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Disruption of isotopic age by metamorphism: How can two isotopic clocks can be desynchronised, in a single mineral

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High-grade metamorphism often disrupts the isotopic signatures of rocks and

minerals. Processes occurring during high-grade metamorphism are best captured through

in-situ isotope measurement of reactive minerals such as titanite (CaTiSiO<sub>5</sub>). To constrain the

effect of metamorphism on isotopic signatures at the crystal scale, we examined the U-Pb

and Sm-Nd isotope systematics of titanite from an early Archean meta-sediment of the

Saglek Block (Labrador, Canada). Titanite yields U-Pb apparent age that is ca. 900 Ma

younger than the Sm-Nd apparent age, even though both ages are statistically robust. As

such, there is a mismatch between U-Pb and Sm-Nd isotopic clocks. We interpret this

mismatch as an imperfect isotopes mixing occurring during crystal growth. These findings

advocate REE mobility in metamorphism, although REE homogenization was incomplete at

the time of titanite crystallization, and demonstrates that significant mixing can go unseen if

using single isotope systematics.

Mots-Clés: Archean geology; titanite; U-Pb/Sm-Nd isotopes; laser ablation split stream; metamorphism

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