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The Effect of finite strain and deformation history of HALABAN area, eastern Arabian shield, Saudi Arabia

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Abstract The present study aims to evaluate a relationship between the mineralogy and structural analysis in the Halaban area and to document the tectonic evolution of Halaban and Al Amar faults. The collected samples were taken from deformed granitiods rocks (such as granite, gneisses and tonalite), metasedimentary, metavolcanic, metagabbro and carbonate rocks are trend to NE-SW with low dip angle in the Halaban area. These samples were 8 from granite, 14 metagabbro, 6 metavolcanics, 5 tonalite, 6 metasedimentary, 10 gneisses and 8 carbonate rocks. Our results are described for the different axial ratios of deformed rocks as the following: XZ sections range from 1.10 to 4.60 in the Fry method and range from 1.70 to 2.71 in the Rf/ϕ method. YZ sections range from 1.10 to 3.34 in the Fry method and range from 1.62 to 2.63 in the Rf/ Phi method. In addition, XY sections range from 1 to 3.51 in the Fry method and range from 1 to 1.27 in the Rf/ϕ method for deformed granite rocks, metasedimentry rocks, and metagabbro. The stretch axes for measured samples in the X direction axes (S_x) variety from 1.06 to 2.53 in the Fry method and vary from 1.20 to 1.45 in the Rf/ϕ method. The values of the Y direction axes (S_Y) vary from 0.72 to 1.43 in the Fry method, which indicates contraction and extension in this direction and vary from 1.13 to 1.37 in the Rf/ϕ method which indicates extension in this direction. Furthermore, the Z

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direction axes (SZ) varies from 0.09 to 0.89 in the Fry method and from 0.52 to 0.71 in the Rf/ ϕ method. The stretches axes in the Z direction (SZ) show a vertical shortening about 11% to 91% in the Fry method and show vertical shortening about 29% to 48% in the Rf/ϕ method. The studied rock units are generally affected by brittle-ductile shear zones, which are sub-parallel to parallel NW or NNW trend. It assumed that different rock types of have similar deformation behavior. Based on these results, it is concluded that the finite strain is accumulated during the metamorphism after that was started the deformation by thrusting activity. The contacts between the different rock types were deformed during thrusting under semi-brittle to ductile deformation conditions by simple shear. A component of vertical shortening is also involved causing subhorizontal foliation in the Halaban area.

Keywords Finite strain . Deformation . Halaban area . Arabian shield . Saudi Arabia

Introduction

Many authors investigated the geology and geochemistry of the Halaban area (e.g. Stoeser, [1986](#page-11-0); Al-Saleh et al., [1998](#page-10-0); Al-Saleh and Boyle, [2001\)](#page-10-0). The Halaban Ophiolite Belt is the biggest ophiolite sheets in the Arabian Shield. Many authors explained the structural analysis of the deformed lithologies exposed in the Halaban area in the east of the Arabian Shield (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)). Rocks to the east are lowgrade metasedimentary units of the Abt Formation and post-amalgamation granitoids. The ophiolitic rocks crop out in hills with relief of about 50 m and are generally well exposed. Unfortunately, the margins of the ophiolite tend to coincide with valleys so that structural details at the boundaries of the ophiolite are largely obscured. From

Fig. 1 a) Location of studied area. b) Tectonostratigraphic terranes in the Arabian Shield (After Nehlig et al., [2002](#page-11-0))

the point of view of the Penrose definition, the rocks in the vicinity of Halaban do not include mantle peridotite, a dike complex, or pillow basalt and, at best, are an incomplete ophiolite (Johnson et al., [2011](#page-11-0)). However, the onstrike continuation of the Halaban rocks includes peridotite, gabbro, serpentinite, listwaenite, and basalt (Al-Shanti and El-Mahdy, [1988\)](#page-10-0). It is possible that the rocks in the vicinity of Halaban village are the mafic plutonic section of an ophiolite, whereas the mantle part is preserved in the north (Fig. [2](#page-2-0)).

Structural technique on the deformed lithologies was explained in the Halaban area in the east of the Arabian Shield. This work was achieved through field work, microstructural and petrology investigation to quantify the finite strain in the Halaban area, felsic and mafic grains have been analyzed by the R_f/ϕ and fry methods (Ramsay and Huber, [1983\)](#page-11-0). It used three finite strain axes such as XY, XZ and YZ sections $(X \ge Y \ge Z)$ to estimate the three dimensional strain geometry. The R_f/ϕ describe the fabric ellipsoid or clast strain and determined Finite strains for measured samples (Ramsay and Huber [1983](#page-11-0);

Kassem and Ring [2004;](#page-11-0) Kassem and Abdel Raheim, [2010;](#page-11-0) Kassem, [2011](#page-11-0), [2014,](#page-11-0) [2015](#page-11-0); Kassem et al., [2012;](#page-11-0) Al-Saleh and Kassem, [2012;](#page-10-0) Kassem and Hamimi, [2014](#page-11-0)).

Many authors suggested that the Arabian Shield may be the result of a fusion of a number of arcs islands that originated in the ocean basin above the oceanic crust and put the models for that (e.g. Al-Shanti and Mitchell, [1976;](#page-10-0) Gass [1977](#page-11-0); Schmidt et al., [1979](#page-11-0) and Camp, [1984](#page-10-0)). On the other hand, some authors (Garson and Shalaby, [1976;](#page-11-0) Delfour, [1981](#page-10-0) and Kemp et al., [1982](#page-11-0)) believed that the Arabian Shield has originated and the evolution of either the formation tectonic of activity melting or fission of the continental crust of siliciferous earthbound old or a combination of both. This application can the theory of the composition Arabian Shield a fusion a number of island arcs and theory is prevalent and acceptable.

In the present work, we aims to study and declare the structural history and the geometry of the Halaban area through some information about finite strain, strain variation patterns and deformation history for collected

samples from Halaban area. In the concerned area, we use these data from finite strain and the behavior of the tectonic contact during deformation.

Geological Background

The Arabian Shield structurally related to the diverse and polyphase geodynamic events (Fig. [1](#page-1-0)). The Arabian Shield be the result of a fusion a number of small plates, and this theory shows the distribution of the five different geological regions in the Arabian Shield, which separates it from each other by Sutures a fusion tectonic exposed to it belts ophiolite are clear (e.g. Vail, [1983;](#page-11-0) Camp, [1984](#page-10-0) and Stoeser et al., [1984](#page-11-0); Al-Shanti and Abo Omar, [2003\)](#page-10-0). Stoeser and Camp [\(1985\)](#page-11-0) divided of the Arabian Shield to five regions of geologically and tectonically, two regions Afif and Al Rayn region which is most likely that is continental origin, which represent the eastern part of the Arabian Shield. Either the other three regions are Asir and the Hijaz and the Madyan of which consisting of arcs Islands within the oceanic crust, which represent the western part of the Arabian Shield (Fig. [1\)](#page-1-0). Recently, Doebrich et al. ([2007](#page-10-0)) suggested that the geological map of the Arabian Shield divided into eight regions, Asir region, Jiddah region, Hijaz region and Madyan region, which represented the western part of the shield, while Afif region, Dawadimi region, Hail region and Ar Rayn region represent the eastern part of the Arabian shield (see Fig. [1](#page-1-0)). Doebrich et al. [\(2007\)](#page-10-0) suggested that geological map of the Arabian Shield are shown six intermittent belts of mafic and ultramafic rocks and which separates to eight regions of the Arabian Shield and parallel to the appears general extensions for groups of layered rocks. Halaban belt separated Afif and Ad Dawadimi regions which represented by the tectonic movement (Doebrich et al., [2007\)](#page-10-0).

The geological setting for studied area is characterized by two main stratigraphic units: ophiolite complexes and Abt Formation clastic sediments, which represent the Urd Group (Delfour, [1979](#page-10-0)). The Urd Group is thought to form a broad synclinorium with the ophiolitic rocks at the base and the Abt Formations the core (Delfour, [1979\)](#page-10-0). The ophiolitic rocks are composed mainly of serpentinized harzburgite, dunite, gabbro, and tholeiitic metabasalt in which pillow structures are locally preserved. Chert and ferruginous jasper are intercalated with the metabasalt (Delfour, [1979\)](#page-10-0). Siliceous calcdolomite rock (listwaenite) occurs throughout the belts (Fig. 2). The Halaban Ophiolite Belt is replaced by a heterogeneous assemblage of metabasites, metasediments and serpentinites that make up the sub-ophiolitic metamorphic complex (Al-Saleh and Boyle, [2001](#page-10-0)). Due east of this complex is an area of low relief underlain mainly by heterogeneous granitic rocks of the Abu lsnun Pluton associated with the high-grade schists and migmatites of the Artawi sructural window (Fig. 2). Along the eastern margin of the Afif Terrane and west of the Halaban Gabbro Belt is the southern extension of the Suwaj talc-alkaline magmatic arc (Stoeser, [1986\)](#page-11-0). A biotite monzogranite from the Abu Isnun pluton was investigated by Delfour [\(1979\)](#page-10-0). He interpreted this complex to be of 32 Page 4 of 12 Arab J Geosci (2017) 10: 32

Middle Proterozoic age or older, but stratigraphically above the older basement unit, and intrusive into the Urd group. It considered that this monzogranite is primarily a product of partial melting of the Abt Formation and that it inherited zircons from that source, or perhaps from the older Afif crust. In any case, some authors do not accept it as an older basement plutonic unit, but rather as a younger syntectonic intrusive rock, similar in age to the others intruding the Urd group (Fig. [2](#page-2-0)).

The Abt Formation, or Abt schist, is a folded monotonous series of sericite and /or chlorite schist occupying a belt approximately 40 km wide between the Urd mafic belt at Halaban and the Al Amar fault (Delfour, [1979,](#page-10-0) [1981\)](#page-10-0). The unit consists of sericite-chlorite schist that grade to lightly metamorphosed fine-grained greywacke and subordinate carbonaceous schist, conglomerate, arkosic sandstone, and dolomitic marble (Delfour, [1979](#page-10-0)). The unit is generally metamorphosed to the upper green schist facies, but near intrusions may reach the amphibolite facies. The Abt Formation is predominantly thin bedded and tightly to isoclinally folded, with ubiquitous shears nearly parallel to bedding planes. Schistosity is generally parallel to bedding plane except in fold closures and is commonly crenulated by refolding.

Sampling and data Collection

A total of 57 samples were collected from Halaban area. It found west of Riyadh region on the road to Mecca, Riyadh and about 300 km in high away from Riyadh city. Halaban area located between latitudes N 23° 22′ and N 23° 33′ and longitudes E 044° 11′ and E 44° 25′ (Fig. [3](#page-4-0)). The collected samples are represented the different rock types such as granitiods, metagabbro, Metavolcanosedimentry rocks, gneisses, and schist.

In the present area, we used to quantify the finite strain for deformed granite, metavolcanic and metasedimentary in the Halaban area such as feldspar (k-feldspars and plagioclase) grains, quartz and mafic grains (hornblende, biotite and chlorite) have been measured by two techniques such as R_f/ϕ and Fry methods (Fry [1979](#page-11-0); Ramsay [1967](#page-11-0); Ramsay & Huber [1983\)](#page-11-0). We are treated plagioclase and K-feldspar together, because the deformation behavior of them is rather similar. In other case, Passchier and Trouw [1995](#page-11-0) suggested that the deformation behavior of mafic minerals such as mica and amphibolites minerals deformed only by slip and twinning and slip. Also, the hardness of silicate minerals are more than some mafic minerals. Therefore, we analyzed the silicate minerals separately from mafic minerals to show the difference between them. For using two methods, the Fry strains are thought to represent the matrix strain, whereas the strain derived from R_f/ϕ technique describe the fabric ellipsoid or clast strain (Ramsay & Huber [1983;](#page-11-0) Ring [1998](#page-11-0)).

Deformation INVESTIGATIOM

In this work, using the thin sections to investigate the finite strain and microstructural analysis. The collected samples cut in two direction; the lineation (XZ) and normal to the foliation and lineation (YZ) to study the thin sections. The direction of lineation for measured samples trend to SE-NW with low to moderate plunging and characterized by mineral lineation and elongated fabric. The foliation direction for deformed rocks as granitiods (such as granite, gneisses and tonalite), metasedimentary, metavolcanic and metagabbro rocks are trend to northeast - southwest with low dip in the Halaban area.

The collected samples in the field work represent the deformed granitiods for all type of rocks such as granite , gneiss and tonalite. Granite is composed mainly of Kfeldspar, plagioclase, quartz, hornblende amphibole, and biotite. Accessory minerals are apatite, zircon and chlorite. Granite are sometimes represented by elongated potach feldspars grains and rotated plagioclase and quartz with low to moderate deformation (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)a). Gneisses consists of quartz, alkali-feldspar (orthoclase), plagioclase and some mafic minerals (biotite and hornblende). In the present work, gneisses show the moderately to highly deformed grains (Fig. [4b](#page-5-0)). Tonalite includes quartz, alkali-feldspar (orthoclase), plagioclase, and biotite. It is characterized by weakly to moderate deformed (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)c). The metasedimentary samples are low to moderatly deformation, which consists of quartz, elongated hornblende and chlorite. They are called as hornblende-chlorite -quartz schist (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)d). They are characterized by rotated quartz, elongated hornblende and chlorite (Fig. [4d](#page-5-0)).

Deformed metagabbro rocks contain plagioclase, hornblende and clinopyroxene. Sometimes metagabbros displayed as elongated plagioclase grains with low to moderate deformation (Fig. [4e](#page-5-0)). In the present work, two types of metagabbroic rocks are documented in the studied area: layered metagabbro and massive metagabbro. Layered metagabbro is shown plagioclase and pyroxene rich as layers. The pyroxene mineral are characterized by complete to partial altered to secondary type for amphibole and chlorite. Petrographic studies show that the primary and secondary textures for igneous rocks are displayed in the layered metagabbro. The igneous textures involved of plagioclase and shows undulose extinction (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)e).

The serpentinites rocks constitute masses within the studied area (Fig. [4f](#page-5-0)). The serpentinites rocks along beside thrust faults and shear zones. They are characterized by fine grain and pale brown, buff to light creamy color. The serpentinites are contained of talc, antigorite,

Fig. 3 Landsat map showing samples locations in the Halaban area

and ankerite and accessories minerals such as magnetite and chromite (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)f). The carbonate rock is contained of calcite, which sometimes is rotated. The carbonate rocks have low deformation (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)g).

The metavolcanic rocks are represented by metadiabase and meta- andesite rocks, which consist of plagioclase and hornblende. These minerals as phenocrysts embedded in groundmass in this section. Quartz crystals also displayed as seriate texture (Fig. [4h](#page-5-0)). The volcanic rocks (meta-rhyolite) are characterized by moderate to high deformed and consist of k-feldspars, quartz and plagioclase. Plagioclase phenocrysts, muscovite and biotite are elongated and sometimes plagioclase is rotated. Elongated quartz crystals have the same orientation as muscovite fishes (Fig. [4](#page-5-0)h).

It is observed that Rootless intrafolial folds and lowangle discordances between the planes of gneissosity are shown in Fig. [5a](#page-6-0). This strongly foliation could be related to the first deformational event, which led to a metamorphic banding and may be synchronous with the alternating bands of biotite- and hornblende gneisses under amphibolite facies condition. Also, the different type rocks in the studied area show distinct centimeter- to decimeter-thick lithological banding parallel to the gneissosity (Fig. [5](#page-6-0)b). This banding dominates the outcrop in many places and is interpreted to be related to stretching of mixed igneous lithologies (e.g. xenoliths, enclaves, mafic and felsic dykes, sills, etc.) by intense strain.

Results of finite-strain analysis

Finite strain axial ratios

Our results for Fry and Rf/ϕ methods are described for the different axial ratios as the following: XZ sections range from 1.10 to 4.60 in the fry method and 1.70 to 2.71 in the Rf/ϕ method for deformed granitiods rocks, metavolcano-sedimentry rocks, and metagabbros (Table [1\)](#page-7-0). YZ sections range from 1.10 to 3.34 in the fry method and 1.62 to 2.63 in the Rf/ ϕ method for all type of rocks (Table [1](#page-7-0)). In addition, XY sections range from 1 to 3.51 in the fry method and 1 to 1.27 in the Rf/ϕ method for different type of rocks (Table [1](#page-7-0)).

The stretches axes for measured samples in the studied area are presented in Table [1](#page-7-0). The X direction axes (S_X) variety from 1.06 to 2.53 in the fry method and 1.20 to 1.45 in the Rf/ϕ method for deformed granitiods, metavolcanosedimentry, and metagabbros rocks (Table [1](#page-7-0)). The Y direction axes (S_Y) variety from 0.72 to 1.43 in the fry method and 1.13 to 1.37 in the Rf/ϕ method for deformed rocks, which indicates contraction and extension in this direction (Table [1\)](#page-7-0). Furthermore, the Z direction axes (SZ) variety from 0.09 to 0.89 in the fry method and 0.52 to 0.71 in the Rf/ϕ method for different deformed rocks (Table [1](#page-7-0)). The stretches axes in the Z direction (SZ) show vertical shortening about 11% to 91% in the fry method and about 29% to 48% in the Rf/ϕ method.

Fig. 4 Photomicrographs of (a) Granite consist of K feldspars, plagioclase and biotite hornblende with moderately deformed (Sample No. Hb1). (b) Migmatized tonalite gneiss include quartz, alkali-feldspar, plagioclase biotite and hornblende (Sample No. Hb17). (c) Granophyic tonalite consist of quartz, alkali-feldspar (orthoclase), plagioclase, and biotite with weakly to moderate deformed (Sample No. Hb 26). (d) Metasedimentary consist of quartz, elongated hornblende and chlorite

Strain symmetry

The strain symmetry is explained by Flinn [1962](#page-11-0) and Ramsay & Huber [1983](#page-11-0), which characterized the strain symmetry by the K value. The K value is ranged from 0.01 to 8.65 and 0.01 to 0.30 in the axial ratios for deformed granitiods, metavolcano-sedimentry succession, and metagabbros rocks by using the fry and Rf/ϕ methods respectively (Table [1](#page-7-0)). The Nadi strain sections variety from 0.07 to 1.15 in the fry method and 0.42 to 0.80 in the Rf/ϕ method in the axial ratios of

blende and clinopyroxene (Sample No. Hb4). (f) Carbonatized serpentinized contained of talc, antigorite, and ankerite and accessories minerals (Sample No. Hb 16). (g) Carbonate rocks contained of calcite with low deformation (Sample No. Hb 35). (h) Deformed metavolcanic rocks represented by meta-diabase and meta- andesite rocks, which consist of plagioclase and hornblende (Sample No. Hb 31)

method for different collected samples (Table [1](#page-7-0)). In addition, the Lode's parameters range from −0.76 to 0.99 in the Fry method and 0.45 to 0.99 in the Rf/ϕ method for deformed rocks (Table [1\)](#page-7-0).

Magnitudes of finite strain

The finite strain data are summarized in a Flinn plot (see Fig. [6](#page-9-0) and Table [1](#page-7-0)). Flinn plot shows the relashinship between the relative shapes for strain ellipsoid. Many authos divided the

Fig. 5 Field photographs showing (a) the gneissosity with the occasional rootless intrafolial folds. (b) Quartzite bands and lenses are interbedded with foliation in the Metavolcano-sedimentry rocks

strain symmetry into prolate vs oblate ellipsoids shape (Hossack [1968\)](#page-11-0), that represented the constructional vs flattening for strain type. In addition, the volume of strain is important. However, in the basement rocks porosities are very small specially in high grade deformed rocks. Minor or no volume changes are expected for basement rocks during deformation (Kassem & Ring [2004](#page-11-0)).

The Fry strains show two types of ellipsoids flattening and constructional symmetry (Fig. [6\)](#page-9-0). The flattening type is the majority samples for the Fry technique. Some samples show constructional symmetry. Hence, the measured sample for the fry method derived from measurments of quartz, alkali-feldspar, plagioclase and some mafic minerals. The majority of ellipsoids have oblate field strain symmetry and some data points in the prolate field for the fry method (Fig. [6](#page-9-0)).

The R_f/ϕ method indicates the flattening symmetry for all measured samples such as deformed granitiods rocks, metavolcano-sedimentry rocks, and metagabbros. In this case, the all measured ellipsoids have oblate field strain symmetry for R_f/ϕ method (Fig. [6\)](#page-9-0). The ratio between XZ vs YZ shows positive correlation (Fig. [7](#page-9-0)a). The ratio for XY increases with XZ and shows straight correlation (Fig. [7](#page-9-0)b).

Our strain data explains that the relationship between the tectonic nappe and the strain magnitude does not show in the Halaban area. The average magnitude of strain in the deformed granitiods, metasedimentry, and metagabbro rocks is in a range from 0.07 to 1.15 for Fry method and 0.42 to 0.80 for R_f/ϕ method, which show a very low heterogeneous de-formation (Table [1\)](#page-7-0). The measured samples for R_f/ϕ data are

less than Fry data for the relationship between strain magnitude (ET) vs strain symmetry (K). Also the relationship between K vs (ET) shows pronounced straight correlation (Fig. [8](#page-9-0)a). In addition, the ratio between Lode's parameter (LP) vs strain symmetry (K) indicates that the R_f/ϕ data less than Fry data. The axial ratio between K vs LP shows pro-nounced negative correlation (Fig. [8b](#page-9-0)). In other case, R_f/ϕ and Fry methods show mainly constant for the relationship between Strain magnitude (ET) vs Lode's parameter (LP) (Fig. [8](#page-9-0)c).

The stenches X axis (SX) vs strain symmetry (K) shows a positive correlation (Fig. [9a](#page-10-0)). Futhermore, the stenches Y axis (SY) vs strain symmetry (K) indicates a negative correlation (Fig. [9](#page-10-0)b). Also, the stenches Y axis (SY) vs strain symmetry (K) shows a no obvious correlation (Fig. [9](#page-10-0)c).

Discussion

The Halaban suture, the join between Ad Dawadimi and east of Afif terrane, is represented by a linear belt of ophiolite (the Halaban ophiolite) along the southern part of the Halaban-Zarghat fault and by a metamorphic sole-complex beneath the ophiolite. The metamorphic age of the sole-complex indicates that the Ad Dawadimi and Afif terranes were in place by 680 Ma.

The At Amar suture between the Ad Dawadimi and Ar Rayn terranes is a high-angle fault zone (the Al Amar fault) associated with narrow lenses of carbonate altered ultamafic rock. The suture coincides with a prominent magnetic and gravity gradient. Geologic mapping suggests that the Al Amar fault is vertical to steeply dipping. This variation in fault-plane attitude is consistent with proposals that the region west of the Al Amar fault and may be part of a zone of imbricate listric structures. Convergence of the Ad Dawadimi and At Rayn terranes is not well dated but is constrained to be between 670 and 640 Ma by the age of syn- and posttectonic plutons in the Ar Rayn terrane.

These suturing events are part of the main period of crustal accretion in the Arabian shield. This period, ranging from about 680 Ma to 640 Ma, included suturing between the Afif terrane and the Asir-Jiddah-Hijaz terranes. It also is elongate north–south parallel to the Nabitah fault in the eastern part of the Asir terranes, and at places in the Ar Rayn terrane. Named after the Nabitah fault, this period of accretion is referred to as the Nabitah orogeny. It reflects the virtual completion of assembly of the Arabian shield coincident with the terminal phase of convergence between East and West Gondwana.

The first phase of folding was synmetamorphic and is mostly expressed at outcrop by a chlorite-sericite foliation (S1) concordant to the bedding (Su) along the limbs of the folds. Exudation lenses of quartz, chlorite and calcite

Table 1 Finite strain data for samples from Halaban area

generated during the epizonal metamorphism are concordant with the foliation. Major structures related to this first phase are scarcely distinguishable in the field; they can be kilometersize folds with, according to detailed structural data, a roughly vertical axial-plane schitosity (S1) striking north–south.

The second phase of folding, which typically deforms the metamorphic foliation (S1), is well expressed through various scales of observation. In the area 10 km southeast of Sanam, aerial phtotopraphs disclose folds of several kilometers which, according to field data, are a succession of overturned antiforms and synforms. These large structures are accompanied by parasitic cylindric and asymmetric isoclinal folds of between a few meters to a few centimeters in size in the greywacke beds. Interbedded politic facies are microfolded (millimeter size): in thin section, the minor folds are seen to

be related to axial plane strain-slip cleavage (Sz) and often to microlithons, still bearing metamorphic minerals such as chlorite and sericite.

The third phase of deformation, which was induced by doming effects, is represented by metric undulations of the metamorphic foliation (S1) or the second-phase fold axes. There is also a corresponding jointing or rough axial-plane schistosity (S3), which is generally oriented N 60° E and vertical. Although it is the last folding observed in the Lanitr-Urdsynclinorium the dispersion of the poles of schistosity (S3) and of lineation (L3) suggests that there was a later deformation.

This work shows that the Rf/ϕ related strains analysis resulted from semi brittle to ductile-deformed feldspar and mafic minerals related to thrusting inspired deformation.

Table 1 (continued)

Fig. 6 : Flinn plot shows strain symmetry from obtained data for R_f/ϕ (Blue Square) and Fry (orange Triangle) methods (Flinn [1962](#page-11-0))

These data indicates the time of deformation represents the accumulation of deformation during thrusting and intrusions. The microstructure of the area is dominantly characterized by pervasive and subhorizontal foliations from the main

Fig. 7 a) The ratio between XZ vs YZ shows positive correlation for R_f / ϕ (Blue Square) and Fry (orange Triangle) methods. b) The ratio between XZ vs XY shows more or less constant for R_f/ϕ (blue square) and Fry (orange triangle) method

Fig. 8 a) The relationship between ET vs K shows the obtained data for R_f/ϕ (Blue Square) less than Fry method (orange triangle). b) The relationship between LP vs K showing negative correlation for the strain data, R_f/ϕ (Blue square) and Fry (orange triangle) method. c) The ratio between LP vs ET shows the obtained data for R_f/ϕ (Blue square) and for Fry (orange triangle) methods mainly constant

metamorphic phase, which are almost subparallel to the fault contacts in the Halaban area.

Kassem and Ring [\(2004\)](#page-11-0) have reported that only minor or lack of volume changes can be expected in the high-grade

Fig. 9 a) The ratio between X axis (SX) vs strain symmetry (K) shows a positive correlation for the R_f/ϕ (Blue square) and Fry methods (orange triangle). b) The average between Y axes (SY) vs strain symmetry (K) shows a negative correlation for the R_f/ϕ (Blue square) and Fry methods (orange triangle). c) The average between Z axis (SZ) vs strain symmetry (K) shows a no obvious correlation for the R_f/ϕ (Blue square) and Fry methods (orange triangle)

metamorphic rocks if their porosities remain very low during deformation. The finite strain data dominantly show oblate strain and prolate strain symmetry in the studied Ar-Halaban area. This indicates that the accumulation of ductile deformation during thrusting was not only caused by simple shearing but a vertical shortening also played its role by pure

shearing. Vertical shortening caused the subhorizontal foliation in the Halaban area.

Conclusions

The results of finite stain data from Halaban area are summarized as follows:

- The Halaban area is controlled by thruste faults in eastern Arabian Shield.
- The strain ellipsoids in the Halaban area were affected by oblate strain symmetry and some data show prolate strain symmetry.
- R_f/φ and Fry methods show that no difference in the deformation behavior in the studied area,
- The different types of rocks in the Halaban area displayed the same order of magnitude and deformation.
- The obtained of finite strain data concluded that the Halaban area resulted from simple-shear deformation.

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