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# **Scheelite composition fingerprints pulsed flow of magmatic fluid in the Fujiashan W skarn deposit, eastern China**

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## ABSTRACT

26 Scheelite ( $\text{CaWO}_4$ ) is an economically important W mineral in skarns that form when  
27 magmatic fluids exsolved from a granitic intrusion react with carbonate wall rocks. In  
28 the Fujiashan W skarn deposit scheelite formed during all four stages of the  
29 hydrothermal skarn development. We present cathodoluminescence (CL) images and  
30 in-situ trace element and Sr-O isotope data of scheelite from these four stages, i.e.,  
31 scheelite in prograde and retrograde skarn, quartz-sulfide veins, and late calcite  
32 replacements. Scheelite from prograde skarn and quartz sulfide veins are  
33 homogeneous and show oscillatory zoning textures in CL images, whereas scheelite  
34 from retrograde skarn and late carbonate stages display dissolution-reprecipitation and  
35 patchy textures. The brightness of CL textures decrease with higher substitution of  
36 Mo. Molybdenum-rich scheelite (up to 2.1 wt%) is characterized by relatively high  
37 contents of Nb and Ta (up to 156 and 0.9 ppm, respectively), positive Eu anomalies,  
38 high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (5.2 to 5.9 ‰), and relatively low  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  values (0.70661 to  
39 0.70727), and has grown in a system with a continuous supply of magmatic fluid.  
40 Molybdenum-poor scheelite (0.2 wt%) has low contents of Nb and Ta, negative Eu  
41 anomalies, low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (4.2 to 4.3 ‰) and relatively high  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios (0.70748  
42 to 0.70804). This type of scheelite formed in a system with restricted flow of  
43 magmatic fluid that during scheelite precipitation became increasingly depleted in  
44 elements that substitute into scheelite. The continued reaction of the magmatic fluid  
45 with the wall rocks and the precipitation of minerals from the fluid resulted in a  
46 systematic change of the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios. Chemical and isotopic variations in

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47 scheelite may reflect pulsed flow of a magmatic fluid and do not require the  
48 involvement of different fluids or contrasting redox conditions.

49

50 **Keywords:** Scheelite, Trace element, In-situ Sr-O isotope analysis, Pulsed magmatic  
51 fluid, Skarn

52

### 53 INTRODUCTION

54 Skarn deposits are important sources of Sn, W, Cu, Pb, Zn, and high-grade Fe ores  
55 (e.g., [Chang et al. 2019](#)). Skarns are dominated by calc-silicate minerals such as  
56 garnet, pyroxene, and wollastonite and formed by interaction of magmatic-  
57 hydrothermal fluids emanating from granitic intrusions with carbonate wall rocks (e.g.,  
58 [Meinert et al. 2005](#)). Commonly, magmatic-hydrothermal fluids migrate along  
59 silicate-rich layers and fractures that act as aquifers within the carbonate rocks,  
60 whereas the carbonate rock act as aquitards. Consumption of aquifer and aquitard  
61 during the formation of skarn minerals increases the permeability, which focuses fluid  
62 flow and promotes additional reaction. The reaction-induced increase of permeability  
63 is counteracted by the ambient pressure that reduces the interconnectivity of the pores  
64 and eventually results in episodic fluid flow (e.g., [Cui et al. 2001](#); [Milsch et al. 2003](#)).  
65 Reaction-induced changes of the fluid composition induce precipitation of  
66 economically relevant elements by formation of ore minerals, e.g., W in scheelite, or  
67 substitution in gangue minerals, e.g., Sn in skarn silicates (e.g., [Lefebvre et al., 2019](#)).

68 Traditionally, the source and evolution of mineralizing fluids in skarn deposits  
69 have been studied using O isotope data of bulk gangue mineral separates and  
70 hydrogen isotope data of fluid inclusions in gangue minerals (Taylor et al. 1977; Lu et  
71 al. 2003). In-situ O isotope data of gangue minerals show that the fluid composition  
72 may vary during the evolution of the hydrothermal system and mineralization  
73 (D’Errico et al. 2012; Ryan-Davis et al. 2019; Li et al. 2022a; Liu et al., 2023). It can  
74 be difficult, however, to link variations in the compositions of gangue minerals with  
75 the precipitation of ore minerals. Using the compositional variation of ore minerals as  
76 a monitor of changing fluid composition and fluid source, as well as changing  
77 precipitation conditions, is an approach that removes the uncertainty of the genetic  
78 relation between gangue and ore minerals. In W skarn deposits, scheelite seems to be  
79 particularly well suited to trace fluid evolution and fluid sources as crosscutting  
80 relations and alteration assemblages indicate that scheelite may form during both  
81 prograde and retrograde stages (Poulin et al. 2018; Miranda et al. 2022). Due to  
82 similar electron configurations and ionic radii, rare earth elements (REE), Sr, and Y  
83 readily enter the scheelite structure, substituting for  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (Raimbault et al., 1993;  
84 Poulin et al. 2018), whereas higher charged elements may substitute for  $\text{W}^{6+}$ . The  
85 chemical inventory of scheelite is derived from different sources, i.e., Ca and Sr from  
86 the carbonate wall rocks, Si, Al, and other major elements from the aquifer or silicate  
87 minerals within the carbonate rocks, and W, alkali elements, and REE from the  
88 magmatic-hydrothermal fluids. The availability of these elements may vary in the  
89 course of the development of the skarn (Poulin et al. 2018; Sun et al. 2019). Therefore,

90 variations in the trace element contents of scheelite reflect progressive fluid-rock  
91 interaction during the formation of a W skarn deposit.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  and  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  may trace  
92 the source of the fluid and record the interaction of the ore-forming fluid with the wall  
93 rocks (Sun et al. 2017; Song et al. 2019; Li et al. 2021a). The ubiquitous overprint and  
94 multi-stage growth of scheelite implies that bulk analysis provides mixed signatures  
95 from multiple processes, whereas in-situ Sr-O isotope data may distinguish different  
96 stages of a dynamic ore-forming process.

97 In this paper, we focus on scheelite in the Fujiashan W skarn deposit, an oxidized  
98 W deposit at the Edong ore cluster, eastern China (Ji et al. 2019). We demonstrate  
99 grain-scale variation of in-situ trace element and Sr-O isotope data in scheelite,  
100 highlighting the behavior of scheelite-compatible trace elements during fluid-rock  
101 interaction. Furthermore, we characterize the source and evolution of ore-forming  
102 fluids at different stages.

### 103 **GEOLOGICAL SETTING**

104 The Middle-Lower Yangtze River Metallogenic Belt (MLYRB) is located at the  
105 northern margin of the Yangtze Craton and borders the southeastern margin of the  
106 North China Craton and the Dabieshan orogenic belt (Fig. 1; Zhai et al. 1996; Mao et  
107 al. 2011). The MLYRB contains seven ore districts, including from west to east, the  
108 Edong, Jiurui, Anqing-Guichi, Luzong, Tongling, Ningwu, and Ningzhen districts  
109 (Chang et al. 1991; Pan and Dong 1999; Mao et al. 2011) (Fig. 1b). The MLYRB is  
110 bounded by the Xiangfan–Guangji Fault (XGF) to the northwest, the regional strike–

111 slip Tancheng–Lujiang Fault (TLF) to the northeast, and the Yangxin–Changzhou  
112 Fault (YCF) to the south (Fig. 1b). The MLYRB is characterized by an Archean–  
113 Proterozoic metamorphic basement overlain by Cambrian to Early Triassic marine  
114 sedimentary rocks and Middle Triassic to Cretaceous terrigenous clastic and volcanic  
115 rocks (Zhai et al. 1996; Mao et al. 2011). Major mineralization and magmatism of the  
116 MLYRB includes three groups (Mao et al. 2011; Zhou et al. 2015). The first group  
117 includes 156–136 Ma diorites, granodiorites, and granodiorite porphyries with  
118 porphyry-skarn Cu-Au-Mo deposits; The second group includes 135–123 Ma  
119 gabbros, diorites, quartz diorites, quartz monzonites, granites, and diorite porphyries  
120 with magnetite-apatite deposits and Fe skarn deposits. The third group comprises  
121 127–123 Ma A-type quartz syenites, syenites, and alkaline granites with minor gold  
122 and uranium mineralization.

123 In the Edong Fe-Cu ore district, Cambrian to middle Triassic marine carbonate and  
124 clastic rocks and flysch successions are widespread. There are two groups of  
125 Mesozoic granitoids with related mineralization that were emplaced into these  
126 sedimentary rocks (Xie et al. 2011; Li et al. 2014). The older group includes  
127 granodiorites and granites with 147–136 Ma Cu-Au-Mo, and W porphyry-skarn  
128 deposits and 144–143 Ma Cu-Fe and Fe-Cu skarn deposits. The younger group  
129 includes 133–127 Ma diorites, granites, and monzonitic granites with Fe skarn  
130 deposits. Three W deposits from the Edong district have been mined, i.e., the  
131 Tongshankou, Ruanjiawan and Fujiashan deposits (Fig. 1c).

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## GEOLOGY OF THE FUJIASHAN DEPOSIT

133 The Fujiashan W skarn deposit is located in the southern part of the Edong ore district  
134 (Fig. 1c). It is the largest oxidized W skarn deposit in this district and has proven  
135 reserves of 58,000 tons  $WO_3$ , 14,000 tons Cu, 5,800 tons Mo at average ore grades of  
136 0.27%  $WO_3$ , 0.77% Cu, and 0.1% Mo (Ji et al. 2019). The Fujiashan deposit includes  
137 two ore segments at the eastern and western contact zones of the early Cretaceous  
138 granodiorite porphyry, respectively (Fig. 2). The western ore segment, which accounts  
139 for 75 % of the W resource reserves in the Fujiashan deposit, hosts 19 NW-striking  
140 lenticular, planar, and layered orebodies. The eastern ore segment hosts 8 NE-striking  
141 lenticular, tabular, and platy orebodies. The largest orebody is 520 m long, on average  
142 35 m wide, and documented to depths of 578 m. The zircon U-Pb age of granodiorite  
143 porphyry and the molybdenite Re-Os age of skarn are  $144 \pm 3$  Ma and  $146 \pm 2$  Ma,  
144 respectively (Liu et al. 2021). The granodiorite porphyry is composed of plagioclase  
145 (~40%), quartz (~10%), K-feldspar (~5%), and biotite (~5%) phenocrysts and  
146 groundmass of plagioclase, quartz, biotite, and hornblende (Figs. 3a, b). The wall  
147 rocks of the ore segments are limestones of the Permian Maokou and Qixia  
148 formations (Fig. 2a).

149 Hydrothermal alteration is extensive in the Fujiashan deposit, including skarn,  
150 sulfide, and carbonate alterations. Endoskarn is absent in the Fujiashan deposit and  
151 the extensively developed exoskarn is garnet skarn with a distinct color zoning  
152 ranging from dark brown (Fig. 3c) in the proximal section to light brown (Fig. 3e),  
153 red-dark green (Fig. 3g), and orange sections (Fig. 3i) towards the marble front. The

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154 proximal exoskarn is dominated by garnet and pyroxene, whereas vesuvianite and  
155 wollastonite occur mainly at the contact between skarn and marble. Based on field  
156 appearance, mineral assemblage, alteration, and ore textures/structures, four stages of  
157 mineralization can be distinguished, i.e., (1) prograde skarn, (2) retrograde skarn, (3)  
158 quartz-sulfide alteration, and (4) carbonate alteration.

159 *Stage 1: prograde skarn*

160 The prograde skarn stage is characterized by abundant garnet and pyroxene, and  
161 minor wollastonite. Garnet, 0.02 to 3 mm in diameter, forms euhedral to subhedral  
162 crystals that in part are overgrown by euhedral pyroxene (Fig. 3f). The composition of  
163 garnet varies along the grossularite-andradite solid solution and ranges from  
164  $\text{And}_{66-95}\text{Gro}_{0-27}\text{Spr}_{3-7}$  to  $\text{And}_{19-33}\text{Gro}_{60-76}\text{Spr}_{3-7}$  (Ji et al. 2019). The composition of  
165 euhedral to subhedral, 0.01 to 2 mm long pyroxene crystals fall on the diopside-  
166 hedenbergite solid solution, ranging from  $\text{Di}_{44-64}\text{Hd}_{29-49}$  to  $\text{Di}_{0-100}\text{Hd}_{0-97}$  (Ji et al.  
167 2019). The compositions of garnet and pyroxene from the Fujiashan deposits broadly  
168 overlap the corresponding ranges from other oxidized W skarn deposits (Einaudi et al.  
169 1981; Meinert et al. 2005). Rounded to euhedral scheelite crystals, 0.1 to 0.3 mm in  
170 diameter, occur as isolated inclusions within garnet or are intergrown with pyroxene  
171 (Figs. 3d, h). Scheelite in prograde skarn shows yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet  
172 light.

173 *Stage 2: retrograde skarn*

174 Retrograde skarn is dominated by epidote, chlorite, and minor actinolite, apatite,  
175 and titanite. Epidote and chlorite are subhedral, ranging from 0.1 to 1 mm and 0.1 to



176 0.2 mm in size, respectively, and are locally replaced by pyrite and calcite (Fig. 4k).  
177 Retrograde alteration of the garnet skarn resulted in more intense W mineralization.  
178 Euhedral to subhedral scheelite grains that formed in this stage are coarse-grained (0.2  
179 to 2 mm) and occur together with the hydrous minerals chlorite and actinolite (Fig. 4l).  
180 Scheelite from this stage has yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet light.

181 *Stage 3: quartz-sulfide alteration*

182 This stage is characterized by abundant scheelite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, quartz,  
183 magnetite, and minor sphalerite and galena (Fig. 4m). The quartz-scheelite veins and  
184 quartz-sulfide veins with epidote halos crosscut garnet skarn (Figs. 4a, f). Pyrite and  
185 chalcopyrite form euhedral to subhedral crystals that have 0.1 to 4 mm diameter.  
186 Quartz fills fractures in garnet and forms veins cutting the garnet skarn (Fig. 4g).  
187 Most Cu and Mo mineralization developed at this stage (Figs. 4h, i). Subhedral  
188 chalcopyrite crystals, 0.1 to 1 mm in diameter, commonly occur together with  
189 scheelite and pyrite (Fig. 4n). Molybdenite, replacing garnet skarn, forms crystals  
190 with 0.1 to 1 mm diameter (Fig. 4i). Scheelite crystals of this stage have 0.1 to 3 mm  
191 diameter and may show yellow to blue fluorescence within individual crystals under  
192 ultraviolet light (Figs. 4b, c).

193 *Stage 4: carbonate alteration*

194 This stage is characterized by calcite with minor quartz, sulfide, and scheelite.  
195 Typically, calcite forms massive aggregates that replace garnet and epidote (Fig. 4e).  
196 Scheelite crystals of this stage have 0.2 to 3 mm diameter and have blue fluorescence  
197 under ultraviolet light (Fig. 4d).

198

## SAMPLES AND ANALYTICAL METHOD

199 Representative scheelite-bearing hand-specimens were collected from five drill cores  
200 that were taken along a northwest-southeast trending section covering all stages of W  
201 mineralization (Fig. 2a; Appendix Table S1). Each sample was prepared as polished  
202 thin section (30–40  $\mu\text{m}$  thick) and investigated using reflected and transmitted light  
203 microscopy to characterize the mineralogy, paragenetic relationships, and  
204 hydrothermal alteration.

### 205 Cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging

206 Scheelite CL images were obtained using a Gatan MonoCL 4 system attached to the  
207 FEI Nova NanoSEM 450 scanning electron microscope (FEI corporation, Hillsboro,  
208 OR, USA) at the Institute of Geology, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences,  
209 Beijing.

### 210 Trace elements spot and mapping analysis

211 Trace element spot analysis and mapping of scheelite were done using a laser ablation  
212 system (PhotonMachines Analyte HE with 193-nm ArF Excimer), coupled to a  
213 quadrupole-based inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS, Agilent  
214 7900), at the Ore Deposit and Exploration Centre, School of Resources and  
215 Environmental Engineering, Hefei University of Technology. Monitored isotopes  
216 included  $^{23}\text{Na}$ ,  $^{82}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{88}\text{Sr}$ ,  $^{89}\text{Y}$ ,  $^{93}\text{Nb}$ ,  $^{95}\text{Mo}$ ,  $^{139}\text{La}$ ,  $^{140}\text{Ce}$ ,  $^{141}\text{Pr}$ ,  $^{146}\text{Nd}$ ,  $^{147}\text{Sm}$ ,  $^{153}\text{Eu}$ ,  
217  $^{157}\text{Gd}$ ,  $^{159}\text{Tb}$ ,  $^{163}\text{Dy}$ ,  $^{165}\text{Ho}$ ,  $^{166}\text{Er}$ ,  $^{169}\text{Tm}$ ,  $^{172}\text{Yb}$ ,  $^{175}\text{Lu}$ ,  $^{181}\text{Ta}$ ,  $^{185}\text{Re}$ , and  $^{238}\text{U}$ . Trace  
218 element analysis uses 20–35  $\mu\text{m}$  spot size,  $\sim 2 \text{ J/cm}^2$  laser fluence, and 8 Hz repetition  
219 rate. Each spot analysis includes of 20s background acquisition before and after 30s

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220 data acquisition. Standard reference materials BCR-2G, SRM 610 and SRM 612 were  
221 used as external standards. The composition of these reference materials used as  
222 secondary standards are given in [Appendix Table S2](#). Element contents were  
223 calibrated using multiple external standards and without internal standard ([Liu et al.](#)  
224 [2008](#)). The average detection limits are given in [Appendix Table S2](#).

225 For trace element mapping, we used 15~40  $\mu\text{m}$  spot size, 2  $\text{J}/\text{cm}^2$  energy density  
226 and 15~40  $\mu\text{m}/\text{s}$  scan speed. Standard materials NIST-610 ([Jochum et al. 2011](#)) and  
227 GSD-1G ([Guillong et al. 2005](#)) were analyzed for data calibration at the start and end  
228 of each mapping run. LA-ICP-MS trace element images were compiled and processed  
229 using the program LaIcpMsSoftWare2.2, an in-house designed mapping reduction  
230 software based on Matlab.

### 231 **In-situ Sr isotope analysis**

232 In-situ Sr isotope measurements were performed using a Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS  
233 (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Germany) in combination with a femtosecond laser at the  
234 National Research Center for Geoanalysis, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences  
235 (CAGS), Beijing, China. Helium gas carried the ablated sample aerosol from the  
236 ablation chamber was mixed with argon make-up gas and nitrogen to enhance  
237 sensitivity. The instrumental mass bias for the Sr isotopic composition was corrected  
238 using an exponential law and normalizing to the  $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr}$  ratios of 0.1194. Samples  
239 were ablated in line mode with a spot size of 40  $\mu\text{m}$  and a line length of 20  $\mu\text{m}$ . The  
240 in-house scheelite references (XJSW) were analyzed after each set of 10 analyzes of  
241 unknowns to correct for drift ([Li et al. 2018](#)). The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of XJSW is

242  $0.720867 \pm 0.000021$  (2SE). The data obtained for this reference material using our  
243 analytical setup are given in [Appendix Table S3](#). Scheelite Sr isotope data and  
244 uncertainties of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios (2SE) are given in full as [Appendix Table S3](#).

#### 245 **In-situ O isotope analysis**

246 Chips of polished thin sections and in-house reference materials (YJS66 Scheelite;  
247 4.5 ‰; [Li et al. 2021b](#)) were cast into an epoxy disk, ground, and polished. Oxygen  
248 isotope ratios ( $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$ ) of scheelite were determined using a SHRIMP SI ion  
249 microprobe at the Research School of Earth Sciences, the Australian National  
250 University (Canberra). Analytical conditions were similar to those of [Ávila et al.](#)  
251 [\(2020\)](#). The elliptical beam spot had an average diameter of 25  $\mu\text{m}$ . Typically, 3–5  
252 analyses of unknowns were bracketed by 1 or 2 analyses of the standard material.  
253 Calibrated  $^{18}\text{O}/^{16}\text{O}$  ratios are reported in  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  notation relative to Vienna standard  
254 mean ocean water (VSMOW). The data for primary standard YJS66 Scheelite are  
255 shown in [Appendix Table S4](#). The average external (spot-to-spot) reproducibility, as  
256 estimated from replicate measurements of the scheelite standard, is better than  $\pm 0.60$  ‰  
257 (2SD). The O isotope composition of the fluid in equilibrium with scheelite was  
258 calculated using the fractionation factors:  $1000\ln\alpha_{\text{scheelite-water}} = 1.39 \times 10^6/T^2 -$   
259  $5.87$  ([Wesolowski and Ohmoto 1986](#)) and the temperatures obtained from fluid  
260 inclusions. Fluid temperatures vary from 500 °C in prograde skarn to 375 °C in  
261 retrograde skarn, 275 °C in quartz-sulfide alteration, and 200°C in carbonate  
262 alteration ([Lei et al. 2018](#)). The results are summarized in [Table 3](#) and [Appendix](#)  
263 [Table S4](#).

264

## RESULTS

### 265 **Scheelite textures**

266 Based on replacement relationships, textural features and CL images, scheelite of the  
267 four stages of mineralization can be distinguished into homogeneous, patchy and  
268 oscillatory zoned sub-types.

269 Scheelite from Stage 1 is intergrown with garnet in the proximal zone near the  
270 contact between skarn and granodiorite porphyry and can be distinguished into two  
271 sub-types. Sch1a shows homogeneous texture (Figs. 3d and 5a), whereas Sch1b  
272 displays an oscillatory zoning texture (Figs. 3h and 5b).

273 Scheelite from Stage 2 shows oscillatory zoning in the core (Sch 2a, Fig. 5c) and  
274 has homogenous CL in the rim (Sch 2b, Fig. 5d). The contact between Sch2a and  
275 Sch2b may show truncations of the zoning pattern, which is indicative of dissolution-  
276 reprecipitation (Fig. 5d). Sch2a and Sch2b commonly coexist with hydrous minerals,  
277 such as chlorite, epidote, and actinolite.

278 Scheelite from Stage 3 displays two different sub-types in CL images. Sch3a exists  
279 in quartz-sulfide veins and commonly displays oscillatory zonation defined by  
280 multiple zones that may reach several tens of micrometers width (Figs. 5e, f), whereas  
281 Sch3b exists in high-grade W ore and shows a homogeneous texture (Fig. 5g).

282 Scheelite from Stage 4 mainly coexist with calcite, which is characterized by a  
283 well-developed oscillatory zoning pattern in the core (Sch4a, Figs. 5h, i) and a patchy  
284 texture at the rim (Sch4b, Fig. 5h). The contact boundary between Sch4a and Sch4b is  
285 irregular (Fig. 5h).

13

286 **Trace element compositions**

287 Representative trace element compositions for the various scheelite are summarized in  
288 [Tables 1 and 2](#) and shown in [Figs. 6 and 7](#). The full data set is given in [Appendix](#)  
289 [Table S2](#).

290 The contents of Sr in scheelite fall in the range from 85 to 440 ppm ([Tables 1 and](#)  
291 [2](#)). The ranges of Sr contents of the various sub-types broadly overlap and show  
292 within each group a general tendency to higher Sr contents with time ([Fig. 6a](#)). Only  
293 Sch2a and Sch4b deviate from this pattern. Sch2a from the retrograde skarn seems to  
294 have slightly higher Sr contents than scheelite from the prograde skarn and quartz-  
295 sulfide alteration. Sch4b from calcite alteration represents the youngest type and has  
296 the highest Sr contents.

297 The concentrations of Mo, Nb+Ta, and total REE in scheelite show systematic  
298 variations. For each mineralization stage, early scheelite has higher and more variable  
299 contents of these metals than late scheelite ([Fig. 6, Table 1](#)). Furthermore, the contents  
300 of Mo and Nb+Ta of scheelite in prograde and retrograde skarn seem to be more  
301 variable and higher than in scheelite from quartz-sulfide veins and calcite alterations.  
302 Scheelite from the Fujiashan W skarn deposit has high Mo contents, which accounts  
303 for yellow fluorescence under ultraviolet light. The highest Mo contents are observed  
304 in scheelite from the prograde and retrograde skarn and may reach 5 and 7 wt%,  
305 respectively. For comparison, the contents of Nb+Ta reach up to 180 ppm ([Figs. 6b,](#)  
306 [c](#)). The highest total REE contents are observed in scheelite from prograde skarn and  
307 quartz-sulfide veins with up to 945 and 1103 ppm, respectively, whereas the lowest

308 total REE contents are found for in scheelite from the calcite stage with only 97 ppm  
309 (Fig. 6d).

### 310 **Trace element mapping**

311 Trace-element mapping is used to visualize the distribution of chemical elements in  
312 Sch3a with oscillatory zoning. High Mo contents result in lower intensity of the CL  
313 response of scheelite. The element mapping reveals that trace elements are irregularly  
314 distributed in different zones. Most trace elements in scheelite are enriched in the  
315 inner zone, depleted in the transition zone, and enriched in the scheelite rim. The  
316 contents of total REE, Nb+Ta, Sr, Y, Nd, and La in general show the same pattern as  
317 the CL response of scheelite (Fig. 8). The distribution of Eu and Sr does not show the  
318 same chemical zoning as the other elements (e.g., Nd, Nb+Ta, Y, total REE).

### 319 **Sr and O isotope composition**

320 The Sr isotope data for scheelites from the Fujiashan deposit are summarized in Table  
321 3 and Appendix Table S3. The data were taken along profiles from core to rim in  
322 individual scheelite grains and represent the temporal variation from early to late  
323 stages. For each mineralization stage, early scheelite has lower Sr isotope ratios than  
324 late scheelite, except for scheelite from Stage 3 (Fig. 9). The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of Sch1a  
325 and Sch1b range from 0.70682 to 0.70770 and 0.70706 to 0.70811, respectively. In  
326 Sch2, the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of the core (0.70663–0.70735) are lower than those of the  
327 rim (0.70749–0.70772). The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of Sch3a are higher than Sch3b, ranging  
328 from 0.70661 to 0.70804 and 0.70697 to 0.70720, respectively, i.e., encompass the  
329 entire range from the granodioritic source of the magmatic fluids to the wall rocks, i.e.,

330 the carbonates of the Qixia Formation (0.70734–0.70821). The last generation of  
331 scheelite Sch4b, however, seems to reach even higher  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios (0.70853–  
332 0.70855) (Fig. 9), possibly reflecting that locally high contents of silicate minerals in  
333 the carbonate sediments account for these high  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios.

334 The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values show a general decrease from early to late crystallized scheelite  
335 for stages 1, 2 and 4, whereas scheelite from Stage 3 shows the opposite trend.  
336 Scheelite Sch1a, Sch1b, Sch2a and Sch3b have values that fall in the range of the  
337 magmatic fluid, with  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values ranging from 8.27 to 9.56 ‰ for Sch1a and from  
338 7.15 to 9.09 ‰ for Sch2a. The other scheelite samples have  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values below the  
339 range of the magmatic fluid, the lowest  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  value for Sch 4b (–10.86 to –9.05 ‰)  
340 falling in the range of meteoric water (Fig. 10).

#### 341 **Trace element contents and isotope compositions within individual scheelite** 342 **crystals**

343 The oscillatory zoning in scheelite reflects a multi-generation growth history with  
344 core to rim variations in trace element contents and the Sr and O isotopic  
345 compositions. For example, The Nb contents of stage 3 scheelite decrease from 8.6 to  
346 2.5 ppm (Fig. 11b). The  $\delta\text{Eu}$  and Mo contents of scheelite gradually decrease from 1.9  
347 to 0.8 and 8300 to 494 ppm from core to rim, respectively, whereas the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios  
348 increase from 0.70674 to 0.70794 (Figs. 11c–e). Such systematic variations are also  
349 observed in other Stage 3 crystals (Fig. 12) that show a general covariation of the Sr  
350 and O isotopic compositions with the contents of Nb, Ta, and Mo (by inference that  
351 dark CL corresponds to Mo rich sections). Sections with high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values have



352 relatively low  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios and high Nb and Ta contents (mean 144 and 0.7 ppm,  
353 respectively), whereas fluids with low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values have higher  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios and are  
354 depleted in Nb and Ta concentration (mean 12 and 0.03 ppm, respectively) (Fig. 12).  
355 The zoning may show repetition as late overgrowth may have similar Sr and O  
356 isotopic compositions and Nb, Ta, and Mo contents as the core sections (Fig. 12).

357

## DISCUSSION

### 358 **Temporal evolution of scheelite in the Fujiashan deposit**

359 The composition of skarn minerals reflects the inventory of the magmatic-  
360 hydrothermal fluids, the consumed carbonate wall rocks, and the reaction history of  
361 the fluids along their migration path (Romer et al. 2015; Xu et al. 2021). Scheelite  
362 crystallizing during the reaction of the magmatic-hydrothermal fluids with the  
363 carbonate wall rocks records some signatures that dominantly derive from the fluid  
364 and some signatures that dominantly derive from the carbonates (Song et al. 2019; Li  
365 et al. 2021a). For instance, the inventory of the ore elements W, Mo, Nb, and Ta is  
366 mainly derived from the magmatic fluid. In contrast, the elements Ca, Mg, and Sr are  
367 likely to be largely derived from the carbonates wall rocks, in part as the contents of  
368 these elements are relatively low in highly evolved granites and magmatic fluids  
369 (Poulin et al. 2018). The REE elements may have been introduced by the magmatic  
370 fluid or originate from silicate impurities in the consumed carbonate wall rocks.

371 The presence of trace elements in scheelite not only reflects the availability of trace  
372 elements in the fluid, but also the capacity of scheelite to incorporate these elements

373 in the sites occupied by Ca or W ([Ghaderi et al. 1999](#); [Brugger et al. 2000](#)). Calcium  
374 may be substituted in scheelite by Sr and other double-charged elements (e.g., Eu) and  
375 to some extent by triple charged ions (e.g., REE), whereas W may be substituted by  
376 highly charged ions, such as Mo, Nb, and Ta ([Ghaderi et al. 1999](#); [Poulin et al. 2016](#)).  
377 High contents of these elements in some scheelite crystals demonstrate that these  
378 elements are compatible in the scheelite structure. Elements that are highly  
379 compatible in scheelite may become depleted in the fluid during scheelite growth.  
380 Thus, low contents of these elements provide evidence that these elements do not  
381 have high contents in the fluid, but leaves open whether this fluid originally did not  
382 have high contents of these elements or became depleted with time. In contrast, the  
383 absence of elements that are not compatible in the scheelite lattice, such as single  
384 charged ions (Li, Rb, Cs), but also small or large double charged ions (e.g., Be, Ba)  
385 do not imply that these elements are not present in the fluid ([Poulin et al. 2016](#)).

386 The Sr isotope composition in scheelite is determined by the sources of Sr and  
387 their isotopic compositions and may vary as the relative contribution of these sources  
388 changes with development of the skarn system. Strontium sources include the granite,  
389 the carbonates, whose Sr isotopic composition represents the Sr composition of  
390 seawater at the time the carbonates precipitated, and detrital silicate impurities in the  
391 carbonates that may have a continental source. The carbonates dominate the Sr budget  
392 and are the major source of Sr as long as the carbonates are consumed during skarn  
393 formation. Once early formed skarn minerals prevent further reaction of the  
394 carbonates, the Sr isotopic composition will change as the silicate minerals (including

395 earlier formed skarn minerals) become important Sr sources ([Heinrich et al. 1994](#);  
396 [Romer et al. 2005](#)). Detrital silicate minerals in the carbonate wall rocks may have  
397 higher  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios than carbonates and authigenic minerals of the Qixia group.

398 The broad ranges of trace element contents ([Figs. 6 and 8](#)) and Sr isotopic  
399 compositions ([Fig. 9](#)) among scheelite of the four stages illustrate the following  
400 general process of fluid-rock interaction: magmatic fluids emanating from the  
401 granodiorite porphyry and migrating along the aquifer change their composition by  
402 reaction with the carbonate wall rocks. Fluid-driven decarbonation of the carbonate  
403 rocks adds Ca and Sr to the fluid and results in the precipitation of Ca-rich skarn  
404 minerals. The formation of these minerals also changes the fluid composition, as the  
405 minerals may scavenge a wide range of trace and ore elements from the fluid. Later  
406 alteration of early formed skarn minerals may release early scavenged ore elements  
407 and make them available for redistribution. Therefore, the composition of ore-forming  
408 fluids from different stages does not only reflect the source, but is strongly affected by  
409 fluid-driven reactions between aquifer and aquitard.

#### 410 **Scheelite crystallization in open and closed systems**

411 Trace element contents of scheelite differ for crystallization in open and closed  
412 systems ([Brugger et al. 2000](#); [Li et al. 2021a](#)). In open systems, trace element contents  
413 are controlled by availability from the fluid, reflecting both the source and the history  
414 of trace element addition and loss along the path of fluid flow. Scheelite crystallizing  
415 from such a system may show little variation. In closed systems, elements compatible  
416 in scheelite become depleted in the fluid with time, resulting in systematic drops in

417 element contents from the core to the rim of crystals, as observed here for scheelite  
418 with a Mo-rich core and a Mo-poor rim (Fig. 11).

419 A positive Eu anomaly is commonly thought to indicate that  $\text{Eu}^{2+}$  is enriched  
420 relative to  $\text{Eu}^{3+}$ , reflecting relatively reduced conditions, whereas a negative Eu  
421 anomaly is indicative of more oxidized conditions (e.g., Bau 1991). However,  
422 changes in pH of the fluid, as during the release of  $\text{CO}_2$  from carbonate rocks during  
423 fluid-rock interaction and formation of skarn minerals, also may produce an Eu  
424 anomaly at unchanged temperature and  $f\text{O}_2$  (Brugger et al. 2008) as observed for  
425 Sch1a and Sch1b (Figs. 7a, b). Similarly, the Mo content of scheelite is thought to  
426 correlate positively with  $f\text{O}_2$  (Hsu 1977). In fluid-dominated (i.e., open) systems,  
427 these simplified relations may apply. In closed systems, however, the preferred  
428 incorporation of Eu and Mo, reflected by a positive Eu anomaly and high Mo contents  
429 of early crystallized scheelite, results in the depletion of Eu and Mo in the fluid. This  
430 depletion in turn results in lower Eu anomalies and lower Mo contents in later  
431 crystallized scheelite. With extreme depletion scheelite may have negative Eu  
432 anomalies and very low Mo contents. The depletion in Mo is also reflected in a  
433 change of fluorescence color from yellow to blue (Hsu and Galli 1973). Recurrent  
434 influx of fluid, as known from systems that develop by a crack-and-seal mechanism  
435 (e.g., Cathelineau et al. 2017), provides Eu and Mo and starts a new growth zone with  
436 progressive Eu depletion (with a shift from a positive to a negative Eu anomaly) and  
437 Mo depletion in Sch3a (Figs. 11c, d). Thus, in closed systems, variations in  $\delta\text{Eu}$  and  
438 Mo contents does not reflect the redox environment of mineral growth, but is likely to

439 represents a reservoir effect.

440 The contents of Mo, Nb, and Ta in the core of scheelite from Stage3 are high and  
441 seem to carry only little (Figs. 11 and 12). During the growth of these scheelite cores,  
442 the mineralizing system behaved like an open system, i.e., the high contents of these  
443 trace elements seem to have been supported by high contents in the fluid that is  
444 continuously replenished. For these segments of scheelite,  $\delta\text{Eu}$  possibly reflects the  
445 redox environment. The sudden drop of Mo, Nb, and Ta contents reflects the  
446 transition from a system with continuous flow of magmatic fluids to a system with  
447 restricted fluid flow, whereas the overgrowth zones with low Mo, Nb, and Ta contents  
448 by zones with high Mo, Nb, and Ta contents reflects the transition from a system with  
449 restricted magmatic fluid flow to a system with continuous magmatic fluid flow (Figs.  
450 11 and 12).

#### 451 **Pulsed flow of magmatic fluid during scheelite deposition**

452 The high contents of Mo, Nb, and Ta in scheelite (Figs. 6b, c) are signatures of the  
453 magmatic fluid, as the contents of these elements are low in the carbonate wall rocks  
454 and fluids originating from the wall rocks (Poulin et al. 2018; Li et al. 2022b).  
455 Interaction between the magmatic fluid and the wall rocks or the mixing with another  
456 fluid could reduce the contents of Mo, Nb, and Ta in the magmatic fluid, although not  
457 by the several orders of magnitude that would be necessary to explain the contrasting  
458 contents of Mo in the core and rims of scheelite (Fig. 8). Thus, the oscillatory  
459 variation of the concentration of these elements in scheelite reflects the recurrent  
460 changes from fluid flow in open veins to fluid trapped in closed veins, with

461 replenishment of magmatic fluid mirrored in the repeated increase of Mo, Nb, and Ta  
462 contents (Figs. 8 and 12). Crystallization of scheelite, however, did not occur in a  
463 strictly closed system as the Sr isotopic composition varies from core to rim (Fig. 9).  
464 The large range in  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  implies that consumption of the carbonate wall rocks (or  
465 earlier formed skarn minerals), which have higher  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios than the original  
466 magmatic fluid, contributed increasingly more Sr to the enclosed fluid (Fig. 9). The  
467 increase in Sr contents and the variation of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  from the core to the rim of  
468 scheelite implies that interaction between the magmatic fluid and carbonate rock  
469 continued during the crystallization of scheelite. The Sr contents in marine carbonates  
470 are expected to be much higher than those of a fluid emanating from a highly evolved  
471 (Sr-poor) granite (Poulin et al. 2018). Therefore, minor contributions from the wall  
472 rocks will have a significant effect on the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of the fluid.

473 Dissolution of wall rocks also changes the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the fluid. Thus, the large  
474 variations of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  (-10.5 ‰ to 7.7 ‰) and pulsed variation of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  at each stage  
475 (Fig. 10a) not only reflects the fluid source, but also dissolution of wall rocks (both  
476 carbonates and earlier formed calc-silicate minerals), possible fluid mixing and/or  
477 phase separation, temperature dependent fractionation between scheelite and fluid,  
478 and the precipitation history before scheelite precipitation. Calculation of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$   
479 values using the scheelite data and the temperature of fluid inclusions yields a similar  
480 curve as the one observed for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  values, but with a systematic shift toward lower  
481  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values, as later scheelite crystallized at lower temperature (Fig. 10a, b). The  
482 retrograde, quartz-sulfide, and carbonate stages formed at the temperature ranges of

483 400 to 350 °C, 300 to 250 °C, and 150 to 100 °C, respectively (Lei et al. 2018). These  
484 temperature ranges can account for a variation of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  in scheelite of 0.5 ‰, 0.8 ‰,  
485 2.2 ‰, respectively, as shown in Appendix Figure A1. Thus, the observed within-  
486 crystal variation of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  cannot be accounted for by different temperature alone.

487 Carbonate rocks commonly have high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (Chacko et al. 2001). Thus,  
488 dissolution of wall rocks increases the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the ore-forming fluid. Similarly, the  
489 loss of a vapor phase (cf. Lei et al. 2018) shift  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the remaining fluid to a higher  
490  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ . Two processes that may shift  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of the fluid to lower values are the  
491 crystallization of skarn minerals (Heinrich et al. 2004, Heinrich 2007) and the mixing  
492 with a meteoric fluid (Meinert et al. 2005). Crystallization of skarn minerals in a  
493 closed system drives the fluid composition to lower  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values and, therefore, makes  
494 that later crystallized minerals have gradually lower  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (Figs. 10b and 13).  
495 The very low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of some Sch4b, however, may not be obtained by  
496 crystallization of skarn minerals alone, but also reflect the influx of meteoric water to  
497 the ore-forming system during the end of the carbonate stage, possibly due to the  
498 transition from ductile to brittle deformation of the carbonate rocks at lower  
499 temperature and/or pressure (Fournier. 1999; Sillitoe. 2010).

500 The contrasting Mo, Nb, Ta contents and Sr and O isotopic compositions in  
501 scheelite primarily reflect recurrent changes from open to sealed veins with pulsed  
502 addition of magmatic fluid during scheelite crystallization and some dissolution of the  
503 wall rocks, which are dominated by carbonate minerals during early stages of skarn  
504 formation and skarn minerals during later stages. In an open, fluid dominated system

505 the contents of Mo, Nb, and Ta in scheelite are high and the Sr and O isotopic  
506 compositions of scheelite are dominated by the composition of the magmatic fluid.  
507 Crystallization in a closed or restricted system, elements highly compatible in  
508 scheelite become depleted and the formation of skarn minerals shifts  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  to lower  
509 values. All these changes do not require the addition of a meteoric fluid, with the  
510 possible explanation of late-stage scheelite with very low  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values (as low as –  
511 10.86 ‰; [Fig. 13](#)).

## 512 **IMPLICATIONS**

513 The source of ore-forming fluids is critical for the understanding of the genesis of  
514 deposits. We present in-situ trace element and Sr and O isotope data of scheelite  
515 crystals from the Fujiashan W skarn deposit. Sch3a that crystallized from a magmatic  
516 fluid in an open (source-controlled) system is characterized by well-developed  
517 oscillatory zonation pattern, high Mo, Nb, and Ta contents and high  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  values.  
518 The transition of scheelite crystallization in a system with continuous supply of  
519 magmatic fluid to a system with restricted fluid flow is characterized by a drop in Mo,  
520 Nb, and Ta contents, a systematic change from positive to negative Eu anomalies, and  
521 a shift to lower  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{sch}}$  values. The oscillatory zonation in scheelite indicates that there  
522 may have been recurrent changes from continuous to restricted availability of  
523 magmatic fluids. Most importantly, the observed chemical and isotopic changes do  
524 not require the involvement of additional fluid sources, instead, they may be obtained  
525 by pulsed flow of a magmatic fluid. Furthermore, our observations imply that



526 variations in Eu and Mo contents do not require the involvement of different fluids or  
527 contrasting redox conditions. Our findings are broadly applicable to other skarns  
528 deposit and are likely to provide an important alternative to traditional interpretations  
529 of zoned mineral compositions in ore deposits.

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731

732 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

733 **FIGURE 1.** (a) Map showing the location of the Middle-Lower Yangtze River  
734 metallogenic belt in China. (b) Map showing the distribution of major deposits and  
735 related granitoids in the Middle-Lower Yangtze River metallogenic belt (modified  
736 after [Mao et al. 2011](#); [Zhou et al. 2019](#)). (c) Geological map of the Edong ore district  
737 showing the main types of mineral deposits and intrusions (modified after [Shu et al.](#)  
738 [1992](#); [Xie et al. 2011](#)). TLF = Tancheng-Lujiang fault, XGF = Xiangfan-Guangji fault,  
739 YCF = Yangxin-Changzhou fault.

740 **FIGURE 2.** (a) Geological map of the Fujiashan W deposit in southeastern Hubei  
741 Province (modified after map from [No. 1 Geological Party of Hubei Geological](#)  
742 [Bureau](#)). (b) Representative cross section from the eastern ore segment of the

743 Fujiashan W skarn deposit (modified after map from [No. 1 Geological Party of Hubei](#)  
744 [Geological Bureau](#)).

745 **FIGURE 3.** Skarn zoning of drill hole at Fujiashan. **(a)** Fujiashan granodiorite porphyry.  
746 **(b)** Photomicrograph of the Fujiashan granodiorite porphyry. **(c)** Orange garnet skarn  
747 crosscutting or replacing dark brown garnet skarn. **(d)** Disseminated scheelite as  
748 isolated inclusions within garnet. **(e)** Light brown garnet replaced by calcite and  
749 pyrite. **(f)** Garnet replaced by pyroxene. **(g)** Distal red to dark green garnet skarn. **(h)**  
750 Scheelite concentration along zones of garnet growth. **(i)** Light orange garnet skarn  
751 crosscutting limestone. **(j)** Scheelite coexisting with molybdenite and pyrite at the  
752 contact between garnet skarn and limestone. Abbreviation: Ap = apatite; Bi = biotite;  
753 Cal = calcite; Ep = epidote; Grt = garnet; Kfs = K-feldspar; Mo = molybdenite; Pl =  
754 plagioclase; Py = pyrite; Pyx = pyroxene; Qtz = quartz; Sch = scheelite.

755 **FIGURE 4.** Photographs showing the types of W mineralization in the Fujiashan deposit.  
756 **(a)** Quartz-scheelite-pyrite vein cutting the garnet skarn. **(b)** Blue and yellow  
757 fluorescence of individual scheelite crystals coexisting with pyrite and quartz. **(c)**  
758 Garnet skarn with disperse scheelite, quartz and pyrite. **(d)** Calcite-scheelite veins  
759 cutting garnet skarn. **(e)** Garnet skarn replaced by calcite and epidote. **(f)** Pyrite-  
760 epidote vein cutting garnet skarn. **(g)** Quartz vein cutting garnet skarn. **(h)** Garnet  
761 skarn with pyrite and chalcopryrite. **(i)** Molybdenite replacing garnet. **(j)** Quartz vein  
762 with apatite, epidote and pyroxene. **(k)** Chlorite and epidote replaced by calcite. **(l)**  
763 Scheelite and actinolite replaced by calcite. **(m)** Scheelite coexisting with pyrite in the  
764 quartz vein. **(n)** Scheelite coexisting with chalcopryrite. **(o)** Coarse-grained scheelite in

765 calcite. Abbreviation: Act = actinolite; Ap = apatite; Cal = calcite; Ccp = chalcopryrite;  
766 Ep = epidote; Fl = fluorite; Grt = garnet; Mo = molybdenite; Py = pyrite; Qtz =  
767 quartz; Sch = scheelite; Ttn = titanite.

768 **FIGURE 5.** Cathodoluminescence (CL) images showing scheelite textures. (a) Subhedral,  
769 homogeneous Sch1a and (b) subhedral, oscillatory zoned Sch1b from skarn stage 1.  
770 (c-d) Oscillatory zoned Sch2a and Sch2b from the retrograde stage showing the  
771 replacement of Sch2a by Sch2b. There are two modes of occurrence of Stage 3  
772 scheelite, i.e., in the name giving quartz-sulfide stage and in high-grade W  
773 mineralization. Scheelite from the quartz-sulfide stage (Sch3a) shows (e-f) irregular  
774 oscillatory to patchy zoning with a Mo-rich core in euhedral crystals, whereas  
775 scheelite from high-grade W mineralization (Sch3b) (g) typically is subhedral and has  
776 relatively homogeneous CL response. Scheelite from the calcite stage shows (h-i)  
777 well-developed oscillatory zoning in Sch4a with local irregular replacement by  
778 Sch4b.

779 **FIGURE 6.** Trace element contents of different scheelite types. (a) Sr, (b) Mo, (c) Nb+Ta,  
780 and (d) total REE contents have been determined by LA-ICP-MS. The trendlines  
781 connecting the averages of each group are for orientation only. Data from [Appendix](#)  
782 [Table S2](#).

783 **FIGURE 7.** Chondrite-normalized REE fractionation patterns of scheelite from the  
784 Fujiashan deposit. Normalization values were taken from [Sun and McDonough](#)  
785 [\(1989\)](#).

786 **FIGURE 8.** Cathodoluminescence and LA-ICP-MS element maps of representative Sch3a

787 crystal, showing the distribution of trace elements (ppm).

788 **FIGURE 9.** Variations of the Sr isotopic composition of different scheelite types. Note, the  
789  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of each type fall in relatively broad ranges that overlap and generally  
790 fall between the compositions of the granodiorites and the sedimentary rocks of the  
791 wall rocks.

792 **FIGURE 10.**  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{Sch}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values for Fujiashan deposit sorted by different stage  
793 scheelite generations. **(a)** In-situ O isotope data of scheelite with 2SD error bars. **(b)**  
794 Calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of the hydrothermal fluids based on the measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values  
795 of scheelite (Meteoric water is from [Zhang, 1985](#)). Note, the overall  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}}$  values  
796 show pulsed variation from early to late stages.

797 **FIGURE 11.** Geochemistry and in-situ Sr-O isotope data of Sch3a. **(a)** Red and blue  
798 symbols represent position of in-situ LA-ICP-MS trace element contents, Sr isotope  
799 compositions, respectively. **(b)** Nb content of scheelite. **(c)**  $\delta\text{Eu}$  value of scheelite. **(d)**  
800 Mo content of scheelite. **(e)** In-situ Sr isotope data of scheelite with 2SE error bars.

801 **FIGURE 12.** Compositional zoning of Sch3a. **(a)** CL image with sampling spots (red, blue  
802 and green symbols) for in-situ LA-ICP-MS trace element analysis (red symbols) and  
803 Sr (blue symbols) and O isotope analysis (green symbols). **(b)** Nb and **(c)** Ta contents.  
804 **(d)** In-situ Sr isotope analyses with 2SE error bars. **(e)** In-situ O isotope analyses with  
805 2SD error bars.

806 **FIGURE 13.** **(a)** CL image of Sch4a and Sch4b with spots for in-situ O isotope analysis.  
807 **(b)** In-situ O isotope spot of scheelite.

808

#### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

809 **Supplementary<sup>1</sup>**

810 **TABLE S1.** Description of samples discussed in the present study

811 **TABLE S2.** Laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry trace  
812 element data and average minimum detection limits for scheelite from the Fujiashan  
813 deposit (ppm)

814 **TABLE S3.** Complete *in-situ* Sr isotope dataset for scheelite from the Fujiashan  
815 deposit

816 **TABLE S4.** Complete *in-situ* O isotope dataset for scheelite from the Fujiashan deposit

817 **FIGURE A1.** Oxygen isotope fractionation between scheelite and water as a function  
818 of temperature.

Table 1. LA-ICP-MS data for scheelite (Stage1 and Stage2) from the Fujiashan deposit, eastern China (all contents in ppm)

Stage	1						2					
Sub-type	Sch1a (n=11)			Sch1b (n=11)			Sch2a (n=11)			Sch2b (n=5)		
	min	mean	max	min	mean	max	min	mean	max	min	mean	max
Na	20.2	28.5	52.3	20.6	53.8	118	13.5	33.9	121	13.6	29.9	38.3
Sr	99.6	141	161	103	159	184	183	217	272	141	181	247
Mo	4990	36000	49300	10600	18700	24700	21100	38900	69300	2640	10900	22100
Re	0.77	0.96	1.08	0.14	0.24	0.30	0.44	0.54	0.62	0.48	0.54	0.61
Nb	11.4	93.7	178	2.21	4.47	8.68	10.6	38.9	97.4	9.44	13.0	16.3
Ta	0.01	0.10	0.18	0.04	0.11	0.19	0.03	0.19	0.50	0.02	0.03	0.04
U	0.01	1.43	4.16	bdl	0.07	0.44	0.01	0.07	0.18	0.01	0.02	0.02
Pb	0.94	1.18	1.43	1.00	1.90	3.07	1.63	2.15	2.70	2.23	2.51	2.76
La	17.1	89.0	170	3.13	35.8	51.5	21.8	52.8	128	2.44	14.9	25.5
Ce	46.0	237	442	7.76	55.8	80.9	59.6	106	201	10.2	43.9	76.2
Pr	3.76	27.3	51.0	0.83	3.02	4.26	5.01	12.1	20.1	2.13	7.30	13.2
Nd	8.81	103	210	5.37	7.29	9.41	13.5	50.0	99.9	12.8	42.2	77.4
Sm	0.42	14.6	29.9	0.55	1.29	2.79	1.13	8.99	20.1	3.55	9.65	17.3
Eu	0.24	8.05	16.4	0.04	0.53	1.35	0.60	4.71	15.8	0.91	3.25	6.45
Gd	0.28	8.97	19.1	0.28	1.02	1.89	0.87	6.98	15.5	2.29	8.15	14.5
Tb	0.02	1.22	2.69	0.02	0.13	0.32	0.08	0.85	1.88	0.26	0.85	1.48
Dy	0.10	6.68	14.4	0.02	0.49	1.06	0.52	4.30	9.57	1.22	4.13	7.21
Ho	0.02	1.31	2.96	bdl	0.07	0.20	0.08	0.80	1.84	0.19	0.72	1.26
Er	0.03	3.38	7.51	0.02	0.17	0.46	0.17	1.87	4.44	0.38	1.49	2.73
Tm	bdl	0.43	1.02	bdl	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.19	0.51	0.04	0.16	0.28
Yb	0.01	2.56	6.30	0.01	0.06	0.16	0.08	0.80	2.20	0.17	0.70	1.22
Lu	bdl	0.34	0.88	bdl	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.07	0.27	0.02	0.07	0.13

Y	0.32	25.7	56.3	0.16	1.27	2.44	2.34	18.4	41.8	4.65	16.4	29.6
LREE	76.4	479	890	20.1	104	149	116	234	424	32.9	121	213
HREE	0.49	24.9	54.8	0.51	1.93	3.66	2.20	15.8	35.9	4.63	16.3	28.7
LREE/HREE	14.9	40.8	154	6.90	88.8	249	8.04	27.1	62.3	5.23	8.43	16.6
Total REE	76.9	504	945	23.0	105	153	119	250	438	39.1	137	242
Nb+Ta	11.4	93.8	178	2.33	4.57	8.72	10.8	39.1	97.7	10.5	13.2	16.3
$\delta$ Eu	1.65	2.09	2.43	0.29	0.90	1.83	0.67	1.96	4.21	0.92	1.16	1.52
$\delta$ Ce	1.11	1.22	1.41	1.18	1.33	1.39	0.98	1.06	1.13	1.02	1.05	1.09

*Note:* bdl = below detection limits.



Table 2. LA-ICP-MS data for scheelite (Stage3 and Stage4) from the Fujiashan deposit, eastern China (all contents in ppm)

Stage	3						4					
Sub-type	Sch3a (n=19)			Sch3b (n=13)			Sch4a (n=12)			Sch4b (n=5)		
	min	mean	max	min	mean	max	min	mean	max	min	mean	max
Na	16.5	53.4	171	0.09	25.0	49.7	8.54	19.8	33.5	12.4	15.2	18.3
Sr	84.9	152	281	150	169	223	150	182	215	308	382	441
Mo	2010	6780	21700	3780	4310	4890	7110	10600	17300	844	1130	1640
Re	0.45	0.55	0.70	0.42	2.07	3.91	0.29	0.33	0.37	0.16	0.23	0.31
Nb	2.81	36.7	156	0.88	6.75	15.1	1.19	3.06	6.31	0.68	0.74	0.81
Ta	0.02	0.21	0.92	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.12	0.87	bdl	bdl	bdl
U	bdl	0.22	0.81	bdl	0.02	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.11	0.21	0.26
Pb	0.86	3.00	7.35	2.14	2.89	5.13	1.58	1.90	2.52	0.46	1.17	1.79
La	9.32	36.2	73.9	8.30	12.2	18.8	13.2	14.9	16.9	16.2	19.5	22.6
Ce	30.5	143	308	20.4	47.9	87.4	29.9	38.1	51.8	18.9	25.1	38.2
Pr	4.48	24.5	62.2	1.98	7.96	16.7	2.48	3.47	5.58	1.29	1.93	3.43
Nd	14.7	123	359	5.55	42.7	96.1	4.84	8.03	12.5	4.28	7.58	16.0
Sm	1.08	28.9	89.6	1.34	9.79	22.1	0.22	0.55	1.42	0.52	1.22	2.57
Eu	0.33	17.0	34.1	0.03	3.01	6.82	0.09	0.31	1.18	0.54	0.94	1.53
Gd	0.46	23.5	72.7	1.56	9.08	19.3	0.18	0.39	1.16	0.42	0.83	1.07
Tb	0.04	3.61	12.8	0.18	1.12	2.42	0.02	0.04	0.11	0.09	0.13	0.22
Dy	0.28	22.0	83.2	1.00	6.06	13.0	0.05	0.20	0.68	0.49	0.70	0.89
Ho	0.02	4.30	16.8	0.18	1.25	2.59	0.02	0.03	0.13	0.08	0.14	0.20
Er	0.07	11.0	46.7	0.37	3.07	6.67	0.03	0.08	0.29	0.32	0.42	0.57
Tm	0.02	1.29	6.72	0.03	0.32	0.70	bdl	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.10
Yb	0.09	6.17	39.7	0.11	1.39	3.05	bdl	0.04	0.18	0.38	0.43	0.47
Lu	0.02	0.63	4.89	0.01	0.13	0.29	bdl	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.07

Y	1.46	99.1	342	5.78	33.7	71.7	0.54	0.95	2.54	4.87	7.42	13.4
LREE	74.3	372	910	38.1	123.5	248	52.8	65.3	86.3	46.3	56.3	77.9
HREE	0.96	72.5	281	3.52	22.4	48.0	0.32	0.79	2.58	1.97	2.78	3.34
LREE/HREE	2.54	14.3	77.3	4.29	8.06	15.5	22.2	110	175	16.6	20.4	23.5
Total REE	75.3	445	1103	41.9	146	296	53.7	66.1	87.0	48.3	59.1	81.3
Nb+Ta	4.70	22.4	77.3	0.90	6.78	15.1	1.22	3.18	6.38	0.68	0.74	0.81
$\delta$ Eu	1.09	2.94	11.9	0.05	0.61	1.16	0.95	1.82	3.08	2.54	2.97	3.56
$\delta$ Ce	1.03	1.18	1.34	1.18	1.27	1.42	1.21	1.30	1.42	0.90	1.01	1.26

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*Note:* bdl = below detection limit.

Table 3. In situ Sr-O isotope data for scheelite from the Fujiashan deposit, Eastern China

Stage	Sub-type		$^{85}\text{Rb}[\text{V}]$	$^{88}\text{Sr}[\text{V}]$	$^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	2SE	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	2SE	$\delta^{18}\text{O}$	2SD	
1	Sch1a	min	0.00002	0.85844	0.00007	0.00005	0.70682	0.00022	4.72	0.60	
	Sch1a	mean	Sr: n=5, O: n=12	0.00009	1.15933	0.00032	0.00006	0.70739	0.00029	5.64	0.61
	Sch1a	max		0.00018	1.36499	0.00073	0.00010	0.70770	0.00044	6.01	0.63
	Sch1b	min		0.00000	0.80191	0.00003	0.00007	0.70706	0.00028	3.46	0.60
	Sch1b	mean	Sr: n=4, O: n=8	0.00014	0.91325	0.00060	0.00014	0.70748	0.00034	4.22	0.61
	Sch1b	max		0.00041	1.12536	0.00161	0.00026	0.70811	0.00040	4.81	0.66
2	Sch2a	min	0.00001	0.89178	0.00005	0.00003	0.70663	0.00019	4.59	0.60	
	Sch2a	mean	Sr: n=5, O: n=12	0.00015	1.26652	0.00037	0.00008	0.70705	0.00026	5.71	0.60
	Sch2a	max		0.00063	1.88203	0.00146	0.00014	0.70735	0.00033	6.53	0.61
	Sch2b	min		0.00004	1.04767	0.00004	0.00001	0.70749	0.00007	2.98	0.60
	Sch2b	mean	Sr: n=4, O: n=9	0.00018	5.44199	0.00010	0.00003	0.70758	0.00013	3.90	0.60
	Sch2b	max		0.00054	14.55488	0.00022	0.00007	0.70772	0.00027	4.87	0.62
3	Sch3a	min	0.00005	1.11017	0.00007	0.00003	0.70661	0.00015	1.89	0.60	
	Sch3a	mean	Sr: n=9, O: n=19	0.00035	1.79358	0.00068	0.00008	0.70726	0.00021	3.92	0.60
	Sch3a	max		0.00104	2.37460	0.00236	0.00022	0.70804	0.00029	5.90	0.64
	Sch3b	min		0.00000	0.82684	0.00014	0.00008	0.70697	0.00027	3.96	0.60
	Sch3b	mean	Sr: n=6, O: n=25	0.00023	0.89860	0.00046	0.00013	0.70706	0.00034	5.18	0.60
	Sch3b	max		0.00096	1.11581	0.00261	0.00036	0.70720	0.00040	7.66	0.61
4	Sch4a	min	0.00008	1.21703	0.00015	0.00004	0.70616	0.00016	0.18	0.60	
	Sch4a	mean	Sr: n=9, O: n=17	0.00041	1.68881	0.00091	0.00024	0.70730	0.00022	3.57	0.63
	Sch4a	max		0.00229	2.06418	0.00536	0.00168	0.70782	0.00048	5.23	0.66
	Sch4b	min		0.00012	1.76810	0.00023	0.00005	0.70853	0.00018	-10.52	0.66
	Sch4b	mean	Sr: n=3, O: n=6	0.00021	1.82506	0.00038	0.00005	0.70855	0.00020	-9.41	0.68

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Sch4b	max	0.00029	1.86332	0.00051	0.00005	0.70855	0.00022	-8.71	0.70
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Signal intensity is proportional to the contents of corresponding mass. A reading of 1 V corresponds to a current of  $\sim 9.0 * 10^5$  cps.

Reported  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios correspond to measured ratios and have not been corrected for in situ growth of  $^{87}\text{Sr}$ , which for an age of 150 Ma and a  $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of 0.006 (the highest ratio obtained for the here analyzed scheelite samples results in a reduction of the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratio less than 0.00002, which is less than analytical uncertainty.

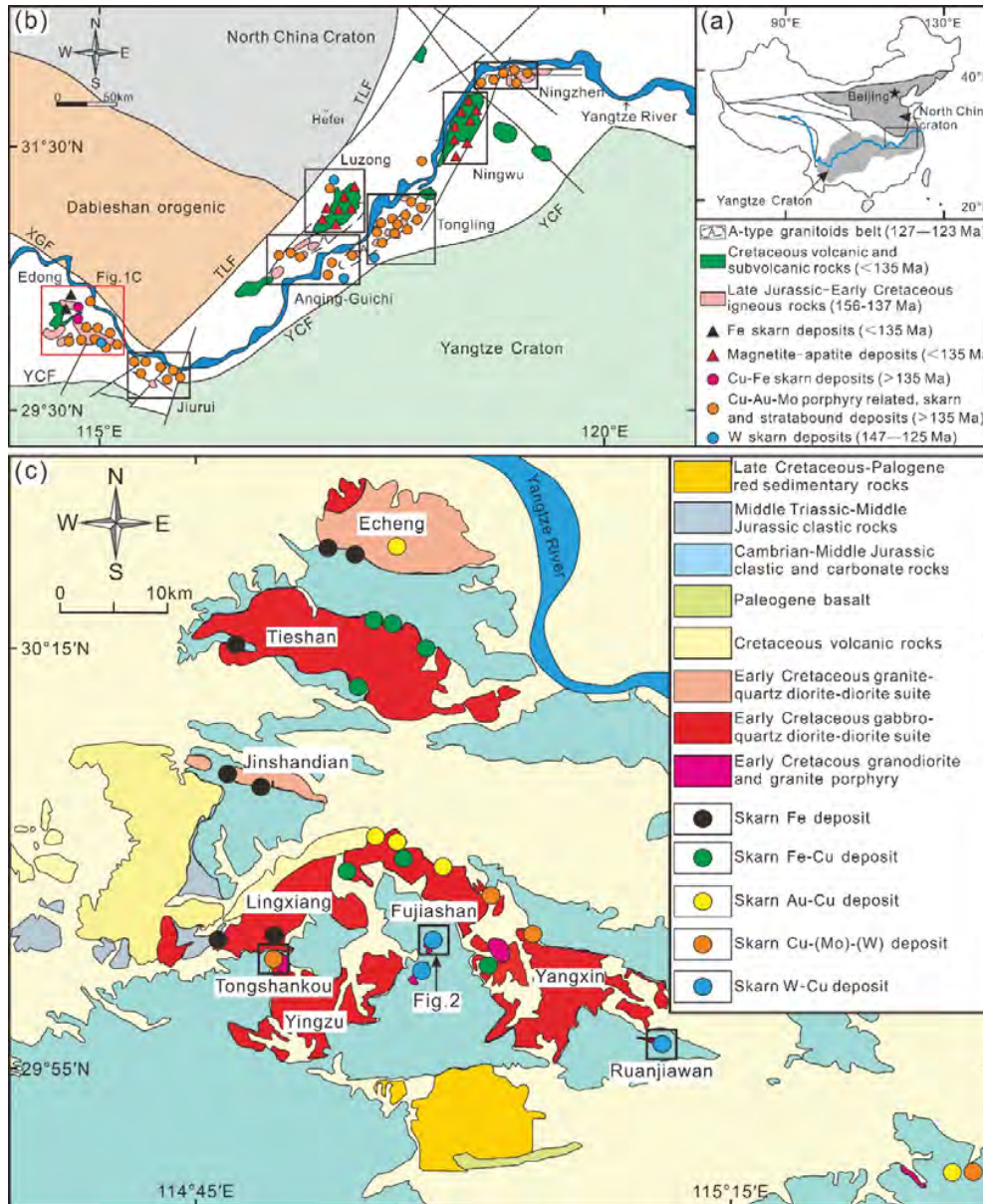


Figure 1

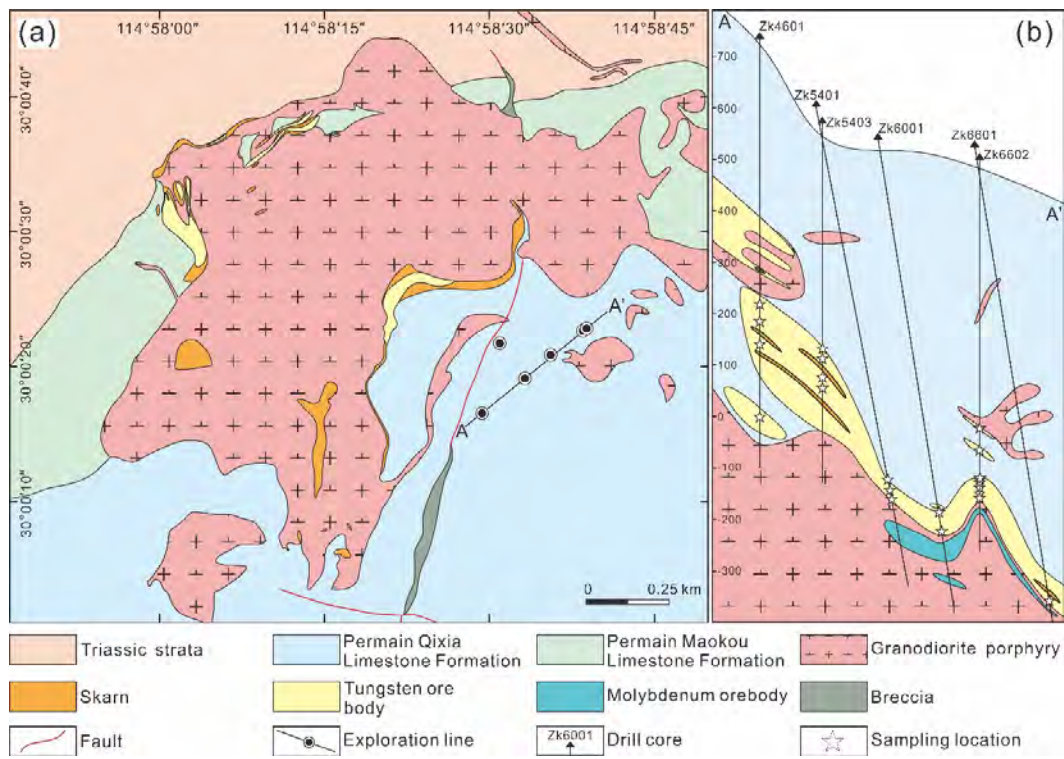


Figure 2

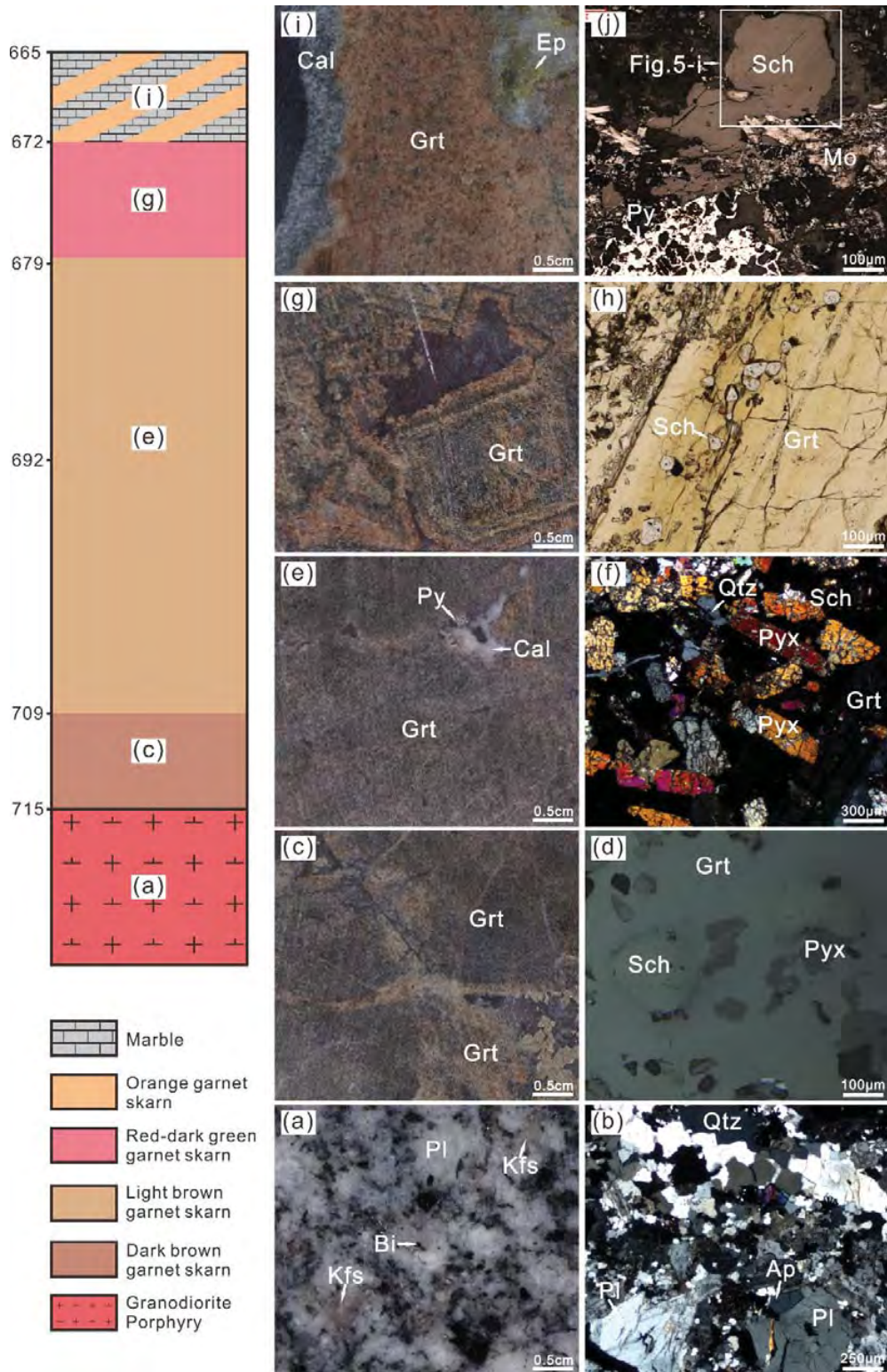


Figure 3

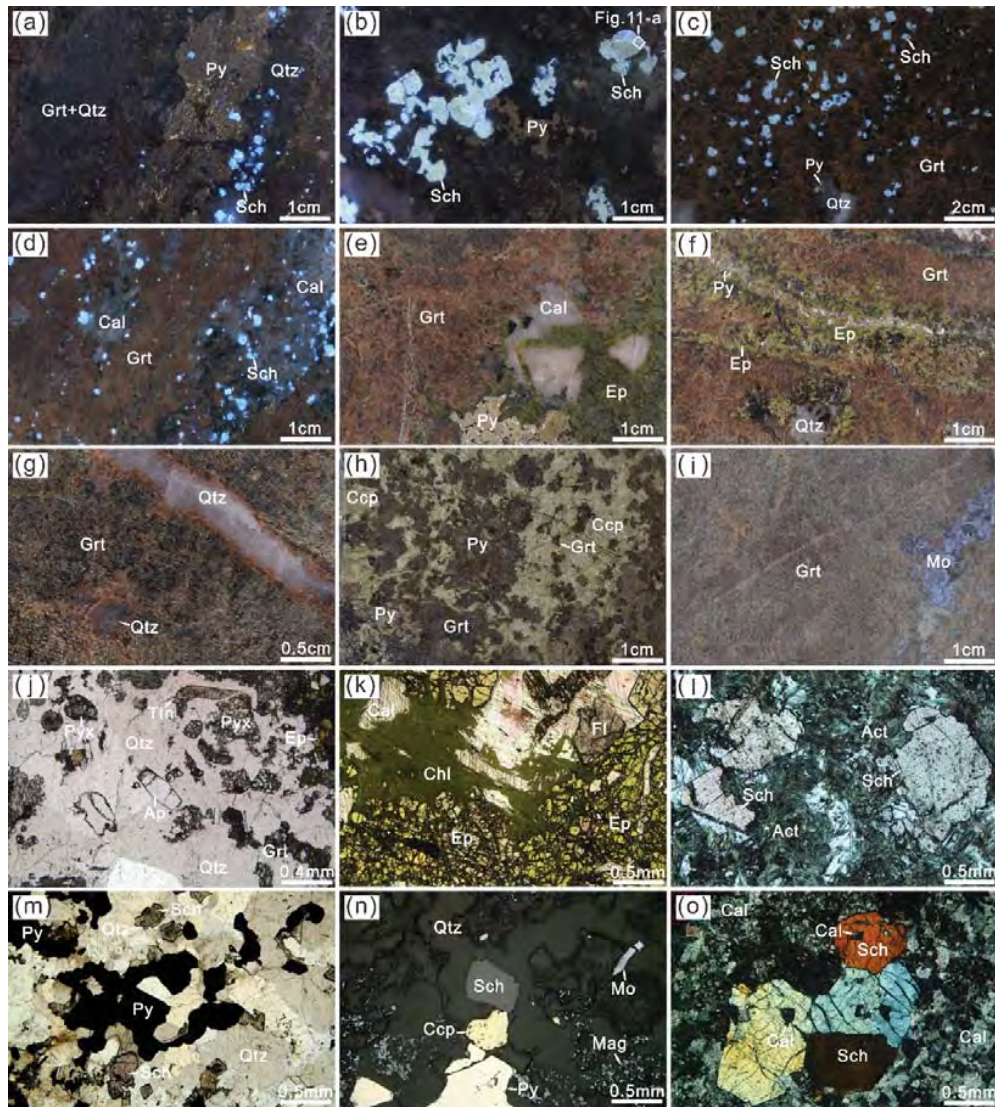


Figure 4



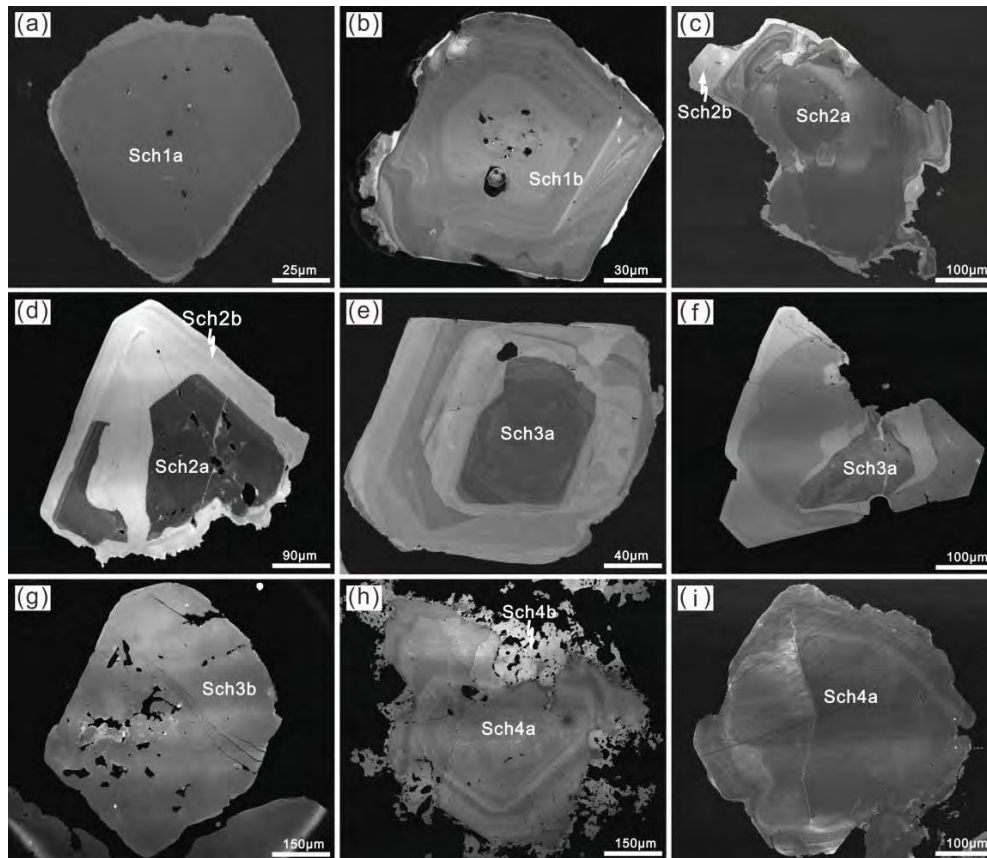


Figure 5

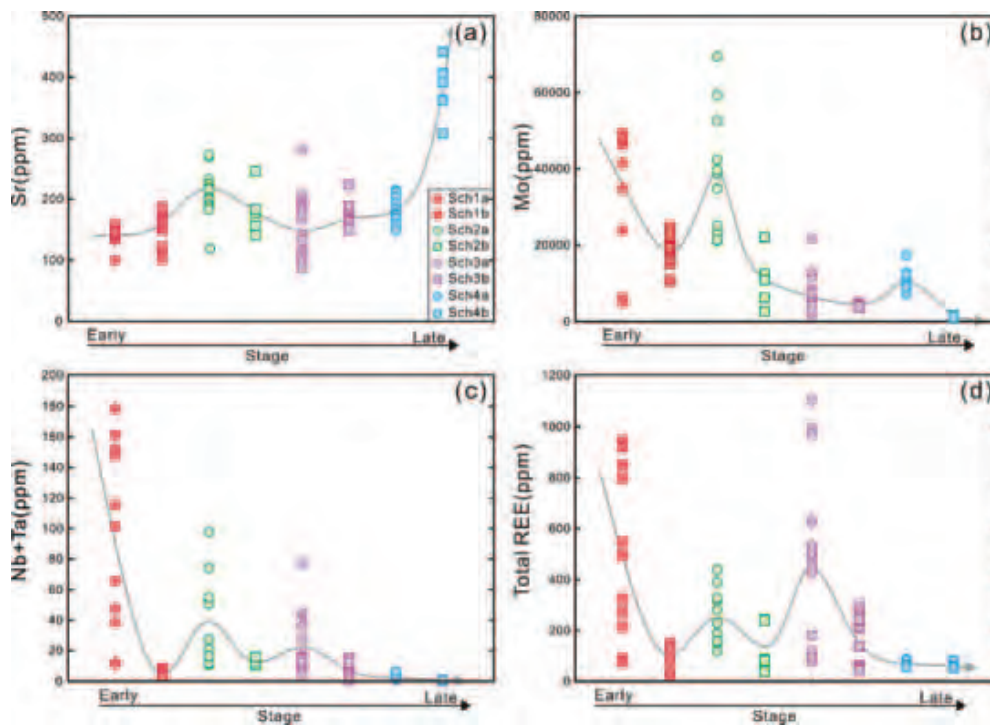


Figure 6

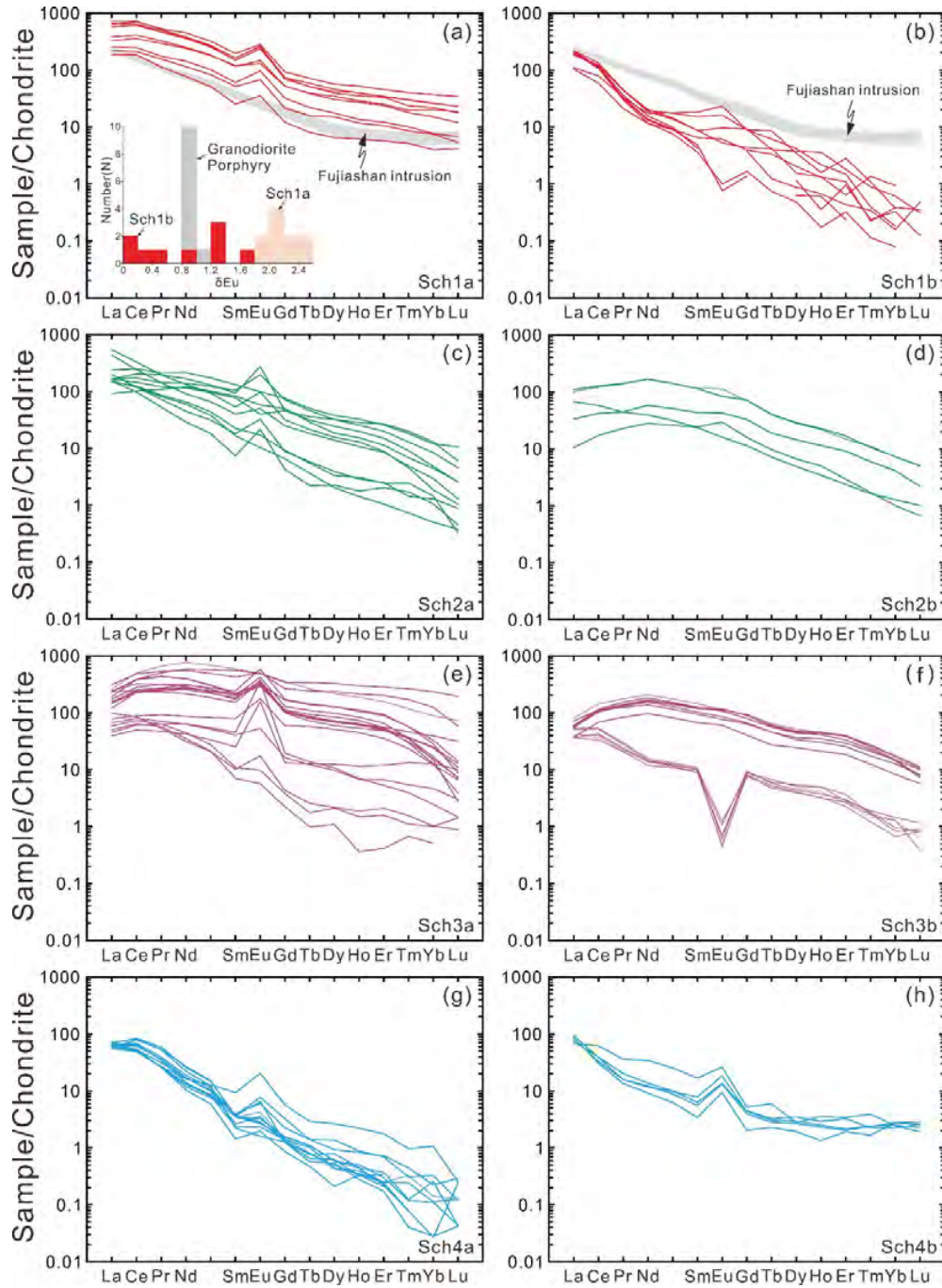


Figure 7

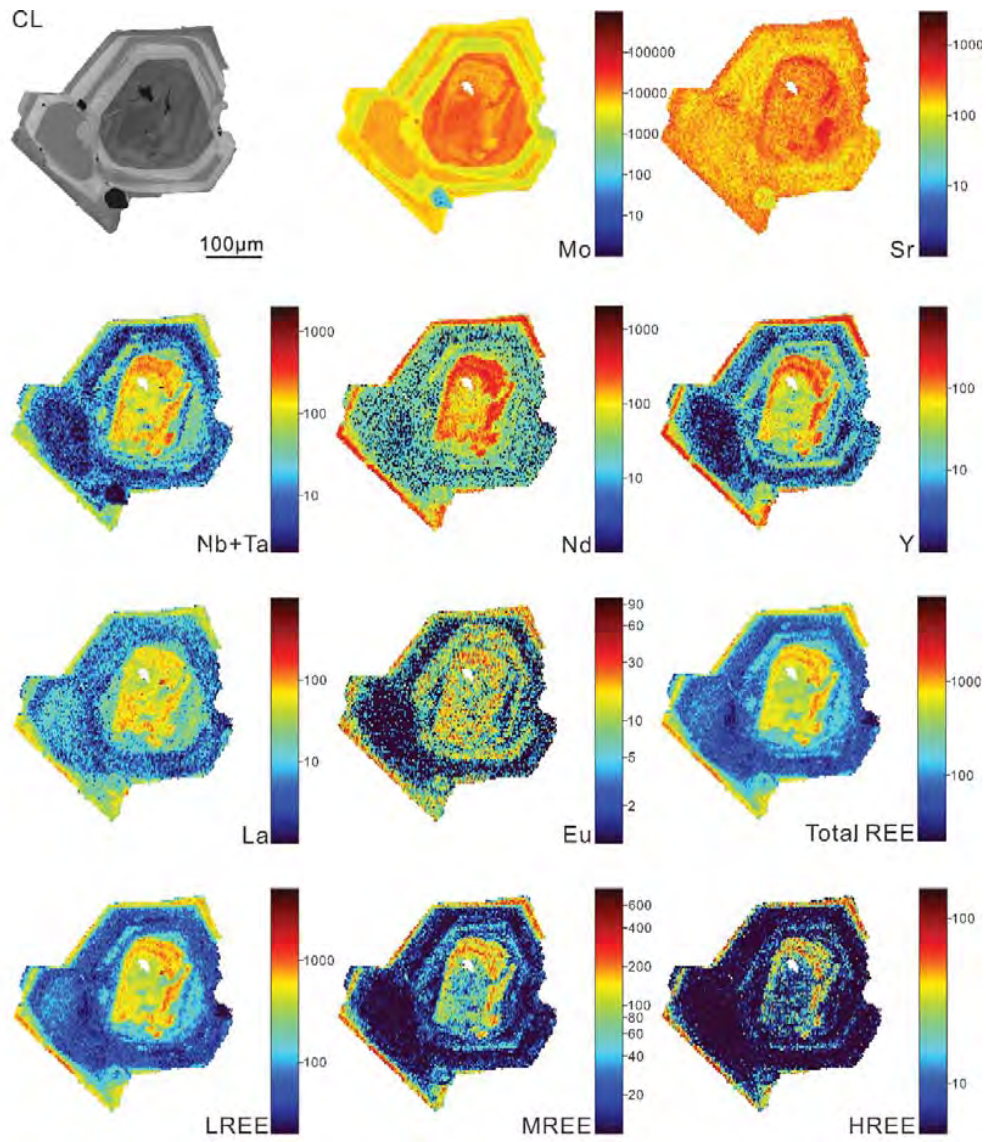


Figure 8

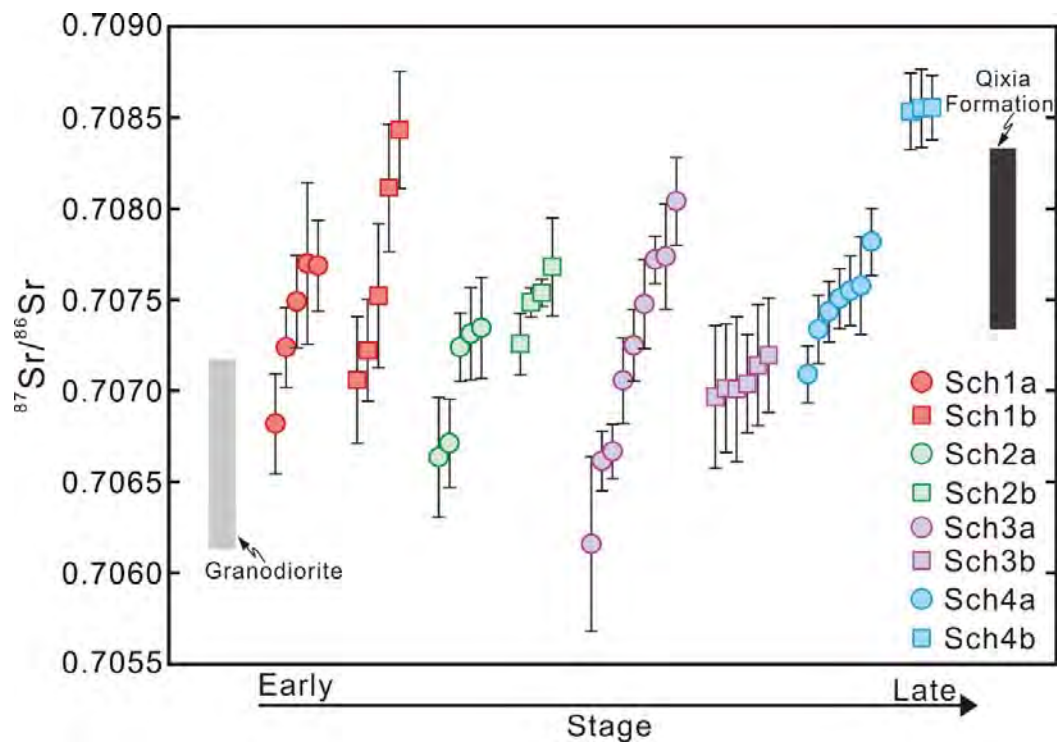


Figure 9

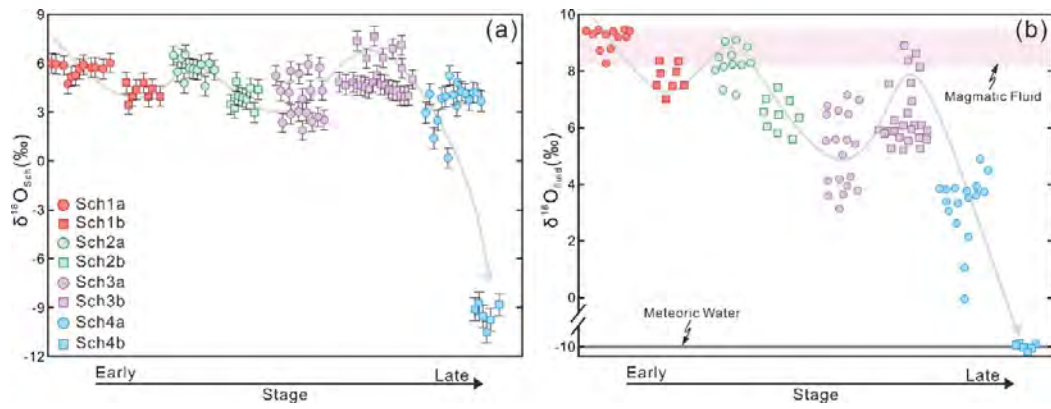


Figure 10

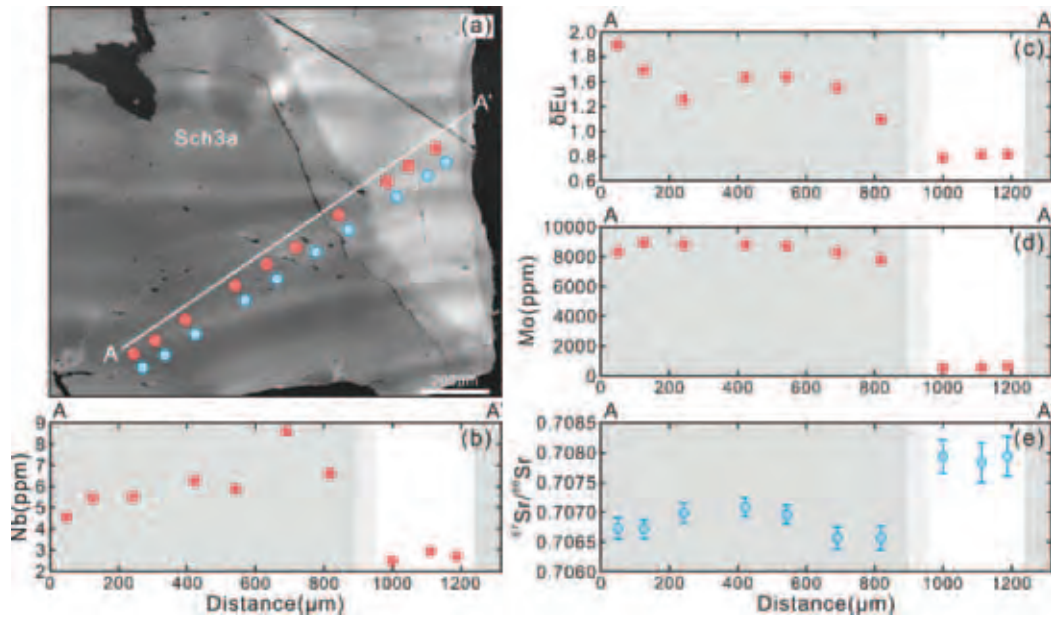


Figure 11

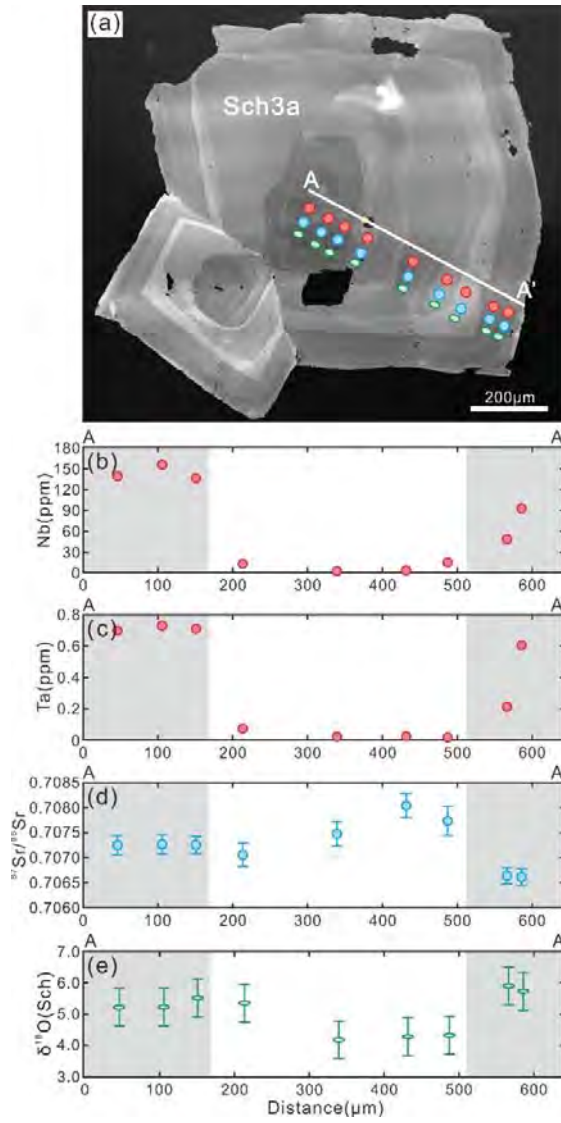


Figure 12



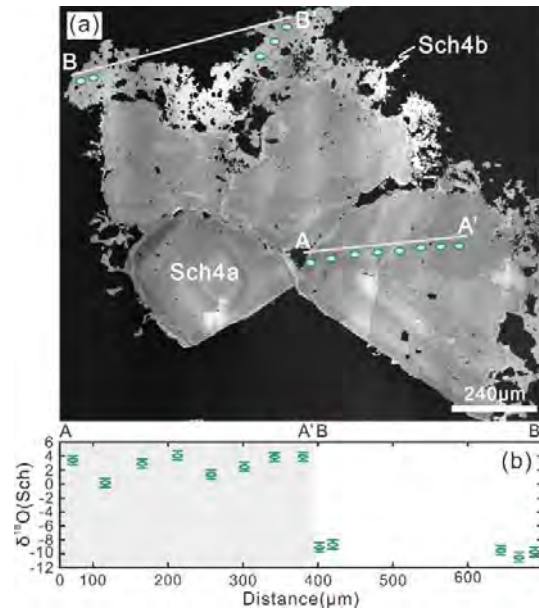


Figure 13