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Revision 3

2 **Origin of gem-quality turquoise associated with quartz-barite veins in**
3 **western Hubei Province, China: constraints from mineralogical, fluid**
4 **inclusion, and C-O-H isotopic data**

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ABSTRACT

12 Two types of turquoise, including homogeneous Cu-rich turquoise and oscillatory zoned
13 turquoise-planerite series, are recognized in association with quartz-barite veins hosted by Cambrian
14 carbonaceous slates from western Hubei Province of China. Combined fluid inclusion and Raman
15 microspectroscopic data reveal that turquoise-bearing barite-quartz veins contain three types of fluid
16 inclusions (pure CH₄-N₂, carbonic-aqueous, and aqueous), suggesting the responsible fluid is of
17 carbonic-aqueous composition with low oxygen fugacity. Pressure-corrected homogenization
18 temperatures in quartz and barite show a range from 325 °C to 485 °C and 186 °C to 391 °C, respectively.
19 Carbon, oxygen and hydrogen isotopic data suggest that the mineral-forming fluids have a mixed

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20 metamorphic-organic affinity, in which the fluids have $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD values of 15.0 to 18.8 ‰ and -111 to
21 -93 ‰, respectively. Generally, the formation of quartz-barite-turquoise veins could be triggered by prior
22 metamorphic devolatilization, followed by the interaction of fluids with country rocks enriched in
23 carbonaceous material, which resulted in the leaching of Cu, Fe, P and Al from chalcopyrite, pyrite,
24 magnetite, monazite, xenotime, apatite, feldspar and muscovite in the wall rocks. Decomposition of the
25 organic matter in the carbonaceous slates, caused by regional metamorphism and deformation, could also
26 promote the concentration and transportation of necessary metals for the turquoise. Thus, we propose a
27 new model and suggest that the turquoise gem deposits in western Hubei Province of China belong to the
28 non-magmatic hydrothermal vein type deposit, not the previously proposed supergene origin. The
29 turquoise-forming fluids were characterized by the coexistence of two immiscible fluids of non-magmatic
30 affinity (i.e., moderate to high temperature and low salinity aqueous fluid and pure $\text{CH}_4\text{-N}_2$ fluid formed
31 by interaction with carbonaceous slates). The bluish green homogeneous turquoise in the metamorphic
32 quartz-barite-turquoise veins evolved towards the turquoise-planerite solid solution series as the
33 metal-leaching capability of the aqueous fluids decreased.

34 **Keywords:** turquoise, fluid inclusions, H-O-C isotopes, metamorphic hydrothermal origin, western Hubei
35 Province

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INTRODUCTION

38 The name turquoise is derived either from the French *Turquois* for Turkish, or possibly from the
39 French *pierre turquin* (King, 2002). Turquoise is a hydrated copper aluminum phosphate and belongs to
40 the turquoise group, consisting of aheylite, chalcociderite, faustite, planerite and turquoise. All of them

41 crystallize in triclinic system with the general formula $A_{0-1}B_6(PO_4)_4(OH)_8 \cdot 4H_2O$, where Zn^{2+} , Cu^{2+} , and
42 Fe^{2+} occur at the A site and Al^{3+} , Fe^{3+} , and Cr^{3+} replace each other at the B site (Abdu et al., 2011; Jomeh
43 et al., 2020). Turquoise is well known as a valuable gemstone for its impressive color and thus used for
44 rituals, demonstrating social status and adornments (Fritsch et al., 1999). The oldest turquoise deposit
45 has a history going back 70 centuries to ancient Egypt (Fritsch et al., 1999) and for now commercial
46 sources of this gemstone are mainly exploited from Iran, United States, Egypt, Russia, Chile, South
47 Africa, and China. Several minerals may resemble turquoise and are commonly known as semi-precious
48 turquoise simulants. These include malachite ($Cu_2(OH)_2CO_3$) and a fairly unusual, green variety of
49 lazulite ($MgAl_2(PO_4)_2OH_2$) (King, 2002). Chrysocolla ($((Cu,Al)_2H_2Si_2O_5(OH)_4 \cdot nH_2O)$) and dyed howlite
50 ($Ca_2B_5SiO_9(OH)_5$) have also been used to imitate turquoise (Bernardino et al., 2016). Finally, amazonite
51 ($KAlSi_3O_8$), a variety of microcline, can also be used to forge turquoise (Kile and Eberl, 1999;
52 Bernardino et al., 2016).

53 Comprehensive research has concentrated on the mineralogy of the turquoise-group minerals
54 (Fritsch et al., 1999; Taghipour and Mackizadeh, 2014; Dumanska-Slowik et al., 2020). Their
55 compositional evolution during the ore-forming process, although critical for commercial exploitation,
56 has rarely been studied in detail. Gem-quality turquoise of uncertain origin has been reported by Chen et
57 al. (2012), Cejka et al. (2015), Rossi et al. (2017) and Dumanska-Slowik et al. (2020) from Iran, the
58 United States and China. Previous researchers have suggested that this gemstone originates, in general,
59 from: (1) supergene processes (meteoric water migrates along crack and fractures, leaching
60 mineral-forming elements; Qin et al., 2015; Chen et al., 2012; Shi and Cai, 2011); (2) hydrothermal
61 processes; and (3) hydrothermal-metasomatic processes. The hydrothermal turquoise (Type 2)
62 precipitates from fluids which are enriched in Cu, Fe, Al and P from magmatic fluids, such as those from

63 porphyry intrusions. This type of turquoise can occur as nodules and veinlets in fractures, or in the
64 cavities of quartz in the intrusive and volcanic rocks (Disbrow and Stoll, 1957; Szakáll et al., 2012). The
65 generation of the hydrothermal-metasomatic turquoise (Type 3) could be linked to the interactions
66 between hydrothermal fluids and wall rocks containing copper-bearing phases. Such a type of turquoise
67 can also form as a result of the neoformation from preexisting minerals during reaction between
68 phosphates (e.g., montebasite) and copper-bearing fluid (Pirard et al., 2007; Ribeiro et al., 2021).

69 Turquoise deposits in western Hubei Province of China, which occur mainly in Lower Cambrian
70 carbonaceous slates, are regarded as a significant gem source with superior quality. These account for
71 the majority of China's total turquoise production. However, the mineralogical evolution, derivation, and
72 characteristics of the fluids that control the crystallization of gem turquoise remain open questions.

73 The representative turquoise deposit within the carbonaceous slates studied here is located at
74 Zhushan County of western Hubei Province, which shows gem-level quality and has over 800 t ore
75 reserves with an annual production from 50 to 129 t (Chen et al., 2012). In this paper, we present the
76 geological, electron probe micro-analysis and laser ablation (LA) ICP-MS imaging analysis on the
77 turquoise-group minerals combined with the fluid inclusions and stable isotope (H-O-C) data of the
78 co-existing gangue minerals including barite and quartz, to better understand the formation of gem
79 turquoise. Previous research speculated that the formation of the turquoise in Zhushan County can be
80 ascribed to supergene processes involving the circulation of meteoric water along the fractures and
81 fissures, followed by leaching the mineral-forming elements (i.e., Cu, P, and Al) from the host rocks
82 (Jiang et al., 1983; Tu, 1996, 1997; Qin et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2020). Our results reconsider the
83 turquoise as a non-magmatic hydrothermal mineral which is most likely formed by the interaction of
84 metamorphic fluids, characterized by low salinity and moderate to high temperature, with organic matter

85 from wall rocks. The results allow us to propose a new genetic type named the non-magmatic
86 hydrothermal quartz-vein type turquoise deposit worldwide.

87 REGIONAL AND DEPOSIT GEOLOGY

88 The Qinling orogenic belt is distributed in the central segment of the Central China Orogenic Belt
89 which was formed by the late Triassic collision of the North China Block (NCB) and the Yangtze Block
90 (YB) (Fig. 1a; Chen et al., 2009). The Qinling orogenic belt, separated by the San-Bao Fault to the north
91 and the Longmenshan Fault to the south, can be further subdivided into: (1) the Huaxiong Block as the
92 southern margin of the NCB; (2) the north Qinling accretionary belt; (3) the south Qinling orogenic belt;
93 and (4) the northern margin of the YB or the Songpan fold belt by the Luanchuan Fault, the Shang-Dan
94 Fault and the Mian-Lue Fault from north to south (Fig. 1b; Li et al., 2015).

95 The Zhushan turquoise deposit studied here is located in the southwestern fragment of the Wudang
96 Block which is one of the Precambrian crystalline basements of the south Qinling orogenic belt (Zhang
97 et al., 1995). The Wudang Block is mainly composed of the Neoproterozoic Wudangshan Group which
98 is unconformably overlain by the early Neoproterozoic Yaolinghe Group, late Neoproterozoic
99 Doushantuo and Dengying Formations, and Paleozoic sedimentary rocks (Fig. 1c; Ling et al., 2002; Yue
100 et al., 2014). The Wudangshan Group comprises a suite of greenschist facies metamorphosed
101 volcanic-sedimentary rocks (Zhang et al., 2002). The early Neoproterozoic Yaolinghe Group occurs
102 along the western edge of the Wudang Block and contains greenschist facies metamorphosed
103 quartz-keratophyre tuff and pebbly tuff (Zhang et al., 2001). The late Neoproterozoic Doushantuo and
104 Dengying Formations contain limestone, dolomite, sericite schist, and phyllite (Yue et al., 2014).

105 The Wudang Block has undergone multiple deformation events, leading to the formation of NNW-

106 trending folds and faults followed by the nearly EW- and NW-trending faults, produced by continental
107 collision between the NCB and YB and local extension in the Early Paleozoic and Jurassic-Early
108 Cretaceous (Hu et al., 2002; Zhang et al., 2019). Felsic intrusions are rarely observed in the region,
109 while mafic dykes emplace into the Wudang Group along the NNW- and NW-trending faults and have
110 undergone greenschist facies metamorphism as the result of continental collision (Zhou et al., 1998;
111 Ling et al., 2007; Li and Zhao, 2016; Nie et al., 2016).

112 The turquoise deposits in the western Hubei Province are currently divided into three ore belts,
113 where turquoise deposit in Zhushan County belongs to the south one (Fig. 1c; Tu, 1996). Lin et al. (2006)
114 delineated the Cu-Ag-turquoise prospective districts in the north of the Fangshan-Zhushan Fault on the
115 basis of the metallogenic geological conditions. They also linked the Ag-Cu-Zn geochemical anomalies
116 to the regional dynamic metamorphism contributing the enrichment of copper, silver and ore-forming
117 elements. Moreover, the Fangshan-Zhushan Fault was thought to significantly facilitate the migration of
118 ore-forming fluids as conduits (Fig. 1c).

119 In particular, the distributions of the turquoise deposits are controlled by the strata of the Lower
120 Cambrian Shuigoukou Formation (Fig. 1c). The Lower Cambrian Shuigoukou Formation is subdivided
121 into two lithologic members. The lower part is composed of sericite quartz schist and siliceous rock
122 interbedded with the carbonaceous slate with phosphatic nodules. The upper lithologic member is
123 dominated by the limestone, interbedded with a small amount of mudstone (Li et al., 2012; Zhang et al.,
124 2019). The majority of turquoise ores mainly distribute in the carbonaceous slates with phosphate
125 nodules in the lower part of the Shuigoukou Formation.

126 The turquoise ore bodies occur in 20 to 100 m length and 1 to 25 m width in the carbonaceous slate
127 layers, and the largest one is about 250-m-long and 10-m-wide. Turquoise in Zhushan County has two

128 occurrences: (1) quartz-barite vein, and (2) disseminated in the carbonaceous slates. The former
129 mineralization (1) is typically hosted in continuous quartz-barite veins controlled by the faults and
130 fractures along or cross-cutting the bedding planes of the carbonaceous slates, showing sharp contact
131 between the veins and the wall rocks (Fig. 2a). The quartz-barite-turquoise associations not only occur
132 as elongated lenses and/or veins, but also remain in concordance with the foliations of the carbonaceous
133 slates (Fig. 2b), suggesting a ductile deformation regime during the coeval precipitation of quartz, barite
134 and turquoise (Li et al., 2014). The disseminated turquoise (2) is characterized by massive structure and
135 occurs as the block-shaped aggregates outside of the quartz-barite veins, of which synchronous ductile
136 deformation is also noticed accompanied with the mineralization (Fig. 2c, d).

137 **METHODS**

138 **Scanning electron microscope**

139 A JEOL JCM-7000 environmental scanning electron microscope (SEM) fitted with an energy
140 dispersive spectrometer (EDS) system was used to identify textural and compositional features of the
141 carbonaceous siliceous slate and turquoise at the Collaborative Innovation Center for Exploration of
142 Strategic Mineral Resources (CIC-ESMR), China University of Geosciences (Wuhan). Back-scattered
143 electron (BSE) images were taken to distinguish compositional zonation of turquoise and mineral
144 assemblages in the carbonaceous slates.

145 **Electron probe microanalysis**

146 Major element measurements of the turquoise group minerals were carried out at the State Key
147 Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University of Geosciences (Wuhan)
148 (GPMR-CUG), with a JEOL JXA-8100 Electron Probe Micro Analyzer (EPMA) equipped with four
149 wavelength-dispersive spectrometers (WDS). Standards and samples were analyzed by 20 μm spot size

150 at an accelerating voltage of 20 kV and a beam current of 5 nA. Data were corrected on-line using a
151 ZAF (atomic number, absorption, fluorescence) correction procedure. H₂O contents were calculated by
152 difference of analytical total to the 100 wt.% and then incorporated into the ZAF correction procedure.
153 The peak counting time was 10 s for Al, P, Si, S, Cu, Fe, K and 20 s for Zn, Sr, Cr, Ti, V, Ti, Y, U and Ba.
154 The background counting time was one-half of the peak counting time on the high- and low-energy
155 background positions. The peak overlap of Ti K_β on V K_α and V K_β on Cr K_α was corrected by the
156 interference correction program provided by the Japan Electron Optics Laboratory (JEOL) during the
157 analysis. The following standards were used: pyrope garnet (Fe, Al), apatite (Ca, P), sphalerite (Zn),
158 olivine (Si), barite (S), copper (V), sanidine (K), chromium (Cr), vanadium (V), rutile (Ti), barium
159 fluoride (Ba), uranium (U). The calculation of their crystal-chemical formula was based on the 11
160 cations following the general formula from [Foord and Taggart \(1998\)](#).

161 **LA-ICP-MS mapping**

162 LA-ICP-MS analysis was undertaken at the CIC-ESMR, China University of Geosciences (Wuhan),
163 using NWR 193 HE laser ablation system and He-Ar carrier gas (ca. 1.2 L min⁻¹ He and ca. 0.9 L min⁻¹
164 Ar) coupled to an Agilent 7900 single quadrupole ICP mass spectrometer. A trace element map was
165 constructed from the sequential line analyses under the following conditions: laser beam size (\emptyset_{spot}) of 5
166 μm , scan speed (V_{scan}) of 17 $\mu\text{m/s}$, repetition rate of 20 Hz, and the total dwell time (T_{acq}) of 147 ms,
167 corresponding a high X-spatial resolution of 7.5 μm calculated from the following equation:

$$168 \quad X_{\text{resolution}} = \emptyset_{\text{spot}} + V_{\text{scan}} \times T_{\text{acq}} \quad (1)$$

169 Each line analysis was composed of 10 s for background signal acquisition before the line ablation and
170 10 s for washout after the line analysis on the basis of a fast washout system (70% signal reduction in

171 less than 0.4 s). Further detailed analytical processes are similar to those described by [Ubide et al.](#)
172 (2015). NIST 610 glass was used as a calibration standard which was determined twice at the beginning,
173 middle and end of the analysis under the same parameters relative to the 84 unknown lines for the entire
174 mapping. Data reduction of trace elements distribution map was carried out by software Iolite v2.5
175 under semi-quantitative mode, using NIST 610 as the external standard.

176 **Fluid inclusion analysis**

177 Microthermometric determinations on a total of 134 fluid inclusions were carried out on doubly
178 polished 100- μm -thick sections, using a Linkham THMS-600 Heating-Freezing Systems (from $-196\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to
179 $550\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$) attached with a Zeiss AX-1 microscope at the CIC-ESMR, China University of Geosciences
180 (Wuhan). The stage was calibrated with synthetic fluid inclusions at $-56.6\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$, $0.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ and $374.1\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$
181 supplied by SYN FLINC. The accuracy of the systems was $\pm 2.0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for homogenization temperatures and
182 $\pm 0.2\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ during the freezing cycle.

183 Laser Raman spectroscopic analyses of the individual inclusion were performed on a Renishaw
184 RM-1000 Raman spectrometer attached with a 514.5-nm Ar ion laser operating at 5mW as the source of
185 excitation at the GPMR-CUG. The analysis of the inclusions was undertaken by the spectra from 1200 to
186 3800 cm^{-1} with an accumulation time of 30 s per scan and a spectral resolution of 1 to 2 cm^{-1} . The
187 longpass Rayleigh filter was 785 nm. All spectra were collected with the 1800 groove/mm grating, and a
188 $20\times$ objective or a $50\times$ long working distance objective. Raman data were processed using the Labspec6
189 software (Horiba Jobin Yvon). The baseline subtraction was first operated automatically at the degree of
190 5-8 in the Labspec6 software. Peaks were then searched and fitted using Gaussian-Lorentzian functions
191 with the level of 10 and the size of 30 according to the spectroscopic half width and peak intensity. The

192 laser beam size was 1 μm in diameter. Raman spectra and particular band assignments of individual fluid
193 inclusion as well as relevant references were listed in the [Table 3](#).

194 **Stable isotope analysis**

195 Oxygen isotopic compositions of quartz and hydrogen and carbon isotopic compositions of the
196 fluid inclusions in quartz were determined at the analytical laboratory of Beijing Research Institute of
197 Uranium Geology (BRIUG), China, using a MAT253 mass spectrometer. Two Qtz^I samples dominated
198 by the primary and pseudosecondary type I and type II inclusions and one Qtz^{II} sample dominated by the
199 type II and III inclusions were picked out from hand specimens and ground to about 60 mesh. Separated
200 quartz grains were cleaned by pure 6 N nitric acid to remove other minerals and organic matter and were
201 rinsed with deionized water. Oxygen was liberated from quartz by quantitatively reacting with pure BrF₅
202 and heating with a CO₂ laser, following the method of [Clayton and Mayeda \(1963\)](#). For H and C isotope
203 analysis of fluid inclusions in quartz, grains were first heated at 150 °C for over 4 h to remove surface
204 water and water from the secondary fluid inclusions. Then, mixed gases were released and collected
205 under vacuum after the decrepitation of heated quartz above 550 °C; H₂ was obtained from the reaction
206 of H₂O and zinc at 800 °C. Mixed CO₂ and CH₄ were also collected, frozen by liquid nitrogen, and
207 separated by adsorbed materials for $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ measurement using the method of [Jin et al. \(2021\)](#). The H-O
208 isotope data were reported relative to Vienna-Standard Mean Ocean Water (V-SMOW) with internal
209 precisions of better than 1 ‰ for δD and 0.2 ‰ for $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ of a single analysis. Oxygen isotopic
210 compositions in hydrothermal fluids were calculated following the equation:

$$211 \quad 1000 \times \ln \alpha_{\text{quartz-water}} = 3.38 \times (10^6 \times T^{-2}) - 3.40 \quad (2)$$

212 where T in Kelvin (K) is the average pressure-corrected homogenization temperature from fluid

213 inclusion measurement as shown in Table 4, and α represents the equilibrium constant between the
214 quartz and fluid at a given temperature.

215 RESULTS

216 Sample characterization

217 Disseminated turquoise occurring as blocks and anhedral masses in the country rocks has bluish
218 green color and shows a waxy luster (Fig. 3a). On the other hand, turquoise distributed in the
219 metamorphic quartz-barite veins along or cross-cutting stratigraphic horizons is characterized by either
220 bluish green (Fig. 3b) or light green color (Fig. 3c, d) as well as vitreous and waxy luster. At the
221 microscale, two types of turquoise were further recognized in the transmitted-light photomicrographs
222 (Fig. 4a). The quartz-barite-turquoise veins and carbonaceous slates comprise the homogeneous bluish
223 green turquoise (Trq^{I}) in 3-5 mm which is mostly intergrown with euhedral barite (Brt^{I}), surrounded by
224 quartz (Qtz^{I}) (Fig. 4a). Additionally, quartz-barite veins contain light-green Trq^{II} , characterized by more
225 transparent crystal surface. Trq^{II} replaces the Trq^{I} along the crystal margin and is cut by fine-grained
226 irregular (anhedral) barite veins (Brt^{II}) as shown in Fig. 4a, suggesting both Trq^{II} and Brt^{II} are
227 paragenetically later. Even though Qtz^{I} and Qtz^{II} show less variations in terms of their textures, they
228 could be successfully distinguished according to the characteristics of the enclosed fluid inclusions as
229 described later. Back-scattered electron (BSE) images of the bluish green turquoise in the country rocks
230 and veins (Fig. 3a, b) show that all the Trq^{I} samples are non-turbid, homogeneous, and mineral
231 inclusions free (Fig. 4b). The Trq^{I} intimately contacts with the Qtz^{I} and Brt^{I} grains along smooth,
232 wave-like boundaries, and there is no cross-cutting, alteration or dissolution observed in their contact
233 zones. Light green Trq^{II} (Fig. 3c, d) in quartz veins shows well defined oscillatory zonation and coexists

234 with Qtz^{II} , which is filled with anhedral Brt^{II} according to the BSE images (Fig. 4c).

235 In petrographic observations of the thin sections, the carbonaceous slate is composed of micro-fine
236 to fine-grained quartz and muscovite, and medium-grained magnetite and pyrite (Fig. 4d-h). The
237 deformed carbonaceous slate presents a lamination determined by quartz and muscovite framework with
238 a strongly-developed foliation defined by alignment of elongated magnetite and fine-grained muscovite
239 (Fig. 4d, e). The mineralogy of the carbonaceous slates includes quartz, anhedral coarse-grained barite,
240 and apatite, with subordinate muscovite, distributed as fine flakes in the quartz (Fig. 4f, g).
241 Medium-grained pyrite occurs as disseminated euhedral to subhedral grains in the quartz or is
242 overprinted by the medium to coarse-grained magnetite and barite (Fig. 4f). Monazite, rutile and
243 xenotime are common but less abundant in the carbonaceous slate (Fig. 4h). Rock-Eval pyrolysis and
244 the separation of soluble organic compounds of the carbonaceous slates have been conducted by Wang
245 (2009) which illustrated that the carbonaceous matter is mainly composed of kerogen with a small
246 amount of the hydrocarbons from the kerogen decomposition due to the thermal evolution. Yields of
247 extractable soluble organic matter in the host rocks are fairly low in the range of 15.0 and 142.0 mg/g,
248 which might be attributed to the high thermal maturity of the organic matter in these rocks (Hu et al.,
249 2000).

250 **Chemical compositions**

251 Detailed EPMA compositional determination and the unit formula (apfu) of the turquoise group
252 minerals are summarized in Table 1. Major element analysis of samples collected from Zhushan County
253 indicates they belong to turquoise-planerite solid solution series.

254 Trq^{I} within the carbonaceous slate and the quartz-barite veins display similar chemical

255 compositions with an average calculated formula of
256 $(\text{Cu}_{0.81}\text{Fe}_{0.08}\text{Zn}_{0.01}\text{K}_{0.01}\text{Ca}_{0.01})_{\Sigma 0.92}(\text{Al}_{6.05})_{\Sigma 6.05}(\text{P}_{1.01}\text{O}_4)_4(\text{OH})_{\Sigma 7.13}\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ and
257 $(\text{Cu}_{0.82}\text{Fe}_{0.07}\text{Zn}_{0.01}\text{K}_{0.01}\text{Ca}_{0.01})_{\Sigma 0.92}(\text{Al}_{6.05})_{\Sigma 6.05}(\text{P}_{1.03}\text{O}_4)_4(\text{OH})_{\Sigma 7.92}\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$, respectively. Generally, Trq^{I}
258 displays higher CuO , FeO^{T} and Cr_2O_3 but lower Al_2O_3 and ZnO contents than those of Trq^{II} (Fig. 5).
259 Trq^{I} shows a narrow range of CuO , FeO^{T} and Cr_2O_3 contents of 7.69-8.35 wt%, 0.57-0.74 wt% and
260 0.11-0.19 wt%, respectively. The Al_2O_3 and ZnO concentrations of Trq^{I} are 37.01 to 37.98 wt% and 0.07
261 to 0.10 wt%, respectively. The Trq^{I} has A site of 0.88-0.97 apfu that is mainly occupied by Cu (0.78-0.84
262 apfu) and minor Ba and Ca (up to 0.01). Such invariable compositions of Trq^{I} are consistent with their
263 homogeneity in BSE images (Fig. 4b). In the case of Trq^{II} , compositional differences are determined
264 from the core to rim which show gradually depletion of CuO , FeO and Cr_2O_3 and enrichment of Al_2O_3
265 and ZnO contents (Fig. 5b-f), accompanied by cation deficiency in the A site and increase of H_2O
266 contents (Fig. 6). Correspondingly, the unit formula of Trq^{II} shows a relatively large compositional range
267 of $(\text{Cu}_{0.31-0.82}\text{Fe}_{0.03-0.07}\text{Zn}_{0.01-0.03}\text{K}_{0.01-0.02}\text{Ca}_{0.01})_{\Sigma 0.37-0.93}(\text{Al}_{5.92-6.37})_{\Sigma 5.92-6.37}(\text{P}_{1.03-1.07}\text{O}_4)_4(\text{OH})_{\Sigma 6.84-7.43}\cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$.

268 LA-ICP-MS elemental mapping

269 As shown in Fig. 7a, two types of turquoise are recognized. Anhedral Trq^{I} has compositional
270 homogeneity and displays higher concentrations of Cu, Fe and Ti, evidenced on trace element maps (Fig.
271 7b-d). Elemental mapping of Trq^{II} reveals more pronounced laminations of concentric geometry. Both
272 the core and rim of Trq^{II} grain share an enrichment of Zn and U in comparison with Trq^{I} (Fig. 7e, f). The
273 core shows slightly higher Cu, Fe, Ti and Zn concentrations with a decrease trend towards the outer
274 zones. Zhou et al. (2017) interpreted analogous zonation to an environment of changing chemical and/or
275 physical conditions. Noticeably, Trq^{I} and Trq^{II} are overprinted by a thin vein enriched in Sr and La along

276 the turquoise-quartz contact (Fig. 7g, h).

277 **Fluid inclusion data**

278 Fluid inclusions in quartz and barite that coexisted with Trq^I and Trq^{II} are identified as fluid
279 inclusion assemblages (FIA) according to their textural characteristics, illustrating groups of coeval
280 inclusions (Goldstein and Reynolds, 1994). Primary inclusions were entrapped on the growing faces of
281 the quartz during its precipitation, and the pseudosecondary inclusions were entrapped in fractures
282 during the growth of the quartz which were commonly overgrown by a layer of the host minerals
283 (Roedder, 1984). Accordingly, isolated fluid inclusions and FIA entrapped along the growing face of the
284 mineral grain are presumed to be most likely primary (Fig. 8a-c). Intra-crystal FIA within the barite and
285 quartz that stop at the grain boundary are assumed to be pseudosecondary (Fig. 8d-f).
286 Microthermometric measurements were conducted on the primary and pseudosecondary inclusions as
287 shown in Table 2. Bulk density of fluid inclusions were calculated using the Flnacor software (Brown,
288 1989) and the computer program from Bakker (1997, 2003).

289 Three primary types of fluid inclusions are identified according to the phase relations at room
290 temperature and compositional data revealed by Raman spectroscopic analysis, including:
291 aqueous-carbonic (Type I), carbonic (Type II) and aqueous-salt (Type III) inclusions. Type I inclusions
292 have two phases at room temperature in which the liquid phase consists of C₃H₈, C₂H₆, and H₂O (Fig.
293 9a), whilst the vapor phase, occupying 5-90 percent of the total volume of the inclusion, is composed of
294 CH₄ and N₂ (Table 3; Fig. 9b). The Type I inclusions could be further subdivided into two types on the
295 basis of the degree of filling (F): Type I_a is vapor-rich (F > 0.6) and Type I_b is liquid-rich (F = 0.1-0.4).
296 They are mainly found in the Qtz^I, coexisting with Type II inclusions as fluid inclusion assemblages

297 (FIA) along the growing face of Qtz^I, exemplified as a group of primary inclusions trapped coevally
298 (Roedder, 1984; Fig. 8b, c).

299 Accurate estimation of salinities of Type I inclusions is prevented because the melting temperatures
300 of clathrates are no longer a function of salinity as a result of the addition of the CH₄ and N₂ (Jia et al.,
301 2000). Thus, the simplified NaCl-H₂O system may be acceptable for the maximum salinity calculation
302 (Collins, 1979). In Qtz^I, Type I_a inclusions have final ice melting temperatures (T_{m, ice}) ranging from -6.6
303 to -2.5 °C, corresponding to low salinities of 4.4 to 11.9 wt% NaCl equiv., with calculated densities of
304 0.36-0.58 g/cm³ (Davis et al., 1990). The total homogenization temperatures (T_h) of the Type I_a
305 inclusions range from 357 to 455 °C. Type I_b inclusions yield lower T_h of 217 to 340 °C and show
306 similar T_{m, ice} of -5.5 to -1.4 °C to those of Type I_a inclusions, equivalent to a salinity of 2.5 to 9.9 wt%
307 NaCl equiv., resulting in the density of 0.68 to 0.95 g/cm³. Some of Type I inclusions display clathrate
308 melting temperatures (T_{m, clath}) of 12 to 17 °C.

309 Type II inclusions are dominant in Qtz^I and Brt^I as individual or coexisting with Type I inclusions
310 along trails, and their abundances decrease in Qtz^{II}. They are 10 to 20 μm in diameter and composed of a
311 single phase (liquid CH₄-N₂ or vapor CH₄-N₂; Table 3) at room temperature, which develop into
312 two-phase inclusions on cooling to < 90 °C. Estimations of initial ice melting temperatures (T_m) failed
313 because phase changes were invisible below -120 °C. Generally, they homogenized into the liquid phase
314 at temperatures between -145 and -127 °C and partly into vapor phase at -144 to -136 °C, which are
315 much lower than the critical point of pure CH₄ (-82.6 °C), suggesting the addition of dissolved N₂, which
316 is also evidenced by laser Raman analysis (Fig. 9c).

317 Type III inclusions mainly occur in Qtz^{II}, Brt^{II} and Brt^I as isolated two-phase inclusions or
318 randomly coexisting with Type II inclusions, consisting of 5-25 vol% vapor and 75-95 vol% liquid.

319 Raman spectra of vapor and liquid phases from Type III inclusions show narrower and more
320 symmetrical bands (Fig. 9d) than those from the pure water showing relatively broad signal, with a
321 shoulder situated in lower wavenumbers, indicating the addition of salts (Lawler and Crawford, 1983;
322 Mernagh and Wilde, 1989). Moreover, measurements of initial ice melting temperatures (T_m) for Type
323 III inclusions are -24.2 to -21.3 °C, implying the NaCl is dominant among the dissolved salts (Davis et
324 al., 1990). Based on the equations of Davis et al. (1990), aqueous fluids of Qtz^{II} show relatively broad
325 range of 1.6-9.3 wt.% NaCl equiv., whereas those from Brt^I and Brt^{II} fall into 1.2-4.1 and 1.8-6.6 wt.%
326 NaCl equiv., respectively (Table 2). Type III inclusions in Brt^I, Qtz^{II} and Brt^{II} homogenized into the
327 liquid phase at temperatures of 195-355 °C, 136-315 °C and 222-341 °C (Table 2). As shown in the Fig.
328 10c and g, the T_h of the Type III inclusions follow the unimodal distributions and decrease in the order
329 of the Brt^I, Qtz^{II} and Brt^{II}, displaying the mean values of 292 ± 43 °C, 239 ± 40 °C and 238 ± 11 °C,
330 respectively. From the estimations of T_h and salinity, the bulk density of Type III fluid inclusions in Brt^I,
331 Qtz^{II} and Brt^{II} are calculated as 0.60-0.81 g/cm³, 0.78-0.91 g/cm³ and 0.62-0.86 g/cm³, respectively.

332 Since the homogenization temperatures of fluid inclusions may not represent the actual trapping
333 temperatures for the fluids, pressure correction is conducted followed the iterative method of Roedder
334 (1984) and Fan et al. (2003). Isochores are obtained for the Type I_b CH₄-NaCl-H₂O inclusions and Type
335 III NaCl-H₂O inclusions to constrain the pressure and temperature of the fluids, using Flincor software
336 and the computer program of Bakker (2003) (Shepherd, 1986; Brown, 1989). For Type I_b
337 CH₄-NaCl-H₂O inclusions in the Qtz^I, the homogenization temperatures are 217 °C to 340 °C. The
338 preliminary pressure is about 150 MPa from Fig. 11. Accordingly, the pressure correction at 150 MPa is
339 about +130 °C (Roedder, 1984). Therefore, the trapping temperature for Type I_b inclusions is from
340 347 °C to 470 °C and the recalculated trapping pressure from Fig. 11 is greater than 300 MPa.

341 For Type III NaCl-H₂O inclusions in the Br^I, Qtz^{II} and Br^{II}, the analyzed homogenization
342 temperatures are 195-355°C, 136-315 °C and 222-341 °C, corresponding to the low minimum pressure
343 estimations of 50-150 MPa from Fig. 11. At such pressure, the corresponding temperature correction
344 would be +130 °C in Br^I and +50 °C in Qtz^{II} and Br^{II} (Roedder, 1984). Thus, estimated entrapping
345 temperatures for Type III inclusions in Br^I, Qtz^{II} and Br^{II} are 325-485 °C, 186 -365 °C and 272-391 °C,
346 and the recalculated trapping pressure is 150-250 MPa.

347 H-O-C isotope data

348 Hydrogen, oxygen and carbon isotope data were determined and listed in Table 4. The measured
349 δ¹⁸O values of Qtz^I range from 20.9 to 22.4 ‰, and that of Qtz^{II} is 22.6 ‰. Hydrothermal fluids in
350 equilibrium with Qtz^I have the calculated oxygen isotopic compositions of 17.3 to 18.8 ‰, using the
351 quartz-water fractionation equation of Clayton et al. (1972) and the average pressure-corrected
352 homogenization temperature of 422 °C. Calculated oxygen isotopic composition of hydrothermal fluids
353 equilibrated with Qtz^{II} is relatively lower at 15.0 ‰ on the basis of the lower pressure-corrected
354 homogenization temperature of 282 °C. The measured δD values of fluid inclusions in Qtz^I and Qtz^{II} are
355 extremely negative and range from -111 to -93 ‰. Measured δ¹³C values of CO₂ and CH₄ in quartz fluid
356 inclusions range from -27.6 to -22.5 ‰ and -40.8 to -30.3 ‰, respectively.

357 DISCUSSION

358 Mineralogy of the turquoise occurrence

359 On the basis of SEM-BSE images and EPMA data, two types of gemstone turquoise could be
360 distinguished: Trq^I and Trq^{II}. Trq^I appears homogeneous in SEM-BSE images, mainly comprises of
361 turquoise endmember as shown by relatively high Cu (apfu) at A site (up to 0.84 apfu), low A-site

362 vacancy and calculated water content (Table 1; Foord and Taggart, 1998). Trq^{II} with oscillatory zoning
363 texture consists of turquoise endmember at the core and gradually evolves to the planerite endmember
364 towards the rim as a result of the decreasing A site occupancy, accompanied by increasing water content
365 (Fig. 6; Rossi et al., 2017; Jomeh et al., 2020). Of note, Trq^{II} contains anomalous concentrations of Cr,
366 Zn, U, Pb and Sr, which are obviously discriminated from those of Trq^I. Such compositional and textural
367 distinctions could be explained by different properties of non-magmatic hydrothermal fluids and
368 changing physicochemical conditions when Trq^I and Trq^{II} precipitated.

369 Source and evolution of mineralizing fluids

370 Microthermometric data combined with laser Raman spectroscopic analysis reveal that there are
371 three types of fluid inclusions in the quartz and barite associated with the formation of Trq^I and Trq^{II}: the
372 carbonic-aqueous fluid inclusion (Type I), pure CH₄-N₂ fluid inclusion (Type II), and the aqueous-salt
373 fluid inclusion (Type III), from which the presence of pure CH₄-N₂ fluids is significantly distinct from
374 the meteoric water that is represented by the H₂O-CO₂-NaCl system (Jenkin et al., 1994; Menzies et al.,
375 2014).

376 Coexistences of pure CH₄-N₂ inclusions (type II) and carbonic-aqueous inclusions (type I) within
377 trails along the quartz growth zones form distinct primary FIA in the Qtz^I (Fig. 8b, c), reflecting they
378 were trapped coevally (Roedder, 1984). Of particular note is that Type I_a and I_b inclusions with various
379 ratios of vapor to liquid display a large range of homogenization temperatures to both vapor and liquid
380 (Fig. 8c and 10c), which could be ascribed to various molar volumes of inclusions due to the randomly
381 mixtures of two phases in fluids resulted from the heterogeneous trapping of the immiscible fluids
382 (Ramboz et al., 1982). The Type II fluid inclusions represent the pure CH₄-N₂ fluids, and the Type I_a and

383 I_b fluid inclusions with various V/L ratios reflect the heterogeneous trapping of the aqueous fluids and
384 pure CH₄-N₂ fluids. The coexistence of such three types of fluid inclusions is the most direct evidence of
385 fluid immiscibility in which CH₄-N₂ might be exsolved from aqueous fluids due to the low CH₄-N₂
386 solubility limits (Ramboz et al., 1982; Xu, 1998; Chi et al., 2021). For such case, Type I_a inclusions with
387 higher vapor volumes commonly homogenize at temperatures far above the actual trapping temperatures,
388 which are supposed to be geologically meaningless. Hence, Type I_b inclusions with the lowest V/L ratios
389 are thought to most likely represent the primary free liquid, and their molar volumes and
390 homogenization temperature are taken to be the best estimations of those of the original liquid (Roedder,
391 1984).

392 In summary, the earlier turquoise-forming fluids contain all of three types of fluids, while later ones
393 were primarily aqueous fluids with smaller CH₄-N₂ components, promoting higher salinity with less
394 proportions of CH₄ and N₂ (Fig. 12a, b). Non-magmatic hydrothermal fluids in Qtz^I and Brt^I associated
395 with Trq^I were characterized by relatively high proportions of CH₄ and N₂, low salinities of 1.2-9.9 wt.%
396 NaCl equiv. with most values lying between 6-8 wt.% NaCl equiv., and fairly high homogeneous
397 temperature (T_h) of 325-485 °C (Table 2; Fig. 12a-c). On the contrary, the fluids responsible for the
398 formation of Qtz^{II} and Brt^{II} coexisting with Trq^{II} are devoid of CH₄ and N₂, but show similar salinities of
399 1.6-9.3 and 1.8-6.6 wt.% NaCl equiv. and lower average T_h of 289 ± 40 °C and 288 ± 11 °C,
400 respectively (Table. 2; Fig. 12a, b and d). In either case, the homogenization temperatures of the fluid
401 inclusions are pronouncedly higher than those of the meteoric waters ranging from 17 to 35 °C (Shi and
402 Cai, 2011), implying a much more differentiated source.

403 The main stage of fluid immiscibility events mainly occurred during the formation of the
404 homogeneous Trq^I (Fig. 12c). The immiscible fluids of two endmembers, namely pure CH₄-N₂ fluids

405 and aqueous fluids, have been rarely documented in the context of gem turquoise mineralization. [Cox et](#)
406 [al. \(1995\)](#), [Jia et al. \(2000\)](#) and [Fu et al. \(2014\)](#) have attributed the presence of CH₄ to the interaction of
407 magmatic and/or metamorphic fluids with carbonaceous slates during the metamorphism. As for the
408 production of N₂ in fluids, previous studies confirmed that the release of NH₃ from wall rocks is a
409 significant source of nitrogen following the equation at 600 K and 1.8 kbar ([Bottrell and Miller, 1990](#);
410 [Shepherd et al., 1991](#); [Andersen et al., 1993](#); [Berwick et al., 2007](#)):

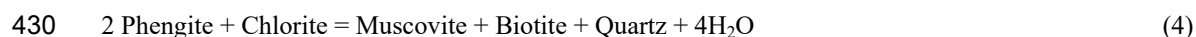


412 Therefore, we speculate that the methane and nitrogen were leached into fluids as a consequence
413 of extensive fluid-rock interaction.

414 This hypothesis is also confirmed by the stable isotopic compositions. Turquoise-forming fluids in
415 equilibrium with quartz have $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values of 15.0-18.8 ‰, showing a great affinity to those of
416 metamorphic water ([Fig. 13a](#); [Taylor, 1974](#)). Also, the absence of simultaneous magmatic activity in the
417 study area precludes a magmatic origin for the fluids ([Fig. 1](#); [Zhang et al., 2019](#)). Consequently, it is
418 suggested that the turquoise-forming fluids are mainly metamorphic fluids.

419 Sedimentary rocks are generally composed of hydrous phyllosilicates, quartz, feldspars, carbonates
420 and organic matter. Increasing temperature and pressure during prograde metamorphism will lead to the
421 dehydration and decarbonation of the metasedimentary rocks, thus defining the nature of coexisting
422 metamorphic fluids ([Yardley, 1989](#); [Ague, 2003](#); [Stepanov, 2021](#)). Besides, semi-quantitative calculation
423 suggested that the devolatilization of a rock pile could form 2-5 wt.% aqueous fluids around the
424 greenschist to amphibolite facies transition, indicative of a large volume of fluids ([Phillips and Powell,](#)
425 [2010](#)). Therefore, evidence above permits the quartz veins to be an end product of metamorphic
426 devolatilization. Breakdown of chlorite, probably derived from the schist in the Lower Cambrian

427 Shuigoukou Formation (Zhao et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019), likely accounted for the generation of
428 metamorphic fluids during the regional low greenschist facies metamorphism in the turquoise deposit
429 following the reaction (Bebout and Fogel, 1992; Wang et al., 2019):



431 Such fluids, mainly distributed in situ at the grain-scale level throughout the rock, further
432 promote the reactions with rocks and minerals, which eventually lead to the enrichment of elements in
433 the fluids (Stepanov, 2021). With regard to the fluid compositions, they depend predominantly on the
434 primary mineralogy of the source rocks (Yardley and Graham, 2002). The lack of minerals containing
435 chlorine in the slates leads to the low salinity of the turquoise-forming metamorphic fluids.

436 Notably, the metamorphic fluids are characterized by significantly depleted δD values similar to
437 those from waters that have reacted with organic matter (Fig. 13a; Taylor, 1974; Sheppard, 1986). The
438 oxidation of CH_4 into CO_2 due to increasing $f\text{O}_2$ could dramatically deplete deuterium in fluids (Fu et al.,
439 1991; Tarantola et al., 2007), while an increase of CO_2 contents is not observed in metamorphic fluids
440 by microthermometry. Thus, possible interpretation of such low δD values might be the interaction
441 between metamorphic fluids and organic materials (Kesler et al., 1997). Carbon isotope data are also
442 useful for the determination of the potential sources in ore deposits (Fig. 13b; Hu et al., 2021; Ma et al.,
443 2021; Niu et al., 2022): a marine carbonate source with $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of 0 ‰; an organic matter source
444 with $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value from -35 ‰ to -15 ‰ and a magmatic source with $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of -9 ‰ to -3 ‰. The
445 carbon isotope compositions of CO_2 in the turquoise-forming system display obviously sedimentary
446 organic carbon characteristics (-27.6 to -22.5 ‰; Fig. 13b). During the oxidation or hydrolysis of
447 organic matter (i.e., graphite) at the temperature around 500 °C, strong carbon isotope fractionation
448 occurs between the released gaseous CO_2 phase and the source rocks. The former prefers to be enriched

449 in ^{13}C , leading to an increase of the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values by almost +10 ‰ than those of the source rocks
450 (Bottinga, 1968). Thus, the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of potential source rocks for the gaseous CO_2 are likely more
451 negative as the measured $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}$ values from fluid inclusions and cover the range of the reported bulk
452 carbon isotope compositions of the Lower Cambrian Shuigoukou Formation (-35 ‰ to -15 ‰; Hou,
453 2008). Moreover, the measured $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of methane from fluid inclusions between -40.8 ‰ and
454 -30.3 ‰ are typically consistent with those produced by primary cracking of kerogen within the range of
455 -45 ‰ to -31 ‰ (Schoell, 1980; Lueders et al., 2012). All these observations described above imply CO_2
456 and CH_4 in the turquoise-forming fluids were predominantly derived from the organic carbon coming
457 from the carbonaceous slates by fluid-rock interaction.

458 Such unusual characteristics of C-H-O isotope compositions have been widely recognized
459 regarding the formation of Pb-Zn-Mo-Au deposits, illustrating the interaction between ore-forming
460 fluids and organic matter in the host rocks (e.g., Kelser et al., 1997; Xia et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2015;
461 Ma et al., 2021; Niu et al., 2022). Low δD values of fluid inclusions have been reported by Kelser et al.
462 (1997) in the Mississippi Valley type (MVT)-forming brines, of which hydrogen and oxygen isotopes of
463 fluids plot along the meteoric water line with $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ and δD values of 2 ‰ and -41 ‰ and then evolved to
464 the very low δD values of -87 ‰. Combined with the depleted $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of CH_4 of inclusions, the
465 mineralizing brines in the MVT deposits were identified as seawater that was modified by interaction
466 with organic matter in the host rocks. Moreover, Niu et al. (2022) interpreted H-O isotope compositions
467 of ore-forming fluids ranging from -111.2 ‰ to -85.5 ‰ and +9.0 ‰ to +11.5 ‰ as mixtures of
468 magmatic fluids with the organic-containing water in the Suixian Mo deposit. The presence of CH_4 and
469 the depleted $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of CO_2 in the fluid inclusions also pointed to the thermochemical reaction
470 between the magmatic fluids and organic matter from hosted metamorphic rocks.

471 In this regard, fluid evolution could be reconstructed for the turquoise deposit in Zhushan County.
472 The turquoise-forming fluid system in the Zhushan County was initially CH₄-N₂-rich, high temperature
473 (325-485 °C), low salinity (1.2-9.9 wt.% NaCl equiv.), and had low CO₂/CH₄ ratios, coexisting with
474 immiscible CH₄-N₂ fluids. With decreasing temperature (186-391°C), fluids progressively evolved to
475 become CH₄-N₂-poor, with lower salinity (1.6-6.6 wt.% NaCl equiv.) (Fig. 12). Throughout this process,
476 metamorphic fluids locally interacted with organic matter from wall rocks, modifying fluid C-H-O
477 isotope compositions.

478 **The source of metals**

479 Previous studies proposed that the turquoise deposits were sourced from the Lower Cambrian
480 Shuigoukou Formation by weathering and leaching of the low-temperature oxidized surface water in a
481 supergene environment (Tu et al., 1996, 1997; Qin et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2020). We agree with the
482 general view that the turquoise-forming elements were sourced from the Cambrian carbonaceous slates.
483 However, as discussed above, the Zhushan turquoise displays characteristics best explained by
484 derivation from metamorphic fluids: high temperature, high contents of CH₄ and N₂, and H-O isotopic
485 compositions distinct from meteoric water. Considering the above-mentioned features, the following
486 discussion will concentrate on the essential origin of Cu, Fe, P and Al to form turquoise.

487 According to the previous geochemical analysis of the Shuigoukou Formation, the black slates
488 contain appreciable amounts of Cu in the range of 10-1907 ppm (Wang, 2009; You et al., 2018),
489 supporting the source bed for the turquoise mineralization. SEM results illustrate that the slate mainly
490 consists of quartz, apatite, barite, muscovite, magnetite and pyrite with minor amounts of monazite,
491 rutile and xenotime. Electron probe micro-analysis (EPMA) and X-ray diffraction (XRD) analysis have

492 also been carried out by Wang (2016), You et al. (2018) and Liu et al. (2021), which further refined the
493 mineralogy of the carbonaceous slates with the presence of clay minerals including kaolinite and illite,
494 and non-clay mineral assemblages of chalcopyrite, feldspar, calcite, dolomite and siderite in wall rocks.

495 As has been noted, minerals above are randomly dispersed in the carbonaceous slates, thus
496 insufficient enriching Cu, Fe, Al and P to the economic value in the absence of remobilization as a result
497 of weathering-leaching process, igneous intrusion, or metamorphic activity (Chen et al., 1990; Wang,
498 2009). Turquoise mixed with goethite, alunite, and jarosite in veins hosted in a shale unit have been
499 attributed to a supergene origin at low temperatures (Crook and Lueth, 2014). Previous studies
500 elucidated the oxidizing acid aqueous fluid, formed by the oxidation of pyrite and transformation of clay
501 minerals in supergene environments, could promote the chemical reactions and ore metal transportations
502 which further facilitated the formation of the turquoise (Crook and Lueth, 2014; Li et al., 2022).
503 Nevertheless, the absence of oxidized minerals such as malachite and hematite, coexistence of turquoise
504 with quartz and barite, and high CH₄/CO₂ ratios in fluids of Zhushan turquoise preclude a supergene
505 environment of formation. Moreover, no magmatic activity has been observed in the region (Fig. 1;
506 Zhang et al., 2019). Therefore, we argue that metamorphic fluids generated from the dehydration and
507 devolatilization of the carbonaceous slates produced the quartz-barite veins that deformed
508 synchronously with wall rocks (Fig. 2, 4; Wang, 2009). In this process, we suggest that Cu, Fe, Ba, U, Ti,
509 Al and P were remobilized from apatite, feldspar, barite, muscovite, chalcopyrite, magnetite, pyrite,
510 rutile, monazite and xenotime in the slates during water-rock interaction, and transferred into fluids as
511 chloride complexes in the function of the saline metamorphic fluids, ultimately to precipitate as gem
512 turquoise in tectonically favorable sites (Chen et al., 1990; Yardley and Graham, 2002).

513 We interpret the compositional changes from turquoise (Trq¹) to turquoise-planerite solid solution

514 (Trq^{II}) reflect evolution of the metamorphic fluids during the process of fluid-rock interaction. The
515 fluid-rock interaction process was recorded by the evolution of fluid inclusions throughout the different
516 stages. [Legros et al. \(2020\)](#) argued that the primary fluids from the intrusion in the Cantung tungsten
517 deposit are CO₂-rich which indicate their primary magmatic source, while fluids that interacted intensely
518 with the surrounding limestone are CH₄-rich. Correspondingly, carbonic-aqueous fluids with immiscible
519 CH₄-N₂ fluids in Trq^I-related samples ([Fig. 12c](#)) likely represent the initial fluids that underwent
520 extensive interaction with surrounding carbonaceous slates, increasing the turquoise-forming elements
521 in water. In contrast, the fluids related to the Trq^{II} are CH₄-N₂-poor ([Fig. 12d](#)) and suggest the decreasing
522 reactivity of fluids with the wall rocks, inducing the decrease of necessary metals for the turquoise
523 ([Table 1; Fig. 8](#)).

524 Alternatively, such a pattern might be explained by the changing elemental partition behaviors
525 during the precipitation of the turquoise. The uncertainties regarding fluid-rock and fluid-turquoise
526 partitioning hinder the understanding of this mechanism. According to [Skora et al. \(2006\)](#), the decrease
527 of Cu and Fe contents in the oscillatory zoning Trq^{II} could also be interpreted by the transient matrix
528 diffusion model that the Trq^{II} have crystallized in the depleted matrix where Cu, Fe and other elements
529 uptake were restricted by diffusion in the matrix surrounding the crystals. Nevertheless, neither
530 explanation could account for the significantly decreasing CH₄-N₂ contents in the Trq^{II}-forming fluids.
531 Thus, we favor our interpretation that the decline of interaction between metamorphic fluid and
532 metasedimentary rocks drove the geochemical evolution from homogeneous turquoise in Trq^I towards
533 turquoise-planerite solid solution in Trq^{II}.

534 Another possible metal source (Cu, Fe, V, Zn and U) is envisioned on the basis of large amount of
535 organic carbon in the Shuigoukou Formation, as indicated by the high total organic carbon (TOC)

536 content ranging from 0.46 to 2.43 % (Wang, 2009; You et al., 2018). Previous organic geochemical
537 studies have confirmed there is a certain positive correlation between the metal contents (V, Ni, Zn, Cu,
538 Os, Rh, Pt, Pd, Ir, Ru, Ag and U) and the total organic carbon content (TOC) in the Lower Cambrian
539 Shuigoukou Formation (You et al. 2018). Such correlations have been reported in other carbonaceous
540 rock-hosted Au-V-U ore deposits (Hu et al., 2000; Hou, 2008; Wang, 2009; Wang, 2016). Metals could
541 be absorbed on organic matter before generating primary sulfides by the action of H₂S under reducing
542 conditions (Chen et al., 1990). Moreover, experimental studies proved that gold-metalliferous elements
543 could strongly combine with immature and low-maturity organic matter due to the action of chelation
544 (Hu et al., 1993). Thus, organic-rich carbonaceous formations are supposed to highly promote the
545 primary accumulation of metalliferous elements as the metal sources.

546 We interpret that the evolution of organic matter in the carbonaceous slates could facilitate the
547 migration of metals in the aqueous fluids. Decomposition of organic matter would lead to the
548 transformation from the organic carbon into gaseous H₂O, N₂, H₂S and hydrocarbon compounds (e.g.,
549 CH₄) which could self-extract metals or combine with metals as metal-organic complexes, promoting
550 the release of metals from slates into fluids and their transportation in aqueous fluids (Breit and Wanty,
551 1991; Wang, 2009; Wang, 2016). Moreover, degradation and oxidation of organic matter could produce
552 the organic acids, which are mainly composed of the negatively charged hydroxyl group, carboxy group
553 and other function groups. Such groups have been assumed to significantly enhance the combination,
554 adsorption and chelation of the metal ions, allowing soluble metals to migrate over long distances in
555 aqueous fluids (Leventhal and Giordano, 1997; Hu et al., 2000; Qin and Zhou, 2009; Wang, 2009).
556 Metal complexes will then break down from the metamorphic fluids owing to changes in pressure,
557 temperature, and acidity in fluids, resulting in the formation of gem turquoise.

558

IMPLICATIONS

559 The turquoise deposit in Zhushan County, western Hubei Province, China, consists of
560 turquoise-quartz-barite veins occurring along or cutting the beddings of the carbonaceous slates. New
561 fluid inclusion and stable isotope data, combined with geological and geochemical evidence,
562 substantiate a new genetic model for gem turquoise worldwide, termed the metamorphic quartz-vein
563 type turquoise deposit. Devolatilization of Lower Cambrian carbonaceous slates transpired during
564 regional metamorphism and deformation, and generated turquoise-forming metamorphic fluids
565 characterized by low salinities (6-8 wt.% NaCl equiv.) at moderate to high temperatures (up to 450 °C).
566 Further support for this model comes from the $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values of turquoise-forming fluids (20.9-22.6 ‰),
567 which are consistent with metamorphic fluids. The presence of $\text{CH}_4\text{-N}_2$ fluid inclusions, the remarkably
568 depleted $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values of CO_2 and CH_4 in fluid inclusions from quartz (-27.6 to -22.5 ‰ and -40.8 to
569 -30.3 ‰) and the extremely low δD values of turquoise-forming fluids (-111 to -93 ‰), suggest the
570 intense interaction between the metamorphic fluids and the carbonaceous siliceous slates, leading to
571 immiscibility between pure $\text{CH}_4\text{-N}_2$ and carbonic-aqueous fluids during the formation of the
572 homogeneous turquoise. As temperature and reactivity with wall rocks decreased, so did the CH_4 and N_2
573 contents of fluids. Concurrently, the A site deficiency in the turquoise group minerals became more
574 dominant, leading to the transition from gem turquoise to Cu-bearing planerite solid solutions.
575 Turquoise-forming metals (e.g., Cu, Fe, Ba, U, Ti, Al and P) are assumed to be sourced from the
576 dissolving of various minerals (e.g., apatite, feldspar, barite, muscovite, chalcopyrite, magnetite, pyrite,
577 rutile, monazite and xenotime) in the carbonaceous slates caused by the fluid-rock interaction. Moreover,
578 decomposition of the organic carbon from the Shuigoukou carbonaceous slates might also contribute to
579 the extraction and the transportation of the metals responsible for the formation of turquoise.

27

580

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587

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874 **Figure captions**

875 **Fig. 1.** (a) A tectonic map of China showing the location of the Qinling Orogen (red square); (b)
876 Tectonic subdivision of the Qinling Orogen comprising the Wudang Block (red square) where occur the
877 turquoise deposits; (c) Geological map of the turquoise deposits in Zhushan County, western Hubei
878 Province of China (modified after Yue et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2019) (YB: Yangtze Block, NCB: North
879 China Block).

880

881 **Fig. 2.** Photographs representing typical field occurrence of turquoise-bearing veins from Zhushan
882 County. (a) Quartz-barite-turquoise vein as fracture infillings along or cross-cutting the beddings of the
883 black carbonaceous slate; (b) coexisting turquoise and quartz as elongated lenses in the ductile deformed
884 veins; (c, d) massive turquoise aggregates in the black carbonaceous slates show synchronous ductile
885 deformation with wall rocks (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*: barite, red lines outlining the elongated
886 lens-shaped quartz, barite and turquoise, rock hammer as scale bar is approximately 13 cm in width).

887

888 **Fig. 3.** Photographs of turquoise from Zhushan County. (a) Massive bluish green turquoise in black slate;
889 (b, c, d) Vein specimens consisting of quartz, barite and turquoise in different colors, i.e. bluish-green (b)
890 and light-green (c, d) (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*: barite).

891

892 **Fig. 4.** Transmitted- (a, d), reflected-light (e) and back scattered electron (BSE) images (b-c, f-h),
893 showing representative mineralogical and textural features observed in hydrothermal veins and wall
894 rocks: (a) oscillatory zoned turquoise (Trq^{II}) replacing homogeneous turquoise (Trq^I) along the margin,
895 all included in quartz (Qtz^I) and cut by irregular barite vein (Brt^{II}); (b) quartz (Qtz^I) intergrowth with
896 homogeneous turquoise (Trq^I) and euhedral barite (Brt^I); (c) oscillatory zoned turquoise (Trq^{II}) filled by
897 anhedral barite (Brt^{II}) in quartz vein (Qtz^{II}); (d) preferred orientation of fine-grained quartz defining the
898 foliations of the carbonaceous slate, showing typical rotational porphyroclast system; (e) intense

899 foliation defined by alignment of elongated coarse-grained magnetite and fine-grained muscovite in the
900 deformed carbonaceous slate; (f-h) medium to coarse-grained pyrite, magnetite, apatite, monazite, rutile
901 and xenotime surrounded by quartz and muscovite (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*: barite; *Ms*:
902 muscovite, *Ap*: apatite, *Mag*: magnetite, *Py*: pyrite, *Rt*: rutile, *Mnz*: monazite, *Xtm*: xenotime).

903

904 **Fig. 5.** BSE image and characteristic chemical compositions collected from homogeneous turquoise
905 (Trq^{I}) and oscillatory zoned turquoise (Trq^{II}) in from the rim to core: (a) BSE image; (b-f) major
906 element compositions of turquoise-group minerals, where blue circles represent the compositions of Trq^{I} ,
907 and dark green to light green circles refer to the various compositions of Trq^{II} from the core to rim.
908 EPMA data and corresponding unit formula (apfu) are from Table 1 (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*: quartz).

909

910 **Fig. 6.** (a) Cu (apfu) versus A site (apfu); (b) Water contents (wt.%) versus A site (apfu) of all EPMA
911 data of turquoise-group minerals from Table 1 (modified after Foord and Taggart, 1998).

912

913 **Fig. 7.** BSE image coupled with LA-ICP-MS elemental maps of a turquoise grain. (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*:
914 quartz).

915

916 **Fig. 8.** Photomicrographs of different types of fluid inclusions in quartz and barite: (a) Type I
917 aqueous-carbonic fluid inclusion; (b, c) primary fluid inclusion trail containing Type I and II fluid
918 inclusions with various vapor/liquid ratios along the growth faces of quartz; (d) pseudosecondary fluid
919 inclusion assemblage consisting of Type II and III fluid inclusions in barite; (e, f) pseudosecondary fluid
920 inclusion assemblage consisting of Type II inclusions at +23 °C and -190 °C in quartz. (*Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*:
921 barite, *S*: solid phase in fluid inclusion as daughter mineral or accidentally trapped solid).

922

923 **Fig. 9.** Laser Raman spectra of representative fluid inclusions in quartz and barite: (a) Raman spectrum
924 of the aqueous phase in Type I fluid inclusion showing peaks of propane (2886 cm^{-1}), ethane (2943 cm^{-1}), and H_2O (3419 cm^{-1}); (b) Raman spectrum of vapor phase in Type I inclusion, showing
925 significant contents of N_2 (2327 cm^{-1}) and CH_4 (2917 cm^{-1}); (c) Raman spectrum for Type II pure
926 carbonic fluid inclusions, showing typical peaks of N_2 (2327 cm^{-1}) and CH_4 (2917 cm^{-1}); (d) Raman
927 spectra for vapor and liquid phases of Type III aqueous-salt fluid inclusions, showing the narrower and
928 more symmetrical water peaks.

929

930
931 **Fig. 10.** Histograms of (a, e) final ice melting temperature ($T_{\text{m, ice}}$), (b, f) salinity, (c, g) total
932 homogenization temperature (T_{h}), (d, h) total homogenization temperature after pressure correction
933 (Pressure-corrected T_{h}) of Type I_b, Type II and Type III fluid inclusions in quartz and barite. Average
934 values with standard deviations are sourced from Table 2. (*Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*: barite).

935

936 **Fig. 11.** Isochore plots calculated from Type I_b $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CH}_4-\text{NaCl}$ and Type III $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{NaCl}$ fluid inclusions
937 identified in the quartz-barite-turquoise vein from Zhushan County, western Hubei Province of China.

938

939 **Fig. 12.** Paragenetic diagram and simplified sketch drawings showing the turquoise-related minerals and
940 their enclosed fluid inclusions: (a) diagram showing relative timing of minerals associated with turquoise;
941 (b) microthermometric charts showing ranges of pressure-corrected homogenization temperatures (T_{h})
942 and salinity, where fluid inclusions of different types are labelled with various colors, the same as Fig. 10;

943 (c, d) drawings showing the distributions of fluid inclusions of various types enclosed in the quartz and
944 barite at room temperature. (*Trq*: turquoise, *Qtz*: quartz, *Brt*: barite, *Fls*: fluid inclusions).

945

946 **Fig. 13.** (a) Hydrogen *versus* calculated oxygen isotopic compositions diagram indicating ore fluid
947 compositions from the turquoise deposit in Zhushan County, western Hubei Province of China. Also
948 shown are fields for metamorphic fluids (Taylor, 1974), magmatic water (Hedenquist and
949 Lowenstern, 1994), and organic water (Sheppard, 1986); (b) comparison of carbon isotopic compositions
950 of CO₂ in the quartz fluid inclusions with data for various carbon sources (data after Veizer et al., 1980;
951 Taylor, 1986; Ohmoto, 1972; Hou, 2008).

952 **Table captions**

953 **Table 1.** EPMA data (wt%) and calculated unit formula (apfu), based on 11 cations, for turquoise-group
954 minerals from Zhushan County.

955 **Table 2.** Summary of microthermometric data of fluid inclusions from the quartz-barite-turquoise vein in
956 Zhushan County.

957 **Table 3.** Raman spectra and band assignment of the individual fluid inclusion.

958 **Table 4.** Hydrogen, oxygen and carbon isotope analyses of quartz and fluid inclusions from the
959 quartz-barite-turquoise vein in Zhushan County.

960

961 **CRedit authorship contribution statement**

962 WTL: Methodology, Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - Original Draft; SYJ: Conceptualization,
963 Resources, Supervision, Funding acquisition, Writing - Review & Editing; HZ and PLC: Methodology,
964 Resources.

965

966 **Declaration of competing interest**

967 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships
968 that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

969

970 **Data and materials availability**

971 All the data used in this paper are listed as Tables 1-4 within this paper, and are also available from the
972 corresponding author on reasonable request.

Table 1

EPMA data (wt%) and unit formula (apfu), based on 11 cations, for turquoise-group minerals from Zhushan country.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Trq ^I in quartz-barite vein				Trq ^{II} in quartz-barite vein							Trq ^I in wall rock	
Al ₂ O ₃	37.52	37.01	37.98	37.85	38.14	37.55	37.58	38.49	38.98	39.76	40.34	37.66	38.12
P ₂ O ₅	36.48	37.84	36.05	36.42	37.19	36.53	36.29	37.29	36.31	37.84	37.20	34.81	35.19
SiO ₂	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00
CuO	8.35	8.04	8.14	7.69	7.83	7.95	8.13	6.35	5.79	3.62	3.08	7.98	8.03
FeO ^T	0.74	0.64	0.62	0.57	0.53	0.55	0.60	0.52	0.55	0.33	0.23	0.70	0.56
SO ₃	0.14	0.14	0.11	0.18	0.04	0.16	0.18	0.23	0.20	0.00	0.11	0.27	0.29
ZnO	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.07	0.16	0.14	0.06	0.20	0.34	0.21	0.19	0.14	0.12
UO ₂	0.02	0.04	0.10	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.06	0.01	0.02
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.19	0.11	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.09	0.15	0.06	0.05	0.00	0.02	0.10	0.09
K ₂ O	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.01	0.10	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.07	0.07
V ₂ O ₃	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.08	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.05	0.08	0.08
CaO	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.10	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.04
BaO	0.17	0.23	0.26	0.23	0.19	0.13	0.24	0.25	0.35	0.15	0.13	0.10	0.10
TiO ₂	0.06	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.73	0.50
H ₂ O ^a	16.10	15.61	16.39	16.68	15.64	16.68	16.65	16.38	17.17	17.84	18.50	17.32	16.82
Total ^b	83.83	84.37	83.62	83.33	84.34	83.29	83.37	83.61	82.80	82.12	81.51	82.68	83.21
Total	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
Al	5.89	5.79	5.96	5.96	5.93	5.92	5.92	6.02	6.13	6.26	6.37	6.04	6.05
P	4.11	4.25	4.06	4.12	4.16	4.14	4.11	4.19	4.10	4.28	4.22	4.01	4.01
Cu	0.84	0.81	0.82	0.78	0.78	0.80	0.82	0.64	0.58	0.37	0.31	0.82	0.82
Fe	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.08	0.06
S	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
Zn	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	-	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cr	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01
K	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
V	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Ca	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Ba	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Ti	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.05
OH	7.24	6.44	7.57	7.25	7.11	7.08	7.24	6.90	7.43	6.84	7.16	7.91	7.93
A site	0.97	0.92	0.93	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.93	0.73	0.70	0.44	0.37	0.93	0.91
B site	5.89	5.80	5.97	5.96	5.94	5.93	5.92	6.03	6.14	6.27	6.38	6.05	6.06
T site	4.12	4.26	4.07	4.13	4.16	4.16	4.13	4.22	4.13	4.28	4.24	4.02	4.02

Notes: a: Calculated by difference; b: sum of particular components without water contents.

Table 2.

Summary of microthermometric data of fluid inclusions from the quartz-barite-turquoise vein in Zhushan country.

Host minerals ¹	Inclusion type	T _m (°C)	T _{m,ice} (°C)	T _h (°C)	Pressure-corrected T _h (°C)	Salinity (wt. % NaCl eq.) ²
Quartz (Qtz ^I)	Type I _a	/	-6.6--2.5	357-455	/	4.4-11.9
Quartz (Qtz ^I)	Type I _b	/	-5.5--1.4 (- 3.2 ± 1.0)	217-340 (276 ± 37)	347-470 (406 ± 37)	2.5-9.9 (5.8 ± 1.8)
Quartz (Qtz ^I)	Type II	/	/	-145--127 (- 139 ± 6)	/	/
Barite (Brt ^I)	Type III	-24.2	-2.3--0.7 (- 1.3 ± 0.6)	195-355 (292 ± 43)	325-485 (422 ± 43)	1.2-4.1 (2.2 ± 1.0)
Barite (Brt ^I)	Type II	/	/	-144--126 (- 139 ± 6)	/	/
Quartz (Qtz ^{II})	Type III	-23.9--21.9	-5.2--0.9 (- 2.8 ± 0.8)	136-315 (239 ± 40)	186-365 (289 ± 40)	1.6-9.3 (5.0 ± 1.0)
Quartz (Qtz ^{II})	Type II	/	/	-145--126 (- 139 ± 5)	/	/
Barite (Brt ^{II})	Type III	-21.3	-2.7--1.1 (- 1.9 ± 0.6)	222-341 (238 ± 11)	272-391 (288 ± 11)	1.8-6.6 (4.1 ± 1.6)

Abbreviations: T_m = First ice melting temperature; T_{m,ice} = Final ice-melting temperature; T_h = analyzed temperature of final homogenization; Pressure-corrected T_h = temperature of final homogenization after the pressure correction; Type I_a = vapor-rich aqueous-carbonic fluid inclusion; Type I_b = liquid-rich aqueous-carbonic fluid inclusion; type II = carbonic fluid inclusion; Type III = aqueous-salt fluid inclusion.

¹ Mineral abbreviation is same as [Fig. 4](#)

² Salinities of type I and III inclusions calculated from the equation of [Davis et al. \(1990\)](#)

³ In parentheses, bold number denotes the average value with standard deviations

Table 3

Raman spectra and band assignment of the individual fluid inclusion.

Wavenumber/cm⁻¹	Assignment	Raman shift of peak/cm⁻¹	Reference
2886	C ₃ H ₈	2890	Burke, 2001
2943	C ₂ H ₆	2954	Burke, 2001
2327	N ₂	2331	Herzberg, 1950
2917	CH ₄	2917/3020	Brunsgaard-Hansen et al., 2002
3419	H ₂ O liquid	2750-3900	Walrafen, 1964, 1967

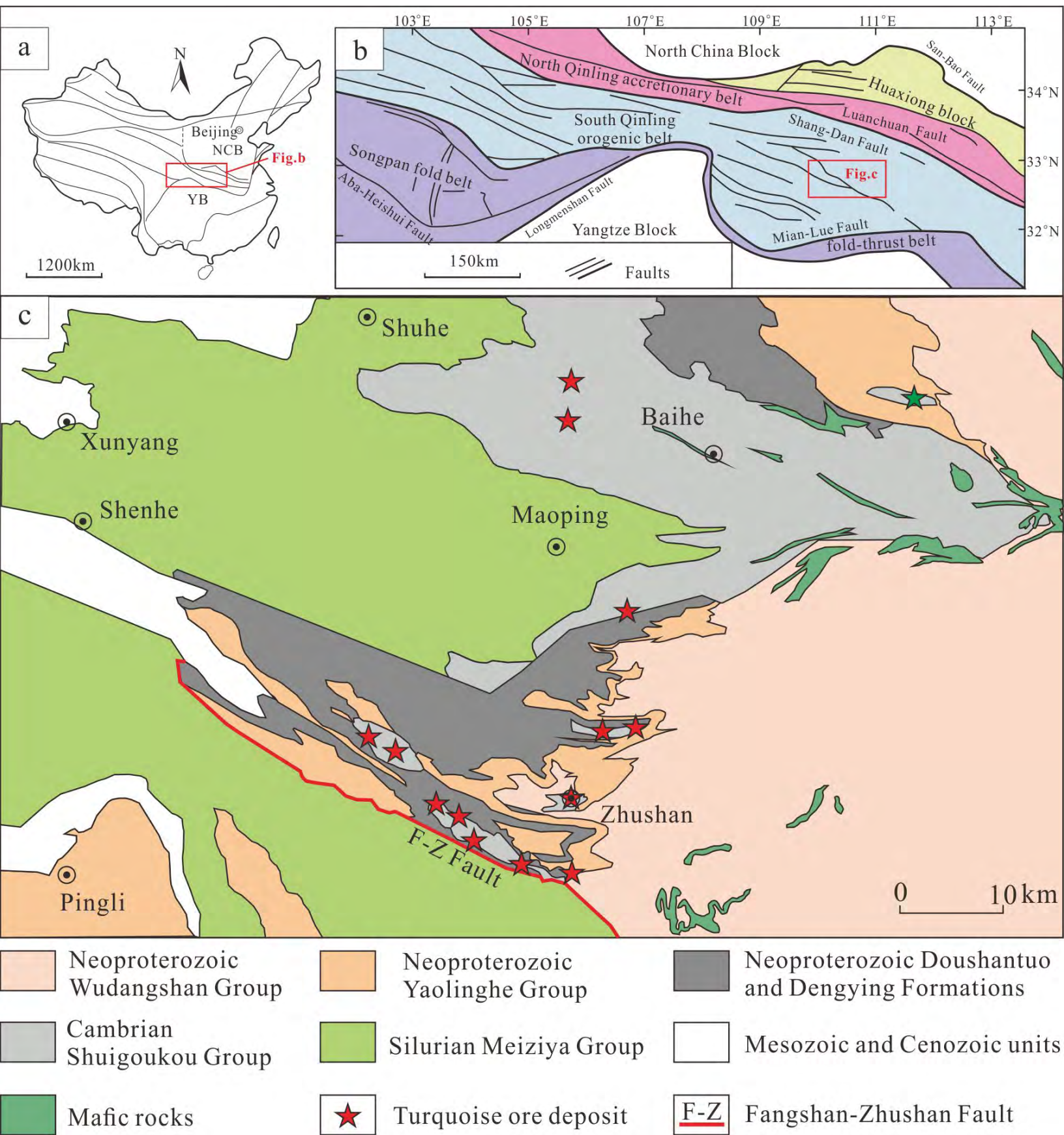
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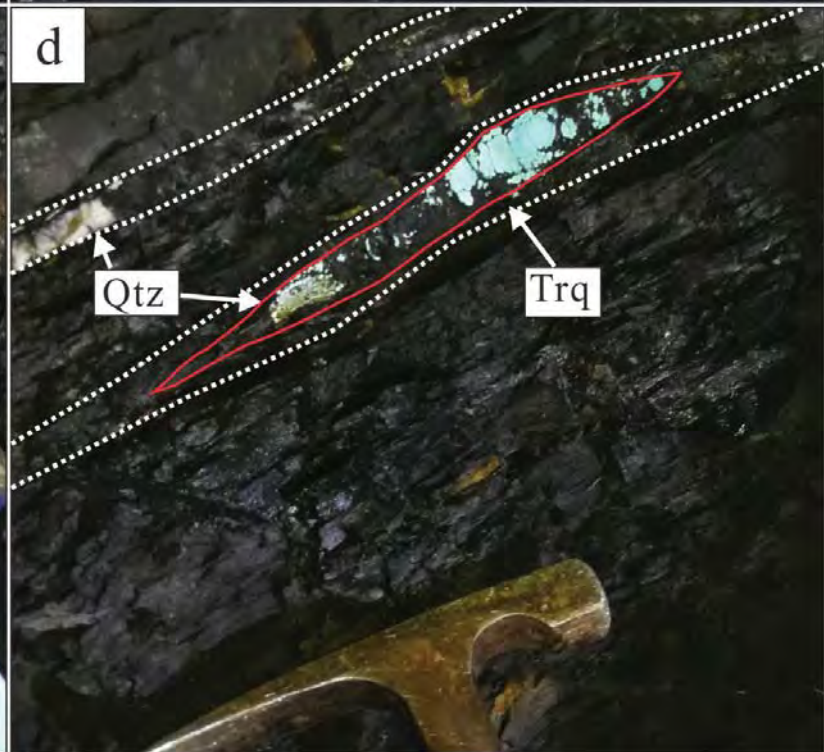
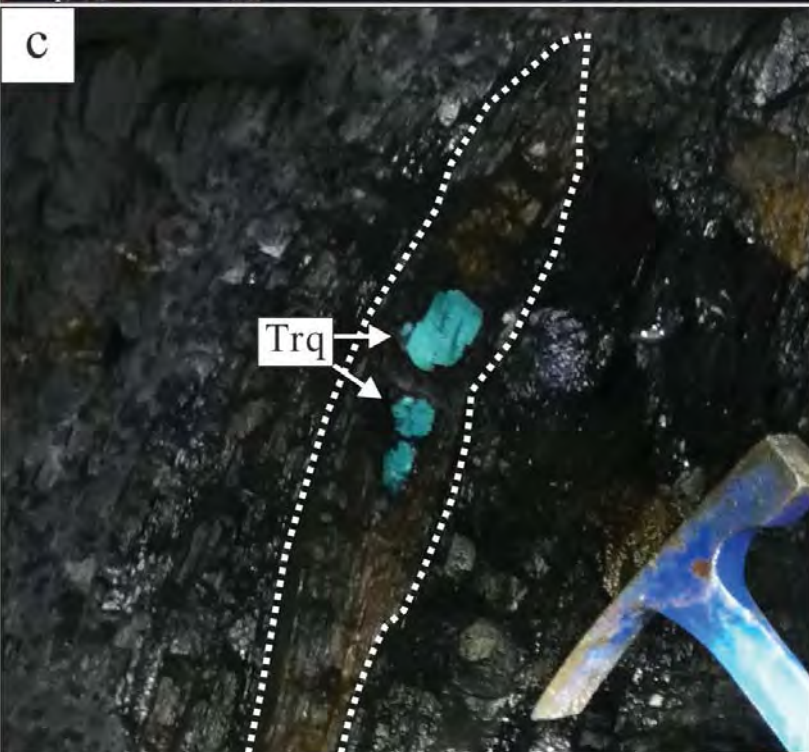
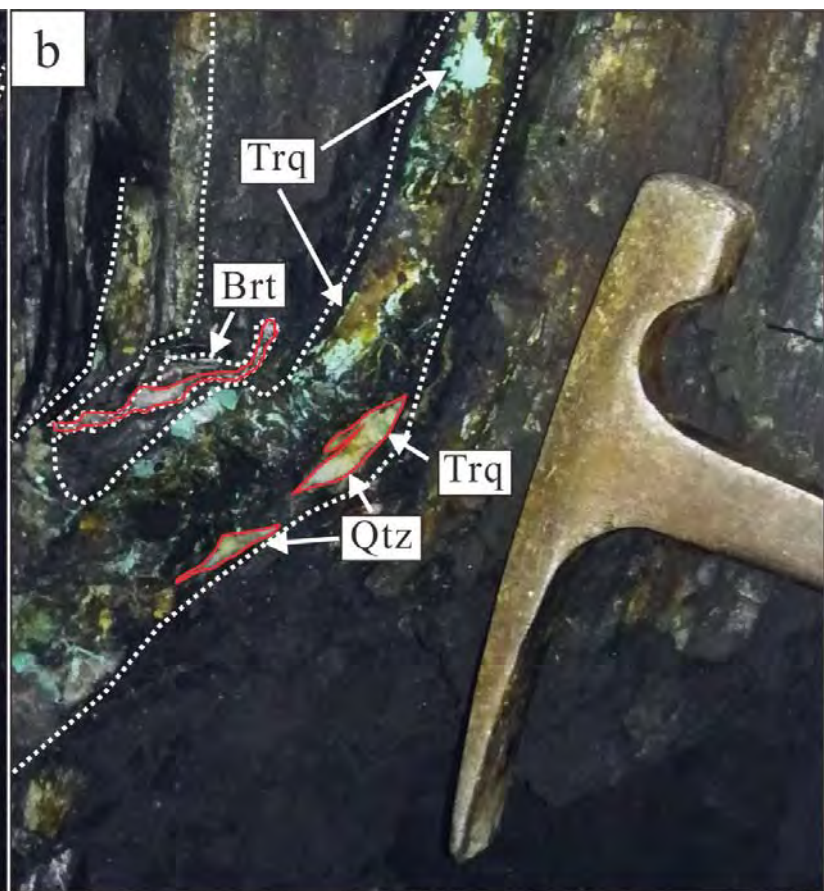
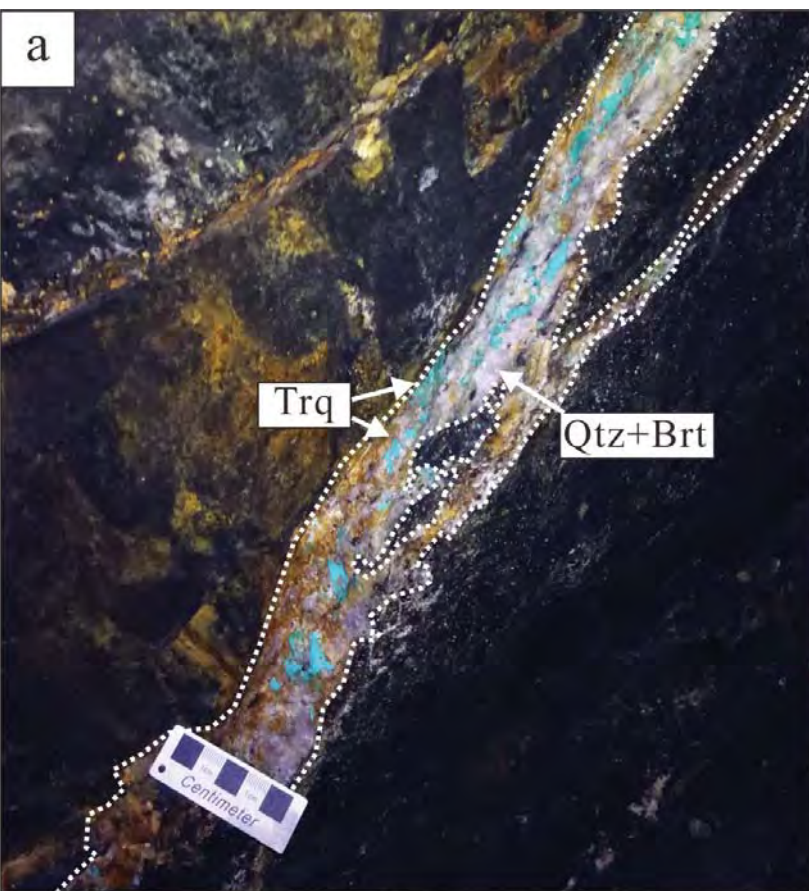
Hydrogen, oxygen and carbon isotope analyses of the turquoise deposit in Zhushan Country.

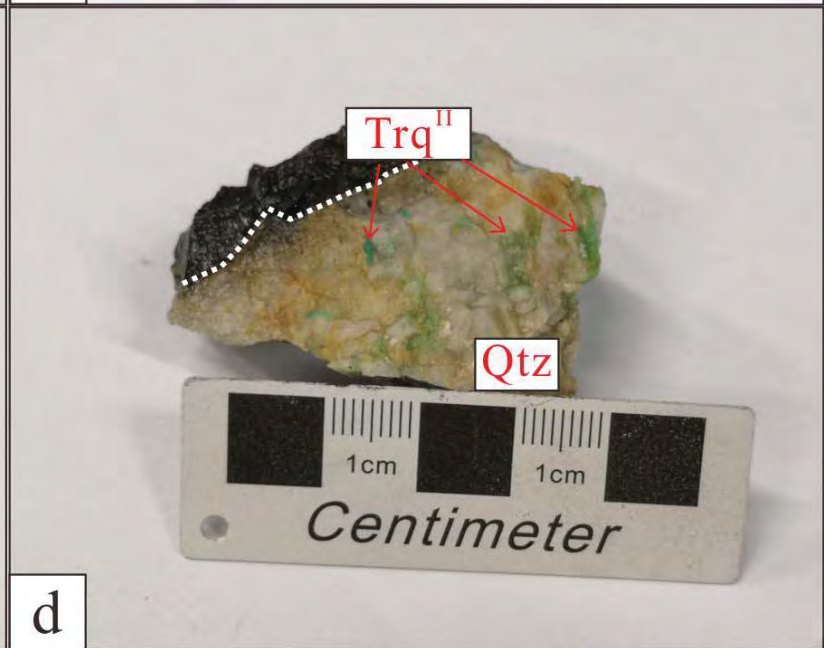
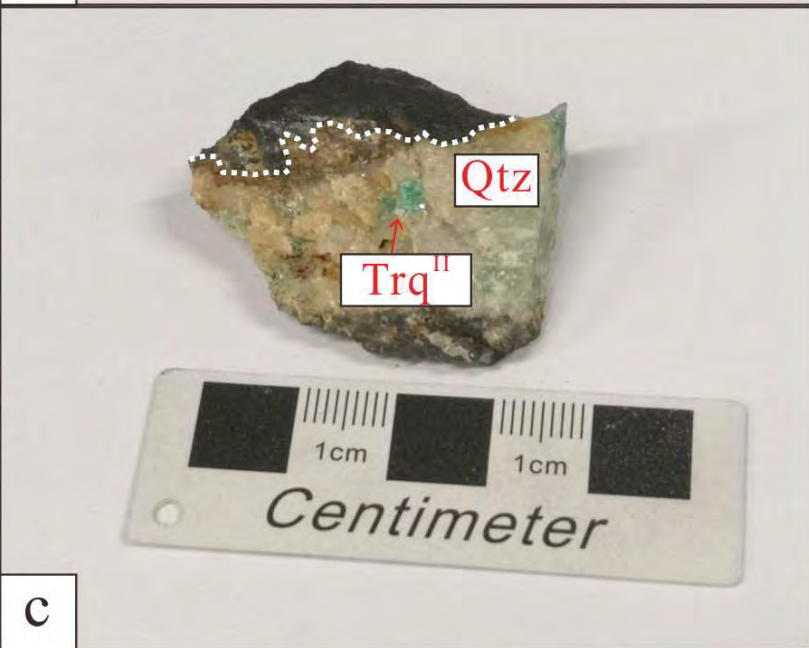
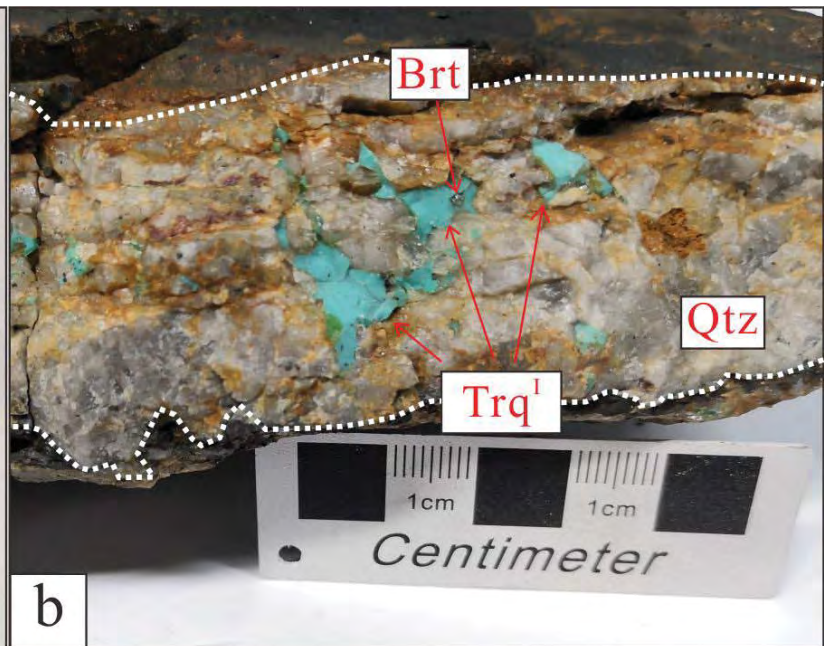
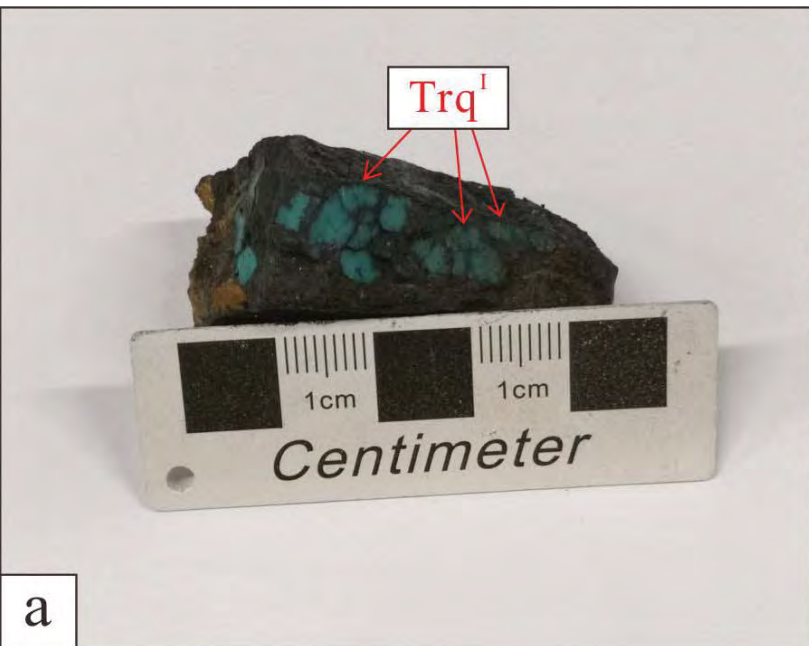
Min ¹	Average pressure-corrected T _h (°C)	$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Qtz}}(\text{‰})$	$\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}(\text{‰})^2$	$\delta\text{D}(\text{‰})$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}(\text{‰})$	$\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CH}_4}(\text{‰})$
Qtz ¹	422	22.4	18.8	-111	-22.5	-30.3
Qtz ¹	422	20.9	17.3	-93	-22.9	-40.8
Qtz ^{II}	282	22.6	15.0	-104	-27.6	-31.3

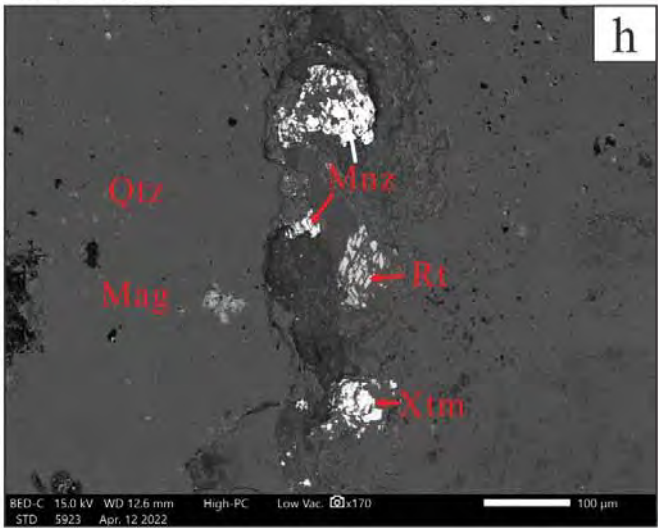
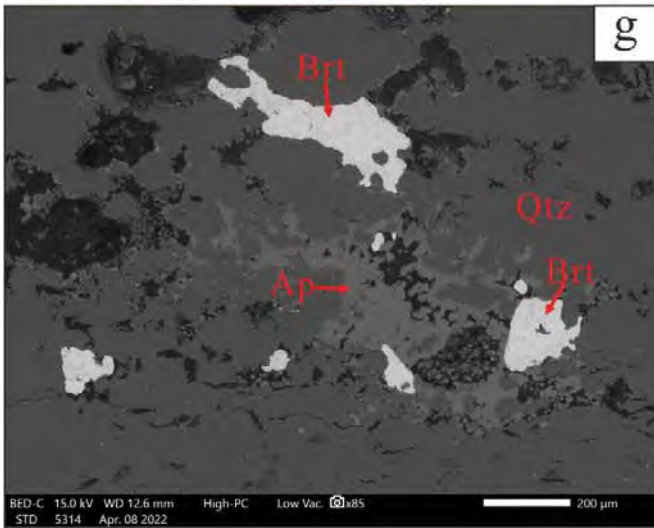
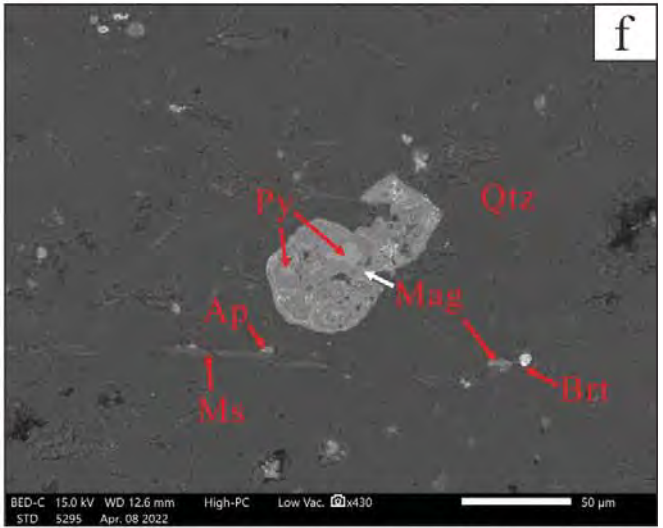
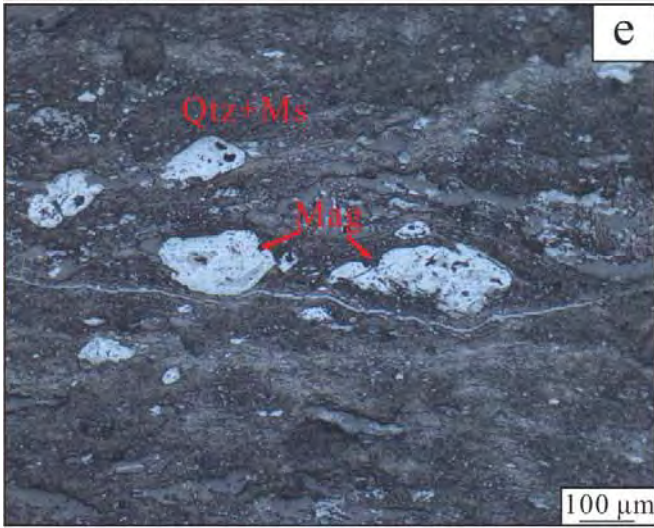
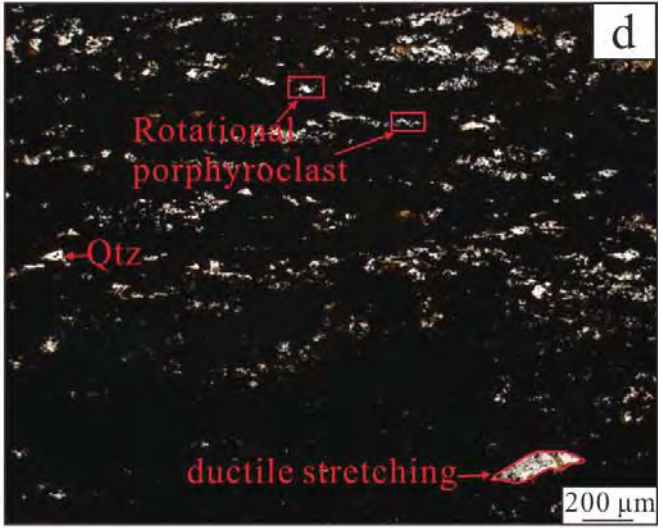
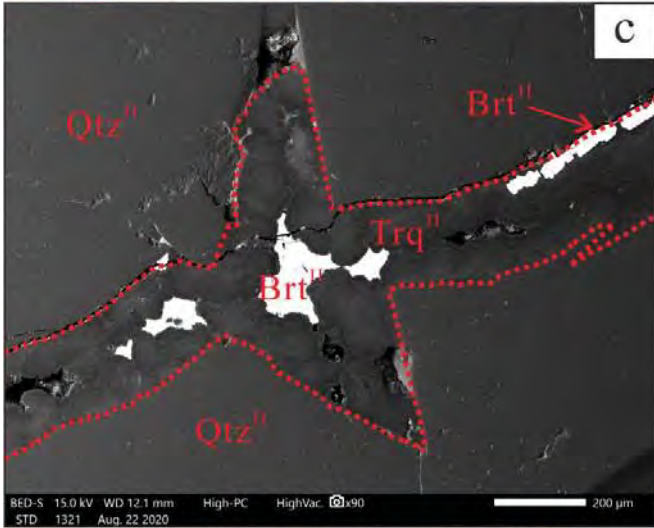
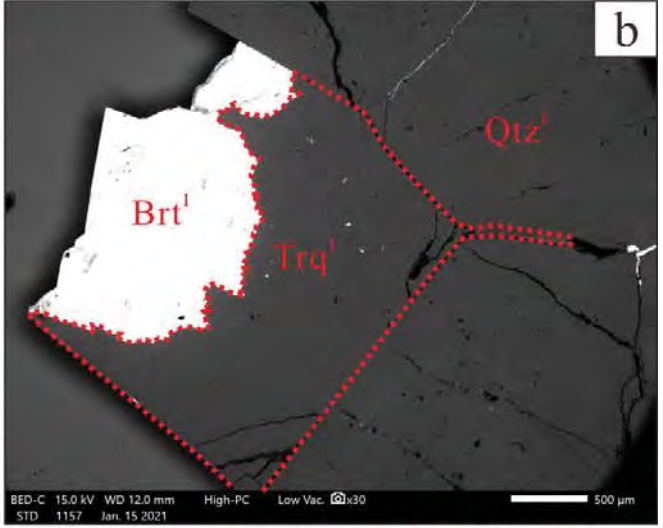
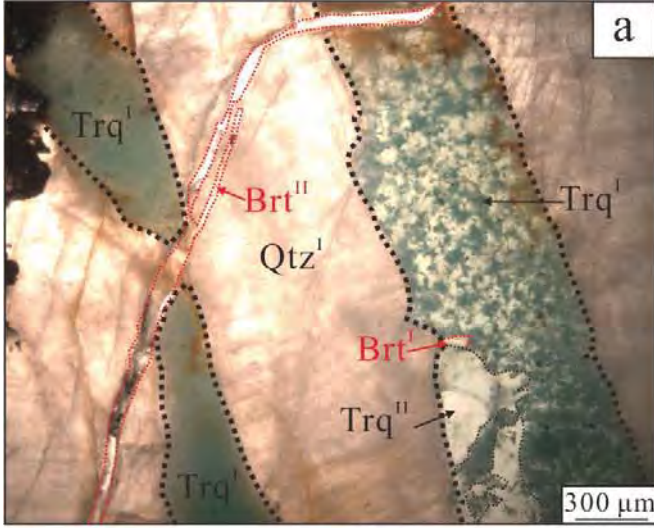
Abbreviations: Sample no. = sample number; Min = minerals;

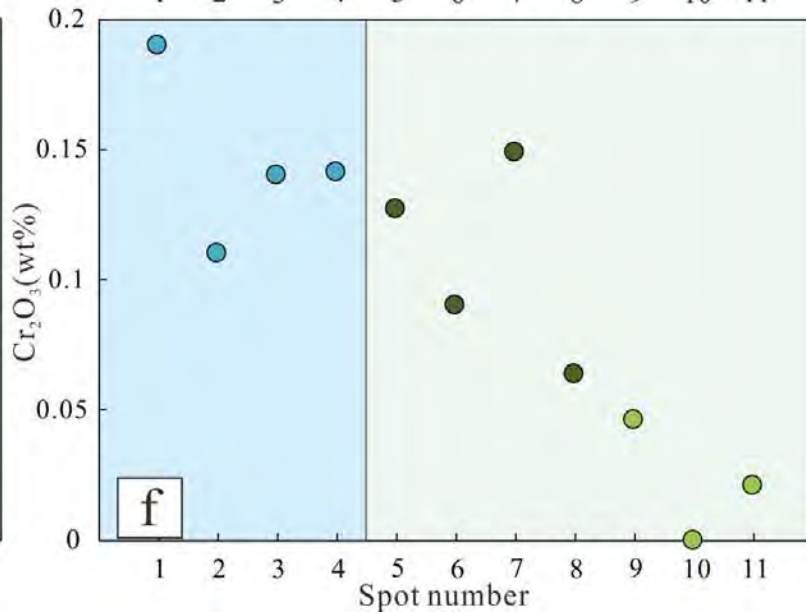
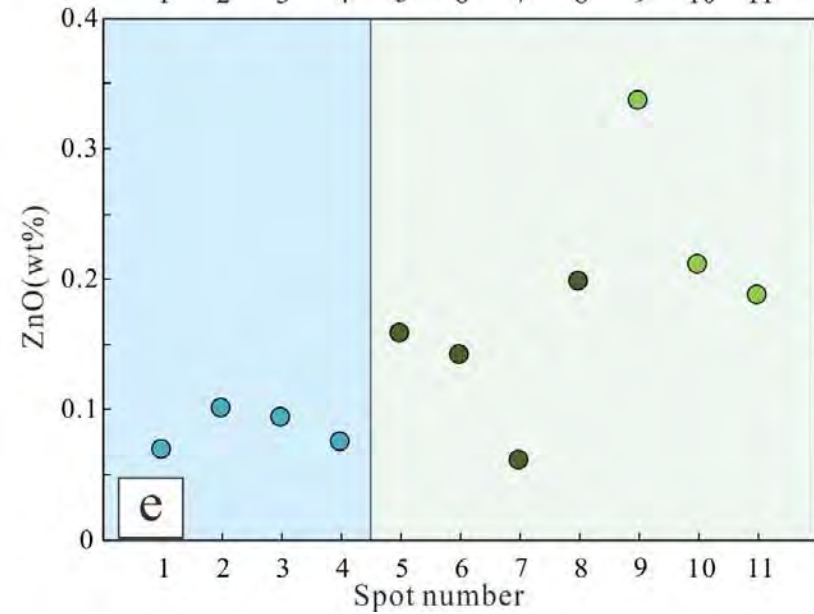
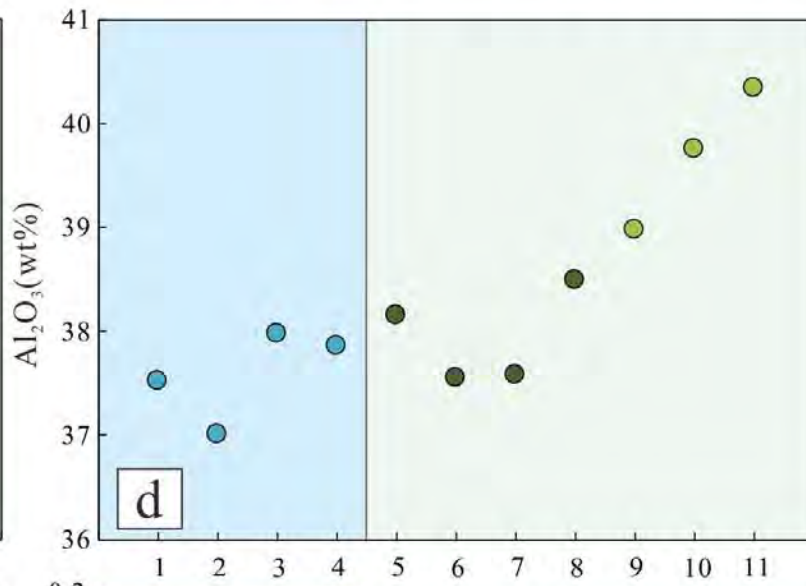
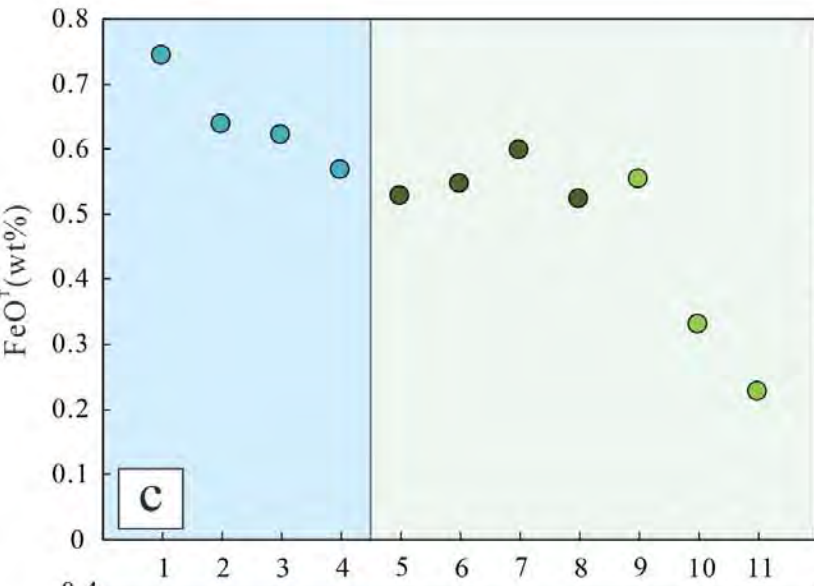
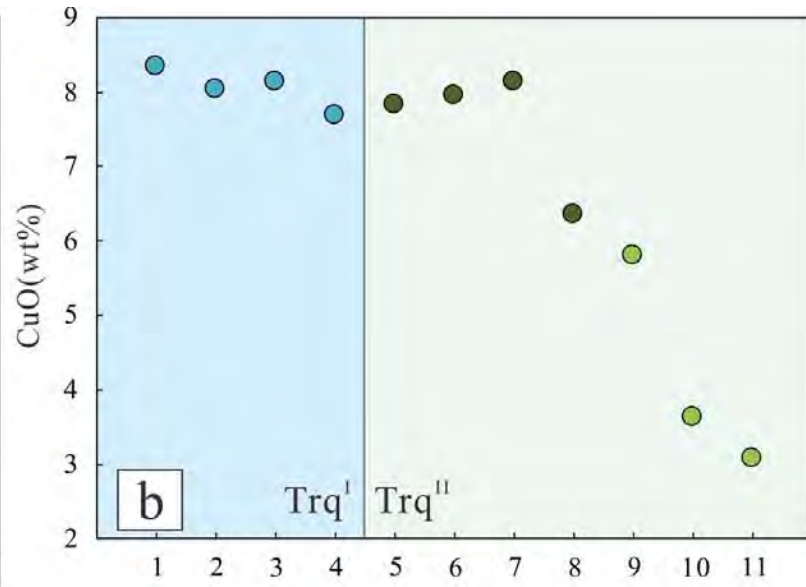
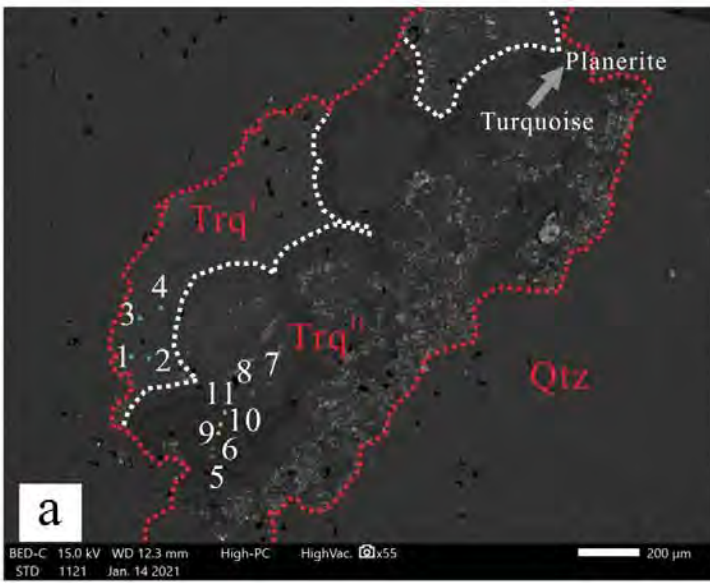
¹ For mineral abbreviation see [Fig. 4](#)² $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values of fluids in equilibrium with quartz were calculated using the equation of [Clayton et al. \(1972\)](#)

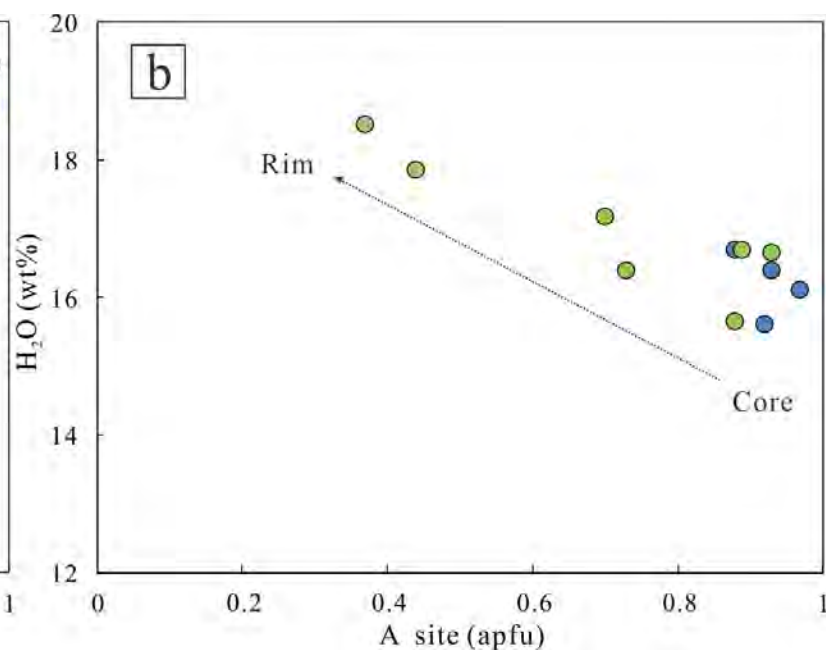
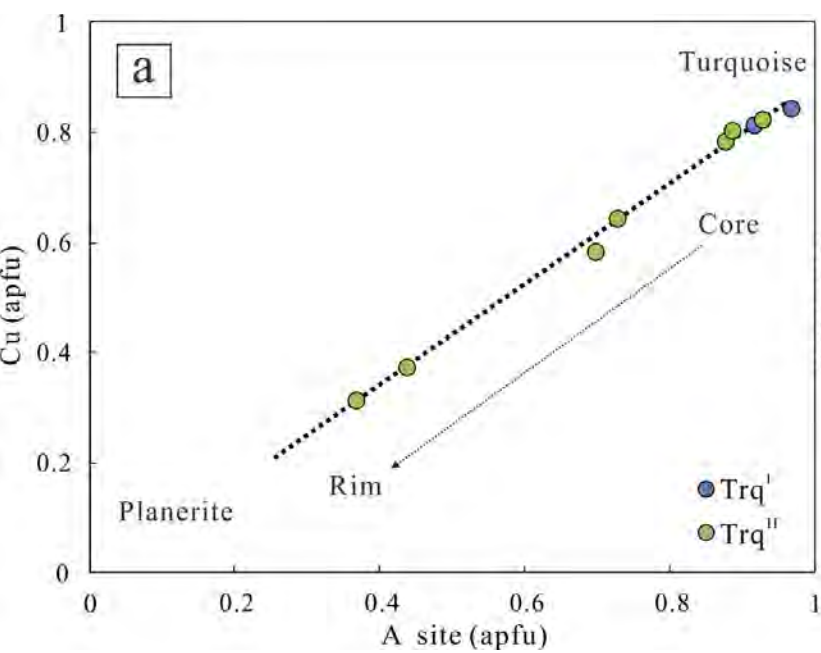


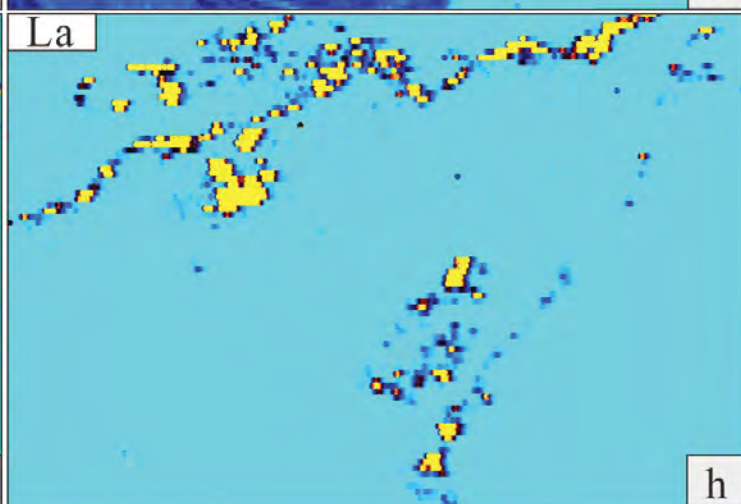
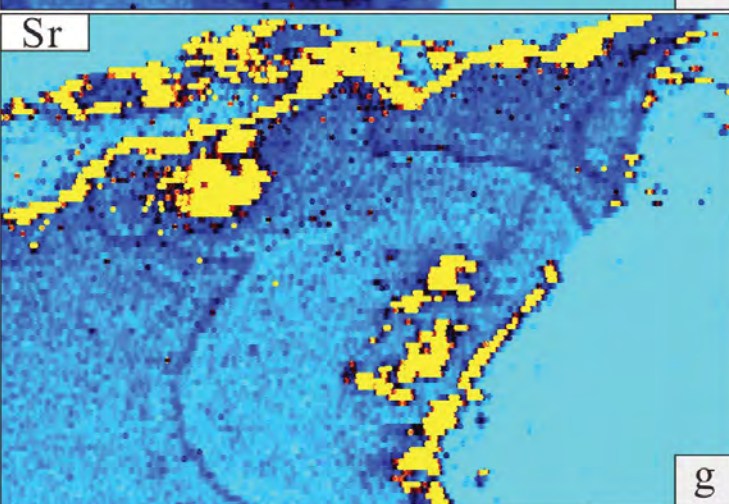
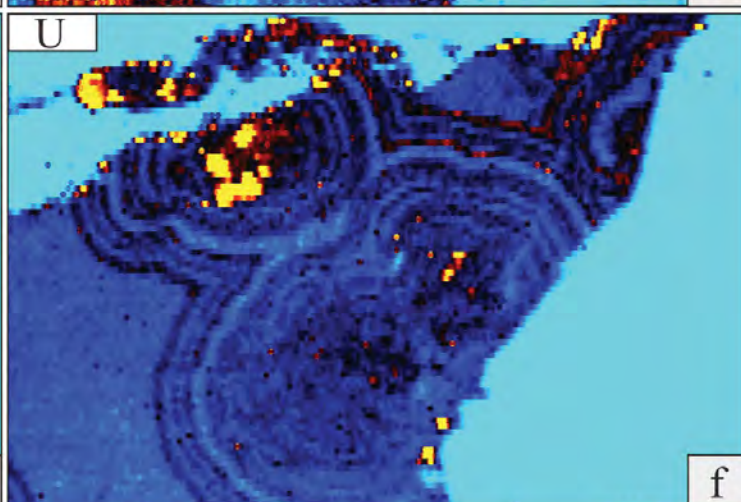
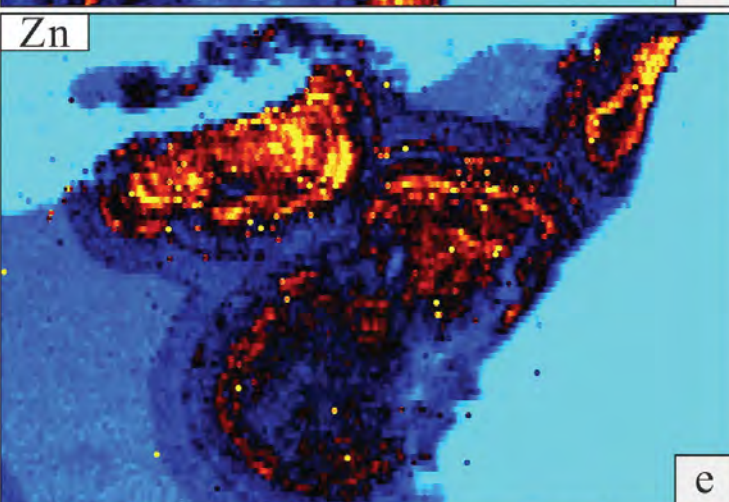
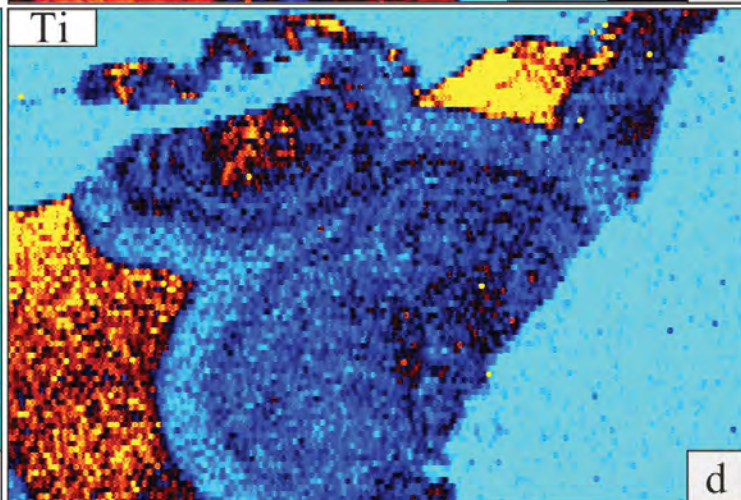
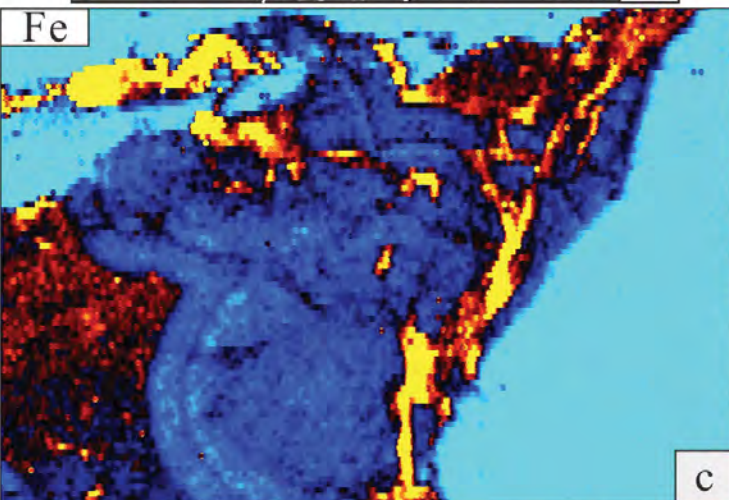
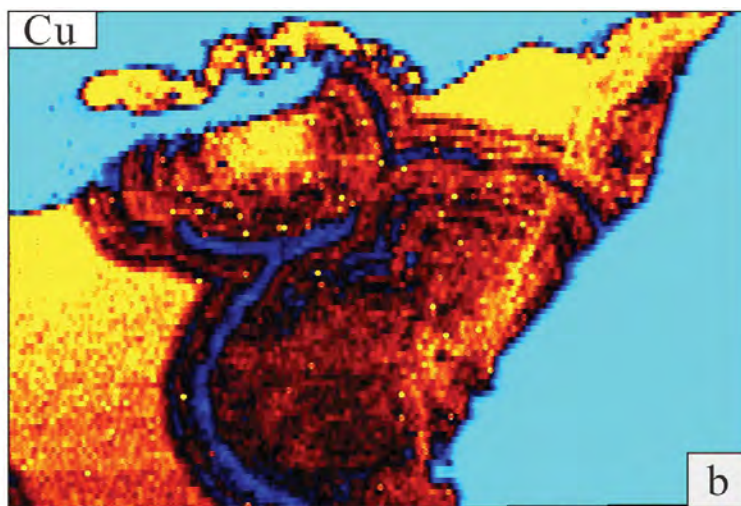
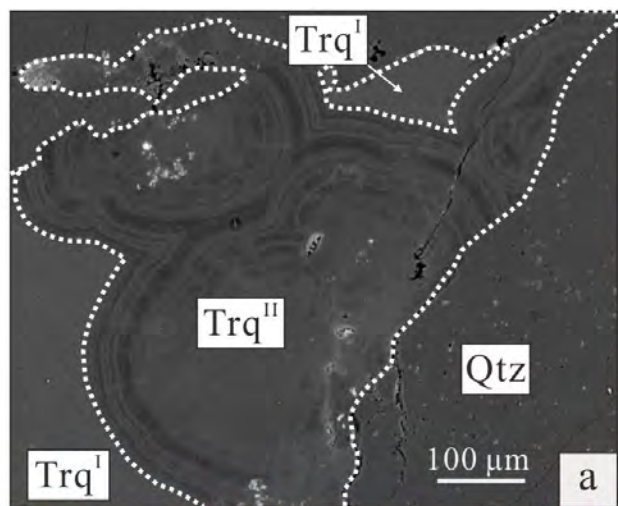






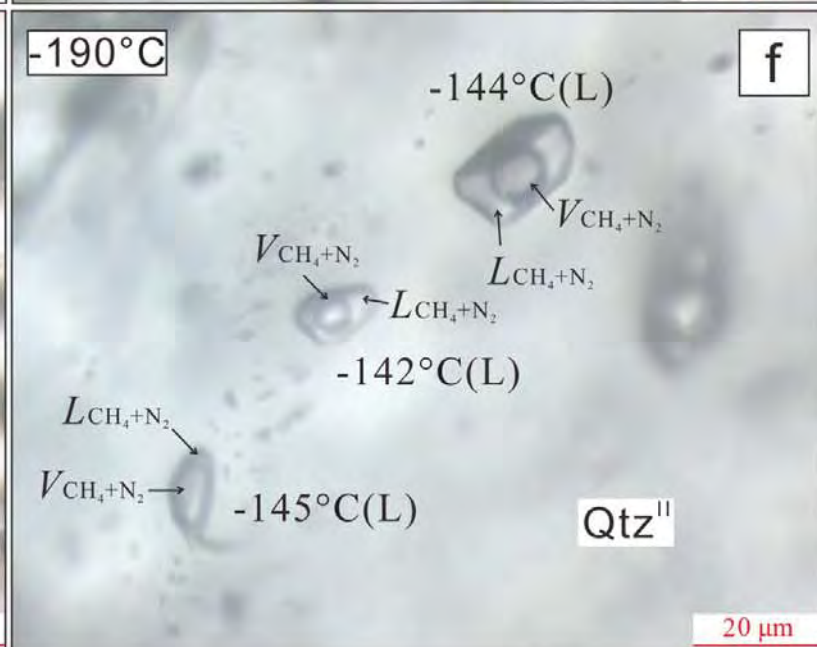
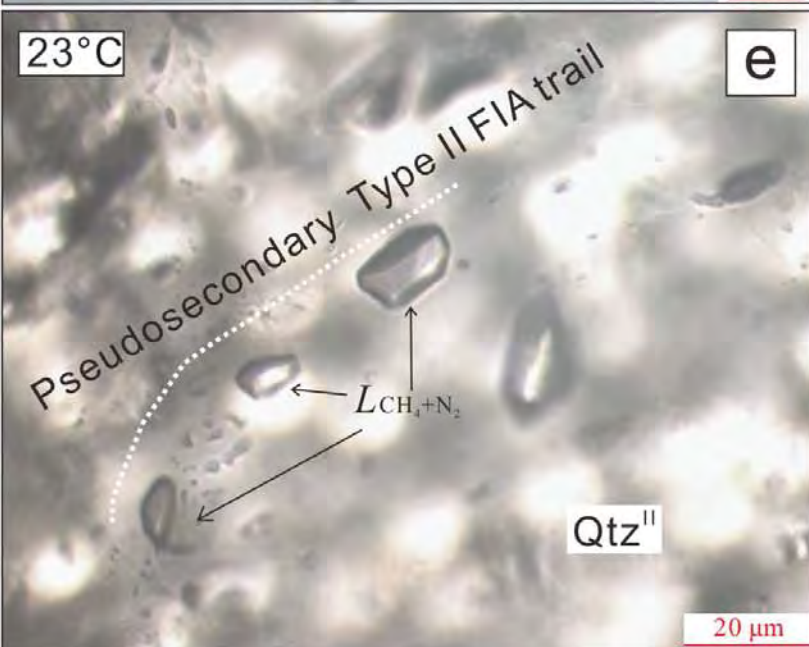
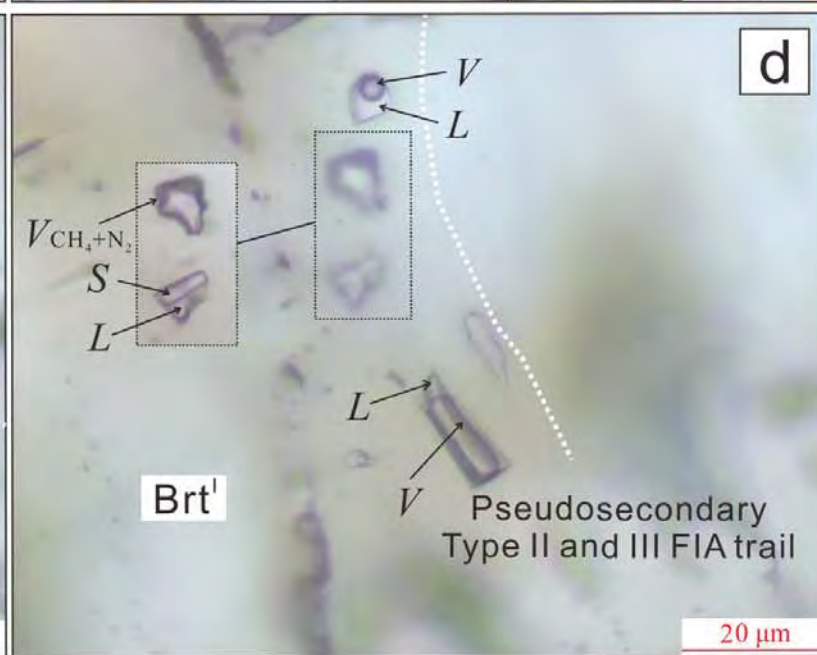
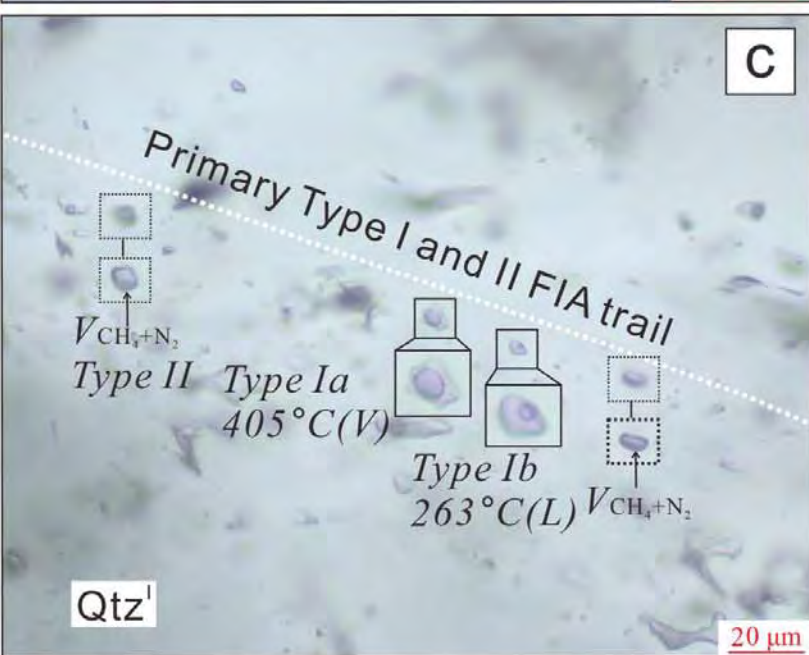
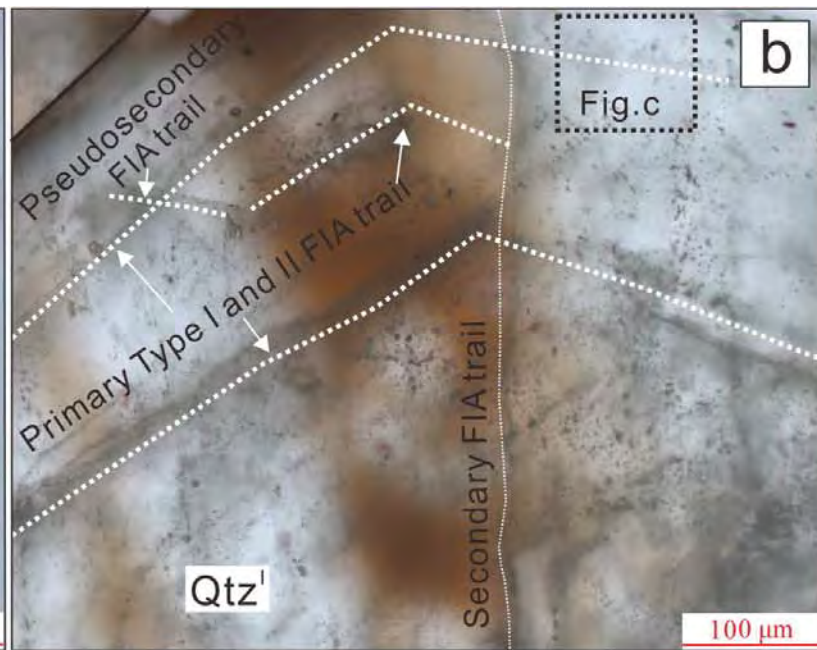


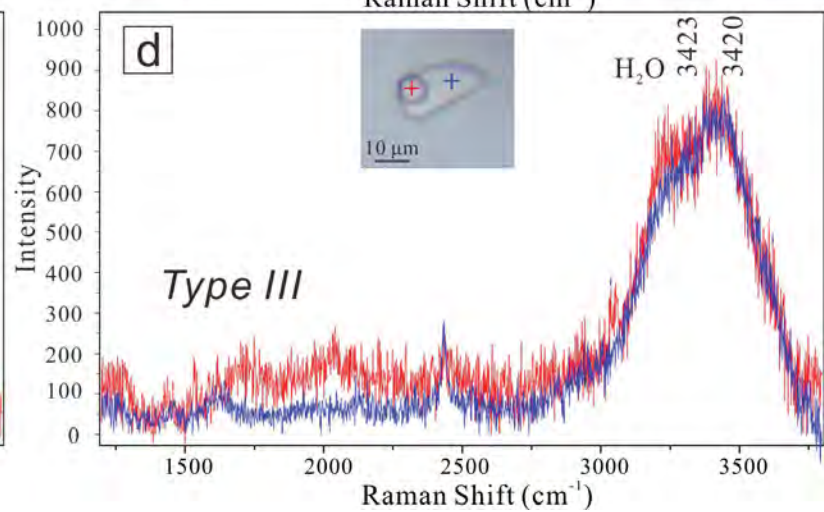
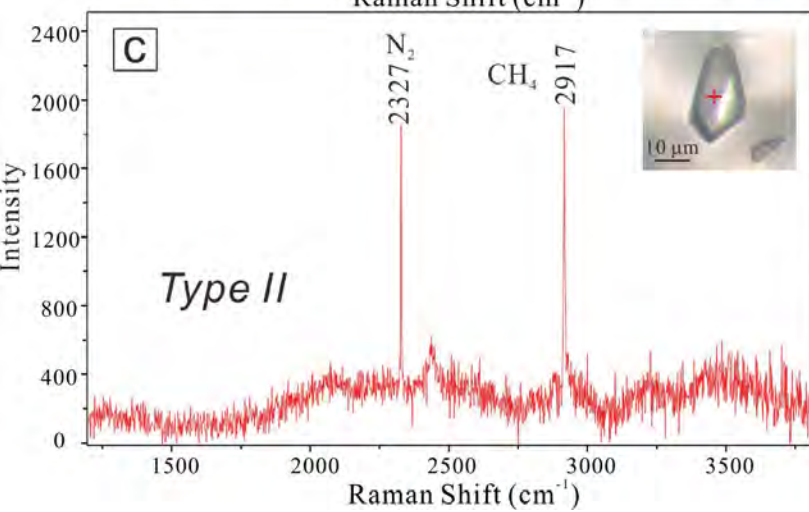
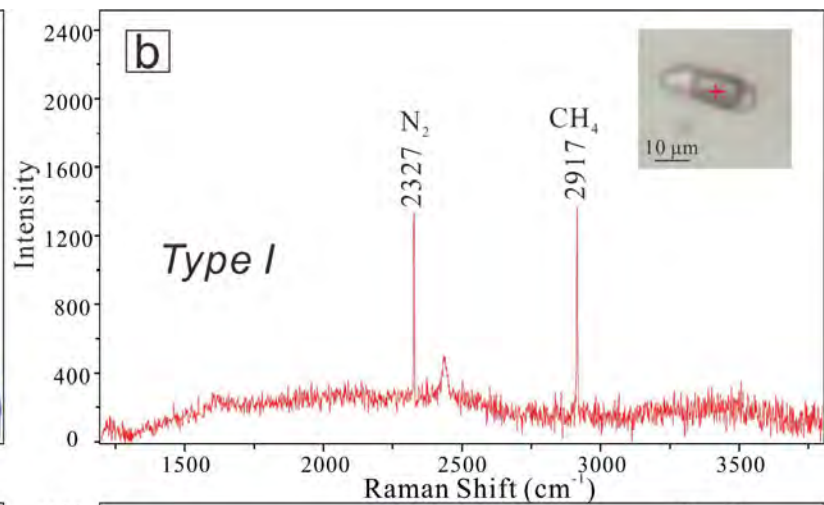
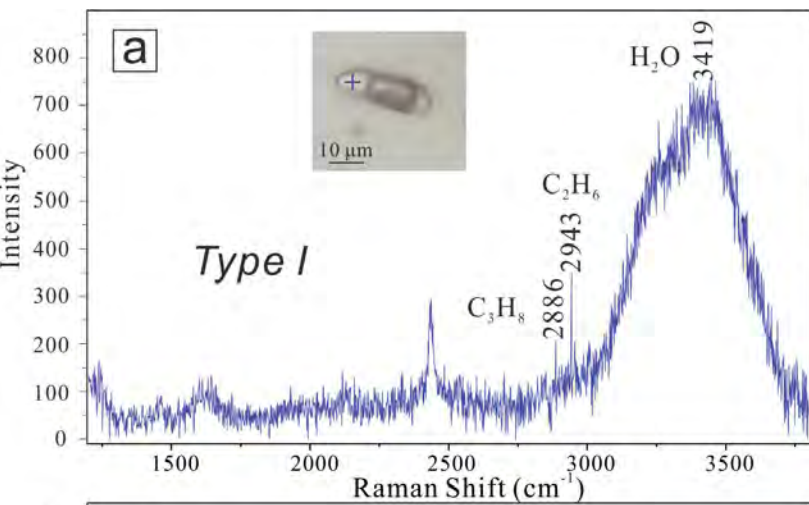


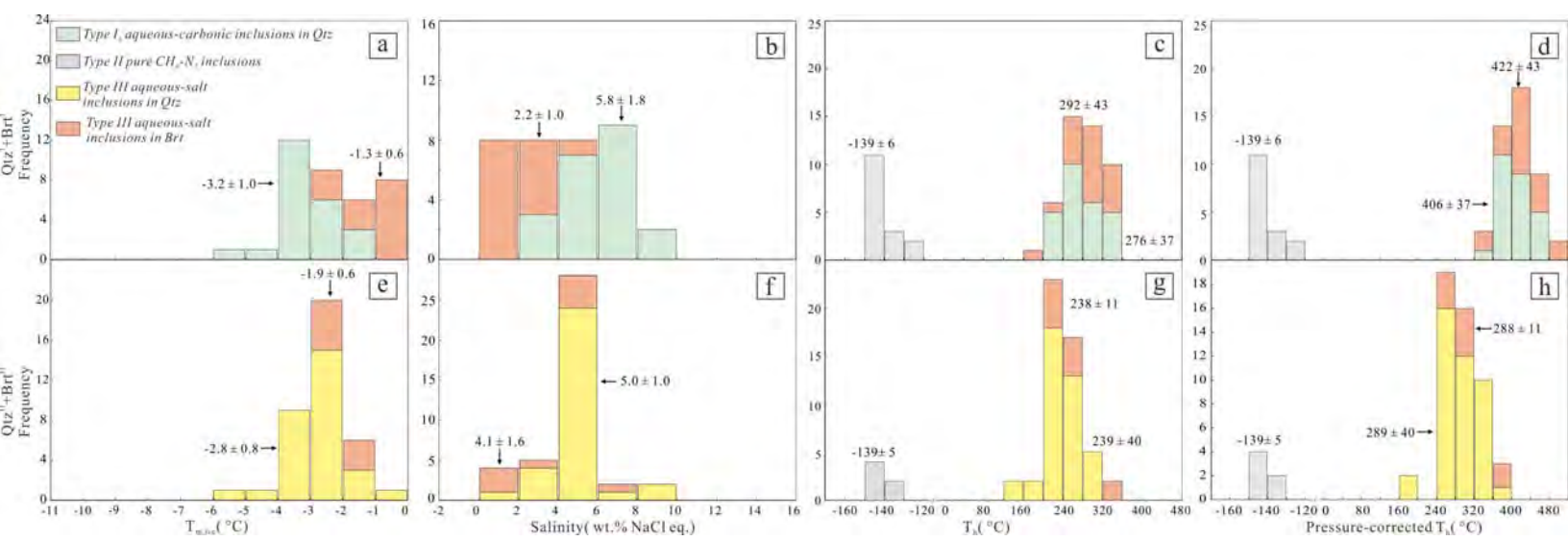


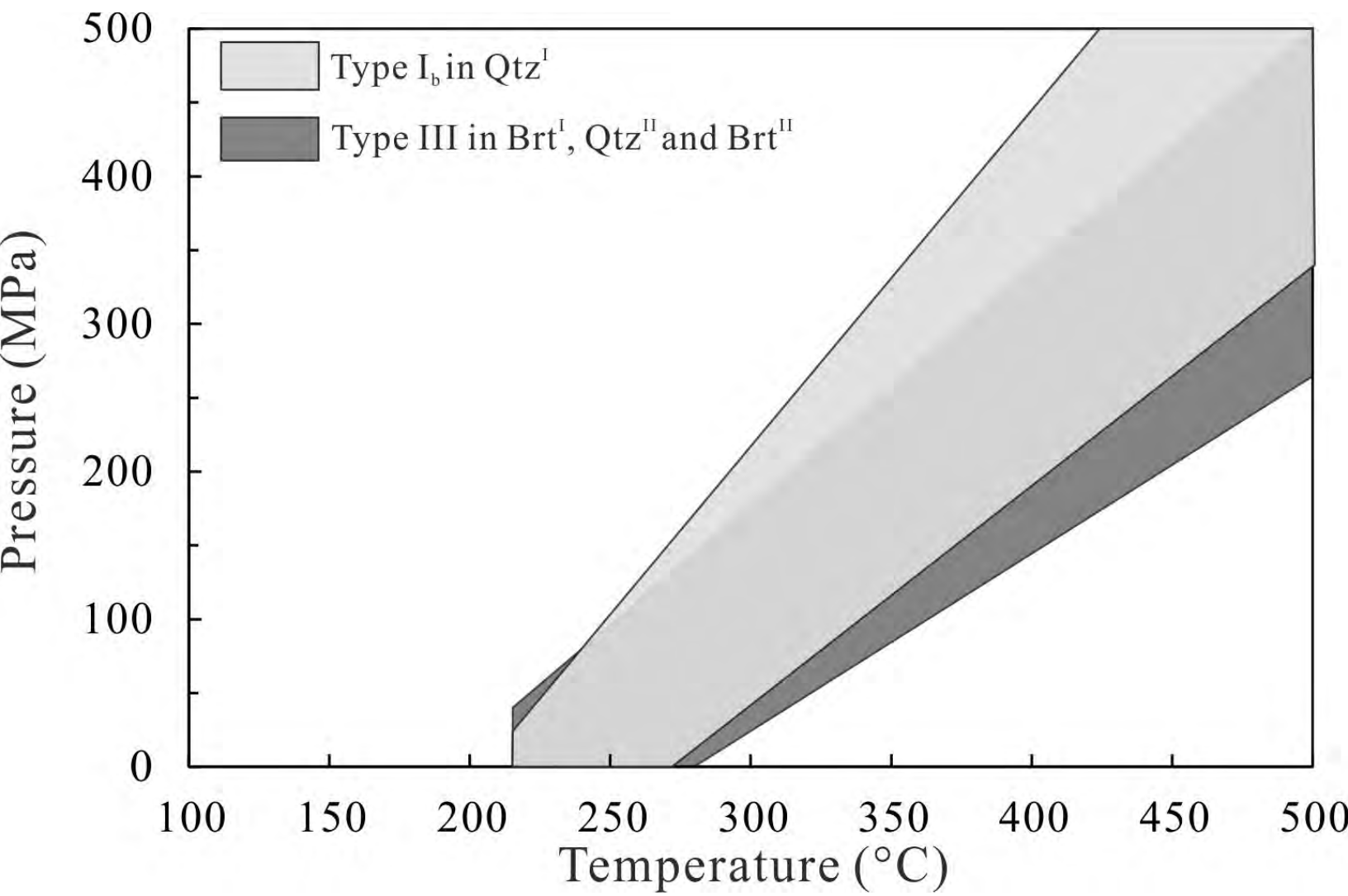
High

Low



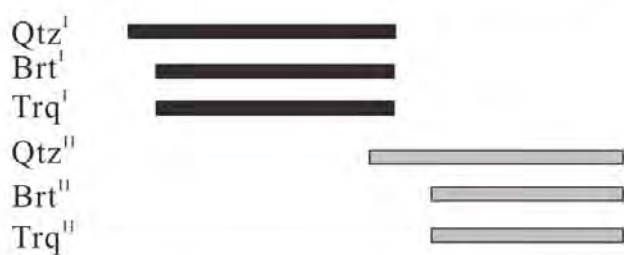




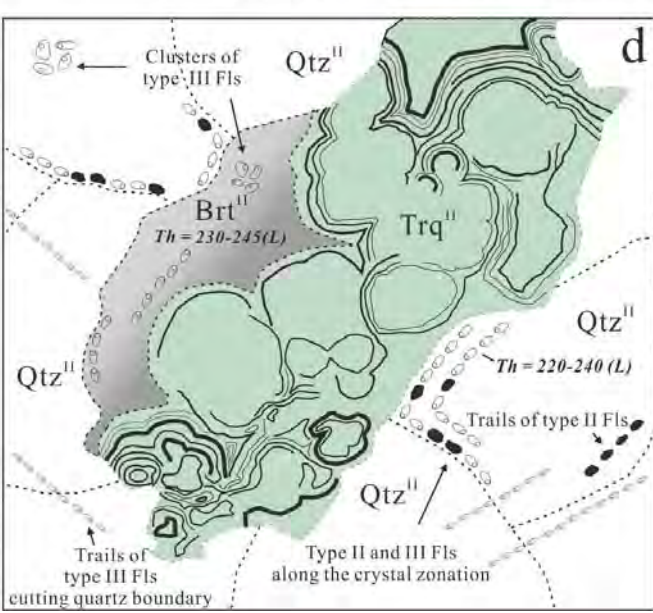
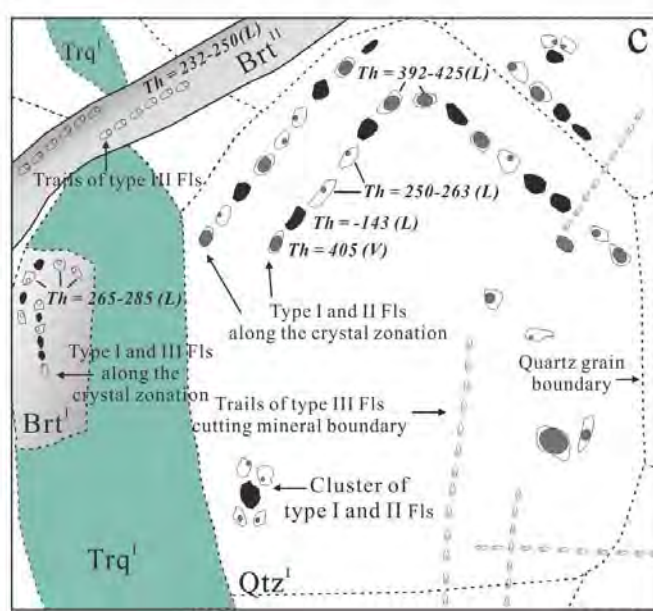
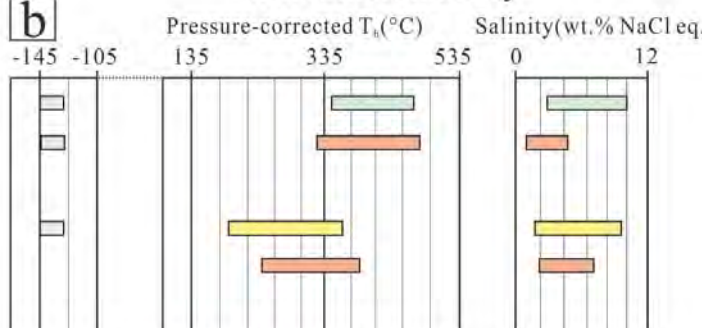


a

Relative timing →

**b**

Microthermometry



- Two-phase CH₄-N₂-NaCl-H₂O type I FIs
- Mono-phase CH₄-N₂ type II FIs
- Two-phase NaCl-H₂O type III FIs

