

1 **Identifying Tethys oceanic fingerprint in post-collisional potassium-rich lavas in**
2 **Tibet using thallium isotopes**

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10 **Highlights**

11 Thallium concentrations in lavas higher than partial melts of a primitive mantle.

12 Thallium isotopes distinguish between continental and oceanic components.

13 Evidence for minor kinetic isotope fractionation via degassing.

14 Phlogopite is an important host mineral for Tl.

15

16 **Keywords:**

17 Tibetan magmatism

18 Potassium-rich lavas

19 Thallium isotope

20 Degassing

21 Tethys Ocean

22

23 **Abstract**

24 Following the Indian-Asian continental collision, the Tibetan Plateau experienced
25 continuous magmatism from south to north, most of which is characterized by high
26 potassium (K) content and negative niobium-tantalum-titanium (Nb-Ta-Ti) anomalies.

27 We performed the first exploration using thallium (Tl) isotopes as potential tracers of
28 the source of post-collisional K-rich magmatism. A case study on Tl isotope systematics
29 of K-rich lavas in Ashikule volcanic basin (AVB) in northwestern Tibet is provided,
30 which represents the youngest volcanism in Tibet. Thallium abundances of the AVB

31 lavas are significantly enriched compared to other magmatic settings, with
32 concentrations from 148 to 8259 ng/g. Thallium isotope ratios (reported as $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$)
33 extend to some of the heaviest yet measured in igneous materials, with a range of $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$
34 between -2.7 and +6.4 ϵ -units. We evaluate if secondary processes can account for the
35 range in Tl isotope ratios, systematically examining the influences of alteration,
36 degassing, fractional crystallization, and assimilation. Only two samples appear to be
37 influenced by secondary processes, interpreted as kinetic fractionation during degassing,
38 and one sample may be contaminated by sulfides with coupled elevated Tl and Pb
39 contents. The remainder of the Tl isotope ratio range (-2.0 to +5.1 ϵ -units) we interpret
40 to reflect the source region(s) from which the magmas are derived. The AVB lavas have
41 restricted strontium and neodymium isotopes, suggestive of a homogeneous source, and
42 therefore an apparent decoupling of radiogenic and stable isotope systems is apparent
43 in these lavas. The variation in Tl isotope ratios is interpreted to reflect the contribution
44 of oceanic sediments, which may be associated with ancient Paleo- and Neo-Tethys
45 subductions.

46

47 **1. Introduction**

48 Cenozoic K-rich lavas are widely distributed on the Tibetan Plateau (Fig. 1) due to
49 the northward subduction of the Indian plate beneath the Tibetan Plateau since ~55 Ma
50 (e.g., [Tapponnier et al., 2001](#); [Ding et al., 2003](#)). These post-collisional lavas are
51 generally characterized by negative Nb-Ta-Ti anomalies and enriched strontium-
52 neodymium-lead (Sr-Nd-Pb) isotopes, indicating an enriched mantle source ([Williams
53 et al., 2004](#); [Chung et al., 2005](#); [Wei et al., 2017](#); [Wang et al., 2020a](#)). However, there
54 is much debate about where those enriched components were inherited, especially in
55 northwestern Tibet with the addition of the south-subducting Asian plate (e.g., [Turner
56 et al., 1993, 1996](#); [Williams et al., 2004](#); [Guo et al., 2014](#); [Wei et al., 2017](#); [Guo and
57 Wilson, 2019](#); [Yuan et al., 2020](#); [Wang et al., 2020a](#)).

58 Several geodynamic models have been proposed to explain the origin of the
59 enriched components in post-collisional lavas in northwestern Tibet. Considering that
60 the Tibetan Plateau underwent long-term Tethys Ocean subductions before the Indian-

61 Asian collision, some studies attribute the enriched components to Tethyan materials
62 trapped in the metasomatized lithospheric mantle (e.g., [Turner et al., 1996](#); [Williams et](#)
63 [al., 2004](#); [Wei et al., 2017](#); [Wang et al., 2020a](#); [Yuan et al., 2020](#)). The volcanoes in the
64 northwestern Tibetan Plateau are spatially close to the Tarim block (Asian plate) ([Fig.](#)
65 [1](#)), and thus the material contributions of the Tarim block should be considered.
66 Additionally, magmatic rocks in northwestern Tibet exhibit similar Sr-Pb isotopes to
67 the Asian plate endmember, suggesting a dominant Asian plate source for those rocks
68 ([Guo and Wilson, 2019](#)). The Asian plate is continental, whereas the ancient Tethys
69 plates are oceanic ([Wu et al., 2020](#)). Therefore, recent magmatism in northwestern Tibet
70 provides an ideal laboratory to identify the enriched components in the lavas if we can
71 distinguish continental and oceanic fingerprints in the lavas.

72 In recent years, Tl isotopic compositions have been increasingly applied to track
73 recycling of oceanic sediments and slab-derived fluids in igneous rocks from
74 subduction and plume settings (e.g., [Nielsen et al., 2006a, 2007, 2016, 2017a](#); [Prytulak](#)
75 [et al., 2013](#); [Shu et al., 2017, 2019, 2022](#); [Blusztajn et al., 2018](#); [Brett et al., 2021](#);
76 [Williamson et al. 2021](#)). Thallium has two stable isotopes, ^{203}Tl and ^{205}Tl , and isotopic
77 variations are reported in epsilon notation relative to NIST Tl standard SRM997, which
78 is defined as zero, by the equation:

$$79 \quad \epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = 10,000 \times [({}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{sample}} - {}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{SRM997}}) / ({}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{SRM997}})]$$

80 Thallium is a heavy metal with a large ionic radius ($\text{Tl}^+ = 1.49\text{\AA}$; [Shaw, 1952](#)),
81 whose oxidation states are Tl^+ and Tl^{3+} . Due to the similar ionic characteristics between
82 Tl^+ and alkali metals, Tl preferentially replaces K, rubidium (Rb), and cesium (Cs)
83 elements and forms isomorphous structures in minerals ([Wedepohl, 1974](#); [Hernrichs et](#)
84 [al., 1980](#)). Theoretical calculations show that chemical reactions with both valence
85 states (Tl^+ and Tl^{3+}) can cause significant equilibrium Tl isotopic fractionation
86 ([Schauble, 2007](#)). However, Tl^{3+} is not stable under seawater conditions ([Nielsen et al.,](#)
87 [2009](#)), and Tl exhibits strong correlations with alkali metals in continental crust,
88 indicating Tl^+ is the dominant valence state in minerals. Apart from ionic bonds, Tl
89 tends to form covalent bonds and be enriched in sulfides ([Nielsen et al., 2014](#); [Genna](#)
90 [and Gaboury, 2015](#)). Highly incompatible properties of Tl during partial melting and

91 fractional crystallization (Shaw, 1952) result in significantly high Tl concentrations in
92 the continental crust (~0.5 µg/g; Heinrichs et al., 1980) compared to the primitive
93 mantle (0.0035 µg/g; McDonough and Sun, 1995).

94 There are several key advantages to using Tl isotopes to distinguish oceanic versus
95 continental inputs to igneous rocks: 1) Tl isotopes do not appear to fractionate during
96 partial melting, and the upper mantle appears to have a relatively homogeneous Tl
97 isotopic composition of around $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -2 \pm 1$ (e.g., Nielsen et al. 2005, 2006a, 2007) 2)
98 Tl isotopes do not fractionate during magmatic evolution and fractionation of
99 anhydrous minerals (e.g., Prytulak et al., 2017; Nielsen et al., 2017b; Gaschnig et al.,
100 2021) and 3) Tl isotopes do not appear to fractionate during fluid release from
101 subducting slabs (Shu et al. 2022). Against the backdrop of insensitivity to partial
102 melting, fractional crystallization, and fluid release, Tl isotopes can be significantly
103 fractionated by low-temperature processes, alteration, and degassing (e.g., Baker et al.,
104 2009; Nielsen et al., 2005). For example, low-temperature altered oceanic crust, pelagic
105 clays, and ferromanganese (Fe-Mn) sediments are characterized by enriched Tl
106 concentrations and variable Tl isotopes.

107 In the oceanic realm, large Tl isotopic variations are observed, with $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ varying
108 from around -16 of low-temperature altered ocean crust (Nielsen et al., 2006b) to
109 around +15 of marine Fe-Mn sediments (Rehkämper et al., 2002; Peacock and Moon,
110 2012). In contrast, continent-derived sediments have orders of magnitude lower Tl
111 concentrations and more restricted isotopic values around $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -2$, similar to the
112 upper mantle (e.g., Nielsen et al., 2016, 2017b; Shu et al., 2022). Therefore, the addition
113 of continental sediments to a mantle source is less likely to modify the Tl isotopic
114 composition of igneous rocks than the addition of oceanic sediments.

115 The above characteristics make Tl a useful tool to distinguish oceanic versus
116 continental components in the source of post-collisional lavas in northeastern Tibet, and
117 thus evaluate competing theories of their formation. Our previous work on the AVB
118 lavas on Tibet Plateau revealed high Tl concentrations up to 8.3 µg/g (Wei et al., 2017).
119 Moreover, Tl-rich minerals (e.g., phlogopite) have been detected in several samples and
120 the AVB lavas are suggested to be derived from a phlogopite-bearing peridotite source

121 (Wei et al., 2017). In this study, we undertook a Tl isotope study of post-collisional
122 lavas from AVB in northwestern Tibet, to try and identify the enriched components in
123 post-collisional lavas in Tibet, and explore the application of Tl isotope in K-rich
124 volcanic rocks.

125

126 **2. Geological settings**

127 In response to the gradual subduction of the Indian plate beneath the Tibetan Plateau
128 from ~55 Ma ago, a series of complex tectonic events and magmatism took place
129 progressively from south to north Tibet (Fig. 1) (e.g., Tapponnier et al., 2001; Ding et
130 al., 2003). Post-collisional lavas are commonly enriched in K and incompatible
131 elements, and exhibit negative Nb-Ta-Ti anomalies (Turner et al., 1996; Williams et al.,
132 2004). According to their spatial and temporal distributions, they can be divided into
133 four principal east-west magma suites (Fig. 1; Ding et al., 2003; Chung, et al., 2005),
134 which may be attributed to the northward subduction of the Indian plate and the
135 resisting Tarim and Qaidam lithospheres (Chung et al., 2005).

136 The northernmost magma suite mainly in Songpan-Ganzi terrane is the youngest,
137 with eruptions from 17 Ma to the present (Ding et al., 2003; Chung et al., 2005). Lavas
138 in this suite are commonly shoshonites, whereas the lavas from the other suites retain a
139 wider range of K₂O contents, from shoshonitic to ultrapotassic series (Williams et al.,
140 2004; Chung et al., 2005). Located in the west part of the Songpan-Ganzi magma suite,
141 the AVB covers an area of ~700 km², and 14 volcanoes have been recognized with
142 eruptions from 2.80 Ma to 1951 AD (Liu and Maimaiti, 1989; Xu et al., 2014). The
143 1951 AD eruption of the Ashi Volcano in the AVB is regarded as the most recent
144 eruption in Tibet (Liu and Maimaiti, 1989). The AVB is a pull-part basin, structurally
145 controlled by Altyn Tagh, Karakax, and Longmu-Gozha Co fault systems. Seismic
146 tomography suggests that the upper mantle beneath this area is compressed by the
147 Indian plate in the south and Tarim block in the north, with a small gap between them
148 (Wei et al., 2017). As a result, the AVB and adjacent area are seismically active, with at
149 least 20 Mw ≥ 5 earthquakes since 2000 (Global Centroid-Moment-Tensor catalogue,
150 www.globalcmt.org).

151

152 **3. Prior work and samples**

153 Prior geochemical work (Wei et al., 2017) shows that the AVB lavas are mainly
154 basaltic trachyandesite with relatively high K₂O contents between 3.48 and 4.47 wt%.
155 These post-collisional lavas are characterized by negative Nb-Ta-Ti anomalies,
156 remarkably enriched light rare earth elements (LREE) relative to heavy rare earth
157 elements (HREE), and enriched Sr-Nd isotopes ($^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.707490\text{--}0.710523$;
158 $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.512265\text{--}0.512472$) relative to bulk silicate earth, suggesting a
159 subduction-related source (Wei et al., 2017). Combining with the geochemical and
160 geophysical perspectives, partial melting of a previously metasomatized phlogopite-
161 bearing peridotite source in the subcontinental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) was
162 suggested (Wei et al., 2017).

163 From the 25 samples measured by Wei et al. (2017), 20 samples with Sr-Nd isotopic
164 data were selected for Tl isotope analysis. All the studied lava samples are porphyritic
165 in texture, with vesicles ranging from 10% to 80% in volume. The petrography of the
166 samples has been discussed in Wei et al. (2017), but we reiterate key features in Table
167 1. To clarify the abnormally high concentration of Tl in sample ASKL-3 (8.3 µg/g), the
168 volume and composition of sulfides in the thin section were studied using scanning
169 electron microscopy (SEM) and electron probe microanalysis (EPMA).

170

171 **4. Methods**

172 **4.1 Thallium isotopic analysis**

173 All sample processing and measurements took place in the MAGIC laboratories at
174 Imperial College London. All acids used were quartz distilled (HNO₃, HCl) or ultrapure
175 Romil (HF, Br₂).

176

177 **4.1.1 Leaching and digestion**

178 Thallium readily substitutes for K in crystallographic sites, therefore, secondary K-
179 rich alteration materials such as clays can contain significant Tl. To assess any potential
180 effect of surficial alteration on Tl isotope ratios, we compared the isotopic compositions

181 of leached and unleached samples. We pre-leached samples according to the procedure
182 of [Weis and Frey \(1991, 1996\)](#). Briefly, approximately 150 mg rock powder was
183 leached with 6M HCl ([Weis and Frey, 1991, 1996](#)) to eliminate the influence of
184 secondary minerals. Approximately 50 mg of powder was digested for unleached
185 samples. Both leached and unleached samples were digested using standard techniques
186 employing initial digestion with 1 ml concentrated HNO₃ and 3 ml concentrated HF on
187 a hotplate set at 160 °C for two days. Then they were evaporated at 180°C to near dryness.
188 Around 0.5 ml concentrated HNO₃ was added to the samples and evaporated to remove
189 SiF₄ in the solutions. This SiF₄-remove step was repeated 3-5 times until the solid
190 samples turned brown or brownish. Around 1 ml 6M HCl was added and evaporated
191 twice. Subsequently, the samples were digested in 2ml 6M HCl for 24 hours at 120°C.
192 The samples were visually inspected for complete dissolution before chemical
193 separation.

194

195 **4.1.2 Chemical separation of Tl**

196 Chemical separation of Tl was conducted by a two-stage column chemistry
197 following the methods of [Rehkämper and Halliday \(1999\)](#) and [Nielsen et al. \(2004\)](#)
198 and modified by [Brett et al. \(2018\)](#). Briefly, Tl was oxidized to Tl³⁺ by water-saturated
199 Br₂ and formed anionic complexes with Cl⁻. When eluting the major and trace elements
200 with HNO₃-Br₂ mixed solutions, Tl anionic complexes were retained on the anion
201 exchange resin. Afterwards, Tl was collected by adding water-saturated SO₂ to reduce
202 Tl³⁺ to Tl⁺, which can be easily eluted from the resin. This whole separation step was
203 repeated using smaller Teflon columns to further purify the Tl solutions from the rest
204 of the matrix and to reduce the residual sulfuric acid before the mass spectrometry.

205

206 **4.1.3 MC-ICPMS measurement**

207 Thallium isotopic compositions were collected using a Nu Instruments HR Multi-
208 collector Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer (MC-ICPMS) and on a Nu
209 Plasma II machine with the same setup in the MAGIC laboratories at Imperial College
210 London. Following the method of [Rehkämper and Halliday \(1999\)](#), all solutions were

211 diluted to between 1 and 5 ng/g, depending on machine sensitivity, and were doped to
212 Pb/Tl ratios of ~ 4 using NIST SRM981 Pb for external correction for mass
213 discrimination. NIST SRM997 Tl was used for sample-standard bracketing to calculate
214 the $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ of measured samples.

215 Long-term measurements of the secondary solution standard “Aldrich” against
216 NIST SRM997 Tl in the MAGIC laboratories is -0.8 ± 0.3 (2sd, $n=211$) which is in
217 excellent agreement with literature values (see overview in [Nielsen et al. 2017b](#) and
218 [Brett et al. 2018](#)). USGS reference material BCR-2 was also measured for quality
219 control and repeat measurements of the same solution of BCR-2 display $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -$
220 2.02 ± 0.55 (2sd, $n=4$), which is close to -2.5 ± 0.4 as compiled in [Nielsen et al. \(2017b\)](#).

221

222 **4.2 SEM and EPMA measurements of sample ASKL-3**

223 The thin section of ASKL-3 was coated with carbon for SEM and EPMA
224 measurements at the Wuhan Sample Solution Analytical Technology Co. Ltd. (China).
225 A JEOL JSM-IT300 (JEOL, Japan) analytical scanning electron microscope was used
226 for imaging under the accelerating voltage of 15 kV. A JEOL JXA-8230 (JEOL, Japan)
227 electron probe micro-analyzer was used to measure the major and minor concentrations
228 under the following operation conditions: 20 kV accelerating voltage, 20 nA beam
229 current, and 0.5 μm spot size. The calibration standards for Pb (galena), Tl (thallium
230 bromide iodide), Fe (pyrite), S (pyrite), As (arsenopyrite), Se (bismuth selenide), Zn
231 (zinc sulfide), Ni (pentlandite), and Cu (copper iron sulfide) were used.

232

233 **5. Results**

234 **5.1 Thallium isotope geochemistry**

235 The leaching results for Tl isotopes are shown in [Fig. 2](#). Except for sample ASKL-
236 14, all the leached AVB lavas display Tl isotopic compositions within error of
237 unleached values, which reinforces the fresh petrologic nature of the AVB lavas.
238 Sample ASKL-14 exhibits Tl isotopes ($\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$) of $+1.8$ ϵ -units (unleached) versus -0.3
239 ϵ -units (leached), and thus leached value of this sample is used in the subsequent

240 discussion.

241 Chemical and isotopic compositions of Tl of the AVB lavas are presented in [Table](#)
242 [2](#). Thallium concentrations of the AVB lavas are significantly higher than those of arc
243 lavas, mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB), and ocean island basalt (OIB) ([Fig. 3](#)), ranging
244 from 0.148 to 8.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$, with an average value of 1.13 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Sample ASKL-3 displays
245 an extremely high Tl concentration of 8.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$. To confirm this abnormally high Tl
246 concentration, we re-measured the Tl concentration following the methods in [Wei et al.](#)
247 ([2017](#)) and acquired a close value of 7.1 $\mu\text{g/g}$. Sample ASKL-3 is also distinguished
248 from other samples by its highest content of vesicles. However, Tl concentrations of
249 the AVB lavas do not correlate with their vesicle contents (not shown). The remainder
250 of the samples exhibits Tl concentrations between 0.148 to 1.96 $\mu\text{g/g}$. The
251 cerium/thallium ratios (Ce/Tl) of the AVB lavas are highly variable, ranging from 37 to
252 2022 ([Table 2](#); [Fig. 4](#)). Sample 513-11 and ASKL-7 display significantly high Ce/Tl
253 ratios with 2220 and 1840, respectively, which are higher than the depleted MORB
254 mantle (DMM) range (1280 ± 215 , 1sd; [Nielsen et al., 2014](#)). The rest of the samples
255 range between 37 and 603, with an average Ce/Tl ratio of 393.

256 The AVB lavas have $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ between -2.7 and +6.4, with an average value of +0.1.
257 The lightest Tl signature is $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -2.7$, which is indistinguishable from the upper
258 mantle, as defined by MORB (-2 ± 1 ; [Nielsen et al., 2006a](#)). Of the twenty samples
259 measured, seven are isotopically heavier than the upper mantle. Four show positive
260 $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ from 0 to +2, and three exhibit even heavier signatures between +4.3 and +6.4.

261

262 **5.2 Sulfides in sample ASKL-3**

263 Several sulfide grains are observed by SEM with diameters less than 20 μm ([Fig. 5](#)),
264 and three of them are measured by EPMA ([Table 3](#)). These sulfides are all pyrite, with
265 ~57 wt% iron (Fe), 39-40 wt% sulfur (S), and 2-3 wt% nickel (Ni). Lead concentrations
266 of the pyrites are variable, from below the detection limit (100 $\mu\text{g/g}$) to 720 $\mu\text{g/g}$.
267 Thallium concentration of the pyrites is below the detection limit of EPMA (200 $\mu\text{g/g}$).

268

269 **6. Discussion**

270 **6.1 Source of Tl in K-rich lavas**

271 The AVB lavas are characterized by elevated Tl concentrations, indicating a Tl-
272 enriched source. Previous study suggests that the AVB lavas originate from a
273 phlogopite-bearing peridotite source (Wei et al., 2017). Phlogopite is extremely
274 enriched in Tl (up to ~12 µg/g; Brett et al., 2018; Rader et al., 2018; Fitzpayne et al.,
275 2020), whereas Tl concentrations of olivine, pyroxene and spinel are below the
276 detection limit (<1 ng/g) (Nielsen et al., 2014). Additionally, surface wave tomography
277 has documented the existence of mica in the Tibetan mantle (Hacker et al., 2000, 2014)
278 and phlogopite-peridotite mantle xenoliths are widely distributed in Tibetan post-
279 collisional lavas (Luo et al., 2000; Zhao et al., 2008; Lai et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2011;
280 Wang et al., 2016). Based on this evidence, we suggest that phlogopite is most likely
281 the main host mineral for Tl in the source region of the AVB lavas.

282 Phlogopite is a hydrous mineral, which can buffer fluid compositions in the mantle
283 (Frost, 2006). Therefore, phlogopite is often regarded as an indicator of metasomatism
284 in the lithospheric mantle (Safonov et al., 2019), indicating the source region of the
285 AVB lavas was previously metasomatized by fluids. This interpretation is also
286 supported by their relatively low Ce/Tl ratios (Fig. 4), as fluids carry abundant Tl but
287 very low Ce. Similarly, K-rich lavas in other post-collisional settings are also attributed
288 to phlogopite-bearing sources in the lithospheric mantle (e.g., Condomine and Medard,
289 2014; Foley, 1992; Förster et al., 2018; Moghadam et al., 2018; Wang et al., 2020a,
290 2020b). Thallium preferentially substitutes for K in crystallographic textures (Heinrichs
291 et al., 1980), resulting in Tl enrichment in K-rich lavas in post-collisional settings.
292 Lavas from South Tibet and Anatolia exhibit enriched Tl concentrations as high as 1.68
293 and 0.44 µg/g, respectively (Moghadam et al., 2018; Wang, et al., 2020b). Moreover,
294 melting experiments demonstrate that partial melting and breakdown of phlogopite can
295 significantly increase the Rb/Sr ratios of melts (Förster et al., 2017). As shown in the
296 Rb/Sr versus Tl plot (Fig. 6), Rb/Sr ratios correlate positively with Tl concentrations,
297 indicating that phlogopite in the continental lithospheric mantle is likely the main
298 source for Tl. Additionally, phlogopite is stable in the continental upper mantle down
299 to 150-200 km (Kushiro et al., 1967) and the existence of fluorine (F) and Ti in

300 phlogopite can increase the stability of phlogopite (Motoyoshi and Hensen, 2001). In
301 summary, phlogopite is not only an indicator of metasomatism, but also an important
302 Tl host mineral in the continental lithospheric mantle.

303 Notably, Tl is not consistently enriched in K-rich volcanic rocks. Amphibole is also
304 an important K-rich phase in the lithospheric mantle, but its Tl content is significantly
305 variable. For example, in the absence of the phlogopite phase, orthomagmatic
306 amphiboles generally contain Tl concentrations within the ng/g range, whereas late-
307 magmatic to hydrothermal amphiboles have up to 3 $\mu\text{g/g}$ Tl (Hettmann et al., 2014).
308 Additionally, the amphibole/melt partition coefficient (0.04-0.23) is significantly lower
309 than the phlogopite/melt partition coefficient (3.03-5.2) (Adam and Green, 2006).
310 Therefore, K-rich lavas produced by melting of an amphibole-bearing source may
311 contain variable Tl concentrations.

312 Partial melting modeling (see Appendix) suggests that the AVB lavas can be
313 produced by 1-3% batch melting of phlogopite peridotite; therefore, Tl concentrations
314 in the source region can be calculated by Tl concentrations of the most mafic samples.
315 According to the D values for Tl ($D_{\text{olivine-melt}} = 0.01$; $D_{\text{orthopyroxene-melt}} = 0.01$; $D_{\text{clinopyroxene-}}$
316 $\text{melt} = 0.01$; $D_{\text{garnet-melt}} = 0.000001$; $D_{\text{phlogopite-melt}} = 3.03$) from Adam and Green (2006),
317 in order to produce Tl concentrations of the most mafic lavas (ASKL-17, Tl
318 concentration=0.290 $\mu\text{g/g}$; ASKL-18, Tl concentration=0.276 $\mu\text{g/g}$) by 1% batch
319 melting, 44-46 ng/g of Tl in the source is required, whilst for 3% batch melting, 62-65
320 ng/g of Tl is required. Therefore, Tl concentrations in the sources can be estimated as a
321 range of 44-65 ng/g, which is comparable to the Tl concentration of enriched peridotite
322 xenoliths (12.9-85.7 ng/g; Chin et al., 2012).

323

324 **6.2 Influence of secondary processes on Tl**

325 It has been well documented that secondary processes like alteration, weathering,
326 and degassing can potentially modify chemical and isotopic compositions of Tl in
327 magmas (e.g., Nielsen et al., 2005, 2021; Baker et al., 2009; Prytulak et al., 2017).
328 Therefore, these processes should be first evaluated before constraining the Tl
329 characteristics in the mantle source. Although fractional crystallization of anhydrous

330 phases does not appear to fractionate Tl isotopes, we re-examine fractional
331 crystallization processes in the AVB lavas, as they contain hydrous phases such as
332 phlogopite.

333

334 **6.2.1 Alteration and weathering**

335 Alteration and weathering commonly influence the mobilization and re-
336 distribution of elements in rocks, and can fractionate the isotopes of some elements
337 during extreme weathering, e.g., lithium (Pistiner and Henderson, 2003).
338 Measurements of Tl isotopes in variable continental sources suggest little fractionation
339 of Tl isotopes during weathering and alteration processes (Nielsen et al., 2005), even
340 when extreme weathering causing laterite formation is considered (Howarth et al. 2018).
341 Due to the high solubility of alkali metals in aqueous solutions and similar geochemical
342 properties between Tl and alkali metals, Rb and Tl are likely to decrease during
343 subaerial alteration (Schiano et al., 1993; Babechuk et al., 2014). On the contrary, Th is
344 immobile and preferentially hosted in resistant minerals even during extreme
345 weathering (Ma et al., 2007). Approximate equal partition coefficient (D) values of Ce
346 and Tl imply similar behaviors of these two elements during high-temperature
347 magmatic processes and thus weathering and subaerial alteration can sometimes be
348 identified by high Ce/Tl and Th/Rb ratios of lava samples.

349 As shown in Fig. 4, although the Ce/Tl ratios of sample ASKL-7 and 513-11 are
350 significantly higher than the other samples and DMM (1280 ± 215 , 1sd; Nielsen et al.,
351 2014), the Th/Rb ratios of these two samples are similar to the others, suggesting a
352 negligible effect of subaerial alteration. Moreover, fresh petrology in thin sections and
353 the leaching tests (Fig. 2) also do not support any obvious influence of subaerial
354 alteration and weathering. Additionally, low loss on ignition (LOI) values (1.7% on
355 average) and no correlation between Tl isotopes and LOI (not shown) also demonstrate
356 negligible impacts of subaerial alteration and weathering on the AVB lavas.

357

358 **6.2.2 Fractional crystallization and crustal assimilation**

359 Fractional crystallization of magma is a key process to alter elemental

360 concentrations depending on their compatibilities in crystallizing phases. Correlations
361 of elemental concentrations indicate that the AVB lavas experienced significant
362 fractional crystallization during magmatic evolution (Wei et al., 2017). Thallium
363 behaves as a highly incompatible lithophile element (e.g., Prytulak et al., 2017; Brett et
364 al., 2021), and thus its concentration increases substantially during fractional
365 crystallization. As shown in Fig. 7a, except for two samples (ASKL-7 and 513-11) with
366 low Tl concentrations coupled with heavy $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ and the sample with high Tl
367 concentration (ASKL-3 = 8.2 $\mu\text{g/g}$, not shown), Tl concentrations are well correlated
368 with MgO wt%, indicating a significant influence of fractional crystallization on Tl
369 concentrations.

370 Fractional crystallization of anhydrous phases is not expected to cause Tl isotopic
371 fractionation (Prytulak et al., 2017; Gaschnig et al. 2021). However, the Tl isotopic
372 fractionation effects of hydrous minerals are much less well understood. Phlogopite is
373 present in some of the AVB lavas (Table 1). Although data is currently limited,
374 measurements of phlogopite separates from mantle xenoliths are indistinguishable from
375 upper mantle values ($\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} \sim -2.5$; $n=25$; Fitzpayne et al. 2020), suggesting that
376 partitioning of Tl into phlogopite does not induce a significant isotope fractionation.
377 Moreover, no correlation of the occurrence of phlogopite and MgO content with Tl
378 isotopes is observed in the AVB lavas (Fig. 7b). Based on these reasons, we suggest the
379 impact of fractional crystallization on Tl isotope is insignificant.

380 Obvious crustal assimilation has been excluded by restricted radiogenic Sr and Nd
381 isotopes of the AVB lavas in different ages (Wei et al., 2017). Due to the extremely high
382 concentrations of Tl in the crust compared to that in the mantle, minor crustal
383 assimilation can potentially alter the chemical and isotopic compositions of Tl in
384 mantle-derived lavas, such as oceanic island basalt (e.g., Brett et al., 2021). However,
385 the AVB lavas in this study originate from an incompatible element-enriched source,
386 and thus the primitive magmas exhibit extremely high Tl concentrations. As shown in
387 Table 1 and 2, the average Tl concentrations of the AVB lavas and the most primitive
388 sample (ASKL-17) are 1.1 $\mu\text{g/g}$ and 0.29 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively, which are within the
389 concentration order of magnitude in the continental crust ($\sim 0.5 \mu\text{g/g}$, Heinrichs et al.,

390 1980). Therefore, small proportions of crust are unlikely to significantly modify the Tl
391 concentrations and isotopic composition of the AVB lavas.

392 Sample ASKL-3 has an extremely high Tl concentration of ~8.3 $\mu\text{g/g}$, whereas the
393 remainder of the samples has Tl concentrations $< 2 \mu\text{g/g}$. Thallium behaves similarly
394 with alkali metals, such as K, Cs, and Rb, and is commonly enriched in alkali-bearing
395 minerals (Heinrichs et al., 1980). However, sample ASKL-3 does not have a distinctly
396 high concentration of alkali metals compared to the other samples, excluding the
397 possibility of contamination of alkali-bearing minerals, such as phlogopite. Moreover,
398 no phlogopite phenocryst is observed in the thin section of ASKL-3, and samples with
399 obvious phlogopite minerals do not show abnormally high Tl concentrations compared
400 to the rest of the lavas, such as sample ASKL-16 (Tl = 0.76 $\mu\text{g/g}$).

401 Sulfides can be important Tl host minerals. In sample ASKL-3, there are several
402 pyrite grains (Fig. 5), which have Pb concentrations as high as 720 $\mu\text{g/g}$ (Table 3).
403 Thallium behaves similarly with Pb in sulfides (Nielsen et al., 2014), and Tl is
404 commonly enriched in pyrites (Vaněk et al., 2022). Therefore, although Tl is not
405 detected by EPMA with a high detection limit of 200 $\mu\text{g/g}$, we speculate the pyrites in
406 ASKL-3 have high Tl and Pb concentrations. This is also supported by the coupled
407 elevated Pb and Tl contents of ASKL-3. Consequently, the abnormally high Tl
408 concentration of ASKL-3 is likely attributable to contamination of Tl-bearing sulfides
409 with relatively light Tl isotopic composition, which is consistent with our repeated
410 digestion and measurement of Tl concentration of 7.2 $\mu\text{g/g}$, indicating uneven mixing
411 of Tl-rich grains. Hence, we do not consider sample ASKL-3 further in the discussion
412 of the source of the AVB lavas.

413

414 6.2.3 Kinetic fractionation of Tl isotopes by degassing

415 Owing to the relatively low boiling point of Tl (1453°C; Kaplan and Mattigod, 1998),
416 enrichment of Tl in volcanic gases and mineralization of Tl sulfates in volcanic
417 fumaroles have been reported by several studies (e.g., Baker et al., 2009; Siidra et al.,
418 2014), suggesting that light isotope (^{203}Tl) is more likely to be lost during degassing. A
419 recent magma degassing experiment revealed that 60-90% Tl was lost during magma

420 degassing, which caused significant kinetic isotope fractionation with heavier Tl
421 isotope (^{205}Tl) remaining in residual melts (Nielsen et al., 2021). Given Ce and Tl
422 behave similarly during high-temperature magmatic processes, but Tl is volatile whilst
423 Ce (boiling point = 3257°C; Habermann and Danne, 1964) is not, volcanic degassing is
424 predicted to result in relatively high Ce/Tl coupled with heavy Tl isotope ratios (Nielsen
425 et al., 2016, 2017b). Under this framework, a significant influence of degassing on
426 magmas has been identified in several volcanic areas, such as Central America, where
427 the degassed volcanic rocks exhibit Tl isotopes as high as +9.0 ϵ -units (Nielsen et al.,
428 2017a).

429 As shown in Fig. 4, two samples (ASKL-7 and 513-11) exhibit significantly higher
430 Ce/Tl ratios and heavier Tl isotopic compositions than the others. Since the influence
431 of subaerial alteration and weathering have been excluded in the above discussion, such
432 heavy Tl isotopic values (+4.3 to +6.4) could be caused by addition of marine Fe-Mn
433 sediments or volcanic degassing. However, the addition of marine Fe-Mn sediments
434 will reduce the Ce/Tl ratios, which is opposite to the relatively high Ce/Tl ratios of
435 ASKL-7 and 513-11 (Fig. 4). Therefore, we suggest that the heavy Tl isotopic
436 signatures of ASKL-7 and 513-11 are likely due to kinetic fractionation during magma
437 degassing. This Tl-loss process can also be identified in Fig. 7 that these two samples
438 exhibit significantly lower Tl contents (148-154 ng/g) than the other samples (≥ 276
439 ng/g). In the Tl versus Rb diagram (Fig. 7d), sample ASKL-8 is plotted above the fitting
440 line with relatively heavy Tl isotope (+1.9) and high Tl content (1960 ng/g), which may
441 be related to the addition of marine Fe-Mn sediments in the source. Thallium
442 concentrations of the other samples correlate well with MgO (Fig. 7a) and Rb (Fig. 7d),
443 suggesting that the Tl budgets of these samples are not profoundly fractionated by
444 degassing in the late stage of fractional crystallization.

445 The AVB lavas were produced by partial melting of phlogopite-bearing peridotite;
446 therefore, their parental magma should be characterized by high concentrations of fluids.
447 Degassing of the parental magma before fractional crystallization can potentially
448 produce Tl isotopic fractionation. However, the most primitive sample (ASKL-17,
449 MgO = 7.40%) exhibits a mantle-like $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ of -1.2, suggesting negligible Tl isotopic

450 fractionation. Degassing of the parental magma should produce higher Ce/Tl ratios and
451 heavier Tl isotopes than ASKL-17 (Fig. 4b), which is inconsistent with the observation
452 that except for sample 513-11 and ASKL-7, the Ce/Tl ratios of the remaining samples
453 are close to or much lower than that of ASKL-17. Consequently, based on these lines
454 of evidence, we suggest that the Tl isotopes of the parental magma were not
455 significantly fractionated by degassing.

456 To roughly quantify the impacts of degassing on sample ASKL-7 and 513-11, a
457 simple calculation is performed: assuming Tl concentrations of these two samples were
458 well correlated with Rb as the other samples before degassing. The fitting line of Tl
459 versus Rb is $Tl = 0.0085 \cdot Rb - 0.3819$ ($R^2 = 0.81$) (Fig. 7d), and thus the Tl
460 concentrations of ASKL-7 and 513-11 before degassing can be calculated by their Rb
461 concentrations as 0.57 and 1.28 $\mu\text{g/g}$, respectively. As a result, loss of Tl for sample
462 ASKL-7 and 513-11 can be calculated as 74% and 88%, respectively. This result is
463 consistent with the degassing experiment that indicated 60-90% Tl loss (Nielsen et al.,
464 2021).

465 Loss of volcanic gas (mainly water) can increase the melt viscosity and density, and
466 expedite fractional crystallization due to undercooling of the melt (Sparks, 2003).
467 Sample ASKL-7 and 513-11 were collected at Yueya and Yizi volcanoes in the AVB,
468 respectively. These two volcanoes have the smallest terraces in length (Xu et al., 2012),
469 which may be related to the relatively high viscosity of magma caused by degassing.
470 However, these two degassed samples show no anomalies in petrography compared
471 with other samples, probably because crystallization and vesicles are controlled by
472 many factors. In this study, although degassing of volcanic rocks is common as recorded
473 by vesicles, only two samples have been identified that likely experienced significant
474 Tl degassing. Therefore, we suggest that kinetic fractionation of Tl isotopes by
475 degassing does not significantly affect the rest of the samples, which do not display
476 high Ce/Tl coupled with heavy Tl isotopic compositions.

477

478 **6.3 Identifying enriched components in the source**

479 Excepting sample ASKL-3 (possible sulfides) and the two degassed samples

480 (ASKL-7 and 513-11), the remaining 17 AVB samples exhibit variable $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ ranging
481 from -2.0 to +5.1, of which 9 samples are heavier than the depleted upper mantle (-2 ± 1).
482 As documented above, secondary processes cannot account for these heavy Tl isotopic
483 variations, indicating that the mantle source also contains heavy Tl. By combining
484 geochemical and geophysical observations, our previous study has proposed that the
485 AVB lavas were produced by partial melting of a previously metasomatized source in
486 the SCLM (Wei et al., 2017). Partial melting and mantle metasomatism at mantle
487 temperature (T) are unlikely to fractionate Tl isotope to an analytically resolvable level
488 (Nielsen et al., 2017; Prytulak et al., 2017) because the magnitude of Tl isotopic
489 fractionation is proportional to $1/T^2$ (Bigeleisen and Mayer, 1947; Urey, 1947).
490 Additionally, phlogopite in MARID xenoliths from South Africa exhibits an overlapped
491 Tl isotopic range (-2.5 ± 1.3 , 2sd; Fitzpayne et al., 2020) with the depleted mantle ($-$
492 2.0 ± 1.0 ; Nielsen et al., 2017b), also indicating that high-temperature partial melting and
493 mantle metasomatism associated with phlogopite may not cause profound Tl isotopic
494 fractionation. In conclusion, mantle metasomatism and partial melting of phlogopite
495 peridotite are unlikely to account for the Tl isotopic variations of the AVB lavas, and
496 the Tl isotopic variations should be attributed to the enriched components in the source.

497 Enriched Sr-Nd isotopic compositions of the AVB lavas indicate the existence of
498 enriched mantle II (EM II) components in their mantle source (Wei et al., 2017), but
499 where it was inherited is unclear. Continental sediments have similar $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ values ($-$
500 2 ± 1 ; Nielsen et al., 2005, 2017b) to the depleted mantle (-2 ± 1 ; Nielsen et al., 2017b),
501 and therefore mixing them cannot produce the AVB lavas with variable Tl isotopes ($-$
502 2.0 to $+5.1$). Oceanic sediments commonly retain substantial Tl isotopic variations and
503 high Tl concentrations (e.g., Nielsen et al., 2016; 2017b). Consequently, the large range
504 of Tl isotope of the AVB lavas should be attributed to oceanic enriched components.
505 The addition of continental material cannot be ruled out through Tl isotope because
506 continental sediments have overlapped $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ value (-2 ± 1 ; Nielsen et al., 2005, 2017b)
507 with the AVB lavas (-2.0 to $+5.1$), as well as with the depleted mantle (-2.0 ± 1.0 2sd;
508 Nielsen et al., 2017b). However, if the enriched contributions from the southward-
509 subducting continental Tarim block are dominant, the Pulu volcanoes on the north of

510 the AVB should have more enriched Sr-Nd isotopic compositions than the AVB lavas,
511 which is opposite to the observations (Wang et al., 2020a). Based on these reasons, we
512 believe that oceanic components play a dominant role in the enrichment in the mantle
513 source of the AVB lavas. To clarify the contribution of continental sediments, future Tl
514 isotopic investigations on K-rich post-collisional lavas and mantle xenoliths in the
515 surrounding areas are needed.

516 Notably, the AVB lavas have restricted Sr and Nd isotopes but variable Tl isotopes,
517 and therefore a clear decoupling of radiogenic and stable isotope systems is apparent in
518 these lavas. This scenario can be explained by the great Tl concentration contrast
519 between the depleted mantle and oceanic inputs; therefore, minor addition of oceanic
520 high-Tl materials will dominate both the chemical and isotopic Tl budget of lavas. For
521 example, ferromanganese (Fe-Mn) nodules retain extremely high Tl concentrations
522 (100 $\mu\text{g/g}$) and enriched Tl isotopes ($\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} > +10$) (Nielsen et al., 2006a). Binary
523 mixing calculations indicate that addition of 0.2% Fe-Mn nodules cannot sufficiently
524 modify the Sr and Nd isotopes of the mantle, but can significantly change their Tl
525 isotope from -2 to +7.1. As shown in Fig. 8, none of the AVB samples exhibit lower
526 $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ than the upper mantle range (-2 ± 1), indicating that the addition of low-T altered
527 oceanic crust ($\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} < -5$) is minor or overprinted by high-Tl pelagic or Fe-Mn
528 sediments. Hence, heterogeneous addition of sufficient oceanic sediments can account
529 for the variable Tl isotopic but restricted Sr-Nd isotopic compositions.

530

531 **6.4 Tethys Oceanic contributions to post-collisional K-rich magmatism on Tibet**

532 Apart from Tl isotope systematics in northern Tibet, oceanic components have also
533 been identified in southern and eastern Tibet through other stable isotopes such as Mg,
534 Ca, and Os isotopes (Liu et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2017). Before the Indian-Asian collision,
535 the lithosphere of Tibet experienced a long history of Paleo-Tethys and subsequent Neo-
536 Tethys oceanic subductions, which can be evidenced by the west-east sutures on Tibetan
537 Plateau (Wu et al., 2020). As shown in Fig. 1, KS and JS sutures in north Tibet mark
538 the closure of Paleo-Tethys Ocean within Paleozoic, whereas BNS and ITS sutures in
539 south Tibet indicate the closure of Neo-Tethys Ocean mainly in Mesozoic (Wu et al.,

540 2020). Middle Triassic granitoids in NW Tibet retain similar Sr-Nd isotopes and high
541 K content with the AVB lavas (Jiang et al., 2013), also supporting the connection
542 between Paleo-Tethys oceanic subductions and post-collision lavas herein. Additionally,
543 chemical and Sr-Nd isotopic compositions of Cenozoic mafic rocks in Lhasa Terrane
544 are similar to those of Cretaceous subduction-related magmatism in southern Tibet,
545 demonstrating the sustained influence of the Neo-Tethys Ocean slab on the post-
546 collisional lavas in Tibet (Huang et al., 2020). Additionally, average Nd and Pb model
547 ages for the post-collisional basalts in Tibet are 0.9-1.3 and 2.2-3.5 Ga, respectively
548 (Turner et al., 1996). Therefore, based on these lines of evidence, we propose that the
549 enriched K-rich components in Tibetan post-collisional lavas are mainly attributed to
550 multi-stage Paleo- and Neo-Tethys subductions.

551 Combined with these geological and geochemical constraints, a two-stage
552 geodynamic model is proposed in Fig. 9. Before the Indian-Asian collision, the Tibetan
553 lithosphere was metasomatized by high-K components from Paleo- and Neo-Tethys
554 Oceanic subductions, and may form phlogopite peridotite veins in the lithospheric
555 mantle (Wang et al., 2014). Subsequently, due to the Indian-Asian collision and
556 continuous underthrusting of the Indian Plate beneath the Tibetan Plateau, a series of
557 complex geodynamic processes occurred on the Tibetan Plateau. These geodynamic
558 processes, including convective thinning, delamination, slab roll-back and break-off,
559 and shear heating, may induce partial melting of the metasomatized mantle and form a
560 large amount of west-east extension of post-collisional magmatism belts in Tibet.

561

562 7. Conclusion

563 Thallium isotopic compositions have been applied as a source tracer for about two
564 decades. Most studies on Tl isotopes focus on arc or OIB-related magmatism and the
565 mechanisms responsible for Tl isotopic fractionations are still not fully understood. We
566 measured Tl isotopes of K-rich lavas in post-collisional settings. Significantly
567 fractionated Tl isotopes are found, however, there appears to be a clear role for kinetic
568 fractionation in producing some of the isotopically heavy signatures. After evaluating
569 the influence of subaerial alteration, degassing, fractional crystallization, and crustal

570 assimilation on Tl isotope fractionation, we suggest the remaining heavy signatures
571 originated from the source. Significant variations in Tl isotopes suggest contributions
572 of oceanic sediments, which documents that the enriched components in Cenozoic Tibet
573 lavas may originate from Paleo- and Neo-Tethys components stored in the SCLM.

574 By conducting batch melting modeling, we suggest the AVB lavas were produced
575 by 1-3% partial melting of phlogopite-peridotite. Phlogopite is not only an indicator of
576 metasomatism but also an important host mineral for Tl. We also estimate the Tl
577 concentration in the source region as 44-65 ng/g, which is comparable to the Tl
578 concentration of enriched peridotite xenoliths. We suggest metasomatism in the source
579 does not fractionate Tl isotopes significantly and the Tl isotopic variations in the source
580 are invoked to heterogeneous addition of sufficient high-Tl oceanic materials. Finally,
581 we proposed a two-stage model that previously metasomatized SCLM by Paleo- and
582 Neo-Tethys Ocean components are responsible for the wide distribution of K-rich post-
583 collisional lavas on the Tibetan Plateau.

584

585

586 **Acknowledgments**

587 We thank the editor Dr. Sonja Aulbach and two anonymous reviewers for their
588 constructive comments and suggestions that helped us greatly improve the manuscript.

589 This work was funded by the Fundamental Research Funds in the Institute of Geology,
590 China Earthquake Administration (Grant IGCEA1904), National Natural Science
591 Foundation of China (Grant 41372344), a China Scholarship Council award (Grant
592 201504190007) to FW for his visit to the MAGIC Laboratories at Imperial College
593 London, and Undergraduate Research Opportunity internship to EBB (Imperial College
594 London). We would like to greatly thank B. Coles and K. Kressig from the MAGIC and
595 S.Hammond from Open University for the mass spectrometry and chemistry.

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961

962 **Appendix: Melting processes for the K-rich magmas**

963 To constrain the partial melting degrees and verify that the trace element
964 characteristics of the AVB lavas are produced by phlogopite-bearing peridotite, we
965 performed trace-element modeling for batch melting of phlogopite-peridotite. The
966 mineral assemblages of phlogopite peridotites can be constrained by xenoliths entrained
967 in post-collisional K-rich lavas. Although no mantle xenolith has been found in the
968 AVB, mantle xenoliths entrained in similar post-collisional K-rich lavas in northern
969 Tibet are mainly phlogopite peridotite composed of olivine, orthopyroxene,
970 clinopyroxene, garnet, spinel, and phlogopite (Liu et al., 2011; Luo et al., 2000; Zhao
971 et al., 2008). Spinel, however, would cause variable Zr/Hf ratios, which is not observed
972 in the AVB lavas (Wei et al., 2017). Thus, the mineral assemblages of peridotites
973 beneath the AVB can be assumed as olivine, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, garnet, and
974 phlogopite.

975 Since no trace element data of phlogopite-bearing peridotite in northwest Tibet has
976 been reported, a mica-bearing peridotite xenolith from Monte Vulture in southern Italy
977 (sample Aj33L, Downes et al., 2002), which displays similar source characteristics with
978 the AVB lavas, is selected as the composition of mantle source. As demonstrated by
979 melting experiments, partial melting of phlogopite-peridotite may follow the reaction:
980 $0.59 \text{ phlogopite} + 0.52 \text{ clinopyroxene} + 0.18 \text{ garnet} = 0.06 \text{ olivine} + 0.23 \text{ orthopyroxene}$
981 $+ 1.00 \text{ melt}$ (Condamine et al., 2016). As shown in Fig. 10, most trace elements can be
982 produced by 1-3% partial melting of the mica-bearing peridotite. Titanium of the AVB
983 lavas is relatively enriched compared to the modeling results, which is reasonable
984 because the AVB crust is significantly thicker than the crust beneath Monte Vulture,
985 and thus more proportions of Ti-phlogopite are required to be stable in the AVB sources.

986 **Figure captions**

987 **Fig. 1.** Map of Tibetan Plateau showing post-collisional magmatic rocks and major
988 terranes (modified from [Yin and Harrison, 2000](#); [Ding et al., 2003](#); [Chung et al., 2005](#);
989 [Wu et al., 2020](#)). The AVB and Pulu volcanic fields are located in the western Songpan-
990 Ganzi terrane. From south to north, suture zones between the major terranes are Indus-
991 Tsangpo Suture (ITS), Bangong-Nujiang Suture (BNS), Jinsha Suture (JS), Kunlun
992 Suture (KS), South Qilin Suture (SQS). STDS = south Tibet detachment system; MBT
993 = main boundary thrust.

994

995 **Fig. 2.** Thallium isotopes ($\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$) of the leached and unleached samples. The grey
996 dotted 1:1 line indicates no difference between leached and unleached values.

997

998 **Fig. 3.** Thallium chemical and isotopic compositions for the AVB lavas and literature
999 values of arc, MORB, and OIB samples. Note that Tl concentration and Ce/Tl ratios
1000 are plotted on a logarithmic scale. Data are compiled from: arc ([Nielsen et al., 2016](#),
1001 [2017a](#); [Prytulak et al., 2013, 2017](#)), MORB ([Nielsen et al., 2006, 2014](#)), and OIB
1002 ([Brett et al., 2021](#)).

1003

1004 **Fig. 4.** (a) Th/Rb versus Ce/Tl ratios for the AVB lavas. The grey field represents the
1005 average Ce/Tl and Th/Rb ratios for DMM (Ce/Tl = 1196 ± 315 , 1sd; Th/Rb =
1006 0.147 ± 0.051 , 1sd; [Jenner and O'Neill, 2012](#); [Nielsen et al., 2014](#)). (b) Ce/Tl versus
1007 $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ of the AVB lavas.

1008

1009 **Fig. 5.** Pyrite grains in clinopyroxene phenocrysts and groundmass in the thin section
1010 of ASKL-3 by SEM (a-c). The major and minor concentrations of ASKL-3-1, ASKL-
1011 3-2, and ASKL-3-3 pyrite grains were measured by EPMA.

1012

1013 **Fig. 6.** Rb/Sr versus Tl concentrations of post-collisional lavas. Sample data of south
1014 Tibet and Anatalio are from [Wang et al., \(2020b\)](#) and [Moghadam et al., \(2018\)](#),
1015 respectively.

1016

1017 **Fig. 7.** (a) Tl versus MgO; (b) $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ versus MgO; (c) Tl versus Ce/Tl ratios; (d) Tl
1018 versus Rb of the AVB lavas.

1019

1020 **Fig. 8.** Thallium versus Sr (a) and Nd (b) isotopes for the AVB lavas. As isotopic data
1021 for the Tethys oceanic components are unavailable, only approximately trends for
1022 mixing between the DMM and oceanic components are shown. The Tl isotopic
1023 compositions of oceanic components are from [Nielsen et al. \(2017b\)](#).

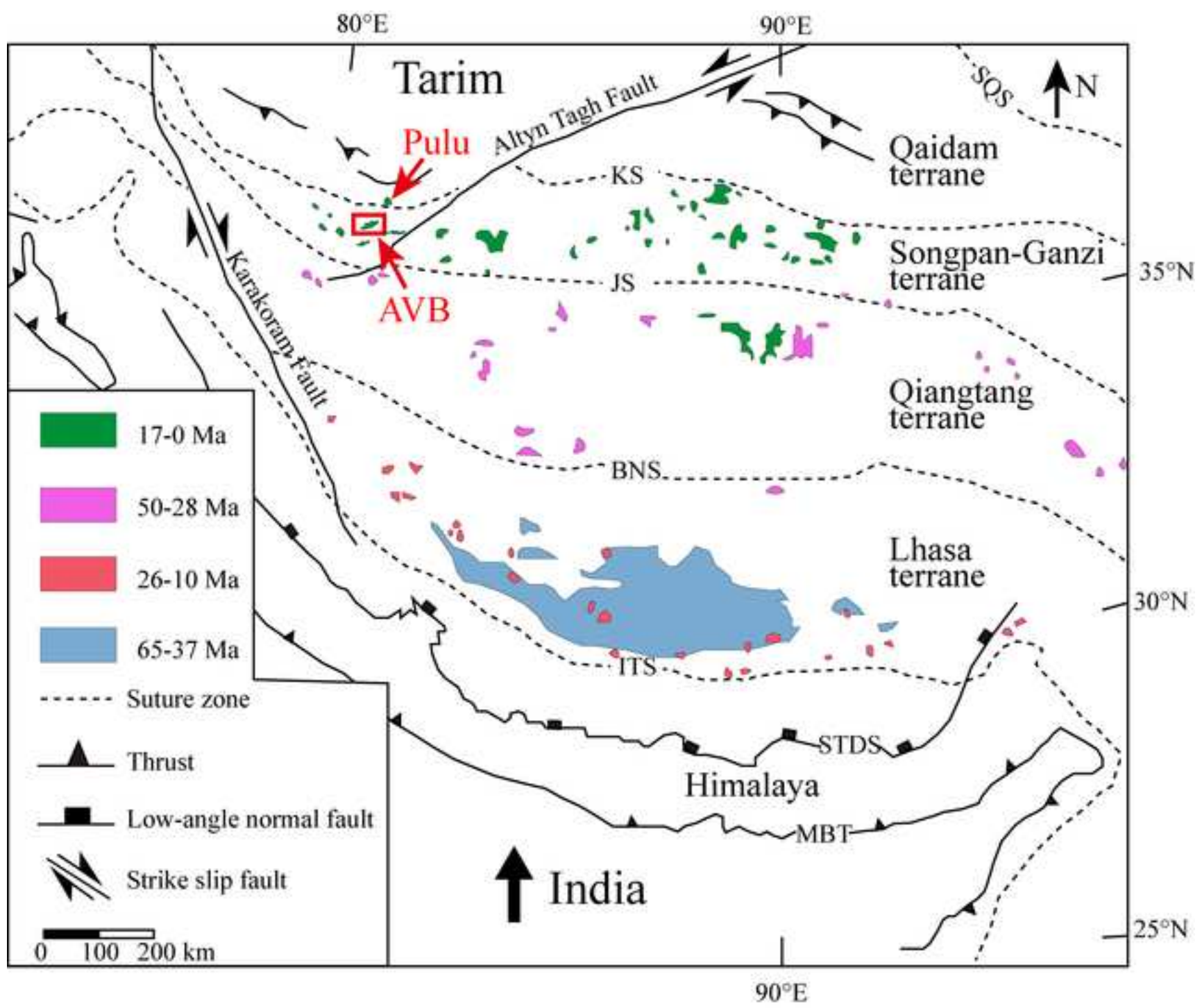
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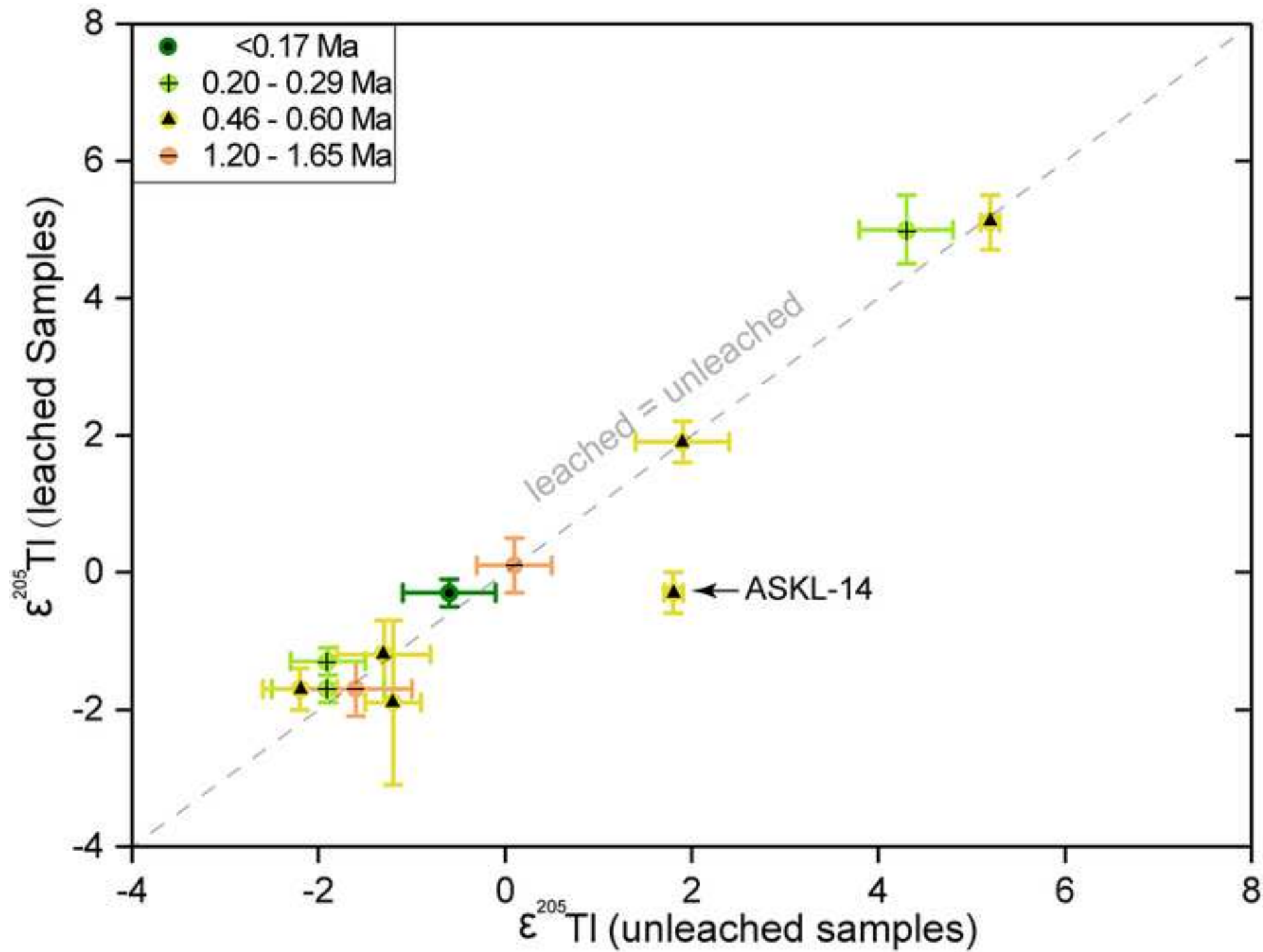
1025 **Fig. 9.** Cartoon model illustrating the formation of post-collisional lavas on Tibetan
1026 Plateau. (a) Before the Indian-Asian collision (55Ma), fluids and melts from Paleo- and
1027 Neo-Tethys oceanic subductions metasomatized the Tibetan lithospheric mantle,
1028 forming phlogopite-bearing peridotite veins. (b) Since ~55 Ma, due to the Indian-Asian
1029 collision and continuous underthrusting of the Indian Plate beneath the Tibetan Plateau,
1030 a series of complex plate geodynamic processes occurred on the Tibetan Plateau. These
1031 geodynamic processes, including convective thinning, delamination, slab roll-back and
1032 break-off, and shear heating, may induce partial melting of the metasomatized mantle
1033 and form a large amount of west-east extension of post-collisional magmatism belts in
1034 Tibet.

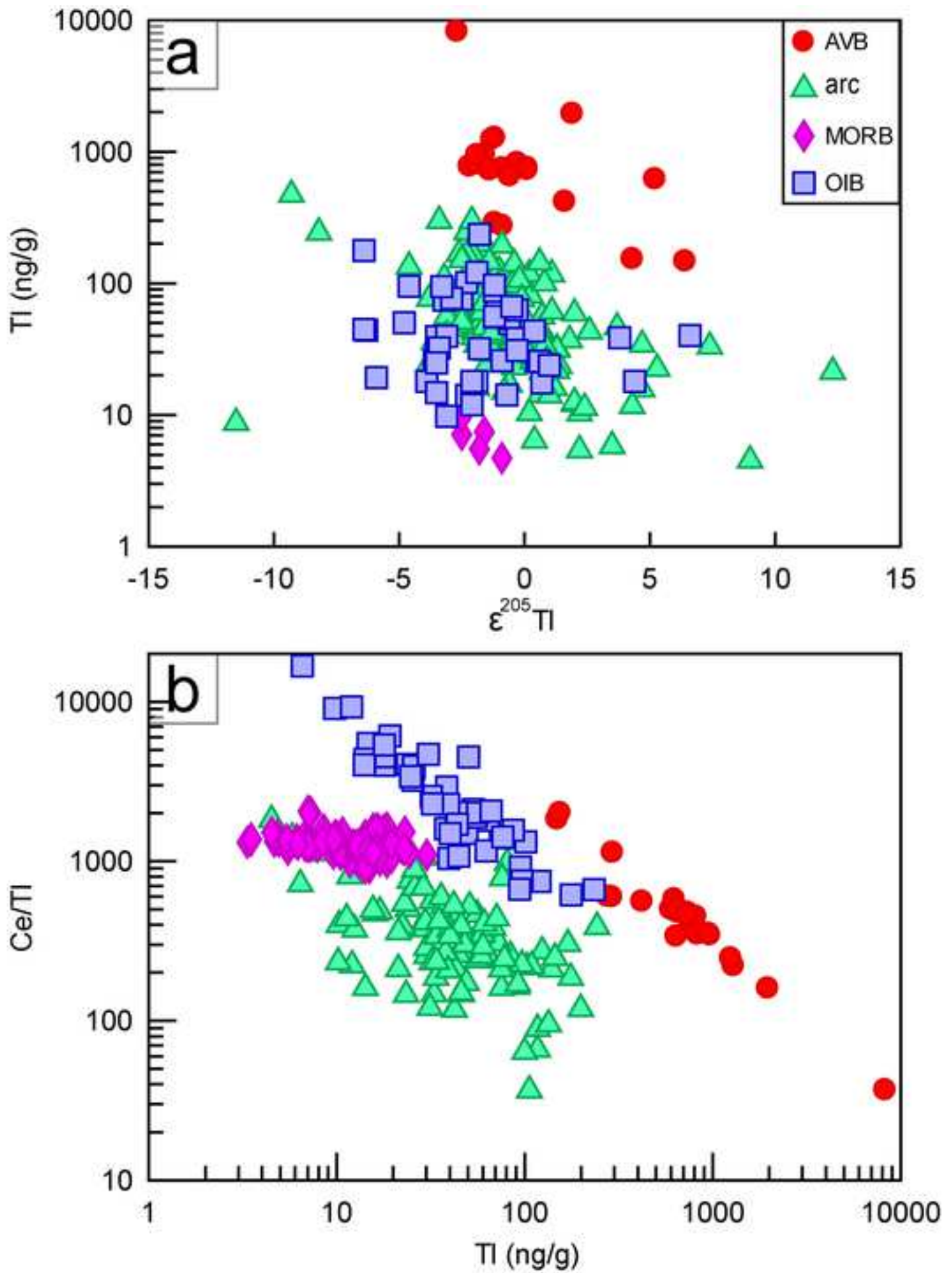
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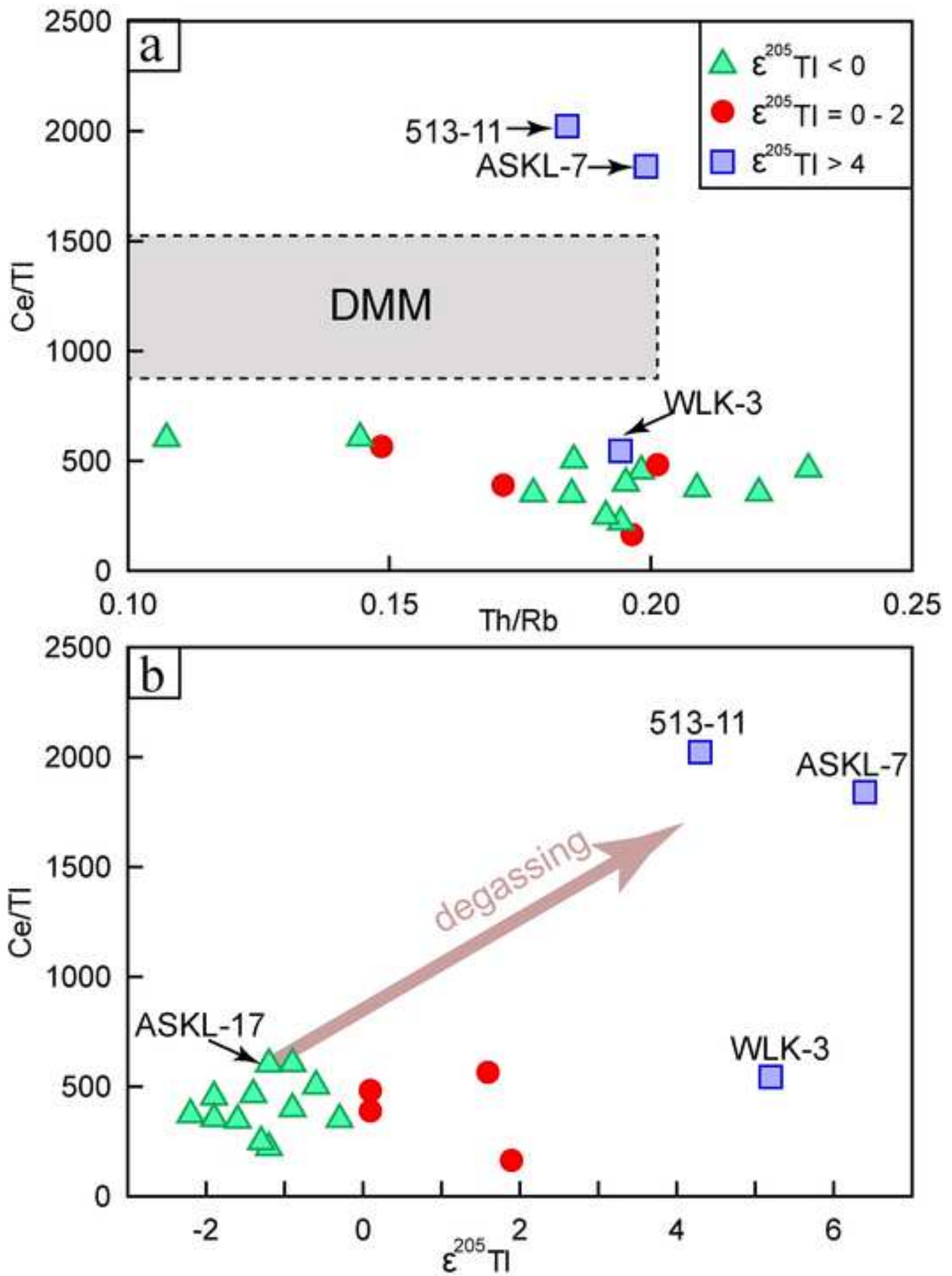
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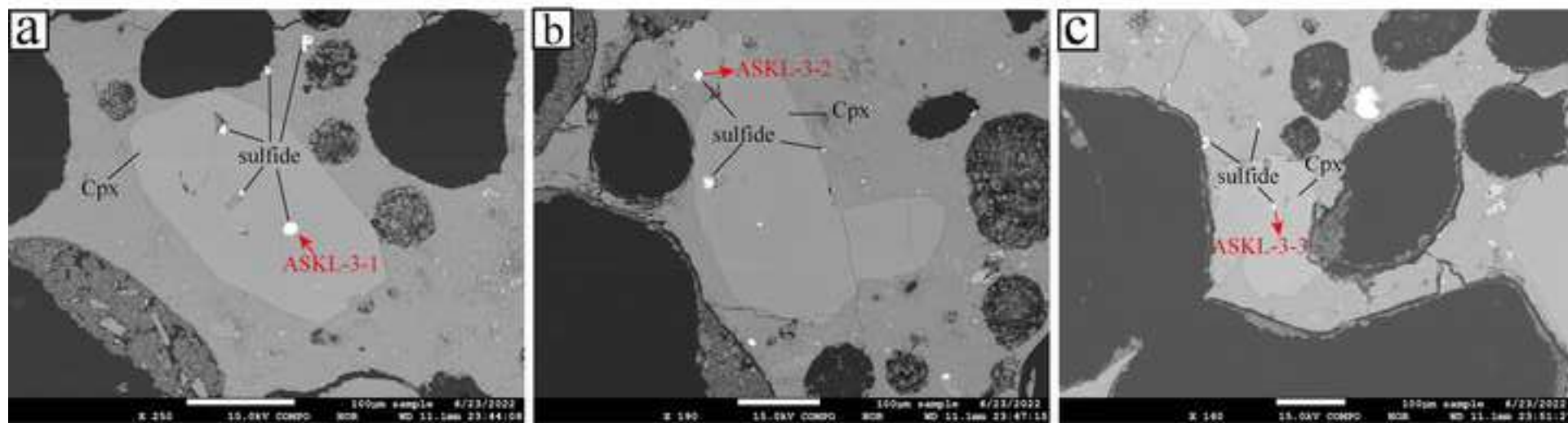
1037 **Fig. 10.** Trace element batch melting modelling for mica-bearing peridotite, normalized
1038 to primitive mantle ([McDonough and Sun, 1995](#)). The most primitive samples with >6%
1039 MgO (ASKL-17 and ASKL-18) are plotted for comparison. Mineral modal abundances
1040 (melt modes in parentheses) for batch melting are: olivine 0.70(-0.06), orthopyroxene
1041 0.2(-0.23), clinopyroxene 0.03(0.18), garnet 0.01 (0.52), phlogopite 0.06 (0.59). The D
1042 values are from the appendix table A4 of [Williams et al. \(2004\)](#).

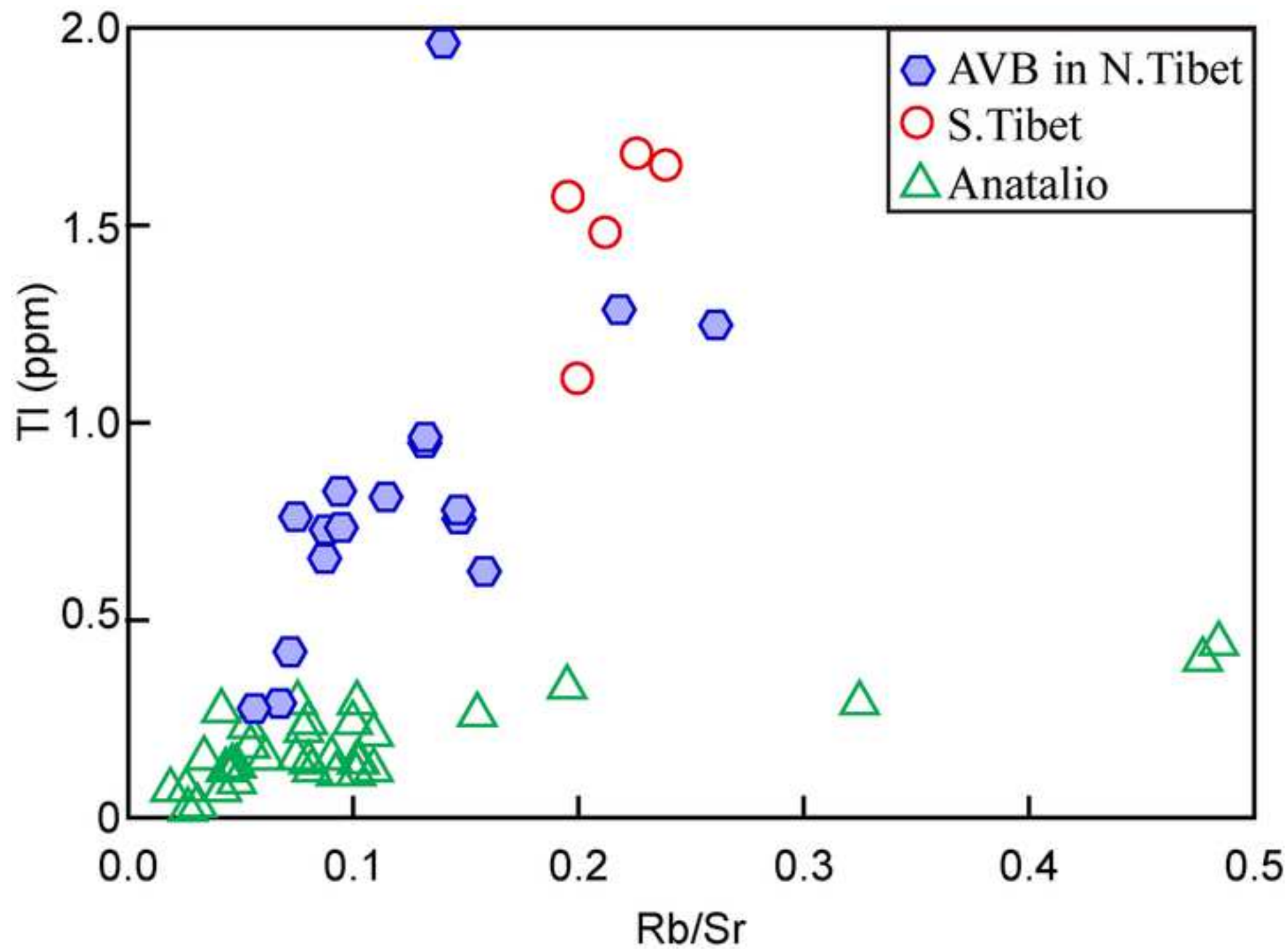


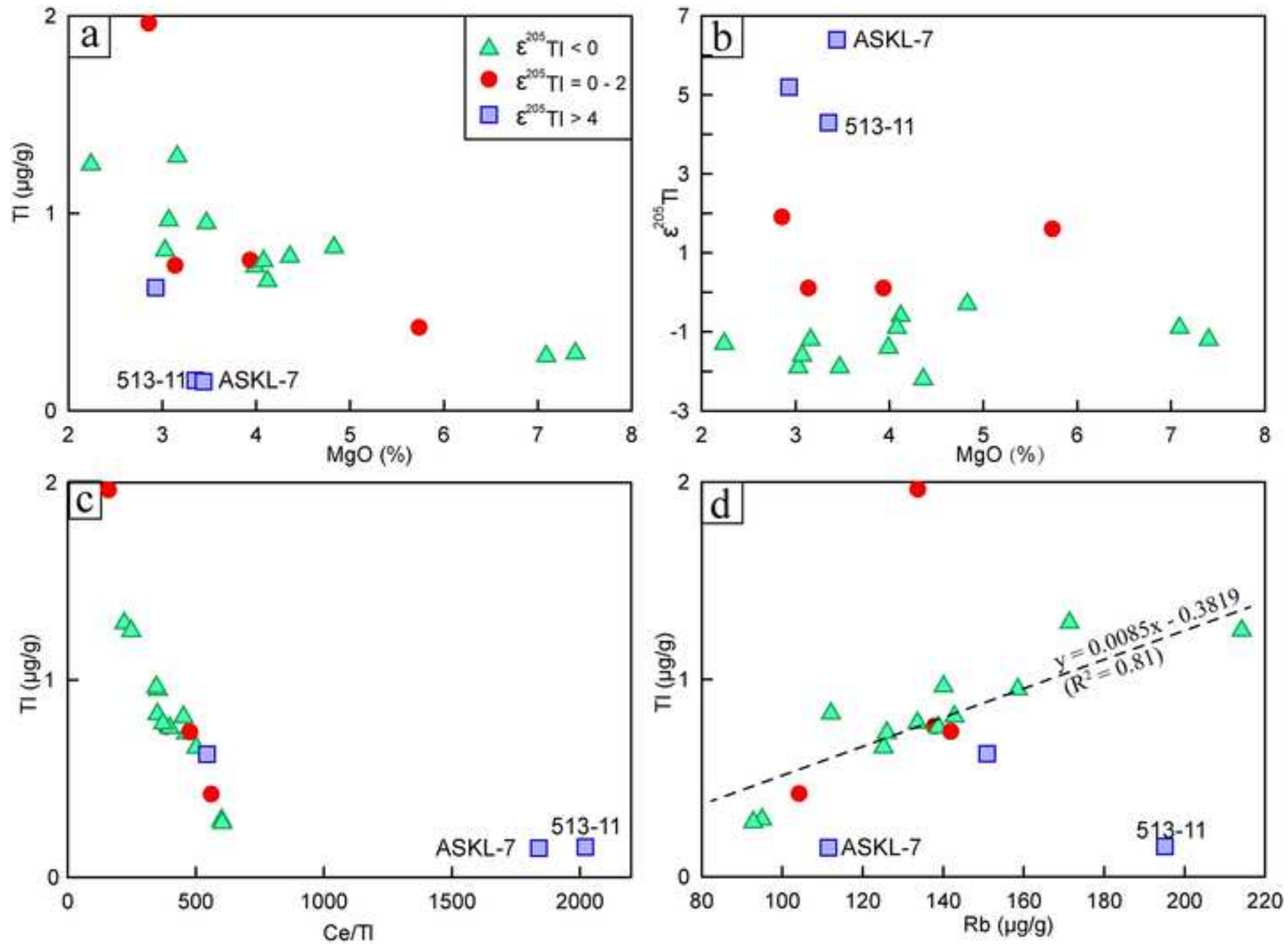


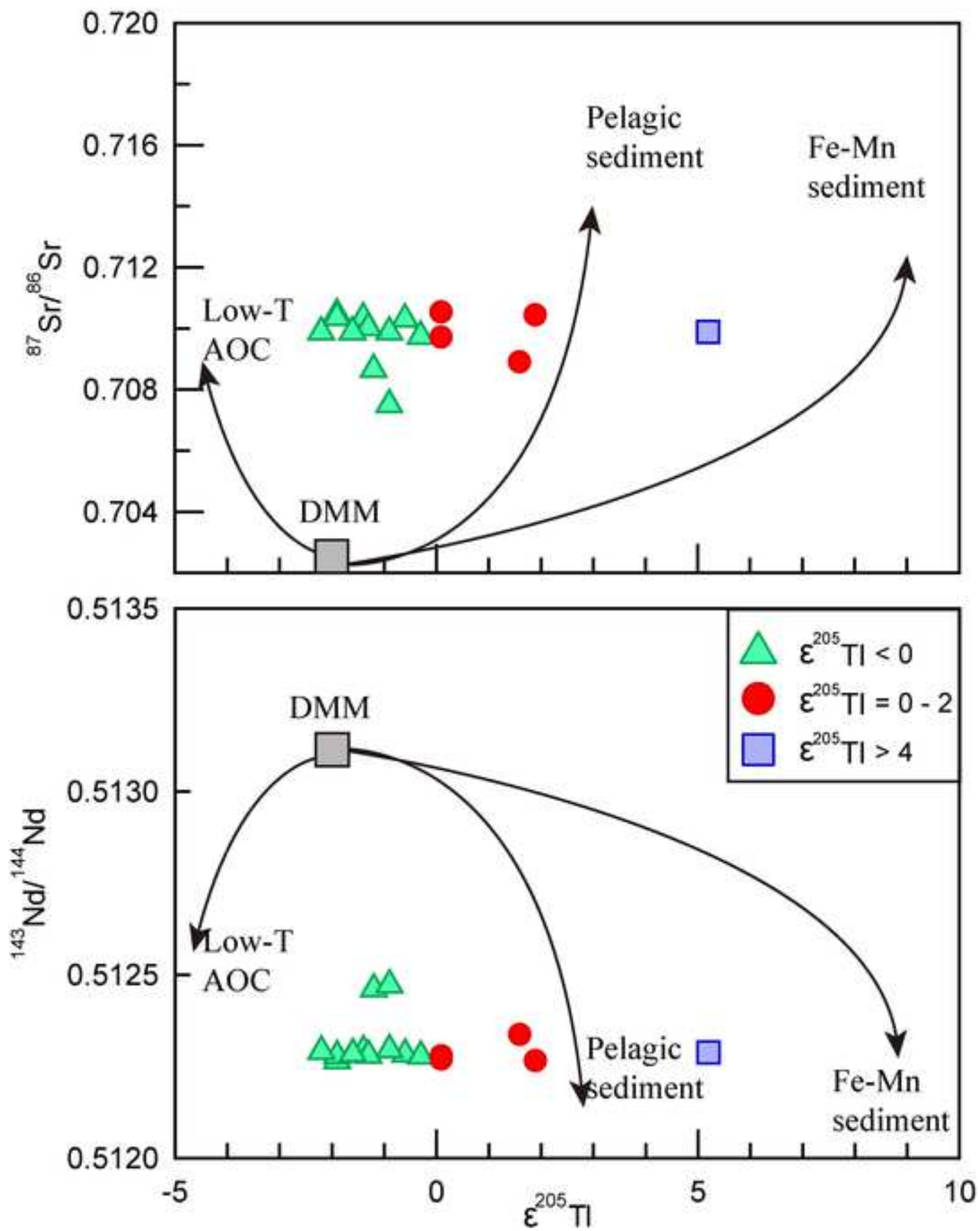




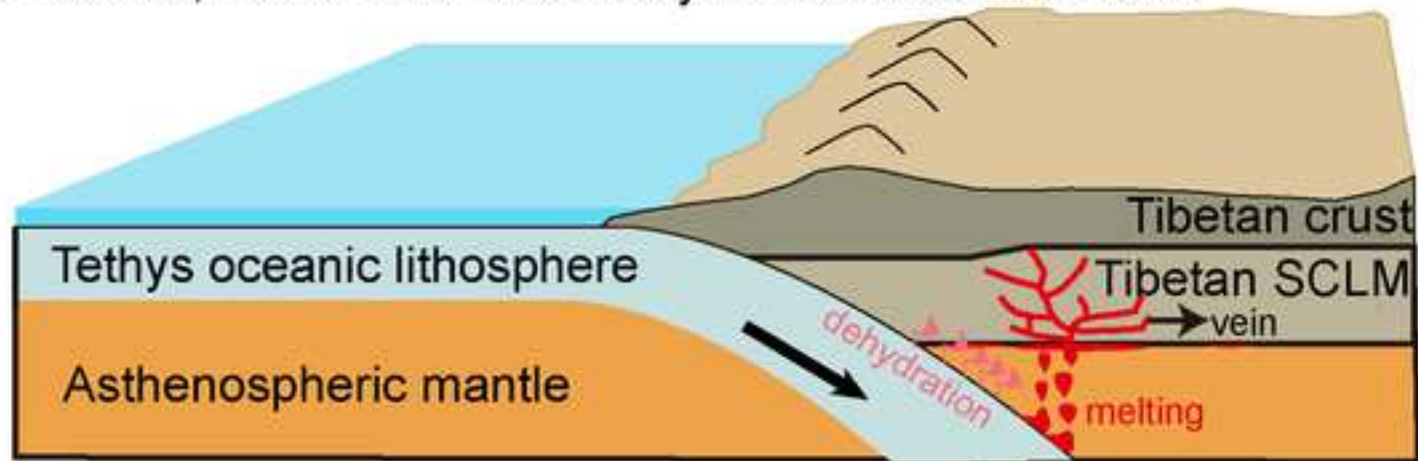




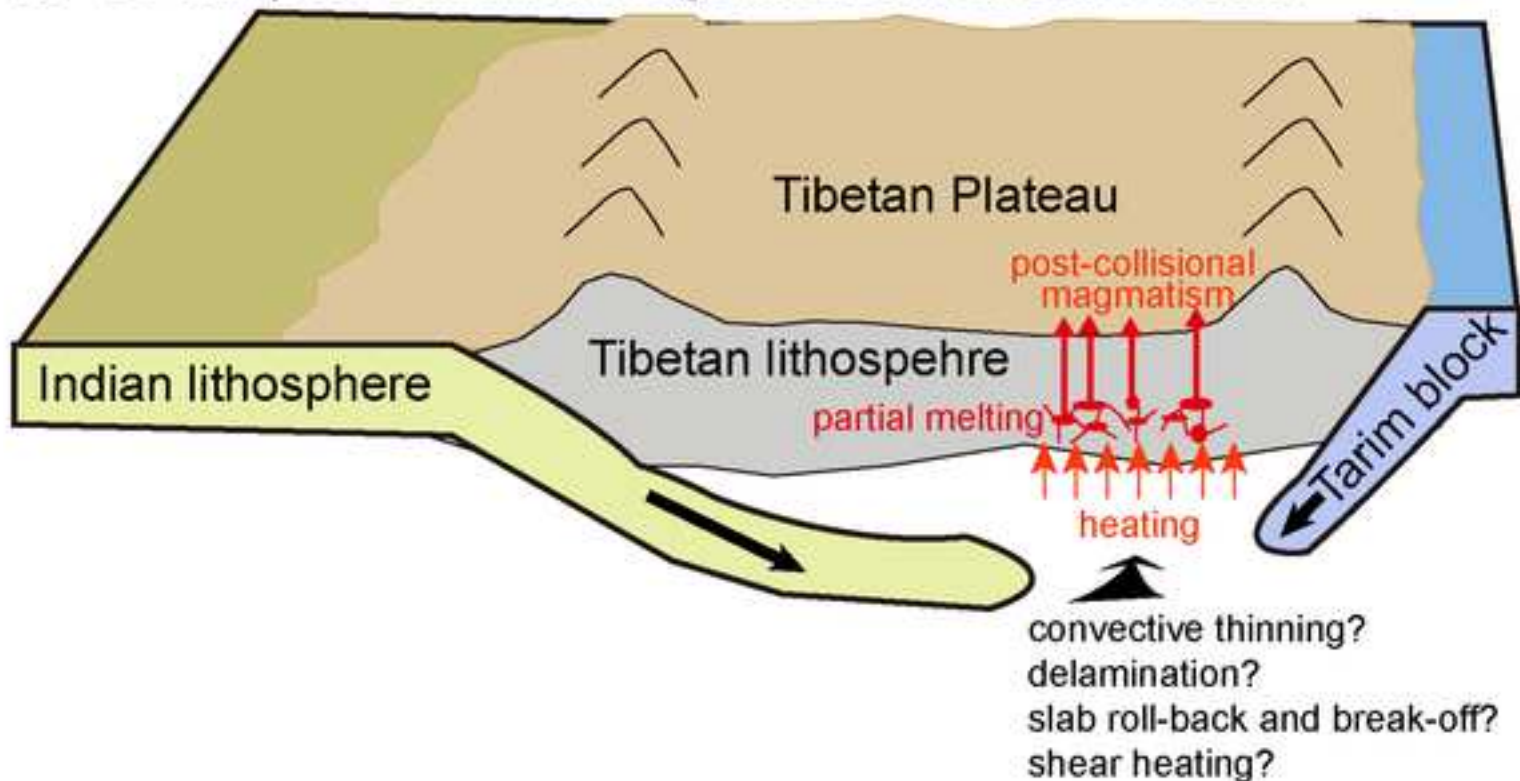




a. >55 Ma, Paleo- and Neo-Tethys oceanic subductions



b. <55 Ma, post-collisional magmatism on Tibetan Plateau



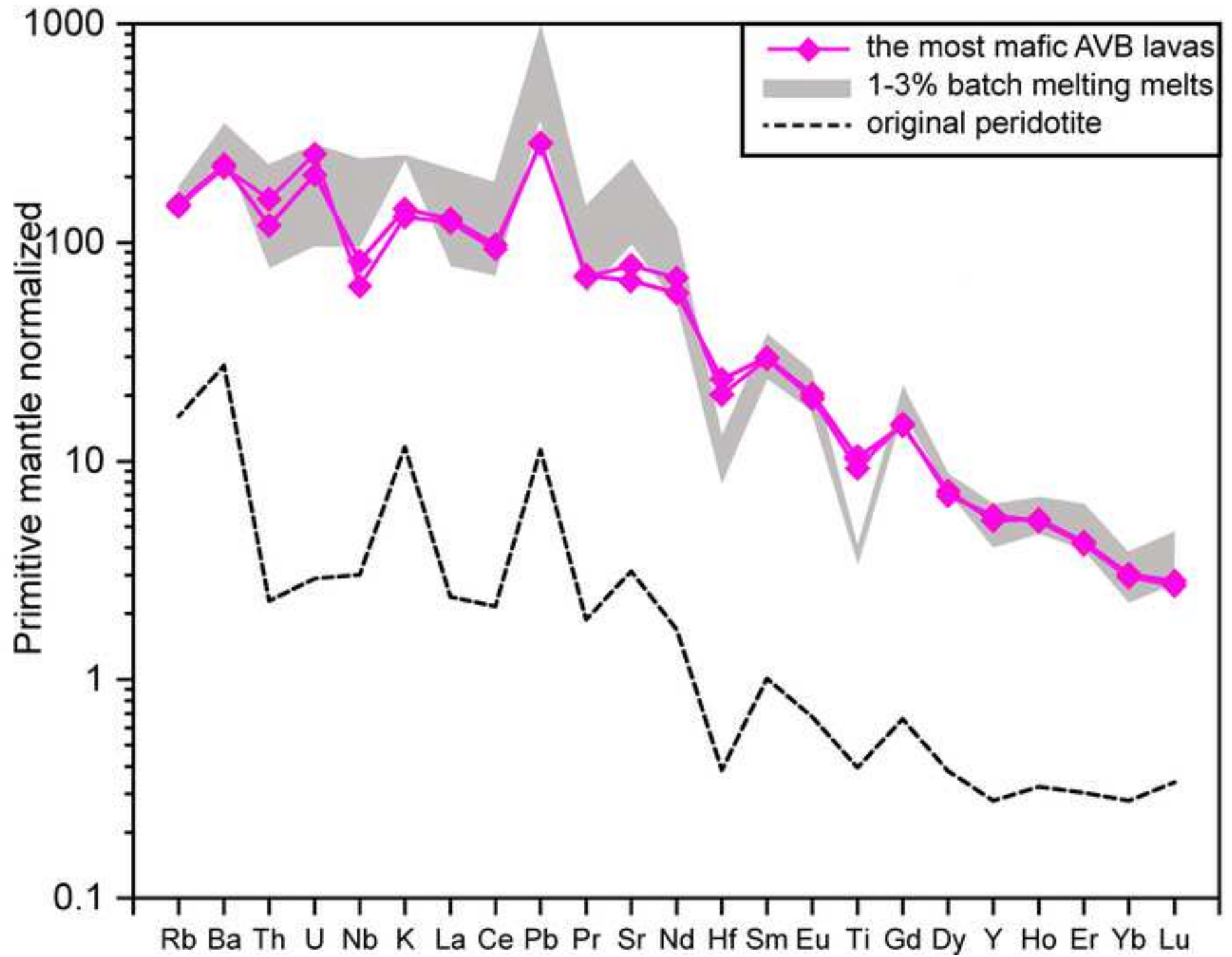


Table 1 Key elemental and petrographic features of AVB lavas

Episode (age)	Sample	Tl (ng/g)	K ₂ O (%)	Rb (μg/g)	LOI (%)	Vesicle (%)	Groundmass (%)	Phenocrysts (%)
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	ASKL-3	8259	3.97	120	2.91	60	28	Pl(6)+Cpx(3)+Opx(2)+Ol(1)
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	ASKL-4	656	4.07	125	1.48	55	32	Pl(1)+Cpx(4)+Opx(6)+Ol(1)+Bi(<1)+Fe-Ti(<1)
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	518-5	729	4.19	126	0.96	35	51	Opx(9)+Cpx(4)+Pl(1)
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	ASKL-10	811	4.00	143	1.45	30	60	Pl(8)+Opx(1)+Fe-Ti(1)
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	513-11	154	4.30	195	1.27	45	40	Pl(10)+Cpx(2)+Opx(2)+Phl(1)
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	518-9	949	4.43	159	1.01	45	39	Pl(10)+Cpx(3)+Opx(2)+ Fe-Ti(1)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-7	148	3.98	116	2.86	20	65	Pl(12)+ Opx(2)+Cpx(<1)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-8	1960	4.20	134	1.03	25	42	Pl(25)+ Opx(4)+Cpx(2)+ Fe-Ti(2)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-12	1286	4.41	171	2.99	10	58	Pl(22)+ Opx(4)+Cpx(3)+Phl(1)+Fe-Ti(2)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-14	826	3.68	112	1.20	25	66	Pl(5)+Opx(4)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-15	761	3.94	138	1.54	30	52	Pl(7)+Cpx(6)+Opx(5)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-16	756	3.74	139	1.49	15	58	Pl(15)+Opx(8)+Cpx(2)+Phl(1)+Fe-Ti(1)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	515-1	1247	4.47	214	1.95	15	68	Pl(12)+Opx(2)+Phl(2)+Cpx(1)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	WLK-3	623	4.34	151	0.26	30	61	Pl(6)+Opx(2)+Ol(<1)+Fe-Ti(<1)
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	516-2	779	3.76	134	1.38	25	56	Cpx(11)+Opx(6)+Pl(2)
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	ASKL-5	734	4.03	142	1.50	50	34	Pl(11)+ Opx(2)+Fe-Ti(2)+Cpx(1)
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	516-11	420	3.72	104	3.21	40	48	Opx(6)+Cpx(3)+Pl(2)+Fe-Ti(1)
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	518-14	963	4.13	140	1.64	30	64	Pl(2)+Opx(2)+Cpx(1)+Fe-Ti(1)
6 (2.34-2.80 Ma)	ASKL-17	290	4.30	95	0.41	30	57	Cpx(9)+Opx(4)
6 (2.34-2.80 Ma)	ASKL-18	276	3.95	93	3.52	30	55	Cpx(12)+Opx(2)+Pl(1)

Chemical and petrographic data are from Wei et al. (2017). Pl = plagioclase; Cpx = clinopyroxene; Opx = orthopyroxene; Phl = phlogopite; Fe-Ti = Fe-Ti oxides; G = glass. Numbers in the brackets after the phenocrysts indicate the visually estimated volumetric percentages of the different phenocryst types in the thin section.

Table 2 Thallium concentration and isotopes of the AVB lavas.

Episode	Sample	$\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$	n	Error (2σ)	Tl (ng/g)	Ce/Tl
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	ASKL-3	-2.7	5	0.4	8259	37
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	ASKL-4	-0.6	2	0.5	656	502
1 and 2 (<0.17 Ma)	518-5	-1.4	2	0.2	729	462
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	ASKL-10	-1.9	4	0.4	811	452
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	513-11	4.3	2	0.5	154	2022
3 (0.20-0.29 Ma)	518-9	-1.9	4	0.6	949	353
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-7	6.4	3	0.8	148	1840
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-8	1.9	2	0.5	1960	161
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-12	-1.2	2	0.3	1286	221
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-14	-0.3	2	0.3	826	350
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-15	0.1	2	0.7	761	386
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	ASKL-16	-0.9	3	0.1	756	398
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	515-1	-1.3	3	0.5	1247	248
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	WLK-3	5.2	2	0.1	623	544
4 (0.46-0.60 Ma)	516-2	-2.2	3	0.4	779	372
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	ASKL-5	0.1	4	0.4	734	479
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	516-11	1.6	4	0.8	420	562
5 (1.02-1.65 Ma)	518-14	-1.6	6	0.6	963	346
6 (2.34-2.80 Ma)	ASKL-17	-1.2	2	0.7	290	601
6 (2.34-2.80 Ma)	ASKL-18	-0.9	2	0.5	276	603

Table 3 **EPMA** measurements (wt.%) of pyrites in the thin section of ASKL-3

ID	As	Se	Fe	Ni	Cu	Zn	Pb	S	Tl
ASKL-3-1	b.d.	0.016	56.9	3.1	0.039	b.d.	b.d.	39.6	b.d.
ASKL-3-2	b.d.	0.021	57.5	2.6	b.d.	b.d.	0.072	39.3	b.d.
ASKL-3-3	b.d.	b.d.	57.4	2.0	0.004	b.d.	0.012	39.9	b.d.

b.d.: below the detection limit