



PERGAMON

Journal of Asian Earth Sciences 19 (2001) 375–397

Journal of Asian
Earth Sciences

www.elsevier.nl/locate/jseas

Anorogenic alkaline granites from northeastern Brazil: major, trace, and rare earth elements in magmatic and metamorphic biotite and Na-mafic minerals[☆]

J. Plá Cid^{a,*}, L.V.S. Nardi^a, H. Conceição^b, B. Bonin^c

^aCurso de Pós-Graduação em Geociências UFRGS. Campus da Agronomia-Inst. de Geoc., Av. Bento Gonçalves, 9500, 91509-900 CEP RS Brazil

^bCPGG-PPPG/UFBA. Rua Caetano Moura, 123, Instituto de Geociências-UFBA, CEP- 40210-350, Salvador-BA Brazil

^cDepartement des Sciences de la Terre, Laboratoire de Pétrographie et Volcanologie-Université Paris-Sud. Centre d'Orsay, Bat. 504, F-91504, Paris, France

Accepted 29 August 2000

Abstract

The anorogenic, alkaline silica-oversaturated Serra do Meio suite is located within the Riacho do Pontal fold belt, northeast Brazil. This suite, assumed to be Paleoproterozoic in age, encompasses metaluminous and peralkaline granites which have been deformed during the Neoproterozoic collisional event. Preserved late-magmatic to *subsolidus* amphiboles belong to the riebeckite–arfvedsonite and riebeckite–winchite solid solutions. Riebeckite–winchite is frequently rimmed by Ti-aegirine. Ti-aegirine cores are strongly enriched in Nb, Y, Hf, and REE, which significantly decrease in concentrations towards the rims. REE patterns of Ti-aegirine are strikingly similar to Ti-pyroxenes from the Ilímaussaq peralkaline intrusion. Recrystallisation of mineral assemblages was associated with deformation although some original grains are still preserved. Magmatic annite was converted into magnetite and biotite with lower Fe/(Fe + Mg) ratios. Recrystallised amphibole is pure riebeckite. Magmatic Ti–Na-bearing pyroxene was converted to low-Ti aegirine + titanite ± astrophyllite/aenigmatite. The reaction riebeckite + quartz → aegirine + magnetite + quartz + fluid is also observed. Biotite and Na-mafic minerals recrystallised under metamorphic oxidising conditions corresponding to temperatures of 600°C between the NiNiO and HM buffers. © 2001 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Anorogenic alkaline granites; Earth elements; Northeastern Brazil

1. Introduction

Granites related to the alkaline series are common in within-plate, anorogenic (Murthy and Venkatesanam, 1964; Martin and Piwinski, 1972), or post orogenic settings (Nardi and Bonin, 1991). Classical alkaline anorogenic suites are exemplified by the Younger Granite province of Niger — Nigeria (Jacobson et al., 1958), the Proterozoic Gardar province, South Greenland (Upton, 1974), and the Finnish rapakivi magmatism (Vorma, 1976). Examples of post-orogenic alkaline suites are the Permian–Triassic Western Mediterranean Province Bonin (1980), Neoproterozoic Saibro Intrusive Suite, south Brazil (Nardi and Bonin, 1991), and the Pan-African Arabian Shield. Comparing both post-orogenic and anoro-

genic alkaline suites, Rogers and Greenberg (1990) showed that post-orogenic suites are slightly richer in CaO and MgO with lower amounts of alkalis. Peralkaline types are more abundant in anorogenic suites while metaluminous types are largely dominant in post-orogenic associations (Nardi and Bonin, 1991).

In this paper, major, trace and rare earth elements data on mafic minerals from a Paleoproterozoic anorogenic alkaline suite are presented and discussed. Trace and rare earth element data in sodic amphibole and pyroxene were obtained by ion microprobe, through the SIMS technical approach, showing the variation of these elements between magmatic and metamorphic grains.

2. Geological setting

Paleoproterozoic alkaline magmatism with potassic affinities have been described in the São Francisco Craton by Conceição (1990), Conceição (1994), Rosa (1994), Rios (1997) and Paim (1998). This potassic alkaline character

[☆] This paper is part of the Special Issue: Alkaline and Carbonatitic Magmatism and Associated Mineralization—Part II. Guest Editors: L.G. Gwalani, J.L. Lytwyn.

* Corresponding author.

E-mail address: placid@if.ufrgs.br (J. Plá Cid).

is ascribed to the peculiar composition of the Paleoproterozoic mantle in northeastern Brazil, which has produced alkaline magmas with compositions suggesting metasomatized mantle sources.

The Serra do Meio Suite (SMS, Leite, 1997) is located in the Riacho do Pontal Fold Belt (RPFB, Brito Neves, 1975), in the Borborema Province of northeastern region of Brazil (Fig. 1). The RPFB, located in the northwestern border of the São Francisco Craton (SFC), is one of the several Brasiliano (1.0–0.45 Ga, Wernick, 1981; Barbosa and Dominguez, 1996) fold belts surrounding this craton. According to Jardim de Sá (1994), the Neoproterozoic fold belts in northeastern Brazil were generated during intracontinental collisional events, with no evidence of coeval subduction.

The Serra do Meio Suite is an alkaline granitic magmatism, which is part of the Campo Alegre de Lourdes Alkaline Province (Conceição, 1990). These alkaline granites have been studied by Leite (1987, 1997), Conceição (1990), Plá Cid (1994) and Plá Cid et al., (2000). Isotopic determinations at Campo Alegre de Lourdes Alkaline Province point to magmatic ages related with the Transamazônico Event (2.0 ± 0.2 Ga, Wernick, 1981), as evidenced by U–Pb data in zircon/baddeleyite grains of the Angico dos Dias Carbonatite (2.01 Ga, Silva et al., 1988). In this area, the end of Transamazônico Event was marked by crustal extension in a continental rift setting (Leite et al., 1993; Plá Cid, 1994), emplacement of the Angico do Dias carbonatite complex, outpouring of tholeitic to transitional basalts with cumulative

preserved structures (Couto, 1989) and associated alkaline granites.

The Neoproterozoic event at Campo Alegre de Lourdes region was characterised by frontal collision of continental blocks, with extensive thrust tectonics along ENE–WSW striking surfaces (Leite et al., 1993; Plá Cid, 1994 Fig. 1C). NS-striking sub-vertical transcurrent zones were identified in the northeastern part of this region (Fig. 1C), and interpreted as lateral ramps active during the frontal event (Leite, 1997). All geological units were affected by this tectonic event which produced ductile shear structures along thrust planes and lateral ramps. Such a framework follows Plá Cid (1994) in that lithological contacts in the Serra do Meio Suite result from strong superimposition of tectonic regimes during the Neoproterozoic event and do not represent the igneous geometry.

3. Geology and petrography

The oldest rocks are represented by the late Archean Gneissic–Migmatitic Complex which yields a whole-rock Rb–Sr age of 2.6 Ga as determined by whole-rock Rb–Sr isotopic dating (Dalton de Souza et al., 1979). These gneisses have granite and trondhjemite–tonalite compositions with development of migmatitic structures and were metamorphosed within the amphibolite facies. Metasedimentary rocks are represented by quartz–mica schist and calcareous schist belonging to Paleoproterozoic Serra da Boa Esperança Unit (Silva et al., 1988) and by metapelitic

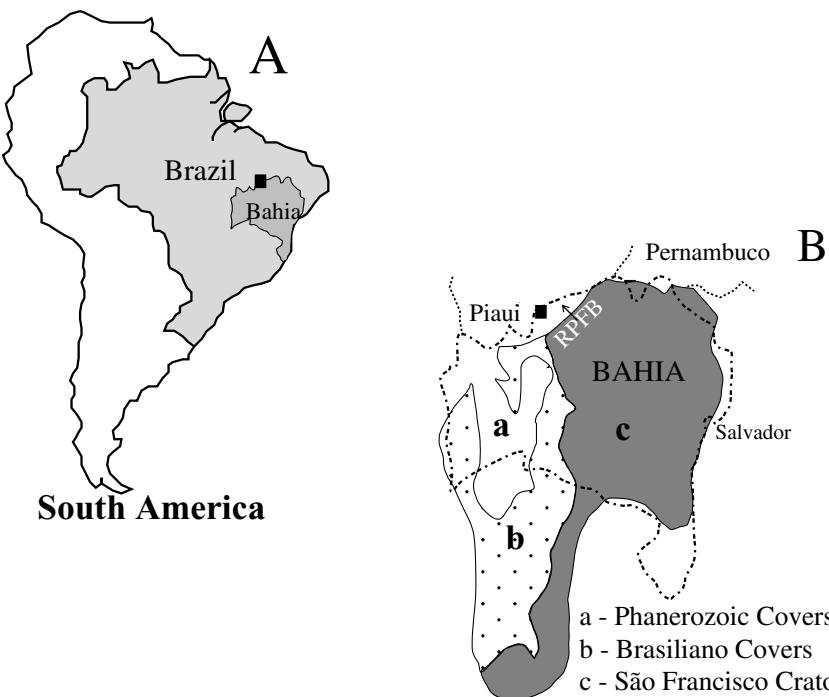


Fig. 1. (A) Location of studied area in South America. (B) The São Francisco Craton is within the state of Bahia. The Serra do Meio suite is located between Bahia and Piauí states, inside the RPFB terrain. (C) Geological map of the Serra do Meio suite, modified after Leite (1997).

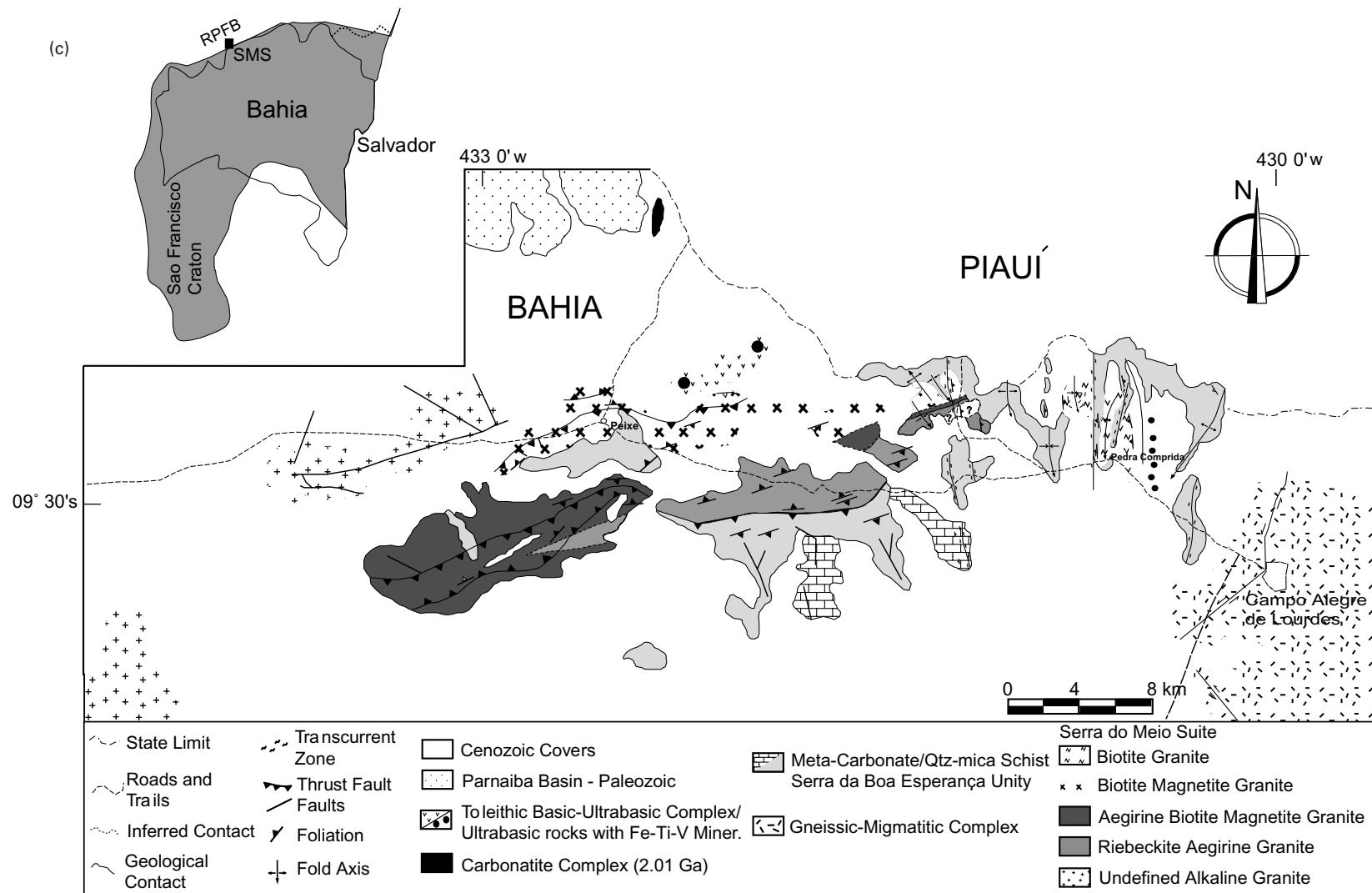


Fig. 1. (continued)

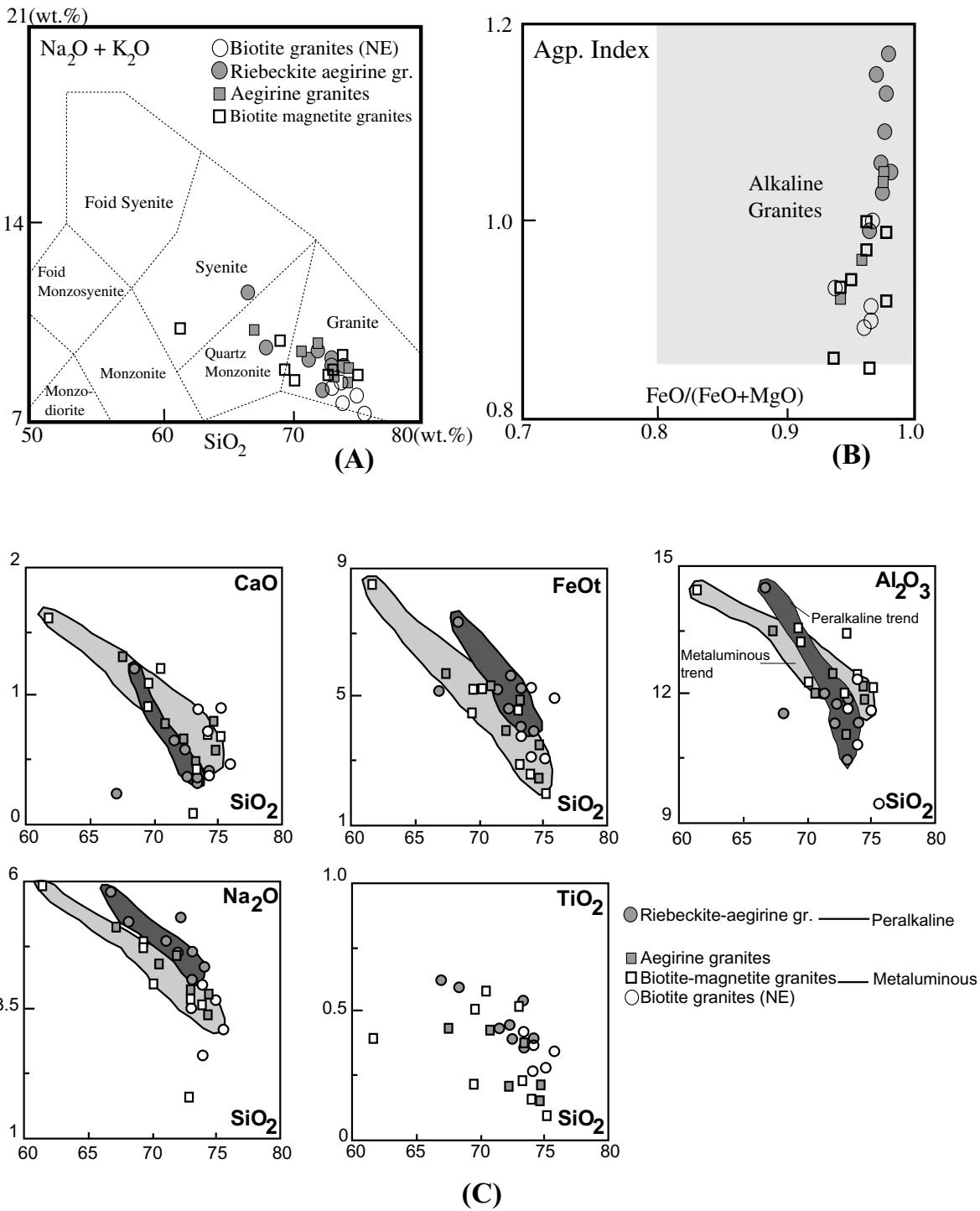


Fig. 2. (A) Total alkalis vs. silica (TAS) diagram, in wt.%, after Le Maitre et al. (1989), with chemical classification and nomenclature of plutonic rocks, according to Middlemost (1994). (B) Agpaitic index vs. $\text{FeOt}/(\text{FeOt} + \text{MgO})$ diagram (Nardi, 1991), showing the usual field for alkaline granites. (C) Harker diagrams of the Serra do Meio Suite.

and metapsamic rocks included in the Mesoproterozoic Santo Onofre Group (Leite, 1997), both metamorphosed to greenschist facies.

The Serra do Meio Suite includes several intrusions oriented along ENE–WSW trends (Fig. 1C) that intrude the Serra da Boa Esperança Unit. Quartz–mica schist

xenoliths are abundant within the alkaline granites. The granites were deformed by the Brasiliano collision that produced gneissic structures with a marked foliation dipping to the SE or NW (Plá Cid et al., 2000). The pre-Brasiliano age of alkaline granites is suggested by whole-rock Rb–Sr errorchrons yielding an age of ca. 850 Ma

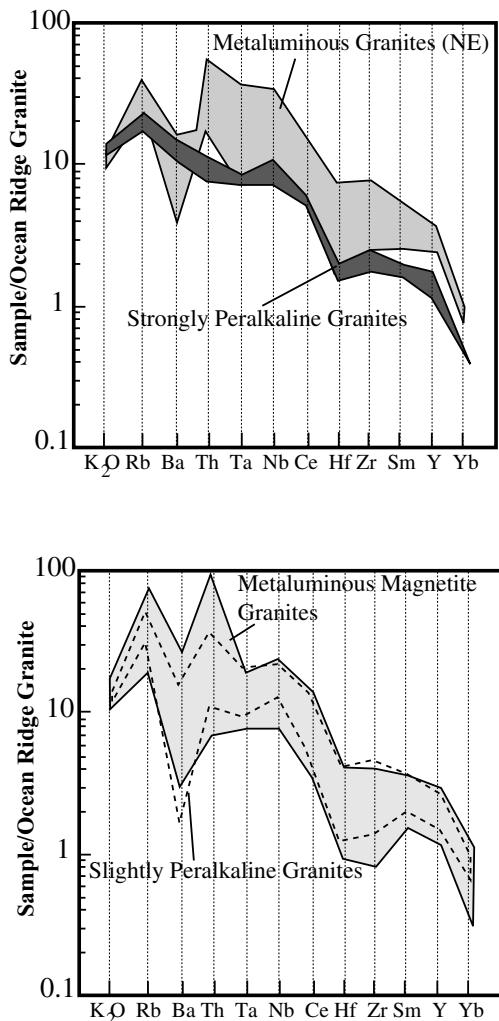


Fig. 3. Spidergrams of the Serra do Meio suite normalised to Ocean Ridge Granites (Pearce et al., 1984).

with magnetite porphyroblasts; (ii) slightly peralkaline granites, and (iii) strongly peralkaline granites.

The northeastern plutons, as well as restricted parts of the ENE–WSW striking bodies, are made up of metaluminous granites (Fig. 1). Biotite is the only mafic mineral, and occurs as interstitial grains or in millimetric elongated concentrations. Fluorite grains are common. In the ENE–WSW striking bodies, biotite is sometimes transformed to muscovite and magnetite porphyroblasts are associated with interstitial carbonate which suggests the important role of Fe–CO₂-bearing fluids during the Brasiliano deformation (Plá Cid, 1994).

The slightly peralkaline granites have aegirine, aegirine–augite, and colourless pyroxene optically identified as hedenbergite (Plá Cid et al., 2000). Interstitial biotite and magnetite porphyroblasts are rare. The size, shape, and composition of hedenbergite and of aegirine–augite grains indicate their magmatic origin. Aegirine–augite constitutes either millimetre-size irregular concentrations or aciculate grains included in alkali feldspar cores (Conceição, 1990).

The recrystallised clear rims of alkali feldspar are devoid of pyroxene inclusions. Aegirine occurs as magmatic and metamorphic crystals without compositional differences. Poikiloblastic aegirine encloses alkali feldspar, albite, and quartz.

The strong peralkaline granites have amphibole, aegirine and aegirine–augite, aenigmatite or astrophyllite, biotite, titanite, and magnetite as mafic magmatic and metamorphic constituents:

3.1. Metamorphic Minerals

Amphibole occurs as dark- to brownish-blue poikiloblasts, and as interstitial grains. The interstitial grains are surrounded by aegirine along the foliation, and both were produced by recrystallisation during the Neoproterozoic event, whereas the poikiloblasts probably recrystallised later in the same metamorphic event (Leite et al., 1991). These poikiloblasts have a reddish fibrous mineral (aenigmatite or astrophyllite) and euhedral titanite along their borders (Plá Cid et al., 2000). The presence of magnetite blasts along the foliation reflects the occurrence of Fe-bearing fluids associated with this metamorphism.

3.2. Magmatic Minerals

They are non oriented, subhedral, dark-amphibole grains sometimes mantled by aegirine and aegirine–augite. Subhedral pyroxene phenocrysts are intensively zoned and crosscut by the foliation (Plá Cid et al., 2000). Some subhedral, interstitial grains of pyroxene were also interpreted as magmatic.

4. Geochemistry

The alkaline affinity of the Serra do Meio Suite is shown in Fig. 2A and B. Additionally, the very low contents of CaO and MgO, high concentrations of alkalis and the very high values of FeOt/(FeOt + MgO) ratios and the agpaitic index are diagnostic of their alkaline affinity (Table 1; Sorensen, 1974; Bonin, 1982; Whalen et al., 1987; Rogers and Greenberg, 1990; Nardi, 1991, and references therein). Typical anorogenic suites and the Serra do Meio granites have similar compositions (Fig. 2B).

The agpaitic index, which varies between 0.85 and 1.0 in the metaluminous granites, reaches 1.05 in the slightly peralkaline granites and 1.17 in the strongly peralkaline types. As pointed out by Plá Cid et al. (2000), the Harker diagrams (Fig. 2C) illustrate that the Serra do Meio Suite evolved along two evolutionary paths represented by: (i) the metaluminous trend, formed by metaluminous and slightly peralkaline granites, and (ii) the peralkaline trend, composed by the strongly peralkaline rocks. The evolutionary trends can be generated by two alkaline parental liquids due to differences in their sources or petrogenetic processes. The peralkaline trend is richer in Na₂O, TiO₂, and FeOt,

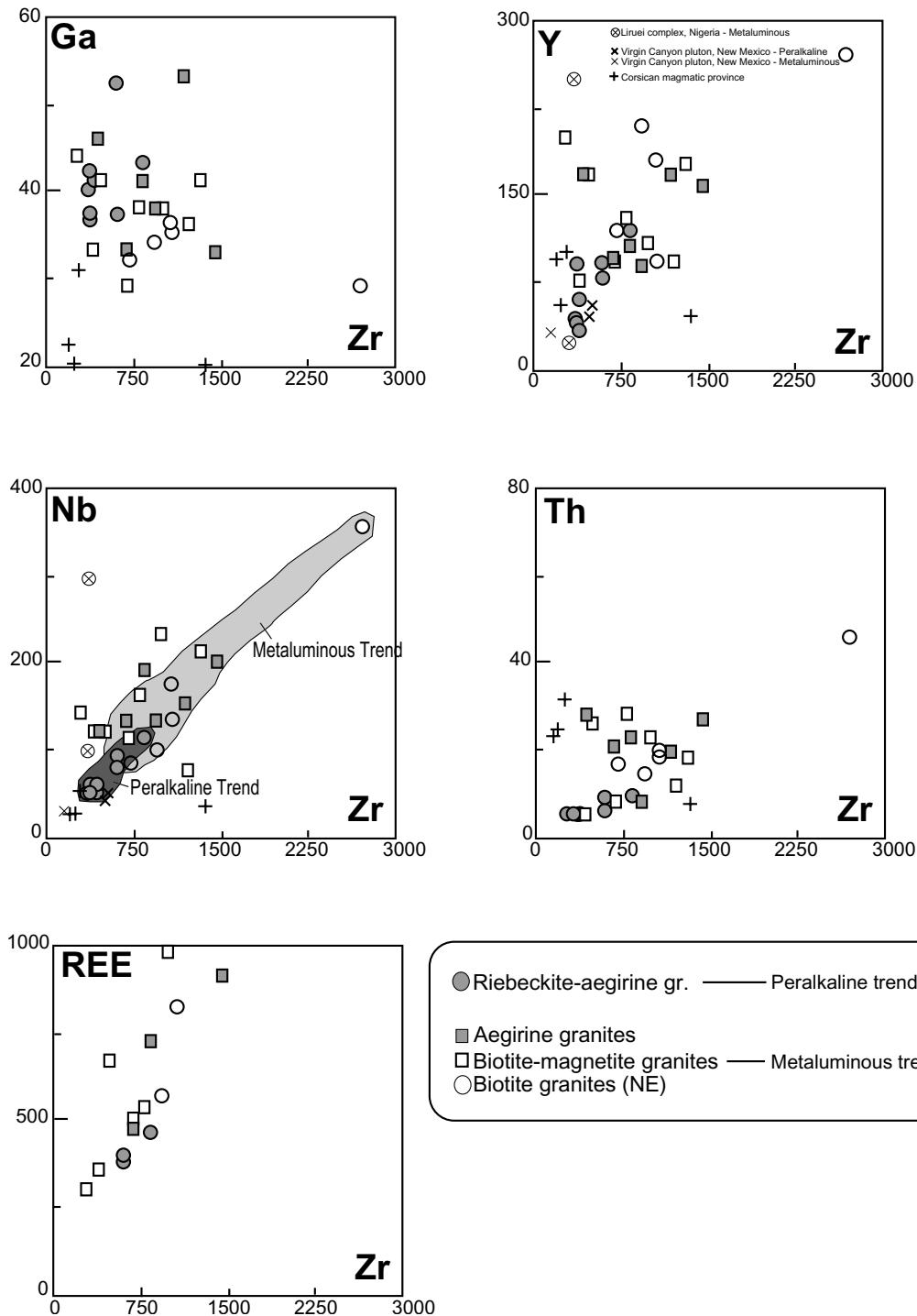


Fig. 4. Ga, Y, Nb, Th, and REE vs. Zr plots, showing the different concentrations for the peralkaline and metaluminous trends.

whereas the metaluminous one has higher concentration of CaO and Al₂O₃ (Fig. 2C). Their parallelism suggest a similar magmatic evolution controlled by feldspar fractionation as indicated by the Al₂O₃ × SiO₂ plot.

The whole-rock trace element concentration of the Serra do Meio Suite are comparable to those of typical anorogenic granites (Fig. 3). They are characterised by high concentration of incompatible HFS elements (Nb, Zr, Ga, Y, Hf), light

rare earth elements (LREE; Table 1), and Rb/Sr ratios > 1. As previously observed by Plá Cid et al. (1997), Zr exhibits a peculiar behaviour, with higher concentration in granites of the metaluminous trend than in the more peralkaline varieties (Fig. 4). The Zr solubility increases with the peralkalinity (Watson, 1979) and alkali contents of the magma (Harris, 1980). Zr enrichment in metaluminous granites, followed by higher concentration of HFSE and

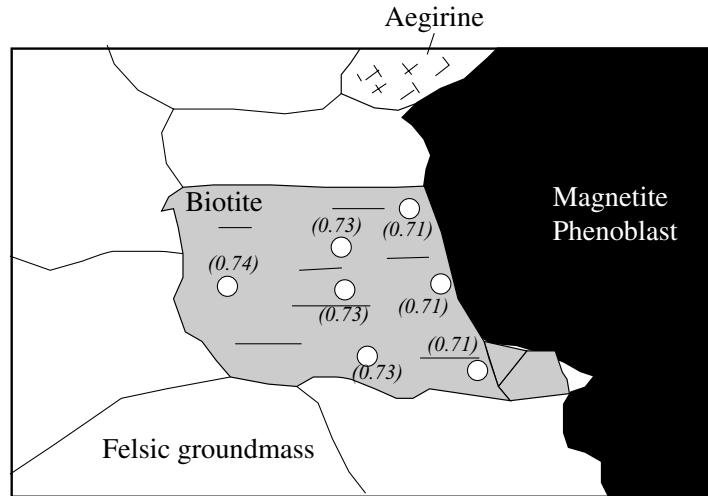


Fig. 7. Textural feature of the slightly peralkaline granite with metamorphic growth of magnetite in contact with biotite. In the biotite crystal are shown some values of the $\text{Fe}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe})$ ratio.

riebeckite, or a member of riebeckite–arfvedsonite and riebeckite–winchite solid solutions (Fig. 11A). These evolved compositions reflect the high SiO_2 -contents of the whole rock which varies between 73 and 74 wt.%. The occurrence of riebeckite–arfvedsonite compositions suggests a late-stage magmatic trend, part of the richterite–arfvedsonite series, defined by Fabriès (1978) and Giret et al. (1980). According to Bowden (1982), riebeckite is a *subsolidus* mineral produced by reaction between earlier mafic minerals and water-, albite-, and acmite-rich fluids.

Magmatic amphiboles are riebeckite–arfvedsonite and riebeckite–winchite solid solutions with a late-magmatic or *subsolidus* origin. Riebeckite–arfvedsonite compositions occur in non-oriented subhedral grains whereas riebeckite–

winchite crystals are surrounded by sodic pyroxene (Fig. 12).

Pure riebeckite was considered by Plá Cid (1994) to be a product of recrystallisation. The crystals are subhedral to euhedral porphyroblasts occasionally associated with pure aegirine. They have the highest $\text{Fe}^{+3}/\text{Fe}^{+2}$ ratio (0.55–0.80) whereas in the *subsolidus* crystals indicate ratios between 0.12 and 0.60. This is in agreement with the higher fO_2 conditions prevailing during metamorphism.

Riebeckite–arfvedsonite and riebeckite–winchite grains have higher Ca-contents than metamorphic grains (Fig. 11) whereas (Na + K) concentrations are similar in all amphibole types.

The magmatic amphibole (Fig. 13) evolution is controlled by the general substitution: ${}^{\text{A}}\text{Na} + \text{Fe}^{+2} \rightarrow {}^{\text{A}}\square + \text{Fe}^{+3}$ (Fabriès, 1978). In the same diagram, the metamorphic amphiboles represent a group with higher values of ${}^{\text{A}}\square + \text{Fe}^{+3}$. The recrystallised grains have a fill rate in the A-site below 10%, whereas magmatic crystals can reach 37%. This low fill rate in the A-site, compared to more than 90% of the B-site filled by Na, confirms the riebeckite pure end-member composition (Miyashiro, 1957; Boyd, 1959) for metamorphic amphiboles.

5.3. Pyroxene

Pyroxenes are only present in peralkaline rocks as suggested by Neumann (1976) who showed that sodic pyroxenes appear only in magmas with an agpaitic character ($\text{Na} + \text{K}/\text{Al}$) higher than 1. According to the IMA nomenclature proposition (Morimoto, 1988), they are aegirine–augite and aegirine (Fig. 14). Representative analyses are listed in Table 4.

In the slightly peralkaline granites, pyroxene is aegirine–augite and pure aegirine (Fig. 14), with a compositional gap between both pyroxenes. The aegirine–augite grains are interpreted as preserved magmatic pyroxene whereas pure

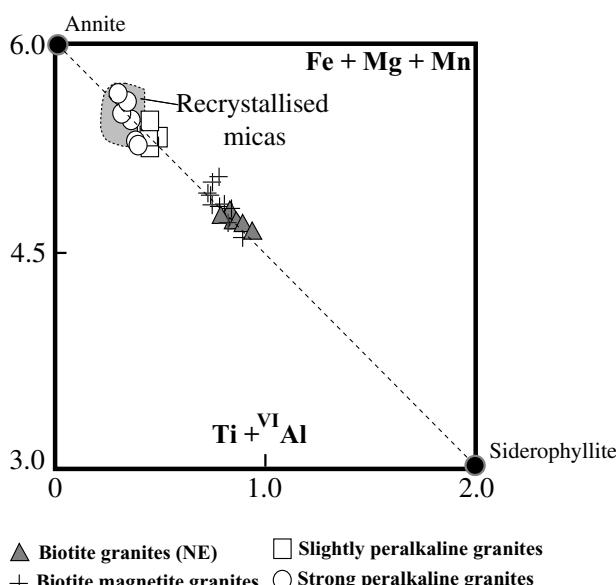


Fig. 8. $\text{Fe} + \text{Mg} + \text{Mn}$ vs. $\text{Ti} + \text{VI Al}$ diagram for Fe-rich micas (after Bonin, 1982).

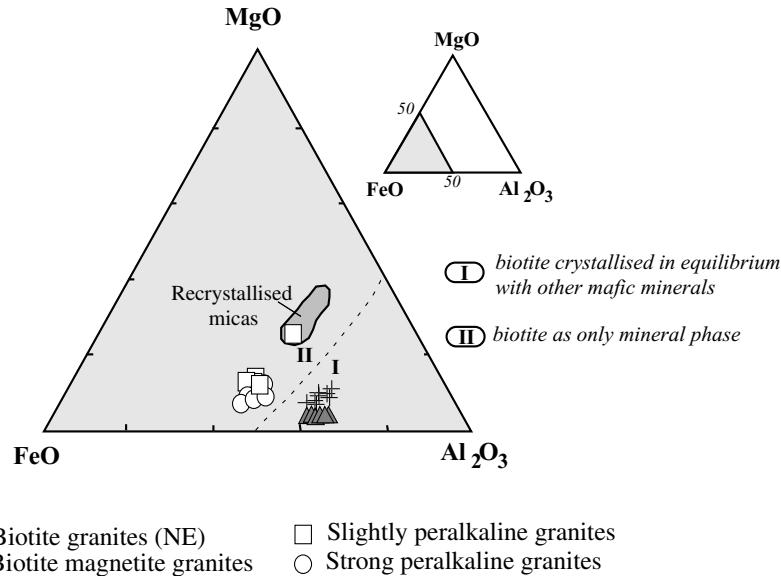


Fig. 9. Triangular diagram after Nockolds (1947) for discrimination of biotite coexisting with other mafic minerals (olivine, pyroxene, amphibole), and biotite as the only mafic mineral.

aegirine is formed through metamorphic recrystallisation of aegirine–augite.

Magmatic pyroxene crystals from strongly peralkaline granites display compositional zoning varying from aegirine–augite to aegirine (Fig. 14). These grains are characterised by Ti-rich zones, containing up to 15% of the Na₂FeTiSi₄O₁₂ NAT (neptunite) molecule (TiO₂ up to 5.25 wt.%), with very low concentrations of jadeite component (Fig. 14). This titanium-rich composition is probably controlled by TiO₂ contents in the magma, since the strongly peralkaline granites are richer in TiO₂ than the other types (Fig. 2C). According to Nielsen (1979), Ti-aegirine crystallises under *liquidus* conditions down to temperatures of 600°C Ferguson (1977). Larsen (1976) and Nielsen (1979) argued that Ti-Fe⁺²-pyroxene is produced under low fO₂ conditions.

The zoned pyroxenes are either subhedral grains or occur along the margin of winchite–riebeckite subhedral phenocrysts. The petrographic and electron probe data indicate a late magmatic or *subsolidus* crystallisation order: riebeckite–winchite → Ti-aegirine–augite → Ti-aegirine. This paragenesis, as inferred by Ferguson (1978), Bonin (1980) and Bonin and Giret (1985), suggests that Ti-bearing aegirine crystallises after calcic and sodic amphiboles. In the strongly peralkaline granites, recrystallised grains have aegirine and aegirine–augite compositions with TiO₂ contents lower than 0.2 wt.% and higher Al₂O₃ concentrations (analyses x and e — Table 4). This TiO₂-loss in pyroxene during deformation produced the metamorphic paragenesis aegirine + titanite + (astrophyllite or aenigmatite). In the samples without Ti-pyroxene is not observed any Ti-bearing mineral, and the pyroxene composition ranges between aegirine–augite and aegirine (Fig. 14). In this case, the magmatic and metamorphic aegirine crystals are chemically very similar.

The pyroxenes plot near the acmite apex (Fig. 15A), within the peralkaline silica-saturated field (Bonin and Giret, 1985). As noted by Neumann (1976) and Bonin and Giret (1985), aegirine compositions are compatible with a high aegirite index and high silica activity in the magma.

The substitutional schemes are described by the oxidising trends Ca + Fe⁺² → Na + Fe⁺³ (Fig. 15B) and Ca + Ti + Fe⁺² → Na + 2Fe⁺³ (Fig. 15C), in magmatic and metamorphic grains. Similar substitutional schemes were reported by Giret et al. (1980) and Bonin and Giret (1985). The Fe⁺³/Fe⁺² vs. Ti diagram shows magmatic crystallisation of Ti-pyroxene under lower and constant fO₂-conditions, when compared to Ti-free pyroxene from strongly peralkaline granites (Fig. 16). In the slightly peralkaline granites, a dramatic increase in Fe⁺³/Fe⁺² ratios is observed, with the highest values corresponding to pure aegirine analyses (Fig. 16), confirming the high fO₂-conditions during metamorphism.

6. Trace and rare earth elements in pyroxene and amphibole

Sc, V, Sr, Ba, Y, Nb, Hf, and REE in pyroxene and amphibole grains were analysed using an ion microprobe CAMECA-IMS 3F, at the laboratory of the CRPG-Centre de Recherches Pétrographiques et Géochimiques, Nancy-France. Analytical data are presented in Table 5.

6.1. Pyroxene

Crystals of three different samples were analysed: (i) PPB-78A, strongly peralkaline granite, zoned Ti-aegirine; (ii) GA-46, strongly peralkaline granites, interstitial aegirine oriented along foliation, and, (iii) CL-87, slightly

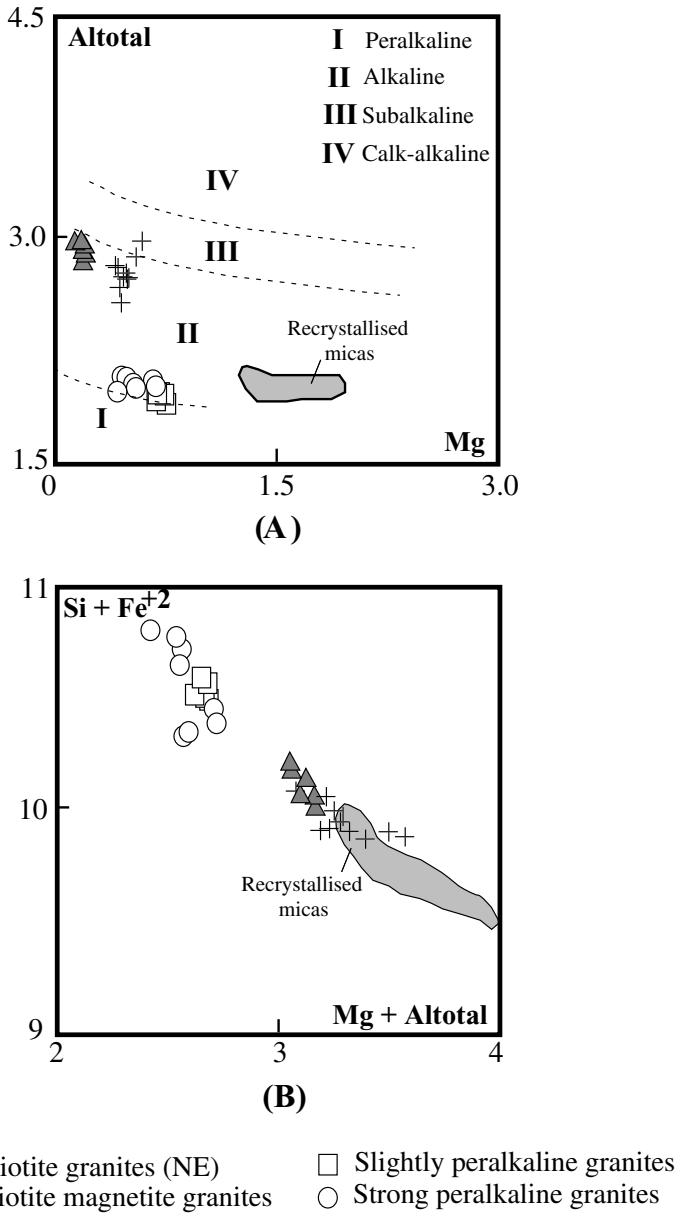


Fig. 10. Al vs. Mg diagram of Nachit et al. (1985), showing micas of the different magmatic series (A). Si + Fe⁺² vs. Mg + Al diagram showing biotite evolution in the Serra do Meio suite (B).

peralkaline granites, subhedral grains of millimetre-size irregular agglomerations.

As noted by Jacobson et al. (1958), Ernst (1962), Larsen (1976), Neumann (1976), Bonin (1980) and Mitchell (1990), mafic minerals from the sodic series crystallised late, and do not reflect the original liquid composition. Previous studies on trace and REE contents in pyroxene from peralkaline systems are rare and generally restricted to early crystallised phenocrysts (Larsen, 1979; Vannucci et al., 1991; Dorais and Floss, 1992). Aegirine grains in peralkaline suites were analysed by Shearer et al. (1989) and Shearer and Larsen (1994) in the Ilímaussaq complex, South Greenland.

In the strongly peralkaline granites, Ti-aegirine zoned

crystals of sample PPB-78A contain a Ti-rich core (TiO_2 — 3.5–5.2 wt.%) with concentrations along the rims varying from 1.2 to 2.0 wt.%. The lowest concentrations (<0.1 wt.%) occur along the outer recrystallised portion. Ti zonation is mirrored by REE where the Ti-rich core has the highest trace element and REE concentration (Fig. 17A) whereas the lowest values occur in the recrystallised rim.

The REE patterns of Ti-zoned pyroxene were normalised to the chondritic values of Evensen et al. (1978; Fig. 17A). The core is enriched in all rare earth elements, particularly in the intermediate group, with a slight Eu-negative anomaly (Fig. 17A). The high REE-contents of these pyroxenes confirms their incompatible behaviour in peralkaline oversaturated magmas. The rims, with

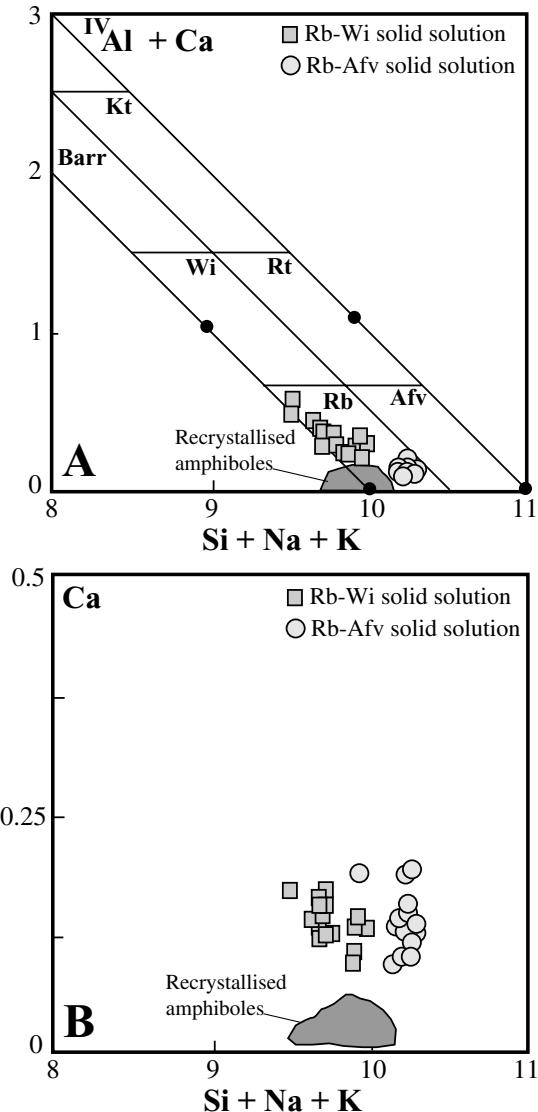


Fig. 11. Classification diagram for alkali-amphiboles (Giret et al., 1980). Katophorite (Kt), Barroisite (Barr), Winchite (Wi), Richterite (Rt), Arfvedsonite (Afv), and Riebeckite (Rb). (A) The filled circles indicate the composition of the end members. (B) Ca vs. Si + K + Na diagram discriminates the Ca contents in magmatic and metamorphic grains.

intermediate Ti-concentrations are depleted in intermediate rare earth elements (Fig. 17A) due to strong REE-partitioning in the Ti-rich core. The REE patterns of these rims are similar to those obtained by Larsen (1979) in hedenbergite and by Shearer and Larsen (1994) in aegirine (Fig. 17A), confirming their probable magmatic origin. The recrystallised rim has the lowest REE-content, mainly due to a decrease in the amount of light rare earth elements (Fig. 17A). Thus, metamorphism of Ti-aegirine resulted in the loss of Ti and light rare earth elements along the rims.

The Ti-aegirine crystal has low concentrations of Ba (1–7 ppm), Sr (7.2–23.4 ppm) and V (8.7–18.3 ppm) similar to those analysed by Shearer and Larsen (1994). The low

concentrations reflect the very low abundance of these elements in alkaline oversaturated liquids. On the contrary, Plá Cid et al. (1999) found that ultrapotassic syenites contain Sr and V-rich aegirine–augite crystals reflecting their early crystallisation from Sr and V-rich liquid.

Ti-aegirine from strongly peralkaline granites is enriched in Y (8–340 ppm), Nb (5–613 ppm) and Hf (6–85 ppm) showing a positive correlation among these elements (Fig. 17b). In figure 17C, where $Y_{\text{aegirine}}/Y_{\text{rock}}$ vs. $Nb_{\text{aegirine}}/Nb_{\text{rock}}$ ratios are plotted, the same positive correlation is observed suggesting that Y and Nb contents in Ti-aegirine are directly correlated to the concentrations in the liquid. The initial crystallisation of this pyroxene is marked by strong partitioning of Y, Nb, Hf, and REE which depletes the residual magmatic liquid in these elements and results in lower concentrations along the rims (Fig. 17b). The metamorphic rim is therefore characterised by Nb and Hf depletion, and Y enrichment (Fig. 17B and C).

The REE contents of recrystallised aegirine in sample GA-46 are enriched nearly 10 times the chondritic values (Fig. 17A). Their ΣREE contents show a strong depletion relative to Ti-pyroxenes. The REE patterns are roughly flat and very different from those reported by Larsen (1979) and Shearer and Larsen (1994). These uncommon patterns probably reflect metamorphic equilibration and not magmatic concentrations.

The whole-rock concentrations of Nb, Y, and Hf in sample GA-46 are lower than in the slightly peralkaline granites (sample — CL-87; Table 1), although the partition coefficients for mineral/rock are similar (Fig. 17C). In the strongly peralkaline granites, incompatible elements are preferentially concentrated in Na-pyroxenes whereas in the slightly peralkaline granites, these elements are also partitioned into other minerals. Therefore, the rare earth elements in peralkaline systems are more easily mobilised by fluids during metamorphism than other trace elements.

In the slightly peralkaline granites the subhedral sodic pyroxene from irregular agglomerations has lower REE contents than pyroxene grains from strongly peralkaline granites (Fig. 17A). REE abundances range between 10 and 44 ppm, and the shape of the patterns is similar to those of Ti-rich core pyroxene of strongly peralkaline granites. The patterns, as well as the textural features, reflect their magmatic origin.

Ba, Sr and V contents are very depleted in pyroxene grains of this facies and normally lower than in Ti-aegirine from strongly peralkaline granites (Table 5). The $Nb_{\text{aegirine}}/Nb_{\text{rock}}$ and $Y_{\text{aegirine}}/Y_{\text{rock}}$ ratios are also lower than those observed in Ti-aegirine and show the same positive correlation between concentrations in mineral and rock (Fig. 17C). The slightly peralkaline granites are richer in Nb-, Y-, and Hf relative to the strongly peralkaline varieties, and the mineral/rock elemental ratios are lower. This is probably due to accommodation of these elements by other minerals prior to late-stage or *subsolidus* pyroxene crystallisation.

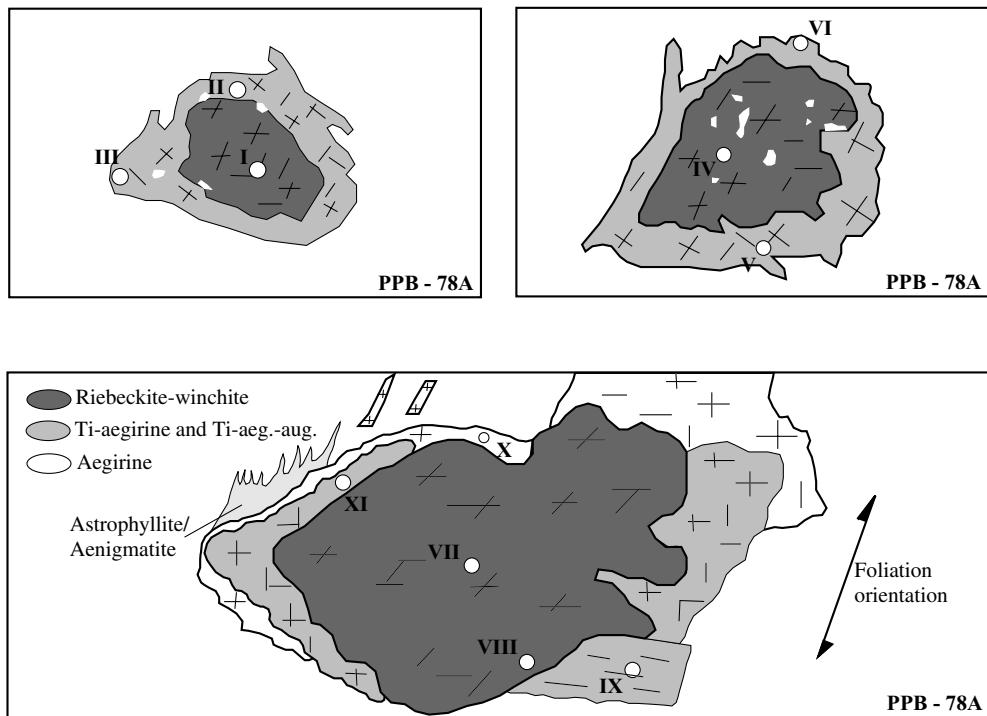


Fig. 12. Textural features of the strongly peralkaline granites showing the crystallisation order riebeckite–winchite, Ti–Na–pyroxene, and the metamorphic paragenesis—aegirine + astrophyllite/aenigmatite. The Roman numerals indicate the analyses observed in Tables 2–4.

6.2. Amphibole

The trace and rare earth element analyses for amphiboles are listed in Table 6. In samples PPP-78A and GA-34, amphibole occurs as oriented porphyroblasts with rims of reddish, fibrous, astrophyllite or aenigmatite. In sample GA-46, the analysed grain is interstitial and oriented parallel to the metamorphic foliation.

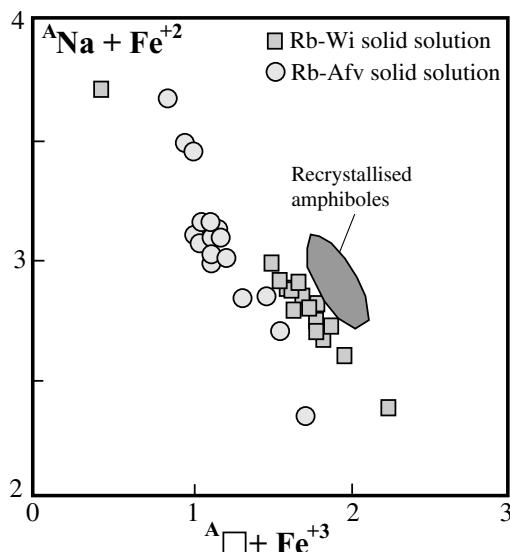


Fig. 13. Substitutional scheme for amphiboles from the Serra do Meio suite.

REE are generally enriched relative to chondritic values (Fig. 18), with absolute concentrations ranging from 2 to 275 ppm. These patterns are roughly flat, at about 10 times the chondritic values along with Eu-negative anomalies. The interstitial grains yield the highest concentrations of REE (275 ppm) and show intensive HREE fractionation (Fig. 18).

Compared with pyroxenes, amphiboles yield lower REE concentrations. The recrystallised pyroxenes from sample GA-46 exhibit REE patterns that are similar to those

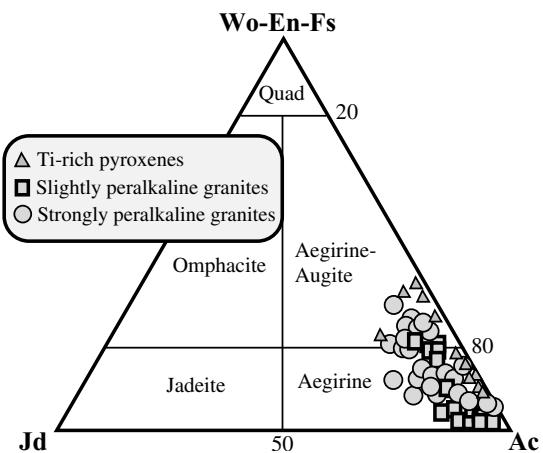


Fig. 14. QUAD–Jd–Ac triangular diagram for classification of sodic pyroxenes (after, Morimoto, 1988).

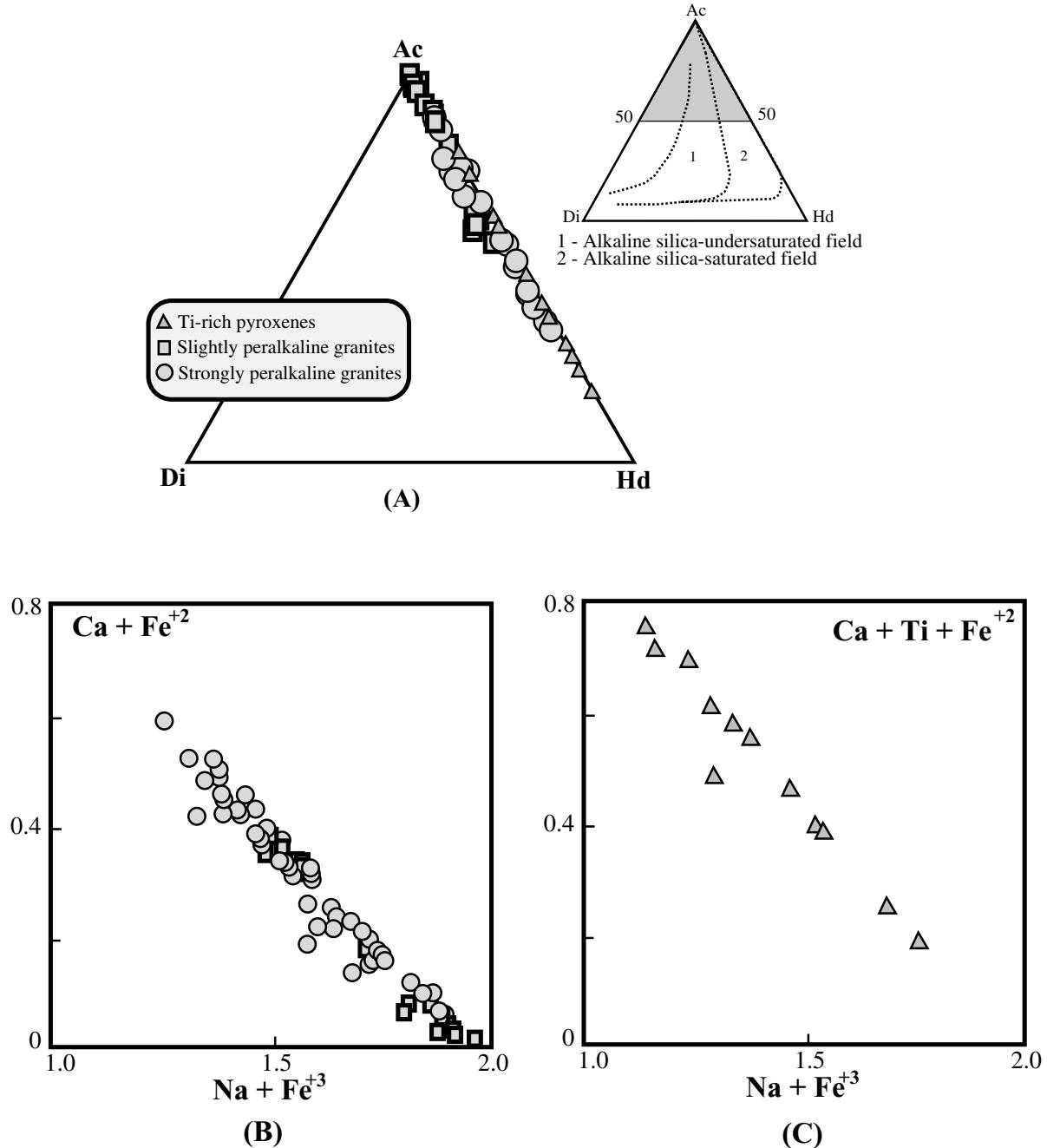


Fig. 15. (A) Diopside (Di)–Hedenbergite (Hd)–Acmite (Ac) triangular diagram (Bonin and Giret, 1985). (B) Substitutional schemes of the Na- and Na-Ca pyroxenes, and (C) Ti-rich pyroxenes.

observed for amphiboles, although pyroxenes have Ce enrichment relative to La which is not observed in amphiboles. Sr, V, and Hf concentrations are depleted relative to pyroxenes, whereas Ba is enriched (Table 6). Y and Nb concentrations are similar in amphiboles and pyroxenes for samples GA-46 and PPB-78A because these Na-rich minerals are the main carriers of these incompatible elements. However, the positive correlation between Y, Nb, and Hf in pyroxenes was not observed in amphibole, although the small number of analyses preclude any conclusions.

7. Final considerations

7.1. Magmatic evolution

Experimental studies have shown that partial melting of crustal sources is unlikely to generate peralkaline granitic magmas (Patiño Douce and Beard, 1996; Dooley and Patiño Douce, 1996). Halliday et al. (1991) argue for intense fractional crystallisation involving substantial volumes of cumulates and claim that generation of high-Rb/Sr rhyolites

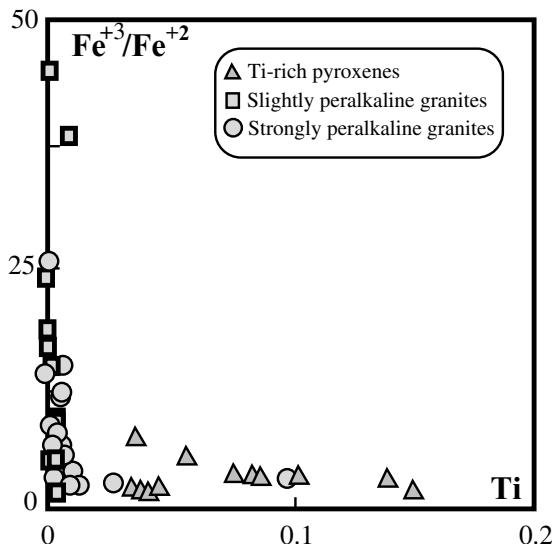


Fig. 16. $\text{Fe}^{+2}/\text{Fe}^{+3}$ and Ti variations in pyroxenes of the Serra do Meio suite.

cannot be explained by any partial melting models involving the usual crustal sources.

The Serra do Meio suite is characterised by enrichment in incompatible elements such as Zr, Nb, Y, Ga, and light-REE relative to the average composition of A-type granites (Whalen et al., 1987) and to the anorogenic Corsican suite (Bonin, 1980, 1988). Plá Cid et al. (1997) noted their derivation from an incompatible-element enriched mantle source. The HFSE enrichment is lower in peralkaline than in metaluminous rocks. Regarding the trace elements variation diagrams (Fig. 3), Ba contents are different for both evolutionary trends, exhibiting a negative anomaly in metaluminous granites which is absent in peralkaline rocks. This

feature, as well as the stronger Eu-negative anomaly in metaluminous granites (Fig. 5), suggest strong fractionation of alkali feldspar.

The contrasting HFSE concentrations in the Serra do Meio metaluminous and peralkaline liquids can be explained by their provenance from different original basic melts. They were produced by a small degrees of melting in the mantle during different stages. The parental magma of metaluminous liquids was first extracted and the HFSE-solubility was enhanced by high temperature and high F contents in the source. This early extraction caused a relative depletion in the source resulting in lower abundance in subsequent magmas generated during a second partial melting event. This hypothesis is supported by the fact that the Serra do Meio metaluminous granites are richer in HFSE and F relative to typical anorogenic metaluminous granites from Nigeria (Bowden and Kinnaird, 1984).

7.2. Major and trace elements correlation in Ti-aegirine

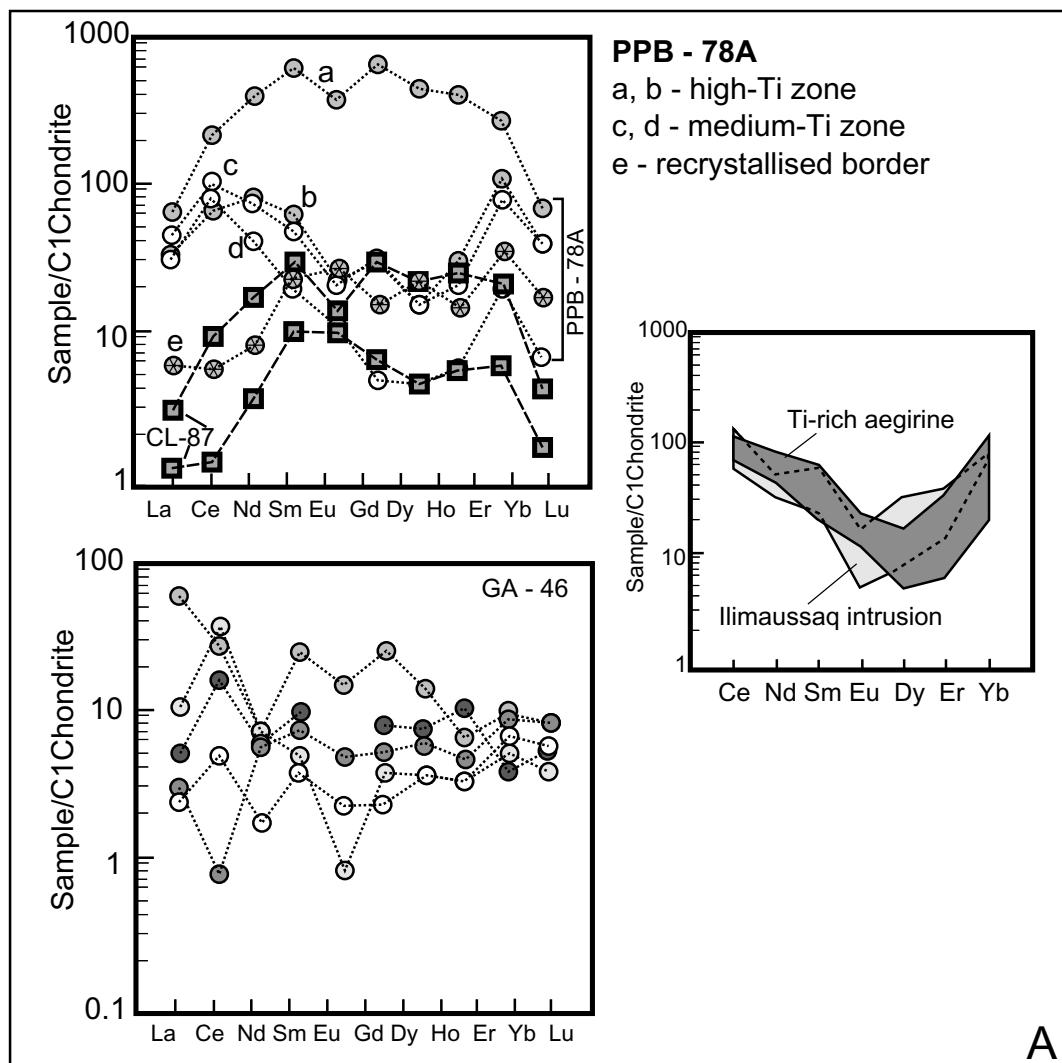
REE and Zr exhibit a negative correlation with Na/(Na + Ca) ratios in aegirine (Shearer and Larsen, 1994). The size of the M2-site in hedenbergite (Cameron et al., 1973) and acmite (Clark et al., 1969) is very similar, showing a limited effect on the site capacity to accommodate REE. In this case, REE incorporation is controlled by the optimal charge differences between hedenbergite (1.79) and acmite (1.16; Shearer and Larsen, 1994). In addition, the crystallisation of REE-bearing phases during pyroxene growth would result in a decrease in REE and Ca in pyroxene (Larsen, 1977, 1979).

In Ti-aegirine of the Serra do Meio suite, the negative correlation between REE and $\text{Na}/(\text{Na} + \text{Ca})$ ratio is observed as well as with other trace elements (Fig. 19).

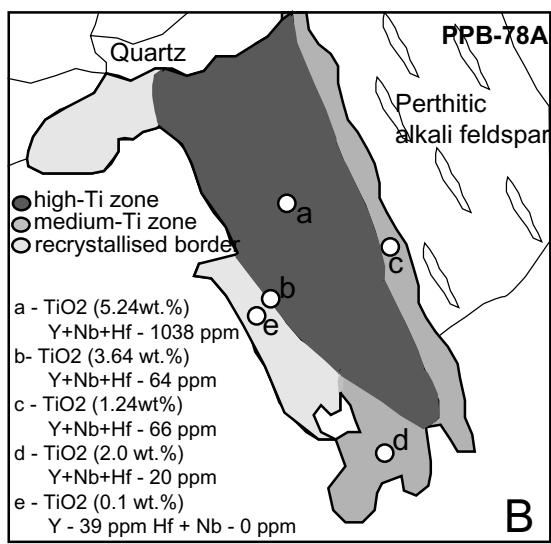
Table 5

Trace and rare earth elements (in ppm) of pyroxene from Serra do Meio suite. Identification of analyses of sample PPB-78A are the same as Fig. 17

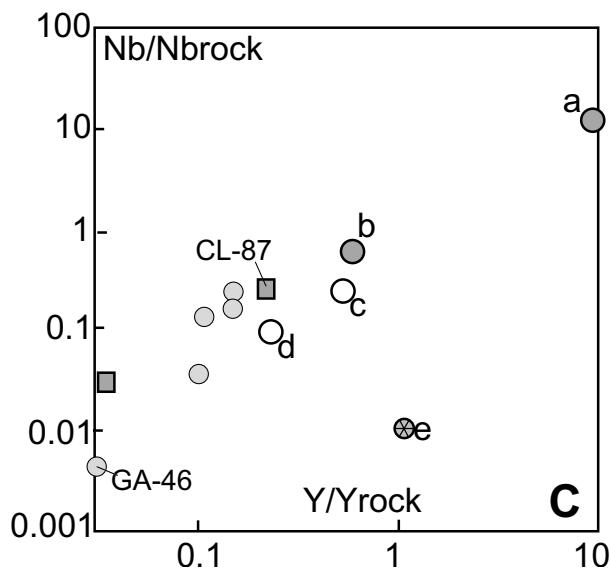
Sample	CL-87	CL-87	GA-46	GA-46	GA-46	GA-46	GA-46	PPB78Ab	PPB-78Ac	PPB-78Ae	PPB78Aa	PPB78Ad
Sc	23.14	35.17	70.48	55.05	84.64	49.11	109.63	12.24	13.61	15.92	14.86	12.04
V	11.96	22.88	27.70	14.34	27.58	14.20	31.14	12.89	9.52	8.66	18.31	9.47
Sr	4.14	5.70	19.35	86.60	8.39	17.11	27.37	17.57	23.35	7.19	18.00	11.58
Y	5.51	34.66	12.11	8.29	2.42	7.78	11.53	21.78	19.36	39.65	340.47	8.41
Nb	5.80	51.53	17.54	9.91	0.34	2.70	13.00	32.23	14.21	0.62	613.39	5.33
Ba	196.33	1.94	4.88	218.35	1.89	2.01	3.58	1.34	1.57	1.37	7.57	1.26
Hf	0.49	3.19	1.79	1.37	1.25	0.00	1.26	19.96	33.05	0.00	85.47	6.60
La	0.33	0.79	2.65	14.01	0.74	0.64	1.33	8.53	11.20	1.65	16.44	8.83
Ce	0.95	6.49	22.65	16.73	0.54	3.15	10.41	42.37	70.36	4.06	139.77	49.16
Pr	0.32	1.35	1.03	0.98	0.21	0.26	0.58	7.77	8.25	0.68	26.63	5.47
Nd	1.87	8.47	3.59	3.50	3.05	0.85	2.96	39.82	37.34	4.42	187.70	20.31
Sm	1.65	4.83	0.77	3.84	1.59	0.63	1.18	9.98	8.18	3.76	92.59	3.28
Eu	0.65	0.84	0.05	0.86	0.00	0.14	0.29	1.35	1.29	1.72	21.12	0.69
Gd	1.45	6.94	0.82	5.23	1.68	0.49	1.12	6.58	6.38	3.44	129.04	1.04
Dy	1.21	5.84	0.94	3.60	1.90	1.00	1.57	4.32	4.29	6.76	111.42	1.27
Er	1.06	3.90	0.61	1.11	1.78	0.55	0.79	5.35	3.74	2.73	66.69	1.05
Yb	1.06	3.58	0.89	1.63	0.65	1.19	1.64	17.81	13.29	6.22	43.07	3.35
Lu	0.05	0.11	0.10	0.22	0.14	0.14	0.21	0.99	1.05	0.48	1.75	0.18



A



B



C

Fig. 17. (A) REE patterns of pyroxenes normalised to the chondritic values of Evensen et al. (1978) and compared with Ti-aegirine from the Ilímaussaq intrusion. (B) Textural feature of Ti-aegirine analysed in sample PPB-78A, with REE patterns observed in A. (C) Nb/Nbrock vs. Y/Yrock diagram for pyroxenes of the Serra do Meio suite.

Correlation between trace elements such as Nb, V and Y, and the major elements occurring in M1 and M2 sites is not clear since the Na/(Na + Ca) ratio in these pyroxenes shows a strong correlation with the $\text{Fe}^{+3}/\text{Fe}^{+2}$ ratio and Ti content. It is necessary to verify whether Nb, Y and V are readily incorporated into the M2 site or related to elemental variations in the M1 site. Significant partitioning of trace and rare earth elements between Na-pyroxene and liquid explains the dramatic decrease of these elements in pyroxene rims. Early crystallisation of Na-pyroxene leads to lower concentrations of these elements in the residual liquids, and a strong depletion in the late magmatic rims. In Fig. 19, recrystallised borders show Na loss during metamorphism as evidenced by a decrease in the Na/(Na + Ca) ratio accompanied by general depletion of all trace elements.

The slightly peralkaline granites show higher concentrations of Nb + Y relative to strongly peralkaline rocks (Table 1). Primary aegirine in the slightly peralkaline granites have lower amounts of Nb + Y than Ti-aegirine found in strongly peralkaline rocks. Considering the higher F contents of the slightly peralkaline granites, REE, Y, and Nb are likely to be partitioned between aegirine and exotic F-bearing minerals. In the strong peralkaline rocks, however, these elements are incorporated only into Na-mafic minerals.

7.3. Recrystallisation conditions

Plá Cid et al. (2000) noted that recrystallisation of the Serra do Meio suite occurred under high fO_2 conditions, within the magnetite stability field, and an upper temperature limit of around 550–600°C. This is supported by the stability temperature of alkali-amphiboles (Ernst, 1962), and by metamorphic conditions for basement rocks defined

Table 6
Trace and rare earth elements (in ppm) of amphibole crystals from Serra do Meio suite

Sample	GA-34	GA-34	GA-46	PPB78A	PPB78A
Sc	31.45	15.74	118.74	22.47	23.00
V	6.83	6.56	16.88	7.23	6.71
Sr	8.26	1.27	15.33	5.93	5.41
Y	6.17	0.08	12.47	31.96	28.53
Nb	17.77	1.17	6.83	10.28	35.41
Ba	98.58	5.02	51.86	53.54	5.62
Hf	0.00	0.21	0.60	0.00	0.00
La	3.56	0.17	54.94	5.87	2.58
Ce	9.81	0.66	133.57	10.44	10.78
Pr	1.35	0.08	16.31	2.22	1.57
Nd	5.91	0.56	55.04	9.05	7.66
Sm	1.80	0.29	6.53	4.49	4.29
Eu	0.55	0.10	0.72	0.87	0.27
Gd	4.08	0.36	4.96	4.48	6.10
Dy	1.87	0.13	1.65	4.44	3.97
Er	0.93	0.18	0.82	2.35	1.99
Yb	2.24	0.19	0.97	7.72	4.42
Lu	0.15	0.06	0.07	0.27	0.14

by Leite (1997), as greenschist to low amphibolite facies in this part of the Riacho do Pontal fold belt.

In metaluminous granites, the higher metamorphic temperatures is illustrated by a similar reaction of annite + quartz → alkali feldspar + magnetite + quartz (Eugster and Wones, 1962; Rutherford, 1969), under high fO_2 conditions, close to the Ni-NiO buffer (Conceição, 1990) and temperature (for $\log \text{fO}_2 = 10^{-18}$) estimated at 600°C (Fig. 20A). In the presence of Fe-rich fluids (Plá Cid, 1994), the reaction microcline + quartz + Fe-fluids → annite + magnetite (Bonin, 1982) occurred at temperatures and fO_2 conditions close to those reported by Eugster and Wones (1962). Metamorphism related to the Brasiliano event also caused thermal instability of alkali-feldspar with development of *subsolvus* albite + microcline paragenesis

In the strongly peralkaline granites, two groups of magmatic amphiboles were identified: (i) riebeckite–winchite grains rimmed by Ti-pyroxene, and (ii) riebeckite–arfvedsonite crystals. Amphiboles with such a composition are diagnostic of late-magmatic to *subsolidus* origin as described by Giret et al. (1980). Bonin (1988) defined a *subsolidus* trend that is consistent with riebeckite–arfvedsonite compositions in the Serra do Meio suite (Fig. 20B). Furthermore, the petrographic relations of riebeckite–winchite grains are suggestive of their earlier crystallisation relative to riebeckite–arfvedsonite crystals.

The oxidising reaction: riebeckite + quartz + fluid → aegirine + magnetite + quartz + fluid occurred during metamorphism in the strongly peralkaline rocks (Plá Cid, 1994). The studies of Ernst (1962) on sodic amphiboles stability suggest a temperature below 600°C and fO_2 conditions within the magnetite field, near to NiNiO buffer ($\log \text{fO}_2 = 10^{-20}$ bars, Fig. 20B). These peralkaline granites are also characterised by the presence of magmatic riebeckite–winchite amphibole rimmed by Ti-aegirine and isolated subhedral crystals of Ti-aegirine. Metamorphism of these Ti-pyroxenes produced the syntectonic paragenesis riebeckite + titanite + (aenigmatite

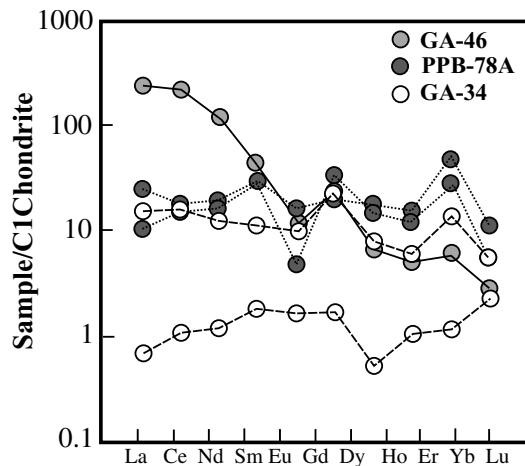


Fig. 18. REE patterns of amphiboles normalised to the chondritic values of Evensen et al. (1978).

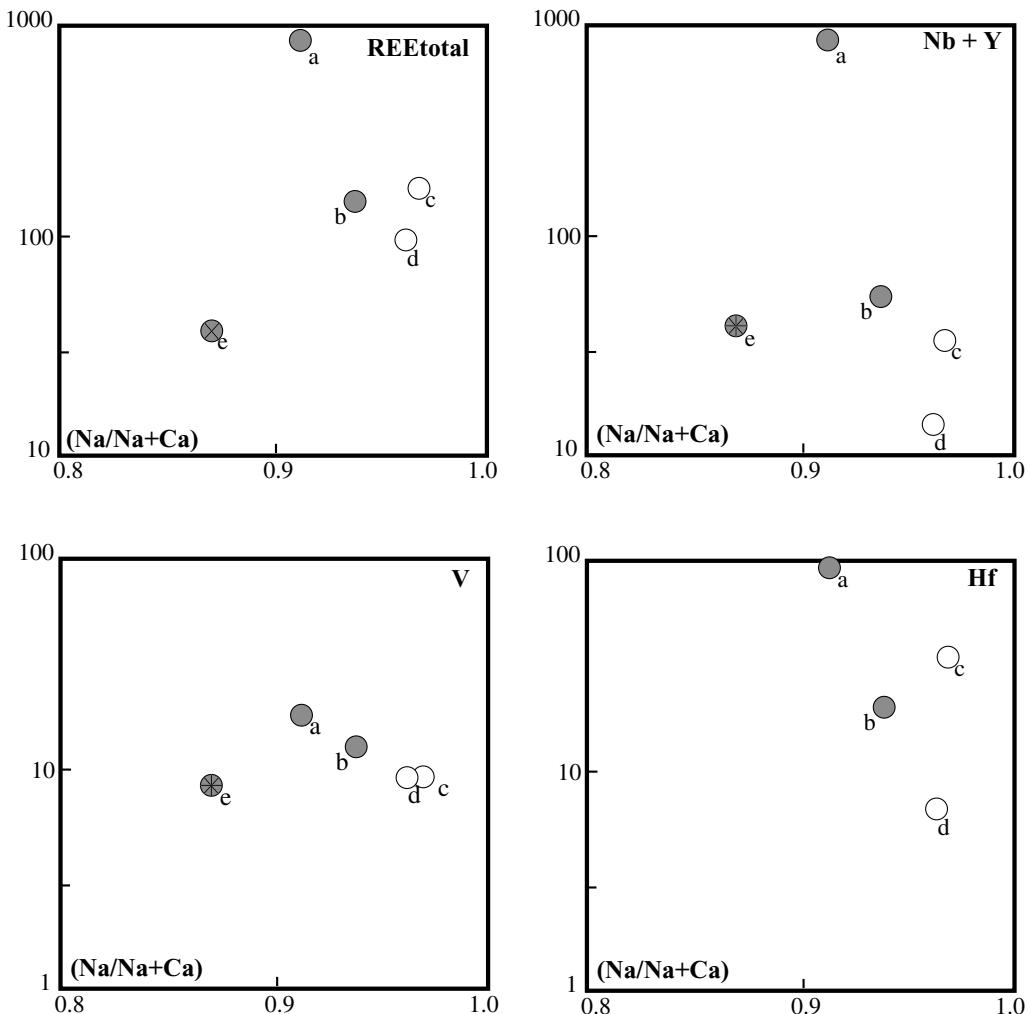


Fig. 19. Trace elements vs. $\text{Na}/(\text{Na} + \text{Ca})$ diagrams in Ti-rich aegirine of the strongly peralkaline granites. The identified analyses are the same as Fig. 17B and Tables 2–6.

or astrophyllite). Astrophyllite has been described by Stephenson and Upton (1982), showing that this mineral is an accessory phase commonly associated with the paragenesis Na-amphibole, Na-pyroxene, biotite and zircon. According to MacDonald and Saunders (1973) astrophyllite is a late magmatic mineral probably produced by low temperature reaction involving ilmenite and alkali-rich residual fluid (Stephenson and Upton, 1982). In the Serra do Meio suite, this paragenesis is produced at the same *subsolidus* temperature suggested for the metamorphic reaction riebeckite + quartz + fluid \rightarrow aegirine + magnetite + quartz + fluid.

Regarding Fig. 20B, riebeckite–arfvedsonite crystals are stable under more reduced conditions than pure riebeckite, and a temperature around 700°C. Similar conditions were assumed by Fabriès (1978) and Bonin (1982), who have shown that riebeckite–arfvedsonite grains crystallise under the most reduced conditions among the Fe-rich alkali amphiboles.

8. Conclusions

The Paleoproterozoic Serra do Meio alkaline, oversaturated suite was emplaced in the Riacho do Pontal Fold Belt, northeast Brazil, and consists of metaluminous, slightly peralkaline and strongly peralkaline granites. Metamorphism of the metaluminous and strongly peralkaline granites is close to greenschist and low-amphibolite limit. The metamorphic paragenesis formed during the Neoproterozoic event were superimposed on the original magmatic assemblages.

Metaluminous granites are characterised by annite whereas the slightly peralkaline granites contain aegirine–augite and aegirine as their chief mafic components. In the strongly peralkaline granites, the crystallisation sequence: riebeckite–winchite \rightarrow Ti-aegirine–augite \rightarrow Ti-aegirine was observed. The Ti-rich pyroxene shows strong enrichment in incompatible elements, notably Nb, Y, and REE, with patterns comparable to those described by Larsen

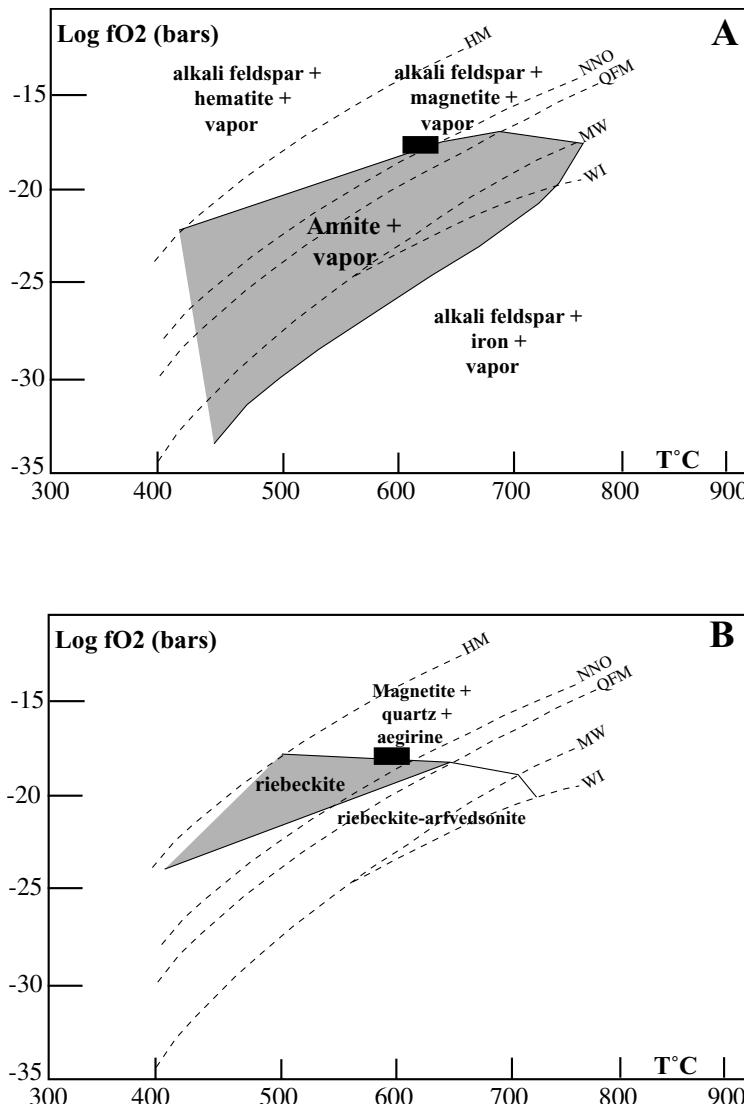


Fig. 20. Log $f\text{O}_2$ vs. T diagrams at $P = 2$ kbar, showing the probable upper metamorphic limit (filled rectangles) for (A) metaluminous granites and (B) strongly peralkaline granites. Mineral stability fields: Eugster and Wones (1962) in figure A and Ernst (1962) in figure B.

(1979) and Shearer and Larsen (1994). In the strongly peralkaline granites, Nb and Y have been removed by alkali amphiboles and pyroxenes. In the slightly peralkaline facies, these elements were partitioned between aegirine and exotic REE–Nb–Y–F exotic minerals.

During the Brasiliano event, the following metamorphic reactions were identified: (i) microcline + Fe-rich fluid + quartz \rightarrow annite + magnetite + quartz and riebeckite + quartz + Fe-rich fluid \rightarrow aegirine + magnetite + quartz, both suggesting the upper limit of metamorphism and (ii) Ti-pyroxene \rightarrow riebeckite + titanite + (astrophyllite or aenigmatite). Metamorphism generated magnetite, low-Fe annite, and pure riebeckite, while causing pyroxene to lose Ti and incompatible elements such as REE and Nb. Metamorphic conditions were close to the NNO buffer and temperatures around 600°C (Fig. 20A and B). Fe-rich fluids has played a significant role in producing the metamorphic paragenesis.

Acknowledgements

J.P.C. thanks the Fundação Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES-n. 1772/95-14), CNPq for financial support, Centro de Estudos em Petrologia e Geoquímica-UFRGS, Programa de Pesquisa e Pós-Graduação em Geofísica, PPPG-UFBA, Laboratoire de Petrographie et Volcanologie, Centre d'Orsay, Paris XI, the Prof. Dr. Léo Afraneo Hartmann for the paper revision and his wife, for the patience.

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