

1 **GSA DATA REPOSITORY 2017291**
2 **Supplementary Information for “Composition of Asian dust from**
3 *cathodoluminescence spectral analysis of single quartz grains” by Kana Nagashima,*
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8 **Measurement of cathodoluminescence spectra of single quartz grains**

9 The quartz grains were embedded in a small dimple (ϕ 2 mm) on a brass disk with
10 non-luminescent epoxy resin, and were polished and mirror-finished using 1 μm
11 diamond powder. The prepared samples were coated with ~2 nm carbon film to prevent
12 charge build-up on the surface during electron irradiation.

13 A scanning electron microscopy-cathodoluminescence (SEM-CL) analysis was
14 conducted using a SEM (JEOL: JSM-5410) combined with a grating monochromator
15 (Oxford: Mono CL2) at the Okayama University of Science to measure CL spectra
16 ranging from 300 to 800 nm in 1 nm steps. It takes eight minutes for each measurement.

17 The CL spectra were excited using a continuous electron beam at normal incidence,
18 with accelerating voltage of 15 keV, slit size of 4 mm square, probe current of 2.0 nA,
19 and irradiated area of 2.5 μm^2 with room temperature, and collected using a retractable

20 diamond machined paraboloidal mirror collector. The CL was dispersed by a grating
21 monochromator, which has 1200 grooves/mm, a focal length of 0.3 m, F of 4.2, a limit
22 of 0.5 nm resolution, and a slit width of 4 nm at the inlet and outlet. The dispersed CL
23 was recorded by a photon-counting method using a photomultiplier tube (Hamamatsu:
24 R2228) and converted to digital data.

25 All CL spectra were corrected for total instrumental response, which was determined
26 using a calibrated standard lamp (Eppley Laboratory: Quartz Halogen Lamp, Kayama et
27 al., 2010). This correlation prevents errors in the peak position of emission bands and
28 allows a quantitative evaluation of CL intensity (Kayama et al., 2010). All results were
29 presented in energy unit (eV) to identify the type and intensity of emission components
30 shown as Gaussian curve in energy unit (e.g., Stevens-Kalceff, 2009). The total
31 measurement procedure is easy and inexpensive.

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33 **CL-spectral change during grain-refining process**

34 We investigated the change in CL spectral patterns of the quartz grains during the grain
35 refining process to examine whether the CL of fine quartz grains preserves information
36 on the host rock types. For this purpose, we selected the samples of quartz grains
37 collected from Suna River in Okayama Prefecture, southwestern Japan, where the

38 drainage area is distributed throughout a region of homogeneous granitic rocks of
39 Mesozoic age (Fig. DR1, Geological Survey of Japan-AIST, 2015). As the quartz grains
40 along the river originated from the same type of host rocks (granite), we could isolate
41 the effects of the grain refining process by comparing the CL features of quartz grains
42 with different sizes. The quartz grains were separated into six fractions; < 5, 5–10,
43 10–16, 16–75, 75–100, and 100–250 μm by sieving and pipetting. CL analysis was
44 conducted for the quartz grains of the six fractions at the Okayama University of
45 Science in the same way as employed for the samples from Taklimakan and Gobi
46 deserts. The spectral deconvolution of measured CL discriminates five emission
47 components corresponding to those shown in Table 1, and gives a relative abundance
48 (fractional area) of each component.

49 Quartz grains in each size fraction of 5–10, 10–16, 16–75, 75–100, and 100–250 μm
50 showed similar averages of the abundances of the emission components (Fig. DR2;
51 highest abundance for EC5 following by EC1). However, the finest quartz grains in the
52 <5- μm fraction showed lower contributions of EC5 and EC4 compared to the average
53 values of quartz grains in the other size fractions, resulting in the highest abundance of
54 EC1. This trend could be explained by the heat effect of electron irradiation on the
55 quartz grain during the measurement (eight minutes irradiation), which vary the

56 emission efficiencies among the components, especially pronounced in the grains with a
57 smaller fraction size ($< 5 \mu\text{m}$) due to smaller heat capacity. Otherwise, it suggest that the
58 numbers of some specific impurities or imperfections change when the grains reduces to
59 a size smaller than $5 \mu\text{m}$. In other words, quartz grains larger than $5 \mu\text{m}$ preserve the CL
60 features of the host rocks, although the variations in the abundances of the five emission
61 components increase with decreasing quartz grain sizes.

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63 **CL-spectral change due to the irradiation exposure during the measurement**

64 We examined the changes in CL spectral of the quartz grains (5–16 μm) from the
65 Taklimakan and the Gobi deserts in response to the irradiation exposure during the
66 measurement (total 480 seconds). As is shown in Fig. DR3, CL intensities in red region
67 (630 nm, 1.97 eV) show decreasing trend (6–8% decrease per 100 seconds) during the
68 continuous irradiation of 480 seconds, except for the first 100 seconds of a quartz grain
69 from the Taklimakan desert (#002) probably representing the relatively higher
70 contribution of emission component 2 (energy center of 1.9 eV; decreases in response to
71 the electron irradiation is “not” observed in contrast to emission component 3
72 (Stevens-Kalceff, 2009)). The CL intensities in purple-blue region (380 nm, 3.3 eV)
73 also show a decreasing trend (approximately 22% decrease per 100 seconds) for a

74 quartz grain from the Gobi desert, while the quartz grains from the Taklimakan desert
75 show background values. Although the decreasing rate in purple-blue region is high,
76 total effect of irradiation exposure on CL intensity in purple-blue regions (~16%) is
77 similar or smaller compared to that in red region (< 26%) because of the shorter
78 irradiation exposure time in blue region (80–190 seconds) compared to that in red
79 region (300–430 seconds). Consequently, the effects of irradiation exposure on CL
80 intensities not significantly change the CL-color, and the effect of electron irradiation
81 was not concerned here.

82

83 **References**

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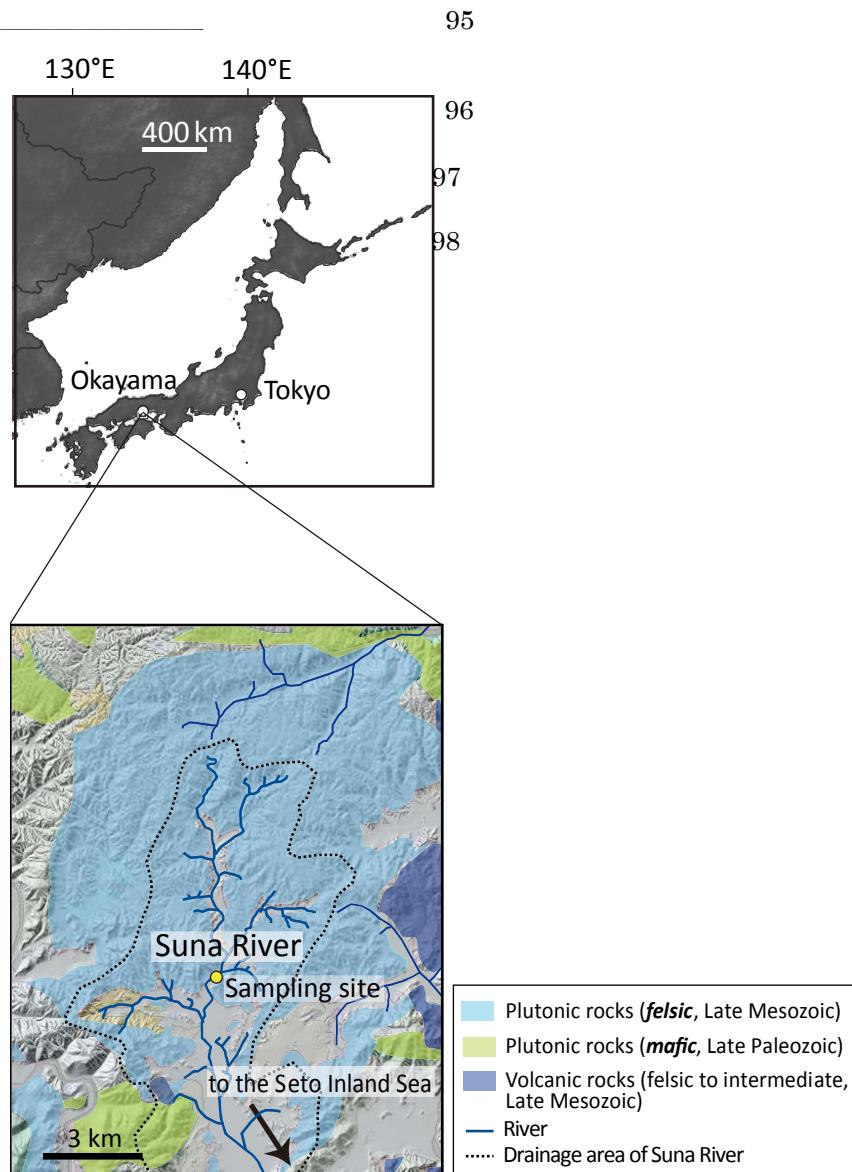


Figure DR1. Location of the sampling site and geological map surrounding the site. (modified after Geological Survey of Japan-AIST, 2015)

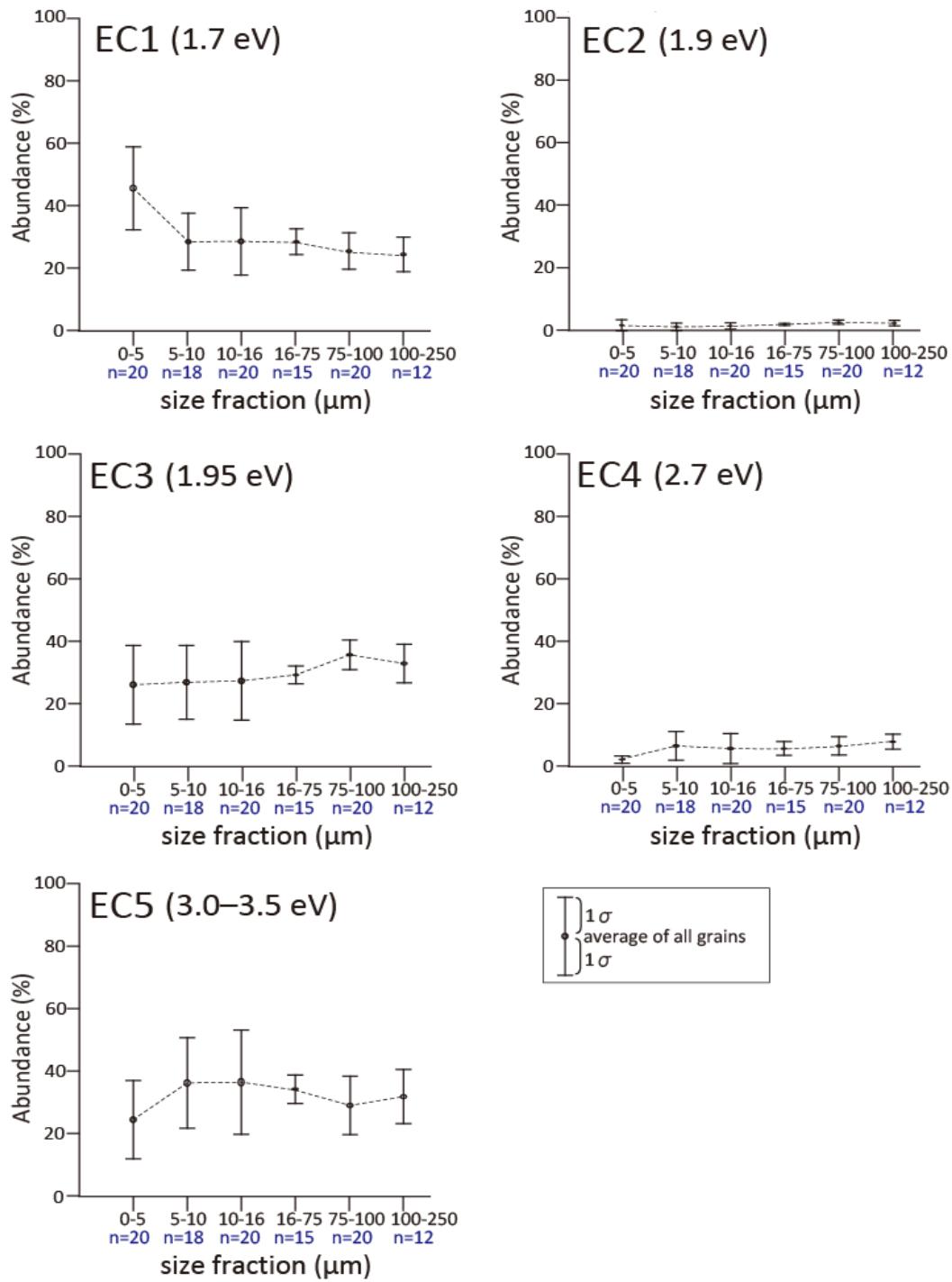
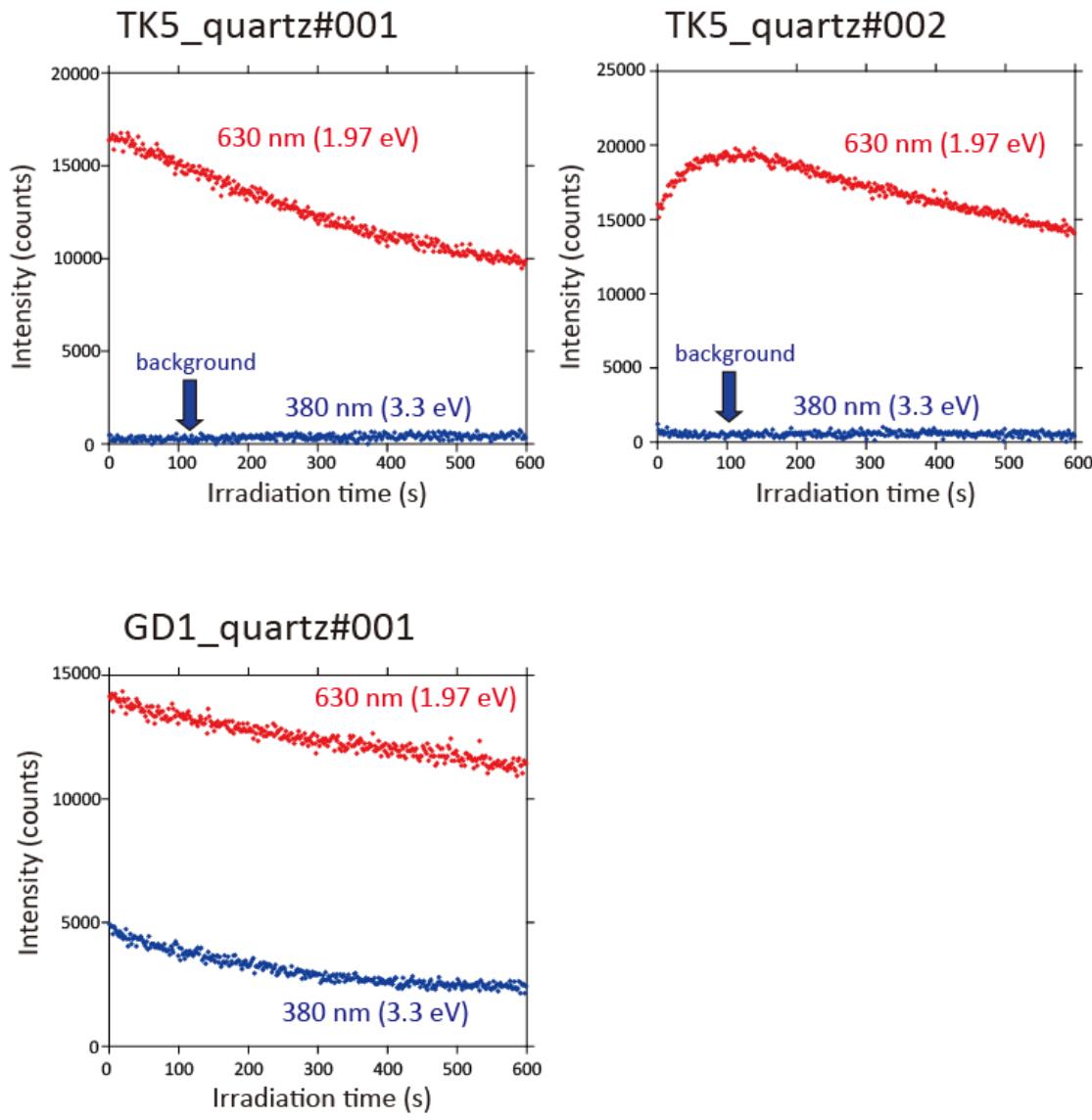
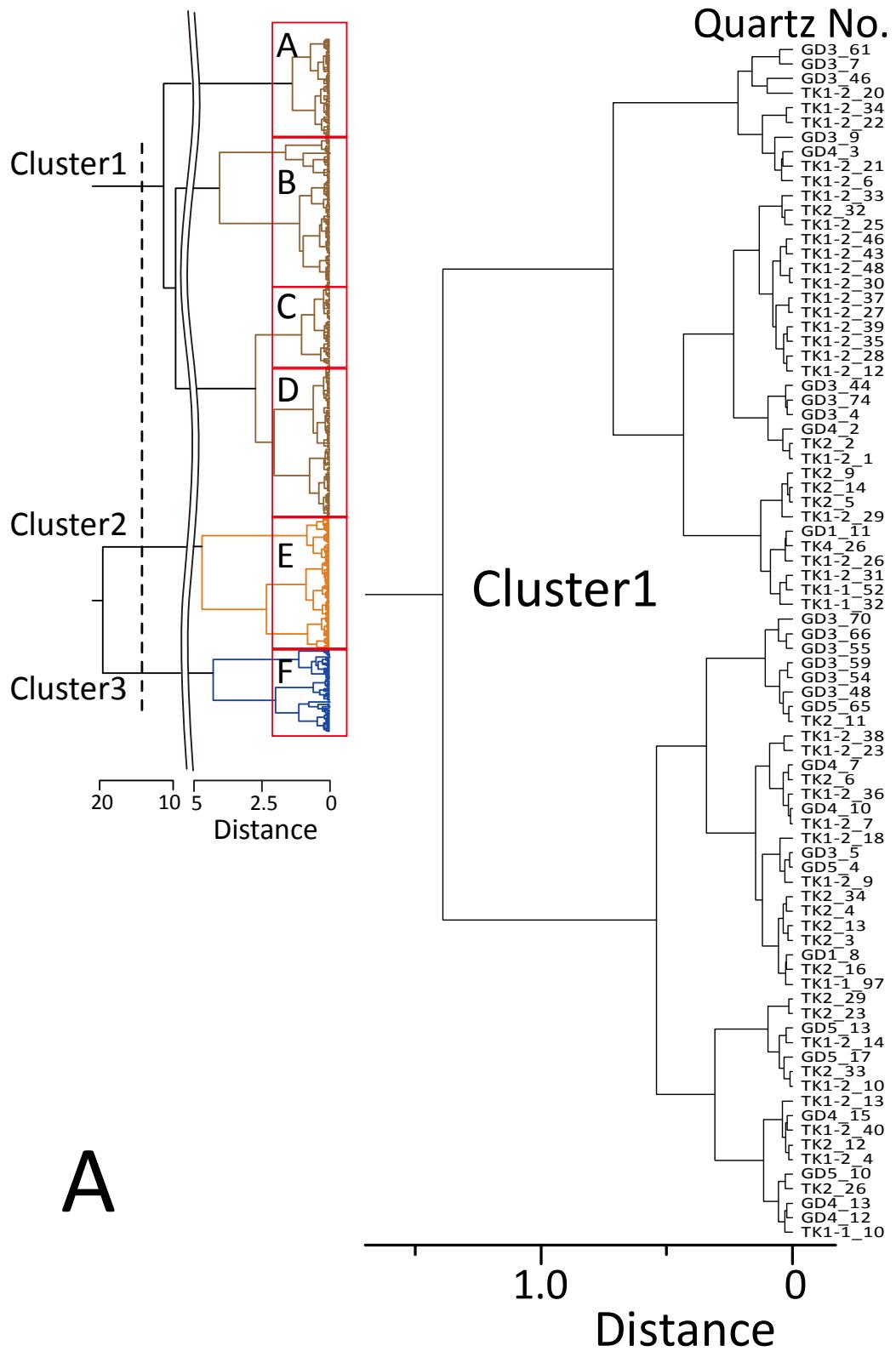


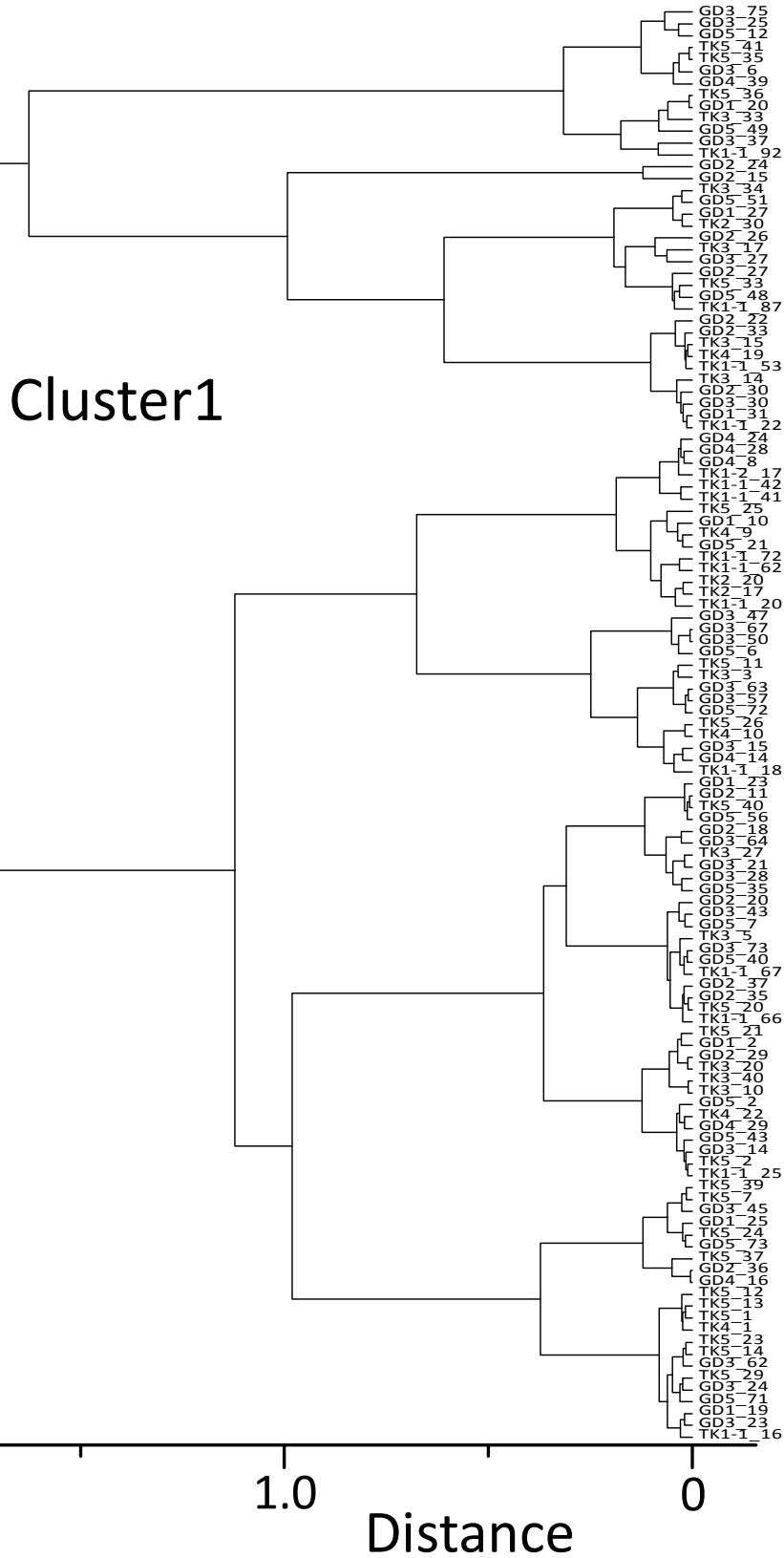
Figure DR2. Abundances of five emission components (EC) for quartz grains in various size fractions.

The bar represents average value and standard deviation for all quartz grains in each size fraction.



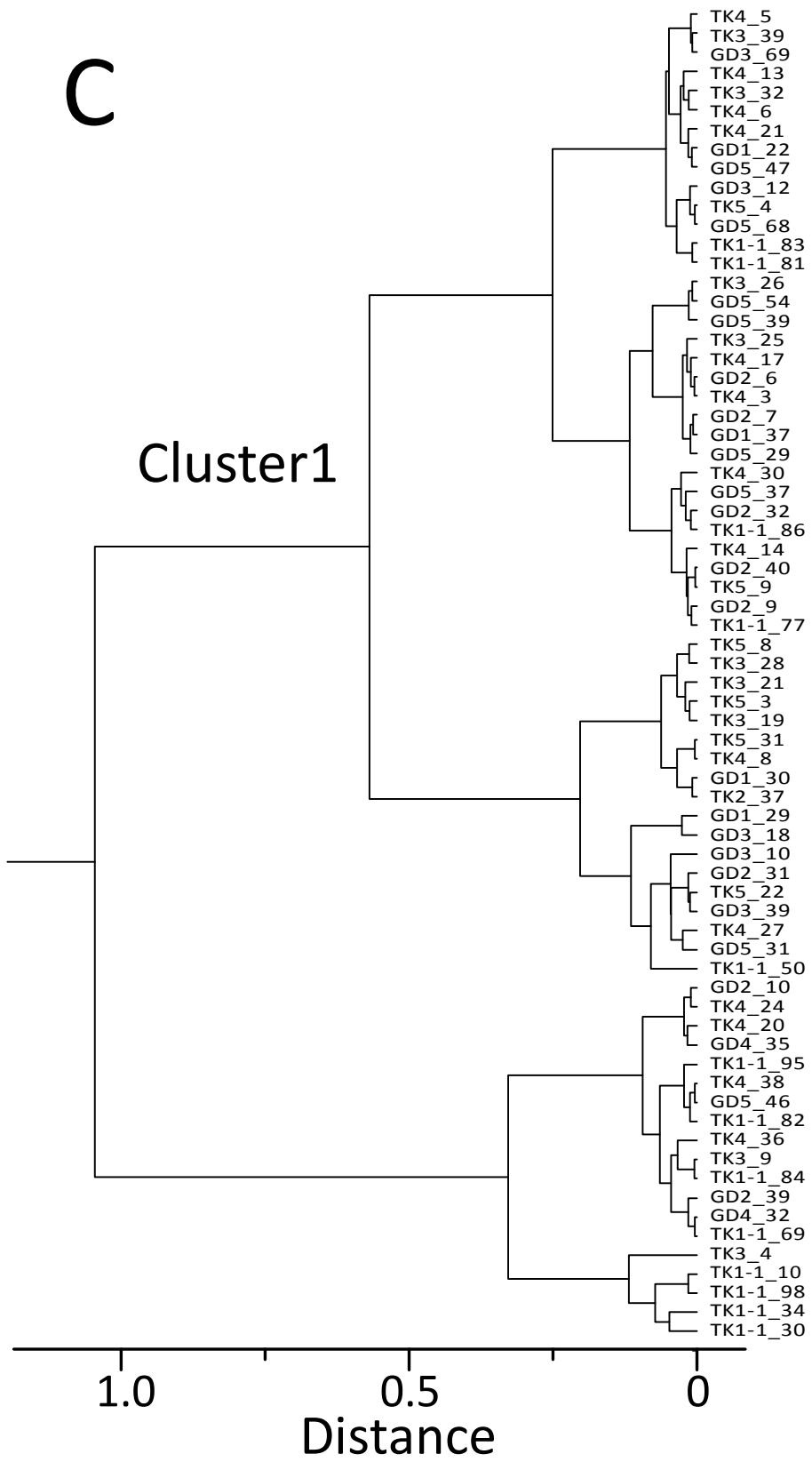
101 Figure DR3. Examples of CL intensity changes in red (630 nm) and blue (380 nm)
 regions for quartz grains from the Taklimakan (TK5) and Gobi (GD1) with the irradiation
 exposure time (15 keV, 2.0 nA, irradiated area = $\sim 2.5 \mu\text{m}^2$).

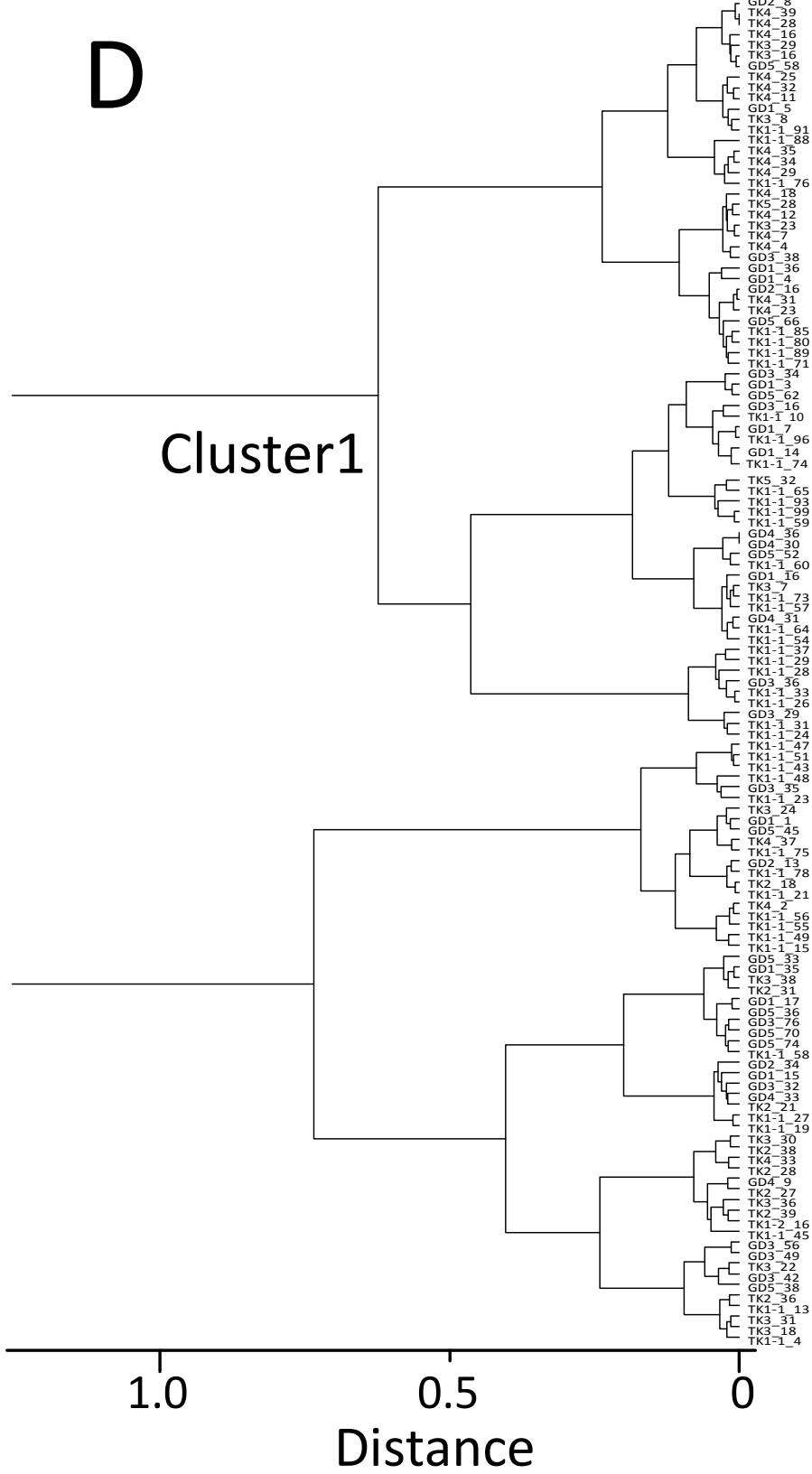


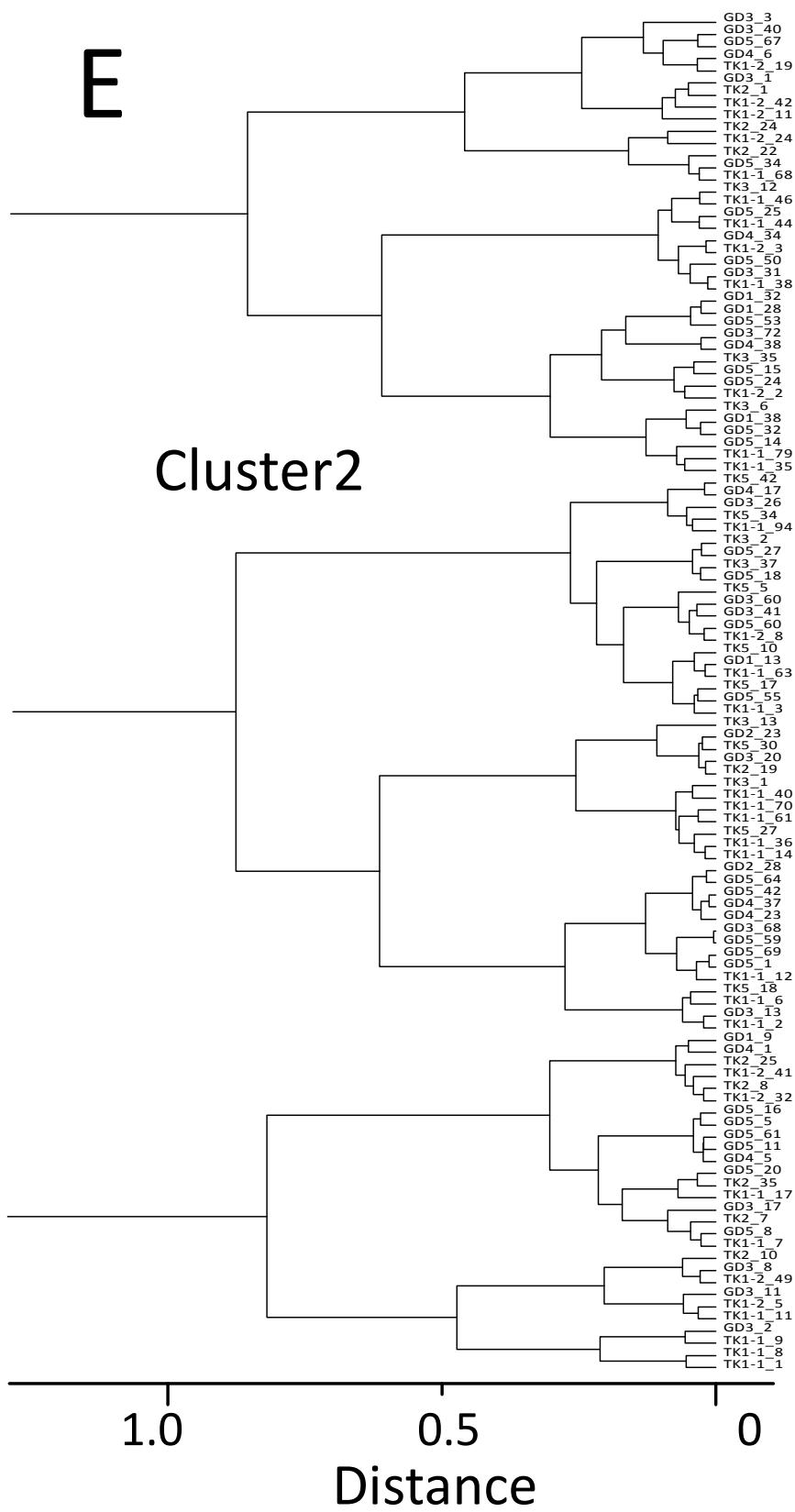
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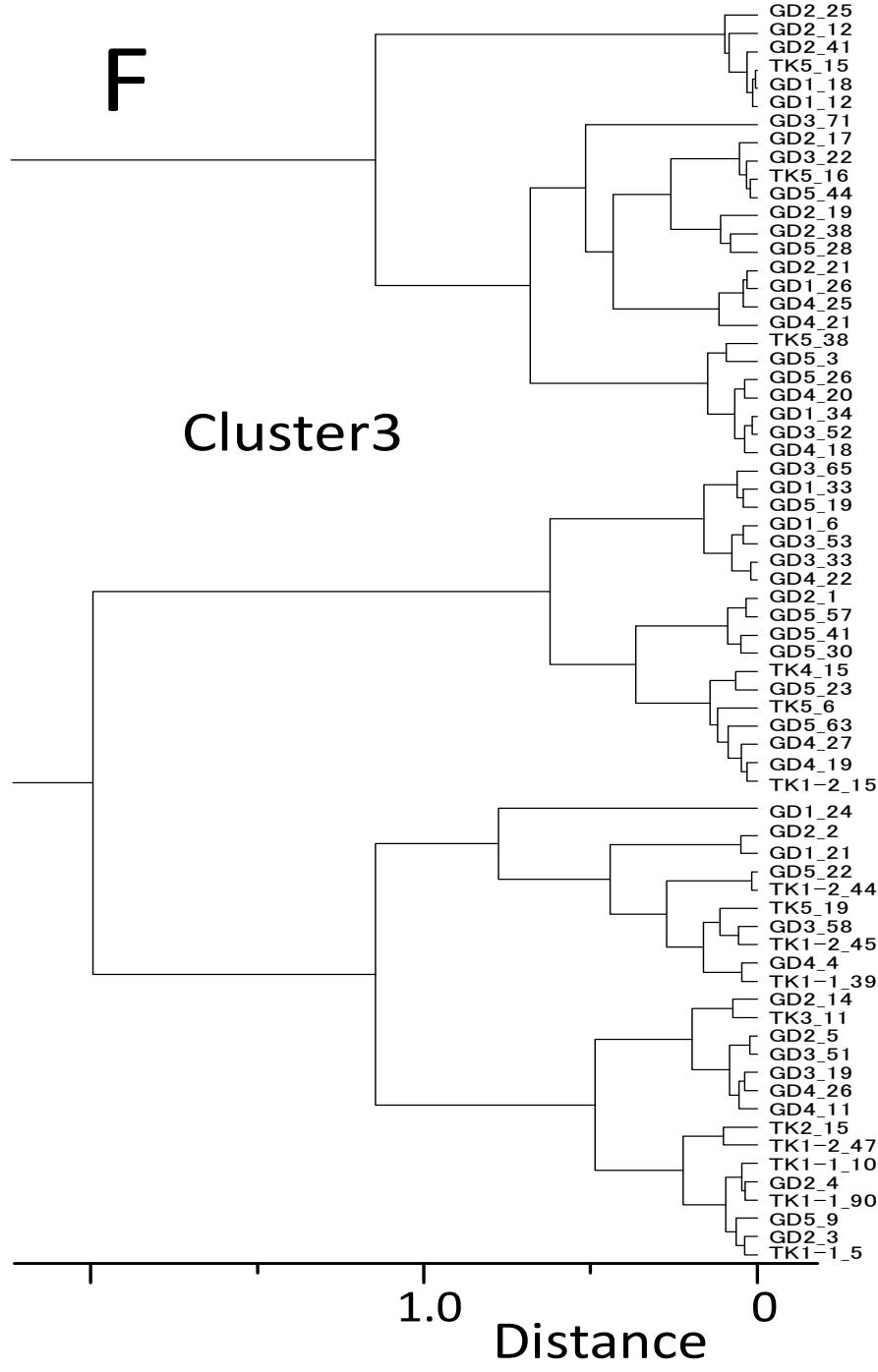
C

Cluster1









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Figure DR4. (A) –(C) Tree diagram of cluster analysis using the fractional areas of five CL emission components (EC1–5) for quartz grains from Kunlun Mountains and the Gobi desert. The numbers of quartz grains are same to Table DR2.

TABLE DR1. LIST OF THE SAMPLING SITES

Sample type	Area	Sample No.	Lat (deg North)	Long (deg East)	Elevation (m)
Taklimakan	Mountain Loess Aqqan (Kunlun Mts.)	TK1-1(from the top) TK1-2 (from 9 m below the top)*	36.422	81.973	2556
	Mountain Loess Near Karakashi River (Kunlun Mts.)	TK2 (from the top)	37.016	79.746	1511
	Riverbed sediment Karakashi River (Kunlun Mts.)	TK3	37.254	79.761	1320
	Riverbed sediment Gez river (Pamir plateau)	TK4	38.991	75.543	1803
	Riverbed sediment Weigan-Kuqa river (Tianshan Mts.)	TK5	41.760	83.115	1098
Gobi	Sand dune Khongoryn Els (Northern slope of Gobi-Altai Mts.)	GD1	43.765	102.254	1352
	Gobi Near Mandalgobi (Northern part of Gobi Basin)	GD2	45.925	106.342	1420
	Gobi Baruun Bayn Ulaan (between Hangayn and Gobi-Altai Mts.)	GD3	45.155	101.523	1235
	Gobi (dry up pool) Tsogt-Ovoo (Central part of Gobi Basin)	GD4	44.346	105.257	1209
	Gobi (dry up pool) Tsogt-Ovoo (Central part of Gobi Basin)	GD5	44.388	105.276	1218

* Based on total thick (45 m) of the loess sediment, bottom age (880 ka B.P) and sedimentation rate changes of the Aqqan loess (Fang et al., 2002), the age is estimated to be ca. 100–200 ka B.P.

TABLE DR2. RELATIVE INTENSITIES OF EACH EMISSION CENTERS AND DETERMINED CLUSTERS FOR QUARTZ GRAINS FROM KUNLUN MOUNTAINS AND THE GOBI DESERT

Sample No.	Quartz No.	Fractional area of each Gaussian curve (%)					Cluster	Fractional area of each Gaussian curve (%)					Cluster		
		EC1 (1.7 eV)	EC2 (1.9 eV)	EC3 (1.95 eV)	EC4 (2.7 eV)	EC5 (3.0-3.5 eV)		EC1 (1.7 eV)	EC2 (1.9 eV)	EC3 (1.95 eV)	EC4 (2.7 eV)	EC5 (3.0-3.5 eV)			
TK1-1	1	18	4	50	0	27	2	TK1-1	39	0	0	1	15	83	3
TK1-1	2	22	3	44	0	30	2	TK1-1	40	29	3	34	7	27	2
TK1-1	3	26	0	37	0	36	2	TK1-1	41	33	3	41	7	16	1
TK1-1	4	32	2	51	2	13	1	TK1-1	42	33	4	40	5	18	1
TK1-1	5	9	2	15	5	69	3	TK1-1	43	34	4	42	6	13	1
TK1-1	6	20	3	42	2	33	2	TK1-1	44	26	4	29	7	36	2
TK1-1	7	20	2	45	7	26	2	TK1-1	45	32	5	46	6	11	1
TK1-1	8	15	4	55	0	26	2	TK1-1	46	22	3	27	10	39	2
TK1-1	9	8	6	47	3	35	2	TK1-1	47	34	4	43	6	13	1
TK1-1	10	24	6	46	8	17	1	TK1-1	48	38	4	41	6	11	1
TK1-1	11	20	4	33	7	35	2	TK1-1	49	35	4	44	4	13	1
TK1-1	12	25	5	41	0	29	2	TK1-1	50	40	3	38	6	14	1
TK1-1	13	31	4	51	2	12	1	TK1-1	51	34	4	42	6	14	1
TK1-1	14	25	4	35	8	28	2	TK1-1	52	32	5	51	5	7	1
TK1-1	15	34	4	44	6	12	1	TK1-1	53	43	3	36	1	18	1
TK1-1	16	33	5	39	0	24	1	TK1-1	54	37	3	49	3	8	1
TK1-1	17	24	5	40	10	22	2	TK1-1	55	34	2	45	5	14	1
TK1-1	18	30	6	44	0	20	1	TK1-1	56	35	3	46	4	13	1
TK1-1	19	35	5	46	5	10	1	TK1-1	57	37	3	49	2	10	1
TK1-1	20	31	6	38	8	18	1	TK1-1	58	37	3	47	1	12	1
TK1-1	21	35	4	42	4	15	1	TK1-1	59	38	3	52	2	6	1
TK1-1	22	44	3	34	0	18	1	TK1-1	60	38	3	49	3	6	1
TK1-1	23	36	5	43	6	10	1	TK1-1	61	26	3	36	4	31	2
TK1-1	24	39	4	45	5	8	1	TK1-1	62	29	2	37	7	24	1
TK1-1	25	35	4	42	1	18	1	TK1-1	63	26	2	35	0	37	2
TK1-1	26	38	5	47	4	7	1	TK1-1	64	38	4	48	2	8	1
TK1-1	27	35	5	46	4	9	1	TK1-1	65	35	4	53	3	6	1
TK1-1	28	38	4	48	4	5	1	TK1-1	66	39	2	43	2	15	1
TK1-1	29	38	5	45	6	6	1	TK1-1	67	39	2	40	1	17	1
TK1-1	30	45	3	41	5	6	1	TK1-1	68	17	2	25	13	42	2
TK1-1	31	40	4	43	5	7	1	TK1-1	69	42	4	44	1	9	1
TK1-1	32	34	5	49	7	5	1	TK1-1	70	26	2	35	7	30	2
TK1-1	33	38	4	46	5	7	1	TK1-1	71	41	4	46	0	10	1
TK1-1	34	47	4	38	3	8	1	TK1-1	72	30	3	39	6	23	1
TK1-1	35	24	2	23	5	46	2	TK1-1	73	38	3	48	2	9	1
TK1-1	36	25	4	35	9	27	2	TK1-1	74	37	3	51	2	8	1
TK1-1	37	37	5	44	6	8	1	TK1-1	75	37	3	44	2	15	1
TK1-1	38	25	3	26	8	38	2	TK1-1	76	42	3	46	2	7	1

TK1-1	77	41	3	43	0	12		1	TK1-2	26	32	4	55	4	6		1
TK1-1	78	36	3	43	3	15		1	TK1-2	27	23	6	54	8	10		1
TK1-1	79	24	4	20	4	48		2	TK1-2	28	24	6	54	8	8		1
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TK1-1	81	39	4	44	1	13		1	TK1-2	30	26	4	56	5	9		1
TK1-1	82	43	3	46	0	8		1	TK1-2	31	30	5	51	6	8		1
TK1-1	83	38	3	44	1	13		1	TK1-2	32	18	5	49	7	20		2
TK1-1	84	44	3	44	0	9		1	TK1-2	33	27	5	57	5	5		1
TK1-1	85	40	3	46	2	9		1	TK1-2	34	19	7	55	8	11		1
TK1-1	86	41	3	42	0	14		1	TK1-2	35	26	5	55	7	8		1
TK1-1	87	43	2	32	0	22		1	TK1-2	36	26	5	51	5	13		1
TK1-1	88	43	4	48	2	4		1	TK1-2	37	23	5	52	8	11		1
TK1-1	89	41	3	45	1	10		1	TK1-2	38	25	5	50	7	12		1
TK1-1	90	11	2	14	2	72		3	TK1-2	39	26	5	54	7	9		1
TK1-1	91	38	4	49	1	8		1	TK1-2	40	22	6	51	7	14		1
TK1-1	92	35	5	19	8	33		1	TK1-2	41	16	6	48	9	20		2
TK1-1	93	38	4	52	1	4		1	TK1-2	42	12	3	30	14	41		2
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TK3	5	38	2	42	0	18		1	TK4	16	40	3	47	1	8		1
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TK3	9	44	3	44	0	9		1	TK4	20	46	3	46	0	6		1
TK3	10	33	3	45	1	19		1	TK4	21	37	3	45	1	14		1
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TK3	14	47	2	33	0	18		1	TK4	25	40	4	49	0	7		1
TK3	15	42	3	37	0	18		1	TK4	26	32	3	53	3	8		1
TK3	16	41	3	48	0	8		1	TK4	27	41	2	40	2	15		1
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TK3	18	33	2	51	2	12		1	TK4	29	40	4	48	2	7		1
TK3	19	44	3	42	0	11		1	TK4	30	39	5	42	1	13		1
TK3	20	35	2	43	2	17		1	TK4	31	39	4	47	1	10		1
TK3	21	44	3	41	0	12		1	TK4	32	40	4	48	0	8		1
TK3	22	32	4	53	0	11		1	TK4	33	32	3	46	3	15		1
TK3	23	39	4	47	0	10		1	TK4	34	42	4	48	0	6		1
TK3	24	34	4	45	2	16		1	TK4	35	41	4	48	1	6		1
TK3	25	40	3	46	0	11		1	TK4	36	46	3	43	0	8		1
TK3	26	42	3	44	0	11		1	TK4	37	36	3	44	3	14		1
TK3	27	38	3	38	2	18		1	TK4	38	43	4	46	0	7		1
TK3	28	43	2	42	0	13		1	TK4	39	40	3	48	0	9		1
TK3	29	42	3	47	0	8		1	TK5	1	33	3	40	0	24		1
TK3	30	34	3	48	3	12		1	TK5	2	36	4	41	1	18		1
TK3	31	34	2	50	2	12		1	TK5	3	44	3	43	0	10		1
TK3	32	39	3	44	0	14		1	TK5	4	39	3	45	0	13		1
TK3	33	38	2	20	0	40		1	TK5	5	30	2	29	5	34		2
TK3	34	38	3	32	0	27		1	TK5	6	14	0	11	10	65		3
TK3	35	19	1	27	9	44		2	TK5	7	36	3	35	0	26		1
TK3	36	31	6	48	2	13		1	TK5	8	44	2	43	0	12		1
TK3	37	30	5	34	0	32		2	TK5	9	41	3	43	0	13		1
TK3	38	35	3	49	1	11		1	TK5	10	24	3	32	3	39		2
TK3	39	38	4	45	0	13		1	TK5	11	32	3	49	0	15		1

TK5	12	33	4	42	0	22		1	GD1	21	8	0	4	0	88		3
TK5	13	32	3	42	0	23		1	GD1	22	37	4	45	0	13		1
TK5	14	35	3	40	0	22		1	GD1	23	38	3	40	0	19		1
TK5	15	29	0	0	0	71		3	GD1	24	7	0	0	32	61		3
TK5	16	36	0	0	0	64		3	GD1	25	36	3	37	1	23		1
TK5	17	27	2	36	1	34		2	GD1	26	42	0	5	0	53		3
TK5	18	24	4	40	0	33		2	GD1	27	40	2	29	1	28		1
TK5	19	9	1	0	8	83		3	GD1	28	26	3	28	1	42		2
TK5	20	39	3	43	0	15		1	GD1	29	44	3	38	0	15		1
TK5	21	35	3	45	0	18		1	GD1	30	44	3	40	0	13		1
TK5	22	41	2	41	0	15		1	GD1	31	45	2	34	0	19		1
TK5	23	35	2	40	0	23		1	GD1	32	25	2	28	3	41		2
TK5	24	37	2	37	0	24		1	GD1	33	11	3	25	6	55		3
TK5	25	35	3	36	4	22		1	GD1	34	31	3	13	0	53		3
TK5	26	30	4	46	3	17		1	GD1	35	35	4	48	1	11		1
TK5	27	26	3	37	7	28		2	GD1	36	40	5	44	0	10		1
TK5	28	38	4	46	1	10		1	GD1	37	40	3	45	0	12		1
TK5	29	35	3	40	1	21		1	GD1	38	20	4	20	6	50		2
TK5	30	32	3	34	6	25		2	GD2	1	19	2	17	2	60		3
TK5	31	43	4	41	0	12		1	GD2	2	9	0	0	0	91		3
TK5	32	37	3	53	1	7		1	GD2	3	8	1	13	6	72		3
TK5	33	46	1	30	0	22		1	GD2	4	8	2	13	3	74		3
TK5	34	34	2	27	0	37		2	GD2	5	18	2	11	0	69		3
TK5	35	36	2	29	0	33		1	GD2	6	40	3	45	0	12		1
TK5	36	37	2	24	0	37		1	GD2	7	40	3	44	0	13		1
TK5	37	34	2	36	0	29		1	GD2	8	40	3	47	0	9		1
TK5	38	27	0	10	0	63		3	GD2	9	41	3	43	0	12		1
TK5	39	38	2	34	0	26		1	GD2	10	45	4	45	0	7		1
TK5	40	37	3	40	0	20		1	GD2	11	37	3	40	0	20		1
TK5	41	36	2	28	0	33		1	GD2	12	24	0	0	0	76		3
TK5	42	30	2	32	0	35		2	GD2	13	36	4	43	4	14		1
GD1	1	35	4	45	2	14		1	GD2	14	17	0	5	0	78		3
GD1	2	34	5	43	1	17		1	GD2	15	68	0	16	0	17		1
GD1	3	34	4	50	3	10		1	GD2	16	40	3	47	1	10		1
GD1	4	41	6	46	0	8		1	GD2	17	40	0	0	0	60		3
GD1	5	39	3	49	1	8		1	GD2	18	40	2	38	0	20		1
GD1	6	14	3	27	0	56		3	GD2	19	30	3	3	8	56		3
GD1	7	38	4	51	0	8		1	GD2	20	40	1	44	0	15		1
GD1	8	27	5	53	4	12		1	GD2	21	41	1	3	2	53		3
GD1	9	16	6	47	6	25		2	GD2	22	42	5	34	0	19		1
GD1	10	31	5	39	3	23		1	GD2	23	32	2	34	4	27		2
GD1	11	30	5	54	4	8		1	GD2	24	75	0	18	0	7		1
GD1	12	28	0	0	0	72		3	GD2	25	32	0	0	0	68		3
GD1	13	25	3	34	1	38		2	GD2	26	48	6	21	0	25		1
GD1	14	36	4	51	1	7		1	GD2	27	44	4	28	2	21		1
GD1	15	35	6	47	2	10		1	GD2	28	26	3	39	4	28		2
GD1	16	37	4	49	1	9		1	GD2	29	34	3	43	2	17		1
GD1	17	34	4	48	1	14		1	GD2	30	44	4	35	0	17		1
GD1	18	28	0	0	0	72		3	GD2	31	42	3	41	0	14		1
GD1	19	35	4	38	0	24		1	GD2	32	41	4	41	0	14		1
GD1	20	37	1	24	0	38		1	GD2	33	43	3	36	0	19		1

GD2	34	37	4	45	3	11		1	GD3	44	26	3	57	2	11		1
GD2	35	39	4	43	0	15		1	GD3	45	39	2	35	0	25		1
GD2	36	36	4	33	0	28		1	GD3	46	20	5	66	0	9		1
GD2	37	38	2	43	0	16		1	GD3	47	28	2	46	1	22		1
GD2	38	32	5	4	0	59		3	GD3	48	24	4	56	0	16		1
GD2	39	43	4	45	0	9		1	GD3	49	30	2	53	1	14		1
GD2	40	41	3	43	0	13		1	GD3	50	31	3	44	0	23		1
GD2	41	27	0	0	0	73		3	GD3	51	20	1	10	0	69		3
GD3	1	13	2	32	9	43		2	GD3	52	30	3	14	0	54		3
GD3	2	12	3	46	3	36		2	GD3	53	16	3	29	0	52		3
GD3	3	7	3	40	3	48		2	GD3	54	27	3	54	0	16		1
GD3	4	26	4	58	0	11		1	GD3	55	23	4	54	1	20		1
GD3	5	27	4	51	2	17		1	GD3	56	30	4	53	1	13		1
GD3	6	38	1	29	0	32		1	GD3	57	30	4	50	0	17		1
GD3	7	20	4	58	0	18		1	GD3	58	5	1	5	10	80		3
GD3	8	15	4	40	8	32		2	GD3	59	27	4	53	0	16		1
GD3	9	19	4	54	4	19		1	GD3	60	27	2	32	3	36		2
GD3	10	41	6	39	0	14		1	GD3	61	17	6	61	0	15		1
GD3	11	18	2	32	10	37		2	GD3	62	35	1	41	0	22		1
GD3	12	40	3	44	0	13		1	GD3	63	29	4	50	0	17		1
GD3	13	21	4	43	1	30		2	GD3	64	40	3	36	0	22		1
GD3	14	35	5	42	0	17		1	GD3	65	10	2	26	10	53		3
GD3	15	30	7	46	0	17		1	GD3	66	23	4	52	2	19		1
GD3	16	35	4	51	0	9		1	GD3	67	31	2	44	0	23		1
GD3	17	23	3	48	0	26		2	GD3	68	29	3	41	0	27		2
GD3	18	46	3	36	1	13		1	GD3	69	38	3	46	0	12		1
GD3	19	15	4	10	0	70		3	GD3	70	25	4	49	0	22		1
GD3	20	32	3	33	5	27		2	GD3	71	38	0	0	26	36		3
GD3	21	37	4	37	2	19		1	GD3	72	20	2	29	0	49		2
GD3	22	35	2	0	0	63		3	GD3	73	39	3	42	0	16		1
GD3	23	35	5	38	0	22		1	GD3	74	27	5	58	1	10		1
GD3	24	34	4	39	1	21		1	GD3	75	43	1	23	0	34		1
GD3	25	39	3	25	0	32		1	GD3	76	37	3	48	0	13		1
GD3	26	29	4	28	1	38		2	GD4	1	15	3	49	9	24		2
GD3	27	44	4	25	0	27		1	GD4	2	22	4	58	3	13		1
GD3	28	39	5	38	0	18		1	GD4	3	18	4	58	6	14		1
GD3	29	41	5	43	3	8		1	GD4	4	0	1	3	17	80		3
GD3	30	44	3	33	1	19		1	GD4	5	22	4	49	4	21		2
GD3	31	26	3	25	9	38		2	GD4	6	14	5	34	4	43		2
GD3	32	34	4	46	4	11		1	GD4	7	27	4	51	5	14		1
GD3	33	14	3	24	2	57		3	GD4	8	31	4	43	4	19		1
GD3	34	35	4	49	4	8		1	GD4	9	30	5	49	5	11		1
GD3	35	35	6	42	5	12		1	GD4	10	26	4	51	5	14		1
GD3	36	36	5	46	6	7		1	GD4	11	16	1	9	2	73		3
GD3	37	34	0	18	7	40		1	GD4	12	22	7	48	7	16		1
GD3	38	38	3	48	0	11		1	GD4	13	23	7	47	8	15		1
GD3	39	41	3	40	0	15		1	GD4	14	31	5	46	0	17		1
GD3	40	15	2	33	2	48		2	GD4	15	23	6	51	6	14		1
GD3	41	25	3	33	4	35		2	GD4	16	36	4	33	0	27		1
GD3	42	33	3	52	0	12		1	GD4	17	30	4	32	0	34		2
GD3	43	40	1	42	0	17		1	GD4	18	31	0	14	0	55		3

TABLE DR3. RELATIVE INTENSITY OF EMISSION CENTERS FOR THREE CLUSTERS

Cluster No.	Fractional area of each Gaussian curve (%)				
	EC1 (1.7 eV)	EC2 (1.9 eV)	EC3 (1.95 eV)	EC4 (2.7 eV)	EC5 (3.0–3.5 eV)
Cluster 1	35 ± 7	4 ± 1	45 ± 8	2 ± 2	14 ± 6
Cluster 2	23 ± 6	3 ± 1	35 ± 8	5 ± 4	34 ± 8
Cluster 3	19 ± 12	2 ± 2	10 ± 8	4 ± 7	65 ± 10

TABLE DR4. CLUSTER COMPOSITIONS OF DESERTS' SAMPLES

	Sample No.	Measured grain number (n)	Cluster 1 (%)	Cluster 2 (%)	Cluster 3 (%)	Average Cluster 1 (%)	Average Cluster 2 (%)	Average Cluster 3 (%)
Taklimakan	TK1-1	102	74 (64–81)*	22 (15–31)	4 (1–9)			
	TK1-2	49	69 (55–80)	23 (13–35)	8 (3–19)	72 [65–78] [†]	23 [17–30]	5 [3–10]
	TK2	39	74 (58–85)	23 (12–38)	3 (1–13)			
	TK3	40	80 (65–89)	18 (8–32)	2 (1–12)			
	TK4	39	97 (86–99)	0 (0–8)	3 (1–13)	82 [74–87]	12 [8–19]	6 [3–12]
Gobi	TK5	42	69 (53–80)	19 (10–33)	12 (5–25)			
	GD1	38	66 (49–78)	13 (5–27)	21 (11–36)			
	GD2	41	63 (48–76)	5 (1–16)	32 (19–47)			
	GD3	76	68 (57–77)	20 (12–30)	12 (6–21)	60 [54–66]	18 [14–24]	22 [17–27]
	GD4	39	54 (38–68)	20 (10–35)	26 (14–41)			
	GD5	74	51 (40–62)	33 (22–43)	16 (9–26)			

*In parentheses: 95% confidential interval

[†]In brackets: propagation error