Research Article

Fluid Inclusions and H-O-C-S-Pb Isotope Studies of the Xinmin Cu-Au-Ag Polymetallic Deposit in the Qinzhou-Hangzhou Metallogenic Belt, South China: Constraints on Fluid Origin and Evolution

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Qinzhou-Hangzhou metallogenic belt is an important polymetallic (Cu, Mo, W, Sn, Pb, Zn, Au, and Ag) belt in South China. The Xinmin polymetallic deposit is located in the southwestern segment of this belt, which ore bodies hosted in the contact zone of granite and Lower Devonian sedimentary strata and in the structure fractured zone within the strata. Three hydrothermal stages can be distinguished: quartz+tourmaline+pyrite (early stage), tourmaline+pyrite+galena+bismuthinite+sphalerite+chalcopyrite+pyrrhotite (main stage), and quartz+calcite+dolomite (late stage). The mineralizing fluid system can be described as aqueous with medium-high salinity (2.7-50.7 wt.% NaCl equiv. in the main stage and 0.18-8.81 wt.% NaCl equiv. in the late stage) and medium-high temperature of 485°C to 205°C (main stage) and 300°C to 116°C (late stage). The trapping pressures varied from 2 MPa to 30 MPa (main stage) and 0.4 MPa to 9 MPa (late stage). The δ18O values of quartz range from 6.7‰ to 8.5‰, and the δD values for fluid inclusions in quartz range from -45‰ to -52‰. The calcite has C-isotopes ranging from -5.8‰ to +0.7‰ and O-isotopes from +12.7‰ to 21.4‰. H-O-C isotope data are consistent with a hydrothermal fluid derived from the Cretaceous granitoid magma. The δ34S values of sulﬁdes are -3.3‰ to +1.9‰. Sulfides have 206Pb/204Pb ratios of 18.377 to 18.473, 207Pb/204Pb ratios of 15.606 to 16.684, and 208Pb/204Pb ratios of 38.613 to 38.902. The S-Pb isotope data suggest derivation of S and Pb mainly from the Cretaceous granitic magma. It is concluded that the Xinmin deposit is a medium-high temperature, medium-high salinity hydrothermal polymetallic deposit, related to the granitic magmatism and strictly controlled by the fault and shattered zones.

1. Introduction

Knowledge of the sources of ore-forming components can provide valuable background information in evaluating mineral potential and target area selection in regional exploration programs [1, 2]. Light stable isotopes are widely used for tracing sources and physical-chemical peculiarities of fluids and their components in various types of hydrothermal ore deposits. Numerous studies on the O, H, C, S, and Pb isotope systematics in polymetallic deposits have been applied to trace the origin of ore-forming fluids [3–8]. The motivation for our research was to use a combination of multi-isotopes (H-O-C-S-Pb) and fluid-inclusion characteristics, to carry out the characterization of hydrothermal fluids in a polymetallic deposit. Although the target deposit of our studies, the Xinmin polymetallic is not endowed with world-class ore resources, and
it is an interesting area for study because it is a part of magmatic rock-related hydrothermal Cu-Au-Ag polymetallic ore system, with great potential for future exploration.

The Xinmin Cu-Au-Ag polymetallic deposit is located in the southeastern region of the Dayaoshan Uplift (Figure 1). Polymetallic mineralization can be divided into two types in the deposit: (1) veins in the contact zone between Pingtianshan pluton and Devonian strata and (2) layer-like ore body in the structure fractured zone of the Yujiang Formation [9, 10]. Several studies have been carried on the geology, geochemistry, and the source of metals [9–11]. However, the origin and evolution of ore-forming fluid of the Xinmin deposit are still ambiguous. Some previous studies show that the arsenopyrite and pyrite are the main auriferous minerals; meanwhile, bismuthinite is the host for silver on the basis of geochemistry from sulfide [9]. The ore-forming fluids were medium-high temperature on the basis of skarnization of rocks [9]. The ore-forming fluids were medium-high salinity on the basis of microthermometric data of similar nearby deposit [11]. Previous research is the most based on the observation of field, ore textures, and whole-rock geochemistry. There is no systematic petrographic and microthermometric data for the fluid inclusions and in situ geochemical data for the sulfide minerals. In this study, we identified three hydrothermal stages and presented a detailed sulfide and fluid inclusions study from different stages to characterize the nature of the ore-forming fluids of the Xinmin deposit and to reconstruct the temperature-pressure condition for the mineralization. In addition, based on the isotopic compositions (C-H-O-S-Pb), we try to trace the sources for ore materials and fluids and to unravel the ore-forming conditions and ore genesis.

2. Regional Geology

The Qinzhou–Hangzhou metallogenic belt (QHMB) is one of the most important metallogenic belts in South China, interpreted as a large tectonic suture zone between the Yangtze and Cathaysia blocks that has experienced multistage orogeny from the Neoproterozoic to the Mesozoic. The suture is about 2000 km long and 70–130 km wide, extending from the Qinzhou Bay in Guangxi to Hangzhou Bay in Zhejiang (Figure 1(a)). The QHMB is an intraplate polymetallic (Cu, Mo, W, Sn, Pb, Zn, Au, and Ag) belt, most of which are related to the granitic rocks spatially and temporally [12–15]. The Dayaoshan Uplift consists of weakly metamorphosed basement and is situated in the southwestern margin of the QHMB (Figure 1(a)). The strata exposed in this area consist mainly of the Neoproterozoic and the Cambrian strata, composed dominantly of greywackes with some interlayers of argillites and silty shales (Figure 1(b)). Widespread granitic intrusions in the Dayaoshan area emplaced during four stages: Caledonian (470–430 Ma), Hercynian–Indosinian (270–240 Ma), early Yanshanian (170–150 Ma), and late Yanshanian (110–90 Ma) [16]. The ore deposits related to granitoids can be divided into three metallogenic series, Caledonian (430–440 Ma) porphyry-skarn and quartz vein type W-Mo metallogenic series, early Yanshanian (145–155 Ma) porphyry type Cu-Mo(-Au) metallogenic series, and late Yanshanian (90–110 Ma) porphyry and fracture-controlled alteration type Mo-Au-Ag-Cu-Pb-Zn metallogenic series [16].
3. Deposit Geology

The Xinmin deposit is located at the southwestern of the Dayaoshan region. The strata outcropped in the mining area include the Cambrian Huandongkou Formation; Lower Devonian Lianhuashan Formation, Nagaoling Formation, Yujiang Formation; Middle Devonian Tangjiawan Formation; Upper Devonian Tianziling Formation; and the Quaternary (Figure 2). The Cambrian is composed of siltstone, argillaceous siltstone, shale, limestone, and sandstone; the Devonian consists of dolomite, limestone, marlite, siltstone, silty mudstone, argillaceous siltstone, shale, and basal conglomerate. Only a small number of Late Cretaceous granites and subvolcanic rocks are distributed in the north and northwest of the mining area (Figure 2). The Pingtianshan granite pluton, with an outcrop area of 29 km², includes biotite granite and granodiorite. The Longtoushan subvolcanic rocks, with an outcrop area of 0.5 km², consist of rhyolite porphyry and granitic porphyry. The granodiorite yielded a LA-ICP-MS zircon U-Pb age of 96.5 ± 0.7 Ma (our unpublished data), which is consistent with the age of rhyolite porphyry and granitic porphyry [17, 18] and its geochemistry indicates that it belongs to the highly potassic and strongly peraluminous series [17]. The occurrence of ore bodies in the Xinmin deposit is strictly controlled by the EW-trending faulted and shattered zone between the Pingtianshan granodiorite pluton and the Devonian Formation and the NS-trending fault in the area (Figure 3). The EW-trending faulted and shattered zone, which inclines 70°-80° to the south and extends up to 1 km, is in the southeastern part of the mining area. The NS-trending fault, which is filled by the granite porphyry and mineralized tourmaline-quartz vein and extends up to 0.5-2.0 km, is located in the western part of the mining area. Twelve ore bodies have been identified in the mining area.

Figure 2: Simplified geological map of the Xinmin area showing the location of the Xinmin and other deposits (modified from [17]).
The largest ore body (No. 6), NS-trending, with the inclination of the north at an angle of 65°-85°, expands more than 2.65 km in length and 0.5-5 m in width, and the average grades of which are 380 g/t Ag, 0.50 g/t Au, and 0.74% Cu [9].

The breccia- and vein-type ores in the Xinmin deposit are the main ore types with multiple sulfides (Figures 4(a)–4(c)). In the breccia-ore, breccias include sulfides, quartz and tourmaline. The matrix is tourmaline-granite porphyry, similar with the Longtoushan subvolcanic rock (Figure 4(b)). The main sulfides include pyrite, bismuthinite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, marcasite, and galena (Figures 4(d)–4(i)), and minor arsenobismite and argentite are also reported [9]. The large, euhedral pyrite (PyI) grains disseminated in the tourmaline+quartz rock (Figures 4(h) and 4(j)). The subhedral pyrite (PyII) intergrows with chalcopyrite and sphalerite (Figure 4(f)). The chalcopyrite commonly occurs within sphalerite as exsolation (Figure 4(f)). The main gangue minerals are tourmaline, quartz, chlorite, actinolite, biotite, anatase, apatite, and tremolite (Figures 4(g) and 4(j)–4(i)). The hydrothermal alterations associated with Au-Ag-Cu mineralization in the Xinmin deposit mainly include tourmalinization, chloritization, carbonation, and silicification.

On the basis of mineral assemblages and the cross-cutting relationship, the mineralization process at the Xinmin deposit can be divided into skarn stages and hydrothermal stages. The hydrothermal stages could be subdivided into three stages, namely, (1) the early stage characterized by the assemblages of quartz+tourmaline+pyrite (PyI) (Figures 4(h) and 4(j)), (2) the main ore stage characterized by tourmaline+pyrite (PyII)+galena (GnII)+bismuthinite (BmII)+sphalerite (SpII)+chalcopyrite (CcpII)+pyrrhotite (PoII) (Figures 4(d)–4(g) and 4(i)), and (3) the late stage characterized by quartz+calcite+dolomite veins (Figure 4(k)).

The main silver-bearing minerals include nature silver (Figures 5(a) and 5(b)) and bismuthinite (Figure 5(c)), pyrite, and pyrrhotite are also reported [9]. Commonly, these minerals appeared in and between the fissures of quartz, chalcopyrite, tourmaline, and potassium feldspar (Figures 5(a)–5(f)). The size of silver-bearing minerals varies

![Figure 3: Geological map of the Xinmin polymetallic deposit.](image-url)
Figure 4: Continued.
from 1 μm to 20 μm. The main gold-bearing minerals include nature gold (Figures 5(g)–5(i)), pyrite, and arsenopyrite are also reported [9]. These minerals are disseminated in quartz, sulfides (pyrite, chalcopyrite), and tourmaline (Figures 5(g) and 5(i)). The size of nature gold varies from 1 μm to 5 μm. Fluorite frequently occurs in the surrounding area of Au/Ag-bearing minerals (Figures 5(c) and 5(e)).

4. Samples and Analytical Methods

4.1. Samples. Thirty-three samples were collected from the Xinmin deposit in the open pit and roadway. Polished blocks and thin sections were initially examined by reflected and transmitted light microscopy to characterize the mineralogy, textures, and parageneses. Eight sections of quartz from samples of the two hydrothermal mineralization stages (main stage and late stage) and six sections of sulfide from samples of three hydrothermal stages (early stage, main stage, and late stage) were selected. The analytical methods of S-H-O-C-S-Pb isotopes and fluid inclusions are cited from our previous publication [20] and are described briefly in the following sections.

4.2. Sulfur Isotope Analysis. In situ sulfur isotope analyses on sulfide minerals were conducted by the LA-MC-ICP-MS method. The diameter of the laser beam was set to 33 μm with a laser repetition rate of 10 Hz, and the ablation process was set to last for 40 s [20]. The standard-sample-standard bracketing method was used to calibrate the mass bias of the instrument and the fractionation of isotopes. The sphalerite standard NBS-123 ($\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{V-CDT}} = 17.0\%\text{oo}$, [21]) and natural pyrite standard WS-1 (in-house standard, $\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{V-CDT}} = 0.9\%\text{oo}$, [22]) were used as the external standard. The $\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{V-CDT}}$ value of sphalerite was calibrated by NBS-123 and pyrite, galena, and chalcopyrite by WS-1. The $\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{V-CDT}}$ value of NBS-123 calibrated through the WS-1 is 17.0 ± 0.5 %, which indicates that the matrix effect of different sulfides is not obvious [20]. The sulfur isotope data are reported in delta notation (‰) relative to Vienna Canyon Diablo Troilite (V-CDT). The analytical precision (1σ) was about ±0.1‰ and detailed analytical conditions and procedures can be seen in [20–23].

4.3. H-O-C Isotope Analysis. Hydrogen and oxygen isotopes of quartz and carbon and oxygen isotopes of calcite were measured at the Institute of Mineral Resources, Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences. Hydrogen isotope ratios of water decrepitated from quartz-hosted inclusions were measured by the zinc reduction method at 410°C and analyzed using a MAT 253 mass spectrometer. Oxygen isotope ratios of quartz were measured followed the BrF$_3$ method described by [24]. The oxygen and hydrogen isotope data are reported in standard δ notation (‰) relative to the Vienna Standard Mean Ocean Water (V-SMOW). The analytical precision (2σ) is estimated to be better than ±2‰ for δD and ±0.2‰ for δ18O. Carbon and oxygen isotope ratios of calcite were measured after the calcite reaction with pure phosphoric acid to produce CO$_2$. The analytical precision (2σ) are ±0.2‰ for δ13C and ±0.2‰ for δ18O. Carbon and oxygen isotope compositions are reported relative to V-PDB, and $\delta^{18}$O$_{V-SMOW}$ values are calculated using the following equation: $\delta^{18}$O$_{V-SMOW} = 1.03092 \times \delta^{18}$O$_{V-PDB} + 30.92$ [25].

4.4. Lead Isotope Analysis. The lead isotopic compositions of three pyrites, one sphalerite, one galena, one pyrrhotite, one bismuthine samples, and two granodiorite samples have been analyzed on a Neptune Plus MC-ICP-MS at Wuhan Center of China Geology Survey. Sulfide samples were completed dissolved by HNO$_3$, rock samples by HNO$_3$+HF and purified by cation-exchange resin using the same purification procedures. The standard errors of data were calculated by the software of Neptune through analyses of 40 data types (4 blocks, 10 cycles) [20]. In the 200 ppb Pb solution, the signal intensity of 208Pb was approximately 6 V, whereas in the blank solution the 208Pb signal was approximately 20 mV. Standard Tl NBS997 ($^{203}$Tl/$^{205}$Tl = 0.418922) is added to
Figure 5: Continued.
analyses [20]. Instrumental settings were kept constant during all
measurements and laser Raman spectroscopic analyses.

4.5. Fluid Inclusion Studies. Eleven double-polished thin sec-
tions (about 200 μm thick) associated with two hydrothermal stages were examined under transmitted light to identify the phase, shape, size, and distribution [20]. Eight double-polished thin sections were selected for microthermometric measurements and laser Raman spectroscopic analyses.

Fluid inclusion petrographic studies were carried out in Wuhan Center, China Geology of Survey. Microthermometric measurements were conducted by a Linkam THMSG 600 heating-freezing stage (from -196°C to 550°C) mounted on a Leica DM2700P microscope [20]. The heating-freezing stage calibration is carried out at -56.6°C, 0.0°C, and 374.1°C using the standard of synthetic Fls supplied by FLUID INC, USA. During heating/freezing runs, the heating/freezing rate was generally constrained at 0.2-5°C/min but was reduced to <0.2°C/min near the phase transformation [20]. Ice-melting temperatures were obtained at a heating rate of less than 0.1°C/min and homogenization temperature at a rate of <1°C/min. Salinities were calculated using the equation of [27] for aqueous inclusions and NaCl-aqueous inclusions. Densities (g/cm³) and pressures were estimated using the equation of [28–30].

Laser Raman spectroscopic analyses of Fls were carried out at the State Key Laboratory of Geological Processes and Mineral Resources, China University of Geosciences, Wuhan, using a DXR laser Raman spectrometer manufactured by the Thermo Fisher Scientific Company, with a 54.5 nm Ar+ ion laser as the excitation source operating at 20 mW [20]. The exposure time was 20-40 s and ranged from 50 to 3500 cm⁻¹. Spectrograph aperture was defined as 50 μm pinhole. Instrumental settings were kept constant during all analyses [20].

5. Results

5.1. Sulfur Isotopic Compositions of Sulfides. Sulfides from the Xinmin deposit displayed a narrow range of δ34S values (Table 1, Figure 6). The δ34S values of euhedral pyrite (PyI) in the veins of country rock show a range from -1.9 to 1.2‰ (n = 8, avg. 0.2‰). The δ34S values of anhedral sulfides (pyrrhotite, pyrite, sphalerite, chalcopyrite, galena, and bismuthinite) in the main ore stage show a range from 1.2 to 1.7‰ (n = 4, avg. 1.3‰), -0.8 to 1.9‰ (n = 7, avg. 0.2‰), -1.0 to 0.6‰ (n = 8, avg. -0.1‰), -1.4 to 0.2‰ (n = 8, avg. -0.6‰), -3.3 to -1.9‰ (n = 4, avg. -2.9‰), and -3.2 to -1.4‰ (n = 8, avg. -2.5‰), respectively. The isotopic composition of H2S in ore fluids equilibrated with PyI was calculated using a temperature of 350°C, and PolI, PyII, SpII, CcpII, GnII, and BmII using a temperature of 250°C, and the fractionation equations of [31]. The resulting δ34S values range from -2.9‰ to +1.9‰ (n = 46, avg. -0.6‰).

As a whole, the average δ34S values of different sulfide minerals in the Xinmin deposit show a decreasing sequence of δ34S values (δ34SPyI (0.2‰) > δ34SSpI (−0.1‰) > δ34ScpI (−0.6‰) > δ34SGnI (−2.9‰)), which is consistent with the δ34S enrichment at the equilibrium conditions of sulfur isotope fractionation [32]. Hence, the sulfur isotopic equilibrium temperatures (161°C to 273°C) of mineral pairs (sphalerite and galena, Figure 7), calculated using the fractionation equation, record their formation temperatures.

5.2. H-O Isotopes of Quartz and C-O Isotopes of Calcite. The δD values of fluid inclusion water in quartz range from -45‰ to -52‰ (Table 2). The δ18O values of quartz range from +12.5‰ to +14.3‰ (Table 2). The calculated δ18O values of water vary from +6.7‰ to +8.5‰ and +3.0‰ to 4.8‰, respectively, using the equilibrium fractionation equation of quartz water at 350°C and 250°C [32]. On a plot of δD
vs. δ18O, the data fall in the fields of magmatic water and peraluminous granite water (Figure 8).

The δ13C_V_PDB values of calcite range from -5.8‰ to +0.7‰ (Table 2). The δ18O_V_SMOW values of calcite range from +12.6‰ to +21.4‰ (Table 2, Figure 9). The hydrothermal fluid δ18O values were estimated according to the equilibrium fractionation equation of calcite-fluid at 250°C [36]. The δ18O_fluid values range from +5.2‰ to +13.9‰.

5.3. Lead Isotopic Compositions of Sulphides and Granodiorite. Sulphides (pyrrhotite, pyrite, galena, and bismuthinite) and the Late Cretaceous granodiorite from the Xinmin deposit show a narrow range of lead isotopic variation (Table 3, Figure 10). The ratios of 206Pb/204Pb, 207Pb/204Pb, and 208Pb/204Pb for sulphides change from 18.377 to 18.473, 15.606 to 16.684, and 38.613 to 38.902, respectively. The Late Cretaceous granodiorite shows a relatively higher 206Pb/204Pb, 207Pb/204Pb, and 208Pb/204Pb ratios, from 18.627 to 18.632, 15.652 to 15.671, and 38.833 to 38.902, than some of the sulphides. The estimated primary Pb isotopic composition of granodiorite, according to the content of uranium, thorium, lead, and the magmatism age, is similar with most of the sulphides (Figure 10).

Table 1: Sulfur isotope data of sulphide minerals from the Xinmin deposit.

| Number | Sample ID | Mineral | δ34S_V_CDT (‰) | δ34S_H2S (‰) |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| 1      | XM-24-1   | PyI     | -0.3           | -1.3           |
| 2      | XM-7-4    | PyI     | 0.5            | -0.5           |
| 3      | XM-33-4   | PyI     | -1.9           | -2.9           |
| 4      | XM-13-8   | PyI     | 1.2            | 0.1            |
| 5      | XM-10-1   | PyI     | 0.7            | -0.3           |
| 6      | XM-10-2   | PyI     | 0.8            | -0.3           |
| 7      | XM-10-3   | PyI     | 0.3            | -0.7           |
| 8      | XM-7-2    | BmII    | -2.3           | -0.4           |
| 9      | XM-7-3    | BmII    | -2.8           | -0.9           |
| 10     | XM-1-1    | BmII    | -3.1           | -1.2           |
| 11     | XM-1-5    | BmII    | -3.2           | -1.4           |
| 12     | XM-33-9   | BmII    | -2.5           | -0.6           |
| 13     | XM-33-10  | BmII    | -2.4           | -0.5           |
| 14     | XM-13-2   | BmII    | -2.4           | -0.5           |
| 15     | XM-13-7   | BmII    | -1.4           | 0.5            |
|        | Average   |         | -2.5           | -0.6           |
| 16     | XM-1-3    | CcpII   | -0.2           | -0.1           |
| 17     | XM-1-8    | CcpII   | 0.2            | 0.4            |
| 18     | XM-24-2   | CcpII   | -0.6           | -0.4           |
| 19     | XM-33-5   | CcpII   | -0.7           | -0.5           |
| 20     | XM-33-9   | CcpII   | -0.1           | 0.1            |
| 21     | XM-13-3   | CcpII   | -1.1           | -0.9           |
| 22     | XM-13-4   | CcpIII  | -1.0           | -0.8           |
| 23     | XM-13-5   | CcpIII  | -1.4           | -1.2           |
|        | Average   |         | -0.6           | -0.4           |
| 24     | XM-24-4   | GnII    | -3.0           | -0.7           |
| 25     | XM-24-5   | GnII    | -3.3           | -1.0           |
| 26     | XM-33-3   | GnII    | -3.3           | -1.0           |
| 27     | XM-33-8   | GnII    | -1.9           | 0.4            |
|        | Average   |         | -2.9           | -0.6           |
| 28     | XM-1-6    | PoII    | 1.3            | 0.9            |
| 29     | XM-33-1   | PoII    | 1.2            | 0.8            |
| 30     | XM-33-7   | PoII    | 1.7            | 1.3            |
| 31     | XM-13-6   | PoII    | 1.3            | 0.9            |
|        | Average   |         | 1.3            | 1.0            |
| 32     | XM-7-1    | PyII    | 1.9            | 0.4            |
| 33     | XM-1-7    | PyII    | 0.6            | -0.8           |
| 34     | XM-13-1   | PyII    | 1.3            | -0.2           |
| 35     | XM-10-1   | PyII    | -0.2           | -1.7           |
| 36     | XM-10-2   | PyII    | -0.8           | -2.3           |
| 37     | XM-10-3   | PyII    | -0.8           | -2.2           |
| 38     | XM-10-4   | PyII    | -0.8           | -2.2           |
|        | Average   |         | 0.2            | -1.1           |
| 39     | XM-1-2    | SpII    | -0.7           | -1.0           |
| 40     | XM-1-4    | SpII    | -0.3           | -0.7           |
| 41     | XM-24-3   | SpII    | -1.0           | -1.4           |

Table 1: Continued.

| Number | Sample ID | Mineral | δ34S_V_CDT (‰) | δ34S_H2S (‰) |
|--------|-----------|---------|----------------|----------------|
| 42     | XM-24-6   | SpII    | 0.1            | -0.3           |
| 43     | XM-24-7   | SpII    | 0.1            | -0.3           |
| 44     | XM-7-5    | SpII    | -0.1           | -0.5           |
| 45     | XM-33-2   | SpII    | 0.6            | 0.2            |
| 46     | XM-33-6   | SpII    | 0.5            | 0.2            |
|        | Average   |         | -0.1           | -0.5           |

Figure 6: Histogram showing the distribution of measured δ34S for different mineralization stages at the Xinmin deposit. Mineral abbreviations (after [19]): Bm: bismuthinite; Ccp: chalcopyrite; Gn: galena; Po: pyrrhotite; Py: pyrite; Sp: sphalerite.
5.4. Fluid Inclusions

5.4.1. Type and Occurrence of Fluid Inclusions. Petrographic study of fluid inclusions was conducted with an optical microscope. All samples contain abundant primary and pseudosecondary inclusions. In general, the primary FIs were identified by their occurrence in crystal growth zones of the host mineral or as the isolated inclusions, while secondary FIs present as penetrating crystal boundaries (Figures 11(a)–11(c)). These FIs vary from 4 μm to over 25 μm; most of them are 8 μm to over 20 μm in size. Most FIs only have liquid and vapour two phases; minor FIs of quartz from the main ore stage has salty daughter mineral (Figure 11(d)).

5.4.2. Laser Raman Spectroscopy. Laser Raman spectroscopy analyses were carried out to constrain the fluid inclusion
compositions of representative samples from two hydrothermal stages. The results show that minor CO₂ was observed in the main stage quartz (Figure 12(a)), whereas the gas phase of the two-phase fluid inclusions in the late stage vein quartz contains minor CO₂ with the peak of 1283 and 1386 cm⁻¹ and also CH₄ with the peak of 2915 cm⁻¹ (Figures 12(a)–12(c)).

5.4.3. Microthermometry. The microthermometric results, calculated salinities and densities of FIs of the main ore stage and late stage, are shown in Table 4 and Figures 13 and 14. In the main ore stage, these FIs yield the ice-melting temperature ($T_{m-ice}$) from -19.3°C to -1.6°C, and their salinities are estimated to be 2.7 to 50.7 wt.% NaCl equivalent by the equation of [27]. Except 4 fluid inclusions, most FIs homogenized into liquid phase at temperature ($T_h$) of 205°C to 485°C. Their densities are acquired, fluctuating from 0.55 to 1.09 g/cm³. In the late stage, ice-melting temperature ($T_{m-ice}$) of FIs range from -5.7°C to -0.1°C, with corresponding salinities from 0.18 to 8.81 wt.% NaCl equivalent. Except 1 fluid inclusion, most FIs homogenized into liquid phase at temperature ($T_h$) of 116°C to 300°C, and their densities are 0.76 to 0.98 g/cm³ (Table 4).

6. Discussion

6.1. Source of Ore Fluids. Gold, silver, and copper are transported predominantly by sulfur ligands in reduced and mesothermal aqueous-carbonic solutions [31, 32]. The sulfur isotopic composition of sulfides can, therefore, provide valuable information on the source, transport, and precipitation of these elements. The sulfur isotopic compositions of representative samples from two hydrothermal stages show distinct isotopic signatures, indicating different sources and conditions for each stage.

| Sample ID | Mineral | ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb | ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb | ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb | ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb | ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb | ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb |
|-----------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| XM-1      | Pyrite  | 18.460      | 0.003       | 15.684      | 0.003       | 38.902      | 0.007       |
| XM-1      | Bismuthinite | 18.454    | 0.003       | 15.675      | 0.002       | 38.844      | 0.007       |
| XM-12     | Pyrite  | 18.473      | 0.004       | 15.661      | 0.004       | 38.797      | 0.01        |
| XM-24     | Pyrite  | 18.377      | 0.004       | 15.606      | 0.004       | 38.613      | 0.008       |
| XM-24     | Sphalerite | 18.38      | 0.005       | 15.667      | 0.007       | 38.892      | 0.017       |
| XM-24     | Galena  | 18.378      | 0.002       | 15.613      | 0.002       | 38.637      | 0.004       |
| XM-33     | Pyrrhotite | 18.428     | 0.003       | 15.616      | 0.003       | 38.674      | 0.004       |
| XM-31A    | Granodiorite | 18.632    | 0.001       | 15.671      | 0.001       | 38.902      | 0.004       |
| XM-31B    | Granodiorite | 18.627    | 0.001       | 15.652      | 0.001       | 38.833      | 0.003       |

Table 3: Lead isotope data of sulfides and granodiorite rocks from the Xinmin deposit.\(^{206Pb/204Pb}\); calculated initial \(^{207Pb/204Pb}\); \(^{208Pb/204Pb}\); \(^{206Pb/204Pb}\); \(^{207Pb/204Pb}\); \(^{208Pb/204Pb}\); the age of granodiorite used for calculation is 96.5 Ma, and the U, Th, Pb contents of XM-31A and XM-31B are 8.4, 22, 71 ppm and 5.2, 19, 72.8 ppm, respectively.

Figure 10: Plot of \(^{207Pb/204Pb}\) versus \(^{206Pb/204Pb}\) (a) and \(^{208Pb/204Pb}\) versus \(^{206Pb/204Pb}\) (b) for the sulfides and granodiorite from the Xinmin deposit.
of gold, silver, and copper and, thus, on the genesis of the poly metallic deposits.

Our in situ sulfur isotope analyses of pyrite, chalcopyrite, pyrrhotite, galena, sphalerite, and bismuthinite reveal a narrow $\delta^{34}$S range from -3.3‰ to +1.9‰. It has been proposed that the major controls on $\delta^{34}$S values of sulfide minerals are the sulfur source, temperature, pH, and oxygen fugacity ($f_{O_2}$) [38]. The sharp change of pH and the oxygen fugacity ($f_{O_2}$) was not found in the Xinmin deposit according to the mineral assemblages. The temperatures of the main ore stage and late stage have been constrained by our microthermometric data to between 485°C to 205°C and 300°C to 116°C, respectively, displaying an obvious decreasing trend. The $\delta^{34}$S values of the hydrothermal fluid can be estimated from the measured $\delta^{34}$S of sulfides, assumed oxygen fugacity ($f_{O_2}$), and temperature conditions [31]. The estimated $\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{fluid}}$ values also display a narrow range from -2.9‰ to +1.9‰. Such sulfur isotopic composition and variation of $\delta^{34}$S$_{\text{fluid}}$ is consistent with a single homogeneous sulfur source, such as magmatic (mostly between -3‰ and 1‰, [39]) and mantle sulfur (around 0‰, [31]). Considering the Pingtianshan granite pluton and Longtoushan subvolcanic granitic porphyry occurred in the Xinmin deposit, the most reasonable sulfur source is probably magmatic sulfur which was derived from the granite magma.

The relatively uniform Pb isotopic composition of sulfide from Xinmin (Figure 10) suggests a single Pb source or large-scale hydrothermal circulation capable of homogenizing Pb from multiple reservoirs [40]. Considering the low content of uranium, thorium, lead in the sulfides, the radiogenic Pb is limited; therefore, the measured Pb isotopic ratios can represent the primary Pb isotopic composition. In the Pb-Pb isotope diagram (Figure 10), most of the Pb isotopic compositions of sulfides are compatible with the Pb isotopic composition of the Late Cretaceous granodiorite. We therefore suggest that the principal Pb source for the Xinmin ore deposit was the granitic magma. It is noted that several sulfide samples show slightly lower $^{207}$Pb/$^{204}$Pb data than the granodiorite (Figure 10), which may suggest some contribution from the country rocks.

The hydrogen-oxygen isotopic compositions of ore fluid may also imply the magmatic source characteristics (Figures 8 and 10). Oxygen isotopes of fluid in equilibrium with carbonate provide a potential approach to discern the influence of wall rocks. The $\delta^{13}$C$_{\text{V-PDB}}$ and $\delta^{18}$O$_{\text{V-SMOW}}$ values of calcite vein indicate a shift from magmatic source, implying the influence of marine carbonates (Figure 9). Also, the lower CO$_2$/H$_2$O molar ratio in the Xinmin ore fluid (Figure 12) is consistent with the typical character of degassed magma [41].

In summary, the S-H-O-C-Pb isotope compositions of sulfide fluids at Xinmin are mainly derived from a magmatic fluid. Combined with the characteristics of FIs (Figures 11–14), the Xinmin deposit belongs to medium-high temperature, medium-high salinity hydrothermal deposit related to the granitic magmatism.

6.2 Metallogenic Implications. Fluid inclusions provide critical information on the ore-forming process in the hydrothermal system. In natural systems, metals in an ore-forming fluid are generally found in complexes with aqueous Cl$^-$ and HS$^-$ and are transported in the form of metal-ligand complexes [42]. Temperature is an important factor for the stability of metal complexes and the solubility of ore-forming materials. A certain degree of cooling for the ore-forming fluids could not only destroy the stability of the metal complexes but also reduce the solubility of the

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**Figure 11:** Photomicrographs showing the types and distribution of fluid inclusions observed in the Xinmin deposit. (a) Primary aqueous inclusions in the main stage apatite. (b) Primary aqueous inclusions and secondary aqueous inclusions in the main stage quartz. (c) Primary aqueous inclusions and secondary aqueous inclusions in the late stage quartz. (d) Primary daughter mineral-bearing inclusions in the main stage quartz. Mineral abbreviations (after [19]): Ap: apatite; Qz: quartz.
ore metals, and it finally causes the precipitation of ore minerals from the hydrothermal system [43, 44]. The fluid evolution diagram for the Xinmin deposit, represented by a homogenization temperature versus salinity plot, is shown in Figure 15. There is a clear trend that the homogenization temperature and salinity of the hydrothermal fluids gradually decreased from the main stage to the late stage. The trapping pressures that we obtained also share similar variation (Figure 14(b)), dropping from 2–30 MPa to 0.4–9 MPa during the main and late stages of the hydrothermal process. Therefore, a remarkable reduction of pressure could lead to the ascension of the magmatic fluid along fault zones to higher levels, which is consistent with the geological fact that the ore bodies mostly occurred in the EW- and NS-
trending faulted and shattered zone in the Xinmin deposit. Hence, the reduction of pressure has a significant effect on the reduction of temperature for ore-forming fluids and the formation of the ore deposit.

A great number of researches were carried on the Xinmin polymetallic deposit, whereas its genesis remains controversial. On the basis of geological characteristics, stable isotopic analysis, and the mineralization temperature, there are two main views that were proposed to interpret its genesis, for example, (1) medium-high temperature skarn deposit [10] and (2) epithermal deposit [11]. However, our new data from the estimation of trapping pressure from fluid inclusions indicated that the Xinmin deposit has many differences from the typical epithermal deposit.

It has been widely accepted that the epithermal deposit generally forms at low temperatures (<300°C), medium-low salinity fluids, and relatively low mineralization press (<10 MPa) [44–46]. However, the microthermometric data in our work suggest that the ore-forming fluid in the Xinmin deposit is characterized by medium-high temperature (485°C to 205°C in main stage and 300°C to 116°C in late stage), medium-high salinity (2.7-50.7 wt.% NaCl equiv. in the main stage and 0.18-8.81 wt.% in the late stage), and low trapping pressures (2-30 MPa in the main stage and 0.4-9 MPa in the late stage). The temperature and salinity are obviously different from the epithermal deposit.

Furthermore, the occurrence of ore bodies in the Xinmin deposits is strictly controlled by the NS-trending fault

| Stage          | Mineral | Number | $T_{\text{m,ice}}$ (°C) | $T_h$ (°C) | Salinity (wt.% NaCl equiv.) | Density (g/cm$^3$) | Ph (MPa) |
|----------------|---------|--------|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Main ore stage | Qz      | 82     | -19.2 to -1.6          | 205 to 485| 2.7 to 50.7                 | 0.55 to 1.25      | 1.69 to 30.17 |
|                | Ap      | 4      | -19.3 to -16.8         | 207 to 258| 20.07 to 21.89              | 0.98 to 1.02      | 1.17 to 3.77 |
| Late stage     | Qz      | 73     | -5.7 to -0.1           | 116 to 300| 0.18 to 8.81                | 0.62 to 0.98      | 0.35 to 8.6  |

$T_{\text{m,ice}}$: ice-melting temperature; $T_h$: total homogenization temperature. All fluid inclusions, except four, homogenize into liquid phase.

![Figure 13: Histograms of homogenization temperatures ($T_h$) and salinitites of fluid inclusions in the main ore stage (a, b) and the late stage (c, d). Ap: apatite; Qz: quartz.](image-url)
and EW-trending shattered zone. The hydrothermal alterations associated with Au-Ag-Cu mineralization mainly include tourmalinization, chloritization, carbonation, and silicification. The gangue minerals include tourmaline, quartz, chlorite, apatite, and tremolite, which are not accordant with the typical characteristics of alternation in epithermal deposits [44–46], which can further rule out the possibility that the Xinmin deposit is a kind of epithermal deposit. Based on all available geological and geochemical evidence, we propose that the Xinmin polymetallic deposit belongs to a medium-high temperature hydrothermal deposit related to granitic magmatism controlled by fault and shattered zone instead of the epithermal deposit.

7. Conclusions

(1) The H-O-C-S-Pb isotope compositions indicated that the ore-forming fluids and ore metals were likely mainly derived from a magmatic-hydrothermal fluid for the Xinmin polymetallic deposit.
(2) Fluid inclusion studies indicate the homogenization temperatures and salinities in the main ore stage are 485°C to 205°C and 2.7-50.7 wt.% NaCl equiv., while in the late stage decrease to 300°C to 116°C and 0.18-8.81 wt.% NaCl equiv., respectively.

(3) The ore bodies of the Xinmin deposit strictly controlled by the NS-fault and EW-trending shattered zone, and the ore formation was due to the reduction of pressure and temperature of fluids in the hydrothermal mineralization system.

(4) The Xinmin Cu-Au-Ag polymetallic deposit belongs to medium-high temperature, medium-high salinity hydrothermal deposit related to granitic magmatism.

Data Availability
All the data in this study have been included in the paper.

Conflicts of Interest
The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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