

# GEOCHEMISTRY AND PETROLOGY OF FELSIC AND MAFIC SUITES RELATED TO THE PALEOPROTEROZOIC TRANSAMAZONIAN OROGENY IN MINAS GERAIS, BRAZIL

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**ABSTRACT** Paleoproterozoic (*ca.* 2.0-2.1 Ga) intrusive rocks exposed along the southern border of the São Francisco Craton have been divided into three suites: granite suite, TTG (tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite) suite, and gabro-diorite suite. The granite suite comprises two distinct groups of plutons, one composed of highly differentiated peraluminous granites, and the other including less evolved metaluminous to peraluminous high-K granites. It is suggested that granitic plutons are not derived from a single magma source, probably due to their association to more than one stage of the orogen evolution. TTG and gabro-diorite suites follow a calc-alkaline trend, and may constitute a single large suite originated from mantle-derived magmas at a plate margin setting. However, chemical data of some granodioritic plutons of the TTG suite indicates contribution of crust-derived material.

**Keywords:** geochemistry, petrology, felsic suites, mafic suites, Paleoproterozoic

**GEOLOGICAL SETTING** Several granitoid and mafic intrusions exposed along the southern border of the São Francisco Craton in Minas Gerais have been dated at *ca.* 2.0-2.1 Ga (Teixeira 1985, Quéméneur and Vidal 1989, Heilbron *et al.* 1989, Choudhuri *et al.* 1992, Teixeira *et al.* 1998, Avila *et al.* 1998, Noce *et al.* 1998). These intrusions are part of a magmatic arc related to the Transamazonian Orogeny, and are intrusive into an Archean crust composed of TTG gneiss, granite-gneiss, migmatite, granulite, and greenstone belt remnants (Fig. 1).

Metamorphic grade of Archean rocks increases westward, from amphibolite facies in the São João del Rei-Lavras area to granulite facies in the Lavras-Carmópolis area. Granulitic rocks comprise charnockite, enderbite, charnockite gneiss, mafic granulite, and spinel-bearing ultramafic rock. Charnockites are probably of magmatic origin and yielded a Rb-Sr whole-rock isochron of  $2660 \pm 30$  Ma (Quéméneur 1995). Migmatites of granitic composition predominates to the north of the granulitic rocks, and are included in the Campo Belo Complex.

The migmatization event was dated at  $2839 \pm 17$  Ma (U-Pb age, Teixeira *et al.* 1998).

Greenstone successions mainly composed of mafic- to ultramafic rocks of tholeiitic to komatiitic composition make up a disrupted belt that extends south of the Quadrilátero Ferrífero to the west of Lavras (Barbacena Greenstone Belt, Pires *et al.* 1990).

**THE TRANSAMAZONIAN MAGMATIC ARC** The magmatic arc was first defined by Quéméneur *et al.* (1994). It extends from more than 250 Km from east to west comprising roughly aligned granitoid and mafic bodies. This paper will focus on the central part of the belt, where the intrusive rocks have been divided into three suites: granite suite, TTG (tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite) suite, and gabro-diorite suite.

Chemical analysis presented hereafter were carried out at the École de Mines de Saint Etienne (France) by using a X-ray fluorescence and ICP-MS.

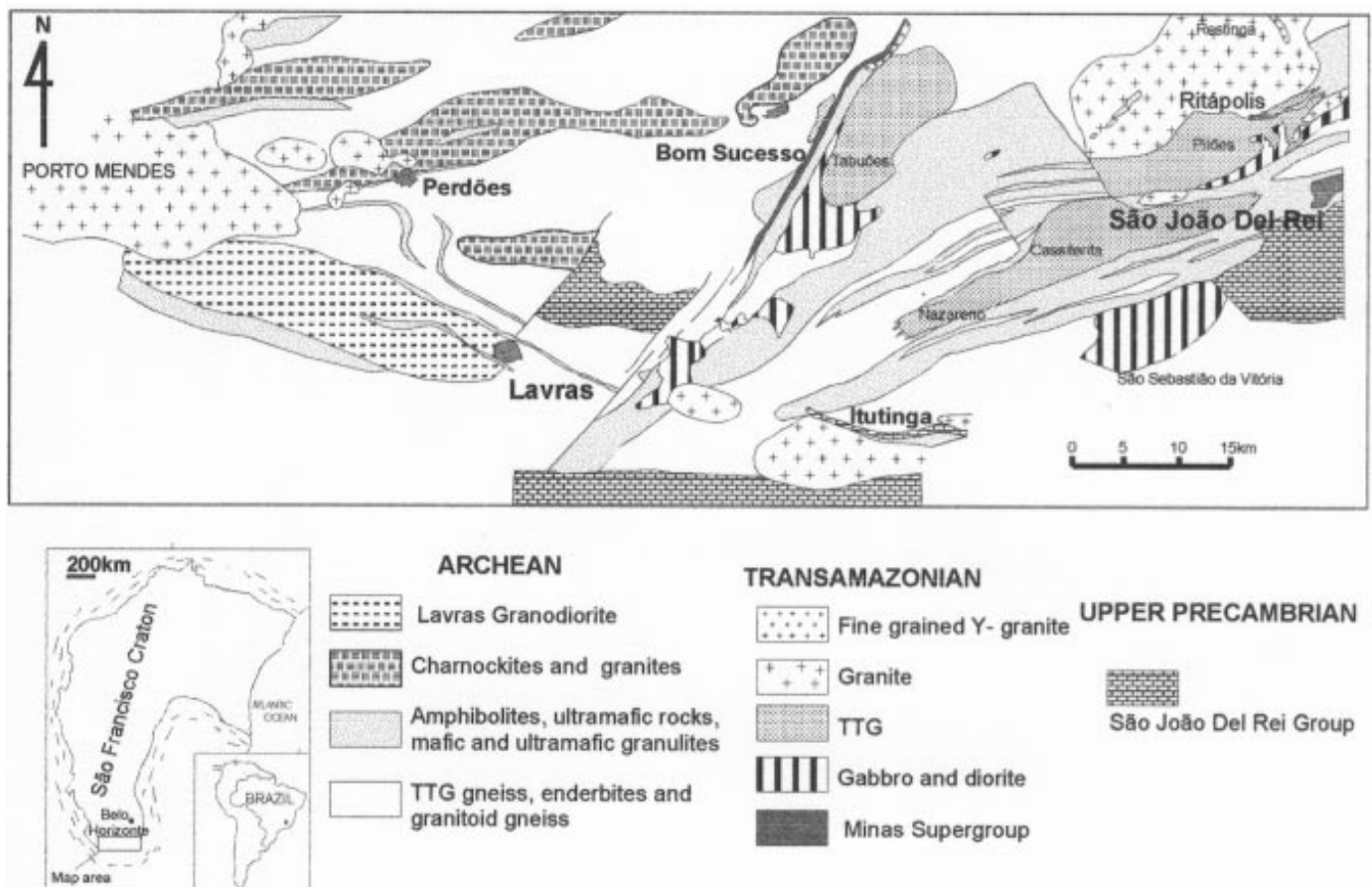


Figure 1 - Geologic map of southern border of the São Francisco craton displaying Transamazonian intrusive bodies and the Archean basement

**Granite suite** It comprises two distinct groups of plutons. Ritápolis, Itutinga and Perdões intrusions are highly differentiated peraluminous granites, while the Porto Mendes massif is a less evolved metaluminous to peraluminous high-K granite (Table 1).

**RITÁPOLIS MASSIF** Granitic rocks of Ritápolis have been studied by many authors, including Guimarães and Guedes (1944), Ebert (1956), Quéméneur and Baraud (1983), Porto Jr. (1988), among others. The Ritápolis massif is a large (25x13.5 km, 250 km<sup>2</sup>) ovoid-shaped body intrusive into Archean greenstone belt rocks, and associated to a surrounding pegmatite field that includes lithium-tantalum-bearing pegmatites. Its southern contact with the Pilões granodiorite is rather irregular and many enclaves of this rock are found within the Ritápolis massif, even in its central portion.

The Ritápolis granite displays an isotropic texture except for its southern portion where it is affected by the north-verging São João del Rei-Nazareno shear zone, developing an E-W foliation. Despite its size, the massif is quite homogeneous and composed of a leucocratic medium-grained granite, porphyritic at some places. The rock-forming minerals are K-feldspar (30-40%), comprising large (4-8 mm) subidiomorphic mesoperthite crystals and small microcline crystals, quartz (30-40%), plagioclase (15-25%, An<sub>7</sub>-An<sub>12</sub>) 2-6 mm in size, and green biotite (3-4%) that can be altered to muscovite. Accessory minerals are apatite, epidote, allanite, sphene, ilmenite and zircon. The Ritápolis granite plots on the monzogranite field of the Streckeisen's diagram.

The chemical analysis plot on the granite and adamellite fields of the Debon and Lefort's (1983) diagram, and on the peraluminous field of the Maniar and Picolli's (1989) diagram based on Shand's index. The Ritápolis granite is a highly fractionated S-type granite, with high contents of Si, Rb and U, and low contents of Fe, Ti, Mg, Ca, Ba, Li (24 ppm) and V (3 ppm). Rocks from the western portion of the massif are enriched in Ti, Zr, Ba, U, Th and REE, compared to the ones from the eastern portion, what may imply in the presence of two distinct intrusions.

**RESTINGA GRANITE (Y-RICH GRANITE)** It is a small body (6.5x1.2 km) located at the northeastern border of the Ritápolis Massif. It is a homogeneous fine-grained (1-2 mm) mesocratic granite, composed by K-feldspar (40-45%), quartz (30-35%), oligoclase (20%) and minor secondary albite, and biotite (6-7%). REE-, Y- and Zr-rich accessory minerals like allanite, monazite, xenotime, and zircon are always present.

The Restinga granite chemical composition is in marked contrast to the Ritápolis granite composition. The Restinga granite is less fractionated and displays an alkaline trend. It contains high values of both incompatible elements like Rb, U and Th, and compatible elements like Ba, Zr, V (average 16 ppm) and Li (average 65 ppm). High Y content (average 357 ppm) is the most characteristic feature of this granite. The alkaline trend is indicated by the Y and also by the high REE contents. No radiometric ages are available for the Restinga granite, and its field relations with the Ritápolis granite are not observed. Thus, its inclusion into the Transamazonian arc is still uncertain.

**ITUTINGA GRANITE** This pluton was deformed during the Neoproterozoic Brasileiro Orogeny. An oblique NE verging thrusting system, associated to the São João del Rei-Nazareno shear zone, affected both the metasediments of the Andrelândia Group and its basement, represented by the Itutinga granite and Archean gneiss. The granite is partially mylonitized and displays an E-W foliation. Mylonitic rocks are composed of a quartz-microcline matrix displaying porphyroclasts of microcline, mesoperthite and plagioclase, plus small idiomorphic biotite crystals altered to chlorite. At less-deformed zones the granite is porphyritic with large K-feldspar phenocrysts and a coarse-grained (5 mm) matrix.

Its chemical composition is similar to the Ritápolis granite composition. The Itutinga pluton is a fractionated peraluminous granite containing low Fe, Mg, Ca, Ti, Ba and REE, high U contents, and high Na/Ca, Rb/Sr and Pb/Zn values.

**PORTO MENDES MASSIF AND SATELLITE BODIES** The Porto Mendes massif was first identified during a 1:250,000 scale mapping project (Projeto Sapucaí, Cavalcante *et al.* 1979). It is the largest

Transamazonian intrusion in the area (35x20 km) and is associated to many satellite bodies exposed at the vicinities of the massif's northeastern border. Those are the Perdões granite, Serrinha granite, Toscano de Brito granite, and Bom Jardim granodiorite.

The main body is composed of a light-gray medium- to coarse-grained (4-10 mm) granite, locally porphyritic. Magmatic banding is often found at the outer parts of the massif. Its mineralogical composition falls on the monzogranite field of QAP diagram. Plagioclase is often altered to saussurite and biotite to chlorite. Accessory minerals are secondary epidote, apatite, allanite, opaque minerals and zircon. Chemical composition reveals that the Porto Mendes granite is poorly fractionated, metaluminous to peraluminous, with high Fe, Mg, Ca, P, Ti, Zr, Ba and REE, and low U contents. High Rb, REE and Zr contents suggest a poorly defined alkaline trend.

The satellite bodies can be divided into two groups; one comprises granites with identical chemical composition as the main body, like the Serrinha granite and the other display a more fractionated character, like the Perdões granite. The Perdões granite is fine-grained and mica-poor. Its chemical composition is similar to more evolved granites like Ritápolis and Itutinga, except for higher Ba and lower Rb contents. Low Rb content may indicate that it is not a product of Porto Mendes magma fractionation. The Bom Jardim granodiorite is probably a distinct intrusion because its mineralogical and chemical composition is more akin to that of the TTG suite (see next section). It contains high TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.76%), Ba (2284 ppm), Zr (548 ppm) and REE (291 ppm Ce)

Table 1 - Selected chemical data of the granite suite. Major elements expressed as wt%, trace elements expressed as ppm

	Ritápolis (east)	Ritápolis (west)	Restinga	Itutinga	P. Mendes	Perdões
FeO	1.51	1.51	2.21	1.46	2.19	1.30
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.09	0.13	0.26	0.12	0.32	0.12
MgO	0.27	0.26	0.37	0.19	0.53	0.22
Rb	274	254	358	207	226	166
Ba	290	361	847	218	1156	643
Zr	101	145	207	114	236	128
U	28	77	23	16	6.7	19.1
Ce	55	126	174	88	159	39
Na/Ca	11.0	8.4	6.4	7.8	5.1	7.61
Rb/Sr	5.56	4.55	3.85	4.35	1.27	1.23
Zn/Pb	0.68	0.46	1.46	0.52	0.78	0.48

contents.

### TTG (tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite) suite

**TABUÕES TONALITE** This body covers ca. 70 km<sup>2</sup>, composed of a light-gray fine- to medium-grained tonalite. Magmatic planar structure can be observed at many outcrops, superimposed by a weakly developed E-W tectonic foliation. The rock-forming minerals are oligoclase (An<sub>27</sub>-An<sub>60</sub>, 50-60%), quartz (25-30%), microcline (10%), and biotite (5-8%). Accessory minerals are apatite, epidote, sphene, allanite, and zircon. It is noteworthy the relative abundance of rounded zircon crystals and allanite with a rim of epidote.

The Tabuões intrusion has a tonalite to trondhjemite chemical composition (Na-Ab-Or diagram after O'Connor 1965, see table 2), with Na/K>3.5 and 2.5<Na/Ca<3.5. TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.20-0.48%) and Ba (670-1170 ppm) contents show an almost linear positive correlation. At the northern border of the pluton lies a small granite stock with a chemical composition that resembles the one of the Restinga granite, albeit its lower Y content. These granites are probably not associated to any of the large surrounding plutons, i.e., the Ritápolis granite and Tabuões tonalite.

The Tabuões tonalite is the only Transamazonian intrusion with a well-defined metamorphic aureole, especially along its eastern border where it is in contact with the Minas Supergroup. Contact metamorphism is evidenced by crystallization of garnet, sillimanite and staurolite in quartz-biotite schists. Itabirites preserve their primary banded texture, but quartz and iron oxides are replaced by grunerite.

**CASSITERITA AND PILÕES MASSIFS** These two parallel bodies cover together ca. 300 km<sup>2</sup> (45x10 km), and are separated by the Caburu shear zone. The Pilões granodiorite is exposed north of the Caburu shear zone. Veins of the Ritápolis granite cut the Pilões granodiorite along the contact between the two bodies. The latter

displays a Rb enrichment that suggests K-metassomatism during intrusion of the Ritápolis granite.

The Cassiterita pluton is limited by the Caburu shear zone to the north, and the São João del Rei-Nazareno shear zone to the south. Where deformation is more intense, like the central portion of the pluton, the rock is medium-grained biotite gneiss. However, it differs from the adjacent Archean TTG gneiss because the latter always displays a characteristic banded texture. A fine-grained (1-3 mm) granodiorite predominates in less-deformed zones like the northeastern margin. The intrusion is predominantly composed of granodiorite and tonalite, cut by several trondhjemitic veins. Its easternmost portion displays a trondhjemitic- to tonalitic composition (Ávila 1992). Rock-forming minerals are plagioclase (40-50%), quartz (30-35%), microcline (8-15%), and biotite (6-10%). The most common accessory minerals are sphene, ilmenite, apatite, secondary epidote, allanite and zircon. Granodioritic rocks are rich in Ti, Ba, Zr and REE. Their mantelic character is indicated by high Zn/Pb values (average 3.49). Trondhjemitic rocks are more leucocratic and poorer in K, Ti, Ba, Zr and REE. Zn/Pb values are also slightly lower (3.06) when compared to granodiorites. Chemical compositions of Cassiterita and Pilões intrusions are very similar, suggesting that they are co-genetic (see table 2).

**Gabro-diorite suite** It includes four gabro- to diorite intrusions that are distinguished from the TTG suite by their high amphibole content. However, both suites follow a calc-alkaline trend in the Irvine and Baragar's (1971) AFM diagram, and may constitute a single large suite.

**SÃO SEBASTIÃO DA VITÓRIA MASSIF** This is the largest gabro-diorite intrusion covering ca. 60 km<sup>2</sup>. Deformation along the São João del Rei-Nazareno shear zone resulted in numerous zones of schist cutting the massif. The same event was probably responsible for widespread chlorite and epidote alteration of gabros and diorites. Aplite veins of trondhjemitic composition that may be related to the Cassiterita pluton also cut the massif.

**IBITUTINGA DIORITE** This intrusion was named as Ibitutinga diorite by Ávila (1992), who lately proposed its subdivision into two bodies, Brumado and Gloria diorites (Ávila *et al.* 1998). In fact, outcrops of the Ritápolis granite and the Pilões granodiorite separate the two sides of the massif, but they could represent a single body affected by younger granitic intrusions. Alternatively, dioritic rocks may represent more mafic facies of the Pilões granodiorite.

**IBITURUNA MARTINS AND ROSÁRIO MASSIFS** The Ibituruna massif is made of a greenish gray rock, medium-grained (3-6 mm) and amphibole-rich. Its composition varies from diorite to tonalite, and it may represent an extension of the Tabuões tonalite. Dioritic rocks are composed of plagioclase (44-55%) intensively altered to epidote, hornblende (10-20%), quartz (5-15%), microcline (5-10%), and biotite (2-4%). Accessory minerals are sphene, ilmenite, epidote, apatite, allanite, and pyrrhotite. Southern of the Ibituruna massif lies a small body of gabro (Martins gabro) that may be part of the same intrusion.

The Rosário diorite is highly deformed and mylonitic at its southern half, due to its location within the Serra do Bonsucesso shear zone. It contains significant amounts of sulfide minerals like pyrrhotite and

chalcopryrite.

**DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION** The three suites plot separately on a  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  versus Log Zn/Pb diagram (Fig. 2), and also on a Ba versus Zr diagram. In the latter the granodioritic rocks plot apart from other rocks of the TTG suite because of their high Ba and Zr contents. In Ti versus Mg and  $\text{TiO}_2$  versus Zr diagrams (Fig. 3) all rocks of the TTG suite plot together. In MgO versus  $\text{TiO}_2$  and  $\text{TiO}_2$  versus Zr diagrams chemical data of the granite suite display a linear trend, suggesting a differentiation process of a magma with a composition similar to the Porto Mendes granite. However, based on other diagrams its is more likely that the linear array reflects the degree of fractionation of distinct magmas. In Ce versus Zr, Log (Rb/Sr) versus Ba (Fig. 4), and Zr versus (La+Ce) diagrams, it can be distinguished two separate fields, one of Porto Mendes and Perdões granites, and the other of Ritápolis, Itutinga and Restinga granites. Isotopic data (Noce *et al.* 2000) had already indicated the presence of distinct magma sources of rocks of the granite suite.

Intrusion ages of the TTG suite are around 2.12-2.16 Ga (Noce *et al.* 1998, Ávila *et al.* 1998), while Sm-Nd  $T_{\text{DM}}$  ages range from 2.27 to 2.43 Ga (Noce *et al.* 2000). It is proposed that this suite is derived from mixing of varied proportions of Paleoproterozoic mantelic material and Archean crust material (Noce *et al.* 2000). The granite suite displays older Sm-Nd  $T_{\text{DM}}$  ages; 2.66-2.77 Ga for Ritápolis and Itutinga granites, and ca. 3.0 Ga for Porto Mendes and Perdões

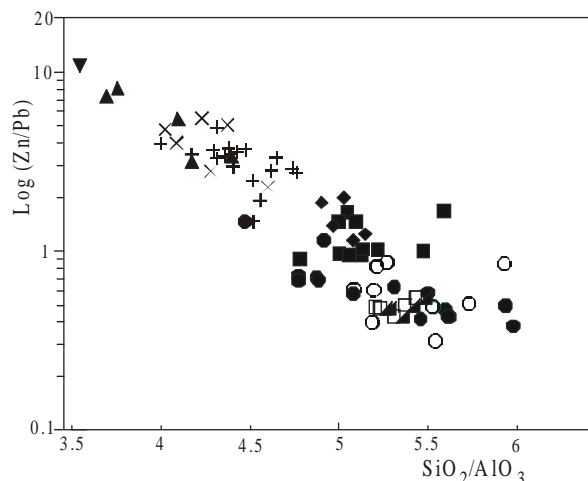


Figure 2-  $\text{SiO}_2/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  versus Log Zn/Pb diagram. Granite suite: Itutinga (open circle), Ritápolis (filled circle), Restinga (filled diamond), Porto Mendes (filled square), Perdões (half-filled square). TTG and gabro-diorite suites: Tabuões tonalite (X), Cassiterita and Pilões granodiorites (+), Ibituruna diorite (filled triangle), Martins gabro (updown filled triangle).

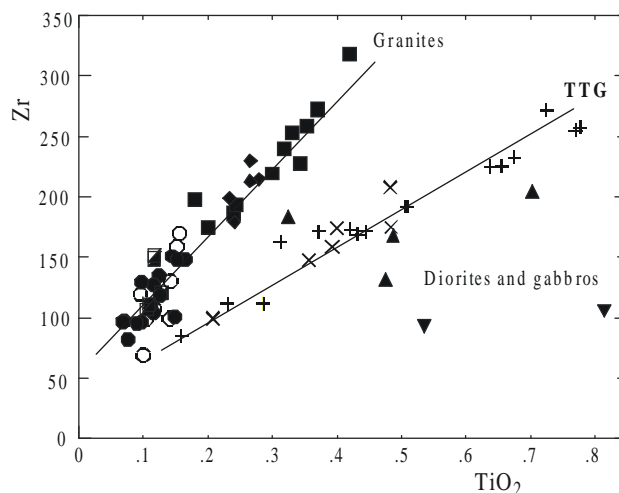


Figure 3 -  $\text{TiO}_2$  versus Zr diagram (symbols as in Fig. 2).

Table 2: Selected chemical data of the TTG and gabro-diorite suites. Major elements expressed as wt%, trace elements expressed as ppm

	Pilões	Cassiterita	Tabuões	Ibituruna	Martins
$\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$	3.60	3.61	3.18	5.56	8.58
$\text{TiO}_2$	0.68	0.62	0.40	0.57	0.66
MgO	1.05	1.25	1.12	2.41	5.86
Rb	119	68	44	60	29
Ba	1195	1140	640	1104	516
Zr	234	175	175	164	94
Ce	85	79	98	98	63
Na/Ca	3.05	2.61	2.89	1.81	0.813
Sr/Rb	4.20	6.31	13	12.8	20
Zn/Pb	3.5	3.49	4.01	4.86	12.5

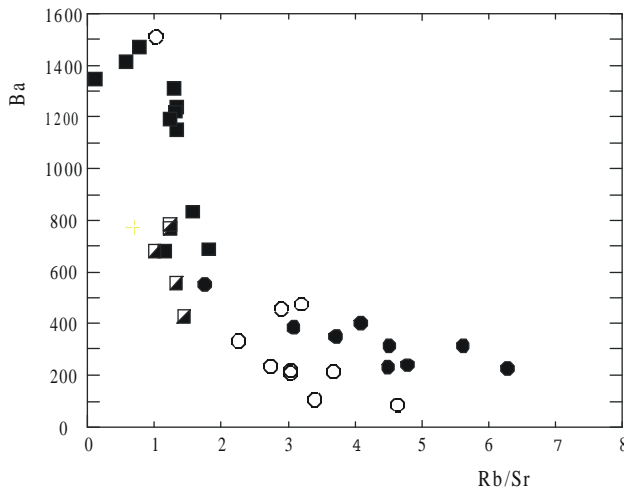


Figure 4 - Log (Rb/Sr) versus Ba diagram (symbols as in Fig. 2).

granites. These values reflect the age of the Archean crust surrounding the granitic intrusions, as demonstrated by the Mesoarchean ages of the Campo Belo Complex adjacent to the Porto Mendes massif (Teixeira *et al.* 1998).

The three suites are probably associated to distinct evolutionary stages of the Transamazonian Orogeny. TTG and Gabro-Diorite suites may have originated from mantle-derived magmas at a plate margin setting. Some intrusions like the Cassiterita and Pilões massifs are relatively rich in K, Ba and Zr, suggesting contribution of crust-derived material. The granite suite comprises less-fractionated rocks like the Porto Mendes granite, and highly fractionated S-type granites like the Ritópolis massif. It is not clear if they all were originated at the same tectonic stage, as precise magmatic ages are not available. In the tectonic discrimination diagrams of Pearce *et al.* (1984), Porto Mendes granite plots on the volcanic-arc field, while the majority of data of Ritópolis, Itutinga and Perdões granites plot on the within-plate field.

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