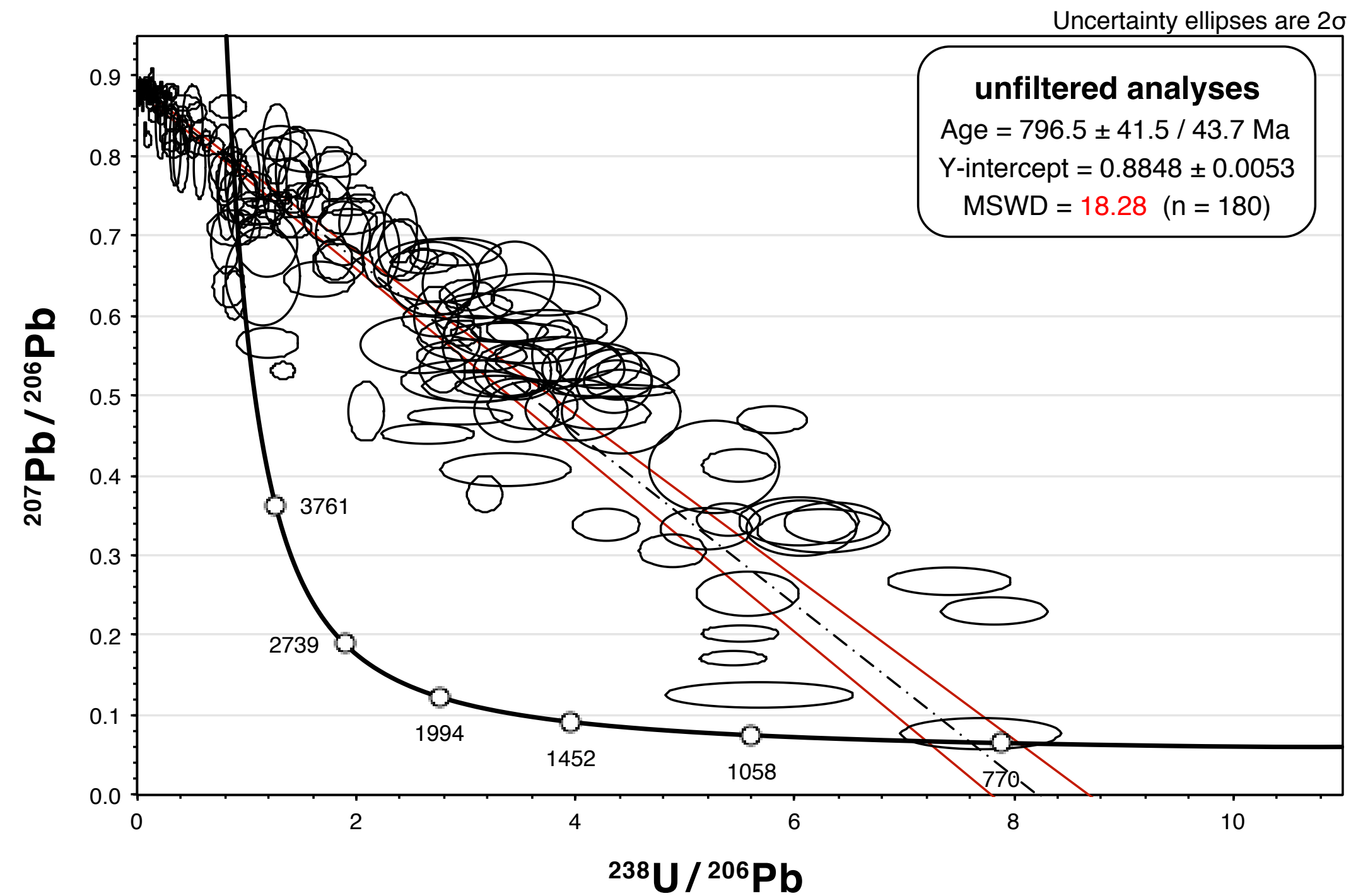
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



Analyses of inclusion-rich domains in garnet

- large scatter (large MSWD)
- many analyses with very low $^{238}\text{U} / ^{206}\text{Pb}$ (< 0.5)

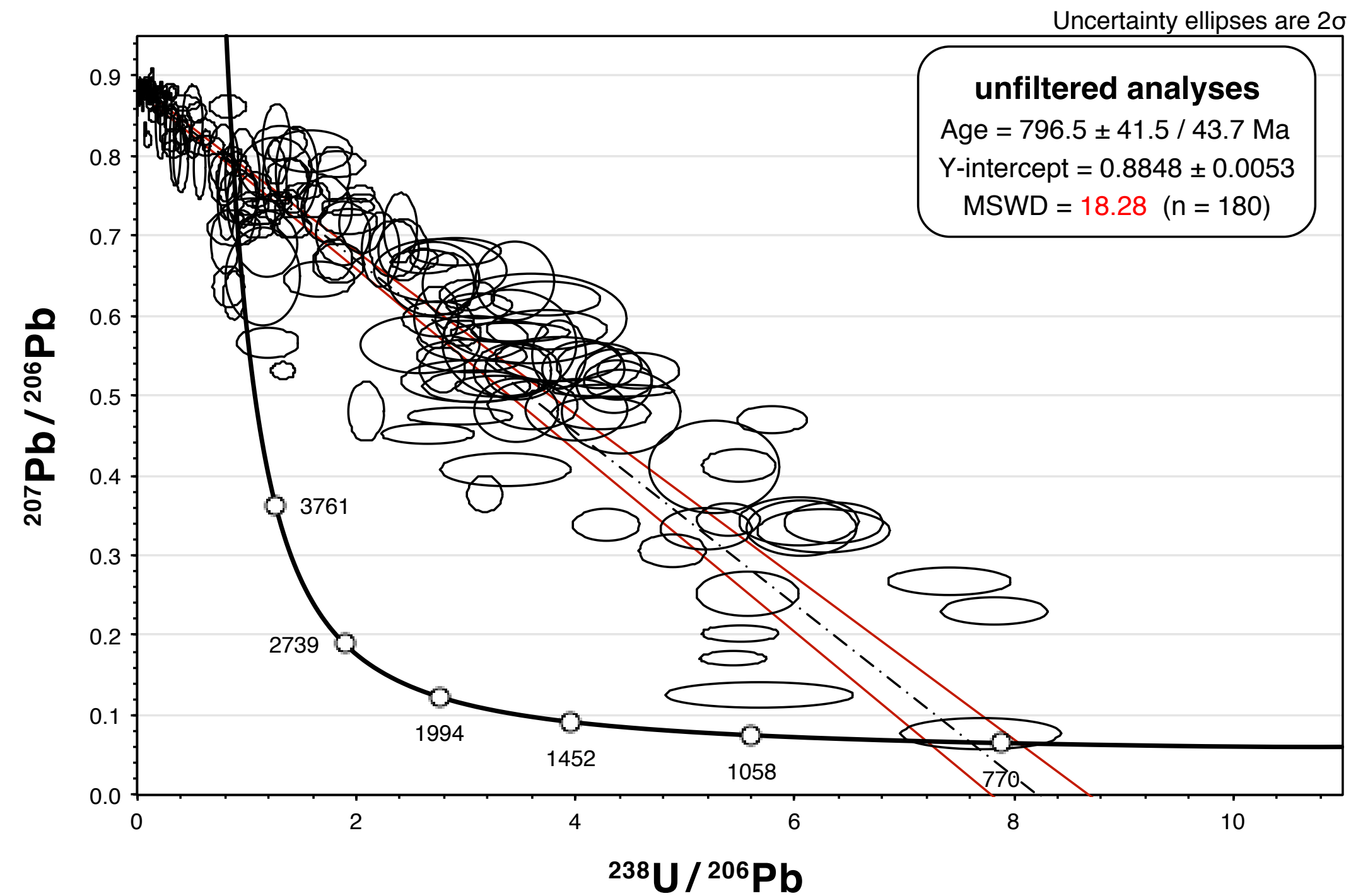
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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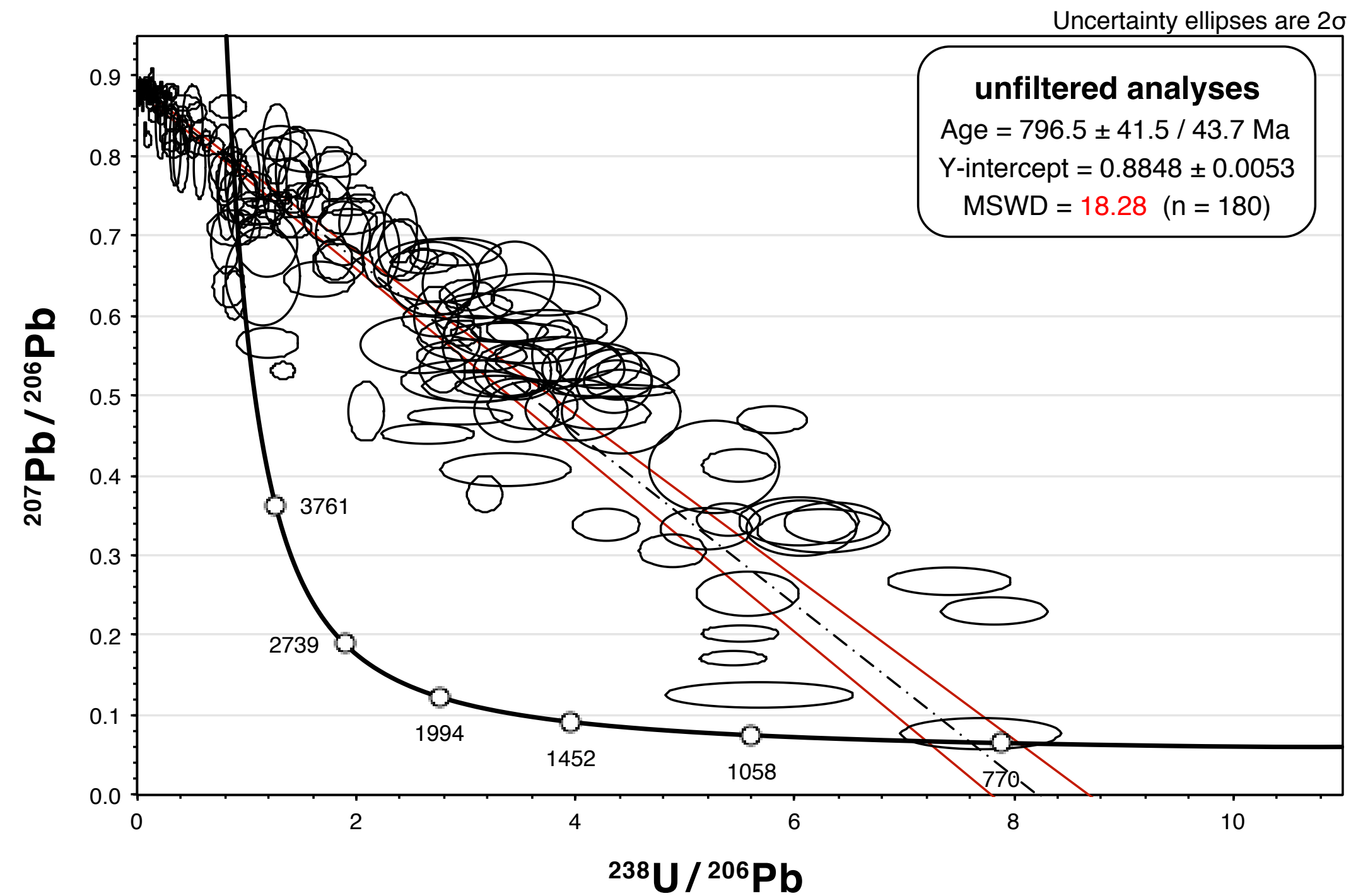
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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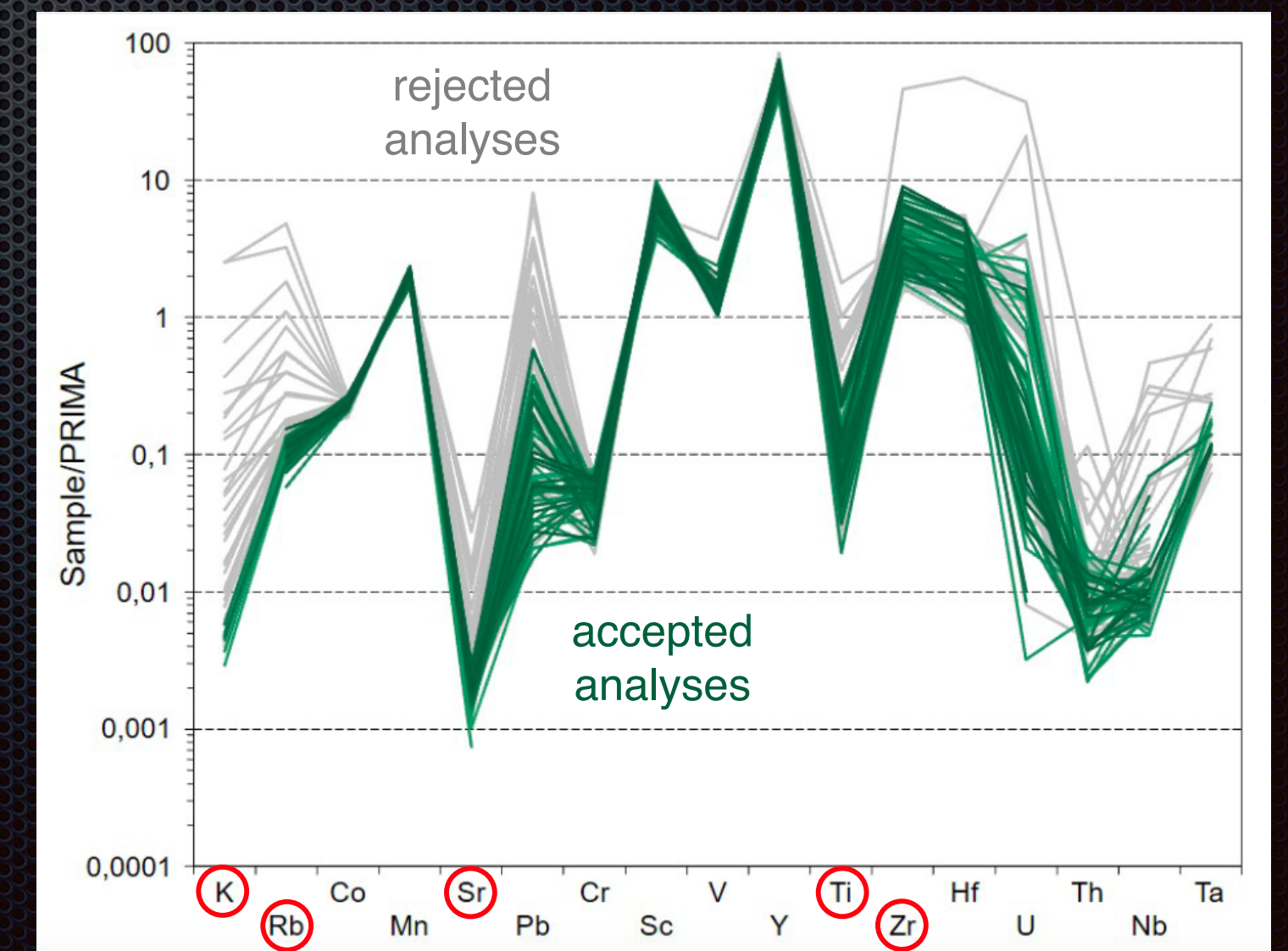
LASS-ICPMS data filtering scheme

rejected analyses

- $\text{Mn} > 2,500 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Ti} > 400 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Zr} > 200 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Ce} > 0.85 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Rb} > 0.12 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{K} > 2.4 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Sr} > 0.06 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $(\text{Ce}/\text{Pr})_{\text{N}} > 1$

No filtering for U or Pb

n = 540



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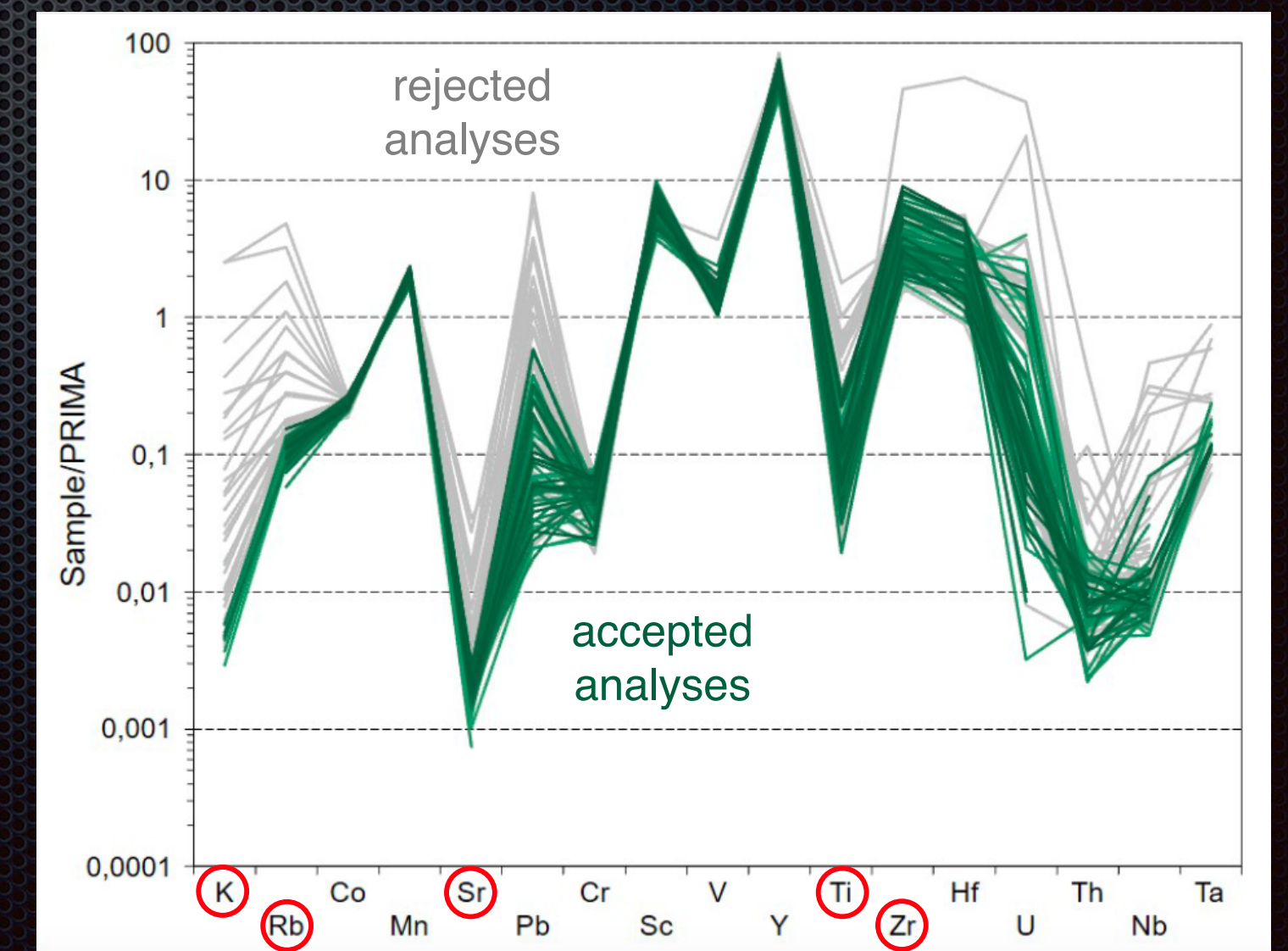
No filtering for U or Pb

$n = 540$

Garnet low-Ca cores

- $\text{Ca} < 8,000 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* < 0.05$

$n = 169$



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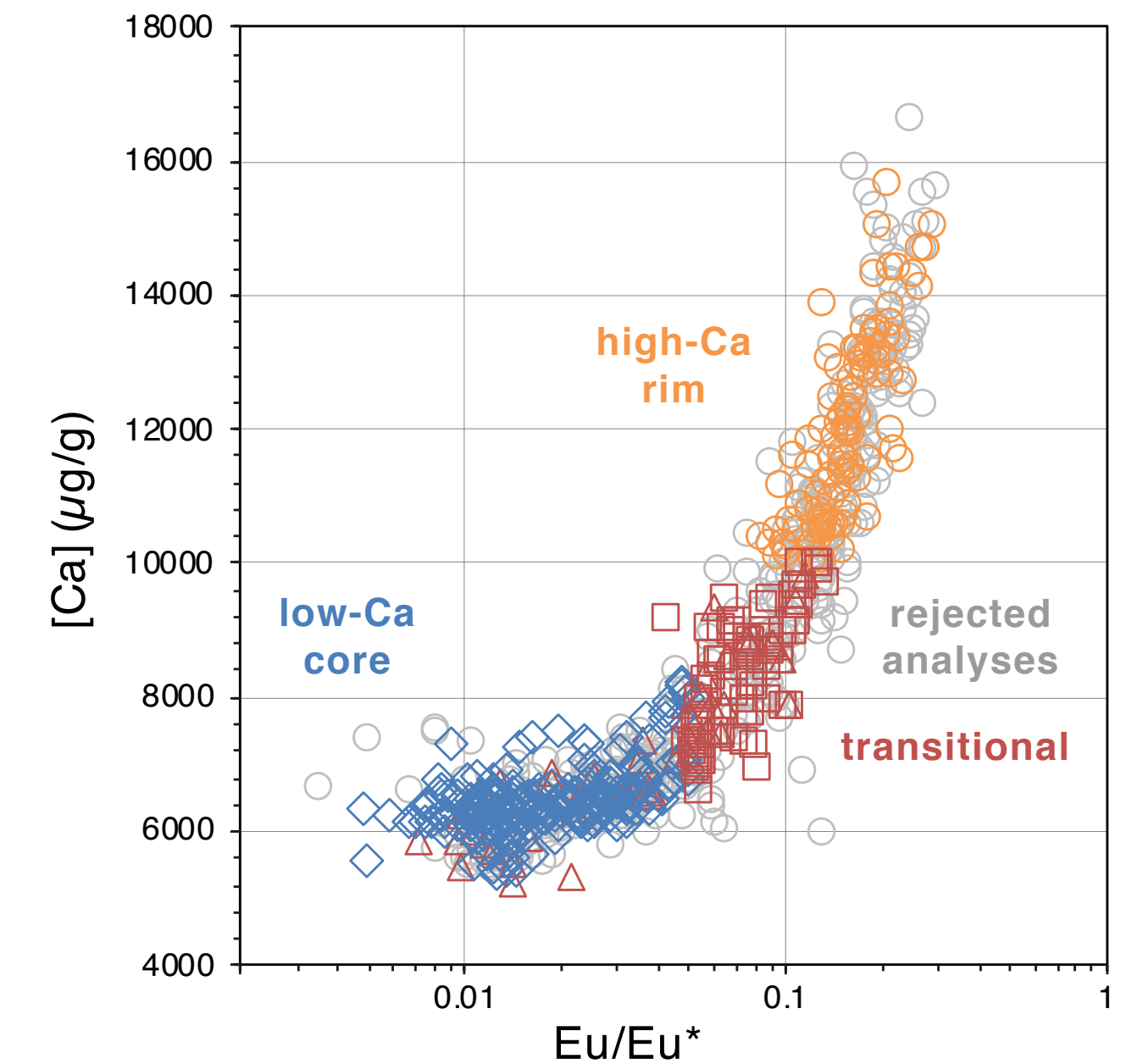
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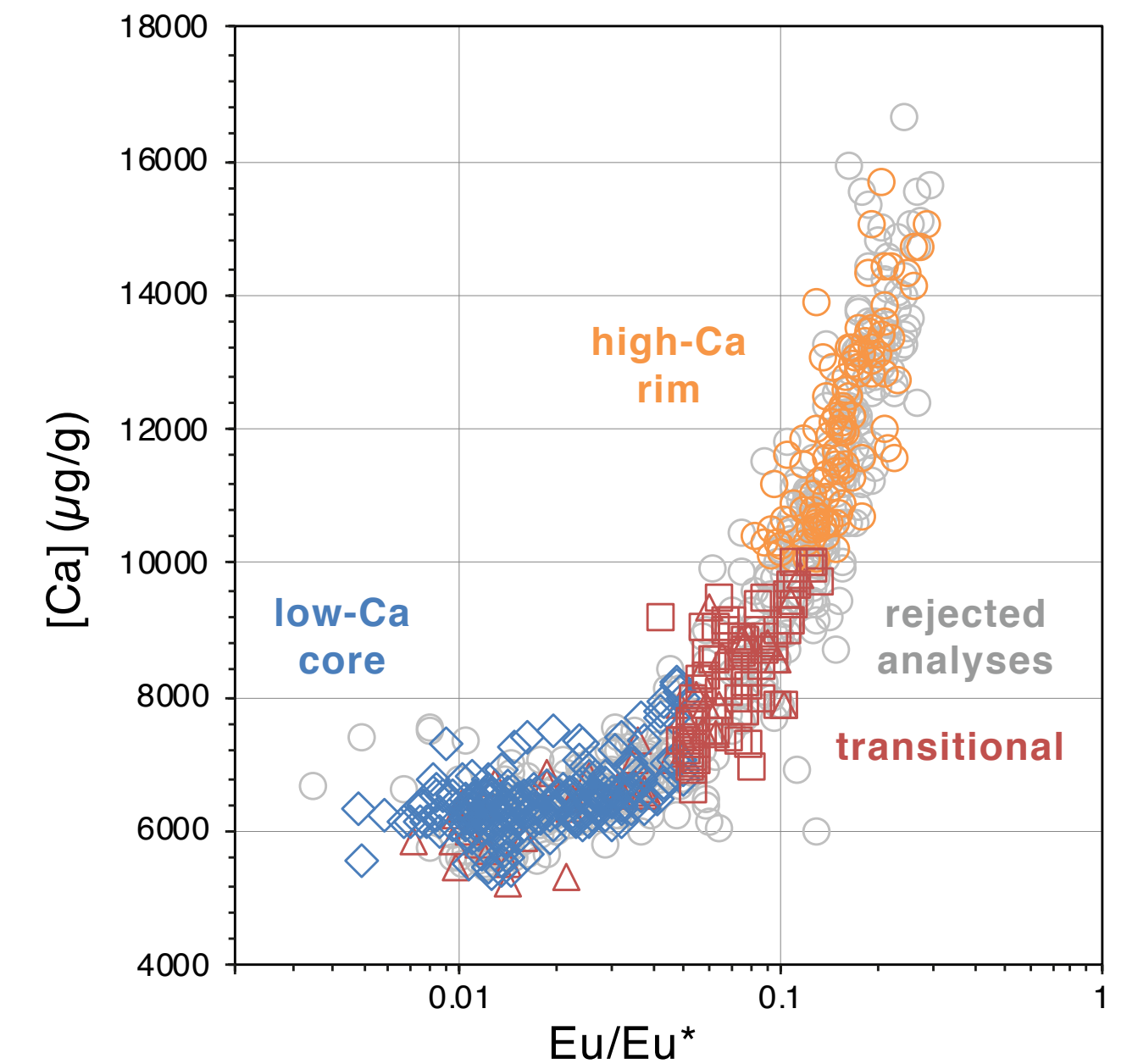
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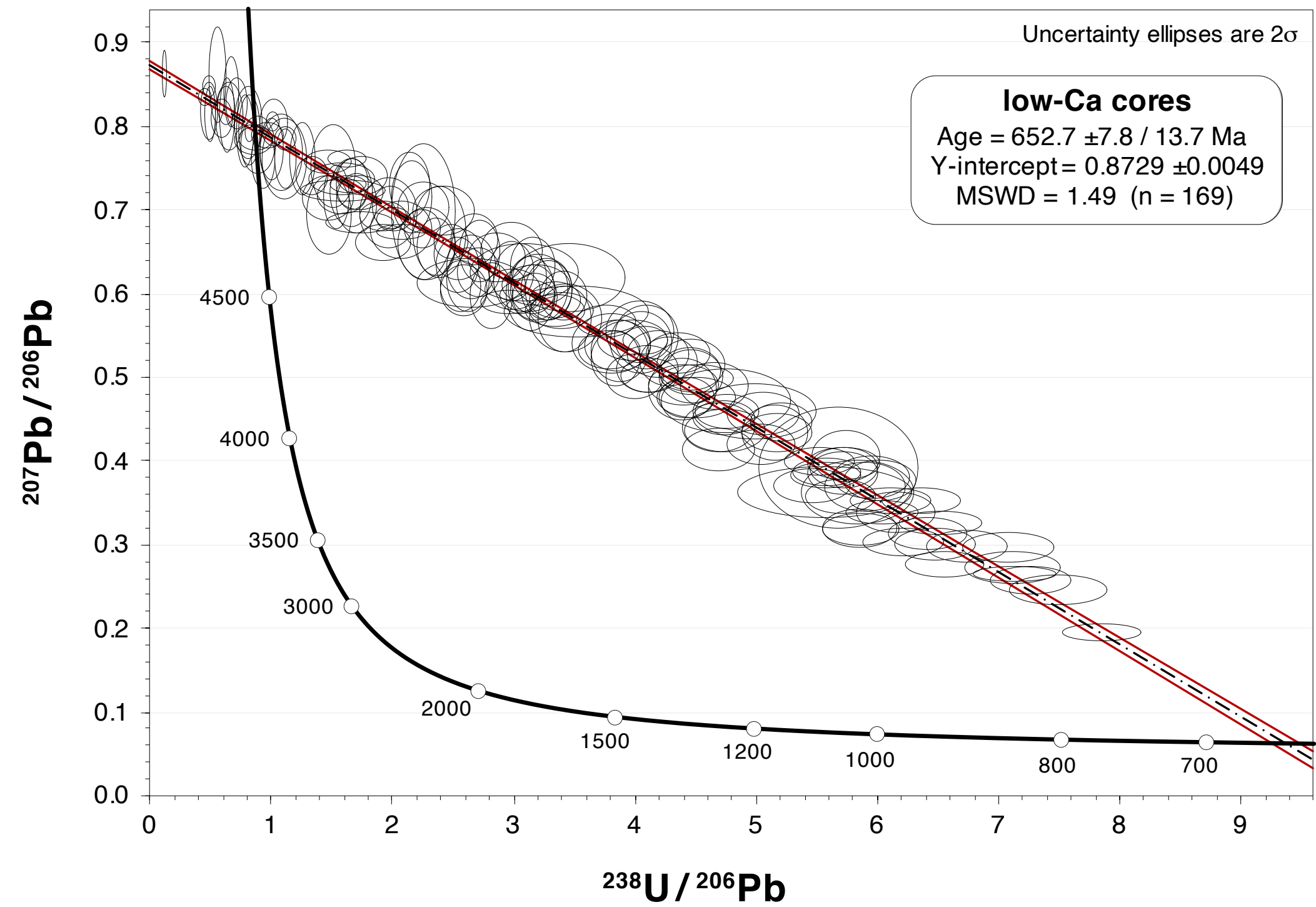
Garnet high-Ca rims

- $\text{Ca} > 10,000 \mu\text{g/g}$
- $\text{Mg} > 40,000 \mu\text{g/g}$

$n = 88$

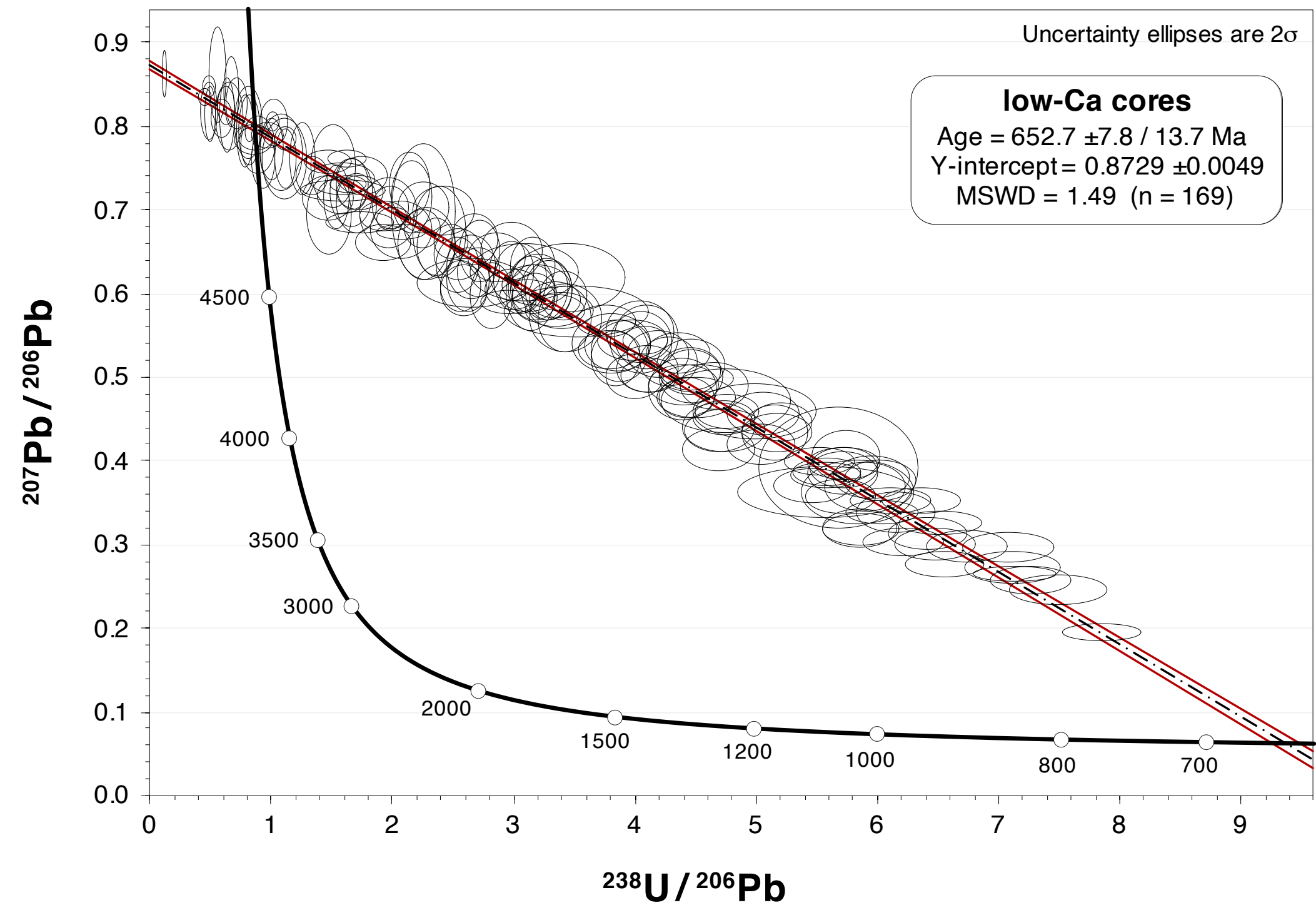


Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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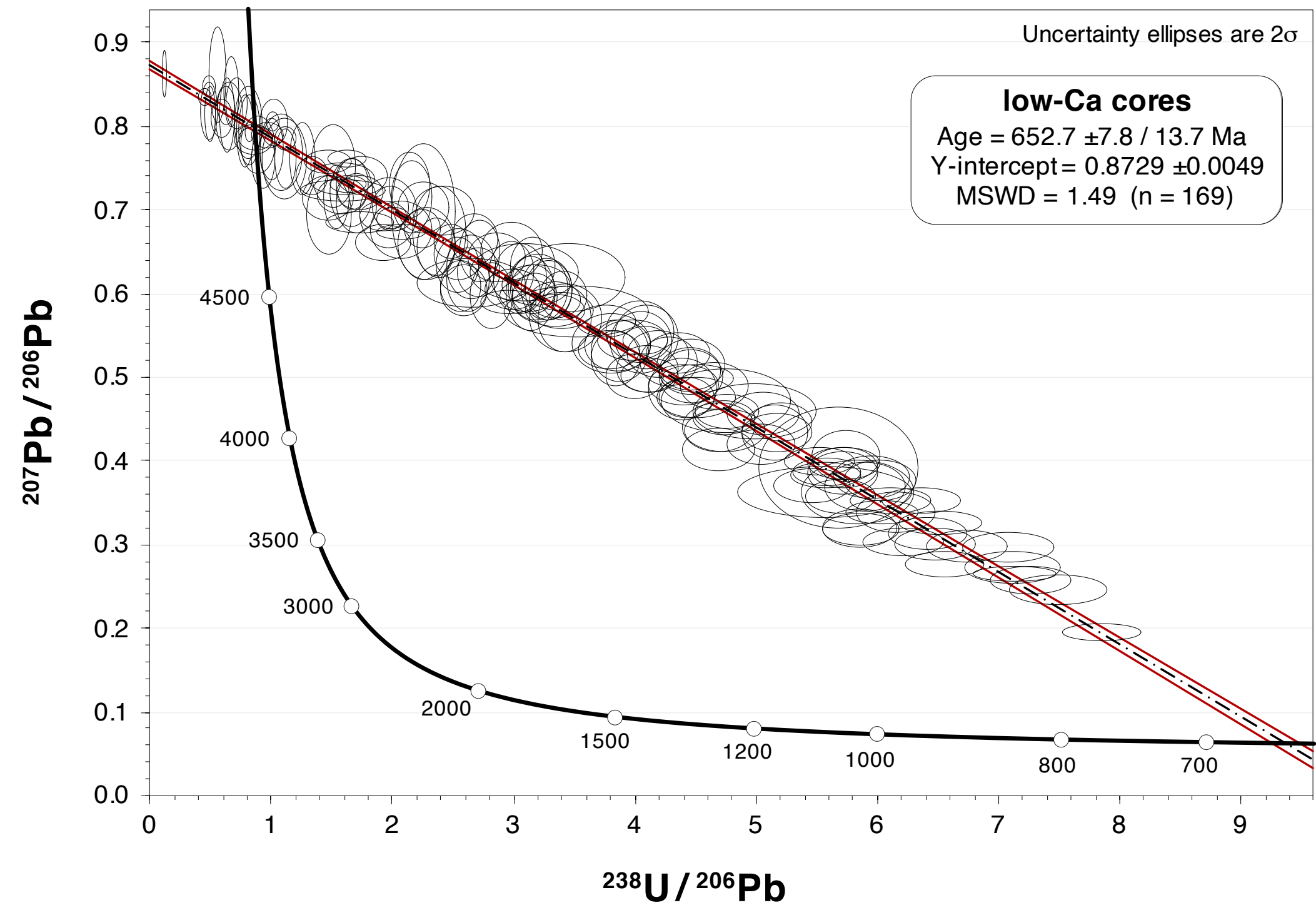
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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- garnet U-Pb age: 653 ± 8 Ma

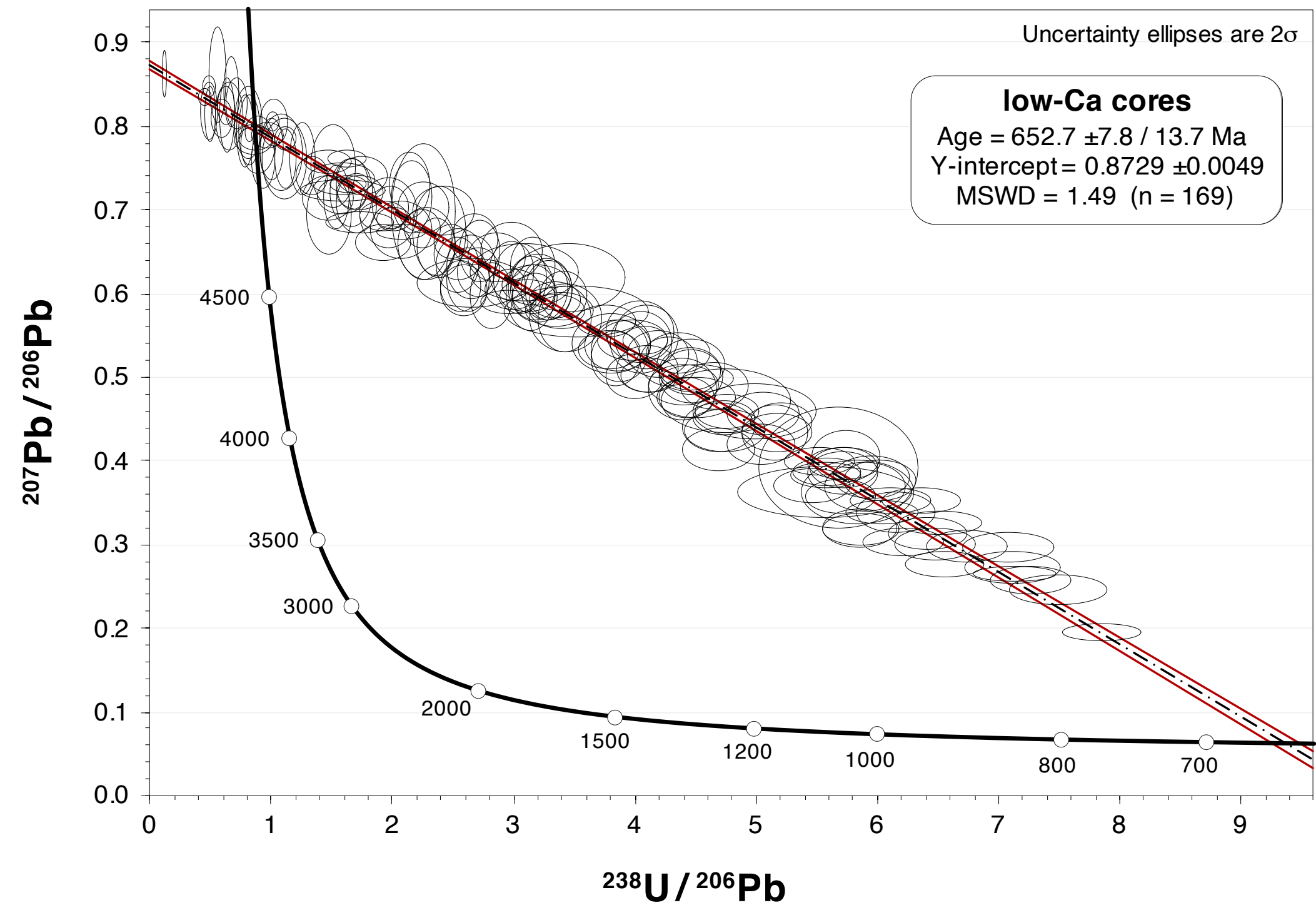
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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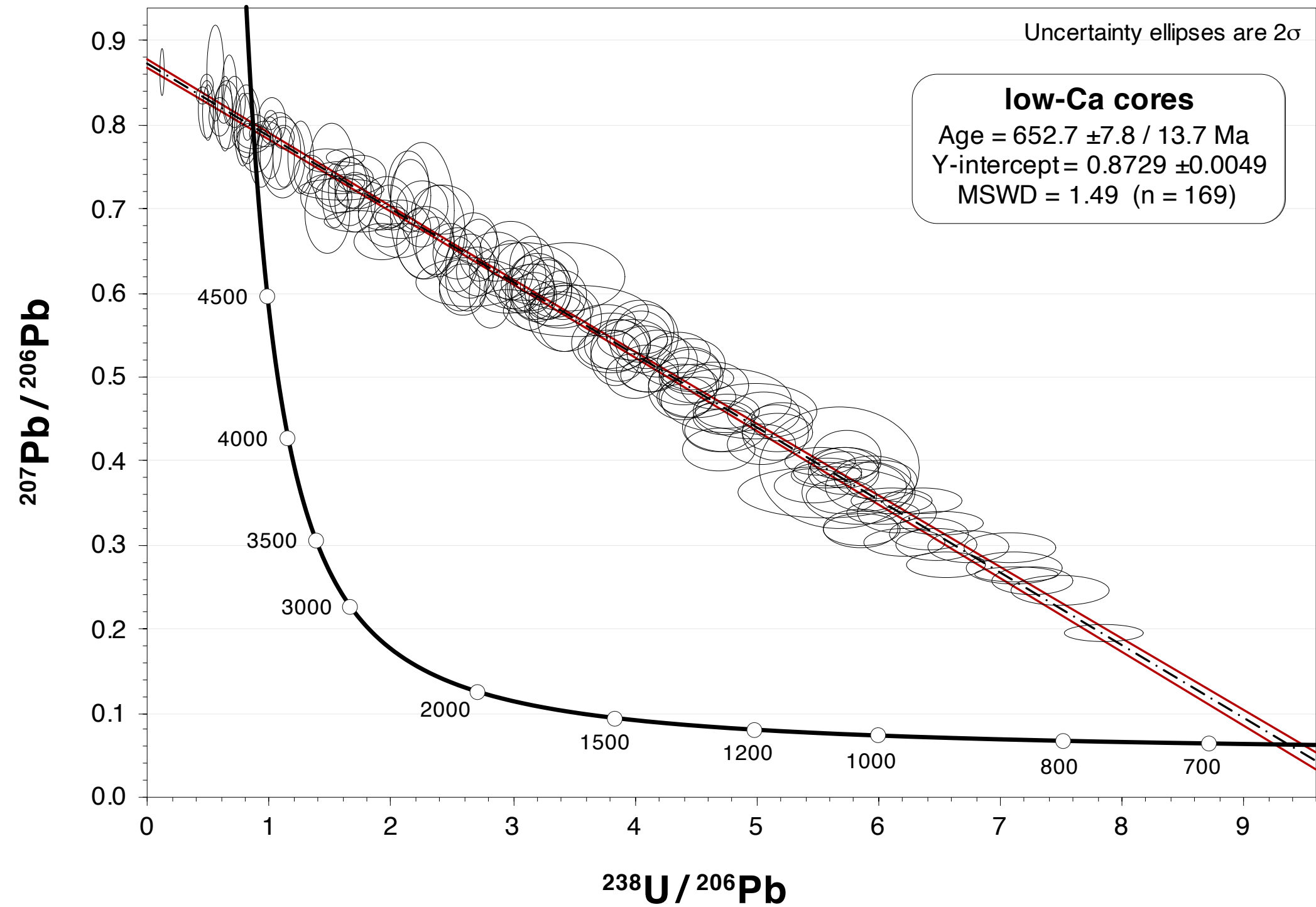
Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



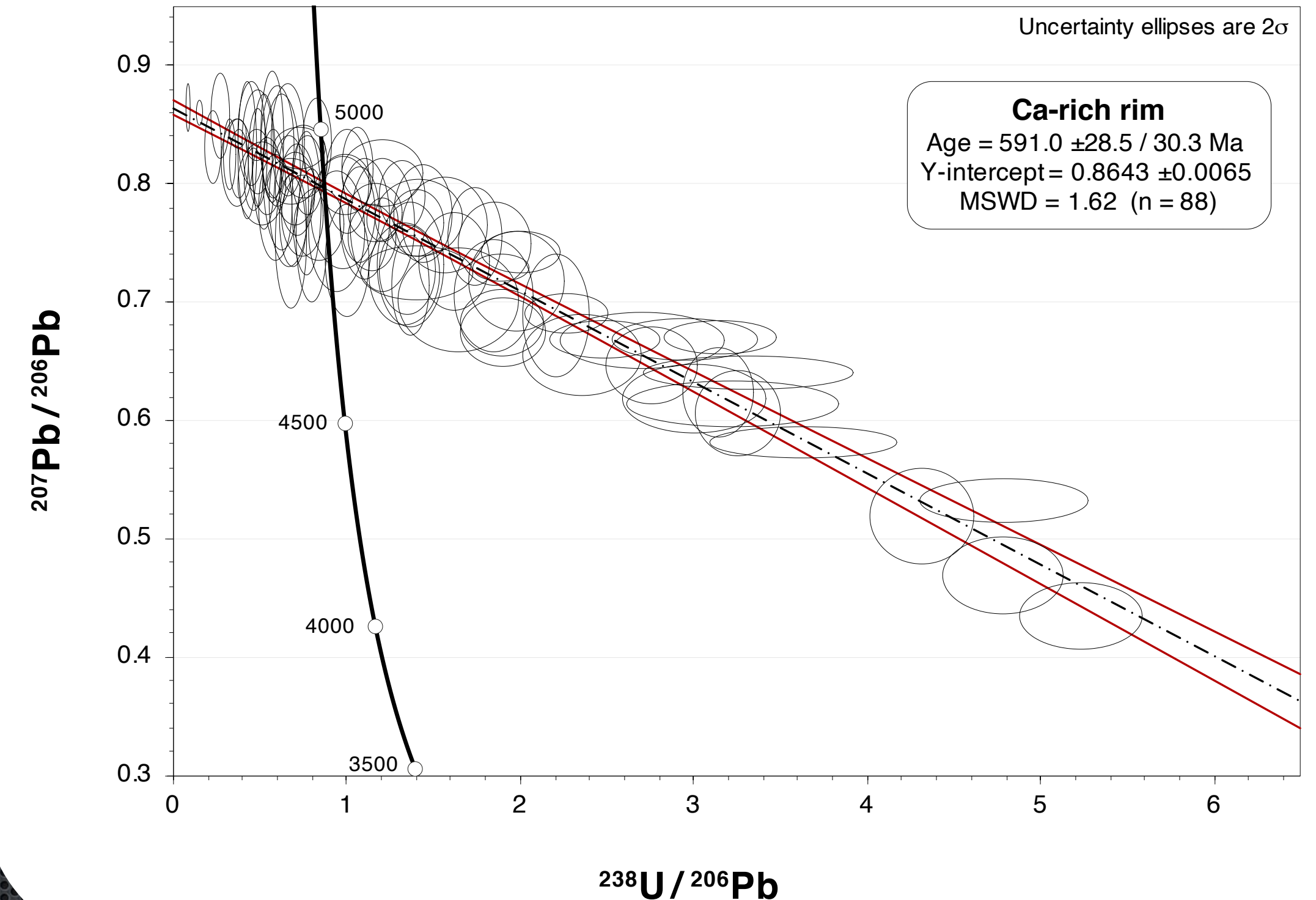
Garnet low-Ca cores

- garnet U–Pb age: 653 ± 8 Ma
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- consistent with 650 Ma back-arc rifting in DML

Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



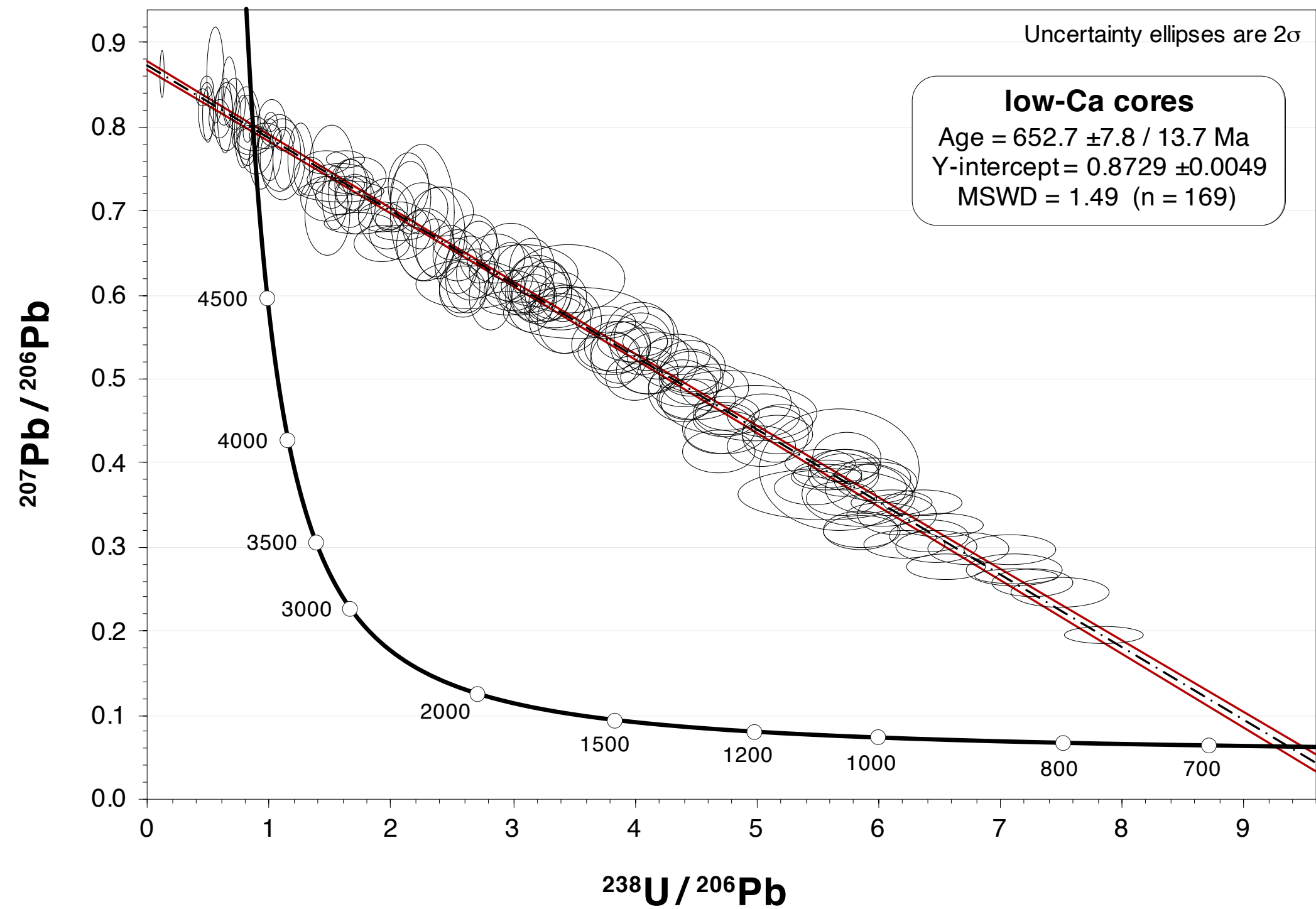
Garnet low-Ca cores



Garnet high-Ca rims

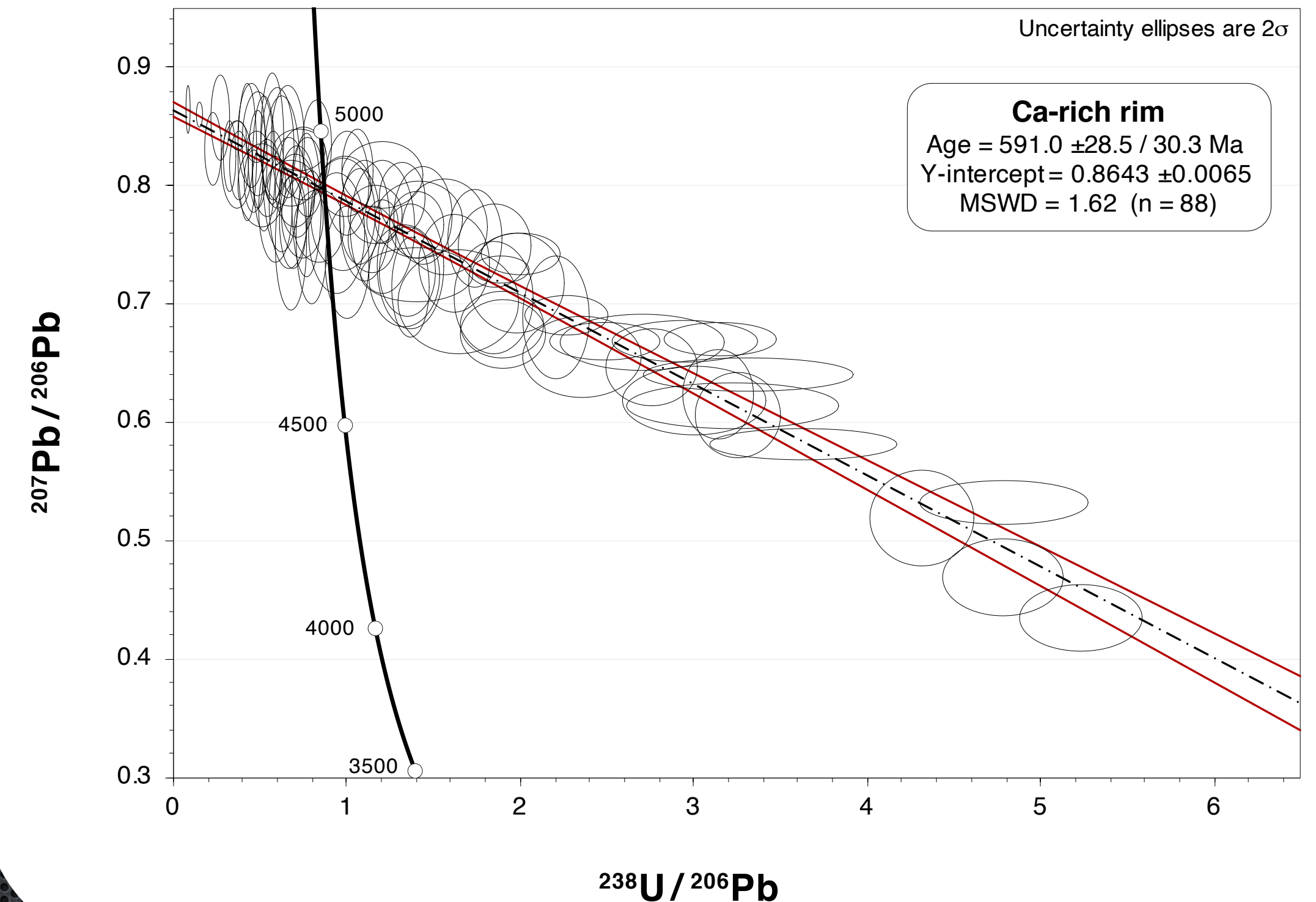
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Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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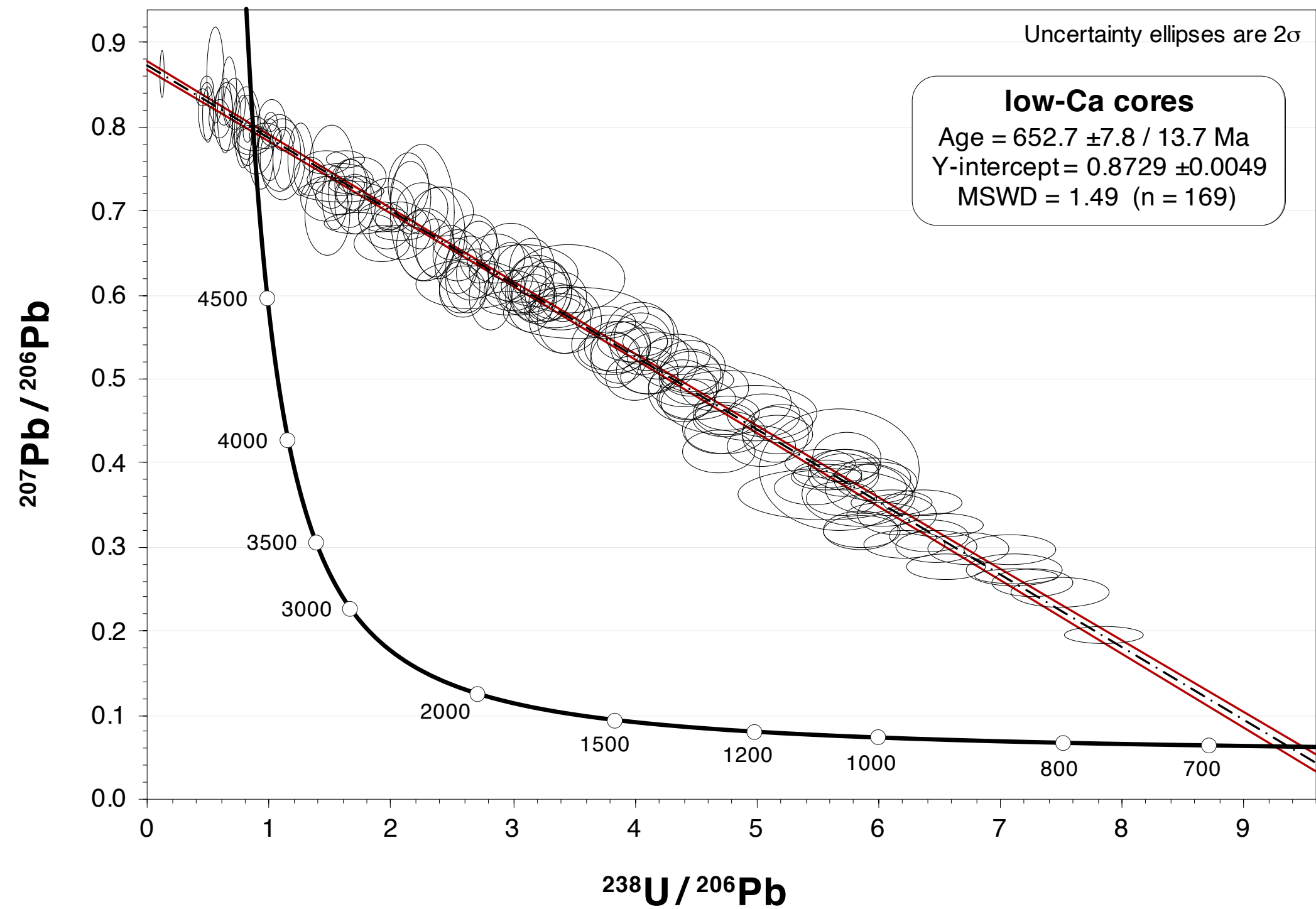
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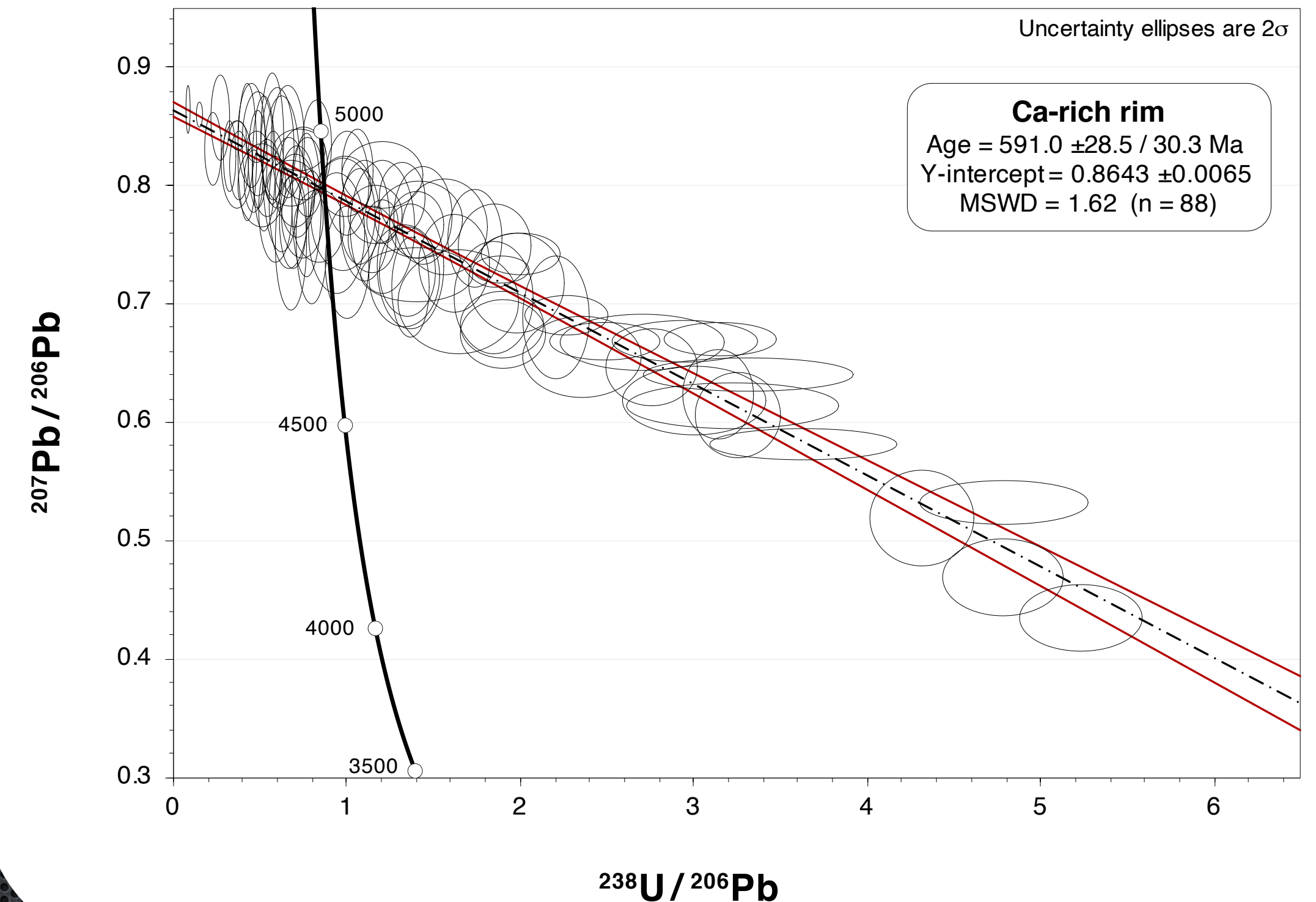
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Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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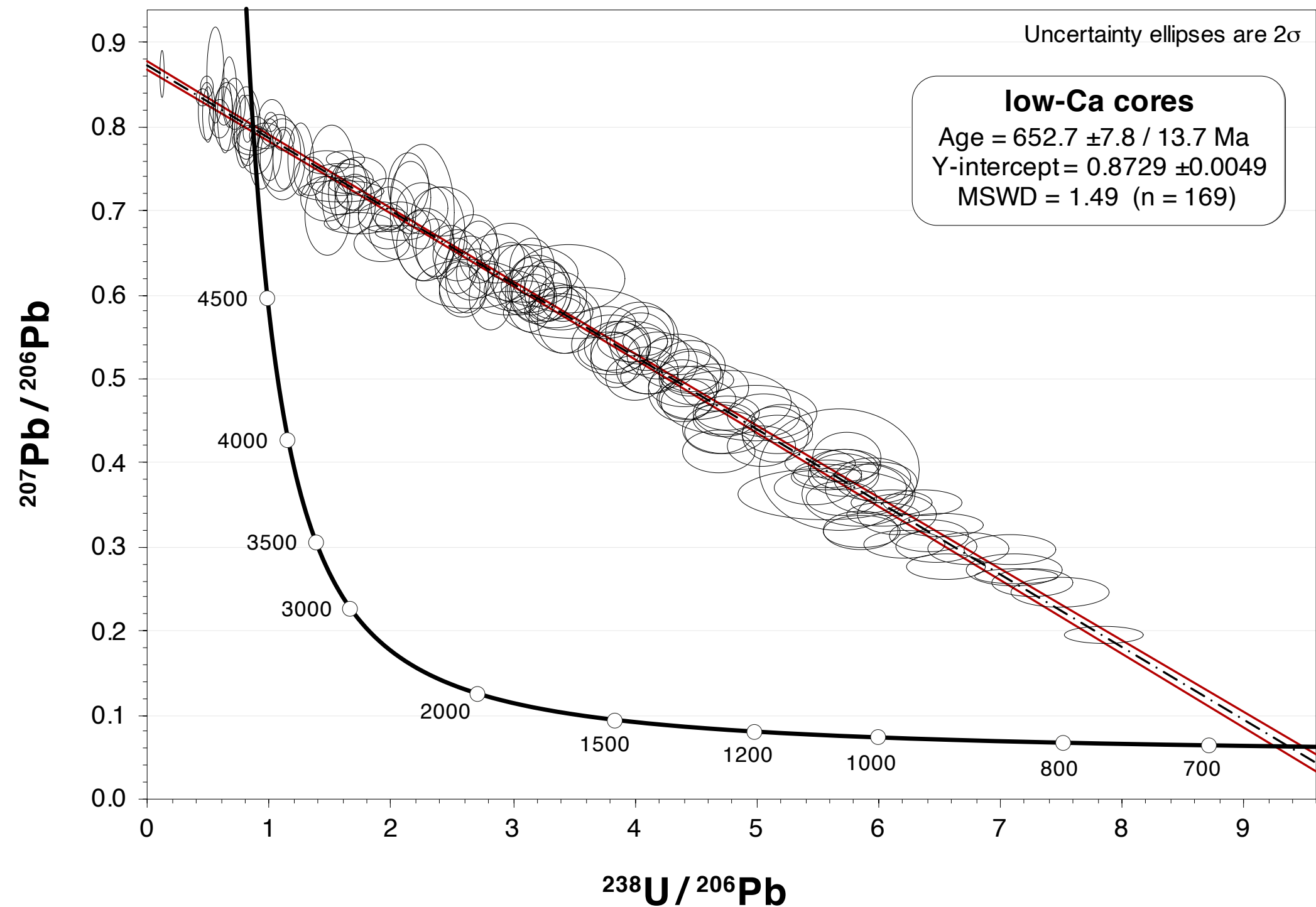
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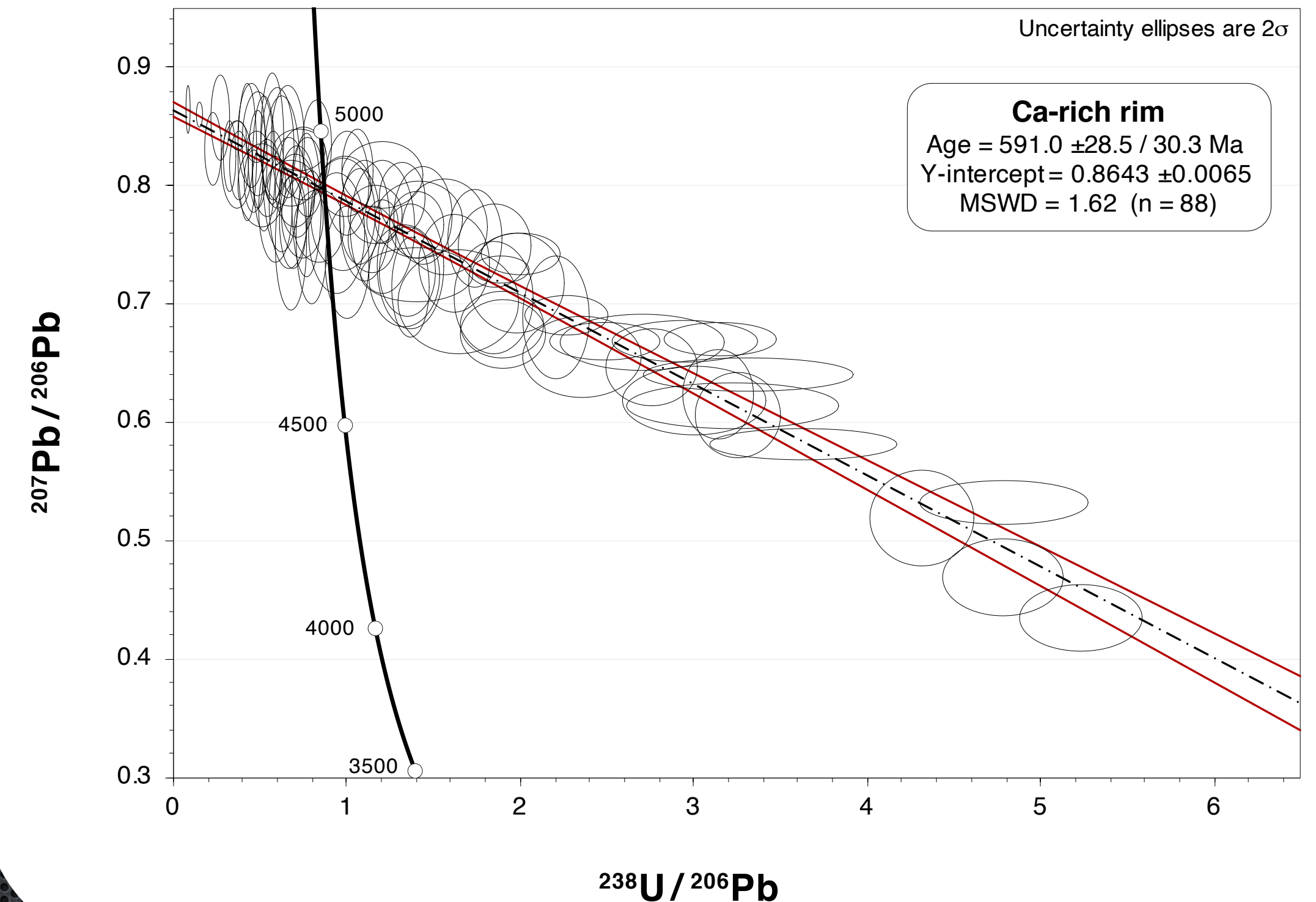
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Ultra-High Temperature granulite (930 °C) Dronning-Maud Land, East Antarctica



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- consistent with zircon ages of Stages M2b to M2c (593–570 Ma)
- timing of Panafrican continental collision in DML

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- finally a petrochronometer that records mountain building (not just collapse and exhumation)