# 27. Chemical Composition of Japanese Granites.Part 1. Variation Trends of 400 Analyses.

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#### Abstract

About 400 superior-quality analyses of Japanese granitic rocks are plotted in Thornton and Tuttle's variation diagrams and projections in the Q-Or-Ab-An system. In the variation diagrams, concentration of points is fairly good, forming one broad but well-defined petrographic province. As compared with Washington's 5000 igneous rocks, Japanese granites are slightly higher in SiO<sub>2</sub> and lower in Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O, and K<sub>2</sub>O. Most of the analyses show considerably high amounts of An when plotted in the Q-Or-Ab-An tetrahedron. Normative compositions of Paleozoic Japanese pelitic sediments are very low in An. It is not possible to form most of the Japanese granitic liquids by partial or total fusion of such pelitic sediments.

#### 1. Introduction and Acknowledgements

This report is the first of a series of studies on chemical composition of granitic rocks with a stress on the genesis of the felsic magmas which might give rise to acid plutonic and volcanic rocks. Recently many superior-quality chemical analyses of Japanese granitic rocks have been published and it is thought that to treat these analyses statistically according to the experimental phase relations now available would be worth while.

The report deals with about 400 analyses whose quality has been evaluated and published in a tabular form by Hattori and Nozawa (1959). Variation diagrams are constructed in order to examine the hypothesis of the magmatic origin of Japanese granites, the liquid lines of descent, and feasibility of generation of granitic magmas through partial fusion of pelitic sediments.

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suggestions helped to improve this report greatly.

#### 2. The Q-Or-Ab-An-H<sub>2</sub>O System

The granitic rocks mainly consist of quartz, plagioclase, and alkali feldspar rich in K. In their CIPW norms, quartz, orthoclase, albite, and anorthite constitute the bulk of the composition. The rest is mainly femic constituents which may be considered of secondary importance because of their relatively small amounts. When a magma of granitic composition is considered, water ( $H_2O$ ) becomes another important constituent as it is widely accepted that water is by far the most abundant volatile dissolved in felsic magmas. Therefore the bulk composition of common granitic rocks and magmas may be approximated by points in the quinary system  $SiO_2(Q)$ -KAlS<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>(Or)-NaAlSi<sub>3</sub>O<sub>8</sub>(Ab)-CaAl<sub>2</sub>Si<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>(An)-H<sub>2</sub>O.

The liquidus-solidus relations of this Q-Or-Ab-An-H<sub>2</sub>O system in the temperature range prevailing in the crust and uppermost part of the mantle have recently been extensively investigated and a fair amount of information useful for consideration of the genesis of granitic magmas and rocks is already available.

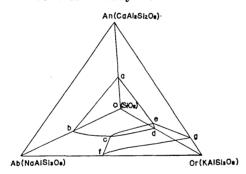


Fig. 1. Schematic phase diagram for the system  $SiO_2(Q)$ -KAlSi $_3O_8(Or)$ -NaAlSi $_3O_8(Ab)$ -CaAl $_2Si_2O_8(An)$  saturated with water under moderate pressure. For explanation see text.

In Fig. 1, the shape of primary-phase volumes on the liquidus at a certain fixed pressures is shown schematically (after Carmichael, 1963; Bateman et al., 1963; etc.). The system is saturated with H<sub>2</sub>O, i.e. all the phases shown are in equilibrium with a H<sub>2</sub>O-rich gaseous phase. A liquid with a composition falling in the volume Q-a-b-c-d-e crystallizes quartz first upon cooling and reaching the liquidus temperature. A

liquid with a composition falling in the volume An-Ab-f-g-e-c-b-a crystallizes plagioclase first. Liquid whose composition falls in the volume Or-d-c-f-g-e first crystallizes alkali feldspar rich in K. These three volumes may be called quartz-, plagioclase-, and K-feldspar primary volumes respectively. The composition of the liquids in equilibrium with quartz and plagioclase is given by points lying on the plane a-b-c-e which is the boundary surface between the quartz and plagioclase primary volumes. Likewise, boundary surface c-d-e gives compositions of liquids in equilibrium with quartz and K-feldspar, and the boundary surface c-f-g-e those of liquids in equilibrium with plagioclase and K- feldspar. Liquids whose composition lying on the boundary line c-e are in equilibrium with three solid phases, quartz, plagioclase and K-feldspar. Increase in total pressure (which equals with water pressure in this case) results in shifting of the quartz-plagioclase and quartz-K-feldspar boundary surfaces (a-b-c-d-e) away from the Q apex towards the Or-Ab-An face of the tetrahedron, and in shifting of the plagioclase-K-feldspar boundary surface away from the Q-Or-Ab face towards the An apex. The detailed discussion of the shapes of these boundary surfaces and lines and the crystallization courses of liquids of various composition are given by CARMICHAEL (1963), BATEMAN et al. (1963), WINKLER (1967), JAMES and HAMILTON (1969) and others.

In Fig. 2, traces of boundary surfaces on Q-Or-Ab and Q-Ab-An faces of the tetrahedron at different water pressure (=total pressure)

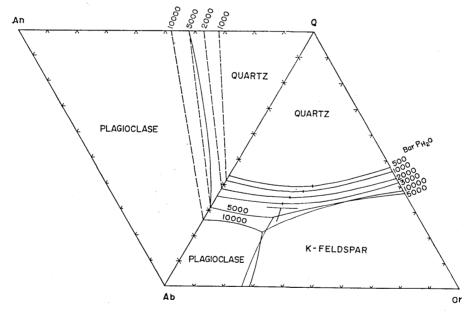


Fig. 2. Traces of boundary surfaces between quartz and feldspar primary volumes on Q-Or-Ab and Q-Ab-An faces of the tetrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An (water saturated). Data for Q-Or-Ab face: after Tuttle and Bowen (1958), Luth et al. (1964); for Q-Ab-An face: after Stewart (1957), Yoder (1967). Short vertical lines on the boundary lines for 500, 1000, 2000, and 3000 bars water pressure for Q-Or-Ab face indicate the position of the ternary minimum and the 'T'-shaped curves below the 3000 bars boundary curve represent position of the ternary eutectic at 4000 bars (Tuttle and Bowen, 1958). The curved solid line on Q-Ab-An face respresents quartz-plagioclase boundary curve at water pressure of 5000 bars (Yoder, 1967). The four dashed straight lines connect corresponding eutectic compositions on the Q-Ab and Q-An edges at different water pressure.

are shown as experimentally determined by Tuttle and Bowen (1958), Luth et al. (1964), Stewart (1957), and Yoder (1967). Dashed straight lines in the Q-Ab-An face are drawn by connecting eutectic points in the systems Q-Ab-H<sub>2</sub>O (Tuttle and Bowen, 1958; Luth et al., 1964) and Q-An-H<sub>2</sub>O (Stewart, 1957). The shape of the boundary surfaces within the volume of the terrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An at various water pressures is not exactly known. However, information given by Winkler (1967), Winkler and von Platen (1960, 1961a, 1961b), von Platen (1965), Weil and Kudo (1968), James and Hamilton (1969), and others greatly help to locate the positions of the boundary surfaces, lines, isotherms, etc.

#### 3. Source of Data

The chemical analyses used in this report were taken from the collection published by Hattori and Nozawa (1959). The collection includes "granite, aplite, pegmatite, granodiorite, quartz diorite, syenite, monzonite, tonalite, trondjemite, granophyre, granite porphyry, and quartz porphyry. They are restricted to ones which contain SiO<sub>2</sub> more than 55% in weight." (Hattori and Nozawa, 1959, p. 7). In the present study, analyses falling in the following categories are omitted.

- 1) Incomplete analyses, whose norms are not given in HATTORI and NOZAWA's table.
- 2) Analyses showing incompatible values, e.g. a total given does not match the actual total of the oxides. In this case also the norms are not given in their table.
- 3) Those with rock names of aplite, pegmatite, granite porphyry, and quartz porphyry. Most of the granite porphyries and quartz porphyries given in the table have been recently found to be welded tuffs, hence considered not appropriate.

Out of 528 analyses given in HATTORI and NOZAWA's table, 396 analyses were thus selected and used in the following plottings. The list of the analyses used is given as Appendix in the last part of this report.

## 4. Variation Diagrams

The HARKER variation diagrams with SiO<sub>2</sub> weight percent as abscissahave already been published by HATTORI *et al.* (1960).

Another set of variation diagrams, proposed by Thornton and Tuttle (1960), are given in Fig. 3. The horizontal axes are normative Q+or+ab+ne+lc+ks, originally defined as differentiation index, and the vertical axes the weight percentage of oxides. In the case of the Japanese granitic rocks, ne, lc, and ks are not encountered; the differentiation

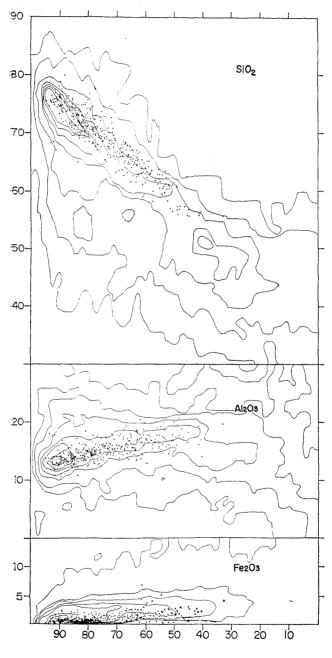


Fig. 3.

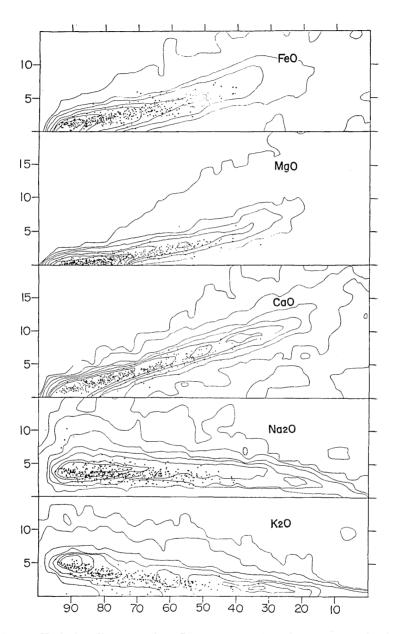


Fig. 3. Variation diagrams of 400 Japanese granitic rocks. Horizontal axis: differentiation index (DI) proposed by Thornton and Tuttle (1960); vertical axis: weight percent of oxides. Contours are for Washington's 5000 igneous rocks as given by Thornton and Tuttle (1960).

index being equal to Q+or+ab.

In plotting chemical composions of granitic rocks, Thornton and Tuttle's differentiation index (DI) may be regarded as superior to the weight percent of SiO<sub>2</sub> because DI indicates directly the 'distance' from the petrogeny's residua system while SiO<sub>2</sub> is not necessarily so (see pp. 492-494).

In Fig. 3, contours given by Thornton and Tuttle (1960) for the 5000 analyses of igneous rocks in Washington's tables are also shown. From Fig. 2, it may be observed that the Japanese granites form a fairly well-defined straight-line trend in each oxide. As a first approximation, they are 'normal', falling close to the ridges of the Thornton and Tuttle's contours. Slight deviation, mostly parallel shift above or below the ridges of the contours may be observed. Trends of the Japanese granites are:

- 1) higher in SiO<sub>2</sub>, and
- 2) lower in Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O, and K<sub>2</sub>O.

Trends for Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, FeO, MgO, and CaO show no appreciable deviations.

### 5. Q-Or-Ab-An Diagrams

The positions in the tetrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An are shown in three different projections (Figs. 4 and 5). In the right-hand part of Fig. 4, points are shown on the base of the tetrahedron, Q-Or-Ab projected from the An apex. This is the projection most widely used in recent papers dealing with the petrology of granitic rocks. In the left-hand part of Fig. 4, the same points are shown on the face Q-Ab-An as they are projected horizontally and parallel with the Or-Ab edge. The projection is not from the Or apex but parallel with the basal plane Therefore the height from the basal plane is directly shown as distance from the Q-(Ab-Or) edge of the projection. This method of projection is useful because it clearly shows the position of the points with respect to those of the quartz-feldspar (plagioclase) boundary surface in the tetrahedron. In the Q-Or-Ab face of Fig. 4, traces of the boundaries between quartz and feldspar primary fields are shown for the H<sub>2</sub>O pressures of 1, 2, 5, and 10 kilobars (after TUTTLE and Bowen, 1958, Luth et al. 1964). Dashed line connecting the Q apex and a point on the Ab-Or edge at  $Or_{40}Ab_{60}$  is also shown. The line crosses roughly the center of the cluster of points. In the Q-An-(Ab-Or) projection of Fig. 4, traces of boundary surfaces between quartz and feldspar primary volumes are projected on the plane passing the An apex and the dashed line on the basal plane for different H<sub>2</sub>O pressures. Because of the lack of data, they are shown as straight lines as a first approximation like the similar lines in Fig. 2.

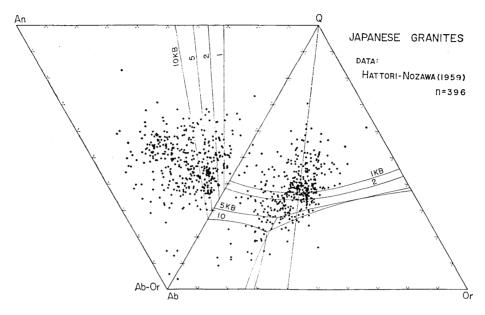


Fig. 4. Normative composition of 400 Japanese granitic rocks plotted in the tetrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An. For explanation see text.

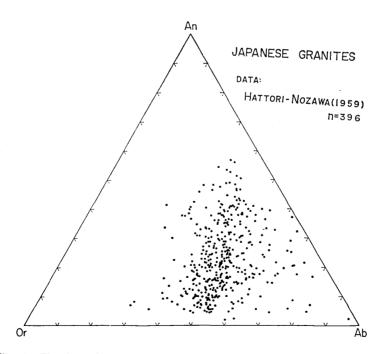


Fig. 5. Plotting of normative feldspars for 400 Japanese granitic rocks.

Positions of these lines on the Q-An edge are given by STEWART (1967) and those on the join Q-Or<sub>40</sub>Ab<sub>60</sub> are given by TUTTLE and BOWEN (1958) and LUTH et al. (1964). Data for 1) the curvature of these lines, and 2) position of the boundary line quartz-K-feldspar-plagioclase-liquid-vapor are not available, but these straight-line approximations are believed to be useful for the petrological evaluation of the data.

The following characteristics may be observed from Fig. 4:

- 1) Most points show high An contents. Out of 396, only one point is lower than 1% An in the tetrahedron, and about 33 points, or less than 10% of the data, are below 5% An.
- 2) Most points fall above the boundary surface quartz-feldspar-iquid-vapor for 1 kilobar H<sub>2</sub>O pressure, i.e. most points are in the feldspar primary volume, and as they are richer in Ab than in Or, mostly in the plagioclase volume.
- 3) In the Q-Or-Ab plotting, center of clustering of points is located closer to the Q-Ab join than in Tuttle and Bowen's similar diagrams (1958, Figs. 41 and 42).

In Fig. 5, projection on the Or-Ab-An face of the tetrahedron is shown. The spread of the points is apparent but the general high content of An-component is clearly indicated.

# 6. Chemical Composition of Some Japanese Pelitic Sediments

In Figs. 6 and 7, some Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments are plotted, in the same way as in Figs. 4 and 5. The data are taken from HARAMURA (1961a, 1961b, and 1962). The solid circles represent pelitic rocks from the Tatuno-Sioziri district in Nagano Prefecture (HARAMURA, 1961b) and three areas in the inner zone of Southwest Japan (HARAMURA, 1962). They all belong to zone N of the Japanese Paleozoic geosyncline as defined by MIYASHIRO and HARAMURA (1966). Open circles represent pelitic rocks from the Paleozoic terrains on the Pacific Ocean side of the Sanbagawa metamorphic belt (HARAMURA, 1961a). They belong to zone S of MIYASHIRO and HARAMURA (1966). As pointed out by MIYASHIRO and HARAMURA (1966) pelitic rocks of zone N are richer in K2O relative to Na<sub>2</sub>O than those of zone S. From Figs. 6 and 7, it is apparent that most of the Japanese Paleozoic pelitic rocks are very poor in normative The same conclusion may be drawn from Figs. 8 and 9, in which the average compositions of 11 groups of Paleozic pelitic rocks of Japan given by MIYASHIRO and HARAMURA (1966, Table 3) are shown. Points representing groups 9 and 11 are fairly high in An content, but both, belonging to the Hitati facies, may be considered to form a relatively minor portion of the Paleozoic geosynclinal pile.

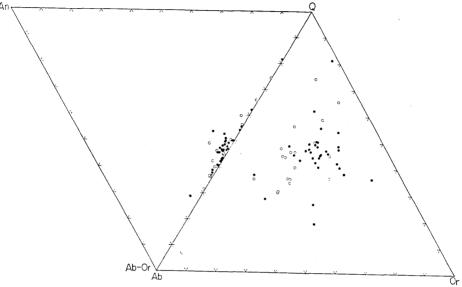


Fig. 6. Normative composition of Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments plotted in the tetrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An. Solid circles: Zone N (inner zone) of the Japanese Paleozoic geosyncline defined by MIYASHIRO and HARAMURA (1966); open circles: Zone S (outer zone). Data from HARAMURA (1961a, 1961b, and 1962).

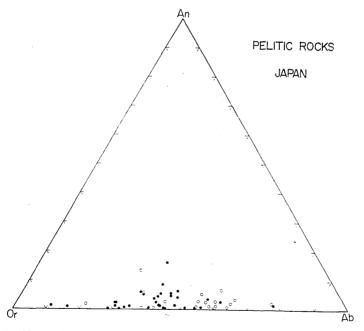


Fig. 7. Normative feldspars of Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments. Symbols and source of data same as Fig. 6.

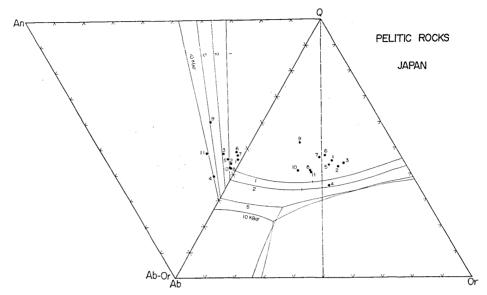


Fig. 8. Average normative composition of 11 groups of Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments plotted in the tetrahedron Q-Or-Ab-An. Data and group numbers after Miyashiro and Haramura (1966) 1: Zone N, 2: northern Kiso area, 3: Dando area, 4: Kiso-Komagane area, 5: Tukuba area, 6: Bessi area, 7: Mibugawa area, 8: Zone S, 9: southern and eastern half of central Abukuma plateau, 10: Kitakami Mountains, 11: Higo area.

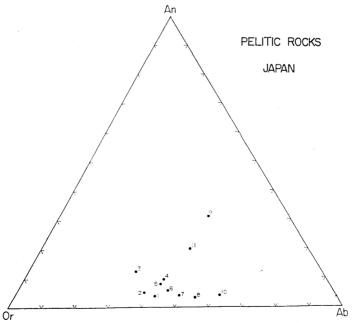


Fig. 9. Average normative feldspars of 11 groups of Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments. Data same as Fig. 8.

#### 7. Discussion

Magmatic origin of the Japanese granites

Good concentration of points along simple linear trends in the variation diagrams such as Fig. 3 is strong evidence supporting the hypothesis that most Japanese granitic rocks are products of magmatic differentiation, i.e. a certain process through which granitic material was produced mostly in a liquid state, which then crystallized to form granitic rocks. Processes other than those involving large amounts of silicate melt do not necessarily give rise to a variety of rocks forming a particular trend as shown in Fig. 3. On the other hand, close proximity of the variation trends of acidic volcanic rocks such as shown in Thornton and Tuttle's diagrams (1959) with those of Japanese granitic rocks strongly speaks for the magmatic origin of the granites.

Plottings in the Q-Or-Ab-An tetrahedron (Figs. 4 and 5) further support the magmatic origin of the Japanese granites. The dense concentration of points extend from the center of the basal plane (Q-Or-Ab) half-way up the tetrahedron towards the An apex. The points cluster in the space closer to the An-Ab join rather than to the An-Or join. This roughly corresponds with the liquid of descent in the series basalt-andesite-dacite-rhyolite.

Uniformity of the trend

The concentration of the points in Fig. 3 is fairly good and these 400 Japanese granites may be considered to form one broad well-defined petrographic province. Some authors (e.g. Shibata et al., 1962, 1967) distinguish very many petrographic provinces for these granites at least partly depending on their major-element abundances.

Statistically speaking, degree of scattering of points within such a province and that indicated in Fig. 3 i.e. 400 points as a whole, appears to be comparable. To sub-divide 400 points into many groups only by their chemical character appears to be very difficult.

Impossibility of the formation of the granites by partial melting of the Japanese Paleozoic pelites

Partial melting of the sialic crust has been one of the most popular hypotheses of the formation of the granitic magma. For example, Wyllie and Tuttle (1961) and Winkler and von Platen (1958) have shown experimentally that the magma of granite-granodiorite composition can be formed by partial melting of water-rich sediments such as shale, graywacke, and arkose under the temperature-pressure conditions prevailing within the crust.

Pelitic sediments, such as shale, slate, and phyllite in the Paleozoic

formations of the Japanese islands may be considered one of the most eligible source materials for the production of the granitic magmas. This is because these pelitic sediments constitute the bulk of the Paleozoic geosyncline that once occupied most parts of the Japanese islands where most of the grantic rocks now crop out.

From Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9, it is clear that most of the pelitic sediments are low in An component. On the other hand, most of the Japanese granites show a much higher An content than that of the Paleozoic pelitic rocks. It is well established from the experiments in the system Q-Or-Ab-An-H2O that the compositions of the initial liquids formed by fusion of crystalline aggregates of the compositions given in Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9 are such that their An component is not significantly higher than the original aggregates. Therefore it is concluded that liquids represented by bulk compositions of the Japanese granites (Figs. 4, and 5) can not be formed by either partial or total fusion of crystalline aggregates whose compositions are represented by the Japanese Paleozoic pelitic sediments (Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9). If an appropriate amount of Ca is added by some means it is naturally possible to form these granitic melts by partial fusion of these sediments. apparent low Ca contents of the Japanese Paleozoic pelites would create serious problems on the hypothesis of granite magma formation through partial fusion of pelitic rocks in Japan.

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#### 27. 日本の花崗岩類の化学成分

その1. 分析値400個の成分変化の傾向

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服部・野沢(1959)の まとめた 日本の花崗岩質岩石の分析値の うち、適当なもの約 400 個を THORNTON・TUTTLE の変化図や Q-Or-Ab-An 系に投影してみた。変化図においては、点は直線上に集中し、分散は比較的小さく、全体として1つの特徴的な岩石区を示す。 WASHINGTON の 5000 個の火成岩の変化図と比較すると、日本の花崗岩類は、 $SiO_2$  にやや富み、 $Fe_2O_3$ 、FeO、 $Na_2O$ 、 $K_2O$  にやや乏しい。 花崗岩質成分をよく近似する Q-Or-Ab-An の 4 面体に投影すると、点は可成分散するが、An 成分に著しく富むものが多い。また点は Or 側よりも An 側に偏つて集中する。日本の古生層の粘土質堆積岩の組成を同じ 4 面体に投影すると、An 成分に乏しいのが特徴である。従つて、このような粘土質堆積岩の部分溶融または全溶融によつては、日本の花崗岩質マグマは生じない。

Appendix. Source of analyses.

Analyses used are all taken from HATTORI and NOZAWA (1959). As explained in the text, inferior analyses are omitted. Numbers of the analyses used, appearing HATTORI and NOZAWA's paper, are given below.

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101 111 121 131	92 102 112 122 132	103 113 123 133 143	94 104 114 124 134 144	95 105 115 125 135 145	106 116 136 146	107 117 127 137 147	108 118 138 148	109 119 129 139 149	110 120 130
151 161 171 181 191	152 162 172 182 192	153 163 173	154 164 174	155 165 175	166 176 196	157 167 177	158 168 178	159 169 179 189 199	160 170 180 190 200
201 221 231 241	202 212 222 232 242	203 213 223 233 243	204 214 224 234 244	205 215 225 235 245	206 216 226 236 246	207 217 227 237 247	208 218 228 238 248	209 219 229 239 249	220 230 240 250
251	262 272 292	263 273 283 293	254 274 284 294	255 285 295	266 276 286 296	267 287 297	268 288 298	259 269 289 299	270 280 290 300
301 311 331 341	302 312 342	303 313 333	304 314 324 334 344	305 315 335 345	306 316 336	307 317 327	318 328 338	319 329 339 349	330 350
351 361 371 381 391	362 372 382 392	353 363 383	354 384	355 385	356 366	357 367 377	378	379 389	360 370 390 400
401 411	402 412		404	405 425	406 426	407 427	428		410 430
441 451 461	452 462	433 443 453 463	434 454 464	445 455 465	436 446 456 466	437 447 457 468	438 448 458 468	449 459 469	460
A11 A21 A31 A41	A 2 A 12 A 22 A 32	473 A 3 A13 A23 A33	A74 A 4 A14 A24 A34 A44	A15 A25	476 A16 A46	A 7 A17 A27 A37 A47	A 8 A18 A28 A38	A 9 A19	A10 A20 A30 A40

Total: 396 analyses.