

Division - Soil Processes and Properties | Commission - Soil Mineralogy

Mineralogical Evolution of Magnetic Rhodic Oxisols under Different Lithological Influences in Brazil

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ABSTRACT: Ferrimagnetic Fe-oxides are important soil components, which are present in most of the agricultural soils of Brazil. Distinction, origin, and assessment of the influence of these minerals on magnetism and geochemistry is a challenge for mineralogists. This study aimed to characterize mineralogically Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (*Latossolos Vermelhos*) originating from several mafic rocks in Brazil, and assess the implications on their magnetic and geochemical properties. We present results on magnetic measurements, chemical dissolutions, X-ray diffractometry, Rietveld refinement, Raman, and Mössbauer spectroscopies of Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols originating from several mafic rocks. They show that magnetite is inherited from the parent material, and its oxidation leads to the formation of maghemite. In the coarse fractions (sand and silt), magnetite and maghemite coexist and are interstratified with hematite, confirmed by Raman spectroscopy. This limited the distinction between magnetite and maghemite by Mössbauer spectroscopy. Maghemite represents the only ferrimagnetic Fe oxide in the clay fraction. The influence of both ferrimagnetic minerals, magnetite and maghemite, on magnetic susceptibility and total content of trace elements is determined by the pedogenic development, even among highly weathered soils. In general, the coarse fractions contribute with most of the total trace element contents, while the clay fraction contributes to trace elements availability and magnetic susceptibility of soils.

Keywords: magnetite, maghemite, trace elements, mafic rocks, Raman spectroscopy.

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INTRODUCTION

Iron-rich Rhodic Oxisols (*Latossolos Vermelhos*) are of great interest worldwide due to their potential for agricultural use with technological management. In Brazil, these soils occur mainly in the central-western, southeastern, and southern regions and are generally derived from mafic rocks, such as basalt, gabbro, diabase, tuffite, and itabirite. Rhodic Oxisols exhibit strong magnetic attraction due to high contents of ferrimagnetic Fe oxides (maghemite and magnetite) (Costa et al., 1999, 2014; Camêlo et al., 2018; Poggere et al., 2018). These minerals have often been used in studies on pedogenesis (Silva et al., 2017; Camêlo et al., 2018) for stratification of environments (Ramos et al., 2017) and soil fertility (Costa et al., 2018) in Brazil and elsewhere in the world.

There are two main processes for the genesis of magnetite and maghemite in soils: the formation of maghemite through aerial oxidation of magnetite inherited from the parent material (lithogenic) (Fontes and Weed, 1991; Camêlo et al., 2018) and the neoformation of maghemite and magnetite from pedogenic Fe oxides in reducing environments under high temperatures (500-1,000 °C). This last process is common in areas under fire events, where magnetic expression is higher in soil surface horizons (Schwertmann and Fechter, 1984; Sousa et al., 2018). Magnetite can also originate from the process of biogenic mineralization (Maher, 1998; Savian et al., 2017) and maghemite from dehydration and structural rearrangement of ferrihydrite (Barrón and Torrent, 2002; Jiang et al., 2018).

In soils originating from mafic rocks, maghemite usually originates from aerial oxidation of magnetite inherited from the parent material (Fontes and Weed, 1991; Camêlo et al., 2018). Therefore, several authors have reported on magnetite predominance in the coarse fractions (sand and silt) and maghemite in the clay fraction (Costa et al., 1999; Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2018; Poggere et al., 2018) of Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols in Brazil. However, it is known that both minerals can display distinct soil size fractions or occur in all of them (Causevic et al., 2004; Maxbauer et al., 2016; Silva et al., 2017; Costa et al., 2018).

Authors have also reported on the difficulty to distinguish magnetite and maghemite by conventional techniques, such as X-ray diffractometry, due to the similarity of the atomic planes of both minerals (Fontes et al., 2000; Camêlo et al., 2018), as well as Mössbauer spectroscopy, because of differing degrees of magnetite oxidation in soils (Singer et al., 1995). On the other hand, Raman spectroscopy is considered a fast and accurate tool for the identification of these minerals in soils (Hanesch, 2009; Sousa et al., 2018); nevertheless, it is still little used on magnetic Rhodic Oxisols.

As magnetite and maghemite can have different stability degrees (Sidhu et al., 1980), influencing magnetic susceptibility, and reserve of trace elements in soils (Camêlo et al., 2018), we believe that accurate differentiation of these minerals allows a better understanding of pedological, magnetic, and geochemical aspects of soils with direct implications on agricultural and environmental management. Therefore, this study aimed to characterize mineralogically Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols originating from several mafic rocks in Brazil, and assess the implications on their magnetic and geochemical properties.

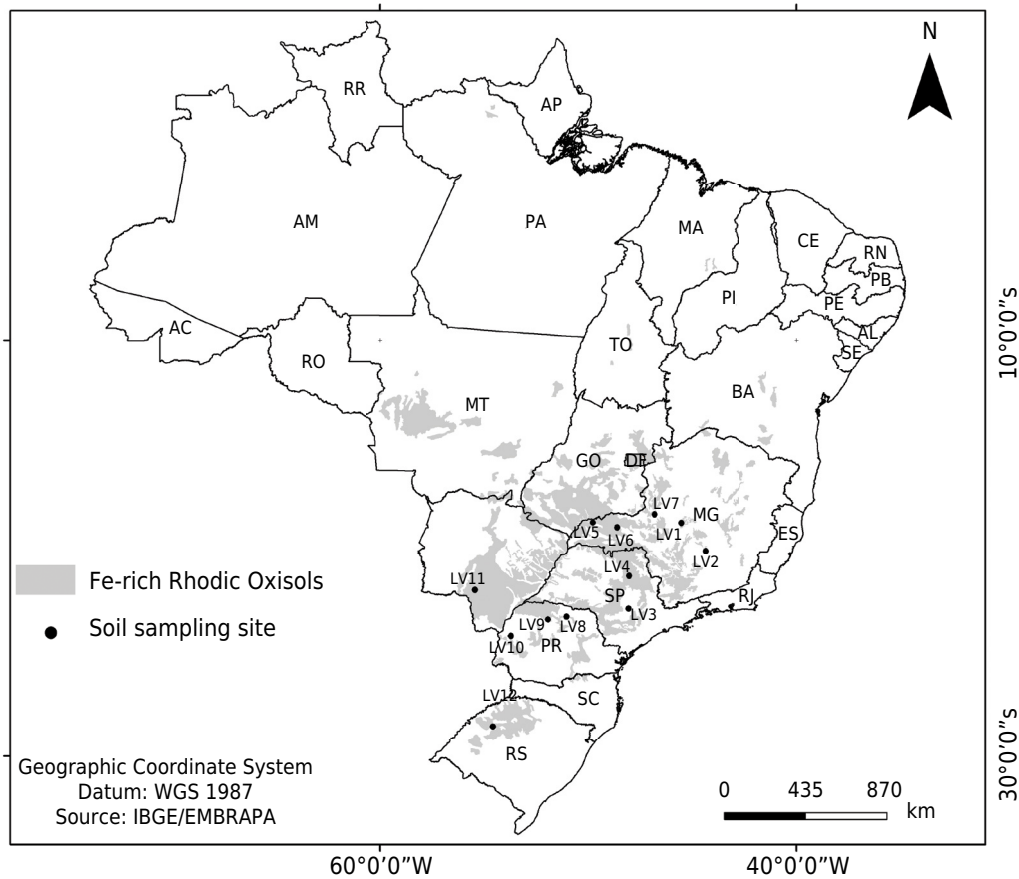
MATERIALS AND METHODS

Soil sampling and characterization procedures

We collected Bw horizons samples of 12 Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (*Latossolos Vermelhos*) originating from mafic rocks (8 basalt, 2 tuffite, 1 diabase, and 1 itabirite) in Brazil at the layer of 0.80-1.00 m (Figure 1). The samples were air-dried, gently crumbled, and sieved through 2 mm mesh to obtain the air-dried fine earth fraction (ADFE). For the taxonomic classification of soils, we determined particle size composition, particle density, pH(H₂O and KCl 1 mol L⁻¹), exchangeable Ca and Mg, Na, K, and P extracted with Mehlich-1, exchangeable Al, and potential acidity (H+Al) in ADFE (Teixeira et al., 2017).

The ADFE was submitted to dispersion with NaOH 0.1 mol L⁻¹ and mechanical shaking at slow speed (50 rpm) for 16 h to separate the sand fraction (2-0.05 mm) by sieving and silt (0.05-0.002 mm) and clay (<0.002 mm) fractions by sedimentation, according to the Stokes' law (Jackson, 1979). The sand magnetic fraction (SMF) was separated by a manual permanent magnet and subjected to successive washes with distilled water. All fractions were dried in a forced air circulation oven at 45 °C.

Mineralogical analyses



Descriptive legend

Soil	SSS	SiBCS	Parent material	Localization	Geographic coordinates		Elevation m
					Latitude (S)	Longitude (W)	
LV1	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Acriférico típico</i>	Tuffite	Tiros - MG	19°10'46"	45°58'35"	1,135
LV2	Rhodic Acrudox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Perférico típico</i>	Itabirite	Nova Lima - MG	20°4'03"	43°58'45"	1,383
LV3	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Diabase	Piracicaba - SP	22°40'00"	47°35'00"	580
LV4	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Ribeirão Preto - SP	21°11'	47°93'	550
LV5	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Capinópolis - MG	18°41'05"	49°34'51"	564
LV6	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Acriférico típico</i>	Basalt	Uberlândia - MG	18°53'03"	48°06'37"	888
LV7	Rhodic Acrudox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Perférico típico</i>	Tuffite	Patos de Minas - MG	18°42'30"	46°27'11"	893
LV8	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Eutroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Ibiporã - PR	23°16'49"	51°01'51"	406
LV9	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Maringá - PR	23°21'	52°03'	450
LV10	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Palotina - PR	24°20'	53°50'	320
LV11	Rhodic Hapludox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distroférico típico</i>	Basalt	Dourados - MS	22°14'	54°49'	430
LV12	Rhodic Acrudox	<i>Latossolo Vermelho Distrófico típico</i>	Basalt	São Miguel das Missões - RS	29°03'	53°50'	465

Figure 1. Distribution map of Rhodic Oxisols in Brazil with geographic coordinates, parent rock materials and classification according to the Soil Taxonomy (Soil Survey Staff, 2014) and Brazilian Soil Classification System – SiBCS (Santos et al., 2018).

X-ray diffraction

Minerals in the sand, silt, and clay fractions were analyzed by X-ray diffractometry (XRD) in an equipment X'PERT PRO PANALYTICAL model with CoK α radiation and graphite monochromator operated at 40 kV and 40 mA, and scanning from 4 to 70 $^{\circ}2\theta$, at 0.02 $^{\circ}2\theta/3s$ steps. The sand and silt fractions were randomly oriented on excavated slides (powder), while the clay fraction was oriented by smear.

Iron oxides were concentrated in the clay fraction after treatment with an alkaline solution (NaOH 5 mol L $^{-1}$) (Norrish and Taylor, 1961). The concentrates were then macerated in an agate mortar with 10 % NaCl (internal standard), randomly oriented, and analyzed in an equipment SHIMADZU XRD model 6100 with CuK α radiation and graphite monochromator, operated at 40 kV and 40 mA, and scanning from 15 to 70 $^{\circ}2\theta$, at 0.02 $^{\circ}2\theta/5s$ steps.

The contents and crystallographic parameters of Fe oxides were determined through Rietveld refinement of XRD patterns, using software RIETICA 4.2 (Hunter and Howard, 2000) and crystallographic database of MINCRYST. The refinement consisted of a polynomial function to the baseline, the peaks were set through the pseudo-Voigt model and the angle parameters of Bragg U, V, and W to calculate the width at half height (WHH), where $WHH = (U \tan^2\theta + V \tan\theta + W)^{1/2}$ (Caglioti et al., 1958). The refinement quality was evaluated by the R_{exp} index (Young, 1995), where values up to 20 are considered acceptable (Poggere et al., 2018).

The mean crystal size (MCS) was calculated from WHH of XRD peaks 110 and 111 of goethite (Gt), 104, 110, and 012 of hematite (Hm) and 220 and 400 of maghemite (Mh) using equation 1, proposed by Scherrer (Klug and Alexander, 1974), with WHH correction established by equation 2 (Melo et al., 2001).

$$MCS_{(hkl)} = (K \times \lambda \times 57.3) / (WHH_{(hkl)} \times \cos\theta) \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

In which:

K = constant (0.9)

λ = wavelength of radiation CuK α

57.3 = conversion factor of degrees to radians

$WHH_{(hkl)}$ = diffraction studied (at $^{\circ}2\theta$) corrected by equation 2, as follows:

$$Y = 1.0005 - 4.3335 \times X^2 + 4.9618 \times X^{2.5} - 1.6277 \times X^3 \quad \text{(Melo et al., 2001)} \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

In which:

$Y = \beta/B$; and $X = b/B$; being,

B = WHH diffraction studied (at $^{\circ}2\theta$)

b = WHH of internal pattern (NaCl) (at $^{\circ}2\theta$)

$\beta = WHH_{(hkl)}$ corrected

Isomorphic substitution of Fe by Al (IS) in the Gt structure (Equation 3), Hm (Equation 4), and Mh (Equation 5) were estimated by regression between the unit cell volume and IS degree [Al/(Fe + Al), mol mol $^{-1}$] (Vergard's law). Thus:

$$IS_{Gt} = 17.30 - 5.72 \times c_0, \text{ being } c_0 = (1/d_{111}^2 - 1/d_{110}^2)^{0.5} \quad \text{(Schulze, 1984)} \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

$$IS_{Hm} = 31.09 - 6.17 \times a_0, \text{ being } a_0 = 2 \times d_{110} \text{ (Schwertmann et al., 1979)} \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

$$IS_{Mh} = (0.8343 - a_0)/2.22 \times 10^{-4} \quad \text{Eq. 5}$$

In which a_0 was obtained from Rietveld refinement (Schwertmann and Fechter, 1984, adapted).

Raman spectroscopy

The surface of SMF grains was photographed using an optical microscope and then the Raman spectra were obtained in selected regions using an equipment MicroRaman InVia Renishaw model equipped with diode laser for excitation at 785 nm. After equipment calibration with Si internal pattern, the Raman spectra were obtained with objective lens 50 x (long) and laser power of 0.08 mW, with spatial resolution in the sample of approximately 1 μm . The spectra underwent adjustment of the baseline and deconvolution in Lorentzian with the aid of software Peakfit 4.12. The RRUFF project database, Bersani et al. (1999), Gasparov et al. (2000), and Chamritski and Burns (2005) were used to identify vibrational modes in the Raman spectra.

⁵⁷Fe Mössbauer spectroscopy

The Mössbauer spectra of sand and clay fractions were obtained at room temperature (approximately 298 K) using a conventional Mössbauer spectrometer in gamma-ray transmission geometry, with a constant acceleration of a source of ⁵⁷Co in Rh matrix and approximately 50 mCi of activity. The isomeric dislocations were offset in relation to αFe at room temperature, using a calibration standard of Doppler speed range. The data were adjusted using a least-squares algorithm via software WinNormos™ for Igor™ Pro 6.1.

Magnetic analyses

Volumetric magnetic susceptibility (κ , dimensionless) at low (κ_{lf}) (0.47 kHz) and high frequency (κ_{hf}) (4.70 kHz) were determined in the ADFE and in different particle size fractions using the MS2 Bartington system coupled to the MS2B sensor. The magnetic susceptibility per unit of mass (χ_{lf} , $10^{-8} \text{ m}^3 \text{ kg}^{-1}$) and frequency dependent on magnetic susceptibility (χ_{fd} , %) were calculated by equations 6 and 7, respectively (Dearing, 1999):

$$\chi_{lf} = (10 \times \kappa_{lf}) / m \text{ [m = mass (g)]} \quad \text{Eq. 6}$$

$$\chi_{fd} = 100 \times (\kappa_{lf} - \kappa_{hf}) / \kappa_{lf} \quad \text{Eq. 7}$$

The χ_{lf} values of the ADFE were also estimated by the sum of products of sand, silt, and clay contents and their respective χ_{lf} values according to equation 8:

$$\chi_{lf(\text{ADFEest})} = \sum [\text{content of particle size fraction (g kg}^{-1}) \times \chi_{lf} / 1000] \quad \text{Eq. 8}$$

Geochemical analyses

Iron, Al, Ti, and Si contents in the ADFE were extracted by sulfuric digestion procedure (Teixeira et al., 2017). Iron contents associated with iron oxides were also determined in the clay fraction after five extractions with sodium citrate-bicarbonate-dithionite (Fe_d) (Mehra and Jackson, 1960), and only one extraction with acid ammonium oxalate (Fe_o) (McKeague and Day, 1966). Iron contents extracted from clay fraction with H_2SO_4 1.8 mol L^{-1} (Fe_{sulf}) (Schwertmann and Fechter, 1984) were related to the time when clay fraction residues reached $\chi_{lf} < 10\%$ of the value before extraction. This is an adaptation of the method proposed by Schwertmann and Fechter (1984), as performed by Poggere et al. (2018). The elements obtained by extractors were quantified by atomic absorption spectrometry.

Trace elements (TE) Co, Cu, Ni, V, Zn, Mn, and Cr were extracted from the ADFE fractions, sand, silt, clay, and SMF with ternary mixture of strong acids (nitric, perchloric, and hydrofluoric) (Teixeira et al., 2017) and quantified by inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry (ICP-OES). The TE values were also estimated by the sum of products of sand, silt, and clay contents and their respective TE contents, as shown in equation 9.

$$TE_{(ADFEest)} = \sum [\text{content of particle size (g kg}^{-1}) \times TE/1000] \quad \text{Eq. 9}$$

RESULTS

Mineralogical characteristics of soils

The mineralogical composition of Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (*Latosolos Vermelhos*) was homogeneous, with XRD peaks indicative of quartz (Qz), ilmenite (Il), anatase (An), rutile (Rt), magnetite/maghemite (Mt/Mh), kaolinite (Ka), gibbsite (Gb), hematite (Hm), goethite (Gt), and eventually traces of illite (Ili) (Figures 2, 3, and 4). In the sand fraction, the XRD peak 100 of Qz showed the highest intensity, except for soils LV₇, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁. The XRD peak 104 of Il was only observed in soils LV₃ (diabase) and LV₅ (basalt), whereas An was identified in all soils, with XRD peak 101 more intense in soils originating from tuffite (LV₁ and LV₇). The XRD peaks 311 and 220 of Mt/Mh were more

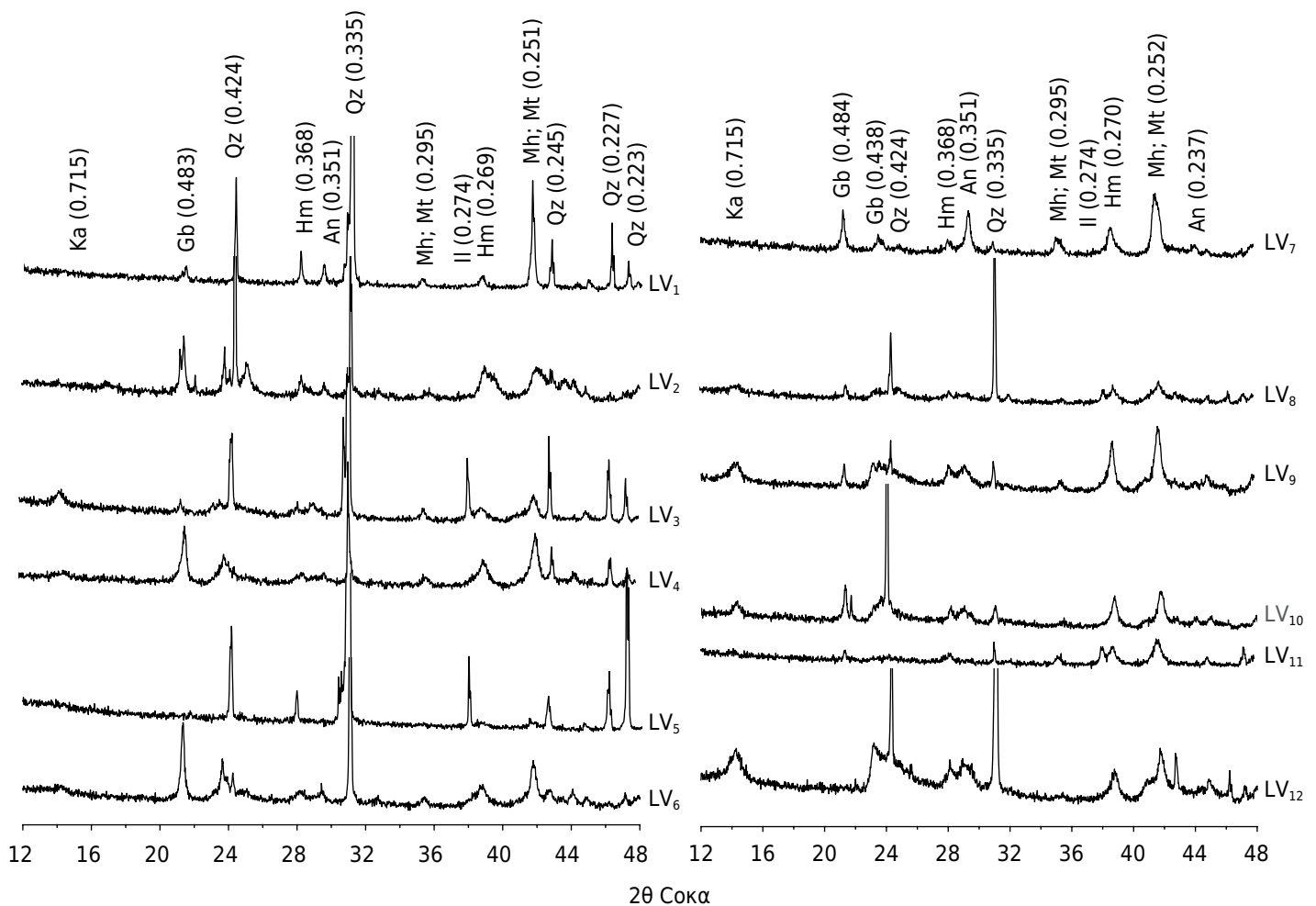


Figure 2. X-ray patterns from sand fraction (powder method) of the soils. Ka: kaolinite; Gb: gibbsite; Qz: quartz; An: anatase; Hm: hematite; Mh: maghemite; Mt: magnetite; and Il: ilmenite. Numbers between parentheses correspond to distance between adjacent planes in nanometers (nm) expressed in three decimal places. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

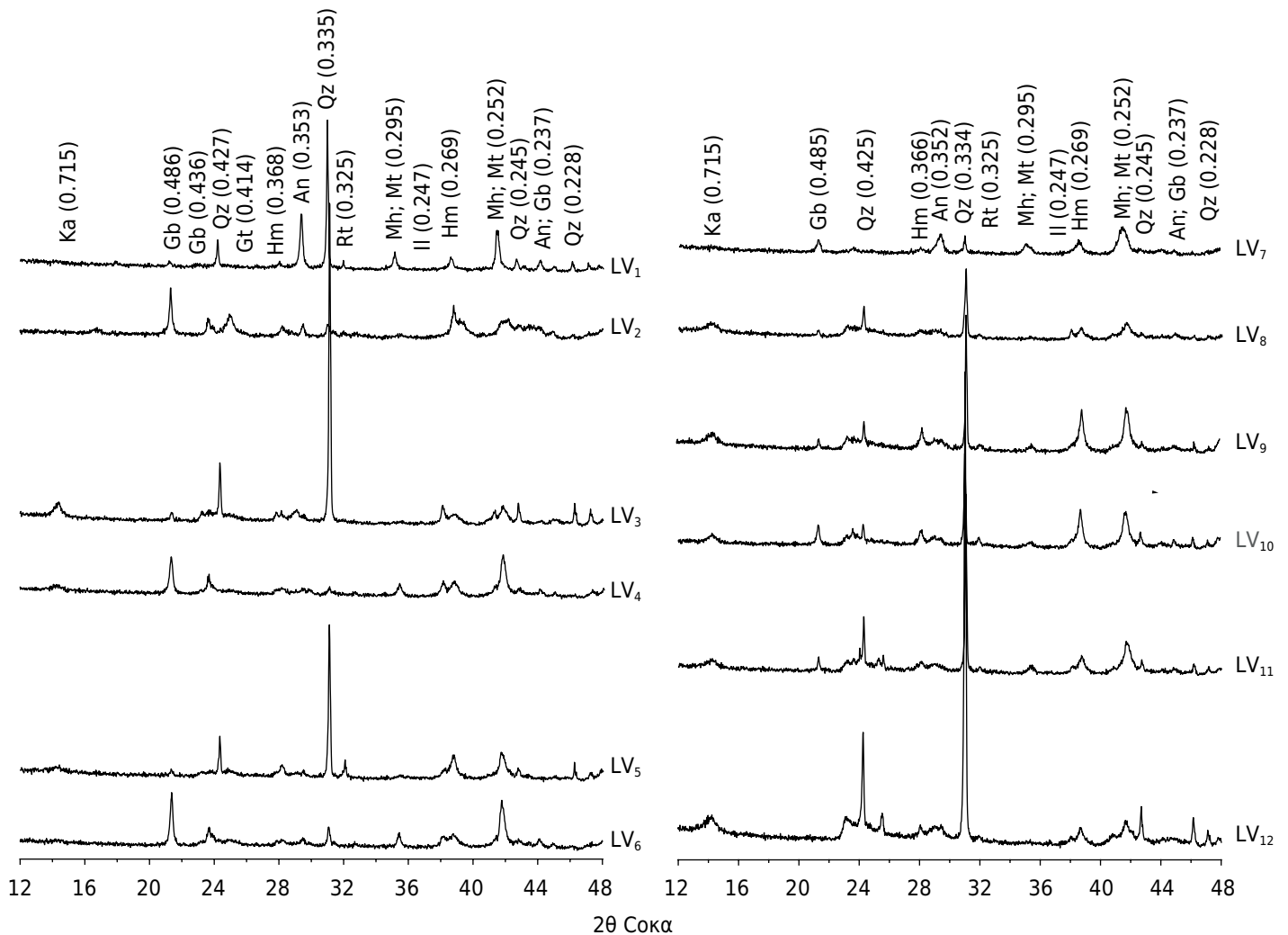


Figure 3. X-ray patterns from silt fraction (powder method) of the soils. Ka: kaolinite; Gb: gibbsite; Qz: quartz; An: anatase; Hm: hematite; Gt: goethite; Mh: maghemite; Mt: magnetite; Rt: rutile; and Il: ilmenite. Numbers between parentheses correspond to distance between adjacent planes in nanometers (nm) expressed in three decimal places. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

intense in soils LV₁ and LV₇, both formed on tuffite. The XRD peaks indicative of Ka, Gb, and Hm were also identified in the sand fraction of most soils. The same minerals were identified in the silt fraction, differing only by XRD peaks 110 of Rt little expressive in most soils (LV₁, LV₂, LV₅, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, LV₁₁, and LV₁₂) (Figure 3). In general, the intensity of XRD peaks of Mt/Mh did not differ significantly between coarse fractions (sand and silt); however, in the silt fraction of soils LV₂, LV₃, LV₅, and LV₈, the XRD peak 220 of these minerals was inexpressive.

Kaolinite, Gb, An, Hm, Mh, Gt, and Ili were identified in the clay fraction (Figure 4). The XRD peaks 001 and 002 of Ka stood out in most samples, except in soils LV₂, LV₆, and LV₇. The XRD peaks indicative of Gb were not observed in soil LV₁₂. In soils LV₂, LV₄, LV₆, and LV₇, the XRD peak 002 of Gb showed higher intensity than XRD peak 001 of Ka. Although present in all soils, the XRD peak 101 of An also showed the highest intensity in the clay fraction of tuffite soils (LV₁ and LV₇). The Hm was identified in all soils through XRD peaks 104 and 110, while XRD peak 110 of Gt was observed only in soils LV₁, LV₂, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, and LV₇. The XRD peaks 311 and 220 of Mh were also identified in the clay fraction of all soils. The XRD peak 001 of Ili was observed only in LV₁.

The Rietveld refinement of XRD patterns of Fe oxides concentrates (Figures 5 and 6) showed great range in contents of Hm (255.8 and 748.3 g kg⁻¹), Gt (120.0 to 591.9 g kg⁻¹), Mh (18.7 and 71.5 g kg⁻¹), and An (0 and 324.1 g kg⁻¹) of soils (Table 1). The Hm/Gt

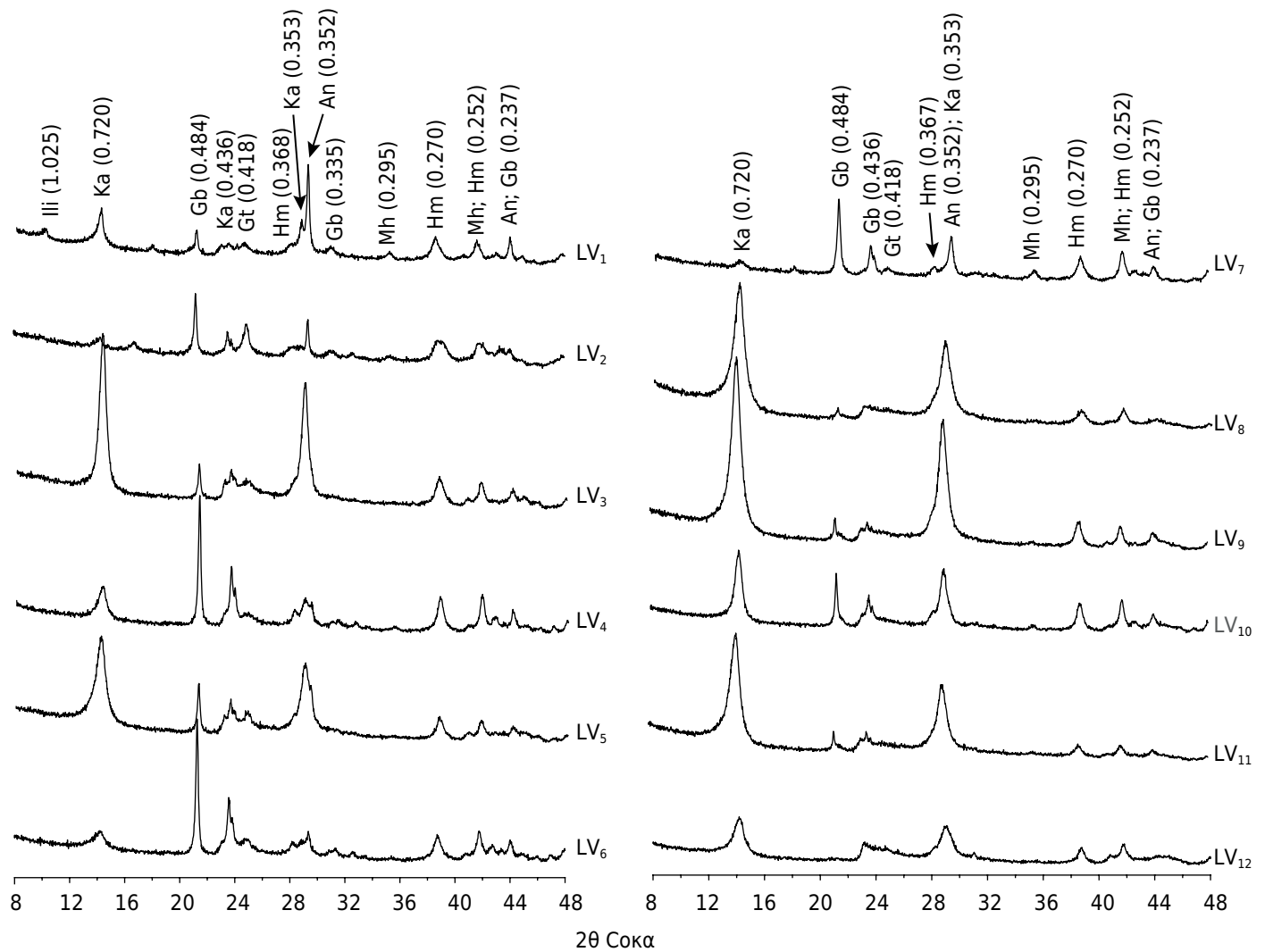


Figure 4. X-ray patterns from clay fraction (oriented slides) of the soils. Ka: kaolinite; Gb: gibbsite; Qz: quartz; An: anatase; Hm: hematite; Gt: goethite; Mh: maghemite; and Illi: illite. Numbers between parentheses correspond to distance between adjacent planes in nanometers (nm) expressed in three decimal places. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

ratio was variable with higher Hm contents for soils LV₃, LV₄, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, LV₁₁, and LV₁₂. The An contents were higher than Hm levels in soils LV₁ (324.1 g kg⁻¹) and LV₇ (320.1 g kg⁻¹) and showed a positive correlation with Ti_s contents ($r = 0.61$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$). The refinement of magnetic mineralogical phases showed no good settings (lower R_{exp}) with Mt, indicating, therefore, inexpression or absence of this mineral in the soil clay fraction.

The interplanar distance (d) from Gt, Hm, and Mh showed homogeneous values among soils (data not shown), while the MCS was variable (Table 2). The MCS ratios ranged from 0.64 to 2.88 in Gt, from 1.03 to 2.55 in Hm, and from 0.51 to 1.31 in Mh. The dimension a values of Mh ranged from 0.831 and 0.833 nm. The Rietveld refinement process also highlighted the presence of Mh with tetragonal crystal system in all soils. Isomorphic substitution of Fe by Al ranged from 0.155 to 0.287 mol mol⁻¹ in Gt, from 0.067 to 0.177 mol mol⁻¹ in Hm, and from 0.059 to 0.144 mol mol⁻¹ in Mh. According to the Hm/(Hm+Gt+Mh), Gt/(Hm+Gt+Mh), and Mh/(Hm+Gt+Mh) ratios, the minerals Hm, Gt, and Mh represent, on average, 54, 41, and 5 % of the total of pedogenic Fe oxides, respectively (Table 1).

Surfaces of ferrimagnetic particles in SMF presented a pattern of black and yellow-reddish colors (Figures 7a, 7b, and 7c). In the black regions, the Raman

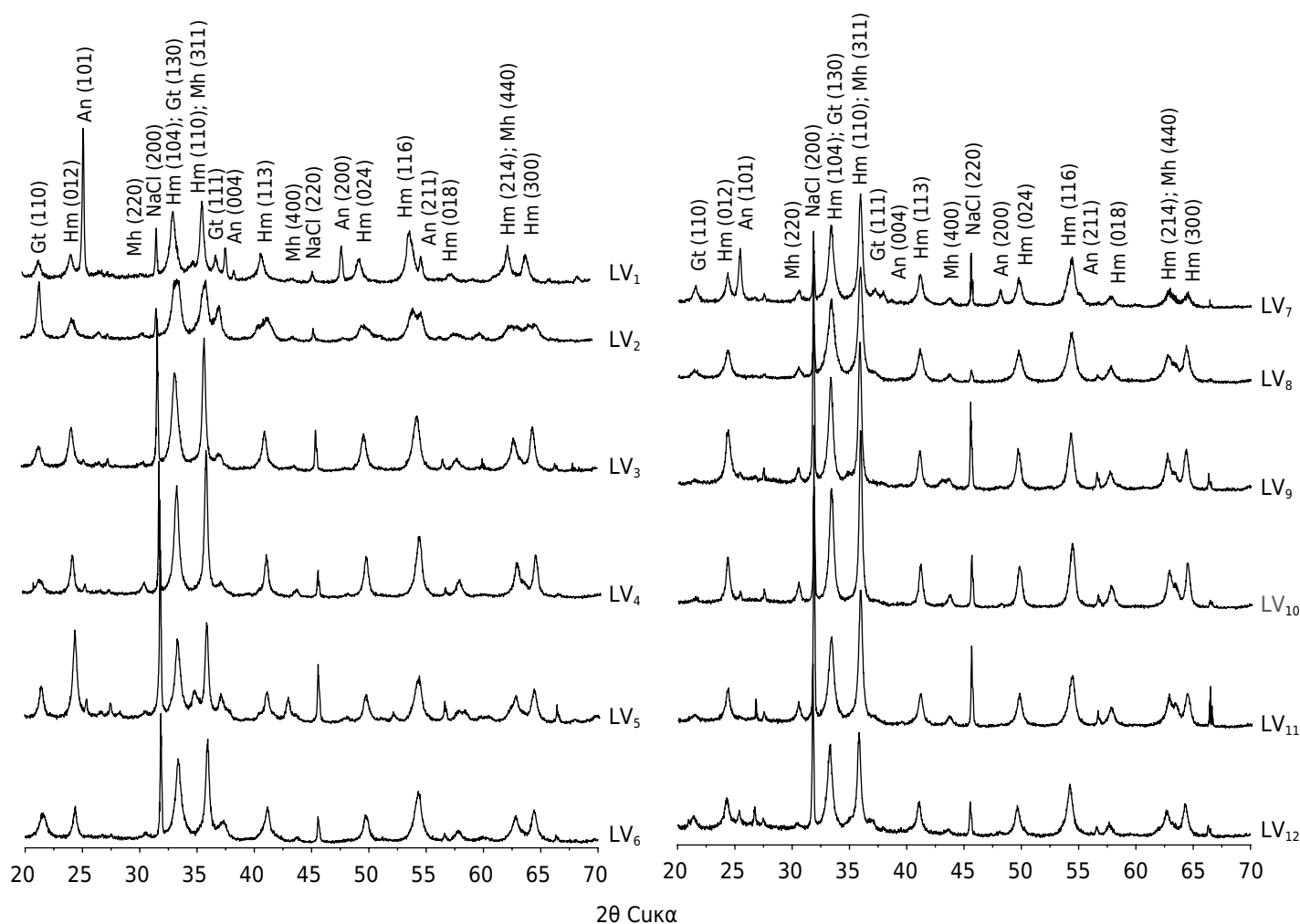


Figure 5. X-ray patterns from clay fraction (powder method) of the soils after alkaline treatment with NaOH 5 mol L⁻¹. Gt: goethite; Hm: hematite; An: anatase; Mh: maghemite; and NaCl: halite (internal standard used). LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

spectra showed vibrational modes in 229 (A_{1g}), 249 (E_g), 295 (E_g), 302 (E_g), 414 (E_g), 500 (A_{1g}), and 615 cm⁻¹ (E_g) corresponding to Hm, and bands ranging from 665 to 678 cm⁻¹ and from 699 to 718 cm⁻¹ related to vibrational modes A_{1g} of Mt and Mh, respectively (Hanesch, 2009; Jubb and Allen, 2010; Letti et al., 2017; Sousa et al., 2018) (Figures 7d, 7e, and 7f). In the yellow-reddish areas, strong flowering did not allow identification of vibrational modes.

The Mössbauer spectra of sand and clay fractions are usually dominated by sextets attributable to Hm (ideal formula $\alpha\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$) and Mh (ideal formula $\gamma\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$), in addition to central duplets attributable to Fe³⁺ and Fe²⁺ in Il (FeTiO₃) (Figure 8; corresponding hyperfine parameters in tables 3 and 4). The central duplet of Fe³⁺ could be alternatively assigned to paramagnetic Fe of silicate minerals, or Fe oxides finely divided that show superparamagnetism at room temperature. Sextets attributable to Mt (Fe₃O₄) were identified only in the sand fraction of soils LV₇ and LV₁₁, indicating high oxidation degree of this mineral, since the relationship between the subspectral areas of Fe in octahedral and tetrahedral coordination sites {Fe}/[Fe] were 0.45 for LV₇ and 1.12 for LV₁₁.

Magnetic properties of soils

The χ_{if} values varied considerably in the ADFE fractions (2,328 - 13,464 × 10⁻⁸ m³ kg⁻¹), sand (808 - 13,656 × 10⁻⁸ m³ kg⁻¹), silt (2,000 - 14,987 × 10⁻⁸ m³ kg⁻¹), and clay (2,676 - 10,799 × 10⁻⁸ m³ kg⁻¹) (Table 5). Tuffite soils (LV₁ and LV₇) presented the highest

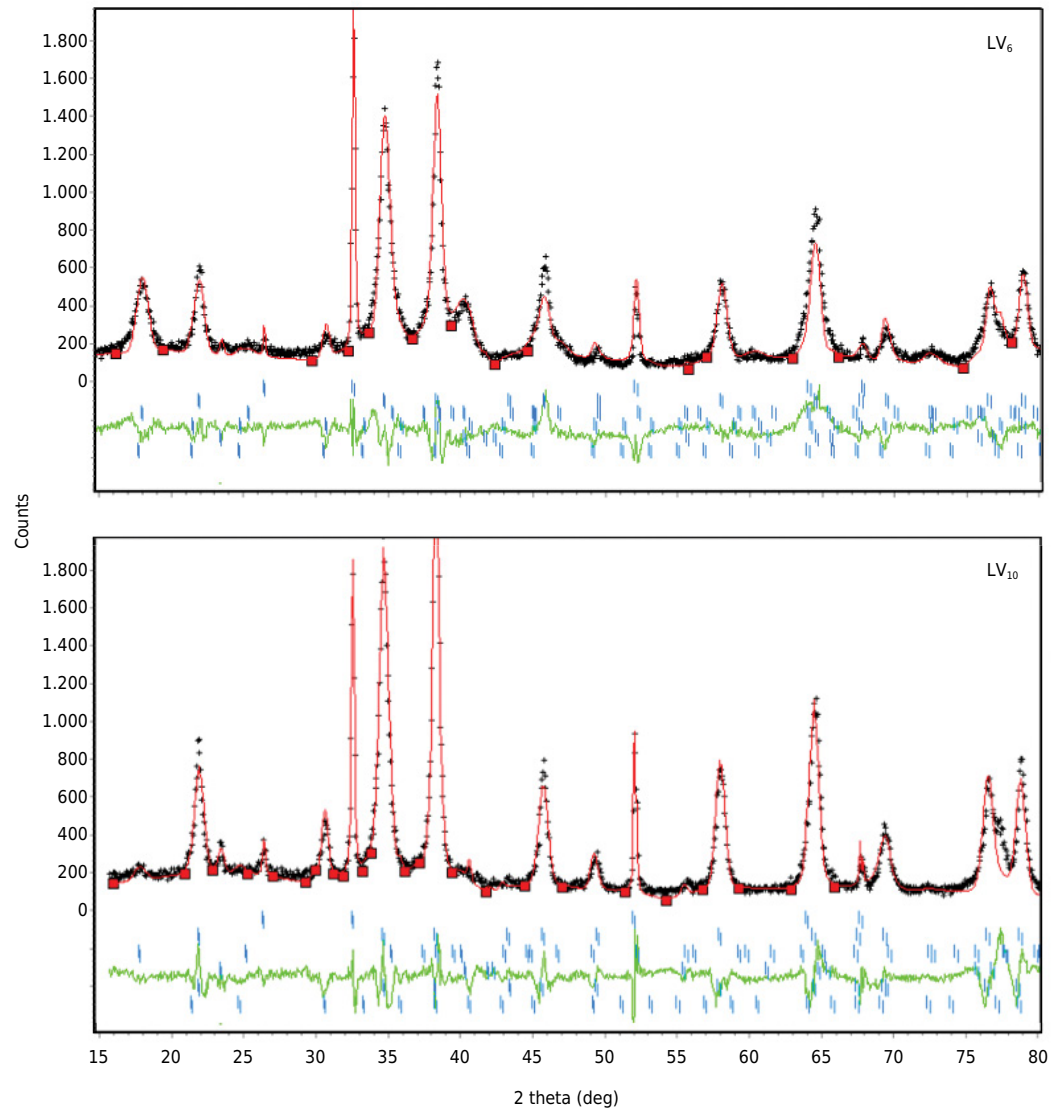


Figure 6. Selected X-ray pattern adjustments by Rietveld refinement method in the clay fraction after alkaline treatment with NaOH 5 mol L⁻¹. Soils LV₆ and LV₁₀.

Table 1. Estimated mineralogical composition of the clay fraction after treatment with NaOH 5 mol L⁻¹ by Rietveld refinement method

Soil	Hm	Gt	Mh	An	Hm/(Hm+Gt+Mh)	Gt/(Hm+Gt+Mh)	Mh/(Hm+Gt+Mh)
g kg ⁻¹							
LV ₁	255.8	401.3	18.7	324.1	0.38	0.59	0.03
LV ₂	455.5	500.5	44.0	0.0	0.46	0.50	0.04
LV ₃	558.7	388.2	26.0	27.1	0.57	0.40	0.03
LV ₄	613.9	302.4	52.3	31.5	0.63	0.31	0.05
LV ₅	307.5	455.3	25.4	211.9	0.39	0.58	0.03
LV ₆	335.6	591.9	49.8	22.7	0.34	0.61	0.05
LV ₇	287.1	321.3	71.5	320.1	0.42	0.47	0.11
LV ₈	517.5	359.5	61.5	61.6	0.55	0.38	0.07
LV ₉	702.3	162.2	44.6	91.0	0.77	0.18	0.05
LV ₁₀	748.3	120.0	63.7	68.0	0.80	0.13	0.07
LV ₁₁	581.3	327.3	49.4	42.0	0.61	0.34	0.05
LV ₁₂	501.0	307.0	27.8	164.2	0.60	0.37	0.03

Hm: hematite; Gt: goethite; Mh: maghemite; and An: anatase. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

Table 2. Values of mean crystal size (MCS), MCS ratios, unit cell parameter (dimension *a*) for maghemite (Mh), and isomorphous substitution of Fe by Al (IS) in goethite (Gt), hematite (Hm), and maghemite (Mh)

Soil	MCS							MCS ratios ⁽¹⁾			Mh ⁽²⁾	IS		
	Gt ₁₁₀	Gt ₁₁₁	Hm ₀₁₂	Hm ₁₀₄	Hm ₁₁₀	Mh ₂₂₀	Mh ₄₀₀	A	B	C	a	Gt	Hm	Mh
	nm										nm	mol mol ⁻¹		
LV ₁	23.30	21.91	21.70	16.95	32.19	13.51	25.16	1.06	1.81	0.54	0.83	0.155	0.097	0.092
LV ₂	38.48	13.35	15.75	10.47	13.32	30.02	25.71	2.88	1.03	1.17	0.83	0.286	0.177	0.144
LV ₃	15.66	13.41	18.55	14.57	38.15	15.06	13.98	1.17	2.51	1.08	0.83	0.236	0.131	0.100
LV ₄	11.87	18.46	28.19	19.73	33.87	19.74	17.84	0.64	1.47	1.11	0.83	0.221	0.113	0.141
LV ₅	26.16	14.52	28.65	18.34	37.23	14.13	15.68	1.80	1.59	0.90	0.83	0.205	0.112	0.059
LV ₆	11.60	11.03	25.94	16.06	29.43	14.11	27.82	1.05	1.38	0.51	0.83	0.287	0.067	0.111
LV ₇	17.99	18.51	21.64	17.43	27.09	19.16	20.93	0.97	1.53	0.92	0.83	0.186	0.122	0.118
LV ₈	15.89	15.82	15.16	13.83	25.61	17.23	20.78	1.00	2.06	0.83	0.83	0.217	0.103	0.079
LV ₉	18.03	n.d.	17.88	21.56	37.29	18.07	14.89	n.d.	2.55	1.21	0.83	n.d.	0.114	0.080
LV ₁₀	12.03	n.d.	27.36	22.42	45.63	27.61	33.64	n.d.	2.04	0.82	0.83	n.d.	0.082	0.102
LV ₁₁	16.13	n.d.	18.43	16.68	25.73	23.23	17.79	n.d.	1.70	1.31	0.83	n.d.	0.122	0.129
LV ₁₂	14.53	n.d.	15.87	18.73	31.03	13.86	23.33	n.d.	2.39	0.59	0.83	n.d.	0.123	0.094

⁽¹⁾ MCS ratios: A = MCS_{Gt110}/MCS_{Gt111}, B = (MCS_{Hm110} × 0.72)/(MCS_{Hm012} × 0.59), and C = MCS_{Mh220}/MCS_{Mh400}. ⁽²⁾ Unit cell parameter (dimension *a*) for cubic Mh estimated by Rietveld refinement. n.d.: not detected; LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

χ_{if} values in the ADFE followed, in descending order, by basalt, itabirite, and diabase, with exception to basalt soils LV₂ and LV₁₂, whose χ_{if} values were lower than of diabase (LV₃). Higher χ_{if} values are commonly found in sand and silt fractions, and are positively correlated with clay contents, with $r = 0.75$ ($p < 0.01$, $n = 12$) and $r = 0.86$ ($p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), respectively.

The clay fraction contributed to most of χ_{if} measured in the ADFE (Figure 9a), and the χ_{if} values measured and estimated in the ADFE are significantly correlated (Figure 9b). The χ_{fd} values also showed notable variations in the ADFE (4.2-12.8 %), sand (0.6-8.0 %), silt (2.6-12.4 %), and clay (13.3-19.1 %) fractions (Table 5). Soil LV₁ presented the lowest χ_{fd} value, and the other soils have χ_{fd} values close to the average of 9.7 %. In general, the χ_{fd} values increase in clay > silt > sand fractions.

Geochemical properties of soils

With K_i values below 2.0 and according to Fe_s contents (Table 6), Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols were classified as mesoferric ($80 \text{ g kg}^{-1} \leq Fe_2O_3 < 180 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$; LV₁₂), ferric ($180 \text{ g kg}^{-1} \leq Fe_2O_3 < 360 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$; LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁) and perferric ($Fe_2O_3 > 360 \text{ g kg}^{-1}$; LV₂ and LV₇) (Santos et al., 2018). The Fe_s contents are significantly correlated with the χ_{if} values of ADFE ($r = 0.67$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), sand ($r = 0.57$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$), silt ($r = 0.66$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), and clay ($r = 0.82$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$) fractions. The Ti_s contents (expressed in oxides) ranged from 16.2 to 111.9 g kg^{-1} , with the highest values observed in soils LV₁ and LV₇, derived from tuffite. Conversely, the soil originated from itabirite (LV₂) presented the lowest Ti_s value.

Iron contents relating to pedogenic Fe oxides ranged from 98.3 to 183.0 g kg^{-1} for Fe_d , from 42.5 to 115.2 g kg^{-1} for Fe_{sulf} , and from 3.5 to 8.9 g kg^{-1} for Fe_o . The values of Fe_o/Fe_d ratio were below 0.05, while for Fe_d/Fe_s ratio, the lowest value found was 0.57 (LV₂). The average values of Fe_{sulf}/Fe_d (0.59) and Fe_{sulf}/Fe_s (0.45) indicate strong Fe_{sulf} contribution on total contents of Fe_d and Fe_s . The Fe_d ($r = 0.50$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$), Fe_{sulf} ($r = 0.77$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), and Fe_o ($r = 0.65$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$) showed positive correlation with χ_{if} in the clay fraction. The χ_{fd} in the clay fraction showed no significant correlation with the contents of clay and Fe_d ; however, χ_{fd} showed a negative correlation with the Fe_{sulf} contents ($r = -0.52$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$).

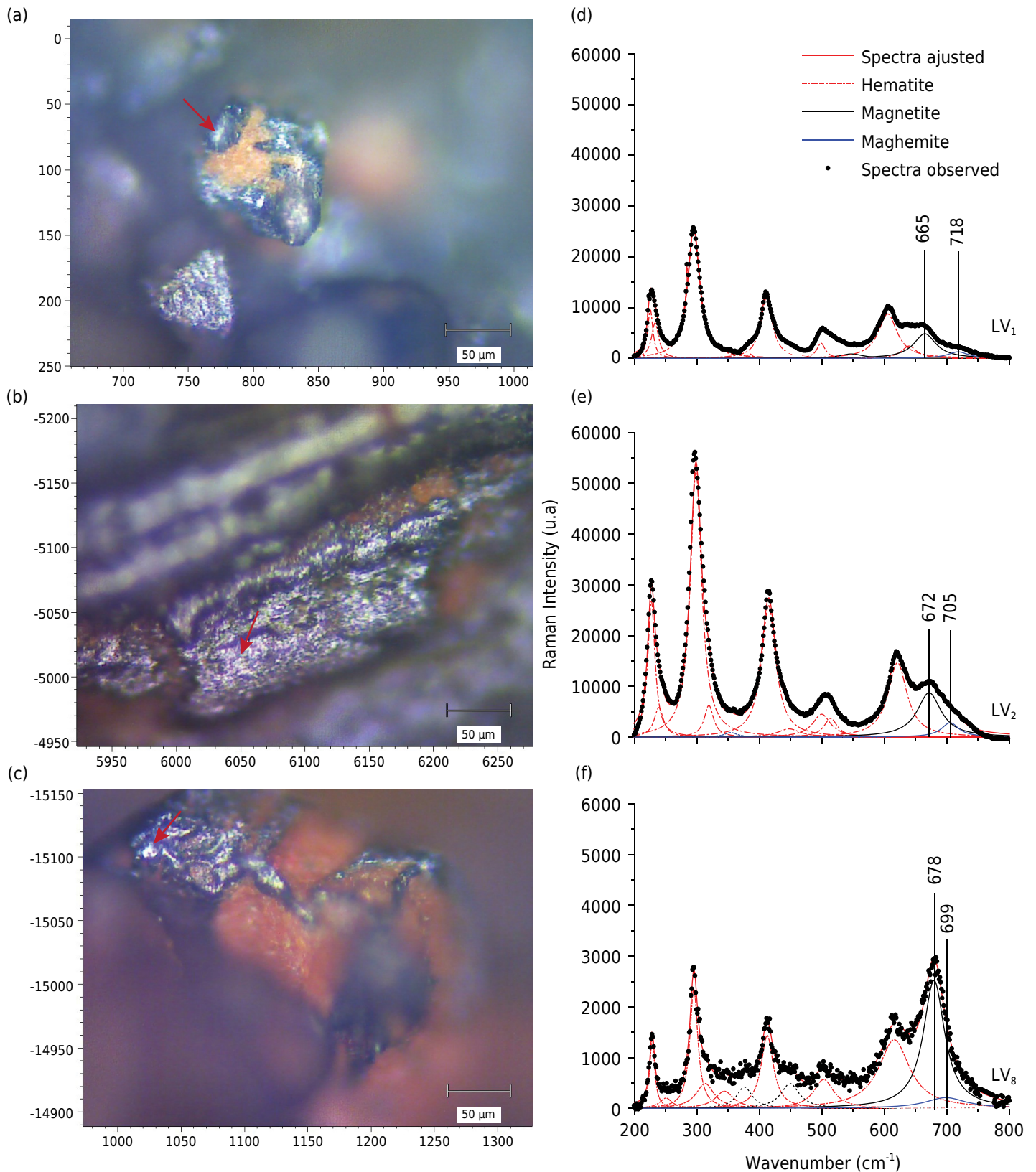


Figure 7. Particle surfaces of the sand magnetic fraction in selected soils LV₁ (a), LV₂ (b), and LV₈ (c) (scale of image = 50 μm) and their respective Raman spectra (d, e, and f). The white arrows indicate collection sites of Raman spectra (black color). These image patterns (a, b, and c) and Raman spectra (d, e, and f) are found in all soils.

The total contents of trace elements (TE) showed wide variations in all studied fractions (Figure 10). The highest TE contents were found in coarse fractions, mainly in the SMF fraction, followed by sand and silt fractions. Soils LV₁ (12,060 mg kg⁻¹, tuffite),

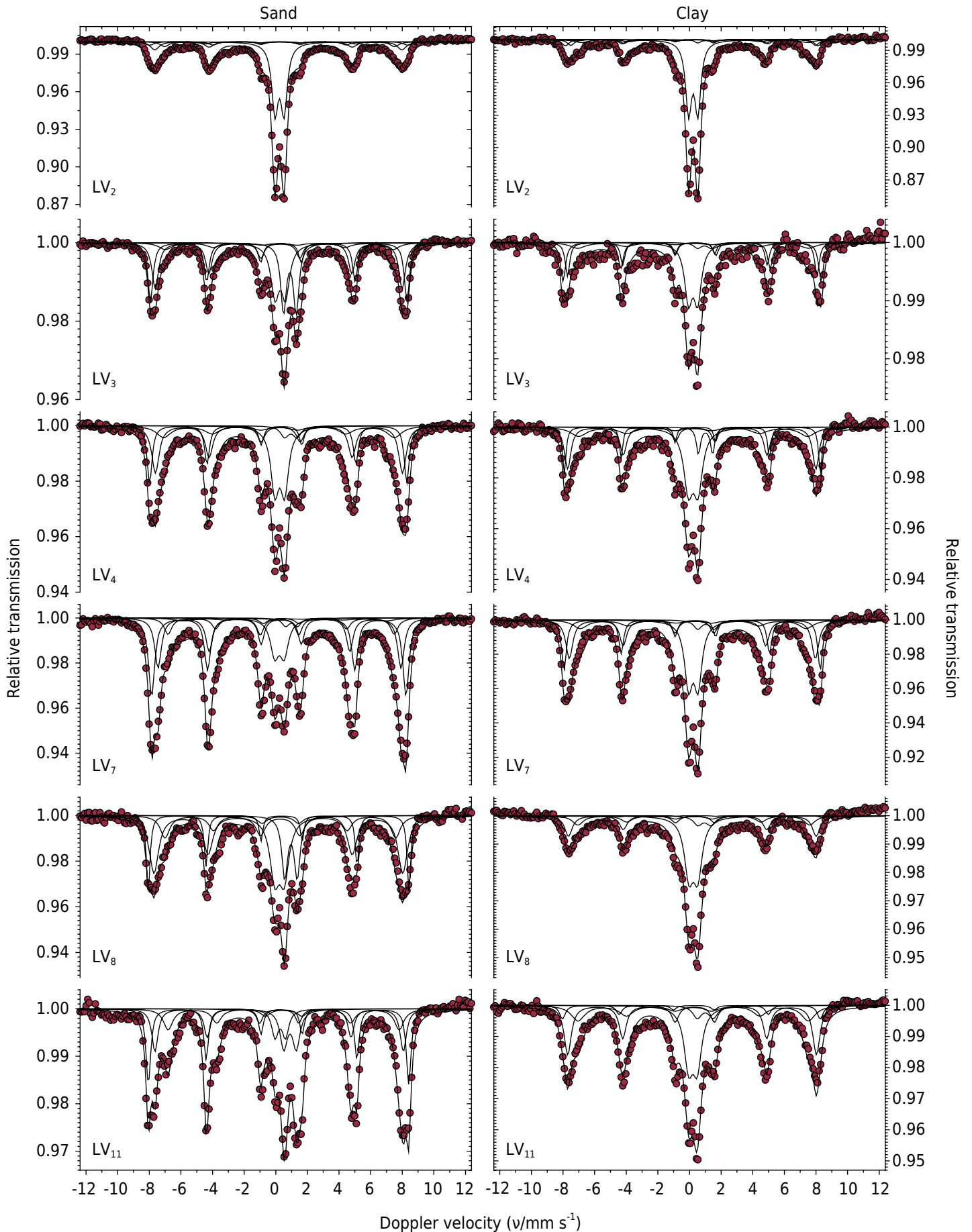


Figure 8. Mössbauer spectra of the sand and clay fractions in selected soils LV₂, LV₃, LV₄, LV₇, LV₈, and LV₁₁.

Table 3. ^{57}Fe hyperfine parameters at room temperature ($\sim 298\text{ K}$) for sand fraction of selected soils LV₂, LV₃, LV₄, LV₇, LV₈, and LV₁₁

Soil	Fe site	Δ	$2\epsilon, \Delta$		Γ	B_{hf}	AR
			mm s ⁻¹				
					T	%	
LV ₂	Hematite	0.35(1)	-0.13(1)		0.67(2)**	50.60(1)	10.20(4)
	Hematite	0.33(1)	-0.15(1)		0.67(2)**	48.50(1)	23.50(4)
	Maghemite	0.34(1)	0*		0.67(2)**	45.09(3)	14.30(2)
	Fe ³⁺	0.34(1)	0.57(1)		0.49(1)		52.00(1)
LV ₃	Hematite	0.36(1)	-0.14(1)		0.39(3)	50.29(8)	20.80(4)
	Hematite	0.34(1)	-0.10(1)		0.50(3)	48.42(8)	27.10(5)
	Maghemite	0.31(1)	0*		0.97(8)	44.60(3)	15.10(3)
	Fe ³⁺	0.38(1)	0.66(2)		0.63(2)		22.90(1)
	Fe ²⁺	0.99(1)	0.80(1)		0.42(2)		14.10(1)
LV ₄	Hematite	0.36(1)	-0.21(1)		0.37(2)	50.44(5)	15.40(5)
	Hematite	0.35(1)	-0.10(1)		0.57(4)	48.45(7)	29.70(9)
	Maghemite	0.31(1)	0*		1.12(5)	45.30(3)	27.90(9)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(9)	0.60(9)		0.62(2)**		23.00(1)
	Fe ²⁺	0.90(9)	0.80(9)		0.62(2)**		4.00(1)
LV ₇	Hematite	0.34(1)	-0.12(1)		0.39(2)	50.28(4)	21.10(6)
	Hematite	0.36(1)	-0.12(1)		0.55(2)	48.24(4)	37.70(9)
	Maghemite	0.38(1)	0*		0.94(4)	44.40(1)	23.30(6)
	Fe ³⁺	0.34(1)	0.60(1)		0.70(2)		15.70(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.12(2)	0.90(3)		0.38(4)		2.20(1)
LV ₈	Hematite	0.37(1)	-0.19(1)		0.27(7)	51.10(2)	8.30(9)
	Hematite	0.32(1)	-0.11(1)		0.72(2)**	48.80(2)	43.40(9)
	Maghemite	0.39(1)	0*		0.72(2)**	45.25(6)	16.90(2)
	Fe ³⁺	0.33(1)	0.66(3)		0.74(3)		22.80(2)
	Fe ²⁺	1.06(2)	0.79(4)		0.44(4)		8.60(2)
LV ₁₁	Hematite	0.37(1)	-0.19(1)		0.35(2)	51.06(3)	23.90(3)
	Magnetite	0.31(1)	0*		0.48(3)	48.71(6)	24.70(4)
		0.60(1)	0*		0.72(3)	45.32(7)	27.60(3)
	Fe ³⁺	0.38(2)	0.66(3)		0.50(4)		8.70(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.00(1)	0.79(2)		0.56(3)		15.10(1)

δ : isomeric displacement relative to the αFe ; 2ϵ : quadrupole shift; Δ : quadrupole splitting; Γ : full width at half maximum; B_{hf} : hyperfine field; AR: relative subspectral area; LV₃, LV₄, LV₈, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂ and LV₇: Rhodic Acrudox. The numbers in parentheses are uncertainties over the last significant digit of the corresponding values, estimated as standard deviation as output from the non-linear least squares method, according to the computer algorithm used for numerical fitting of the Mössbauer spectra to Lorentzian functions of the resonance lines. * Fixed parameter. ** Restricted parameter.

LV₁₂ (10,784 mg kg⁻¹, basalt), and LV₅ (10,777 mg kg⁻¹, basalt) showed the highest TE contents in SMF. The total TE contents in the ADFE showed significant correlation with the Ti_s contents ($r = 0.69$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$) and not significant with the Fe_s contents ($r = -0.10$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 12$). However, when we exclude the itabirite soil (LV₂), this correlation with Fe_s becomes significant ($r = 0.61$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 11$). Similarly, TE contents in the ADFE are significantly correlated with the χ_{if} values in ADFE ($r = 0.58$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 11$), sand ($r = 0.56$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 11$), silt ($r = 0.58$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 11$), and clay ($r = 0.50$, $p < 0.05$, $n = 11$) fractions. In addition, TE contents in the clay fraction also showed significant correlation with those in coarse fractions, sand ($r = 0.87$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), silt ($r = 0.74$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$), and SMF ($r = 0.73$, $p < 0.01$, $n = 12$). In soils LV₁, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₇, LV₉, and LV₁₁, TE are predominantly from sand and silt fractions (Figures 11a and 11b).

Table 4. ^{57}Fe hyperfine parameters at room temperature ($\sim 298\text{ K}$) for clay fraction of selected soils LV₂, LV₃, LV₄, LV₇, LV₈, and LV₁₁

Soil	Fe site	Δ	$2\epsilon, \Delta$		Γ	B_{hf}	AR
			mm s^{-1}				
						T	%
LV ₂	Hematite	0.34(2)	-0.21(3)		0.50(5)	49.50(2)	11.10(4)
	Hematite	0.39(2)	-0.11(4)		0.52(7)	48.00(2)	11.10(4)
	Maghemite	0.40(2)	0*		1.06(8)	44.30(3)	23.10(9)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(9)	0.60(9)		0.46(1)**		52.20(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.00(9)	1.00(9)		0.46(1)**		2.50(1)
LV ₃	Hematite	0.37(1)	-0.22(2)		0.38(4)	50.60(1)	20.10(4)
	Hematite	0.36(1)	-0.17(2)		0.33(7)	48.90(1)	13.50(4)
	Maghemite	0.33(3)	0*		1.20(1)	45.20(4)	29.30(4)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(9)	0.60(9)		0.58(3)**		33.70(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.00(9)	0.90(9)		0.58(3)**		3.40(1)
LV ₄	Hematite	0.37(1)	-0.19(2)		0.25(9)	50.20(4)	7.20(1)
	Hematite	0.35(1)	-0.21(1)		0.49(5)	48.70(1)	24.00(8)
	Maghemite	0.33(2)	0*		1.21(7)	44.90(2)	31.60(9)
	Fe ³⁺	0.33(1)	0.61(3)		0.70(2)		34.00(2)
	Fe ²⁺	1.11(8)	0.90(1)		0.32(6)		3.20(2)
LV ₇	Hematite	0.37(1)	-0.20(1)		0.36(3)	50.23(8)	15.70(9)
	Hematite	0.35(1)	-0.13(1)		0.53(3)	48.30(1)	27.00(1)
	Maghemite	0.34(2)	0*		1.10(5)	44.30(2)	25.20(9)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(1)	0.60(2)		0.61(1)**		28.10(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.10(8)	1.00(1)		0.61(1)**		4.00(1)
LV ₈	Hematite	0.35(9)	-0.20(2)		0.59(2)**	51.10(9)	1.90(2)
	Hematite	0.36(1)	-0.17(2)		0.59(2)	48.60(1)	24.50(2)
	Maghemite	0.37(1)	0*		0.82(2)**	45.50(1)	21.70(2)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(5)	0.60(9)		0.68(1)**		44.70(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.00(9)	0.80(9)		0.68(1)**		7.20(1)
LV ₁₁	Hematite	0.29(2)	-0.15(4)		0.40(1)	50.50(3)	5.10(7)
	Hematite	0.35(1)	-0.17(1)		0.55(4)	48.78(9)	29.70(9)
	Maghemite	0.33(1)	0*		1.05(4)	45.20(2)	33.20(6)
	Fe ³⁺	0.30(9)	0.50(9)		0.68(2)**		26.30(1)
	Fe ²⁺	1.10(9)	1.00(9)		0.68(2)**		5.70(1)

δ : isomeric displacement relative to the αFe ; 2ϵ : quadrupole shift; Δ : quadrupole splitting; Γ : full width at half maximum; B_{hf} : hyperfine field; AR: relative subspectral area; LV₃, LV₄, LV₈, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂ and LV₇: Rhodic Acrudox. The numbers in parentheses are uncertainties over the last significant digit of the corresponding values, estimated as standard deviation as output from the non-linear least squares method, according to the computer algorithm used for numerical fitting of the Mössbauer spectra to Lorentzian functions of the resonance lines. * Fixed parameter. ** Restricted parameter.

DISCUSSION

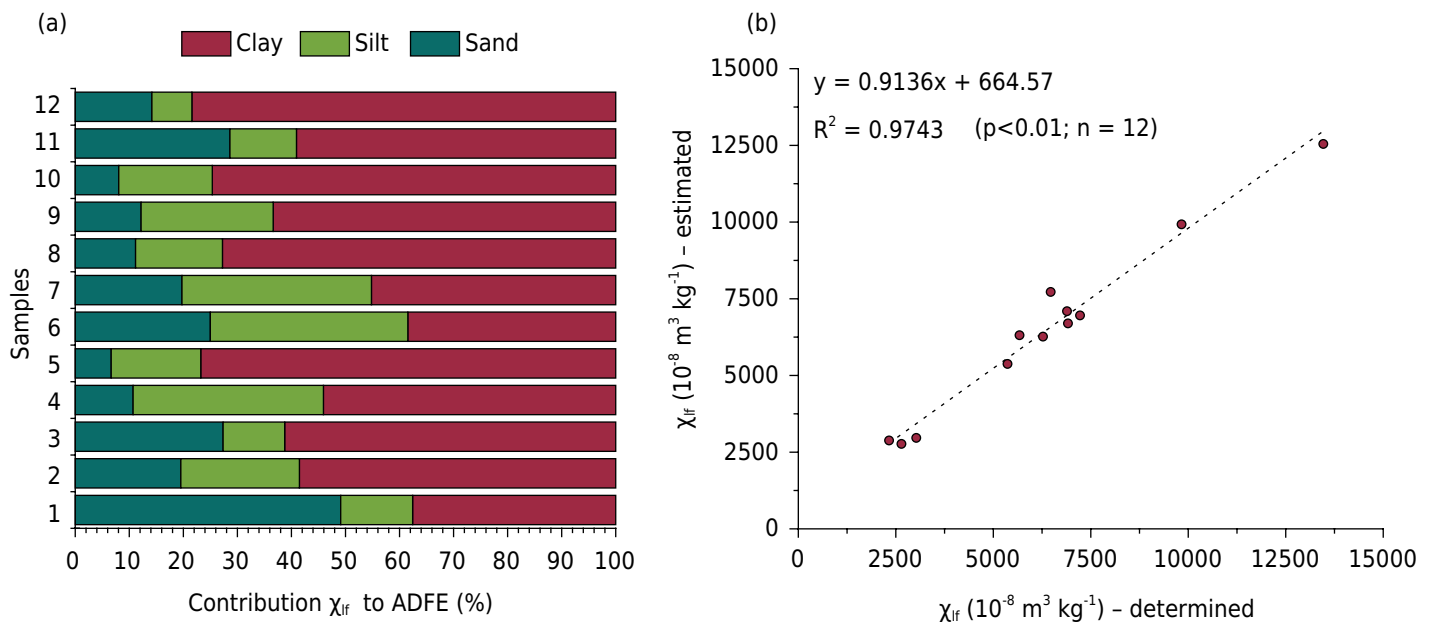
Mineralogical study

The mineralogical composition of soils was consistent with reports of other authors regarding Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (*Latossolos Vermelhos*) derived from mafic rocks (Costa et al., 2014; Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2018; Poggere et al., 2018). Regardless of the particle size, the XRD analysis was not efficient in differentiating the ferrimagnetic Fe oxides, Mt, and Mh, because they present very similar XRD peaks, limiting an accurate identification (Fontes et al., 2000; Camêlo et al., 2018).

Table 5. Particle size proportion, and magnetic susceptibility (χ_{if}) and dependent frequency (χ_{fd}) in ADFE, sand, silt, and clay fractions

Soil	Particle sizes ⁽¹⁾			χ_{if} ⁽²⁾			χ_{fd} ⁽²⁾				
	Sand	Silt	Clay	ADFE	Sand	Silt	Clay	ADFE	Sand	Silt	Clay
	g kg ⁻¹			10 ⁻⁸ m ³ kg ⁻¹			%				
LV ₁	314.9	107.8	577.3	7,226	10,851	8,586	4,528	4.2	0.6	2.6	15.6
LV ₂	211.7	237.0	551.3	6,473	7,125	7,149	8,198	10.4	5.3	10.9	14.1
LV ₃	213.2	108.4	678.5	3,025	3,805	3,119	2,676	8.8	4.1	6.8	19.1
LV ₄	111.4	269.3	619.3	9,828	9,545	12,975	8,668	9.4	4.6	5.7	17.4
LV ₅	237.1	137.2	625.8	2,328	808	3,482	3,535	12.8	2.7	6.0	18.7
LV ₆	280.2	245.4	474.4	6,891	6,328	10,563	5,752	8.8	8.0	4.0	18.4
LV ₇	181.4	293.4	525.1	13,464	13,656	14,987	10,799	8.5	5.0	3.5	13.3
LV ₈	102.9	166.4	730.7	6,275	6,796	6,053	6,239	11.9	2.5	10.1	14.9
LV ₉	105.0	203.2	691.8	5,366	6,242	6,466	4,925	9.7	5.1	5.9	15.9
LV ₁₀	108.1	160.3	731.5	5,673	4,699	6,812	6,440	10.8	8.0	7.9	14.7
LV ₁₁	269.2	94.5	636.3	6,916	7,122	8,717	6,216	8.3	0.9	4.8	13.7
LV ₁₂	114.0	102.5	783.5	2,645	3,445	2,000	2,771	12.3	7.3	12.4	16.9

⁽¹⁾ Pipette method (Teixeira et al., 2017); ⁽²⁾ Method described in Dearing (1999). LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.


Figure 9. Estimated contribution of sand, silt, and clay fractions to the χ_{if} of ADFE (a), and correlation between estimated and determined χ_{if} in the ADFE (b).

Anatase is an important Ti-source in soils of mafic rocks, especially in those originating from tuffite, and its origin is probably associated with II weathering, primary mineral found in coarse fractions (Costa et al., 2014). The stability of microaggregates of Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols favored the permanence of minerals of the clay fraction, such as Ka, Hm, Gb, and Gt, also in coarse fractions even after the chemical and mechanical dispersion procedures, as noted by Camêlo et al. (2018).

In Fe-rich soils, the XRD peak intensity 110 of Hm is usually higher than the XRD peak 104 of this mineral (Costa et al., 1999; Camêlo et al., 2018). This is due to the overlap of XRD peak 311 of Mt/Mh in coarse fractions (sand and silt) and Mh in the clay fraction.

Table 6. Contents of Si_s, Fe_s, Al_s, and Ti_s extracted by sulfuric digestion (expressed in oxides), Ki index, and Fe obtained in the clay fraction by sequential extractions with Na-citrate-bicarbonate-dithionite (Fe_d), H₂SO₄ 1.8 mol L⁻¹ (Fe_{sulf}), and only one extraction with acid oxalate ammonium (Fe_o)

Soil	SiO ₂	Fe ₂ O ₃	Al ₂ O ₃	TiO ₂	Ki ⁽¹⁾	Fe _d	Fe _{sulf}	Fe _o	Fe _o /Fe _d	Fe _d /Fe _s	Fe _{sulf} /Fe _d	Fe _{sulf} /Fe _s
	g kg ⁻¹					g kg ⁻¹						
LV ₁	93.7	244.7	101.8	79.3	1.56	168.3	98.6	6.2	0.04	0.98	0.59	0.58
LV ₂	5.4	458.8	198.7	16.2	0.05	183.0	81.1	6.3	0.03	0.57	0.44	0.25
LV ₃	180.5	207.9	191.5	40.0	1.60	119.1	43.4	3.8	0.03	0.82	0.36	0.30
LV ₄	95.9	331.9	263.9	61.8	0.62	164.5	110.4	4.5	0.03	0.71	0.67	0.48
LV ₅	116.7	236.8	153.8	34.0	1.29	158.3	53.8	4.0	0.03	0.96	0.34	0.32
LV ₆	84.3	296.0	247.0	67.4	0.58	127.6	87.8	5.6	0.04	0.62	0.69	0.42
LV ₇	29.2	402.3	191.2	111.9	0.26	161.8	115.2	8.9	0.05	0.58	0.71	0.41
LV ₈	232.2	220.5	209.3	27.3	1.89	151.6	104.2	6.2	0.04	0.98	0.69	0.68
LV ₉	238.4	220.1	221.1	34.3	1.83	115.8	90.8	3.7	0.03	0.75	0.78	0.59
LV ₁₀	163.0	227.6	219.3	33.1	1.26	99.4	65.5	3.5	0.03	0.62	0.66	0.41
LV ₁₁	82.1	242.0	191.7	40.1	0.73	121.6	87.5	4.9	0.04	0.72	0.72	0.52
LV ₁₂	188.2	149.8	165.6	23.0	1.93	98.3	42.5	4.5	0.05	0.94	0.43	0.41

⁽¹⁾ Weathering index (Ki), in which $Ki = 1.7 \times SiO_2/Al_2O_3$. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

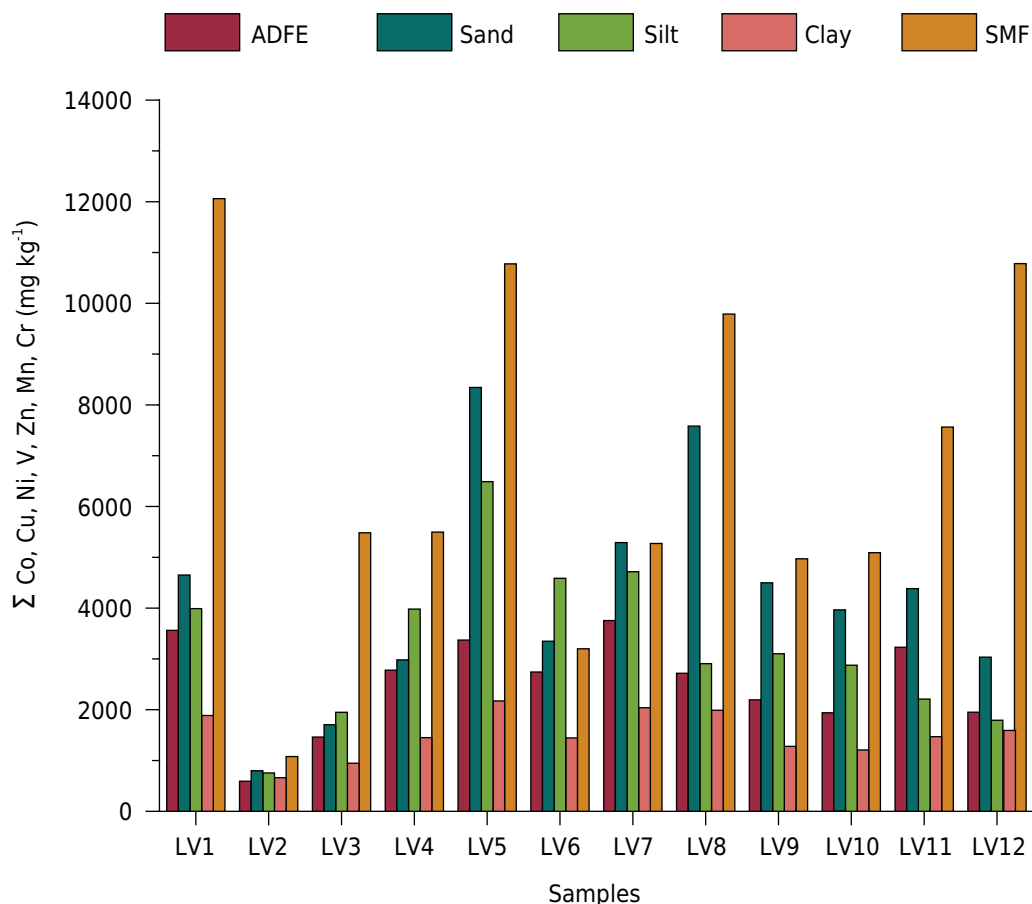


Figure 10. Total trace element contents determined for ADFE, sand, silt, clay, and sand magnetic fraction of the soils. LV₁, LV₃, LV₄, LV₅, LV₆, LV₈, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁: Rhodic Hapludox; LV₂, LV₇, and LV₁₂: Rhodic Acrudox.

The inexpressiveness of XRD peaks of Gt in the clay fraction reflects the strong dilution suffered by this Fe oxide in detriment to others, since after treatment with NaOH 5 mol L⁻¹, the XRD peaks of Gt were easily identified in all soils. The presence of Illi in the clay

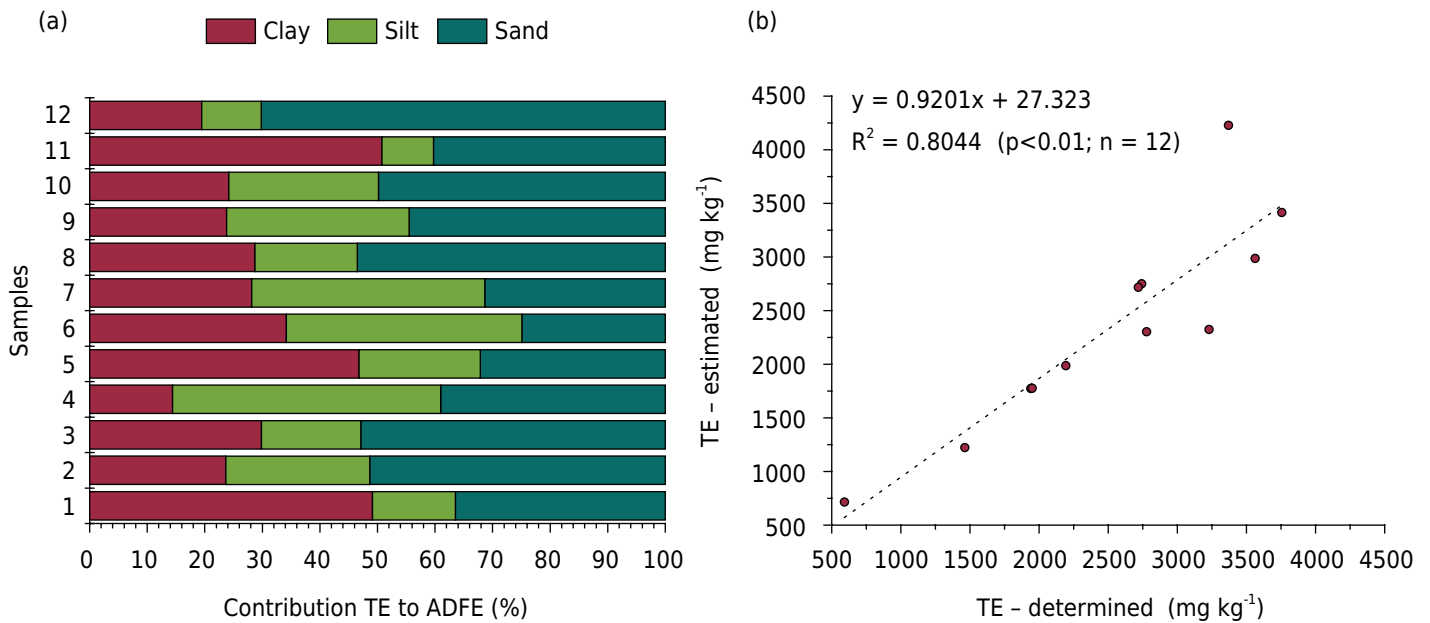


Figure 11. Estimated contribution of sand, silt, and clay fractions to the total trace elements (TE) contents (a), and correlation between estimated and determined total TE in the ADFE (b).

fraction of LV₁ signals the cover of tuffite with other parent materials and its reworking during pedogenesis.

As noted by Camêlo et al. (2017), the MCS ratio values indicated the occurrence of soils with Gt in different ways, isodimensional and acicular, and Hm placoids. Regarding Mh, Eggleton (1988) reported that variations in the crystalline system (cubic or tetragonal) are caused by the location of voids in the structure. If voids are orderly distributed, the Mh will show a tetragonal structure; if they occur randomly, the Mh will be cubic. Magnetite particle size might also contribute to the change of the Mh structure in soils. Magnetite in the sand fraction are generally more stable and undergo oxidation slowly, hence voids in the octahedral sites are probably ordered and the Mh formed is tetragonal. On the other hand, Mt in the silt fraction are less stable and rapidly oxidized, providing randomness to the distribution of voids and formation of cubic Mh as confirmed from the better adjustment by Rietveld refinement method. Although tetragonal Mh is inexpensive according to the Rietveld refinement, the MCS_{Mh220}/MCS_{Mh400} ratio values more distant from one indicate coexistence of both structures, with predominance of cubic Mh for certain soils, as noted by Camêlo et al. (2017).

Dimension *a* values were close to the expected for cubic Mh ($a = 0.8350$ nm) (Eggleton, 1988), consistent with values estimated after Rietveld refinement by Poggere et al. (2018). The values indicate heterogeneity in Mh particle size, which is mainly conditioned by the IS process in the crystal structure (Schulze and Schwertmann, 1984; Batista et al., 2013). According to the values of dimension *a* (<0.8329 nm) and MCS_{Mh220} (<31 nm), the Mh presents high IS (Batista et al., 2013). Since ferrimagnetic particle size determines the type of magnetic behavior, the Mh showed superparamagnetic behavior (<30 nm), which explains the high values of dependent frequency χ_{fd} (>14 %) (Dearing, 1999). In the soils LV₂ and LV₁₀, Mh particles with single domain probably coexist (30-200 nm) (Poggere et al., 2018).

The IS values in Gt and Hm are within the range expected for highly weathered soils (Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2017). The values confirm that Gt can accommodate more Al in its structure as compared to Hm. Generally, Hm presents approximately half of IS values of Gt (Singh and Gilkes, 1992).

The quantitative analysis of minerals in the clay fraction is consistent with the results obtained by other authors (Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2017; Poggere et al., 2018). Our study, similar to Poggere et al. (2018), did not identify Mt in the clay fraction of Rhodic Oxisols originating from mafic rocks. The Mh contents did not exceed the other pedogenic Fe oxides, although some studies have reported higher contents for Hm and Gt of Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2017).

The SMF showed weathering features in ferrimagnetic particles and coexistence of Mt, Mh, and Hm in a single grain. Thus, Mt particles probably inherited from the parent material are transformed into Mh and Hm progressively via aerial oxidation during the weathering of soils (Fontes and Weed, 1991). The change of Mt-Mh-Hm phases by thermal induction can be disregarded because the Raman spectra were obtained with less laser power than required to induce this phenomenon (Jubb and Allen, 2010; Sousa et al., 2018). In contrast, the Mössbauer spectra indicated that Mh is the only ferrimagnetic Fe oxide in the sand fraction of most soils, with the exception of LV₇ and LV₁₁, where highly oxidized Mt traces, {Fe}/[Fe] lower than 1.88 (Vandenberghe et al., 2000), were identified. Silva et al. (2017) also observed only Mh in Oxisols with spontaneous magnetism investigated by the Mössbauer spectroscopy.

According to Singer et al. (1995), the Mössbauer spectroscopy is inefficient to differentiate highly oxidized ferrimagnetic particles in soils. This limitation is related with the interstratification process, which allows the coexistence of Mt, Mh, and Hm in a single ferrimagnetic particle. Possibly, the use of Mössbauer spectroscopy in γ -rays transmission and conversion electrons enables a more detailed observation of the oxidation surface layer in ferrimagnetic particles of the sand fraction. A residual fraction of Mt would remain protected in internal part of magnetic grains, and the oxidized external layer is primarily composed by Mh. The use of two Mössbauer geometries should be highly suitable to solve this matter.

Magnetic study

The χ_{if} values are consistent with those observed by other authors for Fe-rich Oxisols Rhodic in Brazil derived from mafic rocks (Costa et al., 1999; Ramos et al., 2017; Camêlo et al., 2018). Their variations are mainly related to the type of parent material (Lu, 2000; Camêlo et al., 2018) and pedogenesis (Hanesch et al., 2007; Lu et al., 2008; Camêlo et al., 2018), as well as pedoenvironmental conditions (Lu, 2000; Poggere et al., 2018; Camêlo et al., 2018).

Iron-rich Rhodic Oxisols originating from tuffite, itabirite, basalt, and diabase, with expressive χ_{if} , are common due to the abundance of ferrimagnetic Fe oxides inherited from these rocks during the weathering (Costa et al., 1999; Lu, 2000; Oliveira et al., 2000; Costa et al., 2014; Camêlo et al., 2018). The LV₇ (tuffite) showed χ_{if} prominently above all other soils. Due to its high chemical and mineralogical heterogeneity (Fabris et al., 1997), tuffite can originate soils with high χ_{if} reaching much higher values than those on other mafic rocks, as also noted by Camêlo et al. (2018). On the other hand, the range of χ_{if} values for Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols indicates that generalizations between the magnetic properties and the parent material type of soils should be avoided because of the variable ferrimagnetic mineral contents in mafic rocks and addition of diamagnetic mineral components to the soil during pedogenesis (Costa et al., 2014; Ramos et al., 2017; Camêlo et al., 2018).

In Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols, high χ_{if} values in coarse fractions (sand and silt) are certainly caused by the predominance of ferrimagnetic lithogenic particles (Costa et al., 1999; Camêlo et al., 2018). However, we observed that the clay fraction contributes, proportionally, with most χ_{if} in soils, as its value results from proportion and specific magnetic behavior of minerals (Dearing, 1999). Therefore, the clay fraction in most soils contributes to more than 50 % of the χ_{if} value in the ADFE and thus is mainly responsible for magnetic

properties of the studied soils. Conversely, Camêlo et al. (2018) stated that coarse fractions still exert a dominant influence on magnetic properties of some Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols developed from mafic rocks in Minas Gerais, Brazil. The soils in our work possibly have a higher degree of pedogenetic development in terms of ferrimagnetic Fe oxides.

The χ_{fd} values in sand and silt fractions show a mixture of ferrimagnetic particles with different magnetic behavior (Dearing, 1999). The particle sizes in these fractions (0.053-2 mm) indicates predominance of multidomain (MD) ferrimagnetic particles, although χ_{fd} of up to 12.4 % in the silt fraction (LV₁₂) was found. We believe that high-stability of microaggregates, common in Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols (Camêlo et al., 2018), are responsible for the presence of particles with different types of magnetic behavior in coarse fractions. In the clay fraction, the χ_{fd} values (>13.3 %) suggest that more than 75 % of ferrimagnetic particles display superparamagnetic (SP) behavior (Dearing, 1999).

Poggere et al. (2018), in addition to highlighting dominance of SP particles, also detected single-domain particles (SD), pseudo-singles domain (SPD), and MD in soils. According to Peters and Dekkers (2003), Mh and Hm aggregates in Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols can affect the manifestation of magnetic behavior of particles; similarly, the disturbances in the structure of the ferrimagnetic mineral, such as IS in Mh or even an increase of fine antiferromagnetic particles (Nedelkoski et al., 2017). Heterogeneity in the magnetic behavior of ferrimagnetic particles in the clay fraction (Poggere et al., 2018) and conversion of Mh into Hm (Jiang et al., 2018) assures χ_{fd} from being an indicator of pedogenesis to soils derived from mafic rocks.

Geochemical study

The low values of Ki index associated with high Fe_s contents confirmed the mafic nature of the soil's parent materials (Carvalho Filho et al., 2015; Camêlo et al., 2017; Poggere et al., 2018). In Oxisols, pedogenic Fe oxides are dominantly crystalline (Fe_d/Fe_d ≤ 0.06) (Camêlo et al., 2017; Poggere et al., 2018). These authors also highlight Fe_d/Fe_s values lower than 0.8, as observed in LV₂, LV₄, LV₆, LV₇, LV₉, LV₁₀, and LV₁₁. Due to the presence of lithogenic Fe phases, which would be Fe-source in sand and silt fractions, and high IS in pedogenic Fe oxides, especially in Gt, low Fe_d/Fe_s ratios can be observed.

Several authors have used the Fe_{sulf} content to estimate Fe originating from Mh in soils (Schwertmann and Fechter, 1984; Costa et al., 1999; Camêlo et al., 2017; Poggere et al., 2018). The Fe_{sulf}/Fe_d and Fe_{sulf}/Fe_s ratio values indicate that Mh is the main pedogenic Fe oxide of soils, in contrast to Mh contents estimated through the Rietveld refinement. These results reflect the contribution of other mineral phases, such as Hm and Gt, on Fe_{sulf} content, as reported by Camêlo et al. (2017) and Poggere et al. (2018), even when the dissolution time is set according to χ_{if} . Thus, significant correlations between the Fe contents (Fe_s, Fe_d, Fe_o, and Fe_{sulf}) and χ_{if} are related to the strong influence of the parent material (Lu, 2000; Hanesch et al., 2007; Camêlo et al., 2018). On the other hand, correlation between Ti_s contents and χ_{if} values can indicate both the occurrence of Ti-magnetic phases and the efficiency of this element in distinguishing magnetic soils on basic rocks (Fabris et al., 1997; Camêlo et al., 2017).

The total TE contents in Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols are directly associated to ferrimagnetic Fe oxides; the proportion and magnetic behavior of these minerals reflect the influence of the parent material and pedogenesis (Oliveira et al., 2000; Costa et al., 2014; Camêlo et al., 2018). Tuffite, basalt, and diabase originated soils richer in TE compared to the itabirite soil (LV₂), it is consequence of a bedrock formed through metamorphism of sediments rich in Fe and quartz in a poor ionic environment (Costa et al., 2014; Camêlo et al., 2018). The contrast of total TE contents in tuffite and basalt soils was also observed by Camêlo et al. (2018), and demonstrates that the distribution of these elements in the parent material, especially in tuffite, is heterogeneous and influenced by pedoenvironmental conditions (Marques et al., 2004).

The highest total TE values found in SMF, sand, and silt reflect the predominant lithogenic influence on Fe oxides, and in the clay fraction, the lowest values indicate the domain of pedogenic phases (Oliveira et al., 2000; Camêlo et al., 2018). The decrease in particle size leads to losses of these elements in mineral structure during the transformation processes. In addition, the neof ormation of secondary minerals occurs in a poorer ionic environment than that in primary basic rocks (Camêlo et al., 2018). Although lithogenic Fe oxides have higher TE amounts in their structure, it does not mean that sand and silt fractions represent the largest compartments of these elements in the soil. Estimated total TE contents in the ADFE showed that in LV₂, LV₃, LV₈, LV₁₀, and LV₁₂, the clay fraction can contribute with total TE values greater than 50 % (Figures 9a and 9b). Magnetite tends to contribute most of the total TE contents in magnetic Rhodic Oxisols (Camêlo et al., 2018); however, the availability of these elements in the soil solution seems to be controlled by superparamagnetic maghemite, since the smaller particle size would increase its instability (Liu et al., 2010), and possibly its dissolution rate. In contrast, Camêlo et al. (2018) stress that Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols can have their geochemical attributes still controlled by the parent material, because certain TE seem to be correlated with magnetic minerals, especially those found in coarse fractions. Thus, the authors point out natural replacement of some TE in equilibrium reactions of the soil solution during plant development could be more effective in soils with higher concentrations of magnetic particles in coarse fractions (Camêlo et al., 2018).

CONCLUSIONS

In Brazilian Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols originating from mafic rocks, magnetite occurs only in coarse fractions (sand and silt), and as pedogenesis advances, magnetite suffers a reduction of particle size and progressive aerial oxidation, transforming into maghemite and hematite, which concentrate in the clay fraction. Magnetite particles in the silt and sand fractions are highly oxidized (not stoichiometric), characterized by magnetite-maghemite-hematite interstratification. In addition, magnetic susceptibility of these soils can be controlled by both multidomain (magnetite) and superparamagnetic (maghemite) particles, depending on the weathering degree of the ferrimagnetic lithogenic particles. Although the sand and silt fractions generally contain most of the total trace element contents, clay fraction can control the availability of these elements in the soil solution, since the solubility of superparamagnetic maghemites is probably greater than multidomain magnetites in Fe-rich Rhodic Oxisols. We highlight the need for future researches on procedures for efficient dispersion and separation of the granulometric fractions in these soils since it is a problem frequently reported by other authors.

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