

Evidence from *ab initio* and transport modeling for diffusion-driven zirconium isotopic fractionation in igneous rocks

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7 2 **diffusion-driven zirconium isotopic fractionation in**
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10 3 **igneous rocks**
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23 **Abstract**

24 We use density functional theory (DFT) to calculate the equilibrium isotopic fractionation
25 factors of zirconium (Zr) in a variety of minerals including zircon, baddeleyite, Ca-catapleiite,
26 ilmenite, geikielite, magnetite, apatite, K-feldspar, quartz, olivine, clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene,
27 amphibole, and garnet. We also report equilibrium isotopic fractionation factors for Hf in zircons,
28 Ca-catapleiite, and ilmenite. These calculations show that coordination environment is an
29 important control on Zr and Hf isotopic fractionation, with minerals with Zr and Hf in low
30 coordinations predicted to be enriched in the heavy isotopes of Zr and Hf, relative to those with Zr
31 and Hf in high coordinations. At equilibrium, zircon, which hosts Zr and Hf in 8-fold coordination,
32 is predicted to have low $^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}$ and $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios compared to silicate melt, which hosts
33 Zr and Hf in 6-fold coordination. However, our modeling results indicate that little equilibrium
34 isotopic fractionation for Zr is expected during magmatic differentiation and zircon crystallization.

35 We show through isotopic transport modeling that the Zr isotopic variations that were
36 documented in igneous rocks are likely due to diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic fractionation. The
37 two settings where this could take place are (i) diffusion-limited crystallization of zircon (DLC
38 model) and (ii) diffusion-triggered crystallization of zircon (DTC model) in the boundary layer
39 created by the growth of Zr-poor minerals. Fractional crystallization of zircons enriched in light
40 Zr isotopes by diffusion can drive residual magmas towards heavy Zr isotopic compositions. Our
41 diffusive transport model gives the framework to interpret Zr isotope data and gain new insights
42 into the cooling history of igneous rocks and the setting of zircon crystallization.

43 **Keywords:** *isotopes, equilibrium fractionation, diffusive transport, zirconium, hafnium*

1. Introduction

High Field Strength Elements [HFSEs; Ti(IV), Zr(IV), Hf(IV), Nb(V), Ta(V)] have high ionic charge (Z) over radius (r) ratio. They behave incompatibly during magmatic processes, resulting in their enrichment in the continental crust relative to the bulk silicate Earth (by factors of ~ 3 to $24^{1,2}$). They are insoluble in aqueous fluids under most circumstances, and are characterized by low concentrations and short residence times in seawater (Zr: 5600 yr, Hf: 1300 yr³, Ti: 150 yr⁴). They are highly refractory, with 50% condensation temperatures under solar nebula conditions of 1546 to 1741 K for Zr and Hf, respectively^{5,6}. Because of all these characteristics (incompatibility, insolubility in aqueous fluids, and refractoriness), they have proven to be extremely useful in geochemistry for normalizing concentrations of water-soluble^{7,8} and moderately volatile⁹ elements.

HFSEs are also useful in their own right: (1) In cosmochemistry, their relative abundances in refractory inclusions are found to be fractionated by high-temperature evaporation/condensation processes¹⁰⁻¹⁵. (2) The ¹⁷⁶Lu-¹⁷⁶Hf decay system ($t_{1/2} = 37.8$ Gyr) has been widely used as both a chronometer and a tracer of planetary differentiation processes¹⁶⁻¹⁹. (3) Titanium enrichment during fractional crystallization is a feature that distinguishes tholeiitic from calc-alkaline series²⁰ (other trace HFSEs can also be used to distinguish these two series²¹). (4) The sub-chondritic Nb/Ta ratios in all the major terrestrial reservoirs (the missing Nb-paradox) points to the existence of high-temperature processes that can fractionate these twin elements at large scales²²⁻²⁷. (5) The elevated Ti, Ta, and Nb (TITAN) concentrations in ocean island basalts with high ³He/⁴He indicates the presence of a non-primitive recycled component in the deep mantle²⁸. (6) The abundances and isotopes of these elements in terrigenous sediments can help constrain the nature (felsic or mafic) of the provenance region of the detritus²⁹⁻³¹.

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3 66 Isotopic variations that depart from the laws of mass-dependent fractionation³² have been
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5 67 documented for Ti, Zr, and Hf. These variations arise from (1) incomplete mixing of
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7 68 nucleosynthetic anomalies for Ti^{33–40}, Zr^{41–43} and Hf^{42,44–46}, (2) cosmogenic neutron capture effects
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9 69 from irradiation of solar system materials by cosmic rays for Ti⁴⁷ and Hf^{48,49}, and (3) radioactive
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11 70 decay of short-lived ⁹²Nb ($t_{1/2}$ = 34.7 Myr) for ⁹²Zr^{50–52}, and long-lived ¹⁷⁶Lu for ¹⁷⁶Hf^{16,17,53,54}. Over
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13 71 the past several years, considerable progress has been made in documenting the mass-dependent
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15 72 component of isotopic variations for Ti^{55–62} and Zr^{63–69}. Mass-dependent Ti isotopic variations in
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17 73 calcium-aluminum-rich inclusions (CAIs) reflect evaporation/condensation processes^{58,59}.
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19 74 Titanium isotopic variations have also been found in igneous rocks resulting from mantle
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21 75 depletion^{56,60} and magmatic differentiation^{55,57,61,62}. These variations are driven by differences in
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23 76 coordination between Ti in melt and minerals^{55,62,70}. Zirconium isotopic variations have more
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25 77 recently been documented in igneous rocks and minerals^{63–69} but the mechanism responsible for
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27 78 those variations is uncertain.
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33 79 Much focus in recent Zr isotope studies has focused on zircon (ZrSiO₄). Zircon is an accessory
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35 80 mineral commonly found in igneous, metamorphic and detrital sedimentary rocks. It can be readily
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37 81 dated using the U-Pb system and hosts important geochemical tracers (Hf, U, Th and REE). These
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39 82 features, combined with the high resistance of zircon to secondary processes, have made it the
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41 83 focus of a wide variety of geochemical, petrological, and geological studies interrogating major
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43 84 questions of Earth sciences, such as the timing of mass extinctions, onset of subduction, and growth
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45 85 and maturation of the continental crust^{19,54,71–79}.
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49 86 Zirconium has five naturally occurring stable isotopes, ⁹⁰Zr (51.45%), ⁹¹Zr (11.22%), ⁹²Zr
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51 87 (17.15%), ⁹⁴Zr (17.38%) and ⁹⁶Zr (2.80%). Zirconium isotopic compositions are typically reported
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53 88 in $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ or $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ notations, which are departures in permil (‰) of the ⁹⁴Zr/⁹⁰Zr ratio relative to a
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3 89 reference material. Zirconium stable isotope systematics is a relatively new field and there is no
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5 90 widespread agreement on which reference material to use. In the following, we report $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values
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8 91 relative to NIST 3169⁶⁷. Zirconium isotopic analyses have also been reported relative to a NIST
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10 92 standard under development⁶⁶ and the IPGP-Zr standard^{63–69}. Converting Zr isotopic compositions
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12 93 from NIST 3169 to IPGP-Zr would involve shifting all $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values by $\sim -0.04\text{‰}$ ^{67,69}.

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15 94 The role that zircon plays in controlling Zr isotopic fractionation in igneous rocks is debated.
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17 95 Inglis et al.⁶⁴ measured the Zr isotopic compositions of bulk magmatic rocks from Hekla volcano
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19 96 and found that $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ increases with SiO_2 content, which is a tracer of magmatic differentiation.
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21 97 Combining these data with the zirconium concentrations of these rocks, they concluded that zircon
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23 98 crystallization within the Hekla differentiation suite was the main driver of the observed variations
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25 99 in the bulk samples. They argued based on coordination considerations that equilibrium isotopic
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27 100 fractionation could explain qualitatively why zircon would preferentially incorporate light Zr
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29 101 isotopes, leaving the residual melt enriched in heavy Zr isotopes (elevated $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values). Feng et
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31 102 al.⁶⁷ and Tian et al.⁶⁹ found that among igneous rock standards, felsic rocks tend to have heavier
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33 103 Zr isotopic compositions than mafic rocks, which agree with the trend documented by Inglis et
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35 104 al.^{63,64}. Ibanez-Mejia and Tissot⁶⁶ measured single zircon and baddeleyite crystals from an
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37 105 anorthositic gabbro (FC-1) and found widespread $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values ranging from -4.3 to +0.9‰. Unlike
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39 106 Inglis et al.⁶⁴, they argued that their data could be explained using a distillation model if zircon and
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41 107 baddeleyite were isotopically heavy relative to the melt from which they crystallized, driving the
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43 108 residual liquid to extremely low $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values. The rocks measured in these studies were different
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45 109 and the discrepancy illustrates the fact that the driver behind Zr isotopic fractionation in igneous
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47 110 rocks remains highly uncertain, which limits the usefulness of this system to draw petrogenetic
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49 111 inferences on zircon formation based on Zr isotopic analyses. Zhang et al.⁶⁵ analyzed the Zr
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3 112 isotopic compositions in several zircons using laser ablation multiple collector inductively coupled
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5 113 plasma mass spectrometry (LA-MC-ICPMS) and found relatively constant values.
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8 114 Available Zr isotopic data^{63–69} in igneous rocks hint at the possibility that they could provide
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10 115 new insights into the conditions of zircon formation but there are outstanding questions that need
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12 116 to be addressed before Zr isotopes can be developed into a useful petrogenetic tracer. Are the
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14 117 measured variations the result of equilibrium fractionation between minerals and melts? If yes, is
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16 118 it the crystallization of zircon or other Zr-bearing phases that drives Zr isotopic fractionation
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18 119 measured in bulk rocks? Alternatively, are the observed variations due to kinetic processes such
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20 120 as diffusion? If yes, what does it tell us about magma cooling and zircon crystallization history?
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24 121 Hafnium has very similar chemical behavior to zirconium. It possesses six stable or long-
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26 122 lived (the half live of ¹⁷⁴Hf is $\sim 2 \times 10^{15}$ yr) isotopes ¹⁷⁴Hf (0.16%), ¹⁷⁶Hf (5.26%), ¹⁷⁷Hf (18.60%),
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28 123 ¹⁷⁸Hf (27.28%), ¹⁷⁹Hf (13.62%) and ¹⁸⁰Hf (35.08%). To our knowledge, no high precision
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30 124 measurements of Hf stable isotopic fractionation have been reported. As discussed in the present
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32 125 manuscript, such data would shed light on the processes responsible for Zr isotopic fractionation
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34 126 in igneous rocks.
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38 127 To understand what controls Zr isotopic variations in igneous rocks, we have performed *ab*
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40 128 *initio* calculations of the equilibrium isotopic fractionation factors of Zr and Hf in a variety of
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42 129 minerals using the technique of density functional theory (DFT). Following Farges et al.⁸⁰, Ca-
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44 130 catapleiite (CaZrSi₃O₉ · 2H₂O) was used as a model structure for Zr in silicate melts. The Zr-rich
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46 131 minerals investigated here are zircon (ZrSiO₄) and baddeleyite (ZrO₂). We also investigated
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48 132 equilibrium isotopic fractionation for Zr in a variety of minerals where Zr substitutes other
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50 133 elements: ilmenite (FeTiO₃), geikielite (MgTiO₃), apatite (Ca₅(PO₄)₃F), magnetite (MgFe₂O₄),
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52 134 forsterite (Mg₂SiO₄), diopside (MgCaSi₂O₆), enstatite (MgSiO₃), K-feldspar (KAlSi₃O₈), quartz
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3 135 (SiO₂), tremolite (Ca₂Mg₅Si₈O₂₂(OH)₂) and pyrope (Mg₃Al₂(SiO₄)₃). Besides these calculations,
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5 136 we have also explored how diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic fractionation during crystallization of
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8 137 zircon and other Zr-poor minerals could fractionate Zr isotopes in igneous rocks. We find that both
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10 138 (1) diffusion-limited zircon crystallization from a supersaturated liquid and (2) Zr diffusion in the
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12 139 liquid boundary-layer around a Zr-poor growing crystal, can explain the Zr isotopic variations that
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15 140 have been documented in igneous rocks. Our favored scenario is that the Zr isotopic variations
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17 141 documented in some zircons reflect their crystallizations in a supersaturated diffusion boundary
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19 142 layer, in a process of diffusion-triggered crystallization.
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24 144 2. Methods

26 145 2.1. Equilibrium mass-dependent isotopic fractionation

28 146 Equilibrium mass-dependent isotopic fractionation arises from changes in vibrational
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31 147 frequencies caused by isotopic substitution of an element in a given system^{81,82}. Following
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33 148 Bigeleisen and Goepfert-Mayer⁸¹, the reduced partition function ratio β_A of an element X in Phase
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35 149 A, which represents the isotope fractionation factor between Phase A and an ideal gas of X atoms,
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38 150 can be expressed within the quasi-harmonic approximation as,

$$41 151 \beta_A = \frac{Q_h}{Q_l} = \prod_i^{3N} \frac{u_{ih}}{u_{il}} \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}u_{ih}}}{1-e^{-u_{ih}}} \frac{1-e^{-u_{il}}}{e^{-\frac{1}{2}u_{il}}} \quad (1)$$

44 152 where h and l represent the heavy and light isotopes respectively, i is a running index of vibrational
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46 153 frequency mode, N is the number of atoms in the unit cell, and Q_h and Q_l refer to the vibrational
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48 154 partition function for the heavy and light isotopes, respectively. A phase with N atoms has $3N$
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50 155 vibrational modes and thus the product runs over all $3N$ phonon modes. u_{ih} and u_{il} are defined as,

$$53 156 u_i = \hbar\omega_i/k_B T \quad (2)$$

55 157 where \hbar and k_B is the reduced Planck constant and Boltzmann constant, respectively, T is

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3 158 temperature in Kelvin, and ω_i is the vibrational frequency of the i^{th} mode. Equilibrium isotopic
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5 159 fractionation between two phases A and B in the δ -notation is readily calculated from the reduced
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8 160 partition function ratio using the following formula,

$$161 \quad \Delta_{A-B} \approx 10^3 \ln \alpha_{A-B} = 10^3 \ln \beta_A - 10^3 \ln \beta_B. \quad (3)$$

12 162 For a given phase, $10^3 \ln \beta$ can be expressed as a polynomial expansion of even powers of the
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15 163 inverse of the temperature^{83,84},

$$164 \quad 10^3 \ln \beta = \frac{A_1}{T^2} + \frac{A_2}{T^4} + \frac{A_3}{T^6}. \quad (4)$$

20 165 where the coefficients A_1 , A_2 , and A_3 can be calculated from the even moments of the phonon
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22 166 density of states⁸⁴. The first term in this equation is proportional to the mean force constant $\langle F \rangle$ (in
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25 167 N/m) of the chemical bonds that the element of interest forms with the coordination atoms,

$$168 \quad A_1 = 1000 \left(\frac{1}{m_l} - \frac{1}{m_h} \right) \frac{\hbar^2}{8k_B^2} \langle F \rangle. \quad (5)$$

30 169 At the high temperatures relevant to igneous system, this term is the dominant control on
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32 170 equilibrium isotopic fractionation⁸⁴⁻⁸⁶. For the $^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}$ and $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios, we have,

$$171 \quad 1000 \ln \beta(^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}) \approx 2081 \langle F \rangle / T^2. \quad (6)$$

$$172 \quad 1000 \ln \beta(^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}) \approx 278 \langle F \rangle / T^2. \quad (7)$$

39 173 We follow Dauphas et al.^{84,87} and use the mean force constant $\langle F \rangle$ to discuss equilibrium
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41 174 isotopic fractionation factors. The virtues of this approach for non-traditional stable isotopes are:

44 175 (1) It is a number that is usually easy to remember when reported in SI unit (the same units
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46 176 as a spring constant), typically spanning the range 0 to ~ 1000 N/m.

49 177 (2) It does not depend on the choice of isotopes used to define isotopic fractionation, so one
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51 178 can compare values from different publications regardless of the choice that are made in reporting
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53 179 isotopic fractionation.

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3 180 (3) It allows easy comparison of isotopic fractionation between different elements. For
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5 181 example, when comparing Zr and Hf equilibrium isotope fractionations, the difference could result
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7 182 from a difference in the masses of the isotopes of the two elements, and/or from a difference in the
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9 183 nature of the bonds (force constant).

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12 184 (4) Bond strength is the governing factor for equilibrium isotopic fractionation, especially at
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14 185 high temperature. We use Eq. 4 to calculate equilibrium fractionation factors at all temperatures
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16 186 and recommend that this equation be used in future studies, but the truncated Eqs. 5 to 7 are
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18 187 adequate above ~ 300 °C.

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21 188 For the reasons outlined above, we have used the mean force constant $\langle F \rangle$ in a number of
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23 189 publications discussing equilibrium isotopic fractionation^{84,87-91} and we encourage the community
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25 190 to use this quantity more broadly in non-traditional stable isotope geochemistry.
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192 **2.2. First-principle calculations**

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33 193 We performed first-principle calculations based on density functional theory (DFT) using
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35 194 VASP (Vienna Ab Initio Simulation Package) with the projector-augmented wave (PAW)
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37 195 method⁹². The generalized-gradient approximation (GGA)⁹³ for the exchange-correlation
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39 196 functional was adopted and the PAW-PBE pseudopotentials were used. The energy cutoff for all
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41 197 calculations was 600 eV. All mineral structures, including cell parameters and atomic positions,
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43 198 were well relaxed at ambient pressure. The Brillouin zone summations over the electronic states
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45 199 were performed at different k-point grids according to their unit cell sizes (**Table S1**). For all
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47 200 structure optimizations, the residual forces converge within 10^{-3} eV/Å. In order to estimate the β
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49 201 factors of $^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}$ for all phases, we performed full calculations of phonon vibration frequencies
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51 202 using the finite displacement method as implemented in the open-source code PHONOPY⁹⁴.
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204 2.3. Mineral structures

205 The DFT approach is better suited to calculate the equilibrium isotopic fractionation for
206 periodic crystals or small molecules. DFT can in principle tackle liquids but it is computationally
207 challenging to run such calculations^{90,95–98}, and while there are good constraints to ground truth
208 calculations involving ions in water, the structure of silicate melts remains poorly known. For those
209 reasons, we have decided to use knowledge from X-ray Absorption Fine Structure (EXAFS)
210 spectroscopy on the local structure of Zr in silicate melts to select a model crystal composition to
211 simulate Zr dissolved in silicate liquid. Farges et al.⁸⁰ found that regardless of the glass investigated,
212 Zr^{4+} at a trace level of ~ 2000 ppm in silicate glass was mainly in 6-coordinated sites and had a
213 local structural environment similar to that in the mineral catapleiite (with a similar Zr-O bond
214 length of ~ 2.07 - 2.10 Å)⁸⁰, a 3-tetrahedra zirconium cyclosilicate (the synthetic sodium zirconium
215 cyclosilicate Lokelma is used to treat hyperkalemia in patients^{99,100}). The atomic positions of H
216 atoms in catapleiite ($Na_2ZrSi_3O_9 \cdot 2H_2O$) have not been reported, and cannot be properly modeled
217 by DFT. We have therefore selected the similar Ca-catapleiite ($CaZrSi_3O_9 \cdot 2H_2O$) in which all
218 atomic positions are well known, to use as the model structure for Zr in silicate melt.

219 The calculated minerals in this study include zircon, baddeleyite, Ca-catapleiite, geikielite,
220 ilmenite, magnetite, apatite, K-feldspar, quartz, olivine, clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, amphibole
221 and garnet. Zirconium is a trace element in these minerals except for zircon, baddeleyite, and Ca-
222 catapleiite.

223 In spinel-facies lherzolite and harzburgite, the inventories of Zr and Hf are dominated by
224 clinopyroxene and to a lesser extent orthopyroxene¹⁰¹. In garnet lherzolite, the inventories of Zr
225 and Hf are dominated by garnet and clinopyroxene, with again orthopyroxene playing a lesser

226 role¹⁰². Although major element sites in these minerals are well known, the substitution
227 mechanisms for Zr incorporation as a minor element remain unclear. In olivine, clinopyroxene,
228 and orthopyroxene, there are two possible Zr substitution mechanisms. One is that Zr^{4+} directly
229 occupies the tetrahedral Si site (${}^{IV}Si^{4+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+}$), and the other one is that Zr substitutes in the
230 octahedral Mg site or the dodecahedral Ca site (in clinopyroxene) with charge balanced by nearby
231 Mg vacancies (${}^{VI}Mg^{2+}/{}^{VIII}Ca^{2+} + {}^{VI}Mg^{2+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+}_{Mg/Ca} + \text{vacancy}$).

232 Olivine has one equivalent tetrahedral Si site and two nonequivalent octahedral Mg sites (M1
233 and M2) with M2 site being larger than M1 site. For the substitution ${}^{IV}Si^{4+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+}$, we constructed
234 a Zr-doped olivine by replacing one Si atom with one Zr atom in a supercell of forsterite. For the
235 substitution ${}^{VI}Mg^{2+} + {}^{VI}Mg^{2+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+} + \text{vacancy}$, the nearest neighbor $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_M - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_M$ pair is replaced by
236 Zr^{4+} and a vacancy (). There are four different possible configurations for this substitution:
237 $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1}$, $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2}$, $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1}$, and $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2} -$
238 $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2}$, where we substitute the first ${}^{VI}Mg^{2+}$ of each pair by Zr^{4+} and the second is replaced by
239 a vacancy. Our calculations show that the Zr-doped olivine with Zr^{4+} occupying the M2 Mg site
240 and the charge balanced by the nearest M1 Mg vacancy ($[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1}$) has the lowest
241 total energy among all nonequivalent configurations. This configuration with the lowest energy
242 was used for the calculation.

243 Orthopyroxene also has two nonequivalent Mg sites (M1 and M2) and two nonequivalent Si
244 sites (SiA and SiB). Our calculations show that the energy difference between Zr^{4+} in the SiA and
245 SiB sites is large, 7.6 eV for $Mg_{32}Si_{31}ZrO_{96}$ orthopyroxene, suggesting that Zr^{4+} prefers the SiB
246 site. Thus, orthopyroxene with Zr^{4+} occupying the SiB site was used for the substitution
247 ${}^{IV}Si^{4+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+}$. Similar to the substitution ${}^{VI}Mg^{2+} + {}^{VI}Mg^{2+} \leftrightarrow Zr^{4+} + \text{vacancy}$ in olivine, we also considered
248 four configurations for the $Zr^{4+} + \text{vacancy}$ substitution: $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1}$, $[{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M1} - [{}^{VI}Mg^{2+}]_{M2}$,

249 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}$, and $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}$. The Zr-doped orthopyroxene, in which Zr^{4+}
 250 occupies the M1 Mg site with the charge balanced by the nearest M2 Mg vacancy ($[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-$
 251 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$) has the lowest total energy and was used in the calculations.

252 Diopside, the $\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6$ end-member of clinopyroxene, contains four equivalent Ca atoms,
 253 four equivalent Mg atoms, and eight equivalent Si atoms. A Zr-doped clinopyroxene with the
 254 substitution $^{\text{IV}}\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ can be produced by replacing one Si atom with one Zr atom. We also
 255 investigated the Zr-doped clinopyroxene with the substitution $^{\text{VIII}}\text{Ca}^{2+}/^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}+$
 256 $^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{Ca/Mg}}$, in which Zr^{4+} can substitute for any pair $[\text{VIII Ca}^{2+}]-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]$, $[\text{VII Mg}^{2+}]-$
 257 $[\text{VIII Ca}^{2+}]$, or $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]$. Our calculations show that the Zr-doped diopside with Zr^{4+}
 258 occupying the Mg site and the charge balanced by a vacancy in the nearest Ca site ($[\text{VII Mg}^{2+}]-$
 259 $[\text{VIII Ca}^{2+}] \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$) has a lower total energy than the configuration with $[\text{VIII Ca}^{2+}]-$
 260 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}] \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ (*i.e.*, -2.3 eV for $\text{Ca}_7\text{Mg}_7\text{ZrSi}_{16}\text{O}_{48}$), indicating that Zr^{4+} preferentially enters
 261 the Mg site in diopside. This is consistent with the experimental finding that Zr is located in the
 262 M1 (Mg) site in clinopyroxene¹⁰³.

263 Tremolite has three nonequivalent Mg sites (M1, M2, and M3) and two nonequivalent Si sites
 264 (SiT1 and SiT2). The volume of Mg-O octahedron increases in the order of $\text{M3} < \text{M1} < \text{M2}$. For
 265 the substitution $^{\text{IV}}\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$, the configuration with Zr^{4+} occupying the larger SiT2 site has a lower
 266 energy and was used for the calculation. For the substitution $^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}+^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$, tremolite
 267 has six different $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]$ pairs: $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}$ (3.17 Å), $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}$
 268 (5.59 Å), $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}$ (10.27 Å), $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}$ (3.08 Å), $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-$
 269 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}$ (3.08 Å), and $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}$ (3.18 Å). Here we only consider $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]-$
 270 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]$ pairs where the two Mg sites are in close proximity, corresponding to seven different
 271 configurations ($[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}$, $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}$, $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}$,

272 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}$, $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}}$, $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}$, and $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M3}}-$
 273 $[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}$) that could be replaced by Zr^{4+} . Our calculations show that the structure with Zr^{4+}
 274 occupying the largest M2 Mg site with the charge balanced by the nearest M1 Mg vacancy
 275 ($[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M2}}-[\text{VI Mg}^{2+}]_{\text{M1}} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$) has the lowest energy and was therefore used in the calculations.
 276 This choice is consistent with spectroscopic evidence indicating that in arfvedsonite (a sodium
 277 amphibole mineral), Zr is in the M2 site¹⁰³.

278 The initial structure of Zr-doped quartz was constructed through the substitution $\text{IV Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$,
 279 while the Zr-doped structure for K-feldspar was constructed by substituting Zr^{4+} for $\text{K}^+/\text{Al}^{3+}$ with
 280 the charge balanced by a tetrahedral $\text{Al}^{3+}/\text{K}^+$ vacancy ($\text{VIII K}^+ + \text{IV Al}^{3+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{K}^+}$ and
 281 $\text{IV Al}^{3+} + \text{VIII K}^+ \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{Al}^{3+}}$). Our calculations show that the configuration with
 282 $\text{IV Al}^{3+} + \text{VIII K}^+ \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{Al}^{3+}}$ has a lower energy than $\text{VIII K}^+ + \text{IV Al}^{3+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{K}^+}$ (*i.e.*, -4.7 eV for
 283 $\text{K}_7\text{Al}_7\text{ZrSi}_2\text{O}_6$). The former was therefore used in the calculations.

284 Previous work suggested that Zr could substitute for Ca in apatite¹⁰⁴, we generated the initial
 285 structure of Zr-doped apatite by substituting one Zr atom for one nine-coordinated Ca atom, with
 286 the charge balanced by the vacancy in the nearest seven-coordinated Ca site ($\text{IX Ca}^{2+} +$
 287 $\text{VII Ca}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{IX-Ca}}$).

288 For geikielite (MgTiO_3) and ilmenite (FeTiO_3), the Zr-doped structures were generated by
 289 the substitution $\text{VI Ti}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ due to the similarity between Ti^{4+} and Zr^{4+} . For MgFe_2O_4 magnetite,
 290 Zr^{4+} occupies the octahedral Fe^{3+} site with charge balanced by the nearest tetrahedral Fe^{3+} replaced
 291 by Mg^{2+} ($\text{VI Fe}^{3+} + \text{IV Fe}^{3+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{VI-Fe}} + \text{Mg}^{2+}_{\text{IV-Fe}}$).

292 Pyrope, the Mg endmember of garnet, contains 160 atoms in its conventional cell with space
 293 group Ia-3d. Here we consider three possible substitution mechanisms: (1) $\text{IV Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$, where
 294 Zr^{4+} occupies the tetrahedral Si site, (2) $\text{VI Al}^{3+} + \text{IV Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+} + \text{Al}^{3+}$, where Zr^{4+} occupies the

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3 295 octahedral Al site and the original Al^{3+} occupies the nearest Si site, and (3) $^{\text{VIII}}\text{Mg}^{2+}$
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5 296 $^{\text{VIII}}\text{Mg}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$, where Zr^{4+} occupies the dodecahedral Mg site with the charge balanced by
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7 297 replacement of the nearest Mg site with a vacancy. Spectroscopic data seems to support the
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9 298 presence of Zr in 6-fold coordination in garnet¹⁰³, which would be support of the second
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11 299 substitution mechanism $^{\text{VI}}\text{Al}^{3+} + ^{\text{IV}}\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+} + \text{Al}^{3+}$.

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14 300 Zirconium are present as trace element in many of these minerals. We modelled various levels
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16 301 of Zr dilution in olivine, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, tremolite, quartz, geikielite, ilmenite,
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18 302 apatite, K-feldspar, and magnetite by incorporating Zr into their supercells, which were generated
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20 303 by expanding the primitive cell along different directions. For example, the 112-atom and 224-
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22 304 atom supercells of olivine were obtained by expanding the primitive cell twice along the *a* and *c*
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24 305 directions and twice simultaneously along *a*, *b*, and *c* directions, respectively. Substituting one Si
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26 306 atom with one Zr atom in those supercells can produce olivine structures with $\text{Zr}/(\text{Zr}+\text{Si})$ of 1/16
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28 307 and 1/32, respectively. The same approach was used to simulate dilution in other minerals (**Table**
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31 308 **1**).

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34 309 For the calculations of Hf equilibrium isotopic fractionation, we investigated Ca-catapleiite
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36 310 and zircon (Hf substituting Zr) as well as ilmenite (Hf substituting Ti). For zircon and Ca-
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38 311 catapleiite, we calculated the mineral structures and β -factors for different Zr/Hf ratios using a
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40 312 supercell approach (**Table 1**).

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43 313 The relaxed cell parameters and volumes of zircon, baddeleyite, and Ca-catapleiite are
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45 314 compared with experimental measurements at 300 K in **Table S2**. Our calculations with GGA
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47 315 overestimate the volumes of these minerals by ~3-4%, which is typical of GGA calculations, as
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49 316 already noticed in previous studies¹⁰⁵⁻¹⁰⁸. In general, the local density approximation (LDA) tends
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53 317 to underestimate the volume, while GGA tends to give a larger volume than experimental data.

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3 318 DFT calculations will also give different β factors when different exchange-correlation functionals
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5 319 are used. However, the differences in $10^3 \ln \beta$ (*i.e.*, $10^3 \ln \alpha$ or equilibrium isotope fractionation
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7 320 factors between minerals), are less sensitive to the approximation adopted for the exchange-
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9 321 correlation functional^{105–108}. We compare the calculated frequencies of zircon and baddeleyite with
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11 322 experimental data in **Fig. S1**. Our results agree with experimental measurements, with a
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13 323 slope between calculated and measured frequencies of 0.966 ± 0.04 . Following the uncertainty
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15 324 analysis presented by Meheut *et al.*¹⁰⁹, we estimate that the uncertainties of our calculated $\ln \beta$ and
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17 325 $\ln \alpha$ values at high temperature are ~ 6 and 8% relative, respectively.
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23 24 327 **3. Results**

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26 328 The average Zr-O bond lengths and Zr coordination numbers (CNs) in all calculated minerals
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28 329 are listed in **Table 1**. The average Zr-O bond length and Zr CN depend on the threshold adopted
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30 330 for Zr-O bond lengths. In all calculated minerals, the Zr-O distances form two populations, ranging
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32 331 from 1.9 Å to 2.4 Å, or greater than 3.0 Å. Here we adopted a value of 2.4 Å as the cutoff to
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34 332 determine Zr-O bond lengths and Zr CNs. The Zr CN ranges from 4 in silicate minerals with the
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36 333 substitution $\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ to 8 in zircon, and the average Zr-O bond length ranges from 1.960 Å in
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38 334 olivine with the substitution $\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ to 2.228 Å in zircon. In addition, within the explored
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40 335 compositional space (**Table 1**), there is no significant Zr concentration effect on the average Zr-O
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42 336 bond lengths in Zr-doped minerals.
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47 337 As discussed in Section 2.1. and references therein, the main control on equilibrium isotopic
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49 338 fractionation is the bond strength or force constant, and at high temperature $1000 \ln \beta$ is directly
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51 339 proportional to $\langle F \rangle$. The Zr force constants vary from 280 to 566 N/m in the calculated minerals
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53 340 (**Table 1**). In all minerals, Zr is primarily coordinated with oxygen and as expected¹¹⁰, the main
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control on the bond strength (force constant) is coordination (**Fig. 1A**), which is also manifested as a correlation between force constant with bond length (**Fig. 1B**). The average Zr force constants of minerals in 4, 6, 7, and 8 coordination are 540, 366, 323, 340 N/m respectively. Among them, ilmenite (6-fold coordination), magnetite (6), apatite (6), baddeleyite (7) and zircon (8) have weaker Zr-O bonds than that of 6-fold coordination Ca-catapleiite, the silicate melt proxy mineral. Geikielite (6-fold coordination) and most of the silicate minerals with Zr in mostly 4- and 6-fold coordination have stronger Zr-O bonds than that of 6-fold coordinated Ca-catapleiite. Pyrope with the substitution $^{\text{VIII}}\text{Mg}^{2+} + ^{\text{VIII}}\text{Mg}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$ is the only silicate mineral calculated with a weaker Zr-O bond strength than the melt.

The $1000\ln\beta$ values of $^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}$ of all calculated minerals can be expressed as a function of temperature ($10^3\ln\beta = A_1x + A_2x^2 + A_3x^3$, where $x = 10^6/T^2$ and T is temperature in Kelvin; Eq. 4). The coefficients of this polynomial expansion are listed in **Table 1**. For many non-traditional stable isotopes systems, one can relate equilibrium fractionation at any temperature to an expansion in the even powers of $\langle F \rangle$ ^{87,111}. For a Debye phonon density of states (PDOS), we would have,

$$1000\ln\beta \simeq 1000 \left(\frac{m_h}{m_l} - 1 \right) \left(\frac{\gamma \langle F \rangle}{8 T^2} - \frac{5\gamma^2 \langle F \rangle^2}{2016 T^4} + \frac{25\gamma^3 \langle F \rangle^3}{326592 T^6} \right). \quad (8)$$

with $\gamma = \hbar^2 / (k_B^2 m_h)$. Phonon density of states of naturally occurring minerals rarely follow a Debye profile and we can improve on this formula by writing a more general, semi-empirical equation,

$$1000\ln\beta \simeq B_1 \langle F \rangle / T^2 - B_2 \langle F \rangle^2 / T^4 + B_3 \langle F \rangle^3 / T^6. \quad (9)$$

with $B_1 = 1000(1/m_l - 1/m_h) \hbar^2 / (8k_B^2)$, and B_2 and B_3 constants that depend on the element and isotopes considered (and to some extent the particular PDOS, although these are second order corrections and the exact shape of the PDOS does not matter too much). We have calculated the values of B_2 and B_3 by regressing A_2 vs. $\langle F \rangle^2$ and A_3 vs. $\langle F \rangle^3$ (**Figs. S2, S3**) for the purpose of

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3 364 evaluating the validity of the high-temperature approximation. Note that the equivalent regressions
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5 365 of A_2 vs. A_1^2 and A_3 vs. A_1^3 provide a rapid means of assessing the consistency of the polynomial
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8 366 expansion as an erroneous reporting of the coefficients would show up as an outlier in these
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10 367 diagrams. We find the approximate formula,

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$$1000\ln\beta(^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}) \simeq 2081\langle F \rangle/T^2 - 2.5 \times 10^4 \langle F \rangle^2/T^4 + 8.5 \times 10^5 \langle F \rangle^3/T^6. \quad (10)$$

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15 369 In **Fig. 2A** (also see **Fig. S4**), we use this formula to calculate the extent to which the high-
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17 370 temperature approximation (truncating the polynomial to the first order; Eq. 6, 9, and 10) can
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19 371 approximate the true value of $1000\ln\beta$ (Eq. 4) as a function of T and $\langle F \rangle$ (see Fig. 3 of Dauphas
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21 372 et al.⁸⁴ for a similar figure for iron). As shown, given that the force constants of Zr bonds in all
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23 373 calculated minerals are between 280 and 566 N/m, we find that provided that the temperature is
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25 374 higher than ~ 300 - 500 °C, truncating the expansion to the first order gives a $1000\ln\beta$ value that is
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28 375 within 1% of the value given by the whole expansion. For most high-temperature applications in
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30 376 metamorphic and igneous geochemistry and petrology, the high-temperature approximation
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32 377 $1000\ln\beta \simeq 2081\langle F \rangle/T^2$ is therefore valid.

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35 378 The Zr-doped silicate minerals with the substitution $\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^4$ have significantly larger β
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37 379 factors than other species. This is mainly because Zr in these silicate minerals form stiffer bonds
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39 380 due to the incorporation of Zr into the low-coordination (IV) tetrahedral Si site. At 1000 K, the
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41 381 $1000\ln\beta$ values range from 1.17 ‰ in Zr-doped olivine (substituting Si) to 0.58 ‰ in Zr-doped
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43 382 ilmenite (substituting Ti). It decreases in the order of Zr-doped olivine (substituting Si), quartz,
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45 383 orthopyroxene, K-feldspar (substituting Al) \sim tremolite (substituting Si) \sim clinopyroxene
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47 384 (substituting Si) \sim pyrope (substituting Si) $>$ pyrope (substituting Al) $>$ geikielite (substituting Ti)
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49
50 385 \sim orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, tremolite, and olivine (substituting Mg) $>$ Ca-catapleiite $>$ pyrope
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52 386 (substituting Mg) $>$ zircon \sim baddeleyite $>$ apatite (substituting Ca) \sim MgFe_2O_4 magnetite
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387 (substituting Fe) > ilmenite (substituting Ti). The temperature dependence of the reduced partition
 388 function ratio ($1000\ln\beta$), as well as the equilibrium fractionation factors between minerals and
 389 melt ($1000\ln\alpha_{\text{mineral-melt}}$; taking Ca-catapleiite as a silicate melt proxy) are shown in **Fig. 3**. As
 390 expected, they scale linearly with $1/T^2$.

391 We have also performed some *ab initio* calculations substituting Hf for Zr in several minerals
 392 showing a wide range of Zr bond strengths: zircon, Ca-catapleiite, and ilmenite (**Fig. 4**). The force
 393 constants of Hf bonds are very similar to those of Zr (**Table 1** and **Fig. 5**), defining a linear
 394 correlation,

$$\langle F_{\text{Hf}} \rangle = (1.032 \pm 0.021)\langle F_{\text{Zr}} \rangle . \quad (11)$$

396 By regressing A_2 vs. $\langle F \rangle^2$ and A_3 vs. $\langle F \rangle^3$ (**Fig. S3**), we derive a one-parameter approximate
 397 equation for the $1000\ln\beta$ value of Hf,

$$1000\ln\beta(^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}) \simeq 278\langle F \rangle/T^2 - 3464\langle F \rangle^2/T^4 + 175551\langle F \rangle^3/T^6 . \quad (12)$$

399 As with Zr (**Fig. 2A**; also see **Fig. S4**) and Fe^{84} , we use this formula to calculate the extent to which
 400 truncating the formula to the first term $1000\ln\beta(^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}) \simeq 278\langle F \rangle/T^2$ (Eq. 7) provides an
 401 adequate approximation of the $1000\ln\beta$ value (Eq. 4; **Fig. 2B** and **Fig. S5**). We find that provided
 402 that the temperature is higher than $\sim 300\text{-}500$ °C, truncating the expansion to the first order gives a
 403 $1000\ln\beta$ value that is within 1% of the value given by the whole expansion. As with Zr, the first
 404 term of the polynomial gives an adequate description of equilibrium Hf isotopic fractionation for
 405 applications in igneous and metamorphic geochemistry/petrology.

406 Given the near-identical force constants of Zr and Hf, the ratio of equilibrium fractionation
 407 factors is directly related to the mass of the isotopes involved through (combine Eqs. 6 and 7),

$$\frac{1000\ln\alpha(^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr})}{1000\ln\alpha(^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf})} = \frac{2081}{278} = 7.5 . \quad (13)$$

410 4. Discussion

411 As we mentioned in the introduction, the use of Zr isotopic fractionation as a petrogenetic
 412 tracer of zircon formation is hampered by our lack of understanding of what controls this
 413 fractionation.

414 Zirconium isotopic analyses reported thus far on bulk rocks and individual zircons^{63–69} yield
 415 contradictory evidence with regard to what controls the observed Zr isotopic variations, and
 416 whether zircons are enriched in the light or heavy isotopes of Zr relative to coexisting magma.
 417 Below we use the newly established fractionation factors to show that equilibrium zircon-melt
 418 fractionation cannot account for the large Zr isotopic variations that have been documented. These
 419 fractionations are most likely explained by diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic fractionation.

421 4.1. Equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation during zircon crystallization from silicate melts

422 Zircon is an important carrier of Zr and Hf in igneous rocks, so we start by focusing on the
 423 effects of the equilibrium crystallization of this mineral on the behavior of Zr and Hf stable isotopes
 424 during magmatic differentiation. Following Inglis et al.⁶⁴ and Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶, we model
 425 Zr isotopic fractionation during zircon crystallization using a Rayleigh distillation model,

$$426 \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{melt}} = \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_0 + \Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} \ln f_{\text{Zr}} . \quad (14)$$

427 where $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{melt}}$ and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_0$ are the Zr isotopic compositions of the residual and starting melt
 428 respectively, expressed as $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr} = 10^3 \ln[(^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr})_{\text{sample}}/(^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr})_{\text{std}}]$, f_{Zr} is the fraction
 429 of Zr remaining in the melt, and $\Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} = 1000 \ln \alpha_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}}$ is the instantaneous isotopic
 430 fractionation factor of Zr between zircon and melt. The Zr isotopic composition of the
 431 instantaneous zircon crystallized from the melt can be calculated as,

$$432 \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{i,zircon}} = \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_0 + \Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} (1 + \ln f_{\text{Zr}}) . \quad (15)$$

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3 433 The zirconium isotopic composition of the cumulative zircon is obtained by mass-balance with the
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5 434 residual melt and initial composition,

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$$\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{c,zircon}} = \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_0 - \Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} \frac{f_{\text{Zr}}}{1-f_{\text{Zr}}} \ln f_{\text{Zr}}. \quad (16)$$

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11 436 Both Inglis et al.⁶⁴ and Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ derived apparent $\Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}}$ values from
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13 437 their measurements. The $\Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}}$ values that they calculated have opposite directions and
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15 438 different magnitudes. Inglis et al.⁶⁴ found that Zr in the melt becomes isotopically heavy in the
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17 439 course of magmatic differentiation of the Hekla volcano, meaning that zircon must be enriched in
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19 440 the light Zr isotopes. They were able to fit their data with an instantaneous fractionation
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21 441 $\Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} = -0.5$ ‰. Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ measured many zircons from an anorthositic
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23 442 gabbro (FC-1) and found that the statistical distribution of these $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values extended to very
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25 443 negative values, which they argue is more readily explained if zircon crystallizing from the melt
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27 444 was enriched in the heavy isotopes of Zr, and the most negative $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values resulted from
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29 445 crystallization from a melt that has experienced extensive distillation. By fitting their statistical
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31 446 distribution, they obtain $\Delta_{\text{Zr}}^{\text{zircon-melt}} = +1.06$ ‰. These two studies focused on different materials
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33 447 (bulk rocks sampling a magmatic differentiation trend in the case of Inglis et al.⁶⁴; individual
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35 448 zircons sampling fractional crystallization within a single rock in the case of Ibanez-Meija and
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37 449 Tissot⁶⁶). Based on available data, it is impossible to tell what is the cause of the discrepancy
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39 450 between these two studies and whether the measurements reflect equilibrium or diffusion-driven
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41 451 kinetic isotopic fractionation, as has been demonstrated previously for Mg and Fe in igneous
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43 452 rocks^{112–116}.

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46 453 We have calculated Zr force constants of 335 and 369 N/m for zircon and Ca-catapleiite (the
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48 454 silicate melt proxy), respectively (**Table 1**). The slightly higher force constant of Ca-catapleiite

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3 455 relative to zircon is consistent with its lower coordination number (6 for catapleiite vs. 8 for zircon).

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5 456 The equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation between zircon and melt is given by the formula,

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$$\Delta^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon-melt}}^{\text{eq}} = -\frac{7.87 \times 10^4}{T^2} + \frac{1.94 \times 10^9}{T^4} - \frac{5.85 \times 10^{13}}{T^6}. \quad (17)$$

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10 458 At the temperatures relevant to igneous zircon crystallization of ~700-1000 °C, the
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12 459 equilibrium fractionation would only be -0.048 to -0.081 ‰ (Fig. 6). The lower $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of
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14 460 zircon relative to silicate melt at equilibrium is due to differences in coordination numbers. The
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16 461 equilibrium fractionation is opposite in sign to the inferred instantaneous zircon-melt fractionation
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18 462 of Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ and is much smaller in magnitude than the values given by both Inglis
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20 463 et al.⁶⁴ and Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶. Taken at face value, this would suggest that the
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22 464 instantaneous Zr isotopic fractionations measured in these two studies do not reflect equilibrium.
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24 465 A caveat to this comparison is that we used Zr in 6-fold coordination in Ca-catapleiite ($\langle F \rangle = 369$
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26 466 N/m) as a proxy for Zr in silicate melt. As shown in Table 1 and Fig. 1A, Zr in 6-fold coordination
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28 467 in other minerals has force constants that range between 280 and 433 N/m. Using these values for
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30 468 Zr in melt and 335 N/m for zircon would result in zircon-melt equilibrium fractionations in the
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32 469 range -0.12 to +0.21 ‰ above 700 °C. These values are again much smaller than the values inferred
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34 470 by Inglis et al.⁶⁴ and Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶, strengthening the case that the values given in
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36 471 these two studies do not reflect zircon-melt equilibrium.
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43 472 We further evaluate below how combining Zr isotopic compositions with Zr/Hf ratios can
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45 473 help identify zircons that grew in equilibrium with the melt. By equilibrium, we mean that zircon
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47 474 growth increments were in equilibrium with the bulk melt but distillation effects can still be present
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49 475 if Zr self-diffusion was too slow for the zircon interior to equilibrate with its rim, or if zircons were
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51 476 sequestered from the melt. The degree of isotopic fractionation in the instantaneous fraction of
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53 477 zircon crystallizing in equilibrium with the melt is given by (combining Eqs. 15 and 17),
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$$\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{i,\text{zircon}} = \delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_0 - \frac{7.87 \times 10^4}{T^2} (1 + \ln f_{\text{Zr}}). \quad (18)$$

In **Fig. 7**, we plot the value of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{i,\text{zircon}}$ for different Zr fractions in zircon ($1 - f_{\text{Zr}}$) and two temperatures of 700 and 1000 °C. As shown, at equilibrium the slightly lower $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of zircon relative to the melt can drive the melt to evolve toward heavy $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values, reaching +0.25 ‰ (at 700 °C) and +0.14 ‰ (at 1000 °C) at 95% crystallization. One way to assess whether the data can be explained by equilibrium is to combine $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ with Zr/Hf analyses. Indeed, these two observables should correlate in a predictable manner during equilibrium zircon crystallization as they both depend on T and f_{Zr} . Zircon is a solid solution of zircon (ZrSiO_4) and hafnon (HfSiO_4), and Hf zoning is often observed due to zircon growth while the melt composition evolves by fractional crystallization. Zirconium is more compatible than Hf in zircon, resulting in a decrease of the Zr/Hf ratio during fractional crystallization of zircon. Such Zr/Hf fractionations have been documented within zircon grains (from core to margin) and in bulk rocks^{117–119}. Similar to $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$, we can model Zr/Hf fractionation using a Rayleigh distillation equation:

$$(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_{\text{melt}} = (\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_0 f_{\text{Zr}}^{1-1/K_d}. \quad (19)$$

where $(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_{\text{melt}}$ is the ratio in the melt, $(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_0$ is the initial melt ratio, f_{Zr} is the fraction of the remaining Zr in melt, and K_d is the Zr/Hf exchange coefficient between zircon and melt,

$$\frac{(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_{\text{zircon,inst}}}{(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_{\text{melt}}} = K_d. \quad (20)$$

We thus have,

$$(\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_{\text{zircon,inst}} = K_d (\text{Zr}/\text{Hf})_0 f_{\text{Zr}}^{1-1/K_d}. \quad (21)$$

The zircon Zr/Hf ratio is not only a function of the extent of fractional crystallization but also a function of temperature. Aranovich and Bortnikov¹²⁰ proposed the following formula for K_d ,

$$K_d = e^{1531/T - 0.883}. \quad (22)$$

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2
3 500 In **Fig. 8**, we plot the calculated trends of Zr/Hf and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ variations in growth increments
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5 501 of zircon crystallized from silicate melt. The free parameters are the fraction of Zr remaining in
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7 502 melt (f_{Zr} from 0.99 to 0.01) and the crystallization temperature, which we keep fixed for simplicity
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9 503 (T from 870 to 600 °C; calculations are done using equations 15 and 17, 21 and 22). We use an
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11 504 initial Zr/Hf ratio of 31.1, initial $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of -0.086 ‰⁶⁶, and the equilibrium isotopic
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13 505 fractionation factor inferred here $\Delta^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon-melt}}^{\text{eq}} = -\frac{7.87 \times 10^4}{T^2}$ (Eq. 17). We also plot the current
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15 506 analytical uncertainties of Zr/Hf ratio ($\pm 1\%$) and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ isotopic composition ($\pm 0.01\%$). The
16
17 507 $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value is mostly sensitive to the extent of crystallization, while Zr/Hf ratio depends on both
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19 508 temperature and extent of crystallization. By plotting Zr/Hf and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values in zircons, ideally
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21 509 measured along depth profiles^{65,68}, one will be able to compare the results with theoretical
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23 510 predictions, test whether zircon grew in increments in equilibrium with coexisting melt, and assess
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25 511 the temperature (T) and extent (f_{Zr}) of zircon crystallization.
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34 513 **4.2. Equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation before the onset of zircon crystallization in melts**

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36 514 Within the magmatic temperature range of zircon crystallization, our *ab initio* calculation
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38 515 results show limited equilibrium isotopic fractionation between zircon and melt (see **Fig. 6**). This
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40 516 can explain the homogenous Zr isotope compositions of those reference zircons reported in Zhang
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42 517 et al.⁶⁵ and Tompkins et al.⁶⁸, but it fails to explain the observations made at the Hekla volcano⁶⁴
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44 518 and zircons and baddeleyites from the FC-1 anorthositic gabbro⁶⁶. This implies that the current
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46 519 observed $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ variations cannot be simply explained by the mechanism of equilibrium mass-
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48 520 dependent Zr isotopic fractionation between zircon and melt.
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53 521 Below, we investigate whether equilibrium crystallization of other phases could have
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55 522 controlled Zr isotopic fractionation during magmatic differentiation. We used the Rhyolite-

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2
3 523 MELTS program¹²¹ to calculate the evolution of Zr concentration and isotopic composition during
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5 524 magmatic differentiation before the onset of zircon crystallization. The melt major-element
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7 525 compositions and temperature at each step in the Rhyolite-MELTS run were used as input in the
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9 526 zircon saturation models of Waston and Harrison¹²² and Boehnke et al.¹²³ to check if zircon was
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11 527 saturated, as we were primarily interested here in evaluating the influence of the crystallization of
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14 528 non-zircon phases on the isotopic composition of Zr during magmatic differentiation (see **Fig. S6**).

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17 529 Two starting melt compositions were used to represent calc-alkaline and tholeiitic magmatic
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19 530 series^{55,124}. Both crystallization processes start at the calculated liquidus temperatures and at 1 kbar
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21 531 for calc-alkaline and 0.6 kbar for tholeiitic magma, respectively. For every 5°C temperature
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23 532 decrease, the major element compositions and mass of melt and crystallizing minerals are
24
25 533 calculated using Rhyolite-MELTS. At each step the program gives the proportions of every
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27 534 mineral crystallizing. As a trace element, Zr is not incorporated in Rhyolite-MELTS program, but
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29 535 its distribution among the phases can be calculated based on partition data (**Fig. 9**). The Zr partition
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31 536 coefficients ($K_{\text{mineral/melt}}$) of each mineral in different rock matrix were compiled from the
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33 537 GERM database. The compiled values vary in a wide range, due in part to the dependence of
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35 538 partition coefficients on melt composition and temperature. We use the geometric mean of the
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37 539 partition coefficients as fiducial values, and also consider the maxima and minima to assess
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39 540 uncertainties associated with partition data. Knowing the mass fractions of minerals that crystallize,
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41 541 the Zr partition coefficients between bulk rock and melts are calculated at each step, and mass
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43 542 balance between melt and bulk crystallizing solids is then used to calculate the Zr concentration in
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45 543 melt at each step. We also track the evolution of the Zr/Hf ratio and Hf concentration, using
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47 544 literature data for the Zr/Hf exchange coefficients between minerals and melt.
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3 545 Expectedly, Zr and Hf concentrations in the melt increase during fractional crystallization
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5 546 before zircon saturation (**Fig. 10**). In calc-alkaline magmas, about 16% of the total zirconium and
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7 547 10% of the total hafnium are removed by crystallizing solids before zircon saturation. In tholeiitic
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9 548 magmas, about 13% of total zirconium and 10% of total hafnium are removed (**Figs. S7** and **S8**).
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11 549 These removal fractions ($1 - f_{\text{Zr}}$; $1 - f_{\text{Hf}}$) depend on the values of the partition coefficients that
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13 550 are used and they range from 6 to 47% for Zr, and 3 to 32% for Hf in calc-alkaline magma (**Fig.**
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15 551 **S7**), and from 4 to 60% for Zr and 2 to 52% for Hf in tholeiitic magma (**Fig. S8**). In **Fig. 10**, we
16
17 552 compare the modeling results for Zr and Hf concentrations with compilations of igneous rock
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19 553 compositions from the Andes and Iceland (compiled from GEOROC database, see also Fig. S1 in
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21 554 Ptacek et al.³¹), which typically follow calc-alkaline and tholeiitic magma series, respectively (**Fig.**
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23 555 **10**). The expected different trends of [Zr] vs. SiO₂ (or [Hf] vs. SiO₂) between calc-alkaline and
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25 556 tholeiitic series can be explained by the earlier crystallization of SiO₂-rich plagioclase in tholeiitic
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27 557 series compared with calc-alkaline series melts^{125–128}. Overall, all partition data (minimum,
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29 558 geometric mean, and maximum) reproduce well the trends seen in natural calc-alkaline Andes
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31 559 samples, while only the maximum partition data reproduce the tholeiitic Iceland samples. The bulk
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33 560 solid-liquid Zr partition coefficient values are mainly affected by clinopyroxene and feldspar (**Fig.**
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35 561 **9**).

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38 562 With the same mass-balance rationale, we model the Zr isotopic evolution trends using the
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40 563 fractionation factors between minerals and melt from our *ab initio* calculation results. Although
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42 564 feldspar and clinopyroxene have the most leverage on Zr concentration, we find that iron-titanium
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44 565 oxides (ilmenite and magnetite) have the potential to produce non-negligible mass-dependent
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46 566 fractionation of Zr isotopes before the onset of zircon crystallization (see **Fig. 3B**). The modeling
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48 567 trends in **Fig. 11** show that both for calc-alkaline and tholeiitic magma, the $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of the
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3 568 melt evolves towards light values before zircon starts to crystallize (Fig. 11). The magnitudes of
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5 569 the isotopic fractionations are small, ranging from -0.005 to -0.160 ‰ for tholeiitic series and
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8 570 from -0.016 to -0.165 ‰ for calc-alkaline series. These values are conservative estimates
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10 571 because we considered all possible substitution mechanisms (see Table 1) and the fractionations
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12 572 would have been smaller if we had solely used the substitution favored by spectroscopic
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14 573 observations for clinopyroxene¹⁰³. Our modeling results thus show that before the onset of zircon
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17 574 crystallization, magmatic differentiation is not expected to impart large Zr isotopic fractionation
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19 575 in the magma if equilibrium prevails.
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23 24 577 **4.3. Diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic fractionations during crystal growth from silicate melt**

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26 578 The discussions in the previous two sections show that magmatic differentiation processes
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28 579 are unlikely to be associated with significant equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation. This suggests
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31 580 that the large Zr isotopic fractionations measured in bulk volcanic rocks⁶⁴ and igneous zircons and
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33 581 baddeleyites⁶⁶ are more likely the product of kinetic isotope effects.

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35 582 While equilibrium isotopic fractionation decreases rapidly with increasing temperature,
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37 583 kinetic effects associated with diffusion can remain significant at magmatic temperature¹²⁹. Such
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40 584 diffusive fractionations have been documented in natural magmatic systems for Mg and Fe in
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42 585 olivine^{112–116} and Mg in melts¹³⁰. Such non-equilibrium variations in natural systems can result
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44 586 from diffusion-limited transport in both melts^{131–133} and crystals^{112–116}. In the case of zircon,
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46
47 587 Ibanez-Mejia and Tissot⁶⁶ pointed out that Zr diffusivity in zircon is extremely slow. If any kinetic
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49 588 isotopic fractionation is present in zircon and other non-zircon minerals, it is most likely due to
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51 589 diffusion in the melt^{131–133}.

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3 590 We examine below two models of kinetic fractionation of Zr isotopes resulting from diffusion
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5 591 in melts (**Fig. 12**) that can explain the Zr isotopic variations that have been documented in igneous
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7 592 rocks: (i) diffusion-limited growth of zircon in a supersaturated magma and (ii) diffusion in the
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10 593 boundary layer formed during the growth of a Zr-poor mineral. Several studies have examined
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12 594 diffusive isotopic fractionation during crystal growth. Jambon¹³¹ presented the first model of
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14 595 isotopic fractionation of major and trace elements in magmas associated with crystal growth. They
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16 596 assumed a constant growth rate ($dr/dt = v$, with v constant) and examined a planar geometry.
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18 597 Watson and Muller¹³² also assumed a constant growth rate, but examined a spherical geometry and
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20 598 allowed for advective transport outside of a boundary layer. Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³ presented
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22 599 analytical equations for diffusion-limited concretion/crystal growth for both planar and spherical
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24 600 geometries. The main difference with Jambon¹³¹ and Watson and Muller¹³² is that the growth rate
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26 601 of the crystal is assumed to be limited by diffusion and therefore varies with time ($dr/dt \propto 1/\sqrt{t}$).
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28 602 DePaolo¹³⁴ examined Ca and Mg isotopic fractionation during carbonate formation.

33 603 The reason why isotopes can be fractionated by diffusion in magmatic systems is that light
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35 604 (L) isotopes tend to diffuse faster than the heavy ones (H), which is often parameterized as^{129,135–}
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37 605 ¹³⁹,

40 606
$$\frac{D_H}{D_L} = \left(\frac{m_L}{m_H}\right)^\beta \quad (23)$$

44 607 where D and m stand for diffusivity and mass of the isotopes, and β is an empirical factor. No data
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46 608 is available documenting Zr or Hf isotopic fractionation during diffusion in silicate melts. However,
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48 609 Watkins et al.¹⁴⁰ recognized that β exponents correlate with the ratio of the diffusivities of the
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50 610 cations normalized by those of Si. The D_{Zr}/D_{Si} and D_{Hf}/D_{Si} ratios in rhyolite melts most relevant
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52 611 to zircon crystallization are close to ~ 1 ¹⁴¹. Using the relationship established by Watkins et al.¹⁴⁰,
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54 612 we calculate $\beta \approx 0.054 \pm 0.059$ for both Zr and Hf (**Fig. 13**). Using Eq. 23, we therefore have,

$$\frac{D_{94\text{Zr}}}{D_{90\text{Zr}}} = \left(\frac{89.905}{93.906}\right)^{0.054 \pm 0.059} = 0.9977 \pm 0.0026 \quad (24)$$

$$\frac{D_{179\text{Hf}}}{D_{177\text{Hf}}} = \left(\frac{176.943}{178.946}\right)^{0.054 \pm 0.059} = 0.9994 \pm 0.0007 \quad (25)$$

The differences in diffusivities $D_{94\text{Zr}}/D_{90\text{Zr}}$ and $D_{179\text{Hf}}/D_{177\text{Hf}}$ are thus -2.3 ± 2.6 and -0.6 ± 0.7 ‰ (Δ_D , see Eq. A10), respectively.

4.3.1. Diffusion-limited crystallization (DLC) of zircon

The first setting where Zr isotopes could have been fractionated is during diffusion-limited growth of zircon from a supersaturated medium. The growth of zircon will deplete the surrounding medium in Zr, which has to be supplied by diffusion from the far-field medium^{142,143}. Because light isotopes diffuse faster than heavy ones, Zr delivered to the growing crystal will be enriched in the light isotopes of Zr, while the medium further away will be enriched in the heavy isotopes of Zr¹²⁹. The formalism developed by Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³ can be applied here to model isotopic fractionation during diffusion-limited growth of zircon from an infinite medium. The growth rate cannot be arbitrarily set to a constant value, as it depends on the supply of Zr to the growing crystal through diffusion. This has important consequences for isotopic fractionation. Most importantly, during diffusion-limited growth, the $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of the growing crystal will be offset from that of the surrounding medium even when the system has reached a pseudo steady-state. The reason is that the diffusive boundary layer keeps growing as the square-root of time, so from a mass-balance point of view, the light isotopic enrichment of the growing crystal can be offset by the heavy isotopic enrichment of the diffusive boundary layer.

We used the equations provided by Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³ to calculate the Zr concentration and isotopic composition profiles in the liquid away from the interface of a spherical zircon

growing in a diffusion-limited regime and these are plotted in **Fig. 14** (we also provide movies as Supporting Information **SI (E)** showing the evolutions of these two variables as a function of time, **Mov. 1 and 2**, movie titles and captions are in Supporting Information **SI (D)**). Very rapidly, the system reaches a pseudo steady-state whereby the concentration and isotopic profiles follow a self-similar solution that stretches as the square-root of time. Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³ derived an approximate solution for the isotopic composition of the crystal (assuming spherical geometry) that is valid up to a supersaturation of $S \simeq 5$ to 10,

$$\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}} \simeq \left[\frac{\Delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{eq, zircon-melt}}}{S} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{S}\right) \left(\frac{D_{94}\text{Zr}}{D_{90}\text{Zr}} - 1\right) 10^3 \right]. \quad (26)$$

where $S = C_{\infty}/C_{\text{sat}}$ is the degree of supersaturation (C_{∞} and C_{sat} are the far-field and saturation concentrations, respectively) and $\Delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{eq, zircon-melt}}$ is the equilibrium isotopic fractionation between zircon and silicate melt. Note that diffusive fractionation associated with growth of a planar crystal is a factor of ~ 2 lower than that predicted for a sphere (Eq. 54 of Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³).

In **Fig. 15**, we plot the expected isotopic fractionation as a function of the degree of supersaturation. The $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}}$ here is the isotopic composition in the crystal relative to that in the far-field growth medium. With $\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.113$ in Eq. 24, we can reach a $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value for zircon of -4.4 ‰. This is similar to the lowest $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values of -4.278 ‰ measured by Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶. Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ found a range of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values extending to +0.905 ‰. The formula of Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³ assumes growth from an infinite medium. In practice, in a finite system¹⁴³, the diffusive enrichment in the light isotopes of the growing crystal will leave behind a residual melt that will become enriched in the heavy isotopes of Zr, so we do expect the production of zircon with positive $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values. As indicated by Eq. 26, the parameter that determines whether equilibrium or diffusive kinetic isotopic composition is expressed in a crystal is the degree

of supersaturation of the medium, which also influences the growth rate. Therefore, $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ measurements of zircons could provide direct clues on the cooling and crystallization history of the host magma body. For purely diffusion-limited growth, the degree of supersaturation S influences the crystal growth rate through (derived from Eq. 56 of Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³; C_{zircon} is the Zr concentration in zircon),

$$R = \sqrt{\frac{2C_{\text{sat}}(S-1)Dt}{C_{\text{zircon}}}} \quad (27)$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{2C_{\text{sat}}(S-1)D}{C_{\text{zircon}}}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}} = \frac{C_{\text{sat}}(S-1)D}{RC_{\text{zircon}}} \quad (28)$$

$$S = 1 + \frac{dR}{dt} \times \frac{RC_{\text{zircon}}}{DC_{\text{sat}}} \quad (29)$$

Neglecting equilibrium isotopic fractionation in Eq. 26 and injecting Eq. 29 in Eq. 26, we thus have,

$$\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}} \approx \left[1 - \frac{1}{1 + \frac{dR}{dt} \times \frac{RC_{\text{zircon}}}{DC_{\text{sat}}}} \right] \left(\frac{D_{94\text{Zr}}}{D_{90\text{Zr}}} - 1 \right) 10^3 \quad (30)$$

In Fig. 16, we use this equation to plot the expected Zr isotopic fractionation in zircon $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}}$ as a function of growth rate dR/dt at different temperatures (different D and C_{sat} values) and different supersaturations. In Eq. 30, we consider crystals of 10, 100 μm in radius (R). As discussed by Zhang and Xu¹⁴², zircons larger than $\sim 10 \mu\text{m}$ in an open magma are expected to partially grow through advection of Zr to a diffusive boundary layer. Watson and Muller¹³² investigated numerically the isotopic consequences of such a model. The zircons measured by Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ are less than 10 μm in size and grew in inter-cumulus liquid pockets, where advection is most likely limited. In such settings (late crystallization of residual liquid pockets), it is conceivable that diffusive growth could play a role even for zircons larger than 10 μm . The Zr diffusivities at different temperatures are calculated using the experimental results

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3 679 from Zhang and Xu¹⁴². Zirconium saturation concentrations (C_{sat}) at different temperatures are
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5 680 calculated using the model presented in Boehnke et al.¹²³. The Zr concentration in zircon is
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7 681 ~500,000 ppm. The result of our calculation (**Fig. 16**) shows that the extremely light $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values
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9 682 (-4.278 ‰) reported by Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ in ~10 μm zircons crystallized at ~850 °C can
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11 683 be explained if they grew in a diffusion-limited regime at a supersaturation of ~7.8, corresponding
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13 684 to a growth rate of ~0.4 $\mu\text{m}/\text{yr}$. We are not aware of any independent constraint on the zircon
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15 685 growth rate in the specific anorthositic gabbro studied by Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶, but our
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17 686 inferred growth rate is in line with the results of Zhang and Xu¹⁴² who gave values in the range
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19 687 0.01-1.0 $\mu\text{m}/\text{yr}$ for variably hydrated rhyolitic melts. We conclude that diffusion-limited
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21 688 crystallization of zircon is a possible mechanism to explain the variable Zr isotopic compositions
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23 689 measured in zircon grains⁶⁶.

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28 690 Inglis et al.⁶⁴ argued that the heavy Zr isotopic compositions of differentiated rocks from
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30 691 Hekla could be explained by fractional crystallization of zircon with $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values shifted by -0.5 ‰
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32 692 relative to the melt. As shown in **Fig. 15**, such low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values in zircon can be produced in the
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34 693 DLC model by growth from a melt characterized by Zr supersaturations of ~1.1 to 2.2, depending
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36 694 on the value of β_{Zr} . Zircons from the Hekla volcano are typically 40×160 μm in size and were
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38 695 formed at temperatures of ~750-850 °C¹⁴⁴. Assuming a characteristic size of 36 μm (a sphere of
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40 696 36 μm radius has the same volume as a cylinder of 20 μm radius and 160 μm length) and a
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42 697 temperature of 800 °C, the supersaturations of 1.1 to 2.2 correspond to growth rates of 0.0004 to
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44 698 0.0044 $\mu\text{m}/\text{yr}$, which is slightly smaller than the range given by Zhang and Xu¹⁴². A caveat to this
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46 699 calculation is that it assumes that Zr transport is entirely diffusive. Zircons would grow faster if
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48 700 advective transport took place, which would also dampen kinetic isotopic fractionation. The
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50 701 zircon-melt isotopic fractionation calculated by Inglis et al.⁶⁴ is uncertain as it relies solely on bulk
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3 702 rock measurements. Without further isotopic characterizations of the mineral carriers of Zr in
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5 703 Hekla, it is difficult to robustly interpret bulk rock Zr isotopic analyses. To summarize, the removal
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7 704 of isotopically light zircon formed by the DLC process could possibly drive residual magmas to
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9 705 evolve towards heavy Zr isotopic compositions, as is observed^{64,67,69}.

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707 **4.3.2. Diffusion-triggered crystallization (DTC) of zircon during the growth of Zr-poor** 708 **minerals**

709 The highly fractionated zircons measured by Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ are closely associated
710 with plagioclase, clinopyroxene and ilmenite, and are interpreted to have crystallized from inter-
711 cumulus liquid pockets. The second setting where diffusive isotopic fractionation could have taken
712 place is therefore in the diffusive boundary layers formed around Zr-poor minerals, as was first
713 described for apatite by Harrison and Watson¹⁴⁵. When Zr-poor minerals grow, Zr excluded from
714 their crystal lattice accumulates in the liquid at the interface with the solid¹⁴⁶, and the concentration
715 gradient thus formed relaxes by Zr diffusion from the solid-liquid interface to the far field. Because
716 light isotopes diffuse faster than heavy ones¹²⁹, Zr at the interface get enriched in the heavy
717 isotopes while the liquid further away gets enriched in the light isotopes. Zircon crystallized from
718 liquid in this boundary layer could inherit the isotopic fractionation imparted by diffusion. Given
719 the great incompatibility of Zr in most minerals, the concentration in the liquid at the interface of
720 those growing crystals could be much higher than the far-field. In steady-state and planar geometry,
721 the constant growth rate model of Smith et al.¹⁴⁶ predicts that the liquid at the interface can be
722 enriched relative to the far-field by a factor of $1/K$, where K is the mineral/liquid partition
723 coefficient¹⁴⁶. Based on partitioning data for olivine, pyroxene, and feldspar ([GERM database,](https://earthref.org/KDD/e:40/)
724 <https://earthref.org/KDD/e:40/>), we calculate that the Zr enrichments at the liquid/solid interface

725 could reach factors of ~7-100, ~1-70, and ~2-1100, respectively. These dramatic enrichments
 726 could have led Zr concentration to exceed zircon saturation and trigger their crystallization. The
 727 zircon thus formed would inherit Zr from the diffusion boundary layer, which would have been
 728 fractionated isotopically by diffusive transport. We call this second model diffusion-triggered
 729 crystallization (DTC) (**Fig. 12**). Note that DTC and DLC could have occurred concurrently if the
 730 diffusive layer around Zr-poor minerals was highly supersaturated and the growth of zircon itself
 731 was diffusion-limited.

732 The models of Smith et al.¹⁴⁶, Jambon¹³¹ and Watson and Muller¹³² are well suited to explore
 733 diffusive isotopic fractionation created by the exclusion of Zr from growing Zr-poor crystals.
 734 Using the framework of Smith et al.¹⁴⁶ for diffusive transport away from a planar crystal growing
 735 at constant speed, we derive the analytical equations of the isotopic composition in the liquid and
 736 solid in transient and at steady-state (see **SI (A)** for details). For the concentration, Smith et al.¹⁴⁶
 737 give the transient liquid concentration C_l relative to the initial (and far-field) concentration C_0 as a
 738 function of (1) the distance x_l from the original interface expressed with the dimensionless
 739 variable $u = \dot{R}x_l/D$, where $\dot{R} = dR/dt$ is the growth rate and D is the diffusivity in the melt, and
 740 (2) the time t elapsed since the start of crystal growth expressed with the dimensionless variable
 741 $w = \dot{R}^2 t/D$,

$$742 \frac{C_l(u,w)}{C_0} = 1 + \frac{1-K}{2K} e^{-u} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u-w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2K}\right) e^{-(1-K)(u+Kw)} \operatorname{erfc}\left[\frac{u+(2K-1)w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right]. \quad (31)$$

743 In **SI (A)**, we show that the isotopic composition in the melt can be written as,

$$744 \delta_{l,2/1} \simeq A\Delta_D + B\Delta_K. \quad (32)$$

745 with $\Delta_D = (D_2/D_1 - 1)1000$ the term describing isotopic fractionation imparted by differences
 746 in the diffusivities of the isotopes involved, and $\Delta_K = (K_2/K_1 - 1)1000 = (\alpha_{2/1} - 1)1000$ the

747 equilibrium isotopic fractionation between mineral and melt. A and B are given by the following
 748 formulas,

$$749 \quad A = \frac{e^{-Kw - \frac{(u+w)^2}{4w}} (-1+K) \left\{ 2e^{u+Kw} K\sqrt{w} + e^{\frac{(u+w)^2}{4w}} \sqrt{\pi} \left[-e^{Kw} u \times \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u-w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) - e^{K(u+Kw)} (-1+2K)(u+Kw) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+(2K-1)w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) \right] \right\}}{\left\{ \sqrt{\pi} \left[e^{uK} + e^{uK} \times \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) - (-1+K) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u-w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) + e^{K(u+(-1+K)w)} (-1+2K) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+(2K-1)w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) \right] \right\}}. \quad (33)$$

$$750 \quad B = \frac{e^{-\frac{(u+w)^2}{4w}} \left\{ 2e^{uK} (-1+2K)w + \sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{w} \left[e^{\frac{(u+w)^2}{4w}} \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u-w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) - e^{\frac{1}{4} \left((2+4K)u + \frac{u^2}{w} + (1-2K)^2 w \right)} (1+K(-1+2K)(u+(-1+2K)w)) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+(2K-1)w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) \right] \right\}}{\left\{ \sqrt{\pi}\sqrt{w} \left[(-1+K) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u-w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) + e^{uK} \left(-2 + \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) \right) - e^{K(u+(-1+K)w)} (-1+2K) \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{u+(2K-1)w}{2\sqrt{w}}\right) \right] \right\}}. \quad (34)$$

751 In **Fig. 17**, we plot the Zr concentration and isotopic composition in the growing Zr-poor
 752 crystal and melt growth medium at three times until the crystal grows to 1 cm in size (we also
 753 provide movies as Supporting Information, **Mov. 3, 4 and 5**). The concentrations and isotopic
 754 compositions in **Fig. 17** are normalized to those in the far-field growth medium composition. In
 755 the liquid, incompatible Zr accumulates. The concentration in the solid is always in equilibrium
 756 with the liquid at the interface where the two concentrations relate with each other by the partition
 757 coefficient $C_{s,\text{interface}} = KC_{l,\text{interface}}$. The concentration in the growing crystal $C_{s,\text{interface}}$
 758 therefore increases as the concentration in the liquid at the interface $C_{l,\text{interface}}$ builds up until the
 759 concentration in the crystal is equal to that in the far-field and the liquid interface concentration is
 760 enriched by a factor of $1/K$ (**Figs. 17A, 18A**). The Zr that accumulates in the liquid at the interface
 761 diffuses away from that interface into the far field. Since light Zr isotopes can diffuse faster than
 762 heavy ones¹²⁹, the solid-liquid interface has high $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$, which is transferred into the Zr-poor
 763 crystal as it grows. The liquid further away in the diffusive boundary layer has low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ (**Fig.**
 764 **17B, C**). As the system evolves towards steady-state (**Fig. 18**; movies are provided as Supporting
 765 Information, **Mov. 6, 7 and 8**), the isotopic composition of the crystal and the liquid interface
 766 approach that of the far field medium but the liquid in the diffusive boundary layer keeps a low

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3 767 $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value. From a mass-balance point of view, this low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value is balanced by the high
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5 768 $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of the early crystal grown during the transient period.

7 769 As discussed above and by Harrison and Watson¹⁴⁵ for apatite, the elevated Zr concentration
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10 770 in the diffusive boundary layer could trigger the saturation and crystallization of zircon (DTC
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12 771 model). These newly-crystallized zircons would inherit some of the fractionated Zr isotopic
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14 772 composition of the diffusive boundary layer from which they grew, which span slightly positive
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16 773 and highly negative $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values (**Fig. 18B, C**). The most negative $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value achieved at
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18 774 steady state is (see derivations in **SI (A)**),

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22 775
$$\delta_l = 1000 \left(\frac{D_{94\text{Zr}}}{D_{90\text{Zr}}} - 1 \right) \times \text{ProductLog} \left[\frac{1-K}{eK} \right]. \quad (35)$$

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25 776 For clinopyroxene or plagioclase, the values of K are 0.08 and 0.004 (geometric mean values for
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27 777 equilibrium with basaltic melt, **GERM database**), and we would predict isotopic fractionations that
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29 778 could reach -2.8 and -7.6 ‰, respectively for $\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.054$ (Eq. 24; **Fig. 18B** and **Fig. S10B**), and
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31 779 -6.0 and -16.2 ‰, respectively for $\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.113$ (Eq. 24; **Fig. 18C** and **Fig. S10C**). From Eq. 35,
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33 780 we find that different Zr partition coefficients between minerals and melt K , different diffusive Zr
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35 781 isotopic fractionation factor Δ_D (or the β_{Zr} exponent in Eq. 24), and different growth timescales
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37 782 of the Zr-poor minerals result in a range of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values of the liquid in the diffusive boundary
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39 783 layer (see **Figs. 17, 18** and **Figs. S9, S10**) that can readily explain the values measured by Ibanez-
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41 784 Meija and Tissot⁶⁶. In **Fig. 19**, we plot the expected probability density function (PDF) of the Zr
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43 785 isotopic composition of Zr atoms in the diffusive boundary layer (*i.e.*, at any given time, the
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45 786 fraction of Zr atoms in the diffusive boundary layer with an enrichment higher than 3 that have a
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47 787 certain isotopic composition) (movies **Mov. 9 and 10** are provided as Supporting Information).
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49 788 We find more or less uniform distributions, while Ibanez-Meija and Tissot⁶⁶ found many zircons
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51 789 with $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values around 0-1 ‰ and a long tail of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values extending to -4 ‰. Comparing

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3 790 these PDFs is, however, fraught with difficulties as there is no compelling reason to think that Zr
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5 791 atoms in zircons reflect a snapshot of the diffusive boundary layer. If DTC is the correct model,
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7 792 the distribution of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values could help pinpoint when and where in the development of
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9 793 diffusive boundary layers zircons can form.

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12 794 While both positive and negative $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values are encountered in the diffusion boundary
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14 795 layer considered in the DTC model (**Figs. 17, 18** and **Figs. S9, S10**), the distribution is skewed
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16 796 towards low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$. This is also shown in **Fig. 19**, where we plot the average $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ value of the
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18 797 boundary layer where the melt is Zr-supersaturated by at least of factor of 3. The shift towards low
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20 798 $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values in the boundary layer is due to the removal of isotopically heavy Zr in the growing
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22 799 Zr-poor mineral (*e.g.*, clinopyroxene or plagioclase). At first sight, the development of low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$
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24 800 values in zircons formed by DTC is consistent with the -0.5 ‰ $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ fractionation calculated by
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26 801 Inglis et al⁶⁴ for zircon in Hekla. However, for these zircons to drive Zr isotopic fractionation in
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28 802 the magma, they would have to be separated from the Zr-poor minerals whose crystallization drove
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30 803 zircon saturation, which may be difficult to achieve. Future studies investigating Zr-poor minerals
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32 804 will help test if zircons formed around them were formed by diffusion-triggered crystallization.

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35 805 To summarize, isotopic fractionation induced by diffusion in boundary layers around growing
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37 806 Zr-poor crystals (DTC model) can readily explain the range of $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values measured in zircons.
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39 807 An appealing aspect of this scenario is that the formation of a such a Zr-rich boundary layer could
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41 808 also be the trigger for zircon saturation and crystallization. As with the DLC model outlined in
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43 809 Sect. 4.3.1, the DTC model provides the framework to tie $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values measured in zircons to the
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45 810 cooling history of the host magma.

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49 50 51 52 53 54 812 **4.4. Combined Zr and Hf fractionations**

One manner to distinguish between equilibrium and kinetic isotopic fractionation is, in theory, to compare $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ and $\delta^{179}\text{Hf}$. We performed *ab initio* calculations of the equilibrium fractionation factor of Hf in a variety of minerals (Fig. 4, Table 1). Zirconium and hafnium form bonds of similar strengths and as discussed in the results section, at equilibrium we expect the isotopic fractionations of Zr and Hf between two phases A and B to scale as,

$$\frac{\Delta^{94/90}\text{Zr}_{A-B}}{\Delta^{179/177}\text{Hf}_{A-B}} \approx \frac{\left(\frac{1}{M^{90}} - \frac{1}{M^{94}}\right)}{\left(\frac{1}{M^{177}} - \frac{1}{M^{179}}\right)} = 7.5 . \quad (36)$$

Combining the diffusivity ratios of Zr and Hf isotopes (Eqs. 24 and 25), we expect to first-order that kinetic isotopic fractionation induced by diffusion will produce isotopic fractionations for Zr and Hf that scale as (see the formulas in Sio et al.^{114,115}; Dauphas and Rouxel¹³³; Watson and Muller¹³²; for a variety of diffusion geometries),

$$\frac{\delta^{94/90}\text{Zr}}{\delta^{179/177}\text{Hf}} \approx \frac{1 - \frac{D^{94}}{D^{90}}}{1 - \frac{D^{179}}{D^{177}}} \approx 3.8 . \quad (37)$$

This shows that equilibrium and diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic fractionation are expected to produce very distinct $\frac{\delta^{94}\text{Zr}}{\delta^{179}\text{Hf}}$ values. No $\delta^{179}\text{Hf}$ value has been reported but its combination with $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ measurements should provide a diagnostic tool to tell when Zr isotopic fractionation in magmas reflects diffusive processes and use those effects to estimate the growth rate and cooling history of zircons.

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830 4.5. Potential usage in metamorphic zircons

Zirconium stable isotopic variations can potentially help unravel the complex processes involved in metamorphic zircon formation. For example, our *ab initio* calculations show that under amphibolite conditions (500-700 °C), Zr in amphibole should be fractionated in $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ by 0.22-

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3 834 0.35 ‰, or 0.55-0.86 ‰ relative to Zr in ilmenite (Table 1, we use tremolite to approximate the
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5 835 fractionation in amphibole, the two ranges correspond to two substitution mechanisms for the
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7 836 calculations of tremolite). It is thus conceivable that metamorphic zircon formed from the
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9 837 decomposition of amphibole¹⁴⁷ would inherit the Zr isotopic composition of amphibole, which we
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11 838 expect to be distinct from the Zr isotopic composition of the zircon formed by the breakdown of
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13 839 ilmenite¹⁴⁸. Inter-mineral fractionations between zircon and co-existing Zr-bearing metamorphic
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15 840 minerals may also help recognizing equilibrium parageneses and inferring equilibration
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17 841 temperatures.
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843 5. Conclusion

844 This study presents first-principle calculations of equilibrium Zr and Hf isotopic fractionation
845 factors in a variety of Zr-rich phases as well as a large number of minerals where Zr is present at
846 trace level in substitution with other elements. The minerals studied include Ca-catapleiite, a
847 mineral that previous EXAFS studies showed contains Zr in a coordination environment similar
848 to that encountered in silicate melts. We find that in the temperature range relevant to magmatic
849 zircon crystallization, there is negligible equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation between
850 zircon/baddeleyite and melt. In general, equilibrium Zr isotopic fractionation between silicate
851 minerals and melt is not significant either. Iron-titanium oxides (ilmenite and magnetite) have the
852 potential to produce non-negligible mass-dependent fractionation of Zr isotopes. However, we
853 show through modeling using Rhyolite-MELTS that the relatively low concentration of Zr in these
854 Fe,Ti-oxide mineral offers limited leverage to greatly modify the melt composition during
855 magmatic differentiation before zircon saturation.

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3 856 Kinetic effects associated with diffusion-limited crystallization (DLC) of zircon can
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6 857 potentially produce significant light Zr isotope enrichments in zircon. Reservoir effects in the
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8 858 liquid would also lead to the crystallization of zircons with high $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$. Diffusion-triggered
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10 859 crystallization (DTC) of zircon from the diffusive boundary layer developed during the growth of
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12 860 Zr-poor minerals can produce zircons with both positive and negative $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ values. If diffusion-
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14 861 driven kinetic effects are the main mechanism at play, Zr isotopic analyses of zircons would
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16 862 provide a means of constraining the cooling history of the host magma. We show that correlating
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18 863 Zr and Hf isotopic measurements can help identify kinetic effects in zircons, as equilibrium and
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20 864 diffusive kinetic effects are expected to impart different correlations between $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ and $\delta'^{179}\text{Hf}$
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22 865 values.
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29 867 **Supporting Information**

- 30
31 868 (A) Derivation of diffusion-driven kinetic isotopic effects produced by the accumulation of an
32 869 incompatible element in a diffusive boundary layer.
33 870 (B) Supplementary Figures.
34 871 (C) Supplementary Tables.
35 872 (D) Titles and captions for every movie.
36 873 (E) Movies.
37
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39
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Figures and Tables

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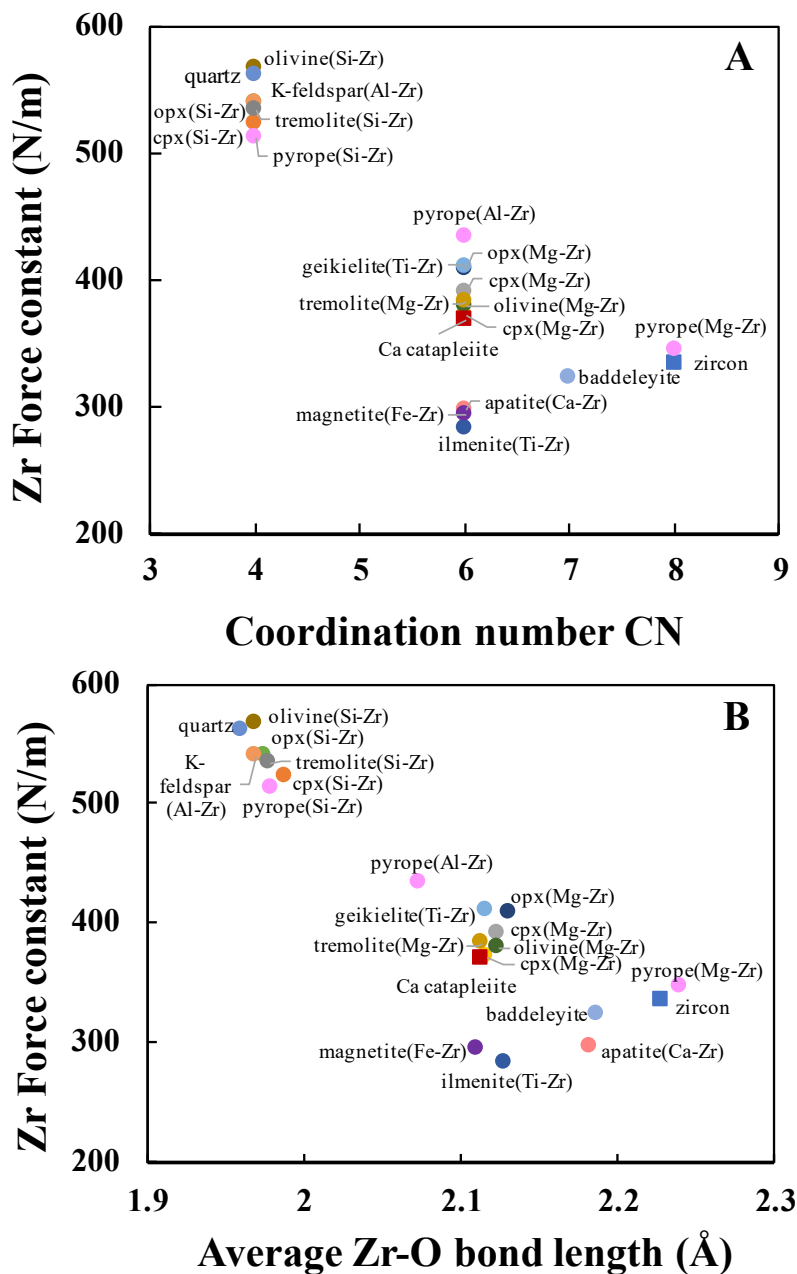


Figure 1. (A) Zr mean force constant (N/m) as a function of Zr coordination number in minerals calculated in this study. Lower coordination number generally corresponds to higher force constant (stronger bond). (B) Zr mean force constant (N/m) as a function of Zr-O bond length (Å). Shorter Zr-O bond length generally corresponds to stronger bond.

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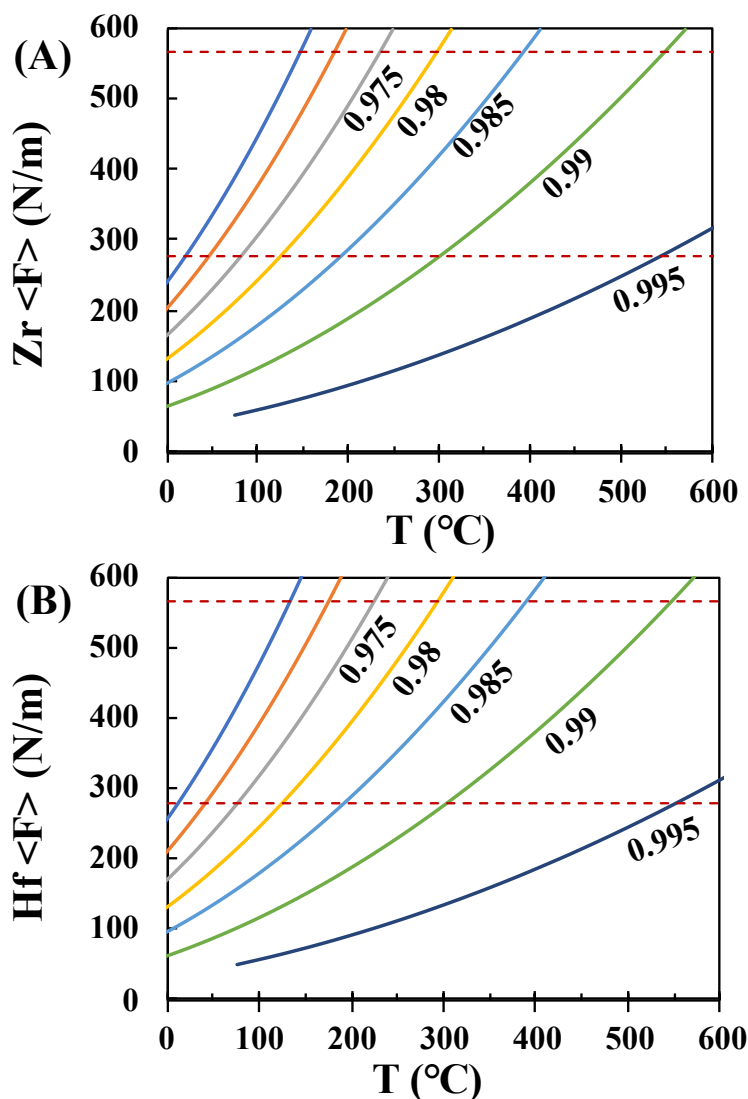


Figure 2. Relative error in the high temperature approximation $1000\ln\beta = B_1\langle F\rangle/T^2$ (Eqs. 6, 7) calculated using the 1-parameter 3-term expansion $1000\ln\beta = B_1\langle F\rangle/T^2 + B_2\langle F\rangle^2/T^4 + B_3\langle F\rangle^3/T^6$ (Eqs. 10, 12). The curves were calculated following Dauphas et al.⁸⁴ for different values of T and $\langle F\rangle$. (A) Relative departure from Eq. (10) when truncating the polynomial to the first order for Zr. The force constants of Zr bonds in all calculated minerals are between 280 and 566 N/m (red dashed lines). When the temperature is higher than ~ 300 -500 °C, truncating the expansion to the first order (Eq. 6) will give a $1000\ln\beta$ value that is within 1% of the value given by the whole expansion (Eq. 4). (B) Relative departure from Eq. (12) when truncating the polynomial to the first order for Hf. When the temperature is higher than ~ 300 -500 °C, truncating the expansion to the first order (Eq. 7) will give a $1000\ln\beta$ value that is within 1% of the value given by the whole expansion (Eq. 4). The high temperature approximation can be applied to calculate equilibrium Zr and Hf isotopic fractionation in igneous and metamorphic geochemistry/petrology without compromising accuracy.

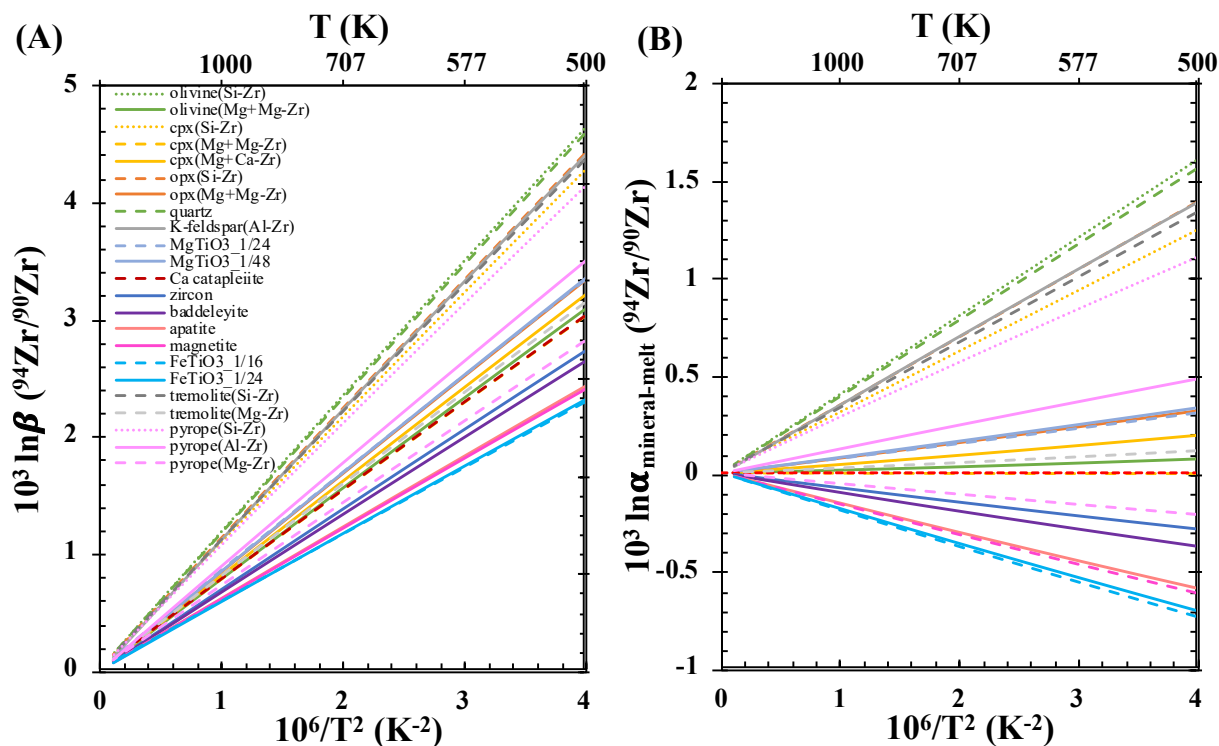


Figure 3. (A) Temperature-dependent $1000 \ln \beta$ for Zr isotopes in minerals investigated in this study. (B) Temperature-dependent $1000 \ln \alpha_{\text{mineral-melt}}$ for Zr isotopes in the same set of minerals. The fractionation factors between minerals and melt are calculated by taking the difference between each mineral and Ca-catapleite (which we use as silicate melt proxy). The calculation results for minerals with different Zr substitution mechanisms as well as different Zr concentrations are also shown in the figure. See main text and [Table 1](#) for details.

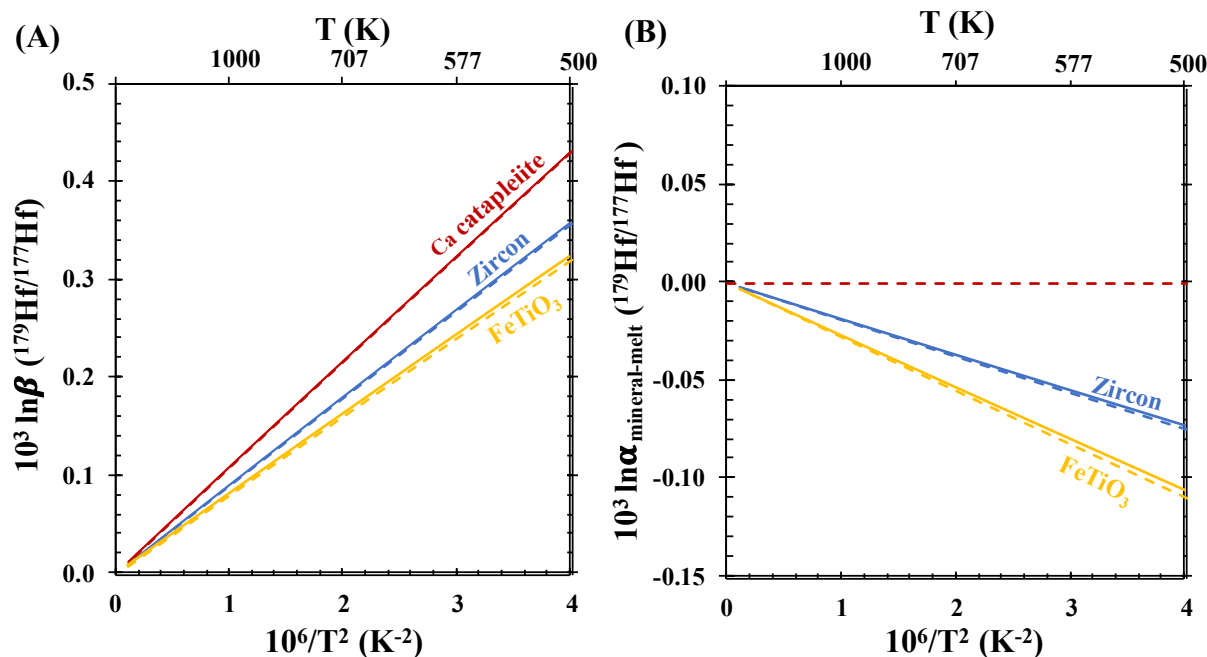
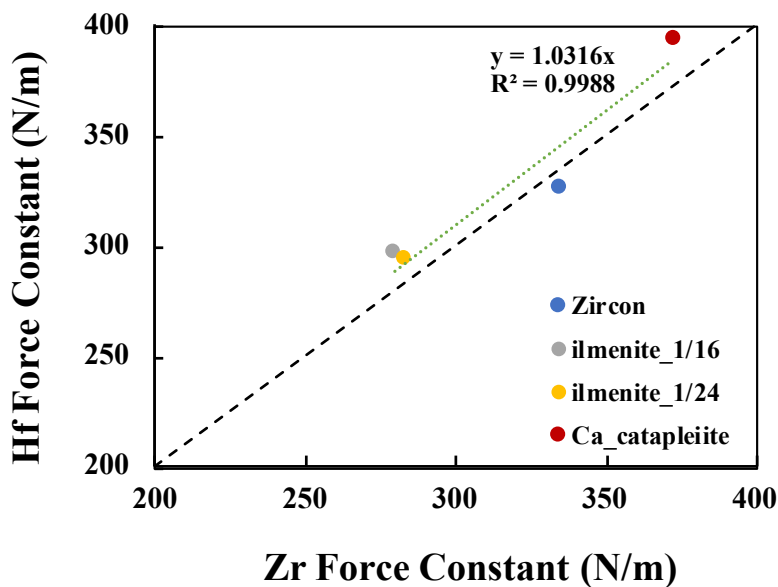
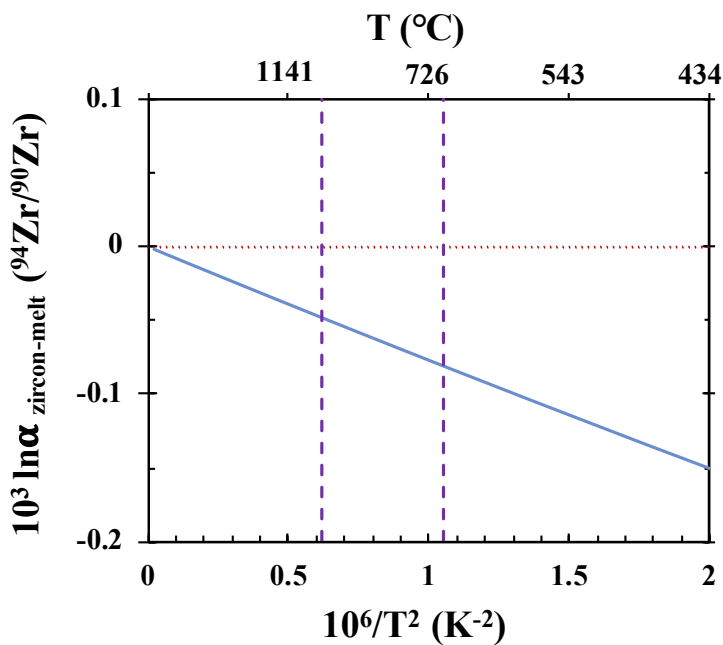


Figure 4. (A) Temperature-dependent $1000 \ln \beta$ for Hf isotopes in zircon, ilmenite and Ca-catapleiite investigated in this study. (B) Temperature-dependent $1000 \ln \alpha_{\text{mineral-melt}}$ for Hf isotopes in zircon and ilmenite. As with Zr isotopes, the fractionation factors between minerals and melt are calculated by taking the difference between each mineral and Ca-catapleiite (which we use as silicate melt proxy). Solid and dash lines are calculation results for minerals with different Hf concentrations (see [Table 1](#) for details). Our results show that Hf stable isotope fractionation during equilibrium process is very limited.

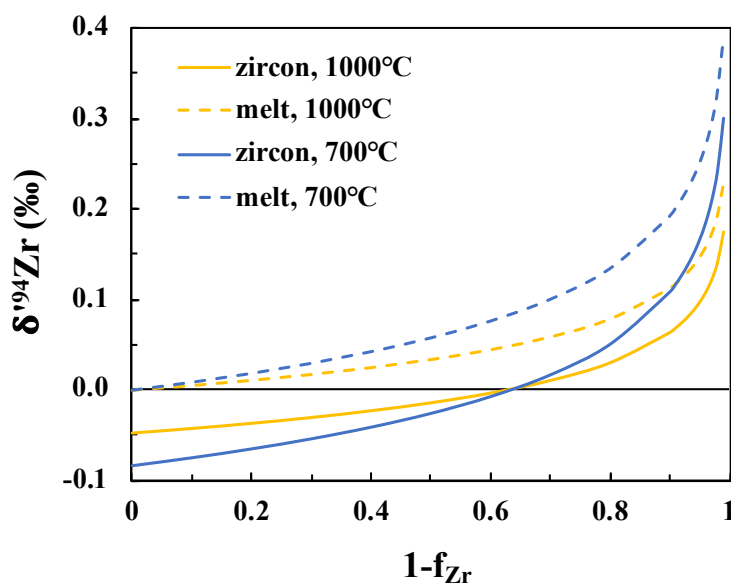


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3 1359 **Figure 5.** Zr and Hf mean force constants in several minerals (zircon, ilmenite with two
4 1360 concentrations, Ca-catapleiite). The current calculation results indicate that in minerals, Zr and Hf
5 1361 form bonds with nearly identical bond strengths. The black dashed line is the 1:1 line and the green
6 1362 dotted line is a regression through the data.
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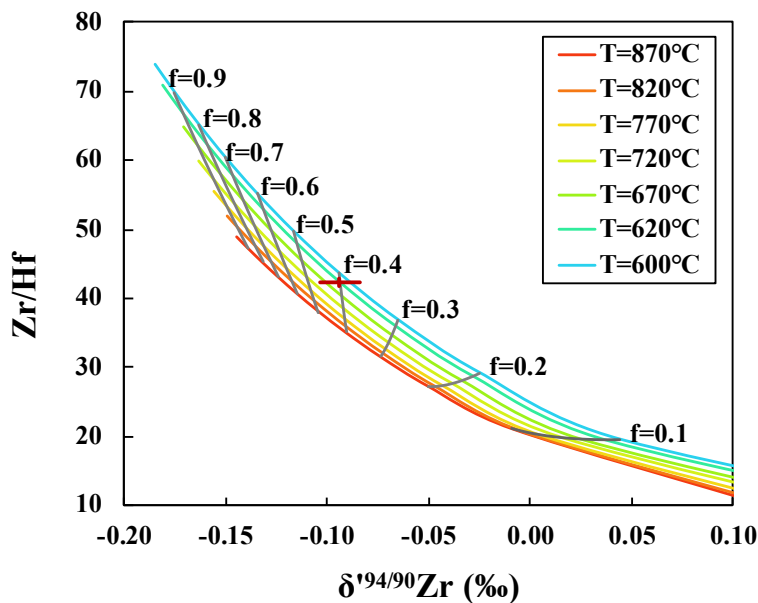


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31 1367 **Figure 6.** Zr isotope equilibrium fractionation factor between zircon and melt as a function of
32 1368 temperature. The two vertical dash lines bracket the temperatures relevant to igneous zircon
33 1369 crystallization of around 700-1000 °C.
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3 1374 **Figure 7.** $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ in the instantaneous zircon and melt during Rayleigh distillation process at two
4 1375 temperatures of 700 and 1000 °C. f_{Zr} is the fraction of Zr remaining in the melt (see Eq. 18). 1 –
5 1376 f_{Zr} is the fraction of Zr in zircon.
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29 1381 **Figure 8.** Calculated trends of Zr/Hf and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ variations in instantaneous zircon assuming melt-
30 1382 zircon equilibrium at each step of a distillation. The free parameters are the fraction of Zr
31 1383 remaining in melt (f_{Zr} from 0.99 to 0.01) and the crystallization temperature. The calculations are
32 1384 done using equations 15 and 17, 21 and 22, with an initial Zr/Hf ratio of 31.1 and initial $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$
33 1385 value of -0.086 ‰ ⁶⁶. The zircon-melt equilibrium isotopic fractionation factor is $\Delta^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon-melt}}^{\text{eq}} =$
34 1386 $-\frac{7.87 \times 10^4}{T^2}$ (Sect. 4.1, Eq. 17). The red data point shows the current analytical uncertainties of
35 1387 Zr/Hf ratio ($\pm 1\%$) and $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ isotopic composition ($\pm 0.01 \text{ ‰}$). This figure can help test if zircon
36 1388 grew under equilibrium conditions.
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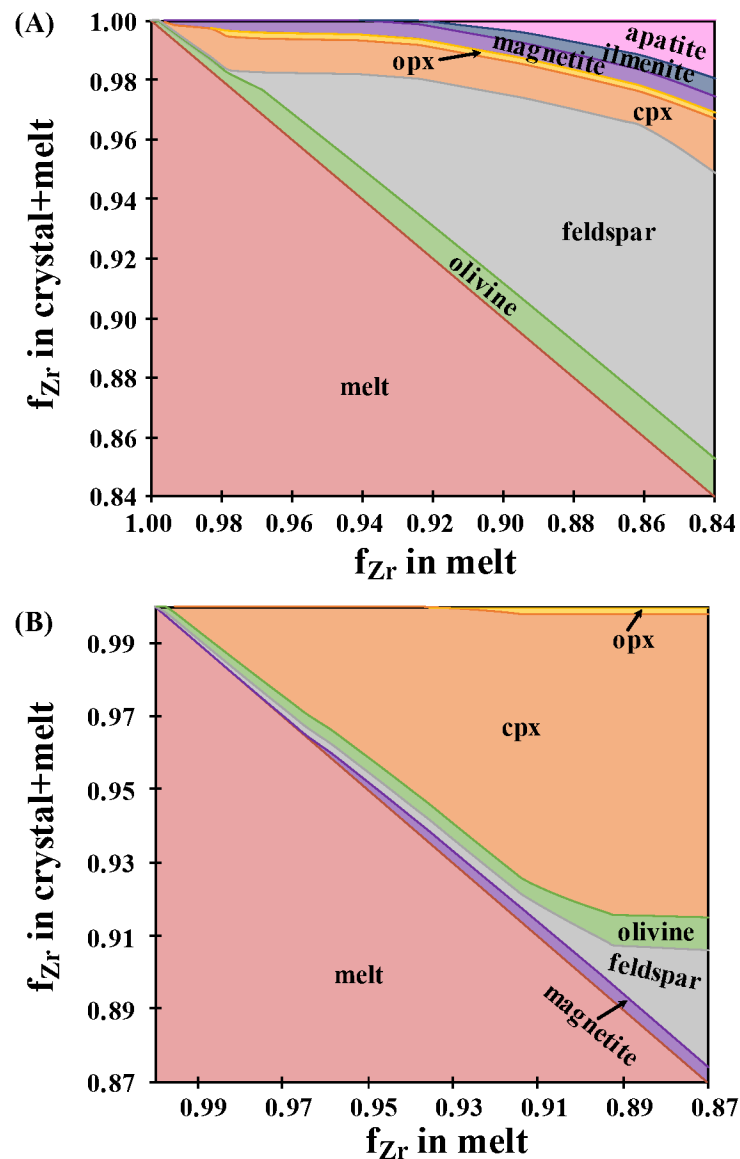
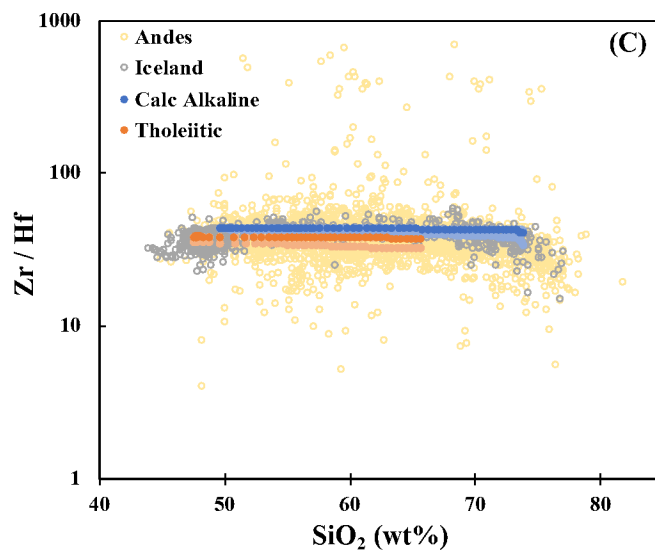
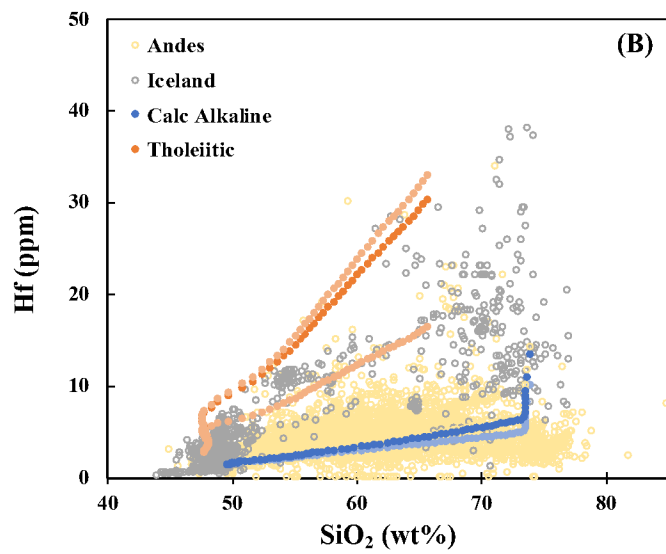
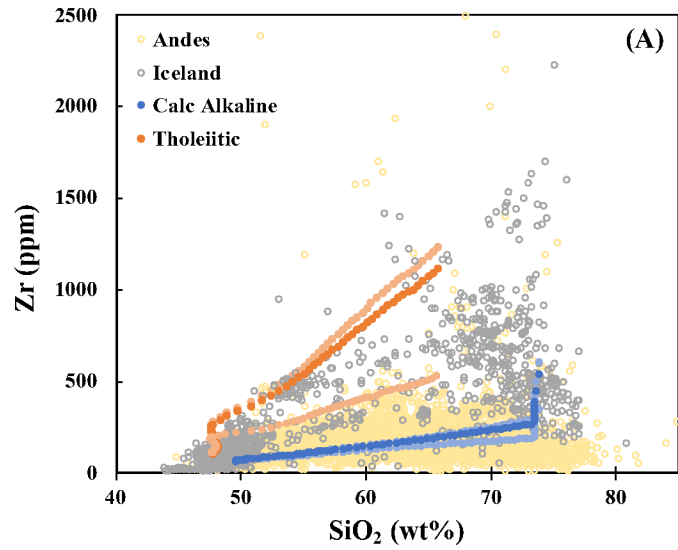
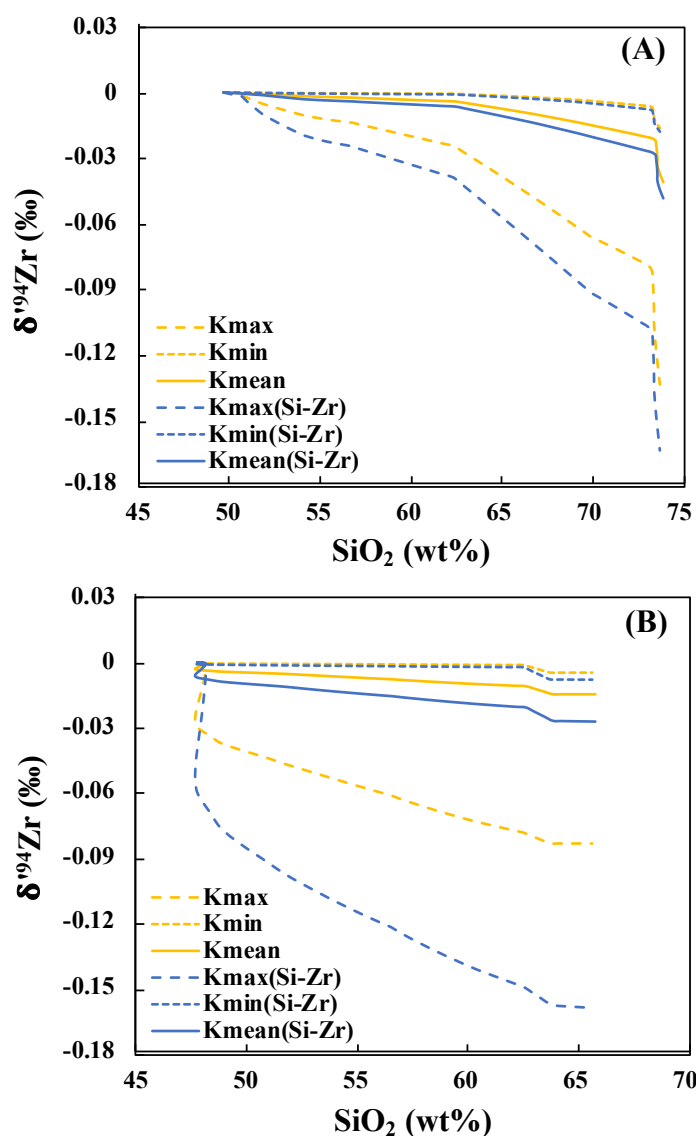


Figure 9. Mass fractions of Zr in crystallized minerals and melt as a function of the mass fraction of Zr remaining in melt for (A) calc-alkaline and (B) tholeiitic magmas. Before zircon crystallization, only a small fraction of Zr is removed from the melt (mostly in clinopyroxene and feldspar), and here we use the geometric mean of the partition coefficients for each mineral. These calculations were run before zircon saturation (Fig. S6).



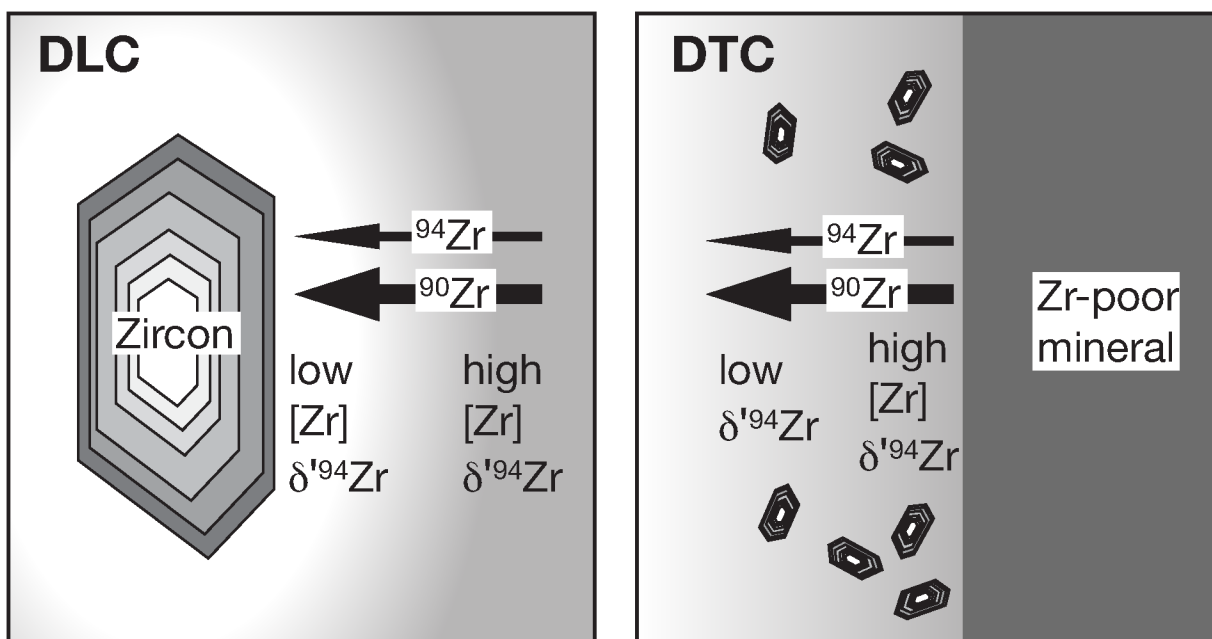
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3 **Figure 10.** (A) Zr and (B) Hf concentration and (C) Zr/Hf (weight ratio) evolutions during
4 magmatic differentiation along calc-alkaline and tholeiitic series. Modeling was done using
5 Rhyolite-MELTS and the results are compared with Andes (calc-alkaline) and Iceland (tholeiitic)
6 rocks (compiled from the GEOROC database; see Sect. 4.2. for details). The darker color trends
7 1405 were calculated using the geometric mean of the partition coefficients compiled in GERM database,
8 1406 while the bracketing lighter color trends correspond to minimum and maximum partition
9 1407 coefficients.
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1413 **Figure 11.** Modelled evolution of the Zr isotopic composition of residual melt before zircon
1414 crystallization for (A) calc-alkaline and (B) tholeiitic magmas. The Zr isotopic fractionation factors
1415 between minerals and melt from our *ab initio* calculations were used in the modeling, using results
1416 from Rhyolite-MELTS as input (Fig. 9). The different trends are mainly caused by two factors: (i)
1417 the various bulk Zr partition coefficients used in our calculations and (ii) the different isotopic

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3 1418 fractionation factors calculated using different substitution mechanisms for Zr in several silicate
4 1419 minerals. The blue lines labelled Si-Zr are calculated using $1000\ln\beta$ values for olivine, cpx and
5 1420 opx using the $^{IV}\text{Si}^{4+}\leftrightarrow\text{Zr}^{4+}$ substitution with minimum, mean, and maximum mineral/melt K values.
6 1421 The yellow lines are calculated using $1000\ln\beta$ values in olivine, cpx and opx using the $^{VI}\text{Mg}^{2+} +$
7 1422 $^{VI}\text{Mg}^{2+}\leftrightarrow\text{Zr}^{4+}$ substitution with minimum, mean, and maximum mineral/melt K values. In all
8 1423 cases, the Zr isotopic compositions of the melts evolve towards lighter values before zircon starts
9 1424 to crystallize but the magnitude of this fractionation is relatively small given the current analytical
10 1425 precision on $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ measurements ($\sim\pm 0.01$ to ± 0.04 ‰⁶⁶).
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37 1430 **Figure 12.** Schematic models of diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation during crystallization. **Left**
38 1431 **panel:** In the diffusion-limited crystallization model (DLC), the growth of zircon is limited by the
39 1432 diffusive supply of Zr to the surface from a far-field medium that is supersaturated. Because the
40 1433 light isotopes diffuse faster than the heavier ones, the liquid at the interface with the zircon will
41 1434 have low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$, while further away from the interface the liquid will have high $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$. This model
42 1435 would predict zircons to have low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ but reservoir effects in the liquid would also lead to the
43 1436 crystallization of zircons with high $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$. **Right panel:** In the diffusion-triggered crystallization
44 1437 model (DTC), the growth of a Zr-poor mineral would push Zr away from the interface and lead to
45 1438 high $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ at the interface in the liquid and low $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ further away. The whole diffusive
46 1439 boundary layer would have elevated Zr concentration. This could trigger the saturation and
47 1439 crystallization of zircon, which would inherit some of the fractionated Zr isotopic composition
48 1440 from the diffusive boundary from which they grew.
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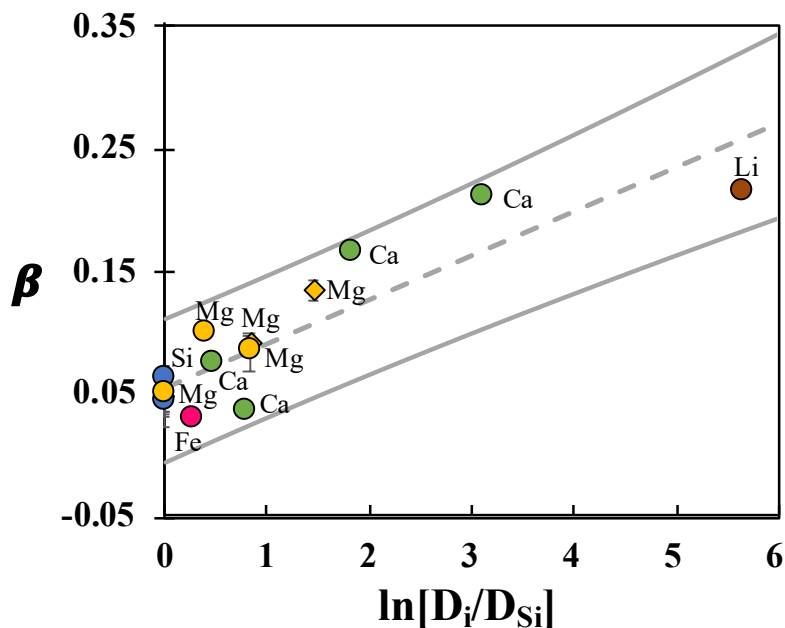


Figure 13. β exponents as a function of the ratio of cation diffusivities normalized by those of Si in silicate melt (modified from Watkins et al.¹⁴⁰). The β exponents for Zr and Hf isotopes were estimated by linearly regressing this trend to $\ln[D_{Zr}/D_{Si}]$ and $\ln[D_{Hf}/D_{Si}] \sim 0$ because the diffusivities of both Zr and Hf are close to Si¹⁴¹. The two grey lines are the 95% prediction intervals. This empirical correlation correlates the degree of diffusion-driven isotopic fractionation (β) with a measure of solute-solvent interaction $\ln[D_i/D_{Si}]$ ¹⁴⁰. In aluminosilicate melt, the solvent molecule is SiO₄⁴⁻, which is the reason why the quantity $\ln[D_i/D_{Si}]$ is used to describe solute-solvent interaction.

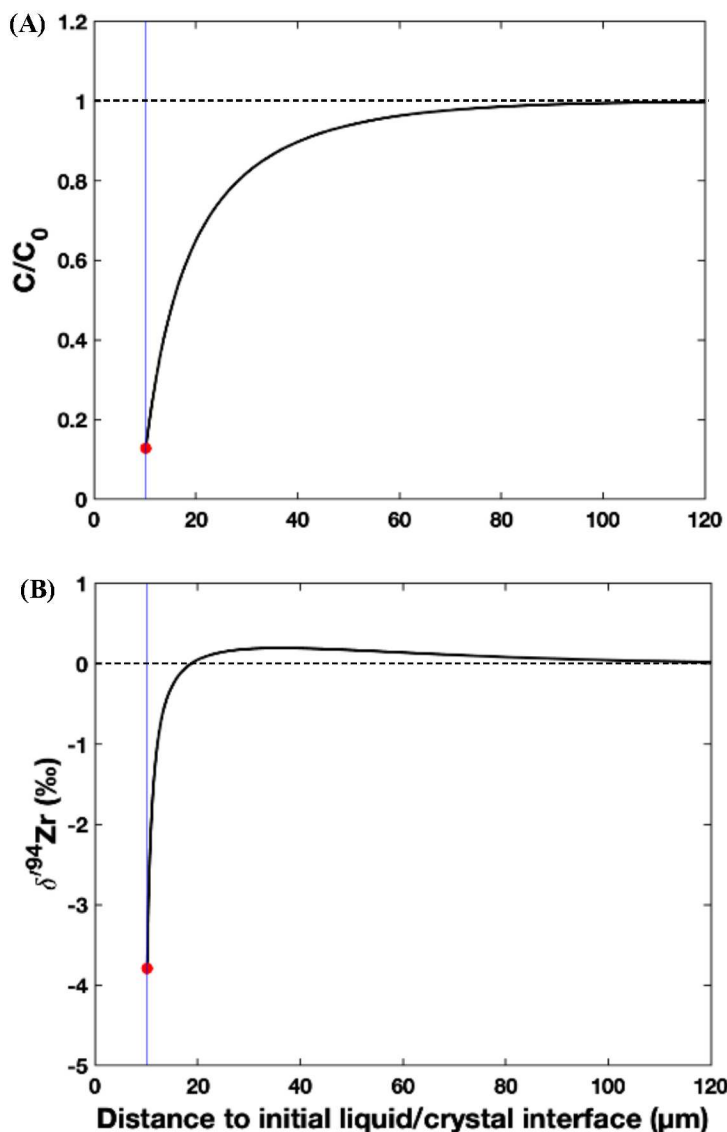


Figure 14. Zr concentration (A) and isotopic composition (B) profiles in the liquid away from the interface of a growing zircon in a diffusion-limited regime (DLC model) at the time when the zircon has reached $10 \mu\text{m}$ in size (the blue line is the liquid-solid interface). The red dot is the liquid concentration and isotopic composition at the interface. Both concentration and isotopic composition are relative to the liquid at infinity. As zircon grows from a supersaturated medium, the liquid and crystal near the liquid-crystal interface get enriched in the light isotopes of Zr due to their faster diffusion, while the liquid further away in the diffusive boundary layer gets enriched in the heavy isotopes due to their slower diffusion. The calculations were done using Eqs. 55, 49, 50 for diffusion-limited growth in a spherical geometry¹³³ with a Zr diffusivity of $D = 10^{-4} \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ ¹⁴², Zr saturation concentrations $C_{\text{sat}} = 1806 \text{ ppm}$ ¹²³, Zr concentration in zircon of $500,000 \text{ ppm}$, and a supersaturation $S = C_{\infty}/C_{\text{sat}} = 7.8$, a diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation factor $\Delta_D = -4.9 \text{ ‰}$ ($\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.113$ in Eq. 24). (A and B correspond to [Movie 1 and 2](#)).

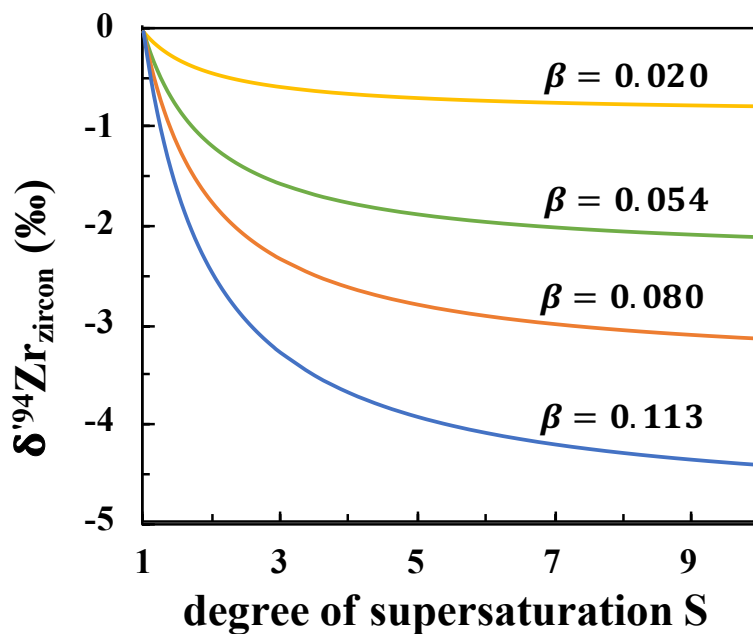


Figure 15. Expected $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}$ variations in zircon as a function of the degree of supersaturation during diffusion-limited zircon growth from silicate melt with different diffusive β exponents for Zr isotopes (Eq. 26; see Sect. 4.3.1. for details). $\delta'^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}}$ is the isotopic composition in the crystal relative to that in the far-field growth medium.

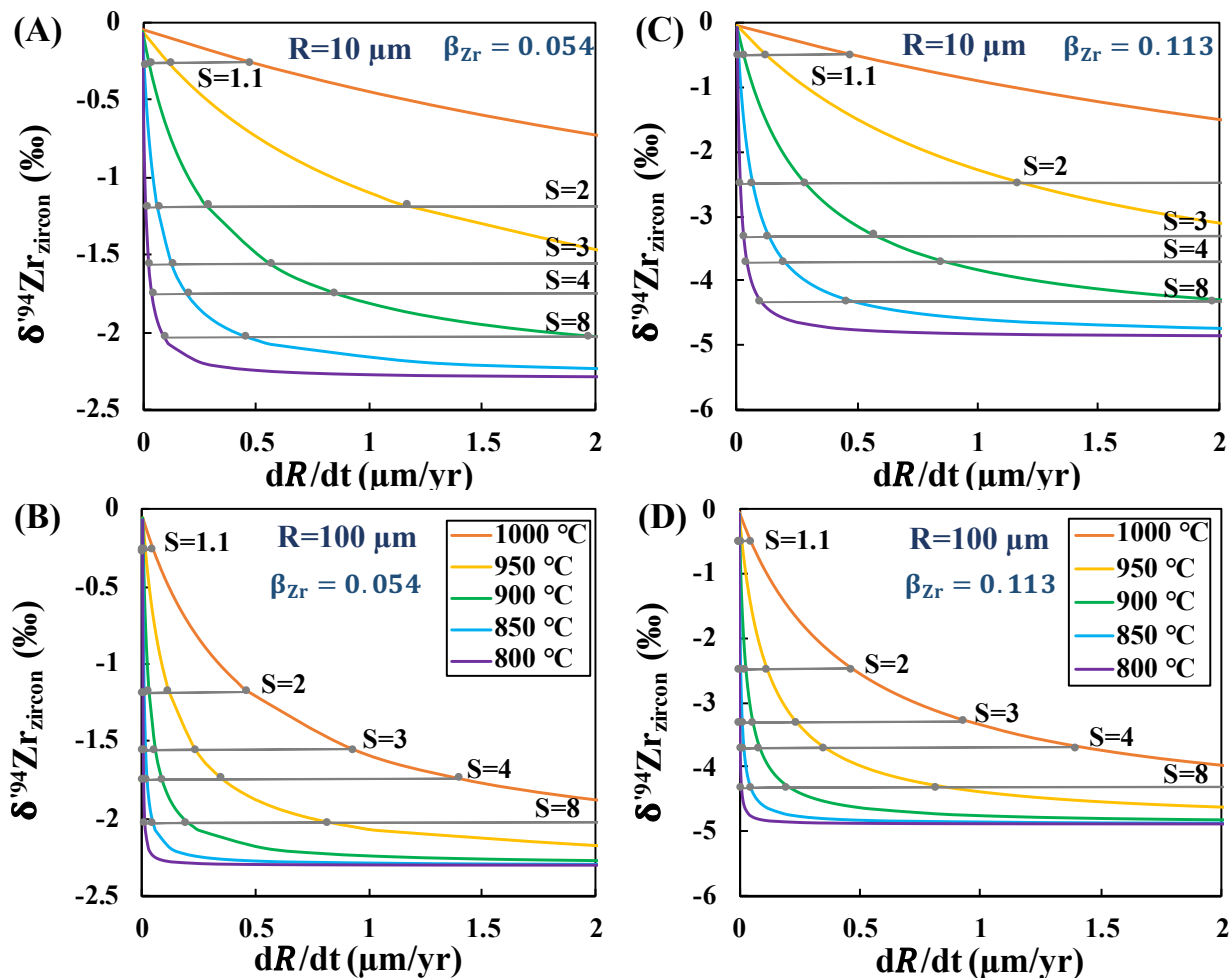
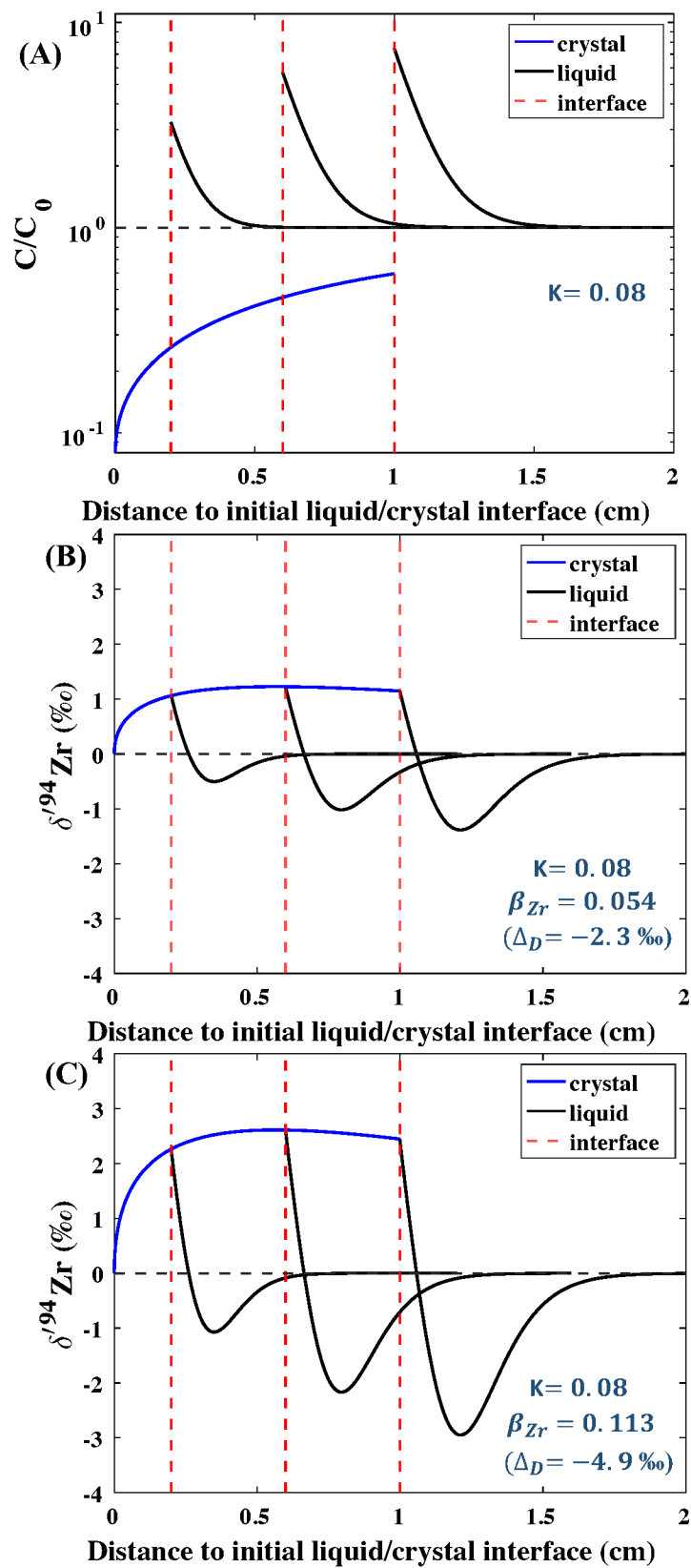
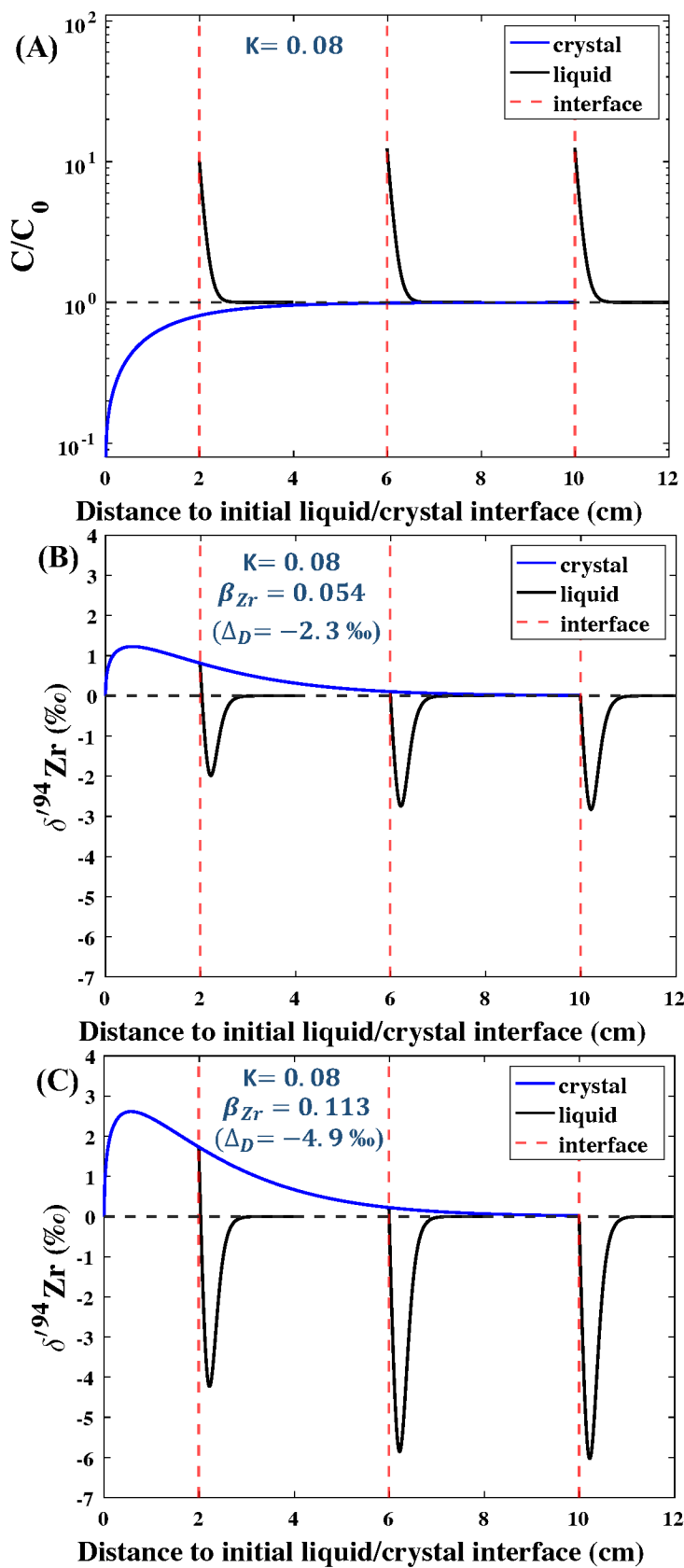


Figure 16. Expected $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ fractionations in zircon as a function of growth rate at different temperatures and different supersaturations (Eqs. 26 and 30; see Sect. 4.3.1. for details). (A)-(B) use a diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation factor $\Delta_D = -2.3$ ‰ ($\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.054$ in Eq. 24); (C)-(D) use a diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation factor $\Delta_D = -4.9$ ‰ ($\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.113$ in Eq. 24). $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}}$ is the isotopic composition in the crystal relative to that in the far-field growth medium. This figure shows that measuring $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}_{\text{zircon}}$ can help estimate the degree of supersaturation and zircon growth rate if the temperature can be independently constrained.

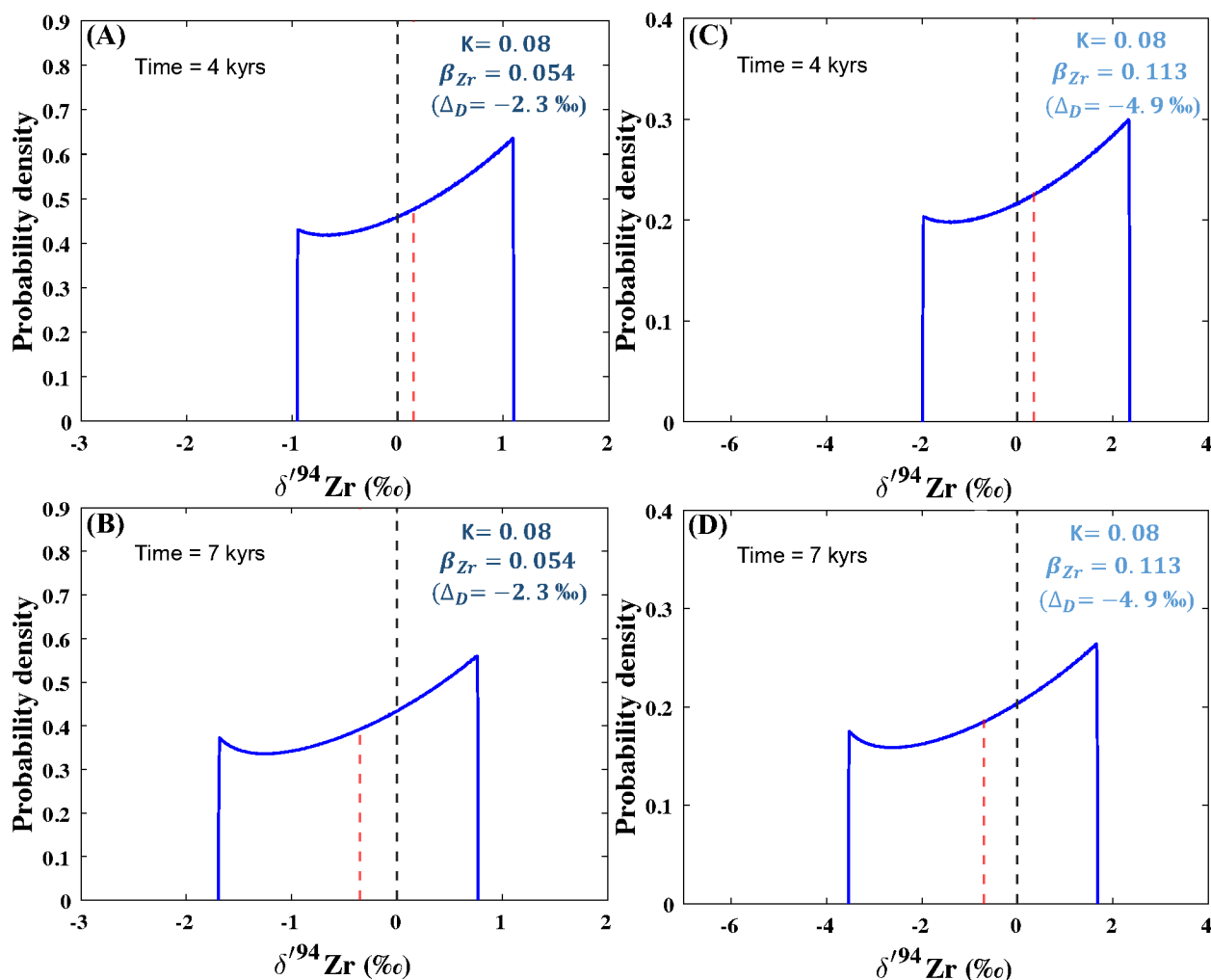


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3 1493 **Figure 17.** Evolution of the Zr concentration (A) and isotopic composition (B, C) in a growing Zr-
4 1494 poor crystal (blue line) and in the surrounding melt growth medium (black line) in three snapshots
5 1495 taken at 0.6, 1.9, and 3.2 kyr (DTC model; see Sect. 4.3.2. for details). The concentration and
6 1496 isotopic composition are normalized to the far-field growth medium. The diffusive boundary layer
7 1497 has elevated Zr concentration, which could trigger zircon saturation and crystallization, thus
8 1498 inheriting the isotopic composition in the diffusive boundary layer. The curves were calculated
9 1499 using Eqs. 31-34, and A21, A23. We used the partition coefficient of clinopyroxene $K = 0.08$ (the
10 1500 geometric mean of the values compiled in [GERM database](#)), diffusivity for Zr in melt $D =$
11 1501 $10^{-4} \mu\text{m}^2/\text{s}$ at $950 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ¹⁴², a growth rate of $\dot{R} = 10^{-7} \mu\text{m}/\text{s}$ (so that $\dot{R}/D = 10 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ which is in
12 1502 the realm of possibilities¹⁴⁰), and a diffusive isotopic fractionation factor $\Delta_D = -2.3$ and $-4.9 \text{ }^\circ\text{‰}$
13 1503 ($\beta_{\text{Zr}} = 0.054$ and 0.113 in Eq. 24, respectively). (A, B and C correspond to [Movie 3, 4 and 5](#)).
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3 1508 **Figure 18.** Same as **Fig. 17** but for a longer duration allowing the system to achieve steady-state
4 1509 (note that this calculation is not aimed at reproducing natural conditions as crystals would stop
5 1510 growing before reaching steady-state). Zr concentration (A) and isotopic composition (B, C) in the
6 1511 growing Zr-poor crystal (blue line) and in the melt growth medium (black line) in three snapshots
7 1512 taken at 6, 19, and 32 kyr. Note the difference in x-axis scale with **Fig. 17**. (A, B and C correspond
8 1513 to **Movie 6, 7 and 8**).
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1517 **Figure 19.** Expected probability density distribution functions (PDFs) of the Zr isotopic
1518 compositions of Zr atoms in the diffusive boundary layer around a low-Zr growing crystal at 4 and
1519 7 kyr. The dashed red vertical line is the average isotopic composition of the boundary layer where
1520 the melt is Zr-supersaturated by at least of factor of 3. We only consider here locations where
1521 $C/C_0 > 3$ possibly conducive to zircon saturation. (A)-(B) use a diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation
1522 factor $\Delta_D = -2.3 \text{‰}$ ($\beta_{Zr} = 0.054$ in Eq. 24); (C)-(D) use a diffusive Zr isotopic fractionation
1523 factor $\Delta_D = -4.9 \text{‰}$ ($\beta_{Zr} = 0.113$ in Eq. 24). As the Zr-poor mineral grows (time increases from
1524 (A) to (B), or from (C) to (D)), the $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ distributions of the diffusion-triggered crystallized (DTC)
1525 zircons shift to more negative $\delta^{94}\text{Zr}$ values. (A, B and C, D correspond to **Movie 9 and 10**).
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1528 **Table 1.** Average Zr-O and Hf-O bond lengths, coordination numbers (CN), force constant of Zr and Hf in relaxed mineral structures,
 1529 and polynomial expansion coefficients of the reduced partition function ratios ($10^3 \ln \beta$) of $^{94}\text{Zr}/^{90}\text{Zr}$ and $^{179}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ of the studied
 1530 minerals.

clinopyroxene	Chemical composition	Average Zr-O bond length (Å)	CN	Zr Force constant (N/m)	Polynomial expansion coefficients [#]		
					A ₁	A ₂	A ₃
Si ⁴⁺ ↔ Zr ⁴⁺	Mg ₂₄ Ca ₂₄ Si ₄₇ ZrO ₁₄₄ (2b, 3c)	1.985	4	524.3	1.09201	-5.903E-03	1.004E-04
	Mg ₃₂ Ca ₃₂ Si ₆₃ ZrO ₁₉₂ (2a, 2b, 2c)	1.989	4	522.4	1.08785	-5.880E-03	1.000E-04
* ^{VI} Mg ²⁺ + ^{VIII} Ca ²⁺ ↔ Zr ⁴⁺ _{Mg}	Mg ₇ ZrCa ₇ Si ₁₆ O ₄₈ (2c)	2.124	6	390.2	0.80773	-4.366E-03	7.472E-05
	Mg ₁₅ ZrCa ₁₅ Si ₃₂ O ₉₆ (2b, 2c)	2.125	6	395.8	0.81756	-3.778E-03	4.405E-05
* ^{VI} Mg ²⁺ + ^{VI} Mg ²⁺ ↔ Zr ⁴⁺ _{Mg}	Mg ₆ ZrCa ₈ Si ₁₆ O ₄₈ (2c)	2.117	6	371.5	0.77325	-5.224E-03	9.424E-05
orthopyroxene							
Si ⁴⁺ ↔ Zr ⁴⁺	Mg ₃₂ Si ₃₁ ZrO ₉₆ (2c)	1.976	4	538.2	1.12083	-6.059E-03	1.031E-04

	$\text{Mg}_{64}\text{Si}_{63}\text{ZrO}_{192}$	1.975	4	540.0	1.12450	-6.078E-03	1.034E-04
	(2b, 2c)						
$^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (M1) + $^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (M2)	$\text{Mg}_{30}\text{ZrSi}_{32}\text{O}_{96}$ (2c)	2.131	6	409.0	0.85185	-4.604E-03	7.833E-05
$\leftrightarrow\text{Zr}^{4++}$	$\text{Mg}_{62}\text{ZrSi}_{64}\text{O}_{192}$ (2b, 2c)	2.130	6	-			
olivine							
$\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Mg}_{32}\text{Si}_{15}\text{ZrO}_{64}$ (2a, 2c)	1.970	4	562.3	1.17094	-6.329E-03	1.077E-04
	$\text{Mg}_{64}\text{Si}_{31}\text{ZrO}_{128}$	1.969	4	566.4	1.17947	-6.376E-03	1.085E-04
	(2a, 2b, 2c)						
$^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (M2) + $^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+}$ (M1)	$\text{Mg}_{30}\text{ZrSi}_{16}\text{O}_{64}$ (2a, 2c)	2.124	6	378.7	0.78861	-4.263E-03	7.252E-05
$\leftrightarrow\text{Zr}^{4++}$	$\text{Mg}_{62}\text{ZrSi}_{32}\text{O}_{128}$	2.123	6	380.1	0.79152	-4.278E-03	7.279E-05
	(2a, 2b, 2c)						
quartz							
$\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Si}_{80}\text{ZrO}_{162}$ (3a, 3b, 3c)	1.961	4	561.0	1.16823	-6.315E-03	1.074E-04
	$\text{Si}_{95}\text{ZrO}_{192}$ (4a, 4b, 2c)	1.960	4	-			
K-feldspar							
$^{\text{IV}}\text{Al}^{3+} + ^{\text{VIII}}\text{K}^{+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}_{\text{Al}^{+}}$	$\text{K}_7\text{Al}_7\text{Si}_{24}\text{O}_{64}$	1.969	4	540.1	1.12488	-8.154E-03	1.529E-04
	(2c)						
	$\text{K}_{15}\text{Al}_{15}\text{ZrSi}_{48}\text{O}_{128}$	1.968	4	544.3	1.13321	-8.215E-03	1.530E-04
	(2a, 2c)						
apatite							

${}^{\text{IX}}\text{Ca}^{2+} + {}^{\text{VII}}\text{Ca}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Ca}_{38}\text{ZrP}_{24}\text{O}_{96}\text{F}_8$ (2a, 2b)	2.183	6	297.1	0.61798	-2.856E-03	3.330E-05
	$\text{Ca}_{78}\text{ZrP}_{48}\text{O}_{192}\text{F}_{16}$ (2a, 2b, 2c)	2.179	6	-			
geikielite							
$\text{Ti}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Mg}_{24}\text{Ti}_{23}\text{ZrO}_{72}$ (2a, 2b)	2.117	6	407.6	0.84873	-4.588E-03	7.805E-05
	$\text{Mg}_{48}\text{Ti}_{47}\text{ZrO}_{144}$ (2a, 2b, 2c)	2.116	6	410.0	0.85581	-4.626E-03	7.870E-05
ilmenite							
$\text{Ti}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Fe}_{24}\text{Ti}_{23}\text{ZrO}_{72}$ (2a, 2b)	2.129	6	279.6	0.58224	-3.147E-03	5.354E-05
	$\text{Fe}_{48}\text{Ti}_{47}\text{ZrO}_{144}$ (2a, 2b, 2c)	2.128	6	283.4	0.59015	-3.190E-03	5.427E-05
MgFe₂O₄ magnetite							
${}^{\text{VI}}\text{Fe}^{3+} + {}^{\text{IV}}\text{Fe}^{3+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+} + {}^{\text{VI-Fe}}\text{Fe}^{2+}$	$\text{Mg}_{17}\text{ZrFe}_{30}\text{O}_{64}$ (2a)	2.111	6	294.4	0.61306	-3.314E-03	5.638E-05
$\text{Mg}^{2+} + {}^{\text{IV-Fe}}\text{Fe}^{2+}$	$\text{Mg}_{33}\text{ZrFe}_{62}\text{O}_{128}$ (2a, 2b)	2.110	6	-			
tremolite							
$\text{Si}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Mg}_{40}\text{Ca}_{16}\text{Si}_{63}\text{ZrH}_{16}\text{O}_{192}$ (2a, 2c)	1.978	4	533.6	1.11117	-6.006E-03	1.0218E-04
$*{}^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+} (\text{M2}) + {}^{\text{VI}}\text{Mg}^{2+} (\text{M1}) \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+} + \text{M2}^{2+}$	$\text{Mg}_{18}\text{ZrCa}_8\text{Si}_{32}\text{H}_8\text{O}_{96}$ (2c)	2.113	6	383.3	0.79930	-4.320E-03	7.350E-05

	$\text{Mg}_{38}\text{ZrCa}_{16}\text{Si}_{64}\text{Hf}_{16}\text{O}_{192}$	2.112	6	-			
	(2a, 2c)						
pyrope							
	$\text{IVSi}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Mg}_{24}\text{Al}_{16}\text{Si}_{23}\text{ZrO}_{96}$	1.979	4	512.7	1.06679	-9.705E-03 1.902E-04
	$*\text{VIAl}^{3+} + \text{IVSi}^{4+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+} + \text{Al}^{3+}$	$\text{Mg}_{24}\text{Al}_{16}\text{Si}_{23}\text{ZrO}_{96}$	2.074	6	433.5	0.90215	-7.151E-03 1.354E-04
	$\text{VIII Mg}^{2+} + \text{VIII Mg}^{2+} \leftrightarrow \text{Zr}^{4+}$	$\text{Mg}_{22}\text{ZrAl}_{16}\text{Si}_{24}\text{O}_{96}$	2.240	8	345.7	0.71955	-4.862E-03 8.769E-05
	zircon	$\text{Zr}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$	2.228	8	334.7	0.69698	-3.767E-03 6.409E-05
	baddeleyite	Zr_4O_8	2.187	7	323.4	0.67268	-3.109E-03 3.624E-05
	Ca-catapleiite	$\text{Ca}_4\text{Zr}_4\text{Si}_{12}\text{Hf}_{16}\text{O}_{44}$	2.114	6	369.2	0.77571	-5.704E-03 1.226E-04
	Chemical composition	Average Hf-O	CN	Hf Force	Polynomial expansion coefficients[#]		
		bond length		constant	A₁	A₂	A₃
		(Å)		(N/m)			
	zircon	** $\text{Zr}_{15}\text{HfSi}_{16}\text{O}_{64}$	2.140	8	327.3	0.09094	-4.01E-04 7.49E-06
		(2a, 2b, 2c)					
		$\text{Zr}_{31}\text{HfSi}_{32}\text{O}_{128}$	2.140	8	326.4	0.09067	-4.00E-04 7.46E-06
		(2a, 2b, 2c)					
	ilmenite	** $\text{Fe}_{16}\text{Ti}_{15}\text{HfO}_{48}$	2.092	6	297.1	0.08254	-3.64E-04 6.79E-06
		(2a, 2b, 2c)					
		$\text{Fe}_{24}\text{Ti}_{23}\text{HfO}_{72}$	2.092	6	294	0.08167	-3.60E-04 6.72E-06
		(2a, 2b)					

Ca-catapleiite	$\text{Ca}_4\text{Zr}_3\text{HfSi}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_{44}$	2.081	6	393.3	0.10928	-4.82E-04	8.99E-06
	$\text{Ca}_8\text{Zr}_7\text{HfSi}_{24}\text{H}_{32}\text{O}_{88}$ (2a)	2.082	6	394.1	0.10951	-4.83E-04	9.01E-06

1531

1532 represents vacancy.

1533 #The polynomial expansion equation is: $10^3 \ln \beta = A_1 x + A_2 x^2 + A_3 x^3$, where $x = 10^6/T^2$. T is temperature in Kelvin.

1534 Abbreviations after chemical formulas refer to the expansion way of primitive cells to generate supercells and investigate the effect of

1535 dilution. For instance, "2a, 2b, 2c" represents the supercell is generated by expanding the primitive cell twice along a, b, and c directions.

1536 *These substitutions are favored by spectroscopic observations¹⁰³.1537 **The primitive cells of zircon ($\text{Zr}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$) and ilmenite ($\text{Fe}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_6$) are used to construct the supercell.

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