

# Revision 3

## Metal source and hydrothermal evolution of the Jiaoxi quartz vein-type tungsten deposit (Tibet): Insights from textural and compositional variations of wolframite and scheelite

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### ABSTRACT

We evaluate the controlling factors of hydrothermal wolframite and scheelite  
precipitation in the quartz vein-type Jiaoxi tungsten deposit situated in the western  
part of the Lhasa terrane (Tibet, China) using texture, major and trace element mineral  
geochemistry, and sulfur stable isotope geochemistry. Pyrite and chalcopyrite that are

23 intergrown with Fe-enriched wolframite and siderite, have distinct in situ S isotope  
24 compositions ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$ ) of  $-31.38$  to  $+1.77\%$ , and  $+2.07$  to  $+2.30\%$ , respectively.  
25 Major and trace element contents and in situ S isotope compositions of pyrite and  
26 chalcopyrite indicate that the hydrothermal evolution involved fluid-fluid mixing and  
27 greisenization. We report evidence for an early magmatic fluid which is characterized  
28 by the enrichment of W, Mn, Zr, Ti, Sc, and Sn and depletion of Fe. This magmatic  
29 fluid was diluted by meteoric water and interacted with biotite monzogranite porphyry  
30 to leach Fe, Mg, and Zn into the system to form wolframites with variable Fe/(Fe+Mn)  
31 ratios ranging between 0.06-0.84. The late Fe-enriched magmatic fluid released from  
32 the muscovite granite mixed with meteoric water that leached minor Fe and S from  
33 shale to form late shale-hosted wolframite with a Fe/(Fe+Mn) mass ratio of  $> 0.75$   
34 and coeval siderite and sulfides. This study highlights that multiple Fe sources were  
35 present in the system, including muscovite granite-released Fe through fluid  
36 exsolution, biotite monzogranite porphyry-released Fe during greisenization, and  
37 minor Fe released from the shale as a result of meteoric water leaching.

38

39 **Key words:** Wolframite, scheelite, trace element geochemistry, in situ S isotope,  
40 multiple Fe sources, Jiaoxi quartz vein-type W deposit

41

## 42 INTRODUCTION

43 Quartz vein-type tungsten (W) deposits represent a major class of hydrothermal  
44 deposits and typically occur as wolframite-bearing quartz veins hosted either in pelitic



45 rocks or in granites (Wang et al. 2010; Mao et al. 2013). Generally, tungsten is  
46 considered to be sourced from Fe-depleted highly evolved felsic magmatic rocks that  
47 are spatially associated with the deposit (Romer and Kroner 2016; Hulsbosch et al.  
48 2016). However, formation of wolframite  $[(\text{Fe}, \text{Mn})\text{WO}_4]$  does not only require W but  
49 also significant Fe and Mn in the ore-forming fluid. Therefore, tracing the source of  
50 Fe and Mn in quartz vein-type wolframite deposits has long been a subject of interest  
51 (Audétat et al. 2000; Lecumberri-Sanchez et al. 2017; Legros et al. 2019; Pan et al.  
52 2019). However, there is no consensus on the origin of the metals because the pristine  
53 signature of the primary fluid is overprinted by multiple post-mineralization fluid  
54 events in numerous deposits (Polya et al. 2000; Harlaux et al. 2018). Recently, in situ  
55 high spatial microanalysis of W-bearing mineral phases, using multi-collector  
56 laser-ablation inductively coupled-plasma mass spectrometry (MC-LA-ICP-MS), has  
57 been used to identify multiple fluid infiltration events and the metal source (Wang et  
58 al. 2017; Hong et al. 2017; Jiang et al. 2021; Carocci et al. 2021).

59 Wolframite and scheelite, which can accommodate a wide range of trace  
60 elements including Ti, Sc, Zr, Hf, Nb, Ta, and REE, have been studied to constrain the  
61 hydrothermal evolution and metal sources (e.g., Kempe and Wolf 2006; Song et al.  
62 2014; Zhu et al. 2014; Xiong et al. 2017; Sun and Chen 2017; Han et al. 2020). For  
63 example, the negative Eu anomaly of wolframite has been interpreted to be inherited  
64 from a highly evolved granite, thus indicating a magmatic source (Harlaux et al.  
65 2018). Scheelite that precipitated from a highly evolved granite-exsolved fluid is  
66 generally Sr-depleted such that the variability of the Sr content in scheelite indicates

formation in a metamorphic environment, in which the metasedimentary or volcanic source rocks can release Sr into the hydrothermal system (Poulin et al., 2018). Although trace element contents in wolframite and scheelite have widely been reported, comprehensive studies of both minerals in order to constrain the hydrothermal evolution and the metal sources are rare (e.g., Zhang et al., 2018).

The Jiaoxi quartz vein-type W deposit is located in the western part of the Lhasa terrane (Tibet, China) (Fig. 1a) (Wang et al. 2019). Scheelite, and in particular wolframite, are the most important ore minerals in the Jiaoxi deposit. Different wolframite and scheelite generations in this deposit display distinct chemical zonation. As such, they provide an ideal opportunity to trace the metal sources and constrain the hydrothermal mineralization process.

Here we present (1) textural results (optical microscopy, backscattered electron and cathodoluminescence imaging), (2) major and trace element geochemistry of wolframite and scheelite from the different mineralization stages, (3) sulphur stable isotope geochemistry of pyrite and chalcopyrite, and (4) whole-rock major and trace element geochemistry of shale that hosts the W mineralized quartz veins. This study highlights the multiple Fe sources that contributed to the hydrothermal system.

## GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

### Regional geological setting

The Lhasa terrane in southern Tibet provides evidence for the Mesozoic (accretionary orogeny) to the Cenozoic (collisional orogeny) tectonic evolution of the

89 Himalayan-Tibetan orogen (Yin and Harrison 2000; Ding and Lai 2003). It contains  
90 multiple post-collisional copper, gold, lead-zinc, molybdenum, and iron ore deposits  
91 (Fig. 1a; Tang et al. 2014; Hou and Cook 2009; Hou et al. 2015; Yang et al. 2016).  
92 Zhu et al. (2011) subdivided the Lhasa terrane into a northern, central, and southern  
93 subterrane based on different basement and sedimentary cover rocks (Fig. 1a). The  
94 northern Lhasa subterrane comprises juvenile crust which, is related to crustal growth  
95 associated with the southward subduction of Bangong-Nujiang ocean plate (Zhu et al.  
96 2011, 2016). The rocks exposed in this subterrane include Middle Triassic-Cretaceous  
97 sedimentary rocks and Cretaceous volcanic rocks (Pan et al. 2012; Wang et al. 2014).

98 The Central Lhasa subterrane is situated between the Shiqianhe River-Nam Tso  
99 Mélange zone to the north and the Luobadui-Milashan fault to the south. It contains  
100 Proterozoic-Archean basement and widespread Paleozoic to Early Cretaceous  
101 sedimentary and volcanic cover rocks (Zhu et al. 2011; Yang et al. 2016). The  
102 southern Lhasa subterrane contains juvenile crust including the Cretaceous-Tertiary  
103 Gangdese batholith and minor Jurassic-Cretaceous volcanic rocks (Zhu et al. 2008;  
104 Yang et al. 2016).

105 The Jiaoxi deposit is situated in the central Lhasa subterrane in the Shiquanhe  
106 River-Nam Tso Mélange zone, ~30 km northeast of Gar County (Fig. 1a). Cretaceous  
107 strata, including the Langshan and Shiquanhe Ophiolite Mélange Groups, occur in the  
108 Shiquanhe area (Fig. 1b). The locally strongly deformed Langshan Group comprises  
109 limestone and marble and unconformably overlies the Shiquanhe Ophiolite Mélange  
110 Group. The Shiquanhe Ophiolite Mélange Group comprises shale, sandstone, slate,

111 chert, and (ultra) basic rocks, including basalt, gabbro, serpentized dunite, and tuff.  
112 These rocks underwent local greenschist-facies metamorphism during the Late  
113 Cretaceous and Early Cenozoic continental collisions of the Qiangtang and Lhasa  
114 terranes, and the India and Asia continents, respectively (Fig. 1b; Yin and Harrison  
115 2000; Kapp et al. 2003, 2005, 2007). Magmatic rocks in the Shiquanhe area are  
116 widespread and include Early Cretaceous porphyritic andesite, and Miocene biotite  
117 monzogranite, biotite monzogranite porphyry, and pegmatite veins (Fig. 1b; Wang et  
118 al. 2020). Northwest-SE and NE-SW trending fault sets have been identified (Fig. 1b).

119

## 120 **Geology of the Jiaoxi tungsten deposit**

121 The Jiaoxi quartz vein W deposit was discovered and explored by the  
122 Geothermal Geology Team of Bureau of Exploration of Tibet in 2015. The deposit  
123 contains 39,100 tons of  $\text{WO}_3$  with a grade of 0.1-3.2% (Wang et al. 2018, 2019, 2020).  
124 The host rocks of the Jiaoxi deposit belong to the Shiquanhe Group, which comprises  
125 strongly deformed shale, sandstone, and ophiolite. Diabase dykes coeval with the  
126 ophiolite, occur in the northeast of the ore district (Fig. 2). Various granites occur in  
127 the deposit, including the 25-50 m thick biotite monzogranite porphyry (BMP) sill  
128 (Online Materials Fig. OM1a), granite porphyry (GP), and muscovite granite (MG).  
129 The BMP comprises 40-45% fine-grained phenocrysts of K-feldspar, plagioclase,  
130 quartz, and biotite in a very fine-grained matrix made with the same mineral  
131 composition. The GP comprises fine-grained phenocrysts (25-30%) of quartz,  
132 plagioclase, and minor biotite in a very-fine grained matrix with the same mineral

133 composition. The equigranular MG comprises quartz, K-feldspar, plagioclase, and  
134 muscovite.

135 Outcrops of the highly fractured BMP host numerous ore-bearing quartz veins  
136 with greisenization halos indicating hydrothermal alteration. The BMP also hosts  
137 numerous wolframite-bearing quartz veins and associated greisenization zones at  
138 depth (drill cores ZK0001 and ZK2001). The GP is exposed in the southwest of the  
139 ore district and appears as a single outcrop ( $< 0.1 \text{ km}^2$ ). Greisenization is widely  
140 developed in the GP, but ore-bearing quartz veins are absent.

141 The unexposed MG is found at depth (drill core ZK2001) and hosts numerous  
142 wolframite-bearing quartz veins. A clear intrusive contact between the BMP and the  
143 MG is observed showing that the MG is younger than the BMP. The BMP, GP, and  
144 MG yield zircon U-Pb ages of  $14.1 \pm 0.3$ ,  $13.82 \pm 0.22$ , and  $13.72 \pm 0.30$  Ma, respectively  
145 (Wang et al 2020). Two muscovite grains that occur in quartz veins and are intergrown  
146 with wolframite, yield  $^{40}\text{Ar}$ - $^{39}\text{Ar}$  ages of 13.4-13.3 Ma (Wang et al. 2018).  
147 Geochemical analysis results show that the MG was highly evolved with high  $\text{SiO}_2$   
148 contents (74.4-76.3 wt.%) and low Nb/Ta (2.4-2.8), and Zr/Hf (13.5-13.9) mass ratios  
149 (Wang et al., 2020).

150 Hydrothermal alteration in the Jiaoxi deposit is characterized by greisenization of  
151 the BMP and MG. The ore formation is characterized by extensional quartz veins  
152 within the upper shales, the BMP, and the MG at depth (Online Materials Fig. OM1b).  
153 More than 70 northeast trending quartz veins with a varying thickness of 5 cm to 8 m  
154 have been identified at surface (Fig. 2). The gentle and steeply dipping quartz veins

155 extend for more than 400 m vertically, as revealed by drill cores ZK0001 and ZK2001  
156 ([Online Materials Fig. OM1](#)). Wolframite (dominantly present) and scheelite are the  
157 W-bearing ore minerals. The gangue minerals include pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena,  
158 sphalerite, quartz, fluorite, phengite, topaz, and beryl. Based on vein crosscutting  
159 relationships and mineral paragenesis, the Jiaoxi deposit underwent three  
160 mineralization stages: the quartz-tungstate stage, the quartz-sulfide, and the  
161 fluorite-carbonate stage ([Wang et al. 2021a](#)).

162 The quartz-tungstate stage is associated with the main mineralization event and  
163 is characterized by quartz, wolframite, beryl, topaz, and minor fluorite. Euhedral  
164 quartz is intergrown with sericite and eu- to subhedral wolframite ([Figs. 3a and 3b](#)).  
165 Radial sericite is commonly intergrown with euhedral topaz, and beryl. The  
166 quartz-wolframite-sericite veins are crosscut by later quartz-sulfide vein ([Fig. 3c](#)).

167 The sulfide stage is characterized by pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, pyrrhotite, and  
168 sphalerite. Field observations show that early quartz-sulfide veins are crosscut by the  
169 fluorite-phengite veins ([Fig. 3d](#)).

170 The fluorite stage is characterized by fluorite, phengite, quartz, and minor calcite  
171 and scheelite. Fluorite-stage phengite is typically larger in size (up to 1.5 cm) than the  
172 sericite in the quartz-tungstate stage (< 0.5 cm).

173

## 174 MATERIALS AND ANALYTICAL METHODS

175 Three outcrop samples and 32 drill core samples (including 18 and 14 samples  
176 from drill core ZK0001 and ZK2001, respectively) of mineralized veins and greisen

were collected for this study (Fig. 2; Online Materials Fig. OM 1). Sample preparations were done at the China University of Geosciences (Beijing). Sixty-eight thick sections (30-40  $\mu\text{m}$  thick) of wolframite and scheelite from the different mineralization stages were prepared for analysis.

## Electron probe microanalysis and backscattered electron imaging

Electron probe microanalysis (EPMA) of Ca, Mg, Ti, Mn, Fe, Ni, W, Mo, Nb, and Ta was performed on wolframite and scheelite using a JXA-8100 electron microprobe equipped with a wavelength-dispersive spectrometers at the Analytical Laboratory of the Beijing Research Institute of Uranium Geology. Natural and synthetic oxides including bustamite, rutile, hematite, molybdenite, rhodonite, olivine, pentlandite, scheelite,  $\text{LiTaO}_3$ , and  $\text{LiNbO}_3$  were used for Ca, Ti, Fe, Mo, Mn, Mg, Ni, W, Ta, and Nb calibration, respectively. The instrument was set to operate at an accelerating voltage of 20 kV, a beam current of 10 nA, and a defocused beam of 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Counting times were 10 s for the peak and 5 s for the background for each element. The internal ZAF routine was used for data correction (Armstrong 1991).

Backscattered electron (BSE) imaging of wolframite from the different paragenetic stages was conducted at the Advanced Analytical Centre at James Cook University (Townsville, Australia) on carbon-coated polished sections using a high-resolution field emission scanning electron microscope (FE-SEM, Hitachi, SU5000). Backscattered electron images were taken using an acceleration voltage of 20 kV and an emission current of 0.19 mA.

199

## 200 **Cathodoluminescence microscopy**

201 Cathodoluminescence microscopy (CL) imaging of scheelite was conducted at  
202 the Advanced Analytical Centre at James Cook University (Townsville, Australia)  
203 using a FE-SEM (Hitachi, SU5000) and a Robinson CL detector and photomultiplier.  
204 The SEM-CL analysis was done at 20 kV and an emission current of 0.14 mA using a  
205 defocused beam.

206

## 207 **Laser ablation ICP-MS trace-element analysis**

208 In situ analysis of wolframite and scheelite of the different paragenetic stages  
209 was done by using LA-ICP-MS at the Advanced Analytical Centre at James Cook  
210 University (Townsville, Australia). Laser ablation was conducted using a Coherent  
211 Geolas Pro 193 nm ArF excimer system in helium. Ion-signal intensities were  
212 acquired by a Varian 820 quadrupole ICP-MS. Detailed instrument setup conditions  
213 are similar as described by [Hammerli et al. \(2013, 2014\)](#). Before analyzing, the  
214 ICP-MS was tuned to ensure robust plasma conditions (U/Th sensitivity ratio ~1%)  
215 and low oxide production ( $\text{ThO}^+/\text{Th}^+ < 0.3\%$ ) by using the NIST SRM 610 ([Pettke et](#)  
216 [al. 2012](#)). The homogeneous laser energy density was  $\sim 2 \text{ J/cm}^2$  and the repetition rate  
217 was 5 Hz. For each analysis, a 30 s background signal was collected before ablation  
218 with a duration of 30 s. Helium was used as carrier gas and argon was added as an  
219 auxiliary gas. Tungsten (determined by EPMA) was chosen as the internal standard  
220 for data reduction. The NIST SRM 610 glass was used as the external standard



(accuracy was verified by analyzing NIST SRM 612), using the reference values of Spandler et al. (2011). GSD, GSE, and NIST SRM 612 glass were used as secondary standards for all elements. The following 45 isotopes were measured in both wolframite and scheelite:  $^7\text{Li}$ ,  $^{24}\text{Mg}$ ,  $^{45}\text{Sc}$ ,  $^{47}\text{Ti}$ ,  $^{51}\text{V}$ ,  $^{53}\text{Cr}$ ,  $^{55}\text{Mn}$ ,  $^{57}\text{Fe}$ ,  $^{59}\text{Co}$ ,  $^{60}\text{Ni}$ ,  $^{63}\text{Cu}$ ,  $^{66}\text{Zn}$ ,  $^{69}\text{Ga}$ ,  $^{72}\text{Ge}$ ,  $^{85}\text{Rb}$ ,  $^{88}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{89}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{90}\text{Zr}$ ,  $^{93}\text{Nb}$ ,  $^{95}\text{Mo}$ ,  $^{111}\text{Cd}$ ,  $^{115}\text{In}$ ,  $^{118}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{121}\text{Sb}$ ,  $^{139}\text{La}$ ,  $^{140}\text{Ce}$ ,  $^{141}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{146}\text{Nd}$ ,  $^{147}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{153}\text{Eu}$ ,  $^{157}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Tb}$ ,  $^{163}\text{Dy}$ ,  $^{165}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Er}$ ,  $^{169}\text{Tm}$ ,  $^{172}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{178}\text{Hf}$ ,  $^{181}\text{Ta}$ ,  $^{182}\text{W}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{209}\text{Bi}$ ,  $^{232}\text{Th}$ , and  $^{238}\text{U}$ . Data processing was performed using the Iolite software (Paton et al. 2011).

Laser ablation ICP-MS trace element mapping of wolframite and scheelite were conducted at the Ore Deposit and Exploration Center of Hefei University of Technology (China), following the procedure described by Wang et al. (2017). An Agilent 7900 ICP-MS equipped with a Photon Machines Analyte HE 193 nm ArF excimer was used for trace element mapping. The He carrier gas was mixed with Ar gas via a T-connector before entering the ICP. The LA ICP-MS mapping was carried out by rastering the laser beam across the sample. The sample was ablated with a beam of 15-20  $\mu\text{m}$ , depending on the grain size, and a scanning speed of 15  $\mu\text{m/s}$ . Ablation was performed using an energy density of 2  $\text{J/cm}^2$  and a laser pulse frequency of 8 Hz. International standard reference materials NIST SRM 610 and GSE-1 were analyzed at the start and the end of each mapping for data calibration. Data processing and images were compiled using the Geochemistry Software V4 (mapping reduction software using MATLAB, Wang et al. 2017; Xiao et al. 2018).

## 243 **In situ sulfur isotope analysis**

244 Chalcopyrite and pyrite grains intergrown with wolframite and siderite were  
245 selected for in situ sulfur isotope analysis. Sulfur stable isotope analysis was  
246 conducted at the state Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources  
247 (University of Geosciences Wuhan, China) using a Thermo Scientific Neptune Plus  
248 MC-ICP-MS equipped with an NWR FemtoUC femtosecond laser system (New  
249 Wave Research, Fremont, CA, U.S.A.). The results are reported in per mil (‰)  
250 relative to the Vienna Canyon Diablo Troilite standard ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  V-CDT).

251 Helium was used as the carrier gas and mixed with argon (make up gas) after the  
252 ablation cell. A spot size of 40  $\mu\text{m}$ , a pulse frequency of 4 Hz and a laser energy  
253 density of  $\sim 2.5 \text{ J/cm}^2$  were used during single spot ablation. The Neptune Plus was  
254 equipped with nine Faraday cups fitted with  $10^{11} \Omega$  resistors. The sulfur isotopes ( $^{32}\text{S}$ ,  
255  $^{33}\text{S}$ , and  $^{34}\text{S}$ ) were collected simultaneously (static mode). Details on the method are  
256 given by [Fu et al. \(2017\)](#). During the measurements, a pyrite standard sample (PPP-1,  
257  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}} = 5.40 \pm 0.16\text{‰}$ ) was used as an external standard to correct the mass  
258 fractionation of S isotope for various sulfide samples. In-house references of  
259 pyrrhotite (YP136,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}} = 1.50 \pm 0.30\text{‰}$ ) ([Li et al. 2019](#)) and chalcopyrite  
260 (JGZ-87,  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}} = 5.50 \pm 0.23\text{‰}$ ) were analyzed repeatedly as unknown samples in  
261 order to verify the accuracy of the calibration method. The accuracy is 0.01–0.15‰  
262 for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and 0.11–0.45‰ for  $\delta^{33}\text{S}$ . The precision is 0.16–0.40‰ ( $2\sigma$ ) for  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  and  
263 0.35–0.78‰ ( $2\sigma$ ) for  $\delta^{33}\text{S}$ . Data processing for LA-MC-ICP-MS analysis was  
264 conducted using the ISO-Compass software ([Zhang et al. 2020](#)).

265

## 266 **Whole-rock major and trace elements analysis**

267 Four fresh outcrop and drill-core shale samples were crushed (200 mesh) for  
268 whole-rock major and trace elements analysis conducted at the Beijing GeoAnalysis  
269 Co. Ltd. Major element analysis on fused glass disks of powdered samples were  
270 determined at Beijing GeoAnalysis Co. Ltd using an XRF-1800 X-ray fluorescence  
271 spectrometer. Trace elements were also analyzed at Beijing GeoAnalysis Co. Ltd  
272 using an Anglient 7500 ICP-MS system on samples that were dissolved at high  
273 pressure in Teflon bombs using an HF-HNO<sub>3</sub> mixture (see [Wang et al. 2019](#) for  
274 analytical details).

275

## 276 **TEXTURAL ASPECTS**

### 277 **Wolframite**

278 Wolframite mainly developed in the quartz-tungstate stage. According to their  
279 occurrences ([Fig. 4](#)), the shale hosted quartz vein-type wolframites in the Jiaoxi  
280 deposit can be divided into four mineralization types ([Table 1](#)). Euhedral type I  
281 wolframite (Wol<sub>S-I</sub>) is widely present, intimately associated with euhedral quartz and  
282 sericite aggregates, and generally larger than those in other stages ([Fig. 4a](#)). Type II  
283 wolframite (Wol<sub>S-II</sub>) is subhedral and intergrown with anhedral quartz ([Fig. 4b](#)).  
284 Sericite veins are observed along the fractures in subhedral Wol<sub>S-II</sub> ([Fig. 4c](#)). Type III  
285 wolframite (Wol<sub>S-III</sub>) occurs as sub- to anhedral crystals in between euhedral quartz  
286 ([Figs. 4d and 4e](#)). Type IV wolframite (Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>) is relatively rare compared to the

287 other three wolframite types and occurs as anhedral crystals intergrown with siderite  
288 and pyrite (replaced by hematite) (Figs. 4f-4h). It should be noted that Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> and  
289 Wol<sub>S-I</sub> show a distinct different colour in reflected light and that later Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> typically  
290 developed along the edge or in cracks of subhedral Wol<sub>S-II</sub> (Fig. 4f). Early formed  
291 wolframites (especially Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and Wol<sub>S-II</sub>) have been altered along the grain boundary  
292 or partly replaced by late scheelite (Fig. 4i).

293 Greisen-type wolframite hosted in BMP and MG can be subdivided into two  
294 types (Fig. 5); greisen-type I (Wol<sub>G-I</sub>) and type II wolframite (Wol<sub>G-II</sub>). The Wol<sub>G-I</sub>  
295 develops in quartz veins within the granite and is intergrown with granular pyrite,  
296 euhedral quartz, and radial subhedral sericite (Figs. 5a and 5b). Anhedral Wol<sub>G-II</sub> is  
297 only developed in the greisen (Figs. 5c and 5d).

298 The different wolframite types show a relatively homogeneous backscattered  
299 electron response (Online Materials Figs. OM2a-2d). The Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> that developed  
300 along the early-formed euhedral Wol<sub>S-I</sub> appears darker compared to the Wol<sub>S-I</sub> in BSE  
301 imaging (Online Materials Fig. OM2c).

302

### 303 **Scheelite**

304 Scheelite in the Jiaoxi deposit is rare and only developed in the fluorite stage at  
305 depth. According to its occurrence, it can be subdivided into two types, i.e., type I  
306 (Sch<sub>I</sub>) and type II scheelite (Sch<sub>II</sub>). Anhedral Sch<sub>I</sub> (50-800 μm) replaces early  
307 wolframite (Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and Wol<sub>S-II</sub>) and occurs along the wolframite grain boundaries and  
308 in fractures (Fig. 4i). These Sch<sub>I</sub> grains show a homogeneous CL response (Online

309 **Materials Fig. OM2e**). Type II scheelite ( $Sch_{II}$ , 1-2 mm in size) is larger than  $Sch_I$  and  
310 occurs as sub- to euhedral crystals with concentric growth zones (**Online Materials**  
311 **Fig. OM2f**).

312

## 313 **GEOCHEMISTRY RESULTS**

### 314 **Composition of wolframite and scheelite**

#### 315 **Major elements**

316 Major elements of wolframite and scheelite are given in **Online Materials Table**  
317 **OM1**. Structural formulae of wolframite and scheelite were calculated based on four  
318 oxygens per formula unit.

319 Wolframite has a variable Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio by mass, which ranges from 0.06 to  
320 0.84. Except for  $Wol_{S-IV}$  (0.77-0.84), vein-type wolframite is Mn-enriched  
321 (Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio < 0.5) with compositions close to the hübnerite endmember  
322 (Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio of 0.06 to 0.46).  $Wol_{S-III}$  has the lowest Fe concentration with a  
323 Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio of 0.06-0.09. The Mn concentration in  $Wol_{S-II}$  ranges from 9.8 to  
324 14.1 wt. %, which is lower than in  $Wol_{S-I}$  (14.0-15.2 wt.%) (**Online Materials Fig.**  
325 **OM3**). The highest Mn concentrations (16.5 to 17.9 wt.%) were found in  $Wol_{S-III}$ .

326 For the greisen type wolframites,  $Wol_{G-I}$  and  $Wol_{G-II}$  have distinct different Fe  
327 and Mn contents. The Fe content in  $Wol_{G-II}$  (11.31-15.54 wt. %) is significantly higher  
328 than in  $Wol_{G-I}$  (2.51-5.29 wt. %). The  $Wol_{G-II}$  Fe/(Mn+Fe) ratio ranges from 0.47 to  
329 0.78, indicating ferberitic wolframite whereas hübneritic  $Wol_{G-I}$  has a Fe/(Fe+Mn)  
330 ratio of 0.10-0.23 (**Online Materials Fig. OM3**). A positive linear trend can be

331 observed for Fe/(Mn+Fe) versus W (a.p.f.u.) ([Online Materials Fig. OM3](#)). Most  
332 wolframite grains, except for the Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>, have a homogenous Fe-Mn content, which  
333 is consistent with the homogenous BSE image ([Online Materials Fig. OM2](#)). However,  
334 some Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and Wol<sub>S-II</sub> grains that are replaced by Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> show Fe-Mn zonation ([Fig.](#)  
335 [6](#)). The two different scheelite types show similar major element compositions with  
336 WO<sub>3</sub> and CaO contents of 78.7-79.2 and 19.8-20.2 wt. %, respectively.

### 337 **Trace elements**

338 Trace elements for wolframite and scheelite are given in [Online Materials Table](#)  
339 [OM2](#). Fe, Mn and Ca were analyzed by EPMA and also by LA-ICP-MS for data  
340 quality verification. The results show that LA-ICP-MS data are in good agreement  
341 with the EMPA data ([Online Materials Fig. OM4](#)), confirming the reliability of the  
342 LA-ICP-MS analysis.

343 Trace element concentrations for different wolframite types are summarized in  
344 [Online Materials Figure OM5](#). Wolframite in the Jiaoxi deposit is generally enriched  
345 in Mg, Sc, Ti, Cr, Nb, Zr, Sn, and Ta ([Online Materials Fig. OM5](#)). Wol<sub>S-II</sub> and Wol<sub>G-II</sub>  
346 have Mg concentrations of 124-506 ppm and 134-493 ppm, respectively, which are  
347 higher than in the other wolframite types (Wol<sub>S-I</sub>: 57-100 ppm, Wol<sub>S-III</sub>: 23-43 ppm,  
348 Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>: 37-54 ppm, Wol<sub>G-I</sub>: 7-27 ppm) ([Online Materials Fig. OM5a](#)). The Sc and Sn  
349 contents of Wol<sub>S-I</sub>, Wol<sub>S-III</sub>, Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>, and Wol<sub>G-I</sub> (Sc: 5-119 ppm, Sn: 1-118 ppm) are  
350 higher than in Wol<sub>S-II</sub> (Sc: 2-16 ppm, Sn: < 1-4 ppm) and Wol<sub>G-II</sub> (Sc: 2-30 ppm, Sn:  
351 1-2 ppm) ([Online Materials Fig. OM5b and 5h](#)). BMP hosted greisen-type wolframite  
352 have higher Ho, Y, Nb, and Ta contents than the shale-hosted wolframite ([Online](#)

353 **Materials Fig. OM5e and 5i-5k**). All wolframite types show positive trends for Y vs.  
354  $\Sigma$ REE, Zr vs. Hf, Ti vs. Sn, and Sc vs Ti (**Figs. 7a-7d**). Wol<sub>S-II</sub> and Wol<sub>G-II</sub> show higher  
355 Mg, Zn, Cr and lower Ti, Sn, Sc, Zr contents than the other wolframite types (**Online**  
356 **Materials Fig. OM5**). All wolframite types show two distinct trends for Mg vs. Sc,  
357 and Zn vs. Sn (**Figs. 7e and 7f**).

358        Wolframite in the Jiaoxi deposit has variable  $\Sigma$ REE concentrations (< 8715 ppm).  
359 Shale-hosted wolframite (5-9 ppm) has relatively lower  $\Sigma$ REE concentrations than the  
360 granite-hosted wolframites (5-8715 ppm). The average  $\Sigma$ REE concentration of  
361 shale-hosted wolframite decreases from 5 (Wol<sub>S-I</sub>) to < 1 ppm (Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>). The  $\Sigma$ REE  
362 concentration of Wol<sub>G-I</sub> (5-13 ppm) is lower than that of Wol<sub>G-II</sub> (9-8715 ppm). All  
363 wolframite types, except for Wol<sub>G-II</sub>, show HREE enrichment (< 1-19 ppm) compared  
364 to LREE (< 1-4 ppm, the LREE content is below the detection limit for most  
365 shale-hosted wolframite samples, see **Online Materials Table OM2**). It is noteworthy  
366 that Wol<sub>G-II</sub> shows a highly variable LREE (1-8650 ppm) content whereas the HREE  
367 content (8-65 ppm) is relatively consistent.

368        The REE patterns for all wolframites show a positive Eu anomaly and  
369 LREE-HREE fractionating (**Figs. 8a-8e**). The HREE contents of the greisen-type  
370 wolframite (Wol<sub>G-II</sub> and Wol<sub>G-I</sub>) are higher than in the MG (**Figs. 8b and 8d**).

371        Scheelite is enriched in Fe, Mn, Cr, Nb, Sr, Y, and Ta (**Online Materials Fig.**  
372 **OM6**). Type I scheelite (Sch<sub>I</sub>), which replaces wolframite, shows a much higher Fe  
373 (870-3800 ppm) and Mn (511-1700 ppm) content than the eu- to subhedral type II  
374 scheelite (Sch<sub>II</sub>, Fe: 141-870 ppm, Mn: 18-411 ppm). Type I scheelite (Sch<sub>I</sub>) has a

375 higher La (average value of 83 ppm) and Eu (average value of 27 ppm) content than  
376 Sch<sub>II</sub> (La: 33 ppm, Eu: 10 ppm) (**Online Materials Fig. OM6**). Sch<sub>I</sub> and Sch<sub>II</sub> show  
377 similar Sr (98-779 ppm), Y (22-148 ppm), Na (6-55 ppm), Mg (21- 273 ppm), and Nb  
378 (9-25 ppm) contents (**Online Materials Table OM2**).

379 Compared to wolframite, scheelite has a higher  $\Sigma$ REE content (167-1233 ppm).  
380 The Sch<sub>I</sub>  $\Sigma$ REE content (170-1233 ppm) is higher than that of Sch<sub>2</sub> (167-636 ppm).  
381 Both Sch<sub>I</sub> and Sch<sub>II</sub> show LREE enrichment (59-1080 ppm) relative to HREE (26-153  
382 ppm), and a positive Eu anomaly (**Fig. 8f**).

### 383 **Minor and trace element maps**

384 Two wolframite grains (ZK2001-200.94 and ZK2001-331.34) showing Fe-Mn  
385 zonation were selected for LA-ICP-MS trace element mapping (**Fig. 6**). Wolframite  
386 ZK2001-200.94 shows the textural features typical of Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> (**Figs. 9b and 9c**). The  
387 rim composition has higher Fe, Nb, and Ta contents (typical for Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>) than the core.  
388 The core has a higher Mn content than the rim and shows Nb growth zonation similar  
389 to Wol<sub>S-I</sub> (**Fig. 9h**). The core and rim are separated from each other by a geochemical  
390 transitional zone (**Figs. 6b and 10i**).

391 Wolframite crystal ZK2001-331.34 exhibits three zones (**Online Materials Fig.**  
392 **OM7**). The core has higher Mn and Ti contents and shows Nb, Ta, and Sc zonation  
393 typical for Wol<sub>S-I</sub> (**Online Materials Fig. OM7**). The core is surrounded by a mantle  
394 that shows higher Fe concentrations than the core but is still a Mn-enriched hübnerite,  
395 which is typical for Wol<sub>S-II</sub>. The rim of the crystal has the highest Fe content and  
396 higher Sc and Ti but lower Nb and Ta contents than the mantle, which is typical for



397 Wol<sub>S-I</sub>.

398 One Sch<sub>II</sub> grain that shows CL zoning ([Online Materials Fig. OM2f](#)) was selected  
399 for LA-ICP-MS mapping, demonstrating Mg, Li, Sr, Nd, Y, and  $\Sigma$ REE zonation ([Fig.](#)  
400 [10](#)). The Mg and Sr contents decrease whereas the Li, REE, Nd, and Y contents  
401 increase from the core to the rim ([Fig. 10](#)).

402

#### 403 **Whole-rock chemistry of shale**

404 Shale whole-rock major and trace element data are presented in Online Materials  
405 [Table OM3](#). The shale has higher SiO<sub>2</sub> contents (52.3-60.5 wt.%) and similar Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>,  
406 MgO, and total Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents compared to other shales in Tibet ([Xie et al., 2014](#)).  
407 The shale has similar REE contents with PAAS and show a negative Eu anomaly on  
408 the chondrite-normalized REE patterns ([Fig. 8](#)) ([Taylor and McLennan, 1985](#)).

409

#### 410 **Sulfur isotopic compositions**

411 Sulfur isotope compositions of pyrite and chalcopyrite grains are given in Online  
412 Materials [Table OM4](#). Chalcopyrite intergrown with siderite ([Fig. 11a](#)) shows uniform  
413  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values ranging between +2.07 and +2.30‰ ([Figs. 11b and 11c](#)). Pyrite that  
414 is intergrown with siderite and chalcopyrite, on the other hand, shows a wide  
415  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  range ([Fig. 11d](#)) (−31.4 to −2.4‰). Anhedral pyrite that is either intergrown  
416 with Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> or occurs in between euhedral quartz has  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values ranging from  
417 −11.7 to +1.8‰, with most of the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values ranging between +1.0 and +1.8‰  
418 ([Figs. 11e and 11f](#)).

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## DISCUSSION

421

### Controls on trace element variations in wolframite and scheelite

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The chemical compositions of wolframite and scheelite are controlled by the chemical composition of the ore-forming fluid and the crystallochemical effect (Xiong et al. 2017; Harlaux et al. 2018). For example, wolframite HREE enrichment is considered to be controlled by the similar ionic radii of the HREE ( $\text{Dy}^{3+}$ : 1.07 Å;  $\text{Lu}^{3+}$ : 0.98 Å), and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0.78 Å) and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  (0.83 Å). For scheelite, LREE enrichment is controlled by the similar ionic radii of the LREE ( $\text{La}^{3+}$ : 1.03 Å;  $\text{Nd}^{3+}$ : 0.98 Å) and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (1.0 Å) (ionic radii data are from Shannon, 1976).

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The very high LREE contents determined in  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-II}}$  (three analyses; 8715 ppm, 2630 and 176 ppm) (Online Material Table OM2) can be explained by fractures in the wolframite as revealed by BSE imaging. These very high LREE values are not considered in the discussion below.

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The wolframite and scheelite in the Jiaoxi deposit are characterized by HREE and LREE enrichment, respectively (Fig. 8). It is noteworthy that almost wolframite (except for  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-III}}$  and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$ ) and all scheelite types show a large positive Eu anomaly (Eu/Eu\* ratios of 0.95-30, Fig. 8), which is different from wolframite and scheelite that are genetically related to highly evolved Eu-depleted granite (Harlaux et al. 2018 and references therein; Zhang et al. 2018; Xiong et al. 2017; Yang et al. 2019a). The large positive Eu anomaly of wolframite and scheelite can be explained

441 by: (1) the presence of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  in an oxidized mineralizing fluid due to the similar ionic  
442 radius of  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$  (0.95 Å) and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  (0.83 Å),  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  (0.78 Å), and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (1.0 Å) (Shannon  
443 1976; Goldman et al. 2013), or (2) the addition of Eu to the hydrothermal system (Sun  
444 and Chen et al. 2017; Li et al. 2018).

445 The scheelite chondrite-normalized Eu concentrations ( $\text{Eu}_\text{N}$ ) do not show a  
446 correlation with the calculated chondrite-normalized Eu values ( $\text{Eu}_\text{N}^*$ , Online  
447 Materials Fig. OM8), which indicates a reduced  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$ -dominated fluid from which  
448 scheelite precipitated (Song et al. 2014; Sun and Chen 2017; Li et al. 2018). Reducing  
449 conditions are also implied by (1) Raman analysis of primary fluid inclusions hosted  
450 in quartz coexisting with wolframite revealed the presence of  $\text{CH}_4$  in the mineralizing  
451 fluid (Wang et al. 2021a), and (2) the widespread presence of pyrrhotite (Fig. 3d)  
452 (Shen et al. 2010; Cao et al. 2014; Sun and Chen 2017). Therefore, the positive Eu  
453 anomaly of wolframite and scheelite cannot be explained by an oxidized mineralizing  
454 fluid, suggesting that Eu was added. The breakdown of plagioclase during  
455 greisenization was a likely source for Eu.

456 Zirconium and Hf are considered to be geochemical twins, i.e. Zr/Hf mass ratios  
457 are relatively constant (35-40) in most geological systems (Hoskin and Schaltegger  
458 2003). In the Jiaoxi deposit, the greisen type wolframites show a lower Zr/Hf mass  
459 ratio (20-27) than the Zr/Hf mass ratio in the shale-hosted wolframite ( $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$ : 39-50,  
460  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$ : 21-78,  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-III}}$ : 32-44,  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$ : 25-50) (Online Materials Table OM2). A  
461 F-B-enriched fluid mobilizes Zr relative to Hf thereby fractionating the element pair  
462 (Rubin et al. 1993; Jiang et al. 2005; Cheng et al. 2019). Therefore, the relatively

463 lower Zr/Hf ratio of the greisen type wolframites compared to shale-hosted  
464 wolframite indicates that the ore-forming fluid in the greisen stage was enriched in F,  
465 which is supported by the presence of abundant fluorite in the greisen ores (Fig. 5b).

466 With regards to the other major and trace elements (e.g., Fe, Mn, Ti, Sc, Mg, Sn,  
467 Zr, Nb, and Ta), the different wolframite types have a distinct chemistry. For example,  
468 Wol<sub>G-II</sub> and Wol<sub>S-II</sub> show different Mg, Sc, Sn, and Zn contents compared to Wol<sub>G-I</sub>,  
469 Wol<sub>S-I</sub>, Wol<sub>S-III</sub>, and Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> (Figs. 7e and 7f). These elements are insensitive to redox  
470 conditions (except for Sn), so the variable composition cannot be explained by redox  
471 changes. In addition, fluid inclusion and stable isotope studies revealed that  
472 wolframite precipitation in the Jiaoxi deposit occurred within a limited temperature  
473 range (330-380°C; Wang et al. 2021a). Thus, the chemical variability can also not be  
474 explained by temperature changes. Therefore, the variable wolframite chemistry is  
475 best explained by the variable chemical composition of the fluid from which  
476 wolframite precipitated (Harlaux et al. 2018; Yang et al. 2019a; Xiong et al. 2017).

477

## 478 **Wolframite and scheelite chemistry as a monitor of fluid evolution**

479 **Fluid-fluid mixing.** All wolframite types show a linear trend for Y vs.  $\Sigma$ REE, Zr  
480 vs. Hf, Ti vs. Sn, and Sc vs. Ti (Figs. 7a-7d), which is evidence for (1) a continuous  
481 hydrothermal evolution during which these elements were progressively removed  
482 from a single fluid phase during mineralization (Korges et al. 2018; Cheng et al.  
483 2019), or (2) fluid-fluid mixing (Harlaux et al. 2020; Carocci et al. 2021).

484 The replacement of early Mn-enriched wolframite by late Fe-enriched

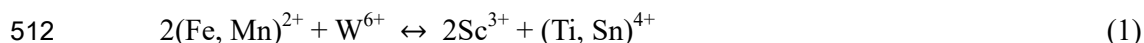
485 wolframite (Fig. 4f) indicates that the Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio increased in the ore-forming  
486 fluid (Fig. 6). Trace element mapping shows chemical zoning of wolframite, i.e. the  
487 rim has higher HREE, Nb, and Ta contents compared to the core (Fig. 9 and Online  
488 Materials Fig. OM7). Therefore, the possibility of a single fluid differentiation model  
489 can be excluded as in that scenario the contents of these elements would progressively  
490 decrease, which is not the case. Therefore, the chemical variability of wolframite is  
491 best explained by a fluid-fluid mixing model.

492 We propose a fluid-fluid mixing model involving a magma-exsolved fluid and a  
493 meteoric water. The Nb, Ta, Ti, Sc, Sn, Y, Zr, Hf, Ho, Y, and  $\Sigma$ REE-enriched fluid  
494 endmember has the chemical characteristics of a highly evolved granite-derived fluid  
495 (Hulsbosch et al. 2016). Mixing of this magmatic fluid with meteoric water induced  
496 dilution, which is supported by the linear correlations of Y vs  $\Sigma$ REE, Zr vs. Hf, and Ti  
497 vs. Sn (Figs. 7a-7c). The large variation of  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values of pyrite (−31.4 to +1.8‰)  
498 intergrown with wolframite and siderite (Fig. 11) is also consistent with mixing of a  
499 magmatic fluid with meteoric water (Li et al. 2021). The negative  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values of  
500 pyrite implies that S was derived from shale-hosted pyrite suggesting that the  
501 meteoric water leached the shale-hosted pyrite during fluid migration (Kohn et al.  
502 1998; Lin et al. 2016). This hypothesis is supported by the stable oxygen isotope data  
503 of quartz and wolframite, and fluid inclusion data (Wang et al. 2021a).

#### 504 **Leaching metals from coeval granites during the greisenization**

505 Vein-type and greisen-type wolframite show two trends defined by their Mg, Zn,  
506 Cr, Ti, and Sn concentrations. The  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$ ,  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-III}}$ ,  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-I}}$  are Sn-Ti-

507 Sc-enriched and Mg-Zn-depleted, and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$  and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-II}}$  are Sn-Ti-Zr-Sc-enriched  
 508 (Figs. 7e and 7f). Enrichment of Sn, Ti, and Sc in wolframite has been reported for  
 509 numerous quartz vein-type W deposits (Kempe and Wolf 2006; Zhu et al. 2014;  
 510 Harlaux et al. 2018) which can be explained through coupled substitution (Tindle and  
 511 Webb 1989):



513 The positive correlations of Sc vs Ti of wolframite (Fig. 7d) in the Jiaoxi deposit  
 514 confirm this interpretation. Tin enrichment is generally considered to be inherited  
 515 from a highly evolved magma through fluid exsolution (Heinrich 1990). As discussed  
 516 above, the Ti-Sc-enriched fluid represents the magma-exsolved fluid. The lower  
 517 content of Ti, Sc, and Sn in  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$  and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-II}}$ , compared to other wolframite types,  
 518 may have been caused by a fluid-fluid mixing induced dilution.

519 Breakdown of plagioclase, K-feldspar, and biotite during greisenization would  
 520 result in an increase of the pH of the ore-forming fluid causing subsequent wolframite  
 521 precipitation (Wood and Samson 2000; Hulsbosch et al. 2016; Yang et al. 2019a;  
 522 Wang et al. 2021a). During greisenization, biotite breakdown would enrich the  
 523 ore-forming fluid in Mg, Zn, and Fe (Carocci et al. 2021). Due to their similar ionic  
 524 radii (Shannon 1976),  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  (0.72 Å) and  $\text{Zn}^{2+}$  (0.74 Å) can readily substitute for  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$   
 525 (0.78 Å) and  $\text{Mn}^{2+}$  (0.83 Å) in wolframite by simple substitution, thus causing the  
 526 precipitation of Fe-Mg-enriched wolframites (Goldman et al. 2013). This conclusion  
 527 is supported by the positive correlation of Mg vs.  $\text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn})$  and Zn vs.  $\text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn})$   
 528 for wolframite (Figs. 12a and 12b). Leaching Fe from biotite during greisenization has

also been proposed for the Shimenshi and Xihuashan W deposits (Zhang et al. 2018; Yang et al. 2019a). The breakdown of plagioclase resulted in Eu-enrichment of the fluid, which is reflected in the positive Eu-anomaly of scheelite as discussed previously. Plagioclase breakdown would also release significant Ca into the system, which, in the presence of increasing fluid F content, was removed by the precipitation of fluorite in the greisen (Wang et al., 2021b).

Both CL imaging and the element maps show primary oscillatory zoning of Sch<sub>II</sub> (Fig. 10), which is common for magmatic-related scheelite that precipitated from a hydrothermal fluid with a variable trace element composition (Poulin et al. 2018). The Sch<sub>II</sub> core has higher Sr and Mg and lower REE, Y, Li, and Nd contents compared to the rim (Fig. 10). Poulin et al. (2018) proposed that the relative enrichment or depletion of Sr in the scheelite may be related to the nature of the ore-forming fluid and that the W-bearing fluid exsolved from a highly fractionated magma is commonly Sr-depleted. Considering that decomposition of biotite, plagioclase, and K-feldspar during greisenization would release Sr, Ca, and Mg into the hydrothermal fluid, we propose that the Sch<sub>II</sub> core precipitated from a BMP modified-fluid. In conclusion, the decomposition of plagioclase and biotite during the greisenization not only buffered the pH of the magma-exsolved fluid but also released Fe, Zn, Mg Ca, and Eu into the hydrothermal fluid.

548       **Source and nature of Fe in the wolframite.** Numerous sources have been  
549       proposed for Fe, including Fe sourced from (1) a highly evolved granite through fluid  
550       exsolution ([Korges et al., 2018](#); [Harlaux et al. 2018](#); [Yang et al. 2019b](#)), or (2)  
551       biotite-bearing granites or metamorphic rocks through fluid-rock interaction  
552       ([Lecumberri-Sanchez et al. 2017](#); [Zhang et al. 2018](#)). Our data suggest that the Jiaoxi  
553       deposit has multiple Fe sources, including the highly evolved MG, the BMP (i.e., Fe  
554       released during greisenization), and the shale. The main arguments for this are given  
555       below.

556       [Michaud and Pichavant \(2019\)](#) proposed that the Fe/(Fe+Mn) ratio of wolframite  
557       can be used as a tracer for the wolframite deposition environment and that  
558       Mn-enriched wolframites (hübnerite) mainly precipitate from a Mn-enriched fluid that  
559       exsolved from a highly evolved granite. In the Jiaoxi deposit, these early-formed  
560       Mn-enriched wolframites (including Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and Wol<sub>S-III</sub>) also indicate that the early  
561       ore-forming fluid that exsolved from the highly evolved MG is Mn-enriched. The Mg  
562       vs. Fe/(Fe+Mn) and Zn vs. Fe/(Fe+Mn) for wolframite show a positive and a vertical  
563       trend ([Fig. 12](#)). The positive trend (Wol<sub>S-II</sub>, Wol<sub>G-I</sub>, and Wol<sub>G-II</sub>) indicates that Fe can  
564       be leached into the hydrothermal system during greisenization as discussed previously.  
565       The vertical trend, on the other hand, shows that a part of Fe (Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>) is unrelated to  
566       greisenization and may be added into the system through other process.

567       Compared to the Mn-enriched cores, the Fe-enriched rim of two wolframite  
568       grains shows higher Nb (51-130 ppm), Ta (1-3 ppm), and Ti (70-440 ppm) but lower  
569       ΣREE (< 1 ppm), Y (< 1 ppm), and Ho (< 1 ppm) contents ([Figs. 6 and 9](#), and [Online](#)



570 **Materials Fig. OM7**), indicating that the late Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> precipitated from a  
571 Fe-Nb-Ta-Ti-enriched and  $\Sigma$ REE-Ho-depleted hydrothermal fluid. As discussed above,  
572 the low Ho, Y, and  $\Sigma$ REE contents in the fluid are interpreted to result from fluid-fluid  
573 mixing induced dilution. In other words, the late Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> formed in an open  
574 hydrothermal system, in which the meteoric water and the magmatic fluid both have  
575 the possibility to carry Fe for the Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>. If Fe in the late hydrothermal fluid was  
576 carried by the magmatic fluid, it may either have been directly sourced from the  
577 highly evolved MG and/or leached from the shale during the fluid-rock interaction.

578 [Lecumberri-Sanchez et al. \(2017\)](#) proposed that the wolframite precipitated when  
579 an Fe-poor W-bearing fluid interacted with sedimentary rocks and leached Fe from  
580 the Fe-enriched shale during muscovitization and tourmalinization. In the Jiaoxi  
581 deposit, tourmalinization and muscovitization are absent in the contact zone between  
582 quartz veins and shale (**Fig. 3c**), indicating that the Fe extracted from the shale  
583 through fluid-rock interaction was probably limited during the precipitation of the  
584 quartz vein-hosted wolframites. In addition, the shale has a high  $\Sigma$ REE (150-180 ppm)  
585 and relatively low FeO (< 5 wt.%) content (Online Materials **Table OM3**), and shows  
586 a relatively smooth HREE pattern that is different from Wol<sub>S-IV</sub> (**Fig. 8e**). This also  
587 indicates that the contribution of shale-released material into the hydrothermal system  
588 is minor ([Harlaux et al. 2018](#)). An alternative explanation is that the meteoric water  
589 leached Fe from the shales. The extremely negative  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values of pyrite (−31.8  
590 to −11.7‰) that is intergrown with wolframite and siderite suggest that sedimentary  
591 sulfur derived from shale-hosted pyrite was added to the system ([Li et al. 2021](#)). This

implies that Fe was leached into the system as a result of the breakdown of shale-hosted pyrite. However, as discussed above, most of the pyrite and chalcopyrite have uniform positive  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values and the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values increased from  $-31.4$  to  $-2.4\text{‰}$  in a small area in the pyrite grain ( $< 200 \mu\text{m}$ ) that is intergrown with chalcopyrite and siderite (Fig. 11d). This observation, together with previous published uniform S isotopic data of galena, sphalerite, pyrrhotite, pyrite, and chalcopyrite in the sulfide stage ( $+2.6$  to  $+3.7\text{‰}$ , Wang et al. 2021a), suggest that S in the Jiaoxi deposit is dominantly magmatic (i.e., the amount of shale-released S was limited). The precipitation of pyrite, chalcopyrite, galena, pyrrhotite, and sphalerite (Figs. 4g and 11) in the sulfide stage requires a significant amount of Fe. The uniform positive sulfur isotope compositions of these minerals, as discussed above, indicates that the highly evolved MG had the potential to provide sufficient Fe for the quartz vein-type deposit.

## Implications for ore genesis

The hydrothermal evolution and related ore genesis can be summarized as follows (Fig. 13). During the late crystallization stage of the highly evolved MG, the initial mineralizing fluid was exsolved. High concentrations of F+Cl in the evolving magma lowered the solidus temperature to  $400\text{--}600^\circ\text{C}$ . Continuous accumulation of hydrothermal fluid induced extensive hydraulic fracturing (Breiter et al. 2017), during which the hydrothermal fluid, enriched in W, Nb, Ta, Mn, and REE, moved up and mixed with meteoric water to form the Mn-enriched  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$  (Figs. 13a and 13b). The

614 residual fluid moved further upward and leached Mg, Zn, Sr, Ca, and Fe from the  
615 BMP through the breakdown of biotite, plagioclase, and K-feldspar. The increasing  
616 pH values of ore-forming fluid caused local precipitation of Fe-enriched  
617 (Fe/(Mn+Fe) > 0.5), greisen-type wolframite (Fig. 13c). Subsequently, this fluid  
618 moved upward and mixed with the meteoric water to form Wol<sub>S-II</sub>, Wol<sub>S-III</sub> with  
619 relative high Mg and Zn contents. The late Fe-enriched fluid exsolved from the MG  
620 moved up and mixed with meteoric water that that carried Fe and S leached from the  
621 surrounding shale, to form the Fe-enriched Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>, siderite, pyrite, and minor  
622 chalcopyrite. This Fe-enriched fluid also partly replaced previously wolframite grains  
623 along the fractures and edges to form wolframite grains with Fe and Mn zoning (Fig.  
624 13b). As temperature decreased and the hydrothermal fluids became depleted in Fe,  
625 Mn and F (Wood and Samson 2000; Liu et al. 2021), BMP-derived, Ca-enriched fluid  
626 interacted with early-formed wolframite to form Sch<sub>I</sub> and the core of Sch<sub>II</sub>. Finally,  
627 the late MG-exsolved REE-Y-enriched fluid moved upward and mixed with the  
628 meteoric water to form the Sch<sub>II</sub> rim with high ΣREE and Y contents (Fig. 13d).

629 These results suggest that the initial ore-forming fluid exsolved from the highly  
630 evolved magma of the quartz vein-type tungsten deposit is W- and Mn-enriched.  
631 During the fluid evolution, metals such as Fe, Sr, Mg, Zn, and Ca from the  
632 surrounding granite and metamorphic rocks were added into the hydrothermal fluid  
633 when the system became open. Compared with other quartz vein-type tungsten  
634 deposit around the world, such as the Xihuashan in south China, the Nyakabingo, and  
635 Bugarama deposits in central Rwanda, and the Argemela mineralized district in

636 Portugal, several generations of wolframite were observed ([Goldmann et al., 2013](#);  
637 [Zhang et al., 2018](#); [Michaud and Pichavant, 2019](#)). These different wolframite  
638 generations in a deposit commonly show a large variation of Fe/(Mn+Fe) ratios and  
639 Mg, Zn, Nb, and Sn contents, which also indicates a dynamic ore-forming  
640 environment transitioning with time from a closed to an open hydrothermal system.  
641 This study demonstrates that the textural and compositional variations of wolframite  
642 and scheelite can be utilized as an optimal proxy to reconstruct the dynamic  
643 hydrothermal process of a tungsten deposit.

644

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954

955 **Figure captions**

956

957 FIGURE 1. **(a)** Tectonic framework of the northern, southern and central Lhasa  
958 subterrane (after [Liu et al. 2014](#)), showing the location of Miocene (ultra)potassic  
959 rocks and ore deposits including the Jiaoxi deposit in the central Lhasa subterrane. **(b)**  
960 Geological sketch map of the Jiaoxi deposit showing the outcrops of the magmatic  
961 rocks and stratigraphic units (after [Wang et al. 2020](#)). Abbreviations: BNS =  
962 Bangong-Nujiang Suture; SNMZ = Shiquan River-Nam Tso Mélange zone; LMF =  
963 Luobadui-Milashan fault; KF = Karakorum fault; IYZS = Indus-Yarlung Zangbo  
964 Suture. Data from [Liu et al. \(2014\)](#), [Yang et al., \(2016\)](#), and references therein.

965

966 FIGURE 2. Geological map of the Jiaoxi deposit, showing the occurrence of lodes and  
967 their relationships with the surrounding rocks (after [Wang 2019](#)). The sections A-A'  
968 and B-B' can be found on Online materials Figure 1.

969

970 FIGURE 3. Photographs showing representative mineral assemblages and vein  
971 crosscutting relationships. **(a-b)** Euhedral wolframite crystals intergrown with quartz  
972 and sericite. **(c)** Early quartz-wolframite-sericite vein crosscut by a later quartz-pyrite  
973 vein. **(d)** A quartz-pyrrhotite-pyrite vein crosscut by a later fluorite-phengite vein.  
974 Abbreviations: Wol = wolframite, Fl = fluorite, Qz = quartz, Ph = phengite, Py =  
975 pyrite, Po = pyrrhotite, Ser = sericite.

976

977 FIGURE 4. Reflected light photomicrographs showing the occurrence of different  
978 shale-hosted wolframite types. **(a)** Early euhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$  intergrown with quartz and  
979 sericite assemblages. **(b-c)** Subhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$  intergrown with quartz and crosscut by  
980 sericite veins. **(d-e)** Anhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$  crystal filling the gaps between euhedral quartz  
981 crystals. **(f)** Anhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$  grain replaced by  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  along the edge and cracks; **(g)**  
982 Anhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  intergrown with pyrite. **(h)** Anhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  and siderite filling  
983 space among euhedral quartz crystals and replaced by late hematite. **(i)** Early euhedral  
984  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$  crystals replaced by late scheelite along the edge. Abbreviations: Wol =  
985 wolframite, Qz = quartz, Ph = phengite, Py = pyrite, Po = pyrrhotite, Ser = sericite.  
986 Hem = hematite, Sch = scheelite, Sd = siderite.

987

988 FIGURE 5. Photomicrographs showing the greisen type wolframites. **(a and b)**  
989 Occurrence of  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-I}}$  intergrown with pyrite, sericite, and quartz (b: cross-polarized  
990 light); **(c)** Occurrence of  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-II}}$ ; **(d)** Anhedral  $\text{Wol}_{\text{G-II}}$  intergrown with sericite and  
991 quartz (cross-polarized light).

992

993 FIGURE 6. EPMA traverses of wolframite grains showing contents from cores to rims  
994 along **(a)** Reflected light image of  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$ . **(b)** Fe and Mn contents from the A (core) to  
995 B (rim) in  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-II}}$ . **(c)** Backscattered electron image of wolframite crystal  
996 ZK2001-200.94. **(d)** Fe and Mn contents from C (rim) to D (rim) in wolframite crystal  
997 ZK2001-200.94.

998

999 FIGURE 7. Plots of **(a)** Y vs.  $\Sigma$ REE, **(b)** Zr vs. Hf, **(c)** Ti vs. Sn, **(d)** Sc vs. Ti, **(e)** Mg vs.  
1000 Sc, and **(f)** Sn vs. Zn for different wolframite types. Positive linear trends can be  
1001 observed in (a), (b), (c), and (d). Wol<sub>S-II</sub> and Wol<sub>G-II</sub> samples have higher Mg and Zn  
1002 but lower Sc and Sn contents than the other wolframite types (grey domains in (e) and  
1003 (f)).

1004  
1005 FIGURE 8. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns of different wolframite and scheelite  
1006 types in the Jiaoxi deposit. Chondrite REE values are from [Boynton \(1984\)](#). REE  
1007 contents of muscovite granite (MG) are from [Wang et al. \(2020\)](#).

1008  
1009 FIGURE 9. BSE image and LA-ICP-MS trace element mapping for wolframite crystal  
1010 ZK2001-200.94 (same as in Fig. 6c). **(a)** Homogeneous BSE image. **(b-h)** Trace  
1011 element mapping show Fe-Mn-HREE-Sc-Sn-Ti-Nb zonation for wolframite. **(i)**  
1012 Schematic diagram for the growth zonation of Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and the chemical zonation of  
1013 Wol<sub>S-I</sub> and Wol<sub>S-IV</sub>.

1014  
1015 FIGURE 10. Cathodoluminescence image and LA-ICP-MS trace element mapping for a  
1016 scheelite crystal (Sch<sub>II</sub>). **(a)** Cathodoluminescence image showing oscillatory zoning.  
1017 **(b-g)** Trace element mapping showing primary oscillatory Mg, Li, Nd, Sr, Y,  $\Sigma$ REE  
1018 zonation f. **(h)** Schematic diagram showing the chemical zonation of scheelite.

1019

1020 FIGURE 11. In situ sulfur isotope compositions ( $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{V-CDT}}$  values in per mil) for pyrite  
1021 and chalcopyrite intergrown with the Fe-enriched  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  and siderite. (a)  
1022 Chalcopyrite and pyrite intergrown with siderite developed in between euhedral  
1023 quartz crystals. (b) Sulfur isotope compositions of pyrite showing a large variation in  
1024 a small area. (c and d) Chalcopyrite showing uniform positive sulfur isotope  
1025 compositions. (e and f) Pyrite intergrown with wolframite showing a highly variable  
1026 sulfur isotope compositions.

1027  
1028 FIGURE 12. Binary plots of (a) Mg vs.  $\text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn})$ , (b) Zn vs.  $\text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn})$  showing  
1029 positive and vertical trends (grey arrows). The positive trend indicate that a part of Fe  
1030 was added into the hydrothermal system with Zn, Mg and Eu during the  
1031 greisenization. The vertical trend implies Fe enrichment in the  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$  that is  
1032 unrelated to the greisenization process.

1033  
1034 FIGURE 13. (a) Schematic representation (not to scale) of hydrothermal evolution and  
1035 migration of metals in the Jiaoxi deposit. The brown-red arrows indicate the MG  
1036 exsolved fluid comprising the elements W, Mn, Fe, REE, F, S, Nb, Ta, Sn, and Sc. The  
1037 green arrows show the MG exsolved fluid leaching Fe, Mg, Zn, Eu, Ca, and Sr from  
1038 the BMP. The blue arrows illustrate meteoric water leaching Fe and S from the shale  
1039 by. See text for a further discussion of hydrothermal evolution process. (b) Sketch  
1040 showing the textural and compositional variations of  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-I}}$  and  $\text{Wol}_{\text{S-IV}}$ . (c) Sketch  
1041 showing the location of greisen-type wolframite and their high  $\text{Fe}/(\text{Mn}+\text{Fe})$  ratios (>

- 1042 0.5). (d) Sketch showing the textural and compositional variations of scheelite.
- 1043 Abbreviations: GP-granite porphyry, MG-muscovite granite, BMP-biotite
- 1044 monzogranite porphyry.

1045 **Online Materials Figure OM1**

1046 Simplified geologic cross sections of the Jiaoxi deposit (after [Wang et al. 2018](#)). See  
1047 Fig. 2 for the locations of the cross sections A-A' and B-B'.

1048

1049 **Online Materials Figure OM2**

1050 High-contrast BSE and CL images of different wolframite and scheelite types. (a-d)  
1051 BSE images showing homogeneous textures of different wolframites types. (e)  
1052 SEM-CL images show anhedral Sch<sub>I</sub> crystals with homogeneous textures along the  
1053 Wol<sub>S-I</sub>. (f) SEM-CL image showing a subhedral Sch<sub>II</sub> crystal with growth zoning.

1054

1055 **Online Materials Figure OM3**

1056 Compositional variations of different wolframite types in the Jiaoxi deposit  
1057 determined by EPMA represented in a W vs. Fe/(Fe+Mn) diagram.

1058

1059 **Online Materials Figure OM4**

1060 Compositions of Fe and Mn of wolframite in the Jiaoxi deposit determined by EPMA  
1061 and LA-ICP-MS.

1062

1063 **Online Materials Figure OM5**

1064 Box-whisker plots for the chemical compositions of different wolframite types. All  
1065 elemental concentrations are in ppm. The top and bottom of the boxes represent the  
1066 25th and 75th percentile of the data and the horizontal lines at the end of the whisker



1067 represent the end of the 1.5 times the interquartile range. The black box represents the  
1068 mean value.

1069

#### 1070 **Online Materials Figure OM6**

1071 Box-whisker plots for concentrations (in ppm) of two scheelite types.

1072

#### 1073 **Online Materials Figure OM7**

1074 Backscattered electron image and LA-ICP-MS trace element mapping for wolframite

1075 crystal ZK2001-331.34. **(a)** Backscattered electron image showing a relatively

1076 homogeneous texture. **(b-k)** Trace element mapping demonstrating wolframite Fe, Mn,

1077 Mg, Ti, Ta, Sc, Mg/Sc, Ti/Cr, Mn/Fe, and Nb zonation. **(l)** Schematic diagram for the

1078 chemical zones in crystal ZK2001-331.34.

1079

#### 1080 **Online Materials Figure OM8**

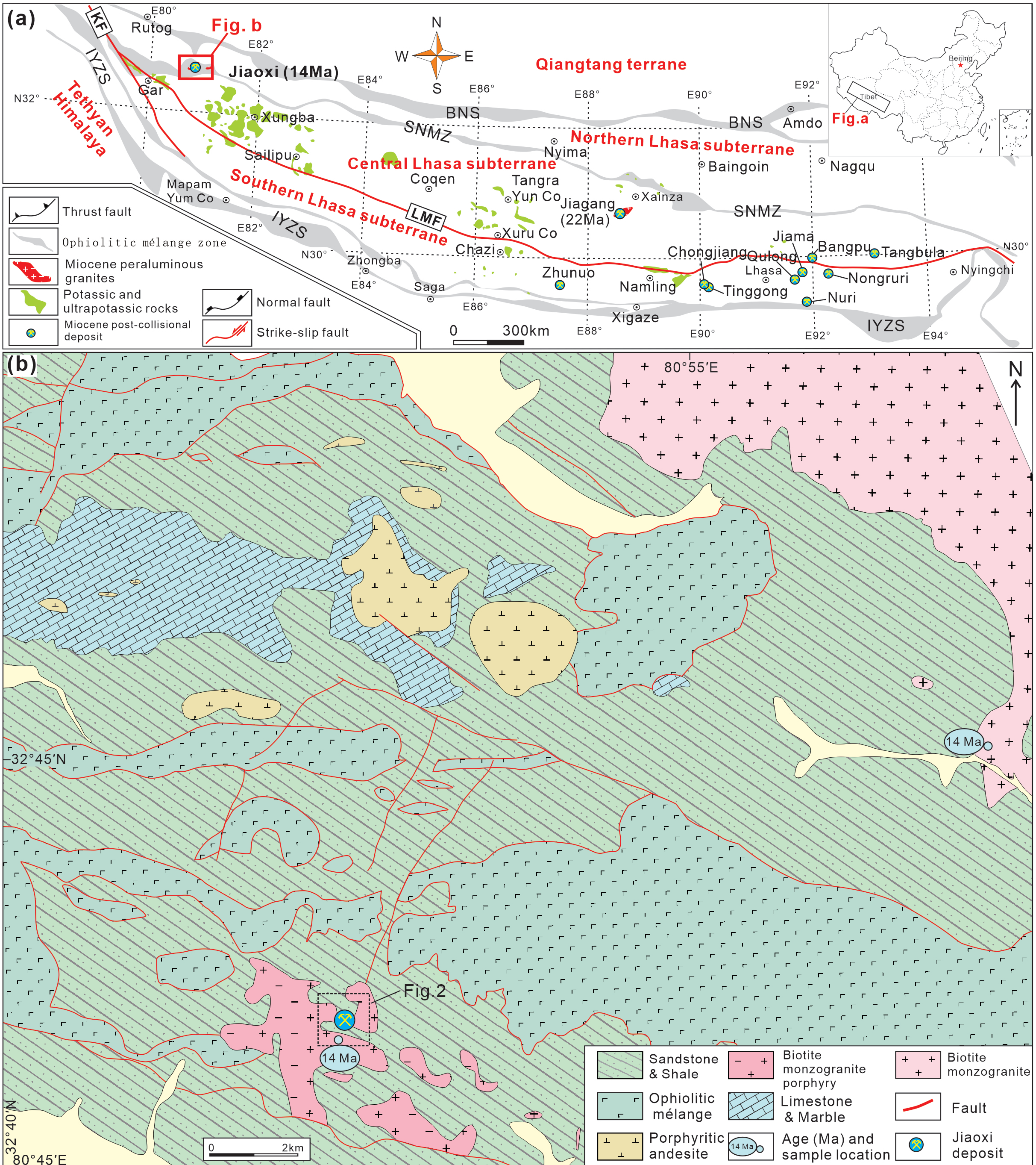
1081 Chondrite-normalized Eu concentrations ( $Eu_N$ ) vs. calculated  $Eu_{CN}^*$  values for

1082 scheelites.  $Eu_N^* = (Sm_N \times Gd_N)^{1/2}$ . The dashed line represents  $Eu_N/Eu_N^* = 1$

**Table 1 Texture and compositional types of wolframites with typic mineral chemistry**

Wolframite type		Textural relations and crystal shape	Mineral Chemistry	Examples
Shale-hosted wolframite	Wol <sub>S-I</sub>	Widely developed; Associated with euhedral quartz and sericite; Euhedral crystal.	$0.20 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.24$ ; Ti: 418 - 1360 ppm; Sn: 28 - 118 ppm; Mg: 57-100 ppm.	Fig. 4a
	Wol <sub>S-II</sub>	Intergrown with anhedral quartz; Cross cut by sericite veins; Subhedral crystal.	$0.1 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.4$ ; Ti: 2 - 485 ppm; Sn: 0.5 - 4 ppm; Mg: 124 - 506 ppm.	Fig. 4b-c
	Wol <sub>S-III</sub>	Sub- to anhedral crystals; Filling in gaps between quartz crystal.	$0.06 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.09$ ; Ti: 6 - 376 ppm; Sn: 0.8 - 37 ppm; Mg: 23 - 43 ppm.	Fig. 4d-e
	Wol <sub>S-IV</sub>	Relatively rare; Replace the early formed wolframite crystal Anhedral crystal.	$0.75 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.83$ ; Ti: 7 - 376 ppm; Sn: 1.6 - 19 ppm; Mg: 37 - 54 ppm.	Fig. 4f-h
Greisen-hosted wolframite	Wol <sub>G-I</sub>	Develops in quartz veins within the granite; Intergrown with granular pyrite, euhedral quartz, and sericite; Subhedral crystal.	$0.1 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.2$ ; Ti: 14 - 36 ppm; Sn: 2 - 12 ppm; Mg: 7 - 27 ppm.	Fig. 5a-b
	Wol <sub>G-II</sub>	Only develops in the greisen; Anhedral crystal; Grain size <500 $\mu\text{m}$ .	$0.47 < \text{Fe}/(\text{Fe}+\text{Mn}) < 0.78$ ; Ti: 22 - 219 ppm; Sn: 1.3 - 2.4 ppm; Mg: 134 - 493 ppm.	Fig. 5c-d





**Figure 1**



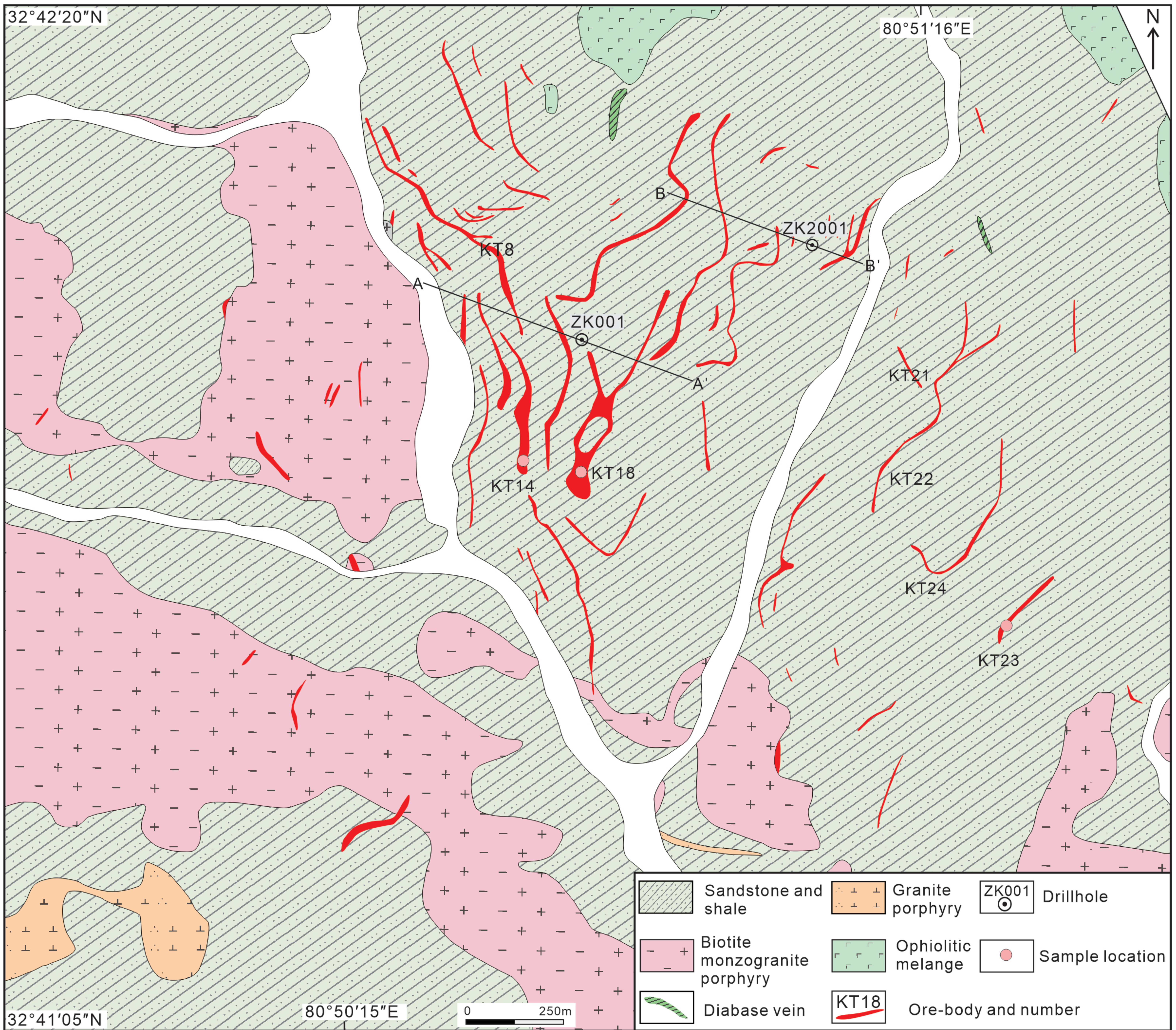


Figure 2



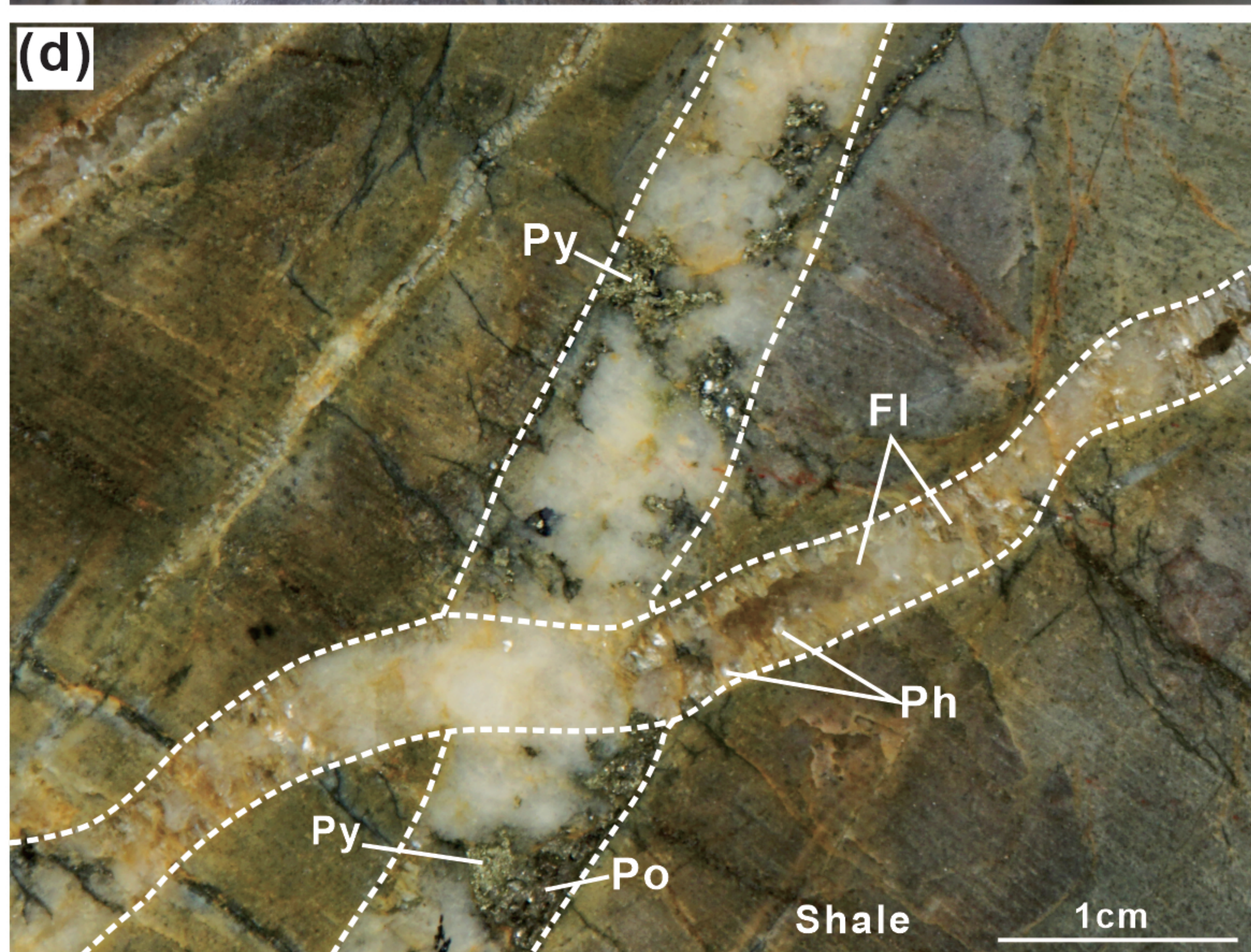
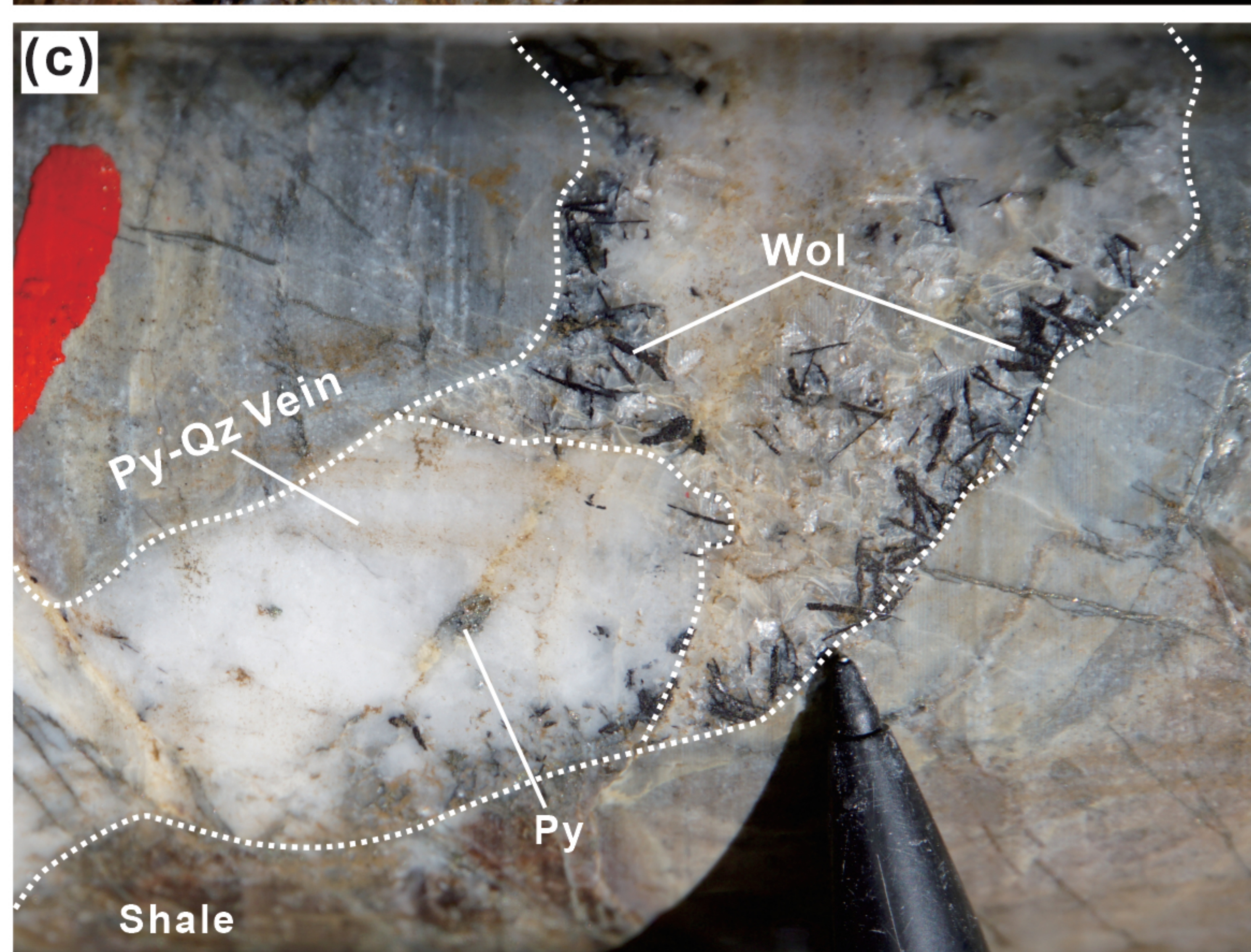
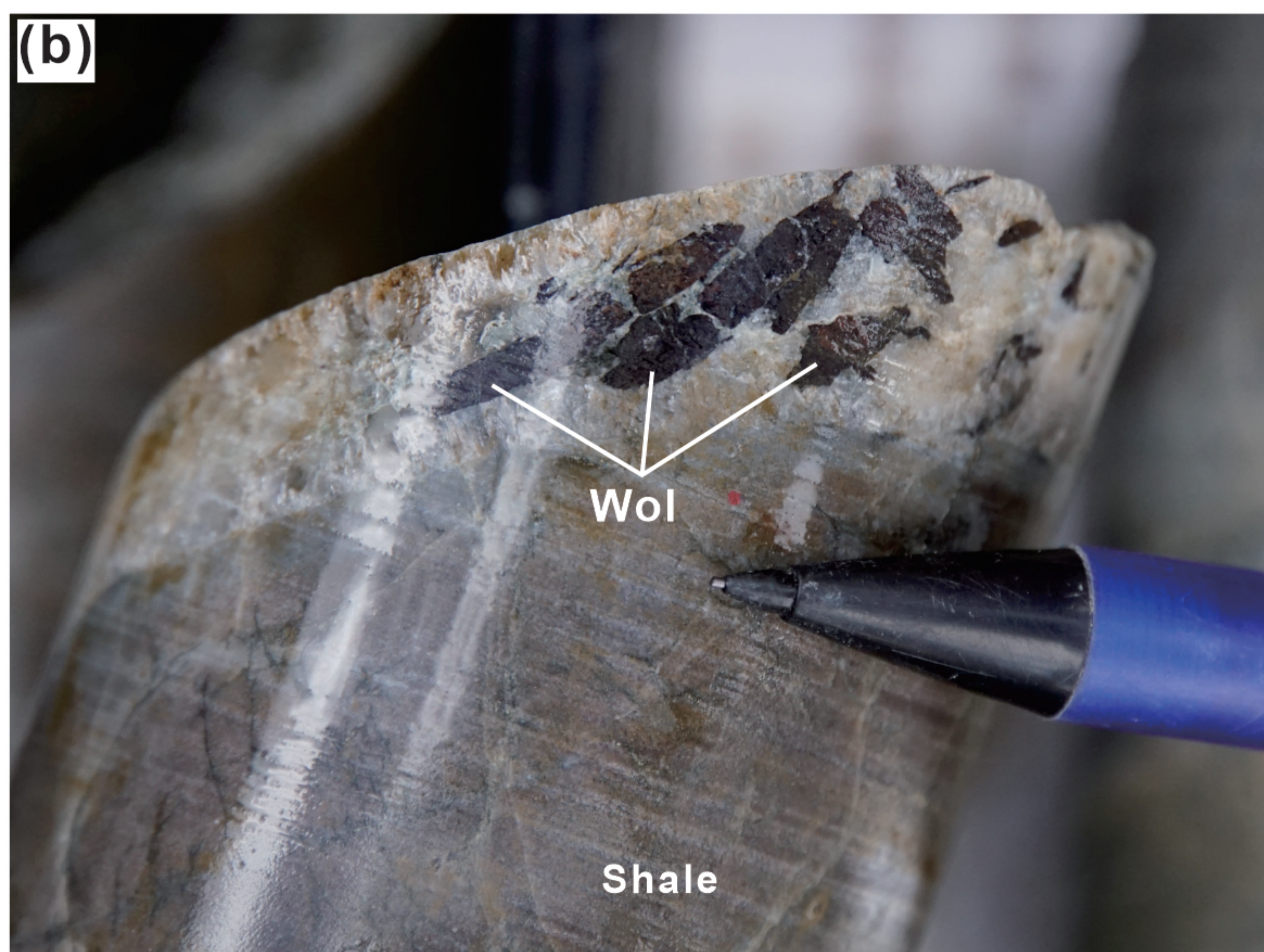
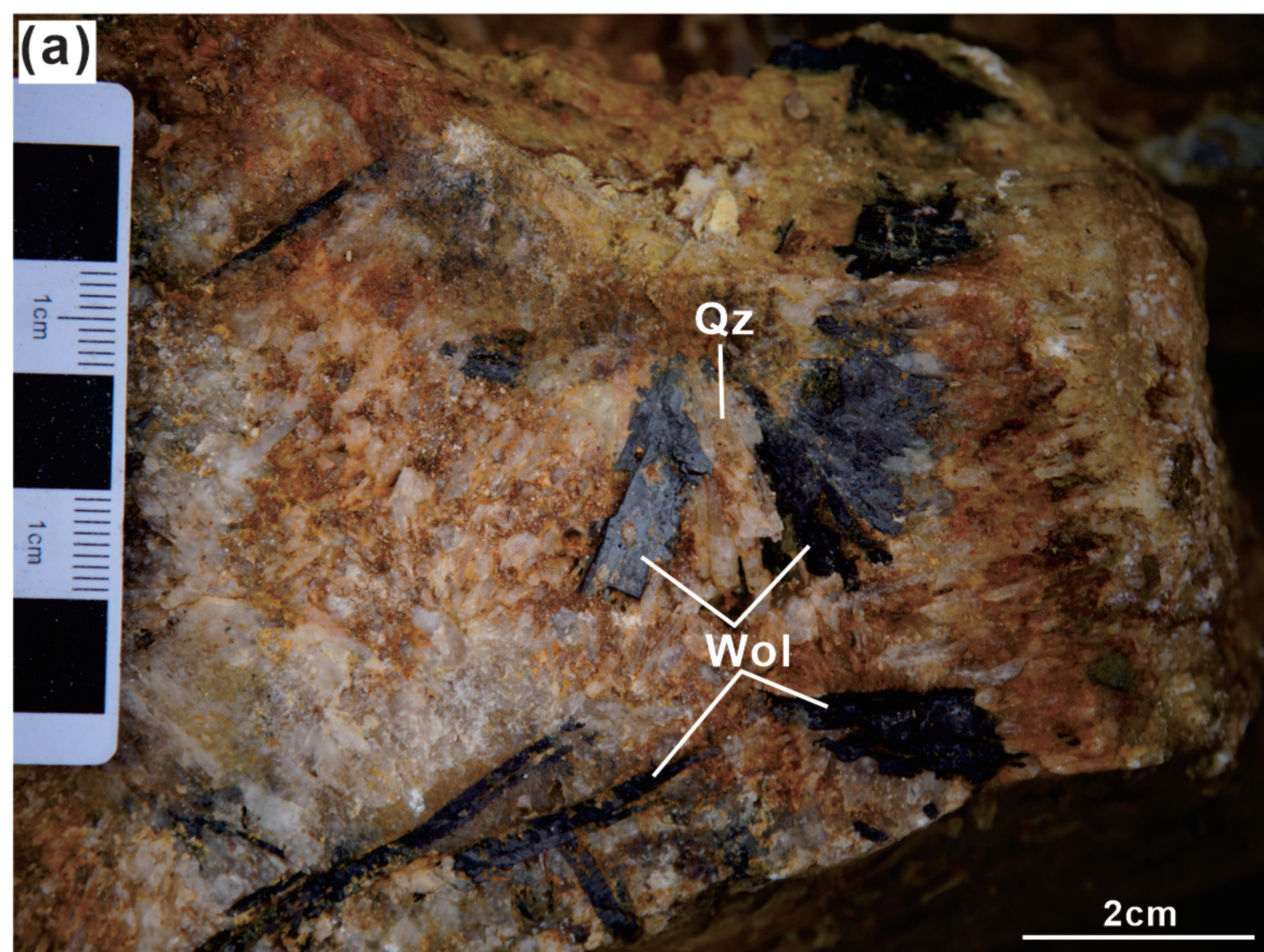


Figure 3



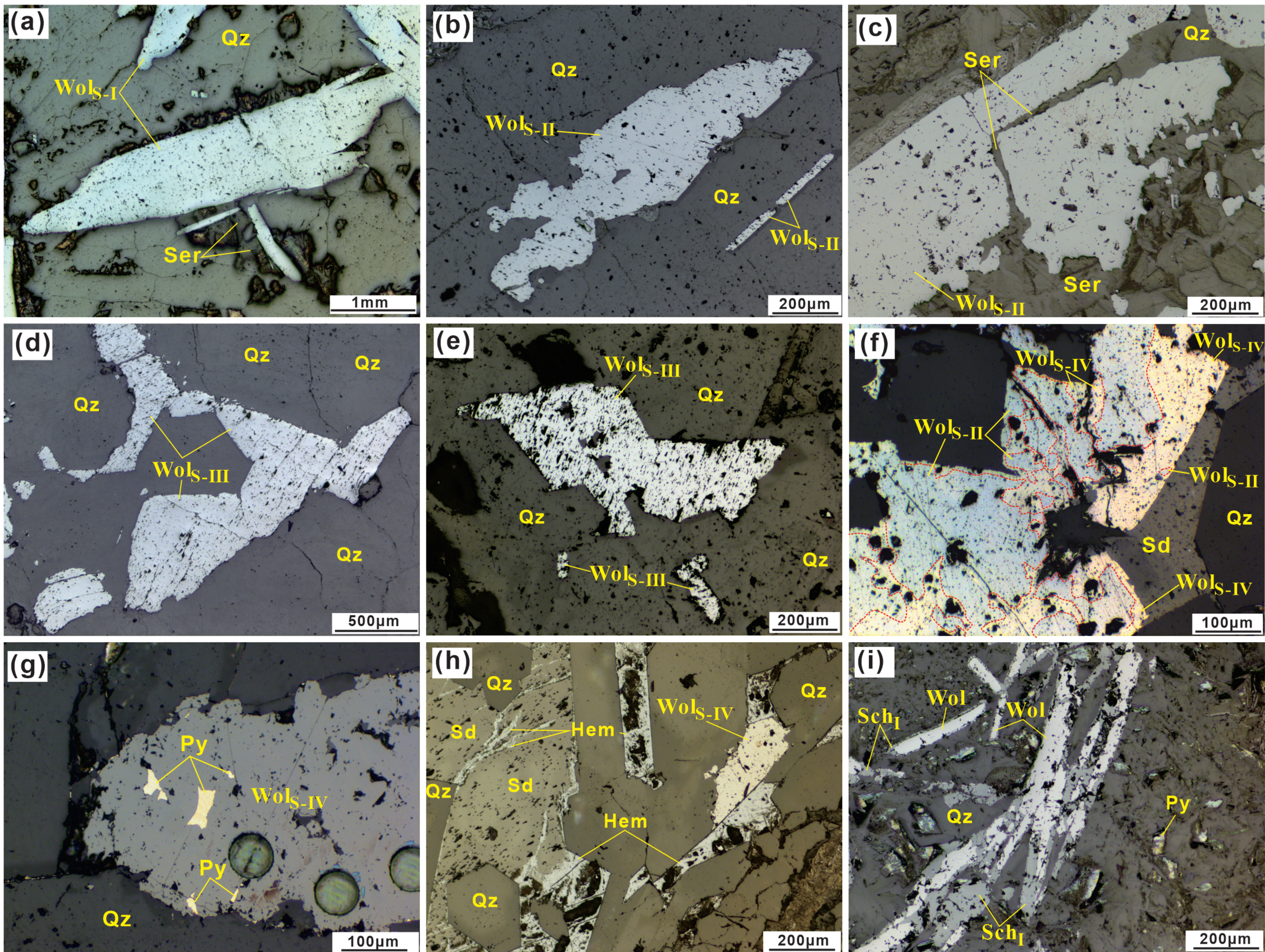


Figure 4



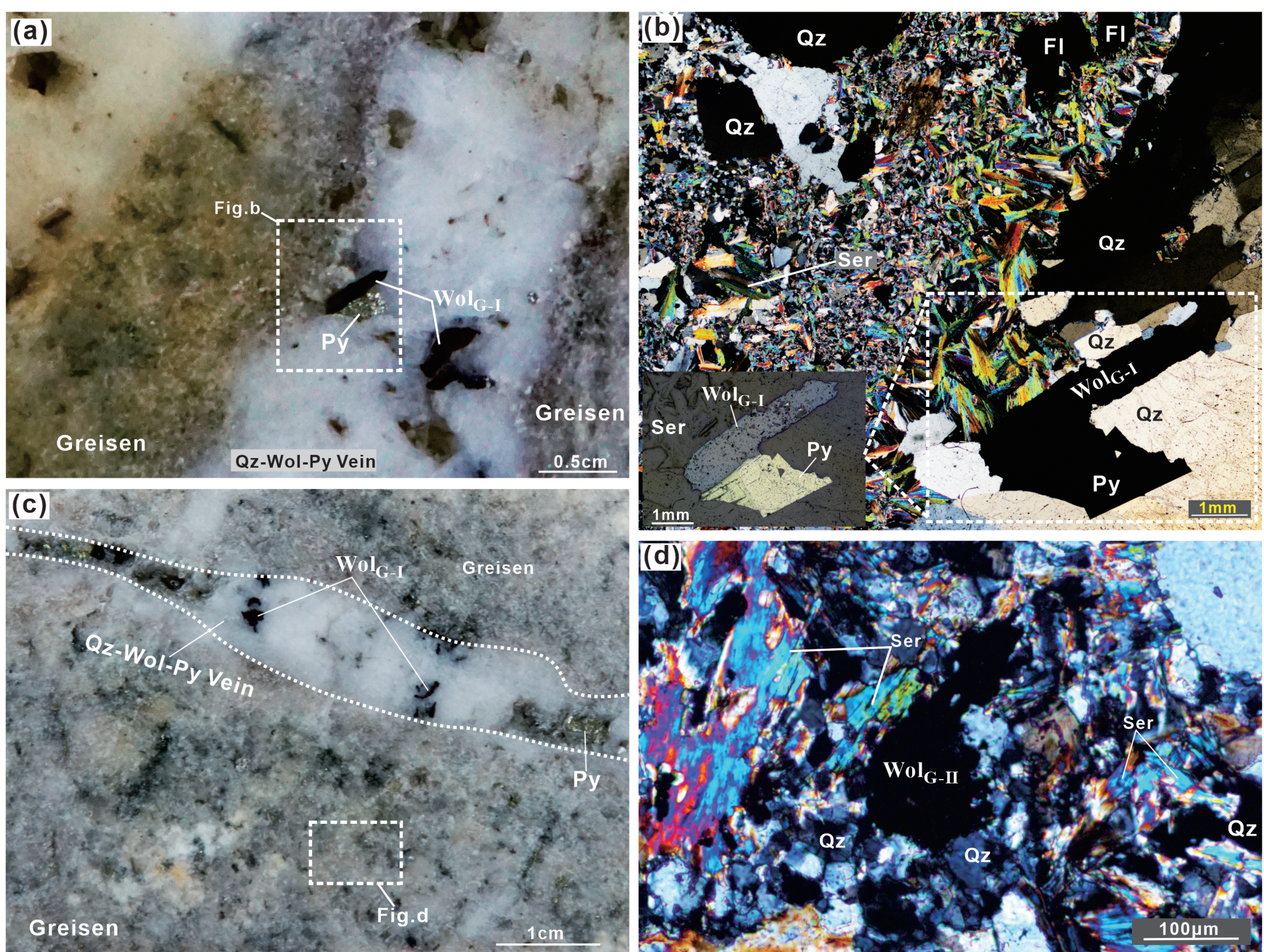


Figure 5



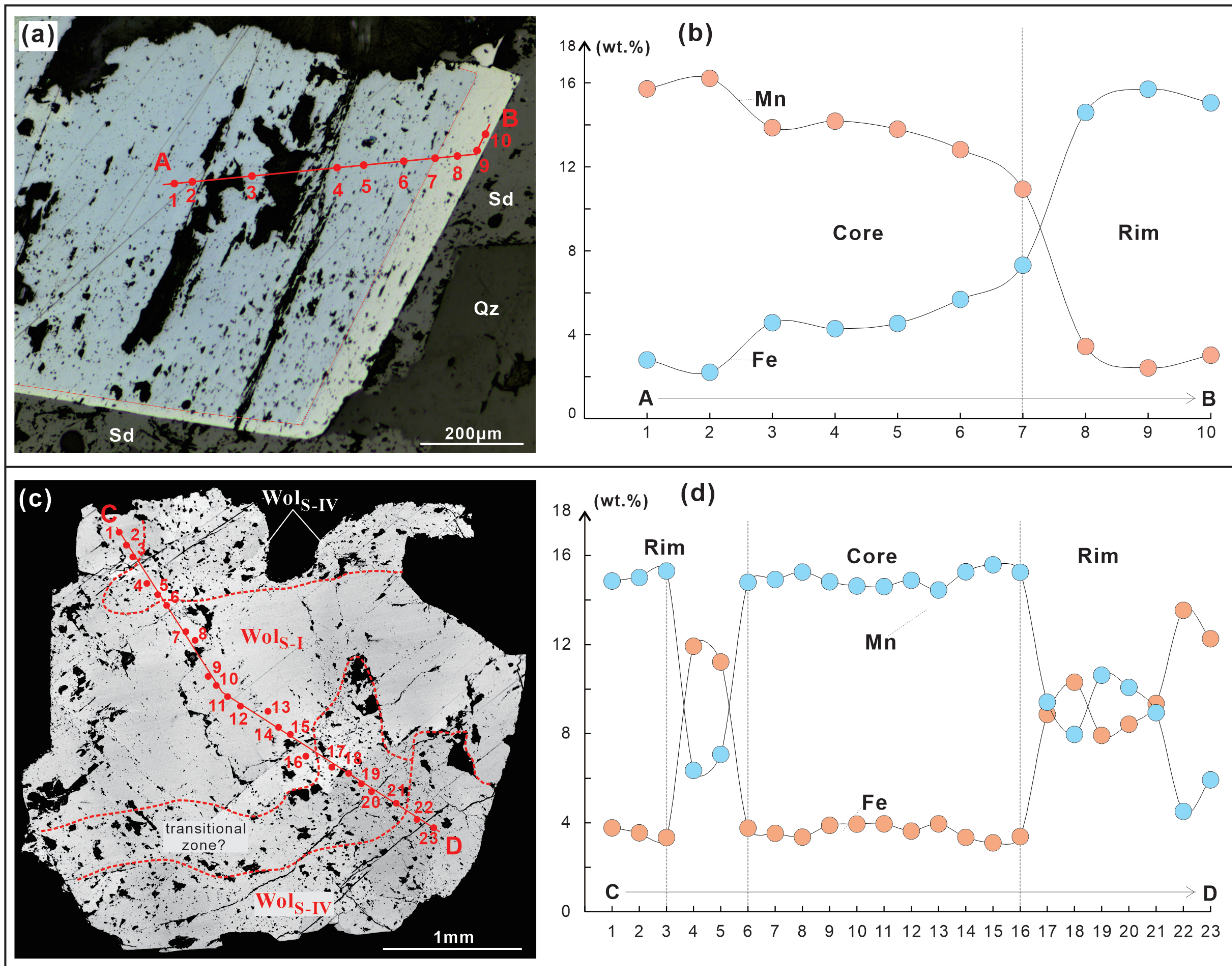


Figure 6



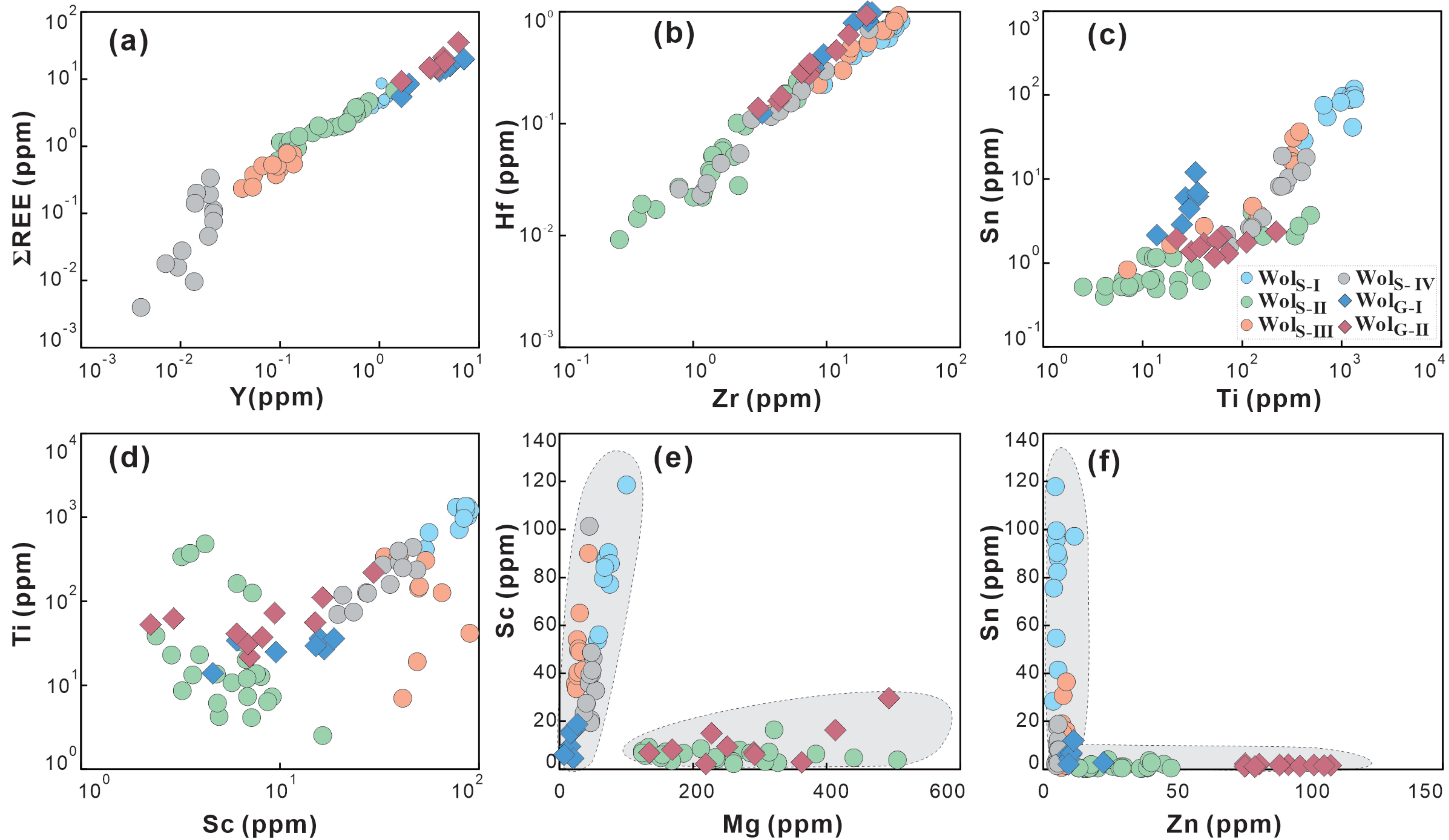


Figure 7



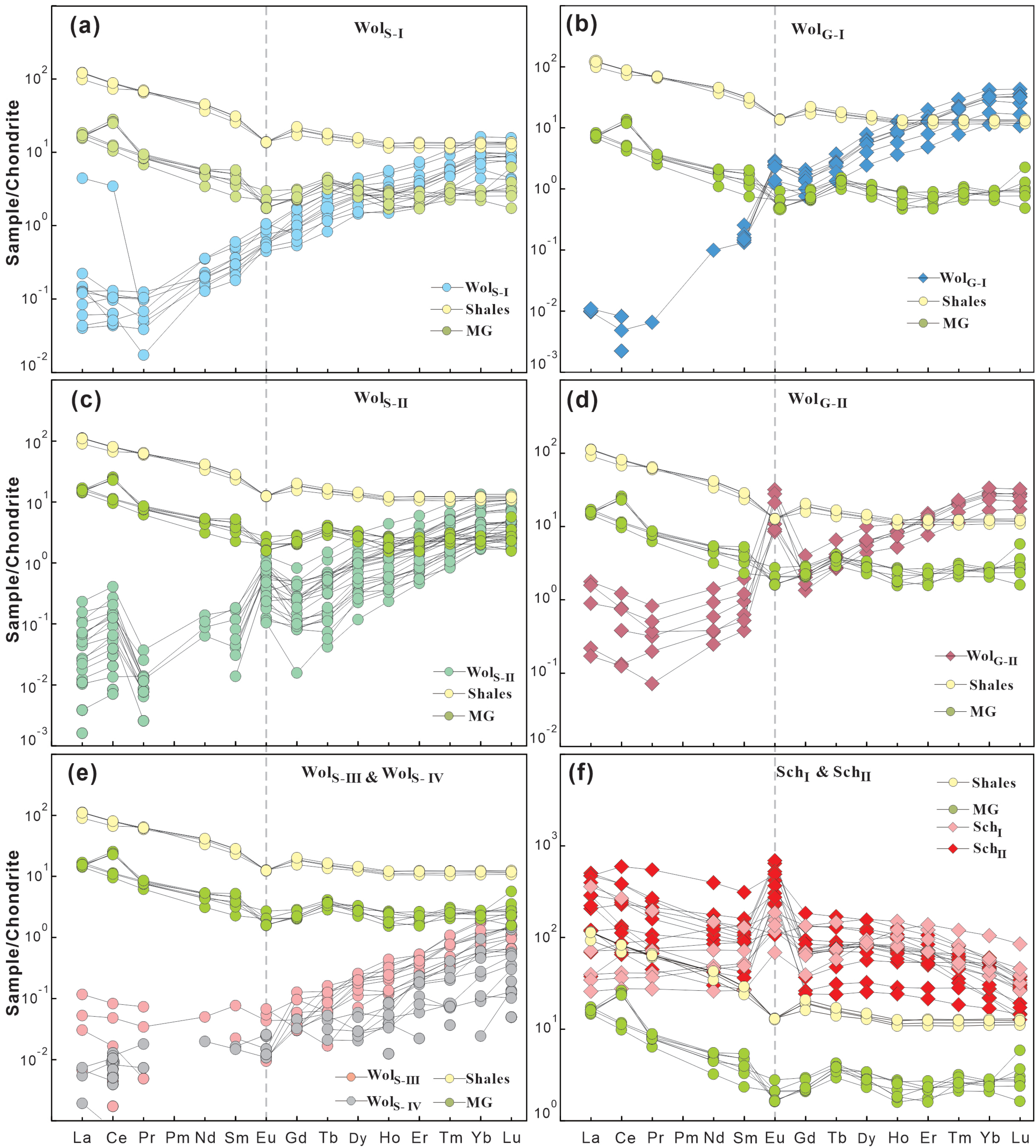


Figure 8



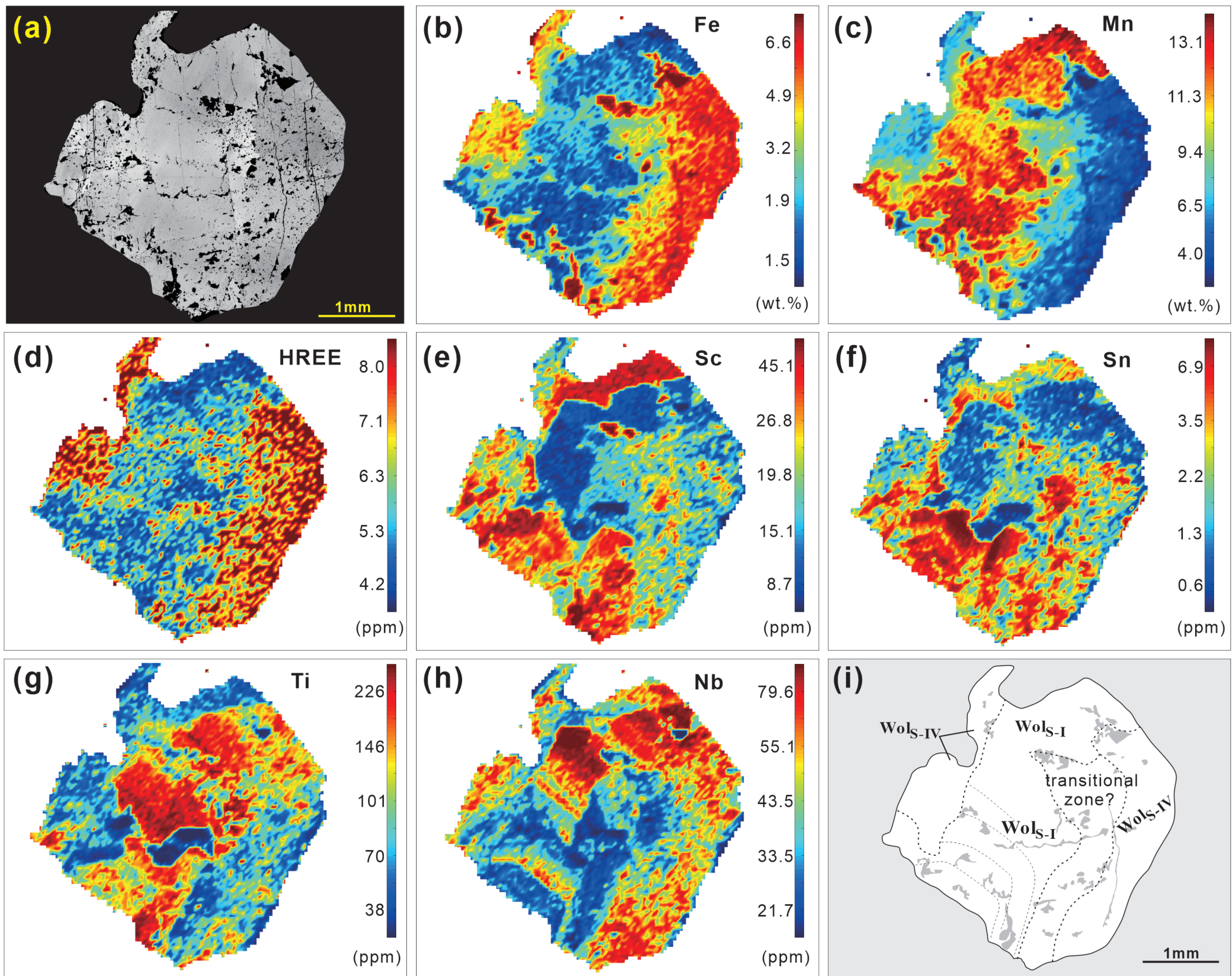


Figure 9



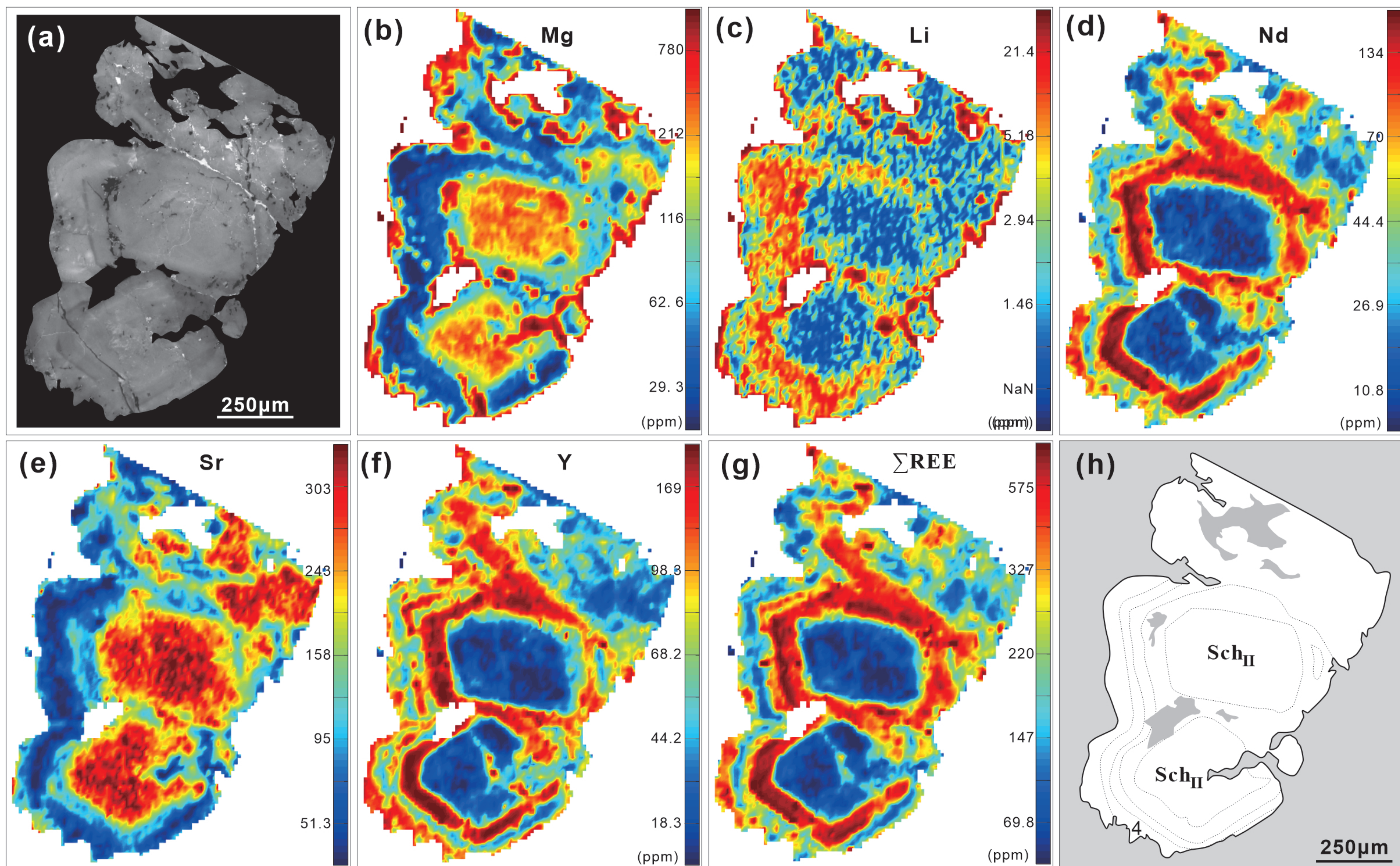


Figure 10



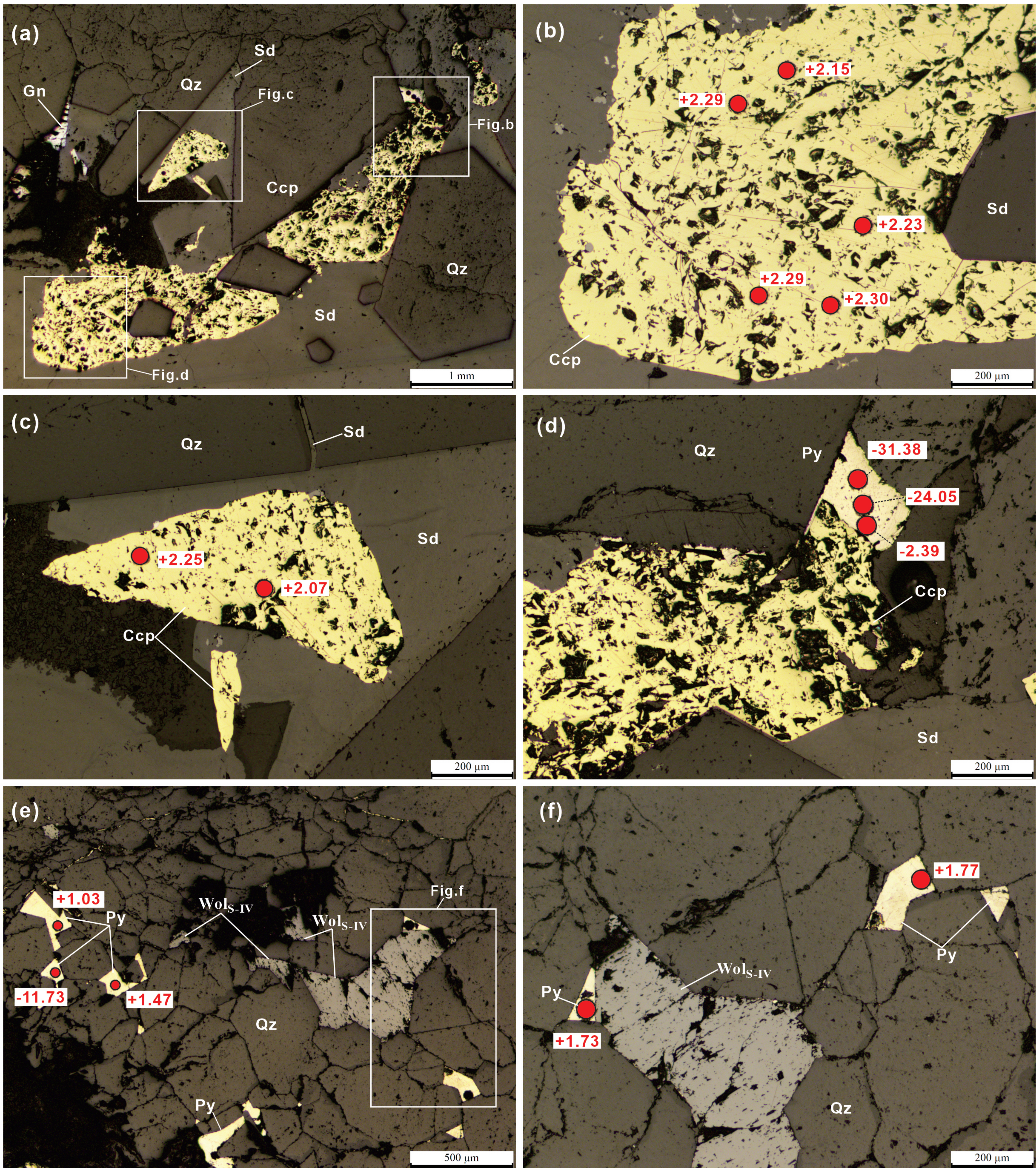


Figure 11



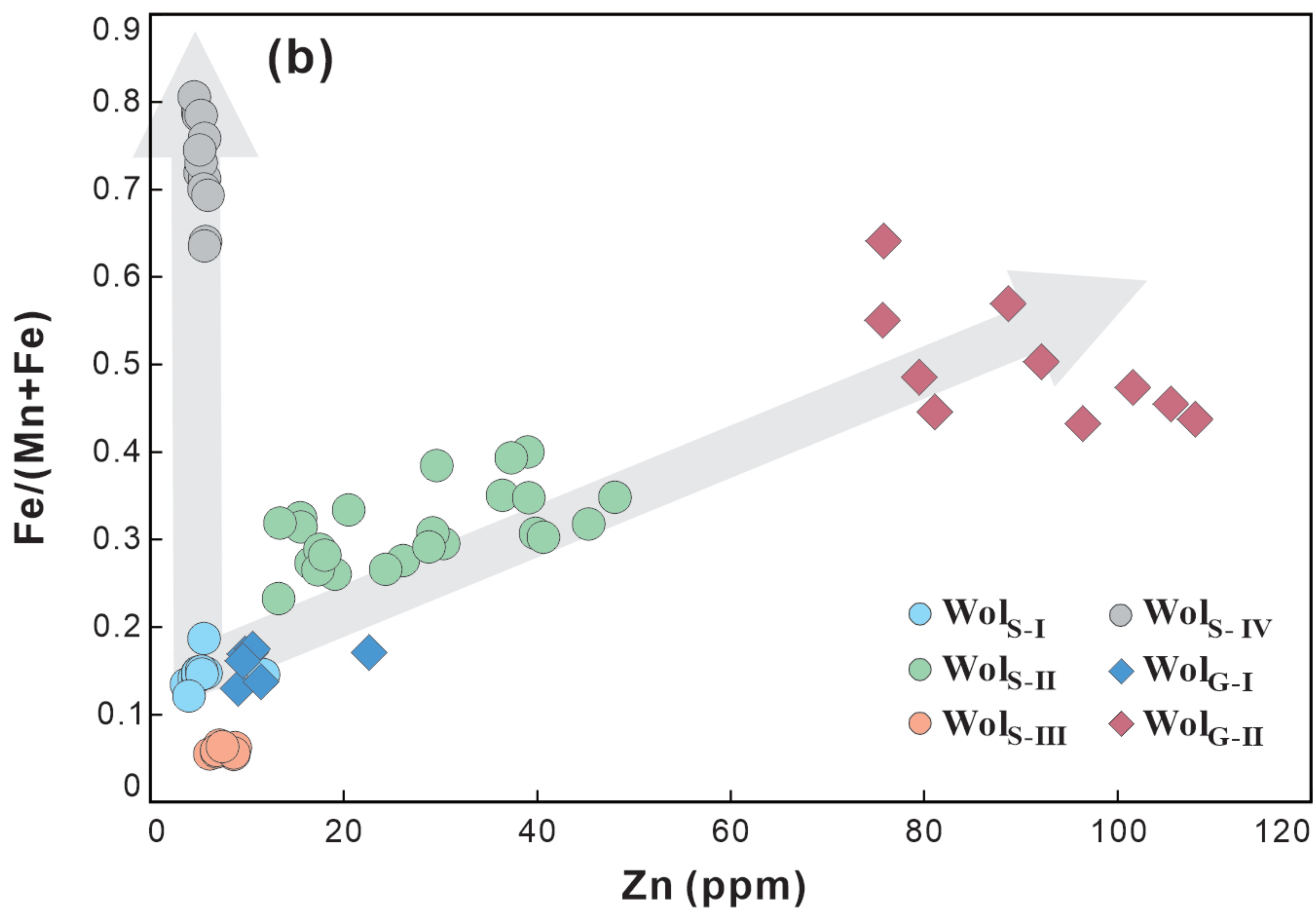
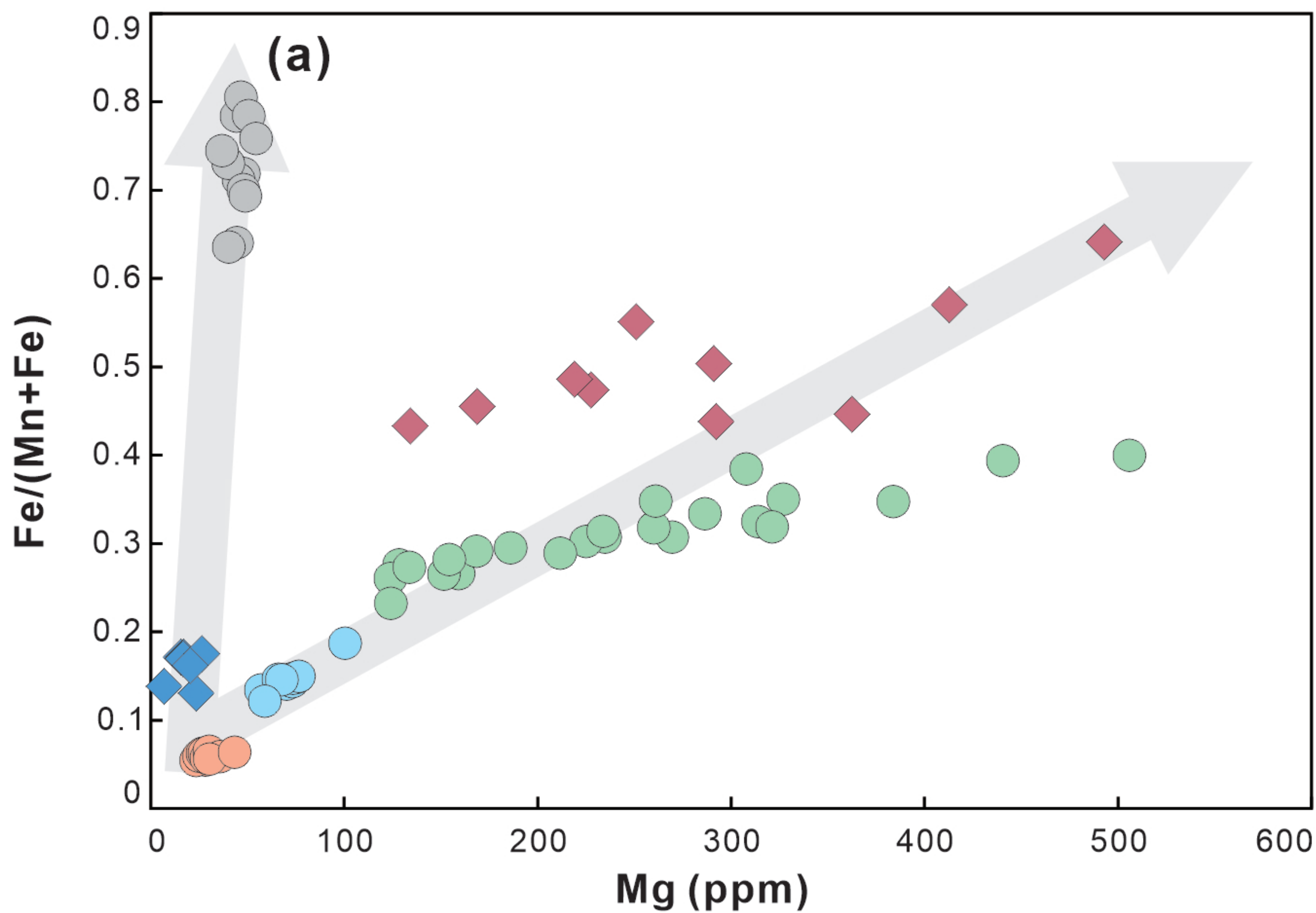


Figure 12



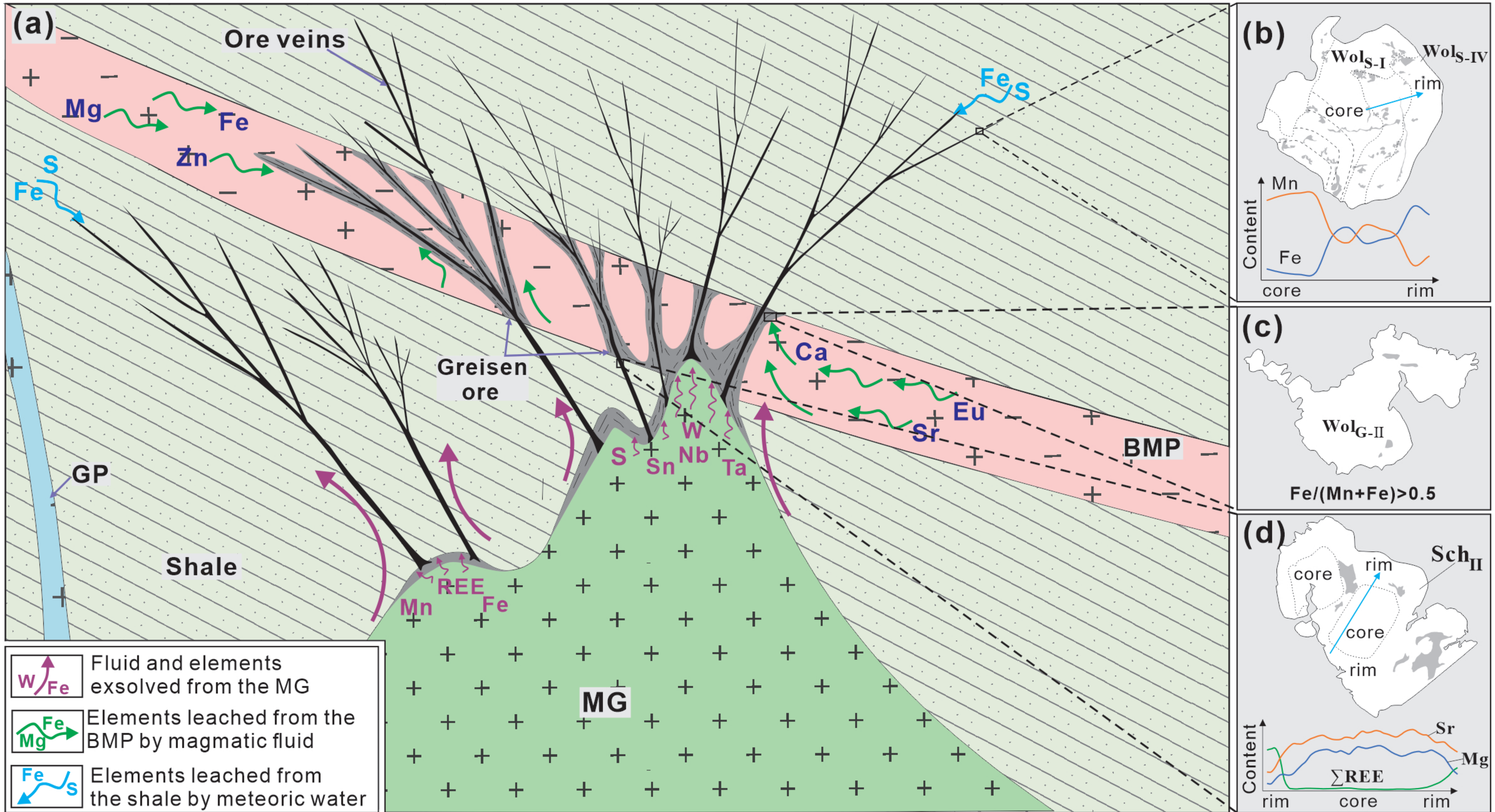


Figure 13