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磁铁矿:研究方法与矿床学应用

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摘要:磁铁矿在自然界普遍存在,其成岩和成矿作用研究备受关注。文章系统地总结了近年来磁铁矿的研究进展,介绍了磁铁矿的研究方法体系,并探讨了其在矿床学研究中的应用。磁铁矿的研究方法包括磁铁矿的年代学、显微结构、元素和同位素组成。在磁铁矿的方法学基础上,进一步探讨了磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年在成矿年代学研究中的应用、磁铁矿有关的温度计和氧逸度计以及矿床类型判别等。此外,以铁氧化物-铜-金和铁氧化物-磷灰石矿床为例,讨论了磁铁矿微量元素组成对这些矿床成因的制约,并初步总结了磁铁矿微量元素组成在找矿勘查方面的应用。磁铁矿作为重要的矿床学研究对象,已助推矿床成因和找矿勘查研究,具有巨大的应用潜力,包括原位 U-Pb 年代学和非传统稳定同位素示踪(如 V 同位素)等。然而,磁铁矿中微量元素的赋存状态、分配行为以及磁铁矿地球化学数据库等是磁铁矿研究中较薄弱的环节,亟需进一步加强。

关键词:磁铁矿;显微结构;微量元素;年代学;矿床类型;找矿勘查

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磁铁矿可以形成于较宽的温度和氧逸度范围,广泛存在于自然界的各类岩石及矿床中。磁铁矿不仅作为矿石矿物赋存于岩浆 Fe-Ti-V、铁氧化物-铜-金(Iron-oxide Copper Gold, IOCG)、铁氧化物-磷灰石(Iron-oxide Apatite, IOA)、Fe-Cu 矽卡岩和条带状铁建造(Banded Iron Formation, BIF)等铁矿床中,而且作为副矿物出现在岩浆型 Ni-Cu-PGE、斑岩型 Cu ± Mo± Au、火山成因块状硫化物(Volcanogenic Massive Sulfide, VMS)等硫化物矿床中。因此,磁铁矿是典型的贯通矿物。此外,磁铁矿具有较强的抗风化能力,不易受低温蚀变影响,且在物理搬运过程中不易发生机械破碎,可作为重要的重砂矿物用于矿床成因和找矿勘查研

究^[1]。磁铁矿的研究历史悠久,我国学者在 20 世纪 70 年代提出了磁铁矿的物理和化学标型概念,其中物理标型包括晶胞参数、硬度、比重、反射率等,而化学标型主要指的是微量元素含量特征。利用这些物理和化学标型就可以区分不同类型的铁矿床^[1]。近年来,随着原位分析技术尤其是激光剥蚀电感耦合等离子体质谱(Laser Ablation Induced Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry, LA-ICP-MS)的飞速发展^[2-9],进一步推动了磁铁矿标型矿物的研究,主要集中在矿床成因、岩石成因和形成年龄等方面。值得一提的是,2015 年王汝成教授和周美夫教授在《Ore Geology Reviews》期刊以“现代分析技术在矿床中的应用”为主题组织了一期专辑^[10],系

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统地总结了磁铁矿微量元素的研究方法和最新应用成果^[11-16],助推磁铁矿研究取得重要进展。

前人从不同角度对磁铁矿的研究进展进行了综述。NADOLL P 等^[17]系统总结了热液磁铁矿的化学组成及其应用,包括磁铁矿的矿物学和结晶学、热液磁铁矿的定义、对成岩成矿作用的指示以及在源区示踪和勘查方面的应用。该文利用不同类型矿床(BIF、热液 Ag-Pb-Zn 脉、斑岩 Cu±Au±Mo)和花岗质岩石的磁铁矿化学组成,探讨了磁铁矿微量元素组成变化的控制因素,包括结晶学因素、岩浆和热液过程等^[17]。陈华勇和韩金生^[18]系统介绍了磁铁矿的微量元素组成在矿床成因机制研究方面的成果,并指出磁铁矿微量元素研究存在元素分析方法不一致、判别图解缺乏重要的铁矿床类型、物理结构和勘查应用研究还远远不足等问题。赵振华和严爽^[19]也对磁铁矿在矿床类型判别以及找矿勘查方面的应用做了总结,并指出了次生磁铁矿以及磁铁矿中的纳米矿物包体等会影响磁铁矿微量元素的矿床类型判别。这些研究综述为国内外学者进一步研究磁铁矿提供了重要的参考资料。

本综述在前人对磁铁矿的研究基础上,结合本人近年的研究工作,系统介绍了磁铁矿的主要研究方法(图 1),包括磁铁矿的年代学、显微结构、元素和同位素组成等;在方法学的基础上,探讨了磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年在成矿年代学研究的应用、磁铁矿有关的温度计和氧逸度计、矿床类型判别以及再平衡过程对矿床类型判别的影响。此外,以 IOCG 和 IOA 型矿床为例,探讨了磁铁矿微量元素组成对这些矿床的成因制约,初步总结了磁铁矿微量元素组成在找矿勘查方面的应用。最后,就磁铁矿研究的发展方向提出初步想法,包括原位 U-Pb 年代学、微量元素的赋存状态和分配机制、非传统稳定同位素示踪(如 V 同位素)以及磁铁矿地球化学数据库等方面,供读者参考。

1 磁铁矿的研究方法

1.1 磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年

成矿时代是矿床学研究的核心问题之一。精准的成矿年龄,可以将成矿事件与构造、岩浆等事件联系起来,为矿床成因研究提供制约。Re-Os 同位素体系是金属矿床成因研究的重要工具,兼具定年和示踪双重功能^[20]。元素 Re、Os 具有强亲铜性,主要富集

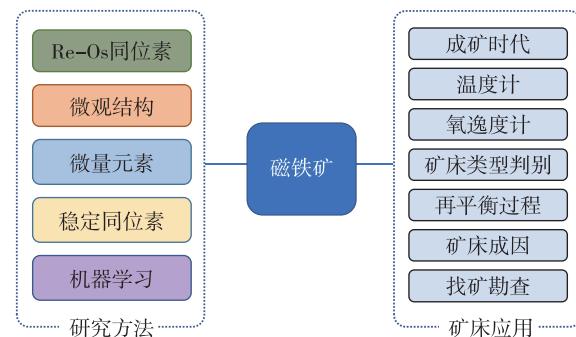


图 1 磁铁矿主要研究方法及其矿床应用

Fig. 1 Main research methods related to magnetite and its application to mineral deposit

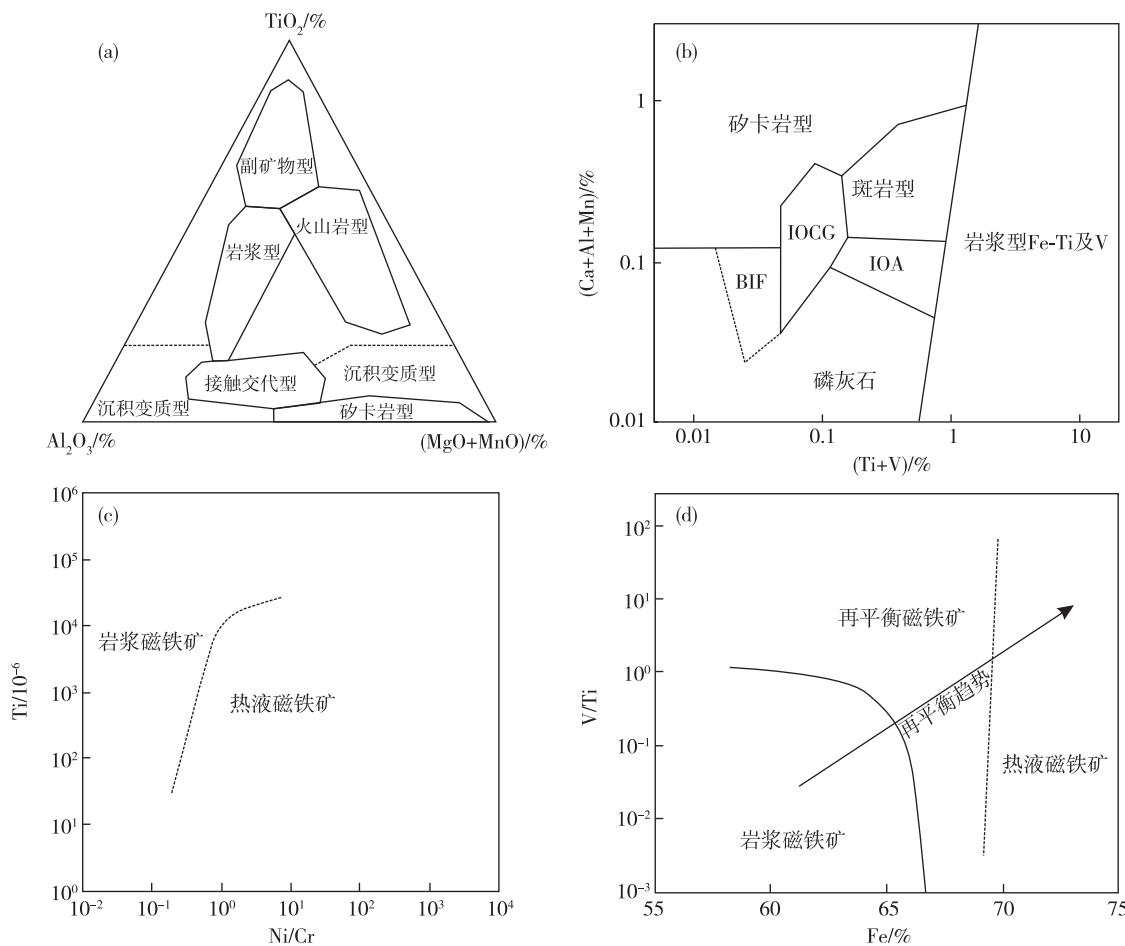
在硫化物中。因此,辉钼矿、黄铁矿、黄铜矿等硫化物的 Re-Os 同位素定年已得到广泛应用^[21-24]。

除了硫化物,磁铁矿中也具有一定含量的 Re 和 Os 元素,具备 Re-Os 同位素定年的基本条件^[25]。在岩浆 Fe-Ti-V 矿床或 BIF 中,几乎没有硫化物沉淀,磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年可能是成矿时代研究的重要手段^[26]。此外,在岩浆热液铁矿床中,硫化物通常出现在成矿作用的晚期,硫化物与磁铁矿非同时形成,硫化物 Re-Os 同位素定年难以限定铁成矿时间;磁铁矿在岩浆热液演化的多个阶段均有出现^[27-29],若对其进行 Re-Os 同位素定年研究,有望揭示磁铁矿的沉淀过程和矿床形成的持续时间。因此,磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年是铁矿床年代学研究的理想选择。尽管 Re-Os 同位素分析方法比较成熟,但由于磁铁矿富铁和低 Re、Os 的特点(Re 含量集中在 $10^{-10} \sim 10^{-8}$, Os 含量集中在 $10^{-12} \sim 10^{-11}$)^[25],需采用特殊的化学前处理流程,以保证分析方法的可靠性和稳定性。

1.2 磁铁矿的显微及晶体结构分析

1.2.1 扫描电镜和电子探针

扫描电镜和电子探针是微区原位分析的主要仪器。磁铁矿具有复杂的显微结构,通常需要在高对比度的背散射电子模式下并结合元素的面扫描才能准确识别^[30-31]。例如, HUANG X W 和 BEAUDOIN G^[31]利用扫描电镜和电子探针识别出 IOCG 和 IOA 型矿床磁铁矿具有氧化性出溶、溶解-再沉淀和重结晶 3 种不同的结构,据此划分出多个世代磁铁矿,揭示了多期的岩浆和热液作用,刻画了这些矿床的成矿过程,是磁铁矿精细结构研究的



(a). $\text{TiO}_2\text{-Al}_2\text{O}_3\text{-MgO+MnO}$ 三角图^[75]; (b). Ca+Al+Mn-Ti+V 图^[77]; (c). Ti-Ni/Cr 图^[78]; (d). Fe-V/Ti 图^[79]

图 2 基于磁铁矿元素含量或者比值的矿床类型判别图解

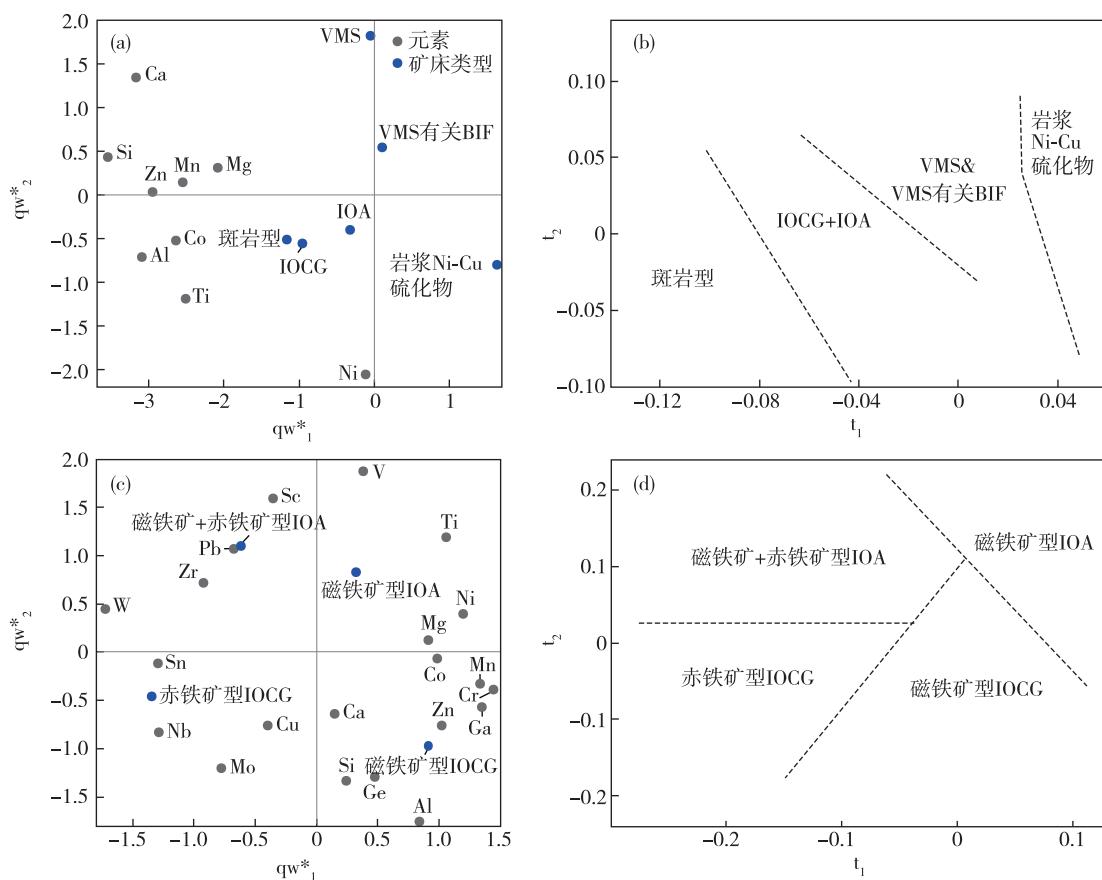
Fig. 2 Discrimination diagrams of deposit types based on trace element contents or ratios in magnetite

代集中在晚太古代—中生代^[90]。基鲁纳 IOA 型矿床以盛产块状磁铁矿石的瑞典 Kiruna 矿区命名, 矿石为低钛磁铁矿土赤铁矿和磷灰石组合^[91], 常伴生稀土矿化, 区别于基性岩和斜长岩有关的高钛磁铁矿和磷灰石组合。前人对它们经过了大量的研究, 提出了不同的成因模式^[85,92-93]。

通过对全球 7 个典型的 IOCG 和 IOA 型矿床磁铁矿的细致结构剖析发现, 大多数 IOCG 型矿床磁铁矿具有核-边结构, 核部富 Si, 边部贫 Si, 均为热液来源, 支持 IOCG 型矿床主要为热液成因^[31]。在少数 IOCG 型矿床中, 核部由富 Ti 磁铁矿组成, 且伴随钛铁矿出溶, 可能是岩浆直接结晶的产物, 支持了 IOCG 型矿床的岩浆贡献^[31]。在 IOA 型矿床中发现了热液核-热液边结构, 核部主要由富硅酸盐矿物包裹体的磁铁矿组成, 边部由较纯的磁铁矿组成, 支持了 IOA

矿床主要为热液成因。通过对 IOCG 和 IOA 型矿床亚类型的大数据判别分析发现, 磁铁矿微量元素的组合特征不仅可以揭示成矿流体的物理化学条件(如温度和氧逸度等), 还可以提供其原始岩浆的特征信息^[85]。赤铁矿型 IOCG 铁氧化物相对亏损 V 和 Ti, 指示其形成于相对高的氧逸度和相对低的温度。该类矿床铁氧化物相对富集 Nb、W 和 Sn 等特征, 反映了高演化花岗质岩浆参与了成矿。磁铁矿型 IOA 矿床铁氧化物相对富集 V 和 Ti, 指示较高的形成温度和较低的氧逸度; 相对富集 Mg 和 Ni, 说明有相对基性的岩浆热液参与其成矿。

在 IOCG(如 Sossego)和 IOA(如 Los Colorados)矿床均发现磁铁矿岩浆核+热液边结构^[31,80], 指示了这些矿床同时经历了岩浆和热液过程。通过对斑岩铜矿、IOCG、IOA 和矽卡岩矿床磁铁矿微量元素的



(a).元素及6个矿床类型的载荷图(第一和第二PLS组分);(b).与图3(a)对应的不同矿床类型样品得分图;(c).元素及IOCG、IOA矿床亚类型载荷图(第一和第二PLS组分);(d).与图3(c)对应的不同矿床类型样品得分图

图3 磁铁矿微量元素与PLS-DA相结合的矿床类型判别图解^[85]

Fig. 3 Discrimination diagrams of deposit types based on the combination of magnetite trace elements and PLS-DA^[85]

PLS-DA判别时发现,IOCG与IOA矿床有较大重叠,反映了成矿流体具有一定的相似性^[84]。因此,通过磁铁矿结构和微量元素组成的系统研究,揭示了IOCG和IOA型矿床均经历了岩浆和热液过程,但主要的矿石来自于热液过程,且IOCG和IOA存在地球化学上的相似性。但是,两者之间的成因联系需要进一步研究。

尽管磁铁矿对于低温热液蚀变具有较强的抵抗能力,但是磁铁矿仍会被高温热液改造形成新的磁铁矿,这种现象在一些热液铁矿床(如矽卡岩、IOCG)中非常普遍^[30-31, 94]。通过对典型IOCG和IOA型矿床磁铁矿的显微结构研究发现,该矿物存在3种再平衡结构,分别为氧化出溶、溶解-再沉淀及重结晶^[31]。需要特别指出的是,不同矿床中单个磁铁矿颗粒通常都包含一种或者多种再平衡结构(图4),暗示磁铁矿经历了多期次的岩浆和热液流

体作用。通过评估再平衡过程对矿床类型判别的影响发现,除了重结晶,其他再平衡过程均会造成原生磁铁矿微量元素组成的明显变化,使得判别结果出现偏差。为了进一步明确再平衡过程中微量元素组成变化的原因,HUANG X W等^[38-39]利用FIB-TEM对Sossego和Alemao矿床具有复杂结构的磁铁矿进行了解析,发现单个磁铁矿颗粒不同区域微量元素组成的差异,主要由其中纳米矿物包裹体的类型及其不均匀的分布造成(图4)。磁铁矿中不同类型纳米包裹体的存在会不同程度地影响判别结果,比如钛铁矿纳米包体的存在会明显影响Ti+V含量,而辉石、角闪石和绿泥石纳米包体的存在会影响Ca+Al+Mn含量。因此,在分析磁铁矿的微量元素组成之前,需仔细观察磁铁矿的结构,识别原生磁铁矿和改造磁铁矿,在此基础上进行微量元素组成的相关矿床成因研究才具有意义。

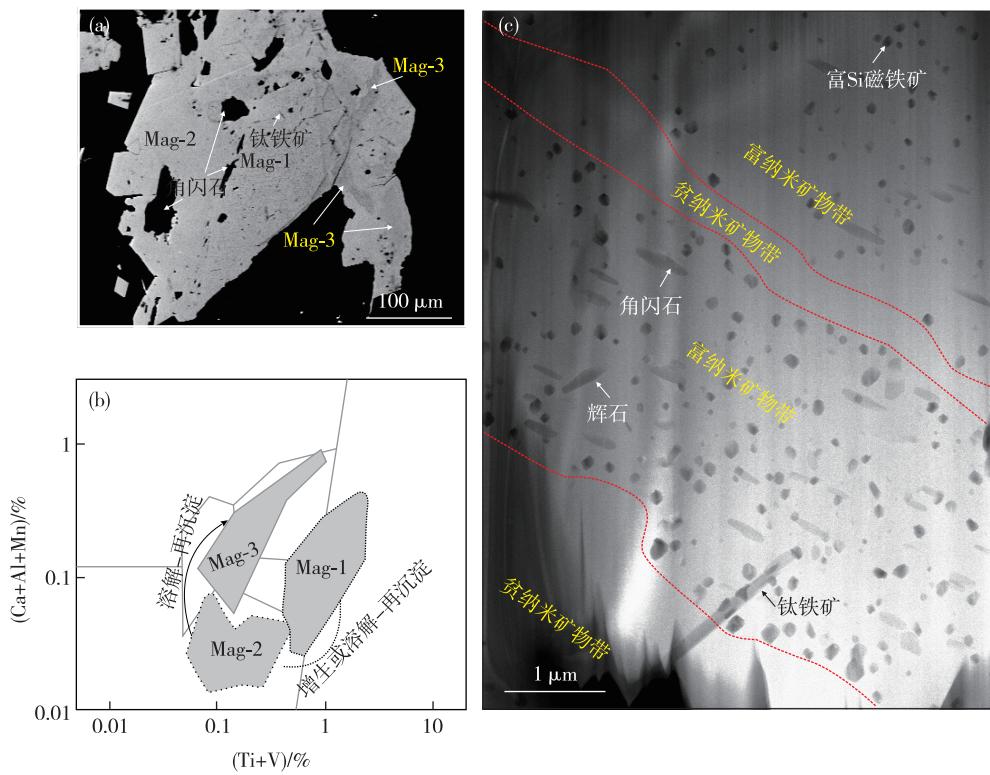


图4 IOCG矿床中磁铁矿复杂的结构(a)和成分特征(b)以及磁铁矿中的纳米矿物包体(c)^[31,39]

Fig. 4 Complex textures(a), various chemistry (b) of magnetite and nanomineral inclusions (c) within magnetite in IOCG deposits^[31,39]

2.5 找矿勘查

矿产勘查的两个重要任务是评估区域成矿潜力和精准定位矿化位置。磁铁矿作为重要的指示矿物,在矿产勘查方面体现出一定的潜力。ACOSTA-GÓNGORA 等^[27]在研究加拿大 Great Bear 岩浆带的 NICO IOCG 矿床和其他 Cu-Bi-Co 多金属矿床时发现,无矿变沉积岩中的磁铁矿与成矿有关磁铁矿具有相似的 Ti+V 含量,但是具有显著不同的 Cr/Co、V/Co、Co/Ni 和 V/Ni 等比值。成矿前的磁铁矿和变沉积岩中的磁铁矿比成矿有关的磁铁矿具有更高的 Cr/Co 比值($\text{Cr}/\text{Co} > 1$),可以有效识别矿化。SIMPSON B 等^[95]在研究澳大利亚 Avoca Tank Cu-Au 矿床时发现磁铁矿微量元素组成的变化与 Cu 品位具有相关关系,这种相关性可以通过一些三角图(Ni-Ti-V 和 $100 * \text{Sn-Zn-Ni}$)体现出来。例如,在 Ni-Ti-V 图解中成矿与不成矿的样品可以通过 Ni 含量进行区分,而 Ti 和 V 含量的相对高低则很好地对应了低品位、中等品位和高品位 Cu 的矿石样品。因此,在矿区尺度进行磁铁矿微量元素

填图工作,是发现矿化的重要手段。

磁铁矿物理或者化学组成结合机器学习方法是矿床类型判别的新手段,助力了找矿勘查研究。MAKVANDI S 等^[96]分析了不同地质环境下 VMS 矿床以及基岩样品中的磁铁矿微量元素组成,并建立了基于 PLS-DA 的磁铁矿来源判别方法,为区域找矿提供了重要的参考。PISIAK L K 等^[97]利用冰碛物中磁铁矿的微量元素组成探讨了加拿大 Mount Polley Cu-Au 矿床外围的成矿潜力。作者利用线性判别分析(Linear Discriminant Analysis, LDA)首先建立了斑岩 Cu 矿床中与成矿有关的岩浆磁铁矿、无矿岩浆磁铁矿和斑岩热液磁铁矿的分类图解,然后利用这些图解对冰碛物中磁铁矿的来源进行判别,发现了 Mount Polley 矿床外围存在两个 Cu 矿化异常点,与冰川运移的方向相吻合。该方法为寻找隐伏的斑岩型矿床提供了新的思路。相似的 LDA 模型用于河流沉积物中磁铁矿的来源判别,证实了碎屑磁铁矿的化学组成可用于斑岩型矿床的勘查^[98]。MAKVANDI S 等^[99]利用矿物自

动分析仪获得了不同类型样品中磁铁矿的矿物组合、颗粒大小等信息,结合 PCA 进行了磁铁矿的源区识别,为冰川/沉积物覆盖区矿产的发现提供了新的思路。从上述案例中可以看出,通过多元统计或者机器学习的分类算法,可以更加精确地进行矿化类型判别,为矿产勘查研究提供了新的手段。

3 未来展望

磁铁矿作为一个广泛分布的矿物,研究方法多样,研究内容丰富,其在地球科学尤其是矿床学研究中的作用有待进一步挖掘。本人基于有限的知识体系,提出以下几点值得进一步思考和探讨的问题。

(1) 磁铁矿的年代学。磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年在成矿年代研究方面呈现出巨大潜力,但是由于磁铁矿 Re、Os 含量总体较低,分析困难,实现低 Re 含量磁铁矿样品的高精度 Re-Os 同位素分析仍是要努力的方向。另外,在保证分析方法基础上,如何提高磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素定年的成功率,即磁铁矿 Re-Os 同位素体系封闭性的关键控制因素,也是值得研究的重要内容。除了 Re-Os 同位素体系,原位分析技术的发展也使得磁铁矿 U-Pb 同位素定年成为可能,是值得探索的方向,尤其是一些 IOCG 型矿床中相对富 U 的磁铁矿。

(2) 磁铁矿中微量元素的赋存状态。以往研究主要通过元素相关性和 Goldschmidt 原则来推测微量元素在磁铁矿中的赋存状态及替代方式。最近的一些研究发现^[34-35,38-39],微量元素除了类质同象替代,还以纳米矿物包体的形式存在于磁铁矿中,这对微量元素以及同位素组成的研究提出了挑战。那么,纳米矿物的形成条件和机制是什么? 磁铁矿中微量元素含量达到多少才会形成纳米矿物? 不同元素在磁铁矿中的极限含量是多少? 以上均是筛选有效的元素含量数据时亟待解决的关键问题。

(3) 磁铁矿中微量元素的分配。磁铁矿-熔体中元素的分配行为研究比较广泛^[100-101],多数元素已有准确的分配系数^[46],但是磁铁矿-热液体系中元素的分配行为研究相对匮乏^[102-103]。由于同一元素在岩浆和热液体系中的行为可能不同,甚至相反,例如 Si 在岩浆磁铁矿中属于强不相容元素,而在热液体系中却相容于磁铁矿,如果按照岩浆体系的分配理论去推测热液体系中元素的地球化学行为,可

能会出现明显错误。因此,热液体系下元素在磁铁矿中的分配行为亟待解决。

(4) 磁铁矿的同位素示踪。磁铁矿最常用的同位素示踪方法就是 Fe 和 O 同位素,但是磁铁矿中某些微量元素的同位素组成同样值得关注,例如 V 同位素。由于 V 具有多个价态,所以可用于指示岩浆中氧化还原环境的变化。实验研究表明,磁铁矿相对硅酸盐熔体具有偏轻的 V 同位素,且岩浆磁铁矿 V 同位素分馏受岩浆氧逸度影响,因此,V 同位素可以示踪原始岩浆的氧逸度^[104]。磁铁矿 V 同位素的分析方法开发及分馏理论研究是发展磁铁矿 V 同位素示踪手段的重要内容。

(5) 磁铁矿地球化学数据库。随着原位分析技术的发展,磁铁矿等矿物地球化学数据呈爆炸性增长,如何有效地对这些数据进行管理和再利用非常关键。磁铁矿微量元素大数据与机器学习方法相结合的研究思路已经应用于矿床学研究中,研究案例呈不断上涨趋势。因为数据是开展一切研究的基础,所以建立矿物地球化学数据库是开启磁铁矿大数据研究的必经之路。尽管前人已对部分磁铁矿的微量元素数据进行了汇总^[105],本文作者也已初步建立了矿物地球化学数据库(<http://miner-geochem.com>),但是鉴于矿物信息系统的复杂性,更加全面的集数据库、数据分析与数据应用于一体的多功能系统仍有待开发。

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Magnetite: research methods and applications to ore deposit research

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Abstract: As an ubiquitous mineral in nature, the diagenetic and mineralization studies on magnetite have attracted much attention. This article systematically summarizes recent years' research progress on magnetite, introduces magnetite research method system and its application in mineral deposit research. Magnetite research methodologies involve geochronology, microtexture, elemental and isotopic composition. On the basis of magnetite methodology, we discussed the application of magnetite Re-Os isotope dating in geochronology, magnetite-related thermometers and oxygen fugameters, as well as deposit type discrimination. In addition, taking iron oxide-copper-gold and iron oxide-apatite deposits as examples, the authors explored how trace elements in magnetite constrain their genesis, and summarized the participation of magnetite trace element in mineral exploration. As an important object in mineral deposit study, magnetite has been promoting ore genesis research and mineral exploration with much practical potential, involving its U-Pb geochronology and nontraditional stable isotopes(such as V isotopes). Nevertheless, the occurrence and partition behavior of trace elements in magnetite, and the magnetite geochemical database are still weak aspects which need enhancement in magnetite research.

Key words: magnetite; microtexture; trace elements; geochronology; deposit types; mineral exploration