Interactive comment on “High-precision ID-TIMS Cassiterite U-Pb systematics using a low-contamination hydrothermal decomposition: implications for LA-ICP-MS and ore deposit geochronology” by Simon Richard Tapster and Joshua William George Bright

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This is a nice study with useful results. Just for information, the following paper was accepted for publication in Chemical Geology on 12 February 2020:


As such, this Geochronology manuscript should be revised to reflect this prior publication with appropriate citation (e.g., line 15, "... due to the extreme resistance of cassiterite to most forms of acid digestion, to date, there has been no published method permitting the complete, closed system decomposition of cassiterite under conditions where the basic necessities of measurement by isotope dilution can be met, leading to a paucity of reference, and validation materials", and line 33: "this method can, for the first time, be used to properly characterise suitable reference materials for micro-beam cassiterite U-Pb analyses").

The chemical separations used by the two studies are somewhat different so a brief comparison of the methods and results might be appropriate in the revised version as well.

Thank you to the authors for presenting a clear and well described study.

M. Norman, RSES-ANU 13 Feb 2020