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Hongsheng Liu, Liangming Liu, Yan Chen, Michel Faure, Xu Xia, et al.. Spatial-temporal heterogeneity of magma emplacement process and its constraints on localization of associated orebody: A case study in the Shizishan orefield of the Tongling Ore Cluster, east China. Ore Geology Reviews, 2021, Accepted manuscript, pp.104587. 10.1016/j.oregeorev.2021.104587. insu-03439459v1

HAL Id: insu-03439459 https://insu.hal.science/insu-03439459v1

Submitted on 22 Nov 2021 (v1), last revised 17 Dec 2021 (v2)

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PII:	S0169-1368(21)00613-2
DOI:	https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oregeorev.2021.104587
Reference:	OREGEO 104587
To appear in:	Ore Geology Reviews
Received Date:	6 September 2020
Revised Date:	12 November 2021
Accepted Date:	14 November 2021



Please cite this article as: H. Liu, L. Liu, Y. Chen, M. Faure, X. Xia, H. Wu, W. Cao, Spatial-temporal heterogeneity of magma emplacement process and its constraints on localization of associated orebody: A case study in the Shizishan orefield of the Tongling Ore Cluster, east China, *Ore Geology Reviews* (2021), doi: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oregeorev.2021.104587

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Spatial-temporal heterogeneity of magma emplacement process and its constraints on localization of associated orebody: A case study in the Shizishan orefield of the Tongling Ore Cluster, east China

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Abstract

We present a study on the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock which is the largest Early Cretaceous intrusion associated with skarn-porphyry polymetallic ore deposit in the Tongling Ore Cluster, Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic Belt in East China. The Dongguashan quartz diorite show massive texture without obvious foliation, and intrusive contact was locally observed inside of the stock. The anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) results of the stock show two distinct groups. The Group I (G-I) is dominated by NE-SW-striking magnetic foliation with variably oriented magnetic lineation. The Group II (G-II) that intruded into G-I is characterized by steep NW-SE-striking magnetic foliation and lineation, which are parallel to the vein-like orebody developed in the stock. The 3D geometrical modelling of the stock displays a triangular shape in plan-view with an eastward bulge and irregular stock boundary in the eastern side and the contact surface is steeper in the west than that in the east, denoting that the stock was constructed with an eastward magma accretion trend. Furthermore, the Dongguashan quartz diorite has a wide range of composition and geochronological data, suggesting a multiple magma pulses emplacement model. Accordingly, we propose that the Dongguashan stock was constructed by at least two stages magma pulses. The earlier stage magma pulses intruded along the NE-SW-striking pre-emplacement structures in the country rock and partly intruded into the lithological and mechanical discontinuous interfaces which yielded the stratabound skarn orebody. The eastward magma accretion produced a highly deformed and longer heated country rock on the eastern side of the stock, favoring the orebody development along the eastern stock-country rock contact interface. The late-stage magma pulse and the parallelism among the trend of magnetic foliation of G-II, extensional

structure and vein-like orebody suggest that the vein-type orebodies may controlled by both magma emplacement and regional tectonics.

Keywords: Dongguashan quartz diorite stock; Emplacement mechanism; AMS; Skarn-porphyry deposit; Tongling Ore Cluster

1 **1. Introduction**

Study of orebody localization is a key topic for the comprehensive 2 3 understanding of epithermal metallogenic systems and is indispensable for more efficient exploration of hidden deposits. Nevertheless, orebody localization is a 4 5 complex geological process that has been contested for decades due to the non-linear relationship among ore-controlling factors and the development of orebodies 6 (Reynolds, 1958; Candela, 1992; Heinrich et al., 1996; Zhao et al., 2010; Liu et al., 7 2011; Sun and Liu, 2014). Previous geochemical and geochronological studies have 8 9 revealed that magma intrusions, which determine the type and period of ore-forming process, were the essential ore-controlling factor (e.g., Eugster, 1985; Candela, 1992; 10 Hedenquist and Lowenstern, 1994; Thompson et al., 1999; Hua et al., 2005; Mao et 11 12 al., 2008, 2011; Sillitoe, 2010; Chen et al., 2012). However, the orebody localization is strongly controlled by the physical and geological conditions of the magma 13 emplacement process, for example, magma ascent rate, emplacement depth, accretion 14 15 pattern, temperature-pressure and strain field around the intrusion (e.g., Chesley et al., 1993; Duuring and Hagemann, 2001; Candela et al., 2005; Vigneresse, 2006, 2007; 16 Eldursi et al., 2009; Holwell et al., 2014; Chen and Nabelek, 2017; Schöpa et al., 17 2017). Moreover, the geometries of pluton and pluton-country rock contact were also 18 considered as important ore-controlling factors (Romeo et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2011, 19 2014; Chicharro et al., 2015; Cao et al., 2020). Hence, the reconstruction of the 20 21 magma emplacement process and 3D geometry of plutons is crucial for understanding the mechanism of orebody localization. 22

Anisotropy of magnetic susceptibility (AMS) is a successful method to reveal 23 the magma emplacement process, as the pattern of magnetic fabric can reflect the 24 25 magma flow direction, magma accretion and regional tectonic setting (e.g., Hrouda, 1982; Ernst and Baragar, 1992; Rochette et al., 1992; Bouchez, 1997). In addition, 26 27 with the development of computational modelling methods, the pluton geometry can be well defined by geophysical and borehole data (e.g., Améglio et al., 1997; Romeo 28 et al., 2008; Liu et al., 2012; Lü et al., 2013; Sun and Liu, 2014; Wei et al., 2014). 29 However, the application of AMS is usually impeded by limited surface exposures of 30 31 the pluton, and the pluton geometry remains unclear due to the multi-use interpretation of geophysical data. 32

The Shizishan orefield is a representative skarn-porphyry ore deposit that is 33 34 related to the Late Mesozoic intrusion and located at the center of the Tongling Ore Cluster, Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic Belt, East China (rectangle inset in Figs. 35 1 and 2). In this study, we chose the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock as our research 36 37 target (Fig. 3) as it is the largest ore-forming intrusion in the Shizishan orefield. Furthermore, the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock has been previously well studied 38 in geochemistry, geochronology and geophysics (Xu et al., 2005, 2008, 2010; Deng et 39 al., 2006; Xie et al., 2012; Guo et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2015; Cao et al., 2016; Liu et 40 al., 2018). However, the localization mechanism of these randomly developed 41 skarn-porphyry orebodies around the stock is still ambiguous. The Dongguashan 42 quartz diorite stock has been highly explored, and mining shafts and platforms have 43 been constructed from the surface to -850 m in the depth, so that the AMS sampling 44

can cover the deep part of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock. Moreover, with help 45 of the intensive drilling projects in this area, the geometry of the stock and its related 46 47 orebodies can be also reliably constructed. Therefore, through the field observation, AMS measurement, 3D geometry modeling and geochemical analysis of the stock, we 48 acquired the distribution of magnetic fabric inside the stock, 3D geometry of the stock, 49 as well as the variation of geochemical composition. Accordingly, we deciphered the 50 development of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock and the constraints on 51 associated orebodies. Our study can help to guide the deep prospecting in the 52 Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic Belt and has implications that bear on other 53 large-scaled intrusions. 54

55 **2. Geological background**

56 2.1. Regional geological setting

The Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic Belt (Fig. 1a and b) is one of the most 57 important Cu-Au-polymetallic belts in China, and in the world as well. It is a typical 58 skarn-porphyry deposit belt related to Late Mesozoic intrusions developed in an 59 intracontinental setting (Chang et al., 1991; Pan and Dong, 1999; Mao et al., 2011; 60 Zhou et al., 2015). Hundreds of studies on these intrusions and their influences on the 61 related skarn ore deposit had been done in the Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic 62 Belt, for examples, the geochronological, geochemical and petrological characteristics 63 of the intrusions (e.g., Wang et al., 2004; Xie et al., 2009, 2017; Zhang et al., 2010; 64 Yang et al., 2011; Yang and Lee, 2011; Wu et al., 2013), the origin of the 65 hydrothermal fluid (e.g., Zhou et al., 2000, 2007; Lai et al., 2007; Gu et al., 2011; Cao 66

et al., 2012; Li et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2019), and the geodynamic setting and related
implications for metallogeny (e.g., Deng et al., 2011; Mao et al., 2011; Shi et al., 2013;
Lü et al., 2015).

The Tongling Ore Cluster (TOC; rectangle inset in Figs. 1b and 2) is located in 70 71 the center of the Middle-Lower Yangtze Metallogenic Belt, where Early Cretaceous dioritic intrusions are widely developed and often associated with skarn-porphyry 72 Cu-Au ore deposits (Fig. 1b). The TOC consists of the Tongguanshan, Shizishan, 73 Xinqiao, Fenghuangshan and Shatanjiao orefields (Xie et al., 2017; Fig. 2). The 74 stratigraphy of the TOC includes Lower Silurian to Upper Devonian siltstone, 75 quartz-sandstone and silty shale, Middle Carboniferous to Early Triassic limestone, 76 siliceous shale, calcareous shale and dolomite, and Late Mesozoic to Tertiary 77 dolomitic limestone, clay shale, volcanic rocks, and continental clastic rocks (Zhai et 78 al., 1992; Xu and Zhou, 2001). Structurally, the TOC is characterized by 79 NE-SW-striking upright folds and high-angle NW- or SE- directed thrusts, and 80 subordinate NNE-, NNW- and NW-striking brittle faults (Fig. 2; Chang et al., 1991; 81 Tang et al., 1998). This structural pattern is considered to be an inherited structure that 82 represents repeated NW-SE directed compressional regional tectonic setting. In 83 particular, this includes the Middle Triassic intracontinental subduction of South 84 China Block under the North China Craton (Lin et al., 1985; Zhao and Coe, 1987; 85 Mao et al., 2011), and the southwestward subduction of the Izanagi plate under the 86 east Eurasian plate since the Late Jurassic (Sun et al., 2007; Li et al., 2011). Moreover, 87 the NE-SW-striking Early Cretaceous Luzong and Ningwu volcanic basins and 88

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widespread Early Cretaceous intrusions and volcanism in the TOC suggest a
predominantly extensional regional tectonic setting in the Early Cretaceous period
(Deng et al., 2011).

92 2.2. The Dongguashan stock

93 Several Early Cretaceous intrusions are exposed in the Shizishan orefield (Fig. 3), including the Dongguashan quartz diorite (138.4 \pm 1.7 Ma; Wu et al., 2013), the 94 Baimangshan pyroxene monzodiorite (139.9 \pm 1.9 Ma; Guo et al., 2013), the 95 Jiguanshi pyroxene-quartz monzodiorite (139.8 \pm 0.8 Ma; Wu et al., 2008), and the 96 Hucun granodiorite (140 \pm 2.6 Ma; Xu et al., 2008). The Dongguashan quartz diorite 97 belongs to metaluminous and high-K, calc-alkaline-series granite (delineated by white 98 dash line in Fig. 3; Wu et al., 2010; Liu et al., 2018). Previous geobarometric studies 99 100 on the contemporary Cretaceous intrusions in this area and geophysical investigations indicate that the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock was emplaced at the brittle crust 101 depth (ca. 4-6 km; Du et al., 2004). The Dongguashan quartz diorite stock intruded in 102 the hinge and eastern limb of the NE-trending Qingshanjiao anticline, which is 103 considered as the major ore-controlling structure in the Shizishan orefield (Lu et al., 104 2003; Xu et al., 2005; Lü et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2014). Country rocks exposed on the 105 surface are Middle to Lower Triassic limestone, argillaceous limestone and argillite, 106 which were folded by the Middle to Late Triassic intracontinental orogenic event (Liu 107 et al., 2014). 108

109 2.3. Ore deposit

110

With at least 10 exploited ore deposits and copper and gold reserves of more

than 1.5 Mt and 20 t, respectively (Xu et al., 2014), the Shizishan orefield is 111 economically the most important Cu-Au district in the TOC. Especially the proven 112 copper and gold reserves of the Dongguashan ore deposit are 0.98 Mt at 1.01% and 29 113 t at 0.26 g/t, respectively (Liu et al., 2014, 2018). According to previous studies, there 114 are three major ore localization zones around the Dongguashan stock, i.e. the 115 Dongguashan, Datuanshan and Huashupo ores. 116

117

3. Field observation and sampling

The Dongguashan quartz diorite stock is not well exposed on the surface (Fig. 118 3), and fresh quartz diorite outcrops were revealed only by the ore exploration. The 119 Dongguashan stock mainly consists of medium to fine grained quartz diorite (Fig. 4a 120 and b) and porphyritic quartz diorite occurs locally along the stock-country rock 121 contact (Fig. 4c). The Dongguashan quartz diorite usually displays a massive texture 122 without macroscopic foliation, but oriented hornblende grains with sub-horizontal and 123 outward dipping plunge are locally observed in the contact zone (Fig. 4b). 124 Metamorphosed country rock xenoliths are observed in the stock margin (Fig. 4d and 125 e), which resemble the "exploding xenoliths" texture observed in the shallow level 126 intrusions (Clark et al., 1998; de Saint-Blanquat et al., 2001). Moreover, the 127 disharmonic folding of limestone strata (Fig. 4f) can be observed, suggesting the 128 existence of decollement sliding in the country rocks. 129

The orebody developed around the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock is 130 characterized by stratiform (Fig. 5a), massive (Fig. 5b), veinlet and vein-like textures 131 (Fig. 5c and d). The major sulfides are chalcopyrite, pyrite, magnetite, pyrrhotite, and 132

the major gangue minerals are calcite and dolomite. Furthermore, our field 133 investigation found widely developed extension related structures. For example, (1) 134 the large-scale fracture zone developed in the stock with occurrence of 120°/66°SW 135 (Fig. 5b), (2) the conjugated vein-type chalcopyrite ore dipping to SW and NE (ca. 0.5 136 to 2 cm in width; Fig. 5c and e), and (3) widely developed southwest dipping calcite 137 veins in the stock and its country rocks (Fig. 5d and f). 138

According to the architecture and layout of the mine shaft and platforms in the 139 study area, we have chosen seven mine platforms for AMS sampling, i.e. -390 m, 140 -460 m, -580 m, -670 m, -730 m, -790 m and -850 m. A total of 41 AMS sampling 141 sites have been collected at different depths from -390m to -850m, which are evenly 142 distributed along the accessible mining channels with an interval of ca. 100 m. Due to 143 the limited resolution of the GPS signal in the mining channels and short distances 144 between different sites, the locations of AMS sampling are presented on the plan-view 145 of the stock. The AMS samples were collected with a portable gasoline drill and 146 oriented using a magnetic compass. The collected core samples were cut into standard 147 cylindrical specimens, i.e. 2.2 cm in height and 2.5 cm in diameter, for AMS 148 measurements. Detailed sampling information is listed in Table 1. 149

Concurrently, representative massive fresh quartz diorite samples were collected 150 from the -670 m platform, which is the largest section of the Dongguashan stock 151 revealed by current miming projects, for geochemical analysis in order to investigate 152 153 the horizontal variation of composition inside the stock. The locations of these samples are the same as the AMS sample at this platform. 154

155 **4. Analytical methods**

156 4.1. Anisotropy of Magnetic Susceptibility (AMS)

The magnetic susceptibility (K) is defined as the ratio of the induced 157 magnetization (M) to the applied field (H), while the intensity of magnetization is 158 usually nonuniform due to the preferred orientation of minerals in the rock (Hrouda, 159 1982; Tarling and Hrouda, 1993), which is named as the Anisotropy of the Magnetic 160 Susceptibility (AMS). The AMS is a second-order tensor of the magnetic 161 susceptibility in a preferred direction, and it can be expressed by a magnetic 162 susceptibility ellipsoid with three mutually perpendicular susceptibility axes, i.e. 163 $K_1 \ge K_2 \ge K_3$ (Tarling and Hrouda, 1993; Borradaile and Jackson, 2004). K_1 and K_3 164 represent the magnetic lineation and pole to the magnetic foliation, respectively. 165 Moreover, several parameters were calculated with the measured values of K₁, K₂ and 166 K_3 by the program Anisoft (version 4.2, AGICO), for example, the mean bulk 167 magnetic susceptibility ($K_m = 1/3(K_1 + K_2 + K_3)$), the corrected degree of anisotropy 168 $(P_J = \exp \sqrt{\{2[(\eta_1 - \eta)^2 + (\eta_2 - \eta)^2 + (\eta_3 - \eta)^2]}\}$ 169 and the shape parameter $(T=(2\eta_2-\eta_1-\eta_3)/(\eta_1-\eta_3))$, where $\eta_n=\ln K_n$ and $\eta = (\eta_1+\eta_2+\eta_3)/3$. Km indicates the mean 170 bulk magnetic susceptibility of different magnetic carriers, including the 171 ferromagnetic, paramagnetic and diamagnetic minerals, and the P_J and T values 172 represent the eccentricity and shape of the magnetic ellipsoid, respectively (Jelínek, 173 1978, 1981; Hrouda, 1982). 174

The mineralogical investigations, including thermomagnetic measurement,Isothermal Remanence Magnetization (IRM) and hysteresis properties, were

177	conducted on representative samples to reveal the contribution of different magnetic
178	carriers to the bulk magnetic susceptibility. The thermomagnetic measurements were
179	performed at the Paleomagnetism Laboratory of Nanjing University with the CS3
180	furnace coupled with a KLY-3S Kappabridge, and protective argon gas was used. The
181	samples were heated from 50° to 700° with constant heating and cooling rate of
182	9°/min. The hysteresis loops and IRM measurement were carried out at the Key
183	Laboratory of Paleomagnetism and Tectonic Reconstruction of Ministry of Natural
184	Resources (Beijing). Magnetic hysteresis loops and FORCs can reveal both the grain
185	size and domain state of magentic minerals and were obtained using a Lakeshore
186	8600 Vibrating Sample Magnetometer (VSM). For the magnetic hysteresis loop
187	experiments, the powdered samples were subjected to a cycled field of \pm 600 mT. A
188	slope correction was applied to remove the impact of paramagnetic contributions.

189 4.2. Whole-rock major and trace element analyses

190 Whole-rock major and trace element analyses were conducted at the ALS 191 Chemex Co., Ltd (Guangzhou, China). The major element concentration was 192 determined by an X-ray fluorescence (XRF) spectrometer with an analytical precision 193 better than \pm 0.01%. Trace elements were measured using PerkinElmer ICP-MS with 194 an analytical precision better than \pm 5% for most elements. Detailed analytical 195 methods and procedures can be found in Liang et al. (2000).

196 *4.3 3D geometry modelling*

197 The 3D geometry of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock and its related ore 198 deposit was mainly defined by the borehole data from the Tongling Nonferrous

Metals Group Holdings Company. All these data were integrated in the Micromine and GOCAD platforms, and the boundary of the geological body at shallow levels (<-850 m) without borehole data was mainly deduced by using the Micromine platform with Kriging interpolation and smoothed at the COCAD platform. Detailed approaching process is reference to Liu et al. (2012).

204 **5. Results**

205 5.1. Petrographic texture investigation

A total of twenty-four core specimens were selected from forty-one AMS 206 sampling sites to prepare the oriented thin sections for petrographic texture 207 investigation (Fig. 6a). The Dongguashan quartz diorite mainly consists of plagioclase, 208 K-feldspar, quartz, biotite, hornblende, and is associated with sphene, magnetite, 209 pyrite, apatite and zircon (Fig. 6b-6e). Some of the Dongguashan quartz diorites 210 display a porphyritic texture, characterized by relatively larger feldspar crystals (Fig. 211 6b-6e). The minerals show a euhedral to sub-euhedral habitus, and no textures related 212 to sub-solidus high temperature deformation have been observed. Sericitization is 213 usually developed along the cleavage of the minerals (Fig. 6b). Magnetite and pyrite 214 are widely distributed in all the samples and are present in interstitial clots and aligned 215 parallel to the long axis of the minerals (Fig. 6f) or in interstitial crystals (Fig. 6g). 216

- 217 5.2. AMS of the Dongguashan stock
- 218 5.2.1 Rock magnetic minerals

219 Six representative thermomagnetic measurements were performed. The heating 220 curves show a gradual decreasing trend indicating the existence of paramagnetic

minerals (Fig. 7a-7f). A moderate to slight drop at 325 °C for the samples collected 221 from the depths shallower than -670 m suggests the presence of pyrrhotite (Fig. 222 7a-7d), and a rapid drop at 580 °C for all the samples is most likely due to the 223 existence of magnetite (Fig. 7a-7f). An obvious increase of magnetic susceptibility 224 during cooling implies that mineralogical phase transformation occurred during the 225 thermal experiment, for instance, pyrrhotite and pyrite transformed into magnetite at ~ 226 500 °C (Dunlop and Özdemir, 1997). The shapes of the hysteresis loops of these 227 samples are similar to that of ferromagnetic minerals (Fig. 7h-7j) with low values of 228 magnetic coercivity (Fig. 7k-7m). Moreover, the isothermal remanence measurements 229 show similar rapid increasing and saturation trend at ca. 300 mT (Fig. 7k-7m). 230 Accordingly, the magnetic minerals in the Dongguashan quartz diorite are composed 231 of paramagnetic minerals, e.g., biotite and feldspar, and low-coercivity ferromagnetic 232 minerals, e.g., magnetite and pyrrhotite. The thin section observations show a 233 relatively high volume-ratio of magnetite (Fig. 6e-6f), suggesting that the magnetite 234 may be the major magnetic susceptibility carriers in the Dongguashan quartz diorite. 235

236 5.2.2. Magnetic parameter data

The magnetic parameters of quartz diorite in the Dongguashan stock, for instance, Km, P_J and T, are provided in Table 1, and Km vs. P_J and T vs. P_J diagrams are presented in figure 8. More than 90% sites show high bulk magnetic susceptibility, i.e. $K_m > 10^{-3}$ SI (Fig. 8a), confirming that these samples are dominated by the ferromagnetic minerals. Moreover, no linear correlation has been observed between the bulk magnetic susceptibility and corrected degree of anisotropy, denoting that the

magnetic fabric is mainly defined by the rock composition (Borradaile, 1988). Over 243 seventy percent of sites have corrected degree of anisotropy values lower than 1.15 244 245 (Table 1 and Fig. 8a), indicating that the magnetic fabric is mainly primary (Hrouda, 1982; Rochette et al., 1992). The sites with high P_J value are close to the stock 246 boundary, which may be due to the intense interaction of the magma intrusion with 247 the country rocks (Table 1 and Fig. 8). The majority of shape parameter values are 248 positive (Table 1 and Fig. 8b), suggesting the prevalence of oblate ellipsoids, except 249 for samples collected from the south part of the stock, which are dominated by 250 negative values (Table 1 and Fig. 9), and thus, prolate magnetic ellipsoids are 251 suggested. 252

253 5.2.3 Magnetic fabrics

Detailed site-mean magnetic fabrics and their positions with respect to the 254 restored stock boundary at depth are presented in Fig. 9. Most of these sites show well 255 developed magnetic foliations with inclinations from highly inclined dipping (40°) to 256 vertical (89°), except for sites DTS14, HSP25 and DGS34 with gentle inclinations of 257 ca. 20° (Table 1 and Fig. 9). According to the strike of magnetic foliation, the majority 258 of sampling sites are characterized by NE-SW-striking and SE dipping magnetic 259 foliation, which are labeled as Group I (G-I; white stereographs in Fig. 9). Eleven 260 sites located in the central-southern part of the stock with depths greater than -670 m, 261 i.e. HSP16, HSP17, DTS18, DTS19, DGS20, HSP24, HSP25, DTS26, DTS27, 262 HSP32 and HSP37 are classified in Group II (G-II; grey stereographs in Fig. 9). The 263 sites in G-II display relatively consistent NW-SE-striking magnetic foliations and 264

steeper dipping angle than those in G-I (inserted stereographs in Fig. 10a and b). The 265 magnetic lineations of G-I are characterized by highly variable plunges with 266 directions sub-parallel or cross with the stock boundary (inserted stereograms in Fig. 267 10b). Especially, the sites of G-I lower than -670m show gentle to sub-horizontal 268 plunges of lineation (Fig. 10b). Nevertheless, the directions of magnetic lineation of 269 G-II show a consistent NW-SE trending and variable plunges (Fig. 10c and d). 270

5.3. Whole-rock major and trace elements geochemistry 271

Six fresh and representative samples for geochemical analysis were collected at 272 273 the -670m platform and sampling locations are the same as the AMS sampling (Fig. 11a). The acquired geochemical data and previous geochemical analysis are presented 274 in Table S1. Previous geochemical results of the Dongguashan stock are also included 275 276 in Table S1 for a comprehensive and comparative analysis (Wang et al., 2003, 2015, Huang et al., 2004; Guo et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2018). 277

According to the SiO₂ content, the analyzed Dongguashan quartz diorites and 278 279 previous geochemical analysis present a wide range of SiO_2 (56.5% to 65.32 wt.%) and the relatively low SiO₂ content Group II (G-II: 56.48 – 60 wt.%; Table S1 and Fig. 280 11). Moreover, G-I has a wider range of SiO₂ content than that of G-II (Fig. 11b-h). 281 The TiO₂, Al₂O₃, CaO, MgO, Na₂O and P₂O₅ display steadily decrease or constant 282 trend with increasing SiO₂, suggesting that the minor compatible behavior (Fig. 283 11b-11g). K₂O shows constant or slightly increase in G-I with increasing SiO₂ (Fig. 284 11h), which may be due to the hydrothermal alteration during the subsequent 285 mineralization process. 286

287 5.4. The 3D geometry of the stock and its related orebody

The horizontal drilling sections and 3D geometry model of the Dongguashan 288 289 quartz diorite stock and related orebodies (Fig. 12) highlight several major features of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock. The stock has a complicated shape with a 290 principal NE-SW extending long axis. Many apophyses are formed within the strata 291 bedding (Fig. 12b, c and d) and the skarn orebodies are mainly developed in the 292 northern hinge and eastern limb of the Qingshanjiao anticline. The largest ore, i.e. the 293 Dongguashan ore, was yield between the Middle to Upper Carboniferous carbonates 294 and Upper Devonian sandstone with depth ranging from ca. -650 m to -850m (Fig. 295 12a), and the other two ore deposits, i.e. the Huashupo and Datuanshan ore deposits, 296 are localized along the contact zones of the Dongguashan stock (Fig. 12). 297

298 6. Discussion

299 6.1. Significance of the petrofabric investigation

The nature of the fabrics, i.e. whether primary or not, is pivotal for the 300 interpretation. Our microscopic petrographic investigations on the Dongguashan 301 quartz diorite and its country rocks show that the quartz diorite samples exhibit a 302 typical magmatic texture, and intrusion-related ductile deformation was absent in the 303 contact zone (Fig. 6). The dominantly low P_J values of the quartz diorite samples also 304 suggest that the stock has not been significantly affected by a subsequent regional 305 tectonic event (Hrouda and Lanza, 1989; Rochette et al., 1992). The ductile 306 deformation of the country rock of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock is apparent 307 in folding and thrusting (Fig. 4f) that are considered to be inherited structures 308

resulting from the Triassic intracontinental event instead of resulted from magma
emplacement (Deng et al., 2011; Mao et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2011).

Moreover, our magnetic mineralogical analyses suggest that major magnetic 311 carriers of the Dongguashan quartz diorite are ferromagnetic and paramagnetic 312 minerals. According to the microscopic observations, the arrangement of the 313 magnetite and pyrrhotite is usually parallel to the long axis of the plagioclase and/or 314 biotite (Fig. 6e and 6f), indicating that the magnetic fabric ellipsoid is parallel to the 315 principal finite strain axes inferred from the petrographic fabric. Namely, the K1 and 316 K3 magnetic axes correspond to the mineral lineation and the foliation pole, 317 respectively. Consequently, we argue that the magnetic fabrics of the Dongguashan 318 quartz diorite revealed by our AMS investigation were primary fabric, which can be 319 320 used to reveal the magma emplacement process.

321 6.2. Interpretation of AMS results of the Dongguashan stock

As mentioned above, the most remarkable feature of the AMS results of the 322 Dongguashan quartz diorite is the coexistence of two nearly orthogonal magnetic 323 fabric groups, i.e. G-I and G-II. Thus understanding of the magnetic fabric of the 324 Dongguashan quartz diorite stock is essential for the re-construction of the magma 325 emplacement process. The 3D geometry modelling of the Dongguashan quartz diorite 326 stock (Fig. 12) and a previous geobarometric study indicate that the stock has a small 327 volume and shallow emplacement depth (ca. 4-6 km; Du et al., 2004). Therefore, we 328 consider that the Dongguashan stock should be a rapidly emplaced and cooled stock, 329 in terms of previous studies on the duration of pluton construction (Matzel et al., 2006; 330

331	de Saint Blanquat et al., 2011). Consequently, this distinct magnetic fabric pattern
332	cannot be produced by magma convection in the magma chamber at emplacement
333	crust level, and detailed discussion of the AMS result is described below.
334	6.2.1. AMS results for Group I

Seventy-eight percent of the magnetic foliation of G-I is characterized by a 335 NE-SW strike with steep or high-angle southeastward dip (Fig. 10 and Table 1). This 336 pattern of relatively consistent strike and dip of the magnetic foliation in the 337 Dongguashan quartz diorite stock is different from previous AMS studies on other 338 stocks around the world, which usually present a circular array of inward dipping 339 magnetic foliations with strike parallel to the stock boundary (Cogné and Perroud, 340 1988; Hrouda and Lanza, 1989; Romeo et al., 2008; He et al., 2009; Piña et al., 2010). 341 Whereas the trend and plunge of magnetic lineation of these sites are highly variable 342 (Fig. 10c and 10d), which is a typical feature for the fabric developed in a stock 343 (Cogné and Perroud, 1988; Hrouda and Lanza, 1989; de Saint-Blanquat, et al., 2001). 344 This specific magnetic fabric pattern might be produced by the NW-SE directed 345 regional shortening setting or be affected by the pre-emplacement NE-SW-striking 346 structures in the country rocks. Nevertheless, previous studies suggest that the 347 Tongling Ore Cluster is mainly under extensional regime during the magma 348 emplacement epoch (e.g., Mao et al., 2003; Li et al., 2014). The petrographic 349 investigations on the stock and its country rocks also suggest that the Dongguashan 350 stock was not significantly influenced by any syn-magmatism and post-solidus 351 regional tectonics. Hence, these evidence seem to be inconsistent with the first 352

possibility. Alternatively, considering the parallelism between the pre-emplacement fold and fault system developed in the country rocks and the NE-SW-striking magnetic foliation, we propose that these pre-emplacement structures may serve as magma ascent paths to form the NE-SW trending steep magnetic foliations, thus the magma ascent was principally driven by its buoyancy (Marsh, 1982; Clark et al., 1998; Paterson and Jr, 1993).

In particular, there are seven sites located at depths of -730m, -790m, and -850m 359 of G-I show the strike of magnetic foliation crosscutting the stock boundary with 360 mainly sub-vertical to northward dip (Fig. 10a). The magnetic lineation is mainly 361 trending NE-SW or E-W with sub-horizontal plunges. This phenomenon may be due 362 to the boundary effect, complex magma flow or magma outflow (e.g., Ferré et al., 363 364 2002; Kratinová et al., 2006). The borehole data also confirms that the Dongguashan quartz diorite intrusion was intruded into the stratigraphic interface at these depths 365 (Fig. 12; Liu et al., 2014). 366

367 6.2.2. AMS results for Group II

The magnetic fabric of G-II is characterized by consistent NW-SE-striking magnetic foliation and lineation, and this preferred orientation is roughly perpendicular to those of G-I and the NE-SW-striking regional structures. In addition, we have observed pervasively developed NW-SE striking fractures, calcite veins and vein-type orebodies in the Dongguashan stock and its country rocks (Fig. 5), which are parallel to the strike of the magnetic fabric of G-II. The NW-SE oriented magnetic fabrics, fractures and veins may be produced either by regional shortening in NW-SE

375 direction, or the magma was intruded into the NW-SE striking brittle structures, which produced by the overall extension of the upper crust in the Early Cretaceous epoch. 376 377 However, contemporaneous Early Cretaceous magmatism is widely developed in the TOC, which is usually display a high-k and calc-alkaline affinity and considered to be 378 a consequence of the regional extension (Wang et al., 2003; Wu et al., 2010; Guo et al., 379 2013; Zhou et al., 2015). Therefore, the hypothesis of the regional shortening is not 380 preferred, we thus propose that the G-II magma emplacement was affected by overall 381 extension of the upper crust. 382

6.3. Overview of research and tentative magma emplacement model proposal 383

Apart from the difference in the AMS results, a sharp intrusive contact was 384 observed at -670 m platform (Fig. 13), suggesting that the Dongguashan was 385 constructed by multiple magma pulses. In addition, this and previous geochemical 386 studies on the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock show that the major elements have a 387 wide composition range (Fig. 11 and Table S1), which may result from fractional 388 crystallization or multiple magma pulses emplacement model. Although the major 389 elements seem to be distributed along a regression line, whereas the higher SiO₂ 390 content samples were collected from the outer and deeper parts of the stock compared 391 with the less silica-rich samples (Fig. 11). This distribution opposes the normal 392 fractional crystallization trend in a gradual cooling magma chamber (Tindle and 393 Pearce, 1981; McNulty et al., 2000; Coleman et al., 2004). Gradual petrological 394 change or composition zoning related to fractional crystallization is also absent in the 395 stock. Therefore, the fractional crystallization process seems not suitable to explain 396

the composition variation of the Dongguashan stock. Furthermore, previous geochronological studies in the Shizishan orefield also present a wide age spectrum, indicating a relatively long time magma emplacement process (Wu et al., 2010; Yang and Lee, 2011; Guo et al., 2013; Wang et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2018). In summary, all these evidence suggest that the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock was constructed by multiple magma pulses, and a two-stage magma emplacement model is proposed for the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock as described below.

404 On account of the samples of G-I are located in the outer part of the stock from 405 -850m to -390m, and the samples of G-II are collected in the inner part of the stock 406 with depths lower than -650 m. Moreover, the strike of magnetic foliation of G-I is cut 407 by the G-II (Fig. 10). Therefore, we suggest that G-I and G-II belongs to the earlier 408 and late magma pulses emplacement stages, respectively.

First, the initial magma emplacement occurred when the internal buoyancy 409 force of the deeply seated magma chamber exceeded the lithostatic pressure of the 410 country rocks (Fig. 14a; van der Molen and Paterson, 1979; Bachmann and Bergantz, 411 2004; Vigneresse, 2007). Previous studies suggest the existence of NE-SW-striking 412 basement faults in the crust, and the upper crust was deformed by Triassic 413 pre-emplacement regional tectonics (Deng et al., 2006), which yielded paths or 414 channels for the magma ascent (Fig. 14a). The decollement of country rocks produced 415 part of the space for magma emplacement (Fig. 4f). Moreover, the abundance of 416 xenoliths observed in the stock boundary suggests that the space for magma 417 emplacement was partly created by magma stoping (Marsh, 1982; Clark et al., 1998). 418

The relatively more regular stock boundary in the western side of the stock than in the eastern one suggests an eastward magma accretion trend. The dilation (possibly controlled by hydrothermal fluids), inflation and uplifting of the brittle country rocks accommodated the gradual emplacement of magma (Fig. 14b).

Second, the consistent NW-SE-striking magnetic foliation of Group II samples and its parallelism with the NW-SE-striking fractures developed in the stock and country rocks, which produced by the regional extension, suggest that the emplacement of the late magma pulse was strongly controlled by these fractures (Fig. 14c).

428 6.4. Implications for the associated orebody localization

Our study reveals that the Dongguashan stock was constructed by at least two magma pulses. Discontinuous magma emplacement changes the temperature field, fluid composition, oxygen fugacity and elements partition coefficients, and therefore is an important mechanism for the formation of huge intrusion related ore deposits (e.g., Holzheid and Lodders, 2001; Vigneresse, 2007; Huber et al., 2012; Chelle-Michou et al., 2015).

According to the restored 3D stock and orebody geometry model, the largest ore reserves are located at the Devonian-Carboniferous (D-C) stratigraphic interface with depth between ca. -650 and -950 m (Fig. 12). The occurrence of these stratiform orebodies is consistent with the flanks of the Qingshanjiao anticline, denoting that the hydrothermal fluid was intruded along the strata interface (Tang et al., 1998). The AMS results of the sites close to the stock boundary at depths of -670 to -850 m

suggest that magma outflow occurred within these strata, which is also supported by tiny and rootless granitic body revealed by borehole data (Fig. 12). Previous geochemical studies also suggest that the magma is the dominant source of ore-forming fluid. Thus, the stratiform skarn orebodies were mainly yielded by the early emplaced magma pulse, which was emplaced along pre-emplacement structures or discontinuous mechanical interfaces in the country rocks.

The second orebody localization zone concerns the contact zone between the 447 stock and country rock. This includes the Huashupo and Datuanshan skarn-type 448 orebodies, which are developed at the eastern side of the stock at depths of -300 to 449 -600 m, and thus are related to the earlier emplaced magma pulse (Fig. 12). According 450 to our study, the Dongguashan stock was constructed by successive magma pulses 451 with an eastward accretion trend and forceful-like emplacement behavior. Thus, the 452 country rock in the eastern side of the stock has a higher degree of deformation, 453 intense fracturing and higher permeability and temperature, which were produced by 454 the repeated magma intrusion. In addition, the restored 3D geometrical model shows 455 that the occurrence of the orebody in the eastern side of the stock is roughly parallel to 456 the stock-country rock contact surface, which dips gently outward in contrast to a 457 sub-vertical contact in the western side (Fig. 12). Consequently, we propose that 458 different interaction between the magma and country rock may affect the localization 459 of the orebodies. 460

461 The third type of orebody, i.e. the vein-like and veinlet-disseminated orebodies, 462 is widely developed inside the Dongguashan stock and partly developed in the

463	NW-SE-striking fractures (Fig. 5c and 5d). The parallelism among the ore veins, the
464	strike of magnetic foliation of G-II and the fractures (Figs. 5 and 12) suggests that the
465	space for the vein-like orebody was controlled by the later magma pulse.

466 **7. Conclusions**

According to our macro- and microscopic observations, geochemical and AMS 467 analyses and 3D geometrical modelling of the Dongguashan stock, we concluded that: 468 1) The Dongguashan stock was constructed by at least two stages magma 469 emplacement. The AMS results of these two magma stages can also be divided into 470 471 two groups, i.e. G-I and G-II, corresponding to earlier and later magma pulses, respectively. G-I is dominated by a NE-SW striking magnetic foliation, which is 472 parallel to the trend of the pre-empalcement folds and faults, suggesting that the 473 magma emplacement was probably affected by the pre-emplacement structure. G-II is 474 characterized by a NW-SE-striking magnetic foliation, which is parallel to the 475 regional extensional structures, suggesting the control of regional extension on 476 477 magma emplacement.

2) The 3D geometrical modelling of the stock presents a triangular shape with
irregular and bulged boundary in the eastern side of the stock, denoting that the stock
was constructed by an eastward magma accretion.

3) The AMS results suggest that the magma was intruded into the strata interface at depths between -670 to -850 m, which is the essential factor for the formation of the stratiform ore deposit in the Dongguashan area. Moreover, the eastward magma accretion resulting in highly fractured and more permeable country rocks in the eastern stock contact zone that can explain why the skarn orebodies are
localized in the eastern stock contact zone. The NW-SE-striking ore veins were likely
controlled by the emplacement of the late magma pulse under an extensional regional
tectonic setting.

489 Acknowledgements

We thank Mr. Wangsheng Jiang, Hui Jin, Yong Jiang (Tongling Nonferrous 490 Metals Group Holdings Company) for their help in sample collection. Our thanks also 491 go to Mrs. Xinxin Sun for her help in magnetic mineralogical analysis, and Jeffrey M. 492 Dick for language editing. Moreover, detailed language editing and constructive 493 suggestions on the first manuscript version from the associate editor Prof. Deru Xu 494 was highly appreciated. We also appreciate the pertinent comments and constructive 495 496 suggestions provided by Dr. Wei Wei and another two anonymous reviewers that have significantly improved the presentation of this study. Access to the Dongguashan mine 497 and offering of borehole data by the Tongling Nonferrous Metals Group Holdings 498 Company are highly appreciated. We also appreciate financial support from the 499 National Natural Science Foundation of China (41372338, 41772351 and 41902209) 500 and Research foundation of Hunan Province (2019JJ50832), French LABEX 501 VOLTAIRE (ANR-10-LABX-100-01) EQUIPEX PLANET 502 and (ANR-11-EQPX-0036). 503

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- 876 Figure and Table captions

Fig. 1 (a) Tectonic sketch map of mainland China; (b) Distribution of the major
Cretaceous igneous rocks and related mineral deposits in the Middle-Lower
Yangtze Metallogenic Belt (modified from Pan and Dong, 1999; Mao et al.,
2011).

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- **Fig. 2** Simplified magmatism-structural map of the Tongling district, Anhui province,
- China (The map is modified from the 1:50, 000 geological maps made by the 321geological team in Anhui province, 1989).
- **Fig. 3** Geological map of the Shizishan Orefield. The Dongguashan stock is delimited
- by the dashed line. The age data presented in the map are collected from Wu et al.,

886 2008; Xie et al., 2009; Xu et al., 2008; Guo et al., 2013; Liu et al., 2018.

Fig. 4 (a), (b) and (c) Field observations of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock; (d)
and (e) Irregular intrusive contact and country rock xenoliths developed in the
Dongguashan stock; (f), (g) and (h) Highly deformed country rocks and its
deformation characters.

Fig. 5 (a) Restored 3D geometry of the Dongguashan stock with locations of major 891 892 orebodies. (b) Stratiform orebody developed in the contact. (c) Massive chalcopyrite orebody in the stock boundary. (d) vein-type orebody inside the 893 Dongguashan stock. (e) Southwest dipping syn-tectonic calcite vein in the 894 895 country rocks. (f) and (g) show the lower hemisphere projection (Schmidt-Lambert projection) of conjugated ore veins and extensional fractures, 896 respectively. 897

Fig. 6 (a) Cross profiles of cylinder core specimens prepared for oriented thin section.
(b) to (g) Photomicrographs of thin sections of the representative quartz diorite in
the Dongguashan stock. Abbreviations: Bt-Biotite, Hbl: Hornblende, Kfs:
Potassium feldspar; Mt: Magnetite; Pl-Plagioclase, Qtz: Quartz; Ser: Sericite; Sph:
Sphene.

903	Fig. 7 Harker diagrams for variation of SiO_2 with other major elements from this and
904	previous studies (solid grey symbols). Samples with high and low content of SiO_2
905	are classified into Group I and Group II, respectively. Detailed data are listed in
906	supplementary Table S1.
907	Fig. 8 Results of magnetic mineralogy analysis of representative quartz diorite
908	samples from the Dongguashan stock. (a-f) thermal magnetic curves; (h-i)
909	hysteresis loops, corrected for the paramagnetic linear trend; (k-m) isothermal
910	remnant magnetization acquisition curves and backfield applications.
911	Fig. 9 Correlation of the magnetic parameters. a) K_m vs. P_J and b) T vs. P_J .
912	Fig. 10 Detailed AMS results of the Dongguashan quartz diorite. The white and grey
913	stereograms are for Group I and Group II, respectively.
914	Fig. 11 (a) Magnetic foliation of the Dongguashan stock and stereogram of foliation
915	poles, (b) Stereograms of poles of magnetic foliation for samples in Group I and
916	Group II, respectively. (c) Magnetic lineation of the Dongguashan stock with
917	inserted stereogram. (d) Stereograms of magnetic lineation for samples in Group I
918	and Group II. All the projections are equal area and lower-hemisphere.
919	Fig. 12 (a) 3D geometric model of the Dongguashan quartz diorite stock and its
920	related ore deposits, (b), (c) and (d) Representative drilling profiles of the
921	Dongguashan, Datuanshan and Huashupo ore, respectively.
922	Fig. 13 (a) Photograph and (b) sketch of intrusive contact in the Dongguashan stock.
923	Fig. 14 Cartoon of the magma emplacement mechanism of the Dongguashan stock.

925	Table 1 Sampling information and site-mean values of AMS results of the													
926	Dongguashan quartz-diorite stock.													
927														
928														
929	Highlights													
930	• The Dongguashan quartz-diorite stock was built by multiple magma pulses													
931	• Early magma pulse was guided by inherited NE-SW-trending structure in country													
932	rock													
933	• Late magma pulse emplacement was assisted by regional extensional regime													
934	• Eastward magma emplace might control location of skarnization in stock eastern													
935	side													
936														

937

Table 1. Sampling information and site-mean AMS results of the Dongguashan stock.

	Litho.	Depth (m)	n	Km(10 ⁻⁶ SI)	P_J	T	Site mean AM		
Site							K_1	a95(max/min)	
							<i>Dec</i> (•)/ <i>Inc</i> (•)	(•)	D
HSP01	Qtz-diorite	-390	7	5010	1.14	0.04	250.2/70.4	15.4/4.9	
HSP02	Qtz-diorite	-390	5	17700	1.20	-0.08	111/46.3	16.5/13.2	
HSP03	Qtz-diorite	-390	5	6080	1.24	0.66	189.4/16.9	22.1/5.1	
DTS04	Qtz-diorite	-390	5	5400	1.18	0.08	141.4/82.7	17.1/10.4	
DTS05	Qtz-diorite	-390	5	662	1.02	0.03	222/56.1	22.8/11.6	
HSP06	Qtz-diorite	-460	6	1430	1.10	0.50	209.1/60.7	25/20.2	
DTS07	Qtz-diorite	-460	5	6380	1.10	-0.31	107.7/46.4	7.8/5.3	
DTS08	Qtz-diorite	-460	7	17800	1.13	0.63	267.9/36.3	19.2/6.2	
DTS09	Qtz-diorite	-460	7	11000	1.14	-0.44	186.8/81.1	16.7/8.2	
DTS10	Qtz-diorite	-460	6	977	1.03	0.02	48.5/12.4	5.4/3.9	
HSP11	Qtz-diorite	-580	5	2510	1.24	0.20	169.5/33.2	21.5/11.9	
HSP12	Qtz-diorite	-580	5	16200	1.06	0.39	227.9/23.4	11.3/7	
DTS13	Qtz-diorite	-580	5	5090	1.13	-0.07	132.4/68.4	18.2/16.9	
DTS14	Qtz-diorite	-580	5	1860	1.07	-0.14	67.9/2.1	9.6/4	
DTS15	Qtz-diorite	-580	5	2050	1.12	0.22	201.1/62.1	11.5/5.1	

Journal Pre-proofs									
LICD1C	Ota di arita	(70	5	9240	1 1 2	0.52	153 1/51 9	25 5/10 9	
HSP10	Qtz-diorite	-070	כ ר	8240	1.12	0.55	152.1/51.8	33.3/12.8	
HSP1/	Qtz-diorite	-670	2	12900	1.09	0.24	317.1/63.5	18.9/11.0	
DTS18	Qtz-diorite	-670	6	4780	1.25	-0.46	137.7/72	8.1/4.1	
DTS19	Qtz-diorite	-670	6	4120	1.18	0.59	135.8/17.5	51.7/13.2	
DGS20	Qtz-diorite	-670	7	30200	1.08	-0.25	122.6/40.1	25.8/8.5	
DGS21	Qtz-diorite	-670	6	9520	1.05	0.26	236.9/3.8	36/15.8	
DGS22	Qtz-diorite	-670	5	859	1.10	0.30	260.7/37.9	38.3/13.6	
DGS23	Qtz-diorite	-670	5	13900	1.10	0.08	280.5/74.3	44.6/5.1	
HSP24	Qtz-diorite	-730	6	14100	1.18	-0.38	120.8/37	5.1/0.8	
HSP25	Qtz-diorite	-730	5	25000	1.05	0.29	163.8/8.3	32.7/8.3	
DTS26	Qtz-diorite	-730	6	16000	1.12	-0.32	319.5/19.5	7.2/3.6	
DTS27	Qtz-diorite	-730	6	3380	1.12	-0.20	168.9/8.6	13.8/5.7	
DGS28	Qtz-diorite	-730	6	52400	1.06	-0.02	216.4/15.3	21.7/4.1	
DGS29	Qtz-diorite	-730	5	6000	1.15	0.40	263.5/27.2	63.5/5.9	
DGS30	Qtz-diorite	-730	6	19900	1.06	0.11	236.1/35.8	15.3/10.7	
DGS31	Qtz-diorite	-730	5	4670	1.06	0.04	300.2/10.8	5.4/4.2	
HSP32	Qtz-diorite	-790	7	3650	1.22	0.21	152.6/38.2	21.3/6.4	
DGS33	Qtz-diorite	-790	5	12100	1.10	0.14	224.6/65	7.8/4.5	
DGS34	Qtz-diorite	-790	5	2380	1.05	-0.11	90.1/1.1	9.8/2.7	
DGS35	Qtz-diorite	-790	5	39000	1.12	0.24	131/6.9	26.5/10	
DGS36	Qtz-diorite	-790	7	164	1.03	0.12	275.3/2.5	15.4/5.3	
HSP37	Qtz-diorite	-850	6	14400	1.19	0.14	144.9/74.1	12.1/8.9	
DGS38	Qtz-diorite	-850	5	19900	1.10	-0.04	262.8/37.6	23.5/6.0	
DGS39	Qtz-diorite	-850	5	41300	1.21	0.52	49.1/49.3	23.6/5.2	
DGS40	Qtz-diorite	-850	5	171000	1.25	0.36	184.0/45.9	47.8/12.5	
DGS41	Qtz-diorite	-850	5	33400	1.14	0.09	140.2/73.3	14.9/10.9	

938 Note:

939 (1) Site: sampling site, n: number of specimen at sampling site; Km: bulk magnetic
940 susceptibility, P_J: degree of susceptibility anisotropy, T: shape parameter of the AMS ellipsoid,

 K_1 : Magnetic lineation, K_3 : The pole of the magnetic foliation, Inc.: Inclination, Dec.:

942 Declination, α_{95} (max/min): the long and short axes of the confidence ellipsoid at 95% level.

(2) The unfilled and light grey filled lines represent the data of the Group-I and Group-II sites,

944 respectively.





























