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1 **<sup>11</sup>B-rich fluids in subduction zones: the role of antigorite dehydration in**  
2 **subducting slabs and boron isotope heterogeneity in the mantle**

3

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20 **For submission to Chemical Geology**

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26

27 **Abstract**

28

29         Serpentinites form by hydration of mantle peridotite and constitute the largest  
30 potential reservoir of fluid-mobile elements entering subduction zones. Isotope ratios of one  
31 such element, boron, distinguish fluid contributions from crustal versus serpentinite sources.  
32 Despite 85 % of boron hosted within abyssal peridotite being lost at the onset of subduction  
33 at the lizardite-to-antigorite transition, a sufficient cargo of boron to account for the  
34 composition of island arc magma is retained (c. 7  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , with a  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of +22 ‰) until the  
35 down-going slab reaches the antigorite-out isograd. At this point a  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluid, capable of  
36 providing the distinctive  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  signature of island arc basalts, is released. Beyond the uniquely  
37 preserved antigorite-out isograd in serpentinites from Cerro del Almiraz, Betic Cordillera,  
38 Spain, the prograde lithologies (antigorite-chlorite-orthopyroxene-olivine serpentinite,  
39 granofels-texture chlorite-harzburgite and spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite) have very  
40 different boron isotope signatures ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = -3$  to +6 ‰), but with no significant difference in  
41 boron concentration compared to the antigorite-serpentinite on the low P-T side of the  
42 isograd.  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluid, which at least partly equilibrated with pelagic sediments, is implicated  
43 in the composition of these prograde lithologies, which dehydrated under open-system  
44 conditions. Serpentinite-hosted boron lost during the early stages of dehydration is readily  
45 incorporated into forearc peridotite. This, in turn, may be dragged to sub-arc depths as a  
46 result of subduction erosion and incorporated in a *mélange* comprising forearc serpentinite,  
47 altered oceanic crust and pelagic sediment. At the antigorite-out isograd it dehydrates, thus  
48 potentially providing an additional source of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluids.

49

50

51

## 52 **1. Introduction**

53

54 Nominally anhydrous, melt-depleted upper oceanic mantle accommodates very low  
55 abundances of highly incompatible elements and volatiles (Salters and Stracke, 2004).  
56 Serpentinization of refractory ultramafic lithologies hydrates peridotite (Seyfried and Dibble,  
57 1980) and dramatically increases its cargo of fluid-mobile elements (As, Sb, B, Cs, Li, Pb, U,  
58 Ba; e.g. Thompson and Melson, 1970; Bonatti et al., 1984; Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al.,  
59 2005, 2007; Deschamps et al., 2011). For example, boron is easily incorporated into  
60 serpentine phyllosilicates during serpentinization (Pabst et al., 2011) with boron  
61 concentrations increasing by up to four orders of magnitude compared to anhydrous  
62 peridotite (cf. Chaussidon and Jambon, 1994; Vils et al., 2008). Ultimately, serpentinites may  
63 be subducted at convergent margins, potentially transporting their fluid-mobile element-,  
64 halogen-, and noble gas-rich contents to sub-arc depths and beyond, hence introducing  
65 volatile-rich fluid into arc magma sources upon dehydration and potentially generating  
66 chemical and isotopic heterogeneity in the deeper convecting mantle (Scambelluri et al.,  
67 1995; Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al., 2005, 2007; Sumino et al., 2010; Kendrick et al.,  
68 2011, 2012).

69 Progressive dehydration of serpentinite, altered oceanic crust and pelagic sediment,  
70 caused by compaction of pore space and low temperature dehydration reactions, releases  
71 large volumes of pore fluid and structurally-bound water. An example of the consequences of  
72 this early slab-fluid out-flux can be seen in the serpentinite mud volcanoes of the modern Izu-  
73 Bonin-Mariana forearc (Fryer et al., 1985; Mottl, 1992; Fryer, 2011). Subduction-related  
74 volcanism is controlled by deeper dehydration reactions which trigger and contribute to flux-  
75 related melt generation in the overlying mantle wedge (e.g., Arculus and Powell, 1986;  
76 Hattori and Guillot, 2003). Although this melting may be initiated by the introduction of slab-

77 derived fluids released by high P-T metamorphic devolatilization reactions (Schmidt and  
78 Poli, 1998), there is increasing evidence for fluid being generated by forearc serpentinite  
79 dragged down to sub-arc depths during subduction erosion (Savov et al., 2005; Tonarini et  
80 al., 2011; Marschall and Schumacher, 2012). Similarly, it is presently unclear whether the  
81 fluid is released continuously over a discrete interval (Schmidt and Poli, 1998; Kerrick and  
82 Connolly, 2001) or if it is released spasmodically in a series of pulses (Padrón-Navarta et al.,  
83 2010, 2011; John et al., 2012; Dragovic et al., 2012; Baxter and Caddick, 2013).

84 Irrespective of the mechanism governing the release of fluid, or its rate of release  
85 during dehydration, boron abundances and isotopes have been established as an excellent  
86 tracer for processes that involve flux-related melting at convergent margins (e.g. Bebout et  
87 al., 1993; Ryan and Langmuir, 1993; Tonarini et al., 2001). During dehydration reactions  
88 boron preferentially partitions into the fluid phase (Seyfried et al., 1984). Because of prior  
89 seawater-pelagic sediment interactions, boron is abundant in all of the lithologies that enter  
90 the trenches at subduction zones. However, how pelagic sediment, altered oceanic crust, and  
91 serpentinized peridotite (serpentinites) interact to produce the heterogeneous and somewhat  
92  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich isotope signatures of arc volcanics remains equivocal. This  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich isotope signature  
93 of island arc volcanics, which extends to  $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +18 \text{ ‰}$  (where  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  refers to parts per  
94 thousand deviation in  $^{11}\text{B}/^{10}\text{B}$  from NIST951 boric acid; Cantanzano et al., 1970) (Palmer,  
95 1991; Ishikawa and Nakamura, 1994; Ishikawa et al., 2001; Tonarini et al., 2007, 2011),  
96 cannot be accounted for by fluid released from pelagic sediments ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of  $<0 \text{ ‰}$ ;  $[\text{B}] > 100$   
97 ppm; Ishikawa and Nakamura, 1993) or altered oceanic crust (mean  $\delta^{11}\text{B} +3.4 \pm 1 \text{ ‰}$ ; mean  
98  $[\text{B}] = 15 \text{ ppm}$ ; Smith et al., 1995). Although fluid-mineral fractionation releases fluids with  
99  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich isotope signatures from these reservoirs at very shallow depths, deeper dehydration  
100 will only yield fluids with  $^{11}\text{B}$ -poor isotope ratios (i.e.  $\delta^{11}\text{B} <0 \text{ ‰}$ ; You et al., 1995; Peacock  
101 and Hervig, 1999; Benton et al., 2001; Marschall et al., 2006). Straub and Layne (2003)

102 suggest that a combination of altered oceanic crust and sediments is unlikely to produce a  
103 fluid, at sub-arc depths, with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of  $> +1$  ‰. This is supported by the observation that not  
104 only is  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluid released by serpentinites in the forearc (Mottl, 1992; Savov et al. 2005,  
105 2007), but also that a distinctly  $^{11}\text{B}$ -poor signature remains in residual slab-hosted phengite,  
106 amphibole and epidote (Pabst et al., 2012). Seawater has a distinctive,  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich isotope  
107 signature ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  c.  $+39.61 \pm 0.04$  ‰; Foster et al, 2010) which is at least partially transferred  
108 to oceanic peridotite during the process of serpentinization at mid-ocean ridges (Boschi et al.,  
109 2008; Vils et al., 2009; Harvey et al., 2014), through fluid infiltration during slab bending at  
110 the outer rise of convergent margins (Ranero and Morgan, 2003; Ranero and Sallares, 2004;  
111 Faccenda et al., 2009), or through the hydration of forearc mantle overlying a slab  
112 undergoing subduction. This forearc serpentinite may be subsequently transported to sub-arc  
113 depths by subduction erosion (Hyndman and Peacock, 2003; Hattori and Guillot, 2007;  
114 Savov et al., 2007; Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012). Even accounting for fluid-mineral  
115 fractionation under varying conditions of serpentinization, a range of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich isotope ratios  
116 are preserved in serpentinitized abyssal peridotite ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +11.4$  to  $+40.7$  ‰; Boschi et al.,  
117 2008; Vils et al., 2009; Harvey et al., 2014), which potentially constitutes the largest  
118 component of the boron feedstock to the subduction factory.

119 All island arc volcanics are enriched in boron compared to the primitive mantle (cf.  
120 Chaussidon and Jambon, 1994; Ryan and Langmuir, 1993), but the evidence for how  
121 sufficient boron with a  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich signature is delivered to sub-arc depths to generate arc  
122 volcanics with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of up to  $+18$  ‰ (Tonarini et al., 2007 and references therein) is not  
123 conclusive. This is because the series of hydration-dehydration reactions en route to the deep  
124 mantle suggests that much of the boron transported by slabs should be lost before sub-arc  
125 depths are attained (e.g. Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011). The aim of this study is to examine the  
126 boron elemental and isotopic signatures of natural samples that preserve a unique antigorite-

127 serpentinite to prograde chlorite-harzburgite isograd in the Cerro del Almiraz, southern Spain  
128 (Trommsdorff et al., 1998; Garrido et al., 2005; Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011). This unique  
129 locality makes it an excellent natural laboratory for the examination of serpentinite  
130 dehydration reactions at near sub-arc depths (680 to 710 °C and 1.6 to 1.9 GPa; Padrón-  
131 Navarta et al., 2010). This study explores the significance of dehydration reactions in down-  
132 going slabs at convergent margins and, specifically, evaluates the contribution these reactions  
133 may (or may not) make to the production of <sup>11</sup>B-rich fluids implicated in arc-related  
134 volcanism. In addition, we comment on the fate of boron retained within the prograde  
135 lithologies and the likelihood that this boron may be implicated in the distinctive boron  
136 systematics observed in ocean island basalts.

137

## 138 **2. Geological setting and sampling**

139

140 The Cerro del Almiraz massif is one of several lenses of ultramafic material within  
141 the upper sequences of the Nevado-Filábride Complex (Betic Cordillera Internal Zones,  
142 Southern Spain; Figure 1). It comprises c. 2-3 km<sup>2</sup> of antigorite-serpentinite and chlorite-  
143 harzburgite separated by a narrow (c.1 metre) zone of transitional lithologies (chlorite-  
144 serpentinite and antigorite-chlorite-orthopyroxene-olivine serpentinite). The Nevado-  
145 Filábride Complex experienced extensive metamorphism as a result of the Alpine orogeny  
146 (Gómez-Pugnaire and Franz, 1988; Bakker et al., 1989; Puga et al., 1999), which peaked with  
147 the subduction of serpentinites to eclogite-facies conditions during the Middle Miocene  
148 (López Sánchez-Vizcaíno et al., 2001). The prograde transformation of antigorite-  
149 serpentinite to chlorite-harzburgite occurred between 680 to 710 °C and 1.6 to 1.9 GPa  
150 (Trommsdorff et al., 1998; Padrón-Navarta et al., 2010), where antigorite ceases to be a  
151 stable phase and dehydration results in the formation of chlorite-bearing harzburgite. The

152 preserved P-T conditions are therefore consistent with eclogite-facies metamorphism at a  
153 depth of c. 50-60 km (Gerya and Yuen, 2003; Hacker et al., 2003). At Cerro del Almiraz the  
154 chlorite-bearing harzburgite can be further subdivided according to texture, i.e. (a) granofels-  
155 texture chlorite-harzburgite with anhedral olivine and prismatic orthopyroxene (Padrón-  
156 Navarta et al. 2011) and (b) spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite with arborescent olivine and  
157 acicular orthopyroxene (e.g. Trommsdorff et al., 1998). Therefore, four distinctive Cerro del  
158 Almiraz lithologies were sampled in order to investigate the effects of dehydration associated  
159 with eclogite-facies, subduction-related metamorphism; (i) antigorite-serpentinite, (ii) the  
160 "transitional lithologies" (in particular, antigorite-chlorite-orthopyroxene-olivine  
161 serpentinite), (iii) granofels-texture chlorite-harzburgite, and (iv) spinifex-texture chlorite-  
162 harzburgite. Representative samples of each of these lithologies are illustrated in e.g. Garrido  
163 et al. (2005), and Padrón-Navarta et al. (2011).

164

### 165 **3. Analytical methods**

166

167 Boron abundances and isotopic compositions were measured at IGG (CNR-Pisa,  
168 Italy) using a VG Isomass 54E positive ion thermal ionization mass spectrometer following  
169 boron extraction and purification procedures described by Tonarini et al. (1997, 2003).  
170 Briefly, following a  $K_2CO_3$  alkali fusion, boron is extracted in ultra-pure water and purified  
171 using standard column chemistry. Boron is loaded onto Ta filaments as caesium borate prior  
172 to analysis by thermal ionisation mass spectrometry, where masses 309 and 310 represent  $^{10}B$   
173 and  $^{11}B$  respectively. The  $^{11}B/^{10}B$  isotopic ratio is reported in standard delta notation as per  
174 mil (‰) deviation from the mean value for the SRM951 boric acid standard (Cantanzaro et  
175 al., 1970) routinely passed through the same chemistry as the samples. Precision and  
176 accuracy are estimated conservatively as  $\pm 0.64$  ‰, based on replicate measurements of

177 reference material JB-2 ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +7.25 \pm 0.64 \text{ ‰}$  ( $2 \sigma$ ),  $n=33$  analyses with independent  
178 chemistry).

179 Samples analysed for bulk rock Sr isotopes and Sr abundance were spiked using a  
180 highly enriched  $^{84}\text{Sr}$  solution before complete dissolution in Romil UpA  $\text{HNO}_3$  and UpA HF,  
181 prior to a final dissolution stage in 6M Romil UpA HCl. Strontium was extracted using Sr-  
182 Spec resin in dilute UpA  $\text{HNO}_3$ , before drying prior to analysis by thermal ionisation mass  
183 spectrometry (TIMS) at the University of Leeds on a Thermo Scientific Triton running in  
184 static mode. The instrumental mass fractionation was corrected for by normalizing results to  
185  $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr} = 0.1194$ . The total Sr blank was negligible ( $< 100 \text{ pg}$ ) compared to the amount of  
186 material processed (typically several hundred ng Sr). The analysis of SRM 987 standard  
187 solution during the course of the measurements gave an average  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.710248 \pm 4$   
188 ( $2\sigma$ ;  $n=11$ ).

189

#### 190 **4. Results**

191

192 Boron and strontium isotope ratios and elemental abundances were measured in  
193 representative samples of each major lithological division (Table 1). Boron abundances range  
194 from 7 to 12  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , significantly higher than in primitive mantle estimates (0.25  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ;  
195 Chaussidon and Jambon, 1994), but much lower than in bulk-rock serpentinites from mid-  
196 ocean ridge settings (mean [B] = 49  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ; Boschi et al., 2008; Vils et al., 2009), and mantle  
197 wedge serpentinites (mean [B] c. 20  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ; Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al., 2007;  
198 Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012). Antigorite-serpentinite and granofels-texture chlorite-  
199 harzburgite contain the lowest boron abundances (7.03 and 7.15  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  respectively; Figure  
200 2), while the transitional lithologies contain the most boron (11.78  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ). Two  
201 measurements of [B] in spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite gave abundances of 7.59 and

202 10.34  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ . Boron isotope ratios are also highly variable ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +25.07 \pm 1.68 \text{‰}$  to  $-3.46 \pm$   
203  $0.27 \text{‰}$ ). With a range of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  from  $+21.61$  to  $+25.07 \text{‰}$ , antigorite-serpentinite is  
204 indistinguishable from  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of serpentinites recovered from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge (Boschi  
205 et al., 2008; Vils et al., 2009; Harvey et al., 2014), and convergent margins (Benton et al.,  
206 2001; Tonarini et al., 2007; Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012). In particular,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  in the Cerro  
207 del Almirez serpentinites falls between the values of abyssal serpentinites from the Atlantis  
208 Massif ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +11.38$  to  $+15.15 \text{‰}$ , Boschi et al., 2008) and ODP Leg 209 ( $15^\circ 20'$  Fracture  
209 Zone, Mid Atlantic Ridge;  $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +29.72$  to  $+40.66 \text{‰}$ , Vils et al., 2009). All other lithologies  
210 have significantly lower  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  ( $\leq +6.2 \text{‰}$ ), with spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite ranging  
211 from  $+2.68 \pm 0.35 \text{‰}$  to  $+6.22 \pm 0.76 \text{‰}$ , transitional lithologies having  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of  $+3.38 \pm 0.35$   
212  $\text{‰}$ , and granofels-texture chlorite-antigorite  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values of  $-3.3 \pm 0.27 \text{‰}$ .

213 Strontium elemental abundance is consistently  $<10 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , while  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ranges from  
214  $0.70752 \pm 1$  to  $0.70871 \pm 2$ , i.e. significantly more radiogenic than depleted MORB-source  
215 mantle (e.g. Pacific MORB glass mean  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.7026$ ,  $n = 602$ ; <http://www.petdb.org>;  
216 Lehnert et al., 2000) and approaching the value for modern-day seawater ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} =$   
217  $0.70916$ ; Palmer and Edmond, 1989). In general, the Sr isotope ratios of the antigorite-  
218 serpentinite, the antigorite-chlorite-orthopyroxene-olivine transitional lithology, and the  
219 granofels-texture chlorite harzburgite are remarkably similar ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.70819 \pm 1$  to  
220  $0.70871 \pm 2$ ), with this entire range being found within the antigorite-serpentinite alone. In  
221 contrast, Sr elemental abundance is variable across these lithologies. The antigorite-chlorite-  
222 orthopyroxene-olivine transitional lithology has a higher [Sr] ( $4.33 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) than both the  
223 antigorite-serpentinite ([Sr] =  $0.33$  to  $2.29 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) and the prograde granofels-texture chlorite-  
224 harzburgite ([Sr] =  $1.23 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ). Curiously, the highest [Sr] of all the lithologies is found in  
225 the prograde spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite ([Sr] =  $5.57$  to  $9.50 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ) which is  
226 accompanied by a much less radiogenic Sr isotope ratio ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.70752 \pm 1$  to  $0.70763 \pm$

227 1). All of the Cerro del Almirez lithologies are significantly more radiogenic than similar  
228 serpentinites reported by e.g. Scambelluri and Tonarini (2012), where  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ranges from  
229 0.704584 to 0.706520, and more closely resemble Mid-Atlantic Ridge serpentinites whose  
230  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ranges from 0.707318 to 0.70921 for both leached and unleached serpentinites  
231 (Boschi et al., 2008; Vils et al., 2009; Harvey et al., 2014). The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of the Cerro del  
232 Almirez samples are also indistinguishable from modern day vent fluids recovered from the  
233 Logatchev hydrothermal field ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.70394$  to  $0.70914$ ; Amini et al., 2008).

234

## 235 **5. Discussion**

236

237 Elements which preferentially partition into a fluid phase during dehydration will  
238 become strongly depleted in the prograde assemblage (Bebout et al., 1993) and, in the case of  
239 boron in particular, the potential exists for a strong fractionation of boron isotopes given  
240 favourable temperature and *pH* conditions. The drastic shift in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  observed at Cerro del  
241 Almirez during the transformation of antigorite-serpentinite, first to the transitional  
242 lithologies, and subsequently to the chlorite-bearing harzburgites, is consistent with this  
243 prediction and the production of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluids. However, both boron and strontium  
244 abundances in the prograde lithologies are difficult to reconcile with a simple dehydration  
245 reaction that results in a loss of boron and strontium while fractionating boron isotope ratios.  
246 This is compounded by an unusually low loss of fluid at the antigorite-out isograd, based  
247 upon loss on ignition (LOI) values for the Cerro del Almirez lithologies (Figure 2; cf.  
248 Scambelluri et al., 2001, 2004). These observations suggest that a completely closed-system  
249 transformation from antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-harzburgite may not have occurred. As  
250 such, it is necessary to (i) examine the nature of the protolith and (ii) confirm that the Cerro  
251 del Almirez represents an isograd in the field, i.e. ensure that the observed field relations are

252 not consistent with a tectonic contact, (iii) examine the degree to which the Cerro del Almirez  
253 antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-harzburgite transition remained isochemical, i.e. a closed  
254 system during metamorphism, and (iv) quantify the effects of boron release from the  
255 downgoing antigorite-serpentinite.

256

### 257 *5.1. The formation and composition of the antigorite-serpentinite protolith*

258

259 Serpentinization of a nominally anhydrous ultramafic precursor, either at a mid-ocean  
260 ridge (e.g. Bach et al., 2004), or as a result of flexure when a lithospheric plate enters a  
261 subduction zone (e.g. Ranero et al., 2003), has the effect of transforming an olivine-  
262 pyroxene-dominated lithology into lizardite (and / or chrysotile) phyllosilicates which contain  
263 c. 12 wt. % H<sub>2</sub>O (“serpentinization *sensu stricto*”; e.g., Miyashiro et al., 1969; Wicks and  
264 Whittaker, 1977; Komor et al., 1985; Janecky and Seyfried, 1986; O'Hanley, 1996) and  
265 develop fluid-mobile element abundances orders of magnitude higher than their anhydrous  
266 precursor. Although it can be challenging to distinguish between serpentinites derived from  
267 mantle wedge and those originating from subducted oceanic lithosphere (e.g. Hattori and  
268 Guillot, 2007; Deschamps et al., 2013), the ultramafic lithologies of Cerro del Almirez have  
269 been identified as being the result of seafloor serpentinization. This origin is supported by the  
270 ratio of SO<sub>4</sub> to total sulphur and S-D-H-O isotope signatures (Alt et al., 2012). In addition, a  
271 comparison of the trace element abundances and, in particular, the high abundances of  
272 relatively immobile heavy rare earth elements of Cerro del Almirez antigorite-serpentinites  
273 compared to subducted serpentinites (cf. Marchesi et al., 2013; Deschamps et al., 2013)  
274 illustrates that the latter is the most likely precursor lithology.

275 Soon after the onset of subduction, lizardite is no longer stable and will be  
276 transformed to the high(er) temperature serpentine variant, antigorite, at 200-400 °C; (Evans

277 et al., 1976; Ribeiro da Costa et al., 2008; Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011; Schwartz et al., 2013).  
278 Critically, this is expected to be accompanied by B depletion ( $84 \pm 5 \%$ ; Scambelluri et al.,  
279 2004; Savov et al., 2007; Deschamps et al., 2010; Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011; Vils et al.,  
280 2011) and a significant loss of Sr ( $50 \pm 40 \%$ ; Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011). The Cerro del  
281 Almirez antigorite-serpentinite is indeed depleted in Sr compared to lizardite-rich abyssal  
282 peridotites, containing only around 15 % of the Sr budget of lower P-T serpentinites  
283 (Marchesi et al., 2013). Boron is also significantly depleted in the Cerro del Almirez  
284 antigorite-serpentinite. Compared to abyssal serpentinites with a mean boron concentration of  
285  $45 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  (Deschamps et al., 2013) the antigorite-serpentinites of this study ( $[\text{B}] = 7 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ )  
286 have lost approximately 85 % of their B budget at the onset of subduction (Figure 3).  
287 Abundances of Cs, U and Rb are also moderately depleted in Cerro del Almirez antigorite-  
288 serpentinites compared to mantle wedge and abyssal serpentinites (Figure 3), as suggested by  
289 their mobility in subduction zone fluids elsewhere (Savov et al., 2007).

290 The  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich signature of Cerro del Almirez antigorite-serpentinite ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +22$  to  $+25$   
291  $\pm 2 \%$ ) falls within the reported range of abyssal serpentinites ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +11.4$  to  $+40.7$ ; Boschi  
292 et al., 2008; Vils et al., 2009; Harvey et al., 2014). This suggests that the loss of B, during the  
293 shallow lizardite to antigorite transition, may not have been accompanied by significant fluid-  
294 mineral fractionation of B isotopes, although small amounts of fractionation are difficult to  
295 recognize, given the large range of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  in abyssal serpentinites. Therefore, the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of the  
296 abyssal serpentinite protolith prior to subduction was probably retained with the formation of  
297 antigorite. This hypothesis is supported by the observation that early metamorphism during  
298 subduction occurs in the presence of a high pH fluid, which does not fractionate isotopes of  
299 boron during fluid-assisted metamorphism at c. 300 °C (Mottl et al., 1992; Savov et al., 2005,  
300 2007; Foustoukos et al., 2008).

301

## 5.2 Metamorphic isograd versus tectonic contact

The dramatic change in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  coupled with little or no loss of boron (and even an increase in [B]) across the antigorite-out isograd could be explained if the boundaries between the lithologies at Cerro del Almirez were faulted contacts rather than the result of continuous dehydration of antigorite-serpentinite (Figure 2). However, there is no field evidence to support this hypothesis, i.e. evidence for truncated structures, mylonites or cataclasis is lacking (Morten and Puga, 1984; Trommsdorff et al., 1998; Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011). In addition, the sequence of reactions and progressive changes in mineralogy observed in the field during the transition from antigorite-serpentinite, through chlorite-serpentinite and antigorite-chlorite-orthopyroxene-olivine-bearing assemblages (the transitional lithologies), to chlorite-harzburgites are consistent with the results of piston cylinder experiments designed to mimic the effects of progressive fluid loss during the dehydration of a cold slab (Padrón-Navarta et al., 2010). Increasing P-T conditions replicated the mineralogical assemblages observed on the high P-T side of the isograd using an antigorite-serpentinite starting assemblage (Padrón-Navarta et al., 2010).

Moreover, textural relationships, mineral compositions and chemographic phase relations indicate that the prograde breakdown of antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-harzburgite occurred through a series of continuous metamorphic reactions forming the intervening transitional lithologies of the Cerro del Almirez (Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011). Although the earlier study of Trommsdorff et al. (1998) did not recognize transitional lithologies and reported a sharp contact between antigorite-serpentinite and chlorite-harzburgite (the "antigorite-out" isograd), this earlier work also came to the conclusion that the change in mineralogy observed is consistent with dehydration of an antigorite-rich precursor rather than the contrasting lithologies being juxtaposed as a result of tectonism. The

327 more recent observations of Padrón-Navarta et al. (2011), coupled with experimental  
328 evidence determining the nature of the transitional lithologies, overlooked in previous studies  
329 (Trommsdorff et al., 1998; Hürlimann, 1999; Schönbacher, 1999; Garrido et al., 2005), only  
330 strengthens this hypothesis. Critically, the antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-serpentinite  
331 lithological transition is oblique to and overprints the penetrative foliation of the antigorite-  
332 serpentinite (see Figure 4a and b in Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011). This indicates that chlorite-  
333 serpentinite formed at the expense of a foliated antigorite-serpentinite protolith similar to  
334 those overlying the transitional lithologies.

335

### 336 *5.3 Open versus closed system dehydration*

337

338 Major element compositions do not radically alter during dehydration (Padrón-  
339 Navarta et al., 2011; Marchesi et al., 2013; Figure 4) and the bulk composition of the  
340 protolith is largely preserved. However, changes in trace element abundances during the  
341 metamorphic sequence suggest that the transformation of antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-  
342 harzburgite cannot have occurred as part of a closed system (Figure 5; Garrido et al., 2005;  
343 Marchesi et al., 2013) and that the non-isochemical transformations may shed some light on  
344 the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  systematics and boron abundances that are otherwise difficult to interpret. A large  
345 change in  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , from +22 ‰ to +3 ‰, occurs as antigorite-serpentinite transforms to the  
346 transitional lithologies. Fluid-mineral fractionation of boron isotopes, controlled by the  
347 temperature and the pH of the fluid involved is common (e.g. Boschi et al., 2008; Harvey et  
348 al., 2014). Since the transition between these two lithologies constitutes a dehydration  
349 reaction, it is not surprising that a sharp change in boron isotope ratios is observed between  
350 the antigorite-serpentinite and the transitional lithologies. Indeed the release of a fluid  
351 enriched in  $^{11}\text{B}$  is required to account for the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of arc volcanics, which extend to values of

352  $\delta^{11}\text{B} \sim +18 \text{‰}$  (Tonarini et al., 2011). However, despite the likelihood of the release of a  $^{11}\text{B}$ -  
353 rich fluid, simple dehydration and the loss of a  $^{11}\text{B}$ -bearing fluid cannot account for the  
354 observed composition of the prograde lithologies.

355 For example, the transitional lithologies are richer in both B and Sr than the  
356 antigorite-serpentinite and differ in terms of bound  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , represented by loss on ignition, by  
357 less than 0.5 wt %. In fact the transitional lithologies are richer in many of the incompatible  
358 trace elements compared to the antigorite-serpentinite pre-cursor (Figure 5). It is difficult to  
359 account for the shift in observed isotope ratios with little net change in the boron elemental  
360 budget and the relatively high Sr abundances observed in the transitional lithologies. Given  
361 that the transitional lithologies are relatively enriched not only in fluid-mobile elements (B,  
362 Cs, Ba, Rb, Sr), but also some high field strength elements (Nb, Ta) (Figure 3), externally  
363 derived fluids, i.e. not associated with the dehydration of antigorite-serpentinite, may have  
364 metasomatized the prograde lithologies. In other words, the B and Sr isotope signature of the  
365 prograde lithologies is unlikely to solely reflect the process of dehydration at the antigorite-  
366 out isograd. Indeed, Marchesi et al. (2013) calculated that up to  $40 \text{ m}^3$  of external fluids  
367 equilibrated with crustal sources fluxed through each cubic metre of dehydrated chlorite-  
368 harzburgite. Although elevated to levels significantly above those of other similar  
369 serpentinites (cf. Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012), the Nb/B ratios from Cerro del Almiraz  
370 are remarkably similar to those of arc lavas in general (Figure 6).

371 Partial equilibration with a crustally derived, Sr-rich fluid may have not only added Sr  
372 (and Nb) to a protolith that originally resembled Mid-Atlantic Ridge serpentinite (typically <  
373 2ppm Sr,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  up to 0.70921; Paulick et al., 2006; Harvey et al., 2014) but also affected  
374 its Sr isotope ratio. Whether or not the serpentinites of Scambelluri and Tonarini (2012)  
375 preserve  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  that is typical of subducted serpentinites ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.704584$  to  $0.706520$ )  
376 is difficult to assess, given the wide range of Sr isotope ratios preserved both at mid-ocean

377 ridges and in subducted serpentinites. What is clear from the study of Logatchev  
378 hydrothermal fluid by Amini et al. (2008) is that local variations in Sr isotope ratio through  
379 interaction with an externally derived fluid can vary enormously ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.70394$  to  
380  $0.70914$ ). Furthermore, at least some of the Sr isotope signature of oceanic serpentinites is  
381 derived from an easily leachable component (Harvey et al., 2014), making the significance of  
382 the Sr isotope ratios of this study difficult to interpret in the context of closed system  
383 dehydration. An alternative explanation for the remarkable differences in incompatible trace  
384 element abundances of the prograde lithologies is that they did not share a common protolith.  
385 However, as outlined in section 5.2 above, and explored in detail in Padon-Navarta et al.  
386 (2010) and Marchesi et al. (2013), the mineralogical changes observed in the prograde  
387 lithologies are consistent with the Cerro del Almirez antigorite serpentinite being the protolith  
388 of all of the prograde lithologies.

389         Given the enrichment of the prograde lithologies in high field strength elements and  
390 some of the fluid-mobile elements, and the relative loss of rare earth elements, a non-  
391 isochemical evolution to the chlorite-harzburgite lithologies also seems likely (Marchesi et  
392 al., 2013; Figures 3, 4 and 5). Moreover, the compositions of the two chlorite-harzburgite  
393 lithologies are difficult to explain through interaction with a single fluid external to the  
394 dehydration process. For example, the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of the two chlorite-harzburgites  
395 differ significantly (Table 1). The granofels textured chlorite-harzburgite ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = -3.4$  ‰;  
396  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.70820$ ) has a less  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich and more radiogenic Sr isotope signature than the  
397 spinifex-texture chlorite-harzburgite ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = +2.7$  to  $+6.2$  ‰;  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = \text{c. } 0.7076$ ). The  
398 latter lithology also contains by far the most Sr of all of the lithologies analysed ( $[\text{Sr}] = 5.57$   
399 to  $9.50 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ), which is difficult to reconcile with the observation elsewhere that Sr is lost as  
400 a result of subduction-related dehydration (e.g. Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011). This is,  
401 however, consistent with the observation of Savov et al. (2005) where changes in Sr

402 systematics of arc volcanics can be related to changes in fluid composition beneath the arc.  
403 The favoured models of Padrón-Navarta et al. (2011) for the formation of the different  
404 prograde lithologies (spinifex- versus granofels-texture chlorite-harzburgite) involve the  
405 pulsed release of fluids to account for their mineralogical and chemical composition, not  
406 unlike the hypothesis of Fryer et al. (2006) to account for the distribution of serpentinite  
407 muds in the modern-day Izu-Bonin-Marianas arc. The association of spinifex-texture  
408 chlorite-harzburgite with Sr and B isotope systematics that differ from the granofels-texture  
409 chlorite-harzburgite suggests that two fluids with different compositions were present. This is  
410 supported by the observations that fluids that had equilibrated with sediments ( $\leq -5$  ‰;  
411 Ishikawa and Nakamura, 1993), as suggested by Marchesi et al. (2013), would possess a  
412 particularly low  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  (Tonarini et al., 2011). Indeed, more than one fluid is also required to  
413 account for the composition of modern-day Izu-Bonin-Mariana arc volcanics (Ishikawa and  
414 Tera, 1999). In summary, it would appear that while there is strong chemical and isotopic  
415 evidence for the antigorite-serpentinite retaining the characteristics of a hydrated serpentinite  
416 that passed through the lizardite-to-antigorite transition beneath the forearc, it is difficult to  
417 reconcile the B and Sr elemental and isotopic characteristics of the prograde lithologies with  
418 subduction-related dehydration alone. Either they lost the majority of their boron during  
419 metamorphism and acquired a subsequent metasomatic overprint from a fluid unrelated to  
420 subduction or, more likely, the influx of a fluid not related to antigorite breakdown was  
421 involved during fluid-assisted dehydration of antigorite-serpentinite (Ishikawa and Tera,  
422 1999; Kodolányi and Pettko, 2011).

423

424 *5.4 Slab serpentinite versus entrained forearc serpentinite as a source of the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$*   
425 *signature of arc volcanics*

426

427           Notwithstanding the uncertainty of the source of the B and Sr elemental and isotopic  
428 signatures of the prograde lithologies at Cerro del Almirez, the composition of the antigorite-  
429 serpentinite prior to subduction-related dehydration provides valuable information regarding  
430 the cargo of fluid mobile elements going into the dehydration reaction and, critically, their  
431 capacity for contributing to the distinctive signature of arc volcanics. However, portions of  
432 serpentinitized forearc wedge can also be transported to similar depths as the Cerro del  
433 Almirez antigorite-serpentinites through subduction erosion (e.g. Tonarini et al., 2011;  
434 Marschall and Schumacher, 2012; Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012), and this forearc wedge  
435 has the capacity to carry a large cargo of B with a high and variable  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , acquired during the  
436 addition of fluid mobile elements in the forearc (Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al. 2005, 2007;  
437 Pabst et al., 2011; Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011). Thus, instead of its derivation from the  
438 dehydration of a subducting slab, an alternative means for the delivery of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich fluid to the  
439 sub-arc portion of the mantle wedge may come from forearc serpentinites entrained during  
440 subduction erosion. If  $85 \pm 5 \%$  of the original boron cargo of a portion of subducted  
441 serpentinite is lost during the transition from lizardite- to antigorite-serpentinite (Savov et al.,  
442 2007; Kodolányi and Pettke, 2011; this study), the vast majority of boron available for  
443 transfer at depth into the source region of arc volcanics has already been lost from the slab  
444 and most likely transferred into this shallow part of the overlying mantle wedge.

445           The recent comprehensive review of subducted serpentinites by Deschamps et al.  
446 (2013) demonstrates that there is a large degree of scatter in the available data from  
447 individual tectonic settings. However, despite these limitations, the boron abundance and  
448 isotopic characteristics of Cerro del Almirez lithologies (Scambelluri et al., 2004; this study)  
449 represent those of the only known antigorite-serpentinite at the cusp of dehydration, i.e.  
450 immediately adjacent to the antigorite-out isograd. Its categorization as a portion of  
451 subducted slab (Alt et al., 2012; Marchesi et al., 2013) places it beneath the subduction

452 channel (Gerya et al., 2002; King et al., 2003) during active subduction. On the other hand,  
453 serpentinite mud and clasts recovered during Ocean Drilling Program Legs 125 and 195 from  
454 the modern Izu-Bonin-Mariana forearc (Benton et al., 2001) represent modern day forearc  
455 serpentinites, hydrated during the early dehydration of abyssal peridotites, altered oceanic  
456 crust and pelagic sediments, which have been entrained by the down-going slab and  
457 subsequently exhumed along the subduction channel (e.g. Savov et al., 2005, 2007, Pabst et  
458 al., 2012). Using these end-members a quantitative assessment of the relative contribution to  
459 the boron budget of arc volcanoes from the slab versus fore-arc serpentinite can be attempted.

460       Island arc basalts have a wide range of boron isotope values ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  up to +18 ‰) and  
461 boron abundances ( $[\text{B}]$  up to  $90 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , but more typically c.  $15 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ; Ryan and Langmuir,  
462 1993; Tonarini et al., 2007, 2011). A mantle wedge domain that melts to produce island arc  
463 basalt must have similar isotopic characteristics to the melt it produces, since isotope ratios  
464 are barely fractionated at magmatic temperatures. Transfer of boron to the mantle wedge as a  
465 result of dehydration, followed by a simple batch melting calculation can be employed to  
466 ascertain whether the boron budget of the Cerro del Almiraz antigorite-serpentinite is capable  
467 of providing an adequate feedstock of fluid-mobile boron into the overlying mantle wedge,  
468 that will subsequently be incorporated into island arc basalts. The boron abundance of the  
469 antigorite-serpentinite in this study is  $7 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , and using the experimentally determined fluid  
470 / residue partition coefficient of Tenthorey and Herman (2004), i.e.  $D = 4$ , it can be assumed  
471 that 80 % of the boron content of the antigorite-serpentinite will be lost during dehydration;  
472 the remaining 20 % being retained in the down-going prograde assemblage. Fluid loss as a  
473 result of the production of the transitional lithologies and prograde assemblages at the  
474 expense of antigorite-serpentinite is between 2.8 and 3.3 weight % (Marchesi et al., 2013).  
475 The fluid produced has a  $\text{B}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ratio of  $2.5 \times 10^{-5}$  to  $4.2 \times 10^{-5}$ . As boron and water are  
476 almost perfectly incompatible during partial melting of the mantle (Brenan et al., 1998) this

477 ratio is expected to be preserved when the mantle wedge undergoes partial melting (assuming  
478 that both its boron and water contents were negligible to start with). Using  $C_1 = C_o/[D-F(1-$   
479  $D)]$ , where  $C_1$  is the [B] in the melt produced,  $C_o$  is the [B] lost from Cerro del Almiraz  
480 antigorite-serpentinite during dehydration i.e.,  $5.6 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  (80 % of the  $7 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$  abundance  
481 measured in the antigorite-serpentinite) and provides the boron feedstock for any subsequent  
482 melting,  $D$  is the bulk rock partition coefficient during partial melting ( $D_B^{\text{bulk rock/melt}} = 0.003$   
483 to 0.02; Brenan et al., 1998) and  $F$  is the fraction of partial melting (15 to 30 % melt  
484 production in arc settings; Pearce and Parkinson, 1993) will yield [B] in island arc volcanics  
485 of 18 to  $37 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , i.e. well within the range of [B] observed at actual island arc settings.  
486 However, several assumptions need to be made for this calculation to be valid. First of all, the  
487 mantle wedge protolith (i.e. pre-hydration) has a composition resembling asthenospheric  
488 mantle ( $\delta^{11}\text{B} = -10 \text{ ‰}$ ; Chaussidon & Marty, 1995; [B]  $0.25 \mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ; Chaussidon & Jambon,  
489 1994), i.e. a composition that is instantly overprinted by the first influx of boron-rich fluid  
490 with a high  $^{11}\text{B}$  content. Secondly, this assumes that all of the boron lost from antigorite-  
491 serpentinite at the antigorite-out isograd is transferred to the overlying mantle wedge. This is  
492 difficult to assess quantitatively as the prograde lithologies from this study are assumed to  
493 have metamorphosed under open-system conditions, i.e. it is not possible to determine what  
494 proportion, if any, of the original boron budget was actually retained at the isograd and what  
495 was added under open-system conditions, although the use of the experimentally determined  
496 fluid / residue partition coefficient of Tenthorey and Hermann (2004) does allow this to be at  
497 least partially constrained. Finally, it assumes that there is a constant-rate loss of boron from  
498 the mantle wedge through the production of melt (constant volcanic output at arc fronts) and  
499 steady-state supply of boron to the mantle wedge (constant rate of subduction of uniformly  
500 serpentinized material), i.e. there is no opportunity for boron either to be completely  
501 exhausted from the mantle wedge undergoing partial melting, or to accumulate to such

502 extents that boron concentrations can become particularly enhanced during a period of  
503 magmatic quiescence.

504 While some of these assumptions are not critical to the overall result of the  
505 calculation, others do have an effect on the range of compositions of arc magmas. The  
506 transfer of the boron cargo from Cerro del Almirez antigorite-serpentinite to arc basalts, first  
507 by dehydration and then by melting does not replicate the entire range of [B] observed in arc  
508 volcanics. However, mean subducted serpentinite (Deschamps et al., 2013) has a [B] of c. 23  
509  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , and using this value in the simple batch melting calculation produces a range of B  
510 concentrations of 59 to 121  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ , which easily encompasses the upper range of [B] observed  
511 at island arcs. The almost perfect incompatibility of boron during fractional crystallization  
512 will also ensure that magmatic differentiation further concentrates B in the remaining melt  
513 (Tonarini et al., 2011). Moreover, B/H<sub>2</sub>O remains invariant during the partial melting of  
514 hydrated mantle wedge. This is supported by the observation that the calculated B/H<sub>2</sub>O ratios  
515 for fluid released from Cerro del Almirez are indistinguishable from the composition of  
516 island arc-derived melt inclusions (modified MORB source melt inclusions, Bouvier et al.,  
517 2008). Finally, binary mixing of serpentine-derived fluid with fluid in equilibrium with  
518 marine sediments (mean  $\delta^{11}\text{B} = -4 \text{ ‰}$ , mean [B] = 115  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ ; Ishikawa and Nakamura,  
519 1993), would be able to account for the full compositional range of island arc volcanics  
520 presented in previous studies (e.g. Ryan and Langmuir, 1993; Tonarini et al., 2007, 2011;  
521 Scambelluri and Tonarini, 2012) and is also consistent with the hypothesis of Ishikawa and  
522 Tera (1999) that requires two distinctly different fluids to account for many island arc  
523 compositions.

524 However, fluid produced by dehydration in the slab must cross the subduction  
525 channel (Gerya et al., 2002; King et al., 2003) before it reaches the overlying mantle wedge.  
526 An alternative hypothesis for the source of fluid delivered to the arc magma source region is

527 serpentinite / altered oceanic crust / marine sediment mélanges dragged to comparable depths  
528 to the antigorite-out isograd through subduction erosion, along the subduction channel,  
529 directly above the subducting slab (Savov et al., 2007; Marschall and Schumacher, 2012).  
530 The combination of this mélange and abundant chlorite ± actinolite-schist (Ukar, 2012; Ukar  
531 et al., 2012), produced from the intimate association of ultramafic and mafic lithologies,  
532 contains as much fluid as the down-going slab itself (Spandler et al., 2008; Pabst et al., 2012;  
533 Marschall and Schumacher, 2012). This assemblage is also likely to be boron-rich;  
534 Deschamps et al. (2013) report [B] for mantle wedge serpentinites of 22 to 72  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ .  
535 Moreover, a mélange contains all of the hydrated lithologies required to fulfil the  
536 requirements of the two-fluid hypothesis of Ishikawa and Tera (1999). As demonstrated by  
537 the calculations above, the supply of all of the fluid from both the dehydrating slab and the  
538 overlying mélange is not required to account for the composition of island arc basalts. There  
539 is sufficient availability and mobility of B in either reservoir for the reproduction of the  
540 typical range of compositions measured in arc basalts. Accordingly, the basalts may result  
541 from either dehydration of mélange overlying the down-going slab, the down-going slab  
542 itself, or a combination of the two. Given that the slab is separated from the mantle wedge by  
543 the mélange and strongly foliated chlorite-schist that bounds the subduction channel  
544 (Marschall and Schumacher, 2012), the passage of slab-derived fluid may be impeded, but  
545 the exact provenance of the fluid responsible for enriching mantle wedge, i.e. the source of  
546 island arc fluid-mobile element budgets, remains equivocal.

547

#### 548 *5.5 The fate of boron in prograde lithologies – asthenospheric heterogeneity?*

549

550 Irrespective of the exact mechanism of antigorite-serpentinite dehydration, i.e. open-  
551 versus closed-system, the overall result of the antigorite-serpentinite to chlorite-harzburgite

552 transition is incomplete dehydration, i.e. 5 to 6 wt. % of H<sub>2</sub>O remains in the prograde  
553 lithologies at Cerro del Almirez (Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011). This means that the potential  
554 exists for the delivery of volatiles (Kendrick et al., 2011), boron and other fluid-mobile  
555 elements (and a wide range of other variably mobile elements; Morris and Ryan, 2003) to  
556 much greater depths than those associated with flux melting of sub-arc mantle wedge. While  
557 hydrous chlorite may be abundant (exceptionally, up to 20 modal %) in the Cerro del Almirez  
558 prograde assemblage (Alt et al., 2012), the contribution to the boron budget from chlorite is  
559 low compared to other phases (chlorite mean [B] = 5 µg g<sup>-1</sup>, Scambelluri et al., 2004; Pabst et  
560 al., 2012; Figure 7), e.g. prograde olivine, present as at least 40 modal % in harzburgite, by  
561 definition (mean prograde olivine [B] = 38 µg g<sup>-1</sup>, Scambelluri et al., 2004; Figure 7). Brine-  
562 rich fluid inclusions, abundant in brown and colourless prograde olivine (Scambelluri et al.,  
563 2004; Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011), are the dominant hosts of B in the prograde assemblage,  
564 with B abundances up to two orders of magnitude greater than that of chlorite (Figure 7). If  
565 the prograde lithologies sampled at Cerro del Almirez survive further dehydration beneath  
566 and beyond the arc - prograde olivine is an anhydrous phase (notwithstanding its fluid-  
567 inclusion content) - it is possible that peridotite that is significantly enriched in boron, and  
568 with a heterogeneous δ<sup>11</sup>B may be returned to the convecting mantle. This in turn may have  
569 implications for the generation of the wide range of compositions observed in ocean island  
570 basalts.

571

## 572 **6. Concluding remarks**

573

574 The prograde lithologies on the high P-T side of the antigorite-out isograd at Cerro del  
575 Almirez are complex and likely preserve evidence not only for the dehydration of antigorite-  
576 serpentinite but also the flux of fluids partially equilibrated with pelagic sediment.

577 Notwithstanding the complexities of the prograde lithologies, the antigorite-serpentinite on  
578 the low P-T side of the antigorite-out isograd appears to preserve the composition of  
579 subducted serpentinite prior to dehydration at pressures and temperatures of 1.6 to 1.9 GPa  
580 and 680 to 710 °C. This allows a quantitative assessment of the possibility that slab-hosted  
581 antigorite-serpentinite is a significant source of fluid-mobile elements delivered to the  
582 overlying mantle wedge, which are subsequently incorporated in island arc volcanics.  
583 Assuming the removal of 80 % of the boron from the antigorite-serpentinite at the antigorite-  
584 out isograd, and its transfer into the overlying mantle wedge, subsequent partial melting of  
585 this boron-enriched reservoir is capable of producing the range of boron abundances observed  
586 in island arcs. With the influence of pelagic sediments, or fluids derived from them, the full  
587 range of isotopic and elemental characteristics of island arc basalts can be produced with  
588 simple batch melting and mixing calculations. However, the dehydrating slab is separated  
589 from the overlying wedge by the subduction channel and possibly *mélange*, comprising  
590 serpentinite eroded from the fore-arc (dragged to the antigorite-out isograd during subduction  
591 erosion), altered oceanic crust, and pelagic sediment. The boron elemental flux and isotopic  
592 signature of such a *mélange* should not differ significantly from that of slab derived fluids  
593 and, as such, may also constitute a source of fluids which hydrate the overlying mantle wedge  
594 and form the source for island arc basalts. Distinguishing between these two sources of fluids  
595 (slab versus *mélange*) remains problematic.

596         The prograde lithologies on the high P-T side of the antigorite-out isograd have much  
597 lower  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  signatures but still contain a comparable cargo of boron to antigorite-serpentinite.  
598 This is because they have at least partly equilibrated with pelagic sediment-derived fluids.  
599 The preservation, in the prograde lithologies, of boron in olivine-hosted fluid inclusions  
600 allows the transport of boron, with a higher  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  than primitive mantle, to depths below that  
601 of the source of island arc magmatism. Thus, the prograde lithologies possibly provide a

602 component, enriched in boron by at least an order of magnitude relative to primitive mantle,  
603 capable of contributing to the observed boron isotope heterogeneity in ocean island basalts.

604

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1044

### 1045 **Figure captions**

1046

1047 Figure 1. (a) Simplified geological map showing the main tectono-metamorphic domains of  
1048 the Betic Cordillera. (b) Main tectonic and lithological units of the Nevado–Filábride  
1049 Complex and location of the Cerro del Almiraz (inset) together with other smaller ultramafic  
1050 bodies cropping out in this complex. (c) Geological map of the Cerro del Almiraz (modified  
1051 from Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011).

1052

1053 Figure 2. Field relationships between antigorite-serpentinite, transitional lithologies, and  
1054 chlorite-harzburgite, and their modal variations (modified after Padrón-Navarta et al., 2011).  
1055 Boron and strontium abundances ([B]) expressed in  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ .  $\delta^{11}\text{B} = \{[(^{11}\text{B}/^{10}\text{B}_{\text{sample}}) /$   
1056  $(^{11}\text{B}/^{10}\text{B}_{\text{NIST-SRM951}}) - 1] * 1000\}$ . Loss on ignition (LOI) expressed in weight %  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ .

1057

1058 Figure 3. Mean fluid-mobile and high field-strength element abundances in Cerro del  
1059 Almiraz antigorite-serpentinite (data from Marchesi et al., 2013 with the exception of boron  
1060 abundances) normalized to mean abyssal serpentinite and mean mantle wedge serpentinite  
1061 (Deschamps et al., 2013).

1062

1063 Figure 4. Relative major element abundances in prograde lithologies from Cerro del Almirez,  
1064 normalized to Cerro del Almirez antigorite-serpentinite (major element abundances from  
1065 Marchesi et al., 2013).

1066

1067 Figure 5. Relative mean trace element abundances in prograde lithologies from Cerro del  
1068 Almirez, normalized to Cerro del Almirez antigorite-serpentinite (trace element abundances  
1069 from Marchesi et al., 2013).

1070

1071 Figure 6.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  versus Nb/B for Cerro del Amirez lithologies (unless stated symbols are the  
1072 same as previous Figures). Elevated Nb/B at Cerro del Almirez are comparable to the ratios  
1073 seen in arc lavas in general (diagonal shaded field). The antigorite-serpentinite however  
1074 (white square) appears to have  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and Nb/B that closely resembles the values obtained for  
1075 arc magmas of the South Sandwich Arc (dotted field; Tonarini et al., 2011). Redrawn after  
1076 Scambelluri et al. (2012).

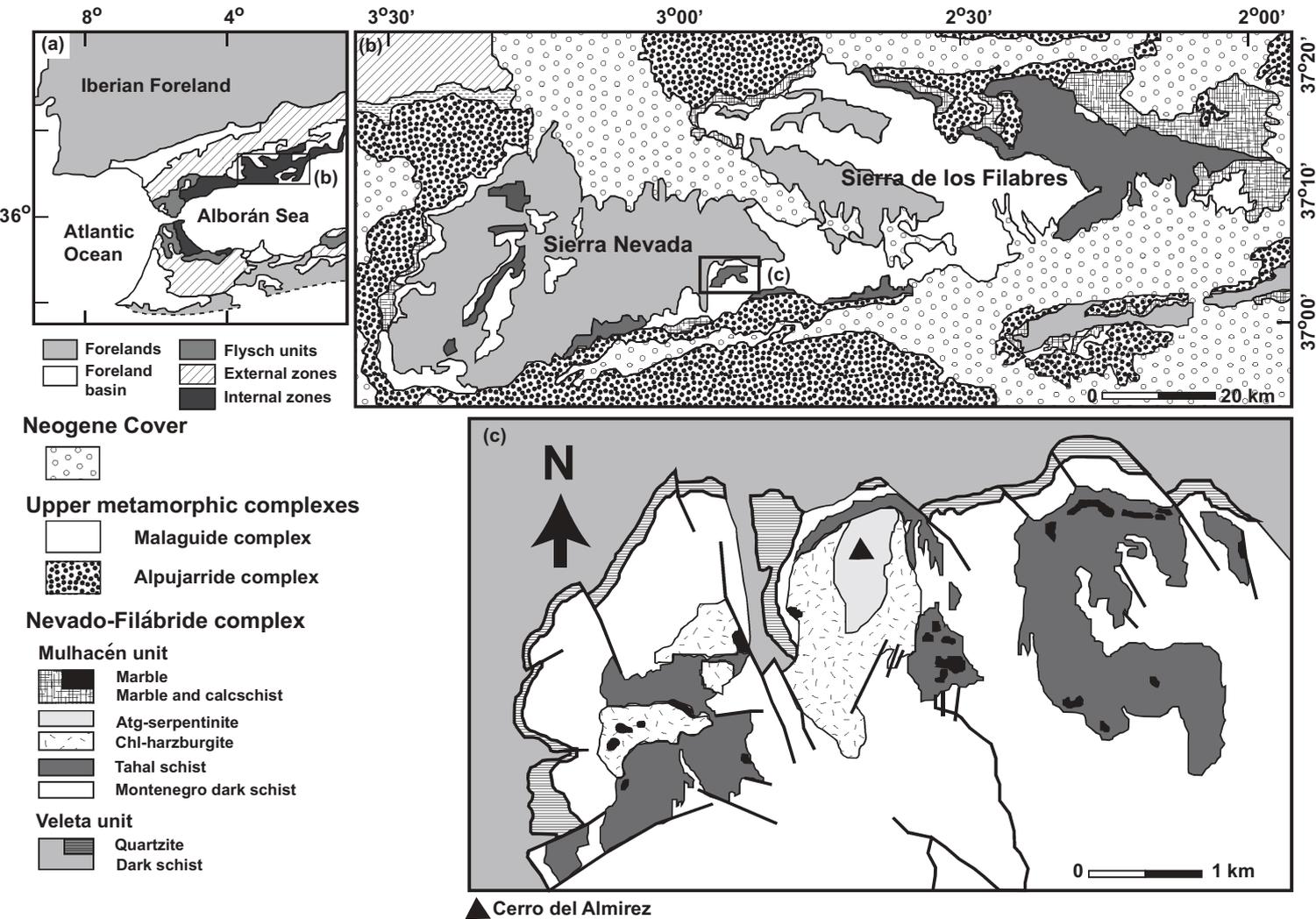
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1078 Figure 7. (a) Boron isotope ratios and (b) boron elemental abundances of Cerro del Almirez  
1079 serpentinites and harzburgites compared to common mafic / ultramafic lithologies and their  
1080 constituent minerals (Literature values from Palmer, 1991; Ishikawa and Nakamura, 1994;  
1081 Ishikawa and Tera, 1997, 1999; Benton et al., 2001; Ishikawa et al 2001; Tonarini et al.,  
1082 2001, 2007, 2011; Leeman et al., 2004; Scambelluri et al., 2004 (which includes  
1083 representative prograde lithologies from Cerro del Almirez); Agranier et al., 2007; Vils et al.,  
1084 2008, 2009; Boschi et al., 2008; Deschamps et al., 2010, 2012; Pabst et al., 2011; Scambelluri  
1085 and Tonarini, 2012).

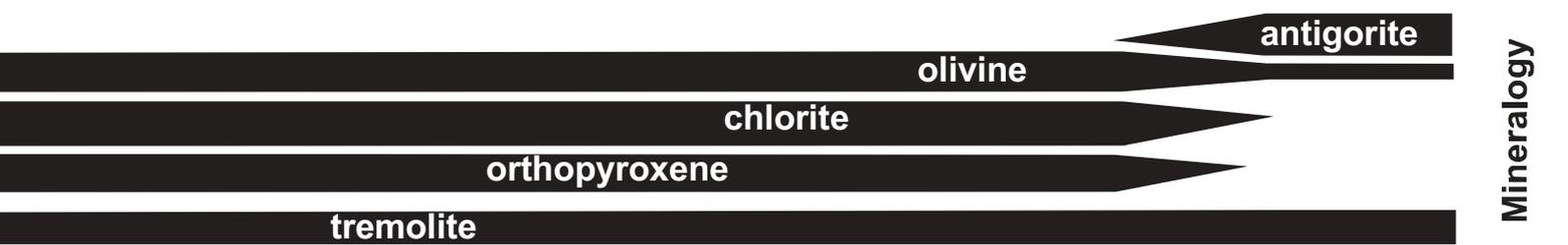
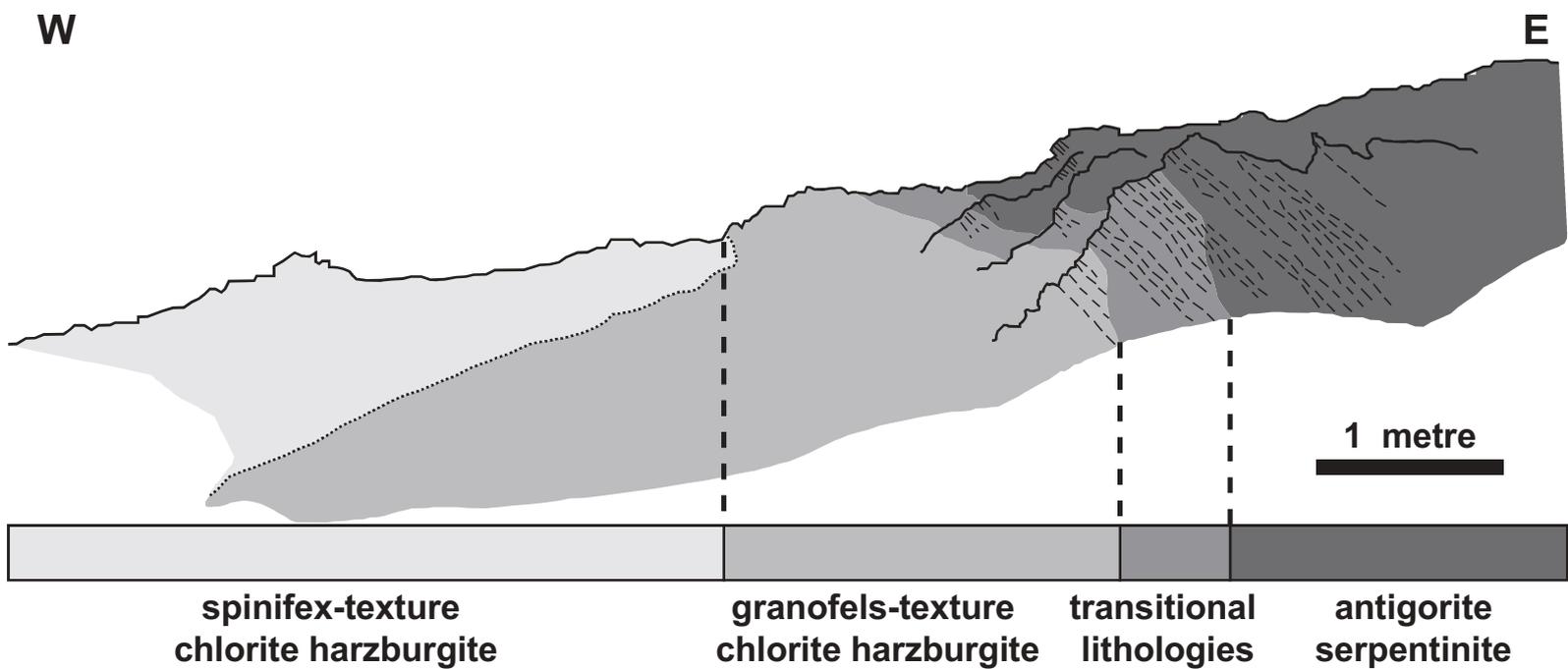
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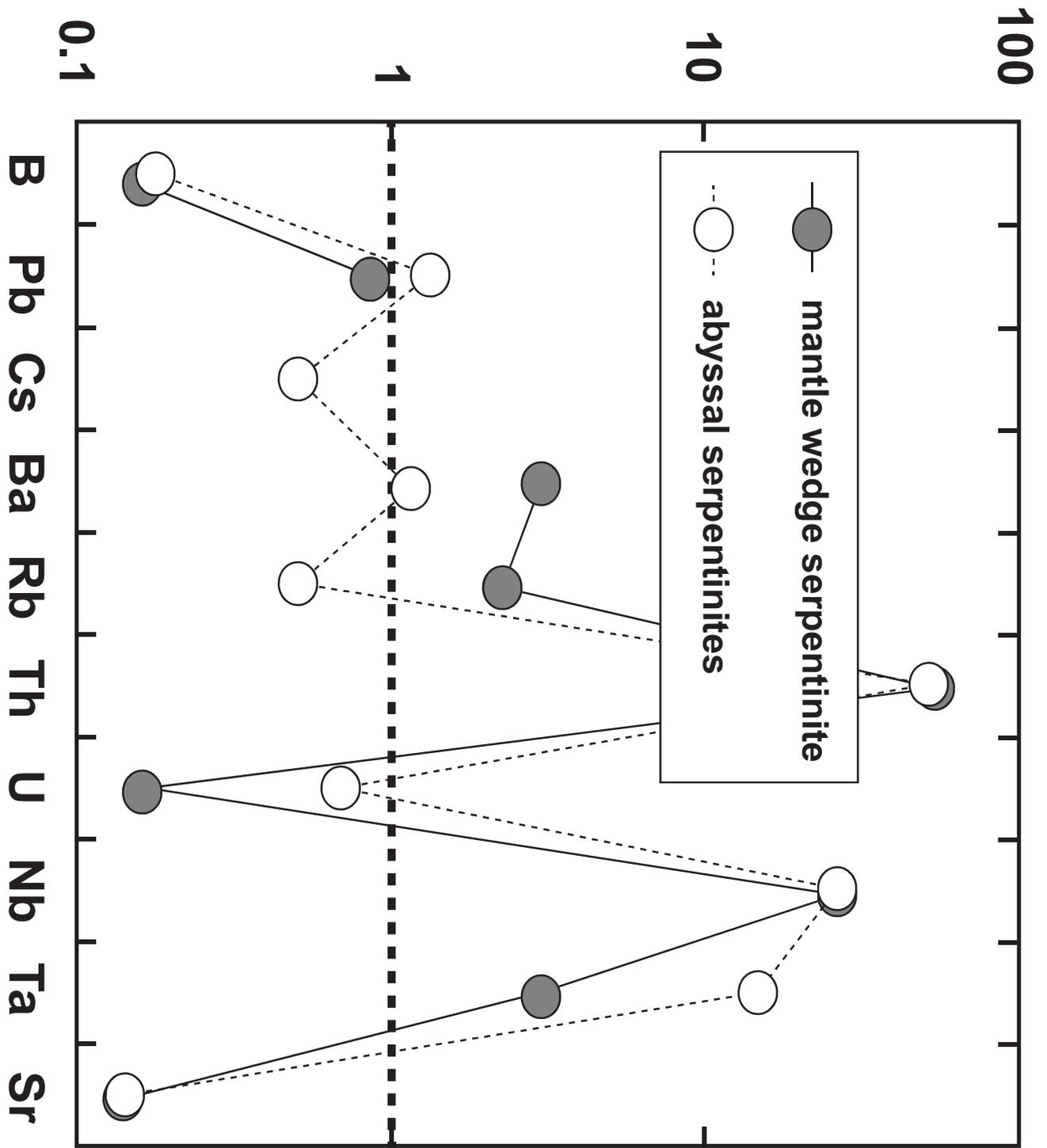


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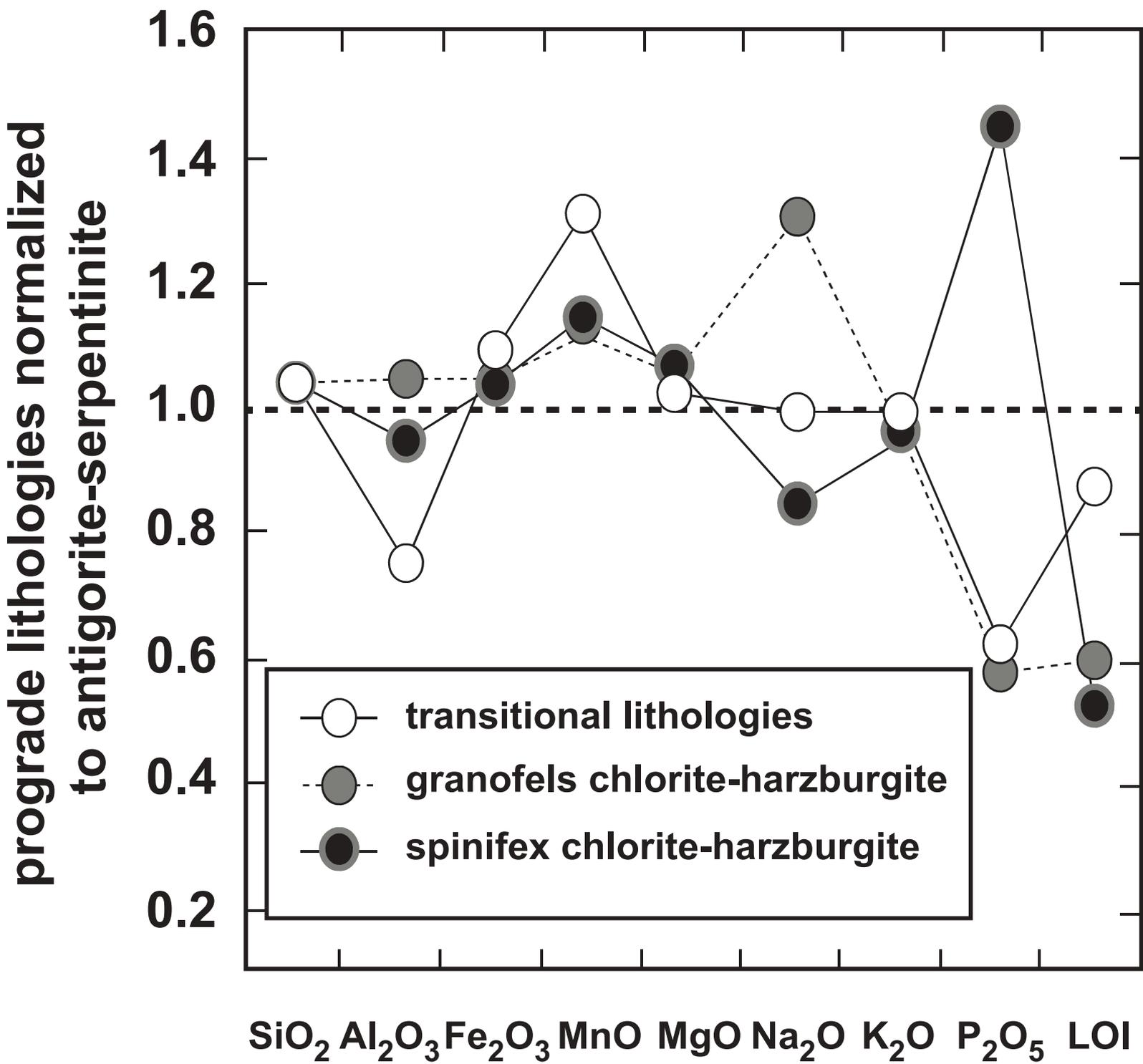


	7.59 to 10.34	7.15	11.78	7.03
[B]	7.59 to 10.34	7.15	11.78	7.03
$\delta^{11}\text{B}$	+2.68 +/- 0.35 to +6.22 +/- 0.76	-3.3 +/- 0.27	+3.38 +/- 0.35	+22.37 +/- 0.86
LOI (wt. %)	5.44	5.94	9.62	10.14
$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	0.70752 +/- 1 to 0.70763 +/- 1	0.70824 +/- 4	0.70847 +/- 3	0.70819 +/- 1 to 0.70871 +/- 2
[Sr]	5.66 to 9.50	1.23	4.33	0.33 to 2.29

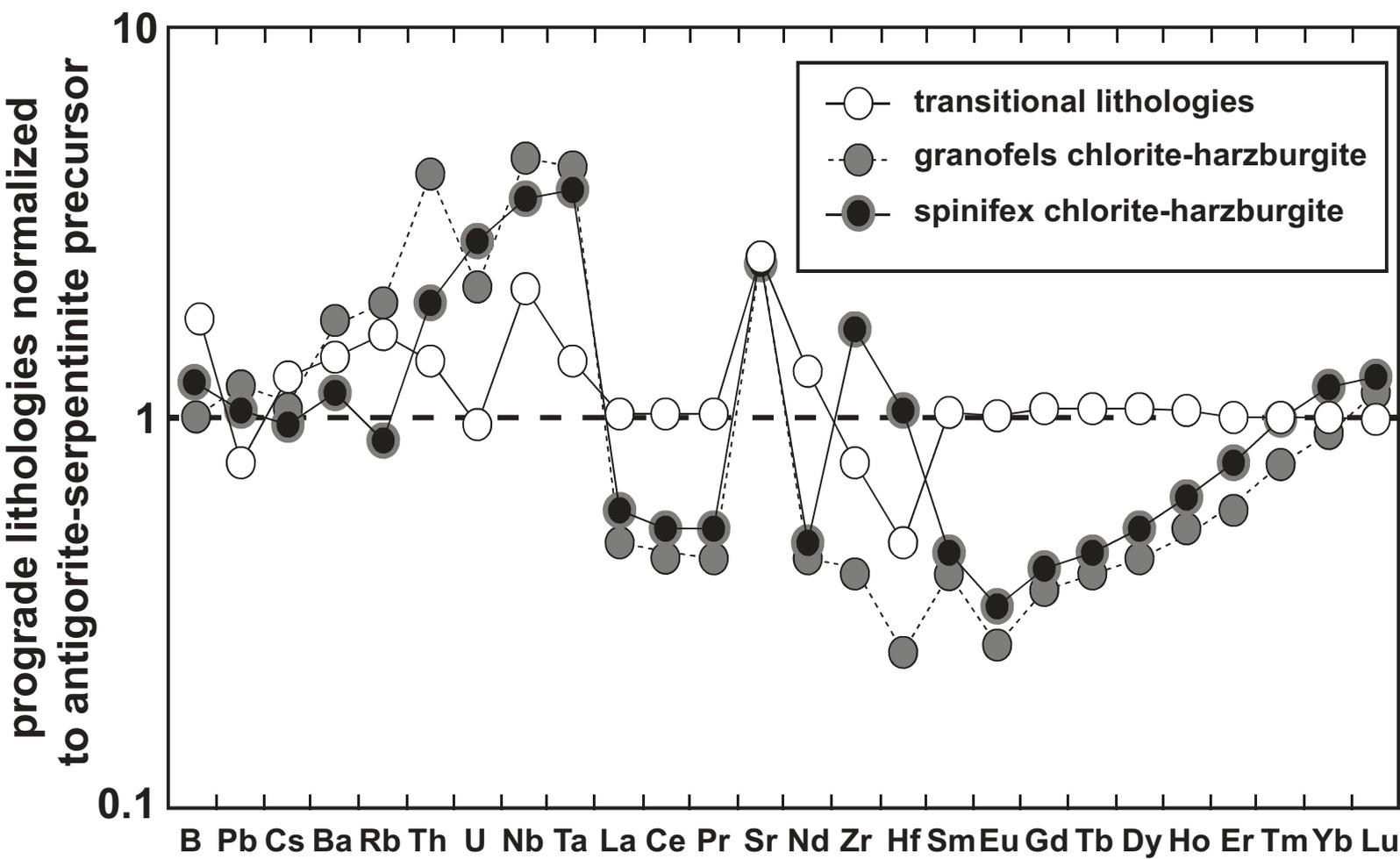
Cerro del Almiraz antigorite-serpentinite normalized  
to global mean serpentinite lithologies



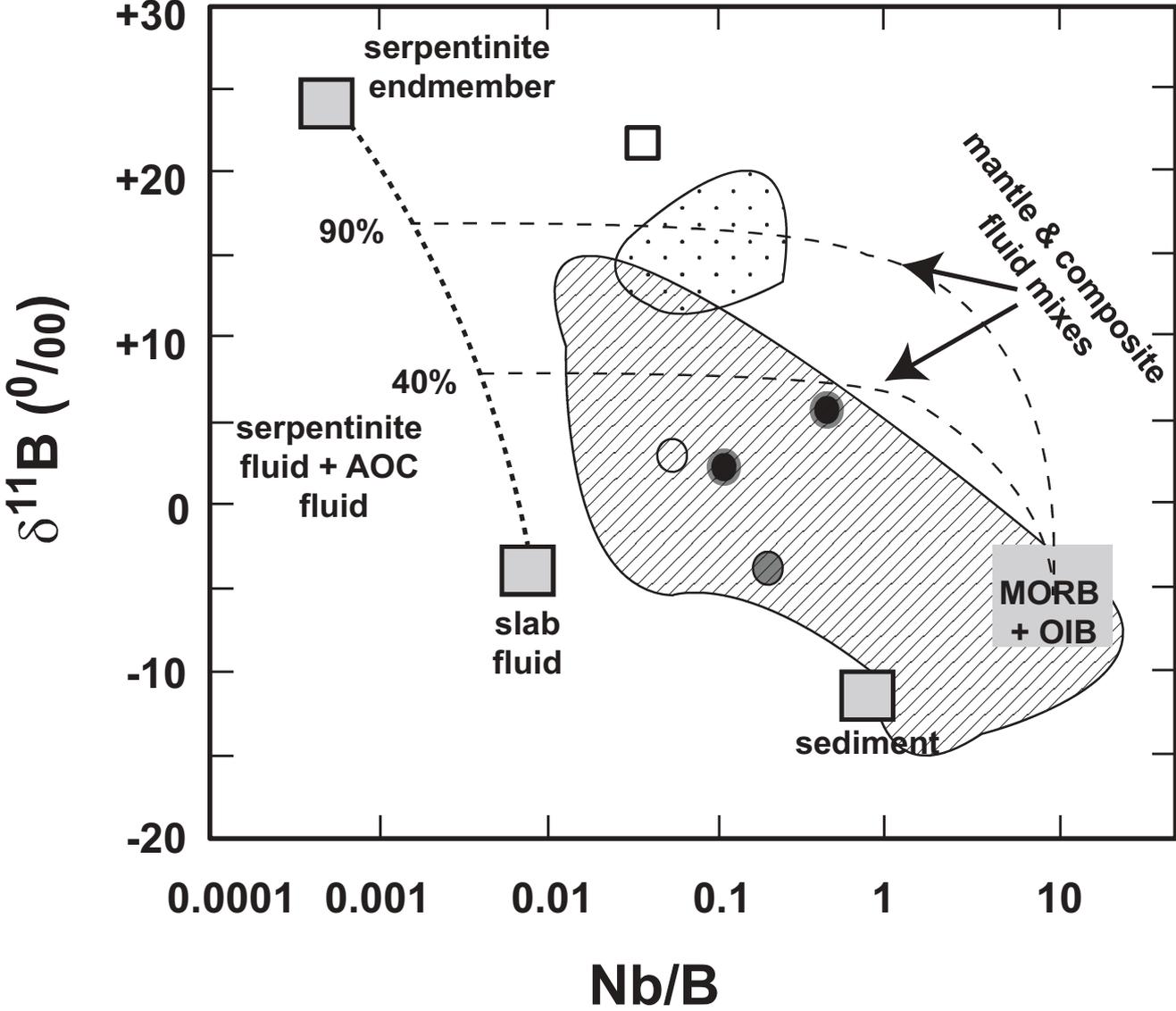
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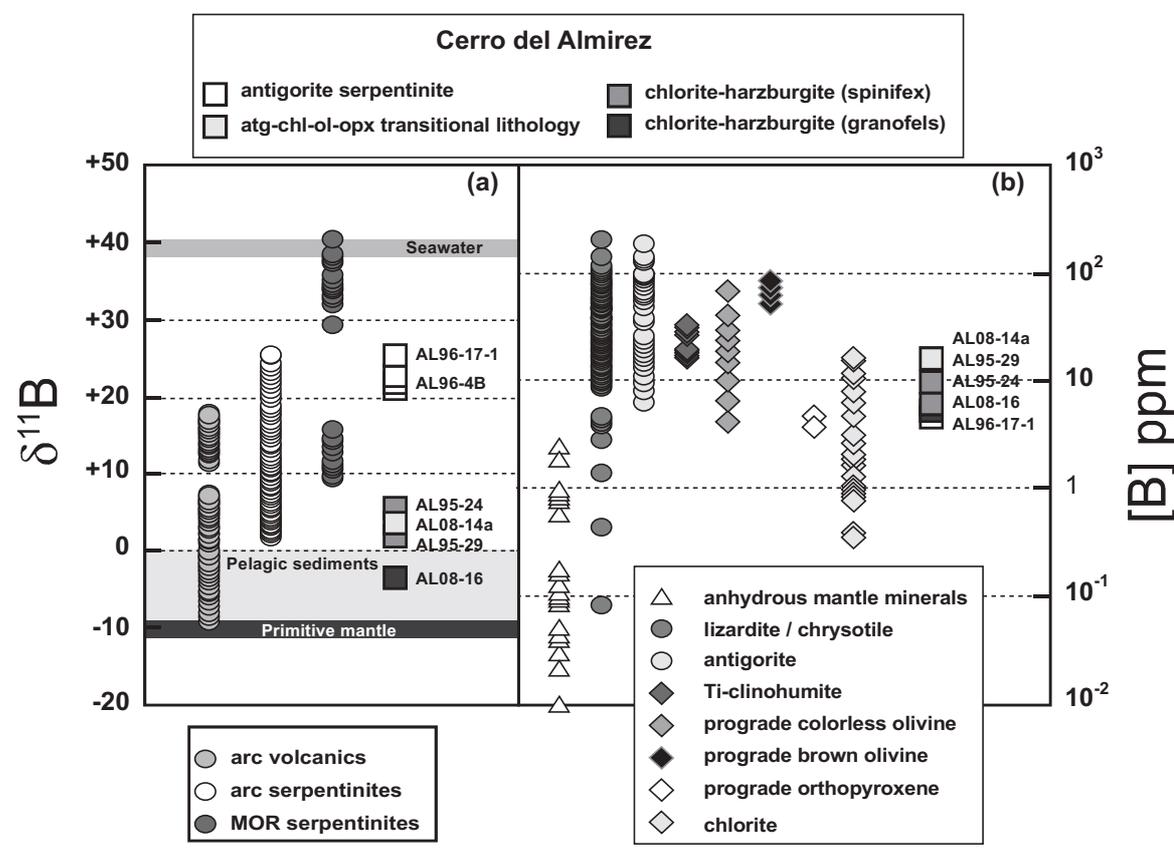


Figure 2.

Sample	$^{11}\text{B}/^{10}\text{B}$	+/-	$\delta^{11}\text{B}$	+/-	[B]	+/-	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	+/-	[Sr]
<u>Antigorite-serpentinite</u>									
AL 96-17-1	4.1446	0.0035	22.37	0.86	7.03	0.04	0.70819	0.00001	2.29
AL 96-17-1*	4.1550	0.0068	25.07	1.68					
AL 96-17-1#	4.1410	0.0045	21.61	1.11					
AL 96-4B	4.1450	0.0055	22.60	1.36			0.70871	0.00002	0.33
<u>Transitional lithologies</u>									
AL 08-14a	4.0671	0.0014	3.25	0.35	11.78	0.03	0.70847	0.00003	4.33
AL 08-14a*	4.0671	0.0014	3.38	0.35					
<u>Granofels texture chlorite harzburgite</u>									
AL 08-16	4.0399	0.0011	-3.46	0.27	7.15	0.02	0.70824	0.00004	1.23
AL 08-16*	4.0399	0.0011	-3.33	0.27					
<u>Spinifex texture chlorite harzburgite</u>									
AL 95-29	4.0648	0.0014	2.68	0.35	10.34	0.01	0.70752	0.00001	5.57
AL 95-29*	4.0623	0.0055	2.20	1.36			0.70753	0.00001	5.66
AL 95-29#	4.0648	0.0014	2.81	0.35					
AL 95-24	4.0786	0.0031	6.22	0.76	7.59	0.01	0.70763	0.00001	9.50

Table 1. Boron and strontium elemental abundance and isotope ratios of ultramafic rocks from the Cerro del Almiraz. \* = duplicate analysis, # triplicate analysis.  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  expressed in ‰, elemental abundances expressed in  $\mu\text{g g}^{-1}$ . Sample localities for AL95-24, AL95-29 and AL96-17-1 can-

be found in Figure 1A of Garrido et al. (2005). Location of samples AL08-14 and AL08-16 are 30S 507457 4104646 and 30S 507639 4104813 respectively, using the ED50 co-ordinate system (European datum 1950), UTM.