

REE tetrad effect, negative Eu anomaly and oxygen isotope

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Rare earth elements (REEs) have been used as one of useful tools in geochemical and cosmochemical studies because of their similar chemical behaviors and their gradual changes in ionic radii. Recently, REE tetrad pattern has been considered as an example of a specific Sm/Nd fractionation in geologic systems such as evolved or highly-fractionated granites under the condition that the REE measurement were performed at reasonable precision and accuracy. Then, such REE tetrad effect in the granite accompanies very large negative Eu anomaly.

In this study, we measured REE abundances with high precision and accuracy within 5-10% for clarifying the order tetrad REE pattern and negative Eu anomaly. We also measured oxygen isotope for whole rock and its constituent minerals to survey hydrothermal effect due to water-rock interaction. The oxygen isotopes of the granites and their constituent minerals are plotted on the terrestrial fractionation line suggesting that they are derived from the same source magma rather than hydrothermal alteration. Our data showed that Eu anomalies of the granites with REE tetrad pattern should be derived from K-feldspar fractionation rather than from a fractionation between the residual melt and a coexisting aqueous high temperature fluid. Our data also indicate that the formation of REE tetrad effect and negative Eu anomaly might have occurred concurrently. In this study, we could reconfirm that REE tetrad effect is a product by a specific magma fractionation not by hydrothermal alteration.