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# Gondwana Research

# Glimmerite: a product of melt-rock interaction within a crustal-scale high-strain zone --Manuscript Draft--

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Abstract:	The paradigm for hydrous high-strain zones that cut dry host rocks is for fluid-rock interaction to have involved aqueous fluids. However, the role of silicate melt is increasingly recognised. This contribution examines the formation of glimmerite (biotitite) bands during melt migration in the Gough Dam shear zone, a high-strain zone in central Australia that was active during the Alice Springs Orogeny (c. 450–300 Ma). The glimmerite bands cut and replace a range of quartzo-feldspathic protoliths, including granitic gneiss and quartzite. Melt that migrated through the high-strain zone is interpreted to have penetrated relict layers along a network of fractures, enhancing dissolution of the precursor rock and causing replacement by glimmerite crystallisation. Microstructures indicative of the former presence of melt in the high-strain zone include: pseudomorphs of former melt pockets of granitic composition; small dihedral angles of interstitial phases; elongate grain boundary melt pseudomorphs; neighbourhoods of grains connected in three dimensions; and localised static grain growth and recovery. Other microstructures indicative of melt-present deformation include randomly oriented neosome grains, and evidence of activation of multiple slip systems during deformation. The degree of quartzite modification to glimmerite is recorded by an increase in biotite mode, and correlated with higher Ti concentrations in biotite (higher apparent temperature) and changes to trace element and REE compositions. Melt-assisted coupled dissolution-precipitation reactions during melt flux are interpreted to partially reset Proterozoic monazite U-Pb ages inherited from the protolith (> 1630 Ma) to younger Palaeozoic ages, with a complex age pattern partially congruent with the Alice Springs Orogeny (apparent ages range from c. 606–371 Ma, with a dominant age peak at c. 451 Ma). We propose that the glimmerite formed during tynamic melt migration of an externally-derived hydrous peraluminous melt, driving reaction replacement of vari
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**D. Silva:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing - Original Draft, Visualization, Project administration, Funding acquisition. **N. R. Daczko:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Investigation, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision, Project administration, Funding acquisition, Resources. **S. Piazolo:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Validation, Investigation, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision, Project administration, Resources. **T. Raimondo:** Methodology, Validation, Investigation, Writing - Review & Editing, Supervision, Writing - Review & Editing, Resources.

- Reaction replacement glimmerite formed during dynamic hydrous melt migration
- Microstructures as evidence of former melt presence in high-strain zone
- Imperfect dissolution-precipitation reactions of monazite during melt flux
- Glimmerite layers in anhydrous terrains facilitates intracontinental orogenesis



# Glimmerite: a product of melt-rock interaction within a crustal-scale highstrain zone

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## 15 ABSTRACT

The paradigm for hydrous high-strain zones that cut dry host rocks is for fluid-rock interaction to have involved aqueous fluids. However, the role of silicate melt is increasingly recognised. This contribution examines the formation of glimmerite (biotitite) bands during melt migration in the Gough Dam shear zone, a high-strain zone in central Australia that was active during the Alice Springs Orogeny (c. 450–300 Ma). The glimmerite bands cut and replace a range of quartzo-feldspathic protoliths, including granitic gneiss and quartzite. Melt that migrated through the high-strain zone is interpreted to have penetrated relict layers along a network of fractures, enhancing dissolution of the precursor rock and causing replacement by glimmerite crystallisation. Microstructures indicative of the former presence of melt in the high-strain zone include: pseudomorphs of former melt pockets of granitic composition; small dihedral angles of interstitial phases; elongate grain boundary melt 

pseudomorphs; neighbourhoods of grains connected in three dimensions; and localised static grain growth and recovery. Other microstructures indicative of melt-present deformation include randomly oriented neosome grains, and evidence of activation of multiple slip systems during deformation. The degree of quartzite modification to glimmerite is recorded by an increase in biotite mode, and correlated with higher Ti concentrations in biotite (higher apparent temperature) and changes to trace element and REE compositions. Melt-assisted coupled dissolution-precipitation reactions during melt flux are interpreted to partially reset Proterozoic monazite U-Pb ages inherited from the protolith (>1630 Ma) to younger Palaeozoic ages, with a complex age pattern partially congruent with the Alice Springs Orogeny (apparent ages range from c. 606–371 Ma, with a dominant age peak at c. 451 Ma). We propose that the glimmerite formed during dynamic melt migration of an externally-derived hydrous peraluminous melt, driving reaction replacement of various felsic protoliths during this orogenic event.

Key words: Glimmerite; Metasomatism; High-strain zone; Monazite; Rheology

#### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Fluid (or the lack thereof) is key in crustal tectonometamorphic processes because it plays a major role in the progression of reactions, changes to mineral assemblages, metastability, activation of deformation processes and coupled rheological consequences (e.g., Yardley, 2009 and references therein). Both water or solute-rich fluids such as silicate melts have a first-order effect on a wide range of geochemical and deformation processes, acting as important agents at all scales. For example, fluids increase grain boundary mobility (e.g., Piazolo et al., 2002; Mancktelow & Pennacchioni, 2004), cause crystal hydrolytic weakening (e.g., Griggs & Blacic, 1965; Kronenberg et al., 1990; Girard et al., 2013) and rheological weakening through fluid overpressure (e.g., Thompson & Connolly, 1992; Sibson, 1994), induce water-fluxed melting (e.g., Weinberg & Hasalová, 2015 and references therein), facilitate metasomatism (e.g., Etheridge et al., 1983; Ferry, 1994; Putnis & Austrheim, 2010), enable fast intra- and inter-grain diffusion pathways (e.g., Watson & Baxter, 2007; Wheeler, 2014; Chapman et al., 2019; Gonçalves et al., 2021), and drive coupled dissolution-precipitation replacement reactions (e.g., Putnis & Putnis, 2007; Putnis, 2009; Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2012). These fluid-aided processes can have major effects at the macroscale for the exhumation of deep crust (e.g., Raimondo *et al.*, 2014 and references therein), rates and style of subduction (e.g., Pichon et al., 1993; Stern, 2002), arc volcanism (e.g., Morris et al., 1990; Sobolev & Chaussidon, 1996; Schmidt & Poli, 1998), and progression and character of orogenesis (e.g., Beaumont et al., 2001; Bercovici, 1998; Jamieson et al., 2011).

Externally sourced fluids are commonly in disequilibrium with the host rocks through which they migrate and are therefore likely to trigger mineral reactions (Yardley, 2009; Putnis, 2009). The most extreme examples of fluid-rock interaction and associated reaction are usually observed in high-strain zones where time-integrated fluid fluxes and reactive surface area at any one time are high and fluid migration is channelised (Etheridge et al., 1983; Oliver et al., 1990; Selverstone et al., 1991; Cartwright & Barnicoat, 2003; Clarke et al., 2005; Daczko et al., 2016; Stuart et al., 2016, 2017, 2018a). In these cases, the rheological consequences are pronounced and fall into four general categories: (i) fluid-rock interaction results in the production of minerals that have a different rheological behaviour to their precursors (e.g., Brodie & Rutter, 1985; Wintsch et al., 1995; Smith et al., 2015); (ii) fluids cause grain size changes that may change the dominant deformation mechanism (Smith et al., 2015; Menegon et al., 2015); (iii) fluids change the rate of the dominant deformation mechanism (e.g., Karato, 1986); and/or (iv) the actual physical presence of the fluid itself has a rheological effect (e.g., Faulkner & Rutter, 2001; Handy et al., 2001).

Until recently, the study of hydrated high-strain zones has been focused on those that experienced interaction with water-rich fluids, most commonly during retrograde metamorphic conditions (e.g., White & Knipe, 1978; McCaig et al., 1990; Menegon et al., 2008; Gonçalves et al., 2012). Often, such fluid-fluxed areas exhibit extensive metasomatism, changing not only the mineral assemblage but also the bulk chemistry of the fluid-fluxed rock (e.g., Spruzeniece & Piazolo, 2015 and references therein). However, recently it has been shown that hydration and strain localisation can also occur when a hydrous silicate melt fluxes lower crustal rocks in the roots of magmatic arcs (Daczko et al., 2016; Stuart et al., 2016, 2017, 2018a; Meek et al., 2019). In these cases, the main hydrous minerals produced are amphibole and clinozoisite, controlled by the mafic to intermediate silicate melts inferred to have migrated through the actively deforming high-strain zone. A similar process of melt-rock interaction as melt migrates up high-strain zones has also recently been recognised in mid-crustal granulite facies rocks of central Australia during the Alice Springs Orogeny (Ghatak, 2017; Piazolo et al., 2020). In this particular case, melt metasomatism is inferred to have involved hydrous peraluminous melts and produced metasomatic rocks rich in biotite and garnet at pressures of 6-8 kbar. The enrichment in biotite and garnet, and depletion (i.e., replacement) of quartz and feldspar in precursor rocks suggests that melt temperatures were close to the liquidus, where fewer minerals are in equilibrium with the high-temperature melt (i.e., at temperatures above the stability of quartz and feldspar such that these dissolve into the melt; Ghatak, 2017).

Due to the increased porosity and permeability that accompanies deformation,
high-strain zones are ideal pathways for fluid migration, either by aqueous fluids or melts (e.g.,
White & Knipe, 1978; Hutton, 1988; McCaig & Knipe, 1990; D'lemos *et al.*, 1992; Brown &
Solar, 1998; Rosenberg, 2004; Menegon *et al.*, 2008; Menegon *et al.*, 2015; Stuart *et al.*, 2018*a*;
Etheridge *et al.*, 2020; Gonçalves *et al.*, 2012, 2021). Both types of fluid migration in highstrain zones are well understood and easily recognised if, in the case of melt, a certain threshold

of interconnected fluid (> 10%) is present during deformation (e.g., Brown & Solar, 1998;
Collins & Sawyer, 1996; Weinberg & Hasalová, 2015; Závada *et al.*, 2018). Such high
proportions are suggested in the field by the high percentage of leucosome (Sawyer, 2008). In
contrast, lower proportions of melt in a deforming rock (< 10%) will have limited rheological</li>
effect (Rosenberg & Handy, 2005), although this is debatable.

However, a lack of field evidence for high proportions of melt does not exclude the possibility of melt-present rheological weakening, because during the last stages of deformation the melt phase may have been largely evacuated (Schulmann et al., 2008; Stuart et al., 2018b). Additionally, recent work has shown that high-strain rocks lacking typical subsolidus crystal-plastic deformation microstructures (e.g., crystallographic preferred orientations, dynamic recrystallisation, undulose extinction) may be used as an indicator of melt-present deformation and are suggestive of weakened rocks (Stuart et al., 2018b). Key microstructures used to recognise former melt flux through high-strain zones include: (1) small dihedral angles of interstitial phases; (2) elongate interstitial grains; (3) neighbourhoods of quartz or feldspar grains connected in three dimensions; (4) fine-grained multiphase aggregates representing crystallised melt pockets or inclusions (e.g., Cesare et al., 2015; Meek et al., 2019); and (5) mm- to cm-scale felsic dykelets (Stuart et al., 2018b). Other melt microstructures such as those observed in migmatites (Sawyer, 1999; Vernon, 2011) may also be useful indicators of melt-present deformation in high-strain zones.

121 Glimmerite ("biotitite" in the IUGS classification) is defined as rock with a very 122 high proportion of mica (> 75%, mainly biotite or phlogopite) and has been reported globally 123 in diverse geological settings (e.g., Waters, 1987; Rakotondrazafy *et al.*, 1997; Becker *et al.*, 124 1999; Fuertes-Fuente *et al.*, 2000; Grégoire *et al.*, 2002; Rajesh *et al.*, 2004; Lin & Sawyer, 125 2019). Glimmerite is exceptionally hydrous, and its bulk composition does not resemble any 126 classic sedimentary or igneous rock type, apart from small-scale gradational concentrations of

mafic minerals in granites and migmatites, i.e., schlieren (Weinberg et al., 2001; Milord & Sawyer, 2003; Žák *et al.*, 2008). Hence, it is likely that glimmerites represent rocks that have undergone extreme chemical change or metasomatism sensu lato (s.l.). The most commonly reported occurrence of glimmerite is associated with highly metasomatised mantle rocks caused by interaction with a percolating melt/fluid (e.g., Becker et al., 1999; Grégoire et al., 2002; Smart et al., 2019). Glimmerites have also been reported to occur adjacent to granitic intrusions in mantle rocks (e.g., Fuertes-Fuente et al., 2000), carbonatite intrusions and associated fenitisation of surrounding rocks (e.g., Tappe *et al.*, 2006; Elliott *et al.*, 2018) and have been interpreted to represent progressive fractional crystallisation of mantle melts injected into the lower crust (e.g., Rajesh et al., 2004). 

Contrary to these latter examples, the glimmerite studied here is located in a high-strain zone known as the Gough Dam shear zone, central Australia. They are spatially adjacent to and/or surrounded by felsic mid-crustal rocks (granitic and felsic granulitic gneisses). The chosen field example forms part of a regional-scale, 10 km long and 2–4 kmthick belt of glimmerite and other biotite-rich schistose rocks of varying biotite mode. In this contribution, we explore the mechanism of formation of glimmerite by examining well-exposed continuous outcrops that allow detailed field and multi-technique analysis. Based on the glimmerite assemblage, geochemistry, deformation, reaction textures and geochronology, we suggest that this intriguing rock type formed as a consequence of extreme melt-rock interaction during peraluminous melt migration through high-strain zones during orogenesis.

# 2. GENERAL GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The area of interest lies in the Strangways Metamorphic Complex (SMC), Arunta Region, central Australia. This basement terrane is a broad belt of dominantly anhydrous upper amphibolite and granulite facies rocks, up to ~125 km wide, metamorphosed 

during the Strangways Event at c. 1735-1690 Ma (Fig. 1) (Shaw et al., 1984; Collins & Teyssier, 1989; Claoué-Long et al., 2008; Scrimgeour, 2003, 2013). Subsequently, it was extensively reworked during the Alice Springs Orogeny (ASO), an intracontinental orogeny active during the middle to late Palaeozoic (450–300 Ma) (Collins & Teyssier, 1989; Raimondo et al., 2014). This event caused crustal thickening and deep exhumation of ensialic granulitic basement in the Arunta Region, resulting in an orogen with an estimated horizontal shortening of up to 100 km at its eastern margin (Shaw et al., 1984; Teyssier, 1985; Collins & Teyssier, 1989; Fig. 1). An extensive regional network of anastomosing, km-wide high-strain zones bounding the Strangways Metamorphic Complex were reactivated during the ASO, facilitating much of the observed exhumation (e.g., Cartwright et al., 1999; Hand & Sandiford, 1999; Mawby et al., 1999; Ballèvre et al., 2000; Scrimgeour, 2013; Raimondo et al., 2011, 2014; Prent et al., 2020; Fig. 1). These schistose high-strain zones include the West Bore shear zone and Gough Dam shear zone at the northern boundary of the SMC, and the Harry Creek shear zone toward the south.

Shear zones in the Arunta Region display hydrous mineral assemblages with high modal proportions of biotite and muscovite (e.g., SMC and Reynolds-Anmatjira Ranges (Fig. 1; Raimondo et al., 2011, 2014). In the Reynolds-Anmatjira Ranges, hydrous shear zones are linked to metasomatic processes and retrogression of amphibolite facies rocks and gneisses, instead of common alternatives such as stress-induced mineral segregation or highly evolved schlieren bands (Cartwright & Buick, 1999; Raimondo et al., 2011, 2012; Prent et al., 2020). Similar to the Reynolds-Anmatjira Ranges, the SMC is cut by shear zones forming broad hydrous schist belts containing a high proportion of micas. These shear zones and schist belts are interpreted as strongly deformed and hydrated versions of granulite precursor rocks, which formed at deeper crustal levels when compared to those of the Reynolds-Anmatjira Ranges (Ballèvre et al., 2000; Raimondo et al., 2011, 2014). 

The studied glimmerite occurs in the Gough Dam shear zone (GDSZ; labelled #1 in Fig. 1), located at the northern boundary of the Strangways Metamorphic Complex. The GDSZ trends roughly E-W to NNW-SSE, is steeply dipping (60–90°) to the north and presents a typical width of 1–2 km but can reach up to 4 km wide. The GDSZ is interpreted to have deformed in the presence of externally-derived melt that induced reaction softening and rheological weakening (Piazolo et al., 2020). The high-strain zone is described as a significant tectonic discontinuity in the Arunta Region, controlling crustal block separation and reverse south-directed thrusting of the Harts Range Group relative to the Strangways Metamorphic Complex, kinematically informed by shear bands and sigma tails around porphyroclasts (Collins & Shaw, 1995; Bendall, 2000; Fig. 1). The GDSZ high-strain zone is characterised by hydration of the bimodal interlayered mafic-felsic granulites, quartzo-feldspathic and quartzite gneisses, and minor calcsilicate and amphibolite rocks constituting the Paleoproterozoic basement of the Arunta Region.

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### 2.1. Gough Dam shear zone field relationships

The GDSZ features several different rock types throughout the schist belt, the most recurrent being phyllonitic biotite-rich quartzo-feldspathic gneiss, felsic and mafic granulite pods of comparatively lower strain, and quartz-rich rafts (Norman, 1991; Ballèvre et al., 1997). Some low-strain areas of the GDSZ include garnet-bearing granulites with garnet crystals up to 8 cm in diameter. A steeply northeast-dipping/plunging foliation/mineral lineation is defined by biotite and sillimanite, and locally kyanite. Highly strained rock types have variable bulk rock compositions and include granitic mylonite closer to the shear zone's southern boundary (Fig. 2a), and feldspar-biotite-quartz schist (identified hereafter in the text as glimmerite schist) with elongated granitic lenses located towards and in the centre of GDSZ (Fig. 2b, c). The width of granitic lenses increases towards the centre of GDSZ (Fig. 2b to 2c)

 and these have been shown to have igneous microstructure consistent with syntectonic melt migration through the GDSZ (Piazolo et al., 2020).

The selected study area is localised in the central section of the GDSZ and comprises an outcrop of approximately 10 m width by 15 m length of glimmerite schist, which contains cm to dm scale lenses and layers of strained quartzite (up to 50 cm thick and 10 m in length; Fig. 2d, g-i), and felsic granulite and granitic gneiss that are elongate parallel to the schistose foliation (Fig. 2d-f). The matrix of the glimmerite schist is dominated by biotite  $(\sim 50\%)$  and subordinate quartz, muscovite and sillimanite, with mm to cm-wide feldspar grains (Fig. 2d-i). Within 200 m of the study area, kyanite and staurolite are also observed. Centimetre-wide glimmerite sleeves (identified hereafter as glimmerite) with high proportions of biotite (>75%) are present adjacent to, cross-cutting, or 'invading' felsic bodies (i.e., quartzite mylonite, granitic gneiss and pegmatite), and dispersed as elongated lenses within glimmerite schist (Fig. 2f-i). The relationships detailed at our study site are representative of the most biotite-rich (i.e., most extensively hydrated) rocks within the hydrous shear zones of the Alice Springs Orogen.

In the field, quartzite lenses exhibit classic mylonite features including a strong alignment of biotite and quartz to form a steeply plunging lineation. Mylonitic foliations in quartzite and foliations in granitic gneiss are parallel to the foliation in glimmerite schist (Fig. 2e, f). Quartzite mylonite and granitic gneiss are partially dismembered by perpendicular fractures of mm to cm size, exhibiting a range of isolated lenses and blocks ranging from mm to dm size (Fig. 2d-i). Glimmerite is seen in brittle fractures oriented perpendicular to the foliation, and in embayments and irregular partings that define the lenses and blocks (Fig. 2di), where it contains the same mineral assemblage as observed in the main glimmerite schist unit. Field evidence suggests that there is a near continuum between quartzite mylonite, 56 225 glimmerite schist and glimmerite, with an increasing amount of biotite content from < 10%

biotite (Bt) representing the original quartzite mylonite, to > 80% Bt in glimmerite (Fig. 2h, i). This progressive increase in Bt content, commonly associated with structural features such as fractures, suggests that there is a genetic relationship between Bt content and dismemberment. Hence, field observations suggest an association between chemical change (i.e., reduced quartz and feldspar content and increased Bt content), reaction and dismemberment commonly observed in metasomatic zones (Ferry, 1994).

#### **3. SAMPLE SELECTION AND ANALYSIS**

#### 3.1. Sample selection

The majority of samples for this study (Fig. 2d-i and Fig. 4 onward) were collected along a transect in the central section of the Gough Dam shear zone (GPS coordinates 23.1469°S, 134.56517°E, WGS84) and include components of quartz-rich mylonite and glimmerite, along with the contacts between them. The remaining samples (Fig. 2a-c and Fig. 3) were collected close to the southern GDSZ boundary (Fig. 2a; GPS coordinates 23.1519°S, 134.56388°E, WGS84) and approximately halfway towards the centre of GDSZ (Fig. 2b, c; GPS coordinates 23.1453°S, 134.56722°E, WGS84). The transect samples from the central GDSZ were selected to represent the observed change in Bt content from a highly quartz-rich mylonite (< 10 vol.% biotite) to glimmerite sleeves (> 80 vol.% biotite). We therefore selected a sequence of four domains represented by three hand specimens and thin sections: (i) low, < 10% Bt content, least-reacted quartzite (Sample L-Qtz [field ID number GD1609A]; Fig. 2h and 4a), (ii) medium, ~10% Bt content, medium-reacted guartzite (sample M-Qtz [field ID number GD1609C]; Fig. 2i and lower part of Fig. 4c), (iii) high, ~15% Bt content, highly-reacted quartzite (sample H-Qtz [field ID number GD1609B]; Fig. 2i and 4b) and (iv) glimmerite with > 80% Bt (Sample GL [field ID number GD1609C]; Fig. 2g–i and upper part of Fig. 4c). It should be noted that within one hand specimen [field ID number GD1609C], the boundary between M-Qtz and GL is contained. Unless otherwise stated, the two parts of the same sample will be treated separately.

#### 3.2. Methods of analysis

#### 3.2.1. Petrography and quantitative orientation analysis

Polished thin sections were made from blocks cut perpendicular to foliation and parallel to lineation in both the quartz mylonite and glimmerite samples. Petrographic observations of the mineral assemblages were made using a petrographic microscope, the Virtual Petrographic Microscope (Tetley & Daczko, 2014) and ImageJ 1.47v (Rasband, 1997-2018). Microstructural/crystallographic characterisation of thin sections was performed using a FEI Quanta 650 FEG-ESEM with AZtec software and an Oxford/HKL Nordlys S EBSD system at the University of Leeds, UK. EBSD mapping was performed covering large areas of the thin section. Working conditions were 20 kV accelerating voltage, 20-26 mm working distance, 70° specimen tilt and a step size of 8 µm. Automatic indexation was performed using AZtec software (Oxford Instruments). HKL software was used to execute standard noise reduction and to extrapolate missing data using at least and in succession 8, 7, 6 and finally 5 identical neighbours with similar orientation. Grain orientation maps using Euler angles and inverse pole figures (IPF) were generated using the MTEX package (Bachmann et al., 2010; Henry et al., 2017; Henry, 2018). Grains were calculated using a boundary angle > 10° misorientation. Dauphine twin boundaries for quartz were defined as quartz-quartz grain boundaries with a 60° rotation around the c-axis. Crystallographic preferred orientation (CPO) of quartz was assessed using pole figures plotted on lower hemisphere, equal area projections with one point per grain. J- and M-indices (Bunge, 2013; Skemer et al., 2005) were computed to quantify the intensity of the CPO. Average grain size of minerals was determined using the EBSD data. We present grain size data where Dauphine twins were disregarded.

#### 3.2.2. Imaging and geochemical analysis

Micro X-ray Fluorescence ( $\mu$ -XRF) analysis of the polished thin sections was used for mineral identification and spatial distribution mapping, quantification of modal proportions, and analysis of thin section-scale "whole-rock" major oxides.  $\mu$ -XRF analyses were performed using the Bruker M4 Tornado spectrometer at Macquarie University Geoanalytical (MQGA), Sydney, Australia. The  $\mu$ -XRF analyses were run with a tube voltage of 50 kV, a beam current of 200  $\mu$ A, a chamber pressure of 20 mbar, an acquisition time of 15 ms/pixel and a step size of 25  $\mu$ m. AMICS (Advanced Mineral Identification and Characterization System) was used to convert the X-ray fluorescence spectra to produce detailed mineral maps.

High-resolution, high-sensitivity element mapping of polished thin sections on pure silica glass slides was performed to assess the trace element distribution within the reacted quartzite. Mapping was completed using the X-Ray Fluorescence Microscopy (XFM) beamline and the Maia-384 detector on the Kirkpatrick-Baez mirror microprobe at the Australian Synchrotron, Melbourne (Ryan et al., 2010; Paterson et al., 2011). A beam energy of 18.5 keV focussed to a 2 µm spot size was used. Samples were scanned using a 4 mm step size in both the x and y directions, at a speed of 4 mm/s and a dwell time of 1 ms/pixel. A set of standard foils (Pt, Mn, Fe, YF3) were periodically analysed for calibration. Data reduction was performed using GeoPIXE (Ryan et al., 1990), which uses the fundamental parameter model for the layered sample, the Maia detector efficiency model, and the DA matrix method to deconvolute spectra (Ryan et al., 1995, 2015).

Backscatter Electron (BSE) images and associated Energy-dispersive X-ray spectroscopy (EDS) point analysis were used for both mineral identification and imaging of microstructures. Polished thin sections were carbon coated and imaged in a Hitachi Desktop 302 Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) at the OptoFab node of the Australian National 303 Fabrication Facility, Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia. The operating conditions of the 304 SEM were low vacuum and 15 kV accelerating voltage. For rapid identification of monazite 305 grains the BSE image based Mineral Liberation Analysis on the FEI 650 ESEM at the 306 University of Tasmania, Australia, was used at low vacuum and 20 kV accelerating voltage.

Cathodoluminescence (CL) images were used to identify alteration of elemental
concentration and/or crystallographic defects within quartz grains by migrating fluids
interacting with the quartzite samples from the study area. The CL images were acquired using
a Tescan VEGA3 XM SEM (University of Leeds, UK), operating at 20 kV and a beam current
of 20 nA.

Electron microprobe (EMP) analysis was used to acquire compositional data of silicates using a JEOL JXA 8530F Plus field emission electron microprobe at the Central Science Laboratory, University of Tasmania. The instrument is equipped with a field emission source, running an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, a beam current of 15 nA and a beam size of 10 µm. The instrument has 5 wavelength dispersive spectrometers and is operated using the Probe Software Inc. "Probe For EPMA" software package. Plagioclase Lake County, Hornblende Kakanui, Augite Kakanui, Pyrope Kakanui, Olivine Springwater, Garnet Roberts Victor Mine (all Smithsonian; Jarosewich et al., 1980) and Orthoclase from P&H Developments UK were analysed as secondary standards to confirm the quality of the analysis of the unknown material. A time dependent intensity correction was applied on Na and K if applicable. Oxygen was calculated by cation stoichiometry and included in the matrix correction. Hydrogen was calculated based on the mineral formula and included in the matrix correction as well. The matrix correction algorithm utilised was Armstrong/Love Scott (Armstrong, 1988) and the mass absorption coefficients dataset was LINEMU < 10 keV (Henke, 1985) and CITZMU > 10 keV (Heinrich, 1966). 

Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) was used to collect monazite U-Pb data for age determination using a Resonetics M-50-LR 193 nm excimer laser coupled to an Agilent 7700x Quadrupole ICP-MS housed at Adelaide Microscopy, University of Adelaide. Data were collected from thin sections using 5 pre-ablation shots, 30 seconds of background measurement and 30 seconds sample ablation at 5 Hz, 2 J/cm<sup>2</sup> fluence and a spot size of 19 or 13 µm. The raw data signal was reduced using Iolite software (Paton et al., 2011). U-Pb fractionation was corrected using the MAdel monazite standard (TIMS normalisation data:  ${}^{207}Pb/{}^{206}Pb$  age = 492.01 ± 0.77 Ma;  ${}^{206}Pb/{}^{238}U$  age = 517.9  $\pm 2.6$  Ma; <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>235</sup>U age = 513.13  $\pm 0.20$  Ma; updated from Payne *et al.* (2008) with additional TIMS analyses). Accuracy was also monitored by repeat analyses of the in-house internal standard 94-222/Bruna-NW ( $^{206}$ Pb/ $^{238}$ U = 450.2 ± 3.4 Ma; Maidment *et al.*, 2005). 

The concentration of rare earth elements in biotite was determined in thin section using a Teledyne Analyte Excite 193 nm excimer laser coupled to an 7700x ICP-MS housed at Macquarie University Geoanalytical (MQGA), Sydney, Australia. Data were collected from thin sections using 30 seconds of background measurement and 30 seconds sample ablation at 10 Hz, 5 J/cm<sup>2</sup> fluence and spot size of 150 µm. Silicon (measured by EMP) was used as an internal standard for all minerals, and NIST 610 and 612, and basalt from the Columbia River (BCR-2) were used as external standards. The raw data signal was reduced using GLITTER software (Griffin, 2008). 

# 3.2.3. Biotite and phengite geothermobarometers

The *P*-*T* conditions for each sample are estimated using the titanium-in-biotite thermometer of Henry et al. (2005) and the silicon-in-phengite geobarometer of Massonne & Schreyer (1987). The Henry et al. (2005) geothermometer is based on the titanium (Ti a.p.f.u.) composition of biotite in a peraluminous metapelite with Ti-bearing minerals (ilmenite or

rutile) and graphite in the mineral assemblage, equilibrated at 4–6 kbar. Temperature estimates are made by using the concentration of Ti, Fe and Mg in the biotite present in all samples (Table 1 and Table S1). Compared to the Henry et al. (2005) experimental conditions for the geothermometer, the expected accuracy of the temperature estimates is approximately  $\pm$  50°C. This large error is due to the absence of graphite and accessory Ti-bearing minerals in the samples from this study (Fig. 4). Henry et al. (2005) describes the Ti-in-biotite temperature estimate calculations in the absence of Ti-saturating phases as being minimum temperatures estimates.

The Massonne & Schreyer (1987) geobarometer is based on the silicon (Si) composition in magnesium muscovite (phengite) coexisting with alkali feldspar, phlogopite/biotite and quartz. The maximum Si composition in phengite can only be attained using the geobarometer if the phengite coexists with the aforementioned mineral assemblage. For phengite present in glimmerite schist and glimmerite, the pressure estimates are expected to be precise since all the necessary minerals for the best pressure calculations are present (Fig. 4). Phengite in quartzite does not coexist with alkali feldspar, limiting the estimates to a minimum pressure of formation (Fig. 4).

**4. RESULTS** 

#### 4.1. Petrography and microstructures

#### 4.1.1. Least Reacted Quartzite (sample L-Qtz; < 10 vol.% biotite)

Sample L-Qtz (field ID number GD1609A) contains the mineral assemblage quartz (Qz; ~90 vol.%), biotite (Bt; 8 vol.%) and magnetite (Mt; <1 vol.%) (Fig. 4a), along with accessory zircon and monazite (see Section 4.4 for geochronology). The quartz grains show variable morphology from equant, mostly visible in the smaller grains (100 µm to 1.5 mm), to elongate and ribbon-like in the coarser grains (2 to 3.5 mm) that define small shear 

bands (Fig. 4a). Most quartz grains show signs of high mobility of the grain boundaries as deeply sutured, curved and interlobate quartz-quartz boundaries (Fig. 4a). In areas of interstitial biotite between quartz grains, the mobility of the quartz grain boundaries is retarded, from curved or lobate quartz-quartz boundaries to more rectilinear quartz-biotite boundaries (Fig. 4a).

Biotite grains in quartzite are light to dark green, usually of rectangular shape and show variable grain dimensions from 100 µm to 5 mm in length and up to 1 mm in width (Fig. 4a). Magnetite and biotite are only locally associated and share straight grain boundaries. However, magnetite has irregular boundaries with quartz. Biotite grains have a shape preferred orientation consistent with the tectonic reverse sense of shear (i.e., ASO mid-crustal terrane exhumation) for the high-strain zone. Biotite is concentrated between quartz grains or in fractures present in quartzite (Fig. 4a).

## 4. 1. 2. *Highly Reacted Quartzite (sample H-Qtz; < 15 vol.% biotite)*

In comparison to sample L-Qtz, sample H-Qtz (field ID number GD1609B) is similarly dominated by quartz (> 80 vol.%) and biotite ( $\sim$ 15 vol.%), but has lower magnetite (a few isolated grains) and contains sillimanite (Sil; < 5 vol.%) (Fig. 4b, d) and accessory zircon and monazite. Quartz grains generally display an elongate or ribbon-shaped morphology and are coarser than sample L-Qtz (Fig. 4b). The shape preferred orientation of the quartz elongation is again consistent with the tectonic reverse sense of shear observed in the high-strain zone. Sample H-Qtz shares with sample L-Qtz a high degree of grain boundary mobility in the quartz grains, recorded as deeply sutured, curved and interlobate quartz-quartz boundaries (Fig. 4b). However, in contrast to sample L-Qtz, sillimanite-rich bands are observed where quartz-quartz boundaries are not as lobate (i.e., lower half of sample H-Qtz photomicrograph in Fig. 4b), inverting the overall boundary migration to more rectilinear quartz-quartz boundaries and to more common ribbon quartz morphology.

Biotite grains in sample H-Qtz are light to dark green, similar to the colouration observed in sample L-Qtz (Fig. 4d). In comparison with sample L-Qtz, there is a two-fold increase in biotite abundance, accompanied by an overall increase in grain size and the presence of contiguous bands (Fig. 4b). Biotite grains present rare finger-like protrusions into adjacent quartz grains and quartz-quartz boundaries (Fig. 5a-c). The protrusions terminate with low apparent dihedral angles between the quartz-quartz grains (Fig. 5b, c). Biotite and muscovite are locally intergrown, or muscovite truncates biotite (Fig. 5b, c). A sillimanite-biotite-rich band is observed in the ribbon quartz domains and is highlighted by blue arrows in Fig. 4. In this band (at left), a circular-shaped lens contains equigranular, euhedral to subhedral biotite, plagioclase, muscovite and quartz, with the biotite interlocked with the host quartz (Figs. 4b, d and 5a). A very fine-grained Al-Si-rich alteration product after plagioclase and sillimanite, inferred to be kaolinite or pyrophyllite (labelled on figures as Alt.), occurs in grain boundaries and micro-fractures (Figs. 4b, d, e and 5a).

4. 1. 3. Medium Reacted Quartzite (M-Qtz) and Glimmerite (GL) contact (composite sample M-Qtz/GL; ~10 vol.% and ~80 vol.% biotite)

The M-Qtz and GL composite sample (field ID number GD1609C) includes the contact between a quartzite sample (labelled M-Qtz) similar in mode to H-Qtz described above and a glimmerite seam (labelled GL; both in Fig. 4c). The GL domain has 80 vol.% biotite, 8 vol.% quartz, 6 vol.% sillimanite and 6 vol.% muscovite (Fig. 4c), along with accessory zircon and monazite (see Section 4.4 for geochronology).

Quartz grains in sample M-Qtz have strong similarities in their shape and boundary morphology to those previously described for sample H-Qtz. Dissimilar to H-Qtz, 

426 unusually shaped quartz grains with complex embayment-like grain concavities and 427 protrusions are observed in proximity to the large sillimanite-rich band present in the quartzite 428 (Figs. 4c and 5d, e). These unusually shaped quartz grains present a variation in 429 crystallographic grain orientation less than or equal to 10° within the respective selected group 430 (Fig. 6c, d). Multiple quartz grains near the quartzite-glimmerite contact are surrounded by 431 biotite, where biotite-filled embayments or fractures segment quartz grains with similar 432 crystallographic orientation (highlighted by white arrows in Fig. 6e).

Biotite in sample M-Qtz displays generally similar grain shape and microstructure to that described for sample H-Qtz, with the presence of finger-like protrusions into adjacent quartz-quartz boundaries (Fig. 5d). Sillimanite occurs in bands within the quartzite in association with biotite (Figs. 4c and 6a), forming elongate prisms that contain extension fractures perpendicular to the sense of elongation. An alteration product inferred to be kaolinite or pyrophyllite is observed in the fractures (Fig. 5e).

All the major minerals show a strong preferred orientation in the GL domain (Fig. 5f). Similar to sample H-Qtz, biotite and muscovite are sometimes intergrown or truncate each other (Fig. 5f), with muscovite truncating biotite more commonly. Sillimanite has an elongate morphology similar to that observed in M-Qtz and H-Qtz samples, with fractures perpendicular to their long axes (Fig. 5e), and is likewise concentrated into bands (Fig. 4c). Some of the coarser muscovite grains show a sigmoidal shape with biotite wrapping around the larger grains (Fig. 5f). A notable higher proportion of monazite and zircon grains is observed in the GL component compared to the quartzite domain (i.e., M-Qtz) and the other L-Qtz and H-Qtz samples (see Section 4.4 for geochronology).

SEM cathodoluminescence (CL) images (Fig. 5g–j) show darker CL bands that transgress single grains of quartz. The darker luminescence intensity is also observed at the majority of quartz grain boundaries. These microstructures observed in the CL images are more common in domains where biotite mode is higher (within or close to sample GL) (Fig. 5g, h), and are less common in domains with lower biotite mode (sample M-Qtz) (Fig. 5i, j).

#### 4.2. Quantitative quartz orientation analysis

Inverse pole figure (IPF) coloured maps for both the M-Qtz and H-Qtz samples show a crystallographic preferred orientation (CPO) of quartz grains. The majority of grains contain c-axes oriented perpendicular to the stretching lineation of the sample (Fig. 7a, d).

Crystallographic orientation data for quartz grains in samples M-Qtz, GL and H-Qtz are plotted as pole figures (Fig. 7b, e). The J-index for all quartz grains in the mapping area is 2.86 and 3.35 for the composite M-Qtz/GL sample and H-Qtz sample, respectively (Fig. 7b, e). Sample M-Qtz/GL quartz CPO features a [c]-axis maximum parallel to the Z-axis and spreading 45° in the NE sector of the pole figure. <a> axes define a distribution close to the primitive circle with a main cluster for the  $\langle a \rangle$  axis at  $\sim 30-45^{\circ}$  from X-axis (Fig. 7b).

Results from the three regions delineated for the composite M-Qtz and GL sample map show a discrepancy in the quartz CPO, J- and M-index between the different regions (region 1 vs regions 2 and 3), or put simply, sample GL vs sample M-Qtz (Fig. 7a, b). Region 1 quartz CPO presents a [c]-axis maximum close to the primitive circle at ~45° from X and Y in the SE sector. This distribution of the <c> axes in region 1 contrasts from the observed <c> axes distribution close to Z for both regions 2 and 3 in sample M-Qtz. Overall, axes are more randomly distributed in region 1, i.e., sample GL, when compared to regions 2 and 3, i.e., sample M-Qtz (Fig. 7b). In regions 2 and 3, a clustering of <a> axes close to the primitive circle is distinguishable (Fig. 7b).

For quartz in sample H-Qtz, variations between regions are not as extreme as those observed for the composite M-Qtz/GL sample. The <c> axes in regions 1 and 2 are similar to the entirety of quartz in the H-Qtz sample – a NE-SW oriented girdle. However, a 

[c]-axis maximum is observed in region 1 close to the primitive circle, whereas for region 2, the two maxima are close to Z. The <a> axes show similar orientation and distribution for both regions, with a slightly greater girdle like distribution in region 1 (Fig. 7e).

The distribution of misorientation between pairs of quartz grains shows a higher proportion of angles below 60° than that expected for a random quartz distribution for the composite sample M-Qtz/GL (Fig. 7c), when compared to sample H-Qtz data (Fig. 7f). In sample M-Qtz/GL, quartz misorientation contrasts between region 1 and the full sample quartz misorientation data set (Fig. 7c). Region 1 shows a nearly perfect random distribution, whereas sample M-Qtz/GL returns a stronger correlated misorientation distribution. H-Qtz quartz misorientations are similar to sample M-Qtz/GL, a slightly correlated distribution below 60° (Fig. 7f).

Mean area weighted (MAW) quartz grain size analysis was performed for the regions of samples M-Qtz/GL and H-Qtz indicated in Fig. 7. A higher MAW quartz grain size is observed for region 2 in sample M-Qtz (1752.63 mm<sup>2</sup>) and region 1 in sample H-Qtz  $(1638.63 \text{ mm}^2)$ , compared to region 3  $(1258.39 \text{ mm}^2)$  and region 2  $(1067.04 \text{ mm}^2)$  in samples M-Qtz and H-Qtz, respectively. Quartz grains in sample GL have an order of magnitude lower MAW quartz grain size (130.73 mm<sup>2</sup>) compared to the remaining regions described above (Fig. 8).

#### 4.3. Geochemistry

#### 4.3.1. Glimmerite whole-rock major oxides

Harker diagrams for whole rock compositions of representative samples of the Strangways Metamorphic Complex (SMC; Fig. 1), including ferromagnesian granulites, quartzo-feldspathic granulites, metasedimentary rocks and the schistose high-strain zones that cut them (Table S2), are compared with data from sample GL in Fig. 9. The felsic and mafic

granulites generally form a distribution similar to fractionation trends in igneous suites (e.g., Winter, 2013; Frost & Frost, 2013). Data for granulite facies metasedimentary rocks of the SMC and the schistose high-strain zones largely follow the same trends, forming a distribution from lower SiO<sub>2</sub> metapelitic rocks to higher SiO<sub>2</sub> metapsammitic rocks. Quartzo-feldspathic granulites are distinct in their high SiO<sub>2</sub> content and lower concentrations of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, FeO, and MgO. Data for schistose high-strain zones is difficult to distinguish from the geochemical pattern of metasedimentary rocks, having generally lower K<sub>2</sub>O concentrations. Sample GL has lower Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, higher K<sub>2</sub>O and higher TiO<sub>2</sub> compared to the majority of the other rocks from schistose high-strain zones in the SMC, and lower concentration of TiO<sub>2</sub> and FeO compared to average biotite in peraluminous granite (Neiva et al., 2002).

#### 4.3.2. Mineral major element chemistry and geothermobarometry

The totals for added H<sub>2</sub>O in biotite from all samples averages 3.97 wt% (Table 1 and Table S1). Biotite in sample L-Qtz has variable composition, whereas biotite in the remaining samples is relatively homogeneous (Table 1 and Table S1; Fig. 10a-c). Comparison between samples reveals a higher biotite TiO<sub>2</sub> content (ranging from 0.29 to 2.7 wt%) and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> content (16.64 to 22.03 wt%) from sample L-Qtz to samples H-Qtz/GL (Table 1 and Table S1). Conversely,  $X_{Mg}$  [= Mg/(Fe+Mg)] is higher in sample L-Qtz relative to sample H-Qtz (Fig. 10a). Biotite compositions in all samples have moderate concentrations of F (average 0.71 wt%) and Cl (average 0.26 wt%; Table 1 and Table S1) compared to published igneous biotite data (Neiva et al., 2002; Cesare et al., 2008).

Fig. 10b employs the Nachit et al. (1985) biotite classification and the vast majority of biotite analyses (~90%) plot in the combined peraluminous fluid domain and overlap with igneous biotite data from Stussi & Cuney (1996). Samples H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL plot tightly in the same region of the diagram, each cluster showing a minor range in Al and

Mg. In contrast, biotite from sample L-Qtz contains noticeably higher Mg and a broader range of values (Fig. 10b). Using the Nachit et al. (2005) biotite classification diagram (Fig. 10c), based on the assumption that the magmatic biotite composition (primary biotite) is altered with hydrothermal interaction (reequilibrated biotite) or neocrystallisation at equilibrium with that fluid (neoformed biotite), analyses from samples M-Qtz, H-Qtz and GL cluster within the reequilibrated biotite domain and adjacent to the primary biotite domain, whereas sample L-Qtz is scattered between the neoformed and reequilibrated domains (Fig. 10c). 

A plot of Ti a.p.f.u. vs  $X_{Mg}$  shows a trend of increasing Ti with decreasing  $X_{Mg}$ in biotite from samples L-Qtz to M-Qtz/GL (Fig. 10a). The application of the Ti-in-biotite thermometer of Henry et al. (2005) indicates highly variable minimum formation temperatures,  $300-570 \pm 50^{\circ}$ C for sample L-Qtz,  $\sim 630 \pm 50^{\circ}$ C for biotite in the quartzite and glimmerite domains of sample M-Qtz/GL, and  $\sim 660 \pm 50^{\circ}$ C for sample H-Qtz (Fig. 10d). In samples where phengite is present (H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL), the Si-in-phengite geobarometer of Massonne & Schreyer (1987) was applied. Phengite from these samples has Al slightly lower than 3.1 a.p.f.u., which in combination with the Ti-in-biotite thermometer (Henry et al., 2005) allows us to discriminate their pressure of formation at  $\sim$ 5–6 kbar (Fig. 10d).

#### 4.3.3. Biotite trace element chemistry

For all samples, the biotite concentrations for Zr, Hf, Nb and Ta (Table 2 and Table S3) normalised to chondrite (McDonough & Sun, 1995) follow similar patterns. Zr values are consistently below chondrite (Fig. 11a-c), except for a single biotite analysis from the M-Qtz/GL sample (Fig. 11c). Hf values are likewise depleted but to a lesser extent (Fig. 11a-c), except the distinctive Zr-enriched biotite grain conjointly enriched in Hf (Fig. 11c). In contrast, Nb and Ta show consistently enriched values (Fig. 11a-c). A distinction in Nb and Ta concentration is observed between the values for sample L-Qtz and the other samples (H-

Qtz and M-Qtz/GL), with the former having lower Nb concentrations (Figs. 11a-c), but with equivalent values of Ta (L-Qtz ~167-232; pair H-Qtz ~143-225 times chondrite; Table 2 and Table S3; Figs. 11a–c and 12).

Biotite compositions in all samples have a consistent depletion in rare-earth elements (REE) compared to the chondrite values (Table 2 and Table S3; Fig. 11a-c). Similar relations are observed for all chondrite-normalised REE patterns, with a small decrease in LREE trending down from La to Sm in comparison to the HREE (Fig. 11a-c). Compared to biotite in samples H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL, sample L-Qtz shows less variability and a general increase in normalised LREE concentrations (Fig. 11a-c). Overall, biotite HREE patterns are concave-up due to higher Lu normalised concentrations relative to the remaining HREE. Pronounced positive Eu anomalies are evident for sample H-Qtz and the combined M-Qtz and GL biotite analyses (Fig. 11a-c), with a slightly smaller anomaly for sample L-Qtz.

Fig. 11d and Table S4 contain compilations of published values and sample descriptions for natural and experimental igneous and metamorphic biotite normalised to chondrite (McDonough & Sun, 1995). The Gough Dam samples have lower normalised concentrations of Zr, Hf and REE compared to the compiled data, but have similar values of Nb and Ta, especially in relation to the metapelitic peraluminous El Hoyazo enclaves (Fig. 11; Cesare et al., 1997; Acosta-Vigil et al., 2010) and the peraluminous migmatite biotite of Bea et al. (1994b). 

Two groups of biotite composition are distinguishable on bivariate plots of Ba, Sc, Nb/Ta and Li versus Ti (Fig. 12). Sample L-Qtz is depleted compared to H-Qtz and the combined M-Qtz and GL biotite analyses, with the pooled data forming a positive correlation trend. The enrichment trend is also visible if compared to El Hoyazo biotite (Acosta-Vigil et al., 2010), which plots as either the most Ba and Li enriched analyses or at equivalent Nb/Ta and Sc concentrations with samples H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL (Fig. 12). Within the group of Nb-

enriched biotite (samples H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL), Nb/Ta values above the chondritic concentrations of McDonough & Sun (1995) is observed for H-Otz and the combined M-Qtz/GL samples. In general, the order of Ba, Li and Sc in biotite concentration is observed as  $L-Qtz < M-Qtz/GL \le H-Qtz$ .

4. 4. Geochronology (U-Pb monazite) 

Monazite grains from samples GL (higher biotite vol%; Fig. 13a-b) and M-Qtz (lower biotite vol%; Fig. 13c–d) are generally located in contact with biotite and sillimanite, with few grains adjacent to or in contact with quartz grain boundaries or quartz fractures. Monazite grains are rounded to elongate and commonly 50–200 µm in the longest dimension (Fig. 14a), but with size range of  $\sim$ 30–200 µm. Several grains show zonation in BSE images, usually with a higher BSE response in core domains or multiple zones of variable BSE responses (Fig. 14a). Curved, inward-penetrating boundaries and cross-cutting textures are visible in some grains between core and rim domains. Thorite inclusions (after monazite) are mostly contained in brighter zones near grain boundaries or in micro-fractures (Fig. 14a). The remaining monazite grains are mostly smaller ( $< 100 \mu m$ ) and do not display any observable BSE zonation.

In all, 56 U-Pb spot analyses on 39 monazite grains from sample M-Qtz/GL were obtained using LA-ICP-MS. Data with < 2% discordance show two discernible age groups (Fig. 14b and Table S5): (i) Palaeoproterozoic ages ranging from  $1740 \pm 16$  Ma to 1630  $\pm$  19 Ma with a density age estimation at c. 1669 Ma (all located in sample M-Qtz); and (ii) Neoproterozoic to Palaeozoic ages ranging from  $606.1 \pm 5.8$  Ma to  $370.9 \pm 3.6$  Ma with a density age estimation at c. 451 Ma. The remaining discordant analyses from sample M-Qtz fit a linear regression with an upper intercept age of  $1669 \pm 4.6$  Ma and a lower intercept age of  $482 \pm 2.5$  Ma, resulting in a high MSWD of 11 due to significant dispersion (Fig. 14b). The 

majority of these analyses are spread along the discordia line towards its upper intercept, with
the remaining analyses together with those of sample GL forming a concordant but widely
spread Palaeozoic age group, creating a complex age distribution at the lower intercept (Fig.
14b).

The obtained monazite ages are not homogenously distributed throughout samples M-Qtz and GL (Fig. 14 and Fig. S1). All the Early Palaeoproterozoic ages are derived from sample M-Qtz, which also contains isolated grain clusters that record a spread of Neoproterozoic-Palaeozoic ages (Fig. S1). In contrast, the adjacent glimmerite component (sample GL) hosts monazite with a much narrower age range, with most monazite returning Palaeozoic ages and a greater proportion falling within the age bounds of the ASO (*c*. 450– 300 Ma; Fig. 14 and Fig. S1). Discordant ages from both samples are derived from rim domains and/or monazite grains with lower BSE response zones (Fig. 14a).

#### **5. DISCUSSION**

#### 5 5. 1. Conditions and timing of glimmerite formation

Combined petrography, mineral geochemistry and monazite geochronology across the cm-scale transect of variably modified quartzites from the GDSZ provides insight into the geological environment and *P-T-t* evolution responsible for their conversion to glimmerite. The *P-T* estimation using mica in the studied samples suggests mid-crustal conditions of P > 4-5 kbar and T > 570-660°C (Fig. 10), similar to previously published conditions from the GDSZ and other Palaeozoic shear zones in the Strangways region (Ballèvre *et al.*, 2000; Bendall, 2000). Due to the lack of graphite and Ti-bearing accessory minerals in all samples, temperature estimates are minimum values. Note that this also influences the pressure estimates, suggesting they are likewise minimum values. The upper end of the calculated temperature range lies above the hydrous granite solidus and is consistent with field observations of syn-deformational granitic lenses in the GDSZ (Fig. 2e), along with
microstructural evidence for the former presence of melt (Figs. 3 and 5; see Section 5.2).

The relationship between age and textural position of monazite grains in the studied samples suggests that the precursor quartzite initially experienced metamorphism during the Strangways Event (c. 1735-1690 Ma), followed by a subsequent metamorphic overprint during the Alice Springs Orogeny (c. 450–300 Ma) that is largely recorded in the cross-cutting glimmerite (Fig. 14). The morphology and zonation of the monazite grains (e.g., inward-penetrating boundary interfaces, radial or spotted domains of lower BSE intensity, porous textures usually present near monazite rims and micro-fractures, and thorite inclusions near micro-fractures) suggests that they were modified by fluid-assisted (melt-assisted) coupled dissolution-precipitation reactions (Fig. 14a; Ruiz-Agudo et al., 2014; Varga et al., 2020). The lower intercept age of c. 482 Ma intersects a significant spread of Neoproterozoic to Palaeozoic apparent ages (c. 606-371 Ma; Fig. 14). These complex age data can be interpreted in two ways: (i) the individual analyses are geologically meaningful and reflect multiple reactivation and fluid flow events in the GDSZ; or (ii) the data reflect partial age-resetting of inherited monazite grains during one or more Palaeozoic reactivation and fluid flow events in the GDSZ.

Coupled dissolution-precipitation experiments have demonstrated that the replacement of precursor monazite can be incomplete, either (i) forming nanomixtures of old and new monazite (Grand'Homme *et al.*, 2016, 2018); or (ii) imperfectly resetting inherited grains (Varga *et al.*, 2020). Temperature and other physicochemical parameters (i.e., fluid composition, mineral composition, solubility, primary zoning, stress, reaction kinetics) greatly affect the replacement mechanism that redistributes U-Pb cargo in the precipitated monazite (Ruiz-Agudo *et al.*, 2014; Grand'Homme *et al.*, 2016, 2018; Varga *et al.*, 2020). Additional detailed nano-scale studies of the monazite reaction front microstructures (i.e., nanocracks, dislocations, pores/inclusions) are therefore necessary to better understand the exact extent of monazite partial age resetting and significance of the age spread observed in Fig. 14b. As such, we prefer the interpretation that the Neoproterozoic to Palaeozoic dates from individual monazite grains in this study are unlikely to be geologically meaningful. The younger age cluster ending at c. 370 Ma cannot be used to precisely date the timing of glimmerite formation, beyond stating that it aligns with the Alice Springs Orogeny.

Despite this, the spread of concordant ages across this interval may hold some utility in establishing the broad context for melt-rock interaction. Notably, the most significant age peak from the kernel density estimation occurs at c. 451 Ma (Fig. 14b), consistent with U-Pb monazite ages from similar shear zones of the Strangways Range (Möller et al., 1999; Howlett et al., 2014; Fournier et al., 2016). This timing reflects the earliest onset of the Alice Springs Orogeny recorded regionally (Mawby et al., 1999; Raimondo et al., 2014), perhaps suggesting a peak in melt-rock interaction and the replacement or resetting of inherited monazite driven by large-scale changes to deep crustal architecture and basin dynamics that initiated at this time. Similarly, the youngest monazite age of c. 370 Ma most probably represents the last recorded stage of overprinting metamorphism and/or monazite resetting, perhaps due to either (i) the cessation of melt migration in the shear zone; or (ii) shear zone armouring physically buffering melt interaction with the monazite grains incompletely reset by coupled dissolution-precipitation processes (Daczko et al., 2016; Varga et al., 2020).

# 5.2. Microstructural evidence for melt-present deformation

Of the five key microstructures indicative of the former presence of melt in high-strain zones outlined by Stuart et al. (2018b), four were observed in the GDSZ samples: (1) small dihedral angles between biotite, muscovite, plagioclase, magnetite and quartz (Figs. 3 and 5b, c); (2) elongated grain boundary films pseudomorphed by biotite (Figs. 3 and 5a-e);

(3) neighbourhoods of small quartz grains connected in three dimensions (Figs. 4c and 6c, d), presenting less than ten degrees of crystallographic misorientation between grains; (4) pseudomorphs of inferred cm-scale granitic melt pockets (Fig. 4b, d). Other microstructures that support the interpretation of melt-present deformation in the GDSZ include myrmekitic intergrowth of quartz and plagioclase (Fig. 3b, f and h), biotite finger-like protrusions into adjacent quartz grains (Fig. 5a-d) and CL images highlighting bands of darker CL response in quartz near biotite (Fig. 5g-j), possibly reflecting microscale fracturing, melt migration pathways or a CL signature of quartz grain boundary migration (Holness & Watt, 2001; Bergman & Piazolo, 2012).

Quartz crystallographic orientation data also supports the former presence of melt in the GDSZ. Quartz grains in the H-Qtz and M-Qtz samples have a strong CPO, whereas quartz grains present in sample GL have a weak CPO and apparent activation of multiple slip systems (Fig. 7). The strong CPO for the highly strained quartzite represented by H-Qtz and M-Qtz samples is not accompanied by intense recrystallisation of the quartz grains. Rather, they record widespread grain boundary migration, implying deformation temperatures > 500°C (Stipp et al., 2002a, b). The observed CPO in quartzite is most probably an inherited structure formed at granulite facies, suggesting that the prism <a> slip system was activated during the Strangways Event rather than the ASO. This interpretation is informed by the lack of plastic shear band microstructures in the quartzite samples and quartz grains (Gapais & White, 1982; Menegon et al., 2011) or quartz grain size reduction by recrystallisation (Hobbs, 1968; Lloyd & Freeman, 1994; Lloyd, 2004; Stipp et al., 2010) (Figs. 4b, c, 7 and 8). The absence of these features supports that melt flux pathways initiated within the quartzite mylonite, subsequently crystallising biotite-sillimanite-muscovite and resulted from shear or dilation fractures in a brittle regime (Lloyd & Knipe, 1992).

Alongside the deformation processes documented above, diffusion or

dissolution-precipitation creep likely played a role in quartz deformation within the proposed fluid saturated high-strain zone (Farver & Yund, 2000; Bestmann et al., 2004). However, the presence of fluid could imply reaction with quartz grains and silica loss to the local open system, undercutting these creep processes (Farver & Yund, 2000). Small quartz grains in sample GL (Fig. 7a) have a weak CPO and apparent activation of multiple slip systems (Fig. 7b, c), suggesting that they are not relict grains from the main quartzite present in sample M-Qtz, but instead are the product of neoformed quartz grains that may reflect melt pseudomorphs. These results are consistent with the concomitant deformation of quartz grains in the presence of melt, causing strain to be accommodated into the weaker surrounding melt and preventing the development of a strong CPO similar to that observed for quartz grains in samples M- and H-Qtz (Fig. 7; Lee et al., 2018; Stuart et al., 2018b; Prakash et al., 2018).

A larger mean quartz grain size is observed in domains of the quartzite samples close or in contact with the inferred melt pathways (Fig. 8). This may be explained by a local increase in temperature due to melt flux (Fig. 7a, d), leading to static grain growth and recovery of quartz grains in samples M-Qtz (close to glimmerite) and H-Qtz (distant from glimmerite). An enhanced local effect suggests that melt flux was short-lived and probably involved several pulses, rather than a continuous and long-lived event that would anneal a larger area of the sample (Heilbronner & Tullis, 2002; Piazolo et al., 2006). During annealing, grain boundaries migrate to cross biotite boundaries (e.g., Piazolo et al., 2006), matching the increase in biotite enclosure with proximity to the inferred melt pathways (Figs. 6e and 7). Furthermore, subgrain boundaries are rearranged and decrease in abundance (e.g., Borthwick & Piazolo, 2010), while the intensity of CPO simultaneously increases (Piazolo et al., 2010). The much smaller mean size of quartz present in sample GL can be related to its neoformation by melt pseudomorphism as previously described.

Taken individually, the microstructures described above are not sufficient

evidence to argue convincingly for the former presence of quartzo-feldspathic melt in high-strain zones. However, it is the combination and consistency of several key microstructural features that lends weight to our interpretation. It should also be noted that preservation of such, often delicate, microstructures is highly dependent on subsequent metamorphic and tectonic overprinting during the retrograde path, which can potentially obliterate indicators of former melt presence (Holness et al., 2011). This suggests that once the melt had crystallised, the quartzites were rheologically strong, enabling their microstructural features to be preserved.

#### 5.3. Glimmerite geochemistry and links to melt-rock interaction processes

Comparing the whole rock major oxide geochemistry of sample GL against the range of precursor rock types present in the SMC is necessary to understand the chemical evolution between the different glimmerite rocks present in the study area and their possible protoliths. This analysis reveals that the glimmerite composition generally plots between the major oxide values for ferromagnesian granulites, schistose high-strain zone metapelites and average peraluminous granitic biotite (Fig. 9). It does not demonstrate a strong relationship between the glimmerite rock observed in the GDSZ and the surrounding rocks from the SMC, suggesting that glimmerite formation involved a high degree of geochemical modification (i.e., metasomatism s.l.). We infer that reactive flow of melt through high-strain zones led to the near-complete dissolution of a SMC protolith, likely one of the quartzo-feldspathic rocks based on the scarcely preserved layers and lenses within the glimmerite outcrop. Coupled precipitation of abundant biotite pushed the whole rock composition of the resulting glimmerite rock to values similar to the average composition of peraluminous granitic biotite (Fig. 9).

Biotite geochemistry affords more detailed insights into the mechanism of meltpresent deformation driving glimmerite formation in the GDSZ. Micas (particularly biotite) dominate both the glimmerite mineral assemblage and the inferred reactive melt pathways

within the partially modified quartzite samples (Figs. 2d-i, 4-7). Low to moderate F and Cl concentrations (< 1 wt%; Table 1 and Table S1) suggest their formation from a halogendepleted melt in an open system. This interpretation is based on the recognition of F- and Clenriched biotite commonly being formed by halogen-enriched aqueous fluid-rock interaction in high-grade metamorphic rocks where fluid flux was limited (Markl & Bucher, 1998; Markl & Piazolo, 1998; Aranovich & Safonov, 2018). In these case studies of metamorphic fluids, a correlation between halogen-enriched fluids and halogen-enriched biotite reaction formation could be made.

The discrimination of biotite formed at supra-solidus versus sub-solidus conditions is not straightforward. Here, the discrimination diagram of Nachit et al. (1985) is used, based on the inference of melt-present conditions (Fig. 10b). The diagram is potentially useful to inform on the type of melt involved in the formation of glimmerite. The peraluminosity of the melt is inferred from the aluminium content of the equilibrated crystalised biotite (Nachit et al., 1985; Stussi & Cuney, 1996), and our data suggest that the glimmerite biotite shares similarities with magmatic biotite formed from and partially reequilibrated with peraluminous melt.

The highly dispersed and overall lower concentrations of Al, Ti, Fe and Mn of biotite in the L-Qtz sample likely reflects variable inheritance from the precursor quartzite over the externally-derived melt, compared to H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL biotite that are dominated by the chemistry of the melt (i.e., are melt buffered; Fig. 10). About half of the L-Qtz biotite analyses trend towards the formation conditions observed for H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL biotite, showing an increase in the apparent temperature of formation and peraluminosity of crystalising fluid, concordant with the igneous biotite data compiled by Stussi & Cuney (1996). This wide range of L-Qtz biotite compositions likely records variable but low local melt volumes in the quartzite domains and lower degrees of equilibration with the fluxing melt.
The trace element analyses of biotite in all samples shows lower chondritenormalised concentrations of REE, Zr and Hf, and higher chondrite-normalised concentrations of Nb and Ta (Figs. 11 and 12). The latter likely resulted from the high partition coefficient between biotite and granitic melt. In their experiments and analysis of natural examples, Stepanov & Herman (2013) observed that biotite in partial melting environments preferentially incorporates Nb over Ta, concluding that biotite plays an important role for the missing Nbparadox observed in the continental crust. Such behaviour of Nb incorporation over Ta in biotite is observed in our data, with most of the L-Qtz biotite grains having lower Nb concentrations and overall lower Nb/Ta ratios when compared to H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL biotite grains (Figs. 11 and 12). 

Concentrations of Zr and Hf in biotite for all samples are similar, although lower than biotite from the partially melted metapelite enclaves of El Hoyazo (Acosta-Vigil et al., 2010), and lower by 2-3 orders of magnitude when compared to rhyodacite biotite (Nash & Crecraft, 1985) (Fig. 11). The broad similarity in Zr and Hf concentrations between GDSZ and El Hoyazo biotites can be explained by the presence of abundant zircon grains in equilibrium with biotite, possibly allowing the zircon grains to buffer Zr and Hf in the melt (Acosta-Vigil et al., 2010; Nash & Crecraft, 1985). Conversely, for rhyodacite biotite it is proposed that Zr and Hf melt buffering did not occur during rhyodacite formation due to the relative timing of zircon crystallisation.

The GDSZ biotites are characterised by low REE values, with chondritenormalised concentrations below unity and slightly higher LREE over HREE (Fig. 11a–c). Such low REE concentrations are similar to the biotite REE chemistry of (i) partial melting environments of the El Hoyazo enclave; (ii) migmatite leucosomes of the Peña Negra Complex (Acosta-Vigil *et al.*, 2010; Bea *et al.*, 1994*b*); and (iii) closed system fractional crystallisation from peraluminous melt of the Pedrobernardo pluton (Bea *et al.*, 1994*a*) (Fig. 11d). The REE-

depleted patterns observed for El Hoyazo, Peña Negra and Pedrobernardo biotites (Table S4 and Fig. 11d) are consistent with the presence of accessory minerals with higher REE mineral/melt partitioning ratios (i.e., monazite, zircon and apatite), or by REE-depleted melt due to REE retention in residual accessory minerals in the palaeosome (e.g., Prent et al., 2019; Gonçalves et al., 2021). Either of these mechanisms, or a combination of both, can be considered viable explanations for the biotite REE compositions of H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL samples in our study, due to the presence of monazite and apatite in equilibrium with the glimmerite mineral assemblage, or the externally-derived melt becoming depleted in REE following crystallisation and fractionation of mineral phases rich in REE during prior melt flow. 

Another explanation for the REE-depleted signature of GDSZ biotites may be a smaller equilibration volume and/or variable composition of the fluxing melt, as proposed by Stuart et al. (2018a) for variable igneous-like mineral REE patterns measured in metasomatic reactions of the Pembroke Granulite (lower crust of a magmatic arc). Similar to this example, the presence of melt in the GDSZ is implied by the overall enrichment of incompatible elements in biotite from sample L-Qtz to the group of samples H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL (Fig. 12). The abundance of incompatible elements follows an approximately linear trend with the apparent increase in temperature informed by the increase in biotite Ti concentrations. This pattern can be attributed to a more fractionated melt enriched in incompatible elements (Cerny, 1991; O'Connor et al., 1991; Bea et al., 1994a), or an increasing melt equilibration volume from sample L-Qtz to the most reacted samples, possibly also explaining the apparent temperature difference between sample L-Qtz and sample H-Qtz. 

5.4. Estimates of reactive hydrous melt volume

In the absence of field evidence for upper crustal melt products that would have formed as a consequence of melt flux (i.e., igneous intrusions), we use the modal percentage of hydrous phases in the studied samples to estimate the reactive hydrous melt volume. We consider that the hydrous phases present are a consequence of the time-integrated volume of reactive melt flux (Daczko et al., 2016; Stuart et al., 2018a). Arrested melt flux may occur upon draining of source magma or cooling and freezing of the system. Regardless, the cessation of reactive melt flux formed the microstructures observed in the studied samples, and their patterns suggest that melt migration occurred mainly via intergranular mechanisms and was focused along structurally-controlled planes, such as the main rock foliation and mode 1 fractures potentially formed by melt pathway fluid overpressure (Sibson, 1988). In the glimmerite domain, the extreme metasomatism implies higher reactive melt flux, where the protolith is partially dissolved by the reactive melt, enhancing porosity and permeability (e.g., Daczko et al., 2016) and providing a positive feedback that allows a higher volume of melt flow and consequent increase in the formation of hydrous minerals. In this section, the minimum volume of reactive hydrous melt needed to form glimmerite is estimated for each of the Gough Dam shear zone samples. The observed increase in modal biotite and muscovite of the GDSZ can be related to a melt flow-derived hydrous metasomatism mechanism (following the method of Stuart et al., 2018a). With this interpretation in mind, the calculation of a minimum volume of reactive melt flux can be derived. 

The minimum volume of reactive melt flux is calculated considering a hypothetical cube of quartzite rock containing no hydrous phases and an H<sub>2</sub>O content close to 0%. The proportions and average H<sub>2</sub>O content of the hydrous phases formed during the meltrock hydrous metasomatism (i.e., biotite and muscovite in this study) are used to calculate the final H<sub>2</sub>O composition of our hypothetical quartzite cube. Calculated H<sub>2</sub>O content for biotite and muscovite from EMP analyses are 3.97 wt% (n = 55) and 4.44 wt% (n = 13), respectively

 (Table 1 and Table S1). Totalling the proportion of biotite and muscovite in each sample gives
the final H<sub>2</sub>O content of 0.3 wt% and 0.7 wt% for samples L-Qtz and H-Qtz, respectively
(Table 3).

The reactive melt flux is calculated by using the volume of melt necessary to drive the increase in H<sub>2</sub>O content. Four melts of variable H<sub>2</sub>O content are considered (with 3, 6, 9 and 12 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O), which represent a typical range of water content in granitic melts (Holtz et al., 2001). Two simplifying theoretical assumptions are made: (1) the totality of the H<sub>2</sub>O present in the melt is partitioned into the new hydrous phases; and (2) melt flux is homogeneous throughout the rock cube. In nature, this perfect behaviour of H<sub>2</sub>O partitioning and homogeneous flux would not necessarily be expected. The model is also restricted by disregarding some anhydrous phases (plagioclase, sillimanite, K-feldspar) into the H<sub>2</sub>O partition calculation, leading to an underestimation of the amount of melt flux for sample H-Qtz. Further support for an underestimation of melt flux is based on the fact that there is the possibility of armoured and unreactive melt flux following formation of glimmerite layers, analogous to hornblendite channels observed in arc environments (Daczko et al., 2016; Stuart et al., 2018a) or dunite channels observed in mantle rocks (Kelemen et al., 1995). Calculated minimum melt flux volumes range between 0.03 to 0.23 m<sup>3</sup> of melt per m<sup>3</sup> of rock (Table 3). Values of melt flux volume vary according to the interplay of the initial H<sub>2</sub>O present in the fluxing melt and the proportion of reactive hydrous phases observed in the samples. Sample L-Qtz shows the lowest values of melt flux (0.03–0.12 m<sup>3</sup>), with H-Qtz approximately doubling the L-Qtz melt flux values (0.06–0.23 m<sup>3</sup>). Unfortunately, upper crustal rocks that may contain the crystallised products of the unreacted flowing melt are not preserved in the GDSZ (Fig. 1). Attempting a volume estimation of the igneous bodies formed from the channelised melt flowing through the armoured shear zone is thus not possible, making the obtained values of melt flux the absolute minimum necessary for the observed glimmerite hydration reactions.

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#### 5.5. Model for glimmerite schist belt formation and its geotectonic significance

Our proposed model for glimmerite schist belt formation is summarised in Fig. 15. It evolves from an initial stage of melt influx advancing upward within the GDSZ along pre-existing anisotropies within the original rock packages (Fig. 15a), to a final stage of highstrain zone metasomatism resulting in glimmerite formation as a consequence of hydrous peraluminous melt interaction with adjacent anhydrous rocks (Fig. 15b, c). During the initial stage, channelised melt flow within the high-strain zone causes strength contrasts between rock packages that drive the formation of orthogonal extensional fractures, further increasing the surface area for melt-rock interaction and promoting the formation of glimmerite (Fig. 15c). The growth of extensional fractures towards the centre of the high-strain zone allows for the creation of additional interconnected melt pathways, enhancing the glimmerite formation process in the high-strain zone and increasing the size of granite lenses and sheets towards the centre of the shear zone (Fig. 15b).

The interpreted evolution of the GDSZ is distinct to the seminal examples of glimmerite formation driven by metasomatism of mantle rocks (Becker et al., 1999; Grégoire et al., 2002; Rajesh et al., 2004). The "classic" glimmerite rocks generally show a spatial relationship in outcrop between mantle rocks and either a K-rich metasome with or without a third component involving felsic igneous intrusions (Fyfe & McBirney, 1975; Wyllie & Sekine, 1982; Rakotondrazafy et al., 1997; Fuertes-Fuente et al., 2000). The K-rich mantle metasomes are characterised by an assemblage composed usually of biotite + amphibole  $\pm$ pyroxene (Menzies & Murthy, 1980; Smart et al., 2019). These characteristics of "classic" glimmerites are not observed in sample GL. However, similarities between our proposed mode of glimmerite formation and the classic examples include melt-rock interaction involving a felsic melt, and modification of a protolithic rock (felsic versus ultramafic) by melt-mediated 900 coupled dissolution-precipitation, forming abundant biotite (Figs. 4–7). Genetically and 901 mineralogically, sample GL shows a higher degree of similarity to the formation of "back 902 reactive melanosome" in anatectic migmatites described by Kriegsman (2001). In that model, 903 locally-derived in-situ melt is argued to interact with the mesosome. This diverges from our 904 proposed mode of protolith (quartzite) modification and glimmerite formation, where we 905 invoke an externally-sourced melt to drive dissolution of protolith minerals and precipitation 906 of glimmerite minerals, mainly quartz and biotite, respectively.

We now put our model of melt migration and deformation within GDSZ into the context of crustal evolution. A key feature of the Earth's crust is its layered character mainly based on chemical composition, with the upper crust having a higher silicic bulk composition and concentration of granitic material compared with the more ferromagnesian bulk composition of the lower crust (Vigneresse, 1995; Brown & Rushmer, 2006). Deeply seated high-strain zones in the lower to middle crust are considered part of the crustal system for melt migration (Brown & Solar, 1998; Daczko et al., 2016). Zones of dominantly flattening strain function as major pathways for the ascent of melt originating from anatectic processes in the lower to middle crust and are partially responsible for batch mass transfer of melt to the upper crust (Hutton, 1988; Brown & Solar, 1999; Sawyer et al., 2011; Daczko et al., 2016; Etheridge et al., 2020), as exemplified by the proposed transfer of melt throughout high-strain zones in our model of glimmerite schist belt formation (Fig. 15).

In the dehydrated middle to lower crust, the influx of locally- or externallyderived fluids forms pronounced local chemical gradients between fluid and rock, which when paired with high differential stresses, enhances metamorphic reactions (Putnis & Austrheim, 2010; Wheeler, 2014; Stuart *et al.*, 2016, 2017). If the fluid has high enough water fugacity, exothermic hydration (or retrograde) metamorphic reactions of anhydrous minerals will occur. The intracontinental Alice Springs Orogeny, involving the GDSZ in particular and possibly other equivalent shear zones in central Australia, are good examples of melt flow pathways in
high-strain zones that lead to melt-rock interaction and hydration of protolith granulites. This
process is proposed as the source of peraluminous melt that initially fluxed through pre-existing
rock anisotropies leading to the formation of glimmerite schist belts (Fig. 15).

The physical presence of melt and metamorphic reactions that produce rheologically weak minerals in high-strain zones (i.e., reaction softening) favour a decrease in the strength of the affected rocks. This increases the accommodation of strain transmitted from the surrounding and more competent host rocks, and facilitates strain localisation to enhance the displacement across the high-strain zone (Hollister & Crawford, 1986; Brown & Solar, 1998; Molnar & Dayem, 2010; Cunningham, 2013; Piazolo et al., 2020). Reaction softening such as that presented in this study, characterised by the formation of layers with high proportions of phyllosilicates within a competent anhydrous granulite terrane (Figs. 2 and 15), can be considered a textbook example of decreased rock strength, enabling deformation accommodation and consequent strain localisation within structures such as the GDSZ. However, we do not observe classic solid-state deformation microstructures in any of our samples, suggesting that either (1) melt was involved in any/all reactivation events, forming microstructures indicative of the former presence of melt each time; or (2) differential stresses at the continental interior were never high enough to reactivate reaction softened high-strain zones.

Weakening of deforming rocks is proposed by various authors as an important mechanism to enhance orogenesis, especially true for far-field contractional intracontinental orogenies (e.g., Alice Springs and Altai orogenies; Hand & Sandiford, 1999; Raimondo *et al.*, 2014; Cunningham, 2005; Silva *et al.*, 2018; Piazolo *et al.*, 2020), where differential stresses are comparatively lower compared to those observed in areas proximal to collisional plate boundaries (Coblentz *et al.*, 1998; Heidbach *et al.*, 2010). Moreover, weakened rocks are

described by various authors to be significant in the multiple reactivation events documented for the ASO (Raimondo et al., 2014; Silva et al., 2018; Piazolo et al., 2020), because they facilitate the accommodation of lithospheric horizontal stresses during increased early Palaeozoic dextral rotation of the northern Australian block (Roberts & Houseman, 2001; Silva et al., 2018). The formation and presence of meter-scale glimmerites, such as we document here in the GDSZ and characterise hydrated high-strain zones elsewhere in the SMC (Fig. 1), indicates that this specific rock type, characterised by its intrinsic low competence and enhanced by the physical presence of melt, was an ideal candidate to intensify intracontinental orogenesis in central Australia.

#### **6. CONCLUSIONS**

Glimmerite schists in the study area of the Gough Dam shear zone (GDSZ) formed during the Palaeozoic Alice Springs Orogeny (ASO) by the migration of a hydrous peraluminous melt and its interaction with granulite protoliths of quartzo-feldspathic composition. In addition to melt migration through high-strain rocks, fractures parallel and perpendicular to the shear zone foliation created melt pathways that enhanced melt infiltration into the protolith. High-temperature melt-rock interaction at conditions close to the melt liquidus promoted dissolution of the protolith and precipitation of abundant biotite. Localised temperature-dependent quartz grain growth recovery is observed in highly organised modified quartzite mylonite, whereas a random quartz grain orientation is observed in glimmerite. The mode of hydrous minerals in the various rock types is inferred to relate to variable timeintegrated volumes of reactive melt flux. Zones of higher time-integrated melt flux through the shear zone show increased equilibration and homogenisation of the neoformed hydrous minerals. For example, a calculated melt flux between 0.06–0.23 m<sup>3</sup> per m<sup>3</sup> of rock allowed an increase in hydrous minerals within the host rock of 8–17 vol%, concomitantly increasing the

concentration of trace elements (Ti, Nb, Zr, Hf, Sc, Ba and Li) and REE (mostly Eu). Inherited monazite with ages aligned with the c. 1735-1690 Ma Strangways Event is variably reset to early-ASO ages (c. 450 Ma) by coupled dissolution-precipitation processes, indicating that the mobility of Pb was low and leading to high dispersion in the age population. The formation of glimmerite schist in anhydrous terranes may be an important mechanism for stress localisation and by consequence strain localisation, facilitating orogenesis in intracontinental regions as we propose for the ASO. 

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#### 1000 SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

01 Supplementary materials are available at Gondwana Research online.

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#### 91501 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

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 $^{11}_{12}$ 1502 Fig. 1. Generalised geological map of the southeastern Arunta Region, emphasising the 131503 distribution of regional schistose high strain zones (yellow structures numbered on map) that 151504cross-cut the dominantly granulite and amphibolite facies rocks comprising this basement  $\begin{smallmatrix}16\\171505\end{smallmatrix}$ terrane. Also represented are the regional anastomosing high-strain zones and thrust faults. <sup>18</sup><sub>19</sub>1506 <sup>20</sup><sub>21</sub>1507 <sup>22</sup>1508 <sup>23</sup> Simplified structural cross-section A-A' (modified after Raimondo et al., 2014) shows the principal crustal discontinuities and high-strain zones in the Arunta Region associated with the Alice Springs Orogeny (Collins & Teyssier, 1989; Ballèvre et al., 2000; Maidment, 2005; 24**1509** 25 Raimondo et al., 2011; Scrimgeour, 2013). Regional high strain zones: #1 Gough Dam shear 25 261510 27 281511 <sup>29</sup>301512 <sup>31</sup>1513 <sup>33</sup>1513 <sup>33</sup>1514 <sup>35</sup>1515 zone (GDSZ); #2 West Bore shear zone; #3 Wallaby Knob shear zone; #4 Yambah shear zone; #5 Southern Cross shear zone; #6 Harry Creek shear zone (HCSZ); #7 Erontonga/Two Mile Bore shear zone; #8 Illogwa shear zone; #9 Delny shear zone; #10 Yalbadjandi shear zone. AB, Amadeus Basin; GB, Georgina Basin; HRG, Harts Range Group; SMC, Strangways Metamorphic Complex; RAR, Reynolds-Anmatjira Ranges.

371516 Fig. 2. Photographs of outcrops and collected samples representative of strained rocks in the <sup>38</sup> <sub>39</sub>1517 <sup>40</sup> <sub>41</sub>1518 <sup>42</sup> <sub>43</sub>1519 Gough Dam shear zone, from (a) outer area of the shear zone; (b, c) adjacent to the central area of the shear zone; and (d-i) central area of the shear zone. (d) Outcrop looking west of meterscale glimmerite schist with a well-developed foliation (S1, white line) that contains layers and  $^{4\,4}_{4\,5}1520$ lenses of felsic rock types (i.e., granitic gneiss and quartzite mylonite). Elongated quartzite 461521 mylonite (along S1) and granitic gneiss bodies are surrounded by glimmerite schist. Field sense 47 481522 of shear is north-up reverse (along a steeply-plunging L1); (e) Granitic gneiss elongated along <sup>49</sup><sub>50</sub>1523 S1 surrounded by glimmerite schist and granite lenses. Granite lenses in glimmerite schist are <sup>51</sup><sub>52</sub>1524 elongate parallel to S1 foliation. Glimmerite embayments (white arrows) are observed in the <sup>53</sup><sub>54</sub>1525 granitic gneiss body; (f) Magnification of granitic gneiss lenses 'invaded' by glimmerite along 551526 fractures at a high angle to the foliation; (g) Quartzite mylonite in glimmerite schist unit 571527 surrounded and cross-cut at a high angle to the foliation by glimmerite seams. Some K-feldspar 591528 grains are present in the glimmerite schist; (h) Magnification of the sampled quartzite mylonite

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hosting sample GD1609A (L-Qtz) within the glimmerite schist unit surrounded by glimmerite seams. Less glimmerite 'invaded' along high angle fractures to the foliation is observed; (i) Quartzite mylonite samples GD1609B–C (H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL samples, respectively). Glimmerite seams warp around and 'invade' the quartzite mylonite, involving most of the H-Qtz sample.

Fig. 3. Back-scattered electron (BSE) images of thin sections from (a) to (d) granite mylonite outcrop in Fig 2a; (e) to (h) glimmerite schist outcrop in Fig 2b; and (i) to (l) glimmerite schist outcrop in Fig 2c, containing the following microstructures highlighted by coloured triangles: yellow – interstitial grains and/or finger-like protrusions; blue – grains terminating with apparent low dihedral angles; purple – myrmekitic intergrowth of quartz and plagioclase; green – triple junction of K-feldspar grains presenting straight grain boundaries and ~120° dihedral angles. Mineral abbreviations follow Whitney & Evans (2010).

**Fig. 4.** Petrography and X-ray elemental mapping of quartzite samples L-Qtz, H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL. (a–c) Crossed-polarised light thin section photomicrographs in top image and thin section  $\mu$ -XRF maps in bottom image. Magenta triangles highlight high grain mobility features in quartz grains; blue triangles highlight bands rich in sillimanite that are inferred to be former melt migration pathways and include pockets inferred to have pseudomorphed melt; (d) Planepolarised light photomicrograph of sillimanite-rich bands in sample H-Qtz (blue triangles); (e) Synchrotron X-ray elemental concentration maps of Sr and Cu for area shown in image (d) highlighting the emplacement of a cryptic Si-Al alteration product (red arrows) relative to biotite (green arrows), plagioclase (white arrows) and quartz grains (light blue arrows). Mineral abbreviations follow Whitney & Evans (2010).

**Fig. 5.** BSE and cathodoluminescence images of inferred melt microstructures present in (a–c) H-Qtz and (d–j) M-Qtz/GL samples. (a) Inferred melt pocket displayed in Fig. 4b, d and e, with peraluminous granite mineral assemblage. Biotite has interlocking boundaries with surrounding quartz and finger-like protrusions (yellow arrows); (b, c) Biotite, muscovite and sillimanite microstructures; (b) Biotite and muscovite grains presenting elongated interstitial grains/finger-like protrusions (yellow arrows) and low apparent dihedral angles (blue arrows) between other grains; (c) Biotite located in sample H-Qtz showing interlocking boundary with quartz (yellow arrow); (d–f) Biotite, muscovite and sillimanite microstructures; (d) Biotite grain presenting elongated interstitial grains/finger-like protrusions (outside field of view of

thin section shown in Fig. 4c; yellow arrows); (e) Sillimanite grains in quartzite showing perpendicular fractures filled with a cryptic alteration product of Si-Al composition (labelled Alt.); (f) Biotite and quartz grains wrapping around a large, deformed muscovite grain (outside field of view of thin section shown in Fig. 4c); (g–j) Cathodoluminescence images for selected regions in sample M-Qtz, showing quartz and biotite grain contacts. Dashed lines highlight darker luminescent regions mostly at quartz grain boundaries when in contact with biotite grains. Yellow arrows highlight narrow dark bands inferred to be healed fractures within or at quartz grain boundaries. Mineral abbreviations follow Whitney & Evans (2010).

**Fig. 6.** Euler angles and inverse pole figure (IPF) maps describing the interconnectivity of neoformed quartz grains and quartzite mylonite dissolution in M-Qtz/GL samples. (a) Crossedpolarised light thin section photomicrograph of sample M-Qtz. Blue triangles indicate sillimanite-rich bands and red triangles indicate irregular quartz grain shapes; (b) Euler map of quartz grains for the area shown in panel (a), shown in more detail in (c) and (d) where similarly oriented intragranular quartz grains are identified in respective groups adjacent to the sillimanite-rich domain; (e) Quartz IPF map for M-Qtz and GL contact zone (see Fig. 4c for location), with colour coding relative to the Z-axis and other phases shown as band contrast. Euler angle rotation is coloured as  $\psi$  - red,  $\theta$  - green and  $\varphi$  - blue.

**Fig. 7.** Description of quartz grains preferential orientation in H-Qtz, M-Qtz and GL samples; inverse pole figure (IPF) with colour coding relative to the Z-axis for (a) M-Qtz and GL samples, and (d) H-Qtz sample. Regions displayed in each sample represent individual quartz orientation calculation subsets; (b, c) and (e, f) EBSD-derived quartz crystallographic orientation pole figures and neighbouring quartz pair misorientation angle distributions (blue bars) for the respective samples and displayed regions. Note that scale bars for pole figure contouring vary between pole figures.

**Fig. 8.** Graph depicting the mean area weighted quartz grain size for the different regions shown in Fig. 7.

**Fig. 9.** Harker diagrams for whole rock major oxides (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>, FeO, MgO and K<sub>2</sub>O vs SiO<sub>2</sub>) for selected rock types present in the Strangways Metamorphic Complex, sample GL (this study) and the average biotite composition for peraluminous granites (Neiva *et al.*, 2002).

1596 See Table S2 for all data references. Standard deviation for average biotite composition1597 displayed only if larger than the symbol.

**Fig. 10.** Graphical representation of biotite geochemical evolution between all samples from main study area. (a) Ti atoms per formula unit (a.p.f.u.) vs  $X_{Mg}$  diagram for biotite from all samples; (b) Al vs Mg a.p.f.u. classification diagram for biotite in igneous rocks (after Nachit *et al.*, 1985 and Stussi & Cuney, 1996); (c) Ternary diagram TiO<sub>2</sub> x 10-(FeO + Mn)-MgO for discrimination between primary magmatic, reequilibrated and neoformed biotites (Nachit *et al.*, 2005); (d) *P-T* diagram for Gough Dam shear zone samples, using Ti in biotite for temperature (Henry *et al.*, 2005) and Si in phengite for barometry (Massonne & Schreyer, 1987).

Fig. 11. Chondrite-normalised trace elements and REE patterns for biotite in (a–c) Gough Dam
shear zone samples and (d) literature compilation (migmatite leucosome, Bea *et al.*, 1994b;
pegmatite, Hulsbosch *et al.*, 2014; mica schist, Laul & Lepel, 1987; peraluminous granite, Bea *et al.*, 1994a; metapelite enclave, Acosta-Vigil *et al.*, 2010; experimental Nb-Ta, Stepanov & Hermann, 2013; rhyodacite, Nash & Crecraft, 1985). Selected rocks are detailed in Table S4.
Colours for samples L-Qtz, H-Qtz and M-Qtz/GL correspond to those used for symbols in other diagrams.

Fig. 12. Bivariate plots for Ti vs Ba, Ti vs Sc, Ti vs Nb/Ta and Ti vs Li from Gough Dam
shear zone samples and additional data from El Hoyazo enclaves (Table S4; Acosta-Vigil *et al.*, 2010). Black error bars represent the measured uncertainty (2σ) of an individual analysis;
red error bars represent the standard deviation (2σ) of multiple analyses.

**Fig. 13.** Textural relationships for monazite grains in (a–b) sample GL with higher biotite modal composition, and (c–d) sample M-Qtz with lower biotite modal composition.

**Fig. 14.** Monazite morphology, texture and U-Pb geochronology from sample M-Qtz/GL. (a) Morphology and textures of representative monazite grains from sample M-Qtz in backscattered electron (BSE) imaging. <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>238</sup>U ages with associated errors (2 SE) are displayed, and full analytical results are given in Table S5. White arrows indicate inward-penetrating boundary interfaces between dark and light BSE response and yellow arrows indicate thorite inclusions; (b) Tera-Wasserburg concordia plot showing U-Pb geochronological data from **Fig. 15.** Schematic block models showing the metasomatic (*s.l.*) evolution of the Gough Dam shear zone and formation of meter-scale glimmerite zones via melt-rock interaction. (a) Shear zone melt inflow at the inception stage (*c*. 450 Ma): south-directed thrust shear of granulite terranes in the Arunta Region. Melt sourced from lower crustal levels infiltrates and flows upward along lithological boundaries and pre-existing foliations. Melt flow intensity is higher towards the centre of the shear zone; (b) Shear zone metasomatism (*s.l.*) at the final stage (*c*. 370 Ma): shear zone glimmerite formation with increasing biotite content towards the centre of the deformation zone. Granitic lenses close to the shear zone boundaries increase in size and morph into sheets towards the centre of the shear zone; (c) Inset of main glimmerite domain in the Gough Dam shear zone, summarising the melt-rock interaction structures from this study. Orthogonal fragmentation of quartzite mylonite lenses due to rheological contrast enhances melt flow and subsequent melt-rock interaction to form glimmerite. HRG, Harts Range Group; SMC, Strangways Metamorphic Complex.

**Table 1:** Electron microprobe data of key minerals from the reacted quartzites and glimmerite seams in the Gough Dam shear zone.

**Table 2:** Representative LA-ICP-MS trace element and REE compositional data for biotite grains from the Gough Dam shear zone, and comparison to published data from multiple
 locations and formation settings exogenous to the study area.

**Table 3:** Calculation of the melt volume forming hydrous minerals in a high-strain zone forsamples L-Qtz and H-Qtz.

#### 58 SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

**Fig. S1.** Back-scattered electron (BSE) image showing the spatial distribution of monazite ages in sample M-Qtz/GL.

1663 Table S1: Electron microprobe data of additional minerals from reacted quartzites and1664 glimmerite seams in the Gough Dam shear zone.

**Table S2:** Whole rock major oxide concentrations for sample GL in comparison to average peraluminous granite from the literature and major rock types of the Strangways Metamorphic Complex.

**Table S3:** LA-ICP-MS biotite trace element data.

**Table S4:** Description of biotite samples from the literature for comparison with those sampled
from the Gough Dam shear zone.

Table S5: LA-ICP-MS monazite U-Pb data.


















2,000

1,500

1,000

Area weighted mean grain size (mm²)











5000

200-

400-

1200 -

1000 -

800 -

- 009

σ

<sup>20</sup> (ppm)

22

18 - Chondrite

5000

0

10-

12 -

14 -

16-

Figure 12







Sample	L-Qtz			H-Qtz			M-Qtz			GL		
Mineral	Bt	N	lag	Bt	Ms	PI	Bt	Ms	Sil	Bt	Ms	Sil
SiO <sub>2</sub> wt%		36.74	_	35.70	44.49	62.89	35.89	44.55	36.03	35.64	44.56	36.06
TiO <sub>2</sub>		0.83	0.03	2.35	0.86	6 –	1.86	0.60	_	1.97	0.60	_
AI2O3		17.49	0.43	18.23	32.82	2 23.00	18.28	33.32	63.23	18.36	33.07	63.41
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		_	0.06	0.05	-		0.06	0.03	-	0.04	0.03	-
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		_	_	_	-		_	-	_	0.04	-	_
FeO <sub>total</sub>		13.92	92.19	16.22	3.24	0.05	15.70	3.36	0.84	15.20	3.21	0.83
NiO		_	_	-	-		-	-	-	0.06	_	-
MnO		0.05	0.07	0.07	-		0.06	-	_	0.05	_	_
MgO		15.32	0.06	12.15	0.97	7	12.53	0.96	_	12.66	0.90	_
CaO		0.03	_	_	-	- 3.67	_	0.02	_	_	_	_
Na <sub>2</sub> O		0.16	_	0.19	0.51	9.36	0.26	0.63	-	0.23	0.56	_
K₂O		9.72	_	9.86	10.53	3 0.19	9.82	10.00	0.01	9.79	10.63	_
$P_2O_5$		_	_	_	-	- 0.07	0.03	-	_	-	-	_
SO <sub>3</sub>		_	_	_	-		_	-	_	-	-	_
CI		0.26	_	0.18	-	- 0.02	0.18	0.06	_	0.19	0.02	_
F		0.92	_	0.67	0.06	6 –	0.66	0.12	-	0.71	0.08	-
0		-0.45	0.04	-0.32	-0.03	-0.02	-0.32	-0.07	0.00	-0.34	-0.04	-0.01
H <sub>2</sub> O		3.99	0.00	3.96	4.45	5 0.00	3.97	4.45	0.00	3.98	4.45	0.00
Total		98.99	92.89	99.30	97.89	99.25	99.00	98.04	100.11	98.57	98.07	100.30

Table 1: Electron microprobe data of key minerals from the reacted quartzites and glimmerite seams in the Gough Dam shear zone.

Mineral abbreviations follow Whitney & Evans (2010). (-): Below detection limit. The complete dataset is available in Supplementary Material, Table S1.

Table 2: Representative LA-ICP-MS trace element and REE compositional data for biotite grains from the Gough Dam shear zone, and comparison to published data from multiple locations and formation settings exogenous to the study area.

	Goug	gh Dam shea	r zone	Compilation of published biotite compositions							
Sample	L-Qtz (GD1609A)	H-Qtz (GD1609B)	M-Qtz & GL (GD1609C)	Two-mica granite <sup>(1)</sup>	Diatexite migmatite <sup>(2)</sup>	Metapelite xenolith <sup>(3)</sup>	Pegmatite <sup>(4)</sup>	Mica schist <sup>(5)</sup>	Rhyolite/ Rhyodacite <sup>(6)</sup>	Experiment <sup>(7)</sup>	
Zr	0.21	0.35	0.28			1.41			40.05		
Hf	0.66	0.96	0.66			2.52			27.77		
Nb	85.13	221.75	188.88		197.08	341.67			283.33	208.33	
Та	134.71	216.18	183.09		462.50	323.53			119.85	1397.06	
La	-	0.016	0.009	0.717	0.169	0.253	7.890	107.173	342.194		
Ce	0.013	0.002	0.002	0.277	0.196	0.016	5.726	81.240	274.062		
Pr	0.018	0.008	-	0.970	0.108	0.216	5.065				
Nd	0.014	0.009	0.009	0.700	0.088	0.131	4.136	52.516	133.479		
Sm	-	_	0.107	0.405	0.068	0.068	8.851	24.662	53.243		
Eu	0.357	0.702	0.444	0.533	0.355	2.664	0.710	11.368	7.105		
Gd	-	_	0.068	0.452	0.050	0.653	13.920	16.332			
Dy	-	_	-	0.122	0.033	0.081	19.553	10.163	17.195		
Er	0.018	-	-	0.125	0.044	0.063	11.000				
Yb	-		-	0.124	0.050	0.124	10.932	6.832	15.466		
Lu	0.043	0.067	0.031		0.081		9.756	69.106	15.041		

REE and trace elements values were normalised using McDonough & Sun (1995) chondritic values.

(1) Bea *et al.*, 1994a; (2) Bea *et al.*, 1994b; (3) Acosta-Vigil *et al.*, 2010; (4) Hulsbosch *et al.*, 2014; (5) Laul & Lepel, 1987; (6) Nash & Crecraft, 1985; (7) Stepanov & Herman, 2013. The complete dataset is available in Supplementary Material, Table S3. (–): Below detection limit; (–): Not available.

	Hydrous minerals wt%			
Sample	L-Qtz H	-Qtz		
Biotite (3.97 H <sub>2</sub> O wt%)	8.0	15.0		
Muscovite (4.44 wt%)	0.0	2.0		
Total sample $H_2O$ (wt%)	0.32	0.68		
Melt H <sub>2</sub> O (wt%)	Volume of me	lt per m <sup>3</sup> rock		
3.0	0.11	0.23		
6.0	0.05	0.11		
9.0	0.04	0.08		
12.0	0.03	0.06		

Table 3: Calculation of the melt volume forming hydrous minerals in a high-strain zone t

for samples L-Qtz and H-Qtz.

Figure S1

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