Prograde amphibole dehydration reactions during high-grade regional metamorphism, central Massachusetts, U.S.A.

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ABSTRACT

The study area extends for 80 km through regionally metamorphosed rocks in the metamorphic high of southern New England, in which Acadian (Devonian) metamorphism ranged from sillimanite-muscovite grade through sillimanite-garnet-cordierite-orthoclase grade. Over this metamorphic interval, amphibolites containing the assemblages plagioclase + hornblende ± quartz ± cummingtonite ± orthoamphibole ± garnet were transformed by a series of reactions into pyroxene granulites with assemblages of plagioclase + orthopyroxene ± augite ± quartz ± hornblende ± garnet. Three particularly important reactions were examined in detail. These reactions, along with others, define an assemblage series in quartz-bearing rocks in the transition from amphibolite facies to granulite facies. This assemblage series, listed below, is based on the coexistence of diagnostic minerals in common mafic rocks with increasing grade.

hornblende + orthoamphibole assemblage (Mg-rich rocks only)

orthoamphibole + hornblende + quartz = cummingtonite + plagioclase + H₂O
hornblende + cummingtonite assemblage

cummingtonite + plagioclase = hornblende + orthopyroxene + quartz + H₂O
hornblende + orthopyroxene assemblage

hornblende + quartz = augite + orthopyroxene + plagioclase + H₂O
orthopyroxene + augite assemblage.

This transition is estimated to have occurred over a temperature interval of 580–730 °C.

INTRODUCTION

The progression of amphibole dehydration reactions was characterized for common amphibolites in the high-grade metamorphic rocks of Acadian (Devonian) age of central Massachusetts. In the western part of the area, the Bronson Hill anticlinorium (Fig. 1A) is the primary structural feature, a north trending belt of structural domes of Acadian age. The domes have abundant metamorphosed igneous rocks of Ordovician age exposed in their cores, with late Precambrian rocks also exposed in the Pelham Dome (Fig. 1A; Robinson et al., 1989). The older rocks in the dome cores are overlain by a stratified sequence of metamorphosed sedimentary and volcanic rocks of Ordovician, Silurian, and Devonian ages. In the eastern part of the area, the Merrimack synclinorium is the primary structural feature, a thick sequence of Silurian and Devonian metamorphosed sedimentary rocks and possibly older basement gneisses (Berry, 1988).

The rocks were intruded by plutons, intensely deformed, and regionally metamorphosed to granulite facies during the Acadian Orogeny (Zen, 1983; Robinson, 1983; Robinson et al., 1986). The transition in mafic rocks from amphibolites to pyroxene granulites is gradual and pervasive, and it is not associated with veins or individual plutons. Medium- and high-grade metamorphic rocks in southern New England have been subdivided into six metamorphic zones that are based on assemblages in pelitic schists: Zone I, kyanite + muscovite + staurolite; Zone II, sillimanite + muscovite + staurolite; Zone III, sillimanite + muscovite; Zone IV, sillimanite + muscovite; Zone V, sillimanite + orthoclase; Zone VI, sillimanite + orthoclase + garnet + cordierite (Tracy et al., 1976). Isotherms estimated for prograde metamorphism are shown in Figure 1B. Temperature estimates for the samples analyzed based on these isotherms range from about 580 °C, in lower metamorphic Zone II, up to 730 °C in Zone VI (Table 1). The temperature estimates in Figure 1B and Table 1 are probably fairly precise relative to each other (with a few exceptions) but are probably accurate to no better than ±50 °C. Estimated prograde metamorphic pressures in the region are about 6 kbar (Tracy et al., 1976; Hollocher, 1981; Robinson et al., 1982b).

This study complements previous petrographic investigations of metamorphosed mafic rocks in southern New
England, which have concentrated on phase relations in metamorphic Zones I-IV, and extends work to Zones V and VI (Robinson and Jaffe, 1969; Robinson et al., 1969 and 1971b; Huntington, 1975; Wolff, 1978; Robinson and Tracy, 1979; Schumacher, 1983; Hollocher, 1984; Schumacher and Robinson, 1987). This work also builds on the work of others in New England (e.g., Spear, 1978, 1980, 1982; Laird, 1980) and elsewhere.

SAMPLES AND METHODS

About 200 fresh amphibole- and pyroxene-bearing rocks were collected from layered and massive amphibolites, ultramafic rocks, pyroxene granulites, and Fe-rich granulites in central Massachusetts, southwestern New Hampshire, and north-central Connecticut. Rocks with assemblages containing the prograde calcareous minerals calcite, epidote, titanite, or clinopyroxene, in the absence of the Fe-Mg minerals garnet, cummingite, orthoamphibole, and orthopyroxene, were excluded from this study. Most of the rocks analyzed are hornblende bearing and have intermediate bulk $X_{Mg}$ [Mg/(Mg + Fe^2+)] of 0.4-0.7. Many of these rocks, including some with Fe-Mg amphibole, have essentially igneous compositions that are similar to basalts and mafic diorites. Other samples have

Fig. 1. (A) Simplified geologic map showing sample locations (map after Zen, 1983). (B) Metamorphic isograds for Zones I through VI, after Zen (1983). Superimposed on the isograds are metamorphic isotherms (from Robinson et al., 1982b; based on garnet-biotite geothermometry in schists from Tracy et al., 1976).
Table 1. Sample modes, feldspar compositions, and estimated metamorphic temperatures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample no.</th>
<th>Zone II</th>
<th>Zone IV</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>62 63</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plagioclase</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orthoclase</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hornblende</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cummingtonite</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gédrite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthophyllite</td>
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<td>Pyrhotite</td>
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<td>Sericite</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calcite</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serpentine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100 100</td>
<td>100 100</td>
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<tr>
<td>An in plag.</td>
<td>40.1</td>
<td>79.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Or in potassium feldspar</td>
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<td>605</td>
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</table>

Note: Samples 78 and 89 contain trace sillimanite in garnet, which is probably not part of the bulk assemblage. Sample 74a contains trace covellite, which is probably a weathering product. See Appendix 1 for samples A–N. Abbreviations: tr — trace amounts present, generally < 0.1%; R — mineral is of retrograde origin.

** Poor control for these estimated temperatures.

* Estimated temperatures derived from Figure 1B.

altered igneous or nonigneous compositions (Schumacher, 1983; Hollocher, 1985).

From 151 of the collected samples, 172 thin sections were made and 30 thin sections containing 33 distinct prograde mineral assemblages (samples 60–89) were selected for detailed study (Table 1). The 33 assemblages were studied using reflected and transmitted light microscopes and analyzed by electron microprobe (samples 60–89; see Hollocher, 1985, for detailed sample descriptions, sample locations, and analytical procedures). Representative analyses of selected samples are given in Tables 2–5. Complementing these samples are data from 14 previously published amphibole-bearing assemblages in central Massachusetts and southwestern New Hampshire (samples A–N, see Appendix 2).

In Zones V and VI, some of the mafic rocks contain coarse-grained veins that are sharply crosscutting to diffuse and have the same mineral content as the host rock, but in different modal proportions (e.g., samples 75 and 87). These veins appear to be locally derived partial melts of the host rock. The percentage of partial melting was apparently small (<5%) in most cases, and melting apparently did not proceed to the exhaustion of any phase. The effect of partial melting on amphibole phase relations is probably unimportant to the discussion below because the veins and their host rocks have evidence of strong subsolidus deformation and recrystallization. The assemblages probably represent true subsolidus metamorphic assemblages that last equilibrated in the absence of silicate liquid.

** Petrography **

** Hornblende **

Prograde hornblende occurs as olive green to brown, stubby to elongate crystals. Hornblende in equilibrium with cummingtonite contains colorless cummingtonite exsolution lamellae that are also common in hornblende from cummingtonite-free assemblages (see Jaffe et al., 1968, and Robinson et al., 1971a, for a discussion). Blue-green retrograde hornblende that is Na-rich, Fe-rich, and Ti-poor occurs as thin rims or tiny grains surrounding...
prograde hornblende, contrasting with light green actinolitic hornblende that is retrograde after augite. Representative hornblende analyses are given in Table 2.

**Cummingtonite**

Prograde cummingtonite is colorless to pale green in thin section and is generally untwinned. It contains abundant green hornblende exsolution lamellae. In contrast, fine-grained retrograde cummingtonite after orthopyroxene has fine-scale polysynthetic twinning and no visible exsolution lamellae. Representative cummingtonite analyses are given in Table 3.

**Orthoamphibole**

In thin section, anthophyllite is colorless to very pale pink or tan. In Zones I-IV, gedrite is pink to pinkish brown in magnetite-free rocks and gray-green in magnetite-bearing rocks, but is brown in Zones V and VI regardless of the presence of magnetite. Gedrite in anthophyllite-, cummingtonite-, or hornblende-bearing assemblages typically has fine-scale (010) exsolution lamellae of anthophyllite, whereas anthophyllite has no visible lamellae. Representative orthoamphibole analyses are given in Table 3.

**Pyroxene**

Augite occurs as blocky crystals that are colorless to faint green in thin section. The augite contains pigeonite exsolution lamellae on irrational planes close to (001) and (100) and commonly contains lamellae of orthopyroxene on (100) (see Jaffe et al., 1975, and Robinson et al., 1971a and 1977, for discussions). Orthopyroxene is colorless or pleochroic faint green to pale pink and, in augite-bearing assemblages, has clinopyroxene exsolution lamellae on (100). Orthopyroxene has only 0.4 to 3.8% of diopside-hedenbergite component, and nonquadrilateral components vary from 2.2 to 6.4% in quartz-bearing assemblages and up to 11.3% in quartz-free assemblages. Representative pyroxene analyses are given in Table 4.

**Garnet**

Garnet occurs as 1–5 mm equant euhedral to anhedral grains. In contrast to the strongly zoned garnet that is typical of pelitic rocks in the area (e.g., Tracy et al., 1976), most garnet in the amphibolites and pyroxene granulites is unzoned within analytical uncertainty. The complete range of garnet compositions is almandine 57–69%, pyrope 11–31%, grossular 2–20%, and spessartine 2–16% (Table 4). Representative garnet analyses are given in Table 5.

**Feldspar**

Plagioclase compositions are in the range of An15–An47, and Or0.5–Or2.0 for all samples (Table 1). Plagioclase in several samples is zoned, with sparse calcic cores in sharp contact with nearly homogeneous sodic rims. The calcic cores are probably igneous or early metamorphic relics that never recrystallized during high-grade metamor-
phism and deformation. In sample 69 the calcic cores have unmix into parallel lamellae of two plagioclase phases. Discrete crystals of orthoclase occur in samples 85 and 88; orthoclase also occurs as large, rectangular exsolution lamellae in plagioclase in samples 81 and 87. Orthoclase has a composition range of Or₃,s-Or₉₂,s, An₈₃- An₆₃, and Cn₁₅-Cn₃₅ (Table 1).

**CALCULATION OF Fe³⁺ FROM ELECTRON PROBE ANALYSES**

*Review*

The problem of calculating Fe³⁺ from electron probe analyses in nonstoichiometric minerals has been discussed extensively elsewhere (e.g., Robinson et al., 1982a, for amphibole; Dybeck, 1983, for biotite). Figure 2 illustrates how important it is that some reasonable estimate of Fe³⁺ in amphibole be made. In Figure 2A the plotted cummingtonite and hornblende formulae have been calculated with all Fe as Fe²⁺. Because the amphibole samples must have had differing quantities of Fe³⁺ initially, calculating all Fe as Fe²⁺ causes the plotted amphibole positions to shift from their true positions by varying amounts. The differential movement in plotted amphibole positions results in chaotic crossing of cummingtonite-hornblende tie lines, with tie lines having both positive and negative slopes. Calculating all Fe as Fe²⁺ also increases the number of cations in the 23 O atom formulae, forcing Ca into the A site in many cases. This is a violation of an empirical crystal-chemical limit for common calcic amphibole (Robinson et al., 1982a). In Figure 2B the data were recalculated with an Fe³⁺ correction (Tables 2 and 3; except data from analysis of sample B, which is a wet chemical analysis). After correction, no Ca is assigned to A sites and all tie lines have positive slopes with more Na assigned to hornblende M(4) sites than to M(4) sites in coexisting cummingtonite, as expected.

The plotting parameter (Na + K) - (Σ cations - 15) in Figure 2 is particularly sensitive to the Fe³⁺ correction, but other parameters such as Xₐₙ are sensitive also. Using the proper Fe³⁺ correction is therefore important for the interpretation of data in phase diagrams and for calculating reaction coefficients. Fe³⁺ in amphibole was estimated in different ways for different samples (Tables 2 and 3) because no single calculation scheme worked for all analyses. Although selection of correction type is in part subjective, the resulting amphibole structural for-
Table 3. Electron probe analyses and structural formulae of cummingtonite and orthoamphiboles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample:</th>
<th>Cummingtonite</th>
<th>Orthoamphiboles</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>63 65a 65b 65c 66 67 70 74a 76 82 85</td>
<td>65b 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SiO₂</td>
<td>52.00 53.84 54.50 52.54 51.47 51.24 53.03 55.09 53.72 41.24</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>TiO₂</td>
<td>0.23 0.10 0.08 0.18 0.29 0.14 0.09 0.17 0.10 0.97</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Al₂O₃</td>
<td>2.93 1.71 1.27 3.46 3.06 1.94 1.39 1.43 1.43 1.76</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>FeO</td>
<td>2.14 1.94 0.80 1.28 1.28 0.46 0.41 1.41 2.44 1.41</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fe₂O₃</td>
<td>20.37 18.62 19.27 20.92 24.90 26.09 25.47 17.10 18.51 17.83</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MnO</td>
<td>1.44 0.74 0.80 0.30 0.78 0.44 0.43 0.80 0.38 0.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>CaO</td>
<td>1.60 1.26 0.31 1.42 2.07 1.25 1.20 1.22 1.20 1.22</td>
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<tr>
<td>Na₂O</td>
<td>0.45 0.24 0.16 0.74 0.40 0.34 0.14 0.15 0.31 0.34</td>
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<tr>
<td>K₂O</td>
<td>0.12 0.02 0.02 0.03 0.03 0.04 0.02 0.04 0.22 0.24</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>98.11 98.07 97.74 98.62 97.92 97.85 98.62 97.92 98.16 97.46</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Structural formulae calculated to 23 O atoms (see below for Fe³⁺ correction type)

- **Al** 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000 5.000
- **Fe³⁺** 0.980 0.553 0.577 0.834 1.526 1.619 1.418 0.296 0.395 0.495
- **Mg** 0.178 0.027 0.021 0.023 0.016 0.010 0.020 0.032 0.022 0.004
- **Ca** 0.250 0.194 0.140 0.220 0.329 0.201 0.190 0.186 0.152 0.289
- **Na** 0.064 0.031 0.022 0.051 0.049 0.043 0.023 0.015 0.008 0.029
- **K** 0.022 0.004 0.006 0.004 0.006 0.008 0.004 0.004 0.007 0.006
- **Total** 15.085 15.040 15.027 15.057 15.052 15.056 15.025 15.019 15.088 15.535

Correction type

- **B** 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002 0.002

Fe³⁺/Fe₂⁺ correction

- **Fe²⁺/Fe₂⁺** 0.068 0.066 0.036 0.075 0.044 0.073 0.016 0.021 0.064 0.109
- **Mg(Mg + Fe₂⁺)** 0.574 0.632 0.640 0.580 0.492 0.466 0.518 0.686 0.649 0.555
- **Mg(Mg + Fe₂⁺ + Mn)** 0.595 0.652 0.648 0.599 0.503 0.485 0.522 0.689 0.684 0.583
- **Mg(Mg + Fe₂⁺ + Mn)** 0.579 0.643 0.639 0.595 0.500 0.478 0.517 0.685 0.655 0.578
- **Ca(Ca + Na)** 0.663 0.743 0.757 0.751 0.741 0.670 0.821 0.819 0.485 0.156

Fig. 2. Coexisting hornblende-cummingtonite pairs plotted

- **A.** Formulæ with all iron as Fe²⁺
- **B.** Formulæ with ferric iron correction

The amount of Ca assigned to the A site [zero Na in the M(4) site]. The correction yields nearly the maximum Fe³⁺ in the M(l,2,3) sites, violating a crystal-chemical limit. The 13CAT correction yields nearly the maximum Fe³⁺ in the M(l,2,3) sites, violating a crystal-chemical limit. The 13CAT correction yields nearly the maximum Fe³⁺ in the M(l,2,3) sites, violating a crystal-chemical limit. The 13CAT correction yields nearly the maximum Fe³⁺ in the M(l,2,3) sites, violating a crystal-chemical limit.

Hornblende

- Available wet chemical analyses of metamorphic hornblende in northern Massachusetts and southwestern New Hampshire have a remarkably consistent (Na + K)/(Na + K) ratio of about 0.66 (Robinson and Jaffe, 1969). This ratio was used for the Fe³⁺ correction for most hornblende analyzed in this study.

13CAT. The A correction failed because it put Ca into the M(1,2,3) sites, violating a crystal-chemical limit. The 13CAT correction yields nearly the maximum Fe³⁺ in which all cations excluding Mn, Ca, Na, and K total 13 (13CaMnCNK scheme of Robinson et al., 1982a).

0.1. The formula calculated assuming all Fe as Fe²⁺ has a ratio of (Na + K)/(Na + K) < 0.66. Because zero Fe³⁺ is unlikely, an Fe³⁺/Fe₂⁺ ratio of 0.1 was assigned based on comparisons with hornblende from similar assemblages and metamorphic grade.

Hornblende in northern Massachusetts and southwestern New Hampshire have a remarkably consistent Al(Na + K)/(Na + K) ratio of about 0.66 (Robinson and Jaffe, 1969). This ratio was used for the Fe³⁺ correction for most hornblende analyzed in this study.
TABLE 4. Electron probe analyses and structural formulae of pyroxene

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<tr>
<th>Sample:</th>
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<th>Orthopyroxene</th>
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<tr>
<td>n</td>
<td>81, 84, 86, 13</td>
<td>74a, 6, 75, 79, 81, 82, 84, 86, 88, 89</td>
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<tr>
<td>SiO₂</td>
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<td>TiO₂</td>
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<tr>
<td>Na₂O</td>
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<td>0.23</td>
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Total: 99.86 |

Structural formulae calculated to six O atoms and tour cations:

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<tr>
<td>Al²⁺</td>
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<td>i(Sum)</td>
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<tr>
<td>i(Mg²⁺ + Fe³⁺)</td>
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<td>% wollastonite</td>
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<td>% nonquadr.</td>
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<td>5.0</td>
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</table>

Note: % Wollastonite = 100Ca/(Ca + Mg + Fe²⁺ + Mn); % nonquadrilateral components: 100(Al + Ti + Na + Fe³⁺)/2.

TABLE 5. Electron probe analyses and structural formulae of garnet

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Structural formulae calculated to 12 O atoms:

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% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% wollastonite | 44.6 | 44.6 |
% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% wollastonite | 44.6 | 44.6 |
% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% wollastonite | 44.6 | 44.6 |
% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% wollastonite | 44.6 | 44.6 |
% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% nonquadr. | 5.0 | 7.1 |

% wollastonite | 44.6 | 44.6 |
The ratio of Fe³⁺/Fe₂⁺ was calculated directly from available bulk rock analyses using X-ray fluorescence, wet chemical analyses, and modal analyses (Hollocher, 1985).

**Cummingtonitile**

B. An average of the minimum Fe³⁺ correction (all cations excluding Na and K total 15; 15eNK) and the maximum correction (all cations excluding K total 15; 15eK).

C. An average of the minimum Fe²⁺ correction (all Fe as Fe²⁺) and the maximum correction (all cations excluding K total 15; 15eK).

**Orthoamphibole**

D. Wet chemical analyses of metamorphic orthoamphiboles in southwestern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts have a remarkably consistent Na/(Na + K) ratio of about 0.79 (Robinson and Jaffe, 1969). This ratio was used for the Fe²⁺ for most orthoamphiboles analyzed in this study.

**Phase diagrams**

The important phases in these rocks include hornblende, augite, orthoamphibole(s), ilmenite, cummingtonitile, magnetite, biotite, plagioclase, garnet, quartz, orthopyroxene, and metamorphic fluid. These can be adequately described by the chemical components SiO₂, TiO₂, Fe₂O₃, FeO, MnO, MgO, CaO, Al₂O₃, Na₂O, K₂O, and H₂O. The various phases can be projected in terms of many of these components of the AFMNCS system onto a modified AFM plane, with plagioclase (as albite and anorthite components), metamorphic fluid, ± quartz as the phases from which projections are made (Fig. 3).

The AFM plotting parameters in Figure 3 are modified after those of Robinson et al. (1982a, their Fig. 87). Na, and Ca are subtracted from Al₂ as required by projection from the respective albite and anorthite components. Fe³⁺ and Ti are added to Al₂ as important Fe³⁺ components and are not eliminated by projection from ilmenite and hematite because ilmenite does not occur in many samples and hematite, as a discrete phase, does not occur at all. Ti in amphibole is strongly correlated with Fe, apparently substituting largely as an ilmenite component by the coupled substitution Fe²⁺ + Ti ≈ 2R³⁺. This substitution requires the subtraction of one Fe²⁺ from the F corner for each Ti. Finally, Mn²⁺ is added to Fe²⁺. Clearly the AFM projection in Figure 3 is a simplification of the natural system. One problem with this projection is that the effect of Na/(Na + Ca) ratios in amphibole and plagioclase on the phase relations cannot be examined. However, except as discussed below, no systematic effect of Na/(Na + Ca) ratios on amphibole phase relations in these rocks is evident (Hollocher, 1985). A more serious problem is that, although silica is omitted by projection from quartz for minerals in quartz-bearing assemblages, silica is simply ignored for minerals in quartz-free assem-
Fig. 4. Schematic summary of the phase relations in quartz-bearing mafic rocks, shown in AFM projection (see Fig. 3 for plotting parameters). The schematic sequence of phase relations increases in metamorphic grade from Zone I (A) to Zone VI (P). Three-phase fields well constrained by the data are shown in black, and other fields, less well constrained, are stippled. Note that many parts of these diagrams are speculative.

Despite the oversimplifications of the AFM projection, it serves to illustrate the phase relations in these rocks quite well. The assemblages and reactions discussed below are based on assemblages and textures observed in thin section, analyzed mineral compositions, and a de-
talled analysis of a variety of phase diagrams (Hollocher, 1985). Reactions were checked and balanced using a least-squares program written after the method of Bryan et al. (1969), but reaction coefficients are omitted below because they depend on the actual mineral compositions used and thus have no general applicability.

**Prograde metamorphic reactions**

Although the data in Figure 3 have been separated by metamorphic zone, the data appear chaotic because of the progression of reactions in the same zone, complex solid solutions, uncertainties in the Fe\(^{3+}\) corrections, limitations of the projection, and differences in mineral assemblage. However, the data in Figure 3 can be interpreted in terms of a systematic progression of reactions with increasing metamorphic grade. The partly hypothetical phase relations and reactions for quartz-bearing rocks discussed below are summarized schematically in Figure 4.

Figure 4A shows the phase relations in Zone I, modified after Robinson et al. (1982a, their Fig. 87). At Mg-rich compositions there is a three-amphibole field representing a cummingtonite-forming continuous reaction that has been observed at this grade:

\[
\text{Ant + Hbl + Ilm + Qtz} = \text{Cum + Plag + Rut + H}_2\text{O} \quad (1)
\]

(Fig. 4A). This three-amphibole assemblage has not yet been found in Zone II, but it is constrained to occur at \(M/(M + F)\) ratios of about 0.65, between quartz-bearing assemblages in Zone II containing cummingtonite + hornblende and orthoamphibole + hornblende at \(M/(M + F)\) ratios of 0.6–0.75 (Fig. 3A). Similarly, quartz-bearing assemblages of anthophyllite + cummingtonite and cummingtonite + hornblende in Zone IV indicate that the three-amphibole assemblage in Reaction 1 occurs at \(M/(M + F)\) ratios of 0.65 or greater (Fig. 3B).

The anthophyllite-gedrite solvus is apparently open in Zone I (Robinson et al., 1971b). Because cummingtonite coexists with garnet in intermediate to Fe-rich compositions even in Zone II (Fig. 3A; Huntington, 1975), a three-phase field containing cummingtonite + anthophyllite + gedrite may occur above the F-M join, representing the reaction

\[
\text{Ged + Cum + Qtz} = \text{Ant + Ilm + Plag} \quad (2)
\]

(Fig. 4A). A similar assemblage (but containing hornblende) from rocks of kyanite-staurolite grade in Vermont was reported by Spear (1982). If correct, then a three-phase field with gedrite, garnet, and cummingtonite must occur between the three-amphibole field of Reaction 2 and the garnet-cummingtonite tie line at more Fe-rich compositions, representing the reaction

\[
\text{Ged + An + Bio} = \text{Gar + Cum + Ab + Ilm + Qtz + H}_2\text{O} \quad (3)
\]

(Fig. 4A). This reaction defines an assemblage that is a subset of a similar assemblage reported by Spear (1982) that contains hornblende and anthophyllite. The occurrence of the three-phase field with gedrite, cummingtonite, and garnet in Massachusetts is further indicated by a garnet-gedrite tie line in Zone 1 (Robinson et al., 1982a, their Fig. 87), which requires a three-phase field with gedrite and garnet below the tie line. Reaction 3 can be constrained in Zone II to lie on the Fe-rich side of gedrite + garnet (sample I341 of Robinson and Jaffe, 1969) and hornblende + orthoamphibole assemblages, and on the Mg-rich side of garnet + cummingtonite assemblages (Figs. 3A and 3B). Cummingtonite-astroilitie tie lines that are chemically equivalent to the assemblage defined by Reaction 3 have not been found.

Although the orthoamphibole solvus is apparently closed by Zone II (Fig. 4B; Robinson and Jaffe, 1969; Robinson et al., 1971b), Robinson et al. (1982a, their Fig. 100) suggest that the solvus may still be open (reopened?) in Zone VI because of extra components in gedrite. This idea is based on their interpretation of textures in a rock from Zone VI, in which brown gedrite encloses blades of anthophyllite that are oriented parallel to the gedrite c axis. They interpret this texture as a coexisting prograde pair. My interpretation of similar textures in sample 77 from the same outcrop is that the anthophyllite blades are large, possibly recrystallized exsolution lamellae. In either case, complications surrounding the solvus will not be considered further.

Very Mg-rich rocks in Zone II with sufficient Al have assemblages of hornblende + orthoamphibole + cordierite (Schumacher and Robinson, 1987), possibly representing the reaction

\[
\text{Cord + Hbl + Qtz} = \text{Oam + Plag + Ilm + Bio + H}_2\text{O} \quad (4)
\]

(Fig. 4B). Because this reaction probably proceeds to completion at the Mg sideline at higher grade in quartz-bearing rocks, it will not be considered further.

Huntington (1975) found cummingtonite with \(X_{\text{Mg}}\) as low as 0.172 in Zone II, and end-member iron cummingtonite at this or lower grade is possible. If so, cummingtonite breakdown probably began at the Fe sideline in Zone II or Zone III (Fig. 4C) because assemblages of cummingtonite + garnet + hornblende in place of Fe-rich cummingtonite are well established by Zone IV (Fig. 3B). This three-phase field represents the reaction

\[
\text{Cum + Bio + Plag + Ilm} = \text{Hbl + Gar + Qtz + H}_2\text{O} \quad (5)
\]

(Fig. 4C–4D). The initial breakdown of cummingtonite cannot involve very Fe-rich orthopyroxene, which is not stable relative to olivine + quartz at 6 kbar (e.g., Bohlen et al., 1983; Davidson and Lindsley, 1989). Orthopyroxene is first found in Zone V in amphibolites that have bulk \(X_{\text{Mg}}\) of about 0.4 (whole rock analyses in Hollocher, 1985). It is likely, however, that orthopyroxene first appears in AFM projection (Fig. 4E) at somewhat more Fe-rich compositions by way of three possible reactions:
Orthopyroxene appearing by either Reaction 6a or 6b requires colinearity (in projection) of the three phases garnet, orthopyroxene, and cummingtonite or garnet, orthopyroxene, and hornblende. Inspection of Figures 3A–3D shows that orthopyroxene-garnet and cummingtonite-garnet tie lines have shallow slopes compared to orthopyroxene-hornblende and cummingtonite-hornblende tie lines. Although the difference in the slopes of the tie lines is sensitive to the Fe3+ corrections, the marked differences in the slopes of the tie lines for many rocks imply that the colinearity needed for Reactions 6a and 6b is unlikely. Reaction 6c, in which orthopyroxene appears within the three-phase field of hornblende-cummingtonite-garnet is more likely correct. In any case, Reaction 6c (or Reactions 6a or 6b by a more complex route) results in three new three-phase fields that represent the reactions

\[
\text{Garnet} + \text{Cum} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{Qtz} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{6a}
\]

\[
\text{Gar} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{6b}
\]

\[
\text{Gar} + \text{Cum} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{6c}
\]

(Fig. 4E). Orthopyroxene appearing by either Reaction 6a or 6b requires colinearity (in projection) of the three phases garnet, orthopyroxene, and cummingtonite or garnet, orthopyroxene, and hornblende. Inspection of Figures 3A–3D shows that orthopyroxene-garnet and cummingtonite-garnet tie lines have shallow slopes compared to orthopyroxene-hornblende and cummingtonite-hornblende tie lines. Although the difference in the slopes of the tie lines is sensitive to the Fe3+ corrections, the marked differences in the slopes of the tie lines for many rocks imply that the colinearity needed for Reactions 6a and 6b is unlikely. Reaction 6c, in which orthopyroxene appears within the three-phase field of hornblende-cummingtonite-garnet is more likely correct. In any case, Reaction 6c (or Reactions 6a or 6b by a more complex route) results in three new three-phase fields that represent the reactions

\[
\text{Cum} + \text{Gar} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{Qtz} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{7}
\]

\[
\text{Hbl} + \text{Gar} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{8}
\]

\[
\text{Cum} + \text{An} = \text{OPX} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Ab} + \text{Qtz} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{9a}
\]

(Fig. 4F). An assemblage similar to that in Reaction 8 is found in sample 81 (Fig. 3D, with augite), and the assemblage defined by Reaction 9 is found in sample 74a (and 82 without quartz). Fe-rich hornblende must begin breaking down in Zone V or at lower grade. A likely reaction is

\[
\text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} = \text{Gar} + \text{Aug} + \text{Plag} + \text{Bio} + \text{Ilm} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{10}
\]

(Fig. 4G), which has not been found, but is a subset of the assemblage in sample 81 (Fig. 3D).

Current data obviously make it difficult to constrain the relative locations of many discontinuous reactions, particularly those above the F-M join where quartz-bearing assemblages are uncommon. One possibility is that Reaction 7, a dehydration reaction that proceeds toward higher X_Mg with increasing grade, first intersects Reaction 3 to produce the discontinuous reaction

\[
\text{Cum} + \text{Gar} + \text{Plag} = \text{Ged} + \text{OPX} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{11}
\]

(Fig. 4H1). This reaction stabilizes assemblages of orthopyroxene + orthoamphibole and results in two new continuous reactions:

\[
\text{Oam} + \text{An} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Gar} + \text{Ab} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{12}
\]

and

\[
\text{Oam} + \text{Cum} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{13}
\]

(Fig. 4I). Quartz-free equivalents of Reaction 12 are found in Zones V and VI (Fig. 3C and 3D), but assemblages defined by Reaction 13 have not been found. The other possibility is that Reaction 8, which moves toward Fe-richer compositions with increasing grade, and Reaction 10, which moves toward Mg-richer compositions, intersect first, producing the discontinuous reaction

\[
\text{Hbl} + \text{Gar} + \text{Qtz} = \text{Aug} + \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{14}
\]

(Fig. 4H2), which defines an assemblage found in sample 81 (Fig. 3D) and occurring commonly in the Adirondacks (e.g., Jaffe et al., 1978). Reaction 14 produces two new continuous reactions:

\[
\text{Gar} + \text{Aug} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} \tag{15}
\]

and

\[
\text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} = \text{Aug} + \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{Ilm} + \text{Bio} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{16}
\]

(Fig. 4I2). Both possible sequences in Figures 4H1 and 4I1 and 4H2 and 4I2 result in the same assemblages in Figure 4I. The three-phase field of Reaction 15 separates assemblages of garnet + augite on the Fe-rich side from orthopyroxene-bearing assemblages on the Mg-rich side. The assemblage for Reaction 15 involves only anhydrous minerals and probably moves little with increasing temperature.

Reaction 16 is probably the terminal reaction for hornblende in quartz-bearing rocks. An analysis of plagioclase compositions involved with this reaction indicates that the most stable hornblende in Reaction 16 at intermediate X_Mg has a Ca/(Ca + Na) ratio of about 0.82 (Hollocher, 1985). This implies a reversal in partitioning of Ca/Na between coexisting hornblende and plagioclase, confirming the interpretations of Robinson et al. (1982a, their Figs. 107–108) and Stoddard (1985).

Reaction 13 proceeds toward higher X_Mg with increasing grade, and probably intersects Reaction 1 in lower Zone VI producing the discontinuous reaction

\[
\text{Oam} + \text{Cum} + \text{Plag} = \text{OPX} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{17}
\]

(Fig. 4K). This postulated reaction produces two new continuous reactions:

\[
\text{Oam} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Qtz} = \text{OPX} + \text{Plag} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{18}
\]

and

\[
\text{Cum} + \text{An} = \text{OPX} + \text{Hbl} + \text{Ab} + \text{Qtz} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \tag{9b}
\]

(Fig. 4L). Reaction 18 probably proceeds to the Mg side line, eliminating hornblende-orthoamphibole tie lines. Reaction 9b is a second reaction consuming cummingtonite identical to Reaction 9a, but proceeding in the opposite direction toward lower X_Mg with increasing grade (discussed in more detail below). Reactions 9a and 9b intersect (Fig. 4M), destroying the last bit of cummingtonite at intermediate compositions. This terminal cummingtonite composition requires colinearity (in projection) of hornblende, cummingtonite, and orthopyroxene, which may be a consequence of crystal chemical con-
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straints that stabilize cummingtonite of intermediate composition (see below).

Based on current data, the highest grade rocks in southern New England yield assemblages shown in Figure 40. At higher metamorphic grade, Reaction 16 is expected to go to completion at the Mg sideline, leaving the assemblages shown in Figure 4P.

**REACTIONS IN T-X\textsubscript{Mg} SPACE**

The occurrence and locations of Reactions 1, 9, and 16, all involving quartz, are reasonably well constrained by chemical data in Figure 3. By combining these compositional constraints with estimated prograde metamorphic temperatures (Table 1), an attempt has been made to locate these reactions in T-X\textsubscript{Mg} space. Figure 5 is a set of T-X\textsubscript{Mg} diagrams that are approximately isobaric (about 6 kbar) sections made through the AFM composition field between hornblende and the F-M join in the projections of Figure 4.

In Figure 5A, the Fe-Mg reaction loop for Reaction 1 (producing cummingtonite) is constrained by the compositions of orthoamphibole in assemblages of hornblende + orthoamphibole on the high X\textsubscript{Mg} low temperature side, and by cummingtonite compositions in assemblages of hornblende + cummingtonite on the low X\textsubscript{Mg} high temperature side. The reaction loop must also lie at higher X\textsubscript{Mg} or lower temperature than those conditions appropriate for cummingtonite in assemblages of cummingtonite + garnet and cummingtonite + orthopyroxene. The reaction loop is closely constrained by an assemblage of cummingtonite + hornblende on the Fe-rich side (sample 65a) and an anthophyllite + hornblende assemblage on the Mg-rich side (sample 65b). Samples N, 62, 64, and 72 contain the quartz-free reaction assemblage. Because quartz is on the left side of Reaction 1, the equivalent quartz-absent reaction should occur at higher temperatures at or more Fe-rich compositions. Indeed, samples N, 64, and 72 lie at higher temperatures than the estimated position of the quartz-present loop for Reaction 1. The quartz-bearing assemblage of hornblende + orthopyroxene in sample 79 suggests that the Reaction 1 loop either lies at lower temperatures or higher X\textsubscript{Mg} than that sample.

In Figure 5B the Fe-Mg loop for Reaction 9a, which consumes cummingtonite, is largely constrained on the high X\textsubscript{Mg} low temperature side by cummingtonite compositions in cummingtonite + hornblende assemblages and on the low X\textsubscript{Mg} high temperature side by orthopyroxene compositions in orthopyroxene + hornblende assemblages. The reaction loop must also lie at lower X\textsubscript{Mg} or higher temperature than conditions appropriate for assemblages of hornblende + orthoamphibole, and at higher X\textsubscript{Mg} or lower temperature than conditions appropriate for assemblages of hornblende + orthopyroxene + augite. Note that the Reaction 9a assemblage occurs in sample 74a. Because quartz occurs on the right side of Reaction 9a, the equivalent quartz-absent reaction should occur at lower temperature or higher X\textsubscript{Mg}, explaining why the quartz-free reaction assemblage in sample 82 lies below the estimated position of the quartz-present reaction loop. The extrapolation of the reaction loop yields higher temperatures than those appropriate for the quartz-bearing assemblage of hornblende + orthopyroxene in sample 79 at an X\textsubscript{Mg} of 0.79. Because the assemblage defined by Reaction 9a should occur at lower temperatures than the assemblage found in sample 79, the reaction loop either ends in a discontinuous reaction below about 685 °C (no
Fig. 6. Summary $T-X_{Mg}$ diagram showing an approximately isobaric (6 kbar) pseudosection through the AFM projection between the F-M join and the composition field of hornblende. Three-phase fields of continuous reactions appear as Fe-Mg reaction loops, and discontinuous reactions appear as horizontal lines that terminate loops. The sides of the loops represent the compositions of minerals that are involved in the loop reaction, labeled adjacent to the limb of each loop. The two-phase fields and three- and four-phase reaction assemblages are also labeled, and reaction numbers from the text are given in parentheses. Reactions 1, 9a, 9b, and 16 are shown black, other reactions in the plane of the $T-X_{Mg}$ section are stippled, and reactions out of the plane of section are open (see Fig. 3 for AFM plotting parameters). Relative estimated temperatures are probably fairly precise, but they should not be considered accurate to better than $\pm 50^\circ$C.

Discussion

The analysis given above and in Figure 5 is admittedly crude. However, the observed mineral assemblages and compositions (Fig. 3), the partly hypothetical framework of phase relations (Fig. 4), and the three $T-X_{Mg}$ reaction loops located approximately (Fig. 5) can be interpreted in terms of a $T-X_{Mg}$ phase diagram that is internally consistent for quartz-saturated rocks in Zones II–VI that lie in AFM projection between the F-M join and the field or hornblende solution (Fig. 6).

In Zone II (Fig. 6, about 580 °C), the area between the
C. With increasing temperature, garnet coexists with in-
bole and hornblende * cummingtonite, separated by the
ated by two-phase fields of hornblende * orthoamphi-
blages form by Reactions 14, 15, and 16, depending on
olites. Garnet with, or in place of, orthopyroxene persists
different reactions (6, 8, 9, 17, 18), depending on the XMg
At higher temperatures orthopyroxene appears at the ex-
Fe sideline at a temperature schematically shown as 580
Cummingtonite of continuous Reaction l.
three-phase field of orthoamphibole * hornblende *
will differ from those described above under other meta-
pressures estimated at 8-10 kbar in similar assemblages
from the Adirondacks. In contrast, Russ-Nabelek (1989)
setts allowed garnet to coexist with orthopyroxene having
Xr, up to 0.55 at pressures estimated at 8-10 kbar in similar assemblages
from the Adirondacks. In contrast, Russ-Nabelek (1989)
reported no garnet in a variety of mafic rocks metamor-
phased at pressures near 3 kbar.

CONCLUSIONS
Mafic rocks in central Massachusetts were metamor-
phosed at lower sillimanite grade (Zone II) to produce a
variety of assemblages, including quartz- and plagioclase-
bearing hornblende, hornblende + cummingtonite, horn-
blende + orthoamphibole, and hornblende + ortho-
phibole + cummingtonite. These assemblages evolved by
a series of reactions with increasing grade that systemat-
ically transformed amphibolites into granulites contain-
ing two pyroxene ± garnet. For subaluminous mafic rocks
with intermediate XMg containing quartz and plagioclase,
the reaction sequence can be simplified and described in
terms of a series of metamorphic assemblages: horn-
blende + orthoamphibole (Mg-rich rocks only), horn-
blende + cummingtonite, hornblende + orthopyroxene,
and orthopyroxene + augite. These assemblages are sepa-
ated by boundary Reactions 1, 9, and 16, respectively.
This assemblage series occurs over an estimated tempera-
ture range of 580-730°C.

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APPENDIX 2. Samples used from other studies

<table>
<thead>
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<th>This paper</th>
<th>Original sample no.</th>
<th>Metamorphic zone</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>6A9X</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>7A8BX</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2J14</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>J87D</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>T59B</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
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<td>K44C</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
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<td>H</td>
<td>K44E</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>49B</td>
<td>Zone II</td>
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<td>N30X</td>
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<td>K34A</td>
<td>Zone IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>Q827C</td>
<td>Zone IV</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Samples A–K and N are from Robinson and Jaffe (1969), sample C is from Huntington (1975), and samples L and M are from Wolff (1978).