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What do mineralogical variations in contact metamorphic haloes tell us?

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Beiras schist series

- studied from the point of view of sedimentological history, and its significance.
- differences in stratigraphy >>> leading to ongoing studies by the Lisbon team
- significant changes in textures due to major deformation and transpositions associated with late-Variscan tectonics (work in progress in Lisbon)
- Effects of contact metamorphism: detailed examples such as the Penamacor study (Ribeiro da Costa et al., 2013)
- Further north, pioneering studies on the effects of proximal mineralisation (Regoufe granite, Gaans et al, 1995)
- In the Gois-Segura strip, numerous but widely scattered data, generally in the immediate vicinity of intrusions (Argemela), or veins (Panasqueira, Argemela) (metric scale) much less data integrated at a regional scale









Contact Metamorphism

500m to 1km at max of the granite boundary











Development of spots is a function of lithology (Al-rich layers)

Spots : Absent of the quartz-mica layers









Spots : Great variety of shapes, sizes

only two minerals are generally invoked

Cordierite (Mg,Fe)₂Al₃(AlSi₅O₁₈)· $^+$ n(H₂O,CO₂)







Better preserved (Coimbra area for instance)

But in most areas, no relics are found, crystals are entirely replaced or never existed



Thin section scale

Sample scale

Andalusite preserved in the Coimbra area







SEG min Sn



SEG 3-4-5



Extreme deformation of the schists

Transposition Boudinage of comptent siliceous layers

Deformation along the S2 planes Enrichment in phyllosilicates along planes

Synchronicity with contact metamorphism Deformation of spots



SEG 1-2





SEG 3/4/5 schist











Spotted schists – 500 to 1km around the batholith + effects of dyke intrusions









Spots are memory of:

- Deformation
- Mineral segregation
- Contact metamorphism
- Effects of fluids
- Retromorphic conditions











Spot: K, Al, Rb Mu (matrix) as plates Qtz less abundant Bi-Ch (large, abundant) (Ilm-Rt) Ap, Mon

Matrix: Na, (K), Al, Fe, Mg. Albite, Qtz more abundant Tourmaline Mu Bi-Chl (large crystals) Ilmenite-Rt









Ap (Ca enrichment ?) Mu dissolution ? Ni ?

> Na, Mg, Mn,Fe Chl (matrix) Albite **Bi**-Ch (large patch) Qtz absent







Mata da Rainha



Tourmalinisation of spots Followed by muscovitisation



Spot crystal-chemistry (Musc, Bt >Chl)





No albite Ilmenite >> rutile Spots = quartz nodule + halo rich in Kmicas Outside : Qtz+ matrix of biot-chl + euhedral biotites(chl)



by micas



Spots 1 : replaced by muscovite K-Rb Spots2 : Fe-Mn









Panasqueira XX-4a L3_D9_R1_AW33



QM 10







Cordierite → Bt+ Ms → Chl (+Ms)





QM-8

Argemela intrusion

Tourmalinisation aureole ± phosphates

Muscovitisation aureole, replacement of biotite Phantom of cordierite

Muscovitisation in the mass of schists Cordierite inherited (intact shape), replaced by biotite and muscovite QM4

Cordierite replaced partially by biotite at the periphery Strong deformation of cordierite

Age of cordierite, link with which granite ? Why a systematic retromorphosis in the greenschist facies at the regional scale ?



Enrichment factors

Distance to intrusion (m)

10000

1000

Spotting :

• the relationships with deformation need more attention

the formation of spots does not imply necessarily the formation or cordierite (see Galan et al, in Betics) : serpentine , or biotite clusters
? Without reaching the cordierite field

• the regional distribution of andalusite (preserved, multiple in the western part (Coimbra region), and potential cordierite spots areas with rare relics of andalusite (PNQ-Argemela, Segura) vs eastern part without andalusite and cordierite : no clear explanation (pressure ?)

• extension of muscovitisation related to late variscan fluids could be an interesting pathfinder (F, B, Li, Rb, Cs aureoles), (already proposed)

• the extension of tourmalinisation seem restricted to main contact zones, mais this needs checking

Overall retromorphosis: • the systematic retromorphosis to the chlorite zone (greenschist facies) implies large pervasive fluid circulation at the regional scale which need also explanations





Conclusions

 the schist host rock formation for granites and mineral deposits represent a significant source of information that has probably been underestimated in the past. (despite a number of attempts)

- the exact nature of the spots remains a matter of debate
- zoning in the regional distributions of andalusite versus cordierite has no clear explanation
- absence of visible spots not always the case : microscopic and chemical evidences
- intense muscovitisation and tourmalinisation at the contact of the intrusions, visible and evident, have a wider distribution at least a hectometric scale

this could be more systematised in prospection stages

• very significant chemical redistribution on the scale of the sample, and pervasive fluid penetration over large volumes

>>> Could this be evidence of how metal sources work? B, W, Sn, Ti, ... ?