# Trace element constraints on the differentiation and crystal mush solidification in the Skaergaard intrusion, Greenland

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### ABSTRACT

New major and trace element analyses of plagioclase and clinopyroxene in gabbros from the Skaergaard intrusion are used to understand the mechanisms of crystallization in the main magma body and in the crystal mush. Crystal cores show a continuous chemostratigraphic evolution in the Layered Series, with compatible elements (e.g. Cr and Ni in clinopyroxene) being progressively depleted from the bottom up, whereas incompatible elements (e.g. Sr, Ba, REE in plagioclase and clinopyroxene) become progressively enriched. We performed numerical models and showed that these trends can be explained by a simple process of fractional crystallization, except for the upper 20% of the intrusion where plagioclase and clinopyroxene trace element compositions depart from fractional crystallization trends. At this stage of magma chamber solidification, fractional crystallization becomes less efficient and is replaced by a major proportion of *in situ*, equilibrium crystallization. Trace elements also show significant variations in interstitial overgrowths on plagioclase and clinopyroxene cumulus crystals. They result from crystallization of the interstitial liquid in the liquid + crystal mush. However, incompatible elements, and especially REE, show a degree of enrichment in plagioclase rims (> 20 ppm Ce) that strongly exceeds the highest concentrations observed in plagioclase cores (up to 4 ppm Ce) at the top of the Layered Series. Such a strong enrichment is difficult to reconcile with a simple process of fractional crystallization of the interstitial liquid in the crystal mush but may be related to the development of silicate liquid immiscibility in the crystal mush or to delayed nucleation of apatite. After the crystallization of plagioclase and clinopyroxene overgrowths, diffusive re-equilibration during 0.1-0.25 Myr significantly changed the original zoning profiles. Ce flux from clinopyroxene into the plagioclase lattice of adjacent crystals could also have contributed to the strong Ce enrichment observed in plagioclase rims.

KEY WORDS: Plagioclase, Zoning, Crystal mush, Immiscibility, Cumulate, Diffusion

#### INTRODUCTION

Formation of cumulate rocks in magma chambers starts by nucleation and growth of primocrysts (liquidus phases) which are then captured in a crystal mush made up of these primocrysts and interstitial liquid (e.g. McBirney & Noyes, 1979; Marsh, 2006; Humphreys, 2009; Holness et al., 2013; Bédard, 2015). Primocrysts form at the interface between the crystal mush, comprised of previously formed crystals + interstitial melt, and the crystal-free main magma body. Although the thickness of crystal mushes (e.g. vertical section between fully-solidified cumulate rocks and the main magma body) in basaltic magma chambers and their timescales of solidification are debated (Holness et al., 2007a, 2017a, 2017b, 2017c; McKenzie, 2011), their initial porosity is generally assumed to be high ( $\phi = 0.4$ -0.6; Irvine 1980; Philpotts et al., 1998; Jerram et al., 2003). However, the formation of crystal overgrowths, crystallization of new interstitial phases and mobility of the interstitial melt either by compaction (Tegner et al., 2009; McKenzie, 2011) or convection (Tait et al., 1984; Toplis et al., 2008) act to reduce the mush liquid fraction. These processes lead to a wide range of cumulate rocks from orthocumulates with > 25 % of interstitial material (e.g. crystallized interstitial liquid) to adcumulates with < 7 % of interstitial material (Wager *et al.*, 1960). Abundant studies based on experiments, modelling and analyses of natural samples have been performed to understand the mobility of the interstitial melt (Tait et al., 1984; Jaupart & Tait, 1995; Morse, 1986; Meurer & Meurer, 2006; Tegner et al., 2009; Humphreys, 2011; Namur & Charlier, 2012; Namur et al., 2014) but a better comprehension of these processes is still hampered by our lack of detailed understanding of the physical properties of the melt (Toplis & Carroll, 1995; Tegner et al., 2009; Thy et al., 2009a), the rheology of the crystal mush (McKenzie, 1984, 2011; Tegner et al., 2009; Namur & Charlier, 2012), and the crystal mush thickness (Holness et al., 2007a, 2017a, 2017b), as well as the rates of crystal accumulation (Morse, 2011) and crystal growth (Holness, 2015).

Few studies have investigated the geochemical evolution of the interstitial melt in the crystal mush during assumed progressive cooling and crystallization (Bernstein, 2006). Using major, minor and trace elements in plagioclase, amphibole and apatite from the Skaergaard

intrusion, it was shown that, at least to some extent, the liquid inside the crystal mush evolves in a similar way to that of the liquid in the main magma body (Humphreys, 2009). In that case, intra-grain chemical variation sould be identical to that observed in primocryst cores from the level of crystal capture to the top of the cumulate pile (UZc and equivalent subzones in the UBS and MBS). However, thermal buffering in the crystal mush (Namur et al., 2014), chemical buffering by the crystallizing assemblage (Meurer & Claeson, 2002), reactive dissolution during melt migration (Meurer & Meurer, 2006; Lissenberg et al., 2013; Namur et al., 2013), and development of silicate liquid immiscibility (Humphreys, 2011) may produce geochemical trends significantly departing from that of the main magma body. In basaltic layered intrusions, most studies investigating the crystallization of the interstitial liquid in the crystal mush mush focused on major and some minor (e.g. Ti, Fe) element compositional profiles in cumulus crystals (Toplis et al., 2008; Humphreys, 2009, 2011; Namur et al., 2014). No systematic *in situ* investigation of trace elements in core and rims of cumulus phases throughout the stratigraphy of a basaltic intrusion currently exists. The only available trace element datasets correspond to plagioclase and clinopyroxene core compositions in the Bushveld complex (Tanner et al., 2014) and the Sept Iles intrusion (Namur et al., 2011), core compositions and bulk mineral separates in the Skaergaard intrusion (Jang et al., 2001; Jang & Naslund, 2001; McBirney, 2002), few trace element transects in clinopyroxene crystals from gabbronoritic plugs from East Greenland (Bernstein, 2006). Trace element data in cumulus minerals from other gabbroic intrusions (e.g. Tribuzio et al., 1999, 2009; Hermann et al., 2001) have been reported in the literature but were not used to discuss the crystallization of the interstitial liquid in a crystal mush. Trace elements are however extremely useful to constrain crystallization processes because they are characterized by different degrees of compatibility (Wood & Blundy, 1997; Aigner-Torres et al., 2007), which can in turn evolve with the stable liquidus assemblage (Morse and Nolan, 1986), and by solid-state diffusion at magmatic and subsolidus temperatures (Cherniak & Watson, 1994; Cherniak, 2003; Van Orman et al., 2001; Cawthorn & Tegner, 2017). Trace elements incorporated in crystal overgrowths and interstitial phases may therefore be more sensitive than major and minor

elements to important magmatic processes (Meurer & Claeson, 2002) such as crystallization of the mush liquid, melt migration and infiltration by primitive or evolved melt, reactive dissolution as well as the timing of nucleation of new interstitial phases (Meurer & Meurer, 2006; Humphreys, 2009; Lissenberg *et al.*, 2013).

The Skaergaard intrusion, East Greenland, is considered as a case study for basaltic magmatism that crystallized as a closed system at shallow depth. Although its liquid line of descent is still debated (Wager & Brown, 1968; Hunter & Sparks, 1987; Toplis & Carroll, 1995; Thy et al., 2009b), it is generally accepted that the cumulate rocks from the Skaergaard represent the crystallization products of liquids related by a common process of fractional crystallization (Wager & Brown, 1968; McBirney, 1996). At Skaergaard, cumulate rocks formed at the floor (Layered Series), roof (Upper Border Series) and walls (Marginal Border Series) of the magma chamber. Primocryst assemblages are identical in the three series (Salmonsen & Tegner, 2013) but the proportion of crystallized interstitial material is generally lower in the Layered Series, especially after the appearance of cumulus Fe-Ti oxides (Tegner et al., 2009; Namur et al., 2014). Skaergaard rocks therefore span the full range from orthocumulates to adcumulates and offer a unique opportunity to discuss the processes of crystallization of the interstitial melt in a crystal mush. In this study, we present in situ major and trace element compositions of plagioclase and clinopyroxene in troctolites and gabbros from the Layered Series and Marginal Border Series. We show that the variation of trace elements in crystal cores with stratigraphy can, in general, be explained by a simple process of fractional crystallization. However, the evolution of some elements in the Upper Zone suggests that fractional crystallization becomes less effective in this part of the intrusion and is progressively replaced by equilibrium, in situ, crystallization. The evolution of trace elements during solidification of the liquid in the crystal mush and the composition of crystal rims that form during this process are more complicated to understand. Based on trace element zoning patterns, we suggest that fractional crystallization plays a major role but that this process alone cannot fully explain the distribution of trace elements in mineral rims. This is especially true for light rare-earth elements (LREE) which show high concentrations

compared to what is predicted from fractional crystallization models. Such high concentrations may be related to the development of silicate liquid immiscibility in the crystal mush and/or to the timing of crystallization of modally-minor phases such as apatite. We also suggest that the initial distribution of trace elements has been significantly affected by solid-state diffusion between plagioclase and clinopyroxene (Coogan & O'Hara, 2015) or plagioclase and melt. Our study confirms that crystal rims and grain boundaries are major reservoirs of incompatible elements in cumulate rocks (Hiraga *et al.*, 2004) and that the bulk rock distribution of trace elements is not only controlled by the crystallization of accessory phases (Meurer & Meurer, 2006) but also by the formation of zoned crystals. This is an important result that cannot be accessed from studies using bulk mineral separates (Jang *et al.*, 2001; Jang & Naslund, 2001; Cawthorn & Tegner, 2017).

#### THE SKAERGAARD INTRUSION

The Eocene Skaergaard intrusion of East Greenland occupies a box-shaped, fault-bounded chamber, approximately 8 km x 11 km x 4 km (Nielsen, 2004) at the contact between Precambrian gneisses and a thick overlying sequence of Eocene plateau lavas. It formed during the opening of the Northeast Atlantic ~ 55 Myr ago (Hirschmann *et al.*, 1997). The intrusion is divided into three main units: the Layered Series (LS) which crystallized on the floor, the Upper Border Series (UBS) which crystallized from the roof, and the Marginal Border Series (MBS) which grew inwards from the vertical walls (Figs 1a-b). These units follow roughly parallel trends of differentiation into the centre of the intrusion, converging at the Sandwich Horizon (SH). Variations in the textural maturity of basal cumulate rocks indicate that the chamber was filled by several volumetrically minor pulses of magma followed by a last large pulse making the bulk of the magma chamber (Holness *et al.*, 2007a, 2015). After this volumetrically dominant injection of magma, the chamber stayed closed and crystallized.

The stratigraphy of the LS is subdivided, based on changes in the primocryst assemblage, into plagioclase + olivine (Hidden Zone, HZ and Lower Zone a, LZa), plag + ol

+ augite,  $\pm$  pigeonite (LZb), plag + ol + aug + Fe-Ti oxides (LZc), plag + aug + ox (+ pig; Middle Zone, MZ), plag + ol + aug + ox (Upper Zone a, UZa), plag + ol + aug + ox + apatite (UZb), plag + ol + aug + ox + ap + ferro-hedenbergite (inverted from  $\beta$ -ferrobustamite; UZc), where plag is plagioclase, ol is olivine, aug is augite, ox is Fe-Ti oxides, pig is pigeonite and ap is apatite (Fig. 1a). The MBS is subdivided in an analogous manner into HZ\*, LZa\*, LZb\*, LZc\*, MZ\*, UZa\* and UZb\* (Hoover, 1989), as is the UBS (LZa', LZb', LZc', MZ', UZa', UZb', UZc'; Salmonsen & Tegner 2013). In the three series, continuous fractional crystallization is recorded by the compositions of the primocryst minerals, which change systematically with stratigraphic height (Hoover, 1989; McBirney, 1989; Salmonsen & Tegner, 2013). Bulk-rock incompatible element concentrations suggest that the proportion of solidified interstitial mush liquid is higher in the UBS and MBS (> 30 %) than in corresponding sub-zones of the LS, especially after the appearance of magnetite (< 10 %; Hoover 1989; Tegner et al., 2009; Salmonsen & Tegner 2013; Namur et al., 2014). The decreasing fraction of interstitial liquid from bottom to top of the LS has been attributed to increasingly efficient compaction of the crystal mush (Tegner et al., 2009), although it could also be ascribed to removal of interstitial liquid by other processes active in the mush such as convection. In a similar way, higher trapped liquid fraction in the MBS and UBS than in the LS may be attributed to minimal compaction at the vertical walls and roof of the magma chamber (Tegner et al., 2009; Namur et al., 2013; Salmonsen & Tegner, 2013).

#### SAMPLING AND ANALYTICAL METHODS

Samples used in this study include suites collected during several field seasons and material from drill cores (Fig. 1a; Supplementary Dataset 1). The chosen set of 87 samples covers all stratigraphic units from the LS. A few samples also come from the MBS and were collected from two surface traverses, one on Kramer Island and one on the Skaergaard Peninsula (Fig. 1a). The stratigraphic positions of the samples and the calculated fractions of remaining liquid in the magma chamber are reported in Supplementary Dataset 1. Detailed petrographic description of the samples is given in Tegner *et al.* (2009), Humphreys (2011) and Namur *et* 

al. (2014).

Plagioclase (Supplementary Dataset 2) and clinopyroxene (Supplementary Dataset 3) major element analyses were performed with a Cameca SX-100 electron microprobe (EPMA) at the University of Cambridge (United Kingdom) and the University of Hannover (Germany). For core compositions, a 15 kV and 15 nA beam was used with a spot size of 5  $\mu$ m for plagioclase and 1  $\mu$ m for clinopyroxene. Peak counting times were 20 s for all elements. When possible, at least 3 points in the core of 3 grains (n > 9) were measured. The values reported here correspond to the mean (±1 $\sigma$ ) of all the measurements that had a total between 98.5 and 101 wt.%. For chemical profiles from core to rim, we used identical conditions but the spot size for plagioclase was 1  $\mu$ m. The following standards were used for K $\alpha$  X-ray line calibration: diopside for Si and Ca, rutile for Ti, corundum for Al, fayalite for Fe, spessartine for Mn, periclase for Mg, jadeite for Na, K-feldspar for K. Raw data were corrected with the CATZAF software.

*In situ* trace element analyses of plagioclase (Supplementary Dataset 4) and clinopyroxene (Supplementary Dataset 5) were performed with a LA-ICP-MS at the University of Cambridge. A pulsed 213 nm New Wave Research UP213 Nd:YAG laser with 100 mJ energy at a repetition rate of 10 Hz coupled with an Elan DCR II quadrupole ICP-MS system was used for ablation. Laser sampling was performed in a He-Ar atmosphere. A beam diameter of 100 µm was used for analyses in the cores (Fig. 2a-b) of the crystals while a beam diameter of 30 µm was used for analyses in rims. The cores of some crystals were too fragile to be analyzed with a large spot (100 µm) and we therefore measured them with a smaller spot size (10 µm) and performed rastered analyses (Fig. 2c). Analyses were calibrated using <sup>29</sup>Si as internal standard isotope based on SiO<sub>2</sub> concentrations measured by EPMA. During time-resolved analyses of minerals, possible contamination from inclusions and fractures was detected by monitoring several elements (Mg, Si, P, Ca, Ce and Sr) and only the 'clean' part of the signals was integrated. NIST glasses (610 and 612; Pearce *et al.*, 1997) were used as external standards while NIST614, BCR-2G, BIR-1G, GOR-128-G (Horn *et al.*, 1997; Norman *et al.*, 1998; Jochum *et al.*, 2005) and in-house standards were used as secondary standards. Precision and accuracy were determined by repeated analyses of NIST, BCR, BIR and GOR glasses and natural samples (for precision). Most trace elements are determined with accuracy better than  $\pm 10$  % with respect to published values. Elements with recoveries outside this range were not used in this study. Repeat analyses also indicate a typical 1 $\sigma$ relative precision better than  $\pm 5$ -10 % for all elements (Supplementary Dataset 6). Data were reduced with Glitter 4.0.

In situ plagioclase (Supplementary Dataset 7) and clinopyroxene (Supplementary Dataset 8) trace element analyses of selected samples were also performed by secondary ion mass-spectrometry (SIMS) at the NERC Ion Microprobe Facility in the School of GeoSciences at the University of Edinburgh, UK (Fig. 2d). We used a Cameca ims-4f with a 5nA primary O<sup>-</sup> ion beam, an accelerating potential of 10 kV, a beam current of 5 nA and a secondary accelerating voltage of 4500 V minus a 75 V offset. The beam size was  $\sim 10 \ \mu m$  in diameter and was not rastered. For plagioclase, the following isotopes were measured for 10 cycles, with counting times in seconds in parentheses:  ${}^{26}Mg(30)$ ,  ${}^{30}Si(20)$ ,  ${}^{31}P(50)$ ,  ${}^{39}K(20)$ , <sup>42</sup>Ca(20), <sup>49</sup>Ti(50), <sup>51</sup>V(50), <sup>52</sup>Cr(50), <sup>85</sup>Rb(50), <sup>88</sup>Sr(50), <sup>90</sup>Zr(50), <sup>138</sup>Ba(50), <sup>139</sup>La(50), and <sup>140</sup>Ce(50). For clinopyroxene, the following isotopes were measured for 6 cycles: <sup>23</sup>Na(33), <sup>26</sup>Mg(33), <sup>27</sup>Al(33), <sup>30</sup>Si(33), <sup>39</sup>K(50), <sup>42</sup>Ca(33), <sup>44</sup>Ca(33), <sup>45</sup>Sc(83), <sup>47</sup>Ti(50), <sup>49</sup>Ti(50), <sup>51</sup>V(83), <sup>52</sup>Cr(83), <sup>53</sup>Cr(83), <sup>88</sup>Sr(83), <sup>89</sup>Y(83), <sup>90</sup>Zr(83), <sup>139</sup>La(83), and <sup>140</sup>Ce(83). Peak positions were verified before each analysis and mass 0.7 was measured to determine background count rates which were sufficiently low to be ignored. Data for <sup>51</sup>V and <sup>52</sup>Cr were corrected for <sup>23</sup>Na<sup>28</sup>Si interference and <sup>23</sup>Na<sup>29</sup>Si interference, respectively. NIST 610 (Pearce et al., 1997) was used as the calibration standard and concentrations were calculated using JCION-5 software by normalizing intensities to <sup>30</sup>Si determined by EPMA. NIST612, NIST614, 95IRV, 95IRW, 95IRX, GSA and GSC were used as external standards (Horn et al., 1997; Pearce et al., 1997; Carpenter et al., 2002). Ion yields determined by analysis of the NIST610 standard showed no systematic drift through the course of the analyses. Correction factors were applied for elements of interest based on comparisons of known ion yields relative to <sup>30</sup>Si for plagioclase standards and clinopyroxene standards with those of glass standards (Kovalenko et al., 1988).

Precision and accuracy were estimated by repeated analyses of glass and plagioclase standards. Accuracy was found to be better than  $\pm 10$  % for all elements, except for P (~ 20 %; Supplementary Dataset 9). Typical 1 $\sigma$  relative precision was estimated as  $\pm 5-10$  % for all elements.

#### RESULTS

#### Stratigraphic evolution of mineral compositions

The major element compositions of plagioclase and clinopyroxene in cumulates (troctolites and gabbros; Fig. 3a) from the LS follow trends previously described in the literature (McBirney, 1989). We observe a continuous and relatively linear decrease of the plagioclase An content [An = Ca/(Ca+Na) mol%; Fig. 3b] with increasing stratigraphic height. The An content decreases from 75 at the bottom of the exposed LS (in the 1966 drill core; Fig. 1b) to 30 in the SH. The clinopyroxene Mg number [Mg# = Mg/(Mg+Fe<sup>2+</sup>) mol%; Fig. 3c] also decreases continuously from 70 to 0, with the steepest decrease observed in the Upper Zone. Minor elements in plagioclase and clinopyroxene show different trends depending on their degree of compatibility. The TiO<sub>2</sub> content of plagioclase first increases from 0.07 to 0.12 in LZa-LZb before decreasing down to 0.02 from LZc to SH (Fig. 4). A relatively similar trend is observed for TiO<sub>2</sub> in clinopyroxene although the decrease from LZc to SH is less obvious. Some minor elements in clinopyroxene continuously decrease from bottom to top of the LS (e.g. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Na<sub>2</sub>O) while MnO continuously increases.

Several trends of trace elements can be observed. In plagioclase (Fig. 5), Sr, Ba, Eu and other rare earth elements (REE) slightly increase from LZa to UZa and then strongly increase in UZb and UZc. P increases from LZa to UZa before decreasing throughout UZb and UZc, a change which we attribute to the saturation of apatite in the main magma body. We did not observe any element continuously decreasing with stratigraphic height in plagioclase. In clinopyroxene (Fig. 6), Sr, Ba and Eu stay relatively constant or slightly increase from LZa to UZa before increasing significantly in UZb and UZc. Zr and REE elements (e.g. Ce) decrease from LZa to UZb before they strongly increase in UZc towards

SH. Sc increases from LZa to UZb and then decreases in UZc. The decrease in Sc is attributed to the saturation of ferrobustamite ( $D_{Sc}^{Cpx/Sil} > 1.5$  in ferro-hedenbergite; Dygert *et* al., 2014; D = partition coefficient; Cpx = clinopyroxene; Sil = silicate melt; Beattie et al., 1993). Co increases from LZa to the top of UZa and then decreases continuously in UZb and UZc. This is presumably related to silicate-sulfide immiscibility (McBirney, 1998; Nielsen et *al.*, 2015) and partitioning of Co into the sulfide melt ( $D_{Co}^{Sul/Sil} > 15$ ; Sul = sulfide melt; Gaetani & Grove, 1997). V increases slightly from LZa to LZc before it decreases strongly and continuously in the Upper Zone as a result of magnetite crystallization (Jang et al., 2001; Toplis & Corgne, 2002). Ni and Cr are the only elements that systematically decrease with stratigraphic height, probably due to their compatible behaviour in olivine, clinopyroxene and Fe-Ti oxides (see D values in Supplementary Material). They are usually below detection limit in UZa-UZc. Both Ni and V concentrations show a spike at  $\sim 1100$  m. These high values are observed in the 4 samples that we selected in the drill-core 90-10 used in this study (Fig. 1; Supplementary Dataset 1). This may indicate that either mineral compositions are laterally heterogeneous within the LS (90-10 was drilled near the western margin of the intrusion) or that the stratigraphy of the drill core was affected by local faulting.

Chondrite-normalized REE patterns for plagioclase and clinopyroxene are shown in Fig. 7. In plagioclase, the heaviest element that can be measured accurately in most samples is Gd. REE in plagioclase are moderately enriched (La: 2-13 times La in CI-chondrite) to slightly depleted (Gd: 0.2-1.2 times Gd in CI). REE patterns are relatively similar throughout the LS except that the Eu anomaly [Eu/Eu\*, with Eu\* =  $(Gd_N + Sm_N)/2$ ) increases from LZ (30±7) to MZ (66±36) and UZ (82±59). No systematic evolution of the degree of fractionation between light rare earth elements (LREE) and heavy rare earth elements (HREE) is observed with increasing stratigraphic height. La/Gd ratios therefore stay relatively constant in LZ (6.6±2.3), MZ (10.1±3.9) and UZ (7.2±3.3). In the UZ, REE concentrations are generally higher than those observed in the LZ and MZ. In these samples, elements up to Yb can be measured and we observe an increase in La/Yb ratios from UZa (4.21±0.36) to

UZb (6.56±3.12) and UZc (30.91±8.88).

REE in clinopyroxene are more abundant than in plagioclase (La: 4.1-99 times La in CI; Gd: 16-157 times Gd in CI; Yb: 9-94 times Yb in CI). REE patterns in clinopyroxene show a significant negative Eu anomaly varying from  $0.55\pm0.09$  in the LZ to  $0.67\pm0.04$  in the MZ and  $0.73\pm0.11$  in the UZ. Only a few samples from UZb do not show such a negative anomaly. The degree of fractionation between LREE and HREE decreases with increasing stratigraphic height as illustrated by the decreasing value of the La/Yb ratio from LZ (1.16±0.18) to MZ (0.82±0.09) and UZ (0.38±0.29). In UZ, the total concentrations of REE is much higher in UZc than in UZa and UZb.

#### Core-rim profiles in crystals and rim compositions

We measured a series of compositional profiles and individual points by LA-ICP-MS and by SIMS in zoned plagioclase (Supplementary Fig. 1) and clinopyroxene. For LA-ICP-MS analyses, we used a small laser beam (30 µm) and significant uncertainties are expected for some elements (e.g. Cr, V) while the signal/noise ratio was also found to be small to be used for other elements (e.g. P, HREE). We therefore focus only on elements for which errors lower than 10% have been observed for the NIST glasses (i.e. Ti, Sr, Ba, La, Ce, Eu). For SIMS measurements, errors are relatively low (less than 10%) for most elements. For each trace element analysis, we determined the associated major element composition of the crystal by EPMA.

In plagioclase, trace element zoning can be observed in almost every crystal that we investigated. However, chemical zoning patterns differ from one element to another and zoning is especially developed in samples from the LZ (particularly LZa and LZb; Fig. 8) and in samples from the UZ (UZa and UZb; Fig. 9). In samples from the LZ and to a lesser extent in samples from the UZ, the An content of plagioclase shows two different patterns described in Namur *et al.* (2014): (1) core of constant An content surrounded by a rim of decreasing An content (i.e. normal zoning); (2) core of constant An content, followed by a mantle of decreasing An content and a rim buffered to a constant composition (An<sub>55-58</sub> in LZa, An<sub>49-51</sub>).

in LZb,  $An_{39-41}$  from MZ to UZa). The second type of profile is not observed in rocks from UZb and UZc (Namur et al., 2014). Although the core-rim evolution of An is different in these two types of profiles, the evolution of trace elements is relatively similar (Fig. 8). In details, we observe very little zoning for Sr or a moderate increase of the Sr content in the rims. In contrast, Ba increases continuously from core to rim. In most samples, even the core of the grains (defined as the internal region with constant An content) shows a progressive increase in Ba towards the rim (Fig. 9). The most impressive zoning patterns are shown by LREE (up to Sm) as represented by Ce in Fig. 8. They usually show low and homogeneous concentrations in the core followed by a progressive and continuous increase in the rim. In contrast to other elements such as Sr or Ba, the Ce content in the outermost part of the rim significantly exceeds the highest concentrations observed in plagioclase cores from any stratigraphic interval of the Skaergaard intrusion (< 5 ppm; Fig. 10). Jang & Naslund (2001) reported high Ce contents in plagioclase cores from the SH (up to 20 ppm) but as discussed below, this analysis may have been contaminated by accessory phases. Eu concentration is relatively high in most plagioclase crystals and does not show any obvious zoning or only a slight increase from core to rim (Fig. 10). Ti usually shows flat profiles in plagioclase cores followed by a continuous decrease in the rims. In some crystals from LZa and LZb, Ti shows a bell-shaped profile in the rims where it first increases and then decreases outwards. This behaviour was described using detailed electron microprobe profiles in the LZ (Humphreys, 2009) and was attributed to the saturation of Fe-Ti oxides in the mush liquid. In most profiles that we measured in samples from the LZ, we do not see the initial stage of Ti enrichment and interpret this absence as being due the lower spatial resolution of the LA-ICP-MS compared to the electron microprobe. Relatively similar profiles for all trace elements are observed in crystals from the UZ and in the MBS (Fig. 9). However, in a few crystals from the UZ where plagioclase crystals are in contact with granophyric prockets, we observe a decrease of the Ba and Sr contents in the outwards part of the rims. In samples from the UZ and the MBS, we also commonly observe bell-shaped profiles for P (samples measured by SIMS; Fig. 9).

Trace element analyses in clinopyroxene rims were mostly performed by SIMS in a

limited number of samples. In HZ-LZa and LZa\*, clinopyroxene forms large oikocrysts and relative distances from the core of the crystals cannot be accurately determined. Major elements (Mg#) usually do not show any obvious evolution towards the external part of the grains whereas minor elements such as  $TiO_2$  and  $Al_2O_3$  decrease (Humphreys, 2009). We observe a large range of trace element concentrations with incompatible elements (e.g. Zr, REE, Y) increasing (outwards) with decreasing TiO<sub>2</sub> and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, while compatible elements (mostly Cr) decrease. From the top of LZa (or LZa\*), where clinopyroxene starts to form tabular grains, a more systematic evaluation of zoning profiles is possible. As for the poikilitic clinopyroxene crystals, only minor variation of the Mg# is observed from core to rim. In contrast, a strong increase of incompatible elements and a strong decrease of compatible elements are generally observed (Fig. 11). An important observation for clinopyroxene concerns the behaviour of highly incompatible elements such as REE and Zr (McBirney, 2002). When REE (Ce for LREE and Y as a proxy for HREE) are plotted against Zr, two different trends are observed. Clinopyroxene rims in samples from the LZ have much lower REE contents at a given Zr content than rims in samples from the UZ. Samples from the MZ seem to plot between these two trends (Fig. 12). Such a decoupling is not observed in crystal cores for which all compositions plot on a single trend. However, a relatively similar decoupling between 3+ cations and 4+ cations was previously reported for Al<sup>3+</sup> and Ti<sup>4+</sup> in clinopyroxene cores (Nwe, 1976). It was attributed to contrasted substitution mechanisms of minor elements in the pyroxene lattice. In agreement with these data, our new analyses of clinopyroxene cores also reveal a higher proportion of Al<sup>3+</sup> at a given Ti<sup>4+</sup>content in LZ than in UZ(and MZ; Supplementary Fig. 2a). It is therefore interesting to note that the behaviour of 3+ (Ce, Y) and 4+ (Zr) trace elements in clinopyroxene rims is opposite to that of 3+ and 4+ major elements ( $Al^{3+}$  and  $Ti^{4+}$ ) in crystal cores. Indeed, we observe lower abundance of 3+ cations (Ce, Y) at a given content of 4+ cations (Zr) in clinopyroxene rims from the LZ than in clinopyroxene rims from the UZ. We also note that there is no link between the incompatible trace element content (Zr and REE) and the concentration of Ti<sup>4+</sup> or Al<sup>3+</sup> in the clinopyroxene (Supplementary Fig. 2c). This is surprising because REE partition coefficients

between plagioclase and clinopyroxene are commonly assumed to be strongly related to the Al and Ti content of the clinopyroxene (Bédard, 2014). This may indicate that the changing behaviour of Zr and Ce in clinopyroxene rims from LZ to US may not be related to a simple change in substitution mechanisms in the pyroxene lattice.

In order to assess and quantify possible re-equilibration and interdiffusion of fast and slow diffusing elements between silicate minerals (Coogan & O'Hara, 2015), we measured the major and trace element compositions of adjacent plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystals in a single sample (SK84-358; LZc; Fig. 13). Major elements (An content of plagioclase and Mg# of clinopyroxene) and mildly compatible elements (Sr. Ba) show little zoning. Transition metals are low in plagioclase but continuously decrease (Ni, Cr and V) from core to rim in clinopyroxene. LREE elements (La to Eu) significantly increase in the plagioclase rim while they slightly decrease in the clinopyroxene rim. LREE in the plagioclase rim (up to 5 ppm Ce) however do not reach the extremely high concentrations (Ce > 20 ppm Ce) observed in many other crystals from LZa and LZb (Fig. 10). The absence of such an extreme LREE enrichment in the plagioclase rim reported in Fig. 13 may be due to early impingement of plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystals during solidification of the liquid in the crystal mush which could have hampered further crystal growth from the most evolved interstitial melts (Holness et al., 2013: Namur et al., 2013). It is also well known that samples from LZc contain much less material crystallized from trapped liquid than samples from LZa and LZb (Tegner et al., 2009; Namur et al., 2014).

#### DISCUSSION

In the following discussion, we consider a model of magma chamber in which crystallization occurs in two main regions (Fig. 14): (1) At the interface between a solid + liquid crystal mush and the main magma body. This is where primocrysts (e.g. crystal cores) form. Subsequent crystallization of primocrysts will burry early formed crystals in the solid + liquid crystal mush; (2) in the solid + liquid crystal mush. This is where interstitial phases and crystal overgrowths form. In the first part of the discussion we use geochemical models to

investigate the geochemical evolution of the Skaergaard parental magma and the equilibrium minerals forming in the main magma body (i.e. at the interface with the crystal mush) during fractional crystallization. These data are then compared with crystal core compositions measured along the Skaergaard stratigraphic column to evaluate to what extent fractional crystallization can explain the geochemical evolution of cumulus phases in Skaergaard. In the second part of the discussion, we investigate the processes that may affect the composition of crystal rims that formed during solidification of the liquid in the crystal mush. In particular, we assess whether or not rim compositions can be explained by simple crystallization of the mush liquid or if they have been affected by other processes such as the development of silicate-liquid immiscibility or sub-solidus diffusion. For this second part of the discussion, we especially focus on highly incompatible trace elements and Ce in particular.

## Evolution of trace elements during the differentiation of the main magma body Modelling fractional crystallization

Solidification of the Skaergaard intrusion involved highly effective fractional crystallization of the original ferrobasaltic parent magma (Nielsen, 2004). This is illustrated by the continuous evolution of major element compositions of plagioclase, olivine and clinopyroxene in the LS (McBirney, 1989; Thy *et al.*, 2009a; Namur *et al.*, 2014), the UBS (Naslund, 1984; Salmonsen & Tegner, 2013) and the MBS (Hoover, 1989; Namur *et al.*, 2013). Highly effective fractional crystallization of the parent magma is also supported by strong enrichment factors for most trace elements between cumulus phases at the bottom of the intrusion (LZa for plagioclase and LZb for clinopyroxene) and those at the top of UZc (Figs 5, 6; Supplementary Fig. 3). Only a few compatible elements show negative enrichment factors, which may also be explained by protracted fractional crystallization. In the following, we test if the stratigraphic patterns of important trace elements in plagioclase and clinopyroxene can be adequately reproduced by simple models of fractional crystallization or whether solidification of the magma chamber involved more complicated processes.

Modelling the fractional crystallization process was performed using the Rayleigh

equation (see details in Supplementary Material). It requires us to make realistic assumptions for several parameters: the parental magma composition of the intrusion, instantaneous cotectic proportions of minerals at each step of crystallization, the amount of interstitial liquid that remains trapped in the cumulate matrix (i.e. does not return to the main magma body and does not contribute to the overall differentiation of the magma chamber, such as in situ crystallization; Langmuir, 1989), and mineral-liquid partition coefficients (D) for each element and each phase. As described in the following, cotectic proportions, trapped liquid fractions and D values are not perfectly constrained. In order to take into account the effect of changing these parameters on calculated liquid compositions, we performed a Monte Carlo simulation with 1000 calculations of fractional crystallization paths. For each simulation, we then calculated the compositions of equilibrium, liquidus minerals. Details on the parameters and limits used in the calculations are given below whereas comparison between calculated mineral compositions and those observed in Skaergaard cumulate rocks are presented in the next chapter.

A good estimate of the major and trace element composition of the Skaergaard parent magma was proposed by Nielsen (2004) and is used in our models (see Supplementary Material). For elements that were not reported by Nielsen (2004), we complemented our database with average compositions of East Greenland tholeiitic basalts (Tegner *et al.*, 1998). There is a significant debate about cotectic proportions of liquidus minerals in the Skaergaard intrusion, especially for Fe-Ti oxides (Toplis & Carroll, 1996; Thy *et al.*, 2009a). This led to significant discussions about the actual liquid line of descent of the Skaergaard magma (Hunter & Sparks, 1987; McBirney & Naslund, 1990; Toplis & Carroll, 1996; Tegner, 1997; Thy *et al.*, 2009a). In our models, we considered cotectic proportions estimated from equilibrium experiments (Thy *et al.*, 2006) and from mineral modes in cumulate rocks (Fig. 3; Thy *et al.*, 2009a). The effect of using imperfectly constrained cotectic proportions could have a strong effect on modelling results especially for compatible elements (e.g. Cr, Ni). It could also affect the results for less compatible elements for which mineral/melt partitioning may depend on the major element (e.g. SiO<sub>2</sub>) composition of the equilibrium melt (e.g.

Dohmen & Blundy, 2014). To take this uncertainty into account, we considered a tolerance of  $\pm 5$  % relative for the cotectic proportion of each phase given by Thy *et al.* (2006; see Supplementary Material). Concerning the amount of interstitial liquid in the crystal mush during solidification of the magma chamber, we considered the eventual trapped liquid fractions (e.g. residual porosity) rather than the initial porosity of the mush (Jerram et al., 2003) because convection and/or compaction quickly expel the interstitial melt from the crystal matrix back to the main magma body (Toplis et al., 2008; Tegner et al., 2009; Namur & Charlier, 2012). We estimated trapped liquid fractions using the bulk  $P_2O_5$  contents of cumulate rocks as reported in Tegner et al. (2009), Namur et al. (2013), Salmonsen & Tegner (2013), Holness et al. (2015) and from an unpublished dataset of the MBS available at the University of Cambridge. Calculations were performed using the iterative method described in Namur et al. (2014) (see Supplementary Material), except that the actual P content of cumulus plagioclase (Fig. 5) was used in the calculation. This has for consequence to slightly reduce the estimated trapped liquid fraction. Because cumulate rocks form at the floor, roof and walls of the magma chamber at the same time and from the same magma (Salmonsen & Tegner, 2013), the amount of interstitial liquid trapped in cumulates from the three series of the intrusion (LS, MBS, UBS) must be considered in our models. We calculated a weighted average bulk trapped liquid content from the relative volumes of each zone (or subzone) in the LS.

MBS and US (Nielsen 2004; e.g.  $X_{LZa}^{IL} \times vol_{LZa} + X_{LZa^*}^{IL} \times vol_{LZa^*} + X_{LZa'}^{IL} \times vol_{LZa'}$ ; where  $X^{IL}$  is the fraction of interstitial liquid and vol. is the volume of each zone (e.g. LZa) in the intrusion). For UZa and UZb (and equivalent subzones in MBS and UBS) where apatite is cumulus, we used trapped liquid fractions calculated from U concentrations for the LS (Tegner *et al.*, 2009). For cumulates in the MBS and UBS for which no U bulk-rock data exist, we considered a residual porosity of 30 %.

For the mineral-liquid partition coefficients (D), we used two different approaches: (1) we compiled an extensive literature dataset of experimentally determined Ds between basaltic melt and minerals present in Skaergaard cumulates (plagioclase: n = 310; n = number of experiments; olivine: n = 75; clinopyroxene: n = 310; magnetite: n = 23; ilmenite: n = 18; apatite: n = 20; the full list of references is given in Supplementary Material) and used in the Monte Carlo simulations D values within the range of the mean  $D \pm 2\sigma$ . In these models, D values were kept constant for each simulation of fractional crystallization; (2) we used specific, empirically- or thermodynamically-calibrated, models to calculate adequate D values as a function of temperature,  $\pm$  crystal composition,  $\pm$  liquid composition (Blundy & Wood, 1991, 1994; Sun & Liang, 2012; Morse & Allaz, 2013; Bédard, 2014; Dohmen & Blundy, 2014; Dygert *et al.*, 2014). In that case, D values continuously changed in each fractional crystallization model as a function of temperature (Thy *et al.*, 2009b), mineral compositions (e.g. Namur *et al.*, 2012) and liquid composition (e.g. Nielsen *et al.*, 2009). Fractional crystallization models were performed for a range of residual liquid fraction (F) ranging from 1.0 to 0.005 with an incremental step of 0.01 (1 %; see details in Supplementary Material).

#### Modelling results and comparison with Skaergaard minerals

Only a few elements (Ni, Cr) are highly compatible in Skaergaard cumulates (bulk partition coefficients;  $\overline{D} > 1$ ) with concentrations continuously decreasing from bottom to top of the LS. The behaviour of these elements and their concentrations in minerals can be adequately reproduced by a simple model of fractional crystallization of the Skaergaard magma. Cr and Ni show a slow continuous decrease in LZa and LZb due to fractionation of olivine  $\pm$  clinopyroxene (Hart & Davis, 1978; Toplis & Corgne, 2002), followed by a rapid decrease after the appearance of Fe-Ti oxide minerals interpreted as resulting from incorporation of both elements into magnetite (Toplis & Corgne 2002; Fig. 15). V and Co are also compatible, especially in the upper part of the LS. Modelling of V during fractional crystallization is hampered by the lack of accurate constraints on the evolution of oxygen fugacity after Fe-Ti oxide saturation and the exact cotectic proportions of magnetite and ilmenite (Toplis & Carroll, 1996; Thy *et al.*, 2009a). However, the strong decrease of V in MZ and UZ together

with the strong effect of fO<sub>2</sub> on  $D_V^{Cpx/Sil}$  perhaps suggests that Skaergaard magma became more reduced after magnetite saturation (Toplis & Corgne, 2002). We did not attempt to model the behaviour of Co during fractional crystallization due to the absence of agreement on the exact timing on the onset of silicate-sulfide immiscibility, the exact composition and proportion of the equilibrium sulfide phase (Nielsen *et al.*, 2015; Kays & Tegner, 2016) and the large range of experimentally-determined  $D_{Co}^{Sul/Sil}$  values (15-200; Gaetani & Grove, 1997).

The vast majority of incompatible trace elements that we measured in plagioclase and clinopyroxene are enriched in evolved cumulates at the top of the LS compared to cumulates at the bottom of the LS (Figs 5, 6; Supplementary Fig. 3). If their evolution is controlled by fractional crystallization, then the bulk D ( $\overline{D}$ ) must be lower than 1.  $\overline{D} < 1$  can result either from the specific element being incompatible in all cumulus phases (e.g. Zr), or the element being compatible in one or several phases but being strongly incompatible in other, major, cumulus phases (e.g. La). In Fig. 16, we model the behaviour of some of these elements. Measured concentrations of Sr in plagioclase and clinopyroxene show a slight enrichment from LZa to UZa before strongly increasing throughout UZb and UZc. This pattern is entirely reproduced within the range of Monte Carlo solutions that we obtained using experimental Ds between melt and the different cumulus phases. However, when specific models for D<sup>Plag/Melt</sup> are applied (Blundy & Wood, 1991; Bindeman et al., 1998; Bédard, 2006; Dohmen & Blundy, 2014; Morse & Allaz, 2013), a decrease of the Sr content of plagioclase and clinopyroxene is expected in the UZ. Empirical models from Bindeman et al. (1888), Bédard (2006) and Morse & Allaz (2013) take into account plagioclase compositon (An content) ± temperature. Thermodynamic models from Blundy & Wood (1991) and Dohmen & Blundy (2014) take into account both the evolution of temperature and plagioclase composition during differentiation (see Supplementary Material). In our models, temperature evolves from  $1170^{\circ}$ C at F = 1 (F= residual liquid fraction in the magma chamber) to  $1023^{\circ}$ C at F = 0.01 while the An content of plagioclase evolves from An<sub>70</sub> to An<sub>30</sub>. Calculated

plagioclase major element compositions are in agreement with mineral compositions observed in the LS (Fig. 3) and calculated temperatures agree with those reported by Thy et al. (2009b). Over this interval of crystallization,  $D_{Sr}^{Plag/Melt}$  are expected to evolve from 1.96 to 5.49 with the model of Blundy & Wood (1991) and from 1.66 to 3.78 with the model of Dohmen & Blundy (2014), explaining the predicted decrease of plagioclase and clinopyroxene Sr content in UZa-UZc. In Skaergaard minerals, we do not observe such a decrease. This may indicate that: (1) the actual cotectic proportion of plagioclase in the UZ is lower than expected from mineral modes observed in UZ rocks (~ 45%; Tegner et al., 2009; Holness, 2015). In that case, cumulate rocks from UZ would have an excess of plagioclase; (2)Tthermodynamic and empirical models overestimate  $D_{sr}^{Plag/Melt}$  for evolved plagioclase (e.g.  $An_{40-30}$ ). This may be due to the low number of experiments performed at low magmatic temperature (~ 1000°C) and involving low-An plagioclase (~ An<sub>30</sub>; Bindeman & Davis 2000). The highly variable  $D_{Sr}^{Plag/Melt}$  values obtained from experiments and natural glassphenocrysts pairs in assemblages containing plagioclase < An<sub>40</sub> may indeed lead to inaccurate prediction of  $D_{Sr}^{Plag/Melt}$  for low An plagioclase (Bédard, 2006). However, the absence of decrease in plagioclase Sr concentrations in the UZ of Skaergaard could also indicate that fractional crystallization becomes less effective in the upper part of the intrusion where the texture of the rocks changes from typical gabbroic rocks with well developed lamination to dolerite-like coarse-grained gabbros containing abundant granophyric pockets (Holness, 2015). The texture of the rocks as well as the deviation between plagioclase and clinopyroxene compositions and the results of fractional crystallization models possibly suggest that, in this part of the intrusion, solidification may dominantly result from equilibrium crystallization at the top of the crystal mush (Nielsen et al., 2015).

Ba and Eu in plagioclase and to a lesser extent in clinopyroxene cores show a progressive increase from the bottom to the top of the LS with a strong increase in UZb and UZc. This evolution can broadly be reproduced by fractional crystallization models using experimental partition coefficients and with specific models of D between plagioclase and melt or clinopyroxene and melt (Blundy & Wood, 1991, 1994; Dohmen & Blundy, 2014). The Eu contents of interstitial clinopyroxene in LZa may however be slightly higher than predicted by theoretical models (Fig. 16b). In addition, we observe that the Ba content of plagioclase (and to a lesser extent clinopyroxene) is in the lower range of predicted values in UZa and UZb. The increase in Ba that we see in Skaergaard minerals is therefore less pronounced than what is predicted by fractional crystallization models. Due to imperfectly constrained partition coefficients between the Skaergaard magma and minerals, a fully consistent model of end-member equilibrium crystallization cannot be calculated at low residual liquid fraction (F < 0.2). However, we observe that a very good fit to measured plagioclase and clinopyroxene compositions in UZ is obtained by Rayleigh fractionation when the amount of trapped liquid in the crystal mush of UZ is increased. The best fit is obtained with  $\sim 60\%$  of trapped liquid (Supplementary Fig. 4). This confirms that crystallization in the UZ becomes dominated by equilibrium crystallization because crystals and melt cannot be easily physically separated from each other (Nielsen et al., 2015). The amount of trapped liquid needed to fit the plagioclase and clinopyroxene data is furthermore similar to the initial porosity of a gabbroic mush (Jerram et al., 2003) indicating that very little liquid returns to the main magma body after the formation of the crystal matrix.

Ce evolution is typical of the LREE behaviour. HREE are generally below detection limit in plagioclase. We therefore did not model their evolution during fractional crystallization. Ce in plagioclase is very low and constant from LZa to UZb before strongly increasing in UZc. Ce in clinopyroxene progressively decreases from LZa to LZc, is then relatively constant throughout MZ, UZa and UZb before strongly increasing in UZc. The behavior of Ce in both plagioclase and clinopyroxene cannot be accurately reproduced by a model of fractional crystallization, particularly in UZa and UZb. The Ce content observed in plagioclase is systematically too low compared to predictive models, while none of the models that we used can reproduce the high Ce contents in clinopyroxene from LZa-LZb. The equations that we used to calculate D values take into account the major element chemistry of the clinopyroxene (e.g. Al,  $Fe^{2+}$  and  $Fe^{3+}$  on sites M1 and M2; see Supplementary Material) and predict a slightly decreasing  $D_{Ce}^{Cpx/Melt}$  (0.22-0.12) with stratigraphic height. However, such a decrease is not sufficient to explain the decreasing Ce content that we observe throughout the LZ. As already pointed out by McBirney (2002), plagioclase and clinopyroxene cores, especially in the LZ, seem to be in chemical disequilibrium for LREE. This can be illustrated by calculated values of  $D_{Ce}^{Cpx/Plag}$  which are much higher in Skaergaard cumulates (1-35), than in cumulate rocks from other layered intrusions (Sept Iles, Bushveld, Bjerkreim Sokndal, Kiglapait), oceanic gabbros, extraterrestrial cumulates (eucrites and lunar anorthosites), ferrobasaltic lavas (Iceland, Hawaii) and experimental charges (1-7; Supplementary Fig. 5). A likely explanation for such a disequilibrium, especially in LZa, is that clinopyroxene crystallized from the interstitial melt and that poikilitic crystals were continuously re-equilibrated with late-stage, evolved, liquid. A similar model has recently been proposed by Cawthorn & Tegner (2017). Alternatively, fast growth of such crystals may also prevent them from attaining equilibrium compositions leading to REE uptake in crystal rims (Holycross & Watson, 2016). A more intriguing result of our fractional crystallization models concern Ce concentrations in UZa-UZb with predicted values being much higher than the concentrations measured in crystals. In agreement with previous discussion on Sr and Ba, this indicates that solidification predominantly results from equilibrium crystallization in the UZ where the magma chamber is almost fully solid. As for Ba, a much better fit of the data can be obtained with a high trapped liquid fraction ( $\sim 60\%$ ) in UZa-UZc because increasing the trapped liquid fraction drives bulk partition coefficients closer to unity (Supplementary Fig. 4). Such a trapped liquid fraction is much higher than what can be estimated from bulkrock incompatible trace element concentrations (< 20%; Tegner et al., 2009). This discrepancy probably results from the use of wrong estimates of liquid compositions in the calculations of trapped liquid fraction. It is now recognized that silicate liquid immiscibility played an important role in Skaergaard and also during the solidification of the crystal mush (Holness et al., 2011, 2017; Humphreys, 2011; Nielsen et al., 2015; Holness et al., 2017). The development of silicate liquid immiscibility may drastically affect the composition of the

liquid in the crystal mush due to density-driven segregation of conjugate immiscible melts (Holness *et al.*, 2011; Namur *et al.*, 2015). Real trapped fractions in cumulate rocks may therefore significantly deviate from those calculated when silicate liquid immiscibility is not taken into account (Tegner et al., 2009). It should also be emphasized that the evolution of LREE in the UZ may also be affected by the crystallization of apatite for which actual cotectic proportions are poorly known and for which little data on liquid-crystal D exist (Watson & Green, 1981; Fujimaki, 1986; Prowatke & Klemme, 2006). However, Zr and Y concentrations in clinopyroxene cores in UZa-UZb are also lower than expected from fractional crystallization models (Supplementary Fig. 6) and these two elements are less compatible (Y) or incompatible (Zr) in apatite, suggesting that this is not an important consideration.

#### Fractional crystallization in the main magma body: Summary

The results of our models indicate that the evolution of compatible and incompatible elements in crystal cores of the Skaergaard intrusion can be broadly reproduced within the context of fractional crystallization, except in the UZ. The use of trace elements as opposed to major elements gives a more detailed view of the fractionation process and allows a better understanding of the role of individual phases (e.g. Fe-Ti oxides, olivine, plagioclase, apatite) on the behaviour of trace elements (e.g. Cr, Ni, Sr. REE). Major elements in cumulus phases (e.g. An content of plagioclase, Mg# of clinopyroxene) evolve almost linearly from base to top of the intrusion (except in UZb-UZc for Mg#) and their evolution is therefore relatively insensitive to minor changes of mineral assemblages and cotectic proportions but can be affected by reequilibration with trapped liquid (Barnes, 1986; Bédard *et al.*, 2007). In contrast, trace elements can be used to decipher the efficiency of the fractional crystallization process during the solidification of the Skaergaard magma chamber. In particular, the evolution of all elements in UZa-UZc departs from geochemical trends expected from fractional crystallization, suggesting that this process becomes less effective during the last stages of crystallization. It is then replaced by a higher proportion of *in situ* equilibrium crystallization. Although it known that cumulate layers may form from very thin, meter-scale, magma bodies (Bédard, 2015), we believe that the higher proportion of *in situ* equilibrium crystallization in the UZ may result from the magma chamber being almost solid at this stage of crystallization, leaving little free space for a magma body between the crystal mush sections forming on the floor, roof and wall of the magma chamber. This may therefore hamper efficient separation of residual melt and crystals, which is necessary for fractional crystallization. In addition, the low temperature and very high viscosity of residual melts (log  $\eta = 5.8$  Pa s at 1000°C using the viscosity model of Giordano *et al.* (2008) and the melt composition of Nielsen et al., 2009) may also contribute to reduce significantly the efficiency of crystal-melt segregation at low residual liquid fractions. Silicate liquid immiscibility is also known to develop in the UZ of the Skaergaard intrusion (Jakobsen et al., 2005; 2011). This process is however unlikely to exert any control on the trace element distribution in cumulus phases (core compositions) because both melts stay in equilibrium at the top of the mush and crystallize the same phases in different proportions (Charlier et al., 2011; Namur et al., 2012a). We therefore believe that immiscibility in the main magma body cannot explain the mismatch between measured plagioclase and clinopyroxene compositions and the results of fractional crystallization models (Fig. 16).

#### Evolution of trace elements in the crystal mush

It is commonly assumed that differentiation of the mush liquid follows a trend similar to that of the main magma body (Coogan *et al.*, 2000a,b; Meurer & Claeson, 2002; Lissenberg *et al.*, 2013; Coogan & O'Hara, 2015). For the Skaergaard intrusion, differentiation of the mush liquid was shown by the evolution of Ti concentration in core-rim profiles in plagioclase crystals (Humphreys, 2009, 2011). However, the use of mineral compositions to track melt differentiation relies on the assumption that elements are immobile after they have been entrapped in the crystal lattice during crystal growth. Although this may be the case for Ti in plagioclase, other, faster diffusing, elements can experience strong diffusive re-equilibration after crystal growth (Barnes, 1986; Coogan & O'Hara, 2015). In addition, other processes such as infiltration metasomatism, replenishment or migration of interstitial melt, fluid flow or dissolution-reprecipitation could disrupt the chemical trends produced by fractional crystallization.

#### Decoupling major and trace elements

Namur et al. (2014) have shown that most plagioclase crystals from LZa to UZa (and equivalent subzones in the MBS and UBS) show rims buffered to constant compositions of  $An_{56\pm2}$  (LZa; Supplementary Fig. 1),  $An_{50\pm1}$  (LZb) and to a lesser extent  $An_{40\pm2}$  (LZc-UZa). They interpreted these patterns as resulting from solidification of the mush liquid during episodes of slow cooling due to enhanced latent heat release at the saturation of a new intercumulus phase. This leads to a progressive decrease of the amount of undercooling, acting in an opposite way to crystal fractionation and maintaining the plagioclase major element composition relatively constant. Some profiles with buffered rims can be observed in Fig. 8. An important observation from this figure is that trace elements do not show the same behaviour and generally evolve continuously from the core to the rim of the plagioclase grains with no zones of constant composition. Although some elements (e.g. Sr) do not show strong compositional variation from core to rim, other elements such as Ba and LREE increase while Ti generally decreases. We believe that the absence of trace element buffering is related to the minor effect of temperature on trace element partitioning between crystal and melt compared to its effect on the equilibrium major element composition (Blundy & Wood, 1994; Namur et al., 2012b, 2014). Assuming a closed system, the evolution of trace elements in the near-isothermal mush liquid is therefore dominantly controlled by crystallization of the pore melt (Ross & Elthon, 1997). Decrease of the pore melt volume leads to enrichment in incompatible trace elements and depletion of compatible trace elements. This translates to enrichment or depletion of these elements in equilibrium plagioclase rims which, in contrast to major elements, are therefore not buffered to constant trace element concentrations during near-isothermal growth of the rims.

#### Evolution of compatible and imcompatible trace elements

Effective fractional crystallization of the crystal mush liquid is an efficient way to produce core to rim chemical zoning of cumulus phases. In the following, we will use the evolution of compatible and incompatible trace elements from core to rim of plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystals to decipher whether or not fractional crystallization can explain these zoning patterns. We first note that, if upon crystallization the liquid in the crystal mush follows a differentiation trend similar to that of the main magma body (Humphreys, 2009), a complex evolution of trace elements may be expected towards crystal rims (increase, decrease or bell-shaped profiles) depending on their degree of compatibility and the stratigraphic position of the samples:

(1) For compatible elements, a continuous decrease in the rim should be observed. Compatible elements in Skaergaard minerals such as Ni and Cr are usually below detection limit in plagioclase. Continuous decrease of Cr is however observed from core to rim in all clinopyroxene crystals that we have measured, consistent with continuous fractional crystallization of the mush liquid (Fig. 11).

(2) For elements which are first incompatible and then become compatible after the saturation of a new, interstitial, phase, a bell shaped evolution should be observed in the rim. Ti illustrates this behaviour well (Humphreys, 2009, 2011). In rocks from LZa and to a lesser extent LZb, Ti is incompatible before the saturation of intercumulus Fe-Ti oxide minerals and then becomes compatible after the saturation of these minerals (Figs 8, 9). As a consequence, many rim analyses in plagioclase have higher Ti content that the cores while other rim analyses, corresponding to the crystallization products at lower residual liquid fractions, have lower Ti concentrations than the cores (Fig. 10). From LZc to the top of the LS, Fe-Ti oxide minerals are already saturated and most rim compositions therefore have lower Ti content than the cores of the crystals. Phosphorus is also incompatible before the saturation of interstitial apatite in the crystal mush and in samples containing a significant amount of interstitial material, a bell-shaped profile of P can be observed in plagioclase rims (SIMS analyses; Fig. 9). This also supports the interpretation of fractional crystallization and

illustrates that compositional profiles can be used to track the appearance of intercumulus phases in gabbroic crystal mushes (Bernstein, 2006).

(3) Incompatible elements should increase continuously from core to rim although the degree of enrichment may be strongly dependent on the minerals crystallizing from the interstitial melt. This behaviour is illustrated by Ba, Sr and Eu for which rim analyses show minor to moderate enrichment compared to the core compositions (Figs 8, 9, 10). A more spectacular degree of enrichment is shown by LREE (e.g. Ce) for which rims reach Ce concentrations up to 25 ppm. This is much higher than the highest Ce concentrations in plagioclase cores from the most evolved cumulates of the intrusion (UZc; F < 0.01; Ce = 4 ppm). We note that Jang & Naslund (2001) report a Ce concentration of 20 ppm in plagioclase from SH. However, the high Zr content of their analysis (~ 200 ppm) suggests that their plagioclase separate was contaminated with Zr- and presumably REE-rich accessory minerals. Ce is incompatible in most Skaergaard minerals, with the exception of apatite. It can therefore be considered as a highly incompatible element during most of the crystallization of the mush liquid. The extreme enrichment in Ce that we see in plagioclase rims therefore suggests that either plagioclase rims record fractionation down to extremely low residual melt fractionation or that some processes contributed to increase the Ce content of the mush liquid to an extent that is not observed in the main magma body. We already note that extreme fractional crystallization seems inconsistent with other elements (e.g. Sr, Ba, Eu) which only show moderate core to rim enrichment (Figs 8, 9).

#### **Evolution of LREE in plagioclase rims**

#### Modelling fractional crystallization of the mush liquid

In this section, we attempt to model the evolution of the liquid in the crystal mush during fractional crystallization. Using appropriate partition coefficients, we also calculate the evolution of mineral compositions that form during the crystallization process. We consider that mush liquid solidification dominantly produces rims on existing primocrysts and we compare the results of our models to actual compositions measured in plagioclase crystals.

This is then used to discuss whether or not fractional crystallization can explain compositional profiles observed in Skaergaard minerals. We will particularly focus on Ce, a highly incompatible trace element, that shows extreme degrees of enrichment in rims of many plagioclase crystals, especially in the LZ (Figs 8, 9 and 10).

Because of the difficulty inherent to the modelling of crystallization of the mush liquid (see details on the methodology below and in Supplementary Material), we restricted our effort to a single sample. We simulated fractional crystallization of the mush liquid in a cumulate from LZa (118678) in which we see the strongest zoning patterns (strong and continuous enrichment in Ba and Eu from core to rim, moderate Sr enrichment and extreme Ce enrichment up to 15 ppm; Fig. 8a) and for which we know from textural observations and geochemistry that abundant interstitial liquid crystallized (~ 40%; Namur et al. 2014). Our model will try to fit the Ce data of the crystal illustrated in Fig. 8. This sample is made up of cumulus plagioclase and olivine as well as interstitial clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides and minor apatite.

An important input parameter for the model is the composition of interstitial liquid that is initially trapped in the mush at the stratigraphic position of interest in the cumulate column of the Skaergaard intrusion. We consider that it is identical to the liquid in the main magma body that formed the crystal cores (primocrysts) in the sample. The liquid composition can therefore be calculated as long as the stratigraphic position of the sample is accurately known. This stratigraphic position can be converted to a fraction of residual liquid (F) in the main magma body using Eq. 1 in Tegner et al. (2009). When F is known, the mush liquid composition is obtained from the models of fractional crystallization of the main magma body presented above.

For sample 118678, its stratigraphic position to -76 m translates to a residual melt fraction in the main Skaergaard magma body (F) of 0.78 (Namur *et al.*, 2014). From this value, we calculated the trace element content of the liquid and assumed that this melt forms the initial mush liquid in chemical equilibrium with the crystal cores forming the matrix of the crystal mush. Such a liquid contains  $\sim$  35 ppm Ce. In order to compare fractional

crystallization results with measured plagioclase compositions, we modelled the crystallization history of the crystal from sample 118678 illustrated in Fig. 8. According to the detailed profile of the An content (Fig. 8a), we made the initial assumption of a boxshaped crystal with a core size of  $900x400x400 \ \mu\text{m}^3$  and a final rim of  $300 \ \mu\text{m}$  on the (010) crystal face, although we allowed the rim width to vary from 200 to 600  $\mu$ m. We also considered that the extent of rim growth is linearly related to the decrease of the mush liquid fraction during solidification. To model fractional crystallization, we used identical cotectic proportions to those described above for the fractional crystallization of the main magma body. We considered that the interstitial mineral assemblage evolves during solidification of the mush liquid and we used identical residual liquid fractions (Humphreys, 2009) at the appearance of new intercumulus phases (clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides and apatite; Nielsen, 2004) than those used for modelling the crystallization of the main magma body (see above and Supplementary Material). We used average values of partition coefficients described in the Monte Carlo models presented above. We kept the partition coefficients constant for two reasons: (1) average D values commonly offer the best fits to core compositions during fractional crystallization (Figs 15 and 16); (2) using constant D values is appropriate because most plagioclase rims are buffered to a constant major element composition (An content; see Fig. 8 and Namur et al., 2014). In addition, over the entire temperature interval of crystallization of Skaergaard magmas (~1170-1000°C; Thy et al., 2009b), D<sub>Ce</sub><sup>Plag/Sil</sup> does not change significantly (~ 0.04-0.06 according to the recent model of Sun et al., 2017).

In Fig. 17a, we show the calculated evolution of Ce in a plagioclase crystal from sample 118678 for different rim widths (dotted and dashed line) and compare the results with LA-ICP-MS and SIMS analyses (squares and circles). The first important observation from Fig. 17a and our modelling results is that the degree of REE enrichment in the plagioclase rim (15 ppm) can only be produced by considering that the outermost part of the rim crystallized from an evolved liquid produced at extremely low residual liquid fraction (< 0.01). Given the spot size that we used for *in situ* analyses (30  $\mu$ m), it is unlikely that we were able to sample the crystal layers formed during the crystallization of the very last droplets of liquid. Furthermore, extreme fractional crystallization seems inconsistent with other elements (e.g. Ba, Sr) which show significantly less enrichment than would be expected at such low residual liquid fractions. We nevertheless note that the behaviour of these elements could have been affected by the crystallization of late-stage phases such as K-feldspar and biotite (Villemant, 1988; Ewart & Griffin, 1994). The second important observation is that simple fractional crystallization only starts to produce strong Ce enrichment at low residual melt fraction (last few  $\mu$ m of the rim) whereas in all crystals that we measured, we observe a continuous Ce increase from the inner to the outer part of the rim (Fig. 17a). Whatever the rim size that we considered in our models (200-600  $\mu$ m), fractional crystallization cannot produce such a progressive increase. An unrealistically large rim (much larger than suggested by the An profile) and therefore an unrealistically high mush porosity would be required to obtain models fitting the trends of our *in situ* analyses.

#### Compositional boundary layers around plagioclase crystals

Strong enrichment in Ce together with more modest enrichment in other elements (e.g. Ba, Sr, Eu) in plagioclase rims could possibly result from crystallization in a compositional boundary layer developing around crystals (Bernstein, 2006). Such layers develop and stay stable when the growth rate of the crystals significantly exceeds the diffusivity of the chemical components in the melt (Albarede & Bottinga, 1972; Blundy, 1997, Holycross & Watson, 2016). In Skaergaard, the development of boundary layers around crystals is difficult to evaluate because no direct estimates of crystal growth rate have been proposed. However, we think that the development of such layers in the Skaergaard crystal mush is unlikely for at least three reasons: (1) LREE diffusivity in a basaltic melt is 1-2 order of magnitude higher than the diffusivity of Ti (Zhang *et al.*, 2010). If boundary layers enriched in incompatible elements were forming, we would therefore also expect a strong enrichment of Ti in plagioclase rims (Meurer & Claeson, 2002), which is generally not observed (Humphreys, 2009); (2) during the early stages of crystal mush solidification, the porosity of the mush is

sufficiently high to allow liquid advection (Namur *et al.*, 2014). This allows new, fresh melt from the crystal mush and away from any crystal to be brought continuously to the crystallization sites and would prevent any boundary layer from developing. In the plagioclase profiles that we measured, we see that Ce concentrations already increase in the innermost part of the plagioclase rims. This could only happen if boundary layers were forming at high residual porosity, which is highly unlikely; (3) the fluid flow models from Kerr (1995) together with estimated cation diffusivities in basaltic melts (Zhang *et al.*, 2010) suggest that if a boundary layer develops around cumulus crystals, its thickness for LREE must be thinner than 50  $\mu$ m. We do not observe such oscillatory zoning for LREE which further supports the absence of compositional boundary layers around plagioclase crystals during the solidification of the mush liquid. Finally, we note that disequilibrium uptake of REE in crystals becomes only important when the crystal growth rate exceeds 10<sup>-8</sup> m/s (Holycross & Watson, 2016). This value is much higher than expected crystal growth rates of plagioclase in shallow magmatic systems (10<sup>-11</sup> to 10<sup>-12</sup> m/s; Cashman, 1993).

#### Diffusion of Ce from a liquid film or clinopyroxene

Strong and progressive enrichment of incompatible trace elements in plagioclase rims could originate from solid-state diffusion of these trace elements into the plagioclase lattice. It is known that, at low residual liquid fraction, a melt may form a thin film around crystals (Holness *et al.*, 2007b; Humphreys, 2009) and may become highly enriched in incompatible trace elements (Hiraga *et al.*, 2004). Such a film may stay liquid until the temperature reaches ~ 700°C (Larsen *et al.*, 1992), possibly due to difficulties of nucleation in small spaces (Holness et al., 2007b), and may be considered as a source of trace elements for the crystals during a diffusion process (Morse & Nolan, 1984). We modelled the diffusion process (see Supplementary Material) in plagioclase in order to estimate if solid state diffusion can explain the compositional profiles observed in sample 118678 (Fig. 17b). Modelling was performed using the standard formalism of the Fick's second law (Costa *et al.*, 2008). We used our calculated fractional crystallization profile (rim of 300 µm; Fig. 17a) as the initial

compositional profile. We assumed that plagioclase growth stops when temperature reaches  $\sim$ 1000°C (Humphreys, 2009; Thy et al., 2009b) and we used a diffusion coefficient reported for transport normal to (010) in a plagioclase with a composition of  $An_{67}$  (Cherniak, 2003). Our models show that with diffusion over 0.1-0.25 Myr, we can reproduce very well the shape of the measured Ce profile with progressive enrichment from the inner part to the outer part of the rim (Fig. 16b). This is a minimum estimate because the temperature of the cumulate is supposed to decrease with time so that diffusion gets progressively slower. There is geological evidence to support a role of diffusion in controlling zoning profiles in Skaergaard minerals. The timescales that we calculate are in excellent agreement with cooling rates estimated for the Skaergaard using cation ordering in pyroxenes (0.1-0.3 Myr between 1000 and 700°C, below which diffusion is too slow to modify REE distributions; Ganguly & Domeneghetti 1996). These timescales are also in agreement with those estimated for solidstate diffusion in the oceanic crust (VanTongeren et al., 2008; Coogan & O'Hara, 2015). Explaining the very high Ce concentrations at the edge of the plagioclase crystal still requires an initial zoning profile (or interstitial melt) that also reaches very high Ce contents. As stated above, such a profile can be achieved by extreme fractional crystallization. However, this implies that all plagioclase crystals with strong enrichment in Ce were in contact with a highly evolved residual melt form at F < 0.01. This seems extremely unlikely but not impossible because the last drops of residual melts usually form granophyric pockets commonly located between plagioclase crystals (Holness, 2015). Extreme fractionation should also lead to enrichments in Sr and Ba much stronger than those observed in plagioclase rims. However, initial strong zoning patterns for those elements can easily smoothed during the diffusion process. This could explain the progressive decrease of Ba concentrations that extends from the rim to the central part of the core (Fig. 8). Such a profile can indeed be adequately modelled by extreme fractional crystallization (down to F = 0.01), followed solid-state diffusion with a re-equilibration timescale of 0.1-0.25 Myr (Supplementary Fig. 7).

It has been recently suggested that the decoupling between incompatible elements

(e.g. Ce) in clinopyroxene and plagioclase from oceanic gabbros could be due to solid-state re-equilibration between these two minerals (Coogan & O'Hara, 2015). This would result from changing  $D_{Ce}^{Plag/Cpx}$  with temperature during subsolidus cooling. Using the equations of Wood & Blundy (1997) and Dohmen & Blundy (2014), we calculated that  $D_{Ce}^{Plag/Cpx}$  may change from e.g. 0.36 at 1000°C to 0.49 at 800°C. These results are in perfect agreement with the new models of Sun & Liang (2017). This indicates that not only late stage liquid films but also clinopyroxene could represent a source of Ce for diffusion in plagioclase. In a single sample for which we measured a compositional profile through adjacent clinopyroxene and plagioclase crystals, we observe a decrease of the Ce in the clinopyroxene rim and an increase in the plagioclase rim (Fig. 13), which supports solid-state re-equilibration between these two minerals (Coogan & O'Hara, 2015). However, most clinopyroxene rims are also extremely enriched in Ce (Fig. 12), which indicates that another process than diffusion must contribute to enrich in highly incompatible elements several minerals formed in the crystal mush of the Skaergaard intrusion.

#### Delaying apatite crystallization in the mush liquid

An easier way to explain the enrichment in Ce in plagioclase and clinopyroxene rims would be to produce interstitial melts strongly enriched in highly incompatible trace elements at relatively high residual melt fraction, i.e. high mush porosity. In a study of trace element zoning in cumulus phases in gabbroic rocks from the Apennine ophiolites, Tribuzio *et al.* (1999) have shown that the behaviour of REE in clinopyroxene rims is strongly influenced by the presence or absence of apatite in the rock. This is because  $D_{REE}^{Ap/Sil}$  (2-50; Watson & Green 1981) is much higher than D between any other cumulus phase and the silicate melt (< 0.25; Cawthorn 2013). In the main Skaergaard magma body, apatite saturates at the bottom of UZb, when the residual liquid fraction is ~ 0.1 (Nielsen, 2004). At this degree of evolution, the cores of plagioclase crystals show little enrichment in LREE (e.g. Ce 1-2 ppm). If apatite saturation is delayed in the mush liquid because of the thermal regime of the mush (Brandeis & Jaupart, 1987) or the absence of supersaturation in apatite component (Morse, 2011), much higher concentrations of LREE can be expected in the interstitial liquid and therefore in the rims of plagioclase crystals. Apatite saturation depends on both liquid composition and temperature (Harrison & Watson, 1984; Tollari *et al.*, 2006). Namur *et al.* (2014) have shown that a significant part of the mush liquid crystallization in Skaergaard occurs in a system which is thermally buffered. As a consequence, it is possible that apatite saturation is reached at lower residual liquid fraction in the crystal mush than in the main magma body. Apatite saturation would only occur in the crystal mush when the mush liquid has cooled down below the temperature of apatite saturation in the main magma body (ca. 1060°C; Thy *et al.*, 2009b).

A potential way to estimate the timing of apatite saturation in the interstitial liquid and to compare with apatite saturation in the main Skaergaard magma body would be to compare the relationship between phosphorous content and An content in plagioclase rims, which crystallized from the mush liquid, and in plagioclase cores from the whole stratigraphic column, crystallized from the main magma body (Fig. 5). By doing so, we could estimate if P in plagioclase along a traverse from core to rim starts dropping due to the crystallization of interstitial apatite when a composition of An<sub>40</sub> (i.e. An content of plagioclase cores at the bottom of UZb) is reached in the rim. In contrast, if P starts dropping at a position of plagioclase rims where the An content is lower than  $An_{40}$ , this would mean that apatite saturation is delayed in the mush liquid. This, however, cannot be achieved for two practical reasons: (1) zoned crystals are only abundant in LZ and in UZ. Above UZb, the main magma body is saturated in apatite as is the crystal mush liquid so that P would continuously decrease in plagioclase rims. In LZ and UZa, where the main magma body is not saturated in apatite, plagioclase rims are usually buffered to constant An content (Namur et al., 2014). They therefore never reach An contents as low as An<sub>40</sub> (Fig. 3). Some SIMS profiles however show a bell-shaped phosphorous profile from crystal core to crystal rim (Fig. 9b), indicating that apatite ultimately saturates in the interstitial liquid from the crystal mush; (2) The vast majority of our rim analyses were performed by LA-ICP-MS and the signal-to-noise ratio of P was found to be loo low to be used (see above).

Another way to test the timing of apatite saturation in the crystal mush is to compare the trace element contents of interstitial apatite (LZa-UZa) and cumulus apatite (UZb-Uc). REE concentrations in interstitial and cumulus apatites support delayed saturation of apatite in the crystal mush during the formation of the LZ, MZ and UZa. Our new analyses (Supplementary Dataset 10) together with published data (Nash, 1976; Jang, 2001) show that the LREE (e.g. Ce) content of interstitial apatite that crystallized from the liquid in the crystal mush is the highest in LZa-LZb, and decreases upwards to reach minimum values at the bottom of UZb. In cumulus apatite that crystallized from the main magma body, Ce concentrations then strongly increase in UZb-UZc. Higher concentrations of LREE in interstitial apatite from LZa-LZb compared to the first cumulus apatite from UZb suggests that apatite saturation was indeed reached at a higher degree of liquid fractionation (i.e. lower melt fraction) in the mush liquid from the LZ than in the main magma body.

We have modelled the evolution of Ce in plagioclase rims by making the assumption that apatite does not crystallize (or only very late) in the mush liquid (Fig. 17c) to estimate if this process could explain the concentrations of LREE observed in plagioclase rims. The degree of Ce enrichment in the outer part of the rim can be reproduced when the residual mush liquid fraction is 0.05. At this value relatively close to permeability threshold in cumulate rocks (Cheadle *et al.*, 2004), it is realistic to consider that most plagioclase crystals were in contact with this evolved melt. However, simply delaying apatite crystallization is not sufficient to produce the Ce profiles that we see in plagioclase rims, and especially the continuous Ce increase throughout the rims (from the inner part to the outer part of the rims). Solid-state diffusion for 0.1-0.25 Myr is still needed to match measured profiles (Fig. 17c). Also, delaying apatite cannot be considered as a realistic process in the crystal mush forming in UZb and UZc where some plagioclase rims show extreme Ce enrichment (Fig. 10).

#### Development of silicate liquid immiscibility in the crystal mush

Silicate liquid immiscibility developed in the main magma body (Jakobsen *et al.*, 2005) and the crystal mush (Holness *et al.*, 2011; Humphreys, 2011) of the Skaergaard intrusion. In the
main magma body, both immiscible melts stay in equilibrium and immiscibility has no effect on mineral compositions (Charlier et al., 2011). In contrast, immiscibility in the crystal mush is known to produce mineral compositions and mineral assemblages that are not observed in cumulus phases (Holness et al., 2011). This is because immiscible melts may be physically separated in the crystal mush (Holness et al., 2011; Nielsen et al., 2015), and therefore evolve on their own liquid lines of descent and produce different mineral compositions (Humphreys, 2011). Using the Skaergaard liquid line of descent proposed by Nielsen et al., (2009) and a parameterization for the onset of silicate liquid immiscibility based on experiments from Charlier & Grove (2012), we estimated that immiscibility is likely to develop at F = 0.2 (UZa) and that the relative proportions of Fe-rich melt and Si-rich melt may initially be  $\sim 0.25$  and  $\sim$ 0.75, respectively. This is in good agreement with previous estimates (Jakobsen *et al.*, 2011; Nielsen et al., 2015). Using our models of fractional crystallization of the main magma body, we calculated that the Ce content of the last homogeneous melt before immiscibility would contain ~ 90 ppm of Ce. Using this value and partition coefficients between immiscible melts (D<sub>LREE</sub><sup>Fe-melt/Si-melt</sup>: 2-5; Schmidt et al., 2006; Veksler & Charlier 2015), we calculated that, at the onset of immiscibility, the Fe-rich melt would contain  $142 \pm 18$  ppm of Ce while the Sirich melt would contain  $72 \pm 6$  ppm of Ce. Immiscible melts have contrasting densities (Ferich melt: 2.9-3.1 g/cm<sup>3</sup>; Si-rich melt: 2.4-2.5 g/cm<sup>3</sup>; Namur et al., 2015), which may lead to the segregation of the Si-rich melt from the crystal mush (Holness et al., 2011; Nielsen et al., 2015). It is therefore reasonable to suggest that part of the plagioclase rims may have crystallized from a dominantly Fe-rich immiscible melt which has the potential of creating rims strongly enriched in incompatible trace elements (e.g. Ce) and only moderately enriched in mildly compatible trace elements. We modelled crystallization of plagioclase rims from a Fe-rich melt (Fig. 17d). This process may easily produce rims strongly enriched in Ce at relatively high F (0.05) but again is not capable of producing a continuous Ce increase from the inner part to the outer part of the rim. Furthermore, such rims would also be expected to be An-rich, due to Ca partitioning in the Fe-rich melt that lost physical equilibrium with the

conjugate Si-rich melt (Holness *et al.*, 2011; Humphreys, 2011), whereas we see high Ce ( $\sim$  18 ppm) in plagioclase rims of An<sub>30</sub> adjacent to pockets of granophyre (Fig. 9).

Immiscibility may play a role in decoupling the behaviour of REE and Zr in clinopyroxene, particularly in UZ. As shown in Fig. 12, Ce and Y concentrations in rims from the UZ are higher than those of the LZ at any given Zr content. As discussed above, this cannot be explained by a change of substitution mechanism due to changing major element composition. Experimental data show that Ce and Y partition more strongly into the immiscible Fe-rich melt than Zr (Schmidt *et al.*, 2006; Veksler *et al.*, 2006). Early immiscibility in the UZ mush as opposed to late-stage immiscibility in the LZ mush could therefore be an efficient way of producing strong enrichment in REE and decoupling REE from Zr in clinopyroxenes rims from the UZ that may have crystallized from a dominantly Fe-rich immiscible melt.

## Other processes possibly affecting the distribution of trace elements

It has been suggested that infiltration of metasomatic melts may be an important process to enrich plagioclase and clinopyroxene rims in highly incompatible elements (O'Reilly & Griffin, 1988; Roex & Class, 2016). Although the closed nature of the Skaergaard intrusion argues against the infiltration of external melts, migration of interstitial melt in the crystal mush may however occur by compositional convection (Toplis *et al.*, 2008) and/or crystal mush compaction (Tegner *et al.*, 2009). Compositional convection essentially brings to the mush a liquid which has a composition identical to that of the main magma body and removes evolved interstitial melts from the crystallization sites. As a consequence, compositional convection should lead to the formation of crystals with little reverse zoning or no zoning at all (Toplis *et al.*, 2008). This process is therefore not capable of producing plagioclase and clinopyroxene rims with extremely high concentrations of incompatible trace elements.

Compaction of the crystal mush expels evolved interstitial melt from the crystal matrix towards the main magma body. In the simplest case, migration of interstitial melt can produce cumulus crystals with normal zoning (Humphreys, 2009). However, simple

migration of interstitial melt cannot produce plagioclase rims significantly more enriched in incompatible elements than the most evolved plagioclase cores at the top of UZc. Migration of interstitial melt in the crystal mush can also produce dissolution of cumulus phases and recrystallization of minerals with another composition (Namur et al., 2013). Such a process requires a strong chemical and/or thermal disequilibrium between the infiltrating melt and the crystal matrix. In Skaergaard, this process was shown to occur during the infiltration of hot, primitive melt with low concentration of incompatible trace elements (Namur *et al.*, 2013). Nevertheless, for other gabbroic rocks in the Bushveld complex (Mathez, 1995) and in the oceanic crust (Lissenberg et al., 2013), the process of assimilation-fractional crystallization (AFC) was adequately used to explain strong decoupling between trace elements as well as geochemical trends significantly departing from simple fractional crystallization (e.g. primitive pyroxene crystals with high REE concentrations; Mathez 1995). We modelled the effect of AFC using the equations from DePaolo (1981). The AFC process is indeed capable of producing decoupling between highly incompatible elements (e.g. Ce) and mildly compatible elements (e.g. Sr, Ba). However, such a decoupling is only observed for high ratios of assimilated material/crystallized material (e.g. r = Ma/Mc > 0.8). With such a high value of r, strong enrichment in LREE in plagioclase rims is impossible because the REE concentration drops when the mush liquid becomes saturated in apatite (Fig. 18). There are other issues which make the process of AFC highly unlikely: (1) high values of r imply strong dissolution of crystal cores. No obvious dissolution textures were reported in cumulates from the LS in which we observe some of the strongest zoning patterns in plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystals; (2) compaction was shown to be inefficient in most of the lower part of the Skaergaard LS (Tegner et al., 2009) where there is no obvious driving force for intense melt migration in the crystal mush.

Exsolution of a free hydrous-fluid phase from basaltic magmas is considered as an important mechanism for large-scale leaching, transport and precipitation of metals (Boudreau & McCallum, 1989; Boudreau, 2008). Hydrous, chlorine-rich fluid may also carry abundant Cl-complexed trace elements such as REE (possibly excepting Eu<sup>2+</sup>; Haas *et al.*,

1995; Boudreau & McCallum 1989). In Skaergaard, the presence of a Cl-rich free fluid phase during solidification of the crystal mush was recognized by trapped fluid inclusions in crystals (Larsen et al., 1992). The presence of such a fluid in the pore space between primocrysts could contribute to the enrichment in REE that we observe in plagioclase and clinopyroxene rims (Mathez, 1995; McBirney & Sonnenthal, 1990). However, we think that this process is of minor importance for several reasons: (1) the development of a fluid phase in Skaergaard occurred when the crystal mush was very close to the solidus temperature (i.e. 770-650°C; Larsen et al., 1992). The fluid phase coexisted with a volumetrically minor melt phase that only formed some granophyric pockets and gabbroic pegmatites (Larsen et al., 1992). Such a fluid phase therefore cannot have coexisted with the melt that formed plagioclase and clinopyroxene rims locally exceeding 500 µm in width. At this temperature, diffusion is also too slow to reequilibrate plagioclase rims that were already formed. In addition, the mobility of the fluid phase in the crystal mush was negligible and large-scale mobility only occurred where the permeability of the mush was increased by local faulting or blocks foundering (McBirney & Sonnenthal, 1990). There is no petrographic or geochemical evidence for a pervasive and intrusion-wide fluid phase at Skaergaard and where fluid was mobile and reacted with primocrysts, cumulate rocks are replaced by pegmatitic bodies and/or anorthosite (McBirney & Sonnenthal, 1990). All the samples that we investigated are fresh troctolites and gabbros suggesting that they were not affected by a metasomatic agent; (2) although the Skaergaard fluid phase is thought to be highly enriched in Cl ( $\sim 20$  wt.% NaCl; Larsen et al., 1992), partition coefficients for LREE between the fluid phase and the silicate melt  $(D_{LREE}^{Fluid/Melt})$  are significantly lower than 1 (~ 0.01-0.5; Flynn & Burnham 1978; Adam et al., 1997, 2014; Zajacz et al., 2008). As a consequence, the fluid phase carries less LREE than the equilibrium silicate melt and cannot contribute to LREE enrichment in crystals to an extent that cannot be achieved by simple crystallization of the interstitial silicate melt.

# CONCLUSIONS

Major elements in plagioclase and clinopyroxene vary continuously from bottom to top of the Skaergaard intrusion suggesting that the magma chamber differentiated through efficient fractional crystallization. Our new data on trace elements (LA-ICP-MS) in these two minerals show that core compositions also change continuously from base to top with compatible elements being progressively depleted whereas incompatible elements get progressively enriched. Numerical models indicate that the behaviour trace elements can be broadly explained within the context of fractional crystallization. Nevertheless, the evolution of some elements, especially the LREE, can only be partly reproduced by fractional crystallization models. Ba concentrations in plagioclase and clinopyroxene also show values lower than expected from simple fractional crystallization, especially in the upper part of the intrusion where the residual liquid fraction is less than 20 %. At this stage of magma chamber solidification, fractional crystallization probably becomes less effective in an almost fully solid magma chamber and is replaced by a major proportion of *in situ*, equilibrium crystallization.

Our detailed *in situ* (LA-ICP-MS and SIMS) analyses of plagioclase and clinopyroxene overgrowths also allowed us to investigate the behaviour of trace elements during the solidification of interstitial melt in a crystal mush. An important observation is that trace elements in mineral rims allow tracking the evolution of the melt during crystallization. In particular, the bell-shaped profiles of Ti and P from core to rim indicate saturation of Fe-Ti oxides and apatite in the crystal mush. Continuous increase of highly- to moderatelyincompatible elements mimics the stratigraphic trends observed in plagioclase and clinopyroxene cores, indicating that the mush liquid also differentiated through fractional crystallization. However, some elements, and in particular the LREE, show trends significantly departing from those observed in crystal cores. LREE concentrations in plagioclase rims are always much higher than the most evolved crystal cores in the SH. Although such high REE concentrations could possibly be produced by fractional crystallization at low residual liquid fraction, such a process cannot explain the strong and continuous enrichment in LREE from the inner part to the outer part of the rims. We argue that the distribution of LREE in rims of Skaergaard minerals is affected by the timing of apatite saturation and the development of silicate liquid immiscibility in the crystal mush. It is then modified by solid-state diffusion either between adjacent mineral grains (e.g. plagioclase and clinopyroxene) or between minerals and thin films of late-stage liquid. In contrast, we believe that neither the exsolution of a free fluid phase nor interstitial liquid migration by compaction or compositional convection played a significant role in controlling the distribution of trace elements in Skaergaard minerals.

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# FIGURE CAPTIONS

- Figure 1: a. Simplified map of the Skaergaard intrusion showing the location of the sampling traverses (SP, Skaergaard Peninsula; KR, Kraemer Island, 2000 profile, Bollinberg profile) and drill cores investigated in this study. LZ, Lower Zone; MZ, Middle Zone; UZ, Upper Zone; MBS, Marginal Border Series; UBS, Upper Border Series. Map in the upper right corner shows the location of the map area in Greenland. b. Schematic cross-section of the Skaergaard intrusion showing the relationships between the LS, UBS and MBS. Subdivisions of each series and sequence of crystallization in the LS are also shown.
- Figure 2: a-b. Photomicrographs of sample 458242 (LZa, Layered Series) showing large laser spots (100 μm) in the cores of plagioclase grains and smaller laser spots (30 μm) in plagioclase rims. Transmitted, cross-polarized light. c. Photomicrograph of sample 84-376 (UZc, Layered Series) showing rastered laser ICP-MS paths in the core of a plagioclase grain. Transmitted, cross-polarized light. d. Photomicrograph of sample 118678 (LZa, Layered Series) showing ion probe (SIMS) spots in the core and rim of a plagioclase grain. Note the color change between the plagioclase core and the rim. Transmitted, cross-polarized light.
- Figure 3: a. Stratigraphic evolution of mineral modes in the Layered Series of the Skaergaard intrusion (data from Tegner *et al.*, 2009; Holness *et al.*, 2015). Thick dashed lines represent the boundaries between zones and subzones. Plag = plagioclase, Ol = olivine, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Opx = orthopyroxene, Ox = Fe-Ti oxides, Ap = apatite.
  b. Stratigraphic evolution of the An content of plagioclase. Thin horizontal black lines represent the 2σ error bars. Red symbols correspond to the samples analyzed in this study. Grey symbols represent literature data (McBirney, 1989, Jang & Naslund, 2001, Toplis *et al.*, 2008, Thy *et al.*, 2009a, Holness *et al.*, 2015). c. Stratigraphic evolution of the Mg# of clinopyroxene.

- Figure 4: Stratigraphic evolution of minor elements (EPMA analyses) in plagioclase and clinopyroxene in the Layered Series. Literature data from Jang & Naslund (2001), McBirney (2002), Humphreys (2009) and Holness *et al.* (2015).
- Figure 5: Stratigraphic evolution of trace elements in plagioclase in the Layered Series. Literature data from Jang & Naslund (2001) and McBirney (2002). Arrows with numbers in the upper part of some panels show the trace element content of bulk plagioclase separates from the Sandwich Horizon (italic; Jang & Naslund, 2001 ) or core compositions from the Sandwich Horizon (McBirney, 2002). These data are not plotted for scaling purposes. We note that compositions of plagioclase from the SH in Jang & Naslund (2001) and McBirney (2002) are extremely different for some elements and we speculate that mineral separates from Jang & Naslund (2001) may have been contaminated by accessory phases.
- Figure 6: Stratigraphic evolution of trace elements in clinopyroxene in the Layered Series. Red circles are for Sr, Ce, Sc, V and Cr whereas green squares are for Eu, Zr, Co and Ni. Literature data from McBirney (2002).
- Figure 7: CI chondrite normalized rare earth element (REE) patterns in plagioclase and clinopyroxene from the Skaergaard LS. Normalization values (Sun & McDonough, 1989) are shown along the base of the plot. Estimated detection limit for LA-ICP-MS analyses is shown in black. Where data for HREE are not shown, this means that concentrations are below the detection limit.
- Figure 8: Major (An content) and trace element profiles in selected plagioclase crystals from the Skaergaard lower zone of the LS. The nature of the phase in contact with the plagioclase is indicated. a. 118678, LZa (F=0.78). b. 458214 (red), LZa (F = 0.71); 458205 (black), LZb (F=0.46). The error bar for each analysis (LA-ICP-MS or SIMS) was calculated using repeat measurements of plagioclase and glass standards (see Supplementary Datasets 6 and 9). The vertical dashed lines represent the suggested positions of the core-rim boundaries.

Figure 9: Major (An content) and trace element profiles in selected plagioclase crystals from

the Skaergaard upper zone of the LS and the lower and upper zones of the MBS. a. 90-22-481.8, UZa (F=0.10). b. SP-46 (black), LZa\* ( or LZb\*) (F=0.68); SP-26 (red), UZa\* (F=0.15). Note the two different Y axes (black and red) for An.

- Figure 10: Evolution of selected trace elements in plagioclase as a function of the plagioclase An content (%). Core and rim compositions are shown as well as the stratigraphic subdivisions of the LS. The An content of plagioclase at the boundary between successive units is based on McBirney (1989) and Namur *et al.* (2014).
- Figure 11: Major (Mg#), minor (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, TiO<sub>2</sub>) and trace element profiles in representative clinopyroxene crystals from the Skaergaard LS and MBS. a. SP-46, LZa\*-LZb\* (F=0.68). b. 90-22-481.8, UZa (F=0.10).
- Figure 12: Evolution of selected trace elements in clinopyroxene cores and rims of the Skaergaard LS and MBS. a. Zr (ppm) vs Ce (ppm). b. Zr (ppm) vs Y (ppm). Colored lines show simple linear regressions of each zone of the intrusion ( $LZ + LZ^*$ ; MZ;  $UZ + UZ^*$ ). Dashed and dotted lines show expected trends from simple fractional crystallization, fractional crystallization without apatite and development of silicateliquid immiscibility. Fractional crystallization model (with our without apatite) use cotectic proportions from Thy *et al.* (2006). For simplicity we used constant partition coefficients between crystals and melt (*i.e.* partition coefficients do not evolve with temperature, melt composition or crystal composition). In the model simulating silicate liquid immiscibility, we considered that the immiscibility process started after 80% of fractionation (residual liquid fraction = 0.2). Trace elements are distributed between conjugate immiscible melts according to the partition coefficients from Schmidt *et al.* (2006). See text for details.
- Figure 13: Major and trace element profiles in adjacent plagioclase and clinopyroxene crystals. The thick vertical black line shows the boundary between the two crystals. SK84-3581, LZc (F=0.42).
- Figure 14: (a) Schematic model of a magma chamber. The crystal mush forms on the walls, here on the floor and roof of the magma chamber. Modified from Kuritani *et al.*

(2007) and Namur *et al.* (2014). We consider that primocrysts that form the cumulate matrix crystallize from the main magma body at the interface between the magma body and the crystal mush. TBL = Thermal boundary layer. (b) Close up of a section of the crystal mush. The mush is made up of crystals and interstitial melt (t1). Solidification of melt produces new interstitial phases and overgrowths (rims) on primocrysts that formed earlier at the interface between the mush and the main magma body (t2). Modified from Namur *et al.* (2014).

- Figure 15: Models of fractional crystallization (modelled with the Rayleigh equation; see text and Supplementary Material for details) of the main magma body of the Skaegaard intrusion showing the evolution of compatible trace elements in clinopyroxene as a function of the liquid fraction in the magma chamber (F). Stratigraphic subdivisions of the LS are shown for reference. Modelled clinopyroxene compositions are obtained by inversion of liquid compositions using relevant partition coefficients. The grey fields represent the results of 1000 Monte Carlo simulations performed using D values within the range of average  $\pm 2 \sigma$  of > 300 partition coefficients compiled from literature. The green trend represents the median value of data obtained through the Monte Carlo simulation. Symbols represent LA-ICP-MS data of average clinopyroxene cores. Green symbols represent intercumulus crystals whereas red symbols represent cumulus crystals.
- Figure 16: Models of fractional crystallization of the main magma body of the Skaergaard intrusion showing the evolution of mildly compatible and incompatible trace elements in plagioclase and clinopyroxene cores. The methodology of calculation is identical to that described in Fig. 15. Symbols and grey fields are as in Fig. 15. Specific models predicting partition coefficients for Sr, Ba and REE were also used and compared with the results of the Monte Carlo simulations. See additional models for Zr and Y in Supplementary Fig. 6.

Figure 17: Plagioclase compositions obtained from theoretical models of fractional

crystallization in the crystal mush of LZa with or without solid-state diffusion and comparison with chemical data obtained in a plagioclase crystal from sample 118678 (LZa). Fractional crystallization models are calculated using the Rayleigh equation (see details in Supplementary Material) and diffusion models use the methodology described in Costa et al. (2008). All models assume that crystal growth is proportional to the decreasing fraction of liquid in the crystal mush. a. Calculated plagioclase composition obtained by simple fractional crystallization of the mush liquid. Plagioclase trace element composition is calculated from the equilibrium liquid composition using average values of partition coefficients given in Supplementary Material. We used cotectic proportions from Thy et al. (2006) and parental liquid compositions from Nielsen (2004). The model was stopped at F =0.01. The size of the rim (corresponding to the volume of the plagioclase crystal having crystallized from the mush liquid) was allowed to vary from 200 to 600 µm. For all models, we cannot reproduce the chemical data obtained in sample 118678. b. Identical model of fractional crystallization with solid-state diffusion of Ce. We considered that the plagioclase rim has a thickness of 300 µm. Diffusion starts when the crystal is fully formed and we calculated diffusion coefficients at 1000°C. Cotectic proportions and partition coefficients are identical to those used in models from Fig. 17a. c. Fractional crystallization with solid-state diffusion of Ce in a system that does not crystallize apatite. The model was stopped at F = 0.05 and allows investigating the effect of apatite on the evolution of Ce during the crystallization of the mush liquid. d. Fractional crystallization with solid-state diffusion of Ce and development of silicate-liquid immiscibility. We considered that the plagioclase rim crystallized from an Fe-rich immiscible melt and its composition was calculated using average partition coefficients values from Schmidt et al. (2006) and Veksler et al. (2006). Additional details are given in the text. The model was stopped at F = 0.05.

Figure 18: Plagioclase compositions obtained from theoretical model of assimilation and fractional crystallization (AFC) in the LZa crystal mush and comparison with

chemical data obtained in a plagioclase crystal from sample 118678 (LZa). AFC was modelled using the methodology of Lissenberg *et al.* (2013), the equations of DePaolo (1981) and cotectic proportions from Thy *et al.* (2006). Calculations used average values of partition coefficients given in Supplementary Material. r = ratio of assimilated/fractionated material.




































# Evolution of trace elements in cumulus minerals from the Skaergaard intrusion, Greenland

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## 1. Calculation of trapped liquid fractions

The whole-rock composition of a cumulate sample is determined by the relative contributions of the crystallized intercumulus liquid and that of the cumulus crystal matrix. For an element i, it can be expressed by the following equation:

$$c_i^{WR} = X^{IL} c_i^{Liq} + \sum X^j c_i^j \tag{1}$$

with

$$\sum X^j = 1 - X^{IL} \tag{2}$$

where  $X^{IL}$  is the interstitial liquid fraction,  $c_i^{Liq}$  is the concentration of element *i* in the liquid,  $X^j$  is the modal fraction of the cumulus phase *j* in the cumulate and  $c_i^j$  is the concentration of element *i* in phase *j*.

Following Eq. A2, the proportion of intercumulus liquid  $(X^{IL})$  can be determined using the concentration of an element i in the whole-rock  $(c^{WR})$  when the concentration of *i* in the equilibrium melt  $(c^{Liq})$  and in the crystal matrix  $(\sum X^i c_j^i)$  are estimated. The proportions of the different cumulus phases are however initially unknown and cannot be directly estimated from the bulk modal proportions due to the presence of intercumulus material. We have thus determined the relative proportions of the intercumulus liquid and the different cumulus phases by least-squares linear regression of Eq. A1. The bulk-rock composition  $(c^{WR})$  of each sample, the equilibrium liquid composition  $(c^{Liq})$  and the compositions of the cumulus phases  $(c^j)$ , were used as input data. Mineral compositions used in Eq. A1 are from Supplementary Dataset 4.

The evolution of the  $P_2O_5$  contents in the liquid has been calculated at each stage of fractionation using the Rayleigh fractionation model:

$$c_i^{Liq} = c_{i\,0}^{Liq} \cdot f^{(\bar{D}^i - 1)} \tag{3}$$

where  $c_i^{Liq}$  is the concentration of element *i* in the liquid at each step,  $c_{i,0}^{Liq}$  is the concentration of element *i* in the liquid before each step, *f* is the mass fraction of each step relative to the mass of magma remaining in the chamber (*F*), and  $\overline{D}^i$  is the bulk partition coefficient of element *i* between the liquid and the crystal mush.

As a first approximation (*iteration* 1), the evolution of the liquid trace element content  $(c_i^{Liq})$  was calculated using Eq. A3 by simulating perfect adcumulus growth. Using the calculated  $c_i^{Liq}$  curve with differentiation, X<sup>IL</sup> values were determined by least-squares regression of Eq. 1 for each sample. Then, a second

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set of calculations of  $c_i^{Liq}$  (*iteration* 2) was performed by incorporating the effect of the intercumulus melt (X<sup>*IL*</sup> calculated from iteration 1) and assuming that its composition equals that of the main magma body, i.e. the partition coefficients equal unity. A second series of X<sup>*IL*</sup> values was then calculated by least-squares regression of Eq. A1.

## 2. Fractional crystallization models

We modelled the evolution of trace elements in Skaergaard melts by fractional crystallization using Eq. A3 using an increment of crystallization of 0.01 (1 %). The model was run for a proportion of remaining liquid decreasing from 1.0 to 0.005. The following proportions of minerals and trapped liquid were used in the calculations:

Zone	Plagioclase	Olivine	Clinopyroxene	Ilmenite	Magnetite	Apatite	$\mathbf{X}^{IL}$
LZa	$0.74{\pm}0.11$	$0.26{\pm}0.04$	$0.00 {\pm} 0.00$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.40{\pm}0.06$
LZb	$0.46 {\pm} 0.07$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$	$0.44{\pm}0.07$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.00 {\pm} 0.00$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.28{\pm}0.03$
LZc	$0.34{\pm}0.05$	$0.06{\pm}0.01$	$0.32{\pm}0.05$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$	$0.19{\pm}0.03$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$014{\pm}0.01$
MZ	$0.41{\pm}0.06$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.39{\pm}0.06$	$0.07{\pm}0.01$	$0.13{\pm}0.02$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$
UZa	$0.41 {\pm} 0.06$	$0.07 {\pm} 0.01$	$0.40{\pm}0.06$	$0.04{\pm}0.01$	$0.08{\pm}0.01$	$0.00{\pm}0.00$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$
UZb	$0.40{\pm}0.06$	$0.07{\pm}0.01$	$0.39{\pm}0.06$	$0.03{\pm}0.00$	$0.05{\pm}0.01$	$0.06{\pm}0.01$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$
UZc	$0.43{\pm}0.06$	$0.08{\pm}0.01$	$0.41{\pm}0.06$	$0.02{\pm}0.00$	$0.03{\pm}0.01$	$0.03{\pm}0.01$	$0.09{\pm}0.01$

For some models, we also need an estimate of the melt temperature (T) at each step of fractionation. Following Thy et al. (2009) and Humphreys (2009), we calculated T as follows:

$$T(^{o}C) = (1295 - 273.15) + 265F - 290F^{2} + 175F^{3}$$
(4)

In our models, T ranges from  $1170^{\circ}$ C at F = 1 to  $1023^{\circ}$ C at F = 0.005.

Partition coefficients of some elements (e.g. Sr, Ba) in plagioclase are also highly dependent on the major element composition of the crystal. We calculated the anorthite content of plagioclase  $(X_{An})$  as follows (Humphreys, 2009):

$$X_{An} = (T - 899)/3.61\tag{5}$$

In our models,  $X_{An}$  ranges from 0.70 at F = 1 to 0.30 at F = 0.005. This is in good agreement with mineral compositions observed in the Skaergaard intrusion.

#### 3. Parental magma compositions

In models of fractional crystallization, we used parental magma compositions from Nielsen (2004). For elements that are not reported by Nielsen (2004), we used average data from Tegner et al. (1998) on tholeiitic basalts from Greenland.

Cr (ppm)	Ni (ppm)	Sr (ppm)	Ba (ppm)	Eu (ppm)	Ce (ppm)
89	80	300	77	1.75	21

## 4. Partition coefficients

## 4.1. Monte-Carlo simulations

In the Monte-Carlo simulations, we used the following range of partition coefficients (D):

Phase	n	Cr $(\pm 1\sigma)$	Ni $(\pm 1\sigma)$	Sr $(\pm 1\sigma)$	Ba $(\pm 1\sigma)$	Eu $(\pm 1\sigma)$	Ce $(\pm 1\sigma)$
Plagioclase	310	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$	$1.9{\pm}0.6$	$0.3{\pm}0.1$	$0.46 {\pm} 0.22$	$0.05 {\pm} 0.02$
Olivine	75	$2.4{\pm}0.9$	$7.0{\pm}1.7$	$0\pm0$	$0{\pm}0$	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$
Clinopyroxene	310	$9.9{\pm}0.9$	$2.7 {\pm} 0.2$	$0.05{\pm}0.01$	$0.003 {\pm} 0.001$	$0.20 {\pm} 0.05$	$0.13{\pm}0.04$
Magnetite	23	$150\pm28$	$47 \pm 10$	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$
Ilmenite	18	$29\pm6$	$4.5 {\pm} 0.8$	$0.02{\pm}0.01$	$0\pm0$	$0.02 {\pm} 0.00$	$0\pm0$
Apatite	20	$0\pm0$	$0\pm0$	$1.5{\pm}0.3$	$0.04{\pm}0.01$	$5.9 {\pm} 3.2$	$14\pm3$
Trapped liquid	-	$1\pm0$	$1\pm0$	$1\pm0$	$1\pm0$	$1\pm0$	$1\pm0$

n = Total number of experiments used in the compilation. Data are from Adam and Green (2006), Aigner-Torres et al. (2007), Bacon and Druitt (1988), Beattie (1994), Bennett et al. (2004), Bindeman et al. (1998), Bindeman and Davis (2000), Blundy et al. (1998), Drake and Weill (1975), Dunn and Sen (1994), Frey (1969), Fujimaki et al. (1984), Fujimaki (1986), Gaetani (2004), Gaetani and Grove (1995), Gaetani et al. (2003), Green et al. (1989), Green et al. (2000), Hack et al. (1994), Hart and Dunn (1993), Hauri et al. (1994), Hill et al. (2000), Irving and Frey (1984), Jenner et al. (1993), Johnson (1994), Johnson (1998), Kennedy et al. (1993), Klemme et al. (2002), Klemme and Dalpé (2003), Klemme et al. (2006), Lofgren et al. (2006), Luhr and Carmichael (1980), Lundstrom et al. (1998), Matsui (1977), McDade et al. (2003), McCay et al. (2003a), McKay and Weill (1977), McKay and Weill (1976), McKay et al. (1986b), McKay (1986), McKay et al. (1986a), McKenzie and O'Nions (1991), Nagasawa and Schnetzler (1971), Nielsen et al. (1992), Nielsen and Beard (2000), Salters and Longhi (1999), Salters et al. (2002), Severs et al. (2009), Shimizu (1980), Shimizu and Hart (1982), Skulski et al. (1994), Sobolev et al. (1996), Tanaka and Nishizawa (1975), Toplis and Corgne (2002), Vannucci et al. (1998), Villemant (1988), Watson and Green (1981), Weill and McKay (1975), Wood and Trigila (2001), Zack and Brumm (1998) and Zajacz et al. (2008)

### 4.2. Empirical and thermodynamic models

For clinopyroxene and plagioclase, we used more specific models for some elements (Sr, Ba, Eu and Ce) to estimate the evolution of trace elements during fractional crystallization.

#### Strontium & Barium

For Sr an Ba in plagioclase, we used two different models. For the model of Blundy and Wood (1991), we used the following equations:

$$RT ln D^{Sr} = 26800 - 26700 X_{An} \tag{6a}$$

$$RT ln D^{Ba} = 10200 - 38200 X_{An} \tag{6b}$$

where R is the gas constant and T is temperature in Kelvin (T+273.15).

For the model of Dohmen and Blundy (2014), we used the following set of equations:

$$D^{Sr|Ba} = D^{Ca} exp\left[\frac{-4\pi N_A E_M^{2+} \left[\frac{r_{0(M)}^{2+}}{2} (r_{0,Sr|Ba} - r_{0,Ca})^2 + \frac{1}{3} (r_{0,Sr|Ba} - r_{0,Ca})^3\right]}{RT}\right]$$
(7)

where  $D^{Ca}$  is the partition coefficient of Ca, T is temperature (K),  $E_M^{2+}$  is the effective Young modulus of the crystallographic site for 2+ cations,  $r_{0(M)}^{2+}$  is the optimum ionic radius and r is the ionic radius (Sr, Ba and Ca). Details on the calculations of  $D^{Ca}$ ,  $r_{0(M)}^{2+}$  and values of ionic radius are given in Dohmen and Blundy

(2014). The only unknown parameter in this equation is  $D^{Ca}$ . Following Dohmen and Blundy (2014), we calculated it as follows:

$$D^{Ca} = exp\left[\frac{-19107 + 467.SiO_2^{Liq}(wt.\%)}{RT}\right]$$
(8)

To estimate the  $SiO_2$  content of the melt at each step of fractionation, we used a polynomial fit of the liquid line of descent proposed by Nielsen et al. (2009):

$$SiO_2^{Liq}(wt.\%) = -83.9F^3 + 158.8F^2 - 87.5F + 60.3$$
(9)

For clinopyroxene, we used a single model for Sr and Ba (Blundy and Wood, 1994). The equation that we used is identical to Eq. A7. We considered that Skaergaard clinopyroxene is an augite with one Ca per formula unit (pfu). We calculated  $Kp^{Ca}$  as follows:

$$D^{Ca} = \left(\frac{14.5}{Ca^{Liq}}\right) \tag{10}$$

and the CaO content of the melt was calculated using a polynomial fit of the liquid line of descent proposed by Nielsen et al. (2009):

$$CaO^{Liq}(wt.\%) = 12.646F^3 - 24.98F^2 + 17.25F + 5.283$$
<sup>(11)</sup>

## **Rare Earth Elements**

For plagioclase, we used the model of Dohmen and Blundy (2014) (Eq. A7). We considered that Skaergaard magma evolved under oxygen fugacity conditions close to QFM. Following experimental data and calculations from Aigner-Torres et al. (2007), we estimated an  $Eu^{3+}/Eu_{tot}$  ratio of 0.4. For  $Eu^{3+}$  and  $^{2+}$ , Ds were calculated using Eq. A7 using Young modulus from Aigner-Torres et al. (2007) ( $Eu^{2+}$ ) and Dohmen and Blundy (2014) ( $Eu^{3+}$ ). For clinopyroxene, we also used Eq. A7 with parameters from Blundy and Wood (1994). We considered the same  $Eu^{3+}/Eu_{tot}$  ratio than for plagioclase.

For light rare earth elements, we also used Eq. A7 with parameters from Dohmen and Blundy (2014) in plagioclase, and Wood and Blundy (1997), Sun and Liang (2012), Dygert et al. (2014) and Sun et al. (2017).

## 5. Assimilation and fractional crystallization (AFC)

We modelled the process of assimilation fractional crystallization (AFC) following the equations of De-Paolo (1981):

$$c_i^{Liq} = c_{i,0}^{Liq} [(\frac{r}{r-1})(\frac{c_i^a}{(z \times c_{i,0}^{Liq}})(1 - (1 - f)^{-z})] + (1 - f)^{-z}$$
(12)

where r is the ratio of assimilated/crystallized material and  $c_i^a$  is the concentration of element *i* in the assimilated material. Following DePaolo (1981) and Lissenberg et al. (2013), we calculated  $c_i^a$  and z as:

$$c_i^a = c_{i,0}^{Liq} \times \bar{D}^i \tag{13}$$

and

$$z = \frac{r + \bar{D}^i - 1}{r - 1} \tag{14}$$

## 6. Solid-state diffusion in plagioclase

We modelled the diffusion of light rare earth elements (Ce) in plagioclase. The diffusion process is modelled by a concentration idenpendent radial diffusion into a sphere (Gao et al., 2007). We further considered a constant diffusion coefficient during the diffusion process (Cherniak, 2003) which allows modelling diffusion with the second Fick's law (Costa et al., 2008).

$$\frac{\partial c(x,t)}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 c(x,t)}{\partial x^2} \tag{15}$$

Current data on diffusion coefficients in feldspar have been reported for a labradorite composition  $(An_{67})$  for transport normal to (010). We used these values in our modelling which are described by the following Arrhenius relation (Cherniak, 2003):

$$D_{Ce}^{Diff} = 1.1 \times 10^{-2} exp(-464500/RT) m^2 s^{-1}$$
(16)

where  $D_{Ce}^{Diff}$  is the diffusion coefficient of Ce in plagioclase.

Diffusion was modelled at a constant temperature of  $1020^{\circ}$ C (e.g. solidus of the interstitial melt; Thy et al. 2009) with a time step of 0.1 yr.

# 7. Supplementary figures



**Supplementary Figure 1:** QEMSCAN image of sample 317' (stratigraphic height 106m, LZa). Plagioclase primocrysts show compositional bimodality with cores enriched in An and rims more enriched in the albite-component. Plagioclase rims have a relatively constant composition rather than a composition evolving towards the albite end-member. Formation of the plagioclase rims and the poikilitic clinopyroxne is attributed to the crystallization of the interstial liquid in a plagioclase + olivine + liquid mush. Speckled grey material represents orthopyroxene.



Supplementary Figure 2: a. Ti vs Al in Skaergaard clinopyroxene cores. The 1/1, 2/1 and 4/1 lines are shown for reference. b. Zr vs Y in clinopyroxene cores. The 1/2, 1/1 and 2/1 lines are shown for reference. c. Y vas Al in clinopyroxene core and rims.



**Supplementary Figure 3:** a. Degree of trace element enrichment of plagioclase average cores from the top of the LS (UZc) relative to average plagioclase cores at the bottom of the LS (LZa). Enrichment factors are plotted as a function of a theoretical bulk partition coefficient in the troctolitic/gabbroic system calculated from average mineral modes (plagioclase, olivine, clinopyroxene, Fe-Ti oxides and apatite). b. Close up on the more incompatible trace elements in plagioclase. Red lines represent fractional crystallization models with numbers referring to the remaining liquid fraction (F). c. Degree of trace element enrichment of clinopyroxene average cores. d. Close up on the more incompatible trace elements in clinopyroxene.



**Supplementary Figure 4:** Models of fractional crystallization showing the evolution of mildly compatible and incompatible trace elements in plagioclase and clinopyroxene cores. Models were performed with 60% trapped liquid in the UZ.



**Supplementary Figure 5:** a. Histogram showing the distribution of  $D_{Ce}^{Cpx/Plag}$  in Skaergaard and comparison with literature data. b. Histogram showing the distribution of  $D_{Sr}^{Cpx/Plag}$ .



**Supplementary Figure 6:** Models of fractional crystallization showing the evolution of Y and Zr in clinopyroxene. a. Models with less than 20% trapped liquid in the UZ. b. Models with 60% trapped liquid in the UZ.



Supplementary Figure 7: Model of Ba diffusion in plagioclase from LZa.

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