



Metallogenetic systems associated with granitoid magmatism in the Amazonian Craton: An overview of the present level of understanding and exploration significance



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ABSTRACT

The Amazonian Craton hosts world-class metallogenetic provinces with a wide range of styles of primary precious, rare, base metal, and placer deposits. This paper provides a synthesis of the geological database with regard to granitoid magmatic suites, spatio-temporal distribution, tectonic settings, and the nature of selected mineral deposits. The Archean Carajás Mineral Province comprises greenstone belts (3.04–2.97 Ga), metavolcanic-sedimentary units (2.76–2.74 Ga), granitoids (3.07–2.84 Ga) formed in a magmatic arc and syn-collisional setting, post-orogenic A₂-type granites as well as gabbros (ca. 2.74 Ga), and anorogenic granites (1.88 Ga). Archean iron oxide-Cu-Au (IOCG) deposits were synchronous or later than bimodal magmatism (2.74–2.70 Ga). Paleoproterozoic IOCG deposits, emplaced at shallow-crustal levels, are enriched with Nb–Y–Sn–Be–U. The latter, as well as Sn–W and Au-EGP deposits are coeval with ca. 1.88 Ga A₂-type granites. The Tapajós Mineral Province includes a low-grade meta-volcano-sedimentary sequence (2.01 Ga), tonalites to granites (2.0–1.87 Ga), two calc-alkaline volcanic sequences (2.0–1.95 Ga to 1.89–1.87 Ga) and A-type rhyolites and granites (1.88 Ga). The calc-alkaline volcanic rocks host epithermal Au and base metal mineralization, whereas Cu–Au and Cu–Mo ± Au porphyry-type mineralization is associated with sub-volcanic felsic rocks, formed in two continental magmatic arcs related to an accretionary event, resulting from an Andean-type northwards subduction. The Alta Floresta Gold Province consists of Paleoproterozoic plutono-volcanic sequences (1.98–1.75 Ga), generated in ocean–ocean orogenies. Disseminated and vein-type Au ± Cu and Au + base metal deposits are hosted by calc-alkaline I-type granitic intrusions (1.98 Ga, 1.90 Ga, and 1.87 Ga) and quartz-feldspar porphyries (ca. 1.77 Ga). Timing of the gold deposits has been constrained between 1.78 Ga and 1.77 Ga and linked to post-collisional Juruena arc felsic magmatism (e.g., Colíder and Teles Pires suites). The Transamazonas Province corresponds to a N–S-trending orogenic belt, consolidated during the Transamazonian cycle (2.26–1.95 Ga), comprising the Lourenço, Amapá, Carecuru, Bacajá, and Santana do Araguaia tectonic domains. They show a protracted tectonic evolution, and are host to the pre-, syn-, and post-orogenic to anorogenic granitic magmatism. Gold mineralization associated with magmatic events is still unclear. Greisen and pegmatite Sn–Nb–Ta deposits are related to 1.84 to 1.75 Ga late-orogenic to anorogenic A-type granites. The Pitinga Tin Province includes the Madeira Sn–Nb–Ta–F deposit, Sn-greisens and Sn-episyenites. These are associated with A-type granites of the Madeira Suite (1.84–1.82 Ga), which occur within a cauldron complex (Iricoumé Group). The A-type magmatism evolved from a post-collisional extension, towards a within-plate setting. The hydrothermal processes (400 °C–100 °C) resulted in albitization and formation of disseminated cryolite, pyrochlore *columbitization*, and formation of a massive cryolite deposit in the core of the Madeira deposit. The Rondônia Tin Province hosts rare-metal (Ta, Nb, Be) and Sn–W mineralization, which is associated with the São Lourenço-

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Caripunas (1.31–1.30 Ga), related to the post-collisional stage of the Rondônia San Ignacio Province (1.56–1.30 Ga), and to the Santa Clara (1.08–1.07 Ga) and Younger Granites of Rondônia (0.99–0.97 Ga) A-type granites. The latter are linked to the evolution of the Sunsás-Aguapeí Province (1.20–0.95 Ga). Rare-metal polymetallic deposits are associated with late stage peraluminous granites, mainly as greisen, quartz vein, and pegmatite types.

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1. Introduction

A great diversity of world-class precious, rare and base metal deposits associated with granitoids has been identified in the Amazonian Craton (AC) during the last twenty five years.

Prior to the 1960's, very few gold occurrences were known in the AC and there was little understanding of the potential for precious, base and rare-metal mineralization. This perception has changed since the 1990's, in response to gold demand. Extensive research has led to a range of convincing genetic models and technical developments in the exploration of primary iron oxide-copper-gold (IOCG), intrusion-related (IR-non skarn), orogenic gold mineralization types and epithermal and porphyry gold systems.

The largest gold, copper-gold and base-metal deposits are found within the Archean Carajás Province, Proterozoic Tapajós and Alta Floresta provinces. The most important rare-metal deposits are present in the Rondônia and Pitinga tin provinces.

The magmatic history of the granitoids and their associated mineralization systems in the AC is far from being fully understood. Many fundamental questions still require answers before a serious attempt to elucidate them can be satisfactorily undertaken. As such, there is a clear demand for better constraints the timing of the mineralization with regard to tectonic, magmatism, source components, and fluid environments, since the majority of the deposits are not well documented and the tectonic setting for the terranes remains controversial.

This paper provides a general overview of selected rare, precious, and base metal deposits in the AC (Brazilian territory), temporally and spatially associated with granitoid rocks, aiming to better constrain their genetic and corresponding exploration models. We have attempted to synthesize and interpret the more recent updates of the existing database in relation to their tectonic setting, associated granitoid rocks, distribution, major geological characteristics, mineralization style, fluid evolution, and genetic types.

2. Components of the Amazonian Craton

The AC was formerly considered by Amaral (1974) and Almeida et al. (1981) as a large Archean platform, partially reworked and reactivated during the Proterozoic, resulting in intense anorogenic felsic magmatism. However, the zonation of K–Ar ages allowed Cordani et al. (1979) to envisage an evolution of AC by sequential accretion and collision of juvenile terranes around an Archean nucleus. The continuous acquisition of geochronological data (Rb–Sr and U–Pb) indicates that the AC grew through continued Proterozoic soft-collision/accretionary processes driven by north-easterly B-type subductions, surrounding an Archean core (Fig. 1; Teixeira et al., 1989; Tassinari and Macambira, 2004; Cordani and Teixeira, 2007). These works resulted in the subdivision of AC into two Archean nuclei and five Proterozoic geotectonic provinces. The same tectonic structure was reinforced, with modifications of some provinces by Santos et al. (2000) and Santos (2003), based on U–Pb SHRIMP zircon and TIMS data from a few hundred samples, as well as Pb–Pb evaporation (Fig. 2).

More recently, Fernandes et al. (2011) and Juliani et al. (2013, 2014) have demonstrated the absence of island arc terranes, metamorphism and deformation correlated to collisional processes in the Central Amazon and Ventuari-Tapajós (or Tapajós-Parima) provinces. The new data, largely based on field work, geochemistry, geophysical studies and isotope geology indicate that the southern part of AC is essentially composed of two continental magmatic arcs that evolved between ca. 2.0 and 1.86 Ga, named Tapajonic Arcs, with a possible flat subduction stage, under an Archean-Paleoproterozoic continent. In this model, E–W structures approximately parallel to the trench of a northward subduction zone would control the emplacement of different calc-alkaline magma and volcanism. The magmatic arcs were, at least in part, overlapped (Juliani and Fernandes, 2010; Juliani et al., 2013). In these arcs, the magmatic zonation towards the back-arc appears to result in metallogenetic zoning of precious and base metal magmatic-hydrothermal occurrences.

3. Carajás Province

The Carajás Province (Santos et al., 2000) represents an Archean crustal nucleus located in the eastern part of the Amazon Craton. It was divided into two tectonic domains: Rio Maria in the south and Carajás in the north (Vasquez et al., 2008b).

The Rio Maria Domain represents a typical granite-greenstone terrane and encompasses ca. 3.04 to 2.97 Ga greenstone belts grouped in the Andorinhas Supergroup (Souza et al., 2001) and granitoids. The latter comprises TTG emplaced at 2.98 to 2.92 Ga and 2.96 Ga, sanukitoid (2.87 Ga) and granite suites, including potassic leucogranite, leucogranodiorite–granite, and amphibole-biotite monzogranite (ca. 2.87–2.86 Ga; Oliveira et al., 2009, 2011, Almeida et al., 2011, 2013). According to Souza et al. (2001), ca. 2.86 Ga shear zones resulted from the last deformational event identified in this domain. After that, the Rio Maria Domain remained stable until the emplacement of the 1.88 Ga A₂-type granites and associated dikes (Dall'Agnol et al., 1999, 2005).

The Carajás Domain (Fig. 3) encompasses rocks of the Mesoarchean age, which are mostly part of its basement, Neoproterozoic volcano-sedimentary sequences, named the Carajás Basin, and coeval, widespread, granite magmatism.

The Mesoarchean units include greenstone belts (ca. 2.97 Ga; Moreto et al., 2015), TTG-like orthogneisses and migmatites (e.g. ca. 3.06 Ga Xingu Complex; Delinardo da Silva, 2014), and mafic and felsic granulites (e.g. 3.0 Ga Pium Complex; Pidgeon et al., 2000; renamed as Chicrim-Cateté Orthogranulite; Vasquez et al., 2008b), and granitoids. Orthogneisses and granulites underwent medium to high-grade metamorphism at ca. 2.96 Ga (Delinardo da Silva, 2014) and ca. 2.86 Ga (Machado et al., 1991; Pidgeon et al., 2000), coeval with major granitogenesis events during the Mesoarchean in the Carajás Province. Mesoarchean granitoids are represented by calc-alkaline tonalite-granodiorites (ca. 3.00 Ga; Moreto et al., 2011, 2015a,b) and granites (ca. 2.96 Ga and ca. 2.87–2.83 Ga; Moreto et al., 2011; Feio et al., 2013), formed in magmatic arc and syn-collisional setting.

The Neoproterozoic Carajás Basin was infilled by volcano-

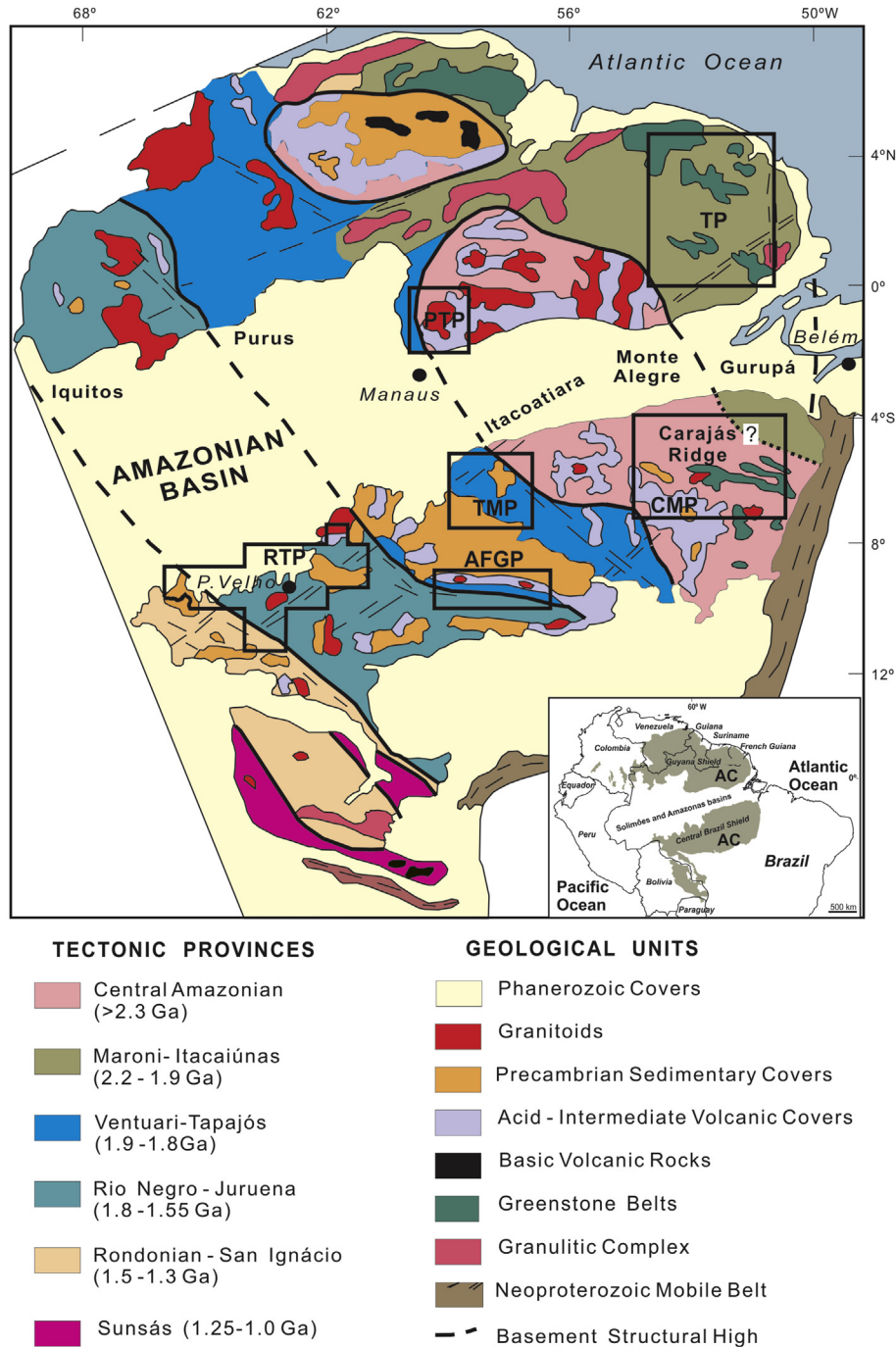


Fig. 1. Geochronological provinces of the Amazonian Craton, according to Tassinari and Macambira (1999, 2004). Mineral Provinces: CMP = Carajás Mineral Province; TMP = Tapajós Mineral Province; AFGP = Alta Floresta Gold Province; TP = Transamazonas Province; PTP = Pitinga Tin Province; RTP = Rondonia Tin Province.

sedimentary units (e.g. ca. 2.76 to 2.73 Ga Itacaiúnas Supergroup and Rio Novo Group; Hirata et al., 1982; Wirth et al., 1986; DOCEGEO, 1988; Machado et al., 1991). These units include basalts, basaltic andesite, rhyolite, tuffs, banded iron formations, and sedimentary units, metamorphosed in greenschist to amphibolite facies (DOCEGEO, 1988). The Águas Claras Formation (Nogueira et al., 1995) overlaid the volcano-sedimentary sequences and comprises an alternating sequence of low-grade metamorphosed sandstone, siltstone and pelite, deposited in a fluvial to shallow marine environment (Nogueira et al., 1995).

Mafic-ultramafic layered complexes (e.g., Luanga, 2763 ± 6 Ma,

U–Pb zircon; Machado et al., 1991) and ca. 2.75 to 2.73 Ga norites, gabbro-norites, quartz gabbros, and enderbites (e.g. Pium Diopside Norite; Vasquez et al., 2008b) have been temporally associated with extensional events responsible for the development of the rift-related Carajás Basin (Santos et al., 2013).

Neoproterozoic syntectonic foliated alkaline and metaluminous A₂-type granites (ca. 2.75 Ga to 2.70 Ga; Barros et al., 2009; Sardinha et al., 2006; Feio et al., 2012, 2013) were previously emplaced or synchronous to the basin inversion. The latter was attributed to shortening from NNE to SSW, resulting in regional E–W and ESE–WNW shear zones and NE–SW strike-slip faults developed in

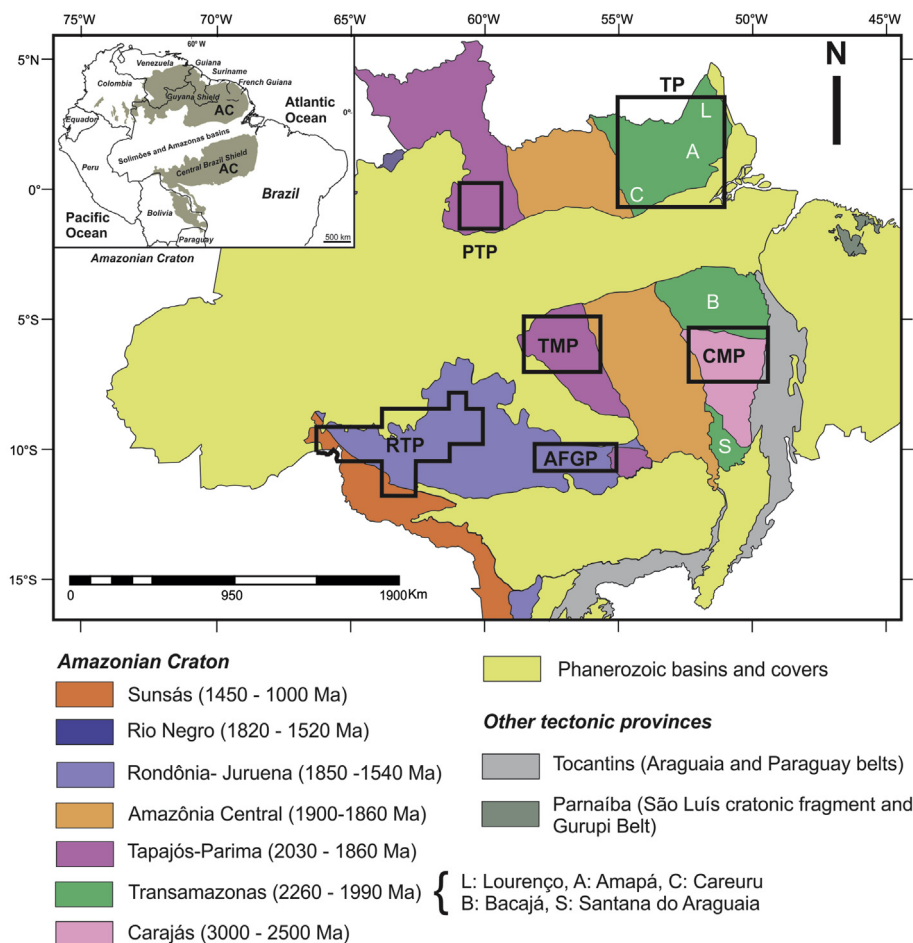


Fig. 2. Geochronological provinces of the Amazonian Craton, according to Santos (2003) and Vasquez et al. (2008b). Mineral Provinces: CMP = Carajás Mineral Province; TMP = Tapajós Mineral Province; AFGP = Alta Floresta Gold Province; TP = Transamazonas Province; PTP = Pitinga Tin Province; RTP = Rondônia Tin Province.

ductile-brittle conditions (Pinheiro et al., 2013).

Minor occurrences of ca. 2.57 Ga alkaline, peralkaline to metaluminous granites have also been recognized within the regional shear zones in the northern boundary of the Carajás Domain (e.g. Old Salobo granite; Machado et al., 1991). Similar to the Rio Maria Domain, the ca. 1.88 Ga A_2 -type granites also extend throughout the Carajás Domain (Machado et al., 1991; Tallarico et al., 2004). Other magmatic events represented by late undeformed diabase dikes of uncertain ages were recognized in this domain.

3.1. Mineral systems and deposits associated with granitoids in the Carajás Province

The Carajás province is notable for its metallogenic diversity and comprises several mineral deposit types spatially and/or temporally related to granitoids, in particular iron oxide–copper–gold, polymetallic copper–gold, tungsten, tin, and gold-EGP deposits.

In the Rio Maria Domain, orogenic gold (Oliveira and Leonardos, 1990; Huhn, 1992; Santos et al., 1998; Villas and Santos, 2001) and tungsten deposits (e.g. Pedra Preta; Rios et al., 1988, 2003) have been identified. The orogenic gold deposits (e.g. Diadema, Lagoa Seca, Babaçu, Mamão, Tucumã, Inajá, Cuca, Cumaru) are characterized by structurally-controlled quartz veins within regional shear zones, which crosscut the ca. 3.04 to 2.97 greenstone belt sequences and granitoids (Oliveira and Leonardos, 1990; Huhn, 1992; Santos et al., 1998; Villas and Santos, 2001; Oliveira and Santos, 2003). Hydrothermal alteration comprises

chlorite–carbonate–albite–muscovite; chlorite–sericite; quartz–pyrite; and tourmaline–quartz assemblages (Oliveira, 1993). Gold is associated with magnetite, ilmenite, pyrite, chalcocopyrite, pyrrhotite, and bismuthinite. In addition to aqueous-carbonic (H_2O – CO_2 – $NaCl$) and carbonic fluids of metamorphic origin, a contribution of magmatic aqueous fluids (H_2O – $NaCl$ – KCl – $CaCl_2$) was identified in the ca. 2.82 Ga Cumaru granitoid-hosted gold deposit (Santos et al., 1998).

The Pedra Preta tungsten deposit (508,300 tones at 1.01% of WO_3 ; Cordeiro et al., 1988) is hosted by the ca. 1.88 Ga A_2 -type oxidized Musa granite (Dall'Agnol and Oliveira, 2007) and greenstone belt units. Tungsten lode ore occurs as hydrothermal veins (quartz–wolframite–topaz–fluorite–mica–pyrite–pyrrhotite–chalcocopyrite–molybdenite–bismuthinite) that intercept greisen zones within the Musa granite cupola and the country rocks (Rios, 1995; Rios et al., 2003). Fluid inclusion and stable isotope data provide evidence of mixing between strongly reduced externally-derived fluids ($H_2O + CH_4 + salt \pm CO_2$) and oxidized hypersaline fluids (>330 °C; 42 wt% $CaCl_2$ eq.) of magmatic origin (Rios et al., 2003).

In the Carajás Domain (Fig. 3), world-class iron oxide-copper-gold (IOCG) deposits (e.g. Salobo, Sequeirinho, Sossego, Cristalino, Alvo 118, Igarapé Bahia/Alemão) have resources of more than 2 billion tons at 0.77–1.4 wt. % Cu and 0.28–0.86 g/t Au (Xavier et al., 2012). These IOCG deposits are located within regional E–W and ESE–WNW shear zones and NE–SW strike-slip faults and represent multiple hydrothermal events (ca. 2.70–2.68 Ga; ca. 2.57–2.42

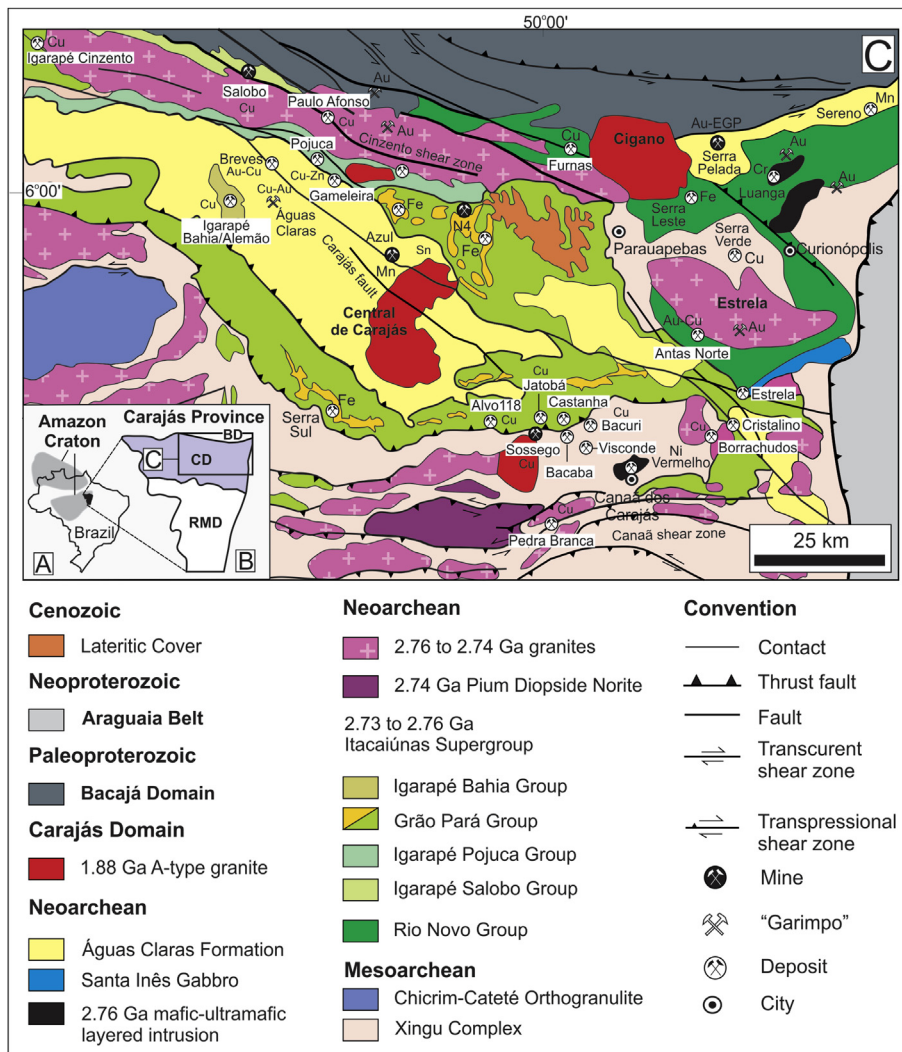


Fig. 3. A. Location of the Amazon Craton (in gray) and the Carajás Province (in black) in Brazil; B. Division of the Archean Carajás Province into the Carajás (CD) and Rio Maria (RMD) domains, and location of the Paleoproterozoic Bacajá Domain (BD); C. Simplified geological map of a portion of the Carajás Domain and location of the main ore deposits (modified from DOCEGEO, 1988; Vasquez et al., 2008b).

Ga, and ca. 1.88 Ga; Réquia et al., 2003; Tallarico et al., 2005; Melo, 2014; Moreto et al., 2015a, 2015b).

Ca. 2.7 Ga IOCG deposits have been recognized in the southern limit of the Carajás basin. The Sequeirinho ore body at the Sossego Cu–Au mine is their main representative (Monteiro et al., 2008a, 2008b; Moreto et al., 2015a, 2015b). These deposits are hosted both by Mesoarchean greenstone belt rocks and granitoids, which are crosscut by ca. 2.74 Ga ferroan, calc-alkalic to alkali-calcic, metaluminous granites and related gabbro-norites. Coeval post-orogenic A₂-type (e.g. Sossego Granophytic Granite; Y/Nb > 1; Sc/Nb < 2; Rb/Nb < 15) and anorogenic (e.g. Curral) granites likely reflect a transition from an extension of thickened arc crust to a rift setting during the Neoproterozoic.

Extensive albite-(actinolite) alteration zones and associated magnetite-(apatite) bodies crosscut by chalcopyrite-rich breccias are ubiquitous features of these deposits (Fig. 4). Their ore geochemical signature is marked by anomalous concentrations of Fe-LREE-Mo-Ni-Co-Pd. Contents of [(Nb*10)-(TiO₂*100)-Zr] ore samples indicate strong inheritance of host rocks in the Archean deposits (e.g. 2.74 Ga gabbros in the 2.7 Ga Sequeirinho ore body). These IOCG deposits have likely been formed by mixing between magmatic-derived (δ¹⁸O_{fluid} = 6.0–7.8‰ at 550 °C; Monteiro et al.,

2008a) and external fluids. However, extensive fluid–rock interaction involving Mesoarchean and Neoproterozoic units (e.g. metaultramafic, mafic and granitic rocks) may have played an important role in the genesis of these deposits.

Ca. 2.57–2.42 Ga IOCG deposits (e.g. Salobo, Réquia et al., 2003; Igarapé Bahia, Tallarico et al., 2005) have been defined particularly in the northern limit of the Carajás Basin within the domains of the regional-scale Cinzento shear zone. These deposits are commonly hosted by hydrothermally-altered gneisses (2.96 Ga), Neoproterozoic metavolcanic-sedimentary units, and ca. 2.74 Ga and 2.57 Ga deformed metaluminous granites (Tallarico et al., 2005; Melo, 2014). High-temperature magnetite–almandine–grunerite–biotite alteration zones envelop lens-shaped and massive chalcocite–bornite–chalcopyrite-rich ore bodies in the Salobo deposit. Magnetite–chalcopyrite-rich breccia ore bodies, on the other hand, are associated with strong chlorite–carbonate–actinolite–biotite alteration in the Igarapé Bahia IOCG deposit (Tallarico et al., 2005).

Additionally, a diversified group of mineral deposits is also related to ca. 1.88 Ga A₂-type granites and quartz porphyries (Tallarico, 2003; Moreto et al., 2015a). Paleoproterozoic IOCG deposits (e.g. Alvo 118; Sossego ore body in the Sossego Cu–Au mine) have well-developed potassic and chloritic alteration zones (Fig. 4),

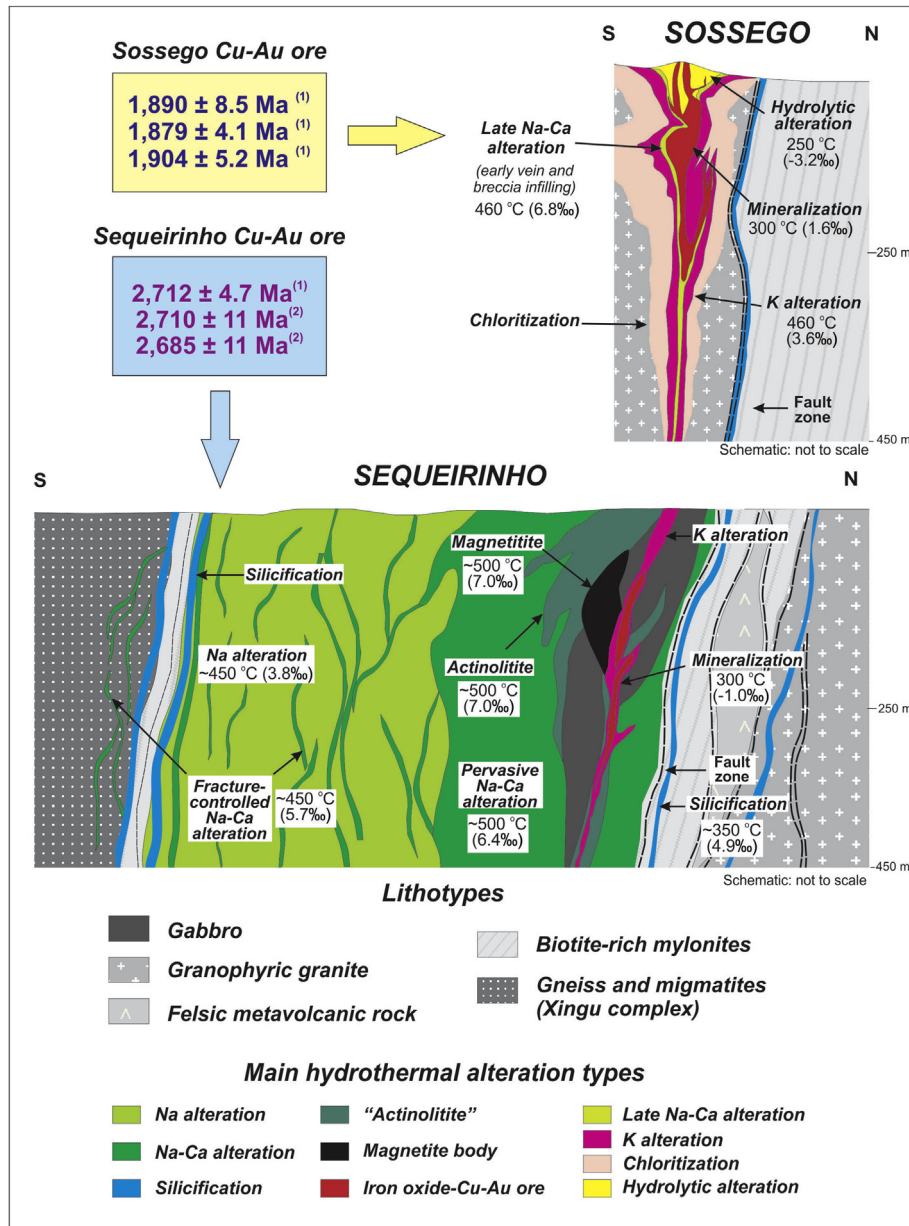


Fig. 4. Schematic profile of the ca. 2.74 Ga Sequeirinho and the ca. 1.88 Ga Sossego orebodies of the Sossego IOCG deposit, Carajás Mineral Province, showing distribution of hydrothermal alteration zones and average temperature and oxygen isotope composition of the hydrothermal fluids involved in each alteration stage (Monteiro et al., 2008a,b). Geochronological data: Moreto et al. (2015a,b): (1) U–Pb LA-MC-ICPMS in monazite; (2) Re–Os in molybdenite.

elevated U–Au and Nb–Sn–Y–Bi–Be–HREE contents, as well as evidence for F metasomatism. These deposits reveal a major contribution of surface-derived fluids ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{fluid}} = -0.4$ to -5.2‰ at 300 °C) and oxidized sulfur (sulfate) source ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{cpy}} > 7.5\text{‰}$; Torresi et al., 2012; Monteiro et al., 2008a).

A polymetallic signature (e.g. Cu–Au–W–Bi–Mo–Sn; Breves deposit; Tallarico et al., 2004; Xavier et al., 2005, Botelho et al., 2005; Cu–Au–Li–Be–Sn–W; Estrela deposit; Lindenmayer et al., 2005) is also characteristic of iron-oxide-poor Cu–Au deposits (e.g. Estrela, Breves, Águas Claras). The Estrela deposit is hosted by metavolcanic rocks of the Itacaiúnas Supergroup and is spatially related to an alkaline and peraluminous albite–ortoclase granite ($1.881 \pm 5\text{Ma}$; U–Pb zircon; Lindenmayer et al., 2005). Intense pervasive potassic alteration (biotite–syderophyllite–tourmaline–titanite–fluorite–quartz–magnetite–uraninite) was followed by copper–gold mineralization and late greisenization (Li–muscovite, zinnwaldite,

tourmaline, quartz, fluorite, topaz, and chlorite). Veins and breccias infilled by chalcopyrite, gold, Co-pyrite, Ni-pyrite, Ni-pyrrhotite, molybdenite and bornite comprise the bulk of the copper-gold ore (Lindenmayer et al., 2005).

Highly variable salinities (1–50 wt.% NaCl eq.) and homogenization temperatures (80–480 °C; potassic alteration; 130–430 °C; greisenization) have been estimated from fluid inclusions (Lindenmayer et al., 2005). A contribution of magmatic components in the system is suggested by stable isotope data ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 5.3\text{‰}$; potassic alteration; $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfides}} = 0.6\text{--}4.1\text{‰}$). However, Re–Os molybdenite (ca. 2.7 Ga) and Sm–Nd isochron ($1857 \pm 98\text{Ma}$; $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(T)} = -10.7$) ages have been obtained from the same mineralized vein (Lindenmayer et al., 2005), pointing to a complex evolution with multiple events.

In addition, Sn mineralization is also spatially associated with greisen zones within 1.88 Ga granite cupola (e.g. Central de Carajás

Granite; Velho Guilherme Intrusive Suite). The latter, located in the western portion of the Carajás Province, comprises subalkaline, metaluminous to peraluminous, syenogranite to monzogranite with a geochemical affinity of within-plate A₂-type granites (1867 Ma, 1862 Ma, and 1866 Ma; Pb–Pb zircon ages; Teixeira et al., 2002a).

The tin mineralized granites are silica-rich (SiO₂ >75%), strongly enriched with LREE and evolved. These granites have Nd model ages (Velho Guilherme = 3.0 to 3.2 Ga; Central de Carajás = 3.4 to 2.6 Ga) and negative initial εNd(1880 Ma) values (−7.9 to −12.2; Velho Guilherme; −7.9 to −10.5; Central de Carajás), indicating magma sources derived mainly from Mesoarchean rocks with a long crustal residence time (Teixeira et al., 2002a; Dall'Agnol et al., 2005).

Interaction with F-enriched fluids during late- and post-magmatic alteration resulted in secondary assemblages with albite, sericite, muscovite, chlorite, fluorite, epidote, topaz, carbonate, K-feldspar, allanite, monazite, fluocerite, and yttrocerite. Greisens (siderophyllite–chlorite–muscovite–quartz) and argillic alteration have been also identified. Cassiterite, associated with muscovite and chlorite, was formed from oxidation of the Sn-bearing iron-micas (Teixeira et al., 2002b). Fluid inclusion studies point to participation of diluted and highly saline fluids at decreasing temperatures from greisen formation (up to 396.6 °C) to the argillic stage (123.8 °C–95.6 °C).

U–Pb monazite (1.861 ± 45 Ma) and Ar–Ar biotite ages (1.882 ± 3 Ma) have also been reported for the Serra Pelada Au-EGP deposit (Grainger et al., 2008), which is hosted by the Águas Claras Formation metasedimentary sequence, close to the Cigano A-type granite (1883 ± 2 Ma, U–Pb zircon, Machado et al., 1991).

4. Tapajós Mineral Province

The Tapajós Mineral Province is a large gold panning production area (>650 t to the present) located between the Ventuari-Tapajós (or Tapajós-Parima; 2.03–1.88 Ga; Fig. 2) and Central Amazonian provinces (Fig. 1). It was formed through the evolution of ocean-continent orogenies, between 2.10 and 1.87 Ga.

The Tapajós-Parima Province is essentially composed of a ca. 2.1 Ga volcano-sedimentary sequence (Jacareacanga Group) and the magmatic arcs of the Cuiú–Cuiú Complex (ca. 2.01 Ga), Creporizão Intrusive Suite (1.97–1.95 Ga), Rio das Tropas Tonalite (ca. 1.90 Ga), and Parauari Intrusive Suite (ca. 1.89 Ga). The Uatumã magmatic event comprises calc-alkaline basaltic andesite, andesite and rhyolite and volcanoclastic rocks of the Vila Riozinho Formation (ca. 2.0 Ga), unnamed rhyolites outcropping close to the Chapéu do Sol (ca. 2.0 and 1.88 Ga) and Novo Progresso (ca. 1.97–1.95 Ga) areas, and the Iriri Group (1.88 Ga). These volcanic units overlie most of the previous units.

A-type ignimbrites and rhyolites of the Moraes Almeida Formation (1.88 Ga; Lamarão et al., 2002), as well other less studied occurrences associated with large dikes and bodies of anorogenic granites of the Maloquinha Intrusive Suite (ca. 1.87 Ga) are common. Paleoproterozoic fluvial and marine units and several mafic intrusions also occur in the Tapajós Gold Province. The basement of the supracrustal sequences is not exposed in the Tapajós, but less evolved granitoids xenoliths (diorites, tonalites and granodiorites) and mafic rocks are common in all plutonic units, as well some ultramafic xenoliths. Geophysical and structural data, inherited zircon and Sm–Nd T_{DM} ages indicate that this basement is composed of Archean and early Paleoproterozoic terranes (Lamarão et al., 2005). All these units are essentially unmetamorphosed, but zeolite to prehnite-pumpellyite facies have been identified in volcanic rocks in some regions and greenschist grade metamorphism is recognized in the Jacareacanga Group.

In the Tapajós Mineral Province, the Iriri Group was originated in

several large nested ash-flow caldera complexes (Juliani et al., 2005). The pre-caldera units are composed of flows and dikes of basaltic andesite and andesite (Bom Jardim Formation) covered by rhyodacite, dacite, rhyolite and ignimbrites of the Salustiano Formation. Latite, trachyandesite, ash- and crystal tuffs, and acid to intermediate hyaloclastites are also present. The syn-caldera units consist of several large ignimbrite and ash-flow deposits with subordinated rhyolite flows of the Aruri Formation. The post-caldera units are represented mainly by rhyolites and ignimbrites, which encompass ring composite volcanoes and domes. The latter occur as vents along rings and within the calderas. Tuffs, epiclastic sandstone and lacustrine sediments compose the intra-caldera deposits. Intrusions of granophyric stocks, and rhyolitic and rhyodacitic porphyry dikes crosscut the volcanic sequence. These volcanic units are interfingering and are partially covered by Paleoproterozoic lacustrine, fluvial and marine sedimentary sequences.

A-type rhyolites of the Santa Rosa Formation form large NE–SW and NW–SE-striking dikes with domes and associated ignimbrite deposits (Juliani and Fernandes, 2010; Fernandes et al., 2011). A-type granites of the Maloquinha Intrusive suite are also common in this province (Santos et al., 2000). Large mafic intrusions and thin dikes with ages ranging from Paleoproterozoic to Neoproterozoic are also present.

The basement of the Central Amazonian Province is not well exposed but, at least in part, it is Archean in age (Santos et al., 2000).

4.1. Epithermal gold mineralization

More than twenty high-, intermediate- and low-sulfidation occurrences have been recognized in felsic and intermediate-composition volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks. These occurrences are genetically associated with stocks and dikes of rhyodacitic to rhyolitic porphyries, which resulted in strong and extensive hydrothermal alteration in volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks of the Iriri Group. Among these, only one high-sulfidation mineralization was partially explored by drill holes and resources of 30 tons of gold with grade up to 4.5 ppm Au were estimated.

The high-sulfidation gold mineralization (Figs. 5 and 6) occurs in hydrothermal breccia pipes affected by advanced argillic alteration with alunite–natroalunite veins and disseminated pyrophyllite, andalusite, diaspore, rutile, kaolinite–dickite, woodhouseite–svanbergite, hindsalite, pyrite, chalcocopyrite, bornite, covellite, sphalerite, enargite–luzonite, tetrahedrite–tennantite, famatinite, tiemannite, kaolinite, pyrite, and very fine grains of native Au, Ag, and Cu (Juliani et al., 2005).

In the core of this zone, a massive to brecciated silica body, which flares upwards, is present. This silica body has alunite and subordinated pyrophyllite at shallow levels and sulfide-rich zones at deeper levels. The zone of advanced argillic alteration with alunite is enveloped by an advanced argillic alteration zone with rare alunite and without andalusite, indicating lower temperature in these external haloes (Fig. 6). Zones of argillic alteration represented by clay-rich rocks with veins of coarse-grained kaolinite occur in the outer parts of the previous zone. The advanced argillic alteration zone grades outward to a large propylitic halo in shallow parts, and to sericitic alteration at deeper levels, especially close to hydrothermally altered porphyry dikes. A hematite-rich silica cap with abundant vugs filled by diagenetic quartz occurs on the top of the hydrothermal breccia bodies. At least two pulses of hydrothermal fluids have been recognized, generating several alunite textural types (Juliani et al., 2005). The first pulse was more pervasive and cooler than the second one. The latter resulted in brecciation of the silica cap and generation of high-temperature

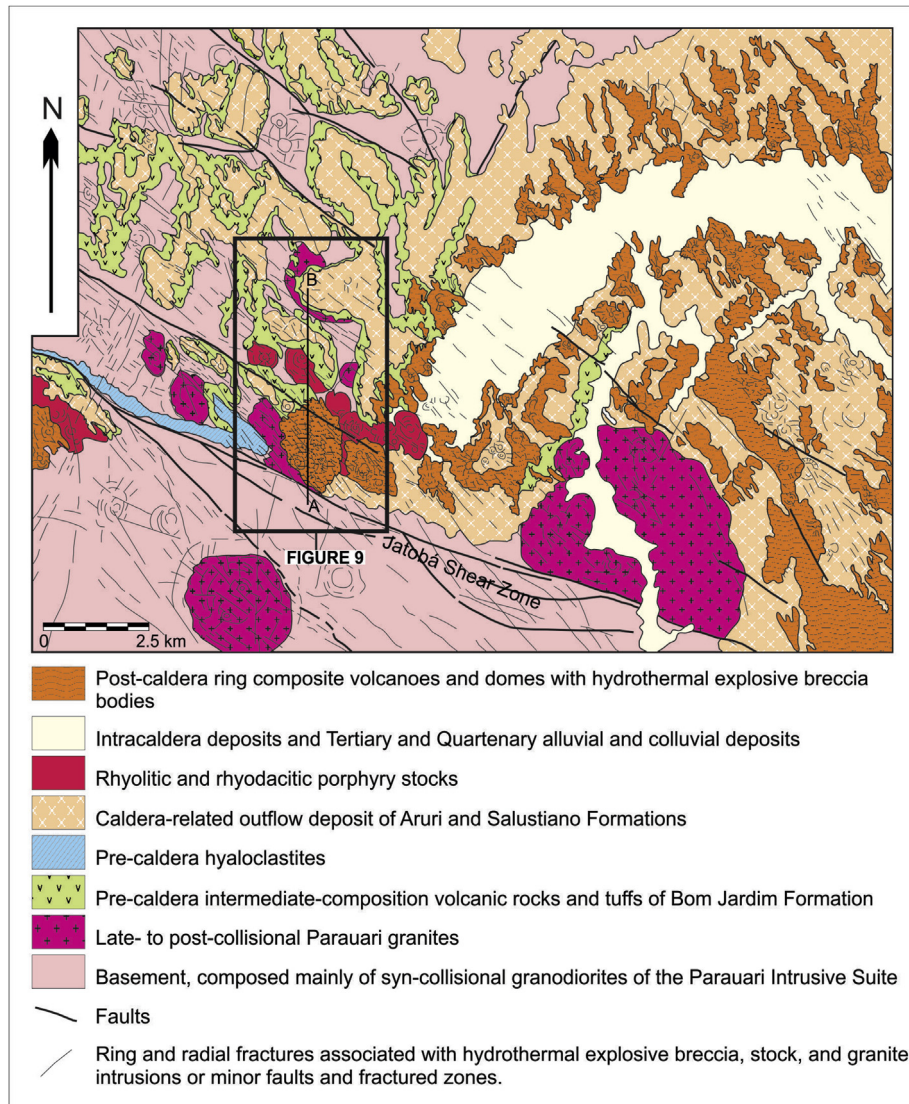


Fig. 5. Geological map of the high-sulfidation mineralization area in the Tapajós Gold Province (Juliani et al., 2005). (A)–(B) is the line of cross-section shown in Fig. 6. The arrow indicates the volcanic structure with high-sulfidation mineralization shown in Fig. 6, and the black star shows the location of the high-sulfidation gold deposit.

fine-grained alunite veins that crosscut alunites, and coarse-grained alunite branching veins.

Undeformed alunite shows maximum age of 1869 ± 2 Ma and recrystallization in shear zones at 1805 ± 2 Ma. Supergenic alunite has an ^{39}Ar – ^{40}Ar age of 51.3 Ma, which indicates the period of epithermal mineralization erosion.

The $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ values of the alunite range from 14.0 to 36.9‰, and coexisting pyrite from -6.3 to 1.7‰. Temperatures estimated from the sulfur isotope composition of the alunite–pyrite pair and from oxygen isotope signature of SO_4 –OH alunite range from 130 to 420 °C. The $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ and $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ values (-43 to -55 ‰ and 11.8–16.7‰, respectively) for alunite-forming hydrothermal fluids suggest a predominance of magmatic water, with a small meteoric contribution (Juliani et al., 2005). Calculated isotopic compositions for the fluids associated with the lower temperature alunite, pyrophyllite and kaolinite could be associated with two evolutionary trends. These trends could indicate a contribution of seawater, followed by an influx of low-latitude, highly evaporated waters, to the hydrothermal system. This suggests that during the late Paleoproterozoic, the Amazonian Craton was located in an arid, near equatorial environment (Juliani et al., 2011).

The low-sulfidation gold mineralization is located at the border of a caldera complex. The geological setting and the hydrothermal system evolution is similar to that of the high-sulfidation gold mineralization, but the silica cap is not present and the erosion and deformation related to shear zones are more intense. This epithermal mineralization shows an overprint of a porphyry style Cu–Mo–(Au) mineralization associated with several porphyry dikes.

Tokashiki et al. (2015) also identified multiphase gold and base metal (chalcopyrite, galena, and sphalerite) veins hosted by 1.97 to 1.95 Ga rhyolites and volcaniclastic rocks. Two phases of rhyolites are responsible for domes cut by hydrothermal breccias, with talus breccias, volcanic agglomerates and tuffs surrounding the domes, and dikes. This mineralization is controlled by faults and is concentrated in and close to the rhyolitic domes, notably where dikes of rhyolites are present. The hydrothermal alteration, proximal in relation to the ore, is represented by mainly fissure controlled by pervasive sericitic alteration with sericite, sulfides, and, in many places, adularia, characterizing an epithermal low-sulfidation mineralization, associated with silicification and sulfidation. The external halo is represented by propylitic alteration,

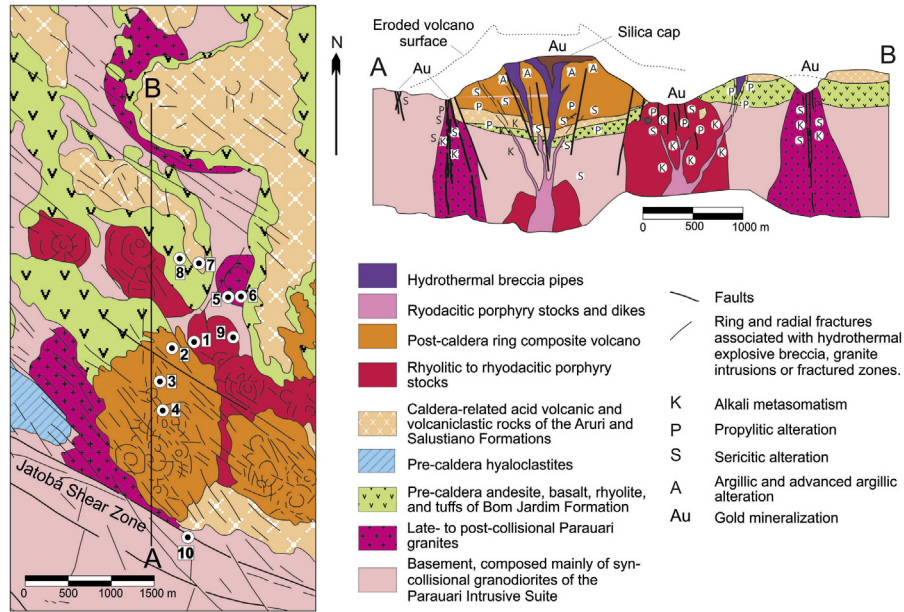


Fig. 6. Detailed map and interpreted geological cross-section along (A)–(B), showing the location of the high-sulfidation gold mineralization and of garimpos (small mining operations in colluvial and alluvial deposits undertaken by prospectors; Juliani et al., 2005).

and zones with intense argillic alteration are very common. Another characteristic of this mineralization is the presence of manganese calcite and the base-metal sulfide-rich ores, typical of the intermediate-sulfidation epithermal mineralization (Sillitoe and Hedenquist, 2003; Corbett, 2008). Especially close to the dikes of rhyolites, K-metasomatism is present and produces K-feldspar + biotite ± quartz ± sulfides. This mineralization indicates that the epithermal systems, as well as the spanning of time of the Paleoproterozoic volcanism in the Amazonian Craton, are more spread out than previously considered.

Adularia-sericite Cu–Mo–(Au), pyrophyllite–kaolinite–diaspore Au, and several large sericitic alteration zones (sometimes with traces of Au, Bi, Cd, Sb, Mo, Pb and Zn) have also been identified along a west-east belt from the Tapajós to Xingu rivers along ~650 km.

4.2. Porphyry-type gold mineralization

Porphyry-related mineralization is represented mainly by the Palito Au–(Cu) deposit, and by the Cu–Mo porphyry style mineralization that overprinted the Chapéu do Sol low-sulfidation gold mineralization. Gold mineralization associated with the Batalha Granite is similar to those of Au-rich porphyry systems, but this granite was emplaced at a mesozonal crustal level (Juliani et al., 2002), precluding its classification as a porphyry-type mineralization, despite the similarity of the typology of the hydrothermal alteration.

The Palito granite composes a semi-eroded dome-like granophyric body (U–Pb TIMS zircon age of 1.883 ± 11 Ga; Aquino et al., 2012) intruded the northern boundary of the shallow-emplaced intrusion of the Rio Novo porphyritic granite (U–Pb TIMS zircon age of 1.881 ± 4 Ga; Lima et al., 2010). These granites are high-K calc-alkaline and are possibly correlated to the later Parauari granites of the Tapajós Mineral Province. They intruded the Fofquinha granodiorite/quartz diorite (U–Pb zircon TIMS 1.946 ± 57 Ga; Lima, 2010). Porphyry stocks, sometimes brecciated, and several porphyry dikes, some of them affected by hydrothermal alteration crosscut the previous units. This association shows typical geochemical characteristics of porphyry generation in an

active continental margin evolving to a late collisional stage (Echeverri-Misas, 2015).

The main wall-rock hydrothermal alteration recognized in the Palito and host rocks are potassic, propylitic, and sericitic (QSP), with restricted argillic alteration. The potassic alteration is very intense in the mineralized Palito Granite and decreases in intensity towards the host Fofquinha and Rio Novo units. The alteration resulted in almost complete replacement of igneous feldspar by microcline and dark-colored igneous biotite and amphibole by green biotite. This potassic alteration was followed by propylitic alteration mainly in a fissure-controlled style, which evolved to Au and Cu mineralized sericitic alteration. An outer halo of propylitic alteration occurs around the Palito Granite.

The Au–(Cu) mineralization is represented by hundreds of NW–SE and E–W oriented sulfide-rich and quartz veins, metric massive chalcopyrite ± covellite veins, and pyrite ± Cu-sulfide mineral lenses and veins. Massive sulfide veins are locally crosscut by hydrothermal brecciated sulfide veins and veinlets. All vein generations are commonly sheared. The ore grade and the size of mineralized veins decrease towards the host Rio Novo Granite. “Barren” samples of the Palito Granite without sericitic alteration have ~0.25 ppm Au (up to 2.7 ppm).

Scanning electronic microscope studies indicate that the ore has chalcopyrite, pyrite, digenite, chalcocite, pyrrhotite, galena, sphalerite, covellite, gold, electrum, barite, argentumcuproauride, bismuth, bismuthinite, makovickyite, wittichenite, hedleyite, cuprobismuthinite, kupcikite, Te–Se-bismuth, Ag–Te–Bi–tellurite, matildite, tetradimite, scheelite, yttrialite, monazite, thorite and pilsenite. Native gold is predominantly included in chalcopyrite. Later shear-related non-mineralized quartz veins have mainly pyrite, carbonates and fluorite.

Microthermometric studies indicate salinities up to 23.8 wt.% NaCl eq. and boiling evidences (Usero et al., 2011). δD_{H_2O} and $\delta^{18}O_{H_2O}$ values of sericite vary between –38 and –74‰, and 1.7–6.9‰, respectively. Stable isotope evidence indicates mixing involving magmatic-derived and meteoric hydrothermal fluids during the sericitic alteration and the ore deposition. This evolution is very similar to those observed in the high-sulfidation gold

mineralization. $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ values (1.2–3.6‰) of sulfides suggest a magmatic source for the sulfur (Echeverri-Misas, 2010).

The hydrothermal alteration associated with rhyolitic to rhyodacitic porphyry dikes that overprinted the low-sulfidation mineralization of Chapéu do Sol shares the same style and mineralogy with the Palito mineralization, as well the ores, but the content of molybdenum is higher, and is represented by molybdenite.

Many other occurrences of porphyry-style hydrothermal mineralization have been identified in the Tapajós in the last years (Juliani et al., 2013), indicating geological potential for occurrence of gold, and Cu–Mo \pm Au porphyry deposits in this region, associated with less evolved to high-K calc-alkaline granites.

5. Alta Floresta Gold Province

The Alta Floresta Gold Province (AFGP, also referred as Jurueña–Teles Pires Gold Province) extends over 500 km NW–SE in the southernmost portion of the AC (J.P. Souza et al., 2005). The province lies between the Ventuari–Tapajós (1.95–1.80 Ga) and Rio Negro–Jurueña (1.80–1.55 Ga) geochronological provinces (Tassinari and Macambira, 1999), or between the Tapajós–Parima (2.03–1.88 Ga) and Rondônia–Jurueña (1.82–1.54 Ga) tectonic provinces (Santos, 2003; Vasquez et al., 2008b). Regardless the adopted model, these provinces are interpreted as products of successive ocean–ocean orogenies with accretion of juvenile crust that evolved by differentiation generating intermediate to felsic magmas.

The AFGP is composed mainly of plutonic–volcanic sequences generated in Paleo- to Mesoproterozoic volcanic arcs and basement units restricted to its central and northwest segments.

The basement is represented by two metamorphic complexes: (1) Bacareí–Mogno (2.24 Ga; Pimentel, 2001), composed of pyroxene-rich orthoamphibolite, ortho- and paragneiss, banded iron formations, quartzite, metagabbro, and metanorites; and (2) Cuiú–Cuiú (1992 \pm 7 Ma; J.P. Souza et al., 2005; V.S. Souza et al., 2005), represented by tonalitic to granitic gneisses, migmatites, schists, banded iron formations, metaltramafic and metamafic rocks (Dardenne and Schobbenhaus, 2001; Paes de Barros, 2007).

In the eastern sector of the province, the basement is crosscut by several oxidized, calc-alkaline, medium to high-K, meta- to peraluminous granites, such as Pé Quente, Novo Mundo, and Aragão granites, and the Flor da Mata suite, besides volcanic sequences (Assis et al., 2014). The plutonic–volcanic units have U–Pb crystallization ages varying from 1.97 Ga to 1.93 Ga. These suites are also cut by the 1.90 Ga to 1.87 Ga Guarantã, Nhandu, and Matupá I-type granites, and by ca. 1.78–1.75 Ga post-collisional and A-type granites (e.g. Paranaíta and Peixoto granites, Colíder and Teles Pires suites). Except for the Flor da Mata suite, all other granites host vein-type to disseminated gold mineralization. All these units are overlain by ca. 1.37 Ga (Assis et al., 2014) clastic sedimentary rocks attributed to the Dardanelos Formation (Beneficente Group).

Crystallization ages (1.97 Ga to 1.75 Ga), Sm–Nd T_{DM} ages (2.76 Ga to 2.15 Ga), and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)}$ values from -7.62 to 3.09 for the plutonic–volcanic units, suggest Archean to Paleoproterozoic magma sources within a juvenile arc with a small contribution of continental crust (Santos et al., 1997, 2000; Moura, 1998; Pimentel, 2001; J.P. Souza et al., 2005; Paes de Barros, 2007; Silva and Abram, 2008; Assis et al., 2014; Assis, 2015).

5.1. Gold metallogeny of the Alta Floresta Province

The majority of the gold deposits and occurrences recognized in the AFGP are concentrated along a NW–SE-striking belt that extends over 150 km. Based on mode of occurrence, ore mineral

association, and geochemical signature, these deposits are classified as: (1) disseminated; (2) structurally-controlled vein-type Au deposits; and (3) structurally-controlled vein-type Au + base metals. Main host rocks include tonalite to syeno/monzogranite intrusions (1.97 Ga, 1.90 Ga and 1.87 Ga), quartz-feldspar porphyries (1.78–1.75 Ga) and, subordinate basement rocks (2.0 Ga to 1.98 Ga). In some deposits, aplite and mafic intrusions of unknown ages often contain gold mineralization.

5.1.1. Disseminated Au deposits

The Luizão (Paes de Barros, 2007), Serrinha (Moura, 1998), Jurueña (Serrato, 2014), X1 (Rodrigues, 2012), and Pé Quente (Assis, 2011) deposits are the main examples of disseminated gold deposits. The Novo Mundo and Matupá granites host the Luizão and Serrinha deposits, whereas the Guarantã granite hosts the X1 and Pé Quente deposits. The Jurueña deposit is hosted by biotite monzogranite, porphyritic biotite monzogranite and microgranite, possibly belonging to the Paranaíta suite. These granites are I-type, oxidized (magnetite-bearing), sub-alkaline to calc-alkaline, metaluminous to slightly peraluminous, medium to high potassium with compositions varying from syenogranite/monzogranite (e.g. Novo Mundo and Jurueña granites) to granodiorite/tonalite (Guarantã granite).

Single zircon Pb–evaporation yielded crystallization ages from 1970 ± 3 to 1964 ± 1 Ma for the Novo Mundo granite (Sm–Nd $T_{\text{DM}} = 2.76$ Ga and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)} = -7.32$), and 1872 ± 12 Ma for the Matupá granite (Sm–Nd $T_{\text{DM}} = 2.47$ to 2.43 Ga and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)} = -4.3$ to -2.7 ; Moura, 1998; Paes de Barros, 2007). Moreover, SHRIMP U–Pb zircon crystallization ages varying from 1904 ± 4.6 to 1901 ± 6.8 Ma were obtained for the Guarantã granite (Sm–Nd $T_{\text{DM}} = 2.5$ to 2.4 Ga and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}(t)} = -5.13$ to -3.21) and ages of 1790 ± 6.4 Ma for the Jurueña granite (Serrato, 2014; Assis, 2015).

The ore bodies of these deposits occur within muscovite (phenogite)/sericite + quartz + chlorite alteration zones that are enveloped by pervasive potassic (orthoclase + microcline \pm hematite), and then by later and more regional propylitic alteration. These alteration types are also recognized in the Pé Quente deposit, but gold mineralized zones are related to earlier pervasive sodic alteration and to later quartz + albite-rich veinlets.

The ore zones of these disseminated gold deposits contain abundant pyrite with variable concentrations of chalcopyrite and hematite, with minor barite, galena, sphalerite, monazite, thorite, molybdenite, pyrrhotite, cubanite, Bi–Te-bearing phases and Au–Ag tellurides. Gold (Ag = 4–46%) usually occurs as small inclusions within pyrite, at its edges or as fracture infilling.

Fluid inclusion assemblages reveal the common presence of: (1) two-phase aqueous inclusions with variable salinity (2.1–26.1 wt.% eq. NaCl) and homogenization temperatures (126.5 °C–268.4 °C); (2) H₂O–CO₂ inclusions of low salinity (6.1–8.9 wt.% eq. NaCl) and higher temperatures (251.6°–334.6 °C); and more subordinately (3) high salinity (33.6–37 wt.% NaCl eq.) aqueous fluids represented by halite-bearing fluid inclusions (Fig. 7A). These data suggest a combination of heterogeneous entrapment by immiscibility and fluid mixing during the evolution of the hydrothermal systems. Additionally, these results indicate P–T conditions of 0.9–3.4 kbar (3.3–12.6 km) and 110° to 365 °C.

The $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{silicate}}$ and $\delta\text{D}_{\text{silicate}}$ data vary from 4.3‰ to 13.4‰ and from -65 ‰ to -34 ‰, respectively, whereas $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$ are between -5.6 ‰ and 1.8 ‰. Moreover, the calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ and $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ values ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 2.7$ ‰– 8.4 ‰; $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -35$ ‰ to -69 ‰; Fig. 7B; Assis, 2015) for the fluids in equilibrium with quartz and muscovite in the ore assemblage point to a predominant contribution of magmatic fluids for the formation of the disseminated Au deposits.

The pyrite and molybdenite Re–Os weighted average model

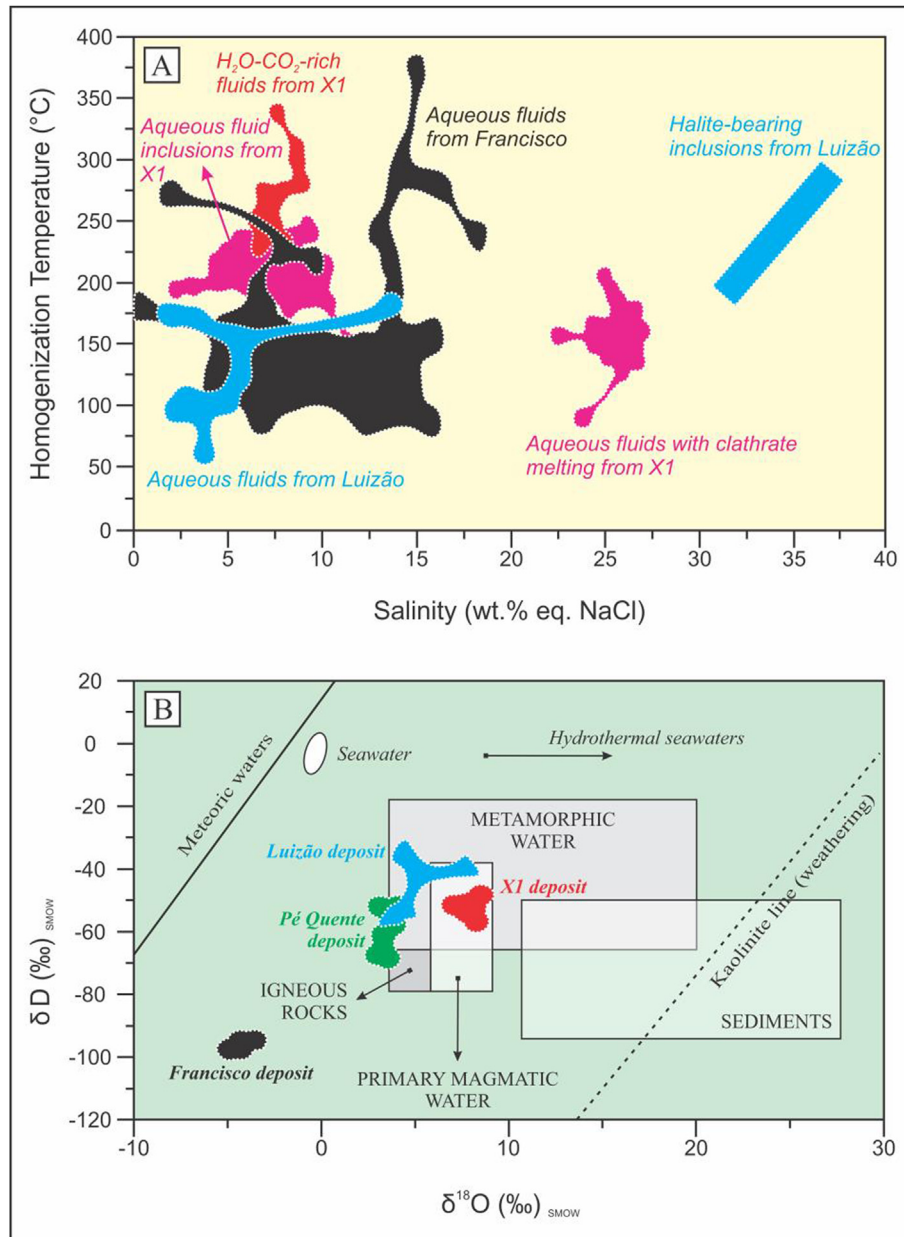


Fig. 7. (A) Relationships between salinity and homogenization temperature in deposits of the Alta Floresta Gold Province; and (B) Calculated $\delta^{18}O_{H_2O}$ and δD_{H_2O} values for fluids in equilibrium with hydrothermal minerals of the gold deposits from AFGP (Assis, 2015).

ages obtained for the disseminated Au \pm Cu deposits are 1787 ± 6.2 Ma (Luizão), 1787 ± 5.5 Ma (Pé Quente), and 1786 ± 5 Ma (X1; Fig. 8; Assis, 2015). Considering the isotopic uniformity among these three deposits, which might reflect a single and similar rhenium source, a very well defined $^{187}Re-^{187}Os$ isochron age (1786 ± 1 Ma) and a weighted average model age of 1787 ± 3.2 Ma were obtained for them.

5.1.2. Vein-type Au deposits

The Paraíba (Paes de Barros, 1994; Trevisan, 2015), Edú (Paes de Barros, 2007) and Peteca (Teixeira, 2015) deposits are the main vein-type Au deposits.

The Paraíba deposit is hosted by biotite tonalite and biotite gneiss crosscut by mafic dikes, whereas biotite granodiorite and biotite syenogranite are the main host rocks of the Peteca deposit. The Edú deposit is hosted by the Santa Helena granite,

individualized into two facies that comprise monzogranite to granodiorite (Old Santa Helena granite; U–Pb LA-ICP-MS zircon; 1986 ± 6 Ma), and fine- to medium-grained monzogranite (Young Santa Helena Granite; 1967 ± 3 Ma; single-zircon Pb evaporation).

The gold mineralization is generally associated with quartz veins emplaced in sericite–quartz–biotite–carbonate mylonitic zones within N–S-, NE- and E–W-striking shear zones of sub-vertical dip. These mylonitic zones are enveloped by early potassic (with K-feldspar) alteration, and by later, and distal, propylitic alteration.

The ore association in the veins consists predominantly of pyrite with significant amounts of chalcopyrite, and minor galena, scheelite, sphalerite, hematite, magnetite, Bi–Te–Ag-bearing phases, and gold (16–30% Ag; Assis et al., 2014).

Fluid inclusion assemblages reveal the common presence of: (1) two-phase $H_2O-NaCl-CaCl_2$ -rich fluids with low to moderate

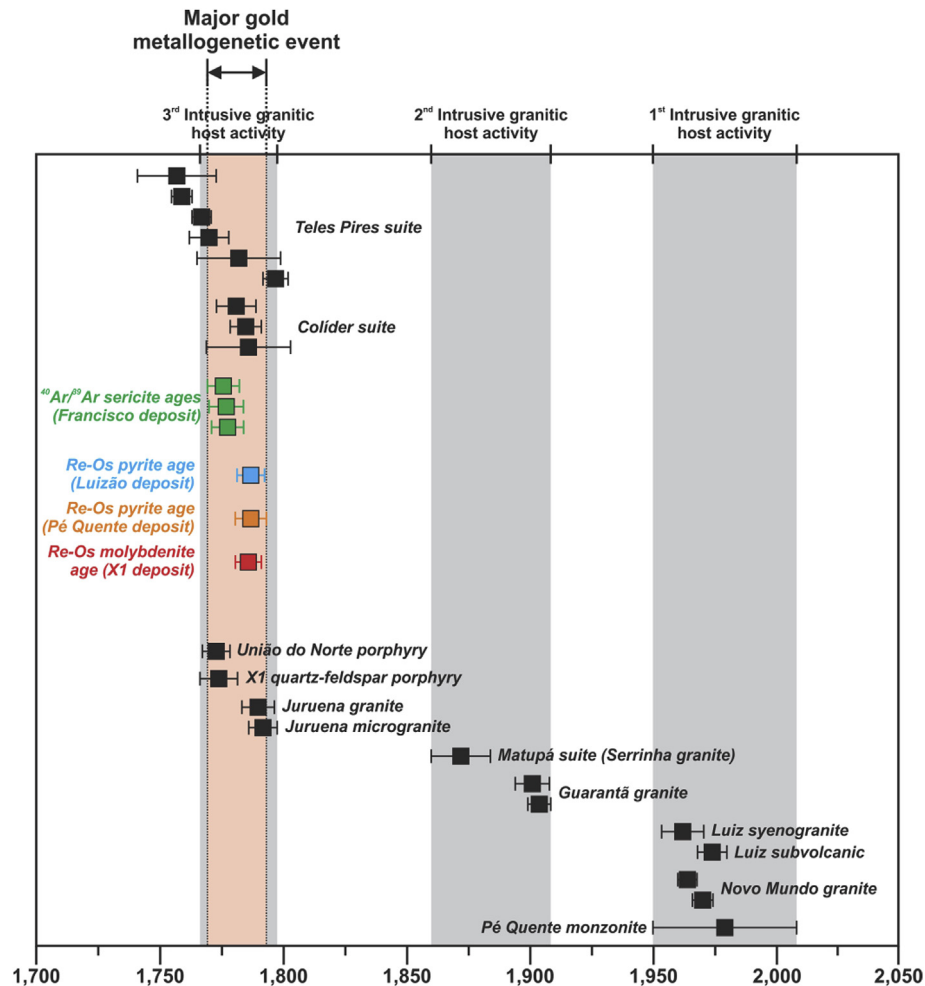


Fig. 8. Correlation between Re–Os sulfide and $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ ages with U–Pb zircon crystallization ages of the host rocks of the major disseminated Au ± Cu and vein-type Au + base metals deposits in the Alta Floresta Gold Province (Assis, 2015).

salinity (2–13 wt.% eq. NaCl) and temperature ($79^\circ < T < 234^\circ \text{C}$); (2) H_2O – CO_2 inclusions with heterogeneity of degree of fill, low to moderate salinity (1.6–14.5 wt.% eq. NaCl) and higher homogenization temperatures (159–360 °C); and (3) H_2O –NaCl– CaCl_2 halite-bearing fluid inclusions of higher temperature (286.5–316 °C) and salinity (37–43.5 wt.% eq. NaCl). The calculated pressure and temperature conditions vary, respectively, from 1.0 to 3.6 kbar and from 263° to 368 °C (Assis et al., 2014).

5.1.3. Vein-type Au + base metal deposits

The Francisco, Bigode, and Luiz deposits (Assis, 2008, 2011; Trevisan, 2015) are the main examples of vein-type Au + base metal deposits located in the eastern sector of the AFGP, in the vicinities of the União do Norte district.

The Francisco deposit is hosted by a volcanoclastic unit of uncertain age, close to the contact with the União do Norte porphyry, dated at 1774 ± 7.5 Ma (LA-ICP-MS U–Pb zircon). The latter corresponds to a post-collisional A_2 -type sub-volcanic intrusion that ranges in composition from monzogranite to alkali-feldspar granite (Assis, 2011; Miguel-Jr, 2011). The União do Norte porphyry cross-cut an I-type magnetite-bearing hornblende-biotite granodiorite (1853 ± 23 Ma; U–Pb LA-ICP-MS zircon) that hosts the Bigode deposit (Assis, 2011; Miguel-Jr, 2011). The Luiz deposit is hosted by a biotite granodiorite that is intruded by a feldspar porphyry of granodioritic composition (1.974 ± 5.9 Ma; U–Pb SHRIMP zircon;

Trevisan, 2015).

Potassic (orthoclase ± hematite) and propylitic (chlorite + epidote + magnetite ± actinolite ± calcite) hydrothermal alteration zones are distal, whereas sericite + quartz ± chlorite alteration envelopes the ore zones. These are confined to breccias and quartz veins that commonly show small geodes and open space-filling textures, such as crustiform, zonal, colloform, cockade, vuggy, and comb, suggesting emplacement at relatively shallow levels (Assis, 2011; Trevisan, 2015). The major ore association in these deposits comprises pyrite, sphalerite, and galena, with subordinate chalcopyrite, digenite, bornite, pyrrhotite, hematite, magnetite, greenockite, rutile, apatite, monazite, and Bi–Te-rich phases. Gold ($\text{Ag} = 2\text{--}41\%$) occurs as inclusions in pyrite and shows strong spatial association with galena, often as exsolutions.

Fluid inclusion assemblages in quartz from the quartz infill stage of the Francisco deposit are dominated by CO_2 -free primary aqueous fluids with heterogeneity in the degree of fill (5%–70%), low to high salinity (6.9–24.2 wt% NaCl eq.), and low to moderate homogenization temperatures ($85.3^\circ < T < 373.2^\circ \text{C}$; Fig. 7A). Although in minor amounts, colorless (H_2O -rich liquid phase) to dark-color (H_2O -rich vapor phase) monophasic inclusions are also related to ore zones of these deposits (Assis, 2015; Trevisan, 2015). These data suggest P–T conditions of approximately 0.74 kbar (~2.7 km) and 85°C – 373°C .

Although microthermometric data are not available for Luiz

deposit, chlorite and muscovite mineral chemistry yields temperatures from 233 °C to 300 °C (Trevisan, 2015). The isotopic signature, only available for the Francisco deposit, shows $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{silicate}}$ and $\delta\text{D}_{\text{silicate}}$, respectively, between -5.5‰ and 15.3‰ , and $\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{sulfide}}$ ranging from -2.6‰ to 1.3‰ . The calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ (-4.8‰ to -3.5‰) and $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ (97.3‰ to -94.4‰ ; Fig. 7B) values suggest external fluids of meteoric origin that may have interacted with magmatic fluids.

Additionally, sericite $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ plateau ages from the sericitic alteration halo of the Francisco deposit (Assis, 2015) yielded ages between 1779 ± 6.6 Ma and 1777 ± 6.4 Ma (Fig. 8), which are very similar to those constrained for the disseminated Au \pm Cu deposits.

6. Eastern Amazonian Craton (Transamazonas Province)

The eastern portion of the AC corresponds to the Transamazonas Province (Santos, 2003), which broadly represents a north-south-trending orogenic belt, with internal structures oriented predominantly to NW–SE and E–W. The belt consolidated during the Transamazonian cycle of orogenies (2.26–1.95 Ga) and its framework and evolution is heterogeneous and characterized by several tectonic domains (Fig. 2): (1) Lourenço, (2) Amapá, (3) Carecuru, (4) Bacajá, and (5) Santana do Araguaia (Santos, 2003; Rosa-Costa et al., 2006, 2014; Macambira et al., 2007; Fig. 9).

The Lourenço Domain is a Rhyacian terrane composed of several orogenic granitoid suites of variable composition, from quartz diorite to granite, with ages between 2.19 and 2.06 Ga. The oldest suites are interpreted as having formed in a continental arc setting (Nogueira et al., 2000; Sousa and Costa Neto, 2014). Gneisses, amphibolite and discontinuous strips of metavolcano-sedimentary rocks are subordinate. Younger rocks include late- to post-orogenic granitoids and charnockite of 2.05 to 1.99 Ga (Faraco et al., 2009; Sousa and Costa Neto, 2014).

The Amapá Block comprises an Archean crust that has been reworked during the Rhyacian period. Its basement is composed of 2.87 to 2.60 Ga metagranite–gneiss–migmatite–granulite associations with remnants of older, Paleoproterozoic gneissic crust (3.49–3.32 Ga), high-grade metasedimentary sequences younger than 3.10 Ga, and charnockites (2.66–2.63 Ga). This basement records granulite facies metamorphism at 2.10 to 2.08 Ga and has been intruded by pre-orogenic 2.22 Ga layered mafic-ultramafic and by several generations of orogenic granitoids (2.19 and 1.99 Ga). Anorogenic granitic magmatism took place between 1.84 and 1.75 Ga. Greenschist to granulite facies supracrustal rocks occur

as disrupted and elongated NW–SE trending sequences, composed of mafic–ultramafic volcanic rocks and chemical and clastic sedimentary rocks (Rosa-Costa et al., 2006, 2014; Barbosa et al., 2013).

The Carecuru Domain encompasses gneisses, 2.19 to 2.14 Ga calc-alkaline granitoids, narrow and discontinuous belts of metavolcano-sedimentary rocks, and remnants of Archean granulite gneiss formed in a magmatic arc setting. Younger units comprise syn- to post-collisional granitoids (2.10–2.03 Ga; Rosa-Costa et al., 2006 and references therein).

The basement rocks of the Bacajá Domain are composed of Archean (3.0–2.5 Ga) granulite, charnockite, gneiss, granitoid and 2.44 to 2.31 Ga greenstone belts, reworked during the Rhyacian period. Orogenic magmatic arc-related granitoids and charnockites, related to the collision of magmatic arcs against an Archean block (Vasquez et al., 2008a), were produced during syn- and post-collision stages, at 2.11 to 2.09 Ga and 2.08 to 2.06 Ga, respectively.

The Santana do Araguaia Domain (Macambira et al., 2007) represents a granitoid–greenstone association composed of gneisses and metagranitoids of 3.06 to 2.42 Ga, and greenstones older than 2.83 Ga (Vasquez et al., 2008a; Corrêa and Macambira, 2014). These associations were largely reworked during the Paleoproterozoic Era, by the intrusion of orogenic, pre-collision (?) granitoids of 2.19 Ga, but there is no clear evidence of Paleoproterozoic metamorphism (Corrêa and Macambira, 2014). Post-orogenic granodiorite and enderbite intruded at 1.99 Ga (Corrêa and Macambira, 2014), and anorogenic magmatism is represented by 1.88 Ga A-type granites (Barros et al., 2011) and undated syenites.

6.1. Characteristics of some major ore deposits and occurrences

The Lourenço Domain contains gold deposits (1.1 Moz) hosted within shear zones that cut across 2.15 Ga biotite tonalite (Lourenço Tonalite; Nogueira et al., 2000; Klein et al., 2014; Sousa and Costa Neto, 2014). Mineralization took place at ca. 2.00 Ga, and the associated hydrothermal alteration produced silicification, saussuritization, chloritization, and sulfidation of the host tonalite (Nogueira et al., 2000). Bettencourt and Nogueira (2008) ascribed the deposit to the class of orogenic gold deposits, although Klein et al. (2014) argue that the classification is uncertain.

Small artisanal mining of Nb–Ta (columbite–tantalite) is a common feature in areas where the Lourenço Tonalite crop out. These are associated with pegmatite and the causative pluton is unknown to date, but in other domains of the province, they are

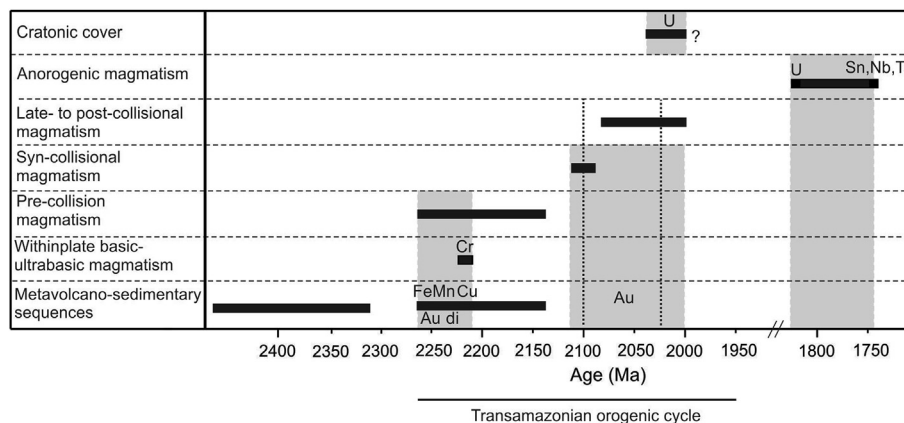


Fig. 9. Diagram showing the main stages of the geological and temporal evolution of the Transamazonas Province and the associated mineral deposits. Archean basement associations of 3.49 to 2.63 Ga were omitted. Black bars represent the temporal evolution of each stage; the gray areas stand for the estimated timing of mineralization, and the vertical dotted lines limit the timing of Rhyacian metamorphism associated with the Transamazonian orogenic cycle (bottom line; modified from Klein et al., 2014).

associated with younger anorogenic granites.

The gold deposits of the Amapá Block are hosted in the metavolcano-sedimentary Vila Nova Group (>2.26 Ga). The gold-sulfide ore in the main gold deposit (e.g. Amapari/Tucano) is hosted in a N–S trending shear zone that affected amphibolite facies pelitic schists, BIF and carbonate rocks. Mineralization was produced by low-salinity aqueous-carbonic fluids at 270 °C to >420 °C, which has been interpreted as metamorphic in origin. This and other deposits of the same domain have been ascribed to the class of orogenic gold deposits (Melo et al., 2003; Nunes et al., 2007; Klein et al., 2014). Ore deposition is estimated to have occurred at ca. 2.11 Ga (Pb isotopes in sulfides; Galarza et al., 2006). In addition, part of the mineralization occurs in skarns produced by the intrusion of the 1.99 Ga Amapari Granite. It is likely that this intrusion caused at least local remobilization. In fact, Melo et al. (2003) identified high-salinity aqueous fluid inclusions that have been related to the Amapari Granite, although the authors have interpreted this fluid as unrelated to the main gold mineralization.

Greisen and pegmatite Sn–Nb–Ta deposits have been exploited by artisanal miners since 1940. Most deposits are hosted in schists, quartzite and phyllite of the Vila Nova Group. These deposits are inferred to be related to late-orogenic to anorogenic (partly A-type) granites of 1.84 to 1.75 Ga (Barbosa et al., 2013; Klein et al., 2014).

Gold deposits of the Carecuru Domain are associated with Rhyacian supracrustal-granitoid associations formed in a continental arc setting. The host rocks are quartzite, metapelite, BIF, and subordinate calc-alkaline monzogranite and tonalite of 2.18–2.14 Ga (Klein and Rosa-Costa, 2003; Rosa-Costa et al., 2006). The gold-quartz veins are post metamorphic peak, hosted in shear zones, reverse-oblique faults and in the metamorphic foliation and were ascribed to the class of orogenic gold deposits. The timing of mineralization was estimated at ca. 2.03 Ga, based on the intrusion of syn-tectonic muscovite- and/or garnet-bearing granites (Klein and Rosa-Costa, 2003; Klein et al., 2009).

Fluid inclusion and isotopic studies indicate low-salinity metamorphic and magmatic fluid sources that deposited gold at 290–355 °C in the majority of deposits (Klein et al., 2009). In addition, deep-seated CO₂ sources for a peculiar type of CO₂-only fluid that formed deposits at 350–475 °C have been reported (Klein and Fuzikawa, 2010). For the lower temperature group, potential magmatic fluid sources are the syn-tectonic granitoids of 2.03 Ga (Klein et al., 2009), whereas for the higher temperature type, Klein and Fuzikawa (2010) suggested the widespread charnockite magmatism of 2.07 Ga, and the coeval granulite metamorphism to be the sources for CO₂.

Secondary tin deposits occur in small rivers that transect an anorogenic, A-type granite of 1.75 Ga (Waiãpi Granite) and are probably related to this magmatism.

Ore deposits of the Bacajá domain still wait for characterization studies. Manelão is possibly an intrusion-related gold deposit. There, gold mineralization occurs in veins hosted in a NW–SE-trending shear zone that cut across amphibolite and mafic schists of the São Manoel sequence, close to the contact with the Felício Turvo Granite of 2069 ± 6 Ma (Souza et al., 2003; Souza and Kotschoubey, 2005). Gold-quartz veining is associated with phyllic (quartz–sericite–albite with tourmaline–pyrite), and propylitic (chlorite–zoisite–clinozoisite–quartz–albite with pyrite, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite and ilmenite) alteration haloes.

Two gold showings have been recognized in the Santana do Araguaia Domain, in addition to geochemical evidence of Sn, Pb, Ag, and Cu mineralization (Stropper et al., 2011; Klein et al., 2014). Mandi is possibly an intrusion-related type and consists of a NE–SW-trending quartz lode system, hosted in two-mica leucogranites (Macambira et al., 2006) attributed to the Neoproterozoic Santana do Araguaia Complex (Vasquez et al., 2008b). The veins are

enveloped by proximal silicification, sericitization and sulfidation haloes. Sericite also occurs as distal alteration (Macambira et al., 2006).

Stropper et al. (2011) described propylitic and potassic alteration zones associated with sulfides in I-type granites of the Vila Rica Intrusive Suite (1990 ± 12 Ma), and suggested potential for porphyry-type base metal mineralization.

7. Pitinga Tin Province

The Pitinga Province (Fig. 10) is the largest Sn producer in Brazil. It contains two main tin-bearing granites, the Madeira and Água Boa A-type granites, which are part of the ca.1820 Ma Madeira Suite (Fig. 11). The Madeira Sn–Nb–Ta–F world-class deposit, associated with the albite-enriched granite (AEG) facies of the Madeira granite (Fig. 11) has been exploited since 1989. A number of small greisens associated with the Água Boa granite have been intermittently exploited. The alluvial ore deposits, discovered in 1979 (Veiga et al., 1979), are almost exhausted.

The Pitinga Province is located in the southern portion of the Guyana Shield (Almeida et al., 1981; Rosa et al., 2014), in the Tapajós-Parima Tectonic Province (Santos et al., 2000), in the Uatumã-Anauá Domain (CPRM, 2006; Fig. 2). Its older units (Fig. 10) are grouped in the Guianense Complex (Issler et al., 1974). The Água Branca Suite (Araújo Neto and Moreira, 1976; Almeida et al., 1997) is composed of subduction-related calc-alkaline metaluminous granitoids (ca. 1950 Ma). Mandetta et al. (1974) recognized the “brachisyncline” of the Pitinga River, which is outlined by the Quarenta Ilhas Formation. According to Ferron et al. (2002), there is an even larger structure (dotted line in Fig. 10) approximately parallel to the brachisyncline.

The volcanic rocks of the Iricoumé Group (Veiga et al., 1979) have ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb zircon ages between 1881 ± 2 and 1890 ± 2 Ma (Ferron et al., 2006). They comprise mostly effusive and hypabyssal rhyolites, highly welded ignimbrites, ignimbritic tuffs, and surge deposits, formed in a subaerial environment with cyclic effusive and explosive activities (Pierosan et al., 2011a, 2011b; Simões et al., 2014).

The granitic bodies (1875 ± 3 Ma and 1888 ± 3 Ma; ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb zircon ages; Ferron et al., 2006, 2010) of the Mapuera Intrusive Suite (Araújo Neto and Moreira, 1976) intrude the Iricoumé Group. The volcanic and granitic rocks exhibit similar geochemical characteristics pointing to their comagmatic character. These rocks range from metaluminous to slightly peraluminous and exhibit affinities with silica-saturated alkaline series and A-type magmas. They contain between 6.6 and 10.4% Na₂O + K₂O and show FeO^t/(FeO^t + MgO) values varying from 0.76 to 0.99 and Ga/Al ratios of 1.5–4.9. The units plot in the intraplate or post-collisional fields in the Y + Nb vs. Rb diagram. The Nb/Y ratios indicate that these rocks are comparable to A₂-type granites. The substantial volume of pyroclastic rocks (especially rheoignimbrites) and effusive rocks (subordinate) with associated epizonal granitic bodies is similar to that of caldera complexes. These granites are the plutonic equivalents of the Iricoumé volcanic rocks. Their emplacements were associated to an extensional regime that led to the collapse of the caldera (Ferron et al., 2010).

The Urupi Formation consists of fluvial-eolian sandstones with pyroclastic interbeds (Veiga et al., 1979) that have a minimum age of 1780 Ma (Santos et al., 2002). Dated zircons from two cineritic tuff interbeds yielded Pb–Pb ages of 1882 ± 7.1 Ma and 1825 ± 3.9 Ma, respectively (Bastos Neto et al., unpublished results). The Madeira, Água Boa, and Europa granites belong to the Madeira Suite (Fig. 10) described below. The Quarenta Ilhas Formation (zircon U–Pb age of 1780 ± 3 Ma, Santos et al., 2002) includes tholeiitic basic rocks. The Seringa Formation (Veiga et al., 1979) is

composed of alkaline flows and dikes from the Mesoproterozoic (K/Ar from 1079 ± 18 Ma to 1090 ± 13 Ma, Araujo Neto and Moreira, 1976).

7.1. Madeira Suite and associated primary ore deposits

The Madeira granite contains four facies (Fig. 11). The older facies is an amphibole-biotite syenogranite (rapakivi granite). The biotite-alkali-feldspar granite facies is peraluminous, equigranular, and locally porphyritic. The alkali feldspar *hypersolvus* porphyritic granite facies has phenocrysts in a fine- to medium-grained matrix composed dominantly of K-feldspar and quartz. According to Costi (2000), the *hypersolvus* granite and the albite-enriched granite (AEG) were emplaced simultaneously, then interacted and intruded into the older facies. The AEG has a core and a border facies. The AEG core is a subsolvus granite, porphyritic to seriate in texture, fine- to medium-grained, and composed of quartz, albite, and K-feldspar in nearly equal proportions (25–30%). The accessory minerals are cryolite (5%), polyolithionite (4%), green-brown mica (3%), zircon (2%), and riebeckite (2%). Pyrochlore, cassiterite, xenotime, columbite, thorite, magnetite, and galena occur in minor proportions. The AEG border is a peraluminous granite with the same texture types and essential mineralogy as the AEG core except for iron-rich minerals, which have almost completely disappeared because of an autometamorphic process, together with the presence of fluorite instead of cryolite (Costi et al., 2000, 2009). The Madeira deposit corresponds to the AEG. This is a world-class deposit of 164 million tons of disseminated ore with a grade of 0.17% Sn (cassiterite). Niobium and Ta (both in pyrochlore and columbite) are exploited as by-products. The potential byproducts of the disseminated ore are F (cryolite), Y and HREE [xenotime and gagarinite-(Y)], Zr and U (zircon), Li (polyolithionite), and Th (thorite). In addition, in the central portion of the Madeira deposit, there is a massive cryolite deposit (MCD) of ten million tons with a grade of 31.9% cryolite (Na_3AlF_6) (Minuzzi et al., 2006; Bastos Neto et al., 2005, 2009).

The Água Boa granite (Fig. 11) contains four facies. The older facies is a coarse-grained hornblende-biotite syenogranite (rapakivi granite, Daoud and Antonietto, 1985). The next two facies are a fine-grained porphyritic biotite syenogranite and a coarse- to medium-grained biotite-alkali-feldspar granite. The younger facies is a topaz-bearing porphyritic biotite granite (Lenharo, 1998). In the Água Boa granite, there are two types of mineralization. The greisens are associated with virtually all facies of the pluton, forming continuous and homogeneous levels with thickness up to 5 m. The high temperature greisens are composed of quartz, topaz, syderophyllite and sphalerite (\pm cassiterite, pyrite, chalcopyrite, zircon, fluorite, siderite, and Nb-anatase). The low temperature greisens consist essentially of quartz, phengite, and chlorite, with subordinate cassiterite, pyrite, galena, sphalerite, zircon, rutile, onyx, and fluorite. The tin-bearing sodic episyenites are composed essentially of albite and low modal content of quartz, and formed through the following stages: (a) albitization of K-feldspar; (b) cavities formation by dissolution of magmatic quartz; (c) filling of cavities by albite, chlorite, phengite, and cassiterite; (d) late quartz and cassiterite deposition (Borges et al., 2003, 2009, 2014).

According to Lenharo (1998), all the facies of the Madeira and Água Boa granites were formed from different mixtures of crustal and mantle sources, with prominent crustal contribution in all cases. The AEG origin relates to a specialized syenite or to the Europa peralkaline granite. According to Costi (2000), the AEG has either a mafic source with a short crustal residence time or a mantle source and was likely formed from a magma different from the magma that generates the earlier facies of the Madeira granite. Alternatively, Costi (2000) proposed that all of the facies of the

Madeira granite came from the same magma and that the F-enrichment depolymerized the magma and reversed the crystallization trend from peraluminous with increasing silica to peralkaline with decreasing silica, thus forming the AEG. According to Costi et al. (2009), the F-rich peralkaline melt that produced the AEG was most likely the result of a phase-separation process, or immiscibility, similar to that described by Thomas et al. (2006).

The Europa granite, dated at 1831 ± 11 and 1839 ± 6.2 Ma (Bastos Neto et al., 2014), was the first pluton of the Madeira Suite to be emplaced. The Madeira granite, elongated in a NE–SW direction (Fig. 11), aligns with the Água Boa granite and the Pedreira granite (ca. 1880 Ma, Mapuera Suite). Within the Água Boa granite (Fig. 11), even the latest facies occurs elongated in a NE–SW direction. However, in the Madeira granite, the AEG, which is the most recent facies, has N–S orientation. The first ages obtained for the Água Boa granite that are consistent with contact relationship between the facies within the body (1824 ± 24 Ma in the biotite granite facies and 1816 ± 20 Ma in the topaz granite facies, Bastos Neto et al., 2014) indicate that this pluton is approximately synchronous with the early facies of the Madeira granite. The AEG was crystallized between 1822 ± 22 Ma (Bastos Neto et al., 2014) and 1794 ± 19 Ma (Lenharo, 1998), with a strong hydrothermal process occurring at 1782 ± 4 Ma (Lenharo, 1998). Bastos Neto et al. (2014) suggest a model of AEG emplacement dominated by a N–NE-trending shortening related to a left-lateral motion along a NE–SW corridor, in the position of Riedel shear. This corridor previously controlled the Pedreira granite (Mapuera Suite, approximately 1880 Ma), the Água Boa granite and the early facies of Madeira granite (ca. 1830 Ma); the existence of a substantial time lag between the emplacement of the early facies of the Madeira granite and the AEG may provide evidence that the AEG localization within the Madeira granite is fortuitous.

8. Rondônia Tin Province

The Rondônia Tin Province (RTP; Fig. 12; Isotta et al., 1978) is located in the Rio Negro-Juruena Province (1.80–1.55 Ga), in the Southwestern Amazonian Craton (SWAC). Tin mineralization has been responsible for 270,000 tons of Sn in concentrate, up to 2012, mostly mined from alluvial sources, since the discovery of the first cassiterite occurrences in 1952. Recoverable resources of W, Ta, Nb, and topaz are significant in some districts. Proterozoic anorogenic granites (Fig. 12), were recognized in the late 1960's and characterized as rapakivi granites. Bettencourt et al. (1999) identified seven rapakivi suites, which were temporarily correlated to the development of three tectonic provinces in the SWAC: Rio Negro-Juruena (1.80–1.55 Ga), Rondonian-San Ignácio (1.56–1.30 Ga), and Sunsás-Aguapeí (1.20–0.95 Ga) (Tassinari and Macambira, 1999; Bettencourt et al., 2010; J.B.G. Teixeira et al., 2010; W. Teixeira et al., 2010).

The primary rare and base-metal mineralization (Sn, W, Nb \pm Ta, Be, Zn, Cu, Pb) is closely associated with the three youngest suites, more specifically to peraluminous tin-granites, as follow: São Lourenço-Caripunas (1.31–1.30 Ga), Santa Clara (1.08–1.07 Ga) and Younger Granites of Rondônia (0.99–0.97 Ga) intrusive suites. Since the 1990's, a number of detailed studies and reviews on rare-metal metallogeny have been published by Bettencourt et al. (1999, 2005), Leite (2002), Sparrenberger (2003), Souza (2003), V.S. Souza et al. (2005) and others.

We will present selected polymetallic deposit types: 1 – Santa Bárbara (Sn–W), a mineralized cupola and bed-like greisen bodies, 2 – Oriente Novo (Sn, W, Nb, Ta, Be), as lode/stringer, stockwork and disseminated deposit type, and 3 – Bom Futuro (Sn \pm W, Zn, Cu, Pb) as example for pegmatite, quartz vein, and greisen deposits.

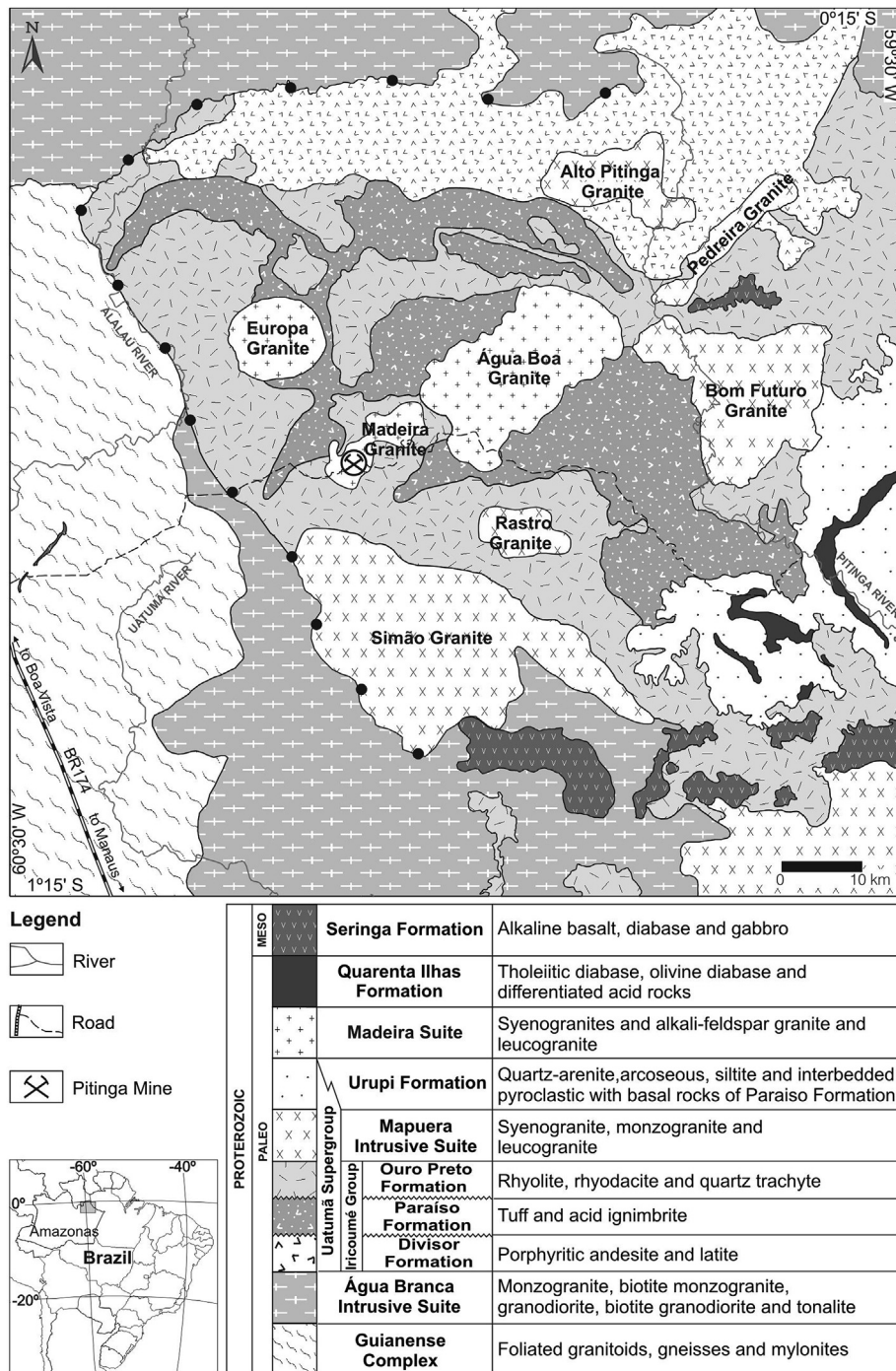


Fig. 10. Geological map of the Pitinga Province (Ferron et al., 2010). The megastructure (see text) boundaries (dotted line) are approximately parallel to the brachisyncline of the Pitinga River, which is outlined by the Quarenta Ilhas formation.

8.1. The São Lourenço-Caripunas Intrusive Suite (SLCIS)

The São Lourenço-Caripunas Intrusive Suite (1.31–1.30 Ga) crops out in a northeastern direction along the Madeira River (Fig. 12). It represents A-type magmatism caused by late to post-collisional processes following upon major collision at ca. 1.34–1.32 Ga, related to the Rondonia-San Ignacio (1.56–1.30 Ga) province and includes juvenile material, as well as melting derived from evolved continental crust. The São Lourenço-Caripunas massif is composed of plutonic and subvolcanic rocks mainly of granitic composition

(Bettencourt et al., 1999; Leite et al., 2014). They contain biotite and hornblende as the main mafic minerals, but clinopyroxene and fayalite also occur in some granitic facies. In the São Lourenço region, porphyritic hornblende–biotite syenogranites, biotite–hornblende quartz-syenites and even-grained biotite granites are common, besides rhyolite porphyry, and gabbro. The granites show geochemical characteristics of ferroan, alkali-calcic, A-type and within-plate granites. The majority of the granites are metaluminous, but peraluminous granites, host of the primary tin deposits, occur in the São Lourenço region. Primary tin deposits are

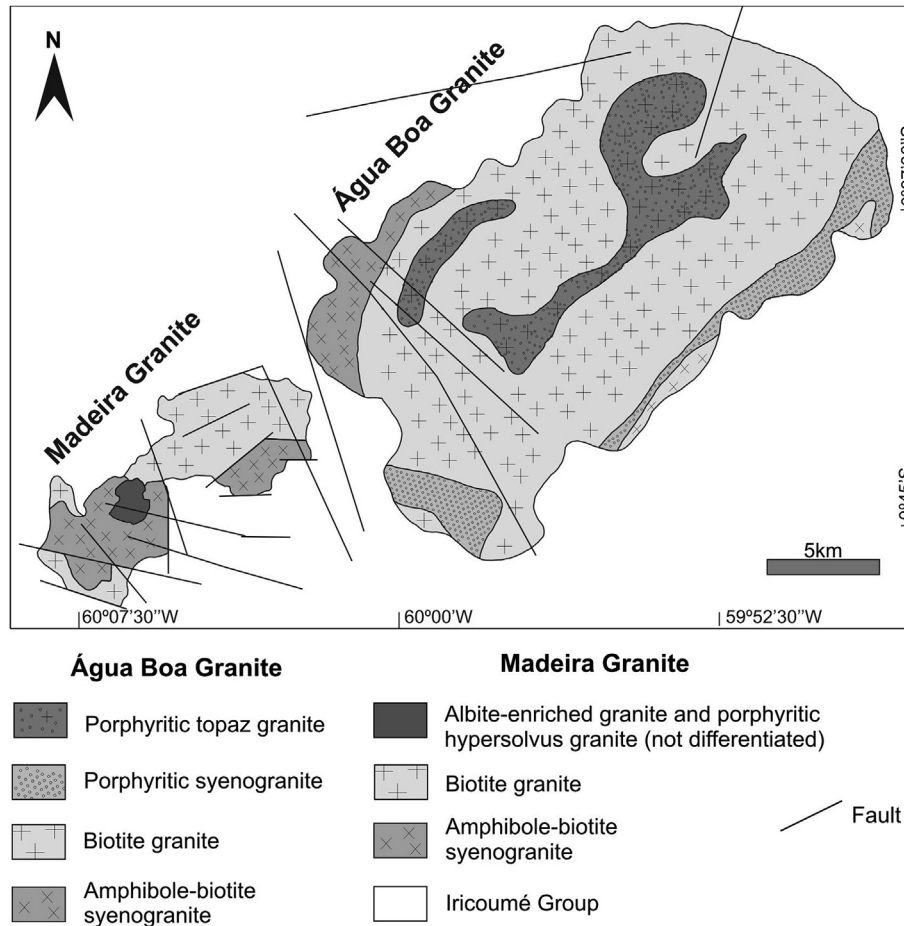


Fig. 11. Geological map of the Madeira and Água Boa granites (Costi, 2000).

spatially related to even-grained biotite granites mostly as greisen bodies with cassiterite and quartz veins with cassiterite, minor wolframite, and Cu–Zn–Pb–Fe sulfides. The SLCIS ore-host rocks have positive $\epsilon_{Nd(t)}$ of +0.04 to +2.01 are juvenile in character, and Sm–Nd T_{DM} model ages range from 1.59 to 1.67 Ga, which means that some old crustal material was involved and the sources were isotopically homogeneous.

8.2. The Santa Clara (SCIS) and Younger Granites of Rondônia (YGRIS) intrusive suites

Both suites (Fig. 12) are linked to the evolution of the Sunsás-Aguapeí tectonic province (1.20–0.95 Ga), characterize the intracratonic stage of magmatism, which mostly occurred in major EW–NW trending transpressional to extensional structures resulted from mantle and crust-derived melt, and comprise three compositional rock associations sharing ferroan, A-type and within-plate granite geochemical characteristics. An older sub-suite is alkali-calcic and marginally peraluminous. The two other younger sub-suites are volumetrically minor. The first exhibits alkalic and peralkaline features, and the second shows alkali-calcic and peraluminous compositions. The peraluminous sub-suites contain biotite syeno- and alkali-feldspar granites, Li-mica ± topaz alkali-feldspar granite and rhyolite, and topaz-quartz rocks.

The rare and base-metal primary deposits are spatially and temporally associated with these late-stage peraluminous sub-suites mainly as: cassiterite (columbite–tantallite) disseminated in

the Li-mica ± topaz alkali-feldspar granite, greisen bodies with cassiterite, quartz ± topaz veins with cassiterite and wolframite, and veinlets with quartz and Cu–Zn–Pb–Fe sulfides (Bettencourt et al., 2005). Important pegmatite bodies with Li-mica, topaz and cassiterite occur in Bom Futuro mine in the domain of the YGRIS (Dias et al., 2013).

Bettencourt et al. (2005) report $^{40}Ar/^{39}Ar$ plateau ages for zinnwaldite and muscovite from the Santa Barbara and Bom Futuro deposits (959 ± 4 to 994 ± 3 Ma) and for muscovite of mica greisen from the Potosi deposit (1053 ± 3 Ma; Fig. 12). Leite (2002) also report K–Ar ages obtained after Li–Fe micas of 1006 ± 17 to 976 ± 30 Ma from greisen and quartz vein from Oriente Novo, and Rio Branco deposits, and of 961 ± 19 and 969 ± 27 Ma for greisen and quartz-vein from the Santa Bárbara and Bom Futuro deposits. The data suggest an Ar loss for the Oriente Novo and Rio Branco deposits due to thermal effect caused by the emplacement of the neighboring YGRIS.

8.3. Tin ore deposits

8.3.1. Santa Bárbara deposit

The Santa Bárbara massif is a stock with a diameter of 7 km and includes three subsolvus granite units (Figs. 12 and 13): (1) an early metaluminous porphyritic syenogranite; (2) a peraluminous porphyritic syenogranite, and (3) a central porphyritic albite-microcline granite (tin granite).

Ages of 1 and 2 granite units by U–Pb monazite are 993 ± 5 Ma and 989 ± 13 Ma, respectively. SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages of the

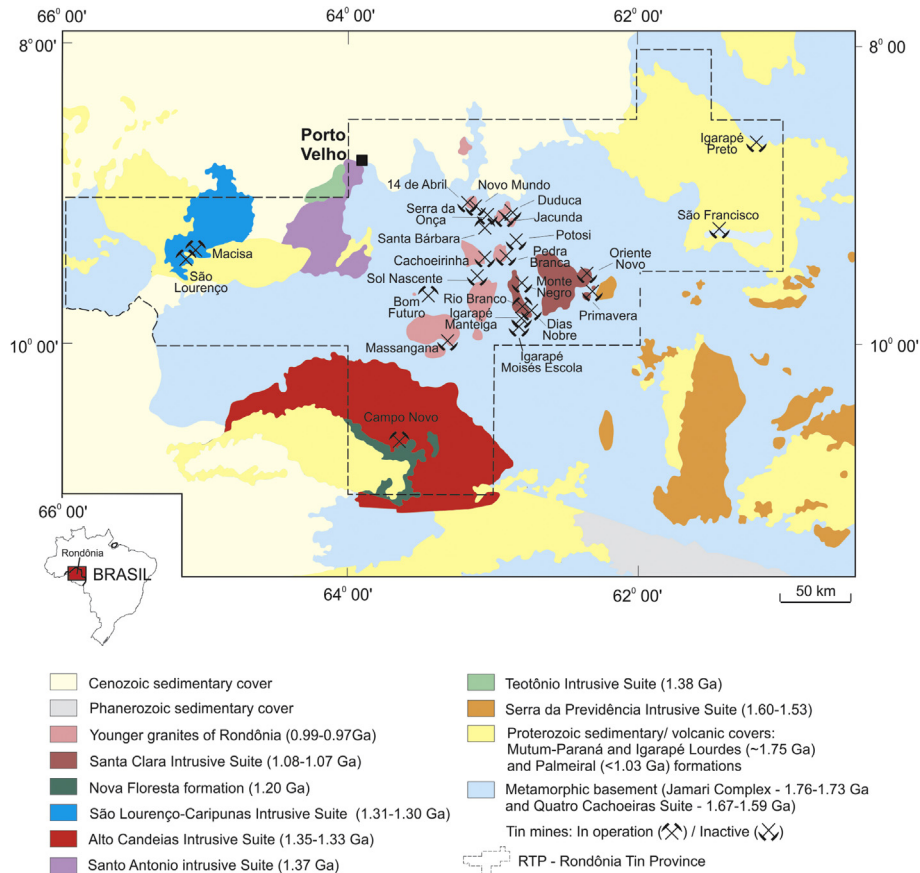


Fig. 12. Simplified geological map of the Rondônia Tin Province (RTP) and adjacent areas with location of the selected tin deposits (modified after Bettencourt et al., 1999; Quadros and Rizzoto, 2007).

Santa Barbara facies (tin granite) yielded a weighted-mean age of 978 ± 13 Ma.

The tin granite encompasses two peraluminous granitic facies: a medium-grained porphyritic albite-microcline granite and a fine-grained equigranular to porphyritic albite-microcline granite; the later occupies the apical part of the cupola. The main minerals are quartz, albite, microcline and zinnwaldite; accessory minerals comprise magmatic fluorite and topaz, monazite, zircon, xenotime, thorite, columbite, cerianite, and cassiterite. They are of magmatic origin and were affected by subsolidus reactions and hydrothermal alteration, represented by greisenization, albitization, silicification, muscovitization, and argillization during late-magmatic hydrothermal and post-magmatic stages. These granites are characterized by high SiO_2 , K_2O , Na_2O , $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3/(\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 + \text{MgO})$, Sn, Rb, Ce, Nb, Ga, Y, F, Li, U and Th contents (Sparrenberger, 2003) and low concentrations of CaO, MgO, TiO_2 , Al_2O_3 , Ba, Sr and Zr. They also show high total REE contents, are slightly enriched in LREE, and exhibit a strong negative Eu anomaly. The albite-microcline granite shows more evolved patterns characterized by higher Ga (46 ppm), Li (366 ppm), Ta (34 ppm), Y (914 ppm), total REE (1927x chondrite), than the other tin-specialized granites (Sparrenberger, 2003).

The Santa Bárbara deposit (Figs. 12 and 13) covers an area of ca. 500 m by 150 m. The tin deposit encompasses two styles of mineralization: (1) bed-like cassiterite-bearing topaz-zinnwaldite-quartz greisen bodies, up to 40 m thick, and albitized granites; and (2) a vein-veinlet/stockwork, encompassing brittle fracture zones containing topaz-zinnwaldite-quartz-greisen veins with cassiterite-wolframite, quartz-cassiterite veins, muscovite veins, and late kaolinite stockwork/veinlets.

The early inclusions are represented by: (1) low salinity (5–12 wt.% NaCl eq. aqueous fluids homogenizing at 340–390 °C; and (2) low salinity (0–3% wt.% NaCl eq) aqueous fluid inclusions, which homogenize at 320–380 °C. Cassiterite, wolframite, columbite-tantalite, scheelite assemblages accompany these fluids. The late fluid has lower salinity (0–3 wt.% NaCl eq.) and characterizes the late-barren quartz, muscovite and kaolinite veins.

Fluid evolution model for the quartz-pods, bedded-greisen, greisen stockwork, and quartz-cassiterite veins, comprises three trends of evolution: trend I – immiscibility trend of an originally aqueous-carbonic fluid associated with CO_2 degassing, at $T = 500$ °C and $P \sim 500$ bar; trend II – dilution of the original CO_2 poor aqueous-carbonic fluid accompanied by gas loss at $T = 350$ – 370 °C and $P \sim 200$ bar; and trend III characterized by the effect of dilution of the original fluid by less saline and cooler water from 350 to 370 °C–130 °C at ~ 10 bar (Sparrenberger, 2003; Bettencourt et al., 2005).

Oxygen isotopes indicate temperatures of the order of 570 °C and 500 °C for pegmatoid phase and bedded greisen bodies. The crystallization temperature for the quartz-cassiterite veins is 415 °C. The isotope composition for the water ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 3.8$ – 10.4 ‰), in equilibrium with metasomatites, plot in the magmatic water field (Taylor, 1997), except the muscovitization ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -6.8$ ‰) and silicification II products ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{quartz}} = 3.8$ ‰), which suggest mixture with aqueous low-salinity (0–3 wt.% NaCl eq.) meteoric fluids.

8.3.2. Oriente Novo deposit

The Oriente Novo massif (Fig. 12) occupies 80 km² and consists

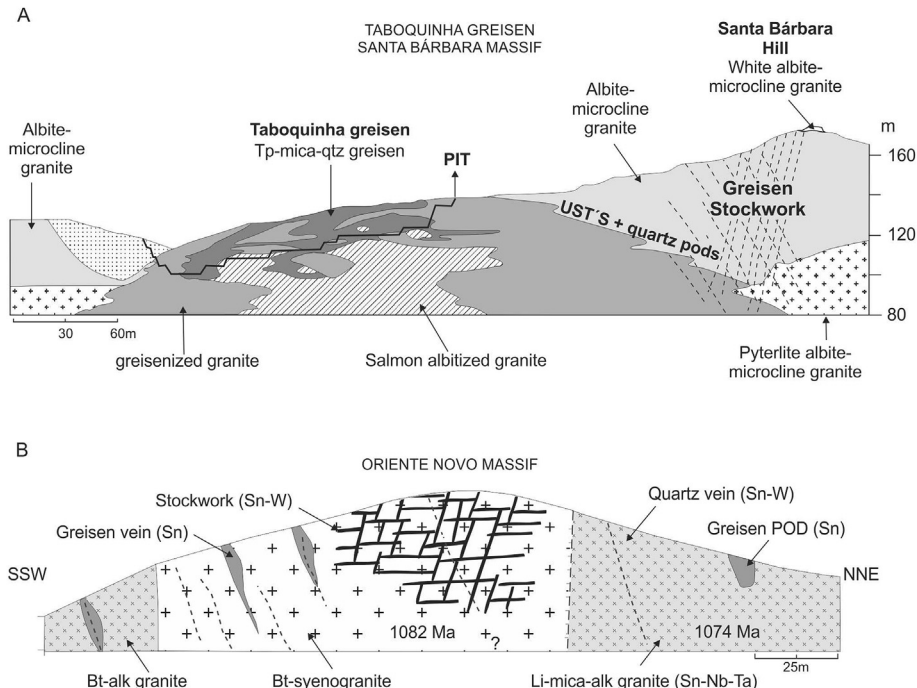


Fig. 13. Geological cross-section of the Santa Bárbara (A) and Oriente Novo (B) deposits showing the morphogenetic types of tin mineralization (after Leite, 2002; Sparrenberger, 2003; Bettencourt et al., 2005).

of a central porphyritic biotite (\pm hornblende) monzogranite. It is surrounded by a medium-grained and fine-grained porphyritic biotite syenogranites and muscovite microgranite.

The primary rare-metal Sn (W, Ta, Nb, Be) deposits are associated with syderophyllite-alkali feldspar granite and rhyolite porphyry (Leite, 2002). The zinnwaldite-alkali feldspar and rhyolite porphyry show porphyritic texture and exhibit poikilitic microcline and quartz megacrystals (<0.5 cm) dispersed in an albite-dominated fine- to very fine-grained matrix. Zinnwaldite is present and includes zircon, fluorite, rutile, cassiterite, and columbite-tantalite crystals. The syderophyllite-alkali-feldspar granite and alaskite are high in SiO₂, F, Rb, U, Y, and low in TiO₂, Al₂O₃, Fe₂O₃ total, MgO, CaO, P₂O₅, Ba, Sr, and Eu, whereas the zinnwaldite-alkali-feldspar granite and rhyolite porphyry are low in SiO₂, TiO₂, Fe₂O₃ total, CaO, K₂O, and high in Al₂O₃, Na₂O, Li, Rb, Ga, Nb, Sn, and Ta (Leite, 2002). These geochemical characteristics match those of rare-metal peraluminous granites (e.g. Pollard, 1989a).

The primary deposit occupies an area of ~1.5 km². Major styles of mineralization consist of three distinct groups (Figs. 12 and 13): (1) stockwork of vein/veinlets of greisen with cassiterite and of quartz with cassiterite and wolframite hosted by older medium-grained porphyritic biotite syenogranite greisen; (2) disseminated cassiterite and columbite-tantalite in the zinnwaldite alkali-feldspar granite with cassiterite-bearing greisen-pods; and (3) sub-parallel veins/veinlets of greisen with cassiterite, and of quartz with cassiterite and wolframite, having a general strike of N30–50E, and a dip of 50–80 SE. The stockwork mineralization is interpreted to be genetically related to the syderophyllite-alkali feldspar granite and alaskite, whereas the disseminated, endogreisen and sub-parallel vein/veinlet mineralization styles are related to the zinnwaldite-alkali feldspar granite and rhyolite porphyry (Leite, 2002).

Two types of primary fluid inclusions are found in topaz and quartz. Type I aqueous carbonic fluid inclusions (H₂O \pm CO₂–CH₄–NaCl) subdivided into two sub-types, both showing low to moderate salinity (0.4–13.8 wt.% NaCl eq.) and the total homogenization takes place at 190–440 °C. Type II aqueous

CO₂ \pm H₂O rich fluid inclusions contain small amounts of CO₂ in addition to water-rich fluid (H₂O–NaCl) CO₂, have low to moderate salinities (2.4–14.1 wt.% NaCl eq.), but show lower homogenization temperatures (100–340 °C). Type I and II (Th > 240 °C) inclusions have resulted from effervescence of an aqueous-carbonic fluid derived from a late-magmatic parental fluid phase. Type II (Th < 240 °C) inclusions are products of a mixture of a magmatic CO₂-bearing water-rich fluid and some meteoric water in all styles of mineralization.

Trapping conditions of Type Ia and Ib immiscible fluids, took place between 240 and 370 °C and 1.0–2.4 kbar, which indicate a depth of emplacement of the post-magmatic hydrothermal deposits between 4 km and 10 km, compatible with a transitional hypabissal to plutonic environment.

Oxygen and hydrogen isotope data (Leite, 2002; Bettencourt et al., 2005) indicate that: 1 – the water in equilibrium with zinnwaldite from alkali-feldspar granite ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 8.9\text{‰}$; $\delta\text{D}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -6.9\text{‰}$) overlaps the field of the typical magmatic water, 2 – the calculated $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}$ values of fluids in equilibrium with zinnwaldite from greisen (7.4‰ and 7.7‰) and quartz vein (7.5‰) plot in field of magmatic water, and, 3 – the calculated δD values from zinnwaldite from greisen (-66‰ and -76‰) and quartz vein (-87‰) are low and suggest a meteoric component in the hydrothermal fluids responsible for the formation of greisen and quartz vein.

8.3.3. The Bom Futuro deposit

The Bom Futuro tin mine comprises the Bom Futuro and Pal-anqueta hills. The first includes anorogenic Grenvillian topaz granite porphyry and topaz rhyolite porphyry dikes associated with two breccia pipes, besides of trachyte and syenite porphyry dikes. The granitic and syenitic rocks belong to the YGRIS (998–974 Ma; Bettencourt et al., 1999), and were intruded in gneisses and amphibolites (>1330 Ma). Two phases of tin related to pegmatite and quartz veins mineralization (Dias et al., 2013), have ⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar plateau ages of 994 \pm 3 Ma and 993 \pm 3 Ma (Bettencourt et al., 2005).

The older pegmatite bodies occur as lens and veins, have a few meters in width, and a few ten to hundred meters in length and define a ring pattern surrounding the hill, dipping outward at 30° to 50°. Three main internal zones are recognized: quartz and topaz zone, K-feldspar and zinnwaldite zone, and granitic zone. Cassiterite, stannite and base metal sulfides are mainly associated with the quartz and topaz zone (Dias et al., 2013).

Fluid inclusion and oxygen isotopic studies in cassiterite and quartz indicate a minimum temperature of 400 °C for the mineralization (Souza, 2003). The younger pegmatite and quartz veins (<1.5 m thick) crosscut all the lithologic units, forming a subparallel system with the same attitude as the older ones and, locally, as stockworks. These veins are zoned, with zinnwaldite occurring in the border and K-feldspar, quartz and topaz, or quartz and topaz or quartz in the core. The cassiterite occurs in quartz and topaz enriched portions.

The Palanqueta hill (<1 km²) represents the apical part of a zoned and multiphase granitic stock. A biotite sienogranite and six distinct topaz granitic facies are recognized (Leite et al., 2005). Major and trace elements behavior suggest the following magmatic evolutionary trend for the topaz granitic facies: equigranular topaz granite → porphyritic topaz granite → topaz microgranite → topaz granite porphyry. The most distinct feature is the decrease in REE (170.54–31.79 ppm) and Al₂O₃ (13.71–12.74%) contents, and La_N/Yb_N (2.45–0.27) and Zr/Hf (12–7) ratios, as well as the increase in Na₂O/K₂O (1.54–2.08) ratios and increase in SiO₂ (75.77–77.37%) contents. Tin-mineralized greisen occurs as pipelike bodies in and around the topaz granite porphyry facies. The greisen pipes (few meters in diameter and ten meters in length) are zoned and include quartz, Li-mica, and topaz, with fluorite, cassiterite, wolframite, pyrite, and base metal sulfides as accessory minerals. U–Th–Pb dating of hydrothermal monazite yielded an age of 997 ± 48 Ma (V.S. Souza et al., 2005), and fluid inclusion and oxygen isotopic studies in cassiterite and quartz indicate a minimum temperature of 400 °C for the mineralization (Souza, 2003).

9. Discussions

9.1. Archean and Paleoproterozoic iron oxide–copper–gold and related deposits of the Carajás Mineral Province

The distinctive geological evolution of the Rio Maria and Carajás domains has remarkable implications for metallogenesis of the Carajás Mineral Province. In the Rio Maria Domain, the expected variability for orogenic gold deposits is found. The granitoid-hosted Cumarú gold deposit (e.g. Cumarú Granodiorite; ca. 2.82 Ga; Santos et al., 1998) may reflect that both magma and fluids represent inherent products of the thermal evolution of orogens (Groves et al., 1998; Goldfarb et al., 2001). Geochronological data regarding the orogenic gold deposits in the Rio Maria Domain are scarce, but possibly these deposits were formed during the last tectonothermal event preceding the cratonization of the Rio Maria Domain at ca. 2.86–2.80 Ga. This coincides with a metallogenetic epoch (ca. 2.8 to 2.55 Ga; Goldfarb et al., 2001) favorable for the formation of orogenic gold deposits, as recognized in greenstone sequences in other Archean cratons (e.g. Yilgarn, Australia, Dharwar, India, Slave, Canada, San Francisco, Brazil, and Tanzania).

The Neoproterozoic magmatism, crustal reworking and development of major shear zones, only recognized in the Carajás Domain, allowed the circulation of hydrothermal fluids on a large scale in Carajás. However, it is still controversial whether the two domains shared a common evolution before the Neoproterozoic (Dall'Agnol et al., 2006) or were amalgamated during the Neoproterozoic (ca. 2.74 Ga; J.B.G. Teixeira et al., 2010; W. Teixeira et al., 2010) or Mesoarchean (ca. 2.86 Ga; Tavares, 2015).

The geodynamic setting of the province may represent a first order control on the IOCG formation, because large E–W-trending translithospheric shear zones may represent ancient suture zones. In those zones, early subduction may cause volatile-rich and possibly metal-enriched metasomatism of the subcontinental lithospheric mantle and underplate with important consequences to the magmatism, up to 100 Ma younger. This could be important to explain the features of the (ca. 2.74 Ga?) A-type magmatism and magmatic fluids associated with IOCG deposits (Hayward and Skirrow, 2010; Groves et al., 2010). On the other hand, Teixeira et al. (2015) propose that enrichment in compatible (Fe, Ni, Mg, Cu, Cr, Co) and incompatible elements (Na, K, F, Cl and LREE) present in all IOCG deposits can be also a result of plume interaction in cratonic lithosphere rather than enrichment by slab components during previous subduction.

Precise geochronological data permit the identification of multiple hydrothermal IOCG events in the Carajás Domain (ca. 2.70–2.68 Ga; ca. 2.57–2.42 Ga, and ca. 1.88 Ga; Réquia et al., 2003; Tallarico, 2003; Tallarico et al., 2005; Melo, 2014; Moreto et al., 2015a, 2015b).

The Archean IOCG hydrothermal systems are hybrid and distinct deposits reveal a variable proportion of magmatic (mantelic?) and externally-derived fluids, as recorded by stable isotope (O, H, S, Cl, and B) and Cl/Br ratios (Chiaradia et al., 2006; Monteiro et al., 2008a; Xavier et al., 2008, 2012). However, the ca. 2.70–2.68 Ga IOCG mineralizing system (2712 ± 4.7 Ma; U–Pb LA-MC-ICPMS in monazite; 2710 ± 11 Ma and 2685 ± 11 Ma; Re–Os in molybdenite; Moreto et al., 2015a, 2015b) does not overlap in time with the emplacement of ca. 2.74 Ga, post-orogenic A₂-type granites, or coeval gabbros. A significant interval of up to 40 Ma outweighs the duration of a magmatic-hydrothermal system related to the emplacement of granitic bodies.

Thus, the ca. 2.70–2.68 Ga IOCG events record possible inheritance of magmatic signatures through mechanisms of fluid–rock interaction involving reactive gabbro and/or feldspar-bearing felsic rocks, with special importance of the ca. 2.74 Ga bimodal magmatism, during the Carajás Basin inversion. However, coeval magmatism, not yet identified in the province, or a protracted magmatic history during the Neoproterozoic, cannot be ruled out.

The 2.57 Ga IOCG event (2576 ± 8 Ma; Re–Os molybdenite; Réquia et al., 2003; 2575 ± 12 Ma; U–Pb SHRIMP monazite age; Tallarico et al., 2005) is only recorded in the northern portion of the Carajás Domain (e.g. Salobo and Igarapé Bahia). It is related to high-temperature hydrothermal alteration (magnetite–almandine–grunerite–biotite) strongly controlled by shear zone reactivation (e.g. Cinzento Shear Zone). This age coincides with that of ca. 2.57 Ga Old Salobo granite (Machado et al., 1991), pointing to the importance of granite genesis for the establishment of a magmatic-hydrothermal system. However, dating of sulfides (e.g., chalcopyrite and chalcocite) in these deposits by the Pb–Pb method yielded older Neoproterozoic ages (2770 Ga to 2700 Ga; Tassinari et al., 2003; Galarza et al., 2008). Thus, overprinting processes at ca. 2.57 Ga, related to shear zone reactivation, may also be possible.

Paleoproterozoic IOCG deposits (e.g. Alvo 118; Sossego orebody at the Sossego Cu–Au mine) have signatures typically associated with A-type granites (elevated U–Au and Nb–Sn–Y–Bi–Be–HREE–F contents), formed after the ca. 2.4 Ga Great Oxidation Event as evidenced by the major contribution of surface-derived fluids with an oxidized sulfur (sulfate) source ($\delta^{34}\text{S}_{\text{cpy}} > 7.5\text{‰}$).

9.2. Magmatic-hydrothermal gold and base metal systems in the Tapajós Mineral Province

As epithermal mineralization and associated porphyry deposits are typically formed at very shallow crustal environments, their

preservation in Precambrian terranes is hampered due to the weathering, erosion and subsequent metamorphic events. Epithermal deposits are typically preserved in Quaternary or Tertiary terranes, with few Cretaceous, Paleozoic and Neoproterozoic occurrences. However, many well-preserved and unmetamorphosed Paleoproterozoic occurrences of epithermal mineralization have been described in the last years in the Tapajós Mineral Province (Juliani et al., 2005) and Iriri and Xingu regions. These high-, intermediate- and low-sulfidation mineralizations are associated with 2.0 to 1.95 Ga calc-alkaline volcanic rocks and 1.88–1.86 Ga post-collisional high-K to A-type volcanic sequences and dikes, mainly towards the back-arc zone.

The expressive number of secondary gold mineralizations in alluvium and colluvium deposits largely spread in volcanic units, the absence of shear zones, low to medium-grade metamorphic terranes and of the orogenic (metamorphic-hydrothermal) fluids in the gold ores, indicate a significant geologic potential for the occurrence of gold and silver epithermal mineralization in the southern part of the Amazonian Craton, associated with both calc-alkaline and alkaline volcanism. Seemingly, high-K post-collisional and A-type volcanic rocks affected by epithermal hydrothermal systems point to a potential for precious metal low-sulfidation mineralization (Juliani et al., 2005; Fernandes et al., 2011; Giuliani et al., 2014; Echeverri-Misas, 2015; Tokashiki et al., 2015).

High-sulfidation precious metal mineralization (plus intermediate- and low-sulfidation produced by primary reduction of magmatic-derived fluids and by mixing with meteoric waters) is always associated with calc-alkaline magmatism. The well-known genetic relationship between epithermal high-sulfidation mineralization with Cu, Cu–Au and Cu–Mo ± Au porphyry opens an interesting perspective for the occurrence of low-grade/large-ton deposits in the Amazonian Craton, especially in the Tapajós Mineral Province, associated with shallow emplaced granites and porphyries of the Parauari magmatic event (ca 1.89 Ga), as well as older unnamed rhyolite units, with ages ranging from 2.0 to 1.96 Ga. One example of this type of mineralization is represented by the Au–Cu Palito porphyry-type and the Cu–Mo ± Au porphyry style in the Chapéu do Sol occurrence. In addition, the high-K late to post-collisional I-type subvolcanic granites, as well as the A-type porphyry stocks show potential for the generation of Cu–Au and gold-only porphyries in the intra-arc and back-arc environment, where volcanic rocks host epithermal Au–Ag mineralization.

The preliminary geological and geophysical data suggest at least two magmatic and metallogenic events, resulting in a magmatic zoning associated with a continuous W–E oriented subduction northward (today), generated in continental magmatic arcs, with less evolved rocks with Cu-porphyry potential in the southern part of the belt.

The ca. 1.88 Ga andesites of the Sobreiro Formation (Iriri Group) in the Xingu area are considered to be products of a flat subduction event (Fernandes et al., 2011). NW–SE and NE–SW fault zones in TGP and Xingu areas, respectively, control the emplacement of A-type granite and of rhyolite dikes. These structures were also tectonically reactivated at ca. 1.8 Ga.

9.3. Gold–Copper and base metal deposits of the Alta Floresta Gold Province

The close spatial relationship with relatively oxidized (magnetite-bearing) A- and I-type granitic plutons emplaced into a volcanic arc setting (and subordinate within a post-collisional onset), the types and distribution of hydrothermal alteration, the ore mineral association, the fluid inclusions assemblages, and the isotopic signature suggest that gold deposits from AFGP were formed in magmatic-hydrothermal systems that developed at different

crustal levels, including system portions distal from the magmatic source.

These disseminated and vein-type Au ± Cu deposits tend to form at deeper crustal levels, at pressures of 1 kbar–3.6 kbar, whereas the Au + base metal deposits may have been emplaced at epizonal levels (~0.7 kbar). The data also suggest a strong magmatic signature for the Au systems, whereas external fluids, essentially of meteoric origin, may have interacted with magmatic fluids in the vein-type Au + base metal ore systems. Therefore, the geological characteristics of the Au ± Cu systems are similar to those related to porphyry-style mineralization, but emplaced at deeper crustal levels, whereas the Au + base metal deposits show many similarities to low and intermediate-sulfidation epithermal systems.

The pyrite and molybdenite Re–Os ages for the disseminated gold deposits and the sericite ⁴⁰Ar–³⁹Ar ages for the vein-type Au + base metals deposits are the first geochronological constraints on the timing of gold metallogeny in the province. These data overlap, within their respective uncertainties, the crystallization ages of the Jurueña microgranite (1792 ± 5.8 Ma), X1 quartz-feldspar porphyry (1773 ± 5.7 Ma), and the União do Norte Porphyry (1775 ± 7.5 Ma; Francisco deposit). This reinforces the importance of porphyry-related magmatic-hydrothermal activity within the province (Fig. 8). This relationship could be also extended to the Pé Quente deposit, where subvolcanic syenite/quartz syenite dikes with disseminated ore are often observed.

This proposition differs from that of previous works (Paes de Barros, 2007; Silva and Abram, 2008; Miguel-Jr., 2011) in the following aspects: (1) the Re–Os and ⁴⁰Ar–³⁹Ar ages in the investigated deposits are substantially different from the ages of their felsic intrusive host rocks, except in the case of the crosscutting porphyry units; (2) gold metallogeny in the province may be actually restricted to a major single event and is not related to multiple events (e.g. 1.98–1.95 Ga, 1.89–1.87 Ga, and ca. 1.77 Ga), as suggested by the crystallization ages of the plutonic host rocks; (3) I- and A-type subvolcanic and related volcanic rocks are probably the closest representatives of the causative magmatism that may have triggered, with the aid of regional structures, large-scale magmatic-hydrothermal systems and promoted gold mineralization; and (4) the emplacement of the quartz-feldspar porphyries would be better correlated to the Colíder (1.78–1.77 Ga) and Teles Pires suites (1.78–1.75 Ga).

Collectively, these subvolcanic rocks are strongly oxidized (magnetite-bearing) and evolved, but those related to disseminated gold deposits are calc-alkaline plutons emplaced into a volcanic arc setting (I-type), whereas those associated with Au + base metal deposits are a product of within-plate alkaline magmas (A-type; Assis et al., 2014; Assis, 2015).

9.4. Metallogenesis in the Transamazonas Province

Despite the importance of the Transamazonas Province for the evolution of the Amazonian Craton, few studies deal with mineral deposits related to magmatism. No clear genetic relationships have linked gold deposits to granitic magmatism in this province to date, yet some issues deserve further investigation: (1) the role of the Amapari Granite on gold mineralization (fluids, remobilization, heat source?) at the Amapari/Tucano deposit; (2) although available data indicate that the gold deposits of the Carecuru Domain are fairly typical orogenic gold deposits, a significant part of the oxygen, hydrogen and lead isotope compositions are consistent with felsic magmatism (Klein et al., 2009), and, very importantly, (3) the role of the widespread charnockite magmatism on orogenic gold mineralization. On the other hand, Sn–Nb–Ta mineralization in greisen and pegmatite, which are relatively common in the SE-Guiana Shield (State of Amapá), are probably related to post-

orogenic to anorogenic felsic magmatism of 1.84 to 1.75 Ma.

9.5. Geological evolution of the Pitinga region: implications on the metallogenic system

The gap between the cauldron complex (Iricoumé Group with associated granitic bodies of the Mapuera Suite) and the Madeira Suite is approximately of 35 Ma, based on the ages of the Simão (1875 ± 4 Ma) and the Europa (1839 ± 10 Ma) granites. The granite bodies of the Madeira Suite occur in the area occupied by the volcanic sequences, with shapes similar to those of the Mapuera granitic bodies. Emplacement of Madeira plutons was controlled by reactivation of cauldron complex structures and pre-existing structures, such as the NE–SW corridor. Therefore, Bastos Neto et al. (2014) reanalyzed the geological evolution of the Pitinga region from an extensional environmental perspective, in which three successive episodes of A-type magmatism and basin formation (Urupi Formation) occurred. The first episode of A-type magmatism (Iricoumé Group and Mapuera Suite) resulted from mantle sources previously modified by subduction (Ferron et al., 2006, 2010). In the second episode, numerous distinctive magmas (Europa granite, Água Boa granite, and the early facies of the Madeira granite) formed from different mixtures of crustal and mantle sources (Lenharo, 1998). In the third episode, represented by the AEG, the richness in Sn indicates a much more substantial participation of crustal components in the melt generation. This interpretation has implications for the proposed models for the AEG. (1) The structural data disfavor the model linking the AEG to earlier facies of the Madeira granite (Costi, 2000, second model). (2) The ages obtained for the Europa granite do not permit linking the AEG origin to the Europa granite by fractional crystallization or other differentiation processes (Lenharo, 1998 model). (3) The geological evolution, characterized by three successive stages of A-type magmatism with successively shallower sources, does not corroborate the model that links the AEG with a mantle source (Costi, 2000, first model).

The model created by Martin (2006), which relates the A-type granites of crustal origin to the open-system fenitization-type reactions controlled by alkali- and silica-bearing mantle-derived fluid in an extensional environment, accommodates all of the features described above as long as a gradual rise of isotherms along the successive tectonic reactivations is taken into account (Bastos Neto et al., 2009). The generation of the AEG melt is related to the third step of the isotherm rise, when mantle fluid ascended further into the crust, promoted fenitization-type reactions in rocks previously enriched in Sn, and introduced elements, such as F, Nb, Y, REE, and Th in anomalous concentrations. It is also conceivable that these rocks were already fenitized in the previous stage and that the F intake, which made them fusible, occurred in the third stage.

The high F content in the melt played a key role in transport and distribution of Sn and Nb in the rock during the magmatic stage. F-complexes transported these elements throughout the AEG, being responsible for the dispersed character of the cassiterite and pyrochlore mineralization. Zircon and xenotime crystallization was inhibited until the late magmatic stages of the AEG, resulting in a more heterogeneous distribution of these mineralizations, with enriched zones where pegmatitic AEG and/or miarolitic cavities are more abundant. The high F content in the magma was also responsible for xenotime crystallization with a very particular composition. Fluorine (up to 5.10%) occurs in all xenotime crystals from core AEG. This halogen controls the ratio of REE/Y by controlling the lattice parameters a and c which are significantly shortened in F-rich xenotime. The richer the xenotime is in F, the richer it is in HREE, notably by Er and Yb. It is here interpreted that fluorine substitutes for O to form PO_3F tetrahedral (Bastos Neto

et al., 2012).

The crystallization of magmatic cryolite since the earlier stages buffered the content of F in the melt (Bastos Neto et al., 2009; Dolejs and Baker, 2007). The extreme F-enrichment in residual melt supposed by Lenharo (1998) and Costi (2000), the first step of the MCD formation according to their models, is unlikely to have been attained. There is no evidence of silicate–fluoride liquid–liquid immiscibility (which formed the MCD, according to Lenharo's model). There is no evidence that the melt split into a high-water, relatively F-poor portion and a low-water, Na–Al–F-rich residual portion (to form the MCD; Costi's model). Moreover, fluid inclusion data shows that the MCD formed from an aqueous fluid (salinity ranges from 1.7 to 22.4 wt % eq. NaCl). The highest homogenization temperature (400 °C) measured in massive cryolite determines the minimum starting temperature for the hydrothermal process; the MCD formation continued until ~100 °C. There is no evidence of a continuous transition from volatile-rich silicate melts to solute-rich fluids. The abrupt magmatic–hydrothermal transition triggered three processes: (1) a discrete albitization and crystallization of hydrothermal cryolite disseminated in the core AEG; (2) the pyrochlore columbitization; and (3) the MCD formation (Bastos Neto et al., 2009; Ronchi et al., 2011).

The new understanding of the geological evolution and of the AEG formation expands the prospecting potential of the Pitinga Province. Geothermal anomalies related to the magmatism of the Iricoumé Group and Mapuera granites have affected the Pitinga area for long time. The hydrothermal processes associated with these rocks may have been much more important than previously supposed. In this extensional environment, the crustal thinning was accompanied by an increasing participation of heat and fluids from the mantle. Then, two successive stages of granitic magmatism with distinguishing petrographic features and associated mineralization occurred: (1) the evolved leucogranites associated with the early facies of the Madeira granite and the Água Boa granite (with Sn-greisen associated); (2) the AEG (i.e. the Madeira polymetallic deposit) became associated with the Madeira granite, which represents a particular case in the craton. For the latter, the main criteria for prospecting are the associations with NE–SW lineaments and the local control by brittle N–S structures or by preexisting caldera structures, which are supposed to create evidence even for blind and relatively deep deposits. The F-rich hydrothermal process associated (MCD formation) is supposed to generate geochemical and mineralogical indices even of relatively deep deposits.

9.6. The Rondônia Tin Province

The rare-metal granites (tin dominant) of the RTP (Fig. 12) are interpreted as A-type granites related to late to post-collisional stages (1.34–1.30 Ga), which succeeded the assembly of the Rondonian–San Ignacio crust (1.50–1.30 Ga) and to the evolution of the Sunsás–Aguapeí tectonic provinces (1.20–0.95 Ga; Bettencourt et al., 1999; Bettencourt et al., 2010). The tin-granites are highly evolved A-type, P-poor reduced fluorine-rich peraluminous alkali-feldspar granite and contain topaz and/or muscovite or zinnwaldite. The porphyritic facies shows a “snowball texture”, indicative of magmatic origin (Pollard, 1989b; Sun and Yu, 1992; Bettencourt et al., 2005). Their geochemical characteristics are comparable to the low P_2O_5 (0.10 wt %) sub-type of topaz-bearing granites (Taylor, 1992; Taylor and Fallick, 1997).

Stockworks and veins occur in the Oriente Novo deposit and in contrast, the Santa Bárbara deposit is dominantly a preserved mineralized cupola with associated bed-like greisen bodies. These deposits contain a similar rare-metal suite that includes Sn (\pm W, Ta, Nb).

Primary silicate-melt inclusions with a Na-rich aqueous-phase, with or without CO₂ and salinity from 0.5 to 15 wt.% NaCl eq. were identified only in the Santa Barbara deposit, and indicate a minimum crystallization temperature for the albite granite at $T_t \geq 600$ °C.

The early primary fluids related to mineralization in the Oriente Novo deposit show low to moderate salinity (0.4–13.8 wt. % NaCl eq.), which homogenize at temperatures between 190 and 440 °C. In the Santa Bárbara deposit, this early fluid is represented by low salinity (5–12 wt. % NaCl eq.) and a low CO₂-bearing aqueous fluid, which homogenize at a more restricted temperature range (340–390 °C). In the Santa Bárbara and Oriente Novo deposits, this type of fluid may account for the deposition of early-disseminated cassiterite and columbite–tantalite, either directly from a melt or from a coexisting vapor, as well as from a late-magmatic fluid (see: Haapala, 1997; Linnen, 1998). The compositional range and homogenization behavior are consistent with immiscibility around 350–370 °C and 350–450 °C, respectively. This process is responsible for the successive precipitation of cassiterite, wolframite and minor columbite-tantalite, down to the temperature of ~250 °C. These oxides continued to grow up to the post-magmatic stage in the presence of a magmatic-derived fluid mixed with external fluids.

The second type of fluid inclusions, also related to deposition of cassiterite, wolframite and minor columbite-tantalite in the Oriente Novo deposit ($T_h > 240$ °C), is represented by aqueous solutions with minor CO₂ and low to moderate salinities (2.4–14.1 wt. % NaCl eq.), which homogenize between 100 and 340 °C. In the Santa Bárbara deposit, these fluids are represented by aqueous fluid inclusions in quartz-cassiterite veins, which have low salinities (0.3–3.0 wt. % NaCl eq.) and homogenize at 320–380 °C.

The trapping P–T conditions (P_t , T_t) of the observed early fluids in Oriente Novo deposits, suggest hydrothermal activity at 240–440 °C and 1.0–2.6 kbar, close to lithostatic. The observed progressive decrease in T_t and P_t indicate either erosion of overlying rock or an open hydrostatic system and hydraulic fracturing of the host-rocks. The contrasting fact is that in the Santa Bárbara deposit, the early magmatic and late-magmatic fluids indicate T_t from 350 to 400 °C and a P_t from 300 to 200 bar, near hydrostatic. The depth of emplacement at the Oriente Novo deposit is roughly 9.8 km and is compatible with a transitional hypabyssal to plutonic environment. The Santa Bárbara deposit is shallower (maximum = 1.8 km), characteristic of subvolcanic environment. These fluids affected the magmatic-stage rocks and modified the primary fluid inclusions of quartz from granites, attesting some hydro-fracturing and mineral equilibrium at the post-magmatic stage.

Later-stage post-magmatic aqueous fluids, in the Santa Bárbara deposit, show a much larger range of homogenization temperatures (94–380 °C), than in the other study deposits, lower salinity (0–3 wt.% NaCl eq.) and include late-barren-quartz, muscovite, and kaolinite veins. The low temperature (120–90 °C) late-fluid type is also high-saline and Ca-rich and was associated with meteoric hydrothermal water that percolated along fissures (open system) at shallow depths. At Santa Bárbara, three processes are responsible for cassiterite genesis: 1) immiscibility in conditions of high ratio of rock/fluid interaction in lens-shaped greisen bodies and greisen stockwork, 2) boiling of sodic aqueous fluids in cassiterite-quartz veins, and 3) mixing of saline magmatic fluids with high proportions of cold low-salinity meteoric fluids, in muscovite veins.

In all cases, the post-magmatic late-fluids resulted from decreasing temperature as mixing and dilution proceeded below 290 °C. The switch over of the process would lead to the predominance of an essentially aqueous solution (H₂O–NaCl ± KCl system). These fluids may represent a mixture of magmatic derived fluids

and hydrothermal meteoric water (dominant) components, or different overprints on granites of diverse chemical composition.

The oxygen and hydrogen stable isotope data indicate that the fluids contained a magmatic component mixed with meteoric water. Hydrofracturing, immiscibility, greisenization and loss of CO₂ (±CH₄) with falling temperature, are the principal processes responsible for Sn–W and associated rare-metal deposition. In the Santa Bárbara deposit, oxygen-isotope geothermometry indicates temperatures of 500 °C for the bed-like greisen bodies and 400 °C for the cassiterite-quartz veins. The calculated isotopic composition of water in equilibrium with host metasomatites ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1.1\text{--}9.8\text{‰}$) is consistent with a magmatic origin but with a variable hydrothermal-meteoric component for the fluids, except for muscovite ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -6.4\text{‰}$) and late-quartz ($\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = -3.8\text{‰}$) veins, which show a dominant meteoric water component.

A contrasting $\delta^{18}\text{O}/\delta\text{D}$ behavior is also observed in the Santa Bárbara deposit: the δD values for micas from coarse-greisen indicate a narrow range of variations for a wide range of $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values, as well as deuterium enrichment in the fluids. This may reflect re-equilibration of aqueous fluid with granite at low water-rock ratios and progressively lower temperatures, as proposed by Smith et al. (1996) for similar vein fluids from the Cligga Head Sn–W deposit (SW England).

The Bom Futuro deposit differs from the above mentioned two deposits by presenting two phases of tin mineralization related to: 1 – older zoned pegmatite and quartz veins containing cassiterite, stannite and base metal sulfides; and 2 – pipe-like greisen bodies with F-cassiterite, wolframite, pyrite and base metal sulfides. Fluid inclusions and oxygen isotope studies in cassiterite and quartz from older pegmatites and veins (Souza, 2003) indicate a minimum temperature of 400 °C for the mineralization and cassiterite and quartz from zoned greisen bodies show a similar minimum temperature of 400 °C.

Historic exploration has been directed to placer and soft shallow primary deposits, and drilling for primary ore was performed during the 1980's and over the last ten years, at the São Lourenço and Bom Futuro tin fields. Avenue Resources Limited, Australia, commenced at São Lourenço, a 2000 drill program during 2012 and results have confirmed high-grade tin mineralization in one drill hole. Metalmig and White Solder have launched modest exploration projects. White Solder is conducting exploration programs in several prospects. The Rondônia Tin Province is underexplored, but there are still areas of favorable ground and potential for further reserves (primary and alluvial) to be established, associated with the SLCIS, SCIS and YGRIS. However, present and future exploration should be directed towards the discovery of paleovalleys and deeper primary mineralization.

10. Conclusions

The Amazonian Craton hosts world-class metallogenic provinces with a wide range of styles of primary precious, rare, base metal deposits, which are spatially and/or temporally related to granitoids. However, the mineral potential in vast areas of the AC is still to be unraveled.

In the Carajás Mineral Province, multiple hydrothermal IOCG events in the Carajás Domain were identified. Coupled lithochemical and isotopic data of the IOCG, Au–Cu, and polymetallic deposits (Cu–Au–W–Bi–Mo–Sn and Cu–Au–Li–Be–Sn–W) allow identification of: (i) great diversity of hybrid Archean IOCG deposits as a function of fluid–rock interaction involving mafic-ultramafic units and granitoids, along important structural corridors; (ii) overlapping of Archean (ca. 2.74 Ga and ca. 2.57 Ga) and Paleoproterozoic (ca. 1.88 Ga) processes possibly due to tectonic

reactivations; and (iii) installation of new hydrothermal systems controlled by Paleoproterozoic A-type magmatism and extensional tectonic evolution.

In addition, the metallogenetic diversity of the Paleoproterozoic mineral deposits at Carajás, including W, Sn, Au-EGP, Fe–Cu–Au (ETR), Cu–Au–(Mo–W–Bi–Sn) and Cu–Au–(Li–Be–Sn–W) reflect: (a) the geochemical affinity and magma oxidation state related to ca. 1.88 Ga A₂-type granites and quartz porphyries; (b) large-scale circulation of externally-derived fluids promoted by widespread granite emplacement and (c) inheritance of Archean signatures and components, notably Cu, Ni, Co, and Pd.

The Transamazonas Province (2.26–1.95 Ga) hosts pre-, syn-, and post-orogenic to anorogenic granitic magmatism related to a protracted tectonic evolution. However, mineralization associated with magmatic events is still unclear, except greisen and pegmatite Sn–Nb–Ta deposits, which are related to 1.84 to 1.75 Ga late-orogenic to anorogenic A-type granites. The role of granite/charnockite emplacement and related magmatic fluids in the orogenic gold mineral systems remains uncertain.

In the Tapajós and Alta Floresta gold provinces, the recognition of magmatic-hydrothermal systems and associated Cu–Au and Cu–Mo ± Au porphyry-type and high-, intermediate- and low-sulfidation Au-(base metal) mineralization, has expanded the metallogenetic potential of these increasingly important provinces. In the Tapajós Gold Province, high-, intermediate- and low-sulfidation mineralization is associated with 2.0 to 1.95 Ga calc-alkaline volcanic rocks and 1.88–1.86 Ga post-collisional high-K to A-type volcanic sequences and dikes, mainly towards the back-arc zone. These deposits might be related to at least two magmatic and metallogenetic events associated with a continuous W–E oriented northward subduction, generating continental magmatic arcs, with less evolved rocks with Cu-porphyry potential in the southern part of the belt.

In the Alta Floresta Gold Province, disseminated and vein-type Au ± Cu deposits, similar to porphyry-type mineralization, and the Au + base metal deposits, with intermediate- and low-sulfidation epithermal characteristics, are genetically related to relatively oxidized (magnetite-bearing) A- and I-type porphyries. The latter were emplaced within a post-collisional onset, crosscutting the ca. 1.98 Ga to 1.87 Ga host granites. The age of the porphyries overlap the Re–Os and ⁴⁰Ar–³⁹Ar ages obtained for the mineralized stages. These suggest a single and major gold event in the Alta Floresta Gold Province from 1.78 Ga to 1.77 Ga.

Brazil has been one of the most important world producers of tin, with an approximate total output of ~600,000 t/Sn for both Rondônia and Pitinga provinces. The Pitinga Tin Province includes the Madeira Sn–Nb–Ta–F deposit, Sn-greisens, and Sn-episyenites. These are associated with A-type granites of the Madeira Suite (1.84–1.82 Ga), which evolved from a post-collisional extensional, towards a within-plate setting. The Rondônia Tin Province hosts rare-metal (Ta, Nb, Be, Zr, REE + Y) and Sn–(W) mineralization, which is associated with the São Lourenço-Caripunas (1.31–1.30 Ga), related to the post-collisional stage of the Rondônia San Ignácio Province (1.56–1.30 Ga) and to the Santa Clara (1.08–1.07 Ga) and Younger Granites of Rondônia (0.99–0.97 Ga) A-type granites. The latter are linked to the evolution of the Sunsás-Aguapeí Province (1.20–0.95 Ga). One of the most important contrasting feature of both tin provinces is: in Rondônia the tin mineralization is associated with tin-bearing rapakivi peraluminous granites with high Sn and W, and subordinate concentrations of Nb, Ta and Y, whereas at Pitinga the main tin mineralization is related to an albite granite (Madeira world-class deposit), a peralkaline cassiterite–cryolite–riebeckite-bearing subsolvus granite suite. This explains the contrasting mineral assemblages.

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