

## WHOLE-ROCK CHEMISTRY AND GENETIC TYPOLOGY OF THE WEST-CARPATHIAN VARISCAN GRANITES

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(Manuscript received June 9, 2000; accepted in revised form March 15, 2001)

**Abstract:** The geochemistry of 166 new whole-rock analyses from West-Carpathian Variscan granitic rocks are presented on the basis of their division into four principal groups: S-, I-, A- and specialized S-type ( $S_S$ ). The contribution shows some discrimination diagrams which are useful for the recognition of these principal granite groups and also give a possible outline of the geodynamic scenario of their origin. All studied groups belong to mainly crustal aluminic ( $S_S$ -, S-type) and aluminocafemic (I-, A-, partly S-type) associations, mantle-derived cafemic dioritic rocks are rare. Generally, the S- and I-type groups show predominantly  $Na_2O/K_2O$  ratio  $> 1$ , whereas A- and  $S_S$ -type granites usually exhibit  $Na_2O/K_2O < 1$ . I-types are more Si-poor and Fe, P-rich than other groups, however, a part of the  $S_S$ -type group belongs to the P-rich evolved granites ( $> 0.2$  wt. %  $P_2O_5$ ) and the A-types are generally very poor in P. The Zr vs.  $SiO_2$  diagram clearly discriminates Zr and Si-rich hypersolvus A-type from other groups, similarly the A-types show the highest Zr/Hf-ratio and Y contents ( $> 20$  ppm). Ba-Sr and Sr-Rb diagrams successfully divide plagioclase-rich I-type from S-, A-type and especially from K,Na-feldspar-rich  $S_S$ -type. The newly modified Rb-Ba-Sr diagram reliably discriminates the groups: poorly (I, S), mildly (S, A, rarely I) and strongly evolved granites ( $S_S$ , rarely S and A) were recognized. REE rock/chondrite normalized diagram discriminate all groups: REE-rich I-type without Eu-anomaly, from REE-rich A-type with negative Eu-anomaly and REE-poor S- and especially  $S_S$ -type with pronounced negative Eu-anomaly. In this sense of the geotectonic position, the S- and I-type can be considered as orogenic granites, in contrast, the A-type and  $S_S$ -type granites are post-orogenic members.

**Key words:** Western Carpathians, geochemistry, granitic rocks, S-, I-, A-,  $S_S$ - types.

### Introduction

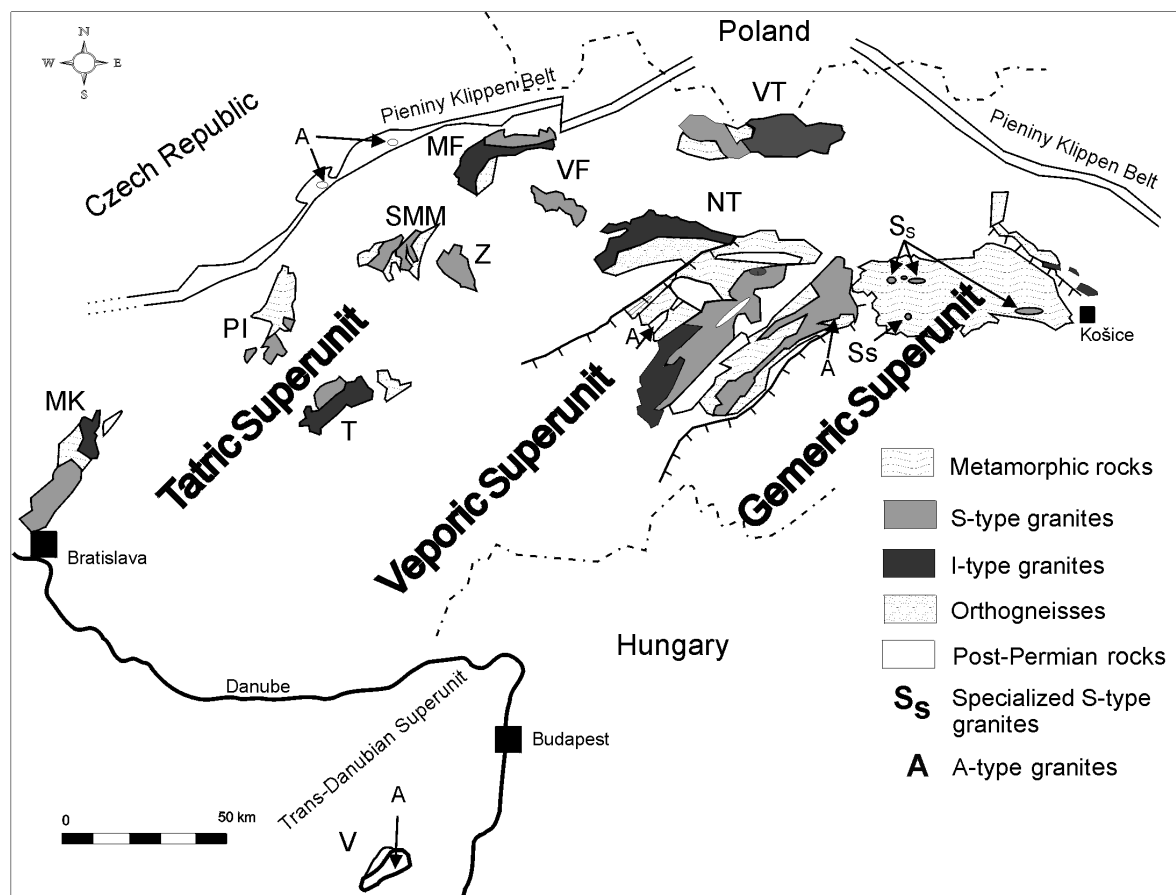
New analytical data, for the most part unpublished have been gathered in chemical laboratories at Ottawa University, Canada and in Memorial St. John's University, Canada. These data permit a new study of the chemical variability of granitic rocks in the Western Carpathians. A subset of the samples which were analysed and published previously (mainly "ZK" series, Cambel & Walzel 1982; "BP" series, Uher et al. 1994) were re-analysed. Consequently, this set is the first complete large database of major and trace elements of all principal genetic types of West Carpathian Variscan granitic rocks.

Geochemical studies of the West-Carpathian granites until now, usually did not take into account variations between the genetic groups of the granites but they were based mainly on the investigation of granitic groups according to the IUGS classification and composition variations between granites, granodiorites and tonalites. The West-Carpathian Variscan granitic rocks were considered as genetically more-or-less coherent group which shows primary differentiation caused mainly by fractional crystallization. Tonalite, granodiorite to granite sequences were regarded as common differentiation trend characterized by the decreasing of compatible elements, such as P, Zr, Hf, Cr, Ni, Co, V, and by the increasing of incompatible elements, such as Rb, Sn (e.g. Cambel & Viliňová 1981; Cambel & Viliňovič 1987; Jacko & Petrik 1987; Hovorka & Petrik 1992; Kohút & Janák 1994). Occasionally, besides the crystal fractionation, wall-rock assimilation has been emphasized (Jacko & Petrik 1987). In the past,

the granite rock-forming minerals (feldspars, micas) were studied in detail (e.g. Macek et al. 1979, 1982; Petrik 1980, 1982b; Viliňovičová 1989). Later geochemical granite subdivision into I- and S-types were realized (Klomínský et al. 1981; Cambel & Petrik 1982; Cambel et al. 1985), the subdivision of the Veľká Fatra granites into two separate independent groups on the basis of bulk rock compositions was proposed (Kohút 1992).

Using the fundamental mineralogical criteria, especially accessory mineral assemblages, zircon typology and allanite-monazite dichotomy, together with geochemical and isotopic data led to a subdivision of the West-Carpathian granites, into monazite-ilmenite and allanite-magnetite group (Broska & Uher 1991; Broska & Gregor 1992; Petrik & Broska 1994). Later, the identification of post-orogenic A-type granites mainly on the basis of zircon typology and trace-element chemistry (Uher & Gregor 1992; Uher & Broska 1996) shed a new light on the understanding of granite development in the Western Carpathians. It resulted to the division of the West-Carpathian granites into S-, I-, A-type groups (Petrik et al. 1994).

The aim of this paper is to characterize Variscan West-Carpathian granites on the basis of 166 new analyses in terms of recently used genetic classification, based on S, I, A typology (Chappell & White 1974; Whalen et al. 1987), except the Devonian metagranites (orthogneisses), which were not included into the sample set. For this purpose, we subdivided studied set of West-Carpathian granite analyses into the four geochemical groups: (1) S-type granites, meso-Variscan (2) I-type,



**Fig. 1.** Schematic geological map of the distribution of Variscan West-Carpathian granites. *Explanations:* MK — Malé Karpaty Mts, T — Tribeč Mts, PI — Považský Inovec Mts, SMM Suchý and Malá Magura Mts, MF — Malá Fatra Mts, VF — Veľká Fatra Mts, NT — Nízke Tatry Mts, VT — Vysoké Tatry Mts, V — Velence Mts (Hungary).

meso- + late-Variscan, (3) A-type, post-Variscan and (4) post-Variscan specialized rare-element S-type granites ( $S_s$ -type).

Despite plotting of numerous discrimination diagrams of granitic rocks, we present only the most distinctive ones in order to demonstrate the chemical variability of the granite groups. The contribution also illustrates an outline of the possible geotectonic scenario of the West-Carpathian Variscan granites in sense of their time and spatial relationship.

### Occurrences of the West-Carpathian Variscan granitic rocks

Variscan magmatic activity is manifested by intrusions of several granitoid plutons, separated tectonically in the principal West-Carpathian Alpine superunits: Tatric, Veporic and Gemeric (Plašienka et al. 1997) Fig. 1. The granites often occur as sheet-like bodies (Kohút & Janák 1994) or laccoliths (Lexa & Bezák 1996) and they are emplaced into metapelites to metapsammites of amphibolite facies, locally contact thermal metamorphism caused by granitoid intrusions occurs (e.g. Krist et al. 1992). The protolith of the granites was represented mostly by the metapelites, metagreywackes or older meta-granites (Petrik 2000). The inhomogenities in Sm/Nd system

are interpreted as the evidence of contamination and/or magma mixing (Kohút et al. 1996, 1999a) and a Proterozoic recycling component in granite protoliths is supposed (Kohút et al. 1995, 1999a). At the present tectonic position, relatively large granitic plutons crop out in the Tatric and Veporic Superunits, in contrast to small and mostly hidden granitic bodies in the Gemeric Superunit. The Velence granites in the Trans-Danubian Superunit (Hungary), occur to the N of the Balaton lineament and belong to the Western Carpathians (cf. Plašienka et al. 1997). U-Pb and Rb-Sr isotope dating of the West-Carpathian granitic rocks reveal a relatively wide time span of their origin, around 150 Ma (e.g. Cambel et al. 1990; Petrik & Kohút 1997; Petrik 2000; Uher & Broska 2000; Poller et al. 2000).

### Typology of the West-Carpathian Variscan granitic rocks

#### *S-type granites*

They represent peraluminous biotite and two-mica granites to granodiorites locally accompanied by numerous pegmatites. They are characterized by the dominance of monazite-(Ce)

over allanite-(Ce) or absence of allanite accompanied with xenotime-(Y). The allanite-monazite dichotomy or antagonism has been observed in the West-Carpathian granitic rocks for over three decades (e.g. Hovorka & Hvoždara 1965; Chovan & Határ 1978; Hvoždara 1979; etc.), and together with zircon typology, and presence of almandine and ilmenite, it became one of the basic criteria for the genetic subdivision of the West-Carpathian granites into the S- and I-type granite groups (Broska & Uher 1991; Broska & Gregor 1992; Petrik & Broska 1994). Zircon typology of the S-type granites (mainly  $S_{1-2}$ ,  $S_{6-7}$ ,  $L_{1-2}$ ,  $G_1$  subtypes) indicates low-temperature crustal aluminous character of the granites according to the Pupin (1980) classification. Apatite locally show a dusky brown (smoky) colour due to minute carbon-bearing inclusions, which indicates low  $fO_2$  conditions of crystallization (Broska et al. 1992). These features are typical for peraluminous granitic rocks which represent the most abundant granite type in the Western Carpathians. They have been formed probably by biotite and/or muscovite dehydration melting of upper crustal quartzofeldspathic rocks, such as greywackes, due to crustal thickening and prograde metamorphism during Carboniferous collision (Petrik et al. 1994). In accordance with isotopic dating (e.g. Cambel et al. 1990; Kráľ et al. 1997), the monazite-(ilmenite)-bearing granites formed during the Meso-Variscan, Lower Carboniferous period with the culmination of formation at about 350 Ma.

### *I-type granites*

I-type, allanite-bearing granites are metaluminous to slightly peraluminous biotite (leuco)tonalites to granodiorites, rarely biotite to muscovite-biotite granites, locally with pink K-feldspar phenocrysts. Except of allanite-(Ce), the typical primary accessory mineral assemblage is represented by magnetite and titanite. Zircon typology (mainly  $S_{12}$ ,  $S_{16}$  subtypes) indicates a medium-temperature crustal to crustal-mantle character. The U-Pb zircon and Rb-Sr whole-rock dating show a wide age span of I-type group granite formation, from meso-Variscan, Late Devonian-Early Carboniferous (~370–340 Ma) to late-Variscan, Late Carboniferous (~310–290 Ma) — Broska et al. (1990), Bibikova et al. (1990), Cambel et al. (1990), Michalko et al. (1998). On the basis of recent data, their origin is connected with lower crustal continental melting with a contribution of infracrustal or mantle material (Petrik et al. 1994; Kohút et al. 1999). Locally abundant microgranular mafic enclaves in these granites, which are products of mixing of melts, as well as the bulk chemistry is evidence for such processes (Broska & Petrik 1993).

### *A-type granites*

The recognition of the zircon typology with dominant high-temperature and high-alkaline P- and D- zircon subtypes in granites was the first impulse for the determination of these post-orogenic A-type granites (Uher & Gregor 1992; Uher et al. 1994). They form small intrusions of biotite leucogranites to granite porphyries with hypersolvus, transsolvus to subsolvus textures (Uher & Broska 1996). The accessory mineral as-

semblage includes allanite-(Ce), magnetite or ilmenite, rarely monazite-(Ce) (Uher & Broska 1996). U-Pb isotopic geochronology of zircon showed the Permian to Triassic age of the A-type granites (Uher & Pushkarev 1994; Putiš et al. 2000).

### *Specialized S-type granites*

Specialized tin-bearing biotite-muscovite to muscovite leucogranites, and rare granite porphyries from the Gemeric Superunit (the Spiš-Gemer type) are the most evolved S-type granites in the Western Carpathians. Locally greisen and albite cupolas with disseminated rare element Li, Sn, Nb, Ta, W, F mineralization occur (Malachovský 1992 in Grecula 1995). Accessory minerals of the Spiš-Gemer granites comprise tourmaline (schorl to foitite), almandine, topaz, zircon, apatite, locally also rare monazite-(Ce), cassiterite, wolframite and Nb-Ta phases (e.g. Faryad & Dianiška 1993). Zircon of  $S_8$  subtype predominate. The character of zircon typology is distinct and distinguished these granites from the rest of the West-Carpathian granites (Jakabská & Rozložník 1989; Broska & Uher 1991). The granites show Permian Rb-Sr WR and mineral ages and they are characterized by very high initial Sr isotope ratios,  $I_{Sr}$  above 0.720 (Kováč et al. 1986; Cambel et al. 1990). The Permian age was also constrained by monazite probe dating (Finger & Broska 1999) and single-grain isotopic dating of zircon (Poller et al. 2000).

### *Analytical methods*

All 166 analyzed samples were obtained from the crushed homogenized rocks of 3–12 kg in weight. Major elements and Rb, V, Cr, Co, Ni, Zn, Sr, Ba, Th and U of the rocks were determined by XRF at Ottawa University (Canada), and REE, Y, Nb, Ta, Zr and Hf by ICP-MS in Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada). The analytical procedure of ICP-MS was as follows: (1) sintering of a 0.2 g sample aliquot with sodium peroxide, (2) dissolution of the sinter cake, separation and dissolution of REE hydroxide-bearing precipitate, (3) analysis by ICP-MS using the method of internal standardization to correct for matrix and drift effects. Natural rocks and pure quartz reagent (blank) were used as reference standards. For detailed information on the ICP-MS method see Jenner et al. (1990) and Longerich et al. (1990).

## **Results**

### *Major element geochemistry*

Representative chemical analyses of the major elements of all four geochemical granite groups are presented in Table 1, statistical parameters are shown in the Table 2. The complete data used for the construction of diagrams are available as Table 3 on request in the Editorial Office or from the authors.

The chemical analogue of the modal IUGS classification by Streckeisen & Le Maitre (1979) using the Mielke & Winkler mesonormative calculation (1979), shows the preva-

lence of tonalites and granodiorites in the I-type granite group, the S-type type of granitic rocks are granites, granodiorites, rarely tonalites and the A- as well as the  $S_S$ -type belong to feldspar granites and syeno- as well as monzo-granites (Fig. 2).

Another rock classification diagram expressing the balance between characteristic peraluminous minerals (e.g. micas, garnets) and metaluminous Al-poor, Ca-rich minerals (e.g. hornblende, epidote, titanite) after Debon & Le Fort (1983) shows the distinct peraluminous character of practically all studied West-Carpathian rocks except part of the subaluminous and metaluminous I-type tonalites and diorites. The diagram reveals their dominantly crustal origin, with aluminic to aluminocafemic associations (Fig. 3). Cafemic association (field IV) is represented almost only by amphibole-biotite-bearing diorites as well as microgranular mafic enclaves of tonalite-diorite composition in I-type granites, which indicate their mantle origin (cf. Debon & Le Fort 1983). Amphibole-bearing tonalites are very rare in this region, and the majority of granitic rocks belong to biotite and two-mica types. S-type and specialized S-type granites are plotted in field I ( $Ms > Bt$ ), which is in accordance with the petrographic data. Biotite-bearing A-type leucogranites (~4–5 vol. % Bt) and especially biotite-rich I-type granites (~5–10 vol. % Bt) lie in the  $Bt > Ms$  (II) and  $Bt$  (III) fields (Fig. 3).

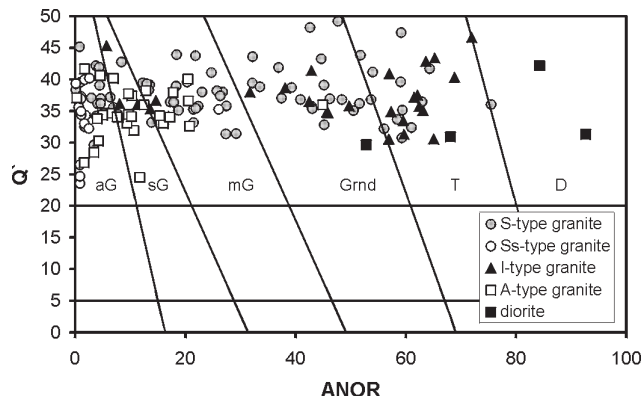
A  $Na_2O/K_2O$  vs.  $SiO_2$  diagram is plotted in Fig. 4. The prevalence of  $Na_2O$  over  $K_2O$  is dominant for the S- and I-type granites as was described earlier (e.g. Hovorka & Petřík 1992), on the contrary, the A-type and  $S_S$ -type granites show the prevalence of  $K_2O$ . The I-type granitic group shows a regular trend of decreasing  $Na_2O/K_2O$  vs.  $SiO_2$  content, whereas the S-types exhibit distinctly scattered  $Na_2O/K_2O$  values and the A- and  $S_S$ -type granites are almost invariably below the value of 1 (Fig. 4). Locally, high albite content, especially in the S-type, cause the shift of  $Na_2O/K_2O$  ratio over 3. Other lithophile elements, as Mg, Ti and Mn do not discriminate the West-Carpathian granite types distinctly.

The iron content is slightly higher in the A-type granites than in the I- and S-type granites, whereas the specialized S-type granites show generally low iron (Fig. 5).

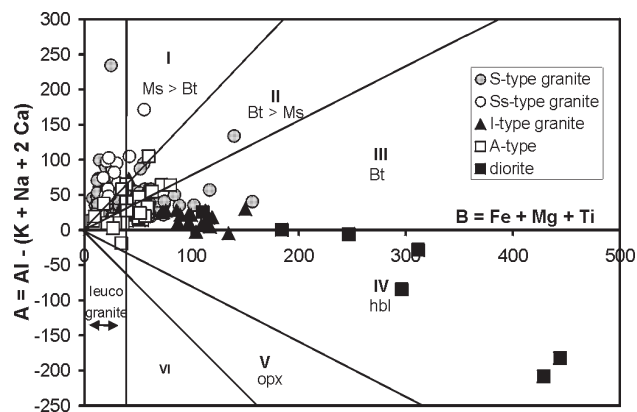
Decreasing of  $P_2O_5$  content during the differentiation process, caused mainly by apatite fractionation, is well documented for the I- and A-type granites while  $P_2O_5$  vs.  $SiO_2$  distribution in both S- and  $S_S$ -type granites show large irregularities (Fig. 6). The  $P_2O_5$  content in S-type decreases with  $SiO_2$  only in early less fractionated members (<70 %  $SiO_2$ ), whereas the more fractionated and peraluminous granites (>70 %  $SiO_2$ ) reveal scattered to increased content of  $P_2O_5$  (Fig. 6). The A-type granites form a distinct group with the lowermost  $P_2O_5$  and apatite contents in comparison to the I- and S-type granites.

#### Trace element geochemistry

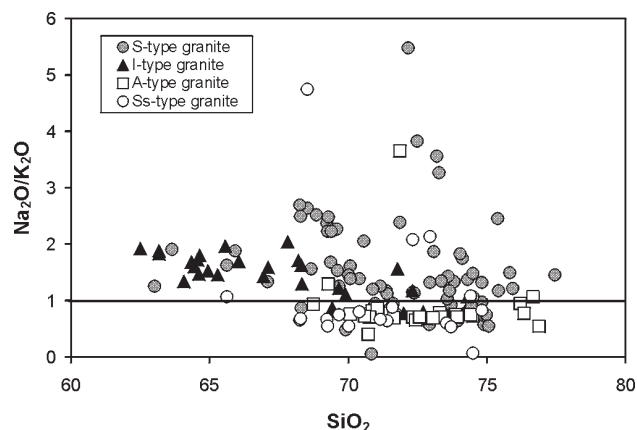
Although zirconium and hafnium systematically decrease with increasing of  $SiO_2$ , there are a significant differences in the distribution of these elements for A-type granites in comparison to the other granite groups (Fig. 7). The Hf vs. Zr diagram shows a high positive correlation ( $R = 0.98$ , Fig. 8), how-



**Fig. 2.** Mesonormative Q'-ANOR diagram of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks. *Explanations:* aG — alkali-feldspar granite; sG — syenogranite; mG — monzogranite; Grnd — granodiorite; T — tonalite; D — diorite (without BMF-8).



**Fig. 3.** A-B multicatic diagram (Debon & Le Fort 1983) of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.



**Fig. 4.**  $Na_2O/K_2O$  vs.  $SiO_2$  plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks documenting the discrimination of the A-type granites.  $Na_2O/K_2O$  ratio below 1 is characteristic for the post-orogenic granites.

ever, the diagram reveals a different trend for the A-type in comparison with the rest of granite groups due to the higher Zr/Hf ratio.



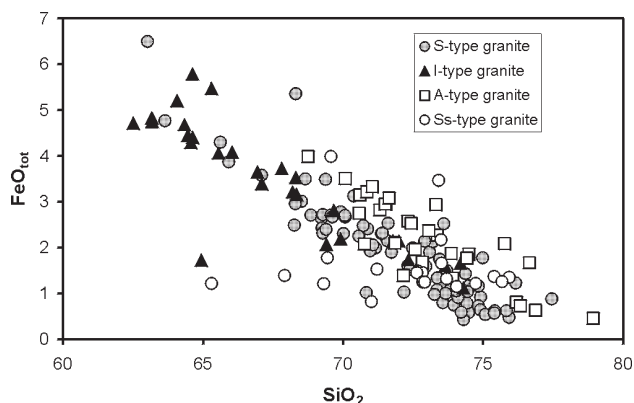


Fig. 5.  $\text{FeO}_{\text{tot}}$  vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.

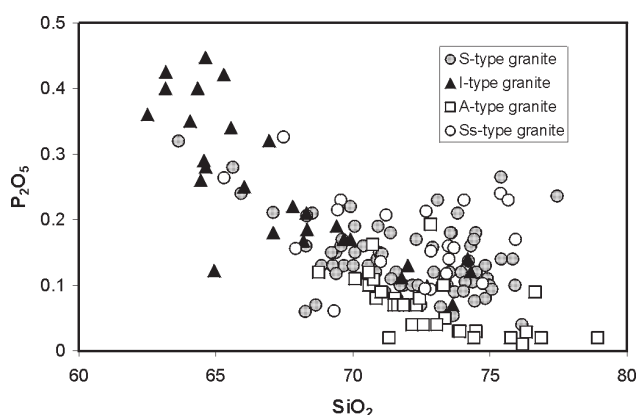


Fig. 6.  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.

Binary Ba vs. Rb and Sr vs. Rb and the ternary Rb-Ba-Sr diagram (modified after El Bouseily & Sokkary 1975) clearly discriminate relatively poorly evolved I- and S-type group from mildly to highly evolved S-, A- and especially  $\text{S}_\text{s}$ -type granite groups (Figs. 9–11).

Chondrite-normalized rare earth element data show distinct differences among S-, I- and A-type granites. The average patterns of the normalized values show the highest value of the REE and especially HREE for the A-type group (Fig. 12). The HREE enrichment of the A-type group is documented also by high yttrium concentrations — more than 20 ppm (Fig. 13). The higher contents of the LREE are characteristic of the I-types in comparison with both S-types, nevertheless the HREE average content is almost identical for both granite groups (Fig. 12). The similar slope of the rock/chondrite normalized plot indicate similar differentiation tendencies of the S- and I-type granites:  $\text{Ce}_\text{N}/\text{Yb}_\text{N}$  is 11.4 and 16.7, respectively. On the contrary, the  $\text{S}_\text{s}$ - and A-type granite groups clearly reveal HREE enrichment:  $\text{Ce}_\text{N}/\text{Yb}_\text{N}$  is 2.8 and 5.6, respectively. The more pronounced Eu-negative anomaly is typical of specialized S-type granites ( $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.2$ ) and for the A-type ( $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.4$ ), on the other hand it is only 0.6 for the S-type group, and the I-type group has an insignificant Eu-anomaly ( $\text{Eu}/\text{Eu}^* = 0.8$ ).

## Discussion

### Geochemistry

The results show differences between all four groups of Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks. The mesonormative  $\text{Q}'$ -ANOR diagram (Fig. 2) is generally concordant with older modal and mesonormative diagrams (Petrik 1982a), however, studied differentiated I-type granites lie mainly in granodiorite and monzogranite fields, whereas common tonalite compositions were described by Petrik (1982a). The multicatic A-B diagram (Debon & Le Fort 1983) reveals generally aluminous crustal±aluminous character of all granite groups, although with some tendency of I-type to metaluminous mainly mantle domain which is typical of amphibole-bearing dioritic rocks and enclaves (Fig. 2). These results are in accordance with mainly crustal character of S-, A- and especially  $\text{S}_\text{s}$ -type groups and with some mantle contribution in the origin of the I-type group (Petrik et al. 1994; Uher & Broska 1996; Petrik & Kohút 1997).

The exclusive character of the A-type group is documented in  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}/\text{K}_2\text{O}$  vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  and  $\text{FeO}$  vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  plots (Figs. 4, 5) which reflects presence of the K-feldspar and annite-rich bi-

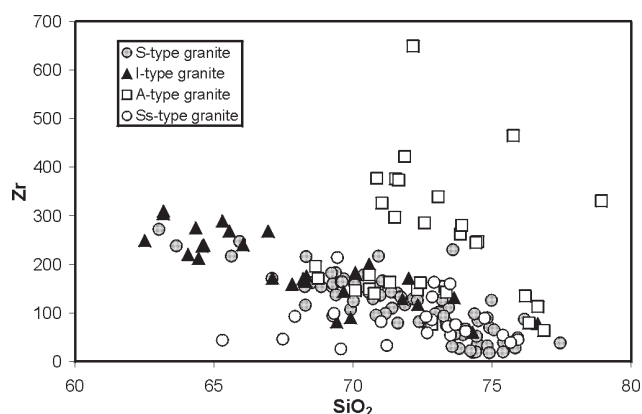


Fig. 7. Zr vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.

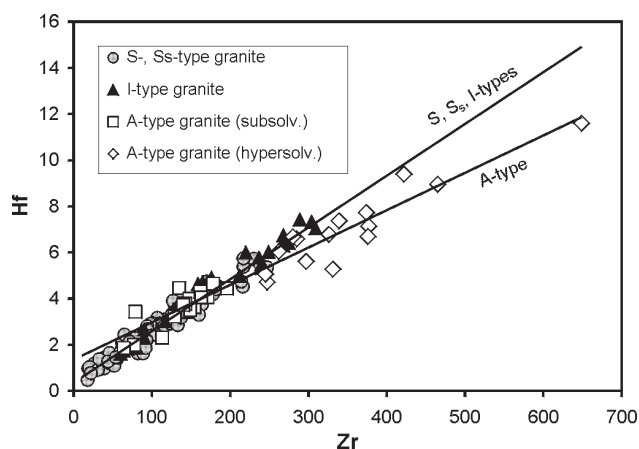
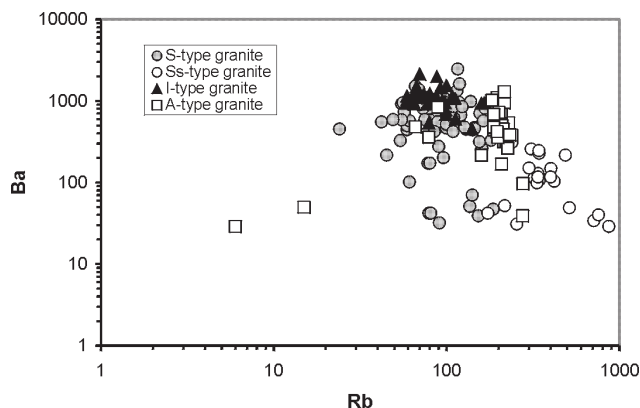
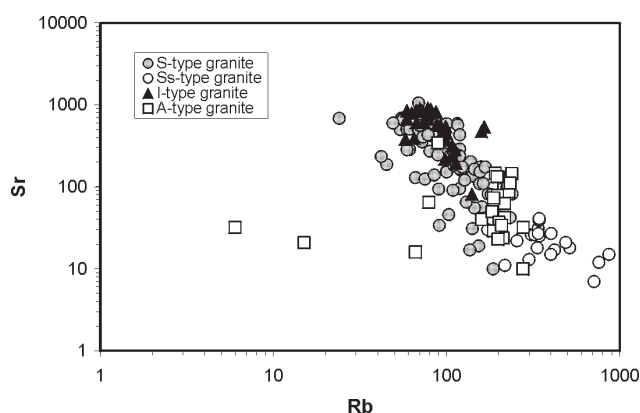


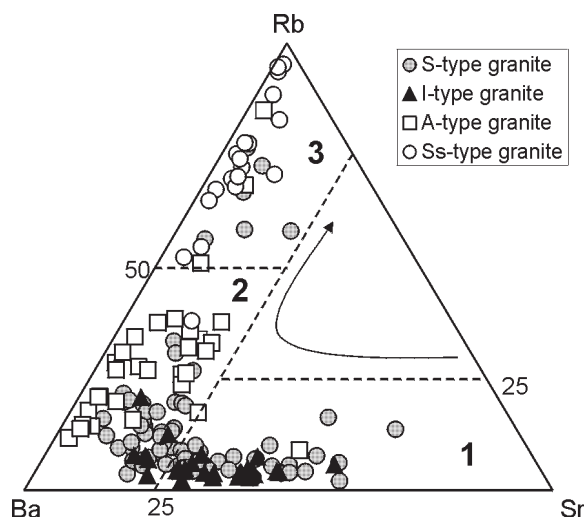
Fig. 8. Hf vs. Zr plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.



**Fig. 9.** Ba vs. Rb plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks. Note: The Turčok type represents anomalous A-type granite with low Rb content (Gemic Superunit).



**Fig. 10.** Sr vs. Rb plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.



**Fig. 11.** Rb-Ba-Sr ternary discrimination diagram of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks. Explanations: 1 — poorly evolved granites, 2 — mildly evolved granites, 3 — highly evolved granites.

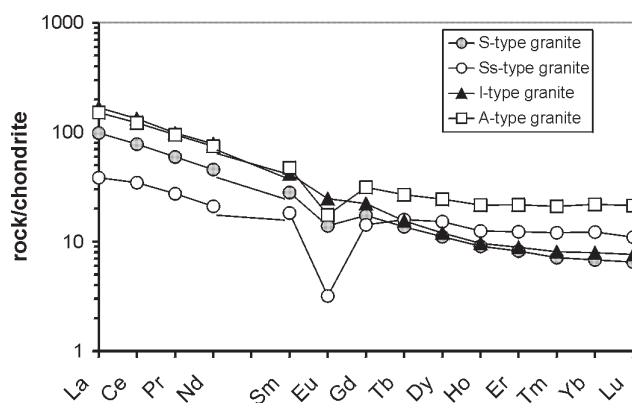
otite in the granite group (Uher & Broska 1996). These geochemical features are generally prominent in A-type granites (Whalen et al. 1987). The tendency of  $K_2O$  to pre-

dominate over  $Na_2O$  is evident also for the  $S_S$ -type group, whereas, S- and especially I-type group are sodium-rich (Fig. 4). Consequently, the older meso- and late-Variscan granites are mainly plagioclase-bearing rocks, whereas the post-Variscan A- and  $S_S$ -type exhibit K-feldspar dominance.

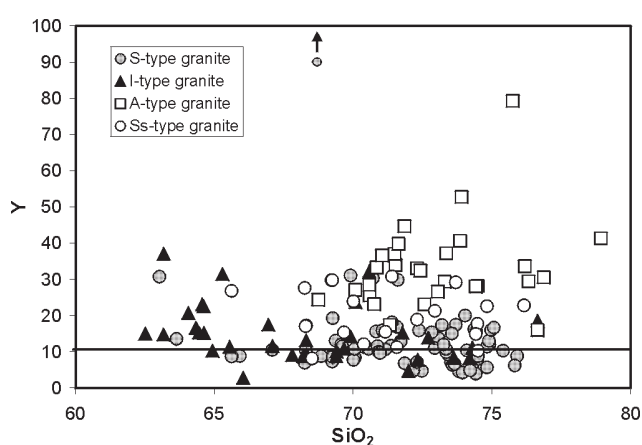
The very low  $P_2O_5$  contents in the A-type group (Tables 1–3, Fig. 6) is comparable with other anorogenic granites world-wide (cf. Whalen et al. 1987), and it should be one of the typical feature of A-type granites, reflected in low amount of apatite in these Ca, P-poor rocks. Low P contents in the A-type granites could be explained by formation from melt-depleted lower crust after main granite production during Variscan orogeny. The I-type group shows negative correlation between  $P_2O_5$  vs.  $SiO_2$  due to apatite preferential precipitation in the early differentiation members. On the contrary, scattered  $P_2O_5$  contents is the consequence of the higher  $P_2O_5$  solubility with increasing A/CNK in late fractionated members (Pichavant et al. 1992). Moreover, positive correlation between  $P_2O_5$  and  $SiO_2$  in more evolved members of S- and especially  $S_S$ -type groups ( $>70$  wt. %  $SiO_2$ ) is connected with incompatible behaviour of P in strongly peraluminous, alkali- and fluid-rich magmas which resulted in enrichment of P and its entry into alkali feldspar structure in fractionated alkali-rich leucogranites (e.g. Pichavant et al. 1992; London 1992, 1998; Breiter 1998). Such a trend is characteristic especially for phosphorus-rich rare-element peraluminous granites of the Spiš-Gemer type ( $S_S$ -group) where K-feldspar contains up to 0.5 wt. %  $P_2O_5$  (Broska et al. in prep.).

The content and behaviour of trace elements during differentiation processes clearly characterize the differences between the S-, I- and A-type granitic rocks. Of special importance are the findings on the compatibility or incompatibility of trace elements during differentiation. Some elements, such as Sr, Sc, V, Zr, Cr and Co behave compatibly in all granite types. Low Th and U content are not suitable for discrimination purposes as was formerly proposed by Yates et al. (1982). On the contrary, Zr is a very useful element for granite discriminations. The Zr vs.  $SiO_2$  diagram (Fig. 7) strongly discriminates some of the A-type group from each other: high and irregular distribution of Zr (Tables 1–3) is another characteristic feature of alkali granites (e.g. Whalen et al. 1987). Very strong positive Hf vs. Zr correlation (Fig. 8) indicates the close and exclusive relationship between zirconium and hafnium in granitic magmas which resulted in crystallization of zircon as an essential Zr, Hf-bearing phase in all studied groups of granitic rocks. Different Zr/Hf ratio in hypersolvus A-type group in comparison to the other granites is probably related to contrasting solubility of Zr and Hf in (per)alkaline Al-poor F-rich A-type magmas in comparison to peraluminous  $H_2O$ -rich S- and I-type granites. This is also reflected in higher Zr/Hf ratios in zircon from post-orogenic and anorogenic granite suites (Pupin 1992) and is also documented for zircon of West Carpathian A-type group (Uher & Broska 1996).

The geochemical separation among granite types is strongly apparent in the distribution of Rb, Sr and Ba, which are concentrated mainly in the feldspars and micas. The highest contents of Rb show specialized S- and A-type groups due to



**Fig. 12.** Averages of the chondrite normalized REE patterns of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.

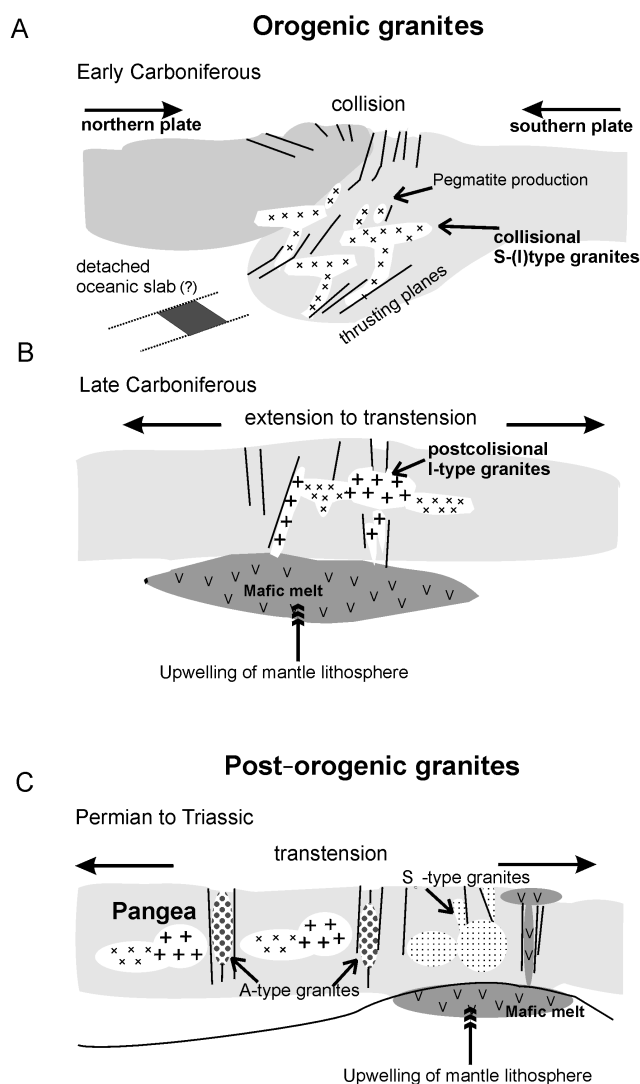


**Fig. 13.** Y vs.  $\text{SiO}_2$  plot of the Variscan West-Carpathian granitic rocks.

their higher level of fractionation and K-feldspar enrichment. On the contrary, less evolved, plagioclase-rich I- and S-type granites exhibit the highest Ba and Sr but the lowest Rb contents (Tables 1–3, Figs. 9–11). A general Rb–Sr–Ba differentiated trend toward the specialized granites described by El Bouseily & Sokkary (1975) is evident also in the West-Carpathian granitic suites (Fig. 11). However, in our opinion, fields such as “anomalous or normal granites, granodiorites etc.” in the diagram of El Bouseily & Sokkary (1975) do not discriminate the natural granite types properly and they are inadequately defined, in addition some of the West-Carpathian granites s.s. plot in the granodiorite field or vice versa. Therefore, we propose new categories for this ternary Rb–Ba–Sr diagram according to their degree of differentiation: poorly-evolved, mildly-evolved, to highly evolved granites (Fig. 11). Such modification of the diagram allow us to use Rb, Sr and Ba as the important discrimination parameters for the classification of the West-Carpathian Variscan granite suites and could be more generally useful.

REE, Y-distribution as well as the presence or absence of a negative Eu-anomaly also discriminate all four geochemical groups of the West Carpathian granites (Tables 1–3, Figs. 12, 13). Again, the A-type group strongly differs from each other with high Y contents, generally over 20 ppm (Fig. 13). The Y

and HREE enrichment in the A-type granites is due to the high content of zircon and locally also the presence of xenotime-(Y) and garnet (Uher & Broska 1996). The bulk REE distribution is controlled by essential REE-bearing phases, such as allanite-(Ce), monazite-(Ce) and xenotime-(Y), however a contribution of almandine and zircon for bounding of HREE and Y as well as apatite for LREE-fixing is also important (e.g. Wark & Miller 1993). The wider range of the rare earth elements abundance for the S-, but also for A-type granite, in comparison with I-type is also a significant feature of the bulk-rock chemistry of the West-Carpathian granites. Although the I-type granite set also comprises differentiated dykes, the rare earth elements pattern range is narrower mainly in the LREE part of the diagram and max/min REE values are around 10, in contrast to max/min REE values for the S-types of around 100 due to their more heterogeneous nature. We can only speculate that such a difference in pattern is a result of the compositionally different precursor of I-type granites as well as their rapid ascent and differentiation.



**Fig. 14.** Simplified geodynamic evolution of the principal granitic groups in the Western Carpathians.

**Table 1:** Representative chemical analyses of the basic group of the West-Carpathian Variscan granites. Main elements (in wt. %), trace elements V to U (in ppm) are analysed by XRF, REE's, Zr, Hf, Nb and Ta (in ppm) by ICP-MS. (Abr. tr. = trace content). *Explanations:* **MK** — Malé Karpaty Mts, **T** — Tribeč Mts, **PI** — Považský Inovec Mts, **MF** — Malá Fatra Mts, **SGR** — Slovenské rudohorie Mts (Gemic Superunit), **Vepor** — Slovenské rudohorie Mts (Veporic Superunit), **V** — Velence Mts (Trans-Danubian Superunit, Hungary), **PKB** — Pieniny Klippen Belt (pebbles).

Sample type	ZK-48	T-87	Z-4/89	I-3	BMF-1	ZK-13	GZ-1	GZ-15	T-88	T-60/86	VG-54	ZK-118	BP-1	BP-35	VG-86	VE-4
Mts.	S	S	S	S	S	Ss	Ss	Ss	I	I	I	I	A	A	A	A
	MK	T	Z	PI	MF	SGR	SGR	SGR	T	T	Vepor	Vepor	PKB	PKB	Vepor	V
SiO <sub>2</sub>	69.67	71.37	72.95	73.44	68.26	74.05	71.21	72.85	64.63	74.30	64.57	65.55	74.49	71.85	70.72	76.87
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.40	0.37	0.19	0.21	0.34	0.11	0.04	0.21	0.79	0.12	0.80	0.78	0.15	0.27	0.33	0.05
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	15.64	14.87	14.62	14.00	16.71	14.65	16.14	14.89	16.30	13.87	16.34	16.26	13.18	14.09	15.00	12.59
FeO <sub>tot</sub>	1.96	2.31	1.59	1.75	2.49	1.15	1.53	1.32	4.40	1.12	4.29	4.06	1.86	2.10	2.48	0.63
MnO	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.02	0.07	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.01
MgO	0.85	0.87	0.36	0.36	0.71	1.60	0.24	0.91	1.77	0.25	1.62	1.56	0.09	0.82	0.99	0.04
CaO	2.61	1.73	1.19	1.18	2.81	0.34	0.30	0.26	3.55	0.89	3.59	3.24	0.36	1.25	0.26	0.50
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.88	3.54	4.21	3.27	5.09	0.27	5.92	3.41	4.22	4.26	4.36	4.22	3.73	5.63	2.09	2.96
K <sub>2</sub> O	3.10	3.02	3.18	4.39	1.89	4.46	1.25	3.19	2.34	4.00	2.54	2.16	5.16	1.54	5.28	5.37
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.13	0.18	0.12	0.10	0.06	0.23	0.21	0.15	0.28	0.12	0.29	0.34	0.03	0.07	0.16	0.02
LOI	0.80	1.30	0.80	0.70	1.30	2.90	1.00	1.50	1.30	0.70	1.70	2.30	0.60	2.40	1.80	0.90
TOTAL	99.09	99.61	99.25	99.43	99.70	99.78	97.85	98.72	99.65	99.65	100.17	100.52	99.68	100.04	99.17	99.94
V	34	44	17	16	25	8	3	17	93	10	82	84	10	7	32	7
Cr	15	16	4	9	16	22	tr.	1	20	1	18	24	5	16	8	5
Co	4	15	1	2	2	33	8	6	11	tr.	7	6	7	2	5	1
Ni	tr.	4	tr.	tr.	tr.	5	5	6	5	tr.	4	3	tr.	3	9	2
Zn	58	60	50	53	60	19	78	24	77	20	89	76	73	25	18	17
Rb	119	92	101	138	54	400	173	300	72	113	67	59	209	79	233	277
Sr	289	482	261	203	498	15	30	13	852	193	860	850	24	65	42	32
Zr	170	143	98	111	154	62	33	133	240	60	237	268	247	422	129	64
Hf	5	4	2	3	4	2	1	3	5	2	6	6	5	9	3	2
Nb	11	9	8	12	7	14	4	10	13	8	18	14	14	16	10	10
Ta	0.75	0.84	0.46	0.77	0.34	5.46	2.38	1.19	0.59	0.85	1.35	0.53	1.07	1.18	1.22	1.56
Ba	830	854	844	988	327	117	42	150	1105	602	1263	1144	499	358	347	97
Th	12	9	7	13	9	9	15	21	10	9	9	12	19	20	14	30
U	1	4	3	2	3	5	3	4	5	0	4	9	1	2	2	4
Y	14.07	11.62	10.96	9.09	6.94	17.73	8.12	26.82	15.18	11.1	23.01	11.31	28.23	44.68	30.33	30.57
La	32.32	25.52	25.38	36.04	28.52	13.97	2.84	13.33	43.66	17.73	52.52	61.97	48.96	64.45	17.38	14.74
Ce	64.45	49.94	50.97	75.34	59.14	26.49	6.82	25.83	87.9	36.15	116.75	124.77	104.96	131.49	36.95	30.2
Pr	7.35	5.64	5.86	8.63	6.79	3.11	0.92	3.68	10.21	4.37	14.12	14.15	12.08	15.75	4.41	3.99
Nd	27.21	21.15	22.56	31.69	25.91	11.56	3.17	14.48	38.47	16.35	55.61	50.58	45.86	60.47	16.96	14.89
Sm	5.0	3.8	4.32	6.48	4.79	2.87	1.27	3.86	6.45	3.45	10.27	8.24	8.77	11.77	4.51	3.89
Eu	1.08	1.1	0.7	0.93	1.03	0.45	0.02	0.3	1.58	0.6	2.38	1.87	0.68	1.64	0.59	0.19
Gd	3.97	2.84	3.21	4.73	3.19	2.9	1.28	4.46	4.61	2.79	7.27	5.18	7.42	9.98	4.89	3.83
Tb	0.52	0.4	0.43	0.53	0.37	0.56	0.3	0.79	0.6	0.4	0.92	0.61	1.02	1.56	0.84	0.68
Dy	2.85	2.28	2.25	2.41	1.72	3.5	1.73	5.22	3.11	2.27	4.71	2.89	6.05	9.25	5.19	4.69
Ho	0.51	0.43	0.39	0.32	0.26	0.58	0.24	0.99	0.57	0.42	0.84	0.46	1.13	1.79	1.04	1.02
Er	1.38	1.11	0.97	0.69	0.6	1.45	0.62	2.88	1.49	1.13	2.42	1.09	3.16	5.0	3.04	3.27
Tm	0.19	0.15	0.13	0.09	0.09	0.2	0.09	0.45	0.21	0.16	0.36	0.13	0.45	0.74	0.46	0.52
Yb	1.26	0.95	0.83	0.42	0.62	1.17	0.55	2.99	1.27	1.05	2.19	0.94	2.83	4.69	2.83	3.9
Lu	0.19	0.14	0.13	0.07	0.1	0.15	0.06	0.43	0.19	0.14	0.32	0.14	0.43	0.68	0.4	0.63

An explanation of the Eu-anomaly is found mainly in the different oxygen fugacity or water activity of the primary melts. In concordance with Puchelt & Emmermann (1976), Williams (1997), Sha & Chappel (2000), we regard the negative anomaly as an indicator of lower  $fO_2$  provided that the whole rock was not depleted in europium. The negative Eu-anomaly originated under reducing conditions, when europium occurs only in the divalent state and it is incorporated into plagioclase. Lower  $fO_2$  or water activity in the melts in comparison with I-type granites was actually assumed for S-type groups also on the basis of Fe<sup>2+</sup>-rich accessory mineral paragenesis (presence of almandine and ilmenite, absence of magnetite, allanite and titanite). Biotite composition indicated the I-type granitoids originated in relatively oxidized and

water-rich conditions (about 5–6 wt. % of water), on contrary, the S-type granites crystallized from a relatively reduced magma with low water content (2–3 wt. %) (Petrik & Broska 1994; Petrik & Kohút 1997). The oxidized conditions in the I-type melt provided the trivalent state of Eu and it explains, why europium was not able to fractionate with feldspars in these granites.

#### *Geodynamic scenario of granite origin*

The compositional variations and differences among the granitic groups of the Western Carpathians reflected their genesis including the geotectonic position and source rocks. The geotectonic position of the S and I-type granites was



**Table 2:** Average and ranges of granitic rock compositions (distribution see in the Fig. 1). Note: 6 diorite analyses are not presented.

Sample	S-type n = 78				spec. S-type n = 22				I-type n = 29				A-type n = 30			
	av.	st. dev.	max.	min.	av.	st. dev.	max.	min.	av.	st. dev.	max.	min.	av.	st. dev.	max.	min.
SiO <sub>2</sub>	71.84	2.89	77.45	63.02	72.04	2.83	75.93	65.30	67.82	3.60	74.30	62.51	72.86	2.45	78.93	68.65
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.26	0.19	0.89	0.02	0.17	0.17	0.73	0.04	0.57	0.32	1.25	0.09	0.24	0.10	0.46	0.05
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14.90	0.99	18.48	12.84	14.78	1.67	19.18	13.07	15.35	1.18	18.85	13.50	13.77	0.88	15.69	12.45
Fe <sub>tot</sub>	1.96	1.16	6.50	0.43	1.63	0.75	3.99	0.82	3.37	1.34	5.79	1.12	2.27	0.92	3.99	0.46
MnO	0.04	0.04	0.23	0.00	0.04	0.07	0.37	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.10	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.59	0.00
MgO	1.02	3.38	30.00	0.06	4.42	19.34	91.00	0.05	1.32	0.65	2.98	0.19	0.43	0.29	1.00	0.02
CaO	1.38	0.90	3.03	0.14	0.38	0.35	1.88	0.14	2.40	1.12	3.79	0.30	0.74	0.51	2.20	0.04
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.94	0.79	5.51	0.27	3.42	1.33	5.92	0.13	3.98	0.67	6.83	3.03	3.92	1.09	7.99	2.96
K <sub>2</sub> O	3.17	1.08	5.31	0.90	4.23	1.48	5.87	0.37	3.20	1.14	7.07	1.94	4.18	1.35	5.37	0.10
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.15	0.07	0.57	0.04	0.18	0.06	0.33	0.06	0.24	0.11	0.45	0.07	0.07	0.04	0.19	0.01
V	26.0	22.4	97	1.0	10.0	10.0	41	1.0	63.1	33.9	125	10.0	14.9	11.2	43	tr.
Cr	14.0	23.5	184	tr.	8.6	7.1	22	1.0	21.5	10.3	53	1.0	15.2	19.5	108	2.0
Co	6.5	6.5	30	tr.	8.6	9.5	40	tr.	10.0	7.8	34	1.0	5.5	7.6	33	1.0
Ni	6.1	12.9	83	tr.	6.2	5.7	29	1.0	5.7	5.0	27	tr.	4.4	6.4	33	tr.
Zn	43.6	27.2	139	2.0	37.7	16.1	78	14.0	66.2	27.7	114	15.0	49.9	23.3	110	9.0
Rb	103.0	39.2	233	24.0	400.7	179.3	868	173.0	86.1	23.6	159	58.0	185.4	65.9	277	6.0
Sr	300.5	219.0	1056	10.0	24.8	15.4	82	7.0	599.2	242.8	906	81.0	74.8	65.4	344	10.0
Zr	113.1	60.6	272	18.0	82.8	47.5	214	26.0	185.6	79.1	309	46.0	241.7	132.2	649	64.0
Nb	8.1	2.9	18	1.0	11.2	4.0	18	1.0	11.1	4.4	21	5.0	15.1	3.8	26	9.0
Ba	693.4	399.0	2469	32.0	120.7	84.0	310	29.0	1100	365.2	2146	455.0	479.1	312.6	1294	29.0
Nd	22.7	12.5	53	tr.	12.4	10.2	41	0.0	37.8	17.8	85	5.0	38.6	17.9	84	3.0
Th	8.2	6.2	42	tr.	19.2	17.7	95	8.0	11.2	6.3	35	4.0	19.4	7.5	52	10.0
U	2.5	1.7	8	tr.	20.5	62.2	298	2.0	4.1	2.9	14	tr.	3.4	2.2	8	tr.
Y	12.00	6.05	31.07	3.91	20.27	7.20	30.77	8.12	14.70	7.95	37.02	2.79	38.90	27.81	157.59	15.34
Nb	8.00	3.52	21.96	1.22	14.30	4.29	22.32	6.69	10.88	5.14	25.40	3.56	16.41	5.61	32.74	2.86
La	23.34	12.99	70.91	0.84	9.37	6.26	25.35	2.60	40.90	18.92	86.91	12.96	38.28	20.27	78.84	4.81
Ce	48.00	25.60	126.98	1.58	22.06	14.39	55.55	6.82	84.58	39.84	179.40	22.90	81.00	42.15	175.60	9.10
Pr	5.52	2.87	13.09	0.18	2.64	1.58	6.77	0.88	9.45	4.90	19.32	1.09	9.69	5.25	21.33	1.87
Nd	20.73	10.63	47.55	0.50	9.96	6.04	26.04	3.17	37.02	17.84	70.73	10.46	37.30	20.65	84.29	8.54
Sm	4.03	1.78	8.66	0.19	2.81	1.27	6.14	1.27	6.43	3.01	13.56	2.34	8.12	5.05	26.57	2.66
Eu	0.80	0.35	1.87	0.02	0.19	0.17	0.68	0.02	1.43	0.68	3.19	0.46	0.97	0.63	2.92	0.03
Gd	3.15	1.36	7.52	0.19	2.90	1.15	5.64	1.28	4.53	2.20	10.36	1.57	7.58	5.69	32.46	2.36
Tb	0.45	0.19	1.18	0.07	0.59	0.18	0.94	0.30	0.58	0.29	1.42	0.14	1.21	0.92	5.26	0.42
Dy	2.44	1.15	6.56	0.67	3.87	1.23	5.76	1.73	3.04	1.57	7.57	0.62	7.49	5.38	30.48	2.87
Ho	0.44	0.22	1.22	0.13	0.71	0.28	1.14	0.24	0.55	0.29	1.40	0.10	1.49	1.07	5.97	0.54
Er	1.16	0.63	3.41	0.31	2.04	0.93	3.41	0.62	1.47	0.84	3.81	0.30	4.33	2.91	15.91	1.55
Tm	0.16	0.09	0.52	0.02	0.31	0.15	0.54	0.09	0.21	0.13	0.55	0.05	0.63	0.37	1.81	0.23
Yb	1.00	0.57	3.42	0.04	2.02	1.02	3.38	0.55	1.31	0.80	3.51	0.36	4.17	2.23	11.82	1.56
Lu	0.15	0.08	0.51	0.05	0.28	0.16	0.51	0.06	0.19	0.11	0.50	0.07	0.63	0.33	1.76	0.21
Hf	2.99	1.38	6.46	0.48	2.00	0.83	4.74	1.21	4.69	1.80	7.42	1.46	5.27	2.23	11.60	1.85
Ta	0.73	0.43	2.03	0.10	2.67	1.24	5.46	1.19	0.74	0.38	1.50	0.23	1.33	0.45	3.06	0.57
Th	8.35	6.06	42.36	0.56	10.72	2.72	18.64	7.21	11.69	6.01	35.04	3.79	17.59	7.55	51.03	6.16

firstly discussed by Petrik et al. (1994), and the A-type granites by Uher & Broska (1996). In addition, we propose a modified outline of the genesis of all four principal Variscan granitic groups in the Western Carpathians, subdivided according to the presented mineralogical and geochemical criteria (Fig. 14). Early Carboniferous continental collision, which in generally operated in the European Variscides (Matte 1986; Finger & Steyrer 1990; von Raumer & Neubauer 1993; Stampfli 1996 among others), led to crustal thickening along thrusting planes, formation of the Variscan nappes and partial melting of the lower crust in the zone of contraction of the lithospheric slab. After subduction of oceanic crust along destructive active plate margins (Stampfli 1996), the lower density of the continental crust, which is buoyant and remains on the upper surface of the lithosphere, led to thickening of the collided continents and crust (Fig. 14A). Emplacement of the S-type granite, which originated mainly

from the metagreywacke protoliths (Petrik 2000) as well as granites with transitional features between the S- and I-type group probably from the amphibolite-bearing lower crust (Kohút et al. 1999b), occurred in the extension zones, which occur locally in the framework of the continental collision (Schaltegger 1997) or in the upper part of the flexures of the lithosphere plate (Fig. 14A) (c.f. Coward 1994). A local extension zone is indicated for example by the presence of laccolith (Lexa & Bezák 1996) but also by the sheet-like shape of the emplaced plutons (Kohút & Janák 1994). However, the numerous pegmatites accompanying the S-type granites in the Western Carpathians show the general collisional (compression) conditions. On the other hand, post-collisional tectonics associated with the gravitational instability of thickening lithosphere started the process of thinning of the lithosphere and extensional regime, which resulted in the production of the I-type granites with lesser pegmatite for-

mation in the region. The origin of the I-type granites show the distinct influence of the mantle or infracrustal contribution and process of their melting was triggered by heating of the crust due to the underplated mafic lithospheric mantle melt (Fig. 14B) which was primarily activated by previous detaching of the oceanic slab and its injection into the mantle (Fig. 14A). Uplift into a vertical tectonic extensional fault system is followed by formation of larger batholiths (Hutton 1987) in the middle crust which is observed mainly in the Veporic Superunit. The thermal influence of the huge chambers of I-type granite melts in the middle crust also caused the partial melting of the middle crust and origin of a new generation of the S-type granite (Hraško et al. 2000). The S- and I-type granite can be regarded as orogenic granites. In contrast, the A-type granites which were formed in the Pangaea continent (Late Paleozoic to Mesozoic supercontinent — see e.g. Johansson 2000) belong already to post-orogenic granite suites which are typically distributed in European Variscan terrain along the strike-slip lineaments and faults in the crust (Bonin 1990) (Fig. 14C). The process of A-type granites formation is associated with melting of granitic sources (Petrik 2000) and emplaced during extension and transtension regime. The specialized S-type granites ( $S_S$ -type), which occurred in the same period as the A-type granites, were probably melted from the muscovite metapelites (Petrik 2000) in the middle crust and during continuation of the thermal event caused by underplated mafic melts, which, through deep rifts to the mantle, also formed numerous volcanic extrusions in the Permian or Permian-Triassic age (Fig. 14C). The rifting process, which opened the Meliata-Hallstadt ocean in Triassic, could have been a thermal source for melting of the middle crust.

### Conclusions

The results presented generally support the subdivision of the Variscan West-Carpathian granites into four genetic geochemical groups based on older mineralogical, geochemical and isotope data.

The S-type group exhibits typical features of orogen-related crustal granites with a relatively wide span of fractionation level. The I-type group represents relatively poorly evolved rocks enriched in compatible elements such as Ba, Sr, Zr and REE's with a possible contribution of mantle material during their origin. The A-type group represents a specific post-orogenic hot and dry granite with a relatively high fractionation level rich in compatible (REE, Y, Zr) as well as alkali elements (K, Rb). The  $S_S$ -type group belongs to the highly-evolved B, Sn peraluminous and P-enriched suite with rare-element specialization (high Si, K, Ta, Sn, F, Rb, Nb). The different character of these principal granite groups in the Western Carpathians is reflected in their geotectonic positions. The S- and I-type granites as representatives of the orogenic granites are directly connected with collisional and extensional regime during/after continent collision with a various contribution of mantle lithospheric melt especially in the post-collisional tectonics. On the other hand, the A- and  $S_S$  granite types formed in post-orogenic conditions.

Finally, the major and trace-element geochemistry together with the accessory mineral paragenesis clearly document a complex and long history of Variscan granite origin in the West-Carpathian area from early-orogenic to post-orogenic stages and it could contribute to the understanding of such evolution in analogous orogenic belts.

**Acknowledgements:** The work was supported by NSERC Research Grant and a Major Installation Grant to P. Černý, Univ. of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada, during Post-Doctoral Fellowship of P. U. in Canada. The evaluation of the samples was financed by VEGA Grant #7074. The authors thank to M. Kohút and I. Petrik for providing some samples for fruitful discussion which improved the early version of the manuscript. We are also grateful to D. Plašienka and W.E. Stephens for their comments and to L. Zahradník for his assistance with PC. The paper is a contribution to the UNESCO "International Geological Correlation Project #373" headed by R. Seltmann.

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