



## U–Pb zircon, geochemical and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic constraints on the age and origin of Early Palaeozoic I-type granite from the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province, SW China

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### ABSTRACT

Herein we present new U–Pb zircon ages, whole-rock geochemical data and Nd–Sr–Hf isotopic data for an Early Palaeozoic monzogranite batholith from the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province, China. Mineralogical and geochemical features suggest that this granitoid is a high-K, calc-alkaline, I-type granite. SHRIMP and laser ablation ICP-MS (LA-ICP-MS) analysis of zircon yields ages of between  $499 \pm 5$  Ma and  $502 \pm 5$  Ma, for three samples from the batholith. The monzogranite is characterised by high initial  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  (0.7132–0.7144), negative  $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  (–9.7 to –9.40) and  $\varepsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$  (–10 to –13.1), and is interpreted to derive from remelting of pre-existing Palaeoproterozoic, high-K, metabasaltic rocks of the upper crust. The granitoid magma underwent extensive fractional crystallisation of biotite  $\pm$  hornblende, ilmenite, titanite, K-feldspar and plagioclase during emplacement. The crystallisation temperature of the magma lies in the range 633–733 °C, however, there is no evidence to suggest crustal assimilation occurred during its ascent. Like the  $\sim$ 500 Ma, I-type granite of this study, there occur numerous granitoid rocks of Early Palaeozoic age (490–470 Ma) in adjacent regions across the entire Tengchong–Baoshan Block (Chen et al., 2004, 2005; Song et al., 2007). This episode of plutonism is coeval with the widespread granitoid magmatism found throughout the Indian Plate and the Himalayan Orogenic Belt that are both subordinate parts of the ancient, Gondwana supercontinent. We infer, therefore, that the Tengchong–Baoshan Block may also have formed part of Gondwana, and that it separated from this supercontinent along with other crustal blocks during the Late Palaeozoic. Moreover, based on the findings of this study, we document the occurrence of arc-related magmatism in the Tengchong–Baoshan Block during the late Palaeoproterozoic.

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### 1. Introduction

The geological evolution of SE Asia during the Palaeozoic to Mesozoic can be regarded as an accretion history resulting from the amalgamation of several micro-continents or continental blocks into the Eurasian continent, related to the closure of the Tethys Ocean (Sengör, 1984; Sengör et al., 1993; Metcalfe, 1996; Wopfner, 1996; Ueno, 2000). The Western Yunnan Province (SW China) is one of the more important branches of the eastern Tethyan tectonic belt, and therefore bears significance for the develop-

ment of the Tethyan belt within Southeast (SE) Asia (Chen et al., 2004, 2005, 2006). The Western Yunnan is composed of several continental blocks separated by tectonic sutures (Chen et al., 2004). In this paper we focus on the Simao and the Tengchong–Baoshan blocks (Fig. 1a). The Tengchong–Baoshan Block comprises both the Tengchong and Baoshan blocks, and the Luxi geosyncline (Chen et al., 2005). However, the tectonic environment to which the Tengchong–Baoshan Block belongs is controversial. For example, on the basis of palaeontological evidence, Wang (1984) suggested that the Tengchong–Baoshan Block is a part of the former Gondwana supercontinent. By contrast, Fang et al. (1990) suggested that there is no affinity between the Tengchong–Baoshan Block and Gondwana due to their different Palaeozoic stratum sequences and fossil groups. More recently, based upon tectonic and geophysical evidence, the Tengchong–Baoshan Block has again

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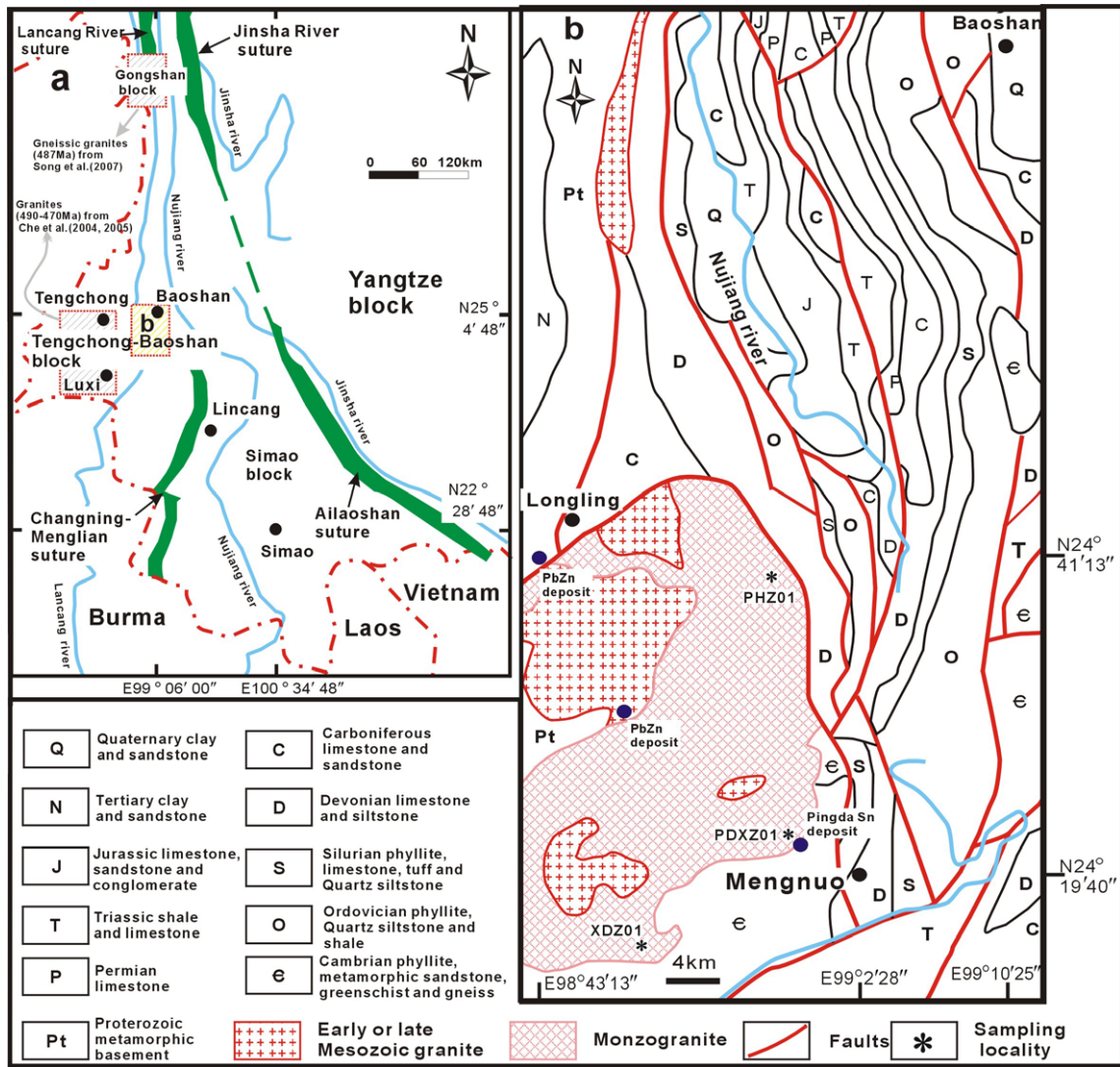


Fig. 1. (a) Simplified tectonic map of Western Yunnan Province, China (modified from Chen et al., 2004). (b) The geological map of the Tengchong–Baoshan Block and the sampling localities for the granites.

been considered as a micro-segment of the ancient supercontinent, Gondwana (e.g., Fang and Fan, 1993; Metcalfe, 1996; Wopfner, 1996; Zhong, 1998; Pan et al., 2004).

Early Palaeozoic granitoids are widely distributed throughout the Tengchong–Baoshan (Chen et al., 2004, 2005) and the Gongshan blocks (Song et al., 2007) (Fig. 1a), and investigation of these granitoids can help in understanding the provenance and tectonic environment of these two areas. For example, the 490–470 Ma granitoids of both the Tengchong–Baoshan Block and the Gongshan Block (Chen et al., 2004, 2005; Song et al., 2007) represent magmatic activity that occurred during the post-Pan-African movement. Moreover, these magmatic events imply a comparable history for basement outcrop during the Early Palaeozoic between SE Asia and the Western Tethyan region. Basement outcrops in the Alpine belt and probably also in the European Variscides (Von Rau-mer et al., 2002) are considered as continental blocks, having fragmented from Gondwana prior to or simultaneously with those occurring in SE Asia. Accordingly, in order to verify whether or not the Tengchong–Baoshan Block pertains to Gondwana, systematic studies of all the Early Palaeozoic igneous rocks present therein, are required. As such, in this study we have selected granitoid rocks from those distributed across the Tengchong–Baoshan Block

in the Western Yunnan Province to carry out a detailed geochronological and geochemical investigation. We present new SHRIMP and laser ablation ICP-MS (LA-ICP-MS) zircon U–Pb ages, as well as rock petrography, whole-rock geochemistry, and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic data, for the granites. Our aim was to: (1) constrain the emplacement age(s) of the granitoids; (2) decipher their petrogenesis and tectonic significance, and (3) understand the tectonic evolution of Western Yunnan, and its relationship to the Gondwana supercontinent.

## 2. Geological setting and petrography

The Tethyan belt in Western Yunnan Province is an important crustal feature, consisting of several micro-continental blocks and tectonic belts (e.g., the Tengchong–Baoshan block, Simao Block, Gongshan Block, Gaoligong orogenic belt and Changning–Menglian suture zone; Wu et al., 1995; Wang, 1996; Zhang et al., 1997; Zhong, 1998) (Fig. 1a). Folding and faulting are abundant within the Tengchong–Baoshan Block and our study area is located between Longling and Mengnuo, in the southwestern corner of this block (Fig. 1b). To the west of the Nujiang River, emplacement of granitoid rocks that comprise a batholith was primarily fault-con-

trolled; the total exposed area of these granitoids is estimated at ca. 800 km<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 1b). The batholith intruded Neoproterozoic to Cambrian low-grade metamorphic, terrestrial, sedimentary rocks, and was in turn intruded by some smaller granite intrusions, referred to as the early or late Mesozoic granite (126–118 Ma; Yang et al., 2006). The studied granitoids are neither deformed nor metamorphosed. At the southeastern corner of the batholith, occurs the Pingda stannum (Sn) deposit, while within the western and north-western margins, two Pb–Zn deposits have been identified (Fig. 1b).

Monzogranite is the dominant rock type, comprising more than 95% of the batholith; granodiorite is subordinate. Samples collected for this study are all of monzogranite; they contain 25–40% quartz, 15–28% K-feldspar, 30–47% plagioclase (An<sub>20–38</sub>), 2–8% biotite, 0–5% hornblende and minor (<1%) muscovite. Accessory minerals include zircon, apatite, allanite, titanite, magnetite and ilmenite.

### 3. Analytical techniques

#### 3.1. SHRIMP and LA-ICP-MS zircon U–Pb methods

Zircon was separated from three ~4 kg samples (PDXZ01, XDZ01 and PHZ01) taken from various sampling locations within the batholith (Fig. 1b), using conventional heavy liquid and magnetic techniques. Representative zircon grains were handpicked under a binocular microscope, mounted in epoxy resin, and then polished and coated with gold. Zircons were documented with transmission and reflecting light microscopy as well as under cathodoluminescence (CL) imagery to reveal their internal make-up (Fig. 2). U–Pb isotopic analysis for PDXZ01 and XDZ01 were undertaken using the Sensitive High-Resolution Ion Microprobe (SHRIMP-II) at the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences (Beijing) (Table 1). Procedures have been described in detail by Compston et al. (1992), Williams (1998) and Song et al. (2002). Single crystals were dated without air abrasion. The U–Pb isotope data were collected in sets of five scans throughout the masses, and a reference zircon, TEM (417 Ma), was analysed after every four unknown zircons. The uncertainties in ages are cited as 1 $\sigma$ , and the weighted mean ages are quoted at the 95% confidence level (2 $\sigma$ ).

Laser ablation techniques were used for an additional age determination (Table 2). The U–Pb isotopic analyses for sample PHZ01 were obtained with an Elan 6100 DRC ICP-MS equipped with 193 nm Excimer lasers, housed at the Department of Geology, Northwest University, Xi'an, China. Zircon 91500 was used as a standard and NIST 610 was used to optimise the machine. A mean age of 1062 Ma was obtained for the 91500 zircon standard. The spot diameter was 30  $\mu$ m. Corrections for common-Pb were made using the method of Andersen (2002). Data were processed using the GLITTER and ISOPLOT (Ludwig, 2003) programs. Errors on individual analyses by LA-ICP-MS are quoted at the 95% (1 $\sigma$ ) confidence level. The details of the analytical procedures have been described by Yuan et al. (2004).

#### 3.2. Major, trace elemental and isotopic analysis

Nineteen samples were collected for major and trace element analysis and ten samples were chose for Sr–Nd–Pb isotopic study. Whole-rock samples were trimmed to remove weathered surfaces, cleaned with deionized water, crushed and then powdered with an agate mill.

Major oxides were analysed with a PANalytical Axios-advance X-ray fluorescence spectrometer (XRF) at the State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry,

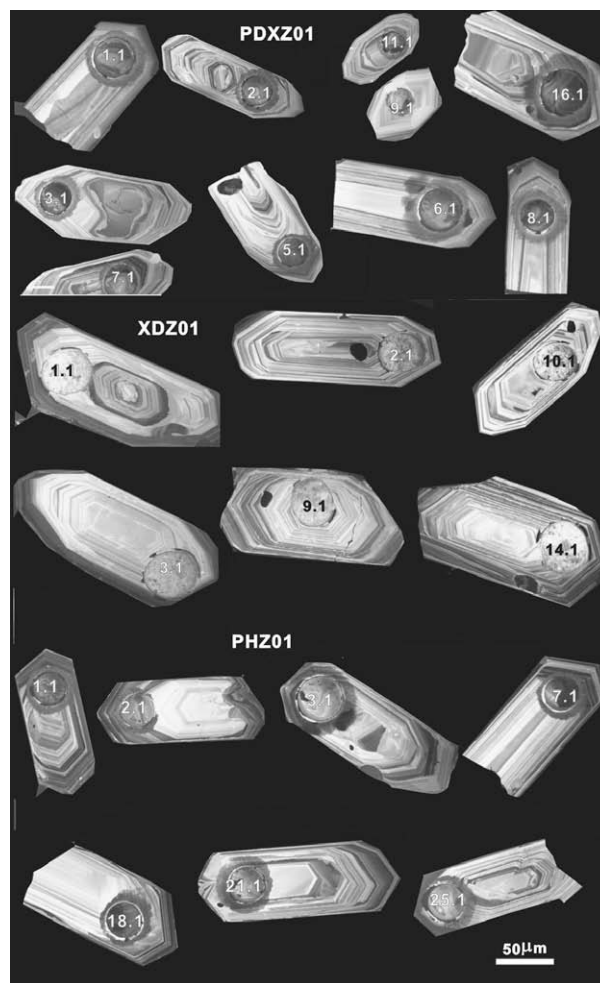


Fig. 2. Representative cathodoluminescence images of zircon grains from the monzogranite samples (PDXZ01, XDZ01 and PHZ01). The numbers correspond to the spot analyses given in Table 1.

Chinese Academy of Science (IGCAS). Fused glass discs were used and the analytical precision, as determined on the Chinese National standard GSR-1, was better than 5% (Table 3). Loss on ignition (LOI) was obtained using 1 g of powder heated to 1100 °C for 1 h.

Trace elements were analysed with a plasma optical emission mass spectrometer (POEMS) ICP-MS system at the National Research Center of Geoanalysis, Chinese Academy of Geosciences in Beijing. A detailed account of the analytical procedures has been given by Qi et al. (2000). The discrepancy between triplicates is less than 5% for all elements, while the analysis of international standards, OU-6 and GBPG-1, are in agreement with recommended values (Table 4).

For Rb–Sr and Sm–Nd isotope analysis, sample powders were spiked with mixed isotope tracers, dissolved in Teflon capsules with HF + HNO<sub>3</sub> acid, and separated by conventional cation-exchange technique (Zhang et al., 2001). Isotopic measurement was performed on the MAT-262 TIMS at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (IGGCAS) in Beijing. Procedural blanks were <100 pg for Sm and Nd and <500 pg for Rb and Sr. The mass fractionation corrections for the Sr and Nd isotopic ratios were based on <sup>86</sup>Sr/<sup>88</sup>Sr = 0.1194 and <sup>146</sup>Nd/<sup>144</sup>Nd = 0.7219, respectively. The analyses of standards during the period of analysis were as follows: NBS987 gave <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr = 0.710245 ± 14 (2 $\sigma$ ); La Jolla gave <sup>143</sup>Nd/<sup>144</sup>Nd = 0.511861 ± 9 (2 $\sigma$ ).







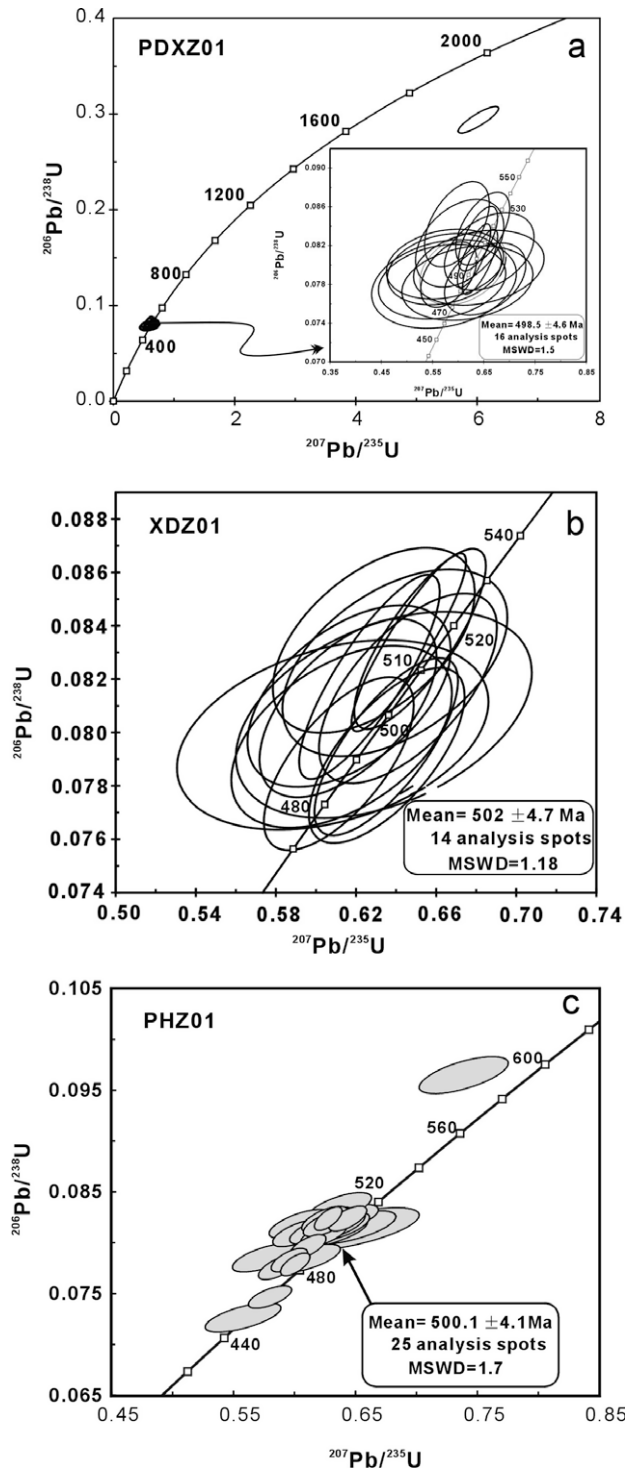


Fig. 3. SHRIMP (a, b) and LA-ICP-MS (c) zircon U–Pb concordia diagrams for monzogranite from the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province.

sistent with crystal fractionation of ferromagnesian minerals, feldspar, Ti–Fe oxides and apatite.

Chondrite-normalised REE patterns of the granitoid rocks invariably are light REE (LREE) enriched. All samples display strong negative Eu-anomalies ( $Eu_N/Eu^* = 0.34–0.78$ ; Table 4; Fig. 7a). These data are comparable with those of the upper crust, but differ from middle–lower crustal signatures (Rudnick and Fountain, 1995). In the primitive mantle-normalised spidergram (Fig. 7b),

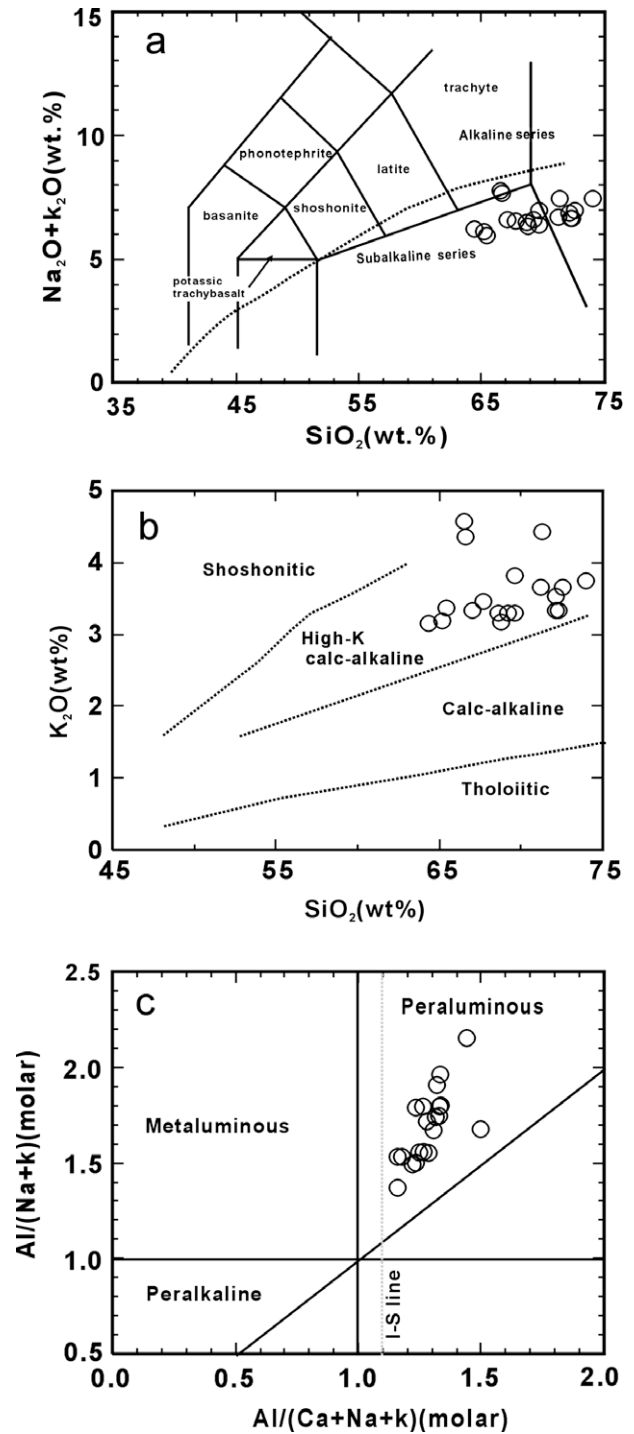
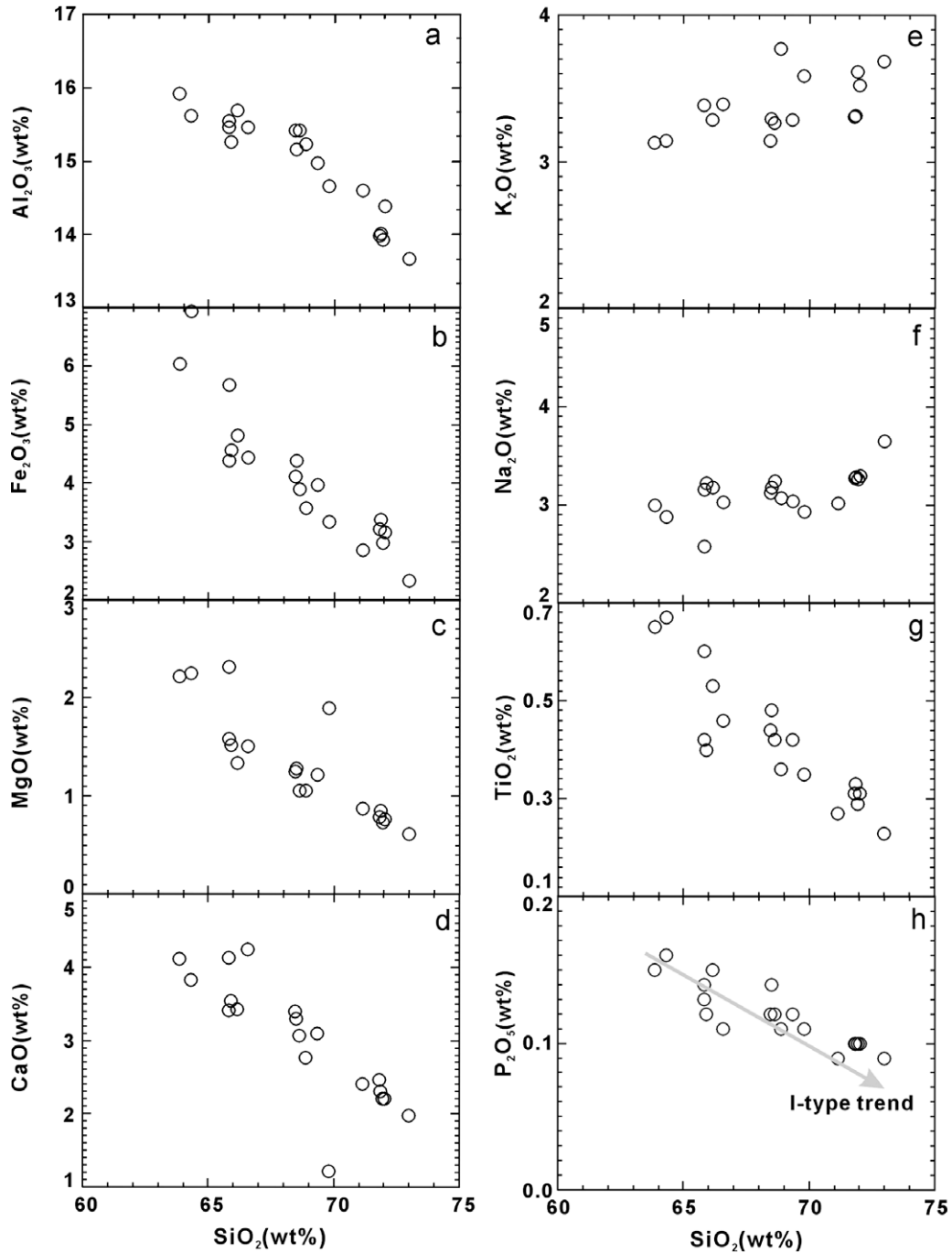


Fig. 4. Classification of the monzogranite on the basis of: (a) the TAS diagram. All of the major element data have been recalculated to 100% on a LOI-free basis (after Middlemost, 1994; Le Maitre, 2002); (b)  $K_2O$  vs.  $SiO_2$  diagram showing the monzogranite to belong to the high-K, calc-alkaline series (after Roberts and Clemens, 1993); (c)  $Al/(Na+k)$  (molar) vs.  $Al/(Ca+Na+k)$  (molar) plot. Most samples fall within the peraluminous field except for some that fall into either the metaluminous field or straddle the boundary between the two fields.

all samples are enriched in Rb, Th and Pb and depleted in Ba, Nb, Sr, P, Eu, Zr (Hf) and Ti. The  $(10,000 \times Ga)/Al$  ratios of the granitoids range from 1.8 to 2.3 and, in the  $Ga/Al$  vs. Zr diagram (Fig. 8; Whalen et al., 1987) all samples fall within the field of I and S-type granites.



**Fig. 5.** Chemical variation diagrams for major oxides vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  contents for the monzogranite samples from the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province. I-type trend is from Li et al. (2007).

#### 4.3. Nd–Sr isotopes

The Nd and Sr isotopic data were obtained from representative granitoid samples (Table 5). The monzogranite has much lower ( $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ )<sub>i</sub> (0.511497–0.511512) and  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  values (–9.7 to –9.4) but much higher ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ )<sub>i</sub> ratios (0.7132–0.7144) (Fig. 9a) than Bulk Earth Sr–Nd isotopic compositions (Soler and Rotach-Toulhoat, 1990). This suggests a considerable contribution from an ancient crustal component (e.g., upper crust) in the petrogenesis of these granites. The Nd isotopic compositions are comparable with those of the 490–470 Ma granites ( $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = -8.4$  to –9.3)

which occur in the southern part of the Tengchong–Baoshan Block (Chen et al., 2004, 2005).

#### 4.4. Zircon Hf isotopes

The determined values for zircon Hf isotopes are given in Table 6. Sixteen spot analyses were obtained for zircon from sample PDXZ01, yielding  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$  values of between –13.0 and –10.1, corresponding to  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{C}}$  model ages of between 1610 Ma and 1791 Ma, with an average of  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) = -11.6 \pm 0.7$  and  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{C}} = 1703 \pm 27$  Ma. Fourteen spot analyses were obtained for zircon from sample



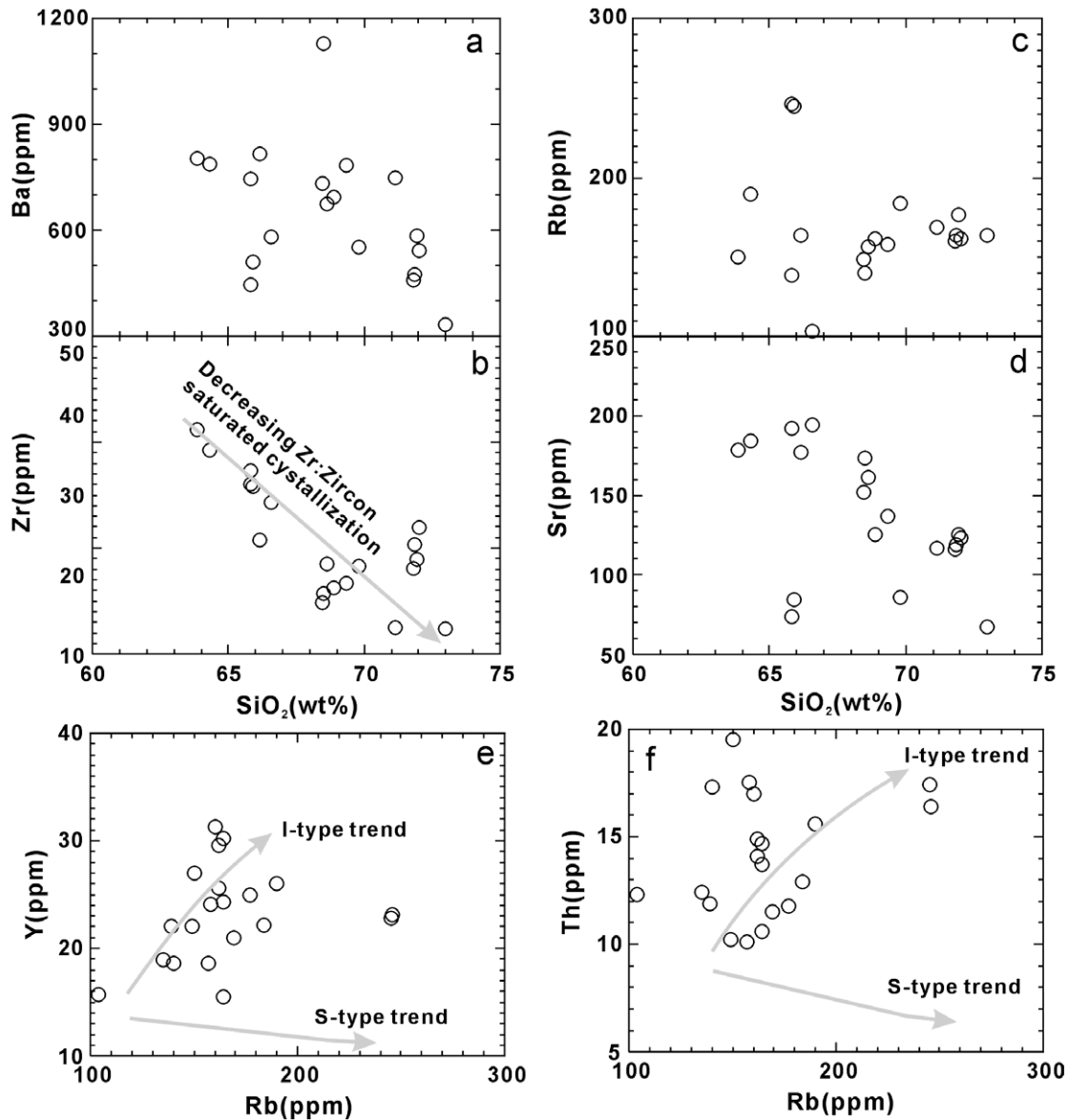


Fig. 6. Variation diagrams (a–d) of selected trace elements vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  and (e–f) vs. Rb for the monzogranite from the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province. The trend lines are from Li et al. (2007).

XDZ01, giving  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$  values of between  $-10.0$  and  $-12.2$ , corresponding to  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{c}}$  model ages of between 1603 Ma and 1741 Ma, with a mean  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) = -11.0 \pm 0.5$  and  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{c}} = 1669 \pm 37$  Ma. Twenty-five spot analyses were made for sample zircon PHZ01. The determined  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t)$  values vary between  $-10.2$  and  $-13.1$ , corresponding to  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{c}}$  model ages in the range of 1616–1799 Ma. These spots gave a mean  $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}(t) = -11.6 \pm 1.0$  and  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{c}} = 1708 \pm 50$  Ma. Overall, the Hf isotopic data for zircon from the granitic batholith suggests their derivation from a late Palaeoproterozoic crustal source.

## 5. Discussion

### 5.1. Petrogenetic type: S-type, I-type or A-type?

The investigated samples of monzogranite all belong to the high-K series, but have low  $\text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O}$  values ( $<7.6\%$ ) and  $10,000 \times \text{Ga}/\text{Al}$  ratios (1.8–2.3), distinguishing them from those of the A-type granites (Collins et al., 1982; Whalen et al., 1987). Although the A/CNK values for all of the studied monzogranite

samples (Fig. 4c) are comparable with highly felsic, S-type granites that are usually strongly peraluminous, with A/(CNK) values much greater than 1.1 (Chappell, 1999). These rocks exhibit marked reduction in  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  when  $\text{SiO}_2$  contents are high (Fig. 5h). This feature is an important criterion for distinguishing I-type from S-type granites, because apatite reaches saturation in metaluminous and mildly peraluminous magmas (where A/(CNK)  $< 1.1$ ), but is highly soluble in strongly peraluminous melts (Wolf and London, 1994). The monzogranite also exhibits an increase in Y and Th, as Rb increases, typical of the evolutionary trend for I-type granite (Fig. 6e and f) (Li et al., 2007). Combined with the presence of hornblende, it is evident the studied monzogranite belongs to the high-K, calc-alkaline, I-type, rather than to A- or S-types.

### 5.2. Fractional crystallisation

The decrease in MgO and  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  during magmatic evolution indicates separation of ferromagnesian minerals (biotite  $\pm$  hornblende) during crystallisation. Pronounced depletions in Ba, Sr,

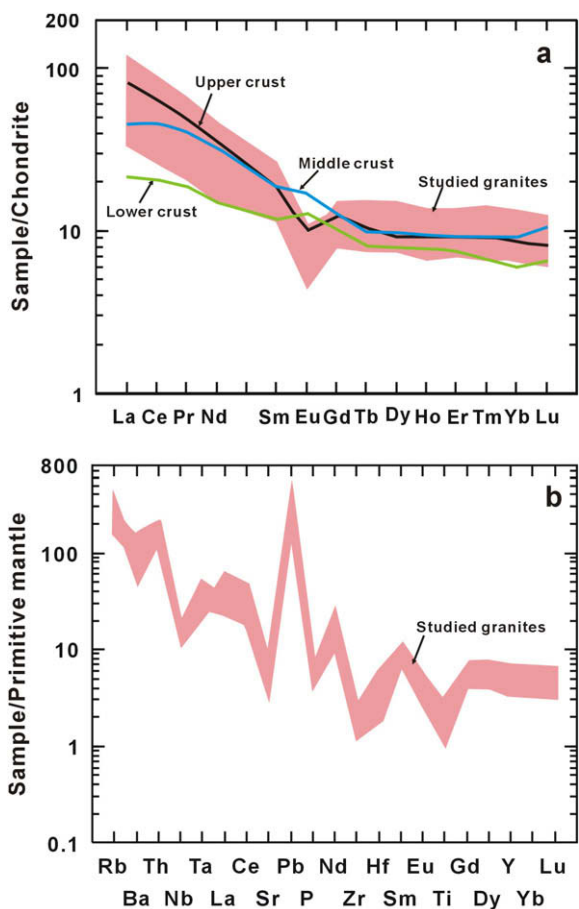


Fig. 7. Chondrite-normalised rare earth element patterns and primitive-mantle-normalised spider diagrams for the monzogranite samples. REE abundances for chondrites and trace element abundance for primitive mantle are after Sun and McDonough (1989). The REE contents for the lower crust, upper crust and middle crust are from Rudnick and Fountain (1995).

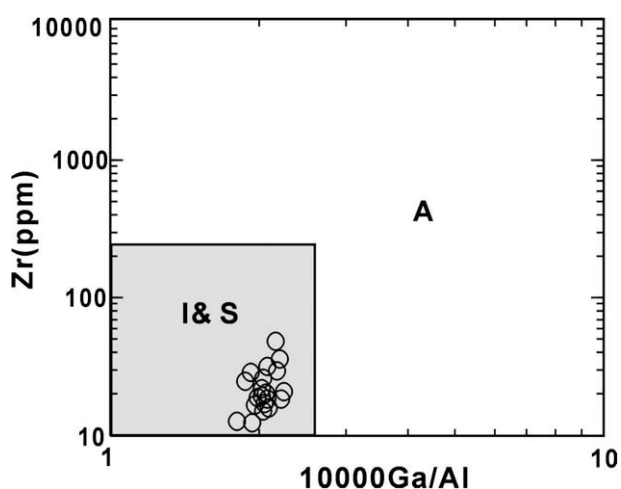


Fig. 8. Monzogranite samples plotted in terms of the Zr vs.  $(10,000 \times \text{Ga})/\text{Al}$  diagram of Whalen et al. (1987) indicating their affinity to I- and S-type granitoids.

Nb, P, Ti and Eu (Fig. 7a and b) further demonstrate an advanced process of fractional crystallisation during the formation of these granites. Separation of the Ti-bearing phases (such as ilmenite and titanite) and apatite resulted in depletion in Nb (Ta)–Ti and P, respectively. Strong Ba, Sr and Eu depletion requires extensive

fractionation of plagioclase and/or K-feldspar. It can be seen from the  $\text{Eu}_N/\text{Eu}^*$  vs. Sr and Ba plots (Fig. 10a and b) that K-feldspar fractionation was more important than plagioclase in controlling Ba content.

The monzogranite exhibits continuously decreasing Zr with increasing  $\text{SiO}_2$  (Fig. 6b), which indicates that zircon was saturated in the magma, and that this was also controlled by fractional crystallisation (Li et al., 2007; Zhong et al., 2007). Zircon saturation thermometry (Watson and Harrison, 1983) provides a simple and robust means of estimating magma temperatures from bulk-rock compositions. The calculated zircon saturation temperatures ( $T_{\text{Zr}}$ ) of the granitic rocks were 633–733 °C (Table 2), which represents the crystallisation temperature of the magma.

### 5.3. The source and petrogenetic model

The high-K, calc-alkaline, I-type monzogranite is characterised by marked negative Nb anomalies and slightly positive Pb anomalies on a multi-element normalised spidergram (Fig. 7b), which is consistent with the involvement of crustal compositions (Rudnick and Fountain, 1995). The granitoid rocks have high initial  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios (0.7132–0.7144) and negative  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  values (–9.7 to –9.4) (Table 5; Fig. 9a), similar to the 490–470 Ma granites originated from upper crust in the southern part of the Baoshan Block (Chen et al., 2004, 2005). This suggests that they may have a common source. Moreover, in combined studies of chondrite-normalised REE diagrams (Fig. 7a), the elevated LREE, some of the trace element contents and ratios, e.g., Th (10.1–19.5 ppm), Pb (17–35 ppm with the exception of one sample), U (2.13–5.26 ppm) and  $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*$  (<1.0) indicate that an upper crustal component, but not the middle–lower crust, is involved in the generation of this monzogranite. For example, rocks derived from upper crustal sources should have relatively higher Th (>10 ppm), Pb (>20 ppm) and U (>2.0 ppm) contents and lower  $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*$  ratios (<1.0), whereas those rocks sourced from middle crust are expected to contain lower Th (<6.0 ppm), Pb (<15 ppm) and U (<1.6 ppm) contents and high  $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^*$  ratios (>1.0) (Rudnick and Fountain, 1995). The peraluminous, silica-rich composition of the monzogranite further suggests an important contribution of metasedimentary material among its sources.

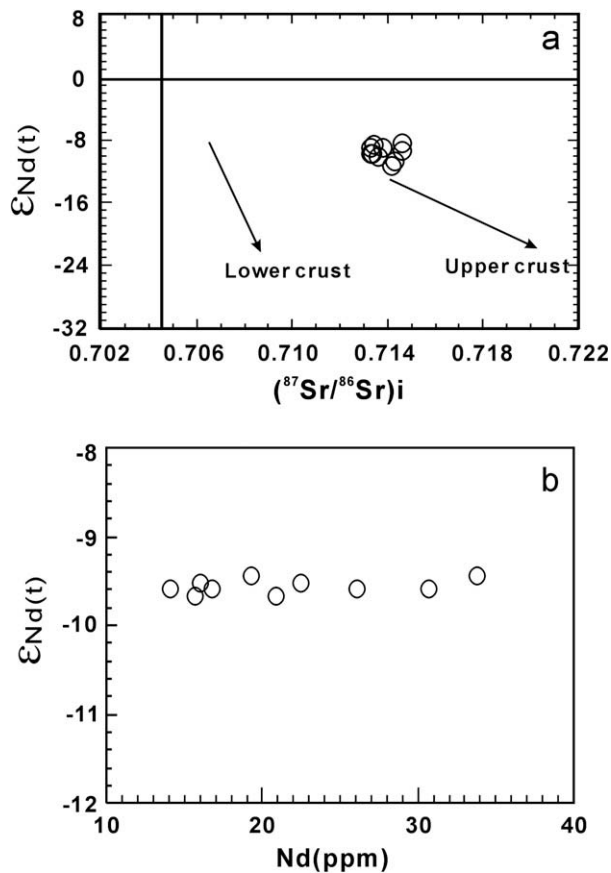
The basement to the Tengchong–Baoshan Block is made up of Proterozoic, amphibolite facies, metamorphic rocks (1900–1600 Ma) (Zhai et al., 1990), including terrigenous deposits, continental basalts and intrusive granitoids (Fan and Zhang, 1993; Chen et al., 2005, 2006). The correlation between  $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{C}}$  (~1.7 Ga) of the granitoid intrusion and basement rocks, in the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, together with the presence of inherited zircon (1661 Ma), suggest that Proterozoic basement rock has played a key role in the petrogenesis of the studied I-type granitoid. The lack of correlation between the  $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  values and Nd concentrations for the monzogranite (Fig. 9b) precludes assimilation and fractional crystallisation (AFC) as a major process during their late evolutionary stages (Zhong et al., 2007), at a shallow-crustal level. Thus, we suggest that the I-type monzogranite was produced by remelting of the Proterozoic basement, although the isotopic characteristics of this basement, at present, are unconstrained.

Calc-alkaline, I-type granitoids of intermediate-to-felsic composition are usually interpreted as being generated either by partial melting of mafic to intermediate igneous sources, or by advanced AFC of mantle-derived basaltic parental magmas (Roberts and Clemens, 1993; Li et al., 2007). However, data on the experimental partial melting of common crustal rocks suggest that high-K, I-type granitoid magma cannot be produced by the latter model, but can only derive from the partial melting of hydrous calc-alkaline to high-K, calc-alkaline, basaltic to intermediate metamorphic rocks, within the crust (Roberts and Clemens, 1993). Experimental stud-

**Table 5**  
Sr–Nd isotopic ratios for the granites from Western Yunnan Province.

Sample no.	Age (Ma)	Sm (ppm)	Nd (ppm)	$^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$	$^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$	$2S_m$	$(^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd})_i$	$\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}$ (t)	Rb(ppm)	Sr(ppm)	$^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	$2S_m$	$(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_i$
PH5-7		3.12	14.1	0.1337	0.511940	9	0.511502	–9.6	169	119	4.09	0.74260	10	0.71348
PH5-4	500.1	5.32	21.0	0.1532	0.511998	13	0.511496	–9.7	244	93.2	7.57	0.76796	10	0.71403
PH4-7		4.78	20.4	0.1416	0.511968	8	0.511504	–9.6	165	121	3.85	0.74179	10	0.71439
PH4-6		5.12	21.8	0.1423	0.511975	8	0.511509	–9.5	163	120	3.92	0.74122	12	0.71326
PH3-7		6.13	34.6	0.1105	0.511862	8	0.511500	–9.6	139	175	2.30	0.73002	11	0.71365
PH3-1		5.18	26.4	0.119	0.511902	9	0.511512	–9.4	164	183	2.44	0.73063	10	0.71322
XD-6		3.57	15.9	0.1374	0.511957	10	0.511507	–9.5	146	160	2.63	0.73288	12	0.71415
XD-1	502	3.47	16.2	0.1311	0.511926	8	0.511497	–9.7	169	72.5	6.74	0.76243	10	0.71440
PDX-16		6.01	31.0	0.1155	0.511883	11	0.511505	–9.6	155	184	2.44	0.73072	10	0.71332
PDX-4	498.5	4.40	20.8	0.1278	0.511932	9	0.511515	–9.4	135	202	1.93	0.72696	12	0.71322

Chondrite Uniform Reservoir (CHUR) values ( $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.0847$ ,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.7045$ ,  $^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.1967$ ,  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.512638$ ) were used for the initial Sr and Nd isotope calculation.  $\lambda_{\text{Rb}} = 1.42 \times 10^{-11} \text{ year}^{-1}$  (Steiger and Jäger, 1977);  $\lambda_{\text{Sm}} = 6.54 \times 10^{-12} \text{ year}^{-1}$  (Lugmair and Harti, 1978).



**Fig. 9.** (a)  $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  vs.  $(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_i$  diagram for the granitoids in the Tengchong–Baoshan Block, Western Yunnan Province. The trends to the lower and upper crust are similar to those of Jahn et al. (1999); (b) Nd vs.  $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$  diagram for the granitoids.

ies further indicate that dehydration melting of tholeiitic amphibolite may produce melts of intermediate to silicic compositions, leaving behind a granulite residue at 8–12 kbar and garnet granulite to eclogite residues at 12–32 kbar (e.g., Rushmer, 1991; Rapp and Watson, 1995). These resultant melts are commonly low in  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ , with a high  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$  ratio of  $>1$ .

High pressure melting is precluded in the formation of the monzogranite in this study because its HREE are not depleted (Fig. 7a), arguing against residual garnet in the source. All samples of monzogranite are high in  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ , having a  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$  ratio of  $<1$ . Accordingly, tholeiitic amphibolite sources are unlikely. Alternatively, using medium-to-high K basaltic compositions as starting materials, Sisson et al. (2005) obtained K-rich melts that have a

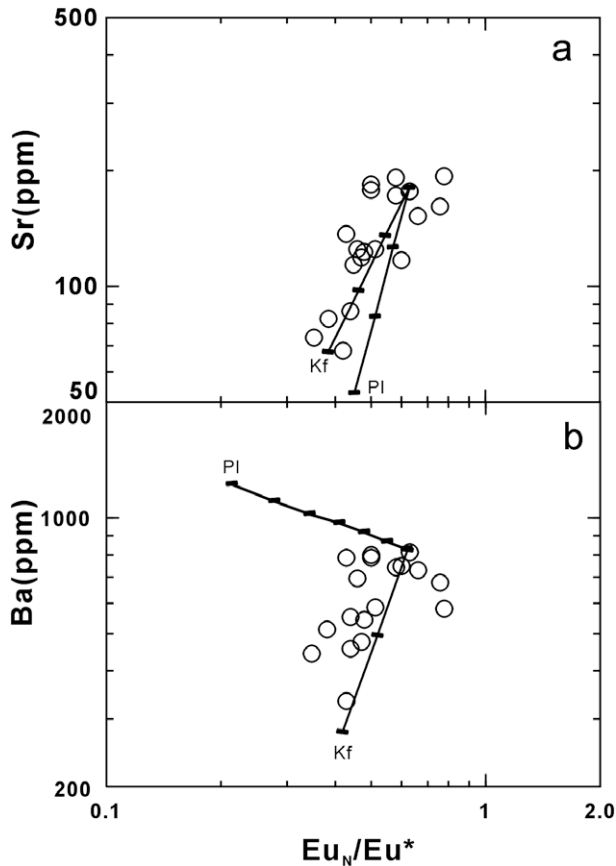
$\text{Na}_2\text{O}/\text{K}_2\text{O} < 1$  at  $\text{SiO}_2 > 65\%$ . On the basis of the above discussion points, we thus prefer this latter model for deciphering the origin of the monzogranite magma in this study.

#### 5.4. Tectonic significance

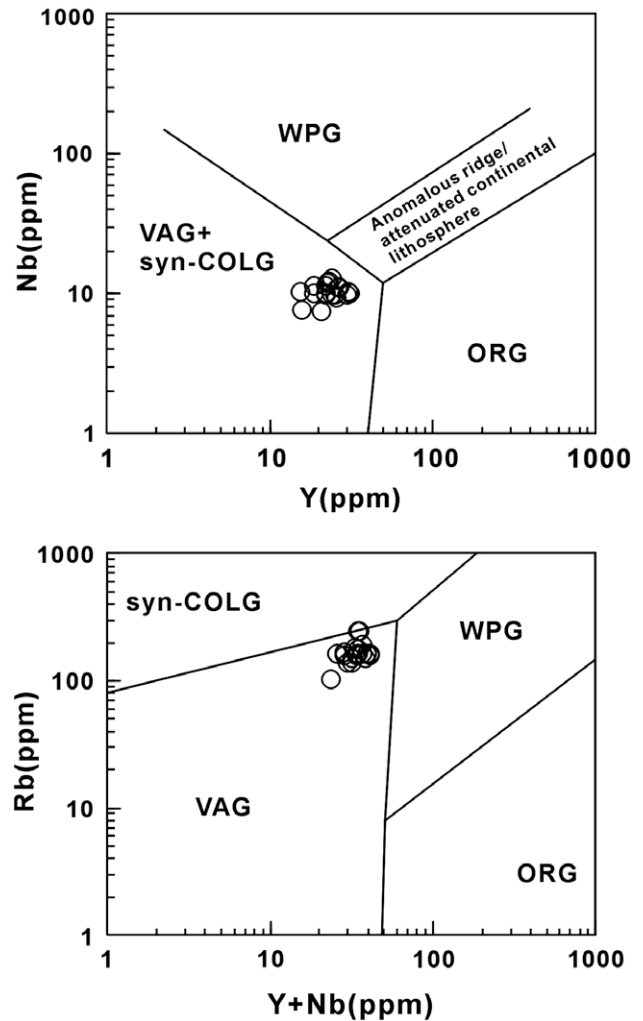
The late Palaeoproterozoic is an important period for crustal growth in southern China, and  $\sim 1.77$  Ga, tholeiitic and alkaline amphibolites have been identified in the Cathaysia basement in both NW Fujian and SW Zhejiang (Li, 1997). Contemporaneous crustal growth in Western Yunnan is supported by the present zircon Hf model age data ( $T_{\text{DM}}^{\text{C}}$ ) ( $\sim 1.7$  Ga).

Tectonic discrimination diagrams based on trace elements (such as Rb, Nb, and Y) have been devised for granitoid rocks (Pearce et al., 1984). However, these plots seem to diagnose the environment in which the protoliths were formed, rather than the tectonic settings existing at the time when the granitoid magmas were actually produced (Arculus, 1987; Twist and Harmer, 1987). This suggests that the potentially much older protolith may have formed in a setting very different from that in which the granitoid magma was generated by subsequent partial melting. On plots of Nb vs. Y and Rb vs. Y + Nb (Fig. 11), the studied monzogranite falls within the fields of volcanic arc granite and syn-collisional granite, indicating that arc-related magmatism likely existed in the Western Yunnan in the Mesoproterozoic. Similarly, arc-related magmatism in the eastern part of Tengchong–Baoshan Block, related to subduction of the palaeo-Tethys ocean (Huang and Chen, 1987; Sun et al., 1991; Chen and Xie, 1994) during the Mesoproterozoic, has been suggested by Chen et al. (2006). Subduction of palaeo-Tethys oceanic crust beneath the Western Yunnan continent would have transformed the Tengchong–Baoshan Block into an active continental margin. As a consequence, a back-arc extensional setting may have developed in Tengchong–Baoshan area. This extension, in turn, induced an upwelling of hot asthenosphere, and it was the high heat flow from this asthenospheric mantle and infiltration of slab-derived fluids that triggered intense melting in the lithospheric mantle, producing voluminous basaltic magmas. Subsequently, these mantle-derived magmas ascended along fractures and faults to underplate the upper crust; voluminous granitic magmas were generated by partial melting of the pre-existing, infra-crustal, high-K basaltic metamorphic protoliths (upper crust), heated by the underplated basaltic magmas at 500 Ma. Ascent and coalescence of these Early Palaeozoic granitic magmas resulted in batholith formation throughout the Tengchong–Baoshan Block and adjacent regions (Chen et al., 2004, 2005; this paper; Song et al., 2007). This model is particularly supported by the extensive accretion of back-arc granites in the north-western margin of the Tengchong–Baoshan Block during Early Palaeozoic times (Chen, 1989). While it is feasible to imagine an





**Fig. 10.** Plots of: (a)  $Eu_N/Eu^*$  vs. Sr, and (b) vs. Ba for the monzogranite samples. The mineral fractionation vectors, calculated using partition coefficients derive from Philpotts and Schnetzler (1970), Schnetzler and Philpotts (1970) and Bacon and Drittt (1988). The tick marks indicate the percentage of mineral phase removed, in 10% intervals. pl – plagioclase; kf – potassium feldspar.



**Fig. 11.** Trace element discrimination diagrams for the monzogranite samples (Pearce et al., 1984). VAG – volcanic arc granites; ORG – ocean ridge granites; WPG – within-plate granites; SYN-COLG – syn-collisional granites.

and Gongshan blocks are distinct from the Yangtze Craton, but similar to both the Indian Plate and the Himalayan Orogenic Belt, having an affinity with the Gondwana supercontinent. As such, these micro-continents may have formed parts of a single crustal block that broke away from the northern margin of Gondwana, drifting northwards. Other crustal segments, including blocks of Cimmerian (Sengör et al., 1988), Sibumasu and Lhasa (Metcalfe, 1996; Wang et al., 2001; Jin, 2002), along with what is now Australia, India, Antarctica and Sri Lanka also separated from the Gondwana supercontinent in the Late Palaeozoic (Yin and Harrison, 2000).

## 6. Conclusions

Our geochronological, geochemical and Sr–Nd–Hf isotopic studies of the monzogranite batholith present within Western Yunnan lead us to the following conclusions:

- (1) SHRIMP and LA-ICP-MS zircon U–Pb dating gives an intrusion age for the granitoid of ca. 500 Ma (498–502 Ma). The Hf model age ( $\sim 1.7$  Ga) for zircon from the monzogranite suggests magma derivation from a late Palaeoproterozoic crustal source.
- (2) Geochemical and Sr–Nd isotopic compositions suggest that the granitoid magmas were generated by partial melting of pre-existing, high-K basaltic metamorphic rocks within the upper crust, which were heated and mixed by underplating basaltic magmas. The resulting I-type granitoid melts underwent extensive fractionation of biotite  $\pm$  hornblende, ilmen-

ite, titanite, K-feldspar and plagioclase associated with insignificant crustal assimilation during their ascent. Zircon saturation temperatures ( $T_{Zr}$ ) for the granitoid rocks range between 633 °C and 733 °C, which approximately represents the crystallisation temperature of the magma.

- (3) Important crustal growth occurred in the Western Yunnan Province as a result of arc-related magmatism from subduction of the palaeo-tethys ocean.
- (4) The Tengchong–Baoshan Block represents an appendant of the former Gondwana supercontinent, and which separated from the supercontinent early in late Palaeozoic, during rifting that also saw separation of what are now Australia, India, Antarctica and Sri Lanka.

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