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**Revision 1.**

**Association of cumulus apatite with compositionally unusual olivine and  
plagioclase in the Taihe Fe-Ti oxide ore-bearing layered mafic-ultramafic  
intrusion: Petrogenetic significance and implications for ore genesis**

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40 Abstract

41 In many large layered mafic-ultramafic intrusions worldwide cumulus apatite commonly occurs in the  
42 highly fractionated, Fe-Ti oxide-rich lithological units at the top of the intrusions and the associated  
43 plagioclase and olivine, if present, have An content <50 mol% and Fo content <40 mol%. These are  
44 not true for several Fe-Ti oxide ore-bearing mafic-mafic intrusions in the Emeishan large igneous  
45 province, SW China. A good example is the Taihe intrusion, which is described in this paper. In this  
46 intrusion the associated olivine and plagioclase are significantly more primitive, containing 69 mol%  
47 Fo and 59 mol% An, respectively. MELTS simulation reveals that such unusual association is the  
48 result of previous cotectic crystallization of Fe-Ti oxides with silicate minerals during magma  
49 evolution under oxidizing condition close to that of nickel-nickel oxide buffer. Supports for this new  
50 model include the observed upward decrease in plagioclase An contents coupled by lack of significant  
51 change in original olivine Fo contents in the Fe-Ti oxide ore-bearing sequence below the apatite-rich  
52 horizon, which is in turn supported by the facts that Fe-Ti oxide crystallization has a counter effect on  
53 MgO/FeO but no effect on CaO/Na<sub>2</sub>O in the residual magma and that the addition of Fe-Ti oxides in  
54 the cumulus assemblage expedites the arrival of apatite on the liquidus. Our new findings support the  
55 interpretation that the oxide ores in the Taihe intrusion formed by gravitational accumulation of Fe-Ti  
56 oxides crystallizing from a basaltic magma, not a Fe-Ti-P-rich immiscible liquid segregated from such  
57 magma.

58

59 Key words: Cumulus apatite; Fe-Ti oxides; Olivine; Plagioclase; Magma differentiation; Layered  
60 intrusion

61

62 **Introduction**

63 Phosphorus is an incompatible element during fractional crystallization of silicate minerals from  
64 basaltic magma. The content of phosphorus in apatite-saturated magma is mainly a function of  
65 temperature and SiO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the magma but almost insensitive to pressure according to the  
66 experiments of Watson (1979) and Tollari et al. (2006, 2008). These experiments show that the  
67 maximum solubility of phosphorus at apatite saturation in basaltic magma increases with temperature  
68 and decreases with SiO<sub>2</sub> content. The content of SiO<sub>2</sub> in a basaltic magma commonly increases during  
69 the crystallization of silicate minerals plus minor spinel from the magma on cooling. As a result,  
70 fractional crystallization not only increases the abundance of phosphorus in the residual liquid but also  
71 decreases the maximum solubility of phosphorus in the magma, thereby inducing apatite  
72 crystallization eventually. In natural basaltic systems this takes place most commonly when the  
73 residual liquid is also saturated with Fe–Ti oxides. The best examples worldwide are the Bushveld,  
74 Skaergaard, Kiglapait and Sonju Lake layered mafic-ultramafic intrusions in which the cumulus  
75 apatite horizons also contain abundant Fe–Ti oxides. The apatite-oxide layers occur at the top of these  
76 intrusions and the associated plagioclase and olivine have An content <50 mol% and Fo content <40  
77 mol%, which are thought to have formed from highly evolved basaltic-andesitic melt after extensive  
78 fractional crystallization (Morse, 1979; McBirney, 1996; Park et al., 2004; Tegner et al., 2006). An  
79 exception has been found in several mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions of the Emeishan large igneous  
80 province in SW China, such as the Panzhihua (Zhou et al., 2005; Pang et al., 2008a, b, 2009; Song et  
81 al., 2013), Hongge (Bai et al., 2012, 2014; Luan et al., 2014) and Taihe (Shellnutt et al., 2011; Hou et  
82 al., 2012; She et al., 2014) intrusions. In these intrusions cumulus apatite horizons occur above several  
83 massive Fe–Ti oxide layers (Fig. 1). In addition, the associated olivine and plagioclase are much more

84 primitive in these intrusions than those occur elsewhere in the world (Table 1 and Fig. 2). The reasons  
85 for these differences and their implications will be discussed in this paper.

86

### 87 **Geological setting**

88 The Emeishan large igneous province is composed of picrites, flood basalts, rhyolitic/trachytic  
89 volcanic rocks, mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions, granites, and syenites. It is widely believed to be  
90 related to mantle plume activity located in the western margin of the Yangtze Craton, SW China  
91 (Chung and Jahn, 1995). Some of the mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions in the Emeishan large  
92 igneous province host world-class Fe-Ti oxide ore deposits. They are partially exposed in the inner  
93 zone of the province in the Panzhihua–Xichang (Pan–Xi) region where a series of NS-trending major  
94 faults occur. The most important Fe–Ti oxide ore-bearing intrusions in the region include the  
95 Panzhihua (Zhou et al., 2005; Pang et al., 2008a, b, 2009; Song et al., 2013), Hongge (Bai et al., 2012,  
96 2014; Luan et al., 2014), Taihe (Shellnutt et al., 2011; Hou et al., 2012; She et al., 2014), Baima  
97 (Zhang et al., 2012; Liu et al., 2014), and Xinjie (Zhong et al., 2011a) intrusions. These five intrusions  
98 together contain a total ore reserve of ~7,209 Mt Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, ~559 Mt TiO<sub>2</sub>, and ~17.4 Mt V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with grades  
99 of 27 wt % FeO, 10.6 wt % TiO<sub>2</sub>, and 0.24 wt % V<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (Ma et al., 2003; Zhong et al., 2005). Each of  
100 these deposits contains several massive Fe–Ti oxide (magnetite + ilmenite) layers, mostly in the lower  
101 parts of the intrusions. The thicknesses of the oxide layers vary from several meters to nearly one  
102 hundred meters (Fig. 1). An apatite-rich horizon (up to 10 wt% apatite) occurs in these intrusions  
103 above the massive oxide layers.

104

### 105 **Lithology of the Taihe intrusion**

106       The Taihe layered mafic intrusion is located to the west of the Xichang city. It is 4-km long and  
107 3.5-km wide on the surface. Zircon from this intrusion yields a U-Pb age of  $258.8 \pm 2.3$  Ma (Zhong et  
108 al., 2011b), similar to the zircon U-Pb age ( $259.6 \pm 5.9$  Ma) of the associated flood basalts in this  
109 region (Fan et al., 2008; Lai et al., 2012). The lithological structure of the Taihe intrusion was  
110 described in details by many researchers (e.g., Li et al., 1981; Shellnutt et al., 2011; Zhong et al.,  
111 2011b; Hou et al., 2012; She et al., 2014). It was originally divided into three zones by Li et al. (1981):  
112 a lower zone which is predominantly composed of melanogabbros, a middle zone which is composed  
113 of oxide melanogabbros and massive oxide layers, and an upper zone which is mainly composed of  
114 leucogabbros. In this study we divide it into only two zones so that each zone contains cumulus apatite  
115 at the top (Fig. 1). The lower zone is ~260-m thick. It is composed of oxide gabbro, massive oxide  
116 ores and apatite-bearing gabbro from the bottom to the top. The oxide gabbro in this zone is composed  
117 of cumulus clinopyroxene (25–40 vol%), plagioclase (25–45 vol%), magnetite (10–35 vol%), ilmenite  
118 (5–10 vol%) and minor olivine and hornblende (<5 vol%) (Fig. 3a). The associated massive Fe-Ti-V  
119 oxide layers, which account for the majority of the ore resources in the intrusion, contain >80 vol%  
120 oxides (magnetite and ilmenite) and <20 vol% silicate minerals (clinopyroxene, plagioclase and  
121 olivine). Cumulus apatite occurs in the uppermost 50 m of this zone to form an apatite-rich gabbro  
122 containing 5–10 vol% apatite, 20–30 vol% plagioclase, 30–40 vol% clinopyroxene, 20–30 vol%  
123 magnetite, 5–10 vol% ilmenite and minor olivine and hornblende (<5 vol%) (Fig. 3b). The upper zone  
124 of the intrusion is 1000-m thick (Fig. 1). It consists of a thin oxide gabbro layer at the bottom and a  
125 thick apatite-rich gabbro layer at the top. The modal compositions of the gabbros in the lower and  
126 upper zones are generally similar but no massive Fe-Ti oxide layer is present in the upper zone.  
127

128 **Analytical methods**

129 The samples used in this study were collected from the lower zone of the Taihe intrusion. The  
130 chemical compositions of olivine, plagioclase were determined by wavelength-dispersive X-ray  
131 analysis using an EPMA-1600 electron microprobe at the State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit  
132 Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guiyang, China. The  
133 analytical conditions were 10 nA beam current, 25 kV acceleration voltage and 10- $\mu$ m beam size. Both  
134 natural and synthetic standards were used for calibration. The analytical uncertainty is ~2%.

135 Whole-rock major element compositions of the samples were determined using X-ray  
136 fluorescence spectrometry by the ALS Laboratory Group in Guangzhou, China. The analytical  
137 uncertainty is better than 5%. Trace elements of whole rocks were analyzed using a Perkin-Elmer  
138 Sciex ELAN DRC-e Quadrupole Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer (Q-ICP-MS) at the  
139 State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of  
140 Sciences (SKLOGD, IGCAS). The analytical precision for trace elements is generally better than 10%  
141 relative standard deviation.

142

143 **Results**

144 The average plagioclase, olivine compositions and whole-rock  $\text{FeO}^{\text{T}}$  contents in the lower zone of  
145 the Taihe intrusion are listed in Tables 2, 3 and supplementary material 1. The An contents of  
146 plagioclase and the Fo contents of olivine in this zone vary from 57 to 79 mol% and from 66 to 80  
147 mol%, respectively (Table 3). The Fo content of olivine and the An content of plagioclase in the lowest  
148 layer of apatite-rich rocks in the Taihe intrusion are 69 mol% and 59 mol%, respectively. These values  
149 are similar to those for the Panzhihua layered intrusion in the Emeishan large igneous province but are

150 significantly higher than those for other mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions elsewhere in the world  
151 such as Bushveld in South Africa, Skaergaard in East Greenland, Sonju Lake in Minnesota, USA, and  
152 Kiglapait and Newark Island in Labrador, Canada (Table 1, Fig. 2).

153       The Fo content of olivine in intrusive rocks may have been modified by re-equilibration with  
154 trapped liquids (Barnes, 1986). However, the content of nearly perfectly incompatible trace elements  
155 such as U (<0.1ppm) and Th (<0.5ppm) in all the olivine-bearing gabbro of the lower zone is  
156 extremely low compared with the coeval Emeishan high-Ti basalts (1.2 ppm of U and 5.1 ppm of Th  
157 in average; GEOROC), indicating the amounts of trapped liquid in the lower zone are estimated to be  
158 <10 wt.%. This means that the trapped liquid shifts for olivine Fo content from the lower zone are  
159 similar and small; probably less than 2% based on the calculations of Barnes (1986). The samples  
160 from the lower zone of the Taihe intrusion collectively show a positive correlation between olivine Fo  
161 content and whole-rock  $\text{FeO}^{\text{T}}$  abundance (Fig. 4), of which the  $\text{FeO}^{\text{T}}$  is proxy for the amount of Fe-Ti  
162 oxides in the sample. This indicates that the composition of olivine in this zone was modified by the  
163 subsolidus Fe-Mg exchange reaction between olivine and coexisting Fe-Ti oxides on cooling, a  
164 process that is common for oxide-rich rocks in layered intrusions such as Kiglapait (Morse, 1980). The  
165 observed correlation in the Taihe samples reveals that an increase of 1 wt%  $\text{FeO}^{\text{T}}$  in whole rock  
166 resulted in an increase of 0.34 mol% Fo in olivine. We have used this relationship to correct the effect  
167 of the subsolidus re-equilibration on the composition of olivine in the samples. The corrected Fo  
168 contents of olivine in the samples are shown in Fig. 5a. Except one sample, the corrected Fo contents  
169 of olivine in the lower zone of the Taihe intrusion are close to 66 mol% and don't show any systematic  
170 variation with depth (Fig. 5a). In contrast, the An contents of plagioclase in this zone generally  
171 decrease upward from 71 mol% at the base to 57 mol% at the top (Fig. 5b).

172

173 **Modeling and discussion**

174 The consequence of early Fe-Ti oxide crystallization

175 Magma saturation in apatite is mainly controlled by temperature and the concentrations of  $P_2O_5$   
176 and  $SiO_2$  (Watson, 1979; Tollari et al., 2006). The results from these experimental studies show that  
177 the  $P_2O_5$  content at apatite saturation in magma, or the maximum solubility of  $P_2O_5$ , is negatively  
178 correlated with  $SiO_2$  content and positively correlated with temperature, and that the initial contents of  
179  $P_2O_5$  in natural basalts are several times below the maximum solubility. As a result, extensive  
180 fractional crystallization of silicate minerals such as olivine, pyroxene and plagioclase on cooling,  
181 which increases  $P_2O_5$  and  $SiO_2$  concentrations in the residual liquid, is required to induce apatite  
182 saturation in basaltic magma. This explains why cumulus apatite occurs in the highly evolved  
183 lithological units of many large mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions in the world such as the Bushveld,  
184 Skaergaard, Sonju Lake, Kiglapait and Newark Island intrusions (Morse, 1979; McBirney, 1996; Park  
185 et al., 2004; Tegner et al., 2006). Extensive fractional crystallization as the main reason for the arrival  
186 of cumulus apatite in these magmatic systems are clearly indicated by low An contents (34-48 mol%)  
187 of plagioclase as well as low Fo contents of olivine (16-39 mol%) in the cumulus apatite-bearing  
188 horizons of these intrusions (Fig. 2). By comparison, olivine and plagioclase in the cumulus  
189 apatite-bearing lithological units of the Taihe and Panzhihua mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions in the  
190 Emeishan large igneous province are much more primitive, containing 65-69 mol% Fo and 53-59 mol%  
191 An, respectively (Table 1 and Fig. 2).

192 What cause the differences described above? We can identify two alternative possibilities: (1)  
193 unusually high initial  $P_2O_5$  content in the Panzhihua-Taihe parent magmas or (2) early removal of



194 Fe-Ti oxides from the parent magmas of these intrusions. It is very difficult to know the initial  
195 contents of  $P_2O_5$  in the parental magmas of these intrusions but the contents of  $P_2O_5$  in the coeval  
196 flood basalts are normal as compared to continental flood basalts elsewhere in the world (Fig. 6).

197       How does the second possibility work? The Fo content of olivine and An content of plagioclase  
198 decrease progressively during fractional crystallization of silicate minerals without Fe-Ti oxides.  
199 Addition of Fe-Ti oxide crystallization with silicate minerals has an opposite effect on the Fo content  
200 of olivine but no effect on the An content of plagioclase. Removal of silicate minerals and Fe-Ti  
201 oxides from magma also contributes to  $P_2O_5$  enrichment in the residual liquid, thereby expediting  
202 magma saturation in apatite. The combined effect of early Fe-Ti oxide crystallization with silicate  
203 minerals is that apatite will appear on the liquidus with more primitive olivine and plagioclase than  
204 otherwise.

205

206 Evidence from MELTS simulation

207       The ratio of  $Fe_2O_3/FeO$  in basaltic magma is a function of oxidation state. A more oxidizing  
208 condition will speed up magma saturation in Fe-Ti oxides (Toplis and Carroll, 1995). We have  
209 evaluated such an effect using the pMETLS program of (Ghiorso et al., 2002) under two different  
210 oxidation states, a relatively reducing condition equivalent to FMQ-1 (FMQ,  
211 fayalite-magnetite-quartz buffer) and a relatively oxidizing condition equivalent to NNO  
212 (nickel-nickel oxide buffer). As the mantle-derived magma was trapped in the middle crust before  
213 emplaced into the upper crust to form the Fe-Ti-V-oxide-bearing intrusions of the ELIP (Tao et al.,  
214 2015), in our two-stage modeling of fractionation in the deep-seated (middle crust) and shallower  
215 magma chambers (pluton), the pressures were assumed at 7 kbar and 3 kbar. The composition of melt

216 inclusion (M8-62, supplementary material 2) hosted in olivine containing Fo92 (Kamenetsky et al.,  
217 2012) was used to represent the initial magma composition because it has the highest MgO content in  
218 the most forsteritic olivine of the Emeishan high-Ti picrites in the Pan-Xi area and thus represents the  
219 most primitive magma of these related intrusions. The initial content of P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> in the magma was  
220 assumed to be 0.25 wt%, which is the average P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> content of the high-Ti picrites in the Emeishan  
221 large igneous province (Kamenetsky et al., 2012). The H<sub>2</sub>O content was set to 0.6 wt% as considerable  
222 hornblende was present. The timing of magma saturation in apatite during fractional crystallization is  
223 inferred from a comparison with the temperature-SiO<sub>2</sub> relation for apatite-saturated magma determined  
224 experimentally by Green and Watson (1982). Under oxidizing condition, apatite appears on the  
225 liquidus close to 1045°C together with olivine and plagioclase having Fo<sub>76</sub> and An<sub>55</sub>, respectively  
226 (supplementary material 2). The inferred composition is similar to the composition of olivine and  
227 plagioclase (Fo<sub>65-72</sub> and An<sub>53-59</sub>, Table 1) at the onset of apatite saturation in these intrusions. In  
228 contrast, under reducing condition, apatite appears on the liquidus at lower temperature together with  
229 more evolved olivine composition of Fo<sub>54</sub>. Moreover, the modeling TiO<sub>2</sub> content of magnetite, which  
230 is negatively correlated with *f*O<sub>2</sub> (Buddington and Lindsley, 1964), is about 16.7 wt% at NNO  
231 (supplementary material 2), resemble to the primary magnetite compositions (16.5 wt% of TiO<sub>2</sub>, Pang  
232 et al., 2008b). It should be pointed out that the oxidizing condition used in our model is within the  
233 stability field of sulfide (Jugo et al., 2005). Thus, the results are applicable to the Panzhihua-Taihe  
234 intrusions where magmatic sulfides are present (Pang et al., 2008a, She et al., 2014).

235

236 Evidence from mineral composition

237 Crystallization of Fe-Ti oxides before apatite saturation in the Panzhihua-Taihe magmatic systems

238 is clearly indicated by the occurrence of massive oxide layers below apatite-rich horizons in these  
239 intrusions (Fig. 1). Our modeling results (Fig. 6b) clearly show that when Fe-Ti oxides join silicate  
240 minerals on the liquidus at early stage on cooling at relatively oxidizing condition, the Mg number  
241 [Mg# = (100MgO/FeO, molar)] of liquid no longer decreases with further fractional crystallization.  
242 This explains why the Fo content of olivine in the Taihe intrusion remains rather constant with depth  
243 and higher at apatite saturation than those occur elsewhere in the world (Fig. 5a). Olivine is a Fe-Mg  
244 silicate solid solution. Its Fo content is related to the Mg number of the liquid. In basaltic system the  
245 Fe-Mg exchange coefficient or  $K_D$  [ $(\text{FeO/MgO})^{\text{olivine}}/(\text{FeO/MgO})^{\text{liquid}}$ ] is close to 0.3, largely  
246 independent of temperature and composition (Roeder and Emslie, 1970). In Fig. 5a, the olivine  
247 composition is clearly buffered to a single value upwards in the stratigraphy, and this happens because  
248 the oxygen fugacity is roughly constant in the presence of the magnetite layers, thereby the Mg# of the  
249 silicate liquid is almost unchanged.

250 The average An content of coexisting plagioclase continues to decrease upward after the arrival of  
251 cumulus Fe-Ti oxide (Fig. 5b), because the crystallization of Fe-Ti oxides does not affect the Ca/Na  
252 ratio which controls plagioclase composition. The massive Fe-Ti oxide ore layers in the Taihe  
253 intrusion contain plagioclase with average An content up to 70 mol% (Fig. 5b), which is ~10-20 mol%  
254 higher than this type of plagioclase in other large layered intrusions elsewhere in the world such as  
255 Bushveld and Skaergaard intrusions (McBirney, 1996; Tegner et al., 2006). This provides another line  
256 of evidence that the parental magmas of the Panzhihua-Taihe Fe-Ti oxide ore deposits are more  
257 primitive than the same type of deposit elsewhere in the world. Abundant Fe-Ti oxide crystallization at  
258 early stage would significantly increase the SiO<sub>2</sub> content of the residual magma because of negligible  
259 SiO<sub>2</sub> content in Fe-Ti oxide, which in turn speeds up apatite saturation in the residual liquid. As shown

260 in Fig. 6a, the SiO<sub>2</sub> content of the magma increases more quickly with magma differentiation after  
261 Fe-Ti oxide saturation at relatively oxidizing condition than at relatively reducing condition. This  
262 explains why the An content of plagioclase at apatite saturation is higher than those elsewhere in the  
263 world (Fig. 2; Table 1).

264

#### 265 **Implications for the genesis of Panzhihua-type Fe-Ti oxide deposit**

266 The Fe-Ti oxide ores in the Panzhihua-type deposit (Pang et al., 2008a, Bai et al., 2012; She et al.,  
267 2014) such as Taihe occur as concordant layers below apatite-rich horizons in the mafic-ultramafic  
268 layered intrusions of the Emeishan large igneous province. The origin of the Panzhihua-type Fe-Ti  
269 oxide ores is hotly debated. Some researchers proposed that the oxide ores formed by concentration of  
270 immiscible Fe-Ti-enriched liquid segregated from ferrobasaltic magma (Zhou et al., 2005; Liu et al.,  
271 2014). Other researchers believed that they formed by accumulation of Fe-Ti oxides crystallizing from  
272 basaltic magma under oxidizing condition (Ganino et al., 2008; Pang et al., 2008a, b; Bai et al., 2012;  
273 Howarth and Prevec, 2013; Song et al., 2013). The immiscibility model is not supported by  
274 experimental results. Under geologically reasonable conditions, silicate liquid immiscibility only  
275 occurs in a highly evolved basaltic magma which crystallizes olivine containing Fo <43 mol% and  
276 plagioclase containing An <60 mol% (Charlier and Grove, 2012). The Fe-Ti-rich immiscible melt is  
277 also enriched in P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and contains <32 wt% FeO<sup>Total</sup>, significantly different from the compositions of  
278 typical Panzhihua-type oxide ores. The immiscible Fe-Ti-P-rich melt also has very low Mg# [Mg#<21,  
279 Mg# = (100MgO/FeO, molar)] and contains significant amounts of SiO<sub>2</sub> (33-52 wt%), CaO (8-11 wt%)  
280 and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (2-10 wt%) (Charlier and Grove, 2012). On cooling, such melt will form an  
281 ilmenite-magnetite-rich rock containing significant amounts of apatite, low-An plagioclase and

282 low-Mg# olivine or clinopyroxene (Charlier et al., 2015). Physical separation between denser crystals  
283 (Fe-Ti oxides and apatite) and lighter crystals (silicate minerals) may occur in a dynamic system,  
284 forming a Fe-Ti oxide-apatite concentrate. Contrary to the experimental predictions, cumulus apatite  
285 horizons in the Panzihua-type deposit always occur above the Fe-Ti oxide ore layers (Fig. 1). In  
286 addition, olivine and plagioclase associated with the oxide ores are significantly more primitive than  
287 experimental results. The fractional crystallization model can well explain these features plus other  
288 important features such as the upward decrease in plagioclase An contents coupled with a rather  
289 constant olivine Fo contents in the oxide ore-bearing sequence. According to this model, the massive  
290 Fe-Ti oxide ores in the Panzihua-type Fe-Ti oxide deposit is thought to have formed by crystal  
291 fractionation in a dynamic magmatic system.

292

## 293 **CONCLUSIONS**

294 Olivine and plagioclase associated with cumulus apatite in the Taihe mafic-ultramafic layered  
295 intrusion of the Emeishan large igneous province are more primitive than those in many well-known  
296 large layered mafic-ultramafic intrusions elsewhere in the world. The Fe-Ti oxide ore-bearing  
297 sequence below the cumulus apatite horizon in the Taihe intrusion shows an upward decrease in  
298 plagioclase An content coupled by rather constant olivine Fo content. These features can all be  
299 explained by cotectic crystallization of Fe-Ti oxides with the silicate minerals on cooling. MELTS  
300 simulation indicates that such cotectic crystallization will prevail under an oxidizing condition close to  
301 the NNO buffer and that the addition of Fe-Ti oxides in the crystallizing assemblage will speed up  
302 apatite saturation in the residual liquid. The results from this study support the interpretation that the  
303 oxide ores in the Taihe intrusion formed by gravitational accumulation of Fe-Ti oxides crystallizing

304 from a basaltic magma, not a Fe-Ti-P-rich immiscible liquid segregated from such magma.

305

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448 **Figure captions:**

449

450 Fig. 1. Simplified stratigraphy of the Panzhihua, Hongge and Taihe Fe-Ti oxide ore-bearing  
451 mafic-ultramafic layered intrusions, showing the locations of Fe-Ti oxide ore layers and cumulus  
452 apatite horizons.

453

454 Fig. 2. Compositions of olivine and plagioclase associated with cumulus apatite in some layered  
455 mafic-ultramafic intrusions in the world. Data are from Table 1.

456

457 Fig. 3. Photomicrographs showing (a) cumulus olivine-Fe-Ti oxide assemblage in the olivine-bearing

458 gabbro and (b) cumulus apatite-olivine assemblage in the apatite and olivine-bearing gabbro in the  
459 Taihe intrusion. Ol= olivine, Cpx= clinopyroxene, Pl= plagioclase. Ap= apatite.

460

461 Fig. 4. Correlation between olivine Fo contents and whole-rock  $\text{FeO}^{\text{Total}}$  concentrations in the Taihe  
462 intrusion, showing that 1 wt%  $\text{FeO}^{\text{Total}}$  increase in whole rocks corresponds to 0.34 mol% Fo increase  
463 in olivine.

464

465 Fig. 5. Stratigraphic variations of adjusted olivine Fo contents (a) and observed plagioclase An  
466 contents (b) in the Taihe intrusion. See text for an explanation for the adjustment.

467

468 Fig. 6. Results of fractional crystallization of picritic magma simulated using the MELTS program  
469 (Ghiorso and Sack, 1995). The composition of melt inclusion (M8-62) hosted in olivine of Fo92  
470 (Kamenetsky et al., 2012) is used to represent the initial composition of the magma. The assumed  
471 initial  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$  content in the magma is similar to the upper limit of picrites from the Emeishan large  
472 igneous province. The compositions of picrites and high-Ti basalts are from a petrological database  
473 (<http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc>). The dashed lines are apatite saturation curves from Green  
474 and Watson (1982).

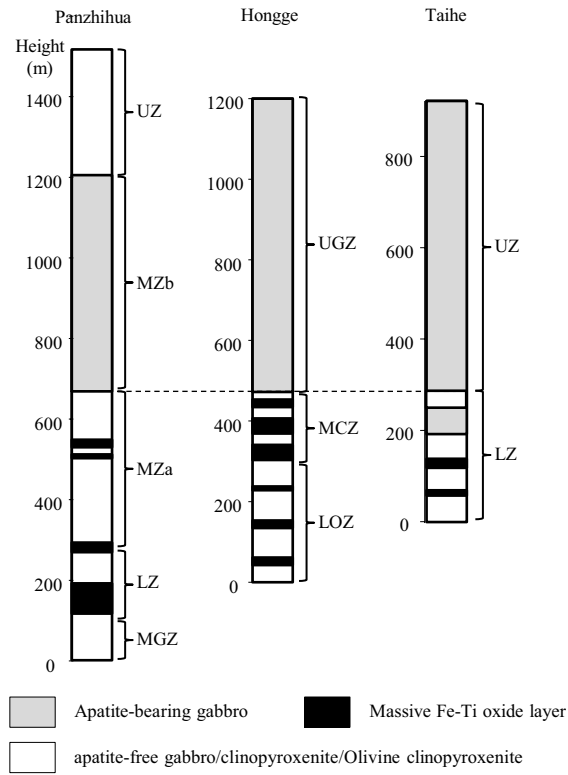


Fig. 1

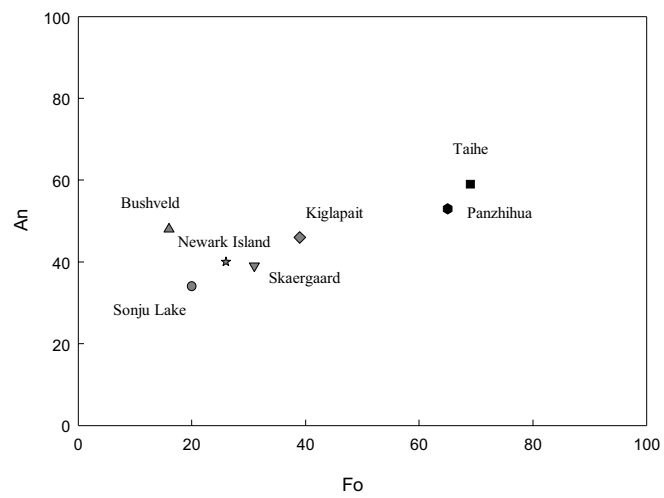


Fig. 2

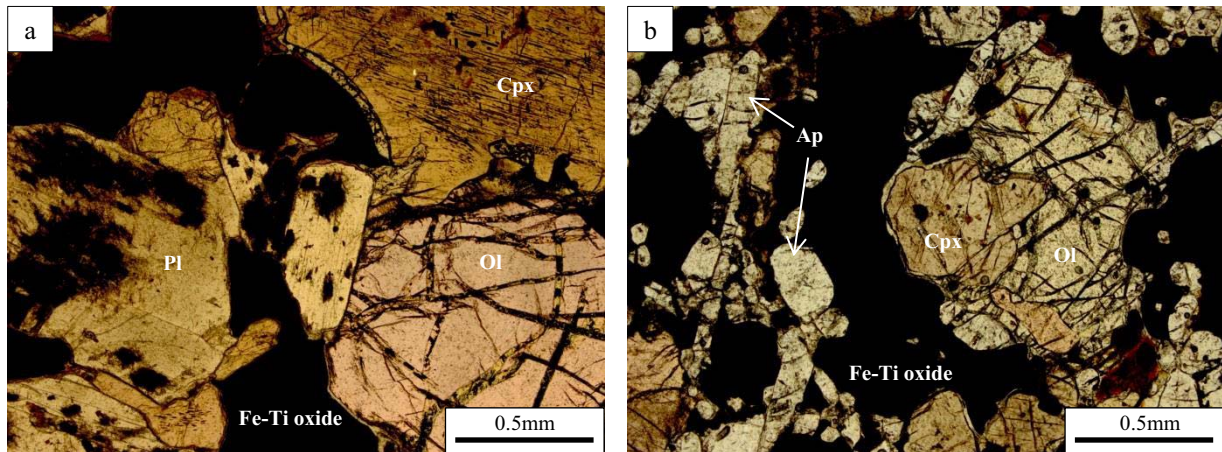


Fig. 3



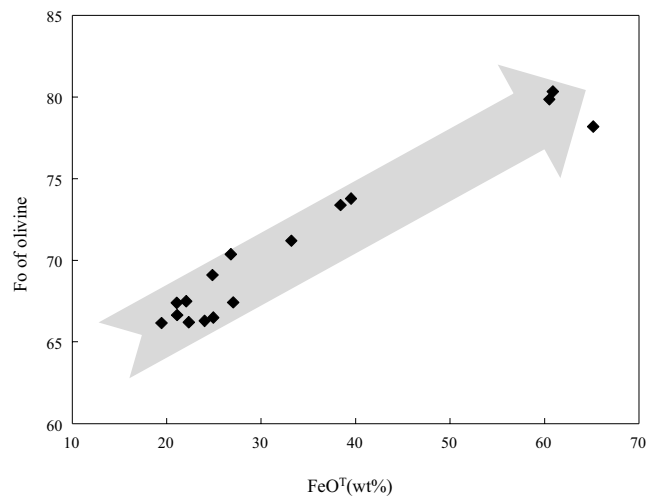


Fig. 4

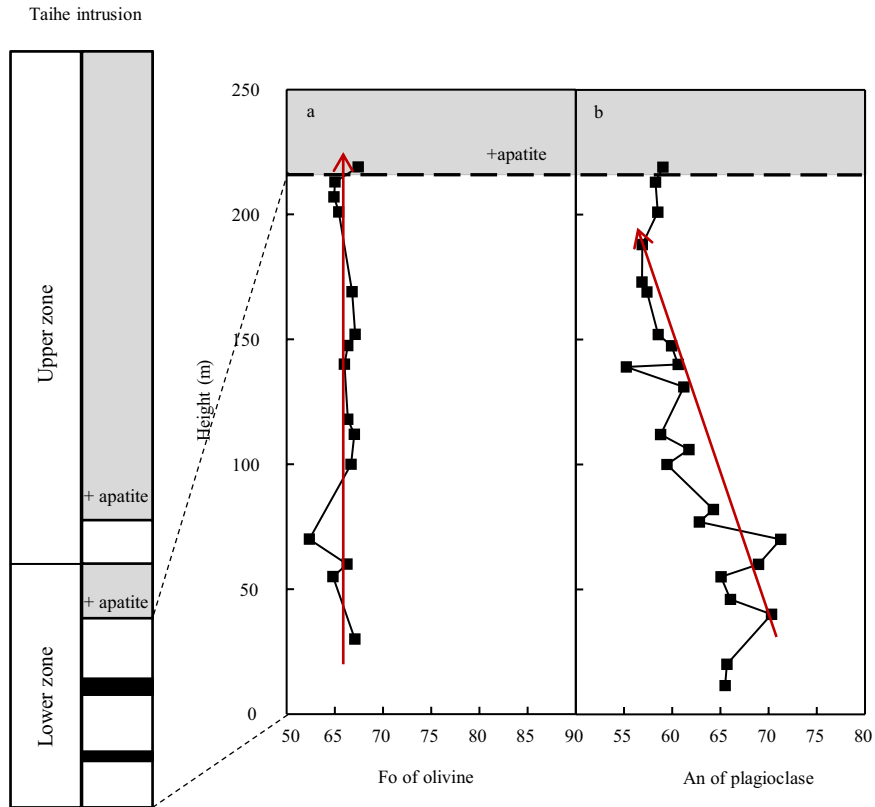


Fig. 5

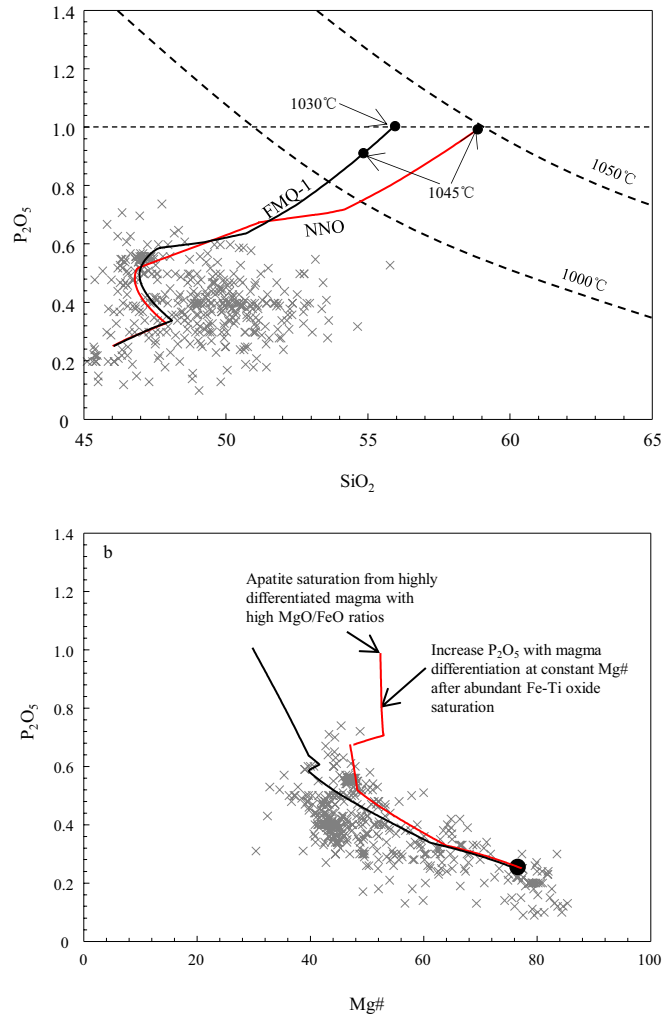


Fig. 6

Table 1: Compositions of olivine and plagioclase at the saturation of apatite in the mafic-ultramafic intrusions of the Emeishan large igneous province and other common layered intrusions

Phases	Taihe	Hongge <sup>1</sup>	Panzhihua <sup>2</sup>	Bushveld <sup>3</sup>	Skaergaard <sup>4</sup>	Kiglapait <sup>5</sup>	Sonju Lake, Duluth <sup>6</sup>	Newark Island <sup>7</sup>
Olivine (Fo)	69	72	65	16	31	39	20	26
Plagioclase (An)	59	-	53	48	39	46	34	40

Data sources: <sup>1</sup>Bai et al., (2012); <sup>2</sup>Pang et al., (2009); <sup>3</sup>Tegner et al., (2006); <sup>4</sup>McBirney, (1996); <sup>5</sup>Morse, (1979); <sup>6</sup>Park al., (2004); <sup>7</sup>Wiebe and Snyder, (1993).

Table 2. Average compositions of plagioclase from the Lower zone of the Taihe intrusion

Sample	ZK513-1	ZK513-3	ZK513-8	ZK513-9	ZK513-12	ZK513-15	ZK513-17	ZK513-18	ZK513-21	ZK513-24	ZK513-26	ZK513-28
Depth (m)	1389	1380	1360	1354	1345	1340	1330	1323	1318	1300	1294	1288
SiO <sub>2</sub>	51.73	52.08	51.62	52.23	51.79	51.14	51.25	53.86	52.90	54.41	54.22	53.97
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.06	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.11	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.10
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	30.19	30.16	30.69	29.56	29.46	29.82	31.16	29.52	29.15	29.24	28.99	28.83
CaO	13.73	13.66	14.57	13.42	13.45	14.07	14.66	12.98	13.04	12.58	12.50	12.23
FeO	0.34	0.31	0.32	0.22	0.21	0.28	0.10	0.28	0.23	0.14	0.25	0.27
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.91	3.85	3.34	3.77	3.93	3.44	3.26	4.19	3.96	4.70	4.20	4.68
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.14	0.14	0.10	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.01	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.12	0.09
Total	100.11	100.29	100.74	99.34	99.01	98.92	100.49	101.02	99.45	101.23	100.37	100.17
Si	2.36	2.37	2.34	2.39	2.38	2.36	2.32	2.42	2.41	2.44	2.44	2.44
Ti	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Al	1.62	1.61	1.64	1.59	1.60	1.62	1.66	1.56	1.57	1.54	1.54	1.54
Ca	0.66	0.66	0.70	0.65	0.65	0.69	0.70	0.62	0.63	0.60	0.60	0.59
Fe	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Na	0.34	0.34	0.29	0.33	0.35	0.31	0.29	0.36	0.35	0.41	0.37	0.41
K	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01
Total	5.01	5.00	4.99	4.98	5.00	4.99	4.99	4.98	4.98	5.00	4.97	4.99
An	65.20	65.37	70.03	65.74	64.76	68.67	70.98	62.52	63.97	59.14	61.42	58.48

Continued

Sample	ZK513-30	ZK513-31	ZK513-32	ZK513-34	ZK513-36	ZK513-38	ZK513-39	ZK513-40	ZK513-42	ZK513-44	ZK513-45
Depth (m)	1269	1261	1260	1253	1248	1231	1227	1212	1199	1187	1181
SiO <sub>2</sub>	52.99	56.13	54.85	54.28	54.85	55.40	54.78	54.74	55.08	54.65	54.71
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.11	0.07	0.11	0.10	0.12	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.10	0.10	0.13
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	28.27	28.34	29.33	28.86	28.76	28.62	28.44	28.56	28.58	28.45	28.59
CaO	12.38	11.65	12.47	12.27	12.24	12.03	11.98	11.99	12.05	11.98	12.10
FeO	0.29	0.08	0.29	0.14	0.29	0.28	0.24	0.29	0.30	0.30	0.30
Na <sub>2</sub> O	4.23	5.20	4.46	4.51	4.68	4.79	4.90	4.89	4.54	4.60	4.50
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.17	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.17	0.23	0.19	0.20	0.28	0.22	0.21
Total	98.44	101.49	101.54	100.19	101.11	101.43	100.62	100.74	100.93	100.30	100.54
Si	2.44	2.50	2.44	2.45	2.46	2.47	2.47	2.46	2.47	2.47	2.46
Ti	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Al	1.53	1.48	1.54	1.54	1.52	1.50	1.51	1.51	1.51	1.51	1.52
Ca	0.60	0.55	0.59	0.59	0.58	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.57	0.58
Fe	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Na	0.38	0.45	0.39	0.39	0.41	0.41	0.43	0.43	0.39	0.40	0.39
K	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Total	4.98	4.98	4.98	4.98	4.99	4.99	5.00	5.00	4.98	4.98	4.98
An	60.90	54.91	60.30	59.61	58.22	57.06	56.54	56.58	58.17	57.96	58.71

Table 3. Average compositions of olivine from the lower zone of the Taihe intrusion

Sample	ZK13-5	ZK13-12	ZK13-15	ZK13-17	ZK13-24	ZK13-28	ZK13-29	ZK13-32	ZK13-34	ZK13-36	ZK13-38	ZK13-42	ZK13-43	ZK13-44	ZK13-45
Depth (m)	1370	1345	1340	1330	1300	1288	1282	1260	1253	1248	1231	1199	1193	1187	1181
Olivine composition (wt.%)															
SiO <sub>2</sub>	39.23	37.88	37.73	39.94	38.68	37.82	37.12	40.27	39.70	38.71	38.23	37.61	37.82	37.87	38.23
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.02
MgO	36.32	32.12	32.02	39.91	35.33	33.06	32.12	40.98	41.04	36.78	33.41	31.93	32.76	33.21	34.05
CaO	0.08	0.09	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.12	0.07	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.07
MnO	0.50	0.50	0.54	0.31	0.44	0.52	0.57	0.36	0.34	0.41	0.67	0.64	0.70	0.62	0.60
FeO	23.48	28.85	28.56	20.29	25.47	28.51	29.29	18.42	17.91	23.29	28.68	29.05	29.98	28.60	27.14
NiO	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.02
Total	99.64	99.54	99.00	100.60	100.08	99.99	99.25	100.21	99.12	99.29	101.08	99.35	101.36	100.45	100.13
Si	1.03	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.02
Ti	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mg	1.42	1.29	1.29	1.52	1.39	1.32	1.30	1.55	1.57	1.44	1.32	1.29	1.30	1.32	1.35
Ca	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mn	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	0.51	0.65	0.65	0.43	0.56	0.64	0.67	0.39	0.38	0.51	0.64	0.66	0.67	0.64	0.60
Ni	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Na	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	2.97	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.99	2.99	2.98	2.98	2.98	2.99	2.98	2.99	2.99	2.98
Fo	73.4	66.5	66.7	77.8	71.2	67.4	66.2	79.9	80.3	73.8	67.5	66.2	66.1	67.4	69.1
Fo <sub>Fe20</sub> *	67.1	64.8	66.3	62.4	66.7	67.0	66.3	66.0	66.3	67.1	66.8	65.4	64.7	65.0	67.4

\*Fo<sub>Fe20</sub>: The primary Fo before subsolidus Fe-Mg exchange reaction between olivine and Fe-Ti oxides, Calculated at whole-rock FeO<sup>T</sup>=20 wt.%