

**Phase equilibria constraints on the melt fertility of crustal  
source rocks: The effect of sub-solidus water loss**

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1 **Phase equilibria constraints on the melt fertility of**  
2 **crustal source rocks: The effect of sub-solidus water**  
3 **loss**

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7 Short title: Prograde water loss and crustal melt fertility

8 **ABSTRACT**


9 During prograde metamorphism, free H<sub>2</sub>O generated by ongoing dehydration reactions is  
10 likely to be continuously lost from a rock primarily driven by compaction. Classical melting  
11 experiments cannot easily simulate this phenomena because all run products are ideally  
12 conserved within the experimental charge even though significant equilibration and  
13 H<sub>2</sub>O generation may occur during heating. Phase equilibria modelling is used to model the  
14 effect of subsolidus water loss on subsequent melting relationships of felsic lithologies  
15 (including metapelite, metagreywacke and metatonalite) in the suprasolidus. Subsolidus  
16 water loss drives the bulk composition towards the minimum saturation point within the  
17 wet melting field and results in significantly reduced subsequent melt generation when  
18 compared to melting experiments involving conservation of H<sub>2</sub>O in an experimental charge  
19 from some temperature well below the solidus. This effect is most obvious at *P-T*  
20 conditions just above the solidus. The reduction in melt fertility due to subsolidus water  
21 loss causes rheologically critical thresholds to be shifted to higher temperatures(e.g. melt  
22 connectivity threshold, melt escape threshold and the solid-to-liquid transition). Subsolidus  
23 water loss is also likely to impact on crystallising melts as they cross the solidus. As a  
24 result, the H<sub>2</sub>O content of granites may not reflect the H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the magma from  
25 which they were derived. Instead they record the H<sub>2</sub>O contents in the vicinity of the  
26 minimum saturation point at the *P-T* conditions at which they crossed the solidus.

27

28 keywords: prograde metamorphism, melting, water, anatexis, THERMOCALC

## 29 INTRODUCTION

30 Understanding crustal melt fertility is important for developing robust models for  
31 migmatite formation, granite petrogenesis and the differentiation and evolution of the  
32 continental crust (Brown & Fyfe, 1970; Huppert & Sparks, 1988; Clemens, 1990;  
33 Thompson, 1996; Sawyer, 1998; Annen *et al.*, 2008). Hydrous felsic lithologies melt  
34 incongruently at mid- to lower-crustal depths (10–60 km) at temperatures attainable during  
35 high-grade metamorphism (650–1000 °C; Thompson & Connolly, 1995; Thompson, 1999;  
36 White *et al.*, 2001). The amount of melt produced and its composition is determined by the  
37 composition of the source rock, the pressure and temperature conditions and any open  
38 system behaviour including the loss or gain of fluid, melt or solid phases. Of these,  
39 H<sub>2</sub>O content is one of the key compositional variables affecting melting behaviour in the  
40 crust (Tuttle & Bowen, 1958; Holtz *et al.*, 1995; Johannes & Holtz, 1996).

41 Two dominant modes of melting have been identified to explain the observed  
42 characteristics of natural granites, migmatites and granulites. ‘Fluid-present melting’ or  
43 ‘wet melting’ describes the situation where a system is saturated with respect to a  
44 H<sub>2</sub>O-dominated fluid phase as it crosses the wet solidus with increasing  $T$  and/or  $P$ . In  
45 fluid-present melting the activity of H<sub>2</sub>O is effectively unity ( $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} \approx 1$ ), neglecting the  
46 proportions of other constituents in the fluid that are likely to be small, at least for most  
47 crustal conditions. The resulting melt phase is saturated with respect to H<sub>2</sub>O. Fluid-present  
48 melting may occur in some migmatite terrains (especially at low  $P$ ; e.g. Sawyer, 2010).  
49 However it is not generally considered to be the dominant mode of melting in the  
50 continental crust (Clemens, 1984). By contrast, ‘fluid-absent’, ‘vapour-absent’ or  
51  **‘dehydration’ melting** proceeds via reactions involving the breakdown of hydrous minerals

52 (mainly muscovite, biotite and hornblende) in the absence of a free fluid ( $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} < 1$ ) at  
 53 higher temperatures than the wet solidus. It has been argued that fluid-absent melting is  
 54 the dominant mechanism for the formation of most granite magmas, which are generally  
 55 thought to have formed at high  $T$  and are undersaturated with respect  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Clemens,  
 56 1984; Pickering & Johnston, 1998).

57 Estimates of the amount of melt generated during partial melting have largely come  
 58 from melting experiments on a variety of starting compositions including metapelites  
 59 (Vielzeuf & Holloway, 1988; Carrington & Harley, 1995; Gardien *et al.*, 1995; Pickering &  
 60 Johnston, 1998), metagreywackes (Patino-Douce & Beard, 1996; Vielzeuf & Montel, 1994;  
 61 Montel & Vielzeuf, 1997), tonalites (Huang & Wyllie, 1986; Rutter & Wyllie, 1988; Skjerlie  
 62 & Johnston, 1993; Patino-Douce, 1997; 2004) and amphibolites (Rushmer, 1991; Wolf &  
 63 Wyllie, 1994). The majority of recent experimental studies have focussed on fluid-absent  
 64 melting because of its perceived importance in magma genesis and crustal differentiation.  
 65 The results of these fluid-absent melting studies indicate that different crustal lithologies  
 66 display markedly different melting behaviour at similar  $P$ - $T$  conditions. **Furthermore,**  
 67 **different melt fractions have been reported for compositionally-similar starting materials**  
 68 **(e.g. Gardien *et al.*, 1995).**



69 **Fluid-absent melting experiments are often described as having ‘no added water’ or**  
 70 **being ‘vapour-absent’. This is generally achieved by pre-heating the starting material above**  
 71  **$\sim 150^\circ\text{C}$  for a sustained period (ca. 24 hours), causing any adsorbed  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  to escape, prior to**  
 72 sealing the experimental charge (e.g. Patino-Douce, 2004). It is then assumed that any  
 73  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  retained within the starting material is structurally bound within hydrous minerals  
 74 (e.g. muscovite, biotite and amphibole). However, hydrous minerals that are stable up to  
 75  $150^\circ\text{C}$  at ambient pressures may begin to break down, via subsolidus dehydration reactions,

76 as the experimental charge is heated (and pressurised) to the desired conditions of the  
 77 experimental run. Because of the intentional ‘closed system’ nature of most high  $P$  melting  
 78 experiments, any  $H_2O$  generated via subsolidus dehydration will be effectively trapped  
 79 within the experimental charge. In this way a ‘vapour absent’ starting material can evolve,  
 80 becoming ‘fluid-present’ at the experimental  $P$ – $T$  conditions. Additionally, London *et al.*  
 81 (2012) suggested that powdered samples loaded in air may absorb between 1 and 4 weight  
 82 percent  $H_2O$  before the experimental charge is sealed. It has also been suggested that  
 83 water is often lost from the experimental charge via diffusion of molecular  $H_2O$  through the  
 84 metal casing at temperatures above  $\sim 950$  °C as suggested by decreasing melt modes and  
 85 increasing modal proportions of solid phases (e.g. plagioclase and garnet) with increasing  $T$   
 86 during experimental runs (Patino-Douce & Beard, 1994). The combined effects of  
 87 absorption during handling and diffusive loss at high temperature work in opposite  
 88 directions, thereby increasing the uncertainty in the actual  $H_2O$  content inside the  
 89 experimental charge during high temperature melting experiments. Furthermore, if  $H^+$  is  
 90 lost through the capsule rather than molecular  $H_2O$ , as has been suggested by some  
 91 authors, this may affect the oxidation state during a melting experiment (Patino-Douce &  
 92 Beard, 1994; White *et al.*, 2011).

93 An important constraint on the amount of  $H_2O$  available for melting reactions during  
 94 regional metamorphism can be obtained by considering the evidence for the nature of the  
 95 fluid regime prior to the onset of melting. During prograde metamorphism of rocks with an  
 96 initially high  $H_2O$  content (e.g. metapelites and metagreywackes), free  $H_2O$  is likely to be  
 97 continuously generated via devolatilisation reactions up to the point at which the wet  
 98 solidus is crossed with increasing  $T$  and/or  $P$ . Above this point,  $H_2O$  is consumed via wet  
 99 melting reactions and decreases until it is no longer stable as a free phase at progressively

100 higher T. Several authors have argued that any H<sub>2</sub>O generated during subsolidus  
101 dehydration has a strong tendency to escape the source rock due to the combined effects of  
102 compaction and increasing fluid pressure (Thompson & Connolly, 1990; Connolly, 1997;  
103 Yardley, 2009). Decreasing H<sub>2</sub>O content with increasing metamorphic grade is observed in  
104 most metamorphic terrains providing evidence that much of the H<sub>2</sub>O generated during  
105 subsolidus dehydration escapes the system prior to the onset of melting (Miyashiro, 1961).  
106 Indeed, the loss of fluid from metamorphic terrains may be a requirement for preserving  
107 metamorphic isograds during retrograde cooling and/or decompression (Thompson, 1983;  
108 Guiraud *et al.*, 2001). Subsolidus H<sub>2</sub>O loss (SWL) may be especially significant at the  
109 pressure conditions of the middle to lower crust where rock porosity is thought to be small  
110 (<0.1–0.5 %), and positive excursions in hydrostatic pressure above the prevailing  
111 lithostatic pressure cannot be maintained for significant time periods (Norton & Knapp,  
112 1977; Connolly, 1997; 2010).

113       Importantly, there are few existing datasets to constrain sub-solidus open system  
114 processes involving H<sub>2</sub>O, and experimentally determined phase relationships do not  
115 adequately constrain melting relationships, particularly with respect to H<sub>2</sub>O. Quantitative  
116 thermodynamic calculations using internally-consistent datasets can be readily employed in  
117 multicomponent systems that approach the compositional complexity of natural rocks (e.g.  
118 White & Powell, 2002; Powell *et al.*, 2005; White *et al.*, 2005; White & Powell, 2010). *P-X*  
119 or *T-X* pseudosections can be used to visualise the effect of changes in bulk composition, as  
120 a result of the loss of a fluid and/or solid component from the system. This kind of  
121 thermodynamic modelling has the potential to complement experimental studies to provide  
122 a clearer picture of open-system processes that are thought to occur in the continental  
123 crust. Here we use pseudosections to investigate the effect of SWL on melting relationships



124 for a variety of bulk compositions representing common crustal rock types (metapelites,  
 125 metagreywackes, tonalites, granodiorites). The impact of SWL on melt fertility is modelled  
 126 at temperatures appropriate to partial melting during regional metamorphism at mid- to  
 127 lower-crustal pressures. The modelling results are compared to the results derived from  
 128 melting experiments to provide improved constraints on the nature of melting during  
 129 crustal anatexis.

### 130 CALCULATED PHASE RELATIONS

131 Mineral equilibria calculations were undertaken using THERMOCALC 3.37i (Powell &  
 132 Holland, 1988; updated 2013) with an updated version of the internally consistent data set  
 133 of Holland & Powell (1998; data set `tcds55`, file created 22 November 2003). The  
 134 calculations were undertaken in the chemical system  
 135  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}-\text{CaO}-\text{K}_2\text{O}-\text{FeO}-\text{MgO}-\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3-\text{SiO}_2-\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{TiO}_2-\text{O}$  (NCKFMASHTO) of White *et al.*  
 136 (2007). The phases considered in the calculations, and references to the  
 137 activity-composition models used are: garnet, biotite and silicate melt (White *et al.*, 2007),  
 138 cordierite and epidote (Holland & Powell, 1998), orthopyroxene and magnetite (White &  
 139 Powell, 2002), muscovite (Coggon & Holland, 2002), plagioclase - K-feldspar (Holland &  
 140 Powell, 2003), ilmenite (White *et al.*, 2000), and hornblende (Diener *et al.*, 2007).  
 141 Sillimanite, kyanite and quartz are pure end-member phases. Mineral abbreviations used in  
 142 diagrams and in the text are: opx – orthopyroxene; g – garnet; cd – cordierite; hb –  
 143 hornblende; bi – biotite; mu – muscovite; ky – kyanite; sill – sillimanite; ksp – K-feldspar; pl  
 144 – plagioclase; ilm – ilmenite; mt – magnetite; q – quartz; liq – silicate liquid/melt.

145 Bulk compositions for phase equilibria modelling were derived from starting

146 compositions of published melting experiments for which melt fraction ( $\Phi$ ) estimates are  
147 available (Table 1). The four starting compositions were chosen to represent common felsic  
148 rock types and have compositions that are comparable to the average compositions of the  
149 middle and upper crust (Fig. 1). Two metapelitic bulk compositions are from Vielzeuf &  
150 Holloway (1988) and Gardien *et al.* (1995) and denoted VH88P and G95P, respectively.  
151 VH88P is modelled on a natural metapelite from the Cabo Ortegal metamorphic complex  
152 (Galicia, NW Spain) composed of quartz (39 wt%), plagioclase (19 wt%), kyanite (7 wt%),  
153 muscovite (9 wt%), biotite(21 wt%), garnet (2 wt%), staurolite (1 wt%), secondary chlorite  
154 (1 wt%) and accessory minerals (1 wt%). VH88P is strongly peraluminous and has  
155 comparatively high molar  $K_2O/Na_2O$  and high FeO contents. G95P is derived from a model  
156 two-mica metapelite generated from a mixture of quartz (39 wt%), plagioclase (30 wt%),  
157 muscovite (15 wt%) and biotite (15 wt%). It is weakly peraluminous and has comparatively  
158 low  $K_2O/Na_2O$ , high  $SiO_2$  and low CaO. A metagreywacke bulk composition (denoted  
159 VM94G) is derived from melting experiments on a natural metagreywacke from the vallée  
160 de la Beaume (Ardèche, France) composed of quartz (40 wt%), plagioclase (32 wt%), and  
161 biotite (25 wt%), and accessory minerals (3 wt%; Vielzeuf & Montel, 1994; Montel &  
162 Vielzeuf, 1997). This composition is weakly peraluminous with high  $K_2O/Na_2O$ ,  $SiO_2$  and  
163 low FeO. A tonalitic bulk composition (denoted PD97T) was derived from melting  
164 experiments on a natural tonalite starting material from the Sierra Nevada Batholith (Lee  
165 Vining Canyon area; Patino-Douce, 1997). The sample was reported to contain of quartz  
166 (20 wt%), plagioclase (45 wt%), K-feldspar (7 wt%), hornblende (13 wt%), biotite (13 wt%)  
167 and accessory minerals (2 wt%). PD97T is metaluminous with low  $K_2O/Na_2O$ ,  $SiO_2$  and  
168 high CaO and  $Na_2O$ .

169 Some of the bulk compositions contain low concentrations of F, P, Mn and  $CO_2$ . Small

170 amounts  $P_2O_5$ ,  $CO_2$  and  $MnO$  are unlikely to have a measurable effect on the melting  
171 behaviour of felsic rocks, whereas F contents in the range 0.01–4 wt% may have the effect of  
172 lowering the solidus of granitic melts (Manning, 1981) and stabilising biotite to higher  
173 temperatures (Peterson *et al.*, 1991). Fluorine is not currently incorporated into the  
174 activity-composition models for biotite or melt. As a result, the models presented here may  
175 differ slightly in terms of melting behaviour from the more complex starting compositions of  
176 the corresponding experiments. Furthermore, it should be noted that the melt model used  
177 here does not incorporate  $TiO_2$  or ferric iron.  $TiO_2$  is readily incorporated into biotite and  
178 oxide minerals (e.g. ilmenite and magnetite) and is important for stabilising biotite at high  
179 temperature (White *et al.*, 2007). Hayden & Watson (2007) investigated the incorporation  
180 of  $TiO_2$  into haplogranitic melt. Their results indicated that even for rutile-saturated bulk  
181 compositions the amount of  $TiO_2$  incorporated into the melt phase was small and as such,  
182 is unlikely to have a first order effect on melt fertility. The ferric iron content of all of the  
183 bulk compositions in this study are fixed at low values such that the only stable iron oxide  
184 minerals are ilmenite  $\pm$  magnetite.

185 For each starting composition the  $H_2O$  content was varied to produce a low- $H_2O$  and a  
186 high- $H_2O$  end-member (Table 2). The high and low values were chosen to encompass the  
187 transition from  $H_2O$  undersaturated to  $H_2O$  saturated conditions at the wet solidus. Each  
188 end-member pair were then used to construct  $T$ - $M_{H_2O}$  pseudosections (Guiraud *et al.*,  
189 2001) for each model starting composition. Diagrams were constructed at 10 kbar for the  
190 starting compositions VH88P, G95P and VM94G and at 8 kbar for composition PD97T to  
191 facilitate comparison with the reported experimental results. Models were also generated at  
192 5 kbar for VH88P, G95P and VM94G and at 4 kbar for PD97T to investigate melting  
193 equilibria at low pressure.

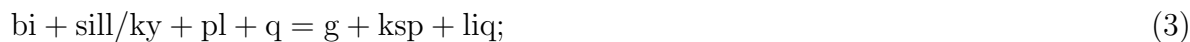
194 **Pseudosections**

195  $T$ - $M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  pseudosections calculated for compositions VH88P, G95P, VM94G at 10 kbar, and  
 196 PD97T at 8 kbar over the temperature range 450 to 1100 °C are shown in Fig. 2. The  
 197 pseudosections for all four compositions have a sub horizontal  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -saturated solidus  
 198 (wet-solidus). VH88P has the highest  $T$  wet solidus at  $\sim 680$  °C. The wet solidi for G95P,  
 199 VM94G and PD97T are all similar, occurring at  $\sim 645$  °C. In each case the wet solidus  
 200 extends beyond the range of the high  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  end-member but is limited at low  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  contents  
 201 by the stability of free  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . The point at which the solidus is minimally saturated with  
 202 respect to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is referred to here as the minimum saturation point (MSP; Fig. 2). The  
 203 narrow fields immediately above the wet-solidus in all four  $T$ - $M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  pseudosections are low  
 204 variance fields related to the underlying NCKASH univariant reaction,



205 The  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -out boundaries of these ‘wet-melting’ fields are intersected within 10–40 °C  
 206 above the wet-solidus. The upper boundaries increase in  $T$  only slightly as they trend from  
 207 the minimum saturation point towards the high  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  end-member for each diagram.

208 At  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  contents less than the value of the minimum saturation point the temperature  
 209 of the solidus increases steeply as the equilibrium composition becomes increasingly  
 210 undersaturated with respect to  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ . Inflections in the solidus curves at low  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  contents  
 211 on each of the  $T$ - $M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  pseudosections correspond to changes in the modal mineralogy of  
 212 low variance fields emanating from ‘vapour absent’ univariant reactions in the underlying  
 213 NCKASH and NCKFMASH systems including,



214 For all compositions, the subsolidus H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary trends to lower bulk  
 215 H<sub>2</sub>O contents as it approaches the solidus (at the minimum saturation point) with  
 216 increasing  $T$  (Fig. 2). The H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary for VH88P rises steeply from <450 °C up to  
 217 the plagioclase-in boundary (~615 °C) and then migrates towards a lower bulk H<sub>2</sub>O value as  
 218 it approaches the solidus. For compositions G95P and VM94G the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary is  
 219 steep and approximately linear from <450 °C up to the wet-solidus. The H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary  
 220 for PD97T trends gradually towards lower bulk H<sub>2</sub>O, with distinct inflections corresponding  
 221 to muscovite-out, K-feldspar-in and hornblende-in boundaries, as it approaches the  
 222 minimum saturation point at the wet solidus with increasing temperature.

223 The pseudosections for VH88P and G95P both contain sillimanite and kyanite. For  
 224 VH88P, sillimanite is stable from the sill-ky phase transition (~800 °C) up to >1000 °C at  
 225 high H<sub>2</sub>O contents and is stable above 1100 °C at low H<sub>2</sub>O contents (Fig. 2 a & b). Kyanite  
 226 is stable from 800 °C down to below 450 °C over the entire range of modelled H<sub>2</sub>O contents  
 227 (0.11–14.02 mol%). Sillimanite is stable for G95P from the sill-ky phase transition to above  
 228 1100 °C near the low-H<sub>2</sub>O end-member, but its upper limit of stability decreases to ~900 °C  
 229 at the high-H<sub>2</sub>O end-member. Kyanite is stable from 800 °C down to 450 °C at  
 230 H<sub>2</sub>O contents below ~3 mol%. Above this value the stability is limited by the kyanite-out  
 231 boundary along the low  $T$  sides of the quadrivariant bi-mu-ksp-pl-liq-ilm-q-ky and the  
 232 quinivariant bi-mu-pl-liq-ilm-q-ky fields. Neither sillimanite nor kyanite are stable for

233 VM94G and PD97T over the range modelled (Fig. 2 c & d).

234 K-feldspar is unstable at temperatures above the solidus at high bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents for  
 235 all four modelled compositions. At bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents close to the minimum saturation  
 236 point, K-feldspar is stable over the ranges ~790–1000 °C, ~700–980 °C, ~810–990 °C and  
 237 <450–990 °C for compositions VH88P, G95P, VM94G and PD97T, respectively.

238 It is important to note that even at high  $T$  (>1000 °C) none of the bulk compositions  
 239 reach their liquidus and form pure melts (including the metatonalite - PD97T; Fig. 2).  
 240 Even for the high H<sub>2</sub>O end-members the high  $T$  equilibrium assemblages comprise liq-g-ilm,  
 241 liq-opx-ilm, liq-opx-ilm-q and liq-hb-pl-ilm for VH88P, G95P, VM94G and PD97T,  
 242 respectively. Lower variance high  $T$  assemblages become increasingly stable at lower bulk  
 243 H<sub>2</sub>O contents in each pseudosection.

244 Ilmenite is stable for all for starting compositions over the entire modelled ranges of  
 245 temperature and H<sub>2</sub>O contents. The pseudosection for composition G95P contains rutile at  
 246 low temperature and magnetite is stable for intermediate H<sub>2</sub>O contents between  
 247 800–880 °C. Staurolite is stable from just below to just above the solidus for composition  
 248 VM94G. While these phases are involved in the NCKFMASHTO equilibria, their modal  
 249 abundances (1-oxide molar basis) are always low (<0.01) and are, therefore, unlikely to  
 250 exert a significant influence on the melting behaviour of the system modelled.

### 251 **Prograde metamorphism and sub-solidus water loss**

252 The contours of melt and free H<sub>2</sub>O corresponding to the pseudosections in Fig. 2 are shown  
 253 in Figure 3. While each  $T$ - $M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  pseudosection displays distinct phase relationships in  
 254 detail, the relationships between the free H<sub>2</sub>O and melt bearing regions in each case are

255 broadly similar. The proportion of free H<sub>2</sub>O present along a particular prograde heating  
256 path in the subsolidus (vertical line) can be described in terms of  $df/dT$  (representing the  
257 change in free H<sub>2</sub>O productivity with increasing  $T$ ). Similarly, the amount of melt produced  
258 along a path in the suprasolidus can be described in terms of  $dm/dT$  (i.e. change in melt  
259 productivity with increasing  $T$ ; Johnson *et al.*, 2008).

260 At sub-solidus conditions  $df/dT$  is positive from  $<450^\circ\text{C}$  up to the solidus at bulk  
261 H<sub>2</sub>O values above the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary for each of the four compositions (grey regions in  
262 Fig. 3). As a consequence, all four modelled compositions will produce free H<sub>2</sub>O along a  
263 prograde path, with fixed H<sub>2</sub>O contents, that traverses the ‘free H<sub>2</sub>O-stable’ region (i.e.  
264 bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents greater than the value of the minimum saturation point). At  
265 supra-solidus conditions, H<sub>2</sub>O & melt are both stable within the narrow wet-melting fields.  
266 Within this region,  $df/dT$  becomes negative and the amount of free H<sub>2</sub>O decreases rapidly  
267 towards the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary with increasing  $T$ . This region also corresponds to an initial  
268 increase in melt production with melt contours that are perpendicular to the  $T$ -axis  
269 ( $dm/dT > 10 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Above the H<sub>2</sub>O+melt region the melt contours have a slope  
270 influenced by the shape of the H<sub>2</sub>O-undersaturated solidus such that increases in  $T$  and/or  
271 bulk H<sub>2</sub>O correspond to increased melt production.

272 An idealised melting experiment involves conserving all of the starting components  
273 (including the initial H<sub>2</sub>O contents) throughout the experimental run. This behaviour is  
274 represented by the conservation of subsolidus water (CSW) scenario, shown by the vertical  
275 grey arrows in Fig. 3. The water contents for the CSW scenario for VH88P, G95P and  
276 VM94G are derived from the reported water contents for the bulk starting material of the  
277 original experiments (2.15 w%, 1.9 w% and 1.44 w%, respectively; Table 2). The  
278 H<sub>2</sub>O contents of PD97T was not reported. The CSW path for this composition was chosen

279 so as to intersect the observed melt fraction in the experiments (i.e.  $\Phi = 0.30$  melting at  
 280 950 °C; Patino-Douce, 1997).

281 If subsolidus water loss occurs, free H<sub>2</sub>O will be incrementally lost along the prograde  
 282 heating path (Guiraud *et al.*, 2001), continuously driving the bulk composition towards the  
 283 H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary. To reduce the bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the source rock below the value of  
 284 the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary would require the liberation of structurally bound H<sub>2</sub>O from hydrous  
 285 minerals. As there is no viable mechanism to achieve this, the subsolidus H<sub>2</sub>O-out  
 286 boundary effectively limits the minimum H<sub>2</sub>O-contents of the source rock. As the rock  
 287 crosses the solidus with increasing temperature any remaining free H<sub>2</sub>O is rapidly consumed  
 288 within the wet-melting fields and the newly generated melt becomes increasingly  
 289 undersaturated with respect to H<sub>2</sub>O. Because such melts are effectively ‘water-starved’ as  
 290 soon as they cross the solidus, the H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the system become fixed at the value of  
 291 the minimum saturation point, if H<sub>2</sub>O loss is efficient and the porosity is small, as generally  
 292 suggested. As a result an isobaric prograde heating path for a rock composition affected by  
 293 SWL will involve:

- 294 1. A sub-solidus path that traverses the free H<sub>2</sub>O region at bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents just  
 295 greater than the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary as it approaches the minimum saturation point;
- 296 2. A supra-solidus path with the bulk H<sub>2</sub>O fixed at the value of the minimum saturation  
 297 point up to the maximum temperature of the system.

298 In natural systems, H<sub>2</sub>O may additionally be lost via incorporation into escaping melt  
 299 or as part of hydrous peritectic minerals that are themselves entrained into escaping melt  
 300 (Clemens & Stevens, 2012). However, both of these mechanisms will lead to other changes  
 301 in the bulk composition that cannot be determined by varying any single compositional

302 variable. The appropriate diagrams for modelling such phenomena are more complex and  
303 involve varying the equilibrium bulk composition at each increment of melt- and/or  
304 mineral-loss.

305 The mineral mode changes along the subsolidus sections of the SWL paths were  
306 calculated along the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary so that the bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents continuously changes  
307 along this segment. The supra-solidus portion of the SWL path was modelled at a fixed  
308 H<sub>2</sub>O value (corresponding to the minimum saturation point; Table 2). Changes in the  
309 modal abundances of the equilibrium assemblages along the modelled CSW and SWL paths  
310 for the four starting compositions are shown in Fig. 4.

311 For composition VH88P the SWL heating path results in significantly less melt  
312 generation when compared with the CSW path (especially at low T; Fig. 4a & 4b). The  
313 reduction in melt fraction along the SWL path corresponds to increases in the modal  
314 proportions of quartz, plagioclase and biotite. K-feldspar is stabilised at temperatures  
315 above ~790 °C, whereas K-feldspar is completely absent in the CSW scenario. Very high  
316  $dm/dT$  melting (20 mol%/10 °C) along the CSW path ( $\Phi < 0.01$  to ~ 0.11) corresponds to  
317 the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary just above the solidus, at ~680 °C. This feature is not observed  
318 along the SWL path. Moderate  $dm/dT$  melting (~3 mol%/10 °C) over the interval  
319 790–880 °C on the SWL path corresponds to breakdown of biotite and increased growth of  
320 garnet. Melting at higher temperatures continues to increase in a broadly monotonic  
321 fashion reaching melt fractions of ~0.65 and ~0.44 at 1000 °C for the CSW and SWL paths,  
322 respectively ( $dm/dT \sim 1\text{--}2$  mol%/10 °C). Interestingly, muscovite begins to breakdown  
323 below the solidus (at ~615 °C, corresponding to the first appearance of plagioclase) and  
324 completely disappears just above the solidus, at ~720 °C, for both the SWL and CSW  
325 paths; however, there is no significant increase in the melt fraction corresponding to the

326 disappearance of muscovite from the equilibrium assemblage along either path.

327 The SWL path for G95P corresponds to reduced melt fertility and slight increases in  
 328 the modal proportions of quartz and plagioclase at temperatures just above the solidus  
 329 ( $\sim 640^\circ\text{C}$ ) and an increase in the proportion of K-feldspar at temperatures above  $760^\circ\text{C}$   
 330 when compared to the CSW path (Fig. 4c & 4d). Two steep increases in melting occur  
 331 along the CSW path at low melt fraction. The first corresponds to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -out boundary  
 332 just above the solidus ( $dm/dT \sim 6\text{--}8 \text{ mol}\%/10^\circ\text{C}$ ). The second step corresponds to the  
 333 abrupt disappearance of muscovite and the first appearance of kyanite and K-feldspar (at  
 334  $\sim 760^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $dm/dT \sim 10\text{--}20 \text{ mol}\%/10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Due to the negligible amount of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  at the solidus  
 335 in the SWL scenario the melt fraction remains low ( $\Phi < 0.02$ ) until muscovite disappears at  
 336  $\sim 760^\circ\text{C}$  at which point it increases abruptly to ( $\Phi \sim 0.09$ ). Melting at higher temperatures  
 337 continues to increase steeply with melt fractions reaching  $\sim 0.69$  and  $\sim 0.51$  at  $1000^\circ\text{C}$  for  
 338 the CSW and SWL paths, respectively ( $dm/dT \sim 3\text{--}5 \text{ mol}\%/10^\circ\text{C}$ ).

339 For composition VM94G, the SWL scenario results in significantly reduced melt  
 340 fertility, moderate increases in the modal proportions of quartz and plagioclase at  
 341 temperatures just above the solidus (Fig. 4e & 4f). K-feldspar increases in modal  
 342 abundance and becomes stabilised over a broader temperature range ( $\sim 805\text{--}1000^\circ\text{C}$ ) when  
 343 compared to the CSW path ( $\sim 905\text{--}930^\circ\text{C}$ ). A sharp increase in melting along the CSW  
 344 path corresponds to the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ -out boundary just above the solidus (at  $\sim 650^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $dm/dT$   
 345  $\sim 8\text{--}10 \text{ mol}\%/10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Again, this feature is absent from the SWL path. Immediately above  
 346 the solidus the melt fraction remains low ( $\Phi < 0.01$ ) along the SWL path with an initial,  
 347 gradual increase in melt fraction, beginning at  $\sim 755^\circ\text{C}$ , corresponding to the first  
 348 appearance of garnet and the initial breakdown of biotite ( $dm/dT$  increasing from  $< 0.1$  up  
 349 to  $2 \text{ mol}\%/10^\circ\text{C}$ ). A steep increase in melting, from  $\Phi \approx 0.09$  to  $\Phi \approx 0.19$ , corresponds to

350 the final disappearance of biotite and the first appearance of orthopyroxene across the  
351 temperature interval  $\sim 895\text{--}910\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the SWL path ( $dm/dT \sim 7\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). A similar  
352 step occurs along the CSW path over the same temperature interval with melting abruptly  
353 increasing from from  $\Phi \approx 0.28$  to  $\Phi \approx 0.36$ . Above the biotite-out boundary, melt fractions  
354 climb steeply to values of  $\sim 0.56$  and  $\sim 0.34$  at  $1000\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for the CSW and SWL paths,  
355 respectively ( $dm/dT \sim 3\text{--}4\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

356 The SWL scenario for composition PD97T results in decreased melt fertility and slight  
357 increases in the modal proportions of quartz, plagioclase and K-feldspar when compared to  
358 the CSW path (Fig. 4g & 4h). A small, moderate increase in melt fraction, from 0.0 to  
359  $\sim 0.02$ , occurs just above the solidus, at  $\sim 640\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , along the CSW path ( $dm/dT$   
360  $\sim 5\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Again, this initial step in melt fraction is absent from the SWL path. The  
361 melt fraction along the CSW path increases gently to 0.09 over the interval  $\sim 645\text{--}840\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$   
362 ( $dm/dT \sim 0.1\text{--}0.2\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and then abruptly increases to 0.17 between  $\sim 840\text{--}850\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$   
363 ( $dm/dT \sim 10\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). A similar sharp increase in melt fraction occurs along the SWL  
364 path (from  $\Phi \sim 0.03$  to 0.10) over the same temperature interval. For both paths this step  
365 corresponds to the first appearance of orthopyroxene, the breakdown and disappearance of  
366 biotite and an increase in the modal abundance of K-feldspar. Above the biotite-out  
367 boundary melt fractions increase moderately steeply to reach  $\sim 0.45$  and  $\sim 0.36$  at  $1000\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$   
368 for the CSW and SWL paths, respectively ( $dm/dT \sim 10\text{ mol\%/}10\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Interestingly,  
369 hornblende modes do not noticeably decrease for either path over the calculated melting  
370 interval ( $\sim 640\text{--}1100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ ).

## 371 Melting at low pressure

372 The minimum saturation point for each composition, and the corresponding SWL melting  
 373 path, increases as a function of pressure. Therefore, it is not possible to create a single  $P$ - $T$   
 374 pseudosection for a bulk composition affected by SWL. Rather it is necessary to determine  
 375  $T$ - $M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  phase relationships and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  value of the minimum saturation point at each  
 376 pressure of interest. As a result this method is only applicable to the consideration of  
 377 isobaric melting paths. To examine the effect of pressure on the phase equilibria,  
 378 temperature-mode diagrams were generated for the SWL scenario along prograde isobaric  
 379 heating paths for VH88P, G95P and VM94G at 5 kbar and PD97T at 4 kbar (Fig. 5).

380 At 5 kbar, VH88P (SWL) produces very little melt ( $\Phi < 0.03$ ) between the solidus, at  
 381  $\sim 690^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $\sim 775^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT \ll 0.1$  mol%/10 $^\circ\text{C}$ ). The melt fraction then rises sharply to  
 382  $\Phi \approx 0.07$  at  $\sim 780^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT \sim 10$ – $20$  mol%/10 $^\circ\text{C}$ ). This step corresponds to the  
 383 disappearance of sillimanite from the equilibrium assemblage, a sharp decrease in the modal  
 384 abundance of biotite, an increase in the modal abundance of cordierite and the first  
 385 appearance of garnet. This feature is absent from the SWL scenario for composition VH88P  
 386 at 10 kbar. Above  $\sim 780^\circ\text{C}$  the melt fraction increases moderately steeply reaching  $\Phi$   
 387  $\approx 0.67$  at  $\sim 1000^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT \sim 2$ – $3$  mol%/10 $^\circ\text{C}$ ; *c.f.* 0.44 for VH88P at 10 kbar).

388 The melt fraction for composition G95P (SWL) at 5 kbar remains low ( $< 0.01$ ) between  
 389 the solidus ( $\sim 655^\circ\text{C}$ ) and  $\sim 675^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT \ll 0.1$  mol%/10 $^\circ\text{C}$ ). Between  $675$ – $680^\circ\text{C}$  the  
 390 melt fraction jumps abruptly to  $\sim 0.07$  ( $dm/dT \sim 10$ – $20$  mol%/10 $^\circ\text{C}$ ). This step  
 391 corresponds to the disappearance of muscovite and the first appearance of sillimanite in the  
 392 equilibrium assemblage. A similar high  $dm/dT$  step is observed at  $\sim 760^\circ\text{C}$  in the SWL  
 393 melting curve for G95P at 10 kbar. From  $680$ – $835^\circ\text{C}$  the melt fraction increases gradually

394 to 0.19 ( $dm/dT \sim 0.5\text{--}0.7 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). From  $835^\circ\text{C}$  the melting curve begins to increase  
395 steeply corresponding to the breakdown and disappearance of biotite and the first  
396 appearance of orthopyroxene in the equilibrium assemblage ( $dm/dT \sim 8 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ).  
397 Melting then proceeds with a steep slope reaching 0.70 at  $\sim 1000^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT$   
398  $\sim 4\text{--}5 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ; *c.f.* 0.51 for G95P at 10 kbar).

399 At 5 kbar, the melting curve for composition VM94G (SWL) increases slightly, from  
400  $\Phi = 0.0$  to 0.02, between the solidus ( $675^\circ\text{C}$ ) and the first appearance of garnet in the  
401 equilibrium assemblage at  $785^\circ\text{C}$  ( $dm/dT \ll 0.1 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Between  $785\text{--}840^\circ\text{C}$  the melt  
402 fraction increases sharply to 0.22 corresponding to the first appearance of orthopyroxene  
403 and the breakdown and disappearance of biotite from the equilibrium assemblage ( $dm/dT$   
404  $\sim 8\text{--}10 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Above  $840^\circ\text{C}$  the melting curve rises steeply to reach 0.60 at  $\sim 1000^\circ\text{C}$   
405 ( $dm/dT \sim 4 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ; *c.f.* 0.34 for G95P at 10 kbar).

406 At 4 kbar PC97T (SWL) produces very little melt ( $< 0.02$ ) between the solidus, at  
407  $\sim 655^\circ\text{C}$ , and  $795^\circ\text{C}$  corresponding to the first appearance of orthopyroxene ( $dm/dT$   
408  $\ll 0.1 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). Between  $795\text{--}805^\circ\text{C}$  the melt fraction increases sharply to 0.11 ( $dm/dT$   
409  $\sim 10\text{--}15 \text{ mol\%/}10^\circ\text{C}$ ). This interval corresponds to the rapid breakdown and disappearance  
410 of biotite and an increase in the abundance of K-feldspar and orthopyroxene in the  
411 equilibrium assemblage. Above  $805^\circ\text{C}$ , the melt fraction increases moderately steeply to  
412 reach 0.47 at  $\sim 1000^\circ\text{C}$  (*c.f.* 0.36 for G95P at 10 kbar).

## 413 CRUSTAL MELT FERTILITY

### 414 Comparisons with melting experiments

415 The experimentally derived melt fractions corresponding to VH88P, G95P, VM94G and  
 416 PD97T are shown in Figs. 3 & 6. As previously noted, the starting H<sub>2</sub>O contents for the  
 417 melting experiments reported by Patino-Douce (1997) are not known, so it is not possible to  
 418 make a comparison with the modelled CSW melting path for PD97T. Nevertheless, it is still  
 419 useful to compare an inferred CSW path from matching the reported experimental melt  
 420 fraction with the modelled SWL scenario.

421 Vielzeuf & Holloway (1988) infer a very steep increase in melt fraction, from  $\Phi = 0.10$   
 422 to 0.60 over the temperature range 850–900 °C corresponding to a biotite-out “reaction”  
 423 (i.e.  $bi + sill/ky + pl + q \rightarrow liq + g + ksp$ ; Fig. 6a). Above 900 °C, these authors describe a  
 424 melting ‘plateau’ corresponding to the gradual breakdown of sillimanite and garnet. Neither  
 425 of these features are observed for the CSW path for VH88P which displays broadly  
 426 monotonic melting behaviour above 800 °C. At temperatures higher than ~950 °C, they  
 427 report lower melt fractions than the VH88P() melting curve. A similar misfit is observed  
 428 between the the experimental results of Vielzeuf & Montel (1994) and the modelled CSW  
 429 path for VM94 at 1000 °C (Fig. 6c). Experiments above 950 °C were not reported in  
 430 Gardien *et al.* (1995) or Patino-Douce (1997), so any high  $T$  effect cannot be assessed for  
 431 these studies. Nevertheless, the generation of lower than predicted melt fractions at high  $T$   
 432 is consistent with observations from other experiments that melt modes often decrease at  
 433 temperatures above 950 °C (possibly due to diffusive H<sub>2</sub>O-loss through the wall of the  
 434 experimental capsule; Patino-Douce & Beard, 1994).

435 The experimental melt fraction estimates reported by Gardien *et al.* (1995) show a

436 general trend of increasing melting with increasing  $T$  that broadly corresponds to the CSW  
437 melting curve for composition G95P (Fig. 6b). Interestingly, both the CSW and SWL  
438 melting curves for composition G95P record a steep increase in melt fraction at  $\sim 760^\circ\text{C}$ ,  
439 corresponding to the mu-out boundary with increasing  $T$ , while the reported experimental  
440 melt fraction actually decreases by 5% between  $750^\circ\text{C}$  and  $800^\circ\text{C}$  before increasing at  
441 higher  $T$ . The melting estimates of Vielzeuf & Montel (1994) are slightly above the  
442 corresponding VM94G() melting curve at temperatures below  $\sim 900^\circ\text{C}$  (Fig. 6b).

443 Importantly, the experimentally-derived melt fractions for all starting compositions are  
444 higher than the corresponding SWL melting curves as a function of  $T$ . This general result is  
445 consistent with the assumption that SWL constrained melting represents a minimum  
446 melting end-member for a particular bulk composition.


447 The general advantages and limitations of melting experiments and phase equilibria  
448 modelling have been discussed in detail elsewhere (e.g. Johnson *et al.*, 2008; White *et al.*,  
449 2011), so the following discussion focusses on the issues that are specific to estimating  
450 crustal melt fertility. The differences between the experimental estimates and the modelled  
451 CSW melting curves can be understood in terms of the different limitations inherent for  
452 each approach.

453 A key assumption of most melting experiments is that the analysed composition of the  
454 starting material is representative of the equilibrating bulk composition at experimental run  
455 conditions. As previously discussed above, the combined effects of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  absorption into  
456 powders during handling as well as diffusive  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  loss through the experimental casing at  
457 high temperature may result in significant changes in the actual  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content of a given  
458 melting experiment. The CSW scenarios reported here represent idealised melting

459 experiments that are unaffected by these undesirable experimental phenomena.

460 Detailed melting experiments are labour and time intensive with individual experiments  
461 often taking several weeks to approach equilibration (e.g. Patino-Douce, 2004). As a result,  
462 the total number of data points generated is usually low and performing repeat experiments  
463 at the same  $P$ - $T$  conditions is uncommon making it difficult to assess the statistical  
464 significance or the reproducibility of any single melting estimate. By contrast, phase  
465 equilibria modelling allows the determination of melt modes over a range of  $P$ - $T$ - $X$   
466 conditions for which the constituent phase models are calibrated. This allows for the  
467 calculation of continuous melting curves along a particular  $P$ - $T$  path of interest.

468 Melt fractions for each experimental charge are typically estimated either by mass  
469 balance calculations or by graphical assessment of the proportion of melt in  
470 two-dimensional back-scattered electron scans. Both methods have high analytical  
471 uncertainties that may be difficult to quantify (e.g. Vielzeuf & Montel, 1994). Quantitative  
472 determination of melt fractions from experimental data is particularly problematic at low  
473 melt fractions due to the small size of melt/glass volumes that may be observed and  
474 analysed within the matrix of the experimental charge. As a result, experimental studies  
475 can often only approximate the degree of melting occurring at temperatures near the  
476 solidus. This constraint does not apply to phase equilibria modelling where the degree of  
477 melting can be calculated in detail from the solidus up to high temperatures.

478 The NCKFMASH melt model used in this study is constrained by well calibrated  
479 experimental data on unary, binary and ternary subsystems (Holland & Powell, 2001). It  
480 can, therefore,  expected to satisfactorily describe the topology of the melt bearing fields in  
481 NCKFMASHTO, if not, for example, the precise  $PT$  position of fields. As previously


482 discussed, the effects of  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  on the modelled melt fertility are likely to be small  
483 and certainly less than the uncertainties inherent in the determination of experimental  
484 estimates on the corresponding natural rock compositions. The influence of other minor  
485 components (e.g. Mn, F, Cl, P, B) on melting behaviour cannot be assessed with the  
486 models used here and in any case it is unlikely that any of these components (with the  
487 possible exception of F) will significantly affect melting behaviour at the low concentrations  
488 reported for the experimental starting compositions (shown in Table 1). We, therefore,  
489 argue that the modelled melting curves presented here represent reliable estimates of the  
490 melt fertility of the starting compositions under conditions of CSW and SWL.

#### 491 **Estimates of crustal melt fertility**

492 It is clear that the overall ‘shapes’ of the melting curves for the CSW and SWL scenarios  
493 for each starting composition are similar and reflect similar underlying melt-producing  
494 equilibria (Fig. 6). Inflections in the melting curves occur at similar  $T$  indicating that they  
495 are largely independent of bulk  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  content over the ranges modelled. The key difference  
496 between the CSW and SWL curves, in each case, is that the CSW melting curve contains  
497 an initial steep increase, just above the solidus, corresponding to the disappearance of free  
498  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  from the equilibrium assemblage. This initial melting step effectively increases the  
499 baseline for subsequent melting but does not significantly affect the shape of the curve at  
500 higher  $T$ . The most obvious observation that can be made from comparing these curves is  
501 that CSW paths that incorporate excess free  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  will yield more melt than the  
502 corresponding SWL path.

503 The SWL melting curves for each starting composition at high and low pressure are

504 shown in Figure 7. With decreasing pressure the solidus migrates to higher  $T$  (shown by  
 505 the grey and black arrows in Fig. 7), while at the same time the  $H_2O$  solubility of the melt  
 506 phase increases. At low pressure, SWL constrained heating paths intersect key melting  
 507 equilibria at lower  $T$  compared to the corresponding high  $P$  paths (cf. SWL versus CSW  
 508 paths at constant  $P$ ; Fig. 6). This is because the underlying fluid-absent melting reactions  
 509 have a positive slope in  $P$ - $T$  space. The resulting melting curves show increased melt  
 510 generation in the lower pressure scenarios for all starting compositions. This is likely to be a  
 511 general result that is applicable to most felsic rock compositions.



512 As noted above there is **no obvious geological mechanism that would cause the bulk**  
 513 **composition to contain less  $H_2O$  than the value corresponding to the minimum saturation**  
 514 **point.** As a result the SWL path results in the minimum melt fertility scenario for a given  
 515 source rock. Increasing melt fertility above the minimum defined by efficient SWL may be  
 516 achieved via the retention of sub-solidus  $H_2O$  or the addition of  $H_2O$  to the system at  
 517 temperatures above the solidus (compare paths A, B & C in Fig. 8).

518  $H_2O$  may be released from a source rock with a higher  $T$  solidus into an adjacent rock  
 519 with a lower  $T$  solidus (White *et al.*, 2005). For example, at 10 kbar composition VH88P  
 520 intersects its wet-solidus at  $\sim 680^\circ\text{C}$  whereas the solidus for composition G95P occurs at  
 521  $\sim 640^\circ\text{C}$ . If these two compositions represent hypothetical adjacent source regions subjected  
 522 to the same heating path, VH88P could provide up to 3%  $H_2O$  to G95P over the  
 523 temperature interval between their respective solidi. assuming the source rocks were in  
 524 equal proportions, this would result in a significant increase in the melt fertility of the G95P  
 525 source rock ( $\sim 10\%$  more melt at  $800^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\sim 15\%$  more melt at  $1000^\circ\text{C}$ ). Water may also be  
 526 added to a particular source rock via dewatering of migrating melts. During cooling and  
 527 crystallisation water is released as the melt composition intersects the  $H_2O$  saturated fields

528 near the solidus (e.g. paths D & E in Fig. 8). H<sub>2</sub>O saturation in melt is strongly dependent  
529 on pressure (Tuttle & Bowen, 1958; Johannes & Holtz, 1996). Therefore, the volume of  
530 water released by a crystallising melt will depend on the initial H<sub>2</sub>O content of the melt and  
531 the pressure at which the melt intersects the H<sub>2</sub>O-in boundary. These three mechanisms  
532 may result in greater melt fertility than is defined by a SWL-moderated minimum melting  
533 curve. However, under most geological conditions SWL paths and melt fertility are likely to  
534 apply.

535 The modelling presented here does not take into consideration the effect of melt loss on  
536 melt fertility of felsic rocks as this process involves modification of several compositional  
537 vectors the cannot be represented on a simple  $T$ - $M_{H_2O}$  diagram. The loss of melt will cause  
538 the bulk composition to become more residual with the largest compositional change likely  
539 to be a decrease in water content due to the hydrous nature of the melt derived from  
540 melting of felsic rocks (White & Powell, 2002; 2010).

## 541 **DISCUSSION and CONCLUSIONS**

### 542 **General conclusions**

543 The water content of the rock comprises the sum of free H<sub>2</sub>O and structurally-bound  
544 H<sub>2</sub>O residing in hydrous minerals (e.g. biotite, muscovite and hornblende). While free H<sub>2</sub>O  
545 can be lost from a source rock (due to compaction, deformation, migrating porosity, etc.),  
546 structurally-bound H<sub>2</sub>O is only made mobile when the hydrous host mineral becomes  
547 unstable due to changes in the  $P$ - $T$ - $X$  conditions at equilibrium. This may occur at sub  
548 solidus and/or suprasolidus conditions. Above the solidus, any H<sub>2</sub>O liberated by the  
549 breakdown of hydrous phases is incorporated into the melt phase (until it is H<sub>2</sub>O

550 saturated). The H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the systems described here cannot evolve to be less than  
551 the value of the minimum saturation point without also losing melt and/or solid phases  
552 (Fig. 8). In this way subsolidus water loss can be viewed as defining the minimum  
553 H<sub>2</sub>O condition for a particular bulk composition that has undergone prograde heating. A  
554 corollary of this is that the subsolidus water loss path defines the minimum melt fertility of  
555 a rock, at least prior to melt loss.

556 Most melting experiments are likely to conserve any H<sub>2</sub>O generated by devolatilisation  
557 of hydrous minerals as the experimental charge is heated and pressurised from ambient  
558 temperatures up to the conditions of the experimental run. Given the likelihood that  
559 subsolidus water loss is a significant phenomena affecting prograde metamorphic rocks,  
560 most experimentally derived melting curves will tend to overestimate the melt fertility of  
561 the starting material at the onset of melting within the continental crust. The modelled  
562 curves presented here allow subsolidus water loss to be taken into account and, therefore,  
563 allow determination of the minimum melting relationships for compositions of interest.

#### 564 **Implications for melt connectivity, melt loss and the rheology of the crust** 565 **during anatexis**

566 An important consequence of the reduced melt fertility implied by the subsolidus water loss  
567 model is that critical melt thresholds will be intersected at significantly higher temperatures  
568 (Fig. 6). At low-melt fractions melt will initially form in isolated domains along grain edges  
569 and corners between reactant phases (Mehnert *et al.*, 1973). As the melt fraction increases  
570 these isolated melt volumes begin to coalesce eventually forming an interconnected network  
571 through the rock volume (Vigneresse *et al.*, 1996). Rosenberg & Handy (2005) identified a

572 melt connectivity threshold which occurs at  $\Phi \approx 0.07$  and corresponds to  $\sim 80\%$  of grain  
573 boundaries containing melt. Experimental data suggests that rocks experience significant  
574 loss of strength between the onset of melting and the melt connectivity threshold (from  
575  $\sim 800$  MPa down to  $\sim 200$  MPa; Rosenberg & Handy, 2005). It follows that rocks having  
576 experienced subsolidus water loss will remain comparatively stronger at higher  
577 temperatures than rocks that have not. For the bulk compositions modelled here the  
578 differences in the temperature of the melt connectivity threshold range from  $<10^\circ\text{C}$  to  
579  $>150^\circ\text{C}$ . Such a relationship between degree of melting, temperature and strength is likely  
580 to significantly influence the rheological behaviour of crust undergoing regional  
581 metamorphism and anatexis.

582 Higher degrees of melting are associated with critical thresholds governing melt  
583 segregation and the transition from a solid to a liquid rheology. The melt escape threshold  
584 refers to the melt fraction at which melt is able to segregate from the source (Vigneresse  
585 *et al.*, 1996). The melt escape threshold is likely to depend on a number of factors including  
586 viscosity and strain rate but is likely to occur at  $\Phi \sim 0.2\text{--}0.25$  (Sawyer, 1994; Vigneresse  
587 *et al.*, 1996). The ‘solid-to-liquid transition’ is the melt content at the transition from a  
588 solid-supported to a liquid-supported structure (Rosenberg & Handy, 2005). The  
589 solid-to-liquid transition occurs at  $\Phi \sim 0.4\text{--}0.6$ . Both the melt escape threshold and the  
590 solid-to-liquid transition will be shifted to higher temperatures for a rock that has  
591 experienced subsolidus water loss.

## 592 Subsolidus water loss during magma crystallisation



593 The discussion so far has concerned the consequences of subsolidus water loss during  
594 prograde heating, however crystallising magmas may also experience subsolidus water loss.  
595 Large amounts of H<sub>2</sub>O may be generated as a magma approaches and then crosses the  
596 solidus if a magma had an initially high H<sub>2</sub>O content. The magma is rapidly converted to  
597 solids + H<sub>2</sub>O across the narrow melt + H<sub>2</sub>O fields just above the wet solidus (Paths D & E  
598 in Fig. 8). Even at upper crustal conditions the inter-grain porosity is likely to be small and  
599 the tendency for free H<sub>2</sub>O to escape the now solid rock volume is likely to be high (Connolly,  
600 1997). The escape of free H<sub>2</sub>O will cause the bulk H<sub>2</sub>O contents to decrease towards the  
601 minimum saturation point. Further cooling will take the rock across the H<sub>2</sub>O-out boundary  
602 and the H<sub>2</sub>O contents will become fixed. An important consequence of this is that the final  
603 H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the crystallised solid (e.g. a tonalite) will not reflect its H<sub>2</sub>O content when  
604 it was a magma but rather reflects the water contents in the vicinity of the minimum  
605 saturation point. This would mean that analysing the H<sub>2</sub>O contents of granites collected in  
606 the field may tell us nothing about the H<sub>2</sub>O contents of the original magma.

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## 765 TABLES

Table 1. Starting compositions used in this study in wt.% and equivalent NCKFMASHTO mol.% values. The compositions are and the corresponding experimental studies are as follows: VH88P - high-Al metapelite from Vielzeuf & Holloway (1988), G95P - low-Al metapelite from Gardien *et al.* (1995), VM94G - metagreywacke from Vielzeuf & Montel (1994), and PD97T - metatonalite from Patino-Douce (1997).

Sample	VH88P		G95P		VM94G		PD97T	
	wt. %	mol. %	wt. %	mol. %	wt. %	mol. %	wt. %	mol. %
SiO <sub>2</sub>	64.35	66.64	70.04	72.14	69.99	72.27	61.48	66.56
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	18.13	11.06	14.92	9.06	12.96	7.89	17.07	10.87
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	—	—	—	—	0.45	—	—	—
FeO	6.26	5.42	3.65	3.14	4.42	4.16	5.92	5.35
MgO	2.44	3.77	1.39	2.13	2.36	3.64	2.68	4.32
MnO	0.09	—	0.09	—	0.06	—	0.11	—
CaO	1.52	1.69	1.79	1.98	1.67	1.85	5.39	6.24
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.66	1.67	2.65	2.65	2.95	2.95	3.88	4.07
K <sub>2</sub> O	2.56	1.69	3.18	2.09	2.41	1.59	2.57	1.77
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.82	0.64	0.38	0.29	0.7	0.54	0.9	0.73
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	—	—	—	—	0.2	—	—	—
CO <sub>2</sub>	—	—	—	—	0.1	—	—	—
water	2.15	7.42	1.9	6.52	1.43	4.92	—	—
F	—	—	—	—	0.09	—	—	—
S	—	—	—	—	0.067	—	—	—
B(ppm)	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—
Total	99.98	100.00	99.99	100.00	99.857	99.81	99.89	100.00

Table 2. Compositions used to construct pseudosections (in mol.%).

Figure	Composition	Diagram	H <sub>2</sub> O	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	CaO	MgO	FeO	K <sub>2</sub> O	Na <sub>2</sub> O	TiO <sub>2</sub>	O
Figures 2 & 3												
(a)	VH88P	$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ lhs	<b>0.11</b>	71.90	11.93	1.82	4.07	5.85	1.82	1.80	0.69	0.01
		$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ rhs	<b>14.02</b>	61.88	10.27	1.57	3.50	5.03	1.57	1.55	0.59	0.01
(b)	G95P	$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ lhs	<b>0.11</b>	76.94	9.67	2.11	3.35	2.27	2.23	2.82	0.31	0.20
		$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ rhs	<b>13.80</b>	66.39	8.34	1.82	2.89	1.96	1.92	2.44	0.27	0.17
(c)	VM94G	$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ lhs	<b>0.52</b>	75.62	8.25	1.93	3.81	4.35	1.66	3.09	0.56	0.20
		$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ rhs	<b>12.41</b>	66.58	7.26	1.70	3.36	3.83	1.46	2.72	0.50	0.17
(d)	PD97T	$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ lhs	<b>0.50</b>	66.22	10.83	6.22	4.30	5.33	1.76	4.06	0.73	0.05
		$T-M_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ rhs	<b>9.92</b>	59.95	9.81	5.63	3.90	4.83	1.60	3.67	0.66	0.05
Figure 4												
(a)	VH88P - CSW	mode(X)-T	<b>7.42</b>	66.63	11.06	1.69	3.77	5.42	1.69	1.67	0.64	0.01
(b)	VH88P - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>3.45</b>	69.50	11.53	1.76	3.93	5.65	1.76	1.74	0.67	0.01
(c)	G95P - CSW	mode(X)-T	<b>6.52</b>	72.00	9.05	1.97	3.13	2.12	2.08	2.64	0.29	0.19
(d)	G95P - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>4.08</b>	73.88	9.28	2.03	3.22	2.18	2.14	2.71	0.30	0.19
(e)	VM94G - CSW	mode(X)-T	<b>5.28</b>	72.01	7.85	1.84	3.63	4.14	1.58	2.94	0.54	0.19
(f)	VM94G - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>2.78</b>	73.91	8.06	1.89	3.72	4.25	1.62	3.02	0.55	0.19
(g)	PD97T - CSW	mode(X)-T	<b>3.19</b>	64.43	10.54	6.05	4.19	5.19	1.71	3.95	0.71	0.05
(h)	PD97T - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>2.57</b>	64.84	10.61	6.09	4.21	5.22	1.72	3.97	0.71	0.05
Figure 5												
(a)	VH88P - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>3.47</b>	69.48	11.53	1.76	3.93	5.65	1.76	1.74	0.67	0.01
(b)	G95P - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>3.55</b>	74.29	9.34	2.04	3.23	2.19	2.15	2.73	0.30	0.18
(c)	VM94G - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>2.88</b>	73.84	8.05	1.88	3.72	4.25	1.62	3.02	0.55	0.19
(d)	PD97T - SWL	mode(X)-T	<b>2.48</b>	64.90	10.62	6.10	4.22	5.22	1.73	3.98	0.72	0.05

766 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

767 Fig. 1 Harker plots of mol.% oxides, molar  $K_2O / Na_2O$  and ASI (molar  
 768  $Al_2O_3 / (CaO + Na_2O + K_2O)$ ) for the starting compositions: VH88P - metapelite, G95P  
 769 - metapelite, VM94G - metagreywacke and PD97T - metatonalite. L, M and U  
 770 represent the estimated average compositions of the lower-, middle- and upper-crust,  
 771 respectively, of Rudnick & Gao (2003). All values are plotted on an anhydrous basis.

772 Fig. 2 Calculated NCKFMASHTO  $T$ - $M_{H_2O}$  pseudosections for the compositions: (a)  
 773 VH88P - metapelite, (b) G95P - metapelite and (c) VM94G - metagreywacke at  
 774 10 kbar and (d) PD97T - metatonalite at 8 kbar (see Table 2). The dashed line  
 775 indicates the solidus for each diagram. The white dot indicates the locus of the  
 776 minimum saturation point for each diagram.

777 Fig. 3 Calculated contours for the modal abundances of melt (solid lines) and free  
 778  $H_2O$  (dashed lines) for the compositions: (a) VH88P - metapelite, (b) G95P -  
 779 metapelite, (c) VM94G - metagreywacke and (d) PD97T - metatonalite (see Table 2).  
 780 The dark grey areas represent the regions over which free-water is stable. The grey  
 781 arrows represent the path followed for heating in a closed system with the  
 782  $H_2O$  contents fixed at the value reported for the experimental starting composition.  
 783 The  $H_2O$  contents for the tonalitic bulk composition, (d), is unknown so the  
 784  $H_2O$  contents were determined so that 30% melt is generated at 950 °C as reported in  
 785 Patino-Douce (1997). As with Fig. 2 the white dot indicates the locus of the minimum  
 786 saturation point for each diagram. The black arrows represent heating combined with  
 787 subsolidus water loss. The stars represent melt fraction estimates with increasing  
 788 temperature derived from the corresponding melting experiments (assuming

789 uncertainty in the H<sub>2</sub>O contents only; see text for discussion).

790 Fig 4 Calculated molecular proportions of phases ( $X$ ) with increasing temperature for the  
 791 four compositions: VH88P, G95P and VM94G at 10 kbar and PD97T at 8 kbar under  
 792 conditions of conservation of water ( ) and sub-solidus water loss (SWL). The dashed  
 793 vertical line indicates the solidus for each diagram.

794 Fig 5 Calculated molecular proportions of phases ( $X$ ) with increasing temperature for the  
 795 four compositions: VH88P, G95P and VM94G at 5 kbar and PD97T at 4 kbar under  
 796 conditions of sub-solidus water loss (SWL). The solidus is at the left edge for each  
 797 diagram.

798 Fig 6 Comparison of the CSW and SWL melt fraction curves (shown in figure 5) with the  
 799 available experimental estimates for the four compositions VH88P, G95P and VM94G  
 800 at 10 kbar and PD97T at 8 kbar . The horizontal dashed lines indicate the melt  
 801 fractions corresponding to the solid-liquid transition (SLT) and melt connectivity  
 802 threshold (MCT; both after Rosenberg & Handy, 2005) and the melt escape threshold  
 803 (MET; after Vigneresse *et al.*, 1996). The arrows indicate the difference in the  
 804 temperature of the MCT between the CSW and SWL scenarios (see text for  
 805 discussion).

806 Fig 7 Comparison of the melt fraction curves with increasing temperature at low  $P$  (light  
 807 grey curve) and high  $P$  (dark grey curve) for the four compositions VH88P, G95P and  
 808 VM94G (5 kbar and 10 kbar) and PD97T at (4 kbar and 8 kbar). The respective  
 809 solidi at each pressure are indicated by the corresponding grey arrows. The position of  
 810 the MCT is shown by the horizontal dashed line.

811 Fig 8 Schematic diagram showing the relationships between various melting paths (dark  
812 grey dotted lines) and crystallisation paths (light grey dotted lines) as a function of  
813 water contents. Thin grey lines represent melt contours (increasing to the top-right of  
814 the diagram). The striped area is inaccessible because  $H_2O$  contents less than this  
815 value are unobtainable without invoking changes in other compositional vectors (e.g.  
816 via melt and or solid segregation; see text for discussion).

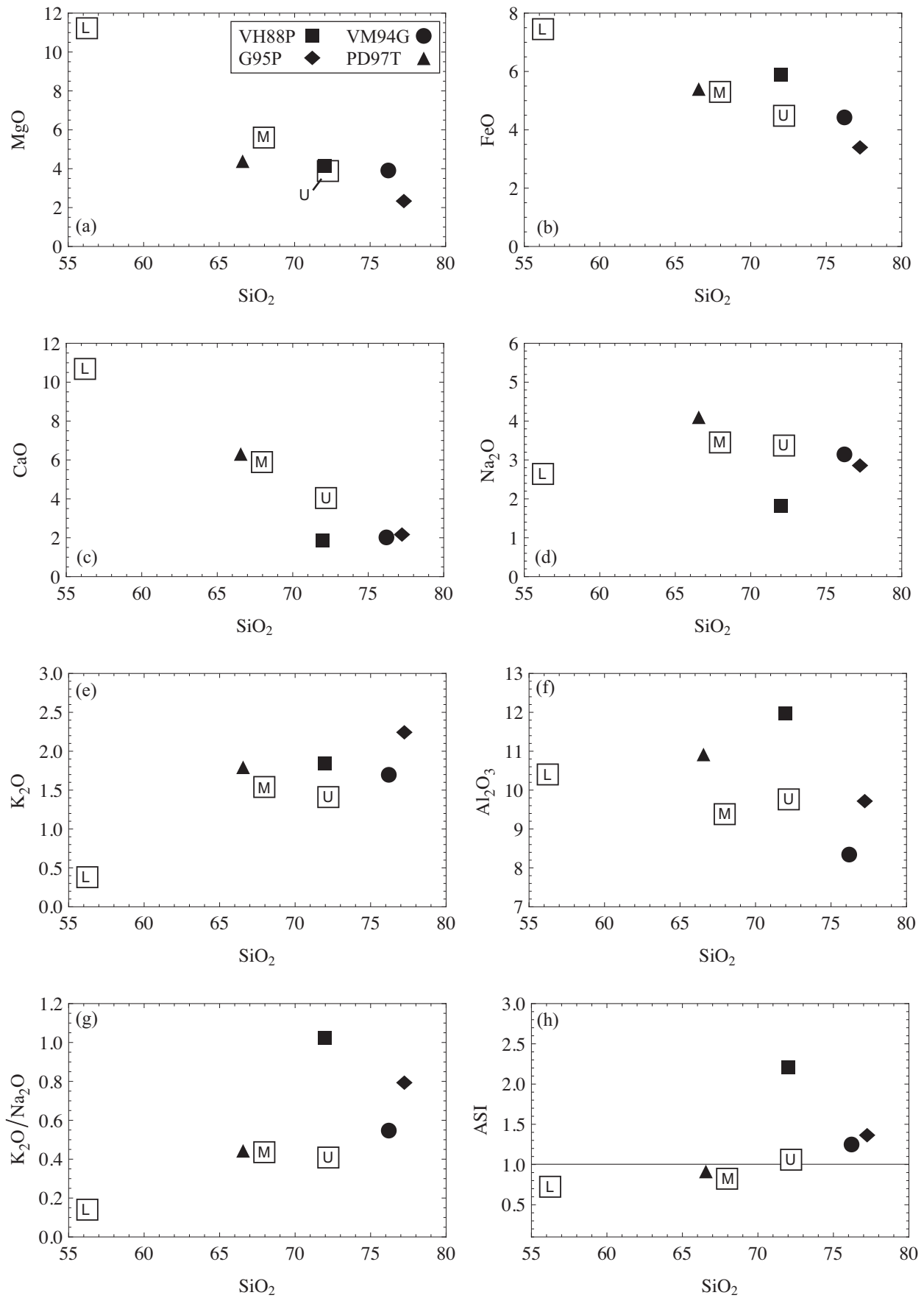


Figure 1.

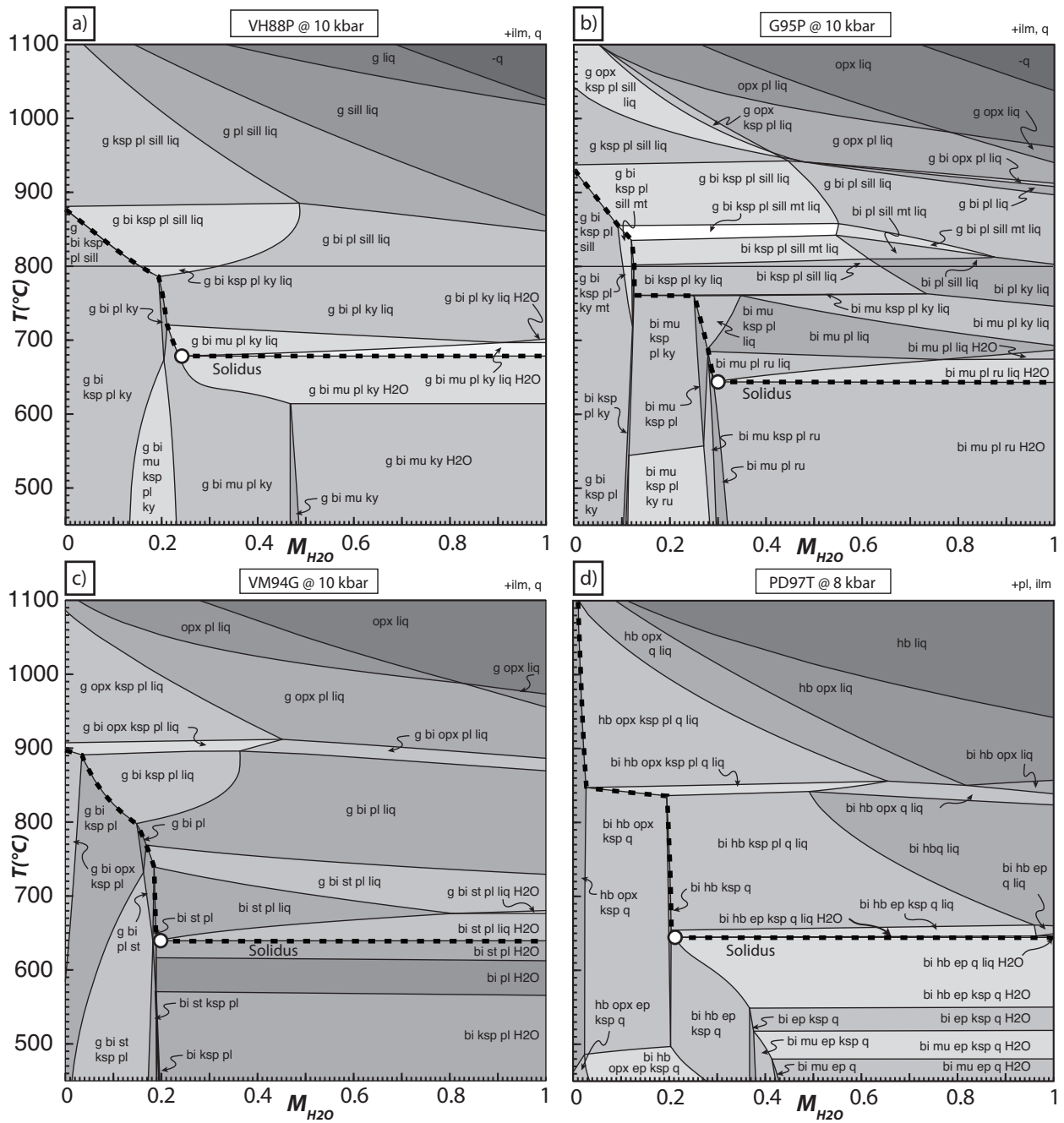


Figure 2.

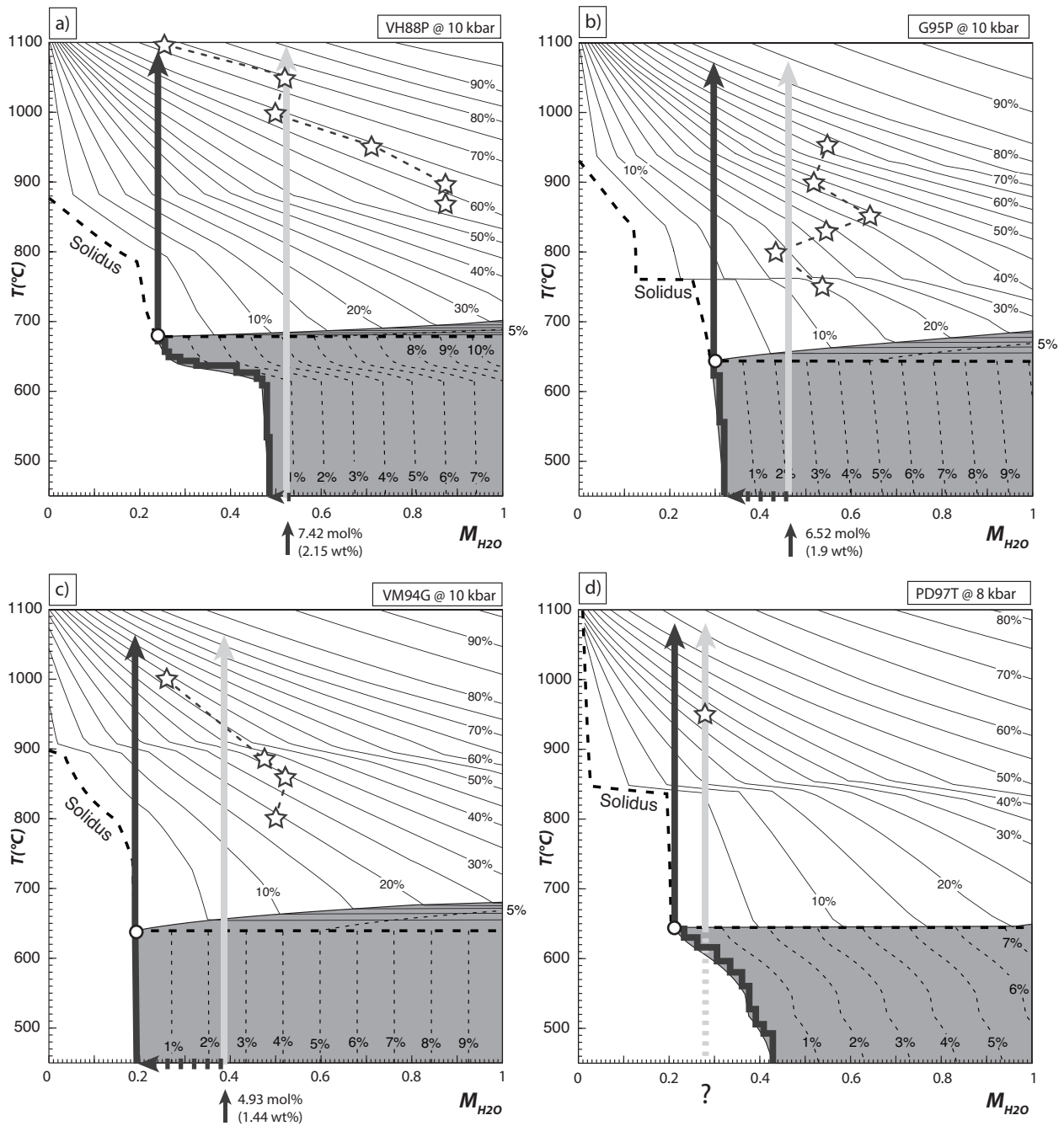


Figure 3.

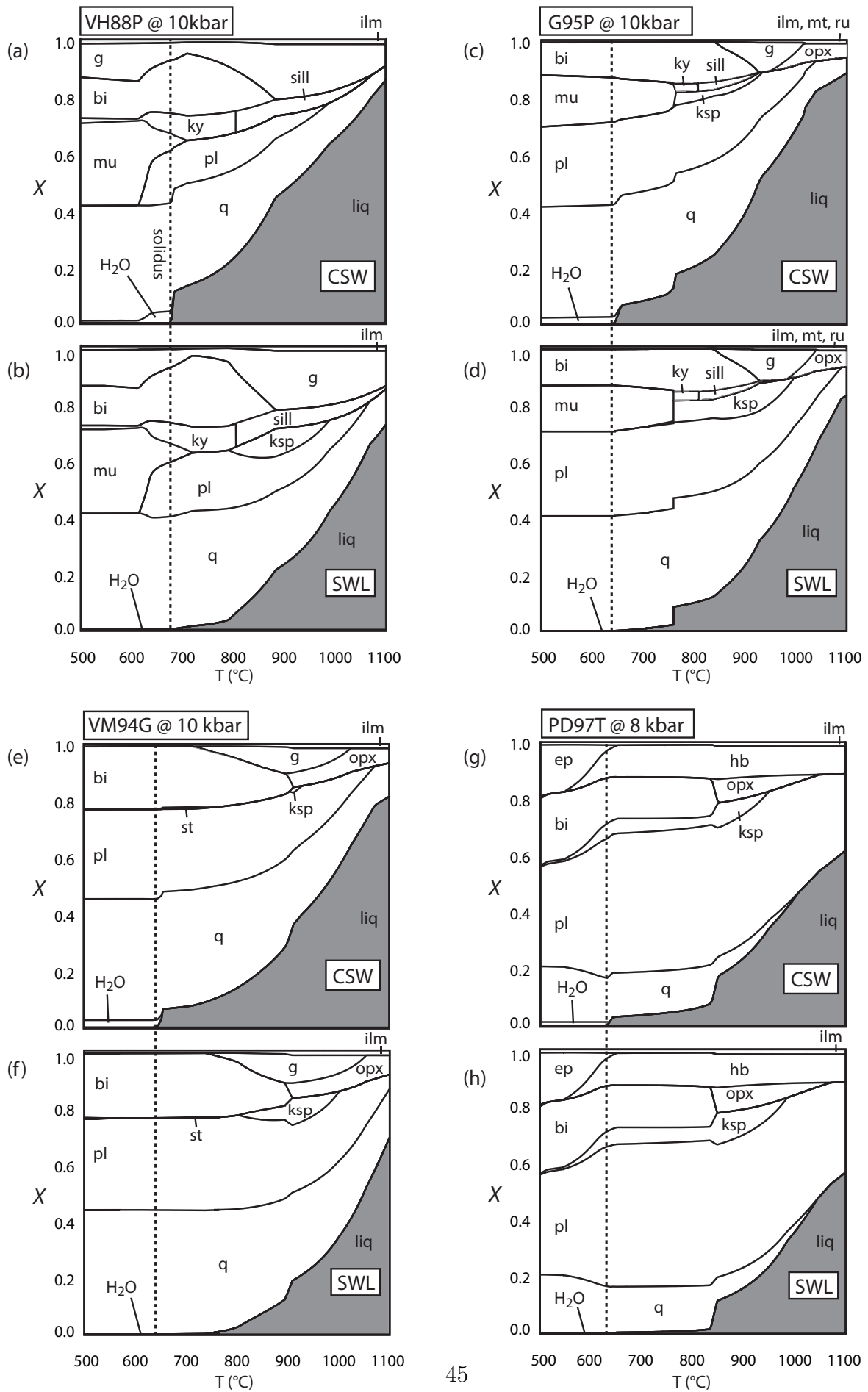


Figure 4.

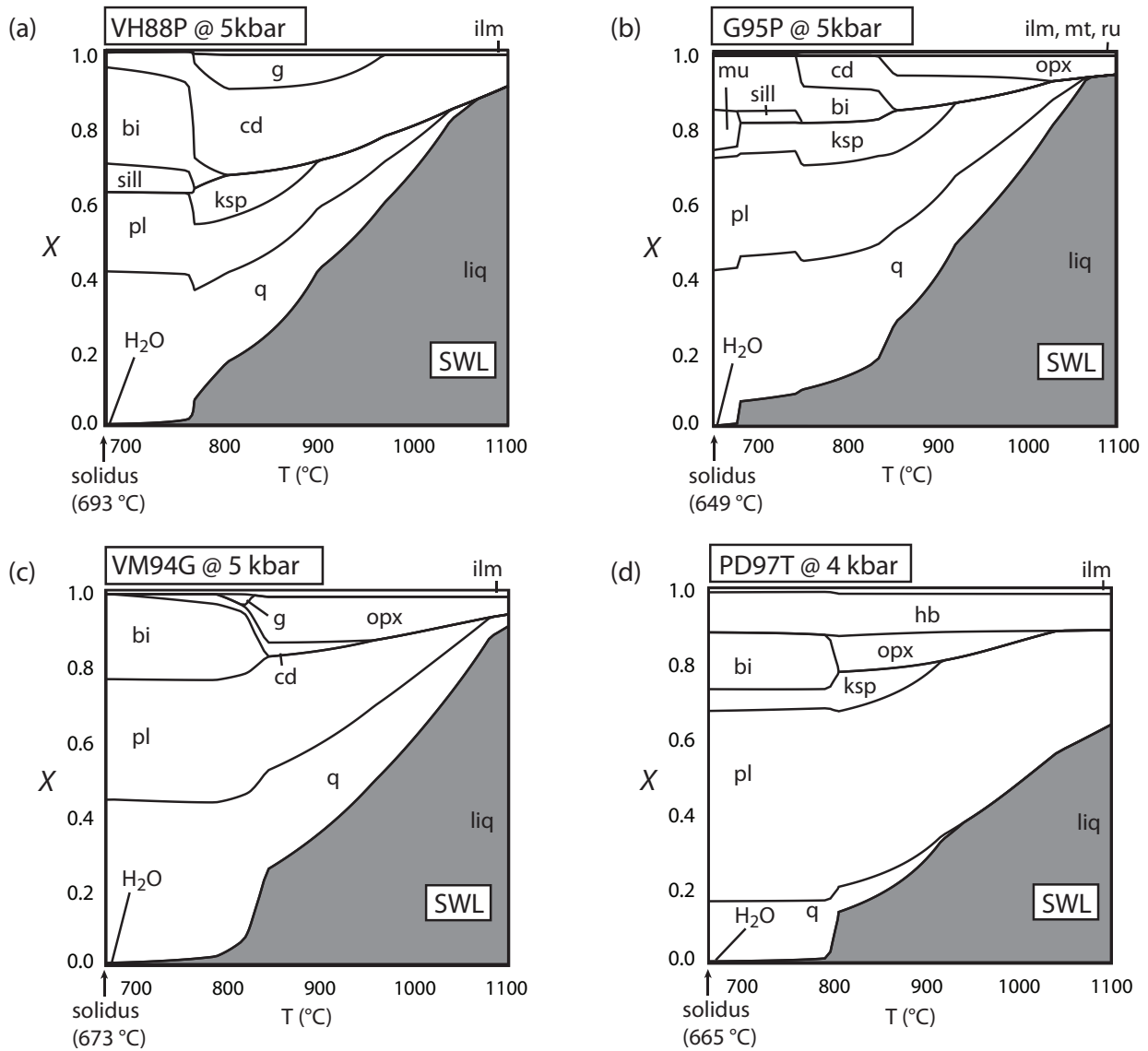


Figure 5.

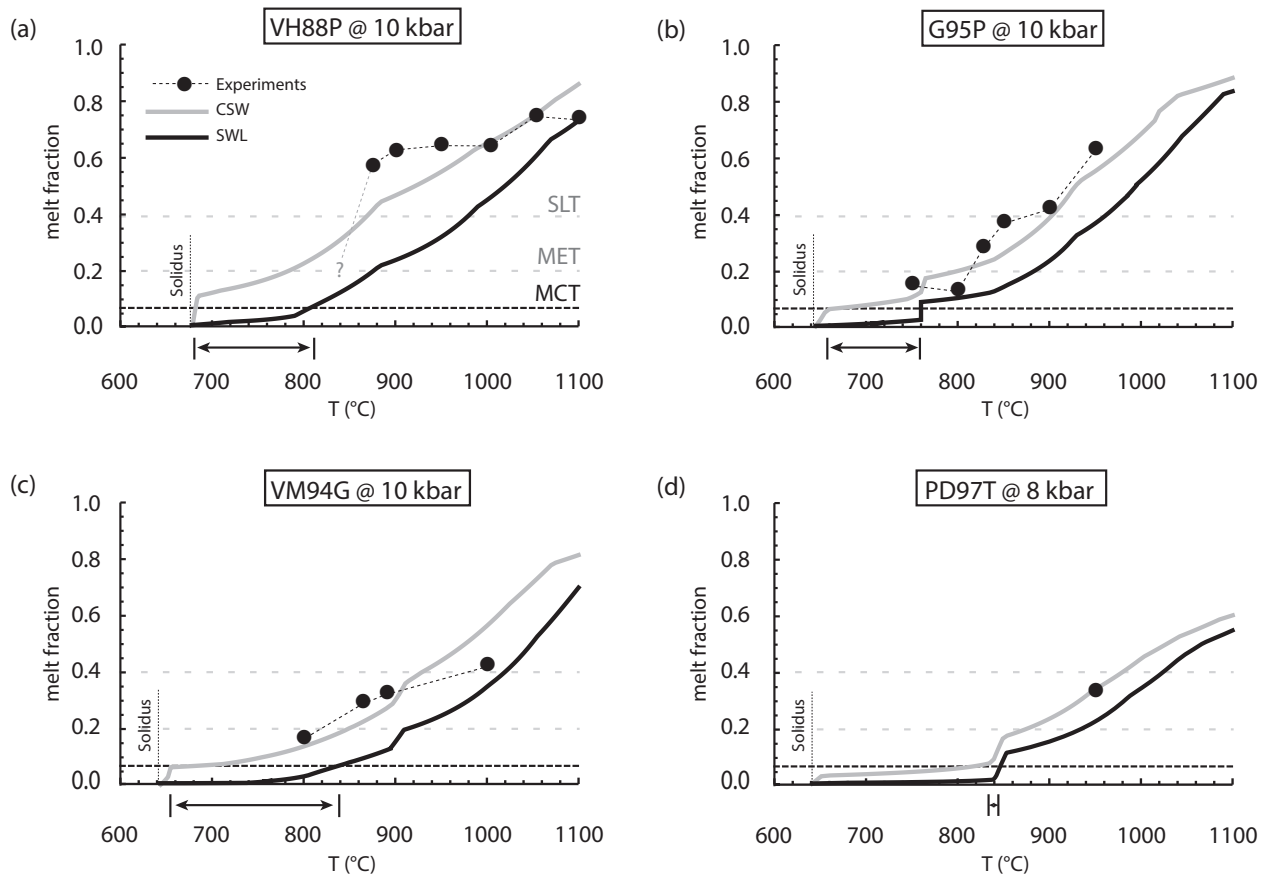


Figure 6.

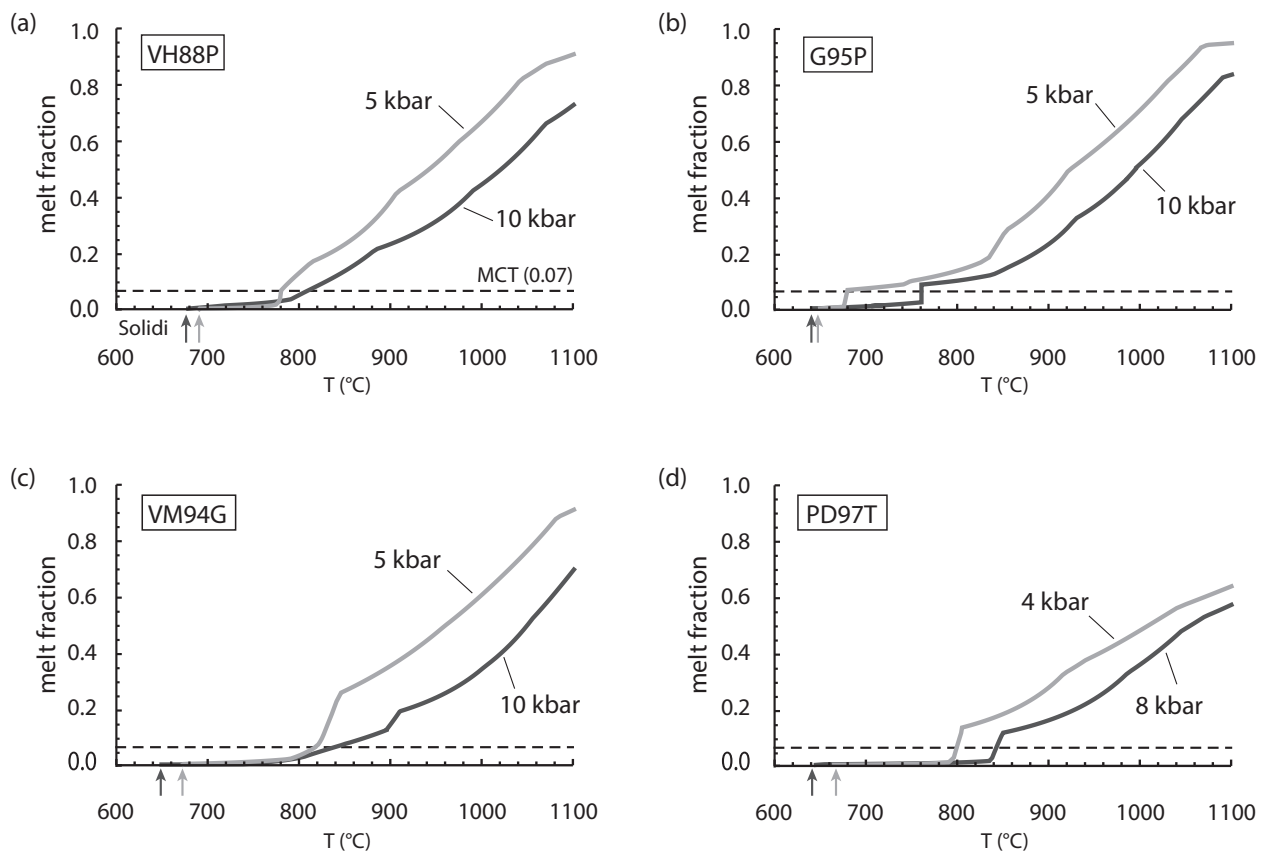


Figure 7.

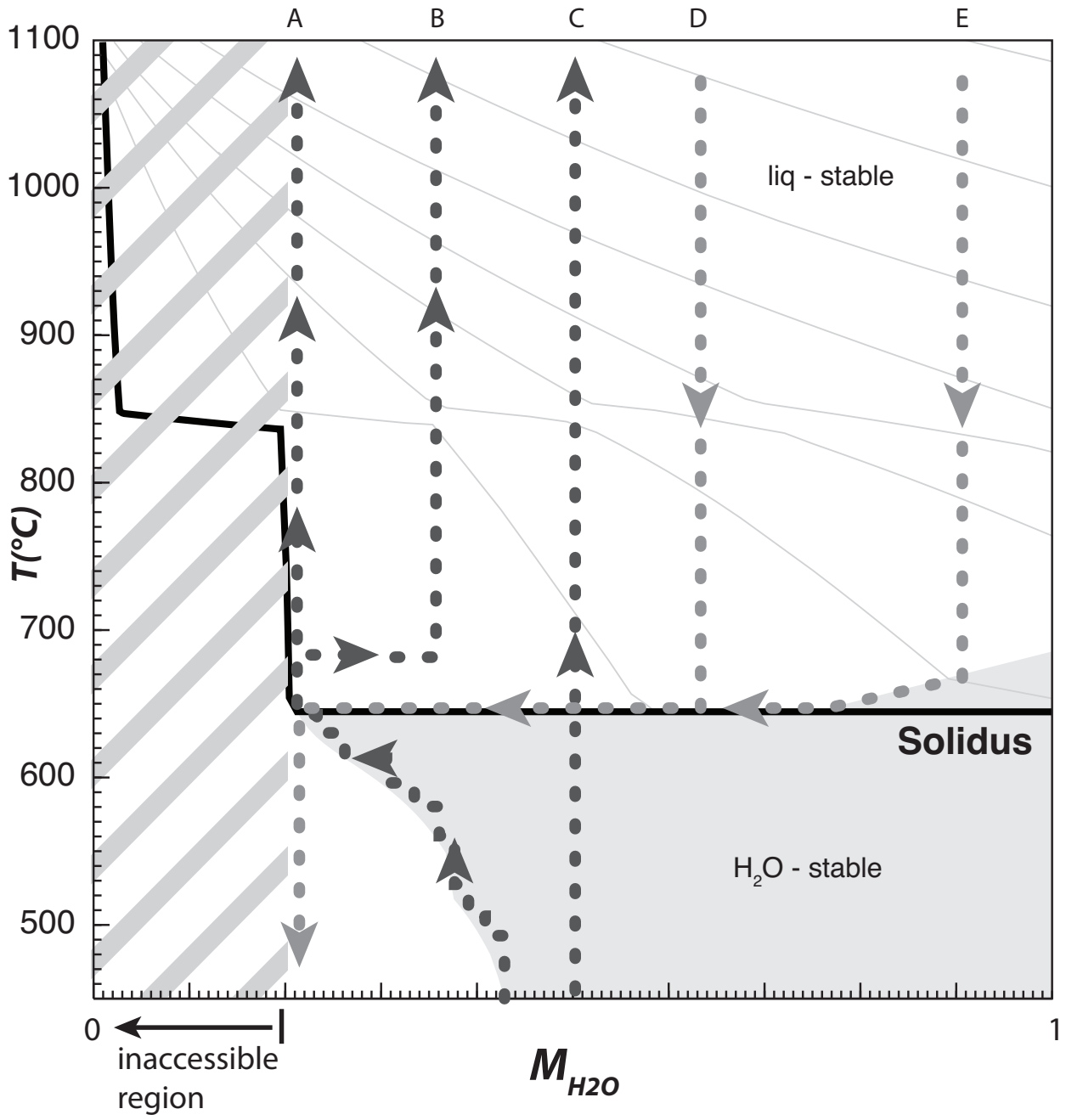


Figure 8.