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MATHEMATIC-STATISTICAL VALUATION OF Ni AND Co CONTENTS IN PYRRHOTITES

(Figs. 1–5)

Abstract: The presented work brings fundamental statistical characterizations (arithmetic average, dispersion, standard deviation, variation coefficient, correlation coefficient, test of lognormal distribution) of the contents of Co and Ni in pyrrhotites of various genetic groups. It was found out that by aid of the mentioned data individual genetic groups of pyrrhotites may be characterized, differences registered and mutually compared. Certain values of these characterizations (variation coefficient, coefficient of correlation) are shown to be typical of certain genetic groups of pyrrhotites.

Резюме: Предлагаемая статья приносит основные статические данные (арифметическое среднее, дисперсию, стандартное отклонение, коэффициент вариации, коэффициент корреляции, испытание логнормального разделения) содержания Co и Ni в пиротинах различных генетических групп. Было определено, что благодаря использованию приведенных данных можно характеризовать отдельные генетические группы пиротинов, замечать отличия и сравнивать их между собой. Как видно, некоторые фактические данные этих характеристик (коэффициент вариации, коэффициент корреляции) типичны для определенных генетических групп пиротипов.

The presented work is continuation of the foregoing study by the authors on geochemistry of pyrrhotites from various genetic types of ore mineralization. The total results of this investigation are summarized in the monograph „Geochemistry of Pyrrhotite of Various Genetic Types“ 1969, Publishing House of the Comenius University, Bratislava. In the quoted work are mentioned in tables all analytical data of (529) contents of several microelements in pyrrhotites especially of Co and Ni.

In this work contents of Ni and Co are statistically valued, these elements have the greatest importance from the standpoint of study of pyrrhotite genesis. We performed mathematic-statistical treating according to groups, mentioned in the individual tables of the quoted work from 1969.

The following groups of pyrrhotites are concerned:¹

1. Pyrrhotites from highly metamorphosed syngenetic pyrite deposits in aktinolitite and graphitic schists of the Malé Karpaty Mts. (Czechoslovakia).

2. Pyrrhotites from syngenetic highly metamorphosed ore mineralization in amphibolites and gneisses near the community of Heľpa (Nízke Tatry, Czechoslovakia).

3. Pyrrhotites with high contents of Ni and Co from Peklo near Habry (Czechoslovakia). The pyrrhotites are of unclear genesis, found in amphibolites (inclusion of Ni mineral in pyrrhotite was found).

4a. Metamorphogenic pyrrhotites in graphitic schists of the katacrystalline of the Passauer Wald (Federal Republic of Germany, analyses of F. Rost 1940).

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¹ Numbering of groups is identical with the numbers of tables of analyses in the quoted work from 1969. There are spectrochemical quantitative analyses carried out on grating graph Zeiss PGS-2. The method is mentioned in detail in the work by the authors *Geochemie der Pyrite einiger Lagerstätten der ČSSR*, Published House of the Slovak Academy of Science, Bratislava, 1967.

4b. Pyrrhotites from Outokumpu (Finland) of undetermined primary genesis in gneisses and mica schists. (The pyrrhotites are probably remobilized — analytical data taken over from the work by F. Hegemann 1943).

5a. Pyrrhotites from the syngenetic pyrite deposit of Smolník (Spišsko-gemerské rudohorie Mts. — Czechoslovakia). The deposit is situated in chloritic and graphitic phyllites (pyrrhotite is probably remobilized).

5b. Pyrrhotites from Zlaté Hory (East Sudetic ore region, Czechoslovakia) in epizinally to mesozonally metamorphosed crystalline schists (genetically dependent on Devonian geosynclinal volcanism).

6a. Syngenetic pyrrhotites from Bohemia and Moravia from more or less metamorphosed schists (Petřikov and others).

6b. Pyrrhotites from Bodenmais (Federal Republic of Germany) in syngenetic metamorphosed pyrite deposits with content of pyrrhotite (analyses of the authors).

7a. Pyrrhotites from Bodenmais (analyses by F. Rost 1940 and F. Hegemann 1943).

7b. Sedimentogene pyrrhotites from various localities of Europe (analysed by F. Rost 1940).

8. Pyrrhotites from various European metamorphosed sedimentogene pyrite deposits (analysed by F. Hegemann 1943).

9. Pyrrhotites from deposits of the Skellefte area (Sweden) of unclear and unequal genesis in the leptite formation (analyses taken over from S. Gavelin and O. Gabrielson 1947).

10. Pyrrhotites of liquation mineralization or with the character of sulphidic accessories in magmatites of various home and foreign deposits (analysed by the authors).

11. Pyrrhotites of the same genetic type as No. 10 (analysed by F. Hegemann 1943, H. Björlykke and S. Jarp 1950).

12. Hydrothermal plutonogene pyrrhotites, especially of the siderite mineralization of the Spišsko-gemerské rudohorie Mts. (West Carpathians, Czechoslovakia).

13. Pyrrhotites of hydrothermal pyrite-pyrrhotite mineralization from Slavošovec (area at the boundary of the Veporides and Gemerides, Czechoslovakia) probably belonging to the pre-siderite metallogenesis.

14. Pyrrhotites from hydrothermal-plutonogene deposits of Bohemia and Moravia.

15. Pyrrhotites from foreign hydrothermal-plutonogene deposits (analyses of the authors).

16. Pyrrhotites from the hydrothermal-plutonogene deposit of Coeur d'Alene, USA. (Analyses taken over from R. C. Arnold, R. G. Coleman and V. C. Fryklund 1962 and V. C. Fryklund and R. S. Harner 1955).

17. Hydrothermal plutonogene pyrrhotites from various deposits of Europe (analyses by F. Hegemann 1943).

18. Pyrrhotites from hydrothermal subvolcanic ore mineralization from various foreign deposits (analyses of the authors).

19. Pyrrhotites from skarn deposits.

It is to remark that not from all above mentioned groups of pyrrhotites fundamental statistical characterizations of the contents of Ni and Co as well as correlation coefficients were calculated and testing on lognormal distribution of the contents of these elements performed. It is because from some groups of pyrrhotites we have only a small number of analyses, not sufficient for statistics. These data therefore were only included into sets of groups.²

The sets of groups are ordered with regard to the genetic and also regional standpoint, even with regard to the authors of the analyses working with various methods. The main sets may be characterized as follows:

I. Set of the groups 1 + 2, characterizing highly metamorphosed pyrrhotites originated from sedimentogenic pyrites as a consequence of metamorphosis. (Deposits of the Malé Karpaty Mts. and Hefpa.)

II. Set of the groups $5a+5b+6a+6b$ characterizing originally syngenetic ore mineralization of sedimentogenic character affected together with source sediments by subsequent metamorphic effects. Although also primary genesis of these deposits corresponds to the genesis of deposits of the so called „Pyrite formation” and consequently it is already primarily different in details, also metamorphic effects could have caused remigration of sulphides and in this way also changes in Ni and Co contents. The deposits are considerably distant from each other regionally (Zlaté Hory, Smolník, Petřikov etc.) and originated in different lithological environment. Therefore a relatively heterogeneous set of deposits is present there though all these ore mineralizations are of sedimentogenic origin.

III. Set of $1+2+4a+6a+6b+7a$ represents pyrrhotites from syngenetic-sedimentary, relatively highly metamorphosed deposits, at which pyrrhotite could have mostly originated by alteration from pyrite.

IV. Set of $3+4b$ represents pyrrhotites from highly thermal deposits of unclear genesis, but also primary syngenetic origin may be admitted.

V. Set of $5a+5b+6a+6b+7a+7b+8$ represents pyrrhotites from syngenetic deposits without those groups that were extremely highly metamorphosed (katazonal or periplutonic contact metamorphism).

VI. Set of $1+2+4a+5a+5b+6a+6b+7a+7b+8$ represents a heterogeneous set of analyses of pyrrhotites from syngenetic deposits of various regions, from various lithological environments and variously contaminated by metamorphosis.

VII. Set of $1+2+3+4a+4b+5a+5b+6a+6b+7a+7b+8+9$ includes pyrrhotites from syngenetic deposits mentioned in the foregoing set and pyrrhotites from deposits of problematic genesis are added (Skellefte, Outokumpu), at which original genesis is completely wiped out by subsequent ore mineralization processes.

VIII. Set of 10+11 represents liquation and scattered pyrrhotites appearing as accessories in magmatic rocks.

IX. Set of $12+13+14$ represents pyrrhotites from plutogenic hydrothermal deposits of Czechoslovakia.

X. Set of $12+13+14+19$ represents pyrrhotites from hydrothermal-plutogenic and skarn deposits of Czechoslovakia.

XI. Set of $15+16+17+18$ represents pyrrhotites from hydrothermal plutogenic and hydrothermal subvolcanic, deposits outside Czechoslovakia (mainly analyses of foreign authors).

XII. Set of $12+13+14+15+16+17+18+19$ includes analyses of pyrrhotites from all hydrothermal (plutogenic and subvolcanic) deposits from Czechoslovakia and abroad, analysed by the authors of this work and foreign authors.

XIII. Set of analyses of pyrrhotites of all genetic groups, i. e. groups 1—19, representing average values of Co and Ni contents and values of fundamental statistic characterizations.

² The sets of groups are designated with Roman numerals while the individual groups with Arabic numerals.

Table 1

Tab.	Element	Number of elements	Arithmetical average (\bar{x}) in ppm	Dispersion (s^2)	Standard deviation (s)	Variation coefficient (V_{90})	Correlation coefficient (r)
1	Ni	24	1859	842 703	918	49	0.37063
	Co	24	99	57 048	239	242	
2	Ni	14	724	27 268	165	23	0.75667
	Co	14	35	778	28	81	
5a	Ni	6	688	463 888	681	99	0.24221
	Co	6	334	21 081	145	43	
5b	Ni	9	134	21 132	145	108	-0.67287
	Co	8	299	22 709	151	50	
6a	Ni	10	458	98 136	313	68	0.85161
	Co	10	140	23 071	152	109	
6b	Ni	5	57	122	11	19	-0.23422
	Co	5	44	383	19	45	
9	Ni	100	175	128 094	358	204	0.13951
	Co	100	203	140 550	375	185	
10	Ni	41	6697	209 726	4480	67	0.39660
	Co	41	862	466 579	683	79	
12	Ni	17	566	188 611	434	77	0.21572
	Co	18	753	508 616	713	95	
14	Ni	64	240	109 359	317	132	0.31104
	Co	67	279	99 817	301	108	
15	Ni	32	115	47 226	217	188	0.23351
	Co	32	176	47 108	217	123	
17	Ni	17	728	109 257	1045	143	0.75412
	Co	17	892	135 694	1165	131	
18	Ni	9	2	4	2	92	-0.37844
	Co	9	10	593	24	217	
19	Ni	39	235	246 108	496	210	0.50988
	Co	39	143	49 915	223	156	

Fundamental statistical characterizations of the individual groups are mentioned in tab. 1 and statistical data of sets of groups in tab. 2. Numbering of the individual groups we explained in the foregoing text. Numerical values were calculated by

J. Kloučarová from the Institute of Technical Kybernetic of the Slovak Academy of Science on GIER calculator according the following formulas:

$$\text{arithmetic average} - \bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\text{dispersion} - s^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

$$\text{standard deviation} - s = \sqrt{s^2}$$

$$\text{variation coefficient} - V (0_0) = \frac{s}{\bar{x}} \cdot 100$$

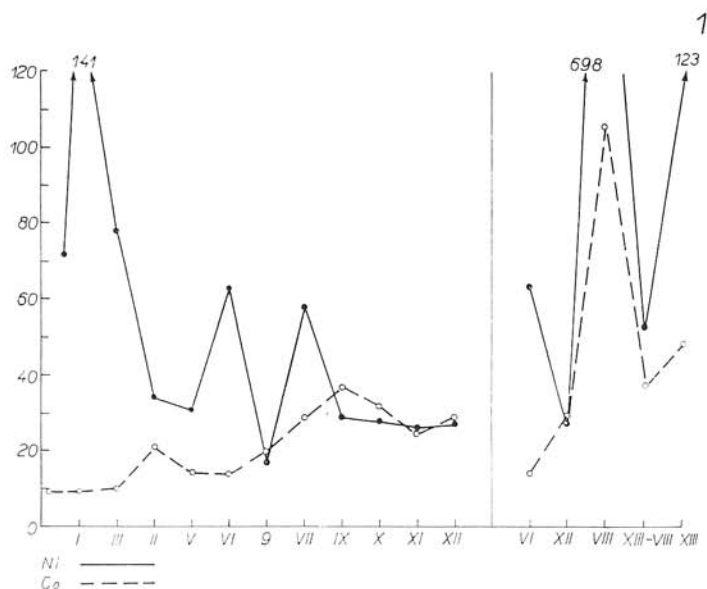


Fig. 1. Graphic presentation of the arithmetic average (\bar{x}) of Ni and Co of the sets of groups of pyrrhotites (the original values are divided by ten).

Explanations: I — pyrrhotites syngenetic-sedimentary, highly metamorphosed from the Malé Karpaty Mts. and Hefpa; II — pyrrhotites from deposits of the „pyrite formation”, less metamorphosed; III — syngenetic-sedimentary pyrrhotites, relatively highly metamorphosed; V — syngenetic-sedimentary pyrrhotites without pyrrhotites from deposits extremely metamorphosed; VI — all pyrrhotites of syngenetic-sedimentary origin variously metamorphosed; 9 — pyrrhotites from deposits of the area of Skellefte (Sweden); VII — the same as set VI — plus pyrrhotites of nuclear genesis from the area of Skellefte; VIII — liquation pyrrhotites and pyrrhotites present as accessory in magmatic rocks; IX — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites from Czechoslovakia; X — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites and pyrrhotites from skarns in Czechoslovakia; XI — hydrothermal-plutonogenic and hydrothermal-subvolcanic pyrrhotites outside Czechoslovakia; XII — all hydrothermal-plutonogenic and subvolcanic pyrrhotites from Czechoslovakia and abroad; XIII — pyrrhotites of all genetic types; XIII—VIII — pyrrhotites of all genetic types without liquation and accessory pyrrhotites in magmatic rocks.

$$\text{correlation coefficient} = r_{xy} = \frac{1}{n} \sum \left(\frac{x - \bar{x}}{s_x} \right) \left(\frac{y - \bar{y}}{s_y} \right)$$

In the first four fundamental statistical characterizations some extremely high values of Co and Ni contents were omitted in the calculation, their number, however, does not exceed 10% of the values in the individual groups.

In the calculation of correlation coefficients those data about Co and Ni contents were not taken into consideration, of which one was left out from the calculation. Where analytical data were designated with the sign of approximation (\approx) and the sign „more than“ ($>$), i. e. over the limit of accurate determinability, the value quoted behind the signs was included into the calculation.

At values under the limit designated with the sign „less than“ ($<$) the concrete number was included at Co and Ni (50 or 10 ppm at Co according to the applied method, 20 ppm at Ni). The values designated with a line in the tables (—), i. e. values under the limit of quantitative determinability of Co and Ni, were included into the calculation of correlation with the value of 1 ppm for both the elements.

In the tables also the values of testing of lognormal distribution of corresponding Co and Ni contents are presented. The values Y and Z mentioned in the table were calculated

according to the following formulas: $Y = \frac{\bar{\gamma}_1}{\delta_{\gamma_1}}$, $Z = \frac{\bar{\gamma}_2}{\delta_{\gamma_2}}$ where $\bar{\gamma}_1$ = asymmetry, γ_2 = excess, δ_{γ_1} = standard deviation of asymmetry, δ_{γ_2} = standard deviation of excess.

Distribution is lognormal, when the values are less than or equal 3.

The values of arithmetic averages, standard deviations, variation coefficients and correlation coefficients, considered as the most important statistical data, were used for compilation of graphs making us possible to compare the above mentioned values in the individual groups or sets of groups of pyrrhotites.

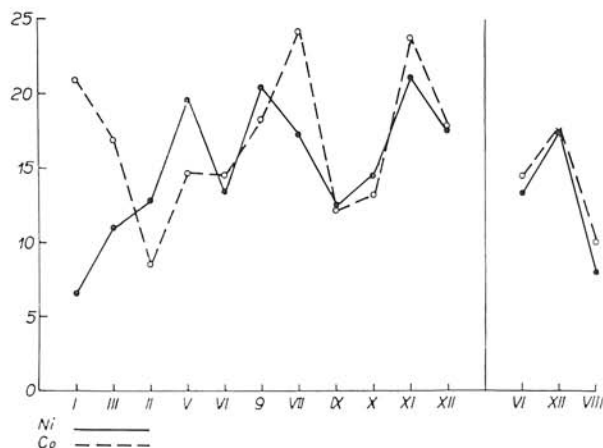


Fig. 2. Graphic presentation of variation coefficient (V^0_0) of Ni and Co of sets of groups of pyrrhotites (the original values are divided by ten). The explanations are with fig. 1.

Discussion to Tables and Graphs

To some statistical characterization certain explanation is necessary. As it is apparent, the arithmetic average of Ni contents to be very high at set XIII (1229 ppm of Ni), which represents all the studied pyrrhotites. This high value of the arithmetic average of Ni is caused by set VIII, i. e. a part of 60 analyses of liquation pyrrhotites, as well

Table 2

Tab.	Element	Number of elements	Arithmetical average in ppm (\bar{x})	Dispersion (s^2)	Standard deviation (s)	Variation coefficient (V^0_0)	Correlation coefficient (r)	Test of lognormal distribution	
								Y	Z
I	Ni	38	1413	895 497	946	67	0,35699	5,59378	11,22817
	Co	38	92	36 663	191	208		3,77282	0,80547
II	Ni	30	340	18 678	432	127	0,31856	0,44976	1,2609
	Co	29	207	30 469	174	84		2,53828	1,44845
III	Ni	93	778	763 237	874	112	0,20982	0,56543	2,41907
	Co	93	102	29 254	171	168		2,06351	2,80377
IV	Ni	11	3525	286 981	1694	48	0,70298	1,3652	0,1465
	Co	11	3101	187 250	1368	44		1,0262	0,6656
V	Ni	99	308	362 657	602	195	0,11215	4,69244	5,70379
	Co	99	139	42 102	205	147		1,30304	2,88170
VI	Ni	149	634	725 355	852	134	0,24358	1,15766	1,23187
	Co	148	144	43 305	208	145		2,96315	2,82408
VII	Ni	260	580	101 810	1009	174	0,64050	0,32984	1,64146
	Co	259	292	509 275	714	244		1,57758	4,85442
VIII	Ni	60	6977	316 945	5630	81	0,36245	2,92297	0,53230
	Co	63	1060	113 423	1065	100		0,34163	1,35737
IX	Ni	87	290	132 196	363	125	0,37578	1,8895	0,3039
	Co	91	373	203 484	451	121		2,6173	0,2316
X	Ni	117	276	161 970	402	146	0,27219	1,8635	0,8060
	Co	121	316	175 254	419	132		2,8453	1,2785
XI	Ni	91	256	290 656	539	211	0,75323	1,59550	1,63444
	Co	91	254	368 180	607	239		1,74894	2,33080
XII	Ni	208	267	218 373	467	175	0,56568	2,44295	1,90667
	Co	212	289	259 028	509	176		2,85336	2,72289
XIII	Ni	529	1229	956 793	3093	252	0,45331	1,57609	3,03967
	Co	534	382	545 178	738	193		3,41296	5,09655

as by set IV, which includes 11 analyses only, but represents pyrrhotites with observed unmixing of Ni minerals being unseparable (Peklo near Habry).

Characteristic contents of Ni and Co in pyrrhotites are therefore more evidently indicated by set VII (Ni = 580 ppm, Co = 292 ppm, there are all syngenetic pyrrhotites including those from Skellefte) and by set XII (Ni = 267 ppm and Co = 289 ppm) representing all hydrothermal pyrrhotites. Variation of average contents of Co and Ni can be traced in graph 1 (Fig. 1).

The mentioned example show, how a relatively small number of analyses with extraordinarily high values of microelements contents may misrepresent the average content of the element in a relatively numerous of data (529).

Among the fundamental statistical characterizations interesting data are supplied by the values of variation coefficient ($V\%$). From the variation coefficient in the individual groups or set of groups the degree of unequability of the contents of these elements as well as the difference in variation of the contents of one element in contrast to the other in one group or set of groups may be read out well. Such a great difference is to be seen, for instance, in group I (Malé Karpaty), group 6a (Petříkov), group 18 (pyrrhotites from subvolcanic deposits). In these groups Co has higher value of variation coefficient than Ni. It is the contrary at a lesser number of groups of pyrrhotites only, e. g. in group 15 (hydrothermal-plutonogene pyrrhotites) and group 19 (pyrrhotites from skarns) also when the difference between the variation coefficients of Co and Ni is not as great, in some groups variation coefficient of both the elements is even slightly different only (group 9, 14, 17). As it is to be seen, they are just hydrothermal plutonogene pyrrhotites that are characterized by greater dispersion of Ni in contrast to Co or only by a small difference in variation coefficients at both the elements.

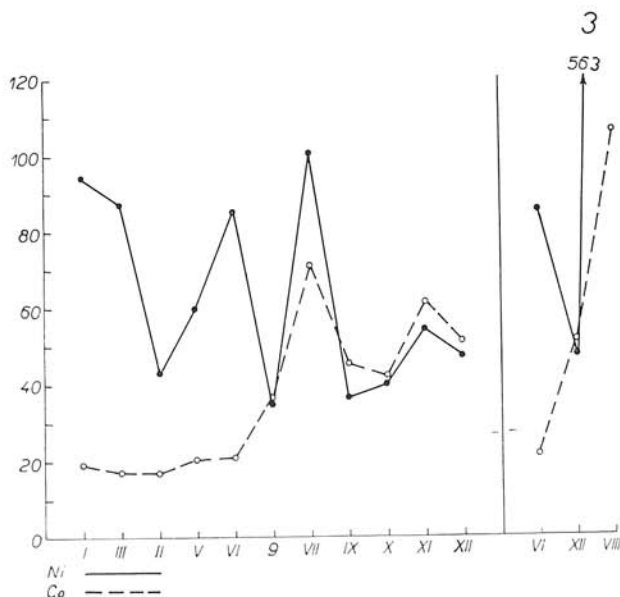


Fig. 3. Graphic presentation of standard deviation (s) of Ni and Co of sets of groups of pyrrhotites (the original values are divided by ten). The explanations are with fig. 1.

As it may be seen from the mentioned before and as it was found out by us in the foregoing works, equability of Ni contents is a characteristic feature of syngenetic-sedimentary pyrrhotites. This need not be only as a consequence of primary equability of Ni contents but a consequence of the influence of metamorphosis that sometimes evoked lowering of extreme contents of some elements.

On the other hand pyrrhotites of hydrothermal-plutonogene ore mineralization have variation coefficient of Ni greater than of Co, what we can take as feature characteristic of the groups of hydrothermal-plutonogene pyrrhotites. From this standpoint subvolcanic pyrrhotites are approaching syngenetic ones.

Tab. 2 and fig. 2 show that where syngenetic sets of pyrrhotite type are clearly present, mainly in metamorphosed ore mineralization, variation coefficient is greater at Co than at Ni. This rule is not valid in large sets of pyrrhotites of less metamorphosed syngenetic ore mineralization (set II, V), but it is valid for set VI representing all syngenetic pyrrhotites as one whole.

The set of all hydrothermal pyrrhotites including subvolcanic pyrrhotites and those from skarns (VII) has Co and Ni with almost equal variation coefficients. Similar is the situation in all sets with hydrothermal pyrrhotites (IX, X, XI). Greater difference in correlation coefficient of Co and Ni is to be seen in set XI, caused by the presence of subvolcanic pyrrhotites in the set, with dispersion of Co greater than of Ni.

Tab. 2 shows that variation coefficients are higher the larger is the number of deposits of various genesis comprising the set, as it is quite natural.

The individual statistical characterizations of the main sets of groups are also indicated in graphs (Figs. 1—4) so that the mentioned values may be mutually compared also from the standpoint of the individual groups and mutual variation of the values of Co and Ni in the individual sets of groups. It is to be seen there that mainly at hydrothermal pyrrhotites arithmetic averages (Fig. 1), standard deviations (Fig. 3) and variation coefficients (Fig. 2) have values slightly different at Co and Ni but at pyrrhotites from syngenetic deposits it is the contrary with corresponding values at Co and Ni showing great difference. The figures also show fundamental statistical characte-

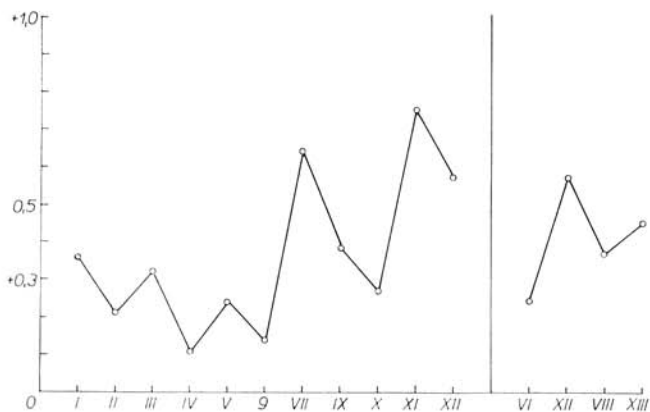


Fig. 4. Graphic presentation of correlation coefficient (r) of Ni/Co of sets of groups of pyrrhotites.

Explanations: XIII — pyrrhotites of all genetic groups generally. Other explanations are with fig. 1.

rizations at Ni, evaluated in graph, to have mostly higher and more variable values than at Co.

The graph of correlation coefficient of the sets of groups (Fig. 4) makes evident that syngenetic pyrrhotites as well as pyrrhotites from the area of Skellefte (Sweden) have lower positive correlation than the larger part of sets of groups of hydrothermal pyrrhotites. Only the set including pyrrhotites from skarns (X) has lowered correlation under the value 0.3. This is also to be seen on the right side of the graph, where there are correlation coefficients of Co and Ni from all syngenetic (VI), hydrothermal (VII) and liquation pyrrhotites (VIII) side by side.

In order to compare quite considerable variation of correlation coefficients in the individual groups of pyrrhotites we mention graph 5, which shows some groups, e. g. 5b (Zlaté Hory), 18 (subvolcanic pyrrhotites) to have relatively high negative correla-

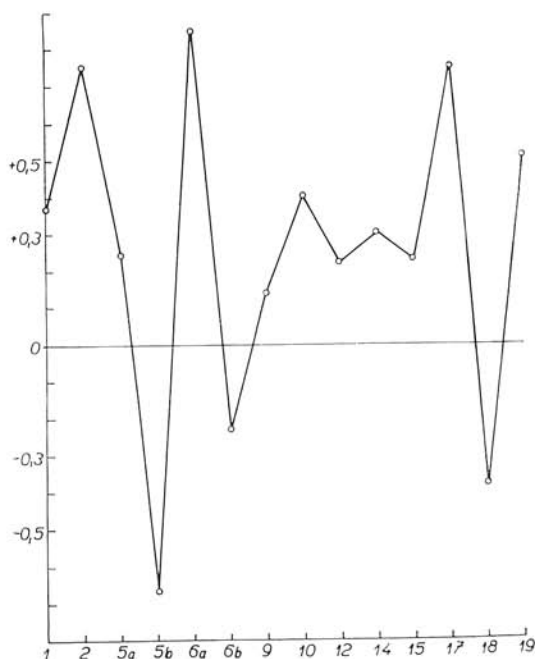


Fig. 5. Graphic presentation of correlation coefficient (r) of Ni/Co of groups of pyrrhotites.

Explanations: 1 — syngenetic highly metamorphosed pyrrhotites from the Malé Karpaty Mts.; 2 — syngenetic highly metamorphosed pyrrhotites from Heřpa; 5a — pyrrhotites from the syngenetic pyrite deposit of Smolník; 5b — epi- to mesozonal metamorphosed pyrrhotites from the area of Zlaté Hory; 6a — syngenetic pyrrhotites from schists more or less metamorphosed (Petříkov and others); 6b — pyrrhotites from the syngenetic metamorphosed pyrite deposits of Bodenmais (Federal Republic of Germany); 9 — pyrrhotites of unclear genesis from deposits of the area of Skellefte (Sweden); 10 — liquation pyrrhotites including accessory pyrrhotites in magmatic rocks; 12 — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites from the Mountains of Spišsko-Generské rudohorie; 14 — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites from Bohemia and Moravia; 15 — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites from abroad; 17 — hydrothermal-plutonogenic pyrrhotites from deposits of Europe according to F. Hegemann 1963; 18 — hydrothermal subvolcanic pyrrhotites from abroad; 19 — pyrrhotites from skarns.

tion while at the set of groups of pyrrhotites (graph 4) negative correlation has not been found out.

The tests of lognormal distribution show contents of Co and Ni to have lognormal distribution in the individual sets of groups in most cases or distribution near to such a division. The most evident deviation from lognormal distribution is mainly manifested at Ni in set I (metamorphogene pyrrhotites) or also at those sets which include such metamorphogene pyrrhotites too. This permits us to deduce that disturbing of original lognormal distribution was mainly appearing in the course of metamorphic redistribution of the elements Ni and Co, similarly as it was also established at pyrites (B. C a m b e l, J. J a r k o v s k ý 1967).

The above mentioned data make possible to establish that the fundamental statistical characterizations of Ni and Co distinctly manifest dependences on genetic and metamorphic factors and therefore can be successfully used for solution of significant genetical-deposital and mineralogical-problems.

Translated by J. P e v n ý.

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