

1 **Revision 3**

2 **Reducing epistemic and model uncertainty in ionic inter-diffusion chronology: A 3D**

3 **observation and dynamic modeling approach using olivine from Piton de la Fournaise, La**

4 **Réunion**

5

6 **Fiona K. Couperthwaite¹, Daniel J. Morgan¹, Matthew J. Pankhurst^{2,3}, Peter D. Lee^{4,5},**

7 **James M. D. Day⁶**

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9 ¹School of Earth and Environment, University of Leeds, Leeds, LS2 9JT, UK

10 ²Instituto Tecnológico y de Energías Renovables (ITER), 38600 Granadilla de Abona, Tenerife,
11 Canary Islands, Spain.

12 ³Instituto Volcanológico de Canarias (INVOLCAN), INtech, La Laguna, Calle Rectora María
13 Tejedor Salguero, 35, 38320 San Cristóbal de La Laguna, Tenerife, Canary Islands, Spain.

14 ⁴Research Complex at Harwell, Rutherford Appleton Laboratories, Didcot, OX11 0FA, UK

15 ⁵Mechanical Engineering, University College London, Gower Street, London, WC1E 6BT

16 ⁶Geoscience Research Division, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego, La Jolla,
17 CA, 92093, USA

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20 *Fiona K. Couperthwaite now at College of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, Oregon
21 State University, 104 CEOS Administration Building, Corvallis, OR 97331-5503

22

Abstract

23 The modeling of ionic diffusion in natural crystals has been developed over the last three
24 decades to calculate timescales of geological processes. As the number of studies and the size of
25 datasets have expanded, improvements in precision of the general technique are needed to
26 resolve temporal patterns that would otherwise be masked by large uncertainties. This
27 contribution examines fundamental aspects of timescale calculation uncertainty using Mg-Fe
28 zonation in olivine crystals from a Piton de la Fournaise oceanite erupted in 2002CE. First, we
29 quantitatively consider the role of geometric uncertainty in datasets, from the perspectives of
30 sectioning angle, crystal shape and crystal agglomeration. Second, we assess how crystal growth
31 and changing boundary conditions during diffusion pose problems for simplistic, 1-D, diffusion-
32 only modeling.

33 An initial database of 104 timescales (7-45 days) was generated using typical, 1-D, isothermal
34 diffusion-only methods for profiles taken from 30 compositionally- and texturally-zoned crystals
35 of olivine. The initial simplistic modeling yields poor model fits and imprecise timescales; prior
36 to this work we would have rejected >60% of these data.

37 Universal-stage measurements of crystal boundary angles and three-dimensional (3D) X-ray
38 microcomputed tomography observations of crystal shape address geometric uncertainties. U-
39 stage measurements show that, contrary to expectations of random sectioning, most boundaries
40 modelled initially were close to the ideal sectioning plane. Assessment of crystal morphology
41 from 2D thin sections suggests olivine crystals are dominantly euhedral, however, 3D imaging
42 reveals that they are significantly subhedral and often exist as agglomerates, an observation
43 which underscores both the potential for diverse crystal interactions through time in the magma

44 (Wieser et al., 2019), and out-of-plane effects capable of influencing calculations of diffusion
45 profiles.

46 Refinements to timescale determination can be made using dynamic 1-D modeling code to
47 resolve growth and changing boundary effects simultaneous with diffusion. We incorporated
48 temperature-dependent crystal growth rates (both linear growth and quadratically-increasing,
49 with a peak growth rate $\sim 1.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ ms}^{-1}$) and temperature-dependent boundary conditions
50 (controlled using a cooling rate of $-0.5 \pm 0.1 \text{ }^\circ\text{C/hr}$) to remodel 13 timescales. The result was
51 significantly improved fits of the diffusion model to the initial data, better agreement between
52 different faces of the same crystal and less scatter within the whole dataset.

53 The use of 3D imaging and the inclusion of changing boundary conditions and crystal growth for
54 diffusion calculations will enable more robust conclusions to be drawn from similar data in the
55 future. Accurately retrieving timescale information from these crystals expands the pool of data
56 available and reduces sampling bias towards ‘well-behaved’ crystals.

57

58 KEYWORDS: Olivine; diffusion chronometry; epistemic uncertainty; analytical uncertainty;
59 Piton de la Fournaise

60

61

Introduction

62 Understanding of magmatic plumbing systems has been considerably advanced in recent years
63 by investigation of individual crystal histories using quantitative diffusion chronology methods
64 (Costa and Dungan, 2005; Morgan et al., 2006; Kahl et al., 2011; Charlier et al., 2012; Shea et
65 al., 2015a; Hartley et al., 2016; Pankhurst et al., 2018b; Ruth et al., 2018; Petrone et al., 2018;

66 Mutch et al., 2019). The essential observations underpinning these studies are that chemical
67 disequilibria within natural crystals are often partially-relaxed towards full equilibrium: a
68 homogeneous distribution of elements (Figure 1a). Timescales are calculated by modeling a
69 diffusion profile that fits the observed profile (Costa and Morgan, 2010).

70 Knowledge of ionic diffusivity in mineral lattices is gained from laboratory experiments
71 (Buening and Buseck, 1973; Chakraborty et al., 1994; Leshner, 2010). These diffusivity
72 calculations are attended by inherent uncertainty, which can be attached to modeled results from
73 natural data. These experiments are designed to control environmental conditions and geometric
74 relationships in order to provide unambiguous results (Costa et al., 2008; Brady and Cherniak,
75 2010; Chakraborty, 2010; Dohmen and Milke, 2010). However, it cannot be assumed that nature
76 is so well-behaved i.e. disequilibrium conditions may be prevalent across the system and
77 subhedral, aggregated crystals may be present. Variations in intensive parameters such as
78 temperature, pressure (Blundy and Cashman, 2008), composition (Dohmen and Chakraborty,
79 2007a and b; Dohmen et al., 2007) and the geometric relationships of crystals (single crystals
80 versus aggregates, degree of euhedrality) are central to how igneous rocks are formed (Welsch et
81 al., 2013; Shea et al., 2015a). Application of experimental results to natural systems, while
82 assuming these parameters are invariant, will likely lead to inaccuracies.

83 This contribution aims to improve the utility of diffusion studies in natural rocks by
84 investigating effects of three common sources of analytical and epistemic uncertainty in natural
85 systems. These are: 1) sectioning angle; 2) 3D crystal shape; 3) crystal growth and changing
86 boundary conditions. We use Fe-Mg inter-diffusion in natural olivine as our case study, as it has
87 a well-defined and accepted diffusivity behaviour (Dohmen and Chakraborty, 2007 and b;
88 Dohmen et al., 2007; Costa et al., 2008; Kahl et al., 2013; Bouvet de Maisonneuve et al., 2016;

89 Lynn et al., 2017) and because basalt petrogenesis is relatively simple. The type of
90 improvements we discuss, however, are equally applicable in other minerals and more complex
91 igneous systems.

92 We began by constructing a dataset of core-rim composition profiles using traditional
93 methods, see Figure 1b. From these profiles, a diffusion chronometry dataset was generated
94 whereby a single temperature is input into a 1D or 2D diffusion model, and solutions corrected
95 for anisotropy (Costa and Chakraborty, 2004; Kahl et al. 2011; Hartley et al., 2016; Morgado et
96 al., 2017; Pankhurst et al., 2018b), Figure 1c. We then made observations using a universal stage,
97 X-ray microcomputed tomography (XMT) and a modeling program that can accommodate
98 dynamic boundary and temperature conditions. Uncertainties within the chronometry dataset are
99 then defined and corrected for by applying more advanced methods of observation and the
100 advanced model.

101 With the benefit of uncorrected, and corrected datasets, we assess the influence of
102 sectioning angle, crystal shape and crystal growth and changing boundary conditions at both a
103 crystal scale and at a population scale. This work is complementary to the theoretical study of
104 geometrical uncertainties and their effects on the accuracy of timescales demonstrated in Shea et
105 al. (2015a). Whilst Shea et al. (2015b) discriminated between growth and diffusion within a
106 classic skeletal olivine crystal, further validation requires diffusion-based studies that aim to
107 retrieve timescales from a wider pool of natural crystals. The olivines here are at a late stage of
108 crystal formation, the timing of the chemical profiles occurring after post-textural ripening to
109 their observed form.

110

111

Sampling and Geological Setting

112 Piton de la Fournaise (PdlF) is a basaltic shield volcano forming the south-eastern portion of La
113 Réunion, one of the Mascarene Islands that lie ~800 km off the coast of Madagascar (Longpré et
114 al., 2006; Lénat et al., 2012), see Figure 2. There have been multiple eruptions in nearly all
115 decades since historical records began in 1640 (*Global Volcanism Program*). Recent eruptions
116 have occurred in 1990, 1991, 1992, 1998-2010 and 2014-present. The recent activity is mainly
117 confined to the central caldera – Enclos Fouqué and from the northeast and southeast rift zones
118 (Lénat et al, 2012).

119 The November 2002 eruption (Figure 2) occurred on the eastern flank as a lava flow
120 (Longpré et al., 2006). The eruptive period is divided by Longpré et al. (2006) into five eruptive
121 episodes defined by periods of inflation/deflation at the summit and the flanks and increased or
122 decreased seismicity, related to dyke injection within the eastern flank (Longpré et al., 2006).
123 The lava flow is comprised of oceanite (a term first introduced by Lacroix, 1923 from Peltier et
124 al., 2009), formally defined by Boivin and Bachelery (2009) as “*a melanocratic variety of*
125 *picritic basalt made of numerous large crystals (> 20%) of olivine and a lesser proportion of*
126 *clinopyroxene, in a matrix enclosing microscopic crystals of augite, olivine, oxides and*
127 *plagioclase*”.

128 We sampled the 2002 lava flow from a road-side outcrop at Lat. -21.13136S, Long.
129 55.48424E at 223 feet elevation. This lava contains abundant 2-3 mm olivine crystals. The
130 sample collected is denoted “RU0701” throughout the paper, and whole-rock geochemical
131 information for this sample, including major-element composition, was reported in Peters et al.
132 (2016).

133

134

Initial Methods

135 **Sample preparation and characterisation**

136 Three thin sections were cut to 48 mm × 26 mm × 35 µm, ground, and polished with colloidal
137 silica to give sufficiently defect-free finish suitable for electron-backscatter diffraction (EBSD)
138 analysis, as in Lloyd (1987). Within each thin section (RU0701_1-3), we refer to an individual
139 olivine crystal using a letter and use a number to refer to a unique compositional profile extracted
140 from that crystal for the modeling, for example: RU0701_1_A1. A scan of each thin section is
141 included in Supplementary Data A. Mineralogical modal abundance was calculated using
142 ‘*JMicrovision*’ as applied to scanning electron microscope images in addition to visual
143 assessment of olivine shape made in both 2D and 3D. A core (diameter = 1.5 cm, length = 10
144 cm) was taken from the bulk-rock sample using a radial drill corer at the University of Leeds, in
145 preparation for X-ray microcomputed tomography scanning.

146

147 **Scanning electron microscope and electron probe microanalysis**

148 Backscattered electron (BSE) images of thin sections were collected for textural assessment and
149 for composition calibration using a FEI Quanta 650 Field Emission Gun-Environmental
150 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) at the University of Leeds. The imaging was conducted
151 using a focused spot size and an accelerating voltage of 20 kV. An Oxford Instruments electron
152 backscatter diffraction system using a *hkl Systems Nordlys* detector was used to gather
153 crystallographic orientation data from the portions of olivine used for compositional profiling.
154 These data were reduced using Oxford Instruments *Channel 5* software to a single set of Euler
155 angle rotations per grain, and an in-house *MS Excel* worksheet was used to transform these into a
156 set of a- b- and c-axis orientations relative into the EBSD analytical plane (i.e. the thin section
157 plane).

158 Compositional rim-to-core traverses from the olivine grains were measured using a
159 JEOL JXA8230 Electron Probe Microanalyser (EPMA) equipped with five wavelength-
160 dispersive spectrometers (WDS), also at the University of Leeds. Spot sizes of 5 μm were used
161 to extract a profile perpendicular to the crystal edge at 5-10 μm intervals. The broadest diffusion
162 margin of the crystals measured is $\sim 80 \mu\text{m}$.

163 Multiple runs were conducted to build the full dataset, using slightly different beam
164 conditions (15-20 kV and 30-50 nA) and on-peak count times (30-60s for Ni and Mn, 30-40s for
165 Si, Fe, Al and Mg and 20-30s for Cr). Higher energy and currents were used together with
166 shorter count times and resulted in similar precision, as calculated using data from secondary
167 standards from each run. Analyses that recorded totals outside 98 to 101.1 wt% were rejected.
168 Microbeam reference materials distributed by the Smithsonian Institute, Washington D.C.
169 (Jarosewich, 1980) were used as primary standards, whose details along with detection limits
170 determined in this study are reported in Supplementary Data A.

171 The San Carlos olivine standard NMNH 111312-44 was used to calculate the external
172 accuracy and reproducibility of olivine composition via analyses at the start, end and within-run.
173 The Fo content of the San Carlos olivine was reproducible within-run precisions of $2\sigma = 0.07$ -
174 $0.14 \text{ mol}\%$ ($n = 66$ over the course of the study). Internal olivine standards used were
175 Springwater (USNM 2566) and Geo2 (see Pankhurst et al. 2016). Analyses of groundmass
176 minerals were conducted alongside suitable matrix-matched standards, as detailed in
177 Supplementary Data A.

178

179 **Initial modeling**

180 **Thermometry and Oxygen Fugacity.** For mafic magmas it is common to utilize olivine-
181 melt thermometry (Putirka, 2008) to determine crystallisation temperatures. In the absence of
182 preserved homogeneous glass, we retrieved bulk compositions of the microcrystalline
183 groundmass (Geiger *et al.*, 2016). A quantitative mapping, raster matrix method was used to
184 collect the compositional data, using the ‘Probe for EPMA’ software (Donovan *et al.* 2012) and
185 further refined using Surfer Software.

186 Grids of the groundmass were scanned using WDS, after which a matrix correction was
187 applied to the data on a pixel-by-pixel basis, mimicking beam defocusing (another technique
188 used to analyse broad areas; Morgan and London, 1996). The raster matrix method has the
189 advantage of analysing large areas without the beam attenuation and spectrometer viewing angle
190 problems associated with using wide-area defocusing (Reed, 2005). The MgO content (in wt%)
191 derived from the raster matrix, was input into the Helz and Thornber (1987) liquid-only
192 thermometer. This thermometer has been widely implemented to investigate the thermometry of
193 PdIF lavas in previous studies e.g., Clague and Denlinger (1994); Famin *et al.* (2009); Bureau *et*
194 *al.* (1998); Boivin and Bachèlery (2009). Uncertainties presented in this study incorporate both
195 the internal uncertainty of +/- 10°C inherent to the thermometer as well as the MgO variability
196 obtained via the groundmass analysis. Quantitative groundmass maps and calculation of their
197 uncertainty can be found in Supplementary Data A. We set the oxygen fugacity at the NNO+1
198 buffer. A detailed explanation of this choice is included in Supplementary Data B.

199
200 **Timescale calculations.** Profiles of greyscale values from BSE images were extracted
201 perpendicular to the crystal edges using *Image J* (Schneider *et al.*, 2012), illustrated in Figure 1b.
202 The greyscale values were calibrated to the major element compositions (Costa and Morgan,

203 2010) obtained from analyses of the same olivine crystal using the EPMA. Best fit diffusion
204 profiles were then modelled for these profiles using the same numerical methods as previous
205 work by Hartley et al. (2016), Pankhurst et al. (2018b) and Couperthwaite et al. (2020). A
206 demonstration and explanation of the methods of the simple diffusion model used is supplied in
207 Supplementary Data C.

208

209

Initial results

210 Olivine composition and textures in two dimensions

211 Whole-rock (XRF) compositional data for RU0701 (Supplementary Data A), plots in the range
212 for an ultra-mafic/basaltic (SiO₂ wt% <45%) rock with a high MgO content (23.5 wt%),
213 consistent with the petrographic identification as oceanite (8-28 wt% MgO, Lacroix, 1936). The
214 large olivine crystals that are the main focus of this study appear as mostly euhedral,
215 occasionally embayed, crystals up to 2-3 mm in size, at ~25% modal abundance. There are
216 approximately 300-400 olivines in each thin section. They are contained within a finer-grained
217 groundmass (~50-80 μm) made up of clinopyroxene (40%), olivine (10%), plagioclase feldspar
218 (50%) and spinel (5%) (see Figure 3), and often contain plagioclase inclusions in their margins.
219 Olivine ~40 – 200 μm in size is also present (Figure 3); much smaller than the population of
220 large crystals.

221 The large olivines have core compositions of Fo₈₄ (Fo = 100*Mg/Mg+Fe+Ni+Mn),
222 consistent with previous olivine measurements for RU0701 (Füri et al., 2010), and Fo rim
223 compositions ranging from Fo₇₅₋₆₅ (normal zonation) with what is recognisable as diffused zones

224 typically ~80 μm thick (Figure 3). The olivine rims are similar to the groundmass olivine
225 composition (~Fo₆₅).

226

227 **External Modeling Parameters and Timescale Uncertainties**

228 A temperature of 1126°C ($\pm 10^\circ\text{C}$) was calculated using the average MgO (5.55 MgO wt%) of
229 four quantitative groundmass maps (values range between 4.9 and 6.5 ± 0.5 wt% MgO;
230 Supplementary Data A). This estimated temperature is in good agreement with that used by
231 Boivin and Bachelery (2009), who calculated temperatures usually between 1110-1150°C (and
232 up to 1172°C, with an interquartile range of 33°C) for various eruptions from 1977 to 1998. We
233 set the $f\text{O}_2$ at NNO + 1 log units.

234 The initial condition was defined using the core composition Fo₈₄, with a variation in the
235 boundary condition inferred from the rim composition between Fo₇₅₋₆₅ depending on the profile
236 being modelled. The average uncertainty of each calculated timescale is 0.38 log units (1 σ),
237 calculated considering the uncertainty on temperature, activation energy and the pre-exponential
238 factor that relates to crystal structure, jump frequency and distance (Dohmen and Chakraborty,
239 2007a and b; Dohmen et al., 2007).

240

241 **Initial Fe-Mg diffusion timescales**

242 Diffusion timescales (n=104) were calculated for Fe-Mg inter-diffusion in the large,
243 zoned olivine crystals (n=30). One profile was extracted from each available face of a single
244 crystal and/or was taken along each diffusion direction (relative to crystallographic orientations)
245 within a crystal. An example of a diffusion model fit to a crystal compositional profile is shown

246 in Figure 1 b-c (further profiles are shown in Supplementary Data A). Our diffusion model best-
247 fits can be grouped into three types:

- 248 i) Thirty-nine profiles that show a very good fit with simple modeling and can be
249 simply explained by diffusion with a fixed boundary condition and no crystal
250 growth
- 251 ii) Five profiles that show a poor fit to the simple model, indicated by an enhanced
252 curvature of the diffusion profile away from the core, relative to the simple model
- 253 iii) A further 60 profiles that appear to be affected by enhanced curvature (as in ii)
254 and a point of inflection in the profile gradient towards the rim. An example of ii)
255 and iii) are illustrated in Fig 1c.

256 All initial modeling accounts for diffusion anisotropy and compositional dependence
257 using the diffusivity data of Dohmen et al. (2007) and Dohmen and Chakraborty (2007a and b).
258 The majority of calculated timescales range from 7 to 45 days (Figure 4). Outliers (4% of the
259 dataset) reach 60-104 days. These longer timescales do not appear to have any relationship with
260 the composition of cores or rims, or crystal size. Of particular note is the scatter amongst the
261 timescales both between crystals *and* within crystals (Figure 4) i.e. even accounting for
262 anisotropy and composition dependence. Individual crystals do not consistently correct to a
263 singular diffusion timescale.

264

265

Initial Discussion

266 **Scatter within the diffusion timescale dataset**

267 Scatter between and within crystals could at least partly be due to each individual crystal
268 petrogenesis. It cannot be assumed that the diffusion clock in each crystal was set synchronously
269 and so it is not expected that they should form a timescale ‘event’, as has often previously been
270 inferred in prior diffusion studies. Since each profile is already corrected for anisotropy, the
271 scatter *within* crystals is therefore likely to be attributable to sectioning effects, simultaneous
272 crystal growth and changing boundary condition effects and out-of-plane-diffusion effects (Shea
273 et al., 2015a), as discussed in the following sections.

274

275 **Sectioning angle**

276 The ideal crystal sections to study for retrieval of accurate diffusion timescales are those that cut
277 through the centre of a crystal and also perpendicular to at least one crystal face (and therefore
278 also perpendicular to the diffusion front; Pearce, 1984). Thin sections cut such that crystals are
279 not sectioned in this way (giving shallow sections) will lead to an *apparent* lengthening of the
280 observed profiles (Costa and Chakraborty, 2004; Costa et al., 2008; Costa and Morgan, 2010;
281 Shea et al., 2015a), which is an assumption that is often not explicitly declared or corrected for.
282 This artificial lengthening contributes to an epistemic uncertainty on the timescale introducing a
283 stretch factor to the traverses, most often inducing positive scatter into the timescale dataset.

284 Choosing the narrowest profile within a crystal should be favoured to minimise this
285 source of error (Costa et al., 2003; Costa and Dungan, 2005; Costa et al., 2008; Costa and
286 Morgan, 2010; Shea et al., 2015a). In practice, however, this is not always possible. Crystals
287 picked from tephra and set in grain mounts are often fragmented, and sometimes only one crystal
288 margin is observed, so no relative comparisons can be made. Features such as melt and mineral

289 inclusions, cracks, polishing defects, sub-grain boundaries or embayments in the crystal
290 considered may further limit options for extracting a profile.

291 Pearce (1984) calculated the probability of obtaining an ideal cut section of a crystal for
292 the study of zoned crystals. The probability of a section to be within 40% of the centre of a
293 crystal, that is also within 10° of perpendicular to any one of the three major faces would be
294 around ~20%. This implies a significant proportion of sections are likely to not meet these
295 criteria and be affected by off-centre or shallow sectioning. Better representation may be
296 expected, however, when considering larger crystals with a narrower rim thickness, akin to the
297 PdIF olivines in this study. Since sectioning effects are rarely measured and incorporated into
298 diffusion datasets (e.g., Martin et al., 2008; via U-stage measurements) this factor clearly carries
299 some potential as a source of uncertainty.

300

301 **3D texture**

302 Out-of-plane features that may influence the development of diffusive chemical profiles include
303 proximity to other crystals or vesicles, or low-angle adjacent crystal faces removed during the
304 thin section process where cuts are quite off centre and almost graze a face. Crystal morphology
305 may lead to isolated and apparently distinct crystals in thin section that in reality are connected to
306 parts of the same crystal (Welsch et al., 2013). Such crystals might be separately analysed, and
307 therefore be over-represented in a subsequent dataset. Without 3D context, these scenarios
308 represent another source of epistemic error at the scale of single-crystal histories that deserves
309 consideration, which is becoming more widely adopted as a focus for research (e.g. Jerram et al.,
310 2018).

311

312 **Simultaneous crystal growth and changing boundary conditions with diffusion**

313 Profiles with an enhanced curvature of the diffusion profile away from the crystal core, relative
314 to the simple model and which also exhibit an inflection point in the profile gradient near the
315 crystal rim (e.g. that in Fig. 1c) are suspected of being affected by crystal growth and/or
316 changing boundary conditions simultaneous with diffusion. These profiles would normally be
317 rejected from further consideration as they do not meet quality control criteria for the degree of
318 match. For instance, the rejection rate would be ~60% for this dataset (Supplementary Data A).
319 These profiles, however, do contain valuable information with regards to the environment in
320 which they resided i.e. a change in ambient conditions. Their rejection therefore constitutes a
321 bias, whose impact on both the chronometry and petrographic interpretation is typically ignored.
322 This study attempts to recover this information through dynamic modeling.

323

324 **Advanced Methods**

325 **Calculating shallow sectioning effects**

326 The stretching of a compositional profile due to shallow sectioning, as illustrated in
327 Figure 5, can be corrected for using the following equation (Costa and Morgan, 2010);

$$328 \quad l_m = \frac{l_t}{\cos \theta} \quad (1)$$

329 where l_m is the measured traverse length, l_t is the true traverse length and the angle θ is the angle
330 between the crystal boundary and the normal to the sectioning plane – the ‘hade’ (Costa and
331 Morgan, 2010). We measure this angle using a Universal Stage (U-Stage), the operation of

332 which is described in Kile (2009). The shallower the cut, and hence the larger the value of θ , the
333 more significant the stretch factor on the timescale.

334 The large size of the olivine grains we used for this study relative to the diffusion scale
335 means that sections could be considerably off centre without varying the crystal face intersection
336 angles. Stretch factors were calculated for our dataset using the angles measured with the U-
337 stage. At a population level, this serves to highlight how shallow sectioning combined with
338 traditional in-section-plane diffusivities would affect the PdIF diffusion dataset overall, and
339 therefore, the possible effects on other datasets. These measurements were repeated to assess
340 uncertainty. Much of the U-stage dataset was also re-measured independently by FKC and DJM;
341 the results were found to be reproducible within $\pm 5^\circ$ by different operators. The stretch factor,
342 stretched timescales and timescale shift to be applied to timescales modelled by diffusion (that
343 are uncorrected for shallow sectioning) for a range of angles between the minimum and
344 maximum of those measured from this dataset can be found in Supplementary Data A.

345

346 **Understanding crystal shape using X-ray Microtomography**

347 Detailed methodology of the XMT analytical procedure can be found in Supplementary Data B.
348 Crystals and their textural context were observed in-situ in 3D within a rock core using the XMT
349 3D imaging. We use image segmentation software to segment the olivine crystals from the
350 groundmass within the images produced. To capture, examine in detail, and quantify the shape of
351 the larger (2-3 mm) olivine crystals, a number of image segmentation methods were tested. Ten
352 slices evenly distributed through the image stack were selected, and imaged olivine belonging to
353 large crystals was manually digitised from each slice. The advantage of scrolling above and
354 below the slice (using a z-stack of the image) allowed us to denote olivine as belonging to a large

355 crystal or not, even if the slice intersected only a small area and would otherwise be
356 indistinguishable from groundmass olivine.

357 ‘*K-means clustering*’, ‘*watershed*’ and ‘*trainable weka*’ segmentation modules were
358 applied to these same slices within Image J. K-means clustering partitions a dataset into k-groups
359 (clusters). The plugin performs pixel-based segmentation based only on clusters discovered
360 within the image (Wagstaff et al., 2001). The watershed segmentation method considers the input
361 image as a topographic surface, with the brightness of each point representing its height. The
362 entire relief is flooded, and dams or barriers are formed where similar pixels are found, with all
363 similar points forming a catchment basin (Soille and Vincent, 1990). The trainable weka
364 segmentation methods combine machine learning algorithms with image processing, assigning
365 areas of interests to ‘classes’ forming the training dataset (Arganda-Carreras et al., 2017). The
366 classifier uses a random forest algorithm and decision trees to ultimately classify the selection
367 (Breiman, 2001; Hastie et al., 2008).

368 The brightness and texture of the pixels that make up the olivine are exploited for each
369 segmentation method. Each method was optimised using the 2D slices with manually segmented
370 olivine, to choose the best method to be applied to the entire stack. In each case the result is a
371 binary image that approximates the location of olivine belonging to large crystals. Figure 6
372 illustrates the good agreement between the percentage area of olivine using all three 3D
373 segmentation methods compared to the percentage area of olivine within the raw 2D slices. We
374 chose to apply the trainable weka segmentation method across the 3D stacks as this method
375 enabled full automation of each step in the methodology.

376

377 **Dynamic modeling of crystal growth, changing boundary conditions and diffusion**

378 In order to evaluate the potential changes that occur during crystal growth with simultaneous
379 diffusion we consider two scenarios:

- 380 • That the crystal may grow, and that the outside boundary condition is mobile in space as
381 crystallisation proceeds
- 382 • That the equilibrium composition of the olivine is changing as crystallisation proceeds,
383 due to melt evolution

384 In these cases, the growth of a crystal and the change in equilibrium value are driven by
385 changes in magma temperature and the degree of crystallisation that this affords. Because
386 diffusivity is a strong function of temperature, we must also consider;

- 387 • That the diffusivity will be controlled by temperature, which will decrease during
388 crystallisation down a liquidus, and
- 389 • The thermal effects on oxygen fugacity.

390 In order to constrain this series of processes, we chose to model diffusion over the
391 crystallisation path of the system as a function of temperature, to obtain the equilibrium olivine
392 values at any given temperature which can be applied as a boundary condition. By specifying a
393 cooling rate applied to the sample, this can be expected to control the evolution of the external
394 melt composition with time and control the diffusivity as a function of time. What the diffusion
395 modeling requires is a precise starting melt composition, which can be modelled using software
396 such as Petrolog3 (Danyushevsky and Plechov, 2011) or MELTS (Ghiorso and Sack, 1995;
397 Asimow and Ghiorso, 1998). We used Petrolog3 to determine the initial melt composition prior
398 to olivine rim growth and groundmass formation. We extracted variable amounts of Fo₈₄ olivine
399 from the whole-rock composition and assessed olivine-melt equilibrium. We then project

400 crystallisation of this melt considering the phases present in the observed assemblages (with the
401 exception of orthopyroxene, which is present in low abundances in the Petrolog3 models). A
402 detailed methodology is described in Supplementary Data B.

403

404 **Thermodynamic modeling using Petrolog3.** Olivine in the models typically crystallises
405 through the interval F_{O84-79} , but more evolved olivine is not present on the liquidus; it is replaced
406 in the models by orthopyroxene, which crystallises at the level of a few percent. This is distinct
407 from what we see in the specimens, where no orthopyroxene is observed, and olivine rims
408 exhibit compositions down to F_{O65} or less (indicated by brighter BSE pixels at the very rim,
409 below the spatial resolution of the EPMA). We suspect this represents a limitation in the
410 modeling versus nature; either the nucleation of orthopyroxene is somehow suppressed in the
411 natural samples, or that the crystals are so small as to be visually unidentifiable from olivine
412 within the fine-grained groundmass. Regardless, orthopyroxene does not form overgrowths on
413 olivine in RU0701 and as such there is no evidence to support its inclusion across the
414 petrogenetic interval of interest. Therefore, we excluded orthopyroxene from the Petrolog3
415 modeling, restricting the assemblage to olivine, plagioclase, clinopyroxene and oxide. Olivine
416 crystals in natural samples have been able to exchange via diffusion with an adjacent, more-
417 evolved melt that equilibrate with F_{O65} , since fractionation to a cumulate has not occurred.

418 Figure 7 shows how crystallisation behaviour changes with temperature in the model.
419 This curve is parameterised for use in a diffusion model – each stretch of cotectic is fitted with a
420 third order polynomial with $R^2 > 0.99$, which is used within that temperature range to determine
421 the equilibrium olivine composition for any given temperature. Note that at temperatures below

422 1117°C, olivine does not crystallise within the model, and the values reflect the equilibrium due
423 to exchange with an evolved ambient melt and a K_d for olivine of 0.303.

424

425 **Dynamic Diffusion modeling.** The modeling was conducted using a simple, iterative
426 one-dimensional finite difference model, whose logic follows that shown in Figure 8. In this
427 manner, the model allows for tracking the liquidus and an evolving melt, allowing the
428 temperature to control both the composition, the diffusivity, and the absolute oxygen fugacity
429 (via a buffer), much as it would during the cooling of the magma.

430

431 **Advanced Results**

432 **Sectioning effects**

433 Our analysis of sectioning effects shows a large frequency of sections cuts within angles 10° of
434 vertical and a smaller frequency of the very shallow angles (where the crystal edge is sectioned
435 up to 30° to the vertical; Figure 9). These angles correspond to timescale shortening between 0-
436 2.5 and 33.3% relative. The average angle measured from vertical (the “sectioning” angle) for
437 the PdIF dataset is 8.9° and would require an average shift of ~2.5% applied to the timescale
438 dataset (0.011 log units), which is low, relative to other sources of uncertainty. A full list of
439 measured angles and the corresponding shift on individual timescales is included in
440 Supplementary Data A.

441

442 **Quantification of 3D crystal shapes**

443 3D renders of four olivine crystals or crystal aggregates are shown in Figure 10. A further 25
444 crystals are provided in Supplementary Data A. Assessment of these images reveals that only

445 25% of the crystals could be considered euhedral; 68% are subhedral, and 7% are anhedral.
446 Furthermore, only 25% are individual crystals and the remainder are present as crystal
447 agglomerates. These agglomerates are generally crystallographically aligned (see Figure 10 (e)).
448 Nearly all the crystals are polyhedral, apart from two that are tabular shaped; 19% are rounded
449 nodules and 13% of the agglomerates show parallel organisation or hierarchy as described by
450 (Welsch et al., 2013).

451
452 **Crystal growth and changing boundary condition incorporated into diffusion timescales**
453 Using the initial melt composition from Petrolog3 (see Figure 7), we ran a number of diffusion
454 models (as described in Figure 8) to assess the effects of changing boundary conditions and
455 crystal growth on diffusion timescales. The results of each are described in the following
456 sections.

457
458 **Modeling sequence 1: changing boundary condition (no growth).** Modeling was
459 initially conducted for a starting temperature of 1126°C, at NNO+1, for a variety of cooling rates.
460 This generates a sequence of diffusion curves with geometries as shown in Figure 11. The
461 profiles follow proportionally similar trajectories through temperature and time, are self-similar
462 and display typical proportionality for diffusion profiles, i.e., where cooling rates quadruple, the
463 diffusion width decreases by a factor of two.

464
465 **Modeling sequence 2: changing boundary condition with growth.** Modeling was also
466 conducted for a starting temperature of 1126°C, at NNO+1, for a single cooling rate of -1 °C/hr,
467 combined with a variety of growth rates. This generates a sequence of diffusion curves with

468 geometries as shown in Figure 12; the addition of growth stretches the profiles, as would be
469 expected. As growth is considered here to be linear in time, and diffusion is reducing
470 exponentially due to linear cooling in time, the profiles are decoupled, and are not self-similar.
471 The highest growth rates are in effect recording a dominance of the liquidus surface, which is not
472 completely smooth, and which has been subjected to a variable degree of diffusional smoothing
473 with distance.

474

475 **Modeling sequence 3: fitting a specific case.** Due to the dynamic interplay of
476 parameters, an initial profile was considered for detailed investigation using these diffusion and
477 growth models. The fitting was performed iteratively by changing the relative magnitude of
478 cooling rates and growth rates to gradually improve the fit for a particular traverse. To allow for
479 an appreciation of both the similarity and difference between the curves in Figures 11 and 12,
480 and real data, we superpose a profile onto these curves (labelled ‘measured’).

481 These figures show that natural data is significantly divergent from both cases studied,
482 though growth allows us to fit the broader rim. A particular feature of the natural curve is that it
483 has a gradual concave curvature, while the diffusion-only curves are convex. Such concavity is
484 consistent with increasing growth rates; this can be seen on Figure 12, as the best fit seems
485 consistent with high growth rates at the rim, but with lower growth rates near the core. Crystals
486 therefore seem to have experienced a late-stage, accelerating rim growth. This was considered by
487 applying a temperature-dependent growth across a temperature range such that:

488
$$G_{T,t} = 2G_0 \left(\frac{T_0 - T}{T_0 - T_{min}} \right)$$

489 Where G is the growth rate, G_0 the half growth rate at G_{\min} , T_0 is the start temperature
490 and T_{\min} is a nominal finish temperature. This produces a gradually-increasing growth rate
491 following a parabolic curve. By adjusting the parameters of cooling rate and the parameter G_0 ,
492 above, we can attempt to emulate the curvature on the natural profile.

493 Model solutions can attain quite good agreement with the natural data using this method
494 (Figure 13). Slight deviations near the core may suggest a degree of two-step history, with some
495 degree of diffusion prior to surface emplacement, though to explicitly fit this is hard to justify.
496 Scenarios involving the departure of an individual crystal from the single cooling trend for a
497 period of time are not difficult to imagine in nature, yet we adhere to the cooling and growth
498 rates expected from the system scale observations summarised by the model (Figure 7).

499

500 **Extension to the broader Piton de la Fournaise dataset.** Using the dynamic methods,
501 we re-modelled 13 profiles from the RU0701 dataset. We selected profiles that exhibited a poor
502 fit when initially modelled at a single temperature of 1126°C and fixed boundary condition.

503 By incorporating a cooling rate and a growth rate guided by the expected behaviour of
504 the cooling magma (Figure 7) the model produced results that are in good agreement with the
505 natural profiles. Six of these profiles from two crystals (RU0701_2_G and RU0701_2_I) are
506 shown in Figure 14. The remaining six remodelled profiles are included in Supplementary Data
507 A. All of the remodelled profiles are consistent with an average cooling rate of -0.5 °C/hr (± 0.1
508 °C) and an average growth rate of $\sim 1.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ ms}^{-1}$, over the cooling range 1127-967°C. These
509 models translate to new diffusion timescales of, on average, 13 days (with a minimum timescale
510 of 10 days, and a maximum timescale of 17 days).

511 The textural evidence, profile shapes at the crystal rims and short diffusion timescales
512 indicate that the diffusion rims are late-stage, and most likely related to lava flow cooling. As an
513 external check on the viability of our re-modelled timescales, we would expect the lava flow
514 cooling time and the re-modelled diffusion timescales to be similar. We can use the following
515 equation to calculate the cooling time of the lava flow;

516
$$T = \frac{A^2}{\pi^2 K} \quad (2)$$

517 Where T is the time in seconds, A is the thickness of the lava flow in meters, and K is the
518 thermal diffusivity of a basalt (Hon et al., 1994). This simple lava flow cooling rate calculation
519 (with a lava flow thickness of 2-3 m) gives cooling rates of 9-19 days. The independent line of
520 cooling rate calculation agrees with the re-modelled diffusion timescales using the models that
521 incorporate cooling rate (and thereby changing boundary condition) and crystal growth rate, and
522 so lends confidence to our approach.

523

524 **Advanced Discussion**

525 It is reasonable to consider that the diffusion ‘clock’ in each crystal can be set at different times
526 yet stop at effectively the same time (on eruption). Scatter within crystals due to natural
527 variation, which if understood and placed into broader petrological context, can lead to detailed
528 understanding of magmatic and/or volcanic phenomena (e.g. Pankhurst et al. 2018b). Diffusion
529 timescale scatter between crystals could, however, also occur even if diffusion clocks are set
530 simultaneously if complicating factors such as proximity to other crystals, exposure to different
531 melts, mineral grains or vesicles blocking diffusion have persisted for a significant fraction of
532 time *and* if simplistic modeling is applied. Scatter within individual crystals could reflect

533 limitations on the quality of modeling and/or be due to real complications such as crystal growth,
534 changing boundary conditions, sectioning effects and 3D crystal geometry.

535

536 **Shallow sectioning effects**

537 There is limited control for ideal alignment of crystals during the preparation of grain mounts,
538 and effectively no control in the case of thin sections. But in contrast to the expected bias
539 towards shallow angles (Pearce, 1984), our dataset largely consists of boundaries with relatively
540 small deviations ($<10^\circ$) from being ideally sectioned. As a consequence, accounting for the
541 measured sectioning angle, has a relatively limited effect of reducing the timescales from mostly
542 7-45 days (outliers between 60-104 days) to 6-44 days (outliers between 62-82 days; Figure 15).

543 Since the combined uncertainty of binary Fe-Mg inter-diffusion in olivine due to
544 temperature, activation energy and D_0 is 0.34-0.38 log units, an average 0.011 log shift towards
545 longer timescales cannot be considered critical at a population level, for olivine grains of this
546 large size relative to their narrow diffusion width.

547 Overall, the relatively low occurrence of significantly shallow sectioning angles within
548 the RU0701 dataset is likely due to the subconscious selection of crystal slices and faces
549 analysed combined with the large relative difference in crystal size to profile length. Even when
550 trying to remove bias, unworkable crystal slices do not make the initial selection. Sectioning
551 angle uncertainty is likely to become more important in small datasets, and in circumstances
552 where context is lacking or where only one crystal margin can be considered.

553

554 **Understanding crystal shape**

555 Shea et al. (2015a) conducted a comparison between 1D, 2D and 3D diffusion modeling of
556 timescales from slices based on theoretical polyhedral, spherical and cuboid shapes. They found
557 that timescale distributions vary depending on the crystal faces present and the angles between
558 the faces. These authors also showed that the difference between measured/calculated to real
559 timescales can be especially variable where diffusion fronts from adjacent crystal faces converge
560 i.e. where profiles are extracted nearer corners. This results in a longer apparent profile and
561 therefore an apparent longer timescale when modelled. These zones are a common feature of
562 polyhedral crystal slices (a common natural crystal shape) where faces meet at $<180^\circ$.

563 We considered the Piton crystal form, as rounding of crystal faces will enhance the effect
564 of merging diffusion fronts, and the arrangement of crystals. We also considered if grains were
565 single crystals or present as aggregates and these came together, whether by syneusis
566 (Schwindinger and Anderson, 1989) or paired nucleation. Diffusion timescales may be affected
567 by a 'pre-history' of individual parts, a change in boundary conditions that coincide with their
568 coming together.

569 An observation made possible here due to the 3D data is the absence of an (001) face; the
570 theoretical olivine shape used in the study of Shea et al. (2015a) does have an (001) face.
571 Furthermore, the 3D data demonstrate that the olivine crystals do not conform to an 'ideal'
572 solitary crystal morphology. An initial comparison of a slice through the polyhedral olivine
573 shape used by Shea et al. (2015a) and a slice through a 3D rendered natural crystal at the same
574 orientation is sufficient to illustrate that the natural crystal is not perfectly euhedral and that
575 additional faces are present within crystals (Figure 16). In this case, a timescale calculation is
576 unlikely to suffer much uncertainty due to the relatively narrow margins and wide areas from
577 which to choose a profile away from corners. But without 3D data, this view would only be

578 intersected by chance, and in the cases of smaller crystals with broader margins even subtle
579 departures from an ideal shape will magnify the geometric uncertainties when studying natural
580 crystals. Further work, and more comprehensive natural 3D data, is required to better link the
581 value gained from using generalised synthetic crystal shapes with applications across a variety of
582 settings.

583 The XMT dataset shows that natural crystals have added morphological complexity that
584 may interact with diffused zones to a greater extent than has been considered in previous studies
585 where only idealised morphologies have been investigated. It is clear that the effects of
586 euhedrality and arrangement of the crystal agglomerates need to be more fully quantified to
587 understand how crystal shape uncertainties may affect calculated diffusion timescales.
588 Uncertainty on calculated diffusion timescales would likely increase yet placing ‘hard’ numbers
589 on this effect is difficult to establish since we used a polychromatic beam prior to method
590 developments that attempt to address the inherent problems in deriving quantitative attenuation
591 data using polychromatic beams (Pankhurst et al., 2014; Pankhurst et al., 2018b; Pankhurst et al.,
592 2018c).

593 Fully quantitative 3D composition data throughout olivine crystals, which at this stage of
594 research is still only possible using a monochromatic X-ray beams, is needed to address these
595 questions. Current work strives to develop a 3D method that uses polychromatic beams, is rapid,
596 chemically quantitative *and* able to resolve high frequency gradients such as in crystal margins,
597 with the same confidence as 2D imaging. At present, the 3D data provides the important
598 observations that this natural crystal population is strongly affected by crystal rounding and are
599 mostly present as crystal agglomerates.

600

601 **Simultaneous crystal growth and changing boundary conditions**

602 Each of the 13 dynamically-modelled profiles were remodelled with a global cooling
603 rate, and as the magma cools, the boundary condition is continuously shifting, with simultaneous
604 crystal growth. The cooling rate used for each profile ($-0.5 \pm 0.1^\circ\text{C/hr}$) is consistent with
605 diffusion related to quench and lava flow cooling and inferred from textural observations (an
606 average peak growth rate of $\sim 1.9 \times 10^{-11} \text{ ms}^{-1}$ was applied to each profile). Most profiles (11 of
607 13 profiles) were remodelled using an accelerating growth rate, rather than a linear growth rate,
608 as the growth rate seems also to be a function of temperature and has to be increasing with
609 continued cooling in most cases, based on the profile shapes.

610 Although the profiles show an apparent increased diffusion length due to crystal growth
611 and changing boundary conditions effects, our advanced models accommodate how diffusion
612 speed slows as the lava flow cools, and so the diffusion timescales do not become significantly
613 shorter nor is the scatter of the dataset significantly reduced. As a result of reducing epistemic
614 uncertainty there is an attendant increase in confidence that the scatter reflects real variation in
615 crystal histories. This is corroborated by the observation of different final rim compositions
616 (between F_{072} and F_{060}): even though the crystals reflect a common cooling environment, the
617 details of their final experiences were controlled locally by the availability of melt and other
618 considerations including pore space. This appears to be particularly important in the case of
619 samples from lava flows where post-eruption cooling must be considered in petrogenetic
620 interpretations, which could, in turn, free models of deeper magmatic plumbing system structure
621 and dynamics from this frequently observed complexity. Cheng et al. (2020) suggest that it can
622 be possible to create simple diffusion curves (as seen within our samples) as a result of changing
623 boundary conditions due to flow dynamics, if there is sufficient residence time for complex

624 zoning patterns to evolve into simple zoning – we do not consider this to be the case for these
625 PdIF olivines.

626

627 **Implications**

628 Uncertainty of individual diffusion timescales can be considerably reduced using a
629 combination of three-dimensional observation and dynamic forward modeling that includes an
630 assessment of growth and changing boundary conditions. The quantification of the sources of
631 uncertainty upon the RU0701 dataset allows us to better understand how they, and by extension
632 their corrections, affect timescale distributions and interpretation. The results have implications
633 for the design of crystal diffusion studies which we recommend should explicitly consider
634 sectioning angle, 3D geometries, crystal growth or changing boundary condition corrections on
635 reported timescales. A re-appraisal of modeling assumptions, as demonstrated here, may
636 significantly improve both the quality and quantity of data recovered from a suite of crystals. It
637 follows that increased dataset size per investment in resources as well as increased confidence in
638 timescale outputs will have value as kinetic and kinematic views of magmatic processes improve
639 towards full physical history reconstruction (e.g. Pankhurst et al., 2018b).

640 Our case study demonstrates that agreement can be found between the timescales of
641 cooling at the scale of a lava flow and the range exhibited by the individual crystals it contains.
642 This result would not have been possible without the need to consider dynamic modeling as a
643 solution to poorly-fitting initial profiles to simplistic diffusion models. The system-scale
644 information required, such as intensive parameters and a model of melt evolution with cooling in
645 turn provide a framework to better contextualise the variations observed in final rim composition
646 and timescales. The consistently high-quality fits between raw data and models using a common

647 cooling history and growth rate leads us to frame new questions regarding the variation of rim
648 compositions and other details which will be addressed in a subsequent contribution. It also
649 provides a demonstration that the cooling regime within a lava flow can be obtained on the
650 crystal scale, which likely holds value in understanding more complex flow settings.

651 The value in improving the quality of diffusion timescale datasets is expected to provide
652 a better return on data-gathering investment, including observations at the population scale that
653 are based on larger and more complete datasets and increase the detail and therefore utility of
654 interpretations.

655

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664

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671

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873

874 **Figure Captions**

875 Figure 1. A frequently encountered limitation of simple ionic diffusion modelling applied to
876 natural crystals. (a) Schematic showing relaxation of an initial chemical disequilibria profile
877 (blue) as a function of time (t_1 -3) within one phase, by diffusion (black lines). Any interaction
878 with external boundaries will result in a change of profile shape. Any change in thermal
879 condition through time will result in an error in calculated duration should a constant temperature
880 be assumed (b) Example of a compositional profile (RU0701_3_G4) extracted from a zoned
881 crystal (c) The best-fit simple diffusion model (red) does not match the measured profile nearer
882 the core due to enhanced curvature of the profile (i) nor at the crystal rim (ii) due to an inversion
883 point in the profile gradient. Due to these poor fits, this crystal would traditionally no longer be
884 considered for inclusion in a timescale database. Poor-fitting profiles represent an important
885 source of potential bias

886

887

888 Figure 2. Location map of the 2002 lava flow at Piton de la Fournaise using GeoMapp App. A
889 red star indicates the vents location and the central caldera and progressive collapse structures
890 are indicated by the annotations and map shading as per Longpre et al. (2007) and Servadio et al.
891 (2013).

892
893 Figure 3. BSE images representing the range of crystal textures observed in this study. **(a)** A
894 large, euhedral olivine (ol) agglomerate with homogeneous BSE response except for relatively
895 narrow zonation at the edges and surrounded by a microlitic groundmass **(b)** microlitic
896 groundmass containing olivine (ol), plagioclase (plag), clinopyroxene (cpx) and oxides (ox). **(c)**
897 a smaller, olivine crystal, or section through a large crystals' terminus exhibits broadly zoned
898 margin, and also surrounded by microlitic groundmass **(d)** the rim of a large, euhedral olivine
899 showing a narrow, diffused zone

900
901 Figure 4. Scatter amongst calculated diffusion timescales is observed both within a single crystal
902 and between crystals ($n = 30$). All timescales are calculated using AUTODIFF and are corrected
903 for anisotropy. The average uncertainty is 0.38 log units (1σ). If all results corrected to a single
904 timescale that has geological meaning – a common hypothesis – all bars would be of equal
905 height. Black dashed lines separate crystals from different thin sections.

906
907 Figure 5. Schematic diagram adapted from Costa & Morgan (2010) illustrating the effects of
908 shallow sectioning (thick horizontal black line is sectioning plane) of a chemically zoned crystal
909 (concentric rectangles). The part of the crystal to the left will display a stretch effect three times

910 the true length of the gradient that diffusion is acting across. The part of the crystal to the right
911 has also been stretched but to a lesser extent. The narrowest profiles that also are at a maximum
912 distance from corners and as such are at least affected by are indicated by red arrows. Arrow (i)
913 serves to illustrate that the boundary conditions affecting the measured profile are not captured
914 by the 2D plane of the section; these are lost to the saw and grinder. Arrow (ii) serves to illustrate
915 the proximity to a corner that can amplify out-of-plane effects on measured profiles.

916
917 Figure 6. The percentage area of an olivine manually segmented from raw, XMT images
918 compared with the percentage area of olivine segmented from these using ‘k-means
919 cluster’(green), watershed (blue) and trainable weka (red) segmentation methods. There are ten
920 data points for each method, each from one slice evenly spaced throughout the stack of images
921 comprising the segmented olivine. The high r^2 value indicates that the image analysis techniques
922 are acceptable to apply to slices between those manually segmented, and so are able to efficiently
923 generate 3D binary stacks of “olivine” and “not olivine” and reveal 3D crystal shapes.

924
925 Figure 7. Evolution of olivine equilibrium composition over the temperature range 1250°C-
926 950°C modeled using Petrolog3. The modeling conditions used are as follows; olivine-melt
927 equilibria (Beattie, 1993), plagioclase-melt equilibria (Danyshevsky 2001), clinopyroxene-melt
928 equilibria (Danyshevsky 2001), opx-melt equilibria (Beattie, 1993), magnetite-melt equilibria
929 (Ariskin et al., 1993). Pressure and buffers; at 2 kilobar, QFM buffer, at 1 atmosphere, QFM+2.
930 Calculation step; 0.01% crystallisation.

931

932 Figure 8. Flow chart of the 1-dimensional dynamic diffusion models.

933

934 Figure 9. The frequency of angles measured using a Universal Stage (U-Stage) between crystal
935 boundary and the plane normal to the sectioning plane. Each data point ($n = 104$) is a
936 measurement from where a diffusion profile was extracted. The red lines bracket points that
937 would require a correction of $< 10\%$ and $< 20\%$ due to shallow sectioning effects.

938

939 Figure 10. Composite images of four olivine clusters digitally segmented from the XMT data
940 using *Image J* and *AVISO*. Each cluster (a)-(d) is shown from 4 different orientations. (e) An
941 ‘idealised’ theoretical olivine crystal used in various studies e.g. Shea et al. (2015a) compared
942 against an olivine cluster imaged using XMT. Miller indices denote matching faces and black
943 lines highlight crystal face edges. The (001) face is not present in any of the Piton de la
944 Fournaise olivine, and it is rare that olivine exists as solitary crystals.

945

946 Figure 11. Sequence of diffusion curves generated using the dynamic modeling code investigates
947 different cooling rates. A series of cooling rates were applied to generate a changing boundary
948 condition within the model over the cooling range $1127\text{-}967^\circ\text{C}$. No crystal growth is
949 incorporated into these curves. A natural olivine diffusion profile (RU0701_A_1) is overlain in
950 black (labelled “measured”). The dynamic models show a poor fit to the raw crystal data; the
951 natural profile does not result from varying the cooling rate in isolation.

952

953 Figure 12. Sequence of diffusion curves generated using the dynamic modeling code
954 investigating changing growth rate. A series of crystal growth rates were applied within the
955 model. The boundary condition is fixed at a single value. A natural olivine diffusion profile
956 (RU0701_A_1) is overlain in black. The dynamic models show a poor fit to the raw crystal data;
957 the natural profile does not result from varying the growth rate in isolation.

958
959 Figure 13. An example of how using the dynamic modeling code and adjusting the parameters of
960 cooling rate and growth rate can return a good fit between the model and the natural crystal data
961 (RU0701_1_A1). The 13 re-modelled profiles (including this one) are consistent with an average
962 cooling rate of -0.5 °C/hr (± 0.1 °C/hr) and an average growth rate of $\sim 1.9 \times 10^{-11}$ ms⁻¹, over the
963 cooling range 1127-967 °C. The diffusion timescale for this dynamically modeled profile is 12
964 days, reduced from 20 days.

965
966 Figure 14. Applying the dynamic diffusion modeling code and adjusting the parameters of
967 cooling rate and growth rate shows we can acquire a good fit between the model and the natural
968 crystal data across many profiles of the PdIF dataset. We show a further 6 of the 13 re modeled
969 profiles above. The initial diffusion timescales ranged from 11-31 days. Dynamically modeled
970 profiles shown here were each fit using a global cooling rate (-0.5 °C/hr (± 0.1 °C)) and an
971 average peak growth rate of $\sim 1.9 \times 10^{-11}$ ms⁻¹. The diffusion timescales reduce to 11-17 days.

972
973 Figure 15. Comparison between timescales calculated with and without measured sectioning
974 angle by U-stage. Note: these timescale shifts do not consider the effects of a shift in diffusivity.

975 (a) timescales uncorrected for shallow sectioning with the population of timescales ranging from
976 7-45 days with outliers between 60-104 days (b) timescales corrected for shallow sectioning with
977 a population of timescales ranging from 6-44 days with outliers between 62-82 days. The
978 corrected timescales show an overall shortening compared to the corrected timescales.

979

980 Figure 16. A comparison of (a) a slice through a synthetic olivine crystal generated using olivine
981 shape matlab code from Shea et al. (2015a) and (b) slice through a natural Piton de la Fournaise
982 crystal (from an SEM backscattered electron image) at the same orientation. Red ellipses
983 highlight extra faces that are present in the synthetic crystal but not in the natural crystal, and the
984 red and yellow lines in (b) highlight where two crystal faces are present in the natural crystal,
985 whereas only one is present in the synthetic. The natural crystal also has embayments. (c) an
986 olivine imaged in 3D and segmented from the groundmass using *Image J* and *AVISIO*.

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Figure 1

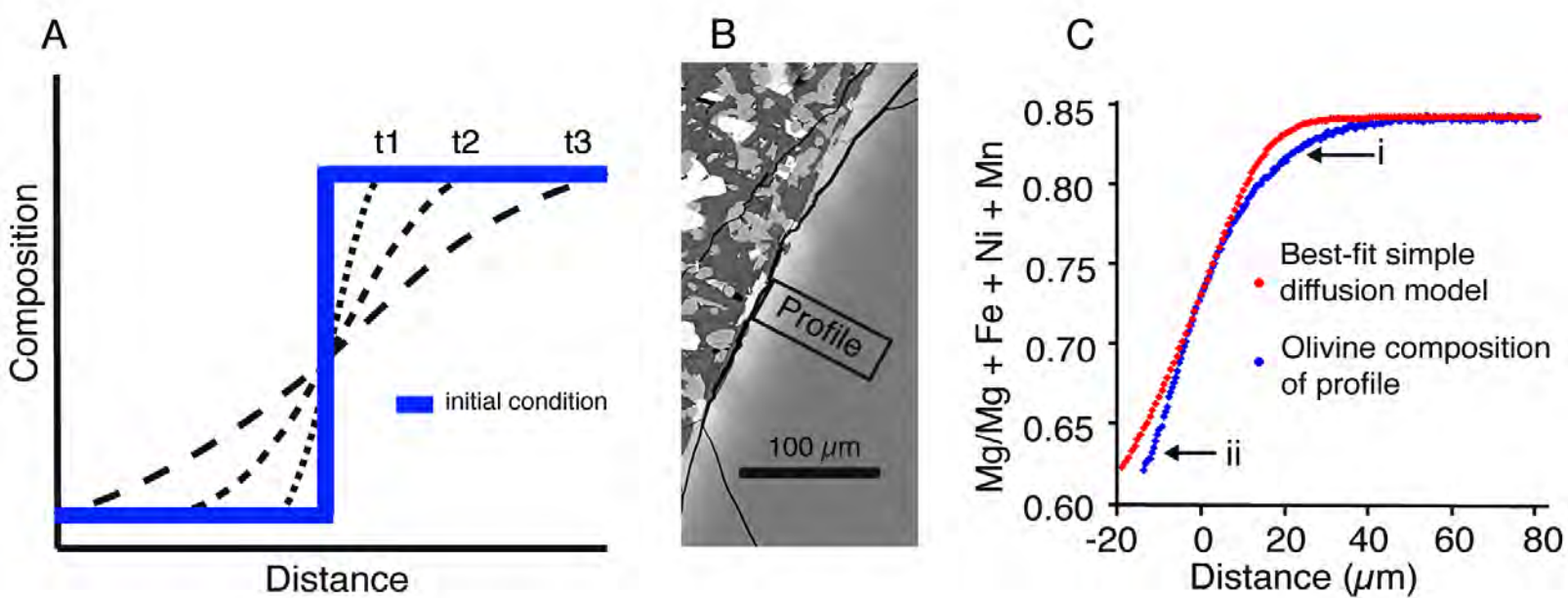


Figure 2

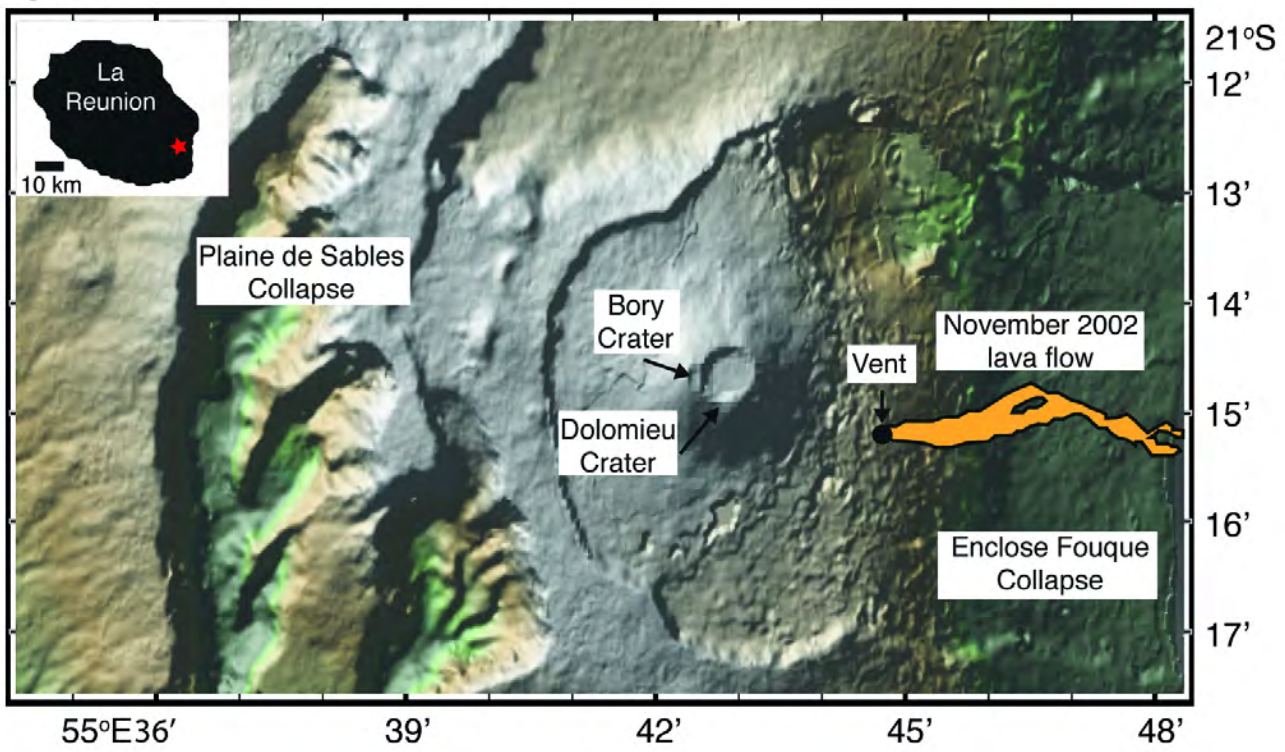


Figure 3

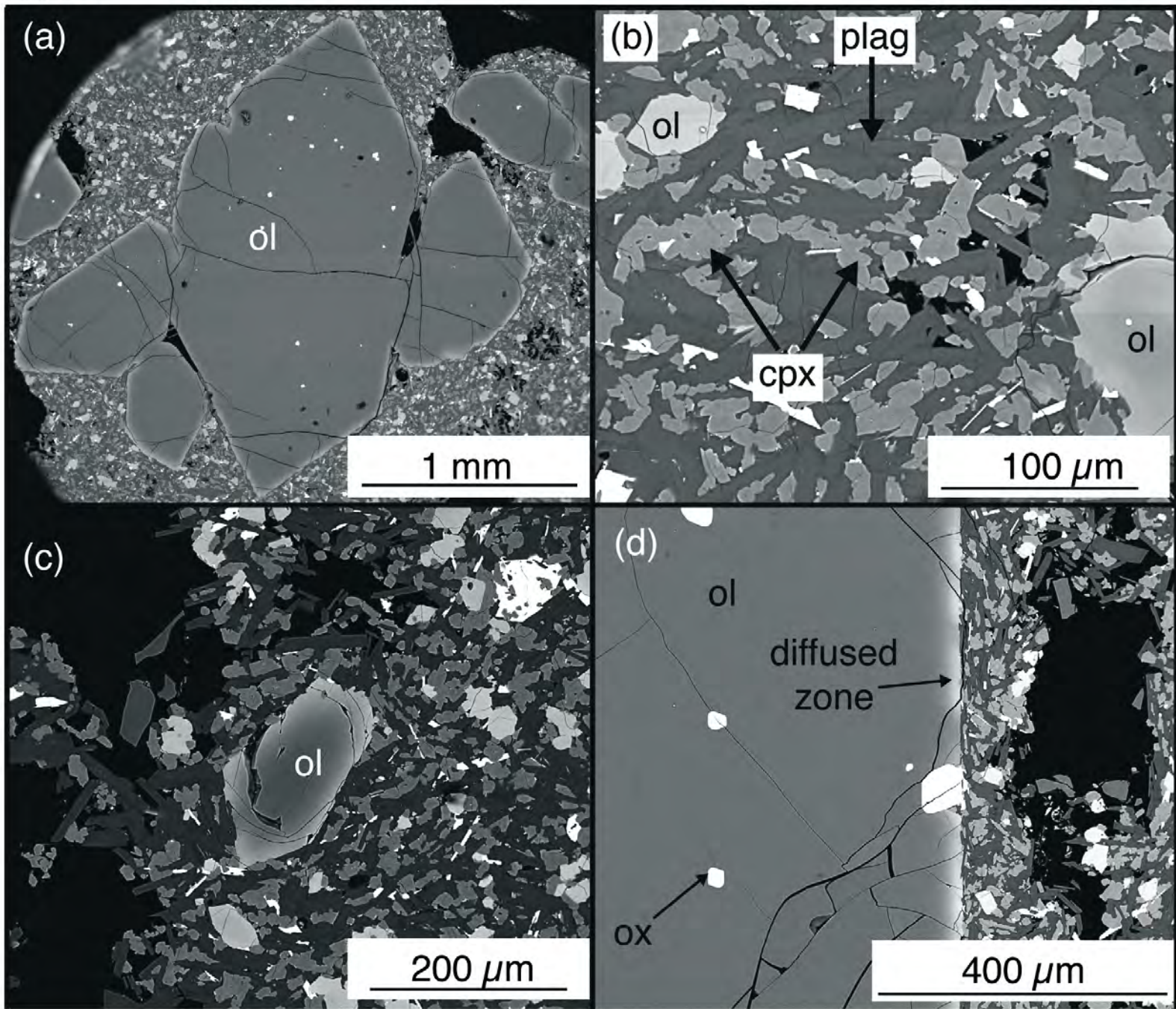


Figure 4

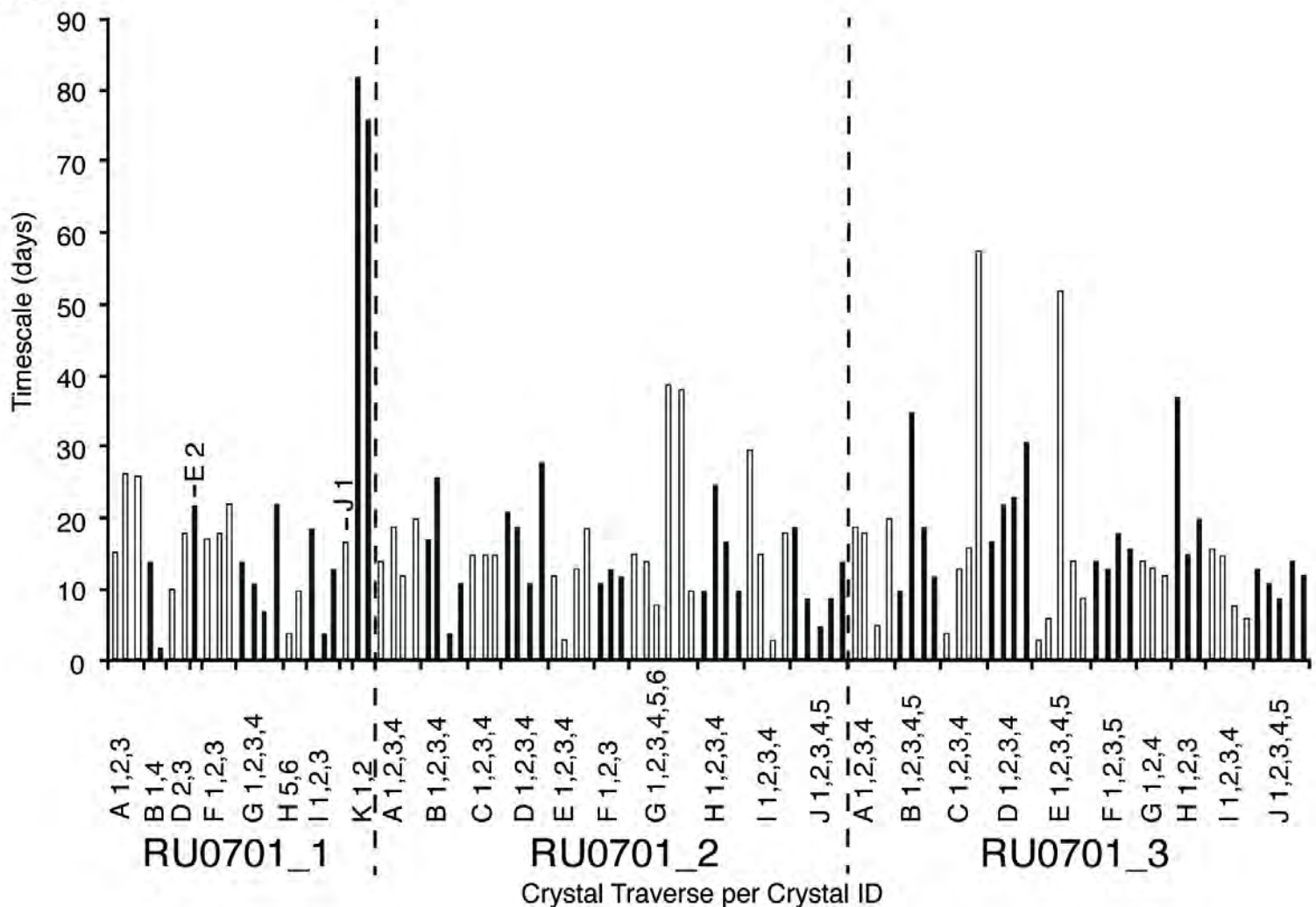


Figure 5

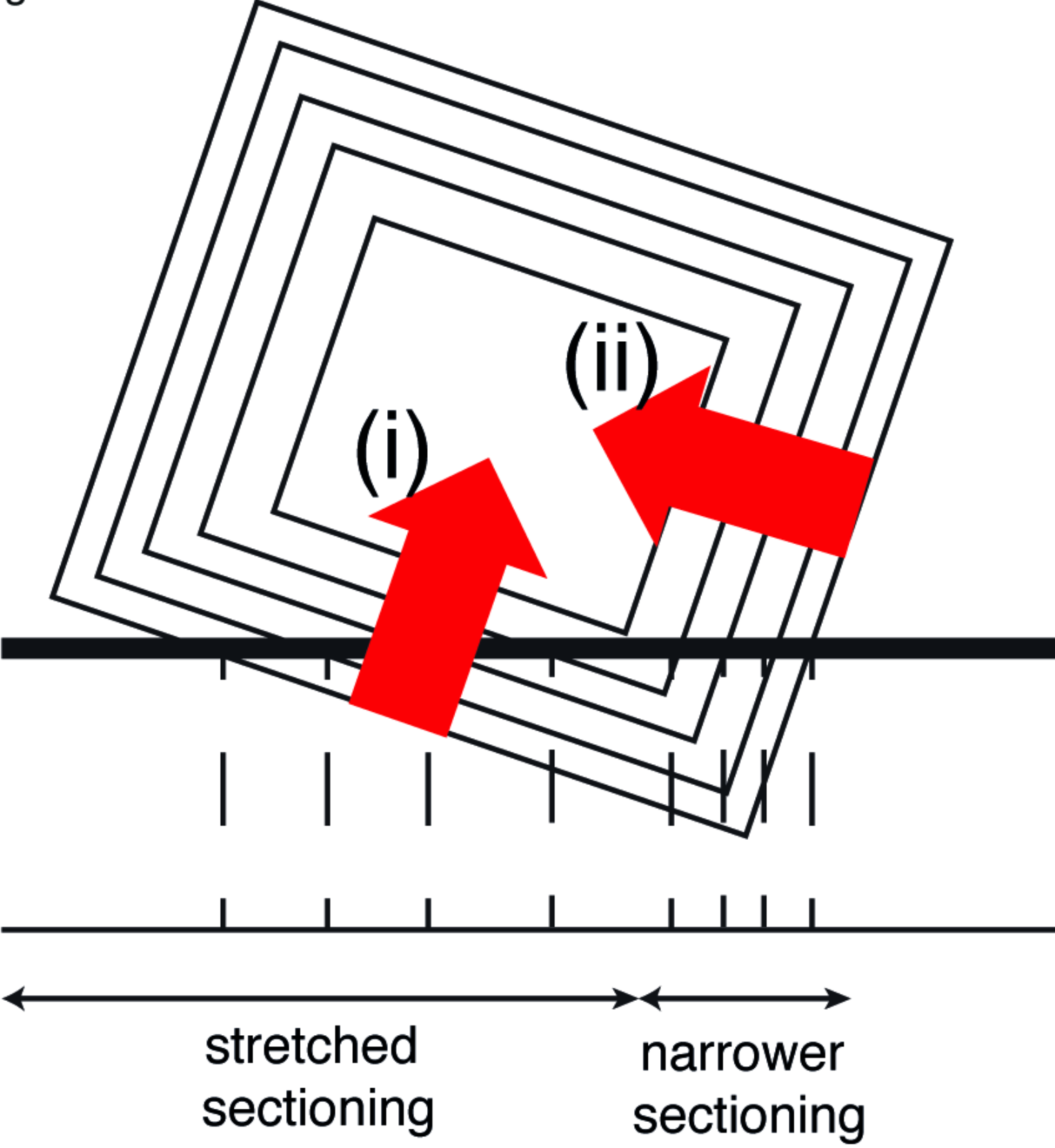


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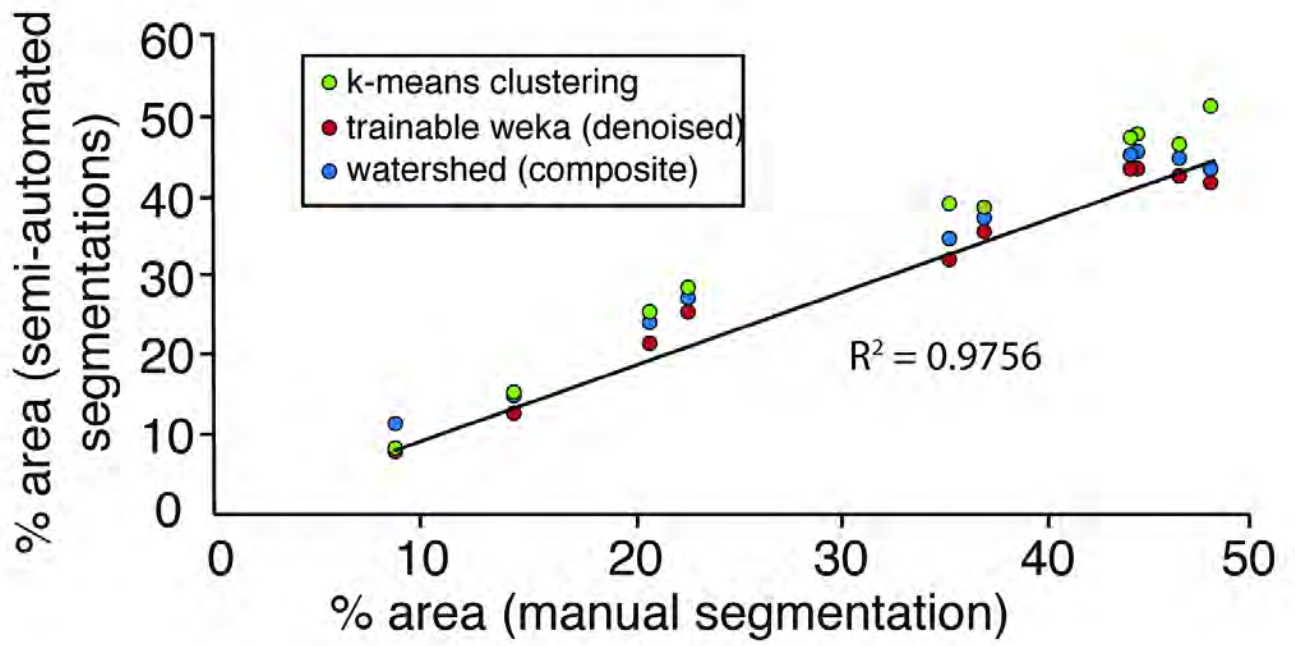


Figure 7

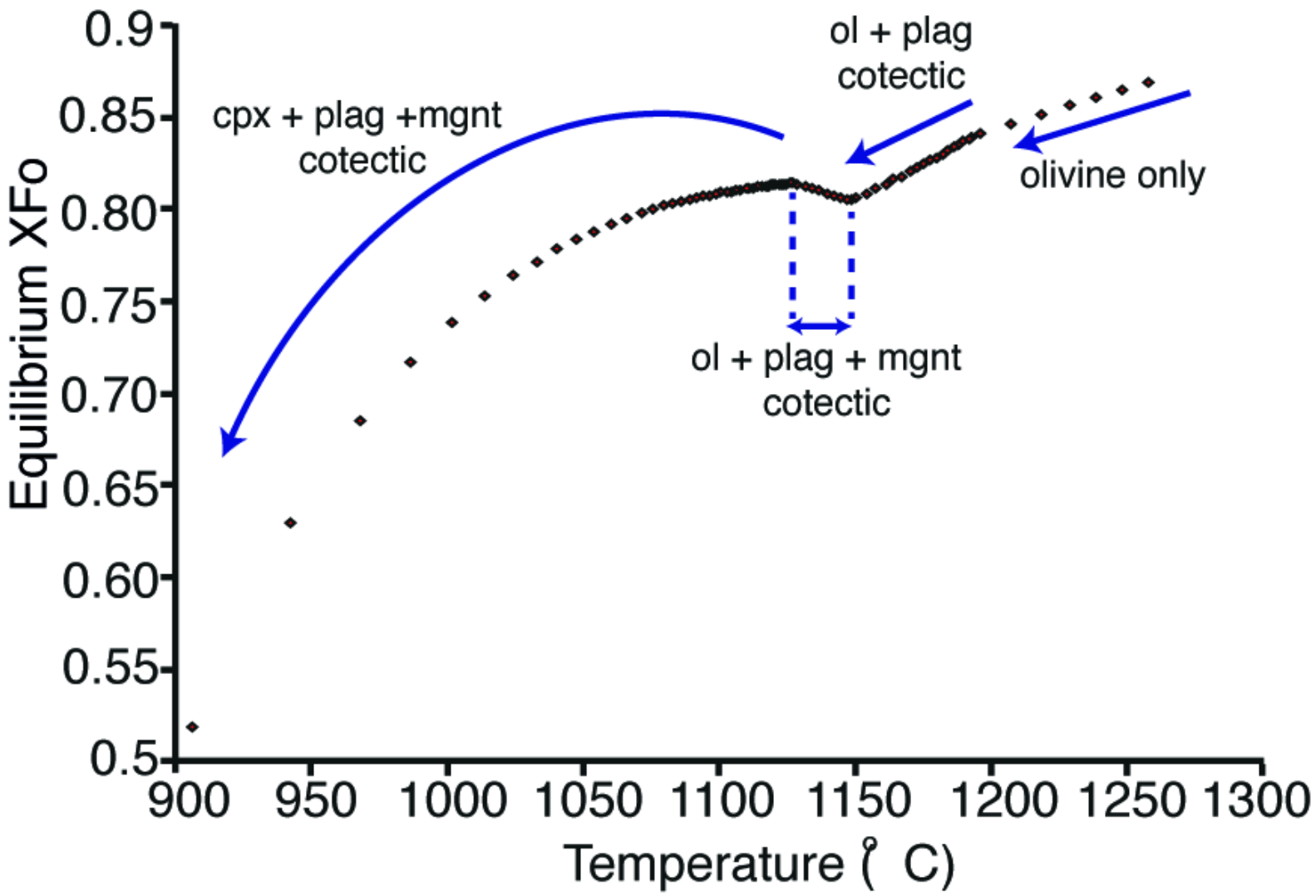


Figure 8

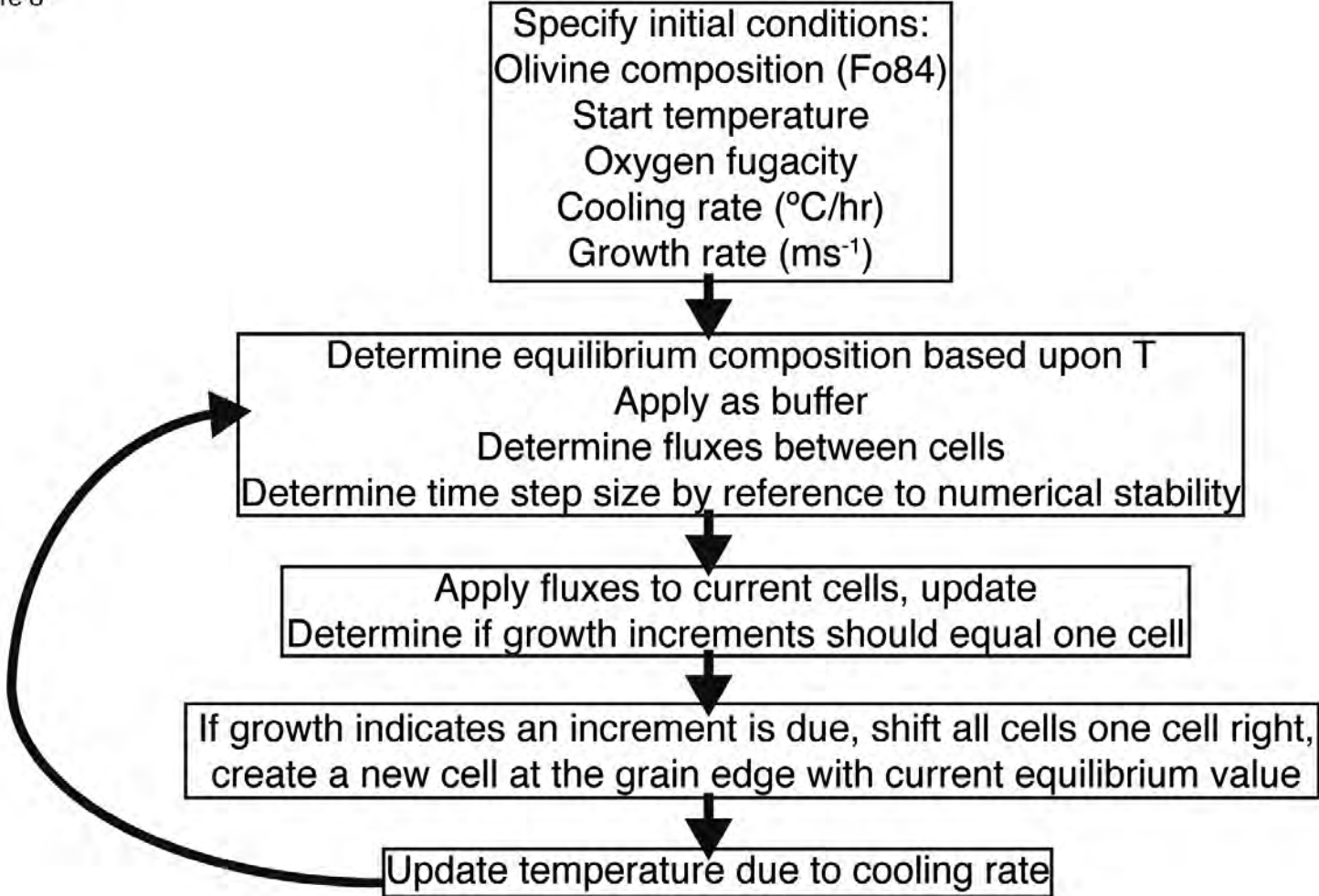


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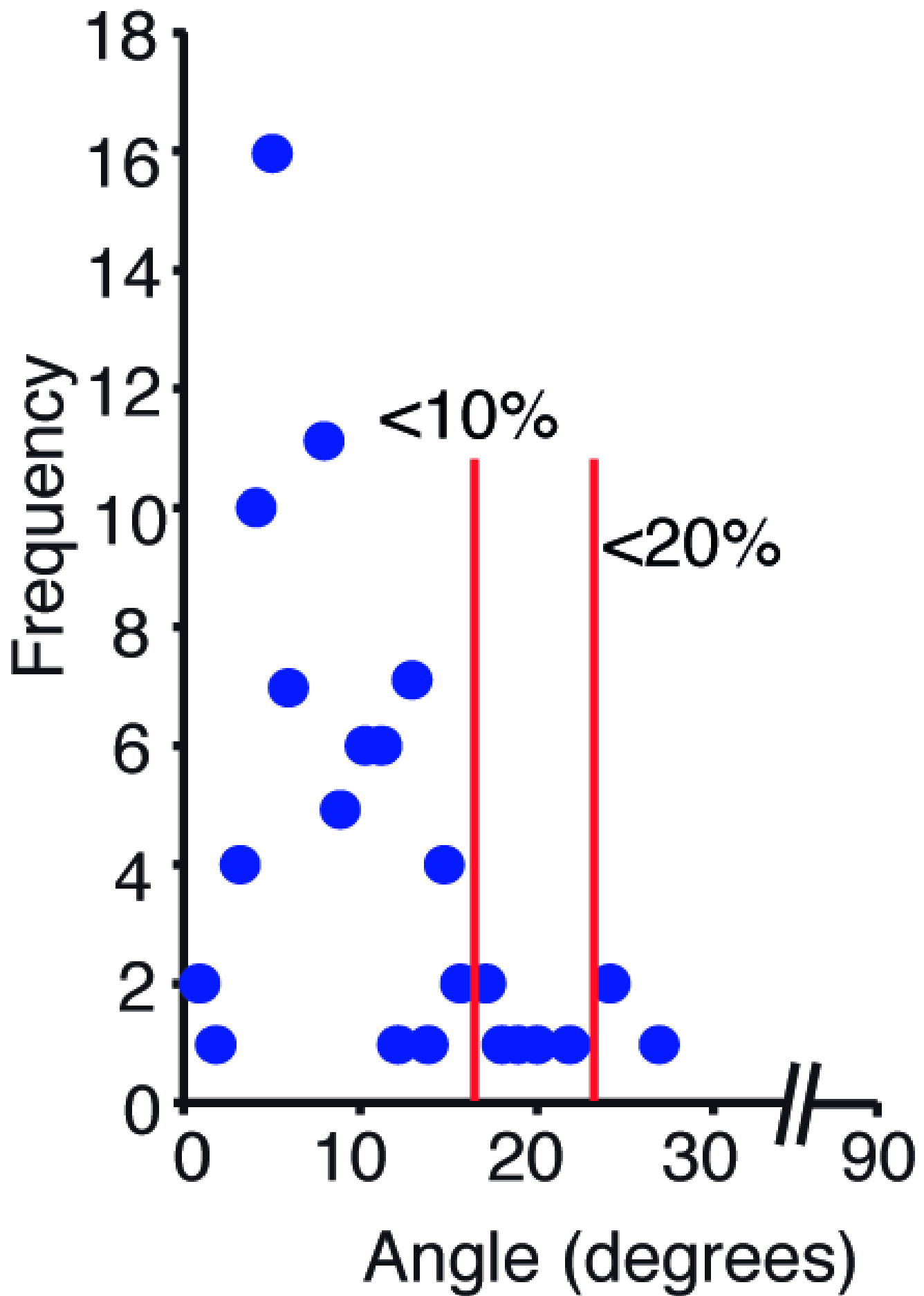
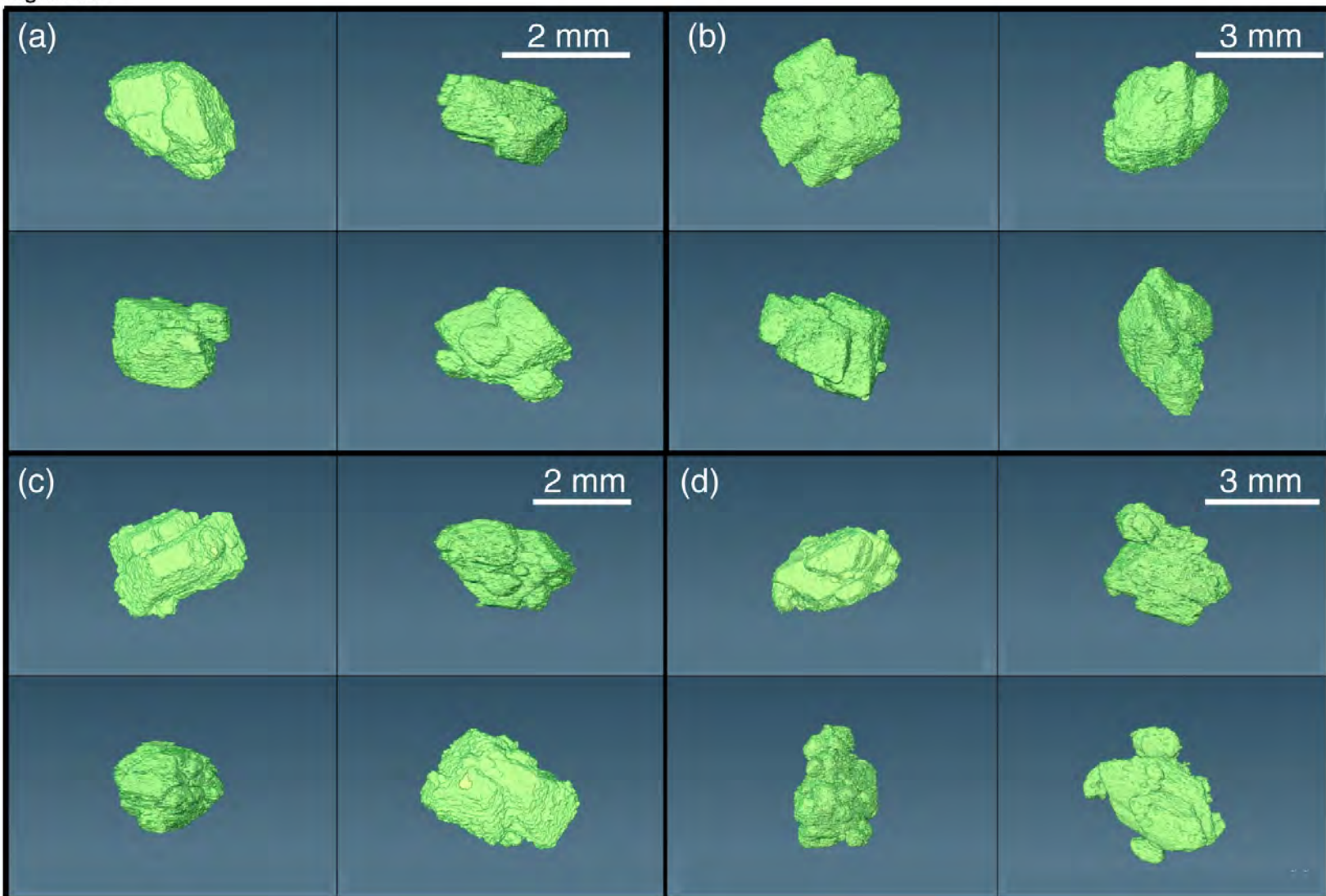


Figure 10



(e)

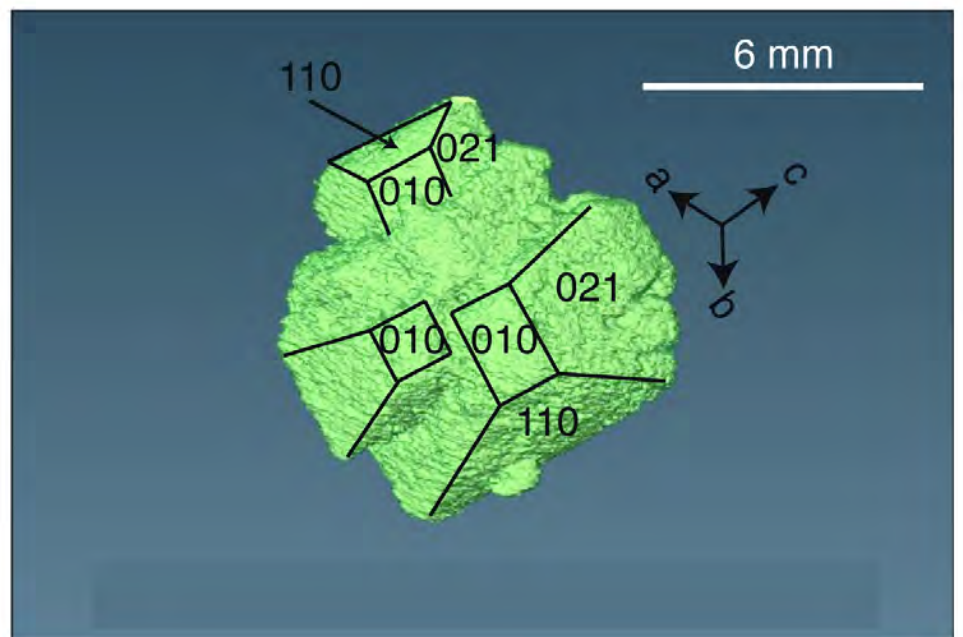
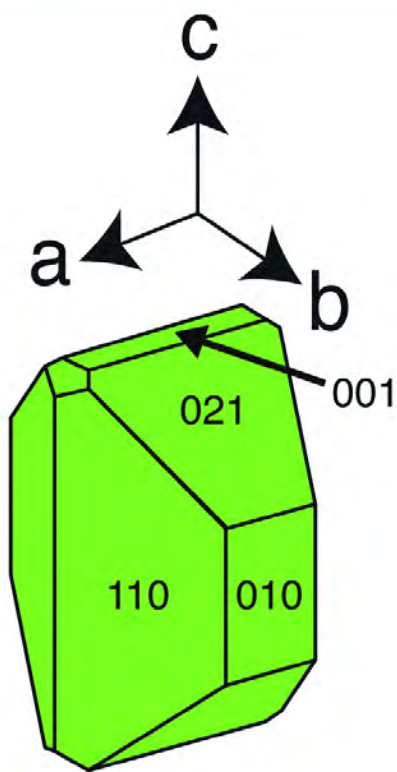


Figure 13

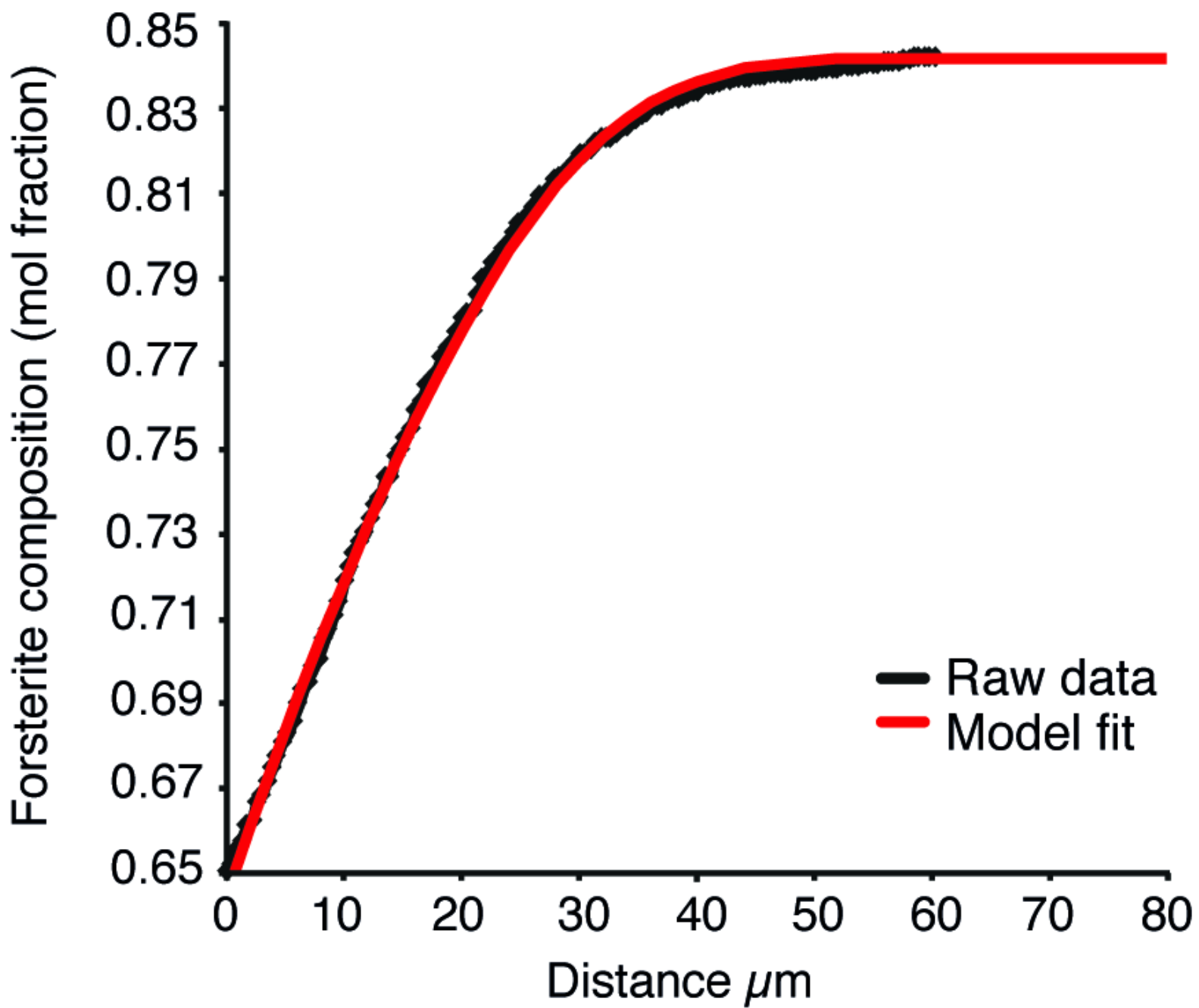


Figure 14

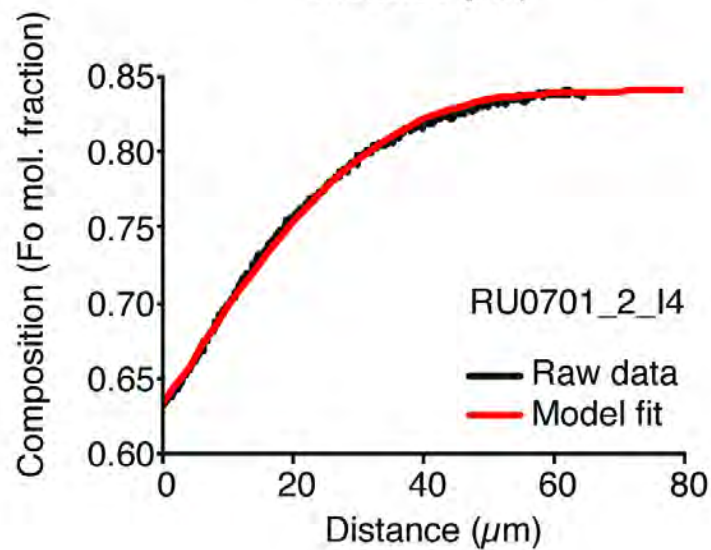
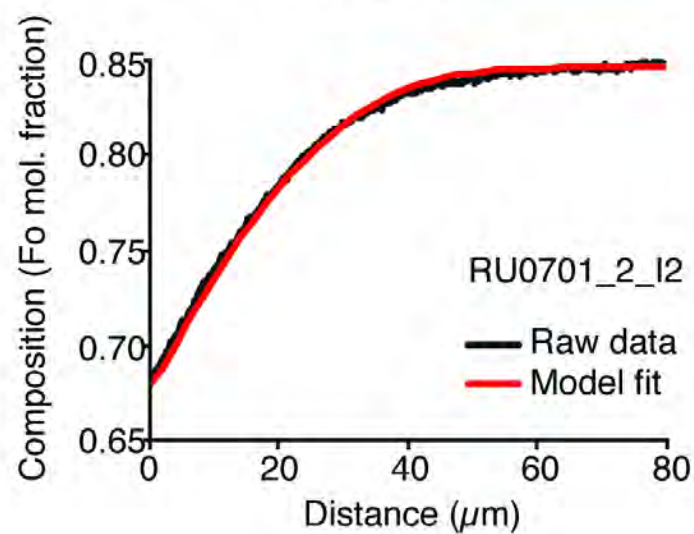
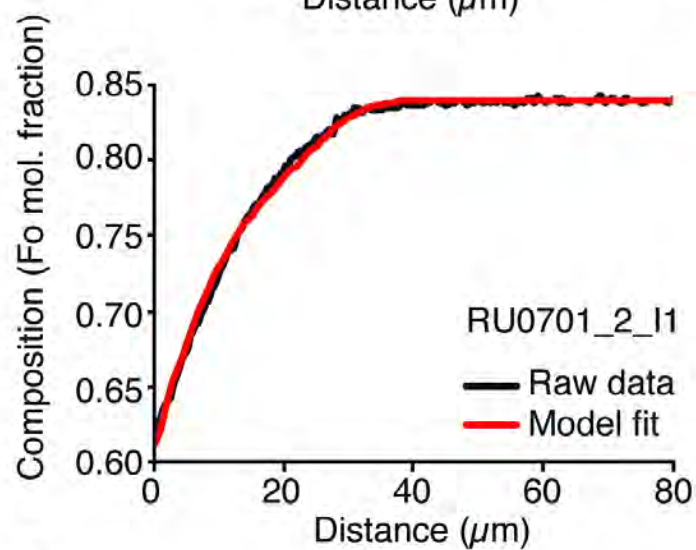
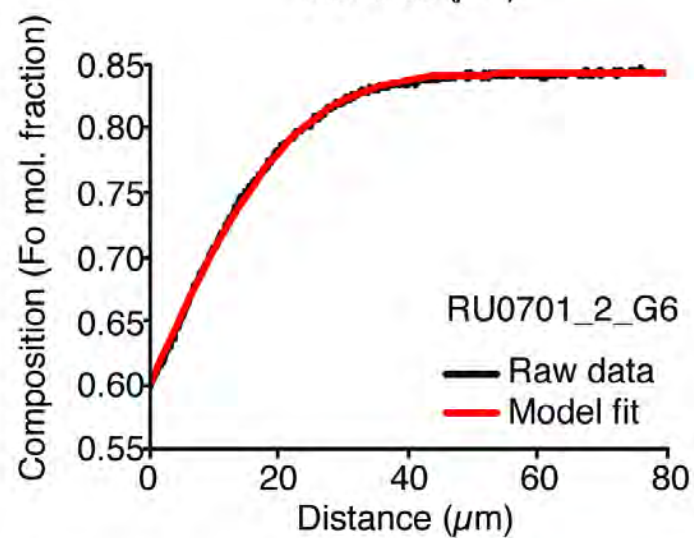
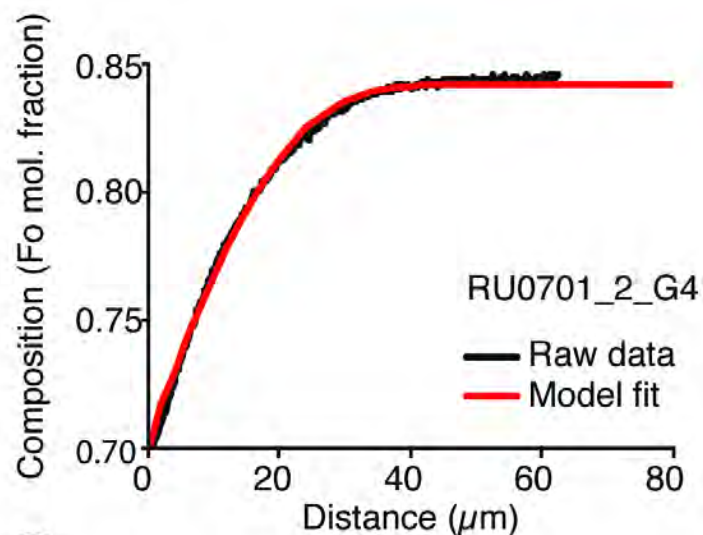
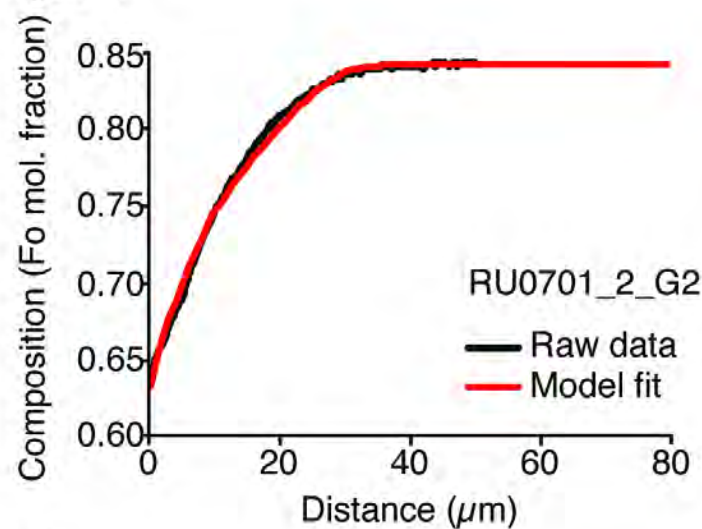
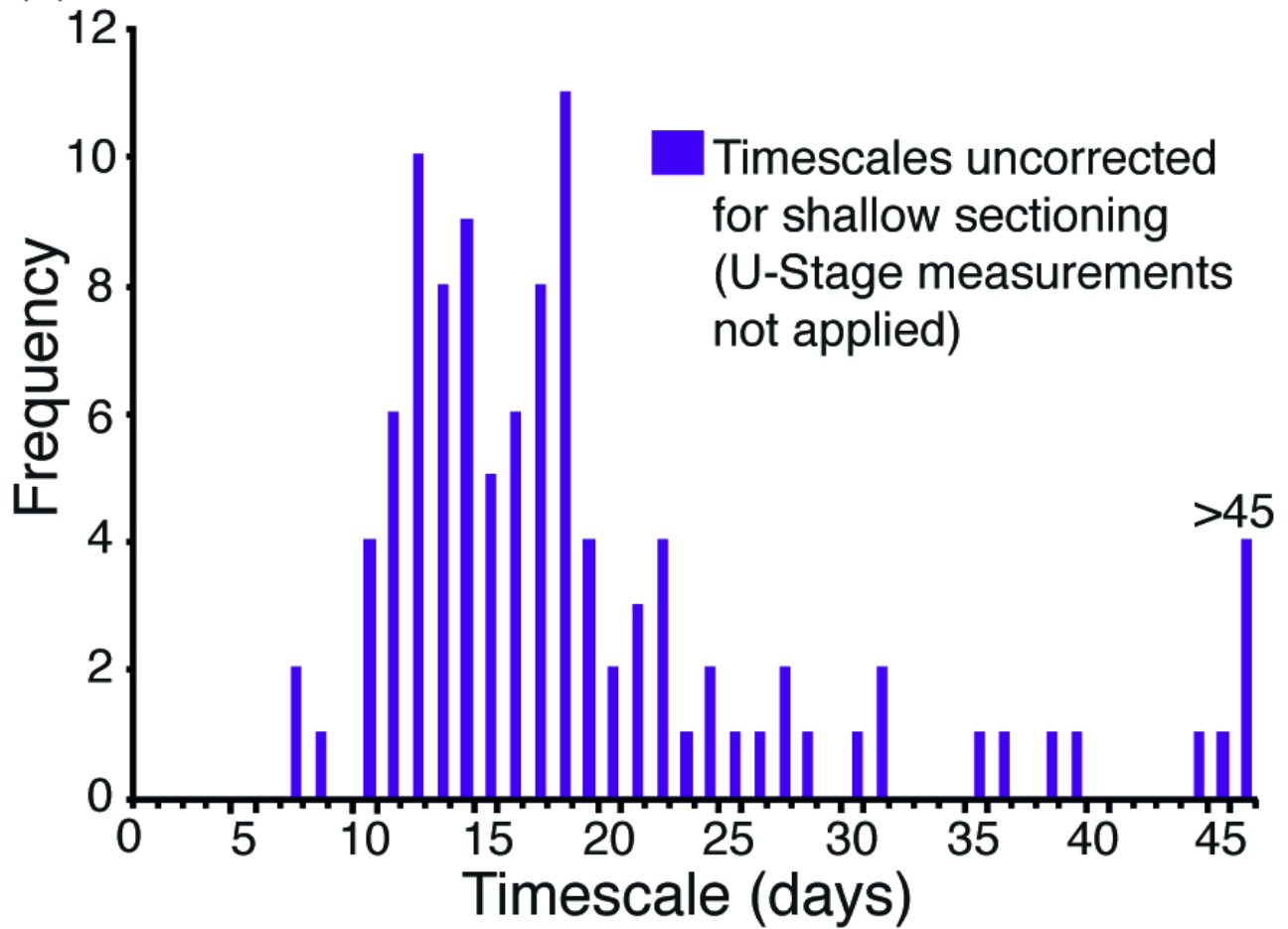


Figure 15

(a)



(b)

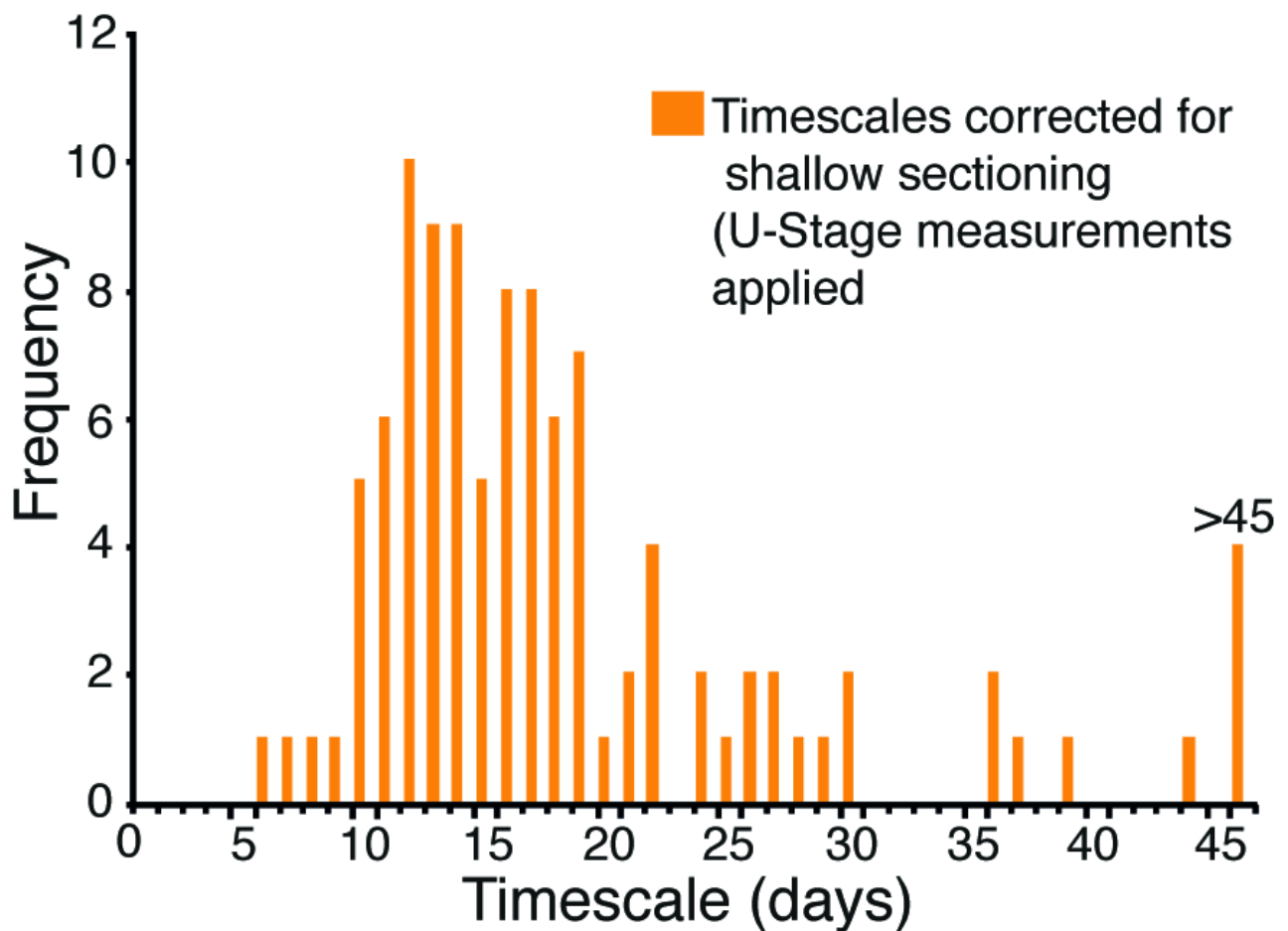


Figure 16

