

Fluid inclusion studies in a granitic pegmatite from Central Portugal – preliminary results

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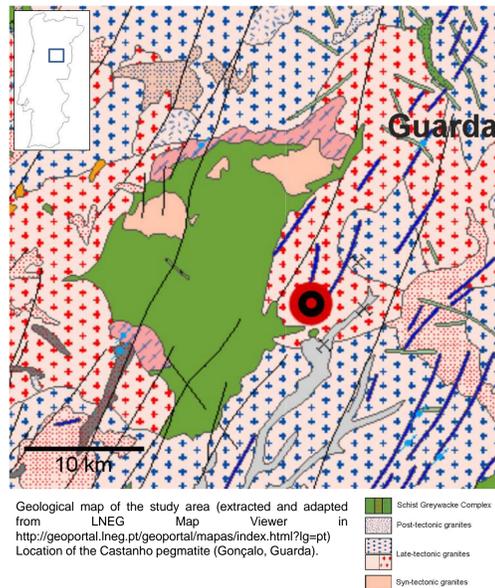
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1. OBJECTIVE

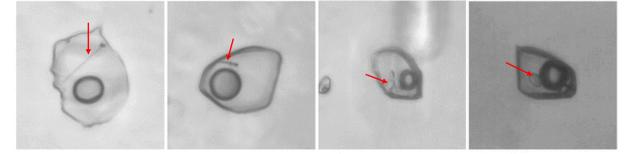
This work aims to contribute to the study of the genesis of a pegmatite from the Central Portugal Pegmatite Field (CPPF) located in the Central Iberian Zone, based on fluid inclusion studies.

2. GEOLOGICAL SETTING

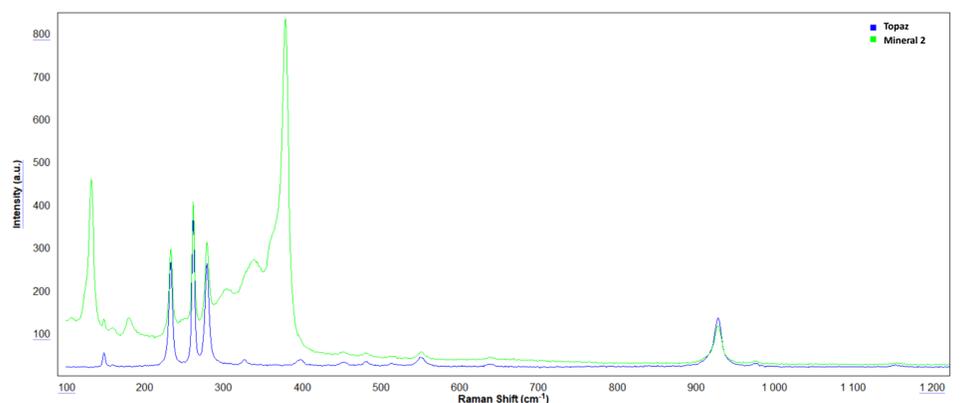
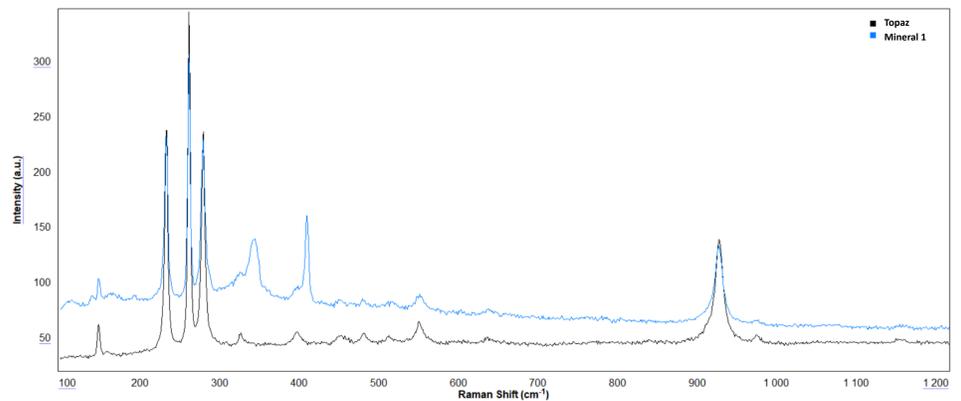
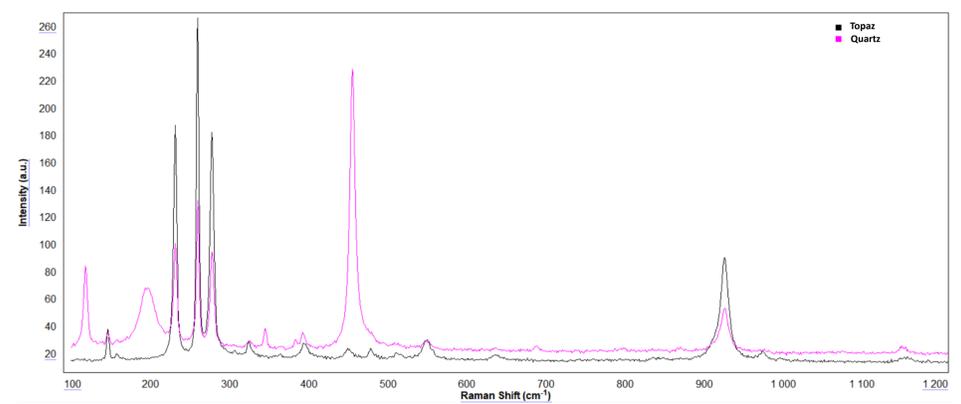
The studied topaz samples were collected in the Castanho pegmatite (Gonçalo, Guarda). In the Castanho area, several sub-horizontal aplite-pegmatites crosscut a Variscan, late-tectonic, coarse grain porphyritic biotite granite. According to Farinha-Ramos et al. (2006) and Farinha-Ramos (2007), the Li-sills in this area are banded, sometimes zoned, with quartz, albite, K-feldspar, muscovite and lepidolite as major minerals and several accessory minerals as zinnwaldite, amblygonite-montebasite, petalite, topaz, apatite, beryl, cassiterite, columbo-tantalite and others.



The solid phases present in the fluid inclusions are often opaque with needle-like habit and translucent with irregular shapes or hexagonal habit. Raman analysis of these solid phases allowed the identification of quartz and two distinct phases which, due to the peak positions in the spectrum, seem to correspond to sulphides.



Examples of fluid inclusions with solid phases (red arrow) analysed by Raman microspectroscopy.



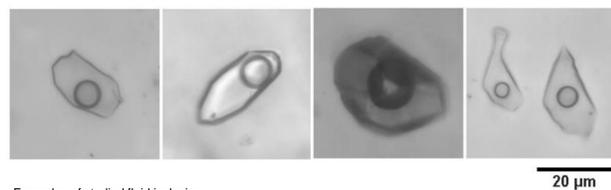
3. METHODS

All the analyses were performed at the Institute of Earth Sciences-Porto Pole laboratories in the following order:

- Petrographic** study of fluid (FI) in doubly polished thick sections of topaz.
- Microthermometry** (cryometry) was conducted in a Chaixmecca stage on a Nikon microscope. The stage was calibrated with natural fluid inclusions and SynFlinc standards. Salinity was calculated using the equation of Bodnar (1993).
- Raman analysis** of the volatile species present in fluid inclusions and analysis of solid phases was performed using a Horiba Jobin-Yvon LabRam spectrometer (632.8 nm, He-Ne laser), equipped with an Olympus microscope (MPlan N 100x/0.90 objective, 1 µm spatial resolution), according to procedures and calibration described by Prieto et al. (2012). Solid phases were identified by comparison with the mineral host spectrum and using the online Raman spectra database RRUFF (<http://rruff.info/>).

4. RESULTS

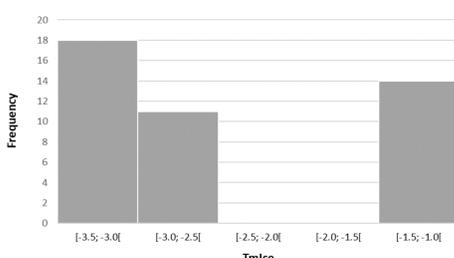
The FI in topaz are primary, randomly distributed, in groups or isolated, with regular and irregular shapes and sizes from 13 to 85 µm (66% between 20 and 40 µm). At room temperature, the FI are two-phase (or three-phase if a solid phase is present), having a degree of filling (FIw) from 0.75 to 0.95 (78% of the values between 0.85 and 0.95).



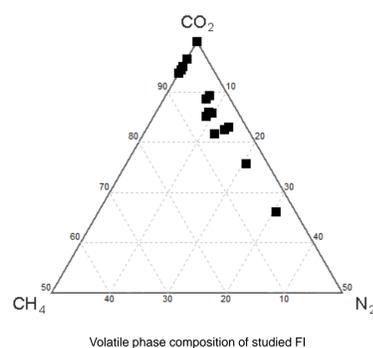
Examples of studied fluid inclusions.

The microthermometry provided values for the final melting temperature of ice (TmIce) between -3.3 and -1.0 °C, corresponding to salinities between 1.74 and 5.41 wt.% NaCl. Bulk density between 0.86 and 0.91 g/cm³.

Raman microspectrometry allowed to identify CO₂, CH₄ and N₂ in the volatile phase of some FI. The volatile phase is dominated by CO₂ (66.21-100 mol%) with low amounts of CH₄ (0-6.25 mol%) and N₂ (0-30.41 mol%).



Distribution of TmIce in the studied FI. Nº obs.: 43.



5. CONCLUSIONS

In the topaz from Castanho pegmatite, fluid inclusions trapped aqueous fluids with low salinity and some CO₂, CH₄ and N₂, during a late hydrothermal stage. The solid phases present in these fluid inclusions are quartz and apparently two distinct sulphides.

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Acknowledgements:

The authors acknowledge the funding by COMPETE 2020 through the ICT project (UIDB/04683/2020) with the reference POCI-01-0145-FEDER-007690. The author Marcela Rodrigues benefits from a PhD grant financed by the Fundação para a Ciência e Tecnologia (FCT) (Ref: SFRH/BD/138332/2018).

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