

Geology and geochemistry of the Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges: implications for geological evolution of west Junggar, Xinjiang, NW China

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Abstract – We report two newly identified Ordovician ophiolite belts in west Junggar, NW China: Tajin–Tarbahatai–Kujibai–Honguleleng (TTKH) and Tangbale–Baijiantan–Baikouquan (TBB) ophiolitic belts. These two ophiolitic belts provide constraints for the Palaeozoic reconstruction of Central Asia and the geological evolution of this region. The TTKH and TBB ophiolitic belts are dismembered parts of different ophiolitic belts which represent relics of Ordovician oceanic floor; they subducted to the north under the Chingiz–Tarbahatai arc and to the south under the Junggar plate, respectively. The Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolite mélanges comprise the major part of the TBB. Flat rare Earth element (REE) patterns with positive Eu anomalies and insignificant depletion of high-field-strength elements (HFSE) relative to melts of primitive mantle suggest a mid-ocean-ridge basalt (MORB) origin for the metagabbro. Lherzolite samples define a Sm–Nd isotopic isochron with age of 474 Ma and $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ of +8.9. Lherzolite samples with positive $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values of +8.8 to +9.1 and initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7037–0.7040 are rather homogeneous in Sr–Nd isotopic composition, whereas metagabbro samples show wider Sr–Nd isotopic compositional ranges with $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ of +5.9 to +11.0. The Sm–Nd isotopic isochron age (c. 380 Ma) for garnet amphibolite samples, consistent with a zircon U–Pb age (c. 385 Ma) for metagabbro, represents a magmatic event prior to subduction. Thermodynamic calculations for garnet amphibolite yield a clockwise pressure–temperature path with peak metamorphic condition of c. 15 kbar and 520–560 °C at 342 Ma, indicating a subduction-channel setting. The Rb–Sr isochron ages (335 Ma, 333 Ma) for metagabbro represent a metamorphic event during exhumation.

Keywords: ophiolitic mélange, metagabbro, garnet amphibolite, west Junggar

1. Introduction

The core part of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB, also called the Altaid Orogenic Belt) is a complex collage of island arcs, continental blocks and fragments of oceanic crust that amalgamated during Palaeozoic–Mesozoic time (Fig. 1). Several mutually contradictory plate tectonic interpretations have arisen since the 1990s (e.g. Coleman, 1989; Heinrich *et al.* 2000; Zhang *et al.* 2007; Windley, Alexeiev & Xiao, 2007; Xiao, Han & Yuan, 2008; Zhu *et al.* 2009; Han *et al.* 2011; Wilhem, Windley & Stamp, 2012). Zonenshain, Kuzmin & Natapov (1990) suggested that the ophiolites of Central Asia represent the subducted crust of the Palaeo-Asian Ocean that separated east Europe, Siberia and Gondwana during the end of Neoproterozoic time. This interpretation was based on the assumption that most ophiolites were formed during late Precambrian–early Cambrian time and are therefore older than the spatially associated magmatic arcs. However, early Palaeozoic conodonts occur in most ophiolites of Kazakhstan, indicating a synchronicity of magmatic arcs and ophiolites and

suggesting that the CAOB hosts relics of the former oceanic back-arc rather than truly oceanic basins (Yakubchuk, 2004). Sengor, Natal'in & Burtman (1993) suggested that Precambrian crustal blocks and early–middle Palaeozoic turbiditic units could originally constitute the basement and accretionary wedges of only two magmatic arcs (Kipchak and Tuva–Mongol). This model implies that a subduction zone existed along the southern margin of the Siberian craton throughout Palaeozoic time, producing a vast complex of arc and subduction–accretion material including scraped-off ophiolitic fragments at the front of seawards-migrating magmatic fronts. This would indicate a steady-state subduction–accretion over a prolonged period of time. In contrast, many other researchers (Zhang & Huang, 1992; Mossakovsky *et al.* 1994; He *et al.* 2001; Khain, Bibikova & Salnikova, 2003; Xu, He & Li, 2006; Zhang *et al.* 2011; Yang *et al.* 2013; Zhu *et al.* 2013b) have identified distinct ophiolite belts in the core part of the CAOB, interpreted as discrete suture zones between tectonic blocks. These authors are in favour of a model of punctuated accretion by collision and closure of multiple ocean basins now marked by ophiolitic sutures.

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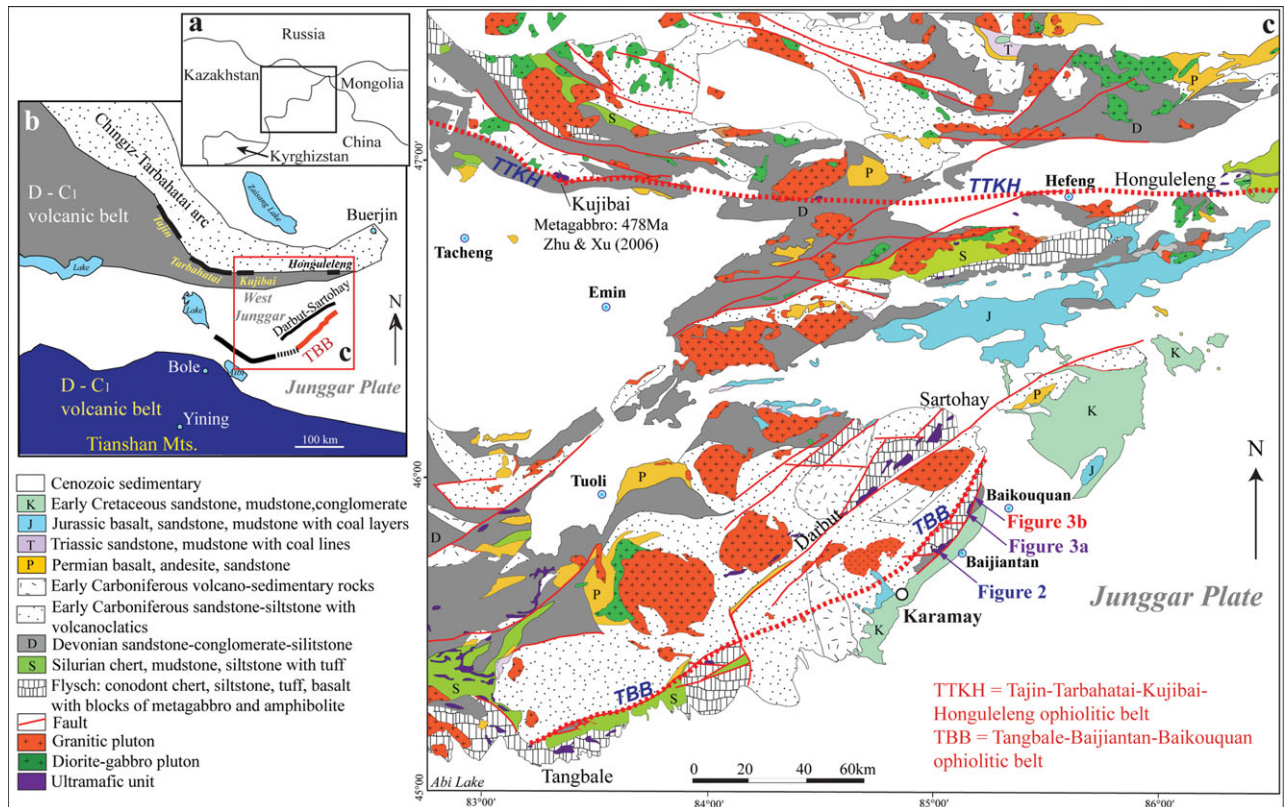


Figure 1. (Colour online) (a) Map showing the location of the studied area; (b) major tectonic units in the central part of CAOB; and (c) geological map of west Junggar (modified from Zhu *et al.* 2013b).

These controversial interpretations have encouraged the study of ophiolitic suites in the core part of the CAOB in order to provide new constraints on this issue. As a major component of the core part of the CAOB, west Junggar, located south of the Tajin–Tarbahatai–Kujibai–Honguleleng ophiolitic belt (TTKH; Fig. 1b), is considered to be a Palaeozoic orogenic belt resulting from the convergence of the Siberian and Kazakhstan–Junggar plates (Kwon, Tilton & Coleman, 1989; Zhu *et al.* 2013b). Several ophiolite mélanges occur in this region (Fig. 1c): the Tangbale ophiolite mélanges to the SW; the Darbut–Sartohay ophiolite mélanges in the NE; and the newly discovered Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges in the east. Blueschist in the Tangbale ophiolitic mélanges was dated at 458–470 Ma ($^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ on sodium amphibole; Zhang, 1997). The Darbut–Sartohay ophiolite belt was dated as being of Early Devonian age, based on radiolarian fossils in chert (Feng, 1986). Zircons separated from metagabbro in the Darbut–Sartohay ophiolite mélanges were dated at 391 Ma (Gu *et al.* 2009) and 426 Ma (Chen & Zhu, 2011).

This paper focuses on the petrology and geochemistry of the Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolite mélanges. We examine comprehensive geological, petrographic and geochemical datasets, discuss pressure–temperature (P – T) conditions for metamorphic evolution of the ophiolitic mélanges based on thermodynamically calculated P – T pseudosections for

garnet amphibolite and interpret the lithological characteristics of west Junggar in a subduction–accretion scheme.

2. Geology

The original structures of ophiolitic mélanges in west Junggar have been deformed due to various late Palaeozoic geological events. Nevertheless, detailed field observations can be used to reconstruct the stratigraphic sections of most ophiolitic mélanges; we describe two distinct ophiolitic sequences. The Ordovician Tangbale ophiolitic mélanges has a curved shape (Fig. 1c). The ophiolitic units are generally in contact with metamorphosed immature terrigenous sedimentary rocks of Silurian age along faults; these are locally unconformably covered by early Silurian terrigenous detrital sedimentary rocks. Stratigraphic sections of ophiolites are reconstructed from base to top as follows: (1) ultramafic units consisting mainly of serpentinite with blocks of harzburgite, dunite and lherzolite, the main matrix of the ophiolitic mélanges; (2) gabbro locally cross-cut by mafic dykes; (3) volcanic rocks consisting of altered basaltic lavas, pillow basalt, volcanic agglomerate and tuff; and (4) chert containing Middle Ordovician radiolaria grades upwards into turbidites at the top.

The Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges (Fig. 1c) consist of abyssal radiolarian chert interlayered with tuff, metabasaltic pillow lava with

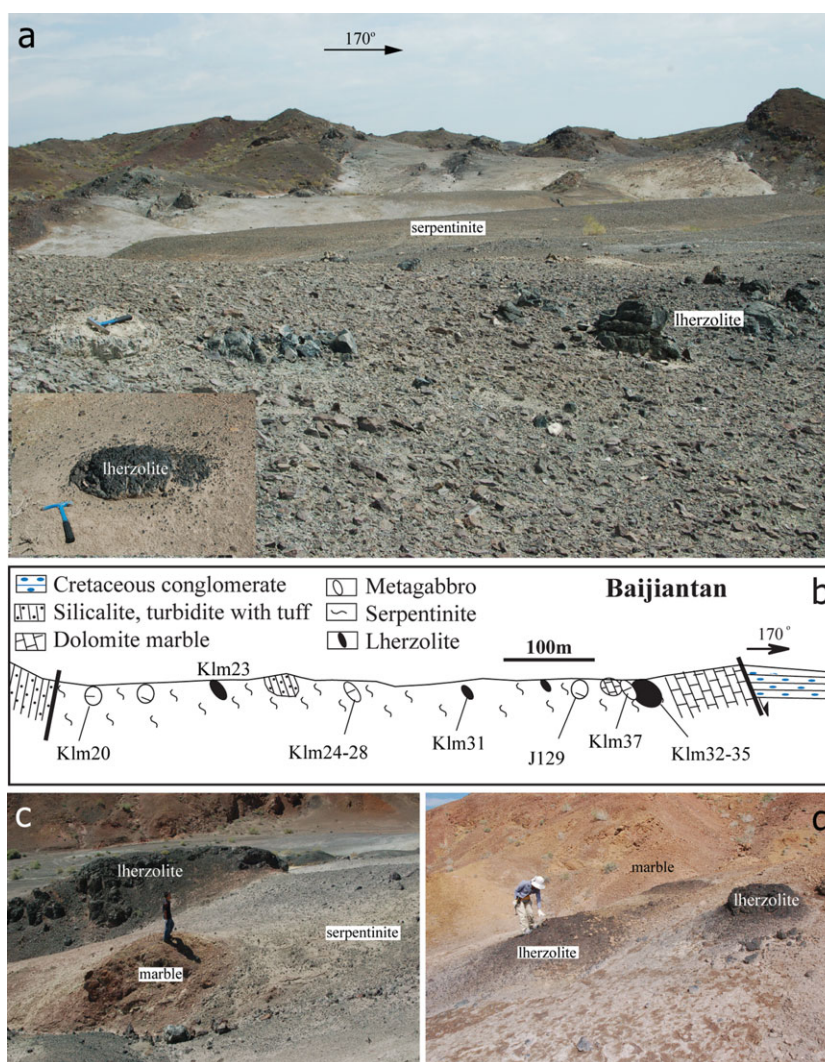


Figure 2. (Colour online) (a) Field view of the Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange showing Iherzolite blocks; (b) geological section with sample locations of Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange; and (c, d) photographs showing Iherzolite and marble blocks in serpentinite.

vesicular structure, metagabbro, spinel-bearing dolomite marble and serpentinitized Iherzolite and/or spinel-bearing serpentinite. The ophiolite units have been strongly deformed and weathered (Fig. 2a). A geological section shows the relationship among different rock units across this ophiolitic mélange (Fig. 2b). Dolomite marble, present as bodies from a few decimetres to hundreds of metres in size, are intermingled with ultramafic units (Fig. 2c, d); ultramafic blocks occur in dolomite marble as relics (Fig. 2d) and one large dolomite marble lens marks the south boundary of this ophiolitic mélange. The abyssal radiolarian chert and tuffs are strongly deformed, with microfossils in the Baijiantan region indicating that the palaeo-ocean closed during the Late Ordovician period (He *et al.* 2007). The ophiolitic mélanges were covered by Devonian–lower Carboniferous volcanic-sedimentary rocks consisting mainly of sandstone, tuffaceous sandstone, siltstone, basalt, tuff and volcanic breccia (Zhu *et al.* 2011). The northern part of this ophiolitic mélange is covered by chert, siltstone and turbidite with tuff;

metagabbro, marble and Iherzolite lenses are randomly present in the serpentinite matrix.

The ophiolitic mélange in the Baikouquan region is restricted to a narrow zone bounded by faults. Strongly deformed chert and siltstone are present along the south boundary whereas the north boundary is a contact zone (Fig. 3a) between foliated basaltic rocks and early Carboniferous volcanic breccia, the latter unaffected by metamorphism or deformation. The central part of this ophiolitic mélange consists of serpentinite matrix with metagabbro and amphibolite lenses (Fig. 3b); most metagabbro lenses are located along the boundary between foliated basalt and serpentinite. Deformed basalt and chert cover the serpentinite.

Pre-Devonian pillow basalts found in the western mountains of Karamay city adjacent to the Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange preserve typical ocean-island-basalt-(OIB-) like geochemical signatures (Zhu, Xu & Wei, 2007); they are unlikely to be related to the ophiolites. These volcanic rocks differ from the Carboniferous rocks covering ophiolitic mélange in western

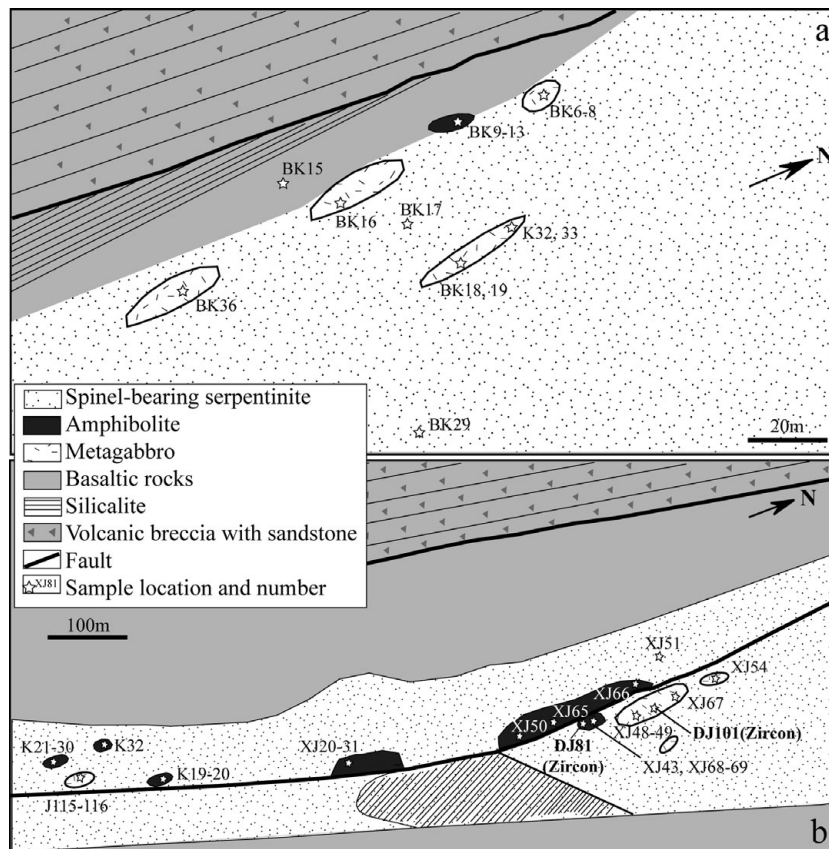


Figure 3. Geological maps showing two outcrops with sample locations in the Baikouquan region.

Junggar, which are also considered to be unrelated to the ophiolites (An & Zhu, 2009; Zhu *et al.* 2013a).

3. Analytical methods

The compositions of mineral phases in polished thin-sections were analysed with a Cameca SX100 electron probe microanalyser (EPMA) at the University of Stuttgart. This EPMA, equipped with five wavelength-dispersive spectrometers, was used to determine the contents of Na, Mg, Al, Si, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe and Ba. Counting times were 20 s at the peak and on the background. We used synthetic and natural minerals, glasses (e.g. Ba glass for the $\text{BaLa}\alpha_1$ -peak) and pure oxides as standards. An acceleration voltage and beam current of 15 kV and 15 nA were used; beam diameter was *c.* 5 μm but also 1–2 μm in the case of small mineral grains. The energy-dispersive system was used to identify minerals, and the compositions of representative major minerals are listed in the Supplementary Tables available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>.

Zircons were hand-picked under a binocular microscope, and cathodoluminescence (CL) images obtained using a CAMECA SX-50 microprobe. Zircons were mounted in epoxy resin together with chips of the zircon standard TEMORA in the Beijing SHRIMP (sensitive high-resolution ion microprobe) Centre, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences. The mount was ground down and polished so that the zircon interiors were exposed; zircon was photographed in reflected

and transmitted light and under CL using a CAMECA SX-50 microprobe (accelerating voltage 10 kV, beam current 109 nA). The mount was then cleaned and gold-coated. Isotopic analyses were performed with the SHRIMP II of the Beijing SHRIMP Centre (analytical procedures outlined by Williams, 1998). Prior to each analysis, the surface of the analysis site was pre-cleaned by rastering of the primary beam for 2–3 min to reduce or eliminate surface common Pb. The reduced $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ratios were normalized to 0.0668, which is equivalent to the adopted age of 417 Ma for zircon standard TEMORA. Six scans through the critical mass range were made to collect data, giving a slightly elliptical spot size of *c.* 25–30 μm . Common-Pb corrections were applied using the ^{204}Pb -correction method. Errors of individual analyses are given at the 1 σ level and are based on counting statistics; errors of pooled analyses are reported at the 2 σ confidence interval. The analytical data (Table 1) are graphically presented on conventional concordia diagrams.

Whole-rock samples were ground in an agate mill, after careful washing in distilled water and drying. Major elements were measured by an X-ray fluorescence spectrometer on glass disks made by fusion of whole-rock powder with lithium metaborate. Trace-element contents of whole-rock samples were analysed by quadrupole inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (ICP-MS); the precision is <10% deviation from true values for most trace elements although it could be >20% for elements with concentration less

Table 1. SHRIMP data for zircons separated from Baikouquan metagabbro (DJ101) and amphibolite (DJ81).

	% $^{206}\text{Pb}_c$	$^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ Age (Ma)	± Ma	% Discordant	Total $^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	±%	Total $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	±%	$^{238}\text{U}/^{206}\text{Pb}^*$	±%	$^{207}\text{Pb}^*/^{206}\text{Pb}^*$	±%	$^{207}\text{Pb}^*/^{235}\text{U}$	±%	$^{206}\text{Pb}^*/^{238}\text{U}$	± %	Err corr.
DJ101																		
–1.1	0.60	0.44	385	12	– 16	16.16	3.1	0.0579	2.3	16.26	3.1	0.0531	4.3	0.450	5.3	0.0615	3.1	0.581
–2.1	0.13	0.84	378.8	9.2	8	16.50	2.5	0.0560	1.7	16.52	2.5	0.0549	2.0	0.458	3.2	0.0605	2.5	0.78
–3.1	0.66	0.32	396	10	18	15.68	2.6	0.0621	5.1	15.79	2.6	0.0568	6.7	0.496	7.2	0.0633	2.6	0.365
–4.1	0.50	0.38	390.5	9.8	29	15.93	2.6	0.0626	4.2	16.01	2.6	0.0585	6.0	0.504	6.6	0.0624	2.6	0.395
–5.1	0.56	0.34	383.4	9.7	– 2	16.23	2.6	0.0586	2.5	16.32	2.6	0.0541	5.3	0.457	5.9	0.0613	2.6	0.443
–6.1	1.75	0.27	388	10	5	15.83	2.6	0.0690	4.6	16.11	2.8	0.0549	14	0.469	14	0.0621	2.8	0.196
–7.1	0.57	0.45	375.2	9.2	16	16.59	2.5	0.0604	2.0	16.69	2.5	0.0558	3.4	0.461	4.2	0.0599	2.5	0.596
–8.1	1.69	0.36	401	12	– 73	15.34	3.0	0.0645	3.9	15.60	3.0	0.0508	12	0.449	12	0.0641	3.0	0.25
–8.2	2.49	0.25	384	14	51	15.89	3.5	0.0853	6.6	16.30	3.7	0.0650	17	0.554	18	0.0614	3.7	0.208
–9.1	0.36	0.53	388.0	9.5	– 12	16.06	2.5	0.0563	2.0	16.12	2.5	0.0534	2.1	0.457	3.3	0.0620	2.5	0.765
–10.1	0.96	0.38	396	10	– 91	15.64	2.6	0.0581	6.7	15.79	2.6	0.0503	9.0	0.439	9.3	0.0633	2.6	0.281
–11.1	0.61	0.83	373.1	9.2	– 36	16.68	2.5	0.0567	3.8	16.78	2.5	0.0518	5.1	0.425	5.7	0.0596	2.5	0.442
–12.1	0.67	0.60	359.1	9.5	– 5	17.34	2.7	0.0587	2.2	17.46	2.7	0.0533	5.8	0.421	6.4	0.0573	2.7	0.421
–13.1	1.74	0.24	402	12	32	15.28	2.8	0.0736	6.1	15.55	3.0	0.0597	14	0.529	14	0.0643	3.0	0.213
–14.1	1.72	0.41	388	11	43	15.85	2.9	0.0760	3.6	16.13	3.0	0.0622	9.1	0.532	9.6	0.0620	3.0	0.314
DJ81																		
–1.1	1.41	0.49	364.2	7.7	– 16	16.96	2.1	0.0641	4.8	17.21	2.2	0.0527	8.9	0.422	9.2	0.0581	2.2	0.238
–2.1	2.82	0.42	378.6	9.7	– 71	16.06	2.6	0.0734	3.5	16.53	2.6	0.0506	11	0.422	11	0.0605	2.6	0.234
–3.1	3.36	0.35	359.6	8.6	– 68	16.85	2.3	0.0776	9.6	17.43	2.4	0.0500	21	0.399	21	0.0574	2.4	0.117
–4.1	3.75	0.47	369.7	8.4	– 75	16.31	2.2	0.0808	2.4	16.94	2.3	0.0503	13	0.410	13	0.0590	2.3	0.176
–5.1	1.48	0.37	348.0	7.9	43	17.76	2.2	0.0721	5.0	18.03	2.3	0.0602	12	0.461	12	0.0555	2.3	0.196
–6.1	1.85	0.28	352.1	9.3	16	17.48	2.7	0.0700	5.8	17.81	2.7	0.0552	11	0.427	11	0.0561	2.7	0.248
–7.1	1.08	0.38	357.8	7.0	– 10	17.33	2.0	0.0616	2.0	17.52	2.0	0.0529	4.8	0.416	5.2	0.0571	2.0	0.386
–8.1	1.52	0.37	359.8	7.3	– 54	17.15	2.1	0.0632	2.5	17.42	2.1	0.0509	6.8	0.403	7.1	0.0574	2.1	0.294
–9.1	1.03	0.40	364.4	8.7	– 53	17.02	2.4	0.0592	2.6	17.20	2.5	0.0509	5.7	0.408	6.2	0.0582	2.5	0.396
–10.1	2.91	0.35	370.6	8.6	– 8	16.41	2.3	0.0768	8.6	16.90	2.4	0.0533	17	0.435	17	0.0592	2.4	0.138
–11.1	2.62	0.44	352.0	13	– 86	17.37	3.7	0.0681	3.4	17.84	3.8	0.0468	15	0.361	16	0.0561	3.8	0.242
–12.1	0.16	0.54	362.2	6.9	2	17.27	2.0	0.0553	1.5	17.30	2.0	0.0540	2.2	0.430	2.9	0.0578	2.0	0.672
–13.1	0.55	0.47	360.0	6.9	14	17.31	2.0	0.0597	1.8	17.41	2.0	0.0552	2.8	0.437	3.4	0.0574	2.0	0.584
–14.1	1.08	0.62	367.5	7.3	– 31	16.86	2.0	0.0606	4.3	17.05	2.0	0.0519	6.7	0.420	7.0	0.0587	2.0	0.291
–15.1	1.19	0.74	356.6	6.9	– 26	17.37	2.0	0.0616	2.5	17.58	2.0	0.0519	4.6	0.407	5.0	0.0569	2.0	0.396
–16.1	1.69	0.39	366.3	7.6	– 34	16.82	2.1	0.0654	3.5	17.1	2.1	0.0517	7.5	0.417	7.8	0.0585	2.1	0.275
–17.1	1.07	0.91	341.9	7.2	0	18.16	2.1	0.0619	3.2	18.36	2.2	0.0533	8.0	0.401	8.3	0.0545	2.2	0.263
–18.1	4.64	0.36	356.5	8.4	22	16.77	2.2	0.0787	7.5	17.59	2.4	0.0410	25	0.320	25	0.0569	2.4	0.097
–19.1	2.00	0.32	364.8	7.8	76	16.83	2.1	0.0613	3.8	17.18	2.2	0.0450	11	0.361	12	0.0582	2.2	0.19
–20.1	0.28	0.64	359.5	6.8	3	17.39	1.9	0.0562	1.4	17.44	1.9	0.0540	2.0	0.427	2.8	0.0574	1.9	0.695
–21.1	1.36	0.49	366.2	7.8	16	16.88	2.2	0.0665	2.7	17.11	2.2	0.0555	5.7	0.448	6.1	0.0585	2.2	0.358
–22.1	0.64	0.55	358.3	6.9	5	17.39	2.0	0.0593	1.6	17.5	2.0	0.0542	3.3	0.427	3.8	0.0572	2.0	0.512
–23.1	0.58	0.29	368.7	7.4	– 28	16.89	2.0	0.0568	2.0	16.99	2.1	0.0521	3.2	0.423	3.8	0.0589	2.1	0.537
–24.1	4.72	0.34	360	11	82	16.58	2.6	0.0836	8.7	17.4	3.1	0.0450	33	0.360	33	0.0575	3.1	0.092
–25.1	7.15	0.25	355	14	25	16.39	3.5	0.1002	3.8	17.66	4.0	0.0420	40	0.330	40	0.0566	4.0	0.100
–26.1	2.19	0.61	374.8	9.5	7	16.34	2.3	0.0724	3.0	16.71	2.6	0.0548	18	0.452	18	0.0599	2.6	0.147
–27.1	3.26	0.40	381.7	9.6	34	15.86	2.4	0.0855	4.9	16.39	2.6	0.0594	14	0.499	14	0.0610	2.6	0.182

than 1 ppm. The contents of rare Earth elements (REE) and other incompatible elements in clinopyroxene from metagabbro and garnet amphibolite were measured with laser ablation (LA) ICP-MS. The same method is used to measure the contents of trace elements in garnet from garnet amphibolite. Samples for isotopic analysis were dissolved in Teflon bombs after being spiked with ^{84}Sr , ^{87}Rb , ^{150}Nd and ^{147}Sm tracers prior to $\text{HF} + \text{HNO}_3$ (with a ratio of 2:1) dissolution. Strontium and neodymium were extracted by conventional ion exchange chromatographic techniques. Sr and Nd isotope ratios were measured using a Finnigan MAT 262 multiple collector thermal ionization mass spectrometer running in dynamic mode at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics in Beijing, according to the method described by Zhu *et al.* (2001). Replicate analyses of the Sr isotope reference material BCR-1 gave average $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ values of 0.705086 ± 0.000011 (1σ , $n = 16$; the recommended value for BCR-1 is 0.70501 ± 8 ; Balcaen *et al.* 2005). The $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio was corrected for instrumental mass fractionation assuming $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr} = 0.1194$; the $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio was corrected for instrumental mass fractionation assuming $^{146}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.7219$. The Nd La Jolla reference material yielded an average ratio of $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.511842 \pm 0.000012$ (1σ , $n = 12$; recommended value for Nd La Jolla is 0.511849; Upadhyay, Scherer & Mezger, 2008). Blanks were of the order <0.3 ng for Sr and <0.1 ng for Nd. The Nd isotope data were normalized to the accepted reference values for La Jolla.

4. Petrography

4.a. Lherzolite

Lherzolite in the Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange consists mainly of olivine (0–7%), orthopyroxene (20–33%), clinopyroxene (30–45%), spinel (2–4%) and serpentine (15–40%). Olivine and orthopyroxene were replaced by serpentine in most cases; olivine is locally present as inclusions in clinopyroxene or orthopyroxene (Fig. 4a). Brown spinel with homogeneous composition (Cr number 8.5–12.9 mol. %) is replaced by ilmenite along rims and orthopyroxene is partly replaced by serpentine along rims and cleavages. Both clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene show exsolution textures; orthopyroxene lamellae occur in clinopyroxene (Fig. 4b, c) and parallel clinopyroxene lamellae occur in orthopyroxene (Fig. 4d). The compositional variation of these pyroxenes is shown in Supplementary Figure 1 and Supplementary Table 1 (both available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>). Host clinopyroxene (diopside) contains enstatite–pigeonite lamellae and host orthopyroxene (enstatite) contains diopside lamellae. Diopside–enstatite pairs are common in the studied lherzolite samples and have very limited compositional variation in the En–Wo–Fs plots, whereas the trace element contents in these different pyroxene phases are distinguishable. For example, host clinopyroxene is rich in Si and poor in Ti and Cr relative

to clinopyroxene lamellae, while host orthopyroxene and lamellae have a similar content of Na, Ti and Cr. The Ti mostly partitioned into diopside lamellae relative to their orthopyroxene host, and Cr partitioned largely into diopside lamellae during exsolution of orthopyroxene.

4.b. Dolomite marble

Dolomite marble lenses, ranging in size from several decimetres to hundreds of metres, occur in the Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange together with lherzolite lenses (Fig. 2b, c). Dolomite marble consists of dolomite (20–45%), calcite (10–15%), serpentine (10–15%), quartz (5–10%), spinel (2–4%) and magnetite (2–5%). Zoned dolomite coexists with quartz and magnetite; quartz + magnetite + dolomite assemblage replaced serpentine in most cases. Brown spinel in marble was replaced by magnetite along its rim (Fig. 4e). Dolomite marble lenses usually contain relics of spinel-bearing serpentinite, which suggest that the dolomite marble was transformed from spinel lherzolite (Zhu *et al.* 2008). The observed mineral assemblages and pyroxene pseudomorphs (Fig. 4f) resulted in the transformation of pyroxene into dolomite + quartz + magnetite via the reaction of pyroxene + $\text{CO}_2 = \text{dolomite} + \text{magnetite} + \text{quartz}$; serpentine was also transformed to dolomite + quartz + magnetite via a reaction of serpentine + calcite = dolomite + magnetite + quartz. Spinel is the only original mineral preserved during metamorphism, with a highly variable composition (Supplementary Table 2 and Supplementary Figure 2, available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>). Spinel grains in dolomite marble are characterized by higher Cr number (>0.6) and lower Mg number (<0.6) than those in lherzolite.

4.c. Metagabbro

Metagabbro consists of clinopyroxene (25–40%), plagioclase pseudomorphs (30–45%), amphibole (5–10%) and other second mineral phases (zoisite, albite, chlorite, ilmenite and quartz); plagioclase pseudomorphs consist mainly of zoisite and albite (Fig. 5a–d). As a mineral phase crystallized from magma, clinopyroxene was replaced by amphibole (Fig. 5e, f) and garnet occurs along the rim of plagioclase pseudomorphs (Fig. 5g, h). The latter suggests a transformation from plagioclase to garnet, which was accompanied by growth of chlorite and ilmenite (Fig. 5h).

4.d. Garnet amphibolite

Garnet amphibolite blocks, ranging in size from a few decimetres to several metres, occur rarely in the Baikouquan region. Garnet amphibolite contains various amounts of garnet and amphibole with minor amounts of zoisite, epidote, chlorite, clinopyroxene, ilmenite, biotite and sphene. Garnet grains vary greatly in size (from <0.1 mm to >1 mm), and large garnet

Table 2. Trace element concentrations of clinopyroxene in metagabbro by LA-ICP-MS (in ppm).

Spot	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Sc	100.4	80.77	82.23	85.5	91.32	96.45	76.63	83.05	88.80	76.26	81.54	105.7	90.70	82.39	83.22	81.14	69.18	88.54	82.75	78.31
V	328.4	219.1	244.1	270.6	292.0	328.0	172.5	239.8	248.2	150.7	224.8	391.0	296.8	274.0	285.9	276.7	200.0	259.0	277.0	242.5
Cr	546.1	516.1	496.2	582.2	504.4	809.4	353.8	495.9	631.3	348.4	489.9	972.0	224.5	373.8	487.0	575.2	711.0	620.2	725.4	501.9
Co	38.33	39.04	45.19	42.22	39.23	41.23	37.13	42.43	36.72	38.08	34.19	50.94	41.88	41.22	38.26	37.06	39.04	35.79	43.88	40.18
Ni	72.99	77.28	98.46	91.81	79.04	90.70	84.32	114.2	77.13	100.4	64.85	129.9	80.37	82.35	78.59	77.59	97.07	69.99	103.2	86.85
Ga	4.09	2.74	4.63	3.90	3.77	4.30	3.21	3.62	4.17	2.19	3.80	7.47	4.59	3.95	3.82	3.97	3.44	3.41	4.59	3.96
Cs	0.041	0.009	0.042	0.010	0.010	0.009	0.233	0.056	0.081	0.009	0.144	0.070	0.025	0.028	0.035	0.011	0.033	0.013	0.036	0.008
Rb	0.13	0.018	0.12	0.17	0.065	0.16	0.12	0.21	0.29	0.051	0.084	0.54	0.24	0.18	0.18	0.093	0.083	0.048	0.27	0.14
Ba	2.37	0.36	0.90	0.83	0.24	0.50	0.47	1.30	0.97	0.74	0.43	1.02	0.61	0.55	2.12	0.85	0.81	0.69	1.89	1.08
Th	0.010	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.006	0.008	0.023	0.018	0.007	0.006	0.009	0.012	0.013	0.005	0.007	0.007	0.003	0.017	0.009
U	0.007	0.006	0.009	0.009	0.005	0.007	0.005	0.017	0.022	0.005	0.009	0.012	0.012	0.008	0.008	0.008	0.007	0.005	0.011	0.007
Ta	0.002	0.004	0.005	0.011	0.004	0.008	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.002	0.010	0.005	0.003	0.004	0.006	0.003	0.002	0.004	0.006
Nb	0.015	0.006	0.034	0.123	0.050	0.114	0.017	0.050	0.023	0.007	0.008	0.119	0.048	0.027	0.049	0.065	0.009	0.015	0.073	0.070
La	0.18	0.16	0.15	0.20	0.20	0.22	0.15	0.18	0.16	0.14	0.14	0.31	0.23	0.15	0.17	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18	0.18
Ce	0.97	0.84	0.77	0.98	1.00	1.13	0.66	0.91	0.80	0.63	0.70	1.47	1.12	0.76	0.88	0.91	0.63	0.70	0.97	0.89
Pb	0.088	0.019	0.075	0.026	0.024	0.037	0.15	0.090	0.16	0.088	0.090	0.12	0.024	0.029	0.054	0.025	0.050	0.057	0.065	0.032
Sr	6.61	4.96	6.11	6.85	5.45	6.59	7.92	6.54	8.83	5.03	7.34	12.73	8.34	8.10	11.65	5.82	4.74	4.78	7.78	6.54
Nd	1.66	1.36	1.35	1.53	1.75	1.88	1.09	1.45	1.34	0.91	1.19	2.49	1.69	1.34	1.50	1.45	1.04	1.33	1.61	1.54
Zr	13.36	8.91	10.35	11.08	17.91	13.60	7.75	9.37	10.62	9.14	6.66	14.95	11.17	5.70	10.37	9.30	3.79	8.28	9.42	8.79
Hf	0.40	0.28	0.27	0.38	0.76	0.54	0.36	0.31	0.42	0.42	0.26	0.62	0.39	0.21	0.46	0.43	0.11	0.34	0.37	0.38
Ti	2129	1233	1591	2115	2238	2798	855	1907	1789	661	1254	3740	2213	1682	2175	2070	967	1851	2310	1799
Sm	0.89	0.66	0.67	0.72	0.93	1.00	0.51	0.77	0.66	0.47	0.58	1.31	0.88	0.66	0.86	0.69	0.42	0.61	0.83	0.76
Eu	0.31	0.25	0.25	0.31	0.31	0.37	0.18	0.28	0.24	0.17	0.24	0.50	0.34	0.28	0.30	0.28	0.19	0.27	0.34	0.31
Y	10.05	7.83	7.52	8.79	10.11	11.04	5.25	7.46	6.91	4.67	6.37	12.91	9.46	7.07	7.77	7.46	4.92	6.94	8.21	7.32
Lu	0.17	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.093	0.13	0.12	0.080	0.12	0.22	0.16	0.13	0.14	0.12	0.095	0.13	0.16	0.12
Pr	0.23	0.20	0.18	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.15	0.22	0.19	0.13	0.16	0.32	0.25	0.18	0.21	0.20	0.14	0.16	0.21	0.21
Gd	1.32	1.06	1.01	1.13	1.41	1.61	0.76	1.06	0.95	0.67	0.90	1.93	1.29	1.02	1.11	1.07	0.687	1.08	1.18	1.05
Tb	0.29	0.21	0.22	0.23	0.31	0.31	0.17	0.22	0.22	0.14	0.19	0.39	0.28	0.22	0.24	0.24	0.15	0.21	0.25	0.227
Dy	1.93	1.44	1.46	1.63	1.98	2.12	1.12	1.45	1.43	0.893	1.32	2.60	1.88	1.41	1.63	1.61	1.02	1.45	1.69	1.51
Ho	0.46	0.34	0.32	0.37	0.44	0.46	0.24	0.34	0.32	0.21	0.30	0.58	0.42	0.33	0.37	0.33	0.22	0.32	0.38	0.34
Er	1.13	0.88	0.91	1.02	1.22	1.27	0.63	0.92	0.83	0.56	0.78	1.56	1.14	0.90	0.97	0.91	0.63	0.84	1.04	0.88
Tm	0.15	0.13	0.13	0.14	0.17	0.17	0.098	0.14	0.12	0.087	0.12	0.22	0.17	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.093	0.12	0.15	0.13
Yb	1.12	0.90	0.90	0.97	1.08	1.27	0.59	0.85	0.81	0.55	0.79	1.52	1.09	0.91	0.98	0.97	0.65	0.83	1.05	0.93
(Ce/Yb) _N	0.24	0.26	0.24	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.31	0.30	0.27	0.32	0.25	0.27	0.28	0.23	0.25	0.26	0.27	0.23	0.26	0.26
(Gd/Yb) _N	0.98	0.98	0.93	0.96	1.08	1.05	1.07	1.02	0.97	1.01	0.94	1.05	0.98	0.93	0.94	0.92	0.88	1.07	0.93	0.93
Eu/Eu*	0.88	0.90	0.93	1.04	0.82	0.89	0.87	0.95	0.93	0.90	1.03	0.95	0.98	1.05	0.94	1.00	1.07	1.01	1.04	1.06

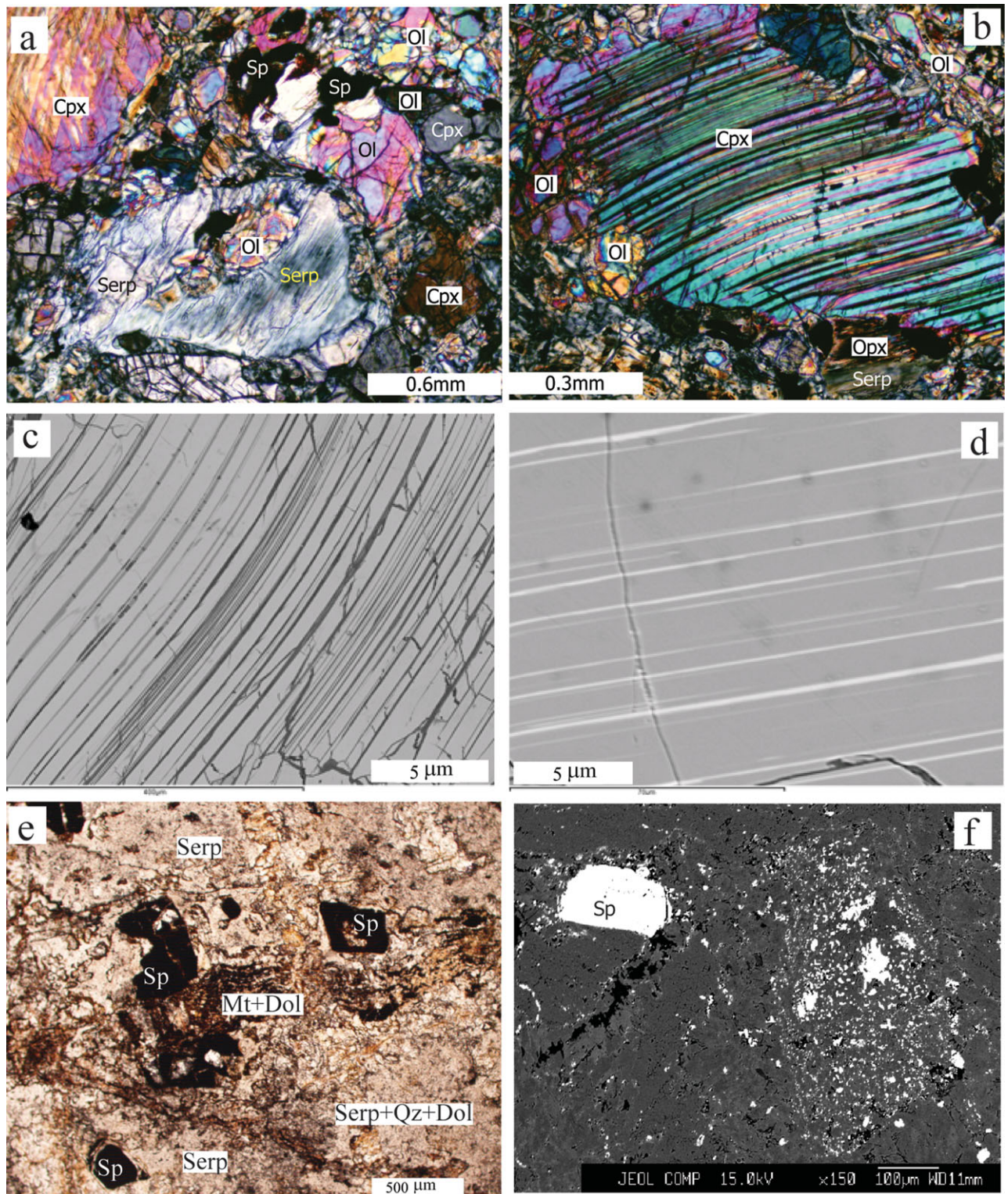


Figure 4. (Colour online) Photomicrographs showing (a) mineral phases in lherzolite, cross-polarized light; (b) clinopyroxene with exsolution texture; ductile deformation in lherzolite, cross-polarized light; (c) orthopyroxene lamellae exsolved from host clinopyroxene, BSE; (d) clinopyroxene lamellae exsolved from host orthopyroxene, BSE; (e) spinel and serpentine relics in dolomite marble, plane-polarized light; and (f) BSE image showing orthopyroxene pseudomorph in dolomite marble. Cpx – clinopyroxene; Dol – dolomite; Mt – magnetite; Ol – olivine; Opx – orthopyroxene; Qz – quartz; Serp – serpentine; Sp – spinel.

grains are usually cracked (Figs 6a, 7a). Zoisite occurs in the matrix, pseudomorphing plagioclase (Fig. 6a), and fills cracks in garnet and clinopyroxene grains, the latter containing ilmenite inclusions (Fig. 6b). Garnet contains various kinds of mineral inclusions includ-

ing clinopyroxene, rutile, apatite, ilmenite, biotite and quartz (Fig. 7b, g).

Garnet compositions (Supplementary Table 3, available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>) vary significantly from one sample to another (Fig. 8),

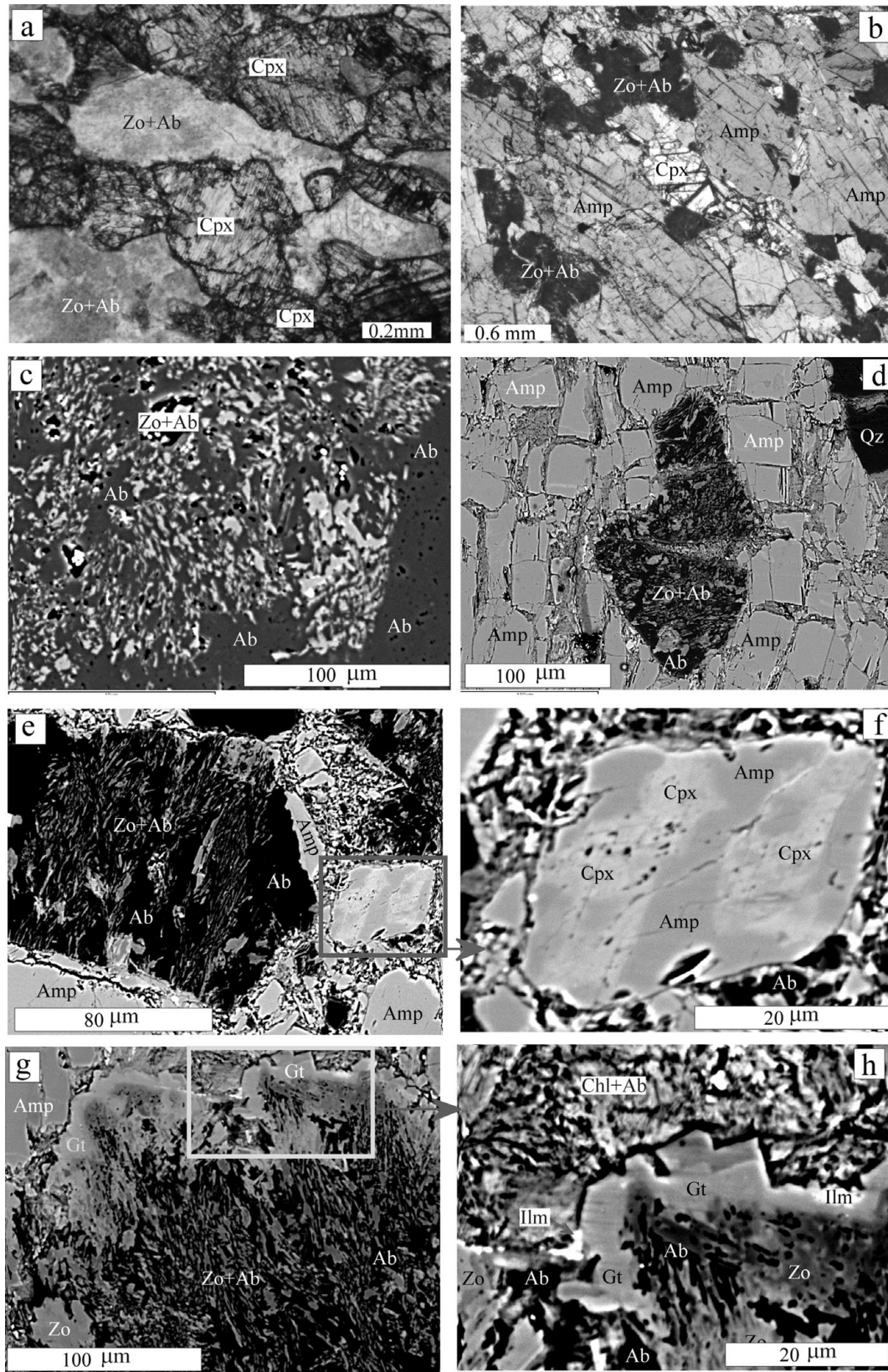


Figure 5. Photomicrograph showing mineral relationship in metagabbro: (a) metagabbro consisting of clinopyroxene and pseudomorph plagioclase (Zo + Ab); plane-polarized light; (b) metagabbro consisting of pseudomorph plagioclase, amphibole and clinopyroxene; plane-polarized light; (c) BSE image showing pseudomorph plagioclase consisting of zoisite and albite; (d) BSE image showing pseudomorph plagioclase coexisting with amphibole; (e, f) BSE images showing a pseudomorph plagioclase and amphibole with clinopyroxene relics; (g, h) garnet growth along rim of pseudomorph plagioclase, BSE. Ab – albite; Amp – amphibole; Chl – chlorite; Cpx – clinopyroxene; Gt – garnet; Ilm – ilmenite; Zo – zoisite.

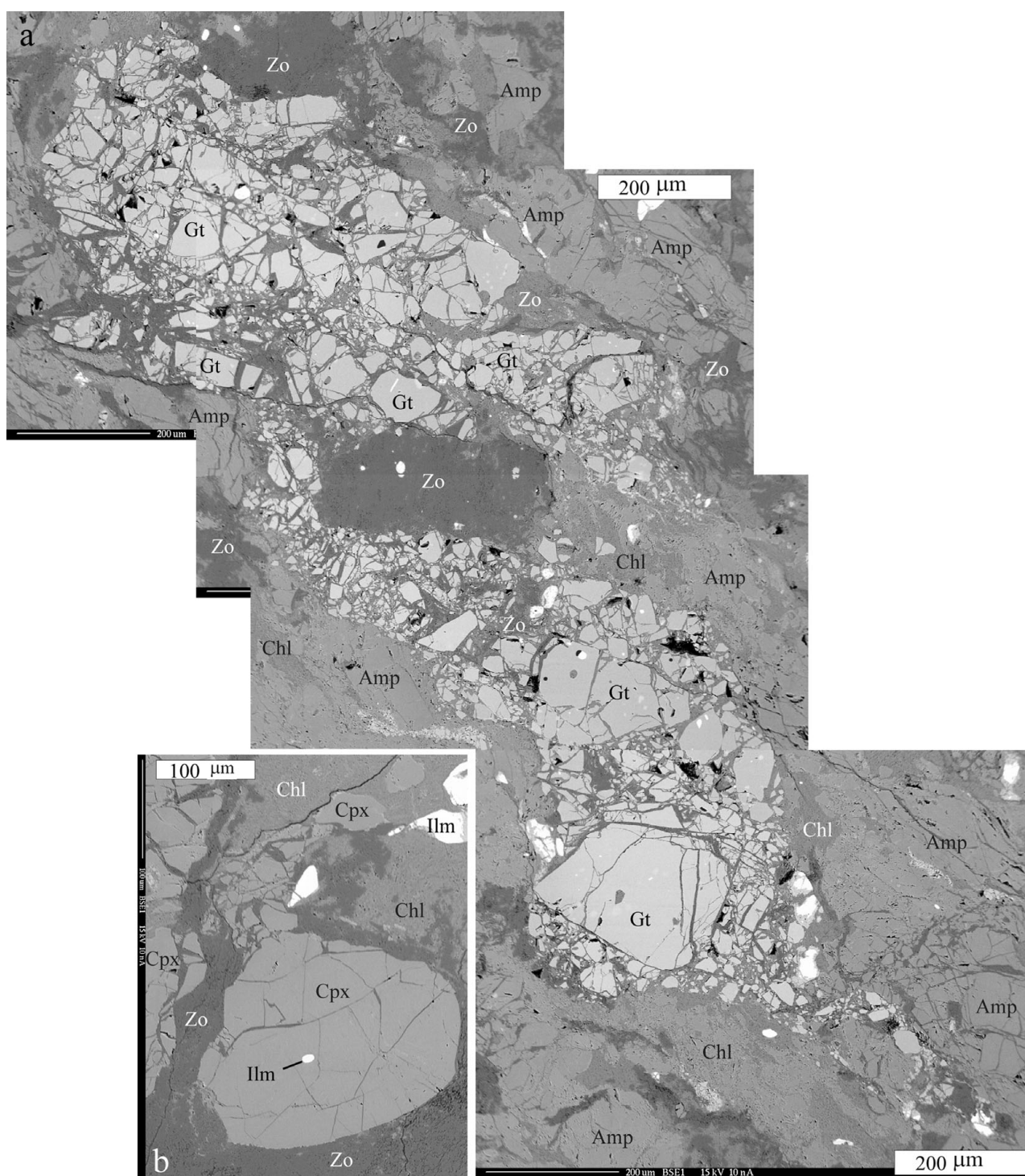


Figure 6. (a) Garnet grains and zoisite (pseudomorph of plagioclase) in garnet amphibolite, BSE; and (b) clinopyroxene with an ilmenite inclusion in garnet amphibolite, BSE. Mineral abbreviations as for Figure 5.

although most analyses are restricted to a range of $\text{Py}_{10-25}\text{Gro}_{25-30}\text{Alm}_{55-75}$. Garnet in sample K26 contains relatively higher pyrope (mostly >20 mol.%) and lower grossular component. All these garnet analyses fall within the field corresponding to garnet in eclogite coexisting with blueschist (Fig. 8a). No compositional zoning has been found in garnet grains, although there is variation in some element contents from core to rim in different garnet grains (Fig. 8b–j).

Compositional variation of clinopyroxene in garnet amphibolite is listed in Supplementary Table 4 and shown in Supplementary Figure 3 (both available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>). Clinopyroxene from sample K24 is rich in Ca ($\text{Wo}>46$ mol.%) and located in the region of diopside-hedenbergite, while clinopyroxene from sample K26 is rich in Mg ($\text{En}>33$ mol.%). Na_2O contents in clinopyroxene from sample K26 (>0.4 wt%) are obviously higher than that in sample K24 (<0.4 wt%). Amphibole

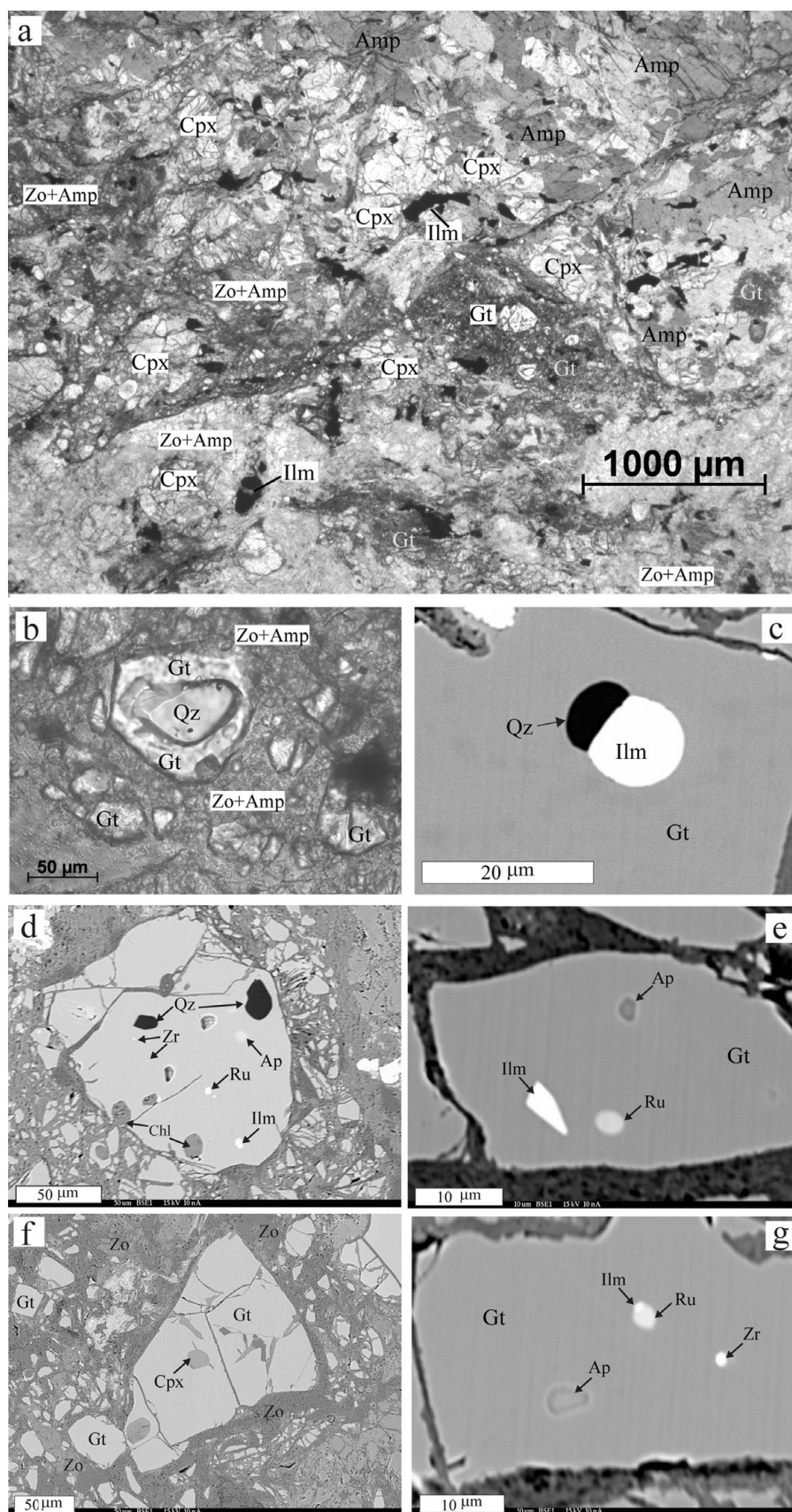


Figure 7. (a) Fragmentized garnet grain; plane-polarized light; (b) quartz inclusion in garnet; plane-polarized light; and (c–g) mineral inclusions in garnet, BSE. Ap – apatite; Qz – quartz; Ru – rutile; Zr – zircon; other mineral abbreviations as for Figure 5.

Table 3. Trace element concentrations of clinopyroxene in garnet amphibolite by LA-ICP-MS (in ppm).

Spot	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Sc	105	91.6	83.4	83.5	75.7	89.9	88.7	104	98.8	98.0	115	95.9	85.8	107
V	465	475	367	383	304	436	407	503	497	522	555	499	417	503
Cr	159	154	172	119	76.6	153	189	126	121	122	132	116	163	124
Co	61.2	49.2	52.0	48.9	48.5	48.3	48.0	51.3	50.7	50.0	49.5	49.5	53.3	53.1
Ni	79.2	58.8	60.3	57.2	57.7	57.4	56.0	70.7	72.6	71.4	70.7	73.3	76.0	73.9
Ga	13.49	12.08	10.37	10.40	9.17	11.31	10.39	10.59	10.39	12.02	11.22	10.73	10.77	11.04
Cs	1.06	0.28	0.29	0.13	0.007	0.007	0.042	0.15	0.077	0.25	0.13	0.093	0.749	0.33
Rb	1.10	0.23	0.19	0.16	0.013	0.013	0.067	0.27	0.15	0.38	0.25	0.14	0.83	0.40
Ba	2.43	0.64	1.16	3.87	0.53	0.720	1.33	1.33	1.31	2.16	2.19	2.63	5.45	3.06
Th	0.024	0.021	0.018	0.025	0.022	0.015	0.030	0.016	0.036	0.037	0.024	0.022	0.018	0.014
U	0.041	0.037	0.017	0.036	0.042	0.041	0.046	0.032	0.050	0.039	0.034	0.032	0.029	0.026
Ta	0.013	0.016	0.008	0.011	0.003	0.011	0.006	0.004	0.007	0.007	0.009	0.008	0.005	0.006
Nb	0.060	0.032	0.021	0.060	0.026	0.029	0.023	0.024	0.019	0.047	0.054	0.040	0.028	0.022
La	2.82	1.70	1.26	1.62	1.27	1.68	1.47	1.66	1.71	1.99	1.68	1.77	1.68	1.79
Ce	12.82	6.46	4.70	5.92	4.82	6.20	5.51	6.88	7.06	8.39	7.15	7.27	6.78	7.44
Pb	0.054	0.089	0.087	0.10	0.12	0.096	0.10	0.12	0.075	0.14	0.061	0.062	0.062	0.077
Sr	8.97	5.15	4.71	6.52	4.24	4.43	4.82	5.20	4.97	7.43	6.57	6.89	8.20	6.01
Nd	17.23	6.79	4.83	5.73	5.06	6.35	5.66	8.43	8.71	10.20	9.05	8.99	8.11	9.10
Zr	52.44	61.41	38.84	47.26	36.60	54.17	45.83	47.53	47.84	64.84	55.44	51.49	42.79	50.06
Hf	2.73	2.30	1.67	2.02	1.57	2.24	2.12	2.46	2.45	3.04	2.72	2.64	2.06	2.68
Ti	1954	2122	1328	1863	1360	1975	1588	1605	1625	2215	1961	1819	1485	1781
Sm	6.70	2.37	1.79	2.10	1.77	2.34	2.06	3.34	3.34	4.12	3.60	3.55	3.14	3.47
Eu	1.82	0.84	0.66	0.74	0.62	0.84	0.76	0.94	0.99	1.19	1.09	1.05	0.95	1.04
Y	43.42	18.78	13.16	17.32	13.24	17.38	14.61	29.20	30.34	35.44	34.33	31.22	27.21	31.24
Lu	0.48	0.35	0.27	0.38	0.27	0.34	0.29	0.58	0.56	0.66	0.64	0.61	0.59	0.61
Pr	2.64	1.15	0.83	1.02	0.88	1.09	0.98	1.33	1.38	1.63	1.43	1.42	1.32	1.43
Gd	9.15	2.87	2.06	2.61	2.07	2.78	2.48	4.39	4.57	5.42	4.94	4.53	3.94	4.71
Tb	1.62	0.57	0.43	0.51	0.39	0.54	0.46	0.89	0.95	1.07	1.03	0.94	0.85	0.97
Dy	9.32	3.66	2.70	3.21	2.62	3.39	2.98	5.98	6.24	7.09	6.95	6.35	5.46	6.33
Ho	1.80	0.81	0.55	0.74	0.58	0.74	0.65	1.33	1.37	1.60	1.50	1.39	1.23	1.39
Er	4.37	2.13	1.56	2.05	1.59	2.00	1.71	3.57	3.69	4.28	4.21	3.73	3.27	3.83
Tm	0.56	0.32	0.25	0.33	0.23	0.31	0.29	0.52	0.55	0.65	0.65	0.57	0.51	0.57
Yb	3.50	2.33	1.57	2.47	1.62	2.20	1.91	3.75	3.92	4.54	4.23	3.93	3.71	4.10
(Ce/Yb) _N	1.02	0.77	0.83	0.67	0.83	0.78	0.80	0.51	0.50	0.51	0.47	0.51	0.51	0.50
(Gd/Yb) _N	2.16	1.02	1.09	0.87	1.06	1.05	1.07	0.97	0.96	0.99	0.97	0.95	0.88	0.95
Eu/Eu*	0.71	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.98	1.00	1.02	0.75	0.77	0.77	0.79	0.80	0.82	0.78

Table 3. (Continued)

Spot	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Sc	71.6	70.4	73.2	75.8	65.5	73.5	72.2	78.6	68.8	98.0	90.7	101	95.9	107	95.2
V	356	396	359	369	330	434	430	433	357	489	451	458	478	420	441
Cr	71.8	70.7	87.9	77.2	95.1	87.3	97.9	100	71.6	239	219	238	203	191	200
Co	52.6	51.0	54.2	53.4	54.9	53.4	54.0	54.2	56.0	47.8	46.2	46.2	47.9	46.5	46.6
Ni	60.0	56.5	63.2	61.9	58.0	61.4	62.0	63.3	61.3	61.6	58.4	58.4	62.1	58.2	58.6
Ga	10.78	12.06	10.92	11.97	9.16	12.77	12.47	12.46	10.39	11.01	9.73	9.78	10.62	8.98	9.76
Cs	0.26	0.25	0.008	0.087	0.94	0.008	0.14	0.027	0.27	0.063	0.12	0.068	0.019	0.058	0.14
Rb	0.41	0.42	0.025	0.11	1.03	0.018	0.19	0.048	0.27	0.065	0.22	0.090	0.054	0.11	0.17
Ba	3.44	5.47	0.78	1.96	6.43	0.52	1.84	0.74	1.40	0.69	4.12	1.63	0.49	2.08	4.37
Th	0.014	0.026	0.028	0.018	0.140	0.039	0.032	0.037	0.035	0.027	0.020	0.021	0.016	0.018	0.020
U	0.025	0.033	0.037	0.037	0.059	0.048	0.043	0.042	0.050	0.069	0.050	0.043	0.056	0.041	0.049
Ta	0.011	0.014	0.021	0.008	0.005	0.011	0.012	0.008	0.011	0.007	0.006	0.007	0.010	0.006	0.006
Nb	0.043	0.061	0.166	0.051	0.029	0.031	0.044	0.036	0.047	0.029	0.027	0.025	0.019	0.024	0.026
La	2.04	2.11	2.14	2.23	1.60	2.40	2.34	2.33	2.04	1.61	1.41	1.30	1.43	1.16	1.30
Ce	8.50	8.61	8.95	9.27	6.52	9.99	9.77	9.76	8.47	5.98	5.21	4.90	5.51	4.32	5.02
Pb	0.044	0.038	0.058	0.072	0.065	0.086	0.051	0.13	0.097	0.21	0.18	0.20	0.18	0.15	0.16
Sr	8.51	10.58	5.98	6.98	8.82	5.59	6.51	6.08	6.76	3.75	5.96	4.76	3.87	4.60	5.80
Nd	8.91	9.10	9.39	9.58	6.60	10.47	10.17	10.23	8.71	6.86	6.03	5.32	6.36	5.01	5.68
Zr	38.73	45.49	41.85	47.01	32.38	55.31	51.42	50.07	39.61	53.38	45.51	44.73	53.77	39.88	44.32
Hf	2.16	2.46	2.46	2.40	1.76	2.91	2.79	2.79	2.20	2.71	2.26	2.32	2.53	2.11	2.28
Ti	1472	1712	1641	1796	1005	1894	1757	1816	1198	2021	1711	1636	1978	1550	1693
Sm	3.03	3.16	3.07	3.20	2.18	3.46	3.28	3.37	2.98	2.45	2.17	2.06	2.43	2.05	2.15
Eu	1.01	1.06	1.05	1.05	0.746	1.10	1.09	1.14	0.950	0.818	0.759	0.687	0.797	0.616	0.724
Y	15.48	16.77	16.16	17.19	11.97	18.03	18.09	18.01	14.92	19.38	17.98	16.26	18.74	15.11	17.03
Lu	0.24	0.27	0.23	0.26	0.21	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.21	0.41	0.46	0.34	0.38	0.329	0.421
Pr	1.56	1.63	1.66	1.66	1.18	1.85	1.77	1.79	1.53	1.08	0.984	0.905	1.05	0.835	0.923
Gd	3.16	3.50	3.45	3.40	2.34	3.73	3.83	3.58	3.12	3.07	2.76	2.49	3.13	2.23	2.69
Tb	0.59	0.62	0.63	0.65	0.45	0.72	0.69	0.69	0.61	0.63	0.59	0.51	0.62	0.47	0.558
Dy	3.62	3.91	3.86	4.03	2.81	4.33	4.33	4.33	3.63	4.17	3.77	3.40	4.02	3.19	3.61
Ho	0.73	0.76	0.76	0.81	0.56	0.86	0.87	0.84	0.72	0.94	0.82	0.74	0.85	0.68	0.79
Er	1.69	1.90	1.86	1.95	1.34	2.04	1.99	2.00	1.71	2.46	2.36	2.08	2.37	1.95	2.17
Tm	0.24	0.27	0.24	0.27	0.20	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.24	0.36	0.38	0.31	0.35	0.28	0.35
Yb	1.65	1.85	1.64	1.70	1.33	1.91	1.78	1.76	1.47	2.59	2.80	2.21	2.48	2.26	2.64
(Ce/Yb) _N	1.43	1.29	1.52	1.51	1.36	1.45	1.52	1.54	1.60	0.64	0.52	0.62	0.62	0.53	0.53
(Gd/Yb) _N	1.58	1.56	1.74	1.65	1.46	1.62	1.78	1.68	1.76	0.98	0.82	0.93	1.04	0.82	0.84
Eu/Eu*	0.99	0.97	0.98	0.97	1.01	0.93	0.94	1.00	0.95	0.91	0.95	0.92	0.88	0.88	0.92

Table 4. Trace element concentrations of garnet in amphibolite by LA-ICP-MS (in ppm).

Spot	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Sc	79.4	72.3	90.9	144	152	95.4	111	107	115	128	107	82.9	118
V	227	211	184	104	116	86.1	86	169	127	134	124	106	294
Cr	72.4	63.5	128	101	129	61.6	59.6	97.5	61.7	83.9	100	298	72.5
Co	50.0	50.4	52.1	23.5	32.6	20.9	22.2	40.5	41.0	40.9	43.2	42.1	33.4
Ni	2.1	2.5	2.2	0.17	17.0	3.7	6.1	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.0	1.6	2.0
Ga	12.7	12.9	10.9	6.0	7.4	5.5	5.7	5.7	5.2	5.0	6.2	6.6	7.3
Cs	0.014	0.019	0.014	0.016	0.12	0.026	0.042	0.014	0.016	0.014	0.011	0.015	0.012
Rb	0.041	0.038	0.069	0.15	0.16	0.084	0.11	0.044	0.027	0.034	0.030	0.035	0.024
Ba	0.067	0.072	0.10	0.088	0.19	0.11	0.076	0.086	0.079	0.056	0.078	0.083	0.055
Th	0.008	0.012	0.008	0.011	0.013	0.008	0.012	0.008	0.019	0.007	0.010	0.014	0.011
U	0.014	0.016	0.012	0.015	0.014	0.012	0.113	0.034	0.026	0.025	0.010	0.015	0.066
Ta	0.007	0.006	0.006	0.009	0.015	0.008	0.011	0.008	0.011	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.004
Nb	0.006	0.015	0.011	0.010	0.013	0.075	0.12	0.011	0.19	0.025	0.006	0.013	0.047
La	0.009	0.013	0.008	0.013	0.012	0.007	0.008	0.010	0.007	0.007	0.011	0.010	0.010
Ce	0.093	0.108	0.084	0.027	0.041	0.041	0.056	0.103	0.045	0.075	0.044	0.038	0.125
Pb	0.036	0.04	0.055	0.045	0.062	0.031	0.038	0.45	0.029	0.028	0.13	0.031	0.024
Sr	0.051	0.027	0.041	0.075	0.42	0.65	0.19	0.54	0.014	0.013	0.030	0.014	0.032
Nd	1.26	1.49	1.21	0.37	0.39	0.42	0.47	0.94	0.55	0.71	0.46	0.32	1.52
Zr	12.87	13.59	12.82	12.1	10.88	14.08	98.82	16.72	22.95	14.98	15.70	13.82	22.56
Hf	0.21	0.20	0.18	0.15	0.12	0.12	1.88	0.18	0.24	0.16	0.14	0.17	0.32
Ti	373	424	272	274	262	328	410	511	740	529	287	277	756
Sm	3.45	4.01	3.15	0.75	0.73	1.05	1.21	1.26	0.97	1.14	0.81	0.78	2.02
Eu	1.73	2.05	1.67	0.46	0.50	0.82	0.88	0.83	0.71	0.71	0.65	0.57	1.10
Y	289	234	387	654	278	213	245	143	173	182	132	105	66.2
Lu	5.93	4.29	8.95	21.02	13.11	4.81	5.41	2.49	3.39	4.55	2.90	3.14	1.40
Pr	0.068	0.065	0.059	0.018	0.021	0.031	0.035	0.061	0.025	0.055	0.027	0.025	0.075
Gd	16.93	18.81	17.06	3.24	3.61	8.83	9.92	3.74	3.87	2.94	3.92	3.37	2.74
Tb	5.30	5.35	5.87	2.11	1.57	3.29	3.97	1.75	1.57	1.36	1.51	1.39	0.82
Dy	42.05	37.14	52.75	43.94	22.08	31.17	36.94	18.68	19.01	18.43	15.88	14.16	7.99
Ho	10.69	8.71	15.05	24.09	9.62	8.79	10.20	5.25	6.12	6.67	4.95	4.07	2.21
Er	31.86	24.94	46.56	107.5	41.61	27.69	31.89	15.00	19.74	23.99	16.12	13.39	7.23
Tm	5.16	3.92	7.87	20.45	8.72	4.62	5.17	2.28	3.14	3.94	2.63	2.33	1.26
Yb	38.01	27.72	56.26	155.34	78.35	32.63	36.66	15.94	22.04	28.52	19.08	19.18	9.32

Table 4. (Continued)

Spot	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Sc	104	98.3	91.9	101	103	88.8	116	85.4	103	107	109	98.6	95.6
V	112	118	125	117	141	94.1	118	117	145	105	203	105	99.9
Cr	93.8	58.4	162	72.9	90.6	161	78.7	95.4	83.7	71.2	117	71.8	78.2
Co	41.9	42.3	44.5	42.4	42.4	42.2	37.3	37.0	38.9	37.3	32.2	28.3	35.8
Ni	1.4	2.6	1.5	3.7	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.7	10.0	1.6	3.1	2.5	2.1
Ga	6.02	5.61	6.70	5.70	6.01	5.14	5.01	4.95	5.81	5.06	6.48	5.05	4.94
Cs	0.012	0.015	0.017	0.104	0.009	0.010	0.013	0.014	0.129	0.012	0.065	0.074	0.012
Rb	0.029	0.048	0.057	0.095	0.025	0.027	0.046	0.036	0.17	0.028	0.15	0.17	0.033
Ba	0.055	0.046	0.082	0.080	0.055	0.064	0.053	0.057	0.56	0.042	0.22	0.19	0.028
Th	0.010	0.006	0.009	0.010	0.007	0.008	0.004	0.012	0.007	0.049	0.009	0.27	0.008
U	0.010	0.018	0.009	0.023	0.028	0.012	0.019	0.014	0.025	0.48	0.053	0.91	0.022
Ta	0.005	0.009	0.007	0.007	0.017	0.008	0.007	0.004	0.007	0.008	0.081	0.042	0.003
Nb	0.016	0.006	0.009	0.019	0.22	0.005	0.013	0.009	0.009	0.013	0.86	0.76	0.008
La	0.008	0.006	0.013	0.011	0.025	0.007	0.009	0.007	0.011	0.008	0.007	1.47	0.009
Ce	0.028	0.041	0.040	0.054	0.094	0.046	0.056	0.047	0.062	0.050	0.075	3.80	0.10
Pb	0.032	0.043	0.038	0.050	0.021	0.065	0.024	0.037	0.13	0.027	0.028	0.030	0.023
Sr	0.023	0.039	0.051	0.180	0.016	0.017	0.025	0.020	0.50	0.018	1.84	1.44	0.011
Nd	0.37	0.59	0.43	0.60	0.43	0.45	0.67	0.61	0.58	0.51	0.67	1.92	0.77
Zr	14.38	17.05	10.83	16.56	13.83	16.65	17.47	17.51	13.85	1018	21.08	17.82	10.30
Hf	0.13	0.13	0.15	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.16	0.17	0.16	24.65	0.36	0.34	0.08
Ti	257	341	289	408	756	292	401	350	384	304	71.1	2083	458
Sm	0.74	1.16	0.78	1.21	0.92	0.84	1.04	1.04	0.86	0.95	0.65	0.27	0.85
Eu	0.59	0.71	0.63	0.82	0.62	0.67	0.72	0.74	0.54	0.65	0.45	0.14	0.50
Y	126	159	136	137	101	105	208	112	176	181	64.1	74.9	95.1
Lu	2.71	1.94	3.96	1.63	2.36	2.22	3.97	0.87	2.65	3.31	3.16	2.04	2.47
Pr	0.022	0.026	0.033	0.040	0.037	0.027	0.031	0.033	0.036	0.021	0.040	0.488	0.048
Gd	3.61	3.82	3.79	3.97	3.15	3.99	3.27	4.08	2.24	3.94	1.36	0.91	1.65
Tb	1.43	1.56	1.49	1.76	1.10	1.66	1.58	1.77	1.31	1.77	0.48	0.51	0.63
Dy	16.00	19.61	16.55	19.96	11.62	16.30	21.57	17.80	18.39	22.34	5.68	7.34	8.76
Ho	5.00	6.08	5.28	5.45	3.81	4.30	7.61	4.24	6.19	7.08	2.07	3.07	3.35
Er	15.83	17.03	18.11	14.50	13.00	12.04	24.93	9.91	19.40	21.72	9.03	11.08	12.35
Tm	2.49	2.38	3.19	1.97	2.17	1.84	3.94	1.25	2.99	3.36	2.04	1.95	2.20
Yb	18.23	15.11	25.18	12.51	15.65	13.47	27.38	7.09	19.92	23.26	18.67	13.89	16.46

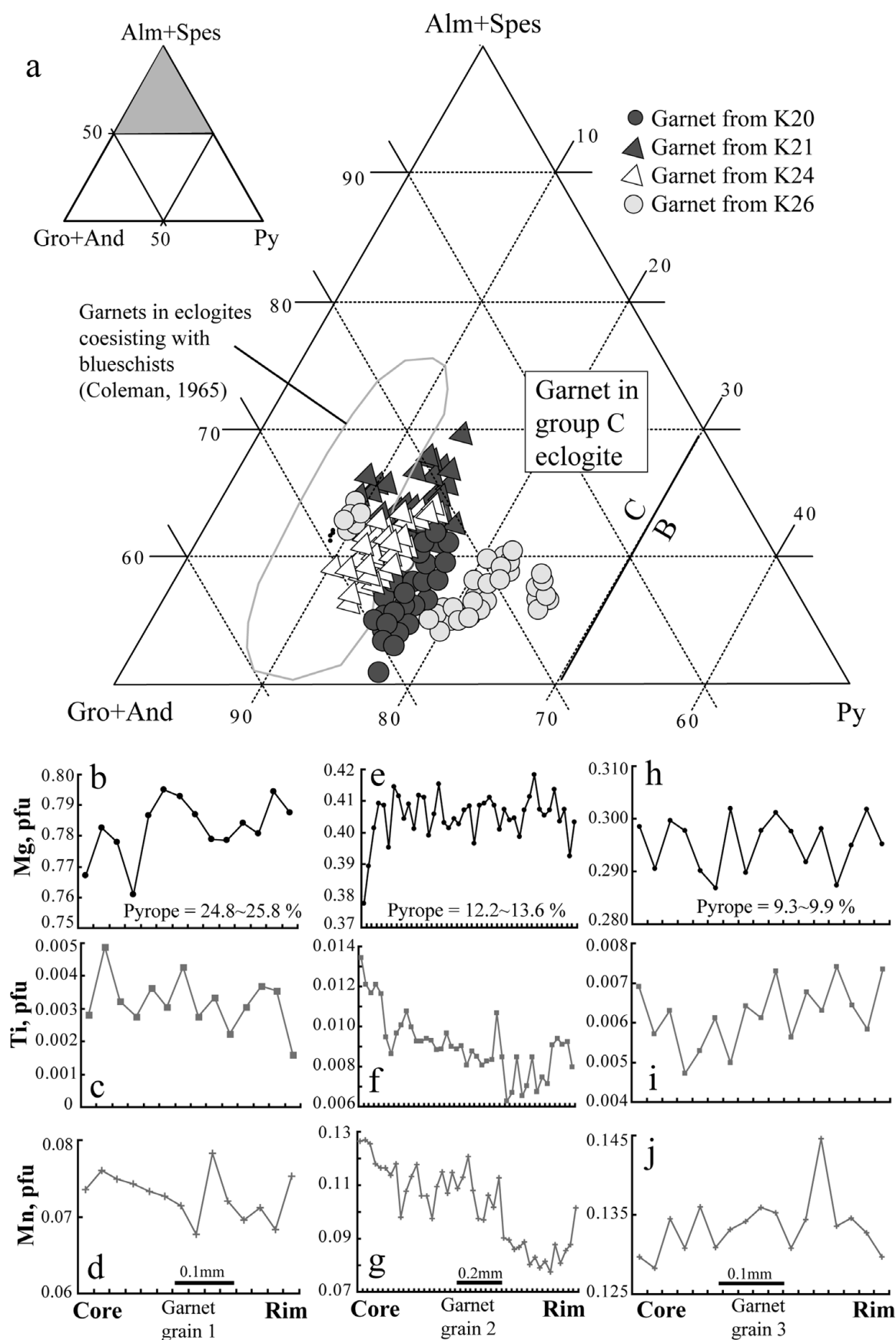


Figure 8. Plots showing variations of garnet in garnet amphibolite: (a) triangle plot showing compositions of garnet; Group C region is based on Coleman (1965); and (b–j) Mg, Ti and Mn variations across three garnet grains (corresponding to different pyrope components varying from 25.8 mol. % to 9.3 mol. %).

Table 5. The trace element contents of metagabbro and amphibolite in Baikouquan ophiolitic mélange (in ppm).

Sample Rock*	K33 MG	Bk36 MG	Bk6 MG	Bk7 MG	Bk13 MG	J115 MG	J-116 MG	DJ101 MG	K20 G-amp	K21 G-amp	K24 G-amp	K26 G-amp	K19 Amp	K28 Amp	K22 Amp	K22–1 Amp	K27 Amp	XJ30 Amp	XJ43 Amp	XJ50 Amp	XJ65 Amp	XJ66 Amp	XJ68 Amp
Li	40.85	10.60	46.40	34.20	57.80	52.92	37.47	53.49	5.67	6.11	4.81	14.1	8.35	7.10	5.67	6.11	8.86	6.91	15.1	13.1	8.13	14.8	5.88
Be	0.098	0.056	0.067	0.39	1.19	0.09	0.20	0.09	0.24	0.27	0.32	0.43	0.41	0.34	0.24	0.27	0.52	0.42	0.37	0.52	0.47	0.48	0.46
Sc	26.0	15.7	39.3	39.4	21.6	35.1	55.3	38.2	70.4	73.5	54.01	65.3	53.21	37.25	70.4	73.5	67.7	43.5	43.9	60.0	45.0	62.0	52.7
V	94.21	58.7	71.5	86.2	30.0	101	147	104	442	433	388	462	421	297	442	433	427	356	311	394	325	374	335
Cr	524	449	849	486	576	323	326	321	166	171	294	180	225	240	166	171	277	129	124	288	130	394	342
Co	37.4	63.9	36.5	27.6	34.2	34.8	41.9	35.2	69.5	72.0	54.4	65.0	60.2	39.2	69.5	72.0	70.0	38.4	44.1	60.8	45.1	66.2	55.8
Ni	135	300	134	159	143	129	131	124	94.3	97.6	108	84.2	94.72	62.08	94.3	97.6	121	37.7	45.7	154	47.7	202	151
Cu	3.08	35.4	7.53	6.10	7.16	8.06	1.65	8.02	51.8	43.2	67.6	108	234	65.06	51.8	43.2	138	224	33.3	66.3	22.6	40.1	31.1
Ga	13.77	9.33	12.2	9.14	7.16	9.10	7.96	9.10	11.7	11.6	11.3	10.9	17.43	17.43	11.7	11.6	13.2	13.5	10.5	12.2	11.2	10.5	17.1
Rb	11.08	13.61	17.42	11.30	19.11	34.02	9.12	34.03	1.75	1.27	1.35	1.33	1.29	0.071	1.75	1.27	2.86	35.8	17.11	2.10	3.08	1.99	6.39
Sr	256	229	894	750	900	204	275	201	265	265	294	56.11	83.90	224	265	265	112	440	125	74.62	150	63.10	81.81
Y	4.16	2.37	2.85	3.78	1.82	2.28	3.02	2.78	33.70	34.10	27.20	36.80	36.90	24.88	33.70	34.10	30.50	28.50	21.40	33.20	19.70	38.90	28.30
Zr	2.68	4.64	6.70	9.66	5.00	2.09	1.44	5.17	67.20	71.00	62.40	84.10	89.26	60.52	67.20	71.00	57.40	94.00	68.40	77.10	67.50	85.90	64.90
Nb	0.37	0.075	0.24	0.16	0.062	0.15	0.15	0.17	3.91	4.01	3.77	5.02	7.02	1.06	3.91	4.01	7.98	1.66	1.35	5.77	1.78	5.14	3.89
Cs	0.33	0.52	2.01	0.49	1.98	0.24	0.18	0.25	0.47	0.47	0.12	1.16	0.57	0.40	0.47	0.47	0.24	0.28	0.36	0.19	0.11	0.20	0.26
Ba	65.81	86.00	352	193	444	1382	1010	1390	3.83	4.51	16.7	3.20	10.55	8.81	3.83	4.51	37.31	103	63.30	65.72	38.91	6.84	373
La	0.13	0.31	0.31	0.23	0.21	0.16	0.28	0.13	3.87	4.05	4.42	4.09	7.52	3.16	3.87	4.05	5.08	4.97	5.02	6.02	4.97	9.68	3.69
Ce	0.34	0.64	0.78	0.70	0.54	0.47	0.64	0.34	9.79	10.41	10.51	11.70	18.01	8.81	9.79	10.40	11.71	12.02	12.10	14.22	11.80	22.51	9.22
Pr	0.062	0.11	0.17	0.13	0.10	0.06	0.09	0.06	1.91	1.91	1.95	2.09	2.88	1.54	1.91	1.91	2.19	2.11	2.17	2.31	1.94	3.63	1.67
Nd	0.37	0.58	0.95	0.97	0.48	0.41	0.58	0.40	9.65	9.93	9.19	11.51	14.54	8.12	9.65	9.93	10.70	11.52	10.21	12.10	9.53	17.81	8.34
Sm	0.26	0.27	0.58	0.37	0.17	0.20	0.26	0.20	2.80	2.99	2.49	3.48	4.20	2.67	2.81	2.99	3.15	3.19	2.74	3.46	2.62	4.62	2.86
Eu	0.53	0.23	0.33	0.25	0.11	0.49	0.48	0.34	1.01	1.09	0.84	1.27	1.45	1.05	1.01	1.09	1.05	1.12	0.95	1.15	0.85	1.50	1.09
Gd	0.54	0.38	0.35	0.50	0.28	0.36	0.45	0.38	3.94	4.18	3.37	4.62	5.22	3.54	4.13	3.98	4.36	3.95	3.28	4.27	3.16	5.53	3.93
Tb	0.096	0.053	0.070	0.094	0.052	0.069	0.091	0.069	0.82	0.85	0.67	0.93	0.99	0.66	0.82	0.85	0.82	0.79	0.58	0.90	0.57	1.10	0.75
Dy	0.66	0.43	0.56	0.68	0.34	0.44	0.58	0.42	5.68	5.89	4.57	6.51	6.45	4.35	5.68	5.89	5.48	5.19	3.80	6.12	3.60	7.21	4.90
Ho	0.14	0.088	0.12	0.14	0.071	0.092	0.12	0.089	1.30	1.33	1.01	1.47	1.44	0.96	1.30	1.33	1.21	1.13	0.85	1.37	0.79	1.55	1.17
Er	0.39	0.29	0.31	0.40	0.19	0.27	0.34	0.26	3.74	3.84	2.85	4.27	3.95	2.64	3.74	3.84	3.3	3.2	2.43	3.82	2.20	4.53	3.24
Tm	0.068	0.047	0.051	0.071	0.031	0.042	0.051	0.041	0.66	0.61	0.47	0.69	0.60	0.41	0.66	0.63	0.54	0.52	0.39	0.63	0.35	0.71	0.51
Yb	0.43	0.29	0.29	0.40	0.16	0.24	0.32	0.23	4.42	4.52	3.28	4.60	3.82	2.58	4.42	4.52	3.65	3.47	2.62	4.09	2.44	4.58	3.63
Lu	0.056	0.045	0.045	0.062	0.022	0.041	0.051	0.035	0.66	0.68	0.49	0.68	0.58	0.37	0.66	0.68	0.52	0.49	0.37	0.58	0.37	0.66	0.51
Hf	0.14	0.15	0.26	0.40	0.18	0.091	0.090	0.23	2.14	2.25	1.95	2.68	2.69	1.77	2.14	2.25	2.02	2.74	2.2	2.47	2.13	2.60	2.04
Ta	0.19	0.027	0.19	0.37	0.032	0.061	0.081	0.062	0.26	0.31	0.29	0.33	0.68	0.17	0.26	0.31	0.42	0.12	0.13	0.56	0.14	0.33	0.27
Th	0.11	0.062	0.081	0.022	0.032	0.021	0.022	0.022	0.19	0.19	0.21	0.48	0.44	0.17	0.19	0.19	0.31	0.24	0.44	0.48	0.41	0.73	0.26
U	0.042	0.032	0.047	0.042	0.031	0.022	0.01	0.025	0.16	0.12	0.11	0.14	0.19	0.082	0.16	0.12	0.15	0.23	0.21	0.29	0.25	0.27	0.23
Eu/Eu*	4.31	2.14	2.22	1.78	1.54	5.57	4.33	3.79	0.93	0.94	0.88	0.97	0.94	1.04	0.91	0.96	0.86	0.96	0.96	0.91	0.90	0.91	0.99
(Ce/Yb) _N	0.22	0.63	0.75	0.49	0.95	0.54	0.54	0.41	0.62	0.64	0.89	0.71	1.31	0.95	0.62	0.64	0.89	0.96	1.28	0.96	1.34	1.36	0.71
(Gd/Yb) _N	1.04	1.10	1.01	1.04	1.47	1.23	1.15	1.37	0.74	0.76	0.85	0.83	1.13	1.14	0.77	0.73	0.99	0.94	1.04	0.86	1.07	1.00	0.90
(Zr/Yb) _N	0.27	0.72	1.03	1.07	1.41	0.38	0.19	0.99	0.67	0.69	0.84	0.80	1.03	1.03	0.67	0.69	0.69	1.19	1.15	0.83	1.22	0.83	0.79
(Sr/Yb) _N	13.87	18.77	72.78	44.25	135	19.78	19.81	20.42	1.40	1.37	2.10	0.28	0.51	2.03	1.40	1.37	0.72	2.96	1.11	0.43	1.44	0.32	0.53
(Ba/Yb) _N	10.76	21.29	86.52	34.38	201	405	220	426	0.06	0.07	0.36	0.05	0.20	0.24	0.06	0.07	0.72	2.09	1.70	1.13	1.12	0.10	7.25

* MG – metagabbro; G-amp – garnet amphibolite; Amp – amphibolite

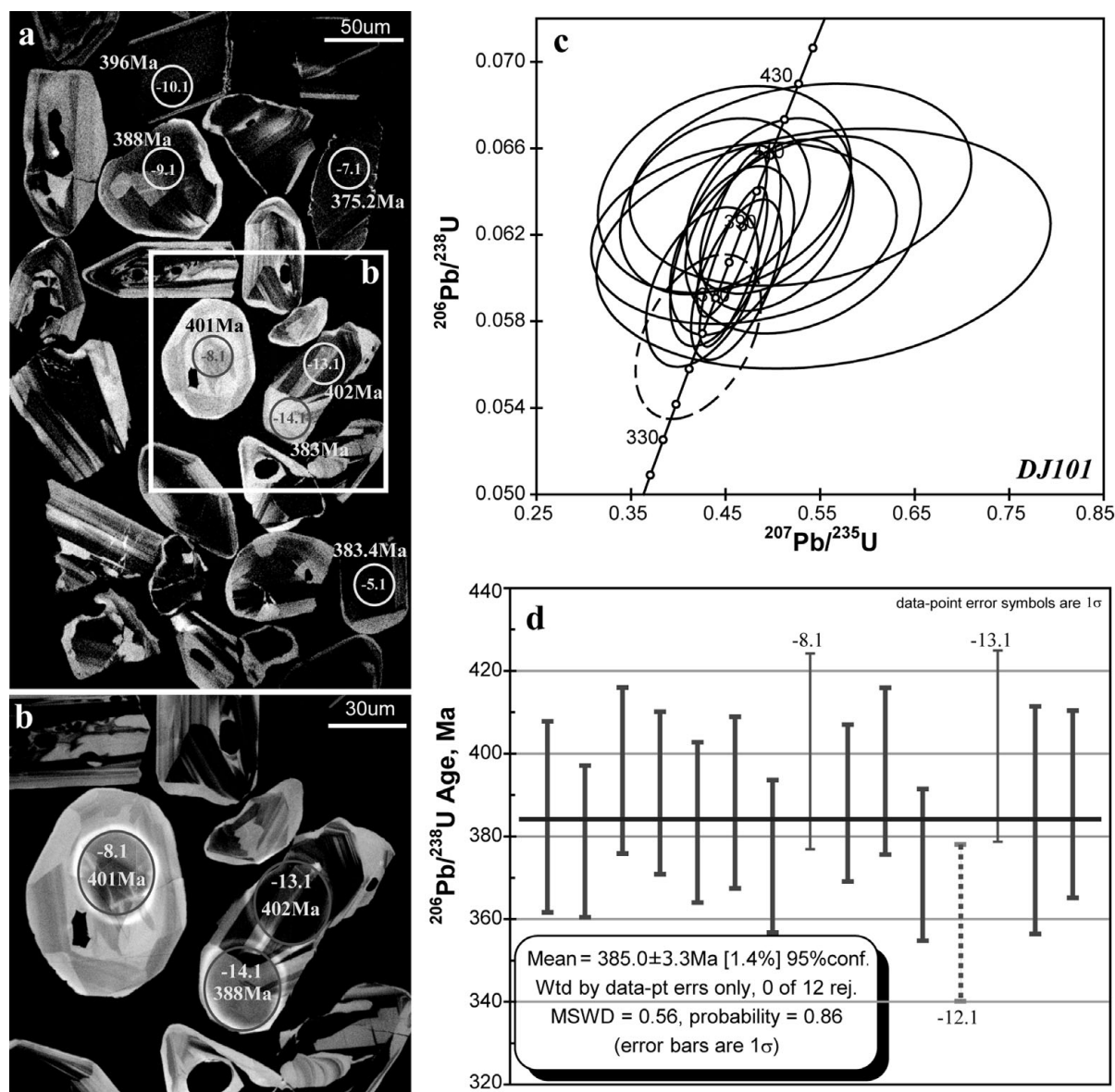


Figure 9. (a, b) Cathodoluminescence (CL) images of zircons separated from metagabbro sample DJ101 (diameter of circle on CL image is c. 30 μm); and (c, d) SHRIMP dating results for zircons in metagabbro.

is highly variable in composition (Supplementary Figure 4 and Supplementary Table 5, both available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>) and defines the substitution series with magnesiohornblende and tschermakite as end-members. However, amphibole analyses for different samples have similar compositions, suggesting their similar metamorphism conditions from one sample to another.

5. Geochronology of zircons from metagabbro and amphibolite

Metagabbro (DJ101) and amphibolite (DJ81) samples collected from the Baikouquan region (Fig. 3b) were used for a zircon chronology study. Most zircons have narrow rims showing a bright CL image (Figs 9a, b, 10a); the narrow rim is generally irregular and discontinuous with a width of 0–20 μm. The irregular

boundary between igneous zircon with oscillatory zoning pattern and its discontinuous rim suggests a replacement reaction. Zircon rims showing a bright CL pattern are typical of metamorphic zircon (Zheng *et al.* 2005; Zhang *et al.* 2007), which differs from hydrothermal zircon rims with dark CL images (Zhu, 2011). Similar metamorphic zircon rims have been reported in most metamorphic rocks, including eclogite and amphibolite.

In the amphibolite igneous zircon would have crystallized during gabbro emplacement, its U–Pb age representing magma intrusion time. Most zircon grains in sample DJ101 show a weakly oscillatory zoned pattern combined with a sector zoning pattern. Several zircon grains have narrow metamorphic rims (most <3 μm with bright CL image; Fig. 9a). The narrow metamorphic rim of zircon in the metagabbro likely formed during metamorphism. Zircons in this

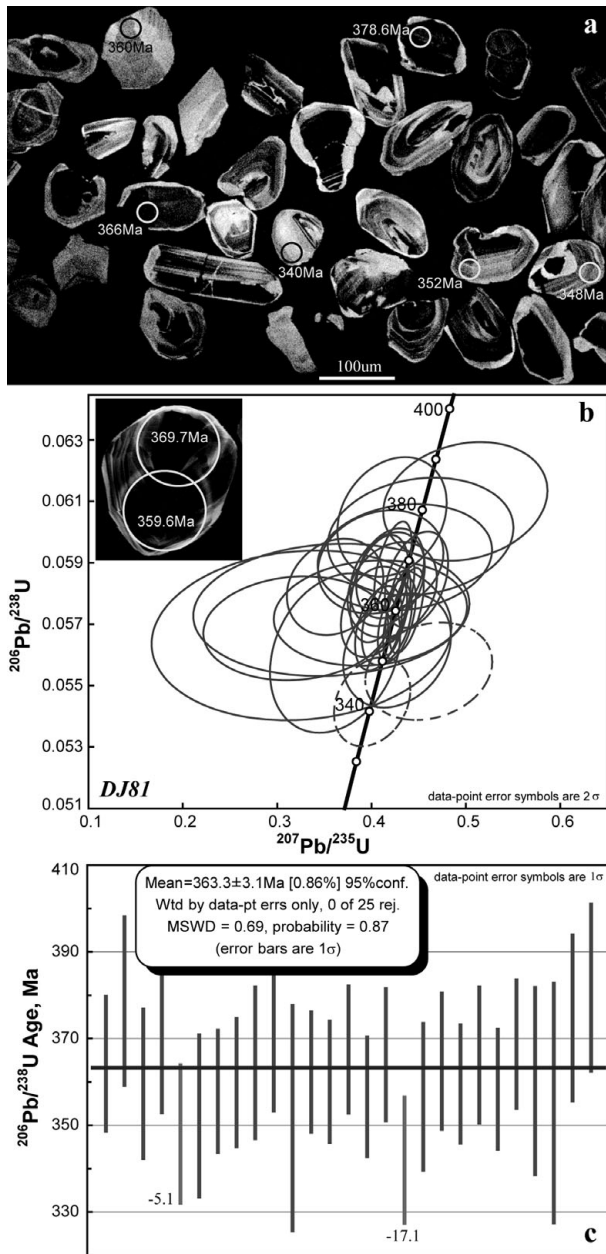


Figure 10. (a) Cathodoluminescence (CL) images of zircons separated from amphibolite sample DJ81; note that most zircons show a narrow rim with bright CL (diameter of circle on CL image is c. 30 μm); (b, c) SHRIMP dating results for zircons in amphibolite.

metagabbro sample have Th/U ratios ranging from 0.24 to 0.84 and apparent U–Pb ages of 402–359 Ma. One zircon with an apparent U–Pb age of 401 ± 12 Ma (spot –8.1; Table 1) differs from other zircon grains by its bright CL image (Fig. 9a, b). This may suggest a different origin, and will not be discussed here. Another obviously old apparent U–Pb age (402 ± 12 Ma, spot –13.1) is for a zircon core, while its rim gives a much younger U–Pb age (388 ± 11 Ma, spot –14.1; Fig. 9b). These two apparent U–Pb ages of >400 Ma with large errors are not included in the following calculations. Spot –12.1, with the obviously younger U–Pb age (359.1 ± 9.5 Ma), might represent a mixed U–Pb

age between igneous zircon and its metamorphic rim, and is also excluded from the following calculation. With the exception of these three problematic spots, all other analyses give a weighted average U–Pb age of 385.0 ± 3.3 Ma ($n = 12$, MSWD = 0.56; Fig. 9c, d). This age represents magma emplacement prior to metamorphism.

For amphibolite sample DJ81, most zircon grains have narrow metamorphic rims (mostly <10 μm , with bright CL image; Fig. 10a). The weakly oscillatory zoned zircon combined with sector zoning pattern is replaced on the rim by a thin metamorphic envelope. It was not possible to obtain a U–Pb age for this metamorphosed zircon rim due to its very narrow width (mostly <5 μm , rarely up to 20 μm). It was also difficult to avoid the metamorphic zircon rim completely in performing SHRIMP analyses in some cases. For example, one weakly oscillatory zoned zircon (Fig. 10b, inserted CL image) is replaced by a thin metamorphic rim (<3 μm); this weakly oscillatory zoned zircon was dated at 369.7 Ma, while another analysis next to this spot produced a younger U–Pb age of 359.6 Ma. The younger age may have been contaminated by the narrow metamorphic rim.

Zircons have Th/U ratios ranging from 0.25 to 0.91 with apparent U–Pb ages of 382–342 Ma (Table 1). SHRIMP analyses give a weighted average U–Pb age of 363.3 ± 3.1 Ma ($n = 25$, MSWD = 0.69; Fig. 10b, c), excluding two spots (–5.1 and –17.1 with obviously younger ages of 348.0 ± 7.9 Ma and 341.9 ± 7.2 Ma, respectively). The younger U–Pb age could be interpreted as a maximum age of metamorphism. It probably represents a mixture between igneous zircon and a relatively large amount of metamorphic rim. All other analyses may represent mixtures of igneous zircon and the metamorphic rim, with the volume of the metamorphic rim being variable from one spot to another. Thus, the obtained weighted average U–Pb age of 363.3 ± 3.1 Ma probably does not have an accurate geological meaning as the metamorphic zircon rim could not be excluded completely during SHRIMP analysis.

6. Geochemistry

6.a. Trace element geochemistry of clinopyroxene and garnet

Clinopyroxene in metagabbro (Table 2) is depleted in light REE ($(\text{Ce}/\text{Yb})_{\text{N}} = 0.23\text{--}0.32$; Fig. 11a). Depletions of Rb, Ba, Th, Ta and Nb are apparent in primitive-mantle-normalized plot, while Nd, Hf, Ti and heavy REE show enrichments (Fig. 11b). Concentrations of Ce, Rb, Nb and Pb are highly variable. Clinopyroxene in garnet amphibolite (Table 3) can be divided into two groups based on REE contents (Fig. 11c): one is depleted in light REE or shows a flat REE pattern and another shows a convex-upwards chondrite-normalized REE pattern with a weak depletion of light REE and negative Eu anomalies

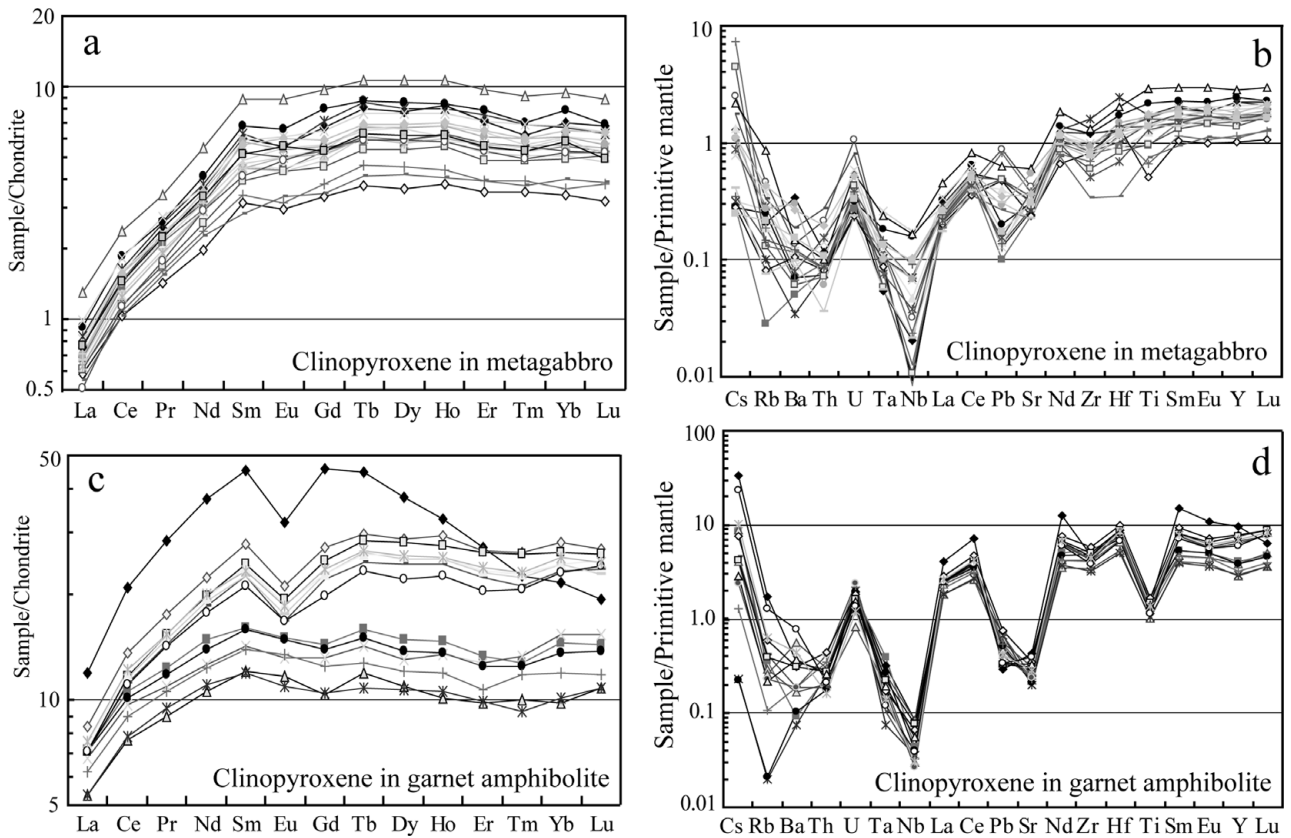


Figure 11. Chondrite-normalized REE distribution patterns for clinopyroxene in (a) metagabbro and (c) garnet amphibolite; primitive-mantle-normalized plots for clinopyroxene in (b) metagabbro and (d) garnet amphibolite from the Baikouquan ophiolitic mélange. Primitive-mantle data from Sun & McDonough (1989).

($\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.51\text{--}0.96$). Clinopyroxene in garnet amphibolite is characterized by apparent depletions in Rb–Ba, Ta–Nb, Pb–Sr and Ti with highly variable contents of Cs, Rb and Ba (Fig. 11d). Such different geochemical behaviours are consistent with the studied clinopyroxene types; clinopyroxene in metagabbro is magmatic and clinopyroxene in garnet amphibolite is metamorphic in origin.

Garnet in amphibolite is enriched in heavy REE (Table 4) and strongly depleted in light REE relative to chondrite (Fig. 12a). Garnet shows a typical chondrite-normalized REE pattern with a strong light REE depletion ($(\text{Ce}/\text{Yb})_N < 0.004$) and variable but mostly insignificant Eu anomalies. Garnet is strongly depleted in Ba, Nb, La, Ce and Sr in a primitive-mantle-normalized plot (Fig. 12b). The contents of Cs, U, Pb, Nd, Zr and Hf in garnet are similar to the primitive-mantle values.

6.b. Geochemistry of metagabbro, amphibolite and lherzolite

Trace elements of representative samples of metagabbro and amphibolite in the Baikouquan region were measured with ICP-MS (Table 5, Fig. 13). REE contents are very low in metagabbro samples with flat patterns and strongly positive Eu anomalies ($\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 1.5\text{--}5.6$; Fig. 13a). Trace elements are highly variable

in primitive-mantle-normalized plots with strong enrichments of Cs, Rb, Ba and Sr ($(\text{Ba}/\text{Yb})_N = 10.8\text{--}426$; Fig. 13b and Table 5). Amphibolite samples from the Baikouquan region show flat REE distribution patterns (Fig. 13c). Most elements (except Ba for some samples; $(\text{Ba}/\text{Yb})_N = 0.06\text{--}7.25$) show flat patterns in primitive-mantle-normalized diagrams, with insignificant depletion of Ta, Nb, Zr and Hf (high-field-strength elements or HFSE, $(\text{Zr}/\text{Yb})_N = 0.67\text{--}1.22$; Fig. 13d, Table 5).

Trace elements of representative lherzolite, amphibolite and metagabbro samples collected from the Baijiantan region are listed in Table 6. The REE patterns for metagabbro samples are highly variable with $(\text{Ce}/\text{Yb})_N$ values from 0.64 to 1.76. Three samples (Klm20, Klm24 and J-129) show similar patterns with strongly positive Eu anomalies ($\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 1.56\text{--}2.70$; Fig. 14a); two other samples (Klm28 and Klm37) show similar REE patterns with a slight enrichment in light REE. Enrichments of Cs, Rb, Ba and Sr are apparent in primitive-mantle-normalized plots ($(\text{Ba}/\text{Yb})_N = 3.1\text{--}15$; $(\text{Sr}/\text{Yb})_N = 1.3\text{--}14$), while other trace elements are highly variable for different samples ($(\text{Zr}/\text{Yb})_N = 0.5\text{--}2.0$; Table 6). The flat REE patterns with positive Eu anomalies (Fig. 14a) and insignificant depletion of HFSE relative to the primitive mantle (Fig. 14b) suggest a mid-ocean-ridge basalt (MORB) origin for metagabbro in both the Baijiantan and Baikouquan

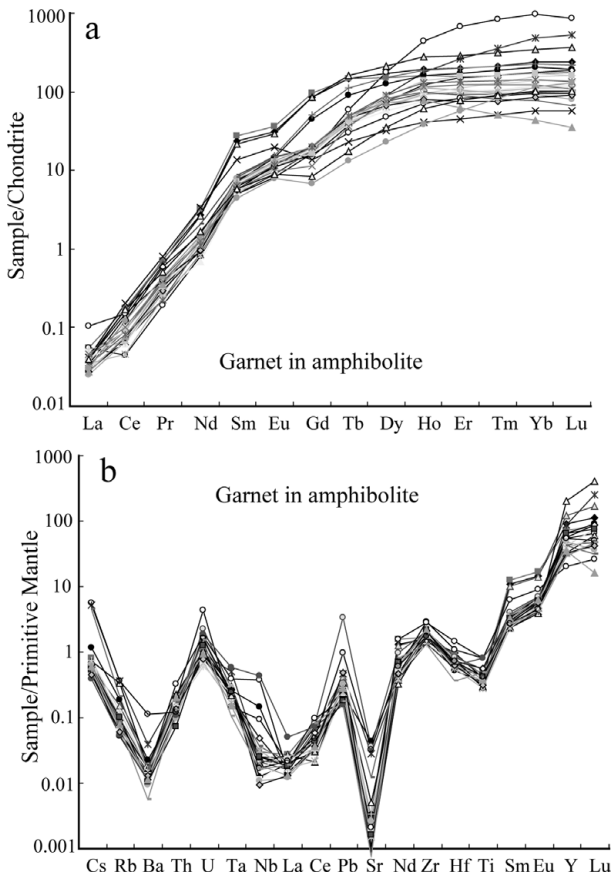


Figure 12. (a) Chondrite-normalized REE distribution patterns and (b) primitive-mantle-normalized plots for garnet in amphibolite. Primitive-mantle data from Sun & McDonough (1989).

regions. Their different REE contents and Eu anomalies may have been caused by magmatic differentiation and metamorphism. For example, magma differentiation may cause the accumulation of Ca-rich plagioclase, and thus show positive Eu anomalies. Once such gabbro undergoes metamorphism, Ca-rich plagioclase is replaced by zoisite + albite $\pm$ garnet $\pm$ ilmenite $\pm$ chlorite and positive Eu anomalies will be reduced in the REE distribution pattern due to the decomposition of the Ca-rich phase that is host to most of the Eu. Compared to the Baikouquan metagabbro, metagabbro in the Baijiantan region is characterized by a higher content of REE, Zr, Hf and Y (Fig. 14b). The amphibolite sample Klm27 shows a flat REE pattern (Fig. 14c) and a primitive-mantle-normalized plot (Fig. 14d) shows a flat pattern with slight depletion of Th and Ta. The flat REE patterns and insignificant depletions of HFSE imply that both metagabbro and amphibolite originated from MORB-type magmatism. Clinopyroxene in metagabbro still shows a magmatic signature, even though it was partly replaced by amphibole.

Lherzolite samples have similar REE distribution patterns, showing obvious depletion of light REE without Eu anomalies (Fig. 15a). Total REE contents in these samples vary from 1.89 ppm to 3.71 ppm with $(\text{Ce/Yb})_N$ of 0.11–0.75. The Cs, Rb, Ba, Th and Sr en-

richments are apparent in primitive-mantle-normalized plots (Fig. 15b); the U, La, Ce and Nd contents are highly variable with obvious depletions of La, Ce and Nd.

The Sr–Nd isotopic compositions of representative lherzolite and metagabbro samples are listed in Table 7. Four lherzolite samples define one isochron, which gives an isochron age of 474 ± 38 Ma (MSWD = 0.18; Fig. 16a) with $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ of +8.9. One Rb–Sr isochron for metagabbro samples in the Baijiantan region indicates an isochron age of 335 ± 10 Ma (MSWD = 1.4; Fig. 16b) with an initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.704597 ± 0.000011 . These metagabbro samples have positive $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values of +5.9 to +11.0 and initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.70447–0.70458. Seven metagabbro samples collected from the Baikouquan region give an Sm–Nd isochron age of 379 ± 31 Ma (MSWD = 0.3; Fig. 16c), with $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ of +9.4. These metagabbro samples have similar $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values (+9.3 to +9.5) and initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7045–0.7054. Six Rb–Sr isotopic analyses (except for sample BK13) form one isochron which provides an age of 333 ± 12 Ma (MSWD = 4.0; Fig. 16d) with an initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.705336 ± 0.000032 . The Sm–Nd isotopic isochron age (379 Ma) of metagabbro samples in the Baikouquan region likely represents a magmatic event. Their Rb–Sr isochron age (333 Ma) may record a metamorphic event, as the Rb–Sr isotopic system can be easily reset while that of the Sm–Nd isotopic system may remain stable during metamorphism.

Lherzolite samples are characterized by high positive $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ and low initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ values, different from the metagabbro samples which have higher initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios (Supplementary Figure 5, available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>). The lherzolite samples with $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values of +8.8 to +9.1 and initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7037–0.7040 are rather homogeneous in Sr–Nd isotopic compositions, whereas metagabbro samples have a relatively wide Sr–Nd isotopic compositional range; the $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values fall within a small range (+9.3 to +11.0) except for sample Klm24, which has a $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ value of +5.9. High positive $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values for metagabbro samples suggest a depleted mantle origin, while their high initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios suggest interaction with Sr sourced from continental material or marine water during metamorphism.

7. Discussion

7.a. Metamorphic *P–T* conditions for garnet amphibolite

We used the PERPLE_X computer software package (Connolly, 2005; Massonne, 2009) to calculate the phase relations of garnet amphibolite. The thermodynamic dataset of Holland & Powell (1998; updated in 2002) for numerous mineral end-members (file hp02ver.dat) was applied. The following solid-solution series, which are compatible with the above dataset, were selected from this file: amphibole (GltTsPg, a mixture of glaucophane, tremolite, tschermakite,

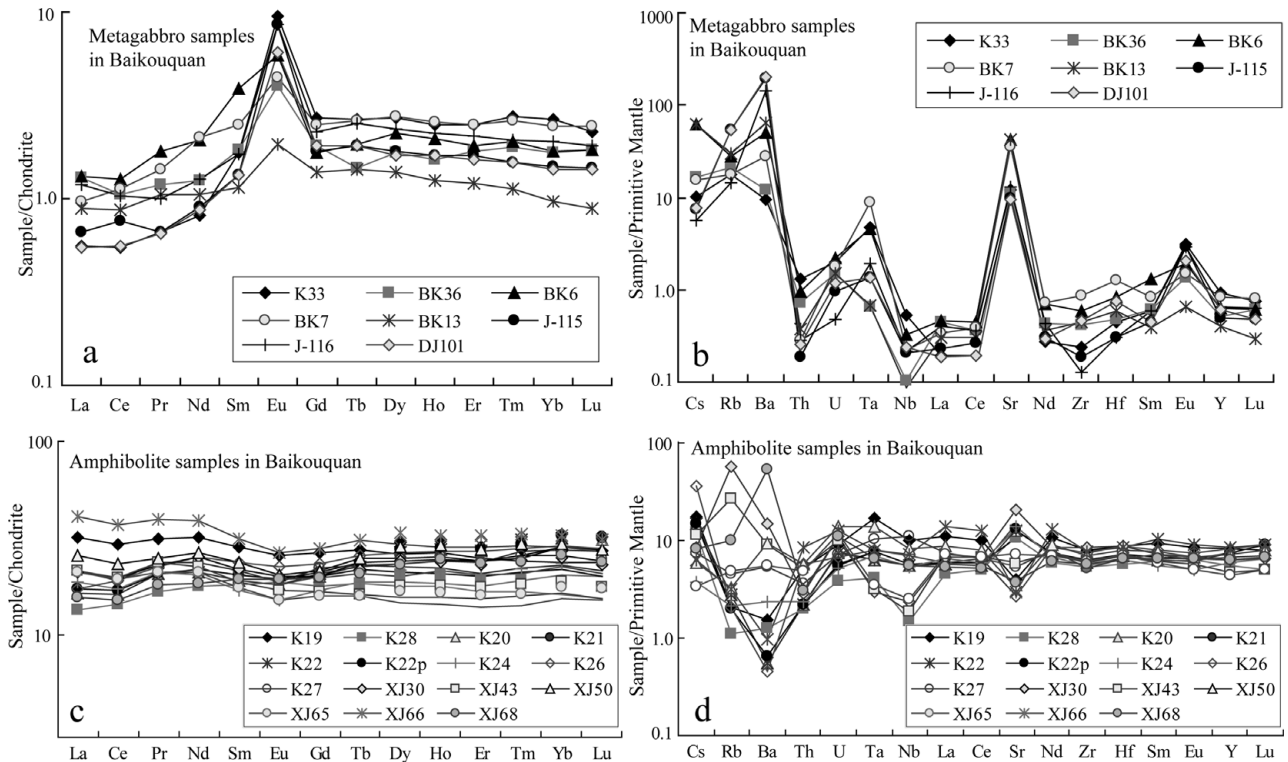


Figure 13. Trace element plots for (a, b) metagabbro and (c, d) amphibolite samples collected from the Baikouquan region. Chondrite and primitive-mantle data from Sun & McDonough (1989).

pargasite and corresponding Fe^{2+} end-members); biotite (Bio(HP): phlogopite, eastonite, corresponding Fe^{2+} and Mn^{2+} end-members); clinopyroxene (Omph(HP): diopside, hedenbergite and jadeite); garnet (Gt(HP): almandine, grossular, pyrope and spessartine); and ilmenite (IlGkPy: ideal mixture of ilmenite, geikielite and pyrophanite end-members).

Thermodynamic calculations for garnet amphibolite (sample K26, for its composition see Supplementary Table 6 available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>) were started at 400 °C and 8 kbar (Fig. 17a). Plagioclase does not occur in this P – T pseudosection whereas garnet and amphibole are present at all P – T conditions; quartz occurs only at low temperature (<510 °C). The mineral phases in the studied samples include amphibole, garnet, zoisite, chlorite, clinopyroxene, biotite, ilmenite, sphene, rutile and quartz. Quartz, biotite and rutile mostly occur as inclusions in garnet (Fig. 7b–g). This mineral assemblage is consistent with evolution from F1 to F2 in the P – T pseudosection (Fig. 17a), where the mineral assemblage of biotite–chlorite–clinopyroxene–epidote–amphibole–garnet–sphene–quartz (F1) transformed to the mineral assemblage of biotite–chlorite–epidote–amphibole–garnet–sphene–quartz– H_2O (F2) with isobaric temperature increase, during which period clinopyroxene disappeared and an H_2O phase formed. Rutile growth started with a further temperature increase at F3 and formed a mineral assemblage of biotite–chlorite–epidote–amphibole–garnet–sphene–rutile– H_2O without quartz. We sug-

gest that the metamorphism recorded in sample K26 reached the P – T conditions of F3 (c. 15 kbar, 520–560 °C).

The P – T path for garnet amphibolite started from F1 to F2, entered F3 isobarically and finally reached the amphibolite grade (F4; Fig. 17b) with pressure decrease. The P – T environment of stage F4 is based on the amphibole composition, estimated using the program developed by Gerya *et al.* (1997); amphibole analyses are listed in Supplementary Table 5 (available at <http://journals.cambridge.org/geo>). The P – T values based on amphibole compositions of sample K26 are 566–633 °C and 4–6 kbar; sample K20 corresponds to 583–630 °C and 4–6 kbar; sample K21 is 580–656 °C (4.2–7.7 kbar); and sample K24 is 580–645 °C (4–7 kbar). The overlap of these estimates determined the P – T environment of F4.

The mineral assemblage of garnet amphibolite records progressive metamorphism (from F1 to F3) which was followed by retrograde metamorphism (from F3 to F4). The P – T path could therefore be clockwise (Fig. 17b), reflecting a subduction condition in which gabbro (the original rock of the studied amphibolite) was first subducted and then exhumed.

7.b. Age constraints and tectonic implications

Zircon SHRIMP analyses give a weighted average U–Pb age of c. 385 Ma for metagabbro (Fig. 9) and 363 Ma for amphibolite (Fig. 10). The Sm–Nd isotopic analyses of metagabbro samples indicate an isochron

Table 6. Trace element contents of lherzolite, amphibolite and metagabbro in Baijiantan ophiolitic mélange (in ppm).

Sample Rock	Klm23 Lherzolite	Klm30 Lherzolite	Klm31 Lherzolite	Klm32 Lherzolite	Klm33 Lherzolite	Klm34 Lherzolite	Klm27 Amphibolite	Klm20 Metagabbro	Klm24 Metagabbro	Klm28 Metagabbro	Klm37 Metagabbro	J-129 Metagabbro
Li	1.72	2.22	2.28	1.16	1.53	1.62	2.17	10.21	18.9	6.50	6.56	25.0
Be	0.23	0.17	0.17	0.19	0.23	0.18	0.41	0.24	0.19	0.50	0.53	0.15
Sc	77.0	14.4	14.9	9.2	13.0	13.0	40.5	54.9	35.7	30.6	31.3	50.4
V	185	91.2	85.4	58.9	78.1	79.1	255	159	117	200	200	340
Cr	1100	2412	2295	2252	2358	2449	265	514	185	591	648	213
Co	60.1	93.0	93.9	97.9	99.7	100.6	39.1	48.0	24.5	38.5	38.5	18.0
Ni	208	1849	1892	1999	2003	1978	70.7	134	57.6	302	310	73.1
Cu	5.1	24.4	23.9	11.3	14.5	14.8	34.2	110.5	1.99	32.6	33.4	0.98
Ga	4.42	2.75	2.83	2.09	2.90	2.80	14.69	7.82	8.43	12.27	12.30	9.87
Rb	0.001	1.47	0.62	1.23	0.96	0.85	4.17	3.23	11.31	6.17	5.59	36.10
Sr	72.82	26.53	24.51	21.94	24.25	26.85	251	181	480	81.13	86.06	1454
Y	3.51	4.49	4.58	2.84	4.56	4.54	31.84	5.80	11.10	16.49	16.44	19.30
Zr	5.77	5.92	5.81	6.21	6.75	6.61	88.32	5.21	11.8	66.00	61.24	54.5
Nb	0.59	1.03	0.99	1.01	1.08	0.99	2.26	0.51	0.28	2.24	2.17	2.52
Cs	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.19	0.24	0.33	0.32	0.33	0.98
Ba	8.29	25.42	25.28	6.92	7.74	9.05	82.70	44.06	221	64.41	65.63	516
La	0.28	0.13	0.11	0.13	0.23	0.24	3.38	0.64	1.04	4.25	4.03	1.82
Ce	0.67	0.16	0.17	0.32	0.57	0.54	8.61	1.29	2.97	9.40	9.16	5.59
Pr	0.088	0.020	0.020	0.045	0.092	0.084	1.56	0.18	0.55	1.59	1.58	1.00
Nd	0.42	0.16	0.16	0.25	0.51	0.51	7.91	0.79	3.25	7.58	7.26	5.48
Sm	0.18	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.20	0.21	2.69	0.35	1.19	2.14	2.05	1.95
Eu	0.083	0.077	0.076	0.048	0.091	0.093	1.04	0.25	0.89	0.69	0.67	2.21
Gd	0.33	0.34	0.35	0.20	0.39	0.39	3.84	0.68	1.91	2.43	2.45	3.18
Tb	0.062	0.070	0.073	0.038	0.076	0.075	0.72	0.13	0.34	0.41	0.42	0.57
Dy	0.40	0.52	0.54	0.26	0.54	0.54	4.98	0.84	2.07	2.67	2.67	3.38
Ho	0.089	0.12	0.12	0.062	0.13	0.13	1.09	0.18	0.45	0.55	0.55	0.78
Er	0.26	0.37	0.38	0.18	0.38	0.37	3.16	0.50	1.32	1.54	1.56	2.29
Tm	0.038	0.059	0.059	0.029	0.059	0.057	0.49	0.073	0.21	0.24	0.23	0.40
Yb	0.25	0.40	0.39	0.19	0.38	0.37	3.04	0.46	1.27	1.48	1.47	2.43
Lu	0.038	0.060	0.062	0.027	0.056	0.055	0.46	0.068	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.40
Hf	0.18	0.19	0.17	0.16	0.18	0.17	2.51	0.19	0.48	1.64	1.44	1.83
Ta	0.011	0.016	0.014	0.012	0.014	0.015	0.09	0.013	0.05	0.060	0.045	0.31
Th	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.13	0.12	0.12	0.17	0.12	0.06	0.46	0.45	0.41
U	0.058	0.040	0.031	0.007	0.013	0.023	0.04	0.063	0.02	0.12	0.12	0.10
Eu/Eu*	1.04	1.09	1.07	1.00	0.99	1.01	0.99	1.56	1.79	0.92	0.91	2.70
(Ce/Yb) _N	0.75	0.11	0.12	0.46	0.42	0.41	0.79	0.78	0.65	1.76	1.73	0.64
(Gd/Yb) _N	1.10	0.71	0.73	0.86	0.85	0.87	1.04	1.22	1.25	1.36	1.38	1.08
(Zr/Yb) _N	1.02	0.66	0.65	1.42	0.79	0.79	1.28	0.50	0.41	1.96	1.84	0.99
(Sr/Yb) _N	6.85	1.57	1.46	2.67	1.50	1.71	1.93	9.23	8.85	1.28	1.37	14.00
(Ba/Yb) _N	2.36	4.53	4.53	2.54	1.45	1.74	1.92	6.79	12.31	3.07	3.15	15.00

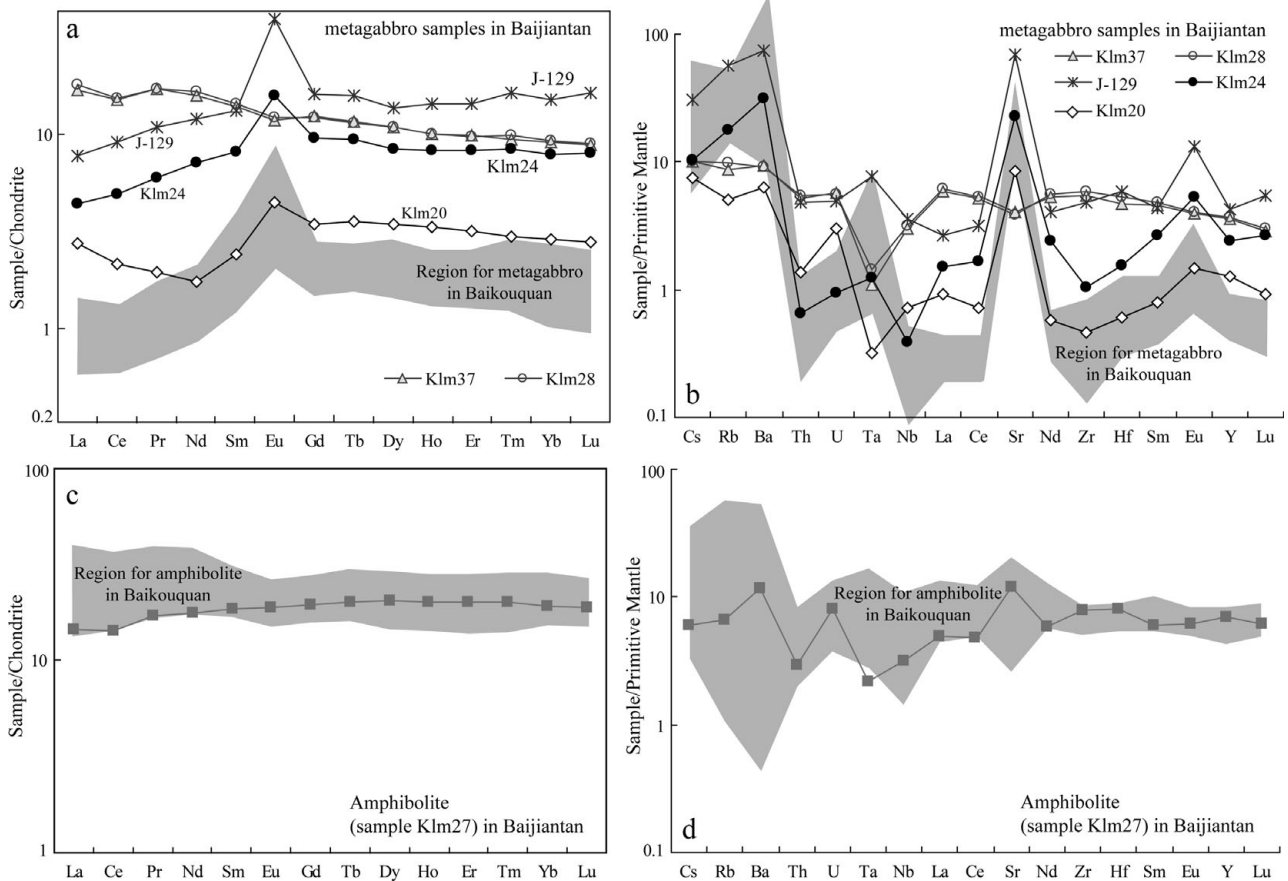


Figure 14. Trace element plots for (a, b) metagabbro and (c, d) amphibolite samples collected from the Baijiantan region. The shaded regions represent the corresponding variations of trace elements in the Baikouquan region. Chondrite and primitive-mantle data from Sun & McDonough (1989).

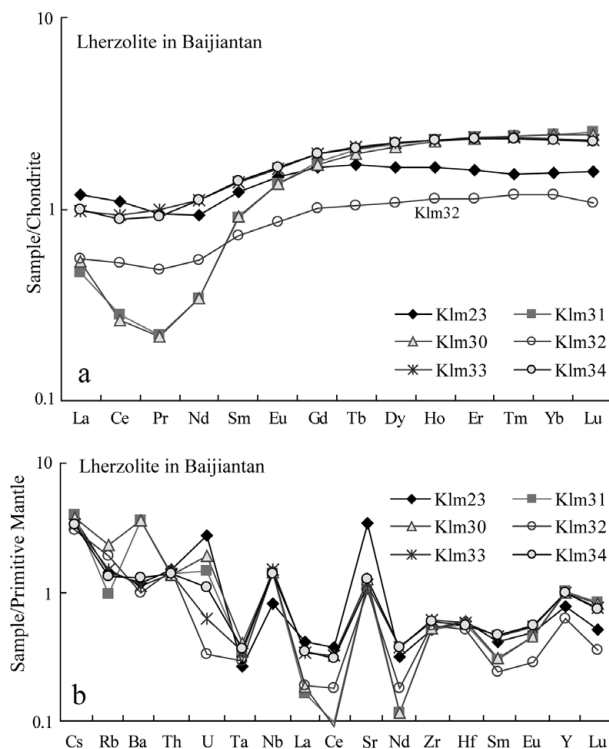


Figure 15. (a) Chondrite-normalized REE distribution patterns and (b) primitive-mantle-normalized plot for lherzolite. Primitive-mantle data from Sun & McDonough (1989).

age of 379 Ma (Fig. 16c). We consider that the U–Pb age of 385 Ma represents magma intrusion time, whereas the other two ages may be affected by metamorphism. The youngest U–Pb age (342 Ma; spot – 17.1 for amphibolite sample DJ81; Table 1) probably corresponds to the peak metamorphic stage (F3). Retrograde metamorphism reached the P – T environment of F4 at $c.$ 333 Ma based on the Rb–Sr isotopic isochron (Fig. 16b, d). This implies that the gabbro in the Junggar oceanic floor was subducted, underwent metamorphism in a subduction zone (at $c.$ 342 Ma) and was exhumed to shallow depths ($c.$ 5 kbar) at $c.$ 333 Ma (Fig. 17c).

The Sm–Nd isochron age of 474 Ma (Fig. 16a) might record a partial melting event of depleted mantle that produced MORB-type magma and formed oceanic floor. This age is consistent with the microfossils separated from abyssal radiolarian chert in the Baijiantan region, which indicates that the palaeo-ocean closed during Late Ordovician time (He *et al.* 2007). The blueschist lenses in the Tangbale ophiolite mélange were dated at 458–470 Ma (Zhang, 1997). The similarity in ages as well as in the geological records of these ophiolitic mélanges (Feng, 1986; Zhang & Huang, 1992; Zhu *et al.* 2008) support the suggestion that the Tangbale ophiolite mélange was connected with the Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges

Table 7. Sr–Nd isotopic compositions for representative lherzolite and metagabbro in the Baijiantan and Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges.

	$^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	2σ	$\text{Sr}_{\text{f}(t)}$	$^{143}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$	$^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$	2σ	$\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$	t_{DM} (Ma)
Baijiantan lherzolite ($t = 470$ Ma)									
Klm23	0.0280	0.704078	0.000013	0.703890	0.2012	0.513110	0.000019	8.9	501
Klm31	0.0831	0.704210	0.000015	0.703654	0.1743	0.513019	0.000015	8.8	511
Klm32	0.0068	0.704017	0.000012	0.703972	0.1941	0.513090	0.000017	9.0	475
Klm33	0.0173	0.704071	0.000011	0.703954	0.2648	0.513314	0.000018	9.1	487
Baijiantan metagabbro ($t = 380$ Ma)									
Klm20	0.0318	0.704753	0.000011	0.704581	0.2366	0.513302	0.000020	11.0	1003
Klm24	0.1988	0.705547	0.000013	0.704471	0.1858	0.512915	0.000013	5.9	1287
Klm28	0.0441	0.704802	0.000012	0.704563	0.2236	0.513202	0.000017	9.7	786
Baikouquan metagabbro ($t = 380$ Ma)									
Bk7	0.0534	0.705662	0.000016	0.705373	0.2509	0.513248	0.000011	9.3	398
Bk13	0.1716	0.705468	0.000012	0.704540	0.2570	0.513273	0.000013	9.5	430
Bk36	0.0616	0.705636	0.000014	0.705303	0.2295	0.513198	0.000014	9.3	454
DJ101	0.5798	0.707687	0.000027	0.704550	0.3005	0.513373	0.000014	9.3	391
K33	0.1201	0.705443	0.000019	0.704793	0.2892	0.513347	0.000014	9.4	396
J115	0.0830	0.705711	0.000014	0.705262	0.2895	0.513349	0.000015	9.4	399
J116	0.2871	0.706727	0.000021	0.705174	0.2436	0.513235	0.000012	9.4	429

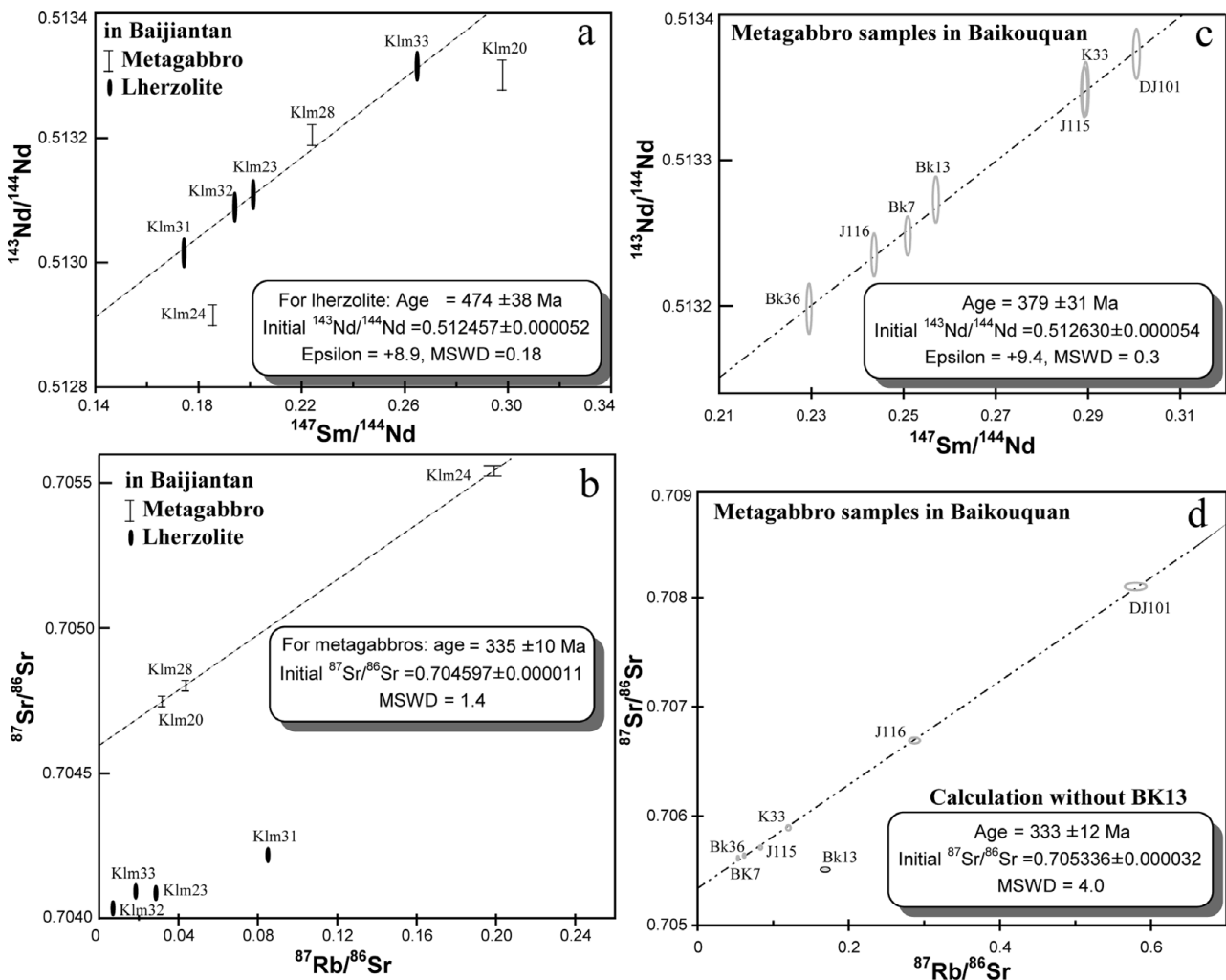


Figure 16. (a) Isochron plot of $^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ v. $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ for lherzolite samples in the Baijiantan region with an age of 474 Ma (metagabbro samples included for comparison). (b) Rb–Sr isochron for metagabbro samples collected from Baijiantan region gives an isochron age of 333 Ma (lherzolite samples included for comparison). (c) Isochron plot of $^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ v. $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ for metagabbro samples collected from Baikouquan region. (d) Rb–Sr isochron for metagabbro samples (except for Bk13) collected from Baikouquan region gives an isochron age of 333 Ma.

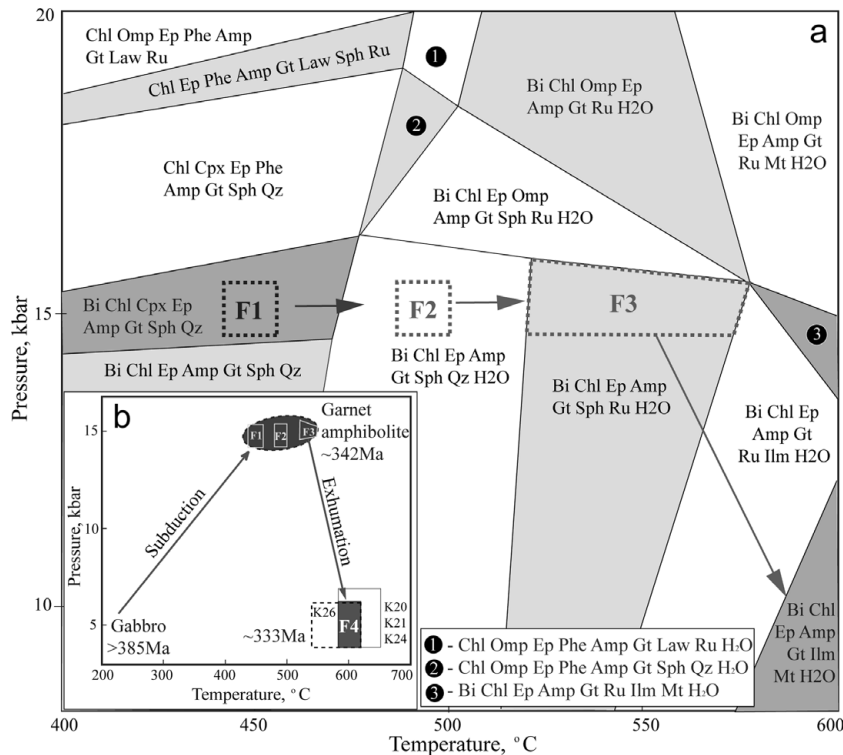


Figure 17. (a) Thermodynamic calculation results for a garnet amphibolite (sample K26) and (b) schematic P – T path showing principal metamorphic stages recorded by the studied rock units and their possible relations. F1, F2 and F3 are equivalent to the P – T environment in Figure 17a; the P – T environment of F4 is calculated based on amphibole composition. P – T path showing the evolution of gabbro (>385 Ma) from subduction (c. 342 Ma) to exhumation (c. 333 Ma). Mineral abbreviations: Amp – amphibole; Bi – biotite; Chl – chlorite; Cpx – diopside-augite; Ep – epidote (zoisite included); Gt – garnet; Ilm – ilmenite; Law – lawsonite; Mt – magnetite; Omp – omphacite; Ru – rutile; Qz – quartz; Sph – sphene.

(the TBB belt; Fig. 1c). This huge TBB ophiolitic belt is also similar in age to the TTKH ophiolitic belt. The Kujibai ophiolitic mélange in the TTKH, extending west to Kazakhstan and connecting with the Tarbahatai ophiolitic belt, was dated at 478 Ma by zircons separated from metagabbro (Zhu & Xu, 2006).

Two Ordovician ophiolitic belts could therefore be identified in west Junggar: the TTKH belt located on the south boundary of the Chingiz–Tarbahatai arc, and the TBB belt located south of west Junggar (Fig. 1c). The Darbut–Sartohay ophiolitic belt, which is located between the TTKH and TBB Ordovician ophiolitic belts, was formed during the Early Devonian period. In such a tectonic scheme (Fig. 18) the TTKH was an accretionary terrane added to the south edge of the Chingiz–Tarbahatai arc then intruded by granitic rocks at 422–405 Ma (Chen, Han & Ji, 2010), and the TBB was an accretionary terrane amalgamated to the Junggar plate. The Darbut–Sartohay ophiolitic belt contains relics of the palaeo-oceanic floor.

Both the TTKH and TBB represent relics of Ordovician oceanic floor which subducted to the north under the Chingiz–Tarbahatai arc and to the south under the Junggar plate, respectively. Spreading of the Junggar oceanic floor probably did not stop until the Early Devonian period, as recorded by the Darbut ophiolitic

belt located between the TTKH and TBB ophiolitic belts (Fig. 18a–c). The Kazakhstan–Junggar plate finally formed during the Early Devonian period, following closure of the Junggar ocean. The widespread early Carboniferous volcanic-sedimentary basins, filled by volcanic rocks, tuffaceous sandstone and siltstone intercalated with chert both in Chingiz–Tarbahatai and west Junggar, may have been part of this process.

8. Conclusion

The early Palaeozoic oceanic floor in west Junggar, represented by the Ordovician ophiolitic belts of TTKH and TBB, subducted to the north under the Chingiz–Tarbahatai arc and to the south under Junggar plate, respectively. The Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolite mélanges, representing the major part of the TBB, consist of serpentinized lherzolite, spinel-bearing serpentinite, metagabbro, garnet amphibolite, dolomite marble, pillow basalt and abyssal radiolarian chert. Metagabbro and garnet amphibolite show geochemical features of N-MORB with $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)} > 5.9$ and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{(t)}$ ratios of 0.7045–0.7054. These rock units underwent metamorphism at different P – T conditions; garnet amphibolite recorded a P – T path starting from blueschist conditions, isobarically entering garnet amphibolite

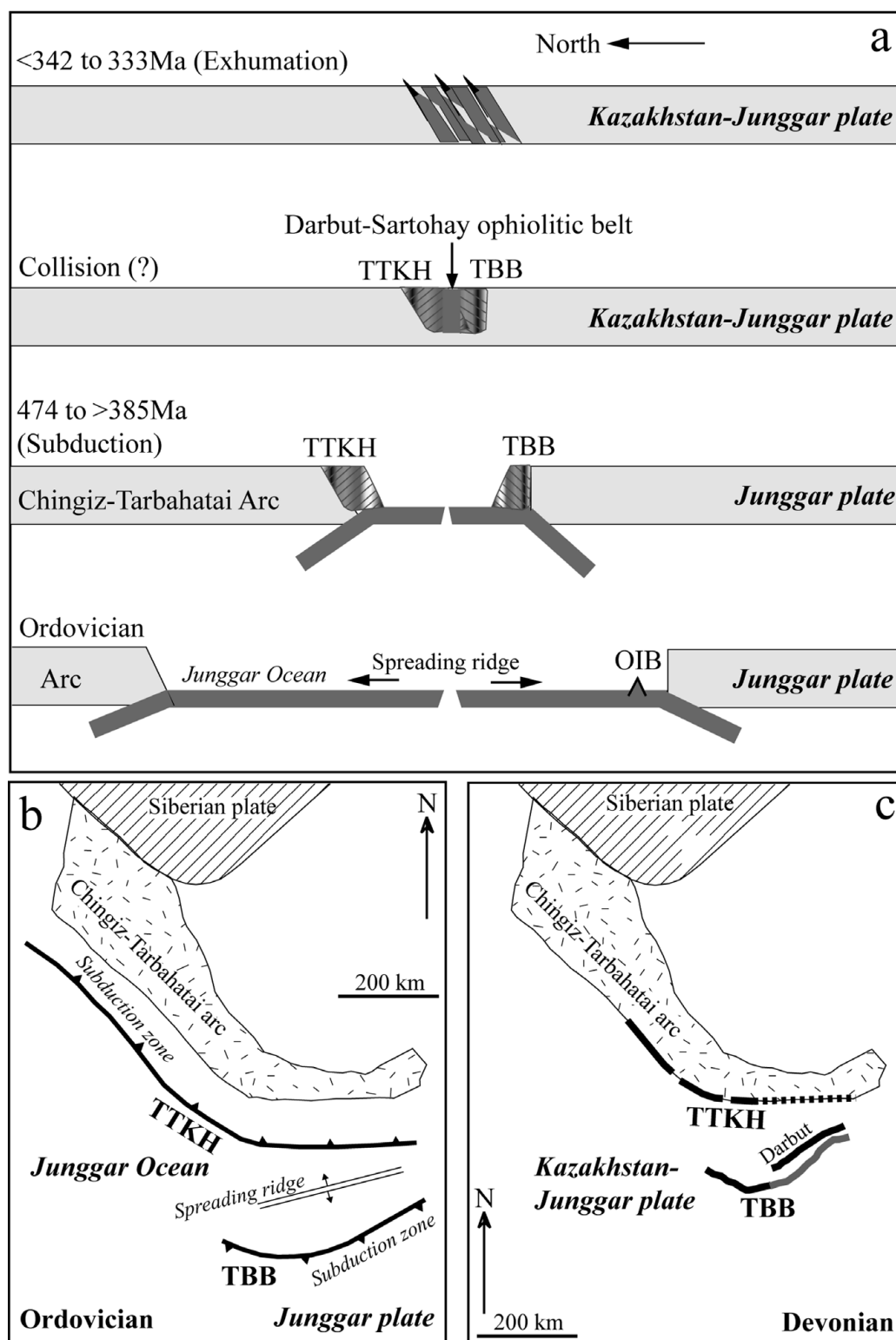


Figure 18. Tectonic evolution of west Junggar during Ordovician–Devonian time (see text for discussion).

conditions and finally passing through a P – T environment of amphibolite stability based on thermodynamic calculations. The clockwise P – T path suggests that the Baijiantan–Baikouquan ophiolitic mélanges were recycled via a subduction zone; the gabbro formed at >385 Ma, was subducted, underwent metamorphism at c. 342 Ma in the subduction zone and was finally exhumed at c. 333 Ma.

Supplementary material

To view supplementary material for this article, please visit <http://dx.doi.org/10.1017/S0016756814000168>

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