

Mesozoic crustal evolution of southern Tibet: Constraints from the Early Jurassic igneous rocks in the central Lhasa terrane

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Abstract

Phanerozoic growth of continental crust on our planet is one of the important research themes in Earth Science. Here, we present the results of a systematic study of newly found and previously reported Mesozoic igneous rocks, including diorite cumulate, granodiorite cumulate, mafic magmatic enclaves (MME) and host granitoids in the central Lhasa terrane, southern Tibet. These igneous rocks give zircon U-Pb crystallization ages of 199–189 Ma. Based on constituent mineral and bulk-rock compositions, the cumulates are best understood as resulting from amphibole, plagioclase and titanite crystallization from a mafic andesitic magma. The host granitoids also show compositional systematics consistent with amphibole-plagioclase fractional crystallization from andesitic magma. The MMEs share many characteristics with their host granitoids in common, including identical crystallization age, similar mineralogy, mineral chemistry and zircon isotopic

compositions, representing earlier cumulate derived from the same magmatic system as their host rocks. The magma parental to the studied Early Jurassic igneous rocks is best explained as resulting from partial melting of hydrated ocean crust together with varying continental material. The increasing zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values of multiple plutons in the central Lhasa terrane with time during ~215–170 Ma indicate its gradual depleted process of crustal evolution.

Keywords:

Cumulates; granitoids; assimilation–fractional crystallization; Mesozoic crustal evolution; southern Tibet

1. Introduction

The Earth is the only planet in the solar system with oceans and continents with the continental crust standing above the sea level (e.g., [Rudnick, 1995](#)). The significance of the continental crust on which we live is self-evident, yet our knowledge remains limited on its origin and growth ([Niu et al., 2013](#)). Arc magmatism is widely accepted to be a fundamental process responsible for post-Archean continental crust growth (e.g., [Rudnick and Gao, 2003](#); [Taylor and McLennan, 1985](#)). Therefore, understanding the origin and nature of arc crusts is critical for understanding the formation and evolution of continental crust (e.g., [Jagoutz and Kelemen, 2015](#)).

Unlike the oceanic arc (e.g., Kohistan arc in western Himalaya), the Gangdese

arc resulting from the subduction of the Neo-Tethyan seafloor and subsequent India-Asia collision is a prominent continental arc along the southern margin of Asia, and thus has more complex petrological architecture and geochemical composition due to ancient basement assimilation. The most noteworthy feature of this magmatic arc is its predominantly zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$ in the southern Lhasa terrane, and mostly zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$ in the central Lhasa terrane (e.g., [Chu et al., 2006](#); [Hou et al., 2015](#); [Ji et al., 2009](#); [Zhu et al., 2011](#)). Although there have been many advances in the study of the Gangdese arc magmatism, the processes how magmatic arc is actually developed and what may have caused the across-arc zircon-Hf isotope systematics remain unclear. Moreover, the pre-Cenozoic crustal evolution of the Lhasa terrane is also crucial for understanding the India-Asian continental collision and Tibetan uplift during the Cenozoic.

In this paper, we present bulk-rock major and trace element compositions, mineral chemistry, zircon geochronology, bulk-rock Sr-Nd and zircon Hf isotopic data on the igneous rocks, including Bascong Tso cumulate plutons ($<100 \text{ km}^2$) and Mamba MME-bearing granitoid batholith ($>100 \text{ km}^2$) of $\sim 200 \text{ Ma}$ in the central Lhasa terrane in southern Tibet. Our results suggest that the amphibole-dominated assimilation–fractional crystallization (AFC) is the effective process for the generation of these Early Jurassic igneous rocks. This new understanding details a gradual depleted evolution of crust in the central Lhasa terrane during the Mesozoic.

2. Geological background

The Tibetan Plateau, from north to south, comprises the Songpan-Ganzi flysch complex, Qiangtang and Lhasa terranes, and the Himalaya, separated by the Jinsha, Bangong-Nujiang and Indus-Yarlung Zangbo Suture zones, respectively (Fig. 1a) (e.g., Dewey et al., 1988; Yin and Harrison, 2000; Zhu et al., 2013). As a main tectonic component, the Lhasa terrane in southern Tibet is interpreted to have been rifted from the northern margin of Gondwana in the Triassic and drifted northward to collide with the Qiangtang terrane in the Cretaceous (e.g., Zhu et al., 2013). An Andean-type active continental margin has been proposed in the southern part of the terrane prior to its collision with the northward moving Indian continent in the Cenozoic (e.g., Dewey et al., 1988; Mo et al., 2008; Yin and Harrison, 2000; Zhu et al., 2011, 2013). The Lhasa terrane is subdivided into northern, central, and southern subterrane separated by the Shiquanhe-Nam Tso Mélange zone and the Luobadui-Mila Mountain fault, respectively (Fig. 1b) (e.g., Pan et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2011).

The southern Lhasa subterrane (SLT) is characterized by the existence of juvenile crust with a Precambrian metamorphic basement locally exposed (e.g., Dong et al., 2020; Ji et al., 2009; Mo et al., 2008; Zhu et al., 2011, 2013). This subterrane is dominated by the Cretaceous–Tertiary batholiths and the Paleogene Linzizong volcanic succession, with minor Triassic–Cretaceous volcano-intrusive rocks (Pan et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2008, 2013). Several Early Paleozoic and Late Devonian granites have been reported in the eastern SLT (Dong et al., 2010, 2014; Ji et al., 2012; Ma et al., 2019). The central Lhasa subterrane (CLT) was once a microcontinent with Precambrian crystalline basement widespread (Dong et al., 2011a; Harris et al., 1988a;

Li, 1955; Zhang et al., 2012), covered by Permo–Carboniferous metasedimentary rocks and Upper Jurassic–Lower Cretaceous strata with abundant volcanic-intrusive rocks, as well as minor Ordovician–Devonian, and Triassic strata (Pan et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2009, 2011, 2013). The Mesozoic plutonic rocks occur as batholiths of varying age (cf. Zhu et al., 2011 and references therein). The volcanic rocks are mostly early Cretaceous in age with minor being Permian. Cambrian–Ordovician volcanic rocks and an angular unconformity have been documented (e.g., Li et al., 2010; Zhu et al., 2012). The Late Permian high-pressure Sumdo eclogite and Late Triassic–Early Jurassic metamorphic rocks in the middle and eastern CLT indicate subduction of the Sumdo Tethyan seafloor (e.g., Cheng et al., 2015; Dong et al., 2011b; Lin et al., 2013; Weller et al., 2015; Yang et al., 2009; Zeng et al., 2009). The northern Lhasa subterrane (NLT) contains juvenile crust and is covered by Middle Triassic–Cretaceous sedimentary rocks with abundant early Cretaceous volcanic rocks and associated granitoids (Pan et al., 2004; Zhu et al., 2011, 2013).

The Gangdese arc along the southern Lhasa terrane extends E–W for > 1500 km with varying width (~ 20 to 60 km; e.g., Zhu et al., 2011). Abundant age data indicate that these magmatic arc rocks were emplaced from the Late Triassic to the Late Miocene (e.g., Zhu et al., 2011), occurring as plutons with two main episodes of magmatic activity in the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic (220–170 Ma) and the Early Cretaceous (95–85 Ma) (e.g., Ji et al., 2009; Zhu et al., 2011). Except for those in the CLT, most plutonic rocks in the SLT have depleted zircon Hf and bulk-rock Sr–Nd isotopic compositions, indicative of significant mantle contributions or a juvenile

crust in their petrogenesis (e.g., Mo et al., 2008; Zhu et al., 2011, 2013). The Early Mesozoic Gangdese arc formed in response to the northward subduction of the Neo-Tethyan seafloor to the south (e.g., Chu et al., 2006; Ji et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2007b) or to the southward subduction of the Bangong–Nujiang Tethyan seafloor to the north (e.g., Sui et al., 2018; Zhu et al., 2011, 2013).

The samples of this study were collected in the Basong Tso and Mamba areas of the CLT (Fig. 1c–d). In the Basong Tso area, the Early Jurassic and Oligocene plutons intrude the Ordovician strata and the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic metamorphic rocks (Figs. 1c and 2a). The latter metamorphic rocks experienced peak medium-pressure amphibolite-facies metamorphism at ca. 204–192 Ma (Lin et al., 2013; Weller et al., 2015). The Early Jurassic Basong Tso plutons (about 6 km²) include diorite and granodiorite cumulates, with the former intruding the latter (Fig. 2b–d). In the Mamba area, the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic batholith is about 130 km² in outcrop located northwest of the Sumdo eclogite (Fig. 1b–d), and intrudes the Ordovician strata (Figs. 1d and 3a) and has been intruded by the Late Cretaceous granitoids (Meng et al., 2014) (Fig. 1d). The Late Triassic–Early Jurassic Mamba batholith includes host granite, granodiorite and quartz monzodiorite (MME). MMEs widely occur as dark blobs of varying shape (ellipsoidal or elongate) and size (centimeters to decimeters) without chilled margins (Fig. 3b–d).

3. Petrography

This study focuses on the diorite and granodiorite cumulates from the Basong

Tso area, and the MMEs and their host granites and granodiorite from the Mamba area.

Sample details, including locations, lithology (based on mineral assemblages and modes), zircon U-Pb ages and $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$, bulk-rock $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$, are given in Table 1.

3.1 Basong Tso cumulates

The diorite cumulates display adcumulate texture, dominated by coarse-grained amphibole and plagioclase plus minor intercumulus material of titanite, apatite and biotite (Fig. 2e–f). Sample TD17-9-3 has similar mineral assemblage to other diorite cumulate samples with much less titanite. The granodiorite cumulates display porphyritic texture, including plagioclase and amphibole interlocked with quartz plus interstitial biotite, titanite and apatite (Fig. 2g). Within both types of cumulates, most minerals are partially altered with plagioclase replaced by sericite, amphibole by epidote and biotite by chlorite (Fig. 2e–g).

3.2 Mamba granitoids

The host rocks of the Mamba batholith include granite and granodiorite, showing medium-grained equigranular texture. The granites mainly consist of quartz, K-feldspar and plagioclase with minor biotite, amphibole and Fe-oxides (Fig. 3e). The granodiorite has similar mineral assemblage to the granite with less quartz and more amphibole (Fig. 3f–g). Quartz monzodiorite MMEs share the same mineralogy as the host granodiorite but have less quartz and finer grain size (Fig. 3h). The MMEs show heteradcumulate texture with higher modal amphibole poikilitically enclosed in plagioclase and K-feldspar plus minor interstitial quartz, biotite, titanite, apatite and Fe-oxides (Fig. 3i).

4. Analytical methods and data

Analytical methods are given in [Supplementary Text 1](#), including Cathodoluminescence (CL) images, mineral major elements, bulk-rock major and trace elements, Sr-Nd isotopes, zircon U-Pb dating and Hf isotopes.

4.1 Mineral compositions

Major element compositions for plagioclase and amphibole are given in [Supplementary Table 1](#) and [2](#), respectively.

Plagioclase in the Basong Tso diorite and granodiorite cumulates has $An = 28\text{--}49$ ([Fig. 4a](#)). Plagioclase in the Mamba host rocks has varying composition with $An = 13\text{--}46$ ([Fig. 4a](#)), which is similar to that of the MMEs with $An = 23\text{--}47$ ([Fig. 4a](#)).

Amphibole is the dominant mafic mineral in all samples except for Mamba host sample T12-1-1. All amphibole is calcic with $Ca_{Bsite} = 1.742\text{--}1.971$ ([Leake et al., 1997](#)), but shows additional compositional variation, seeing [Fig. 4b](#).

4.2 Bulk-rock major and trace element and Sr-Nd isotope data

Bulk-rock major element, trace element and Sr-Nd isotopic compositions of the studied samples are given in [Supplementary Table 3](#).

Basong Tso cumulates

The diorite cumulates with low SiO_2 (47.6–51.2 wt.%) show linear trends (except for TiO_2) on SiO_2 -variation diagrams ([Figs. 5](#) and [6](#)). The granodiorite cumulates have higher SiO_2 (59.8–60.7 wt.%) and limited range for other oxides ([Fig. 6](#)). The diorite cumulates are enriched in light rare earth elements (LREEs) relative to

heavy REEs (HREEs) with fractionated REE patterns and weak negative Eu anomalies (Fig. 7a). Most samples display positive Nb and Ta anomalies without negative Ti anomaly (except for sample TD17-9-3 with negative Nb, Ta and Ti anomalies in Fig. 7b, probably due to less titanite modes seeing 3.1 above). The granodiorite cumulates have similar REE patterns (Fig. 7c), but show negative U, Nb, Ta and Ti anomalies (Fig. 7d). Both types of cumulates have varying Nb/Ta of 12.43–24.12.

For diorite and granodiorite cumulates, their initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ isotopic ratios and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values are calculated at 190 and 200 Ma, respectively (using the zircon age data, see 4.3 below). The diorite cumulates have $(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_i$ of 0.7059–0.7088 and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ of -1.69 to +1.97 (Fig. 8). The granodiorite cumulates have $(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_i$ of 0.7061–0.7067 and lower $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ of -5.95 to -4.90 (Fig. 8).

Mamba granitoids

The Mamba host rocks have varying SiO_2 (64.4–75.3 wt.%), equivalent to granodiorite and granite (Fig. 5a) and belonging to high-K calc-alkaline series with metaluminous characteristics (Fig. 5b–d). Their other major elements show variations inversely correlated with SiO_2 (Fig. 6a–e) (except for Na_2O , Fig. 6f). The MME has low SiO_2 (54.5 wt.%) with major element composition similar to that of the Basong Tso cumulates (Figs. 5b–d and 6).

The host rocks have enriched LREEs relative to HREEs with fractionated REE patterns (the most depleted HREEs are Ho and its neighbors with $[\text{Dy}/\text{Lu}]_n = 0.6–1.1$) and weak negative Eu anomalies (Fig. 7e), and show significant negative Ba, Nb, Sr,

P and Ti anomalies (Fig. 7f). The MME has relatively higher middle and heavy REEs than the host rocks, similar to the Basong Tso granodiorite cumulates (Fig. 7e-f).

4.3 Zircon U-Pb age and Hf isotope

LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb dating on nine samples and Hf isotope compositions of eight samples are given in Supplementary Tables 4 and 5, respectively.

Basong Tso cumulates

Zircons from one diorite cumulate sample are euhedral short-prismatic with varying size (~50–100 μm), exhibiting weak magmatic oscillatory zonation (Fig. 9a). Analyzed spots give weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age of 190 ± 0.7 Ma (Fig. 10a). Their thirteen Hf isotopic analyses give $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$, ranging from +1.0 to +6.2 (Fig. 11).

Zircons from two granodiorite cumulate samples are euhedral prismatic with varying size (~200–300 μm) and oscillatory zoning of magmatic origin (Fig. 9b and c). Analyzed spots give weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages of 198 ± 0.8 and 199 ± 1 Ma (Fig. 10b and c). Their thirty-five Hf isotopic analyses give $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$, ranging from -14.1 to -3.8 (Fig. 11).

Mamba granitoids

Zircons from five host granite samples are similar to those of the Basong Tso granodiorite cumulates (Fig. 9d–h). Analyzed spots give weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages of 194–189 Ma (Fig. 10d–h). Their sixty-two Hf isotopic analyses give varying $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ from -8.9 to +1.7 (Fig. 11).

Zircons from the MME sample are also of magmatic origin with varying size

(~50–200 μm) (Fig. 9i). Analyzed spots give weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age of 190 ± 2 Ma (Fig. 10i). Thirty-eight Hf isotopic analyses give varying $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ from -3.0 to +3.7 (Fig. 11).

5. Discussion

5.1 Petrogenesis of the Early Jurassic igneous rocks in the central Lhasa subterrane

The age data on magmatic zircons from our samples indicate that the Basong Tso diorite and granodiorite cumulates crystallized at ca. 190 and 199–198 Ma, respectively; the Mamba MMEs formed coevally with their host rocks at ca. 190 and 194–189 Ma. We discuss the petrogenesis of these Early Jurassic igneous rocks respectively below.

5.1.1 Basong Tso cumulates

The Basong Tso rocks with typical cumulate textures (e.g., Schaen et al., 2018; Wager et al., 1960) are most consistent with an origin by crystal accumulation of amphibole, plagioclase and titanite from mafic andesitic magmas. Bulk-rock compositions of cumulate rocks are controlled by both compositions and modes of the constituent minerals (Niu et al., 2002a). Indeed, most major element oxides define trends between average compositions of plagioclase and amphibole, except for TiO_2 as the result of heterogeneous distribution of titanite (Fig. 6). Fig. 6a shows that the bulk-rock composition lies in space defined by titanite-plagioclase-amphibole assemblage. Moreover, the high Nb and Ta (Supplementary Table 3) and their

significant positive anomalies in Fig. 7 are consistent with high amphibole modes (e.g., Tiepolo, et al., 2000). The high Nb/Ta (up to 24.12, Supplementary Table 3) is also consistent with amphibole control because of $Kd_{Amp}^{Nb/Ta}=1.40$ (e.g., Foley et al., 2002). Importantly, the major mineralogy of amphibole + plagioclase indicates that their parental melts must be mafic andesitic magmas (e.g., Alonso-Perez et al., 2009; Niu et al., 2013). Due to high viscosity, the crystal-melt separation is likely incomplete. Thus, the Basong Tso granodiorite cumulates are likely crystal-rich mixtures with trapped melt, but more samples and work are needed for a more quantitative analysis.

5.1.2 Mamba granitoids

Mamba host rocks

With increasing viscosity in high-SiO₂ melt, crystal separation becomes more ineffective. We suggest that the Mamba host rocks are melt-rich mixtures with incompletely segregated crystals, which explain their major element compositional systematics as a function of SiO₂ (Fig. 6a–e). These geochemical characteristics are consistent with melt compositions of equilibrium crystallization experiment results of hydrous andesite related to amphibole fractionation (Fig. 6, Alonso-Perez et al., 2009). The amphibole fractional crystallization leads to reduction of TFeO, MgO and Dy/Yb with increasing SiO₂ in the residual melt (Figs. 6c, d and 12a), and also results in spoon-shaped REE patterns with variable and lower Tb, Dy, Ho and Er (Fig. 7e) (amphibole preferentially incorporates middle REEs over heavy REEs; Davidson et al., 2007). Meanwhile, fractional crystallization of plagioclase can effectively deplete

Al₂O₃, CaO, Eu (Figs. 6b, e and 12b) and Ba and Sr in the evolving magma (Fig. 7f).

Therefore, the Mamba host rock compositional systematics are consistent with andesitic magmas that have undergone amphibole-plagioclase fractional crystallization.

Mamba MME

Controversy exists on the MME petrogenesis, including foreign xenoliths (e.g., Vernon, 1983), partial melting residues of the source rocks (e.g., Chappell et al., 1987), magma mixing between mantle-derived basaltic magma and crust-derived felsic magma (e.g., Didier, 1987), and earlier cumulate crystallized from the same magmatic system (e.g., Donaire et al., 2005). In this study, the Mamba MME sample has typical magmatic textures in both field and petrographic observations without peraluminous minerals (Fig. 3d, h, i) and formed coevally with their host rocks (Table 1), ruling out the foreign xenolith and restite origins. For MMEs formed by magma mixing, there are some common characteristics, (1) distinguishable isotopic contrast between the MMEs and the host rocks; (2) disequilibrium textures of the MMEs, e.g., complex zoning of clinopyroxene (e.g., Wang et al., 2013) or reversed zoning of plagioclase (e.g., Shcherbakov et al., 2011). However, none of the above typical evidence for magma mixing is observed. Instead, the MMEs have cumulate textures, and their bulk-rock compositions are mainly controlled by those of amphibole-plagioclase (Figs. 6). Moreover, the MMEs and their host rocks have the same mineral assemblage, similar mineral (plagioclase and amphibole) compositions and overlapping zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (Figs. 3h, 4 and 11). Therefore, the MMEs represent earlier cumulate

derived from cogenetic magma with their host rocks.

5.2 Constraints on the source

The Early Jurassic cumulates (Basong Tso cumulates and Mamba MME) in the CLT comprise dominantly amphibole and plagioclase that are common cumulate crystals of andesitic melts, whereas the typical cumulate from evolved basaltic melt would be gabbro dominated by clinopyroxene and plagioclase (Niu et al., 2013). Moreover, the compositions of the Mamba host granitoids are consistent with melt compositions of equilibrium crystallization experiment results of hydrous andesite (Fig. 6, Alonso-Perez et al., 2009). Thus, the primary magmas parental to the studied Early Jurassic igneous rocks are mafic andesite. In addition, our bulk-rock $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ (-5.95 to +1.97) and zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ (-14.1 to +6.2) isotopic data indicate significant mantle or juvenile mafic crust contribution to the granitoid magmatism. Moreover, the positive correlation of La/Sm with SiO_2 (Fig. 12c) further indicates crustal assimilation to be important, which is understood to be inevitable in terms of crustal melting or magma chamber processes. Generally, the source for the andesitic parental magmas with mantle isotopic signature could be (1) evolved mantle-derived basaltic magmas; (2) juvenile mafic continental crust derived from the mantle in no distant past; and possibly (3) the underplated ocean crust. Firstly, it is inadequate to produce huge granitoid batholiths, such as the Mamba batholith, through basaltic magma evolution. Moreover, no related juvenile mafic continental rocks have been reported so far, except for ca. 492 Ma basalts with negative bulk-rock $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ in the CLT (Zhu et al., 2012). Therefore, we suggest, until now, the most likely source for the andesitic

magma parental to the studied Early Jurassic igneous rocks is partial melting of the remaining Late Paleozoic Sumdo Tethyan ocean crust represented by the Sumdo eclogite that had exhumated to the middle-lower crust at ca. 200 Ma (e.g., [Cheng et al., 2015](#)). The remaining ocean crust could undergo partial melting to produce andesitic melt under amphibolite-facies conditions (cf. [Niu et al., 2013](#) and references therein). Moreover, the coeval metamorphic conditions (9 kbar at ca. 204–192 Ma, [Weller et al., 2015](#)) of the country rocks indicated that the magmas parental to the Basong Tso cumulates were formed at the middle-lower crustal depths. This possibility has also been suggested by [Zhu et al. \(2011\)](#).

The model of partial melting of the remaining ocean crust and the recycled terrigenous sediments has been proposed and tested by Niu and co-workers in many orogenic belts (e.g., [Chen et al., 2016](#); [Huang et al., 2014](#); [Mo et al., 2008](#); [Niu et al., 2013](#)). As we known, the very geodynamic trigger for the Early Mesozoic magmatism of the Lhasa terrane is the northward subduction of the Neo-Tethyan seafloor beneath the Lhasa terrane (e.g., [Chu et al., 2006](#); [Ji et al., 2009](#); [Zhang et al., 2007b](#)). During seafloor subduction, mantle wedge flow supplies heat and maintains to heat the underplated hydrated ocean crust and related continental material that would melt together to generate the andesitic magmas parental to the studied Early Jurassic igneous rocks with inherited mantle isotopic signatures.

5.3 Late Triassic–Early Jurassic magmatism of the Lhasa terrane

The Late Triassic–Early Jurassic magmatic rocks are widely scattered in the entire SLT and central–eastern CLT ([Fig. 1b](#)). In the SLT, the Early Mesozoic

magmatic rocks include plutonic and volcanic rocks. The plutonic rocks mainly consist of diorite, tonalite, granodiorite and granite with minor hornblende gabbro, and their bulk-rock geochemical data are characterized by medium-K calc-alkaline and metaluminous, typical of I-type granitoids with zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$ (e.g., Guo et al., 2013; Meng et al., 2016a, b; Shui et al., 2018; Xu et al., 2019; Zhu et al., 2011). In the CLT, the Early Mesozoic magmatic rocks occur as batholiths in the eastern CLT and plutons in the central CLT (Fig. 1b). The batholiths near Mamba, Sumdo and Jinda areas are I-type granodiorite and granite with MMEs, compositionally medium- to high-K calc-alkaline and metaluminous, with variable zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values (He et al., 2005, 2006; Yu et al., 2018; Zhu et al., 2011; this study). By comparison, the plutons near Luoza and Ningzhong areas mainly consist of peraluminous S-type granite with zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$ (Chu et al., 2006; Liu et al., 2006; Zhang et al., 2007b).

5.4 Crustal evolution of the Lhasa terrane

The crust in the Lhasa terrane has been considered to be dominated by ancient crust in the CLT, but dominated by younger juvenile crust in the SLT and NLT as manifested by zircon Hf and bulk-rock Nd isotope compositions of the granitoids (e.g., Hou et al., 2015; Zhu et al., 2011). Zircon Hf isotope has been used as a useful tool for understanding continental crust formation and evolution (e.g., Kinny and Mass, 2003). Here we show zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values from the Early Mesozoic plutonic rocks (~215–170 Ma) in the SLT and CLT. Fig. 11 shows that granitoids from the SLT have zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$, whereas granitoids in the CLT have zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ varying systematically from $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$ at ca. 210 Ma towards $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$ at ca. 195 Ma. Spatially,

from north to south, zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values gradually increase, i.e., from $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$ in the CLT to $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) > 0$ southward in Fig. 13. It is well understood that crust–mantle interaction is inevitable during source melting (e.g., melting of subducted sediments) and magma emplacement (e.g., crustal assimilation).

Here, we suggest that although mantle material contribution (juvenile or remelting of mantle-derived rocks) is important, significant melt assimilation with ancient crustal material results in the signature of $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) < 0$ in the northernmost CLT in the Late Triassic, then melting of abundant recycled terrigenous sediments of upper continental crust and remaining of the Sumdo Tethyan ocean crust in the melting region generates the andesitic magma parental to the ca. 200 Ma granodiorite cumulates (Fig. 14a). With the CLT magmatism getting younger and southward, melting of much more Sumdo Tethyan ocean crust with adjacent ancient lower crust forms the parental magmas of the ca. 190 Ma diorite cumulates and MME-bearing granitoid, when the zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ gradually increases towards positive values, reflecting increasing mantle contribution (Fig. 14b). Notedly, zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ of the granitoids from the CLT are all negative at longitude 88.6–90.6° E (Fig. 13b), which is consistent with S-type granitoids of crustal re-working origin (see above 5.3). For the coeval plutonic rocks of the SLT, zircon Hf isotope also shows signatures of the crustal assimilation, representing the wide range of zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ at ca. 205–200 Ma (Fig. 11) and values around zero at latitude ca. 29.7° N (Fig. 13a and c). Our study supports Zhu et al. (2011) that granitoids from the SLT are dominated by mantle contributions up to 50–90%, but those from the CLT has much less mantle

contribution (0–60 %) (Fig. 8). Ma et al. (2019) recently showed that the SLT already experienced growth process of juvenile crust during the Paleozoic and was once a microcontinent with Precambrian basement but transformed into juvenile terrane over time. We suggest that the crustal evolution is a multi-episode and gradual process. For the CLT, the multiple plutonic rocks record the Early Mesozoic crustal evolution with increasing mantle contribution with time as manifested by increasing zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ values.

6. Conclusion

- (1) The Early Jurassic igneous rocks in the CLT include the Basong Tso plutons of diorite cumulate (ca. 190 Ma), granodiorite cumulate (ca. 200 Ma) and the Mamba batholith of host granitoids and MMEs with the same crystallization age (~190 Ma).
- (2) The Basong Tso plutons are formed by crystal accumulation of amphibole, plagioclase and titanite from a mafic andesitic magma. The Mamba host granitoids are formed through amphibole-plagioclase fractional crystallization of an andesitic magma. The MMEs share the same mineralogy and indistinguishable isotopic compositions with their host granitoids, indicating earlier cumulate from the same magmatic system as their host rocks.
- (3) The parental magma for the Early Jurassic igneous rocks with inherited mantle isotopic signatures is best understood as resulting from partial melting of the hydrated ocean crust together with varying continental material.

(4) The multiple plutonic rocks (~215–170 Ma) in the CLT record the Early Mesozoic crustal evolution of the Lhasa terrane, characterized by increasing mantle contribution reflected by gradual increase of zircon $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ with time. The SLT had already experienced juvenile crustal growth in the Paleozoic.

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Figure captions:

Figure 1 (a) Tectonic framework of the Tibetan Plateau showing its major
subdivisions (Zhu et al., 2013). (b) Schematic geological map of the central and
eastern section of the Lhasa terrane modified from Pan et al. (2004), showing the
study area, and the spatial and temporal distributions of the Late Triassic–Early
Jurassic intrusive-volcano rocks in the central and southern Lhasa subterrane. (c)
Geological map of the Basong Tso area. (d) Geological map of the Mamba area.

Abbreviations: NLT = Northern Lhasa subterrane; CLT = Central Lhasa subterrane;
SLT = Southern Lhasa subterrane; JSSZ = Jinsha Suture zone; BNSZ =
Bangong-Nujiang Suture zone; IYZSZ = Indus-Yarlung Zangbo Suture zone; SNMZ
= Shiquanhe-Nam Tso Mélange Zone; LMF = Luobadui-Mila Mountain Fault.

Date sources: Zircon U-Pb ages in CLT (Luoza: 217–202 Ma, Chu et al., 2006; Zhang
et al., 2007a; Ningzhong: 213–190 Ma, Kapp et al., 2005; Liu et al., 2006; Mamba:
210–195 Ma, He et al., 2006; Zhu et al., 2011; Sumdo: 201–190 Ma, Li et al., 2009;
Yu et al., 2018; Jinda: 193–183 Ma, Zhu et al., 2011), Zircon U-Pb ages in SLT
(Xiongkun: 195–172 Ma, Lang et al., 2014a, b; Qu et al., 2007; Tafti et al., 2009,
2014; Tang et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2017a; Xu et al., 2017a; Zou et al., 2015; Dongga:
192–172 Ma, Guo et al., 2013; Tan, 2012; Wang et al., 2017b; Xu et al., 2017b;

Namling: 212–207 Ma; [Ma et al., 2017](#); Dazhuka: 205–170 Ma, [Chu et al., 2006](#); [Guo et al., 2013](#); [Ji et al., 2009](#); [Meng et al., 2016b](#); Nyemo: 180–178 Ma, [Guo et al., 2013](#); [Meng et al., 2016b](#); [Zhang et al., 2007b](#); Quxu: 220–210 Ma, [Ma et al., 2018](#); [Meng et al., 2016a](#); Qulong: 182 Ma, [Yang et al., 2008](#); Sangri: 190–179 Ma, [Dong and Zhang, 2013](#); [Shui et al., 2018](#); Gyaca: 201–197 Ma, [Dong and Zhang, 2013](#); [Shui et al., 2018](#); [Xu et al., 2019](#); Zhongsa: 203–192 Ma, [Zhu et al., 2011](#)).

Figure 2 Field photos and photomicrographs of representative diorite and granodiorite cumulates from the Basong Tso area. (a) The Early Jurassic (J_1) diorite cumulate intruding the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic (T_3 – J_1) metamorphic rocks. (b) The Early Jurassic diorite cumulate intruding the granodiorite cumulate. (c) Outcrop of the Early Jurassic diorite cumulate. (d) Outcrop of the Early Jurassic granodiorite cumulate. (e) and (f) The mineral assemblage of diorite cumulate (under PPL). (g) The mineral assemblage of granodiorite cumulate (under XPL). Amp, amphibole; Ap, apatite; Bt, biotite; Ep, epidote; Pl, plagioclase; Qz, quartz; Ttn, titanite.

Figure 3 Field photos and photomicrographs of granitoids from the Mamba area. (a) The Late Triassic–Early Jurassic granitoids intruding the Ordovician strata. (b) Outcrop of the Mamba granitoids. (c) and (d) Outcrop showing the contact of MMEs of varying size within their host granitoids. (e) The mineral assemblage of the host granite (under XPL). (f) and (g) The mineral assemblage of the host granodiorite (under PPL). (h) The sharp contact between MME and their host rocks, showing

MME being more fine-grained than the host rocks (under PPL). (i) The mineral assemblage of quartz monzodiorite MME (under XPL). Amp, amphibole; Ap, apatite; Bt, biotite; Ep, epidote; Kfs, K-feldspar; Pl, plagioclase; Qz, quartz; Ttn, titanite.

Figure 4 Representative compositions of plagioclase and amphibole from the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane. (a) Feldspar (anorthite (An)-albite (Ab)-orthoclase (Or)) compositional diagram from Deer et al. (1992). (b) Classification of amphiboles according to Leake et al. (1997).

Figure 5 Classification diagrams of the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane. (a) Classification of the plutonic rocks using CIPW norms (Le Bas and Streckeisen, 1991). (b) AFM diagram after Wager and Deer (1939) with discriminatory lines of Irvine and Baragar (1971) dividing the calc-alkaline and tholeiitic magma series. (c) SiO₂ (wt.%) vs K₂O (wt.%) diagram (Peccerillo and Taylor, 1976). (d) SiO₂ (wt.%) vs A/CNK diagram. Literature Data for the Late Triassic-Early Jurassic Mamba host rocks are from He et al. (2005, 2006).

Figure 6 SiO₂ variation diagrams of TiO₂, Al₂O₃, TFeO, MgO, CaO and Na₂O (wt.%) for the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane. Bulk-rock: bulk-rock major element compositions; av. Pl: average plagioclase major element compositions; av. Amp: average amphibole major element compositions; Bulk-rock of start material: bulk-rock major element compositions of experimental starting material; Melt:

experimentally determined major element compositions of equilibrium crystallization melt.

Figure 7 Chondrite-normalized REE and primitive-mantle-normalized multi-element patterns for the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane. (a) and (b) Diorite cumulate from the Basong Tso area. (c) and (d) Granodiorite cumulate from the Basong Tso area. (e) and (f) Host granitoids and MME from the Mamba area. Literature data for the Late Triassic-Early Jurassic Mamba host rocks are from He et al. (2005, 2006); Average ocean crust composition are from Niu and O'Hara (2003); Data of upper, middle and lower crust are from Rudnick and Gao (2003).

Figure 8 Bulk-rock SiO_2 (wt.%) vs. $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ for the Early Jurassic diorite and granodiorite cumulates from the Basong Tso area in the central Lhasa subterrane. The data of the Sumdo eclogite are from Li ZL et al. (2009) and Zeng et al. (2009). Binary mixing calculations are between N-MORB (average composition: $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = 10.04$, $\text{SiO}_2 = 50.46$ wt.%, $\text{Nd} = 11.32$ ppm are from Niu et al. (2002b)) and lower crust (average composition of $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = -18.52$ is from Ben et al. (1984), $\text{SiO}_2 = 53.4$ wt.% and $\text{Nd} = 11$ ppm are from Rudnick and Gao (2003)), and upper crust (average composition: $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = -12.40$ is from Harris et al. (1988b), $\text{SiO}_2 = 66.6$ wt.% and $\text{Nd} = 27$ ppm are from Rudnick and Gao (2003)). The mixing lines are calculated after Faure (1977) with 10 % intervals shown.

Figure 9 Cathodoluminescence images of the representative zircons of the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane. The circles are the analytical spots with ages in Ma.

Figure 10 Zircon U-Pb concordia diagrams for the Early Jurassic intrusions in the central Lhasa subterrane.

Figure 11 Zircon U-Pb ages vs $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ diagram for the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic intrusions from the central and southern Lhasa subterrane.

Data sources: Plutonic rocks ($\text{SiO}_2 \geq 55\%$) in the CLT are from Zhang et al. (2007a), Zhu et al. (2011) and Yu et al. (2018); Plutonic rocks ($\text{SiO}_2 \geq 55\%$) in the SLT are from Chu et al. (2006), Dong and Zhang (2013), Guo et al. (2013), Ji et al. (2009), Meng et al. (2016b), Shui et al. (2016, 2018), Xu et al. (2019), Yang et al. (2011), Zhang et al. (2007b), Zhu et al. (2011); Plutonic rocks ($55\% > \text{SiO}_2 > 45\%$) in SLT are from Meng et al. (2016a), Shui et al. (2018), Xu et al. (2019).

Figure 12 SiO_2 (wt.%) variation diagrams of Dy/Yb, Eu (ppm) and La/Sm for the Early Jurassic intrusions from the Mamba area in the central Lhasa subterrane. Literature data for the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic Mamba host rocks are from He et al. (2005, 2006).

Figure 13 The range and spatial distribution of zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ from the Late

Triassic–Early Jurassic (~215–170 Ma) intrusions in the central and southern Lhasa subterrane. (a) Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ plotted against sample latitude of 29.1°–30.2°N at the longitude of 88.6–93.9°E. (b) Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ plotted against sample latitude of 29.1°–30.2°N at longitude of 88.6–90.6°E. (c) Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ plotted against sample latitude of 29.1°–30.2°N at longitude of 91.6–93.9°E. Data sources are the same as in Figure 11.

Figure 14 Cartoons showing the Late Triassic–Early Jurassic magmatism and crustal evolution in the central and southern Lhasa subterrane. (a) During 215–196 Ma, magmas in the SLT are derived from mantle with minor ancient crustal assimilation at the northernmost; magmas in the CLT are derived from hydrated ocean crust together with much subducted sediments. (b) During 195–175 Ma, magmas in the SLT are derived from mantle with much less ancient crustal assimilation; magmas in the CLT are derived from much more hydrated ocean crust together with ancient crust. Zircon $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$ data sources are the same as in Figure 11. Black dashed line shows the subterrane bounding between the SLT and the CLT, i.e., Luobadui-Mila Mountain Fault zone in Figure 1b. Abbreviations: SCLM = subcontinental lithospheric mantle; MASH = melting-assimilation-storage-homogenization zone.

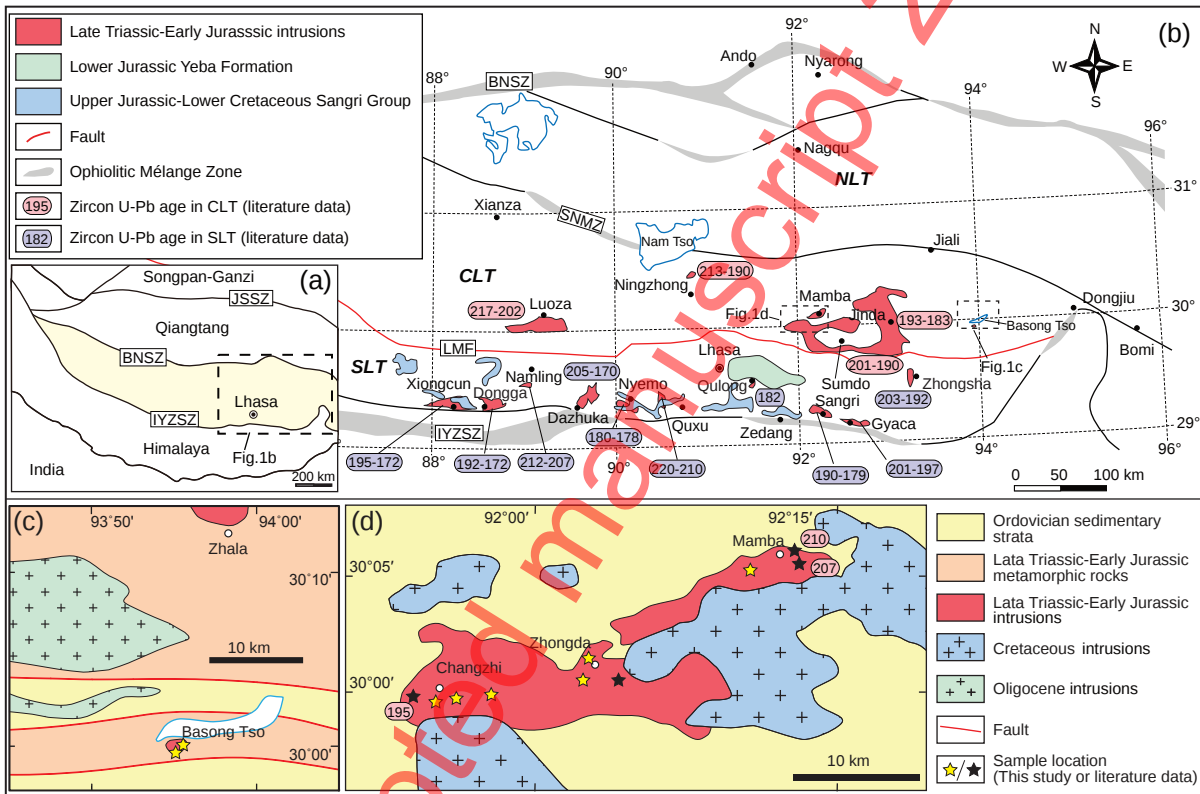


Figure 1

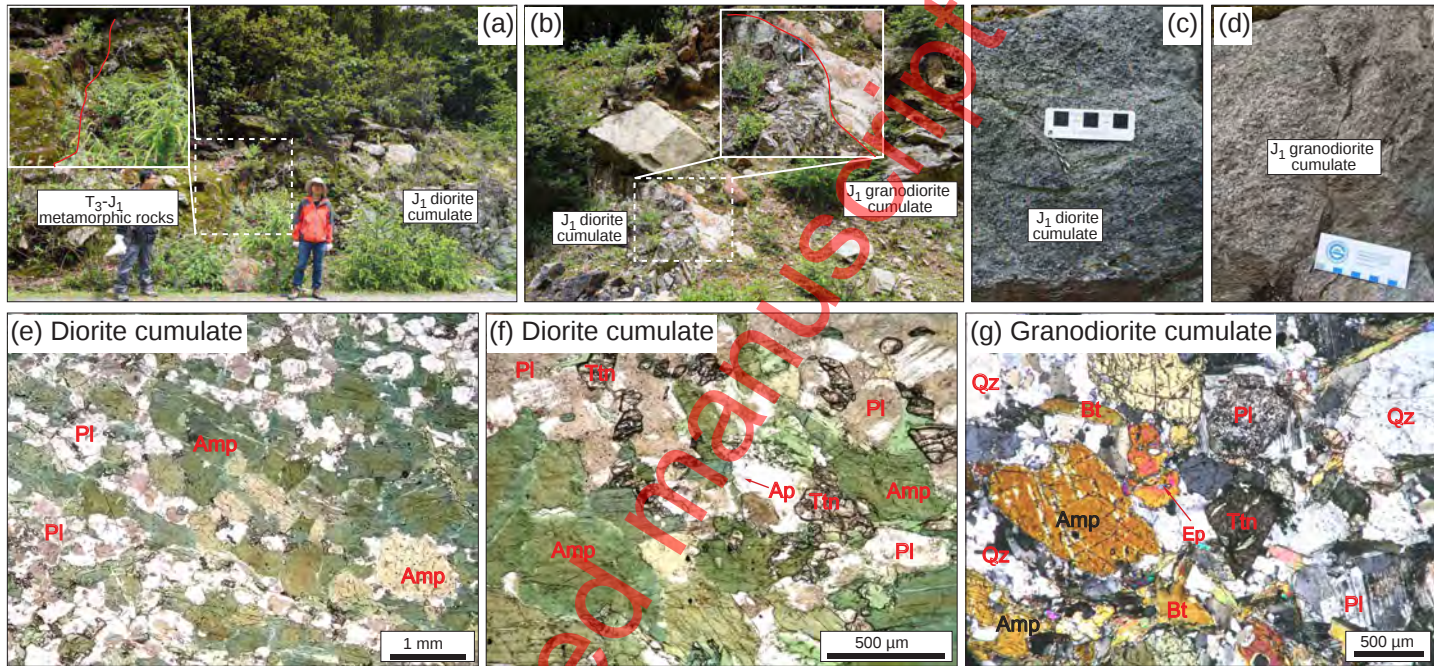


Figure 2

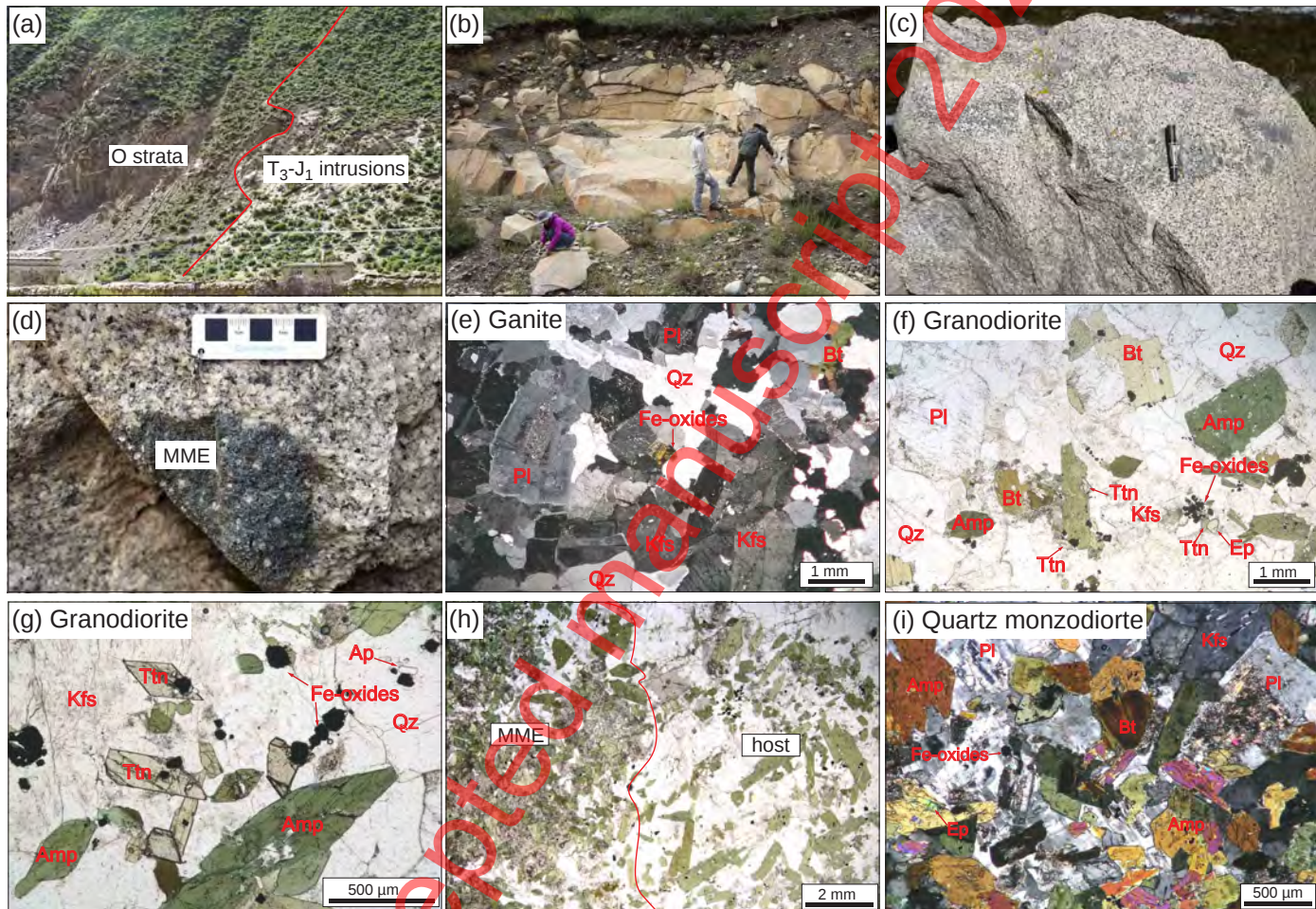


Figure 3

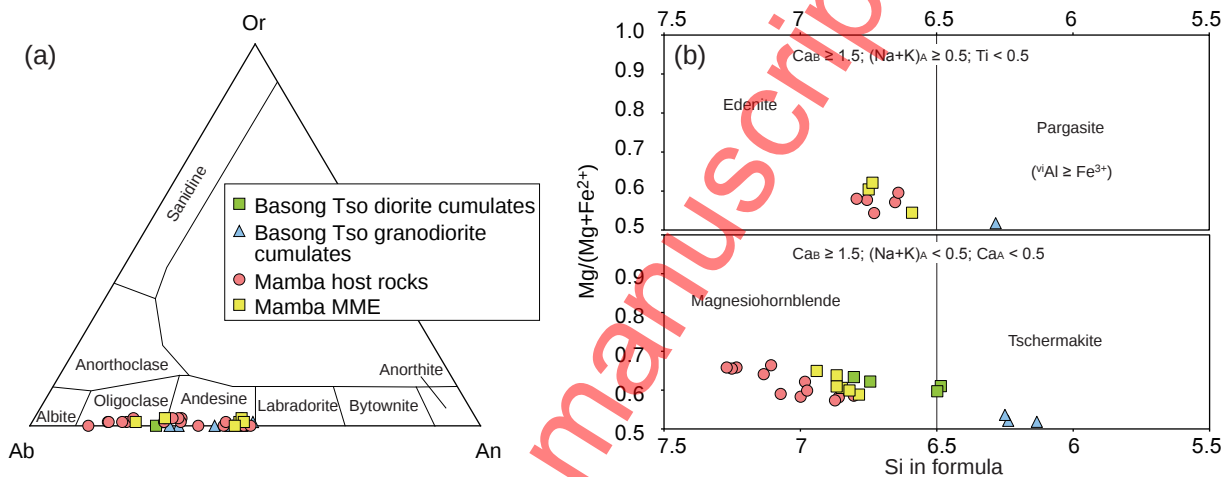


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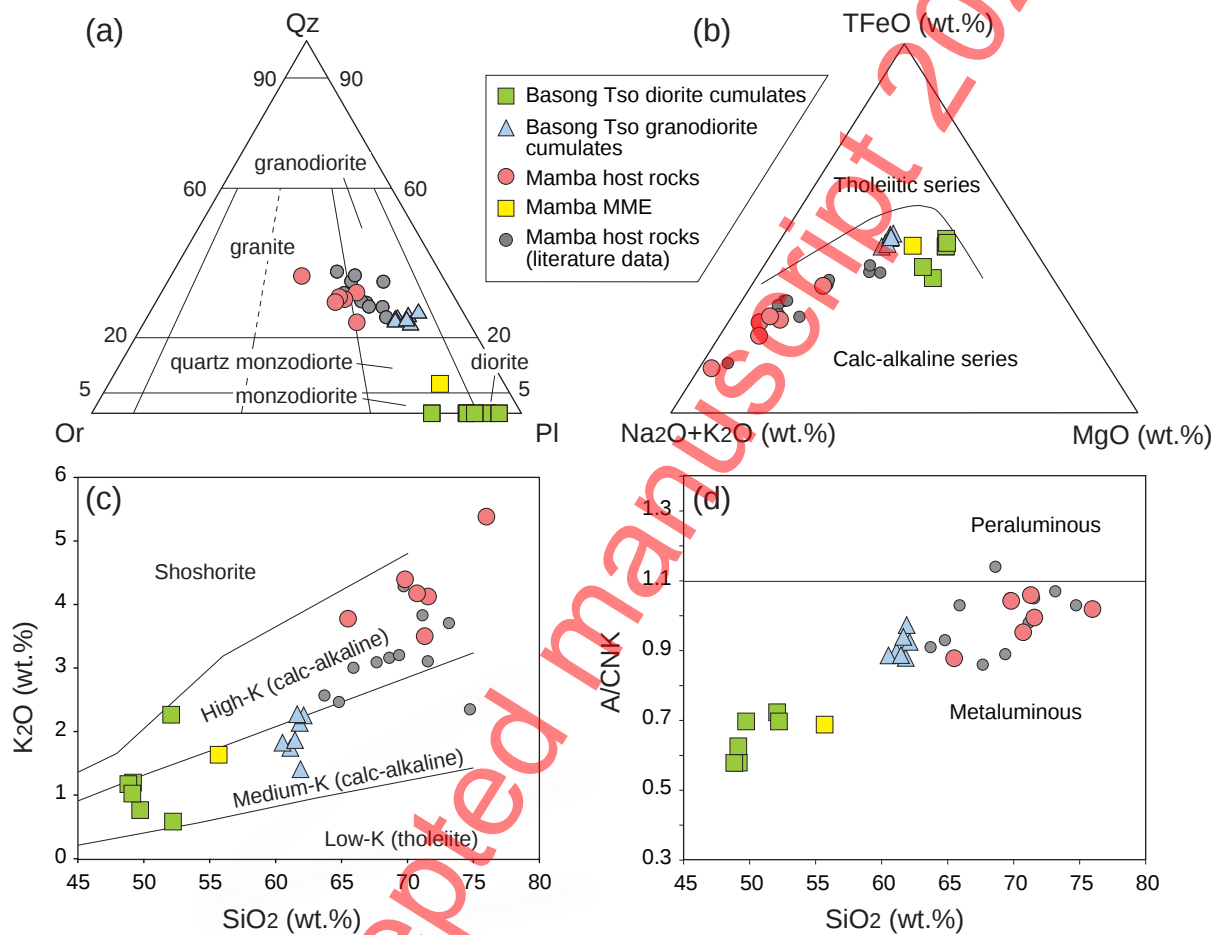


Figure 5

Basong Tso diorite cumulates: ■ Bulk-rock ■ av. PI ■ av. Amp
 Basong Tso granodiorite cumulates: ▲ Bulk-rock
 Mamba host rocks: ● Bulk-rock ● Bulk-rock (literature data from He et al., 2005, 2006)
 Mamba MME: ■ Bulk-rock ■ av. PI ■ av. Amp
 Experimental result on hydrous andesite at 0.8 GPa (Alonso-Perez et al., 2009): ★ Bulk-rock of start material ○ Melt

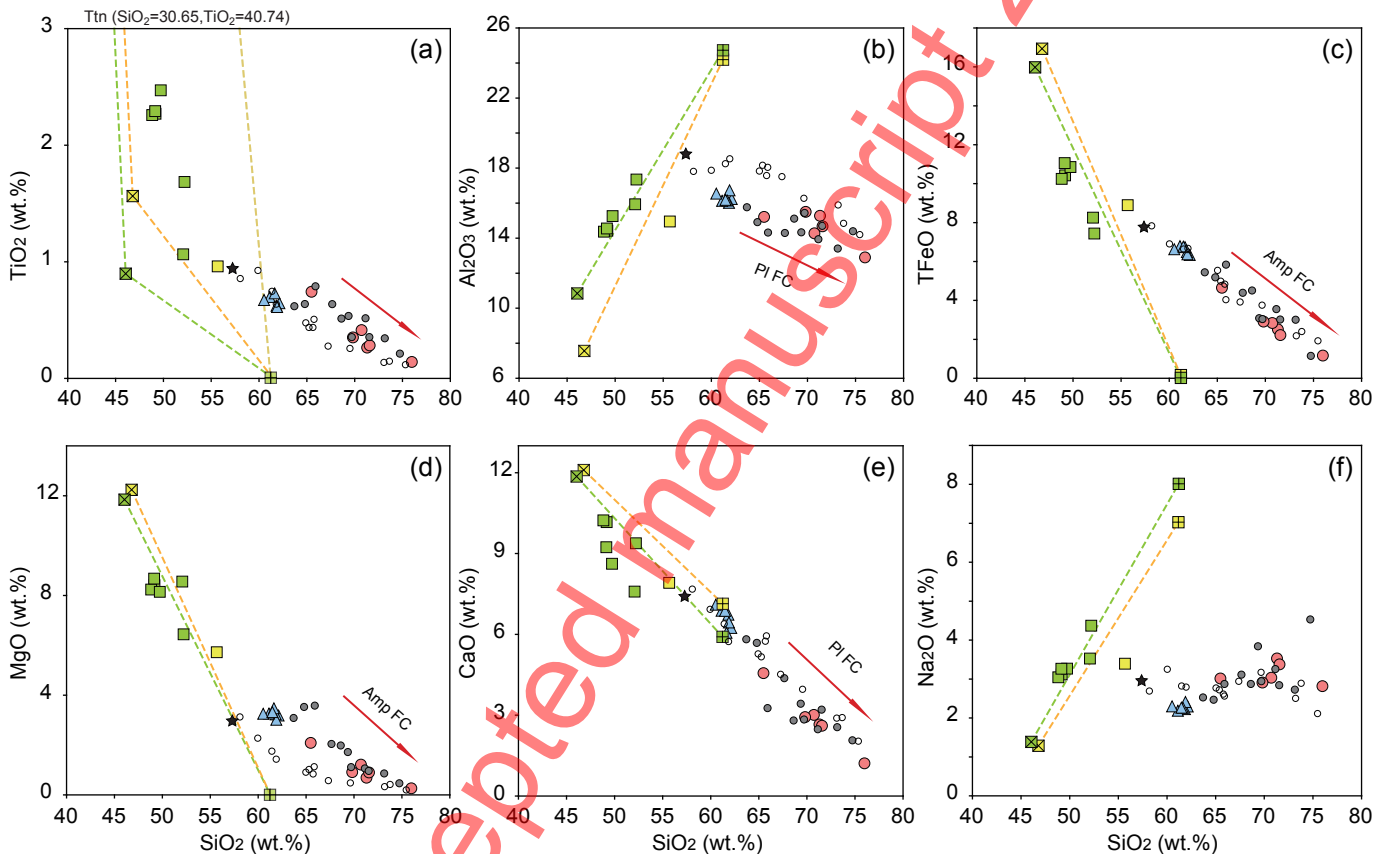


Figure 6

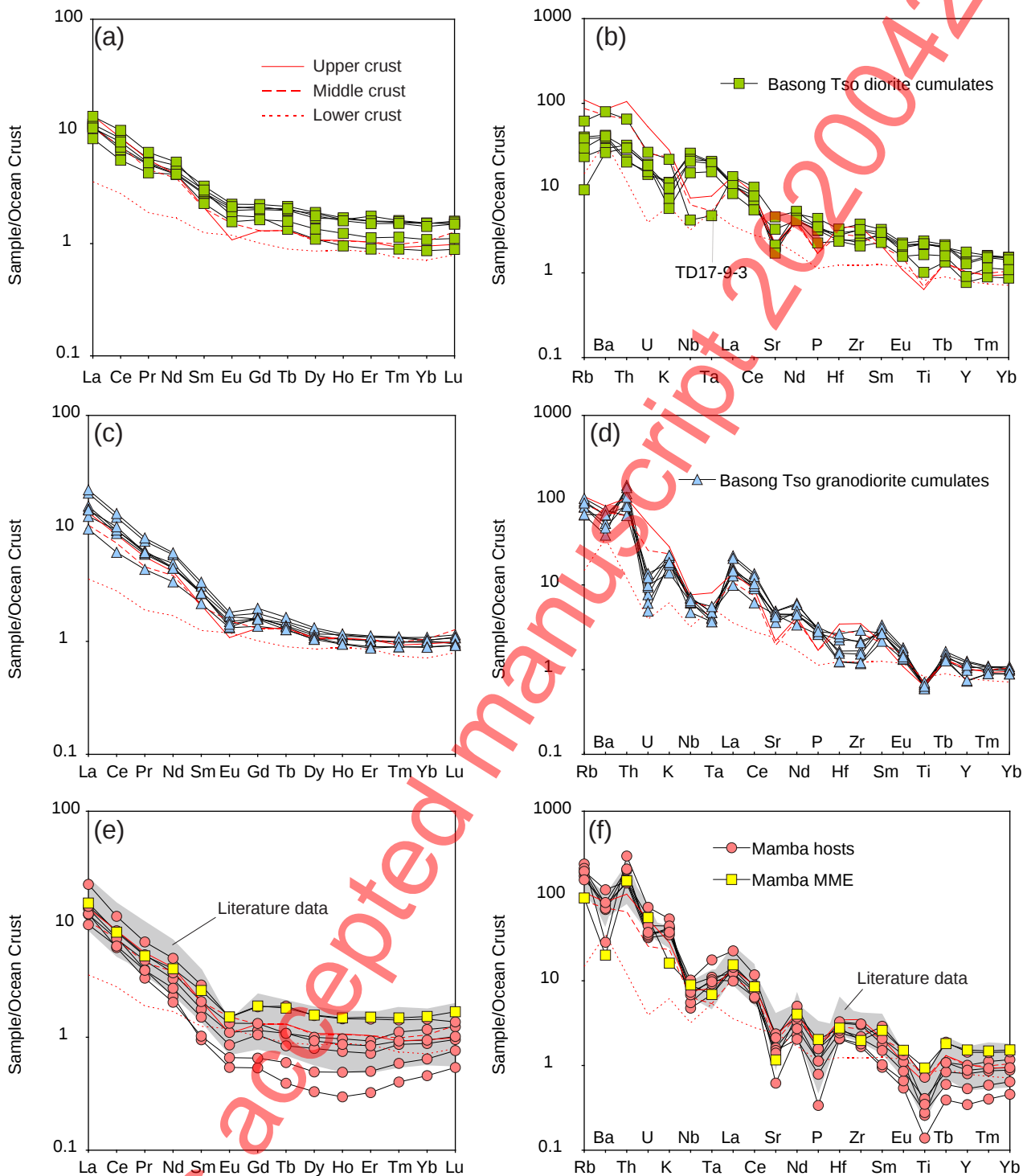


Figure 7

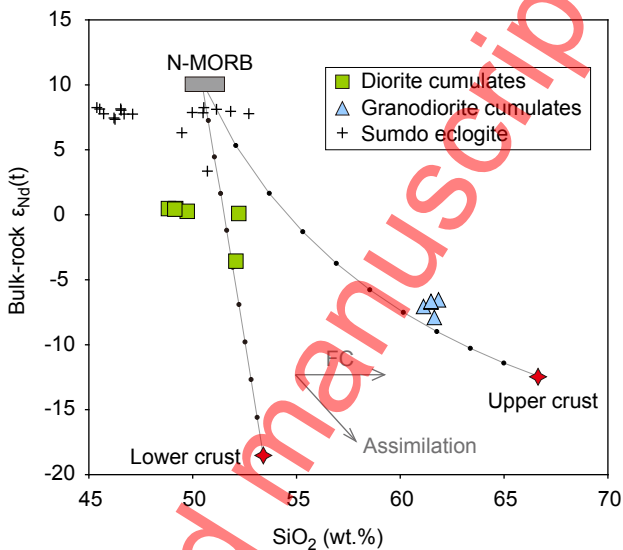


Figure 8



Figure 9

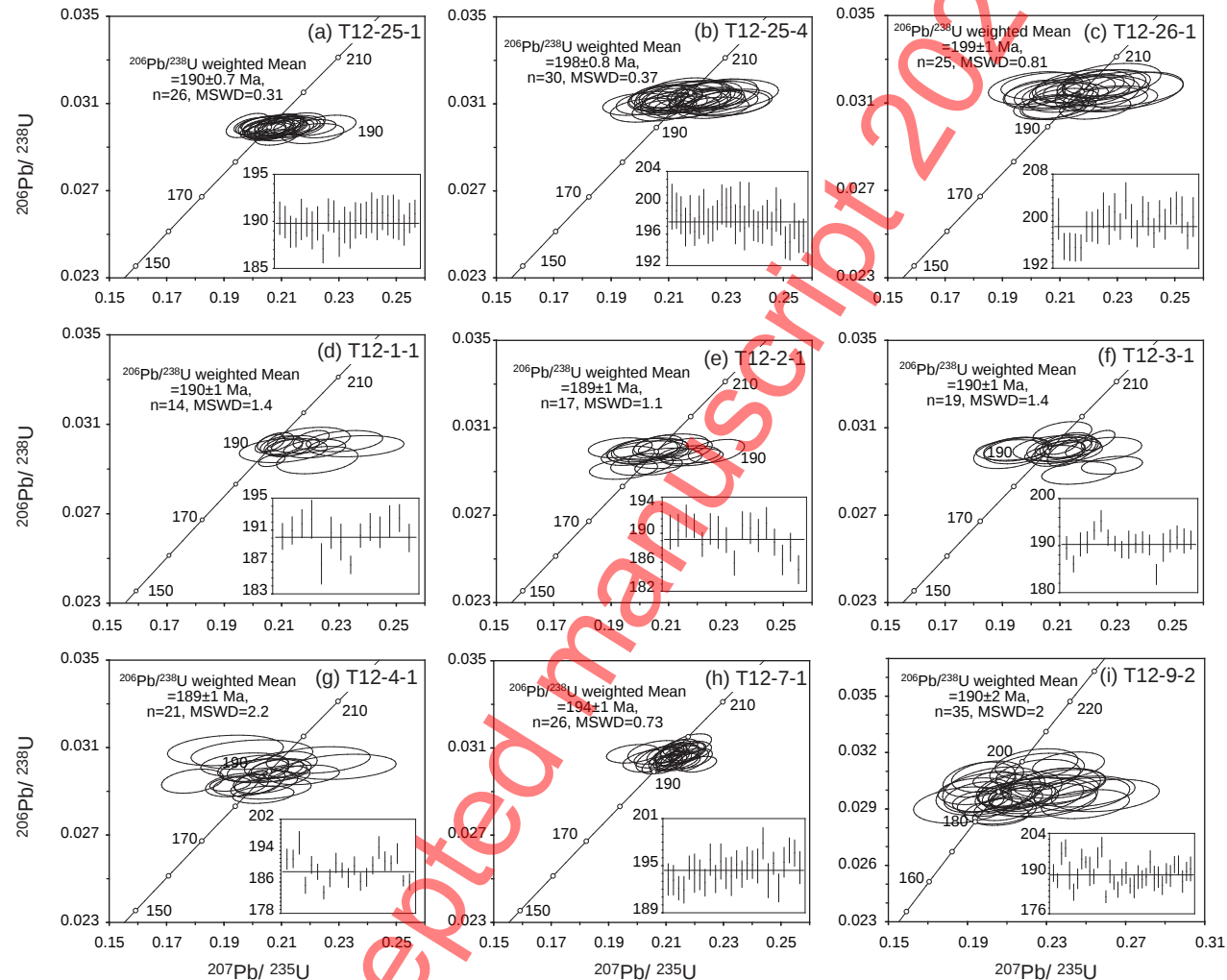


Figure 10

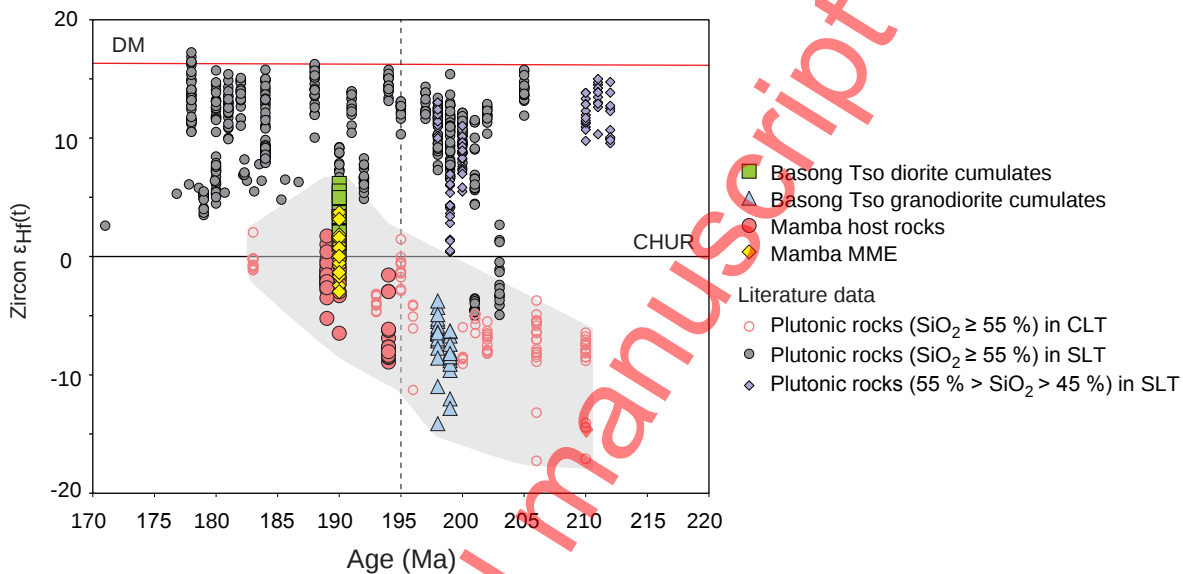


Figure 11

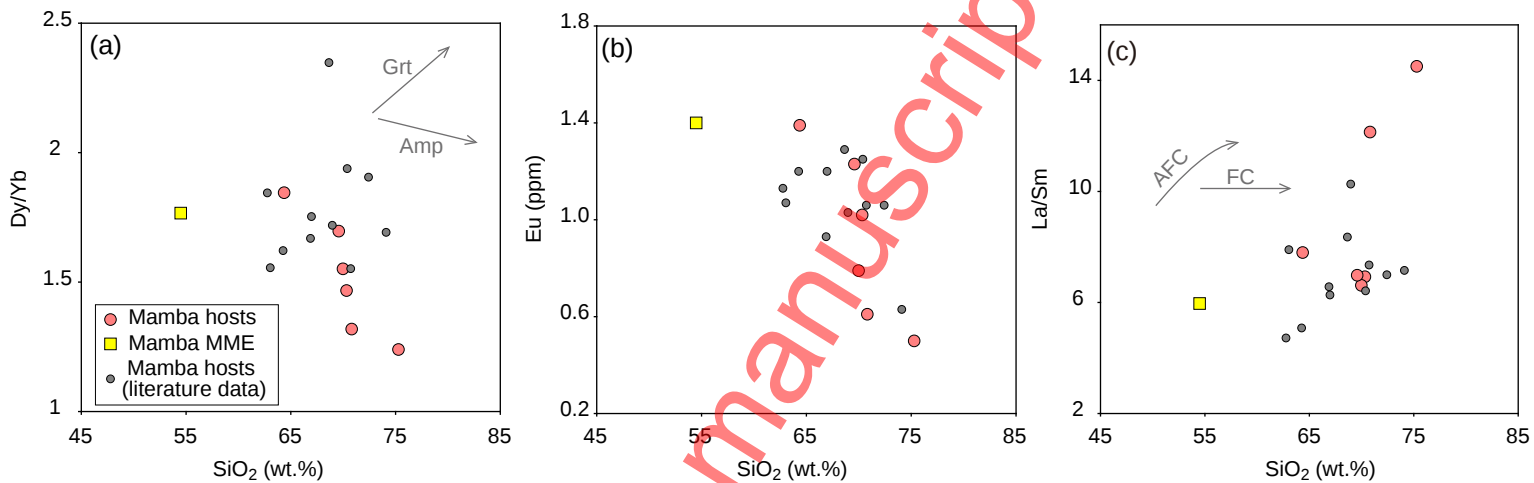


Figure 12

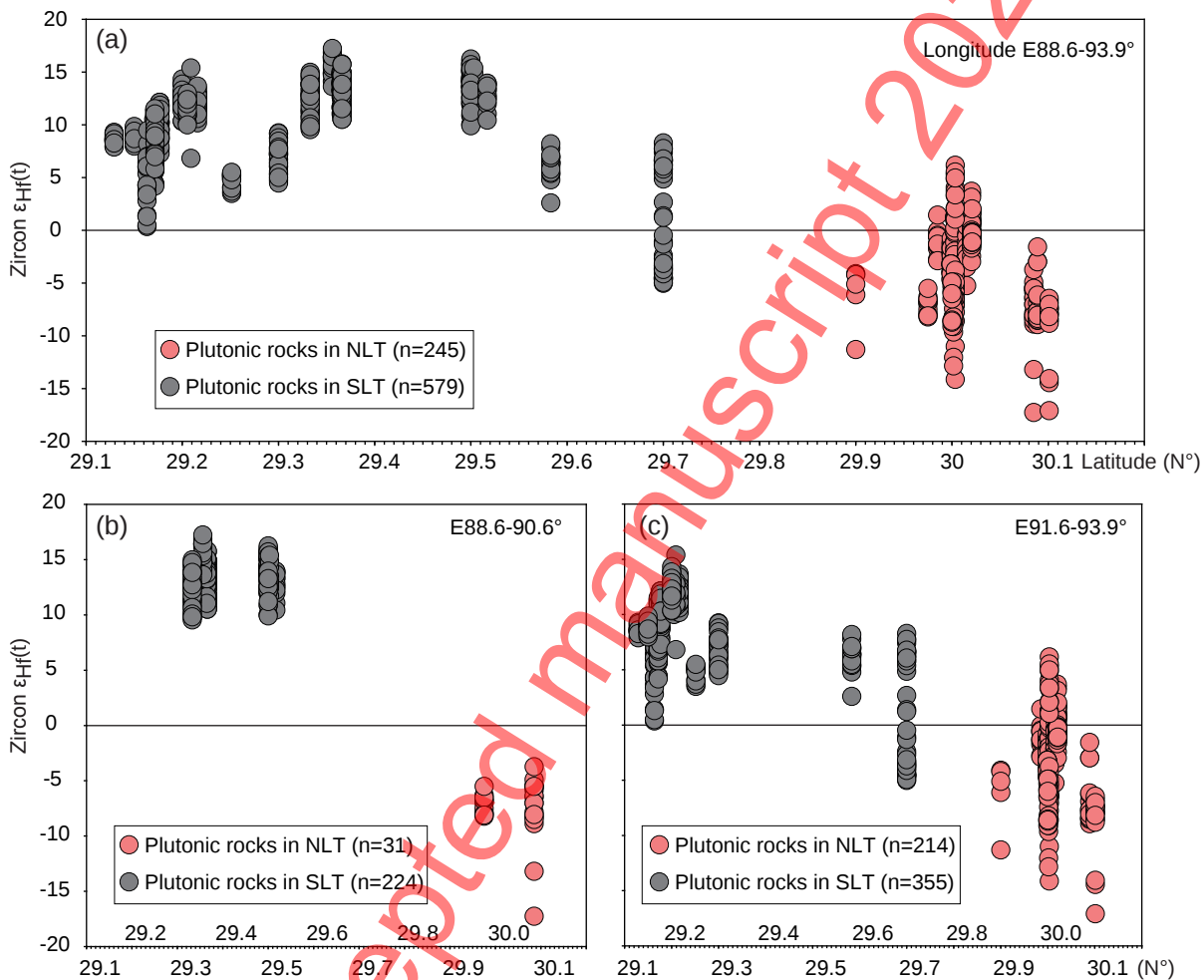
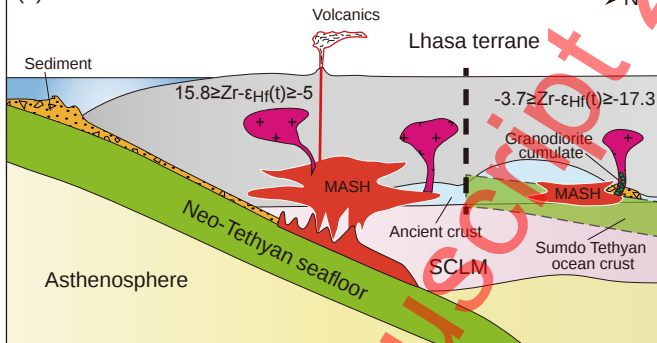


Figure 13

(a) 215-196 Ma

➤ N



(a) 195-175 Ma

➤ N

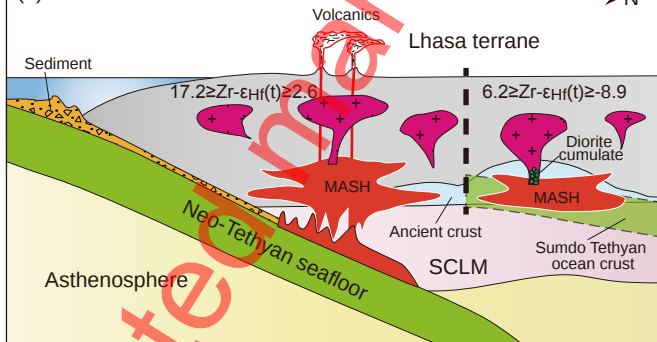


Figure 14