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1 Stable isotope geochemistry of silicon in granitoid zircon

2

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16 **Keywords:** Si isotopes, zircon, granite, LA-MC-ICP-MS

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18

19 **ABSTRACT**20 **Zircon is often used to study granites (sensu lato) and continental crust because it**
21 **is very resistant and can be analyzed for various isotope systems that provide time**
22 **and source information about their parental melts. Granites with different**
23 **petrological histories have distinct bulk-rock silicon isotope compositions but it is**
24 **unclear if these differences are also detectable in zircon because of superimposed**
25 **fractionation effects (e.g., related to temperature, silica content, magmatic**
26 **processes). The present study explores the Si isotope signatures of zircon from**
27 **various granite types to constrain their isotope fractionation behavior and uses**

28 **them as igneous petrogenetic tools, and possibly as granite source discriminators**
29 **when zircon is found in detrital sediments. Our results show that although Si**
30 **isotope compositions in zircon can be modified by secondary (post-crystallization)**
31 **processes such as alteration/weathering and metamorphism, they are primarily**
32 **controlled by zircon-melt isotope fractionation, which depends on both zircon**
33 **crystallization temperature and magma silica content. Once these fractionation**
34 **effects are understood and filtered out, a pattern emerges between Si isotope**
35 **signatures of zircons from different granite types that is consistent with theoretical**
36 **and experimental results as well as with known Si isotope differences at the bulk-**
37 **rock scale. Silicon isotope ratios in zircon can track magma evolution (e.g.,**
38 **temperature and SiO₂ changes) and, hence, reveal complex processes that involved**
39 **magma mingling, fractional crystallization, and/or multiple sources. This study,**
40 **therefore, illustrates that Si isotopes in zircon can be used to investigate magma**
41 **evolution and represents a useful complement to existing techniques in granite**
42 **studies involving zircon (e.g., U-Th-Pb, Lu-Hf and O isotopes) provided that it is**
43 **not used as a stand-alone technique.**

44

45 **1. Introduction**

46 Silicon is a major component of silicates which make up most of the terrestrial mantle
47 and crust. This chemical element has three stable isotopes 28, 29, and 30, with
48 respective mean abundances of 92.23%, 4.68%, and 3.09% ([Debièvre and Taylor, 1993](#)).
49 Although developed long ago (e.g., [Reynolds and Verhoogen, 1953](#); [Clayton, 1978](#);
50 [Douthitt, 1982](#)), Si isotope measurements have been applied to high-temperature
51 geochemistry only recently (e.g., [Shahar et al., 2009](#); [Savage et al., 2011](#), [Zambardi and](#)
52 [Poitrasson, 2011](#)) thanks to the advent of multicollection inductively coupled plasma

53 mass spectrometry (MC-ICP-MS; e.g., [Georg et al., 2006](#)) and optimized sample
54 preparation procedure (i.e., alkali fusion) that allowed sufficiently high precision to
55 observe natural variations. High-temperature Si isotope fractionation has consequently
56 been studied in various contexts from cosmochemistry to igneous petrology allowing
57 the establishment of bulk silicate Earth composition, which is distinct from most other
58 planetary bodies (e.g., [Georg et al., 2007](#); [Savage et al., 2010](#); [Shahar et al., 2011](#);
59 [Ziegler et al., 2012](#); [Zambardi et al., 2013](#); [Moynier et al., 2020](#)), and the identification
60 of a general igneous differentiation trend towards isotopically heavy Si isotope
61 signatures for SiO₂-rich magmas (e.g., [Savage et al., 2011](#); [Poitrasson, 2017](#)). In
62 addition, it has been shown recently that granitoids - plutonic rocks formed by the slow
63 cooling of a silica-rich magmas – exhibit distinct silicon isotope signatures depending
64 on their chemical affinity and, hence, their source (e.g., [Savage et al., 2012](#); [André et](#)
65 [al., 2019](#); [Deng et al., 2019](#); [Fig. 1](#)). There are several ways to produce granitic magmas
66 which is reflected in their chemical and isotopic compositions, ultimately responsible,
67 together with pressure and temperature of crystallization, for the mineralogy of these
68 plutonic rocks (e.g., [Nédélec et al., 2015](#)). Granites have been grouped into multiple
69 types according to various classifications (e.g., peraluminous, metaluminous: [Shand,](#)
70 [1943](#); A, I, S: [Chappell and White, 1974](#); MPG, CPG, KCG, ACG, RTG, PAG:
71 [Barbarin, 1999](#); [Table 1](#)) essentially based on petrological and/or geochemical criteria.
72 Granites, and more generally granitoids, are the major constituents of continents and it
73 is, therefore, important to understand their formation and evolution over time because
74 continents witnessed almost the entire Earth's evolutionary history.

75 Granites (sensu lato) most commonly contain zircon (ZrSiO₄) but in variable
76 quantities depending on their origin and their degree of differentiation (e.g., [Pupin,](#)
77 [1980](#); [Samson et al., 2018](#)). Zircon can be precisely and accurately dated using U-Th-

78 Pb isotope systems (e.g., [Schoene, 2014](#)) while the source of its parental magma can be
79 approached using Hf and O isotopes (e.g., [Patchett, 1983](#); [Valley, 2003](#); [Payne et al.,](#)
80 [2016](#)). Moreover, zircon is very resistant to weathering and erosion, and most elements
81 diffuse very slowly within its lattice (e.g., [Lee et al., 1997](#); [Cherniak and Watson, 2003](#))
82 making this mineral a very efficient time-capsule. Therefore, zircon has been a very
83 useful source of information for granite petrogenesis. It is currently used in magmatic
84 rocks and in detrital sediments, as an archive of the crust, to reconstruct the formation
85 and evolution of continents (e.g., [Roberts and Spencer, 2015](#) and references therein).
86 Isotopic information provided by zircon should be interpreted differently for each
87 granite type because of the distinct sources and petrogenetic processes involved in their
88 formation (e.g., [Barbarin, 1999](#); [Bonin et al., 2019](#); [Moyen, 2019](#)). While only a few
89 tools exist to determine the nature of the parental rock of a detrital zircon, they remain
90 ambiguous and not always reliable (e.g., [Belousova et al., 2006](#)). Since granites of
91 different types (A, I, S, and TTG) can have distinct Si isotope signatures ([Savage et al.,](#)
92 [2012](#); [Poitrasson and Zambardi, 2015](#); [André et al., 2019](#); [Deng et al., 2019](#)), it is likely
93 that these differences can be retrieved from the Si isotope signature of zircon
94 crystallized in these rocks.

95 The silicon stable isotope signature of an igneous rock can be controlled by that
96 of its source, mineralogy, and melting/crystallization history ([Savage et al., 2011](#);
97 [Poitrasson, 2017](#)). In contrast, the Si isotope signature of a zircon is controlled by the
98 degree of fractionation with its parental magma which essentially depends on the
99 temperature of crystallization and the silica content (~degree of polymerization) of the
100 surrounding melt that was studied theoretically and experimentally by [Qin et al. \(2016\)](#)
101 and [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#). Co-precipitating phases (e.g., feldspar, quartz) can also play a
102 role provided that they formed in equilibrium. However, post-crystallization processes

103 (e.g., radiation-damage, metamorphic recrystallization, alteration and weathering;
104 [Ewing et al., 2003](#); [Vavra et al., 1999](#); [Pidgeon et al., 2017, 2019](#)) could possibly modify
105 the Si isotope composition of a zircon. [Trail et al. \(2018\)](#) and [Chowdhury et al. \(2020\)](#)
106 already presented Si isotope data for natural zircons and illustrated the potential of such
107 application for very old igneous rocks. However, we thought it was appropriate to
108 present a more extensive dataset of natural zircons from a wider variety of granite types
109 to more deeply understand the fractionation behavior between zircon and its parental-
110 rock and, hence, complement theoretical ([Qin et al., 2016](#)) and experimental ([Trail et
111 al., 2019](#)) constraints. This, in turn, would provide a more robust reference frame for
112 the interpretation of Si isotope data in zircon, and illustrate whether or not they can be
113 used to discriminate granite types. Moreover, adding Si isotopes to the isotope tool-box
114 currently applied to detrital zircons would help clarify the detrital record by better
115 constraining the nature of zircon parental rocks and, therefore, prevent *ad hoc*
116 interpretations of O and Hf isotope signatures.

117 In order to address these issues, this article presents Si isotope data obtained by
118 laser-ablation multicollection inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-
119 ICP-MS) and solution multicollection inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
120 (S-MC-ICP-MS) for zircons from various granite types (4 A-type, 9 tonalite-
121 trondhjemite-granodiorite: TTGs, 10 I-type, and 3 S-type; [Tables 1](#) and [S1](#)), together
122 with LA-ICP-MS trace element concentrations, U-Pb ages, and LA-MC-ICP-MS Lu-
123 Hf isotope data for a subset of these zircons. We acknowledge that the A-I-S
124 classification does not encompass the entire diversity of granites (e.g., [Barbarin, 1996,](#)
125 [1999](#); [Bonin et al., 2019](#); [Moyen et al., 2016](#); [Moyen, 2019](#)) but have decided to use it
126 in the present study because it has the advantage of being widely used. Our new results
127 show that Si isotopes in zircon display a fractionation behavior that complies very well

128 with theory and experiment but, as suspected, secondary processes (e.g., weathering
129 and metamorphism) can compromise the Si isotope signature of zircon. However, trace
130 element signatures can help filter out altered compositions. Once fractionation behavior
131 is understood and alteration filtered out, zircon Si isotope signatures are consistent with
132 those in bulk-rocks.

133

134 **2. Material and Methods**

135 **2.1. Samples**

136 Zircon crystals studied here are from felsic igneous rocks of various affinities (e.g., A,
137 I, S, TTG; [Table 1](#)) and correspond to separate minerals mounted in epoxy. The A-type
138 granites analyzed in this study are from the Pikes Peak batholith, the Colorado Front
139 Range (USA; [Guitreau et al., 2016](#)) and the Skjoldungen complex (Greenland; [Nutman
140 and Rosing, 1994](#)) but we also analyzed a detrital zircon megacryst (1.5 cm long) from
141 Tambani (Malawi) that derives from nepheline-bearing gneiss ([Ashwal et al., 2007](#)).
142 Granites of I-type affinity analyzed here are from the Skellefte district (Sweden;
143 [Guitreau et al., 2014a and references therein](#)), the Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada;
144 [Guitreau et al., 2014b](#)), and the French Massif Central (France; [Barbarin, 1988a](#)). Note
145 that some of the Skellefte samples are not granites but sub-volcanic or porphyritic
146 eruptive products that are chemically akin to and coeval with I-type granites with which
147 they are associated. S-type granites are from the French Massif Central ([Barbarin,
148 1988b](#)) and correspond to cordierite granite (CPG) and two-mica granite (MPG;
149 [Barbarin, 1999](#)). TTG studied here are from the Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada),
150 Barberton Greenstone Belt (South Africa), the Karelian craton (Finland), the
151 Sharyzalgai uplift (Siberia), and the Napier Complex (East Antarctica). More

152 information about these samples can be found in [Guitreau et al. \(2012\)](#) and references
153 therein.

154

155 **2.2. Zircon imaging and analysis**

156 **2.2.1. Zircon CL and BSE imaging**

157 Zircon cathodoluminescence (CL) and back-scattered electron (BSE) imaging was
158 done at Laboratoire Magmas et Volcans (LMV, France) using a Jeol JSM-5910LV
159 scanning electron microscope. Image acquisition was done using an acceleration
160 voltage of 15 kV. Zircon imaging revealed internal textures which served as a tool to
161 interpret zircon crystallization conditions (e.g., mafic or felsic igneous, metamorphic)
162 as well as radiation damage accumulation and alteration effects (e.g., [Corfu et al.,
163 2003](#)). This ultimately guided elemental and isotopic measurements that were located
164 as much as possible in igneous domains (based on texture), except in the case of the
165 zircon megacryst from Malawi in which domains corresponding to various
166 crystallization conditions were purposely analyzed. Zircon crystals from TTGs and
167 some I- and A-type granites were already imaged using CL/BSE technique and
168 analyzed for Lu-Hf isotopes and U-Pb ages ([Guitreau et al., 2012, 2014a, 2016, 2018,
169 2019](#)).

170

171 **2.2.2. Si isotope measurements by LA-MC-ICP-MS**

172 Laser-ablation multicollection inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
173 measurements were conducted at LMV using a Resonetics Resolution M-50E coupled
174 to a Thermo Scientific Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS, and followed closely the analytical
175 protocol of [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#). Analytical conditions are provided in [Table 2](#). Si
176 isotopes were measured as traverses and the international zircon standard 91500 (from

177 a syenite; [Wiedenbeck et al., 1995](#)) was used as a bracketing standard. The zircon
178 standards MudTank (from a carbonatite; [Black and Gulson, 1978](#)), KIM (from a
179 kimberlite; [Trail et al., 2018](#)), AS3 (from a gabbro; [Paces and Miller, 1993](#)), Plešovice
180 (hyperpotassic granulite; [Sláma et al., 2008](#)), and the synthetic standards MUN from
181 the Memorial University of Newfoundland ([Fisher et al., 2011](#)) were used for quality
182 check. Silicon isotope results are reported in [Tables S2, S3, and 3](#) in delta notation,
183 $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$ and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$, which express per mil deviations from a reference (quartz NBS 28),
184 and are calculated using the following equations.

$$185 \quad \delta^X\text{Si} = [({}^X\text{Si}/{}^{28}\text{Si}_{\text{sample}})/({}^X\text{Si}/{}^{28}\text{Si}_{\text{standard}})-1] \times 1000$$

186 where X is either 29 or 30.

187 Throughout the manuscript, analytical uncertainty (i.e., within-run precision) is
188 reported as 2 standard-errors (2SE) whereas external reproducibility (e.g. average of
189 multiple analyses of the same zircon) is reported as 2 standard-deviations (2SD).

190 Silicon isotope data for AS3 zircon analyzed by LA-MC-ICP-MS in this study
191 gave a $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.47 \pm 0.20\text{‰}$ (2SD; [Table 3](#)), coherent with the value of $-0.36 \pm 0.35\text{‰}$
192 (2SD obtained by [Trail et al. \(2018\)](#) using SIMS and the value of $-0.44 \pm 0.23\text{‰}$ (2SD)
193 obtained by [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#) using the same LA-MC-ICP-MS set-up as the present
194 study. KIM zircon returned a LA-MC-ICP-MS $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.41 \pm 0.19\text{‰}$ which is
195 identical to the S-MC-ICP-MS value of $-0.41 \pm 0.01\text{‰}$ ([Trail et al. 2018](#)) and the LA-
196 MC-ICP-MS $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.40 \pm 0.23\text{‰}$ from [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#). MudTank zircon
197 analyzed in this study exhibit a LA-MC-ICP-MS $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.38 \pm 0.23\text{‰}$ which is
198 consistent, within error, with the S-MC-ICP-MS value of $-0.34 \pm 0.03\text{‰}$ from [Trail et](#)
199 [al. \(2018\)](#) and the $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.47 \pm 0.17\text{‰}$ obtained by [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#). Plešovice
200 zircon gave a $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.44 \pm 0.21\text{‰}$ which is consistent with S-MC-ICP-MS data of -
201 $0.39 \pm 0.06\text{‰}$ from [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#). The synthetic MUN zircons analyzed in this

202 study exhibited $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-1.61 \pm 0.21\text{‰}$ for MUN-0 and $-2.02 \pm 0.27\text{‰}$ for MUN-1,
203 which agree with values of $-1.67 \pm 0.14\text{‰}$ and $-2.08 \pm 0.17\text{‰}$, respectively, reported in
204 [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#).

205

206 **2.2.3. Si isotope measurements by S-MC-ICP-MS**

207 We analyzed some of the zircons by S-MC-ICP-MS for the sake of comparison with
208 LA-MC-ICP-MS measurements. Solution-MC-ICP-MS measurements were conducted
209 during the same analytical sessions as zircon standard data from [Guitreau et al. \(2020\)](#)
210 which used a technique modified after ([Deng et al., 2019](#)). Results for basalt reference
211 material BHVO-2 normalized to quartz reference NBS28 analyzed using MC-ICP-MS
212 alongside unknowns comply well with consensus values as we obtained $\delta^{29}\text{Si}$ and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
213 values of $-0.14 \pm 0.09\text{‰}$ and $-0.28 \pm 0.15\text{‰}$ ($n = 60$; 2SD) for BHVO-2 ($\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -0.29$
214 $\pm 0.05\text{‰}$; [Schuessler and Von Blackenburg, 2014](#)).

215

216 **2.2.4. Trace element measurements in zircon**

217 Trace element measurements were done at LMV by LA-ICP-MS using the same laser
218 as for Si isotopes but coupled to a Thermo Scientific Element XR ICP-MS. Analytical
219 spots were located on shallow lines formed by Si isotope analyses. Information
220 regarding analytical conditions are given in [Table 2](#). We used ^{28}Si as an internal
221 standard and the synthetic glass standard SRM NIST 610 ([Jochum et al., 2011](#)) as a
222 bracketing standard, whereas SRM NIST 612 ([Jochum et al., 2011](#)), 91500
223 ([Wiedenbeck et al., 1995, 2004](#)), MudTank ([Gain et al., 2019](#)), and AS3 ([Takehara et](#)
224 [al., 2018](#)) zircon standards were analyzed for quality check. Batches of 6 unknowns and
225 3 quality-control standards were bracketed by 2 analyses of NIST 610. We used
226 published Si concentration data when available but, otherwise, used stoichiometric

227 values to convert ICP-MS counts/second into concentrations. Results are presented in
228 **Table S4**. Elemental concentrations obtained for SRM NIST 612 were all consistent
229 with published values within $\leq 7\%$ (Jochum et al., 2011). Data for zircon standards
230 analyzed in this study complied well with available published values for most elements
231 (**Table S4**; **Fig. S1**). Note, however, that some elemental concentrations fall within the
232 range of published values or close in the case of zircon reference materials that exhibit
233 compositional differences between batches (MudTank and AS3) and/or because of
234 alteration (e.g., Ca, Al, K, La contents).

235

236 **2.2.5. U-Pb geochronology in Malawi zircon**

237 The megacrystic zircon from Malawi was the only crystal studied for U-Pb and Lu-Hf
238 in this work because its size allowed spatial resolution on various domains such as
239 magmatic, metamorphic, and altered ones, and we wanted to investigate possible
240 relationship between geochemical signatures within these domains. The regular size of
241 normal zircons ($\sim 100\text{-}200\ \mu\text{m}$) does not allow these domains to be individualized.
242 Therefore, this zircon was the appropriate candidate to test the effect of magmatic and
243 metamorphic growth as well as secondary alteration on the geochemistry of zircon. In
244 addition, a fair number of other zircons studied in this study were previously analyzed
245 for U-Pb and Lu-Hf isotope systematics in earlier studies (Guitreau et al., 2012, 2014b,
246 2019). U-Th-Pb isotope measurements were done at LMV by LA-ICP-MS using the
247 same instruments as for trace elements. Analytical spots were located next to lines
248 formed during Si isotope analyses. Information regarding analytical conditions are
249 given in **Table 2**. The zircon standard 91500 ($1065.4 \pm 0.3\ \text{Ma}$; Wiedenbeck et al.,
250 1995) was used for bracketing whereas AS3 ($1099.1 \pm 0.5\ \text{Ma}$; Paces and Miller, 1993)
251 and Plešovice ($337.13 \pm 0.37\ \text{Ma}$; Sláma et al., 2008) were analyzed as unknowns for

252 quality check. Data were acquired as batches of 6 unknowns bracketed by 4
253 measurements of 91500. Zircon U-Th-Pb data were processed using Glitter software
254 (Van Achterbergh et al., 2001) and age calculations were done using a present-day
255 $^{238}\text{U}/^{235}\text{U}$ of 137.818 (Hiess et al., 2012) and decay constants of $1.55125 \cdot 10^{-10}$,
256 $9.8485 \cdot 10^{-10}$, and $4.9475 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ for ^{238}U , ^{235}U and ^{232}Th , respectively (Jaffey et al.,
257 1971; LeRoux and Glendenin, 1963). Concordia plots were built using the Isoplot
258 software (Ludwig, 2008). Finally, semi-quantitative concentrations of U, Th, and Pb
259 were determined by external normalization to 91500 as an additional means for
260 interpreting U-Pb ages, notably to detect correlation between ages and U concentrations
261 potentially arising from alteration facilitated by radiation-damage accumulation.

262 We obtained a Concordia age of $1097.5 \pm 4.5 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$; MSWD = 0.52)
263 and weighted average $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ and $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages of $1096.9 \pm 6.6 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$;
264 MSWD = 0.24), and $1097.3 \pm 7.7 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$; MSWD = 0.24,) respectively, for
265 AS3, and a Concordia age of $338.2 \pm 2.9 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$; MSWD = 0.11), as well as
266 $338.1 \pm 2.9 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$; MSWD = 0.14) and $343 \pm 22 \text{ Ma}$ (2SE; $n = 7$; MSWD =
267 0.06), respectively, for Plešovice, which agree well with consensus ages (Wiedenbeck
268 et al., 1995; Sláma et al., 2008). All results are available in **Tables S5**.

269

270 **2.2.6. Lu-Hf isotope measurements in Malawi zircon**

271 Lu-Hf isotope measurements were done at LMV by LA-MC-ICP-MS using the same
272 instruments as for Si isotopes. Details regarding operating conditions can be found in
273 **Table 2**. Measurements were done next to traces of U-Pb and Si isotope analyses.
274 Zircons were analyzed as batches of 10 unknowns (4 standards and 6 samples)
275 bracketed by REE-absent MUN zircon standard (MUN-0; Fisher et al., 2011).
276 Standards analyzed as unknowns (91500, MudTank, and two MUN zircons with low

277 and high Yb/Hf ratios) were used to monitor data quality. Yb and Hf instrumental mass
278 biases were determined using $^{173}\text{Yb}/^{171}\text{Yb}$ normalized to the value of 1.129197
279 (Vervoort et al., 2004) and $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ normalized to 0.7325 (Stevenson and Patchett
280 1990). Lu fractionation was assumed to follow that of Yb (Fisher et al., 2014). Values
281 of 0.793045 for $^{176}\text{Yb}/^{173}\text{Yb}$ (Vervoort et al., 2004) and 0.02655 for $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{175}\text{Lu}$ (Fisher
282 et al., 2014) were used to correct isobaric interferences of ^{176}Yb and ^{176}Lu at mass 176.
283 Since standards showed a slight shift, though reproducible, in $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ after mass
284 bias correction, we have used MUN-0 to determine an offset factor (i.e., difference
285 between consensus and measured value) and correct all LA-MC-ICP-MS Lu-Hf
286 analyses accordingly.

287 Malawi zircons were measured during two separate analytical sessions. The first
288 session gave average $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ measured in 91500 and MudTank of $0.282312 \pm$
289 0.000014 (2SD; $n = 3$) and 0.282508 ± 0.000023 (2SD; $n = 2$), respectively, and the
290 second session gave 0.282315 ± 0.000057 (2SD; $n = 4$) for 91500 and $0.282511 \pm$
291 0.000023 (2SD; $n = 4$) for MudTank. These values compare well with consensus values
292 of 0.282308 ± 0.000008 (Blichert-Toft, 2008) and 0.282507 ± 0.000006 (Woodhead
293 and Hergt, 2005). The average $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ measured during the first session in MUN_1-
294 2b and MUN_4-2b were 0.282139 ± 0.000037 (2SD; $n = 5$), and 0.282131 ± 0.000034
295 (2SD; $n = 5$), respectively. The average $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ measured during the second session
296 in MUN_1-2b and MUN_3-2b were 0.282124 ± 0.000029 (2SD; $n = 4$), and 0.282127
297 ± 0.000034 (2SD; $n = 4$), respectively. Therefore, our results on MUN zircons are fully
298 consistent with the value of 0.282135 ± 0.000007 reported in Fisher et al. (2011) which
299 shows that our Lu-Hf data are accurately corrected for isobaric interferences created by
300 ^{176}Yb and ^{176}Lu . We used the ^{176}Lu decay constant of $1.867 \cdot 10^{-11} \text{ yr}^{-1}$ from Scherer et
301 al. (2001) and Söderlund et al. (2004) to calculate initial Hf isotopic compositions.

302 Uncertainties associated with the radiogenic-ingrowth correction were propagated
303 using the algorithms of [Ickert \(2013\)](#) and ϵ_{HF} values were calculated using CHUR values
304 provided in [Iizuka et al. \(2015\)](#). Results can be found in [Table S6](#).

305

306 **3. Results**

307 **3.1. Si isotopes in zircon**

308 [Figure 1](#) presents all Si isotope data in the form of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values for zircon crystals
309 analyzed in this study by both laser-ablation MC-ICP-MS (colored squares; $N = 188$)
310 and solution MC-ICP-MS (black dots; $N = 5$). It can be seen that zircon Si isotope
311 compositions exhibit significant variations at essentially three different scales; (1) at
312 the sample scale (within zircon population), (2) at the granite-type scale, and (3)
313 between granite types. In fact, zircon populations have either reproducible (e.g., MZ2,
314 40-03, Klodden, LyH; [Fig. 1](#)) or variable (e.g., Pikes Peak granite, AG09016, St-Julien,
315 MARG; [Fig. 1](#)) $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values regardless of the type of granite considered. Similarly, not
316 all samples of a particular granite-type exhibit the same average zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values.
317 Overall, zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values are the highest in A-type granites (up to -0.13‰) and the
318 lowest in S-type granites (down to -1.19‰), with an overall decrease forming the
319 sequence A-type > TTG > I-type > S-type. However, there is too much overlap between
320 the data to give confidence to this pattern as is.

321 Zircons from A-type granites have $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values that vary from -0.67 to -0.11‰
322 (average = -0.39‰ ; [Fig. 1](#); [Tables 3 and S3](#)), which translate into apparent fractionation
323 factors between zircon and whole-rock ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}} = \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR}} - \delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Zrc}}$) of -0.04 to
324 0.52‰ (average = 0.24‰) when A-type bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.15‰ is used ([Savage et](#)
325 [al., 2012](#)). Zircons from TTGs have $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values that range from -0.83 to -0.29‰
326 (average = -0.50‰ ; [Fig. 1](#); [Tables 3 and S3](#)), which translate into apparent fractionation

327 factors ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$) of 0.29 to 0.83‰ (average = 0.50‰) when TTG bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
328 of 0.0‰ is used (Deng et al., 2019). Zircons from I-type granites have $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values that
329 vary from -0.91 to -0.27‰ (average = -0.52‰; Fig. 1; Tables 3 and S3), which translate
330 into apparent fractionation factors ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$) of 0.07 to 0.71‰ (average = 0.32‰)
331 when I-type bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.2‰ is used (Savage et al., 2012). Zircons from S-
332 type granites have $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values that range from -1.19 to -0.47‰ (average = -0.77‰;
333 Fig. 1; Tables 3 and S3), which translate into apparent fractionation factors ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-}}$
334 Zrc) of 0.17 to 0.89‰ (average = 0.46‰) when S-type bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.3‰ is used
335 (Savage et al., 2012). Si isotope data obtained in this study and calculated apparent
336 fractionation factors are consistent with theoretical ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}} = 0.1$ at 1300°C for an
337 andesitic melt and 0.45‰ at 600°C for a rhyolitic melt; Qin et al., 2016) and
338 experimental results ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}} = 0.32$ to 0.56‰ at 700°C; Trail et al., 2019), as well
339 as with available Si isotope data on minerals (zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si} = -1.5$ to 0.0‰; Trail et al.,
340 2018).

341

342 3.2. Trace element concentrations

343 Results for trace elements are presented in Table S4 and Figures 2 and 3, which is
344 organized according to 4 groups (A-type, TTG, I-type, and S-type), and in Figures S3
345 and S4, which presents the same data but for each sample separately. Trace element
346 patterns in Figures 2 and S3 are normalized to chondrites (McDonough and Sun, 1995)
347 and data for zircons from each granite type are reported with AS3 data for comparison.
348 In contrast, Figures 3, S2 and S4 are normalized to AS3. Analyzed zircons exhibit trace
349 element patterns that are consistent with that of AS3 (Fig. 2), though with two kinds of
350 variations. The first one is “coupled variation” which means that all trace element
351 contents vary coherently with each other, and this results in a vertical shift of the entire

352 pattern without changing its shape (Fig. 2). This is precisely the case for rare earth
353 elements (REE) from Gd to Lu. The second kind is “decoupled variation” which
354 corresponds to an increase in a chemical element content that is independent from the
355 pattern. This increase is, however, often correlated between several elements such that
356 when one element content increases the content of other elements increase too but to
357 different extents. The best example corresponds to light REE (LREE) which show that
358 when La content increases both Ce, Pr, Nd, and Sm increase but to a lesser extent as
359 REE mass increases (Fig. 2). These two kinds of variations are visible in all groups but
360 not in all zircon crystals. Decoupled variation describes the behavior of elements that
361 are the most incompatible in zircon lattice (e.g., Al, Ca, Ga, Ba, LREE; Hoskin and
362 Schaltegger, 2003; Pidgeon et al., 2019), whereas coupled variation corresponds to the
363 behavior of least incompatible elements (e.g., Y, HREE, Hf, U). These two kinds of
364 variations in trace element contents are shared by all granite types (Fig. 2). Zircon
365 chemistry is very similar between all granite types which makes it difficult to use in
366 granite-host identification as it was also acknowledged by Belousova et al. (2006).
367 However, a few differences can be noted such as higher HREE content in S-type, an
368 overall shallower REE pattern in A-type, and higher Nb and Ta contents in A-type
369 zircons that create shoulders in the patterns visible in Figure 2. Zircon patterns reveal
370 no or various extent of negative Eu and positive Ce anomalies, the latter being also
371 blurred by an increase in La contents in some cases. Due to the size of the laser-beam
372 and the scale of analyzed zircon crystals, variations in trace element contents and/or
373 specific anomalies could not be associated with peculiar textural features, except in the
374 Malawi zircon in which domains of different origins could be identified more readily
375 (Figure 4). Figure 3 presents the same trace element data as in Figure 2 but normalized
376 to AS3 which allows to more precisely observe the variation of chemical elements

377 around igneous values, represented by AS3, within each granite type as well as between
378 granite types.

379 We determined Ti-in-zircon temperatures following the method of [Ferry and](#)
380 [Watson, \(2007\)](#). Activities of SiO_2 (a_{SiO_2}) and TiO_2 (a_{TiO_2}) play a fundamental role
381 in the validity of these temperature estimates which is why we used the software
382 Rhyolite-MELTS ([Gualda et al., 2012](#)) to determine the appropriate activities at the
383 zircon saturation temperature (T_{Zr} , [Watson and Harrison, 1983](#); [Miller et al., 2003](#);
384 [Boehnke et al., 2013](#)), according to suggestions of [Schiller and Finger \(2019\)](#). We used
385 T_{Zr} from both [Watson and Harrison \(1983\)](#) and [Boehnke et al. \(2013\)](#) calibrations as
386 well as $T_{\text{Zr}/2}$ (i.e., T_{Zr} at half of the whole-rock Zr content; [Schiller and Finger, 2019](#))
387 but this only resulted in temperature variations within a narrow range of about 20°C.
388 Similarly, changing the activity values within the main range of variation displayed in
389 [Schiller and Finger \(2019\)](#) does not drastically change the temperature estimates.
390 Furthermore, propagating all sources of uncertainty arising from the calibration curve
391 for Ti-in-zircon temperature ([Ferry and Watson, 2007](#)), that of zircon saturation
392 ([Watson and Harrison, 1983](#); [Boehnke et al., 2013](#)), the input parameters and
393 calculations behind the Rhyolite-MELTS model ([Gualda et al., 2012](#)), and the
394 uncertainty on zircon Ti concentrations, we think that it seems unrealistic to expect a
395 Ti-in-zircon temperature more precise than ~50°C. Consequently, we have finally used
396 values of 0.95 for a_{SiO_2} and 0.45 a_{TiO_2} , which are coherent conservative estimates of
397 the true activities ([Schiller and Finger, 2019](#)), to determine zircon crystallization
398 temperatures and have considered these values with a 50°C uncertainty. The Ti-in-
399 zircon temperatures obtained for zircon standards MudTank and AS3 comply well with
400 independent estimates from previous studies ([Tables 3](#) and [S4](#); [Currie et al., 1992](#); [Leu,](#)
401 [2016](#)). Measured Ti-in-zircon temperatures gave 572-937°C for A-type granites (one

402 extreme at 1508°C), 716-974°C for TTGs (two extremes at 1107 and 1337°C), 758-
403 970°C for I-type (two extremes at 1033 and 1312°C), and 776-1015°C for S-type
404 granites (Table S4). These temperatures usually vary within a range of $\leq 100^\circ\text{C}$ in each
405 sample, except for S-type granites in which determined temperatures vary by up to
406 $\sim 250^\circ\text{C}$. Ti-in-zircon temperatures, therefore, vary from one sample to the other but
407 without systematic difference between granite types. Temperature extremes mentioned
408 above always have Ti concentrations that correlate with Al, and/or K, and/or Ca, which
409 reach high values (e.g., 500-3000 ppm Al) that are inconsistent with elemental
410 substitution during magmatic growth (Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003; Bouvier et al.,
411 2012). Some Ti-in-zircon temperatures are consistent with zircon-saturation
412 temperatures (T_{Zr}) whereas other disagree by more than 100°C (Table 3).

413

414 3.3. Malawi zircon

415 A back-scattered electron map of the megacrystic zircon (length = 1.5 cm) from Malawi
416 reveals a very well-defined oscillatory zoning from core to rim (Figure 4), nevertheless,
417 with visible concentric and radial fractures as well as metamorphic domains (dark grey
418 zones) and biotite inclusions (black rounded areas). Various types of domains, labeled
419 MZ1-MZ7, have been analyzed to track possible $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variations and link them to
420 independent parameters such as crystallization (magmatic vs metamorphic) and
421 alteration conditions, chemical composition, age, Hf isotope signature, and
422 crystallization temperature. Traverses for Si isotope measurements by LA-MC-ICP-
423 MS were done parallel to the magmatic zoning. Magmatic and metamorphic domains
424 returned identical U-Pb dates (Table S5) which gave a Concordia age of 726.6 ± 2.3
425 Ma (2SE; MSWD = 0.92), identical to that of 730 Ma reported by Ashwal et al. (2007)
426 for megacrystic zircons from nepheline-bearing gneisses from Malawi. Metamorphic

427 and magmatic domains display sharp differences in Th/U and U concentrations, which
428 is also visible in $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios, but more importantly in $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
429 although differences are subtler in these isotopic systems (Figure 4). The chemical
430 distinction between magmatic and metamorphic domains also translates into an overall
431 downward shift of trace element patterns to lower concentrations in Figure 2, and in Ti-
432 in-zircon temperatures change from 627-743°C for magmatic to 572-602°C for
433 metamorphic domains (Table S4). The megacrystic zircon gave present-day $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$
434 from 0.282464 ± 0.000018 (2SE) to 0.282560 ± 0.000024 (2SE; Table S6) regardless
435 of the domain analyzed, and $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ from 0.0017 to 0.00004 with a sharp difference
436 between magmatic and metamorphic domains, the latter having the smallest $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$
437 (Figure 4). Our new Lu-Hf isotope data are consistent with bulk-zircon solution data
438 from Ashwal et al. (2007) that gave present-day $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ of 0.282454 ± 0.000037
439 (2SE), 0.282466 ± 0.000057 (2SE), and 0.282475 ± 0.000057 (2SE) on three different
440 zircon megacrysts for which the authors, however, did not measure $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$. $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
441 for magmatic domains gave an average value of $-0.43 \pm 0.15\text{‰}$ (2SD; average of
442 individual analyses) identical to the S-MC-ICP-MS value of $-0.46 \pm 0.10\text{‰}$ (2SD;
443 Table 3), whereas metamorphic zones returned an average $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of $-0.26 \pm 0.19\text{‰}$
444 (2SD; average of individual analyses). Note that $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ are very reproducible within each
445 magmatic domain and more variable in metamorphic domains (Figs 1 and 4). It should
446 also be noted that slight variations in $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ are visible between some of the magmatic
447 domains. In fact, MZ2 has lower $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ than MZ1, MZ3, and MZ4 but similar to MZ5
448 which is patchy-looking in BSE but does not have metamorphic signatures as in MZ6
449 and MZ7 (Figs. 2 and 4). Interestingly, magmatic domains have very variable
450 $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios that are, however, reproducible within each zone (Fig. 4).

451

452 **4. Discussion**

453 As presented in the result section, Si isotope signatures in zircon can be either
454 reproducible or variable within a zircon population, hence, at the sample scale (Fig. 1).

455 Before interpreting zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ in terms of fractionation behavior between crystals and
456 their parental melts (primary processes), we need to, first, evaluate the effects of
457 secondary processes such as metamorphic recrystallization and alteration/weathering,
458 which can be assessed using zircon internal texture and chemical composition.

459

460 **4.1. Secondary causes of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variations at the sample scale**

461 The megacrystic zircon from Malawi (MZ; Fig. 4) presents good evidence for
462 secondary modification of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ because metamorphic domains within this crystal
463 display a distinct $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value (-0.26‰) compared to magmatic domains (-0.46‰).

464 Metamorphic parts of MZ have typical characteristics of metamorphic zircons because
465 they appear dark and homogeneous in BSE images (Fig. 4; Corfu et al., 2003), have
466 very low Th/U (e.g., Vavra et al., 1999) and low Lu/Hf ratios, together with low trace
467 element contents (Hoskin and Schaltegger, 2003). In addition, their estimated Ti-in-
468 zircon temperature ($\sim 580^\circ\text{C}$) is lower than that of magmatic domains by about 100°C ,
469 and in itself low for a magmatic zircon. Given that the degree of fractionation between
470 zircon and its parental melt/fluid increases as temperature decreases, the fact that
471 metamorphic domains have higher $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ than magmatic ones is good evidence for the
472 formation of metamorphic zircon domains from high- $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ medium, possibly crustal
473 fluids (e.g., Kleine et al., 2018).

474 Metamorphism may also be responsible for the low $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of AG09-016 (TTG)
475 zircons (Fig. 5A) which exhibit a well-defined positive correlation between Th/U ratios
476 and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. Zircons from this 3947 Ma sample are known for having been affected

477 by metamorphism (e.g., [Guitreau et al., 2018](#)) but the ones analyzed for Si isotope were
478 selected to be the most pristine according to CL and BSE images, as well as U-Th-Pb
479 ages. This illustrates that metamorphism cannot always be straightforwardly detected
480 in zircon and each isotope system has its own sensitivity to metamorphism. When
481 considering the AG09-016 zircon that is least affected by metamorphism (i.e., with
482 highest Th/U), its $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ is very consistent with that of other TTG samples that have
483 reproducible zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ ([Figs 1](#) and [5A](#)). Metamorphism appears to have opposite
484 effects on $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values between MZ and AG09-016 zircons, which is likely controlled
485 by local factors (e.g., nature of fluids, temperature, water-rock ratio in crustal fluids) as
486 well as what actually happens during metamorphism (i.e., recrystallization or enhanced
487 diffusion). The influence of metamorphism should therefore be evaluated on case-by-
488 case basis.

489 Diffusion is a process known to possibly influence crystal elemental and isotope
490 chemistry (e.g., [Watson, 1996](#); [Albarède, 2003](#); [Cherniak and Watson, 2003](#)) and we
491 can, therefore, wonder if Si diffusion can play a role in the observed variability in zircon
492 $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values ([Fig. 1](#)). [Cherniak \(2008\)](#) conducted diffusion experiments in zircon and
493 concluded that Si diffuses in zircon lattice at rates similar to those for Ti, which are
494 faster than those for U, Th, and Hf that are known to be essentially immobile in pristine
495 zircon (e.g., [Cherniak and Watson, 2003](#)), but slower than those for O. For example, it
496 would take 1.7 Ma for a silicon atom to diffuse over a radius of 1 μm at 650°C. The
497 same distance would be reached after 12 Ga at 500°C. As a consequence, diffusion
498 cannot account for Si isotope variations in studied zircon crystals.

499 Despite zircon being very resistant to most geological processes, radioactive
500 element decay (e.g., U and Th) can significantly damage its lattice over time which can
501 lead to metamictization of growth bands or domains (e.g., [Holland and Gottfried, 1955](#);

502 [Murakami et al., 1991](#)) and formation of cracks ([Lee and Tromp, 1995](#)), altogether
503 making zircon sensitive to secondary alteration (e.g., [Corfu et al., 2003](#); [Guitreau and](#)
504 [Flahaut, 2019](#); [Pidgeon et al., 2019](#)). Since alteration and weathering can influence
505 zircon chemical and isotopic compositions (e.g., [Bouvier et al., 2012](#); [Pidgeon et al.,](#)
506 [2017, 2019](#); [Guitreau and Flahaut, 2019](#)) and that it has an effect on rocks and minerals
507 (e.g., [Ziegler et al., 2005](#); [Opfergelt et al., 2012](#)), we used trace element contents (i.e.
508 non-formula elements) to assess zircon pristineness. The measured elevated contents of
509 non-formula elements (e.g., Ca, K, Al) and their possible co-variation in some zircon
510 crystals ([Figs. 2](#) and [S3](#); [Table S4](#)) testify that alteration/weathering occurred in some
511 of the studied crystals ([Pidgeon et al., 2019](#)). However, most zircon populations
512 displayed no relationship whatsoever between $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values and the concentration of
513 alteration/weathering proxies. The 1.94 Ga (I-type) sample Knaften is one of the rare
514 examples in which alteration/weathering seems to have potentially influenced the $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
515 value of one zircon which is associated with a high Ca concentration ([Fig. 5B](#)). It is
516 also evident in this sample that alteration/weathering is responsible for the high Ti
517 concentration of the same zircon as illustrated by the positive correlation between Ca
518 and Ti ([Fig. 5C](#)). This, in turn, means that the calculated Ti-in-zircon temperature for
519 this crystal is over-estimated and no longer represents that of igneous crystallization.
520 This testifies to the spurious nature of the extreme Ti-in-zircon temperatures mentioned
521 in the result section as in all these cases Ti content correlates with that of light elements
522 such as Al, Ca, K, ([Table S4](#); [Figs 2](#) and [S3](#)) which is diagnostic of external material
523 input into zircon (e.g., [Pidgeon et al., 2019](#)).

524 As a consequence, alteration/weathering can affect zircon chemistry but does
525 not always lead to modifications of zircon Si isotope signatures. However, this assertion
526 should be regarded with some caution because Si isotopes were measured using

527 traverses, that covered a significant portion of each crystal, whereas trace element
528 measurements were done using spots that were located onto the marks left by Si isotope
529 analyses. Therefore, measurements were performed sequentially and on distinct
530 material although spatially related. This is the major limitation of our approach and it
531 is why the absence of significant influence of alteration/weathering on Si isotopes
532 should not be considered as a firm conclusion. Nevertheless, our data still allow a fairly
533 good understanding of the relationship between $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ and trace elements since most of
534 the analyzed zircons were pre-selected based on pristine-looking internal textures (fine
535 oscillatory zoning) and existing chemical and/or isotopic data. It is, consequently,
536 possible that a crystal was locally altered, which was detected by trace elements,
537 although overall essentially pristine thereby giving non-altered Si isotope signatures
538 that we can further discuss in an igneous context.

539

540 **4.2. Primary causes of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variations at the sample scale**

541 Silicon isotope fractionation between zircon and its parental melt mostly depends on
542 the temperature of zircon crystallization ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}} \propto 10^6/T^2$), and the degree of
543 polymerization of SiO_4 in the melt (e.g., [Grant, 1954](#); [Poitrasson and Zambardi, 2015](#)),
544 which can be approached by the NBO/T parameter ([Mysen et al., 1985](#)) and SiO_2
545 content (e.g., [Qin et al., 2016](#); [Poitrasson, 2017](#); [Trail et al., 2019](#)). Ti-in-zircon
546 temperature ([Ferry and Watson, 2007](#)) offers a good proxy for the crystallization
547 temperature of zircon crystals and the vast majority of our samples have Ti-in-zircon
548 temperatures that vary within $\sim 100^\circ\text{C}$. According to experimental calibrations from
549 [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#), $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variation only related to 100°C drop would go from 0.07‰
550 between 900° and 800°C to 0.14‰ between 700° and 600°C . This is in the case of
551 zircon-quartz equilibration (SiO_2 concentration of ~ 100 wt%) for which the A value of

552 the fractionation equation (i.e., $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{Qz-Zrc}} = A \times 10^6/T^2$) is 0.53 ± 0.14 (Trail et al., 2019).
553 These fractionation values of 0.07 and 0.14‰ should, therefore, be regarded as
554 maximum since the degree of fractionation between zircon and melt would be smaller
555 for lower SiO₂ contents (Qin et al., 2016; Trail et al., 2019). These variations are smaller
556 or equivalent to the analytical uncertainty of our analyses and would, hence, be
557 undetected. Consequently, samples that display reproducible zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ associated
558 with narrow Ti-in-zircon temperatures very likely formed from magmas with
559 homogeneous SiO₂ contents (e.g., SKJ, 40-03, Klodden; Figs. 1 and 6) and
560 homogeneous Si isotope compositions.

561 In contrast, samples with variable zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ can be due to crystallization over
562 large temperature windows (>100°C) and/or from melts with variable SiO₂ contents
563 either locally (e.g., mingling effects) or temporal (e.g., fractional crystallization
564 effects). Figure 5D presents the only relationship between Ti-in-zircon temperatures
565 and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values visible in our dataset. It likely comes from the fact that this sample,
566 MARG - a cordierite-bearing (S-type) granite – is the only sample that has a Ti-in-
567 zircon temperature range of ~250°C (1015-775°C; Table S4). The relationship between
568 $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values and temperature complies with theory and experiments but the degree of
569 fractionation (0.72‰) is too large because a maximum $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variation of 0.16‰ should
570 be expected if only temperature controlled the fractionation (Figs. 5D and 6D; Trail et
571 al., 2019). In order to account for the excess fractionation, we can invoke a change in
572 SiO₂ content of the parental melt but it does not entirely solve the problem (Figure 6D)
573 because the degree of fractionation of these zircons, expressed as $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$, exceed
574 plausible values when a $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.3‰ is assumed for S-type granites (Savage et al.,
575 2011). A way to account for this strong evolution of MARG zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ is a source
576 control because this granite is a crust-reworking product that involved clastic sediments

577 (e.g., [Couturié, 1977](#)), and low-temperature alteration of crustal rocks to form clay
578 minerals result in the development of low $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ signatures down to -2‰ (e.g., [Ziegler](#)
579 [et al., 2005](#); [Opfergelt et al., 2012](#)), opposite from what is seen with O isotopes (e.g.,
580 [Valley, 2003](#); [Bindeman, 2008](#)). An additional consideration to account for the very
581 large spread in $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ and Ti-in-zircon temperature is to consider that some of the
582 analyzed zircons, or some parts of these zircons, could be inherited since this is a
583 common feature of crustally-derived granitoids (e.g., [Villaros et al., 2012](#); [Couzinié et](#)
584 [al., 2021](#)). This would, in turn, account for the very high temperature of 1015°C, which
585 is hard to reconcile with the S-type nature of the Margeride granite.

586 The remaining samples with variable zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ have narrow Ti-in-zircon
587 temperatures (e.g., Pikes Peak, Kristineberg; [Figs. 1](#) and [6](#)) which, therefore, cannot
588 account for this within-zircon-population variability. The most likely explanation is
589 local heterogeneities in SiO_2 concentrations and/or temperatures coming from magma
590 mingling and/or mixing, or simply fractional crystallization. At 800°C, the difference
591 between the $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of zircons formed from mafic ($\text{SiO}_2 = 50$ wt%) and felsic magmas
592 ($\text{SiO}_2 = 70$ wt%) would be ~0.3‰ ([Figure 6](#); [Qin et al., 2016](#)). These melts would most
593 likely have distinct temperatures which would further increase the variability in $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
594 values. One would have wished that zircon chemistry could help further support this
595 hypothesis. However, trace element contents in zircon do not always significantly vary
596 between crystals derived from mafic and felsic melts (e.g., [Hoskin and Schaltegger,](#)
597 [2003](#)), despite strong elemental variations between these two magma types. This,
598 unfortunately, makes zircon a poor indicator of magma origin, except perhaps for A-
599 type ([Fig. S5](#)), and account for the general absence of correlation between elemental
600 concentrations and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. Interestingly, magma mingling has been reported for
601 some of the samples exhibiting variations in zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. This is the case for

602 Kristineberg that belongs to the well-studied Jörn granitoid group for which [Wilson et](#)
603 [al. \(1987\)](#) described multiple magma sources and interactions. Similarly, St-Julien-la-
604 Vêtre granite is also known for obvious magma mingling between mafic and felsic end-
605 members ([Barbarin, 1988a](#)).

606 A source control can also be invoked to account for some zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$
607 variations, for example in S-type MARG (already discussed above), I-type Knaften and
608 Kristineberg ([Figure 6](#)). In fact, [Wasström \(1993\)](#) described Knaften granitoids as
609 subvolcanic plutons that intruded into mafic rocks and a supracrustal sequence
610 containing greywacke, turbidite, and graphite-bearing argillites. If these supracrustals
611 interacted with Knaften magmas, it would have lowered melt $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ which could account
612 for the sharp increase in Knaften $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$ below 850°C that fall slightly above
613 maximum fractionation ($\text{SiO}_2 \sim 100$ wt%; [Fig. 6C](#)) as calculated using a I-type bulk-
614 rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value of -0.2‰. The typical A-type Pikes Peak granite involved both mantle-
615 derived and crustally-derived, though not sedimentary, components ([Smith et al., 1999](#);
616 [Guitreau et al., 2016](#)) which likely resulted in magmas with variable SiO_2 contents,
617 though with similar $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. Silicon isotope composition of zircon, therefore,
618 appears to be sensitive to complex magma evolution and track source changes and
619 magma interactions.

620 Returning to the Malawi zircon example, magmatic domains MZ1, MZ3 and
621 MZ4 have identical $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values, whereas MZ2, also magmatic, has a lower $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value
622 ([Figs. 1](#) and [4](#)) despite MZ2 being located between growth bands MZ4 (innermost) and
623 MZ3-MZ1 (outermost and being from the same growth bands but located in opposite
624 parts of the zircon; [Fig. 4](#)). Our results also show that MZ2 crystallized at higher
625 temperature than MZ3 and from a magma with apparently higher SiO_2 content ([Table](#)
626 [3](#); [Fig. 6](#)). In addition, the central domain of the zircon (MZ5) that was analyzed but

627 interpreted as intermediate between magmatic and metamorphic because of patchy-
628 looking internal texture (Figs. 1 and 4), has similar $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value as MZ2, and most of the
629 trace element patterns, alongside Ti-in-zircon temperatures, are magmatic-looking (Fig.
630 2; Table 3). Therefore, MZ5 can be interpreted as the oldest magmatic growth zone of
631 MZ and the coupled $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ -temperature evolution from core (MZ5) to borders (MZ1-
632 MZ3) reveal cycles of temperature increase and decrease associated with fluctuations
633 in SiO_2 content over the course of zircon crystallization, possibly accounting for the
634 large size of this crystal. These changes in magma composition, and/or crystallization
635 temperature are consistent with the fact that $^{176}\text{Lu}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratio vary significantly between
636 growth zones but this could also reveal equilibration with co-precipitating phases that
637 changed during zircon growth.

638

639 **4.3. Zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ variations within and between granite types**

640 So far, our results combined with theoretical and experimental studies (Qin et al., 2016;
641 Trail et al., 2019) allowed us to demonstrate that secondary processes, such as
642 metamorphism and alteration/weathering, can modify zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values, which could
643 lead to an erroneous interpretation of the zircon parental melt composition, and that
644 zircon-melt isotope fractionation is sensitive to crystallization temperature and magma
645 silica content. Therefore, variations of zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ between samples of the same granite
646 type as visible in Figure 1 can be accounted for by differences in zircon crystallization
647 temperatures, whole-rock SiO_2 contents, and magma heterogeneities (i.e., Si elemental
648 and isotopic compositions) linked to fractional crystallization and/or magma mingling
649 and/or source controls as illustrated in Figure 6 and Table 3. This is for example the
650 case between SKJ and Malawi magmatic domains because the former is higher
651 temperature than the latter, though they have almost identical parental magma SiO_2

652 content (Fig. 6A; Table 3). Inversely, Pikes Peak granite has higher whole-rock SiO₂
653 content than SKJ, though similarly high temperatures (Fig. 6A). Klodden and
654 Kristineberg belong to the same type of pluton (Jörn-type; Billström and Weihed, 1996)
655 and have overlapping zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values but they extend to lower values in
656 Kristineberg (Figs 1 and 6C). This is well explained by the fact that Klodden has lower
657 SiO₂ content than Kristineberg, in which zircon likely crystallized from evolving melts,
658 hence, with changing SiO₂ content (Fig. 6C). Vargfors shows lower zircon
659 crystallization temperatures and higher SiO₂ content than Klodden, which accounts for
660 the differences in zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ (Table 3; Figs 1 and 6C). In contrast, differences visible
661 between TTG zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values are mostly due to metamorphic imprints because
662 Steynsdorp (Stp) zircons exhibit similar relationship between $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values and Th/U
663 ratios as AG09-016 zircons (Fig. 5A; Tables S3 and S4). Moreover, Napier zircons
664 (78285007 and 78285013) are known for having been severely affected by
665 metamorphism (e.g., Guitreau et al., 2019). It should also be noted that TTG samples
666 studied in this contribution are the same, or equivalents from the same outcrops/plutons,
667 as those analyzed for bulk-rock Si isotope compositions in Deng et al., (2019), except
668 Napier samples 78285007 and 78285013, and they all gave a very consistent average
669 bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value of $-0.01 \pm 0.02\text{‰}$ (2 SD).

670 When all factors controlling zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values are considered, one can
671 understand why data from various granite types overlap in Figure 1. It is in fact because
672 the range of zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ arising from fractionation related to melt composition (SiO₂
673 and $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$) and temperature variation could be larger than the difference between bulk-
674 rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. This is also close to the analytical precision and/or reproducibility of
675 Si isotope measurements by LA-MC-ICP-MS and S-MC-ICP-MS (Table 3) which
676 tends to increase natural variations. Yet, once all sources of variations are controlled

677 and secondary signatures corrected for, zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values comply relatively well with
678 bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ pattern, as illustrated in [Figure 7](#). This figure also reveals that the
679 current analytical precision achieved by LA-MC-ICP-MS does not prevent this
680 technique to be used but is a limiting factor that should be improved in the future.

681 A very good illustration of the misleading interpretation possibly arising from
682 interpreting Si isotopes in zircon at face value is given by the two non-coeval Acasta
683 samples AG09009 and AG09008g. The former and the latter belong to TTG (bulk-rock
684 $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of 0.0‰; [André et al., 2019](#); [Deng et al., 2019](#)) and I-type (bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -
685 0.2‰; [Savage et al., 2012](#); [Poitrasson and Zambardi, 2015](#)), respectively, which is
686 visible from both their bulk-rock chemical composition ([Mojzsis et al., 2014](#)) and their
687 bulk-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value ([Deng et al., 2019](#)). Despite these differences, they exhibit
688 identical (and reproducible) zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values of approximately -0.4‰ ([Fig. 1](#); [Table](#)
689 [3](#)). This is well accounted for by the fact that AG09-009 has higher SiO_2 content than
690 AG09-008g and its zircons have lower Ti-in-zircon (crystallization) temperatures than
691 those from AG09-008g. These two factors together result in an increase of the isotope
692 fractionation between zircons and their parental melt ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$) in AG09-009
693 compared to AG09-008g. Consequently, without knowledge of SiO_2 content and
694 crystallization temperatures, it is virtually impossible to discriminate these Acasta
695 samples from each other. In order for Si isotopes in zircon to be used effectively in out-
696 of-context zircons (i.e., detrital crystals), a proxy for SiO_2 content or of the nature of
697 the zircon parental melt should be used, as also pointed out in [Qin et al. \(2016\)](#) and
698 [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#).

699 We took advantage of our dataset to calibrate the relationship between SiO_2
700 content and the A value, which was done indirectly by comparison with O isotopes in
701 [Qin et al. \(2016\)](#) and using data from [Trail et al. \(2018\)](#) in [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#). [Figure 8](#)

702 presents the relationship between A value ($\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}/10^6/T^2$) as a function of melt
703 SiO_2 content that can be tentatively used to build more accurate figures such as those
704 in **Figure 6**. We obtain the following relationship:

$$705 \quad \Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}} = \frac{10^6}{T^2} \times 0.00545x$$

706 With x being the whole-rock SiO_2 content in wt%, supposedly equivalent to that of the
707 parental melt, and T the temperature in Kelvin (**Fig. 8**). Zircon crystallization
708 temperature can be either obtained from Ti-in-zircon thermometer (Ferry and Watson,
709 2007) or possibly from zircon-saturation (Watson and Harrison, 1983; Miller et al.,
710 2003). However, we observed in this study that Ti-in-zircon temperatures are quite
711 consistent with zircon-saturation temperatures (T_{Zr} ; **Table 3**) in some cases (e.g., TTGs,
712 MZ), uncertainty considered, but are quite different in others (e.g., SKJ, Klodden,
713 Kristineberg). This mismatch is strongest in studied I-type granites, which illustrates
714 the subjective character of T_{Zr} that most likely come from the fact that granites do not
715 often represent actual magmatic liquids. Therefore, Ti-in-zircon temperatures should
716 be preferred because, contrary to T_{Zr} , they can actually track zircon parental magma
717 evolution.

718

719 **5. Conclusions**

720 This study focuses on the Si isotope composition of zircons from various granite types.
721 We show that zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ can vary significantly at the sample scale (i.e., within a zircon
722 population) but also between granites of the same type and between granite types. These
723 variations are due to differences in zircon crystallization temperatures and parental
724 magma SiO_2 contents, which makes zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ a good proxy for magma evolution.
725 However, secondary processes, such as metamorphism and alteration/weathering, can
726 affect zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values but they can be readily identified on the basis of zircon

727 internal textures, as revealed by BSE/CL images, and trace-element geochemistry.
728 Therefore, Si isotopes in zircon have promising applications to deciphering granitic
729 magma evolution as well as granite-type discrimination that can be improved even
730 further by reducing analytical uncertainty which is currently the major limitation of this
731 technique.

732

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751

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Stable isotope geochemistry of silicon in granitoid zircon

Table 1. Sample details

Table 2. LA-ICP-MS and LA-MC-ICP-MS operating conditions

Table 3. Average Si isotope signatures of zircons analyzed in this study

Table 1

	Granite type*	Origin	Name	Rock type	Age (Ma)	Reference
A-type	PAG	Tambani (Malawi)	MZ	Syenite (nepheline-bearing)	730	Ashwal et al., 2007
A-type	PAG	Skjoldungen (Greeland)	SKJ	Syenite	2690	Rosing et al., 1988; Nutman and Rosing, 1994
A-type	PAG	Pikes Peak batholith (USA)	YPP-20	Syenogranite	1066	Smith et al., 1999; Guitreau et al., 2016
A-type	PAG	Cripple Creek batholith (USA)	EMQ-5	Quartz-monzonite	1432	Guitreau et al., 2016
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Sharyzhalgai uplift (Siberia)	40-03	Trondhjemite	3400	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada)	AG09009	Granodiorite	3600	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Karelian craton (Finlande)	H395	Trondhjemite	2800	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Barberton (South Africa)	NLS7.2	Trondhjemite	3245	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Sharyzhalgai uplift (Siberia)	58-03	Tonalite	3392	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Barberton (South Africa)	Steynsdorp	Trondhjemite	3518	Guitreau et al., 2012
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Napier Complex (Antarctica)	78285007a	Tonalite	3794	Guitreau et al., 2012, 2019
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Napier Complex (Antarctica)	78285013	Granite	3857	Guitreau et al., 2012, 2019
TTG	-ATG/ACG	Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada)	AG09016	Tonalite	3947	Guitreau et al., 2012
I-type	ATG	Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada)	AG09008g	Tonalite	3975	Guitreau et al., 2012, 2014a, 2018; ; Mojzsis et al., 2014
I-type	ACG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Klodden	Granodiorite	1902	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	KCG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Barsele	Dacite	1959	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	ACG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Melestjärn	Quartz-feldspar porphyritic flow	1889	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	ACG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Kristineberg	Tonalite	1907	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	KCG	St-Julien-la-vêtre, Forez (France)	St-Julien	Monzogranite	340	Didier et al., 1989
I-type	ACG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Vargfors	Ignimbrite associated to granitoids	1875	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	ATG	Acasta Gneiss Complex (Canada)	AG09017	Tonalite	3956	Guitreau et al., 2012, 2018; Mojzsis et al., 2014
I-type	ACG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Bjurvattnett	Sub-volcanic porphyritic rhyodacite	1884	Guitreau et al., 2014b
I-type	KCG	Skellefte (Sweden)	Knaften	Granodiorite	1940	Guitreau et al., 2014b
S-type	CPG	Margeride (France)	MARG	Monzogranite	323	Couturié et al., 1979
S-type	MPG	Hermitage, Forez (France)	LyH	Monzogranite	325	Didier et al., 1989
S-type	CPG	Meymac (France)	Meymac	Monzogranite	295	Talbert and Duthou, 1983

* I-type = Infracrustal/Igneous, S-type = Supracrustal, A-type = Alkaline/Anorogenic, TTG = Tonalite, Trondhjemite, Granodiorite, PAG = Peralkaline and Alkaline Granitoids, ATG = Arc Tholeiitic Granitoids, ACG = Amphibole-bearing Calc-alkaline Granitoids, KCG = K-rich Calc-alkaline Granitoids, CPG = Cordierite-bearing Peraluminous Granitoids, MPG = Muscovite-bearing Peraluminous Granitoids)

Table 2

Analysis	Si isotopes			Lu-Hf isotopes								U-Pb geochronology	Trace element concentrations
Laboratory	Magmas et Volcans			Magmas et Volcans								Magmas et Volcans	Magmas et Volcans
Cup configuration	L3	C	H3	L4	L3	L2	L1	C	H1	H2	H3	N.A.	N.A.
Mass measured	28	29	30	17 1	17 3	17 4	17 5	17 6	17 7	17 8	17 9	204, 206, 207, 208, 232, 238	27-29, 39, 43, 44, 49, 51, 66, 71, 85, 88-91, 93, 96, 137, 139-141, 146, 147, 153, 157, 159, 163, 165, 166, 169, 172, 175, 178, 181, 206, 232, 238
ICP-MS model	Thermo Neptune <i>Plus</i>			Thermo Neptune <i>Plus</i>								Thermo Element XR	Thermo Element XR
Interface type	Jet (high sensitivity)			Jet (high sensitivity)								Jet (high sensitivity)	Jet (high sensitivity)
Cones	X-Cones			X-Cones								X-Cones	X-Cones
Resistors	10 ¹¹ Ohms			10 ¹¹ Ohms								Counting/Analog	Counting/Analog
Resolution	High (M/ΔM=7800)			Low								Low	Low
Forward Power	1200 W			1200 W								1300 W	1300 W
Auxiliary gas (Ar)	0.7-0.8 L/min			0.72 L/min								~0.7 L/min	0.75 L/min
Ar sample	~1 L/min			0.97 L/min								~1.0 L/min	1.01 L/min
Additional gas (N ₂)	N.A.			4.0 mL/min								7.5 mL/min	6.5 mL/min
Oxide ThO/Th	N.A.			N.A.								~1%	~1%
SQUID	On			On								On	On
Data acquisition	<i>Time resolved analysis</i>			<i>Time resolved analysis</i>								<i>Time resolved analysis</i>	<i>Time resolved analysis</i>
Scanning mode	Static multi-collection			Static multi-collection								Peak-jumping	Mass scan
Integration time per isotope	1s			1s								5 ms	5 ms
Background counting time	20-30 s			20-30 s								20-30 s	20-30 s
Sample measurement time	40-60s			50s								60 s	60 s
Measurement type	Standard bracketing			Internal and external normalization								Standard bracketing	Standard bracketing
External standard	91500, KIM, AS3, Plešovice, MudTank, MUN zircons			91500, Mud Tank, MUN zircons								91500, AS3, Plešovice	NIST 610, NIST 612, 91500, MudTank, AS3
Laser model	<i>Resonetics Resolution M-50E</i>			<i>Resonetics Resolution M-50E</i>								<i>Resonetics Resolution M-50E</i>	<i>Resonetics Resolution M-50E</i>

Wavelength	193 nm	193 nm	193 nm	193 nm
Pulse duration	5 ns	5 ns	5 ns	5 ns
Energy	2-5 mJ	~3.2 mJ	~3.5 mJ	~3.5 mJ
Fluence	~3 J/cm ²	~3.6 J/cm ²	~2.5 J/cm ²	~2.5 J/cm ²
Frequency	6 Hz	6 Hz	4 Hz	2 Hz
Spot size	33 μm	40 μm	33 μm	33 μm
Carrier gas	He	He	He	He
Carrier gas flow	0.65-0.75 L/min	0.7 L/min	0.65 L/min	0.75 L/min
Traverse rate	1.6 μm/s	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Table 3

MC-ICP-MS method	Granite type	Name	Relative to NBS 28				n	$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-zrc}}$ (‰)	WR SiO ₂	TZr	TZr*	Zircon T (°C)	10 ⁶ /T ²	A
			$\delta^{29}\text{Si}$ (‰)	2SD	$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ (‰)	2SD								
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ1	-0.25	0.11	-0.38	0.13	6	0.23	58.10	560	626	-	-	-
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ2	-0.24	0.10	-0.54	0.05	6	0.39	58.10	560	626	699	1.06	0.37
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ3	-0.21	0.11	-0.41	0.08	6	0.26	58.10	560	626	649	1.18	0.22
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ4	-0.24	0.06	-0.40	0.12	6	0.25	58.10	560	626	-	-	-
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ5	-0.25	0.07	-0.50	0.05	6	0.35	58.10	560	626	657	1.16	0.30
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ6	-0.17	0.10	-0.29	0.22	6	0.14	58.10	-	-	-	-	-
Laser ablation	A-type	MZ7	-0.14	0.08	-0.24	0.17	6	0.09	58.10	-	-	580	1.37	0.06
Laser ablation	A-type	SKJ	-0.16	0.14	-0.22	0.11	6	0.07	57.73	630	695	828	0.82	0.08
Laser ablation	A-type	Pikes Peak	-0.22	0.11	-0.43	0.27	6	0.28	68.07	874	895	911	0.71	0.39
Laser ablation	A-type	EMQ-5	-0.31	0.05	-0.55	0.18	6	0.40	60.98	834	862	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	40-03	-0.18	0.09	-0.37	0.10	5	0.37	71.31	716	756	758	0.94	0.39
Laser ablation	TTG	AG09009	-0.23	0.09	-0.40	0.13	5	0.40	71.62	828	852	799	0.87	0.46
Laser ablation	TTG	H395	-0.27	0.12	-0.43	0.16	5	0.43	68.80	810	836	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	NLS7.2-08	-0.17	0.12	-0.39	0.18	5	0.39	66.68	738	778	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	58-03	-0.25	0.16	-0.46	0.15	5	0.46	69.43	764	802	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	Stp	-0.29	0.10	-0.57	0.14	5	0.57	73.91	771	805	854	0.79	0.72
Laser ablation	TTG	78285007a	-0.36	0.11	-0.60	0.20	5	0.60	66.90	640	695	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	78285007na	-0.28	0.19	-0.55	0.17	6	0.55	66.90	640	695	-	-	-
Laser ablation	TTG	78285013	-0.37	0.10	-0.57	0.17	7	0.57	71.88	602	661	1157	0.49	1.18
Laser ablation	TTG	AG09016	-0.27	0.14	-0.59	0.27	7	0.59	66.23	918	925	933	0.69	0.86
Laser ablation	I-type	AG09008g_8	-0.22	0.12	-0.42	0.10	7	0.22	56.71	790	835	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Klodden	-0.23	0.07	-0.40	0.10	6	0.20	57.75	641	692	888	0.74	0.27
Laser ablation	I-type	Barsele	-0.17	0.12	-0.35	0.25	5	0.15	68.10	824	838	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Melestjärn	-0.28	0.16	-0.46	0.42	5	0.26	75.03	767	798	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Kristineberg	-0.29	0.12	-0.49	0.26	5	0.29	62.10	725	769	933	0.69	0.42

Laser ablation	I-type	St-Julien	-0.33	0.25	-0.62	0.30	5	0.42	64.80	-	-	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Vargfors	-0.28	0.10	-0.53	0.17	6	0.33	71.97	737	776	823	0.83	0.40
Laser ablation	I-type	AG09017	-0.31	0.14	-0.61	0.21	7	0.41	60.16	774	808	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Bjurvattnett	-0.35	0.11	-0.65	0.18	6	0.45	69.35	770	798	-	-	-
Laser ablation	I-type	Knaften	-0.31	0.23	-0.69	0.33	6	0.49	74.60	710	753	907	0.72	0.68
Laser ablation	S-type	MARG	-0.45	0.29	-0.80	0.59	4	0.50	68.23	-	-	906	0.72	0.70
Laser ablation	S-type	LYH	-0.38	0.12	-0.74	0.11	5	0.44	74.20	-	-	-	-	-
Laser ablation	S-type	Meymac	-0.41	0.08	-0.75	0.18	6	0.45	70.38	-	-	831	0.82	0.55
Solution	TTG	40-03-Zrc	-0.21	0.09	-0.42	0.13	4	0.42	71.31	716	756	758	0.94	0.45
Solution	TTG	H395-Zrc	-0.19	0.03	-0.41	0.07	4	0.41	68.80	810	836	-	-	-
Solution	I-type	Kristineberg-Zrc	-0.21	0.07	-0.42	0.10	6	0.22	62.10	725	769	933	0.69	0.32
Solution	A-type	EMQ-5-Zrc	-0.22	0.03	-0.40	0.08	3	0.25	60.98	834	862	-	-	-
Solution	A-type	MZ-2	-0.20	0.02	-0.46	0.10	4	0.31	58.10	560	626	699	1.06	0.29
Laser ablation	Standard	AS3	-0.25	0.14	-0.47	0.20	16	0.18	50.00	-	-	970	0.65	0.27
Laser ablation	Standard	KIM	-0.21	0.13	-0.41	0.19	12	0.12	35.00	-	-	678	1.11	0.11
Laser ablation	Standard	MudTank	-0.19	0.11	-0.38	0.23	5	0.09	15.00	-	-	789	0.89	0.10
Laser ablation	Standard	Plešovice	-0.23	0.08	-0.44	0.21	5	0.24	61.00	-	-	-	-	-
Laser ablation	Standard	MUN-0	-0.84	0.14	-1.61	0.21	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Laser ablation	Standard	MUN-1	-1.04	0.15	-2.02	0.27	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

$\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-zrc}}$ is calculated using $\delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR}}$ of -0.15‰ for A-type, 0.0‰ for TTG, -0.2‰ for I-type, -0.3‰ for S-type, and -0.29‰ for AS3, KIM and MudTank.

T_{zr} calculated using the calibration of Boehnke et al. (2013) whereas T_{zr}^* was calculated using the original calibration of Watson and Harrison (1983)

Zircon $T^{\circ}\text{C}$ is the average Ti-in-zircon temperature determined for each sample

Temperature is expressed in Kelvin in $10^6/T^2$

A is the constant in the fractionation law: $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-zrc}} = A \cdot 10^6/T^2$

Stable isotope geochemistry of silicon in granitoid zircon

Figures

Figure 1. Si isotope results for zircon crystals analyzed in this study by S-MC-ICP-MS (black spots) and LA-MC-ICP-MS (colored squares) in the form of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values. Also indicated are the average $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ for mantle zircon (-0.38 ± 0.04 ‰; 2SD; [Trail et al., 2018](#)) together with bulk-rock average $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values for major granite types (A-, I-, S- and TTGs; [Savage et al., 2012](#); [Poitrasson and Zambardi et al., 2015](#); [Deng et al., 2019](#)).

Figure 2. Chondrite-normalized ([McDonough and Sun, 1995](#)) multi-element plots for granitic zircons. Color-coding is the same as in [Figure 1](#). Data for AS3 zircon are from this study and given for comparison.

Figure 3. Zircon reference AS3-normalized multi-element plots for granitic zircons. Color-coding is the same as in [Figure 1](#). Data for AS3 zircon are from this study ([Table S4](#)) and given for comparison. The AS3 elemental values used to normalize zircon data are averages of measurements from this study for which Al concentration was below 1 ppm in order to obtain a least altered and representative igneous composition.

Figure 4. Back-scattered electron (BSE) image of the megacrystic zircon from Malawi with details about *in-situ* measurement locations (MZ1-MZ7). Also indicated are isotopic and chemical information obtained from these zones. Note the general fine oscillatory zoning from core to rim typical of magmatic zircons on which is superimposed dark and homogeneous metamorphic zones together with fractures and mid-grey patchy domains. Red symbols in Figures B-G correspond to analyses done within magmatic domains visible in Figure A, whereas grey symbols are from metamorphic domains and blue symbols from “intermediate” patchy domains. See text for details.

Figure 5. Composite figure that presents zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ and chemical data from TTGs (A), from I-type granite (B) and (C), and from S-type granite (D). Figure (A) shows that metamorphism, which is marked by a decrease of Th/U down to < 0.2 , lowers zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$. Note that AG09-016 zircons with the highest $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ value, which also have typical igneous Th/U, fall in the range of $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ values exhibited by “pristine” zircons from other TTGs. Figure (B) shows that high Ca concentration in zircon, which is a sign of alteration/weathering, can possibly drag $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ down. Ti concentration in the same altered zircon has consequently been increased (Figure C), hence, compromising the meaningfulness of determined Ti-in-zircon temperature. Finally, Figure D presents the only relationship we obtained in our dataset between $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ and Ti-in-zircon temperature. As illustrated by the arrows, this relationship cannot solely be explained by temperature decrease but has to involve a change in SiO_2 , and perhaps a source control.

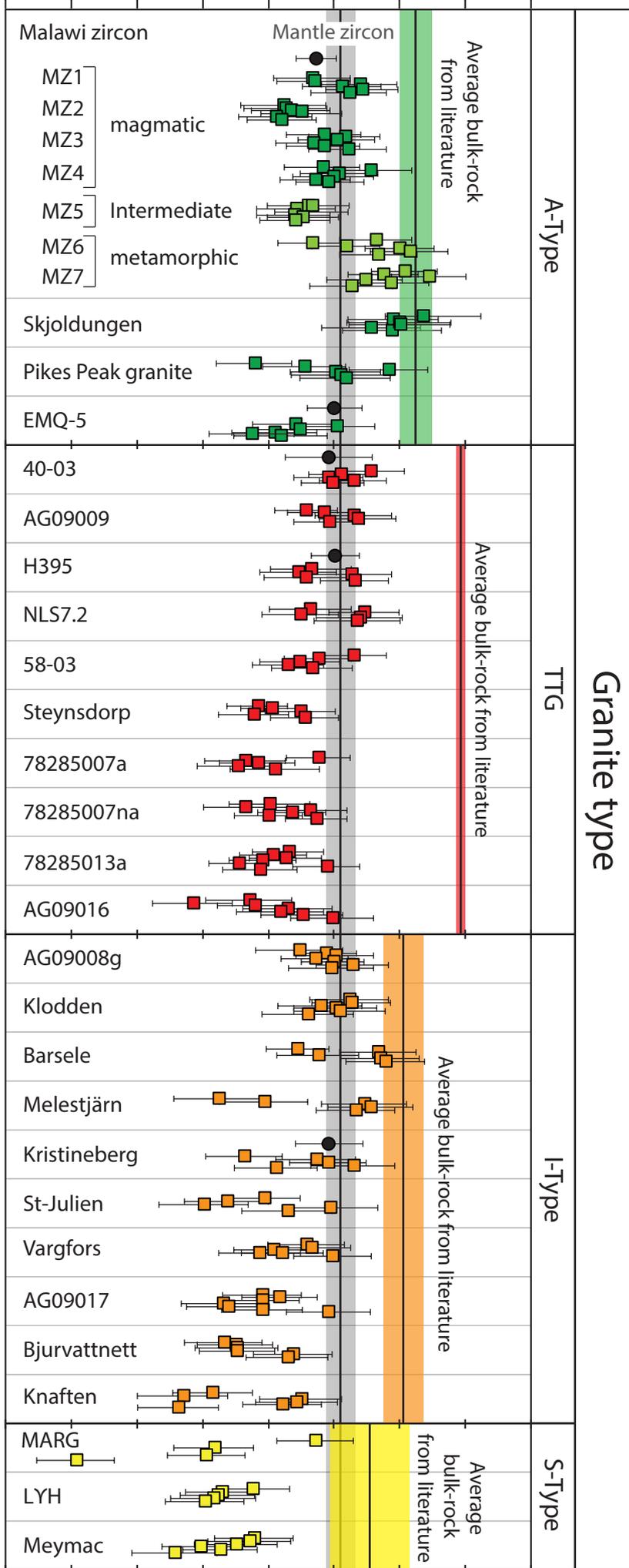
Figure 6. Silicon isotope fractionation between zircon and melt, expressed as $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$, as a function of Ti-in-zircon temperature ($T^{\circ}\text{C}$) and $10^6/T^2$ (in Kelvin). We only plotted samples for which we analyzed trace elements and that were not affected by secondary processes (see text for details). Also indicated are SiO_2 contents of corresponding whole-rock (WR) samples (Table 3). The solid and dashed lines with associated SiO_2 contents are from Trail et al. (2019). $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$ were calculated assuming bulk-rock A-type granite $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.15‰ , TTG $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.0‰ , I-type $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.20‰ , and S-type granite $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ of -0.30‰ (Deng et al., 2019). Note the general good consistency between zircon group positions and WR SiO_2 contents for samples with simple distribution (e.g., SKJ = 58 wt% SiO_2 ; Klodden = 58 wt% SiO_2 ; 40-03 = 71 wt% SiO_2 ; AG09-009 = 72 wt% SiO_2 ; Meymac = 70 wt% SiO_2). Also note the spread in $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$ values for other samples (e.g., Pikes Peak granite, Knaftern, MARG) that indicate heterogeneous SiO_2 that most likely arise from fractional crystallization, magma mingling, and/or change in the source of parental magma, or crustal assimilation. In fact, clay-rich sediments can have $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ down to approximately -2‰ , thereby artificially increasing the $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$ (Ziegler et al., 2005; Opfergelt et al., 2012; Trail et al., 2018). Color-coding is the same as in Figure 1.

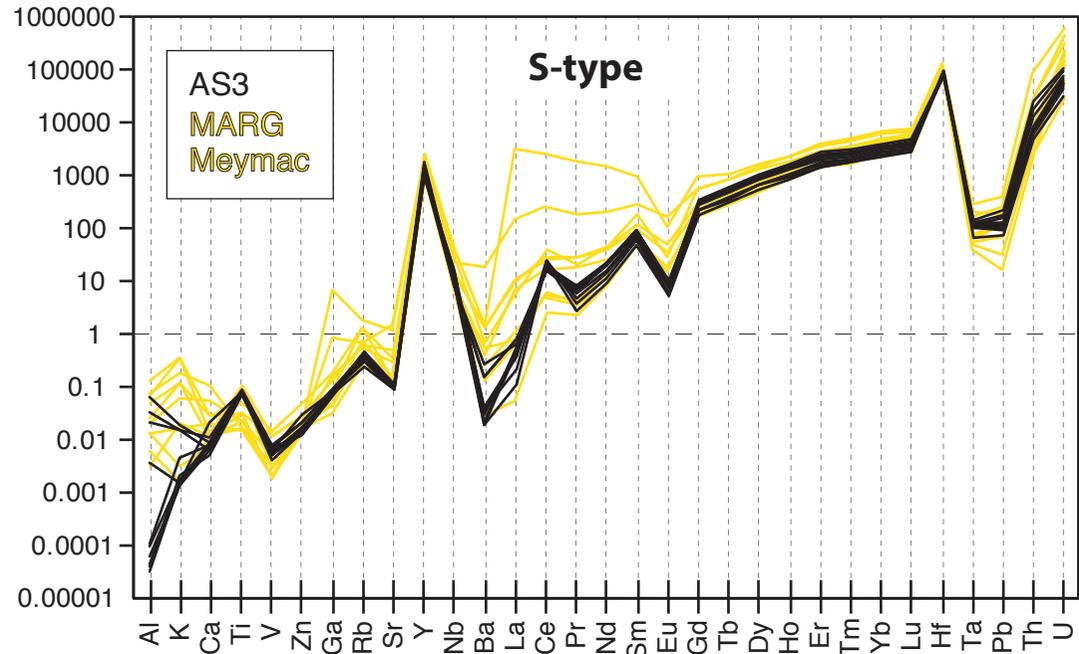
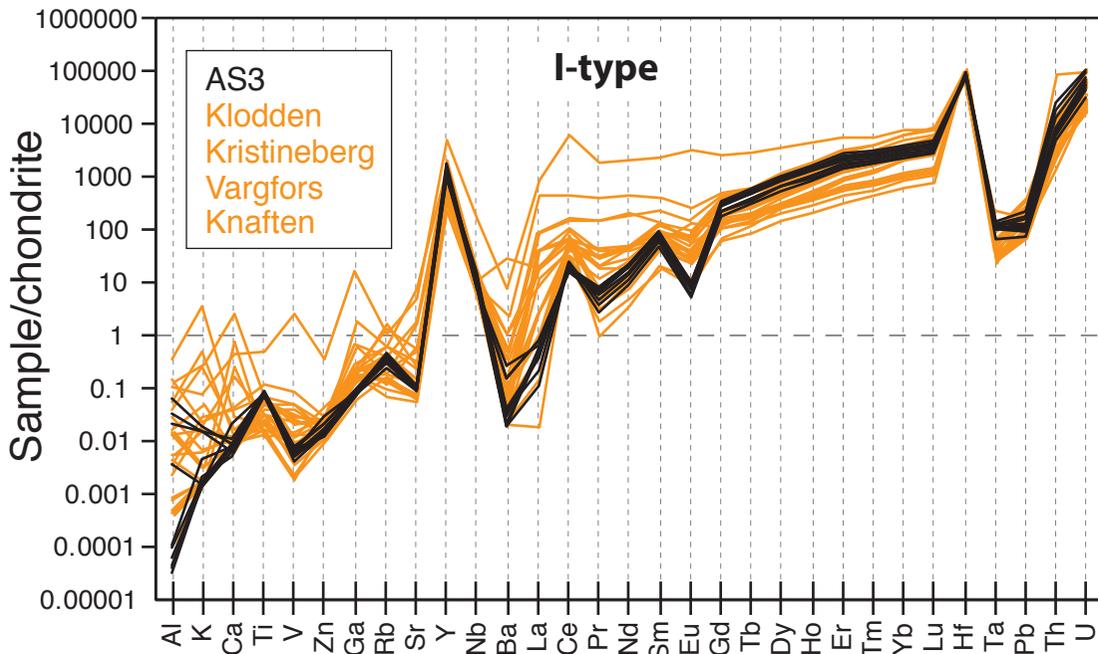
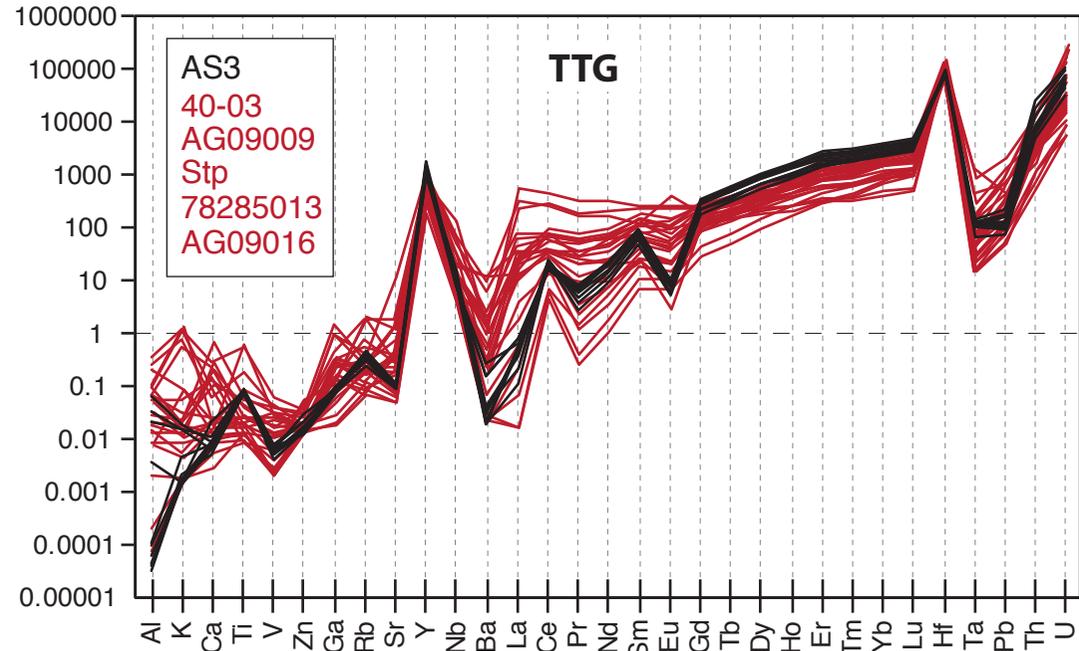
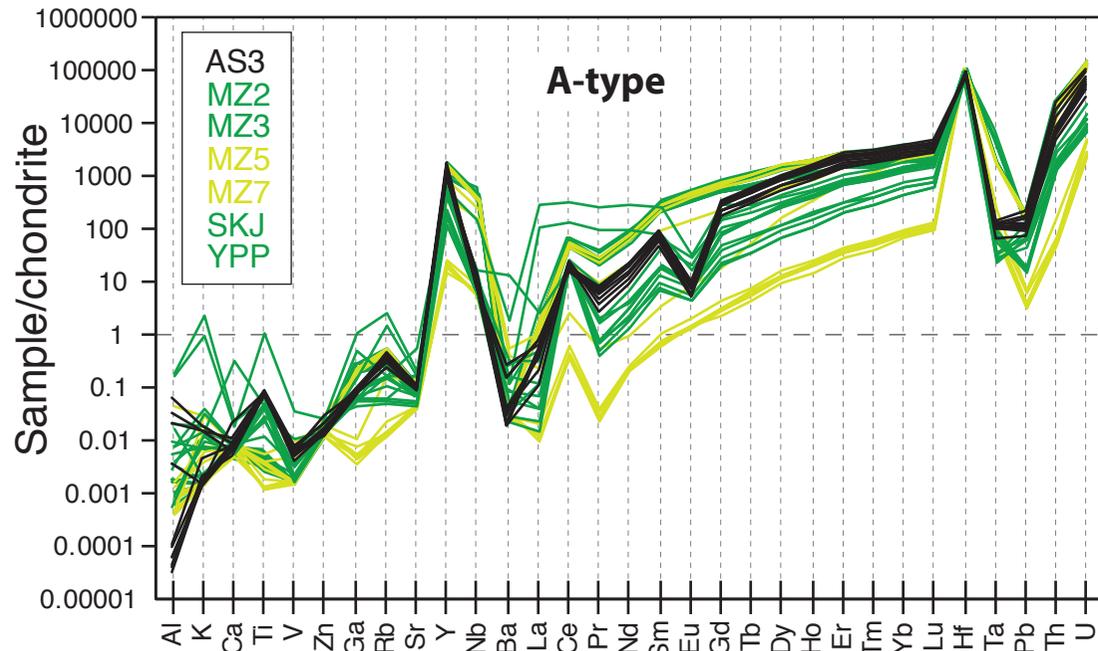
Figure 7. Silicon isotope signatures of analyzed zircons filtered for secondary processes and grouped according to major granite types. Color-coding is the same as in Figure 1. Each circle corresponds to the average zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ obtained from one sample. Also indicated are the values for the various granite types (Savage et al., 2012; Poitrasson and Zambardi, 2015; Deng et al., 2019) and the within-run precision of LA-MC-ICP-MS analyses. Note the similar pattern between zircon and whole-rock $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$.

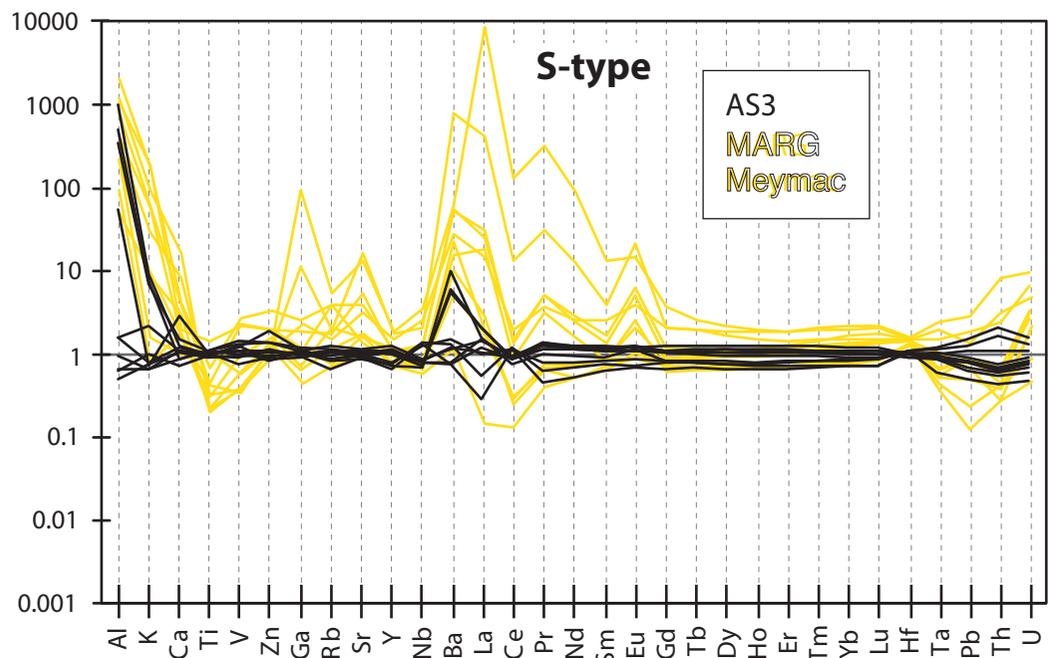
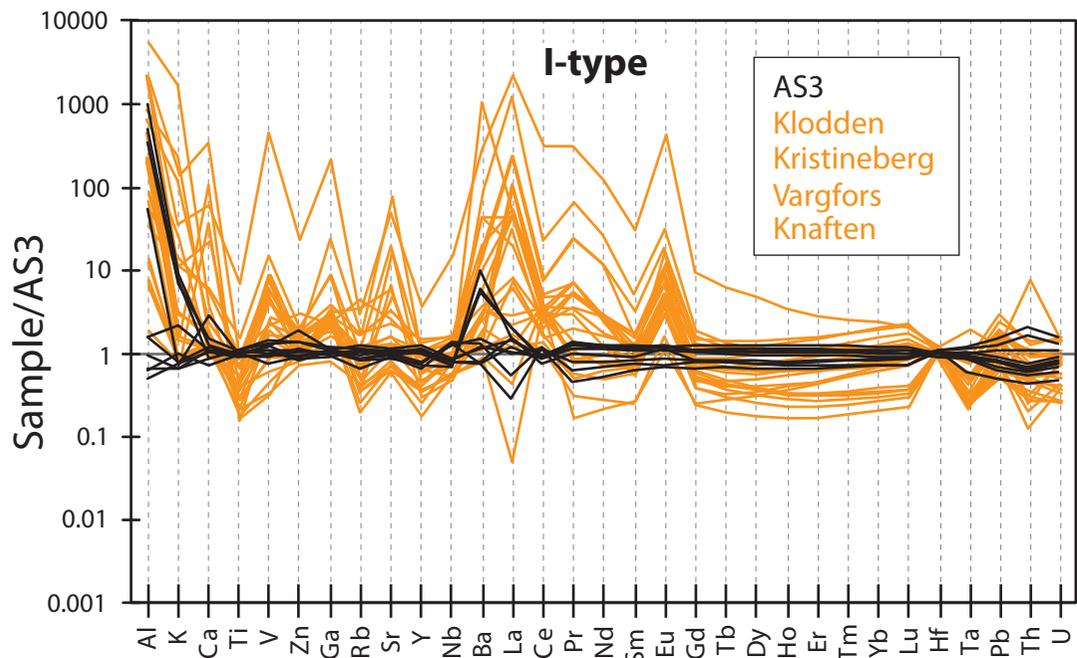
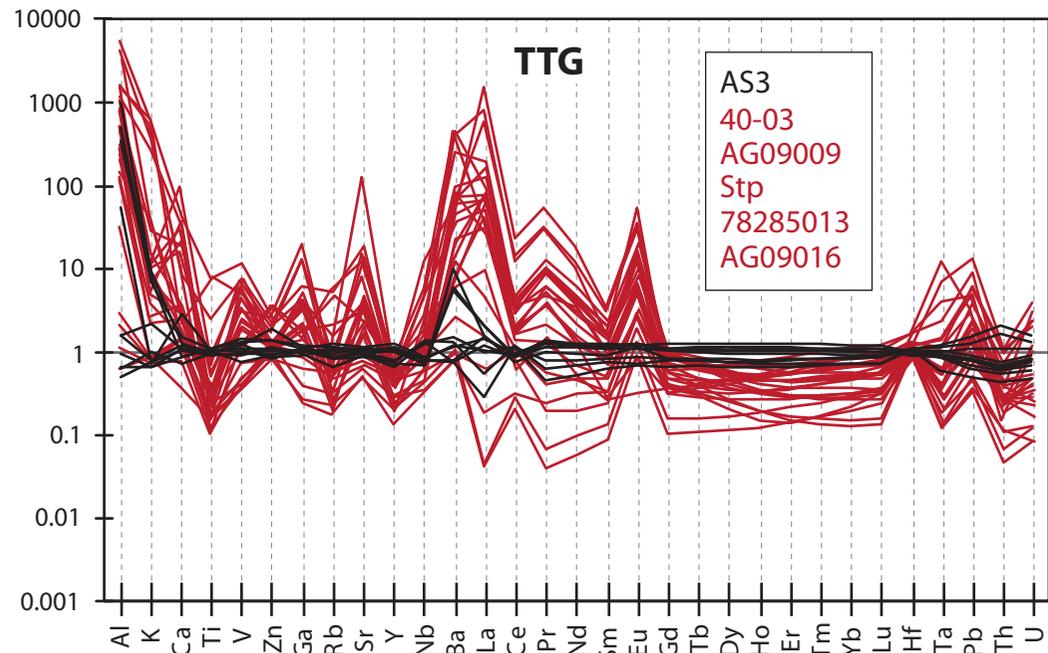
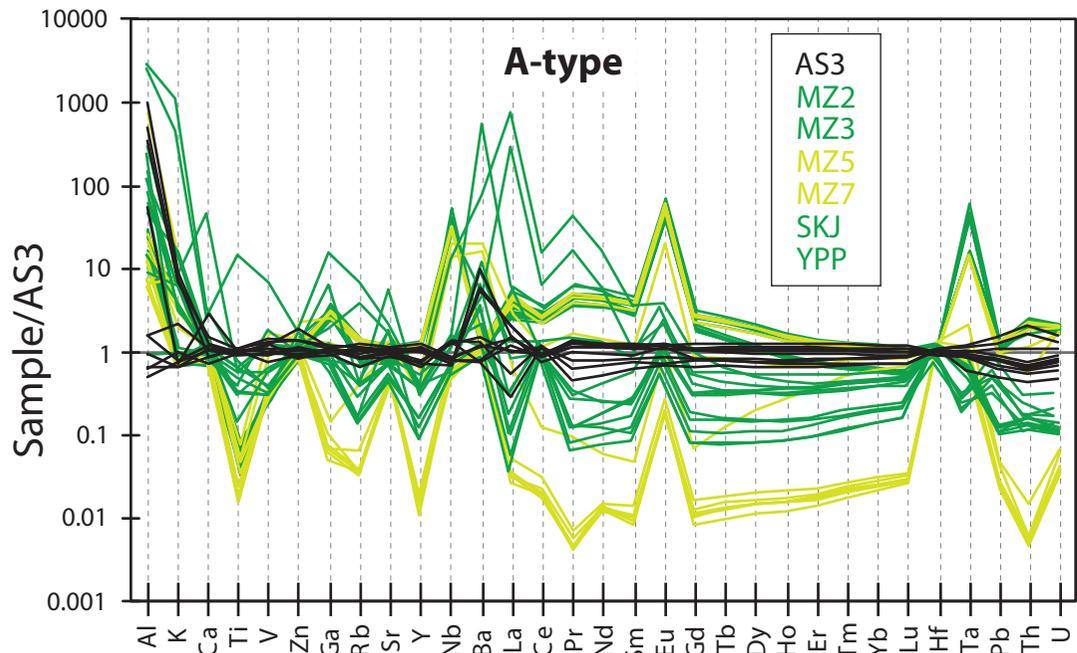
Figure 8. Binary plot showing the relationship between A value and whole-rock SiO₂ content (A) and its consequence for the $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$ versus WR SiO₂ plot (B) used for interpretations of zircon $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ and Ti-in-zircon temperature. Color-coding in (A) is the same as in [Figure 1](#). Numbers next to lines are respective A values in (B). Also reported in (B) are the slopes and corresponding SiO₂ contents from [Qin et al. \(2016\)](#) and [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#). Compared to this study, slopes (i.e., A values) derived from theory ([Qin et al., 2016](#)) seem to under-estimate Si isotope fractionation between zircon and high-SiO₂ melts, whereas slopes from experiments tend to under-estimate Si isotope fractionation between zircon and low-SiO₂ melts ([Trail et al., 2019](#)). However, note that uncertainties on A values are similar to those on $\delta^{30}\text{Si}$, and hence on $\Delta^{30}\text{Si}_{\text{WR-Zrc}}$, that vary between 0.1 and 0.2 (2SD absolute values) which is not shown in (B). Moreover, the fit in (A) is linear but the actual relationship between A value and SiO₂ may not be linear as noted in [Trail et al. \(2019\)](#) and could instead require a polynomial fit such as the modeling of fractionation behavior done in [Qin et al., \(2016\)](#).

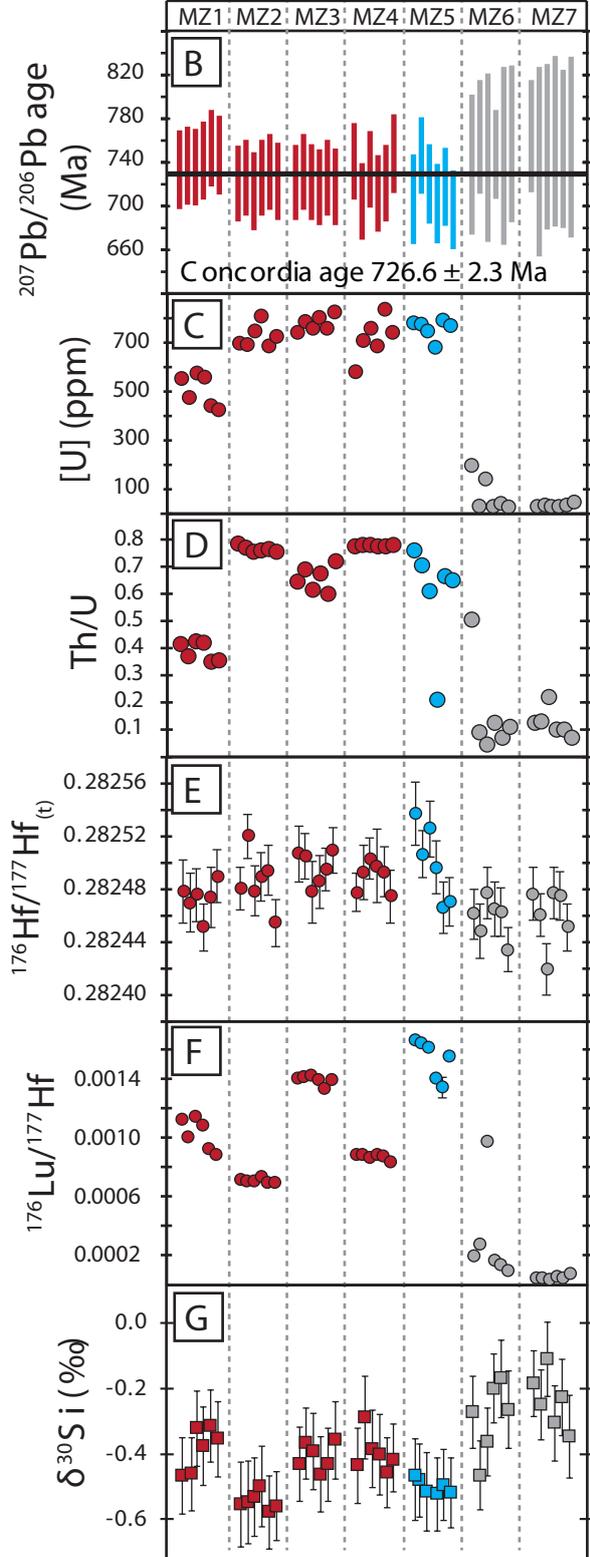
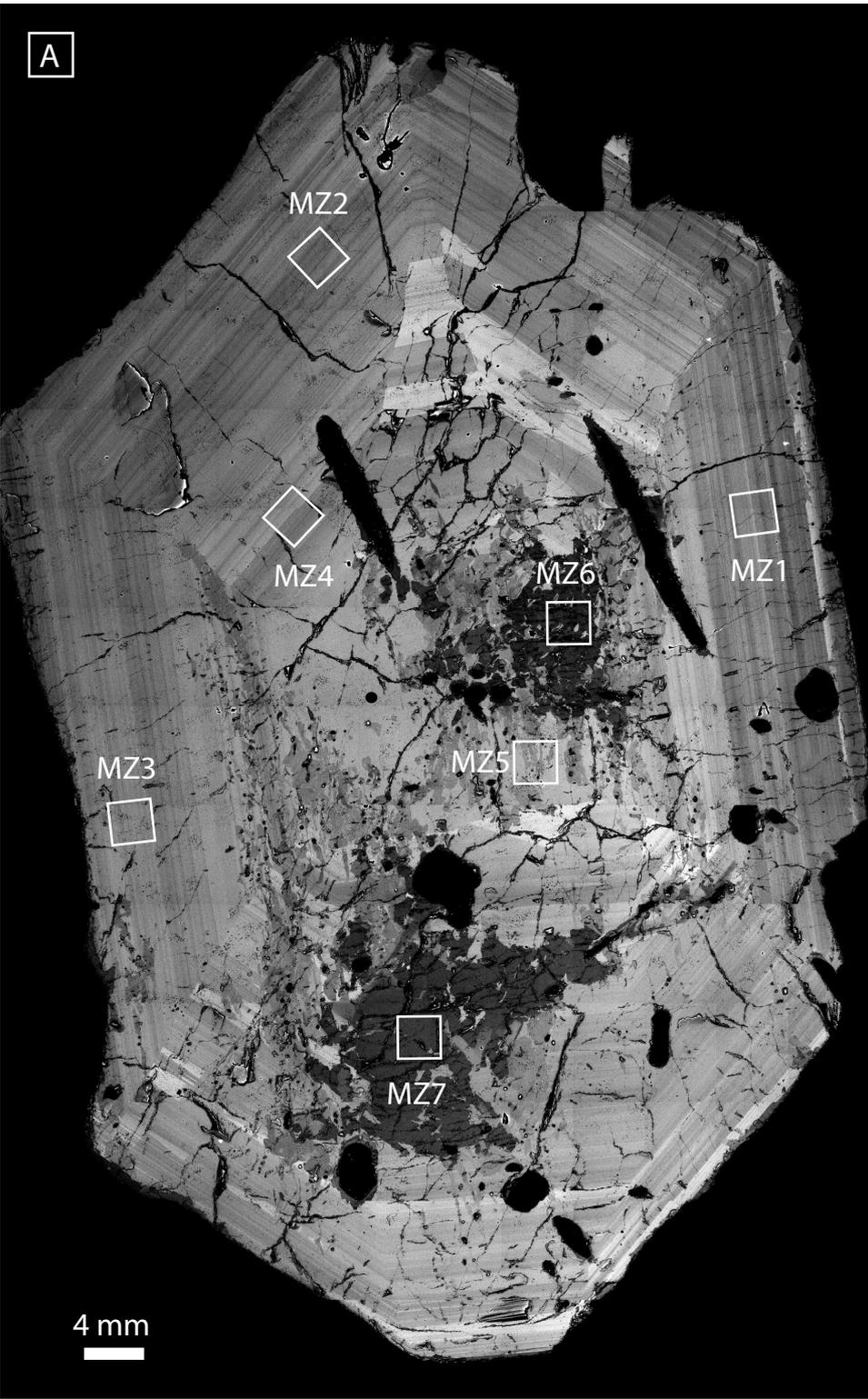
$\delta^{30}\text{Si}$ (‰)

-1.2 -1.0 -0.8 -0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.0 0.2

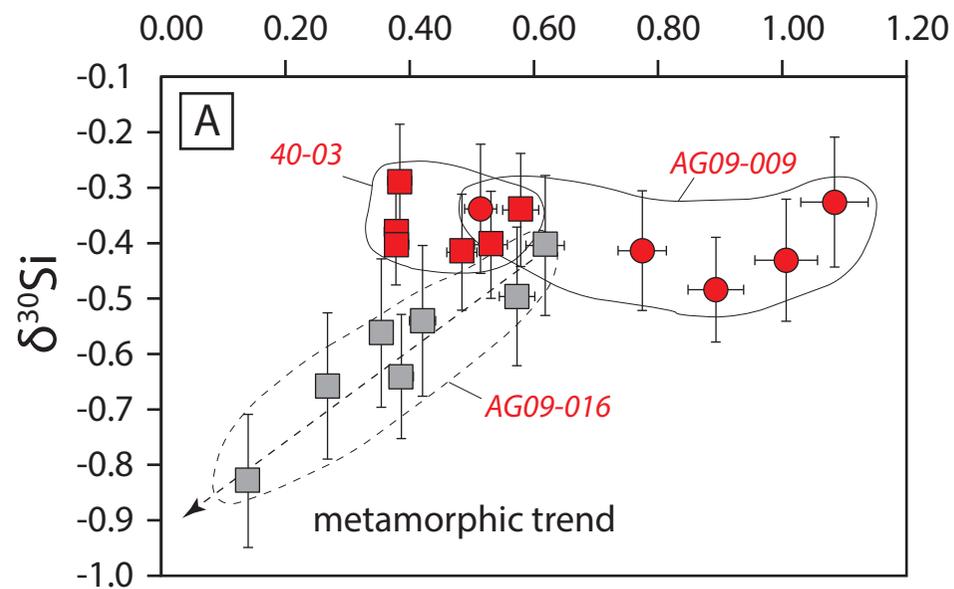




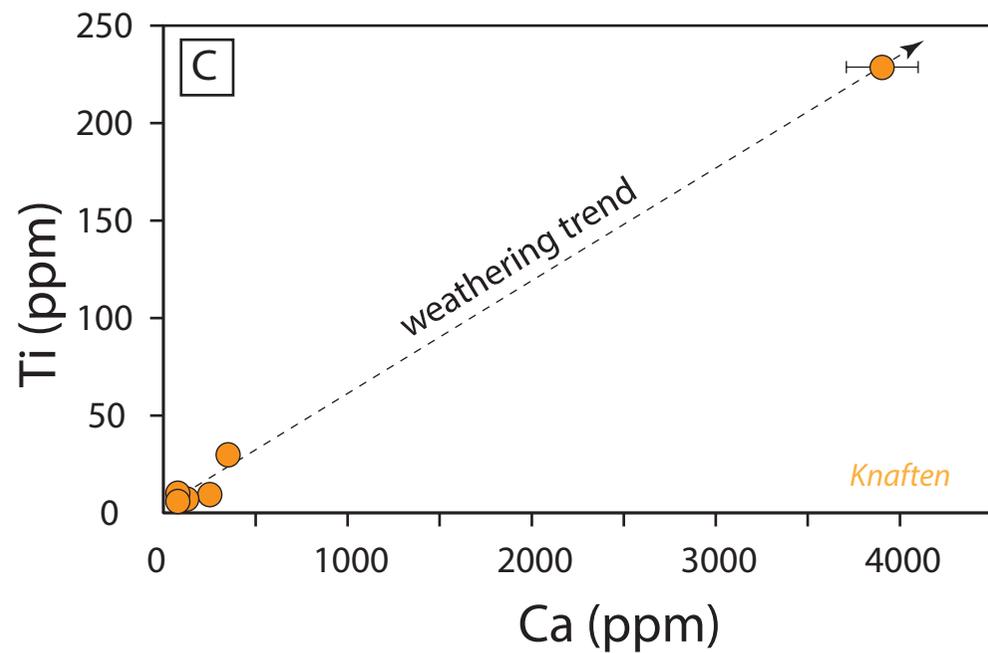
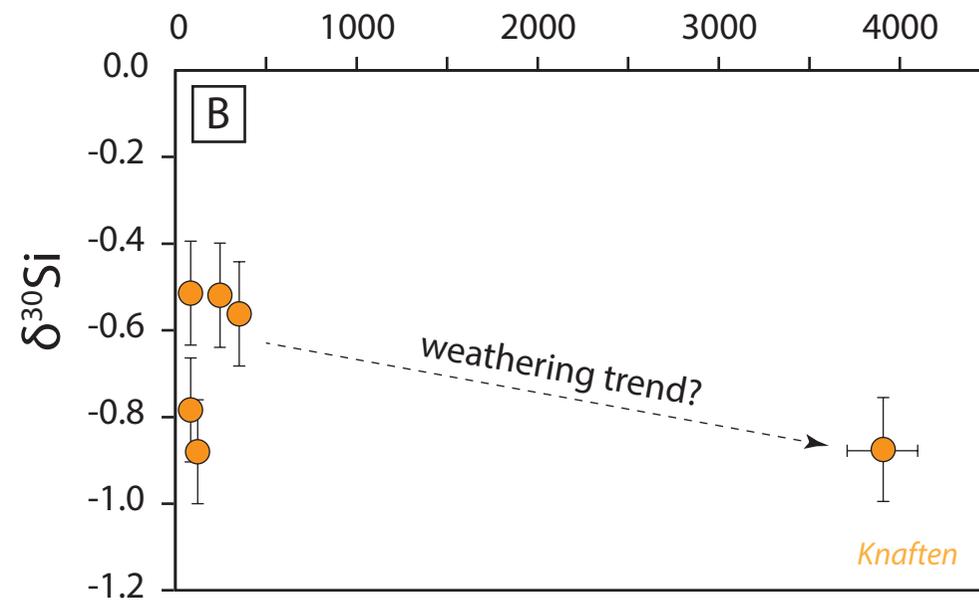




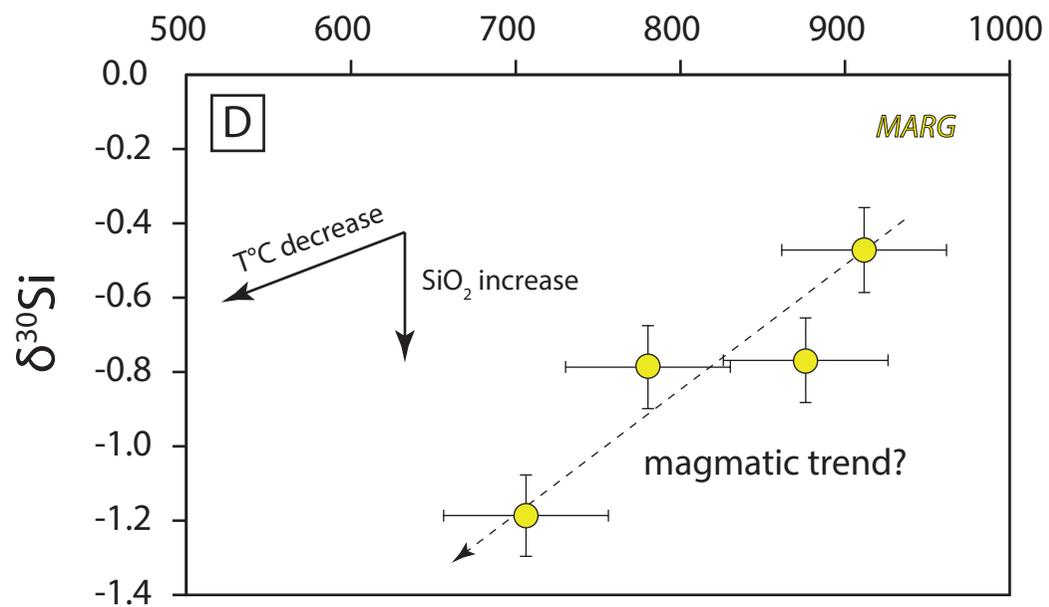
Th/U

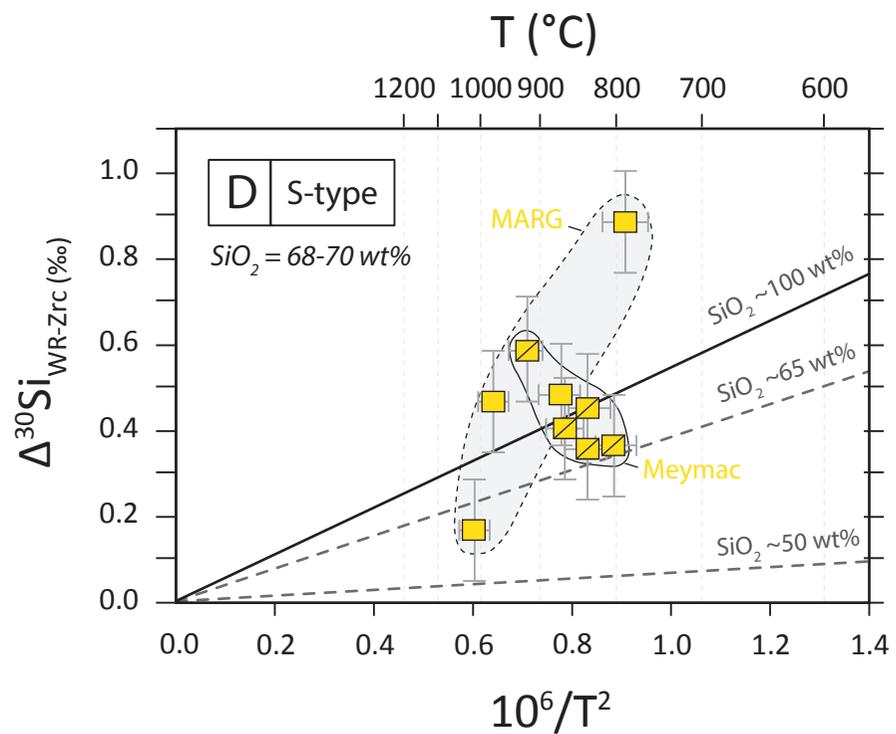
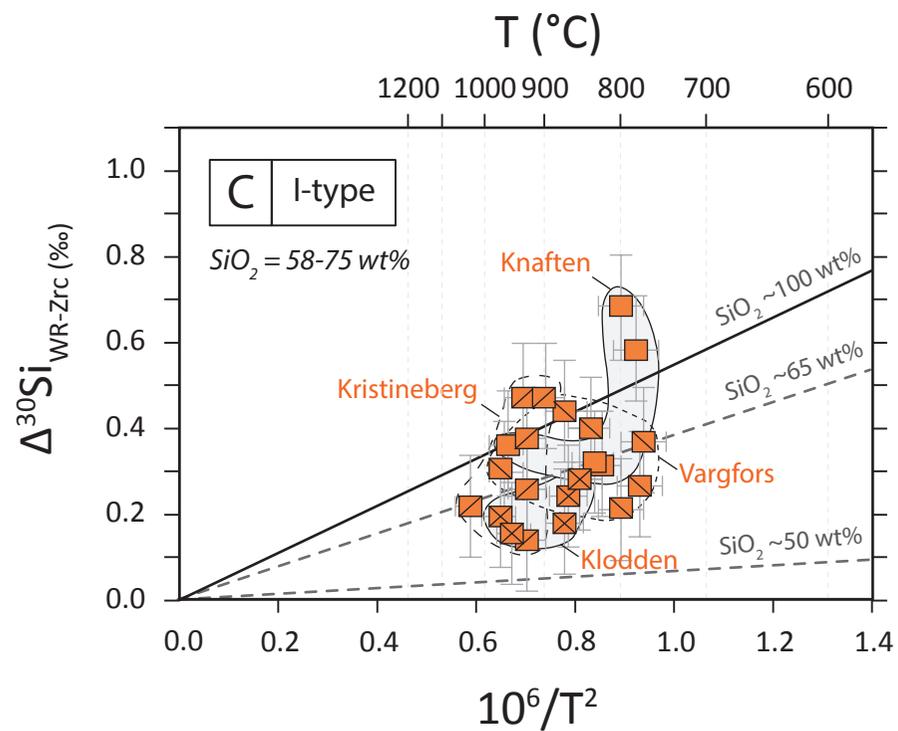
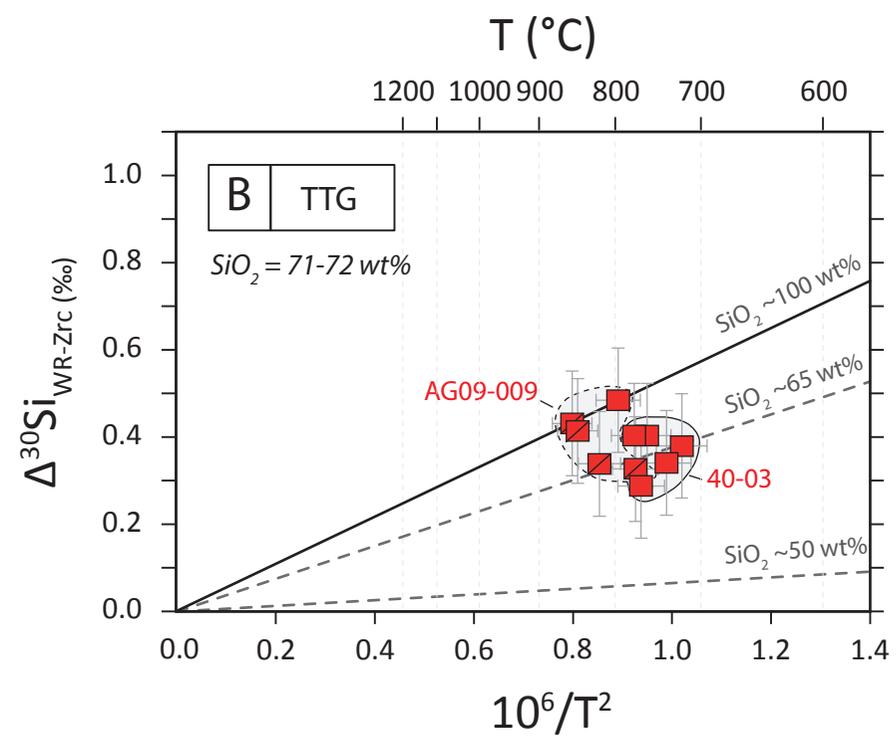
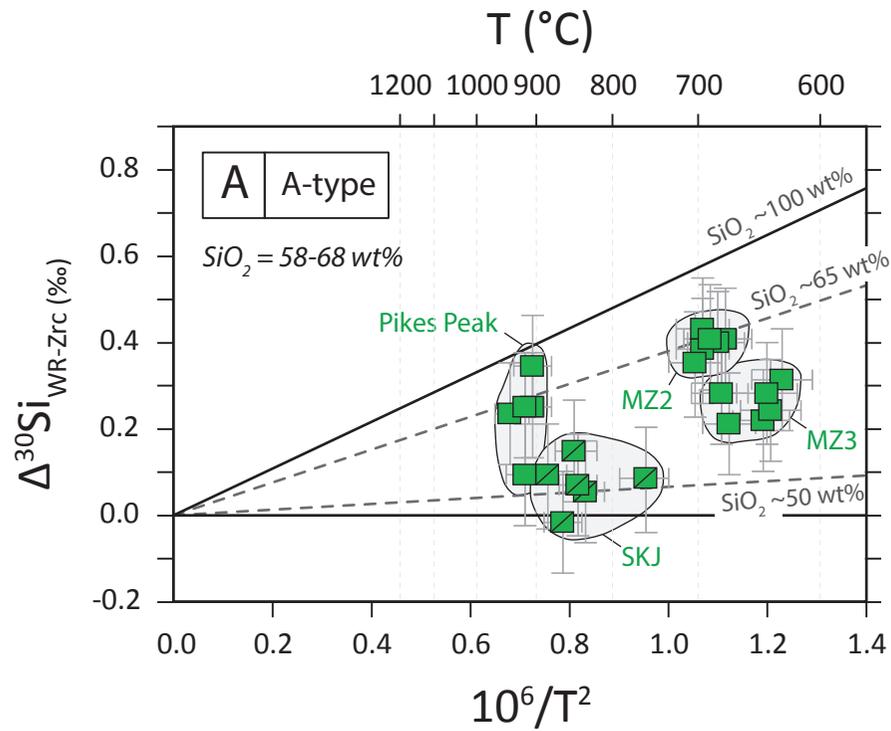


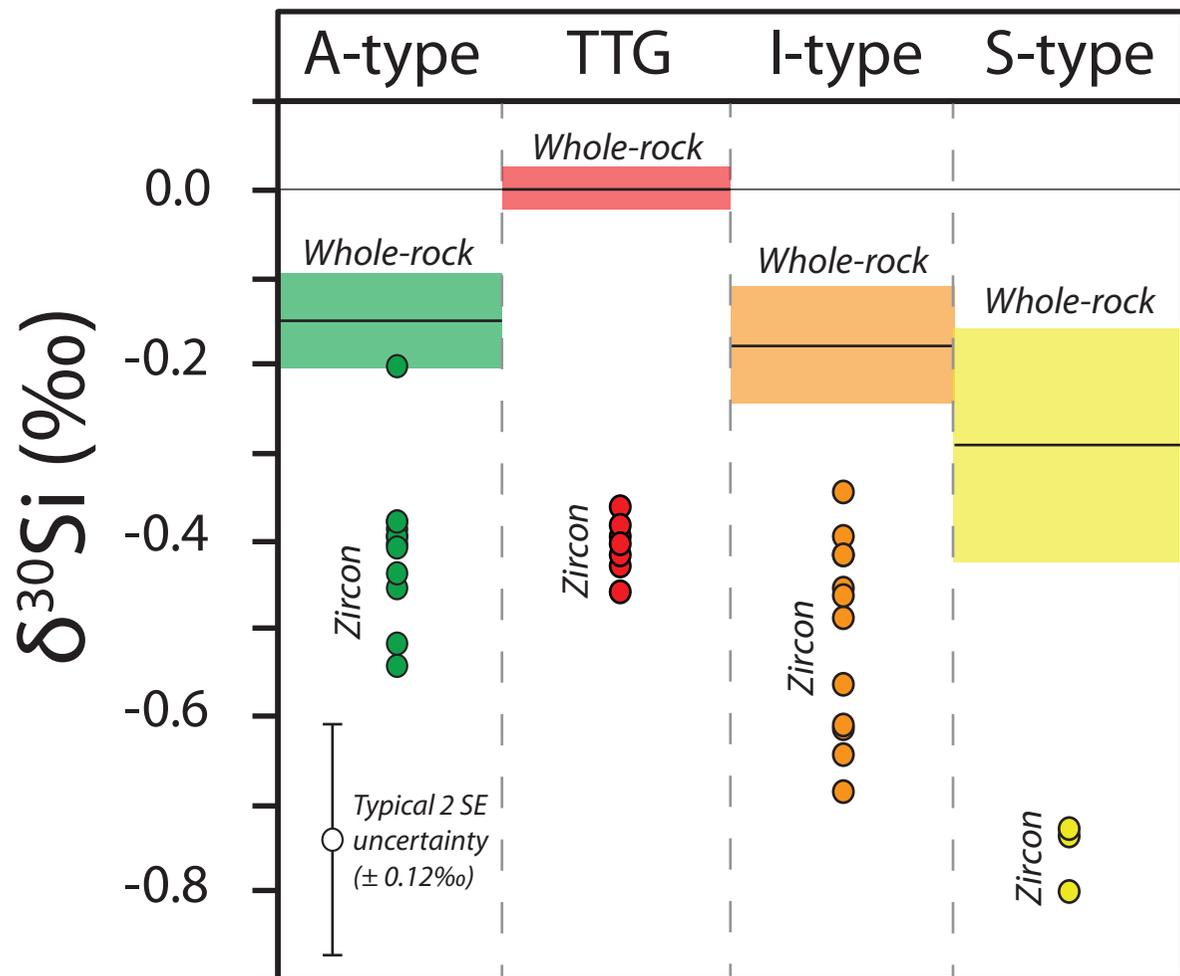
Ca (ppm)

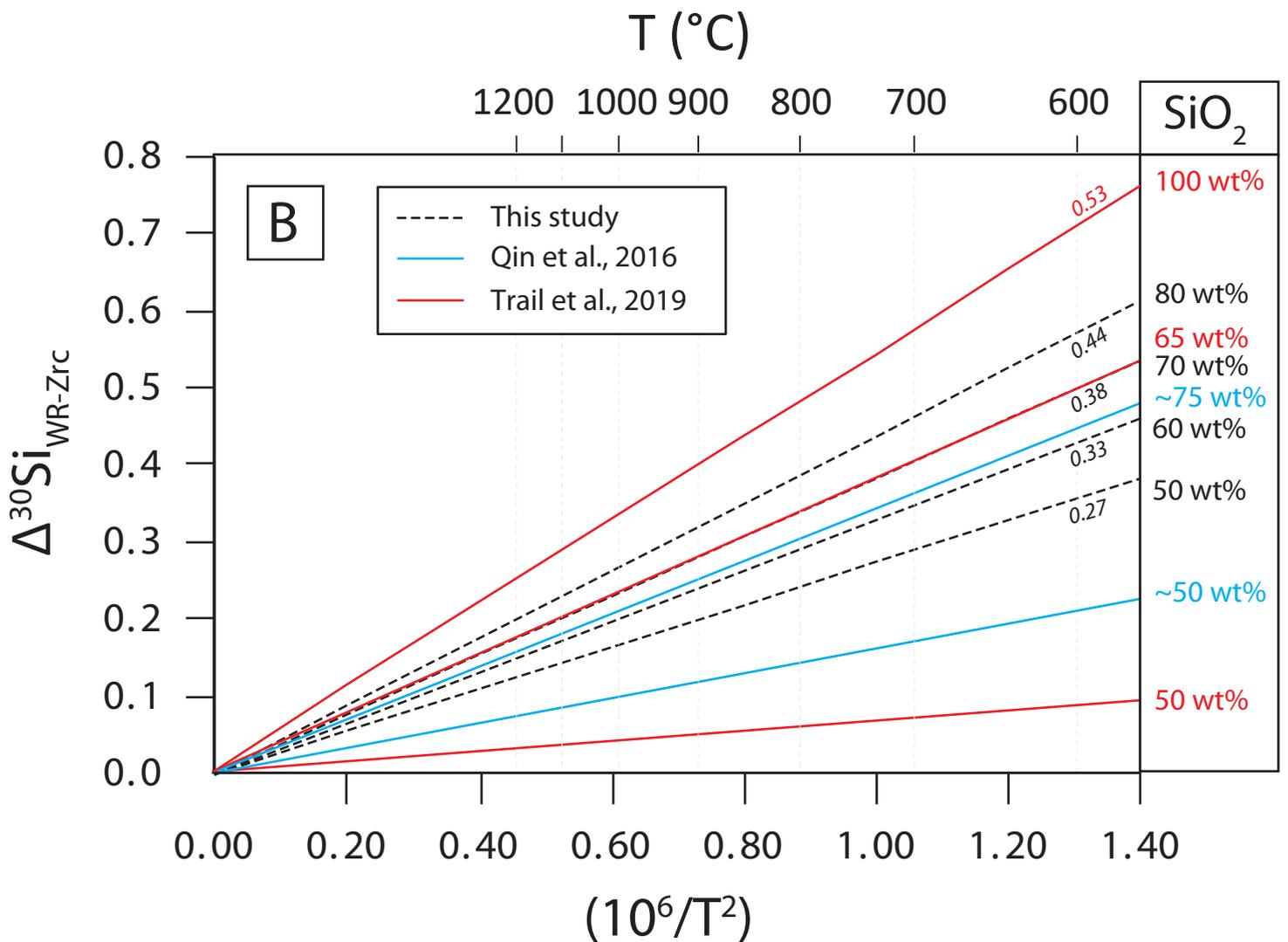
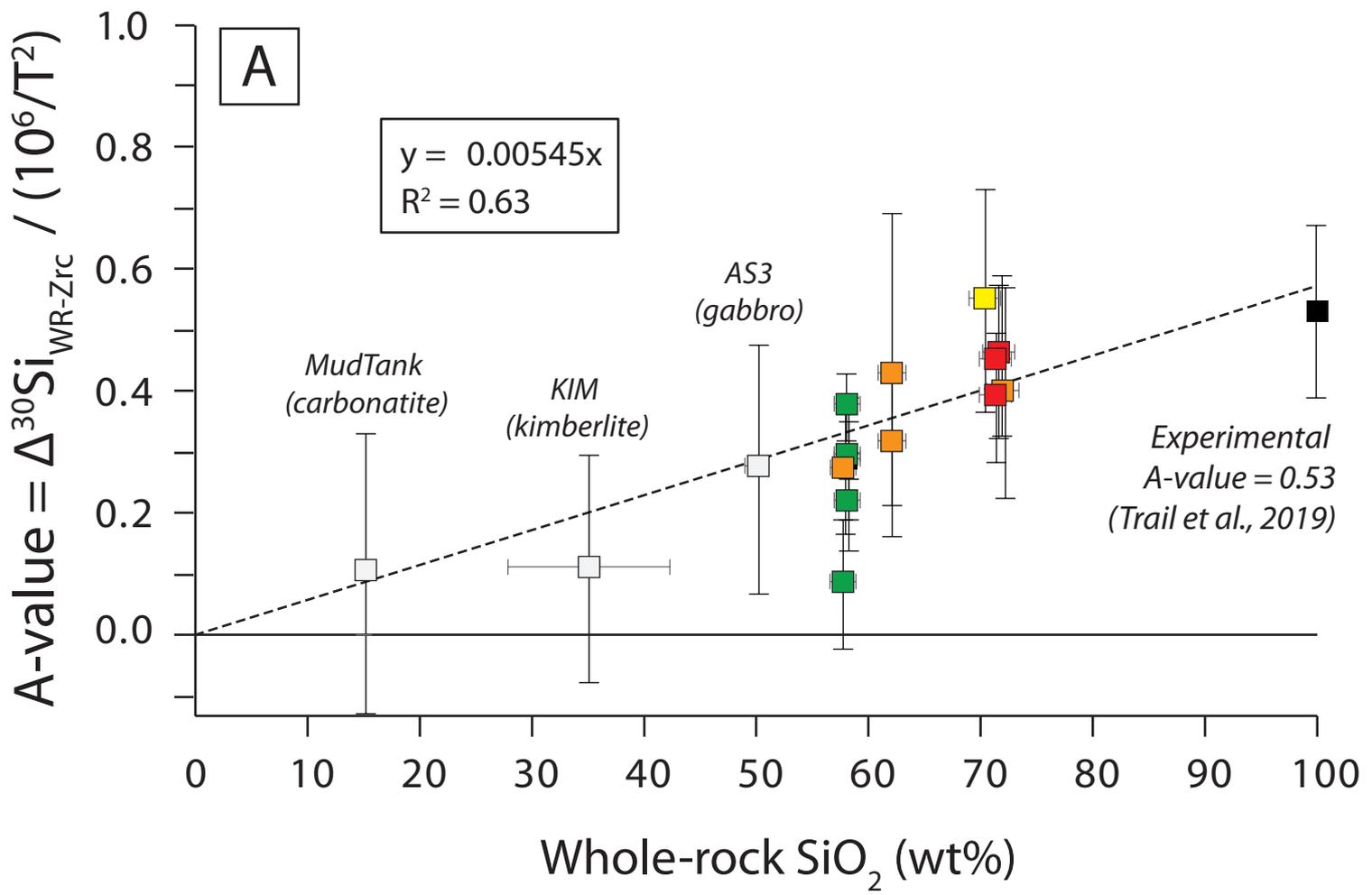


Ti-in-zircon ($^{\circ}\text{C}$)











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Highlights :

- Zircons from various granite types were analyzed for Si isotopes
- Si isotopes were measured using laser-ablation and solution MC-ICP-MS
- Metamorphism and alteration can modify zircon Si isotope composition
- Si isotope fractionation in zircon is controlled by temperature and melt SiO₂ wt%
- Si isotopes in zircon can discriminate granite types and track magma evolution

Declaration of interests

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

The authors declare the following financial interests/personal relationships which may be considered as potential competing interests: