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1 Partial retention of radiogenic Pb in galena nanocrystals explains discordance in  
2 monazite from Napier Complex (Antarctica)

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## 13 **ABSTRACT**

14 The discordance of U–Th–Pb isotopic systems in geochronometers, and how such data are  
15 interpreted, are still major issues in the geosciences. To better understand the disturbance of  
16 isotopic systems, and how this impacts the derivation of geologically-meaningful ages,  
17 previously studied discordant monazite from the ultrahigh temperature paragneiss of the  
18 Archean Napier Complex (Antarctica) have been investigated. Monazite grains were  
19 characterized from the micro to the nanoscale using an analytical workflow comprising laser  
20 ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS), secondary-ion mass  
21 spectrometry (SIMS), electron microprobe (EMP), transmission electron microscopy (TEM)  
22 and atom probe tomography (APT). Results reveal that the least discordant monazite, hosted in

23 garnet and rutilated quartz, contain a large number of small Pb-bearing nanominerals ( $\emptyset \sim 50$   
24 nm) while the most discordant monazite, hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix, contain a  
25 smaller number of Pb-bearing nanominerals bigger in size ( $\emptyset \sim 50$  to 500 nm). The degree of  
26 the discordance, which was previously correlated with textural position is mechanistically  
27 related to the partial retention of radiogenic Pb ( $Pb^*$ ) in distinct  $Pb^*$ -bearing nanominerals (e.g.  
28 PbS) within the monazite grains. *In-situ* dating (U–Pb systems with LA-ICP-MS and SIMS),  
29 and isotopic information obtained by using APT ( $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  isotopic signature of galena and  
30  $^{208}Pb/^{232}Th$  ages of the monazite matrix) allow the timing of Pb-disturbance and mobility to be  
31 constrained. Results show that monazite grains crystallized at *ca.* 2.44 Ga and were affected by  
32 two episodes of  $Pb^*$  mobility. The first episode ( $t_1$ ) at *ca.* 1.05 Ga, led to crystallization of a first  
33 generation of  $Pb^*$ -bearing nanominerals and a complete resetting of the monazite matrix at the  
34 nanoscale. The second episode ( $t_2$ ) at *ca.* 0.55 Ga was associated with the crystallization of a  
35 second generation of  $Pb^*$ -bearing nanominerals with a  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  signature indicating a mixing  
36 of two  $Pb^*$  components: a component from the monazite matrix and remobilized  $Pb^*$  from the  
37 first generation of  $Pb^*$ -bearing nanominerals. This second event is characterized by a more  
38 localized resetting of the monazite matrix at the nanoscale compared to the  $t_1$  event. These  
39 results indicate the potential of nanoscale studies of Pb-rich nanominerals within monazite to  
40 yield important details of the thermal history of complex metamorphic terranes.

41 Keywords: U–Th–Pb discordance – monazite – Pb mobility – nanogeochronology- atom  
42 probe tomography

## 43 **1. INTRODUCTION**

44 Accessory mineral U–Th–Pb geochronology is widely used in Earth Sciences because the  
45 existence of two U–Pb and one Th–Pb decay chains, each with different half-lives, allows direct  
46 evaluation of isotopic disturbance and the accuracy of calculated dates. If the dates calculated

47 from the three decay chains differ, then the system under consideration is referred to as  
48 discordant. Discordance is common in ancient and polymetamorphic rocks, where it typically  
49 indicates Pb mobility or loss, and if not recognized may lead to erroneous conclusions with  
50 respect to the geological history (Corfu, 2013). In situations where only one event is responsible  
51 for Pb mobility, the time of Pb disturbance may be deduced by regression of discordant isotopic  
52 data on graphs of  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  vs  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  or  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  vs  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  (Allègre et al., 1974; Tera  
53 and Wasserburg, 1972; Wetherill, 1963). However, multiple episodes of Pb disturbance result  
54 in more complex data distributions that may be difficult to identify and reliably interpret  
55 (Gebauer and Grünenfelder, 1979). This is particularly the case when the scale or mechanism  
56 of Pb mobility differs between events. However, assessing the scale of Pb mobility as well as  
57 the mechanisms by which Pb is disturbed, is typically difficult. The nanoscale quantification of  
58 Pb distribution, coupled with isotopic analysis, has the potential to provide constraints on the  
59 causes and scales of Pb mobility to yield a unique insight into the nature of discordance in the  
60 U–Th–Pb isotopic systems (Peterman et al., 2016; Valley et al., 2014).

61 Fine-scale characterization of the location and behaviour of the radiogenic daughter element  
62 ( $\text{Pb}^*$ ) in host minerals relies on the correlation of structural observations with isotopic  
63 measurements at the nanoscale. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) has revealed Pb-rich  
64 nanominerals in discordant zircon, either as native Pb (Kusiak et al., 2015) or Pb-oxide (Kusiak  
65 et al., 2019). Similar features have been reported in discordant monazite (Seydoux-Guillaume  
66 et al., 2003) and phase separation of Pb-enriched domains in monazite have been identified  
67 through the integration of TEM and atom probe tomography (APT) analyses (Seydoux-  
68 Guillaume et al., 2019). The isotopic compositions of such heterogeneities for U–Th–Pb  
69 geochronometers such as zircon, monazite and rutile have been quantified using APT (Arcuri  
70 et al., 2020; Blum et al., 2018; Fougèrouse et al., 2021a, 2021b, 2018; Peterman et al., 2016;  
71 Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2019; Valley et al., 2015, 2014; Verberne et al., 2020). These studies

72 typically use an advanced analytical workflow to constrain the scale of Pb mobility and the  
73 timing of isolation of Pb from parental U and Th (Peterman et al., 2016; Seydoux-Guillaume et  
74 al., 2019; Valley et al., 2015). This approach, which integrates textural, microstructural,  
75 compositional and isotopic analyses from the micro- to the nanoscale yields significant  
76 advances on the causes of isotopic discordance and ages variation at the microscale (Peterman  
77 et al., 2016; Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2018a).

78 Studies on natural zircon have demonstrated that isotopic discordance may be caused by  
79 Pb\* mobility associated with the annealing of radiation damage during high temperature  
80 metamorphic conditions, resulting in isolated Pb\* reservoirs (Kusiak et al., 2019, 2015;  
81 Peterman et al., 2021, 2016; Whitehouse et al., 2017). In contrast, monazite is less sensitive to  
82 the thermal history of the host rock since natural monazite remains crystalline thanks to a defect  
83 recovery mechanism operating event at moderate temperature (> 180 °C; Seydoux-Guillaume  
84 et al. 2018b). Pb\* mobility in monazite from micro to nanoscale is promoted by fluid-assisted  
85 mechanisms, such as a coupled dissolution-precipitation process (Grand'Homme et al., 2018;  
86 Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2002), and by deformation-assisted mechanisms both in fluid-  
87 present (Wawrzenitz et al. 2012) and fluid-absent environments (Erickson et al., 2015;  
88 Fougrouse et al., 2021b). As a result, the effects and interplay of such mechanisms, on the  
89 formation and nature of nanoscale Pb\* heterogeneities as well as their impact on discordance in  
90 monazite cannot simply be derived from our knowledge of zircon.

91 This study re-investigates discordant monazite grains reported by Black et al. (1984) from  
92 an Archean polymetamorphic granulite of the Napier Complex, East Antarctica. Multiple  
93 advanced micro- to nanoscale analytical techniques are used to provide unique constraints on  
94 the development and evolution of discrete Pb\* reservoirs within variably-discordant monazite.  
95 The integration of isotopic analyses over a range of scales is critically evaluated within the

96 context of a well-constrained metamorphic history to provide unique constraints on the  
97 nanoscale mechanisms accommodating two stages of Pb-disturbance.

## 98 **2. METHODS**

99 Microscale imaging of monazite was conducted at 20 keV with field emission gun scanning  
100 electron microscopy FEG-SEM Zeiss supra 55vp. The instrument is also equipped with an  
101 energy dispersive X-ray (EDX) spectrometer.

102 Uranium–Th–Pb isotopic analyses by LA– ICP–MS were performed at the Laboratoire  
103 Magmas et Volcans (Clermont-Ferrand, France). The laser ablation systems consist of a  
104 Resonetics Resolution M-50E system equipped with an ultrashort pulse ATL excimer 193 nm  
105 laser coupled to an Agilent 7500 cs ICP–MS. A Laser spot diameter of 9  $\mu\text{m}$  was used with 1  
106 Hz repetition rate and a fluence of 7.5 J/cm<sup>2</sup>. The <sup>204</sup>(Pb+Hg) signal was monitored but no  
107 common-Pb correction was applied. Analytical procedures and reproducibility are reported in  
108 detail in Appendix A. SIMS was undertaken on a CAMECA IMS 7f-Geo hosted at the NERC  
109 Ion Micro-Probe Facility, School of Geosciences, Edinburgh University (UK), under conditions  
110 detailed in Appendix A. The technique was specifically employed to search for the presence of  
111 any <sup>204</sup>Pb (common Pb; Pb<sub>c</sub>) because LA-ICP-MS cannot be employed due to the unresolvable  
112 isobaric interference between <sup>204</sup>Pb (203.9730), and <sup>204</sup>Hg (203.9735). With the SIMS  
113 technique there is a potential isobaric interference from the molecular species  
114 [<sup>232</sup>Th<sup>144</sup>Nd<sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> (mass 407.9379, M/z = 203.9690). This interference can be resolved by  
115 correlating [<sup>232</sup>Th<sup>144</sup>Nd<sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> counts per second (cps) with <sup>143</sup>Nd<sup>31</sup>P<sup>16</sup>O<sub>2</sub> (205.87) in the 5037  
116 monazite sample and comparing this to Moacyr reference material data, which shows that these  
117 data follow a linear correlation (more details in Appendix A). SIMS analyses reported a  
118 maximum of 0.06 cps associated with <sup>204</sup>Pb estimated in Moacyr reference material. As the  
119 counts of mass 204 in sample 5037 monazite are less than, or overlap, those for Moacyr (2.8

120 cps and 3.7 cps respectively; Appendix C), the figure of 0.06 cps for  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  is applied as a  
121 maximum correction for common Pb on  $^{206}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}$  in sample 5037 monazite. Age  
122 data from SIMS have higher uncertainties than those from LA-ICP-MS as the SIMS  
123 methodology was optimized to assess  $\text{Pb}_c$  and not to obtain high-precision dates. U–Th–Pb  
124 EMP dating was conducted using a CAMECA SXFive at the Microcharacterization Center  
125 Raimond Castaing, at Toulouse (France). The analytical conditions were 15 keV and 200-300  
126 nA, following the protocol outlined in Laurent et al. (2016), and are detailed along with age  
127 reproducibility in Appendix A.

128 Nanoscale characterization by TEM and scanning transmission electron microscopy  
129 (STEM) were performed with a Cs-corrected NeoARM200F Cold FEG TEM operated at 200  
130 keV, owned by the Consortium Lyon Saint-Etienne de Microscopie (FED 4092) and hosted  
131 within the Hubert Curien Laboratory, Saint-Etienne (France). APT data were collected using a  
132 CAMECA Local Electrode Atom Probe LEAP 4000X HR hosted at the Geoscience Atom  
133 Probe Facility at Curtin University, Perth (Australia). APT data were collected using a UV laser  
134 ( $\lambda = 355 \text{ nm}$ ) pulsed at 125 kHz and 30-300 pJ (details in Appendix A). In the APT mass spectra,  
135 peaks at least twice higher than the background level were identified and reconstructed in 3  
136 dimensions. For monazite, voltage evolution reconstructions were utilized with an evaporation  
137 field of  $27.02 \text{ V/nm}^2$  and an atomic volume of  $0.01245 \text{ nm}^3$  (Fougerouse et al., 2021c). TEM  
138 samples were prepared using a with a Thermo Fisher Scientific FEI Helios Nanolab 600i  
139 focused-ion beam scanning electron microscope (FIB/SEM) hosted by MANUTECH USD  
140 platform, at Hubert Curien laboratory, Saint-Etienne (France). A Tescan Lyra3  $\text{Ga}^+$  FIB-SEM  
141 housed at Curtin University was used for preparation on needle-shaped APT specimens. More  
142 details on instrument, analytical conditions and data processing are provided in Appendix A.

143 Isotopic dates from the APT data were calculated using  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  ratios measured on  
144  $^{208}\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and  $^{232}\text{ThO}^{2+}$  peaks, following the correction procedures of (Fougerouse et al., 2020;

145 see Appendix A for details).  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios were estimated from APT data on galena  
146 inclusions using  $^{207}\text{Pb}^{2+}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}^{2+}$  peaks and following the methodology of Blum et al., (2018)  
147 to correct the effect on the thermal peak of  $^{206}\text{Pb}^{2+}$  on  $^{207}\text{Pb}^{2+}$  peak (see Appendix A for details).

### 148 **3. GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT AND SAMPLE DESCRIPTION**

149 The studied monazite grains are from an Archean granulite (sample 5037; Black et al., 1984)  
150 collected at Zircon Point in the Napier Complex, East Antarctica (Fig. 1A, B). The granulite is  
151 a garnet-rich migmatized paragneiss preserving a well-developed, high-grade, layer-parallel  
152 fabric composed of rutilated quartz (Rt-quartz) ribbons, mesoperthitic feldspar, sillimanite and  
153 elongated poikiloblastic garnet (Appendix B.1, S<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>2</sub>; Black et al., 1983, 1984). This mineral  
154 paragenesis corresponds to a major late-Archean ultrahigh temperature (UHT) event (1050 –  
155 1120°C, 7-11 kbar) at *ca.* 2.58 – 2.48 Ga (Harley and Motoyoshi, 2000; Hokada et al., 2004  
156 Kelly and Harley, 2005).

157 The sample is affected by retrogression involving the development of secondary biotite  
158 within fractures in garnet (Appendix B.1, S<sub>3</sub>; Black et al. 1983), exsolution of perthitic feldspar  
159 and the recrystallization of the quartzo-feldspathic matrix as fine-grained granoblastic  
160 aggregates containing rutile-free quartz (Appendix B.1; Black et al., 1983). This retrogressive  
161 episode in the southern Napier Complex area, including Zircon Point, corresponds to  
162 amphibolite-facies conditions and is associated with localized shearing and pegmatite  
163 intrusions. This event overprints the Napier Complex, especially in Casey Bay and is temporally  
164 constrained by ID-TIMS U–Pb zircon and monazite discordant fractions from paragneiss at  
165 1073 Ma and  $1087 \pm 29$  Ma (zircon from McIntyre Island; Black et al., 1983, monazite from  
166 Zircon Point; Black et al., 1984, Fig. 1B) as well as by a Pb-total age on monazite from a  
167 pegmatite at  $1094 \pm 67$  Ma (Zircon Point; Asami et al., 2002). Hence, this lower-grade event  
168 has been linked to the Rayner Structural Episode, which took place in the Rayner Complex at



169 amphibolite- to granulite-facies conditions around 1000 – 900 Ma ago (Black et al., 1987;  
170 Harley and Hensen, 1990; Harley, 2003; Sheraton et al., 1980). At *ca.* 500-550 Ma,  
171 hydrothermal activity is reported in the Napier Complex (Carson et al., 2002) and intrusion of  
172 pegmatites in the nearby Ayatollah Island (Fig. 1B) is recorded by a Rb–Sr age on a pegmatite  
173 at  $522 \pm 10$  ( $2\sigma$ ) Ma. These events reflect renewed magmatic and hydrothermal activity at  
174 Zircon Point (Black et al., 1983).

175 Monazite grains are hosted in garnet, sillimanite, Rt-quartz or along grain boundaries in the  
176  $S_2$  or recrystallized  $S_3$  quartzo-feldspathic matrix. Previous petrographic and isotopic work  
177 (isotope dilution thermal ionization mass spectrometry ID-TIMS on multigrain separates) on  
178 monazite from sample 5037 identified three optically-distinct colour groups that were  
179 correlated with the monazite host mineral and recorded three distinct, discordant isotopic  
180 compositions (Fig. 1C; Black et al., 1984). The three groups define a discordant line (mean  
181 square weighted deviation - MSWD = 11), with upper and lower intercepts at  $2429 \pm 17$  ( $2\sigma$ )  
182 Ma and  $1087 \pm 29$  ( $2\sigma$ ) Ma respectively (Fig. 1C). Chemical compositions were reported to be  
183 similar for the three monazite groups, and TEM investigations did not show differences in  
184 crystallinity (Black et al., 1984). Brown monazite, hosted either in garnet or Rt-quartz, were <  
185 30% discordant whereas clear monazite (yellow and grey), hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic  
186 matrix, were found to be at least 50% discordant (Fig. 1C). This unique pattern of discordance  
187 was tentatively explained in term of variable Pb loss with the three groups reflecting the  
188 differing capacities of their host mineral to shield the monazite crystals from late, post-  
189 metamorphic fluids (Black et al., 1984).

#### 190 **4. MONAZITE CHARACTERIZATION**

191 A microscale analytical survey of 35 *in-situ* monazite grains was complemented by  
192 nanoscale characterization of a subset of these monazite crystals (Mnz2, Mnz4, Mnz17, Mnz25;

193 Fig.2, Appendix B.2) according to their textural position (host mineral). A single TEM foil was  
194 prepared from a monazite grain hosted in both Rt-quartz (Mnz17; Fig. 2A) and garnet (Mnz4;  
195 Appendix B.2) and three TEM foils were prepared from a monazite grain located in the quartzo-  
196 feldspathic matrix (Mnz25; Fig. 2B). Fourteen needle-shaped atom probe specimens were  
197 prepared from Rt-quartz hosted monazite (Mnz17; Fig. 2A) and quartzo-feldspathic matrix  
198 hosted monazite (Mnz25 and Mnz2; Fig. 2B, C). Specimen locations are shown in Fig. 2A, C,  
199 F.

#### 200 **4.1. Microscale to nanoscale features**

201 Monazite crystals display complex textural features in greyscale back-scattered electron  
202 (BSE) images (Fig. 2). These include a core-rim texture, highlighted generally by dark cores  
203 (Fig. 2A-C), bright (Th-rich) linear features traversing the core (Fig. 2B, Appendix B.2),  
204 zonation (Fig. 2A) or overgrowths (Appendix B.2). These different textures are present in  
205 monazite grains from different hosts but are not systematically present in all grains. Monazite  
206 located in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix are range between 50-250  $\mu\text{m}$  in size while monazite  
207 in garnet or Rt-quartz are range between 20-80  $\mu\text{m}$  in size. Sub-micrometer ( $\varnothing < 1\mu\text{m}$ ) dark  
208 (low-BSE coefficient) circular spots are present in all monazite grains, as are sub-micrometer  
209 ( $\varnothing < 1 \mu\text{m}$ ), bright (high-BSE coefficient) circular spots (Fig. 2D-F, Appendix B.2). Bright  
210 spots are larger in monazite hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix than those hosted in Rt-  
211 quartz or garnet (Fig. 2D-F). They are also more abundant and larger in the rim of Mnz25 than  
212 in the core (Fig. 2E).

213 At the nanoscale the bright spots correspond to distinct crystalline Pb-bearing minerals  
214 (lightest nanoscale features on STEM images; Fig. 3) and are often spatially associated with a  
215 dark silicate and amorphous material (Fig. 3). Individual Pb-bearing minerals and amorphous  
216 silicate material also exist. The distribution and the size of these Pb-bearing minerals varies

217 within the grain (e.g. core versus rim) and with the textural position of the monazite grain.  
218 Monazite grains in Rt-quartz and garnet have a large number of Pb-bearing minerals ( $\varnothing < 50$   
219 nm; Fig. 3A, Appendix B.3) compared to grains within the quartzo-feldspathic matrix ( $\varnothing > 50$   
220 nm; Fig. 3B, C). In monazite grains from the quartzo-feldspathic matrix, Pb-bearing minerals  
221 are also more abundant and smaller in the rim ( $\varnothing < 100$  nm; Fig. 3B), than in the core ( $\varnothing > 100$   
222 nm; Fig. 3C).

223 Two of the largest Pb-bearing minerals ( $\varnothing \sim 1 \mu\text{m}$ ) have been analyzed by APT. These  
224 minerals comprise Pb and S, (Fig. 4) and are devoid of U or Th (Fig. 4B). Compositions  
225 estimated from the APT data ( $S = 47.76 \pm 0.02$  at % and  $Pb = 52.18 \pm 0.02$  at % and  $S = 48.79$   
226  $\pm 0.06$  at % and  $Pb = 50.60 \pm 0.06$  at %; Appendix B.6) are consistent with the stoichiometry  
227 of galena. Electron diffraction patterns acquired by TEM on a similar Pb-bearing mineral ( $\varnothing \sim$   
228 500 nm) are compatible with these minerals being galena (Appendix B.4).

## 229 **4.2. Isotopic data and geochronology**

230 The corrected  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios obtained with SIMS are on average, 44284 for sample 5037  
231 monazite and 9225 for Moacyr reference material. In each case the amount of common  $^{206}\text{Pb}$   
232 ( $^{206}\text{Pb}_c$ ), is significantly less than 1% of total  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  (0.038% for sample 5037 and 0.189% for  
233 Moacyr). Thus, monazite crystals contain negligible  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  indicating that  $\text{Pb}_c$  can be discounted  
234 as a contaminant in the LA-ICP-MS results and as a contributor to the Pb present in the galena  
235 grains.

236 The analytical volume of the different geochronological approaches applied to the monazite  
237 grains range over nine orders of magnitude. Dates from LA-ICP-MS (Appendix D), SIMS  
238 (Appendix C) and EMP (Appendix E) techniques range between  $2435 \pm 150$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) Ma and  
239  $874 \pm 28$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and are independent of the chosen chronometer ( $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$ ; Fig.  
240 5, Appendix F).  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  dates from APT data tend towards the lower end of this spectrum,

241 whilst ID-TIMS on multiple grains (Black et al. 1984) tend towards the oldest dates (Fig. 5).  
242 Moreover, at the scale of the population, the spread of monazite dates is systematically related  
243 to where the monazite is hosted and not to its Th/U ratio nor to the analysis location with respect  
244 to core and rim (Fig. 5, Appendix G.1-4).

245 U–Pb isotopic data gathered *in-situ* by LA-ICP-MS and SIMS are discordant and spread  
246 along a discordia line,  $D_{all}$ , defined by an upper intercept of  $2383 \pm 36$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and a lower  
247 intercept of  $931 \pm 45$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (MSWD = 4.7; Fig. 6A). U–Pb and Th–Pb systems are also  
248 discordant (Appendix G.5). The data from monazite grains hosted in Rt-quartz and garnet plot  
249 close to the upper intercept of the discordia line and show less than 50% Pb-loss. These data  
250 alone yield an upper and a lower intercept of  $2440 \pm 39$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and  $1045 \pm 132$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ )  
251 respectively (MSWD = 0.84, discordia  $D_{IM}$ ; Fig. 6A, Appendix G.6). In contrast, the monazite  
252 grains hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix record up to 90% Pb-loss (Fig. 6A).

253 LA-ICP-MS and SIMS U–Pb data from monazite grains hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic  
254 matrix (Mnz2 and Mnz25; Fig. 3B, C) define two distinct discordia trends when ranged by  
255 galena-rich rim or galena-poor core region (Fig. 6B) and also related locally to the Th/U ratio  
256 of the analytical spots (Appendix G.7). The discordia  $D_{LI}$  from the galena-rich rim region  
257 (yellow symbols, MSWD = 2), yields upper and lower intercepts at  $2434 \pm 181$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and  
258  $1049 \pm 248$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) respectively, and intersect the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  axis at  $(^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb})_{DLI} = 0.21 \pm$   
259  $0.03$  ( $2\sigma$ ). Data from the galena-poor core region (blue symbols) form a discordia  $D_{FI}$  (MSWD  
260 = 2.6) which intersects the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  axis at  $(^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb})_{DFI} = 0.16 \pm 0.03$  ( $2\sigma$ ) and has upper  
261 and lower intercepts with concordia at  $2120 \pm 207$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and  $631 \pm 224$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) respectively.  
262 By fixing the upper intercept at 2440 Ma for the sparse galena domain data, the lower intercept  
263 is at  $861 \pm 58$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (discordia  $D_{fix}$ , MSWD = 4).

264 APT-derived  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  dates from monazite grains hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic  
265 matrix (Mnz25 and Mnz2) and the Rt-quartz (Mnz17) are calculated from areas that do not

266 contain galena (Fig. 7, Appendix H, APT mass spectrum Appendix B.5).  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  dates range  
267 between  $1188 \pm 202$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) and  $712 \pm 121$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (Fig. 5, Appendix G.8) and statistically  
268 correspond to a single date population (MSWD = 0.72; Appendix G.8-9). Using the complete  
269 dataset, the mean  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  ratio is  $0.0518 \pm 0.0137$  ( $2\sigma$ ) corresponding to a date of  $1021 \pm$   
270  $263$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ). The  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  mean for specimens obtained from the rim of Mnz25 and Mnz2  
271 is  $0.0540 \pm 0.0107$  ( $2\sigma$ ) yielding a date of  $1063 \pm 205$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (MSWD = 0.34) while the mean  
272  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  for core specimens from the same grains is  $0.0497 \pm 0.0156$  ( $2\sigma$ ) corresponding to  
273  $979 \pm 301$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (MSWD = 1.04; Appendix G.8).

274 APT-derived  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios from the two analysed galena (Gn 1 and Gn 2; Fig. 4) are  
275  $0.20 \pm 0.02$  ( $1\sigma$ ) and  $0.150 \pm 0.003$  ( $1\sigma$ ) respectively. The APT data show no peaks associated  
276 with  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 4C).

## 277 **5. DISCUSSION**

### 278 **5.1. Interpretation of microscale age pattern**

279 Isotopic analyses of Pb by SIMS in selected grains did not show any  $^{204}\text{Pb}$  component in  
280 the time resolved signal, which is interpreted as the absence of significant “common”-Pb in the  
281 microscale analyses. Consequently, all the Pb present in monazite and galena is interpreted to  
282 be of radiogenic origin and is derived from within the monazite.

283 Considering the whole dataset ( $n = 89$ ), the discordia  $D_{\text{all}}$  MSWD (4.7) indicates that the  
284 dispersion of the data cannot result from a single population (i.e. a single disturbing event) at  
285 95% confidence level (Wendt and Carl, 1991). In contrast, the  $D_{\text{M}}$  discordia derived from  
286 monazite hosted in Rt-quartz and garnet yields an acceptable MSWD of 0.84 compatible with  
287 a single disturbing event and is thus the most robust to derive monazite crystallization age ( $t_0$ )  
288 at  $2440 \pm 39$  Ma (Fig. 6A). This age is identical within errors to previous upper intercept ages  
289 calculated with ID-TIMS data on monazite and zircon grains from Casey Bay (Fig. 1C; Black

290 et al., 1984, 1983) and to  $2451 \pm 15$  Ma zircons in equilibrium with garnet from Crosby  
291 Nunataks in Amundsen Bay (Fig. 1A; Taylor et al., 2017). Even if *in-situ* isotopic dating on  
292 zircon may present slightly older ages than obtained in monazite (e.g. Hokada et al., 2004; Kelly  
293 and Harley, 2005), monazite are truly and fully included in garnet implying garnet growth  
294 and/or recrystallization through to that age, extending the timescale of the UHT to HT  
295 metamorphism even further. Thus, the monazite age of  $2440 \pm 39$  Ma provides a lower limit  
296 for the UHT metamorphism in this part of the Napier Complex. The lower intercept  $t_1$  of the  
297  $D_{IM}$  discordia ( $1045 \pm 132$  Ma) is within error of the Rayner Complex event and reflects the  
298 time of U–Th–Pb chronometer disturbance. This is confirmed by the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  average age  
299 of  $1021 \pm 263$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) derived by APT analysis of galena-free monazite that points to a  
300 complete resetting of the monazite matrix during the Rayner Complex tectonothermal event.

301 The monazite grains (Mnz25 and Mnz2) hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix show two  
302 discordia trends (yellow and blue symbols, Fig. 6B).  $D_{LI}$  discordia is defined by the galena-rich  
303 rim and is consistent with the  $D_{IM}$  discordia.  $D_{FI}$  is defined by the galena-poor core,  
304 corresponding to areas which have undergone 70 – 90 %  $\text{Pb}^*$  loss at  $t_1$ , and suggests a younger  
305 disturbing event, defined by the lower intercept at  $t_2 = 631 \pm 224$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (Fig. 6B). This age  
306 lies within uncertainty of the timing of pegmatite intrusions within the Napier Complex at Casey  
307 Bay at *ca.* 530 Ma (Carson et al., 2002; Black et al., 1983), so may correspond with this  
308 hydrothermal activity ( $t_2$ ).

## 309 **5.2. Origin of discordance revealed at nanoscale**

310 Black et al. (1984) highlighted that the least discordant monazite fraction was brown in  
311 color, whereas the most discordant was clear (grey and yellow). Our microscale data confirm a  
312 similar systematic relationship between monazite color and the percentage of Pb-loss. In  
313 addition, SEM and TEM investigations revealed that the color relates to the density of galena

314 inclusions, with monazite showing the highest density of galena being brown in color, whilst  
315 the clearest monazite grains contain a lower density of galena inclusions (Fig. 3, 5, 6).

316 Considering the microscale U–Th–Pb data, the dates of monazite hosted in the quartzo-  
317 feldspathic matrix, tend toward the lower intercept  $t_1$  (80 % Pb-loss ; Fig. 5) whereas the dates  
318 from monazite hosted in Rt-quartz and garnet tend toward the upper intercept ( $t_0$ ) implying only  
319 limited Pb\* loss (10-50 %) at the grain scale . This difference is again explained by the large  
320 amount of galena, homogeneously distributed considering a micrometric analytical volume, in  
321 Rt-quartz hosted monazite compared to monazite hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix (Fig.  
322 3A) Thus, the discordia ( $D_M$ ) is interpreted as a mixing pattern between galena and monazite  
323 host, representing two different reservoirs of Pb\* derived from the monazite itself. A similar  
324 pattern is observed within individual grains (e.g. Mnz25), where core regions with a smaller  
325 number of galena show a higher percentage of Pb-loss than the galena-rich rim (Fig. 6B).

326 The ability of monazite to retain galena crystals and thereby much of the Pb\* is partly related  
327 to their textural position; monazite crystals hosted in Rt-quartz and garnet retain more Pb\* in  
328 the form of galena than monazite crystals hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix (Fig. 3, 5,  
329 6A). High retention of Pb\* is associated with a small galena size (< 50 nm), and a more  
330 homogenous distribution through the crystal (Fig. 3). This property could be related to fluids  
331 access to monazite. Rt-quartz and garnet, which are anhydrous UHT phases, could limit the  
332 quantity of fluids which are thus rapidly saturated in Pb, inducing a short-range (re)precipitation  
333 of Pb-bearing nanominerals within the grain. In contrast, a larger quantity of fluids might access  
334 monazite hosted in quartzo-feldspathic matrix implying a more efficient leaching of Pb\* which  
335 is then lost from the grain. Shielding of monazite by its host-mineral, also observed at other  
336 UHT localities (e.g. Paquette et al., 2004; Madagascar), does not act as the trigger for the  
337 development of the Pb-bearing minerals within monazite but is instrumental to their preferential

338 preservation and retention. Further studies will be undertaken to characterize the mineralogical  
339 variety of the Pb-bearing nanominerals present in monazite grains.

340 To summarize, the difference in color is interpreted to relate to the amount and distribution  
341 of galena crystals within the different monazite grains, which in turn is related to the percentage  
342 of Pb-loss. The inverse correlation between the percentage of Pb-loss and the amount of galena  
343 (Fig. 3, 5, 6) reflects partial retention of radiogenic  $Pb^*$  at the grain scale through the  
344 crystallization of galena. The volume analyzed with micro-scale dating methods (ID-TIMS,  
345 LA-ICP-MS, SIMS and EMP) therefore corresponds to a mixing between monazite and galena  
346 preserving distinct isotopic composition. The retention of galena is promoted by monazite  
347 shielding in (anhydrous) UHT phases like garnet and Rt-quartz.

348 The largest Pb-bearing nanominerals observed in this study have been identified as galena  
349 (PbS). Crystallization of galena requires Pb but also S which may be derived either from an  
350 external source such as metamorphic fluids or from the monazite itself. Sulphur incorporation  
351 in the monazite lattice occurs mostly through the clino-anhydrite substitution  $Ca^{2+} + S^{6+} =$   
352  $REE^{3+} + P^{5+}$  (Chakhmouradian and Mitchell, 1999), although other studies suggest more  
353 complex substitutions involving  $S^{2-}$  and  $S^{4+}$  (Broom-Fendley et al., 2020). The presence of S-  
354 rich monazite in metamorphic rocks is well-documented, including in UHT granulite (Laurent  
355 et al., 2016). Under low-grade metamorphic conditions (greenschist facies), S incorporation in  
356 monazite is typically associated with high common Pb content and ore precipitation in the host  
357 rock (Krenn et al., 2011; Pršek et al., 2010; Suzuki and Kato, 2008). Under high-grade  
358 conditions, S-rich monazite reflects Fe-sulphide breakdown under oxidizing conditions and  
359 have been reported to contain negligible common Pb (Laurent et al., 2016). Since common Pb  
360 is negligible in monazite and galena from the present study, sulfur could be derived from the  
361 monazite itself rather than from an external source. The presence of sulfur in high-grade  
362 monazite could thus contribute heavily to the preservation of  $Pb^*$  as galena nanocrystals.



### 363 5.3. Galena Pb isotopic signatures

364 Historically, discordance issues have been resolved by lowering the analytical volume until  
365 homogenous Pb\* isotope reservoirs can be analyzed separately (i.e. galena and monazite  
366 matrix). As there is no U or Th in the galena, their measured  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios have not evolved  
367 since their growth. As SIMS results support that common-Pb contamination of the monazite is  
368 negligible, the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio of the galena records the Pb\* composition of the monazite when  
369 the galena crystallised. Since the monazite crystallisation age is known, then the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  of  
370 galena can be used to estimate the time of Pb\* isolation from U and Th in the host monazite,  
371 which corresponds to the time of galena growth. The evolution of the Pb isotopic ratio of the  
372 monazite is constrained by the geological history highlighted in the previous sections and thus  
373 bounded by the *ca.* 2440 Ma ( $t_0$ ), 1045 Ma ( $t_1$ ), and 550 Ma ( $t_2$ ) geological events (Fig. 8C).  
374 This assumption is confirmed by the scatter of microbeam analyses that fall in a triangle  
375 bounded by *ca.* 2.44 Ga, 1.05 Ga and 0.55 Ga in the Tera-Wasserburg plot (Fig. 6).

376 The  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio measured in Gn 1 is best explained by Pb\* isolation at 1045 Ma from  
377 a monazite that crystallized at 2440 Ma, which would correspond to a theoretical  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  of  
378 0.2108 identical within uncertainty to the measured ratio of  $0.20 \pm 0.02$  ( $1\sigma$ ) in Gn 1 (Fig. 8A,  
379 C). The isolation time of Pb<sub>1</sub>\* (i.e. Pb\* formed by radioactive decay within monazite between  
380 2440 and 1045 Ma) at *ca.* 1045 Ma is supported by the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  date of  $1171 \pm 170$  Ma  
381 (Appendix G.8) obtained by APT from the host monazite adjacent to Gn 1 in specimen M6  
382 (Fig. 4A). Thus, we interpret that the isolation of Pb<sub>1</sub>\* and the crystallization of galena Gn 1  
383 occurred at  $t_1 = 1045$  Ma.

384 Galena Gn 2 has a significantly different  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio of  $0.150 \pm 0.003$  ( $1\sigma$ ) that cannot  
385 be explained by a single Pb\* isolation event since the present-day  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio of a monazite  
386 that crystallized at 2440 Ma would be 0.1585 (Fig. 8A). The possibility for Gn 2 to result from

387 a mixing of two  $Pb^*$  components is thus explored using the well-known  $t_0$ ,  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  events. This  
388 scenario involves a first  $Pb^*$  component ( $Pb_1^*$ ) produced by U and Th decay between  $t_0$  and  $t_1$   
389 with a theoretical  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  isotopic signature of 0.2108, and a second  $Pb^*$  component ( $Pb_2^*$ )  
390 produced by U and Th decay between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  with a theoretical  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  isotopic signature  
391 of 0.0901. At 550 Ma, the  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  ratio of 0.150 recorded by Gn 2 is then obtained by a  
392 mixture of 53%  $Pb_2^*$  and 47%  $Pb_1^*$ , in a grain which underwent 70%  $Pb_1^*$  loss at  $t_1$  with 30%  
393 remaining captured by the galena (Fig. 8B, C). This 70%  $Pb_1^*$  loss fits the microscale U–Th–  
394 Pb data for monazite grain 25 domains with a low density of inclusions (Fig. 6B). The  
395  $^{208}Pb/^{232}Th$  date of  $712 \pm 121$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) (Appendix G.8) obtained by APT from the host monazite  
396 adjacent to Gn 2 in specimen M17 (Fig. 4A) supports the formation of Gn 2 at  $t_2$ , a younger  
397 event than  $t_1$ . This preferred scenario is not unique since: (1) microscale data suggests variable  
398  $Pb_1^*$  loss at  $t_1$ , ranging from 10 to 90 % (Fig. 6) and (2) variable proportions of  $Pb_1^*$  and  $Pb_2^*$   
399 could be mobilized and mixed at  $t_2$ , corresponding to a theoretical range of  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  isotopic  
400 compositions between 0.0901 – 0.1806 for the galena (Fig. 8C). This observation cautions about  
401 the interpretation of  $^{207}Pb/^{206}Pb$  ratios in Pb-rich nanominerals in term of ages.

#### 402 **5.4. Time-integrated model of monazite evolution**

403 The theoretical evolution of U–Pb and Pb–Pb ratios in a monazite that crystallized at *ca.*  
404 2440 Ma have been modelled and the results are displayed in Tera-Wasserburg diagrams along  
405 with snapshots of Pb distribution in the monazite crystal over time (Fig. 8D). After monazite  
406 crystallization at  $t_0$ , U and Th decay in monazite produce  $Pb_1^*$  (red spots, Fig. 8D). The APT  
407 average  $^{208}Pb/^{232}Th$  age of  $1021 \pm 263$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ) indicates that the monazite matrix becomes  
408 completely reset at the nanoscale. This resetting event corresponds to the amphibolite-facies  
409 Rayner event at *ca.* 1045 Ma. This metamorphic event is recorded in our rock sample 5037 by  
410 garnet retrogression into biotite and by recrystallization of (UHT) Rt-quartz in rutile-free, low-  
411 Ti quartz ribbons. Clear evidence of fluid-rock interaction and plastic deformation thus exists

412 in the rock sample 5037 at *ca.* 1045 Ma. Lead mobility in monazite has been shown to be  
413 enhanced both by fluid present conditions (Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2002) and deformation  
414 (Erickson et al., 2015; Fougereuse et al., 2021b) or a combination of both (Wawrzenitz et al.,  
415 2012).

416 In presence of reactive metamorphic fluids, experimental studies demonstrate that the  
417 resetting of monazite U–Pb and Th–Pb chronometers at the nanoscale could arise through  
418 pseudomorphic replacement with the formation of a new monazite free of Pb\* only recognizable  
419 at the nanoscale (Grand’Homme et al., 2018, 2016). Whilst the APT age of  $1021 \pm 263$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ )  
420 suggests that the monazite matrix is completely reset at  $t_1$ , we cannot completely exclude that  
421 subordinate nanodomains of monazite crystallized at 2440 Ma may still be present after  $t_1$ ,  
422 accounting for the dispersion and large uncertainties of the monazite matrix dates measured by  
423 APT (Appendix G.9). Compared to these experimental studies, the replacement process in this  
424 natural example is coupled with Pb-bearing nanominerals (galena) crystallization. This contrast  
425 could reflect differences in experimental versus natural rock reaction kinetics or fluid/mineral  
426 ratios, or fluid compositions. Indeed, nanopores filled with SiO<sub>2</sub> are frequently observed in  
427 experimental studies because a NaOH fluid saturated in Si is used. In natural monazite, the local  
428 fluid saturation in Pb might be achieved by relatively low fluid/monazite ratio typical of dry  
429 rocks like UHT granulite and a high Pb\* concentration typical of old Th-rich monazite.

430 Following the  $t_1$  event, Pb<sub>2</sub>\* forms from the further decay of U and Th in the monazite (green  
431 spots, Fig. 8D). At *ca.* 550 Ma ( $t_2$ ), a hydrothermal event associated with pegmatite formation  
432 triggers the crystallization of a second generation of galena (Gn 2) composed by the mixing of  
433 Pb<sub>1</sub>\* + Pb<sub>2</sub>\*. The Pb<sub>2</sub>\* component is derived from the monazite matrix at  $t_2$  and correspond to  
434 Pb\* growth between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ . Mobilization of Pb<sub>2</sub>\* to form Gn 2 is more cryptic as it is not  
435 related to an extensive resetting of the Th–Pb chronometer in the monazite matrix compared to  
436 the first generation of galena. The monazite matrix adjacent to Gn 2 yields the youngest Th–Pb

437 date of  $712 \pm 121$  Ma ( $2\sigma$ ), which sits between  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ . Consequently, Pb migration at  $t_2$   
438 occurred at a smaller scale than at  $t_1$  and might not be completely resolved at the current scale  
439 of investigation. This is confirmed by the microscale observation that in contrast to  $t_1$  event, the  
440 effect of the  $t_2$  event is insufficient to cause significant  $Pb^*$  loss at the grain scale (Fig. 6). The  
441 galena 2 therefore rather witnesses intra-grain and short-range redistribution of Pb, involving a  
442  $Pb_2^*$  and a  $Pb_1^*$  component that could be derived from either the first galena (Gn 1) or from  
443 monazite matrix in case of old nanodomains have been preserved in the matrix at  $t_1$ .

## 444 **6. CONCLUSION and PERSPECTIVES**

445 This study explores the isotopic disturbance of the U–Th–Pb systems in monazite from a  
446 UHT Archean granulite using multiple methods for characterization and dating from the micro-  
447 (LA-ICP-MS, SIMS, EMP) to the nanoscale (TEM, APT). At the microscale the dates are  
448 discordant and spread along a discordia between *ca.* 2440 and *ca.* 1045 Ma. Our observations  
449 reveal that the least discordant monazite grains are brown in color because they contain a high  
450 density of small ( $\sim 50$  nm) Pb-bearing nanominerals homogeneously distributed in the grain  
451 whereas the most discordant and optically clear monazite grains contain larger (50- 500 nm)  
452 but sparser Pb-bearing nanominerals, some of them being identified as galena (PbS) on the basis  
453 of TEM and APT observations. The discordia observed with conventional *in-situ* methods at  
454 the microscale thus reflects a mixing within the analytical volume of matrix monazite and  
455 galena. The percentage of Pb-loss is in turn linked to monazite textural position as initially  
456 observed by Black et al. (1984). Monazite shielded in UHT phases like garnet or Rt-quartz  
457 show a low percentage of Pb-loss and a high density of galena inclusions. In contrast monazite  
458 hosted in the re-equilibrated quartzo-feldspathic matrix show a high percentage of Pb-loss and  
459 lower density of galena inclusions. The retention of  $Pb^*$  in galena is promoted by monazite  
460 shielding in (anhydrous) UHT phases like garnet and Rt-quartz.

461 The Pb isotopic compositions of the galena grains are variable but imply an *in-situ*  
462 radiogenic origin with no participation of common Pb. The  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios of the galena,  
463 when considered in combination with the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  ages of the monazite matrix (excluding  
464 galena) measured with APT, and the constrains given by regional geology, indicate two  
465 episodes of  $\text{Pb}^*$  mobility. This study suggests that monazite crystallized at *ca.* 2440 Ma and was  
466 affected at *ca.* 1045 Ma by variable  $\text{Pb}^*$ -loss at the grain scale, characterized at the nanoscale  
467 by a resetting of the monazite matrix through pseudomorphic replacement associated with  $\text{Pb}^*$   
468 retention as galena Gn 1 in variable proportions. A second episode of  $\text{Pb}^*$  mobility is recorded  
469 by the crystallization of a second generation of galena Gn 2 and is likely related to a younger  
470 event at *ca.* 550 Ma.  $\text{Pb}^*$  in Gn 2 galena corresponds to a mixing of  $\text{Pb}_1^*$  and  $\text{Pb}_2^*$  likely  
471 reworked from the pre-existing Gn 1 ( $\text{Pb}_1^*$ ) and monazite matrix ( $\text{Pb}_2^*$ ) with much more  
472 localized effect on the resetting of the monazite matrix as no date of 550 Ma was found by APT.

473 Combining a multi-scale characterization, this study demonstrates the importance of  
474 nanoscale structural, chemical and isotopic observations to understand microscale age  
475 disturbances by providing a new perspective on the origin of the discordance in monazite.  
476 Indeed, the retention of  $\text{Pb}^*$  in the form of Pb-bearing nanominerals within monazite grain could  
477 be a phenomenon that is, if not prevalent, at least shared by monazite crystals when certain  
478 conditions are met. These conditions may include an ancient and long-lived geological history  
479 (Archean – Proterozoic) resulting in high  $\text{Pb}^*$  content, a monazite composition having a  
480 sufficient S content to form galena and the presence of reactive fluids. However other Pb-  
481 bearing nanominerals might crystallize if S is unavailable. For example, Pb-bearing  
482 nanominerals have been found in discordant Archean UHT monazite from Madagascar  
483 (Paquette et al., 2004; Seydoux-Guillaume et al., 2003). Hence, discordance in monazite is  
484 explained by the partial loss of  $\text{Pb}^*$  through a coupled dissolution-precipitation process and the  
485 retention of the remaining  $\text{Pb}^*$  within monazite as  $\text{Pb}^*$ -bearing nanominerals (e.g. galena). In

486 combination with a good understanding of the regional framework and the thermal events in an  
487 area, the identification of Pb<sup>\*</sup>-bearing nanominerals can be used to understand the complexities  
488 of Pb<sup>\*</sup> migration processes in minerals. The presence of numerous Pb<sup>\*</sup>-bearing nanominerals  
489 within monazite grains therefore presents new opportunities for geochronologists to decipher  
490 the thermal history of complex metamorphic terrains.

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## 498 **Appendices**

499 Appendix A. Details on the methods, including sample preparation, analytical conditions,  
500 calibration and data processing

501 Appendix B. Complementary observations of microscale to nanoscale features including  
502 optical microscopy, scanning electron imaging, transmission electron microscopy and atom  
503 probe mass spectrum of monazite

504 Appendix C. U-Th-Pb SIMS dataset

505 Appendix D. U-Th-Pb LA-ICP-MS dataset

506 Appendix E. U-Th-Pb EMP dataset

507 Appendix F. U-Th-Pb data plotted on figure 5

508 Appendix G. Complementary figures of U–Th–Pb geochronology

509 Appendix H. Th-Pb APT dataset

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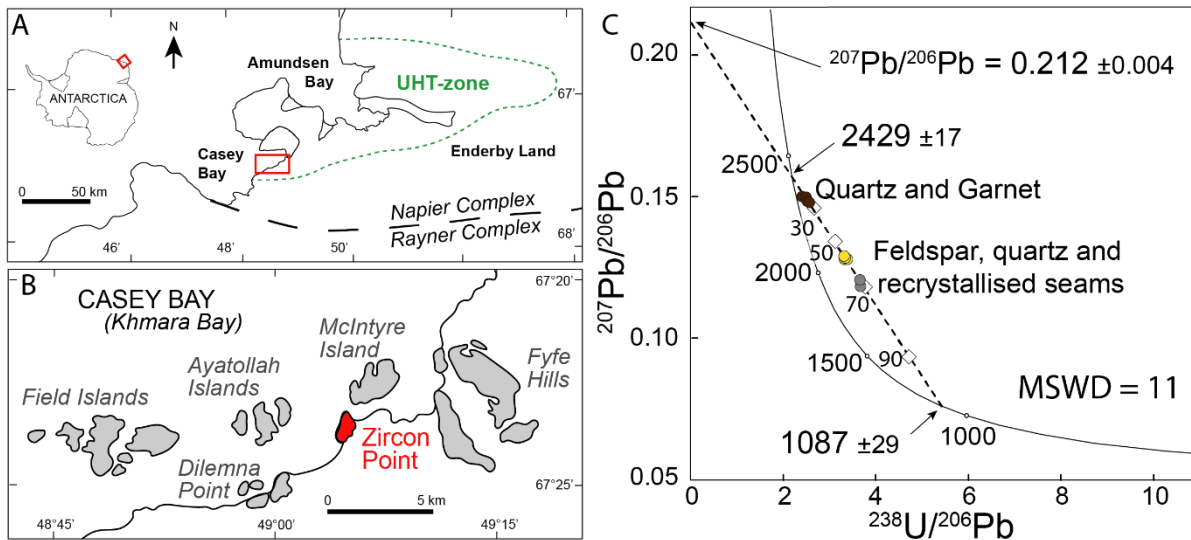
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694 **Figures and captions**

695 **1.5-column fitting image** Figure 1. Location map of the sampling area ( $\sim 67^{\circ}22'30''$  S and  
696  $49^{\circ}03'45''$ E) and previous geochronological results. A, B: map location of Zircon Point in the  
697 Napier Complex, showing the UHT zone (green dotted line) and the assumed limit between  
698 the Napier and the Rayner complex (black dotted line) from Harley et al. (2019). C: Previous  
699 U–Pb geochronological result on monazite measured by ID-TIMS (multi grain) from Black et  
700 al. (1984). White diamonds along the discordia represent the percentage of Pb loss. Analytical  
701 uncertainties are lower than the size of the symbols.

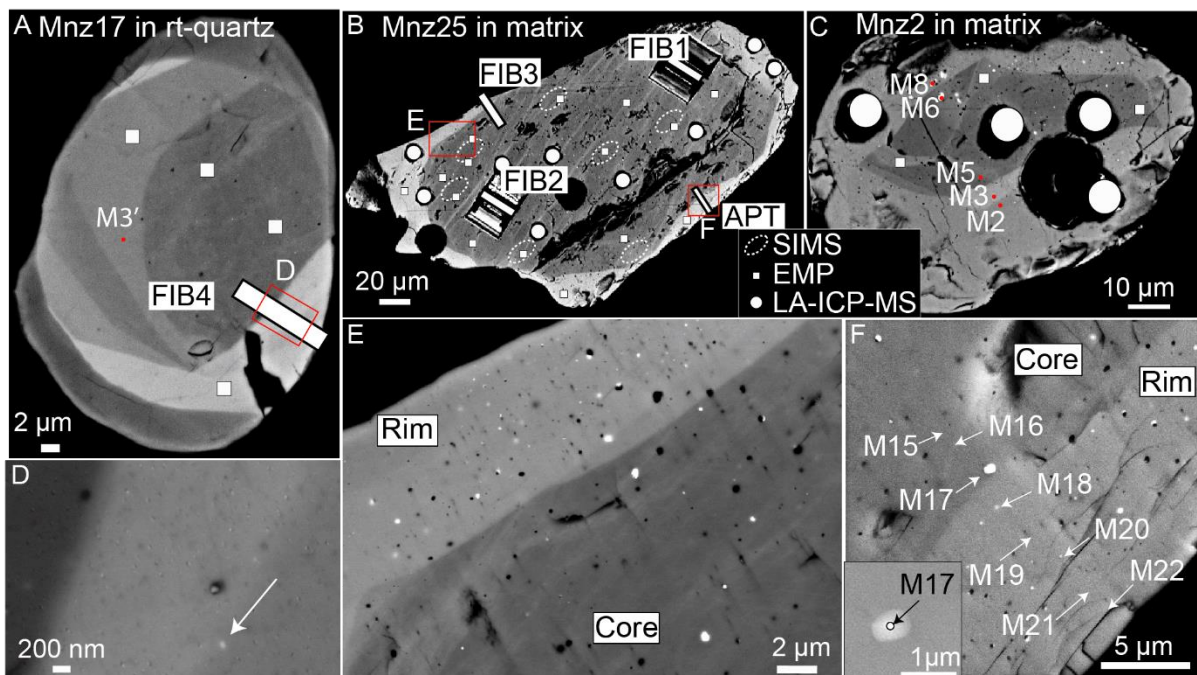


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705 **2-column fitting image** Figure 2. Microscale characterization of monazite. A, B, C: High-  
 706 contrast BSE SEM imaging of grains Mnz17 (A) hosted in Rt-quartz, Mnz25 (B) and Mnz2  
 707 (C) hosted in the quartzo-feldspathic matrix showing a core - rim texture along with NE-SW  
 708 oriented bright (high-BSE contrast) linear features traversing the core of Mnz25 (B). The  
 709 location of SIMS (white-dashed ellipses), LA-ICP-MS (full white circle) and EMP (white  
 710 square) analytical spots are shown (A-C). D-F: High-contrast BSE SEM imaging of selected  
 711 region of interest (red rectangles in A and B) displaying bright (high-BSE contrast) and dark  
 712 (low-BSE contrast) circular inclusions. Note the smaller size of inclusions in Rt-quartz hosted  
 713 monazite (D) compared to quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted monazite (E-F) as well as the  
 714 core-rim feature in (E) with inclusion-poor core and inclusion-rich rim. The location of TEM-  
 715 FIB foils (A, B) and APT tips (A, C, F) are also shown with an inset showing the real size of  
 716 APT site of interest (F).



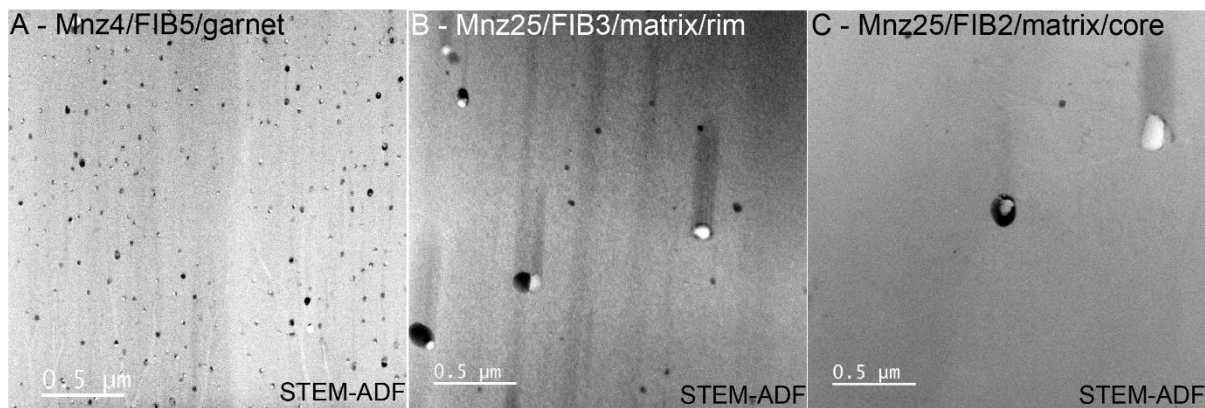
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720 **2-column fitting image** Figure 3. Scanning transmission electron microscopy annular dark  
721 field images (STEM-ADF) with the same field of view for garnet hosted monazite (A) and  
722 quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted monazite (B, C). Light grey inclusions correspond to  
723 distinct crystalline Pb-bearing minerals often polyphased and spatially associated with a dark  
724 amorphous Si-rich part. Quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted monazite display a lower density  
725 and larger ( $\text{\O} > 50 \text{ nm}$ ) light Pb-bearing minerals compared to garnet hosted monazite. Note  
726 that within quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted monazite Mnz25, the rim (B) display a higher  
727 density of Pb-bearing minerals than the core (C). Vertical dark bands in B correspond to  
728 artefacts from FIB polishing (curtaining effects).

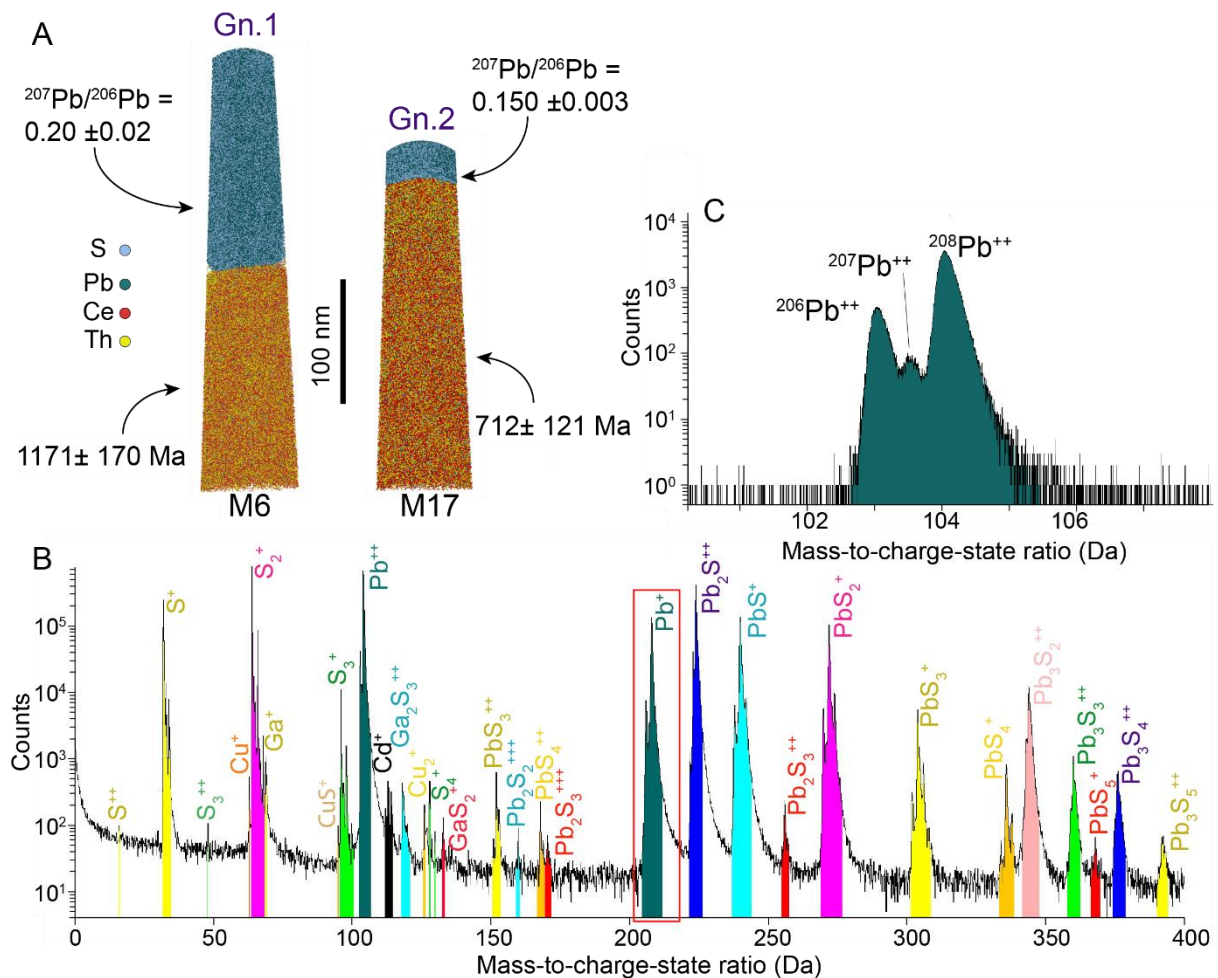


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732 **1.5-column fitting image** Figure 4. APT reconstructions of M6 (from Mnz2) and M17 (from  
 733 Mnz25) specimens showing S, Pb, Ce and Th atomic distribution (A). Pb and S are  
 734 concentrated at the top of the tips and define galena while Pb, Ce and Th are concentrated at  
 735 the bottom, highlighting the interface with monazite.  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios were calculated for  
 736 each of the galena (errors are  $1\sigma$  uncertainty) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{232}\text{Th}$  dates for the monazite (errors  
 737 are  $2\sigma$  uncertainty). B: Representative mass spectrum of galena acquired from Gn 1. Peaks are  
 738 colored by molecular ions and element species. The main peaks are in good agreement with  
 739 galena peaks from Cappelli and Pérez-Huerta (2020). C: Mass spectrum showing mass peaks  
 740 and overlaps for  $\text{Pb}^{2+}$ . Scale bar = 100 nm. Tips locations are shown on Fig. 2C, F.



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744 **1.5-column fitting image** Figure 5. Range of dates depending on the analytical volume.

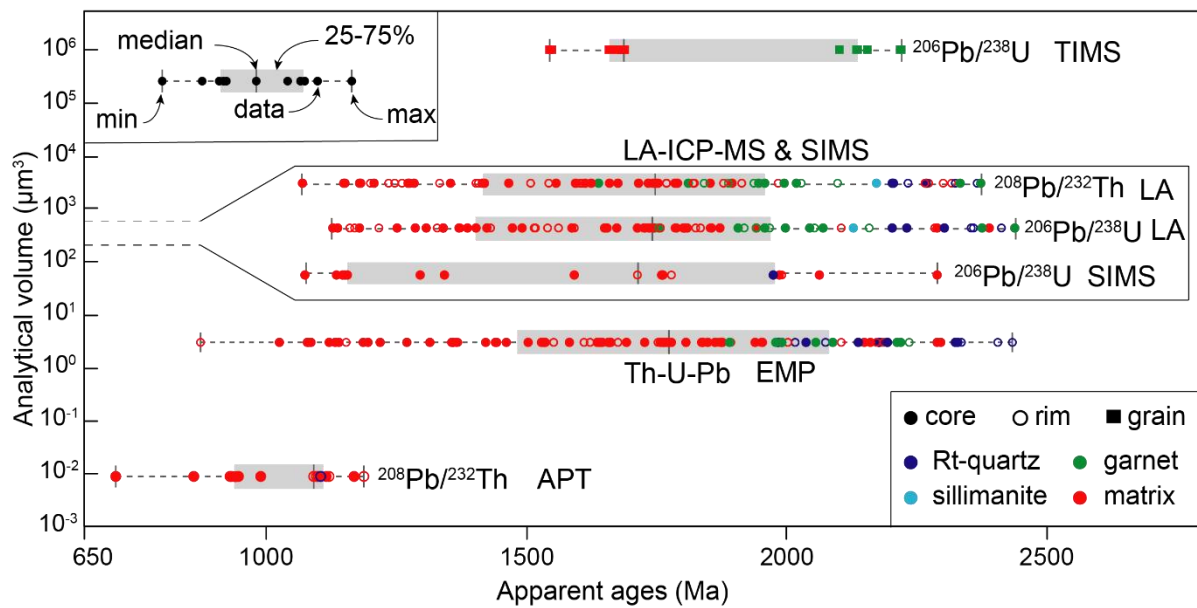
745 Boxplots of dates discriminated by the analytical volume referring to the technique used (ID-

746 TIMS on multi grain from Black et al., 1984, *in-situ* LA-ICP-MS ~ 950  $\mu\text{m}^3$ , SIMS ~ 600

747  $\mu\text{m}^3$ , EMP ~ 5  $\mu\text{m}^3$  and APT < 0.008  $\text{nm}^3$  – this study), the analyzed domain (entire grain,

748 core or rim), and the textural position of the analyzed grain (quartzo-feldspathic matrix =

749 matrix, Rt-quartz, garnet or sillimanite).

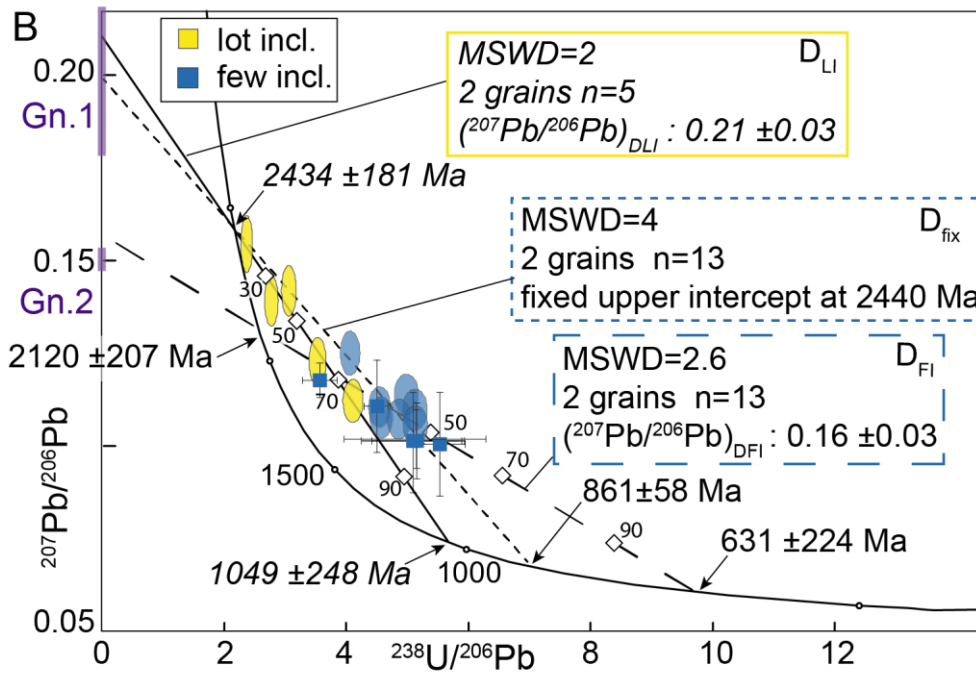
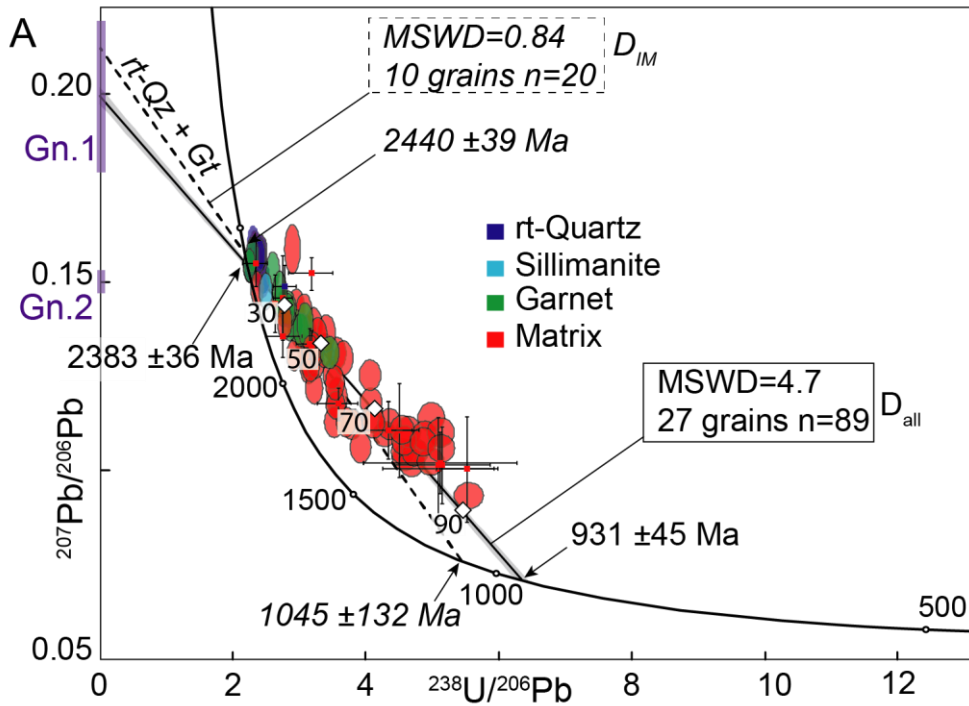


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753 **1-column fitting image** Figure 6. Tera-Wasserburg diagram from LA-ICP-MS (ellipses) and  
754 SIMS (crosses) U–Pb data denoting  $2\sigma$  uncertainties. White diamonds along the discordia  
755 lines represent the percentage of Pb loss. A: U–Pb data with the full dataset color-coded by  
756 host mineral. The discordia line  $D_{\text{all}}$  (solid) constructed with all data defines an upper  
757 intercept of  $2383 \pm 36$  Ma and a lower intercept of  $931 \pm 45$  Ma (MSWD = 4.7). Discordia  
758 constructed with data from included monazite in Rt-quartz and garnet,  $D_{\text{IM}}$  (dashed) lead to an  
759 upper intercept of  $2440 \pm 39$  Ma and a lower intercept of  $1045 \pm 132$  Ma (MSWD = 0.84). B:  
760 U–Pb data for selected quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted monazite grains discriminated by the  
761 content of galena in the analyzed area. Discordia  $D_{\text{LI}}$  (solid) is constructed from the galena-  
762 rich rim domain analyses and indicate a MSWD = 2, an upper intercept of  $2434 \pm 181$  Ma and  
763 a lower intercept of  $1049 \pm 248$  Ma. The isotopic composition of Pb produced in the 2434–  
764 1049 Ma time interval is given by the intercept of the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  axis at  $0.21 \pm 0.03$  ( $2\sigma$ ).  
765 Discordia  $D_{\text{FI}}$  (large dashed) constructed from the galena-poor core domain analyses indicates  
766 a MSWD = 2.6, an upper intercept of  $2120 \pm 207$  Ma, a lower intercept of  $631 \pm 224$  Ma and  
767 intercepts the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  axe at  $0.16 \pm 0.03$  ( $2\sigma$ ). By fixing the upper intercept (discordia  $D_{\text{fix}}$ ,  
768 small dashed) at 2440 Ma, the lower intercept yields a date of  $861 \pm 58$  Ma (MSWD = 4). The  
769 purple boxes are the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios, including the  $1\sigma$  error, calculated for Gn 1 in M6 and  
770 Gn 2 in M17.



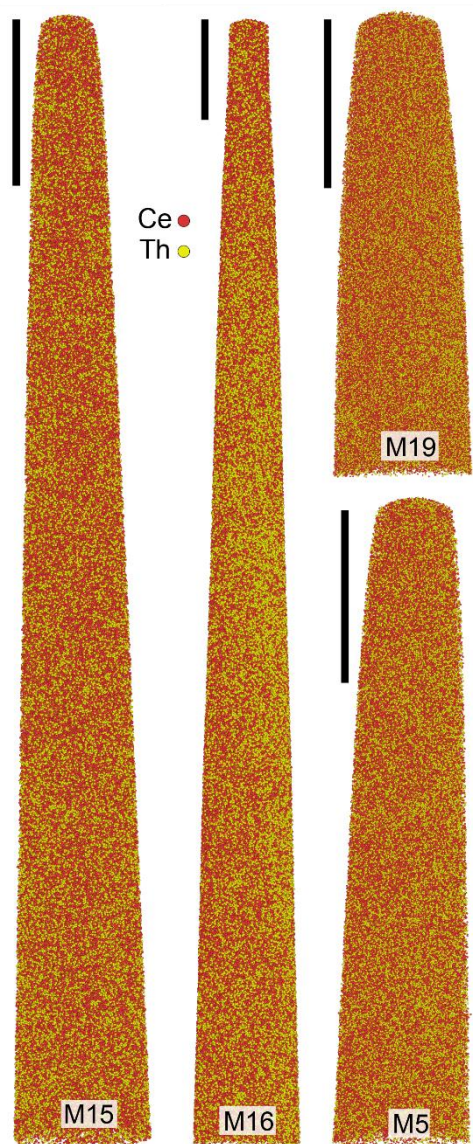
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775 **1-column fitting image** Figure 7. APT reconstructions of quartzo-feldspathic matrix hosted  
776 monazite Mnz25 and Mnz2 in core (M16, M15, M5) and rim (M19) showing Ce and Th  
777 atomic distribution. One dot represents one atom. Scale bar = 100 nm. Tips locations are  
778 shown on Fig. 2C, F.



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782 **1.5-column fitting image** Figure 8. A: Theoretical  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  evolution in a monazite  
 783 crystallized at 2440 Ma and showing the theoretical value of an isolated reservoir (i.e. galena)  
 784 formed at 1045 Ma correlating with  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  of Gn 1 within error limits (purple box). B:  
 785 Theoretical  $\text{Pb}_1^*$  component proportion required to form a  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  signature of 0.150  
 786 considering a  $\text{Pb}_1^* + \text{Pb}_2^*$  mixing over time in the studied monazite. C: Theoretical evolution  
 787 of  $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratio in a Tera-Wasserburg diagram for a monazite which  
 788 crystallizes at 2440 Ma ( $t_0$ ) and undergoes two events of  $\text{Pb}^*$  mobility at 1045 Ma ( $t_1$ ) and 550  
 789 Ma ( $t_2$ ). D: Schematic  $\text{Pb}^*$  mobility in monazite;  $t_0$  monazite crystallization free of  $\text{Pb}^*$ ,  $t_0$  to  $t_1$   
 790  $\text{Pb}_1^*$  growth (red spots), at  $t_1$  x% of  $\text{Pb}_1^*$  loss at the grain scale along with resetting of  
 791 monazite matrix and 1-x% of  $\text{Pb}_1^*$  isolation as galena. Then  $t_1$  to  $t_2$   $\text{Pb}_2^*$  growth in monazite  
 792 matrix (green spots). At  $t_2$   $\text{Pb}^*$  mixing and isolation as galena in variable proportion of  $\text{Pb}_1^*$   
 793 and  $\text{Pb}_2^*$  and  $t_{\text{actual}}$  theoretical state of the monazite grain.

