Oceanic Zircon as A petrogenetic indicator

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Morphology and geochemical features of zircon separates from a variety of rocks from Mid-Atlantic Ridge have been studied with a variety of methods. Magmatic zircon (Zrn) in the gabbroids crystallized from differentiating magmatic melt in a number of episodes, as follows from the systematic rim-ward increase in the Hf concentration, which is related to the Zr-Hf fractionation during Zrn growth [Aranovich, Bortnikov, Petrology, 2018, 26, 115-120.]. These tendencies are also discernible in Zrn from the OPG. Zrn in the OPG is depleted in REE compared to the least modified Zrn in the gabbro, suggesting that the OPG were derived via partial melting of gabbro in the presence of seawater-derived concentrated aqueous salt fluid. Another reason for the REE depletion might be simultaneous crystallization of zircon and apatite. The CL-dark sectors, which are found in practically all magmatic Zrn grains, have Y/P (a.p.f.u.)>>1, most likely resulted from OH accommodation in the Zrn structure, a fact suggesting that the OPG parental melt contained water. High-temperature hydrothermal processes induced partial to complete recrystallization of Zrn (via dissolution - re-precipitation), a process that was associated with ductile and brittle deformations of the zircon-hosting rocks. The morphology of the hydrothermal Zrn varies depending on the pH and silica activity in the fluid. The early hydrothermal transformations of the Zrn resulted in enrichment in La and other LREE, except only Ce, whose concentration, conversely, decreases compared to that of the unmodified magmatic Zrn. Reduction in both bulk Ce and Ce* is related to the reducing nature of the hydrothermal fluid. The work is supported by the Russian Scientific Fund (project № 18-17-00126)