












# Pseudosection modeling and U-Pb geochronology on Piranga schists: role of Brasiliano Orogeny in the Southeastern Quadrilátero Ferrífero, Minas Gerais, Brazil

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## ABSTRACT

In the Southeastern Quadrilátero Ferrífero, a package of metapelitic rocks previously attributed to the Archean Rio das Velhas Supergroup crops out in Piranga locality. This study presents the mineral chemistry and U-Pb-Hf zircon geochronology on foliated staurolite-garnet mica schists. Garnet and staurolite index minerals are syn- to post-kinematic towards the main schistosity. Garnet porphyroblasts display well-developed compositional zoning of Mg-Fe-Mn-Ca, with increase of almandine and pyrope and decrease of spessartine towards the rim, implying in prograde metamorphic pattern. Estimates of P-T values for the metamorphic peak resulted in temperatures between 630 to 650°C and pressure around 7 kbar. Pseudosections show well-defined stability fields in amphibolite facies, with a metamorphic path displaying progressive increase in P-T conditions. Maximum depositional age of  $1,875 \pm 51$  Ma is established for the Piranga mica schists pointing to a depositional history that is younger than those previously described. Metamorphic Cambrian ages characterize the strong influence of deformational processes related to the final stages of Brasiliano Orogeny in the Southeastern Quadrilátero Ferrífero.

**KEYWORDS:** São Francisco Craton; Pelitic rocks; Pseudosection; U-Pb zircon and monazite geochronology; Lu-Hf isotopes.

## INTRODUCTION

Geochronological and petrological studies are essential in ancient and polydeformed cratonic areas, such as Quadrilátero Ferrífero – QF (Alkmim & Marshak 1998). QF is a significant iron ore province in the world and is located in the Southern edge of São Francisco Craton (SFC), in Minas Gerais State (Fig. 1), Brazil, fringed to the East by the Neoproterozoic Araçuaí Orogen and to the South by

the Paleoproterozoic Mineiro Belt. The Paleoproterozoic history of QF witnessed the convergence of distinct groups of arcs and microcontinents (Noce *et al.* 2007, Barbosa & Sabaté 2004, Teixeira *et al.* 2015, Aguilar *et al.* 2017, Cutts *et al.* 2018). The Rhyacian-Orosirian Orogeny (ca. 2.1–2.0 Ga) formed structures and overprinted the old QF (Alkmim & Marshak 1998, Alkmim & Teixeira 2017). In addition, QF was also tectonically overprinted in parts by the Brasiliano tectonic event (ca. 630–490 Ma) (Pedrosa-Soares *et al.* 2007, Alkmim & Teixeira 2017, Aguilar *et al.* 2017, Cutts *et al.* 2018).

Detailed metamorphic studies in Eastern QF metasedimentary sequences are scarce, especially in Piranga region, which is the focus of this paper (Fig. 1). In general, metamorphic grade is higher in the QF Eastern portion and closer to igneous intrusions and uplift zones of the crystalline basement (Dorr II 1964, Herz 1978, Jordt-Evangelista *et al.* 1992, Marshak *et al.* 1992), mostly related to the Rhyacian-Orosirian Orogeny (Fig. 1). Aguilar *et al.* (2017) and Cutts *et al.* (2018) obtained Paleoproterozoic ages for monazite, titanite, and zircon grains for basement and supracrustal rocks, suggesting a Rhyacian-Orosirian overprint (Fig. 1). However, the influence of Brasiliano Orogeny on the supracrustal deformation and metamorphism has not been well documented. Chemale Jr. *et al.* (1994) and Alkmim & Marshak (1998) have pointed a Neoproterozoic influence based on structural studies. Th-U-Pb *in situ* monazite dating from pelitic schists in upper units of QF (Schmiedel 2015, Fig. 1) reported ages

### Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version: [Supplementary Table A1](#), [Supplementary Table A2](#), [Supplementary Table A3](#), [Supplementary Table A4](#), [Supplementary Table A5](#) and [Supplementary Table A6](#).

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between 490 and 510 Ma, suggesting an influence from the early Paleozoic event.

The stratigraphic positioning of Piranga metapelites is based on field mapping (Raposo 1991, 1998) and requires determination of timing and P-T metamorphic peak conditions. We present an integrated study of metamorphism and geochronology on three samples of staurolite-garnet mica schists from Southeastern QF, providing new insights on the stratigraphic setting and role of the Brasiliano Orogeny in the QF scenario. This is a major issue because the QF is a large, complex, and significant cratonic portion in the continents.

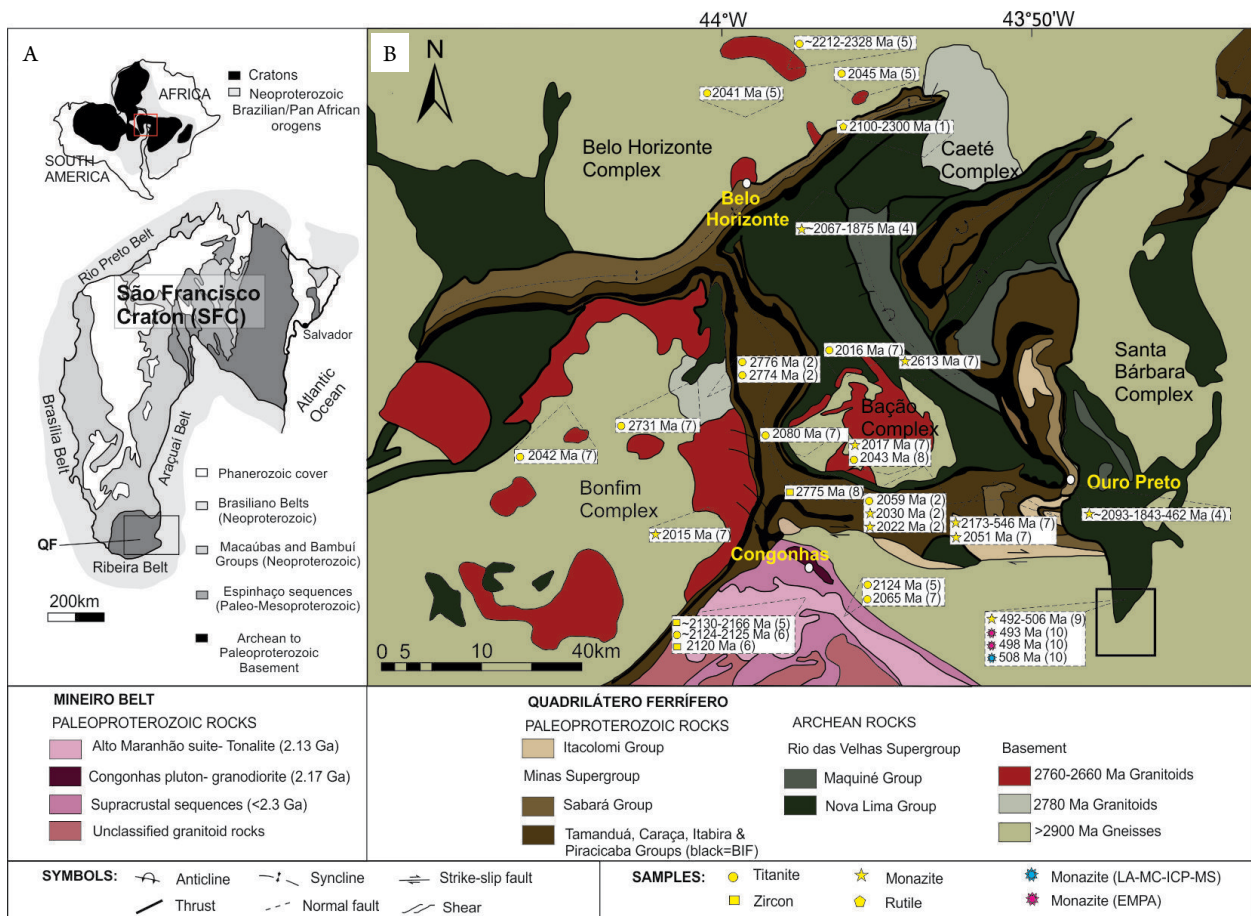
## GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The SFC (Almeida 1977) in Eastern Brazil was formed between 3.2 and 2.7 Ga (Carneiro *et al.* 1998) and comprises the largest and best-preserved shield exposure in South America platform, as seen in Figure 1 (Farina *et al.* 2015). It is subdivided into Archean to Paleoproterozoic blocks sectioned by Paleoproterozoic sutures (Teixeira & Figueiredo 1991, Barbosa & Sabaté 2004, Oliveira *et al.* 2010) and Neoproterozoic Araçuaí, Ribeira, and Brasília fold-belts (Pedrosa-Soares *et al.* 2001, Heilbron *et al.* 2010, Dardenne 2000, Pimentel *et al.* 2000, Valeriano *et al.* 2004). QF is the Southern portion of SFC and comprises several Archean granitoid-gneisses complexes and

Archean to Paleoproterozoic supracrustal sequences, as well as large iron and gold deposits (Lobato *et al.* 2001).

The four main lithostratigraphic units of QF (Alkmim & Marshak 1998, Fig. 2) are described as follows:

- Archean granite-gneiss-migmatitic complexes mainly composed of kilometer-scale tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite (TTG) cores, which are metamorphosed in amphibolite facies and are locally migmatized (Noce 1995, Alkmim & Marshak 1998). The main magmatism periods within QF are Santa Bárbara event (ca. 3.2 Ga, Lana *et al.* 2013), followed by Rio das Velhas I (ca. 2.9 Ga) and II (ca. 2.8–2.7 Ga) (Hartmann *et al.* 2006, Koglin *et al.* 2014, Farina *et al.* 2015, Moreira *et al.* 2016), and then by Mamona I (ca. 2.7 Ga) and II (ca. 2.6–2.5 Ga) (Farina *et al.* 2015). In Piranga region, the Archean Santo Antônio do Pirapetinga Complex (SAPC) is the oldest lithostratigraphic unit (Fig. 3), which is an individual unit in the sense of Raposo (1991), although the complex is partially similar to Rio das Velhas Supergroup. The SAPC is composed of TTG gneiss with intercalations of metabasite and meta-ultrabasite and subordinated quartzite and iron formation;
- Archean Rio das Velhas Supergroup (RVS) is mainly composed of metaigneous and low-to-medium metasedimentary rocks, which are considered a greenstone belt. The RVS can be subdivided into Nova Lima and Maquiné Groups



**Figure 1.** (A) Geological map of São Francisco Craton and surrounding Brasiliano orogenic belts highlighting the Quadrilátero Ferrífero (QF) (box in A) (taken from Alkmim & Martins-Neto 2012); (B) Geological map with the main lithostratigraphic units of QF and previous published metamorphic ages. Focused area is indicated by black box (based on Dorr II 1969, Alkmim & Martins-Neto 2012, Farina *et al.* 2016, Aguilár *et al.* 2017). References: (1) Belo de Oliveira & Teixeira (1990), (2) Machado *et al.* (1992), (3) Machado & Carneiro (1992), (4) Schrank & Machado (1996a, 1996b), (5) Noce *et al.* (1998), (6) Seixas *et al.* (2013), (7) Aguilár *et al.* (2017), (8) Cutts *et al.* (2019), (9) Schmiedel (2015), (10) this study.

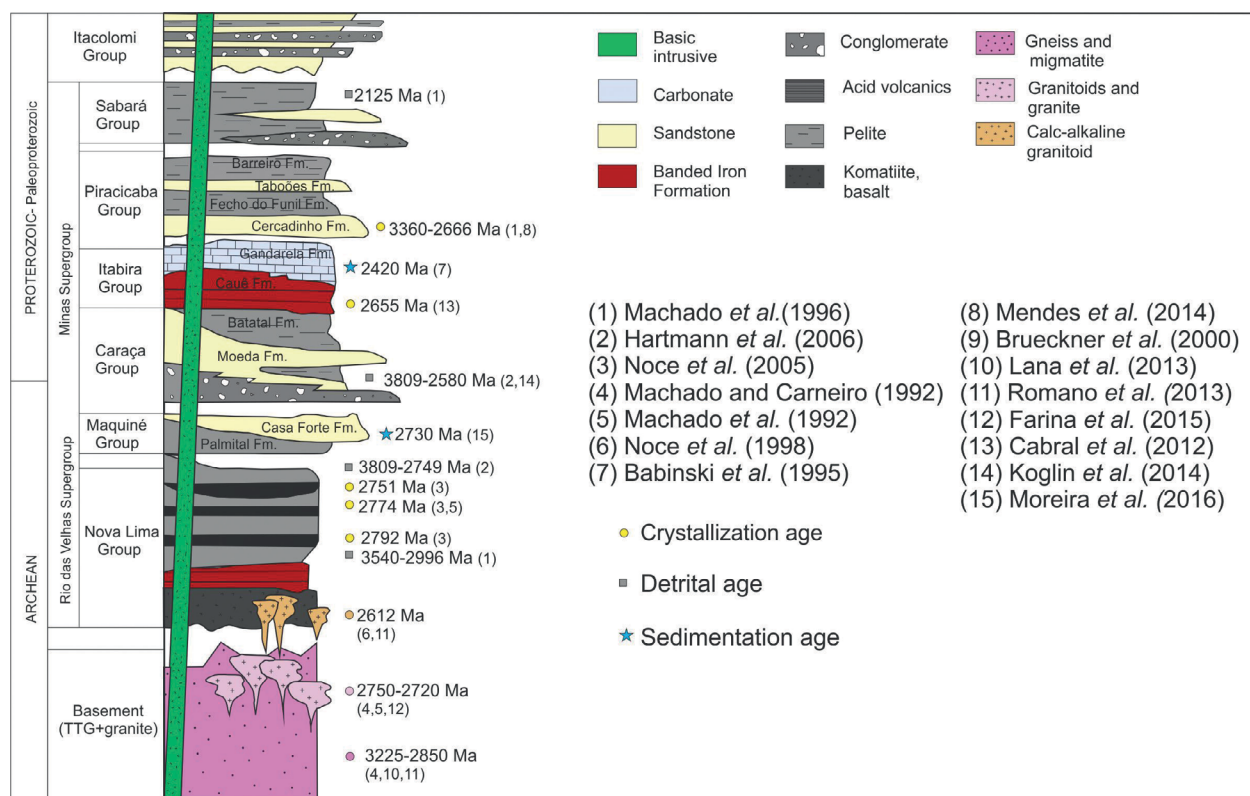
(Dorr II 1969). The basal Nova Lima Group consists of (meta) mafic and ultramafic volcanic rocks containing pillow basalts and komatiites, as well as intercalations of banded iron formation, ferruginous chert, felsic volcanoclastic rocks, and a package of clastic sediments. This basal group is unconformably overlain by Maquiné Group, which consists of shallow marine to alluvial (meta) sandstone, conglomerate, and pelitic rocks (Baltazar & Pedreira 1998). Available geochronological data for Nova Lima volcanoclastic rocks range from 2,792 to 2,751 Ma, whereas the maximum sedimentation age was dated at 2,749 ± 7 Ma (Machado *et al.* 1992, Noce *et al.* 2005, Hartmann *et al.* 2006). Maquiné Group sedimentary rocks have a maximum depositional age of ca. 2,730 (Moreira *et al.* 2016). In Piranga, Raposo (1991) subdivided the RVS into lower (metavolcanic rocks), middle (feldspar-quartz-mica schist with variable amounts of garnet, staurolite and kyanite), and upper (quartzite and minor metaconglomerate lenses) units.

- Paleoproterozoic Minas Supergroup is ca. 6 km-thick package of clastic and chemical sedimentary rocks, which are metamorphosed in greenschist to amphibolite facies (Alkmim & Marshak 1998), unconformably over the Rio das Velhas Supergroup (Farina *et al.* 2015). The basal sequence of Minas Supergroup is composed of Caraça (extensive metaconglomerate, metarenite and phyllite), Itabira (itabirite and dolomitic marble), and Piracicaba (metarenite and metapelite) Groups. These involve continental and marine sediments (Dorr II 1969, Renger *et al.* 1995) and represent the development stage of a passive margin (Schorsch 1992, Canuto 2010). The upper sequence contains Sabará Group of deep-to shallow-marine and deltaic strata, also

turbidite and conglomerate. This group is interpreted as a submarine deposit that marks the inversion of passive margin basin (Alkmim & Marshak 1998). From U-Pb isotopic data, Minas Supergroup has a maximum depositional age between 2,600 and 2,100 Ma (Alkmim & Marshak 1998, Nunes 2016, Dopico *et al.* 2017);

- Itacolomi Group is a ca. 1.8 km-thick succession of metasandstone, metaconglomerate and metapelite rocks, overlying the Minas Supergroup across a regional unconformity (Dorr II 1969, Alkmim & Martins-Neto 2012). The Itacolomi Group is an alluvial complex, locally submerged by a lake or shallow sea (Alkmim 1987). According to Barbosa (1968) and Dorr II (1969), the sediments of Itacolomi Group are a typical “molasse deposit”. Marshak *et al.* (1992), Alkmim & Marshak (1998), Alkmim & Martins-Neto (2012) point out this unit was deposited in small intermontane basins during the Rhyacian-Orosirian orogenic collapse phase. Most sediments in conglomerates of the Itacolomi Group were generated during the Rhyacian-Orosirian Orogeny, with minor Archean contribution (Machado *et al.* 1996, Alkmim & Marshak 1998). The most probable sources of Itacolomi Group are Mantiqueira Complex (2,119 ± 16 to 2,084 ± 13 Ma, Noce *et al.* 2007), Ritópolis — Alto Maranhão Suite (2,130 Ma, Seixas *et al.* 2013), Serrinha — Tiradentes Batholith (2,227 ± 22 to 2,204 ± 11 Ma, Ávila *et al.* 2014, Teixeira *et al.* 2015), and Juiz de Fora Complex (2,041 ± 7 to 2,137 ± 19 Ma; Noce *et al.* 2007).

QF also includes several granitic bodies, pegmatite and mafic dykes (Farina *et al.* 2015). In Piranga region, the Piranga Syenite (Jordt-Evangelista & Peres 1997,



Source: modified after Alkmim & Marshak (1998), Farina *et al.* (2016), Dopico *et al.* (2017).

**Figure 2.** Lithostratigraphic column of Quadrilátero Ferrífero displaying major lithological units.

Jordt-Evangelista *et al.* 2000, Silva 2014) and Ressaquinha Complex (Teixeira 1985, Raposo 1998) complete the regional framework (Fig. 3).

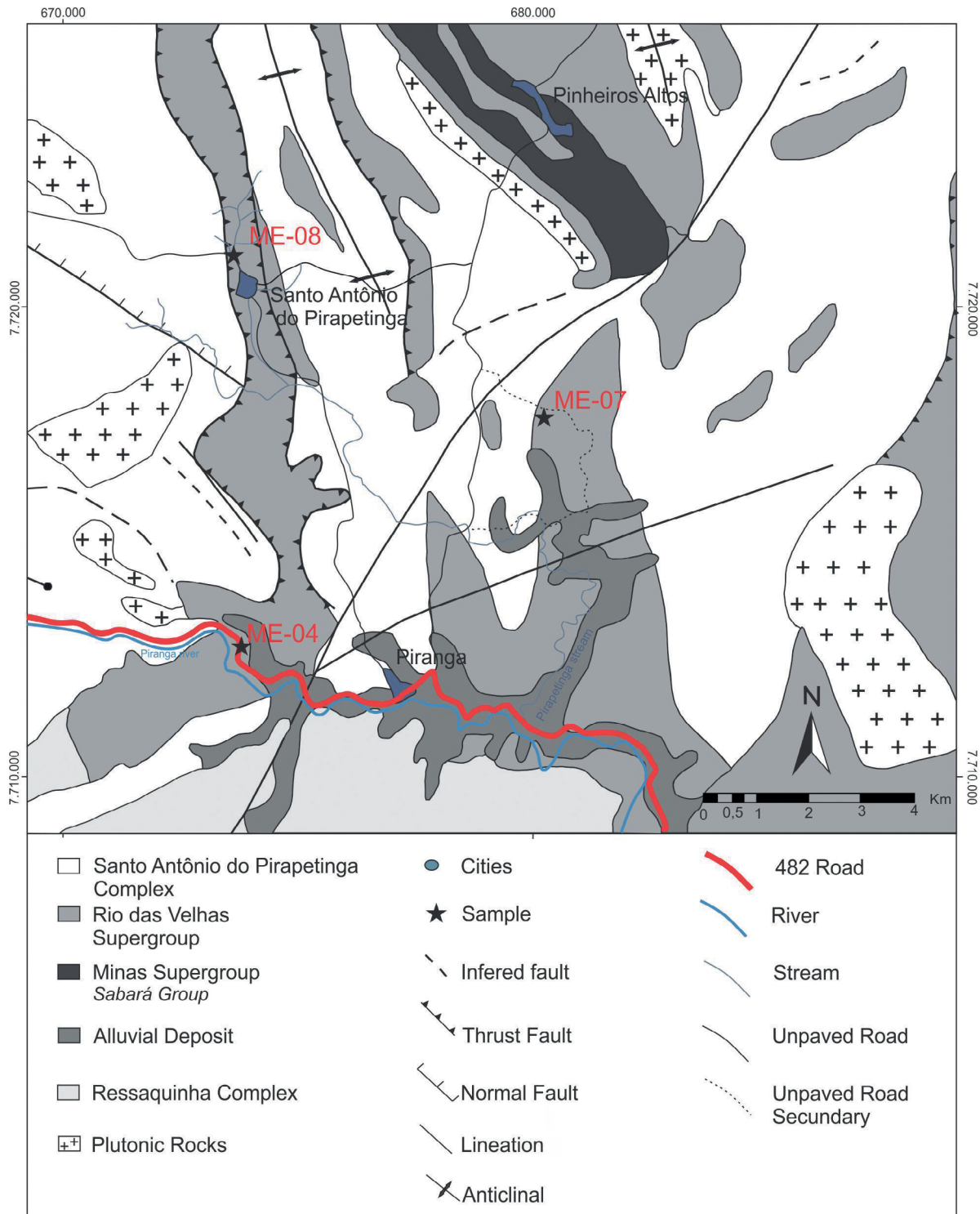
### ANALYTICAL METHODS

The study of selected rocks attributed initially to Rio das Velhas Supergroup included petrographic and microstructural characterization, mineral chemistry, geothermobarometric calculations, pseudosection modeling, and Th-U-Pb zircon and monazite dating. Analyses were performed in

three metapelite samples: ME04, ME07 and ME08 (location in Fig. 3).

### Mineral chemistry, geothermobarometry, and pseudosection modeling

Three-hundred quantitative analyses of garnet and staurolite porphyroblasts and coexisting muscovite, biotite, plagioclase, and opaques were carried out with two distinct electron microprobes: JEOL JXA-8900L instrument, Institut für Werkstoffwissenschaft at Freiberg, Germany; and JEOL JXA-8230 equipment, Microscopy and Microanalysis Laboratory



Source: modified from Raposo (1998).

**Figure 3.** Simplified geological map of the study area including the location of sampled rocks.

(LMic) at Universidade Federal de Ouro Preto (UFOP), Brazil. For both dataset analyses, the electron beam was set at 15 kV, 20 nA, 5–10  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the common matrix ZAF (Z – atomic number, A – absorption, F – fluorescence) corrections were applied. Total iron content was taken as FeO. The elements analyzed and natural standards (in parentheses) at the German instrument were as follow: Si (wollastonite), Na (albite), K (orthoclase), Mn (bustamite), Ti (rutile), Mg and Ca (diopside), Al (garnet), and Fe (hematite). Those used at the UFOP were: Si (quartz), K (microcline), Mn (MnO<sub>2</sub>), Ti (rutile), Mg (olivine), Ca (fluor-apatite), Al (corundum), Fe (Fe metal), F (CaF<sub>2</sub>), Cl (scapolite), Ba (BaSO<sub>4</sub>), Cr (chromite), Sr (strontianite), and Zn (gahnite). Counting times on peak and background were 10/5 seconds for all elements in both instruments.

Pressure and temperature conditions were interpreted using the average P-T method with THERMOCALC 3.33 software from Powell & Holland (1988, 1994).

Pseudosections were calculated using the bulk composition from the two most representative samples of staurolite-garnet mica schist (ME04 and ME07), and the modeling was done using Theriak-Domino software (De Capitani & Petrakakis 2010) in combination with Holland & Powell (1998) thermodynamic dataset. Calculations were based on the chemical system MnO–Na<sub>2</sub>O–CaO–K<sub>2</sub>O–FeO–MgO–Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>–SiO<sub>2</sub>–H<sub>2</sub>O (Mn–CNKFMASH) for both samples, because it represents the bulk composition of the studied metapelites. Excess water and quartz were considered in all calculations. Abbreviations for minerals in the descriptions follow Whitney & Evans (2010). Modeling used the activity–composition (A–X) relationships of White *et al.* (2005) for garnet and biotite, Holland & Powell (1998) for staurolite, Holland & Powell (2003) for plagioclase, Mahar *et al.* (1997) and Holland & Powell (1998) for chlorite, Coggon & Holland (2002) for white mica. Petrography indicates that the oxides are in low oxidation; therefore, Fe<sup>3+</sup> was not used. According to White *et al.* (2000), the addition of Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> to the system affects isograds in Fe<sup>3+</sup> rich metapelitic rocks, but the studied samples are low in this cation. Small effect on silicate stability occurs by adding TiO<sub>2</sub> to typical pelitic bulk compositions (White *et al.* 2000).

## Geochronology

### *In situ* Th–U–Pb monazite dating

*In situ* analyses of Th, U, and Pb for calculating monazite model ages, as well as for Ca, Si, LREE, and Y for evaluating mineral chemistry were carried out on the JEOL JXA-8230 microprobe at the Microscopy and Microanalysis Laboratory (LMic, UFOP), using an acceleration voltage of 20 kV. Beam current was set at 150 nA at a beam diameter of 1  $\mu\text{m}$ . The M $\alpha$  lines for Th and Pb and the M $\beta$  line for U of a PETH crystal were selected for analysis. Absolute errors at counting times of 30 (U and Th) and 50 seconds (Pb) are typically 0.12 wt% for Pb and U and 0.20 wt% for Th. Chosen lines were L $\alpha$  for La, Y, Ce; L $\beta$  for Pr, Sm, Nd, Gd; and K $\alpha$  for P, Si and Ca. Calibration of PbO was done on a covelite (PbS) standard, while U was calibrated with a U-glass (4.54 wt% U<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>). Orthophosphates of the Smithsonian Institution were used as standards for REE

analyses (Jarosewich & Boatner 1991, Donovan *et al.* 2003), except for Th, which was calibrated using a monazite grain. The monazite chemical model ages were determined using the ThO<sub>2</sub>\*–PbO isochron method (CHIME) of Suzuki & Adachi (1991, 1994) and Suzuki *et al.* (1994), in which the age is calculated from the regression line slope in ThO<sub>2</sub>\* vs. PbO coordinates forced through zero, in a JEOL software (MonaziteAge, program for calculating monazite ages, version 2.03 — McSwiggen & Associates). ThO<sub>2</sub>\* is ThO<sub>2</sub> plus O<sub>2</sub> equivalents after Suzuki *et al.* (1994). Madmon, a monazite from a pegmatite in Madagascar, acted as a reference for monazite data (U–Pb SHRIMP age at 496  $\pm$  9 Ma, around 10 wt% ThO<sub>2</sub>; Schulz *et al.* 2007, Schulz & Schüssler 2013).

### *Laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry U–Pb and Lu–Hf in zircon and U–Pb in monazite*

Three samples of staurolite-garnet-mica schist were selected for U–Pb zircon and monazite dating. All samples were processed at UFOP by conventional methods of crushing, screening, and concentration of heavy minerals. Zircon and monazite were hand-picked and mounted on an epoxy circular disc that was polished in sequence. Cathodoluminescence (CL) images were obtained using an electron microscope JEOL JSM 6510 at the Microscopy and Microanalysis Laboratory (LMic, UFOP), under 20 kV.

U–Pb isotopic analyses were performed in zircon grains using an Element II instrument coupled to a CETAC 213 laser ablation system at the Isotope Geochemistry Laboratory from UFOP. For these determinations, laser fired at a frequency of 10 Hz, using energy of 6 J/cm<sup>2</sup> and He as a sample carrier gas. Background data were acquired for 20 seconds followed by a 50-second laser ablation. Laser spot size was 20  $\mu\text{m}$ . The primary standard used was GJ-1 zircon (Jackson *et al.* 2004); BB zircon (Santos *et al.* 2017, Lana *et al.* 2017) acted as a secondary reference. Time-resolved signal data were processed by Glitter software package (van Achterbergh *et al.* 2001), while Isoplot software (Ludwig 2003) was used for data processing. Corrections of background, downhole fractionation, instrumental mass bias drift, and common Pb were processed using an in-house spreadsheet modified from Gerdes & Zeh (2006). Errors for all ages are reported at 2 $\sigma$  level.

Same routine adopted for zircons was followed for monazite grains, except for the spot size (30  $\mu\text{m}$ ) and reference materials (USGS, Aleinikoff *et al.* 2006, Diamantina, Gonçalves *et al.* 2018).

Lu–Hf isotopic analyses in zircon grains were carried out using the LA-MC-ICP-MS instrument (Photon machine 193/Neptune Thermo Scientific) at the Isotope Geochemistry Laboratory, UFOP. We selected two samples, ME04 and ME08, and used, wherever possible, the same zircon domain previously analyzed for U–Pb isotopes. GJ-1 (Jackson *et al.* 2004), BB (Santos *et al.* 2017), and 91500 (Wiedenbeck *et al.* 1995) acted as standards and were repeatedly measured during the analyses of unknown samples to check the instrument reliability and stability. The <sup>176</sup>Lu decay constant of 1.867  $\times$  10<sup>–11</sup> year<sup>–1</sup> provided by Söderlund *et al.* (2004) was used to calculate initial <sup>176</sup>Hf/<sup>177</sup>Hf ratios.

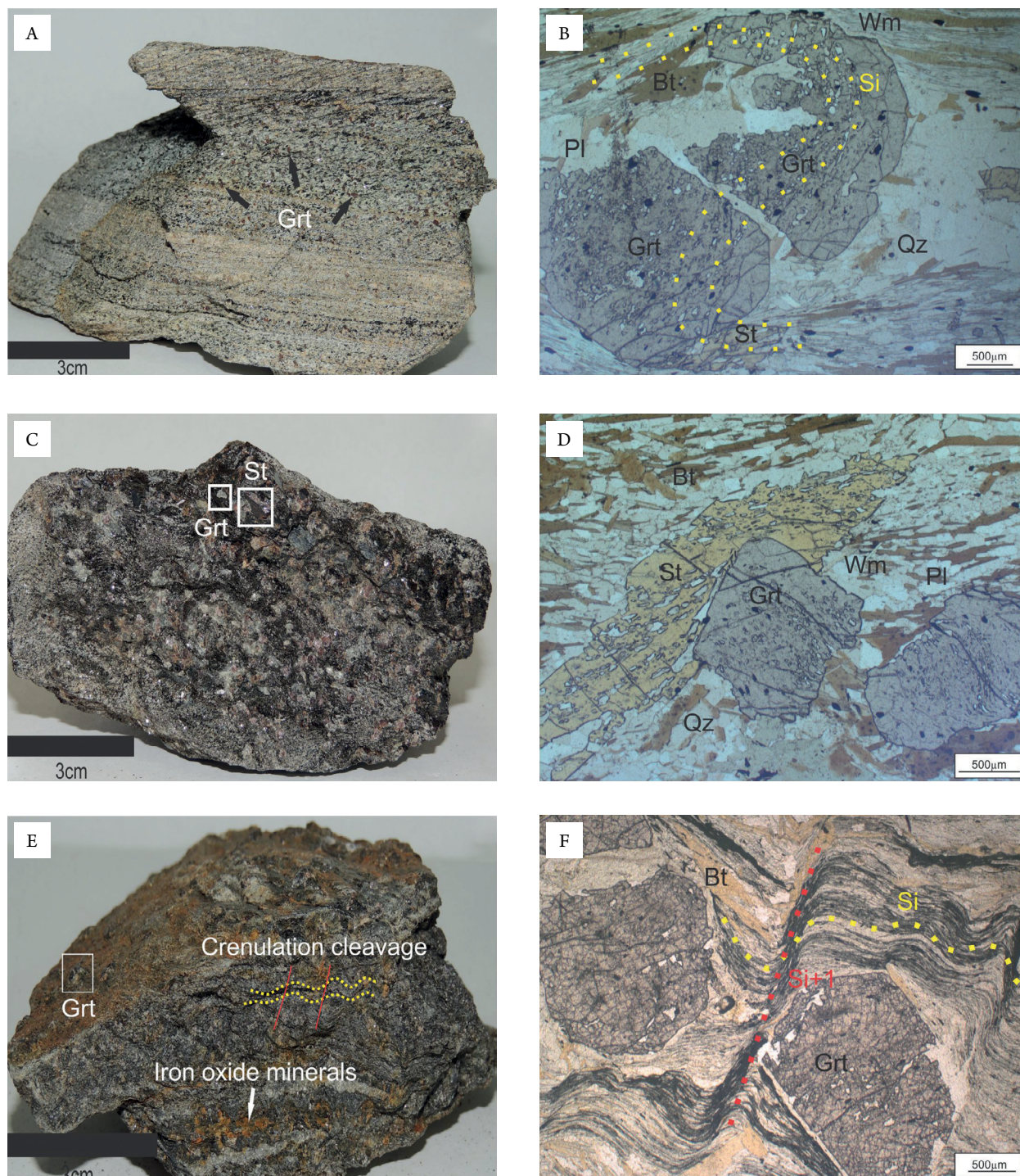
## Samples description

Field and petrographic features presented below are based on the first author's master thesis and on unpublished data of Schmiedel (2015).

### Sample ME08

Sample ME08 is located 500 meters North of downtown Santo Antônio do Pirapetinga, in the bed of a tributary to Pirapetinga River (UTM 673634/7721035; Fig. 3). Schists at

this place are banded, intercalating biotite-rich and poor zones (Fig. 4A). Other fabrics observed closely are either homogeneous, fine-grained or platy schistose. Some metapelite domains have a large amount of garnet encompassed by the foliated matrix. ME08 main minerals are quartz, plagioclase, biotite, garnet, and staurolite with subordinate muscovite, chlorite, epidote, tourmaline, apatite, and opaque minerals. Zircon and monazite are common accessory phases. The staurolite-garnet-bearing mica schist displays well-developed,



Si: foliation; Si+1: crenulation cleavage.

**Figure 4.** Hand specimen and thin section photomicrographs. (A) ME08 hand sample with domains of garnet (Grt) embedded in the foliated matrix. (B) ME08 thin section showing large syn-kinematic garnet porphyroblasts and post-kinematic staurolite (parallel polarizers). (C) ME04 hand specimen with prismatic staurolite and subhedral garnet porphyroblasts. (D) ME04 thin section displaying syn- to post-kinematic garnet and staurolite porphyroblasts. Biotite (Bt) and white mica (Wm) marking the main foliation (parallel polarizers). (E) ME07 hand specimen of staurolite-garnet mica schist showing crenulation cleavage and nodules of garnet (Grt) that protrude from the foliation surface. (F) ME07 photomicrograph displaying a well-marked crenulation cleavage (parallel polarizers).

tightly folded schistosity. Large garnet porphyroblasts are up to 0.5 cm in length and have oriented inclusions of quartz and opaque minerals, registering syn-kinematic growth (Fig. 4B). Inclusions in staurolite porphyroblasts are mostly oriented parallel to main foliation (helicitic microstructure), which implies post-kinematic growth. The matrix is composed of biotite + quartz  $\pm$  muscovite  $\pm$  plagioclase, mostly plainly foliated, and flows around the coarser, rigid garnet and staurolite porphyroblasts.

### Sample ME04

Sample ME04 occurs on the main road 482 to Conselheiro Lafaiete along Piranga River (UTM 673661/7712589; Fig. 3). The sample is a mica schist composed of quartz, biotite, muscovite, garnet, plagioclase, chlorite and staurolite, with accessories apatite, tourmaline, monazite, zircon and opaque minerals. Carbonate and sericite are alteration products of plagioclase. Sample ME04 shows quartz venules and is weakly banded. Its dark appearance is due to biotite. In hand specimen, there are large prismatic staurolite and subhedral garnet porphyroblasts embedded in a fine-to medium-grained micaceous foliated matrix (Fig. 4C). Garnet is syn-kinematic and staurolite is post-kinematic in relation to the main schistosity (Fig. 4D). Decussate muscovite and chlorite also occur.

### Sample ME07

Sample ME07 outcrops about 7 km NE of Piranga, close to Lagoinha creek, a small tributary to Pirapetinga River (UTM 680263/7716826; Fig. 3). In hand sample, there are nodules of garnet protruding from weathered foliation sheets. The staurolite-garnet mica schist is weakly banded, locally folded. Crenulation cleavage is present in some parts, which are well evidenced in thin section (Figures 4E-F). Sample ME07 is composed of quartz, plagioclase, biotite, garnet, and chlorite with minor amounts of staurolite, muscovite and iron oxide minerals, resulting in the red-orange color of the rock. Zircon, monazite, and apatite are accessory minerals. Garnet porphyroblasts are syn-kinematic with foliation as indicated by the inclusion pattern. Sn+1 crenulation is marked by muscovite, biotite, and chlorite (Fig. 4F).

## RESULTS

### U-Pb and Lu-Hf (laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry) isotope data on zircon

We present the geochronological data for two metapelite samples using U-Pb and Lu-Hf isotopic methods through the laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICP-MS). Complete data tables are available in Supplementary Tables A1 and A2. Location of ME04 and ME08 mica schists are shown in Figure 3. Zircon crystals from both samples display similar isotopic patterns; therefore, ME04 and ME08 data are described together, except where noted.

Detrital zircons from the schist are yellowish to brownish, prismatic to equidimensional, rounded to subhedral and have maximal length of 250  $\mu\text{m}$  (Fig. 5). Most crystals show high  $^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$  ratio, ranging from 0.042 to 0.668, and oscillatory zoning in CL images (Fig. 5), which represent magmatic grains in the source. After data reduction, 164 spots were selected for age calculations. Both samples recorded a predominant source at ca. 2,100 Ma (80–85% of all analyzed zircons plot in the 1,960–2,260 Ma interval), as seen in Figure 6. Four other minor zircon populations in ME04 sample, indicated by the following age intervals, are recognized: 1,860–1,890 Ma (2%), 2,200–2,380 Ma (10%), 2,540–2,760 Ma (4%) and around 3,150 Ma (1%). For ME08, minor zircon populations are: 1,810–1,920 Ma (2%), 2,230–2,460 Ma (8%), 2,510–2,770 Ma (7%), and 2,930–2,980 (2%). Four of the youngest concordant zircon grains from samples ME04 and ME08 suggest a maximum sedimentation age of  $1,875 \pm 51$  Ma.

Lu-Hf analyses were carried out on the same crystals previously used for U-Pb isotopes to constrain provenance. Both samples present a significant variation of  $\epsilon\text{Hf}$ . The  $\epsilon\text{Hf}(t)$  versus  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  (age) plot (Fig. 7) shows positive and negative  $\epsilon\text{Hf}$  values, indicating a mixture of crustal and juvenile sources. Among 132 analyzed grains, 112 Paleoproterozoic grains dated at ca. 2,500–2,000 Ma yielded  $\epsilon\text{Hf}(t) = -10.7$  to  $+6$  (Fig. 7), with  $\text{Hf} T_{\text{DM}}$  at 2,178 to 3,351 Ma. These  $\epsilon\text{Hf}(t)$  values indicate a large contribution from older continental crust and juvenile rocks related to Araçuaí Orogen basement and Mineiro Belt (Noce *et al.* 2007, Seixas *et al.* 2013). Grains older than 2,750 Ma show negative  $\epsilon\text{Hf}$  values, suggesting crustal source related to the Archean crystalline basement (Lana *et al.* 2013, Farina *et al.* 2015, Albert *et al.* 2016, Fonseca 2017).

### Metamorphic history

To reconstruct the metamorphic history and find the metamorphic peak of the studied samples, we performed chemical analyses on selected minerals and geothermobarometric calculations using the P-T average mode of THERMOCALC and pseudosections. Complete data tables, including the oxide compositions of each mineral, are available in Supplementary Table A3. A summary of geothermobarometric data and geochronological ages is shown in Table 1.

### Mineral chemistry and average P-T thermobarometry

#### Sample ME08

Large garnet porphyroblasts from sample ME08 have distinct zoning profiles and well-marked rim-core-rim structure. The chemical zoning pattern of garnet shows increase of almandine (61.8 to 77.4 endmember%) and pyrope (6.0 to 14.3%) and decrease of spessartine (16.7 to 2.6%) and grossular (17.1 to 5.8%), as seen in Figure 8A, from core to rim, reflecting growth under increasing temperature. The garnet formula unit is:  $(\text{Fe}_{1.86-2.31}\text{Mg}_{0.18-0.43}\text{Ca}_{0.17-0.52}\text{Mn}_{0.08-0.51})\text{Al}_{1.96-2.0}\text{Si}_{3.0-3.05}\text{O}_{12}$ . Granoblastic plagioclase in matrix is homogeneous and classified as oligoclase ( $\text{An}_{12.48-25.26}$ ); the average formula unit is  $(\text{K}_{0.00}\text{Na}_{0.08}\text{Ca}_{0.74-0.83}\text{Al}_{0.17-0.25}\text{Si}_{0.75-0.83})\text{AlSi}_2\text{O}_8$ . Biotite flakes

approximate to lepidomelane member in the solid solution annite-phlogopite, with  $X_{Mg}$  varying between 0.43 and 0.46. The average formula unit is  $(Na_{0.04-0.07}K_{0.80-0.89}Ca_{0.00-0.01})(Al_{0.36-0.43}Mg_{1.22-1.32}Fe_{1.08-1.15})(Al_{1.21-1.28}Si_{2.72-2.79})O_{10}(OH,F)_2$ .

Pressure and temperature values obtained for ME08 mica schist are  $649 \pm 26^\circ C$  and  $7.5 \pm 0.9$  kbar, corresponding to medium-to-upper amphibolite facies.

### Sample ME04

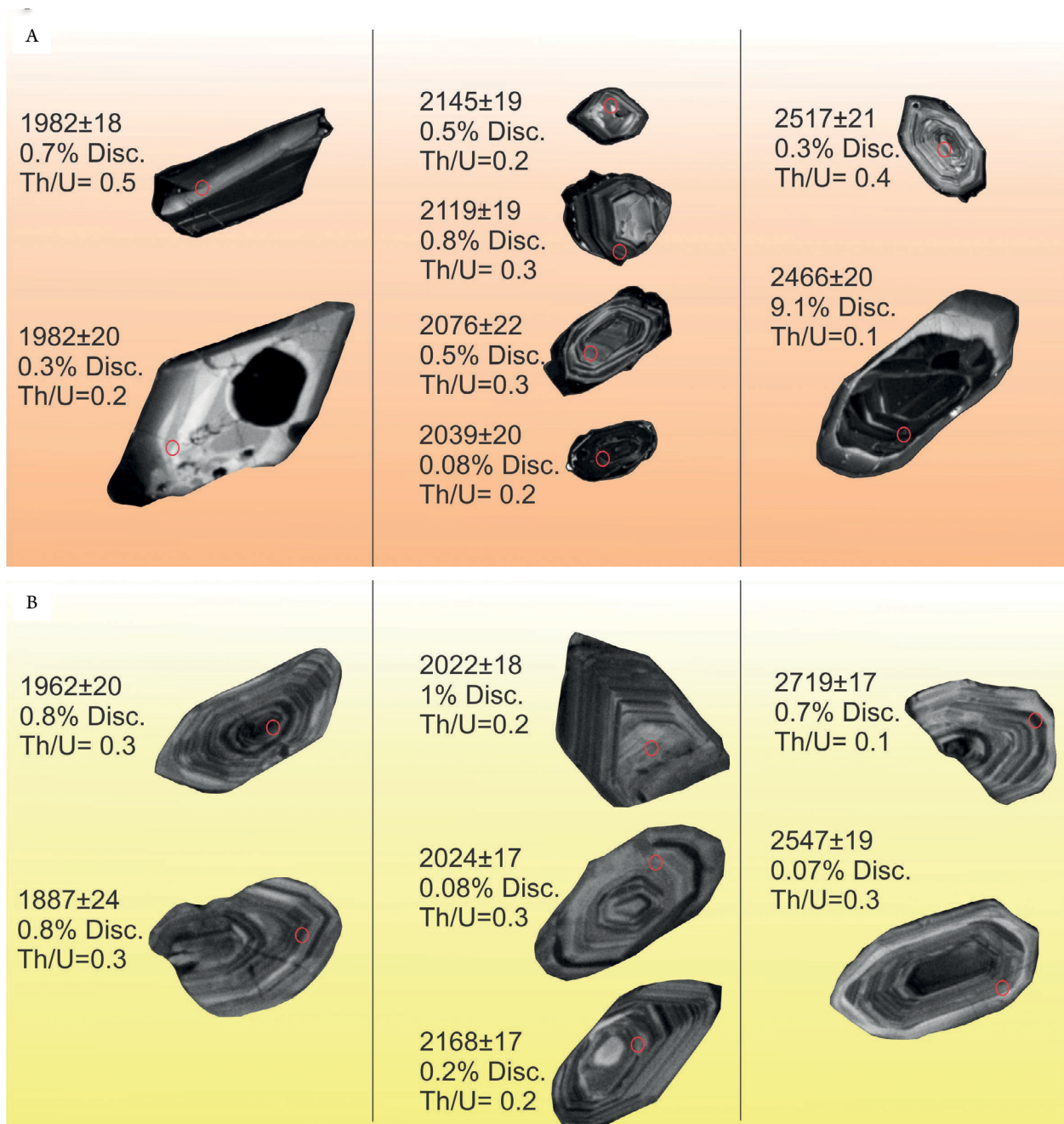
Sample ME04 has large staurolite and garnet porphyroblasts set in a fine-to medium-grained lepidoblastic matrix. Garnet zonation profiles display decrease of spessartine (21.0 to 0.3 endmember%) and grossular (11.1 to 6.5%) molecules from core to rim. Almandine has a minimum of 62.6% in the core, increasing to 78.2% towards the rim. Pyrope content varies from 6.3 to 15.32% from core to rim (Fig. 8B). These features point to a prograde growth. Garnet formula unit is:

$(Fe_{1.88-2.38}Mg_{0.19-0.46}Ca_{0.20-0.32}Mn_{0.03-0.63})Al_{1.97-2.01}Si_{3.0-3.04}O_{12}$ . Matrix granoblastic plagioclase composition ranges from  $An_{16.37}$  to  $An_{23.14}$  oligoclase (average formula unit is  $(K_{0.00-0.11}Na_{0.75-0.84}Ca_{0.17-0.24})(Al_{0.15-0.23}Si_{0.77-0.85})AlSi_2O_8$ ). Matrix biotite flakes (lepidomelane endmember) show homogeneous composition with  $X_{Mg} = 0.41-0.44$ , displaying average formula unit of  $(Na_{0.03-0.06}K_{0.87-0.92})(Al_{0.38-0.43}Mg_{1.20-1.30}Fe_{1.07-1.17})(Al_{1.24-1.29}Si_{2.71-2.76})O_{10}(OH,F)_2$ . Analyzed staurolite porphyroblast has  $X_{Fe}$  between 0.79 and 0.81, MnO content of 0.026 to 0.123%, and a general formula unit of  $(Fe_{1.60-1.64}Mg_{0.37-0.42})(Al_{8.57-8.66}Ti_{0.05-0.08})Si_{3.91-3.97}O_{22}(OH)_2$ .

ME04 sample reached a peak temperature of  $640 \pm 25^\circ C$  and a maximum pressure of  $7.9 \pm 0.9$  kbar, within medium-to-upper amphibolite facies.

### Sample ME07

ME07 syn-kinematic garnet porphyroblasts also show well-developed zoning with an increase of almandine (72.4 to



**Figure 5.** Selected cathodoluminescence (CL) zircon images for samples (A) ME08 and (B) ME04. The red circle represents the analyzed spot.



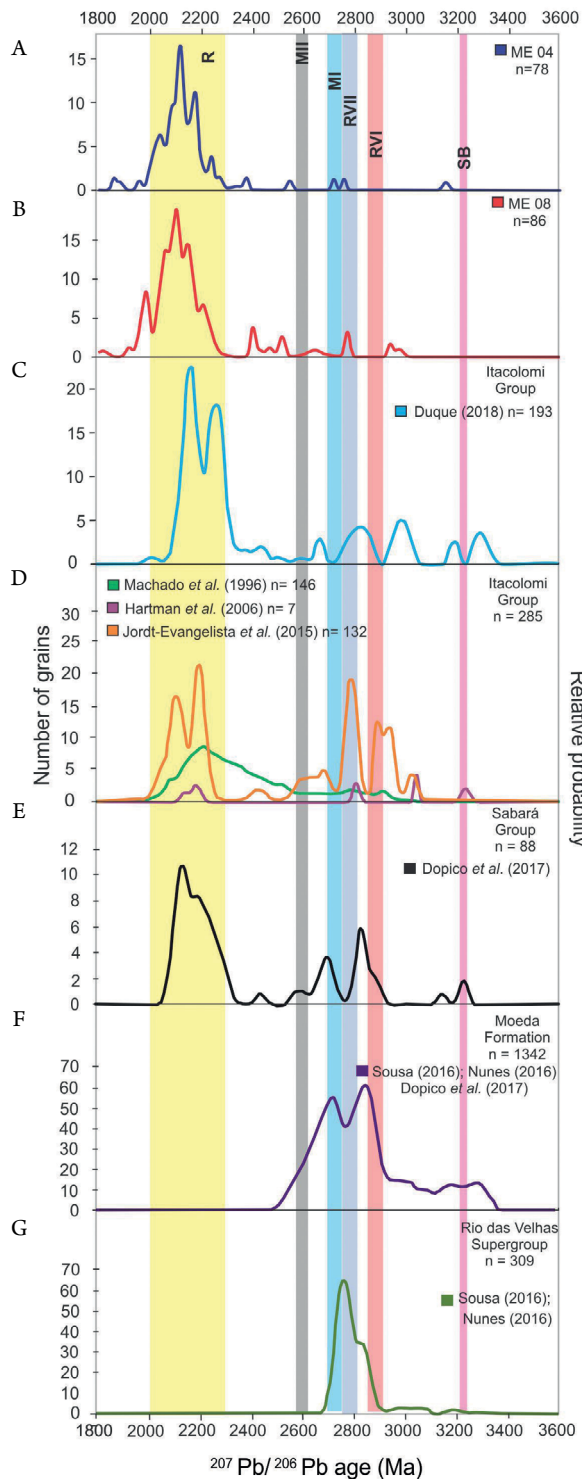
76.7 endmember%) and pyrope (8.7 to 20.4%) and decrease of spessartine (7.1 to 0.3%) and grossular (11.0 to 4.8%), from core to rim (Fig. 8C). Garnet average formula unit

is  $(\text{Fe}_{2.15-2.28}\text{Mg}_{0.26-0.61}\text{Ca}_{0.14-0.33}\text{Mn}_{0.01-0.21})\text{Al}_{2.0-2.07}\text{Si}_{2.96-3.00}\text{O}_{12}$ . Two coalescent garnet crystals display progressive growth with MgO increasing and MnO decreasing from core to rim. This feature is documented in the characteristic X-ray maps available in Figure 9. Granoblastic matrix plagioclase is homogeneous ( $\text{An}_{17.8-28.3}$ ; average formula unit is  $(\text{Na}_{0.72-0.78}\text{Ca}_{0.22-0.28})(\text{Al}_{0.24-0.30}\text{Si}_{0.70-0.77})\text{AlSi}_2\text{O}_8$ ) and classified as oligoclase. Biotite flakes have  $X_{\text{Mg}}$  between 0.49 and 0.52. Their formula unit is  $(\text{Na}_{0.04-0.08}\text{K}_{0.75-0.84}\text{Ca}_{0.00-0.01})(\text{Cr}_{0.00-0.01}\text{Al}_{0.34-0.42}\text{Mg}_{1.47-1.51}\text{Fe}_{0.88-1.06})(\text{Al}_{1.22-1.34}\text{Si}_{2.66-2.78})\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH},\text{F})_2$ . Stauroilite crystals display  $X_{\text{Fe}}$  between 0.75 and 0.78, MnO content of 0.002 and 0.05%, and formula unit of  $(\text{Fe}_{1.35-1.45}\text{Mg}_{0.38-0.45})(\text{Al}_{8.78-8.96}\text{Ti}_{0.04-0.06})\text{Si}_{3.79-3.93}\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$ .

Estimates of P-T for the ME07 mica schist sample indicates  $634 \pm 10^\circ\text{C}$  and  $7.2 \pm 0.8$  kbar, medium-to-upper amphibolite facies.

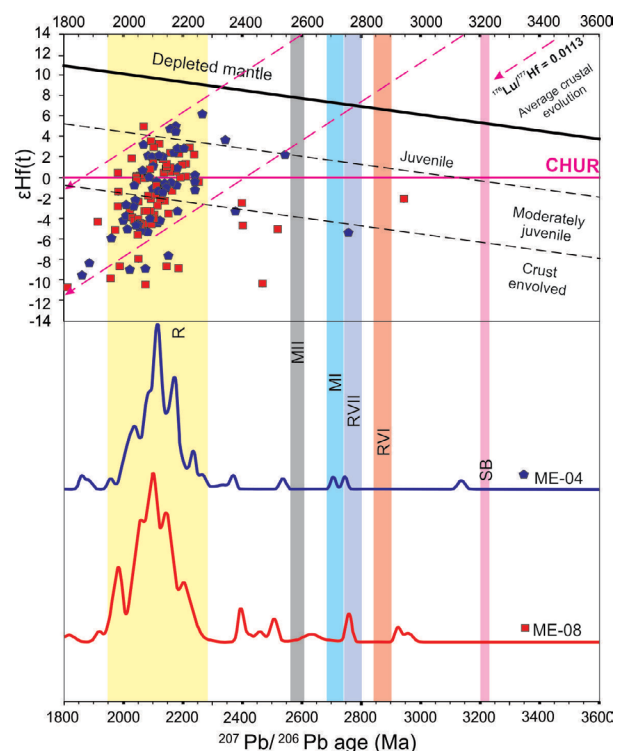
## Pseudosection modeling

The analyzed pelitic schists furnish enough information of their metamorphic P-T path. Quartz, biotite, and oxide inclusions in ME04 and ME07 samples do not constrain any P-T fields of stable mineral assemblage. In all samples, the mineral assemblage fields are in the amphibolite facies, as expected from petrographic characterization and P and T calculations (average mode of THERMOCALC). Bulk composition of each sample, used for pseudosection calculation, is available in Supplementary Table A4.



SB: Santa Bárbara; RVI: Rio das Velhas I; RVII: Rio das Velhas II; MI: Mamona I; MII: Mamona II; R: Rhyacian.

**Figure 6.** (A and B) Frequency histogram and probability curves for all the available U-Pb data for the studied metapelites. (C to G) Frequency histograms and probability curves for all available U-Pb detrital zircon ages for Rio das Velhas Supergroup, Moeda Formation, Sabará and Itacolomi Groups (based on Machado *et al.* 1996, Hartmann *et al.* 2006, Jordt-Evangelista *et al.* 2015, Sousa 2016, Nunes 2016, Dopico *et al.* 2017, Duque 2018). Age intervals indicated as (1) Santa Bárbara, (2) Rio das Velhas I, (3) Rio das Velhas II, (4) Mamona, (4b) Late Mamona are based on Lana *et al.* (2013) and Farina *et al.* (2015, 2016).



SB: Santa Bárbara; RVI: Rio das Velhas I; RVII: Rio das Velhas II; MI: Mamona I; MII: Mamona II; R: Rhyacian.

**Figure 7.** Hf(t) versus  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  age diagram showing results for detrital zircon from ME04 and ME08 samples. Age intervals indicated as (1) Santa Bárbara, (2) Rio das Velhas I, (3) Rio das Velhas II, (4) Mamona, (4b) Late Mamona are based on Lana *et al.* (2013) and Farina *et al.* (2015, 2016). Reference lines on Hf plot are as followed: CHUR based on Bouvier *et al.* (2008) and DM on Blichert-Toft & Puchtel (2010).

Sample ME04

Pseudosection calculations for sample ME04 show metamorphic peak mineral assemblage field, represented by Pl + Grt + Bt + Wm + St (Fig. 10, blue region), with a small variation of temperature and pressure. Due to compositional zonation of garnet crystals, limited P–T path was obtained in rim

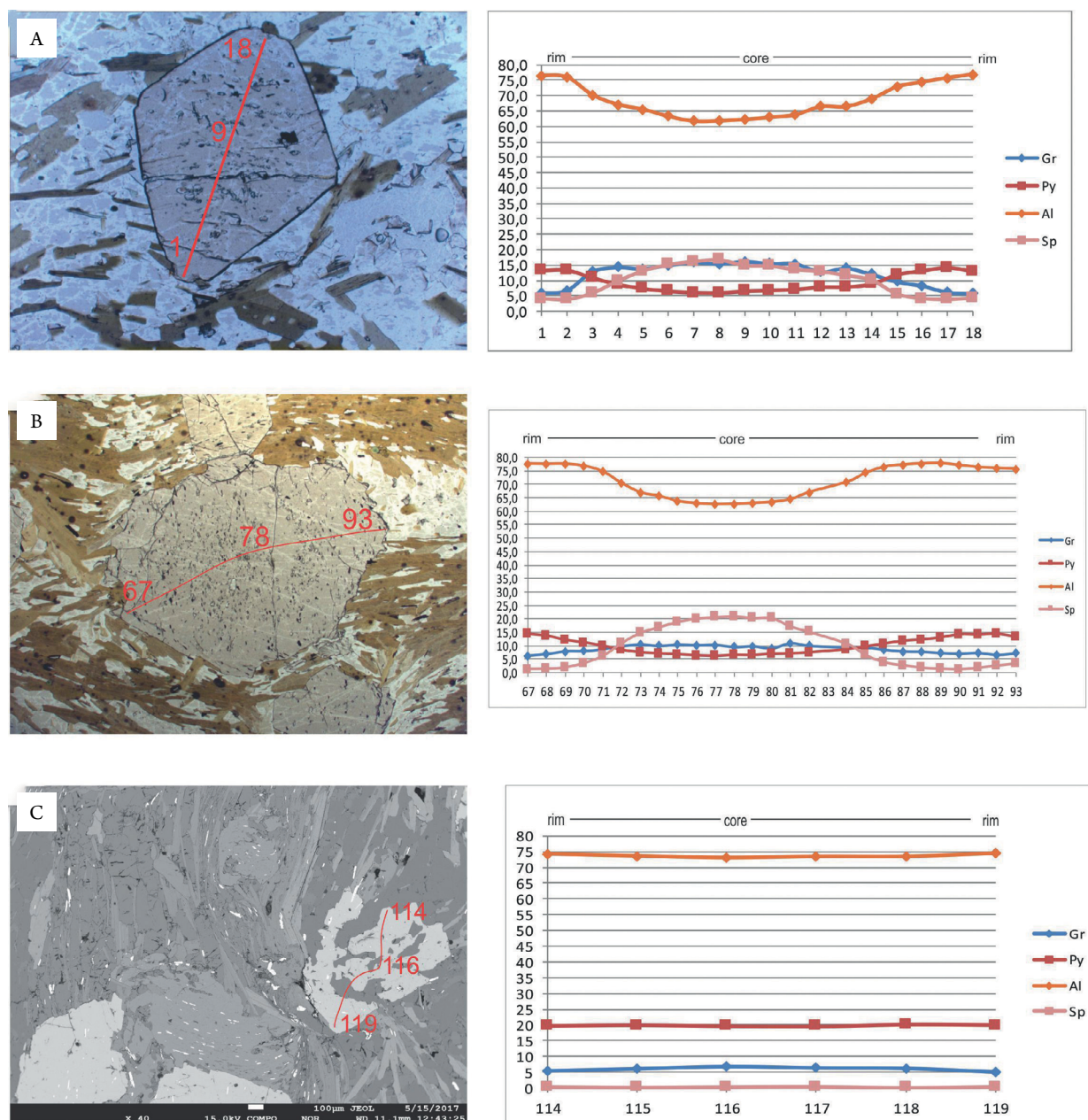
and core. This stabilization field was defined using garnet rim isopleths ( $X_{Grs}$  0.08–0.09 and  $X_{Sp}$  0.05–0.06) that intersect in the stable assemblage field, thus constraining P–T peak conditions between ~6.9–7.2 kbar and ~590–620°C (Fig. 10).

ME04 mica schist metamorphism began at temperature and pressure conditions of around 540°C and 5.0 kbar,

Table 1. Summary of geothermobarometric data and related metamorphic ages for the studied mica schists.

Sample	Average P-T mode of THERMOCALC (Powell & Holland 1988, 1994)		Pseudosection modeling (De Capitani & Petrakakis 2010)		U-Pb monazite ages	
	T (°C)	P(kbar)	T (°C)	P(kbar)	Isotopic age (Ma)	CHIME (Ma)
ME04	640 ± 25	7.9 ± 0.9	590–620	6.9–7.2	n.d.	n.d.
ME07	634 ± 10	7.2 ± 0.8	640–655	5.9–7.9	493 ± 4	508 ± 27
ME08	649 ± 26	7.5 ± 0.9	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	498 ± 25

n.d.: not determined; CHIME: chemical age.



Grs: grossular; Prp: pyrope; Alm: almandine; Sps: spessartine.

Figure 8. Garnet porphyroblasts with the analyzed points in the left and garnet zonation in Grs-Prp-Alm-Sps contents diagram in the right. (A) Sample ME08, (B) Sample ME04 and (C) Sample ME07.

greenschist to amphibolite facies transition (Fig. 10). This feature can be observed in the green delimited area, marked by the beginning of garnet core growth, highlighted by the intersection of grossular and spessartine isopleths. At this stage, the stable mineral assemblage was composed of Pl + Grt + Bt + Chl + Wm (Fig. 10). Initial metamorphic conditions were also in the red region of Figure 10, which shows the intersection of almandine and grossular isopleths. After temperature and pressure increase, chlorite was consumed to form staurolite. This feature is highlighted in the blue area of, in which the mineral assemblage Pl + Grt + Bt + Wm + St was stable at around 590–620°C and 6.9–7.2 kbar.

### Sample ME07

Pressure conditions of sample ME07 cover a large interval; however, the temperature field is relatively small, between 560–650°C. The metamorphic process started at around 560°C and 5.6 kbar, and the stable mineral assemblage was Pl + Grt + Bt + Chl + St + Wm (Fig. 11, pink circle). Intersection of garnet rim isopleths ( $X_{Sp}$  0.004–0.005 and  $X_{Gr}$  0.04–0.05) delimit mineral stability field at 640 to 655°C and 5.9 to 7.9 kbar

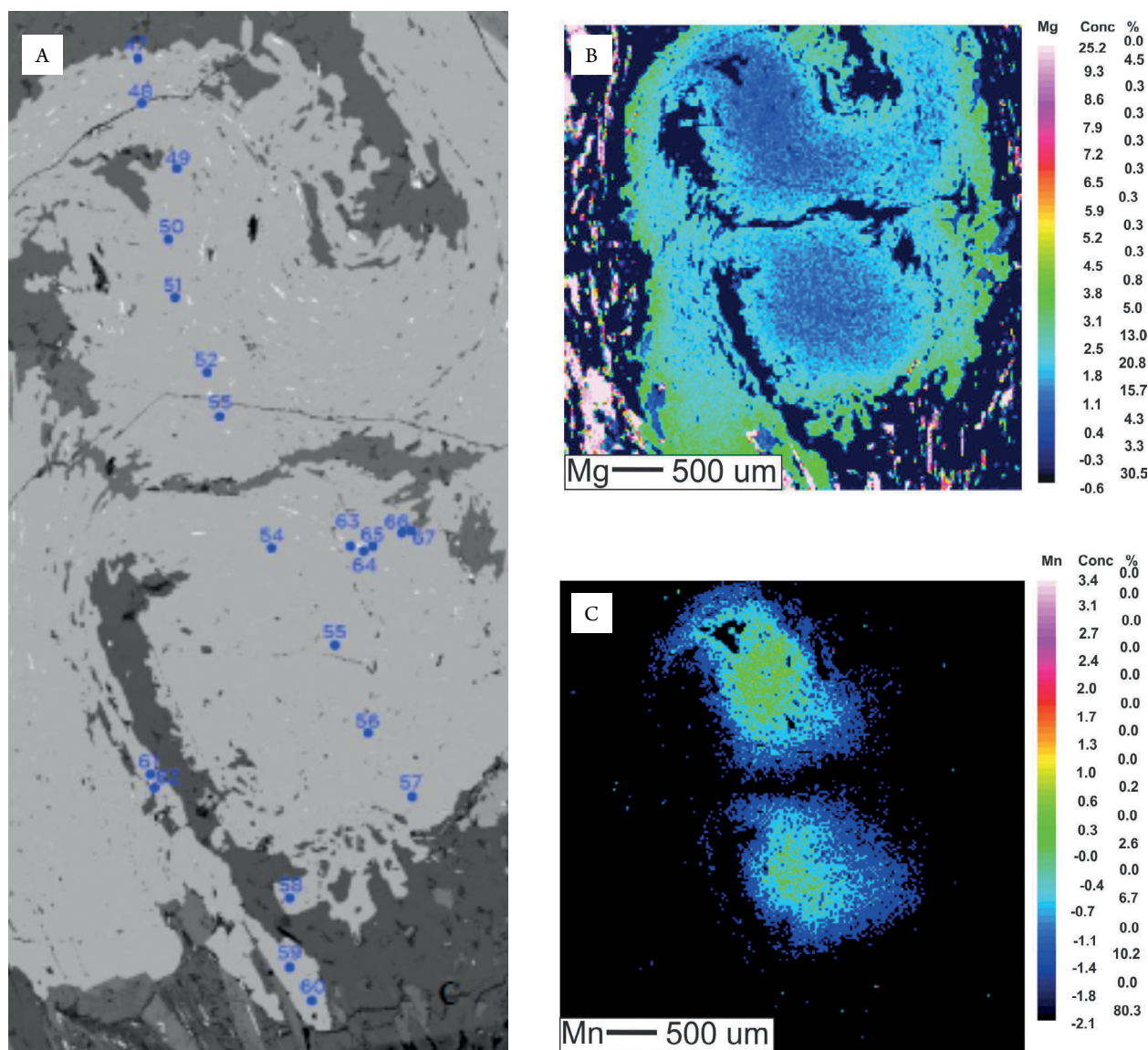
(Fig. 11, blue region). These P-T values represent the metamorphic peak conditions of ME07 mica schist.

### Monazite dating by laser ablation multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry and electron microprobe

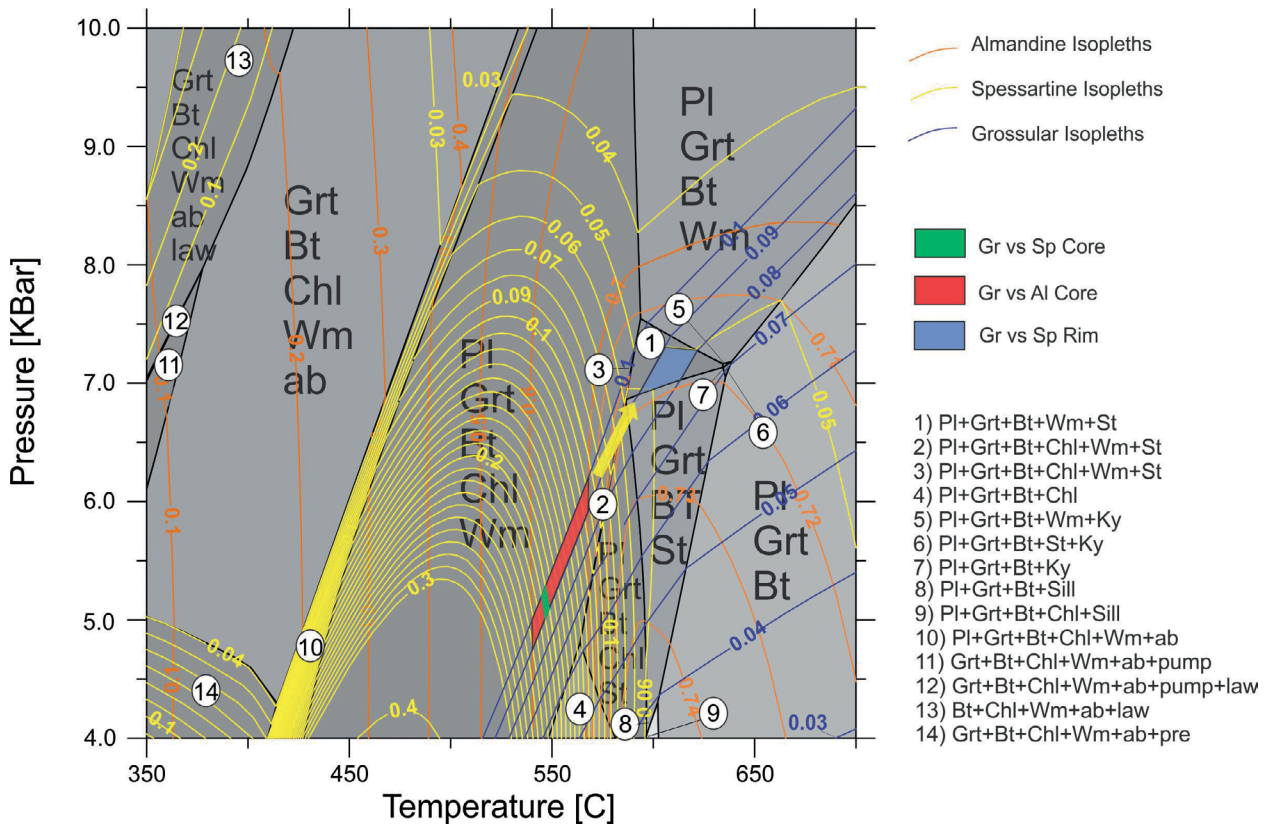
In order to constrain the metamorphic episode timing that affected the studied metapelitic sequence, we dated monazite grains from two samples using both isotopic and chemical methods (Tab. 1). An epoxy mount of monazite crystals was used for laser analyses; whereas polished thin sections were used for Electron Probe Microanalysis (EPMA).

### Isotopic method

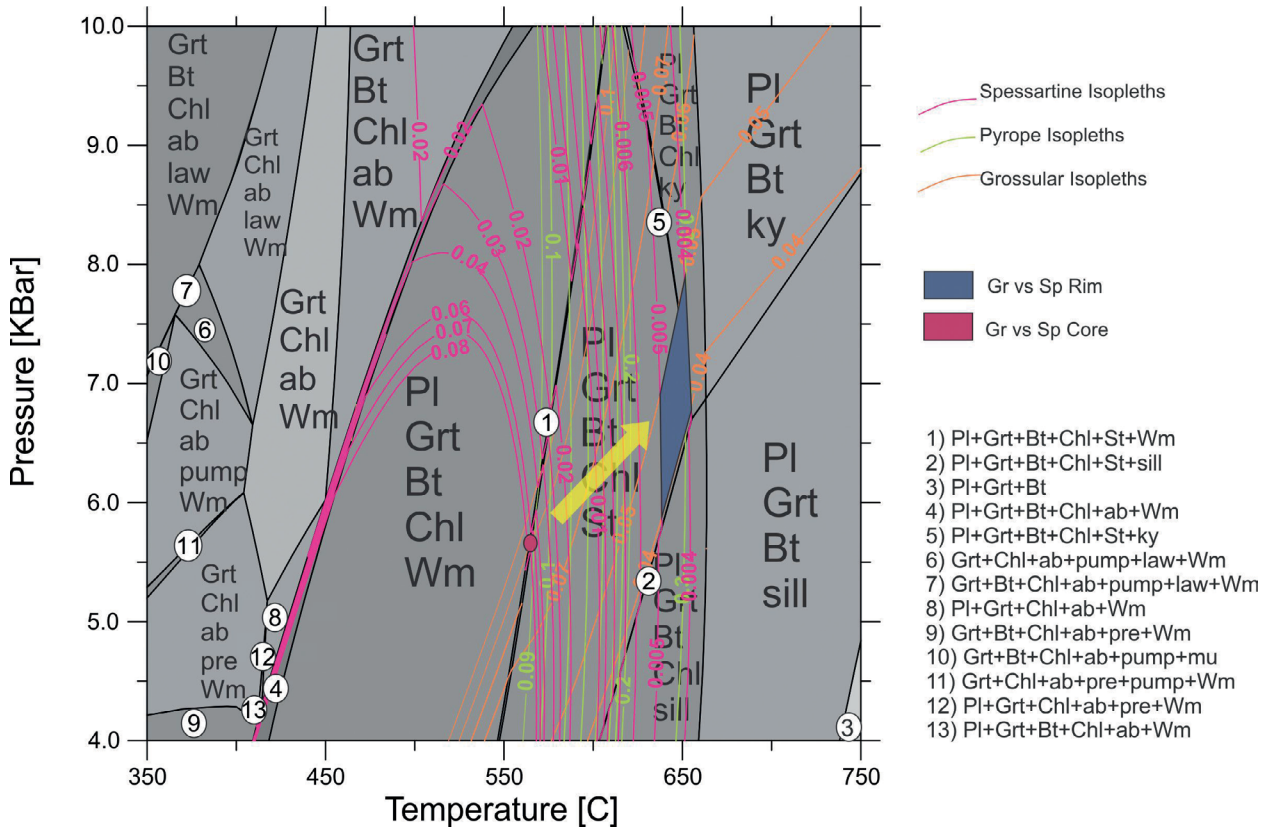
The LA-MC-ICP-MS analyses were carried out in ME07 mica schist. Crystals are rounded to elongated, subhedral, displaying some cracks (Fig. 12A). Diameter ranges from 100 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$ . Twenty-three points align in the Discordia diagram with an upper intercept at  $2,853 \pm 37$  Ma and a lower intercept at  $493 \pm 4$  Ma (MSWD = 0.49), as seen in Figure 12B, Table 1 and Supplementary Table A5.



**Figure 9.** (A) BSE image of coalescent garnets in ME07 mica schist. Blue points are analyzed spots. (B) and (C) Characteristic X-ray compositional maps of MgO (B) and MnO (C) contents.



**Figure 10.** P-T pseudosection modeling for sample ME04. The blue field shows stabilization defined by garnet rim isopleths ( $X_{Gr_{rs}}$  — blue lines and  $X_{Sp}$  — yellow lines). The stable mineral assemblage is Pl + Grt + Bt + Wm + St. Pink ( $X_{Gr}$  — blue lines and  $X_{Al}$  — orange lines) and red fields ( $X_{Gr}$  and  $X_{Sp}$ ) fields show the stabilization defined by garnet core isopleths. The proposed P-T trajectory is based on garnet composition (yellow arrow).  $H_2O$  and quartz considered in excess.



**Figure 11.** P-T pseudosection modeling for sample ME07. Stable mineral assemblage is Pl + Grt + Bt + Chl + Wm + St. Isopleths intersection of garnets ( $X_{Gr}$  — orange lines and  $X_{Sp}$  — pink lines) delimit rim mineral stability field highlighted by blue region. Pink circle is the intersection of core garnet endmembers. The proposed P-T trajectory is based on garnet composition (yellow arrow).  $H_2O$  and quartz considered in excess.

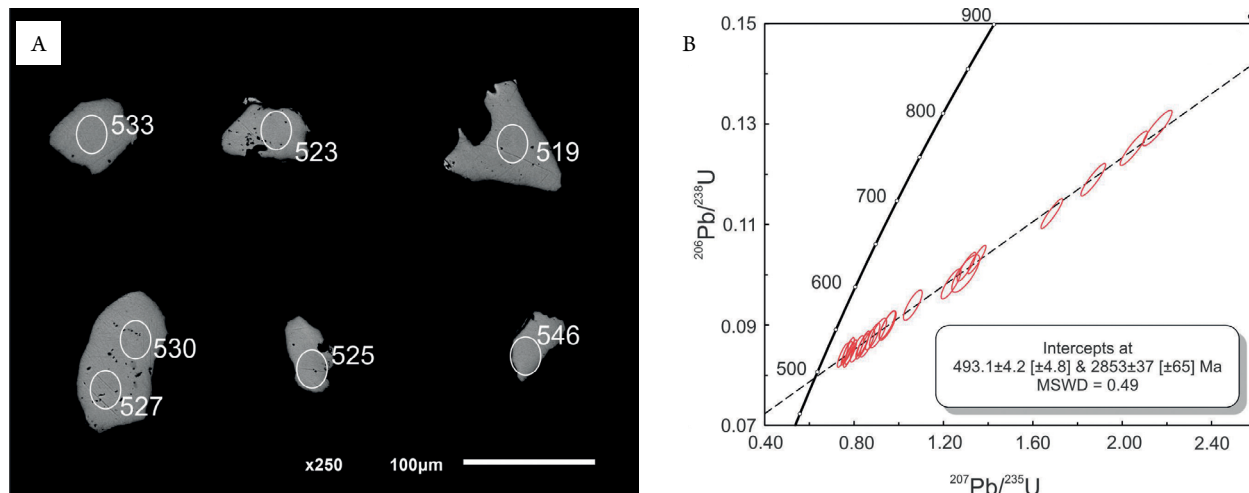
Chemical method (CHIME)

Sample ME07

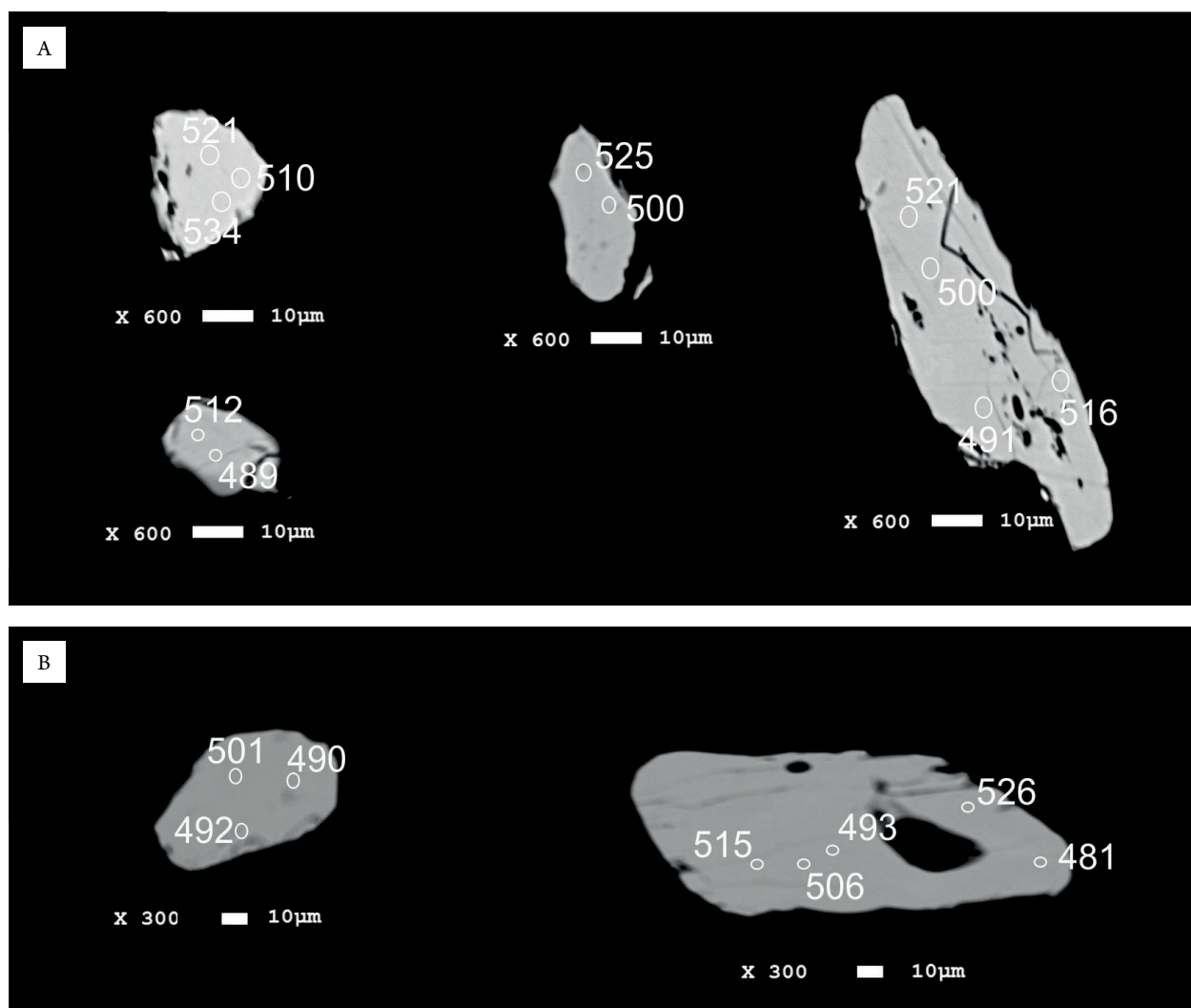
Monazite grains of ME07 mica schist are mainly from the foliated matrix. Grains are homogeneous, with no internal zoning in BSE images (Fig. 13A), mostly elongated, with 20

to 80 µm diameter. Chemical analyses show content of ThO<sub>2</sub> ranging from 2.81–6.67wt%, UO<sub>2</sub> 0.47–0.67wt%, PbO 0.09–0.18wt%, and Y<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> 0.005–0.925wt% (complete data tables with monazite composition in Supplementary Table A6).

Twenty-one points were analyzed in ten monazite grains. ME07 mica schist displays Cambrian monazite ages



**Figure 12.** (A) Backscattered electron (BSE) images of dated monazite crystals from ME07 sample. Numbers are isotopic ages from monazite single analyses. (B)  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$  vs.  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$  LA-MC-ICP-MS Discordia diagram for ME07 monazite.



**Figure 13.** BSE images of dated monazite in mica schists from Piranga region. Samples (A) ME07 and (B) ME08. Numbers are EMPA chemical ages from monazite single analyses.

along a well-defined  $\text{ThO}_2^*$ -PbO isochron at  $508 \pm 27$  Ma (Fig. 14A, Tab. 1).

### Sample ME08

In the ME08 thin section, monazite grains vary from 60 to 200  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter, allowing the analysis of up to 17 points on a single grain. Most of the analytical spots were in monazites from the foliated matrix, except for one included in garnet. Some grains are rounded, but most of them are elongated and subhedral. The zonation of core and rim is poorly defined in backscattered electron (BSE) images (Fig. 13B). Chemical analyses show content of  $\text{ThO}_2$  from 2.39–7.31wt%,  $\text{UO}_2$  0.38–0.88wt%,  $\text{PbO}$  0.08–0.22wt% and  $\text{Y}_2\text{O}_3$  0.26–0.84wt% (complete tables in Supplementary Table A6).

Forty-four analyses in ten grains yielded  $\text{ThO}_2^*$ -PbO isochron at  $498 \pm 25$  Ma for the ME08 sample (Fig. 14B, Tab. 1).

## DISCUSSION

Two main results from this study are the correct stratigraphic position of the metapelitic sequence in Piranga region and the intense deformation of Brasiliano Orogeny on the SE border of QF.

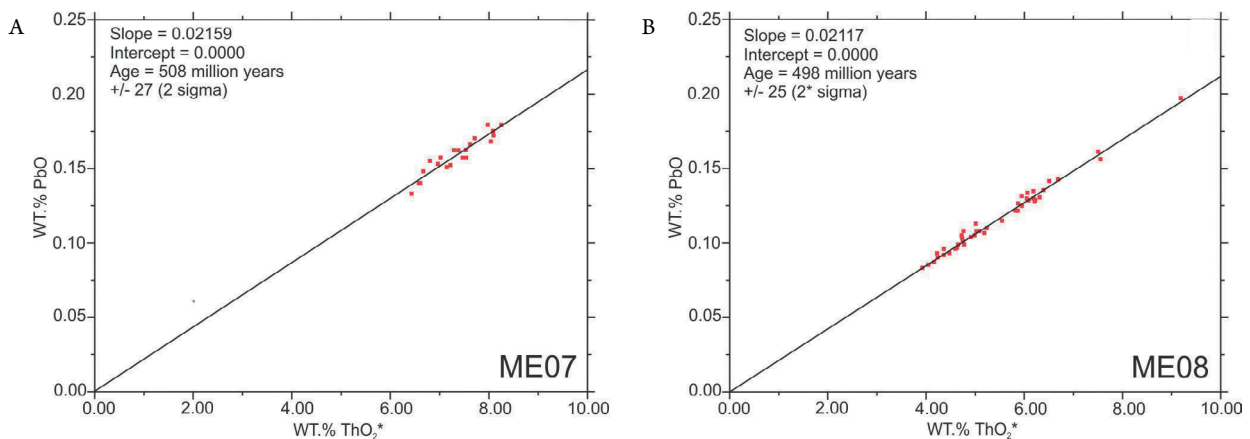
### Maximum depositional age and provenance and new age constraints for Piranga schists

Stratigraphy is based on U-Pb detrital zircon geochronology from two staurolite-garnet mica schists. The rocks display similar geochronological pattern, yielding mostly Rhyacian (prominent peak at ca. 2,100 Ma) and minor Siderian and Archean ages. The youngest zircon population suggests maximum sedimentation age of  $1,875 \pm 51$  Ma. Paleoproterozoic grains dated around 2,500–2,000 Ma show both negative  $\epsilon\text{Hf}_{(t)}$  = -10.7 to -0.1 and positive  $\epsilon\text{Hf}_{(t)}$  = 0.0 to +6.0 values, corresponding to crustal and juvenile sources. Granitoid suites were dated in Mineiro Belt, between 2,100 and 2,360 Ma (Seixas *et al.* 2013, Barbosa *et al.* 2015, Teixeira *et al.* 2015), which are possible sources for the sediments. Magmatic Rhyacian-Orosirian rocks from Mantiqueira Complex were dated at 2,180 to 2,040 Ma (Silva *et al.* 2002, Noce *et al.* 2007, Novo 2013), whereas Juiz

de Fora Complex yielded 2,130 to 2,080 Ma (Noce *et al.* 2007). Both complexes provided significant detrital sediment to the metasedimentary sequence. Grains older than 2,750 Ma present negative  $\epsilon\text{Hf}_{(t)}$  = -5.6 to -2.3, representing sources formed with participation of crustal material, exemplified by Santa Bárbara (Fonseca 2017) and Bação complexes (Farina *et al.* 2015, Albert *et al.* 2016).

A comparison between the frequency histogram and probability curves for all available U-Pb data for the studied metapelites and Rio das Velhas Supergroup (Nunes 2016, Sousa 2016), Moeda Formation (Nunes 2016, Sousa 2016, Dopico *et al.* 2017), Sabará and Itacolomi Groups (Machado *et al.* 1996, Hartman *et al.* 2006, Jordt-Evangelista *et al.* 2015, Dopico *et al.* 2017, Duque 2018) provides insights into similarities and differences between the considered lithologies. Based on Figure 6, a prominent ca. 2,100 Ma peak for the samples studied herein is similar to Sabará and Itacolomi Groups, which are the youngest units of QF (Figs. 6A-E). We have noticed a similar pattern between our samples and those dated by Machado *et al.* (1996) and especially by Duque (2018) for the Itacolomi Group in its type-area, with a remarkable peak around 2,100 Ma and very little contribution from zircon of other ages.

Jordt-Evangelista *et al.* (2015) described similar features for Itacolomi Group lithologies, despite considerable Archean contribution (Fig. 6D). The metasedimentary rocks of Sabará Group display a large contribution from sources with age interval from 2,700 to 2,850 Ma, attributed to Rio das Velhas I and Mamona events (Lana *et al.* 2013), which are different from the geochronological pattern described here. However, since it is the maximum sedimentation age, we cannot exclude the hypothesis of correlation with Sabará Group, although the 1.9 Ga age is not registered in this group (see Fig. 6E). Another correlation is with basal units of Espinhaço Supergroup, despite absence of 1.7 Ga ages in our histograms. According to Chemale Jr. *et al.* (2012), the youngest ages obtained for detrital zircon grains of Bandeirinha and São João da Chapada Formations are around 1.7 to 1.8 Ga. Nevertheless, Espinhaço Supergroup has restricted occurrence in QF, preferentially in the northernmost region in the vicinity of Cambotas Range (Dutra 2017). Hence, in



**Figure 14.** Th-U-Pb CHIME model ages in mica schists from Piranga region. (A) Total PbO versus  $\text{ThO}_2^*$  (wt.%) plot for sample ME07. (B) Total PbO versus  $\text{ThO}_2^*$  (wt.%) plot for sample ME08.

conclusion, Piranga schists correlate with the youngest units of QF (Sabará or Itacolomi Groups), without excluding, however, the Espinhaço Supergroup.

## Metamorphic ages and tectonic implications

Current interpretations regarding time and intensity of metamorphic processes are based on multiple techniques, including average P-T geothermobarometry, pseudosection calculations, and both isotopic and chemical U-Pb monazite dating. The three metapelite samples are pervasively foliated and contain garnet and staurolite porphyroblasts embedded in fine-to medium-coarse granolepidoblastic matrix. Both porphyroblastic minerals are syn- to post-kinematic with respect to the main, tightly folded foliation. All the analyzed garnet crystals show intense compositional zoning marked by Fe and Mg increase and Mn and Ca decrease toward the rims, implying prograde metamorphic conditions.

P-T estimates for the metamorphic peak use the average mode of THERMOCALC, which yields 630 to 650°C and around 7 kbar, medium-to-upper amphibolite facies. These P-T values are corroborated by pseudosections that indicate progressive metamorphic pattern. Homogeneous monazite grains in BSE images and with similar  $Y_2O_3$  and  $Ce_2O_3$  contents (see complete data tables in Supplementary Table A6) were dated by both isotopic and chemical methods. No evidence was found of multiple monazite generations in ME07 and ME08 samples. LA-MC-ICP-MS U-Pb geochronology resulted in  $493 \pm 4$  Ma, while CHIME ages are  $498 \pm 25$  Ma and  $508 \pm 27$  Ma. Results show high correlation between the two methods, arguing for a Cambrian resetting or recrystallization. Monazite generation seems later than the medium-to-upper amphibolite facies metamorphic peak. The metamorphic peak age of this sequence is the most significant, but it remains unidentified. The metamorphic overprinting occurred during the Brasiliano Orogeny was considered, because the studied metasedimentary unit was deposited after the Rhyacian-Orosirian Orogeny (maximum sedimentation age at  $1,875 \pm 51$  Ma with notable peak at ca. 2,100 Ma). U-Pb titanite and monazite dating from the southern SFC led Aguilar *et al.* (2017) to consider Paleoproterozoic metamorphism as a “long-lived event”. Ages are in the intervals of 2,100–2,070 Ma and 2,070–2,050 Ma, considered syn-collisional (Rhyacian-Orosirian Event) and syn-extensional. On the other hand, Chemale Jr. *et al.* (1994) and Alkmim & Marshak (1998) pointed out the role of the Brasiliano Orogeny in the QF architecture, based on geological evidence.

More recently, Cutts *et al.* (2018) demonstrated a strong Brasiliano overprint at 580–590 Ma on Mantiqueira Complex and Dom Silvério Group. This group outcrops East of Piranga region. Noticeably, fluid activity in the Cambrian is well registered by monazite resetting or recrystallization. Cambrian ages were reported on the surroundings of Piranga region and along the Araçuaí Orogen (Schmiedel 2015, Queiroga *et al.* 2016, 2018, Gonçalves 2018, Gonçalves *et al.* 2019). Fluid

flow during low-to-medium grade metamorphism was related to the tectono-thermal collapse of Araçuaí Orogen (Alkmim *et al.* 2006). This final phase affected the QF border units as demonstrated in this study.

## CONCLUSIONS

The geochronological and metamorphic dataset from this work allows the following conclusions:

- The metapelitic sequence composed of staurolite-garnet mica schists is correlative to the youngest units of QF (Sabará or Itacolomi Groups) or even to Espinhaço Supergroup, as supported by U-Pb geochronology, which contradicts previous positioning as Rio das Velhas Supergroup (Raposo 1991, 1998). This re-interpretation is based on the maximum sedimentation age ( $1,875 \pm 51$  Ma) of zircon from two metapelite samples, which is younger than previously considered. Both samples also display unimodal zircon pattern (peak at ca. 2,100 Ma);
- Considering the Paleoproterozoic sedimentation age, the main deformation associated with the metamorphic process was related to the Brasiliano Orogeny;
- Metamorphism reached amphibolite facies, with T and P values between 630–650°C and ca. 7 kbar;
- Isotopic and chemical monazite ages at around 500 Ma point to recrystallization or resetting in the Cambrian;
- Metapelites from Piranga region are a repository of significant information concerning the evolution of QF in the Paleoproterozoic (depositional history) and Neoproterozoic-Early Paleozoic (metamorphism and deformation). U-Pb zircon and monazite geochronological data, thermobarometry, and pseudosection calculations are essential for decoding depositional timing and metamorphic evolution.

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## ARTICLE INFORMATION

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Y. S. Q. wrote the manuscript first draft and prepared all figures, tables and supplementary files. G. Q. improved the writing of all manuscript; this author is the MsC supervisor of Y. S. Q. R. M. helped with geothermobarometric calculations, petrological interpretations and discussions; this author is the MsC co-supervisor of Y. S. Q. V. M. T. F. and E. M. J. helped in the metamorphic modeling. H. J. E. contributed to petrographic analyses and mineral chemistry discussions. B. S. and M. P. C. performed mineral chemistry analyses at EPMA in Germany and Brazil, respectively. M. P. C. also contributed to the chemical monazite ages calculations. J. S. helped in field works and petrographic descriptions. M. M. also helped in field works, revised, and improved the manuscript. C. L. performed the LA-MC-ICP-MS analyses in zircon and monazite and assisted in data interpretation.

Competing interests: The authors declare no competing interests.

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