Origin of Sulfur in Some Magmatic-Hydrothermal Ore Deposits of South China

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Abstract: Mill concentrates of ore sulfides from three magmatic-hydrotherml ore deposits were studied for δ^{34} S at the granite-hosted Xihuashan deposits, and carbonate-hosted Shizhuan and Huashaping deposits. These ore deposits occur in the South China Fold System, which is composed of mid-Paleozoic "miogeosynclinal" sediments dominant in carbonates toward the Devonian age. Averages of the ore sulfides are -0.9 permil for the Xihuashan, +7.0 permil for the Shizhuan and +13.2 permil for the Huashaping deposits. Endogranitic ore sulfur of the Xihuashan and the Shizhuan deposits are considered magmatic, derived from by ca.+2 ‰ δ^{34} S granitic magma, but the carbonate-hosted ore sulfurs at the major part of the Shizhuan and Huashaping deposits are much higher than those expected from rock sulfur δ^{34} S values of the Yanshanian granites of the South China Fold System. Thus, addition of ³⁴S-enriched sulfur into the ore solutions is considered.

Devonian and Carboniferous carbonates of the South China Fold System are very high in the δ^{34} S values of structurally substituted sulfate (SSS) sulfur, averaged as +25.7 and +15.7 permil, respectively, which are higher than the reported values from other areas of these ages. The SSS contents of the Paleozoic carbonates are very low at present, but recent carbonates contain typically 0.1 to 1 % equivalent sulfate. The very low SSS contents in the wall rock carbonates and high δ^{34} S values in the ore sulfides may have been resulted from carbonate SSS extracted during recrystallization and somehow mixed with magmatic ore fluids when the granitic magmas intruded, then precipitated as the ore sulfides.

Keywords: South China, Devonian, carbonates, Huangshaping, Shizhuyuan, Xihuashan, SSS (structurally substituted sulfate) content, δ^{34} S value.

1. Introduction

In mineralized granitic terranes, both rock and ore sulfurs show a distinct negative/positive δ^{34} S-paired zoning in the Japanese Islands, which is called the Japanese-type δ^{34} S-distribution, but unclear pairing biased to heavy δ^{34} S values in Korea, which is named as Korean-type δ^{34} S-distribution (Ishihara *et al.*, 2000). The δ^{34} S values higher than so-called classic mantle value of +1 permil are considered due to (1) seawater sulfate brought up to granitic magmas by subduction processes (Sasaki and Ishihara, 1979, Ueda and Sakai, 1984), (2) fossiled sulfate of evaporite beds assimilated into the magmas within the continental crust (Thode *et al.*, 1962; Cai, 1980; Chen *et al.*, 1982; Chu *et al.*, 1986; Ishihara *et al.*, 1986; Chen and Chu, 1988; Zhou *et al.*, 1994, 1995; Zhou and Yue, 1996), or (3)

minor amounts of SSS (structurally substituted sulfate) contained in carbonate beds recycled into the granitic magmas, or directly mixing with the ore solution. Possibility of the SSS origin was examined both in regional scale (Ishihara *et al.*, 2002a) and also individual deposits (Ishihara *et al.*, 2002b).

Situated in the same continental margin environment, the ore deposits of South China have different δ^{34} S values from those of South Korea, suggesting own history of the metallogenic background. A summary of sulfur isotopic data (δ^{34} S) of sulfides from 157 ore deposits, associated with Jurassic and Cretaceous granitic activities in South China, indicates that averaged δ^{34} S values of individual deposits vary widely from -9.3 to +20.6 permil, with several highly positive δ^{34} S values (Wang and Ishihara, 2000).

Reconnaissance sampling was made on the sulfide

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ores and limestones in South China during a short visit under the Institute of Transfer of Industrial Science (ITIT) Project of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry in autumn of 2000. The analytical results indicated important contribution of the host carbonate sulfur to some of the ore geneses. This paper describes result of the sulfur isotopic analyses, and discusses genetic bearing of these results, particularly to the provenance of the ore sulfur.

The analytical methods for sulfide ores are conventional SO₂ method and measured by MAT 251 EM mass-spectrometer. The analytical uncertainty is ± 0.2 permil. Sulfate and sulfide sulfur in carbonate rocks were analyzed at the University of Tsukuba by the methods described in detail in Ishihara *et al.* (2002a).

2. Geological Background

The studied areas, shown by solid circles in Fig. 1 with local names, belong to a part of South-China fold system (Zone II, Fig. 1), which is a mid-Paleozoic miogeosynclinal intra-continental fold system developed on the Precambrian basements, and folded sedimentary formations composed mainly of late Proterozoic to Silurian terrigenous clastic rocks. Carbonate rocks become dominant in the Devonian Period onwards, especially in the northern Guangxi Autonomous Region including famed limestone cities of Guilin and Yangshuo, and the central Hunan Province. The Devonian rocks can be subdivided into three parts as follows:

Upper part (D₃): Thin-layered siliceous marl, limestone, mudstone, shale, with siltstone and oolitic hematite interbeds. Sandstone occurs only locally and interbeded with limestone.

Middle part (D₂): Limestone, bioclastic limestone, dolomite, argillaceous limestone, marl with mudstone interbeds.

Lower part (D_i) : Mainly clastic rocks with some interbeds of limestone, bioclastic limestone and dolomite.

The Carboniferous rocks are widely distributed in South China. They are stable neritic sediments including carbonates with coal, iron-manganese beds, bauxite, clays and gypsum.

These Paleozoic formations are intruded by Hercyenian, Indosinian and Yanshanian granitoids, among which the Jurassic to Cretaceous, Yanshanian ones are most extensively distributed in South China. Many ore deposits of vein, skarn and porphyry types are associated with the Yanshanian granitoids. Skarntype ore deposits are common wherever they intrude carbonate formations. The Yanshanian granitoids are divided into the early Yanshanian (Jurassic) and the Late Yanshanian (Cretaceous) stages.

3. Rock δ³⁴S Values - A Review

In order to interprete ore sulfur δ^{34} S data of magmatic-hydrothermal ore deposits, we need to know rock δ^{34} S values. Unfortunately, all the available data so far



Fig. 1 Index map of the studied areas with the geotectonic divisions in South China. I, Yangtze paraplatform; II, South China fold system; and III, Southeastern maritime fold system.

appeared in literature are measured on pyrite contained in granitoids, which could not be primary magmatic mineral. If the host granitoids are "fresh" or least altered, however, this may demonstrate the closest δ^{34} S value of the original granitic magmas.

Rock δ^{34} S values of the least altered granitoids near ore deposits from the Yangtze paraplatform (Zone I, Fig. 1), appear to be higher than the other terranes as follows: diorite-granodiorite at Mashan (Au, pyrite), Anhui, is averaged as +5.1 permil (n=8, Zhou, 1984; Xia, 1999), and granodiorite porphyry of Tongshan/ Liuxiashan (Cu-W/Au-Pb-Zn), Anhui, has +5.8~+5.9 permil (Yang, 1991). These intrusive rocks may belong to magnetite series.

Extremely high value of +12.5 permil is seen on the pyrite-bearing least altered magnetite-series diorite and granodiorite in the Ningwu Basin, near Nanjing, where Triassic anhydrite discovered by drilling have averaged δ^{34} S values of +30.2 permil. The anhydrite beds were most probably intruded by the Yanshanian magmas and ³⁴S-enriched sulfur was incorporated into the intrusive rocks, giving rise to the high value (Ishihara *et al.*, 1986).

In the South-China fold zone (Zone II, Fig. 1), the rock δ^{34} S values range mostly from +1 to +9 permil, and averaged as +5.1 permil (n=5), as follows. In the Sn-mineralized region including Tiandong, Wuhengtian, Shuimei, Sanjiaowo, Tashan and Qingkeng mines, Guandong Province, their rock $\delta^{34}S$ values of the related granite-quartz monzonite porphyry are averaged as +8.9 permil (Lei, 1994). The intrusive rocks must be ilmenite series, because of Sn mineralization associated. In the Lianhuashan W-Mo-Sn mineralized area, Guangdong Province, the related quartz diorite and granite porphyry have an average δ^{34} S value of +1.3 permil (n=6, Man et al., 1983). In the famed Sn-Cu-Zn mineralized Dachang, Guangxi Autonomous Region, granite porphyry gives +6.2 permil, but biotite granite of the Sn-free Lamo ore deposit has an average of +1.4 permil (n=4, Chen et al., 1993; Fu et al., 1991). Granodiorite porphyry related to Zhuxi Cu vein, Jiangxi Province, has a rock δ^{34} S value of +2.8 permil (Xiang, 1992).

Granitoids in the Fe-skarn mineralized Makeng and Yangshan deposits, Fujian Province, give δ^{34} S values of +1.0 and +3.3 permil, respectively (Zhao *et al.*, 1983). Granite related to the Zijinshan Cu-Au porphyry-epithermal type deposits (Zhang *et al.*, 1991), Fujian Province, has the average rock δ^{34} S value of -0.3 permil (n=9) (Chen *et al.*, 1994), but granodiorite porphyry from the Cu-Mo mineralized Luoboling mine shows +3.0 permil (Chen *et al.*, 1994). In Zhejiang Province, granite porphyry dike in the Yinkengshan (Zhilingtou) Au-Ag vein area has +6.4 permil (Liang *et al.*, 1985), and felsite dike in the Au-Mo mineralized Jinjiyan deposit gives average of +1.1 permil (Du et al., 1998).

These previous studies show that the rock δ^{34} S values of South China have generally positive average values, similarly to the Korean Peninsula which has +5.5 permil for the Jurassic and +2.2 permil for the Cretaceous (Ishihara *et al.*, 2000), but a wider range in the variation, reflecting more complex geologic background. There seems to be no systematic variations depending upon the granitoid series like those found in the Japanese Islands, although the magnetite series/ ilmenite-series classification is only done by the bulk Fe₂O₃/FeO ratios (Ishihara and Wang, 1999).

4. Studied Carbonates and Ore Deposits

Both regional and mine-site samples were analyzed for bulk sulfur contents and δ^{34} S values of sulfate and sulfide sulfur of the Paleozoic carbonates(Table 1). Mill concentrates, which should give us an average δ^{34} S composition of given ore deposits (Sasaki and Ishihara, 1980), were studied at three early Yanshanian deposits of Xihuashan, Shizhuyuan and Huangshaping mines.

4.1 Carbonate Rocks

The Paleozoic carbonates were tentatively analyzed for SSS and sulfide sulfur, in order to find ³⁴S-enriched sulfur source, besides evaporates which are most common in Triassic continental sediments in China. Carbonate beds which give us scenic view in the Guilin-Yangshuo area are upper Devonian age (D₃). In Guilin city, two samples were collected at the Qixingyan and Luotuoshan parks. They are milky white limestones devoid of metamorphism. A middle Devonian limestone sample weekly recrystallized was collected from approximately 3 km east of central Yangshuo town, at the SE side of the Yangshuo Bridge.

The other four samples were taken from the mine sites. They are recrystallized and veined with white calcite.

The δ^{34} S values for pyrite from Lower Carboniferous host rocks in the Huangshaping area were reported by Wang *et al.* (1988) as (1) -3.1 permil for disseminated pyrite from the thin-layered carbonaceous limestone of the Lower Carboniferous Shidengzi Formation; and (2) -22.6 permil and -11.7 permil for nodular pyrite from the carbonaceous shale of the Lower Carboniferous Ceshui Formation.

4.2 Xihuashan Deposits

Xihuashan vein-type deposits occur in Jurassic biotite granitic stock (19 km²), which intruded Cambrian low-grade metamorphic rocks of psammitic and pelitic origins. The working areas are divided into the Xihuashan mining area in the southern part and Dangping mining area in the northeastern part of the stock.

San	mple No., Locality	and	Rock Type	Sulfate Sulfur		Sulfide Sulfur		δ ³⁴ S(‰)
Sali		anu		Content (ppm)	$\delta^{34}S(\%)$	Content (ppm)	$\delta^{34}S(\%)$	Sulfate-sulfide
Reg	gional samples							
20	Qixingyan, Guilin, C	luangxi		1.4	+30.9	33.3	+10.4	20.5
	Milky white limestor	ne, D ₃ (Upp	er Devonian)					
21	Luotuoshan, Guilin	ditto, D3 (d	itto)	2.7	+33.0	3.5	+2.5	30.5
22	Yangshuo, Guangxi			1.2	+28.9	1.9	+12.9	16.0
	Milky white marble,	D ₃ (Middle	e Devon.)					
41	East of Yantang, Gui	yang Coun	ty, Hunan	19.9	+25.7	3.5	+7.0	18.7
	Milky white gray lin	estone, C ₁	(Lower Carboniferous	5)				
Mine-site samples								
55	Shizhuyuan mine, 20	0m from th	ne main adit	12.2	+20.6	2050.0	-1.8	22.4
	Gray marble, Middle	/Upper Dev	vonian					
42	Tangxia Village near	Huangshap	ping mine	55.9	+9.8	561.0	-16.6	26.4
	Black limestone, wit	h calcite ve	inlet, C1					
46	Huangshaping mine,	56mL, Gu	iyang	4.0	+19.4	1270.0	-8.0	27.4
	Black limestone, wit	h calcite ve	inlet, C1					
50	Eastof Huangshaping	g mine: bla	ck limestone, C1	7.8	+17.9	140.6	-3.0	20.9

Table 1 Sulfur isotopic data for carbonate rocks from the Guilin area.

Analyst: Y. Kajiwara

Magnetic susceptibility of the granite was measured in one meter interval at several places of the underground tunnels by a portable device of KT5 meter. It ranges from 0.02 to 0.91 x 10^{-3} SI in the Xihuashan mine area and 0.02 to 0.12 x 10^{-3} SI in the Dangping mine area, indicating the granite is free of magnetite belonging to ilmenite series.

The ore deposits consist of wolframite-(K-feldspar)quartz veins trending E-W direction with steep dips. The associated alteration is K-feldspartization and greisenization. The ore minerals are wolframite and

Table 2 Average δ^{34} S values of ore sulfides from Xihuashan, Shizhuyuan, and Huangshaping ore deposits in southern China

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Locality	Rock description	$\delta^{34}S(\%)$				
Xihuashan						
15-70	Molybdenite flake concentrates	+0.3				
15-71	Pyrite concentrates	-2.1				
15-76	Chalcopyrite concentrates	-0.9				
	Average	-0.9				
Shizhuyuan						
13-60	Molybdenite concentrates	+7.3				
13-61	Bismuthinite concentrates	+5.2				
13-62	3-62 Pyrite concentrates					
	Average	+7.0				
Huangshaping						
12-47	Galena concentrates	+12.9				
12-48	Sphalerite concentrates	+14.2				
12-49	Pyrite concentrates	+12.6				
	Average	+13.2				

Analyst: R.M. Bai, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences, Beijing.

small amounts of cassiterite, bismuthinite, molybdenite, chalcopyrite and pyrite. Sulfide concentrates of molybdenite, pyrite and chalcopyrite were analyzed (Table 2).

4.3 Shizhuyuan Deposits

Shizhuyuan W(-Sn-Bi-Mo-Be) skarn deposits occur in the Devonian carbonate rocks intruded by a small stock of granitic compositions, which is called Qianlishan stock.

Magnetic susceptibility of the Qianlishan granite was measured at five places in a few km apart as follows: A; $0.09 \sim 0.40 \times 10^{-3}$ for granite and $3.3 \sim 4.7 \times 10^{-3}$ for



Fig. 2 Sulfur isotopic zoning observed in the Shizhuyuan-Dongpo ore field. Simplified from Tong *et al.* (1995).



Fig. 3 Sulfur isotopic zoning observed in the Huangshaping orefield (Tong *et al.*, 1995). Cıd¹, Cıd², Cıd³: Lower, middle and upper parts, respectively, of the Datang Member of lower Carboniferous Formation.

granite porphyry dike (30 m wide), B; Taipingli 0.11~0.29 x10⁻³, C; 0.10~0.27 x10⁻³, D; (near the entrance of the main adit); $0.05\sim0.53 x10^{-3}$ with two high values of 7.0 x10⁻³ and 21.7 x 10⁻³ SI, which may be due to local presence of magnetite. The Qianlishan granite belongs essentially to ilmenite series.

The ore deposits occur mostly in the carbonate rocks as thick lens having horizontal dimensions of 1,100 m by 700 m in the average and the thickness of 150- 300 m. The ores can be divided into (1) marble-Sn ore, (2) skarn-W-Bi ore, (3) stockwork greisen-quartz vein skarn W-Sn-Mo-Bi ore and (4) greisen W-Mo-Bi ore. Common ore minerals are wolframite, scheelite, molybdenite, bismuthinite, cassiterite and various sulfides, and major gangue minerals are fluorite, garnet, diopside, vesuvianite, amphiboles, micas, feldspars and quartz (ECMDC, 1992).

Three sulfide concentrates of molybdenite, bismuthinite and pyrite were analyzed (Table 2).

4.4 Huangshaping Deposits

Huangshaping Pb-Zn deposits are skarn and magmatic hydrothermal type occurring in Carboniferous sedimentary rocks around small Jurassic plugs of felsic porphyries. Their intrusive sequence is as follows: dacite, quartz porphyry, granite and granite porphyry, and these rocks are regarded as crust-remelting type (Zhong, 1996).

The ore deposits contain mainly galena and sphalerite, with some amounts of Cu, Ag, Mo, W, Sn and Bi minerals. The Pb-Zn ore bodies occur mostly around the hidden granite porphyry stock in the southeastern sector of the ore field. The Cu mineralization is mainly related to granophyre.

A spatial zonation is observed from granite porphyry outward; the ore mineral assemblage becomes less complex, and the ore-forming temperature gets lower outward. The ore genetic type varies outwards from skarn type Fe (Sn) to skarn-hypothermal type W-Mo, then to hypo-mesothermal type Pb-Zn (Fe) or Cu-Pb-Zn. A temporal sequence from earlier to later of Fe, Fe (Sn), W (Mo), (Cu) Pb-Zn is identified (Deng, 1997). Hydrothermal alteration associated with Pb-Zn ores, other than skarnization, includes chloritization, sericitization, silicification and fluoritization.

Three sulfide concentrates of galena, sphalerite and pyrite were analyzed (Table 2).

5. Results and Discussion

5.1 Sulfur in Carbonates

The Devonian carbonates are very low in SSS content (average 1.8 ppm S, Table 1) and high in the δ^{34} S values (average +30.9 ‰). Strauss (1999) gave a general value of +24.1 permil for sulfate sulfur in the Upper Devonian, so that our data are the highest among the Devonian carbonates. Sulfide sulfur is averaged as +8.6 permil (n=3, Table 1), which is again higher than the general Upper Devonian value of -2.8 permil given by Strauss (1999).

Lower Carboniferous carbonate at east of Yantang gives SSS content of 19.9 ppm S and δ^{34} S values of +25.7 permil, which is again higher than the general value of +15.7 permil given by Strauss (1999) for the

Carboniferous carbonates.

The carbonate rocks collected from the mine sites have dark color containing possibly organic carbon and a large variation on sulfur contents and their δ^{34} S values. Sulfide sulfur contents are high as 141-2050 ppm S, and the δ^{34} S values are negative, being -1.6 to -16.6 permil. These sulfide sulfur could well be originally biogenic sulfur concentrated in local euxenic environment at the bottom of sea.

The SSS contents vary from 4 to 56 ppm S and δ^{34} S values range from +9.8 to +20.6 permil, whose average of +16.9 permil is close to that of Strauss (1999).

5.2 Origin of Ore Sulfur

 δ^{34} S data of sulfides from the Xihuashan mine vary from -2.1 to +0.3 permil and the average is -0.9 permil (Table 2), which is very close to the previous summary value of -0.4 permil for the Xihuashan-Dangping ore deposits (see Wang and Ishihara, 2000). The ore deposits belong to pegmatitic quartz vein type hosting in granite and therefore the δ^{34} S values may be close to those of the host granites themselves, implying the granitic magma had ca. +2 permil value, in assuming sulfur in the ore fluid may have been fractionated a few permil (Sasaki *et al.*, 1984).

The exo-granitic polymetallic W deposits of the Shizhuyuan mine are higher, ranging from +5.2 to +8.4 permil and averaged as + 7.0 permil (Table 2). Tong *et al.* (1995) described a beautiful zoning of the δ^{34} S values of the constituent sulfides around the Qianlishan granitic body, ranging from -1.0 permil near the body but over +10 permil along the outer fringe (Fig. 2). The innermost value is similar to that of the endogranitic Xihuashan deposits. Thus, the Qianlishan felsic magmas may have had also ca. +2 permil δ^{34} S.

If given ore solutions were cooled down after separation from the host granitic magmas, they might have oxidized by meeting meteoric water, and thus forming oxidized sulfur species in the ore solution which takes ³⁴S out to leave ³²S-enriched sulfides in the ore deposits far from the granite. A reverse zonal pattern of Fig. 2 strongly suggests that mixing of ³⁴S-enriched sulfur from the carbonates by interation between the magmatic ore fluid and the sedimentary wall rocks made δ^{34} S-enriched nature of the ore solution in the fringe ore zone of the Shizhuyuan deposits.

The studied sulfides from Huashaping Pb-Zn deposits hosted in Carboniferous carbonates show high values between +12.6 and +14.2 permil (Table 2). Similar high values with slight east-west zoning has been reported in this mine (Fig. 3) by Tong *et al.* (1995). These high δ^{34} S values are also considered originated in the carbonates due to the interaction of the ore fluids with the sedimentary wall rocks.

Sulfate sulfur contents of the Paleozoic carbonates are low as 1-20 ppm. However, modern marine car-

bonate shells and tests from a variety of taxa reveal typical values from 0.1 to 1 % equivalent sulfate (Pingitore *et al.*, 1995). Calcic travertine can contain up to 2.5 % SO₃ (Takano *et al.*, 1980). It is assumed therefore that the carbonates had higher sulfate contents originally, but expelled later and now depleted. Resetting of the SSS sulfur in the carbonates could be happened through diagenesis but largely recrystallization due to granitic intrusion. Mechanism of SSS sulfur migration from the carbonates to ore deposits is an interesting and important subject to solve in future.

6. Conclusions

Mill concentrates of ore sulfides from three ore deposits of the South China Fold System were found to have the average values of -0.9 permil at Xihuashan, +7.0 permil at Shizhuyuan and +13.2 permil at Huangshaping, among which the latter two deposits are hosted in Paleozoic carbonates. Rock sulfur of the related granitoids of the former two deposits seems to have slightly positive δ^{34} S values (ca. +2 ‰). Thus, another source to make the ore solution heavier is necessary for the Shizhuyuan and Huangshaping deposits. It is proposed therefore that ³⁴S-enriched SSS of the host carbonates have been involved in the ore solution of the carbonate-hosted ore deposits.

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付表 1 地名対照表		
Ceshui Formation	測水組	
Dachang mine	大廠	
Dangping mine	蕩坪	
Guilin	桂林	
Huangshaping mine	黄沙坪	
Jinjiyan	金鶏岩	
Lamo mine	拉麼	
Lianhuashan mine	蓮花山	
Liuxiashan mine	劉下山	
Luoboling	蘿卜嶺	
Luotuoshan Park	駱駝山	
Makeng	馬坑	
Mashan mine	馬山	
Ningwu basin	寧蕪盆地	
Qianlishan	千里山	
Qingkeng mine	青坑	
Qixingyan Park	七星岩	
Sanjiaowo mine	三角窩	
Shidengzi Carb. Formation	石磴子組	
Shizhuyan mine	柿竹園	
Shuimei mine	水美	
Taipingli	太平里	
Tashan mine	塌山	
Tiandong mine	田東	
Tongshan mine	銅山	
Wuhengtian mine	鳥横田	
Xihuashan	西華山	
Yangshan	陽山	
Yangshuo	陽朔	
Yinshan	銀山	
Yinkengshan	銀坑山	
Zhuxi	朱渓	
Zijinshan	紫金山	

華南における2・3のマグマ-熱水性鉱床の硫黄の起源

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要 旨

華南褶曲帯に貫入するジュラ紀花崗岩類に成因的に関係したマグマ-熱水性鉱床から,花崗岩母岩(西華山),炭酸塩岩 母岩(柿竹園と黄沙坪)の3例を選び,硫黄同位体比の研究を実施した.華南褶曲帯は"ミオ地向斜"の古生代中期の堆積岩 類からなり,デボン紀-石炭紀を中心に炭酸塩岩に富む.鉱床の平均値を知るために各鉱床の選鉱産物のδ³⁴S値を分析す ると第2表の結果,すなわち平均値で西華山鉱床(W)-0.9 ‰ (n=3),柿竹園鉱床 (Sn, Cu, Pb, Zn) +7.0‰ (n=3),黄沙坪 鉱床(+13.2 ‰, n=3)が得られた.柿竹園鉱床では花崗岩(-1.0‰)から南東(+10.4‰)へゾーニングが著しい.西華山および 柿竹園鉱床の生成に関与したした花崗岩マグマは+2‰程度のδ³⁴S値を持つものと考えられ,従って炭酸塩岩類を母岩とす る柿竹園,黄沙坪鉱床は極めて高いδ³⁴S値を持つと言える.

³⁴Sに富む岩石として炭酸塩岩に注目してそのSSS(構造置換態硫酸塩)硫黄の含有量と 3³⁴S値を測定した. デボン紀の 炭酸塩岩は低い含有量(平均1.8ppm S)と高い 3³⁴S値(平均+30.9 ‰)を示した. この 3³⁴S値は上部デボン系に与えられる 一般値+24.1 ‰より高い. 一方上部石炭系の値は+25.7 ‰であり,これも一般値+15.7 ‰よりも高く,華南の炭酸塩岩類の SSSの 3³⁴S値は世界のその他の地域と比べて一般に高い値を持つと言えるが,今後のさらなるデータの蓄積が必要である. SSS硫黄含有量は現世の炭酸塩岩の含有量(0.1 ~1 %S)よりも著しく低い. 以上の結果から西華山鉱床は+2‰前後の 3³⁴S 値を持つ花崗岩マグマから分離した熱水から生成したが,柿竹園鉱床の主要部分と黄沙坪鉱床は母岩の炭酸塩岩類のSSS が続生作用や花崗岩類の貫入に伴う熱水鉱化変質作用により溶出し,鉱床に移動・濃集したものと推察される.