Age and tectonic setting of the Huoqiu BIF in southeastern margin of the North China Craton

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The Huoqiu BIF deposit is located in the southeastern margin of the North China Craton (NCC), is hosted in Neoarchean high-grade metamorphic rock series. The iron ores interlayered with amphibolite and granitic gneiss, indicating that they are spatially closely associated. LA-MC-ICP-MS U-Pb dating of magmatic zircons from amphibolite and gneiss yield U-Pb ages of 2873 ± 5 Ma and 2765 ± 11 Ma, respectively, providing the constraint of protolith age. Zircons from two iron ore samples yielded similar ages of 2769 \pm 16 Ma and 2756 ± 18 Ma, respectively. Therefore, formation age of the Huoqiu BIF deposit were constraint at 2.75-2.77 Ga. The gneiss from three deposits displays high SiO2, low MgO, high K2O/Na2O ratio, pronounce HREE depletion, negative anomalies of Ti-Nb-Ta and high Sr/Y with high Sr contents and low Y contents, which is the characteristics of late Archean low-Mg tonalite, trondhjemite and granodiorite (TTG). The amphibolites have the high Fe2O3, Al2O3 and CaO contents with dispersed Mg# and TiO2. Geochemically, they are alkali-rich, with high K2O contents and high K2O/Na2O ratios, revealing their calc-alkaline nature. They are enriched in LILE and LREE with flat HREE pattern and depleted in high field strong elements HFSE with weak Eu anomalies, these features are comparable with IAB-type amphibolite. Their original rocks were formed in an island arcrelated setting and an active continental margin. Thus we infer that the Huoqiu BIF was formed in a subduction-related backarc basin setting, close to an active continental margin during early Neoarchean.

Keywords: Huoqiu Neoarchean BIF; Zircon U-Pb dating; Tectonic setting; North China Craton (NCC)