Miocene UHT granulites from Seram, eastern Indonesia: a geochronological–REE study of zircon, monazite and garnet

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Abstract: The island of Seram, eastern Indonesia, incorporates Miocene ultrahigh-temperature (UHT; >900°C) garnet–sillimanite granulites that formed by extensional exhumation of hot mantle rocks behind the rolling-back Banda Arc. UHT metamorphic conditions are supported by new Zr-in-rutile thermometry results and the Miocene age of the UHT event is confirmed by closely-matched heavy rare earth element (HREE) abundances between garnet and c. 16 Ma zircon. Monazites also record identical U–Pb ages, within uncertainty. However, these geochronometers do not date peak UHT metamorphism; instead, they date retrograde, garnet-consuming (Zr- and rare earth element (REE)-liberating) reactions that produced the granulites’ post-peak cordierite + spinel reaction microstructures. Zircons shielded within garnet did not crystallize c. 16 Ma rims and so were unaffected by the entire UHT event. Miocene UHT metamorphism overprinted a Late Triassic–Early Jurassic upper-amphibolite facies event that grew garnet cores and 216–173 Ma zircon. In the Miocene, these garnet cores were overgrown by peritectic garnet rims during UHT metamorphism, with some rutiles recording c. 900°C Zr-in-rutile temperatures. Garnet Lu–Hf ages of 138 Ma produced by core–rim mixing demonstrate that a component of Hf4+ produced since c. 200 Ma was retained through the c. 16 Ma UHT event. Accordingly, UHT conditions must have been very short-lived and exhumation of the granulite complex very rapid.

Supplementary material: Zircon REE data (SHRIMP) and garnet REE data (LA-ICP-MS) are available at https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.c.4070324

Ultrahigh-temperature (UHT; >900°C) granulites were produced in eastern Indonesia by extension following the Miocene collision of Australia with SE Asia (Pownall et al. 2014). These rocks, exposed on the island of Seram (Figs 1 & 2), record the youngest of only c. 60 known instances when the geothermal gradient was elevated locally beyond the UHT threshold of 700°C GPa⁻¹ (Brown 2006, 2014; Harley 2008, 2016; Kelsey 2008; Kelsey & Hand 2015). Importantly, the Seram UHT granulites occur within the same tectonic system that generated the UHT conditions, thereby enabling detailed study of their formation mechanism without complications introduced by multiple overprinting deformational and metamorphic episodes. This is in contrast to the vast majority of UHT terranes that reside in Proterozoic cratons and whose tectonic drivers remain far more elusive (Kelsey & Hand 2015). As such, these young Indonesian granulites offer a unique opportunity to investigate (1) how UHT conditions may be generated by the modern Earth and (2) potential pressure–temperature (P–T) paths and metamorphic rates experienced by high-grade metamorphic rocks in modern arc settings.

The Seram UHT granulites comprise part of the Kobipoto migmatite complex (Pownall 2015; Pownall et al. 2017a) – a suite of garnet- and cordierite-bearing diatexites hosting garnet–sillimanite–cordierite–spinel residua (following migmatite terminology of Sawyer 2008). The residual assemblage features spinel + quartz inclusions within garnet and quartz-absent sapphire + corundum + spinel symplectite within cordierite (Fig. 3). Phase equilibrium modelling of the Al–Fe-rich granulite
melanosome (Pownall 2015) indicated peak $P$–$T$ conditions of 925°C and 9 kbar for the interpreted peak model assemblage garnet + sillimanite + spinel + ilmenite + plagioclase + silicate melt. A clockwise $P$–$T$ path through these peak conditions (Fig. 4) was interpreted to descend steeply down-pressure from garnet-present to cordierite-present fields to account for the most dominant discontinuous retrograde reaction interpreted to have affected the assemblage: garnet + sillimanite $\rightarrow$ cordierite + spinel ± quartz, at 7–6 kbar (Fig. 4), which developed the granulites’ characteristic ordered reaction microstructures (Fig. 3). But when, and how rapidly, did metamorphism occur, and what was the tectonic driver for the metamorphism and subsequent exhumation?

Two critical observations from field mapping (Pownall et al. 2013, 2016) explain how UHT conditions on Seram were attained. First, the granulites and associated diatexites always coexist with voluminous lherzolites (Pownall et al. 2017a) and, secondly, this granulite–lherzolite complex has been exhumed by considerable extension beneath low-angle detachment faults, still at high enough temperatures to have generated partial melting in the hanging wall (Pownall et al. 2017b). Initially interpreted to comprise part of an ophiolite (e.g. Linthout et al. 1996), these lherzolites have an exhumed subcontinental lithospheric mantle origin and their rapid juxtaposition against shallower crustal rocks (at 35 km depth, to correspond with peak metamorphic pressure) was sufficient to have elevated crustal temperatures into the UHT regime (Fig. 4; Pownall et al. 2017a).

The island of Seram is located in the northern limb of the Banda Arc (Fig. 1), beneath which an inwardly concave slab of Jurassic oceanic lithosphere has been subducted (Spakman & Hall 2010; Hall 2011, 2017, 2018; Pownall et al. 2016). The extremely curved geometry of the Banda Arc and its underlying slab was achieved by subduction rollback, whereupon collapse of the down-going slab drove southeastward migration of the subduction...
hinge-line and adjacent trench. As depicted by regional plate reconstructions (e.g. Hall 2012), Banda slab rollback drove oceanic spreading within the trailing Banda Sea as well as continental rifting and hot hyperextension within the fringes of the Australian continental margin (the ‘Sula Spur’, of which Seram is derived). A compilation of 40Ar/39Ar ages dating shear-zone movements on Seram (Pownall et al. 2017b) and oceanic spreading histories of the Banda Sea basins (Hinschberger et al. 2000, 2001) demonstrate that Banda Arc rollback commenced around 16 Ma before propagating southeastwards towards Australia. The latest phase of this rollback-driven extension from 2 Ma ‘rolled open’ the 7 km Weber Deep basin in the easternmost Banda Sea, further exhuming lherzolites across a chain of small islands bordering the abyss (Pownall et al. 2016).

Zircon U–Pb dating of the Seram UHT granulite residuum and associated diatexites (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017a) revealed 3 separate age populations (Fig. 5; Table 1): (1) ages obtained for detrital cores between 3.4 Ga and 216 Ma; (2) a broad spread of ages obtained from core-truncating overgrowths between 215 and 173 Ma; and (3) a population of c. 16 Ma ages obtained from a second zircon overgrowth (although some ages from this third group are as old as 25 Ma). Furthermore, 40Ar/39Ar ages obtained for biotite are within uncertainty of the respective zircon U–Pb ages for the same samples, implying exceptionally rapid cooling rates (Pownall et al. 2017b). The close correlation between these latest c. 16 Ma zircon U–Pb ages with the inferred timing of Banda rollback initiation at c. 16 Ma, in light of the tectonic interpretation borne from field observations that UHT conditions were achieved by extreme lithospheric extension, led us to conclude previously that UHT metamorphism occurred at 16 Ma synchronous with the initial phase of extension behind the rapidly rolling-back Banda slab (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017a; Pownall 2015). But how robust is this inference for the timing of the UHT event? For instance, how certain are we that UHT metamorphism did not instead occur within the 216–170 Ma window recorded by the oldest zircon overgrowth event? Could we further test our hypotheses using additional geochronometers and, if so, could we integrate the results of different dating techniques with trace element systematics operating during the rocks’ metamorphism and melting? These questions provided the motivation behind this current study.

Here, we present new monazite U–Pb, garnet Lu–Hf and garnet Sm–Nd data, accompanied by rare earth element (REE) analyses of zircon and garnet plus new Ti-in-zircon and Zr-in-rutile thermometry results. These new data indeed substantiate previous findings that UHT metamorphism on Seram occurred at c. 16 Ma and provide further quantification of the granulite complex’s rapid metamorphism and exhumation history.
Tectonic and metamorphic context

Lower-crustal–upper-mantle rocks that comprise the Kobipoto Complex (Pownall 2015) are exposed across Seram (specifically western Seram, the Kobipoto Mountains of central Seram and the Wai Lekkan Mountains of eastern Seram) and within the chain of small islands of Kasiui, Tioor, Kur and...
Fadol curving round to the easternmost part of the arc (Valk 1945; Germeraad 1946; van der Sluis 1950; Hamilton 1979; Bowin et al. 1980; Charlton et al. 1991; Honthaas et al. 1997; Pownall et al. 2016). No ultramafic rocks or UHT granulites were found by the authors on Buru (Fig. 1), although it is possible that they are present in the shallow subsurface (Linthout et al. 1989).

Most of the metamorphic rocks on Seram (Fig. 2) are chlorite- to kyanite-grade metapelites and intercalated amphibolites belonging to the Tehoru Formation (Tjokrosapoetro & Budhitrisna 1982), which correlates with the Wahlua Complex on Buru (Linthout et al. 1989). The Tehoru Formation was deposited in the Late Triassic to Early Jurassic (Pownall et al. 2017a), metamorphosed at up to upper amphibolite facies at c. 17 Ma and then subjected to localized deformational events until 3.3 Ma by the operation of major strike-slip fault systems accommodating Banda slab rollback (Pownall et al. 2017b).

Fig. 4. Summary of P–T data for the Kobipoto Complex granulites and herzolites, modified after Pownall et al. (2017a) and Pownall (2015). The purple arrow shows a clockwise P–T path for UHT granulite sample KP11-588, passing though peak conditions of 925 ± 50°C at 9 ± 1 kbar. Reaction lines for garnet (Grt), cordierite (Crd), biotite (Bt) and silicate melt (Liq) are taken from a P–T pseudosection calculated specifically for the melanosome using THERMOCALC in the Na2O–CaO–K2O–FeO–MgO–Al2O3–SiO2–H2O–TiO2–Fe2O3 (NCKFMASHTO) chemical system. Post-peak equilibration conditions of 754 ± 116°C and 4 ± 1 kbar are based on a THERMOCALC ‘AvePT’ calculation for the cordierite- and spinel-dominated reaction microstructures, using the garnet rim composition (Pownall 2015). The blue arrow shows the P–T evolution of the adjacent herzolites, which juxtaposed against the granulites provided the heat for UHT metamorphism (Pownall et al. 2017a).

Migmatites featuring garnet–sillimanite granulite and herzolites intruded by the migmatites, together comprise the Kobipoto Complex (Pownall 2015; Pownall et al. 2017a). In western Seram (the Kabobo and Hoamoal peninsulas; Fig. 2), Kobipoto Complex rocks occur beneath low-angle detachment...
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<th>Lat. ('S)</th>
<th>Age (Ma)</th>
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*Locations estimated from maps in Honthaas *et al.* (1997, fig. 1c) and Linthout *et al.* (1996, fig. 2), respectively.
†Age obtained from whole rock powder.
‡Age obtained for biotite (pairs of ages sometimes interpreted for the same sample relate to different Ar reservoirs; see Pownall *et al.* 2017b).
§Age obtained for K-feldspar.
¶Age obtained for phlogopite from a lamprophyric dyke intruded through Kobipoto Complex lherzolites.
||Ages for KP11-588, KP11-619, and KP11-621 reported initially by Pownall *et al.* (2014).
faults, immediately above which are 500 m-thick high-temperature shear zones characterized by sillimanite-defined shear banding and localized partial melting (Pownall et al. 2013, 2017b). We interpret these high-T mylonites (which comprise the Taunusa Complex) to have formed in response to high-temperature exhumation of hot Kobipoto Complex lherzolites and migmatites beneath the detachment (Pownall et al. 2013, 2017a, b). As outlined by Pownall et al. (2013, 2014, 2017a), we therefore consider that the lherzolites must have been exhumed from the subcontinental mantle and so were never part of an ophiolite.

In the Kobipoto Mountains, central Seram (Fig. 2) – the sampling location of granulites investigated in this paper – migmatites and lherzolites have been exhumed within a left-lateral positive flower structure (Pownall & Hall 2014). This structure is a part of the larger 120–300°-trending Kawa Fault Zone that bisects Seram (Pownall et al. 2013), which itself is a member of the larger Seram–Kumawa Shear Zone (Hall et al. 2017). This shear zone system accommodated the differences in motion between the southeastward-rolling Banda trench (Spakman & Hall 2010) and the adjacent Sula Spur promontory of the Australian continental margin.

**The Kobipoto Complex granulites**

The Kobipoto Complex is exposed in western Seram, in the Wai Leklekan Mountains of eastern Seram, and on Ambon (Fig. 2). Kobipoto Complex migmatites comprise leucosome-rich diatexites peppered with small schlieren of sillimanite + spinel and contain abundant cordierite and garnet phenocrysts (Priem et al. 1978; Pownall 2015; Pownall et al. 2017a). These diatexites, along with lherzolites with which they share direct contacts, were exhumed beneath detachment faults in western Seram at 5.8–5.6 Ma and on Ambon at 3.5–3.3 Ma (Pownall et al. 2017a, b).

In the Kobipoto Mountains of central Seram, the migmatites contain a higher proportion of residual granulate and stromatic metatexites are therefore more common. Scarc occurrence of highly residual garnet–sillimanite granulate (Fig. 3), described in detail by Pownall (2015), are also present. As mentioned previously, these granulites contain garnet-hosted composite inclusions of spinel + quartz (+ ilmenite ± sillimanite) (Fig. 3c) and post-peak quartz-absent symplectites of sapphirine + corundum + spinel within cordierite that formed during a near-isothermal decompression stage of a clockwise $P$–$T$ path (Fig. 4; Pownall et al. 2014; Pownall 2015). A THERMOCALC $P$–$T$ pseudosection (Powell & Holland 1988) for the residual assemblage indicated peak metamorphic conditions of 925 ± 50°C at 9 ± 1 kbar (Pownall 2015).

Through the post-peak discontinuous reaction garnet + sillimanite → cordierite + spinel ± quartz (Hensen & Green 1971), the Seram granulites developed prominent reaction microstructures featuring coronae of cordierite containing spinel + corundum ± sapphirine ± sillimanite symplectites (Fig. 3a, b, e and f), which formed at 754 ± 116°C and 4 ± 1 kbar (Pownall 2015).

**Sample petrography**

The samples analysed as part of this study – KP11-588 and KP11-619 – were both collected from the Wai Tuh river gorge in the Kobipoto Mountains at [129.479° E, 3.002° S] and [129.474° E, 3.017° S], respectively (Fig. 2).

- **Garnet–sillimanite granulate KP11-588** (Fig. 3a–c) is a highly residual granulate, containing abundant garnet (c. 25 vol%) and prismatic sillimanite (c. 20 vol%) separated by ordered reaction microstructures comprising cordierite coronae and cordierite + spinel ± ilmenite ± corundum ± sapphirine symplectites (Fig. 3a, b and e). Plagioclase and quartz also feature within some cordierite coronae as narrow, vermicular intergrowths (Fig. 3e). Ilmenite is fairly abundant (5–10 vol%) and occurs as inclusions within garnet and also as coarse grains bordering spinel (Fig. 3b). Coexisting spinel + quartz (+ corundum) occurs as small inclusions within garnet (Fig. 3c). These composite inclusions are interpreted to have formed by localized reactions consuming former sillimanite and ilmenite inclusions with garnet (Pownall 2015).

- **Garnet–cordierite–sillimanite metatexite KP11-619** (Fig. 3d, f) features abundant melanosome comprising cordierite + biotite + garnet + sillimanite. Garnets are large (sometimes >5 mm) and cordierite is typically pinitized. Some of the fresher cordierite contains sprays of sillimanite needles and biotite. Compared to sample KP11-588, this rock contains a far higher proportion of leucosome (c. 60 vol%).

**Textural locations of zircon, monazite and rutile**

Zircon and monazite both occur throughout the rock (1) as inclusions within garnet, (2) within post-peak reactions microstructures in which garnet has been replaced by cordierite + spinel, (3) within sillimanite and (4) within the leucosome (Fig. 6a–d). Both zircon and monazite grains are larger and more abundant within the cordierite coronae and leucosome than as inclusions within garnet. Rutile occurs both as inclusions within garnet and within the leucosome, adjacent to garnet (Fig. 6e, f).
We report melt inclusions (MIs) within some garnets of sample KP11-588, identified by optical microscopy (Fig. 7). The MIs, which are <10 µm diameter, are characterized by their square cross-sections, composite interiors and distinctive rims (Fig. 7b). The mineralogy of individual domains is unfortunately...
too small to determine optically, although the overall appearance of the MIs do seem to resemble polycrystalline nanogranitoids (Cesare et al. 2015). The MIs are clustered in large groups that are distributed sporadically throughout some garnets (Fig. 7a). Many garnets do not host MIs and only a small minority host MIs larger than 5 µm. In addition to these primary MIs, smaller and blebbier MIs occur along planar fractures through the garnet (red arrow in Fig. 7a), which we interpret as secondary features.

We interpret the widespread occurrence of primary MIs as further evidence that (most) garnet must have grown in the presence of melt as a solid peritectic product of melt-producing reactions. This conclusion is consistent with the result from phase equilibria modelling (Pownall et al. 2015) that both peak metamorphism and high-temperature retrogression occurred above the solidus (Fig. 4). As shown in Figure 6a, zircon is present in garnets that also host MIs, suggesting that some zircons and other accessory minerals may have been entrapped in garnet in the presence of melt.

SHRIMP U–Pb zircon geochronology

Zircon U–Pb ages for Kobipoto Complex granulites and diatexites were measured previously by Pownall et al. (2014, 2017a) using sensitive high-resolution ion microprobes SHRIMP-II and SHRIMP-RG (reverse geometry) at the Research School of Earth Sciences (RSES), Australian National University (ANU), Canberra (see Pownall et al. 2017a for detailed analytical and data reduction methods). Cathodoluminescence (CL) images (Fig. 8) were acquired for all zircons mounted in epoxy for U–Pb dating at the RSES using a CL hyperspectral imaging system paired with a Cameca SX-100 electron microprobe. In order to provide petrographic context, CL images were also acquired at the RSES for zircons in situ within a thin section of sample KP11-588 (Fig. 9) using a CL detector paired with a JEOL 6610A SEM (15 kV, 1 µm-diameter beam).

Zircons from the Kobipoto Complex show complex internal structures arising from multiple growth and dissolution events. These relationships are illustrated by the CL images and cartoon zircons presented in Figure 8. Typically, a zircon from the residual granulites (e.g. sample KP11-588) will feature a detrital core around which are two distinct overgrowths, identified from CL images due to different CL responses and their cross-cutting relationships. Following Pownall et al. (2017a), we have used the following scheme to describe different parts of the zircon grains:

- $C_d$ – detrital zircon cores;
- $C_m$ – magmatic or metamorphic cores (sample-dependent);
- $R_m$ – magmatic or metamorphic zircon rims (sample-dependent);
- $R_2$ – an inner CL-bright rim between outer $R_m$ rims and $C_d$ cores (or sometimes as the only rim around $C_d$ cores);
- $R_o$ – very thin CL-bright overgrowths (that were too small to analyse).

The U–Pb zircon geochronology results of Pownall et al. (2017a) are detailed in Table 1 and Figure 5. In summary, detrital cores ($C_d$) are aged between 3.4 Ga and 216 Ma; $R_2$ overgrowths yielded ages between 215 and 173 Ma; and younger $R_m$ rims are c. 16 Ma.

An important new finding, revealed by the in-situ CL imaging, is that zircons included within garnet do not have c. 16 Ma $R_m$ rims (Fig. 9b–e). These younger rims are present only on zircons located in the post-peak reaction microstructures and the leucoxome (Fig. 9a). Zircons in all textural settings feature c. 200 Ma $R_2$ zones around detrital $C_d$ cores. These relationships are consistent across a total of 26 zircon grains imaged in situ using CL.

Fig. 7. (a, b) Melt inclusions (MI) within garnet of sample KP11-588 (photomicrographs, PPL). Note the occurrence of both primary inclusions (square in thin section), and secondary melt inclusions located along planar defects, as shown by the red arrow in part (a).
To complement previous zircon U–Pb dating, monazite was analysed in situ from a gold-coated polished thin section of sample KP11-588 using SHRIMP-II at the RSES, ANU. Analyses were performed using a 10 kV primary beam of O$_2^-$ ions focused on the sample surface over a 30 µm spot diameter. Monazite standard ‘44069’ (424.9 ± 0.4 Ma; Aleinikoff et al. 2006) was used for calibration. The data were reduced using the SQUID-2 Excel macro (Ludwig 2009) utilizing decay constants from Steiger & Jäger (1977) and concordia diagrams were plotted using Isoplot-3 (Ludwig 2003). The correction for common Pb was made using $^{207}Pb$/$^{206}Pb$ concordance and the relevant initial $^{207}Pb$/$^{206}Pb$ value from the model of Stacey & Kramers (1975).

Monazite was analysed from two textural settings: (1) from a large monazite grain within the leucosome (grain 1; Fig. 6c); and (2) from a monazite inclusion within garnet (grain 2; Fig. 6d). All four analyses yielded within uncertainty the same $^{206}Pb$/$^{238}U$ age (Table 2) and define an isochron date of 16.4 ± 0.4 Ma (Fig. 10). This date is within analytical uncertainty of the mean $^{206}Pb$/$^{238}U$ age of Rm zircon from the same sample (16.0 ± 0.6 Ma).

**Garnet and zircon geochemistry**

**Garnet major element chemistry**

Garnet major element chemistry was measured previously using a JEOL JXA-8100 Superprobe electron microprobe (EPMA) paired with an Oxford Instruments INCA EDS system at Birkbeck College, University of London (Pownall 2015). Mineral EPMA analyses used an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, a beam current of 10 nA, a 1 µm beam...
Fig. 9. CL images of zircons acquired in situ from a thin section of sample KP11-588. (a) Zircons located in the post-peak reaction microstructures at the boundary with leucosome and included with a large lath of sillimanite feature thick $R_m$ rims (dark in CL) overgrowing $R_2$ zones (bright in CL) and detrital cores ($C_d$). The CL images annotate a XPL thin section photo of the same zircon grains, showing their textural locations. (b–e) Zircons included within garnet do not feature $R_m$ rims, just CL-bright $R_2$ zones around detrital cores ($C_d$). In (b), the CL image annotates a PPL thin section photo of the same zircon grain, located >200 µm from the rim of the garnet it is included in. Mineral abbreviations are after Kretz (1983).
diameter and were calibrated using natural silicate and oxide standards before a ZAF correction procedure was applied.

As shown in Figure 11, broad and compositionally homogeneous garnet core regions are dominantly an almandine–pyrope solid solution ($X_{\text{alm}}$ c. 0.60; $X_{\text{pyr}}$ c. 0.30; $X_{\text{sp}}$ c. 0.06; $X_{\text{grs}}$ c. 0.04). Moderate zoning is present in the outermost margin, with almandine increasing ($X_{\text{alm}}$ rising from 0.60 to 0.68) and pyrope decreasing ($X_{\text{pyr}}$ falling from 0.30 to 0.17) moving towards the rim. The replacement of original garnet rims by cordierite coronae during high-$T$ retrogression (Fig. 3e) is further evidenced by the truncation of garnet-zoning profiles, as shown by the backscatter intensity map in Figure 11b. A sharp increase of Mn (spessartine) close to the rim demonstrates that garnet resorption occurred during cordierite corona development.

**Garnet REE analysis**

REE zonation profiles for several garnets in sample KP11-588 were measured in situ from a polished thin section by rim-to-core-to-rim laser traverses using the RESOlution M-50 193 mm ArF excimer laser (40 µm spot size) coupled to an Aglient 7500ce LA-ICP-MS system (Müller et al. 2009) at Royal Holloway, University of London (RHUL). NIST SRM-612 glass was used as an external standard. The variation in Lu, Hf, Sm and Nd for one of these traverses is shown in Figure 12 and the full range of REE abundances is plotted in Figure 13. The full dataset is included in the Supplementary material.

These REE profiles demonstrate the occurrence of chemically-distinct core regions (shaded grey in Fig. 12), which interestingly are not shown by the major element distributions. Core REE concentrations are substantially higher (>×10) than those of the rims (e.g. c. 1 ppm $^{175}\text{Lu}$ in the rim; c. 30 ppm $^{175}\text{Lu}$ in the core). In the example shown in Figure 12, the diameter of the garnet core is c. 45% of the entire crystal and so volumetrically the core regions represent only c. 9 vol% of the garnet as a whole (or even smaller if considering that the outermost garnet rims have since been consumed to produce the cordierite + spinel coronae).

**Zircon REEs and Ti**

SHRIMP II at Geoscience Australia, Canberra, was used to analyse $R_m$ and $R_2$ zircon from samples KP11-588 and KP11-619 for Ti and REE abundances. These analyses used the same zircon mount that was used previously for U–Pb geochronology and so zircon grains and analytical spots correlate with those reported by Pownall et al. (2017a).

---

**Table 2. U–Pb monazite geochronology, sample KP11-588**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analytical Spot</th>
<th>$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U} %$</th>
<th>U (ppm)</th>
<th>$^{206}\text{Pb}$ (ppm)</th>
<th>$^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$</th>
<th>$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age$^\dagger$</th>
<th>Total $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$</th>
<th>Total $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$</th>
<th>$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$†</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1‡</td>
<td>7.72</td>
<td>2494</td>
<td>32 922</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>16.7</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1§</td>
<td>12.80</td>
<td>541</td>
<td>51 957</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>368</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2§</td>
<td>8.72</td>
<td>457</td>
<td>54 796</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>16.3</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3§</td>
<td>9.45</td>
<td>793</td>
<td>86 551</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>16.4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>356</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^\ast$Pb, and Pb indicate the common and radiogenic portions, respectively.

$^\dagger$Common Pb corrected by assuming $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}^\text{–}^{207}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age-concordance.

$^\text{Intra-garnet monazite.}$

$^\text{Matrix monazite.}$

---

Fig. 10. Tera-Wasserburg plot for SHRIMP U–Pb analysis of monazite from sample KP11-588. The mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age is quoted to 95% confidence, and error ellipses are drawn at 68.3% confidence. An upper intercept (common Pb $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$) value of 0.837 is based on the model of Stacey & Kramers (1975). MSWD, mean square of weighted deviates. See Table 2 for U–Pb geochronology data.
For these analyses, a 10 kV primary $O_2^-$ ion beam was used to ablate spots c. 25 µm diameter. Positive secondary ions were extracted at 10 kV and mass analysed at approximately $R_{5000}$. Moderate energy filtering of the secondary ions (c. 20% transmission of $^{91}Zr$) was used to reduce the contribution of potential isobaric interferences, particularly from light REE (LREE) oxides. All REE were measured and for those REE that were not mono-isotopic, two isotopes were measured as a check on accuracy. Other isotopes analysed were $^{49}$Ti (for

Fig. 11. (a) Major element zonation profile through representative garnet in sample KP11-588 determined from electron microprobe line-scan (modified after Pownall 2015). Garnet composition is expressed in terms of the following end-members: almandine (alm) = $Fe^{2+}/(Fe^{2+} + Mn + Mg + Ca)$; pyrope (pyr) = $Mg/(Fe^{2+} + Mn + Mg + Ca)$; spessartine (sps) = $Mn/(Fe^{2+} + Mn + Mg + Ca)$; grossular (grs) = $Ca/(Fe^{2+} + Mn + Mg + Ca)$. The location of this line-scan is shown in (b) – a backscattered electron image coloured according to backscatter intensity that displays the geometry of the major element garnet zonation profile. Major element concentrations are flat in the central region, displaying evidence for resorption close to the rim (with increase in spessartine component). Unlike as depicted by HREE zoning (Fig. 12), there is no evidence for a separate core region.

Fig. 12. HREE abundances (linear scale) and concentrations of Lu, Sm, Nd, and Hf (log scale) obtained along a 1.1 mm LA-ICP-MS laser traverse through garnet from KP11-588 (ablation track through garnet shown at bottom). The HREE profiles demonstrate the occurrence of a distinct core region (shaded grey), but it was unfortunately not possible to manually separate garnet cores and rims for the Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd dating. Three additional laser transects (not shown) were performed, with similar results. See the Supplementary material for the full dataset.
the Ti-in-zircon thermometry), $^{46}$SiO (to ensure accurate location of the $^{49}$Ti peak), $^{91}$Zr (as a reference for calculating the REE concentrations) and two Hf isotopes (for the calculation of Zr/Hf). Relative sensitivity factors for Ti, the REE and Hf were calculated from an initial analysis of NIST611 glass and SL13 and Temora 2 zircons were analysed as secondary standards. Each analysis consisted of three scans through the isotopes of interest, which took 15 minutes. The data were reduced using an in-house Excel spreadsheet. Analytical uncertainties ranged from c. ±2 ppb for REE isotopes with low concentrations (<20 ppb) to c. ±0.2 ppm for REE isotopes with high concentrations (>50 ppm).

Eight sets of analyses were acquired from the two samples: one R$_m$ zircon rim and three R$_2$ zircon zones for sample KP11-588, and four R$_m$ zircon rims for sample KP11-619 (see Supplementary material). As shown in Figure 13, R$_m$ and R$_2$ zircon have very distinct REE profiles: (1) R$_2$ zircon has over an order of magnitude greater enrichment in the heavy REEs (HREEs) than R$_m$ zircon (e.g. maxima of 78 ppm Lu for R$_2$ and 3 ppm for R$_m$), and (2) R$_m$ zircon has notably flatter LREE profiles than R$_2$.

![Figure 13. REE plot comparing R$_m$ zircon, R$_2$ zircon and garnet. Zircon from samples KP11-588 and KP11-619 was analysed by SHRIMP II at Geoscience Australia and the garnet data were acquired by LA-ICP-MS laser transects (Fig. 12), as described in the text. The concentrations are normalised to CI chondrite values (McDonough & Sun 1995). The broad spread in garnet HREE concentrations is due to the differences in abundance between the core (relatively enriched) and rim (relatively depleted), as labelled (and evident in Fig. 12). This plot shows that HREE abundances of c. 16 Ma R$_m$ zircon are within the range of garnet HREE abundances, but the c. 200 Ma R$_2$ zircon concentrations are an order of magnitude higher. See the Supplementary material for full datasets.](http://sp.lyellcollection.org/)
For the Kobipoto Mountains granulite samples, $R_m$ zircon rims all have Th/U ratios <0.1 (Fig. 14). Assuming that the Th/U values in this instance can be considered a reliable discriminator of magmatic v. metamorphic zircon, where Th/U < 0.1 suggests a metamorphic origin (Rubatto 2002), then the $R_m$ rims for the granulites exclusively plot in the ‘metamorphic zone’. The detrital cores have higher Th/U ratios than the rims, some of them surpassing 1. The $R_2$ zircon zones display a wide spread in Th/U ratios that mostly plot in the ‘metamorphic’ field (Th/U < 0.1) but some analyses show similar values to the detrital cores (Th/U approaching 1).

Since different populations of zircon are consistently grouped based on their Th/U ratios and zircons with known magmatic origin have the highest values, we consider it likely that the c. 16 Ma $R_m$ zircon rims with notably lower Th/U ratios crystallized during a metamorphic episode, in accordance with previous conclusions (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017a). To a lesser extent, this trend is also indicative of the $R_2$ zircon being also metamorphic in origin.

### Zircon–rutile thermometry

Following Ferry & Watson (2007), the exchanges of Ti$^{4+}$ between zircon and rutile (and/or other Ti-bearing phases) and of Zr$^{4+}$ between rutile and zircon (and/or other Zr-bearing phases) may be utilized as geothermometers. As zircon and rutile grains occur in the same microtextural domains – both as inclusions within garnet and in the leucosomes of the Kobipoto Complex granulites (Figs 6 & 9) – it is reasonable to assume in this instance that rutile and zircon were in (or close to) equilibrium.

#### Ti-in-zircon thermometry

Using the Ti abundances acquired to high precision by SHRIMP (methodology detailed in previous section), the Ti-in-zircon thermometry calibrations of Watson et al. (2006) and Ferry & Watson (2007) were applied to granulite samples KP11-588 and KP11-619 (Fig. 15; Table 3). Based on the Ferry & Watson (2007) thermometer, $R_m$ zircons crystallized at temperatures of c. 600°C (540–640°C) and $R_2$ zircon at slightly higher temperatures of c. 700°C (660–750°C). The Watson et al. (2006) thermometer gave similar temperatures, but with much larger positive uncertainties (of +200°C).

Despite these samples having attained peak metamorphic temperatures of c. 925°C, neither $R_m$ nor $R_2$ zircon shows evidence for having crystallized under or even close to UHT conditions. One possible reason for these lower-than-expected temperatures is if $a$TiO$_2$, assumed here to be 1.0, was overestimated (Yakymchuk et al. 2017). Although there is evidence in this instance for rutile and zircon co-inhabiting the same domains of the rock, it is still possible that a lower $a$TiO$_2$ was in operation. For a metapelite of broadly similar composition to the Seram UHT granulites and for similar $P$–$T$ conditions to the formation of their post-peak reaction microstructures (900°C and 7 kbar, with melt present), Yakymchuk et al. (2017) calculated an $a$TiO$_2$ value of c. 0.7. However, using this lower $a$TiO$_2$ value raised our Ferry & Watson (2007) Ti-in-zircon temperatures by only c. 30°C – a long way short of raising these estimates to peak UHT conditions.

These results imply that $R_m$ metamorphic zircon must have crystallized during retrogression after the peak of UHT metamorphism (so at 600°C and c. 3 kbar, based on the $P$–$T$ path inferred by Pownall 2015) and not under peak metamorphic conditions (even if a much lower $a$TiO$_2$ value were used). Temperatures of c. 700°C for the $R_2$ zircon are consistent with either a high-grade metamorphic or a magmatic origin during crystallization at c. 200 Ma (with low Th/U ratios indicative of the former; Fig. 14).

#### Zr-in-rutile thermometry

Rutile was analysed in situ from a polished thin section (most grains <30 µm) using a 193 nm Coherent excimer laser (focused to a 13 µm beam diameter)
coupled to an Agilent 7700 ICP-MS at the RSES, ANU. NIST-610 glass was used as the primary standard and NIST-612 and BCR-2G glasses were used as secondary standards. Data were reduced using Iolite software (Paton et al. 2011) following the ‘semi-quantitative’ data reduction scheme.

Twenty analyses were acquired (after discarding misplaced spots) for rutiles occurring as inclusions within garnet and adjacent to garnet from within the cordierite-dominated coronae. Zr-in-rutile temperatures were calculated using the Ferry & Watson (2007) and Tomkins et al. (2007) thermometers for an aSiO$_2$ of 1 and a pressure of 9 kbar. Both calibrations yielded identical results within uncertainty (Table 4).

Figure 16 shows the results of the Tomkins et al. (2007) thermometer. The most Zr-rich rutile grain (3816 ± 365 ppm Zr; Fig. 6f) corresponds to a Zr-in-rutile temperature of 907 ± 14°C. A total of three analyses indicated temperatures in the vicinity of 900°C, although most temperatures fall between 600 and 750°C (Fig. 16). Interestingly, those highest temperatures were recorded by rutile grains within the leucosome, with rutile included in garnet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analytical spot</th>
<th>Zircon type</th>
<th>Ti (ppm)</th>
<th>±</th>
<th>Watson et al. (2006) thermometer</th>
<th>Ferry &amp; Watson (2007) thermometer*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$T$ (°C)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP11-619-16.1</td>
<td>R$_m$</td>
<td>1.01</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>573</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP11-619-10.1</td>
<td>R$_m$</td>
<td>1.05</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP11-619-18.1</td>
<td>R$_m$</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>576</td>
<td>165</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP11-588-13.1</td>
<td>R$_m$</td>
<td>1.56</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>168</td>
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<td>R$_m$</td>
<td>1.68</td>
<td>0.03</td>
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<td>167</td>
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<td>R$_2$</td>
<td>5.54</td>
<td>0.24</td>
<td>692</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP11-588-5.3</td>
<td>R$_2$</td>
<td>5.67</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>693</td>
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<td>R$_2$</td>
<td>6.88</td>
<td>0.12</td>
<td>709</td>
<td>188</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Results of Ti-in-zircon thermometry applied to R$_m$ and R$_2$ zircon from sample KP11-619 and KP11-588. Ti concentrations were measured using SHRIMP II at Geoscience Australia. See Figure 15 for a graphical representation of these data.

*Assuming that aSiO$_2$ = aTiO$_2$ = 1.
(e.g., Fig. 6e) recording the significantly lower temperatures. These hottest rutile grains indicate temperatures consistent with having recorded peak metamorphic conditions of 925°C and 9 kbar (Pow- nall 2015).

Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd garnet geochronology

Garnet preparation for isotope dilution

Garnets were separated from the melanosome of sample KP11-588 at RHUL from a 63–250 µm diameter crushed rock fraction (the same fraction from which the zircon was separated) using sodium polytungstate heavy-liquid flotation, Frantz magnetic separation and hand picking beneath a binocular microscope. Care was taken to select the most inclusion-free garnet fragments. As it was unfortunately not possible during hand-picking to distinguish whether a single garnet fragment belonged to a core or to a rim (there was no discernible difference in colour or texture, despite the garnet being chemically zoned most notably in HREEs), the separated garnet fragments were arbitrarily split into two fractions (grt-1: 54.9 mg; grt-2: 73.5 mg), assuming that each fraction would contain similar, but not identical, trace element abundances. A whole-rock powder of sample KP11-588 (w.r.; 92.2 mg), prepared in a tungsten carbide mill at RHUL, was also analysed in order to calculate garnet ages.

Analytical procedures

The methods for sample preparation and analysis largely followed those of Anczkiewicz & Thirlwall (2003) and Bird et al. (2013). The REE zoning profiles (Fig. 12) were used to estimate the approximate abundances of Sm, Nd, Lu and Hf in the garnet cores in order to calculate the optimum Lu/Hf and Sm/Nd spike weights. These spikes were added to the samples prior to full dissolution in HF and HNO3. The samples were spiked, leached and dissolved following the procedures outlined by Anczkiewicz & Thirlwall (2003), although in this instance H2SO4 leaching was not performed due to the scarcity of phosphate inclusions within the garnet (small monazite grains, which are relatively scarce, are the only phosphate inclusions). The samples were passed through Bio-Rad AG 50W-X8 cation resin to remove sequentially the high field strength elements (HFSEs), the LREEs and the HREEs. Eichrom LN resin was used subsequently to separate Lu, Hf, Sm and Nd from the different fractions collected from

Table 4. Zr-in-rutile thermometry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Analytical spot</th>
<th>Rutile location</th>
<th>Zr (ppm)</th>
<th>±</th>
<th>Ferry &amp; Watson (2007) thermometer*</th>
<th>Tomkins et al. (2007) thermometer†</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>T (°C)</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt1</td>
<td>in leucosome‡</td>
<td>3816</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt7</td>
<td>in leucosome</td>
<td>3269</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>887</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt6</td>
<td>in leucosome</td>
<td>3138</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>882</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt28</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>1569</td>
<td>118</td>
<td>799</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt29</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>1053</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>757</td>
<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>rt17</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>736</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt27</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
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<td>82</td>
<td>731</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt14</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
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<td>705</td>
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<tr>
<td>rt11</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt13</td>
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<td>60</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td>rt15</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>544</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt12</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>77</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<tr>
<td>rt4</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt16</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>670</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt5</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>644</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt33</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>rt24</td>
<td>in Grt; adj. Ilm</td>
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<td>23</td>
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<td>rt25</td>
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<td>201</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>in Grt</td>
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<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>rt2</td>
<td>in Grt</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>591</td>
<td>13</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Results of Zr-in-rutile thermometry for sample KP11-588 only. Zr concentrations were measured by LA-ICP-MS at the RSES, ANU. Uncertainties are given to 2 standard errors. adj. – adjacent to. See Figure 16 for a graphical representation of these data.

*Assuming that $a\text{SiO}_2 = 1$
†For $P = 9$ kbar.
‡At the leucosome margin, also in direct contact with garnet (see Fig. 6f).
the cation columns. These final solutions were analysed by the GV IsoProbe MC-ICP-MS system at RHUL, using procedures outlined by Anczkiewicz & Thirlwall (2003). Isochron ages were calculated using IsoPlot v. 2.47 (Ludwig 2003) using decay constants of $1.865 \times 10^{-11}$ a$^{-1}$ for $^{176}$Lu (Scherer et al. 2000) and $6.54 \times 10^{-12}$ a$^{-1}$ for $^{147}$Sm (Lugmair & Marti 1978). In addition, two Nd samples were analysed on the IsotopX Phoenix thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS) at RHUL, to confirm the small variations in Nd isotopic compositions.

Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd geochronology results

Garnets analysed from UHT granulite sample KP11-588 yielded precise Lu–Hf ages of 138.6 ± 0.7 Ma and 137 ± 0.6 Ma calculated for grt-1 and grt-2 fractions and the whole rock (i.e. 2-point isochrons), respectively (Fig. 17a; Table 5).

The Sm–Nd age is poorly constrained due to LREE-rich inclusions dominating the Nd budget of the analysed garnet, resulting in very small differences in measured $^{143}$Nd/$^{144}$Nd ratios between the garnet and whole rock. It was not possible to construct a meaningful 3-point isochron (Fig. 17b). Sm–Nd ages calculated individually from grt-1 and grt-2 fractions are 6.0 ± 14.0 Ma and 7.1 ± 9.8 Ma, respectively (Table 6), together describing an imprecise 0–20 Ma age. Using instead the higher-precision IsotopX Phoenix TIMS $^{143}$Nd/$^{144}$Nd ratio of 0.512067 ± 0.000004 for the grt-2 fraction, a Sm–Nd age of 10.6 ± 7.7 Ma is calculated (Fig. 17b). The same age is calculated also for a 3-point isochron using this result. These Sm–Nd results are permissive of a broadly ‘Neogene’ date, consistent with that inferred for UHT metamorphism of the sample.

Lu mass balance

Lu and Hf contents determined by isotope dilution (ID) for the garnet fractions were around 5.2 and 0.34 ppm, respectively (Table 5). The Hf content is similar to that determined in situ on the garnet by

**Fig. 16.** Results of Zr-in-rutile thermometry (of Tomkins et al. 2007) calculated for rutile from sample KP11-588. Pressure was set at 9 kbar in order to correspond to the peak metamorphic $P$–$T$ conditions calculated by Pownall (2015). The Ferry & Watson (2007) Zr-in-rutile thermometers (assuming $a\text{SiO}_2 = 1$) gave extremely similar results (Table 4), which for clarity have not been plotted. The overlaid histogram (red bars) is binned at 50°C intervals. The three rutile grains analysed from the leucosome (Fig. 6f) yielded the hotter temperatures than those included in garnet (Fig. 6e).
LA-ICP-MS, indicating that it is unaffected by dissolution of inclusions such as zircon. However, the Lu content is substantially less than that measured by LA-ICP-MS in the garnet core, which is 10–35 ppm (mean c. 25 ppm), suggesting that the garnet separates analysed for Lu–Hf are about 20% derived from the core and 80% derived from the low-Lu rim. Since the Lu contents of the two garnet fractions analysed are only 0.5% different, they each represent very similar proportions of core and rim. Sm and Nd contents determined by ID were around 7 and 17 ppm, respectively. The Sm is comparable to that measured by LA-ICP-MS, but the ID Nd content is ×5–7 higher, suggesting that LREE-rich inclusions have contributed substantially to the REE budget of the garnet separates, despite being uncommon.

Synthesis

Several geochronological (zircon and monazite U–Pb, garnet Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd, and biotite 40Ar/39Ar; Fig. 18), microchemical (REE analysis of zircon and garnet) and thermobarometry techniques (Ti-in-zircon; Zr-in-rutile; phase equilibria modelling) have now been applied to the residual UHT granulites of the Kobipoto Complex exposed in central Seram. To summarize these findings (new results are marked by an *):

- the protolith to the Kobipoto Complex was sourced, in part, from the Archean cratons of Western Australia and was deposited in the Late Triassic (Cₐ zircon U–Pb ages between 3.4 Ga and 216 Ma; Pownall et al. 2017a; Fig. 5);
- there were two subsequent zircon crystallization events at c. 200 Ma (R₂) and at c. 16 Ma (Rₘ) (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017a);
- *the c. 200 Ma R₂ zircon crystallized at c. 700°C (Ti-in-zircon thermometry; Fig. 15) and probably grew during a metamorphic event (Th/U < 1; Fig. 14) not in equilibrium with garnet (as R₂ HREEs × 10 garnet HREEs; Fig. 13);
- *the c. 16 Ma Rₘ zircon crystallized at c. 600°C (Ti-in-zircon thermometry; Fig. 15) during a metamorphic event (Th/U < 1; Fig. 14) in an environment where garnet was present (as Rₘ HREEs ≈ garnet HREEs; Fig. 13); however,
- *zircons occurring as inclusions within garnet did not grow c. 16 Ma Rₘ rims (Fig. 9b–c);
- *Garnet Lu–Hf mixing model for KP11-588. Combining 80% 16 Ma garnet rims (1 ppm Lu; 0.03–0.07 ppm Hf) with 20% 200 Ma garnet cores (25 ppm Lu; 0.34 ppm Hf) produces a mixed model age between 116.5 and 151.2 Ma (green region), which is consistent with the measured Lu–Hf age of 138.6 ± 0.7 Ma. For clarity, only the grt-1 2-point isochron is shown.

Fig. 17. Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd garnet geochronology of sample KP11-588. (a) Lu–Hf isochron diagram. Error bars are smaller than the symbols. w.r., whole rock. See Table 5 for results. (b) Sm–Nd isochron diagram. w.r., whole rock. The grt-2 fraction, ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd analysed to higher precision by IsotopX Pheonix ID-TIMS (grt 2*), is plotted in green. See Table 6 for results.
40Ar/39Ar furnace step heating geochronology of biotite yielded an age of 16.34 ± 0.04 Ma, which is within uncertainty of the respective U–Pb (Rm) zircon age for the same sample (Fig. 18; Pownall et al. 2014, 2017b);

*monazite grains within the leucosome and included in garnet (re-)crystallized at c. 16 Ma and do not record an older history (Fig. 10);

*rutile grains in the leucosome must have crystallized under UHT conditions (c. 900°C Zr-in-rutile Tₛ), but rutile grains included within garnet yielded lower Zr-in-rutile temperatures of 600–750°C (Fig. 16);

*most of the garnet grew as a peritectic phase, as evidenced by the occurrence of melt inclusions (Fig. 7);

*major element zonation profiles of garnet are flat in the central region (Pownall 2015) and show evidence for resorption close to the rim (Fig. 11); however,

*REE zonation profiles preserve evidence for distinct core and rim domains (Fig. 12);

*the cores show large elevation in REE abundances (×10 that of the rims) but are relatively small, accounting for <9 vol% of total garnet;

*the garnet yielded precise Lu–Hf ages of 138.6 ± 0.7 and 137.9 ± 0.6 Ma for the two garnet separates (Fig. 17). Based on Lu mass balance, the analysed garnet is about 80% derived from the rim and 20% derived from the core;

*the garnet yielded a Sm–Nd age of 10.6 ± 7.7 Ma, which is compromised by the large contribution of LREE-rich inclusions to the dissolved garnet Nd budget (Fig. 17).

Below is a discussion of what these results might mean for the metamorphic evolution of the Kobipoto Complex granulites.

What did the zircon record?

Since zircon may crystallize from a melt that is generated during anatexis (e.g. Schaltegger et al. 1999; Vavra et al. 1999), be modified by solid-state recrystallization (e.g. Hoskin & Black 2000), form by subsolidus metamorphic reactions in response to Zr liberation (e.g. Fraser et al. 1997; Degeling et al. 2001), or may precipitate from metamorphic or metasomatic fluids across a broad range of temperatures (e.g. Rubatto & Hermann 2003; Hay & Dempster 2009), it is far from straightforward to assign U–Pb zircon ages to a particular event (Harley et al. 2007). Furthermore, metamorphic-attributed U–Pb ages are unlikely to date peak P–T conditions (e.g. Roberts & Finger 1997; Tedeschi et al. 2017) but rather an episode of zircon growth facilitated by Zr-rich metamorphic fluids or solid-state Zr diffusion during metamorphic reactions. Closely-matched REE patterns between the zircon and metamorphic minerals suspected to have coexisted with the zircon under equilibrium conditions are considered by many as the best evidence for identifying ‘metamorphic zircon’ (e.g. Hokada & Harley 2004; Harley et al. 2007; Rubatto & Hermann 2007a, b). Additional evidence may come from Th/U zircon ratios, since metamorphic zircon commonly has Th/U ratios <0.1 and magmatic zircon >0.1 (Rubatto 2002). However, there are numerous examples, particularly from metaluminous rocks, of metamorphic

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<th>Table 5. Lu–Hf geochronology results, sample KP11-588</th>
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<td>Lu (ppm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grt-1 5.205</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grt-2 5.177</td>
</tr>
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<td>w.r. 1.11</td>
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Lu and Hf abundances determined by IsoProbe MC-ICP-MS. w.r., whole rock; SE, standard error; σ, standard deviation.

<table>
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<th>Table 6. Sm–Nd geochronology results, sample KP11-588</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sm (ppm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>grt-1 7.182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>grt-2 6.530</td>
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<tr>
<td>grt-2* 0.512067 ± 4E–6</td>
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<td>w.r. 6.475</td>
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143Nd/144Nd determined to higher precision by IsotopX Phenix TIMS. The other data are from IsoProbe MC-ICP-MS. w.r., whole rock; SE, standard error; σ, standard deviation.
zircon with Th/U ratios that do not match this criterion (e.g. Vavra et al. 1999; Rubatto 2017) and very low Th/U ratios (i.e. <0.01) may instead relate to zircon formed by low-T metasomatism (Harley et al. 2007).

c. 16 Ma Rm zircon. Rm zircon rims have very similar HREE abundances to garnet analysed from sample KP11-588, with garnet core and rim abundances neatly bracketing the entire range of Rm zircon HREE profiles (Fig. 13). This provides strong evidence for the c. 16 Ma Rm zircon having grown in the presence of this garnet, most probably from Zr liberated by consumption of the garnet rims (cf. Degeling et al. 2001; Sajeev et al. 2010). A metamorphic origin is further supported by U/Pb ratios that are consistently <0.1 (Fig. 14).

As discussed by Pownall (2015), it is unlikely that the 16 Ma zircon (and, for similar reasons, the 16 Ma monazite) date the peak of metamorphism (cf. Yakymchuk & Brown 2014; Kohn et al. 2015), but instead a point on the P–T path that has passed through UHT conditions. Zircon growth can only occur if sufficient free Zr is available, so if Zr-bearing minerals, such as garnet, were consumed, Zr would have been liberated and zircon growth enabled or promoted (cf. Degeling et al. 2001). The retrograde history of the Kobipoto Complex UHT granulites is characterized by the replacement of garnet during reaction with sillimanite to form cordierite + spinel-dominated ordered reaction microstructures and zircons located in this microtextural setting crystallized Rm rims. As noted by Sajeev et al. (2010), the formation of cordierite from garnet in the presence of melt would have released Zr that would have promoted zircon growth (cf. Fraser et al. 2000; Degeling et al. 2001). We therefore interpret that the c. 16 Ma Rm zircon rims were produced by post-peak metamorphic reactions that also produced the cordierite coronae and cordierite-spinel symplectites (Fig. 3c). This would have occurred during near-isothermal retrogression, after the metamorphic peak and below 6 kbar pressure – the lower-P limit of garnet stability (Fig. 4). Ti-in-zircon thermometry would pinpoint the Rm zircon crystallization temperature at c. 600°C (Fig. 15), although THERMOCALC AvePT thermometry yielded slightly hotter (754 ± 116°C at 4.0 ± 1.0 kbar) conditions for the post-peak reaction microstructures (Pownall 2015). Despite not having dated peak metamorphism, the complex’s rapid exhumation and cooling history inferred from 40Ar/39Ar geochronology (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017b) would mean that Rm zircon crystallization occurred very shortly afterwards.

Interestingly, zircon grains included in garnet did not grow Rm rims (Fig. 9) and so did not record c. 16 Ma ages. These zircons experienced the entire UHT metamorphic event without being affected by it, presumably because they were isolated from Zr4+ liberated by garnet rim breakdown after the metamorphic peak. We therefore infer that the c. 30% of grains from sample KP11-588 mounted for SHRIMP U–Pb dating that do not feature Rm rims were separated from within garnet and the rest from post-peak reaction microstructures and the leucosome.

Despite not having formed under UHT conditions, the Rm zircon rims have several characteristics in common with zircons interpreted to have formed...
under UHT metamorphic conditions in different terranes (e.g. Santosh et al. 2007; Sajeev et al. 2010; Kusiak et al. 2013). These ‘UHT zircons’ are reported typically as being U-rich (CL dark) and poorly-zoned with low Th/U ratios. Santosh et al. (2007) proposed that an increase in metamorphic temperature progressively destroys the oscillatory zoning, leaving the zircon uniformly dark in CL. Sajeev et al. (2010) attributed poorly-zoned zircon overgrowths with low Th/U ratios and similar low CL response from Sri Lankan granulites to UHT metamorphism at c. 550 Ma. Similarly, Kusiak et al. (2013) described CL-dark low-Th, high-U UHT zircon from the Napier Complex, Antarctica. We demonstrate here the possibility that ‘UHT zircon’ matching the same chemistry and texture may also form at much lower temperatures after the UHT metamorphic peak.

c. 200 Ma R2 zircon. R2 zircon zones have HREE abundances at least an order of magnitude higher than Rm zircon rims and the garnet (Fig. 13). For this reason, it is unlikely that they grew during the most recent episode of garnet crystallization related to the UHT metamorphism. They must have instead grown during an earlier event. Ti-in-zircon temperatures of c. 700°C and relatively low U/Th ratios (mostly <0.1) together suggest a metamorphic origin for the zircon at around upper-amphibolite grade. As R2 zircon formed, in part, by recrystallization of the detrital cores (Pownall et al. 2017a), growth was likely in the presence of ample fluid/melt. There is also a possibility that this R2 zircon grew contemporaneously with an early episode of garnet growth, or at least during the same Late Triassic–Early Jurassic orogenic event in which garnet also formed, as discussed later.

These results further support the interpretation of an upper-amphibolite facies metamorphic event having affected the NW Australian margin in the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic (Pownall et al. 2017a). According to tectonic reconstructions by Hall (2012), this metamorphic event would shortly predate rifting of the Banda and Argo blocks from NW Australia and the subsequent opening of the Proto-Banda Sea in the Middle Jurassic.

What did the monazite record?

Monazite grains dated in situ from the leucosome and from within garnet gave ages of 16.4 ± 0.4 Ma (Fig. 10) – identical, within uncertainty, to the Rm zircon. We therefore interpret the monazite to have similarly dated a point on the high-temperature decompression path after the peak of UHT metamorphism and in the presence of melt. As the monazite inclusion dated in this study is located close to leucosome in the margin of the garnet and also connected to a fracture network (Fig. 6d), it may have been recrystallized by circulating fluids shortly post-dating the UHT event (cf. Williams et al. 2011; Kelly et al. 2012; Taylor et al. 2014). R2 zircon inclusions within garnet were evidently more resilient to any fluid-mediated resetting effect.

What do the Zr-in-rutile temperatures mean?

Rutile grains from the leucosome (Fig. 6f) recorded Zr-in-rutile temperatures (Tomkins et al. 2007) as high as 907 ± 14°C, whereas rutile grains included in garnet (Fig. 6e) recorded temperatures between c. 600°C and 750°C (Fig. 16). In the leucosome, it is reasonable to assume an aSiO2 of 1 and unimpeached exchange of Zr4+ and Ti4+ between rutile and (Rm) zircon. We therefore consider this result to be a reliable piece of further evidence that the Kobipoto Complex granulites were metamorphosed under UHT conditions.

The rutile grains within garnet must have also experienced the same peak temperature but failed to record it. This is likely because the rutile and (R2) zircon grains included within garnet in the prograde path were shielded from each other under peak conditions and were not able to equilibrate, prohibiting free Zr4+ ≒ Ti4+ exchange. Failure of zircon grains within garnet to crystallize c. 16 Ma (Rm) rims further demonstrates that Zr4+ from the leucosome did not pass into garnet. The broad spread in rutile Zr contents may therefore reflect the different temperatures (c. 600–750°C) at which rutile grains were included in prograde garnet.

What do the 138 Ma Lu–Hf garnet ages mean?

The 138.6 ± 0.7 and 137.9 ± 0.6 Ma Lu–Hf garnet ages (Fig. 17a) are at first puzzling because an Early Cretaceous metamorphic or magmatic episode has never before been reported for Australian-affinity crust in east Indonesia. Previous work indicates a period of tectonic and magmatic quiescence in the NW Australian margin at this time (e.g. Audley-Charles 1988; Fraser et al. 1993; Hall 2012). A c. 143 Ma metamorphic episode has been documented in western Borneo, but not from a part of Borneo that was derived from Australia (Breitfeld et al. 2017). Given also that for the same sample (1) this 138 Ma Lu–Hf garnet age does not correlate even closely with zircon or monazite crystallization events, (2) garnet HREE abundances equilibrated with those in 16 Ma zircon (Fig. 13) and (3) the respective Sm–Nd garnet age is significantly younger (10.6 ± 7.7 Ma, although imprecise), we do not think that this Cretaceous Lu–Hf age can date a real metamorphic or magmatic event. We argue below that this age is the result of mixing between c. 200 Ma garnet cores with c. 16 Ma garnet rims.

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In order that $^{176}$Hf produced during the c. 200 Ma event was not lost from the garnet by diffusion during UHT metamorphism at c. 16 Ma, we further argue that duration of the UHT metamorphism must have been very short.

The Koibpoto Complex garnets retain evidence in their HREE zonation for two separate episodes of garnet growth (Fig. 12) despite having relatively flat major element profiles (Fig. 11). Hf and Lu concentrations are ×3 and ×30 higher, respectively, in garnet cores compared to the rims. On the other hand, Sm and Nd concentrations are more uniform and do not feature a sharp core–rim transition. Furthermore, the Lu–Hf garnet ages of 137.9 ± 0.6 and 138.6 ± 0.7 Ma are significantly older than their respective 10.6 ± 7.7 Ma Sm–Nd age. Although it is common for Lu–Hf ages to be slightly older than Sm–Nd ages for the same garnet sample grown during a single metamorphic event (e.g. Anczewicz et al. 2007, 2012; Kylander-Clark et al. 2007; Bird et al. 2013; Smit et al. 2013; Yakymchuk et al. 2015), in this instance the discrepancy is far too large to be accounted for by any systematic offset. A component of Hf$^{4+}$, but not Nd$^{3+}$, must have been derived from a previous metamorphic event, requiring that (1) part of the garnet is significantly older than the UHT metamorphism, and (2) the UHT metamorphic event then remobilized major element and LREE cations (including Sm and Nd) without significantly redistributing the highly-retenive cations (including Lu and Hf).

These requirements are permitted by the different Lu–Hf and Sm–Nd closure temperatures and Lu$^{3+}$ and Hf$^{4+}$ diffusion behaviours in garnet. According to Smit et al. (2013), for rapid cooling rates (>100°C Ma$^{-1}$) and a garnet diffusion domain radius of 1 mm, the closure temperature of both Sm–Nd and Lu–Hf systems would be approximately >850°C and >1000°C, respectively. Furthermore, Bloch et al. (2015, p. 16) determined that Hf$^{4+}$ (and Lu$^{3+}$) are only able to fully homogenize when ‘unusually long periods of metamorphism persist’, or when very high temperatures (i.e. >> 900°C) are attained. For instance, to fully homogenize its Hf a 1 mm-diameter garnet may take c. 12 Ma at 900°C, but c. 250 Ma at 800°C (Bloch et al. 2015, p. 16, fig. 12). The fact that HREE zoning is preserved in garnet (Fig. 13) and that UHT metamorphism did not ‘reset’ the Lu–Hf clock indicates that the duration of UHT metamorphism must have been short (i.e. significantly less than 12 Ma – perhaps just a few Ma).

The metamorphic event recorded by the R$_2$ zircon between 215 and 173 Ma is the only known candidate for producing an older generation of garnet from which this older Hf might have been sourced. As such, we propose that the garnet cores formed during the previously-identified Late Triassic–Early Jurassic amphibolite-facies metamorphic event. It might be expected that HREE concentrations of garnet cores and R$_2$ zircon should be similar, if it is assumed that these two minerals grew in equilibrium. However, while not opened to complete diffusion, a slight depletion in garnet core HREE concentration may still have occurred during the UHT event. This is one possible explanation why garnet core HREE concentrations are lower than those of R$_2$ zircon (Fig. 13). An alternative explanation is that R$_2$ zircon and garnet grew during different stages of the same orogenic event and/or formed in different domains and so never had similar HREE abundances.

**Lu–Hf garnet mixing model.** In order to test the viability of this idea, we performed a simple mixing calculation using values approximated from the LA-ICP-MS core–rim traverses (Fig. 12) of Lu$_{core}$/Lu$_{rim}$ = 25 ppm/1 ppm Hf$_{core}$/Hf$_{rim}$ = 0.34 ppm/0.05 ppm = 6.80, and using the whole rock data shown in Table 5. The core age was fixed at 200 Ma and the rim age fixed at 16 Ma by rotating manually the slope of the model iso-chrons about the whole rock $^{176}$Hf/$^{177}$Hf and $^{176}$Lu/$^{177}$Hf ratios. Cores and rims were then mixed in a 20$_{core}$/80$_{rim}$ ratio, as determined from the Lu mass balance (discussed previously). This produced a mixed-model age of 131.3 Ma. However, this model age is very sensitive to the Hf$_{core}$/Hf$_{rim}$ ratio, which cannot be determined accurately from the available LA-ICP-MS traverses. Taking lower and upper estimates for Hf$_{core}$/Hf$_{rim}$ of 4.9 (using instead 0.07 ppm Hf$_{rim}$) and 11.3 (using instead 0.03 ppm Hf$_{rim}$) yielded model mixing ages between 116.5 and 151.2 Ma (Fig. 17c). The actual Lu–Hf ages of 137.9 ± 0.6 and 138.6 ± 0.7 Ma fall squarely between these limits. Therefore, we demonstrate that it is entirely plausible that the c. 138 Ma Lu–Hf ages were produced by mixing between c. 200 Ma cores (20% contribution) and c. 16 Ma rims (80% contribution).

Although a smaller component of the mixed age, the c. 200 Ma cores have far higher Lu and Hf concentrations than the c. 16 Ma rims (Fig. 12) and so affected the age to a greater extent. Also, since Lu$^{3+}$ diffusion is around x10 faster than Hf$^{4+}$ diffusion (e.g. Kohn 2009; Anczewicz et al. 2012; Baxter & Scherer 2013), partial HREE retention may have lowered residual $^{176}$Lu/$^{177}$Hf ratios, further skewing Lu–Hf ages towards older values (up until the point all Hf$^{4+}$ and Lu$^{3+}$ are lost and the age is reset). This issue of Hf inheritance from earlier garnet growth events has been described previously as resulting in systematically older Lu–Hf ages (Bloch & Ganguly 2015; Raimondo et al. 2017). Counter to this, garnet resorption, which has affected the garnets of the Koibpoto Complex granulites to a large extent, may have resulted in a younging of the
Fig. 19. Explanation of zircon, garnet, monazite and rutile histories for the Kobipoto Complex granulites linked to tectonic reconstruction of the Banda region (Hall 2012). The reconstructions (for 80–130° E, 0–50° S) show oceanic crust in mint green (older than 120 Ma) and mid-blue (younger than 120 Ma), and submarine arcs and oceanic plateaus in pale blue. The yellow diamond indicates the location of central Seram. P–T values (orange boxes) are from Pownall (2015) and Ti-in-zircon thermometry (Fig. 15). The cartoon minerals are not to scale. (a) Australian detrital zircon (C_d) was deposited as part of the Kobipoto Complex protolith in the Late Triassic. (b) Upper amphibolite-facies metamorphic event(s) between 216 and 170 Ma grew R2 zircon and garnet cores. (c) No known event occurred at 138 Ma. (d) UHT metamorphism affected the Kobipoto Complex just prior to 16 Ma. Prograde peritectic growth of garnet rims trapped melt. Major element and LREE cations equilibrated between core and rim, but more retentive HREEs were largely retained in the core. Rutiles in the leucosome recorded >900°C Zr-in-Rt temperatures. (e) Upon rapid decompression and cooling from UHT conditions, consumption of garnet liberated Zr and LREEs that facilitated the growth of c. 16 Ma Rm zircon and monazite, respectively. Zircon shielded in garnet did not record the UHT event. 138 Ma garnet Lu–Hf age is the result of mixing between cores and rims. Sketch cross-section adapted from Pownall (2015).
Lu–Hf age as Lu$^{3+}$ is preferentially retained over Hf$^{4+}$ in the resorbed portion of the garnet (Kelly et al. 2011).

Summary

UHT metamorphism and melting on Seram occurred just prior to 16 Ma and an upper-amphibolite facies metamorphic event occurred during the Triassic/Jurassic (c. 200 Ma), for the following reasons:

(1) the HREE abundances in garnet (a major constituent of the peak UHT metamorphic assemblage) tightly bracket those in the 16 Ma zircon, whereas 200 Ma zircon HREE abundances are ×10 higher (Fig. 13);

(2) monazite included within garnet yielded a $^{206}\text{Pb} / ^{238}\text{U}$ age of 16.4 ± 0.4 Ma (Fig. 10) – within uncertainty of those ages from zircon (Fig. 18);

(3) Th/U ratios for the c. 16 Ma R$_m$ zircon are consistently below 0.1, consistent with a metamorphic origin (Fig. 14);

(4) garnet yielded a Sm–Nd age of 10.6 ± 7.7 Ma, within uncertainty of c. 16 Ma zircon;

(5) garnet Lu–Hf ages of c. 138 Ma are explained by mixing between c. 200 Ma cores with c. 16 Ma rims (Fig. 17c);

(6) rutile present in the leucosome records Zr-in-rutile temperatures >900°C (Fig. 16);

(7) multiple $^{40}\text{Ar} / ^{39}\text{Ar}$ ages (Pownall et al. 2017b) also document a regionally-significant metamorphic event that affected Seram’s Tehoru Formation at 16 Ma;

(8) a 17 Ma $^{40}\text{Ar} / ^{39}\text{Ar}$ age from phlogopite in a lamprophyric dyke intruding the Kobipoto Complex Iherzolite demonstrates the presence of hot mantle rocks at that time, necessary to have achieved UHT conditions (Pownall et al. 2017b);

(9) tectonic reconstructions at c. 16 Ma indicate a marked change in the tectonic environment in the Banda region, as the Banda slab began to subduct with rollback of the subduction hinge ESE into the Banda Embayment (Fig. 19), driving regional extension (Spakman & Hall 2010; Hall 2011, 2018).

These multiple lines of evidence add further support to the interpretation that the Seram granulites recorded Earth’s youngest-known episode of UHT crustal metamorphism in response to rollback-driven mantle exhumation (Pownall et al. 2014, 2017a).

We further propose that garnet cores grew at c. 200 Ma, during the same orogenic event that caused R$_2$ zircon crystallization. During the Miocene UHT event, prograde garnet rims overgrew these older cores. The major elements later equilibrated between the two different generations during peak conditions, erasing any zoning. Upon rapid cooling and decompression from UHT conditions, garnets cooled through the Sm–Nd closure temperature (consistent with the Sm–Nd age being equal to or less than the zircon and monazite U–Pb ages), but the garnet was never hot enough for long enough to have ‘opened’ to appreciable Hf$^{4+}$ diffusion. Consequently, the thermal pulse that drove UHT metamorphism must have been short (Pownall et al. 2014; Pownall 2015) and failed to enable complete outward diffusion of Hf$^{4+}$ accumulated in the c. 200 Ma garnet cores. These ‘fast’ granulites (Harley 2016) cannot have existed above 900°C much longer than a few million years before being exhumed very rapidly, as supported also by the identical-within-uncertainty biotite $^{40}\text{Ar} / ^{39}\text{Ar}$ (Pownall et al. 2017b), zircon U–Pb and monazite U–Pb ages (Fig. 18).

Conclusions

Metamorphic evolution of the Kobipoto Complex UHT granulites

(1) The pelitic protolith to the Kobipoto Complex granulites was deposited by 216 Ma. Detrital zircons (C$_D$) as old as 3.4 Ga confirm this material was derived, in part, from the western Australian cratons (Fig. 19a).

(2) The protolith to the Kobipoto Complex was metamorphosed in the upper-amphibolite facies (±partial melting) between 215 and 173 Ma as recorded by R$_2$ zircon rims that partially recrystallized older C$_D$ cores (evidenced by c. 700°C Ti-in-[R$_2$]zircon temperatures and Th/U < 0.1). Small garnets with high HREE contents also likely grew during this Late Jurassic–Early Cretaceous event, in order to account for elevated $^{176}\text{Hf}$ contents that cannot be explained by a single garnet growth event at c. 16 Ma. It is possible that more than one metamorphic–magmatic episode occurred between 215 and 173 Ma which shortly predated the rifting of adjacent continental blocks from the NW Australian margin (Fig. 19b).

(3) Prograde metamorphism preceding the UHT peak was not recorded by the investigated geochronometers, but must have occurred between 23 Ma (the initial Australia–SE Asia collision age; Hall 2011) and 16 Ma (growth of retrograde R$_m$ zircon and monazite). Garnet growth, principally as a peritectic product (evidenced by melt inclusions) engulfed many C$_D$ + R$_2$ zircon grains and some rutile and monazite grains (Fig. 19d). The zircons, after their inclusion in garnet, did not crystallize new rims. Rutile grains, after their inclusion, did not adjust
their Zr contents, recording collectively a spread of different Zr-in-rutile temperatures (600–750°C) along the prograde path.

(4) Hot leucosome must have been present at the peak of UHT metamorphism (925°C and 9 kbar; Pownall 2015). Rutile grains within the leucosome, adjacent to garnet, recorded Zr-in-rutile temperatures of c. 900°C through exchange of Zr⁴⁺ and Ti⁴⁺ with zircon grains present also in the leucosome (Fig. 19d). At this time, garnet comprised a modelled 30 vol% of the rock (Pownall 2015). As the garnets no longer preserve major element or LREE core–rim zoning, in contrast to the more retentive HREEs, it is likely that these less retentive cations were homogenized under peak conditions. Diffusion of HREEs from core to rim may have occurred to a small extent, since R₂ zircon which grew contemporaneously with the garnet cores at c. 200 Ma have higher HREE abundances.

(5) During the granulites’ post-peak evolution, garnet reacted with sillimanite to form the cordierite and spinel-rich coronae. At c. 16 Ma, as the rock was exhumed above c. 20 km depth (c. 6 kbar), garnet no longer remained part of the equilibrium assemblage. Zr⁴⁺ liberated by metamorphic reactions consuming the outermost garnet rims drove crystallization of c. 16 Ma Rₘ rims on zircon grains in the leucosome and on zircons now located in cordierite + spinel post-peak reaction microstructures (Fig. 19e). Ti-in-[Rₘ],zircon temperatures of just 600°C attest to the late crystallization of zircon in the UHT granulites’ retrograde history.

(6) The 138.6 ± 0.7 and 137.9 ± 0.6 Ma garnet Lu–Hf ages do not correlate to any known geological event in the Banda region (Fig. 19c). We interpret these ages to be the product of mixing between c. 200 Ma garnet cores (c. 20% contribution) and c. 16 Ma garnet rims (c. 80% contribution) (Figs 17c & 19e). The garnet Sm–Nd age of 10.6 ± 7.7 Ma is imprecise, but most probably records initial cooling from the UHT metamorphic peak at c. 16 Ma. Unlike Hf, there is no evidence that Nd produced within c. 200 Ma garnet cores was retained in garnet during Miocene UHT metamorphism. In order that the Lu–Hf ‘clock’ was not reset by the UHT metamorphism, the granulites cannot have resided under UHT conditions for longer than a few million years.

Broader implications

(1) Zircon grains in shielded microtextural sites (in this instance as inclusions within garnet) may be subjected to an entire UHT metamorphic cycle without crystallizing new rims and therefore without recording the UHT event.

(2) Short-lived UHT metamorphic events are sometimes unable to reset the Lu–Hf system in garnet. In such instances, Hf retention from a previous metamorphic event may lead to a mixed Lu–Hf age even for garnets that no longer preserve major element zonation.

(3) Rather than having formed within a large, long-lived, hot collisional orogen – the most common explanation for UHT rocks discovered in Proterozoic terranes – these Indonesian Miocene granulites record a history of short-lived UHT metamorphism and subsequent rapid exhumation.

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