



# Geology, isotope geochemistry and geochronology of the Jinshachang carbonate-hosted Pb–Zn deposit, southwest China



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## ABSTRACT

The Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposit, an exceptionally radiogenic Pb-enriched sulfide deposit, hosted by dolostone of the Upper Sinian (Neoproterozoic) Dengying Formation and the Lower Cambrian Meishucun Formation, is located in the western Yangtze Block, about 300 km northeast of Kunming city in southwest China. Ore bodies in this deposit are dominated by strata-bound type and steeply dipping vein type. Primary ores in these two types are composed of sphalerite, galena, fluorite, barite and quartz with massive, banded, veined and disseminated structures. Twenty-seven ore bodies in the Jinshachang deposit host 4.6 million tons of sulfide ores at average grades of 4.07 wt.% Pb and 5.03 wt.% Zn. Quartz separates from the sulfide ores have  $\delta D_{H_2O}$  values ranging from  $-137\text{‰}$  to  $-86.2\text{‰}$  with an average of  $-114\text{‰}$  ( $n = 7$ ), lower than those of magmatic, metamorphic and meteoric water, suggesting a contribution of organic water.  $\delta^{34}S_{CDT}$  values of ninety-one sulfide separates range from  $+1.1\text{‰}$  to  $+13.4\text{‰}$  with an average of  $+5.7\text{‰}$ , lower than those of evaporites ( $\delta^{34}S_{CDT} = +15\text{‰}$  to  $+35\text{‰}$ ) in the Cambrian to Triassic sedimentary strata in NE Yunnan province.  $\delta^{34}S_{CDT}$  values of eight barite separates range from  $+32\text{‰}$  to  $+35\text{‰}$  (average  $+34\text{‰}$ ), within the range of evaporites. These data suggest that  $S^{2-}$  in the hydrothermal fluids derived from evaporites by thermo-chemical sulfate reduction (TSR), whereas  $SO_4^{2-}$  directly originated from the evaporites. Six sulfide separates have highly radiogenic  $^{206}Pb/^{204}Pb$  ratios ranging from 20.74 to 21.18 (average 20.92),  $^{207}Pb/^{204}Pb$  ratios ranging from 15.85 to 15.89 (average 15.87), and  $^{208}Pb/^{204}Pb$  ratios ranging from 40.89 to 41.42 (average 41.16). The Pb isotopes of the sulfides plot above the upper crust Pb average evolution curve and overlap the Cambrian sedimentary rocks, but are different from the Sinian dolostone. This indicates a crustal source of Pb most likely derived from the Cambrian sedimentary rocks. The initial  $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$  ratio of seven main stage sphalerite separates from the Jinshachang deposit is 0.713, which is higher than those of the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation dolostone (0.708–0.710), Lower Cambrian carbonates (0.708–0.710), Devonian to Lower Permian sedimentary rocks (0.707–0.711) and Middle Permian Emeishan flood basalts (0.704–0.708), and lower than those of the Proterozoic folded basement rocks (0.724–0.729), but similar to those of Lower Cambrian black shale (0.712–0.714). Therefore, the Sr isotope data of the sphalerite support the view that the Lower Cambrian sedimentary rocks, in particular the black shale, were important source of metals. The main stage sphalerite separates have an Rb–Sr isotopic age of  $206.8 \pm 3.7$  Ma, reflecting the timing of Pb–Zn mineralization. This study suggests that the Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposit is an epigenetic, thrust fold-controlled and strata-bound deposit with fluids and metals derived from the Cambrian sedimentary strata.

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## 1. Introduction

Carbonate-hosted Pb–Zn deposits, an important sub-type of sediment-hosted Pb–Zn deposits, are widely distributed around

the world (Leach et al., 2005, 2010). The most representative deposits occur in North America (e.g., Brannon et al., 1992) and Central Europe (e.g., Heijlen et al., 2003; Muechez et al., 2005). In the western Yangtze Block (Fig. 1A), southwest China, 408 carbonate-hosted Pb–Zn deposits are distributed in a large triangular area of 170,000 km<sup>2</sup> in NE Yunnan, NW Guizhou and SW Sichuan provinces (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Cromie et al., 1996; Liu and Lin, 1999; Zhou et al., 2001; Huang et al., 2004; Han et al., 2007a;

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Zaw et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2014). They form the famous Sichuan–Yunnan–Guizhou (SYG) Pb–Zn metallogenic province (Huang et al., 2003, 2010; Han et al., 2007b; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2014a). This province contains total Pb + Zn ore reserves of more than 150 million tons (Mt) at an average grades of 5 wt.% Pb and 10 wt.% Zn (Zhou et al., 2011, 2013a, 2013b), making it a major source of base metals in China (Liu and Lin, 1999; Huang et al., 2010; Zhou et al., 2014b). The largest Pb–Zn deposits include the Daliangzi (Zheng and Wang, 1991), Huize (Han et al., 2007a; Li et al., 2007; Yin et al., 2009; Huang et al., 2010), Maoping (Han et al., 2007b) and Tianbaoshan (Zhou et al., 2013c). Despite some recently published studies (Huang et al., 2010; Ye et al., 2011; Bai et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d, 2013e, 2014a, 2014b; Zhang et al., 2014), there are still many unknown aspects regarding the source of hydrothermal fluids, ore genesis, and geodynamic setting of the Pb–Zn deposits in the SYG province (Zhou et al., 2014a; Zhang et al., 2014). The Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposit, an exceptionally radiogenic Pb-enriched sulfide deposit (Liu, 1989; Liu and Lin, 1999; Bai et al., 2013), is located in the central part of the SYG province on the western Yangtze Block, southwest China (Fig. 1B). This deposit is hosted by dolostone of the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation and the Lower Cambrian Meishucun Formation, and is structurally controlled by the Jinshachang thrust fault and anticline (Figs. 2A–C; Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014). In addition, this deposit also shows some unique features (Table 1) that include (i) the barite, fluorite and quartz are common and co-exist with sulfides, (ii) the organic matters are widespread and are closely associated with sulfides, and (iii) the ore-forming fluids have low salinity (2–11 wt.% NaCl) and medium temperature (114–290 °C). Therefore, the Jinshachang deposit is used as a case study.

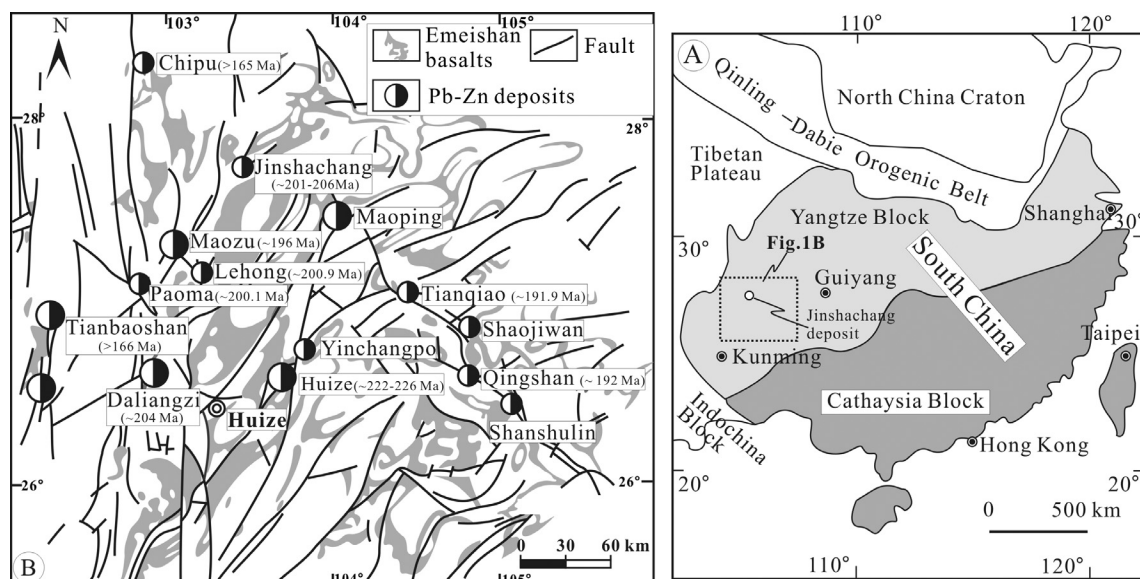
Isotopes are powerful for determining the origin of ore-forming fluids and metals. For example, H–O and S isotopes have been widely used to constrain the source of hydrothermal fluids (e.g., Seal, 2006; Basuki et al., 2008; Zhou et al., 2010), and Pb and Sr isotopes are useful for tracing the origin of ore-forming metals (e.g., Carr et al., 1995; Deng et al., 2000; Mirnejad et al., 2011; Gromek et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b; Dou et al., 2014). Several studies have explored the application of the Rb–Sr isotopic system to determine the age of hydrothermal mineral deposition (e.g., Brannon et al., 1992; Nakai et al., 1993; Christensen et al., 1995;

Li et al., 2005; Zhou et al., 2013a). In this paper, we describe the geology of the Jinshachang deposit in detail and report H–O isotopic data of quartz, Rb–Sr isotopic age of main stage sphalerite, and Pb isotopic data of sulfides and country rocks. This new dataset, together with the previously published results, is used to understand the origin of ore-forming fluids and metals, and the ore-forming geodynamic setting of the Jinshachang deposit. These results are also used to discuss the causes of highly concentrated base metals in the SYG province.

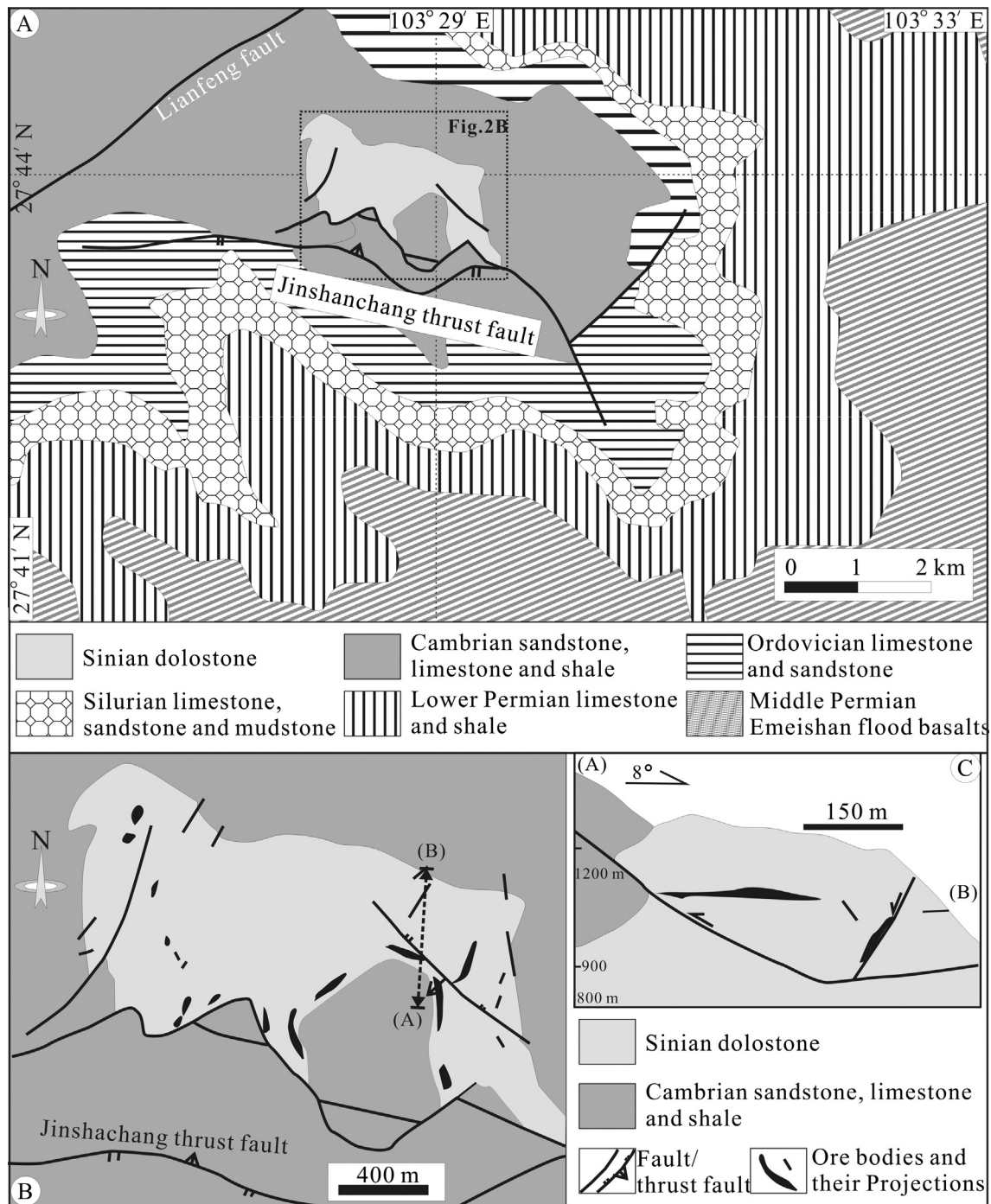
## 2. Geological setting

### 2.1. Regional geology

South China is made up of the Yangtze Block in the north and the Cathaysian Block in the south (Fig. 1A). The Yangtze Block consists of Archean crystalline basement, Meso- to Neoproterozoic folded basement and Paleozoic to Mesozoic cover sequence (Liu and Lin, 1999; Qiu et al., 2000; Zhou et al., 2002a; Wang et al., 2014). In the western Yangtze Block, the folded basement includes the Dongchuan (~1.7 to ~1.5 Ga) and Kunyang/Huilu (~1.2 to ~0.9 Ga) Groups and equivalents (Sun et al., 2009; Zhao et al., 2010) that consist of greywacke, slate and other carbonaceous and siliceous sedimentary rocks. These rocks are unconformably overlain by shallow marine Paleozoic and Early Mesozoic cover sequence (Yan et al., 2003). Evaporites and organic matters are common in Cambrian to Triassic sedimentary strata (Bai et al., 2013; Wu et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2014a, 2014b). Late Mesozoic (Cretaceous) to Cenozoic lithologies are composed entirely of a continental sequence (Liu and Lin, 1999). A major feature of the western Yangtze Block is the Permian (ca. ~260 Ma) Emeishan Large Igneous Province and its flood basalts that cover an area of more than 250,000 km<sup>2</sup> (Zhou et al., 2002b). After eruption of the Emeishan basalts, the western Yangtze Block collided with the adjacent Yidun arc resulting in closure of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean (Reid et al., 2007; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d). This event is known as the Indosinian Orogeny (Hu and Zhou, 2012; Mao et al., 2012), which forms the main thrust faults and folds in the western Yangtze Block (Fig. 1B). Tectonics, magma and ore deposits formed in the Indosinian in the western Yangtze Block



**Fig. 1.** (A) Tectonic map of South China; (B) regional geological map of the Sichuan–Yunnan–Guizhou Pb–Zn metallogenic province (modified from Liu and Lin, 1999). Ages are from Li et al. (2007), Yin et al. (2009), Lin et al. (2010), Mao et al. (2012), Wang et al. (2012), Wu (2013), Zhou et al. (2013a, 2013d) and Zhang et al. (2014) and this paper.



**Fig. 2.** (A) Geological map of the Jinshanchang area (modified from Bai et al., 2013); (B) geological map of the Jinshanchang deposit (modified from Zhang et al., 2014); (C) A–B cross section of the Jinshanchang deposit (modified from Zhang et al., 2014).

have been affected by the later Yanshanian and Himalayan orogenic events (Liu and Lin, 1999; Zaw et al., 2007; Pirajno, 2013; Zhou et al., 2014b).

Many Pb–Zn deposits have been reported in the SYG province, which are characterized by irregular ore bodies with simple mineralogy, weak wall rock alteration, high grades of Pb + Zn, and associated with useful Ag, Ge, Cd and Ga (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Han et al., 2007a, 2007b; Zhou et al., 2011, 2014a; Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014). These deposits are hosted in Neoproterozoic (Sinian) to Lower Permian carbonate rocks that are all overlain by Middle Permian Emeishan flood basalts (Zheng and Wang, 1991;

Liu and Lin, 1999; Deng et al., 2000; Zhou et al., 2001; Han et al., 2007a, 2007b; Huang et al., 2010). Main faults in the eastern part of the SYG province trend NW (Fig. 1B; Zhou et al., 2013a), whereas NS- and NE-trending faults are dominant in the western part (Fig. 1B; Han et al., 2007a; Zhou et al., 2013d). It is evident that these regional faults strictly control the distribution of Pb–Zn deposits in the SYG province (Fig. 1B; Liu and Lin, 1999; Han et al., 2007a, 2007b; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d, 2013e). The SYG province can be divided into three parts according to the geographic positions: (i) the northwest SYG province (Sichuan), (ii) the southwest SYG province (Yunnan), and (iii) the southeast SYG province

**Table 1**

Host rocks, ore-forming elements and ages for the majority Pb–Zn deposits in the SYG province and typical MVT deposits.

| Position                         | Deposit              | Host rock                 | Ore-controlling structure       | Metal association | Tonnage, grade     | Salinity, temperature           | Age, method                                      | Source   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Northwest SYG province (Sichuan) | Daliangzi            | Sinian dolostone          | NW-trending thrust faults       | Zn–Pb–Ge–Cd–Ga–Ag | 4.5 Mt, 10–12 wt.% | 18 wt.% NaCl, 170–225 °C        | 204.4 ± 1.2 Ma, Calcite Sm–Nd                    | Zheng and Wang (1991) and Wu (2013)  |
|                                  | Tianbaoshan          | Sinian dolostone          | NNE-trending thrust faults      | Zn–Pb–Cd–Ag–Cu    | 2.6 Mt, 10–15 wt.% | 12.4–20 wt.% NaCl, 157–267 °C   | >166 Ma, Zircon U–Pb                             | Wang et al. (2012) and Zhou et al. (2013c)                                     |
|                                  | Chipu                | Sinian dolostone          | NW- and NE-trending thrust-fold | Zn–Pb–Ga–Ge–Ag    | 0.65 Mt, 10.4 wt.% | 8.5–17 wt.% NaCl, 130–250 °C    | >165.7 ± 9.9 Ma, Asphalt Re–Os                   | Wu (2013) and Wu et al. (2013)   |
|                                  | Paoma                | Sinian–Cambrian dolostone | NNE-trending thrust-fold        | Zn–Pb–Ag          | >0.2 Mt, >10 wt.%  | 118–184 °C                      | 200.1 ± 4 Ma, Sphalerite Rb–Sr                   | Lin et al. (2010)  |
| Southwest SYG province (Yunnan)  | Maozu                | Sinian dolostone          | NE-trending thrust-fold         | Zn–Pb–Cd–Ag       | 2 Mt, 12–14 wt.%   | 2.8–5.3 wt.% NaCl, 153–248 °C   | 196 ± 13 Ma, Calcite Sm–Nd                       | Zhou et al. (2013d)  |
|                                  | Lehong               | Sinian dolostone          | NW-trending thrust faults       | Zn–Pb–Ag          | 2.4 Mt, >15 wt.%   | 11.3–14.5 wt.% NaCl, 165–229 °C | 200.9 ± 2.3 Ma, Sphalerite Rb–Sr                 | Mao et al. (2012) and Wu (2013)  |
|                                  | Jinshachang          | Sinian–Cambrian dolostone | NWW-trending thrust-fold        | Zn–Pb–Ag          | 0.42 Mt, 9.1 wt.%  | 2–11 wt.% NaCl, 114–290 °C      | ~201–206 Ma, Fluorite Sm–Nd and sphalerite Rb–Sr | Mao et al. (2012) and Zhang et al. (2014); this paper                          |
|                                  | Maoping              | D–C, dolostone            | NE-trending thrust-fold         | Zn–Pb–Ge–Ga–Cd–Ag | 3 Mt, >25 wt.%     | 6.7–13.8 wt.% NaCl, 123–206 °C  | No data  | Han et al. (2007b)   |
| Southeast SYG province (Guizhou) | Huize                | C, dolostone              | NE-trending thrust faults       | Zn–Pb–Ge–Cd–Ag    | 7 Mt, >25 wt.%     | 6–12 wt.% NaCl, 165–220 °C      | ~222–226 Ma, Calcite Sm–Nd and sphalerite Rb–Sr  | Zhou et al. (2001), Han et al. (2007a), Li et al. (2007) and Yin et al. (2009) |
|                                  | Tianqiao             | D–C, dolostone            | NW-trending thrust-fold         | Zn–Pb–Cd–Ag–Ge    | 0.4 Mt, 15–18 wt.% | 9.6–14.2 wt.% NaCl, 150–270 °C  | 191.9 ± 6.9 Ma, Sphalerite Rb–Sr                 | Zhou et al. (2013a)  |
|                                  | Shaojiwan            | D, dolostone              | NW-trending thrust-fold         | Zn–Pb–Cd–Ag       | 0.5 Mt, 15–20 wt.% | 0.9–17.5 wt.% NaCl, 115–170 °C  | No data  | Zhou et al. (2013b)  |
|                                  | Qingshan             | C, dolostone              | NW-trending thrust faults       | Zn–Pb–Cd–Ag       | >0.3 Mt, >15 wt.%  | 6.3–10.5 wt.% NaCl, 110–276 °C  | ~192 Ma, Pb isotope model age                    | Zhou et al. (2013e)  |
| North America                    | Typical MVT deposits | Cambrian to C, carbonates | Extensional setting             | Zn–Pb–Ag–(Cu)     | <1 Mt, <10 wt.%    | 10–30 wt.% NaCl, 50–200 °C      | Proterozoic to Cretaceous                        | Leach et al. (2005, 2010)  |

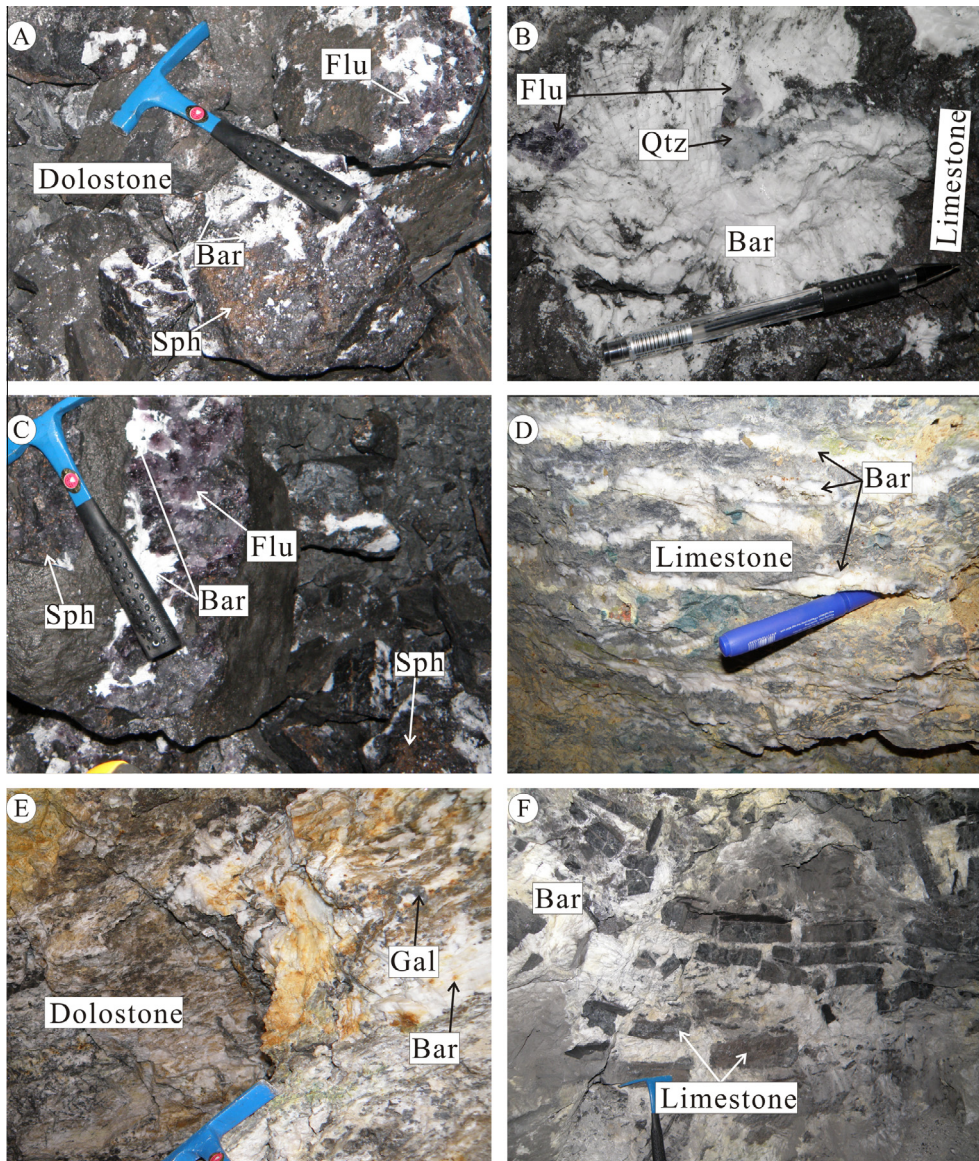
D = Devonian, C = Carboniferous. Tonnage is Pb + Zn metal reserve. Grade is ore grade of Pb + Zn.

(Guizhou). There is a trend that the strata that host Pb–Zn ores in the northwestern part of the SYG province (Sinian to Cambrian) are older than those in the southeastern part (Devonian to Carboniferous) (Table 1; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d; Zhang et al., 2014).

In the southwestern SYG province, there are about 160 Pb–Zn deposits distributed along NS- and NE-trending faults (Fig. 1B). The cover sequences above the Proterozoic folded basement include the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation and Paleozoic sedimentary sequences, and Emeishan flood basalts (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Zhou et al., 2001; Huang et al., 2003, 2010; Han et al., 2007a). These deposits are hosted in carbonate rocks of Upper Sinian, Cambrian, Devonian, Carboniferous and Lower Permian strata (Liu and Lin, 1999; Deng et al., 2000; Han et al., 2007a; Zhou et al., 2013d; Zhang et al., 2014), of which the Upper Sinian and Carboniferous strata are the two main hosting strata (Table 1). Among these deposits, there are three large Pb–Zn–Ag deposits, namely the Maozu Zn–Pb deposit (Zhou et al., 2013d), the Maoping Zn–Pb–Ge deposit (Han et al., 2007b) and the Lemachang Ag–Pb–Zn deposit (Deng et al., 2000), and one world-class deposit named the Huize Zn–Pb–Ge deposit (Zhou et al., 2001; Han et al., 2007a;

Huang et al., 2004). The studied Jinshachang deposit is located in the northern part of the southwestern SYG province (Fig. 1B) and is a representative medium-size Pb–Zn sulfide deposit (Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014).

Previous studies in the SYG province have reported hydrothermal calcite/fluorite Sm–Nd isochron ages of the Huize, Maozu and Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposits at 222 ± 14 Ma (Li et al., 2007), 196 ± 13 Ma (Zhou et al., 2013d) and 201 Ma (201.1 ± 2.9 Ma; Mao et al., 2012; 201.1 ± 6.2 Ma; Zhang et al., 2014), respectively, and Rb–Sr isochron ages of sulfide minerals (sphalerite and/or pyrite) for the Paoma, Tianqiao, Lehong and Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposits at 200.1 ± 4.0 Ma (Lin et al., 2010), 191.9 ± 6.9 Ma (Zhou et al., 2013a), 200.9 ± 2.3 Ma (Mao et al., 2012) and 200.9 ± 8.3 Ma (Zhang et al., 2014), respectively. Thus, the Pb–Zn mineralization in the SYG province formed in the Late Triassic to Early Jurassic (222–192 Ma). The Pb–Zn mineralization in the SYG province is linked to the late Indosinian Orogeny that formed in response to the closure of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean (Hu and Zhou, 2012; Mao et al., 2012; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2014b; Zhang et al., 2014). This suggests a convergent ore-forming geodynamic setting.



**Fig. 3.** Ore field photos of the Jinshachang deposit. (A) Disseminated sphalerite (Sph) with patchy barite (Bar) and fluorite (Flu) in dolostone; (B) Patchy quartz (Qtz) and Flu enclosed in radial Bar; (C) Vein Flu and Bar and patchy Sph; (D) Vein Bar in limestone; (E) disseminated galena (Gal) and patchy Bar; (F) limestone breccias enclosed in Bar.

## 2.2. Geology of the Jinshachang deposit

Ore bodies in the Jinshachang deposit are hosted in dolostone of the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation and phosphorous dolostone of the Lower Cambrian Meishucun Formation, and are structurally controlled by the NWW–SEE-trending Jinshachang anticline and the NW–SE-trending Jinshachang thrust fault (Figs. 2A–C). In the Jinshachang ore field, dolostone of the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation, sedimentary rocks (sandstone, phosphorous dolostone, limestone and black shale) of Cambrian to Silurian and Lower Permian, and Middle Permian Emeishan flood basalts formed the Jinshachang anticline (Fig. 2A). The axial trend of the Jinshachang anticline is 285° (Liu, 1989).

Twenty-seven ore bodies are delineated in the upper part of the Dengying Formation (Fig. 2B), of which individual ore bodies are 72–665 m long, 137–175 m wide and 1.04–6.03 m thick, with 1.56–7.14 wt.% Pb, 2.16–10.76 wt.% Zn and 14.1–128.3 g/t Ag (Bai et al., 2013). The average Pb/Zn ratio is 0.8. Ore bodies occur dominantly as strata-bound type (dip at 5–25°) within the interlayer fracture zones in the northeastern and southwestern limbs of the

NWW–SEE trending Jinshachang anticline (Zhang et al., 2014) and steeply dipping veins along the secondary faults (Fig. 2C). Ore reserves of all the sulfide ore bodies are about 4.6 million tons at an average grades of 4.07 wt.% Pb and 5.03 wt.% Zn.

Nos. I and IV ore bodies are strata-bound. No. I ore body occurs along the interlamination fracture zone of the Dengying Formation (Fig. 2C). It is 100–330 m long, 65–246 m wide and 1.65–5.29 m thick, with an average grade of 8.74 wt.% Pb, 4.14 wt.% Zn and 97.2 g/t Ag. Nos. II, III and V ore bodies occur as steeply dipping veins. No. II ore body occurs along the secondary fracture of the Jinshachang thrust fault (Fig. 2C). It is 100 m in length, average 80 m in width and 5.5 m thick at average, with 1.14–3.11 wt.% Pb, 3.06–6.82 wt.% Zn and 22.7–51.5 g/t Ag. Ore bodies of this type trend dominantly 70–84° (Fig. 2C; Bai et al., 2013).

Ores in the Jinshachang deposit underwent hydrothermal and supergene oxidizing processes (Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014). Therefore, there are oxidized and unaltered sulfide ores along with a mixture of these two types. Unaltered sulfide ores are composed of sphalerite, galena, barite, fluorite and quartz, with a small number of dolostone and calcite (Bai et al., 2013; Zhang

et al., 2014). Oxidized and mixed ores have extremely complex assemblages of smithsonite, limonite, cerusite, sulfide, quartz, fluorite, and barite and carbonate minerals. The sulfide ores are dominated by massive, vein-type and disseminated structures, and the minerals display textures of anhedral to euhedral granular, filling and pressure shadows (Figs. 3 and 4; Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014).

Based on crosscutting, overgrowth and replacement relationships, the hydrothermal period is divided into three stages (Table 2): (I) the pyrite-silicified dolostone stage (Fig. 4E), (II) the sulfide-barite-fluorite-quartz stage, and (III) the barite-fluorite-quartz stage (Fig. 3B, D and F). Stage II is the main stage and has the mineral assemblages of sphalerite-fluorite (Fig. 4A), sphalerite-barite (Fig. 4B), sphalerite-barite-fluorite (Fig. 3A and C), sphalerite-galena-barite-fluorite (Fig. 4C), sphalerite-galena-quartz (Fig. 4F) and galena-barite/fluorite (Figs. 3E and 4D).

Wall rock alterations are simple and include silicification, fluoritization, baritization and dolomitization (Bai et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2014), of which dolomitization enhances rock brittleness and causes crack opening for Pb-Zn mineralization.

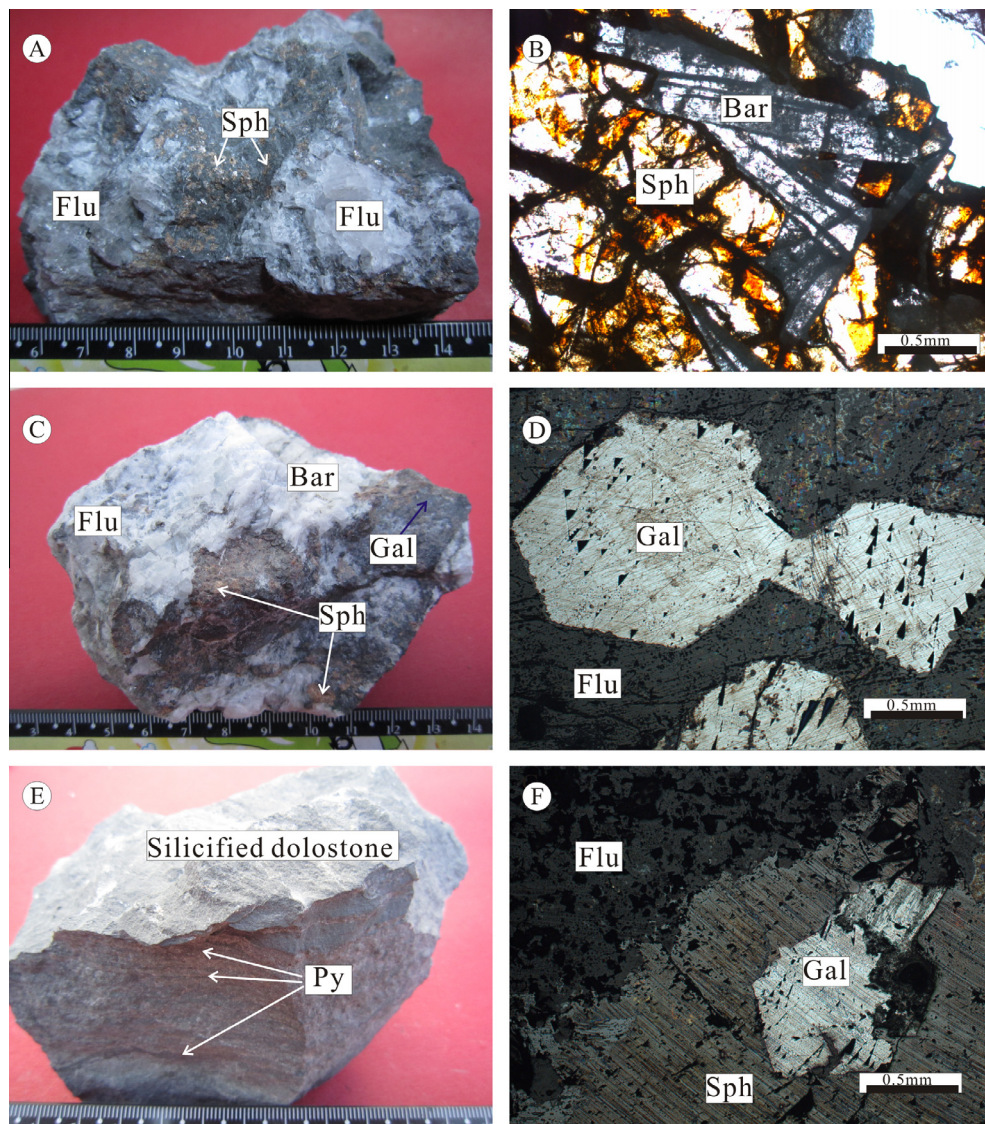
### 3. Analytical methods

#### 3.1. H–O isotope analysis

Quartz separates from different stages were analyzed on a Finnegan MAT-253 mass spectrometer.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values were obtained by using the conventional fluorination method and H isotope analysis was carried out by thermal decrepitation on fluid extracted from inclusions in quartz samples (Clayton and Mayeda, 1963). Results are reported to Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water (V-SMOW) with analytical precisions of  $\pm 1\%$  for  $\delta\text{D}$  value and  $\pm 0.5\%$  for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value. The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  value of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in fluid inclusions was calculated by using the quartz-water fractionation equation described by Clayton et al. (1972).

#### 3.2. Pb isotope analysis

Pb isotope analysis was carried out using a GV Isoprobe-T Thermal Ionization Mass Spectrometer (TIMS) at Beijing Institute of Uranium Geology. The analytical procedures involved dissolution



**Fig. 4.** Pictures of ores and microscope reflected light photographs of sulfide ores from the Jinshachang deposit. (A) Vein sphalerite (Sph) and aggregate fluorite (Flu); (B) granular Sph enclosed in vein barite (Bar); (C) granular aggregate Sph with disseminated galena (Gal) and aggregate Flu and Bar; (D) pressure shadow of granular Gal enclosed in Flu; (E) banded pyrite enclosed in silicified dolostone; (F) pressure shadow of granular Gal enclosed in Sph.

**Table 2**  
Mineral paragenesis of the Jinshachang deposit.

| Period             | Hydrothermal                |                                |                        | Supergene        |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| Stage              | Stage I                     | Stage II                       | Stage III              | Stage IV         |
| Mineral assemblage | Pyrite-silicified dolostone | Sulfide-barite-fluorite-quartz | Barite-fluorite-quartz | Oxidized mineral |
| Pyrite             | ██████████                  | ██████████                     | ██████████             |                  |
| Sphalerite         |                             | ██████████                     |                        |                  |
| Galena             |                             | ██████████                     |                        |                  |
| Barite             |                             | ██████████                     |                        |                  |
| Fluorite           |                             | ██████████                     |                        |                  |
| Quartz             | ██████████                  | ██████████                     | ██████████             |                  |
| Dolomite           | ██████████                  |                                |                        |                  |
| Calcite            | ██████████                  |                                |                        |                  |
| Limonite           |                             |                                |                        | ██████████       |
| Cerussite          |                             |                                |                        | ██████████       |
| Smithsonite        |                             |                                |                        | ██████████       |

— Less; █ More, after Bai et al. (2013) and Zhang et al. (2014).

of samples using HF and HClO<sub>4</sub> in crucibles, followed by basic anion exchange resin to purify Pb (Belshaw et al., 1998). Analytical results for NBS 981 are <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb = 16.937 ± 0.003 (2σ<sub>m</sub>), <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb = 15.457 ± 0.003 (2σ<sub>m</sub>) and <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb = 36.611 ± 0.005 (2σ<sub>m</sub>).

### 3.3. Rb–Sr isotope analysis

Chemical separation of Rb and Sr from matrix elements and mass spectrometric measurements were accomplished at Chinese Academy of Sciences. Spec-Sr exchange resin was used for the separation and purification of Rb and Sr. The procedure blanks of Rb and Sr are about 6 and 5 pg (10<sup>-12</sup> g), respectively. A detailed analytical procedure for Rb–Sr isotope analysis is available in Li et al. (2005). Rb–Sr isotopic compositions were measured by the GV Isoprobe-T TIMS. An <sup>88</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of 8.37521 is used to calibrate mass fractionation of Sr isotope. The average <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of NBS 987 is 0.710242 ± 5 (2σ<sub>m</sub>). The uncertainties (2σ<sub>m</sub>) are 0.005% for <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio and 2% for <sup>87</sup>Rb/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio.

## 4. Results

### 4.1. H and O isotopic compositions

H–O isotopic compositions of fluid inclusions in quartz are listed in Table 3 and shown in Fig. 5. The ore-forming temperatures range from 114 to 290 °C based on micro-thermometric data of fluid inclusions in quartz and fluorite from Bai et al. (2013).  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = \delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}} - 3.38 \times 10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2 + 3.40$  (Clayton et al., 1972). Fluid inclusions in quartz have  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values ranging from –137‰ to –86.2‰ (average –114‰) and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values (calculate base on average temperatures of Stages I to III) ranging from +5.7‰ to +8.4‰ (average +7.1‰). One Stage I quartz separate (average  $t = 260$  °C) has  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  value of –86.2‰ and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  value of +7.1‰. The  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values for Stage II quartz separates (average  $t = 220$  °C) range from –116‰ to –109‰ (mean –112‰,  $n = 4$ ) and from +6.9‰ to +8.4‰ (mean +7.6‰,  $n = 4$ ), respectively. Two Stage III quartz separates (average  $t = 180$  °C) have  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values ranging from –137‰ to –125‰ (average –131‰) and +5.7‰ to +6.5‰ (average +6.1‰), respectively. It is clear that the  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values of Stages I to III quartz samples decrease, whereas the  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values do not change regularly (Fig. 5).

### 4.2. Pb isotopic compositions

Lead isotopic compositions of sulfide separates from the Jinshachang deposit and the country rocks are listed in Table 4 and shown in Fig. 6. Two Stage I pyrite separates have <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb and <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb ratios ranging from 20.741 to 20.768, 15.849 to 15.867 and 40.888 to 40.909, respectively. <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb and <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb ratios of two Stage II sphalerite separates range from 20.805 to 21.177, 15.875 to 15.884 and 41.017 to 41.359, respectively. Two Stage II galena separates have <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb ratios ranging from 21.009 to 21.020, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb ratios ranging from 15.877 to 15.887 and <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb ratios ranging from 41.387 to 41.421. It is obvious that Stage II sulfide samples contain more radiogenic Pb than Stage I and galena contains similar radiogenic Pb to sphalerite. Four Cambrian sedimentary rocks (carbonates and black shale) have <sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub>, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub> and <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub> ratios ranging from 20.950 to 22.354, 15.837 to 15.930 and 40.878 to 41.928, respectively (Table 4), higher than those of Upper Sinian dolostone (<sup>206</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub> = 18.235–18.275, <sup>207</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub> = 15.699–15.777, <sup>208</sup>Pb/<sup>204</sup>Pb<sub>206 Ma</sub> = 38.547–38.809,  $n = 4$ ).

### 4.3. Rb–Sr isotopic compositions and isochron age

The main stage sphalerite separates in the Jinshachang Pb–Zn deposit are analyzed for Rb–Sr isotopic compositions (Table 5). Rb and Sr contents of seven sphalerite separates range from 0.296 to 1.35 × 10<sup>-6</sup> (10<sup>-6</sup> = ppm) and 3.58 to 319 ppm, respectively. These samples have <sup>87</sup>Rb/<sup>87</sup>Sr ratios ranging from 0.021 to 0.485. <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios of seven sphalerite separates are relatively homogeneous and range from 0.7132 to 0.7146. The analyses yield an Rb–Sr isochron age of 206.8 ± 3.7 Ma, with an initial <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratio of 0.7131 ± 0.0001 and MSWD of 4.7 (Fig. 7A).

## 5. Discussion

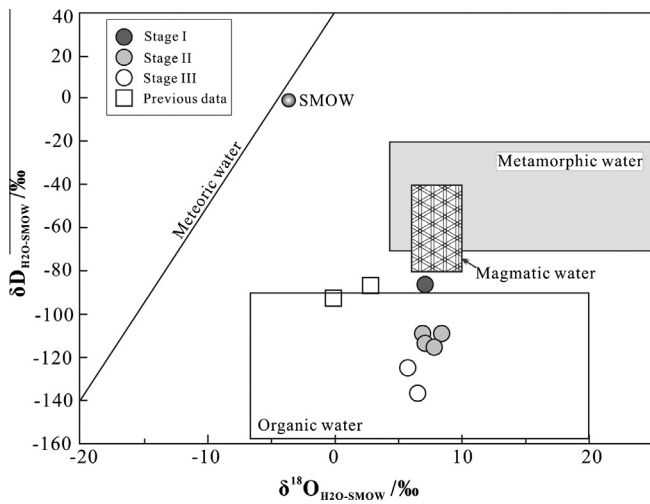
### 5.1. Timing of Pb–Zn mineralization

Previous studies demonstrated that Rb–Sr isotopic dating is feasible for certain sulfide minerals (e.g., Brannon et al., 1992; Nakai et al., 1993; Christensen et al., 1995; Christensen and Halliday, 1995; Li et al., 2005). For example, sphalerite may host Rb in its lat-

**Table 3**  
H–O isotopic compositions of quartz separates from the Jinshachang deposit.

| No.        | Object | Stage     | $\delta D_{H_2O-SMOW} (\text{‰})$ | $\delta^{18}O_{Qtz-SMOW} (\text{‰})$ | $\delta^{18}O_{H_2O-SMOW} (\text{‰})$ | Source             |
|------------|--------|-----------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 105-202-06 | Quartz | Stage III | –125                              | +18.8                                | +5.7                                  | Bai unpublished    |
| 105-202-08 | Quartz | Stage III | –137                              | +19.6                                | +6.5                                  |                    |
| 889-02     | Quartz | Stage II  | –114                              | +17.6                                | +7.1                                  |                    |
| 889-04     | Quartz | Stage I   | –86.2                             | +15.6                                | +7.1                                  |                    |
| 889-05     | Quartz | Stage II  | –109                              | +18.9                                | +8.4                                  | This paper         |
| 889-06     | Quartz | Stage II  | –116                              | +18.3                                | +7.8                                  |                    |
| 889-08     | Quartz | Stage II  | –109                              | +17.4                                | +6.9                                  |                    |
| J-4        | Quartz |           | –92.7                             |                                      | –0.1                                  | Liu and Lin (1999) |
| 17         | Quartz |           | –86.9                             |                                      | +2.8                                  |                    |

$10^3 \ln \alpha_{Qtz-H_2O} = \delta^{18}O_{Qtz} - \delta^{18}O_{H_2O} = 3.38 \times 10^6 / (t + 273.15)^2 - 3.40$  (Clayton et al., 1972);  $t_I = 260 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $t_{II} = 220 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $t_{III} = 180 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  (Bai et al., 2013); Qtz = quartz.



**Fig. 5.** Diagram of  $\delta D_{H_2O}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}O_{H_2O}$  for quartz separates from the Jinshachang deposit.

tice preferentially than Sr, and thus has high  $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios, making the mineral suitable for precise radiogenic isotope dating. This method has been applied to hydrothermal deposits (e.g., Brannon et al., 1992; Nakai et al., 1993; Christensen et al., 1995; Christensen and Halliday, 1995; Yin et al., 2009; Mao et al.,

2012). A modified single grain Rb–Sr isotopic dating with highly precise TIMS and ultra-low procedural blank is also used for pyrite (Li et al., 2005, 2008) and sphalerite (Lin et al., 2010; Zhou et al., 2013a).

The Rb–Sr isotopic age of  $206.8 \pm 3.7 \text{ Ma}$  for seven main stage sphalerite samples from the Jinshachang deposit is considered to be reliable (Fig. 7A). The fact that  $1/\text{Sr}$  values do not co-vary with  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of samples (Fig. 7B) indicates that the isochron age is not a pseudoisochron and has isochronal meaning (e.g., Nakai et al., 1993; Yin et al., 2009; Zhou et al., 2013a), so this age is interpreted to reflect the timing of the Pb–Zn mineralization. The Rb–Sr isotopic age of sphalerite separates from the Jinshachang deposit is similar to the fluorite Sm–Nd isotopic ages of  $201.1 \pm 2.9 \text{ Ma}$  (Mao et al., 2012) and  $201.1 \pm 6.2 \text{ Ma}$  (Zhang et al., 2014), and is broadly similar to those early reported ages of  $222\text{--}192 \text{ Ma}$  (Li et al., 2007; Lin et al., 2010; Mao et al., 2012; Wu, 2013; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013d). Therefore, we consider that the Jinshachang deposit formed in the late Indosinian (Late Triassic) related to the closure of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean (Reid et al., 2007; Hu and Zhou, 2012; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d; Zhang et al., 2014).

## 5.2. Origin of the hydrothermal fluids

### 5.2.1. Water

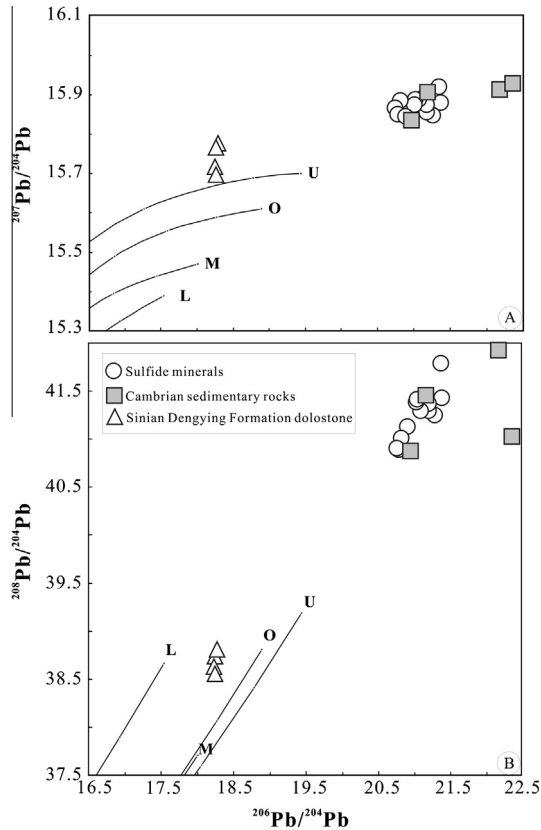
Previous studies of two quartz separates have shown the  $\delta D_{H_2O}$  values ranging from  $-92.7\text{‰}$  to  $-86.9\text{‰}$ , lower than those of

**Table 4**  
Pb isotopic compositions of sulfides and country rocks from the Jinshachang deposit.

| No.        | Mineral/rock               | Stage    | $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ | $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ | $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ | Source          |            |
|------------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| 908-4-02   | Pyrite                     | Stage I  | 40.909                            | 15.867                            | 20.741                            | Bai unpublished |            |
| Jshch16-01 | Pyrite                     | Stage I  | 40.888                            | 15.849                            | 20.768                            |                 |            |
| 401-7-3-03 | Sphalerite                 | Stage II | 41.359                            | 15.875                            | 21.177                            |                 |            |
| 01-7-3-05  | Sphalerite                 | Stage II | 41.017                            | 15.884                            | 20.805                            |                 |            |
| 889-03     | Galena                     | Stage II | 41.421                            | 15.887                            | 21.020                            | Liu (1989)      |            |
| 889-05     | Galena                     | Stage II | 41.387                            | 15.877                            | 21.009                            |                 |            |
| YJ4-1      | Galena                     |          | 41.790                            | 15.920                            | 21.350                            |                 |            |
| PbS-G      | Galena                     |          | 41.124                            | 15.846                            | 20.884                            |                 |            |
| PbS-J      | Galena                     |          | 41.300                            | 15.888                            | 21.070                            |                 |            |
| Pb-Y       | Galena                     |          | 41.289                            | 15.856                            | 21.174                            |                 |            |
| J-4        | Galena                     |          | 41.250                            | 15.847                            | 21.264                            |                 |            |
| J-10       | Galena                     |          | 41.433                            | 15.879                            | 21.363                            |                 |            |
| Jshch-1    | Cambrian sedimentary rocks |          | 41.441                            | 15.909                            | 21.172                            |                 | This paper |
| €1q-01     | Cambrian sedimentary rocks |          | 41.928                            | 15.914                            | 22.166                            |                 |            |
| Z2dn4-01   | Cambrian sedimentary rocks |          | 40.878                            | 15.837                            | 20.950                            |                 |            |
| Z2dn4-02   | Cambrian sedimentary rocks |          | 41.028                            | 15.930                            | 22.354                            |                 |            |
| Dx-3       | Sinian dolostone           |          | 38.809                            | 15.777                            | 18.275                            | Liu (1989)      |            |
| Dx-68      | Sinian dolostone           |          | 38.738                            | 15.769                            | 18.246                            |                 |            |
| Bg-4       | Sinian dolostone           |          | 38.547                            | 15.699                            | 18.245                            |                 |            |
| Bg-33      | Sinian dolostone           |          | 38.632                            | 15.719                            | 18.235                            |                 |            |

Lead isotopic ratios for sedimentary rocks are age-corrected at 206 Ma.  $(^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_t = (^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_p - \mu(e^{\lambda t} - 1)$ ,  $(^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_t = (^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_p - \mu/137.88(e^{\lambda' t} - 1)$ ,  $(^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_t = (^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb})_p - \omega(e^{\lambda'' t} - 1)$ ,  $\lambda = 1.55125 \times 10^{-10} \text{ t}^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda' = 9.8485 \times 10^{-10} \text{ t}^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda'' = 0.49475 \times 10^{-10} \text{ t}^{-1}$ ,  $t = 206 \text{ Ma}$ .



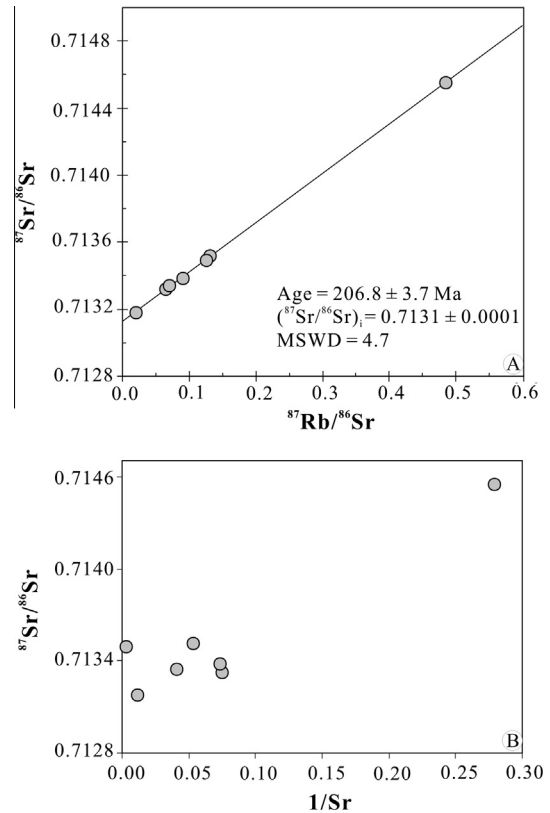


**Fig. 6.** Plots of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (A) and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (B) for sulfides and country rocks from the Jinshachang deposit. U – upper crust; O – orogenic belt; M – mantle; L – lower crust (Zartman and Doe, 1981).

metamorphic ( $-70\%$  to  $-20\%$ ) and magmatic ( $-80\%$  to  $-40\%$ ) water (Fig. 5; Zheng and Chen, 2000). Therefore, it is considered that the water in the ore-forming fluids was likely to be a mixture of metamorphic and meteoric water (Liu and Lin, 1999). In this study, we find that the  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values of fluid inclusions in Stage I quartz separates are similar to those of previous data (Table 3; Liu and Lin, 1999), whereas quartz separates of Stages II and III have lower  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values than previous data (Table 3; Fig. 5). On the other hand, all the calculated  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values in this study are higher than previous data within errors (Fig. 5). Organic matters are common in Cambrian sedimentary strata (black shale) and reaction between meteoric and/or metamorphic water with the organic matters will significantly reduce  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  values ( $<-90\%$ ; Zheng and Chen, 2000; Wu et al., 2013). In a  $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  vs.  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$  diagram (Fig. 5), Stages II and III samples fall into the field of organic water, and Stage I samples plot in the field between metamorphic and organic water. It is clear that in the late stage, organic water becomes more dominated (Fig. 5). This implies that  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  in the hydrothermal fluids mainly originated from organic water and most likely sourced from the Cambrian organic matters-bearing sedimentary rocks (black shale).

**Table 5**  
Rb–Sr isotopic compositions of sphalerite separates from the Jinshachang deposit.

| No. | Object     | Rb/ $10^{-6}$ | Sr/ $10^{-6}$ | $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{87}\text{Sr}$ | $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ | $2\sigma_m$ | Source     |
|-----|------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| JS1 | Sphalerite | 1.35          | 319           | 0.125                           | 0.7135                          | 0.0001      | This paper |
| JS2 | Sphalerite | 0.855         | 87.2          | 0.021                           | 0.7132                          | 0.0001      |            |
| JS3 | Sphalerite | 0.670         | 24.6          | 0.071                           | 0.7133                          | 0.0001      |            |
| JS4 | Sphalerite | 0.296         | 13.4          | 0.065                           | 0.7133                          | 0.0001      |            |
| JS5 | Sphalerite | 0.455         | 13.6          | 0.091                           | 0.7134                          | 0.0001      |            |
| JS6 | Sphalerite | 0.590         | 3.58          | 0.485                           | 0.7146                          | 0.0001      |            |
| JS7 | Sphalerite | 0.837         | 18.8          | 0.132                           | 0.7135                          | 0.0001      |            |



**Fig. 7.** (A) Rb–Sr isochron for sphalerite separates from the Jinshachang deposit; (B) plot of  $1/\text{Sr}$ – $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  for the sphalerite separates.

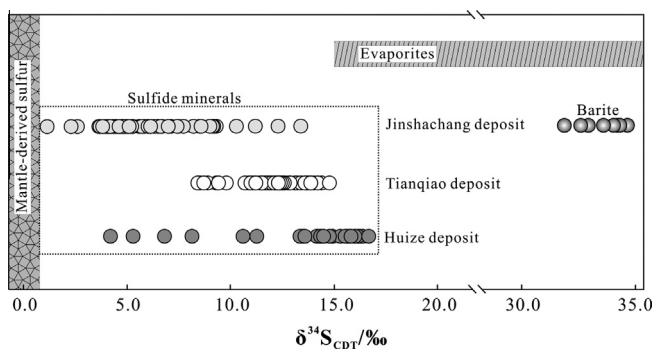
### 5.2.2. Sulfur

Sulfur isotope geochemistry was systemically studied by Bai et al. (2013). We find that the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$  values (Table 6) of ninety-one sulfide samples range from  $+1.1\%$  to  $+13.4\%$  (average  $+5.7\%$ ), lower than those of evaporites in the Cambrian to Triassic strata ( $+15\%$  to  $+35\%$ ; Claypool et al., 1980; Liu and Lin, 1999; Seal, 2006; Han et al., 2007a; Bai et al., 2013; Zhou et al., 2013d), whereas the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$  values of eight barite samples range from  $+32.1\%$  to  $+35.2\%$  (average  $+33.9\%$ ), similar to those of evaporites (Fig. 8). These observations suggest that  $\text{S}^{2-}$  in the hydrothermal fluids was derived from evaporites by thermo-chemical sulfate reduction (TSR), whereas  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  was directly originated from evaporites (Fig. 8; Bai et al., 2013). The formation mechanism of reduced sulfur in the Jinshachang hydrothermal fluids is in agreement with that proposed for the Tianqiao (Zhou et al., 2013a, 2014a) and Huize (Han et al., 2007a) deposits, but the  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$  values for the sulfides from the Jinshachang deposit are lower than the Tianqiao and Huize deposits (Fig. 8). This suggests that during the TSR process the  $\Delta^{34}\text{S}$  values between  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  and  $\text{S}^{2-}$  in different deposits are variable, likely due to varied  $\delta^{34}\text{S}$  values of evaporites in different hosting strata (Seal, 2006) and/or unequal metallogenic temperatures (Zhou et al., 2013e).

**Table 6**  
S isotopic compositions of sulfides and barite separates from the Jinshachang deposit.

| Mineral    | $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$<br>(‰) | Mineral    | $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$<br>(‰) | Mineral    | $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$<br>(‰) |
|------------|---|------------|---|------------|---|
| Sphalerite | 6.0                                       | Sphalerite | 12.3                                      | Sphalerite | 4.7                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Sphalerite | 5.6                                       | Galena     | 6.1                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.9                                       | Sphalerite | 8.6                                       | Galena     | 6.3                                       |
| Sphalerite | 5.0                                       | Sphalerite | 5.3                                       | Galena     | 7.0                                       |
| Sphalerite | 5.2                                       | Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Galena     | 8.2                                       |
| Sphalerite | 8.5                                       | Sphalerite | 5.0                                       | Galena     | 3.7                                       |
| Sphalerite | 5.0                                       | Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Galena     | 8.2                                       |
| Sphalerite | 11.2                                      | Sphalerite | 9.1                                       | Galena     | 6.0                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Sphalerite | 5.8                                       | Galena     | 6.6                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Sphalerite | 4.5                                       | Galena     | 7.5                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.9                                       | Sphalerite | 4.4                                       | Galena     | 6.1                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Galena     | 7.1                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Sphalerite | 5.7                                       | Galena     | 9.0                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Galena     | 9.0                                       |
| Sphalerite | 5.2                                       | Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Galena     | 8.6                                       |
| Sphalerite | 5.0                                       | Sphalerite | 4.3                                       | Galena     | 7.7                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.6                                       | Sphalerite | 5.2                                       | Galena     | 7.4                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.6                                       | Sphalerite | 4.0                                       | Galena     | 3.8                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Sphalerite | 4.2                                       | Galena     | 7.0                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.3                                       | Sphalerite | 4.6                                       | Galena     | 1.1                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.1                                       | Sphalerite | 4.1                                       | Galena     | 4.8                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.2                                       | Sphalerite | 4.0                                       | Galena     | 2.6                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.4                                       | Sphalerite | 3.6                                       | Galena     | 4.6                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.4                                       | Sphalerite | 3.9                                       | Galena     | 5.1                                       |
| Sphalerite | 4.5                                       | Sphalerite | 4.0                                       | Galena     | 2.3                                       |
| Sphalerite | 10.3                                      | Sphalerite | 4.1                                       | Barite     | 34.7                                      |
| Sphalerite | 9.3                                       | Sphalerite | 4.1                                       | Barite     | 33.3                                      |
| Sphalerite | 9.2                                       | Sphalerite | 4.2                                       | Barite     | 32.1                                      |
| Sphalerite | 6.7                                       | Sphalerite | 7.0                                       | Barite     | 35.2                                      |
| Sphalerite | 13.4                                      | Sphalerite | 6.5                                       | Barite     | 34.8                                      |
| Sphalerite | 9.2                                       | Sphalerite | 6.5                                       | Barite     | 32.9                                      |
| Sphalerite | 4.8                                       | Sphalerite | 4.7                                       | Barite     | 34.5                                      |
| Sphalerite | 4.4                                       | Sphalerite | 6.1                                       | Barite     | 34.0                                      |

Data are sourced from Bai et al. (2013).



**Fig. 8.** The  $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{CDT}}$  values for the Jinshachang deposit (Bai et al., 2013) are compared with the Tianqiao (Zhou et al., 2013a, 2014a) and Huize (Han et al., 2007a) deposits, and those of mantle (Chaussidon et al., 1989) and evaporites in the Cambrian to Triassic sedimentary strata (Claypool et al., 1980; Liu and Lin, 1999; Seal, 2006; Han et al., 2007a; Zhou et al., 2013d).

### 5.3. Possible sources of ore-forming metals

#### 5.3.1. Constraints from Pb isotopes

Because some Pb isotopes are radiogenic, the Pb isotope ratios need to be corrected to a consistent age in order to make comparisons between different phases (e.g., Carr et al., 1995; Muecher et al., 2005; Haest et al., 2010). Sulfides have very low U and Th contents. Hence the radiogenic Pb of sulfides after their formation is negligible and no age correction is needed, whereas the Pb isotopes in the sedimentary rocks are needed. Sphalerite Rb–Sr

isotopic dating shows that the age of Pb–Zn mineralization in the Jinshachang deposit is at ca. 206 Ma. Thus, an age of 206 Ma is used to correct Pb isotopic ratios of the country rocks and the age-corrected Pb isotopes are listed in Table 4. In terms of  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  vs.  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios (Fig. 6), all sulfide Pb isotope data of the Jinshachang deposit plot above the upper crust Pb evolution curves (Zartman and Doe, 1981), suggesting a crustal source of Pb in the hydrothermal fluids. Moreover, Pb isotopic data for sulfides overlap the Cambrian sedimentary rocks but are different from the dolostone of the Upper Sinian Dengying Formation (Fig. 6). This suggests that the Pb in the ore-forming fluids most likely sourced from the Cambrian sedimentary rocks.

#### 5.3.2. Constraints from Sr isotopes

In order to use Sr isotopes to trace the origin of ore-forming metals, age corrections are also needed (e.g., Fontbote and Gorzawski, 1990; Deng et al., 2000; Zhou et al., 2001; Gromek et al., 2012). Therefore, the 206 Ma sulfide formation age was used to correct  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of the basement, sedimentary rocks and basalts in the SYG province. The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206 \text{ Ma}}$  ratios of the Upper Sinian dolostone, Lower Cambrian carbonates and Middle Devonian to Lower Permian sedimentary rocks (carbonates and sandstone) range from 0.7073 to 0.7111 (Table 7; Deng et al., 2000; Shi et al., 2003; Huang et al., 2004; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b) and are lower than the initial  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratio of sphalerite (0.7131) in the Jinshachang deposit. In addition, the initial  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of main stage sphalerite is higher than those of Middle Permian basalts (0.7039–0.7078; Huang et al., 2004), but similar to the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206 \text{ Ma}}$  ratios of Lower Cambrian black shale (0.7120–0.7136; Jiang and Li, 2005). On the other hand, the Proterozoic folded basements have  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206 \text{ Ma}}$  ratios ranging from 0.7243 to 0.7288 (Chen and Ran, 1992; Li and Qin, 1988), significantly higher than the initial  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratio of sphalerite separates from the Jinshachang deposit (Fig. 9). Therefore, the Sr of sulfides in the Jinshachang deposit may have a mixed source with the majority most likely sourced from the Cambrian black shale.

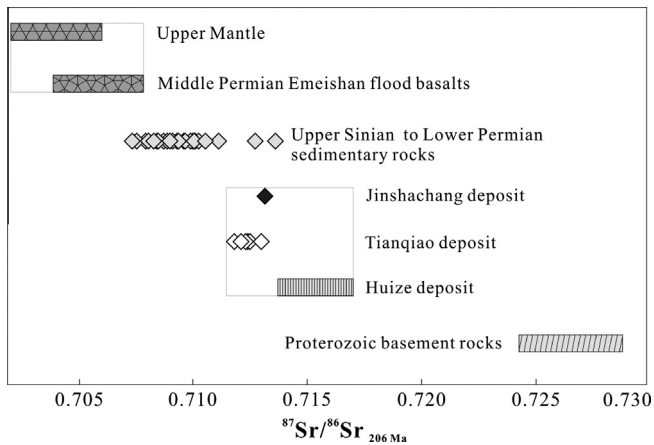
### 5.4. Ore genesis

Ore deposits in the SYG province may have been affected by multiple orogenic events that occurred in the western Yangtze Block (e.g., Zaw et al., 2007). Therefore, the ore genesis of these deposits has long been a matter of debate. For example, it has been proposed that all Pb–Zn deposits in the SYG province were distal magmatic-hydrothermal deposits (Xie, 1963; Xu et al., 2014) associated with the Emeishan basalts, while isotope geochronology studies have suggested that the Pb–Zn mineralization occurred between 222 and 192 Ma (Table 1; Li et al., 2007; Lin et al., 2010; Mao et al., 2012; Wu, 2013; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013d; Zhang et al., 2014), much younger than the basalts (ca. ~260 Ma; Zhou et al., 2002b). It has also been suggested that these Pb–Zn deposits are comparable to typical MVT-type deposits (e.g., Leach et al., 2005, 2010; Muecher et al., 2005; Pirajno, 2013) in terms of types of host rocks, origin of hydrothermal fluids and tectonic setting (Zheng and Wang, 1991; Zhou et al., 2001; Zaw et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2014). However, these deposits display a set of characteristics that contrast with those of typical MVT-type deposits (Table 1; Huang et al., 2004, 2010; Zhou et al., 2013a, 2013b, 2013c, 2013d, 2013e, 2014a, 2014b), including ore-controlling thrust faults and fold structures (convergent ore-forming geodynamic setting), high grades ore of Pb + Zn (usually >10 wt.%), complex sources of ore-forming elements, moderate temperatures (150–280 °C), medium salinities (usually <15 wt.% NaCl), simple wall rock alterations and the lack of collapse breccias (e.g., Han et al., 2007a, 2007b; Zhou et al.,

**Table 7**  
 $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206\text{ Ma}}$  values of basements, sedimentary rocks and basalts in the SYG province.

| Whole-rock                                | Num. | $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206\text{ Ma}}$ |         | Source  |
|---|------|---|---------|---|
|   |      | Range   | Average |   |
| Middle Permian Emeishan flood basalts     | 85   | 0.7039–0.7078                                   | 0.7058  | Li and Qin (1988), Chen and Ran (1992), Deng et al. (2000), Shi et al. (2003), Huang et al. (2004), Jiang and Li (2005) and Zhou et al. (2013a, 2013b, 2014b) |
| Lower Permian Qixia Fm., Limestone        | 3    | 0.7073–0.7089                                   | 0.7075  |   |
| Upper Carboniferous Maping Fm., Limestone | 2    | 0.7099–0.7100                                   | 0.7100  |   |
| Lower Carboniferous Baizuo Fm., Dolostone | 5    | 0.7087–0.7101                                   | 0.7094  |   |
| Upper Devonian Zaige Fm., Limestone       | 2    | 0.7084–0.7088                                   | 0.7086  |   |
| Middle Devonian Qujing Fm., Dolostone     | 1    | 0.7101  | 0.7101  |   |
| Middle Devonian Haikou Fm., Sandstone     | 1    | 0.7111  | 0.7111  |   |
| Lower Cambrian carbonates                 | 16   | 0.7084–0.7099                                   | 0.7091  |   |
| Lower Cambrian black shale                | 2    | 0.7120–0.7136                                   | 0.7128  |   |
| Upper Sinian Dengying Fm., Dolostone      | 2    | 0.7083–0.7096                                   | 0.7089  |   |
| Proterozoic folded basement rocks         | 5    | 0.7243–0.7288                                   | 0.7268  |   |
| Upper mantle                              |      | 0.704 ± 0.002                                   | 0.704   | Faure (1977)  |

$(^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_t = (^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr})_p + ^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr} (e^{t\lambda} - 1)$ ,  $\lambda_{\text{Rb}} = 1.41 \times 10^{-11} \text{ t}^{-1}$ ,  $t = 206 \text{ Ma}$ . Fm. = Formation.

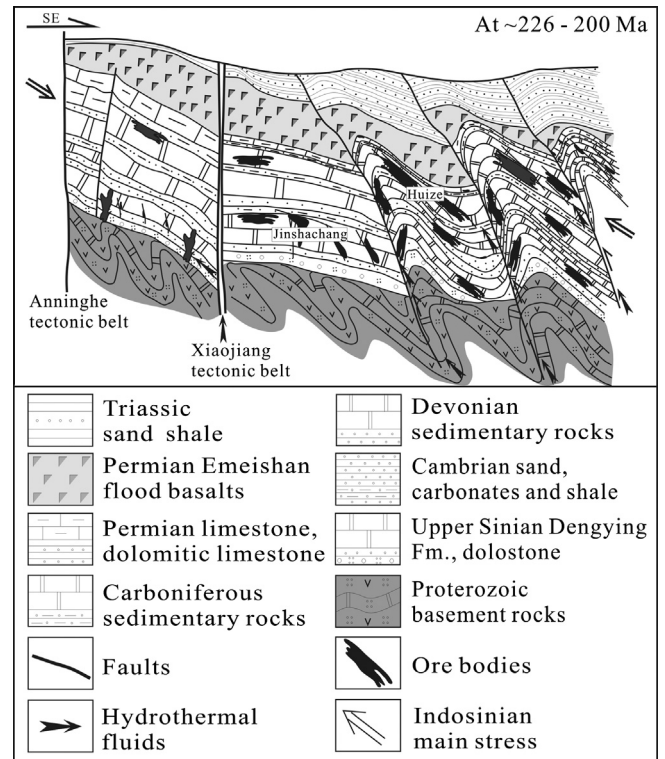


**Fig. 9.** Comparisons of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_{206\text{ Ma}}$  ratios among the Jinshachang, Tianqiao and Huize Pb–Zn deposits, Proterozoic basement rocks, Upper Sinian to Lower Permian sedimentary rocks, Middle Permian Emeishan flood basalts, and Upper Mantle (Faure, 1977). Data from the Huize and Tianqiao deposits, and whole-rock Sr isotopes are from previous studies, including Li and Qin (1988), Chen and Ran (1992), Deng et al. (2000), Shi et al. (2003), Huang et al. (2004), Jiang and Li (2005), Yin et al. (2009) and Zhou et al. (2013a, 2013b).

2013a, 2013b, 2014a, 2014b). Although there is no direct genetic relationship between the basalts and Pb–Zn deposits, the basalts could have provided some metals to the hydrothermal system (e.g., Huang et al., 2004, 2010; Xu et al., 2014; Zhou et al., 2014a, 2014b; Zhang et al., 2014). Therefore, an alternative model (Fig. 10) is that the Jinshachang deposit is a carbonate-hosted, strata-bound, thrust fold-controlled, epigenetic deposit with fluids and metals derived from the Cambrian sedimentary strata. The mineralization process is similar to that of MVT-type deposits elsewhere, including extraction of ore-forming elements from Cambrian sedimentary rocks by convective circulation of hydrothermal fluids and subsequent precipitation of these elements in favorable structural and lithological units (Fig. 10; Hu and Zhou, 2012).

## 6. Conclusions

(1) H–O–S–Pb–Sr isotopes suggest that the Cambrian sedimentary rocks, in particular the black shale, are the most important fluid and metal sources for the Jinshachang deposit.



**Fig. 10.** Metallogenic model of the SYG Pb–Zn deposits (modified from Han et al., 2012). At ~226–200 Ma, the closure of the Palaeo-Tethys Ocean resulted in deformation of the strata through thrust fault-fold structures, which is known as the Indosinian Orogeny. Thermal activity related to this event resulted in circulation of hydrothermal fluids within basement and country rocks where they picked up metals and formed reduced sulfur, and then subsequent precipitation of these elements in favorable structural and lithological units.

- (2) Sphalerite yields an Rb–Sr isotopic age of  $206.8 \pm 3.7 \text{ Ma}$ . This may represent the timing of Pb–Zn mineralization within the SYG province and suggests that the Jinshachang deposit formed during the Late Triassic related to late Indosinian Orogeny in response to the closure of the Palaeo-Tethys Ocean.
- (3) The Jinshachang deposit belongs to an epigenetic, carbonate-hosted, strata-bound and thrust fold-controlled deposit that is different from typical MVT deposits.

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