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# OH-rich Topaz from Alpine Fissures in Triassic Dolomites near Lugnez, Graubünden (Mesozoic Cover of Gotthard Massif, Swiss Alps).

by M. Soom<sup>1</sup>, Th. Armbruster<sup>2</sup> and H. A. Stalder<sup>1</sup>

## Abstract

An Alpine fissure topaz, occurring together with quartz and dickite in Triassic dolomites near Lugnez, Graubünden (Switzerland) is described. Optical data and cell dimensions were determined for one selected single crystal which was previously heated at 950°C yielding:  $\alpha = 1.624$ ,  $\gamma = 1.637$ ,  $2V_z = 53^\circ$ ,  $a = 4.6548(8) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $b = 8.820(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $c = 8.380(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $a \parallel X$ ,  $b \parallel Y$ ,  $c \parallel Z$ . Without heating topaz shows characteristic sector zoning. OH-F substitution was estimated from cell dimensions and optical data leading to molar  $F/(F+OH)$ -values between 0.75 and 0.85. Fluid inclusion measurements in syngenetic quartz indicate that topaz grew in NaCl-bearing, high  $\text{CO}_2$  hydrothermal solutions at temperatures above 250°C and pressures around 2.5–3.0 kbar. Towards the end of mineralization occurred  $\text{CO}_2$ -water unmixing, liberating a  $\text{CO}_2$ -rich vapour phase which favoured the precipitation of carbonates and sulfides.

**Keywords:** Topaz, Alpine fissures, fluid inclusions, substitution, dolomite, Grisons, Switzerland

## 1. Introduction

In 1983 an amateur-mineralogist (H. Luginbühl, Windisch) discovered in quartz-bearing fissures in the Lugnez area several prismatic crystals which were determined as topaz (H. A. St.). This mineral has been described in the Alps from hercynic, turmalin-pegmatites in the Lötschental (TRUNINGER, 1911 a+b) and from kyanite-quartz-schists and pegmatites in the Untersulzbachtal (MEIXNER, 1978). Thus topaz from Lugnez can be considered as the first occurrence of this mineral in Tertiary Alpine fissures.

The simplified formula of topaz is  $\text{Al}_2(\text{F}, \text{OH})[\text{SiO}_4]$ . In natural topaz up to 30 mol% OH may substitute for F, which affects optical properties and lattice parameters (RIBBE, 1982).

## 2. Geological Setting

The topaz-bearing fissures are situated in the lower part of Val Renastga, Lugnez GR

(coordinates deposited at the Museum of Natural History, Berne). This region is located on the southern border of the sedimentary cover of the Gotthard massif and close to the thrust fault of the Pennine nappes. The mesozoic metasediments consist of Triassic quartzites, phyllites, rauhawacke, dolomites, gypsum and Liassic calcareous phyllites. The mineral bearing fissures are restricted to a strongly tectonized dolomite layer, approximately 100–200 m below the thrustzone of the Pennine nappes, with boudinage structure and a thickness of several meters. This layer is situated at the basis of a normal serie of Triassic and Liassic metasediments which are considered as imbricated mesozoic cover of the Gotthard massif ("Peidener Schuppenzone", in NABHOLZ and VOLL, 1963 or "Pianca-Zone" in JUNG, 1963). The mesozoic metasediments show a complex Alpine deformation history which can be subdivided into several phases of folding. In the outcrop the following structures according to NABHOLZ and VOLL (1963) can be observed: bedding  $S_0$ ,

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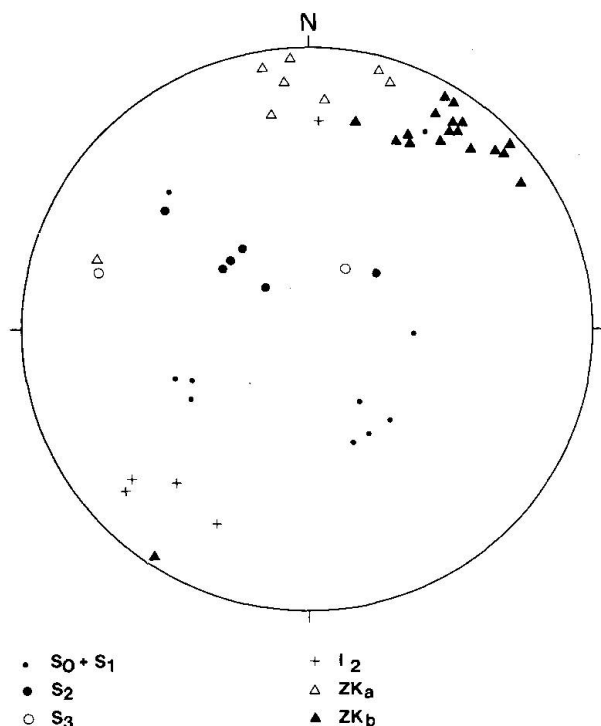


Fig. 1a Stereogram of structures in Val Renastga, Lugnez (Schmidt net, lower hemisphere):  $S_0$  bedding,  $S_2$  main schistosity,  $I_2$  stretching lineation,  $S_3$  crenulation cleavage,  $ZK_a$  veins filled with quartz and carbonates,  $ZK_b$  topaz-bearing fissures.

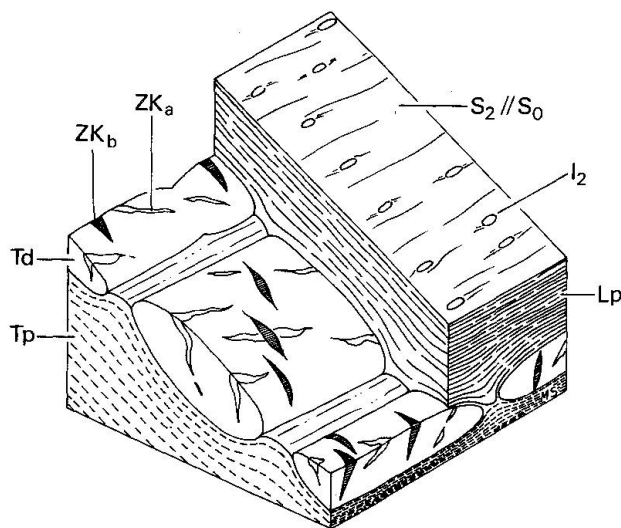


Fig. 1b Sketch diagram, topaz locality Lugnez. Tp Triassic phyllites, Td Triassic dolomites, Lp Liassic phyllites.

main schistosity  $S_2$  subparallel to bedding with stretching lineation  $I_2$ , crenulation cleavage  $S_3$  and related folds. Some structural measurements are summarized in Fig. 1 a+b.

The examined area has undergone Alpine metamorphism at lower greenschist facies con-

ditions of about 450–550°C and pressures between 3 and 5 kbar during Tertiary (FREY et al., 1980). Alpine chloritoid growth in metapelites is typical for these metamorphic conditions.

Most of the mineralized fissures are concentrated on one outcrop of unaltered dolomite in the riverbed of Val Renastga. Moreover some topaz-rich and hydrothermally altered sulfide-bearing dolomitic boulders with small crystals of goyazite were discovered downstream.

In the competent rock layers with boudinage structures (quartzites, dolomites) a lot of opened fissures and completely with quartz and carbonate filled veins are present. They can be divided into two groups:

- veins completely filled with quartz, carbonates and sulfide minerals (always without topaz), which strike east-west and dip steeply to south, often deformed in the main schistosity  $S_2$  ( $ZK_a$ )

- fissures containing crystals of quartz, topaz and several other species which strike northwest-southeast and dip steeply to southwest ( $ZK_b$ ); sometimes with fibrous quartz growth moretheless perpendicular to the wall-rock (RAMSAY, 1980). They are considered as tension fractures perpendicular to the stretching lineation  $I_2$ . They are a few centimeters long and less than 2 cm wide.

$ZK_a$  veins are always crosscut by  $ZK_b$  fissures and are therefore older.

It is suggested that the formation of  $ZK_a$  predated that of  $S_2$  while the later topaz-bearing clefts  $ZK_b$  were opened syn/post- $S_2$ . Quartz in the older fissures has recrystallised textures without any measurable fluid inclusions. Fluid inclusions in  $ZK_b$  quartz allow to reconstruct the fluid evolution related to that later stage.

### 3. Fissure Paragenesis

The earlier veins ( $ZK_a$ ) in the Triassic dolomite contain the following minerals: quartz, dolomite, pyrite, sphalerite, bournonite, tetrahedrite and galena (sulfide < 5 vol%). Pyrite occurs as idiomorphic grains < 20 µm together with sphalerite near the rim of the veins, as inclusions in galena and bournonite and disseminated in the dolomitic rocks. Larger pyrite grains show cataclastic features. Sphalerite also can be found intergrown with bournonite and tetrahedrite. Most of the ore minerals consist of

up to 1,5 mm large aggregates of bournonite and galena whereby bournonite is partly or completely replaced by galena.

In the opened fissures (ZK<sub>b</sub>) the observed minerals (identified by a Bradley camera and FeK<sub>α</sub>-radiation) are listed below:

- in Triassic dolomites topaz, quartz, dickite Al<sub>4</sub>[(OH)<sub>8</sub>Si<sub>4</sub>O<sub>10</sub>], (?) rutile, barite, apatite, goyazite SrAl<sub>3</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>5</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O, galena, sphalerite, tetrahedrite and secondary minerals (azurite, malachite and porous crusts of aragonite)

- in Triassic quartzites quartz and Fe-carbonates (altered)

- in Liassic limestones quartz, chlorite, muscovite, barite and calcite.

The quartz crystals have a maximal length of 2 cm and show besides the usual forms (m), (r) and (z) also accessory s-faces. They reveal few, but distinct sutures. Included in quartz are topaz, rutile, dickite, dolomite and bournonite/galena.

White, powder-like material which fills the bottom of the fissures was determined as dickite; this mineral is a polymorph variety of the more frequent aluminosilicate kaolinite. At this locality topaz is always associated with dickite (plates ca 20 µm in diameter).

Of special interest are small, up to 1 mm long and brown-orange, pseudocubic crystals of goyazite which occur on sulfide- and topaz-bearing boulders.

White, milky and tabular aggregates, not longer than 2 cm, were recognized as barite. Galena forms irregular, corroded aggregates or short prismatic, distorted crystals. Tetrahedrite occurs as crystals up to 1 cm long and often with overgrowths of malachite.

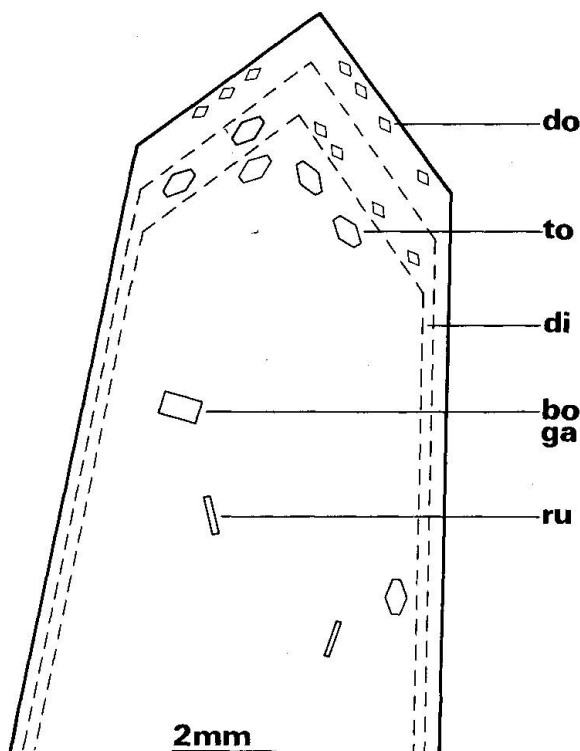
Mineral succession in the topaz-bearing fissures is recorded as protogenetic inclusions in fissure quartz (Fig. 2). From geometric criteria the following succession of mineral phases is postulated:

- prismatic bournonite is formed during early quartz crystallization and later replaced by galena or completely dissolved forming longish pits at the basis of quartz

- early stage quartz includes rarely tiny, brownish needles (probably rutile)

- in late stage quartz topaz, dolomite and dickite are observed.

Dickite was deposited in one or several layers along the faces of growing quartz crystals. It is interesting to note that topaz was formed



ru = rutile  
bo, ga = bournonite, galena  
to = topaz  
di = dickite  
do = dolomite

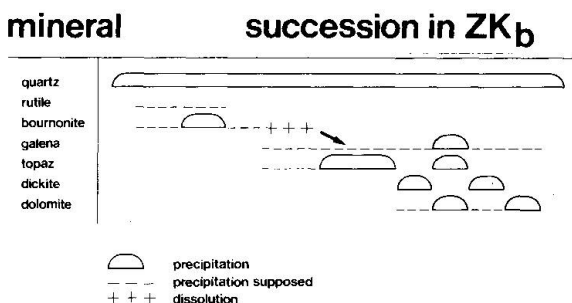


Fig. 2 Solid inclusions in fissure quartz and possible mineral succession.

preferentially before dickite or between several dickite layers, but never coexisted with dickite. Dolomite formation may be related to CO<sub>2</sub>-rich fluid inclusions with variable gas content (type 4 a-b) and sulfide minerals (probably galena, tetrahedrite).

#### 4. Description of Topaz

##### 4.1. GENERAL CHARACTERIZATION

Topaz forms transparent yellowish to brown-orange, prismatic, needle-like crystals with a maximal length of 1.5 cm (Fig. 3). Ty-



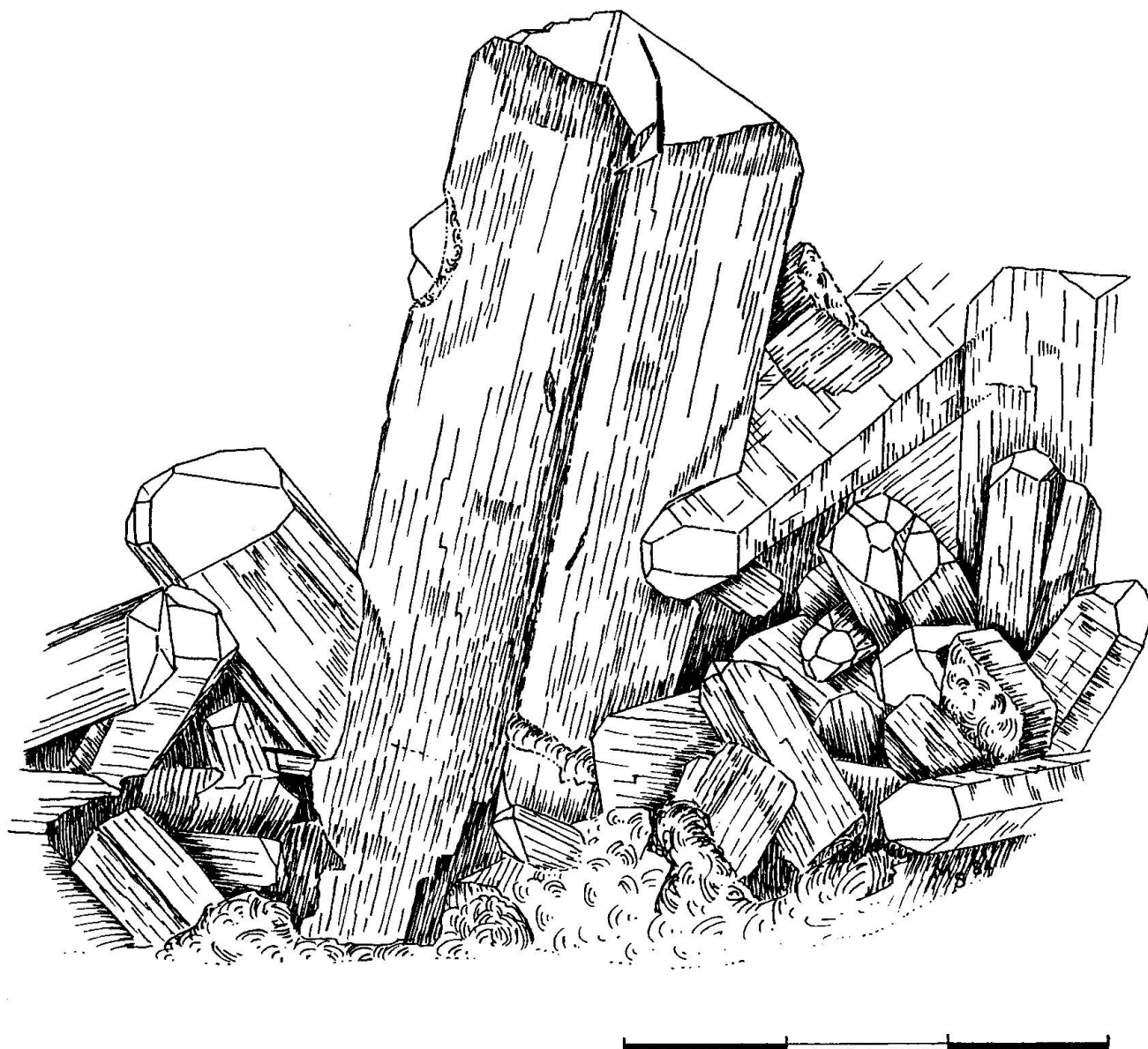


Fig. 3 Topaz and quartz specimen from Lugnez, scale mark = 3 mm.

pical forms are the prisms  $m$  (110),  $l$  (120),  $f$  (011) and dipyrarnides  $u$  (112). The pyramidal terminations display characteristically orthorhombic etch figures. Deep etch pits on the prisms are by far less frequent (Fig. 4).

On a single quartz specimen of  $4.5 \times 3$  cm more than 100 topaz crystals between 1 and 10 mm length were observed. Most of them are intergrown with quartz and carbonates or cover the dolomite wallrock. Topaz has inclusions of dolomite and galena pseudomorph after bournonite.

In topaz thin sections viewed in (001) sectoral textures are recognized, which are typical for optically "anomalous" topaz (RINNE, 1926). According to AKIZUKI et al. (1979) and NEDER and BUSEK (1986) these sectors are dif-

ferentiated primarily on the base of (F, OH) ordering and reveal varying optic axial angles. However, X-ray and optical determinative curves for OH/F in topaz cannot be applied on such ordered crystals (AKIZUKI et al., 1979).

#### 4.2. EXPERIMENTAL

Several topaz crystals were heated for four hours at  $950^\circ\text{C}$  to disorder OH/F and in turn to obtain material with uniform optical behavior (RINNE, 1926). Thermogravimetric experiments of HAMPAR and ZUSSMAN (1984) on topaz with a similar chemical composition (their T 20) indicated no significant weight loss below  $1000^\circ\text{C}$ .

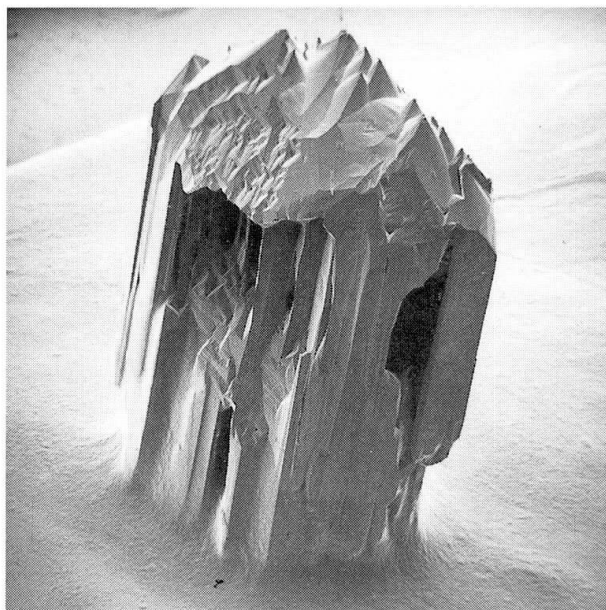


Fig. 4 Lugnez topaz with etch pits on prisms and di-pyramid; size of crystal 1.5 mm. Photo by F. Zweili, Berne (No 2414/12).

For optical investigation and cell dimension measurements by X-rays one single heated topaz crystal (about 300  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter) was used.

#### 4.3. OPTICAL PROPERTIES AND CELL DIMENSIONS

The topaz crystal was mounted on a glass fiber and positioned on a goniometer head. Subsequently, an extinction data set under crossed polarizers was collected on a spindle stage equipped microscope at 589.3 nm. The optic axial angle was refined with the program EXCALIBUR (BLOSS, 1981) to  $2V_z:53(1)^\circ$ . The relatively low accuracy of the optic angle is mainly attributable to the high concentration of inclusions. Optic axial angles were also measured for selected domains of unheated topaz yielding  $2V_z$  values of  $42(2)^\circ$  and  $47(3)^\circ$  respectively. Nevertheless these axial angles collected on zoned crystals are not representative (e.g. AKIZUKI et al., 1979).

Refractive indices (25°C, 589.3 nm) along the principal vibration directions X and Z were estimated by the Becke method with appropriate immersion oils yielding  $\alpha = 1.624(2)$  and  $\gamma = 1.637(2)$ . The same heated crystal was transferred to a CAD 4 (Enraf Nonius) 4-circle single-crystal diffractometer with graphite fil-

tered MoK $\alpha$ -radiation. Single crystal X-ray reflections were sharp and no additional phases could be detected, which would indicate thermal decomposition of topaz (HAMPAR and ZUSSMAN, 1984). Cell dimensions were refined from the scattering vectors of 25 reflections between  $5$  and  $25^\circ 2\theta$ .

#### 4.4. F-OH SUBSTITUTION IN LUGNEZ TOPAZ

RIBBE and ROSENBERG (1971) use the optic angle  $2V_z$ , refractive indices, b cell dimension and unit cell volume to calculate the F-concentration in topaz.

This procedure was also applied to the investigated Lugnez sample leading to fluorine concentrations between 16 and 18 wt% (Tab. 1).

Tab. 1 F-concentration in Lugnez topaz estimated from optical properties and cell dimensions according to RIBBE and ROSENBERG (1971).

		F wt %
$2V_z(^\circ)$	53	16.6
$\alpha$	1.624	18.2
$\gamma$	1.637	16.2
b (Å)	8.820	17.6
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	344.04	18.2

However, if the regression line of KONNO and AKIZUKI (1982) is used the resulting F concentration (calculated from  $2V_z$ ) is 15.7 wt% with a molar  $F/(F+OH) = 0.757$ . A possible maximal F-content of topaz is 20.7 wt%. All results indicate that the Lugnez topaz is relatively OH-rich. The highest so far recorded OH-content corresponds to approximately 30% replacement of F by OH (DEER et al., 1982).

#### 5. Fluid Inclusions

Topaz crystallization took place during a relatively early stage of fissure-quartz growth. Thus early inclusions in quartz crystals also give information about the fluid phase during topaz formation. The size of the investigated inclusions varies from 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to more than 500  $\mu\text{m}$ . At room temperature in most of the inclusions three phases can be observed: an aqueous solution with a bubble of liquid and gase-

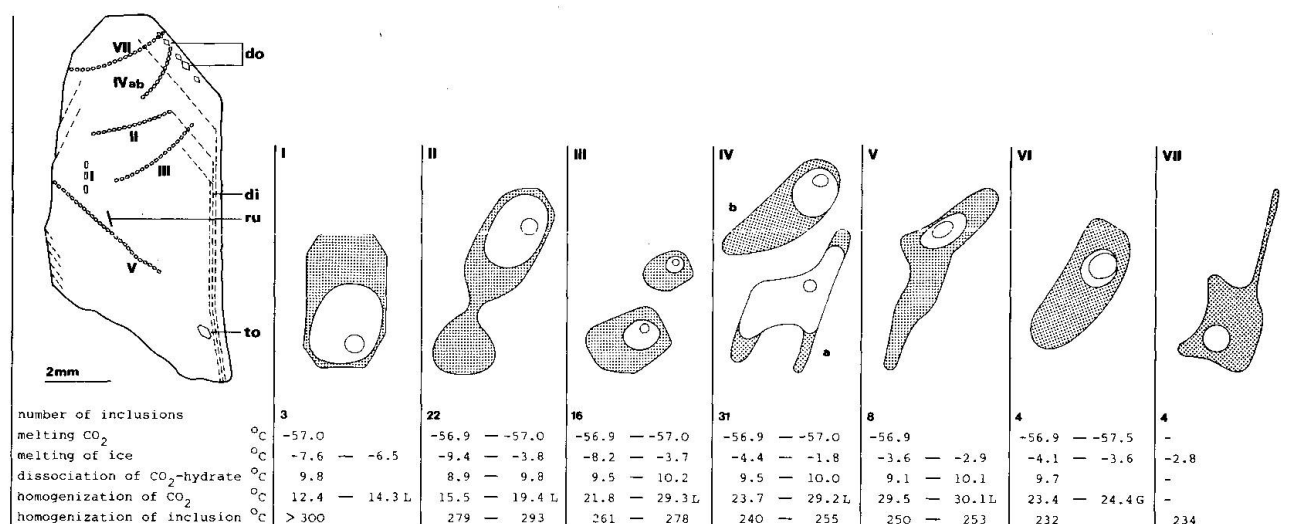


Fig. 5 Fluid evolution during quartz growth, Lugnez. Dolomite do, dickite di, rutile ru and topaz to.

ous CO<sub>2</sub>. Dolomite, topaz and red-brownish needles – presumably rutile – were recognized as syngenetic solid inclusions characterising old growth surfaces. Tiny, isometric and colorless crystals occur in several inclusions and are stable at temperatures up to 300°C. Nevertheless it seems they are real daughter minerals (probably carbonates).

### 5.1. EXPERIMENTAL

About 90 fluid inclusions were measured on four fissure quartz samples from Lugnez using a Leitz-microscope with a Chaix-Meca cooling and heating stage (POTY et al., 1976). Measured temperatures were corrected for systematic errors by measuring melting points of standard substances. Between -50° and +40°C the accuracy of the measurement is within 0.1°C, it is around 1° in the range 40–600°C. The filling

degree i.e. volume % of the liquid phase (vol) is estimated on the basis of graphical charts by ROEDDER (1984) and WALTHER (1981); accuracy is considered as ±10% of the estimated volume.

### 5.2. RESULTS

According to the temperature of homogenization (Th) and the densities of CO<sub>2</sub>, represented by the homogenization temperature of liquid and gaseous CO<sub>2</sub>, the examined fluid inclusions are classified into seven different types (Tab. 2 + Fig. 5). The position of the planes with fluid inclusions within different quartz samples allows to correlate the planes with the precipitation of other mineral phases (for example dolomite, dickite) and to put them into a chronologic order. Inclusions of type 1 are presumably orientated along old growth surfaces and supposed to be primary, all the others are pseudosecondary. The relative succession of type 4 ab and 5 cannot be determined definitely in the examined quartz samples. Results are presented in Tab. 3.

The CO<sub>2</sub>-bubbles decrease systematically from type 1 to type 7 from 35–40 to around 8 vol%. Only inclusions of type 4 ab have variable quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> from 20 to > 80 vol%, similar CO<sub>2</sub>-densities and often occur within one fluid inclusion plane. They homogenize in the CO<sub>2</sub>-rich (4a) or water-rich (4b) phase (Fig. 6 + 7a). Inclusions of this type are observed in late quartz and topaz precipitation. The coexis-

Tab. 2 Types of fluid inclusions in fissure quartz, Lugnez.

Type	ThCO <sub>2</sub> (°C)	Th (°C)
1	< 15	> 300
2	15–20	280–300
3	20–30	260–280
4 a	20–30	245–255
4 b	20–30	245–255
5	20–30	≈ 250
6	20–30	230–240
7	no CO <sub>2</sub> visible	≈ 230

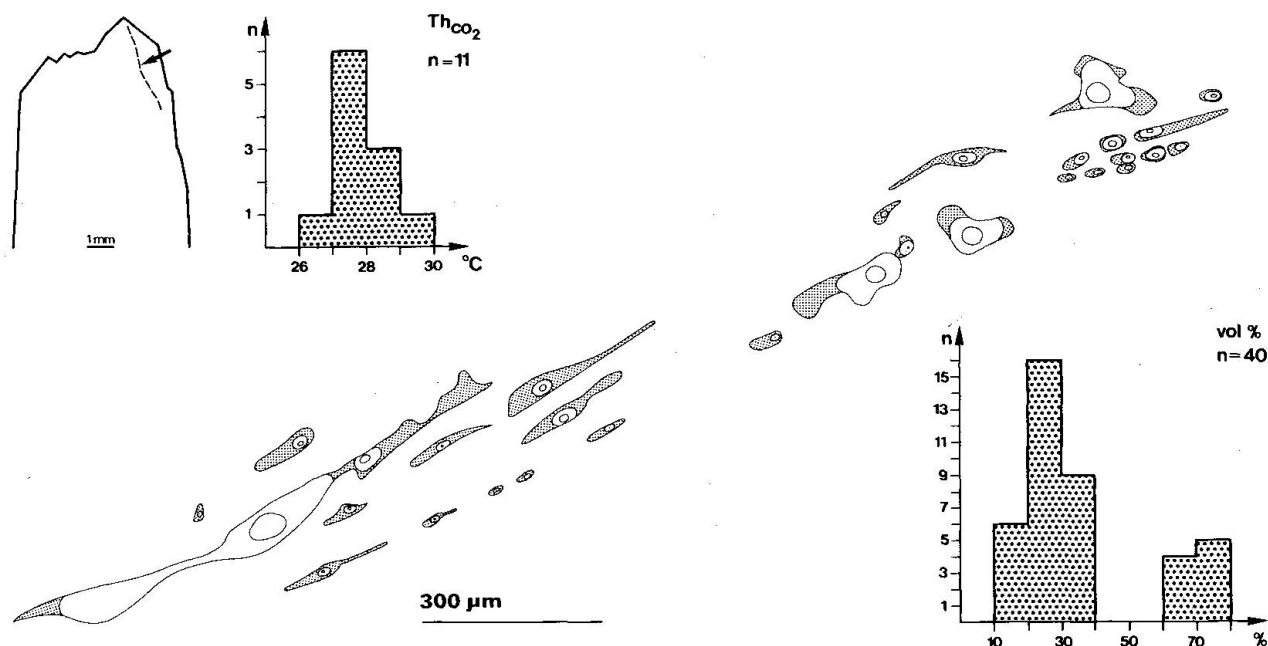


Fig. 6 Late inclusions in fissure quartz (type 4ab) with 20 to > 80 vol%  $CO_2$  (vol) and homogenization of liquid and gaseous  $CO_2$  into the liquid phase between 26.9 and 28.9°C ( $T_{hCO_2}$ ).

tence of inclusions with variable filling degree could be the effect of immiscibility at fluid trapping. On the contrary, necking down has been observed in 1–2% of all inclusions of every fluid type.

### 5.2.1. Salinity

The depression of the melting temperature of ice is a widely used method to estimate salinity in fluid inclusions (ROEDDER, 1962). In the fluid inclusions from both quartz occurrences in Lugnez, the first melting temperature ( $T_{m1}$ ) is rather constant between  $-25$  and  $-22^\circ C$ . This indicates that the dissolved salt components are dominated by NaCl and only minor amounts of other chlorides are present (ROEDDER, 1984).

The melting temperature ( $T_m$ ) of quartz inclusions in the Triassic dolomites lies between  $-9.4$  and  $-1.8^\circ C$ , in the quartzite it is around  $-2.7^\circ C$  (Fig. 7b). Early fluid types show generally lower melting temperatures than late ones. In the system  $H_2O-CO_2-NaCl$  these values cannot be used for direct estimation of the salinity of the aqueous solution: the main reason for this is, that in the inclusions no equilibrium-conditions can be measured. Experiments show that  $T_m$  can be varied by the speed of cooling. During this process  $H_2O$  will be in-

corporated in the  $CO_2$ -clathrate, which raises the salt content of the residual solution (COLLINS, 1979). Repeated cooling and heating below  $0^\circ C$  (this means without dissociation of  $CO_2$ -clathrate) of a single inclusion (type 3) from Lugnez showed a gradual enrichment in the salt content of the residual solution. The value of  $T_m$  decreased from  $-3.8$  to  $-21^\circ C$  which corresponds to the eutectical temperature in the system  $H_2O-NaCl$  (Fig. 7c). With each cooling step  $H_2O$  was removed from the solution and incorporated in more and more  $CO_2$ -clathrate.

It is worth noting that in the salt-free system  $H_2O-CO_2$ , the melting point of ice in presence of a liquid  $CO_2$ -phase is not  $0^\circ C$  but  $-1.48^\circ C$  (BOZZO et al., 1973).

The measurements of  $T_{m1}$  and  $T_m$  point up to three facts: the aqueous solutions have a certain salt content, the salt is mainly NaCl and the salt content seems to decrease from type 1 to type 7. In the pure, saltfree system  $H_2O-CO_2$  the  $CO_2$ -clathrate dissociates at  $10^\circ C$  and 45 bars (WIEBE and GADDY, 1940; TAKENOUCI and KENNEDY, 1965). The addition of salt components lowers this temperature ( $T_d$ ). This fact can be used to determine the real salt content in a fluid inclusion. In the quartz crystals from Lugnez the  $T_d$  is between  $+8.9$  and  $+10.2^\circ C$  (Fig. 7d). Calculated salinities according to COLLINS (1979) and BOZZO et al. (1973) are in a

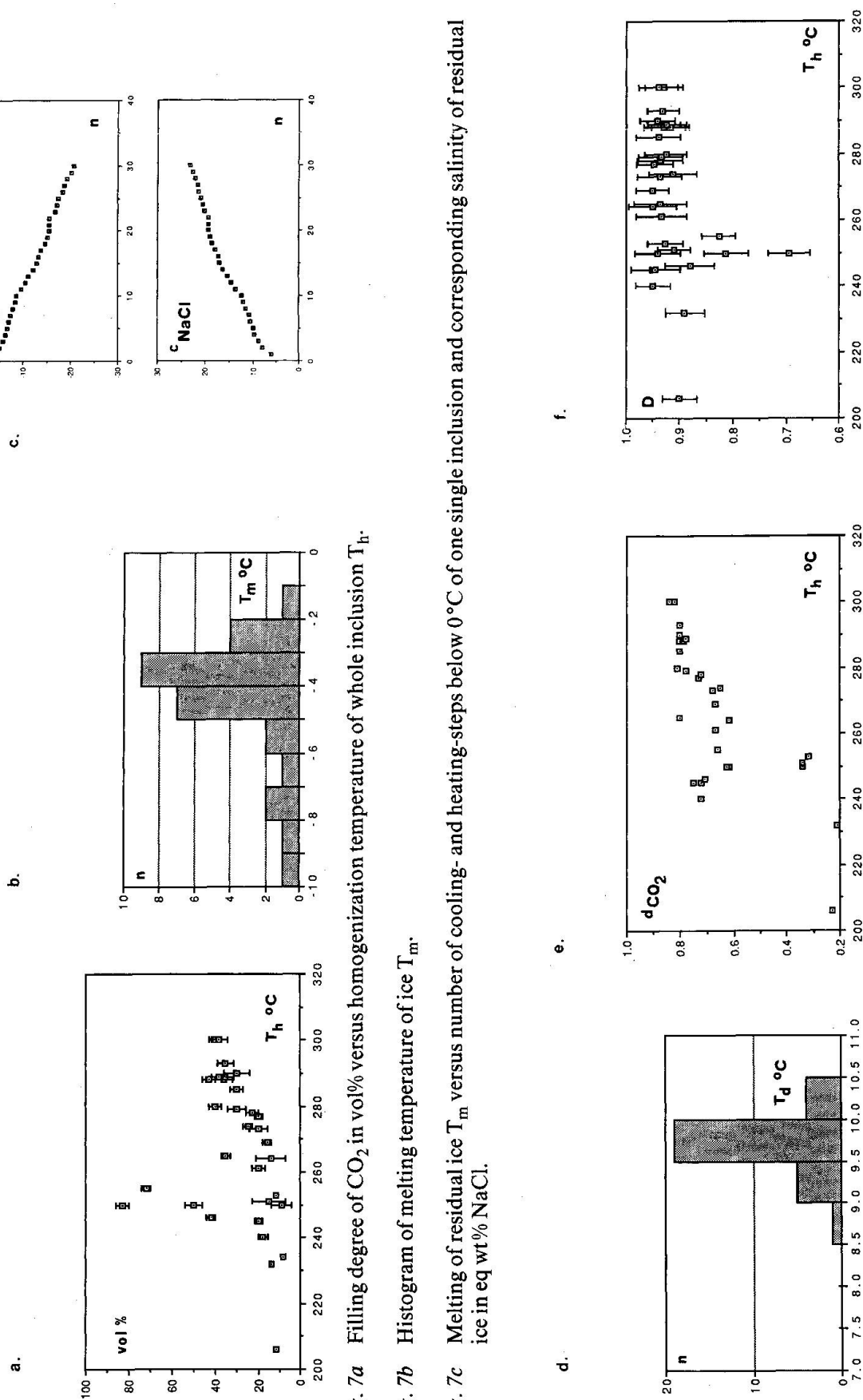


Fig. 7a Filling degree of CO<sub>2</sub> in vol% versus homogenization temperature of whole inclusion  $T_h$ .

Fig. 7b Histogram of melting temperature of ice  $T_m$ .

Fig. 7c Melting of residual ice  $T_m$  versus number of cooling- and heating-steps below 0 °C of one single inclusion and corresponding salinity of residual ice in eq wt% NaCl.

Fig. 7d Histogram of dissociation temperature of CO<sub>2</sub>-clathrate  $T_d$ .

Fig. 7e Density of CO<sub>2</sub>-rich part  $d_{CO_2}$  versus  $T_h$ .

Fig. 7f Density of homogenized inclusion D versus  $T_h$ .



relatively narrow range between 2.2 and 0.4 equivalent weight % NaCl (mean of different fluid types). They show no systematic trend during fluid evolution and are in contrast to the described values derived from the measurements of  $T_m$ . In about 10% of the measured inclusions  $T_d$  is  $> 10.0^\circ\text{C}$ . It seems that the system  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2-\text{NaCl}$  is not pure. In fact gas species like  $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ,  $\text{N}_2$ ,... shift  $T_d$  to values above  $10^\circ\text{C}$ . On crushing the quartz crystals one can smell a moderate but typical  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  odour. Only measurements by Raman spectroscopy could give quantitative values for the gas species which are microthermometrically not detectable.

For further estimations, salinities are calculated on the base of dissociation temperature of  $\text{CO}_2$ -clathrate. They are considered as minimal values for real salt content.

### 5.2.2. Carbon dioxide

$\text{CO}_2$  can be detected in nearly all inclusions. The triple point of  $\text{CO}_2$  is situated at  $-56.6^\circ\text{C}$  and decreases when other gases are added (UNRUH and KATZ, 1949; HOLLISTER and BURRUS, 1976). Measured values of  $\text{CO}_2$  melting range between  $-56.9$  and  $-57.5^\circ\text{C}$ . Values below  $-57.0^\circ\text{C}$  have been observed in late fluid type 6. The existence of minor amounts of  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  in the fluid (see above) is also supported by the occurrence of several sulfide minerals in the topaz bearing fissures.

The homogenization of the non-aqueous part is for the inclusion of type 1 to 4 in the liquid phase; the  $T_{h\text{CO}_2}$  lies between  $12.4$  and  $29.2^\circ\text{C}$  corresponding to a density from  $0.84$  to  $0.62\text{ g/cm}^3$  for pure  $\text{CO}_2$ . The inclusions of type 5 and 6 homogenize in the vapour phase; the  $T_{h\text{CO}_2}$  is between  $30.1$  and  $23.4^\circ\text{C}$ , what corresponds to a density of  $0.34$  to  $0.21\text{ g/cm}^3$  for pure  $\text{CO}_2$  (WEAST, 1980, Fig. 7e).

### 5.2.3. Density and estimated composition

The density of the whole inclusion is calculated from the filling degree and the densities of water and  $\text{CO}_2$  (TOURET, 1977). The density of water depends primarily on the salinity and can be estimated by aid of the data in POTTER and BROWN (1977). The density of the whole inclusion decreases slightly during fluid evolu-

tion from  $0.97$  to  $0.91\text{ g/cm}^3$  with an abrupt descent in fluid type 4a down to  $0.70\text{ g/cm}^3$  due to high  $\text{CO}_2$ -content (Fig. 7f).

The approximate composition of inclusions can be calculated from the filling degree and the density of  $\text{CO}_2$ , water and the salinity, and is given in mol% (see MULLIS, 1987). The concentrations of  $\text{CO}_2$  vary between 56 and 3 mol%, those of NaCl (eq) between 2.2 and 0.1 mol%. Mainly due to the unprecise estimation of the filling degree, relative errors on such calculations are considerably high i.e. around 30%.

### 5.2.4. Homogenization temperature and isochores

Except for fluids of type 4a all the other ones homogenized in the liquid, water-rich phase. Most of the inclusions of type 4a decrepitate before homogenization, but those of smaller size show a homogenization in the  $\text{CO}_2$ -rich vapour phase. This is considered as a further criterion for  $\text{CO}_2$ -water unmixing towards the end of mineralization.

Homogenization temperature of the whole fluid inclusion can be considered as minimal formation temperature, provided that the inclusion was homogenous on trapping. The measured values are from  $230$  to  $> 300^\circ\text{C}$ . To obtain the real forming temperature however a major pressure correction is necessary.

In a PT-diagram the isochores for some of the measured three-phase-inclusions have been constructed according to BOWERS and HELGESON (1983) for the pure  $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2-\text{NaCl}$  system. In the diagram are also indicated the maximal PT-conditions of the Alpine metamorphism for the wider environments of Val Lugnez (area A in Fig. 8) according to FREY et al. (1980). Finally lithostatic and hydrostatic gradients for an average density of  $2.6$  resp.  $1.0\text{ g/cm}^3$  have been calculated for different thermogradients. Minimal pressures for fluid type 1-3 are  $2.9$ - $3.2\text{ kbar}$ .

### 5.2.5. Discussion

The Lugnez topaz was formed in a low saline, preferentially NaCl-bearing, hydrothermal solution with relatively high amount of  $\text{CO}_2$ . The  $\text{CO}_2$ -content in early stage mineralization of  $> 10\text{ mol}\%$   $\text{CO}_2$  is characteristic of mesometamorphic fluid compositions in the



Tab. 3a Measured temperatures in °C.

## Dolomite

type	n	vol%	Δvol%	T <sub>m</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	ΔT <sub>m</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	ΔT <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	T <sub>d</sub>	ΔT <sub>d</sub>	T <sub>h</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	ΔT <sub>h</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>			T <sub>h</sub>	ΔT <sub>h</sub>	Sample
1	1	40	4	-57.0	0.1	-6.5	0.1	9.8	0.1	14.3	0.1	I	>	300	1	I LU 11
1	2	38	4	-57.0	0.1	-7.6	0.1	9.8	0.1	12.4	0.4	I	>	300	1	I LU 11
2	2	35	4	-57.0	0.1	-5.7	0.1	9.8	0.1	16.1	0.1	I		293	1	I LU 11
2	2	30	3	-56.9	0.1	-3.8	0.1	9.7	0.1	17.2	0.1	I		290	2	I LU 11
2	4	35	6	-56.9	0.1	-9.4	0.1	9.1	0.1	18.8	0.1	I		289	1	I LU 1
2	2	38	4	-56.9	0.1			9.0	0.1	19.4	0.1	I		289	1	I LU 1
2	2	36	4	-57.0	0.1	-5.0	0.1	9.8	0.1	16.8	0.1	I		288	1	I LU 11
2	2	43	4	-56.9	0.1			8.9	0.1	18.3	0.1	I		288	1	I LU 1
2	3	30	3	-56.9	0.1					16.6	0.1	I		285	2	I LU 11
2	1	40	4	-57.0	0.1	-5.8	0.1	9.8	0.1	15.5	0.1	I	>	280	1	I LU 11
2	3	30	3	-57.0	0.1	-4.5	0.1	9.8	0.1	18.7	0.1	I		279	4	I LU 11
2	1	35	4	-56.9	0.1	-7.2	0.1	9.1	0.1	16.2	0.1	I	>	265	1	I LU 1
3	2	23	3	-56.9	0.1			9.8	0.1	23.8	0.1	I		278	1	I LU 11
3	5	20	4	-56.9	0.1	-4.8	0.1	9.7	0.1	23.6	0.1	I		277	2	I LU 11
3	1	25	3	-57.0	0.1	-3.5	0.1	9.8	0.1	28.0	0.1	I		274	1	I LU 11
3	1	20	2	-56.9	0.1	-4.3	0.5	9.8	0.1	26.7	0.1	I		273	1	I LU 11
3	2	16	2	-56.9	0.1	-3.9	0.1	9.5	0.1	27.3	0.1	I		269	1	I LU 1
3	2	14	2	-56.9	0.1	-8.2	0.3	9.5	0.2	29.3	0.1	I		264	1	I LU 1
3	1	20	2	-56.9	0.1					27.2	0.1	I		261	1	I LU 1
3	1	20	2	-56.9	0.1	-4.3	0.1			22.0	0.1	I	>	245	1	I LU 1
3	1	30	3	-56.9	0.1	-3.7	0.1	10.2	0.1	21.8	0.1	I				I LU 14
4a	8	72	7	-57.0	0.1	-2.4	0.2	10.0	0.1	27.7	0.2	I		255	2	g LU 11
4a	1	50	5	-57.0	0.1	-1.8	0.1	9.5	0.1	29.2	0.1	I	>	250	1	g LU 11
4a	2	83	8	-56.9	0.1	-2.3	0.1	10.0	0.1	28.7	0.2	I	>	250	1	g LU 11
4a	10	68	7							27.2	0.3	I				I LU 13
4a	3	42	3	-56.9	0.1	-3.3	0.1	9.6	0.1	24.6	1.1	I		246	1	I LU 1
4b	5	20	4	-57.0	0.1	-4.4	0.1	9.8	0.1	24.2	0.1	I		245	1	I LU 11
4b	2	18	2	-57.0	0.1	-4.0	0.1	9.8	0.1	23.7	0.1	I		240	3	I LU 11
5	3	12	3	-56.9	0.1	-3.6	0.1	9.2	0.2	29.5	0.1	g		253	1	I LU 1
5	1	15	2	-56.9	0.1	-3.5	0.1	9.1	0.1	30.1	0.1	g		251	1	I LU 1
5	4	9	1	-56.9	0.1	-2.9	0.1	10.1	0.1	29.8	0.1	g		250	2	I LU 11
6	3	14	2	-57.5	0.1	-3.6	0.1	9.7	0.1	23.4	0.4	g		232	1	I LU 11
6	1	12	1	-56.9	0.1	-4.1	0.1			24.4	0.1	g	>	206	1	I LU 1
7	4	8	2			-2.8	0.1	9.7	0.1					234	2	I LU 11

## Quartzite

type	n	vol%	Δvol%	T <sub>m</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	ΔT <sub>m</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	T <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	ΔT <sub>m</sub> H <sub>2</sub> O	T <sub>d</sub>	ΔT <sub>d</sub>	T <sub>h</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>	ΔT <sub>h</sub> CO <sub>2</sub>			T <sub>h</sub>	ΔT <sub>h</sub>	Sample
1	9	10	2			-2.7	0.2							221	6	I LU 7
2	1	8	1	-57.3	0.1	-2.1	0.1	10.2	0.1	25.1	0.1	g	>	177	1	I LU 7

## Measured Values:

type of inclusion according to Tab 2

n : number of inclusions

vol : estimated volume of CO<sub>2</sub>-rich partT<sub>m</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> : Temperature of melting of CO<sub>2</sub>T<sub>m</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O : Temperature of complete melting of H<sub>2</sub>OT<sub>d</sub> : Temperature of dissociation of CO<sub>2</sub>-clathrateT<sub>h</sub>CO<sub>2</sub> : Temperature of homogenization of CO<sub>2</sub> into liquid (l) and gas (g) phaseT<sub>h</sub> : Temperature of homogenization of inclusion into liquid (l) and gas (g) phase

Tab. 3b Calculated values based on the measured temperatures.  $\delta$  indicates always the uncertainty, i.e.  $\pm \delta$  in absolute values.

## Dolomite

type	cNaCl*	$\partial$ cNaCl*	cNaCl**	$\partial$ cNaCl**	dH <sub>2</sub> O*	$\partial$ dH <sub>2</sub> O*	dCO <sub>2</sub>	$\partial$ dCO <sub>2</sub>	D	$\partial$ D	CO <sub>2</sub>	$\partial$ CO <sub>2</sub>	NaCl	$\partial$ NaCl	
1	9.8	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.82	0.01	0.929	0.031	19.6	8.1	0.1	0.2	PT
1	11.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.84	0.01	0.940	0.032	18.8	8.2	0.1	0.2	
2	8.8	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.80	0.01	0.931	0.034	16.5	7.7	0.1	0.2	
2	6.1	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.002	0.002	0.80	0.01	0.941	0.036	13.9	5.9	0.2	0.3	
2	13.3	0.1	1.8	0.2	1.011	0.002	0.78	0.01	0.930	0.036	16.2	10.8	0.5	0.4	
2			2.0	0.2	1.013	0.002	0.78	0.01	0.924	0.036	17.8	7.7	0.5	0.3	
2	7.9	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.80	0.01	0.929	0.033	17.0	7.8	0.1	0.2	
2			2.2	0.2	1.014	0.007	0.79	0.01	0.918	0.030	20.9	8.1	0.6	0.3	
2							0.80	0.01	0.940	0.036	13.8	6.0			*
2	8.9	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.81	0.01	0.925	0.031	19.5	8.1	0.1	0.2	
2	7.2	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.78	0.01	0.935	0.036	13.6	5.8	0.1	0.3	PT
2	10.7	0.1	1.8	0.2	1.011	0.002	0.80	0.01	0.937	0.034	16.5	7.7	0.5	0.3	
3			0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.72	0.01	0.936	0.039	9.8	5.2	0.1	0.3	
3	7.6	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.002	0.002	0.73	0.01	0.948	0.042	8.7	6.7	0.2	0.3	
3	5.7	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.65	0.01	0.913	0.039	9.9	4.9	0.1	0.3	
3	6.9	0.8	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.68	0.01	0.937	0.041	8.3	3.6	0.1	0.3	PT
3	6.3	0.1	1.0	0.2	1.005	0.002	0.67	0.01	0.951	0.043	6.8	3.5	0.3	0.3	
3	12.0	0.4	1.0	0.4	1.005	0.003	0.62	0.01	0.951	0.044	5.8	3.2	0.3	0.6	
3							0.67	0.01	0.934	0.041	8.2	3.6			*
3	6.9	0.1					0.75	0.01	0.950	0.040	8.9	3.1			*
3	6.0	0.1					0.75	0.01	0.925	0.036	13.2	5.7			*
4a	4.0	0.3					0.66	0.01	0.827	0.031	45.1	19.3			*
4a	3.1	0.1	1.0	0.2	1.005	0.002	0.62	0.01	0.813	0.032	21.5	8.7	0.3	0.2	PT
4a	3.9	0.1					0.63	0.01	0.693	0.031	56.1	25.6			*
4a							0.67	0.02	0.776	0.031	37.6	16.5			*
4a	5.4	0.1	0.8	0.2	1.004	0.002	0.71	0.01	0.881	0.031	18.8	5.9	0.2	0.2	
4b	7.0	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.72	0.01	0.945	0.042	8.6	8.1	0.1	0.3	
4b	6.4	0.1	0.4	0.2	1.001	0.002	0.72	0.01	0.950	0.041	7.9	3.7	0.1	0.3	
5	5.8	0.1	1.6	0.4	1.01	0.002	0.32	0.01	0.927	0.049	3.7	2.6	0.5	0.7	
5	5.7	0.1	1.8	0.2	1.011	0.002	0.34	0.01	0.910	0.045	4.3	2.1	0.6	0.3	PT
5	4.8	0.1					0.34	0.01	0.941	0.046	3.3	1.5			*
6	5.8	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.002	0.002	0.21	0.01	0.891	0.046	3.3	1.6	0.2	0.3	PT
6	6.6	0.1					0.23	0.01	0.901	0.045	3.2	1.4			*
7	4.6	0.1	0.6	0.2	1.002	0.002									PT

## Quartzite

type	cNaCl*	$\partial$ cNaCl*	cNaCl**	$\partial$ cNaCl**	dH <sub>2</sub> O*	$\partial$ dH <sub>2</sub> O*	dCO <sub>2</sub>	$\partial$ dCO <sub>2</sub>	D	$\partial$ D	CO <sub>2</sub>	$\partial$ CO <sub>2</sub>	NaCl	$\partial$ NaCl	
1	4.5	0.3			1.022	0.001			0.925	0.01			2.2	0.2	
2							0.23	0.01	0.938	0.02	3.0	1.2			*

Estimated Values:

- cNaCl\* : Salinity of residual solution according to COLLINS (1979) [eq wt % NaCl]  
dH<sub>2</sub>O\* : Density of aqueous solution with salinity cNaCl\* [g/cm<sup>3</sup>]  
cNaCl\*\* : Salinity of aqueous solution calculated on T<sub>d</sub> according to BOZZO et al (1973) [eq wt % NaCl]  
dH<sub>2</sub>O\*\* : Density of aqueous solution with salinity cNaCl\*\* [g/cm<sup>3</sup>]  
dCO<sub>2</sub> : Density of homogenized CO<sub>2</sub> into the liquid (l) and gas (g) phase according to WEAST (1980) [g/cm<sup>3</sup>]  
D : Density of whole inclusion according to TOURET (1977) (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)  
CO<sub>2</sub>, NaCl : approximative composition of fluid inclusion for the pure system H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub>-NaCl (mol%) and aqueous solution with 5 wt % CO<sub>2</sub> and salinity cNaCl\*\* according to MULLIS (1987). PT: data used for isochore constructions

Alps (FREY et al., 1980). In Lugnez such CO<sub>2</sub>-rich fluids are recorded in fissure quartz within epimetamorphic dolomites a few hundred meters below the thrust zone of the Pennine nappes. A mesometamorphic origin for these fluids is supported by the isochores in Fig. 8 which seem to reflect higher metamorphic conditions than those estimated for Lugnez. The formation of CO<sub>2</sub> in fluids from Alpine fissure quartz is discussed in HOEFS and STALDER (1977) and is mainly caused by decarbonation reactions, dissolution of carbonates; or is perhaps of juvenile origin.

The fluid evolution recorded in the examined quartz samples shows a retrograde behaviour with decreasing CO<sub>2</sub>-content. The crystallization of topaz and dickite was probably directed by slight shifts in pH and changes in F-fugacities.

Towards the end of mineralization occurred at around 250°C-water unmixing. There was liberated a CO<sub>2</sub>-rich phase, which was included in various gas-liquid proportions in late stage quartz and topaz. Simultaneously, dolomite and sulfide minerals were precipitated. The sudden diminution in fluid density could be caused by abrupt diminution in pressure from lithostatic to hydrostatic conditions at thermogradients of  $25 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$ . Sudden decrease in pressure and subsequent gas-water unmixing in Alpine fissures was first recognized by MULLIS (1976) in CH<sub>4</sub>-bearing skeletal quartz from Val d'Illeiez and explained with abrupt opening and fissure enlargement through tectonic activity. Skeletal quartz with variable amounts of different gas species as CH<sub>4</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub> etc. due to pressure drops and CO<sub>2</sub>-water unmixing is supposed to be widespread in the Alps (MULLIS, 1983). Unmixing of the fluid phase during Alpine metamorphism was also described by MERCOLLI (1982) and TROMMSDORFF and SKIPPEN (1986) from Campolungo area.

The PT interval between maximal conditions of Alpine metamorphism of 500–550°C and 3–5 kbar and the unmixing of the fluid phase around 250°C and 1 kbar (hydrostatic pressure) can be considered as estimation for the conditions of topaz growth in Lugnez.

## 6. Other topaz occurrences

Topaz occurs essentially in acid igneous rocks and in high or low stage hydrothermal

deposits. The F-content in natural topaz varies between 20.4 and 13.4 wt% (DEER et al., 1982). The replacement of F by OH depends on pressure, temperature and fugacities of HF and H<sub>2</sub>O (ROSENBERG, 1972).

The Lugnez topaz has been found as a hydrothermal mineral in an Alpine fissure, crystallized at the end of the Alpine orogeny. The topaz is relatively OH-rich with a molar value of  $F/(F+OH) = 0.757$ , calculated from  $2V_z$  after heat-treatment. In the following, the Lugnez topaz should be compared with similar topaz crystallizations.

The alpine topaz studied by ZEMANN et al. (1979) from pegmatoid quartz-dikes in Untersulzbachtal was optically homogenous even without heat treatment  $a = 4.6651$  (11) Å,  $b = 8.8381$  (39) Å,  $c = 8.3984$  (65) Å. A microprobe analysis indicated  $F/(F+OH) = 0.72$  which is in agreement with the b-axis dimension according to RIBBE and ROSENBERG (1971) leading to 15.8 wt% F. Topaz from Ouro Preto/Brasil described in THOMAS (1982) shows similar F-content of 16.0 wt% and homogenization temperatures of fluid inclusions about  $270 \pm 11^\circ\text{C}$ . The experimental data of ROSENBERG (1972) indicate that OH-rich/F-poor topaz forms preferentially in low temperature conditions. This is also confirmed by the fluid inclusion measurements on coexisting quartz.

Another similarity between the Austrian topaz and our sample is the assemblage with dickite (MEIXNER, 1978). In the Swiss Alps dickite has been described from ankerite-rich fissures in the Gotthard-Tunnel (GRAESER and STALDER, 1974; STALDER et al., 1980). Dickite is reported from Kansas as void-filling mineral in limestones intruded by igneous rocks (HAYES, 1967) and as cement and vein-filling silicate in epigenetic sandstones (SHUTOV et al., 1970). KANTOROWICZ (1984) describes dickite as authigenic clay mineral in jurassic sandstones and relates dickite formation to the reaction of CO<sub>2</sub>-bearing, acidic fluids with carbonate cemented rocks. In Lugnez similar reactions are probable and the CO<sub>2</sub>-bearing fluid is documented in inclusions from fissure quartz.

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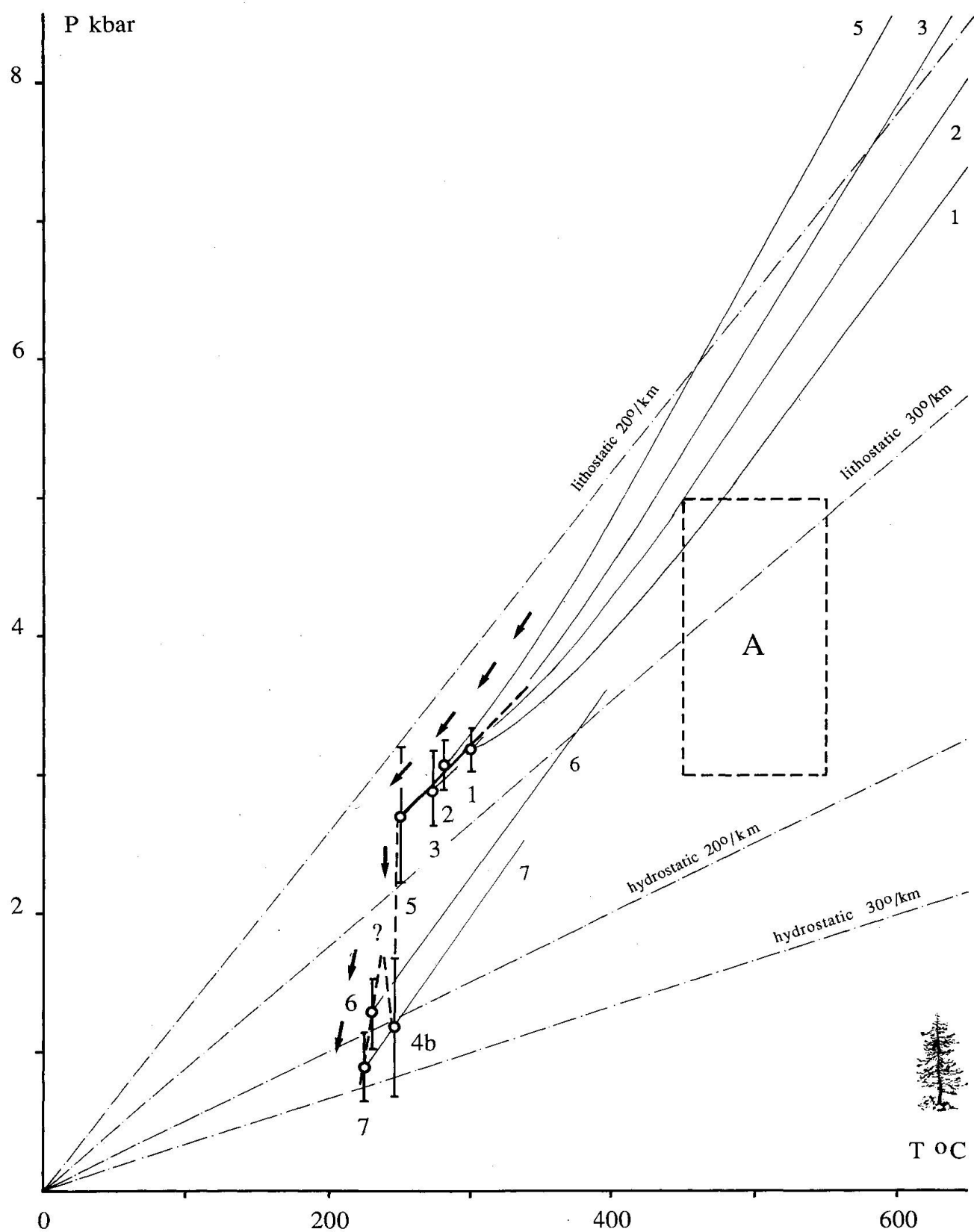


Fig. 8 Isochores in pT-diagram for different fluid types 1-7 according to BOWERS and HELGESON (1983). Field A: maximal pT-conditions for Alpine metamorphism in Lugnez according to FREY et al. (1980).

lated the plotted isochores from Fig. 8. Her help is greatly appreciated. We also thank Dr. J. Mullis, Basel, for constructive suggestions for improvement of the manuscript and Prof. W.K. Nabholz for discussions about the regional geology. B. Hurford, London, and Dr. J.J. Oberling corrected the English of this paper.

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