



Plate 1. Photomicrographs showing optical features of in situ naturally weathered and thermally oxidised coals in reflected light, oil immersion: (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) microcracks, microfissures due to weathering, (f) pale oxidation rim due to heat affect, (g) (h) dark oxidation rims due to low temperature oxidation. ((f) (g) taken from Wagner (2007). Photomicrograph courtesy of Dr. N. Wagner, Coal and Carbon Research Group, School of Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering, University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg, Wits, South Africa.