

1 **Lithospheric modification at the onset of the**
2 **destruction of the North China Craton: evidence**
3 **from Late Triassic mafic dykes**

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22 **Abstract**

23 Mantle-derived magmatism provides important insights for understanding the mechanism of
24 lithospheric thinning. Here we report the results of an integrated geochronological and
25 geochemical study of Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei, northern North China Craton.
26 *In situ* zircon U-Pb dating shows that the dykes were emplaced between 238 and 223 Ma; the
27 coeval Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes intruded Precambrian basement at 238–234 Ma and the
28 Saheqiao dyke was emplaced into Neoproterozoic supracrustal rocks later at 223 ± 4 Ma (2 σ). Bulk-
29 rock geochemistry indicates that the Late Triassic dykes in Eastern Hebei were produced by
30 melting of ancient lithospheric mantle within the garnet-spinel transition zone (~70–80 km), heated
31 by upwelling asthenosphere. This ancient lithospheric mantle had been metasomatized during
32 previous subduction events. The Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes resulted from higher degrees of
33 partial melting at slightly lower pressures than the Saheqiao dyke. The melting depth of Late
34 Triassic dykes in Eastern Hebei indicates that the intact ancient lithospheric mantle had been at
35 least locally modified/thinned to ~70–80 km by the Late Triassic. The intrusion of these Late
36 Triassic dykes took place at the onset of the lithospheric thinning of the North China Craton,
37 caused by post-collisional extension after subduction and collision of neighboring blocks with the
38 North China Craton.

39 **Keywords:** Mafic dykes; Lithospheric modification; Destruction or lithospheric thinning; North
40 China Craton

41

42 **1 Introduction**

43 The North China Craton (NCC) is unique compared with other Archean cratons in that its
44 lithosphere underwent significant thinning during the Mesozoic; this event has been extensively
45 and intensively studied for several decades (e.g., [Gao et al., 2004](#); [Liu et al., 2019](#); [Wu et al., 2019](#);
46 [Xu, 2001](#); [Yang and Wu, 2009](#); [Yang et al., 2008](#); [Zhu and Xu, 2019](#)). The thick and cold ancient
47 lithospheric mantle present underneath the NCC in the Paleozoic had been converted into a thin
48 and hot lithospheric mantle, as sampled by mantle xenoliths in Paleozoic kimberlites and Cenozoic
49 basalts ([Gao et al., 2002](#); [Wu et al., 2006](#); [Xu, 2001](#); [Xu et al., 2009](#); [Zhang et al., 2008a](#)). The
50 Mesozoic lithospheric thinning of the NCC resulted in widespread magmatism ([Yang et al., 2008](#);
51 [Zhang et al., 2014](#)), accompanied by intensive deformation ([Wang et al., 2018](#); [Zhang et al., 2014](#))
52 and mineralization ([Li and Santosh, 2017](#); [Yang and Santosh, 2020](#)). Although the Late Mesozoic
53 is the most important stage for the lithospheric thinning of the NCC ([Wu et al., 2005, 2019](#); [Yang](#)
54 [and Wu, 2009](#); [Yang et al., 2008](#); [Zhu and Xu, 2019](#)), it is generally acknowledged that lithospheric
55 thinning of the NCC initiated at its margins in the Late Triassic, and afterwards spread
56 diachronously across the NCC ([Wang et al., 2015](#); [Yang et al., 2008, 2010](#); [Zhang et al., 2014](#)).

57 The first-order cause of the destruction or lithospheric thinning of the NCC is believed to be
58 interaction between the NCC and neighboring blocks, including the Yangtze Craton to the south,
59 the Paleo-Asian plate and the Siberian plate to the north, and the Paleo-Pacific plate to the east
60 ([Meng et al., 2020](#); [Wang et al., 2015, 2017](#); [Wu et al., 2019](#); [Yang and Wu, 2009](#); [Zhang et al.,](#)
61 [2014](#)). However, the detailed mechanisms of the processes involved are still under debate, and
62 various mechanisms have been proposed in previous research (e.g., [Wu et al., 2006, 2019](#); [Xu et](#)
63 [al., 2009](#); [Yang and Wu, 2009](#); [Yang et al., 2008](#); [Zhang et al., 2014](#); [Zhu and Xu, 2019](#)). These
64 include thermo-mechanical and chemical erosion from below ([Xu, 2001](#)),
65 delamination/foundering ([Gao et al., 2004](#)), peridotite-melt interaction ([Zhang et al., 2008a](#)),

66 extension (Liu et al., 2008), basal hydration weakening (Niu, 2005, 2014) or removal of
67 lithospheric mantle induced by lithospheric folding (Zhang, 2012).

68 Magmatism, especially mantle-derived magmatic rocks, can probe the geodynamic processes
69 responsible for the lithospheric thinning of the NCC, as compositions and ages of these rocks
70 potentially record the source characteristics and melting conditions of the lithosphere and/or
71 asthenosphere involved, as well as the timing and emplacement mechanism(s) (e.g., Liu et al.,
72 2018; Ma et al., 2014a, 2014b, 2016; Niu et al., 2017; Wan et al., 2019; Wang et al., 2020; Xue et
73 al., 2019). The thermal and chemical state of the overlying lithosphere can be affected and
74 modified by the addition of volatiles released from previously subducted slabs (Niu, 2005) and the
75 upwelling convective asthenosphere (Xu et al., 2009). Therefore, it is crucial to understand how
76 any slab-derived volatiles and juvenile, depleted, asthenospheric mantle participated and interacted
77 with other source components during the lithospheric thinning of the NCC, particularly at its initial
78 stage. Recent investigations revealed that Late Triassic mantle-derived magmatic rocks in the NCC
79 were predominantly sourced from a subduction-modified ancient lithospheric mantle, with a
80 contribution from the juvenile asthenospheric mantle (e.g., Chen et al., 2008; Li et al., 2020; Niu
81 et al., 2012, 2017; Yang et al., 2012). But, due to the scarcity of Late Triassic mantle-derived rocks
82 in the NCC (Zhang et al., 2014), the nature and the thickness of the ancient lithospheric mantle
83 during the Late Triassic are not clear.

84 In this contribution, we present an integrated study involving *in situ* zircon U-Pb dating,
85 mineral chemistry, bulk-rock elemental and Sr-Nd isotope geochemistry for Late Triassic (238–
86 223 Ma) mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei of the northern NCC (Fig. 1), to better understand the
87 properties of its ancient lithospheric mantle root at the onset of lithospheric thinning of the NCC.
88 We demonstrate that these dykes were derived from a modified ancient lithospheric mantle, and

89 that the thickness of the intact ancient lithosphere beneath the NCC had been locally reduced to
90 ~70–80 km by the Late Triassic, as the result of previously subduction-related metasomatism.

91 **2 Geological background and samples**

92 The NCC is bounded by several orogenic belts, including the late Paleozoic Central Asian
93 Orogenic Belt (CAOB) to the north, the Triassic Qinling-Dabie Orogen to the south and the Sulu
94 Orogen to the east, and is cut by the Tan-Lu strike-slip fault in the east (Fig. 1a). As the largest
95 and oldest cratonic block in China, the NCC preserves vestiges of Eoarchean crustal records older
96 than 3.8 Ga (Liu et al., 1992). The NCC was preliminarily cratonized through amalgamation of
97 micro-continents at the end of the Neoproterozoic (e.g., Wang et al., 2016), and it was finally sutured
98 along three major orogenic belts in the Paleoproterozoic (Santosh et al., 2007; Tam et al., 2011;
99 Zhao et al., 2005). After the final cratonization in the Paleoproterozoic, the NCC remained
100 tectonically stable and developed a thick sedimentary cover until the end of the Paleozoic, with
101 scattered and episodic Proterozoic mantle plume-related magmatic rocks (e.g., Peng et al., 2012;
102 Zhang et al., 2017). In the Paleozoic, a thick cratonic lithosphere existed beneath the NCC, as
103 evidenced by the Paleozoic diamondiferous kimberlites in the eastern NCC (Zhang et al., 2010).
104 However, the lithosphere of the NCC began to experience significant thinning in the Mesozoic,
105 with intensive magmatism, deformation and mineralization widely distributed across the eastern
106 NCC (Yang and Wu, 2009; Yang et al., 2003; Zhang et al., 2014). Comprehensive
107 geochronological investigations reveal that Mesozoic magmatism in the eastern NCC occurred in
108 three major pulses: the Late Triassic (230–210 Ma), the Jurassic (180–153 Ma) and the Early
109 Cretaceous (135–110 Ma) (Wang et al., 2015, 2017; Wu et al., 2005; Yang and Wu, 2009; Zhang
110 et al., 2014). Late Triassic magmatism is volumetrically minor compared to its Jurassic and Early
111 Cretaceous counterparts, including some sporadically distributed mafic dykes, intermediate-felsic

112 rocks, alkaline intrusives and ultramafic-mafic complexes in the northern NCC (Wang et al., 2015;
113 Jia et al., 2019; Li et al., 2020; Yang et al., 2004; Zhang et al., 2012, 2014).

114 The study area is located in Eastern Hebei, which lies west of the Tan-Lu fault and in the
115 eastern segment of the northern part of the NCC (Fig. 1a). Precambrian basement in Eastern Hebei
116 mainly consists of Neoproterozoic tonalite-trondhjemite-granodiorite (TTG) gneisses, charnockites,
117 and supracrustal rocks metamorphosed to various degrees (Duan et al., 2017; Liou and Guo, 2019;
118 Yang and Wei, 2017a, 2017b), with a few Paleoproterozoic supracrustal remnants (detrital
119 zircons or dismembered enriched plume-related volcanic successions) (Liu et al., 1992; Liou et al.,
120 2020; Nutman et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2019) and Paleoproterozoic metamorphosed mafic dykes
121 (Duan et al., 2015; Yang and Wei, 2017a). Paleoproterozoic to Mesozoic sedimentary cover was
122 deposited unconformably over the Precambrian basement, with a few discrete volcanic layers
123 within the sequence. The Precambrian basement was also intruded by Mesozoic felsic plutons and
124 mafic dykes (Fan et al., 2017; Xiong et al., 2018). These dykes are widespread albeit thinly-
125 distributed and dyke lengths are on the scale of 1–4 km (Fig. 1c and d). However, ages and
126 petrogenesis of these Mesozoic mafic dykes remain unresolved as no comprehensive
127 investigations have previously been carried out.

128 The studied mafic dyke samples were collected to the north of Santunying and to the south of
129 Lulong, in the central-east part of Eastern Hebei (Fig. 1b). Different portions of the mafic dykes
130 were sampled when possible and samples were all collected from the interior of the dykes to reduce
131 crustal contamination as much as possible. To the north of Santunying, the Neoproterozoic TTG
132 gneisses host meta-supracrustal lenses that were intruded by Mesozoic mafic dykes and felsic
133 plutons (Fig. 1c). The dykes show some lithological variations but have uniform NNE strikes. Two
134 dykes near Gaojiadian and Saheqiao, north of Santunying, were selected as representative

135 examples of this dyke suite for detailed study. Samples do not show significant mineralogical
136 variations within each dyke. Both dykes intruded Neoproterozoic TTG gneisses with sharp contacts
137 (Fig. 2a and c). The Gaojiadian samples are fresh and display typical ophitic textures with
138 interstitial anhedral to subhedral clinopyroxene surrounded by euhedral lath-shaped plagioclase
139 (Fig. 2b), with apatite, magnetite, titanite and zircon as accessory phases. The Saheqiao samples
140 have a mineral assemblage of euhedral hornblende and anhedral to subhedral plagioclase with
141 accessory apatite, magnetite, titanite and zircon, and experienced post-emplacement greenschist-
142 facies alteration with some hornblende and almost all plagioclase metamorphosed to actinolite and
143 albite (Fig. 2d). To the south of Lulong, widespread Neoproterozoic supracrustal gneisses were
144 intruded by a suite of Mesozoic mafic dykes, and these dykes also show coherent NE strikes (Fig.
145 1d). One dyke near Mataizi was sampled for detailed study, as a representative example of this
146 dyke suite to the south of Lulong (Fig. 2e). The Mataizi samples were strongly foliated and consist
147 of hornblende, biotite and plagioclase (Fig. 2f). We also examined other outcrops of dykes in
148 Eastern Hebei, but samples at these outcrops are either strongly weathered or yielded no zircons
149 for U-Pb dating.

150 **3 Analytical methods and results**

151 Geochronological and geochemical data presented in this study include *in situ* zircon U-Pb
152 isotopes, mineral chemistry, and bulk-rock geochemistry; the analytical methods are given in the
153 Supplementary Material; all the data are presented in Tables S1–7.

154 **3.1 *In situ* zircon U-Pb ages**

155 Three representative samples of Mesozoic mafic dykes (sample J1416 for the Gaojiadian dyke,
156 sample 15SHQ05 for the Saheqiao dyke and sample 18NC51 for the Mataizi dyke) were selected
157 for *in situ* zircon U-Pb dating, and the data are listed in Tables S1–2 and plotted in Fig. 3. For

158 samples J1416 and 15SHQ05, zircons are not abundant and only about 100 zircon grains were
159 separated from each sample (~15 kg), but in rare cases zircons can be observed within magmatic
160 minerals in thin sections (Fig. 2b and d). These zircons are mostly subhedral to euhedral, colorless
161 and transparent crystals 100–150 μ m in length and showing straight and wide growth bands and
162 patchy zoning typical of a magmatic origin, without any relic cores in cathodoluminescence
163 images (Fig. 3a). Their morphological features are not consistent with a derivation of these zircons
164 from felsic magmas (Corfu et al., 2003; Wan et al., 2011), which typically have oscillatory growth
165 zoning. In addition, their tightly clustered age distributions (see below), and the rarity of
166 contemporaneous Late Triassic magmatism in the study area also rule out the possibility that these
167 zircons were xenocrysts captured during intrusion of their host mafic dykes. These dykes are
168 composed of phaneritic Si-saturated minerals (Fig. 2b and d) with high Zr abundances (119 ppm
169 for sample J1416 and 142 ppm for sample 15SHQ05; Table S6), making it possible that these
170 zircons could have originally crystallized from the parental magmas of their host rocks. Therefore,
171 the ages obtained from these zircons are interpreted as the crystallization ages of the mafic dykes.
172 Zircons are also not abundant in the Mataizi dyke sample 18NC51, and only 68 zircon grains were
173 extracted from this sample (~15 kg). However, most of the separated zircons from this sample are
174 xenocrysts with euhedral–prismatic shape and oscillatory zoning (Fig. 3a), which could indicate
175 that they were captured from the intruded Neoproterozoic supracrustal gneisses. Only a few of them
176 are magmatic zircons showing similar morphological characteristics with those from the
177 Gaojiadian and Saheqiao dyke samples, and the obtained ages from these magmatic zircons most
178 likely represent the crystallization age of the Mataizi dyke.

179 Nineteen zircons from the Gaojiadian dyke sample J1416 were analyzed and yield a $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$
180 age range of 242 ± 4 to 227 ± 3 Ma (1 σ) and Th/U ratios of 0.62–1.37 (Table S1). These zircons

181 are all concordant and give a concordia age of 234 ± 3 Ma (2s, mean square weighted deviation
182 (MSWD) = 0.15) (Fig. 3b), which is in accordance with the weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age of 234
183 ± 2 Ma (2s, MSWD = 1.13). Eleven zircons from the Saheqiao dyke sample 15SHQ05 were dated
184 and show a narrow range of $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages (231 ± 3 to 217 ± 3 Ma (1s); Table S1) with Th/U
185 ratios generally > 0.4 . These zircons are mostly concordant and yield a concordia age of 223 ± 4
186 Ma (2s, MSWD = 0.28) (Fig. 3c), which is consistent with the weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age of
187 224 ± 2 Ma (2s, MSWD = 1.06). Thirteen zircons from the Mataizi dyke sample 18NC51 were
188 analyzed and are all concordant (Fig. 3d). Eleven of these zircons are xenocrysts with Neoproterozoic
189 $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages of 2821 ± 18 to 2524 ± 19 Ma (1s) and Th/U ratios of 0.45–1.69 (Table S2). Two
190 concordant magmatic zircons yield $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages of 245 ± 5 and 233 ± 4 Ma (1s) and Th/U ratios
191 of 0.53 and 0.18, with a weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ age of 238 ± 6 Ma (2s, MSWD = 3.5).

192 In summary, the Mesozoic mafic magmatism in Eastern Hebei took place in the Late Triassic
193 (238–223 Ma). The Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes were coeval and intruded the Precambrian
194 basement at 238–234 Ma, which was slightly earlier than the Saheqiao dyke (223 Ma).

195 **3.2 Mineral chemistry**

196 Two representative samples for mafic dykes in the study area (sample J1416 for the Gaojiadian
197 dyke and sample 15SHQ03 for the Saheqiao dyke) were selected for detailed mineral chemistry
198 analyses. The Mataizi dyke samples were not chosen for mineral chemistry study as these strongly
199 foliated samples have experienced post-magmatic alteration. Representative mineral compositions
200 are listed in Tables S3–5 and plotted in Fig. 4.

201 Clinopyroxene in the Gaojiadian dyke sample J1416 contains 0.26–0.36 of wollastonite (= $\text{Ca}/(\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mg} + \text{Ca})$),
202 0.31–0.44 of enstatite (= $\text{Mg}/(\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mg} + \text{Ca})$), 0.16–0.30 of ferrosilite (= $\text{Fe}^{2+}/(\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mg} + \text{Ca})$),
203 and 0.05–0.11 of jadeite (= Al^{VI}) + aegirine (= Fe^{3+}), classifying it as augite

204 (Table S3 and Fig. 4a). Plagioclase in the Gaojiadian dyke sample has no obvious zonation and is
205 labradorite to andesine in composition, and has $X_{An} [=Ca/(Ca + Na + K)]$ of 0.46–0.69 (Table S4
206 and Fig. 4b).

207 Magmatic hornblende crystals in the Saheqiao sample 15SHQ03 show similar compositions
208 of $Ca_B = 1.97–2.03$, $(Na + K)_A = 0.69–0.90$, $Ti = 0.32–0.46$, and $Si = 5.72–5.85$, and has X_{Mg}
209 $[Mg/(Mg + Fe^{2+})]$ ranging between 0.61–0.78 (Table S5), being pargasite (Fig. 4c). Plagioclase in
210 the Saheqiao sample 15SHQ03 is almost purely albite in composition, with $X_{Ab} [=Na/(Ca + Na +$
211 $K)]$ ranging from 0.95 to 0.99, which is not a primary magmatic phase but the result of post-
212 emplacement greenschist-facies alteration (Table S4).

213 **3.3 Bulk-rock geochemistry**

214 Five representative samples for the Gaojiadian dyke, four representative samples for the
215 Mataizi dyke and four representative samples for the Saheqiao dyke were selected for bulk-rock
216 major and trace element and Sr-Nd isotope analyses, and the data are listed in Tables S6–7.

217 The Gaojiadian dyke samples were collected from two outcrops of this dyke (Fig. 1c). They
218 are mafic in composition with SiO_2 contents of 47.84–52.44 wt.% and plot in the ‘basalt’ field in
219 Fig. 5a (Table S6). They are characterized by high contents of TiO_2 (1.63–2.85 wt.%) and Fe_2O_{3T}
220 (14.02–16.64 wt.%), but are relatively low in MgO (4.44–6.00 wt.%), thus they have moderate
221 $Mg\#$ of 38.5–43.7 and high FeO_T/MgO (Fig. 5b). They show moderate enrichment in light rare
222 earth elements (LREEs) over heavy rare earth elements (HREEs) ($(La/Yb)_N = 2.5–8.8$) with weak
223 negative Eu anomalies ($Eu/Eu^* = 0.95–0.99$), ranging between those of the enriched mid-ocean
224 ridge basalt (E-MORB) and ocean island basalt (OIB) (Fig. 6a). In the primitive mantle (PM)-
225 normalized trace element diagram (Fig. 6b), they have variable contents of large ion lithophile
226 elements (LILEs; e.g., Rb, Ba and Th) and show various degrees of depletion in high-field strength

227 elements (HFSEs; e.g., Nb, Ta, Zr and Hf) and negative anomalies of Sr. They also have relatively
228 low abundances of compatible elements (Cr = 63–110 ppm and Ni = 61.0–90.1 ppm) (Table S6).
229 These samples display a range of initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.707348–0.709471 and negative $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$
230 values of -15.5 to -7.7 with depleted mantle Nd model ages (T_{DM}) of 2259–1622 Ma, when
231 calculated at 234 Ma (Table S7 and Fig. 7).

232 The Mataizi dyke samples have similar bulk-rock geochemical features to the Gaojiadian dyke
233 samples. They are all mafic in compositions with SiO_2 contents of 46.48–50.09 wt.% and plot in
234 the ‘basalt’ field in Fig. 5a (Table S6). They have high contents of TiO_2 (1.66–1.80 wt.%) and
235 $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_{3\text{T}}$ (15.79–16.84 wt.%) but have low MgO contents (5.27–5.40 wt.%), and thus they have
236 moderate Mg# of 38.8–39.9 and accordingly high $\text{FeO}_{\text{T}}/\text{MgO}$ (Fig. 5b). They are moderately
237 enriched in LREEs over HREEs ($(\text{La}/\text{Yb})_{\text{N}} = 3.6\text{--}3.9$) with weak negative Eu anomalies (Eu/Eu^*
238 = 0.90), also ranging between those of the E-MORB and OIB (Fig. 6a). In the PM-normalized
239 trace element diagram (Fig. 6b), they have high contents of LILEs and show depletion in HFSEs.
240 They also have relatively low abundances of compatible elements (Cr = 74–85 ppm and Ni = 52.3–
241 56.6 ppm) (Table S6). These samples yield initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.706472–0.708661 and
242 negative $\varepsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values of -11.1 to -10.7 with T_{DM} ages of 1902–1870 Ma, when calculated at 238
243 Ma (Table S7 and Fig. 7)

244 Compared with the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dyke samples, the Saheqiao dyke samples are also
245 mafic in composition but have lower contents of SiO_2 (45.63–47.64 wt.%), and fall in the ‘alkali
246 basalt’ field in Fig. 5a (Table S6). They have lower $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_{3\text{T}}$ (9.92–10.49 wt.%), but higher MgO
247 (7.40–9.21 wt.%), Mg# (58.9–63.8) and compatible elements (Cr = 114–400 ppm and Ni = 79.1–
248 156.4 ppm) and thus lower $\text{FeO}_{\text{T}}/\text{MgO}$ (Fig. 5b). They also have higher contents of TiO_2 (1.56–
249 1.80 wt.%) and incompatible elements than the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dyke samples, and are

250 strongly enriched in LREEs over HREEs, with negligible Eu anomalies (Fig. 6c). In the PM-
251 normalized trace element diagram (Fig. 6d), the Saheqiao samples are relatively enriched in LILEs
252 and depleted in HFSEs, and have positive Sr anomalies. The samples are characterized by a narrow
253 range of initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.703948–0.704604 and negative $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values of -6.6 to -4.7 with
254 T_{DM} ages of 1537–1381 Ma, when calculated at 223 Ma (Table S7 and Fig. 7).

255 **4 Discussion**

256 **4.1 Petrogenesis of Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei**

257 Even though the Late Triassic dykes in Eastern Hebei experienced various degrees of post-
258 magmatic alteration, their major elements and most of their trace elements including LILEs, REEs
259 and HFSEs were essentially immobile during post-magmatic alteration as these samples have
260 relatively low LOI (Table S6) and their trace elements generally correlate positively with Zr (Fig.
261 S1). Therefore, we can trace the magmatic process generating these mafic dykes based on their
262 bulk-rock geochemistry.

263 **4.1.1 Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes: melting of the enriched lithospheric mantle** 264 **contaminated by ancient lower crust**

265 The Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes were coeval (Fig. 3) and have similar bulk-rock
266 geochemical compositions (Figs. 5–7), implying that they were derived from the same mantle
267 source and experienced common post-magmatic processes. Although samples for the Gaojiadian
268 and Mataizi dykes are all mafic in composition, they do not represent primary mantle-derived
269 melts that were in equilibrium with mantle peridotite, because the analyzed samples are
270 characterized by high $\text{FeO}_{\text{T}}/\text{MgO}$ ratios and relatively low abundances of compatible elements
271 (Hirose and Kushiro, 1993; Table S6 and Fig. 5b, 8a and b). Therefore, shallow level processes,

272 such as fractional crystallization and crustal contamination likely contributed to the compositional
273 evolution of the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes.

274 Three samples of the Gaojiadian dyke have bulk-rock Sr-Nd isotopic compositions similar to
275 those of the sub-continental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) beneath the NCC during the Late Triassic
276 (Fig. 7a), implying their primary derivation from the ancient and enriched SCLM. Samples for the
277 Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes have similar trace element and Sr-Nd compositions to the Triassic
278 ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the northern NCC (Figs. 6a, b and 7), which
279 were derived from the ancient lithospheric mantle, metasomatized during previous subduction
280 events. These samples shift from the MORB-OIB array in the Nb/Zr-Th/Zr plot, pointing to a
281 mantle source metasomatized by melts/fluids (Fig. 9a). The $(\text{Hf/Sm})_N$ - $(\text{Ta/La})_N$ plot (Fig. 9b)
282 indicates that their mantle source was modified by fluid-related subduction metasomatism rather
283 than melt-related subduction metasomatism or carbonatite metasomatism. Samples for the
284 Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes show a correlation of Ni and V versus Cr of these samples, implying
285 that they experienced fractional crystallization dominated by clinopyroxene (Fig. 8a and b). Two
286 samples (sample J1503 and J1504) of the Gaojiadian dyke are characterized by more enriched Nd
287 isotopic compositions ($\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = -15.5$ to -15.1 ; Fig. 7a), and thus involvement of other isotopically
288 distinct components (e.g., the ancient lower crust), possibly through contamination, is required to
289 account for the Sr-Nd isotopic characteristics of the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dyke samples. The
290 systematic correlation between $I_{\text{Sr}}(t)$ and $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values and some major elements (e.g., SiO_2 and
291 MgO) observed in these samples also indicates that crustal contamination might have occurred
292 (Figs. 8c and 8d). The Gaojiadian and Mataizi dyke samples plot above the MORB-OIB array and
293 close to the lower crust in the Th/Yb-Nb/Yb plot (Fig. 9c), implying that the lower crust was
294 involved. Contamination by the ancient lower crust could have happened when the primary

295 SCLM-derived magmas were underplated at the crust-mantle boundary. The Late Triassic primary
296 SCLM-derived magmas in the NCC are characterized by near-chondritic $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values (Chen et al.,
297 2008), and thus their bulk-rock Nd isotopic compositions were susceptible to contamination by the
298 ancient NCC lower crust with highly negative $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values in the Late Triassic ($\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t) = -30$; Jahn
299 et al., 1999). Due to the general mafic nature of the lower crust (Rudnick and Gao, 2003),
300 contaminated SCLM-derived magmas would still remain mafic. Contamination by the upper crust
301 might have only played a minor role, as evidenced by the xenocrystic zircons in the Mataizi dyke
302 but no significantly elevated initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios in these dykes (Table S7; Figs. 3d and 7a).

303 Given the fact that the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes do not represent primary mantle-derived
304 melts after shallow level processes, it is not feasible to precisely constrain melting conditions.
305 However, these samples have moderate enrichment of LREEs over HREEs and thus accordingly
306 relatively low La/Sm and Sm/Yb ratios (Fig. 9d), pointing to relatively high degree melting of an
307 enriched mantle source with spinel \geq garnet. Therefore, the parental melt for the Gaojiadian and
308 Mataizi dykes may have been produced at ~ 70 – 80 km based on the estimates of the garnet-spinel
309 transition zone in fertile lherzolitic mantle rocks (Duggen et al., 2005; Klemme and O'Neill, 2000).
310 The crystallization conditions of the magmas parental to the Gaojiadian dyke can be estimated using
311 the clinopyroxene-liquid thermometer (Putirka, 2008), and the calculation is based on the
312 compositions of clinopyroxene grains with high Mg# (> 70) and the bulk-rock composition
313 (approximating the liquid composition). The calculated crystallization temperature for the
314 Gaojiadian dyke is 1116 – 1164 °C, corresponding to a mantle source with mantle potential
315 temperatures of 1280 – 1400 °C (Herzberg et al., 2007), and the crystallization pressure was 2.1 –
316 3.8 kbar, corresponding to an upper-crustal depth of 8 – 14 km (assuming the density of the upper
317 crust = 2.7 g cm $^{-3}$). The earlier crystallization of plagioclase than clinopyroxene, the lack of

318 hydrous minerals (Fig. 2b) and the relatively low Al_2O_3 contents and slightly negative Eu
319 anomalies in the Gaojiadian dyke samples all indicate that these samples were formed from
320 magmas with low water fugacity (Scaillet and Evans, 1999; Grove et al., 2002). The crystallization
321 conditions of the magmas parental to the Mataizi dyke cannot be well constrained due to the
322 absence of primary magmatic minerals following post-emplacement alteration.

323 **4.1.2 Saheqiao Dyke: melting of the enriched lithospheric mantle**

324 The Saheqiao dyke samples are mafic in composition (Table S6), and have low FeO_T/MgO
325 ratios and relatively high abundances of compatible elements (Figs. 5b, 8a and b), implying that
326 the parental magma of the Saheqiao dyke was a near-primary melt equilibrated with mantle
327 peridotite. Fractional crystallization and crustal contamination made negligible contributions, if
328 any, to the magmatic evolution of the Saheqiao dyke samples, as these are compositionally
329 homogeneous and have no systematic correlation between elements and isotopes (Fig. 8). The
330 Saheqiao dyke samples display enriched bulk-rock Sr-Nd isotopic compositions similar to those
331 of the SCLM (Wu et al., 2006; Yang et al., 2009; Zhang et al., 2008a) and contemporaneous
332 ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes where a predominant contribution from the SCLM
333 in the northern NCC has been established (Chen et al., 2008; Niu et al. 2012, 2017; Yang et al.,
334 2012; Zhang et al., 2008a; Zhang, 2009, 2012, 2014; Zhu et al., 2017; Fig. 7). Therefore, it can be
335 concluded that the Saheqiao dyke was derived from the lithospheric mantle.

336 Re-Os isotopes of peridotite xenoliths entrained in Paleozoic kimberlites in the NCC indicate
337 that the lithospheric mantle underneath the NCC formed in the Archean, but that this Archean
338 lithospheric mantle was partly replaced or metasomatized during the Paleoproterozoic and the Late
339 Triassic continental collisional events as further revealed by Re-Os isotopes of peridotite xenoliths
340 carried in Cenozoic alkali basalts (Gao et al., 2002; Wu et al., 2006, 2019; Zhang et al., 2008a;

341 [Zhu et al., 2020](#)). The Saheqiao dyke samples have Mesoproterozoic bulk-rock Nd depleted mantle
342 model ages (Table S7), implying that their ancient lithospheric mantle source was replaced or
343 metasomatized after its formation in the Archean. These samples also have elevated concentrations
344 of Ba, Th, Sr and LREEs (Fig. 6c and d), which are similar to the Triassic alkaline complexes in
345 the northern NCC. Their trace element systematics reveal that their mantle source was enriched by
346 addition of crust-derived components (most probably subduction-related fluids) (Figs. 9a–9c). The
347 presence of magmatic hornblende in the Saheqiao dyke samples (Fig. 2d) is also indicative of a
348 hydrous mantle source. Additionally, these samples have high Ba/Rb and low Rb/Sr ratios, which
349 are consistent with derivation from an amphibole-bearing mantle source (Fig. 10a). The above
350 lines of reasoning clearly point to a metasomatized or enriched ancient lithospheric mantle source
351 for the Saheqiao dyke.

352 Compared with the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dyke samples, the Saheqiao dyke samples are
353 characterized by lower Yb concentrations, higher abundances of incompatible elements (Fig. 6)
354 and higher La/Sm and Sm/Yb ratios (Fig. 9d), suggesting that they were produced by lower degree
355 partial melting of an enriched mantle source with garnet > spinel. Therefore, the Saheqiao dyke
356 samples should be also generated at the garnet-spinel transition zone of ~70–80km, but the higher
357 portion of garnet relative to spinel means that their melting pressures were slightly higher than
358 those of the Gaojiadian and Matazi dyke samples. Using PRIMELT3 MEGA software ([Herzberg
359 and Asimow, 2015](#)), we obtain primary magma compositions and mantle potential temperatures
360 ($T_p = 1362\text{--}1443\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$) for the Saheqiao dyke samples. However, due to the hydrous nature of their
361 metasomatized ancient lithospheric mantle source, these temperatures are potentially
362 overestimated and should be corrected by several tens of degrees ([Gaetani and Grove, 1998](#)), which
363 will be broadly consistent with the thermal state of the upper mantle ([Anderson, 2000](#)). The

364 crystallization conditions of the Saheqiao dyke cannot be well constrained due the post-
365 emplacement greenschist-facies alteration of these samples. However, this dyke is almost coeval
366 with and spatially close to the Gaojiadian dyke and also intruded Neoproterozoic TTG gneisses,
367 implying that they intruded the upper crust at similar depths.

368
369 Overall, the geochemical differences of the studied dykes reflect their different petrogenesis,
370 including mantle source characteristics, melting conditions and crustal contamination. The
371 Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes (238–234 Ma) originated from the ancient lithospheric mantle under
372 relatively low water fugacity, and experienced contamination by both the ancient lower crust and
373 the upper crust, whereas the Saheqiao dyke (223 Ma) was directly sourced from metasomatized
374 enriched ancient lithospheric mantle under hydrous conditions. These dykes were all produced at
375 depths of ~70–80 km, where the garnet-spinel transition takes place, but the Saheqiao dyke was
376 derived by a lower degree of partial melting at slightly deeper levels than the Gaojiadian and
377 Mataizi dykes. Partial melting of the metasomatized enriched ancient lithospheric mantle was most
378 likely triggered by upwelling of the asthenospheric mantle, as these dyke samples have higher
379 Nb/La ratios than magmas solely derived from the lithospheric mantle, and plot in the lithosphere-
380 asthenosphere interaction field in Fig. 10b. After melt generation, these magmas ascended rapidly
381 and intruded the upper crust. The estimated emplacement depth for these dykes implies that
382 denudation in the northern NCC since the Late Triassic could have been as great as 14 km. This
383 denudation was possibly related to the Yanshanian Orogeny, that affected the NCC throughout the
384 Mesozoic. It is not clear whether the exhumation took place because of extension or compression,
385 which operated at different times between the Triassic and Cretaceous (Yang et al., 2006).

386 **4.2 Modification of the lithosphere beneath the NCC in the Late Triassic**

387 It has been proposed that lithospheric thinning of the NCC was initiated in the Late Triassic
388 (e.g., [Wang et al., 2015](#); [Yang and Wu, 2009](#); [Yang et al., 2007](#)). However, it is not clear about the
389 nature of the lithosphere beneath the NCC in the Late Triassic, owing to limited occurrences of
390 Late Triassic magmatism in the NCC ([Zhang et al., 2012, 2014](#)) and extensive thinning and
391 replacement of lithosphere beneath the NCC in the Late Mesozoic ([Yang and Wu, 2009](#); [Zhang et](#)
392 [al., 2014](#)). Therefore, it is still controversial how and to what extent the ancient lithospheric keel
393 beneath the NCC was modified in the Late Triassic.

394 The thick, cold, rigid and refractory ancient lithospheric mantle beneath the NCC was unlikely
395 to be partially melted to generate magmas unless it experienced decompression, addition of
396 volatiles and/or heating (Fig. 11a; [Niu, 2005](#)). Decompression-induced melting is generally
397 accepted as the mechanism for production of abundant mafic magmas at mid-ocean ridges or in
398 rifting environments, but obviously this mechanism alone cannot be applied to the NCC during
399 the Late Triassic. As previously discussed, geochemistry of the Late Triassic mafic dykes in
400 Eastern Hebei indicates that their mantle source was metasomatized by subduction-related fluids,
401 and, in particular, the mantle source of the Saheqiao dyke was also hydrated. The Sr-Nd isotopes
402 and trace element compositions of the Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in
403 the northern NCC show that their ancient lithospheric mantle source had been modified and
404 enriched by the Triassic (Figs. 7 and 9). Some of these Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline
405 complexes have high Ba/Rb ratios, indicating that their mantle source was hydrated and
406 amphibole-bearing (Fig. 10a). The metasomatic enrichment of ancient lithospheric mantle likely
407 occurred in response to interaction between the NCC and neighboring blocks through subduction
408 and collision in the Late Paleozoic and Triassic ([Gao et al., 2002](#); [Wu et al., 2006, 2019](#)). The
409 volatiles (most probably water) released from previously subducted slabs would be carried in

410 hydrous melts/fluids and ascend into the ancient lithospheric mantle, hydrating its lower portions
411 and effectively changing its physical properties (e.g., solidus and viscosity) (Niu, 2005).
412 Consequently, the ancient lithospheric mantle was not as rigid and refractory as before, and thus
413 much easier to be partially melted. This transition may have marked the start of its destabilization,
414 which effectively reduced the thickness of the intact ancient lithospheric mantle (Fig. 11b). The
415 Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei, and most of the Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and
416 alkaline complexes in the northern NCC, were generated by melting of the modified and enriched
417 ancient lithospheric mantle with different proportions of garnet and spinel (Fig. 9d), corresponding
418 to the garnet-spinel transition zone at a depth of ~70–80 km (Duggen et al., 2005; Klemme and
419 O'Neill, 2000). Only a few of the Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the
420 northern NCC were derived from a garnet lherzolite source (Fig. 9d), which might have resulted
421 from the increased solidus and lower melting capacity of the mantle source at higher pressures.
422 But these garnet lherzolite-sourced rocks still indicate that the ancient lithospheric mantle below
423 the garnet-spinel transition zone was also modified. Thus, it can be deduced that the lower portion
424 of the ancient lithospheric mantle beneath the northern NCC had been metasomatized or modified
425 by addition of volatiles during previous subduction events, and the original intact ancient
426 lithosphere was modified and thinned to ~70–80 km by the Late Triassic, at least in some parts of
427 the northern NCC (e.g., Li et al., 2020).

428 As well as the addition of volatiles, heating by the upwelling asthenosphere might also have
429 played a role in the modification of the lithosphere beneath the NCC in the Triassic. Some Triassic
430 ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the northern NCC are characterized by
431 enrichment of Nb relative to La and accordingly high Nb/La ratios (Fig. 10b), implying
432 asthenosphere-lithosphere interaction during their petrogenesis. The compilation of bulk-rock Nd

433 isotopic compositions for Permian–Triassic mantle-derived rocks in the northern NCC shows that
434 $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}(t)$ values of the Middle–Late Triassic rocks are much more elevated than those of their
435 Permian–Early Triassic counterparts (Fig. 7b). This change is indicative of the emerging
436 contribution of juvenile asthenospheric mantle to the Middle–Late Triassic mantle-derived
437 magmatism in the northern NCC (Fig. 11b). Modification of the lithosphere induced by heating
438 from the upwelling asthenosphere beneath the NCC in the Late Triassic was not limited to the
439 lithospheric mantle, but also involved the ancient lower crust when mantle-derived magmas were
440 underplated at the base of the crust. This involvement has been revealed by recent investigations
441 of Late Triassic ancient lower crust-derived intermediate-felsic rocks in the northern NCC (e.g.,
442 [Jiang et al., 2007](#); [Li et al., 2020](#); [Ma et al., 2012](#); [Wang et al., 2015](#); [Yang et al., 2007](#)) and lower
443 crustal granulite xenoliths ([Shao et al., 2000](#)).

444 Therefore, compared with the overwhelming lithospheric modification of the NCC in the Late
445 Mesozoic, the modification of the lithosphere beneath the NCC in the Late Triassic was restricted
446 in the northern NCC, but did involve both lithospheric mantle and the crust. The modifying agents
447 of the NCC lithosphere were mainly previously subduction-related melts/fluids and subsequently
448 upwelling juvenile asthenospheric mantle. The ancient lithospheric mantle was metasomatized and
449 hydrated during previous subduction events before the Late Triassic, and the thickness of the intact
450 ancient lithospheric mantle was reduced to ~70–80 km locally in the northern NCC (Fig. 11). The
451 juvenile asthenospheric mantle upwelled and heated the base of the NCC lithosphere, inducing
452 partial melting of the subduction-modified ancient lithospheric mantle and the ancient lower crust,
453 and resulting in the modification of the ancient lithosphere beneath the NCC.

454 **4.3 Implications for lithospheric thinning of the NCC**

455 The NCC was a stable cratonic block after final amalgamation in the Paleoproterozoic ([Zhao](#)
456 [et al., 2005](#)), but during the Mesozoic its thick (> 180 km), cold and refractory lithospheric mantle
457 was removed and replaced by a thin (< 100 km), hot and fertile lithospheric mantle ([Xu, 2001](#)).
458 Subduction and collision of neighboring blocks towards the NCC was the driving force that
459 destabilised the lithosphere beneath the NCC. Before the Late Triassic, these events included the
460 southward subduction of the Paleo-Asian oceanic plate, and subsequent arc-arc and arc-continent
461 collision in the north ([Tang et al., 2018](#); [Windley et al., 2007, 2010](#); [Xu et al., 2010, 2013](#)) and the
462 northward subduction of the oceanic plate attached to the Yangtze Craton, and subsequent
463 continental collision with the southern margin of the NCC ([Li et al., 1993](#)).

464 The Late Triassic geodynamics of the NCC were mainly governed by a post-collisional regime
465 after its amalgamation with these neighboring blocks, which was characterized by the shift from
466 compression- to extension-dominated stress fields ([Zhang et al., 2014](#)). This transition of stress
467 fields to post-collisional extension is shown by the Late Triassic detachment faults with E-W
468 strikes, metamorphic core complexes, L-tectonites and isolated rift basins in the northern part of
469 the NCC ([Davis et al., 2004](#); [Meng et al., 2020](#); [Zhang et al., 2014](#)). There was no mantle plume
470 activity at this time that could have caused extension. During subduction and collision of
471 neighboring blocks towards the NCC in both the south and north in the early Mesozoic, the ancient
472 lithospheric root of the NCC was inevitably modified by subduction-related melts/fluids. Under
473 post-collisional extension in the Late Triassic, there was lithospheric thinning, and passive
474 upwelling of juvenile asthenosphere beneath the NCC. This resulted in the formation of cumulate
475 and granulite xenoliths in the northern NCC ([Shao et al., 1999, 2000](#)). The hot ascending
476 asthenosphere heated and induced melting of the subduction-modified ancient lithospheric mantle
477 and the ancient lower crust. Magmas sourced from compositionally distinct reservoirs assimilated

478 in different proportions, generating various kinds of Late Triassic igneous rocks in the NCC. As a
479 result, a Late Triassic EW-trending alkaline/ultramafic-mafic magmatic belt developed along the
480 northern margin of the NCC (Fig. 1a; [Chen et al., 2008](#); [Niu et al., 2012, 2017](#); [Yang et al., 2012](#);
481 [Zhang et al., 2008b](#); [Zhang, 2009, 2012, 2014](#)).

482 **5 Conclusions**

- 483 (1) Late Triassic mafic magmatism in Eastern Hebei is represented by intrusion of mafic dykes
484 during 238–223 Ma with the coeval Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes intruding Precambrian
485 basement earlier at 238–234 Ma and emplacement of the Saheqiao dyke into Neoproterozoic
486 supracrustal rocks at 223 ± 4 Ma (2 σ).
- 487 (2) These dykes in Eastern Hebei were crystallized from ancient lithospheric mantle-derived
488 magmas, and the melting of ancient lithospheric mantle resulted from metasomatism during
489 previous subduction events and heat provided by upwelling asthenosphere. Though these
490 dykes show some compositional variation, their geochemistry indicates that the melting of
491 ancient lithospheric mantle was within the garnet-spinel transition zone (~70–80 km).
492 Contrast in their geochemistry was mainly governed by different melting conditions and post-
493 magmatic processes: the Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes were generated by relatively higher
494 degrees of partial melting at slightly lower pressures under relatively low water fugacity than
495 the Saheqiao dyke, and further experienced crustal contamination.
- 496 (3) The estimated emplacement depth for these dykes is indicative of up to 14 km denudation in
497 the northern NCC since the Late Triassic. The melting conditions of these dykes means that
498 the intact ancient lithospheric mantle had been locally modified or thinned to ~70–80 km by
499 the Late Triassic.
- 500 (4) The intrusion of the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei occurred in a post-collisional

501 extensional setting, marking the onset of lithospheric thinning of the NCC, which was
502 triggered by subduction and collision of neighboring blocks beneath the NCC.

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789 **Figure captions**

790 Fig. 1. (a) Simplified tectonic map of north Asia. (b) Schematic geological map of Eastern Hebei,
791 the NCC; (c) and (d) Geological maps of the study area in Eastern Hebei, the NCC.

792

793 Fig. 2. (a), (c) and (e) Field photos of the Gaojiadian dyke, the Saheqiao dyke and the Mataizi dyke,
794 respectively, which intruded the Neoarchaeon TTG/supracrustal gneisses. (b), (d) and (f)
795 Photomicrographs showing the petrographic features of the Gaojiadian dyke (cross-polarized
796 light), the Saheqiao dyke (plane-polarized light) and the Mataizi dyke (plane-polarized light),
797 respectively. Note the presence of igneous zircons in the Gaojiadian and the Saheqiao dyke
798 samples. Cpx, clinopyroxene; Hb, hornblende; Pl, plagioclase; Ab, albite; Act, actinolite; Zrn,
799 zircon.

800
801 Fig. 3. (a) Cathodoluminescence images of representative zircons from the Gaojiadian dyke
802 sample J1416, the Saheqiao dyke sample 15SHQ05 and the Mataizi dyke sample 18NC51. The
803 ellipses (about 20×30 μm in size; SIMS) and circles (about 36 μm in diameter; LA-ICPMS) are *in*
804 *situ* zircon U–Pb analytical spots with numbers of analytical spots (Tables S1–S2). The ages below
805 the cathodoluminescence images are $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages for magmatic zircons and $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$ ages for
806 xenocrystic zircons (Tables S1 and S2). Scale bars, 100 μm. (b)–(d) U-Pb concordia diagrams for
807 zircons from the Gaojiadian dyke sample J1416, the Saheqiao dyke sample 15SHQ05 and the
808 Mataizi dyke sample 18NC51, respectively. Data-point error ellipses in (b)–(d) are at 2s. Insets in
809 (b) and (c) are the $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages of individual analyses at 2s with weighted mean $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ ages
810 of zircons at 95% confidence level.

811
812 Fig. 4. (a) Wo-En-Fs diagram (Morimoto, 1989) for clinopyroxene from the Gaojiadian dyke
813 sample J1416. (b) An-Ab-Or diagram (Smith and Brown, 1988) for plagioclase from the
814 Gaojiadian dyke sample J1416. (c) X_{Mg} -Si diagram (Leake et al., 2003) for magmatic hornblende
815 from the Saheqiao dyke sample 15SHQ03.

816
817 Fig. 5. (a) Rock classification diagram (Winchester and Floyd, 1977), and (b) $\text{FeO}_T/\text{MgO}-\text{SiO}_2$
818 diagram (Miyashiro, 1974) for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei.

819
820 Fig. 6. (a) Chondrite-normalized REE patterns, and (b) primitive mantle-normalized trace element
821 diagram for the Late Triassic Gaojiadian and Mataizi dykes in Eastern Hebei. (c) Chondrite-
822 normalized REE patterns, and (d) primitive mantle-normalized trace element diagram for the Late

823 Triassic Saheqiao dyke in Eastern Hebei. The values of chondrite and primitive mantle are from
824 [Sun and McDonough \(1989\)](#). Trace element compositions of Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and
825 alkaline complexes in the northern NCC are also plotted for comparison. Data sources: [Chen et al.](#)
826 [\(2008\)](#); [Li et al. \(2020\)](#); [Liu et al. \(2020\)](#); [Niu et al. \(2012, 2017\)](#); [Yang et al. \(2012\)](#); [Zhang et al.](#)
827 [\(2008b\)](#); [Zhang \(2009, 2012, 2014\)](#); [Zhu et al. \(2017\)](#) and references therein.

828
829 Fig. 7. (a) $\epsilon_{Nd}(t)$ - $I_{Sr}(t)$ diagram for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei. Also plotted for
830 comparison are the Sr-Nd isotopic compositions of different reservoirs, including the sub-
831 continental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) beneath the NCC (approximated by peridotite xenoliths
832 and perovskites in Paleozoic kimberlites; [Wu et al., 2006](#); [Yang et al., 2009](#); [Zhang et al., 2008a](#)
833 and references therein), the lower continental crust (LCC) and the upper continental crust (UCC)
834 of the NCC ([Jahn et al., 1999](#)). Fields of MORB and OIB are constructed using the data from the
835 PetDB database (<https://www.earthchem.org/petdb>). All data are calculated at 234 Ma. (b) $\epsilon_{Nd}-t$
836 diagram for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei. Sr-Nd isotopic compositions of
837 Permian–Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the northern NCC are also
838 plotted for comparison. Data sources are the same as in Fig. 6.

839
840 Fig. 8. Co-variation diagrams of (a) Ni-Cr, (b) V-Cr, (c) $I_{Sr}(t)$ -SiO₂ and (d) $\epsilon_{Nd}(t)$ -MgO for the Late
841 Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei. The clinopyroxene-dominated fractionation for the
842 Gaojiadian dyke samples is shown in (a) and (b). The correlation between $I_{Sr}(t)$ and $\epsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values
843 and major element oxides for the Gaojiadian dyke and the Mataizi dyke samples in (c) and (d)
844 implies crustal contamination. Note that sample 15SHQ04 and 15SHQ05 have similar MgO
845 contents and $\epsilon_{Nd}(t)$ values, which overlap in (d).

846

847

848 Fig. 9. Co-variation diagrams of (a) Nb/Zr-Th/Zr (Zhao and Zhou, 2007), (b) $(\text{Hf/Sm})_N$ - $(\text{Ta/La})_N$
849 (La Flèche et al., 1998), (c) Th/Yb-Nb/Yb (Pearce, 2008) and (d) Sm/Yb-La/Sm (Aldanmaz et al.,
850 2000) for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei. Trace element compositions of Triassic
851 ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the northern NCC are also plotted for
852 comparison. Data sources are the same in as Fig. 6. In (d), melting curves of lherzolite containing
853 garnet, spinel or garnet + spinel are after Aldanmaz et al. (2000); numbers along melting curves
854 are degrees of partial melting. The values of PM, N-MORB, E-MORB and OIB are from Sun and
855 McDonough (1989) and the values of continental crust (CC), lower continental crust (LCC) and
856 upper continental crust (UCC) are from Rudnick and Gao (2003).

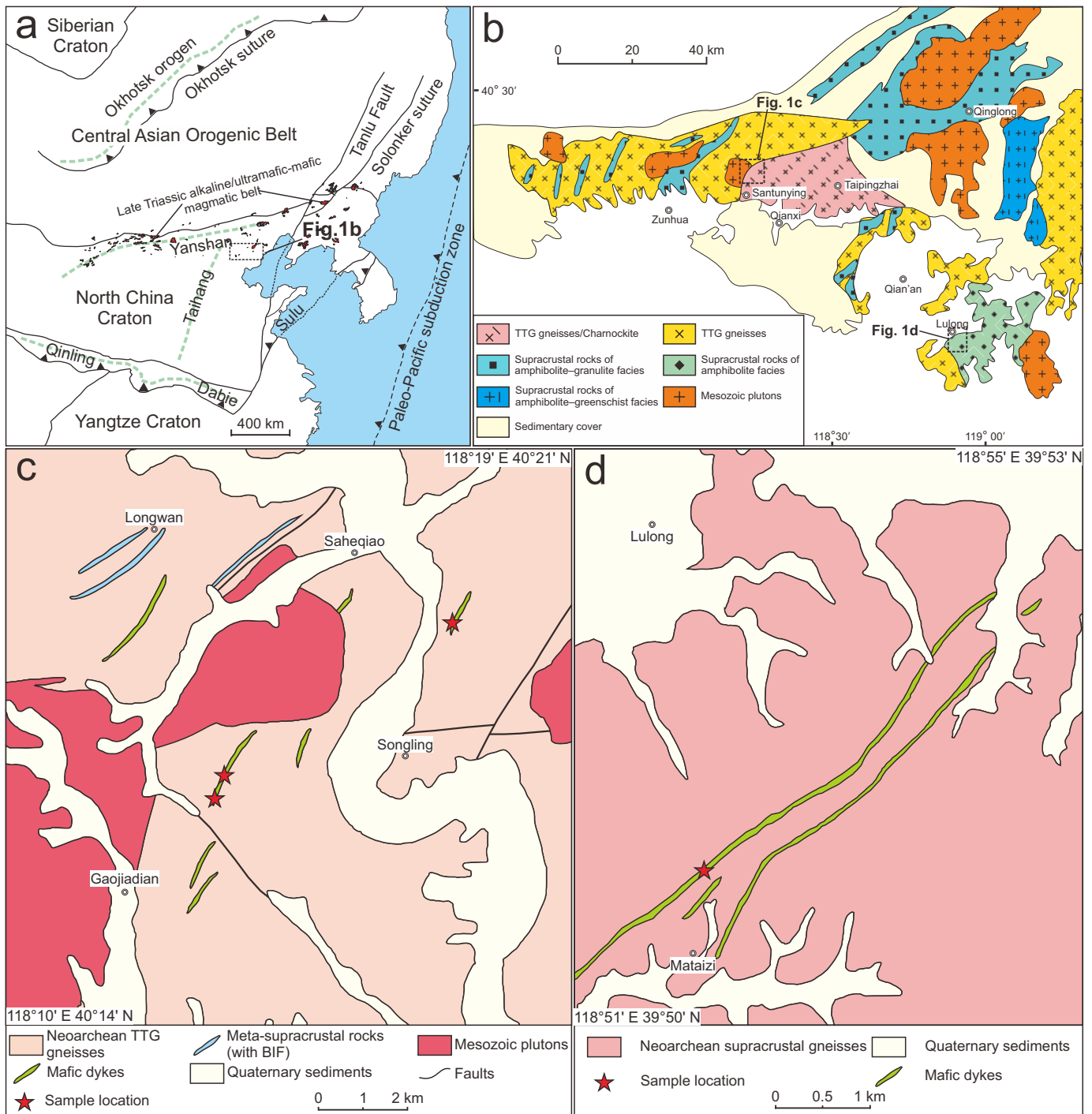
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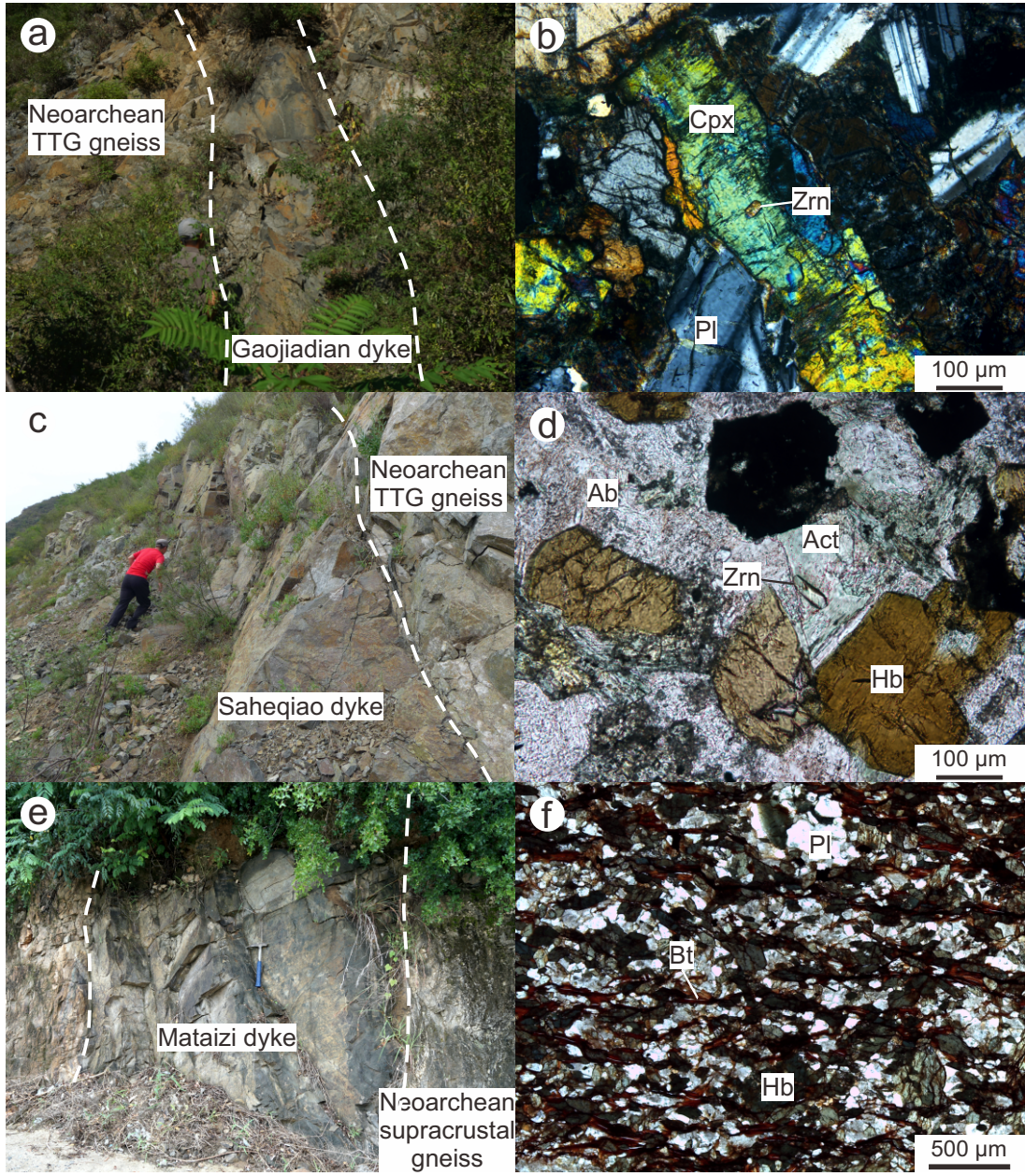
858 Fig. 10. Co-variation diagrams of (a) Rb/Sr-Ba/Rb (Furman and Graham, 1999) and (b) Nb/La-
859 La/Yb (Smith et al., 1999) for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei. The trends in (a)
860 indicate the possible hydrous phases present in the mantle source of the magmas. Note that in (a)
861 sample 18NC66 is omitted because of its high Ba/Rb ratios. Trace element compositions of
862 Triassic ultramafic-mafic rocks and alkaline complexes in the northern NCC are also plotted for
863 comparison. Data sources are the same in as Fig. 6.

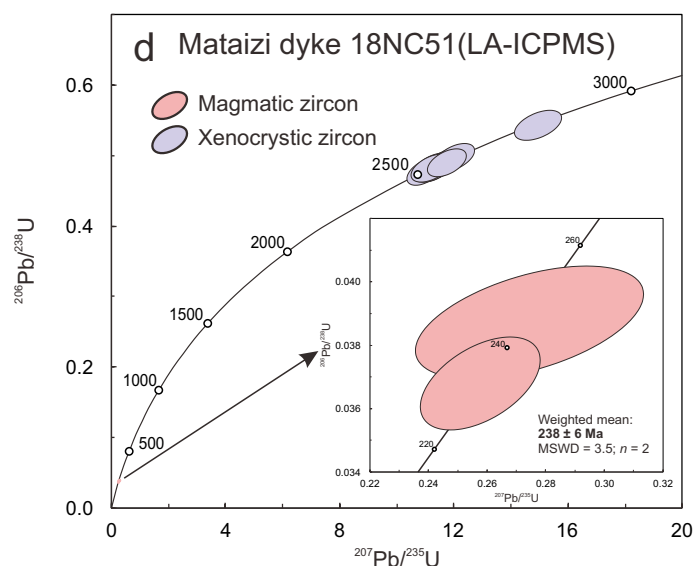
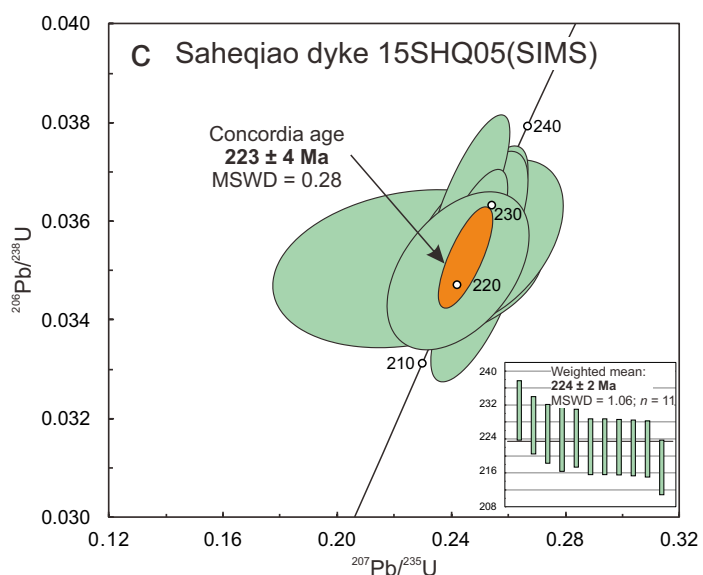
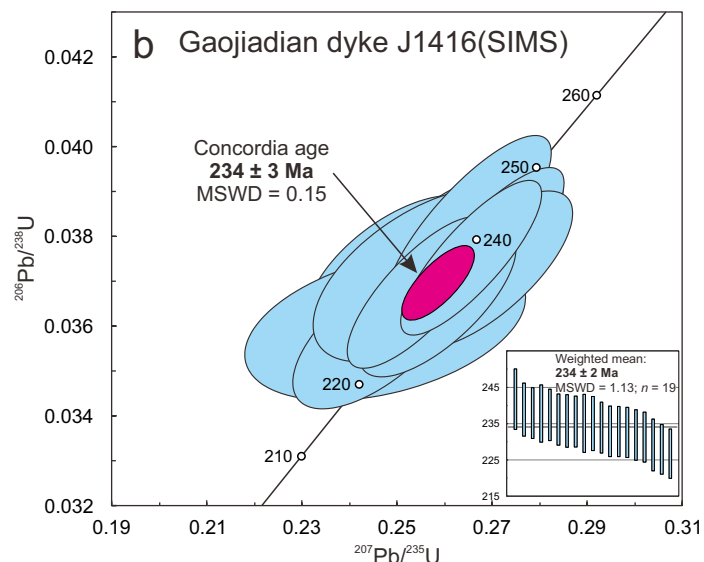
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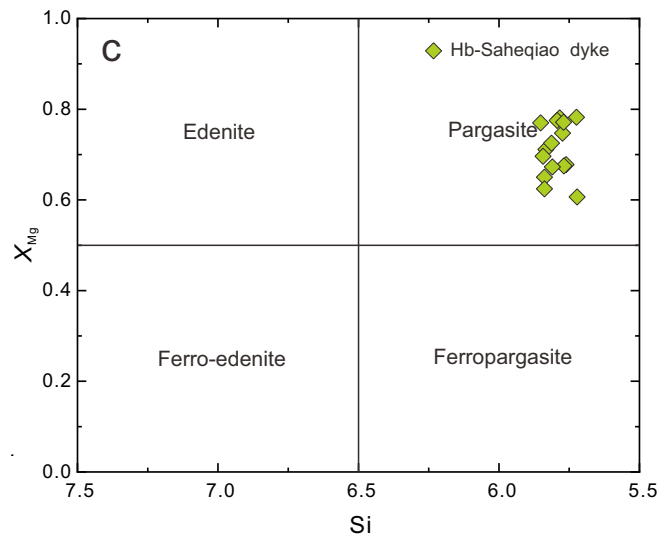
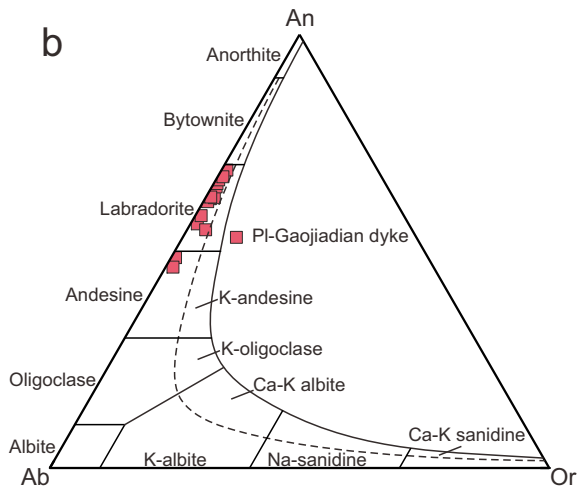
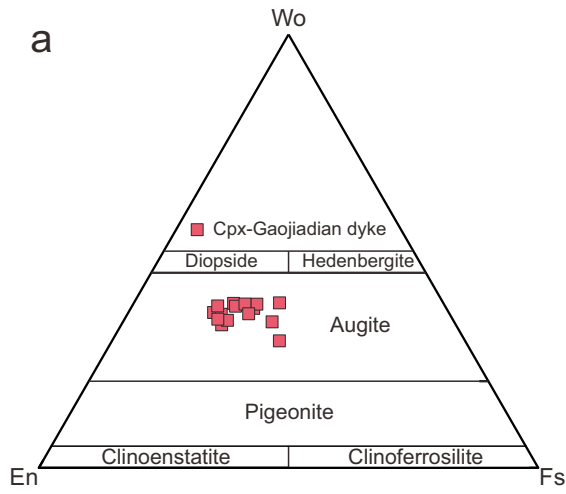
865 Fig. 11. Illustration of the petrogenesis of the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei, NCC.
866 (a) In the Paleozoic, the NCC had a thick, cold and refractory ancient sub-continental lithospheric
867 mantle (SCLM). (b) The lower portion of the ancient SCLM was metasomatized by volatiles (most
868 probably water; yellow dots) released from subducted slabs before the Late Triassic, and this

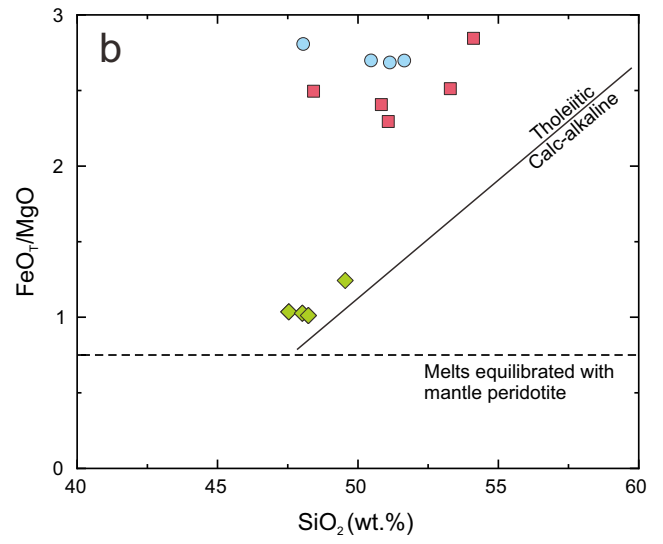
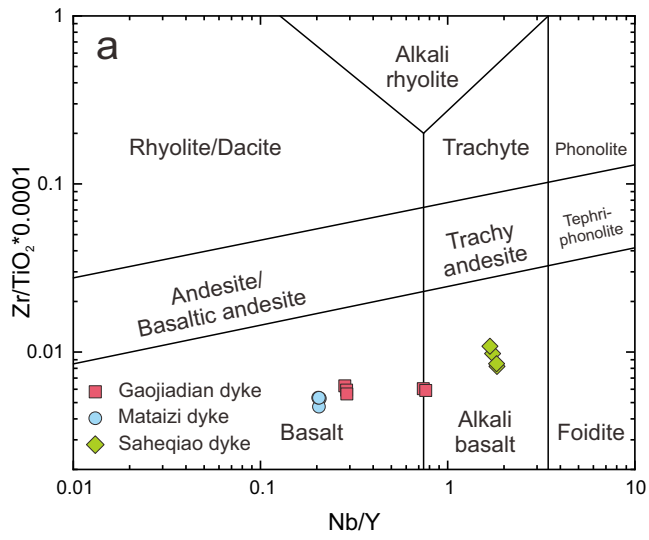
869 modified ancient SCLM was no longer as rigid and refractory as before because its solidus and
870 viscosity were lowered by the addition of volatiles. As a result, the thickness of the intact ancient
871 SCLM had been locally reduced to ~70–80 km. The convective asthenosphere upwelled, and
872 heated the modified SCLM. This then experienced partial melting within the garnet-spinel
873 transition zone (~70–80 km), generating the Saheqiao (at slightly higher pressures and deeper) and
874 the Gaojiadian/Mataizi dykes. (c) The parental magma of the Saheqiao dyke ascended rapidly into
875 the upper crust (Neoproterozoic TTG gneisses), while the parental magma of the Gaojiadian/Mataizi
876 dyke ponded at the crust/mantle interface and experienced contamination by the mafic ancient
877 lower crust, and then also intruded the Neoproterozoic TTG/supracrustal gneisses at the upper crustal
878 level.

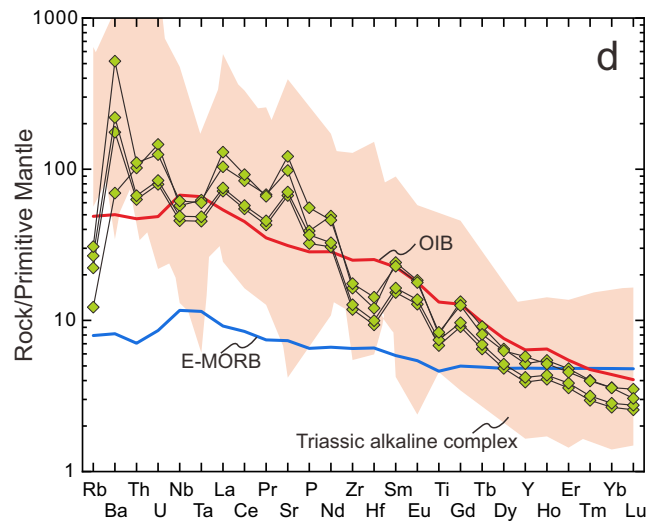
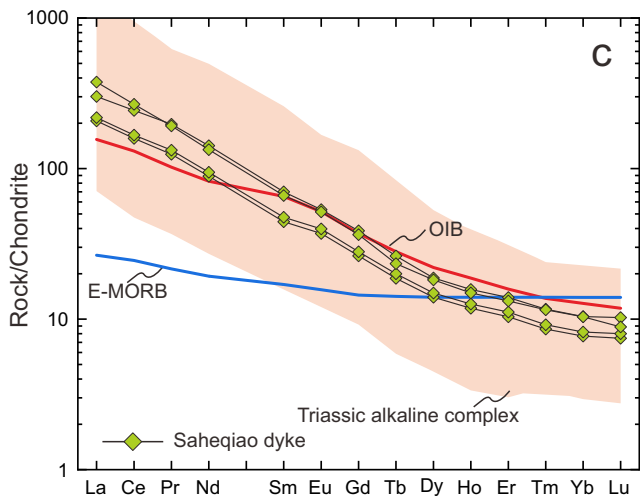
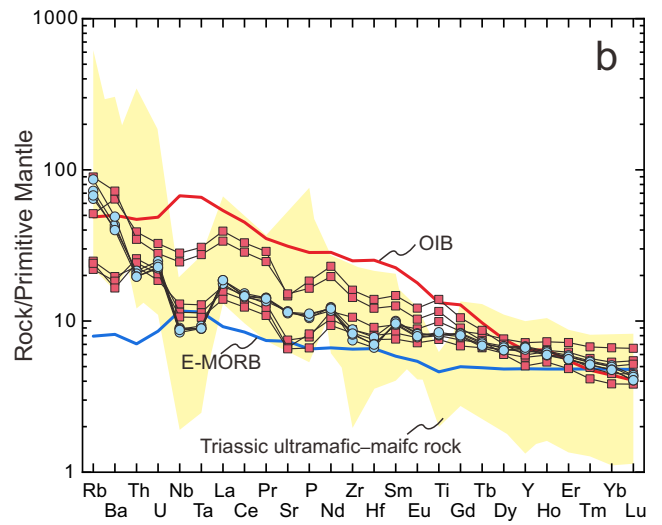
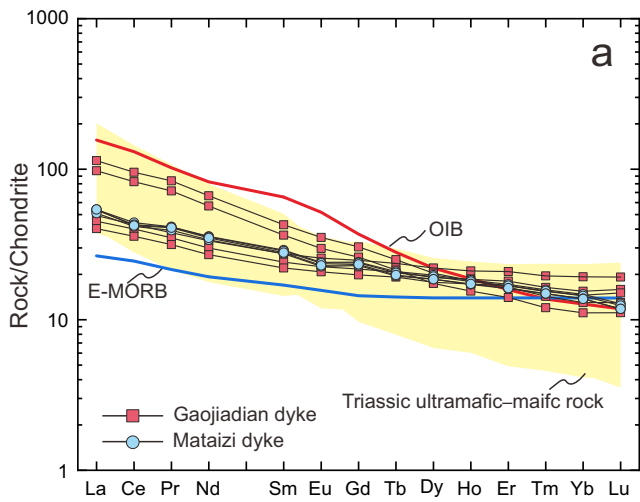


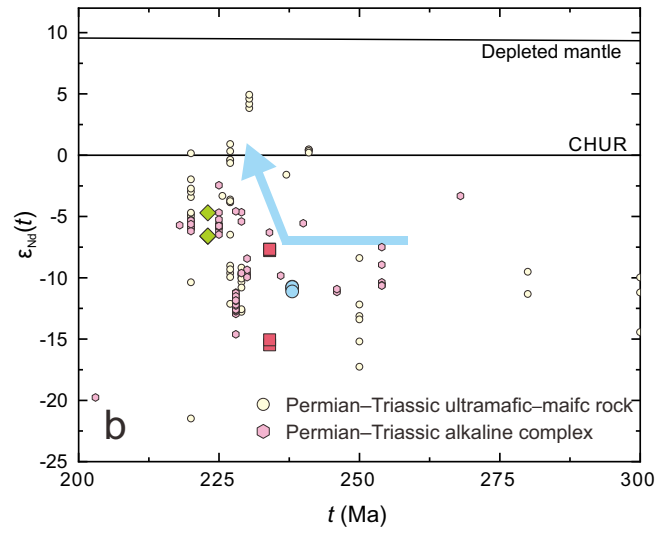
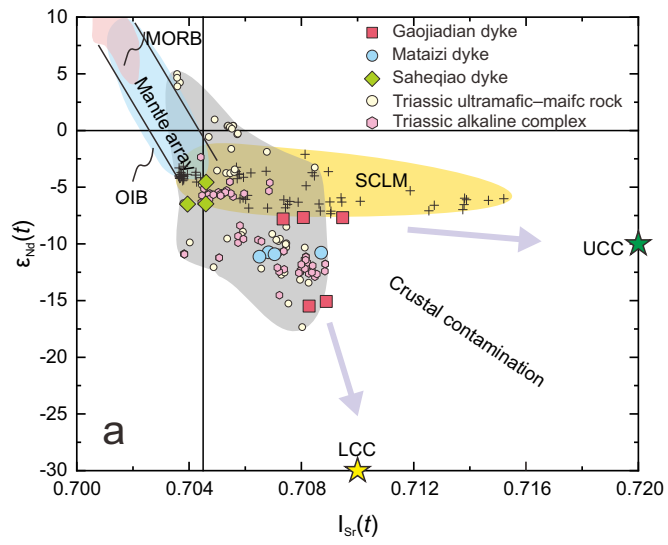


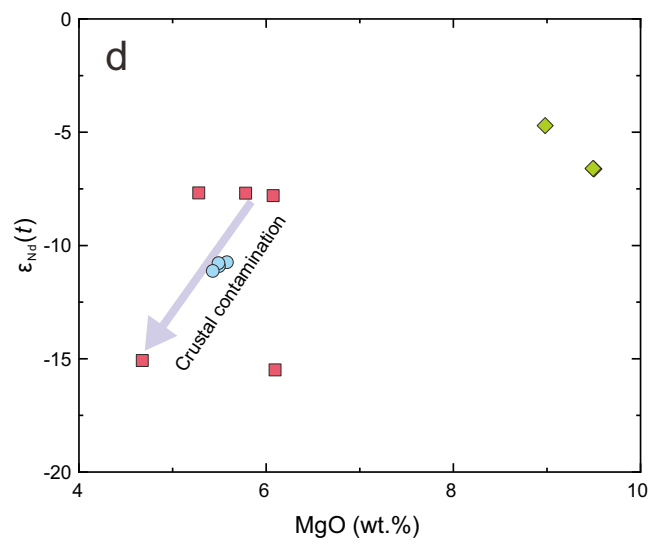
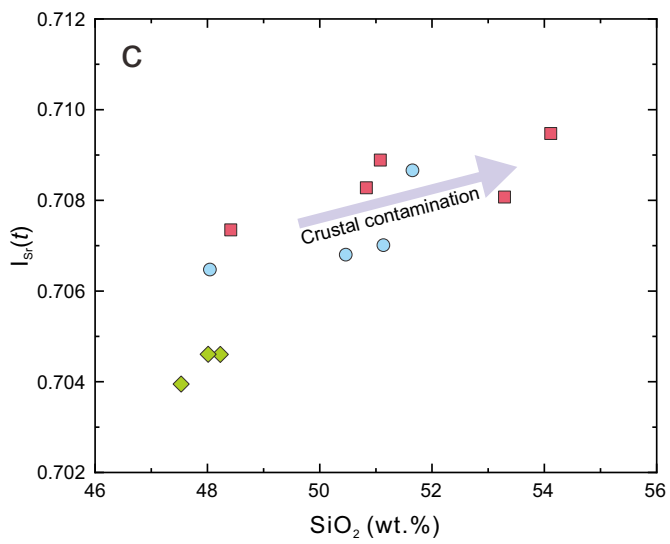
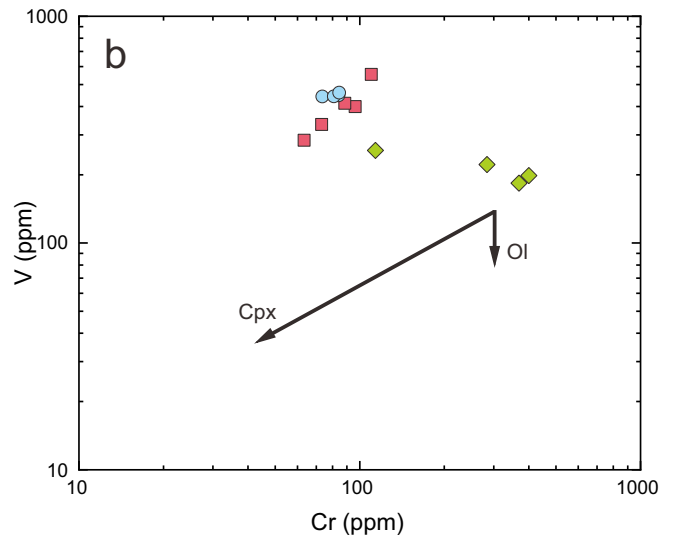
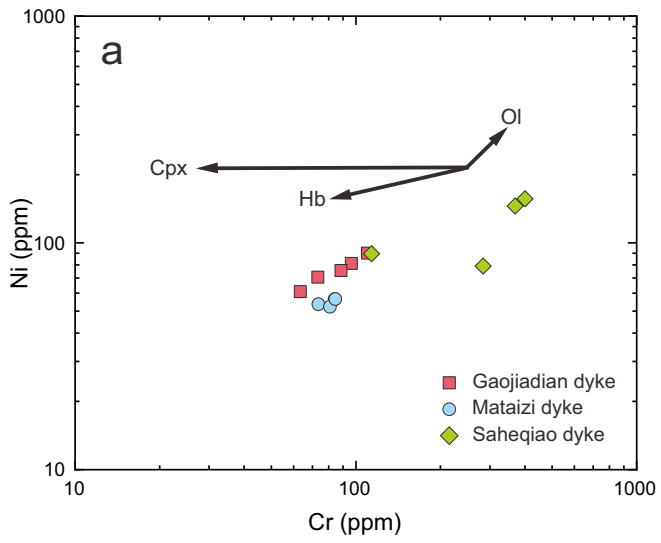


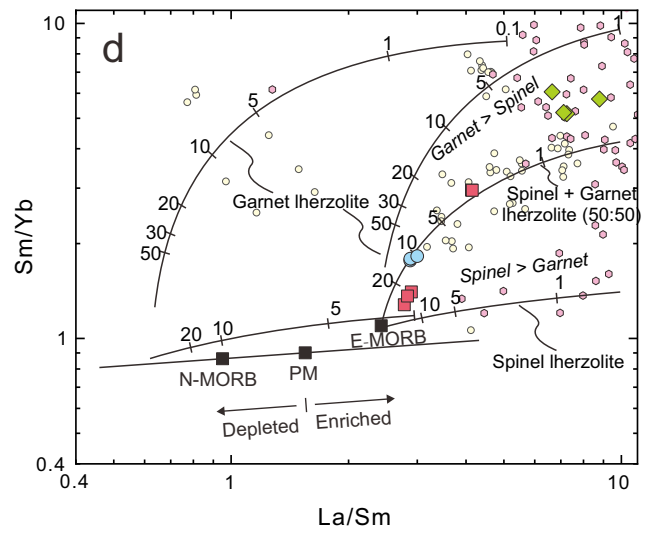
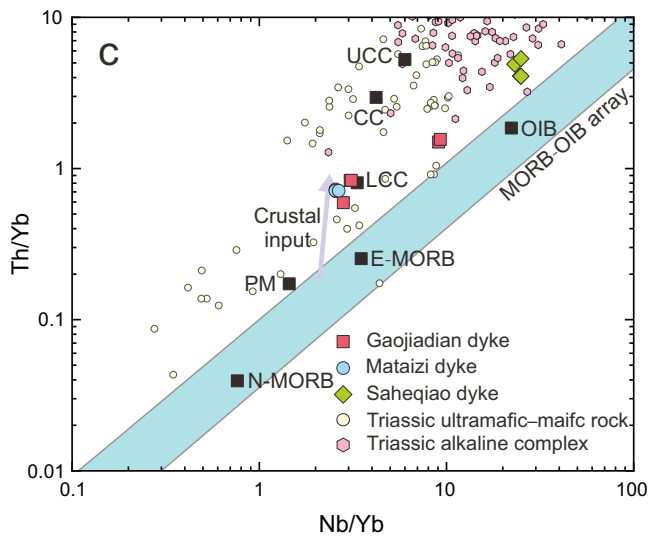
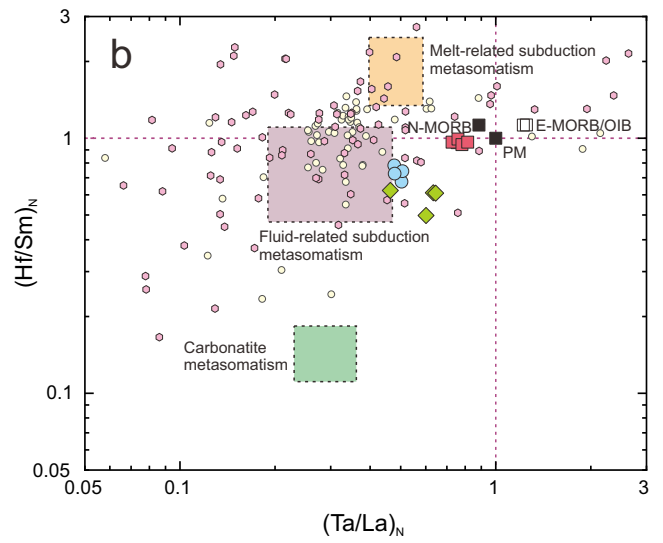
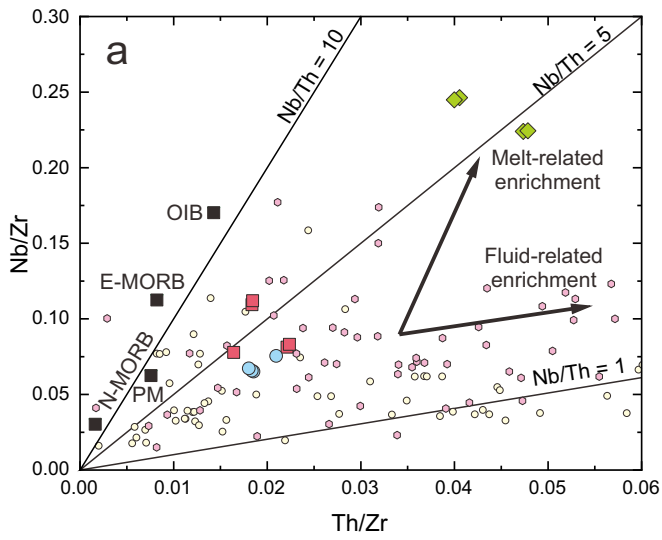


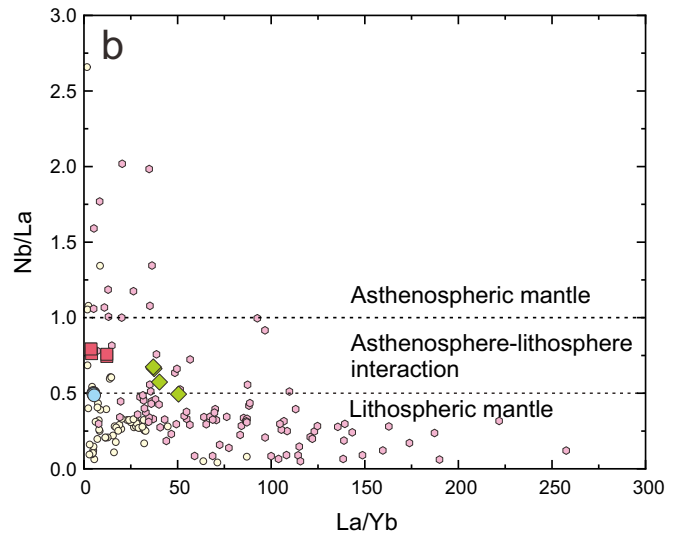
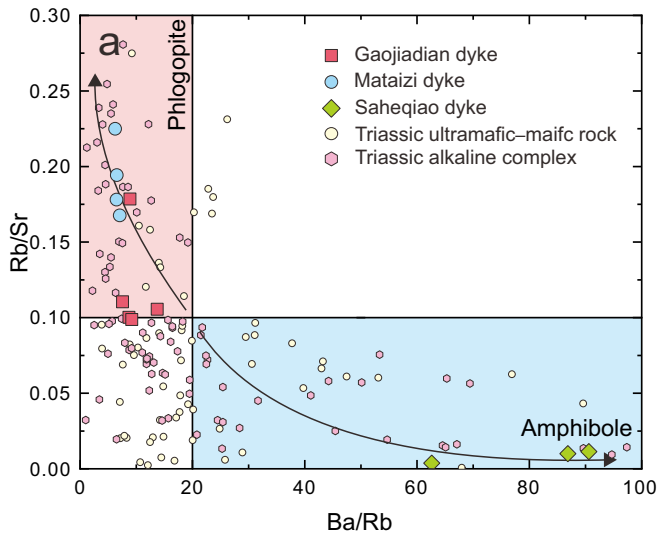


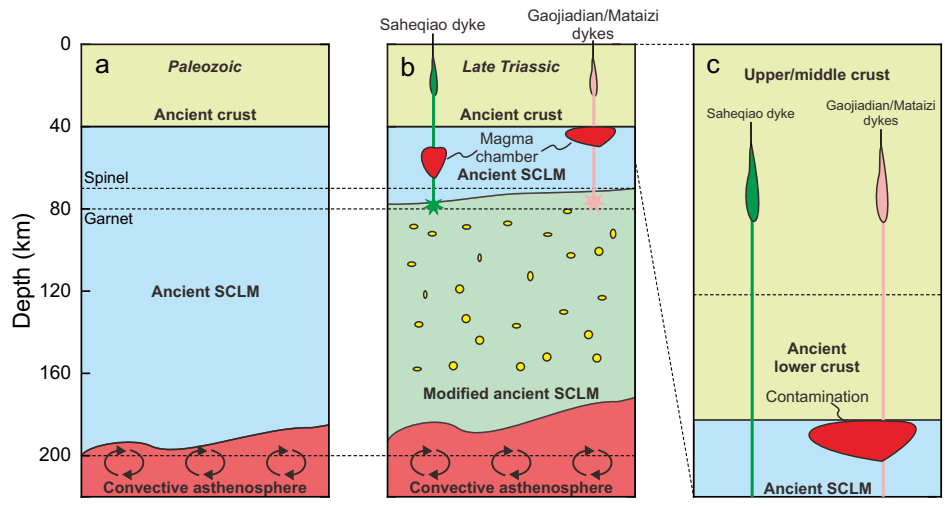












Lithospheric modification at the onset of the destruction of the North China Craton: evidence from Late Triassic mafic dykes

Wang et al.

Supplementary Material

The Supplementary Material includes:

- Analytical methods
- Fig. S1
- Table S1–9

Analytical methods

In situ zircon U-Pb dating

Zircon grains were extracted from crushed samples by standard heavy-liquid and magnetic techniques, and purified by hand-picking under a binocular microscope. The selected grains were mounted in epoxy resin and polished down to about half their thickness to expose the grain interiors, and then imaged under reflected and transmitted light and by Cathodoluminescence (CL). The CL images were acquired using a cathodoluminescent spectrometer (Garton Mono CL3+) attached to a Quanta 200F ESEM at Peking University.

Measurements of zircon U, Th and Pb isotopes on samples J1416 and 15SHQ05 were conducted using a CAMECA IMS-1280 secondary ion mass spectrometry (SIMS) at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, following the standard procedures described in [Li et al. \(2009\)](#). The primary O^{2-} ion beam spot is about $20 \times 30 \mu\text{m}$ in size. Analyses of the standard zircon Plešovice were interspersed with unknown grains. Pb/U calibration was performed relative to zircon standard Plešovice ([Sláma et al., 2008](#)); U and Th concentrations were calibrated against zircon standard 91500 ([Wiedenbeck et al., 1995](#)). In order to monitor the external uncertainties of SIMS U-Pb zircon dating calibrated against Plešovice standard, an in-house zircon standard Qinghu was alternately analyzed as an unknown together with other unknown zircons. Nine measurements on Qinghu zircon yield a concordia age of $160.0 \pm 1.6 \text{ Ma}$ ($2s$), which is identical within error with the recommended value of $159.5 \pm 0.2 \text{ Ma}$ ([Li et al., 2013](#)). A long-term uncertainty of 1.5% (1 relative standard deviation) for $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$ measurements of the standard zircons was propagated to the unknowns. Measured compositions were corrected for common Pb using non-radiogenic ^{204}Pb . Corrections are sufficiently small to be insensitive to the choice of common Pb composition, and an average of present-day crustal composition ([Stacey and Kramers, 1975](#)) is used for the common Pb assuming that the common Pb is largely surface contamination introduced during sample preparation. Measurements of U, Th and Pb in zircons from sample 18NC51 were carried out on an Agilent-7500a quadrupole inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer coupled with a New Wave UP-193 solid-state laser-ablation system (LA-ICPMS) in the Geological Lab Center, China University of Geosciences, Beijing (CUGB), following the analytical procedures described in [Song et al. \(2010a\)](#). Laser spot size of $36 \mu\text{m}$, laser energy density of $8.5 \text{ J}/\text{cm}^2$ and a repetition rate of 10 Hz were applied for analysis. The ablated sample material was carried into the ICP-MS by high-purity Helium gas. NIST 610 glass and Harvard standard zircon 91500 ([Wiedenbeck et al., 1995](#)) were used as external standards, Si as the internal standard and the standard zircon Qinghu as secondary standard. Five measurements on Qinghu zircon yield a concordia age of $160.9 \pm 2.5 \text{ Ma}$ ($2s$), which is identical within error with the recommended value of $159.5 \pm 0.2 \text{ Ma}$ ([Li et al., 2013](#)). The software GLITTER (ver. 4.4, Macquarie University) was used for data reduction. The common lead correction was done following [Andersen \(2002\)](#). Age calculations and plots of concordia diagrams were made using Isoplot (ver. 3.0) ([Ludwig, 2003](#)).

Mineral Chemistry

Mineral chemistry was collected using a JEOL 8230 electron probe micro analyzer (EPMA) at the MOE Key Laboratory of Orogenic Belts and Crustal Evolution, Peking University, following analytical procedures described in [Li et al. \(2018\)](#). The EPMA is equipped with four spectrometers (CH1–CH4). The PETJ crystal (CH1) has been used for K, Ca and Ti, the two TAP crystals (CH2, CH4) for Na, Si, Mg and Al and the LIFH crystal (CH3) for Cr, Mn, Fe and Ni. For all elements, the Ka line has been utilized. The acceleration voltage and the beam current were 15 kV with 10 nA, respectively. The beam was set to diameters of 1–2 μm , and counting times were 10–15 s. The SPI 53 minerals standard (U.S.) was utilized for the quantitative analysis: sanidine was employed for K; diopside for Ca and Mg; rutile for Ti; jadeite for Na, Al and Si; chromium oxide for Cr; rhodonite for Mn; hematite for Fe; and nickel silicide for Ni. At the final calibration stage, the PRZ correction was performed. Analytical precision is

better than 0.02% for most oxides. The mineral formulae were calculated with the program AX (Holland, 2009) and given for fixed oxygen values with Fe^{3+} calculated by stoichiometric charge balance.

Bulk-rock major and trace element analyses

All the samples are fresh cuttings away from late veinlets, with any surface contaminants trimmed off before being thoroughly cleaned. Fresh portions of the trimmed samples were crushed into 1–2 cm size chips using a percussion mill. These rock fragments were ultrasonically cleaned in Milli-Q water, dried and powdered in a thoroughly cleaned agate mill to 200 mesh in the clean laboratory at the Langfang Regional Geological Survey, China. Bulk-rock major and trace element analyses were undertaken in the Geological Lab Center, CUGB following the procedures described in Song et al. (2010b). Major elements were analyzed on a Leeman Prodigy inductively coupled plasma-optical emission spectrometer (ICP-OES) system with high dispersion Echelle optics. Based on rock standards AGV-2, BHVO-2 (US Geological Survey: USGS) and GSR-3 (national geological standard reference material of China), the analytical precisions (1s) for most major element oxides are better than 1% with the exception of TiO_2 (~1.5%) and P_2O_5 (~2.0%) (Table S8). Loss on ignition (LOI) was determined by placing 1 g of sample in the furnace at 1000 °C for a few hours and then reweighting the cooled samples.

Bulk-rock trace elements were analyzed using an Agilent-7500a quadrupole inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICPMS). About 35 mg powder of each sample was dissolved in distilled acid mixture (1:1 HF + HNO_3) with Teflon digesting vessels and heated on a hot-plate at 195 °C for 48 hours using high-pressure bombs for digestion/dissolution. The sample was then evaporated to incipient dryness, refluxed with 1 mL of 6 N HNO_3 and heated again to incipient dryness. The sample was again dissolved in 2 mL of 3 N HNO_3 and heated at 165 °C for further 24 hours to guarantee complete digestion/dissolution. The sample was finally diluted with Milli-Q water to a dilution factor of 2000 in 2% HNO_3 solution for ICPMS analyses. Rock standards AGV-2, W-2 (USGS) and GSR-3 (national geological standard reference material of China) were used to monitor the analytical accuracy and precision. Analytical accuracy, as indicated by relative difference between measured and recommended values is better than 5% for most elements, and 10 ~ 15% for Cu, Zn, Gd, and Ta (Table S9).

Bulk-rock Sr-Nd isotope analyses

Separation and purification of Sr and Nd were done using conventional two-column ion exchange procedures in the ultraclean laboratory of the MOE Key Laboratory at Peking University. Approximately 250 mg powder of each sample was dissolved with distilled acid mixture (HF + HClO_4) in a sealed Savillex beaker on a hot-plate for 168 hours. The ion exchange procedures include (1) a separation of Sr and a group separation of light REE through a cation-exchange column ($1 \times 7.5 \text{ cm}^2$, packed with 200 mesh AG50W resin); and (2) a purification of Nd through a second cation-exchange column ($0.5 \times 5.5 \text{ cm}^2$, packed with 200 mesh P507 resin), conditioned and cleaned with dilute HCl. Sr-Nd isotopic ratios were measured using a Thermo-Finnigan Triton thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS) at the Isotope Laboratory of the Tianjin Institute of Geology and Mineral Resources. The $^{87}\text{Rb}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $^{147}\text{Sm}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratios were calculated using ICP-MS analyzed Sm and Nd concentrations. Mass fractionation was corrected by normalizing the measured $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ against $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.1194 and $^{146}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio of 0.7219, respectively. Rock standard USGS BCR-2 was used to evaluate the separation and purification process of Sr and Nd, which yielded weighted mean $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.705005 ± 10 (2SE) and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio of 0.512640 ± 10 (2SE). In order to monitor the data quality during the period of data acquisition, NBS-987 Sr standard and LRIG Nd standard was analyzed and gave weighted mean $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.710269 ± 10 (2SE) and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio of 0.512204 ± 16 (2SE).

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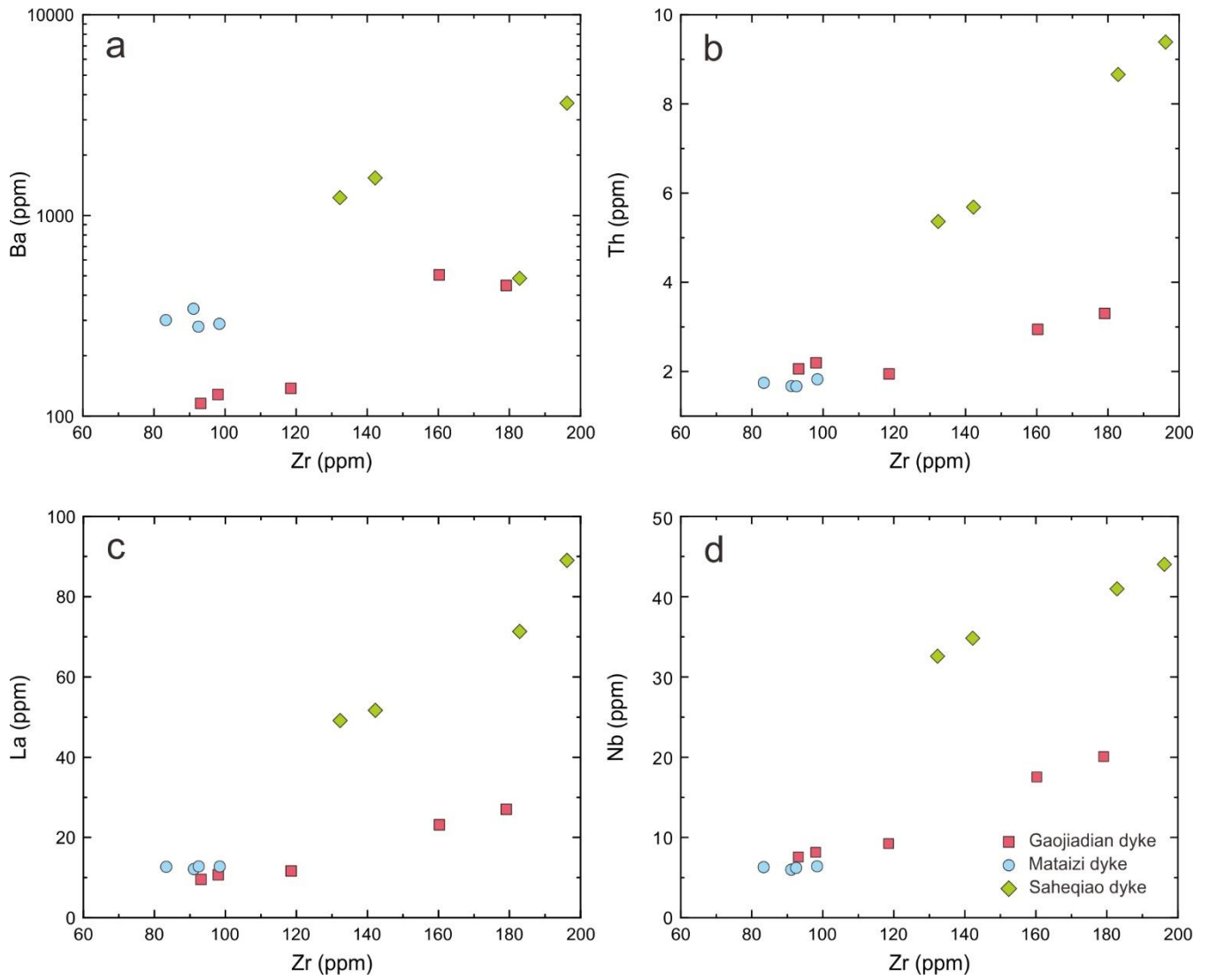


Fig. S1 Co-variation diagrams of (a) Ba-Zr, (b) Th-Zr, (c) La-Zr, and (d) Nb-Zr for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei.

Table S1 *In situ* SIMS zircon U-Pb data for the Late Triassic Gaojiadian and Saheqiao mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei and the standard used during analyses.

Spot	Contents (ppm)			Th/U (Meas.)	Isotopic ratios (^{204}Pb -corrected)						Isotopic ages (Ma) (^{204}Pb -corrected)						Disc. ^a (%)
	Pb	U	Th		$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	1s(%)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$	1s(%)	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$	1s(%)	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$	1s	$^{207}\text{Pb}/^{235}\text{U}$	1s	$^{206}\text{Pb}/^{238}\text{U}$	1s	
<i>Gaojiadian dyke J1416</i>																	
1-1	10	251	221	0.88	0.0502	1.01	0.2573	1.90	0.0371	1.61	205	23	232	4	235	4	-1
1-2	14	344	472	1.37	0.0487	2.03	0.2501	2.53	0.0372	1.51	134	47	227	5	236	3	-4
1-3	14	354	325	0.92	0.0510	0.75	0.2587	1.68	0.0368	1.51	240	17	234	4	233	3	0
1-4	4	109	67	0.62	0.0501	1.84	0.2556	2.38	0.0370	1.52	202	42	231	5	234	3	-1
1-5	8	205	132	0.64	0.0508	1.00	0.2536	1.87	0.0362	1.58	232	23	230	4	229	4	0
1-6	9	233	215	0.92	0.0502	1.26	0.2536	1.97	0.0366	1.52	204	29	229	4	232	3	-1
1-7	6	154	151	0.98	0.0515	1.42	0.2670	2.21	0.0376	1.68	264	32	240	5	238	4	1
1-8	6	142	97	0.68	0.0498	1.58	0.2582	2.18	0.0376	1.50	185	36	233	5	238	4	-2
1-9	9	221	169	0.77	0.0502	1.32	0.2548	2.00	0.0368	1.50	206	30	230	4	233	3	-1
1-10	3	74	48	0.64	0.0498	3.64	0.2474	3.94	0.0360	1.52	188	83	224	8	228	3	-2
1-11	6	154	99	0.64	0.0497	1.80	0.2455	2.35	0.0358	1.51	182	41	223	5	227	3	-2
1-12	4	96	65	0.68	0.0498	2.44	0.2553	2.99	0.0372	1.73	187	56	231	6	235	4	-2
1-13	7	168	117	0.70	0.0517	1.61	0.2659	2.21	0.0373	1.52	271	36	239	5	236	4	1
1-14	8	190	173	0.91	0.0503	1.27	0.2649	2.16	0.0382	1.75	207	29	239	5	242	4	-1
1-15	6	146	105	0.72	0.0517	1.14	0.2694	1.92	0.0378	1.55	274	26	242	4	239	4	1
1-16	3	81	51	0.63	0.0524	1.51	0.2691	2.17	0.0373	1.55	302	34	242	5	236	4	3
1-17	6	146	103	0.71	0.0513	1.47	0.2585	2.10	0.0366	1.50	254	34	233	4	231	3	1
1-18	7	185	135	0.73	0.0502	1.23	0.2544	1.95	0.0368	1.51	205	28	230	4	233	3	-1
1-19	8	183	137	0.75	0.0513	1.04	0.2656	1.84	0.0375	1.52	255	24	239	4	237	4	1
<i>Saheqiao dyke 15SHQ05</i>																	
2-3	84	2067	781	0.38	0.0525	1.40	0.2481	2.06	0.0343	1.50	306	32	225	4	217	3	4
2-5	18	436	209	0.48	0.0466	6.80	0.2250	6.96	0.0350	1.51	28	155	206	13	222	3	-7
2-6	15	387	59	0.15	0.0515	3.15	0.2524	3.52	0.0356	1.57	262	71	229	7	225	3	1
2-7	46	1139	332	0.29	0.0504	0.84	0.2436	1.72	0.0351	1.50	213	19	221	3	222	3	0
2-8	113	2601	1544	0.59	0.0504	0.70	0.2437	1.66	0.0351	1.50	213	16	221	3	222	3	0
2-9	19	468	196	0.42	0.0505	1.26	0.2442	1.96	0.0351	1.50	217	29	222	4	222	3	0
2-10	166	3533	2883	0.82	0.0507	1.50	0.2507	2.13	0.0359	1.51	225	34	227	4	227	3	0

2-14	14	306	251	0.82	0.0506	1.88	0.2472	2.63	0.0354	1.84	222	43	224	5	225	4	0
2-15	26	549	425	0.78	0.0490	1.19	0.2461	1.95	0.0365	1.54	147	28	223	4	231	3	-3
2-16	42	981	473	0.48	0.0502	1.26	0.2450	1.99	0.0354	1.54	204	29	222	4	224	3	-1
2-17	30	660	562	0.85	0.0502	3.02	0.2424	3.38	0.0350	1.51	206	69	220	7	222	3	-1
<i>Standard Qinghu</i>																	
1	30	937	592	0.63	0.0495	1.64	0.1739	2.24	0.0255	1.52	173	38	163	3	162	2	0
2	51	1873	375	0.20	0.0488	1.25	0.1673	1.95	0.0249	1.50	136	29	157	3	158	2	-1
3	26	833	518	0.62	0.0491	1.12	0.1706	1.97	0.0252	1.62	150	26	160	3	161	3	0
4	39	1310	582	0.44	0.0492	0.94	0.1702	1.78	0.0251	1.51	159	22	160	3	160	2	0
5	20	640	360	0.56	0.0480	1.30	0.1661	1.99	0.0251	1.51	100	30	156	3	160	2	-2
6	20	656	348	0.53	0.0484	1.47	0.1669	2.15	0.0250	1.57	120	34	157	3	159	2	-2
7	57	1811	1065	0.59	0.0500	1.04	0.1743	1.89	0.0253	1.58	196	24	163	3	161	3	1
8	46	1507	729	0.48	0.0496	0.88	0.1732	1.74	0.0253	1.50	177	20	162	3	161	2	1
9	19	651	208	0.32	0.0494	1.31	0.1702	2.01	0.0250	1.53	168	30	160	3	159	2	0

a: Disc. = Discordance

Table S2 *In situ* LA-ICPMS zircon U-Pb data for the Late Triassic Mataizi mafic dyke in Eastern Hebei and the standard used during analyses.

Spot	Contents (ppm)			Th/U	Isotopic ratios (Corrected)						Isotopic ages (Ma) (Corrected)						Disc. ^a (%)
	Pb	U	Th		²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁶ Pb	1 σ	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²³⁵ U	1 σ	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²³⁸ U	1 σ	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁶ Pb	1 σ	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²³⁵ U	1 σ	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²³⁸ U	1 σ	
<i>Mataizi dyke 18NC51</i>																	
3-1	37	878	155	0.18	0.05077	0.00158	0.25768	0.00834	0.03680	0.00060	230	45	233	7	233	4	0
3-2	61	77	130	1.69	0.16904	0.00397	11.24605	0.28349	0.48243	0.00806	2548	21	2544	24	2538	35	0
3-3	110	158	142	0.90	0.17140	0.00371	11.51027	0.27293	0.48696	0.00787	2571	20	2565	22	2558	34	1
3-4	181	275	127	0.46	0.17338	0.00360	11.77358	0.27102	0.49240	0.00782	2591	19	2587	22	2581	34	0
3-5	142	227	101	0.45	0.16661	0.00346	10.96456	0.25234	0.47721	0.00757	2524	19	2520	21	2515	33	0
3-6	160	204	166	0.82	0.19942	0.00412	14.94907	0.34270	0.54358	0.00863	2821	18	2812	22	2798	36	1
3-7	82	122	87	0.71	0.16972	0.00370	11.28668	0.26929	0.48223	0.00780	2555	20	2547	22	2537	34	1
3-8	100	140	143	1.02	0.16879	0.00375	11.27217	0.27295	0.48424	0.00790	2546	20	2546	23	2546	34	0
3-9	38	59	30	0.51	0.16942	0.00417	11.27493	0.29532	0.48256	0.00818	2552	23	2546	24	2538	36	1
3-10	79	118	58	0.50	0.17515	0.00384	12.03007	0.28835	0.49804	0.00806	2607	20	2607	22	2605	35	0
3-11	68	92	115	1.25	0.16829	0.00397	11.19244	0.28349	0.48225	0.00805	2541	22	2539	24	2537	35	0
3-12	15	307	162	0.53	0.05141	0.00298	0.27448	0.01591	0.03872	0.00073	259	98	246	13	245	5	0
3-13	96	133	134	1.01	0.17382	0.00382	11.75060	0.28253	0.49018	0.00793	2595	20	2585	22	2571	34	1
<i>Standard Qinghu</i>																	
1					0.04911	0.00182	0.16931	0.00631	0.02501	0.00040	153	57	159	5	159	3	0
2					0.04998	0.00176	0.17261	0.00622	0.02504	0.00041	194	53	162	5	159	3	2
3					0.04923	0.00181	0.17344	0.00664	0.02553	0.00044	159	57	162	6	163	3	-1
4					0.04913	0.00191	0.17021	0.00709	0.02512	0.00047	154	63	160	6	160	3	0
5					0.04939	0.00229	0.17677	0.00893	0.02598	0.00053	166	79	165	8	165	3	0

a: Disc. = Discordance

Table S3 Representative analyses of clinopyroxene for the Late Triassic Gaojiadian mafic dyke in Eastern Hebei.

No.	J1416-2	J1416-3	J1416-4	J1416-7	J1416-8	J1416-9	J1416-11	J1416-15
SiO ₂	52.37	51.89	51.25	51.70	51.26	50.24	51.34	50.83
TiO ₂	0.44	0.45	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.70	0.45	0.47
Al ₂ O ₃	2.01	2.19	2.68	1.89	1.99	2.09	2.59	2.17
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.12	0.11	0.06	0.06	0.12
FeO ^T	12.14	14.12	13.41	13.86	14.56	16.71	12.81	13.04
MnO	0.24	0.29	0.23	0.28	0.28	0.31	0.30	0.32
MgO	16.36	16.08	15.41	15.42	14.33	12.47	15.88	15.29
CaO	17.31	15.73	16.60	16.13	17.70	17.45	16.10	17.44
Na ₂ O	0.19	0.23	0.29	0.25	0.14	0.24	0.28	0.21
K ₂ O	bdl ^a	bdl	0.01	0.02	0.01	bdl	bdl	0.02
Total	101.14	101.04	100.35	100.15	100.93	100.27	99.81	99.91
# of O	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Si	1.93	1.92	1.91	1.93	1.91	1.91	1.92	1.90
Ti	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01
Al ^{IV}	0.07	0.08	0.09	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.10
Al ^{VI}	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	–	–	0.03	–
Cr	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fe ³⁺	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.09
Fe ²⁺	0.33	0.38	0.35	0.39	0.39	0.47	0.35	0.32
Mn	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Mg	0.90	0.89	0.86	0.86	0.80	0.71	0.88	0.85
Ca	0.68	0.62	0.66	0.65	0.71	0.71	0.64	0.70
Na	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
K	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Wo	0.34	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.35	0.35	0.32	0.34
En	0.44	0.44	0.42	0.43	0.39	0.35	0.43	0.42
Fs	0.16	0.19	0.17	0.20	0.19	0.23	0.17	0.16
Jd	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	–	–	0.03	–

Ae	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.08
X_{Mg}^{b}	0.73	0.70	0.71	0.69	0.67	0.60	0.72	0.73
P (kbar) ^c	2.5	3.8	4.7	3.3	2.1	2.9	4.4	2.9
T (°C) ^c	1163	1162	1174	1164	1127	1116	1178	1146

a: bdl: below detection limit.

b: $X_{\text{Mg}} = \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}^{2+})$.

c: Crystallization conditions calculated using the clinopyroxene-liquid thermometer of [Putirka \(2008\)](#).

Table S4 Representative analyses of plagioclase for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei.

No.	J1416-2	J1416-3	J1416-5	J1416-6	J1416-13	15SHQ03-2	15SHQ03-14	15SHQ03-15	15SHQ03-16
Sample	Gaojiadian dyke					Saheqiao dyke			
SiO ₂	56.90	53.63	54.05	53.24	52.52	70.73	68.12	70.58	68.70
TiO ₂	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.03
Al ₂ O ₃	27.31	29.84	27.70	29.30	30.25	20.28	20.16	20.77	20.36
Cr ₂ O ₃	bdl ^a	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	bdl
FeO ^T	0.57	0.58	0.64	0.74	0.60	0.08	0.38	0.07	0.12
MnO	bdl	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.02	bdl	bdl	0.02	0.01
MgO	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.07	bdl	0.10	bdl	0.07
CaO	10.05	13.05	11.72	13.15	13.97	0.10	0.42	0.39	0.13
Na ₂ O	5.78	4.16	4.87	4.18	3.83	9.60	10.04	9.29	8.85
K ₂ O	0.16	0.20	0.24	0.31	0.10	0.03	0.39	0.09	0.33
Total	100.82	101.54	99.38	101.04	101.40	100.85	99.63	101.27	98.60
# of O	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Si	2.54	2.40	2.46	2.40	2.36	3.03	2.98	3.01	3.01
Ti	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Al	1.44	1.57	1.49	1.56	1.60	1.02	1.04	1.04	1.05
Cr	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fe ³⁺	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	–	0.01	–	–
Fe ²⁺	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mn	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Mg	–	–	0.01	0.01	0.01	–	0.01	–	0.01
Ca	0.48	0.63	0.57	0.63	0.67	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
Na	0.50	0.36	0.43	0.37	0.33	0.80	0.85	0.77	0.75
K	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	–	0.02	0.01	0.02
X _{An}	0.49	0.63	0.56	0.62	0.66	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01
X _{Ab}	0.51	0.36	0.42	0.36	0.33	0.99	0.95	0.97	0.97
X _{Or}	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02

a: bdl: below detection limit.

Table S5 Representative analyses of hornblende for the Late Triassic Saheqiao mafic dyke in Eastern Hebei.

No.	15SHQ03-2	15SHQ03-3	15SHQ03-5	15SHQ03-8	15SHQ03-10	15SHQ03-13	15SHQ03-15	15SHQ03-16
SiO ₂	39.00	39.34	38.72	38.70	39.56	39.44	39.75	39.23
TiO ₂	3.21	2.93	3.10	4.07	3.43	4.15	3.57	3.17
Al ₂ O ₃	14.04	14.17	14.38	14.72	14.21	14.60	13.84	13.97
Cr ₂ O ₃	bdl ^a	0.01	bdl	0.01	bdl	bdl	0.07	bdl
FeO ^T	13.33	12.88	13.76	11.33	11.28	10.09	10.56	12.22
MnO	0.22	0.16	0.28	0.07	0.13	0.10	0.11	0.16
MgO	11.67	11.87	11.44	12.50	13.21	13.52	13.38	12.71
CaO	12.49	12.71	12.63	12.37	12.88	12.82	12.77	12.33
Na ₂ O	2.37	2.42	2.42	2.31	2.21	2.06	2.18	2.35
K ₂ O	1.07	0.96	1.07	1.28	1.19	1.01	1.10	1.13
Total	97.40	97.45	97.80	97.36	98.10	97.79	97.33	97.27
# of O	23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
Si	5.84	5.83	5.76	5.77	5.78	5.77	5.85	5.84
Ti	0.36	0.33	0.35	0.46	0.38	0.46	0.40	0.36
Al	2.48	2.48	2.52	2.59	2.45	2.52	2.40	2.45
Cr	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Fe ³⁺	0.27	0.53	0.51	0.08	0.57	0.36	0.42	0.29
Fe ²⁺	1.40	1.07	1.21	1.34	0.81	0.87	0.88	1.23
Mn	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02
Mg	2.60	2.62	2.54	2.78	2.88	2.95	2.94	2.82
Ca	2.00	2.02	2.01	1.98	2.02	2.01	2.01	1.97
Na	0.69	0.70	0.70	0.67	0.63	0.58	0.62	0.68
K	0.20	0.18	0.20	0.24	0.22	0.19	0.21	0.22
X _{Mg} ^b	0.65	0.71	0.68	0.68	0.78	0.77	0.77	0.70

a: bdl: below detection limit.

b: $X_{Mg} = Mg/(Mg + Fe^{2+})$.

Table S6 Bulk rock major and trace element data for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei.

No.	J1416	J1501	J1502	J1503	J1504	18NC51	18NC52	18NC53	18NC54	15SHQ03	15SHQ04	15SHQ05	18NC66
Lithology	Gaojiadian dyke					Mataizi dyke				Saheqiao dyke			
<i>Major elements (wt.%)</i>													
SiO ₂	47.84	52.44	50.48	49.17	51.32	46.48	49.02	49.81	50.09	45.63	46.76	46.55	47.64
TiO ₂	1.86	1.63	1.64	2.85	2.58	1.80	1.71	1.66	1.68	1.80	1.56	1.62	1.74
Al ₂ O ₃	13.25	12.99	13.50	12.57	12.10	12.23	11.54	10.96	11.21	13.67	14.30	14.41	13.37
Fe ₂ O _{3T}	16.64	14.50	15.35	14.96	14.02	16.84	16.01	15.96	15.79	9.92	10.35	10.49	10.22
MnO	0.22	0.20	0.21	0.19	0.16	0.26	0.23	0.23	0.22	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.15
MgO	6.00	5.19	5.74	5.87	4.44	5.40	5.34	5.35	5.27	8.62	9.21	9.20	7.40
CaO	10.10	8.65	9.39	6.85	6.00	10.05	9.73	9.63	9.11	10.92	9.04	8.82	8.82
Na ₂ O	2.24	2.18	2.34	2.21	1.80	1.79	1.70	1.62	1.76	3.80	3.42	3.48	4.44
K ₂ O	0.51	0.47	0.53	1.24	2.11	1.73	1.71	2.04	1.70	0.68	1.47	1.53	1.55
P ₂ O ₅	0.13	0.15	0.12	0.34	0.32	0.16	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.78	0.67	0.68	0.82
LOI	0.22	0.85	0.38	2.92	4.13	2.52	2.07	1.77	2.21	3.45	2.43	2.42	3.13
Total	99.01	99.24	99.69	99.17	98.97	99.25	99.21	99.17	99.19	99.43	99.37	99.36	99.27
Mg# ^a	41.7	41.5	42.6	43.7	38.5	38.8	39.8	39.9	39.8	63.2	63.8	63.5	58.9
<i>Trace elements (ppm)</i>													
Li	15	6	6	14	19	25	21	17	24	11	16	18	37
P	745	780	630	1745	1563	993	1036	1013	1062	3710	3064	3492	5289
K	5222	4258	4351	10724	17416	17724	20120	24440	20860	5598	11540	13334	18954
Sc	53.3	40.1	40.1	27.8	23.8	49.7	50.9	50.5	51.6	32.4	23.2	25.3	29.6
Ti	12882	10400	9801	18036	15036	10440	10558	10614	10956	10458	8870	9666	10846
V	554	413	400	333	284	443	448	443	460	222	184	198	256
Cr	110	89	96	73	63	74	84	81	85	284	369	400	114
Mn	1948	1666	1622	1530	1168	2008	1858	1889	1852	1226	1151	1201	1263
Co	63	53	52	55	46	66	63	62	64	40	44	48	43
Ni	90.1	75.6	81.3	70.7	61.0	53.7	56.5	52.3	56.6	79.1	145.5	156.4	89.6
Cu	287	221	200	92	78	60	95	140	72	74	51	66	99
Zn	131	127	115	114	88	130	132	130	125	64	73	82	115
Ga	24	20	19	23	19	23	22	22	22	17	17	18	22

Rb	16	14	15	33	57	41	46	55	43	8	14	17	20
Sr	158	141	138	309	319	244	237	244	241	2068	1415	1491	2568
Y	32.7	28.2	26.2	27.1	23.0	30.9	30.6	29.4	30.3	23.6	17.8	19.1	26.2
Zr	119	98	93	179	160	98	83	91	93	183	132	142	196
Nb	9.2	8.2	7.6	20.1	17.5	6.4	6.3	6.0	6.2	41.0	32.6	34.8	44.0
Cs	0.50	0.41	0.37	0.73	1.26	0.25	0.22	0.22	0.19	0.24	0.12	0.23	0.26
Ba	137	128	116	448	506	288	301	343	279	486	1226	1538	3627
La	11.6	10.7	9.6	27.0	23.2	12.8	12.7	12.1	12.8	71.3	49.1	51.7	89.0
Ce	26.2	24.5	21.9	58.4	50.6	27.0	26.2	25.5	25.9	148.9	97.1	102.1	163.6
Pr	3.59	3.33	3.00	7.96	6.82	3.93	3.92	3.73	3.88	18.73	11.82	12.58	18.26
Nd	15.6	14.0	12.6	31.1	26.6	16.7	16.6	15.8	16.3	66.3	41.5	44.1	62.4
Sm	4.2	3.7	3.4	6.5	5.6	4.4	4.4	4.2	4.3	10.7	6.8	7.3	10.1
Eu	1.49	1.30	1.21	2.04	1.73	1.39	1.38	1.31	1.33	3.09	2.15	2.30	2.99
Gd	5.1	4.5	4.1	6.3	5.4	5.0	4.9	4.7	4.8	7.9	5.4	5.8	7.5
Tb	0.89	0.78	0.72	0.94	0.80	0.78	0.77	0.73	0.74	0.98	0.70	0.75	0.87
Dy	5.60	4.84	4.51	5.17	4.42	5.02	4.92	4.72	4.72	4.77	3.55	3.78	4.63
Ho	1.19	1.05	0.98	1.03	0.88	1.04	1.02	0.97	0.98	0.89	0.67	0.71	0.85
Er	3.46	2.98	2.78	2.72	2.32	2.84	2.79	2.66	2.68	2.30	1.72	1.84	2.18
Tm	0.50	0.42	0.39	0.36	0.31	0.40	0.40	0.38	0.38	0.30	0.22	0.23	0.29
Yb	3.28	2.63	2.47	2.21	1.89	2.51	2.45	2.35	2.34	1.77	1.31	1.39	1.76
Lu	0.49	0.40	0.38	0.33	0.28	0.32	0.32	0.30	0.30	0.26	0.19	0.20	0.23
Hf	2.80	2.48	2.33	4.29	3.75	2.41	2.06	2.17	2.16	3.72	2.88	3.08	4.40
Ta	0.52	0.46	0.43	1.26	1.13	0.36	0.38	0.37	0.37	2.56	1.86	1.99	2.46
Pb	2.3	2.2	2.2	3.4	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.6	12.4	8.1	8.1	22.0
Th	1.95	2.19	2.06	3.30	2.94	1.82	1.75	1.67	1.67	8.66	5.36	5.69	9.39
U	0.39	0.46	0.43	0.68	0.59	0.52	0.50	0.47	0.48	3.06	1.67	1.77	2.63
SREE	83	75	68	152	131	84	83	79	81	338	222	235	365
Eu/Eu*	0.98	0.98	0.99	0.96	0.95	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.90	0.98	1.05	1.05	1.00
(La/Yb) _N ^b	2.5	2.9	2.8	8.8	8.8	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.9	28.9	26.9	26.6	36.3

a: Mg# = molar 100*Mg/(Mg + Fe).

b: Chondrite-normalized; chondrite values are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\)](#).

Table S7 Bulk-rock Sr-Nd isotopic data for the Late Triassic mafic dykes in Eastern Hebei.

Sample	Rb (ppm)	Sr (ppm)	⁸⁷ Rb/ ⁸⁶ Sr	⁸⁷ Sr/ ⁸⁶ Sr	2SE	I _{Sr} (t) ^a	Sm (ppm)	Nd (ppm)	¹⁴⁷ Sm/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd	¹⁴³ Nd/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd	2SE	ε _{Nd} (0)	(¹⁴³ Nd/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd) _i ^a	ε _{Nd} (t) ^a	T _{DM} (Ma)	f ^{Sm/Nd}
<i>Gaojiadian dyke</i>																
J1416	16	158	0.283	0.708290	10	0.707348	4.2	15.6	0.170	0.512198	9	-8.6	0.511937	-7.8	1631	-0.14
J1501	14	141	0.279	0.709000	13	0.708072	3.7	14.0	0.168	0.512200	5	-8.5	0.511943	-7.7	1622	-0.15
J1502	15	138	0.312	0.710223	12	0.709471	3.4	12.6	0.169	0.512202	12	-8.5	0.511943	-7.7	1623	-0.14
J1503	33	309	0.298	0.709266	16	0.708275	6.5	31.1	0.133	0.511747	10	-17.4	0.511543	-15.5	2259	-0.32
J1504	57	319	0.504	0.710565	18	0.708887	5.6	26.6	0.133	0.511768	8	-17.0	0.511564	-15.1	2226	-0.32
<i>Mataizi dyke</i>																
18NC51	41	244	0.473	0.708403	6	0.706800	4.4	16.7	0.169	0.512044	8	-11.6	0.511781	-10.7	1870	-0.14
18NC52	46	237	0.549	0.708868	10	0.707010	4.4	16.6	0.168	0.512034	8	-11.8	0.511773	-10.9	1884	-0.15
18NC53	55	244	0.635	0.710812	14	0.708661	4.2	15.8	0.169	0.512042	12	-11.6	0.511779	-10.8	1873	-0.14
18NC54	43	241	0.503	0.708175	10	0.706472	4.3	16.3	0.166	0.512020	8	-12.1	0.511762	-11.1	1902	-0.16
<i>Saheqiao dyke</i>																
15SHQ03	8	2068	0.011	0.704638	9	0.704604	10.7	66.3	0.103	0.512260	6	-7.4	0.512110	-4.7	1381	-0.48
15SHQ04	14	1415	0.028	0.704037	13	0.703948	6.8	41.5	0.104	0.512163	6	-9.3	0.512012	-6.6	1537	-0.47
15SHQ05	17	1491	0.032	0.704704	15	0.704602	7.3	44.1	0.104	0.512165	5	-9.2	0.512013	-6.6	1535	-0.47

Parameters used in the calculation are as follows: ⁸⁷Rb decay $\lambda = 1.42 \times 10^{-11} \text{ year}^{-1}$; ¹⁴⁷Sm decay $\lambda = 6.54 \times 10^{-12} \text{ year}^{-1}$; (¹⁴⁷Sm/¹⁴⁴Nd)_{CHUR} = 0.1967, (¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd)_{CHUR} = 0.512638; (¹⁴⁷Sm/¹⁴⁴Nd)_{DM} = 0.2137, (¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd)_{DM} = 0.51315.

a: Calculated at zircon U-Pb ages.

Table S8 Bulk rock major element data for rock standards AGV-2, BHVO-2 and GSR-3 and recommended values.

Standard	AGV-2		BHVO		GSR-3	
	Recommended	Average measured (n = 4)	Recommended	Average measured (n = 3)	Recommended	Average measured (n = 4)
<i>wt. %</i>						
SiO ₂	59.14	59.13	49.60	49.09	44.64	44.32
TiO ₂	1.05	1.06	2.73	2.73	2.36	2.31
Al ₂ O ₃	17.03	17.03	13.44	13.49	13.83	13.79
Fe ₂ O _{3T}	6.78	6.71	12.39	12.24	13.40	13.03
MnO	0.10	0.11	0.17	0.14	0.16	0.17
MgO	1.80	1.79	7.26	7.68	7.77	7.30
CaO	5.15	5.24	11.40	11.42	8.81	8.73
Na ₂ O	4.20	4.15	2.22	2.21	3.38	3.41
K ₂ O	2.90	2.92	0.51	0.54	2.32	2.32
P ₂ O ₅	0.48	0.48	0.27	0.28	0.95	1.00

a: Recommended values for standards are from GeoReM database (<http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/>).

Table S9 Bulk rock trace element data for rock standards AGV-2, W-2 and GSR-3 and recommended values.

Standard	AGV-2		W-2		GSR-3	
	Recommended	Average measured (n = 4)	Recommended	Average measured (n = 3)	Recommended	Average measured (n = 4)
<i>ppm</i>						
Li	10.8	12	9.21	10	10	11
P	2100	2156	611	632	4130	4121
K	23900	23885	5197	5792	19259	19237
Sc	13.11	12.5	35.86	36.6	15	15.0
Ti	6300	6326	6353	6347	14200	14106
V	118.5	120	265.8	268	167	173
Cr	16.22	18	92	93	134	136
Mn	770	824	1293	1314	1310	1333
Co	15.46	17	44.37	45	47	48
Ni	18.87	19.6	72	73.8	140	144.9
Cu	51.51	51	105.9	108	49	49
Zn	86.7	83	77.7	77	150	153
Ga	20.42	20	17.88	18	25	25
Rb	67.79	65	20.23	21	37	37
Sr	659.5	596	195.4	188	1100	1108
Y	19.14	19.4	21.82	22.6	22	22.4
Zr	232	228	93.3	100	277	276
Nb	14.12	15.8	7.51	7.9	68	67.2
Cs	1.173	1.14	0.915	0.98	0.70	0.72
Ba	1134	1162	172.8	174	527	528
La	38.21	37.2	10.63	9.8	56	55.7
Ce	69.43	67.8	23.21	23.1	105	105.2
Pr	8.165	8.32	3.018	2.87	13.2	12.95
Nd	30.49	29.0	13.09	13.0	54	54.7
Sm	5.509	5.7	3.3	3.3	10.2	10.1

Eu	1.553	1.53	1.091	1.05	3.20	3.23
Gd	4.678	4.6	3.713	3.4	8.50	8.5
Tb	0.651	0.66	0.627	0.65	1.20	1.17
Dy	3.549	3.63	3.806	3.62	5.6	5.68
Ho	0.6818	0.67	0.7908	0.77	0.88	0.87
Er	1.825	1.79	2.208	2.50	2.00	1.98
Tm	0.2623	0.26	0.3315	0.39	0.28	0.28
Yb	1.653	1.60	2.054	2.11	1.5	1.53
Lu	0.2507	0.25	0.309	0.33	0.19	0.19
Hf	5.137	5.07	2.444	2.54	6.50	6.60
Ta	0.865	0.88	0.489	0.53	4.30	4.60
Pb	13.14	13.1	7.83	9.4	7	7.1
Th	6.174	6.12	2.179	2.29	6.0	6.02
U	1.885	1.86	0.5048	0.52	1.40	1.40

a: Recommended values for standards are from GeoReM database (<http://georem.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/>).