

1 **Compositional variation of apatite from rift-related alkaline**  
2 **igneous rocks of the Gardar Province, South Greenland**

3

4 **Revision 2**

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18 **Keywords:** alkaline rocks, apatite, compositional variation, petrogenetic indicator

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20 **Abstract** - Textural and compositional variations of apatite from rift-related gabbros,  
21 syenogabbros, syenites, quartz-syenites and nepheline syenites of the Mid-  
22 Proterozoic Gardar Province (South Greenland) are presented and compared to  
23 apatite compositions from other rock suites.

24 The observed zoning textures of apatite are interpreted to represent (i) primary  
25 growth zonation (concentric and oscillatory) that formed during magmatic  
26 differentiation and (ii) secondary irregular overgrowths, patchy zonation and  
27 resorption textures, assigned to metasomatic overprinting due to interaction with  
28 fluids/melts and intra-crystalline diffusion. Compositional variation in the apatites is  
29 mainly due to coupled substitutions of Ca and P by variable amounts of Si, Na and  
30 REE, which show increasing concentrations during magmatic differentiation. Further,  
31 F concentrations in apatites increase from gabbroic through syenogabbroic to  
32 syenitic rocks, whereas Cl concentrations show the opposite trend.

33 Compared to apatite compositions from gabbroic, dioritic, and granitic rocks in  
34 general, apatites from alkaline rock suites are characterized by exceptionally high  
35 contents of REE and Si and in some alkaline rocks they attain Sr contents  
36 comparable to those reported from carbonatites. Typical low Mn and S contents are  
37 probably a result of low oxygen fugacity during crystallization at relatively high  
38 temperatures.

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## 41 **Introduction**

42 Apatite is a common accessory mineral in a wide range of igneous rocks (Liferovich  
43 and Mitchell 2006; Marks et al. 2012; Piccoli and Candela 2002; Sha and Chappell

44 1999; Seifert et al. 2000; Teiber et al. 2015a). The apatite supergroup covers  
45 minerals with the structural formula  $M_5(TO_4)_3X$  including phosphates, arsenates,  
46 sulfates, vanadates, and silicates that can exhibit a wide range of solid solution  
47 (Pasero et al. 2010). In igneous apatites, the major cation in the M site is generally  
48 Ca, the T site is mainly occupied by P and the X site by F, OH, and Cl (e.g., Piccoli  
49 and Candela 2002; Pan and Fleet 2002). Geochemically important elements  
50 including Sr, Na, Fe, Mn, Rare Earth Elements (REE), Si, and S substitute for Ca and  
51 P (cf., Belousova et al. 2002; Chu et al. 2009; Pan and Fleet 2002; Piccoli and  
52 Candela 2002; Marks et al. 2012; Sha and Chappell 1999; Teiber et al. 2015a; Zirner  
53 et al. 2015).

54 Apatite compositions are controlled by temperature, pressure, oxygen fugacity, and  
55 composition of coexisting phases as well as by the bulk composition of the host  
56 magma (Ayers and Watson 1993; Belousova et al. 2001; Boyce and Hervig 2008;  
57 Chu et al. 2009; Hoskin et al. 2000; Miles et al. 2014; Sha and Chappell 1999;  
58 Watson and Green 1981; Parat et al. 2002). Consequently apatite can be a sensitive  
59 recorder of magmatic processes (e.g. fractional crystallization or magma mixing) as  
60 well as of subsequent hydrothermal overprinting, metasomatism, and re-equilibration  
61 during cooling (e.g., Harlov and Förster 2003; Harlov et al. 2005; 2011; Chu et al.  
62 2009; Rønsbo 2008; Tepper and Kuehner 1999; Wang et al. 2014; Teiber et al.  
63 2015b). In igneous rocks, apatite may occur as an early crystallizing phase,  
64 precipitating over a very long crystallization interval or may start crystallizing very late  
65 (e.g., Boudreau et al. 1993; Hoskin et al. 2000).

66 On the basis of an extensive data set on apatite compositions from variably  
67 differentiated rift-related alkaline igneous rocks, we aim to (1) evaluate the potential  
68 of apatite for monitoring magmatic and hydrothermal processes in such rock types

69 and (2) compare these data with apatite compositions from gabbroic, dioritic and  
70 granitic rocks from non-alkaline associations and from carbonatites (e.g. Belousova  
71 et al. 2001; Piccoli and Candela 2002; Sha and Chappell 1999; Teiber et al. 2015a).

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## Geological background

74 The Gardar Province in South Greenland represents an uplifted and eroded  
75 continental rift province of Mesoproterozoic age (see Upton et al. 2003 for a recent  
76 review). Between 1350 and 1140 Ma, a thick (~3500 m) sequence of lavas and  
77 sediments (the Eriksfjord Formation) accumulated (Poulsen 1964; Larsen 1977;  
78 Halama et al. 2003), which was intruded by a large number of dike rocks and several  
79 composite plutonic complexes (**Fig. 1**). The mostly Paleoproterozoic (Ketilidian)  
80 country rocks consist of calc-alkaline granitoids of the Julianehåb batholith that  
81 formed between 1850 and 1725 Ma after presumed subduction of an oceanic plate  
82 beneath the Archean craton to the north (Garde et al. 2002). In the NW of the  
83 province, Archean high-grade gneisses form the country rocks for some of the  
84 Gardar intrusives (Allaart 1976).

85 The dikes vary in composition from mafic to salic (basaltic to trachytic, phonolitic, and  
86 rhyolitic) and also include lamprophyres and carbonatites. These strike mostly WNW-  
87 ESE and NE-SW following zones of inferred lithospheric thinning and graben  
88 development (Upton et al. 2003; Upton 2013). Two major dike swarms are located in  
89 the Tugtutôq-Ilímaussaq and the Nunarssuit-Isortoq zones. Abundant anorthosite  
90 xenoliths in some of the dike rocks imply the presence of a large anorthosite body  
91 underlying South Greenland (Bridgwater 1967; Bridgwater and Harry 1968).

92 The intrusive complexes consist of syenites, nepheline syenites, alkali granites,  
93 gabbros, syenogabbros, and carbonatites (in order of decreasing abundance). With  
94 few exceptions, they follow either a SiO<sub>2</sub>-undersaturated or a SiO<sub>2</sub>-oversaturated  
95 trend, depending mainly on crustal contamination (e.g. Marks et al. 2003; 2004a;  
96 Stevenson et al. 1997). The rocks crystallized about 3-5 km below the surface and it  
97 is likely that most of the complexes had surface expressions (Upton 2013). Most of  
98 the larger Gardar intrusions are characterized by layered cumulates. The remarkable  
99 abundance of cumulate layering (attributed to crystal sinking or floating), together  
100 with unusually coarse-grained textures and extensive in situ differentiation, has been  
101 related to low viscosities in F-rich melts (Upton et al. 2003). Previous field and  
102 experimental investigations indicate that these relatively reduced melts evolved  
103 through Fe-enrichment to extremely alkaline differentiates (e.g. Upton 2013; Giehl et  
104 al. 2012). Some of them that contain eudialyte-group minerals  
105 ( $\text{Na}_{15}\text{Ca}_6\text{Fe}_3\text{Zr}_3\text{Si}(\text{Si}_{25}\text{O}_{73})(\text{O},\text{OH},\text{H}_2\text{O})_3(\text{Cl},\text{OH})_2$ ) and other Na-Zr-Ti silicates are  
106 classified as agpaitic rocks. They represent some of the most evolved magmatic  
107 rocks on Earth (e.g., Bailey et al. 2001; Sørensen 1997; Marks et al. 2011). Based on  
108 the available age data, the intrusive rocks are divided into older and younger Gardar  
109 intrusions (Upton 2013). Older Gardar intrusions include Grønnedal-Ika, Kûngnât,  
110 Motzfeld, North Qôroq, and North Motzfeld with intrusive ages between about 1300  
111 and 1250 Ma. Most other intrusives (e.g., Isortoq, Tugtutôq, Puklen, Ilímaussaq)  
112 belong to the Younger Gardar period with ages between about 1180 and 1140 Ma  
113 and are interpreted as constituting a coherent magmatic system (Upton 2013).

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115

## Material and Methods

116 For this study we used otherwise well-characterized sample material from the  
117 Grønnedal-Ika complex (Emeleus 1964; Blaxland et al. 1978; Halama et al. 2005);  
118 the Kûngnât complex (Upton et al. 2013); the Motzfeldt complex (Jones 1980; Jones  
119 and Larsen 1985; Schönenberger and Markl 2008; McCreath et al. 2012); the Isortoq  
120 dike swarm (Bridgwater and Harry 1968; Bridgwater and Coe 1970; Upton and  
121 Emeleus 1987; Halama et al. 2002; 2004); the Tugtutôq region, where two major  
122 giant dike complexes (Older and Younger Giant Dike Complexes; OGDC and YGDC)  
123 are distinguished (Upton and Thomas 1980; Upton et al. 1985 Upton 2013); the  
124 nearby island of Igdlutalik (Upton et al. 1976; Upton 2013); the Puklen complex  
125 (Pulvertaft 1961; Parsons 1972; Finch et al. 2001; Marks et al. 2003); and the  
126 Ilímaussaq complex (Ferguson 1964; Larsen and Sørensen 1987; Bailey et al. 2001;  
127 Marks et al. 2004a; Krumrei et al. 2006; Marks and Markl in press). The intrusion is  
128 the type locality of agpaitic rocks, as well as for a lot of uncommon (and some  
129 unique) minerals including a number of Nb-, Zr-, REE-rich minerals. An ENE-WSW  
130 trending peralkaline (agpaitic) phonolite dike is spatially associated with the  
131 Ilímaussaq complex. This 10-30 m wide dike is traceable for about 18 km and  
132 provides insight into the nature of the magma(s) from which the Ilímaussaq agpaities  
133 formed (e.g., Larsen & Steenfelt 1974; Marks and Markl 2003).

134 The textures and compositions of apatite from these localities are described below.  
135 This includes previously published apatite data from Ilímaussaq (Rønsbo 1989; 2008;  
136 Zirner et al. 2015) and the North Qôroq complex (Rae et al. 1996), for comparison.  
137 Accordingly, we present apatite compositions from a continuous spectrum of broadly  
138 co-genetic, rift-related igneous rocks ranging from gabbros, syenogabbros, syenites,  
139 quartz- and nepheline syenites to highly evolved agpaites (**Table 1; Fig. 2**).

140

141 **Sample Material**

142 From the Grønnedal-Ika complex, five samples of the coarse-grained and layered  
143 nepheline syenites were studied. Major magmatic mineral phases are cumulus  
144 clinopyroxene, nepheline, alkali feldspar, and Fe-Ti oxides with minor amounts of  
145 apatite. Amphibole is an intercumulus phase in sample GM 1531 and biotite is  
146 present only in sample GM 1559.

147 From the Kûngnât complex, two samples of coarse-grained gabbros, one of  
148 syenogabbro, and seven of syenite were investigated. The gabbros consist of olivine,  
149 Fe-Ti oxides, plagioclase, apatite, and sulfides. Clinopyroxene and alkali feldspar are  
150 late-crystallizing phases, and biotite is present as reaction fringes around the oxides.  
151 The modal amount of alkali feldspar increases at the expense of plagioclase in the  
152 syenogabbros; Fe-Ti oxide and apatite reach their modal peaks in these rocks. In the  
153 syenites the feldspars are all perthitic alkali feldspars, accompanied by olivine,  
154 clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides, and apatite. Intercumulus amphibole is ubiquitous and,  
155 as in the mafic rocks, reaction fringes of biotite surround the oxides. In the more  
156 highly differentiated syenites interstitial quartz is present.

157 From the Motzfeldt complex, three samples of coarse-grained nepheline syenite were  
158 studied. They mainly consist of amphibole, clinopyroxene, tabular alkali feldspar,  
159 nepheline, and Fe-Ti oxides with accessory zircon, apatite and calcite. Further, a  
160 larvikite sample contains olivine, clinopyroxene, amphibole, nepheline, alkali feldspar,  
161 plagioclase, apatite, and Fe-Ti oxides. The Fe-Ti oxides are also typically rimmed by  
162 biotite.

163 From the Isortoq dike swarm, nine samples were selected. One was an anorthosite  
164 xenolith mainly containing plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and Fe-Ti oxides, with minor  
165 amphibole, quartz, and apatite. A larvikite sample consists of clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti

166 oxides, plagioclase, and alkali feldspar, with subordinate interstitial quartz,  
167 amphibole, and biotite and accessory apatite and zircon. A sample of olivine gabbro  
168 contains subhedral olivine, plagioclase, and interstitial clinopyroxene as major  
169 components and minor apatite and Fe-Ti oxides. Olivine and Fe-Ti oxides are  
170 commonly rimmed by biotite. A further six samples were selected from the Isortoq  
171 Giant Dikes. The gabbroic samples from Giant Dikes 1 and 3 are coarse-grained and  
172 contain plagioclase, alkali feldspar, olivine, interstitial clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides,  
173 and apatite. The syenitic samples lack plagioclase and olivine but contain euhedral to  
174 subhedral clinopyroxene, together with amphibole and epidote. Transition from  
175 gabbro to syenite is exemplified by the syenogabbro sample. In all Giant Dike  
176 samples, olivines, clinopyroxenes, and/or Fe-Ti oxides have biotite overgrowths.

177 From the Tugtutôq region we investigated six gabbros, four syenogabbros, six  
178 syenites, one pulaskite, and three foyaites from the OGDC and YGDC. The gabbroic  
179 samples contain plagioclase, olivine, clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides (some rimmed by  
180 biotite) and apatite. Syenitic samples (including pulaskite and foyaites) lack  
181 plagioclase and olivine but contain additional amphibole. Syenitic rocks of the OGDC  
182 are invariably nepheline-bearing, whereas some syenites from the YGDC contain  
183 minor amounts of quartz. As at Isortoq, syenogabbros from the Tugtutôq region  
184 display the transition from gabbro to syenite with minor amounts of plagioclase still  
185 present in the latter.

186 The pantelleritic, trachyte dike from Igdlutalik is remarkable for containing  
187 narsarsukite ( $\text{Na}_2(\text{Ti,Fe}^{3+})\text{Si}_4(\text{O,F})_{11}$ ) phenocrysts. They lie in a fine-grained  
188 devitrified matrix showing flow-banding (defined by differing concentrations of finely  
189 dispersed albite, aegirine, biotite and Fe-Ti oxides). Minor components are apatite,



190 pectolite, zircon, nordite ( $\text{Na}_3\text{SrCeZnSi}_6\text{O}_{17}$ ), emeleusite ( $\text{Li}_2\text{Na}_4\text{Fe}_2^{3+}\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{30}$ ),  
191 unidentified REE silicate(s), and calcite.

192 From the Puklen complex, six syenite and two peralkaline granite samples were  
193 investigated. The syenites are medium- to coarse-grained and contain alkali feldspar,  
194 clinopyroxene, amphibole, Fe-Ti oxides, apatite, and zircon as primary magmatic  
195 phases, with aenigmatite ( $\text{Na}_4[\text{Fe}^{2+}_{10}\text{Ti}_2]\text{O}_4[\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{36}]$ ) and quartz occurring as a late  
196 magmatic phases in two samples. The peralkaline granites consist of alkali feldspar,  
197 quartz, clinopyroxene, amphibole, zircon, and scarce apatite.

198

## 199 **Methods**

200 The major- and minor-element compositions of the apatites from Grønnedal-Ika,  
201 Motzfeldt, Isortoq and Puklen were determined using a JEOL 8900 electron  
202 microprobe (EMPA) operating in wavelength-dispersive (WDS) mode at the  
203 Fachbereich Geowissenschaften, Tübingen University, Germany. A beam current of  
204 10 nA, an acceleration voltage of 15 kV and a defocused beam diameter of 10  $\mu\text{m}$   
205 were applied to achieve constant count rates during peak counting times and to avoid  
206 migration of Na, Ca, P, F, and Cl. To further minimize this potential problem, we  
207 avoided analyses where the electron beam was parallel to the apaites c-axis as  
208 much as possible (Goldoff et al. 2012; Stormer et al. 1993; Wang et al. 2014). Details  
209 on standard materials used for calibration and analytical conditions are given in  
210 Teiber et al. (2015a). The well-characterized Durango apatite was periodically re-  
211 analyzed to ensure consistency between the analytical sessions. Data reduction was  
212 performed using the internal ZAF correction of JEOL (Armstrong, 1991). Apatites  
213 from Kûngnât, Tugtutôq and Igdlutalik were analyzed by Peter Hill at the Institut für  
214 Petrologie, Universität Wien using a Cameca SX100 applying a beam current of 20

215 nA, an acceleration voltage of 20 kV and a focused beam. Therefore, concentrations  
216 of halogens should be interpreted with caution, as the mobility of F and less so Cl  
217 during analyses was not considered at the time of their analysis.

218

219

## Results

220 Apatite is much more abundant in the gabbroic samples than in the syenites and is  
221 rare in the peralkaline granites. It is regarded as an early magmatic phase in all  
222 investigated samples as it occurs as inclusions in all the other rock-forming minerals  
223 and along grain boundaries. Apatite typically occurs as euhedral to subhedral prisms  
224 with diameters <100  $\mu\text{m}$  and lengths of <800  $\mu\text{m}$ , with no large differences between  
225 the various localities and rock types. In peralkaline granites from the Puklen  
226 complex, apatite crystals are too small (generally <10  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter) for analysis. In  
227 a few samples, additional acicular apatites with diameters <15  $\mu\text{m}$  and lengths of up  
228 to about 800  $\mu\text{m}$  occur. Such apatites could not be reliably analyzed by EMPA.

229

### 230 Apatite zoning textures

231 Based on BSE imaging, apatites from Isortoq, Tugtutôq, and Igdlutalik are  
232 homogeneous. In contrast, apatites from composite intrusive complexes display  
233 various types of zoning, which we summarize in the following. Zonal textures of  
234 apatites from the Ilímaussaq and North Qôroq are described in detail in Rønsbo  
235 (1989; 2008), Zirner et al. (2015), and Rae et al. (1996).

236 Apatites from Grønnedal-Ika display variable zoning textures. Some crystals appear  
237 homogeneous in BSE images, some show concentric and oscillatory zoning, whilst  
238 others display zoning with dark cores (sometimes euhedral, sometimes rounded) and

239 brighter rims (**Figs. 3a-c**). Furthermore, many apatite grains are overgrown by  
240 irregularly formed, discontinuous, and mostly <5  $\mu\text{m}$  wide very bright rims (termed  
241 overgrowth textures in the following), which have compositions with higher average  
242 atomic numbers (**Figs. 3a, c and d**).

243 In the Motzfeldt syenites most apatites are concentrically and oscillatory zoned. As in  
244 the Grønnedal-Ika samples, a small proportion of the apatites display zoning with  
245 euhedral to rounded cores and BSE imaging reveals abrupt to gradational  
246 compositional changes across these minerals (**Figs. 4a-c**). The common overgrowth  
247 textures, as observed in the Grønnedal-Ika, are, however, mostly absent. In one  
248 sample (JS 104) patchy zoning is observed (**Fig. 4d**). Apatites from the larvikite (JS  
249 215) appear homogeneous in BSE images.

250 Apatites from Puklen are mostly homogeneous (**Fig. 4e**). However, in sample GM  
251 1615, otherwise homogeneous apatites are overgrown by irregular and discontinuous  
252 bright rims (**Fig. 4f**), similar to textures found the Grønnedal-Ika rocks.

253

#### 254 **Compositional variability**

255 The compositional variability of the Gardar apatites is illustrated in **Figs. 5-7**, where  
256 the samples of each locality are shown from left to right by decreasing  $X_{\text{Mg}}$  of their  
257 respective whole-rock and mafic mineral compositions. Apatite formulas were  
258 normalized to eight cations, assuming stoichiometry. The amount of OH was  
259 calculated assuming charge balance on a fully occupied OH-site (sum of F + Cl + OH  
260 = 1 apfu) and the potential incorporation of  $\text{CO}_3$  was not considered further here. The  
261 full dataset is available as an **electronic supplement** attached to this paper.

262 During EMPA, La and Ce were analyzed as proxies for the total REE content of the  
263 apatites. Most of the these apatites contain <4 wt.%  $\text{La}_2\text{O}_3$  +  $\text{Ce}_2\text{O}_3$  (**electronic**

264 **supplement**). In such analyses, the heavier LREE (Pr, Nd, Sm), the MREE and the  
265 HREE would be close to or below the detection limit of EMPA, which would render  
266 most of these values meaningless. Therefore, we did not include heavier LREE,  
267 MREE and HREE in our EMPA protocol. Some apatites of the evolved rocks from  
268 Ilímaussaq are very REE-rich (Rønsbo 1989; 2008; Zirner et al. 2015), and the  
269 EMPA totals for such apatites imply up to about 5 wt.% missing REE. However,  
270 because of the LREE-rich and HREE-poor nature of such apatites (Zirner et al.  
271 2015), and because of the high masses of REE in general, the effects on the formula  
272 calculation are relatively minor. A comparison between EMPA and LA-ICP-MS data  
273 (Zirner et al. 2015) for such apatites show that the omission of heavier REE's during  
274 EMPA has no significant effect on the derived conclusions.

275

276 **Substitutions on the Ca-site** - Apatites from the relatively primitive gabbroic rocks  
277 have low La + Ce contents (mostly <0.05 apfu), whilst those from miaskitic syenites  
278 are generally higher in La + Ce (mostly 0.05 - 0.15 apfu). Exceptionally high LREE  
279 contents occur in agpaitic syenites (up to 0.75 apfu) and in overgrowth textures from  
280 the miaskitic syenites (up to 0.56 apfu) of the Ilímaussaq complex (**Fig. 5a**; Rønsbo  
281 1989; 2008; Zirner et al. 2015). The within-sample variation of La + Ce contents is  
282 much larger in the syenitic rocks than in the gabbroic rocks. In samples from a given  
283 locality, the LREE contents generally increase with degree of differentiation, although  
284 this trend is less clear for the Gronnedal-Ika and Motzfeld samples. Invariably the  
285 LREE contents increase from core to rim (**Fig. 6**).

286 As in the case of La + Ce, Na contents of the apatite increase from gabbroic (<0.03  
287 apfu) to syenitic rocks (mostly between 0.02 and 0.1 apfu). Exceptionally high Na  
288 contents occur in apatites from evolved syenites (foyaïtes) from Tugtutôq (up to 0.42

289 apfu) and in agpaites from Ilímaussaq (up to 0.56 apfu), but not in the overgrowth  
290 textures from the Ilímaussaq miaskitic syenites as was observed for LREE (**Figs. 5a**  
291 **and b**). In samples from a given locality, Na contents generally increase with degree  
292 of magma differentiation, although this is less clear in some syenitic complexes. The  
293 Na concentrations are higher in the cores than at the rims of concentrically zoned  
294 crystals. In those with rounded cores, however, Na contents show no systematic  
295 variation (**Fig. 6**).

296 Contents of Sr vary from 0.001 – 0.10 apfu Sr, and are highest in apatites from the  
297 Ilímaussaq agpaites (**Fig. 5c**). Relatively high and variable Sr contents (up to 0.06  
298 apfu) also occur in apatites from the Grønnedal-Ika and the Motzfeldt miaskitic  
299 syenites. Apatites from all other intrusive complexes (North Qôroq, Kûngnât and  
300 Ilímaussaq, excluding the agpaitic rocks) and rocks from the Isortoq and Tugtutôq  
301 regions are relatively poor in Sr (<0.02 apfu). In contrast to REE contents (see  
302 above), the Sr contents of apatites from a given locality show no obvious changes  
303 with degree of differentiation. Yet, Sr contents in concentrically zoned apatites are  
304 higher in the cores than at the rims of crystals, very similar to Na. In grains with  
305 rounded core textures, however, this is not always the case (**Fig. 6**).

306 The FeO and MnO contents for all investigated apatites are low (<0.9 and <0.1 wt%,  
307 respectively), and show no systematic differences between localities, rock types, or  
308 degree of differentiation (**Figs. 5d and e**).

309

310 **Substitutions on the P-site** - The Si contents of apatite are generally <0.04 apfu in  
311 the gabbros and syenogabbros, reaching about 0.27 apfu Si in the miaskitic syenites  
312 and attaining the highest levels in secondary overgrowth textures and agpaites from  
313 Ilímaussaq (up to 1.01 apfu; **Fig. 5f**). Zoning profiles and core-rim variations of

314 apatites show increasing concentrations of SiO<sub>2</sub> from core to rim, which behave in a  
315 very similar manner as the REE contents (**Fig. 6**). Like the REE (and to some extent  
316 Na), Si increases with degree of differentiation in any single intrusive complex. There  
317 is, however, large data scatter within and between samples, especially in the  
318 syenites.

319 Sulfur and As contents in apatite are mostly below the EMPA detection limit (around  
320 230 µg/g for SO<sub>3</sub> and 290 µg/g for As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>). Only in a few analyses do the S contents  
321 rise to 0.07 wt% SO<sub>3</sub> (0.004 apfu S), with As reaching 0.06 wt% As<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.003 apfu  
322 As).

323

324 **Substitutions on the OH-site** - Apatites from most of the investigated samples are  
325 fluorapatite, as is typical for most igneous rocks (Piccoli and Candela 2002). A few  
326 analyses from the more mafic samples from Tugtutôq and Kûngnât yield low sums of  
327 (F + Cl), apparently indicating the presence of a significant hydroxylapatite  
328 component (**Fig. 7**). Note that F (and less so Cl contents) for these analyses should  
329 be interpreted with caution, as the mobility of F and less so Cl during analyses was  
330 not considered at the time of their analysis. However, F and Cl contents for the  
331 Isortoq samples are partly equally low although these samples were analyzed with  
332 appropriate conditions for halogens (see methods section for details). The potential  
333 incorporation of carbonate is not discussed here, as no data for C for these apatites  
334 are available.

335 In general, F contents are lowest in apatites from the gabbroic rocks and reach much  
336 higher values in the syenites (**Fig. 7a**). In apatites from the Isortoq region a clear F  
337 increase in the apatite with differentiation is indicated. Fluorine contents are known to  
338 increase from primitive towards more evolved rocks (Belousova et al. 2002; Sha and

339 Chappell 1999; Teiber et al. 2015a). Such a trend is, however, not observed in the  
340 sample sets from the investigated syenitic complexes, where there is relatively little  
341 change in apatite compositions. Furthermore, there are no major differences in  
342 apatite compositions from the different syenitic complexes although apatites from the  
343 Motzfeld complex are slightly poorer in F than those from the Grønnedal-Ika, Puklen,  
344 and Ilímaussaq complexes.

345 Chlorine contents (up to 0.49 wt%; 0.05 apfu Cl) show a crude inverse correlation  
346 with F and are relatively high in the gabbroic rocks but very low in syenites from the  
347 various intrusive complexes (**Fig. 7b**). The apatites from the two larvikites have  
348 notably higher Cl contents than those from the other samples from the same  
349 localities, irrespective of whether it is the most primitive (Motzfeld complex) or the  
350 most evolved (Isortoq) rock.

351

352 **Predominant substitution mechanisms** - The contents of Sr, Fe, Mn, S, and As in  
353 apatites from the Gardar Province are generally low and their variations do not show  
354 any obvious systematic behavior in terms of rock type and degree of differentiation.  
355 Apart from some variation in F and Cl, most of the compositional variation in the  
356 apatites is related to their Na, Si, and REE contents. Positive correlations between  
357 REE, Si, and Na (**Fig. 8**) are consistent with the incorporation of REE by a  
358 combination of the following charge-compensating substitution mechanisms:



361 Both substitution mechanisms have been described before (e.g., Pan and Fleet  
362 2002; Fleet et al. 2000; Zirner et al. 2015; Rønsbo 1989, 2008). Their combined  
363 appearance may be related to the alkalinity and/or silica activity of the magma from

364 which these apatites crystallize, if these substitutions are not limited by the overall  
365 abundance of REE's in the magma (see below).

366

## 367 **Discussion**

### 368 **Interpretation of apatite zoning textures**

369 The compositional variability of apatites records magmatic processes (e.g. fractional  
370 crystallization, magma mixing, magmatic degassing). The textural and chemical  
371 signatures may be overprinted by post-magmatic processes, such as hydrothermal  
372 replacement and diffusive reequilibration (Boyce and Hervig 2008; Dempster et al.  
373 2003; Hinton and Paterson 1994; Jolliff et al. 1989; Rae et al. 1996; Shore and  
374 Fowler 1996; Streck 2008; Tepper and Kuehner 1999; Harlov and Förster 2003). The  
375 zoning textures described above can be used to elucidate the evolution of the  
376 magma from which the apatite crystallized during differentiation and post-magmatic  
377 processes (e.g. hydrothermal modification).

378 Homogeneous (i.e. unzoned) apatites occur mainly in the more primitive Isortoq and  
379 Tugtutôq samples and also in the larvikite from Motzfeld. The other rock-forming  
380 minerals in these rocks also have little or no zoning (e.g., Halama et al. 2004). For  
381 these rocks fast crystallization under dry conditions was inferred, obviously  
382 minimizing compositional zoning during growth (e.g., Upton and Thomas, 1980;  
383 Halama et al. 2004). Furthermore some of these rocks contain acicular apatite, which  
384 grew rapidly due to strong undercooling or loss of volatiles (Reid et al. 1983; Sha  
385 1995; Wyllie et al. 1962; Zirner et al. 2015).

386 Concentrically zoned apatites, seen mainly in Motzfeldt and Grønneidal-Ika, are due  
387 to compositional changes in the magma during growth, which is attributed e.g. to



388 magma mixing and differentiation processes (e.g. Streck 2008). The core-rim  
389 traverses in such apatites show increasing Na, Si, and REE and decreasing Sr (**Fig.**  
390 **6**). Similar trends are also recorded for the evolution from gabbros to syenites in the  
391 Isortoq and Tugtutôq samples (**Fig. 5**). These trends may partly reflect magma  
392 evolution during fractional crystallization but are also partly controlled by the coupled  
393 substitution governing the compositional variability of apatite (Tepper and Kuehner  
394 1999), which will be discussed in more detail below. However, fine-scale oscillatory  
395 zoning is generally interpreted as reflecting non-equilibrium magmatic processes  
396 (e.g., Shore and Fowler 1996). The composition of the very thin (<5  $\mu\text{m}$ ) growth  
397 layers depends on the relative element diffusion rates for the elements in the melt  
398 and crystal (Dempster et al. 2003; Shore and Fowler 1996; Tepper and Kuehner  
399 1999). Such zoning is only rarely observed in apatites from Grønnedal-Ika and  
400 Motzfeldt (**Figs. 3 and 4**). These apatites probably crystallized in segregated melt  
401 pockets over longer crystallization intervals.

402 Apatites with rounded cores have been attributed to inheritance from country rocks,  
403 magma mixing, changes in crystal/melt element partitioning, or kinetic effects  
404 (Tepper and Kuehner 1999; Sha and Chappel 1999; Wang et al. 2014). Core-to-rim  
405 traverses show increases in Si and REE but no systematic changes in Na and Sr  
406 (**Fig. 6**). These textures may result from incomplete, sub-solidus, intra-crystalline  
407 diffusion as different crystals show different stages from euhedral to completely  
408 rounded cores (**Figs. 3 and 4**). The zoning of certain elements in apatite with  
409 rounded cores may have been controlled by their respective substitution mechanism  
410 (Tepper and Kuehner 1999). For example Sr, which substitutes for Ca, does not  
411 show strict core-to-rim variations (**Fig. 6**), whereas REE and Si, which participate in  
412 coupled substitutions for Ca, display large core-to-rim variations similar to those of  
413 the concentrically zoned apatites (**Fig. 6**). However, Na, which is also involved in

414 coupled substitutions, shows no distinct trends (**Fig. 6**), and this could be due to  
415 differences in diffusion rates, with Sr diffusing faster than Na and Si (Tepper and  
416 Kuehner 1999).

417 Irregular and discontinuous overgrowth textures occur in rocks from Grønnedal-Ika  
418 and Puklen (**Figs. 3a, c, d and 4f**) and are very similar to features in the Ilímaussaq  
419 apatites that are exceptionally rich in Na, Si, and REE (Rønsbo 1989; 2008; Zirner et  
420 al. 2015). Because of their irregular shape, they were ascribed to metasomatic  
421 overprint caused by the interaction with evolved melts/fluids. Similar patchy zonation  
422 in samples from Motzfeldt (**Fig. 4d**), North Qôroq (Rae et al. 1966) and Ilímaussaq  
423 (Zirner et al. 2015) is attributed to the effects of the metasomatizing fluids.

424

#### 425 **Significance of Sr contents in apatites from the Gardar Province**

426 In general, the concentration of Sr in apatites decreases with magmatic differentiation  
427 because of the preferred partitioning of Sr into plagioclase (e.g.; Belousova et al.  
428 2001; 2002; Chu et al. 2009). There is, however, no correlation between Sr contents  
429 and the degree of differentiation in the investigated samples from the Gardar  
430 province. The data indicate that apatites from the more primitive rocks do not contain  
431 more Sr than those from the evolved rocks - neither when samples of a single suite  
432 nor those from different localities are compared (**Fig. 5**). This is probably related to  
433 the early magmatic evolution of most of the evolved Gardar rocks. These are  
434 assumed to have experienced extensive plagioclase fractionation (e.g., Bridgwater  
435 1967; Bridgwater and Harry 1968; Halama et al. 2002), which could have caused the  
436 generally low Sr contents in apatite.

437 Apatites from Grønnedal-Ika are richer in Sr than those from the other Gardar rocks  
438 (except the Ilímaussaq apatites) and their Sr contents decrease from core to rim

439 **(Figs. 5 and 6)**. Similarly, Sr contents of clinopyroxene and amphibole from  
440 Grønnedal-Ika are significantly higher than in other Gardar syenites and in contrast to  
441 minerals and rocks from other Gardar complexes, lack any Eu anomalies (Marks et  
442 al. 2004b). Furthermore, Grønnedal-Ika hosts the only large carbonatite body that  
443 intrudes Archean basement rocks. Isotopic data for this complex indicate a slightly  
444 different magma source and the absence of any significant crustal contamination  
445 (Halama et al. 2005). Therefore, the early magmatic history of the Grønnedal-Ika  
446 complex may have been slightly different from that of the other Gardar rocks,  
447 potentially lacking extensive fractionation of plagioclase. This implies that the magma  
448 source of the Grønnedal-Ika intrusions was richer in Sr than in the case of the other  
449 Gardar complexes, which would be a primary feature, not necessarily related to the  
450 associated carbonatite.

451 Anomalously, a late-stage apgaitic vein from Ilímaussaq has apatite with even higher  
452 Sr contents, although the apatites in the less-evolved rocks of the complex contain  
453 very Sr-poor apatites (**Fig. 5**; Zirner et al. 2015). This shows that the general  
454 assumption of decreasing Sr contents in apatite with increasing differentiation is not  
455 applicable to such rock types. Because of their evolved character, minerals and rocks  
456 from Ilímaussaq are exceptionally Sr-poor (Bailey et al. 2001; Marks et al. 2004b;  
457 Schilling et al. 2011). Further, it is known that Sr is slightly compatible with alkali  
458 feldspar (which is the dominant fractionation phase) in peralkaline systems (e.g.,  
459 Henderson and Piarozynski 2012), which makes the occurrence of relatively Sr-rich  
460 apatite during the latest magmatic stages of the complex even more remarkable.  
461 Although the reason for the late Sr-rich apatites in Ilímaussaq is obscure, it may be  
462 related to the mobilization of Sr during late-magmatic to hydrothermal stages, rather  
463 than Sr enrichment during evolution through fractional crystallization.

464

465 **The combined incorporation of REE, Na and Si in apatite**

466 The concentrations of REE in apatite increase during the evolution from relatively  
467 primitive to more-evolved rocks at all of the investigated localities. This is  
468 accompanied by a Si increase and partly (but not always) by an increase in Na (**Figs.**  
469 **5 and 6**). This agrees with previous investigations on apatite from a wide range of  
470 magmatic rocks (e.g. Belousova et al. 2002; Chu et al. 2009; Nash 1984; Seifert et  
471 al. 2000; Sha and Chappell 1999). As REE are strongly compatible in apatite (e.g.,  
472 Hoskin et al. 2000; Watson and Green 1981; Prowatke and Klemme 2006), apatite is  
473 more sensitive to changes in REE concentrations in magmas than most rock-forming  
474 silicate minerals (Cherniak 2000).

475 Through the coupled substitution of REE with Si and REE with Na for Ca and P (see  
476 above), any secondary or post-magmatic change in the REE concentrations would  
477 require a complementary redistribution of Si and Na. Tepper and Kuehner (1999)  
478 observed that REE diffusion rates in apatite are an order of magnitude slower if the  
479 coupled substitution mechanism is  $\text{Ca}^{2+} + \text{P}^{5+} \leftrightarrow \text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Si}^{4+}$ , compared to the  
480 incorporation of  $\text{REE}^{3+}$  via the coupled substitution  $2\text{Ca}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Na}^+$ . However,  
481 Cherniak (2002) has suggested that there is no difference in REE mobility within  
482 apatites with regard to the particular coupled substitution mechanism by which the  
483 REE are charge balanced.

484 Zoning patterns observed for apatites in this study support the arguments of Tepper  
485 and Kuehner (1999) that the compositional zoning for REE and Si is always  
486 preserved, but partly erased for Na, especially in those apatites with rounded core  
487 textures (**Fig. 6**). This underlines the high potential for REE and Si contents in apatite  
488 to be used as a powerful petrogenetic indicator, but less so for Na. In our study,

489 increasing Na concentrations related to differentiation processes are only observed  
490 at localities that include relatively primitive and evolved rocks (e.g., Isortoq), whereas  
491 in evolved syenitic complexes (e.g., Puklen and Motzfeldt) this relationship is much  
492 less clear (**Fig. 5**). We assign this to the post-magmatic hydrothermal overprinting  
493 typical for plutonic alkaline complexes. We further suggest that this is preserved in  
494 apatites from syenitic complexes, as these show a relatively wide range for the fast-  
495 diffusing elements (e.g. Na and Sr) within single samples (**Fig. 5**; see above). This is  
496 most pronounced in samples from the Grønnedal-Ika and Motzfeldt complexes.  
497 Apatites from these complexes show abundant zoning textures that are probably  
498 related to the interaction with evolved fluids/melts, such as rounded core textures,  
499 patchy zoning and irregular overgrowths (**Figs. 3 and 4**; Rae et al. 1996; Zirner et al.  
500 2015). Accordingly, primary magmatic processes may be distinguished from  
501 metasomatic processes on the basis of textural arguments. From these observations  
502 and the fast diffusion rates of Na and Sr (Cherniak 2000; Cherniak and Ryerson  
503 1993; Tepper and Kuehner 1999), the overall reliability of these two elements as  
504 petrogenetic indicators for magmatic processes is poor, at least for alkaline plutonic  
505 rocks.

506 There is no direct link between the relative importance of REE coupled substitution  
507 mechanisms involving Si and the Si contents of the host melts: Apatites from quartz-  
508 bearing syenites of Puklen are not dominated by this coupled substitution  
509 mechanism unlike the apatites from the syenites of the Ilímaussaq complex (**Fig. 8**).  
510 Only in apatites from the agpaitic rocks does the REE coupled substitution  
511 mechanism involving Na become dominant (although not in all cases; Zirner et al.  
512 2015; **Fig. 8**). Apatites from the other nepheline syenites fall in between these two  
513 extremes as do apatites from both Si-poor (carbonatites) and Si-rich magmas  
514 (granitic rocks; Sha and Chappell 1999; Teiber et al. 2015a). The amount of Si in

515 apatite is a good petrogenetic indicator, within a given rock association, for  
516 reconstructing, (for example) magma differentiation paths. However, the Si contents  
517 in apatite do not provide direct information about the melt compositions e.g., SiO<sub>2</sub>  
518 over- or undersaturation. This suggests, that the amount of Si substitution in apatite  
519 is influenced by the availability of REE involved in the frequently observed coupled  
520 substitution  $\text{Ca}^{2+} + \text{P}^{5+} \leftrightarrow \text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Si}^{4+}$  (Pan and Fleet 2002; Fleet et al. 2000; Zirner  
521 et al. 2015; Rønso 1989; 2008).

522

### 523 **Comparison between apatite from alkaline rocks and other rock types**

524 In the following discussion the compositional variation of apatites from the Gardar  
525 Province is compared to that from investigations of (1) alkaline rock suites of the  
526 Pilansberg complex (South Africa; Liverovich and Mitchell 2006) and the Tamazeght  
527 complex (Morocco; Wang et al., unpublished data); (2) carbonatites and phoscorites  
528 from Russia, Canada, USA, Brazil, Australia, Namibia, Tanzania, Kenya, Finland,  
529 Norway and Germany; (3) gabbroic rocks from Canada, USA, China, Australia, South  
530 Africa and Zimbabwe; (4) dioritic rocks from Canada, China, Germany, and the  
531 Tibetan plateau; (5) biotite ( $\pm$  amphibole) granitoids (including monzonites,  
532 granodiorites, and granites) from Australia, Scotland, Greece, Germany, and the  
533 Tibetan plateau; and (6) muscovite-bearing granites from Australia, Greece,  
534 Germany, and the Tibetan plateau as compiled by Teiber et al. (2015a). In doing so,  
535 we try to identify characteristic compositional features of apatite from alkaline rocks  
536 as compared to other rock types (**Fig. 9**).

537

538 **Ca-Sr-Ce systematics** - High Sr contents in apatite, approaching end-member  
539 composition, are known from carbonatites (**Fig. 9b**) and from kimberlites, orangeites,

540 and lamprophyres (cf. recent compilation of Chakhmouradian et al. 2002). However,  
541 in some apatites from carbonatites, Sr contents are as low as in gabbroic, dioritic and  
542 granitic rocks. Sr-rich apatites in such rocks are not restricted to late-stage  
543 pegmatites or hydrothermal rocks, but can occur as early magmatic phases.  
544 Although the partition coefficient for Sr between apatite and carbonatitic melts is low  
545 ( $<1$ ) compared to that between apatite and silicate melts (typically  $>1$ ; Prowatke and  
546 Klemme 2006; Hammouda et al. 2010), it is suggested that the generally Sr-rich  
547 character of carbonatitic melts overwhelms this potential effect in many cases (e.g.,  
548 Teiber et al. 2015a). Likewise, apatite from the Tamazeght and Pilansberg  
549 complexes and other alkaline rocks are highly variable but achieve similarly high  
550 amounts of Sr (**Fig. 9a**; Chakhmouradian et al. 2002). The extremely evolved  
551 agpaitic rocks from Ilímaussaq, however, do not contain unusually Sr-rich apatites.  
552 We suggest that this may be caused by differences in the composition of the melts  
553 from which these apatites crystallized and differences in the fractionating phase  
554 assemblage during magmatic evolution. It is, for example, well established that the  
555 early magmatic history of some Gardar complexes is strongly influenced by the early  
556 fractionation of large amounts of plagioclase (e.g. Bridgwater 1967; Halama et al.  
557 2002; Upton et al. 2003; Marks et al. 2011). This is in strong contrast to the evolution  
558 of the Tamazeght complex (e.g., Marks et al. 2008). As Sr is strongly compatible in  
559 plagioclase, Sr-rich apatite in alkaline rocks may only form if no extensive plagioclase  
560 fractionation happened during early magmatic stages. This may place direct  
561 constraints on parental melt compositions for alkaline rock suites, which are assumed  
562 to be alkali basaltic and nephelinitic (e.g., Upton et al. 2003; Kramm and Kogarko  
563 1994; Arzamatshev et al. 2001). We suggest, that Sr-rich apatite occurs only in rocks  
564 derived from the latter. The stability of plagioclase in other plutonic rocks (gabbros,

565 diorites, and other granitoids) may be the reason that Sr contents in apatites from  
566 these rocks normally do not reach elevated Sr contents (**Figs. 9c and d**).

567 The Ce content (as a proxy for REE in general) is generally low in gabbroic, dioritic,  
568 and granitoid rocks but reaches higher values in carbonatites. The most REE-rich  
569 apatite-group minerals are known from the Ilímaussaq agpaites (**Fig. 5**, Rønso  
570 1989, 2008; Zirner et al. 2015). By no means do all the apatites from the other  
571 Gardar syenitic rocks, Tamazeght, and Pilansberg reach high Ce contents (**Fig. 9a**).  
572 The highest Ce-enrichments found in late-stage overgrowth textures of apatites.  
573 These are probably due to interaction with REE-rich residual melts and metasomatic  
574 fluids (Zirner et al. 2015). This is most likely related to the exceptional REE-rich  
575 nature of the Ilímaussaq melts (e.g., Larsen and Sørensen 1987), obviously not  
576 present in alkaline rocks in general and certainly not in gabbroic, dioritic, and  
577 granitoid rocks. It was suggested that the Late Gardar mantle source underwent  
578 metasomatic enrichment in LREE, Nb, F, and P that was inherited by the basaltic  
579 magmas derived from it. Extreme differentiation under reduced conditions ultimately  
580 led to the production of the Ilímaussaq agpaites (Upton 2013). In these rocks, large  
581 amounts of other REE-rich phases (e.g., eudialyte-group minerals, rinkite, and  
582 others; Larsen and Sørensen 1987; Petersen 2001) occur, mainly after apatite  
583 crystallization, implying that the residual melts were indeed REE-rich. Extensive  
584 apatite crystallization happened during the augite syenite stage prior to agpaites  
585 formation where only small amounts of apatite crystallized. During late-magmatic and  
586 hydrothermal stages, however, large amounts of various phosphates (e.g., monazite,  
587 natrophosphate, vitusite) and silico-phosphates (e.g., steenstrupine, lomonosovite)  
588 appear in the Ilímaussaq rocks, especially in so-called hyper-agpaites (e.g. Sørensen  
589 and Larsen 2001). Some of these minerals (e.g. steenstrupine) are very REE-rich  
590 giving rise to one of the largest REE deposits of the world (Marks and Markl 2015).



591

592 **P-Si-S systematics** – The lowest S contents occur in apatites from muscovite-  
593 bearing granites and from alkaline rocks of the Gardar Province and the Pilansberg  
594 intrusion. Apatites from carbonatites, gabbros, diorites, and biotite ( $\pm$  amphibole)  
595 granitoids are intermediate in S contents. High S contents are found in apatites from  
596 the alkaline Tamazeght complex (**Fig. 9**). This probably relates to the redox  
597 conditions of the melts from which the apatite crystallized, as S is usually  
598 incorporated as sulfate rather than sulfide in the apatite structure (Peng et al. 1997;  
599 Parrat et al. 2002; Parat and Holtz 2004). This is consistent with our data. Many of  
600 the Gardar intrusions are known to have crystallized under reduced conditions  
601 (Upton and Thomas 1980; Larsen and Sørensen 1987; Marks & Markl 2001). Redox  
602 conditions during the crystallization of gabbros and many granitoids are generally  
603 more oxidized. Also, the relatively high S contents in some of the Tamazeght rocks  
604 are in line with relatively oxidized conditions in some lithologies (Marks et al. 2008).

605 The abundance of Si in apatite is highly variable in igneous rocks. The highest  
606 concentrations are observed in carbonatites and the Ilímaussaq apgaites. Obviously  
607 the Si contents in apatites do not reflect the Si-contents of the host melts as apatites  
608 from granitic rocks are generally relatively low in Si (**Fig. 9d**). This can be explained  
609 by the often observed coupled substitution  $\text{Ca}^{2+} + \text{P}^{5+} \leftrightarrow \text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Si}^{4+}$  (see above)  
610 linking REE with Si contents in apatite (Pan and Fleet 2002; Fleet et al. 2000; Zirner  
611 et al. 2015; Rønsbo 1989; 2008).

612

613 **Ca-Fe-Mn systematics** – There is no clear relationship between the Fe-content of  
614 the apatites and that of their host rock (**Fig. 9**). Apatite Mn contents are known to be  
615 relatively high in muscovite-bearing granites. This has been related to their source

616 composition and redox conditions during apatite crystallization (Sha and Chappell  
617 1999; Belousova et al. 2002). Recently, a negative correlation between Mn in apatite  
618 and oxygen fugacity ( $f_{O_2}$ ) was proposed as a potential oxybarometer (Miles et al.  
619 2014). Therefore it is surprising that Mn contents in strongly reduced rocks of the  
620 Gardar Province are exceptionally low (mostly below 500  $\mu\text{g/g}$ ) as opposed to  
621 muscovite-bearing granites, where apatite may contain Mn at the wt%-level (e.g.,  
622 Sha and Chappell 1999; Belousova et al. 2002; Teiber et al. 2014; 2015a). We  
623 suggest that this is because of the strong temperature-dependence of  $f_{O_2}$  (e.g.,  
624 Huebner 1971; Ohmoto and Kerrick 1977). Thus, reduced conditions may result in  
625 high Mn contents in apatite that crystallized at relatively low temperatures (as  
626 observed in some muscovite-bearing granites) or in low Mn contents, if apatite  
627 crystallized at relatively high temperatures, as is the case in many syenitic rocks.  
628 Therefore redox or temperature estimates based on the Mn content of apatite are  
629 only possible if combined with independent estimates on T or  $f_{O_2}$ .

630

631 **F-Cl-OH systematics** - In most igneous rocks, apatite almost invariably comprises  
632 fluorapatite-hydroxylapatite solid solutions. Apatites with significant amounts of Cl  
633 approaching chlorapatite composition are known only from some relative primitive  
634 rocks such as gabbros and diorites (**Fig. 9c**). This could either relate to source  
635 composition (cf. Sha and Chappell 1999; Teiber et al. 2014) or to the changing  
636 partitioning behavior of F and Cl between apatite and melt/fluid at variable  
637 crystallization temperatures (e.g., Mathez and Webster 2005; Webster et al. 2009;  
638 Patino Douce et al. 2011; Doherty et al. 2014). Interpretation of the significance of the  
639 hydroxylapatite component is hampered by analytical difficulties. Since most  
640 published apatite analyses are based on EMPA data, OH is generally calculated on

641 the basis of stoichiometry on the halogen site. Only recently has direct space-  
642 resolved analysis of H in apatite has become possible by means of SIMS techniques  
643 (e.g., Boyce and Hervig 2008; McCubbin et al. 2010). Even if EMPA analyses are  
644 performed using appropriate conditions that avoid migration of F and Cl during  
645 analysis (Goldoff et al. 2012; Stormer et al. 1993; Wang et al. 2014), the potential  
646 incorporation of the carbonate anion complex is generally neglected. Relatively few  
647 studies of carbon in apatite are available, mostly from carbonatitic rocks (e.g.  
648 Sommerauer and Katz-Lehnert 1985; Binder and Troll 1989; Santos and Clayton  
649 1995; Nadeau et al. 1999) and apatite from the lithospheric mantle (O'Reilly and  
650 Griffin 2000). Recent data (Riker et al. 2014), however, imply that CO<sub>2</sub> may behave  
651 compatibly in apatite such that carbonate might be an important component in apatite  
652 from various igneous rocks.

653

## 654 Implications

655 Apatites from alkaline rock suites can contain exceptionally high levels of REE, Si,  
656 and Sr that exceed even those in carbonatites. This is attributed to a combination of  
657 an enriched source composition and the early magmatic differentiation history. At the  
658 same time they are generally (but not always) poor in Fe, Mn, and S as a result of the  
659 usually reduced character of the melts that they grew in relatively high temperatures.

660 Most of the observed compositional variation is caused by two coupled substitutions  
661 involving Na, REE, Si, Ca and P, namely  $\text{Ca}^{2+} + \text{P}^{5+} \leftrightarrow \text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Si}^{4+}$  and  $2\text{Ca}^{2+} \leftrightarrow$   
662  $\text{REE}^{3+} + \text{Na}^+$ . Consequently REE and Si are considered as reliable petrogenetic  
663 indicators for fractional crystallization because potential redistribution processes are  
664 minimized by the slow diffusion of Si and REE through the apatite. In contrast, Na  
665 (and Sr) are prone to diffusive redistribution because of their rapid diffusion in apatite,

666 which diminishes their usefulness as petrogenetic indicators in alkaline plutonic  
667 complexes.

668

669 **Acknowledgments** - We acknowledge discussions with Ralf Halama, Johannes  
670 Schönenberger and Holger Teiber and funding by the Deutsche  
671 Forschungsgemeinschaft (grant MA 2563/3-1). We highly appreciate the detailed  
672 comments provided by Jim Webster and one anonymous reviewer and the editorial  
673 handling of Dan Harlov.

674

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1027

1028

## Figure captions

1029 **Fig. 1:** Geological sketch map of the Gardar Province (South Greenland), showing  
1030 the studied locations (modified from Escher and Watt 1976).

1031

1032 **Fig. 2:** Whole-rock compositions of the studied sample material. Data from Baileys et  
1033 al. (2001); Halama et al. (2004); (2005); Jones (1980), Larsen and Steenfelt (1974);  
1034 Marks et al. (2003); (2007); Upton and Thomas (1980); and Upton et al. (1976);  
1035 (1985).

1036

1037 **Fig. 3:** Apatite textures from the Gønnedal-Ika complex (BSE images), showing  
1038 concentric and oscillatory zoning (a), rounded core textures (b and c), and irregular  
1039 overgrowth textures (d). Mineral abbreviations are the same as in the Table 1.

1040

1041 **Fig. 4:** Apatite textures from the Motzfeld and Puklen complexes (BSE images),  
1042 showing concentric and oscillatory zoning (a-c), patchy zoning (d), homogeneous  
1043 grains (e), and irregular overgrowth textures (f). Mineral abbreviations are the same  
1044 as in the Table 1.

1045

1046 **Fig. 5:** Compositional variation of apatites from the Gardar Province. Abbreviations:  
1047 IGL = Igdlutalik, T(OGDC) = Tugtutôq; Older Giant Dike Complex, T(YGDC) =  
1048 Tugtutôq, Younger Giant Dike Complex; ISQ = Isortoq dike swarm; GRI =  
1049 Grønnedal-Ika complex; PUK = Puklen complex; MOF = Motzfeldt; NQ North Qôroq  
1050 complex (Rae et al. 1996); KUT = Kûngnât complex; and ILM = Ilímaussaq complex  
1051 (Rønsbo 1998; 2008; Zirner et al. 2015). Analyses from IGL, T(OGDC), T(YGDC)  
1052 and KUT (gray symbols) derive from different analytical conditions (see description of  
1053 methods). For each locality the investigated samples are shown from left to right by  
1054 decreasing  $X_{Mg}$  of their whole-rock and their mafic mineral composition.

1055

1056 **Fig. 6:** Compositional zoning with respect to Ce, Na, Sr, and Si for apatites from the  
1057 Grønnedal-Ika (1 and 2) and the Motzfeld complexes (3-5). Apatite crystal (4) shows  
1058 a rounded core whilst all the other apatites are concentrically zoned. In the latter type

1059 Ce, Na, and Si increase from core to rim, while Sr decreases. In apatite grain (4),  
1060 however, Na and Sr deviate from this general rule.

1061

1062 **Fig. 7:** Halogen contents for apatites from the Gardar Province. Abbreviations are the  
1063 same as in Fig. 5. For each locality, the investigated samples are shown from left to  
1064 right by decreasing  $X_{Mg}$  of their whole-rock and their mafic mineral composition.  
1065 Analyses from IGL, T(OGDC), T(YGDC), and KUT (gray symbols) derive from  
1066 different analytical conditions (see description of methods). Therefore, the halogen  
1067 concentrations should be interpreted with caution, due to the mobility of F and less so  
1068 Cl during analyses, which was not considered at the time of their analysis.

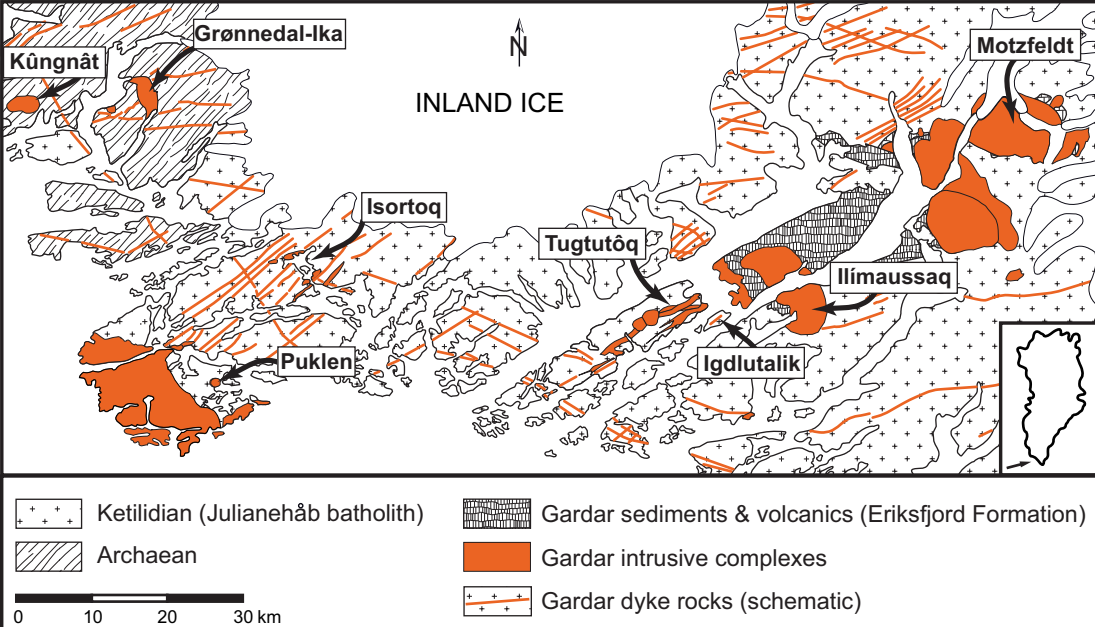
1069

1070 **Fig. 8:** Variation of (Ca + P) versus (REE + Si) for the investigated apatites,  
1071 indicating the importance of the two coupled substitutions  $Ca^{2+} + P^{5+} = REE^{3+} + Si^{4+}$   
1072 and  $2Ca^{2+} = REE^{3+} + Na^{+}$ . Note that REE represents EMPA data for La and Ce. (a)  
1073 All apatites. (b) Apatites from the intrusive complexes of Kûngnât, Grønnedal-Ika,  
1074 Puklen, Motzfeldt, and Ilímaussaq, which includes data from Rønsbo (1989),  
1075 (2008) and Zirner et al. (2015). (c) Apatites from the dike rocks of Isortoq and  
1076 Tugtutôq. Note the change of scale in the three subfigures.

1077

1078 **Fig. 9:** Comparison of apatite compositions (on a molar basis) from alkaline rocks (a),  
1079 carbonatites (b), gabbros and diorites (c), and granites (d). Data for alkaline rocks are  
1080 from this study, Rae et al. (1996), Zirner et al. (2015), Liferovich and Mitchell (2006),  
1081 and Wang et al. (unpublished). Fields for carbonatites, gabbros, diorites, biotite ±

- 1082 amphibole granites, and muscovite granites are taken from the recent compilation of  
1083 Teiber et al. (2015a).



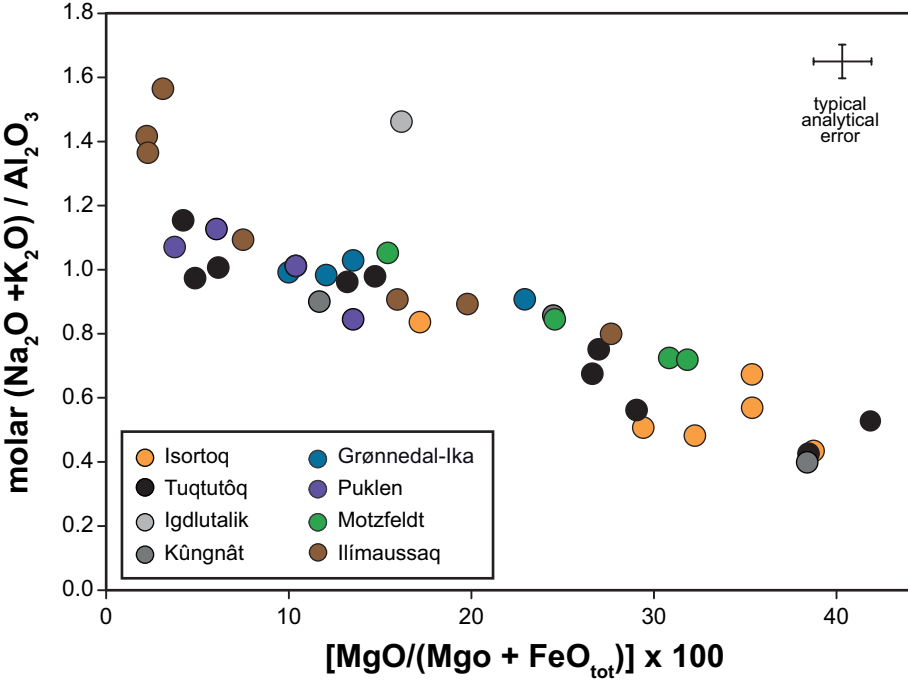
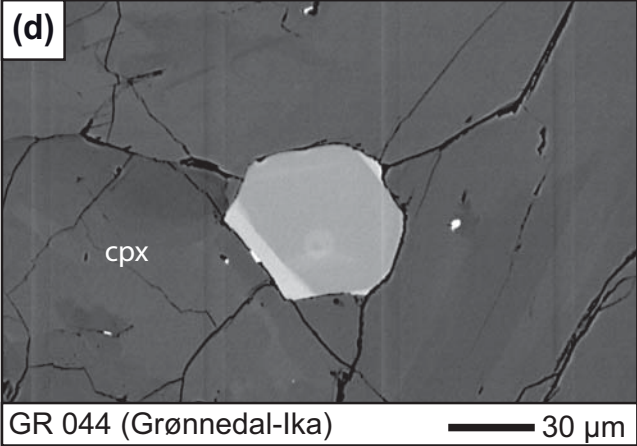
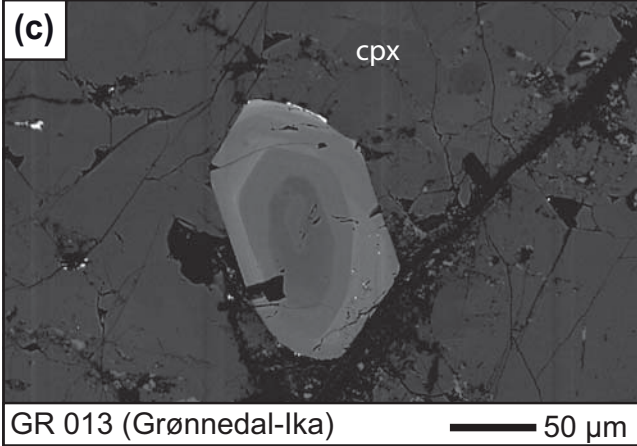
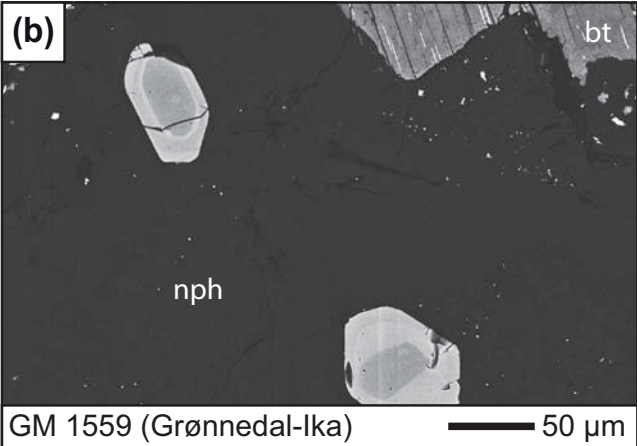
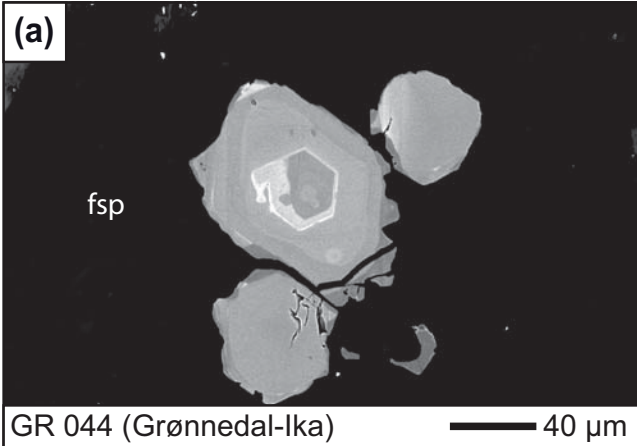
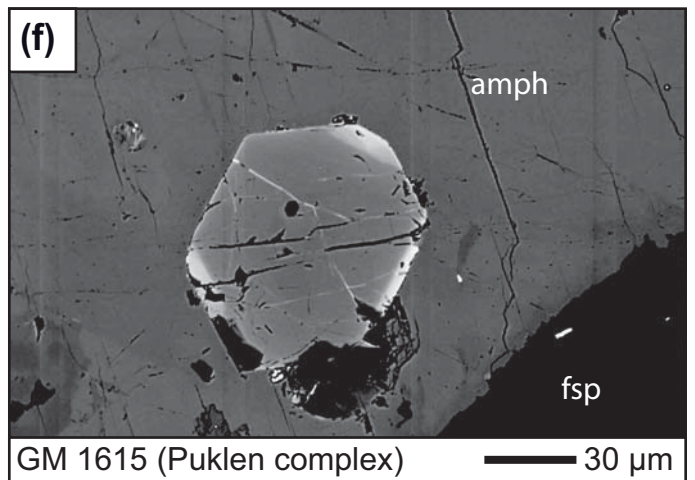
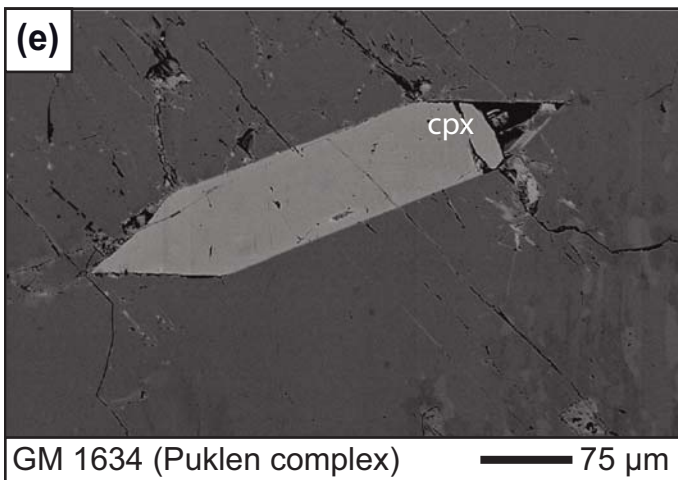
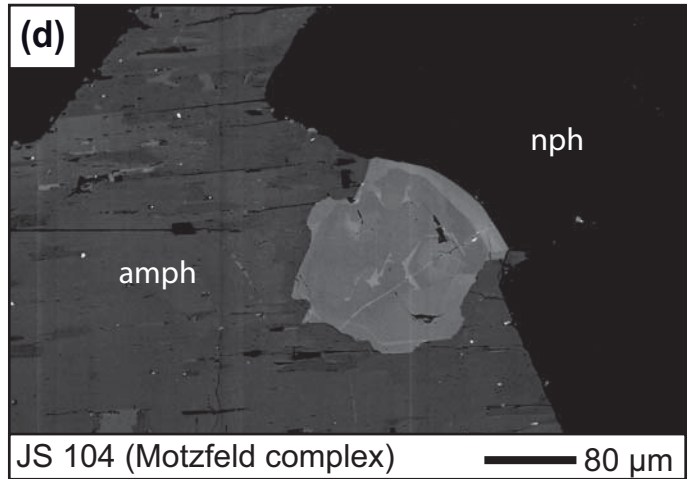
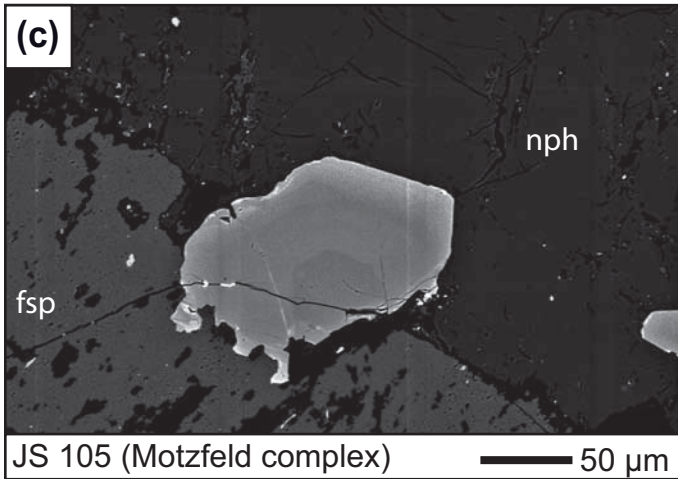
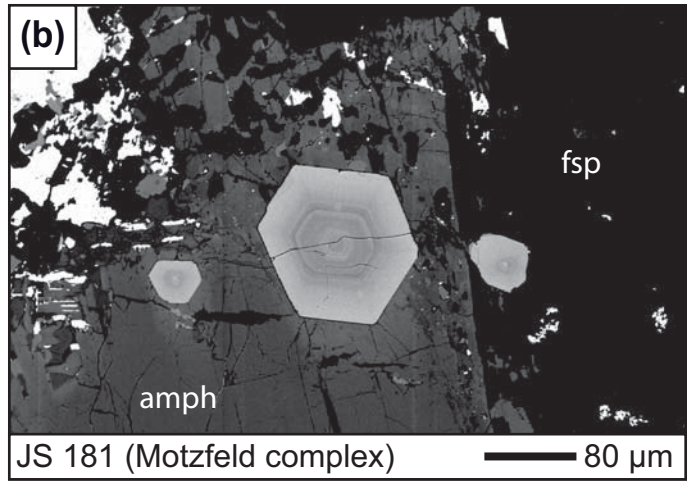
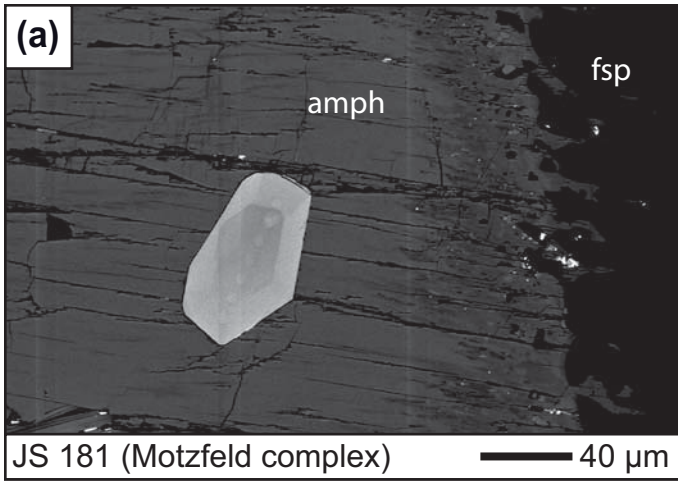
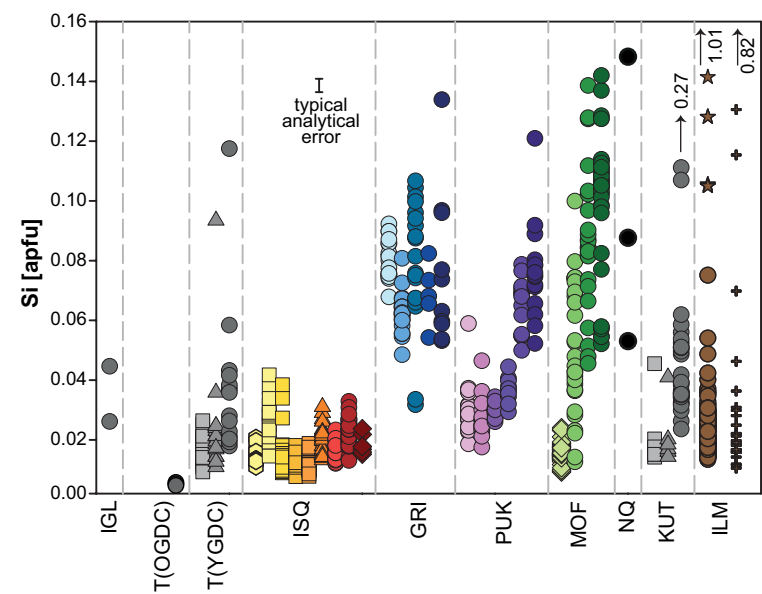
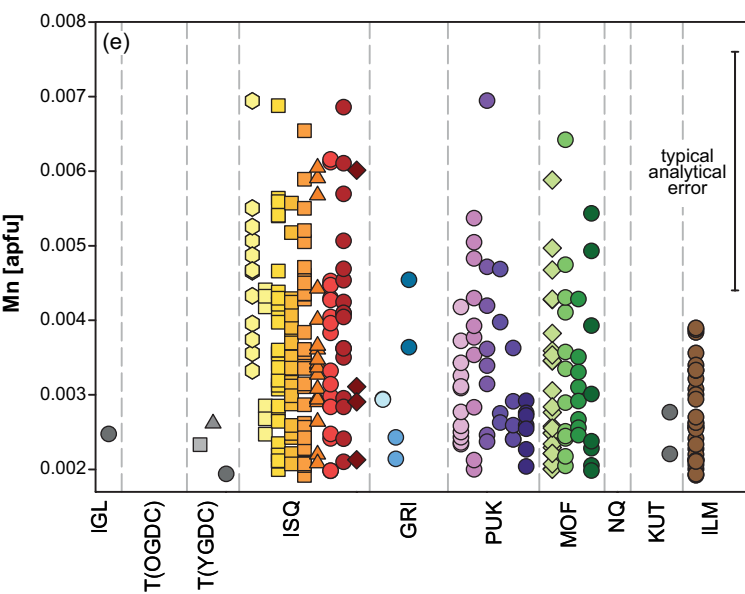
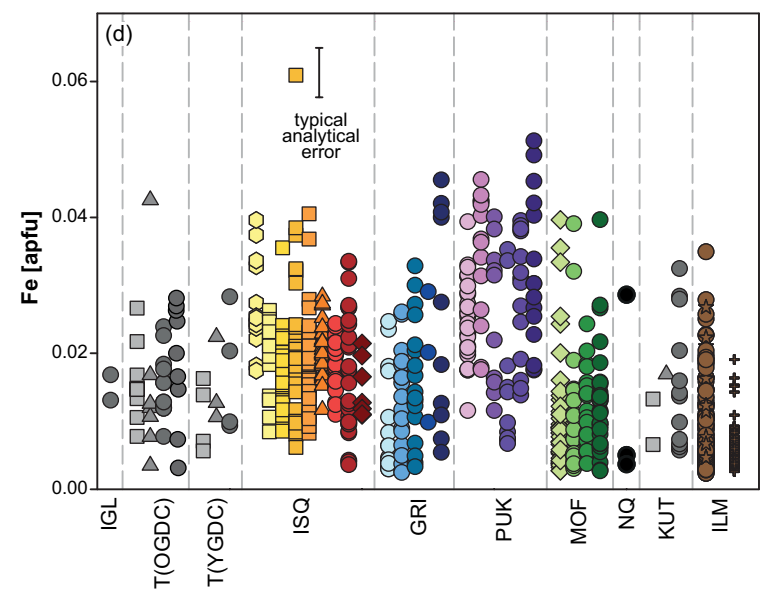
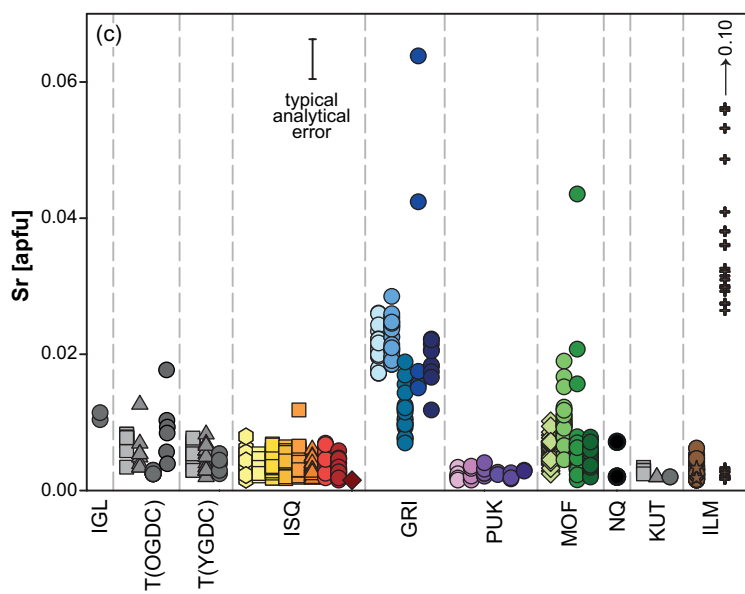
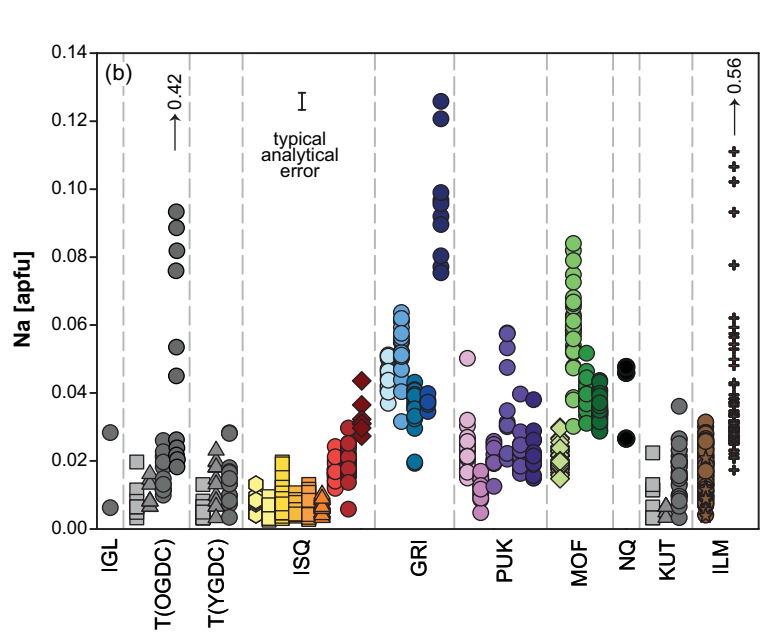
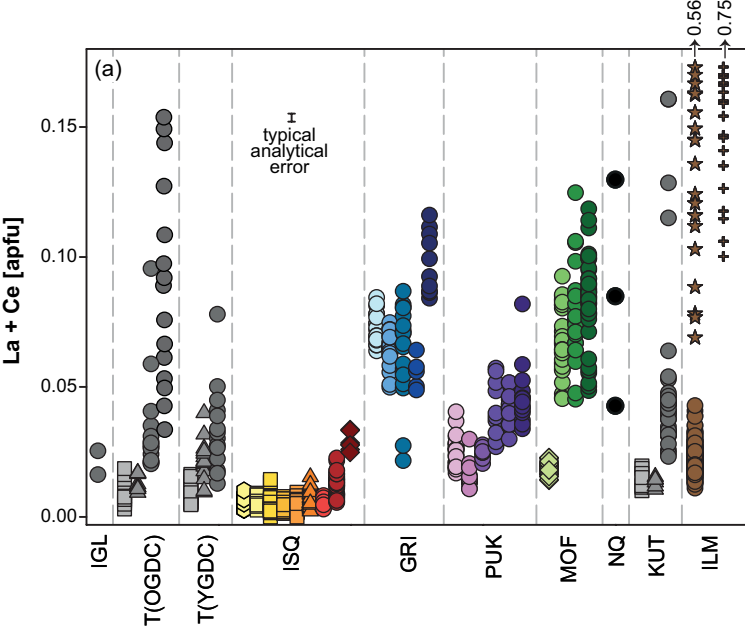




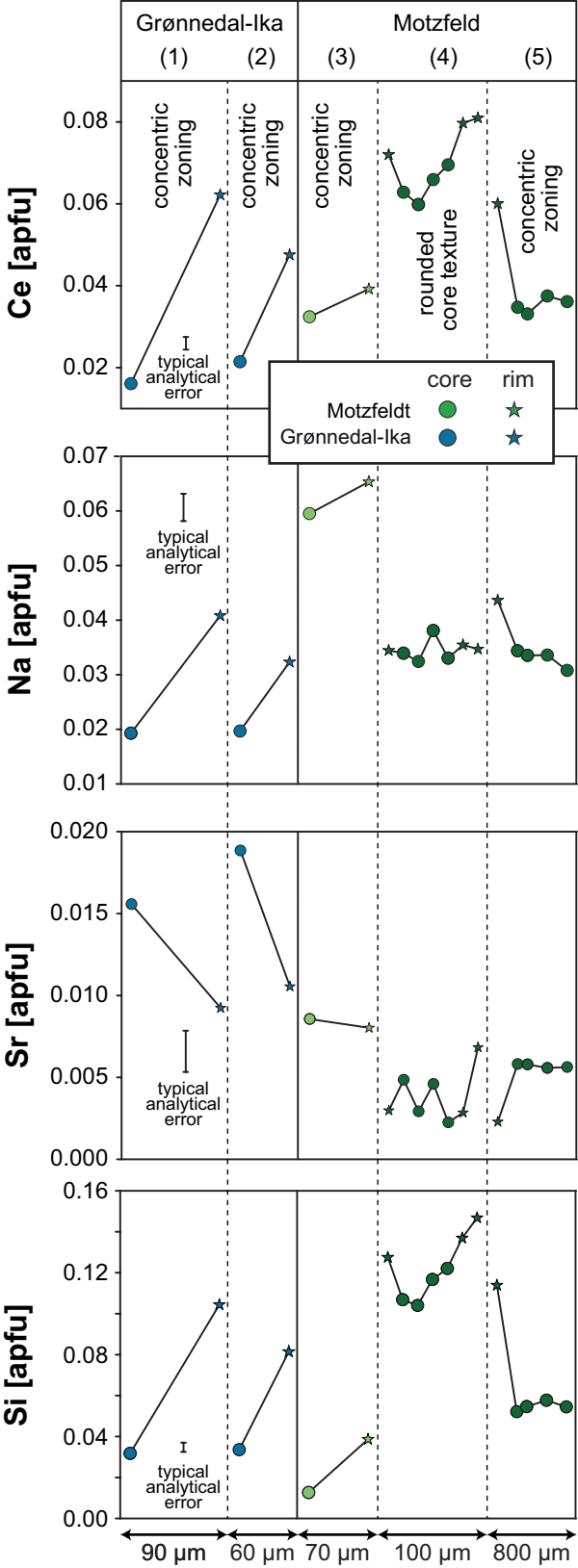
Figure 3

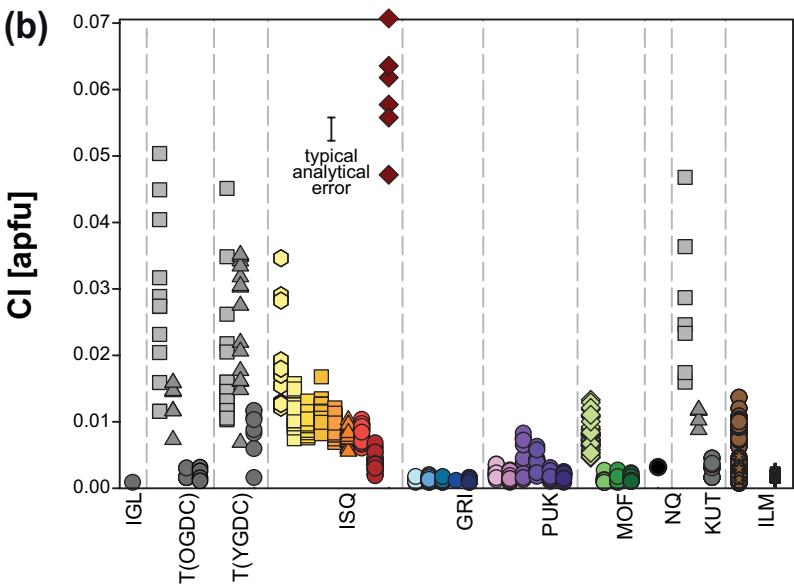
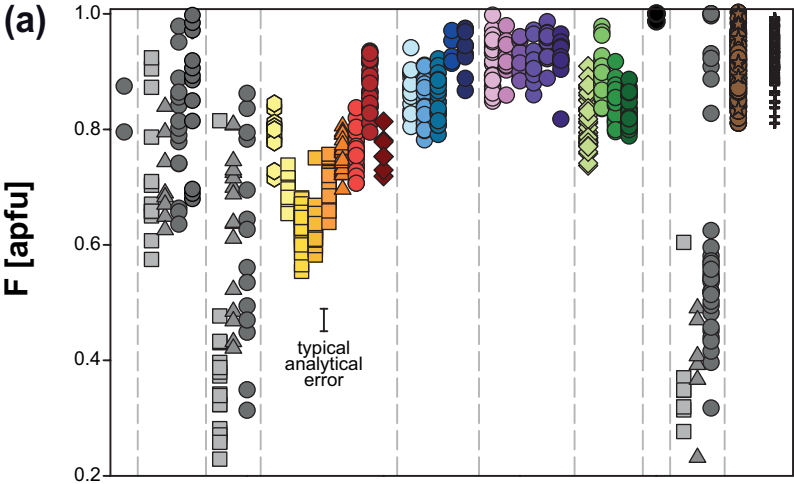


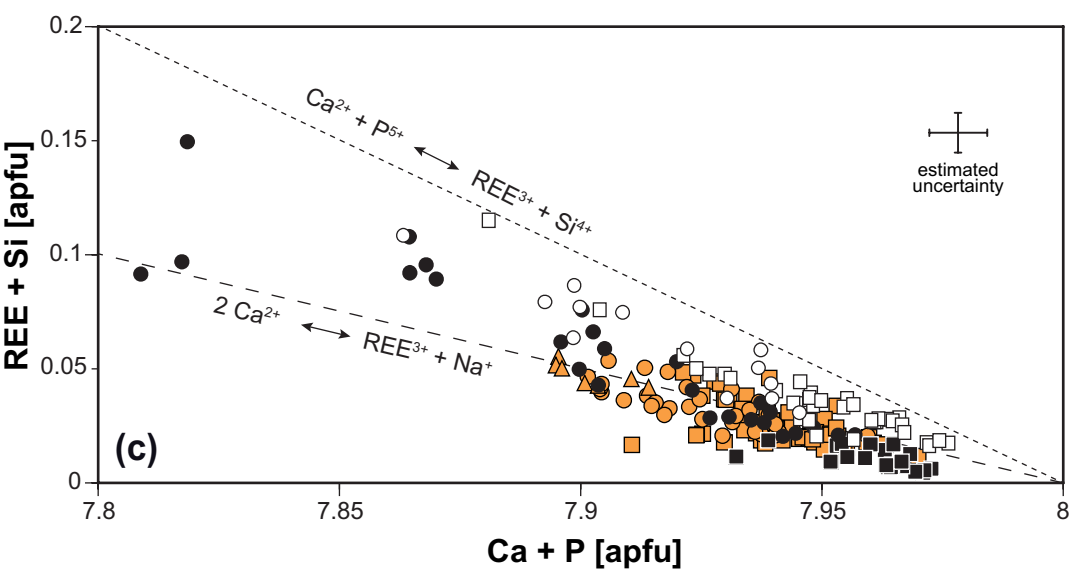
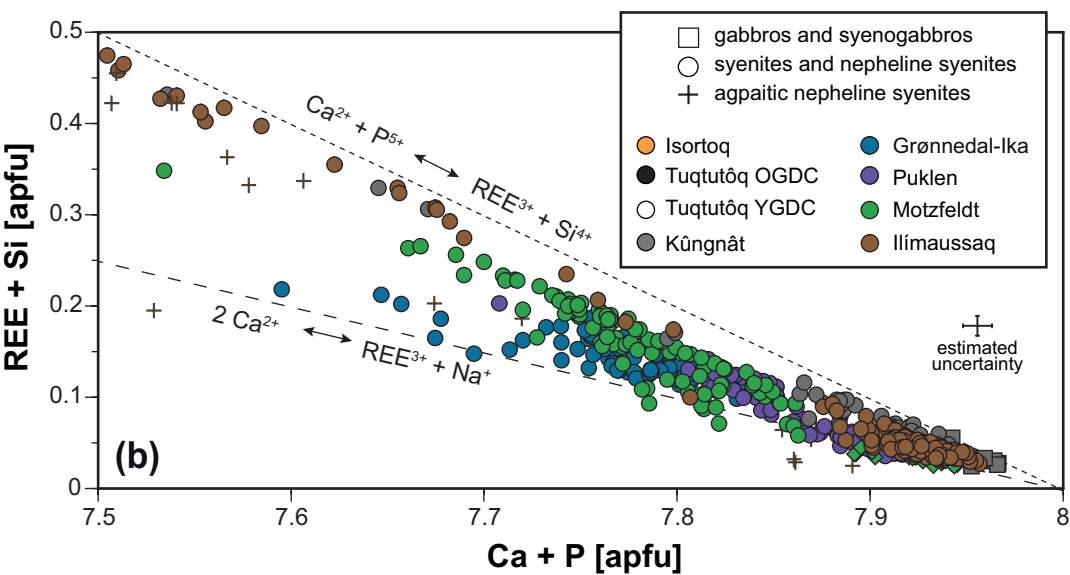
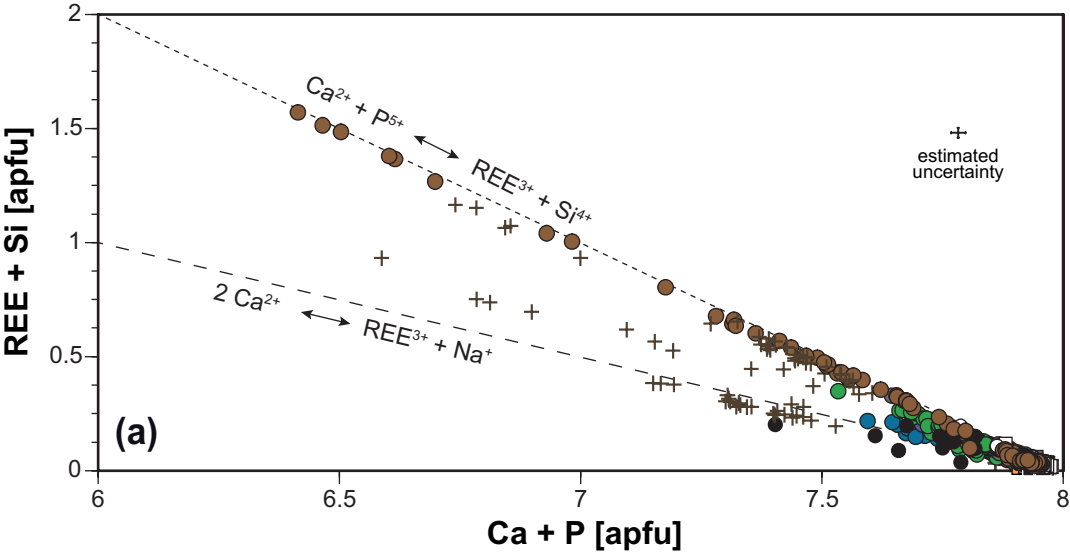




- anorthosite xenolith
- gabbro
- △ syenogabbro
- ◇ larvikite
- miaskitic syenite, pulaskite and foyaitite
- ☆ miaskitic syenite (secondary overgrowth)
- + agpaitic syenite

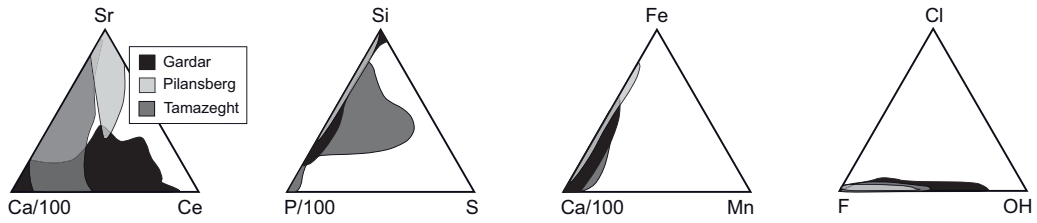




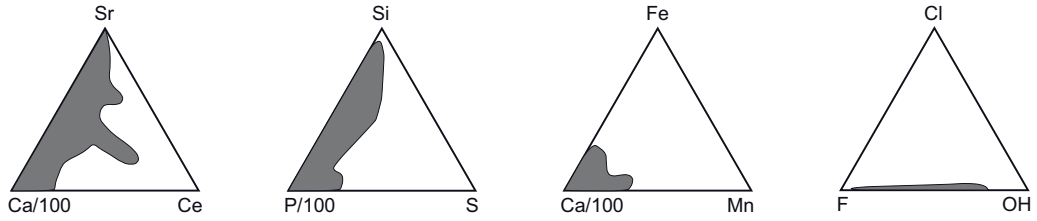


# Figure 9

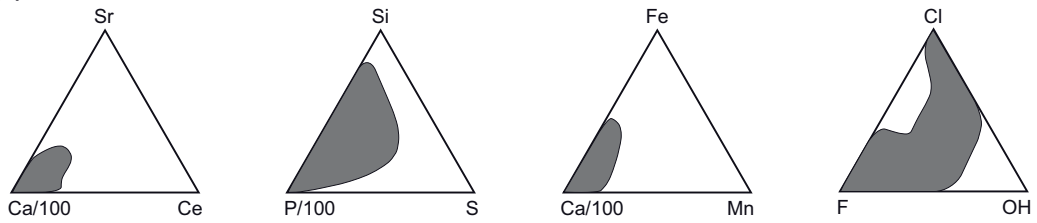
## (a) Alkaline rocks



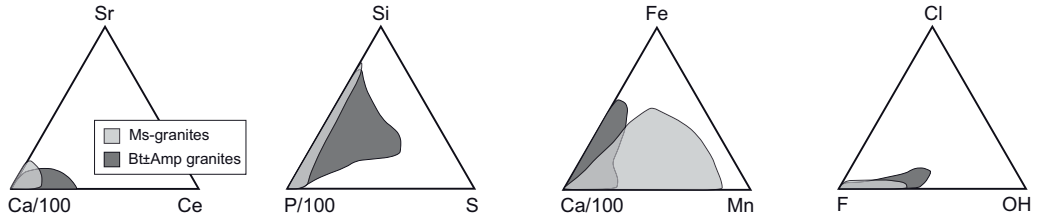
## (b) Carbonatites



## (c) Gabbros and diorites



## (d) Granites





**Table 1:** Overview of the samples considered in this study, including their major mineralogy.

locality	sample	rock type	major minerals												
			Ol	Cpx	Amp	Pl	Afs	Nph	Qtz	Bt	Ox	Aen	Sod	Eud	
Grønnedal-Ika	GR 044	nepheline syenite		x				x	x				x		
	GM 1559	nepheline syenite		x				x	x		x		x		
	GR 013	nepheline syenite		x				x	x				x		
	GR 001	nepheline syenite		x				x	x				x		
	GM 1531	nepheline syenite		x		x		x	x						
Kûngnât	86182	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	86186	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	27685	syenogabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	86194	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
	86189	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
	26119	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
	81143	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
	86200	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
	81103	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x
81108	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	x	
Motzfeld	JS 215	nepheline syenite		x	x			x	x						x
	JS 105	nepheline syenite		x	x			x	x						x
	JS 105	nepheline syenite		x	x			x	x						x
	JS 181	larvikite	x	x	x	x	x	x					x	x	
Isortoq	GM 1682	anorthosite xenolith		x	x	x					x				x
	GM 1803	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	GM 1762	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	GM 1761	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	GM 1760	gabbro	x	x			x	x					x	x	
	GM 1712	syenogabbro		x			x	x					x	x	
	GM 1776	syenite		x	x			x					x	x	
	GM 1778	syenite		x	x			x					x	x	
	GM 1684	larvikite	x	x	x	x	x				x		x	x	x
Tugtutôq (OGDC)	86120	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	86122	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	86126	syenogabbro	x	x	x		x	x					x	x	
	86100	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	86119	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	50241	pulaskite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	86036	foyaite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	86035	foyaite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
85998	foyaite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x		
Tugtutôq (YGDC)	40452	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	40464	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	30636	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	212103	gabbro	x	x			x						x	x	
	40551	syenogabbro	x	x	x		x	x					x	x	
	186221	syenogabbro	x	x	x		x	x					x	x	
	216621	syenogabbro	x	x	x		x	x					x	x	
	216622	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	186227	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	216627	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	40549	syenite	x	x	x			x			x		x	x	
Igdlutalik	101204	trachyte		x				x					x	x	
Puklen	GM 1634	syenite	x	x	x			x					x	x	
	GM 1590	syenite		x	x			x						x	
	GM 1625	syenite		x	x			x						x	
	GM 1586	syenite	x	x	x			x						x	
	GM 1615	syenite	x	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x
	GM 1616	syenite	x	x	x	x	x			x			x	x	x
	GM 1605	granite		x	x	x	x			x			x	x	
GM 1606	granite		x	x	x	x			x			x	x		
North Qoroq	DAR278	syenite		x	x			x	x					x	
Ilimaussaq	ILM 100	syenite	x	x	x			x					x	x	
	GM1858	syenite	x	x	x	x		x					x	x	
	GM1330	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	GM1332	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	GM1333	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	GM1333*	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	U-106	syenite	x	x	x			x					x	x	
	91937	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	50722	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	
	150772	syenite	x	x	x			x	x				x	x	



	P-1-5	pulaskite	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	91976	pulaskite	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	91943	foyaite	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	91980	foyaite	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				
	149532	agpaitic syenite	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
	91922	agpaitic syenite	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	
	177244	agpaitic pegmatite		x	x	x		x					x
	ID 3A	agpaitic vein		x	x	x		x		x	x	x	
	GM1852	phonolite	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x

Aen = aenigmatite ( $\text{Na}_4[\text{Fe}^{2+}_{10}\text{Ti}_2]\text{O}_4[\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{36}]$ ); Eud = eudialyte ( $\text{Na}_{15}\text{Ca}_6\text{Fe}_3\text{Zr}_3\text{Si}(\text{Si}_{25}\text{O}_{73})(\text{O},\text{OH},\text{H}_2\text{O})_3(\text{Cl},\text{OH})_2$ )