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Origin of the Muguayuan veinlet-disseminated tungsten deposit, South China: Constraints from in-situ trace element analyses of scheelite

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Xi[a](#page-0-0)o-Yu Li $^{\rm a}$, Jian-Feng Gao $^{\rm b, *}$ $^{\rm b, *}$ $^{\rm b, *}$, Rong-Qing Zhang $^{\rm a}$, Jian-Jun Lu $^{\rm a, *}$, Wen-Hui Chen $^{\rm c}$ $^{\rm c}$ $^{\rm c}$, Jin-Wei Wu $^{\rm a}$

a State Key Laboratory for Mineral Deposits Research, School of Earth Sciences and Engineering, Nanjing University, Nanjing 210023, China

^b State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guiyang 550081, China

c No. 418 Geological Team of Bureau of Geology and Mineral Exploration and Development of Hunan Province, China

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ABSTRACT

The Late Triassic Muguayuan W deposit is located in the middle of the Jiangnan Orogen, South China. This deposit is characterized by veinlet-disseminated W mineralization that developed in the Sanxianba granitic porphyry stock. The ore minerals are mainly scheelite with minor molybdenite and wolframite. Scheelite mineralization was closely related to greisenization and phyllic alteration, and took place in two stages. Stage I involved scheelite \pm wolframite \pm molybdenite + quartz veinlet and disseminated mineralization, whereas Stage II resulted in scheelite + quartz + sericite veinlet mineralization. Sulfide and quartz + calcite \pm pyrite veinlets formed during the post-ore stage. Scheelites from the two mineralization stages have different textures and compositions. Cathodoluminescence (CL) images of Stage I scheelites reveal two generations of growth (I-a and I-b). Stage I-a scheelite is dark under CL with oscillatory zoning, and has light rare earth element (LREE) enriched chondrite-normalized patterns, negative Eu anomalies, and high total REE contents. Stage I-b scheelite forms rim overgrowths on Stage I-a scheelite, is bright under CL, and shows positive Eu anomalies and relatively low REE contents. Although Stage II scheelites are nearly uniform under CL, they can be subdivided into two generations according to their REE systematics. Stage II-a scheelite yields middle REE (MREE)-enriched chondrite-normalized patterns, with negative Eu anomalies, whereas Stage II-b scheelite has MREE-depleted patterns with positive Eu anomalies. Minor amounts of apatite formed in both stages of mineralization. Stage I apatite contains 1370–1930 ppm Mn and 97.7–127 ppm Sr, whereas Stage II apatite has lower Mn (111–158 ppm) and higher Sr (2170–4690 ppm) concentrations. The distinct trace elements compositions of the scheelite and apatite from the two stages identify two ore-forming fluids that had different origins and compositions. The ore-forming fluids in Stage I-a were relatively reduced magma-derived fluids with high Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta, and low Sr. Fluid modeling shows that the initial fluids of Stage I-a were LREE-enriched with negative Eu anomalies, similar to the Sanxianba granitic porphyry. Precipitation of early apatite and scheelite, as well as plagioclase decomposition, altered the fluid composition and led to relative depletions in REE, Nb, and Ta, and increases of Eu and Sr in the Stage I-b fluids. Cooling of these fluids and the addition of recycled meteoric water led the fluids to become relatively oxidized and Sr-rich; Stage II scheelite precipitated from these fluids. Precipitation of Stage II-a scheelite resulted in the Stage II-b fluids becoming progressively MREE-depleted. Extensive alteration, especially greisenization and phyllic alteration, led to plagioclase decomposition, which provided the Ca necessary for scheelite mineralization. This process was important in generating the W mineralization in the Muguayuan deposit, and perhaps for other granite-hosted, veinlet-disseminated scheelite deposits in the Jiangnan Orogen.

1. Introduction

Scheelite deposits occur mainly as skarn and veinlet-disseminated types. Scheelite skarns are hosted in carbonate-rich rocks at or near the contacts with granitic intrusions, and the Ca-rich wall rocks are thought to be essential for scheelite precipitation ([Gaspar and Inverno, 2000;](#page-13-0) [Mao and Li, 1996; Werner et al., 2014; Wu et al., 2014\)](#page-13-0). Veinletdisseminated scheelite deposits occur mainly in granitic rocks and have previously been considered to be sub-economic (Seedorff [et al., 2005;](#page-13-1) [Sinclair et al., 2011](#page-13-1)). However, in the past decade, some large veinletdisseminated scheelite deposits have been discovered in the Jiangnan Orogen, South China (e.g., Dahutang, Yangchuling, and Dongyuan; [Fu](#page-13-2) [et al., 2011; Huang and Jiang, 2014; Mao et al., 2013, 2017; Xiang](#page-13-2) [et al., 2013\)](#page-13-2), revealing this to be one of the most important W

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[⁎] Corresponding authors. E-mail addresses: gaojianfeng@mail.gyig.ac.cn (J.-F. Gao), lujj@nju.edu.cn (J.-J. Lu).

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mineralization types in the world. For example, the Dahutang deposit has total W (WO₃) resources of > 2 Mt [\(Mao et al., 2013](#page-13-3)). These W ore deposit discoveries have led to new research into this type of scheelite mineralization. Unlike scheelite skarn mineralization, veinlet-disseminated scheelite mineralization is developed in granite and granitegranodiorite porphyries. This challenges the previous assumption that Ca-rich sedimentary wall rocks are essential for the formation of large scheelite deposits. A number of petrological, geochemical, and geochronological studies have been carried out on these veinlet-disseminated scheelite deposits [\(Huang and Jiang, 2014; Mao et al., 2013,](#page-13-4) [2015; Mao et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2017\)](#page-13-4). However, the origin and evolution of ore-forming fluids in these mineralizing systems remain unclear due to a lack of detailed investigations.

In-situ laser ablation-inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) trace element analysis of minerals has been widely used to constrain magmatic and hydrothermal processes [\(Brugger et al., 2000;](#page-13-5) [Ghaderi et al., 1999; Hazarika et al., 2016; Peng et al., 2004; Song et al.,](#page-13-5) [2014; Sun and Chen, 2017; Xiong et al., 2017](#page-13-5)). Scheelite is a common mineral that forms in various types of hydrothermal deposits, and it can incorporate abundant trace elements, such as rare earth elements (REEs), Sr, Y, Pb, Mn, and Mo, via substitution for Ca^{2+} or W^{6+} in the crystal lattice. These substitutions are controlled mainly by the crystal structure of scheelite and the physicochemical nature of the associated fluids [\(Brugger et al., 2000, 2008; Ghaderi et al., 1999; Liu et al., 2007;](#page-13-5) [Raimbault et al., 1993; Song et al., 2014; Zhao et al., 2018\)](#page-13-5).

[Ghaderi et al. \(1999\)](#page-13-6) analyzed the REE compositions of scheelites from orogenic Au deposits and concluded that crystal structure exerts a first-order control on the elemental chemistry of scheelite. [Brugger](#page-13-5) [et al. \(2000\)](#page-13-5) combined cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging and LA-ICP-MS trace element analyses of scheelite from the Mt. Charlotte and Drysdale Au deposits, Western Australia, and proposed that scheelite chemistry is sensitive to the dynamics of the hydrothermal system. [Song](#page-13-7) [et al. \(2014\)](#page-13-7) reported that high-Mo scheelite from the skarn-type W-Mo deposits precipitated under oxidizing conditions. [Sun and Chen \(2017\)](#page-14-0) used scheelite chemistry to show that ore-forming fluids for the giant Dahutang deposit were multistage and derived from multiple sources. Hence, in-situ LA-ICP-MS trace element analyses of scheelite can provide important insights into the origin and evolution of ore-forming fluids in veinlet-disseminated W ore deposits.

The newly discovered Muguayuan W deposit is located in central Hunan Province and is a typical veinlet-disseminated scheelite deposit within the Jiangnan Orogen. In this paper, we describe the geology and ore petrography of the Muguayuan deposit, and present CL imaging and in-situ LA-ICP-MS trace element analyses of scheelite. These observations and data advance our understanding of the evolution of hydrothermal fluids and mineralization processes in this deposit.

2. Geological background

The South China Block (SCB) comprises the Yangtze Block to the northwest and the Cathaysia Block to the southeast ([Wang et al.,](#page-14-1) [2007a,b, 2014\)](#page-14-1). At 860–820 Ma, these two blocks collided and amalgamated to form the SCB ([Wang et al., 2014; Zhou and Zhu, 1993\)](#page-14-2) along the Jiangnan Orogen ([Fig. 1](#page-2-0)a), which comprises mainly Neoproterozoic lower-greenschist-facies metamorphosed sedimentary rocks along with interbedded mafic-intermediate volcanic and pyroclastic rocks. These rocks have been intruded by undeformed Neoproterozoic granitoids ([Wang et al., 2004, 2014; Zhou et al., 2002](#page-14-3)).

The Central Hunan Metallogenic Province, located in the middle of the Jiangnan Orogen, was intruded by Triassic and subordinate Devonian granitic rocks ([Fig. 1](#page-2-0)b; [Chu et al., 2012\)](#page-13-8). There are three types of W mineralization in this province. Sb–Au–W deposits developed in Proterozoic to Paleozoic rocks ([Hu et al., 2017\)](#page-13-9), in which scheelite is a minor component. The genetic link between the Sb–Au–W deposits and magmatism is unclear [\(Ma et al., 2002; Peng et al., 2003](#page-13-10)). The other two types of W deposits are veinlet-disseminated and skarn

types, in which scheelites are the dominant W minerals. These deposits are spatially and genetically related to granitic rocks [\(Fig. 1b](#page-2-0); [Xie et al.,](#page-14-4) [2018\)](#page-14-4).

The Muguayuan deposit is a typical veinlet-disseminated W deposit and is located in the northern part of the Central Hunan Metallogenic Province ([Fig. 1](#page-2-0)b). Late Triassic granitoids in this district include the Taojiang granodiorite pluton, the Yanbaqiao granodiorite pluton, and the Sanxianba granitic porphyry stock and dikes [\(Fig. 1](#page-2-0)b). The Taojiang pluton, with an exposed area of 239 km^2 , is the largest granitic pluton in the district, and was emplaced at ∼217 Ma [\(Wang et al., 2012\)](#page-14-5). The Yanbaqiao pluton has an exposed area of $>$ 70 km² and has similar petrological features and emplacement age as the Taojiang pluton ([HBGMR, 1988](#page-13-11)). The Sanxianba granitic porphyry stock is exposed over a small area and is associated with W mineralization in the Muguayuan deposit.

3. Ore deposit geology

The main strata in the Muguayuan W deposit are the Neoproterozoic Lengjiaxi Group, the Madiyi Formation of the Banxi Group, and Quaternary sediments ([Fig. 2](#page-3-0)a). The Lengjiaxi Group comprises silty slate and sericite slate with a thickness of 649 m. The Madiyi Formation consists of gray to green silty slate, with sandstone and arkosic rocks near the base of the formation. The main structure is the Huaqiaogang syncline in the southern part of the deposit ([Fig. 2](#page-3-0)a). The main faults are the WNW-ESE-trending Fault I and NE-SW-trending Fault II. Fault I dips steeply to the northeast and controlls the emplacement of the Sanxianba granitic porphyry stock.

Tungsten mineralization developed in the Sanxianba granitic porphyry stock. The stock has an elongate surface exposure along Fault I, with a length of ∼200 m and width of ∼45 m [\(Fig. 2a](#page-3-0)). The stock has a porphyritic texture (20–60 vol% phenocrysts) and massive structure. Phenocrysts with grain sizes of 0.2–3.0 mm comprise quartz (30–40 vol %), K-feldspar (30–40 vol%), plagioclase (20–30 vol%; An = 30–40), and minor biotite $(< 5 \text{ vol}$ %) [\(Fig. 3](#page-4-0)a–c). The matrix is composed of microcrystalline feldspar, quartz, and mica [\(Fig. 3a](#page-4-0)). Accessory minerals include zircon, apatite, ilmenite, and monazite [\(Fig. 3c](#page-4-0)). In the east of the ore district, there are several NW-SE-trending granitic porphyry dikes ([Fig. 2](#page-3-0)a) that have similar mineral assemblages to the Sanxianba stock, but do not host W mineralization (No. 418 Geological Team, unpublished report).

The Sanxianba stock is strongly altered, including albitization, greisenization, phyllic alteration, and silicification, amongst which greisenization and phyllic alteration are the most common. Albite occurs as overgrowth rims on plagioclase, or within K-feldspar forming a perthitic texture ([Fig. 3b](#page-4-0)). Greisenization is characterized by the pervasive and micro-veinlet replacement of primary minerals by muscovite and quartz. The pervasive replacement resulted in the formation of sparsely distributed to abundant muscovite produced by the alteration of biotite ([Fig. 3d](#page-4-0)) and feldspar [\(Fig. 3e](#page-4-0)). Micro-veinlet replacement is characterized by the development of quartz and muscovite microveinlets that cut the granitic rocks ([Fig. 3](#page-4-0)f). Greisenization is always overprinted by phyllic alteration, in which sericite may replace muscovite [\(Fig. 3g](#page-4-0)). Phyllic alteration resulted in the formation of sericitequartz micro-veinlets ([Fig. 3](#page-4-0)h). In some cases, nearly all the primary rock-forming silicates have been replaced by sericite, with quartz being the only primary mineral remaining ([Fig. 3](#page-4-0)i).

Three major ore shoots have been delineated based on W grades ([Fig. 2b](#page-3-0)–c). The total W reserve (WO₃) is 23,300 metric tons (No. 418) Geological Team, unpublished report). The ore minerals are mainly scheelite and minor wolframite, molybdenite, pyrite, and arsenopyrite. Gangue minerals include quartz, muscovite, sericite, and minor ankerite and apatite. Scheelite is present in disseminated form in the altered granitic porphyry, or as aggregates in veinlets [\(Fig. 4](#page-5-0)).

Based on crosscutting relationships and mineral assemblages, the following stages of mineralization and veining are recognized.

Fig. 1. Regional geological map of the Central Hunan metallogenic province, southern China, showing the distribution of granitic intrusions and important Sb, Au, and W deposits (modified after [Xie et al., 2018\)](#page-14-4). Zircon U-Pb age of Taojiang pluton is from [Wang et al. \(2012\)](#page-14-5). Zircon U-Pb age of Baimashan pluton is from [Xie et al.](#page-14-4) [\(2018\)](#page-14-4).

(1) Stage I scheelite mineralization: Scheelite mineralization that formed during Stage I is disseminated or present as veinlets, and was associated with greisenization [\(Figs. 3](#page-4-0)d–f and [5d](#page-6-0)). Early scheelite \pm wolframite \pm molybdenite $+$ quartz veinlets (Stage I) have irregular walls and are 1–5 cm wide ([Fig. 4\)](#page-5-0). These veinlets contain scheelite \pm wolframite \pm molybdenite \pm pyrite \pm arsenopyrite \pm rutile and quartz + muscovite \pm apatite \pm ankerite ([Fig. 5](#page-6-0)a–d). Scheelite in Stage I veinlets is present as disseminated grains and aggregates ([Fig. 4](#page-5-0)). Wolframite is a residual phase after replacement by scheelite ([Figs. 4](#page-5-0)a and [5a](#page-6-0)). Molybdenite is present as tiny aggregates (0.1–0.3 cm) on the sidewalls of the veinlets ([Fig. 4](#page-5-0)b). Sporadic pyrite and arsenopyrite are disseminated in the veinlets [\(Fig. 5](#page-6-0)b). Rutile is rare and is associated with scheelite ([Fig. 5](#page-6-0)b). The quartz is milky in color ([Fig. 4\)](#page-5-0), anhedral, and has a variable grain size [\(Fig. 5a](#page-6-0)–d). Muscovite is present as aggregates in the veinlets [\(Fig. 5d](#page-6-0)). Stage I apatite is dumpy and occurs interstitially between scheelite grains ([Fig. 5](#page-6-0)c). Anhedral ankerite is associated with the scheelite in the veinlets ([Fig. 5](#page-6-0)a). Scheelite grains are also disseminated in the greisenized granitic porphyry ([Fig. 5](#page-6-0)e) and have similar CL brightness as scheelites in the Stage I veinlets [\(Fig. 6a](#page-7-0)–b).

(2) Stage II scheelite mineralization: Scheelite mineralization of Stage II formed mainly veinlets and was closely associated with phyllic alteration ([Figs. 3](#page-4-0)i, [4b](#page-5-0), and [5f](#page-6-0)). Stage II veinlets with widths of 0.1–0.5 cm crosscut Stage I veinlets and have clear contacts with the granitic porphyry ([Fig. 4b](#page-5-0)–c). Scheelite-bearing veinlets of Stage II

comprise mainly scheelite, quartz, and sericite, with minor ankerite, pyrite, and apatite. Scheelite is the main ore mineral and is present as continuous veinlets or disseminated grains [\(Figs. 4](#page-5-0)b–c, [5](#page-6-0)f, and [5](#page-6-0)i). Quartz in the veinlets occurs as anhedral and fine-grained crystals, whereas sericite is typically present in clusters of lobate flakes [\(Fig.](#page-6-0) 5f). Apatites in the Stage II veinlets have two different occurrences: intergrown with scheelite [\(Fig. 5](#page-6-0)g–h) and interstitial to quartz and scheelite ([Fig. 5i](#page-6-0)). Ankerite crystals are typically interstitial to other minerals ([Fig. 5i](#page-6-0)). Pyrite is fine-grained and found disseminated within the sericite clusters.

(3) Post-mineralization veinlets: In the Muguayuan W deposit, sulfide (pyrite \pm galena \pm sphalerite) and quartz + calcite \pm pyrite veinlets developed during the post-mineralization stage. Both types of post-ore veinlets crosscut the early scheelite-bearing veinlets. Sulfide veinlets are crosscut by late quartz + calcite \pm pyrite veinlets [\(Fig. 4d](#page-5-0)). Quartz + calcite \pm pyrite veinlets develop vugs that are filled by drusy quartz crystals ([Fig. 4](#page-5-0)d).

4. Samples and analytical methods

4.1. Samples

Scheelite samples were selected from the different mineralization stages. Scheelite samples ZK006-34 and ZK0402-41 (Stage I) represent disseminated mineralization. Scheelite samples ZK006-39 and ZK006-

Fig. 2. Geological sketch map of the Muguayuan W deposit (a) and the cross-sections of lines 0 and 4 (b and c) (modified after No. 418 Geological Team, unpublished report).

20 are from Stage I veinlets, and samples ZK0402-33 and ZK0402-36 are from Stage II veinlets. Thin-sections of the selected samples were prepared and polished for CL imaging and in-situ LA-ICP-MS trace element analysis. Apatite grains hosted in magmatic biotite and Stage I and II veinlets were also selected for in-situ LA-ICP-MS analysis.

4.2. Cathodoluminescence imaging

Cathodoluminescence (CL) imaging was employed to reveal the internal textures of minerals for use during micro-analysis ([Marshall,](#page-13-12) [1988\)](#page-13-12). CL images of scheelites were taken with a Carl Zeiss Supra 55 field-emission scanning electron microscope (FE-SEM) coupled to a GATAN MonoCL4 detector at the State Key Laboratory for Mineral Deposits Research in Nanjing University, China. The analysis conditions were an accelerating voltage of 3 kV, working distance of 11.5 mm, and aperture size of 30 μm.

4.3. LA-ICP-MS trace element analysis

Trace element contents of scheelites and apatites were measured with a Photon Machines Excite 193 nm laser ablation system coupled to an Agilent 7700x ICP-MS at the FocuMS Laboratory, Nanjing, China. Helium was used as the carrier gas and argon was the make-up gas. The make-up gas was mixed with the carrier gas via a T-connector prior to entering the ICP source. The instrument settings were optimized whilst ablating the NIST SRM 610 standard, to obtain maximum signal intensities, but keeping oxide (ThO/Th \langle 0.3%) and doubly charged ion $(Ba^{2+}/Ba^{+} < 0.4\%)$ production low. Each analysis incorporated 20 s of background acquisition (gas blank) followed by 40 s of data acquisition whilst ablating the sample. A laser beam with a diameter of 25–40 μm was used to ablate the scheelite grains. Analyses of NIST SRM 610 were performed after every eight sample analyses to correct the data for time-dependent sensitivity drift and mass discrimination [\(Liu](#page-13-13) [et al., 2008](#page-13-13)). Raw data reduction was performed off-line by ICPMS-DataCal 10.1 software using the 100%-normalization strategy, without applying internal standard [\(Liu et al., 2008](#page-13-13)).

Fig. 3. Photomicrographs of granite porphyry and alteration in the Muguayuan W deposit (crossed polars). (a) Porphyritic texture with quartz and K-feldspar phenocrysts. (b) K-feldspar includes the earlier plagioclase and biotite; albite replaced the plagioclase as overgrowth and K-feldspar as stripes. (c) Biotite phenocryst includes apatite as inclusion. (d) Muscovite replaces biotite, and after biotite alteration, anhedral or sagenitic Fe-oxides (opaque minerals) precipitate. (e) Feldspar is replaced by clusters of muscovite. (f) Quartz + muscovite micro-veinlet crosscuts K-feldspar. (g) Phyllic alteration overprints greisenization. (h) Intense phyllic alteration of the granite porphyry. (i) Intensive phyllic alteration with residual quartz phenocryst. Abbreviations: Ab: albite, Ap: apatite, Bt: biotite, Kfs: K-feldspar, Ms: muscovite, Pl: plagioclase, Qz: quartz, Rt: rutile, Sch: scheelite, Ser: sericite.

5. Results

5.1. Cathodoluminescence imaging of scheelite

Stage I scheelites from disseminated ore ([Fig. 6a](#page-7-0)) and Stage I veinlets ([Fig. 6b](#page-7-0)) have similar CL characteristics. They exhibit two distinct CL domains: inner dark cores (Stage I-a) and outer bright domains (Stage I-b). Scheelites from Stage II veinlets show no obvious CL zoning ([Fig. 6](#page-7-0)c–d). Cathodoluminescence imaging also revealed that some Stage II scheelites may form rim overgrowths or micro-veinlets penetrating the Stage I scheelite in veinlets [\(Fig. 6b](#page-7-0)).

5.2. Scheelite and apatite trace element data

Representative trace element analyses of scheelite and apatite are given in [Tables 1 and 2](#page-8-0), respectively. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns for the scheelite and apatite are presented in [Figs. 7 and 8,](#page-10-0) respectively.

Scheelites from Stages I and II have different REE patterns and trace element compositions. Stage I scheelites are characterized by high ΣREE concentrations (220–4020 ppm; average = 1350 ppm) and light REE (LREE)-enriched patterns [\(Table 1](#page-8-0); [Fig. 7a](#page-10-0)–d). These scheelites have high Mo $(3.63-3420 \text{ ppm})$; average = 1080 ppm), Mn $(48.1–244 \text{ ppm}; \quad \text{average} = 91.6 \text{ ppm}; \quad \text{Nb} \quad (21.8–266 \text{ ppm}; \quad \text{m}$ average = 120 ppm), and Ta $(0.36-11.0$ ppm; average = 4.39 ppm), and relatively low Sr $(37.7-487$ ppm; average = 89.7 ppm) contents ([Table 1](#page-8-0); [Fig. 9\)](#page-11-0). Stage II scheelites have highly variable REE patterns with relatively low ΣREE (23.2–1420 ppm; average = 360 ppm), and have low contents of Mo (average $= 3.16$ ppm), Mn (0.47–77.3 ppm; average = 8.36 ppm), Nb (2.59–154 ppm; average = 12.2 ppm), and Ta

(average $= 0.22$ ppm), and elevated Sr (60.3–3080 ppm; average = 1910 ppm) contents [\(Table 1](#page-8-0); [Figs. 7e](#page-11-0)–f and 9). From Stage I to II, scheelite Nb and Ta concentrations show a decreasing trend ([Fig. 9b](#page-11-0)).

Stage I scheelites can be divided into Stages I-a and I-b. Stage I-a scheelite has high ΣREE (285-4020 ppm; average = 1490 ppm) and negative Eu anomalies $(Eu_N/Eu_N^* = 0.12{\text -}0.96;$ average = 0.38 ppm), whereas Stage I-b scheelite has relatively low ΣREE (230–1020 ppm; average = 610 ppm) and positive Eu anomalies $(Eu_N/$ $Eu_N^* = 1.18-8.20$; average = 2.82). Stage I-a scheelite has higher concentrations of Nb and Ta, and lower Eu and Sr, than Stage I-b scheelite ([Fig. 9](#page-11-0)b and d).

Large Stage II scheelite grains ([Fig. 6](#page-7-0)e–f) exhibit two types of REE patterns: cores enriched in middle REE (MREE) (Stage II-a) or rims depleted in MREE (Stage II-b) [\(Fig. 7f](#page-10-0)). Small isolated scheelite grains ([Fig. 6](#page-7-0)c–d) have MREE-enriched patterns ([Fig. 7](#page-10-0)e) and are considered to be Stage II-a scheelite. Stage II-a scheelite has higher ΣREE (140–1420 ppm; average = 640 ppm) than Stage II-b scheelite (23.2–340 ppm; average = 104 ppm). From Stages II-a to II-b, the MREE (Sm–Ho) contents in the scheelites gradually decrease, and (La/ $Sm)_{N}$ ratios increase ([Fig. 9](#page-11-0)c). Eu anomalies in Stage II-a scheelite are negative $(Eu_N/Eu_N^* = 0.27{\text -}0.79$; average = 0.61), but are mostly positive ($Eu_N/Eu_N^* = 0.87-9.12$; average = 2.22) in Stage II-b scheelite.

Apatite in the Stage I veinlets has comparable trace element compositions to the magmatic apatite. Both of these apatites have MREEenriched patterns with pronounced negative Eu anomalies $(Eu_N/$ $Eu_{N}^* = 0.07-0.23$ and 0.05, respectively; [Fig. 8\)](#page-10-1) and high Σ REE (2530–4310 and 3190 ppm, respectively), Mn (1370–1930 and 2270 ppm, respectively), and Fe (409–1170 and 1080 ppm, respectively), but low Sr contents (79.7–128 and 44.8 ppm, respectively)

Fig. 4. Photographs of specimens showing crosscutting relationships of the scheelite-bearing and post-ore veinlets in the Muguayuan W deposit. (a): Scheelite \pm wolframite \pm molybdenite + quartz veinlet (Stage I). (b): Stage I veinlet is cut by scheelite + quartz + sericite veinlet (Stage II); molybdenite occurs at the sidewalls of the Stage I veinlet. (c): Stage II veinlet cuts Stage I veinlet. (d): Quartz + calcite ± pyrite veinlet cuts Stage I veinlet and sulfide veinlet; sulfide veinlet shifts Stage I veinlet. Abbreviations: Mol: molybdenite, Sch: scheelite, Wol: wolframite.

([Table 2\)](#page-10-2). Compared with Stage I apatite, apatite in Stage II veinlets has LREE-enriched patterns with moderately negative Eu anomalies (Eu_N / $Eu_N^* = 0.48-0.52;$ [Fig. 8\)](#page-10-1) and is relatively depleted in Σ REE (529–2230 ppm), Mn (111–158 ppm), and Fe (2.26–41.8 ppm), and enriched in Sr (2170–4690 ppm) [\(Table 2](#page-10-2)). Apatite in Stage II veinlets may have formed in two generations. One is intergrown with Stage II-a scheelite ([Figs. 5](#page-6-0)g–h and [6c](#page-7-0)) and is considered to have formed synchronously with Stage II-a scheelite. The second is present interstitially between Stage II scheelite and quartz ([Fig. 5i](#page-6-0)), and is thus assumed to have formed later (Stage II-b). Stage II-a apatite has higher ΣREE (2120–2230 ppm) than Stage II-b apatite (529 ppm) ([Table 2](#page-10-2)).

6. Discussion

6.1. Source, nature, and evolution of ore-forming fluids

6.1.1. Stage I mineralization: reduced magma-derived fluids

Stage I veinlets comprise mainly scheelite, wolframite, quartz, and muscovite, and are associated with greisenization, which are indicative of a high-temperature hydrothermal system ([Schwartz and](#page-13-14) [Surjono,1990; Shapovalov and Setkova, 2012](#page-13-14)). The fluids responsible for greisenization are considered to be magma-derived [\(Korges et al.,](#page-13-15) [2018; Somarin and Ashley, 2004; Webster et al., 2004\)](#page-13-15), and inherit the REE patterns of the parent granite (e.g., negative Eu anomalies; Š[temprok et al., 2005\)](#page-14-6). Hydrothermal minerals from ore-forming fluids with different compositions will have distinctive REE compositions and

patterns ([Brugger et al., 2000; Ghaderi et al., 1999; Song et al., 2014](#page-13-5)). As such, REE features of hydrothermal mineral can be used to trace the origins of fluids [\(Linnen et al., 2014; Smith et al., 2004; Sun and Chen,](#page-13-16) [2017; Zhao et al., 2018](#page-13-16)). Magmatic and Stage I apatites have similar REE patterns ([Fig. 8\)](#page-10-1), suggesting a genetic link between these apatites. Stage I-a scheelite has LREE-enriched patterns and negative Eu anomalies, which resemble those of the granitic porphyry [\(Fig. 7](#page-10-0)a) and are indicative of a genetic link to the granite [\(Sun and Chen, 2017](#page-14-0)). These features indicate that the ore-forming fluids in Stage I were derived from granitic magma.

Europium is a variable valence element that exists as Eu^{3+} in an oxidized environment and Eu^{2+} under reduced conditions. Eu^{3+} has a similar partition coefficient between scheelite and fluids to other REE^{3+} , whereas the partition coefficient of Eu^{2+} is much lower ([Brugger et al., 2000\)](#page-13-5). Therefore, in the plot of chondrite-normalized Eu (Eu_N) versus Eu_N^{*} (Eu_N^{*} = (Sm_N × Gd_N)^{1/2}) shown in [Fig. 10](#page-11-1), data for scheelite from Eu^{2+} -dominant fluids will plot parallel to the x-axis, whereas data for scheelite from oxidized fluids $(Eu³⁺$ -dominant) will plot along a line with a slope of one ([Ghaderi et al., 1999\)](#page-13-6). Data for Stage I scheelite forms a nearly horizontal line [\(Fig. 10](#page-11-1)), suggesting that Eu was predominantly Eu^{2+} in the Stage I fluids. Manganese in apatite is a reliable redox proxy, given that Mn contents in apatite show a negative correlation with oxygen fugacity ([Miles et al., 2014](#page-13-17)). Magmatic and Stage I apatites have elevated Mn contents (2270 and 1370–1930 ppm, respectively), which confirm that the granitic porphyry and Stage I fluids were relatively reduced.

Fig. 5. Photomicrographs and cathodoluminescence images showing the occurrences of scheelite and apatite. (a) Wolframite is replaced by scheelite in Stage I veinlet (crossed polars, ZK006-20). (b) Disseminated euhedral pyrite and arsenopyrite in Stage I veinlet; rutile is associated with scheelite (reflected light, ZK006-20). (c) Scheelite occurs as aggregate in Stage I veinlet; apatite occurs as interstitial in scheelite (crossed polars, ZK006-39). (d) Muscovite occurs as aggregates and is associated with scheelite in Stage I veinlet (crossed polars, ZK006-20). (e) Disseminated scheelite grains occur in altered granite porphyry; note that phyllic alteration overprints the greisenization (crossed polars, Zk0402-41). (f) Anhedral scheelite is associated with quartz and sericite in Stage II veinlet (crossed polars, ZK0402-36). (g) Small scheelite grains are enclosed in apatite of the Stage II veinlet (CL image, ZK0402-36). (h) Apatite intergrows with the scheelite grain in stage II veinlet (CL image, ZK0402-36). (i) Scheelite occurs as megacryst in Stage II veinlet; ankerite and apatite are interstitial among the quartz and scheelite grains (crossed polars, ZK0402-33). Apatites present in c, g, h and i are selected to conduct in-situ LA-ICP-MS analyses, and the data are given in [Table 2.](#page-10-2) Abbreviations: Ank: ankerite, Ap: apatite, Apy: arsenopyrite, Kfs: K-feldspar, Mol: molybdenite, Ms: muscovite, Pl: plagioclase, Py: pyrite, Qz: quartz, Rt: rutile, Sch: scheelite, Ser: sericite, Wol: wolframite.

Molybdenum and manganese in exsolved fluids tend to increase during the progressive crystallization of granitic magma ([Audetat and](#page-13-18) [Pettke, 2003](#page-13-18)). Stage I scheelite has elevated Mo and Mn contents ([Fig. 9a](#page-11-0)), which suggests that the Stage I fluids were Mo–Mn-enriched. The occurrence of molybdenite in Stage I veinlets also indicates the Morich nature of the Stage I ore-forming fluids. Strontium is a compatible element in apatite [\(Prowatke and Klemme, 2006\)](#page-13-19). As such, Sr in apatite is controlled mainly by the Sr content of the fluid or melt from which the apatite forms. Both the magmatic and Stage I apatites have relatively low Sr contents (44.8 and 79.7–127 ppm, respectively; [Table 2](#page-10-2)), indicating that the granitic melt and its exsolved fluids were Sr-poor. The Sr contents in Stage I scheelite are also low (37.7–487 ppm; [Fig. 9d](#page-11-0); [Table 1](#page-8-0)), reflecting the Sr-poor nature of the Stage I fluids.

Although Stage I-b scheelite has low REE concentrations and positive Eu anomalies, which differ from Stage I-a scheelite, both I-a and I-b scheelites have similar LREE-enriched patterns. This suggests that the Stage I-b fluids were derived from the Stage I-a fluids. Minerals that precipitated from Stage I-a fluids, as well as fluid–rock interaction (greisenization), likely changed the fluid composition from Stages I-a to I-b. The precipitation of REE-rich apatite and Stage I-a scheelite would have removed REEs from the fluids, resulting in a relative depletion of REEs in the evolved fluids and, as such, in Stage I-b scheelite. The decomposition of plagioclase during greisenization would have also released Eu and Sr into the fluids, which may have been responsible for the elevated Eu and Sr contents ([Fig. 9d](#page-11-0)) and positive Eu anomalies in Stage I-b scheelite ([Fig. 7](#page-10-0)a–b and d).

6.1.2. Stage II mineralization: involvement of oxidized meteoric water

Unlike Stage I mineralization that was associated with greisenization, Stage II mineralization was closely related to phyllic alteration. Phyllic alteration typically overlaps greisenization in W-(Sn) ore deposits [\(Heinrich, 1990; Pirajno, 2009;](#page-13-20) Štemprok et al., 2005), and is conventionally thought to result from interaction with evolved fluids formed by the mixing of magmatic fluids and low-temperature meteoric water ([Reynolds and Beane, 1985; Taylor, 1974, 1997](#page-13-21)). Thus, the fluids of Stage II were evolved and had different compositions and physicochemical conditions from the magmatic fluids of Stage I.

Of note, the Sr concentration of Stage II scheelite is more than one order of magnitude higher than that of Stage I scheelite ([Fig. 9d](#page-11-0)). Stage II apatite also has elevated Sr contents. Thus, the Stage II fluids likely had much higher Sr contents than the Stage I fluids. Strontium is compatible in both scheelite and apatite [\(Brugger et al., 2000; Prowatke](#page-13-5) [and Klemme, 2006](#page-13-5)), meaning that the precipitation of Stage I scheelite and apatite would have lowered rather than increased the fluid Sr content. Differentiation of magma also cannot elevate the Sr content of exsolved fluids ([Bai and Groos, 1999; Chappell and White, 1992](#page-13-22)). Therefore, an extra source of Sr is required to account for the formation of Sr-rich scheelite in Stage II. Strontium-rich scheelite (1455–6810 ppm) is also found in the Woxi deposit ([Fig. 1b](#page-2-0)), where high-Sr fluid is thought to have resulted from the hydrothermal leaching of Proterozoic strata ([Peng et al., 2003\)](#page-13-23). The strata in the Muguayuan W deposit are mainly part of the Neoproterozoic Banxi and Lengjiaxi groups ([Fig. 2](#page-3-0)a), which contain pyroclastic and tholeiitic to

Fig. 6. Representative cathodoluminescence images and photomicrograph of scheelites. (a) Disseminated scheelite in altered granite porphyry (ZK0402-41), showing similar texture with that of scheelite from Stage I veinlet (b). (b) Scheelite from Stage I veinlet; Stage I-a scheelite in dark domains has oscillatory zone and Stage I-b scheelite occurs as bright overgrowth of inner dark CL domains; Stage II-b scheelite occurs as overgrowth at the rim and as micro-veinlet penetrating the Stage I scheelite (ZK006-39). (c-d) Scheelites from Stage II veinlet without obvious zoning in CL images (ZK0402-36). (e) Photomicrograph of a scheelite megacryst from Stage II veinlet; the dark spots in the scheelite represent laser ablation pits (crossed polars, ZK0402-33). (f) CL image of the scheelite in the box in [Fig. 6e](#page-7-0). Circles in the CL images represent laser ablation pits. Abbreviations of minerals are the same as [Fig. 5](#page-6-0).

calc-alkaline volcanic rocks [\(He and Han, 1992; Wang et al., 2004;](#page-13-24) [Wang et al., 2007a,b; Xiao, 1983\)](#page-13-24). These mafic-intermediate volcanic and pyroclastic rocks are Sr-rich ([Wang et al., 2004\)](#page-14-3), and possibly provided the extra Sr in the Stage II fluids through interactions with meteoric water. The mixing of magmatic fluids with meteoric waters in the late stages of W (and Sn) mineralization has also been proposed for other W ore deposits. For example, [Pollard et al. \(1991\)](#page-13-25) hypothesized that dissipation of a magmatic hydrothermal system would facilitate the involvement of meteoric water in the mineralization system. [Somarin](#page-13-26) [and Ashley \(2004\)](#page-13-26) also suggested that with decreasing temperature, meteoric waters would be introduced and mixed with magmatic fluids, which triggered the low-temperature alteration and late-stage ore mineral precipitation in the Glen Eden Mo–W–Sn deposit, Australia. [Wang](#page-14-7) [et al. \(2015\)](#page-14-7) analyzed the H–O isotopic compositions of fluid inclusions in the Dahutang deposit, and suggested that the early ore-forming fluids were magma-derived, and were then progressively mixed with meteoric water during later mineralization stages.

The influx of meteoric water would have increased the oxygen fugacity of Stage II fluids, given that meteoric water is usually more oxidized than magmatic fluids ([White, 1955\)](#page-14-8). Stage II apatite has very low Mn contents (111–158 ppm) that are indicative of relatively oxidized conditions ([Miles et al., 2014](#page-13-17)). In [Fig. 10,](#page-11-1) data for the Stage II scheelites plot broadly along a diagonal array, which suggests that Eu in the fluid of this stage was dominantly Eu^{3+} [\(Ghaderi et al., 1999](#page-13-6)). This supports the inference that Stage II fluids were relatively oxidized as compared with Stage I.

From Stages I to II, scheelite Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta contents show a nearly linear change [\(Fig. 9](#page-11-0)a–b), which might have been caused by the successive precipitation of hydrothermal minerals ([Song et al., 2014;](#page-13-7) [Zhao et al., 2018\)](#page-13-7). Crystallization of molybdenite during Stage I would have significantly depleted the fluid Mo content, whereas the precipitation of Stage I oxides (e.g., rutile; [Green, 1995](#page-13-27)) and Nb-Ta-rich scheelite would have removed Nb and Ta from the fluids. Stage I scheelite is LREE- and Mn-rich, and Stage I apatite is REE- and Mn-rich. The precipitation of these minerals would have lowered the REE (particularly LREE) and Mn contents of the remaining fluids. Stage II-a apatite is LREE-rich ([Fig. 8\)](#page-10-1) and would have depleted the LREEs in the

Stage II fluids. Therefore, the Stage II ore-forming fluids have relatively low Mo, Mn, Nb, Ta, and REE (particularly LREE) contents, which are recorded by the Stage II-a scheelite ([Figs. 7](#page-10-0)e–f and [9a](#page-11-0)–c; [Table 1](#page-8-0)).

6.2. Modeling REE variations during scheelite precipitation

We modeled the REE compositional variations of scheelite and fluids during the precipitation of scheelite in the Muguayuan W deposit using the batch crystallization model. We assumed the initial fluid/ scheelite ratio (R_1) is

$$
R_1 = M_{\rm fl}/M_{\rm m1} \tag{1}
$$

where M_{f1} and M_{m1} are the mass fractions of fluid and scheelite in the first crystallization batch, respectively. The partition coefficient (D) is

$$
D = C_m / C_f \tag{2}
$$

where C_m and C_f are the concentrations of REEs in the scheelite and fluid, respectively. In these calculations, we assumed that the partition coefficients between scheelite and fluid remained constant. The REE content in the initial fluid (C_0) can be calculated as follows:

$$
C_0 = (C_{f1} \times M_{f1} + C_{m1} \times M_{m1})/(M_{f1} + M_{m1})
$$
\n(3)

where C_{m1} and C_{f1} are the REE concentrations in the scheelite and fluid of the first crystallization batch, respectively. Combining Eqs. (1) – (3) yields

$$
C_0 = C_{m1} \times (R_1 + D)/(1 + R_1)/D
$$
 (4)

In the first batch of scheelite precipitation (termed 1th Sch), Eq. [\(4\)](#page-7-2) leads to

$$
C_{m1} = C_0 \times (1 + R_1) \times D/(R_1 + D)
$$
\n(5)

$$
C_{\rm fl} = C_{\rm ml}/D\tag{6}
$$

During the 2nd Sch, we set $R_2 = R_1 - 1$, which reflects the decrease in the fluid mass fraction in the fluid-scheelite system due to the crystal fractionation during the 1th Sch. This then leads to

$$
C_{m2} = C_{f1} \times (1 + R_2) \times D/(R_2 + D)
$$
 (7)

Table 1

LA-ICP-MS analyses of trace elements (in ppm) of scheelite from the Muguayuan W deposit.

(continued on next page)

Table 1 (continued)

Note: b.d.-below detection limit.

$$
C_{f2} = C_{m2}/D \tag{8}
$$

During the nth Sch (n is a positive integer), we set $R_n = R_{1-n} + 1$, which leads to

$$
C_{mn} = C_{fn-1} \times (1 + R_n) \times D/(R_n + D)
$$
\n(9)

$$
C_{\rm fin} = C_{\rm mn}/D \tag{10}
$$

The REE partition coefficients between scheelite and fluid were taken from [Brugger et al. \(2000\).](#page-13-5) Due to the very different partition coefficients of Eu^{2+} and Eu^{3+} , the bulk partition coefficient of Eu^{2+} and Eu^{3+} is defined as D_{Eu} , which can be calculated as

$$
D_{Eu} = F \times D_{Eu2+} + (1 - F) \times D_{Eu3+}
$$
 (11)

where F is the mass fraction of \rm{Eu}^{2+} in the initial fluid.

The Stage I and II fluids had different oxygen fugacities, meaning that their Eu^{2+}/Eu^{3+} ratios were different. Values of F = 0.85 and $F = 0.4$ were assumed for Stages I and II, respectively. This is consistent with the inference that Stage I and II fluids were Eu^{2+} - and Eu^{3+} dominant, respectively [\(Fig. 10\)](#page-11-1).

For Stage I, we choose sample ZK006-34, which has relatively continuous and variable scheelite REE contents, to model the REE fractionation during scheelite precipitation. The initial fluid/scheelite ratio (R_1) was set to 120, and the REE concentration of the system was calculated from Eq. [\(4\)](#page-7-2) using the REE concentration of analysis 5 in sample ZK006-34, which had the highest measured REE concentration and thus may be most representative of the initial fluid [\(Table 1\)](#page-8-0). For Stage II, sample ZK0402-33 was selected to conduct the modeling. The initial fluid/scheelite ratio was set to 60 and C_{oREE} was based on analysis 19 in ZK0402-33, which had the highest measured REE concentration ([Table 1\)](#page-8-0). The modeling results are provided in Supplementary Table A1.

It should be noted that the natural scheelite-fluid system is more complex than the model we developed. For example, there are other REE-rich minerals, such as apatite, in the natural system, and scheelitefluid REE partition coefficients may change as the system evolves. However, given that scheelite is the dominant REE-bearing mineral in the system, we use our simplified model. The similar measured and

Table 2

LA-ICP-MS analyses of trace elements (in ppm) of apatite from the Muguayuan W deposit.

Type	Magmatic apatite	Stage I apatite	Stage I apatite	Stage II-a apatite	Stage II-a apatite	Stage II-b apatite
Sample	ZK006-34- 09	ZK006- 20-20	ZK006- 39-05	ZK0402- 36-01	ZK0402- 36-06	ZK0402- 33-08
La	240	198	286	370	298	79.8
Ce	742	616	994	803	774	147
Pr	114	96.7	161	81.9	95.4	18.4
Nd	581	478	806	286	366	82.8
Sm	252	207	305	83.7	126	38.2
Eu	4.20	17.6	8.31	16.3	22.2	6.60
Gd	328	264	412	111	160	46.6
Tb	65.5	53.1	80.6	22.0	30.7	8.44
Dy	400	317	529	148	178	46.3
Ho	75.7	54.9	108	30.2	32.1	8.29
Er	189	123	291	77.4	77.7	18.7
Tm	25.3	15.2	40.1	10.5	9.78	2.76
Yb	153	78.3	253	67.6	57.3	21.6
Lu	20.0	8.33	32.5	8.80	7.30	3.13
Y	1920	1400	2950	934	838	267
ΣREE	3190	2530	4310	2120	2230	529
$EuN/EuN*$	0.05	0.23	0.07	0.52	0.48	0.48
(La/Sm) _N	0.61	0.62	0.60	2.85	1.53	1.35
(La/Yb) _N	1.12	1.82	0.81	3.92	3.73	2.65
Mn	2270	1930	1370	156	158	111
Fe	1080	1170	409	41.8	34.5	2.26
Sr	44.8	79.7	128	2660	4690	2170

Fig. 8. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns of apatite from the Muguayuan W deposit. Chondrite values are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\)](#page-14-9).

modeled REE results indicate that our model is reliable [\(Fig. 11](#page-12-0)).

The modeling results support the inference that the Stage I and II fluids had different compositions and physicochemical conditions. The initial Stage I fluids were relatively reduced $(Eu^{2+}-dominant)$ and had a similar REE pattern to that of the Sanxianba granitic porphyry ([Fig. 11](#page-12-0)a), indicating that these fluids were exsolved from the granitic magma. Initial Stage II fluids were relatively oxidized and evolved, and

Fig. 7. Chondrite-normalized REE patterns of scheelites from the Muguayuan W deposit. Chondrite values are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\).](#page-14-9) REE concentration of Sanxianba granite porphyry is from our unpublished data.

Fig. 9. Comparison of trace element compositions of different scheelites from the Muguayuan W deposit. (a): Mo VS. Mn; (b): Nb VS. Ta; (c): $(La/Sm)_N$ VS. $(La/Sm)_N$; (d): Eu VS. Sr. (La/Sm) _N represents the fractionation among LREE and MREE, while (La/Yb) _N represents fractionation among LREE and HREE, chondrite values are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\).](#page-14-9)

Fig. 10. Plot of chondrite-normalized Eu concentrations (Eu_N) vs. calculated Eu $_{\rm N}^{*}$ values of scheelite, where Eu $_{\rm N}^{*} = (\rm{Sm_{N}}^{*}$ Gd $_{\rm N})^{1/2}.$ The dashed line represents 1:1 correlation line assuming that Eu_N is identical to Eu_N^* .

had relatively flat REE patterns ([Fig. 11b](#page-12-0)). The previous precipitation of scheelite would have significantly changed the trace element chemistry of residual fluids and, as such, subsequently precipitated scheelite ([Fig. 11\)](#page-12-0). The modelling results also indicate that Stages I and II had different fluid/scheelite ratios. Stage I scheelite precipitated at

relatively high fluid/scheelite ratios, whereas the fluid/scheelite ratios of Stage II were relatively low (Supplementary Table A1).

6.3. Genesis of the Muguayuan W deposit

The mechanism of W mineralization is an important field of research, but remains poorly understood ([Korges et al., 2018;](#page-13-15) Štemprok [and Seltmann, 1994](#page-13-15)). It is generally accepted that fluid exsolution is an important prerequisite for W migration and mineralization ([Audetat](#page-13-28) [et al., 2000a, 2000b; Manning and Henderson, 1984; Pirajno, 2009;](#page-13-28) [Wood and Samson, 2000; Zajacz et al., 2008\)](#page-13-28). The early fluids in granite-related W deposits are typically dominantly magma-derived, and become progressively mixed with meteoric waters in later stages ([Audetat et al., 2000b; Beuchat et al., 2004; Bowman et al., 1985; Gao](#page-13-29) [et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2003; Mangas and Arribas, 1988; Wang et al.,](#page-13-29) [2017\)](#page-13-29). Tungsten (and Sn) mineralization is commonly associated with extensive fluid-rock alteration [\(Esmaeily et al., 2005; Heinrich, 1990;](#page-13-30) [Pollard, 1983; Somarin and Ashley, 2004;](#page-13-30) Štemprok, 1987; Štemprok [et al., 2005; Webster et al., 2004](#page-13-30)), and it has been suggested that fluidrock reaction is important (or essential) for the formation of W ore deposits ([Jiang et al., 2015; Korges et al., 2018; Lecumberri-Sanchez](#page-13-31) [et al., 2017; Pirajno, 2009](#page-13-31)).

The Muguayuan W deposit provides an excellent opportunity to better understand W mineralization. According to our observations, the mineralization in this deposit can be divided into two stages. In Stage I, the initial ore-forming fluids were magma-derived, relatively reduced, and had similar REE compositions to those of the Sanxianba granitic porphyry ([Fig. 11](#page-12-0)a). The fluids caused extensive greisenization, during which biotite and feldspar were replaced by muscovite and sericite. The replacement of biotite by muscovite released Mn, Nb, and Ta into fluids

Fig. 11. Modelling of REE composition of scheelite during the batch fractionation of scheelite in Stage I (a) and Stage II (b). The shaded regions are REE patterns of scheelite samples and the solid lines represent the modeling REE patterns of different batches (marked as ordinal numeral) of scheelites. Chondritic values are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\).](#page-14-9) REE concentration of Sanxianba granite porphyry is from our unpublished data.

([Ballouard et al., 2016\)](#page-13-32). As plagioclase was replaced by muscovite and sericite, Ca^{2+} was released into the fluids [\(Hemley and Jones, 1964](#page-13-33)). The elevated fluid Ca content promoted the precipitation of Stage I scheelite (e.g., [Gibert et al., 1992; Liu et al., 2012; Seal et al., 1987;](#page-13-34) [Wood and Samson, 2000\)](#page-13-34). Stage I-a scheelite, inheriting the trace element composition of early magma-derived fluids, is LREE-enriched with negative Eu anomalies, and has high Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta, but low Sr contents. Plagioclase decomposition released Eu and Sr, resulting in increased contents of these elements in the evolving fluid. Precipitation of hydrothermal minerals, such as scheelite and apatite, would have gradually lowered the REE, Nb, and Ta contents in the evolving fluids. These changes in fluid composition are recorded by Stage I-b scheelites.

In Stage II, the magmatic fluids were increasingly consumed, temperature decreased, and meteoric water infiltrated the fluid system ([Pollard et al., 1991; Somarin and Ashley, 2004](#page-13-25)). Precipitation of Stage I scheelite (LREE-rich), apatite, molybdenite, and oxides significantly decreased the fluid REE (particularly LREE), Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta contents. Recirculating meteoric waters that had interacted with Sr-rich basaltic rocks were incorporated into the mineralization system. These mixed fluids led to intense phyllic alteration ([Reynolds and Beane,](#page-13-21) [1985; Taylor, 1974, 1997](#page-13-21)). The initial Stage II fluids were relatively depleted in LREE, Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta, and they had flat REE patterns ([Fig. 11](#page-12-0)b). Due to the addition of oxidizing and Sr-rich meteoric water, the Stage II fluids became relatively oxidized and Sr-rich. During phyllic alteration, plagioclase and K-feldspar were extensively replaced by

sericite ([Hemley and Jones, 1964](#page-13-33)). Feldspar decomposition led to the release of abundant Ca from plagioclase ([Hemley and Jones, 1964](#page-13-33)) and P from alkali feldspar ([Fryda and Breiter, 1995; London, 1992](#page-13-35)) into the fluids, and promoted the precipitation of Stage II scheelite and apatite. The fluids were consumed by extensive greisenization or lost from the system, resulting in the decreasing fluid/scheelite ratio during Stage II. Due to the low fluid/scheelite ratio, the trace element composition of scheelite was controlled mainly by the scheelite-fluid partition coefficients. Stage II-a scheelite preferentially incorporated the MREEs, given that the MREEs have the highest scheelite-fluid partition coefficients ([Brugger et al., 2000; Zhao et al., 2018](#page-13-5)). Thus, precipitation of these MREE-rich scheelites would have gradually reduced the fluid MREE concentrations, leading to the progressive depletion of MREEs in Stage II-b scheelite ([Fig.](#page-10-0) 7f).

The source of Ca is critical for scheelite mineralization. Unlike skarn scheelite deposits with carbonate wall rocks that provide Ca, most veinlet-disseminated scheelite mineralization in the Jiangnan Orogen is hosted by granitic rocks. This type of deposit cannot directly acquire sufficient Ca from the surrounding strata to produce mineralization. However, greisenization and phyllic alteration are extensive in such veinlet-disseminated W deposits [\(Jiang et al., 2015; Sun and Chen,](#page-13-31) [2017; Wang et al., 2017](#page-13-31)). As such, plagioclase decomposition during such alteration may provide the necessary Ca, and thus plays an important role in the W mineralization. We consider that this is the critical ore-forming mechanism responsible for the veinlet-disseminated W deposits in the Jiangnan Orogen.

7. Conclusions

- 1. Two stages of ore-forming fluids contributed to scheelite formation in the Muguayuan W deposit. Stage I fluids were relatively reduced, magma-derived, enriched in Mo, Mn, Nb, and Ta, and poor in Sr. Initial Stage I fluids were LREE-enriched and had negative Eu anomalies (Stage I-a), and evolved to Stage I-b fluids with positive Eu anomalies and low REE contents due to the precipitation of earlier hydrothermal minerals and greisenization.
- 2. Stage II ore-forming fluids resulted from the mixing of the evolved magmatic fluids with recirculating meteoric waters, and became relatively oxidized. These mixed fluids had low REE contents with a flat REE pattern. The precipitation of Stage II-a scheelite resulted in a marked reduction in fluid MREE contents and in the MREE-depletion of Stage II-b scheelite. Leaching of Sr from Ca-rich basaltic country rocks led to a significant increase in the Sr contents of Stage II fluids.
- 3. Plagioclase decomposition played a key role in the Muguayuan W mineralization, by providing the Ca in the fluids that allowed scheelite precipitation to take place.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found, in the online version, at [https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oregeorev.2018.06.005.](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oregeorev.2018.06.005)

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