



The Journal of Gemmology

Volume 27 No. 8

October 2001



Cultured
pearls



Cat's-eyes and
star stones



Nephrite
jade



Synthetic
moissanite



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Cultured pearls and colour-changed cultured pearls: Raman spectra

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ABSTRACT: The numbers of coloured pearls on the market have grown over the past few years and include dyed pearls, irradiated pearls and so-called 'lasered' pearls. In this study, different pearl samples have been experimentally dyed or irradiated. Their Raman spectra have been obtained and found to be useful in identifying the colour origin of pearls.

Keywords: colour origin, dyed pearl, irradiated pearl, natural coloured pearl, Raman spectrum

Introduction

Over the years, the range of coloured freshwater cultured pearls generally available has increased significantly and includes black, peacock green, dark purple and bronze varieties. Some are dyed, some are irradiated freshwater cultured pearls, and some are even labelled as 'lasered'. These are in addition to naturally

coloured freshwater cultured pearls. Our research work has shown that the so-called 'lasered' freshwater cultured pearls are actually dyed⁽¹⁾. Our studies have confirmed that colour features, colour distribution, internal characteristics, ultra-violet fluorescence, and chemical tests are useful in identifying some dyed or irradiated pearls (op. cit.). However, many treated cultured pearls do not show any distinctive features. Furthermore, when



Figure 1: Some of the pearl samples studied: dyed cultured pearls (left) and irradiated cultured pearls (right).

Table I: Chemical data for five pearls.

Sample	Freshwater pearls				Tahiti pearl
	white	orange	purple	dyed dark purple	
Element					
at. %	F-1	F-2	F-3	F-4	F-6
Ca	37.98	37.78	37.91	38.17	38.12
Na	0.26	0.26	0.28	0.27	0.75
<i>ppm</i>					
Mg	39	25	48	40	79
Si	840	790	1800	1300	1600
P	210	220	190	170	170
Al	9	8	13	24	14
K	56	52	69	238	238
Sr	394	332	402	373	900
Ba	410	550	390	330	190
Fe	5	36	11	21	49
Mn	286	323	643	241	1
Cu	1	1	1	1	2
Zn	4	3	4	4	5
Ni	1	1	2	<1	<1
Co	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Cr	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1

N.B.: Results obtained from Hitachi 180-70 atomic absorption spectrometer.

a pearl is mounted, identification of its colour origin is made more difficult.

For this study, some of the samples were obtained directly from the market and others were treated by dyeing or irradiation (Figure 1). Some of the cultured pearls were dyed black by immersion over a twelve day period in either 0.025N silver nitrate, or in silver nitrate diluted with ammonia (Figure 2). Some were treated by electron accelerator. Eighteen samples were tested using the Renishaw MK1-1000 laser Raman spectrometer at room temperature with the

green line (514.5 nm) of an Ar-ion laser as excitation. In order to obtain comparable Raman spectra, the power and exposure times were kept constant for all the samples.

The chemical compositions of natural-coloured and dyed pearls were obtained by dissolving small samples of pearl and analysing the solutions with a Hitachi 180-70 atomic absorption spectrometer; the results are shown in Table I.

In this study, all the freshwater cultured pearls are non-nucleated and all the seawater cultured pearls are nucleated.

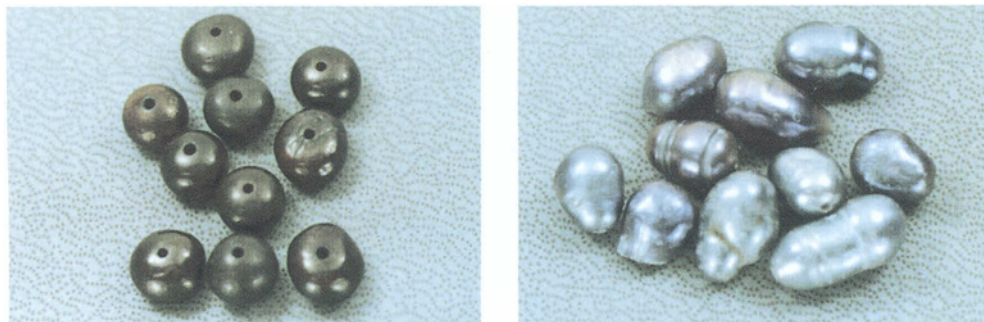


Figure 2: Cultured pearls dyed with AgNO_3 only (left) and pearls dyed using AgNO_3 diluted by ammonia (right).

Results and discussion

Naturally-coloured cultured pearls

Naturally-coloured freshwater cultured pearls are usually white, orange or purple as shown in *Figure 3*. It is easy to distinguish naturally-coloured freshwater cultured pearls from black Tahiti cultured pearls (whether nucleated or non-nucleated) on colour alone. However, the lighter grey Tahiti cultured pearls may prove to be more difficult to differentiate.

The black Tahiti cultured pearl samples show very strong fluorescence under the green laser, and in the Raman spectrum (*Figure 4*) there is a broad low peak at 1605 cm^{-1} beside the typical sharp peaks at 1083 and 702 cm^{-1} of aragonite. As can be seen from the chemical analysis (*Table 1*, column F-6) the Tahiti pearl contains very small quantities of minor elements, which probably would have little influence on the colour. The peak at 1605 cm^{-1} is relatively low and comparatively wide, indicating that it may



Figure 3: Naturally-coloured Chinese freshwater cultured pearls.

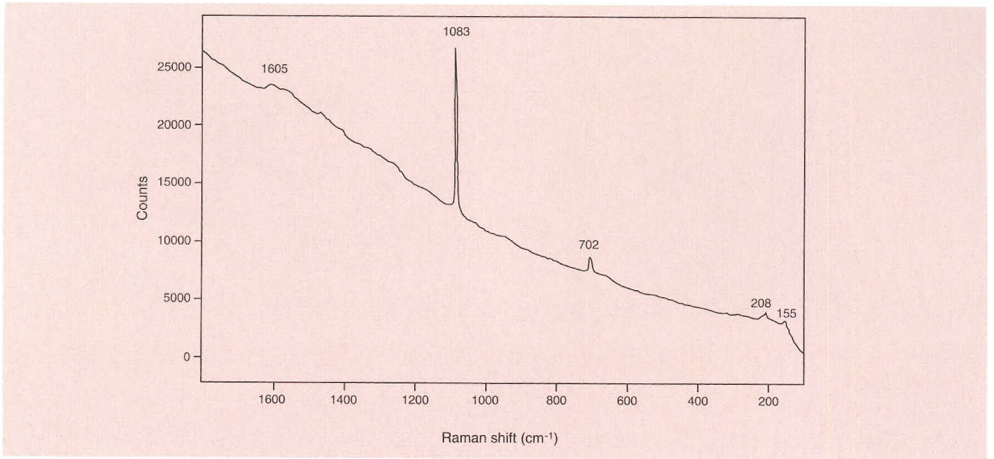


Figure 4: Raman spectrum of Tahiti cultured pearl.

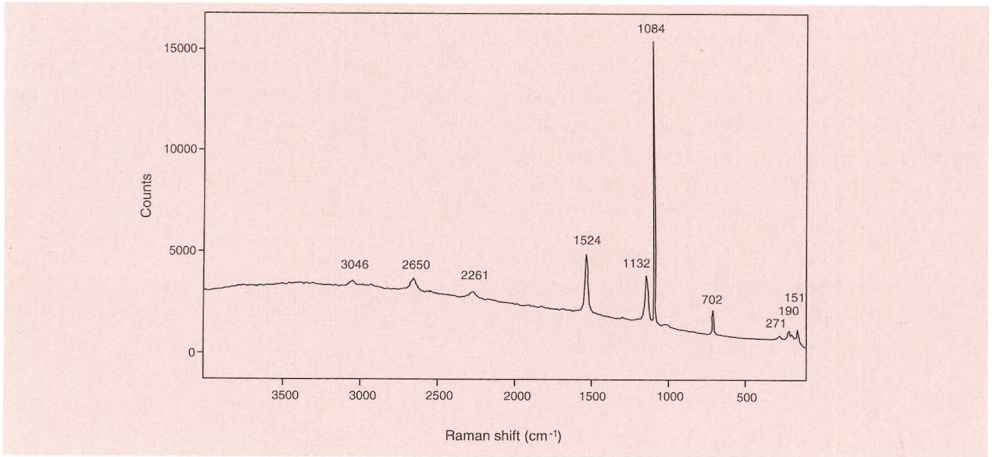


Figure 5: Raman spectrum of naturally-coloured orange freshwater cultured pearl.

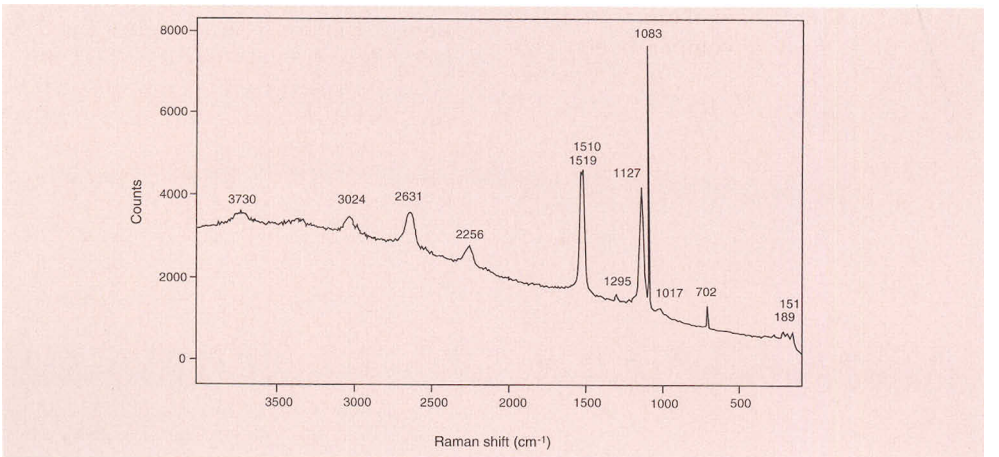


Figure 6: Raman spectrum of naturally-coloured purple freshwater cultured pearl.

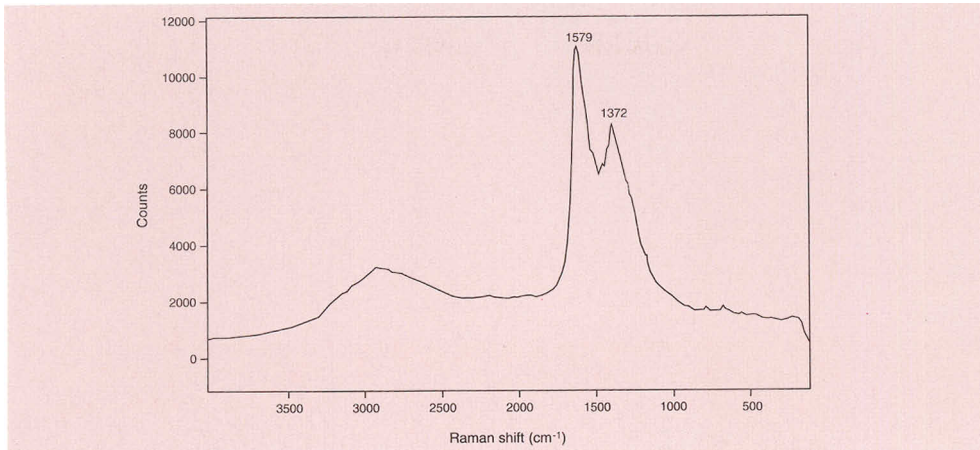


Figure 7: Raman spectrum of freshwater cultured pearl dyed black by silver nitrate.

be caused by a substance of low crystalline structure, which would include organic materials. It has been suggested by other researchers (e.g. see⁽²⁾) that pigments such as porphyrin seem to be the cause of colour in Tahiti cultured pearls.

For naturally-coloured orange freshwater cultured pearls, the Raman spectrum (Figure 5) is very different to that seen in Tahiti cultured pearls. In addition to the sharp and strong peaks of aragonite at 1084 and 702 cm^{-1} , there are sharp peaks at 1524 and 1132 cm^{-1} and also some weak peaks at 2650 and 2261 cm^{-1} . The sharp peaks indicate that the impurities are in the crystal structure. The chemical analyses for the orange freshwater cultured pearls reveal iron (Table I, F-2) being present in a comparatively high enough concentration to be a possible contributory cause of the orange colour. Further research is needed to establish if this is the cause of colour.

The naturally-coloured purple freshwater cultured pearls show a complicated Raman spectrum, with sharp peaks at 1127, 1510 and 1519 cm^{-1} , and broad peaks at 2256, 2631 and 3024 cm^{-1} (Figure 6). The chemical analyses reveal that contents of Mn, Si, Al and Fe are relatively high (Table I, F-3). Once again whether any of these minor elements contribute to the colour will require further research.

Dyed pearls

Many freshwater and saltwater cultured pearls are dyed various colours. The dyed black cultured pearls often show very good iridescence. The iridescent peacock green and purple colours associated with the highly valued natural-coloured black Tahiti cultured pearls can also be seen in the so-called 'lasered' freshwater cultured pearls. The colour distribution in both types is quite even. The 'lasered' freshwater cultured pearls are actually dyed – the process involves immersion for about one year in a new organic dye.

All the dyed cultured pearl samples show very different Raman spectra to the naturally-coloured cultured pearl samples. The three black cultured pearls dyed by silver nitrate methods produced differing colour saturations, but similar Raman spectra. The absorption peaks of aragonite are commonly present but, compared with Raman spectra of undyed cultured pearls, what was also found were peaks relating to carbon as seen in the likes of jet⁽³⁾ (Figure 7). This may indicate that non-crystalline carbon is a degradation product of the organic matrix originally present in the pearl. It can be surmised that the black colour induced in pearls by dyeing with silver nitrate may be caused by the deposition within the layers of the pearl not only of silver oxide, but also of non-

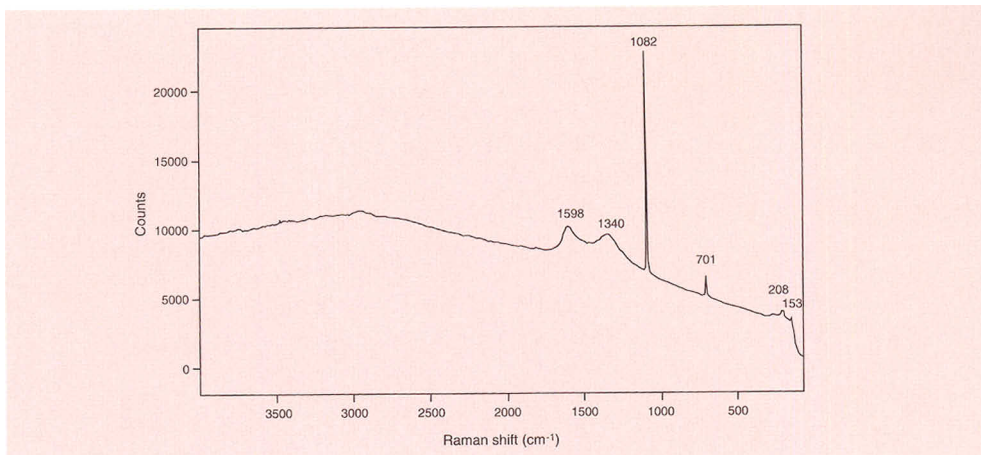


Figure 8: Raman spectrum of freshwater cultured pearl dyed dark purple ('lasered').

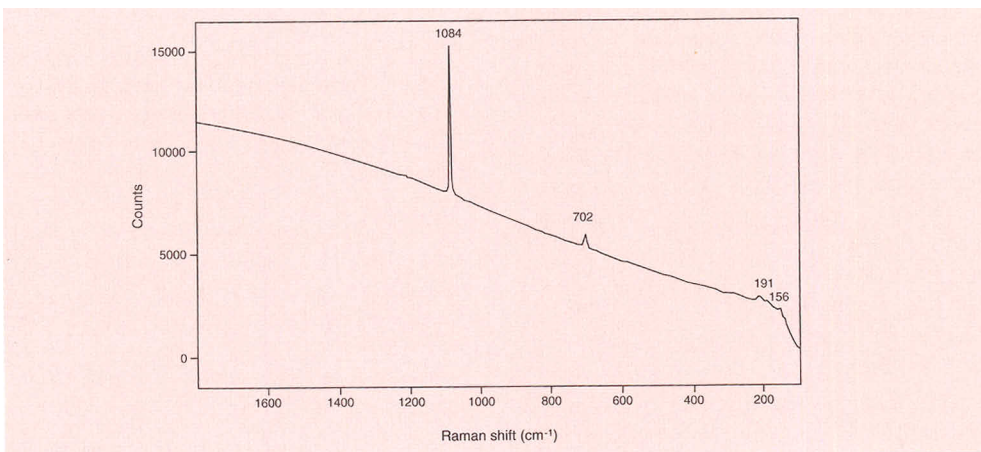


Figure 9: Raman spectrum of a white freshwater cultured pearl turned black by irradiation.

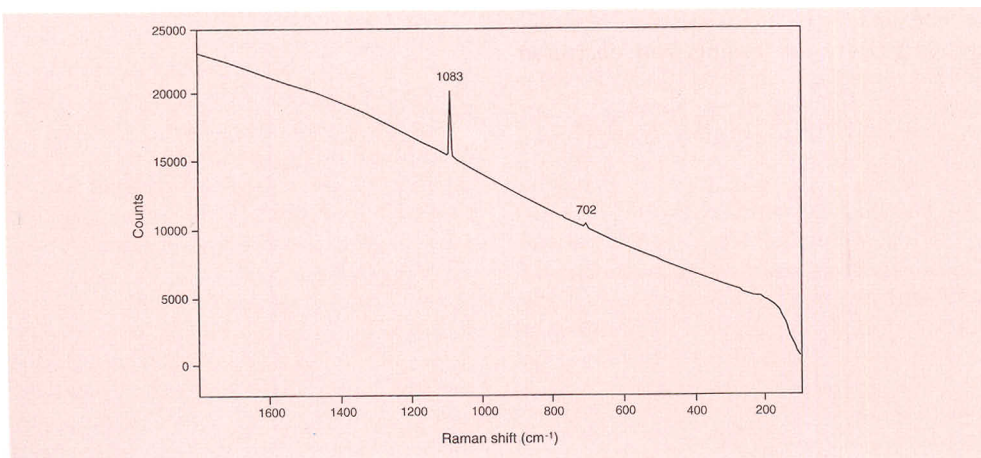


Figure 10: Raman spectrum of an orange freshwater cultured pearl turned black by irradiation.

crystalline carbon as a reduction product of organic substances. Two different 'lasered'-pearls that were also tested gave similar carbon peaks in their Raman spectra, one of which is shown in *Figure 8*. The two broad peaks at 1340 and 1598 cm^{-1} are caused by carotene which is a pigment commonly used to dye coral.

Irradiated pearls

Irradiation was carried out under contract; the authors used a TRI-CARB 2250CA Liquid Scintillation Analyzer to confirm that any residual radioactivity was at or close to background level.

It was found that irradiation effectively changed the colour of freshwater cultured pearls. The resulting irradiated colours were often a dark peacock green, dark purple or bronze (as shown in *Figure 1*). The colour produced by irradiation is considered to be stable because it does not fade after exposure to ultraviolet light for 240 hours. The Raman spectra of six pearls were obtained before and after irradiation. White freshwater cultured pearls may change to silver grey, bronze or dark purple, depending on the power of the irradiation. However, no change in Raman spectra occurs after irradiation (*Figure 9*).

On irradiation some orange and purple freshwater cultured pearls changed to dark peacock green, and others to dark purple or bronze. No additional peaks were present in the Raman spectra after irradiation; however the aragonite peak heights had decreased (*Figure 10*).

The fluorescence under the argon-ion laser of all the irradiated freshwater cultured pearls is far stronger than for those that were not irradiated; this and the Raman spectrum could imply that irradiation produces a new fluorescent centre, and destroys the organic substance in pearls.

Conclusions

Raman spectroscopy can be useful in distinguishing naturally-coloured from dyed cultured pearls.

Naturally-coloured Tahiti cultured pearls show a typical broad peak at 1605 cm^{-1} . Naturally-coloured orange or purple freshwater cultured pearls always show sharp peaks at around 1127 and 1524 cm^{-1} and broad peaks in the range between 2256 and 3730 cm^{-1} . Some dark-coloured cultured pearls dyed with organic substances show typical broad peaks at around 1340 and 1598 cm^{-1} . Silver nitrate-dyed cultured pearls may not show the typical peaks of aragonite, but only the broad peaks at 1571, 1594 and 2918 cm^{-1} . The Raman spectrum of an irradiated dark-coloured cultured pearl will only show the structural aragonite peaks. Therefore, apart from general fluorescence observations, the technique is not useful in detecting irradiation treatment.

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Some new unusual cat's-eyes and star stones

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ABSTRACT: Several unusual star and cat's-eye stones are described. Pale blue topaz from Brazil shows chatoyancy caused by flat hollow channels. Four-rayed star aquamarine from Brazil has one direction caused by hollow channels parallel to the *c*-axis and a second perpendicular direction is caused by planes of two-phase inclusions orientated perpendicular to the *c*-axis. A tourmaline-quartz combination from Brazil has an iridescent chatoyancy. Grey orthoclase moonstone from Sri Lanka has a unique combination of a cat's-eye and a six-rayed star, the cause of both is not clear. Sunstone from Russia has a strong cat's-eye caused by an albite-oligoclase orthoclase perthite. Four-rayed star tourmaline (bicolour elbaite) has one direction caused by hollow channels and the second by planes of 'trichites' perpendicular to the *c*-axis. Weak chatoyancy of rhodochrosite from Kazakhstan is caused by its agate-like structure. Four-rayed star rhodochrosite is caused by two directions of a perfect cleavage.

Keywords: aquamarine, chatoyancy, moonstone, rhodochrosite, stars, sunstone, topaz

Large topaz cat's-eye from Brazil

A very unusual example of a cat's-eye was purchased in Brazil by the author in summer 2000. It is an oval cabochon weighing 152.15 ct and measuring

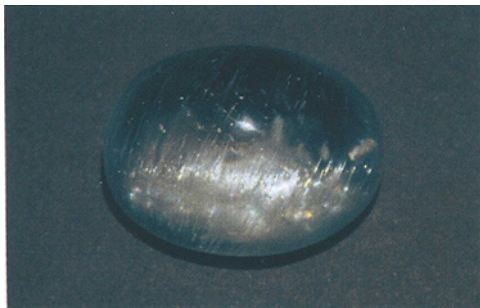


Figure 1: Chatoyant pale blue topaz from Brazil weighing 152.15 ct. Photo by J. Hyršl.

32.94 x 24.91 x 20.25 mm. It was identified as topaz from a spot RI of about 1.62 and from a biaxial image through a conoscope between crossed polars. The stone is light blue with strong pleochroic colours – greenish-blue and almost colourless. It is inert under UV light. When illuminated with a spotlight, it shows a sharp cat's-eye and the line has bright iridescence colours (Figure 1).

The cause of chatoyancy is easily visible – long colourless almost parallel needles in about one half of the volume of the stone. With a microscope, they can be identified as flat hollow channels (cf. Koivula, 1987). Channels in the studied stone contain no limonite colouring and therefore very strong iridescence colours can be seen in an oblique light. In places, three or four channels may radiate from an unidentified crystal (Figure 2).

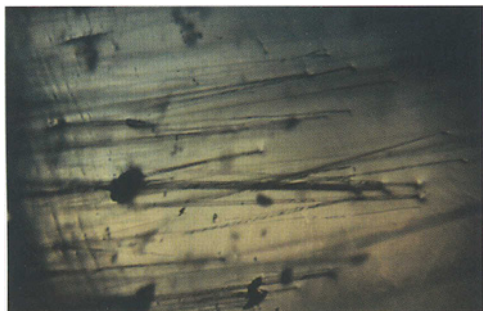


Figure 2: Iridescent flat hollow channels in a topaz cat's-eye grow in one direction from small unidentified crystals. Width 7 mm. Photo by J.Hyršl.

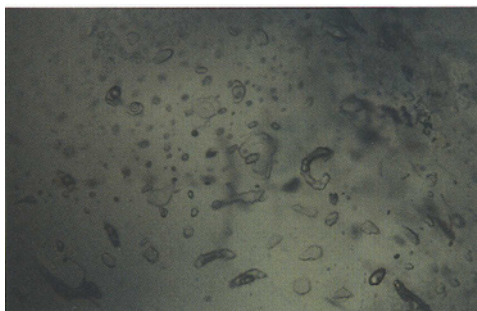


Figure 3: Six-rayed star aquamarine (27.32 ct), with a plane of inclusions perpendicular to the c-axis; some of them contain two immiscible liquids; transmitted light. Width 1.9 mm. Photo by J.Hyršl.

Hoover (1992) has described two topaz cat's-eyes, one blue of 7.98 ct from Brazil and another colourless of 12.20 ct from Sri Lanka, but this specimen is considerably larger.

Two star aquamarines from Brazil

Star beryls, including aquamarines, are very rare but have been known for a long time. They are cut perpendicularly to the c-axis and usually show a very weak six-rayed star. The star is caused by abundant parallel films of two-phase inclusions (Figure 3), which are typical for many beryls (Gübelin and Koivula, 1992; Henn and Bank, 1997), and several examples of aquamarine and yellow heliodor, and very rarely emerald, have been seen by the author in Brazil. The studied aquamarine with a six-rayed star weighs 27.32 ct, has RI (measured on a flat polished base) of 1.574 - 1.581 and a SG of 2.69. Much more surprising is a similar aquamarine of 30.91 ct, which shows a four-rayed star. Its colour and properties (RI = 1.571 - 1.579 and SG = 2.69) are very similar to the six-rayed star stone and it was cut from the same type of rough, but in a different direction. One ray direction is caused by thin films mentioned already in the six-rayed stone and this means that it is one ray of the star. The second ray direction is perpendicular to the first and is caused by hollow channels, which on their own cause chatoyancy in other aquamarines (Figure 4).

Quartz-tourmaline cat's-eye from Brazil

A strange stone weighing 27.58 ct was purchased in Brazil and is reliably reported to come from a pegmatite in Minas Gerais. The base is tourmaline with a transparent light green core with a dark green rim; the rim is nearly opaque and has a fibrous structure. The next phase of growth on the green tourmaline consisted of thin tourmalines and white hexagonal muscovite crystals, and then finally in the last phase all was covered by colourless rock crystal so this quartz-tourmaline stone is a sort of 'natural doublet'.



Figure 4: Four-rayed star aquamarine (30.91 ct) with hollow channels (left-right) and perpendicular small films of two-phase inclusions. Width 1.2 mm. Photo by J. Hyršl.



Figure 5: Tourmaline and quartz (27.58 ct) with an iridescent chatoyancy, a sort of 'natural doublet'. Photo by J.Hyršl.



Figure 6: Chatoyant tourmaline and quartz, side view. Photo by J. Hyršl.

After cutting into a cabochon, a sharp cat's-eye can be seen. Unusually, the eye shows bright iridescent colours which are caused by a very thin layer of air between the tourmaline and the quartz (Figures 5 and 6).

Moonstone with a star and cat's-eye combination from Sri Lanka

A stone described as a moonstone was purchased in Germany and probably comes from Sri Lanka, where a similar one was offered to the author in 1999. It is a brownish-grey cabochon weighing 31.42 ct with a spot RI of 1.53 and SG of 2.60. In LW UV it is inert, but in SW UV it shows red fluorescence. These properties indicate moonstone but could also be consistent with scapolite. Therefore a tiny amount of powder for X-ray diffraction analysis was scraped from the girdle; the results indicate orthoclase feldspar, which confirms its identity as a moonstone. It is slightly translucent and has a silvery schiller. In a strong light it shows an extremely unusual phenomenon – a combination of a cat's-eye and a six-rayed star, positioned beside each other (Figure 7). Under a microscope, thousands of tiny microcrystals can be seen. Some are black trigonal platy crystals, orientated in the same direction and could be hematite. Small black rods (ilmenite?) are parallel with the edges of the trigonal crystals. Very common are dark tiny anisotropic crystals of irregular shapes similar to snowflakes. Despite the variety,

none of the inclusions is abundant enough to explain the unusual optical phenomena. The star is most probably caused by hematite (?) and ilmenite (?), and the chatoyancy could be caused by submicroscopic twin lamellae.

Sunstone cat's-eye from Russia

Chatoyant cabochons from the Vishnevye Mts. in the Urals, a famous pegmatite region about 100 km south of Ekaterinberg, were purchased in Tucson in 2001. The stones have a grey body colour but appear brown from the presence of abundant hexagonal hematite platelets up to about 1 mm in



Figure 7: Moonstone with a combination of six-rayed star and cat's-eye, 31.42 ct. Photo by J.Hyršl.



Figure 8: Two cabochons of sunstone cat's-eye (17.89 and 9.50 ct) from the Urals. Photo by J.Hyršl.

diameter (Figure 8). The hematite plates form three crystallographically oriented systems which are almost perpendicular to each other. The RI is 1.530 - 1.537 and the SG is 2.62. In LW UV the sunstone is inert, but in SW UV it shows dark red fluorescence. The cause of chatoyancy is visible with a loupe and is a 'fibrous' structure consisting of thin lamellae of intermixed feldspars (Figure 9). The angle between the lamellae and direction of the main cleavage is 19 degrees. According to RI and SG values, the feldspar could be orthoclase, perthite (albite - oligoclase - orthoclase intergrowths) or peristerite (albite - oligoclase intergrowths). X-ray diffraction of a powder scraping proved the stones to be perthite with more albite than orthoclase.

Star tourmaline

Although tourmaline cat's-eyes are quite common, stars are not and it was surprising to find a tourmaline - elbaite with a weak four-rayed star. The stone is an elongated cabochon weighing 11.05 ct, unfortunately without a given locality. One third is green and two thirds are pink. One direction of the star is caused by hollow channels (very common in tourmalines) and the second is caused by

abundant 'trichites', most of which are oriented perpendicular to the *c*-axis.

Star and cat's-eye rhodochrosite

Cut rhodochrosite is quite common, but stones with optical phenomena have not been reported in the gemmological literature until now. Both the cat's-eye and the star rhodochrosite come from the former USSR. The cat's-eye weighs 2.27 ct, is pinkish-red, with RI (measured on a flat, polished base) of 1.570 and more than 1.80, and SG of 3.58. The weak chatoyancy is caused by a thin

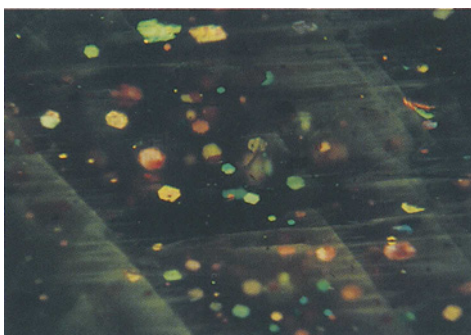


Figure 9: Hematite plates and 'fibres' in sunstone cat's-eye from the Urals. Width 4 mm. Photo by J.Hyršl.

layered 'agate-like' structure. The rough was found a few years ago in Kazakhstan and forms thick translucent crusts on matrix. Similar cat's-eyes probably could be cut from rhodochrosite from the famous Mina Capillitas in Argentina.

The star stone is a dark pinkish-red cabochon of 12.83 ct. Its RIs are 1.695 and more than 1.80 and its SG is 3.73. The well-centred four-rayed star has angles of about 74 and 106 degrees, caused by perfect cleavages in these two directions (Figure 10).



Figure 10: Star rhodochrosite (12.83 ct) showing two directions of cleavage and two-phase inclusions. Width 4 mm. Photo by J.HyrsI.

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Gübelin Gem Lab, Lucerne, Switzerland

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Nephrite jade from Jordanów Slaski, Poland

Dr Douglas Nichol
Wrexham, Wales

ABSTRACT: Near Jordanów Slaski, deposits of nephrite jade are intimately associated with serpentinitized ultrabasic igneous rocks of Precambrian age. The nephrite jade bodies vary from tabular to lenticular in shape and occur together with talc-chlorite schist and rodingite within the contact alteration zone between serpentinite and gabbro/diorite. Predominant colours of the nephrite jade are of green-yellow and green hue. Grain size ranges from fine- to medium-grained and rare accessory constituents of diopside, tremolite, epidote, chlorite, zoisite, pyrite, hematite and magnetite have been recorded. The nephrite jade formed as a result of sudden high-pressure effects due to movements along major faults following the emplacement of the ultramafic rocks around the Sowie Góry block. The deposits at Jordanów Slaski have provided the largest nephrite jade boulder ever recorded from Europe. The nephrite jade itself was fashioned by famous artisans through the ages and examples of hardstone carving works are preserved in museum collections around the world. Modern production is very small in scale but the development of local lapidary facilities is currently under active consideration.

Keywords: Jordanów Slaski, nephrite jade, Poland

Introduction

The nephrite jade deposits at Jordanów Slaski rank among the largest and most significant in Europe and have been worked for over one hundred years for the manufacture of costume jewellery, hardstone carvings and ornamental pieces. Following the break-up of the former Soviet Union and the easing of international travel restrictions, Polish tourism has developed rapidly and growth trends should be strongly upwards. This increasing tourism together with modern advances in lapidary equipment have fostered a renewed interest in Polish gemstone localities in general and the nephrite jade deposits at Jordanów Slaski in particular.

The nephrite jade deposits are located 31.5 km south of the city of Wrocław in the

province of Dolny Slask (Lower Silesia), southwest Poland (*Figure 1*). From the village of Jordanów Slaski access to the deposits is westwards for 2.1 km towards Sobotka (*Figure 2*).

This paper provides a review and a description of the geological setting of the nephrite jade deposits at Jordanów Slaski. It also directs attention to the exploration potential that exists in the surrounding region.

Historical background

Archaeologically, nephrite jade production in the Jordanów Slaski district appears to have commenced in Neolithic times. Indeed, various types of artefacts made of material attributed to this locality have been found scattered throughout central and



Figure 1: Orientation map.

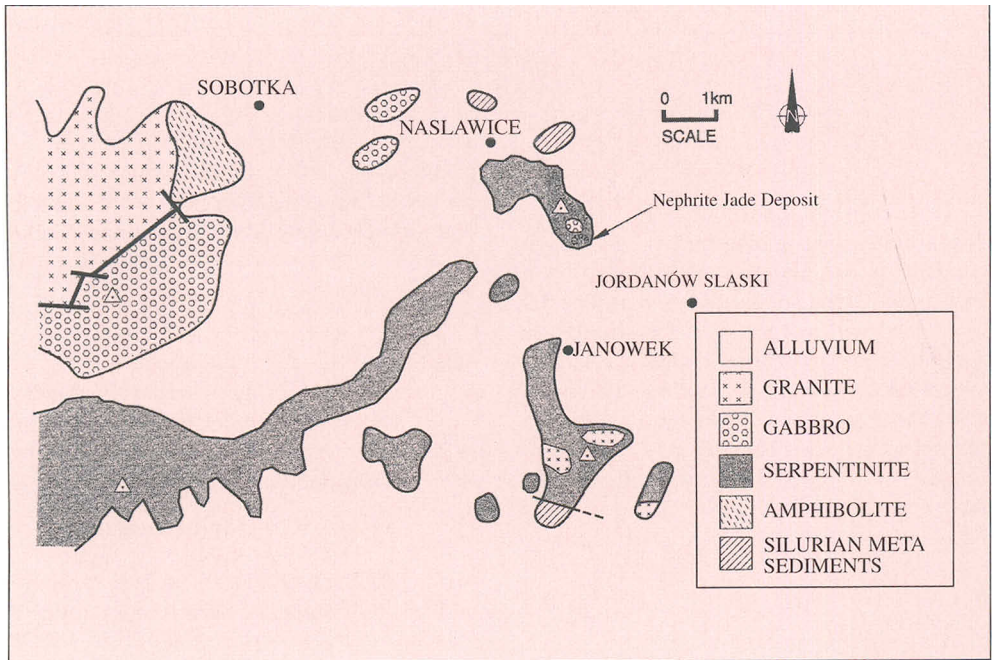


Figure 2: Sketch map of the regional geology of the Jordanów Śląski district.

western Europe indicating that it was widely traded and highly prized by prehistoric man.

According to Skelton (1991) nephrite jade from south-western Poland was probably an important source of raw material for the Prague workshops of the Mannersit carvers during the 16th and 17th centuries. Also Visser (1946) contends that brief references to nephrite jade in the Jordanów Slaski district may be discerned in various 18th-century manuscripts.

However, modern discovery of the deposits at the Jordanów Slaski site is generally attributed to Hermann Traube of Wroclaw in 1884. The announcement of his findings created considerable public interest at the time and the deposits were widely heralded as the first *in situ* occurrences of nephrite jade in Europe.

Shortly after discovery, mining operations commenced and a substantial quantity of nephrite jade was produced (Traube, 1885). Subsequently mining operations were disrupted throughout the First World War but the deposits were reopened for exploitation in 1932 by Jordansmuhler Nephrit-Gesellschaft mbH and continuous production was sustained for several years (Klingner, 1943). Records are incomplete but based on the fragmentary evidence available, total production of nephrite jade from the site is estimated at approximately 1200 t.

Ruff (1963) reports that the deposits were again being worked in 1958 but production appears to have been small in scale. As far as can be determined, operations virtually ceased by 1960 although some desultory activity persists to the present day. Part of the site is currently occupied by various items of obsolete plant used for processing industrial minerals (limestone, pigment, etc.) and these tend to obstruct extractive operations.

Moreover, prior to the break-up of the former USSR, the East Sayan Mountains of Siberia were promoted as the principle nephrite-producing region for the Soviet Bloc countries and this appears to have influenced and, indeed, limited the potential for

development of the deposits in Jordanów Slaski (*cf.* Prokhor, 1991).

Geological setting

The nephrite jade deposits are situated in the foreland foothills along the eastern flank of the Sudete Mountains of the north-east Bohemian Massif. They occur on the south-eastern slopes of an outlying ridge that stretches north-westwards from Jordanów Slaski. To the north-east, the site overlooks the floodplain of the River Odra.

Geologically, the crystalline basement (*Figure 2*) comprises Precambrian gneiss and amphibolite intruded by gabbro, granite and ultrabasic igneous rocks. The basement rocks form the Sowie Góry block, a major structural high and the oldest tectonic element in the region. These Precambrian rocks are unconformably overlain by metasedimentary strata of Silurian age.

Towards the end of the Precambrian, ultrabasic rocks were emplaced along deep fractures around the peripheral zone of the Sowie Góry block. They consist of serpentinized peridotite, pyroxenite and dunite, that vary from grey-green, massive serpentinites to dark green, foliated serpentinite. These ultrabasic igneous rocks underlie an area of almost 100 km² in the region and host economically important mineral deposits of primary chromite and nickel as well as secondary magnesite and chrysoprase (Osika, 1986).

The hilly ground around the nephrite jade deposits consists predominantly of massive serpentinite but diorite and gabbro crop out spasmodically along the southern-most lower slopes at the site. Nephrite jade occurs exclusively within the contact alteration zone along the faulted margins between serpentinite and the dioritic and gabbroic rocks.

Interestingly, a minor occurrence of nephrite jade has also been reported in a similar geological environment near Dzierzoniów, some 21 km to the south-west of Jordanów Slaski (Traube, 1887; Beutell and Heinze, 1914).



Figure 3: View looking north of the quarry workings. Photo by Douglas Nichol.

The host contact alteration zone is poorly exposed throughout the region. Accordingly, much of the serpentinite belt remains prospective for additional deposits of nephrite jade and further geological exploration appears warranted.

The deposits

The nephrite jade deposits at Jordanów Slaski occur within an old serpentinite quarry originally established for the extraction of rock aggregate for road construction purposes (Figure 3). The quarry area measures approximately 200 m long and 100 m wide by up to 10 m deep and the nephrite jade workings occupy the north-western corner of the principal quarry (Figure 4).

The bedrock is poorly exposed. However, the contact alteration zone between serpentinite and diorite crops out on the floor of the quarry. It is irregular in form, dips steeply, ranges up to 25 m wide and contains massive and sheared serpentinite, talc-chlorite schist, nephrite jade and rodingite (Gawel, 1957). Rock relations are illustrated in Figure 5.

The nephrite jade bodies are typically small, lensoid to tabular in shape and, although irregular in structure, generally appear to be concordant with neighbouring

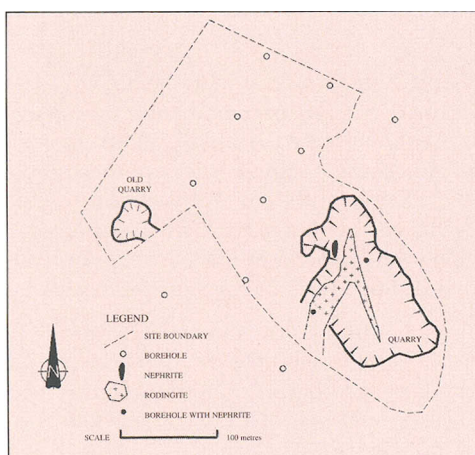


Figure 4: Site plan (after Kozlowski, 1990).

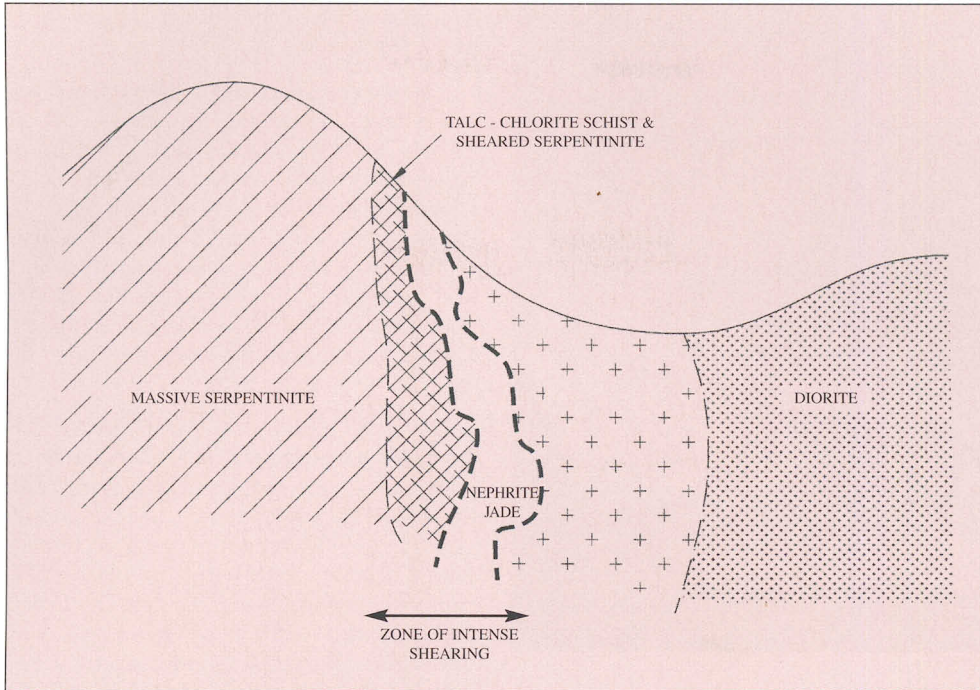
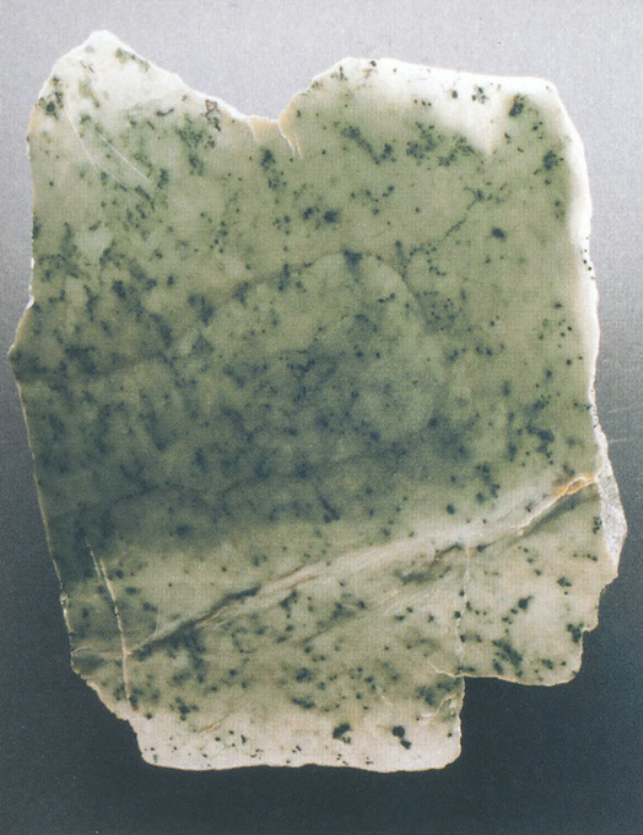


Figure 5: Cross section illustrating rock relations at the Jordanów Slaski quarry (not to scale).



Figure 6: Outcrop of nephrite jade exposed on the quarry floor at Jordanów Slaski. Photo by Douglas Nichol.



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Figure 7: A typical specimen of nephrite jade from Jordanów Slaski. Size approximately 200 mm high. It appears on public display at the Muzeum Mineralogicznego, Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław. (Photo by Antoni Stryjewski).

rock formations (Figure 6). Size ranges up to 5 m long by 0.4 m wide though most bodies are much smaller. The larger pods give rise to rounded nodules or boulders with a distinctive white surface weathering rind. Sinuous veinlets of nephrite jade ranging from 2 to 150 mm wide seem to penetrate the adjoining serpentinite mass. However, practically all of the usable nephrite jade is obtained from dense elongate patches within the larger pods.

Using the Munsell notation (Rock-Colour Chart Committee, 1980), the nephrite jade ranges from light greenish-grey (5G 8/1) and moderate yellowish-green (10GY 6/4) through greyish-green (10GY 5/2 and 10G 4/2) and dark yellowish-green (10GY 4/4) to dusky green (5G 3/2), dusky yellowish-green (10GY 4/2) and greenish-black (5GY

2/1) but is predominantly dark yellowish-green (10GY 4/4).

Textures range from fine-grained, microfibrinous and interfelted to coarse-grained. Certain specimens are veined, mottled or banded, or contain specks, streaks and flecks of minor mineral constituents (Figure 7). Accessory minerals include diopside, tremolite, epidote, chlorite, zoisite, pyrite, hematite and magnetite. Typically, specific gravity approaches 2.95 and hardness is about 6.5. Previous chemical analyses are listed in Table I.

The talc-chlorite schist and foliated serpentinite are extremely friable and similar in appearance with dark green colour and well-developed foliation. They occur in discontinuous lenses. The rodingite is a distinctive hard leucocratic rock with a highly variable composition and is generally believed to be a metasomatic or metamorphic product developed during serpentinization of the parental ultramafic rock. According to Sachs (1902) and Kolesnik (1970), the rodingite at Jordanów Slaski formed by metasomatic alteration of gabbro and its common mineral constituents include albite, hornblende, garnet, epidote, zoisite, quartz, prehnite and biotite.

A programme of exploration drilling at the quarry has indicated continuity of nephrite jade mineralization beneath the quarry floor (Kozłowski, 1990). However, understanding of the extent of recoverable reserves of nephrite jade at the site remains poor.

Nephrite formation

The nephrite jade lodes at Jordanów Slaski appear intimately associated with serpentinitized ultrabasic igneous rocks. Based on the field relationship between the nephrite bodies and the serpentinite and the association of rodingites within the alteration zone, the deposits are classed as orthonephrite in type (Nichol, 2000). The nephrite jade appears to have formed as a reaction product by late stage dynamothermal meta-

Sample No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Analysis (Wt.%)								
SiO ₂	57.26	56.93	53.21	57.58	56.39	52.58	56.74	54.44
TiO ₂	-	-	-	0.10	-	0.12	-	-
Al ₂ O ₃	1.40	1.01	1.16	1.35	1.63	6.74	0.93	5.92
Fe ₂ O ₃	4.22	4.99	2.40	4.17	5.42	4.48	4.39	6.28
Cr ₂ O ₃	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.13	-
MnO	0.74	0.71	0.80	0.15	0.26	-	0.06	0.22
NiO					0.13	-	0.09	-
MgO	19.96	19.21	20.81	20.65	24.63	21.02	21.75	16.79
CaO	13.19	14.54	14.08	13.10	7.92	9.84	13.09	7.51
Na ₂ O	-	-	-	0.12	-	0.54	0.22	4.64
K ₂ O	-	-	-	-	-	0.28	-	0.28
Loss on ignition	2.53	1.93	1.81	2.61	4.07	3.47	2.42	4.12
Total	99.30	99.32	94.27	99.83	100.45	99.07	99.82	100.20

Sample Nos 1, 2 and 3 after Traube (1885)

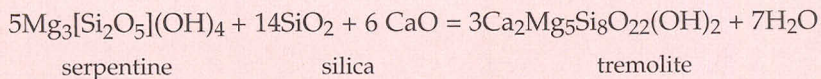
Sample No. 4 after Heflik (1968)

Sample Nos 5, 6, 7 and 8 after Anonymous (1906)



Figure 8: Bowl fashioned from nephrite jade. It appears on public display at the Muzeum Mineralogicznego, Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław. Photo by Douglas Nichol.

morphism related to the movement of serpentinites against country rocks with higher silica contents. The following chemical reaction applies:-



Tectonic modification of tremolite by dynamic metamorphism recrystallized coarse-grained tremolite to the fine-grained, interfelted microstructure of nephrite. This tectonic modification is essentially mechanical and involves a sudden release in confining pressures within tremolite bodies that are saturated with water under high partial pressure. According to Dorling and Zussman (1985), the finest grain sizes are attained at the lowest possible recrystallization temperature for the shortest possible time for full crystallization. As such, the process of recrystallization was probably rapid.

Mining and processing

Extraction of nephrite jade from the quarry at Jordanów Slaski was essentially carried out in conjunction with serpentinite mining. Once the individual nephrite jade bodies were exposed they were selectively mined using hand-held tools to prize the crude blocks from the working face and to knap them into various manageable sizes.

The nephrite jade from Jordanów Slaski varies from high quality, monomineralic material suitable for gem cutting to low quality stone with inclusions suitable for ornamental work and hard-stone carving. The proportion of high quality material appears generally less than 10 per cent.

Historically, most of the crude nephrite jade blocks mined at Jordanów Slaski were exported to Idar-Oberstein, the German centre for trading hardstone and precious stones. Here, the nephrite jade was fashioned mainly as ornamental bowls, rings, beads, bracelets and carvings (Figure 8). As far as can be determined, finished prod-

ucts were mainly sold under controlled conditions and generally restricted to the German marketplace (Petar, 1936).

At the present time, the factory within the village at Jordanów Slaski that cuts and polishes stone, deals almost exclusively with serpentinite. Only roughly hewn specimens of nephrite jade are extracted to supply the local souvenir trade. Establishment of a modern lapidary factory to process the local nephrite jade is under active consideration and would complement the recent developments in tourism.

Collections

The most important suite of specimens of nephrite jade from Jordanów Slaski is housed in the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), New York, USA. The suite comprises part of the Heber R. Bishop collection of jade and each item is described in the elaborate catalogue of the collection (Anonymous, 1906). Undoubtedly, the most famous piece is a remarkable block extracted from the quarry at Jordanów Slaski in 1899 and polished on one side by Tiffany & Co. (Sofianides and Harlow, 1990, p. 138). It originally weighed some 2.14 t and is claimed to be the largest single specimen of nephrite jade ever recorded from Europe (Kunz, 1903; 1904; 1907). The block appears on permanent exhibition in the Guggenheim Hall of Minerals at AMNH (Figure 9).

Items fashioned from Jordanów Slaski nephrite jade are also found in numerous museum collections throughout the world. Interestingly, nephrite jade was used extensively by Fabergé for hardstone pieces and although many of its chief works incorporate material of certain Russian origin, nephrite jades of other provenances such as Jordanów Slaski were employed for small hardstone carvings of animal



Figure 9: The largest boulder of nephrite jade ever recorded from Europe weighs 2.14 tonnes and was collected in 1899 at the Jordanów Slaski quarry. It was donated to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, and now appears on public display at the American Museum of Natural History, New York. Photo Neg No 5232, Courtesy American Museum of Natural History Library.

figures and ornamental bowls that were produced at Idar-Oberstein (e.g. Habsburg-Lothringen and Solodkoff, 1979).

Conclusions

At Jordanów Slaski in Poland, nephrite jade has formed within the contact alteration zone between serpentinite and diorite. As well as nephrite jade, the alteration zone also contains talc-chlorite schist, sheared serpentinite and leucocratic rodingite.

The material is categorized as an ortho-nephrite jade (Nichol, 2000) and occurs in tabular to lensoid orebodies. Colour is

predominantly dark yellowish-green (10GY 4/4) and texture ranges from fine- to medium-grained.

Mainly in Idar-Oberstein, an extensive range of ornaments, hardstone carvings and jewellery items has been produced from Jordanów Slaski nephrite jade using conventional lapidary equipment. In addition, museums throughout the world contain representative collections of both the raw nephrite jade and intricately carved specimens of the material from Poland. A programme of further exploration may yield new discoveries of nephrite jade in the Jordanów Slaski district.

Acknowledgments

I thank Antoni Stryjewski, Muzeum Mineralogiczne, Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, Wrocław for helpful guidance during my visit to Poland.

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Synthetic moissanite from Russia

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ABSTRACT: Five faceted yellow, green, bluish-green and bluish-brown synthetic moissanites of Russian production are described. Polytypism is characterized by Raman spectroscopy. Gemmological properties as well as chemical and spectroscopic properties in the UV-visible range are given. The samples were found to be of 6H- as well as 4H-SiC single crystals, and the variable coloration is caused by various amounts of nitrogen in the lattice of the synthetic moissanites. The criteria already described for the distinction of colourless American synthetic moissanites from diamonds in general also apply for a microscope characterization of Russian samples, especially to distinguish them from coloured diamonds.

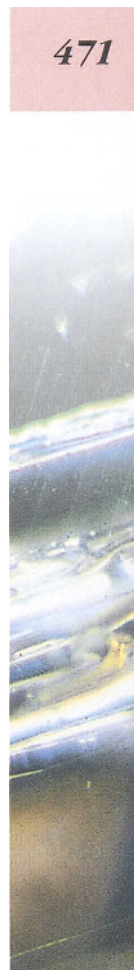
Keywords: colour origin, diamond imitation, polytype, Russia, spectroscopy, synthetic moissanite

Introduction

Si- Silicon carbide – moissanite – has been used since the last decades of the 19th century for technical purposes (Knippenberg, 1963). The growth of large crystals of synthetic moissanite by a sublimation technique from the vapour phase was first described by Lely (1955), but the crystals grown by this so-called Lely technique consist of a mixture of simultaneously grown hexagonal (H), rhombohedral (R) and cubic (C) polytypes (Knippenberg, 1963; Kawamura, 1965; Verma and Krishna, 1966). This disadvantage for the technical usage of the crystals is overcome by the use of oriented seeds of selected polytype (Tairov and Tsvetkov, 1978; 1981). By seeded growth of silicon carbide by sublimation from the vapour phase, it is possible to grow large single crystals consisting of only one silicon carbide polytype, e.g. 6H-SiC, 4H-SiC. This method is described in the literature as the

modified Lely technique (see, e.g., Yoo *et al.*, 1991; Tairov, 1996; Tsvetkov *et al.*, 1996; Maltsev *et al.*, 1996; Ohsato *et al.*, 1999; Müller *et al.*, 2000; Yakimova *et al.*, 2000).

The modified Lely technique is also applied for the production of colourless synthetic moissanite crystals used as diamond substitutes (Davis *et al.*, 1989, 1995; Nassau *et al.*, 1997; Nassau, 1999). The colourless synthetic moissanites grown in the United States for jewellery purposes by Cree Inc., Durham, North Carolina and distributed by Charles & Colvard (formally C3 Inc.), Morrisville, North Carolina, consist of single crystals of one of the known hexagonal silicon carbide polytypes, namely 6H-SiC (Nassau *et al.*, 1997; Nassau, 1999), but the growth of other polytypes and/or differently coloured moissanites for gem purposes is also possible (Hunter and Verbiest, 1998a; 1998b; Schmetzer, 2000). By the addition of pairs of charge-compensating trace elements such as



nitrogen and aluminium, completely colourless crystals can be produced (Carter *et al.*, 1998). Most recently, diamond-coated moissanite was described (Nassau *et al.*, 1999; Hammer and Schmetzer, 2000) and aluminium nitride is also mentioned as a possible new diamond substitute (Hunter, 2000).

Due to its gemmological properties, synthetic moissanite, 6H-SiC, is an ideal diamond imitation, with refractive indices of 2.648 and 2.691 and a hardness of $9\frac{1}{4}$ on the Mohs scale (Nassau *et al.*, 1997). Although strongly anisotropic, the thermal conductivities of synthetic moissanites are so close to those of diamonds that the commonly applied thermal probes react to synthetic moissanites as if they were diamonds (Chalain and Krzemnicki, 1999).

Since the introduction of moissanite as a diamond substitute in 1997, the material has been distributed widely and has appeared worldwide in gemmological laboratories as a diamond imitation, in some instances, even set in antique jewellery!

Synthetic moissanites for gem purposes are also produced in small quantities in

St. Petersburg, Russia (Balitsky, 2000a; 2000b), and already the first samples of this material have been seen in the gem trade (Longère, 2000; McClure and Moses, 2000). Recently, faceted synthetic moissanites of Russian production weighing more than 100 ct have been submitted to gemmological laboratories as natural diamonds (Lasnier, 2001). By courtesy of Mrs B. Schaeffer, a gemmologist from Detmold, Germany, the authors were able to study five samples of the Russian production. Gemmological, microscopic, chemical and spectroscopic properties of these five faceted gemstones are presented in this paper.

Materials and methods

The research material consisted of five brilliant-cut synthetic moissanites, which range in colour from yellow, green (two), bluish-green to bluish-brown (Table 1, Figure 1). The stones weigh between 0.381 and 0.601 ct. According to the supplier all samples were grown in St. Petersburg using, at least basically, the method described by Tairov and Tsvetkov (1978, 1981).

Table 1: Gemmological properties of Russian synthetic moissanite.

Sample No.	Weight (ct)	Polytype	Colour	SG	Relative reflectivity*	Orientation of tube inclusions with respect to the table facet	Pleochroism**
1	0.442	6H	yellow	3.250	118	about 45°	extremely weak
2	0.562	6H	green	3.211	122	parallel	weak: yellowish green/green
3	0.601	6H	green	3.231	121	parallel	weak: yellowish green/green
4	0.381	6H	bluish-green	3.201	120	no tubes observed	moderate: yellowish green/blue-green
5	0.542	4H	bluish-brown	3.207	120	about 5°	distinct: greenish blue/brown

* based on 100 for diamond

** as seen with a dichroscope

For the determination of moissanite polytypes Raman spectra were recorded in the 100-1800 cm^{-1} range using a Renishaw Raman System 1000 spectrometer equipped with a CCD Peltier detector and an argon ion laser (514.5 nm) with a power of 25 mW.



Figure 1: Faceted synthetic moissanites grown in St. Petersburg, Russia, by sublimation from the vapour phase. The samples range from 0.38 to 0.60 ct in weight and measure from 4.60 to 5.70 mm in diameter. Photo: © L.Kiefert, SSEF.

We measured the relative reflectivity of the samples with a Presidio Duotester, where the value 100 was calibrated as the reflectivity of diamond. Specific gravity was determined hydrostatically. Internal features of all samples were examined using a standard gemmological microscope in conjunction with brightfield, darkfield, and oblique fibre-optic illumination. Photomicrographs were taken with a Wild M8/MPS55 stereozoom microscope. Different types of inclusions were examined by micro Raman spectroscopy using the facility at the SSEF Swiss Gemmological Institute.

Qualitative chemical analyses were performed by energy dispersive X-ray fluorescence (EDXRF) using a Tracor Spectrace 5000 instrument. For the examination of colour and colour causes we recorded UV-visible range spectra of all samples using a Varian Cary 500 spectrophotometer in the 300-800 nm range.

Determination of moissanite polytypes with Raman spectroscopy

Various techniques, e.g. X-ray crystallography, can be applied for the determination of silicon carbide polytypes. The examination of the Raman spectrum is one of the non-destructive methods which can be performed on cut gemstones without special preparation of the samples. Using a micro Raman spectroscopy facility, which is now available for routine investigations in some of the major gemmological laboratories, it is also possible to examine the samples with respect to homogeneity in different areas.

We performed Raman spectra on different facets and at different points on the larger tables of all samples including different orientations of the faceted gemstones to the incident beam. Although the spectra obtained, especially the intensities of the main peaks in the 760 to 800 and the 960 to 970 cm^{-1} area, were found to be strongly variable and related to the orientation of

the samples (Figures 2 and 3), we could not determine any inhomogeneity within the five samples. In other words, the samples were found to be single crystals without any admixtures of different polytypes.

In all samples, the strongest Raman peaks above 700 cm^{-1} were found at similar wave numbers. The spectra of four samples consisted of strong lines at 767, 786 and 965 cm^{-1} , sometimes with an additional line at 795 cm^{-1} (not shown in Figure 2). Weak lines above 1000 cm^{-1} were also present. The spectra of the bluish-brown moissanite consisted of three strong lines at 778, 794 and 969 cm^{-1} , again with two weak lines above 1000 cm^{-1} (Figure 3). The Raman lines with weaker intensities below 700 cm^{-1} , again were found to be different for the sample with bluish-brown colour (Figure 4). The main Raman lines for the first four samples in this range were determined at about 147, 238, and 504 cm^{-1} , with one weaker line observed sometimes at 263 cm^{-1} . The remaining sample, on the other hand, revealed lines with maxima at about 201, 263, and 609 cm^{-1} , with an additional peak of weak intensity at 636 cm^{-1} .

These data are consistent with numerous references describing Raman data of specific silicon carbide polytypes (e.g. Feldman *et al.*, 1968a; 1968b; Colwell and Klein, 1972; Harima *et al.*, 1995; Harima and Nakashima, 1996; Nakashima and Harima, 1997; Burton *et al.*, 1998; 1999) and indicate that four of our five samples belong to the 6H-SiC polytype, whereas the remaining faceted moissanite

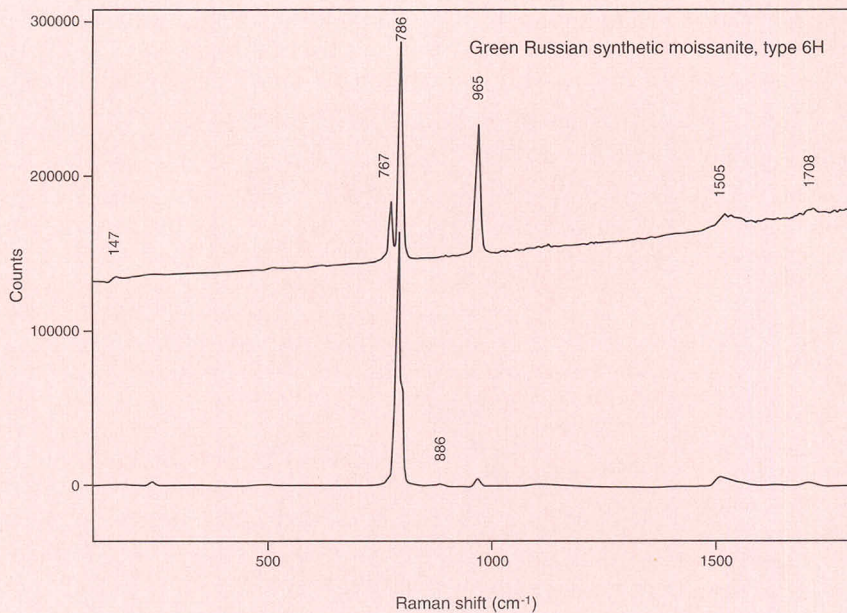


Figure 2: Raman spectra of synthetic moissanite (6H-SiC) in different orientations of the crystal with respect to the incident beam reveal a strong intensity variation of Raman lines.

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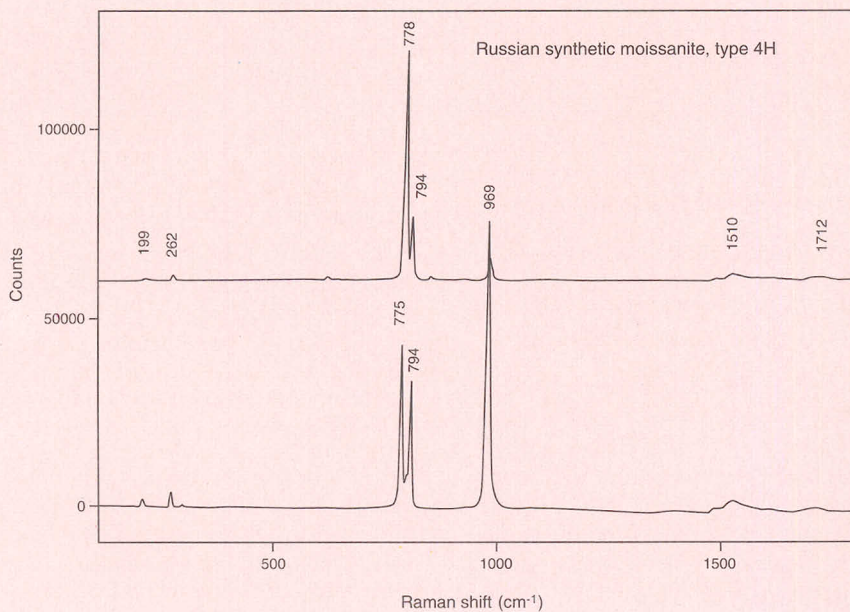


Figure 3: Raman spectra of synthetic moissanite (4H-SiC) in different orientations of the crystal with respect to the incident beam reveal a strong intensity variation of Raman lines.

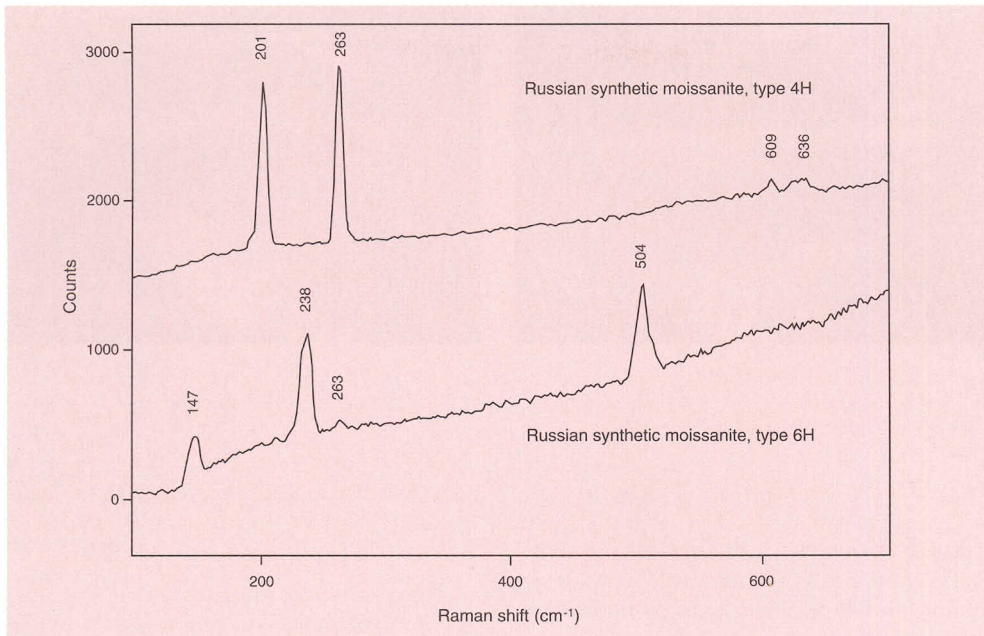


Figure 4: Raman spectra of different synthetic moissanite polytypes; the lines below 700 cm^{-1} are useful for a distinction of 6H-SiC and 4H-SiC silicon carbide polytypes.

was found to be 4H-SiC (Table I). The colourless material produced in the USA for jewellery purposes and released to the trade has been described so far as the 6H polytype of moissanite (Nassau *et al.*, 1997; Nassau, 1999).

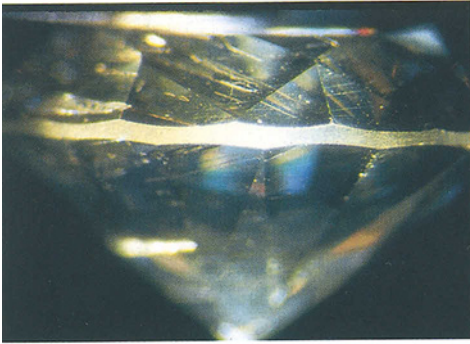
Gemmological properties

The gemmological properties of the five examined samples are listed in Table I. Refractive indices of synthetic moissanite were not determined. They are given as 2.648 to 2.691 in the literature (Nassau *et al.*, 1997) and are therefore higher than the range of commercially available refractometers. The relative reflectivity with an average value of 120 is distinctively higher than that of a diamond. The specific gravity of the samples ranges from 3.20 to 3.25, which is consistent with the samples grown in the USA as described by Nassau *et al.* (1997).

With the naked eye, only one of the samples which was determined as 4H-SiC

revealed different colours (blue and brown) in various directions of view. Using a dichroscope, the different colours observed were greenish-blue and brown (Figures 5 and 6). In the other four stones no variation of colour was observed in different orientations of the sample with the naked eye. By use of a dichroscope, a variable pleochroism from extremely weak (yellow sample) to weak (green stones) or moderate (bluish-green moissanite) could be observed (Table I). None of the synthetic moissanites had its *c*-axis orientated perpendicular to the table facet, i.e. no optically uniaxial interference figure was observable in a view perpendicular to the table facet. The five Russian samples were inert under short-wave and long-wave ultraviolet light.

The material grown by Cree Inc. in the USA currently on the market is cut in a direction with the table facet more or less perpendicular to the *c*-axis. This material has a colour range from near colourless, through



Figures 5 and 6: Pleochroism of bluish-brown synthetic moissanite which was determined as 4H-SiC by Raman spectroscopy. Figure 5 blue direction, Figure 6 brown direction. Sample is 5.40 mm in diameter. Photos: © H.A Hänni, SSEF.

slightly yellow or greyish-yellow to light brownish-yellow, grey and slightly green (Nassau *et al.*, 1997), although the commercial production of Cree Inc. focused on colourless and nearly colourless material in the first years. Near-colourless and grey samples were not encountered in the material of the present Russian production available to the authors. Pale green, bluish-green and grey colours have recently been encountered in faceted stones from the commercial American production submitted to the market (Sluis, 2001).

Microscopic characteristics

The Russian stones show the typical doubling of facet edges (Figure 7) as described



Figure 7: Doubling of facet junctions in Russian synthetic moissanites. This is one of the most concise diagnostic features which is easily determined using a hand-lens or the microscope. Magnified 40 x. Photo: © H.A Hänni, SSEF.

elsewhere for moissanites grown in the USA (Nassau *et al.*, 1997; Chalain and Krzemnicki, 1999; Chalain, 2000; Shigley *et al.*, 2000).

The presence of elongated tubes, so-called micropipes, is a typical property of sublimation-grown 6H-SiC and 4H-SiC synthetic moissanites using a modified Lely technique (Takanaka *et al.*, 1996; Ohsato *et al.*, 1999; Müller *et al.*, 2000). One stone of our five synthetic moissanites is virtually inclusion-free (sample 4). Four of the five analysed stones contain elongated thin tubes or irregular cavities (Figures 8 and 9). In comparison to the Cree stones encountered in the SSEF Swiss Gemmological Institute as diamond imitations and described in the literature, most tubes appear thicker and are orientated parallel or slightly inclined to the table facet (samples 2, 3 and 5) as well as inclined at an angle of 45° to the table (sample 1). The Cree stones generally have thinner tubes that are orientated more or less perpendicular to the table, i.e. parallel to the *c*-axis. This orientation of tubes in American stones is responsible for an image which gives the impression that they are radiating around the centre of the stone (Chalain, 2000). This difference in appearance in stones from the two producers is caused by the different orientation of the optic axis within the faceted stones.

Small crystals or bubbles are common in four of the five stones (Figures 8 and 9). One stone (sample 2) shows growth lines that are orientated perpendicular to the tubes

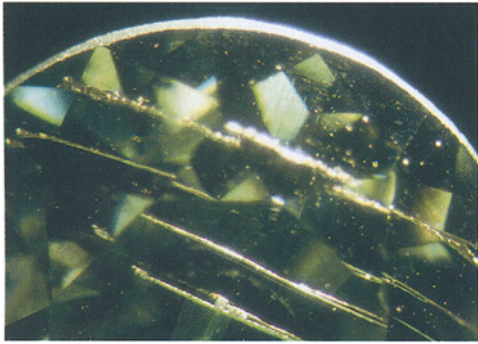


Figure 8: Elongate tubes or irregular cavities in Russian synthetic moissanites; irregular bubbles and/or small crystals are also present; growth planes perpendicular to the tubes are also seen. Magnified 40 x. Photo: © H.A. Hänni, SSEF.

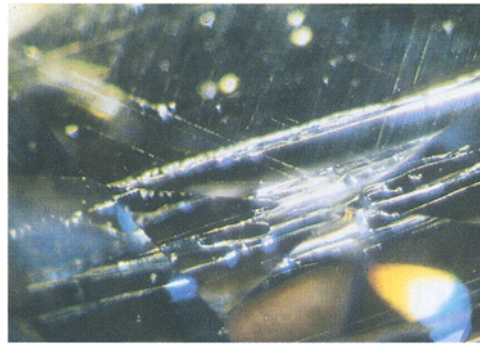


Figure 9: Elongate tubes or irregular cavities in Russian synthetic moissanites; irregular bubbles and/or small crystals are also present. Magnified 40 x. Photo: © H.A. Hänni, SSEF.

(Figure 8), and one of the synthetic moissanites (sample 1) contains a highly reflective hexagonal crystal or negative crystal with a hollow tube extending from it (Figure 10). Similar defects were described by Takanaka *et al.* (1996) in synthetic 6H-SiC.

Analysis of elongated tubes, small crystals or bubbles, as well as the hexagonal crystal mentioned above, with micro Raman spectroscopy revealed only the common spectra of the host moissanite polytypes. Consequently, all encountered inclusions are likely to be either cavities or inclusions of moissanite crystals, possible in an orientation different from that of the host. However, it is also possible that these inclusions are phases that give only weak or no Raman signals. Although thick tubes, hexagonal crystals, or growth structures are not commonly observed in the synthetic moissanites from Cree, all these features were observed by Groenenboom (2000) in samples grown in the USA. They are, therefore, neither exclusively found in, nor characteristic of synthetic moissanite of Russian production.

Chemical properties

According to Lely & Kröger (1958), hexagonal silicon carbide crystals owe their colour to impurities of N or P (green), or Al or B (blue). Nitrogen and aluminium are the commonly used dopants for the growth of silicon

carbide gem materials in different colours (Hunter and Verbiest, 1998a; 1998b).

The X-ray fluorescence spectrometer used can detect elements with atomic numbers above 11 (Na). Semi-quantitative chemical analysis of the five stones under investigation revealed, besides Si, no other element. Hence, no P or Al was detectable in our samples. This implies that these elements, if present, can only exist in traces below the detection limit of the instrument. The presence of B and especially N, on the other hand, cannot be discerned with the X-ray fluorescence facility applied.



Figure 10: Tiny moissanite crystal or negative crystal with an elongate tube extending from this inclusion in yellow synthetic moissanite from Russia. Magnified 30 x. Photo: © H.A. Hänni, SSEF.

Spectroscopic properties in the visible and UV range

As a consequence of intense internal reflections due to the high refractive indices of moissanites, and of oblique orientations of the optic axis of the faceted samples, we were unable to orient the Russian moissanites properly to the incident beam of the spectrophotometer to obtain conventional polarized spectra parallel and perpendicular to the *c*-axis.

Absorption spectroscopy for yellow and green synthetic moissanites from Russia (samples 1, 2 and 3) revealed a slightly increasing absorption starting at about 600 nm towards the violet range and an absorption edge at about 410 nm (Figure 11). The two green samples showed an additional weak absorption band with a maximum at about 635 nm. In the bluish-green sample, both the absorption in the blue to violet range and the absorption band at 635 nm are distinctly increased in intensity, and a weak shoulder at 435 nm is also present (see again Figure 11).

Comparing these spectroscopic properties with published data of 6H-SiC (Lely and Kröger, 1958; Violina *et al.*, 1964; Biedermann, 1965; Ellis and Moss, 1965; Sugiyama *et al.*, 1996; Stiasny and Helbig, 1997; Lambrecht *et al.*, 1998; Limpijumngong *et al.*, 1999), all absorption features are consistent with those of nitrogen-doped synthetic moissanite. Nitrogen is the most common trace element in synthetic moissanites, originating at least partly from atmospheric air. In order to achieve colourless synthetic moissanites, great efforts are undertaken to grow almost nitrogen-free samples or to reduce the influence of nitrogen by charge compensating trace elements such as aluminium.

Spectra similar to those of our Russian samples 1 to 4 have already been published by Lely and Kröger (1958) for synthetic moissanites grown under different nitrogen-bearing argon atmospheres. The spectrum of our yellow sample 1 is consistent with that of

a sample grown at 0.01% N₂, the spectra of the green samples 2 and 3 are consistent with the published spectrum of a sample grown at 0.1% N₂, and the spectrum of the bluish-green sample 4 is similar to that of a synthetic moissanite grown at 10% N₂. Consequently the colour of yellow, green and bluish-green synthetic moissanites is probably due to various concentrations of nitrogen in these 6H-SiC crystals.

For the evaluation of the strong blue and brown pleochroism of sample 5, non-polarized spectra were recorded in those directions which showed these different colours (Figure 12). Both spectra revealed an absorption edge in the UV at about 370 nm. The spectrum in the blue-green direction revealed two strong absorption maxima at 566 nm (with a shoulder at 649 nm) and at 465 nm, and the spectrum taken in the brown direction consisted of two distinct absorption maxima at 553 nm and at 458 nm.

A shift of the absorption edge from the violet range in 6H-SiC to the ultraviolet in 4H-SiC is consistent with literature data (Choyke and Patrick, 1961; de Oliveira *et al.*, 1996). The spectra of the Russian sample 5 taken in different orientations are also consistent with reference data for nitrogen-doped synthetic 4H-SiC (Biedermann, 1965; Lambrecht *et al.*, 1998; Limpijumngong *et al.*, 1999). Comparing these literature references and the polarized absorption spectra pictured in these papers with our spectra it may be interpreted that the spectrum taken in the blue direction consists of superimposed polarized spectra with components parallel and perpendicular to *c*, and the spectrum taken in the brown direction represents a polarized spectrum perpendicular to *c*. Thus, the colour and pleochroism of blue to brown synthetic moissanite is probably caused by traces of nitrogen in 4H-SiC.

Conclusions

Hexagonal silicon carbide single crystals of 6H or 4H polytype have been grown in St. Petersburg, Russia, using the modified Lely

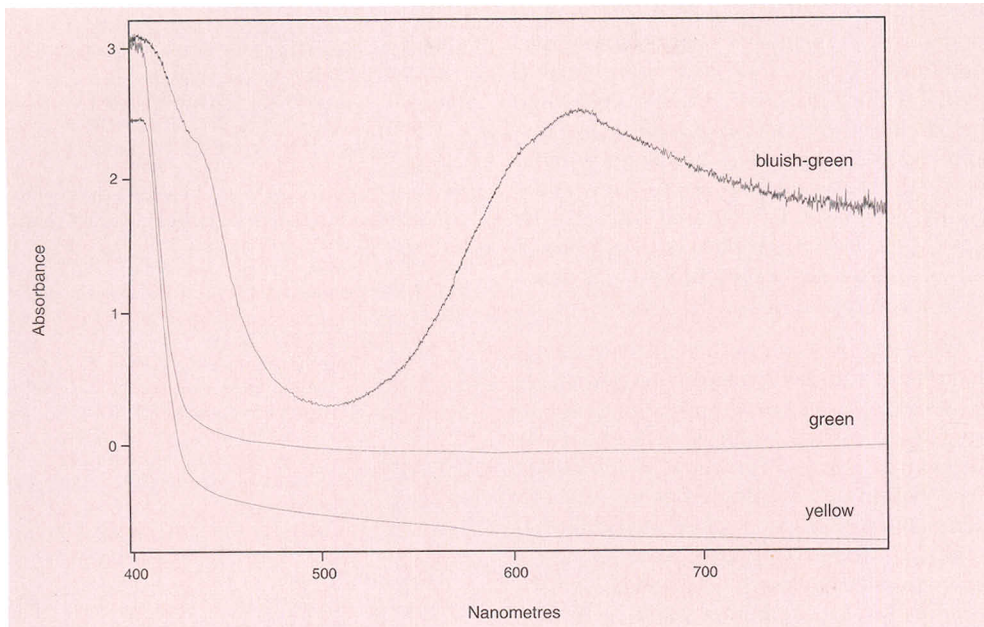


Figure 11: Absorption spectra of yellow [bottom], green [middle] and bluish-green [top] synthetic moissanites (6H-SiC) doped with different amounts of nitrogen.

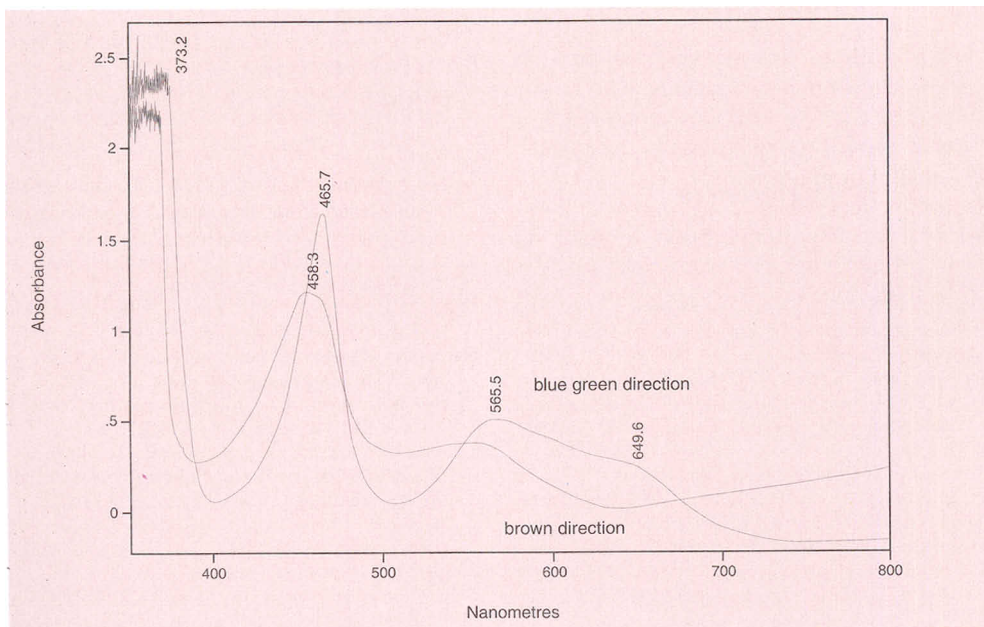


Figure 12: Absorption spectra of bluish-brown synthetic moissanite (4H-SiC) doped with traces of nitrogen recorded in the directions of the blue-green coloration and the brown coloration.

technique by sublimation from the vapour phase. Faceted gemstones with yellow, green and bluish-green colour were determined as synthetic 6H-SiC, the variable coloration being caused by various amounts of nitrogen. As with colourless or near-colourless synthetic moissanite, these Russian stones could be mistaken for coloured diamonds by the inexperienced jeweller. A bluish-brown sample with distinct pleochroism was determined as nitrogen-doped 4H-SiC.

The physical properties of moissanite samples of both polytypes are in the range of those of colourless or almost colourless 6H-SiC grown in the USA for jewellery purposes. Doubling of facet junctions is commonly observed in all samples. In most synthetic moissanites, elongated tubes or somewhat irregular cavities may also be observed by microscopic examination. However, the orientation of these characteristic inclusions tends to be sub-parallel to the table facet in contrast to a near perpendicular orientation in American synthetic moissanite material seen normally on the market.

Acknowledgement

The authors are grateful to Mrs B. Schaeffer of Detmold, Germany, who kindly submitted the five synthetic moissanites of Russian production described in this paper.

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Notes from the Laboratory

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ABSTRACT: A spate of ruby and emerald rough imitations are considered. The cutting of 'prize' emeralds to order is questioned. The authenticity of an archaeological intaglio is unresolved. More on 'power' bracelets. Zachery-type treated turquoise and diffused corundums are encountered. Bangladesh pearl fishing information. The problems of lax pearl terminology presented.

The fraudulent practice of circulating imitations of rough emerald, ruby, sapphire, and diamond are well known. Recently, there has been a spate of larger specimens being passed off as ruby and emerald. One of the ten specimens, weighing 40 grams, was found to be green artificial glass (*Figure 1*). A matrix of 'earthy' material is glued onto the surface to make the specimen appear more authentic.

The remaining specimens were all determined to be artificially coloured composite



Figure 1: Green artificial glass imitating a piece of emerald rough, which weighs 40 grams, and an artificially coloured quartz composite imitating ruby rough, weighing 96.6 grams.

stones, consisting of pieces of colourless (or near-colourless) quartz. The quartz components are glued together and it is the designated dyed colour of the glue which gives the specimen its perceived body colour. The 'earthy' matrix glued onto the surface once again adds 'authenticity' but in these specimens it also covers over the joins between the quartz sections. Enough of the transparent seemingly high quality areas of the stones are revealed at the surface to persuade an unwitting purchaser that there are lucrative profits to be made. However the size of these 'windows' will not allow the casual untrained observer to see any internal clues to the true identity of the stone. The four ruby imitations were an orangish-red colour and ranged in weights from 50.3 grams to 96.6 grams (*Figure 1*). The colour would be considered somewhat artificial to anyone acquainted with handling natural ruby.

The rough green specimens varied in weight from a lowly 29.7 grams to an astounding 0.82 kilograms (*Figure 2*). At some stage, the latter specimen had been polished down one side. This action revealed the join between the quartz pieces, allowed a closer view of the internal joins and, with



Figure 2: An artificially coloured quartz composite stone, weighing 0.82 kilograms.

the use of a pen torch or fibre optic light, enabled an observer to clearly differentiate between the colourless quartz and the green coloured adhesive.

These composites are produced for fraudulent intent and normally form part of an elaborate scam drawing in potential buyers to part with their money. The clients involved in submitting the composites had obviously realised that something was amiss and hopefully were able to curtail their financial losses. One wonders how many transactions have occurred where purchasers have become wise after the event.

You've won this genuine emerald

So goes the advertisement attached to a rough piece of what is claimed to be an emerald (*Figure 3*). The stone and advertisement are the free gift sent out to the winners of a scratch card. In revealing 'winning' boxes on the scratch card they are instructed to telephone through their details on a premium rate telephone line. The advertisement then encourages the 'winner' to send off his piece of emerald to have it cut and mounted in a 'Lucky Horseshoe Pendant'.

The Laboratory has been shown five of these rough emerald pieces, one of which was submitted by a local authority trading standards body. Two of them were green in colour - one opaque, which was submitted by the trading standards body, and the other translucent. Both can be described as emeralds. The trading standards authority was



Figure 3: The advertisement accompanying a rough piece of emerald, which was the 'winning' prize from a scratch card competition.

informed that the pendant may have been imported with an emerald (assuming it is) already mounted. It was suggested that by chemical analysis as well as microscopic examination an attempt could be made to establish whether the faceted stone was cut from the stated piece of rough. Unfortunately the authority did not take it any further.

Subsequent pieces of rough that have been seen would have fallen foul of trade descriptions in that the bulk of the stone seems to be a mica schist with only grains of emerald in it. Trading standards have been informed of this.

Roman intaglio?

An oval black intaglio, measuring approximately 12 x 10 x 3 mm, was submitted with the request to establish its identity and age. The intaglio, a holiday purchase in Turkey, had been sold as a Roman artefact. It was established that the material was a dark purple artificial glass and that the depicted image of a 'Roman-like' bust of a man was a moulding. It was suggested that the client show it to an expert at the British Museum. It was interesting to learn that the Romans were able to produce moulded intaglios. The expert was unable to prove its age one way or another but his instincts were that it was a modern reproduction. The lack of wear to the stone would support his instincts. Apparently original Roman artefacts are

being found in Turkey, which makes the sale of reproductions to unsuspecting tourists that much easier!

Poor man's onyx, etc

Amongst a number of low priced 'power' bracelets being tested was one assumed to be onyx. However instead of the expected smooth cryptocrystalline structure there was a granular texture (Figure 4). On contacting the company, who had submitted the sample, we were informed that their Far East supplier had located this material since onyx bead bracelets had not been within the price range sought by the company! Chemical analysis proved the material to be quartz. The composition of the black specks visible, which contribute to the natural black colour of the material, were not determined. The result given for the beads was black quartzite.



Figure 4: The granular texture of black quartzite.

In another onyx bracelet six 'black' (actually dark purple when viewed with a fibre-optic light) artificial glass beads were discovered. Another surprise was to find that someone had considered treated blue topaz to be too expensive or hard to find and had used dyed quartz instead. In testing other 'power' bracelets the most common false descriptions relate to turquoise and jade. The 'turquoise' bracelets tend to be various types of man-made imitations. The carbonate-based imitations will effervesce with a drop of dilute hydrochloric acid. In others, the admixture of dye is visible under magnification. The 'jade'

bracelets are generally other materials altogether – yellow calcite, green aventurine quartz, dyed chalcedony and dyed quartzite. The prices of these bracelets mitigate against nephrite, jadeite or turquoise being used. A number of importers in describing the likes of imitation turquoise have resorted to the practice of using the French word 'faux' (literal translation – false, although in French it has a wider and in this context more relevant meaning) in smaller less prominent type in front of the word 'turquoise'. This practice falls foul of the International Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO) guidelines, which state:

"An imitation....shall be described by the name of the natural material it imitates, immediately preceded by the word 'imitation', which shall appear, in the event of a written presentation, with equal emphasis and prominence, with characters of the same size and colour as those of the name itself" (Gemstones – Terminology and Classification, 2001).

Treated turquoise

A pair of turquoise earrings were chemically analysed to establish whether they been treated by a Zachery-like process (Fritsch, E., *et al.*, 1999). There was no specific feature that caused suspicion. The fine quality of the turquoise would make you cautious since the value would be relatively high. The analysis by EDXRF (EDAX Eagle II) revealed an appreciable potassium content. The result given on the report was given as Treated Turquoise. This was the first Zachery-like treated turquoise submitted to the Laboratory for commercial testing.

Obvious diffusion treatment

The admonition to always check your sapphires for diffusion treatment normally entails the immersion of the stone in di-iodomethane or the diffusion of the light when viewing the stone on a microscope (a piece of tissue paper under the stone will often suffice). None of this was required to see the superficial colour diffusion penetrat-

ing the surface of the cabochon stone in *Figure 5*, which was in the process of being faceted.

After treatment and repolishing, diffused red corundum normally displays a patchier

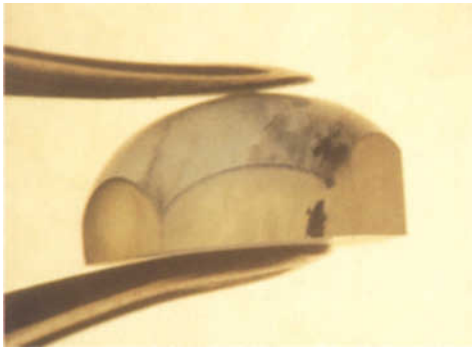


Figure 5: The superficial colour diffusion penetrating into a cabochon, which was in the process of being faceted.

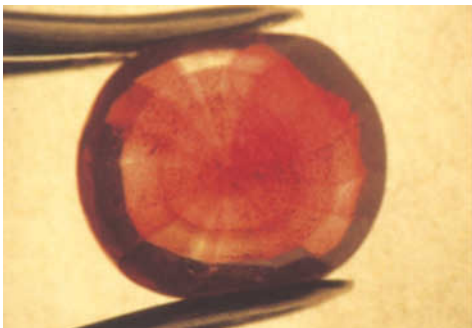


Figure 6: A diffused red corundum showing the typical patchy colour distribution.

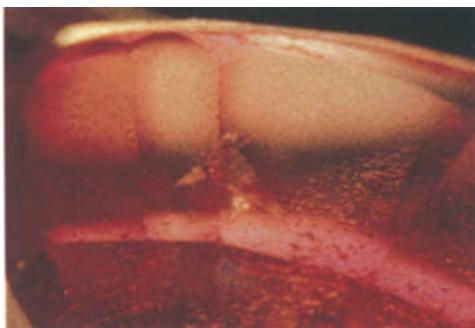


Figure 7: The lack of colour evident on some facets of a diffused red corundum.

colour than the equivalent diffused blue corundum. This reflects the greater technical problems in diffusing the much larger chromium atoms into the corundum than in diffusing the iron and titanium into corundum, which is used to obtain the more widely available blue diffused corundum. One of our members brought in some low quality diffused red samples, where the resulting patchiness is very evident (*Figure 6*) to the extent that some of the centres of the facets lack any colour at all (*Figure 7*).

Bangladeshi pearls

A white 'pearl' and a purplish grey/black 'pearl' described as originating from Bangladesh were submitted for identification. The white, irregular shaped, drilled 'pearl' was believed to be from coastal water bivalves and the black one from a River Meghna mussel. The client submitting these pearls regularly visits Bangladesh on business and was given to understand that they are natural pearls. The white 'pearl' was one from a necklace bought at a village bazaar south of Chittagong. The related pearl-bearing bivalves are fished in that area and another area 25 km from Dhaka. The client sent further samples of 'pearls' that he had personally retrieved or had seen being retrieved (*Figure 8*). In the laboratory we must ignore all provenance claims and give our objective opinion. In these circum-



Figure 8: Bangladeshi 'pearls' - the 'pearls' on the right were identified as non-nucleated cultured pearls (© Pertti Tilus).

stances we had to inform the client that we would report these pearls as being non-nucleated cultured pearls.

Pearl fishing in Bangladesh is known but the question is whether natural pearls exist in any numbers. Over the years, the Laboratory has received enquiries from the government and from a leading local jeweller on the development of their pearl trade. However the enquiries were not followed up. It would be interesting to hear more about the pearl situation in Bangladesh.

Freshwater pearls

It is common for non-nucleated cultured pearls to simply be labelled as freshwater pearls. In following CIBJO guidelines the jewellery trade is encouraged to call them freshwater cultured pearls. The lax practice of describing non-nucleated cultured pearls as freshwater pearls has been taken to its logical conclusion by a mail order firm, who have headlined their advertisement 'Stunning natural freshwater pearls'. This advertisement is also being brought to the attention of our trading standard authorities.

Acknowledgements

Trevor Tyler for their co-operation over the intaglio, David Davis for the loan of the red diffused corundum, and Pertti Tilus of Finbax Ltd for his picture and information on Bangladesh Pearl Fishing. Also Norman Harding, who sent in one of the rough emeralds involved with the scratch cards.

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Diamonds

Gems and Minerals

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Synthetics and Simulants

Diamonds

Luminescences sous excitation visible des diamants noirs irradiés.

P.-Y. BOILLAT, F. NOTARI AND C. GROBON. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 37-9.

Most irradiated black diamonds examined under light at ± 420 nm show strong luminescence at facet junctions: examples are shown. M.O'D.

Diamants de type IIa et traitement HPHT: identification.

J.-P. CHALAIN, E. FRITSCH AND H. A. HÄNNI. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 50-53.

Type IIa brown diamonds have been treated by high pressure/high temperature methods with colourless specimens resulting. Gem testing details are supplied. M.O'D.

Petrology of the Abloviak aillikite dykes, New Québec: evidence for a Cambrian diamondiferous alkaline province in north-eastern North America.

S. DIGONNET, N. GOULET, J. BOURNE, R. STEVENSON AND D. ARCHIBALD. *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*, 37(4), 517-33, 2000.

A dozen ultramafic lamprophyre dykes occur in the E part of Ungava Bay, Quebec. They consist of macrocrysts of olivine and phlogopite with rims of tetra-ferriphlogopite, included in a matrix of fine-grained phlogopite, olivine, spinel, perovskite, rutile, diamond, apatite and interstitial carbonate. Rock and mineral chemistry and an Sm-Nd isotopic signature indicate that these rocks are carbonated ultramafic lamprophyre dykes. Chemical zoning of the micas and the presence in two of the dykes of andradite (TiO₂ 7.54 and 11.42 wt.%) suggest a complex sequence of crystallization; an Ar isotope correlation analysis indicates an age of ~550 m.y. The dykes were emplaced in tension gashes in the Tasiuyak gneiss during reactivation of major Palaeoproterozoic structures associated with the opening of the Iapetus Ocean. The age, geochemical characteristics, isotopic evidence and geological environment are all analogous to similar dykes in SW Greenland. Their pre-drift geographical proximity, prior

to the opening of the Labrador Sea, is taken to suggest that they are related to a common magmatic event which constitutes a diamondiferous alkaline province in NE North America. R.A.H.

Morphology of diamonds as a possible indicator of their genesis.

M.D. EVDOKIMOV, M.Y. LADYGINA AND A.R. NESTEROV. *Neues Jahrbuch für Mineralogie; Abhandlungen*, 176(2), 2001, 153-77.

The hypothesis ascribing the formation of rounded diamonds to the processes of crystal growth is reviewed before a presentation of 34 SEM photographs of 18 representative diamonds, many from the Yakutian deposits. Growth and dissolution forms each have distinct morphological features. The crystallization of diamonds in eclogites led to plane-faced crystals. Melting at asthenospheric levels caused corrosion of diamond xenocrysts derived from the eclogite substrate. As the kimberlite magma became saturated in carbon, dissolution processes gave cyclic changes in growth and corrosion episodes responsible for the curved-face forms such as octahedroids and dodecahedroids. External sources (e.g. jets of juvenile methane) could supply enough C to trigger nucleation of a new generation of plane-faced octahedral crystals. Diamonds of the most complex morphology (including sceptre and skeletal forms) result from a combination of corrosion and rapid growth during the explosive emplacement of kimberlite magmas. The possibility of metastable crystallization of diamond directly from a juvenile gas should not be ruled out. R.A.H.

Les diamants de type I traités à HPHT: Novatek, General Electric, russes et suédois.

E. FRITSCH. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 54-8.

Brown type Ia diamonds treated by high pressure/high temperature methods may change to green. The process devised by Novatek is the only one to have been published: specimens are treated between 2000 and 2100°C and at approximately 60 kbars in the graphite stability field, using prismatic presses which are illustrated. Unusually saturated colour enhanced by fluorescence, high-pressure annealing signs, including discoidal fractures, graphite and etching, strong green luminescence under UV or visible light seen only in

Abstractors

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For further information on many of the topics referred to, consult *Mineralogical Abstracts*

yellow-grained areas and very rare in natural diamonds (caused by the development of the H3 centre during treatment), and the presence of the H2 absorption line at 985 nm and below, absent from natural diamonds, are all indications of treatment. M.O'D.

[Discovery of diamonds in south-western Uzbekistan.] (Russian with English abstract)

A.V. GOLOVKO, N.E. YAKOVENKO AND N.A. AKHMEDOV.
Proc. Russian Min. Soc., 129(1), 2000, 61-4.

Diamonds have been found in SW Uzbekistan in unusual diamond-bearing rocks: lamprophyres and shonkinitic-porphyrates forming dykes and pipes. These rocks contain xenoliths both of the host rocks and some rock types from greater depths: ultrabasites and eclogitized gabbro. The xenoliths also contain chromspinelids, chromdiopside, Cr-bearing olivine and moissanite. Data are given on the morphology of the diamond crystals, their XRD pattern and their TEM images. The diamondiferous xenoliths are related to the non-kimberlite type of rocks - lamprophyres of camptonite-monchiquite composition and/or shonkinitic-porphyrates. R.A.H.

Gemmologische Kurzinformationen. Eine neue Lichtquelle von kurzwelligem UV-Licht für den SSEF Ila Diamond Spotter™ zum Nachweis des Diamanttyps Ila.

H.A. HÄNNI. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 57-8, 1 graph, 1 photograph.

Most GE POL treated diamonds are type Ila and are transparent to short-wave UV radiation (SWUV); this test can be applied for preselection of possible HPHT treated Ila diamonds. The SWUV light source can be used with the SSEF Ila Diamond Spotter and is now produced under the name of 'SEEF Ila Diamond Illuminator'. E.S.

Superdeep diamonds from the Juina area, Mato Grosso State, Brazil.

F.V. KAMINSKY, O.D. ZAKHARCHENKO, R. DAVIES, W. L. GRIFFIN, G.K. KHACHATRYAN-BLINOVA AND A.A. SHIRYAEV. *Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology*, 140(6), 2001, 734-53.

Alluvial diamonds from the Juina area in W Brazil have been characterized in terms of their morphology, syngenetic mineral inclusions, carbon isotopes and nitrogen contents. Like other Brazilian diamonds, they show a predominance of rounded dodecahedral crystals; however, their mineral inclusions are unique. The inclusion paragenesis of Juina diamonds are dominated by ultra-high-*P* ('superdeep') phases differing from those found elsewhere. Ferropicriase is the dominant inclusion; it coexists with ilmenite, Cr-Ti spinel, a phase with the major element composition of olivine, and SiO₂. CaSi-perovskite inclusions coexist with titanite, *ö*livine and native Ni. MgSi-perovskite coexists with TAPP (tetragonal almandine-pyrope phase). Neither Cr-pyrope nor Mg-chromite occur. The spinel inclusions are low in Cr and Mg, and high in Ti (Cr₂O₃ <36.5 wt.% and TiO₂ >

10 wt.%). Most ilmenite inclusions have low MgO and some have very high (<11.5 wt.%) MnO. This suite of inclusions is consistent with derivation of most of the diamonds from depths near 670 km, and adds ilmenite and relatively low-Cr, high-Ti spinel to the known phases of the superdeep paragenesis. These diamonds have a narrow range of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (-7.8 to -2.5‰), low nitrogen contents and a predominant aggregated B centre. These observations have practical consequences for diamond exploration. R.A.H.

Diamond from the Guaniamo area, Venezuela.

F.V. KAMINSKY, O.D. ZAKHARCHENKO, W.L. GRIFFIN, D.M. DER. CHANNER AND G.K. KHACHATRYAN-BLINOVA.
Canadian Mineralogist, 38(6), 2000, 1347-70.

More than 5000 diamond crystals (or fragments) from kimberlite sills and placer deposits in the Guaniamo area of W Bolivar State, Venezuela, have been characterized by morphology, internal structure, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values, syngenetic mineral inclusions, and the abundance and aggregation state of N. Some 50% of the crystals are resorbed dodecahedral forms; octahedral are the next most common form. The diamonds are generally colourless but a high percentage show radiation-induced pigmentation. About 20% are type II, the remainder belonging to the transitional IaAB type, with B>A. Ninety-three mineral inclusions were extracted from 77 crystals; EPMA and LAM-ICP-MS techniques were used to establish their trace element compositions and the *P-T* conditions of diamond crystallization. In all, 86% of the diamonds contain eclogitic inclusions, the remainder indicating peridotitic paragenesis. The $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ of 108 diamonds range from -3.2 to -28.7‰, but most stones have $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ < -10‰. The authors consider that the diamonds in the placer deposits were derived mostly from the Guaniamo kimberlite sills. *P-T* estimates that most originated near the base of the lithosphere (71200-1300°C) in a zone which may contain a substantial proportion of eclogite formed by subduction of crustal material. Parallels are drawn with the Australian Argyle deposit. R.A.H.

Evidence for crystals from the lower mantle: baddeleyite megacrysts of the Mbuji Mayi kimberlite.

L. KERSCHHOFER, U. SHÄRER AND A. DEUTSCH. *Earth & Planetary Science Letters*, 179(2), 2000, 219-25.

Results of a TEM study on previously dated, cm-sized baddeleyite xenocrysts (ZrO₂) from the Mbuji Mayi kimberlite are presented. Crystallographic analysis of their microstructures shows they transformed to their present monoclinic phase from a cubic parent phase. The high-*T* stability field of the cubic parent phase implies a lower mantle origin. This is further evidence that the idea of transfer of solid material across the 670 km mantle discontinuity is valid, and agrees with previous phase-petrology investigations of tiny ferro-pericase inclusions in diamonds for which a lower mantle origin has always been proposed. However, unlike the ferro-pericase inclusions, baddeleyites also record chronological information, and hence might provide new data on mantle dynamics' history. J.F.

Gemmologie Aktuell.

C.C. MILISENDA. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 1-4, 6 photographs.

A 'fancy-white' pear-shaped modified brilliant-cut diamond of 0.71 ct was translucent with a milky white colour due to a high concentration of sub-microscopic inclusions of an unknown nature that scatter the incident light. Colour flashes can produce an appearance similar to white opal. Possession of magnetism can often be used to separate natural from synthetic diamonds, but a natural cubic, black diamond of 2.02 ct was found to be magnetic probably due to magnetite inclusions. The body colour was brownish, but it appeared black due to many graphite inclusions; irradiated 'black' diamonds usually have a greenish-black body colour. E.S.

Gem Trade Lab notes.

T.M. MOSES, S.F. MCCLURE AND M.L. JOHNSON (EDS). *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 56-63.

Items noted include a strongly colour-zoned diamond showing pseudo-dichroism. R.A.H.

Industrial diamond: applications, economics and a view to the future.

C. OWERS, *Industrial Diamond Review*, 60(3), 2000, 176-81.

Diamond has extreme properties in the mechanical, thermal, optical, chemical and electronic fields and it is the combination of these properties which gives diamond its industrial importance. The world superabrasive tooling market is estimated to be worth almost \$4 billion. Applications are continuing to be developed, but in addition to the quantifiable effects include less noise for less time, less dust, dry grinding rather than wet and more neutral waste. R.A.H.

Discovery and mining of the Argyle diamond deposit, Australia.

J.E. SHIGLEY, J. CHAPMAN AND R.K. ELLISON. *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 26-41.

The Argyle mine in north-western Australia was established in 1983 and almost immediately became the world's largest source of diamonds. In its peak year (1994) it produced >42 million carat of rough diamonds, representing 40% of the world's production. A large proportion of these diamonds are small (mean size <1 ct) brown to yellow stones, with some near-colourless and colourless rough diamonds. The type 1a brownish and yellowish cut stones are marketed as 'champagne' and 'cognac' diamonds. The Argyle mine is also noted for the production of a very limited amount of rare pink diamonds (sold in auction at >US \$ 100 000 per ct). The ore grade is 3 ct/tonne of olivine lamproite host rock; secondary alluvial deposits are also worked. R.A.H.

Diamonds and their mineral inclusions, and what they tell us: a detailed 'pull-apart' of a diamondiferous eclogite.

L.A. TAYLOR *et al.* [9 others]. *International Geology Review*, 42, 2000, 959-83.

Three-dimensional high resolution X-ray computed tomography of an eclogite xenolith from Yakutia has proved able to image diamonds and their textural relationships with coexisting minerals. Thirty specimens >.1 mm were found in an eclogite from Udachnaya, Russia: the diamonds appeared to be associated with zones of secondary alteration of clinopyroxene, the presence of secondary minerals suggested that the diamonds formed after the eclogite in conjunction with metasomatic inputs of C-rich fluids. Inclusions studied showed variations in major and trace-element chemistry within and between specimens and do not correspond to the minerals in the eclogite. M.O'D.

Gems and Minerals

The Rist and Ellis tracts.

D.L. BROWN AND W.E. WILSON. *Mineralogical Record*, 32, 2001, 129-40.

North Carolina is virtually the only significant emerald producing state in the United States, the Hiddenite area (which also produces Cr-green spodumene) having yielded crystals of fair to good gem quality since the first discovery in 1875. The Rist and Ellis properties are in Alexander County and close to the small town of Hiddenite. The bedrock geology in which the emerald-bearing veins occur consists of Precambrian quartz-mica schists and gneisses in which sets of steeply-dipping fractures are penetrated by late-stage pegmatitic fluids with associated quartz and quartz-mica veins. These veins contain emerald-bearing vugs and pockets. Details of the emeralds are given: crystals are almost always etched and range from pale-green to blue-green. Some contain a colourless core while Cr-rich portions show a rich blood-red through the Chelsea filter. Amethyst, smoky quartz and gem-quality dark red rutile crystals also occur in the area, as well as hiddenite spodumene and fine jet-black crystals of tourmaline. Dark green tourmaline is also reported. M.O'D.

Tourmaline and aquamarine deposits from Brazil.

J. CESAR-MENDES, H. JORT-EVANGELISTA AND R. WEGNER. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(1), 2001, 3-6, 3 illus. in black-and-white.

Brazil is one of the world's largest producers of aquamarine and gem-quality tourmaline. These gemstones are found in granitic pegmatites and in the states of Minas Gerais, Bahia, Espirito Santo, Ceara, Paraiba and Rio Grande do Norte. Although aquamarines and tourmalines had been known for around 300 years, the Brazilian deposits only started to be exploited during this last century. The authors discuss in detail the very different mineralogical compositions of these various pegmatite deposits. P.G.R.

Jadeite in Japan.

K. CHIHARA. *Journal of the Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 5-21, 18 figs., 7 tables.

Archaeological, geological, petrological and mineralogical description of jadeite in Japan, principally in the Himekawa and Itoigawa regions, Niigata Prefecture, are given. I.S.

Identification du traitement thermique à haute température des corindons par spectrométrie infra-rouge.

C. DAVID AND E. FRITSCH. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141-142, 2001, 27-31.

The detection of high-temperature treatment of ruby and blue sapphire, mostly of high-quality specimens has up to now relied upon the identification of inclusions and growth fractures with the microscope. IR spectrometry was first used to examine sapphires from Rock Creek, Montana when absorption at 3309 cm^{-1} [3021 nm] was found in heated stones, the absorption being the most prominent of a group of 5, caused by an OH-dipole linked to Fe and Ti atoms in the corundum lattice. A Fourier transform IR spectrometer was used in the present study in which specimens from 20 different localities were examined: tests (shown in graph form) were found to be effective for metamorphic sapphires when the absence or smallness of a peak at 3309 cm^{-1} indicates that the specimen has not been treated. In treated specimens the peak is significant. Sapphires of volcanic origin cannot be tested by this method. Specific absorptions of alumina hydrates (diaspore, boehmite) are seen only in sapphires which have not undergone HT treatment. The tests are also found useful for heated/unheated Mong Hsu rubies on the basis of the 3309 cm^{-1} signal. M.O'D.

The geology, mineralogy and rare element geochemistry of the gem deposits of Sri Lanka.

C.B. DISSANAYAKE, R. CHANDRAJITH AND H.J. TOBSCHALL. *Bulletin of the Geological Society of Finland*, 72(1-2), 2000, 5-20.

Nearly all the gem-bearing formations of Sri Lanka are located in the central high-grade terrain of the Highland complex. They include sedimentary, igneous and metamorphic rocks, but sedimentary deposits are the most abundant; the gemstones include corundum, chrysoberyl, beryl, spinel, topaz, zircon, tourmaline garnet and sphene. The trace elements in sediments from the three main gem fields were determined; some of the host sedimentary rocks are considerably enriched in certain elements compared to their average crustal abundances. The Walawe Gorge sediments are anomalously enriched in the high-field-strength and associated elements, particularly Zr, Hf, W and Ti. This is attributed to the presence of accessory zircon, monazite and rutile in the heavy minerals, which may amount to <50 wt.%. The geochemical enrichment of some trace elements is taken to indicate that highly differentiated granites and associated pegmatites provided the source material for these sedimentary rocks. R.A.H.

Minerals of the Brumado magnesite deposits, Serra das Eguas, Bahia, Brazil.

A. FALSTER, W.B. SIMMONS, K.L. WEBBER, J.W. NIZAMOFF, C.P. BARBOSA AND R.V. GAINES. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

A mineral assemblage associated with the magnesite deposits at Brumado, Serra das Eguas, Bahia, Brazil, includes uvite and dravite ranging from black to green to red to fine yellow, orange, pink or purple crystals of topaz up to several centimetres in length, aquamarine and emerald. M.O'D.

Cuprian elbaite from the Bocheiron Zinho pegmatite, Paraíba, Brazil.

A.U. FALSTER, W.B. SIMMONS, J.W. NIZAMOFF AND K.L. WEBBER. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

Elbaite of vivid blue to green colour and showing prominent colour zoning with either pink cores and deep blue rims or blue cores with several outer zones of purple, green, blue or grey ['Paraíba tourmaline'] was found during 1988 from Mina da Batalha, Sao Jose da Batalha, Paraíba, Brazil. Analyzed specimens were found to contain up to 1.4 wt. % CuO in the blue zones, 0.2 wt. % MnO in the pale pink cores and 1.2 wt.% FeO in the deep green rims. Deep green specimens found in the footwall of the pegmatite held up to 3.0 wt.% FeO and many contained thin, platy inclusions of native copper. Causes of the coloration are briefly reviewed. M.O'D.

Ornamental variety of pink marble with apatite found near Eppawala, Sri Lanka.

M.D.P.L. FRANCIS AND P.G.R. DHARMARATNE. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(2), 2001, 91-4, 4 illus. in colour, 2 maps.

Because Sri Lanka is a major source of transparent to translucent gemstones, little attention has been paid to the many varieties of ornamental stones that also occur on the island. A deposit of one such ornamental rock, a variety of pink marble with apatite, is located at Galmaduwa 5 km south-east of Eppawala. In spite of its impurities (embedded apatite crystals), the pink marble is a very attractive, easily worked and inexpensive carving material. P.G.R.

Origine de la couleur dans les gemmes.

E. FRITSCH AND G.R. ROSSMAN. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 65-74.

Describes the various methods by which gemstones are coloured. Body-colour, phenomenal colour and play of colour are included. M.O'D.

Le traitement des perles.

J.-P. GAUTHIER. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 42-5.

The various methods used to alter the colour of pearls are reviewed and their identification briefly noted. M.O'D.

Prehnite from La Combe de la Selle, Saint Christophe-en-Oisans, Isère, France.

L. GAUTRON AND N. MEISSER. *Mineralogical Record*, **32**, 2001, 223-32.

Fine large crystals of prehnite capable of being fashioned are reported from a classic alpine cleft deposit at La Combe de la Selle, Isère, in the French Alps – the famous axinite deposit of Bourg d'Oisans is not far away. The mineral was first described in 1789. Details of the local geology and mineralization are given, together with a descriptive list of associated minerals. Prehnite occurs as isolated and intergrown green translucent to partially transparent crystals up to 5 cm on an amphibolitic matrix.

M.O'D

Descriptive mineralogy of inclusions in some faceted gem topaz from Brazil.

B. GELLER. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

In a study of seven faceted topaz specimens from unidentified sites in Brazil the following minerals were identified: ilmenorutile, limonite, muscovite, rutile, struverite, tourmaline, zinnwaldite and three unknown phases. Optical and scanning electron microscopy and x-ray fluorescence were used in the investigation. The Virgem de Lapa region was ruled out as a site for the specimens as no recognizable lepidolite was identified.

M.O'D

Dal'negorsk, Primorskiy Kray, Russia. (Famous mineral localities.)

R. GRANT AND W.E. WILSON. *Mineralogical Record*, **32**, 2001, 3-30.

The Dal'negorsk area in the east of Russia produces many fine minerals, some with ornamental application. These include exceptional calcite, danburite, found only in the Danburitny mine and forming crystals exceptionally reaching 40 cm (some of this material has been irradiated to produce a deep golden-orange colour), datolite in green (attributed to Cr), honey-yellow to brown (RE) as well as colourless crystals, exceptional fluorite crystals, some occurring as green octahedra and some as yellow, rarely blue and purple. Some specimens have been called 'invisible fluorite' from their clarity.

M.O'D

Canadian emeralds: the Crown showing, south-eastern Yukon.

L.A. GROAT, T.S. ERCIT, D.D. MARSHALL, R.A. GAULT, M.A. WISE, W. WENGZYNOWSKI AND W.D. EATON. *Newsletter of the Mineralogical Association of Canada*, **63**, 2000, 1 and 12-13.

Numerous emerald-bearing float trains were discovered in a 900 x 400 m area on the Goal Net property, 600 m E of a granitic pluton in the Finlayson Lake district of SE Yukon. Washing and hand-sorting of ~ 6 m³ of material yielded 6 kg of emeralds. The emeralds occur where quartz veins cut mica-rich layers in a chlorite-mica

schist; they range in size from <1 mm to 4 cm in length. EPMA on 25 crystals gave average values of Cr 3209, V 171 ppm (some have Sc ≤ 499 ppm). Some of the smaller crystals (0.25 ct) and parts of larger crystals are of gem quality with excellent clarity and colour.

R.A.H.

Jade: occurrence and metasomatic origin.

G.E. HARLOW AND S.S. SORENSON. *Australian Gemmologist*, **21**(1), 2001, 7-11, 2 maps.

The term jade refers to two extremely tough rocks; nephrite with a felted microcrystalline habit and jadeite/jadeitite with micro- to macro-crystalline textures. Nephrite is the more common and less valuable of the two jade types with important deposits in Canada, China, Russia, South Australia and New Zealand. Jadeite/jadeitite is much less common and only occurs as bodies in subduction-related serpentinite along major fault zones in Northern Myanmar, Guatemala, Russia and Kazakhstan, also in Japan. Recent investigations show that the jades share some common geological characteristics, and both result from and record important earth processes.

P.G.R.

The gemstone occurrences of Madagascar.

U. HENN AND C. MILISENDA. *Australian Gemmologist*, **21**(2), 2001, 76-82, 8 illus. in colour, 2 tables.

For centuries Madagascar has been well known for its wealth of gemstones. By the beginning of the 20th century the island was supplying the world with commercial quantities of gems including beryl, tourmaline, various quartzes, spodumene, amazonite, labradorite and garnet. More recently, commercially important occurrences of blue and pink sapphires have also been discovered. This paper details the geology of the island's occurrences, and tabulates the gems in order of chemistry and of location.

P.G.R.

Scottish gem lab news.

A. HODGKINSON. *Australian Gemmologist*, **21**(2), 2001, 83-7, 12 illus. in colour.

The author describes the use of the Hanneman tanzanite filter in the separation of tanzanites from their two look-alikes, synthetic forsterites and glass imitation tanzanites. When illuminated by incandescent light, tanzanites showed pinkish when viewed through the filter, unlike the synthetic forsterites. However, the glass imitations also showed pinkish, and to differentiate these from tanzanite, two polaroid strips, orientated so that their vibration directions are at right-angles, are added alongside the main filter. Any questionable gems which appear pink through the main filter are then scanned through the paired polaroid filters. The glass imitations remain the same blue colour, while the tanzanites display their diagnostic pleochroic colours. The author also describes and illustrates how visual optics can be used to separate tanzanite from these two simulants, and how visual optics and the Hanneman-Hodgkinson refractometer were used to identify a suspect pink synthetic perovskite as an orthorhombic yttrium aluminate.

P.G.R.

New gemmological study of large garnets of supposedly Czech origin.

J. HYRSL. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50(1), 2001, 37-42, 2 photographs, bibl.

Supposedly the largest Bohemian pyrope garnet is in the Green Vaults in Dresden and set in the Order of the Golden Fleece, which was made in Prague by Diessbach in 1749. The RI of this stone is 1.78, with a typical almandine spectrum. This specimen measures 34 x 27.4 x 9 mm and has a form of a reversed saucer with an actual thickness of about 3.5 mm. In an ancient inventory the weight was given as 46.75 ct (47.9 metric ct). The largest supposed Bohemian pyrope is in a Czech museum and weighs 13.21 ct; it has an RI of 1.79, an almandine spectrum and zircon inclusions. Examining other Bohemian garnet jewellery in the National Museum in Prague, the author found the pyropes to be usually smaller than 4 mm and found only rare examples up to 6.5 mm. E.S.

Minas Gerais – past and present.

A.R. KAMPE. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

Describes the discovery and exploitation of some of the gem-bearing pegmatites in the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais and more recently of some of the metamorphic deposits which have produced alexandrite, emerald and other species. M.O'D.

The identification of gems in Japan.

H. KOMATSU. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 111-25, 5 figs., 13 photos.

The macroscopic structure of pearl, the microscopic structure of the nacreous layer, origin of colour and lustre, and the shape of pearls are explained first. Appropriate methods to investigate these properties are pointed out. Following these explanations, methods to differentiate imitation pearls, nucleated and non-nucleated pearls, physically treated pearls, chemically treated pearls, thickly coloured pearls by treatment, and to identify mother oysters are explained. Basic procedures for distinguishing pearls are summarized in five steps; visual observation, microscopic observation, observation by light transmission method, by soft X-ray, and by precision analytical apparatus. I.S.

Gem News International.

B.M. LAURS (ED.). *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 64-78.

Mention is made of the first production of emeralds from Piteiras, Minas Gerais, Brazil; an 8.25 ct precision-cut block of iolite to demonstrate pleochroism; semi-transparent to translucent, greenish-yellow prehnite from Australia; and yellow-green faceted vesuvianite from California. R.A.H.

[SEM study of jadeite jade.] (Chinese with English abstract)

X.-w. LIU. *Yanshi Kuangwu. (Journal of Mineralogy & Petrology)*, 21(1), 2001, 5-7.

The mineral composition, grain size and microstructural features of the green part of a specimen of jadeite were studied by SEM imaging, and the variation of scattering and intensity of colour were correlated with the grain size. SEM images of the cleavage planes show they are not smooth, but characterized by linear and sawtooth cleavage steps. R.A.H.

Gem pegmatites of the Ural Mountains, Russia.

P. LYCKBERG AND V. YE ZAGORSKY. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

The northern section of the central Ural Mountains of Russia includes notable miarolitic pegmatites carrying beryl, topaz and tourmaline in the western endo and exocontact of the Mursinka-Adui intrusions and the desilicated pegmatites surrounded by emerald-alexandrite-phenakite mineralization. Fine blue topaz with smoky quartz and albite is found at the Mokrusha, Golodnij, Tyazhitritza, Staraja Mylnitsa, Starzewa Jama and Kazionnitsa mines. Gem-bearing pegmatites NW of Mursinka are enclosed in a serpentine and contain miaroles with coloured tourmaline: pegmatites to the W and SW contain green and yellow beryl and yellow or light blue topaz. The Sarapulka and Shaitanka pegmatites are thin veins with rubellite and rhodizite in the W and green and blue aquamarine in the E. Large amounts of emerald, alexandrite and phenakite have been produced since 1830 from the Takovaja district schists. Specimens recently discovered include combinations of phenakite/emerald and alexandrite/emerald. The southern Ural region centred on Miass in the Ilmen Mountains produced clear topaz crystals up to 3-4 kg and uncommon green beryl associated in miarolitic pegmatites with amazonite. M.O'D.

Laboratoire Français de Gemmologie: principaux examens pratiqués pour identifier le traitement thermique des saphirs.

P. MAITRALLET AND H. GARCIA. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 14-17.

Describes the examination of sapphires at the Paris Laboratoire Français de Gemmologie and the methods used to detect specimens whose colour has been affected by heat treatment. The authors make the point that traditional gemmological tests enable quite effective diagnosis to be made in many cases though examples cited show the usefulness of UV/visible spectroscopy. M.O'D.

Les corindons diffusés.

L. MASSI AND E. FRITSCH. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 18-26.

Details of tests carried out on 11 polished blue sapphires diffused with Fe and Ti, two blue sapphires diffused with cobalt and six red to orange sapphires diffused with Cr are given. The easiest method of detection was magnification using diffused lighting while

specimens were immersed in di-iodomethane, when uneven colour distribution was apparent with concentration near facet junctions and at the edges. Absorptions at 3310 and 3232 cm^{-1} and related to (OH) groups were found in the blue treated specimens: the peaks were not detected in the stones before treatment nor in the treated red stones. Their presence is ascribed to the reducing, H-containing atmosphere used. A red luminescence detected in the Co-diffused red stones was found to arise from Cr rather than Co. SEM examination of residues at the surface of treated stones shows the presence of molten alumina but also zones rich in Na, Al and K among other elements. Iridium and carbon (graphite) traces were presumed to be from crucible material. M.O'D.

Gemmologie Aktuell.

C.C. MILISENDA. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 1-4, 6 photographs.

Yellow and green sapphires from Malawi were examined. E.S.

Demantoide aus Pakistan.

C.C. MILISENDA, U. HENN AND J. HENN. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 51-6, 1 map, 1 table, 1 graph, 7 photographs, bibl.

Fifty samples of garnet came from a peridot mine in the Pakistan part of Kashmir. They were yellowish-green to emerald-green faceted stones, weighing between 1.04 and 11.38 ct. SG ranged from 3.77 to 3.85. chemical analysis showed relatively pure andradites with 0.25 wt. % of Cr_2O_3 . The acicular, fibrous and felt-like mineral inclusions were shown to be chrysothile. E.S.

Composition and colour of uvite-dravite tourmaline from Brumado, Bahia, Brazil.

P.J. MODRESKI, E.E. FOORD AND C.P. BARBOSA. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

Fibrous to prismatic reddish-brown dravite with up to 4-7 wt. % FeO, deep red platy to tabular crystals, identified as sodic uvite with 3 to 4% FeO, tabular green to brown discoidal crystals flattened on *c*, identified as uvite to calcic dravite and prismatic predominantly green but some colour-zoned crystals range from uvite through dravite, all from the magnesite deposits of Brumado, Bahia, Brazil, have been investigated by microprobe and other analytical methods. M.O'D.

What's new in minerals: Tucson Show 2001.

T. MOORE. *Mineralogical Record*, 32, 2001, 245-57.

Among gem and ornamental specimens on display at the 2001 Tucson Show were fine green fluorite crystals from the Homestake (former gold mine site) in Oatman County, Arizona, where they occur as simple octahedra up to 4 cm. Purple fluorite crystals from the Sweet Home mine, Alma, Colorado, were also shown. Very large

crystals of elbaite from a recently-struck large pocket at the Pederneira mine, Minas Gerais, Brazil, were coloured pink to deep red to smoky green: some reached 10 cm. Apple-green elbaite from a pocket at the Arqueana mine in the same state were also shown. A new find of brazilianite from the Telirio mine in Minas Gerais has produced pale yellow and yellow-green crystals. Fine crystals of kunzite were on display, the source being a pegmatite province located between the towns of Jos and Ibadan, Nigeria. Some of the crystals reached 10 cm and showed pronounced surface etching with pink/purple pleochroism. M.O'D.

Inklusen-Bernsteine: Informationsträger vergangener Erdperioden.

H.J. MÜLLENMEISTER. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 5-36, 85 photographs, bibl.

Beautiful photographs of fauna and flora of more than 25 million years ago preserved in amber. The inclusions which vary from animals (or parts of animals) with vertebrae, to insects and their eggs to plant parts, are described in detail. Fake inclusions and their provenance are discussed. E.S.

Ammolite: iridescent fossilized ammonite from southern Alberta, Canada.

K.A. MYCHALUK, A.A. LEVINSON AND R.L. HALL. *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 4-25.

Ammolite is a form of aragonite obtained from vivid iridescent fossilized ammonite shells from the late Cretaceous Bearpaw formation, mainly mined S of Lethbridge, Alberta. Because the iridescent layers are thin and fragile, typically coming from naturally crushed and compacted specimens, it is generally marketed as doublets or triplets; some material may be stabilized by epoxy resin. R.A.H.

La tanzanite (β zoisite): detection de traitement thermique.

F. NOTARI, P.-Y. BOILLAT AND C. GROBON. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 34-36.

Despite general belief it has been found possible to distinguish between heated and unheated transparent zoisite (tanzanite) by examination of the nature of the near-UV spectrum. Heated tanzanites transmit deeper into the UV; findings are shown in graph form and the technique is reported to have been 100% successful up to now. M.O'D.

Chronological table of events related to gemstones and jewellery in Japan.

H. OHTANI. *Journal of the Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 175-89.

This paper presents chronological tables of events relating to finding and polishing of gemstones, jewellery making and gemmological studies in Japan, starting from the paleolithic stone age, the Jyomon, Yayoi and Kofun ages to historic ages. Japan has the oldest history in the

world in use of jadeite for religious and ornamental stones, which started in the earliest period of the Jyomon age, ca. 7000 BC. The use of natural minerals for ornamental purposes stopped entirely after the end of the Kofun age, ca. AD 500. However, Japan is now the second biggest importer of gemstones, after the USA. I.S.

Sogdianite and sugilite from Dara-i-Pioz massif (Tajikistan).

L. A. PAUTOV, P. V. KHVOROV, V. A. MUFTAKHOV AND A. A. AGAKHANOV. *Proceedings of the Russian Mineralogical Society*, **129**(3), 2000, 66-79.

Chemical, optical and powder XRD data are reported for a new find of sogdianite in six different associations in pegmatite of the Dara-i-Pioz massif. A new variety of sogdianite with Sn 1.97% is described. Sugilite also occurs here, and the existence is demonstrated of an isomorphous series between sugilite and sogdianite. An unnamed hexagonal phase $\text{KLi}_3\text{Zr}_2\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{30}$ with milarite-type structure has been discovered in pseudomorphs after eudialyte; it is uniaxial positive with ω 1.578, ϵ 1.582; a 10.325, c 14.325 Å; H . 6.5, D 2.78 g/cm³. A relationship was established between the cation occupation of octahedral site A and the filling of polyhedral B with Na while there is constant K in site C; when the A site is completely occupied by tetravalent cations, the B position is vacant giving the sodium-free silicate $\text{KLi}_3\text{Zr}_2\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{30}$. R.A.H.

The eastern Brazilian pegmatite province.

C. PREINFALK AND G. MORTEANI. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

The province includes the whole of the state of Minas Gerais, the southern part of the state of Bahia, the western margin of Espirito Santo and the northern part of Rio de Janeiro. Exploration of the area produced green tourmaline as long ago as the early 16th century. The pegmatites are often found in Proterozoic mica-schists and amphibolites, the major pegmatite-forming event taking place between 525 and 545 million years ago. Gem species found include tourmaline, aquamarine, topaz, brazilianite, kunzite, columbite-tantalite, spodumene and pollucite. M.O'D.

The chemical composition of biotite from granitic pegmatites and from metamorphic emerald deposits in the Eastern Brazilian Pegmatite Province [EBPP].

C. PREINFALK AND G. MORTEANI. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

Two theories of the genesis of schist-type emerald deposits (by exometasomatism or by a regional and usually multi-stage reaction between already emplaced Be-rich and alkali-rich rocks) are examined with respect to the EBPP. M.O'D.

Brazilian gem provinces.

C.P. PINTO AND A.C. PEDROSA-SOARES. *Australian Gemmologist*, **21**(1), 2001, 12-16, 1 map.

Emerald, alexandrite, aquamarine, tourmaline, topaz, chrysoberyl, amethyst, opal and morganite are the main coloured gemstones mined in Brazil. The Eastern Pegmatite Province is a major source of the beryl and chrysoberyl gems and of the kunzite variety of spodumene, the Southern Gem Province (Rio Grange do Sul) is the major world producer of amethyst and agate, the Piaui Gem Province produces opals, and the Bahia and Central Gem Provinces are Brazil's major emerald sources. P.G.R.

The history of Brazilian pegmatite gem mining.

K. PROCTOR. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

Describes gem mining from the pegmatites in the NE portion of the Brazilian state of Minas Gerais. Gem crystals were first found by gold prospectors over 400 years ago. M.O'D.

The development and present geologic environment of the most important gem crystals and mines of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

K. PROCTOR. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

Describes how the uplifting of pegmatite bodies and erosion of their cover has led to the discovery of many varieties of gem quality minerals. M.O'D.

The famous tourmaline, aquamarine and kunzite mines of Minas Gerais and their greatest gem crystals.

K. PROCTOR. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, **31**, 2000, 177-83.

The primary deposits of Cruzeiro, Jonas, Xanda, Limoeiro, Golconda, Medina and Corrego do Urucum and the secondary deposits of Barra de Salinhas, Ouro Fino, Santa Rosa, Morro Redondo, Frade and the Pioneer mine in the Tres Barros area near Marambaia produce some of the world's finest tourmaline, aquamarine and kunzite. M.O'D.

Über das Salz der Erde und vom Gold aus Ophir-Mineralogisches aus der Bibel.

H. ROESER. *Aufschluss*, **52**, 2001, 129-67.

Four primary classes of references to minerals in the Bible are: minerals in the manufacture of tools, of jewellery, of religious artefacts and for popular use. Naming conventions are discussed and in spite of nomenclature problems it is still possible to establish

which species is meant in a particular context. Gold and salt have a particular significance in the Bible. A table giving names and compositions of the minerals cited refers to the book, chapter and verse and there is an extensive bibliography. M.O'D.

Glass-filled rubies ou rubis rebouches.

K. SCARRATT. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 11-13.

Summary with appended questions and answers on glass-filled rubies with special reference to material from Mong Hsu. M.O'D.

Emerald deposits – a review.

D. SCHWARTZ AND G. GIULIANI. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(1), 2001, 17-23, 1 map.

Emerald is scarce because the juxtaposition of Cr/V and Be in nature is rare in that it requires exceptional geological and geochemical conditions. Sources of chromium and vanadium are mafic-ultramafic igneous rocks found in suture zones and volcano-sedimentary series, as well as in sedimentary formations such as black shales. Sources of beryllium are pegmatitic and Al/Si-rich magmas, black shales and metamorphic rocks. The review describes the conditions which make it possible for emerald mineralisation to occur in worldwide green beryl deposits. P.G.R.

Gem tourmaline chemistry and paragenesis.

W.B. SIMMONS, K.L. WEBBER, A.U. FALSTER AND J.W. NIZAMOFF. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(1), 2001, 24-9, 12 illus., 1 map.

Tourmaline is a well-known and widely mined variety that is recovered from highly fractionated granitic pegmatites worldwide. The wide range of colours, good durability and reasonably ample supply make this mineral one of the most important gemstones. The study examines the colour and chemistry of gem tourmaline from pegmatites in Russia (Transbaikalia), Madagascar, North America and northern Brazil. P.G.R.

Quartz crystals twinned after Brazil and Japan laws – origin of their morphological and textural characteristics.

I. SUNAGAWA. *Journal of The Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 2000, 23-36, 12 figs.

Brazil twins are formed by joining polymerized particles of 10 nm size with right-hand and left-hand quartz structures and develop as polysynthetic twin lamellae. A large number of Brazil twin lamellae cooperate to form Brewster fringes, which are observed in natural amethysts. Brazil twin is a growth twin formed when natural quartz crystals grow under low temperature conditions, in the presence of impurity ions. But, even under high temperature synthetic conditions, generation of a Brazil twin can be triggered by a strain field associated with inclusions of impurity components, mainly ferric iron oxide or hydroxide, and with dislocations therefrom. Japanese twins are formed during

the nucleation stage by joining two quartz individuals of the same structure on their well developed rhombohedral faces. At this stage, quartz crystals take a hexagonal bipyramidal habit with no prism faces developed. Dislocations concentrate in the twin junction plane, and act as preferable sites for step generation, resulting in an 'apparent' or 'pseudo' re-entrant corner effect, so far as rhombohedral faces meet at twin junction. A more flattened habit and larger size of Japanese twins compared with the co-existing single crystals, and the morphological evolution as growth proceeds can be explained in terms of the 'apparent' re-entrant corner effect and the difference in effectiveness of dislocations as active growth sources between rhombohedral and prism faces. V- and fan-shapes of Japanese twins represent the upper half of a Y-shape, and not of an X-shape, indicating that they belong to a contact twin. Freely developed Japanese twins show a Y-shape. I.S.

Origin of gem corundums from basaltic fields.

F.L. SUTHERLAND AND D. SCHWARTZ. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(1), 2001, pp.30-3, 2 illus., 2 tables.

Gem corundums, both sapphire and ruby, are eroded from particular basaltic eruptives. They are recorded in six continental regions, within fifteen countries and involve over forty main basalt fields. These fields discharge both magmatic and metamorphic origin corundums from underlying sources. Several fields with bimodal origins are now known. 'Magmatic' sapphire suites exhibit more consistent trace element variations that 'metamorphic' sapphire-ruby suites, which encompass a diversity of metamorphic origins. P.G.R.

The geology of Australian opal deposits.

I.J. TOWNSEND. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(1), 2001, 34-7, 1 map.

The many variations of opal depend on a number of factors. Firstly, the climate must provide alternating wet and dry periods, creating a rising or more importantly a falling water table which concentrates any silica in solution. The silica itself is formed either by volcanic activity or by deep weathering of Cretaceous clay sediments producing both silica and white kaolin. Each local opal field or occurrence must have contained voids or porosity of some sort to provide a site for opal deposition. Silica spheres, once formed, are deposited in a regular array in these voids from a receding water table to produce precious opal. P.G.R.

Recent mineral occurrences from north-eastern Brazil.

R. WEGNER. Friends of Mineralogy/Tucson Gem & Mineral Show/Mineralogical Society of America. 21st Annual Symposium. *Mineralogical Record*, 31, 2000, 177-83.

Gem-quality minerals recently found in the states of Paraiba and Rio Grande do Norte, NE Brazil include apatite with distinct colour zoning from yellow cores to blue or green rims from the Alto Feio pegmatite, Paraiba:

perfectly crystallized cognac-coloured herderite crystals up to 12 cm from the Alto des Flechas pegmatite near Pedra Lavada, Paraíba (this pegmatite has produced fine golden beryl in the past) and amethyst sceptre crystals with milky quartz bases from the area of Santana de Mangeiras, Paraíba. M.O'D.

Gallery review: the R S McLaughlin Mineral Hall, Royal Ontario Museum.

J S WHITE. *Mineralogical Record*, 32, 147-151, 2001.

Review of the newly-arranged Treasures of the Earth portion of the new Dynamic Earth display at the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto. Treasures of the Earth comprises the mineral and gem exhibits. Following some recent display history and a description of the collections which are excellent in themselves, notes on presentation find, as well as a number of positive points, serious inadequacies in labelling both in quantity and content, as well as in the general arrangement of some of the specimens. Some ancillary services do not work too well and there were no booklets available in one of the rooms although they were advertised. It should be possible to rectify some if not all of the shortcomings (including poor commentaries from guides) with minimum effort and expense. M.O'D.

The minerals of Russia.

Annual FM-TGMS-MSA Mineralogical Symposium, 22nd, 2001, Tucson, 2001. *Mineralogical Record*, 32, 2001, 39-47.

Papers on various aspects of Russian minerals are abstracted. Those concerning gem and ornamental species include: Famous mineral localities and mineral collecting in the former Soviet Union: Nomenclature of quartz colour variations - pink and rose: Gem pegmatite and greisen deposits of Russia during the twentieth century: Gem pegmatites of Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Tajikistan: Gem beryl and topaz of Sherlovaya Gora, Transbaikal, Russia. M.O'D.

What's new in minerals.

[Various authors.] *Mineralogical Record*, 32, 2001, 53-64.

The mineral shows covered this time are Springfield and Denver: notable examples of Colorado gem minerals available include rhodochrosite from the Sweet Home and Sunnyside mines, aquamarine from Mount Antero, zircon as sharp lustrous brown crystals in matrix from St Peter's Dome. At the same show were a few gem-quality brownish-green elbaite crystals, their characteristic oily lustre indicating their origin from the Gillette quarry, Haddam Neck, Connecticut. Deep yellow-green sphene crystals were available from the classic locality of Capelinha, Minas Gerais, Brazil (such specimens have been rare for a number of years). Some dealers at Springfield were showing pale translucent pink elbaite said to be from the Mogok district of Burma: a most unusual transparent pale smoky-brown phlogopite from the same area was on show.

At the Denver show crystals of brazilianite were available - they were pale to medium-intense greenish-yellow, some on a matrix of albite. The location was the Telirio mine, Linopolis, Minas Gerais. Raspberry-red elbaite was on view from Nigeria 'near Oyo City' and fine deep blue aquamarine with schorl on feldspar was being sold - the location Bergsig 274, Erongo mountains, Namibia. Afghanistan has produced deep orange danburite from 'somewhere in Nuristan' [but see Grant and Wilson above for irradiated danburite]. M.O'D.

Instruments and Techniques

Dispersion, birefringence, and the critical angle refractometer.

W.W. HANNEMAN. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(2), 2001, 88-90, 3 illus.

The author first outlines the basic determinative value of the critical angle refractometer in measuring the RI and, more importantly, the DR of a gemstone. Concurrently, the gem's optical character and optic sign are easily determined on the same instrument, and these four properties provide sufficient information to identify the majority of gem materials within the RI range of 1.4 to 1.80. In discussing the practical value of a proposed method for measuring the dispersion of a gemstone on the standard refractometer, a plot of dispersion values against RI over the range of 1.4 to 1.81, produces a cluster of points which the author claims to be of limited determinative value. P.G.R.

The present status of application of instrumental methods of gem identification - examples of identifications using EDS, X-radiography, FT-IR.

M. HAYASHI. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 99-110, 22 figs., 4 tables.

Several examples are given to demonstrate how EDS, soft X-ray transmission, FT-IR spectroscopy can be applied to gem identification. These include identification of flux inclusions in Kashan ruby by EPMA, XRF, EDXRF analyses of natural, GE and Sumitomo synthetic diamonds, of natural, synthetic, and heat-enhanced sapphire, X-radiographic investigation of Koss, Yehuda-treated diamond, emerald, jadeite, FT-IR investigation of natural of natural and synthetic alexandrite, natural and resin-impregnated jadeites. I.S.

Quantification and visualization of diamond brilliancy.

K. INOUE. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 153-67, 11 figs, 13 photos., tables.

The degree of brilliance is quantified by evaluating intensity of light reflected in stones. A computer algorithm was applied to calculate ray trajectories in three dimensional space for the case of a round brilliant diamond. The principles to calculate the intensity in light reflected in three dimensional models of a round brilliant

diamond are explained first. Computer analyses are applied to a lumpy stone, an ideally cut stone, and three cut stones with proportions commonly encountered in the market. How the degree of brilliance changes depending on the proportions is demonstrated. I.S.

Re-examination of optimum cutting angles between main facets of gemstones based on geometrical optics

A. KATO. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 127-43, 21 figs., 2 tables.

This is a summarized English translation of Kato's paper in Japanese published in the same Journal, 9(1), 3-17, 1982, with supplementary comment and selective bibliography on diamond cutting by W. Funnel. I.S.

A method for computation of gem faceting.

M. KATO. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 144-51, 6 figs.

Mathematical formulae based on solid geometry are derived to calculate the best faceting design of any gemstone. The formulae are applied to calculate appropriate cutting angles and edge proportions, and the results are illustrated using the orthogonal projection. I.S.

Cathodoluminescence method and its applications to gemmology.

T. MIYATA, H. KITAWAKI AND M. KITAMURA. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 63-78, 28 figs, 8 tables.

Observations on growth banding revealed by cathodoluminescence (CL) images of diamonds have demonstrated that (1) growth morphology of natural diamonds consists of flat {111} faces with or without curved {100} faces, whereas that of synthetic diamonds consists of flat {111} and {100} faces, and (2) each diamond has its characteristic pattern of growth banding. These characteristics can be used as diagnostic features to be used in discriminating natural from synthetic diamonds, as well as fingerprinting an individual stone. CL observations on 10 pieces of synthetic emerald, which were identified beforehand by ordinary gemmological tests and NIR spectroscopy, have demonstrated that flux-grown emeralds show straight parallel growth banding or 'aurora-like' bright spots, whereas hydrothermally-grown emeralds show 'comet-like' spots arranged in certain directions or show a unique rhombic pattern. It is therefore anticipated that natural and synthetic emeralds and flux- and hydrothermally-grown synthetic emeralds can be distinguished by CL observations. I.S.

A new method to identify a cut gemstone.

C. RINAUDO, B. CAPELLE AND R. NAVONE. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 43-50, 1 table, 2 sketches, 8 photographs, bibl.

X-ray transmission topography allows fingerprinting of a cut gemstone which enables recognition after a re-cut. When a white beam of a synchrotron is applied, a few seconds are sufficient to record the topography on a plate film placed behind the stone. The features shown are quite distinctive on each individual stone. E.S.

Laser tomography; a new powerful method to identify natural, synthetic and treated stones – case study of corundum.

J. SHIDA. *Journal of Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20 (1-4), 1999, 79-98, 30 figs, 1 table.

Laser tomography is a non-destructive method to visualize light scattering centres of sub-micron size and associated luminescence in nearly perfect transparent single crystals. The method was designed by Moriya and Ogawa (1983), and can visualize distribution of laser scattering centres in transparent crystals by scanning laser beams and recording the image on photographic film. The method was applied to many gem quality samples of natural, synthetic and heat-enhanced corundum. It was possible to obtain information relating to distribution of impurities, growth sectors, dislocations in these crystals, both rough and cut stones. Flux-grown, hydrothermally grown, and melt-phase grown (Verneuil, CZ, FZ) synthetic rubies, overgrowth rubies, and heat-enhanced rubies show respectively different characteristic laser tomographs. Also sapphire from Kashmir exhibits different tomographs from those of other localities. Heat-enhanced sapphires give diagnostically different features from non-enhanced sapphires. It was demonstrated that laser beam tomography is a powerful new method in gem identification. I.S.

La tracabilité des émeraudes: une avancée décisive obtenue par microscopie infrarouge.

A. CHEILLETZ, P. DE DONATO AND O. BARRÈS. *Revue de Gemmologie*, 141/142, 2001, 181-3.

Microscopy in the IR region with Fourier transforms has been found useful in the determination of the nature and locality information of emerald. Examples and background are discussed. M.O'D.

Synthetics and Simulants

Growth of high pressure synthetic diamonds.

H. KANDA. *Journal of the Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 37-46, 6 figs.

HPHT synthesis of large size, gem-quality diamonds, and colour control of synthetic diamonds are summarized. HPHT growth technique has been highly improved to produce 30 ct diamonds of type II. Yellow, blue, green and brown coloured diamonds have also been obtained. The colour depends on composition of the alloy used as solvent and on the growth temperature. The colours are changed by annealing. I.S.

Gemmologie Aktuell.

C.C. MILISENDA. *Gemmologie. Z. Dt. Gemmol. Ges.*, 50 (1), 2001, 1-4, 6 photographs.

Samples of hydrothermally grown synthetic corundum from Russia were blue, red, purplish-blue, bluish-green and yellow. A transparent eye-clean faceted stone was offered as sapphire but was shown to be CZ. E.S.

Gem Trade Lab notes.

T.M. MOSES, S.F. McCLURE AND M.L. JOHNSON (EDS). *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 56-63.

Items noted include a 3 ct synthetic apatite (with appreciable Nd) showing a colour change from purple-pink in incandescent light to violet-blue in fluorescent light and a bangle of quartzite dyed three colours to imitate jadeite. R.A.H.

Quartz α SiO₂: discrimination des améthystes et des citrines naturelles et synthétiques.

F. NOTARI, P.-Y. BOILLAT AND C. GROBON. *Revue de gemmologie*, 141/142, 75-80, 2001.

While IR methods will distinguish amethyst and citrine grown on flat seeds they cannot be used when growth takes place upon a crystal of natural habit. Use of the microscope to interpret interference patterns remains the best method of detection: techniques are described and illustrated. M.O'D.

Hydrothermal synthetic red beryl from the Institute of Crystallography, Moscow.

J.E. SHIGLEY, S.F. McCLURE, J.E. COLE, J.I. KOIVULA, T. LU, S. ELEN AND L.N. DEMIANETS. *Gems & Gemology*, 37(1), 2001, 42-55.

Hydrothermal red beryl has been synthesized for use in jewellery by the Institute of Crystallography and Encom Ltd., both in Moscow. Diagnostic features include a tabular crystal morphology, chevron-like and sub-parallel or slightly wavy internal growth zoning, sharp absorption bands at ~ 530, 545, 560, 570 and 590 nm due to Co²⁺, water-related absorption bands between 4200 and 3200 cm⁻¹ in the IR spectrum, and the presence of Co and Ni peaks in EDXRF spectra. These red beryls have ϵ (purplish-red) 1.569-1.573, ω (orange-red to orange-brown) 1.576-1.580; SG 2.67-2.70; electron microprobe analyses are given for three samples. R.A.H.

Disclosure – gemstones and synthetics.

TAY THYE SUN. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(2), 2001, 67-75, 15 illus. in colour.

The worldwide gemstone and jewellery industries are becoming increasingly aware of the importance of appropriate disclosure of the true nature of synthetics, value-enhanced gemstones and imitations to purchasers of these materials. In this paper the author discusses the relevance of such disclosure to the economic survival of

the gemstone and jewellery business, and as an example of modern gemstone treatment focuses on A-, B-, C- and B+C- jade. Although advanced instrumentation, such as FTIR spectroscopy, is generally considered essential for positive identification of these materials, practical advice is offered on some basic observations which can be used to recognize these treated jadeite jades. P.G.R.

Formation and quality of pearls.

K. WADA. *Journal of the Gemmological Society of Japan*, 20(1-4), 1999, 47-62, 23 figs.

Based on optical and electron microscopic observations on microtextures of iridescent and non-iridescent pearls (natural and cultivated pearls formed by the family Pteriidae, Conch Pearl formed by sea-water gastropod *Strombus gigas*, Calm pearl produced by the calm and the short necked calm, etc.), the kind and quality of pearls are classified into several types depending on the microtextures, components and formation. The quantities of cultured pearls are systematically analyzed based on the surface and body colour, thickness of nacreous layer, flaws, shape and size. The biological function and regulation applied to control the pearl quality are discussed to help the evolution of technological studies in controlling the quality of cultured pearls. I.S.

Russian colourless synthetic diamond.

J.C.C. YUAN. *Australian Gemmologist*, 20(12), 2000, 529-33, 13 illus., 1 table.

Since January 1999, Russian-made gem-quality colourless to near colourless synthetic diamonds have been available on the US market at prices more than double that of natural diamond. These type IIa diamonds have identifying metallic inclusions, are magnetic and display SWUV luminescence and phosphorescence which differs from that of natural diamonds. Images from the De Beers DiamondView instrument are also diagnostic for these synthetic diamonds. It is believed that as the 'split sphere' synthesis technology used in Russian factories (or in factories licensed to use this technology outside Russia) becomes more productive and cost effective, the colourless synthetic diamond will eventually be in a position to compete against the natural diamond. P.G.R.

Characterization of a new Chinese hydrothermally grown emerald.

C. ZHENQIANG, Z. JILANG, C. KEQIN, Z. CHANGLONG AND Z. WEINING. *Australian Gemmologist*, 21(2), 2001, 62-6, 3 illus. (two in colour), 2 tables.

Five sample emerald crystals of a new hydrothermal type synthesised by the Gemological Institute of Guangxi in the People's Republic of China were evaluated in this report for their gemmological, chemical and spectroscopic characteristics. Common diagnostic features of the new synthetic included a strong reaction under the Chelsea colour filter, a moderate red LW UV fluorescence and a much lower chlorine and higher alkali element content. P.G.R.

BOOK REVIEWS

Ammolite 2. A guide for gemmologists, jewellers and lapidaries.

D. BARNSON, 2000. The author, P O Box 179, Selkirk, Manitoba, Canada. pp 116, illus. in colour, softcover. ISBN 0 9688580 0 7. Price on application.

Ammolite has gained in popularity from its first appearance in the late 1970s. In 1981 it was recognised as a gemstone by CIBJO and the various names originally proposed for it have now, fortunately, been subsumed into ammolite. This second extensive and well-illustrated text gives a history of its discovery and of the realisation that it has considerable gem potential. Various types and localities are described and there are useful notes on fashioning what can prove to be quite a difficult material which does, however, easily lend itself to use in composites, as in opal. There are short notes on identification (though ammolite, once seen, is very distinctive), high-quality pictures of the play of colour seen under magnification (the use of colour throughout the book is excellent), notes on colour grading, a glossary and a bibliography. This is a very attractive book and seems likely to become the standard work on ammolite for the foreseeable future. M.O'D.

The Mineralogical record index, volumes I-XXV, 1970-1994.

E.L. CLOPTON AND W.E. WILSON (Eds), 1996. The Record, Tucson. pp 312, hardcover. Price on application.

Five-year author/title index to vols 26-30, 1995-1999 [Comprises pp 119-134 of vol. 31] issued as separate pamphlet.

In 1985 the Friends of Mineralogy, an independent non-profit organization, published an index to volumes 1-14 of *The Mineralogical record* which, apart from binding problems and some awkwardness of structure, has served well up to the present. Information in the new index is divided between author/title and general/subject sections, with full bibliographic details given in the author/title section. Searching is by keyword taken from the titles, making it easy for the searcher to find the complete citation. Adoption of the new structure made re-editing of the previous 10-year index and additional material in the same form necessary. There will be no further indexes cumulative back to volume 1: the next indexing project is expected to cover volumes 26-35. For this reason the present index is strongly bound with sewn rather than glued pages.

Readers will find considerable pleasure and much useful information in just leafing through the index, whose print run is said to be small. M.O'D.

Mineralogy of Maine. Volume 2: mining history, gems and geology.

T.V. KING (Ed.), 2000. Augusta, ME 04333: Maine

Department of Conservation, Maine Geological Survey, Station #22. pp vi, 524, illus. in black-and-white and in colour, hardcover. US \$50

This is the second volume of *Mineralogy of Maine*, the first one having been published in 1994 (reviewed in *J.Gemm.* 1996, 25(3), 241), edited by King and the now sadly late Eugene E Foord. This is described in the present book as a greatly expanded species-localities checklist. The Maine Department of Conservation deserves the warmest thanks of all connected with the minerals and gemstones of the State for persisting with this publication, whose richness mirrors that of the minerals described. This should be the ideal for all area surveys.

In the words of the editor, this book attempts to give a wider picture of Maine's minerals. In succeeding in this aim, several authors have been called into service and tables of other contributors show how great has been the interest in one of the most important mineralized areas of the United States. The book starts with geological history, describes the five recorded meteorites and then begins on the select history of Maine mining and minerals which begins in the 17th century and continues to the present day. In the course of the account, which extends over approximately 240 pages there are many references both to geologists and others prominent within the state and to workers of world stature. In this way the reader can learn a great deal of general mineralogical history as well as the more local events and occurrences. During this section details of many important publications are also given.

The Maine Geological Survey and its work are described next, by the present State Geologist and this section is followed by an account of the gem-cutting machine devised by Loren B. Merrill and then by three sections, each with very great gem importance, describing Mount Mica in 1964 and 1965, the Newry tourmaline discovery of 1972 and extracts from a diary kept by a miner at the Dunton mine. For the reader's information, all three locations are celebrated for their tourmaline, though the state also produces fine garnet, purple apatite, morganite and beryl.

A chapter by John Marshall deals with the gemstones of Maine, photographs of which appear in the colour section immediately following. Later chapters include Maine literature for the collector, a Maine mineral locality list and Addenda to the mineralogy described in the first volume of 1994. A section of black-and-white photographs and an index complete the book.

I cannot imagine this work being equalled let alone surpassed by work in any other of the world's great mineral locations. To possess such a survey for a major gem-producing area is a bonus and the book can be picked up and consulted at any time for general reading while containing everything needed for strict scientific evaluation of the minerals encountered. The price is amazingly reasonable and the standard of the production high without being exotic. The lists of references are a

model of their kind and the photographs show the distinctive colours of Maine tourmaline. The maps in the mineral locality section are easy to read and scattered through the texts are advertisements for machines and other mining equipment from the early days. M.O'D.

Mogök – Valley of rubies and sapphires.

T. THEMELIS. 2000. A & T Publishing, Los Angeles. pp 270, illus. in colour, hardcover. £79.00.

In a profusely-illustrated study the author presents the Mogök area of Burma, beginning with notes on the pre-history and history of the country as a whole and passing on to the gradual establishment of communities and local rulers by the middle of the tenth century. Established fact is mixed with fable and the whole account presented in a readable and lively way. The reigns of the chiefs and sovereigns from 1044-1287 and the establishment of British rule in Burma began to coincide with the development of ruby mining by the nineteenth century and a number of authorities are cited: photographs of early mining scenes and of documents are very attractively inserted into the text at the appropriate places and there are also reproductions of relevant maps.

The historical account takes the reader up to 2000 when, the author tells us, up to 1200 ruby mining sites were in operation in Mogök, which town is now introduced on page 83. There is a good deal of physical and commercial geographical and local historical detail here and chapters 3 and 4 introduce us to the people of the region with their ethnic origin, religion, customs and folklore recounted. The fifth chapter discusses the commercial aspect of gemstones and there is a good deal of interesting history of how the stones are traded: as in the previous chapters photographs, newspaper cuttings and text are pleasingly intermingled. The work of the Mogök lapidaries is described in chapter 6 and notable Mogök rubies and sapphires in the following chapter. The specimens are very well illustrated with what appear to be accurate colour rendering: named rubies and some sapphires are listed with their history and present whereabouts where known. Chapter 8 gives details of the Burmese court regalia and the final chapter deals with

jewellery and jewelled artefacts made in the area and set with the local stones.

A selected bibliography includes welcome citations of East India Company documents (now held in the British Library) as well as most other relevant monographs and papers. The two important works by Harbans Lal Chhibber, *The mineral resources of Burma, 1934 (Sinkankas #1280)* and *The geology of Burma (1934)* and one by Bender, *Geology of Burma (1983)* [with a very large and scholarly bibliography] could well be added to any future edition, though the present work is not intended as a scientific study.

It is, however, an admirable introduction to a fascinating area with pleasures on every page. M.O'D.

Colour and the optical properties of materials.

R. TILLEY. 2000. John Wiley & Sons Ltd, Chichester. pp xii, 335, illus. in colour, softcover. ISBN 0 471 85198 1. £24.95.

A useful and well-produced book which can be read alongside Nassau: *The physics and chemistry of color (1983)*. While gemstones are covered briefly in the text, with plentiful opportunities for complexity and hard thought on the part of the reader, the book is arranged into 13 chapters in which considerations of colour in many wider contexts are provided. The first chapters cover the nature of light and colour, refraction and dispersion, crystals and light, the production of colour by reflection, colour due to scattering and to diffraction, from atoms, ions and molecules and from charge transfer and luminescence. The reader can then proceed to discussion of metals, semiconductors and insulators (this chapter includes band theory), fibre optics and data transmission, displays (cathodoluminescence is here) and finally lasers and holograms.

Chapters include problems and exercises (with answers to the numerical ones at the back) and each chapter has a very short list of references. There are some attractive colour plates and the colour of red wine is introduced in the chapter dealing with colour from molecules. The print is very easy to read and the price reasonable for a stimulating work. M.O'D.

BOOK SHELF – NEW TITLES

Mogök – Valley of rubies and sapphires by T.Themelis £79.00
Diamond Grading Manual. The Gemmological Association £17.50

(Prices exclude postage and packing)

Gem-A Instruments
27 Greville Street,
London EC1N 8TN.
Tel: 020-7404 3334
Fax: 020-7404 8843
website: www.gagtl.ac.uk

Proceedings of the Gemmological Association and Gem Testing Laboratory of Great Britain and Notices

AWARD

At the Inter/Micro-2001 Conference and SMSI Awards Banquet held at the Knickerbocker Hotel, Chicago, on 27 June 2001, Dr **Jamie Nelson** (GA Research Diploma) received the August Köehler Medal Award of the State Microscopical Society of Illinois for 'Outstanding contributions to microscopy'. On the following day Dr Nelson presented a lecture to the conference entitled 'A Raman spectra database and its application to gemmological science' and a talk on 'The microscopy of gemstones'.

GEM-A OPEN DAYS

On 15 August at the Gem Tutorial Centre, 27 Greville Street, London EC1N 8TN, an Open Day was held which included displays and hands-on gem sessions. A report was published in the September issue of *Gem & Jewellery News*. A Gem-A open day was also held in Birmingham on 22 August.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Gem-A was held on Monday 25 June 2001 at 27 Greville Street, London EC1N 8TN. Jeffrey Monnickendam chaired the meeting and welcomed those present. The Annual Report and Accounts were approved.

Terry Davidson, Michael O'Donoghue and Ian Thomson were re-elected and Jean-Paul van Doren elected to the Council of Management. Dr Tony Allnutt, Sally Everitt, Brian Jackson and Peter Wates were re-elected and Sheila Burgoyne elected to the Members' Council. Amanda Good

did not seek re-election. After lengthy discussion regarding the remit of the Members' Council and a possible conflict of interests, the nomination of Laurent Kellerson for election to the Members' Council was not approved. However, the establishment of a group to consider members' and educational matters was discussed. Hazlems Fenton were re-appointed auditors.

Following the Annual General Meeting, a Reunion of Members and Bring and Buy Sale were held, at which winners of the 2001 Photographic competition were announced. During the evening Gem-A, the new image for the GAGTL, was launched.

GEM DIAMOND EXAMINATION

In the Gem Diamond Examination held in June 2001, 97 candidates sat of whom 65 qualified, including six with Distinction and eight with Merit.

The **Deeks Diamond Prize** for the best candidate of the year in the Gem Diamond Examinations has been awarded to Allyson Thomas of Birmingham, West Midlands.

The Bruton Medal has not been awarded

The names of the successful candidates are listed below:

Diploma

Qualified with Distinction

Dines, Rachel S., North Dulwich, London
Kai Wang, Wuhan. P.R. China

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 26 October **Midlands Branch.** *Beautiful opals, Australia's national gemstone.* JOHN WHEELER
- 4 November **Gem-A CONFERENCE 2001.**
Barbican Conference Centre, London
Keynote speaker: GEORGE BOSSHART, Gübelin Gem Lab, Lucerne
Further details are given on p. 460
- 5 November **London.** *Presentation of Awards and Reunions of Members*
- 20 November **Scottish Branch.** *Jade.* ROSAMOND CLAYTON
- 21 November **London.** *Analysis of precious stones under thick glass by Mobile Raman Microscopy (MRM) and Compositions of jade and garnets by non-destructive Raman Microscopy.* PROFESSOR DAVID SMITH
- 21 November **North West Branch.** *AGM and social evening*
- 25 November **South West Branch.** *Everything included.* DOUG GARROD
Pearls of Wisdom. MARCUS MCCALLUM
- 30 November **Midlands Branch.** *Wonderful emeralds.* ALAN HODGKINSON
- 6 December **London.** *The literature of gemstones.* MICHAEL O'DONOGHUE
- 8 December **Midlands Branch.** *Annual Dinner, 49th year*
- 9 January **London.** *An orgy of organic gem materials.* E. ALAN JOBBINS
- 25 January **Midlands Branch.** *Gemmology quiz and Bring & Buy*
- 22 February **Midlands Branch.** *An orgy of organics.* E. ALAN JOBBINS

Midlands Branch

A day in celebration of fifty years of gemmology

A one-day conference, including celebration lunch, to be held on
Sunday 24 February at Barnt Green near Birmingham

Speakers will include:

PROFESSOR DR HENRY HÄNNI

E. ALAN JOBBINS

IAN MERCER

For further information contact Gwyn Green (details below)

Contact details

(when using e-mail, please give Gem-A as the subject):

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- Scottish Branch: Catriona McInnes on 0131 667 2199 e-mail: cm@scotgem.demon.co.uk
- South West Branch: Bronwen Harman on 01225 482188 e-mail: bharman@harmanb.freesevice.co.uk

Gem-A WEB SITE

For up-to-the-minute informatin on Gem-A events visit our web site on www.gagtl.ac.uk

GIFTS TO THE ASSOCIATION

The Association is most grateful to the following for their gifts for research and teaching purposes:

Argos Ltd, Milton Keynes, for nine CZ-set rings.

Paul R. Cassarino, Rochester, NY, U.S.A., for a set of original GA course notes from the 1950s for the Association's archives.

Jane Kalischer, Finchley, London, for a marble carving and collection of gem-set jewellery.

Kyaw Khaing Win, Myanmar, for an aquamarine crystal from Thitseintkone mine, Myanmar.

Dian Packer, London, for three pieces of nephrite and a piece of margarite.

Preseli Bluestone Ltd, Pembrokeshire, Wales, for cabochons and rings of Preseli bluestone.

Christopher Tarratt, of George Tarratt, Stoneycote, Leicestershire, for a Tully refractometer in its original box also containing the instructions.

Thomson Gems, London, for a group of fire opals.

Osbourne-Shaw, Lisa M., London
Price, Sharron, Halesowen, West Midlands
Ruckel, Daphne, London
Speake, Malcolm, F., Ladywood, Birmingham,
West Midlands

Qualified with Merit

Ankama, Silvester Kwabena, London
Froding, Peter John, West Kirby, Merseyside
Greenfield, Dawn, Eynsford, Kent
Hackett, Helen, Market Harborough,
Leicestershire
Jiahua Tian, Wuhan, P.R. China
Thiel, Miriam, Ealing, London
Yao Wang, Wuhan, P.R. China
Wu Weijuan, Beijing, P.R. China

Qualified

Alderman, Chris, Guildford, Surrey
Amarasinghe, Ashan Sudeera, Colombo,
Sri Lanka
Bakri, Dalilah A., London
Barwuah, Maximus A., Clapham, London
Bordbar, Hossein Jean-Louis, London
Bourke, Mary, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford, Ireland
Browning, Matthew, Brighton, East Sussex
Chu Xiao, Beijing, P.R. China
Daramy, Soulaiman B., London
Darby, Iain, Birmingham, West Midlands
Day, Glen, Redditch, Worcestershire
Dowling, Siobhan L., Canary Wharf, London
Farrer, Alison Mary, Stonehouse, Gloucestershire
Gan, Shaojun, Beijing, P.R. China
Ge Lin, Beijing, P.R. China
Gouros, Artemis, Coulsdon, Surrey
Hellestenius, Gabriella, Fulham, London

Hicks, Suzanne Carole, Yardley, Birmingham,
West Midlands
Holdsworth, Isabel, Surbiton, Surrey
Jia Liu, Wuhan, P.R. China
Ju Ye, Beijing, P.R. China
Junwen Huang, Wuhan, P.R. China
Khurana, Ruma, Kenton, Harrow, Middlesex
Koundouraki, Evagelia, Katerini, Greece
Lawrence, Kerry, London
Li Nan, Beijing, P.R. China
Li Xiaobo, Beijing, P.R. China
Lin Xinhao, Beijing, P.R. China
Lin Yan, Beijing, P.R. China
Loe Su-Mon, Taipei, Taiwan, R.O. China
Morris, Celia J.W., Nuneaton, Warwickshire
Ndemumana, Zarina K.C., London
O'Connor, David William, Birmingham,
West Midlands
Pecku, George Otu, London
Powell, Diane E, Birmingham, West Midlands
Rockman, Gary, Bromley, Kent
Rogers, Emily Irene, London
Rupo Su, Wuhan, P.R. China
Shen, Tingting, Beijing, P.R. China
Siddiqui, Farah, Golders Green, London
Sidiropoulou, Maria-Theresa, Thessaloniki,
Greece
Sinnamon, Sonya, Co. Wicklow, Ireland
Smith, Alan J., Bethnal Green, London
Smith, Eloise, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire
Teramae, Ikumi, Greenford, Middlesex
Wang Xu, Beijing, P.R. China
Wen Lin, Wuhan, P.R. China
Xiaojie Zhu, Wuhan, P.R. China
Xuemei Du, Wuhan, P.R. China
Yun Jing Wen, London
Zhou Fan, Beijing, P.R. China

EXAMINATIONS IN GEMMOLOGY

In the Examination in Gemmology held worldwide in June 2001, 195 candidates sat the Diploma Examination of whom 82 qualified, including two with Distinction and nine with Merit. In the Preliminary Examination, 168 candidates sat of whom 126 qualified.

The **Anderson Bank Prize** for the best non-trade candidate of the year in the Diploma Examination has been awarded to Dong Lan, Wuhan, Hubei, P.R. China.

The **Christie's Prize for Gemmology** for the best candidate of the year in the Diploma Examination who derives his/her main income from activities essentially connected with the jewellery trade has been awarded to Ian Sipsen, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

The **Anderson Medal** for the best candidate of the year in the Preliminary Examination has been awarded to Patricia Wong Bick San, Hong Kong.

The **Preliminary Trade Prize** for the best candidate of the year who derives his/her main income from activities essentially connected with the jewellery trade has been awarded to Karen McKinley, Abington, Northampton.

The Tully Medal has not been awarded.

The names of the successful candidates are listed below:

Diploma

Qualified with Distinction

Bangert, Julie C., West Kensington, London
Sipsen, Ian, Trowbridge, Wiltshire

Qualified with Merit

Bi Yu Liang, Guilin, P.R. China
Cao Yuan, Guilin, P.R. China
Huang Zhan, Guilin, P.R. China
Jung Hee An, Jeollanam-Do, Korea
Moltke, Nicholas D., Klampenborg, Denmark
Ning Liu, Wuhan, P.R. China
Warner, Rachel Fleur, Reading, Berkshire
Woo Ha Na, Jeollanam-Do, Korea
Ying Zhou, Wuhan, P.R. China

Qualified

Abu-Nassr, Mohammed-Maher, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Al-Turki, Nohad, London
Amliwala, Panna, Solihull, West Midlands
Barber, Emily Anne, London
Biokzadeh, Hossein, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Bolter, Rachel Louise, Swindon, Wiltshire
Borruso, Alessandro, Harrow, Middlesex
Chater, Melanie Dawn, Northampton
Chen Mei Ling, Guilin, P.R. China
Chen Yu-Ting, London
Cruse, Toby, Eastbourne, East Sussex
Dimmick, Helen Margaret, London
Downes, Lisa, Birmingham, West Midlands
Eensaar, Karin, Tallinn, Estonia
Elder, Maureen, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Epa, W. S. Damayanthi, Colombo, Sri Lanka
Goyal, Neha, Coimbatore, India
Gregory, Kerry Honor, Newport, Wales
Greig, Davina R., London
Ha Na Ho, Jeollanam-Do, Korea
Hassan, Fatima Chamade, London
Honda, Hiroya, Tokyo, Japan
Hoshino, Takako, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Howard, Avrom Eric, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Htun Ngwe Lin, Yangon, Myanmar
Jang, Shinkuk, London
Jogia, Sushila Das, Vancouver, B.C., Canada
Kakehashi, Kotaro, Nagoya, Japan
Ke Zhou, Shanghai, P.R. China
Kobayahi, Hiromi, London
Kumagai, Hiromi, Sendai City, Miyagi Pref. Japan
Kumagai, Jiro, Tokyo, Japan
Li Sang, Wuhan, P.R. China
Liao Wei-Ching, Ping Tong, Taiwan, R.O. China
Llinares, Luis, Geneva, Switzerland
Manaka, Yuji, Kashiwa Cty, Chiba pref., Japan
Mariani, Geoffry, M., Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Miyazaki, Tomohiko, Takarazuka City, Hyogo Pref., Japan
Mo Bina, Shanghai, P.R. China
Morrish, Rachel, Birmingham, West Midlands
Nakagawa, Eriko, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan
Ngo Minh-Si, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Ning Haibo, Guilin, P.R. China
Ok Min Suk, Jeollanam-Do, Korea
Orimo Taeko, Maebashi City, Gunma Pref., Japan
Pace, Howard Michael, Eccleshall, Stafford
Pala, Sunil, Coventry, West Midlands
Ren Qin, Shanghai, P.R. China
Renming, Shen, Wuhan, P.R. China
Salukvadze, Iamze, Dubai, U.A.E.
Sasaki Takako, Hirakata City, Osaka, Japan
Smith, Dana, Port Perry, Ontario, Canada
Song Ping, Guilin, P.R. China
Sutton, Collette Stefania, Solihull, West Midlands
Takayama, Rie, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo, Japan
Thouvenot-Villie, Fabienne, London
Tomimaga, Masami, London
Trudel-DeCelles, Maureen, Hudson, Quebec, Canada
Wong Vina, Hong Kong

Woodring, Sharrie R., New Jersey, U.S.A.
Xianlong Sun, Wuhan, P.R. China
Xie Kefei, Shanghai, P.R. China
Xuhua Gu, Wuhan, P.R. China
Yang Na, Guilin, P.R. China
Ying Liu, Wuhan, P.R. China
Yorke, Anabel, London
Yoshida, Sachio, Osaka City, Osaka, Japan
Zhong Lin, Guilin, P.R. China
Zhou Songsong, Shanghai, P.R. China
Zhu Haijing, Shanghai, P.R. China
Zuo Xin Mo, Guilin, P.R. China

Preliminary

Qualified

Ahde, Petra, Lahti, Finland
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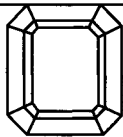


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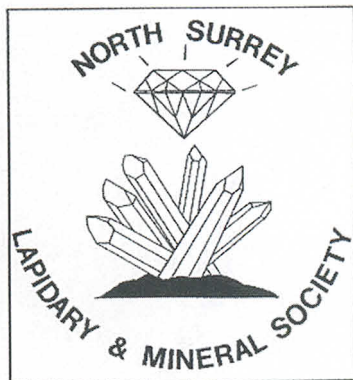
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The Journal of Gemmology

Volume 27 No. 8

October 2001



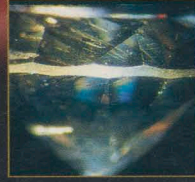
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Compiled by Robin W. Sanderson

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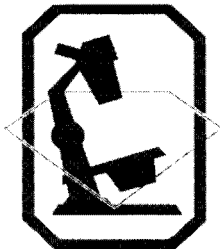
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The Gemmological Association and Gem Testing Laboratory of Great Britain
Registered Office: Palladium House, 1-4 Argyll Street, London W1V 2LD

ISSN: 1355-4565

Produced and printed by Stephen Austin & Sons Ltd, Hertford, England