

Magnesium isotopic composition of Variscan subduction-related plutonic rocks and its significance for the origin of ultrapotassic magmas (Moldanubian Zone of Bohemian Massif)

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Variscan Orogeny in the Bohemian Massif was likely driven by oceanic subduction passing to subduction/relamination of the Saxothuringian continental crust [1]. This resulted in extensive magmatism ranging from (1) ~354 Ma normal calc-alkaline (CA), through (2) ~346 Ma K-rich calc-alkaline (HKCA) to (3) ~340–335 Ma (ultra-)potassic (UK) [2–3]. The Sr–Nd isotopic compositions of mantle-derived members evolved from CHUR-like ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{354} \sim 0.705$, $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}^{354} \sim +1$; CA), through slightly ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{346} \sim 0.707$, $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}^{346} = -3$ to -4 ; HKCA) to strongly enriched ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{337} > 0.7128$, $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}^{337} < -7.5$; UK) [3–4]. The ultrapotassic primary melts came from harzburgitic mantle contaminated by deeply subducted mature crustal material and/or metasomatized by (U)HP melts/fluids derived therefrom [4–7].

The three suites yield heterogeneous $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ values (-0.12 ‰ to -0.53 ‰). Surprisingly, the most magnesian samples, taken as proxies for mantle-derived sources, all fall within the range of the local orogenic mantle peridotites (-0.33 ‰ to -0.29) or above, close to the global mantle average (-0.25 ‰ [8]). Thus the $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ of the metasomatized mantle was buffered by the harzburgitic mantle end-member, and/or the crustal contaminant was not very contrasting in $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$. This implies insignificant role for Mg in melts/fluids derived from subducted clastic or carbonate sediments.

However, the inventory of incompatible elements and related isotopic systems (Sr–Nd–Pb) in the hybrid UK suite (high mg#, transition metal and Cs, Rb, K, Th, U, Pb, Li contents; low Nb, Ta and Ti contents) was swamped by the crustal signal. This confirms the hypothesis that the within-mantle contaminant and source of metasomatic melts/fluids was mainly Mg-poor, felsic igneous material of Saxothuringian provenance [4, 7].

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