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## Fluid evolution in the Pedra Preta wolframite ore deposit, Paleoproterozoic Musa granite, eastern Amazon craton, Brazil

Francisco Javier Rios<sup>a,\*</sup>, Raimundo Netuno Villas<sup>b,2</sup>, Kazuo Fuzikawa<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>*CDTN-CNEN-Centro de Desenvolvimento da Tecnologia Nuclear, Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear, Laboratório de Inclusões Flúidas e Metalogênese, Caixa Postal 941, CEP 30123-970 Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil*

<sup>b</sup>*Departamento de Geologia, Centro de Geociências, Universidade Federal do Pará, Caixa Postal 1611, CEP 66075-900 Belém, PA, Brazil*

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### Abstract

The Pedra Preta wolframite ore deposit is hosted by a vein system that cuts rocks of the Archean Andorinhas supergroup and the cupola of the 1.88 Ga Musa granite. Several hydrothermal events have been recognized in the deposit area. The first is represented by pre-ore-stage veins that formed prior to the emplacement of the Musa granite. The second involved F-poor aqueous fluids (probably with CO<sub>2</sub>) exsolved from the crystallizing magma, which mixed with the host rock pore fluids, which contained CH<sub>4</sub> and N<sub>2</sub>, and accounted for the ore-stage veins that formed along fracture planes at 2 Kbar pressures. The third event resulted from the reopening of older sealed fractures and served as a channelway for a reducing, metamorphic, CH<sub>4</sub>-bearing fluid. The oxidizing environment generated by that intrusion led to a substantial transformation of CH<sub>4</sub> into CO<sub>2</sub> at the site of emplacement. Late in the circulation of this fluid, wolframite crystallized at 330 °C. The fourth event was an F metasomatism (topaz and fluorite) related to H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> fluids. The fifth and final hydrothermal event resulted from tectonic relaxation and formation of post-ore-stage veins by highly saline fluids (42 wt% CaCl<sub>2</sub> equivalent) at the beginning and ≈ 30 wt% NaCl equivalent toward the end at 1.0 Kbar and less than 220 °C conditions. Most evidence drawn from the fluid inclusion studies points to the metamorphic fluids as the main W mineralizing solutions, not the Musa magmatic solutions.

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*Keywords:* Musa granite; Wolframite; Fluid inclusions

### 1. Introduction

Since 1967, the Carajás Mineral Province in the south-eastern Amazon craton has been the focus of important iron, manganese, bauxite, copper, gold, and nickel ore discoveries. The Pedra Preta wolframite deposit is part of this enormous mineral source, located 40 km southwest of the town of Rio Maria, southern Pará state. Presently, the Pedra Preta deposit is the main tungsten commodity of the Amazon region with ore reserves estimated at 508,000 tons (Docegeo, 1984). Together with the Seridó scheelite deposits in Rio Grande do Norte, they represent the most important known W reserves in Brazil (Willing, 1986).

Few geological studies have been performed on the Pedra Preta deposit to date. Other than work by Cordeiro and da Silva (1986), Santos (1987), and Cordeiro et al. (1988), no data have been published on the geology of the deposit, and there is no information available on the nature of the fluids responsible for the tungsten mineralization. The current research was carried out to characterize the wolframite mineralizing fluids and put some constraints on the genesis of the deposit. In addition to isotope analyses of the ore minerals, fluid inclusion (FI) microthermometry, micro-Raman spectroscopy, synchrotron X-ray fluorescence, and micro-infrared studies were performed to reach those objectives.

### 2. Regional geological setting

The Itacaiunas shear belt (at north) and the Rio Maria granitoid–greenstone terrain (at south) form the two

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +55-31-34-99-33-54; fax: +55-31-49-93-390.

E-mail addresses: javier@urano.cdtm.br (F.J. Rios), netuno@ufpa.br (R.N. Villas).

<sup>1</sup> [www.cdtm.br/labif](http://www.cdtm.br/labif)

<sup>2</sup> Fax: +55-91-2111478.

Table 1

Available geochronological ages for some lithological units that form the southern part of the Carajás Mineral Province

Eras	Ga	Rio Maria granitoid–greenstone terrane		
		Complexes or supergroups	Groups or formations	Intrusive rocks
Proterozoic	1.9			Anorogenic granites (Musa, Jamon, Bannach, Gradaús, Seringa, etc.)
Archean	2.5			
	2.6		Rio Fresco Group	
	2.8			Mata Surrão and Xinguara granites, Mogno trondhjemite, Rio Maria granodiorite, Parazonia tonalite
	2.9	Andorinhas and Serra do Inajá Supergroups	Tucumã, Sapucaia (?), Gradaús (?) Groups Lagoa Seca/Babaçu and Rio Preto/Santa Lúcia Groups	Arco Verde tonalite and Serra Azul ultramafic intrusion
	2.9 3.0	Xingu Complex		

tectonic blocks into which the Carajás Mineral Province has been divided (Araujo et al., 1988). The oldest units in the southern block (Table 1), where the Pedra Preta deposit is located, include the Xingu complex, the Arco Verde metatonalites (Althoff et al., 1995), and the Andorinhas supergroup (Hirata et al., 1982), which provide U–Pb ages of  $2974 \pm 15$ ,  $2957 \pm 16$ , and  $2904 \pm 22$  Ma, respectively (Macambira and Lancelot, 1991, 1992; Avelar et al., 1999).

The Andorinhas supergroup is a typical greenstone sequence that is stratigraphically divided into the Babaçu group (basal unit) and the Lagoa Seca group (upper unit). Main rock types of the Babaçu group include metamorphosed komatiitic and basaltic flows with intercalations of banded iron formations, schists, and metachert. The Lagoa Seca group consists of clastic and chemical metasedimentary rocks intercalated with metavolcanic rocks that vary from ultramafic to felsic. U–Pb ages of zircons from the Lagoa Seca group volcanic rocks ( $2970 \pm 7$  Ma) have been interpreted as the crystallization age of the original magma (Pimentel and Machado, 1994). Both the Arco Verde tonalite and the Andorinhas supergroup formerly were included in the Xingu complex (regional basement), but systematic fieldwork and geochronological data have restricted the latter unit to a few exposures (gneisses and high-grade schists) around the towns of Xinguara and Tucumã. Granitoid bodies (Rio Maria granodiorite, Mogno trondhjemite, Parazonia tonalite, and Mata Surrão, Xinguara, and Guarantã granites, among others) intrude the Andorinhas supergroup rocks and yield ages from 2876 to 2858 Ma (Macambira and Lancelot, 1991, 1992; Rodrigues et al., 1992; Pimentel and Machado, 1994; Macambira and Lafon, 1994).

Overlying these rock units is a transgressive cover, the Rio Fresco group, which is composed predominantly of anchimetamorphic siliciclastic sedimentary rocks of unknown age. To the north, in Serra dos Carajás, a similar sequence (Aguas Claras Formation) is cut by mafic sills and dikes that have been dated at  $2645 \pm 12$  Ma (Dias et al., 1996). If the sedimentary units are synchronous, a rather

long break in the stratigraphic record, interrupted at the onset of the widespread granitic magmatism around 1.9 Ga, must have occurred in the Rio Maria region. This Paleoproterozoic magmatic event caused the rise of several anorogenic granitic intrusions (e.g. Musa granite dated at  $1883 \pm 5$  Ma, Machado et al., 1991) whose emplacement and related processes mark the final consolidation of the eastern block of the Amazon craton (Dall'Agnol et al., 1994).

On the eastern border of the block, the Neoproterozoic N–S-trending Araguaia belt was formed during the Brasiliano (= Pan-African) cycle (Moura and Gaudette, 1993). The effects of this geotectonic event were recorded in the nearby Rio Maria region as the reactivation of old fracture surfaces.

### 3. Geology of the Pedra Preta ore deposit

In the deposit area, there are outcropping rocks of the Andorinhas supergroup, the Arco Verde tonalite, and the Musa granite (Fig. 1, left). A geological section across the Pedra Preta deposit shows the Musa granite emplaced into the Andorinhas supergroup rocks, as well as steeply dipping, wolframite-rich quartz veins cutting both the granite cupola at depth and the greenstone rocks at upper levels (Fig. 1, right). To the south of the Pedra Preta deposit, the veins also cross-cut the Arco Verde tonalitic rocks. Tungsten ore is characterized by a low Mn/Fe ratio and therefore has a ferberite composition.

The Arco Verde tonalite consists mainly of saussuritized plagioclase with variable amounts of amphibole, chloritized biotite, quartz, epidote, and calcite. The metamorphosed komatiites and basalt flows of the Babaçu group are composed of different proportions of amphiboles (actinolite, tremolite, and hornblende), plagioclase, biotite, chlorite, talc, quartz, and opaques, whereas the Lagoa Seca metasandstones have a granoblastic texture and mineral composition dominated by quartz, biotite, chlorite, and

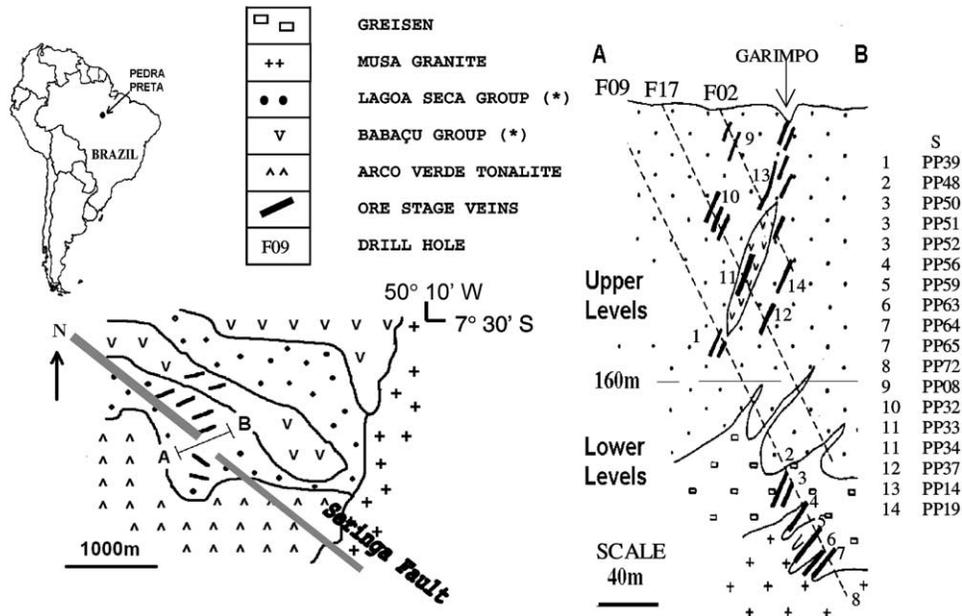


Fig. 1. Left: location and simplified geological map of the Pedra Preta wolframite deposit. Right: cross-section (A–B) of the Pedra Preta deposit (modified from Santos (1987) and Cordeiro et al. (1988)). Obs: (\*)Andorinhas supergroup; GARIMPO: site of rudimental exploitation of W; (1–14): sample location in drill holes; (s): sample number; F09: drill holes.

white mica. The Musa granite is formed by leucocratic, fine-grained, inequigranular rocks in which microcline, bluish quartz, oligoclase, and biotite are the main mineral constituents. Opaques, zircon, and muscovite occur in subordinate amounts. A hydrothermal overprint characterized by the presence of topaz, fluorite, tourmaline, wolframite, and sulfides can also be observed in all lithological types of the deposit.

Three types of hydrothermal veins have been identified in the deposit. The pre-ore-stage veins (PrOSV), probably of metamorphic derivation, occur prior to the Musa granite intrusion and are hosted by the clastic units of the Andorinhas supergroup. These veins are highly deformed and consist of recrystallized quartz (>90%) and white mica. Occasionally, late topaz and sulfides are present. The second type, referred to as ore-stage veins (OSV), is related to the emplacement of the Musa granite. Initially, their formation involved the filling of fractures by quartz and wolframite (and traces of hematite; Santos, 1987), followed by reactivation and reopening of the healing fractures, which made room for the precipitation of wolframite, topaz, fluorite, and white mica. Although wolframite tends to be concentrated toward the center of the veins, it also may be randomly distributed along the veins, usually in association with topaz (Fig. 2A and B). Less frequently, wolframite occurs close to the contact with the host rocks in coexistence with quartz. Wolframite precipitation seems to have started at the final stages of OSV quartz formation but ended sometime before the fluorination process (topaz-fluorite). The third vein type comprises the post-ore-stage veins (POSV), which are rare in comparison with OSV. The POSV present a stepwise formation, including an early

precipitation of quartz, chlorite, sulfides, and carbonates followed by a late quartz deposition.

Four different quartz generations have been recognized in these veins: quartz 1 (from the PrOSV), quartz 2 (from the OSV), and quartz 3 and 4 (corresponding to early and late POSV quartz, respectively).

Wall-rock alteration is well developed around the OSV and POSV. Regardless of the host rocks, similar greisenization products can be found in the OSV haloes. The granitic rocks are bleached and partially transformed into a mass of quartz, phengite, and feldspar, with subordinate amounts of topaz, fluorite, sulfides, and titanite. Although altered to massive sericite, phengite, and chlorite, as well as occasional grains of topaz and fluorite, the greenstone rocks developed less conspicuous haloes around those veins that they hosted.

The paragenetic sequence of the Pedra Preta deposit, including both late and postmagmatic products, is presented in Table 2.

## 4. Fluid inclusion studies

### 4.1. Analytical techniques and sampling

All samples were collected from drill cores. Microthermometric measurements were obtained in Chaixmeca and Fluid Inc. cooling–heating stages at the Fluid Inclusion Laboratory of the Center for Development of Nuclear Technology (CDTN). The mineral identification was complemented by X-ray diffraction, and the chemical analysis for tungsten was performed by X-ray fluorescence,

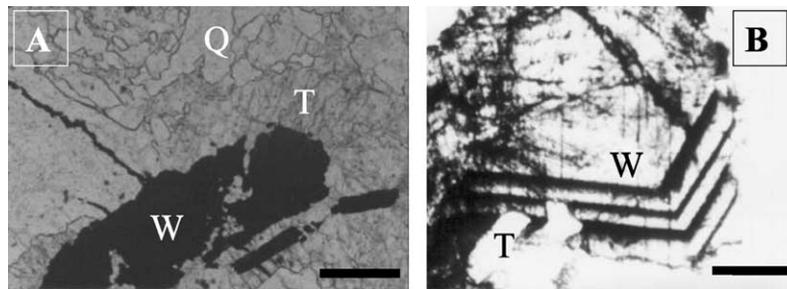


Fig. 2. Photomicrographs. (A) OSV sample of the upper part of deposit. Late topaz crystal (T) enveloping earlier wolframite (W). Q: quartz 2. Bar = 0.2 mm. (B) Wolframite crystal from OSV under IR light microscopy showing growth zones and late topaz crystals (T). Bar: 0.2 mm.

also at the CDTN. A cathodoluminescence study, carried out at the Geology Department of the Federal University of Ouro Preto (UFOP), served to highlight textural features of the vein topaz and fluorite. Volatile phases in FIs were identified by Raman microspectroscopy and infrared spectrometry at the Physics Institute of the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). Oxygen isotope determinations were obtained in a double-emission SIRA II mass spectrometer at the Stable Isotope Laboratory (LABISE) of the Federal University of Pernambuco (UFPE), following methods described by Taylor and Epstein (1962) and Sial et al. (1992). Infrared (IR) FI studies on opaque minerals were carried out using an IR emission/regulator built at CDTN with a lens operating near IR range (1000 to  $\approx$  1200nm). The use of IR microscopy to study FIs in opaque minerals was first described by Campbell et al. (1984) and Campbell and Robinson Cook (1987). The physico-chemical basis for IR transparency of opaque minerals can be found in Campbell et al. (1984), Richards and Kerrich (1993), Mancano and Campbell (1995), and Luders and Ziemann (1999). Synchrotron X-ray fluorescence (SXRF) analyses were performed at the Synchrotron Light National Laboratory (LNLS) at Campinas University.

The samples selected for analyses not only record different hydrothermal events, but also indicate that these

events were distinctly imprinted on the upper and lower levels of the deposit. Samples from deeper levels present the best record of the early hydrothermal stage.

All types of quartz from different levels of the deposit have been investigated. Because quartz 2 grains are, to a lesser or greater extent, recrystallized, their more preserved areas were selected for FI studies. Compared with those in the less preserved areas, fracture planes in the more preserved areas are not common. Similar studies were carried out on quartz from the Musa granite, clastic host rocks, and veins occurring at the north of the Musa intrusion. Wolframite crystals frequently show areas with good transparency for IR microscopy (Fig. 2B), making it possible to inspect their FIs. The SXRF technique was applied to study FIs for topaz and quartz 2.

#### 4.2. Fluid inclusion microscopy, microthermometry, Raman microspectroscopy, and synchrotron X-ray fluorescence

On the basis of their modes of occurrence and phases present in the cavities, FIs were classified into four types (Table 3).

##### 4.2.1. Type 1

These FIs are predominantly  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2-\text{CH}_4$  inclusions, present irregular shapes and dimensions smaller

Table 2  
Paragenetic sequence and hydrothermal alteration types in the Pedra Preta ore deposit

Alteration/ore minerals	Time (relative)		
	Pre-ore stage	Ore stage	Post-ore stage
Silicification (quartz 4)			=====
Carbonatization			=====
Sulfidation			=====
Chloritization			=====
Silicification (quartz 3)			=====
Potassic alteration			=====
F-Metasomatism (topaz and fluorite)		=====	
Wolframite		=====	
Silicification along fracture planes (quartz 2)		=====	
Microclinization (granite cupola)	=====		
Albitization (granite cupola)	=====		
Crystallization of the granite quartz	=====		
Silicification (quartz 1)	=====		

Table 3  
Types of fluid inclusions from the Pedra Preta ore deposit

Subtype	Type 1 (*)		Type 2	Type 3	Type 4	
	Type W	Type 2A	2B	3A	3B	
Mineral/vein hosts	Quartz 2 (OSV), Quartz 1 (PrOSV)	Topaz fluorite (OSV)	Topaz fluorite (OSV)	Quartz 3 (POSV)	Quartz 4 (POSV)	
Composition	H <sub>2</sub> O + CH <sub>4</sub> + CO <sub>2</sub> + NaCl + CaCl <sub>2</sub> (?) Secondary (in Quartz 1), Primary (in Quartz 2)	H <sub>2</sub> O + CO <sub>2</sub> + CH <sub>4</sub> (?) + NaCl Primary	H <sub>2</sub> O + CO <sub>2</sub> + CaCl <sub>2</sub> + NaCl Primary	H <sub>2</sub> O + CaCl <sub>2</sub> + NaCl + Li (?) Primary	H <sub>2</sub> O + NaCl + KCl (?) H <sub>2</sub> O + NaCl Secondary	Primary

\*Also in Musa Granite quartz.

than 8  $\mu\text{m}$ , and occur particularly in quartz 2 (OSV), usually along microfractures. Type 1 inclusions were recognized as secondary FIs in both the magmatic quartz (Musa granite) and quartz 1 (PrOSV veins). In the lower levels of the deposit (depths of 160–270 m), the volume fraction of the carbonic phase in these inclusions is less than 0.3 (Fig. 3A), whereas in the upper levels (depths of 25–160 m), it ranges from 0.1 to 1.0 (Fig. 3B), mostly due to necking down. Evidence of necking down is common, and stretched inclusions frequently can be observed. As a consequence, many one-phase aqueous inclusions ( $<5 \mu\text{m}$ ) have been formed.

Microthermometry highlights the contrasts between Type 1 inclusions in samples from the lower and upper levels of the deposit. In the lower level samples, the CO<sub>2</sub> melting temperatures ( $T_{\text{mCO}_2}$ ) range from  $-60.5$  to  $-56.6$  °C (Table 4). Raman spectroscopic analyses confirm CO<sub>2</sub> as the main component in the carbonic phase and reveal trace amounts of CH<sub>4</sub> (Table 5). Methane is detected only in FI associated with late microfractures. The homogenization of the carbonic phase takes place predominantly in the liquid state at temperatures ( $T_{\text{hCO}_2}$ ) between  $-9.5$  and  $+28.5$  °C, whereas clathrate melting temperatures ( $T_{\text{mclat}}$ ) vary from 6 to 10 °C (Table 4). In FI with  $X_{\text{CH}_4} < 0.07$ , as based on  $T_{\text{mclat}}$  and with a negligible partitioning of CH<sub>4</sub> in the clathrate (Seitz and Pasteris, 1990), salinities are estimated at 0.67–7.3 wt% NaCl equivalent. These FIs homogenize by the disappearance of the carbonic phase at total homogenization temperatures ( $T_{\text{htotal}}$ ) that range from 240 to 390 °C.

In the upper level samples,  $T_{\text{mCO}_2}$  values are much lower, ranging from  $-71.5$  to  $-59$  °C, because of higher CH<sub>4</sub> concentrations ( $X_{\text{CH}_4} > 0.14$ ) in the carbonic phase (Tables 4 and 6). The carbonic phase homogenizes into a liquid or vapor state at highly variable negative temperatures (Table 4). Several  $T_{\text{hCO}_2}$  values are in the  $-30$  to  $-64$  °C range, particularly in those FI with higher CH<sub>4</sub> contents. In addition, approximately 30 aqueous-carbonic and one-phase carbonic inclusions indicate homogenization of the carbonic phase in the liquid state at very low temperatures ( $-90$  to  $-82.5$  °C). Solid CO<sub>2</sub> melting was not observed in the inclusions.  $T_{\text{hclat}}$  measurements fall between 10 and 16 °C. Raman spectroscopy indicates that CH<sub>4</sub> is the sole component of the carbonic phase in the inclusions. In a few FI, the laser beam forms a dark solid phase, which suggests the presence of other hydrocarbons. The  $T_{\text{htotal}}$  distribution of the aqueous-carbonic inclusions (both lower and upper levels) spreads over the 220–390 °C range (Table 4), with higher frequencies between 220 and 310 °C (Fig. 4). During heating runs, approximately 5% of the FI decrepitated. Eutectic temperatures ( $T_{\text{EU}}$ ) of the aqueous phase at  $-52$  °C suggest that Na<sup>+</sup> and Ca<sup>++</sup> are the main cations in solution. Carbonate daughter minerals detected by Raman spectroscopy can frequently be seen.

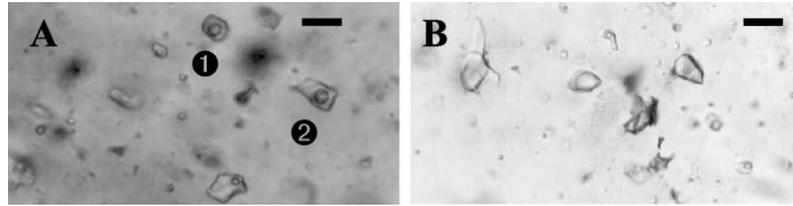


Fig. 3. Photomicrographs. (A) Quartz 2 FI from the lower part of the deposit (OSV cutting Musa granite cupola). Early aqueous-carbonic FI (Type 1) are shown (ex: 1,2). Micro-Raman analyses indicate pure CO<sub>2</sub> for the carbonic phase. Bar: 10 μm. (B) Quartz 2 aqueous-carbonic (Type 1) FI of the OSV from upper part of the deposit. Micro-Raman analyses indicate CH<sub>4</sub> + CO<sub>2</sub> for the carbonic phase. Scale bar: 10 μm.

#### 4.2.2. Type W

These FI were studied in wolframite crystals from the OSV (upper part of the deposit). They are tube-like, two-phase (L + V), aqueous-carbonic inclusions, with sizes reaching 15 μm. The vapor phase occupies up to 30% of their volume (Fig. 5A).

During freezing runs, no phase changes, which are indicative of the presence of N<sub>2</sub> or carbonic compounds, were observed. On warming, however, the bubble underwent deformation around –30 °C and recovered its original shape only between +5 and +5.5 °C, which indicates clathrate formation and, therefore, the presence of trace amounts of carbonic or N<sub>2</sub> phases. These FI homogenize in the liquid state at Th<sub>total</sub> between 270 and 336 °C.

#### 4.2.3. Type 2

This type was identified in topaz and fluorite crystals from OSV. They are primarily aqueous-carbonic (subtype 2A) and aqueous (subtype 2B) inclusions and display sub-rounded to irregular shapes and dimensions from 4 to 50 μm (Fig. 5B). Their degree of filling ranges from 0.4 to 0.7 in topaz and is below 0.4 in fluorite grains. Carbonate daughter crystals are eventually found in these inclusions.

The subtype 2A aqueous-carbonic inclusions contain an aqueous phase with salinities of 7–8 wt% NaCl equivalent, as inferred from the Tm<sub>clat</sub> (6–6.5 °C), and a carbonic phase of solely CO<sub>2</sub>, in agreement with a Tm<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> of –56.6 °C. Th<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> values are in the 28–31.3 °C range (Table 4), and homogenization occurs in the vapor state. Th<sub>total</sub> values vary from 240 to 390 °C (Fig. 4) but are more frequently between 310 and 360 °C in topaz and at 240 °C in fluorite. Total homogenization is marked by the disappearance of the aqueous phase.

In the subtype 2B aqueous inclusions, salinities of 9.5–14 wt% NaCl equivalent were estimated from their ice melting temperatures (Tm<sub>ice</sub>). Again, the presence of Ca<sup>++</sup>

and Na<sup>+</sup> is inferred from T<sub>EU</sub> values of –50 to –47 °C. Th<sub>total</sub> values are concentrated mainly between 280 and 380 °C, and homogenization takes place in the liquid state. The SXRF analyses detected not only Ca<sup>++</sup>, but also Si, Ti, Cu, and Mn in the fluids.

#### 4.2.4. Type 3

This type includes primary and secondary, one- and two-phase inclusions trapped in quartz 3 from the POSV. The primary FI are small (< 10 μm) and present pseudopolygonal outlines with a very low degree of filling (0.1–0.2) (Fig. 5C); the secondary FI are even smaller. They are referred to as subtypes 3A (primary) and 3B (secondary). In addition to a vapor phase, some of them may contain rectangular-shaped daughter minerals, tentatively identified as carbonates by Raman microspectroscopy.

Primary 3A subtype FI shows T<sub>EU</sub> varying from –45 to –52 °C, with most values clustering between –48 and –52 °C, which suggests the presence of CaCl<sub>2</sub> in solution. In POSV samples collected at a depth of 270 m, the FI show positive salt hydrate dissociation temperatures (Tm<sub>H</sub>) that range from 10.2 to 19.5 °C (Table 7). In these FI, a recrystallization was noted at 25 °C, but no ice melting was observed. These measurements point to CaCl<sub>2</sub>-rich fluids and indicate that the salt hydrate is antarctite. Accordingly, salinities could be estimated at 34–36 wt% CaCl<sub>2</sub> equivalent (Fuzikawa, 1982, 1985). Samples collected at a depth of 60 m contain 3A subtype FIs with similar T<sub>EU</sub>, but no hydrate is observed. Instead, ice crystals are the last to melt at temperatures between –19 and –8.3 °C, thereby allowing the salinities to be estimated at 12–20 wt% CaCl<sub>2</sub> equivalent. Moreover, similar 3A subtype FIs are present in OSV quartz 2 crystals at the same depth (60 m), but they differ in that they have T<sub>EU</sub> values in two distinct intervals: –57 to –50 °C and –72 to –70 °C. The lower temperature interval may indicate the presence of dissolved cations other

Table 4  
Microthermometric data for the aqueous-carbonic fluids (Types 1 and 2) related to the Pedra Preta deposit

IF type	Mineral	Tm <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Th <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Tm <sub>clat</sub>	Th <sub>total</sub>
1 (upper levels)	Quartz 2 (OSV), Quartz 1 (PrOSV)	–71.5 to –59, n = 36	–90 to 16, n = 84	10–16, n = 33	220–390, n = 70
1 (lower levels)	Quartz 2 (OSV)	–60.5 to –56.6, n = 31	–9.5 to 28.5, n = 64	6–10, n = 37	240–390, n = 40
2	Topaz fluorite (OSV)	–56.6, n = 41	28–31, n = 50	6–6.5, n = 35	240–350, n = 42

Tm<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>: carbonic phase melting temperature (°C); Th<sub>total</sub>: total homogenization temperature (°C); Tm<sub>clat</sub>: clathrate melting temperature (°C); Th<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>: carbonic phase homogenization temperature (°C); and n: number of measurements.

Table 5  
Chemical composition of selected Type 1 aqueo-carbonic fluid inclusions in quartz 2 (from lower level OSV)

Sample	Fill	Microthermometry data (°C)				Composition of the non aqueous phase (1)			NaCl% (2)	Obs
		Tm <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Tm <sub>clath</sub>	Th <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Th <sub>total</sub> (°C) (3)	d <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	X <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	X <sub>CH<sub>4</sub></sub>		
PP25-1-1	0.2	-57.5	7.0	23.0 (L)	300	0.71	0.98	0.01	5.6	
PP25-1-2	0.3	-56.9	8.0	5.0 (L)	246	0.88	0.99	0.009	4.7	
PP65-5-3	0.4	-58.4	7.7	21.8 (L)	288	0.60	0.92	0.07	4.4	
PP65-5-4	0.3	-58.0	8.6	22.5 (L)	271	0.63	0.94	0.05	2.76	
PP65-5-5	0.3	-58.0	8.0	18.0 (L)	290	0.72	0.94	0.05	3.89	
PP65-7-1	0.3	-58.3	7.5	16.4 (L)	305	0.73	0.94	0.05	4.79	
PP70-2-1	0.2	-56.8	7.0	28.0 (L)	280	0.65	0.99	0.003	5.6	
PP70-2-3	0.3	-56.6	8.0	27.5 (L)	241	0.66	1.0	-	3.9	
PP70-3-1	0.2	-56.6	7.5	28.0 (L)	246	0.65	1.0	-	4.7	
PP70-3-2	0.2	-56.6	8.0	27.8 (L)	251	0.66	1.0	-	3.9	
PP70-3-4	0.2	-56.6	7.7	27.1 (L)	260	0.67	1.0	-	4.4	
PP70-4-4	0.2	-56.6	7.9	27.6 (L)	282	0.66	1.0	-	4.0	
PP70-5-1	0.3	-56.6	8.2	27.9 (L)	260	0.65	1.0	-	3.5	
PP70-5-2	0.2	-56.6	8.0	28.5 (L)	265	0.64	1.0	-	3.9	
PP70-5-3	0.3	-56.6	8.1	26.0 (L)	252	0.69	1.0	-	3.7	
PP70-5-4	0.3	-56.6	7.6	26.1 (L)	277	0.70	1.0	-	4.6	
PP71-2-1	0.2	-57.0	8.0	22.6 (L)	266	0.72	0.98	0.01	3.9	
PP71-2-2	0.2	-56.9	8.1	27.0 (L)	244	0.66	0.99	0.009	3.7	
PP65-4-3	0.9	-59.0	7.1	21.8 (L)	290	0.40	0.87	0.12	5.6	(4)
PP65-5-1	0.7	-57.8	7.1	21.0 (L)	-	0.75	0.98	0.01	5.5	(4)
PP71-2-3	0.8	-57.8	7.4	27.0 (L)	282	0.46	0.95	0.046	4.9	(4)
PP71-2-4	0.9	-57.5	7.4	24.0 (L)	-	0.67	0.96	0.03	4.9	(4)

Tm<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>: CO<sub>2</sub> melting temperature; Tm<sub>clath</sub>: clathrate melting temperature; Th<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>: CO<sub>2</sub> homogenization temperature; d<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>: density of carbonic phase; Th<sub>total</sub>: total homogenization temperature; L = liquid; V = vapor; (1) composition of the nonaqueous phase was determined using MacFlincon 0.9 software, Raman microprobe data, and Origin 5.0 software; (2) NaCl% salinity (wt% NaCl equiv.); (3) FI homogenized into the CO<sub>2</sub> phase; (4) Type 1 FI from or near fracture planes.

than Ca<sup>++</sup> (Li<sup>+</sup>?) or metastability (see Section 4.2.5). Regardless of the T<sub>EU</sub> differences, all inclusions yield the same Tm<sub>ice</sub> (-28 to -24 °C) and therefore the same salinities (22–25 wt% CaCl<sub>2</sub> equivalent). As a whole, the 3A subtype FIs homogenize into the liquid state between 140 and 220 °C (Table 7).

Samples from a quartz vein that crops out at the northern border of the Musa granite, 12 km from the Pedra Preta deposit, were also studied. Primary aqueous FIs on quartz crystals are similar to the 3A subtype. Their T<sub>EU</sub> is approximately -68 °C, whereas the Tm<sub>ice</sub> varies from -34.7 to -33.3 °C, thereby indicating a salinity of

Table 6  
Chemical composition of some Type 1 aqueous-carbonic fluid inclusions in quartz 2 from upper level OSV

Sample/inclusion number	Fill	Microthermometry (°C)			Composition of non-aqueous phase <sup>1</sup>				Obs
		Tm <sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub>	Tm <sub>clath</sub>	Th carbonic phase	CO <sub>2</sub>		CH <sub>4</sub>		
					MF	Peak	MF	Peak	
PP03-q-1-1	0.6	-59.5	15.1	-4.1 (L)	79.17	1384.6	20.76	2909.8	H <sub>2</sub> S < 0.1
PP03-q-1-6	0.4	-64.0	14.0	-35.0 (L)	46.7	1385.2	53.3	2911.3	
PP03-q-1-7	0.5	-60.3	11.5	-19.0 (L)	80.8	1385.2	19.12	2911.3	
PP03-q-1-8	0.4	-58.7	13.0	-6.0 (L)	81.0	1386.3	19.0	2911.3	
PP22-q-6-1	0.2	-71.5	-	-55.0 (L)	24.0	1384.5	76.0	2909.6	
PP22-q-9-1	0.4	-61.8	-	8.9 (V)	82.3	1383.5	17.7	2909.4	
PP22-q-9-2	0.9	-60.8	-	0.4 (L)	86.0	1384.2	14	2909.7	
PP22-q-9-3	0.7	-62.1	-	5.9 (V)	78.7	1384.3	21.3	2909.5	
PP21-1-1	0.8	-60.2	-	-10 (L)	65.3	1385.1	34.7	2910.9	
PP21-1-2	1.0	-67.5	-	-53.5 (L)	13.8	1385.1	86.5	2910.9	
PP21-1-3	1.0	-69.5	-	-60.2 (L)	-	-	-	-	(2)

Tm<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> = CO<sub>2</sub> melting temperature; Tm<sub>clath</sub> = clathrate melting temperature; L = liquid; V = vapor; (1) composition of the nonaqueous phase was determined using MacFlincon 0.9 software, Raman microprobe data, and Origin 5.0 software; (2) strong luminescence prevented CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> Raman spectra; MF = molar fraction.

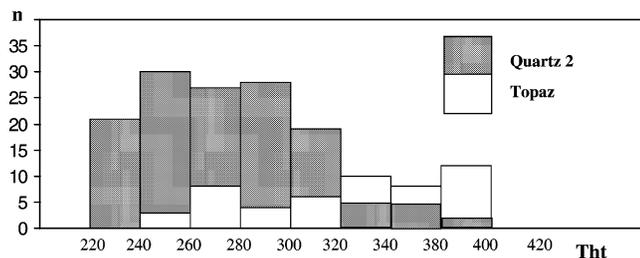


Fig. 4. Histogram showing total homogenization temperatures of Type 1 (quartz 2) and Type 2 (topaz) FI from OSV. Th: total homogenization temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ );  $n$ : number of measurements.

approximately 27 wt%  $\text{CaCl}_2$  equivalent. Aqueous FIs with a similar composition and morphology were studied in magmatic quartz from the Musa granite collected 2 km east of the deposit.

During freezing tests of 3B subtype inclusions of POSV quartz trapped along trails, the disappearance of isotropic grains with a cubic habit and the formation of an ice and salt hydrate (hydrohalite?) are notable. The hydrate dissociates incongruently, forming a cubic mineral between 0 and 15  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This behavior is a strong evidence of the metastable dissociation of hydrohalite in fluids with salinities over the  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ – $\text{NaCl}$  eutectic composition. Accordingly, on heating, the halite crystals dissolve between 180 and 194  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , thus implying a brine with 30 wt%  $\text{NaCl}$  equivalent (Bodnar and Vityk, 1994).

#### 4.2.5. Type 4

This population is interpreted as primary aqueous inclusions trapped in quartz 4 crystals that represent the last generation of quartz formed in the deposit. In quartz 2 and 3, these FIs appear as subordinate, secondary cavities. Some one-phase inclusions nucleate a bubble during cooling, which does not disappear they are heated back to room temperature, which indicates typical metastable behavior of the fluid.  $T_{\text{EU}}$  occurs around  $-22$   $^{\circ}\text{C}$ , thus suggesting that the solution is Na-rich and that  $\text{Ca}^{++}$  cations are unimportant. Salinities of 1.2–4.2 wt%  $\text{NaCl}$  equivalent are estimated from  $T_{\text{mice}}$  measurements ( $-2.5$  to  $-0.7$   $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Homogenization takes place into the liquid state at  $<150$   $^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

#### 4.3. Interpretation of the FI data

Many compositional differences were observed in Type 1 inclusions in quartz 2 from the lower and upper levels of the deposit. At the lower levels, in preserved areas of quartz 2, Type 1 aqueous-carbonic FIs, distant from microfractures or recrystallized zones, have a carbonic phase that consists of almost pure  $\text{CO}_2$  and an aqueous phase of low salinity ( $<7$  wt%  $\text{NaCl}$  equivalent). The coexistence of very small ( $<5$   $\mu\text{m}$ )  $\text{CO}_2$ -free aqueous inclusions associated with inclusions of aqueous-carbonic composition is interpreted as a result of necking down or heterogeneous trapping. However, Type 1 FIs, trapped in the upper level quartz 2, contain low salinity aqueous-carbonic solutions, but the  $\text{CH}_4$  concentrations are higher, even surpassing  $\text{CO}_2$  concentrations in a few cases.

To explain the formation and composition of Type 1 FI, the following points should be taken into account:

1. Type I FIs from the upper levels present both the degree of filling and the  $\text{CH}_4$  contents of the highly variable carbonic phase. Those FIs away from fracture surfaces are often oriented. In contrast with the lower levels, the association of aqueous and aqueous-carbonic FI was not observed. The carbonic phase of the FI hosted by late fractures has variable  $\text{CH}_4$  and  $\text{CO}_2$  contents ( $\text{CH}_4 \geq \text{CO}_2$ );
2. The Pedra Preta deposit is located within the influence of the Seringa fault zone;
3.  $\text{CH}_4$  is seldom of magmatic origin, particularly if it occurs in high concentrations. It is uncommon to find significant amounts of this gas in silica supersaturated granitoid fluids (Roedder, 1984; O'Reilly et al., 1997);
4. In quartz 2 from the lower levels,  $\text{CH}_4$  occurs only in fracture-controlled FI and in trace amounts;
5. Fluids associated with greenstone rocks are generally highly charged with  $\text{CH}_4$ ; and
6. The range of  $T_{\text{H}}$  is highly variable.

On the basis of these considerations, a model for the evolution of the fluid regime at the Pedra deposit, represented by the investigated FI, is proposed.

Late granitic fluids, probably aqueous-saline with traces of  $\text{CO}_2$ , may have interacted with reducing,  $\text{CH}_4$ -rich,

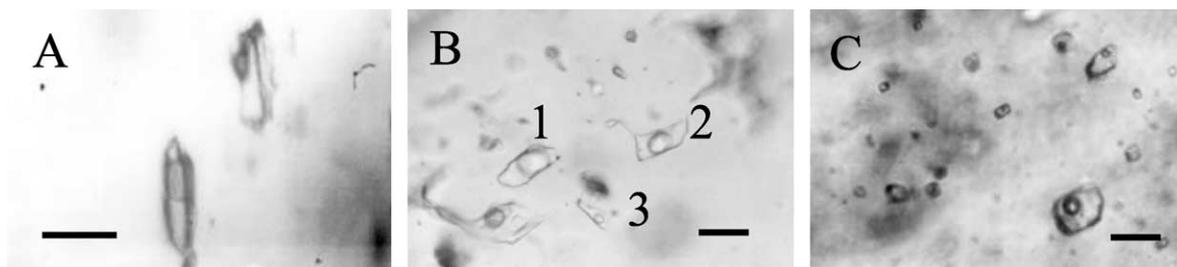


Fig. 5. Photomicrographs. (A) Type W two phase primary aqueo-carbonic FI in wolframite crystal (OSV) under IR light. Bar: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . (B) (1,2,3): Type 2 aqueo-carbonic primary FI in topaz (OSV). Bar: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ . (C) Primary Type 3A FI in quartz 3 (POSV). Bar: 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Table 7  
Microthermometric data of types 3 and 4 aqueous fluid inclusions

IF type	Mineral	$T_{EU}$ (°C)	$T_{m_{ice}}$ (°C)	$T_{m_H}$ (°C)	$T_s$ (°C)	$T_{h_{total}}$ (°C)
3A	Quartz 3	−48 to −52, $n = 20$		10.2–19.5 (anctartite?), $n = 14$		140–220, $n = 65$
3B	Quartz 3			0–15 (hydrohalite?), $n = 12$	180–194, $n = 14$	130–150, $n = 32$
4	Quartz 4 (?)	−22, $n = 11$	−2.5 to −0.7, $n = 56$			>100, $n = 61$

$T_{EU}$ : Eutectic temperature;  $T_{m_{ice}}$ : ice melting temperature;  $T_{m_H}$ : hydrate melting temperature;  $T_{h_{total}}$ : total homogenization temperature;  $T_s$ : halite dissolution temperature.

greenstone-derived fluids. A convecting system set forth by the cooling of the Musa granite led to the mixing of magmatic and metamorphic fluids by the time the OSV veins formed. At the upper levels, fluids highly enriched in  $CH_4$  were trapped as primary FI in quartz 2, whereas at the lower levels—as a consequence of higher  $O_2$  fugacity conditions imposed by the oxidizing Musa granite (Magalhães and Dall’Agnol, 1992)— $CO_2$  could have formed as a product of the  $CH_4$  oxidation (Fig. 6). That is probably why  $CH_4$  is absent in FI in quartz 2 away from fractures.

The OSV from the upper levels were formed in greenstone host rocks, which were already sheared because of movements of the Seringa lineament. Thus, later fracturing caused quartz 2 crystals to be broken at all levels of the deposit, which allowed the percolation of reducing,  $CH_4$ -rich fluids and the trapping of secondary FI, some of which were pure methane. The shear zones remained active, forming microdislocations in quartz 2 that oriented the primary FI and may have favored necking down and oxidation of  $CH_4$ . This process would explain the extremely variable  $CO_2$  contents found in secondary FIs that occur along fracture surfaces at the upper levels. At the lower levels, in turn, the greater mechanical resistance of the granitic rocks to deformation may have prevented the primary FI from being modified, thus preserving the composition.

In this context, the granite-derived late-stage fluid can be assumed to have been a moderately saline aqueous solution with  $Cl^-$ ,  $Na^+$ , and subordinate amounts of dissolved carbonic compounds. Necking down along those planes may have formed FIs with variable carbonic phase volume fractions, among them one-phase carbonic inclusions. It also may be responsible for the dispersion of  $T_{ht}$  obtained in

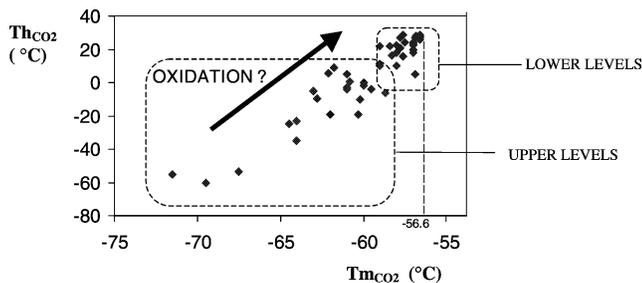


Fig. 6.  $Th_{CO_2}$  vs.  $T_{m_{CO_2}}$  diagram showing compositionally different primary Type 1 fluid inclusions in the upper and lower levels of the Pedra Preta deposit. The trend indicates higher  $CO_2/CH_4$  ratios.

OSV quartz. Therefore, only Type 1 inclusions in preserved areas of quartz 2 from the lower levels have been used for pressure estimates. These unmodified FIs likely are the best representative samples of the magmatic hydrothermal fluids that formed the OSV at the greisenized cupola of the Musa intrusion.

Primary FIs in wolframite show similarities with Types 1 (quartz) and 2 (topaz). Although clathrates can be detected, no Type W FIs present typical phase changes of carbonic compounds during freezing runs, as the topaz primary aqueous-carbonic inclusions do. Crushing tests of wolframite grains immersed in glycerine and kerosene reveal moderate gas release, which implies the presence of gases under pressure in the FI. The released bubbles dissolve slowly in kerosene, but a few dissolve more rapidly, probably due to the trace amounts of  $CH_4$  in the fluid. Spectrometric IR analyses of wolframite crystals confirm the presence of  $CO_2$ . These data suggest that wolframite was precipitated from a low to moderate saline, predominantly aqueous fluid that contained some  $CO_2$  ( $X_{CO_2} \approx 0.1$ ) and trace amounts of  $CH_4$ . Compositionally, this fluid is similar to Type 1 aqueous-carbonic solutions from the upper levels of the deposit. The low  $CO_2$  contents, however, may reflect mixing of the metamorphic fluids with larger volumes of granite-derived aqueous solutions or, alternatively, no mixing and the precipitation of wolframite from essentially magmatic aqueous solutions.

After most of the quartz 2 was deposited, wolframite and hematite precipitated in response to an increase in the oxygen fugacity, which caused a progressive rise in the  $CO_2$  concentrations of the regional fluids, possibly by means of the reaction  $CH_4 + O_2 \rightleftharpoons CO_2 + H_2O$ . According to Santos (1987), quartz 2 started forming long before it coprecipitated with wolframite and hematite. Petrographic evidence in this study shows that some wolframite crystals contain quartz 2 inclusions, but those associated with topaz are quartz-free. This indicates that wolframite precipitation coincides only partially or postdates quartz 2 formation. Compositionally distinct FIs trapped in quartz 2 and wolframite grains corroborate this interpretation.

Fluorine metasomatism subsequent to the wolframite precipitation is represented by the crystallization of topaz (Fig. 2B) and fluorite. There was a large temperature overlap during the precipitation of quartz 2, topaz, and wolframite.  $CO_2$  concentrations decreased progressively, which rendered the fluorite-forming fluids poorer in  $CO_2$

( $X_{\text{CO}_2} < 0.1$ ) compared with those that were precipitating topaz. The large variation in the degree of filling of type 2 FI is here interpreted as a result of the immiscibility of a supercritical aqueous-carbonic fluid during cooling that contained Ca, Na, Si, Ti, Cu, and Mn. Necking down plays a subordinate role.

Quartz 3 of the POSV was formed in a  $\text{CO}_2$ -free environment from a  $\text{CaCl}_2$ -rich, aqueous fluid with an estimated salinity of 36 wt%  $\text{CaCl}_2$  equivalent, obtained in primary FI in quartz 3 from the lower levels. At the upper levels, the fluid salinity is lower, which implies a dilution of the magmatic fluids as they moved upward. Type 3 inclusions from both the deposit and the quartz vein that crops out at the northern border of the Musa granite display a remarkably low  $T_{\text{EU}}$  ( $\approx -60$  to  $-70$  °C). These values are considered metastable  $T_{\text{EU}}$  of the  $\text{NaCl}-\text{CaCl}_2-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  system (Davis et al., 1990) or due to the phase transitions of hexagonal ice in fluids of identical composition (Walker and Samson, 1998). The presence of Li and Sr in the fluids also could produce similar results (Oakes and Bruce, pers. comm.). Both elements are expected in a granite-derived aqueous solution.

As the temperature dropped below 200 °C, restricted circulation of  $\text{NaCl}$  (and probably  $\text{KCl}$ ) saturated solutions, thus forming the 3B subtype inclusions. The last stage of silica precipitation (quartz 4), corresponding to Type 4 FI, occurred below 150 °C and probably under hydrostatic pressures. The differences in salinities and densities among 3A, 3B, and 4 FI types are likely due to their distinctive origins. Type 3A FI may represent last-stage magmatic fluids enriched in  $\text{CaCl}_2$ . Ca was probably provided, at least in part, by the alteration of amphiboles of the greenstone rocks and plagioclase of both greenstone rocks and greisenized granite. The 3B inclusions, in contrast, may represent connate waters or deep groundwater enriched in  $\text{Ca}^{+2}$  and  $\text{Na}^+$ , similar to those found in the Canadian shield (Frape and Fritz, 1987; Guha and Kanwar, 1987). Finally, Type 4 inclusions may represent fluids with some contributions from near-surface waters.

## 5. Oxygen isotope studies

Oxygen isotope studies were carried out on quartz from the Musa granite, as well as on quartz, wolframite, and phengite from the OSV (Rios et al., 1998). Quartz from both the granite and OSV from lower levels show similar isotopic compositions ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}} = 7-8\text{‰}$  SMOW), which indicates isotopic equilibrium with a common fluid. Conversely, quartz of the OSV from the upper levels have  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}}$  in the 9.0–9.7‰ SMOW range. This difference of up to 2.7‰ between the lower and upper levels cannot be attributed solely to temperature, because microthermometric data record the same thermal interval (250–350 °C) for the whole vein. The distinct  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}}$  ranges may reflect the oxygen isotopic composition of the dominant lithological

varieties in the lower (granitic rocks) and upper (metamafic and metasedimentary rocks) levels with which the fluids have interacted. Equally significant may be the compositional differences of the aqueous-carbonic fluids that circulated in the upper ( $\text{CH}_4$ -enriched) and lower ( $\text{CO}_2$ -enriched) levels. Partitioning of  $^{18}\text{O}$  is more favored in fluids with  $\text{CO}_2$  relative to those in which this gas is absent (e.g. Higgins, 1985a,b; So and Yun, 1994).

$\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values of 0.85 and 5.44‰ SMOW are recorded for wolframite and phengite, respectively. Despite the slight alteration of wolframite to scheelite along the microfractures, quartz-wolframite, instead of wolframite-phengite, was used to calculate temperatures because it allows a larger isotopic fractionation and consequently may be considered a more sensitive geothermometer (Shieh and Zhang, 1991). An equilibrium temperature of 320 °C was obtained for values of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}} = 9.04\text{‰}$  SMOW and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{wolff}} = 0.85\text{‰}$  SMOW on the basis of the 1000 ln  $\alpha$  curves for the quartz-wolframite pair (Shieh and Zhang, 1991). This temperature is within the 300–400 °C range, beyond which W solubility decreases dramatically (Jaireth et al., 1990).

## 6. Pressure estimates

Pressures for the OSV quartz formation were calculated using early  $\text{CO}_2$  pure aqueous-carbonic inclusions from the deposit's lower levels. The isochores corresponding to the PP70-5-1 and PP70-3-2 inclusions (Table 5) define the density field for the whole Type 1 FI population. At a temperature of 320 °C (quartz-wolframite geothermometer), a pressure range of 2–2.75 Kbar is constrained on the basis of the  $\text{NaCl}-\text{CO}_2-\text{H}_2\text{O}$  system. Petrological studies of the Jamon granite, which is found near the Pedra Preta deposit and has the same age and mineral composition as the Musa granite (Gastal, 1987), point to pressures of approximately 3 Kbar at the final stage of crystallization history (Dall'Agno et al., 1999a), in good agreement with the values found for the OSV veins.

$\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CaCl}_2$  aqueous inclusions with a density of 0.83 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, salinity of 9.8 wt% equivalent  $\text{CaCl}_2$ , and negligible amounts of  $\text{CO}_2$  were used for pressure estimates of Type 2 FI in topaz. For temperatures of 320 °C (wolframite precipitation) and higher ( $T_{\text{H}}$  of aqueous inclusions with traces of  $\text{CO}_2$ ), pressures are estimated at approximately 1 Kbar. This value indicates that fluorite precipitation occurred in pressure conditions lower than those for the crystallization of quartz 2. However, if a temperature of 380 °C (Fig. 7) was considered for the onset of the fluorine metasomatism, both quartz 2 and topaz could have been deposited, at least in part, in similar pressure conditions.

Finally, the unavailability of an independent geothermometer did not permit a more precise calculation of the trapping pressure of the 3A subtype inclusions.

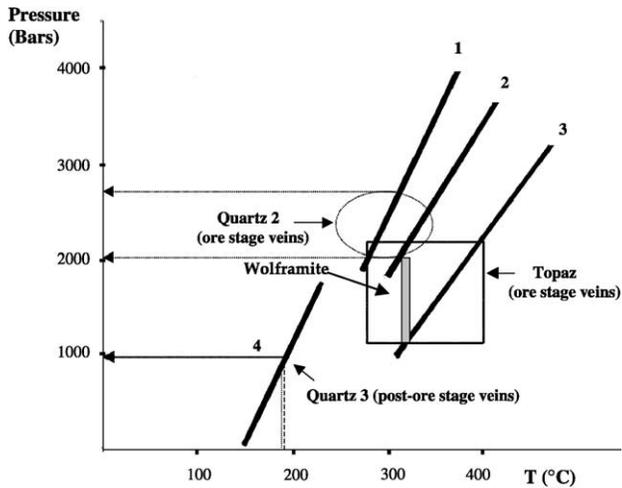


Fig. 7. Pressure–temperature diagram for fluids studied in the Pedra Preta system. (1) Fluid 1 isochore (FI PP70-3-2, quartz 2, OSV, lower level),  $\text{CO}_2$  density =  $0.66 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ; (2) Fluid 1 isochore (FI PP70-5-1, quartz 2, OSV, lower level),  $\text{CO}_2$  density =  $0.65 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ; (3) Fluid 2 isochore ( $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{CaCl}_2$ , topaz, OSV), fluid density =  $0.83 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ; (4) Fluid 3B isochore ( $\text{H}_2\text{O} + \text{NaCl} + \text{halite}$ ), fluid density =  $1.16 \text{ g/cm}^3$ ,  $T_h = 150^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $T_s = 190^\circ\text{C}$ .

Nevertheless, a  $<1$  Kbar value has been obtained for 3B subtype inclusions that contain halite crystals. These pressure determinations followed the method used by Baker (1998) in the Eloise Cu–Au deposit brines. Therefore, only halite-bearing inclusions with salinities of approximately 30 wt% equivalent NaCl were used in the calculations. The isochore is drawn for a partial homogenization temperature of  $150^\circ\text{C}$  (disappearance of the vapor phase), and the minimum pressure is estimated at  $190^\circ\text{C}$  (halite dissolution).

## 7. Source of tungsten in the Pedra Preta deposit: magmatic or metamorphic?

Studies carried out in the past 30 years have demonstrated that tungsten transport in mineralizing solutions takes place as tungstate ion, sodium tungstate, tungstic acid, or heteronuclear acid (Krauskopf, 1967; Bernard et al., 1990). Tungstic acid is the dominant species above  $400^\circ\text{C}$ , whereas at lower temperatures,  $\text{HWO}_4^-$  and  $\text{WO}_4^{2-}$  are the most stable complexes (Krauskopf, 1967, 1974; Higgins, 1985a; Wood and Vlassopoulos, 1989; Jaireth et al., 1990). Because of the common occurrence of carbonic fluids associated with tungsten deposition, other authors have suggested carbonate and bicarbonate complexes as important tungsten-transporting agents (Higgins, 1980, 1985a; Giuliani, 1984; Quilez et al., 1989; Gumiel et al., 1989). In contrast, Wood and Samson (2000) state that carbonates (together with chlorides, fluorides, and phosphates) play a negligible role in hydrothermal tungsten transport. These experimental studies indicate that wolframite is capable of

attaining solubilities of up to a thousand parts per million as  $\text{H}_2\text{WO}_4$ ,  $\text{HWO}_4^-$ , and  $\text{WO}_4^{2-}$  simple tungstate species and alkali tungstate ion pairs (Wood and Samson, 2000). High tungsten solubility can also be obtained in pure water and becomes higher as  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  decreases (below the  $\text{WO}_3\text{--WO}_2$  buffer), probably due to  $\text{W}^{+5}$  species formation (Wood and Vlassopoulos, 1989). Therefore, it seems that tungsten can be transported in various types of aqueous solutions in many different conditions.

Previous studies on other wolframite and scheelite deposits have indicated the dominance of an aqueous phase, followed by  $\text{CO}_2$  and minor amounts of  $\text{CH}_4$  and  $\text{N}_2$  in the W-bearing solutions. These solutions are usually of low salinity, acid pH, variable temperature ( $100\text{--}650^\circ\text{C}$ ), and oxygen fugacity ( $10^{-35}\text{--}10^{-25}$  bar), and they precipitate tungsten ore at pressures of  $<2.5$  Kbar (Naumov and Ivanova, 1971; Higgins, 1980; Roedder, 1984; Cheilletz, 1984; Gerstner et al., 1989; Wood and Vlassopoulos, 1989; Durisova et al., 1992; Kiliyas and Konnerup-Madsen, 1997; O'Reilly et al., 1997; Wood and Samson, 2000). The data obtained for the Pedra Preta deposit (thermal conditions of  $250\text{--}350^\circ\text{C}$ , pressure about 2 Kbar, and oxygen fugacity of  $10^{-38}\text{--}10^{-37}$  bar) fit within this framework.

Regardless of the composition and derivation of the fluids, the following aspects should be considered to explain the wolframite precipitation at the Pedra Preta deposit:

1. Quartz 2 precipitated from a residual magmatic aqueous-carbonic fluid, whereas topaz precipitated from a compositionally similar fluid with lower  $\text{CO}_2$  density;
2. Temperature remained relatively constant throughout quartz 2 and topaz deposition;
3. By the time topaz started precipitating, the mineralizing fluids were largely depleted in  $\text{CH}_4$  (FI in topaz crystals contain no other carbonic phase but  $\text{CO}_2$ );
4. A change occurred from reducing to oxidizing conditions, as suggested by the coprecipitation of hematite and wolframite; and
5. The abundance of Fe-rich minerals is much greater in the upper level rocks than in the lower level ones.

According to the FI data, two kinds of fluids could account for the transport and precipitation of tungsten at the Pedra Preta deposit:

1. A  $\text{CO}_2$ -bearing saline aqueous fluid derived from de Musa granite crystallization; or
2. A  $\text{CH}_4$ -rich aqueous-carbonic fluid, probably metamorphic, which may have been in equilibrium with the greenstone host rocks at the time of the granitic intrusion.

The following arguments favor W transport by metamorphic fluids:

1. Crushing tests in wolframite suggest the presence of  $\text{CH}_4$  in the carbonic phase of the trapped fluids, making them

- compositionally similar to Type ii reducing metamorphic fluids;
2. Although the W mineralization is assumed to have little dependence on the redox state of the magma (Blevin and Chappell, 1992), it is normally associated with granites of the ilmenite series (Ishihara, 1981; Sillitoe, 1996). In this regard, the Musa granite is interpreted to have evolved from an oxidized magma, characterized as an A-type granite of the magnetite series (Magalhães and Dall'Agnol, 1992; Dall'Agnol et al., 1999a,b);
  3. CH<sub>4</sub> is a volatile expected in reducing magmas that give rise to S-type granitoids (Ishihara, 1981);
  4. CH<sub>4</sub> in the fluids was largely transformed into CO<sub>2</sub> (CH<sub>4</sub> + 4O<sub>2</sub> = CO<sub>2</sub> + 2H<sub>2</sub>O) during oxidation, as evidenced by FI and mineral paragenetic data; and
  5. Geochemical studies indicate the unspecialized character of the Musa granite facies associated with the Pedra Preta deposit (Gastal, 1987; Rios, 1995).

These metamorphic fluids may have been able to extract W from the rocks through which they percolated and transport it as W<sup>+5</sup> ions soluble in very low *f*<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub> fluids (Wood and Vlassopoulos, 1989). The W deposition might have occurred at sites where *f*<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub> was sufficiently high to produce CO<sub>2</sub> at the expense of CH<sub>4</sub>. At equilibrium, these *f*<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub> are estimated at 10<sup>-38</sup>–10<sup>-37</sup> bar at a temperature of 300 °C (Rios, 1995).

In support of the magmatic derivation of the W-transporting fluids, there is the geological framework of the deposit, which shows greisenized rocks in the granite cupola and, to a lesser extent, in the immediate host rocks (Fig. 1). A similar picture has been described in other deposits where W is genetically associated with granites, such as Panasqueira, Portugal (Noronha et al., 1992). Sn–W specialized granites have W contents of 3–60 ppm (Higgins, 1985a; Polya, 1989; Marignac and Cuney, 1991), though, away from the ore zone, W-mineralized granitoids are not enriched in this metal (Derré et al. in Marignac and Cuney, 1991). At the Pedra Preta deposit, X-ray fluorescence and ICP analyses of greenstone and granitic rocks do not reveal any significant W concentrations. The metasandstones have WO<sub>3</sub> contents of 0.05% (Docegeo, 1984; Santos, 1987), and the metavolcanic rocks and metatonalites have less than 0.1% (Docegeo, 1984). Granite samples systematically show W concentrations below the detection limit (15 ppm).

Although most arguments favor a metamorphic origin for the mineralizing fluids, the Musa granite cannot be ruled out as an alternative source for W. Even though no W was detected by synchrotron XRF analyses in topaz-hosted FIs and though its deposition preceded the fluorine-rich submagmatic stage (topaz + fluorite + low density fluid composed of H<sub>2</sub>O + NaCl + CO<sub>2</sub>), some W could have been supplied by a late, more specialized granite facies not mapped yet in the deposit area. This facies would be similar

to those already described in the batholith, with fluorite contents of up to 0.8% (Gastal, 1987).

Progressive CO<sub>2</sub> loss following immiscibility, retrograde boiling, dilution, and pH changes of the fluids have been considered triggering factors for wolframite precipitation (Giuliani, 1984; Higgins, 1985a; Ramboz et al., 1985; Schwartz and Surjono, 1990; Slov'ev, 1990; Fernandez, 1991). At the Pedra Preta deposit, it was not possible to find evidence of these processes during the time elapsed between quartz 2 and topaz precipitation. However, two factors may have been decisive for the W deposition:

1. Lithologic-structural control—the deposit host rocks are cut by fractures related to the Seringa lineament. W-bearing solutions may have used these fractures as channelways, moving toward the upper levels of the deposit, where rocks with abundant Fe-rich minerals are common (Babaçu group). At the lower levels, where wolframite is relatively rare, rocks with expressive amounts of Fe-rich minerals are scarce.
2. Chemical control—the oxidation of CH<sub>4</sub>-rich reducing fluids near the Musa granite.

## 8. Ore deposit model and concluding remarks

At least four hydrothermal events have been identified in the Pedra Preta deposit area. The first is related to metamorphic processes involving the Andorinhas supergroup rocks, from which silica was solubilized and then reprecipitated on fracture planes, which formed the PrOSV veins. The next two events are more closely related to the tungsten mineralization. Initially, following albitization and microclinization, CO<sub>2</sub>-bearing, Na- and Cl-rich aqueous solutions exsolved from the crystallizing granitic magma and accumulated at the cupola zones of the Musa batholith (Fig. 8). Pressure build-up led to hydraulic fracturing of the rocks and circulation of the solutions through the open spaces, where OSV veins were formed at estimated pressures of 2 Kbar (Fig. 8). At the upper levels of the deposit, saline aqueous-carbonic fluids (H<sub>2</sub>O + CH<sub>4</sub> + CO<sub>2</sub> + salts) seem to have resulted from the mixing of metamorphic and magmatic solutions (Fig. 8).

Subsequently, the OSV veins were intensely fractured (Fig. 8), enabling further percolation of the fluids derived from the greenstone host rocks. The circulation of these fluids on the Pedra Preta deposit may have been synchronous with the wolframite precipitation. FI evidence (microthermometric and crushing tests) supports the hypothesis of tungsten precipitating from an aqueous-carbonic solution with high CH<sub>4</sub>/CO<sub>2</sub> ratios. Tungsten deposition should have been accompanied by an increase of *f*<sub>O<sub>2</sub></sub> in the fluids, thus favoring the coprecipitation of hematite. Oxygen isotope data indicate temperatures of 320 °C for the tungsten deposition, in agreement with the highest Th<sub>total</sub> of FIs in wolframite and quartz 2.

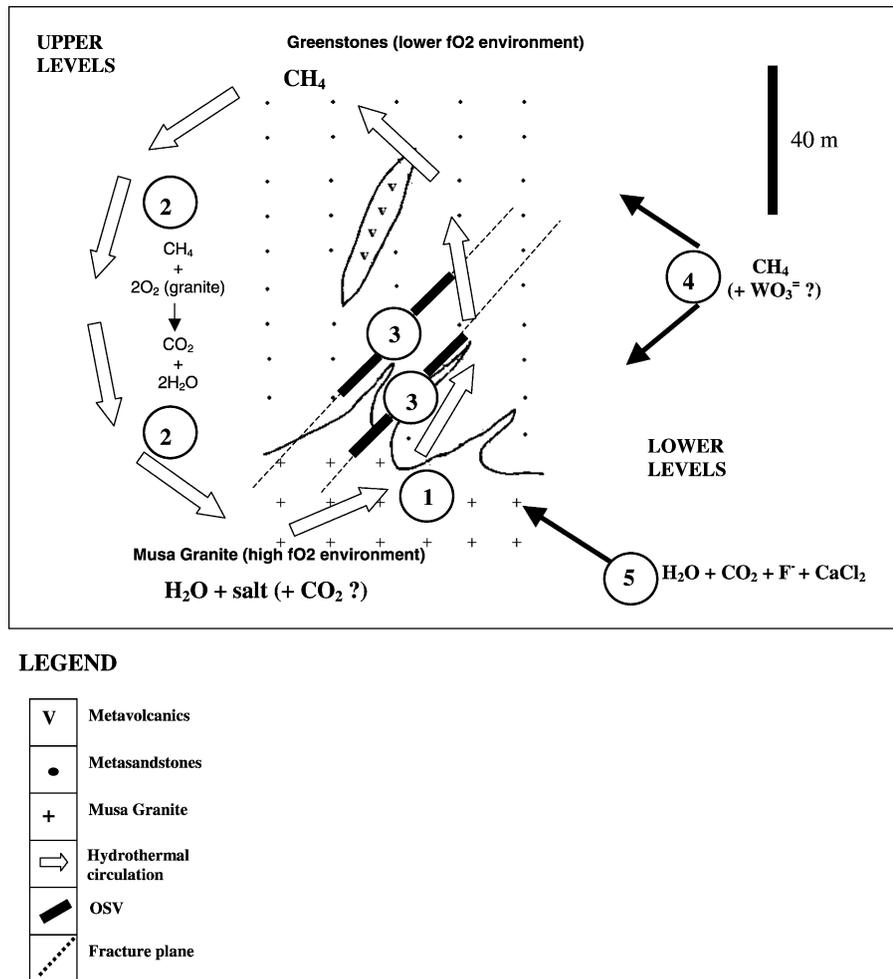


Fig. 8. Proposed evolution model for the Pedra Preta deposit. The last stages of magma crystallization were characterized by albitization, microclinization and accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub>-bearing saline aqueous fluids at the upper zones of the granitic body (1), causing fracturing at the cupola. Fluids derived from the host greenstone were reducing (CH<sub>4</sub>-rich). In the upper and lower levels of the deposit, during precipitation of quartz 2, there seems to have occurred mixing of magmatic and metamorphic fluids (2). As a consequence of the high  $f_{O_2}$  of the granite, CH<sub>4</sub> oxidation produced CO<sub>2</sub>. Quartz 2 was precipitated along fractures (3) at pressures of about 2 Kbar, and OSV were then formed. Subsequently, the OSV veins were fractured, allowing further circulation of the reducing fluids derived from the greenstone host rocks (4). The inflow of these fluids may have been coeval with wolframite precipitation. Oxygen isotopic data indicate temperatures around 320 °C for the tungsten deposition. Micro-displacements in quartz 2 modified primary FI and CH<sub>4</sub> changed partially to CO<sub>2</sub>. Fluorination (5) was certainly effected by H<sub>2</sub>O + F<sup>-</sup> + CO<sub>2</sub> + CaCl<sub>2</sub> fluids, which may have been related to a concealed specialized plutonic facies of the Musa granite.

The Pedra Preta system then experienced an F-metasomatism (Fig. 8) by fluids that probably were related to later differentiates or to a facies of the Musa granite not yet exposed by erosion. These solutions, enriched in Na<sup>+</sup>, K<sup>+</sup>, Ca<sup>++</sup>, Al<sup>+3</sup>, F<sup>-</sup>, and H<sub>4</sub>SiO<sub>4</sub>, caused greisenization of the granite cupola, where topaz and fluorite were deposited in thermal conditions of ≈ 240–350 °C. They also ascended along the OSV fractures to the upper levels, where they deposited mainly topaz, fluorite, and sericite. In the metamorphic and metasedimentary host rocks, phengite-rich alteration haloes were developed around the veins.

Topaz precipitated from heterogeneous fluids at an average temperature of 320 °C. These fluids had an average-carbonic composition with low CO<sub>2</sub> density and a Ca-rich aqueous phase. By the time fluorite precipitated, X<sub>CO<sub>2</sub></sub> decreased to < 0.1 in the Na<sup>+</sup>- and Ca<sup>++</sup>-rich aqueous solutions. This stage is also characterized by the partial

substitution of wolframite by scheelite, as a direct consequence of the high  $a_{Ca^{++}}$  of the fluids.

The last hydrothermal event is represented by the POSV vein formation. The corresponding aqueous solutions were moderately to highly saline (≈ 12–42 wt% CaCl<sub>2</sub>) and relatively hot (< 220 °C). Fluids with the highest CaCl<sub>2</sub> content were trapped in quartz 3 from the granite cupola and could have been exsolved from the granitic residual melts. The low eutectic temperatures of these fluids may be due to Li<sup>+</sup> ions in solution, as often occurs in fluids of pegmatite affiliation, or represent metastable eutectic behavior of the H<sub>2</sub>O–NaCl–CaCl<sub>2</sub> system. Na-rich brines moved next into the deposit, though in a restricted way. Most likely, the fluids from which both the POSV veins and those at the northern border of the Musa granite were formed have a pegmatitic origin or represent connate or deep groundwater.

From the FI data, a general dilution of the aqueous solutions after the initial percolation of the Na-rich brines can be inferred. Chloritization occurs throughout the deposit and is a common alteration on feldspars and micas. Minor sulfide deposition is largely contemporaneous with chloritization. As the alteration advanced and most of the sulfides were deposited,  $H^+$  bulk concentration progressively decreased to the point that pH conditions favored the precipitation of calcite. The last fluids to circulate as part of the Pedra Preta hydrothermal system were probably responsible for the formation of quartz 4. These fluids are characterized by colder, very dilute solutions and most likely represent shallow groundwater.

The Pedra Preta deposit has several common features with other wolframite deposits associated with granitoids, but it differs from them in some aspects that are generally described in classical metallogenetic models (Kwak et al., 1982; Sobolev, 1991). Although the spatial relationship with the Musa batholith is obvious, its genetic affiliation is less evident because the granitic facies associated with the Pedra Preta deposit is neither specialized (Gastal, 1987) nor characterized as an S-type granitic rock (Gastal, 1987; Dall'Agnol and Magalhães, 1995). In this study, fluid data support the transport of W by solutions with strong nonmagmatic contributions, from which the metallic load was deposited in fractures opened in the host OSV veins. Evidence for this hypothesis comes from the reducing character of the fluids (high  $CH_4$  content) that migrated throughout the deposit after the precipitation of quartz 2 and possibly during the wolframite deposition.

The thermal energy released as a consequence of the Musa granite cooling caused the convective movement of the solutions through the host rocks. Whether the Andorinhas supergroup rocks were a suitable source for W is open to debate, as is the Musa granite itself, considering that a more specialized facies has not yet been mapped. Whether this facies exists is speculation, but it would account for the F-metasomatism observed in the deposit.

A dual origin of the tungsten in the Pedra Preta deposit (magmatic and/or metamorphic) seems atypical. First, in wolframite deposits associated with granitoids, the source of tungsten is usually intrusive rocks. Second, no W deposit associated with Precambrian granitoids has been interpreted as of magmatic affiliation (Sobolev, 1991), though Raith and Prochaska (1995) record a W–Mo deposit spatially and genetically related to a 1.1 Ga granitoid.

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