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Precambrian Research 158 (2007) 17–50

**Precambrian  
Research**
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# Geology and metallogeny of the Ar Rayn terrane, eastern Arabian shield: Evolution of a Neoproterozoic continental-margin arc during assembly of Gondwana within the East African orogen

Jeff L. Doebrich<sup>a,\*</sup>, Abdullah M. Al-Jehani<sup>b</sup>, Alim A. Siddiqui<sup>b</sup>,  
Timothy S. Hayes<sup>c</sup>, Joseph L. Wooden<sup>d</sup>, Peter R. Johnson<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, 913 National Center, 12201 Sunrise Valley Dr., Reston, VA 20192, USA

<sup>b</sup> Saudi Geological Survey, P.O. Box 54141, Jiddah 21514, Saudi Arabia

<sup>c</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, 520 N. Park Ave., Suite 355, Tucson, AZ 85719, USA

<sup>d</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, Mail Stop 937, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA

Received 13 October 2006; received in revised form 11 April 2007; accepted 23 April 2007

## Abstract

The Neoproterozoic Ar Rayn terrane is exposed along the eastern margin of the Arabian shield. The terrane is bounded on the west by the Ad Dawadimi terrane across the Al Amar fault zone (AAF), and is nonconformably overlain on the east by Phanerozoic sedimentary rocks. The terrane is composed of a magmatic arc complex and syn- to post-orogenic intrusions. The layered rocks of the arc, the Al Amar group (>689 Ma to ~625 Ma), consist of tholeiitic to calc-alkaline basaltic to rhyolitic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks with subordinate tuffaceous sedimentary rocks and carbonates, and are divided into an eastern and western sequence. Plutonic rocks of the terrane form three distinct lithogeochemical groups: (1) low-Al trondhjemite-tonalite-granodiorite (TTG) of arc affinity (632–616 Ma) in the western part of the terrane, (2) high-Al TTG/adakite of arc affinity (689–617 Ma) in the central and eastern part of the terrane, and (3) syn- to post-orogenic alkali granite (607–583 Ma). West-dipping subduction along a trench east of the terrane is inferred from high-Al TTG/adakite emplaced east of low-Al TTG.

The Ar Rayn terrane contains significant resources in epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite, enigmatic stratiform volcanic-hosted Khnaiguiyah-type Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn, and orogenic Au vein deposits, and the potential for significant resources in Fe-oxide Cu–Au (IOCG), and porphyry Cu deposits. Khnaiguiyah-type deposits formed before or during early deformation of the Al Amar group eastern sequence. Epithermal and porphyry deposits formed proximal to volcanic centers in Al Amar group western sequence. IOCG deposits are largely structurally controlled and hosted by group-1 intrusions and Al Amar group volcanic rocks in the western part of the terrane. Orogenic gold veins are largely associated with north-striking faults, particularly in and near the AAF, and are presumably related to amalgamation of the Ar Rayn and Ad Dawadimi terranes.

Geologic, structural, and metallogenic characteristics of the Ar Rayn terrane are analogous to the Andean continental margin of Chile, with opposite subduction polarity. The Ar Rayn terrane represents a continental margin arc that lay above a west-dipping subduction zone along a continental block represented by the Afif composite terrane. The concentration of epithermal, porphyry Cu and IOCG mineral systems, of central arc affiliation, along the AAF suggests that the AAF is not an ophiolitic suture zone, but originated as a major intra-arc fault that localized magmatism and mineralization. West-directed oblique subduction and ultimate collision with a land mass from the east (East Gondwana?) resulted in major transcurrent displacement along the AAF, bringing the eastern part of the arc terrane to its present exposed position, juxtaposed across the AAF against a back-arc basin assemblage

\* Corresponding author. Tel.: +1 703 648 6103; fax: +1 703 648 6057.

E-mail address: [doebrich@usgs.gov](mailto:doebrich@usgs.gov) (J.L. Doebrich).

represented by the Abt schist of the Ad Dawadimi terrane. Our findings indicate that arc formation and accretionary processes in the Arabian shield were still ongoing into the latest Neoproterozoic (Ediacaran), to about 620–600 Ma, and lead us to conclude that evolution of the Ar Rayn terrane (arc formation, accretion, syn- to postorogenic plutonism) defines a final stage of assembly of the Gondwana supercontinent along the northeastern margin of the East African orogen.

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**Keywords:** Neoproterozoic; Arabian shield; Metallogeny; East African orogen; Ar Rayn terrane; Continental margin

## 1. Introduction

The Ar Rayn terrane (Delfour, 1981; Calvez et al., 1984; Johnson and Vranas, 1984; Stoesser and Camp,

1985) is exposed along the eastern margin of the Arabian shield (Fig. 1) and is defined by Neoproterozoic rocks east of the Al Amar fault (AAF) and west of an unconformity with Paleozoic epicratonic sedimentary rocks

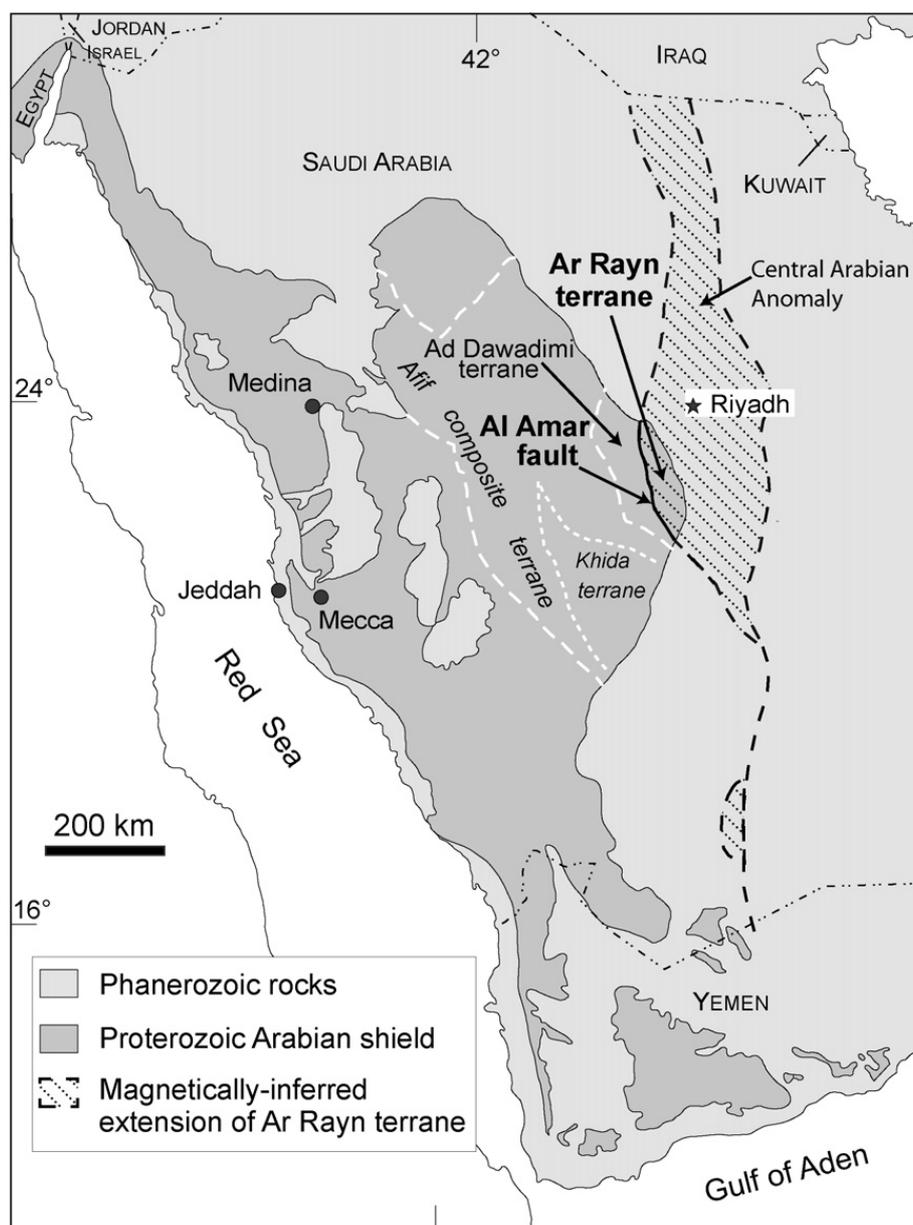


Fig. 1. Index map of the western part of the Arabian Peninsula showing the extent of the Arabian shield, the location of the Ar Rayn, Ad Dawadimi, and Afif composite terranes, and magnetically inferred margin of Neoproterozoic crust continuing beneath Phanerozoic cover (modified from Johnson and Stewart, 1995). Khida terrane from Stoesser et al. (2004), Stoesser and Frost (2006).

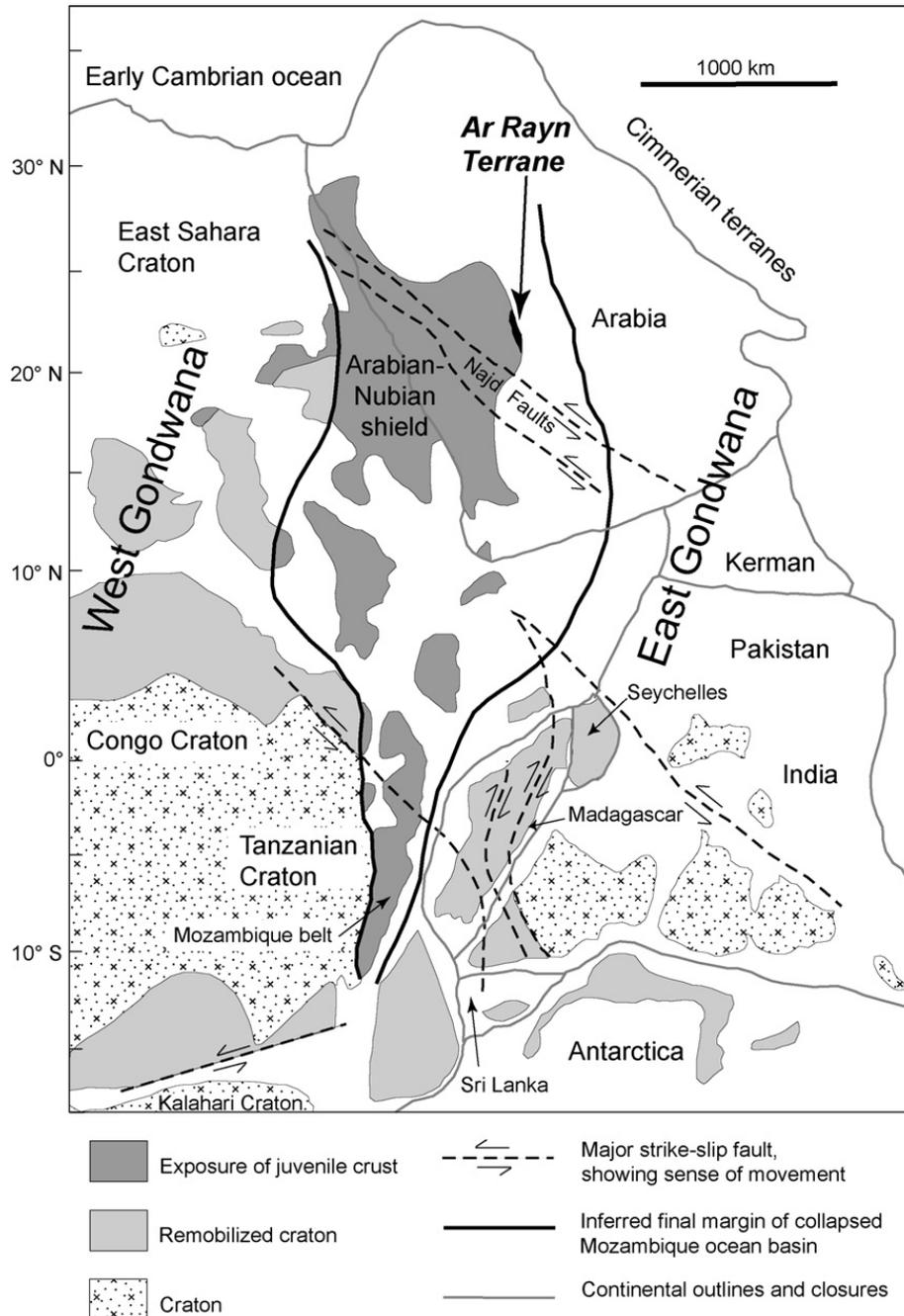


Fig. 2. Generalized map of the East African orogen (after Stern, 1994). Inferred boundary of collapsed Mozambique ocean basin based on geologic, isotopic, and magnetic data. Continental blocks are configured for the end of the Precambrian.

(Fig. 1). The AAF is a serpentinite- and listwaenite-bearing fault zone that separates the Abt schist of the Ad Dawadimi terrane to the west from the Ar Rayn terrane to the east (Fig. 1).

The Ar Rayn terrane represents the exposed part of a larger feature, perhaps a composite terrane, which is characterized by anomalously high magnetic values and is referred to as the central Arabian anomaly (Johnson and Stewart, 1995) (Fig. 1). This north-trending magnetic anomaly extends for hundreds of kilometers

beneath Phanerozoic rocks east of the Arabian shield and is interpreted to represent the eastern margin of the Neoproterozoic East African orogen (Figs. 1 and 2; Stern, 1994; Johnson and Stewart, 1995). The East African orogen represents an accretionary collage of arc and microcontinental terranes that formed during the Neoproterozoic closure of the Mozambique Ocean during convergence and suturing of West and East Gondwana (Stern, 1994; Unrug, 1996; Fig. 2). The region is transected by a series of northwest-trending sinistral faults

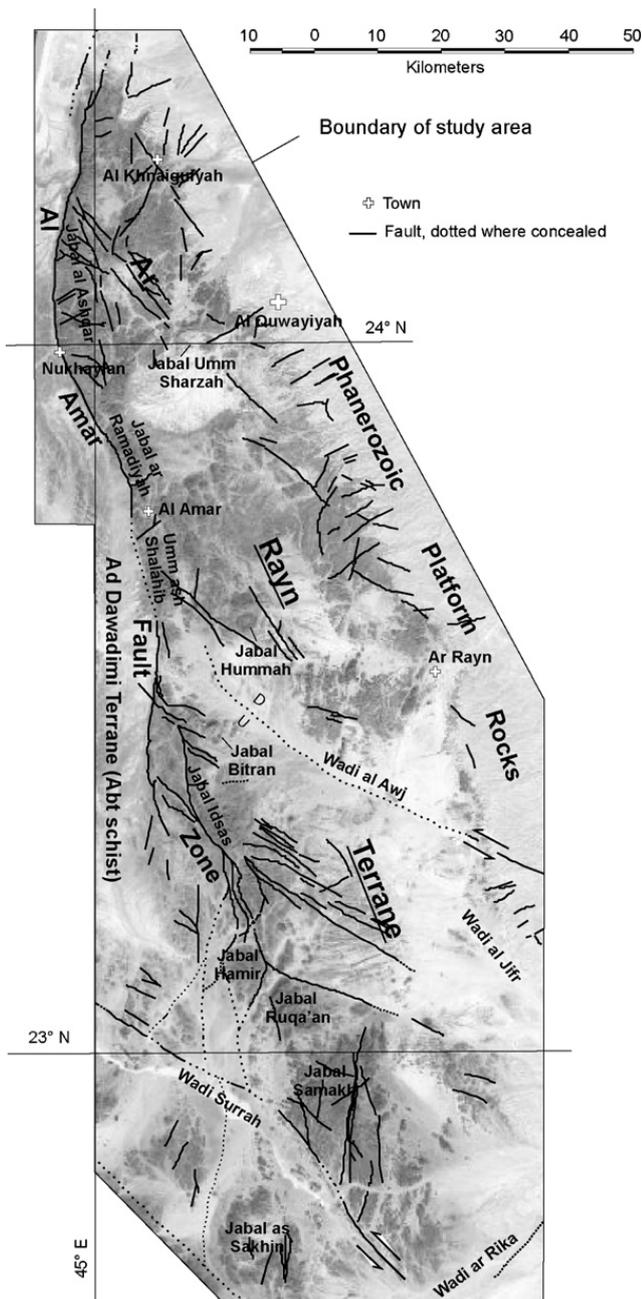


Fig. 3. Index map of the Ar Rayn terrane, with a Landsat 7 image base, showing selected towns and geographic features, and major regional faults.

(Najd faults; Figs. 2 and 3) that locally offset the Al Amar fault and other magnetically-inferred terrane boundaries. The Najd late- to post-orogenic transcurrent faulting event affected large areas of the northern and eastern Arabian shield between 630 and 530 Ma (Fleck et al., 1976; Stacey and Agar, 1985), and perhaps as early as 680 Ma (Johnson, 1996).

Despite its small area of exposure relative to other terranes of the Arabian shield, the Ar Rayn terrane has been the subject of considerable exploration and

research since the 1950s (Doebrich et al., 2005). This is primarily because of its rich endowment in a variety of metallic mineral resources, which include the Al Amar Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite deposit, the Khnaigayyah Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn deposits, the Jabal Idsas magnetite prospects, and many other precious- and base-metal prospects.

This paper is the culmination of recent geologic and mineral resource studies in the terrane that have generated new lithochemical, geochronologic, and mineral deposit data. This new data, when combined and interpreted with the wealth of existing data, provides the basis for an interpretation of the geotectonic setting of the eastern margin of the Arabian shield and East African orogen (Stern, 1994) and provides new constraints on the timing of Neoproterozoic assembly of Gondwana.

## 2. Terrane geology

The Neoproterozoic Ar Rayn terrane is composed of a volcanic arc complex, the Al Amar group (Calvez et al., 1984), and three distinct suites of plutonic rocks, all of which have undergone low-grade greenschist metamorphism. The Al Amar group consists of tholeiitic to calc-alkaline basaltic to rhyolitic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks with subordinate tuffaceous sedimentary rocks and carbonates. The three suites of plutonic rocks were originally defined by Le Bel and Laval (1986) to represent arc-related (group-1), synorogenic (group-2) and postorogenic (group-3) intrusions. Additional data collected during this study confirms the three distinct groups based on lithochemistry. However, with new geochronologic data, we present petrogenetic interpretations for the groups that differ from Le Bel and Laval (1986).

### 2.1. Al Amar group rocks

The Al Amar group was divided by Vaslet et al. (1983) and Manivit et al. (1985b) into the Sidriyah and Shalahib formations. The Sidriyah formation is described as basaltic and andesitic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks with subordinate marble and siltstone, whereas the Shalahib formation contains more felsic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks, including rhyolite and dacite flows, tuffs, and ignimbrites with interlayered carbonate and cherty sedimentary rocks. The Sidriyah formation mainly underlies the Shalahib formation, however stratigraphic relationships are not always clear because of rapid lateral facies changes near volcanic centers. Ignimbrite in the Shalahib formation indicates emergent subaerial periods (Vaslet et al., 1983) and suggests that

the volcanic arc formed in fluctuating shallow marine and subaerial environments.

Vaslet et al. (1983) and Manivit et al. (1985b) noted a more metamorphosed eastern sequence and less metamorphosed and monoclinical western sequence of the Al Amar group rocks. This east-west variation in metamorphic and structural fabric also was noted during this study and is used as criteria to divide the rocks of the Al Amar group into distinct sequences. We maintain the use of the terms eastern and western sequence and abandon the use of Sidriyah and Shalahib formations (Vaslet et al., 1983; Manivit et al., 1985b) to subdivide the Al Amar group rocks into more clearly defined and mapable units. The eastern sequence rocks are exposed as septa and pendants throughout the central and eastern parts of the terrane, whereas the western sequence rocks are exposed as a narrow semi-continuous belt along the western margin of the terrane, and bounded on the west by the Al Amar fault (Fig. 4).

Rocks of both the eastern and western sequences of the Al Amar group range in composition from basalt to rhyolite (Fig. 5A). For purposes of comparing litho-geochemistry we have classified samples from each sequence as felsic extrusive rock, mafic-intermediate extrusive rock, and porphyritic felsic intrusions based on silica contents (Fig. 5A). Eastern and western sequence felsic volcanic rocks can be distinguished by their Rb, Sr, and Na contents (Fig. 5B). Eastern sequence felsic volcanic rocks have higher Rb and Sr, and lower Na contents than western sequence felsic volcanic rocks. This may be a function of deuteritic or hydrothermal alteration (addition of Na and removal of Rb and Sr) of western sequence rocks. However, eastern sequence felsic volcanic rocks are also enriched in immobile trace elements (e.g., Y, Zr, Yb, and La; Fig. 6C and D) relative to equivalent western sequence rocks though REE geochemistry generally does not discriminate felsic volcanic rock of the two sequences (Fig. 7B). Differences in immobile trace-element litho-geochemistry, metamorphic grade and deformation style, and possible alteration of one sequence versus the other suggests that the two sequences formed separately in time and space.

The porphyritic felsic intrusions of the Al Amar group are trondhjemitic (Fig. 5C) and correspond to soda rhyolite and keratophyre protrusions and flow domes as defined by Felenc (1983a,b), Felenc et al. (1983), and Vadala et al. (1994). They are almost exclusively found in the northern half of the belt of western sequence rocks and display a litho-geochemical affinity to Al Amar group felsic volcanic rocks in general (Fig. 7B and C) and western sequence felsic volcanic rocks in

particular (Fig. 5B, 6C and D). Based on litho-geochemical affinity and spatial distribution, these intrusions are interpreted to be hypabyssal subvolcanic phases of Al Amar group western sequence felsic extrusive rocks. They have played an important role in the metallogeny of the terrane, as they are spatially and presumed genetically related to epithermal-style Au–Ag–Zn–Cu-barite mineralization in the belt of western sequence rocks.

Minor- and trace-element compositions of volcanic and subvolcanic rocks of the Al Amar group indicate that they range from tholeiitic to calc-alkaline (Fig. 6). However, Fig. 6 emphasizes how different classification schemes can yield variable results, particularly for the mafic-intermediate volcanic rocks. Such classification diagrams are not fool-proof but should be used as one tool among others to best characterize the petrogenesis of these rocks.

Six samples of felsic volcanic and subvolcanic intrusive rocks of the Al Amar group, collected during this study, failed to yield zircon or other datable minerals. The lower age limit of the Al Amar group is constrained by the intrusion at Jabal Umm Sharzah (Figs. 3 and 4), which is dated in this study at  $689 \pm 10$  Ma (see below). A  $651 \pm 43$  Ma whole-rock Rb–Sr age reported by Calvez and Delfour (1986) for Al Amar group rhyolite from the Umm ash Shalahib area is not considered robust as subsequent heating events would have affected the Rb–Sr systematics (Table 1).

## 2.2. Hamir group rocks

Hamir group rocks are named after Jabal Hamir, (Fig. 3; Vaslet et al., 1983) and are present in small elongated fault-bounded blocks along the Al Amar fault zone (Fig. 4). The Al Amar fault zone splays as it progresses south along the western margin of the terrane and thus Hamir group rocks are more abundant in the south as the Hamir depositional basins were apparently larger and more abundant. The Hamir group lies unconformably on Al Amar group, group-1, and group-2 intrusive rocks. The Hamir group reaches a thickness of 150 m and typically consists of a basal polymict conglomerate overlain by sandstone, siltstone, wacke, dolomitic limestone, and andesitic volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks. Although only two Hamir group volcanic rock samples are included in this study (dacite and andesite, Fig. 5A), both samples tend to be more calc-alkaline than equivalent felsic and mafic-intermediate Al Amar group rocks (Fig. 6) and the Hamir andesite displays a distinct REE fractionation pattern relative to other mafic-intermediate Al Amar group rocks (Fig. 7A).

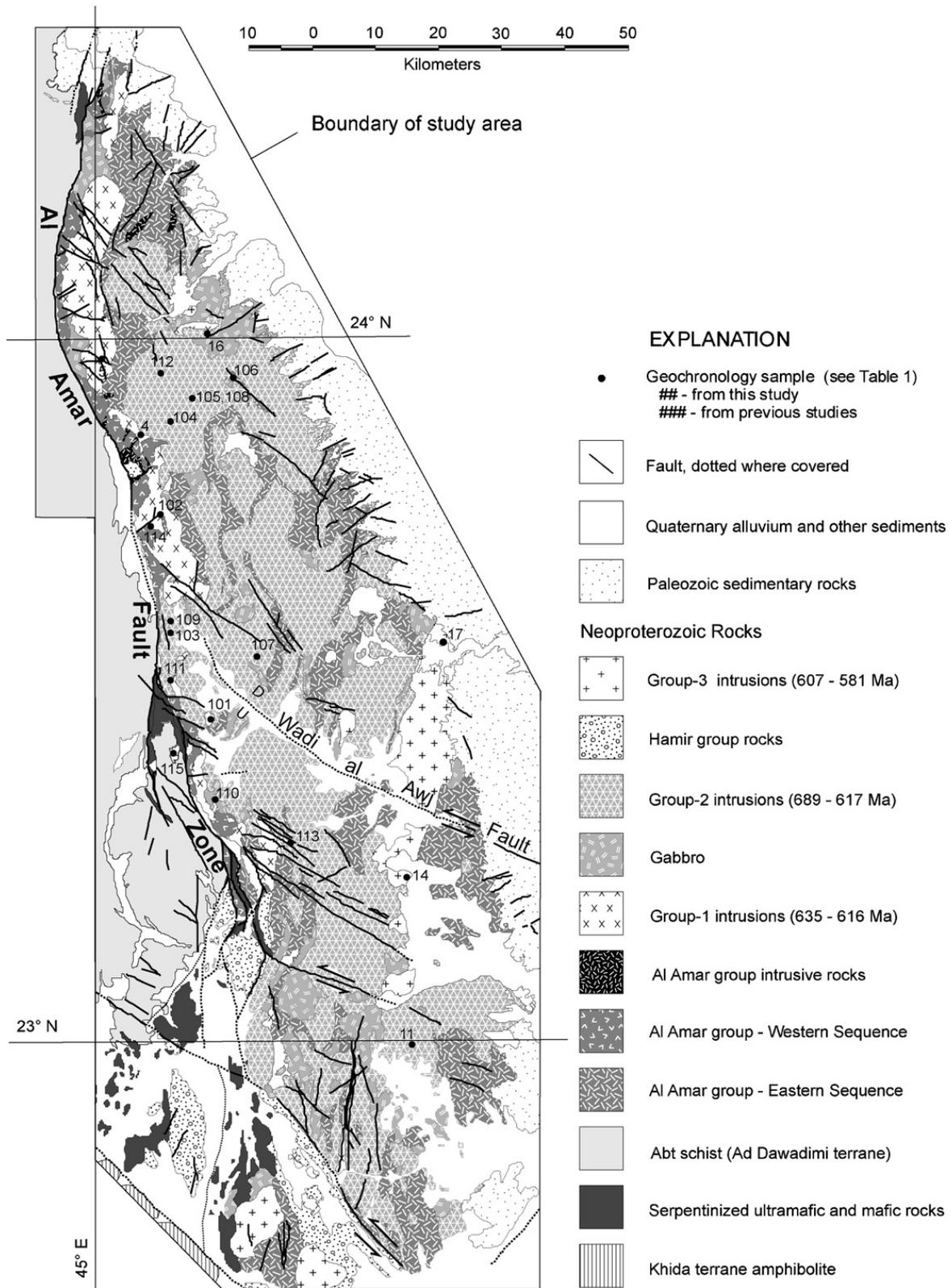


Fig. 4. Generalized geologic map of the Ar Rayn terrane. Modified from Delfour (1979), Delfour et al. (1982), Vaslet et al. (1983), and Manivit et al. (1985a,b).

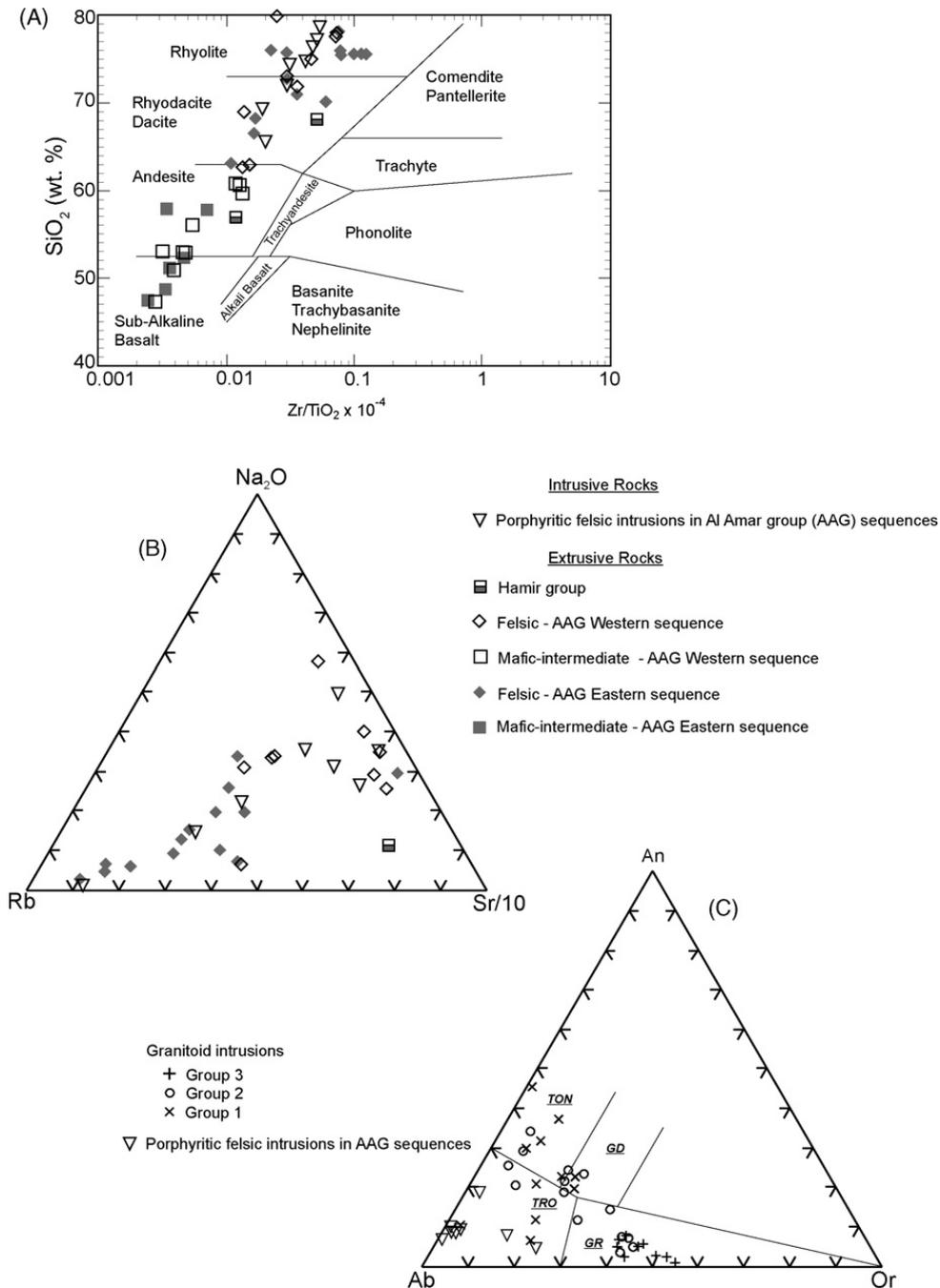


Fig. 5. Classification and discrimination diagrams for volcanic, subvolcanic, and granitoid intrusive rocks of the Ar Rayn terrane. Data from this study is combined with data from Le Bel and Laval (1986) and BRGM (2003) and all analytical data is presented in Appendix A. (A) Log Zr/TiO<sub>2</sub>-Silica diagram showing the volatile-free compositions of Al Amar and Hamir group volcanic rocks. Boundaries are from Winchester and Floyd (1977). (B) Rb-Na<sub>2</sub>O-Sr ternary diagram that discriminates eastern and western sequence felsic volcanic and intrusive rocks of the Al Amar group. (C) CIPW normative Ab-An-Or granitic rock classification of intrusive rocks from the Ar Rayn terrane (boundaries from Barker, 1979). TON: tonalite, GD: granodiorite, TRO: trondhjemite, GR: granite.

The age of the Hamir group has not been directly determined. Immediately west of the Jabal Idsas area (Figs. 3 and 4), a narrow elongated exposure of Hamir group basal conglomerate contains clasts of Jabal Idsas magnetite ore. This provides a lower age constraint of the Hamir group, i.e., post-magnetite-rich Fe-oxide

Cu-Au mineralization (late- to post-group-1 plutonism; 632–616 Ma – see below). Hamir group rocks are intruded by a group-3 pluton southeast of Jabal as Sakhin at the southern end of the terrane. This provides an upper constraint as the oldest group-3 rocks have been dated at 607 ± 6 Ma (see below).

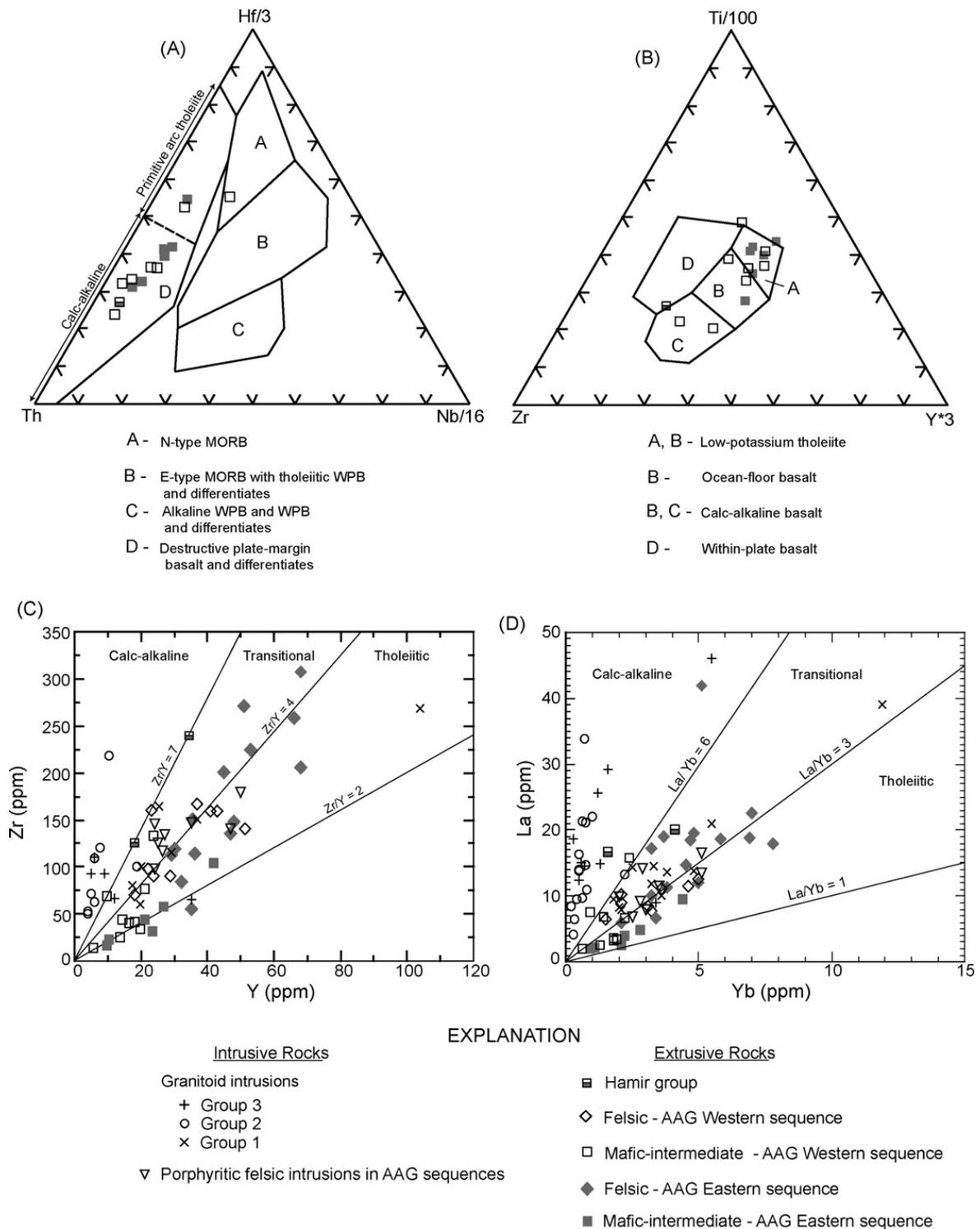


Fig. 6. Discrimination of calc-alkaline and tholeiitic affinities for igneous rocks of the Ar Rayn terrane. Data from this study is combined with data from Le Bel and Laval (1986) and BRGM (2003) and all analytical data is presented in Appendix A. (A) Th–Hf–Nb ternary discrimination diagram for Al Amar and Hamir group mafic-intermediate volcanic rocks. Boundaries are from Wood (1980). (B) Zr–Ti–Y ternary discrimination diagram for Al Amar and Hamir group mafic-intermediate volcanic rocks. Boundaries are from (Pearce and Cann, 1973). (C, D) Immobile trace element plots of Y–Zr (C) and Yb–La (D). Boundaries are from Lentz (1998) and Barrett et al. (1999).

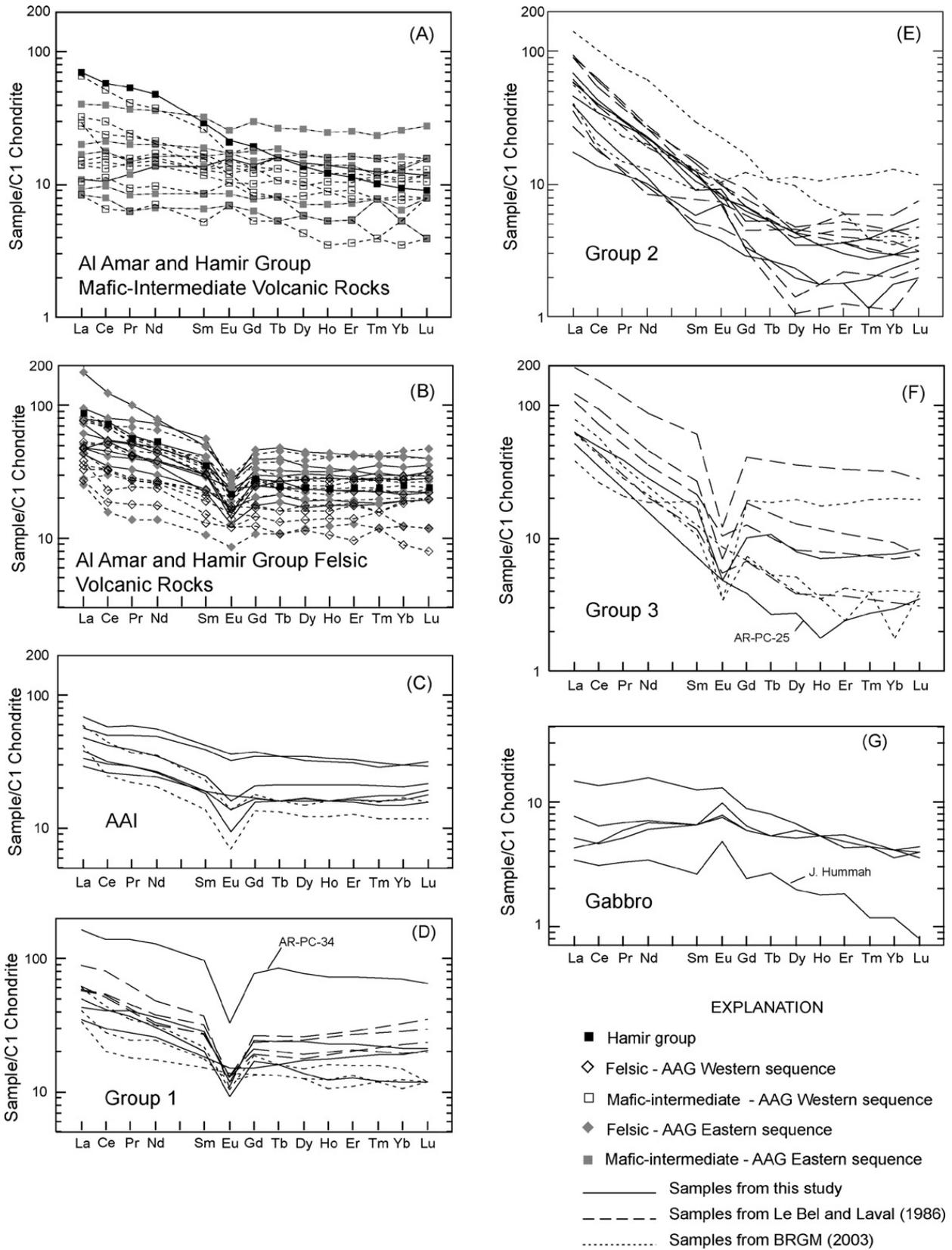


Fig. 7. Rare-earth element plots for igneous rocks of the Ar Rayn terrane. Data from this study is combined with data from [Le Bel and Laval \(1986\)](#) and [BRGM \(2003\)](#) and all analytical data is presented in [Appendix A](#). Anomalous samples within a particular group are labeled for reference only. (A) Mafic to intermediate volcanic rocks, (B) Felsic volcanic rocks, (C) AAI: porphyritic felsic intrusions in Al Amar group, (D) Group-1 intrusions, (E) Group-2 intrusions, (F) Group-3 intrusions, (G) Gabbro.

Table 1  
Geochronologic sample data for the Ar Rayn terrane

ID1 (AR-GC-#) <sup>a</sup>	ID2 <sup>b</sup>	Age <sup>c</sup> (Ma)	Error (Ma)	Rock unit	Location or unit dated	Rock type	Analytical method <sup>d</sup>	Lower intercept <sup>e</sup>	Sample type and number of data points <sup>f</sup>	MSWD <sup>g</sup>	Initial Sr ratio	Latitude	Longitude	Data source <sup>h</sup>
4	AR-PC-7	616	±7	gp1	Jabal ar Ramadiyah	Trondhjemite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 16			23.86875	45.06864	This study
5	AR-PC-8	632	±5	gp1	Jabal al Ashqar	Granodiorite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 12			23.97520	45.00881	This study
11	AR-PC-20	617	±5	gp2	SE of Jabal Ruga'an	Granite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 15			22.99936	45.48959	This study
14	AR-PC-25	583	±8	gp3	N. of Wadi Ghurrah	granite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 8			23.23524	45.48540	This study
16	AR-PC-33	689	±10	gp2?	Jabal Umm Sharzah	Trondhjemite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 10			24.00768	45.17218	This study
17	AR-PC-28	607	±6	gp3	N. of Ar Rayn town	Granite	U–Pb(i)		Zircon 8			23.56964	45.54191	This study
101		581	±6	gp3	Bitran pluton	Alkali granite	Rb–Sr		wr		0.7045	23.5167	45.1500	Abdel-Monem et al. (1982)
102		621	±17	gp1	Al Amar pluton	Tonalite	Rb–Sr		wr 8	0.60	0.7036	23.7500	45.1000	Calvez et al. (1984)
103		629	±7	gp2	Umm Dhaffar pluton	Tonalite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 3			23.5833	45.1167	Stacey et al. (1984)
104		631	±7	gp2	Quway'iyah pluton	Granodiorite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 2		0.7032	23.8833	45.1167	Stacey et al. (1984)
105		632	±25	gp2	Quway'iyah pluton	Trondhjemite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 4			23.9167	45.1500	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
106		633	±6	gp2	Ridah pluton	Tonalite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 4		0.7035	23.9500	45.2000	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
107		633	+5/-2	gp2	Umm Woraty pluton	Tonalite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 3		0.7032	23.5500	45.2500	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
108		633	±5	gp2	Quway'iyah pluton	Trondhjemite	U–Pb(c)		Zircon 4			23.9167	45.1333	Calvez et al. (1984)
109		634	±6	gp2	Umm Dhaffar pluton	Hornblende diorite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 2		0.7032	23.6000	45.1167	Stacey et al. (1984)
110		635	±6	gp1	Idsas pluton	Quartz diorite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 1		0.7032	23.3500	45.1833	Stacey et al. (1984)
111		641	±9	gp2	Bitran pluton	Tonalite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 3			23.5167	45.1167	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
112		648	±25	gp2	Mulayriqah pluton	Trondhjemite	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 4			23.9500	45.1000	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
113		650	±9	gp2	Antariyah pluton	Tonalite gneiss	U–Pb(m)	15 ± 20	Zircon 1		0.7033	23.2833	45.3000	Stacey et al. (1984)
114		651	±43	aaw	Al Amar group	Rhyolite	Rb–Sr		wr 6	1.20	0.7052	23.7333	45.0833	Calvez and Delfour, 1986
115		2067	±74		Assaliyah complex (inherited zircons)	Gabbro/trondhjemite	U–Pb(c)	645 ± 16 (age of complex)	Zircon 6			23.4500	45.1000	Calvez et al. (1985)

See Fig. 4 for sample locations and Appendix B for analytical data for samples collected for this study.

<sup>a</sup> Data for samples 101–115 from compilation by Johnson et al. (1997).

<sup>b</sup> Refers to corresponding lithochemical sample from this study. See Appendix A for lithochemical data.

<sup>c</sup> See Fig. 10 for concordia plots of samples 4 to 17 (this study).

<sup>d</sup> (i) ion probe (SHRIMP-RG); (c) conventional concordia/discordia; (m) model age, i.e., discordia forced through an assumed lower intercept<sup>(e)</sup>

<sup>f</sup> wr: whole rock.

<sup>g</sup> Mean standard weighted deviation.

<sup>h</sup> U–Pb isotope age determinations made during this study were conducted using the SHRIMP-RG at the Stanford-USGS Micro-Isotopic Analytical Center (SUMAC).

### 2.3. Plutonic rocks

Most of the Ar Rayn terrane consists of plutonic rocks that can be divided into three distinct compositional groups. This division was originally defined by Le Bel and Laval (1986) as (1) arc-related tonalite-trondhjemite, (2) synorogenic calc-alkaline granodiorite-granite, and (3) postorogenic alkali-feldspar granite. New petrographic, lithochemical, and geochronologic data on Ar Rayn terrane plutonic rocks build on the foundation set by Le Bel and Laval (1986). We maintain a 3-fold lithochemical classification which we refer to as group-1, -2 and -3 plutonism. However, our findings are not fully consistent with previous interpretations of the relative timing and tectonic classification of plutonism, which requires a re-interpretation of the sequence of events and the tectono-magmatic environment of plutonism.

#### 2.3.1. Group-1 plutonic rocks

Group-1 plutonic rocks are a tonalite-trondhjemite suite of plutons (Fig. 5C) that are largely confined to a narrow belt along the western margin of the terrane (Fig. 4). This group includes the Jabal al Ashqar, Jabal ar Ramadiyah, and Umm ash Shalahib plutons (Figs. 3 and 4). In general, group-1 intrusive rocks are geographically coincident with exposures of Al Amar group western sequence volcanic rocks (Fig. 4) and share the sodic composition of western sequence felsic volcanic and porphyritic intrusive rocks. Group-1 intrusive rocks are characterized by weakly fractionated REE patterns with moderately negative to no Eu anomalies (Fig. 7). These rocks have similar geochemical enrichment-depletion patterns, when normalized to ocean-ridge granite, as volcanic arc granites (Fig. 8; Pearce et al., 1984) and classify as low-Al TTG (tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite) of Arth (1979) (Fig. 9A). The depleted Sr and elevated Y content of group-1 rocks relative to group-2 and -3 intrusions is distinct and discriminates group-1 as tholeiitic to calc-alkaline arc rocks (Fig. 9B) as defined by Defant and Drummond (1990) and Martin (1999). The lithochemistry of Al Amar group felsic extrusive and felsic porphyritic intrusive rocks show a strong compositional affinity with group-1 intrusive rocks and suggest a co-magmatic relationship (Figs. 7B–D; 8A and B; 9).

Two group-1 samples collected during this study yielded SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages of  $632 \pm 5$  and  $616 \pm 7$  Ma (Figs. 4 and 10; Table 1). These ages are consistent (within error) with conventional U–Pb age determinations made on group-1 rocks in previous studies ( $635 \pm 6$  to  $629 \pm 7$  Ma; Table 1).

#### 2.3.2. Group-2 plutonic rocks

Group-2 rocks are a calc-alkaline suite of diorite, granodiorite, and granite plutons (Figs. 5C; 6C and D) that are exposed largely in the central and eastern parts of the terrane (Fig. 4), and represent the most voluminous suite of plutonic rock in the terrane. Rare-earth and trace element contents clearly discriminate group-1 and -2 rocks (Figs. 7–9) as two geochemically distinct plutonic suites. Group-2 rocks display depleted HREE patterns with no or positive Eu anomalies (Fig. 7) and are, on average, enriched in Rb, Sr, and depleted in Y and Yb, relative to group-1 rocks (Figs. 8 and 9). Geochemical enrichment-depletion patterns of group-2 rocks, normalized to ocean-ridge granite, are consistent with those of volcanic arc granite (Fig. 8; Pearce et al., 1984). Group-2 rocks partially plot in the high-Al TTG field of Arth (1979) (Fig. 9A), have high to very high Sr/Y ratios relative to all other plutonic and volcanic rocks in the terrane and plot clearly within the adakite fields of Defant and Drummond (1990), Martin (1999), and Martin et al., (2005) (Fig. 9B).

Geochronologic data indicate that crystallization of group-1 and -2 plutons was largely coeval, though much older group-2 plutons also exist. Two samples from group-2 intrusions collected during this study yield SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages of  $689 \pm 10$  Ma (the core of Jabal Umm Sharzah) and  $617 \pm 5$  Ma (Figs. 3, 4 and 10). The 689 Ma age is the oldest age documented for the Ar Rayn terrane to date, and puts a further upper age constraint on Al Amar group eastern sequence rocks which are intruded by the Jabal Umm Sharzah pluton. Previous conventional U–Pb age dates on group-2 rocks range from  $650 \pm 9$  to  $631 \pm 7$  Ma (Table 1). The overlap in crystallization ages of group-1 (co-magmatic with arc volcanism) and -2 precludes that group-2 rocks are “syn-orogenic” as proposed by Le Bel and Laval (1986), because arc formation was still ongoing at the time of group-1 and -2 plutonism. Furthermore, there is no conclusive field evidence to support a synorogenic classification.

#### 2.3.3. Group-3 plutonic rocks

Group-3 plutonic rocks are alkali-feldspar granites (Fig. 5C) that are exposed almost exclusively in a 25-km-wide, N.20 E.-trending belt that transects the eastern and southern parts of the terrane (Fig. 4). These rocks are generally more evolved and distinguished from group-1 and -2 plutonic rocks by their strongly fractionated REE patterns with strong negative Eu anomalies (Fig. 7) and their elevated  $K_2O$ , Rb, Th, and Nb contents (Figs. 8 and 9). Group-3 plutonic rocks have very distinctive geochemical enrichment-depletion patterns

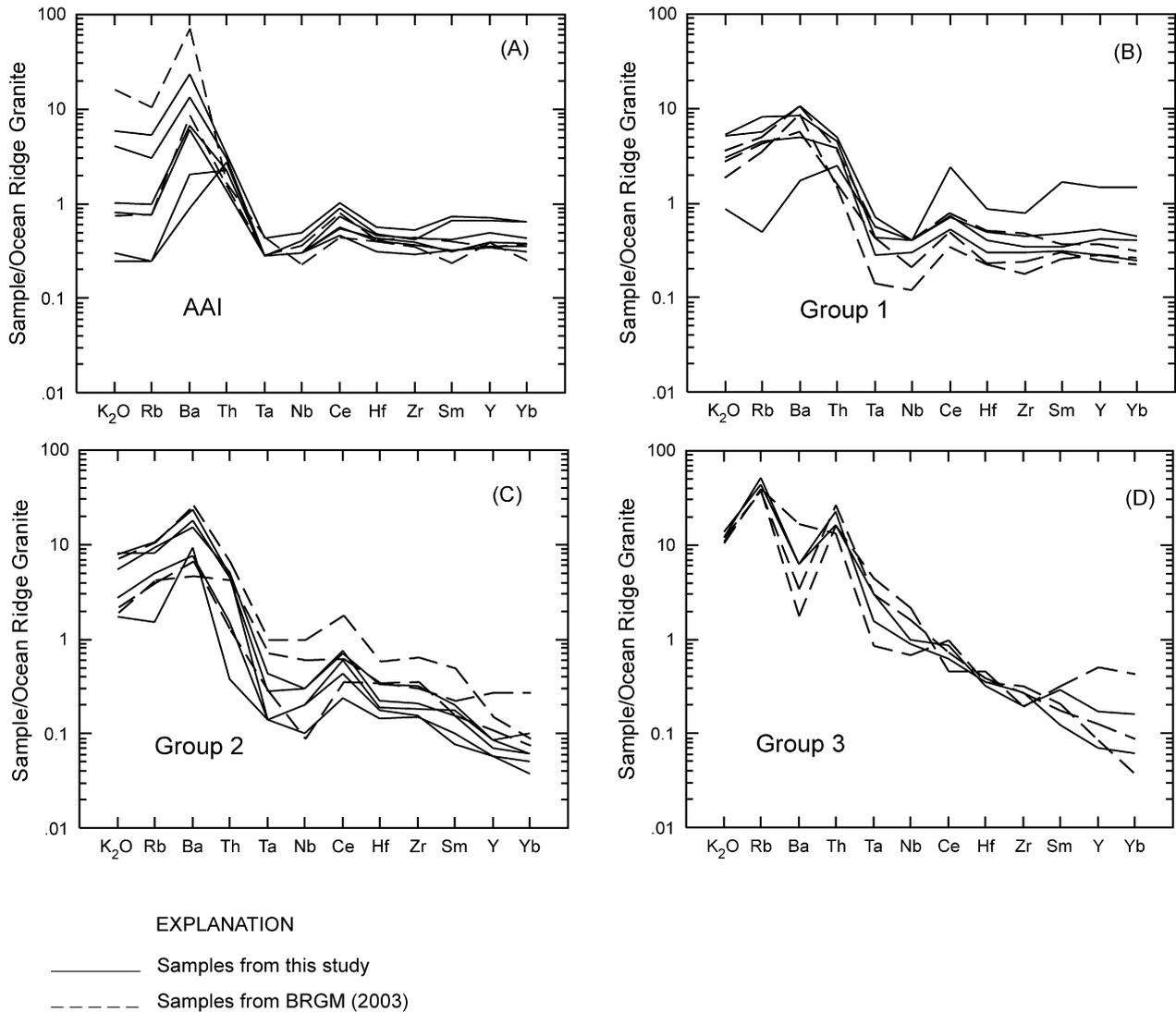


Fig. 8. Ocean-ridge granite normalized geochemical patterns for intrusive rocks of the Ar Rayn terrane. Data from this study is combined with data from BRGM (2003) and all analytical data is presented in Appendix A. Ocean-ridge granite data is from Pearce et al. (1984). Anomalous samples within a particular group are labeled for reference only. (A) AAI: porphyritic felsic intrusions in Al Amar group, (B) Group-1 intrusions, (C) Group-2 intrusions, (D) Group-3 intrusions.

(with Rb and Th peaks), normalized to ocean-ridge granite, which are similar to syn- and postorogenic granites (Fig. 8D; Pearce et al., 1984). In a Y–Nb discrimination plot, group-3 rocks plot mostly in the volcanic-arc granite/syn-collision granite field yet distinct from group-1 and -2 rocks (Fig. 9C).

These rocks represent the youngest plutonic rocks in the terrane, yet may overlap in age with some of the youngest group-1 and -2 plutons. Two samples from this study yielded SHRIMP U–Pb zircon ages of  $607 \pm 6$  Ma and  $583 \pm 8$  Ma (Figs. 4 and 10). Previous age determinations on group-3 rocks were by the Rb–Sr method and yielded an age of  $581 \pm 6$  Ma on the Jabal Bitran pluton (Table 1). Le Bel and Laval (1986) classify group-3 plutons as postorogenic and emplaced into a cratonized region. The combined lithochemical, petrological,

and geochronological data indicate group-3 plutons were late- to postorogenic intrusions.

#### 2.3.4. Gabbro

Gabbro complexes, many compositionally layered, are exposed at scattered localities throughout the Ar Rayn terrane (Fig. 4). Field relations indicate that two generations of gabbro are present. Gabbro intrusions of the earlier group are more voluminous, generally are exposed as irregular elongated bodies (possibly sills) and are pre- to syn- group-1 and -2 plutonism. Gabbro intrusions of the latter group are generally smaller circular complexes that cut group-1 and -2 intrusions (e.g., Jabal Hummah, Figs. 3 and 4). Of the five gabbro samples collected for this study, the sample from J. Hummah (AR-PC-30) is significantly depleted in REE and has a

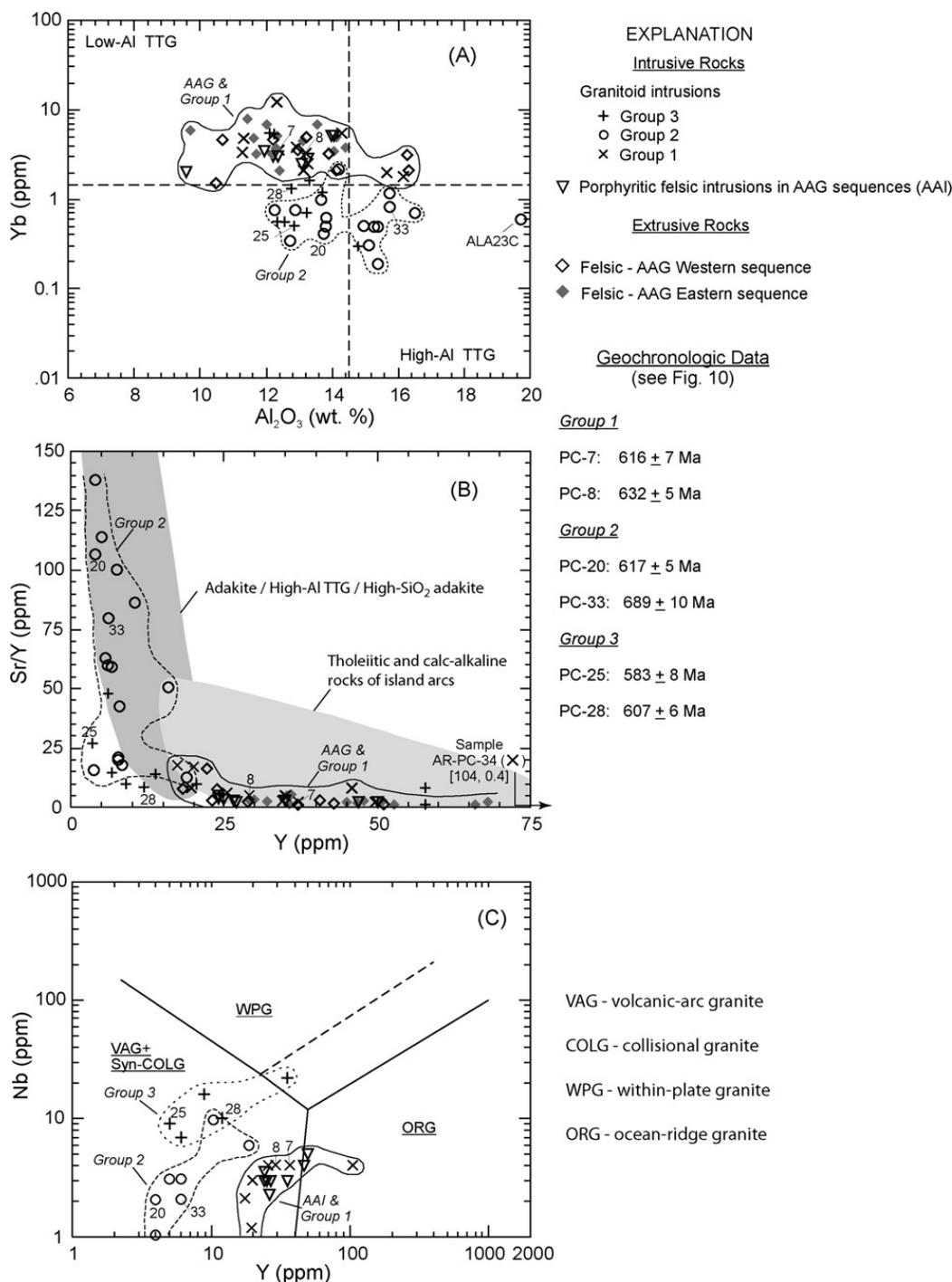


Fig. 9. Classification and tectonic discrimination diagrams for igneous rocks of the Ar Rayn terrane. Data from this study is combined with data from Le Bel and Laval (1986) and BRGM (2003) and all analytical data is presented in Appendix A. Samples dated for this study are labeled for reference. (A)  $Al_2O_3$ –Yb plot of all igneous rock samples, showing discrimination of Al Amar group (AAG) rocks and group-1 intrusions from group-2 intrusions. Subdivisions are from Arth (1979); TTG: trondhjemite-tonalite-granodiorite. (B) Y–Sr/Y plot showing the discrimination of AAG rocks and group-1 intrusions (island arc affinity) from group-2 intrusions (adakite affinity); shaded fields are from Martin (1999) and Martin et al. (2005). (C) Y–Nb plot showing discrimination between AAG rocks plus group-1 intrusions, group-2 intrusions, and group-3 intrusions; boundary lines are from Pearce et al. (1984).

large positive Eu anomaly relative to the other four earlier generation gabbro samples (Fig. 7G; Appendix A).

The Jabal Ruga'an layered mafic intrusive complex (Figs. 3 and 4) was explored for magmatic Cu–Ni

resources. However, only magnetite-rich serpentinized ultramafic units with local concentrations of pyrrhotite were found, primarily near the base of the complex (Zubeir, 1976; Chevremont and Johan, 1982).

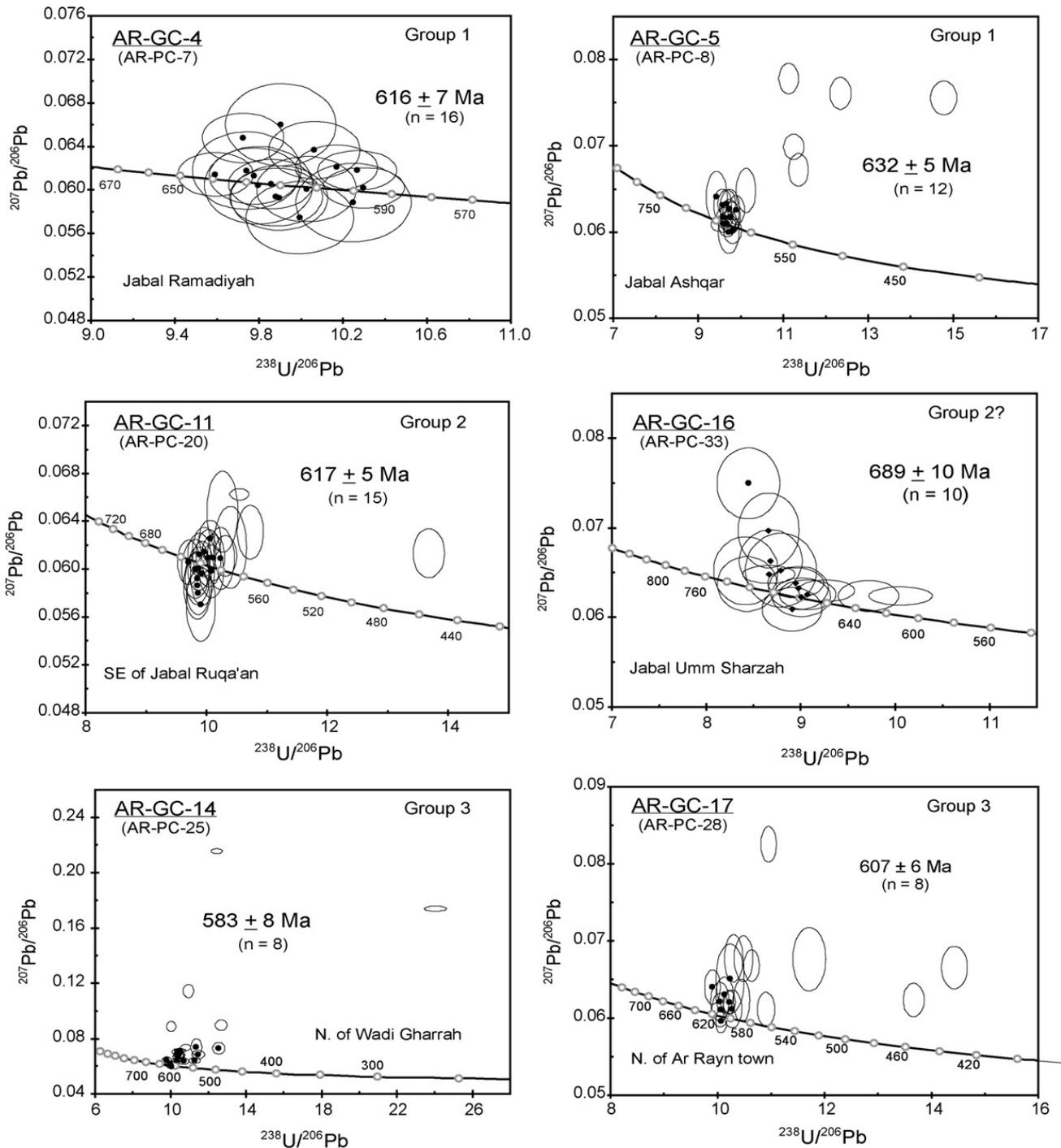


Fig. 10. Tera-Wasserburg concordia plots of SHRIMP zircon U–Pb isotope data. See Fig. 4 for location of sample sites, Table 1 for summary statistics, and Appendix B for analytical data. Error ellipses are equal to  $2\sigma$ . Only data points shown were included in age calculation.

#### 2.4. Structure

Important structural features in the terrane are north-trending folds, faults, foliation, and local schistosity that are cut by a northwest-trending set of sinistral transcurrent faults, which also had normal displacement. The earliest deformation in the terrane (D1) produced a north-striking foliation and local schistosity in Al Amar group east-

ern sequence rocks not seen in western sequence rocks. Western sequence rocks are characterized only by monoclinal folding and tilting, which affected both sequences, and is defined as D2 deformation. This implies that the eastern sequence is older than the western sequence, and is consistent with intrusion of the eastern sequence by the oldest dated rocks in the terrane (see above). D2 deformation corresponds to the east–west contraction

during amalgamation of the Ar Rayn and Ad Dawadimi terranes.

The most prominent faults in the terrane are the north-trending faults along and subparallel to the Al Amar fault zone and northwest-trending “Najd” faults that are present throughout the terrane and that divide it into a series of fault blocks (Fig. 4). Though many of these northwest-trending faults cross cut and offset the Al Amar fault and the magnetically-defined eastern margin of the terrane (Fig. 4), several major mapped northwest-trending faults (e.g. the Wadi Al Awj fault) trend more northerly as they approach the Al Amar fault and ultimately merge with the Al Amar fault zone (Fig. 4). Other northwest-trending faults terminate at the Al Amar fault (Fig. 4). The relative timing of faulting deduced from field relations indicates that strike-slip displacement along the Al Amar fault commenced prior to but also was coeval with transcurrent displacement on northwest-oriented faults. Though northwest-trending faults cut all rock units, including the Paleozoic platform sequence, discernible offset and truncation is seen only in rocks older than group-3 intrusions.

A D3 deformation event is manifested by Hamir group rocks tilted and folded into synclinoria, particularly in exposures in the southern part of the study area. This deformation would be syn- to late-orogenic and would have occurred late- or post-amalgamation of the Ar Rayn and Ad Dawadimi terranes, and perhaps during collision with a continental block from the east. This event would also correspond to formation of northwest-trending Najd transcurrent faults and translational displacement along the Al Amar fault zone. Emplacement of a group-3 intrusion into the folded Hamir rocks constrains the timing of amalgamation to between about 616 and 607 Ma.

Much of the displacement on northwest-striking faults has been sinistral; however, significant vertical displacement of fault blocks is indicated by correlation of magnetically-defined terrane in the southern part of the study area (Doebrich et al., 2005) and by the level of exposure of mineral systems in the terrane. Mineral deposit types are different across the Wadi al Awj fault (Fig. 11). Deposit types found north of the Wadi al Awj fault (epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite, porphyry Cu, hematite-rich Fe-oxide Cu–Au) were formed in shallower mineralizing environments, whereas deposit types found south of the fault (orogenic gold veins, magnetite-rich Fe-oxide Cu–Au systems) were formed in deeper environments. This may indicate that faulting has uplifted the southern part of the terrane relative to the northern part of the terrane, along the Wadi al Awj fault.

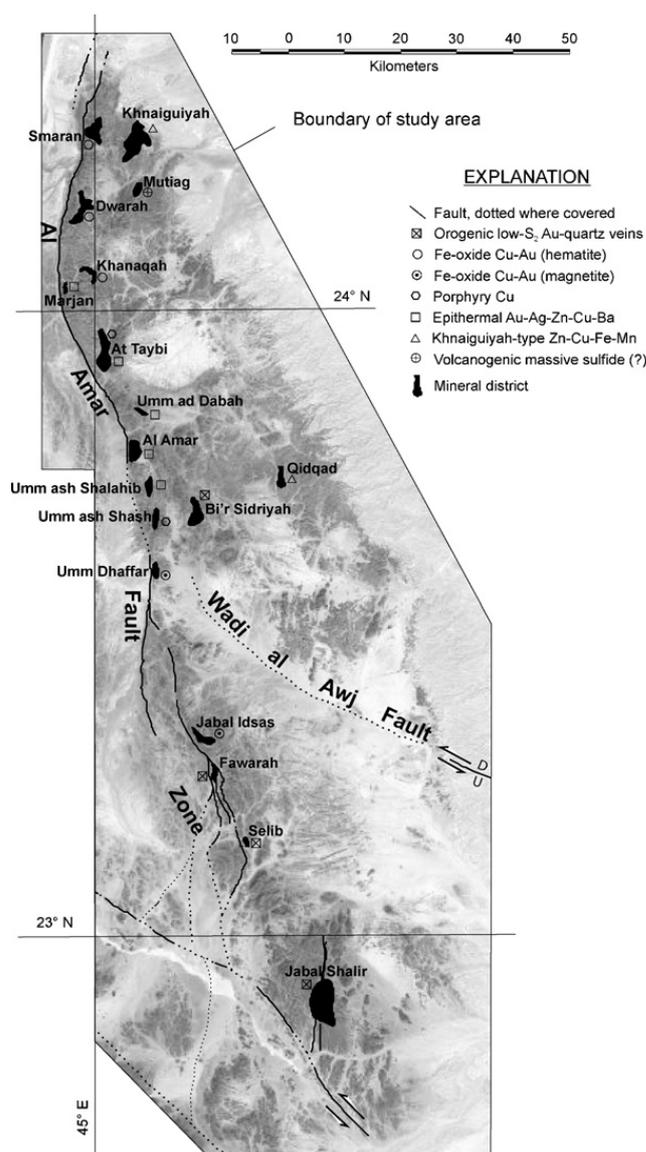


Fig. 11. Index map of the Ar Rayn terrane showing the distribution of major mineral districts. Symbols indicate dominant deposit type in each district.

### 3. Terrane metallogeny

A variety of mineral deposit types (Table 2) formed during a series of mineralizing episodes as the magmatic arc evolved and amalgamated within the East African orogen, and define the metallogeny of the Ar Rayn terrane. Khnaiguiyah-type Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn (enigmatic, stratiform; described below), epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite, and orogenic Au (low-sulfide gold-quartz) vein deposits (Table 2, Fig. 11) historically have attracted the most exploration attention in the terrane (Doebrich et al., 2005). Potential for porphyry Cu and Fe-oxide Cu–Au (IOCG) deposits in the Ar Rayn terrane (Table 2, Fig. 11) has recently been recognized

Table 2  
Mineral deposit types identified in the Ar Rayn terrane with examples

Deposit type	Regional distribution and host rocks	Relative age	Morphology	Mineralogy	Alteration	Examples
Khnaiguiyah-type Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn	Found exclusively in Al Amar group eastern sequence rocks; concentrated along zones of carbonatization (locally converted to marble)	Syn- to late- Al Amar eastern sequence volcanism	Stratiform bodies and lenses; may be fault-controlled replacements and syn-deformational	Hematite, ilmenite, pyrite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, rhodochrosite, rhodonite; Ag-, Pb-, and Bi-tellurides, barite	Carbonate, chloritic, calc-silicate	Khnaiguiyah, Qid Qad, Wadi Sidarah
Epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite	Found exclusively in Al Amar group western sequence rocks along the western margin of the terrane, and north of Wadi al Awj; located in volcanic centers, interpreted as westward-dipping tilted calderas; proximal to rhyodacite intrusive complexes	Probably syn-Al Amar group intrusive rocks	Veins and stockwork, massive barite lenses	Quartz, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, pyrite, galena, barite, gold, covellite, chalcocite, rutile, polybasite	Silicic, sericitic, chloritic, carbonate, talc	Al Amar, Umm ash Shalahib, Umm adh Dabah
Porphyry Cu	Associated exclusively with porphyritic phases of group-1 intrusive rocks and Al Amar group western sequence rocks along the western margin of the terrane, and north of Wadi al Awj	Syn-group-1 intrusions	Current surface expression includes discrete veins and local stockworks	Malachite, chalcopyrite, magnetite, hematite	Potassic, phyllic, sodic, propylitic	Al Eitaby, Umm ash Shash
Fe-oxide Cu–Au (magnetite-rich)	Found primarily along the western margin of the terrane, mostly south of Wadi al Awj, in group-1 intrusions and Al Amar group western sequence volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks	Late- to post-group-1 intrusions and pre-Hamir group; Magnetite cobbles found in Hamir group conglomerate	Metasomatic replacement bodies of disseminated magnetite and smaller fault-controlled bodies of massive magnetite	Magnetite, apatite, hematite (martite), actinolite, chalcopyrite, chalcocite, covellite	Amphibole (actinolite), tourmaline, epidote, sericitic	Jabal Idsas
Fe-oxide Cu–Au (hematite-rich)	Found exclusively in the northern part of the terrane, and primarily along the northwest margin, in group-1 intrusive rocks, gabbro, and Al Amar group volcanic rocks (western and eastern sequences)	Late- to post- group-1 intrusions	Mineralized fault and breccia zones and replacement veins	Hematite, tourmaline, magnetite, rutile, apatite, chalcopyrite	Tourmaline, amphibole, carbonate, sericitic, silicic, epidote	Dwarah
Orogenic (low-S <sub>2</sub> quartz) Au veins	Found throughout the western part of the terrane, particularly in and near the Al Amar fault zone, and in the Bi'r Sidriyah and Jabal Shalir districts, in all rock units pre-group-3 plutonism in age	Post-group-1 and -2 plutonism, post-Al Amar group volcanism, pre-group-3 magmatism (syn-terrane amalgamation?)	Massive, tabular, and lensoid quartz veins emplaced in fault zones	Quartz, carbonate, pyrite, gold, malachite, chrysocolla	Carbonate, sericitic; also silicified and carbonate-altered serpentinite (listwaenite)	Selib, Fawarah, Jabal Shalir, Bi'r Sidriyah

Deposits types are listed in general geochronologic order, from earliest to latest. For more detailed descriptions see Doebrich et al. (2005).

(Doebrich et al., 2005) and represents new mineral exploration and research frontiers in the terrane.

Within the Arabian shield, Khnaiguiyah-type Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn deposits (Table 2, Fig. 11) are unique to the Ar Rayn terrane and represent a significant zinc resource. The four defined ore bodies of the Khnaiguiyah deposit contain mineable reserves ranging from 10.56 Mt averaging 7.41% Zn and 0.82% Cu to 2.66 Mt averaging 15.10% Zn and 0.80% Cu (BRGM, 1994). Khnaiguiyah-type deposit characteristics are consistent with deformation and metamorphism of volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) mineralization; the associated stratiform Mn-rich units are particularly indicative of a seafloor hydrothermal environment. The stratiform and shear-zone-hosted nature, base-metal sulfide and iron oxide mineralogy, alteration mineralogy, and geochemistry associated with these deposits (Table 2) are collectively enigmatic, and consequently their proposed genesis has been controversial, ranging from syngenetic, to syndeformational, to metasomatic (Elsass and Achard, 1979; Testard, 1983; Woldeabzghi and Prevot, 1983; BRGM, 1994). These deposits share similarities with the Archean magnetite-bearing VMS deposits of the Golden Grove district of Western Australia (Frater, 1983; Ashley et al., 1988; Barley and Large, 1992; Sharpe and Gemmill, 2001, 2002) as well as with the Perkoa zinc deposit in the Paleoproterozoic Birimian Supergroup of West Africa (Burkina Faso; Schwartz and Melcher, 2003).

Epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite vein deposits (Table 2, Fig. 11) represent significant resources of precious- and base-metals in the Ar Rayn terrane (Testard, 1982; Felenc, 1983a; Felenc et al., 1983; Lofts et al., 1986; Vadala et al., 1994; Leistel et al., 2000). Areas of epithermal-type mineralization are found proximal to volcanic centers that are localized along the Al Amar fault zone and display geologic characteristics consistent with a tilted caldera setting. The most significant resource of this type is at the Al Amar deposit which is scheduled to commence production in 2006 with reserves of 1.55 Mt @ 12.31 g/t Au, 6.16% Zn, 21.07 g/t Ag, and 0.92% Cu, (measured and indicated) plus 3.0 Mt @ 5.1 g/t Au (inferred) (Ma'aden, 2005). These deposits have characteristics similar to low-sulfidation epithermal vein deposits (Hayba et al., 1985; Heald et al., 1987) yet are sulfide-rich (sphalerite, chalcocopyrite, and pyrite). The associated carbonatization, talc alteration, and sodic nature of proximal rhyodacitic domes may indicate a submarine epithermal environment of formation. At Al Amar, in addition to the main epithermal vein zones, submassive sulfide lenses locally are found in talc–barite–quartz rock that may have had an exhalative origin (Lofts, 1994).

Several copper–gold prospects along the northwest margin of the terrane (Table 2, Fig. 11) represent surface expressions of potential porphyry Cu systems. These areas contain copper-bearing vein and stockwork zones associated with porphyritic quartz monzodioritic intrusions, porphyry-type alteration assemblages, and proximal porphyry-related deposit types (Doebrich et al., 2005).

The Ar Rayn terrane contains the largest concentration of IOCG deposits in the Arabian shield. These deposits are either magnetite- or hematite-rich (Table 2; Doebrich et al., 2005) and most deposits are relatively small, fault-controlled bodies of magnetite and specularite. Magnetite-rich deposits are enriched in LREE, whereas hematite-rich deposits are more enriched in copper and gold. The magnetite deposits of the Jabal Idsas district (Fig. 11) represent the largest IOCG resource in the terrane, and are characterized by fault-controlled massive magnetite lenses (1.3–6.7 Mt @ 64–65% Fe) and extensive areas of disseminated replacement magnetite in andesitic volcanics (300 Mt @ 18–20% Fe) (Ashworth and Abdulaziz, 1978). Hematite-rich deposits exhibit a mineral paragenetic sequence of amphibole, followed successively by tourmaline, hematite, chalcocopyrite, and gold. In mineralized breccias, tourmaline-altered fragments are cemented by specular hematite. Locally, hematite is derived from martitization of magnetite.

Orogenic gold vein deposits found in the terrane (Table 2) are typical greenstone-hosted low-sulfide gold–quartz veins found throughout the Arabian shield. The largest are found along the Al Amar fault zone (Fig. 11) and proximal to silicified and carbonatized serpentinite (listwaenite). Veins have average grades of 6–9 g/t gold, however exploration drilling has not identified significant tonnage (Coulomb, 1983). These deposits are often the source of significant local placer gold deposits (e.g. Selib, Fig. 11; Coulomb, 1983) which have not been systematically evaluated.

Age correlation of deposit-type formation with magmatic and tectonic events is shown in Fig. 12. In the absence of additional geochronologic data on the mineralizing systems themselves, preliminary correlations suggest that (1) Khnaiguiyah-type deposits formed before, during, or immediately subsequent to D1 deformation of Al Amar group eastern sequence rocks, (2) epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite, porphyry Cu, and IOCG deposits were temporally and genetically related to Al Amar group western sequence and group-1 magmatism, and (3) orogenic low-sulfide Au quartz veins were best developed along the Al Amar fault zone and subsidiary zones during amalgamation of the Ar Rayn and

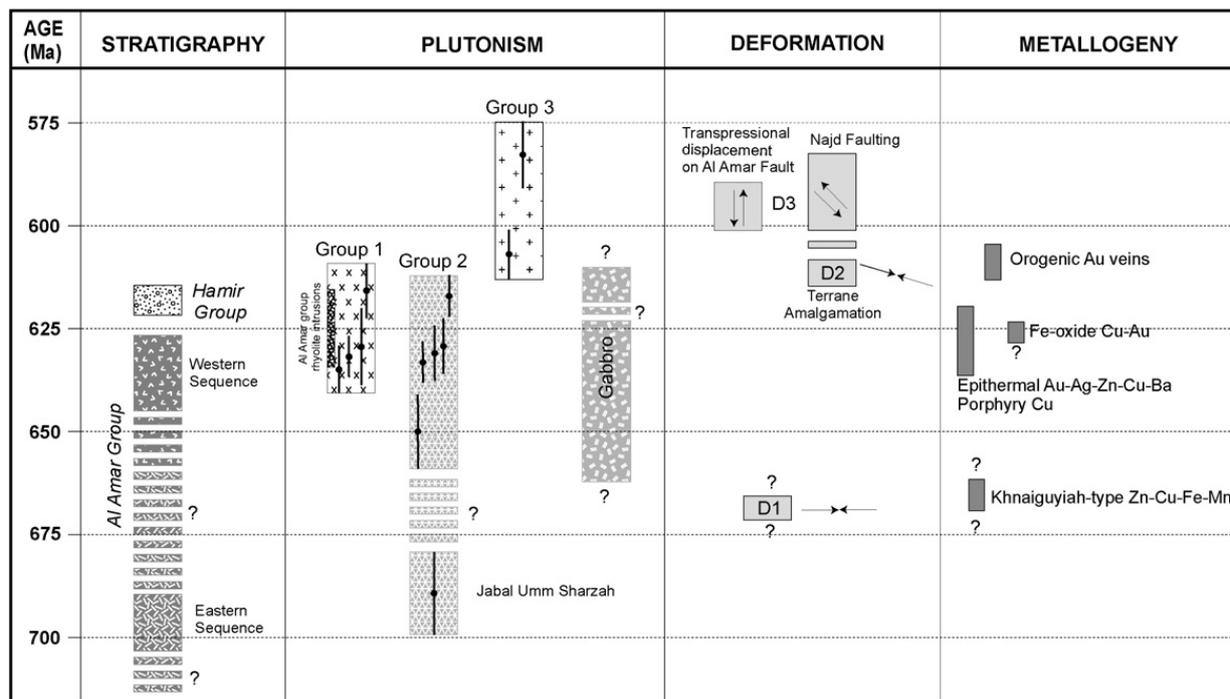


Fig. 12. Geologic history chart illustrating the temporal relationships between volcanic, plutonic, tectonic, and significant metallogenic events in the Ar Rayn terrane. Group-1, -2, and -3 intrusions show U–Pb zircon ages with error bars for selected samples representative of age range (see Table 1 for all geochronological data). Dashed events (broken bars) indicate possible continuation of event(s). Question marks indicate uncertainty in timing. Deformation arrows give directions of maximum compressive stress (colinear arrows) or simple shear (parallel arrows) with north up on the diagram.

Ad Dawadimi terranes and perhaps later during strike-slip rejuvenation of these fault zones (Fig. 12).

#### 4. Discussion

Geologic, structural, and metallogenic characteristics of the Ar Rayn terrane are summarized in Fig. 12 and are synthesized here to discuss a geotectonic setting for the evolution of the terrane and its mineral systems. There is a clear litho-geochemical and spatial distinction between the (a) trondhjemitic, tholeiitic to calc-alkaline Al Amar group volcanic, subvolcanic and group-1 plutonic rocks and (b) the calc-alkaline adakitic group-2 plutonic rocks in the central and eastern parts of the terrane (Figs. 4; 6C and D; 7B–E; 9). Group-2 plutons represent a magmatic arc suite that was partially coeval with group-1 plutonism. The distribution of low-Al TTG plutons (group-1, west) versus high-Al TTG/adakite plutons (group-2, east) implies a west-dipping subducting slab, with the trench located somewhere east of the present margin of the Arabian shield (Fig. 13). When present in a subduction-related setting, the emplacement of adakitic rocks trenchward of the main volcanic arc is well documented in other parts of the world (Defant and Drummond, 1990, 1993; Drummond and Defant, 1990;

Drummond et al., 1996; Bourdon et al., 2002; Samsonov et al., 2005). The high-Al TTG/adakite magmas are believed to represent slab melt under garnet amphibolite to eclogite facies that was generated by the subduction of young hot oceanic crust (possibly an oceanic ridge) or perhaps by high oblique subduction and related shear stresses (Drummond et al., 1996).

Geochronological data indicate some coeval emplacement of the group-1 and -2 plutonic suites, suggesting that they were generated from the same subducting slab but perhaps originated from different slab depths. However, the oldest intrusions are group-2 high-Al TTG/adakite in the eastern part of the terrane. This is consistent with an age progression of magmatism from trench to arc, with slab melting initially occurring proximal to the trench; as the slab cooled, melting migrated deeper and into the overlying mantle wedge to generate group-1 low Al-TTG in the arc.

In the arc-trench scenario described above, the Abt schist of the Ad Dawadimi terrane would correspond to either a deep-water back-arc basin sequence that accumulated between the Afif and Ar Rayn terranes or perhaps to a passive margin sedimentary sequence that formed along the Afif continental margin and on which the Ar Rayn magmatic arc was built. However, the Ad

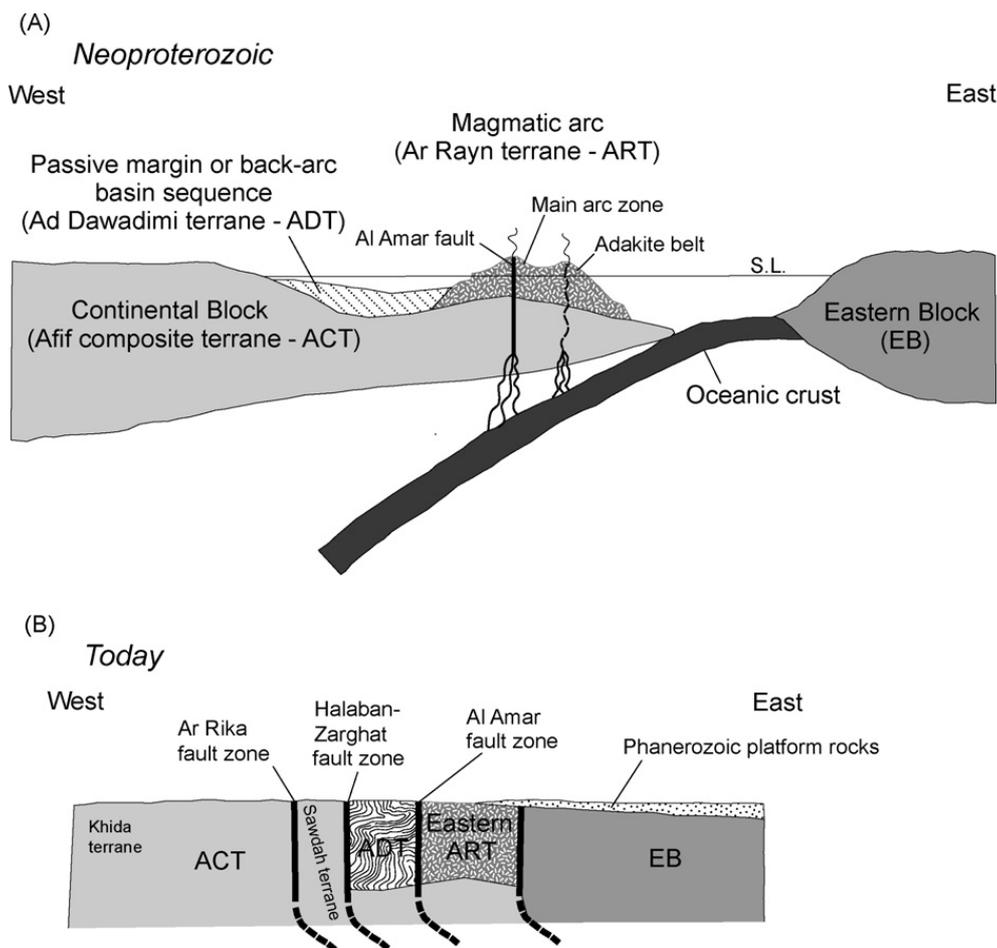


Fig. 13. Schematic section showing proposed subduction scenario for the Ar Rayn terrane and eastern Arabian shield. (A) Neoproterozoic configuration with west-directed subduction, formation of the adakite belt trenchward of the main arc zone, and formation of the Al Amar fault along the axis of the main arc zone. (B) Present-day configuration illustrating how the western segment of the Ar Rayn terrane has translated out of the section such that the Al Amar fault now separates the Ad Dawadimi and Ar Rayn terranes. The Afif composite terrane includes the Khida continental terrane (Stoeser et al., 2004; Stoeser and Frost, 2006) and the Sawdah terrane of Stoeser and Frost (2006) which either represents an older continental-margin arc (Al-Saleh and Boyle, 2001a) or is allochthonous and was translated into position along terrane-bounding faults.

Dawadimi terrane is bound by serpentinite-bearing faults and thus may instead be completely allochthonous and unrelated to the Afif and Ar Rayn terranes. This proposed scenario is consistent with findings of Al-Saleh et al. (1998) and Al-Saleh and Boyle (2001a,b) who have concluded that the Abt schist and ophiolite sequences of the Ad Dawadimi terrane (referred to as the Al Amar suture) represent a back-arc-basin suture above a west-dipping subduction complex along the eastern margin of the Afif continental terrane. Evidence of 2000-Ma inherited zircons from the 645 Ma Assaliyah plutonic complex that intrudes Abt schist along the Al Amar fault zone (Fig. 4, Table 1) suggests that older Proterozoic continental crust underlies this part of the eastern Arabian shield (Calvez et al., 1985).

What Al-Saleh et al. (1998) and Al-Saleh and Boyle (2001a,b) refer to as the Afif terrane or continental

microplate corresponds to the Afif composite terrane (Stoeser and Camp, 1985; Stoeser and Stacey, 1988; Fig. 1). Earlier studies of common lead data for the Arabian shield (Stacey and Stoeser, 1983; Stoeser and Stacey, 1988) demonstrated a clear distribution of oceanic lead in the arc terranes of the western shield and continental lead, of at least early Proterozoic age, in rocks of the eastern shield, including the eastern Afif, Ad Dawadimi, and Ar Rayn terranes (Fig. 1). In a recent compilation of isotopic data for the Arabian shield, Stoeser and Frost (2006) have re-evaluated terrane delineation and conclude that the Khida terrane (Figs. 1 and 13), originally defined as part of the Afif composite terrane (Stoeser and Camp, 1985; Stoeser and Stacey, 1988; Fig. 1), is the only terrane composed of pre-Neoproterozoic continental crust and that both the western and eastern arc terranes are of oceanic arc affin-

ity. This leaves the Sawdah terrane, that separates the Khida and Ad Dawadimi terranes, in question as to its original tectonic setting. Either the Sawdah terrane represents an older continental margin arc (Al-Saleh and Boyle, 2001a) or it represents an allochthonous terrane that has translated into position along terrane-bounding faults to now separate the Ar Rayn-Ad Dawadimi continental arc-back-arc block from the Khida continental terrane.

The Al Amar fault has previously been interpreted as an ophiolitic suture zone between the Ad Dawadimi and Ar Rayn terranes (Al Shanti and Mitchell, 1976; Al-Saleh et al., 1998; Al-Saleh and Boyle, 2001a,b). However, the concentration of pre-amalgamation and syn-arc mineral deposits immediately east of the Al Amar fault (e.g., epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu-barite, porphyry Cu, IOCG systems; Fig. 11) is not to be expected adjacent to an ophiolitic suture zone. Such deposits are typically formed along the axis of a magmatic arc and, for IOCG systems in particular, within continental-margin arc settings. Volcanic arcs are characterized by major trench-parallel intra-arc rifts and transpressional faults along which magma emplacement, volcanic centers, and hydrothermal systems are focused (Hamilton, 1979; Cembrano et al., 1996, 2000; Grocott and Taylor, 2002; Oyarzún et al., 2003). These deep-seated structures become major zones of transcurrent displacement during arc amalgamation and collision (McClelland et al., 2000). Our findings indicate that the Al Amar fault zone was an intra-arc fault zone, along which significant transcurrent displacement occurred (Fig. 13). The abrupt termination and apparent truncation of the Ar Rayn terrane at the Al Amar fault suggests that the western part of the Ar Rayn terrane was translated a significant distance along this major crustal structure. The western segment of the pre-faulted Ar Rayn arc is now likely concealed beneath the Phanerozoic platform sequence and may correspond to isolated magnetic anomalies centered at 21°N–46.5°E and (or) 17°N–46.5°E (Fig. 1). This would require sinistral displacement on the order of 300 km and 700 km, respectively. Such displacements along intra-arc transcurrent faults are not uncommon and have been well documented particularly along the North American cordillera (Gabrielse, 1985; Beck, 1992; McClelland et al., 2000). Though local kinematic indicators observed during this study suggest dextral displacement along the Al Amar fault south of Umm ash Shalahib, this may represent only the latest movement and not the original primary displacement.

The fault geometry of the Al Amar fault and the northwest-trending faults is analogous to well-documented intra-arc fault patterns due to oblique

subduction, and particularly to intra-arc faults zones of the continental margin of the southern Cordillera of South America (Fig. 14; Brown et al., 1993; Taylor et al., 1998; Lavenu and Cembrano, 1999; Cembrano et al., 2000; Grocott and Taylor, 2002). Using this analogy, the Ar Rayn terrane fault pattern is consistent with oblique subduction from the east-southeast to the west-northwest resulting in sinistral transpressional displacement, with local transtensional domains. Serpentinized ultramafic rocks along the Al Amar fault zone need not indicate that it was the site of subduction that resulted in the collision of the two terranes. An alternative explanation is that back-arc or continental-margin rifting during formation of the Ad Dawadimi terrane gave rise to ophiolitic sequences and possible diapiric serpentinite seamounts (e.g., Boillot et al., 1980; Reston et al., 2004; Ueda et al., 2004) that were eventually juxtaposed to the Al Amar terrane during translation along the Al Amar fault zone late in the amalgamation process.

Globally, IOCG deposits are found in three general tectonic settings. These settings are characterized by (1) intra-continental orogenic collapse, (2) intra-continental anorogenic magmatism, or (3) extension along a subduction-related continental margin (Hitzman et al., 1992; Hitzman, 2000). The continental margin setting is the most plausible for the Ar Rayn terrane based on known geologic and lithochemical characteristics of the terrane geology and regional tectonic understanding. Therefore, the presence of IOCG deposits in the terrane is potentially diagnostic of the tectonic setting at the time of formation, and particularly when considered in conjunction with other geologic, geochronologic and lithochemical data.

A more recent analog to the Neoproterozoic tectonic setting of the Ar Rayn terrane, though of opposite subduction polarity, is that of the Andean margin of Chile, which is characterized by adakitic magmatic suites (Stern and Kilian, 1996; Bourdon et al., 2002), major intra-arc fault zones (e.g., the Atacama and Liquine-Ofqui fault zones; Scheuber and Gonzalez, 1999; Brown et al., 1993; Cembrano et al., 1996, 2000; Taylor et al., 1998; Lavenu and Cembrano, 1999; Grocott and Taylor, 2002), and epithermal gold, porphyry Cu, and IOCG systems localized along these fault zones (Colley et al., 1989; Espinoza, 1990; Camus et al., 1996; Oyarzún et al., 2003) (Fig. 14). In particular there are striking similarities with the Jurassic-early Cretaceous Coastal Range of northern Chile where the geotectonic setting at the beginning of the Jurassic was a north-trending magmatic arc with marine and subaerial volcanic rocks, and a marine back-arc basin overlapping the edge of the South American continental plate

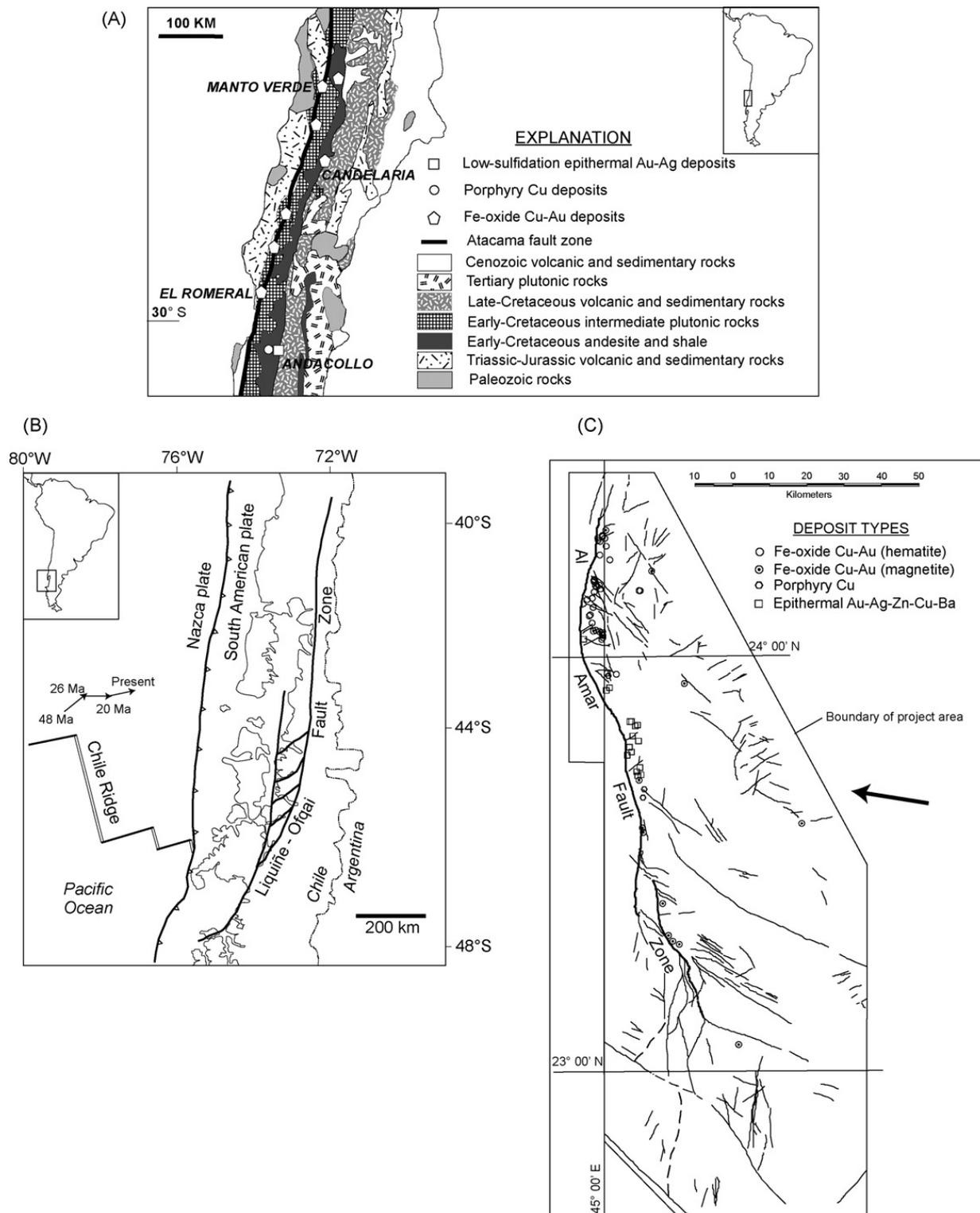


Fig. 14. Comparison of fault configurations and mineral deposit distributions between the Ar Rayn terrane and the Andean continental margin. (A) Generalized geologic map of the northern Chile coastal belt showing regional geology, the intra-arc Atacama fault, and spatially associated Fe-oxide Cu–Au, porphyry Cu, and epithermal Au deposits (modified from Espinoza, 1990); (B) Map of the southern Chilean continental margin showing the fault pattern of the Liquine-Ofqai intra-arc fault zone. Arrows refer to direction of Nazca plate motion through time (modified from Cembrano et al., 2000); (C) Distribution of faults and Fe-oxide Cu–Au, porphyry Cu, and epithermal Au deposits in the Ar Rayn terrane. Arrow represents proposed direction of eastern block plate motion, causing oblique subduction and transcurrent sinistral faulting along the Al Amar fault zone. Compare fault patterns and distribution of mineral deposits in the Ar Rayn terrane (C) with those of Chile (A and B) noting the opposite polarity of subduction in Chile vs. the Ar Rayn terrane.

(Espinoza et al., 1996). Transtensional and transpressional tectonic regimes within the arc gave rise to tholeiitic and calc-alkaline volcanic rocks, respectively (Espinoza et al., 1996). Likewise, in the Ar Rayn terrane, tholeiitic to transitional rocks formed along the central arc zone where transtensional regimes would have existed along the intra-arc Al Amar fault zone, and calc-alkaline group-2 intrusions were emplaced trenchward and presumably under a more transpressional environment.

The Afif composite terrane (the Khida continental terrane [ $\geq 1660$  Ma] and adjacent continental-margin arcs and accreted terranes; Agar, 1985, 1988; Thieme, 1988; Stoesser et al., 2004; Johnson, 2005; Stoesser and Frost, 2006) was in place as a block by about 685–680 Ma (Al-Saleh et al., 1998; Doebrich et al., 2004). Collision of the Afif terrane with oceanic arc terranes of the western Arabian shield gave rise to the Nabitah orogeny, and was complete by about 640 Ma (Stacey and Agar, 1985; Stoesser and Stacey, 1988). Formation of the Ar Rayn terrane, between about 689 Ma to 616 Ma, occurred prior, during, and subsequent to the Nabitah orogeny, and corresponds to the final subduction zone that formed before complete closure of the Mozambique Ocean along what is now the eastern margin of the Arabian shield. Oblique subduction resulted in transcurrent faulting along the Al Amar fault zone and, ultimately, creation of northwest-oriented transcurrent faults. Syn- to post-orogenic plutonism in the Ar Rayn terrane (607–583 Ma) followed very soon after arc plutonism, suggesting that the west-migrating land mass east of the subduction zone, which was presumably East Gondwana (the Eastern Block of Fig. 13) was not far from the continental margin at the time of Ar Rayn terrane arc formation.

Earlier studies (Stoesser and Stacey, 1988; Johnson and Kattan, 2001) have proposed that subduction and ocean basin closure in the Arabian shield culminated in the Nabitah orogeny between 680 and 640 Ma. Stern (1994) states that the consolidation of juvenile arcs in the East African orogen (EAO; Fig. 2) was complete by about 700 Ma and that tectonic escape in the northern EAO, which would have commenced only after terminal collision of East and West Gondwana, was underway by about 640 Ma. More recent studies of the East African orogen in Madagascar (Collins et al., 2003; Goncalves et al., 2003) Zimbabwe (Hargrove et al., 2003), the Nubian shield of East Africa (Abdelsalam et al., 2003) and the Sinai (Katz et al., 2004) provide evidence that subduction within the Mozambique Ocean and subsequent collision between East and West Gondwana transpired through the latest Neoproterozoic and into the Cambrian (Johnson and Woldehaimanot, 2003; Meert, 2003).

## 5. Conclusions

The Neoproterozoic Ar Rayn terrane is composed of the Al Amar group (AAG) volcanic arc complex and three distinct suites of plutonic rocks. The AAG volcanosedimentary rocks ( $>689$  Ma to  $\sim 625$  Ma) are divided into an eastern and western sequence based on difference in metamorphic and structural fabric and immobile trace-element lithogeochemistry (Figs. 4–6). The plutonic rocks of the terrane consist of (1) low-Al trondhjemite-tonalite-granodiorite (TTG) of arc affinity (632–616 Ma) in the western part of the terrane; these rocks have a spatial and lithogeochemical affinity with western sequence AAG rocks; (2) high-Al TTG/adakite of arc affinity (689–617 Ma) in the central and eastern part of the terrane, and (3) syn- to post-orogenic alkali granite (607–583 Ma) (Figs. 4, 7–10). The spatial distribution of high-Al TTG/adakitic rocks east of low-Al TTG within the arc is consistent with west-dipping subduction along a trench that is concealed under Phanerozoic platform rocks east of the Arabian shield (Fig. 13).

The structural fabric of the terrane is the result of three deformation events (Fig. 12). Event D1 produced foliation and local schistosity in eastern sequence AAG rocks. Amalgamation of the Ar Rayn and Ad Dawadimi terranes (D2) during oblique subduction resulted in monoclinical folding of western sequence AAG rocks. Finally, closure of the Mozambique Ocean through collision of the amalgamated terranes with a continental block from the east (D3) resulted in formation of northwest-trending Najd transcurrent faults and translational displacement along the Al Amar fault zone.

The Ar Rayn terrane is one of the most endowed terranes of the Arabian shield in terms of metallic mineral resources. Significant precious- and base-metal resources are found in epithermal Au–Ag–Zn–Cu–barite, enigmatic stratiform volcanic-hosted Khnaiguiyah-type Zn–Cu–Fe–Mn, and orogenic Au vein deposits, and the potential for significant resources exist in Fe-oxide Cu–Au (IOCG), and porphyry Cu deposits. A genetic model for Khnaiguiyah-type deposits is uncertain though may be that of a metamorphosed volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS) deposit. There is a notable scarcity of classic VMS deposits in the terrane. The types and distribution of mineral deposits in the terrane are diagnostic of its tectonic setting. The concentration of epithermal, IOCG, and potential porphyry copper and related deposits immediately adjacent to the Al Amar fault zone (Fig. 11) suggests that this zone was a major intra-arc fault along which magmatism and mineral systems were focused. Furthermore, the presence of IOCG systems is

indicative of a magmatic arc that formed in a continental margin setting.

Geologic, structural, and metallogenic characteristics of the Ar Rayn terrane are analogous to the Andean continental margin of Chile (Fig. 14). Marine to sub-aerial, tholeiitic to calc-alkaline volcanic rocks, adakitic magmatic suites, major intra-arc fault zones and related epithermal, porphyry copper, and IOCG deposits are examples of shared characteristics between the Ar Rayn terrane and the Andean continental margin. We conclude that the Ar Rayn terrane represents a very similar continental margin setting above a west-dipping subduction zone along a continental block, presumably the Khida terrane or eastern margin of the Afif composite terrane (Fig. 13).

Our findings indicate that arc formation and accretionary processes in the eastern Arabian shield were still ongoing into the latest Neoproterozoic (Ediacaran), to about 620–600 Ma. Geologic evolution of the Ar Rayn terrane (arc formation, accretion, syn- to postorogenic plutonism) and associated metallogeny took place during the final stages of the assembly of the Gondwana supercontinent along the northeastern margin of the East African orogen.

### Acknowledgements

This work was done under the terms of the Eleventh and Twelfth Extensions to the Work Agreement between the U.S. Geological Survey and the Saudi Arabian Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The authors wish to thank Douglas B. Stoesser for constructive comment on this work as well as Klaus J. Schulz, Stephen G. Peters and two anonymous journal reviewers for technical review of manuscripts that helped improve the clarity of presentation.

### Appendix A. Lithochemical data for igneous rocks: Ar Rayn Terrane

Major element oxides and elemental Fe and Na are in weight percent. All other analyses are in parts per million.

(\*) no data

Unit label definitions:

- gb: gabbro
- grp3: group-3 intrusion
- grp2: group-2 intrusion
- grp1: group-1 intrusion
- hamir: Hamir group
- aai: Al Amar group felsic porphyritic intrusion
- aaaw: Al Amar group western sequence, intermediate to mafic volcanic rock
- aarw: Al Amar group western sequence, felsic volcanic rock
- aaaa: Al Amar group eastern sequence, intermediate to mafic volcanic rock
- aare: Al Amar group eastern sequence, felsic volcanic rock

Data sources and analytical methods:

1. this study
  - Major element analyses, reported as oxides, by total digestion ICP-AES at Saudi Geological Survey (SGS) Lab, Jeddah
  - FeO analyses by colorimetric titration at SGS Lab, Jeddah
  - H<sub>2</sub>O analyses by gravimetric technique at SGS Lab, Jeddah
  - Au, As, Br, Co, Cr, Fe, Ir, Na, Sb, Sc, and Se analyses by INAA ACTLABS-SKYLINE Lab, Tucson, AZ
  - All other analyses by fusion ICP/MS, ACTLABS-SKYLINE Lab, Tucson, AZ
2. Le Bel and Laval (1986)
  - All analyses by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry
3. BRGM (2003)
  - Major elements by X-ray fluorescence
  - All other analyses by inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry



Sample Corresponding Ge Age (Ma)	AR-PC-27 072±6	AR-PC-28 072±6	AR-PC-29	AR-PC-30	AR-PC-31	AR-PC-32	AR-PC-33 699±10	AR-PC-34	1214	1222	1238	1252	1256	1281	1292	1211A	1211B	1212A	1235A	1235B	1255A	1287B	1339A	ALAMB	AL65A		
Unit	gp2	gp3	aarw	gb	aaaw	aec	gp2	gp17	gb	gp2	gp1	gp2	gp1	gp2	gp3	gp3	gp3	gp3	gp2	gp2	gp1	gp2	gp1	aarw	aarw		
Data Source	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		
Longitude	45.31663	45.34191	45.31878	45.22761	45.30884	45.34713	45.17218	45.16477	45.14328	45.4718137	45.1348039	45.4644118	45.4591588	45.1286765	45.53798	45.4779412	45.3663726	45.3363726	45.122349	45.36112586	45.122349	45.36112586	45.36112586	45.36112586	45.36112586		
Latitude	23.96265	23.69664	23.51730	23.61514	23.69759	24.01101	24.00768	24.03167	24.06764	23.2356551	23.488764	23.4494582	23.0280889	23.6297755	23.83876405	23.3932584	23.1123596	23.1011236	23.6197775	23.6197775	23.7076652	23.7076652	23.7076652	24.0506418	23.9086		
SiO <sub>2</sub>	74.10	77.00	77.25	46.50	58.50	67.70	71.50	77.25	46.85	76.92	78.32	74.66	71.79	77.05	71.98	76.83	76.89	74.68	74.70	69.00	77.00	72.40	76.10	73.48	61.40	70.50	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14.10	12.90	12.10	18.80	15.80	14.30	15.50	12.30	16.40	12.89	11.31	13.67	15.37	11.26	13.82	12.11	12.24	13.7	13.3	15.25	12.72	12.93	12.25	14.28	15.9	15.7	
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.62	0.66	2.00	6.60	7.40	5.90	1.82	1.90	8.80	1.17	1.58	1.63	2.11	2.05	2.65	1.13	0.79	1.81	2	3.22	0.82	4.35	1.09	2.6	7.56	3.54	
ThO <sub>2</sub>	0.20	0.10	0.22	0.15	0.38	0.66	0.19	0.13	0.41	0.18	0.27	0.26	0.31	0.17	0.2	0.68	0.07	0.21	0.23	0.28	0.11	0.38	0.1	0.22	0.63	0.52	
CaO	1.66	0.75	0.80	12.20	6.30	2.29	2.65	0.80	14.15	0.84	4.88	0.97	2.58	1.31	1.71	0.29	0.15	0.34	0.96	3.27	0.41	3.11	0.59	2.17	2.7	0.4	
MgO	0.58	0.20	0.60	10.75	2.80	0.70	0.55	0.20	9.40	0.15	0.15	0.02	0.71	0.26	0.47	0.09	0.22	0.69	0.46	1.26	*	0.93	0.90	0.51	1.6	1.4	
Na <sub>2</sub> O	4.60	3.81	6.05	1.78	3.85	5.15	5.25	5.15	1.19	3.61	2.6	4.04	4.61	4.34	3.64	3.82	2.85	3.03	4.07	4.3	3.96	3.83	3.63	3.67	5.3	5.7	
K <sub>2</sub> O	3.26	5.60	0.10	0.10	1.46	2.62	1.09	2.05	0.33	4.2	0.09	4.34	2.38	1.68	3.4	4.31	5.04	4.96	4.3	2.16	4.27	1.8	4.41	2.17	2.21	0.66	
MnO	<0.05	<0.05	0.06	0.10	0.11	0.07	0.12	<0.05	0.18	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.06	0.01	0.07	0.02	0.08	0.02	0.06	0.13	0.17	
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.07	<0.05	<0.05	<0.05	0.10	0.22	0.06	<0.05	0.11	*	*	*	0.08	*	*	0.34	0.64	0.66	0.09	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.14	0.11
LOI	0.54	0.42	0.84	2.23	2.62	0.27	0.92	0.55	1.58	0.09	0.43	0.09	0.46	0.63	2.05	0.18	1.21	1.52	0.07	0.63	0.27	0.31	0.4	0.63	2.1	2	
Total	100.73	101.38	100.02	98.91	99.55	99.79	99.65	100.33	99.40	100.08	99.65	99.73	100.44	98.79	99.36	99.63	100.46	100.22	99.44	99.58	100.10	98.88	99.79	99.67	99.10		
Y <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.85	0.20	1.40	4.95	5.10	2.71	0.92	0.21	6.73	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	0.68	0.38	0.44	1.10	1.73	2.85	0.80	1.67	1.32	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
H <sub>2</sub> O	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
EDC	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Li	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-10	
Na	3.36	2.63	4.21	0.92	2.51	3.68	4.64	4.59	1.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	-10	
Sc	2.5	2.4	10.6	20.8	28.5	18.8	2.4	1.5	78.6	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
V	1.9	0.8	6	69	170	18	20	-5	122	16	119	*	172	12	42	12	*	36	35	*	*	83	12	38	148	40	
Cr	9	8	11	431	25	12	-5	-5	427	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	22	
Fe	1.24	0.48	1.55	5.25	5.89	4.55	1.52	1.68	8.26	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	19	
Co	4	1	3	66	33	3	6	-1	55	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	16	
Ni	<20	<20	<20	246	22	<20	<20	<20	80	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	<10
Cu	<10	<10	<10	47	64	<10	<10	<10	38	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Zn	<30	<30	<30	30	44	<30	<30	<30	37	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Ga	16	17	12	12	15	16	16	24	12	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Ge	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
As	2.2	2.1	9	2	2.8	3.4	6.7	8.2	1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Se	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Br	2.4	<0.5	<0.5	2.9	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	3.7	<0.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Rb	32	173	<2	<2	26	27	20	23	5	164	*	123	64	48	148	147	169	177	149	63	96	55	99	31	42	7	
Sr	354	99	81	736	316	188	475	80	261	152	375	149	888	94	336	66	98	197	198	389	59	169	161	114	363	60	
Y	6	12	43	3	21	36	6	104	8	7.7	45.8	8.3	21	34.5	7.9	57.8	6.6	13.8	20.6	6.6	3.8	34.9	7.7	49.6	22.2	25	
Zr	109	67	169	6	77	114	63	268	8	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	98	
Nb	3	10	4	<1	2	3	2	4	<1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.4	
Mo	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Ag	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
In	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	<0.2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Sn	1	2	2	<1	1	2	<1	4	<1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Sb	<0.1	1	0.4	<0.1	1.5	0.5	<0.1	<0.1	0.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Cs	<0.5	4.3	<0.5	<0.5	0.6	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	<0.5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Ba	890	314	102	41	276	754	383	531	63	364	55	554	1220	553	887	107	917	1186	438	646	805	318	517	391	518	443	
Hf	3.0	2.6	4.5	0.2	2.3	3.2	1.7	7.9	0.3	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	2.6	
Ta	0.2	2.1	0.2	<0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	<0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0.2	
W	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Ir	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Au	12	<2	<2	8	<2	<2	30	37	<2	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Tl	0.1	0.6	<0.1	<0.1	0.2	<0.1	0.1	0.2	<0.1	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Pb	8	11	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Bi	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	<0.4	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Th	3.6	13.2	2.2	0.2	1.4	2.6	1.2	4.0	0.2	*																	



Sample	Jl. 94-58	Jl. 94-59	Jl. 94-65	Jl. 94-66	Jl. 94-67	Jl. 94-69	Jl. 94-71	Jl. 94-72	Jl. 94-73	Jl. 94-74
Corresponding Ge										
Age (Ma)										
Unit	asac	asav	asrc	asac	asrc	asrc	asac	asac	asrc	asrc
Data Source	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Longitude	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Latitude	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Approx. location	Mighza	W-Bitru	Muthiq	Muthiq	Muthiq	Muthiq	Muthiq	Khniyguiyal	Khniyguiyal	Khniyguiyal
SiO <sub>2</sub>	46.46	58.95	75.80	47.78	61.38	75.50	51.19	56.80	70.16	66.00
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	18.32	16.3	11.39	20.5	13.64	9.67	16.13	13.02	11.82	13.98
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> T	12.29	5.42	2.49	8.92	8.17	3.12	12.92	13.67	5.37	6.95
TiO <sub>2</sub>	1.28	0.56	0.27	0.5	0.75	0.2	1.22	1.44	0.49	0.82
CaO	10.54	5.75	0.69	10.72	2.89	2.46	8.9	3.33	0.88	1.53
MgO	4.79	4.08	0.28	5.98	2.87	0.75	3.66	2.78	1.73	0.81
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.91	4.51	6.39	2.72	1.97	2.54	2.85	4.35	2.08	7.2
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.66	1.16	0.76	0.67	5.28	2.72	0.68	2.95	3.36	1.4
MnO	0.43	0.09	0.06	0.17	0.21	0.15	0.21	0.58	0.55	0.24
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.19	0.17	*	0.05	0.16	*	0.14	0.22	0.1	0.22
L <sub>2</sub> O <sub>1</sub>	1.9	2.31	0.74	1.97	2.66	2.32	2.15	1.63	1.63	1.24
Total	99.77	99.30	98.87	99.98	99.98	99.43	100.05	99.87	98.17	100.39
FeO	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
H <sub>2</sub> O-	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
H <sub>2</sub> O+	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Li	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Na	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
K	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
V	374	118	*	212	114	*	329	312	99	10
Cr	21	142	15	67	*	*	*	*	50	10
Fe	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Co	26	20	*	30	15	*	29	27	5	*
Ni	33	92	30	61	*	13	20	20	46	24
Cu	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Zn	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ga	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ge	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
As	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Se	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Br	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Rb	35	13	7	11	67	29	11	22	37	12
Sr	195	783	54	218	79	51	230	276	67	86
Y	23.7	9.7	0.8	9.6	32	32.8	26.8	41.8	35.5	46.8
Zr	32	69	206	17	84	225	58	104	151	135
Nb	1.1	1.4	4.7	0.6	2.5	5.6	1.9	2.9	8.2	3.3
Mo	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ag	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
In	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sn	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Sb	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Cs	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ba	203	360	75	33	187	525	83	1014	3423	796
Hf	0.8	1.4	4.6	0.5	2	4.8	1.4	2.4	3.3	2.9
Ta	*	*	0.3	*	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2
W	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Ir	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Au	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pt	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Pb	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Bi	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
Th	0.3	0.8	3.3	0.2	1	3.5	0.6	1.6	6.2	2.6
U	0.2	0.6	1.6	0.1	0.5	1.6	0.3	0.8	2.6	1.9
La	4	7.6	18	2	6.7	18.6	4.8	9.6	19.1	12.1
Ce	10.9	18.4	42.4	4.9	18.5	46.4	13	24.3	45.5	31.1
Pr	1.4	2.3	4.8	0.6	2.6	5.6	1.9	3.5	5.3	4.3
Nd	7.6	9.6	22	3.1	12.3	24.3	9.4	17	22.5	20.3
Sm	2.5	2	6.2	1	3.5	6.3	2.9	4.9	5.3	4.8
Eu	1	0.7	1.5	0.4	1.1	1.2	1	1.5	1.2	1.8
Gd	3.1	1.8	7.6	1.3	4.2	6.8	3.7	6.1	5.6	6.9
Tb	0.6	0.3	1.4	0.2	0.8	1.2	0.7	1	0.9	1.1
Dy	3.7	1.5	9.8	1.5	4.8	8.1	4.2	6.6	5.6	7.7
Ho	0.8	0.3	2.3	0.3	1.1	1.8	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.7
Er	2.3	0.9	7.1	0.9	3.2	5.4	2.7	4.2	3.7	4.8
Tm	0.3	0.1	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.8
Yb	2.2	0.9	7.8	0.9	3.4	5.8	2.8	4.4	3.7	5
Lu	0.4	0.2	1.2	0.1	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.8

**Appendix B. Analytical and calculated data for SHRIMP analyses on zircon from plutonic rocks in the Ar Rayn terrane**

Samples were collected during this study. Analyses were conducted using the SHRIMP-RG at the Stanford-USGS Micro-Isotopic Analytical Center (SUMAC), Palo Alto, California. Each row represents a spot analysis on a separate zircon grain. Stikethrough indicates analysis was not included in the final age calculation due to high common lead contents and presumed lead loss. See Fig. 4 for sample localities, Fig. 10 for concordia plots, and Table 1 for summary data.

Spot analysis No. (ARGC###)	%Common <sup>206</sup> Pb	ppm U	ppm Th	<sup>232</sup> Th/ <sup>238</sup> U	<sup>207</sup> Pb- corrected <sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U Age (Ma)	1 sigma error (Ma)	Total <sup>238</sup> U/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	1 sigma error (%)	Total <sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	1 sigma error (%)	<sup>204</sup> Pb-corrected <sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>235</sup> U	1 sigma error (%)	<sup>204</sup> Pb-corrected <sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U	1 sigma error (%)	Error correlation
4-1	0.00	176	104	0.61	638.9	7.7	9.59	1.2	.0614	2.2	0.88	2.5	.1042	1.2	.497
4-2	3.98	1214	1036	0.88	471.6	5.0	42.57	4.0	.0935	2.3	0.65	6.8	.0764	1.1	.166
4-3	0.00	71	20	0.28	621.4	9.5	9.90	1.5	.0593	3.3	0.83	3.6	.1010	1.5	.424
4-4	0.00	70	25	0.37	613.0	9.4	10.03	1.6	.0601	3.3	0.83	3.6	.0997	1.6	.429
4-5	0.00	50	16	0.33	629.1	10.9	9.74	1.8	.0618	3.8	0.87	4.2	.1026	1.8	.419
4-6	0.83	192	91	0.49	597.7	7.1	10.27	1.2	.0618	1.9	0.73	4.1	.0966	1.2	.300
4-7	0.00	49	16	0.34	600.9	10.5	10.25	1.8	.0589	4.1	0.79	4.4	.0976	1.8	.399
4-8	0.00	94	41	0.45	627.3	8.9	9.78	1.4	.0613	2.8	0.86	3.1	.1023	1.4	.459
4-9	0.66	55	18	0.33	616.8	10.3	9.99	1.7	.0575	3.8	0.71	8.3	.0994	1.7	.211
4-10	0.84	57	16	0.29	626.6	10.8	9.80	1.7	.0604	3.9	0.75	7.4	.1012	1.8	.241
4-11	0.45	46	14	0.32	615.9	10.7	9.90	1.8	.0660	3.8	0.87	5.8	.1005	1.8	.308
4-12	0.25	86	34	0.41	622.3	9.0	9.88	1.5	.0594	3.0	0.80	4.1	.1010	1.5	.361
4-13	0.00	195	112	0.59	597.1	7.3	10.30	1.2	.0602	2.0	0.81	2.4	.0971	1.2	.520
4-14	0.00	158	85	0.56	603.1	7.5	10.17	1.3	.0621	2.2	0.84	2.5	.0983	1.3	.505
4-15	0.17	137	64	0.49	627.9	8.1	9.72	1.3	.0648	2.3	0.90	3.1	.1027	1.3	.433
4-16	0.00	119	46	0.40	622.9	8.3	9.86	1.3	.0606	2.5	0.85	2.8	.1014	1.3	.478
4-17	0.22	104	47	0.47	608.1	8.5	10.06	1.4	.0637	2.7	0.85	3.7	.0991	1.4	.391
5-1	0.09	236	71	0.31	632.4	8.7	9.67	1.4	.0633	1.7	0.89	2.3	.1033	1.4	.603
5-2	0.28	76	25	0.34	647.6	11.1	9.43	1.7	.0641	3.1	0.90	4.3	.1058	1.8	.405
5-3	0.00	275	93	0.35	633.4	8.6	9.68	1.4	.0609	1.6	0.87	2.1	.1033	1.4	.660
5-4	0.35	155	51	0.34	639.1	9.2	9.57	1.5	.0631	2.0	0.87	4.4	.1041	1.5	.344
5-5	1.81	384	117	0.31	490.7	6.6	42.34	4.4	.0761	4.6	0.68	5.3	.0795	1.4	.265
5-6	0.79	191	71	0.38	603.9	8.9	10.12	4.5	.0648	2.6	0.79	5.3	.0980	1.5	.288
5-7	0.00	257	75	0.30	626.1	8.5	9.81	1.4	.0601	1.6	0.84	2.1	.1019	1.4	.656
5-8	0.52	145	35	0.25	629.1	9.2	9.74	1.5	.0618	2.2	0.81	5.5	.1021	1.5	.278
5-9	1.29	359	153	0.44	538.2	7.1	44.36	4.4	.0672	4.9	0.68	4.5	.0869	1.4	.307
5-10	0.23	360	141	0.40	636.7	8.4	9.62	1.3	.0617	1.3	0.85	2.1	.1037	1.3	.647
5-11	2.34	282	69	0.25	544.9	7.3	44.13	4.4	.0778	4.5	0.71	6.1	.0878	1.4	.235
5-12	0.00	603	199	0.34	639.4	12.5	9.59	2.0	.0609	1.0	0.88	2.3	.1043	2.0	.895
5-13	0.96	326	134	0.42	544.6	7.4	44.25	4.4	.0699	4.4	0.76	3.6	.0881	1.4	.395
5-14	0.44	695	356	0.53	619.0	7.9	9.90	1.3	.0625	1.8	0.82	2.7	.1006	1.3	.482
5-15	2.72	388	82	0.22	444.7	5.6	44.78	4.4	.0756	4.7	0.49	8.9	.0658	1.5	.168
5-16	0.28	145	43	0.30	632.0	10.1	9.72	1.6	.0600	2.7	0.82	4.1	.1026	1.6	.398
5-17	0.00	126	45	0.37	628.5	9.6	9.74	1.6	.0627	2.4	0.89	2.8	.1027	1.6	.548
5-18	0.15	185	63	0.35	627.3	9.0	9.77	1.5	.0617	2.0	0.85	2.9	.1022	1.5	.509

11-1	0.00	56	33	0.61	622.4	9.9	9.91	1.6	.0571	3.6	0.79	3.9	.1009	1.6	.412
11-2	0.12	170	72	0.44	632.2	7.7	9.71	1.2	.0606	2.0	0.85	2.6	.1029	1.2	.468
11-3	0.68	5645	4928	0.90	579.2	5.6	40.55	4.0	.0663	0.5	0.79	1.4	.0942	1.0	.732
11-4	49.08	77	25	0.33	1088.2	19.7	2.93	4.3	.4389	0.8			.1737	5.9	
11-5	0.27	119	39	0.34	624.5	8.1	9.85	1.3	.0592	2.4	0.80	3.2	.1013	1.3	.418
11-6	0.00	113	55	0.50	609.8	8.0	10.08	1.3	.0598	2.4	0.82	2.8	.0992	1.3	.480
11-7	9.89	1761	1151	0.68	307.6	3.2	18.24	4.0	1.379	0.8	0.40	10.1	.0492	1.2	.123
11-8	0.00	67	53	0.81	590.5	10.0	40.40	4.7	.0648	3.7	0.82	4.0	.0962	1.7	.422
11-9	0.00	70	36	0.53	624.6	9.4	9.85	1.5	.0586	3.2	0.82	3.6	.1015	1.5	.428
11-10	0.00	287	233	0.84	609.2	7.2	10.06	1.2	.0625	1.7	0.86	2.0	.0994	1.2	.590
11-11	0.00	195	121	0.64	620.8	7.8	9.88	1.3	.0612	1.9	0.85	2.3	.1012	1.3	.554
11-12	1.45	58	23	0.42	595.7	9.7	40.26	4.7	.0648	3.5	0.70	12.1	.0960	1.8	.149
11-13	0.00	165	63	0.40	607.4	7.5	10.11	1.3	.0610	2.1	0.83	2.5	.0989	1.3	.510
11-14	0.21	94	58	0.64	625.6	9.4	9.82	1.5	.0600	2.7	0.82	3.7	.1016	1.5	.414
11-15	0.00	133	67	0.52	615.7	7.8	9.96	1.3	.0614	2.2	0.85	2.6	.1004	1.3	.501
11-16	0.11	181	164	0.94	624.2	7.5	9.87	1.2	.0580	2.0	0.80	2.6	.1012	1.2	.468
11-17	0.14	176	92	0.54	452.0	5.6	43.68	4.3	.0613	2.2	0.61	2.9	.0730	1.3	.436
11-18	0.27	143	51	0.37	571.9	7.4	40.73	4.3	.0631	2.4	0.78	3.9	.0930	1.3	.339
11-19	0.15	205	58	0.29	622.4	7.4	9.87	1.2	.0600	2.0	0.82	2.5	.1011	1.2	.485
11-20	0.00	117	58	0.51	611.8	8.3	10.04	1.4	.0609	2.6	0.84	3.0	.0996	1.4	.467
11-21	0.10	232	49	0.22	595.5	7.0	40.22	4.2	.0644	4.8	0.81	2.4	.0968	1.2	.504
11-22	0.16	134	69	0.53	618.9	8.1	9.93	1.3	.0596	3.0	0.81	3.6	.1005	1.3	.366
11-23	0.00	100	47	0.49	600.0	8.5	10.24	1.4	.0609	2.8	0.82	3.2	.0977	1.4	.453
14-1	1.19	136	108	0.82	582.1	10.6	10.47	1.9	.0682	2.1	0.76	6.4	.0944	1.9	.299
14-2	0.14	209	216	1.07	613.2	10.4	10.00	1.7	.0621	1.8	0.84	2.6	.0999	1.7	.669
14-3	1.20	474	357	0.78	484.3	8.1	12.56	1.7	.0731	3.9	0.69	5.7	.0787	1.7	.298
14-4	1.14	78	29	0.38	531.8	10.1	11.48	1.9	.0685	2.9	0.70	4.5	.0861	1.9	.436
14-5	39.70	1204	1397	1.20	93.9	1.9	40.24	4.7	.3821	0.7	0.13	51.8	.0150	4.4	.086
14-6	0.57	151	128	0.87	544.2	9.5	11.27	1.8	.0642	2.1	0.72	3.5	.0882	1.8	.515
14-7	0.30	452	342	0.78	623.7	10.2	9.80	1.7	.0640	2.9	0.86	3.4	.1017	1.7	.482
14-8	14.16	1015	608	0.62	223.6	3.7	24.04	4.6	.1739	0.7	0.30	17.2	.0357	2.1	.120
14-9	3.20	762	655	0.89	469.5	7.7	12.69	1.6	.0898	2.8	0.68	6.2	.0763	1.7	.272
14-10	0.82	100	100	1.02	585.0	10.8	10.43	1.9	.0668	2.6	0.79	6.5	.0951	1.9	.297
14-11	1.45	150	105	0.73	585.9	10.3	10.37	1.8	.0705	2.0	0.77	6.9	.0951	1.8	.269
14-12	1.24	332	205	0.64	533.2	9.3	11.37	1.7	.0737	5.4	0.76	10.0	.0868	1.8	.182
14-13	7.60	412	318	0.80	525.2	8.9	40.95	4.7	.1144	2.8	0.61	17.6	.0844	2.0	.113
14-14	18.37	846	1018	1.24	402.2	6.6	42.45	4.6	.2155	0.5	0.63	18.6	.0656	2.3	.122
14-15	1.17	507	145	0.29	582.2	9.5	10.46	1.7	.0688	3.0	0.77	6.4	.0945	1.7	.264
14-16	1.37	368	359	1.01	576.0	9.4	10.54	1.7	.0712	1.2	0.78	4.3	.0936	1.7	.392
14-17	3.18	430	262	0.63	591.0	9.8	40.04	4.7	.0888	2.8	0.84	7.0	.0965	1.7	.246
14-18	0.11	404	188	0.48	611.6	10.6	10.05	1.8	.0598	1.4	0.81	2.4	.0994	1.8	.758
14-19	0.53	248	94	0.39	590.7	9.9	10.36	1.7	.0643	1.6	0.80	3.2	.0960	1.7	.540
14-20	68.19	736	157	0.22	219.6	7.3	9.07	4.6	.6083	0.5			.0351	10.5	
14-21	0.17	138	127	0.95	573.6	10.3	10.69	1.8	.0636	2.4	0.80	3.4	.0934	1.8	.543
14-22	2.10	534	342	0.66	560.3	9.2	10.81	1.7	.0735	2.0	0.71	6.7	.0906	1.7	.256
16-1	0.00	21	6	0.31	722.2	48.9	8.42	2.7	.0652	3.9	1.07	4.7	.1188	2.7	.571
16-2	0.00	74	20	0.27	678.6	14.9	9.01	2.3	.0623	2.3	0.95	3.2	.1110	2.3	.703
16-3	0.19	397	178	0.46	659.3	43.5	9.27	2.1	.0630	4.3	0.91	2.6	.1077	2.1	.797
16-4	0.74	22	9	0.45	692.4	19.2	8.79	2.8	.0653	4.2	0.92	7.3	.1129	2.9	.392

Appendix B (Continued)

Spot analysis No. (ARGC###)	%Common <sup>206</sup> Pb	ppm U	ppm Th	<sup>232</sup> Th/ <sup>238</sup> U	<sup>207</sup> Pb- corrected <sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U Age (Ma)	1 sigma error (Ma)	Total <sup>238</sup> U/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	1 sigma error (%)	Total <sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	1 sigma error (%)	<sup>204</sup> Pb- corrected <sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>235</sup> U	1 sigma error (%)	<sup>204</sup> Pb- corrected <sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>238</sup> U	1 sigma error (%)	Error correlation
16-5	0.62	118	56	0.49	681.8	14.5	8.95	2.2	.0638	1.7	0.90	5.0	.1111	2.2	.438
16-6	0.00	56	16	0.30	680.1	15.4	8.97	2.3	.0633	2.5	0.97	3.4	.1114	2.3	.677
16-7	0.00	116	41	0.36	673.7	14.4	9.07	2.2	.0626	1.8	0.95	2.8	.1102	2.2	.779
16-8	0.00	53	19	0.36	687.1	15.7	8.91	2.3	.0609	2.6	0.94	3.5	.1123	2.3	.666
16-9	1.77	23	6	0.26	711.3	18.2	8.45	2.6	.0750	3.5	0.97	6.6	.1163	2.6	.398
16-10	0.00	131	11	0.09	630.3	13.4	9.72	2.2	.0624	4.8	0.89	2.8	.1029	2.2	.769
16-11	0.18	334	145	0.45	702.7	14.4	8.66	2.1	.0648	1.0	1.01	2.6	.1152	2.1	.798
16-12	0.22	339	9	0.03	609.3	13.1	10.06	2.2	.0624	4.1	0.83	2.9	.0992	2.2	.771
16-13	1.07	31	9	0.30	698.7	16.9	8.66	2.5	.0697	4.0	0.96	9.9	.1143	2.5	.256
16-14	0.00	25	13	0.56	699.9	17.4	8.68	2.5	.0663	3.4	1.05	4.3	.1152	2.5	.595
16-15	0.00	29	17	0.58	722.4	17.4	8.43	2.5	.0637	3.2	1.04	4.0	.1186	2.5	.615
17-1	0.33	419	318	0.78	587.0	3.5	10.45	0.6	0.06	1.8	0.79	2.1	.0954	0.6	.286
17-2	0.93	474	314	0.69	574.0	3.3	10.64	0.6	0.07	1.3	0.78	4.0	.0933	0.6	.153
17-3	-0.08	795	697	0.91	610.8	2.6	10.07	0.4	0.06	1.0	0.80	1.2	.0992	0.4	.346
17-4	0.26	793	774	1.01	600.2	2.7	10.22	0.4	0.06	1.0	0.80	2.1	.0975	0.5	.222
17-5	2.95	469	255	0.56	547.2	3.6	10.95	0.5	0.08	1.1	0.73	7.2	.0888	0.7	.092
17-6	0.10	352	190	0.56	610.8	3.9	10.05	0.6	0.06	1.5	0.82	2.1	.0993	0.7	.316
17-7	0.99	305	161	0.54	591.6	4.1	10.30	0.7	0.07	1.9	0.75	5.4	.0958	0.7	.139
17-8	1.21	345	139	0.42	521.9	5.6	11.72	1.1	0.07	2.5	0.77	2.8	.0852	1.1	.381
17-9	0.45	381	168	0.46	617.4	3.7	9.91	0.6	0.06	1.4	0.81	3.3	.1003	0.6	.192
17-10	0.16	321	193	0.62	597.6	4.1	10.28	0.7	0.06	1.6	0.82	1.8	.0973	0.7	.389
17-11	0.78	511	179	0.36	451.7	2.6	13.67	0.6	0.06	1.4	0.58	2.9	.0728	0.6	.209
17-12	0.27	401	212	0.55	564.1	3.4	10.91	0.6	0.06	1.5	0.73	2.4	.0914	0.6	.258
17-13	1.38	376	182	0.50	426.1	3.0	14.43	0.7	0.07	1.7	0.52	5.7	.0684	0.8	.132
17-14	1.02	324	252	0.81	581.4	4.0	10.49	0.7	0.07	1.8	0.79	4.1	.0945	0.7	.174
17-15	0.24	347	235	0.70	610.6	4.2	10.04	0.7	0.06	1.7	0.81	2.9	.0992	0.7	.247
17-16	0.64	163	81	0.51	597.2	6.3	10.24	1.0	0.07	2.9	0.79	6.1	.0970	1.1	.182
17-17	0.36	399	418	1.08	604.7	4.0	10.13	0.7	0.06	1.5	0.82	2.2	.0984	0.7	.311

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