Effects of water in lunar basalts

YANG LIU AND LAWRENCE A. TAYLOR

Planetary Geoscience Institute, Deptartment of Earth & Planetary Sciences, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN 37996, USA (yangl@utk.edu)

Volatiles play important roles in phase equilibrium, magma genesis and transport. Owing to the previous concept of a 'bone-dry' moon, contrasting models are proposed for high-Ti basalt genesis, namely re-melting of ilmenite-rich cumulate by overturning versus assimilation by low-Ti melt. The debate between these two models is largely arisen because of the experimentally determined negative buoyancy of the dry high-Ti melt (e.g. [1]). Recently, significant water was discovered in the lunar glass beads and apatite [2-5], which transfers to existence of water in the lunar mantle. This would suggest a re-evaluation of lunar magma genesis and the density of high-Ti melt. Using the estimated initial water in very-low-Ti glass beads (primitive low-Ti melt) from Saal et al. [3], the mantle source rocks for these beads may contain 26-48 ppm H₂O if 10% partial melting is assumed. As ilmenite-rich cumulate forms after 95% crystallization of the LMO [7], the ilmenite-rich cumulate would have 520-960 ppm water. Assuming 10% melting, the high-Ti melt from the ilmenite-rich layer likely contains 0.5-1 wt% H₂O. This amount of water can decrease the density of high-Ti melt to a density (3240 kg/m³) less than that for olivine (3300 kg/m³) at 1500°C and 2 GPa, the solidus of high-Ti basalts. It is clear that the above calculation provides a promising first approximation on the initial H₂O content in high-Ti melts. Here, we review recent results of water in lunar samples and evaluate its effects on various aspects of lunar basalts.

 [1] Circone & Agee (1996) Geochimica Et Cosmochimica Acta 60, 2709–2720. [2] Elkins Tanton, L. T. et al.. (2002) EPSL 196, 239–249. [3] Saal, A. et al. (2008) Nature 454, 192–196. [4] Liu et al. (2010) LPSC 41s, #2649.
 [5] Greenwood et al. (2010) LPSC 41st, 2439. [6] McCubbin et al. (2010) LPSC 41st, 2468. [7] Snyder, Taylor, & Neal (1992) Geochimica Et Cosmochimica Acta 56, 3809–3823.

Geology and C, H and O isotopic geochemistry of Dongmozhazhua Pb-Zn ore deposit, Qinghai, China

YINGCHAO LIU¹, ZENGQIAN HOU², ZHUSEN YANG¹ AND SHIHONG TIAN¹

¹Institute of Mineral Resources, CAGS, Beijing 100037, China (lychappy@126.com)

²Institute of Geology, CAGS, Beijing 100037, China)

The Dongmozhazhua Pb-Zn ore deposit, located in the north of 'Three River' Pb-Zn-Cu-Ag metallogenic belt in Northeast Tibetan plateau, is controlled by the regional NW-SE thrust system. Ore bodies, hosted in limestone rocks of Late Triassic Bolila Formation and Early-Middle Permian Jiushidaoban Formation, are stratabound with colloform and xenomorphic grain textures and dissemination and breccia structures. Ores mainly consisted of sphalerite, galena, pyrite, calcite, dolomite and barite. The alteration types are strong dolomitization and weak silicification.

The H-O isotopic data of fluid inclusions in calcites (Fig.1a) indicate the fluid were mainly derived from pent-up water in the basin and partly from hydrothermal fluid. The C-O isotopic data of calcites and host limestone rocks (Fig.1b) indicate the dissolution of carbonate rocks have occurred during the ore-forming process. Therefore the fluid may have moved long distance in the basin after derived and got lots of ore-forming materials such as metals.





The geology and C-H-O isotopes of this deposit are similar to MVT deposits in the world [3], therefore the authors consider this deposit as a MVT-like Pb-Zn deposit controlled by the thrust systerm in the orogenic belt.

This work was supported by grants (Contract No. 2006BAB01A08, 2009CB421008 and 2009CB421007).

[1] Lu H Z et al. (2004) Beijing, Science Press, 19~20. [2] Liu
J M et al. (1997) Acta Mineralogical Sinica 17, 448~456.
[3] Leach et al. (2005) Economic Geology 100th Anniversary Volume, 561–607.