

**PROTOLITH AND METAMORPHIC CONDITIONS OF THE
METAPELITES FROM THE RIO CLARO REGION
(ANTIOQUIA DEPARTMENT)**

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1. Abstract

The Cajamarca Complex is distributed along the Central Cordillera of Colombia, its formation is attributed to a Permian subduction zone, volcanic arc magmatism, opening and closing of basins and accretion of terranes. The 16 samples studied in this research crop out near Rio Claro in the department of Antioquia. The analyzes were made with 7 metasedimentary, 2 metabasic belonging to the Cajamarca Complex and 7 pegmatites related to the magmatism of the Antioquia Batholith. Detailed petrography of the samples was performed and did total rock geochemistry for metamorphic rocks for analysis of major and trace elements. This study focuses on discussing the tectonic environment of protolith formation based on tectonic discrimination diagrams and P-T conditions for metamorphism, based on mineralogical reactions. In the N-MORB analysis it shows an enrichment in the LILE and a depleting in the HFSE, in the same way an inverse relationship is observed of the rare earth elements (REE) normalized with the primitive mantle. The metasedimentary rocks are mainly formed by quartz, muscovite, biotite, graphite, Andalusite and as accessory minerals titanite and zircon; the metabasics are composed of epidote, actinolite, chlorite, hornblende, and plagioclase. The P-T conditions yields a pressure of 6 to 4 kbar and a temperature that did not exceed 550 ° C. This represents a metamorphic gradient of medium pressure and medium temperature indicating a passage through the green schist to epidote-amphibolite facies which is linked to a Barrovian type metamorphism. This type of regional metamorphism led toward a depth approximately of 20 km. In this work it is suggested that the formation of the sedimentary protolith is in the accretion wedge of a subduction zone, unlike the igneous protolith that would be part of the formation of the crust. oceanic; this differs from what Blanco-Quintero et al. (2014) proposes south of the Cajamarca Complex. This oceanic crust would later subduct to the paleo western margin of South America; where the metamorphic event would finally be generated.

1. Introduction

Northwestern South America records the formation of the supercontinent Pangea during the Permian, its fragmentation during the Triassic and the opening of the proto-Caribbean ocean (Spikings, 2019). In this way, the tectonics of NW South America during the late Paleozoic

to Triassic have implications to understand the interaction between Laurentia and Gondwana that were part of the supercontinent and the origin of several tectonostratigraphic terrains that were dispersed by the breaking of this supercontinent by the end of the Triassic (Cardona et al., 2009; Correa et al. (2020).

The igneous and metamorphic rocks formed during this time interval have been attributed to a Permian continental arc setting that was active between ca. 288 and 264 Ma as seen by U-Pb crystallization ages in zircons (Cochrane et al., 2014; Cardona et al., 2009; Cardona et al., 2010b; Rodriguez et al., 2017). The igneous rocks are intruding an amphibolite facies Paleozoic metamorphic basement in the Central Cordillera (Cardona-Molina et al., 2006), whose origin is attributed to the subduction of the proto-Pacific plate on the western margin of Pangea (Keppie et al., 2008; Nance et al., 2012). Other known models consider that the Permian rocks were formed in a continental arc followed by anatexis during the Triassic (Spikings et al., 2015) and/or a post-collisional anatectic event that formed the granites at 280 Ma (Piraquive, 2017) and 228 Ma (Vinasco et al., 2006).

The Central Cordillera records a tectonic evolution where subduction, volcanic arc magmatism, opening and closure of sedimentary basins, and terrane accretions are identified from the Permian to the present (Restrepo and Toussaint, 1982, 1988; Bayona et al., 2006; Vinasco et al., 2006; Kennan and Pindell, 2009). The lithological record of these events consists of I-type granites, migmatites and amphibolites (Vinasco et al., 2006; Cochrane et al., 2014; Spikings et al., 2015) grouped in the Cajamarca Complex (Maya and González, 1995); this complex also includes quartz-sericitic schists, green schists, phyllites, quartzites and marbles (Mosquera et al., 1982).

In this work, we present detailed petrographical descriptions together with whole rock geochemistry of quartzites, micashists and amphibolites that crops-out at the eastern flank of the Central Cordillera (Antioquia department; **Figure 1**). The results aim to determine the metamorphic conditions, the origin of their protoliths and identify possible correlations.

2. Generalities

3.1 Question

Is the formation of the protoliths and the metamorphic event that formed the Cajamarca Complex correlated throughout its N-S extension in the Central Cordillera?

3.2 Hipotesis

The metamorphic rocks of the Cajamarca Complex to the north of the Central Cordillera can be correlated with those of the south in the generation of the metamorphic event, but they are not correlated in the formation of the igneous and sedimentary protolith.

3.3 General objective.

Evaluate the formation environment of the protoliths of the metasedimentary and metabasic rocks belonging to the Cajamarca Complex together with the metamorphism event to the north of the Central Cordillera, to correlate them or not with the metamorphic rocks described to the south of the mountain chain and to be able to infer the timing of the events.

3.4 Specific objectives.

- Determine metamorphic conditions from pressure and temperature paths based on the mineralogy obtained, observed textures and metamorphic reactions.
- To be able to contribute to the understanding of the tectonic environment in which the metabasic and metaedimentary rocks were formed.
- -Make a temporal correlation to infer ages of possible protolith formation events and the metamorphic event.

4 Geological setting

The Andes in Colombia are divided into three mountain ranges: The Eastern, Central and Western Cordilleras. The Eastern Cordillera comprises a basement composed of Precambrian and Paleozoic metamorphic rocks (gneiss, granulites and amphibolites) and Ordovician to Silurian granitoid rocks. This basement is covered by Paleozoic to Mesozoic sedimentary sequences (Kroonenberg 1982; Restrepo-Pace et al. 1997; Cordani et al. 2005; Sarmiento-Rojas et al., 2006; Horton et al., 2010; Cardona-Molina et al., 2006; Ordóñez-Carmona et al., 2006; van der Lelij et al., 2016; González et al. 1988). The Western Cordillera comprises allochthonous oceanic plateau-related rocks that accreted to the continental margin since the late Cretaceous (Kerr et al. 1997; Villagómez et al. 2011) and volcanic arc sequences composed of basic volcanic rocks and marine sediments from the upper Cretaceous and Cenozoic intruded and covered by Cenozoic igneous rocks and volcanic sequences (Aspden et al. 1987; González et al. 1988; Kerr et al. 1997; Kerr and Tarney 2005; Villagómez et al. 2011).

The Central Cordillera, in which the studied area is located, consists of Paleozoic to Cretaceous metamorphic rocks of variable grade and intruded by Jurassic to Paleogene volcanic arc-related plutonic rocks (Restrepo and Toussaint 1982; Aspden et al. 1987; Maya

and González 1995; Bayona et al. 2012). The eastern flank of the Central Cordillera includes I-type granitoids, migmatites and amphibolites (Vinasco et al. 2006; Cochrane et al. 2014a; Spikings et al. 2015) grouped in the locally known Cajamarca Complex. This complex includes pelitic schists, quartzites, marbles and amphibolites (Ardila, 1986; González, 2001; Correa and Martens, 2000), and are intruded by Triassic S-type granitoids and volcano-sedimentary rocks (Vinasco et al. 2006; Restrepo et al. 2011; Cochrane et al. 2014a; Aspden et al. 1987).

4.1 Geology of the study area

The studied area is located southeast of the Antioquia department, on the eastern flank of the Central Cordillera (**Figure 1**). It consists mainly of quartz-muscovite schists where large outcrops are present in the rivers of the area as Rio Claro and Norcasia, in a narrow strip of more than 25 km long and less than 1 km wide between the Palestina and Cocorná Sur faults (**Figure 2**) (Feininger et al. 1972). The rocks of this region include fine-muscovite, quartz, biotite and graphite. Quartzites are the second most abundant rock. The best outcrops are in small valleys south of Amalfi, La Gómez and Montaña valleys and tributary of the Rio Claro (Feininger et al. 1972), the protoliths of these units vary from sand to silt and from quartz sand and silt shale. Feldspathic gneisses also occur in the area; the outcrops occur near to the Palestine Fault. In this unit is characteristic of andalusite porphyroblasts partially or totally replaced by fine muscovite, outcrops are found on the Rio Claro between the Jetudo and Palestina Faults. Marbles occur to the east of the Palestina Fault; all the bodies are interspersed with the quartz-sericitic schists (González, 1980; Feininger et al. 1972), the marbles are mainly composed of carbonates and as accessory minerals quartz, graphite, micas, pyrite and white mica (González, 1980; Feininger et al. 1972)

Amphibolites crops between the Palestina and Mulato Faults, and between the Palestina and Jetudo Faults (**Figure 2**). This rock consists in a 90% of hornblende and plagioclase and as accessory and alteration mineral are epidote and chlorite. Finally, greenschists crops out in the Arma and Sonsón rivers, and the highway Sonsón-Arma river. This rock consists of actinolite, epidote/zoisite, chlorite, quartz and plagioclase.

The igneous rocks present in the study area are part of the Antioquia Batholith, the best outcrops are found in the Santo Domingo and Cocorná rivers and in the El Biadal creek, tributary streams of the Nus, Guatapé and San Carlos river. The Antioquia Batholith is the only late Cretaceous intrusive body recorded in the Cordillera Central and constitutes the first record of continental arc magmatism in NW South America after 20 m.y. of magmatic quiescence (Bustamante et al., 2016; Duque-Trujillo et al., 2019). The age of crystallization according to U-Pb ages in zircons is between 97 and 58 Ma (Duque-Trujillo et al., 2019 and references there in). Compositionally it varies from granodiorite to tonalite (Feiniger et

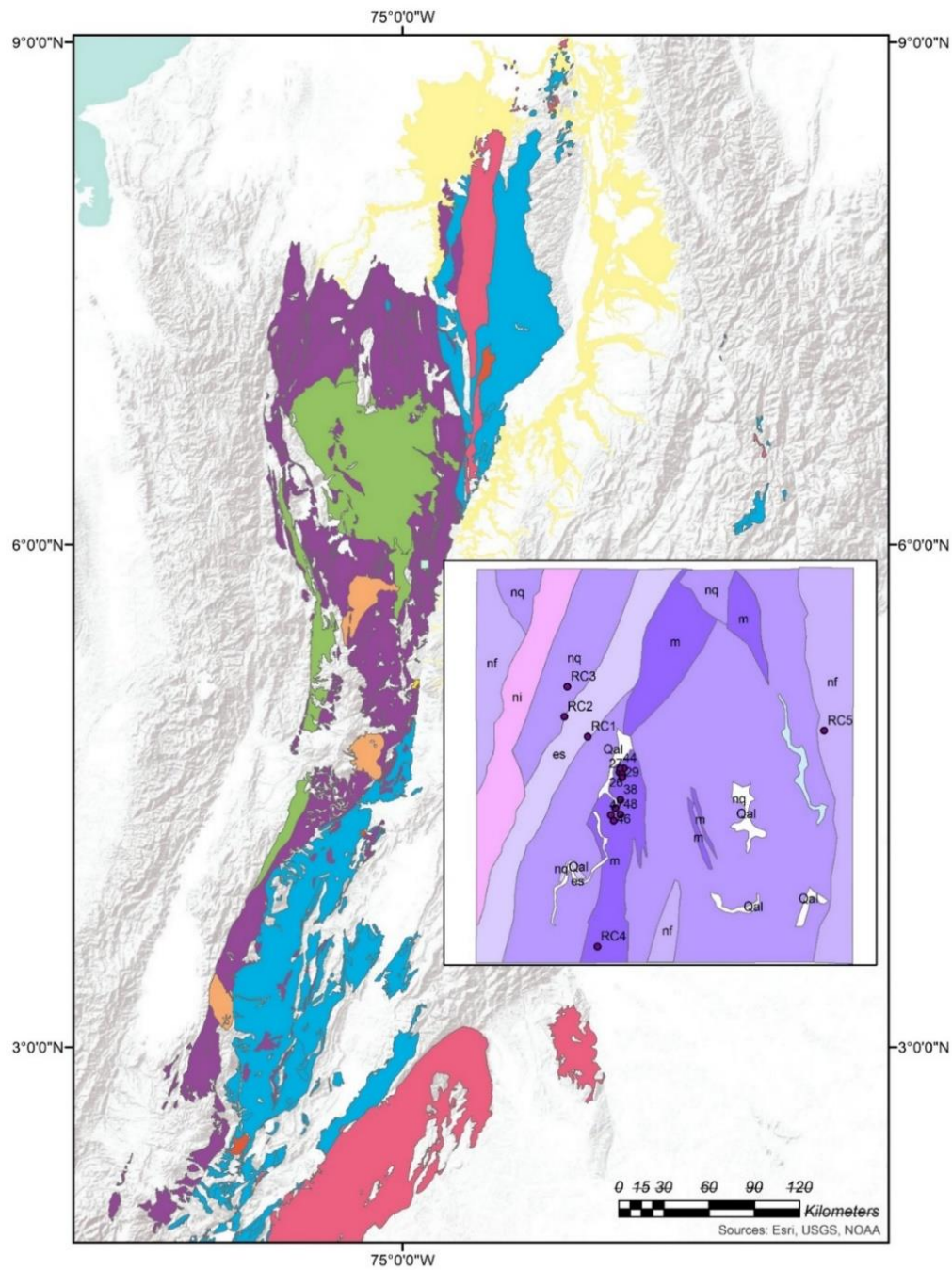


Figure 1: Localization and geology of area's study with samples plotted

Antioquia in the eastern flank of the Central Cordillera, in the jurisdiction of the municipality of Sonsón, Jerusalem district, Río Claro area.

5.1 Petrography

Detailed petrography was performed on the thin sections in the Geology laboratory of the EAFIT University, the Leitz microscope was used and photographs were taken to recognize textures and alterations, based on this, the metamorphic reactions seen in the petrography were defined based on the book Petrogenesis of Metamorphic Rocks 6th edition (Butcher & Frey, 1994) and finally the trajectories of P- T were made for both metaigneous and metaedimentary in order to infer metamorphic conditions (pressure and temperature) and thus have an approximation of the geological environment

5.2 Whole rock geochemistry

Major oxides and trace elements concentrations were determined for 10 samples by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and inductively coupled plasma-mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) at ALS Minerals. The samples were crushed using a jaw crusher and powdered using a tungsten carbide ring mill. The powdered samples (0.2 g) were weighed into a graphite crucible and mixed with 1.5 g of LiBO₂ flux. The crucibles were heated in a furnace to 1050°C for 15 minutes, and the resulting melt was dissolved in 5% HNO₃. Calibration standards and reagent blanks were added to the sample sequence. Sample solutions were aspirated into an ICP emission spectrograph (Jarrel Ash Atom Comb 975) for determining major oxides and certain trace elements (Ba, Nb, Ni, Sr, Sc, Y, and Zr), while the sample solutions are aspirated into an ICP-MS (Perkin-Elmer Elan 6000) for determination of the trace elements, including rare earth elements. All geochemical analyses *were* handled and processed using the software

GCDKit, 5.0 (Janoušek et al., 2006). The results for the metasedimentary rocks are included in table 1 and for the metabasic rocks in table 2.

Table 1 Geochemical of metasedimentary rocks of the region rio claro

SAMPLE	RC-25-34	RC-26-37	RC-29-66	RC-27-62		RC-25-33	RC-2	RC-3	RC-4
Ba	716	2240	1475	5300		750	106,5	1000	13,2
Ce	112	76,3	82,1	68,3		124,5	34,4	50,6	1,5
Cr	120	120	140	100		110	20	80	20
Cs	15,8	10,15	18,95	8,19		11,3	0,52	6,9	4,42
Dy	7,81	4,94	6,57	4,44		8,61	2,49	4,24	0,2
Er	4,5	2,84	3,77	2,98		4,98	1,38	2,47	0,16
Eu	1,78	1,32	1,43	1,08		2,25	0,57	0,98	0,03
Ga	35,1	29,1	27,9	26,5		33,7	4,9	22,5	0,8
Gd	7,91	5,35	6,78	4,4		9,31	2,48	4,46	0,26
Hf	5,7	5,5	6	3,9		5,2	5,9	5,5	0,2
Ho	1,61	0,97	1,35	0,93		1,75	0,42	0,86	0,07
La	53,6	37,6	38,9	30,5		58,8	19,6	24	2,2
Lu	0,69	0,45	0,57	0,47		0,65	0,18	0,42	0,02
Nb	22,5	16,2	18,2	16,5		21,7	13,3	10,3	0,3
Nd	49,7	34,4	38,8	28,7		57,6	16,4	23,7	1,4
Pr	12,8	9,08	9,63	7,35		14,35	4,61	6,14	0,34
Rb	237	118	170,5	111,5		148,5	14,9	121	23,4
Sm	9,28	6,77	7,46	5,43		11,1	2,88	4,48	0,15
Sn	8	5	5	4		7	1	2	1
Sr	147,5	100,5	51	26		137	16,7	249	135,5
Ta	1,8	1,5	1,6	1,4		1,8	0,8	0,8	0,1
Tb	1,35	0,83	1,09	0,68		1,49	0,41	0,72	0,04
Th	20,6	13,25	13,55	12,7		20,1	3,55	8,82	0,18
Tm	0,7	0,41	0,59	0,46		0,72	0,16	0,4	0,03
U	4,22	4,91	3,42	2		3,38	1,12	2,06	0,42
V	199	171	179	146		168	20	113	11
W	4	9	8	5		4	2	2	2
Y	39,8	22,7	32,4	22,6		43,1	12,6	23	2,8
Yb	4,37	2,94	3,91	2,96		4,44	1,37	2,51	0,14
Zr	204	204	227	145		184	240	205	8
SiO2	52,4	60,1	59,5	64,6		54,1	93,9	68,1	81,5

Al ₂ O ₃	22,4	17,45	17,55	14,95		20,4	3,55	15,05	0,4
Fe ₂ O ₃	8,47	6,69	7,82	7,44		9,22	1,08	5,11	0,36
CaO	0,52	1,54	1,29	0,54		0,75	0,07	1,05	10,1
MgO	1,99	2,7	2,77	2,9		2,07	0,19	1,79	0,43
Na ₂ O	1,44	2,65	1,91	0,6		1,98	0,41	2,58	0,02
K ₂ O	4,57	3,09	4,69	3,37		3,5	0,34	2,55	0,13
Cr ₂ O ₃	0,015	0,016	0,017	0,012		0,014	0,002	0,01	0,002
TiO ₂	0,97	0,79	0,95	0,74		0,94	0,16	0,67	0,02
MnO	0,1	0,06	0,05	0,15		0,1	0,02	0,06	0,01
P ₂ O ₅	0,16	0,17	0,21	0,06		0,19	0,08	0,16	<0.01
SrO	0,02	0,01	0,01	<0.01		0,02	<0.01	0,02	0,01
BaO	0,08	0,26	0,17	0,6		0,08	0,01	0,11	<0.01
LOI	5,82	4,05	2,69	3,29		5,08	1,61	3,15	8,82
Total	98,96	99,58	99,63	99,25		98,44	101,42	100,41	101,8
As	5	36	6	286		<5	12	52	<5
Co	22	12	15	15		23	2	3	1
Cu	41	34	25	53		53	3	29	1
Li	230	270	530	210		240	10	40	140
Mo	1	<1	<1	<1		1	<1	1	1
Ni	48	35	40	62		46	2	13	3
Pb	28	16	15	12		34	5	21	3
Sc	22	14	18	18		20	2	14	<1
Zn	135	146	132	159		125	17	57	11

Table 2 geochemical of metabasic rocks of the region rio claro

SAMPLE	RC-1	RC-5
Ba	389	66,1
Ce	51,4	29,1
Cr	60	160
Cs	1,64	0,33
Dy	4,85	9,47
Er	2,88	4,71
Eu	1,14	2,47
Ga	16,7	25,1
Gd	5,56	9,37
Hf	5,6	4,9
Ho	1,03	1,77

La	27,7	14,9
Lu	0,37	0,57
Nb	9,8	11,3
Nd	27	29,2
Pr	6,95	5,6
Rb	39,9	6,5
Sm	5,08	7,7
Sn	2	2
Sr	269	244
Ta	0,8	0,7
Tb	0,84	1,51
Th	9,13	0,77
Tm	0,4	0,66
U	2,26	0,08
V	107	437
W	4	2
Y	28	48,8
Yb	2,48	3,8
Zr	210	172
SiO2	69,6	43,6
Al2O3	13,85	14,25
Fe2O3	5,22	16,1
CaO	2,99	9,5
MgO	2,03	7,59
Na2O	3,18	2,47
K2O	0,65	0,44
Cr2O3	0,009	0,021
TiO2	0,66	2,73
MnO	0,09	0,24
P2O5	0,16	0,14
SrO	0,02	0,02
BaO	0,04	0,01
LOI	2,39	2,34
Total	100,89	99,45
As	12	<5
Co	10	52
Cu	36	137
Li	70	20

Mo	<1	1
Ni	19	97
Pb	20	2
Sc	13	39
Zn	78	153

6 Results

6.1 Petrography

The studied area is composed of metamorphic and igneous rocks. The metamorphic rocks analyzed in this research were divided into two groups, and based on the petrographic characteristics, and their protoliths were interpreted as sedimentary (samples RC2, RC3, RC4, 2637, 444, 1254, 2966) and igneous, probably basic in composition (samples RC1 and RC5). Deformation, replacement, mineralogy, and rock classification characteristics will be presented below:

The metasedimentary rocks are mainly made up of quartz (20-50%), muscovite (30-40%), biotite (9-40%) and graphite (10-13). In the table 3 are the classification of metasedimentary rocks following Bucher and Frey (1994).

Table 3. Classification of metasedimentary rocks of the studied area following Bucher and Frey (1994) 's book.

SAMPLE	RC-25-34	RC-26-37	RC-29-66	4441	RC-2	RC-3	RC-4
Quartz	7%	50%	40%	20%	30%	30%	85%
Muscovite	40%	10%	10%	30%	24%	45%	85%
Biotite		40%	40%	40%	20%	9%	
Plagioclase					1%		
Graphite	13%		15%	10%		10%	
K-feldspar						6%	
Hornblende					2%		

Titanite					2%		
Zircon					1%		
Carbonates							10%
Andalusite	30%						
Chlorite	10%						
Zone	Andalusite	Biotite	Biotite	Biotite	Biotite	Biotite	
Facies	Epidote-amphibolite facies	Greenschist facies	Greenschist facies	Greenschist facies	Greenschist facies	Greenschist facies	
Name	Graphite-Andalusite-Muscovite schist	Muscovite-Biotite-Quartz schist	Graphite-Biotite-Quartz schist	Graphite-Muscovite-Biotite schist	Biotite-Muscovite-Quartz Schist	Graphite-Muscovite-Quartz Schist	Cuarcita

Quartz a grain size varies from 0.1 to 0.2 mm, is usually subidioblastic to xenoblastic and has interlobed contacts and polygonal mosaic texture (Figure 3). Together with biotite, muscovite and graphite this mineral defines the grain-lepidoblastic texture and S_1 (Figure 4); in the sample RC3, quartz is pre- S_1 (Figure 5). Another, common observed pattern is the undulatory extinction of quartz.

Muscovite crystal size varies from 0.3 mm to 1.0 mm approximately. This mineral is in general idioblastic to subidioblastic and is defining the grano-lepidoblastic texture and S_1 (Figure 4). This mineral also defines crenulation cleavage (Figure 6).

Biotite has a crystal size varying between 0.1 mm to 0.6 mm approximately. The crystals are commonly subidioblastic and defines a lepidoblastic texture, and S_1 foliation (Figure 4), and is found along the crenulation cleavage of sample 2638 (Figure 7). Exceptionally, sample 2966 exhibit biotite pos- S_1 (Figure 8).

Graphite presents a granulometry of 0.4 mm and defines with the other minerals the foliation S_1 .

There is presence of **andalusite** porphyroblasts (30%), with grains of 4mm, it is completely replaced by muscovite (Figure 9) and possibly correspond to S_1 ; event.

Accessory minerals are **chlorite** (10%) pos-kinematic at S_1 (Figure 10). **Hornblende** were found in sample RC2 and its grain size varies from 0.1 to 0.4mm (Figure 11). **Titanite** and **zircons** are observed in sample RC2.

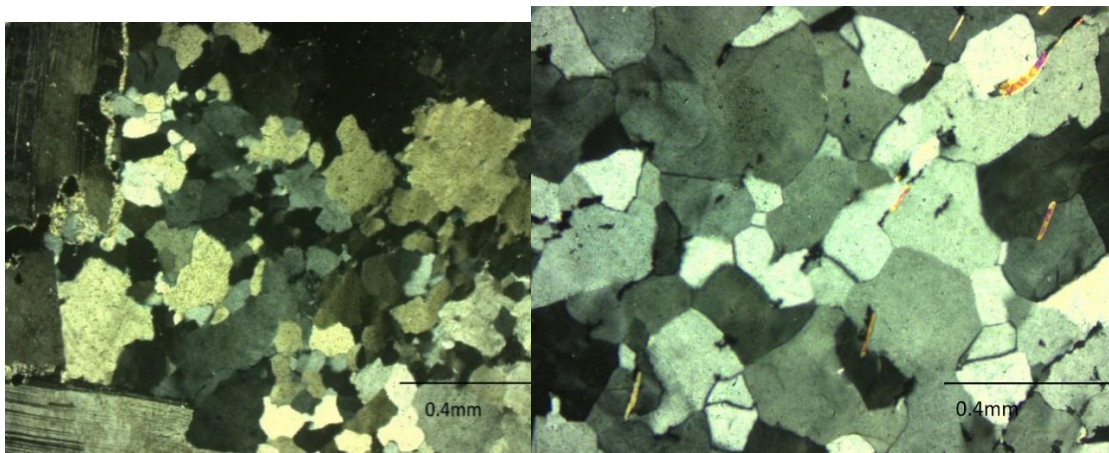


Figure 3 Quartz's textures "interlocking" (left, section 2749), polygonal mosaic (right, section RC4) images obtained with cross polarized light (XPL)

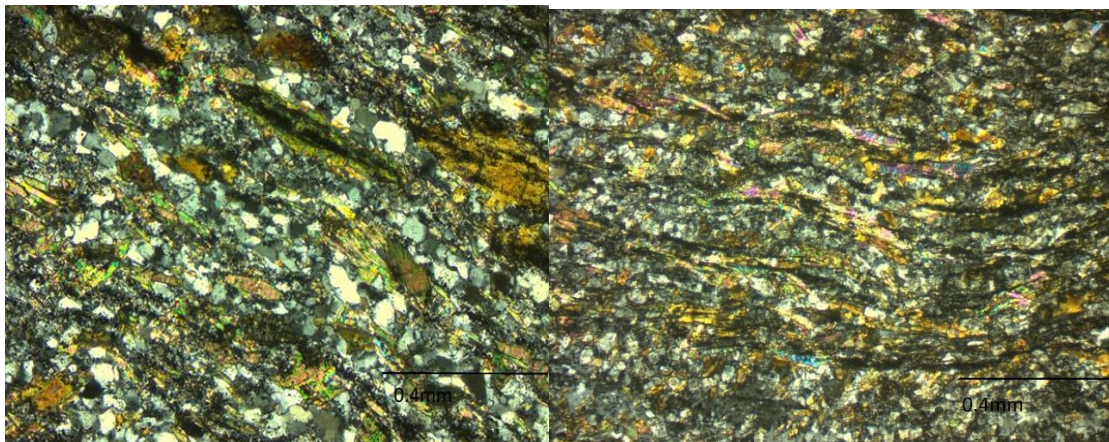


Figure 4. Texture grano-lepidoblastic, conformed by muscovite, biotite and graphite. Section 2966 (left), section 4441 (right). Images obtained with XPL

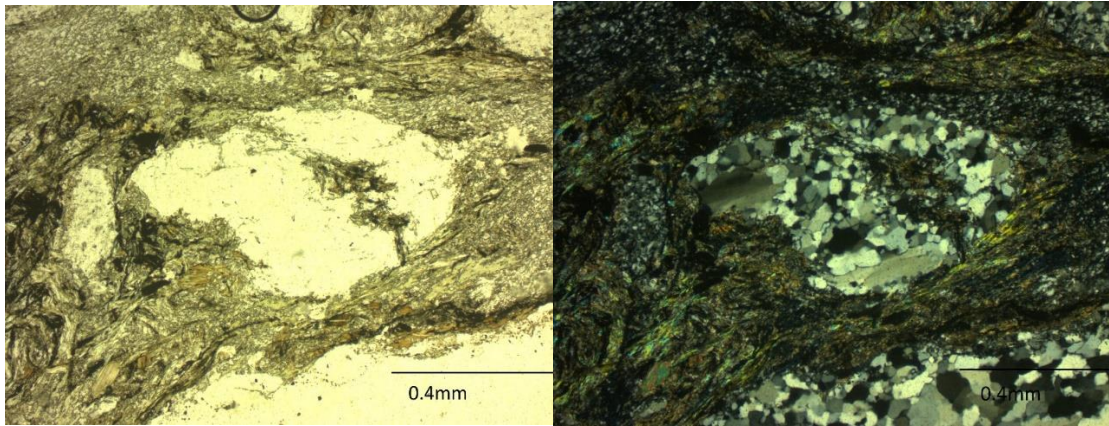


Figure 5. Quartz pre-S1; Section RC3. In plane polarized light (PPL -left) XPL-right.

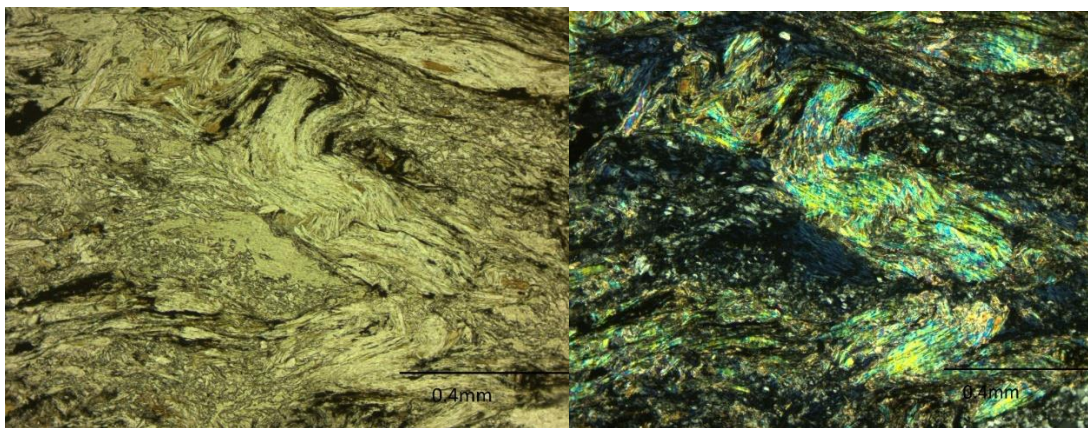


Figure 6 crenulation cleavage in the section RC3. PPL (left) and XPL (right).

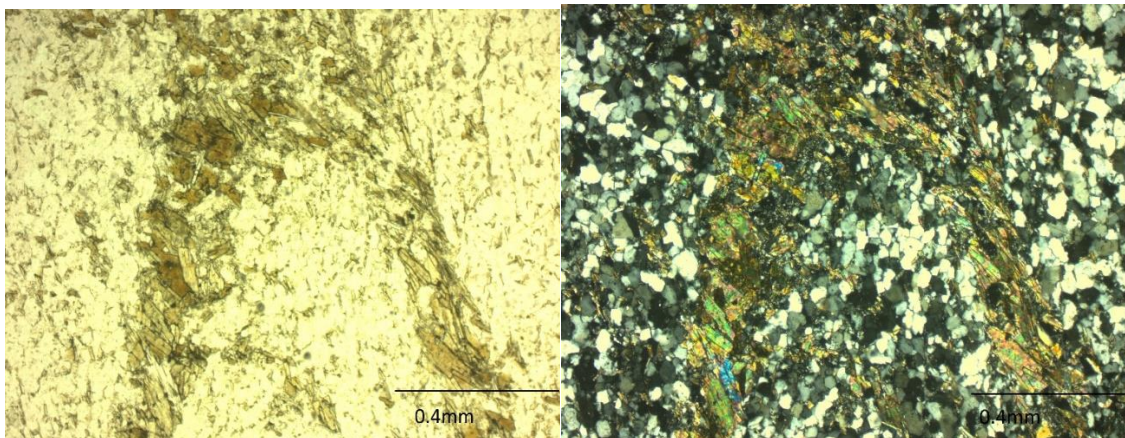


Figure 7 crenulation cleavage defined by biotite. Section 2638, PPL (left) XPL (right).

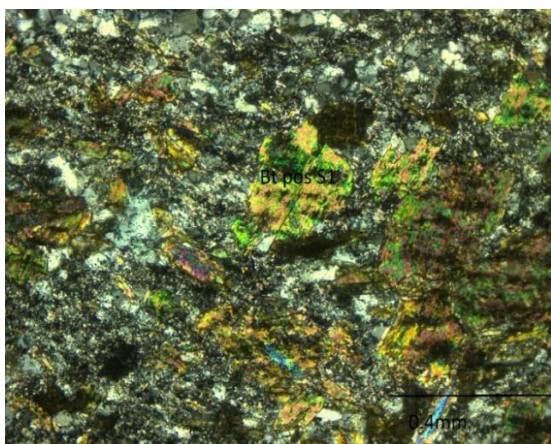


Figure 8 Biotite pos-S1 in sample 2966 XPL

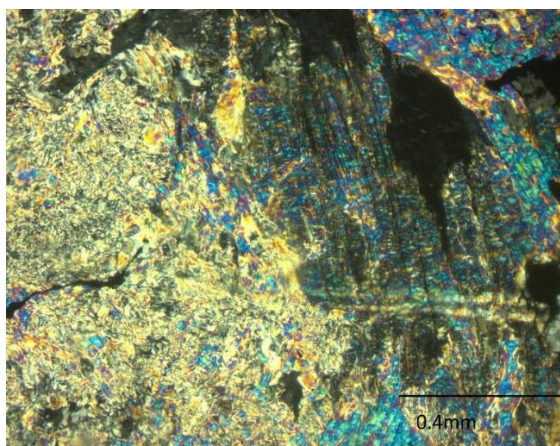


Figure 9. Muscovite after andalusite, sample 2534, XPL

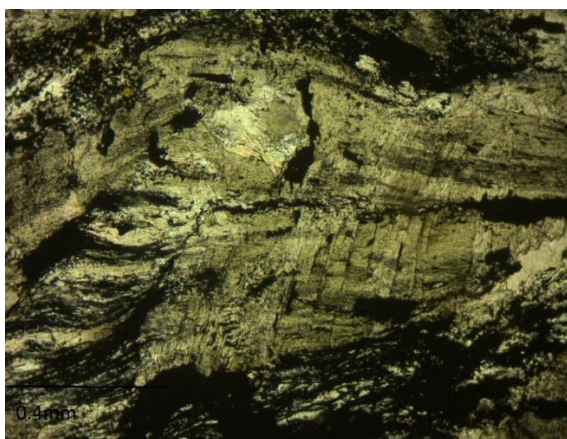


Figure 10 Chlorite pos-kinematic S_1 in sample 2534 PPL

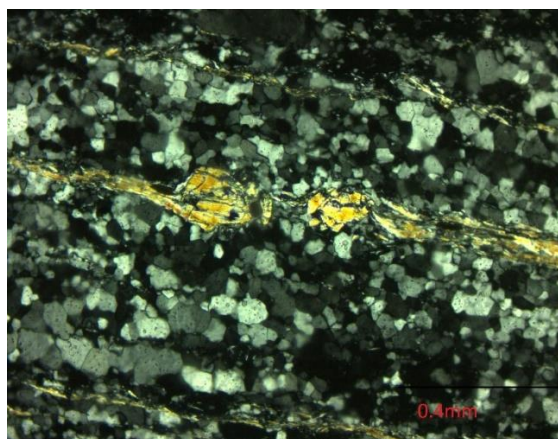


Figure 11. Relict of hornblende prior to S_1 in sample RC2 XPL

Table 4. Classification of metabasic rocks of the studied area following Bucher and Frey (1994).

SAMPLE	RC-1	RC-5
Plagioclase	5%	20%
Epidote	10%	10%
Hornblende		70%
Actinolite	75%	
Quartz	3%	
Chorite	7%	

Facies	Greenschist facies	Greenschist facies
Name	Esquisto Verde	Anfibolita

Metabasic rocks found in the area correspond to samples RC1 and RC5. Both samples exhibit several differences as follow:

The sample RC1, is made up of **actinolite** (75%), **epidote** (10%), **chlorite** (7%), **plagioclase** (5%) and **quartz** (3%).

Actinolite grains are less than 0.3mm, idioblastic and defines grano-nematoblastic texture and S_1 ; **epidote** is xenoblastic, pre-kinematic also this mineral is zoned, (Figure 12) and syn-kinematic (Figure 13) and **chlorite** has a size 0.6mm, **plagioclase** is less 0.2mm and **quartz** is less 0.3mm approximately. All minerals in this section are defining S_1 .

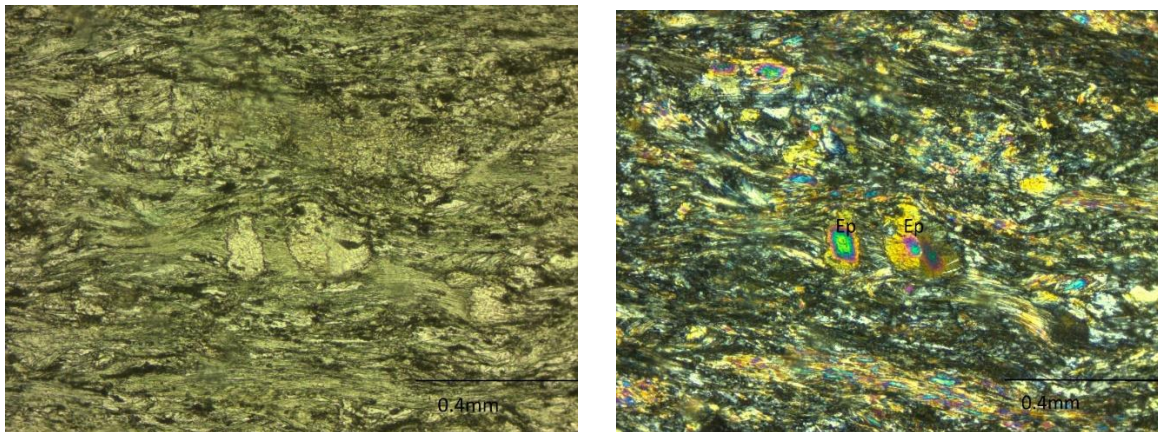


Figure 12; Section RC1, epidote pre-kinematic to S_1 and zonation. PPL (left) and XPL (right).

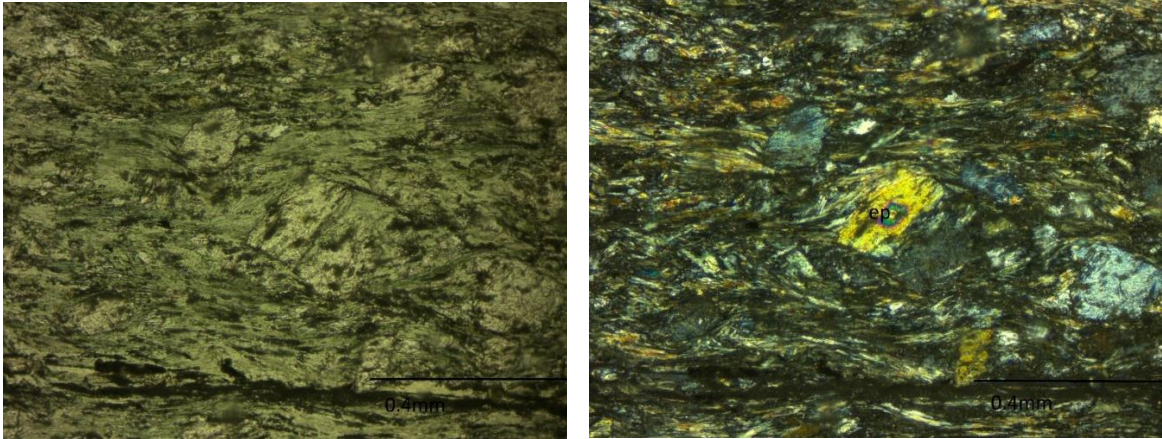


Figure 13; Section RC1, epidote syn-kinematic. In PPL (left) and XPL (right).

The sample RC5, is made up of **hornblende** (70%), **plagioclase** (20%), **epidote** (10%)

The **plagioclase** has a granulometry of 0.7 mm to 1.3 mm approximately, is subidioblastic and is partially replaced by epidote and muscovite (Figure 14 and Figures 16,17) and finally the epidote has a size less to 0.4 mm.

The **hornblende** has a size of 0.5 mm-1.7 mm. This mineral is idioblastic to subidioblastic and is partially replaced to epidote (Figure 15).

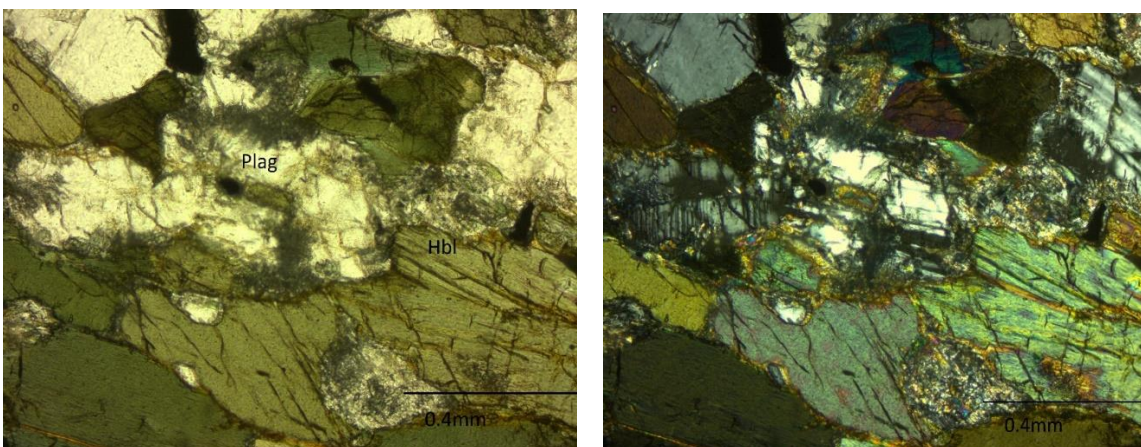


Figure 14. Plagioclase (Plag) grains partially replaced at the edges by muscovite, is in association with hornblende (Hbl). Section RC5, PPL left, XPL right.

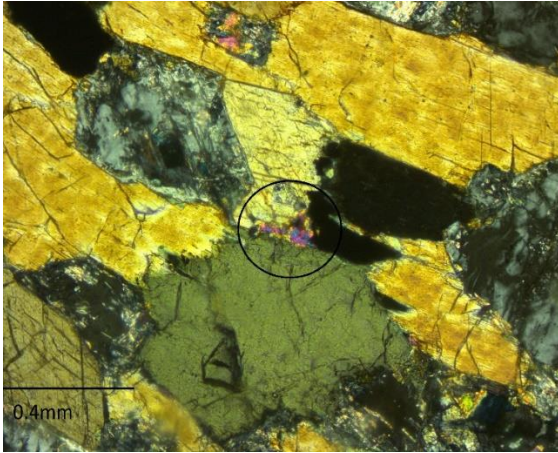


Figure 15. Epidote after hornblende, obtained with XPL

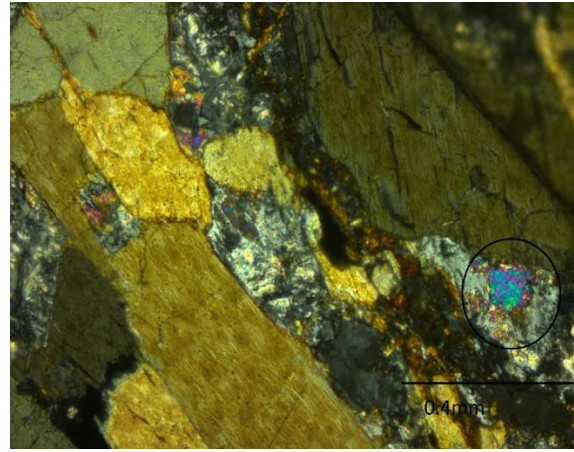


Figure 16. Epidote after plagioclase, image obtained with XPL.

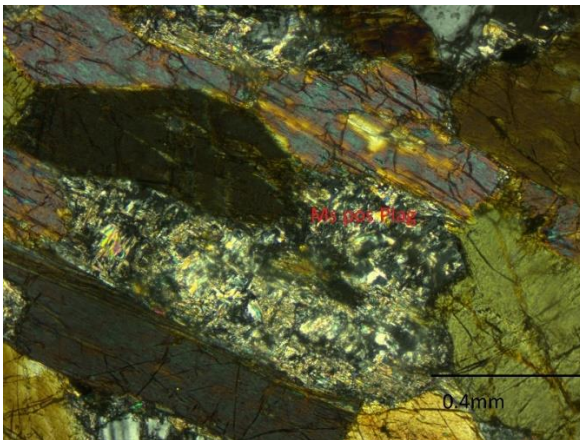


Figure 17. Section RC5, Fine muscovite after plagioclase in association with hornblende.

A blastesis diagram was obtained in order to synthesize relationship between mineral growth and foliation planes S_1 (Figures 18 y 19)

Metasedimentary rocks			
	Pre S_1	S_1	Post- S_1
Quartz			
Muscovite			
Biotite I			
Biotite II			
Chlorite			
Andalusite			
Graphite			

Figure 18 Blastesis of metasedimentary rocks

	Metabasics rocks		
	Pre S ₁	S ₁	Post-S ₁
Actinolite			
Epidote			—
Quartz			
Plagioclas			
Chlorite			

Figure 19: Blastesis of metabasic rocks

6.3 Geochemical

The metasedimentary and metabasic samples were used to perform an analysis of major elements and trace elements, in order to observe behaviors in the graphs, geotectonic classification, etc., and thus sustain the tectonic conditions that dominated the study area.

The Geochemistry of these rocks serves as an indicator of their formation environment, using the High Field Strength Elements (HFSE) and the Rare Earth Elements (REE) since these are the most reliable tracers for petrogenetic interpretations, unlike the Large Ion. Lithophile Elements (LILE) and some major elements (Na, K, Ca, Mg, Rb, Ba, Sr) that are susceptible to being removed during deposition and metamorphism processes (Michard, 1989; Wilson, 1989; Rollinson, 1993, Hollings and Wymann, 2005; Winchester and Floyd, 1977; Pearce, 1982; Jenner, 1996).

6.3.1 Geochemical of metasedimentary rocks

8 samples were used for major and trace element analysis. Although total rock geochemistry is normally used in igneous rocks to identify patterns that can be associated with a specific

tectonic environment (Rollinson, 1993), the geochemical composition of sediments or their metamorphic equivalent are an important tracer for their provenance and tectonic settings (Taylor and McLennan, 1985; McLennan et al., 1993).

The SiO₂ and Al₂O₃ content for the metasedimentary ranges between 66.77 wt% and 13.96 wt%. In Harker's diagrams (**figure 20**), where the SiO₂ content was compared with other major elements, it can be observed that the rocks have high contents of Al₂O₃, FeO, MgO and K₂O showing an inverse relationship with SiO₂. The relationship it has with TiO₂ is a negative but very low trend; With respect to CaO, all the samples except for RC-4 have low contents, finally Na₂O is not observed a clear relationship with SiO₂.

In the pattern of REE compared with chondrite (McDonough and Sun, 1995) (**Figure 21**) it is characterized by an enrichment in the LREE having a strong slope in all samples except for the sample RC-4 (quartzite), which its slope is a little softer. Together, they all have a depleting in the HREE, with a (La / Yb) N = 6.77 to 10.69 being the RC-4 the one with the highest value and with a well-defined negative anomaly in Eu (Eu / Eu * = 0.46 a 0.68), this refers to the fact that the crust has undergone cortical differentiation dominated by the fractionation of plagioclase; in general, the pattern of the rocks is above 10 in concentration with respect to the normalized primitive mantle

In the multielement diagram normalized with N-MORB (Sun and McDonough, 1989) (**Figure 22**), they are shown to be enriched in LILE, and have poor in HFSE. The graph is characterized by a negative anomaly in Nb, Ta, Hf, and Ti and an enrichment in K, Ba, Rb, Pb and Th.

Th / Sc values commonly track the existence of felsic and / or mafic sources within a sediment. The values obtained are between 0.70 to 1.7 and when compared against Zr / Sc the samples plot close to the upper crust (**Figure 23a**), in the same way in the diagram Hf vs

La / Th (**Figure 23b**) it presents a felsic upper crust signature (Floyd and Leveridge, 1987) and finally in the tectonic discrimination diagram that includes Th-Sc-Zr, the rocks of the Cajamarca Complex plot within the continental island arc field and in the active continental margin field (**Figure 23c**).

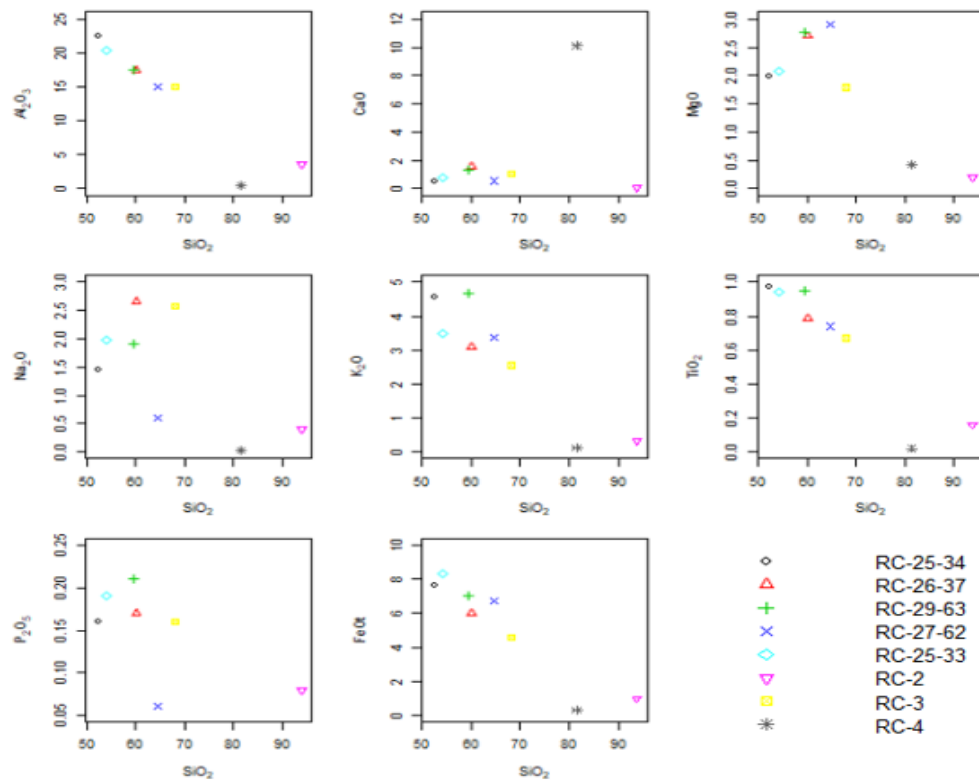


Figure 20 Harker diagrams, major elements vs SiO_2

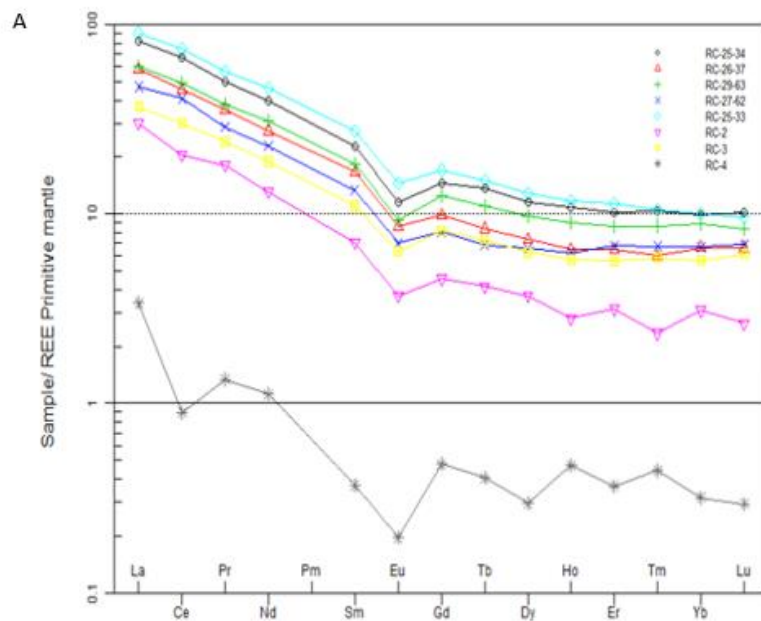


Figure 21. Rare earth elements concentrations normalized with mantle primitive, McDonough and Sun (1995)

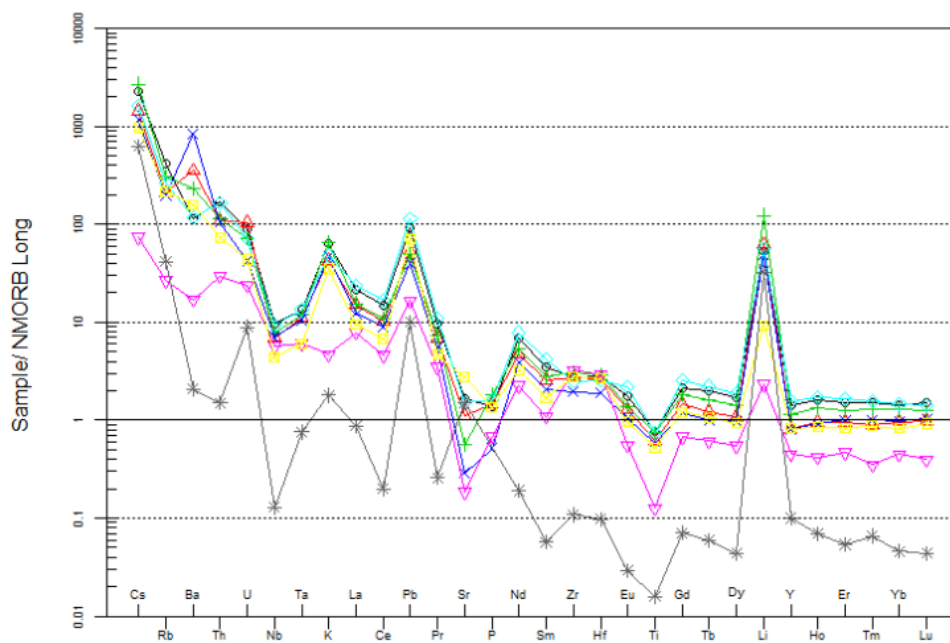


Figure 22. Multi-elemental diagrams normalized to NMORB (Sun and McDonough, 1989)

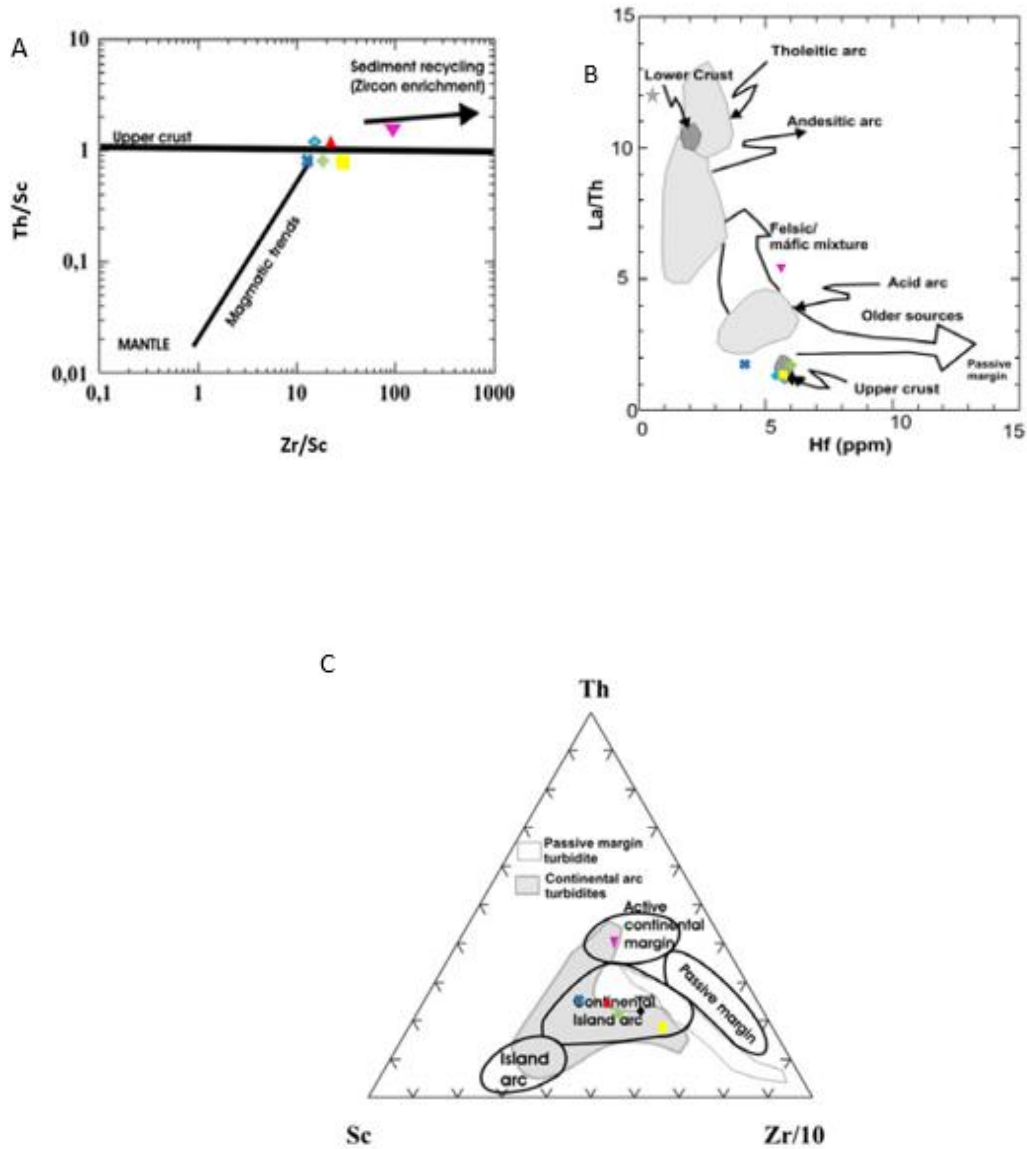


Figure 23. (A). Th/Sc vs Zr/Sc diagram McLennan *et al.*, (1993). (B). Hf vs La/Th (Floyd and Leveridge, 1987). (C). Sandstone geochemical discrimination diagram (Bhatia and Crook, 1986).

6.3.2 Geochemical of metabasic rocks

For the analysis of metabasic rocks, 2 samples (RC1-RC5) were used, as well as for the meta-sedimentary rocks, the HFSE and REE were used for the study due to their immobile nature in metamorphism processes.

The 2 metabasic samples belonging to the Cajamarca Complex (RC1-RC5) present a large variation in the SiO₂ content (69.6 and 43.6 wt%), in the same way in the MgO content (2.3 and 7.59 wt%), FeO (5.22 and 16.1 wt%) and CaO (2.99 and 9.5 wt%) with a lower variation of Al₂O₃ of 13.85 and 14.25 wt%, K₂O (0.65 and 0.44) and Na₂O (3.18 and 2.47).

The Zr / Ti vs Nb / Y diagram marks magma fractionation and alkalinity provides a way to chemically discriminate metamorphosed or altered volcanic rocks (Winchester and Floyd, 1977, Pearce, 1996); in this figure samples RC5 and RC1 plot on basalt and basaltic andesite (**figure 24**)

In the REE pattern compared to the chondrite (McDonough and Sun (1995)) it shows an enrichment in the LREE and a depletion in the HREE (**Figure 25**); La / Yb_N values are 2.61 and 7.45; A negative anomaly in Eu is also shown in both samples (Eu / Eu = 0.66 - 0.89) which refers to the fractionation of plagioclase.

In the normalized multi-element diagram with the primitive mantle (Sun and McDonough, 1989; **Figure 26**), the metabasic rocks show negative slopes, with a slightly flat pattern for the high field strength elements (HFSE), and an enrichment in the large ion lithophile elements (LILE), mainly in Cs, Rb, Ba, K, La and in Pb. Both sections show depletion in Nb, P and Ti.

The Ti and V content of basic magmas often track oxygen activity during magmatic evolution and can therefore be used to identify water-induced melting in subduction environments (Shervais, 1982; Rollinson, 1993), both samples plot in the MORB and Back arc field (**figure**

27). Finally, the graph of $\text{Hf-Rb} / 30\text{-Ta} * 30$ (Harris et al., 1986) was made and the samples were plotted on an intraplate (**figure 28**).

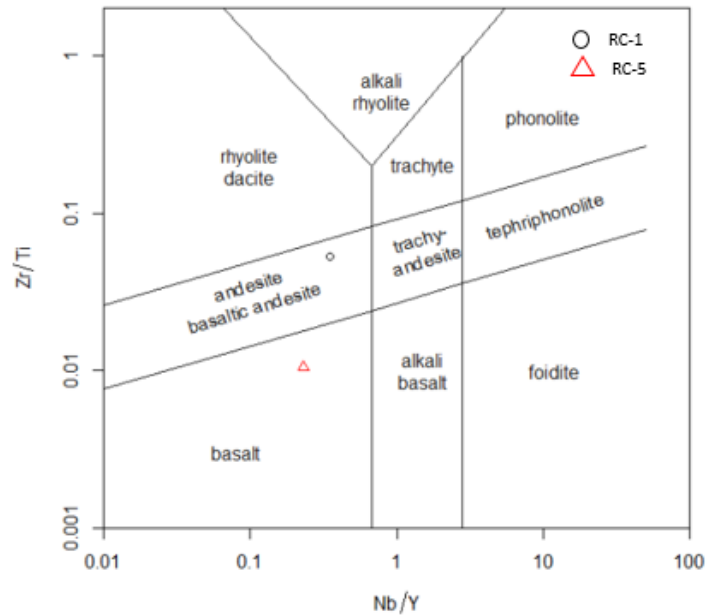


Figure 24 Classification volcanic rocks using immobile elements (Winchester and Floyd, 1977)

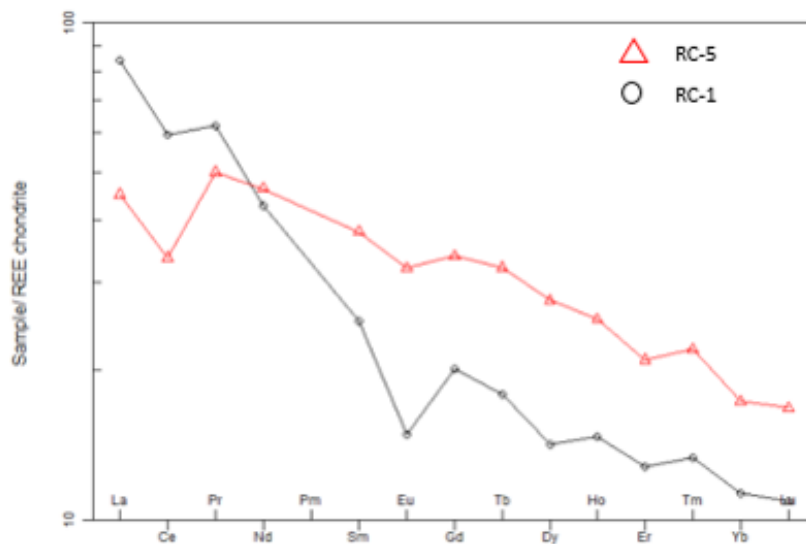


Figure 25. Rare earth elements concentrations normalized to chondrite (McDonough and Sun, 1995)

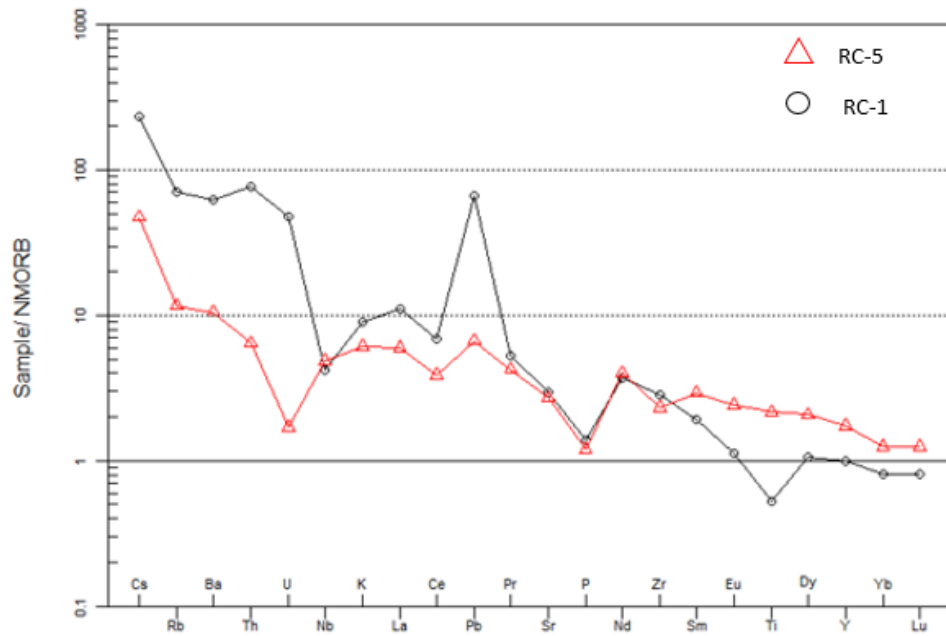


Figure 26. Multi-elemental diagrams normalized to NMORB (Sun and McDonough, 1989)

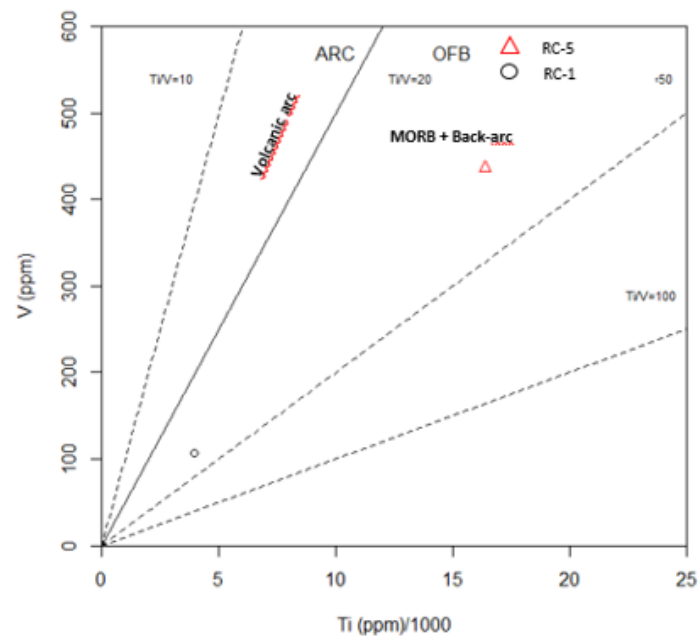


Figure 27. Tectonic setting discrimination diagrams Ti vs V, Shervais (1982)

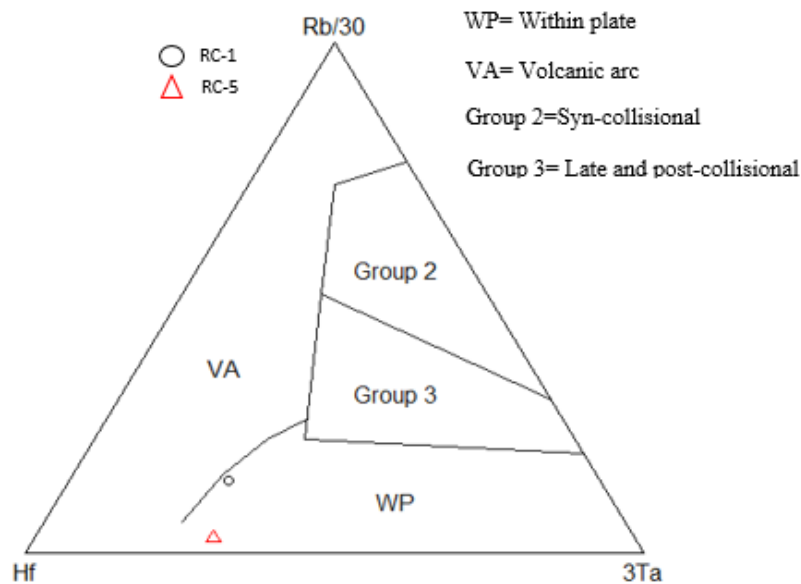


Figure 28. Hf-Rb/30- Ta*30 diagrams (Harris et al., 1986)

7 Discussion

7.1 Origin of the protolith

The mineral association, composition and textures of the metasedimentary rocks indicate that the protolith corresponds to continental sediments. This is confirmed in **Figures 23 a and b**, where the samples are plotted in the upper crust. The provenance of the tectonic environment for the protoliths of the metasedimentary rocks, were interpreted from the geochemistry carried out. As can be seen in **figure 23 c**, the samples plot in an active continental margin / continental island arc environment; together with the characteristic anomalies in **figure 22**, such as the negative anomaly of Nb and Ti, the enrichment in Rb, K, Ba which are indicators of a subduction environment.

Blanco Quintero et al. (2014) propose that the protolith of the Cajamarca Complex, near the city of Ibagué, would have accumulated in a deep marine environment, associated with a back-arc basin. Which would have occurred during the early and middle Jurassic. Pulido-Fernández (2017) suggests that the protolith of the metapelites that emerge in the Rio Claro region (Antioquia) and that would be correlated with said Complex (Maya and González, 1995), would be related to a passive continental margin. However, the samples that correspond to the Cajamarca Complex in the work of Pulido-Fernández (2017), graph in the field of an active continental margin, which agrees with the results presented in this work.

For its part, Cediél (2019) proposes an intra-oceanic island arc and a continental margin for the source of the protoliths and proposes two models for the tectonic evolution of the Cajamarca Complex related to the closure of a back-arc basin: 1) an Andean-type margin environment and 2) a continental collision environment, generating a structural reconstruction where it exposes that the formation and metamorphism of the Cajamarca sediments are in an accretion prism that took place in the late Silurian-early Devonian.

The geochemistry results of this work, together with those reported by Pulido-Fernández (2017), allow us to infer that the protolith of the metasedimentary rocks studied in this project would not have accumulated in a back-arc basin environment. On the contrary, its accumulation is associated with an accretion prism of a subduction zone. This can be inferred from the geochemistry of major and trace elements, in which negative anomalies of Nb and Ti, and enrichment of K, Rb and Ba are observed; as well as the relationship of LREE / HREE with $(La / Yb)_N$ between 6.77 and 10.69; which is characteristic of a subduction environment. Additionally, the positive Pb anomaly indicates that the protolith comes from the continental crust.

The metabasic rocks were classified according to the Winchester and Floyd (1977) diagram as basalt and basaltic andesites (**figure 24**). According to the Ti vs V tectonic discrimination diagram, a MORB-like affinity is clearly observed, while the variations observed in Figures 30 and 31 may correspond to the assimilation of sediments or fluid-rock interactions in a subduction zone. According to the above, it can be inferred that the protolith is related to the generation of oceanic crust that would later subduct the paleo-western margin of South America (**figure 32**). Due to the low number of metabasic samples analyzed, it is difficult to be certain of the age of the protolith, and its relationship with the metasedimentary rocks.

7.2 Metamorphic conditions

The metasedimentary rocks of the study area suggest a metamorphism that reaches at least the highest temperatures of greenschist facies, probably epidote-amphibolite facies. This suggests a clockwise path with an approximately isothermic retrograde metamorphism (type ITD) (or isobaric?) but with the petrographic data it is very difficult to pinpoint the last portion of the path. It must be considered that part of metamorphism shows evidence of its passage through the reaction $\text{chlorite} + \text{K-feldspar} \leftrightarrow \text{biotite} + \text{muscovite}$, in the stability field of andalusite. Due to the absence of minerals typical of metamorphic zones (e.g., garnet, staurolite) there are not practical possibilities to detail the metamorphic path with greater precision for these rocks. So, we suggest that the baric and thermal peaks reached ~0.4 GPa and ~550 °C respectively (**Figure 29**)

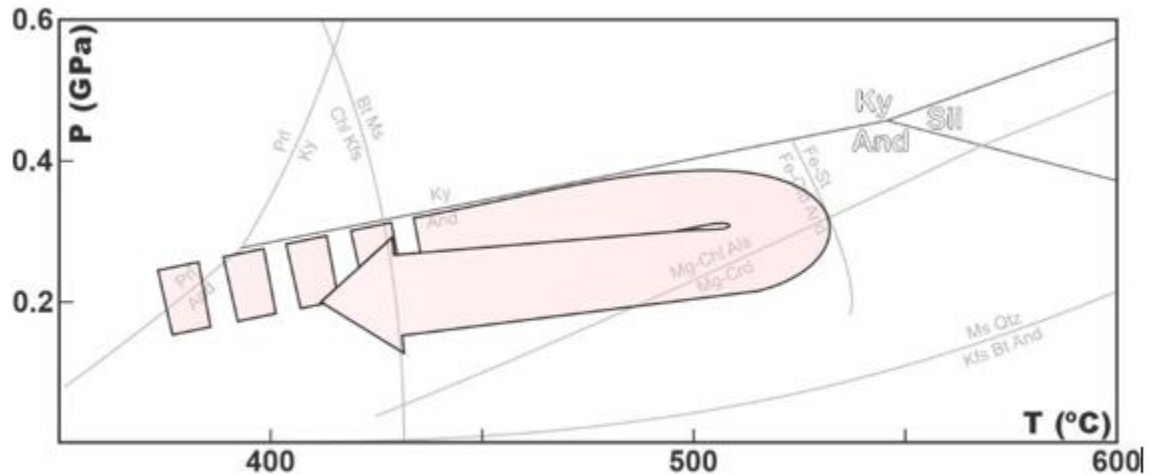


Figure 29. P-T condition of metasedimentary rocks.

In the case of the metabasic rocks studied in this research, due to the relatively monotonous mineralogy that was observed, it becomes more complex to clearly define the metamorphic path followed by these rocks. Considering the paragenesis present in them and represented in the blasthesis diagram, it is possible to suggest that only the epidote comes from a stage prior to the metamorphic peak, possibly from the subgreenschist facies. For another author, the association actinolite+chlorite+epidote +albite in presence of quartz changes its stability field under the conditions in which albite becomes calcic and actinolite turns into hornblende and the chlorite disappearance or become unstable at 475°C (e.g., Spear, 1993; Liou et al., 1974), so we use it to determine that the metamorphic peak does not exceed ~550 °C (**figure 30**), similar conditions to those defined for the meta-sedimentary rocks. The granulometry of these rocks could be used like an indication that they didn't reach higher grades or metamorphic facies (e.g., epidote amphibolite or amphibolite). Due to the association with the meta-sedimentary rocks, a clockwise path, with a retrograde metamorphism is proposed for the metabasic rocks.

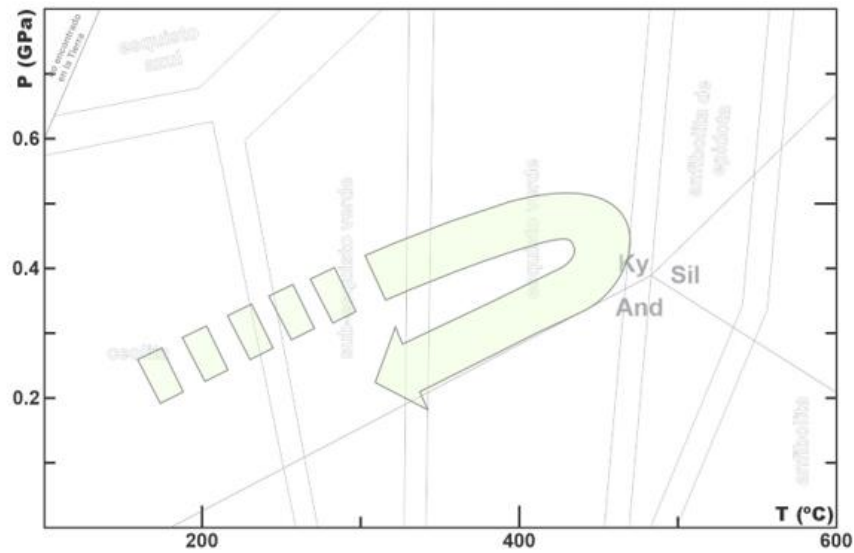


Figure 30. P-T conditions of metabasic rocks

The pressure and temperature conditions for the set of metamorphic rocks were found based on the detailed petrography and the observed metamorphic reactions; the baric and thermal peak for the metasedimentary rocks gave an approximate of 4 Kbar and 550 ° C. In metaigneous rocks, Liou et al., (1974) were taken into account for the baric peak, he estimated under experimental processes the phase relationships between greenschist and amphibolites in basaltic systems; he estimates that the mineralogical association: actinolite + chlorite + epidote + plagioclase + quartz occur in a temperature condition between 350 to 475 ° C, therefore, when applying the textural relationships, he indicates conditions T = 320 - 475 ° C and pressures less than 6 kilobars and the thermal peak in this resource does not exceed 550 ° C, like the metasedimentary; Based on this, depths not exceeding 20 km are indicated during prograde metamorphism (**figure 31**). These conditions would be related to medium P / T series (Barrovian type), generally related to collision systems.

Based on the progressive pattern of the PT paths, which involves burial and heating, the mineralogical assembly, in which the contribution of continental material can be evidenced by the presence of graphite, andalusite concordant with the foliation, a large amount of quartz

in the metasedimentary rocks. and the geochemical results that lead to the accumulation of the protolith possibly in an accretion prism; in addition to that the protoliths of the metabasic rocks were probably formed in an ocean basin; metamorphism could be related to collision and tectonic shortening (**Figure 32**). These conditions of metamorphism are comparable to those described by Blanco-Quintero et al. (2014) for the Cajamarca Complex in the department of Tolima.

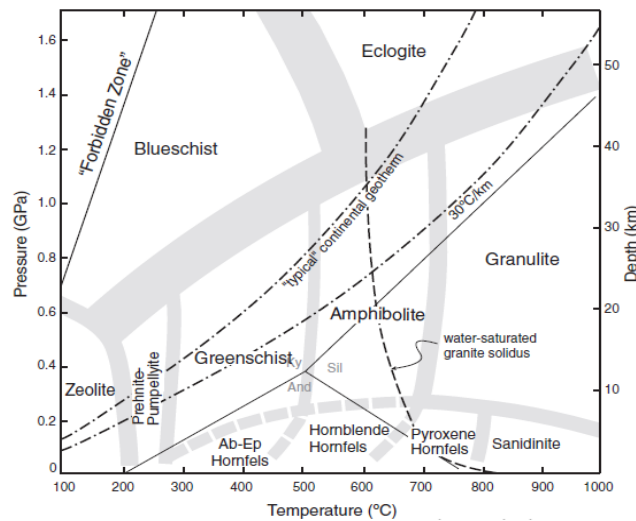


Figure 31. Explicatory diagram relating P-T conditions with tectonic depth (Winter,2014)

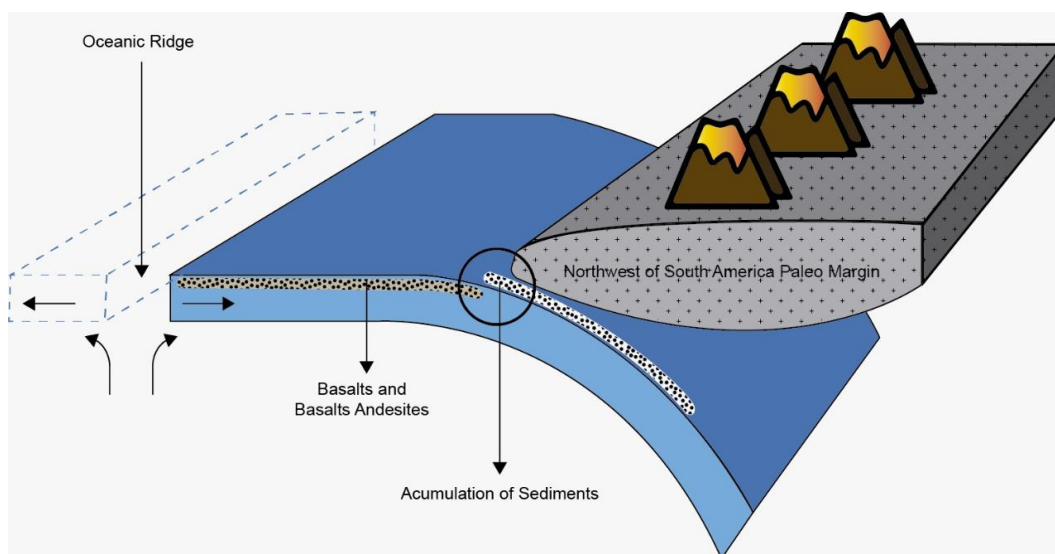


Figure 32. Geological model of the formation of the protoliths and subsequent metamorphism in the subduction zone.

8 Conclusions

Based on the data obtained in this work, a different form of protolith generation is proposed. It is inferred from the geochemical results obtained in the metasedimentary and metabasic rocks, that the protolith of the former would have accumulated in the accretion wedge of a subduction zone, which favors pressure conditions of approximately 4 kbar, this suggests that it was a shallow accumulation and with temperatures that did not exceed 550 °C, for its part, the igneous protolith as reflected in its results would be part of the oceanic crust that subducts the paleo margin of South America, this would make the protoliths have different ages, obviously the basalts and basalt andesites would have formed in a previous event, as proposed in **figure 32**

As there is no temporality of these samples, it can only be based on the chronology regarding the intrusions and the reported ages of these bodies. These metamorphic rocks are intruded by highly deformed pegmatite bodies, these dikes are closely related to the magmatism of the Antioqueno Batholith, and as is known, it dates from the late Jurassic to the Cretaceous, therefore the metamorphic event had to have been generated during or before the intrusion; which would allow us to compare the metamorphic event with that proposed by Blanco Quintero et al., (2014) south of the Central Cordillera, but the formation of protoliths north of the mountain chain is still under discussion.

It is recommended to carry out more arduous studies in the area, to be able to acquire ages of metamorphism, collect more samples, both in the northern part and in the center, in order to be able to correlate or not with the Cajamarca Complex described to the south and thus be able to better delimit the metamorphic body both temporally and geographically.

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