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3 **Estimating ferric iron content in clinopyroxene using machine learning models**

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## Abstract

23 Clinopyroxene ferric iron content is an important consideration for garnet-clinopyroxene  
24 geothermometry and estimations of water storage in the Earth's interior, but remains difficult and  
25 expensive to measure. Here, we develop seven classic algorithms and machine learning methods  
26 to estimate  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  in clinopyroxene using major element data from electron microprobe  
27 analyses. The models were first trained using a large dataset of clinopyroxene  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values  
28 determined by Mössbauer spectroscopy and spanning a wide compositional range, with major  
29 uncertainties ranging from 0.25 to 0.3 and root-mean-square errors on the test dataset ranging from  
30 0.071 to 0.089. After dividing the entire dataset into three compositional sub-datasets, the machine  
31 learning models were trained and compared for each sub-dataset. Our results suggest that ensemble  
32 learning algorithms (random forest and Extra-Trees) perform better than principal component  
33 analysis-based elastic net polynomial, artificial neural network, artificial neural network ensemble,  
34 decision trees, and linear regressions. Using a sub-dataset excluding clinopyroxene in spinel  
35 peridotite and omphacite in eclogite, the new models achieved uncertainties of 0.15 to 0.2 and  
36 root-mean-square errors on the test dataset ranging from 0.051 to 0.078, decreasing prediction  
37 errors by 30–40%. By incorporating compositional data on coexisting spinel, new models for  
38 clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite show improved performance, indicating the interaction between  
39 spinel and clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite. Feature importance analysis shows  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , and  
40  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  to be the most important for predicting  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content, supporting the coupled substitution  
41 between  $\text{Ca}^{2+}\text{-M}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Na}^+\text{-M}^{3+}$  in natural clinopyroxenes. The application of our models to  
42 garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometry greatly improves temperature estimates, achieving  
43 uncertainties of  $\pm 50$  °C, compared with uncertainties of  $\pm 250$  °C using previous models assuming  
44 all Fe as  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  or calculating  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  by charge conservation. Differences in the ferric iron contents, as

45 calculated using the machine learning models, of clinopyroxenes that did or did not experience  
46 hydrogen diffusion during their crystallization from basaltic magma support a redox-driven  
47 mechanism for hydrogen diffusion in clinopyroxene.

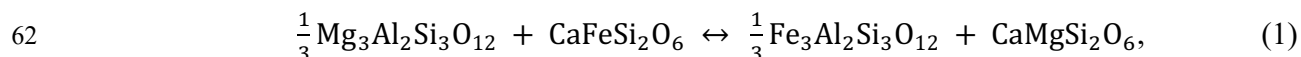
48 **Keywords:** Clinopyroxene, Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe, machine learning, geothermometer, redox

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## Introduction

51 Clinopyroxene is prevalent throughout the deep crust and upper mantle, and its chemical  
52 composition carries essential information on metamorphism, partial melting, melt reactions, and  
53 deep volatile cycles (Råheim and Green 1974; Rudnick and Fountain 1995; Hirschmann 2000; Xia  
54 et al. 2013; Thomson et al. 2016; Beard et al. 2019). In particular, clinopyroxene Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe content  
55 strongly reflects mantle redox conditions and therefore the stability of carbon-bearing minerals,  
56 because the mantle redox state determines whether carbon is present as carbonate, carbonatite melt,  
57 diamond, or other reduced phases (Luth and Canil 1993; Dasgupta and Hirschmann 2006; Brey et  
58 al. 2008; Frost and McCammon 2008; Rohrbach and Schmidt 2011; Stagno et al. 2013; Zhang et  
59 al. 2019). Furthermore, the garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer, widely applied to garnet-  
60 lherzolites, eclogites, and granulites, and based on the reaction (Råheim and Green 1974; Ellis and  
61 Green 1979; Ganguly 1979; Saxena 1979; Krogh 1988):

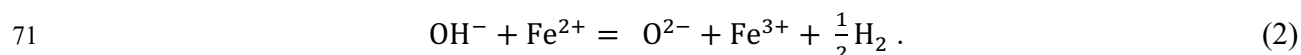


63 Pyrope Hedenbergite Almandine Diopside

64 assumes iron is present only as ferrous iron; large errors likely result if both clinopyroxene ferrous  
65 and ferric iron contents are not considered (McGuire et al. 1989; Canil and O'Neill 1996; Galazka-

66 Friedman et al. 1998; Schmid et al. 2003; Proyer et al. 2004; Li et al. 2005). Thus, it is important  
67 to constrain both the ferric and ferrous iron contents in clinopyroxene.

68 Moreover, the oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> to Fe<sup>3+</sup> has been proposed as an important mechanism of  
69 dehydrogenation in clinopyroxenes crystallized from basaltic magmas (Skogby and Rossman 1989;  
70 Stalder and Ludwig 2007; Su et al. 2008; Sundvall et al. 2009) following the reaction:



72 This reaction is crucial for evaluating the preservation of water in clinopyroxene phenocrysts,  
73 which constrains the H<sub>2</sub>O contents of basaltic magmas (Wade et al. 2008; Xia et al. 2013; Lloyd  
74 et al. 2016; Xu et al. 2019). Thus, the accurate determination of clinopyroxene ferric iron contents  
75 greatly impacts constraints of the abundance and distribution of water in Earth's interior.

76 Although clinopyroxene major element contents, including total iron content, are widely  
77 measured by electron microprobe analyses ( $n = 130,000$  in the Georoc database), the ferric and  
78 ferrous iron contents are rarely measured separately (<1000) due to technical challenges, cost, and  
79 limited access to ferric iron analytical facilities, such as Mössbauer spectroscopy (Dyar et al.  
80 2006), X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) spectroscopy (Bajt et al. 1994; Delaney et  
81 al. 1998; Kelley and Cottrell 2009; Cottrell and Kelley 2013; Terabayashi et al. 2013), transmission  
82 electron microscopy electron energy loss spectroscopy (TEM-EELS; van Aken et al. 1998; van  
83 Aken and Liebscher 2002; Rohrbach et al. 2007, 2011; Rzehak et al. 2020) and electron  
84 microprobe analyses employing the flank and peak-shift methods (Fialin et al. 2001; Höfer and  
85 Brey 2007; Lamb et al. 2012; C. Zhang et al. 2018). Although wet chemistry analyses are widely  
86 available, this destructive method requires greater amounts of sample, limiting its application to  
87 clinopyroxenes, which commonly account for only small volumes in mineral separates or have

88 compositional heterogeneity. Instead of analytical measurements, the ferric iron contents of  
89 minerals are commonly calculated based on charge conservation. However, this method is affected  
90 by the accuracy of Si and Na measurements by microprobe. On one hand, Si is a major element  
91 with 4+ ionic charge, and a slight deviation in its concentration can have a significant effect on  
92 charge balance. On the other hand, precise measurements of Na are challenging due to its low  
93 atomic number (Dyar et al. 1989; Canil and O'Neill 1996; Sobolev et al. 1999).

94 Machine learning (ML) models can reveal complex correlations among elements following  
95 a data-driven approach. In recent years, ML methods have been broadly applied in various fields  
96 of mineralogy, petrology, and geochemistry (Dyar et al. 2012; Boucher et al. 2015; Petrelli and  
97 Perugini 2016; Le Losq et al. 2019; Li et al. 2020a, 2020b; Petrelli et al. 2020; Ptáček et al. 2020;  
98 Thomson et al. 2021). In this contribution, we develop and compare the performance of several  
99 ML methods to calculate  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  in clinopyroxene from microprobe data. To improve ML model  
100 performance from the dataset perspective, we divided the clinopyroxene dataset into several  
101 compositional sub-datasets. The application of ferric iron contents obtained using our models to  
102 geothermometry results are compared to those obtained using the traditional charge balance  
103 method. Finally, the application of ferric iron contents is used to test the redox-driven hydrogen  
104 diffusion hypothesis in clinopyroxene crystallized from basaltic magma.

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## Material and methods

### 107 Data description

108 The natural clinopyroxene compositional dataset compiled in this study comprises 407  
109 terrestrial samples from 62 publications, including both major element concentrations and

110  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratios (Supplementary Table S1). Synthetic clinopyroxenes ( $n = 45$ ) were excluded  
111 because they mostly have simple compositions or extreme values; e.g., a synthetic diopside sample  
112 (Di70\_F) reported in Redhammer et al. (2012) has  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe} = 1.0$ , which is extremely rare in  
113 nature. Because, in principle, the ML training and prediction datasets should overlap, incorporating  
114 such simple, non-natural compositions in the training dataset would negatively affect the  
115 performance of the model when predicting  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  concentrations in natural samples.

116 Major element concentrations (Si, Ti, Al, Cr, Fe, Mn, Mg, Ca, Na) measured by microprobe  
117 were selected as eigenvalues ( $X$ ) for the model input data, and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratios obtained by  
118 Mössbauer spectroscopy as the ‘tag’ values ( $Y$ ) representing the model output. Among the  
119 analytical methods capable of measuring  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$ , we chose only Mössbauer spectroscopy for  
120 two reasons: 1) micro-XANES standards are calibrated by Mössbauer spectroscopy, leading to  
121 repetitive counts of Mössbauer spectroscopy data in the training dataset; and 2) ferric iron data  
122 from micro-XANES and other methods are significantly less abundant than Mössbauer data.

123 We used this dataset to train the ML models in two ways. First, the entire dataset ( $n = 407$ )  
124 was used to train the general models. In a second approach, the dataset was split into three sub-  
125 datasets numbered I–III based on mineral species and petrological context: I, diopside and augite  
126 in spinel peridotite ( $n = 127$ ); II, omphacite in eclogite ( $n = 72$ ); and III, the remaining data ( $n =$   
127 208). The models were trained using each sub-dataset to obtain better accuracy.

128 As shown in Figure 1, the entire dataset spans a wide range of compositions: 45.32–57.65  
129 wt%  $\text{SiO}_2$ , 0–9.76 wt%  $\text{TiO}_2$ , 0.12–16.37 wt%  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ , 0–29.37 wt%  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$ , 0.67–30.05 wt%  $\text{FeO}$ ,  
130 0–1.97 wt%  $\text{MnO}$ , 0.01–21.5 wt%  $\text{MgO}$ , 0.03–24.91 wt%  $\text{CaO}$ , 0.04–17.26 wt%  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ , and  
131  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratios ranging from 0 ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  endmember, hedenbergite) to 1 ( $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  endmember, aegirine).

132 Some rare clinopyroxenes, such as esseneite (purely ferric) and spodumene (Fe-free), were  
133 excluded.

134 Most  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratios reported in the literature ignore the recoil-free fractions of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  
135  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , which may contribute large errors to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values measured by Mössbauer spectroscopy  
136 (Dyar et al. 2012). To reduce the negative effect of such measurement errors on the tag values in  
137 our models, we corrected such values using the recoil-free fractions ( $C$ ) listed in Table 1 as:

138 
$$\frac{A^{3+}}{A^{2+}} = C \times \frac{N^{3+}}{N^{2+}}, \quad (3)$$

139 where  $A$  is the doublet area of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  or  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  in the Mössbauer spectrum, and  $N$  their corresponding  
140 corrected abundances.

## 141 **Training and test datasets**

142 We divided the compositional dataset into training and test datasets using the stratified  
143 random sampling function in the Scikit-learn library, which produces training sets that reflect, as  
144 much as possible, the characteristics of the entire dataset. The training set is used to train the  
145 models, whereas the independent test set, which is not involved in model training, is used to  
146 estimate the generalization of the trained models by evaluating their performance on a ‘new’  
147 dataset. We selected 80% of the compiled dataset (or sub-dataset) for the training set, leaving 20%  
148 for testing. The exception is sub-dataset I, which is much smaller than the other sub-datasets; for  
149 this sub-dataset, we selected 90% of the data for training and 10% for testing to allow more data  
150 for training the algorithms.

## 151 **Machine learning algorithms**

152 We used seven classic algorithms and ML methods that are widely used in regression  
153 studies: linear regression, principal component analysis (PCA)-based elastic net polynomial  
154 regression, artificial neural network regression, artificial neural network ensemble (ANN ensemble)  
155 regression, decision trees regression, random forest regression, and extremely randomized tree  
156 (Extra-Trees) regression. Detailed descriptions of the principles of each algorithm are provided in  
157 Supplementary Text 1. In addition, because they employ ensemble learning based on bagging, the  
158 random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms can prevent overfitting. Therefore, it is worthwhile to  
159 test their performance on small datasets such as clinopyroxene composition. Furthermore, these  
160 two algorithms provide feature importance information, facilitating the interpretation of their  
161 results.

## 162 **Performance metrics**

163 Model performance was evaluated using two parameters: the coefficient of determination  
164 ( $R^2$ ) and the root-mean-square error (RMSE). To avoid overfitting, we estimated the robustness of  
165 the model predictions.  $R^2$  is a dimensionless metric of a model's goodness of fit, reflecting the  
166 degree to which the input variables explain variations in the output. The formula for  $R^2$  is:

$$167 \quad R^2 = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}, \quad (4)$$

168 where  $y_i$  denotes the real value,  $\bar{y}$  is the mean value of  $y_i$ , and  $\hat{y}_i$  is the predicted value.  $R^2$  values  
169 range from  $-\infty$  to 1, with the best possible score being  $R^2 = 1.0$ .

170 RMSE estimates the error between the real and predicted values as the square root of the  
171 sum of all errors divided by the number of values:



172 
$$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{n}}. \quad (5)$$

173 RMSE values closer to zero indicate a better fit.

174         Considering the small size of our dataset, we performed 10-fold cross-validation to  
175 estimate the robustness of each ML algorithm; this method divides the dataset into ten subgroups  
176 (nine for training and one for validation) and repeats the process ten times. We repeated the 10-  
177 fold cross-validation ten times with various random seeds, resulting in 100 sub-sample sets. Thus,  
178 in each 10-fold cross-validation, ten sub-sample sets were created, each consisting of 10% of the  
179 total samples. Finally, the  $R^2$  distribution of each of the 100 sub-sample sets was analyzed by kernel  
180 density estimation, a non-parametric method for estimating the probability density function of a  
181 random variable, and which can re-express the discrete histogram with a smooth and continuous  
182 curve to make it more accessible for model comparisons.

183

184

## Results

### 185 Models trained on the entire dataset

186         Figure 2a shows the  $R^2$  distribution for each model. The random forest and Extra-Trees  
187 algorithms showed the best performance, each with  $R^2$  distributions characterized by a modal value  
188 of 0.89 and a mean RMSE value of 0.078, followed by the polynomial, neural network, and ANN  
189 ensemble algorithms with mean RMSE values of 0.080, 0.080, and 0.082, respectively. In contrast,  
190 the decision trees algorithm was the least accurate and robust, with very poor performances during  
191 some validation iterations. Figure 2b–g shows the details of each ML method by comparing the  
192 reference and predicted  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values. Remarkably, the correlations between the reference and

193 predicted values in all model outputs plot along the 1:1 trend, indicating accurate predictions.

194 The uncertainties of the linear and decision trees models were about  $\pm 0.3$ , whereas the  
195 other models showed uncertainties of approximately  $\pm 0.25$ . The RMSE values obtained for the  
196 independent test dataset were 0.071 (random forest), 0.077 (Extra-Trees), 0.084 (polynomial),  
197 0.081 (neural network), 0.084 (ANN ensemble), 0.089 (linear), and 0.086 (decision trees), similar  
198 to those obtained using the training dataset.

199 It is crucial to incorporate analytical uncertainties into our models because they determine  
200 the reliability of the ML algorithms. Analytical uncertainties on Mössbauer spectroscopy analyses  
201 are at least  $\pm 5\%$  and increase with decreasing total Fe content (H.L. Zhang et al. 2018). Therefore,  
202 analytical errors are more significant for clinopyroxenes with low total Fe contents, which then  
203 propagates into the ML models. Indeed, the residual error, i.e., the difference between the predicted  
204 and reference values, increased at low Fe contents in all models (Figure 3a–g): the residual errors  
205 of the linear and decision trees algorithms increased from 0.2 to 0.3 at Fe contents below 0.4 atoms  
206 per formula unit (apfu); those of the polynomial, neural network, and ANN ensemble models  
207 increased from 0.15 at  $>0.4$  apfu Fe to about 0.25 at lower Fe contents; in contrast, neither the  
208 random forest nor Extra-Trees algorithms were very sensitive to the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  measurement  
209 uncertainties (Figure 3f–g). Furthermore, Canil and O'Neill (1996) reported microprobe analytical  
210 uncertainties on Si measurements. Indeed, our models inherited Si analytical uncertainties (Figure  
211 3h–n); in contrast to Fe, the residual error increased with increasing Si content. Again, the random  
212 forest and Extra-Trees algorithms were the least sensitive to Si measurement uncertainties.

### 213 **Models trained on compositional sub-datasets**

214 The  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratios of certain sample types were poorly predicted by the general models,

215 namely diopside and augite in spinel peridotite ( $n = 127$ ) and omphacite in eclogite ( $n = 72$ ).  
216 Therefore, we further trained ML models on these sub-datasets and investigated the feature  
217 importance information provided by the random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms.

218 Figure 4 compares models for diopside and augite in spinel peridotite (sub-dataset I).  
219 Linear regression did not achieve a correlation between the reference and predicted values, and  
220 simply predicted values around the average composition of the training dataset to achieve a low  
221 RMSE (Figure 4a). This is not surprising because the Pearson correlation coefficient shows nearly  
222 no correlation between any major element content and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  (below  $\pm 0.3$ ), indicating that in  
223 these samples,  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  does not depend solely on clinopyroxene composition. Previous studies  
224 suggest that coexisting spinel might perturb the incorporation of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in clinopyroxene (Canil and  
225 O'Neill 1996; Woodland et al. 2006; Woodland 2009). Therefore, we added the chemical  
226 compositions of coexisting spinel into sub-dataset I and trained new models on the combined  
227 clinopyroxene and spinel compositional data. The feature importance information returned by the  
228 random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms both indicate that the most important feature is Fe  
229 content in spinel, with other elemental concentrations in spinel also having moderate contributions  
230 to the predictions (Figure 5). Consequently, the performance of these models improved  
231 significantly when including coexisting spinel (Figure 4b, d, f), attaining uncertainties of  $\pm 0.15$  on  
232 the linear model and  $\pm 0.08$  on the random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms.

233 Because the omphacite-in-eclogite dataset is relatively small ( $n = 72$ ), we do not provide  
234 exclusive models for omphacite herein and recommend using the general models to calculate  
235  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  in omphacite. Thus, here, we estimate the performance of the general models for  
236 omphacite (Figure 6). The maximal uncertainty was within  $\pm 0.25$ , but the correlation between the  
237 reference and predicted values was relatively weak, especially for the polynomial, neural network,

238 and ANN ensemble regression algorithms. The random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms again  
239 showed the best result. Considering that  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values in omphacite span a wide range (0.11–  
240 0.76 in sub-dataset II), the errors on the models are acceptable for omphacite in eclogite (RMSEs  
241 for all provided models are below 0.15).

242 Figure 7 shows that when trained using sub-dataset III, the PCA-based elastic net  
243 polynomial, random forest, and Extra-Trees algorithms performed excellently, with modal  $R^2$   
244 values of about 0.96, uncertainties below  $\pm 0.15$ , and RMSE values for the test dataset ranging from  
245 0.051 to 0.057. On the other hand, the linear, decision trees, and neural network algorithms  
246 performed relatively poorly in accuracy and precision, with uncertainties below  $\pm 0.2$ . Compared  
247 to the neural network algorithm, the ANN ensemble regression significantly improved precision,  
248 giving robust results without improving accuracy, with uncertainties below  $\pm 0.2$ .

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## Discussion

### 251 Evaluation of ML model performances

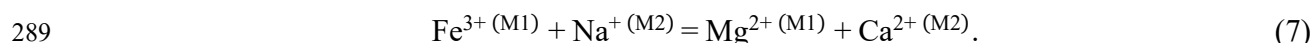
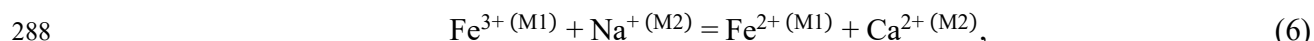
252 Here, we compare the different ML models based on the accuracy, uncertainty, and  
253 robustness of their predictions. Among the considered models, the random forest and Extra-Trees  
254 algorithms show the best performance, with high modal  $R^2$  values and low mean RMSE values.  
255 Furthermore, these two algorithms are less sensitive to uncertainties on compositions measured by  
256 microprobe and/or Mössbauer spectroscopy. In comparison, the polynomial, neural network, and  
257 ANN ensemble algorithms show moderate performance, and the ANN ensemble algorithms are  
258 more sensitive to measurement uncertainties than the random forest and Extra-Trees algorithms.  
259 In particular, the neural network algorithm shows poor performance on the sub-datasets, indicating

260 that the neural network algorithm is not suitable for small datasets. However, the accuracy,  
261 precision, and robustness of predictions improve significantly when combining the neural network  
262 and bagging algorithms (ANN ensemble algorithms). In contrast, the decision trees algorithm and  
263 linear regression show the worst accuracy and robustness, with poor performance during some  
264 validation iterations. Therefore, the ensemble learning algorithms are the best suited to the  
265 clinopyroxene compositional datasets.

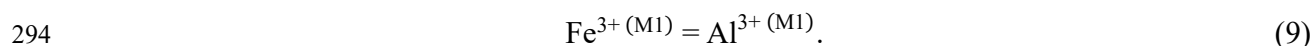
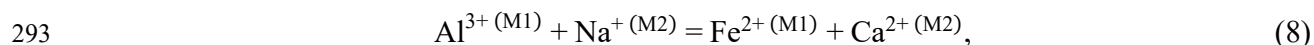
266         The datasets used to train the ML models also have great impact on their performance. For  
267 clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite (sub-dataset I), the ML models' performances improved after  
268 incorporating coexisting spinel compositions (Figure 4), consistent with the relative importance of  
269 clinopyroxene and spinel compositions to the model predictions. This indicates that the correlation  
270 between  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  and major element content in clinopyroxenes of sub-dataset I is likely due to  
271 spinel-clinopyroxene interaction. Therefore, the ML algorithms will be improved after  
272 incorporating a relevant parameter affecting clinopyroxene compositions (see next subsection). In  
273 sub-dataset II, the poor model performance was likely due to the complex  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  substitution  
274 mechanisms in omphacite. Unlike clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite,  $\text{Na}^+$  abundance is strongly  
275 correlated with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  in omphacite (Pearson correlation coefficient  $r > 0.6$ ). Furthermore, the  
276 small dataset ( $n = 72$ ) spans various  $P$ - $T$  conditions, some of which may have not reached  
277 equilibrium, further contributing to the poor predictive capacity of the ML models for sub-dataset  
278 II. After excluding clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite and omphacite in eclogite, ML model  
279 performances on sub-dataset III improved compared to the entire dataset ( $r = +0.95, -0.83,$  and  
280  $-0.92$  for Na, Mg, and Ca, respectively). This result suggests a general relationship between  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$   
281 and  $\text{Na}^+, \text{Mg}^{2+},$  and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Therefore, ML model performances can be improved with petrological  
282 and geological context.

## 283 **Cation substitution mechanisms revealed by ML models**

284 Previous studies have proposed cationic substitution mechanisms for Fe<sup>3+</sup>. Redhammer et  
285 al. (2000, 2012) reported a coupled Ca<sup>2+</sup>-Na<sup>+</sup> and M<sup>2+</sup>-Fe<sup>3+</sup> substitution (where M indicates an ion  
286 in the clinopyroxene M1 site) along the join of the hedenbergite-aegirine and diopside-aegirine  
287 solid solution series:



290 Nestola et al. (2007) reported the coupled substitution of Ca and Fe<sup>2+</sup> for Na and Al along the  
291 jadeite-hedenbergite solid solution series and the isovalent substitution of Fe<sup>3+</sup> for Al along the  
292 jadeite-aegirine series:

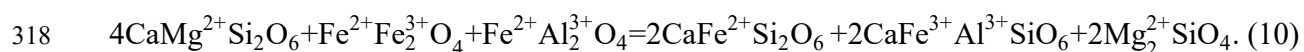


295 These coupled substitution mechanisms indicate that the replacement of the original ion in the M1  
296 site by Fe<sup>3+</sup> is accompanied by substitution between Na and Ca in the M2 site to maintain charge  
297 balance.

298 Based on the feature importance information from the random forest algorithm, Na, Ca,  
299 and Mg contents in clinopyroxene are the essential features for predicting Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe (Figure 8), in  
300 agreement with their strong positive (Na,  $r = +0.89$ ) and negative Pearson correlation coefficients  
301 (Mg,  $r = -0.78$ ; Ca,  $r = -0.86$ ) with Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe for the entire dataset. The general model indicates  
302 that Fe<sup>3+</sup> is incorporated in clinopyroxene as NaFe<sup>3+</sup>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (Equations 6, 7). However,

303 clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite shows a poor correlation between Na and Fe<sup>3+</sup> ( $r = +0.09$ ), with  
304 poor model performances unless coexisting spinel is included in the model (Canil and O'Neill  
305 1996; Woodland et al. 2006; Woodland 2009; Hao and Li 2013). As mentioned above, this  
306 observation can be explained by reactions between clinopyroxene and coexisting spinel.

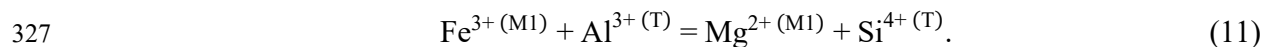
307 To determine the mechanism of Fe<sup>3+</sup> incorporation in clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite,  
308 we analyzed the correlation coefficient matrix for sub-dataset I (Supplementary Table S2) and the  
309 feature importance of the model. The Cr and Al contents in clinopyroxene show strong positive  
310 correlations with Cr ( $r = +0.65$ ) and Al ( $r = +0.70$ ) contents in spinel, respectively (Figure 9a, b).  
311 Similarly, Woodland et al. (2006) suggested that Fe<sup>3+</sup> partitioning between clinopyroxene and  
312 spinel varies with the Cr/Al ratio in spinel, indicating that Cr/Al in spinel may influence Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe  
313 in clinopyroxene. In addition, Fe has high feature importance scores in both clinopyroxene and  
314 spinel. Comparing Fe, Al, and Cr partitioning between spinel and clinopyroxene shows a strong  
315 positive correlation between  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$  and  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Cr}}$ , but a poor correlation between  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$  and  
316  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Al}}$  (Figure 9c, d). These results suggest that  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$  may lead to Cr/Al variation in spinel,  
317 in turn affecting  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Fe}^{3+}}$  and Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe in clinopyroxene by the reaction:



319 Clinopyroxene    Spinel                    Spinel    Clinopyroxene    Clinopyroxene    olivine

320 However, the effect of  $D^{\text{sp}/\text{cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$  on Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe in clinopyroxene should not be the dominant  
321 factor controlling Fe<sup>3+</sup> in clinopyroxene, as reflected by the weak correlation between Fe in  
322 clinopyroxene or spinel and Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe in clinopyroxene. Furthermore, Na content in clinopyroxene  
323 shows moderate to strong negative correlations with Ca ( $r = -0.42$ ) and Mg ( $r = -0.64$ ) in  
324 clinopyroxene, indicating the possibility of NaFe<sup>3+</sup>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> incorporation (Equation 7). In addition,

325 the Al content in clinopyroxene was strongly negatively correlated with Si ( $r = -0.72$ ) and Mg ( $r$   
326  $= -0.6$ ) in clinopyroxene, which suggests  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  incorporation as  $\text{CaFe}^{3+}\text{AlSiO}_6$ :



328 We note that all feature importance scores are less than 17.5% (Figure 5), indicating that  
329 none of the features are dominant in the system. Therefore, we suggest multiple  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  substitution  
330 mechanisms between clinopyroxene and spinel in spinel peridotite, without a single mechanism  
331 dominating. Furthermore, our results indicate that cation substitution is a mixed process that is  
332 effectively quantified by ML models.

### 333 **Comparing ML models to charge-balance for geothermometry applications**

334 Figure 10 compares the predicted  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values for both the entire dataset and sub-  
335 dataset III (i.e., excluding clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite and omphacite in eclogite) using our  
336 polynomial, neural network, ANN ensemble, random forest, and Extra-Trees models to those using  
337 the traditional charge conservation method of Droop (1987), a simple general equation for  
338 estimating  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content in ferromagnesian oxides and silicate minerals from microprobe analyses:

339 
$$\text{Fe}^{3+} = 2G(1 - I/O), \quad (12)$$

340 where  $I$  is the ideal number of cations per formula unit, and  $O$  is the observed cation total per  $G$   
341 oxygens calculated assuming all iron to be  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ . Their method generally overestimates  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$   
342 in clinopyroxene with  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe} < 0.4$ . By comparing  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values calculated by charge  
343 conservation to those obtained by Mössbauer spectroscopy, McGuire et al. (1989) and Canil and  
344 O'Neill (1996) showed that the uncertainty on Droop's (1987) method is too significant for  
345 practical application. In contrast, the predictions of our models are in good agreement with the true



346 values, and the predicted errors are mainly within  $\pm 0.2$ . Therefore, our models significantly  
347 improve both the precision and uncertainty of the traditional method.

### 348 **Garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometry**

349 The garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer has been widely applied to garnet lherzolites,  
350 eclogites, and granulites (Råheim and Green 1974; Ellis and Green 1979; Ganguly 1979; Saxena  
351 1979; Powell 1985). Because this geothermometer is based on the exchange of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$   
352 between garnet and clinopyroxene, it is important to obtain the  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  value from the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  ratio.  
353 Whereas the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  content in garnet is negligible at shallow depths (Geiger et al. 1987), that in  
354 clinopyroxene is not. Therefore, accurate estimation of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in clinopyroxene is crucial to the  
355 successful application of this geothermometer. Our models address the lack of available methods  
356 for accurately calculating  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in clinopyroxene and will contribute to accurate and convenient  
357 temperature calculations.

358 We applied our models to calculate temperatures using the garnet-clinopyroxene  
359 geothermometer of Ellis and Green (1979) and compared the results with those calculated from  
360 Mössbauer spectroscopy data (Figure 11). We also estimated temperatures by considering all Fe  
361 as  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  or by predicting  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  based on Droop's (1987) charge conservation method. We used the  
362 'WinGrt' program (Yavuz and Yildirim 2020) for the garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer  
363 calculation. The data used here were randomly selected from the test dataset and cover a wide  
364 temperature range. Compared to those calculated from Mössbauer spectroscopy data, temperatures  
365 are overestimated when assuming all Fe as  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , consistent with the results of Galazka-Friedman  
366 et al. (1998). The  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  contents calculated by Droop's (1987) method also result in large  
367 temperature uncertainties. In contrast, the ML models show superior performance; compared to

368 major uncertainties up to about  $\pm 250$  °C when assuming all Fe as Fe<sup>2+</sup> or using Droop's (1987)  
369 method, the ML models achieved uncertainties below  $\pm 50$  °C. Temperatures calculated for various  
370 samples from Mössbauer spectroscopy data and using different formulations of the garnet-  
371 clinopyroxene geothermometer are reported in Table 2. The standard error between different  
372 formulas averages to 59 °C, which translates to average uncertainties of  $\pm 118$  °C ( $2\sigma$ ). In contrast,  
373 when applying our models to calculate Fe<sup>2+</sup> content and then temperature, the largest uncertainties  
374 are around  $\pm 50$  °C, within the error of the garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer. Therefore, our  
375 models will improve garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometry calculations.

### 376 **Testing the hypothesis of hydrogen diffusion**

377 The oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> following Equation (2) is commonly regarded as the mechanism of  
378 hydrogen diffusion in clinopyroxene (Skogby and Rossman 1989; Bromiley and Keppler 2004;  
379 Koch-Müller et al. 2007; Stalder and Ludwig 2007). However, Sundvall et al. (2009) reported that  
380 this mechanism may not dominate in Fe-poor clinopyroxenes (<2 wt.% FeO) and that an additional  
381 reaction must be considered. These studies focused on a limited number of samples because of the  
382 scarcity of Mössbauer analyses. Here, to give a general perspective on the mechanism of hydrogen  
383 diffusion in clinopyroxene, we apply our models to calculate Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe for a large number of  
384 clinopyroxenes in basalts ( $n = 109$ ) and compare the difference between the Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe values of  
385 dehydrogenated ( $n = 31$ ) and non-dehydrogenated ( $n = 78$ ) samples. These clinopyroxene samples  
386 are compiled in Supplementary Table S3; they were collected from several published  
387 clinopyroxene samples for which the original literature clearly discussed whether each sample  
388 suffered from dehydrogenation. As these clinopyroxenes are from basalts, we applied our models  
389 trained on sub-dataset III (i.e., excluding clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite and omphacite in  
390 eclogite). We plotted the predicted Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe values vs. Fe content for both dehydrogenated and

391 non-dehydrogenated samples in Figure 12a–c and used kernel density estimation to compare the  
392  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values of dehydrogenated and non-dehydrogenated samples, with the RMSE values of  
393 the test dataset for each model taken as the model error (Figure 12d–f). Ferric iron content should  
394 increase with increasing dehydrogenation if the mechanism of Equation (2) dominates. The  
395 distribution of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values in samples that suffered dehydrogenation is relatively higher than  
396 that for samples that did not (Figure 12). Although the differences between the  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values of  
397 the dehydrogenated and non-dehydrogenated samples are within the error range of our models,  
398 their statistical distribution tends to support the mechanism in Equation (2).

399       There are two reasons why the application of our models cannot unequivocally support or  
400 refuse the mechanism of ferric iron oxidation. First, if the mechanism of Equation (2) dominates,  
401 the magnitude of OH loss should equal that of ferric iron gain. However, because there is much  
402 less water than iron in clinopyroxene, dehydrogenation may not strongly influence  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$ .  
403 Second, except for the oxidation of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  to  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$ , other major element content variations would be  
404 limited. Thus, because our models only incorporate major element concentrations, they may not  
405 be sensitive enough to distinguish the slight changes in major element contents expected during  
406 dehydrogenation. Nonetheless, our investigation implies that major element compositional  
407 differences might exist between dehydrogenated and non-dehydrogenated clinopyroxenes, which  
408 could be verified by future ML studies.

409

410

### Implications

411       These ML algorithms were trained on a small dataset of 407 samples with known ferric  
412 iron contents. As more data becomes available, a more extensive training dataset will improve the

413 performance of the models. These ML models predicting Fe<sup>3+</sup> in clinopyroxene are useful for  
414 estimating clinopyroxene Fe<sup>3+</sup> content when laboratory measurements are unavailable, whether  
415 due to technical or financial reasons. Knowing clinopyroxene Fe<sup>3+</sup> content also improves the  
416 precision of garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometers, offering better constraints and that could be  
417 used to provide new insights into metamorphic petrology and mineralogy. Our ML models imply  
418 a redox-driven mechanism for hydrogen diffusion in clinopyroxene during their crystallization  
419 from basaltic magma, but further work is required to verify or disprove this prediction.  
420 Furthermore, similar ML algorithms to predict mineral Fe<sup>3+</sup> contents could be developed for other  
421 Fe<sup>3+</sup>-rich phases such as garnet and bridgmanite. The results of such models will be useful for  
422 probing the broader redox distribution of the solid earth. In addition, comprehensive ML  
423 investigations can be applied to various other geological questions that require regression, but are  
424 poorly fit by simple linear regressions, such as the sulfur content of silicate melts at sulfide  
425 saturation (Smythe et al. 2017; Chowdhury and Dasgupta 2020).

426

#### 427 **Data Availability Statement**

428 Python scripts for the application of the ML regression models are available on Github at  
429 [https://github.com/ZJUEarthData/pyro\\_processor](https://github.com/ZJUEarthData/pyro_processor). The Fe<sup>3+</sup> calculator is not needed to configure  
430 the python environment and can be run from the terminal in Windows, Mac OS X, and Linux.

431

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656 **Figure 1.** Clinopyroxene compositions: **(a)** Mg-Fe-Ca clinopyroxenes and **(b)** Ca-Na and Na  
657 clinopyroxenes. Data sources are listed in Supplementary Table S1. Abbreviations: Wo,  
658 wollastonite; En, enstatite; Fs, ferrosilite; Q, Wo + En + Fs; Di, diopside; Hd, hedenbergite; Aug,  
659 augite; Pgt, pigeonite; Cen, clinoenstatite; Cfs, clinoferrosilite; Omp, omphacite; Agt, aegirine-  
660 augite; Jd, jadeite; Ae, aegirine.

661 **Figure 2.** Performance of the seven ML algorithms trained on the entire dataset. **(a)** Kernel density  
662 estimation of the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) from 10-fold cross-validation. **(b–h)**  
663 Correlations between the known  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  abundances in the training and test datasets with those  
664 predicted by the linear, polynomial, neural network, ANN ensemble, decision trees, random forest,  
665 and Extra-Trees algorithms, respectively.

666 **Figure 3.** Residual error (reference value – predicted value) as a function of **(a–g)** Fe and **(h–n)**  
667 Si contents (atoms per formula unit, apfu) in reference clinopyroxenes: **(a, h)** linear regression, **(b,**

668 **i)** polynomial regression, **(c, j)** neural network regression, **(d, k)** ANN ensemble regression, **(e, l)**  
669 decision trees regression, **(f, m)** random forest regression, and **(g, n)** Extra-Trees regression.

670 **Figure 4.** Comparison of model performance for sub-dataset I, clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite  
671 ( $n = 127$ ). Models were trained using either **(a, c, e)** a dataset of exclusively clinopyroxene  
672 compositions (cpx only) or **(b, d, f)** one including both clinopyroxene and coexisting spinel  
673 compositions (cpx + spl). Correlations are shown between the known  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  abundances in the  
674 training and test datasets and those predicted by **(a, b)** linear regression, **(c, d)** random forest  
675 regression, and **(e, f)** Extra-Trees regression.

676 **Figure 5.** Relative feature importance in **(a)** random forest and **(b)** Extra-Trees predictions of  
677  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  for clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite (sub-dataset I).

678 **Figure 6.** Correlations between the known  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  abundances in omphacite in eclogite (sub-dataset  
679 II) and those predicted by the **(a)** polynomial, **(b)** neural network, **(c)** ANN ensemble, **(d)** random  
680 forest, and **(e)** Extra-Trees regressions.

681 **Figure 7.** Performance of the seven ML algorithms trained on sub-dataset III (i.e., excluding  
682 clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite and omphacite in eclogite). **(a)** Kernel density estimation of the  
683 coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) from 10-fold cross-validation. **(b–h)** Correlations between the  
684 known  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  abundances in the training and test datasets and those predicted by the linear,  
685 polynomial, neural network, ANN ensemble, decision trees, random forest, and Extra-Trees  
686 regressions, respectively.

687 **Figure 8.** Relative feature importance in random forest predictions of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  for clinopyroxene  
688 in **(a)** the entire dataset and **(b)** sub-dataset III (excluding clinopyroxene in spinel peridotite and



689 omphacite in eclogite).

690 **Figure 9.** Elemental partitioning between clinopyroxene and spinel. Data on (a) Cr and (b) Al are  
691 plotted based on a 12-oxygen formula unit. Partitioning coefficient pairs are plotted in (c)  $D^{\text{spl/cpx}}_{\text{Cr}}$   
692 versus  $D^{\text{spl/cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$  and (d)  $D^{\text{spl/cpx}}_{\text{Al}}$  versus  $D^{\text{spl/cpx}}_{\text{Fe}}$ .

693 **Figure 10.** Comparison of predicted  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values in clinopyroxene using our (a, b) polynomial,  
694 (c, d) neural network, (e, f) ANN ensemble, (g, h) random forest, and (i, j) Extra-Trees methods  
695 with those predicted by Droop's (1987) method for (a, c, e, g, i) models trained using the entire  
696 dataset and (b, d, f, h, j) those trained using sub-dataset III (excluding clinopyroxene in spinel  
697 peridotite and omphacite in eclogite).

698 **Figure 11.** Application of our (a) polynomial, (b) neural network, (c) ANN ensemble, (d) random  
699 forest, and (e) Extra-Trees models to the garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer (Ellis and Green  
700 1979). Red symbols are temperatures obtained considering all Fe as  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$ , black symbols are those  
701 using  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  contents predicted by our models trained on the entire dataset, and blue symbols are  
702 those using  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  contents predicted by Droop's (1987) method. The temperatures obtained using  
703 these various methods are compared to those calculated directly from Mössbauer spectroscopy  
704 data (MS, y-axis).

705 **Figure 12.** Comparison of (a–c)  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values as a function of Fe content (atoms per formula  
706 unit, apfu) and (d–f) kernel density estimations of the distribution of  $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\Sigma\text{Fe}$  values for  
707 dehydrogenated and non-dehydrogenated clinopyroxenes predicted by (a, d) polynomial, (b, e)  
708 random forest, and (c, f) Extra-Trees regressions.

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718 Table 1. Recoil-free fractions of Fe in clinopyroxene (*C*) at room temperature used to correct literature

719 Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ΣFe ratios.

<b>Species</b>	<b><i>C</i></b>	<b>Application to this study</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Di (N)	1.22	Di	De Grave and Van Alboom (1991)
Hd (N)	1.17	Hd	Eeckhout and De Grave (2003)
Ae (N)	1.15	Ae	Eeckhout and De Grave (2003)
Avg	1.18	Aug, Pgt, Omp, Jd, Agt	Eeckhout and De Grave (2003)

Abbreviations: N, natural sample; Avg, average value; Di, diopside; Hd, hedenbergite; Ae, aegirine;  
Aug, augite; Pgt, pigeonite; Omp, omphacite; Jd, jadeite; Agt, aegirine-augite.

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736 Table 2. Temperatures calculated using various formulations of the garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer.

<b>Geothermometer formulation</b>										
<b>Sample</b>	<b>TRG74</b>	<b>TEG79</b>	<b>TG79</b>	<b>TP85</b>	<b>TK88</b>	<b>TA94</b>	<b>TG96</b>	<b>TL98</b>	<b>TKR00</b>	<b>TN09</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>	<b>(°C)</b>
Cpx96 <sup>a</sup>	704	693	744	670	647	615	753	625	693	707
Cpx98 <sup>a</sup>	686	673	725	650	626	592	735	603	672	688
Cpx99 <sup>a</sup>	679	666	718	642	618	584	728	595	664	681
Cpx104 <sup>a</sup>	695	684	735	660	637	604	744	614	683	698
Cpx107 <sup>a</sup>	707	697	747	673	651	619	756	628	697	710
Cpx108 <sup>a</sup>	706	695	745	672	649	617	755	627	695	709
F-8 <sup>b</sup>	1400	1256	1290	1247	1243	1268	1318	1293	1421	1398
F-11 <sup>b</sup>	1423	1252	1286	1241	1237	1290	1313	1300	1412	1414
F-16 <sup>b</sup>	1492	1256	1307	1244	1207	1310	1330	1324	1441	1469
87-70 <sup>c</sup>	1417	1240	1265	1228	1238	1297	1295	1294	1384	1418

BY-19 <sup>c</sup>	1275	1297	1328	1302	1302	1212	1353	1250	1459	1407
8508-9 <sup>c</sup>	1181	1187	1233	1184	1167	1064	1260	1103	1314	1282
94M80 <sup>d</sup>	595	670	677	650	622	614	672	606	630	590
97M32 <sup>d</sup>	513	519	562	495	469	456	560	447	507	505
944012- 11 <sup>d</sup>	678	883	818	870	774	767	827	748	785	679

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Garnet-clinopyroxene geothermometer formulations: TRG74, Råheim and Green (1974); TEG79, Ellis and Green (1979); TG79, Ganguly (1979); TP85, Powell (1985); TK88, Krogh (1988); TA94, Ai (1994); TG96, Ganguly et al. (1996); TL98, Liu (1998); TKR00, Ravna (2000); TN09, Nakamura (2009).

Data references: <sup>a</sup>Proyer et al. (2004); <sup>b</sup>Lazarov et al. (2009); <sup>c</sup>Nimis et al. (2015); <sup>d</sup>Li et al. (2005).

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Figure 1.

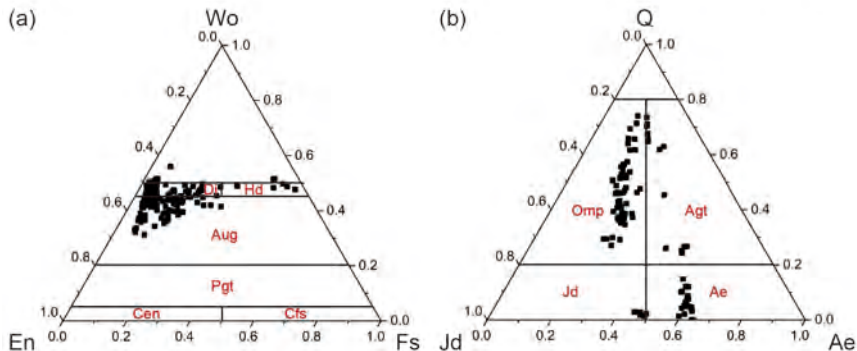


Figure 2.

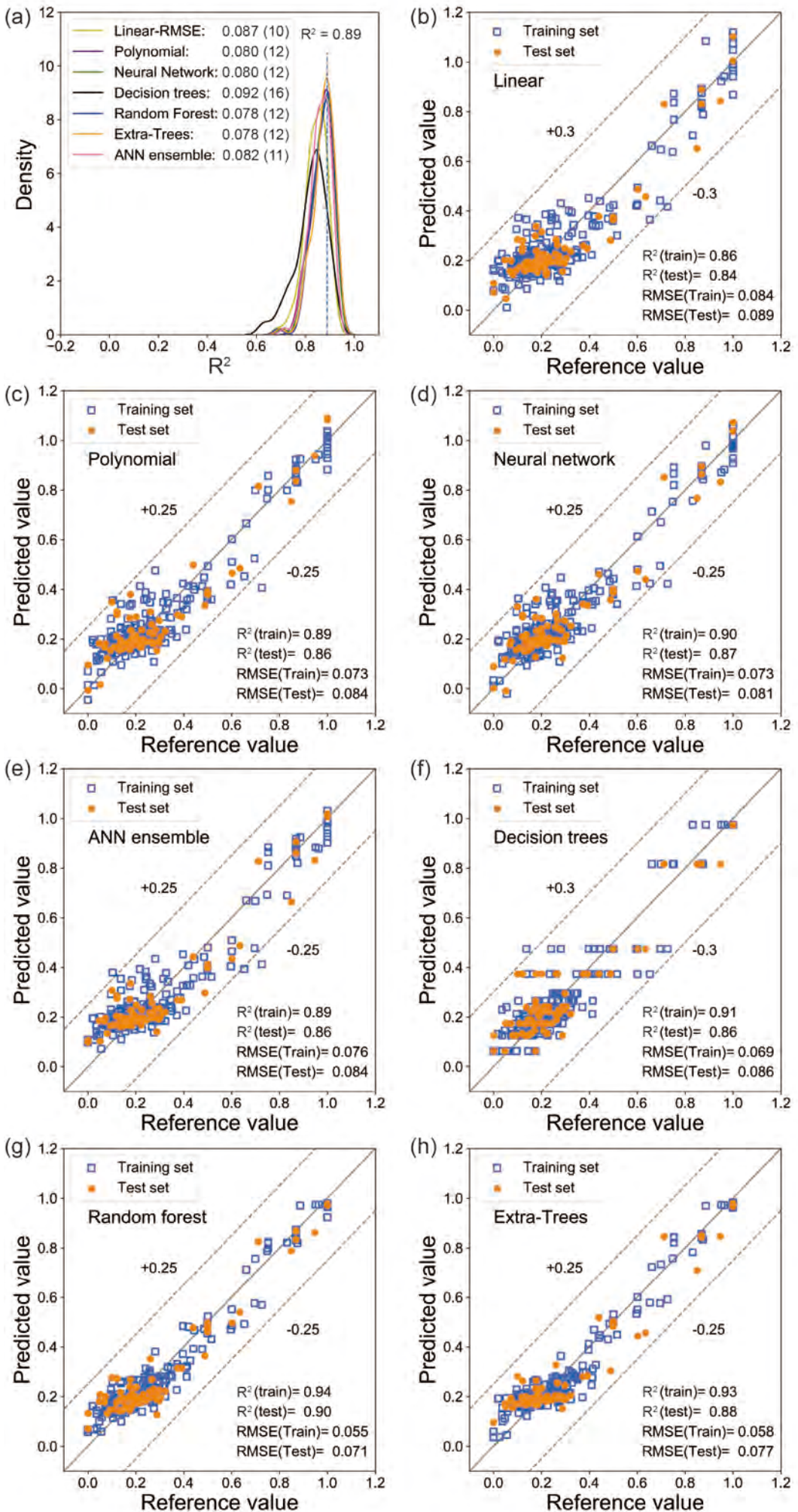


Figure 3.

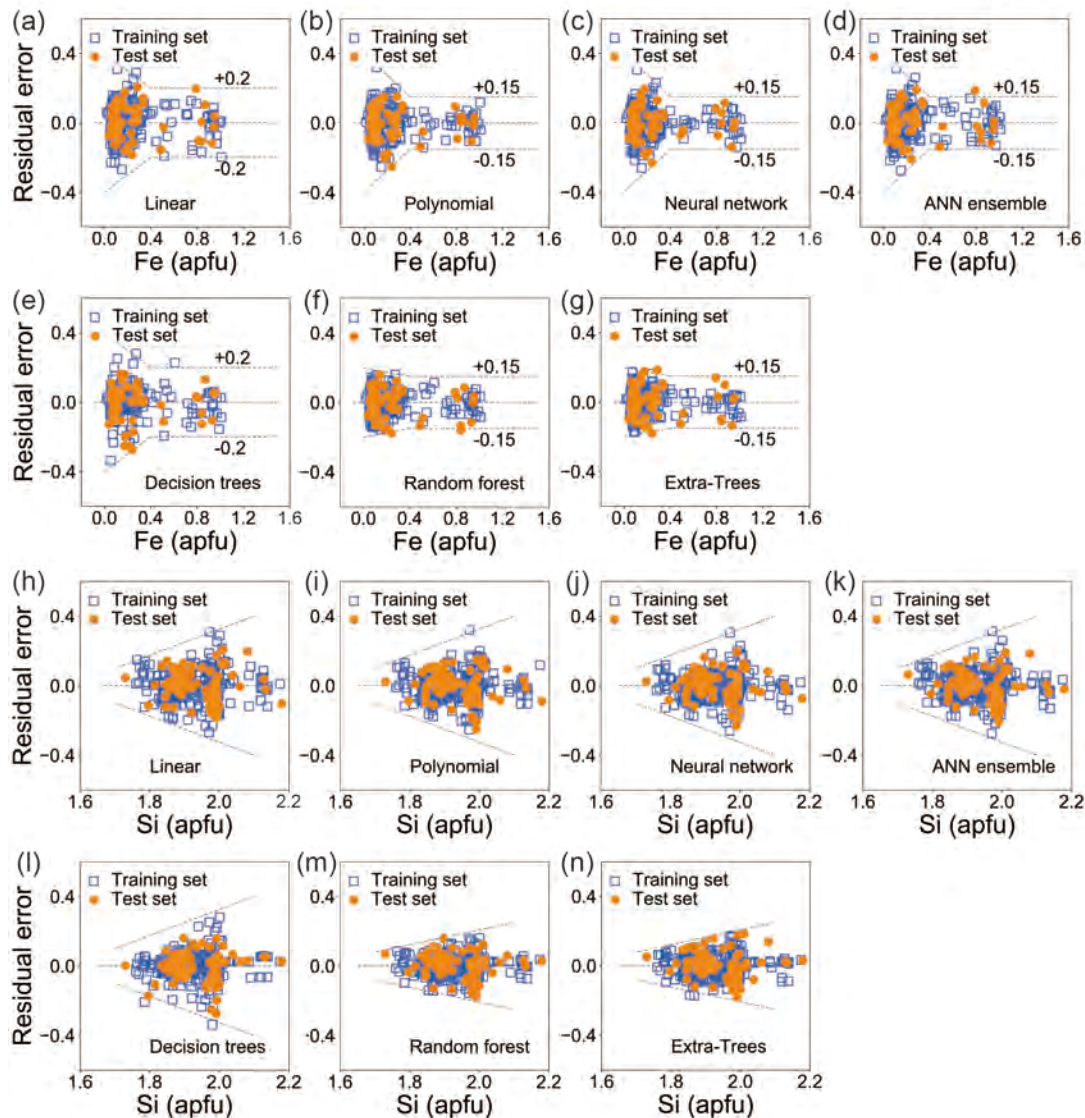


Figure 4.

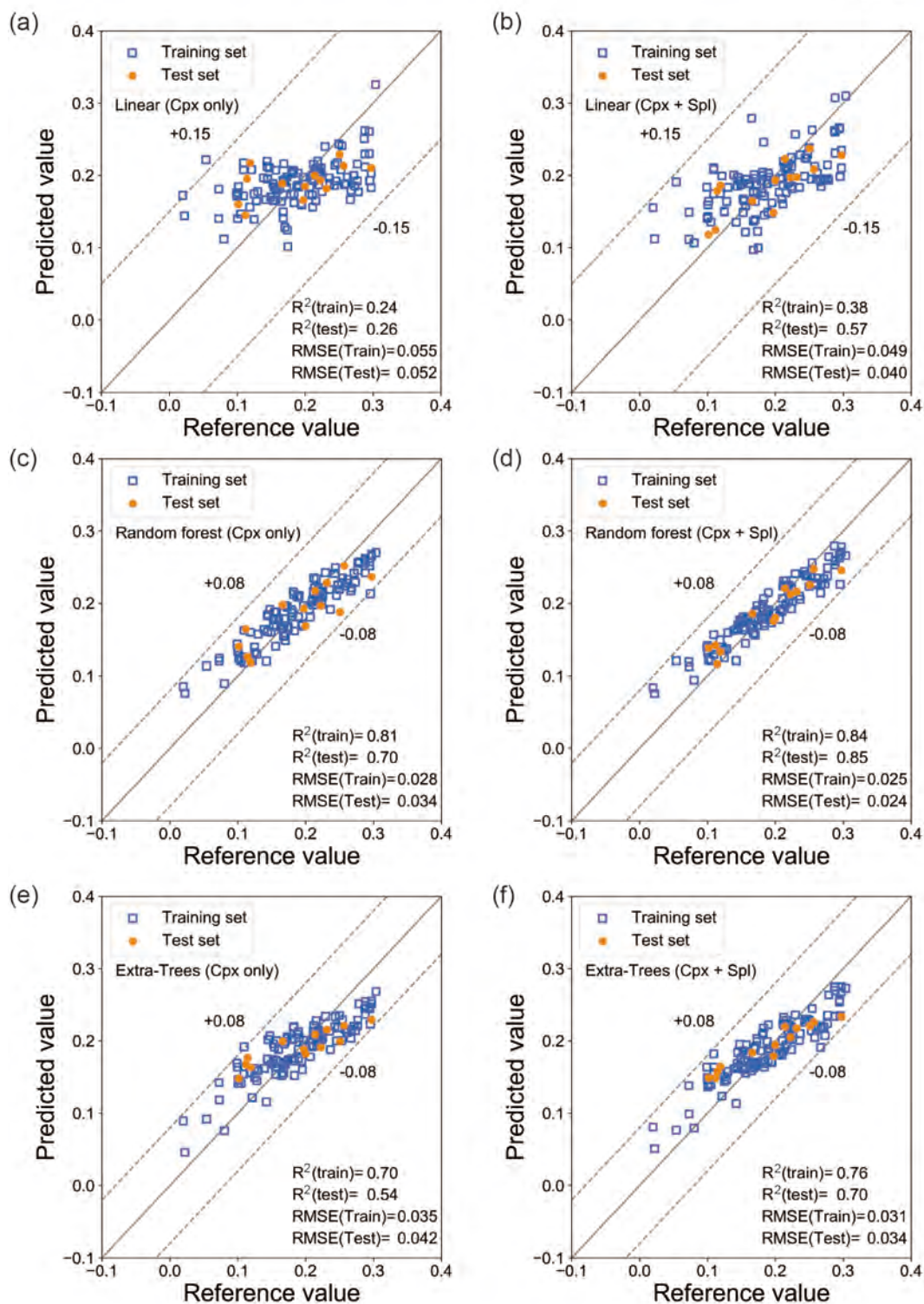




Figure 5.

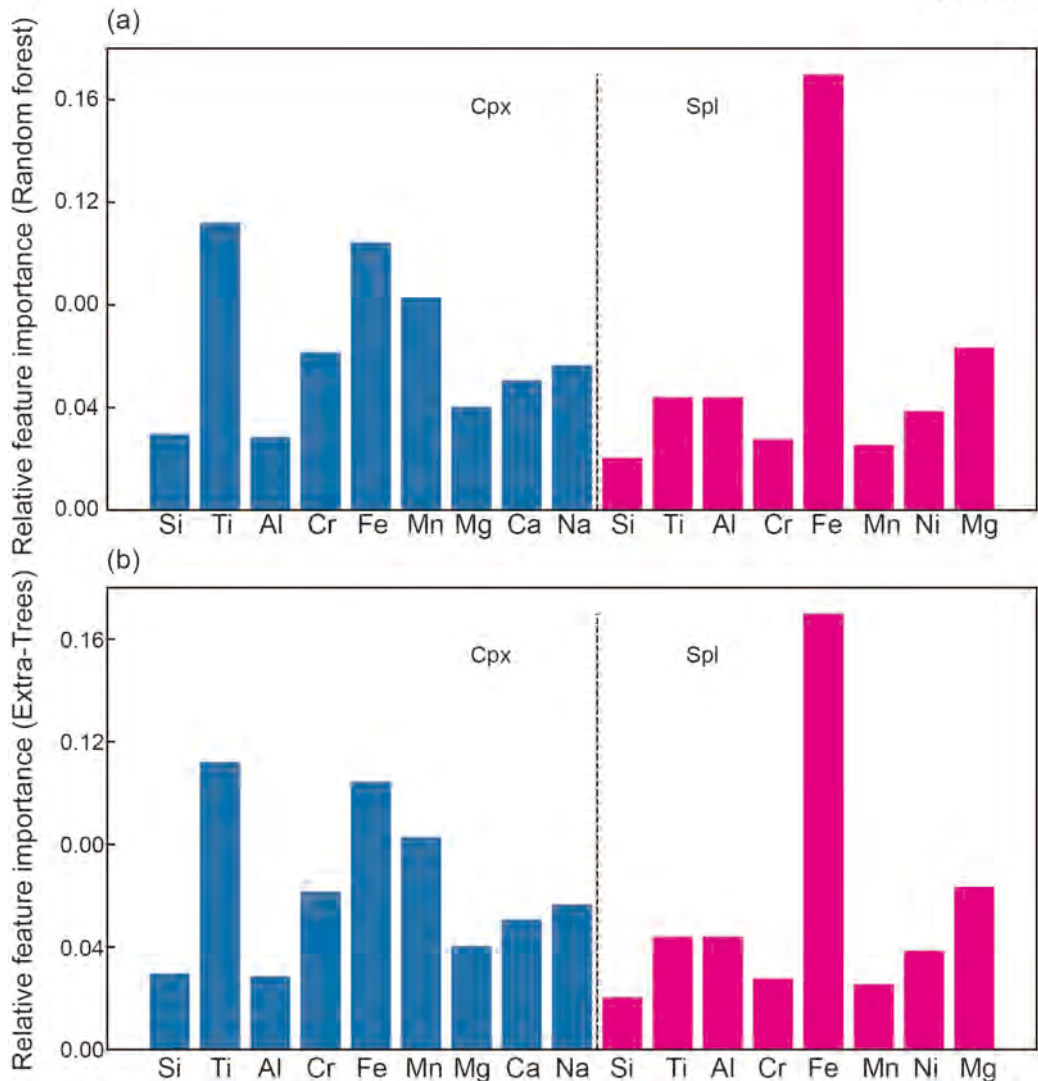


Figure 6.

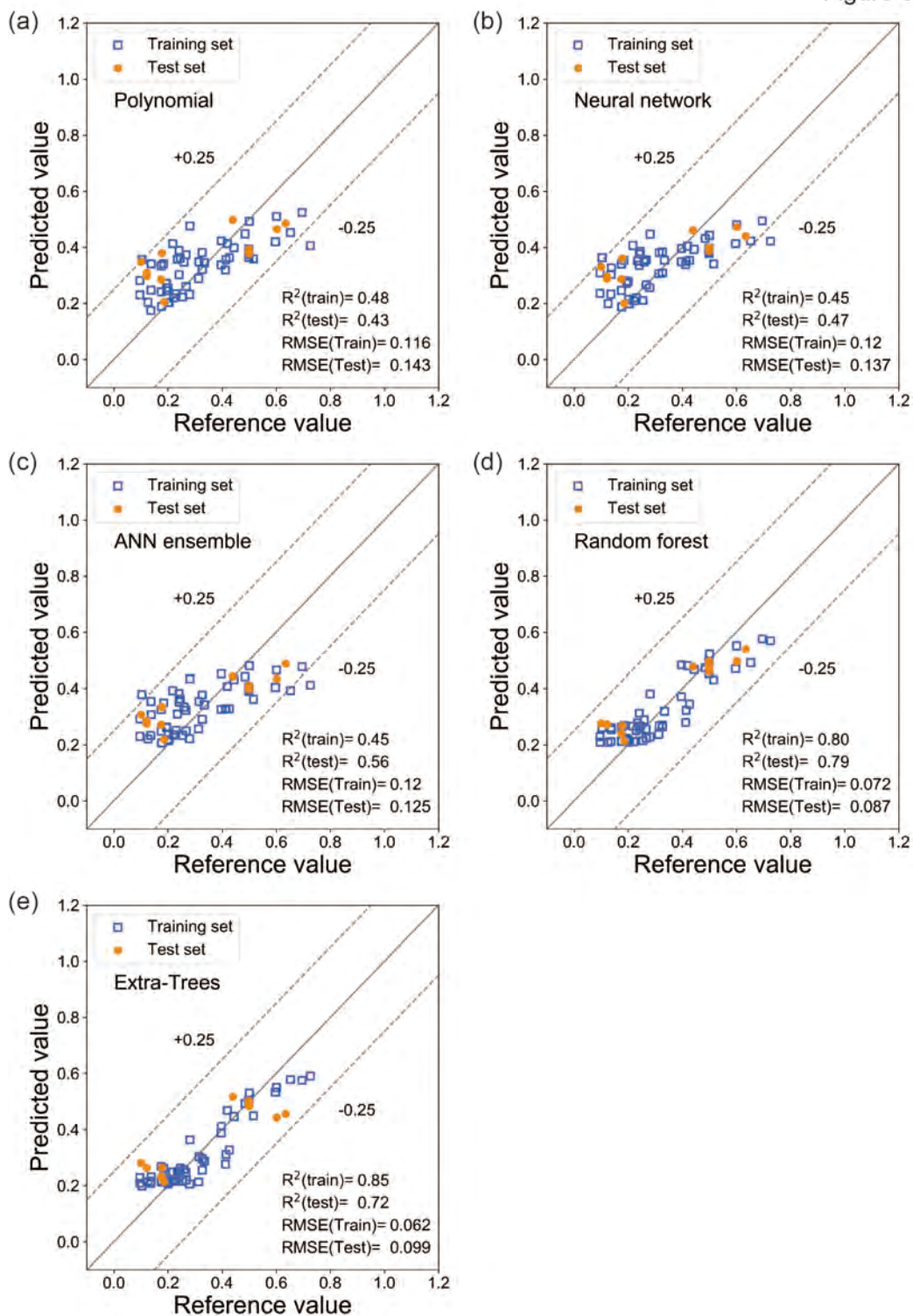


Figure 7.

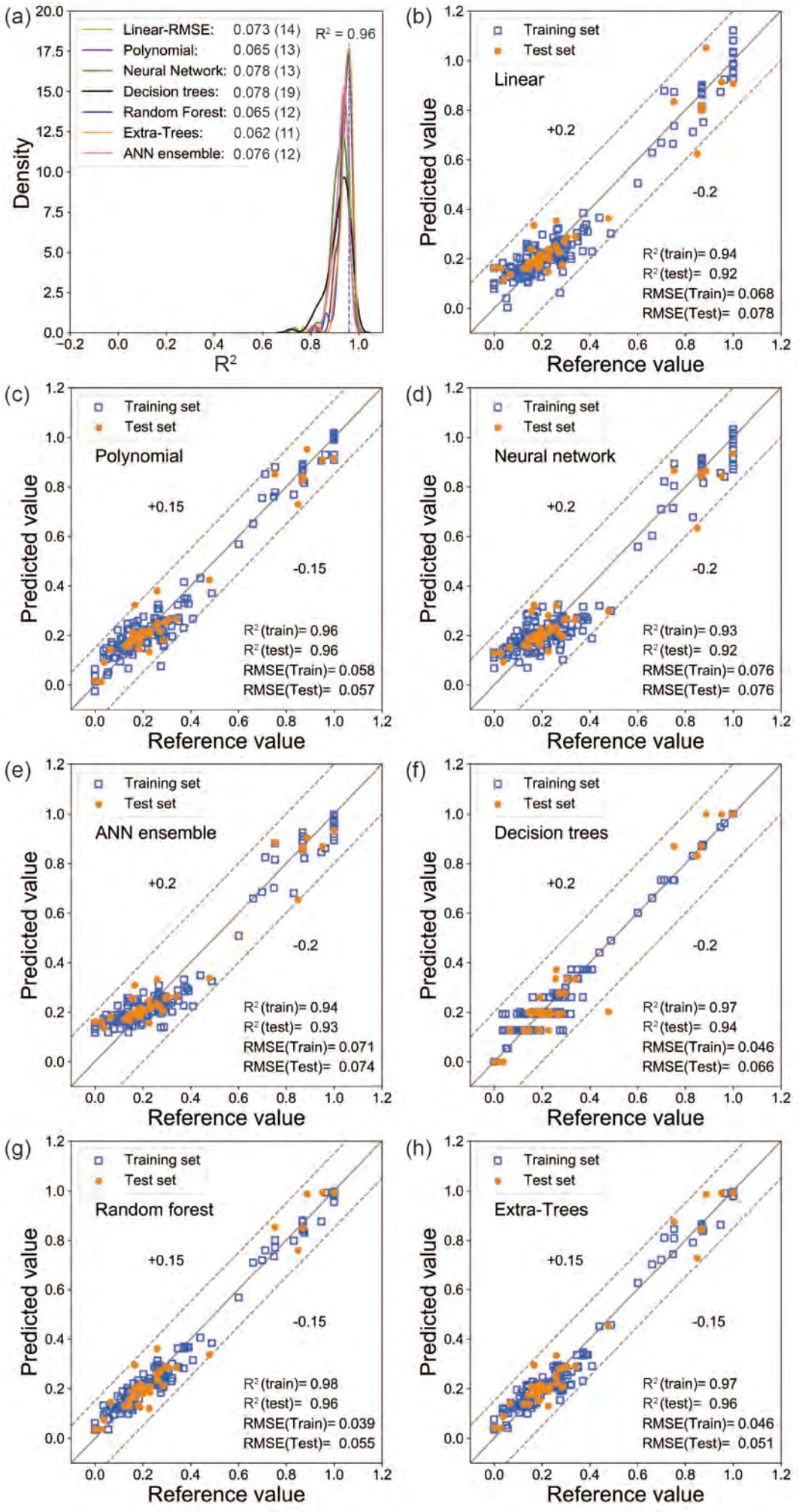


Figure 8.

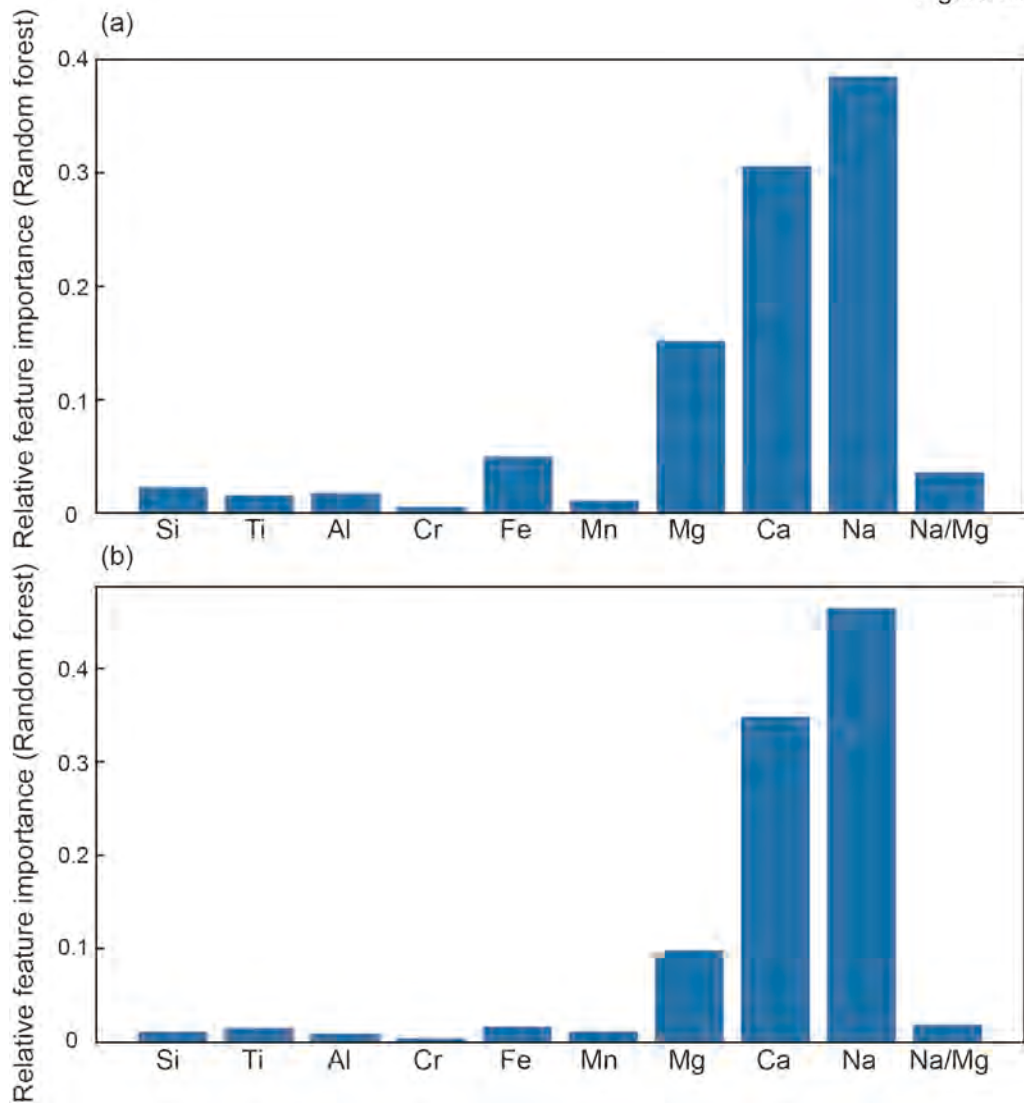


Figure 9.

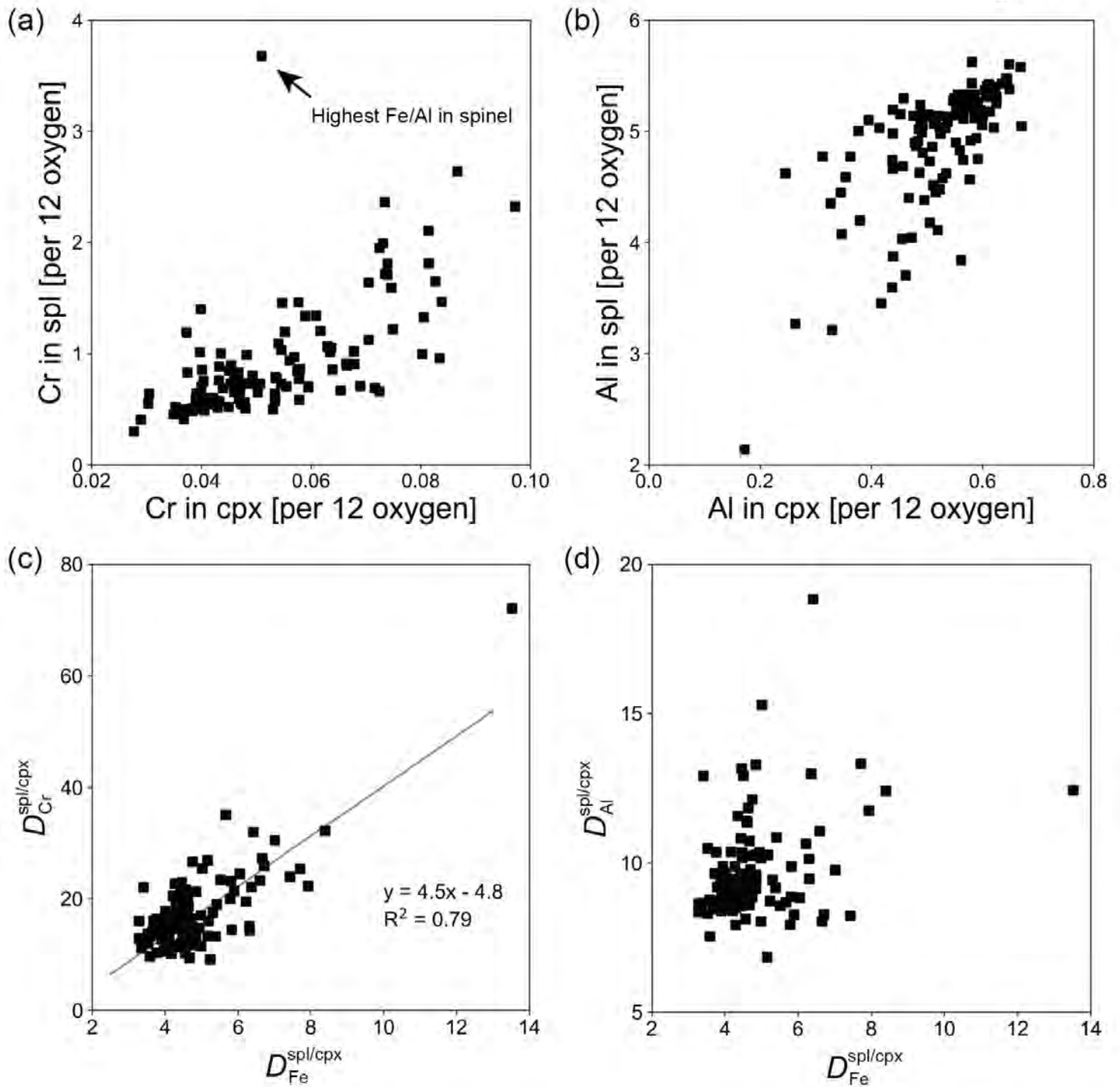
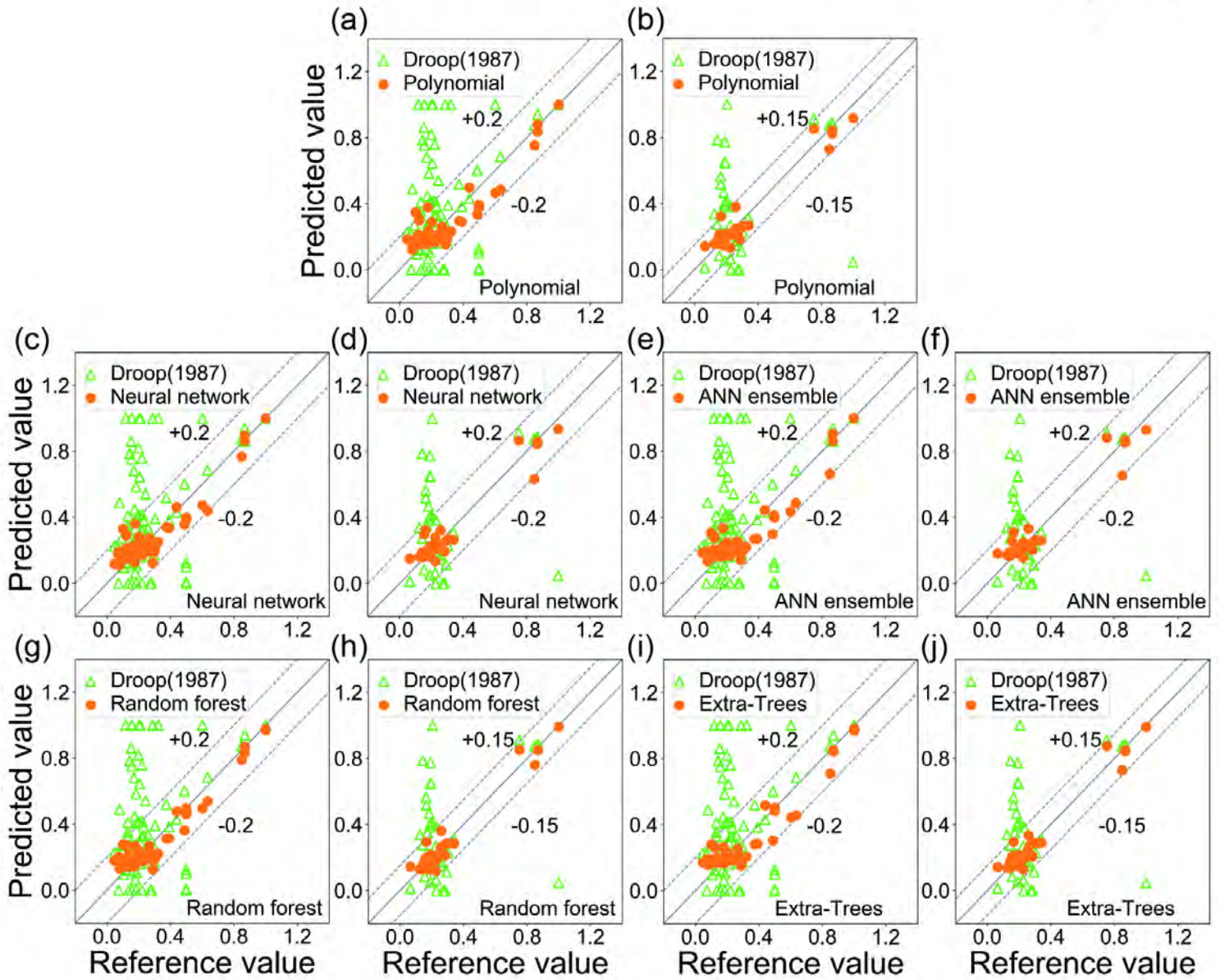


Figure 10.



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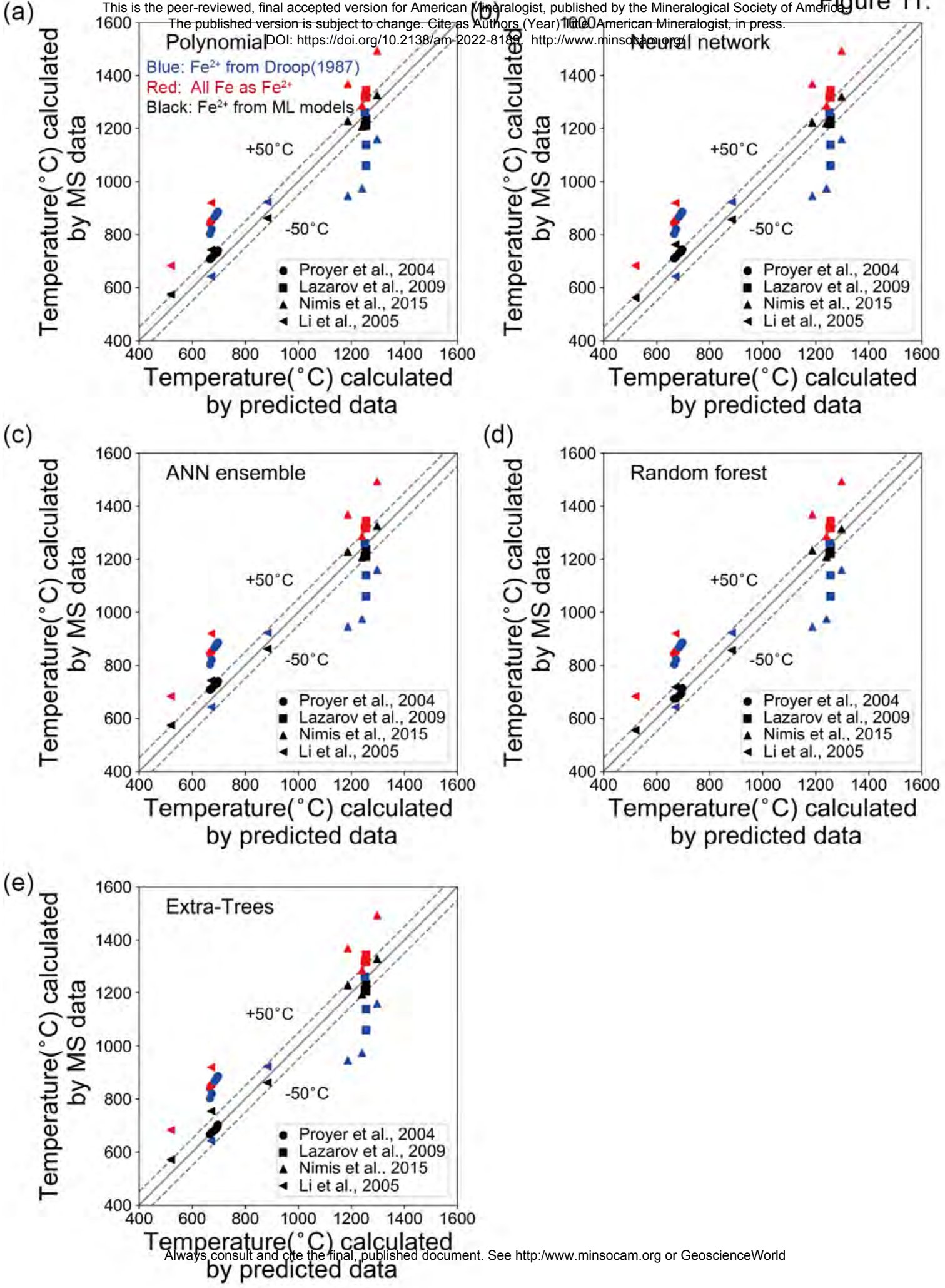


Figure 12.

