FIELD TRIP TO THE FRENCH MASSIF CENTRAL
The SFMC organized a five-day field trip (22–26 June 2018) to investigate the Variscan geology of the Eastern French Massif Central. Twenty-five participants from six countries enjoyed sunny weather, good food, a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, and excellent outcrops. Topics of geological interest that were discussed included orogenic evolution, partial melting processes, and the sometimes-contradictory records of crustal evolution and differentiation (isotopic versus petrologic archives). The next SFMC field trip will be to Groix Island (Morbihan, France), 28–29 March 2019, to investigate the mineralogy, metamorphism, and structural geology of the outstanding gneisschist-to-blueschist-to-eclogite facies rocks of this Island.

Happy geologists at the end of the SFMC field trip in the French Massif Central. PHOTO: A. VILLAROS

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Compositional variation of olivine related to high-temperature serpentinization of peridotites: Evidence from the Oeyama ophiolite – Toshio NOZAKA

Structure of calcite-aqueous NaCl solution interfaces from ambient to elevated temperatures – Hiroshi SAKUMA, Henning O. SØRENSEN, Jun KAWANO, Nicolas BOVET, Keisuke FUKUSHI, Naoki NISHIYAMA and Hironori NAKAO

Kannanite, a new mineral from Kannan Mountain, Japan – Daisuke NISHIO-HAMANE, Mariko NAGASHIMA, Nobuhiro OGAWA and Tetsuo MINAKAWA

Crystal chemistry of poppiite, V-analogue of pumpellyite, from the Komatsu mine, Saitama Prefecture, Japan – Mariko NAGASHIMA, Takashi MATSUMOTO, Takashi YAMADA, Minoru TAKIZAWA and Koichi MOMMA

Letters

Pressure-induced phase transitions of Zn$_2$SiO$_4$ III and IV studied using in-situ Raman spectroscopy – Masami KANZAKI

Evolution of permeability and fluid pathways in the uppermost oceanic crust inferred from experimental measurements on basalt cores – Kenta KAWAGUCHI and Ikuo KATAYAMA

RECRYSTALLIZATION AND GRAIN GROWTH
Recrystallization is the process that leads to the formation of new crystals by ductile fragmentation of the pre-existing crystals that comprise either a rock, a metal alloy, or an ice volume in a glacier without loss of continuity. It is also the main research topic of a multidisciplinary French research group (Groupement de Recherche, GDR) of the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) entitled Recrystallization and Grain Growth. This group is coordinated by Maurine Montagnat (Institut des Géosciences de l’Environnement, Grenoble, France), Andréa Tommasi (Géosciences Montpellier), Romain Quey (École des Mines de St. Etienne, France), and Nathalie Bozzolo (MINES ParisTech, Paris, France). The Recrystallization and Grain Growth group brings together more than 14 CNRS and CEA (Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique) research teams and 5 industrial partners.

Recrystallization and grain growth processes drastically alter the textures and microstructures of the rocks in the constantly deforming mantle of the Earth, in the deeper levels of the crust, in ice during glacier flow, and in metals during shaping or production conditions. In natural systems, recrystallization processes are usually governed by the temperature and strain-rate conditions that operate both during and after deformation. However, these processes can be controlled and used as a tool to change the properties of materials in materials engineering. The GDR Recrystallization and Crystal Growth group has been active since 2006. For 2017–2020, the group has a mission to better organise the community of French researchers who are working on different aspects of recrystallization by setting up collaborations between theoreticians, modelers, and experimentalists who have either academic or industrial backgrounds. The aim is to bridge fundamental and applied research and to ensure the transfer of the most recent results in the field of recrystallization to young researchers and to the industrial sector, favouring the emergence of collaborative projects. The group also carries out training activities such as the workshop called the Recrystallization Thematic School, which was held 24–28 September 2018 in Fréjus, South of France (https://gdr-rex2018.sciencesconf.org/).

Check out the forthcoming 7th International Conference on Recrystallization and Grain Growth, to be held 4–9 August 2019 in Ghent (Belgium) (http://www.rexgg2019.org/e/home/index.php?eventid=295177&).