Determination of fluid/melt partition coefficients by LA-ICPMS analysis of co-existing fluid and silicate melt inclusions

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We analyzed co-existing primary silicate melt (MI) and fluid inclusions (FI) in quartz crystals by Laser Ablation Inductively Coupled Mass Spectrometry (LA-ICPMS) to quantify distribution of 24 major and trace elements between a volatile saturated silicate melt and the exsolving fluid phase. The samples were collected from graphic intergrowth of quartz and feldspar and freegrown quartz crystals in miarolitic cavities of the Baveno (Northern-Italy) and the La Cabrera (Spain) granitic intrusions, and alkaline-pegmatites of Mt. Malosa (Malawi). Textural evidence for the coexistence of FI and MI was their occurrence in the same assemblages (i.e. the same trails or growth zones). High density aqueous fluid inclusions were entrapped in the Baveno and La Cabrera granite, while at Mt. Malosa two fluids (liquid and vapor) exsolved from the melt. The entrapment pressure was estimated using microthermometric data on the FIs and is between 210 and 350 MPa for Baveno, 200 and 250 MPa for La Cabrera, and approx. 130 MPa for Mt. Malosa. After LA-ICPMS analyses of some FIs and MIs we rehomogenized the remaining MIs from the same assemblages in cold seal pressure vessel at 180 MPa. The homogenization temperatures were around 730 °C for each location. We determined the major element composition and the water content of the homogenized melt inclusions by electron microprobe and Raman spectroscopy (Zajacz et al., 2005), respectively. This yielded values between 10-12 wt% for MIs form Baveno, 5-7 wt% for MIs from La Cabrera and 5-5.5 wt% for MIs form Mt. Malosa. The fluid/melt partition coefficients (D) for trace elements vary significantly between locations. Most chlorine complexed elements in the aqueous fluid show strongly increasing preference for the fluid phase with increasing salinity from 5 to 35 wt% (D_{Zn}: $2\rightarrow$ 100, D_{Pb}: $1 \rightarrow 85$, D_{Mn} : 0.2 $\rightarrow 25$, D_{Li} : 2 $\rightarrow 50$, D_{Fe} : 1 $\rightarrow 13$, D_{Rb} : 0.1 $\rightarrow 0.8$) while hydroxyl complex-forming Mo (D_{Mo} : 20 \rightarrow 2) and W $(D_W:3\rightarrow 3)$ show the opposite behaviour. Partitioning behaviour of Sn, Sb, As, B, Bi and Ag is less clear and likely more affected by the pressure or melt composition.

References

[1] Zajacz Z., Halter WE., Malfait W. et al. (2005) *Contrib Mineral Petrol* **150**, 631-642.