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1 *This manuscript was accepted for publication to Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences as of*  
2 *January 30, 2025. This accepted version of the manuscript has slightly different and*  
3 *improved content than the original posted version and is the preferred manuscript.*  
4 *Constructive feedback is welcome.*

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7 **Carbonated Mantle Lithosphere from the Western Canadian Cordillera**

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16 **Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences**

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## ABSTRACT

Carbonated mantle is a significant source for many alkaline magmas, yet carbonate minerals are rarely preserved in samples of mantle lithosphere. Here, we report the first occurrence of mantle-equilibrated (“primary”) carbonate within spinel peridotite xenoliths from the Pacific Coast Ranges of North America. The xenoliths are hosted in a 19 Ma basanite dyke at Mt. Preston, British Columbia near the boundary between the Intermontane and Coast Belts of the Canadian Cordillera. Magnesian calcite ( $X_{Ca} \sim 0.90$ ) occurs in all samples as: i) intergranular grains in textural equilibrium with surrounding minerals, ii) inclusions within mantle silicates; and as iii) intergranular or fracture-filling veins. Sulphides (pentlandite and chalcopyrite) occur in association with carbonate. Two-pyroxene geothermometry on carbonate-bearing mantle xenoliths return temperatures of  $\sim 815$  to  $1120$  °C, corresponding to depths of  $\sim 32$  to  $55$  km on a model geotherm for warm, thin Cordillera-style lithosphere. C–O isotopic compositions of the xenoliths vary as  $\delta^{13}C = -3$  to  $-6$  ‰, and  $\delta^{18}O = 10$  to  $12$  ‰. Collectively, the textural, geochemical and isotopic evidence suggest that a carbonate melt with associated monosulphide solution metasomatized and enriched previously depleted mantle lithosphere. The metasomatic fluids sourced from the subduction of oceanic crust beneath North America during Coast Plutonic Belt magmatism when Mt. Preston was in an arc to back arc position. The host basanite dyke contains magmatic groundmass calcite ( $\delta^{18}O = 14 \pm 0.2$  ‰,  $\delta^{13}C = -4 \pm 0.2$  ‰,  $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr = 0.704018$ ) indicating a high intrinsic  $P_{CO_2}$  that inhibited thermal decomposition of mantle carbonate within the xenoliths during ascent.

**Keywords:** Mantle-lithosphere, xenolith, dyke, peridotite, carbonate, sulphide, basanite, metasomatism.

## 56 **1. Introduction**

57 Mantle-derived xenoliths are commonly sampled and transported to the surface in mafic  
58 alkaline magmas and represent direct samples of the Earth's lithospheric mantle (Pearson et  
59 al., 2003; Russell and Jones, 2023 and references therein). Beneath mobile belts such as the  
60 Canadian Cordillera the mantle lithosphere is relatively thin (<35 km) and warm (800–1200  
61 °C; Hyndman, 2017 and references therein) and dominated by spinel peridotite. In addition  
62 to the major mineral phases, the mantle lithosphere can host accessory minerals including  
63 amphiboles (e.g., Ghent et al., 2019), apatite, phlogopite (e.g., Canil and Scarfe, 1989),  
64 sulphides (e.g., Delpech et al., 2012; Rielli et al., 2022), and carbonates (Yaxley et al., 1991;  
65 Ionov et al., 1996; Rudnick et al., 1993; Ducea et al., 2005). These accessory phases can be  
66 important indicators of past metasomatic events (i.e., pervasive fluid or melt enrichment) that  
67 influence the mantle solidus, and hence, control mantle melting (e.g., Francis and Ludden,  
68 1995; Laurora et al., 2001). Such phases have also been used to estimate mantle volatile  
69 budgets and to inform on the transport and mobilization of metals within the mantle  
70 lithosphere (e.g., Rielli et al., 2022; Blanks et al. 2020).

71 Primary (i.e. mantle-equilibrated) carbonate is stable under typical upper mantle  
72 redox conditions, however, is rarely preserved due to rapid decarbonation during xenolith  
73 entrainment and transport of carbonated peridotite (e.g., Canil, 1990). Nevertheless, primary  
74 carbonate has been reported for mantle xenolith suites deriving from a variety of tectonic  
75 settings including active or paleo-subduction zones (e.g., Laurora et al., 2001; Demény et al.,  
76 2004; Ducea et al., 2005), intraplate settings (e.g., Moine et al., 2004) and rift margins (e.g.  
77 Lee et al., 2000; Perkins et al., 2006). Most primary carbonates are considered to result from  
78 enrichment events shortly before eruption, due to features indicative of textural/chemical  
79 disequilibrium (e.g., Lee et al., 2000; Demény et al., 2004; Moine et al., 2004; Ducea et al.,  
80 2005; Ionov et al., 2006). Even where xenolith-hosted carbonate has been shown to be  
81 chemically and isotopically equilibrated with mantle (e.g., Ionov et al., 1996; Yaxley et al.,  
82 1998), original textures are rarely preserved and have been modified during magma transport.

83 Here, we report on a new suite of lithospheric mantle xenoliths preserved in a mafic  
84 alkaline dyke exposed at Mt. Preston in western British Columbia (BC; Fig. 1) and described  
85 by Peterson et al. (2006) and Peterson (2010). This occurrence is distinguished, relative to

86 others in the Canadian Cordillera, because it is located at the westernmost margin of the  
87 Intermontane Belt, close to the Coast Belt margin (e.g., [Wheeler et al., 1991](#); [Fig. 1](#)). These  
88 mantle xenoliths, therefore, inform on the thermal and compositional state of the mantle  
89 lithosphere underlying this under-represented portion of the Canadian Cordillera.  
90 Furthermore, these xenoliths are unique because they preserve mantle-equilibrated (i.e.  
91 primary) carbonate in textural and chemical equilibrium. The suite of peridotite xenoliths  
92 provides direct evidence for, and the origins of, carbonate-melt metasomatism of the mantle  
93 lithosphere underlying this region of the Canadian Cordillera.

94

## 95 **2. Geological Setting**

### 96 2.1. Tectonic Framework

97 The Canadian Cordillera is an amalgamation of terranes accreted onto the western  
98 margin of North American during Middle Jurassic (~185 Ma) to Late Cretaceous (90 to 85  
99 Ma, Insular Belt rocks) time ([Monger et al., 1982](#); [Gehrels et al., 2009](#)). The terranes  
100 comprising the Intermontane Belt have been interpreted as related fragments of a late  
101 Paleozoic to early Mesozoic island arc (Stikine and Quesnel terranes), and its associated  
102 accretionary complex (Cache Creek terrane). The Intermontane Belt is separated from the  
103 Insular Belt to the west by the Coast Belt, comprising the Coast Mountains Batholith (or  
104 Coast Plutonic Complex), the roots of a Middle Jurassic to Eocene magmatic arc ([van der](#)  
105 [Heyden, 1992](#); [Monger et al., 1994](#); [Gehrels et al., 2009](#)), and related rocks (Fig. 1).

106 Mafic volcanic centers are ubiquitous in the Canadian Cordillera, and they commonly  
107 sample the lithosphere underlying their eruptive localities (e.g., [Edwards and Russell, 2000](#);  
108 [Canil and Hyndman 2023](#); and references therein). Collections of xenoliths from these  
109 occurrences have supported numerous studies of the Cordillera's mantle lithosphere (e.g.,  
110 [Canil and Scarfe, 1989](#); [Peslier et al., 2000](#); [Peslier et al., 2002](#); [Harder and Russell, 2006](#);  
111 [Francis et al., 2010](#) and references therein). Most evidence for metasomatic events within the  
112 mantle lithosphere underlying the Canadian Cordillera is indirect (i.e. cryptic metasomatism)  
113 and based on geochemical compositions of peridotite xenoliths (e.g., [Francis and Ludden,](#)  
114 [1995](#); [Peslier et al., 2002](#)). Rare direct evidence for mantle metasomatic events within the

115 Cordilleran mantle derives from the presence of accessory phlogopite (Canil and Scarfe,  
116 1989) or pargasitic amphibole (Ghent et al., 2019) within peridotite xenoliths.

117

## 118 2.2. Host Dyke

119 A xenolith-bearing dyke outcrops on a ridge ~3 km southeast of Mt. Preston at 53°  
120 13' 3" N, 126° 41' 58" W (Fig. 1). The near-vertical dyke strikes 145° and is exposed at the  
121 ridge crestline where it can be traced continuously down a steep south-facing slope for ~110  
122 m (Fig. 2) and several hundred metres further on an inaccessible vertical face. Contacts with  
123 the wall rocks are sharp and the dyke varies in thickness from ~1 to 2 m where both contacts  
124 are visible; downslope the dyke is as wide as 7 m.

125 The dyke is aphyric, holocrystalline, moderately vesicular (5–30%) and features an  
126 aphanitic groundmass (Fig. 2). The groundmass mineralogy comprises ~40 vol.% plagioclase,  
127 ~25 % olivine ( $\leq 0.5$  mm), ~35 % clinopyroxene ( $\leq 0.2$  mm), and ~3 % of  $\leq 0.1$  mm subhedral  
128 to anhedral crystals of ulvöspinel. Magmatic carbonate, identified as near end-member  
129 calcite, occurs as  $\leq 0.5$  mm laths and patches in the groundmass, and as larger subhedral grains  
130 ( $\leq 1$  mm) filling or lining vesicles (Fig. 2D–E). Other minor phases include alkali feldspar,  
131 nepheline, and apatite.

132 Major element compositions and trace and rare earth element contents of the mafic  
133 dyke are reported in Supplementary materials (Table S1). Chemically the dyke is a basanite,  
134 has an SiO<sub>2</sub> content of ~43–45 wt.%, an Mg# of 62, and contains 5 wt.% normative nepheline.  
135 The basanite has a calculated liquidus of ~1250–1300 °C (MELTS modeling; 15 kbar, QFM,  
136 0–1 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O; Asimow and Ghiorso, 1998). A single sample of the dyke was dated by  
137 <sup>40</sup>Ar/<sup>39</sup>Ar methods and returned a plateau age of 18.72 ± 0.26 Ma (± 2σ) representing a  
138 Neogene (early Miocene) crystallization age (see Supplementary Material S2).

139

## 140 2.3. Xenolith Occurrence

141 Mantle-derived peridotitic xenoliths are especially abundant in the outcrops situated  
142 4–8 m below the ridge crest where the dyke narrows to ~1–1.5 m in width (Fig. 2A, B). At  
143 this location the xenoliths constitute 50–80 % of the dyke and are concentrated enough to be  
144 locally clast-supported (Fig. 2B). The mean diameter of xenoliths at this locality is ~15 cm

145 and the largest xenolith measured was ~40–50 cm in diameter. Over 150 xenoliths were  
146 collected from the dyke and a representative group of 51 xenoliths studied in detail. The  
147 peridotite xenoliths are dominated by lherzolite, well-preserved, and show no signs of  
148 reacting with the host magma even though several peridotite blocks are crosscut by one or  
149 more thin (1–5 mm) planar veins of melt. Xenolith angularity crudely correlates inversely  
150 with size. Xenocrysts (2–5 mm) of olivine and pyroxene are rare (< 1%) but ubiquitous within  
151 the dyke and presumed to derive from the mechanical breakdown of peridotite xenoliths.

## 152 2.4. Dyke Wall Rock

153 The Mt. Preston region is underlain by Early to Middle Jurassic Hazelton Group rocks,  
154 comprising metamorphosed volcanic to volcanoclastic and mudstone-dominated sedimentary  
155 rocks (Gordee et al., 2005; Mahoney et al., 2005). The wall rocks to the dyke comprise  
156 volcanoclastics that are trachyandesitic to dacitic in composition based on major element  
157 chemistry. Regionally, Hazelton rocks are intruded by post-ca. 136 Ma, metamorphosed  
158 mafic to intermediate dykes (Gordee et al., 2005). A trachybasalt dyke located within 10 m  
159 of the xenolith-bearing dyke of interest representing one of these older intrusions was dated  
160 ( $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ ) as  $87.74 \pm 0.71$  Ma ( $\pm 2\text{s}$ ). There are no carbonate-rich lithologies noted or  
161 previously mapped in the region of Mt. Preston.

162

## 163 3. Methods

### 164 3.1. Bulk Geochemistry

165 Samples were prepared for bulk geochemical analysis at the UBC Department of  
166 Earth and Ocean Sciences using a jaw crusher followed by pulverization in a tungsten carbide  
167 ring mill and then sieved to a grain size of <0.42mm. Analysis of powders for major and trace  
168 elements, ferrous iron, H<sub>2</sub>O, and CO<sub>2</sub> was carried out at the Geochemical Laboratories,  
169 McGill University, Montreal. Major elements were analyzed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF)  
170 on fused beads from ignited samples; trace elements were analyzed for using pressed powder  
171 pellets. XRF analysis was done on a Philips PW2440 spectrometer. Total iron was  
172 determined by XRF, and FeO content was determined by volumetric analysis (ammonium  
173 metavanadate titration). Samples were analyzed for CO<sub>2</sub> on an ELTRA CS-800

174 carbon/sulphur infrared (IR) analyzer. H<sub>2</sub>O<sup>+</sup> (structurally bonded water) was determined by  
175 difference using loss on ignition (LOI), CO<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>3</sub>, halogens, and FeO analyses.

### 176 3.2. Mineral Compositions

177 Mineral compositions were measured on a fully automated CAMECA SX-50  
178 electron microprobe at the University of British Columbia, Department of Earth and Ocean  
179 Sciences. Operating conditions in wavelength-dispersion mode included: excitation voltage  
180 of 15 kV, beam current of 20 nA, 20 s peak count time, 10 s background count time, and a  
181 beam diameter of 5 μm (see also Harder and Russell, 2006; Peterson, 2010, p. 152). For  
182 carbonate, a beam current of 10 nA and a spot diameter of 10 μm was used. Data reduction  
183 was completed using the 'PAP'  $\phi(\rho Z)$  method (Pouchou and Pichoir, 1985). Criteria for  
184 exclusion of analysis points included low or high totals (<98 or >102 %) or poor totals of  
185 oxygen relative to the cation sums. For example, analyses were excluded if the oxygen sum  
186 was <5.95 or >6 for pyroxenes normalized based on 4 cations. For geothermometry  
187 purposes (see below), at least 8 coexisting clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene grains were  
188 analyzed in each xenolith (Full data set in Supplementary Material, Table S6a). These  
189 mineral pair compositions were measured on shared grain boundaries within ~20 μm of the  
190 grain edges; no zoning was observed in these phases.

191

### 192 3.3. Stable Isotopes

193 Oxygen, carbon, and strontium isotopic analyses on carbonates were performed on  
194 leachates of bulk-rock powders (like other mantle-derived carbonate studies, e.g. Ionov et al.  
195 1993), and in the case of dyke and country rock, also from tungsten carbide microdrilling of  
196 carbonate-rich patches. All powdered samples were analyzed at the PCIGR, University of  
197 British Columbia, in a Finnigan Delta XL Plus mass spectrometer, using a gas bench with  
198 A200 S autosampler.

199 Oxygen and strontium isotopic compositions of the silicate fraction of the basanite  
200 dyke were determined after removal of carbonate from the bulk-rock powders. Powders were  
201 immersed in 10% hydrochloric acid, agitated in an ultrasonic bath for 10 minutes, then  
202 separated from the leachate via centrifuge. The leaching process was verified by X-ray  
203 diffraction. Sample analysis was performed at the Facility for Isotope Research at Queen's

204 University, Kingston, Ontario. Analysis followed the BrF5 method of Clinton and Mayeda  
205 (1963), on a Finnegan MAT 252 mass spectrometer.

206

## 207 **4. Xenolith Petrography**

### 208 4.1. Peridotite Xenoliths

209 Of the 51 xenoliths studied in detail, 48 have a common assemblage of olivine (ol),  
210 clinopyroxene (cpx), orthopyroxene (opx) and spinel (spl). The other samples include two  
211 websterites lacking olivine and containing spinel and plagioclase (NP-MP05-69, -96), and a  
212 dunite lacking orthopyroxene (NP-MP05-150). Dunites are a minor but common component  
213 in Cordilleran suites. The Mt. Preston suite is unimodal (i.e., lherzolite-dominated) based on  
214 the definition of [Shi et al. \(1998\)](#) and, in that regard, similar to most other xenolith suites in  
215 the Canadian Cordillera. Bimodal suites (i.e., enriched in harzburgite) are found in  
216 northwestern BC and southern Yukon ([Shi et al., 1998](#); [Francis et al., 2010](#)).

217 Individual xenoliths exhibit granular textures and show substantial grain size  
218 variations (~0.5–2 mm) but rarely contain megacrysts (outsized grains). About a third of the  
219 xenoliths show weak to moderate planar fabrics (i.e., mineralogical banding or mineral  
220 foliation) at the hand-sample scale. Foliation tends to be stronger (or more easily observed)  
221 in fine-grained samples and is weaker in samples with increasing median grain size. Banding  
222 is observed as 1–3 mm wide bands of spinel, repeating on a 1 cm scale, or 2–3 mm wide  
223 indistinct bands of clinopyroxene, repeating on an approximately 1–2 cm scale. Larger scale  
224 segregations, or possibly bands of olivine and clinopyroxene (~1 cm width or greater) also  
225 occur.

226 A few samples contain pyroxene grains featuring reaction zones at their margins  
227 where they are in contact with thin veinlets of basanite. Less commonly pyroxene grains  
228 show disequilibrium textures on their margins (i.e. Fig. 3E) where they are close to  
229 intergranular carbonate grains or carbonate veins. Nonetheless the geothermometry for these  
230 rare samples returned internally consistent results based on multiple pairs of pyroxene grains  
231 (see below). These textures are not pervasive and likely due to the thermal disturbance and  
232 heating of the xenolith during transport. We have only used data from xenoliths for which



233 the geothermometry results are consistent between multiple pairs of pyroxene grains.

234

#### 235 4.2. Carbonate Petrography

236 We investigated the presence of accessory carbonate in mantle xenoliths using a  
237 Cambridge Image Technology™ CL8200 Mk4 cold cathodoluminescence (CL) system  
238 attached to a petrographic microscope at the University of British Columbia. Operating  
239 conditions included an excitation voltage of 15 kV and a current of 350  $\mu$ A. Granular  
240 carbonate (intergranular or inclusions; Fig. 3A) and/or carbonate veins are found as an  
241 accessory phase in all mantle xenoliths and are commonly associated with pentlandite and  
242 chalcopyrite (Fig. 3). A single rutile grain was found included in one calcite grain. No  
243 hydrous minerals, nor interstitial glass indicative of disequilibrium, were observed. We also  
244 used CL to test for the presence of carbonate in two additional crustal xenoliths from the  
245 same dyke and mantle xenoliths from two other localities in the Canadian Cordillera. CL  
246 examination of these samples found no carbonate. The xenolith-hosted intergranular  
247 carbonate is found as discrete  $\leq 0.4$  mm grains exhibiting uniform extinction, or as patches  
248 with distinct internal crystallographic subdomains (Fig. 3A). The xenolith-hosted carbonate  
249 is Mg-bearing (“magnesian”) calcite ( $X_{Ca}$  of 86–94; see Supplementary Material, Table S6b).

250 Texturally the intergranular carbonate appears to be in equilibrium with coexisting  
251 silicate phases, as suggested by shared triple-point grain boundaries (Fig. 3A–F). Some  
252 intergranular carbonate shows concentric zones of Mg-enrichment. Carbonate also occurs as  
253  $\leq 0.2$  mm inclusions (Fig. 3H & 3I) in other mantle minerals. Carbonate veins ( $\leq 0.1$  mm wide)  
254 appear as intergranular and crosscutting features (Fig. 3G); some carbonate veins merge with  
255 larger grains of carbonate (Fig. 3). Rare, thin veinlets of basanite crosscut all features  
256 including carbonate veins, indicating that the carbonate predates entrainment by the basanite  
257 magma and, thus, are a mantle feature.

258

#### 259 4.3. Sulphide Petrography

260 Pentlandite and chalcopyrite ( $\leq 0.1$  mm) were noted in eight of the xenoliths examined  
261 by CL and have modal abundances  $< 1$  %. They occur at the edges of carbonate grains (Fig.

262 3A–C) in contact with silicates, at the margins of carbonate veins, and in inclusion trails with  
263 or without associated carbonate.

264

## 265 **5. Geochemistry**

### 266 5.1. Major and Trace Element Geochemistry

267 Bulk major element compositions of mantle xenoliths have Mg# of 87 to 91, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
268 contents of 1.2 to 4.7 wt.% for lherzolites (0.18 wt.% for dunite NP-MP05-160B and 11.9  
269 wt.% for websterite NP-MP05-69) (Table S3). Major element compositions are consistent  
270 with other mantle-derived xenolith suites in the Canadian Cordillera (Fig. 4; [Shi et al., 1998](#);  
271 [Peslier et al., 2002](#); [Harder and Russell, 2006](#); [Francis et al., 2010](#)) and other continental  
272 spinel-bearing peridotites worldwide, reflecting varying degrees of melt extraction from a  
273 fertile mantle source ([Peslier et al., 2002](#)).

274 Trace and rare earth element (REE) compositions (Fig. 5; Table S3) are like other  
275 mantle suites from the Canadian Cordillera and show no pronounced single element  
276 anomalies. Rare earth element patterns are light rare earth element (LREE; La to Sm)  
277 depleted to flat (Fig. 5A–B). Many patterns show a ‘spoon-shaped’ profile of LREE depletion,  
278 with slight enrichment of the lightest REEs (e.g., La, Ce); only one pattern (the harzburgite)  
279 is weakly LREE enriched relative to the middle (MREE; Eu to Ho) and heavy (HREE; Er to  
280 Lu) rare earth elements. The dunite is especially demonstrative of LREE enrichment; the  
281 LREE contents are like that of some other xenoliths from the suite, while the MREE and  
282 HREE concentrations are below detection.

283 Tb/Yb ratios for peridotites (Fig. 5C) can be indicative of whether melt extraction has  
284 occurred in the spinel or garnet stability field, as Yb partitions strongly into garnet as a  
285 residual phase, resulting in strong Tb/Yb decreases even at small degrees of melting  
286 ([Bodinier et al., 1988](#)). The Mt. Preston peridotite compositions are consistent with melt  
287 extraction in the spinel stability field (Fig. 5C), as with other suites in the Cordillera ([Peslier](#)  
288 [et al., 2002](#)). Terbium enrichment has been interpreted as the result of significant  
289 metasomatism ([Peslier et al., 2002](#)). None of the Mt. Preston xenoliths analyzed show Tb  
290 enrichment over Yb relative to chondrite, suggesting that metasomatic processes did not

291 disturb the MREEs or if so, very little. We found no correlation between the degree of melt  
292 depletion or metasomatism with the mantle equilibration temperatures (section 5 below) as  
293 color coded in Figures 5B and 5C.

294

## 295 5.2. Stable isotopes (C–O)

296 Carbon and oxygen isotope compositions of carbonate from the mantle xenoliths  
297 (Table 1), the host basanite (Table S1), and the wall rocks (Table S4) are plotted in Figure 6.  
298 Isotopic analyses were performed on leachates of bulk-rock powders and, in the case of dyke  
299 and country rock, also on carbonate recovered by micro-drilling of carbonate-rich phases.  
300 The wall rock sample was collected <20 m away from the basanite. Carbonate recovered  
301 from these three sources (mantle xenoliths, dyke, wall rock) have distinct carbon-oxygen  
302 isotopic compositions. Dyke carbonate has  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{VSMOW}}$  compositions of 13.7 to 14.3 ‰, and  
303  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{VPDB}}$  compositions of -3.8 to -4.5 ‰. In the dyke,  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{VSMOW}}$  values are ~17 ‰ greater  
304 than wall rock indicating isotopically distinct sources for the carbonate in the dyke and the  
305 wall rock (Fig. 6). The isotopic compositions of the carbonates from the dyke are consistent  
306 with unaltered magmatic carbonate (e.g., [Lee et al., 2000](#)). Additionally, there is no distinction  
307 between bulk-rock and micro-drilled analyses of carbonate from the dyke indicating a single  
308 (magmatic) isotopic source. The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{VSMOW}}$  values for the silicate fraction of the dyke are  
309 ~6 ‰ and close to mantle values (i.e. PIC field Fig. 6A).

310 The wall rock carbonate has  $\delta^{18}\text{O}_{\text{VSMOW}}$  compositions of -1.7 to -2.6 ‰, and  $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{VPDB}}$   
311 compositions of -5.4 to -5.9 ‰. The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  composition of wall rock carbonate (~2 ‰ less  
312 than VSMOW) is consistent with equilibration with meteoric water. In contrast, the carbonate  
313 within the dyke shows no signs of isotopic exchange with meteoric waters, as isotopic  
314 exchange with these fluids would deplete the carbonate in  $^{18}\text{O}$ .

315 Carbonate recovered from fourteen mantle xenoliths plot as two distinct groups based  
316 on their  $^{13}\text{C}$  compositions (Fig. 6A). The  $^{13}\text{C}$ -enriched group has  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  compositions between  
317 -3.4 and -4.4 ‰ (VPDB), while the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -depleted group (7 xenoliths) has  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  compositions  
318 between -5.7 and -6.1 ‰ (VPDB). Both groups have similar ranges (10.3 to 12.5 ‰  
319 (VSMOW)) of  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ . All but two of the mantle xenolith samples used for stable isotope  
320 analysis contained both granular carbonate and carbonate veins. The other two contained

321 only vein carbonate and they are part of the  $^{13}\text{C}$ -depleted group.

322 The carbonates from the Mt. Preston mantle xenoliths are closer to primary mantle  
323 isotopic compositions than other reported mantle-hosted carbonates (Fig. 6B; Lee et al.,  
324 2000; van Achterbergh et al., 2002; Demény et al., 2004; Ducea et al., 2005; Perkins et al.,  
325 2006). The Mt. Preston xenoliths contain carbonate having  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  compositions less than 3 ‰  
326 greater than the PIC field for primary mantle-derived carbonatites (Fig. 6B; Taylor et al.,  
327 1967; Keller and Hoefs, 1995). In other studies, authors report enriched  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  compositions  
328 in mantle-derived carbonate in xenoliths (Lee et al., 2000; van Achterbergh et al., 2002;  
329 Demény et al., 2004; Ducea et al., 2005; Perkins et al., 2006) that are interpreted to indicate  
330 isotopic disequilibrium between carbonate and host silicates and explained by short durations  
331 between enrichment and eruption. The carbonate in Mt. Preston xenoliths shows less  
332 enriched  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  compositions (i.e. less isotopic disequilibrium) perhaps indicating longer  
333 mantle residence times prior to entrainment by the basanite magma.

### 334 5.3. Radiogenic Isotopes (Sr)

335 Figure 6C shows the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of the carbonates in the Mt. Preston xenoliths  
336 (Table 1) against their  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  composition. The carbonate fraction in the Mt. Preston xenoliths  
337 have radiogenic  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios of 0.7044 to 0.7046 and overlap the most enriched xenoliths  
338 in the Tasse xenolith suite from the southern Canadian Cordillera (Polat et al., 2018;  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$   
339  $\sim 0.7034$  to  $0.7045$ ). However, both the Tasse suite and the Mt. Preston suite are slightly more  
340 radiogenic than other average values for xenoliths suites reported within other southern  
341 Canadian Cordillera by Sun et al. (1991) (Jacques Lake:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7027$ , Big Timothy  
342 Mountain:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7030$ , West Kettle River:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7033$ , Lassie Lake:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim$   
343  $0.7037$ ). The Mt. Preston dyke is slightly less radiogenic (silicate portion:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7036$ ,  
344 carbonate portion:  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7040$ ; Fig. 6C; Table S1) and has a source composition for  
345 carbonate distinct from of the metavolcanic wall rocks ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7047$ ). These  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$   
346 values recovered from the Mt. Preston dyke are within the upper range of previously reported  
347 Canadian Cordilleran (xenolith-hosting) alkaline basalts ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.7024\text{--}0.7041$ ; Polat et  
348 al., 2018; Sun et al., 1991). The  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  composition of the silicate fraction of the Mt. Preston  
349 basanite (5.8 to 6.5 ‰ VSMOW; Fig. 6C) is very close to the global mantle average for  
350 silicate phases in spinel peridotite xenoliths (5-5.7 ‰ VSMOW).

351

## 352 **6. Geothermometry**

353 Mineral chemical compositions of coexisting grains of clinopyroxene (cpx) and  
354 orthopyroxene (opx) in 51 xenoliths were measured by electron microprobe (Table S6a), for  
355 the purposes of two-pyroxene geothermometry based on the [Brey and Köhler \(1990\)](#) (BK90)  
356 calibration. Our approach was to perform thermometry on sequential batches of 5 samples  
357 and continue expanding the population until there was no further change in the maximum  
358 and minimum temperature (Fig. 7A; see [Harder and Russell, 2006](#)). We suggest that the  
359 results from 51 samples closely approximate the entire temperature range within the  
360 underlying mantle lithosphere.

361 The [Brey and Köhler \(1990\)](#) geothermometer has a temperature gradient with  
362 pressure of  $\sim 1.5\text{--}1.8$  °C/Kb. However, we assume that all xenoliths record temperatures along  
363 a model geotherm thereby removing the need to adopt an arbitrary pressure for the  
364 geothermometric calculations. Operationally we do this by solving the BK90 equation  
365 simultaneously with the equation for the model geotherm (see below). The geothermometry  
366 results (Table S5) record paleo-temperatures between  $815\pm 18$  °C and  $1119 \pm 7$  °C although  
367 most samples record temperatures between  $\sim 850$  and  $950$  °C (Fig. 7A). Two xenoliths  
368 contain plagioclase and spinel which coexist over a restrictive range of P–T conditions in  
369 most mantle assemblages. Geothermometry on these samples returned relatively low  
370 equilibrium temperatures of  $850^\circ\text{C}$  (NP-MP05-69) and  $874^\circ\text{C}$  (NP-MP05-96). The overall  
371 distribution of temperatures suggests that the shallower mantle lithosphere is better  
372 represented (i.e. more efficiently sampled) than the deep lithosphere. Conversely, the  
373 restricted distribution may simply indicate poor mixing of xenolith populations during dyke  
374 transport, in contrast to the efficient mixing processes that attend eruption ([Russell and Jones,](#)  
375 [2023](#)).

376 The  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  isotopic compositions of xenolith-hosted carbonate indicate two groups,  
377 relatively enriched ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} \sim -3.4$  to  $-4.4$  ‰ (VPDB)) and depleted ( $\delta^{13}\text{C} \sim -5.7$  to  $-6.1$  ‰  
378 (VPDB)) (Fig. 6A–B; Table 1). This suggests that the carbonate preserved throughout  $\sim 25$   
379 km of mantle lithosphere beneath this western margin of the Canadian Cordillera derives  
380 from multiple sources (or events). The two groups have similar oxygen isotopic compositions

381 ( $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  of 10.3 to 12.5 ‰ (VSMOW)) and record overlapping mantle lithosphere temperatures:  
 382 851 to 979 °C (+ one at 1119 °C) vs. 849 to 940 °C, respectively.

383

## 384 7. Discussion

### 385 7.1. Geotherm and Carbonated Mantle Lithosphere

386 Plotting the xenolith equilibration temperatures on a model steady-state geotherm is  
 387 a means of mapping the distribution of carbonated mantle within the mantle, estimating the  
 388 minimum thickness of mantle lithosphere, and constraining the depth to the lithosphere-  
 389 asthenosphere boundary (LAB). Here, we use a one-dimensional model for the lithosphere  
 390 comprising a crust of known thickness ( $Z_M$ ) and having constant thermal conductivity ( $K_1 =$   
 391  $2.5 \text{ W/m}\cdot\text{K}$ ), and surface heat flow ( $q_0$ ) and surface temperature ( $T_0 \sim 10^\circ \text{C}$ ). The crustal  
 392 layer has an exponential distribution of radiogenic heat producing elements ( $A(z) =$   
 393  $A_0 e^{-z/Z_M}$ ; [Russell and Kopylova, 1999](#)) and we consider a range of heat production ( $A_0$ )  
 394 values. The underlying mantle lithosphere has constant thermal conductivity ( $K_2 = 3.2$   
 395  $\text{W/m}\cdot\text{K}$ ) and no radiogenic heat source. The lithospheric crust and mantle are coupled  
 396 numerically by a common Moho temperature ( $T_M$ ) and the reduced heat flow ( $q_M$ ) at the  
 397 Moho.

398 The temperature distribution as a function of depth ( $z$ ) in the crust is described by:

$$399 \quad T(z) = T_0 + \frac{q_0 z}{K_1} + \frac{A_0 Z_M^2}{K_1} \left( 1 - \frac{z}{Z_M} - e^{-z/Z_M} \right) \quad 0 < z < Z_M . \quad (1)$$

400 Values of  $q_0$  are coupled to the form of the heat production equation and dictated by the  
 401 relationship ([Russell and Kopylova, 1999](#)):

$$402 \quad q_0 = 0.3679 Z_M A_0 + \frac{(T_M - T_0) K_1}{Z_M} \quad (2)$$

403 and, therefore, also dependent on the depth and temperature of the Moho. The expected  
 404 steady-state temperature distribution in the mantle lithosphere is described by:

$$405 \quad T(z) = T_M + \frac{[q_0 - 0.6321 A_0 Z_M]}{K_2} (z - Z_M) \quad Z_M < z < Z_a . \quad (3)$$

406 We have assumed a Moho depth ( $Z_M$ ) of 32 km ([Calkins et al., 2010](#)) and an average crustal  
 407 heat production of  $1.6 \pm 0.8 \mu\text{W/m}^3$  ([Lewis et al., 2003](#)) which also fixes values of  $q_0$  (Eq. 2).

408 Model values of  $q_0$  for the range of  $Ao$  values (0.8 to 2.4  $\mu\text{W}/\text{m}^3$ ) vary from 63 to 90  $\text{mW}/\text{m}^2$   
409 which agrees well with average measured values reported for the Canadian Cordillera (76  
410  $\pm 21$   $\text{mW}/\text{m}^2$ ; e.g., [Hyndman, 2017](#)).

411 We assume Moho temperature ( $T_M$ ) to be equal to, or lower than, the lowest  
412 temperature xenolith (815°C) and have adopted a value of 800°C (Fig. 7). Similarly, the  
413 highest temperature xenolith (1119°C) constrains the minimum temperature of the LAB (Fig.  
414 7B). A model geotherm is shown in Figure 7B for three separate values of  $Ao$ . The model  
415 values of  $q_0$  are inversely correlated to values of  $Ao$  such that the highest temperature xenolith  
416 corresponds to depths of 49 km (low  $Ao$  and high  $q_0$ ) or 58 km (high  $Ao$  and low  $q_0$ ) implying  
417 minimum thicknesses of the mantle lithosphere of 17-26 km. The reduced heat flow at the  
418 base of the crust ( $q_M$ ) would be 61 to 41  $\text{mW}/\text{m}^2$  for low to high values of  $Ao$  (i.e. inverse  
419 correlation). These values of  $q_M$  correspond to temperature gradients in the mantle of 19 to  
420 13  $^\circ\text{C km}^{-1}$ , respectively.

421 An alternative estimate of lithosphere thickness can be made by extrapolating the  
422 model geotherms to intersect the adiabat based on values adopted by [Hyndman and Canil,](#)  
423 [2021](#) (after [Katsura et al., 2010](#)). The three model geotherms (Fig. 7B) intersect the adiabat  
424 at depths of 58 (low  $Ao$ ) to 72 (hi  $Ao$ ) km implying mantle lithosphere thicknesses of between  
425 26 and 40 km and LAB depths between 58–72 km and temperatures of 1310–1320  $^\circ\text{C}$ . These  
426 results accord well with estimates (65 km and  $\sim 1350$   $^\circ\text{C}$ ) from [Hyndman and Canil \(2021\)](#)  
427 and [Canil and Hyndman \(2023\)](#).

428 The model geotherm shows that carbonate is distributed pervasively throughout the  
429 entire mantle lithosphere and that the carbonate is a stable mantle phase over a minimum  
430 range of temperatures of 800 to 1120  $^\circ\text{C}$  and pressures of 0.9 to 1.7 GPa. The carbonate  
431 occurs in several habits, but those habits are insensitive to source temperatures, pressures,  
432 and depths. Four samples with granular carbonate have temperatures of 850 to 895  $^\circ\text{C}$ , ten  
433 xenoliths with carbonate veins have temperatures of 826 to 924  $^\circ\text{C}$ , and 37 xenoliths contain  
434 both habits and have temperatures of 815 to 1119  $^\circ\text{C}$ .

## 435 7.2. Significance of mantle carbonate

436 Primary mantle-derived carbonate is rarely preserved in mantle xenoliths but provides  
437 important insights on mantle metasomatism involving carbonatitic melts/fluids. At Mt.

438 Preston, primary carbonate (Mg-calcite; Table S6b) is pervasive and occurs in both  
439 lherzolites, websterites, and dunites and the xenoliths preserve strong textural evidence of  
440 its mantle equilibration. For example, the intergranular carbonate within the Mt. Preston  
441 suite preserves triple-point grain boundaries consistent with textural equilibrium between  
442 carbonate and mantle silicates. Other occurrences of carbonate within mantle-derived  
443 xenoliths are reported for localities in Argentina (Laurora et al., 2001; Scambelluri et al.,  
444 2009), Hungary (Demény et al., 2004; 2010), the Kerguelen Islands (Moine et al., 2004),  
445 Spitsbergen (Ionov et al., 1996), the Siberian Craton (Ionov et al., 2018), the East African  
446 Rift, Tanzania (Lee et al., 2000), South Africa (Berg, 1986), and the southwest United  
447 States (Ducea et al., 2005; Perkins et al., 2006). Most of these occurrences are described as  
448 interstitial patches associated with second generation crystallization, or as inclusions within  
449 crystals, typically in textural (glass) or isotopic disequilibrium with the host rocks.

450 In addition, mantle carbonate at Mt. Preston is closely associated with sulphides and,  
451 together, are found as intergranular patches, in veins, and as inclusion trails within healed  
452 mantle silicates (Fig. 3A–C). Sulphides are a common accessory phase in mantle-derived  
453 rocks and are a common component of carbonate melts or carbonate-silicate melts (Ionov et  
454 al., 1996). The sulphides found in Mt. Preston mantle xenoliths occur across the full range of  
455 equilibration temperatures (i.e. depth) and are found associated with both high and low  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$   
456 groups of carbonate. This occurrence suggests that carbonate and sulphide result from the  
457 same enrichment event(s).

458 Chemical compositional features of the Mt. Preston xenoliths are also consistent with  
459 a carbonate metasomatic agent. Most of the xenoliths show calcium enrichment relative to  
460 aluminum, which has been attributed to cryptic carbonate metasomatism (Peslier et al., 2002).  
461 Many REE patterns from the Mt. Preston xenoliths show slight enrichment of the lightest  
462 REEs, consistent with the effects of a migrating LREE-rich melt such as carbonatite.  
463 Collectively, the petrographic observations and geochemical data strongly support the  
464 premise that carbonate and sulphide accessory phases are part of the pre-entrainment mantle  
465 paragenesis.

466 Measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  vs.  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  compositions for the Mt. Preston xenolith and dyke  
467 carbonates are close to bulk mantle compositions and distinct from the wall rock carbonates



468 (Fig. 6B). In fact, the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  isotopic compositions of Mt. Preston carbonate are closer  
469 to primary mantle compositions than many other occurrences of mantle-hosted carbonates  
470 (Fig. 6B; Lee et al., 2000; van Achtebergh et al., 2002; Demény et al., 2004; Ducea et al.,  
471 2005; Perkins et al., 2006). Oxygen isotopic compositions can be more easily re-equilibrated,  
472 yet the measured  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values for xenolith, dyke, wall rock plot as discrete clusters (Fig. 6A)  
473 and show no indication of chemical mixing between sources; there is also no evidence for  
474 meteoric alteration of the xenoliths nor dyke.

475  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values for the Mt. Preston peridotite xenoliths are like carbonate-bearing mantle  
476 xenoliths from New Mexico (Lee et al., 2000) and other localities (Fig. 6B) but have even  
477 more mantle-like  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  compositions. This may suggest relatively better preservation of  
478 primary carbonate within the Mt. Preston suite. Furthermore, the Mt. Preston mantle-  
479 carbonate samples define two distinct groups suggesting at least two carbonate-sulphide melt  
480 enrichment events. The concept of multiple enrichment events is further supported by slight  
481 differences in the  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  isotopic compositions of the two  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ -defined populations (high-  
482 C 0.7044 vs. low-C 0.7046). In addition, differences in  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  for the carbonate and silicate  
483 fractions of the dyke could indicate mixing of  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  compositions between dyke silicates  
484 and xenolith carbonate, thereby preserving evidence for a magma charged with  $\text{CO}_2$  derived,  
485 in part, from mantle-derived (i.e. xenolith) carbonate (see below).

### 486 7.3. Source of Carbonatite Metasomatism

487 Studies of the mantle lithosphere underlying the Canadian Cordillera have shown it  
488 to be relatively uniform in composition, thermal regime, and age (e.g., Francis et al., 2010  
489 and references therein). Rhenium-osmium dating of lithospheric mantle-derived xenoliths  
490 (Peslier et al., 2000) has recovered Proterozoic model ages across the Canadian Cordillera,  
491 consistent with melt depletion events occurring within a short timeframe for the Cordilleran  
492 lithospheric mantle. Whether autochthonous or allochthonous this indicates a common  
493 melting history for, at least, the lithospheric mantle underlying the southeast Canadian  
494 Cordillera. This result precludes the suggestion of a simple extension of cratonic crust  
495 coupled to its own lithospheric mantle residing beneath the eastern Cordillera, as the mantle  
496 lithosphere in that region appears to be much younger than the wedge of cratonic crustal  
497 basement that overlies it (Peslier et al., 2000).

498           The Mt. Preston xenolith suite is in a unique geographic location on the western  
499 margin of the Intermontane Belt compared to other BC cordilleran xenolith localities which  
500 are further from the continental margin. They are also the only mantle peridotite xenoliths in  
501 the BC cordillera that preserve primary, mantle-equilibrated carbonates (and associated  
502 sulphides). Furthermore, these carbonated mantle xenoliths are the only ones reported from  
503 the Pacific Coast Ranges of the western margin of North America. The carbonates and  
504 sulphides are texturally undisturbed suggesting that the metasomatic event was the last event  
505 prior to entrainment by the 19 Ma basanite magma. This suggests a different history involving  
506 a geographically restricted enrichment process that probably involved metasomatic agents  
507 related to subduction of oceanic crust along the central western margin of BC.

508           One possible source of carbonatitic metasomatism of the mantle lithosphere is  
509 subduction of carbonate in sediments coupled to the down going slab. Subducting slab-  
510 related enrichment agents have been interpreted for other carbonate bearing xenolith suites  
511 (e.g. Laurora et al., 2001; Demény et al., 2004; Ducea et al., 2005; Perkins et al., 2006).  
512 Decarbonation reactions in subducting plates can occur at higher temperatures than  
513 dehydration reactions, based on experimental and thermodynamic data (Yaxley and Green,  
514 1994; Ducea et al., 2005 and references therein), or the silicate and carbonate melts may be  
515 immiscible resulting in separation. Subduction-related metasomatism has been considered  
516 for xenolith suites from northwest BC and southwest Yukon based on incompatible trace  
517 element enrichments, although no metasomatic phases were observed in those rocks (Shi et  
518 al., 1998; Peslier et al., 2000). If subduction-related enrichment during Coast Plutonic  
519 Complex magmatism is the source for the carbonates and sulphides in the Mt. Preston suite,  
520 the sites in northwest BC and southwest Yukon might be expected to show this as well.  
521 However, several of these sites are interpreted to overlie anomalously hot asthenosphere  
522 interpreted as a Tertiary to recent thermal event (Frederiksen et al., 1998; Shi et al., 1998); at  
523 the interpreted P–T range for these rocks little isobaric heating ( $\leq 50$  °C) is required to make  
524 crystalline calcite unstable.

525           Mt. Preston occupied an arc to back-arc location during the duration of Coast Plutonic  
526 Complex magmatism history. Based on tectonic models (van der Heyden, 1992; Monger et  
527 al., 1994; Gehrels et al., 2009), this would restrict the timing of the enrichment event(s) from

528 at earliest, Jurassic time to ~50 Ma when Coast Belt magmatism waned; subduction ended  
529 ~40 Ma, although the margin of the subducted slab persisted to ~35 Ma beneath the area  
530 (Madsen et al., 2006). However, for metasomatic enrichment to have occurred before 90–85  
531 Ma the mantle lithosphere under Mt. Preston would have had to be thermally and texturally  
532 unaffected by the accretion of terranes of the Insular Belt into Stikinia–Yukon Tanana (e.g.,  
533 Monger et al., 1982; Gehrels et al., 2009).

534 The  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  values for Mt. Preston samples are slightly more radiogenic than  
535 expressed by the eastern BC xenolith suites. The more radiogenic  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios might be  
536 indicative of carbonatite metasomatism or the lower  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  ratios for the eastern BC  
537 xenoliths could reflect the region's proximity to the North American Craton margin. Isotopic  
538 evidence suggests that the Cordilleran lithosphere may not be as uniform as previously shown  
539 (Peslier et al., 2000; Francis et al., 2010). In particular, the Mt. Preston carbonated peridotite  
540 samples imply important compositional variations within the Canadian Cordilleran mantle  
541 lithosphere that inform on the mantle's volatile budget (carbon), the fate of subducted carbon,  
542 and its release during volcanism (discussed in section 7.4). The stability of carbonate, in the  
543 mantle, for example, has been shown to be redox controlled (e.g., Frost & McCammon, 2008),  
544 suggesting variations in the oxidation state of mantle material beneath the Intermontane–  
545 Coast Belt margin in the western Cordillera.

546

#### 547 7.4. Carbonate Preservation and Ascent

548 Carbonated peridotitic mantle is the common source for a wide variety of mantle-  
549 derived magmas including carbonatites, nephelinites, basanites, melilitites, and kimberlites  
550 (e.g., Dasgupta et al. 2013). Given Earth's abundance of these Si-undersaturated,  $\text{CO}_2$ -rich  
551 magmas it is surprising that carbonate-bearing samples of mantle lithosphere are relatively  
552 rare. This discrepancy led Canil (1990) to perform a series of decompression experiments  
553 designed to explore the carbonate stability during ascent and to assert that carbonate  
554 decomposes during decompression at rates ( $1.5\text{--}3\text{ GPa h}^{-1}$ ) exceeding feasible magma ascent  
555 velocities ( $12\text{--}25\text{ m s}^{-1}$ ).

556 This raises the question of how the carbonate in these xenoliths was preserved during  
557 ascent of the Mt. Preston basanite magma. All samples of the mantle beneath Mt. Preston

558 were carbonated and equilibrated at pressures less than 2 GPa and at temperatures lower than  
559 the basanite magma (<1250°C). In this environment, carbonate can be destroyed in at least  
560 three ways: i) by solid state reaction to produce a non-carbonate assemblage, ii) by  
561 decomposition to a fluid or gas driven by changes in pressure, temperature, or  $P_{CO_2}$  (Canil  
562 1990; Escardino et al., 2013; Frost & McCammon, 2008), or iii) by dissolution or  
563 assimilation in a silicate melt (Edwards and Russell, 1998). To preserve the carbonate and  
564 sulphides in the xenoliths, xenolith transport rates must have exceeded rates of thermal-  
565 chemical processes promoting carbonate destruction (i.e. decomposition, melt infiltration,  
566 etc.).

567         There is every evidence that the basanite magma transited the mantle lithosphere  
568 rapidly. The basanite is essentially aphyric indicating that near liquidus temperatures  
569 (~1250°C) were maintained throughout transport, implying little loss of enthalpy; ascent rates  
570 exceeded rates of conductive cooling to the wall rocks. The basanite magma ( $\rho_x \sim 2700 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ )  
571 also transported dense ( $\rho_x \sim 3300 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$ ; Table S5) mantle xenoliths sourced from depths  
572 of 70–30 km to within several kilometers of the Earth's surface. Several of the largest  
573 xenoliths are ~50 cm in diameter. The abundance and size range of xenoliths carried by a  
574 low viscosity melt ( $\eta \sim 25 \text{ Pa s}$ ) within a relatively narrow dyke (1–3 m) also support a  
575 relatively high ascent rate (e.g., Sparks et al., 2004). For our example calculations below we  
576 adopt a physically reasonable value of  $\sim 4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  (see Sparks et al., 2004; Russell and Jones,  
577 2023).

578         There are two main arguments for the preservation of the carbonate in this suite of  
579 mantle xenoliths. The first concerns the thermal history of the xenoliths from the depth of  
580 sampling to the shallow crust (cf. Mitchell et al., 1980). Decomposition of carbonate is  
581 strongly dependent on temperature; as xenoliths are heated above their ambient mantle  
582 temperatures by the host basanite, rates of carbonate decomposition will increase (L'vov,  
583 2007; Escardino et al., 2013). We have modelled the heating times ( $t_h$ ) of the mantle xenoliths  
584 and compared those times to their residence times ( $t_r$ ) at a prescribed ascent rate ( $V_m \sim 4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ ;  
585 Fig. 8A). Xenolith residence times are dictated by magma rise rate, their settling rates (i.e.  
586 size of xenolith), and their source depth (Fig. 8B; Russell and Jones, 2023). Values of  $t_r$  are

587 greatest for large xenoliths sourced from greatest depths (Fig. 8A) whilst  $V_m$  sets limits on  
588 the maximum size of xenolith that can be carried. Xenolith rise rates ( $V_x$ ) are computed as:

589 
$$V_x = V_m + V_s \quad (4)$$

590 where  $V_s$  represents the sinking rate of the xenolith relative to the melt which, for the purposes  
591 of demonstration, is approximated here by Stokes terminal settling velocity. Heating times  
592 are the times required to heat spherical xenoliths of different sizes to a core temperature  $>$   
593 1250°C assuming conductive heating (e.g., Carslaw and Jaeger, 1959; pg. 233; Mitchell et  
594 al., 1980) and an initial temperature based on their position along the geotherm (i.e. depth-  
595 temperature; Fig. 8B).

596 There is a window in terms of xenolith size and source depth where carbonate is  
597 preserved (Fig. 8D). Carbonate preservation is favoured when  $t_h > t_r$ . Smaller xenoliths (i.e.  
598  $D < 10$  cm) typically have  $t_h < t_r$  regardless of sample depth because heating times are short  
599 (Fig. 8C). In contrast, 50 cm diameter xenoliths have substantial heating times relative to  
600 their rise rates ( $t_r < t_h$ ) except when sourced near the LAB (Fig. 8C). There transit times are  
601 greatest, and the ambient temperature is highest thereby reducing  $t_h$  values. However, slightly  
602 larger xenoliths ( $D \sim 55$  cm) are settling more rapidly and have high values of  $t_r$ , such that  $t_r$   
603  $\gg t_h$  regardless of sample depth. For minimum magma ascent rates of  $4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , xenoliths that  
604 are between 20 and 45 cm in size (diameter) are optimal for preserving carbonate (Fig. 8D).

605 The second way in which carbonate decomposition is mitigated relates to the intrinsic  
606 volatile content of the host magma. Carbonate decomposition rates are strongly dependent  
607 on the composition of ambient atmosphere; high values of  $P_{CO_2}$  cause a hyperbolic decrease  
608 in carbonate decomposition rate (L'vov, 2007). Experimental data of Escardino et al. (2013)  
609 showed calcite decomposition in a  $CO_2$  atmosphere to practically stop at temperatures  $< 875$   
610 °C; at higher temperatures decomposition rates dropped by  $> 80\%$ . The basanite dyke  
611 contains magmatic groundmass carbonate and is vesicular indicating it was  $CO_2$ -volatile rich.  
612 Despite the low solubility of  $CO_2$  at crustal pressures, the magma trapped in the dyke was  
613 not fully degassed but, rather, remained enriched in  $CO_2$ . The ascent rates were sufficiently  
614 high to effectively suppress efficient degassing of  $CO_2$  implying a high partial pressure of  
615  $CO_2$  throughout transport that would inhibit carbonate decomposition.

616           Lastly, all samples of mantle lithosphere from beneath Mt. Preston are carbonated  
617 regardless of depth. Olivine and pyroxene xenocrysts in the basanite result from xenolith  
618 disaggregation during transport which potentially allowed for scavenging and chemical  
619 assimilation of xenolith-hosted carbonate (e.g., [Ionov et al., 1996](#); [Lee et al., 2000](#); [Laurora  
620 et al., 2001](#)). Disaggregation of carbonated peridotite xenoliths during transport represents  
621 an efficient mechanism for liberation of accessory carbonate leading to increased CO<sub>2</sub>  
622 solubility or suppression of degassing of the rising magma. The additional dissolved or  
623 exsolved CO<sub>2</sub> content would increase magma buoyancy, support higher ascent rates for both  
624 the magma and its entrained xenoliths, thereby enhancing carbonate preservation. The carbon,  
625 oxygen, and strontium isotopic compositions of the dyke and xenolith carbonate are  
626 consistent with this process. For example, the carbonate sampled from the basanite dyke has  
627 a  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  composition within the range of the sampled mantle xenoliths, and has a  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$   
628 composition between the dyke silicate minerals and the xenolith carbonate.

629

## 630 **8. Summary**

631           The 19 My basanite dyke exposed near Mt. Preston, British Columbia intrudes  
632 metavolcanic rocks (Hazelton Group) of the western Intermontane Belt and is situated  
633 within 40 km of Coast Belt. The dyke contains abundant spinel-bearing peridotite (mainly  
634 lherzolite) xenoliths from the underlying Cordilleran mantle. The xenolith suite is unique  
635 for preserving primary, mantle-equilibrated magnesian calcite as an accessory phase  
636 commonly in association with sulphides (pentlandite and chalcopyrite). Two-pyroxene  
637 thermometry (N=51) returned a range of paleo-temperature estimates limiting the Moho  
638 temperature to  $\leq 815$  °C and the LAB temperature to  $\geq 1120$  °C. A model geotherm,  
639 coupled with the geothermometry and projected to the mantle adiabat, constrains the mantle  
640 lithosphere to a thickness of 26 to 40 km, and the LAB to a depth of 58 to 72 km and  
641 temperature of 1310–1320 °C (see also [Hyndman and Canil, 2021](#)). The thermometry also  
642 shows that accessory carbonate and sulphide phases are stable throughout mantle  
643 lithosphere at temperatures of  $\sim 800$ – $1120$  °C corresponding to pressures (i.e. depths) of  $\sim 1$ –  
644 1.7 GPa. The carbonate-sulphide assemblage provides strong evidence for pervasive  
645 metasomatism of an earlier melt-depleted mantle lithosphere involving at least two

646 isotopically distinct carbonatitic fluids with associated monosulphides (rather than hydrous  
647 silicate fluids). The metasomatic event derived from subduction of oceanic crust beneath  
648 the western margin of the Canadian Cordillera during Coast Plutonic Belt magmatism,  
649 when Mt. Preston was in an arc to back arc position (between ~90 and 35 Ma). Rapid  
650 magma transport rates combined with a high intrinsic  $P_{CO_2}$ , sustained by scavenging of  
651 carbonated mantle lithosphere, provided the means to preserve the accessory carbonate  
652 within these entrained fragments of mantle lithosphere.

653

#### 654 **Acknowledgements**

655 We thank the guest editors Kelin Wang, Claire Currie, and John Cassidy for the  
656 opportunity to contribute to the special issue of the Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences in  
657 honour of Roy Hyndman: "Geophysical studies of the lithosphere and plate boundaries".  
658 Our manuscript benefitted from critical reviews by Cliff Shaw and an anonymous referee  
659 and editorial guidance from Claire Currie.

660

#### 661 **Competing interests**

662 The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal  
663 relationships that may have influenced the work reported in this paper.

664

#### 665 **Data availability**

666 All data is available in the supplementary material associated with the manuscript or from  
667 the authors.

668

#### 669 **Funding**

670 This research was funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council  
671 (NSERC) Discovery Grant held by JKR and the NSERC Collaborative Research  
672 Opportunities (CRO) grant (BATHOLITHS). NP acknowledges research grants awarded by  
673 the Geological Society of America and the Mineralogical Association of Canada.

674

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916  
917

### Figure Captions

918 **Fig. 1.** Location of the Mt. Preston mantle xenolith locality within the Canadian Cordillera.  
919 (A) Mt. Preston field site (red star) shown in the context of the major tectono-morphologic  
920 belts of the Canadian Cordillera (modified from Wheeler et al., 1991). (B) Regional geology  
921 of the Mt. Preston field site (red star) is situated south of Eutsuk Lake, approximately 40 km  
922 east of the Coast Belt. Thick, grey-shaded line indicates boundary between Intermontane Belt  
923 (IB) and Coast Belt (CB) (modified from Diakow et al., 2003).  
924

925 **Fig. 2.** Mt. Preston mantle xenolith field locality within basanite dyke. (A) Field photograph  
926 showing distribution of mantle xenoliths in the dyke. (B) Detailed view of closely packed  
927 mantle xenoliths within the dyke separated by small volumes of basanite melt. (C)  
928 Photomicrograph in plane-polarized light (PPL) of basanite showing fresh, unaltered,  
929 groundmass mineralogy and volcanic texture. The basanite is aphyric, micro-vesicular and  
930 contains a partially digested mantle-derived xenocryst. (D) Scanning electron microscope  
931 (SEM) images illustrating primary groundmass mineralogy, and their textural relationships,  
932 including olivine (ol), plagioclase (plag), ulvöspinel (ul), and calcite (cc). (E) SEM image of  
933 vesicle lined by magmatic calcite (cc) produced by fluid-vapour-deposition from exsolved  
934 CO<sub>2</sub>-rich fluids (e.g., Naughton, 1975; Hunter et al., 2020).  
935

936 **Fig. 3.** Cross-polarized (XPL) and backscattered electron (BSE) images showing the three  
937 carbonate (cc) habits found in Mt. Preston mantle xenoliths. (A–C) show carbonate  
938 (magnesian calcite) in association with sulphides (cpy: chalcopyrite and pn: pentlandite),  
939 with Fe, Ni, and Cu EPMA element maps shown in panel C. (D–E) show intergranular  
940 carbonate with olivine (ol), orthopyroxene (opx), and clinopyroxene (cpx). (G–I) show  
941 carbonate as an interstitial phase (G) or as inclusions in  
942 association with spinel (spl) and cpx (panels H and I).  
943

944 **Fig. 4.** Bulk-rock major element proxies of melt depletion from the Mt. Preston mantle  
945 xenolith suite and published data for Canadian Cordilleran xenoliths. (A–C) Major elements  
946 (TiO<sub>2</sub> wt. %, CaO wt. %, and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> wt. %) vs. MgO wt. % for mantle xenoliths (lherzolites,  
947 harzburgites, and dunites) from Mt. Preston, Northern Cordilleran Volcanic Province  
948 (NCVP; see Francis et al., 2010), and Southern Cordilleran Volcanic Province (SCVP;  
949 Peslier et al., 2002). (D) Ca vs. Al wt. % in mantle xenoliths from the Canadian Cordillera.

950 Data sources as in A–C. Blue dashed line with arrows indicates expected trend for depletion  
951 of oceanic peridotite (Boyd, 1989).

952

953 **Fig. 5.** Rare earth element (REE) contents of mantle xenoliths. (A) Data normalized to  
954 primitive mantle (PM; McDonough and Sun, 1995) for xenoliths from Mt. Preston (solid  
955 lines) and other Canadian Cordillera localities (dashed lines; Northern Cordillera, Harder and  
956 Russell, 2006; Southern Cordillera, Peslier et al., 2002). (B) Mt. Preston REE data compared  
957 to REE fractional melting models (anhydrous) after Warren (2016) using the melting reaction  
958 of Wasylenki et al. (2003), partition coefficients from Sun & Liang (2013), and depleted  
959 mantle (DM) values from Workman & Hart (2005). Coloured lines are keyed to the mantle  
960 equilibration temperatures of each xenolith (side bar). (C) Bulk-rock Tb/Yb vs. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> for  
961 Canadian Cordillera mantle xenoliths (after Peslier et al., 2002); data sources are as in (A).  
962 Coloured symbols are keyed to the mantle equilibration temperatures of xenoliths (side bar).  
963 Solid grey lines denote melting trends for spinel and garnet stable mantle assemblages  
964 (Bodinier et al., 1988). Chondritic Tb/Yb (McDonough and Sun, 1995) is also shown (black  
965 horizontal dashed line) and delineates the chemical effects of metasomatism.

966

967 **Fig. 6.** Isotopic compositions of samples from Mt. Preston and the literature. (A) Carbon and  
968 oxygen isotopic compositions for carbonate from Mt. Preston mantle xenoliths, basanite  
969 dyke, and wall rocks. Xenoliths define high- and low-carbon groups shown with their  
970 respective means and 2σ uncertainty. Also shown are oxygen isotope compositions for the  
971 silicate fractions of the dyke. (B) Comparison of Mt. Preston isotopic data to compositions  
972 of mantle-xenolith-hosted carbonate from the literature, including New Mexico (Perkins et  
973 al., 2006); Sierra Nevada (Ducea et al., 2005); Hungary (Demény et al., 2004); Slave Craton  
974 (van Achterbergh et al., 2002); East African Rift (Lee et al., 2000). (C) Strontium isotope  
975 composition of carbonate within mantle peridotites, basanite dyke, and wall rock vs. oxygen  
976 isotope composition. Also shown are bulk rock Sr data for silicate fractions (SF) from the  
977 Mt. Preston dyke, Tasse suite of peridotite xenoliths (Polat et al., 2018), and sodic and  
978 potassic alkaline olivine basanites from Jacques Lake, Big Timothy Mountain, and West  
979 Kettle River (Sun et al., 1991). The field for primary igneous carbonatites (PIC) is from  
980 Taylor et al. (1967), Keller and Hoefs (1995), and Barker (1996); the bulk mantle value is  
981 from Harmon and Hoefs (1995) and Deines (2002). Analytical uncertainties are generally  
982 smaller than symbols.

983

984 **Fig. 7.** Geothermometry results and model geotherm for Mt. Preston mantle xenoliths. (A)  
985 Mean equilibration BK90 temperatures for peridotite xenoliths (Supplementary Material  
986 Table S5; Brey and Köhler 1990) plotted sequentially in the order they were analyzed with  
987 1σ error bars. Yellow symbols denote plagioclase-bearing peridotite samples. (B) Model  
988 steady-state geotherm where mantle xenoliths are plotted according to their pressure-  
989 dependent equilibration temperatures (see text). Moho depth is fixed by geophysics (34 ± 3  
990 km; Calkins et al., 2010) and the lithosphere/asthenosphere boundary (LAB) is estimated  
991 from V<sub>P</sub>/V<sub>S</sub> data to be at 50–70 km (Calkins et al., 2010). Also shown are: i) the model  
992 adiabat (heavy black line) for a potential temperature of 1300 °C after Katsura et al. (2010),  
993 ii) reference solidi curves (heavy green lines) for fertile and carbonated peridotite, and iii) a  
994 basanite melt field (light shaded field) delimited by liquidus curves for anhydrous and

995 hydrous melts. Model mantle lithosphere geotherms terminate against the adiabat at  
996 temperatures of 1313–1320 °C) corresponding to depths of 58–72 km.

997

998 **Fig. 8.** Residence ( $t_r$ ) and heating ( $t_h$ ) times for mantle xenoliths transported by basanite  
999 magma. (A) Times of magma ascent from 40 (2.8 h) and 60 (4.2 h) km depth at velocities of  
1000  $4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and the implied residence times (5.5 h and 8.3h) for a 20 cm diameter xenolith due to  
1001 lagging (Russell and Jones, 2023). (B) Mantle temperature array with depth based on model  
1002 geotherm (Fig. 7B). (C) Comparison of xenolith residence times ( $t_r$ ) to times to heat ( $t_h$ ) two  
1003 xenoliths (D=10 and 50 cm) to the temperature of the host basanite as a function of sample  
1004 depth (and temperature). Smaller xenoliths (D=10 cm) are heated to their core regardless of  
1005 source depth; larger xenoliths (D=50 cm) rise faster than they are heated except when sourced  
1006 from mantle depths  $> 50$  km. (D) Values of ( $t_h - t_r$ ) as a function of source depth and  
1007 xenolith size (see labels). Positive values of ( $t_h - t_r$ ) are consistent with carbonate survival  
1008 (green shading) whilst negative values indicate full heating of xenoliths and possible  
1009 decomposition of xenolith-hosted carbonate (red shading).  
1010

**Table 1.** Radiogenic and stable isotopic data for Mt. Preston (MP-) mantle xenoliths including Sr data for carbonate fractions (CF) in whole rock powders, two-pyroxene equilibration temperatures calculated after Brey and Kohler, (1990; BK90), approximate CO<sub>2</sub> contents via loss on ignition (LOI), and whole rock Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> wt. % values (proxy for melt depletion). Values also reported for Sr standards (SRM987) and for replicates<sup>1</sup>.

| <b>Strontium (<math>\pm 2\sigma</math>)</b>         |               |                                    |                                     |        |               |                       |                                      |
|---|---------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sample / Description                                | Rock Type     | <sup>87</sup> Sr/ <sup>86</sup> Sr | <sup>86</sup> Sr/ <sup>88</sup> Sr  | T (°C) | $\pm 1\sigma$ | wt. % CO <sub>2</sub> | Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> wt. % |
| MP05-159A / (CF)                                    | Lherzolite    | 0.704618 $\pm$ 0.000008            | 0.1198                              | 863    | 11            | 0.33                  | 2.84                                 |
| MP05-160A / (CF)                                    | Lherzolite    | 0.704432 $\pm$ 0.000008            | 0.1196                              | 919    | 9             | 0.33                  | 4.26                                 |
| MP05-164A / (CF)                                    | Lherzolite    | 0.704610 $\pm$ 0.000008            | 0.1196                              | 828    | 8             | 0.29                  | 2.91                                 |
| MP05-164A <sup>1</sup> / (CF)                       | Lherzolite    | 0.704607 $\pm$ 0.000009            | 0.1199                              | "      | "             | "                     | "                                    |
| SRM987 (600 ng)                                     | Standard      | 0.710220 $\pm$ 0.000008            | 0.1195                              | –      | –             | –                     | –                                    |
| SRM987 (300 ng)                                     | Standard      | 0.710233 $\pm$ 0.000008            | 0.1200                              | –      | –             | –                     | –                                    |
| SRM987 (600 ng)                                     | Standard      | 0.710232 $\pm$ 0.000007            | 0.1192                              | –      | –             | –                     | –                                    |
| <b>Carbon and Oxygen (<math>\pm 1\sigma</math>)</b> |               |                                    |                                     |        |               |                       |                                      |
| Sample  | Rock Type     | $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰ vs. VPDB) | $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ (‰ vs. VSMOW) | T (°C) | $\pm 1\sigma$ | wt. % CO <sub>2</sub> | Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> wt. % |
| MP05-31   | Lherzolite    | -4.36 $\pm$ 0.10                   | 12.46 $\pm$ 0.08                    | 842    | 4             | 0.33                  | 2.94                                 |
| MP05-35   | Lherzolite    | -5.67 $\pm$ 0.06                   | 11.20 $\pm$ 0.06                    | 862    | 13            | 0.33                  | 2.01                                 |
| MP05-35 <sup>1</sup>                                | Lherzolite    | -6.09 $\pm$ 0.04                   | 10.92 $\pm$ 0.05                    | 862    | 13            | 0.33                  | 2.01                                 |
| MP05-44   | Lherzolite    | -5.72 $\pm$ 0.04                   | 11.17 $\pm$ 0.03                    | 858    | 8             | 0.33                  | 2.18                                 |
| MP05-50   | Lherzolite    | -5.74 $\pm$ 0.07                   | 10.91 $\pm$ 0.11                    | 811    | 19            | 0.26                  | 2.45                                 |
| MP05-69   | Websterite    | <d/l                               | <d/l                                | 867    | 20            | 0.11                  | 11.9                                 |
| MP05-70A  | Lherzolite    | -4.41 $\pm$ 0.06                   | 11.35 $\pm$ 0.06                    | 869    | 9             | 0.29                  | 2.77                                 |
| MP05-78   | Lherzolite    | -6.03 $\pm$ 0.03                   | 12.26 $\pm$ 0.05                    | 888    | 9             | 0.26                  | 3.43                                 |
| MP05-79A  | Ol-Websterite | -4.20 $\pm$ 0.05                   | 11.82 $\pm$ 0.05                    | 891    | 12            | 0.33                  | 6.27                                 |
| MP05-139  | Lherzolite    | -5.75 $\pm$ 0.07                   | 11.26 $\pm$ 0.09                    | 862    | 6             | 0.26                  | 4.71                                 |
| MP05-159A   | Lherzolite    | -5.79 $\pm$ 0.05                   | 12.35 $\pm$ 0.05                    | 863    | 11            | 0.33                  | 2.84                                 |
| MP05-160A   | Lherzolite    | -3.72 $\pm$ 0.04                   | 11.41 $\pm$ 0.04                    | 919    | 9             | 0.33                  | 4.26                                 |
| MP05-160B   | Dunite        | -3.37 $\pm$ 0.06                   | 11.64 $\pm$ 0.07                    | 1044   | 7             | 0.29                  | 0.18                                 |
| MP05-161D   | Harzburgite   | -3.51 $\pm$ 0.08                   | 10.26 $\pm$ 0.09                    | 816    | 19            | 0.26                  | 1.36                                 |
| MP05-162A   | Ol-Websterite | -4.19 $\pm$ 0.05                   | 11.34 $\pm$ 0.04                    | 866    | 7             | 0.26                  | 5.75                                 |
| MP05-164A   | Lherzolite    | -5.87 $\pm$ 0.03                   | 11.30 $\pm$ 0.06                    | 828    | 8             | 0.29                  | 2.91                                 |



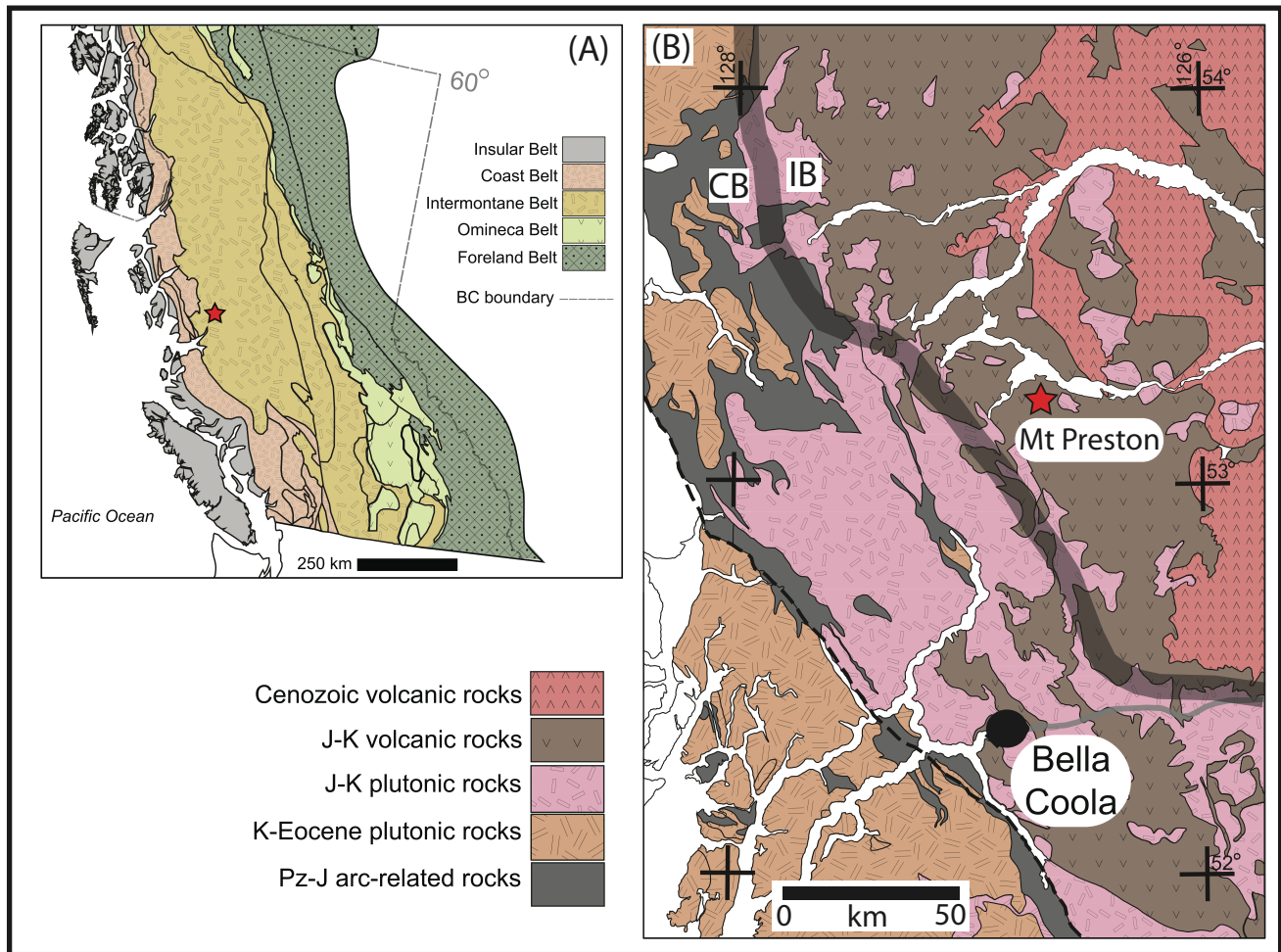


Figure 1. (CJES, Peterson et al. Revised, 2025)

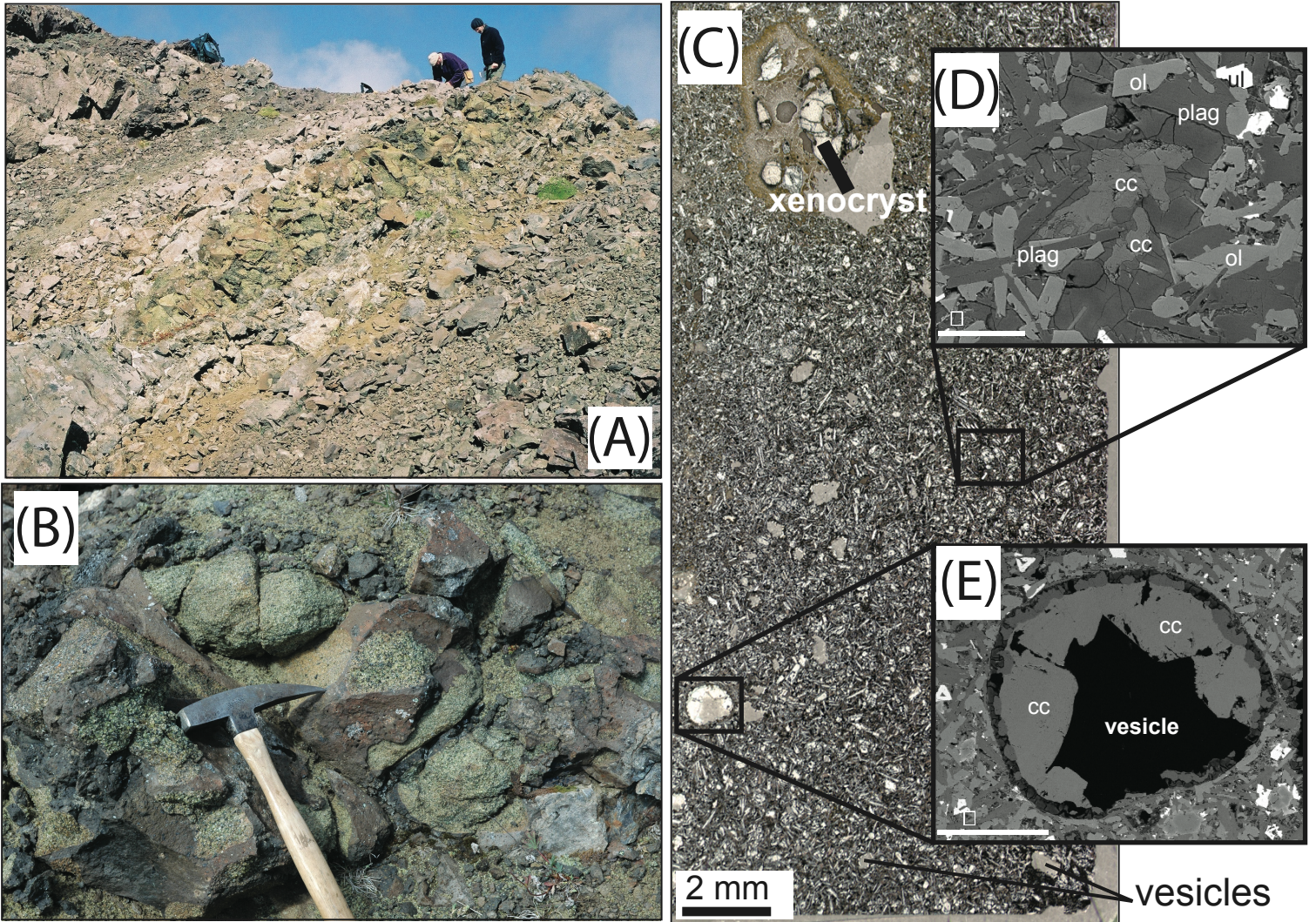


Figure 2. (Peterson et. al, Revised 2025)

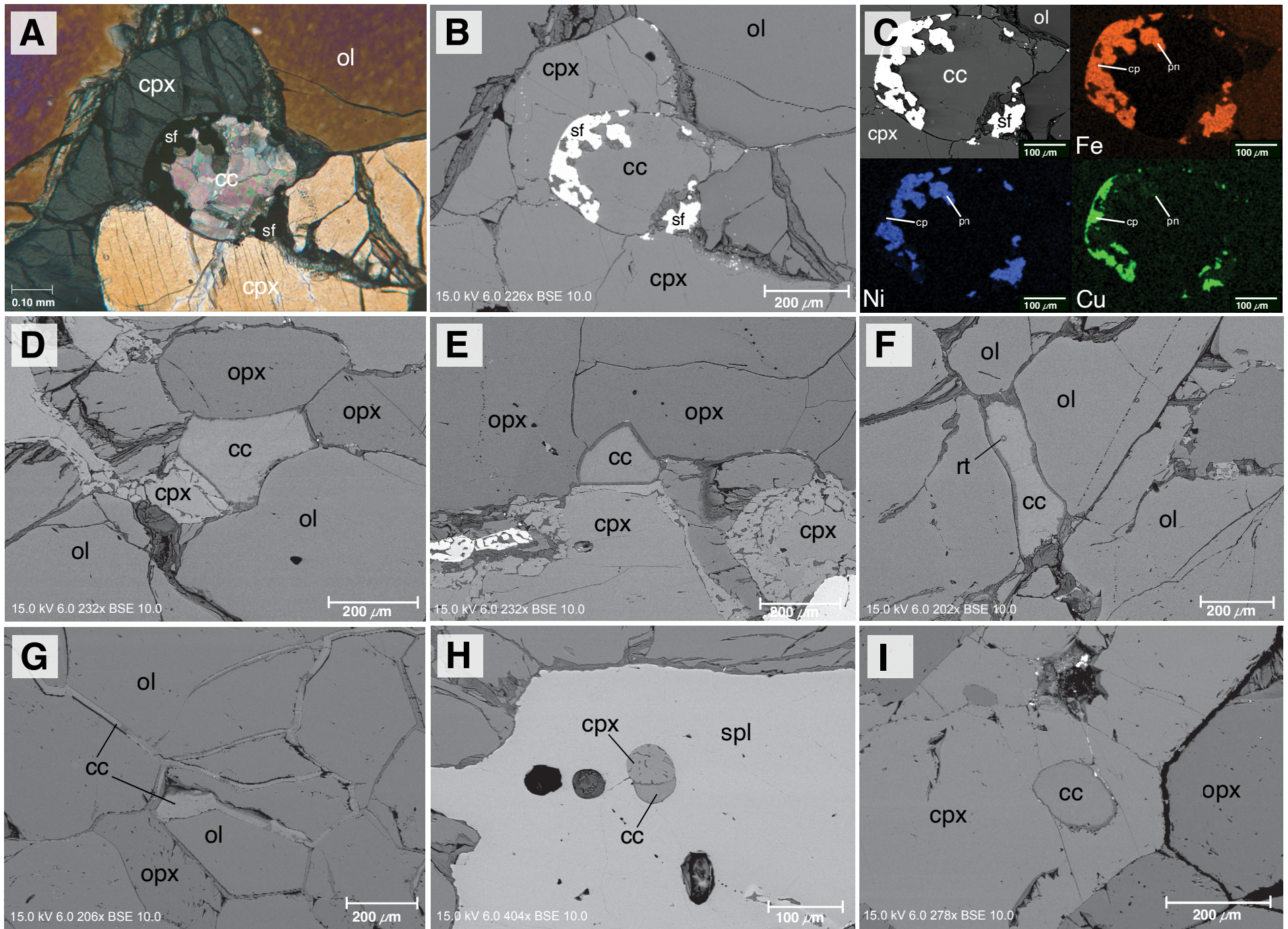


Figure 3. (Peterson et al., Revised 2025)

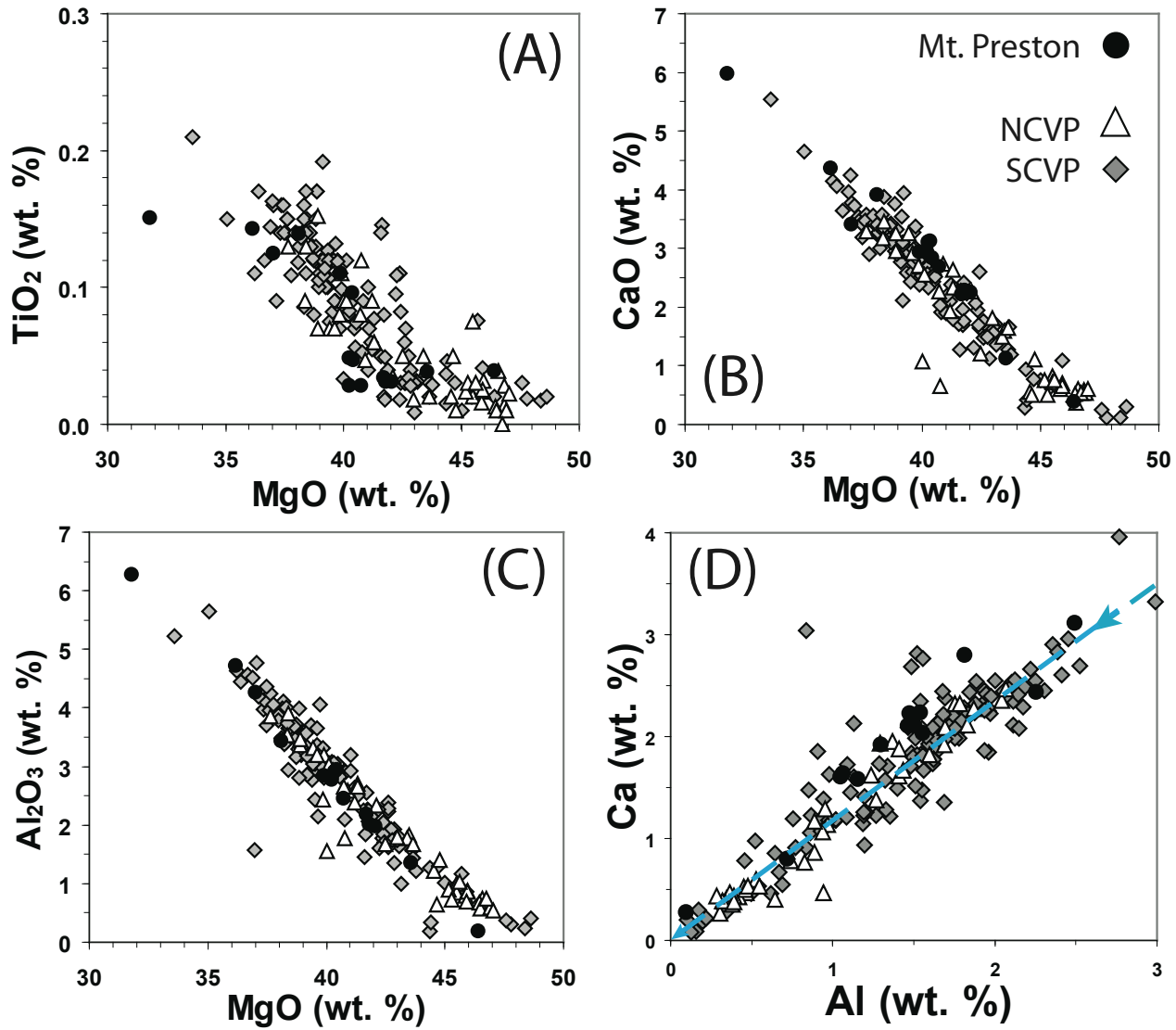


Figure 4. (Peterson et. al, Revised 2025)

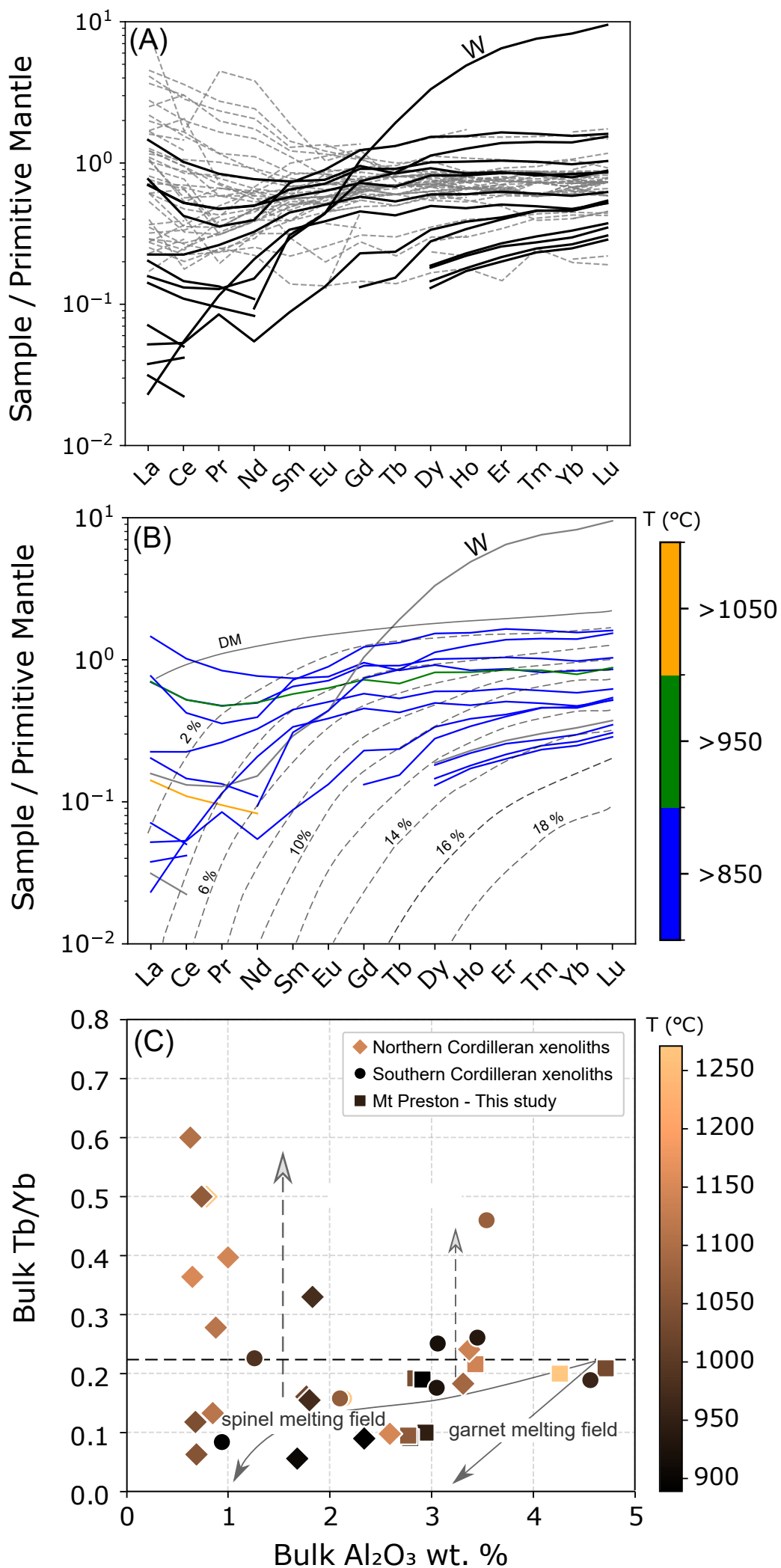


Figure 5. (Peterson et al., Revised 2025)

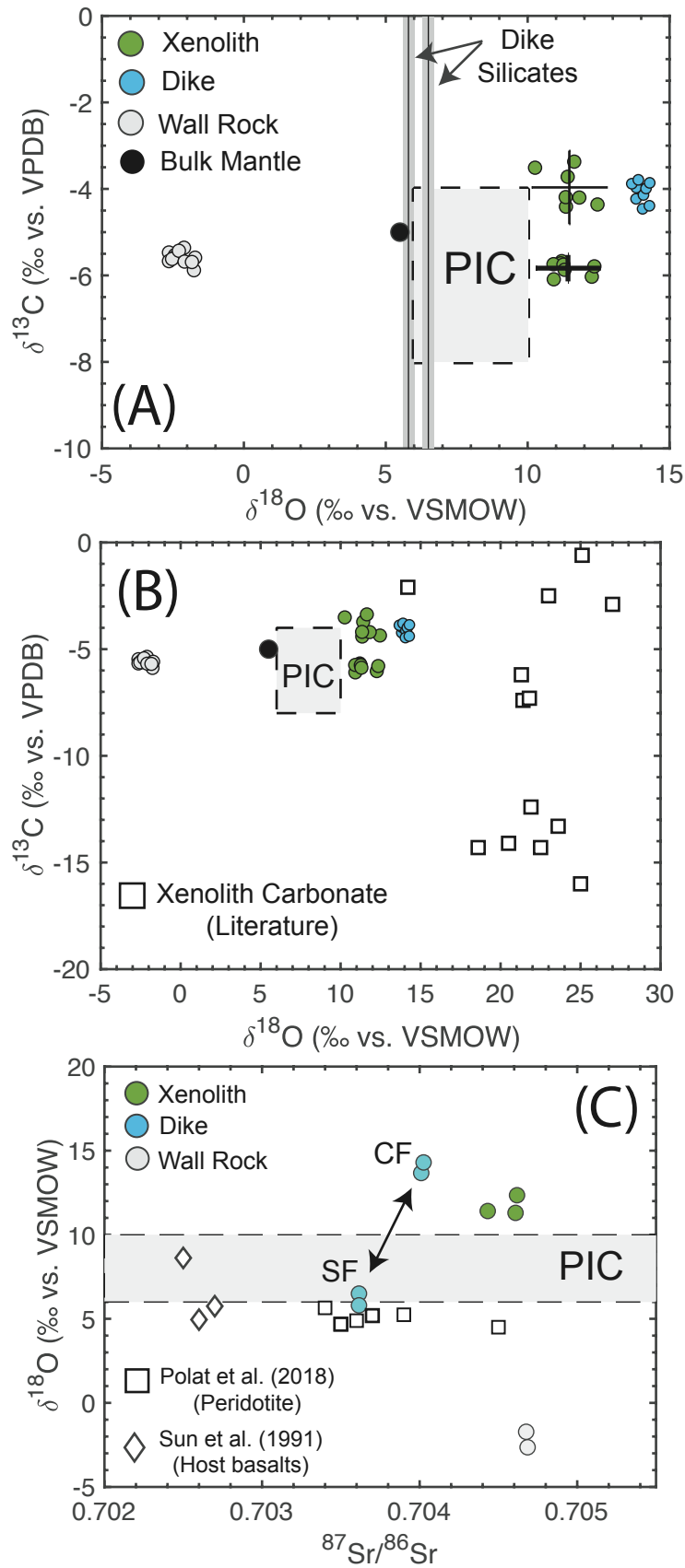


Figure 6. (Peterson et. al, Revised 2025)

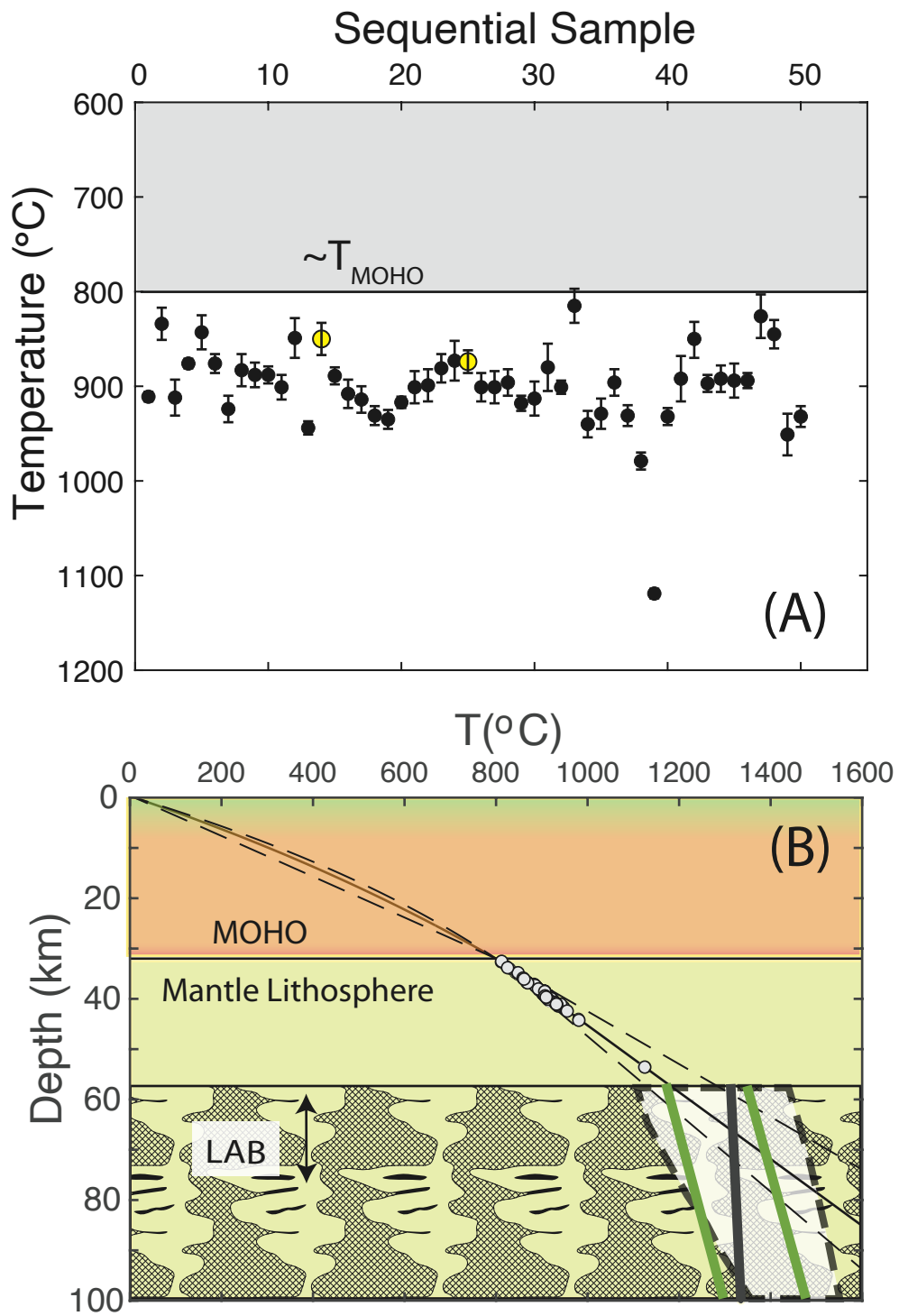


Figure 7. (CJES, Peterson et al. Revised, 2025)

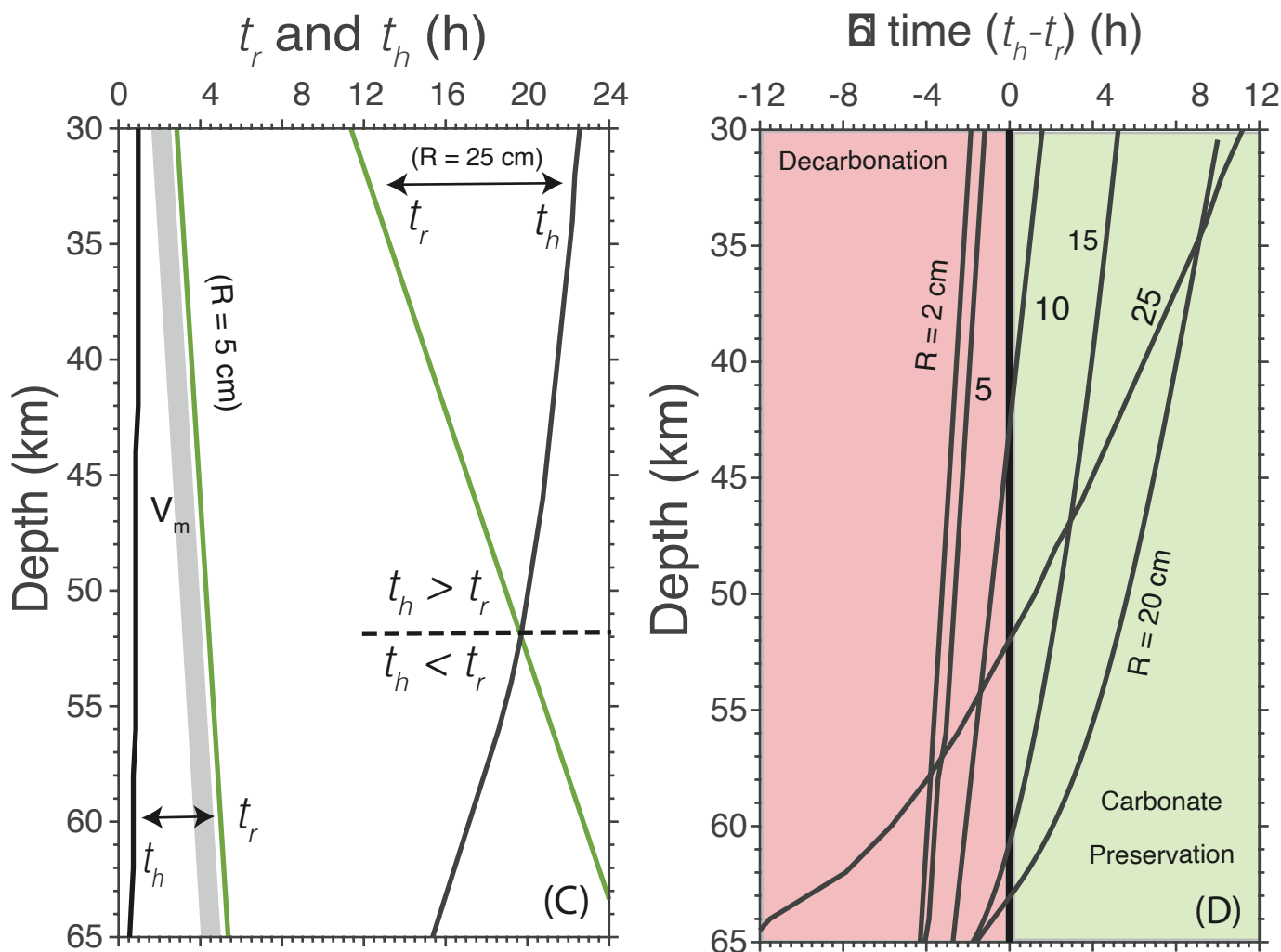
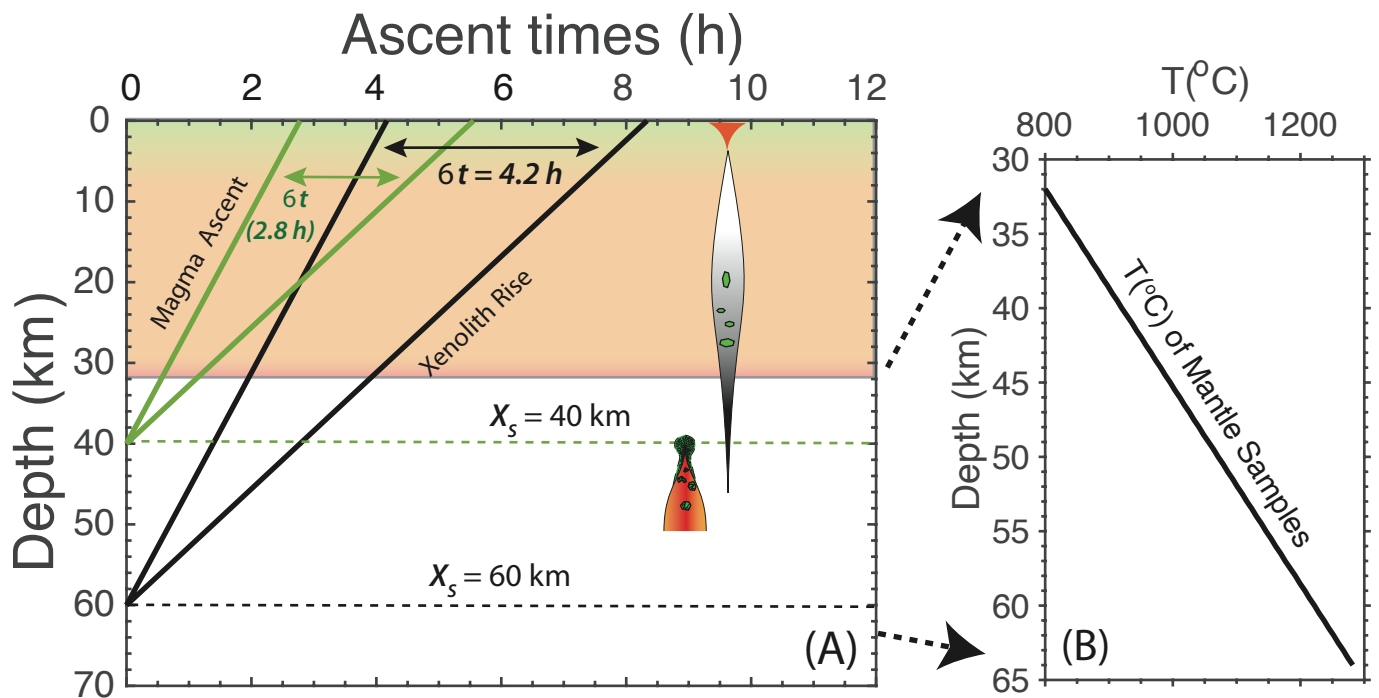


Figure 8 [Peterson et al., revised, 2025]