

1 A machine learning based approach to clinopyroxene thermobarometry: model
2 optimisation and distribution for use in Earth Sciences

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13 **Key Points:**

- 14 • Machine learning random forest
15 • Clinopyroxene thermobarometry
16 • Model optimization
17

18 **Abstract**

19 Thermobarometry is a fundamental tool to quantitatively interrogate magma plumbing systems and
20 broaden our appreciation of volcanic processes. Developments in random forest-based machine learning
21 lend themselves to a more data-driven approach to clinopyroxene thermobarometry. This can include
22 allowing users to access and filter large experimental datasets that can be tailored to individual
23 applications in Earth Sciences. Here we present a methodological assessment of random forest
24 thermobarometry, using the R freeware package "extraTrees", by investigating the model
25 performance, tuning hyperparameters, and evaluating different methods for calculating uncertainties.
26 We determine that deviating from the default hyperparameters used in the "extraTrees" package
27 results in little difference in overall model performance (<0.2 kbar and <3 °C difference in mean SEE).
28 However, accuracy is greatly affected by how the final pressure or temperature (PT) value from the
29 voting distribution of trees in the random forest is selected (mean, median or mode). This thus far has
30 been unapproached in machine learning thermobarometry. Using the mean value leads to a higher
31 residual between experimental and predicted PT, whereas using median values produces smaller
32 residuals. Additionally, this work provides two comprehensive R scripts for users to apply the random
33 forest methodology to natural datasets. The first script permits modification and filtering of the model
34 calibration dataset. The second script contains pre-made models in which users can rapidly input their
35 data to recover pressure and temperature estimates. These scripts are open source and can be accessed
36 at <https://github.com/corinjorgenson/RandomForest-cpx-thermobarometer>.

37 **Plain Language Summary**

38 Determining the structure of magmatic plumbing systems is an integral part of understanding the
39 processes preceding volcanic eruptions. Thermobarometry estimates the pressure and temperature of
40 crystallisation of minerals that crystallise from the magma using their chemical composition. This can
41 provide quantitative information on the depth and temperature of magma storage before eruption.
42 Clinopyroxene, a common phenocryst found in volcanic rocks, has been shown to be a reliable mineral
43 for thermobarometry. Classic thermobarometers use a single equation for a specific melt chemistry and
44 are often rigid in their usage. There exists an alternative methodology which utilizes a machine learning

45 algorithm called random forest. This algorithm creates hundreds of hierarchical flowcharts called
46 decision trees to generate predictive models which can be applied to natural data. Here we present a
47 study which focuses on optimization of these models and presents users with two versions which they
48 can access, modify, and use for their data. These two versions are available freely
49 at <https://github.com/corinjorgenson/RandomForest-cpx-thermobarometer> and can be easily used
50 within the freeware package R.

51 **1. Introduction**

52 Quantifying the pressure and temperature of mineral crystallization is an invaluable method to view
53 the magmatic plumbing system of volcanoes, and constrain fundamental processes within the Earth's
54 crust and mantle (Giacomoni et al., 2016; Ridolfi et al., 2008; Shane & Smith, 2013; Shaw, 2018; Smith,
55 2013). Clinopyroxene chemistry has been widely used for this endeavour by calibrating
56 thermobarometers (Masotta et al., 2013; Neave & Putirka, 2017; K. D. Putirka, 2008). Classically these
57 thermobarometers result in a single equation which links site-specific mineral chemistry (plus or minus
58 equilibrium liquid data) to the variation in pressure or temperature of crystallisation. However, these
59 formulas are often associated with large standard error estimates (SEE) and are only appropriate for
60 specific melt compositions (e.g. Neave & Putirka, 2017 for ultramafic to intermediate compositions;
61 Masotta et al., 2013 for alkaline magmas). Additionally, early thermobarometers are self-validated,
62 which means that data used to regress the model are also used to validate it. This typically leads to data
63 overfitting and an underestimated SEE (Nimis & Taylor, 2000; K. D. Putirka, 2008). Recent
64 developments in machine learning applications to petrology by Petrelli et al., 2020 and Higgins et al.,
65 2021 have resulted in a machine learning derived random forest approach to thermobarometry.

66 Random forest is a machine learning method that employs decision trees to populate an improved
67 prediction-based model, using the results from a distribution of hundreds of trees to generate an output
68 (Breiman, 2001, 2002; Ho, 1995). A decision tree is a hierarchical flowchart that determines an outcome
69 when given a set of input variables (Figure 1). Each tree is comprised of branches and leaves, where
70 the branches represent different pathways from the root to the desired outcome (the leaves). Branches
71 split at nodes, where at each node a branch may split either left or right in the simplest case. When a

72 branch can no longer split, a leaf is “grown”, and the desired output is reported. In our case the branches
73 and nodes are dictated by clinopyroxene geochemistry, and the leaves are pressure (P) or temperature
74 (T) of crystallization. However, the chemical element (or oxide) selected at each node greatly influences
75 the predictive outcome of the tree. Hence the random forest model is ultimately comprised of hundreds
76 of decision trees. Therefore, from these hundreds of decision trees, the output (predicted P or T) is the
77 mean value from all decision trees in the case of regressive models. To allow the model to construct
78 reasonable decision trees for prediction of natural data we input a dataset of experimentally derived
79 clinopyroxenes (e.g., Supplementary Figure. 1) with a known pressure and temperature of
80 crystallization, hereafter referred to as the calibration dataset. In principle the idea is very simple – the
81 algorithm uses the calibration dataset to create a predictive model, which we can apply to natural
82 samples. However, there are several parameters to consider when producing a model for reliable
83 prediction of natural data, in addition to several statistical metrics for selecting the best estimation from
84 the voting distribution of decision trees (e.g., mean, median, or mode).

85 Increasingly models and methodologies for Earth science applications have moved to powerful and
86 adaptable codes for programs such as R, python, and MATLAB as well as hosted on online servers such
87 as github (Georgeais et al., 2021; Ghiorso & Wolf, 2019; Iacovino et al., 2020; Lemenkova, 2019;
88 Lubbers et al., 2019). This allows for more user interaction and, in some cases, provides open-source
89 options to users regardless of their operating system or access to apps like excel. Thus, the twofold aim
90 of this work is to 1) build and test the performance of a thermobarometer model for clinopyroxenes and
91 2) provide a comprehensive explanation of how to apply our thermobarometer for applications to natural
92 data. Our regression strategy offers a generalised model that can be tailored for certain settings,
93 applications, or other suitable mineral phases (e.g., amphibole; Higgins et al., 2021).

94 **2. Methods**

95 2.1. Datasets and Preprocessing

96 The calibration dataset is comprised of experimentally grown clinopyroxenes and equilibrium
97 liquids compiled from the Library of Experimental Petrology Research database and additional works
98 not included in the LEPR database (Hirschmann et al., 2008; Supplementary Table 1). The unfiltered

99 calibration dataset features 1773 datapoints, including temperatures from 679 – 2180 °C, 0 - 160 kbar
100 and 6.5 – 78.18 wt.% SiO₂. All clinopyroxene data were first filtered for reasonable cations within a
101 range from 3.96 – 4.04 as suggested by Ziberna et al., (2016). The calibration dataset was further filtered
102 based on Kd_{Fe-Mg} (Klügel & Klein, 2006). Following Putirka (2008) we accepted a range of $Kd_{Fe-Mg} =$
103 0.04 – 0.68 (Figure 2A). Then the data was filtered to remove the high-pressure experiments (> 50 kbar)
104 which are not in great numbers. Finally, any data points with abnormally low SiO₂ liquid contents (<
105 35 wt. % SiO₂) were removed. This forms the final calibration dataset (Supplementary Table 1,
106 Supplementary Figure 1).

107 Typically, classic thermobarometers are calibrated and tested in the following way. Firstly, a large
108 (>80 % of total experiments) training dataset is selected from the total calibration dataset of
109 experiments. This dataset is used to calibrate with the chosen regression strategy (e.g., linear regression,
110 multivariate linear regression). The remaining data are placed into a test dataset which is used to assess
111 the performance of the model. This is commonly achieved by running each composition in the test
112 dataset through the regressed model and calculating the standard error estimate or distribution of
113 residual values to the known experimental values (K. D. Putirka, 2008; Ridolfi et al., 2008).

114 The pressure-temperature distribution of the calibration dataset is not uniform – experiments are
115 preferentially run at low pressures. Thus, randomly extracting from the calibration dataset unevenly
116 weights the test set to have low pressure experiments, resulting in a poor representation of the SEE. To
117 circumvent this issue our test dataset was uniformly extracted from the calibration dataset on a gridded
118 basis (Supplementary Figure 1b). Sampling from a gridded distribution offers additional biases as in
119 oversampling PT grid spaces that may have a small distribution of data – thus the grid spacing was
120 randomized for each 200 runs and samples were not extracted if the grid space did not have at least two
121 datapoints. This results in each test dataset sampling approximately a tenth of the total calibration
122 dataset. Once the respective test and train data sets are extracted then the model is run for each set (200
123 times). By generating multiple random splits of test and train datasets we can evaluate the full effect of
124 sampling on the SEE (and other model performance metrics). This effect is not considered in
125 conventional calibration methods (e.g. Ridolfi et al., 2010; Ridolfi & Renzulli, 2012).

126 2.2. Components of a random forest

127 We chose to use the R package "extraTrees" developed by Simm et al., (2014) although the
128 "randomForest" package by Breiman (2002) produces comparable results at greater computational
129 expense (Petrelli et al., 2020). Within the "extraTrees" package exist several parameters that can
130 affect model performance. Firstly, `ntree` (default = 500) determines the number of individual decision
131 trees which are used for prediction. A sufficiently high number of trees must be used to provide stability
132 of the variable importance. Generally speaking more trees give better results at the cost of processing
133 time, although this is dependent on the dataset used (Breiman, 2001; Probst et al., 2019; Probst &
134 Boulesteix, 2018). Secondly, `mtry`, dictates how many variables (in our case, the major element
135 chemical constituents of clinopyroxene) are considered at each node. The `mtry` is more influential on
136 the overall performance of the model and default `mtry` for "extraTrees" is the total number of
137 variables divided by three (Probst et al., 2019; Simm et al., 2014). For each node in a decision tree, a
138 random subset of variables equal to `mtry` are selected from which the best performing variable is
139 eventually chosen. In "extraTrees" each node is split at a random value, as described Simm et al.,
140 (2014). To choose which of the selected variables is used for the next node, a score is calculated for
141 each variable for regressive models. This score is calculated considering a proportional negative
142 variance for each split (denoted by L for left and R for right).

$$143 \quad score = n_L * var_L + n_R * var_R \quad (1)$$

$$144 \quad var = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - mean(y))^2 \quad (2)$$

145 Where n_L and n_R are the number of datapoints assigned to each left or right branch, and `var` is the
146 negative variance of the data on the left (or right) side of the split for the `y` variables (Simm et al., 2014).
147 The tested variable with the highest score is chosen for the node.

148 The "extraTrees" package provides an additional variable for modification which is the
149 number of random cuts (`numRandomCuts`). The package "extraTrees" may provide more than
150 two splits to allow for non-binary splitting. This can be envisioned in real life by a tree splitting a branch

151 in three sections instead of two. As noted in the "extraTrees" vignette, optimization may occur
152 when using numRandomCuts between 3 – 5.

153 Each tree generates a single output value and thus a forest with 300 trees generates 300 pressure or
154 temperature estimates. In order to choose the best estimate, the random forest takes the mean or modal
155 value for regression or classification models respectively. Though our models are regressive, and thus
156 the default is to use a mean estimation, we additionally calculate the median and modal estimates to
157 evaluate the model performance. The median is calculated by taking the middle value from a sorted set
158 of values. Thus, to avoid the rare case where there is an even number of trees, and the two center points
159 are drastically different, we have decided to use an odd number of trees to average the two values.

160 2.3. Error assessment

161 Before continuing, we must consider the argument of accuracy versus precision. Random forest is
162 effective at generating precise values, but a reliable thermobarometer needs to be accurate as well as
163 precise. As such, the evaluation of the uncertainty of an individual model will be led by the R^2 values
164 (equation 3, where RSS is the residual sum of squares and TSS is the total sum of squares) and the
165 residual values (absolute difference between the experimental temperature or pressure and the
166 temperature or pressure output from the model), in addition to the standard error estimate (SEE) and
167 the interquartile range (IQR) of the voting distribution.

$$168 \quad R^2 = 1 - \frac{RSS}{TSS} \quad (3)$$

169 To avoid self-validation and overfitting, the test dataset must not be used in the training dataset
170 which trains the model. Varying the test dataset is one the largest sources of variation in the SEE and
171 so we have decided to extract the test dataset and running of the model 200 times. Then the average
172 SEE is taken from the distribution of errors for all 200 dataset splits. The final model uses the modal
173 SEE but includes all data in the calibration dataset which, as it has more data, should result in a more
174 accurate model. Two hundred runs were chosen as this is the minimum number of runs where the SEE
175 range does not significantly increase, thus preserving computational cost while maintaining a
176 representative assessment. Natural data may vary from the calibration dataset and might not be

177 represented by an individual experiment. Therefore, we also use the IQR to calculate a confidence
178 interval of the estimated value. We recommend users to use the IQR as a post-model filtering to remove
179 poor estimates.

180 3. Results

181 3.1. Hyperparameter tuning

182 Hyperparameter tuning can help to achieve the best performing model possible (Breiman, 2002;
183 Probst & Boulesteix, 2018). To systematically test the effect of hyperparameter variability, we ran
184 16,200 simulations which encompasses 81 combinations ranging from 1-9 `mtry` and 101-901 `ntrees`
185 where each permutation is run 200 times with the respective test and train datasets to determine the
186 average SEE and R^2 , calculated using the ideal median pressures and temperatures.

187 The mean SEE varies with the number of trees (Figure 2) where the smaller number of trees
188 performs marginally better than the larger number of trees (Figure 2b; for example, `mtry` = 2 the mean
189 SEE for `ntree` varies from 4.63 to 4.59 kbar and 77.6 to 77.0 °C from `ntree` 101 to 901). We suggest
190 this is due to a plateau effect, as seen in other studies focused on hyperparameter tuning of random
191 forests (Oshiro et al., 2012; Probst et al., 2019). Figure 2 (b, e) show a slight negative trend in both the
192 pressure and temperature between 101 and 201 trees, but we stress that the difference is marginal.
193 Clearly, we can see that the `mtry` has a larger control on the performance of the model, as expected
194 from results in previous studies (Probst et al., 2019; Simm et al., 2014). As seen in Figure 2 (a, d), the
195 larger `mtry` performs better (e.g., at `ntree` =201 an `mtry` of 6 gives a mean SEE of 4.37 kbar and
196 72.6 °C) than the smaller `mtry` (e.g., at `ntree` =201 `mtry` of 1 give a mean SEE of 5.06 kbar and
197 84.5 °C) for both the mean SEE and residuals. At `mtry` greater than 6, any difference is minor (± 0.01
198 kbar), and so to limit computational cost an `mtry` of 6 should be used. This is counter to the package
199 default which is one third the number of total variables. A similar trend is observed in the calculated
200 IQR. However, when considering data with the inclusion of liquid – crystal pairs, the new maximum
201 `mtry` is 18 and hence a new `mtry` needs to be considered. We performed further testing on the model
202 with the increased `mtry` and found that though the computational intensity increased the model follow

203 the same pattern as the models without liquid where the `ntree` is relatively invariable on the
204 performance metrics and the `mtry` is optimized at about two thirds of the total variables
205 (Supplementary Figure 2). As such, we suggest users select a `ntree` of 201 and an `mtry` equal to two
206 thirds of the total variables for thermobarometry.

207 The package “`extraTrees`” also provides the option to vary the number of cuts at each node.
208 This is easy to conceptualize in a classification model for grouping people on the basis of hair colour:
209 instead of discriminating between black or blonde hair (binary choice), brown hair and red hair can also
210 be considered as additional options (4 cuts). Whilst the default is 1 cut (binary), increasing the number
211 of cuts to 3 – 5 may yield performance improvements (Simm & Magrans de Abril, 2013). Upon further
212 testing we found that the additional number of cuts does minorly improve the model. However, the
213 minor improvements to the SEE are less than 0.02 kbar and 0.5 °C and so are not worth the significant
214 increases in computational cost. Therefore, we continue to use the default of 1.

215 3.2. Mean, mode and median estimates

216 As discussed previously, the random forest is comprised of several hundred decision trees, as
217 defined by the user via the function argument `ntree`. For each inputted sample `ntree` estimates for
218 pressure and temperature are generated (Supplementary figure 3), and the final value is chosen from
219 this distribution. The default option of the R package “`extraTrees`” in regression is for the forest
220 to choose the mean of all decision tree outputs as the pressure or temperature (Simm et al., 2014).
221 However, the distribution of the decision trees may not be a perfect gaussian distribution and thus we
222 have also considered the median and modal estimates of the pressure and temperature voting
223 distributions in addition to the mean (Figure 3).

224 To evaluate the performance of the mean, median, and modal estimates, we create pressure and
225 temperature models using the entire calibration dataset for clinopyroxene, with no additional pressure
226 filtering. The entire dataset is used instead of the 200 splits as a model with the full dataset included
227 should perform the best and thus give the best estimates. Figure 3 shows estimated pressure plotted with
228 respect to the true pressures for all 200 test datasets, using the mean, median, and modal method. The

229 residuals, the difference between the estimated and true pressure and temperature estimates, show the
230 widest distribution of residuals for the mean and extend out to ± 5 kbar. This means that many of the
231 pressure estimates are incorrect by 5 kbar, indicating a poorly performing model. When we consider
232 the SEE the median outcompetes both the mean and mode (median SEE = 3.30 kbar, mean SEE = 3.27
233 kbar, and mode SEE = 3.70 kbar). R^2 shows best performance from the mean ($R^2 = 0.889$) where the
234 median ($R^2 = 0.888$) is slightly worse and the modal R^2 is also slightly worse ($R^2 = 0.858$).

235 3.3. Inclusion of equilibrium liquids

236 The elements that can be added to the structure of the clinopyroxene crystal is not just pressure and
237 temperature dependent but also dependent to a certain degree on chemical availability in the residual
238 liquid (melt). Thus, it is clear there needs to be two models – one with clinopyroxene data, as we have
239 presented thus far, and one which also includes liquid data in equilibrium with the clinopyroxene.
240 Performance testing of the two models (Figure 4) reveals that, as expected, the model performs more
241 favourably when liquid data is included. Figure 4 shows that liquid model curves have a higher point
242 density at 0 for the residuals, and IQR ranges closer to 0. For pressure, the SEE decreases by over 1
243 kbar and the R^2 changes from 0.80 to 0.89. For temperature, the difference is even more striking where
244 the SEE decreases by almost half from 76.0 °C to 47.6 °C and the R^2 improves from 0.85 to 0.94.
245 Performance of the 200 splits of the test and train dataset can be seen in the supplementary materials
246 and shows that the liquid estimates have a slight tendency to estimate higher pressures relative to the
247 liquid free model.

248 4. Discussion

249 4.1. Mean, mode, and median: which to use?

250 Fundamentally, if the distribution of decision trees produces a perfect gaussian distribution, then
251 using the mean is appropriate. However, the distribution is often not a perfect gaussian curve. Some
252 voting distributions may be uniform in which the model has a low degree of certainty. Other voting
253 distributions show sharp peaks at a given value followed by small, wide tails to low and/or high
254 pressure. Such tails initiate on poorly behaving trees, leading to overestimates of pressure or
255 temperature due to unfair weighting by the mean of the distribution. Poorly behaving trees can result

256 from elements being selected for decision tree nodes which do not have a strong relationship with the
257 variation of clinopyroxene unit cell parameters: these features ultimately govern the relationship
258 between pressure, temperature, and mineral chemistry (Nimis & Ulmer, 1998).

259 Mean, median and modal models all perform well, although clearly the residuals from the modal
260 and median model are preferable to the mean (Figure 3D). Considering the R^2 of modal versus median
261 model estimates, modal estimates (0.858) are lower than that of the median (0.888). Despite the modal
262 model showing a marginally tighter distribution of residuals, it has a fundamental flaw which is shown
263 in Figure 5. Here, 10% of the calibration dataset was randomly extracted and a pressure gap between 5
264 and 15 kbar was forced into the training dataset. When the testing set is run in this pressure gapped
265 model it is clear that the mode cannot interpolate any points in this pressure gap. Conversely, the median
266 and mean models can close this gap by averaging values. Of course, this is an exaggerated example but
267 it will indeed happen on smaller scales as experiments are often lacking in intermediate values
268 (Hirschmann et al., 2008). In nature mineral chemistry typically shows a mixture of punctuated and
269 continuous variability (Armienti et al., 2007; Conticelli et al., 2010). Thus, we suggest that all users
270 adopt a median value for the PT estimates.

271 4.2. Evaluating the estimation uncertainty

272 Throughout the course of this work, we have optimized each model to give the best representation
273 of the true (experimental) pressure and temperature. Though we have tested and optimized each model,
274 there remains datapoints with high residuals, giving a poor estimate relative to the true experimental
275 value (e.g., Figure 3). With natural samples the true pressure or temperature value is unknown and, if
276 they exist in natural datasets, these anomalous samples cannot be identified. Thus far, we have assessed
277 the overall performance of the calibrated models by using a mean SEE for each model (Figure 2).
278 However, this averaged SEE characterises the model's ability to predict an entire test dataset and so
279 does not provide a unique representation of the uncertainty of any specific sample. To permit closer
280 assessment of uncertainty, we use the interquartile range (IQR) of the voting distribution (Figure 5) to
281 assign the confidence interval of individual natural samples. The premise is that, although certain
282 individual trees may perform poorly (see Methods above), a model that performs well overall will result

283 in a high number of trees predicting a pressure or temperature close to the true value. This will manifest
284 in a voting distribution that is tight, indicating that the model has a high degree of certainty in its
285 prediction.

286 To understand why some samples yield high IQRs and some low we will once again turn to our test
287 and train datasets to look at some examples of variations in IQR. In Figure 6 we see three examples of
288 the pressure estimates provided by the 201 trees represented by a density curve. The solid black vertical
289 line is the estimated pressure using the median method, the solid red vertical line is the true pressure,
290 and the two black vertical dashed lines represent the IQR. In Figure 6a we see a standard IQR value,
291 where the true (2.0 kbar) and estimated (1.7 kbar) pressures are relatively close and the IQR is a
292 reasonable value (2.4 kbar). Figure 6b shows the ideal case where the IQR is too small to see on the
293 plot, and the estimated and true pressures are identical (10.0 kbar). Figure 6c shows a sample with a
294 large IQR (12.3 kbar) and different true (16.0 kbar) and estimated (19.1 kbar) pressure. In this last case
295 we see that the true pressure is still plotting within the IQR, however we recommend users treat any
296 data with an IQR higher than the overall model SEE with a healthy amount of caution.

297 The user may either present their natural data with the IQR or use the IQR as a metric for post-
298 estimate filtering. Figure 7 shows a single split of the test and train dataset. In (a) the data is shown with
299 the IQR plotted as error bars in which almost all of the points within their IQR ranges lie on the 1:1
300 line. In (b) there is an example of the same dataset but filtered to remove datapoints with an IQR larger
301 than 5 kbar. We observe that points qualitatively identified as outliers are removed, and the points which
302 remain plot closer to the 1:1 line. The same principle can be applied to temperature estimates. This
303 approach encourages users to carefully consider their own data, and how it may contribute to their
304 individual geological story: points with a low IQR may be considered more robust and interpretations
305 can be based on these points with greater confidence.

306 4.3. Pressure filtering

307 Experiments which are performed under pressurized conditions require complex machinery and
308 sometimes large time commitments (Holloway & Wood, 2012; Kägi et al., 2005; Leinenweber et al.,
309 2012). Thus, the suite of data in the calibration dataset is heavily skewed towards experiments

310 performed at lower pressures (≤ 2 kbar). This is especially true for experiments performed at 1 atm,
311 which comprise 23% of the filtered calibration dataset. We had concerns that this might unevenly skew
312 the barometer estimates to lower pressures. To test this, we ran several models: the base model (or
313 “mantle model”; $P \leq 50$ kbar) and the “crustal model” ($P \leq 15$ kbar), as chosen for the crustal range on
314 the basis of the average crustal thickness (Kopp et al., 2011; MacKenzie et al., 2008; Tewari et al.,
315 2018). Finally, we ran these two models with 1 atm experiments included and excluded.

316 As seen in Figure 8 there is not a strong effect on the residuals for the four models in pressure or
317 temperature space. However, there is a slight effect on the IQR, with the density curves of crustal
318 models for both pressure and temperature showing a higher density of low IQR values than the mantle
319 model (Figure 8). Considering this quantitatively, we can turn to the average R^2 and SEE values over
320 the 200 test and train dataset splits. For the “mantle-1 atm” in model the SEE is 4.4 kbar and 72.6 °C,
321 and R^2 of 0.80 for pressure and 0.85 for temperature, whereas the “crustal-1 atm in” model gives a lower
322 SEE of 4.1 kbar and 69.4 °C and an R^2 of 0.81 for the pressure model and 0.87 for the temperature
323 model. When we consider the 1 atm excluded models, the “mantle-1 atm out” model gives an SEE of
324 3.4 and 70.8 °C and a R^2 of 0.73 for pressure and 0.79 for temperature and the crustal model shows a
325 similar trend of a lower SEE 3.1 kbar and 65.4 °C and R^2 of 0.72 for pressure and 0.83 for temperature.

326 Given this information we must also consider one of the most striking limitations of a random forest
327 algorithm – that it cannot extrapolate data. Thus, even though the crustal model has shown slight
328 advantages with respect to IQR, and average SEE if a user inputs natural data, that may include
329 clinopyroxenes that have crystallized in the mantle, into a crustal model low-pressure estimates might
330 be generated. As such, we suggest that users employ the mantle model with the 1 atm experiments
331 included. This is even more critical for compositions where experimental data is less dense.
332 Alternatively, the distribution code contains instructions for tailoring models to user requirements such
333 as changing bounds of pressure for application to areas with thicker (continental) crust (Bloch et al.,
334 2017).

335 4.4. Adding liquid data to the model

336 As demonstrated in Figure 4, adding equilibrium liquid data improves the model (SEE is lower by >1
337 kbar and >30 °C), and so quantitatively it seems favourable to use liquid data if it is available to users.
338 In nature, however, opportunities for reliable coexisting melt measurement may be rare. Melt inclusions
339 have been shown to suffer from post-entrapment crystallization which alters the composition of the melt
340 inclusion (Bucholz et al., 2013; Danyushevsky et al., 2002; Steele-macinnis et al., 2011) or
341 precipitation of daughter minerals of the edges of the melt inclusions (Moore et al., 2018; Venugopal
342 et al., 2020). Additionally, melt inclusions may be absent in crystals or overrepresented in core or rim
343 domains due to favourable growth along cracked surfaces (Faure & Schiano, 2005) or during heating,
344 dissolution, and reprecipitation (Cashman & Blundy, 2013; Edmonds et al., 2016; Nakamura &
345 Shimakita, 1998). Measuring matrix glass as the mineral - liquid pair is the most common metric for
346 clinopyroxene- liquid thermobarometry. This may generate a bias in P-T estimates towards the final
347 equilibration conditions of the upper part of the magmatic system, which may explain the questionable
348 consensus that magma chambers form dominantly at ~2 kbar (Higgins et al., 2021). By using single-
349 phase thermobarometers the entire protracted history of the crystal can be measured, which can recover
350 the full extent of crystallisation P-T in trans crustal magmatic systems (Annen et al., 2006; Christopher
351 et al., 2015; Sparks et al., 2019). Regardless, the performance of the liquid model is clearly superior to
352 the crystal only melt, so we suggest that users of the liquid model keep a detailed petrological record of
353 melt inclusions including distribution in the crystal and occurrence of mineral precipitation at melt
354 inclusion margins.

355 **5. Code distribution and Usage**

356 We believe that our methodology can be widely implemented within the volcanology and petrology
357 community. With this in mind, we have created two versions of the models which we are fondly calling
358 “Choose your own adventure” and the “Plug and play” model. Both versions are available on github as
359 a comprehensive R script for download ([https://github.com/corinjorgenson/RandomForest-cpx-](https://github.com/corinjorgenson/RandomForest-cpx-thermobarometer)
360 [thermobarometer](https://github.com/corinjorgenson/RandomForest-cpx-thermobarometer)). In this section we will describe how to use each of the respective scripts. Users who
361 are not familiar with R are directed to “YaRrr! The Pirate’s Guide to R”, where Chapter 2 has

362 instructions for installation (<https://bookdown.org/ndphillips/YaRrr/installing-base-r-and-rstudio.html>,
363 Phillips, 2017).

364 5.1. Data collection recommendations

365 The “Plug and Play” models are created using a defined set of major oxides which a user must have
366 in their data to use the model. The elements are SiO₂, TiO₂, Al₂O₃, Cr₂O₃, FeO, MgO, MnO, CaO,
367 and Na₂O for the clinopyroxene analysis and SiO₂, TiO₂, Al₂O₃, FeO, MgO, MnO, CaO, Na₂O and
368 K₂O for the liquid analysis. If users do not have these elements, then they must use the “Choose
369 your own adventure” and adjust what elements are used to make the model. Liquid analysis should
370 be in equilibrium with the clinopyroxene host and this the two measurements should be taken
371 relatively close together. We recommend users input their data into the .csv file “InputData” and
372 replace the data there with their own, while keeping the column headers. If a user does not have
373 liquid data then they can leave it blank or put zeros in place.

374 5.2. Choose your own adventure

375 This folder comprises seven separate R scripts which should be run in order. The folder also includes
376 the initial calibration dataset as a .csv file, an example natural dataset, and an R data file with oxide
377 weights titled `cpx_dat`, `YOUR_DATA`, and `OxiWeight.Rdata` respectively. A brief explanation of
378 usage can be found in a .txt file titled README. Here we will sequentially discuss the code for each
379 file. We recommend between running each script, the user clears the environment and reloads the
380 necessary files to preserve computer memory. Whilst running this code, users should keep a keen eye
381 on the console in case of any errors. If there are any errors we advise clearing the environment and re-
382 running the code.

383 1. Preprocessing – cpx thermobaro

384 This script is used for pre-processing of the calibration dataset (Supplementary Table 1). All mineral
385 data are recalculated according to their respective structural formula following the methodology of Deer
386 et al. (1997). This is output as a file called `raw.Rdata`. You do not need to change anything in this
387 sheet unless you change the calibration dataset (e.g., to add new experimental data from the scientific

388 literature). If the user decides to add new experiments to the calibration dataset it is imperative that they
389 format the new data the same way that the calibration dataset is currently formatted.

390 2. Filtering – cpx thermobar

391 This script is used for filtering of the calibration dataset, choices for filtration limits can be found in
392 section 2.1. The user does not need to change anything in this script unless they desire alternative
393 filtrations (i.e., specific compositional or pressure filters).

394 Data outputted from script 1 (called `raw`) should be reloaded into the environment. This file is renamed
395 to `dat`, and an extra column called `Rm` is added to the data frame which will have wither a Y or N,
396 which dictates if data should be filtered (Y) or not (N).

397 First, the sum of cations is calculated and samples with cations above 4.04 or below 3.96 should be
398 filtered out. Next, we calculate a value `Kd` which is added to the data frame. As outlined in section 2.1
399 the `Kd` represents the whether the clinopyroxene and liquid are in equilibrium on the basis on the Fe/Mg
400 ratio. The third filtration is to remove samples from the calibration dataset above 50 kbars, as there is
401 not sufficient data accurately estimate pressure at these pressures. Lastly, we filter for extremely low
402 liquid SiO_2 contents, which we have set as 35 wt.% SiO_2 .

403 The data is filtered so the samples which were assigned Y to the `Rm` column are removed. Then the
404 calibration dataset is mixed to avoid bias in organization of the data. This filtered data frame is then
405 called `input` and saved as an Rdata file.

406 3. Distribute Grid Search

407 This script and the next one (Determine SEE) are used to determine the SEE for the final models by
408 extracting 200 test and training datasets and then running the model 200 times and calculating the SEE
409 based on that. Section 2.3 explains further the idea behind extracting 200 splits. The user does not need
410 to change anything in this script unless they want to change how many test/train splits there are.

411 In this script the calibration dataset is loaded in as `input.Rdata`. First, we decide of how many
412 test/train datasets, which is controlled by the variable `r`. Then we extract the index places of the 200

413 testing datasets. The test dataset is ~10% depending on how many points are in the calibration dataset
414 (input). In the for loop (which runs $r = 200$) times a grid system is defined where `P/T.upper/`
415 `lower` are the bounds for each grid square. `perms` gives all the possible combinations for the lower P
416 and T bounds, and then has the upper bounds added to it. `sam` is the actual grid, which is sampled in
417 `samp`. `samp` sampled one sample from each of the grid squared and adds it to `perms`. From `perms`,
418 we determine the number of points in each of the grid squares and the grid squares with less than two
419 points are removed from the sampled point (`no.perms`). Finally, the samples from each of the grid
420 squares (`perms`) are called `test.ids`. This is just the test data set, so the identities of the training
421 dataset are determined as well and called `train.ids`. Both the `test.ids` and `train.ids` are
422 saved as `.Rdata` files.

423 4. Determine SEE – cpx thermobaro

424 This code determines the average SEE for the P and T models. In this script the user can decide on
425 whether they want to use liquid data or not. It is imperative that whatever conditions you use for this
426 script are the same as script #5. We strongly recommend you clear the environment before using this
427 script.

428 The calibration dataset is loaded into the environment as `input.Rdata` and the test and train ids
429 are loaded as `testids.Rdata` and `trainids.Rdata`. Next, users can decide if they want to
430 include liquid data in the model (`liq <- c("Liquid")`) or not (`liq <- c("NoLiquid")`).
431 Next, elements that will go into the model are chosen, the order of these elements must be the same in
432 this script as in script #5 or the model will read the wrong elements and return a very poor predictor.
433 Elements for the clinopyroxene are defined in `ox` and for the liquid phase is in `liqox`. Next the `r` value
434 (200, as in script #3) and hyperparameters are defined, we direct the reader to section 3.1 for further
435 information on these. Lastly, if you wish to filter any pressure you can here (1 atm experiments included
436 or excluded). The calibration dataset at this stage is renamed `dat` for the rest of the script.

437 Objects `id.test` and `id.train` are used determine the ids of the test/train sets in the `dat`
438 (calibration dataset) data frame. A set of empty lists are made for the data to be filled into. The for

439 loop is run r (200) times. For each run, the training set is used to create the model and the test set is
440 inputted into the model and pressures are estimated using the median pressure determination. From this
441 estimated pressure the residuals, R^2 and SEE are calculated. This is done for both pressure and
442 temperature and loaded into output, which is reduced and saved as `final.Rdata`. From these 200
443 run the average SEE can be determined by calculating the average SEE. This code is the longest
444 computational time, while it is running you should see `j` printed in the console twice (up to 200 times,
445 once for pressure and once for temperature) to keep you updated on where you are in the model.

446 This calculates the mean, median, and modal pressures, as discussed above we suggest that users
447 use the median estimates moving forward, but as this version is choose you own adventure we leave
448 this option up to the user. If you choose to rone this script several times you may notice minor
449 differences in the SEE (~ 0.2 kbar and ~ 10 °C). These variations are a fundamental part of the random
450 forest, that it is random!

451

452 5. Final Model Training – cpx thermobaro

453 This script has the SEE as calculated in script #4 and thus any changes made in script #4 must be made
454 in this script as well, the options are the same as script #4. This script makes the actual model. Once
455 you have made and saved this model you can continue to use this model in script 6 for any datasets you
456 desire without needing to re-run scripts 1-5 for the calibration dataset. The models are called `P_C` and
457 `T_C` for the pressure and temperature models respectively and saved as .Rdata files.

458 6. Filter user data – cpx thermobaro

459 This script is essentially the same as script #1 and #2 with some adjustments to avoid overwriting the
460 calibration dataset or your data. User's will need to change the code `userdat <-`
461 `read.delim("InputData.txt")` to reflect the title of their data or copy and paste your data into
462 the `InputData.csv` file (and remove the data we have there) so the formatting is correct. Else, make sure
463 your cations are properly suffixed (`.cpx` for clinopyroxene and `.liq` for the liquid data).

464 7. Run the model – cpx thermobaro

465 This script this the final step, where you can input your data and get pressure and temperature estimates!
466 You inputted data should be filtered as in script #6. The models are loaded in as `P_C.Rdata` and
467 `T_C.Rdata` and outputted as `predP` and `predT` respectively. Your data is loaded in and subsetted
468 for the elements used to make the model. Once again it is imperative that the element order is the same
469 or the outputs will be wrong.

470 The code then takes the `pred P` and `predT` and calculates the respective mean, median, mode, and
471 IQR estimates using the `apply` function. After the colon of each line the data is saved the `OUTPUTDATA`
472 dataframe. This `OutputData.csv` is the final file with your estimated values!

473 5.3. Plug and play

474 This script and corresponding .Rdata files allow the user to use a pre-determined model with a pre-set
475 SEE for either liquid or no liquid data. These models are run with `ntree =201`, `mtry =6`,
476 `numcuts =1`, pressures input from 0-50 kbar (with 1 atm included). The SEE for the liquid model is
477 3.2 kbar, 47.6 °C and for the no liquid models SEE of 4.4 kbar and 76.0 ° C.

478 This model assumes that the user has already filtered their data for poor totals. Users are requested to
479 copy and paste their data into the example excel file `InputdData.csv` and leave the column headers so
480 the suffixes are saved. Clinopyroxene major oxides should be the same as in the model and need to
481 be suffixed with `.cpx` even if using a no liquid model and liquid/melt analysis should be suffixed with
482 `.liq`. Examples and lists of the major oxides needed are in the script itself.

483 To use the script users will need to first open R studio and comment (add a #) and uncomment
484 (remove #) to be reflective if they have liquid data or not. For example if you aren't using liquid data
485 then the code should look like:

```
486 liq <- "NoLiquid"
```

```
487 # liq <- "Liquid"
```

488 And if you do have liquid data the # will be in front of the first line and not in front of the second line.
489 After this step the user should be able to select all the code and press run. Your data is saved as a csv
490 called `OutputData.csv`. The end of the script features some basic plots you can use with your
491 data, though we encourage user to delve into the wonderful world of plotting in R for themselves.

492 **6. Conclusions**

493 We have shown that machine learning is a powerful and versatile approach to thermobarometry, in
494 agreement with other studies (Higgins et al., 2021; Petrelli et al., 2020). Through detailed testing we
495 have determined that our models have accuracy and precision comparable to the leading clinopyroxene
496 thermobarometers (Masotta et al., 2013; Neave & Putirka, 2017; K. D. Putirka, 2008). This
497 thermobarometer can be applied to a wider range of compositions with a similar performance as existing
498 models. Additionally, this model as has the added benefit of error estimates on individual estimates,
499 where users can discard poorly performing estimates if they desire. Hyperparameters generally make
500 little difference to the performance of the thermobarometer. The largest effect is the value of `mtry`
501 which, at low values (1 or 2), creates a more poorly performing model (Figure 2). Instead, the largest
502 effect on model performance is the method of output determination i.e., whether the mean, median, or
503 mode of the voting distribution is used to recover pressure and temperature. Here we reveal that,
504 although the mean can provide reasonable pressure and temperature estimates, cases where there are
505 poorly performing trees may yield anomalously high-pressure predictions for low-pressure
506 experiments. The mode, on the other hand, seems to give values with the lowest residuals but struggles
507 to reproduce data reliably in significant pressure and temperature gaps (Figure 5a). Thus, we
508 recommend a semi-automated approach where users filter their data using the interquartile range of the
509 voting distribution but rely on the median value of the predicted pressure and temperature. This allows
510 for consistently lower residual values when predicting experimental data.

511 Two sets of codes have been created, with detailed comments and instructions, for the Earth sciences
512 community to rapidly predict intensive parameters for natural data, or create more tailored models. The
513 purpose of this paper is to provide a framework for use of machine learning thermobarometry in Earth
514 Sciences for users of widely differing computing experience. We believe that our model, given the right

515 considerations, can result in a high-resolution study of crustal magmatic systems. Future work will
516 focus on testing the model with chemically independent pressure and temperature estimates and show
517 examples of how this model can be utilized for different melt compositions.

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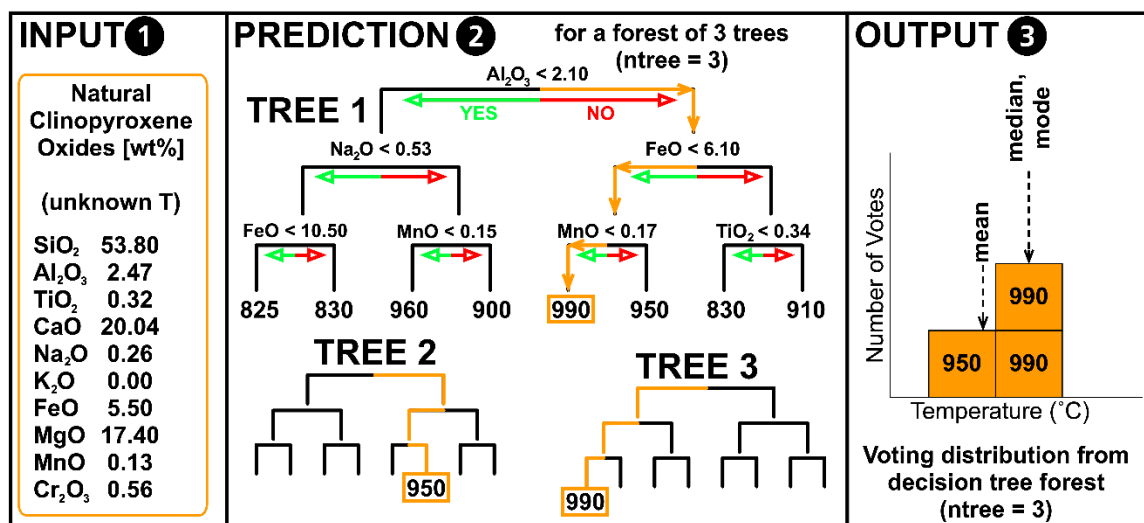
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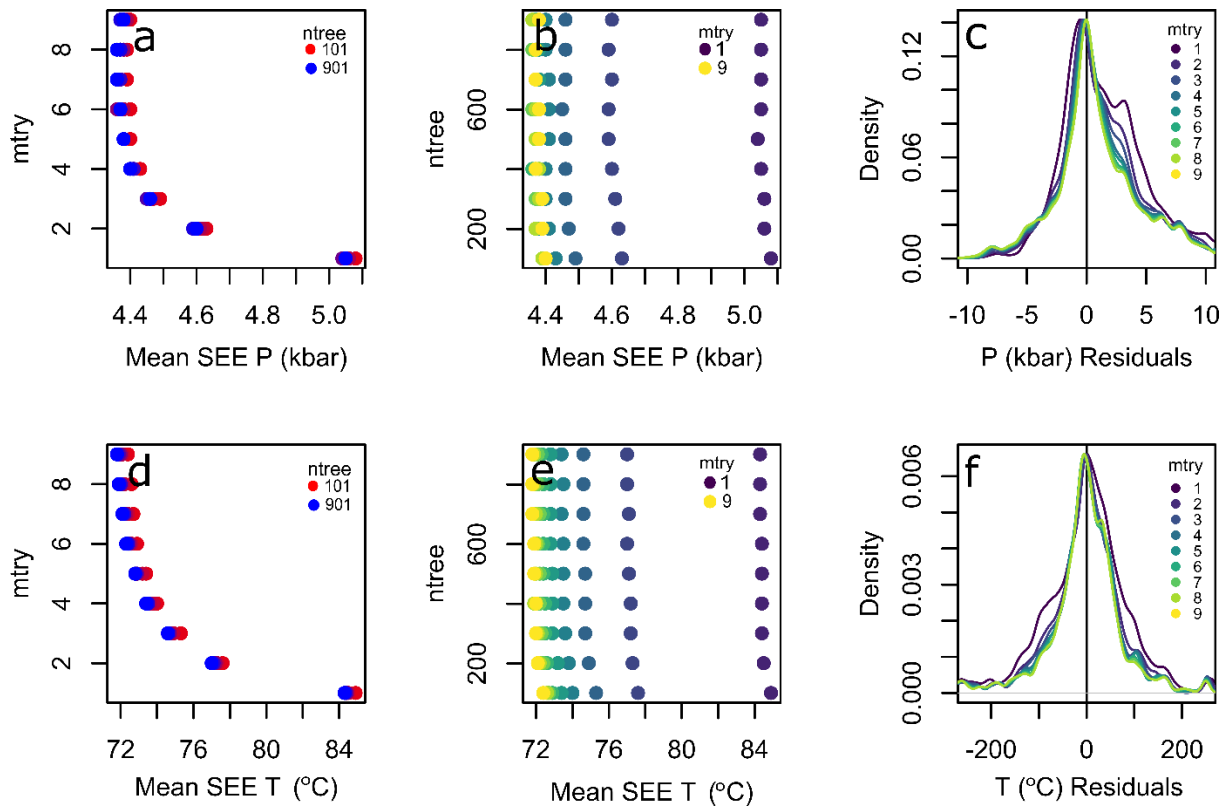
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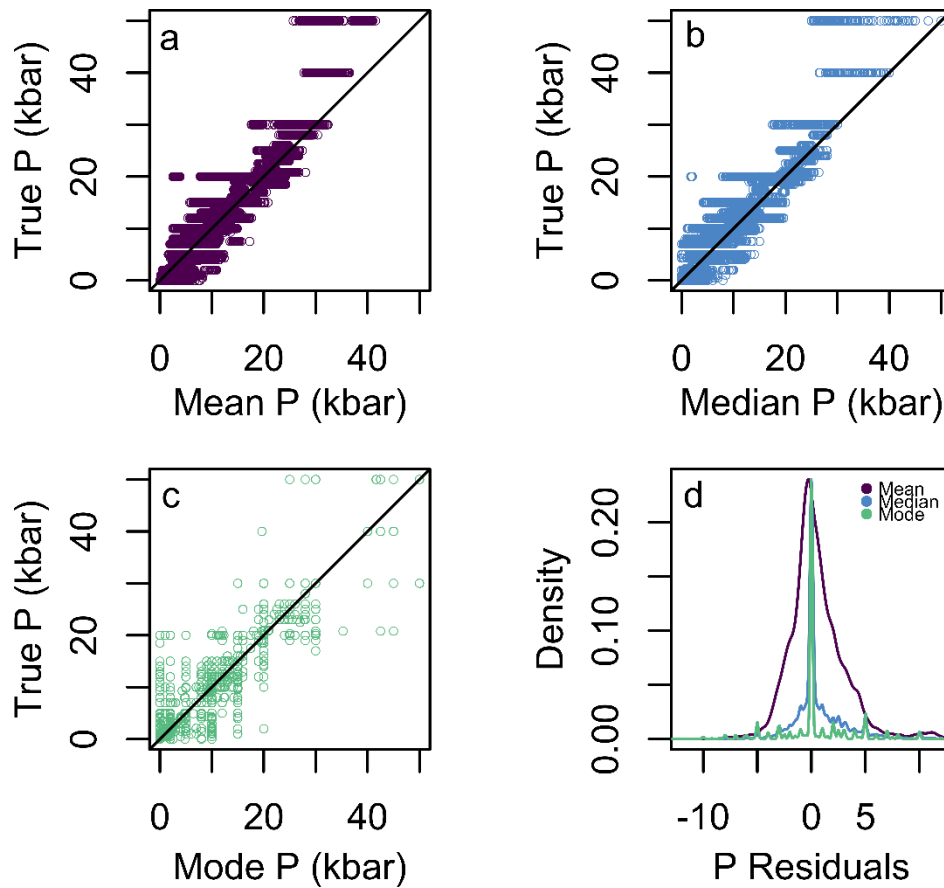
694

695 *Figure 1. Process of determining temperature from a natural (unknown T) clinopyroxene using machine*
 696 *learning thermobarometry. The input to the model (1) is the chemistry of the natural clinopyroxene.*
 697 *The chemical composition is cascaded through each decision tree in turn (2; orange path), arriving at*
 698 *the temperature at the base of each tree. The voting distribution (3; output) is used to determine the*
 699 *temperature. This temperature can be selected based on the mean, median or mode of the voting*
 700 *distribution (see text for details)*



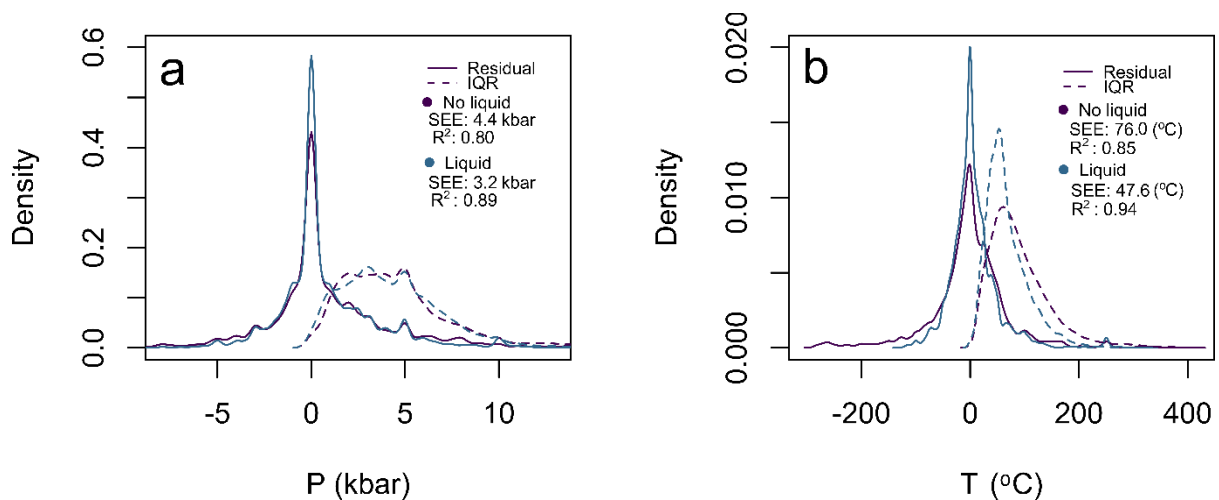
701

702 *Figure 2. Distribution of the $mtry$ (a and d), $ntree$ (b and e), and residuals (c and f) for both*
 703 *pressure and temperatures calculated using the modal method. Each point represents the average SEE*
 704 *for each of the 200 runs for each $mtry$ and $ntree$ combination. The residual plots are density plots*
 705 *of the residuals from the 200 run for $mtry$ values from 1 to 9, at a constant $ntree$ of 201*



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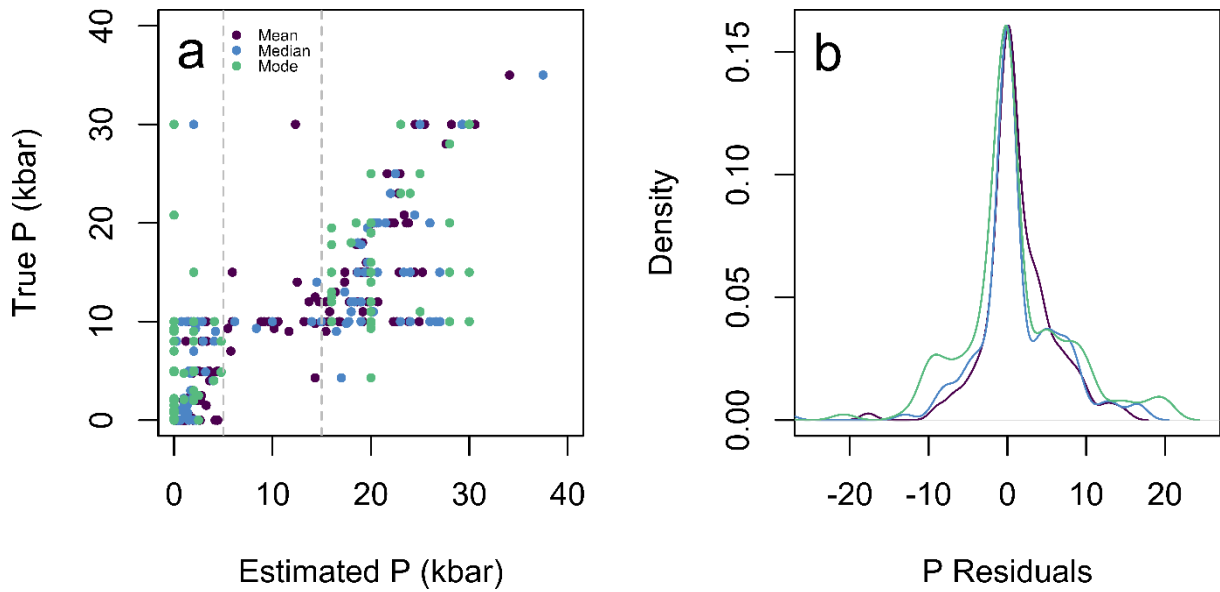
707 *Figure 3. Mean (SEE = 3.3 kbar, $R^2 = 0.889$) (a), median (SEE = 3.3 kbar, $R^2 = 0.888$) (b), and modal*
 708 *(SEE = 3.7 kbar, $R^2 = 0.858$) (c) pressure determinations for the 200 test datasets versus their true*
 709 *pressure. d) Density plots of the residuals for the mean, median, and mode.*



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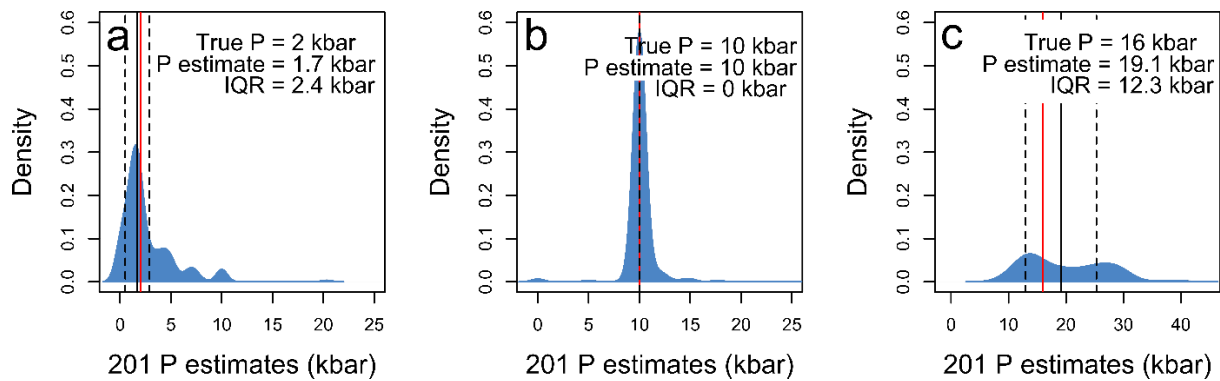
711 *Figure 4. Residuals (solid) and IQR (dashed) density plots for liquid and no liquid models, plots are*
 712 *for pressure (a) and temperature (b)*

713



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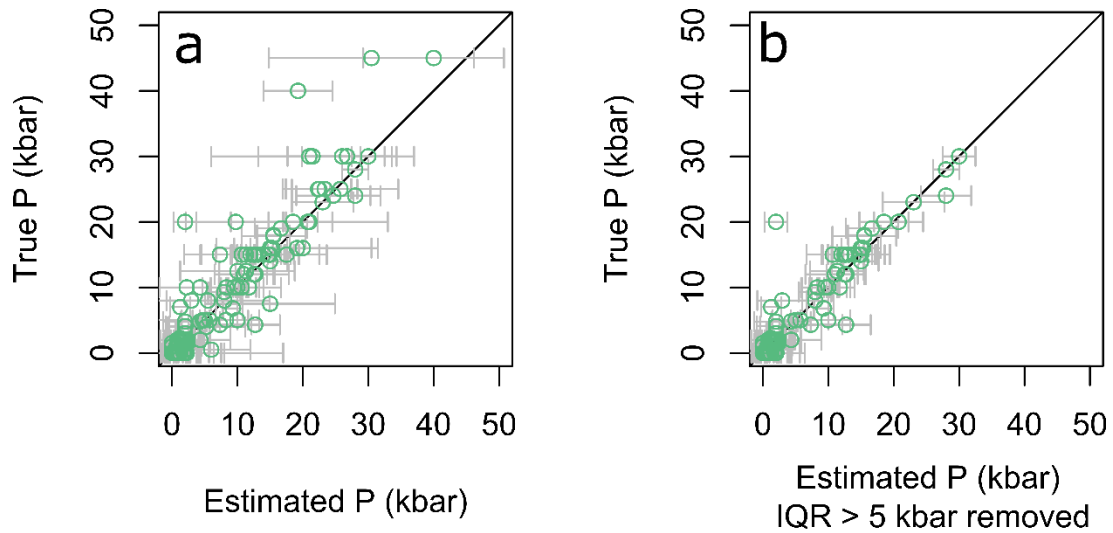
715 *Figure 5. Results from a model with a pressure gap from 5 to 15 kbar forced into the calibration dataset*
716 *(grey dashed lines). Clearly seen in a and b is the poor performance of the modal estimates*



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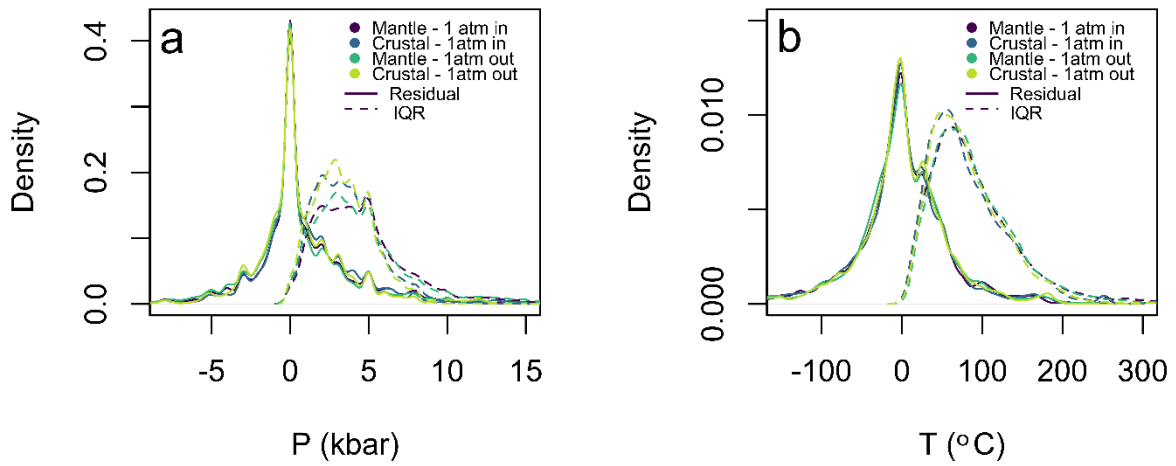
718 *Figure 6. Figure explaining the components of the IQR and showing examples of samples which have*
719 *generated a high (c) and low (b) IQR. Samples plotted here are the 201 estimates given from one forest*
720 *for one sample. The solid black vertical line is the estimated pressure using the median method, the*
721 *solid red vertical line is the true pressure, and the two black vertical dashed lines represent the IQR.*
722 *Text on the plot shows the true pressure, estimated pressure and interquartile range, all in kbar*

723



724

725 *Figure 7. a) Single split of the test/train dataset plotted with the IQR as one would with error bars in*
 726 *grey. b) the same dataset but filtered to remove IQR larger than 5 kbar*



727

728 *Figure 8. Residuals (solid) and IQR (dashed) density plots for the pressure filtered models mantle (0-*
 729 *70 kbar), crustal (0-15 kbar) with and without the 1 atm experiments. Plots are for pressure (a) and*
 730 *temperature (b)*

731