



Hafnium isotope evidence for slab melt contributions in the Central Mexican Volcanic Belt and implications for slab melting in hot and cold slab arcs



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ABSTRACT

This study presents evidence that Quaternary frontal arc calc-alkaline lavas from Central Mexican Volcanic Belt (CMVB) contain contributions from partial melts of the subducting garnet-bearing eclogitic oceanic crust and sediment, based on chemical and Hf–Nd isotope data. The CMVB includes both calc-alkaline lavas with arc-type trace element patterns such as aqueous fluid mobile element enrichments and high field strength element depletions; and “high-Nb” alkaline lavas with trace element patterns similar to ocean island basalts. The two types of lavas are closely related geographically and temporally. Distinct from the high-Nb lavas, the calc-alkaline lavas show trends toward higher $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratios coupled with lower Lu/Hf. The high Hf–Nd isotope ratios fingerprint contributions of subducted basaltic oceanic crust, while the correlation with low Lu/Hf indicates melting in the presence of residual garnet, which reflects conversion of the subducted oceanic crust to eclogite. Isotopic and chemical mass balance considerations indicate that the slab melts are ~80% basaltic oceanic crust and ~20% subducted sediment. The calc-alkaline lavas have higher SiO_2 at a given Mg# compared to the high-Nb alkaline lavas, also reflecting melt contributions from the subducted slab.

A survey of global arc lavas shows that calc-alkaline lavas with low Lu/Hf ratios, reflecting melting in the presence of residual garnet and preferential mobilization of Hf over Lu from the subducted slab, are generally associated with hot slab conditions. These include arcs where young (<30 Ma old) oceanic crust is subducted (e.g. Mexican Volcanic Belt, Cascades, Austral Andes, Luzon, Setouchi), where slab tearing occurred and hot asthenospheric mantle could upwell through the slab window (e.g., western Aleutians, Sunda, southern Scotia), and where oblique or slow subduction leads to higher slab temperatures (e.g. Lesser Antilles, western Aleutians). In some of these hot slab arcs, where low Lu/Hf ratios are coupled with high Nd–Hf isotope ratios, slab melt contributions are dominated by partial melts from the subducted oceanic basalt (e.g., Mexican Volcanic Belt, Aleutians and Cascades). In other hot slab arcs, low Lu/Hf ratios are coupled with low Nd–Hf isotope ratios, reflecting slab contributions dominated by sediment melts (e.g. Setouchi, Lesser Antilles, Luzon, Sunda, and southern Scotia). Arcs associated with colder subducted oceanic crust (e.g. Izu–Bonin–Marianas, Tonga–Kermadec, central and northern Scotia) erupt lavas with high Lu/Hf along with high Hf–Nd isotope ratios, similar to mid-ocean ridge basalts, thus they lack the signature of residual garnet as well as significant slab melt input.

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1. Introduction

Magma genesis at convergent plate margins has long been attributed to fluxing of the mantle wedge by “solute-rich” fluids containing significant amounts of H_2O , derived from the subducting oceanic crust and sediments (e.g., Morris et al., 2003; Plank et al., 2009). These fluids also impart distinctive geochemical signatures to arc magmas, such as enrichments in aqueous fluid mobile elements (e.g., Ba, Sr, Pb) relative to elements with limited aqueous fluid mobility, for example the rare

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earth elements (REE, e.g., Sm, Nd) and the high field strength elements (HFSE, e.g., Nb, Ta, Hf). It has remained unclear, however, in what capacity silicate melts of the subducted oceanic crust–sediment package contribute to the arc mantle wedge, for example, whether the subducted slab could partially melt under most arcs (e.g. Kelemen et al., 2003; Schmidt et al., 2004; Portnyagin et al., 2007); or whether it can only partially melt under unusually hot conditions, such as the subduction of young, hot slabs (e.g., Defant and Drummond, 1990; Peacock et al., 1994), or at slab edges heated by upwelling hot asthenospheric mantle (e.g., Yagodinski et al., 1995, 2001; Thorkelson and Breitsprecher, 2005). It has also been shown that higher slab temperatures lead to increased silica polymerization and as a result, higher overall trace element mobility (Manning, 2004). Thus, high temperature silica-rich “slab-melts” can be traced by elements with limited mobility in low temperature aqueous- or solute-rich fluids, such as the REE, HFSE and Th. Of particular interest are the heavy rare earth elements (HREE, e.g., Lu, Yb), which are preferentially retained by residual garnet in the slab during eclogite melting.

A challenge in identifying subduction contributions in arc lavas arises from compositional similarities between the subducted package and the overlying mantle–crust assemblage. For example, sediment melt contributions could impose elevated Si content and crustal-like isotope signatures on arc lavas, which resemble the effects of shallow level assimilation–fractional crystallization (AFC) processes (e.g., Hildreth and Moorbath, 1988). Hf–Nd isotopes can be used to identify hydrothermal sediment melt contributions in arcs owing to their distinct Hf–Nd isotope compositions. In Hf–Nd isotope space, most terrestrial rocks (e.g., mafic and felsic volcanics, and clastic sediments) fall on a well-defined “mantle–crust array” (e.g. Vervoort et al., 1999, 2011), while hydrothermal sediments fall on a “seawater array”, which intersects the “mantle–crust array” at an angle, with higher $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf}$ ratios for a given $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio (Albarède et al., 1998). Melt contributions from subducted hydrothermal sediments could thus generate deviations from the “mantle–crust array” towards the “seawater array” in arc lavas (e.g., Marini et al., 2005; Handley et al., 2011). Moreover

slab-derived melt contributions must also be distinguished from melts of the lower crust beneath an arc, which can be evaluated based on relationships between Hf–Nd isotope ratios and high field strength element ratios (e.g., Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf) (e.g. Gómez-Tuena et al., 2003; Pfänder et al., 2007; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2011; Pfänder et al., 2012).

Volcanism in the Central Mexican Volcanic Belt (CMVB) is associated with the subduction of the young (14–18 Ma) Cocos Plate (at ~6 cm/year) (Fig. 1; Pardo and Suárez, 1995). The Mexican Volcanic Belt trends oblique to the trench, which reflects an unusual subduction geometry, whereby the subducting Cocos Plate flattens northward and remains at a shallow depth of ~40 km for about 200 km, before it bends down at ~75° angle just below the arc front (Pérez-Campos et al., 2008). Besides subduction of a young, hot oceanic plate, the unusual subduction geometry may also lead to higher slab temperatures given the increased coupling surface between the flat slab and the overlying plate (Manea et al., 2004, 2005). Thus, the CMVB provides an excellent framework to test for slab melting using geochemical tracers.

Evidence for slab melt contributions in the CMVB has been reported in previous studies (e.g., Gómez-Tuena et al., 2003; Martínez-Serrano et al., 2004; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2007; Mori et al., 2007; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2008), although the same types of observations have also been used to argue for crustal assimilation (e.g., Siebe et al., 2004; Schaaf et al., 2005; Torres-Alvarado et al., 2011). However these studies did not report Hf isotope ratios which, as we show here, add important supporting evidence for slab melt contributions. In this study we evaluate the role of slab melting beneath the CMVB with new Hf–Nd isotope and elemental data. To further demonstrate the validity and implications of our findings we also compare our CMVB observations with global arcs.

2. Geologic background

The CMVB is constructed on 45–50 km of continental crust composed of Mesozoic marine sediments overlying Proterozoic granulitic lower crust (Schaaf et al., 1994; Ortega-Gutiérrez et al., 1995;

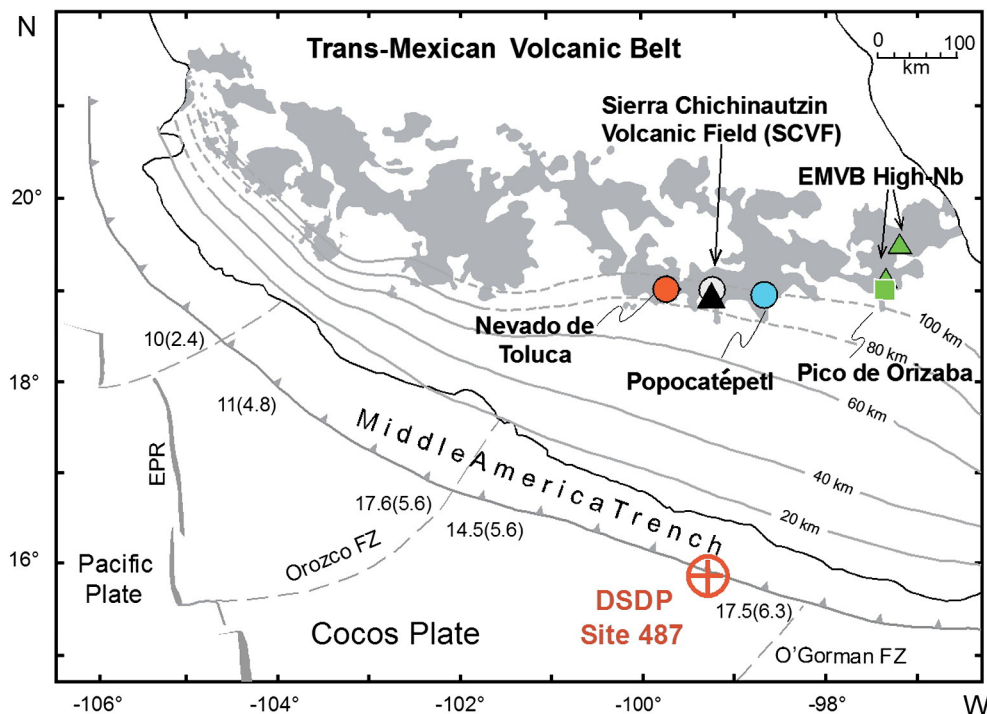


Fig. 1. Schematic map of the studied areas in the context of the Quaternary Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt (highlighted in dark gray) overlain by contours of inferred slab depth (Pardo and Suárez, 1995). Also shown is the location of DSDP Site 487. “High-Nb” lavas (in triangles) are found in Sierra Chichinautzin Volcanic Field (SCVF) as well as in the Eastern Mexican Volcanic Belt (EMVB) from monogenetic centers near stratovolcano Pico de Orizaba. Other symbols are: EPR = East Pacific Rise; FZ = fracture zone. Along the Middle America Trench, ages of the subducting Cocos plate are marked in millions of years, followed by the convergence rates in parentheses in cm/year (Demets et al., 1990).

Urrutia-Fucugauchi, 1996; Centeno-García et al., 2008; Ortega-Gutiérrez et al., 2008, 2012). Despite passage through the thick continental crust, mafic lavas with high Mg# ($100 * Mg / (Mg + Fe^{2+})$) and Ni contents are common in the CMVB, especially from cinder cones and fissure eruptions (Wallace and Carmichael, 1999; Siebe et al., 2004; Straub et al., 2008, 2011). The unusual occurrence of mafic, near-parental lavas in a thick crust continental arc has been associated with the extensional tectonic stress regime in the region (García-Palomo et al., 2000; Suter et al., 2001). The stratovolcanoes mainly erupt calc-alkaline (CA) lavas, while the mildly alkaline “high-Nb” lavas are only found in some of the monogenetic volcanic centers. The CA lavas show classic arc geochemical signatures, including enrichments in aqueous fluid mobile/immobile elements, and depletions in Nb and Ta (Nb 2–10 ppm, Nb/Th < 3). Many CMVB CA lavas fall into the category of high-Mg# andesites, with 52–63 wt.% SiO₂ and Mg# > 45 (Kelemen et al., 2003; Martínez-Serrano et al., 2004; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2007, 2008). The CMVB CA lavas included in this study are from stratovolcanoes Nevado de Toluca (Toluca), Popocatepetl (Popo), their nearby monogenetic cinder cones, and from Sierra Chichinautzin Volcanic Field (SCVF) (Fig. 1). To evaluate the effects of crustal assimilation, we also compare our CMVB results with lavas from Pico de Orizaba (Orizaba) in the eastern Mexico Volcanic Belt (EMVB), where magma assimilation of Proterozoic lower crustal material has been suggested (e.g., LaGatta, 2003).

High-Nb arc lavas are common in the MVB, despite being volumetrically small and restricted to monogenetic centers (Lühr et al., 2006). They are often found adjacent to CA lavas. The high-Nb lavas we studied are from the SCVF and from cinder cones near EMVB volcano Pico de Orizaba (Fig. 1). The high-Nb lavas show elevated Nb and Ta contents (Nb > 16 ppm, Nb/Th > 6), and minimal enrichment in aqueous fluid mobile elements (e.g., low Ba/Th and U/La) (LaGatta, 2003) (Fig. A1). Both the CA and the high-Nb lavas contain high-Ni olivines, which have been interpreted as evidence for contributions of slab-derived silica-rich liquids (e.g. Straub et al., 2008, 2011). However, the high-Nb lavas show lower SiO₂ contents at a given Mg#, and lower ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr at a given ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd ratio, relative to CMVB CA lavas (e.g. LaGatta, 2003; Siebe et al., 2004). This is consistent with overall lower slab contributions to the high-Nb lavas (Fig. 2). Based on these characteristics, the high-Nb lavas are generally thought to more closely represent partial melts of the mantle wedge with less slab contributions than the CA lavas (Lühr, 1997; Wallace and Carmichael, 1999; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2003; Siebe et al., 2004).

The sediments and basaltic oceanic crust that are subducting beneath the CMVB are sampled by DSDP Site 487, outboard the trench near Acapulco (Watkins et al., 1981). The sediment column consists of an upper 105 m layer of Quaternary hemipelagic gray mud (called here *terrigenous sediments*) and a lower 65 m layer of Miocene–Pliocene pelagic brown clay with hydrothermal contributions (called here *hydrothermal sediments*) (Watkins et al., 1981). The terrigenous sediments compositionally resemble upper continental crust, while the hydrothermal sediments show elevated Fe and Mn, negative Ce anomalies, and East Pacific Rise mid-ocean ridge basalt-like (EPR MORB) Pb isotope ratios (Verma, 2000; LaGatta, 2003).

3. Analytical methods

Column chromatographic procedures were carried out in the clean chemistry lab at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory (LDEO). Volcanic samples were dissolved using a mixture of double-distilled HNO₃ and SeaStar® HF in capped teflon vials. In order to ensure total dissolution of residual minerals, sediment samples were first sintered in a muffle furnace with low blank Na₂O₂ (Fluka®, purum ≥ 95%) (Kleinhanns et al., 2002). Hf was extracted using Eichrom Ln resin (Münker et al., 2001). Nd was extracted using Eichrom TRU® resin followed by BioRad® AG50-X8 resin and alpha-hydroxyisobutyric acid (alpha-HIBA).

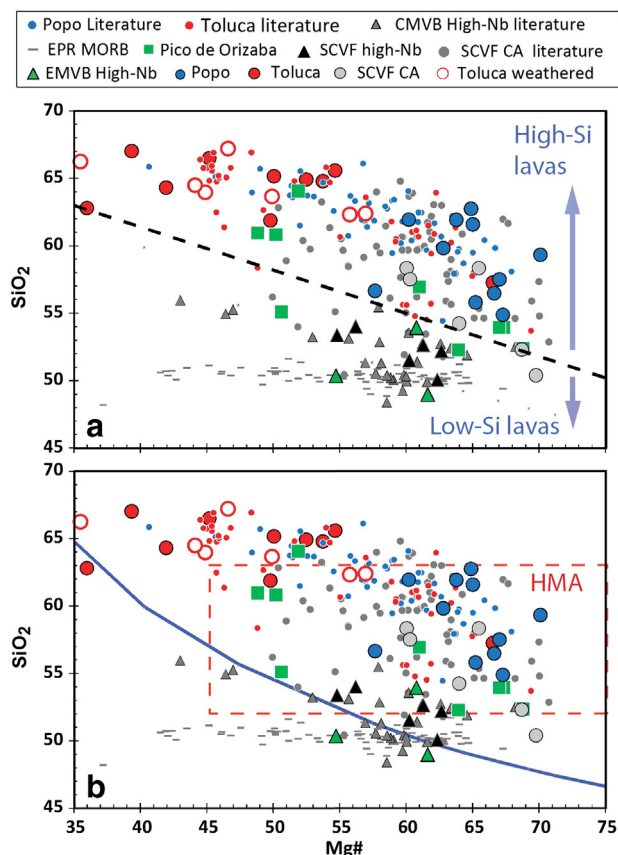


Fig. 2. Mg# vs. SiO₂ of studied MVB lavas (large symbols), MVB literature data (small symbols) and MORB data from the northern hemisphere East Pacific Rise (EPR). Panel a shows the SiO₂–Mg# division line that separates CMVB CA lavas from CMVB high-Nb lavas using $SiO_2 = 74.375 - 0.325 * Mg\#$. This division line is used later in the discussion of global data in Section 5.5.1, where lavas above the line (e.g., CMVB CA lavas) and below the line (e.g., MVB high-Nb lavas and MORB) are referred to as high- and low-SiO₂ lavas, respectively. The difference between these two groups of lavas cannot be explained by shallow level crustal assimilation, as SiO₂ contents vary greatly at the same Mg#. Instead, addition of slab derived silica-rich liquids is critical for the formation of the high-SiO₂ lavas. Panel b shows the same data in the context of high-Mg# andesites (=HMA) defined by Kelemen et al. (2003) and the tholeiite-calc-alkaline lava division line from Miyashiro (1974). MVB data are from this study, and LaGatta (2003), Schaaf et al. (2005), Martínez-Serrano et al. (2004), Siebe et al. (2004) and Torres-Alvarado et al. (2011). MORB data are from Class and Lehnert (2011).

Hf isotope ratios were measured on a VG-Axiom MC-ICP-MS in the LDEO-AMNH (American Museum of Natural History) ICPMS Lab at LDEO. Nd isotope ratios were measured on a VG-Sector 54 thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS) at LDEO. Additional analytical details are listed in Table EA1. Major elements of the Toluca samples were determined by X-ray fluorescence spectroscopy (XRF) at the Laboratorio Universitario de Geoquímica Isotópica (LUGIS), UNAM, using procedures of Lozano and Bernal (2005). Trace elements were measured by a Thermo Scientific Electron X-series inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (ICP-MS) at the Centro de Geociencias (CGEO) at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) following sample preparation and measurement procedures described in Mori et al. (2007). The long-term reproducibility of international standard trace element data at CGEO has been reported in several previous publications (e.g., Mori et al., 2007; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2011).

4. Results

We report major element, trace element, Nd and Hf isotope analyses of 13 Toluca lavas (Table EA1); Hf isotope analyses of 5 sediment samples and one basalt sample from DSDP Site 487 (Table EA2); Nd and Hf isotope analyses of 6 piston core sediment samples from the Cocos

plate (Table EA5) obtained from the LDEO Core Repository; and Hf isotope analyses of 38 lavas from the central and eastern MVB (Table EA2), which were selected from a larger sample set based on available elemental and Sr–Pb–Nd isotope data (LaGatta, 2003) to best constrain the effect of shallow level assimilation and slab contributions. Nd isotope ratios are listed as ϵ_{Nd} , the deviation in parts per 10,000 from a “chondritic uniform reservoir” (CHUR) value of $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.512638$ (Jacobsen and Wasserburg, 1980). Hf isotope ratios are listed as ϵ_{Hf} , the deviation in parts per 10,000 from a CHUR value of $^{176}\text{Hf}/^{177}\text{Hf} = 0.282772$ (Blichert-Toft and Albarède, 1997). To better compare with older literature data in the diagrams, we did not use the newer CHUR value of 0.282785 (Bouvier et al., 2008), which would decrease all ϵ_{Hf} data by ~ 0.46 ϵ_{Hf} units.

For the DSDP Site 487 samples, the terrigenous sediments have the lowest ϵ_{Hf} values (-0.7 to $+1.0$), the basalt has the highest ϵ_{Hf} value ($+18.1$), and the hydrothermal sediments are intermediate ($\sim +6$) (Table EA2). In Hf–Nd isotope space (Fig. 3a,b), the terrigenous sediments and the basalt fall on the “mantle–crust array” (Vervoort et al., 1999, 2011), while the hydrothermal sediments overlap with piston core sediments from the Cocos plate further south and they all fall on the “seawater array” (Figs. 3a,b and A6, Albarède et al., 1998).

ϵ_{Hf} values in CMVB lavas range from -0.6 to $+11.4$ (Fig. 3). All measured CMVB lavas fall close to the Hf–Nd mantle–crust array (Vervoort et al., 2011). EMVB Orizaba lavas have the lowest ϵ_{Hf} values (-0.6 to 4.2). Hf isotope ratios of CMVB CA lavas ($\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} = 4.6$ to 11.4) and high-

Nb lavas ($\epsilon_{\text{Hf}} = 3.4$ to 9.1) overlap, but the CA volcanics have the highest $\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}-\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}$ values. In Hf–Nd isotope space, the CA lavas trend from the field of the high-Nb lavas towards a component that resembles EPR MORB, with higher ϵ_{Hf} and ϵ_{Nd} (Fig. 3a). Our Nd isotope compositions ($\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 4.4$ to 6.3) are comparable with those published by Martínez-Serrano et al. (2004) ($\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 3.8$ to 6.7). Our average Toluca samples show $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 5.19 \pm 1.18$ (2σ , $n = 17$) which overlaps with earlier results ($\epsilon_{\text{Nd}} = 4.94 \pm 1.20$, $n = 21$; Martínez-Serrano et al., 2004). D’Antonio (2008) reported two of the same samples (RAM101 and RAM22) with much lower ϵ_{Nd} values. Thus, we duplicated the analyses on new splits of the samples in question, and our results are reproducible (Table EA1). The average ϵ_{Nd} of Toluca lavas from D’Antonio (2008) is 2.70 ± 2.16 (2σ , $n = 8$), which differs significantly from the results from our study and Martínez-Serrano et al. (2004). Given these considerations, we stand by our results until further tests are conducted.

Despite our efforts to choose fresh samples, a few samples from Toluca show negative Ce anomalies and elevated REE contents. These characteristics are sometimes associated with incipient weathering (e.g., Price et al., 1991), whereby trivalent REE are mobilized from glassy or fine-grained matrix material, but Ce^{+4} is less mobilized. The weathering effect does not affect the Nd and Hf isotope ratios of our samples (Fig. A2), which suggest that the additional REE are locally derived. Thus, we include these samples in our discussion.

5. Discussion

5.1. Effects of crustal assimilation?

The CMVB lies on thick continental crust and some studies have discussed the potential impact of crustal assimilation to the lavas (e.g. Siebe et al., 2004; Schaaf et al., 2005). Magmas that assimilate incompatible element enriched old continental crust would have high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$, $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ratios, and low ϵ_{Nd} and ϵ_{Hf} values, coupled with high SiO_2 contents and low Mg#. The Proterozoic lower crust in the CMVB likely has these isotope characteristics, based on low ϵ_{Nd} and ϵ_{Hf} values observed in lower crustal xenoliths (e.g. Patchett and Ruiz, 1987; Schaaf et al., 1994; Vervoort et al., 1999; Ortega-Gutiérrez et al., 2012) and high $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ratios in granulite outcrop samples (e.g. Lawlor et al., 1999). Lavas from Pico de Orizaba, in the EMVB, show evidence of lower crustal assimilation in Pb and Nd isotope space (LaGatta, 2003, Figs. 4, A5). Compared with lavas from Pico de Orizaba in the EMVB, CA lavas from the CMVB show higher $\epsilon_{\text{Nd}}-\epsilon_{\text{Hf}}$ values and their Nd–Pb isotope ratios do not show the “crustal contamination” trend (e.g., Figs. 4, A5; DePaolo, 1981; LaGatta, 2003). Rather they follow well-defined mixing trends in Pb isotope space between a component that is similar to the high-Nb lavas and the terrigenous sediments and a component that is similar to EPR MORB and the hydrothermal sediments (LaGatta, 2003). Olivine phenocrysts that appear to be in equilibrium with CMVB magmas show mantle-like $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ratios ($R/R_a > 6.9$), which indicates that crustal assimilation is very limited (Straub et al., 2011). Based on these observations, many studies have reached the conclusion that many of the MVB volcanoes erupt surprisingly uncontaminated lavas (e.g. Gómez-Tuena et al., 2003; LaGatta, 2003; Martínez-Serrano et al., 2004; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2007; Straub et al., 2008; Schaaf and Carrasco-Núñez, 2010; Straub et al., 2011). These include the volcanoes in this study, and therefore we do not dwell on this issue here. Instead, we will focus on quantifying the slab contributions. We also show (in Section 5.2) that crustal assimilation of an ancient garnet- or amphibole-bearing incompatible element depleted lower crust is unlikely, based on correlations between Hf isotopes and Lu/Hf, Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios.

5.2. Subducted slab contributions to the sub-arc mantle wedge

Sediments are major potential contributors of incompatible elements to the sub-arc mantle (e.g. Plank and Langmuir, 1993; Chauvel

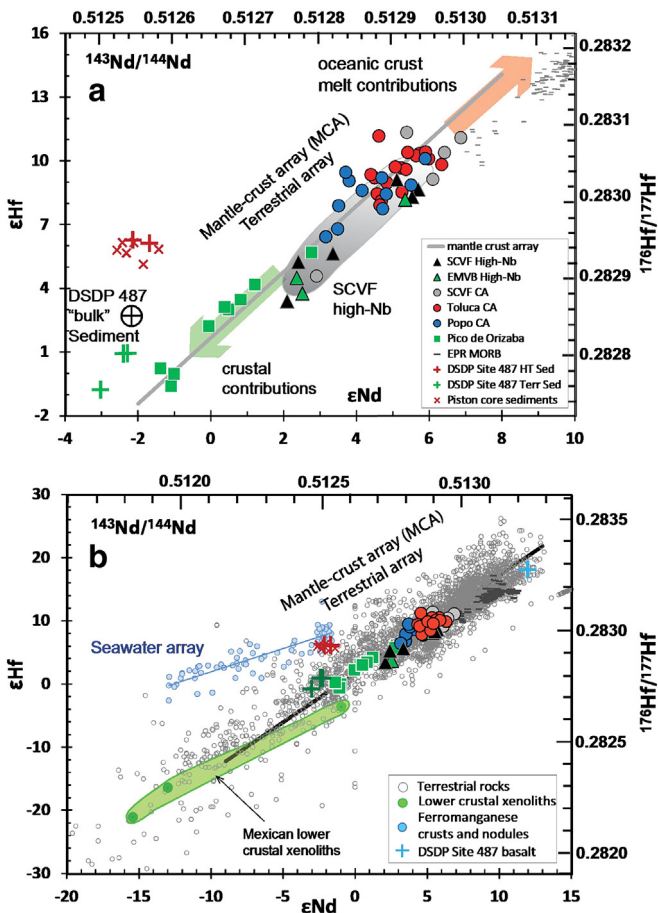


Fig. 3. a) ϵ_{Nd} vs. ϵ_{Hf} of studied MVB lavas; sediments and basalts sampled at DSDP Site 487; and piston core sediments. b) MVB data in the context of the Mexican lower crustal xenoliths (Roberts and Ruiz, 1989; Vervoort et al., 2000); the Nd–Hf mantle–crust array with data from GEOROC, PetDB, Vervoort et al. (1999, 2000, 2011) and Salters et al. (2011); the seawater array based on data from Godfrey et al. (1997), Albarède et al. (1998), David et al. (2001), and van de Fliert et al. (2004). HT sed = hydrothermal sediments. Terr sed = terrigenous sediments. The DSDP Site 487 “bulk” sediment composition is calculated based on HT: Terr = 4:6 based on the stratigraphy (LaGatta, 2003).

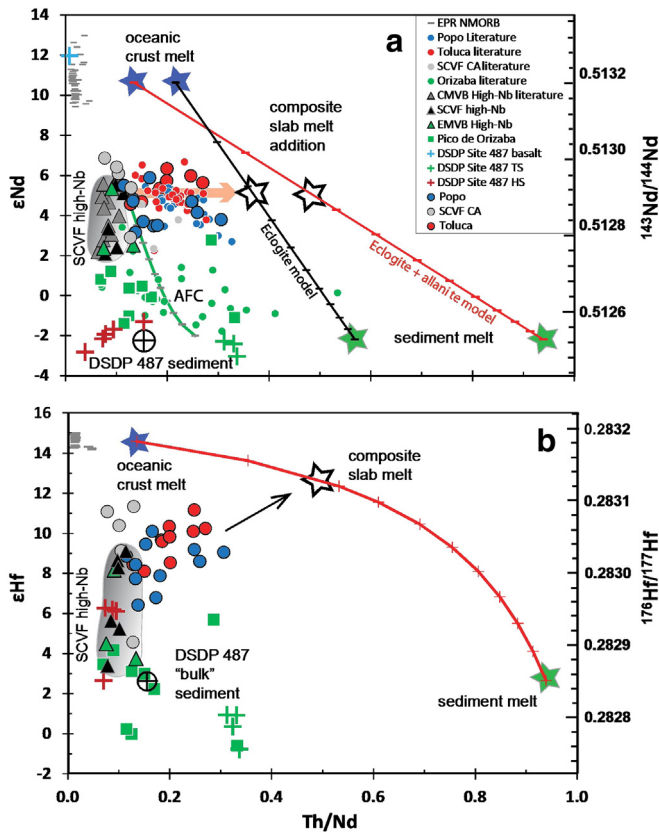


Fig. 4. Th/Nd vs. ϵ_{Hf} and ϵ_{Nd} of MVB lavas and DSDP Site 487 sediments. Only fresh samples with no Ce anomalies are plotted. Also shown are modeled composite slab melt (hollow stars) with two sets of partition coefficients: 1) the black line is an eclogite-only model, where bulk D-values are calculated assuming garnet:cpx = 1 using Kds from Klemme et al. (2002); and 2) the red line is an eclogite + allanite model, which uses bulk D-values from Skora and Blundy (2010). Modeling details are discussed in the text (Section 5.3). The AFC model is calculated using relatively primitive Orizaba lava C46 (Mg# = 67, Table EA2) as the starting composition, and Huiznopala granulite PJL8 (from Lawlor et al., 1999) as the crustal endmember with ϵ_{Nd} of -7.45, assuming $M_a/M_c = 0.3$, $D_{\text{Th}} = 0.01$ and $D_{\text{Nd}} = 0.1$ (DePaolo, 1981). (For interpretation of the references to color in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

et al., 2008). Mass balance considerations of sediment subduction along the MVB indicate that most of the sediments reaching the trench are subducted (Watkins et al., 1981). The sediment column sampled by DSDP Site 487 contains a 65 m thick "hydrothermal sediment" unit. Melt contributions containing significant amounts of hydrothermal sediment should generate lavas that trend towards the "seawater array" (Albarède et al., 1998), for example, as seen in the Philippines (Marini et al., 2005). In the CMVB, lavas fall close to the "mantle–crust array", with little indication of Nd–Hf contributions from the subducted hydrothermal sediment (Fig. 3). However, as "bulk" DSDP Site 487 sediment plots close to the mantle crust array, small contributions from sediment melt is hard to discern in Nd–Hf isotope space (Fig. 3b).

High Th/Nd ratios and low ϵ_{Nd} values in arc lavas have been used as indicators for contributions of partial melt from the subducted sediments (e.g., Elliott et al., 1997; Plank, 2005). CMVB CA lavas show elevated Th/Nd ratios compared to the high-Nb lavas and EPR MORB (Fig. 4). However, CMVB CA lavas trend toward higher ϵ_{Hf} and ϵ_{Nd} values with higher Th/Nd ratios, while the DSDP Site 487 sediments have lower ϵ_{Hf} and ϵ_{Nd} values than the CA lavas. Therefore, the elevated Th/Nd ratios in CMVB CA lavas cannot be simply attributed to the addition of sediment melt, unlike, for example, the Lesser Antilles (Plank, 2005). Instead, contributions from a composite slab melt that is composed of ~80% oceanic crust melt and ~20% sediment melt would generate the observed Th/Nd and Nd–Hf isotope signatures of the CMVB

CA lavas (Fig. 4). This scenario is supported by other chemical evidence (shown below), and we demonstrate its validity numerically in Section 5.3.

Considering the depth of the subducting slab under the CMVB, slab melting should occur in the presence of garnet and/or amphibole (Manea et al., 2004). Because HREE strongly partitions into garnet, and to a lesser extent into amphibole (e.g. Fulmer et al., 2010 and refs. therein), partial melting of the slab should generate melts with HREE depletions. Fig. 5 shows that for CMVB CA lavas, low Lu/Hf ratios, consistent with a stronger slab melt signature, are associated with higher ϵ_{Hf} values. This low Lu/Hf signature is also shown by the steep HREE patterns of the CA lavas (Fig. A1). Hf–Nd isotope ratios of DSDP Site 487 sediment are too low to be the low Lu/Hf, high Th/Nd slab endmember, while the ϵ_{Hf} values of EPR MORB are too high (Fig. 5). The slab melt component in the CMVB thus appears to be a composite melt with contributions from both the subducted basalt and ocean sediments.

The question arises regarding whether it is possible to distinguish garnet from amphibole as the residual phase causing the HREE depletion. This question is important because the lower crust could be rich in cumulate amphiboles (Davidson et al., 2007), and although unlikely, they may also have high ϵ_{Hf} and ϵ_{Nd} values, which could generate the observed correlation of higher ϵ_{Hf} with lower Lu/Hf. This question can be addressed using Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios. CMVB CA lavas display large variations in these ratios, and although the correlations are not strong, the lavas with high ϵ_{Nd} and ϵ_{Hf} values tend to have low Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios (Fig. 6). In order to generate the observed relationships, the high ϵ_{Hf} melt source requires $D_{\text{Nb/Ta}} > 1$ and $D_{\text{Zr/Hf}} > 1$. Amphiboles have $D_{\text{Zr/Hf}} \approx 0.6$ (Tiepolo et al., 2007), pyrope-rich garnet typically found in the lower crust also has $D_{\text{Nb/Ta}}$ and $D_{\text{Zr/Hf}} < 1$ (van Westrenen et al., 1999). Therefore, magma interaction with amphibole and lower-crustal garnet would generate melts with elevated Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios, contrary to our observations. Thus, the most suitable protolith for the melt endmember with high ϵ_{Hf} , low Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios appears to be the eclogitic oceanic crust because only grossular-rich garnets have both $D_{\text{Zr/Hf}}$ and $D_{\text{Nb/Ta}} > 1$ (van Westrenen et al., 1999; Klemme et al., 2002). Rutile, if present in the subducting slab, is likely to dominate the HFSE budget. Experimental studies show that rutile $D_{\text{Nb/Ta}}$ depends strongly on melting temperature and/or melt composition (e.g., Linnen and Keppler, 1997). Rutile $D_{\text{Nb/Ta}}$ should be > 1 for slab temperatures below 1000 °C with the melt H_2O content below

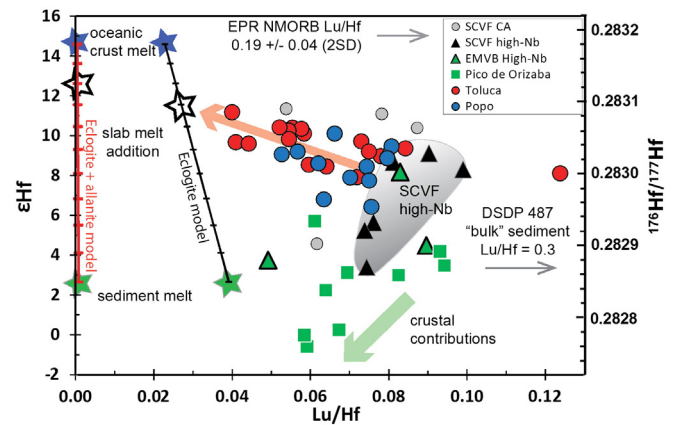


Fig. 5. Lu/Hf vs. ϵ_{Hf} of MVB lavas, and the modeled composite slab melts (hollow stars). Model parameters are outlined in Fig. 4. The partition coefficients for the HFSE (Nb, Ta, Zr and Hf) are from Skora and Blundy (2010) in both models, as mobility of these elements are largely controlled by rutile in the slab residue. EPR NMORB are samples with $\text{K}_2\text{O}/\text{TiO}_2 < 0.15$ from the compilation of Class and Lehnert (2011). The correlation between Lu/Hf and ϵ_{Hf} for the Toluca lavas is statistically significant with $r = -0.64$ ($n = 17$), which corresponds to a p-value (probability) < 0.01 , or less than a 1% chance that the observed linear correlation could occur at random (Cohen et al., 2003; Soper, 2013). The r-value for CA lavas from both Toluca and Popo is -0.48 ($n = 28$), which also corresponds to a p-value < 0.01 .

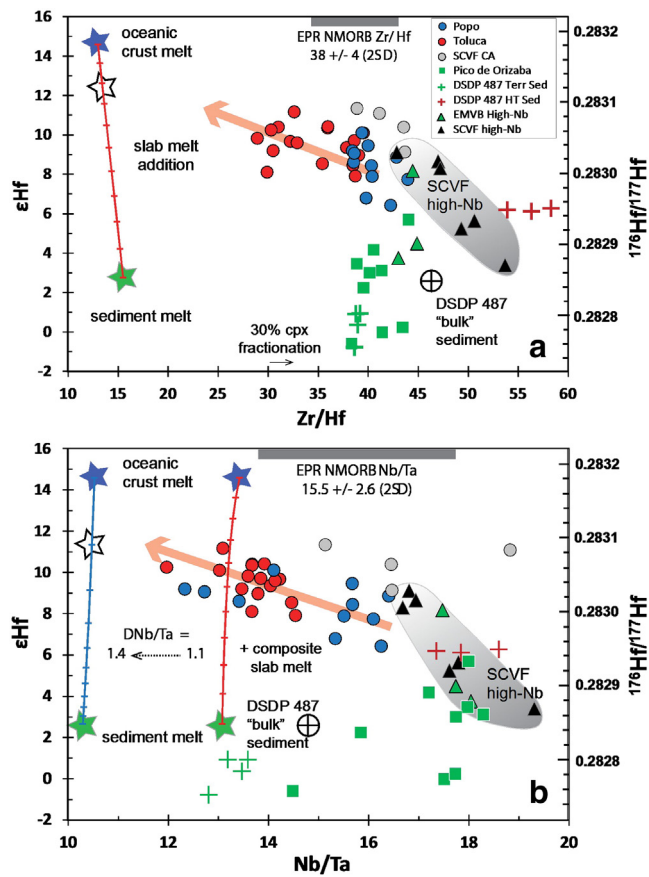


Fig. 6. a) Zr/Hf and b) Nb/Ta vs. ϵ Hf for MVB lavas and the modeled composite slab melt (hollow stars). The composite slab melt mixing line in red is calculated using $D_{\text{Nb}/\text{Ta}} = 1.1$ (Skora and Blundy, 2010), which does not explain the data. However, a higher $D_{\text{Nb}/\text{Ta}}$ would work (for example $D_{\text{Nb}/\text{Ta}} = 1.4$, shown as the blue line). Other model parameters are outlined in Fig. 4.

10 wt.% (Xiong et al., 2011). Slab melting under the CMVB likely occurred under these conditions (Manea et al., 2004). Rutile-bearing eclogite melting experiments at slab P–T conditions also show bulk $D_{\text{Nb}/\text{Ta}} > 1$ (e.g., Skora and Blundy, 2010). Thus, addition of low degree melts of garnet-bearing eclogitic oceanic crust can account for the higher ϵ Hf coupled with the lower Nb/Ta, Zr/Hf and Lu/Hf ratios in CMVB CA lavas, with or without residual rutile.

In summary, the ϵ Hf values of EPR MORB are too high to be the only low Lu/Hf–high Th/Nd slab endmember in the CMVB CA lavas (Fig. 5). At the same time, Hf–Nd isotope ratios of DSDP Site 487 sediment are too low to be the endmember. Instead, the low Lu/Hf, Nb/Ta, Zr/Hf and high Th/Nd slab melt component in the CMVB appears to be a composite melt with contributions from the subducted eclogitic oceanic crust and sediments.

EMVB Orizaba lavas, in contrast to the CMVB Toluca, Popo, and SCVF CA lavas, show lower ϵ Hf associated with lower Lu/Hf ratios (Fig. 5), which is consistent with assimilation of old lower continental crust containing residual garnet or amphibole. This observation is consistent with Pb isotopic trends from SCVF high-Nb lavas towards Proterozoic age lower crustal granulites (Fig. A5; Lawlor et al., 1999; LaGatta, 2003). However, other observations are not easily explained by lower crustal assimilation. For example, increases in Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios of the magmas would be expected, as both $D_{\text{Zr}/\text{Hf}}$ and $D_{\text{Nb}/\text{Ta}}$ would be < 1 in a lower crust mineral assemblage that is rich in amphibole and might contain pyrope-rich garnet (van Westrenen et al., 1999; Tiepolo et al., 2007). However, most Orizaba lavas show nearly constant Zr/Hf ratios (Fig. 6). Meanwhile, Nb/Ta ratios of most Orizaba lavas are relatively high and show small variations (Fig. 6), except two samples with low

Nb/Ta ratios and ϵ Hf values, compatible with some contributions from the subducted sediments. Thus, the HFSE trends in Orizaba lavas are not easily explained by a single process alone, that is, neither lower crustal assimilation (suggested by LaGatta, 2003) nor contributions from subducted sediment (suggested by Schaaf and Carrasco-Núñez, 2010). While both studies would agree that Orizaba lavas contain larger crustal contributions than the CMVB lavas, both crustal assimilation and subduction processes may be contributors.

Finally, the trends of all of the MVB lava series, the CMVB Toluca, Popo and SCVF lavas, as well as the EMVB Orizaba lavas, appear to converge toward a common composition that is similar to the SCVF high-Nb lavas (Figs. 4–6). This common component has higher Lu/Hf than most of the CA lavas and higher ϵ Hf– ϵ Nd values than the crustally contaminated Orizaba lavas, but lower ϵ Hf– ϵ Nd values than MORB and the CMVB CA lavas. In agreement with conclusions from previous MVB studies (e.g. Luhr, 1997; Wallace and Carmichael, 1999; Gómez-Tuena et al., 2003; Siebe et al., 2004; Schaaf et al., 2005; Blatter et al., 2007), we suggest that Toluca, Popo, Orizaba, and the SCVF lavas share a common, heterogeneous and long-term incompatible element enriched mantle source. We adopt the model proposed by Luhr (1997) for the western MVB, and extended to the CMVB by Wallace and Carmichael (1999), whereby the high-Nb basalts are the first batch of partial melts derived from trench-ward advecting back-arc mantle, and the CA lavas are partial melts derived from the residual mantle after removal of the high-Nb lavas, triggered by further addition of slab derived components.

5.3. Characterizing the slab melt component

The discussion above makes the case for contributions from a composite slab (basaltic oceanic crust and sediment) melt to CMVB CA lavas. Here we model the CA lavas by adding slab melts to the CMVB mantle wedge and then partially melt the metasomatized mantle wedge. We constructed a forward model with two main variables: (1) the amount of slab melt addition; (2) the proportion of partial melt from sediment vs. basaltic oceanic crust. We solved for these variables to generate the ϵ Hf values and Hf contents of CMVB CA lavas (Table EA3).

As we showed above, the high-Nb lavas received less slab contributions than the CA lavas, and they best represent partial melts from a common, long-term incompatible element enriched mantle source, which is most reasonably identified as the upper mantle wedge. The high-Nb lavas have 4–5 times higher Nb and Ta contents than the CA lavas and overall higher REE concentrations, similar to lavas from the back-arc Mexican Basin and Range province (Luhr et al., 2006). This is consistent with the scenario whereby the high-Nb lavas are the first batch of partial melts derived from trench-ward advecting back-arc mantle, and the CA lavas are partial melts derived from the residual mantle after removal of the high-Nb lavas (Luhr, 1997; Wallace and Carmichael, 1999). Based on this model, the mantle wedge under the CMVB could be estimated as the residual mantle (C_s) after extraction of the high-Nb lavas (C_i) using the equation $C_s = C_i \times D$. We used a primitive SCVF high-Nb lava sample, ASC45B, after correction for olivine fractionation, to represent C_i , and the bulk D of spinel lherzolite from Salters and Stracke (2004). The composition of the CMVB mantle wedge can be solved as C_s . The calculated “residual mantle” trace element composition is similar to published “depleted MORB mantle” compositions of Salters and Stracke (2004) and Workman and Hart (2005) (Table EA3, Fig. A7a).

The “bulk” subducting sediment is approximated as the weighted average sediment composition from DSDP Site 487 (LaGatta, 2003). Shallow piston core sediments from the young Cocos plate further to the south and close to the EPR also show typical hydrothermal sediment signatures and overlap with DSDP Site 487 hydrothermal sediments in Nd–Hf isotope space (Figs. 3, A6; Table EA5). Even though more analyses of sediments along the trench are necessary to fully evaluate the subducted sediment component at the CMVB, given the available

evidence, it is reasonable to assume that DSDP Site 487 sediments are representative of the subducting sediments beneath the CMVB. However, the basalts sampled from DSDP Site 487 are restricted to a few altered samples that show unusually depleted incompatible element abundances relative to NMORB (Verma, 2000 and Fig. A1), which is not representative of the oceanic crust. Therefore, we use average “EPR NMORB” from PetDB (Class and Lehnert, 2011) to represent the subducted oceanic crust.

Finding a set of realistic and internally consistent D-values to model the slab melt is a challenge. For example, experiments with eclogite-only protoliths generate $D_{La} \approx 0.02$ (Klemme et al., 2002), which results in grossly over-estimated REE contents (*cf.* model 2, Table EA3). This likely indicates retention of REE by residual allanite and/or monazite in the slab in nature (Klimm et al., 2008). D_{La} from experimental studies with REE doped bulk slab protoliths are much higher but highly variable, from 0.09 to 25.1 (3–4 GPa, 800–900 °C) (Table EA3; Kessel et al., 2005; Klimm et al., 2008; Hermann and Rubatto, 2009). Some of these mobility data are difficult to reconcile with typical arc lava compositions, where LREE are generally enriched. These discrepancies may reflect formation of variable amounts of allanite/monazite in the experiments, which depends on the REE contents of the starting compositions (Klimm et al., 2008). Similar problems exist for D_{HfSE} due to residual rutile and zircon in the experiments. These results also suggest that partition coefficients for these elements may differ greatly between arcs, depending on the composition and metamorphic history of the subducted package under the arc front. We found that D-values from Skora and Blundy (2010) at 900 °C and 3 GPa are more realistic for modeling the slab component with $D_{Nb} = 3.12$, $D_{Ta} = 2.8$, $D_{La} = 0.63$ and $D_{Hf} = 0.5$ (Table EA3).

Our model solves for Hf concentrations as Hf is relatively unaffected by these accessory minerals. Based on the Hf content and ϵ_{Hf} value of the lava sample with the strongest slab melt signature (AN182 from Toluca), ~9 wt.% addition of slab melt, composed of oceanic crust melt ($F = 1\%$, F represents degrees of melting) and sediment melt ($F = 5\%$) in a proportion of ~4:1, to the modeled CMVB mantle wedge (plotted in Fig. A7a) could reproduce the key geochemical characteristics observed in CMVB CA lavas, including La and Lu contents; ϵ_{Nd} value; lower Nb/Ta, Zr/Hf, Lu/Hf and higher Th/Nd ratios than the high-Nb lavas (Table EA3; Figs. 7b, A7b). The elemental concentrations are more difficult to constrain. However, our results are comparable with typical CMVB CA lavas (Fig. A7b). Based on the model, ~54% of Hf and ~38% of Nd in CMVB CA lavas originate from subducted basalt, and only ~12% of Hf originates from subducted sediment (~5% from the hydrothermal sediment) compared with ~36% of Nd from subducted sediment (Table EA4).

5.4. Summary of the primary observations and implications from Mexico

Despite eruption through thick continental crust, shallow level crustal assimilation does not substantially affect the Nd–Hf isotope and trace element compositions of Quaternary CMVB CA lavas. The CA lavas show typical arc trace element signatures while the high-Nb lavas show oceanic basalt-like signatures for all but a few incompatible elements. The CA lavas show elevated Th/Nd ratios compared to the high-Nb lavas, which are coupled with high Hf–Nd isotope ratios (Fig. 4). We attribute this to contributions of a composite slab melt with ~20% sediment melt and ~80% oceanic crust melt. Our hypothesis is supported by low Lu/Hf ratios of the CA lavas that are coupled with high ϵ_{Hf} (and ϵ_{Nd}), in contrast to trends delineated by the high-Nb lavas and crustally contaminated EMVB lavas (Fig. 5). The composite slab melt component also has low Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios, consistent with generation by melts equilibrated with grossular-rich garnets found in subducted Ca-rich eclogitic oceanic crust (Fig. 6). Finally, the modeling shows that although hydrothermal sediment melt contributes to the composite slab melt and is added to the mantle wedge source of CMVB lavas, it does not cause a strong offset from the mantle–crust

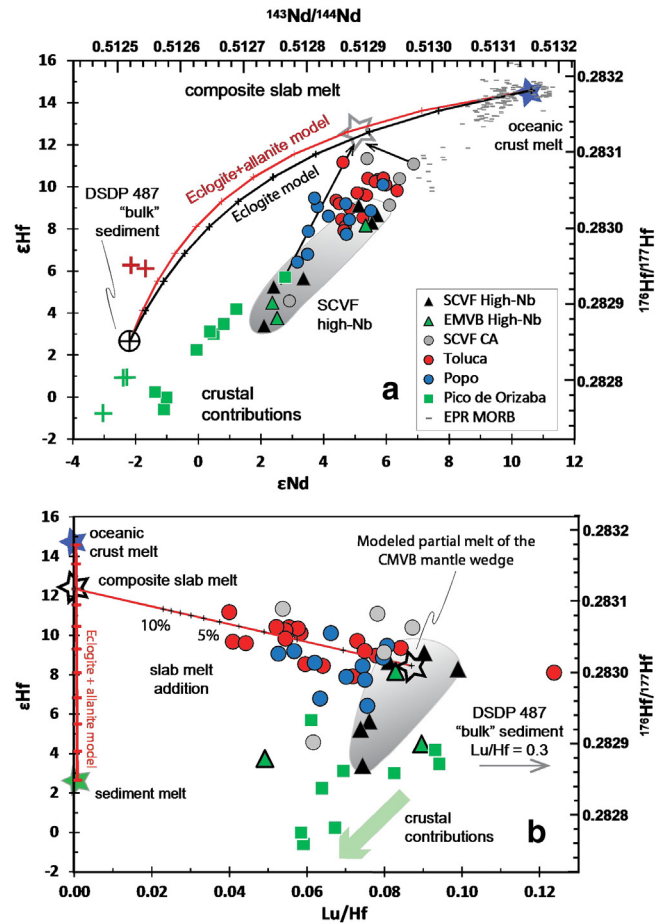


Fig. 7. a) ϵ_{Nd} vs. ϵ_{Hf} of MVB lavas and the modeled composite slab melt (hollow stars). Model parameters are outlined in Fig. 4. CA lava compositions are consistent with addition of the slab melts to the modeled CMVB residual mantle. b) Lu/Hf ratios vs. Hf isotopes of studied lavas compared to modeled 10% partial melt of the modeled slab melt metasomatized CMVB mantle wedge (using bulk 2 GPa mantle D-values from Salters and Stracke, 2004) after adding 1% to 10% of composition slab melt (model 1, Table EA3). Tick marks correspond to 1% increments of slab melt addition.

array in Hf–Nd isotope space toward the “seawater array” (Fig. 3). Rather a consequence of the domination of the composite slab melt by basaltic oceanic crust is that the CMVB lavas show only small deviations from the Hf–Nd “mantle crust array” (Fig. 7), even though some of the Hf and Nd are contributed by hydrothermal sediments that plot on the “seawater array”.

5.5. Subducted slab contributions in global arcs

Defant and Drummond (1990) documented the occurrence of “adakites”, with geochemical signatures that could be generated by partial melting of the subducted oceanic crust. These include high MgO at high SiO_2 , high Sr, and depletions in HREE due to presence of residual garnet. They attributed these signatures to partial melting of young (<25 Ma), hot subducting oceanic plates. More recent experimental studies have shown that silica-rich eclogitic slab melts have low Mg#, and interaction between slab melts and the mantle wedge is critical in generating arc magmas with elevated Mg# and SiO_2 contents (*e.g.* Sen and Dunn, 1994; Rapp et al., 1999). Our observation, that CMVB CA lavas have high SiO_2 contents at given Mg# (Fig. 2), compared to the high-Nb lavas (and MORB), is consistent with partial melting of a mantle wedge that has received contributions of slab derived silica-rich liquids.

Our data, including the covariations between Hf–Nd isotope ratios and Lu/Hf, Th/Nd, Zr/Hf, Nb/Ta ratios (Figs. 4–6), show strong indications of contributions of a composite slab (basaltic oceanic crust and

sediment) melt to the frontal arc lavas in the CMVB. Below we compare our observations with other arcs to determine if there are common relationships with our observations in Mexico that indicate slab melt signatures associated with hot slab conditions.

Currently there are limited Hf isotope data on arcs, and many published datasets with Hf or Nd isotope data do not include Lu, Zr, Ta and Hf contents, all of which pose a challenge for putting together a global compilation. Therefore, we focused on the Aleutian arc (where a comprehensive geochemical dataset is available from Kelemen et al., 2003), plus a few other representative arc segments using precompiled datasets from the GEOROC database (<http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de>; Sarbas, 2008). Despite the limited dataset, we draw some first order observations regarding slab melts in global arcs.

5.5.1. Arcs showing subducted basalt signatures

The Aleutian arc lava data compilation (Kelemen et al., 2003) allows us to make a detailed comparison between Aleutian and CMVB lavas. Using the CMVB Mg#–SiO₂ division line between the CA and high-Nb lavas (Fig. 2), we divided Aleutian lavas into high- and low-SiO₂ groups. Similar to CMVB high-SiO₂ CA lavas, the Aleutians high-SiO₂ lavas consistently show stronger slab melt signatures, with lower Lu/Hf and higher ϵ Nd than the low-SiO₂ lavas (Fig. 8a). This compositional dichotomy between high- and low-SiO₂ groups exist in lavas with high, medium, and low Mg#, indicating these characteristics are derived from the

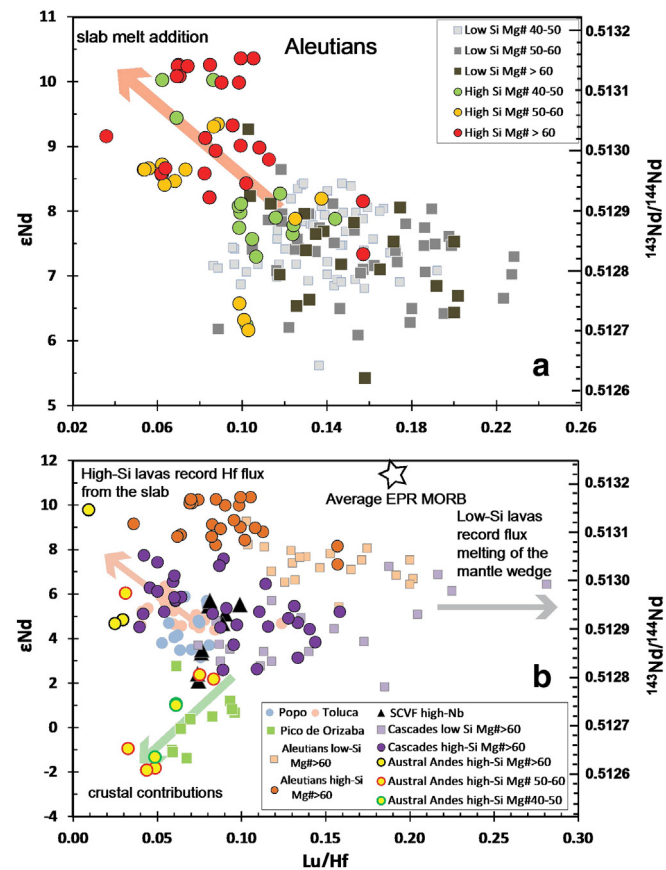


Fig. 8. a) Lu/Hf vs. ϵ Nd of Aleutian arc lavas divided into high-SiO₂ and low-SiO₂ groups based on the division line in Fig. 2. These compositional groups are further divided based on whole rock Mg#'s to show that the differences between the two groups are not simply due to shallow level crustal assimilation. The high-SiO₂ group show lower Lu/Hf ratios and higher ϵ Nd than the low-SiO₂ group. b) Lu/Hf vs. ϵ Nd of global arc lavas associated with hot slabs. High-SiO₂ lavas from hot slab arcs generally have lower Lu/Hf ratios and higher ϵ Nd than low-SiO₂ lavas, which is consistent with addition of Hf and Nd to the arc mantle through silica-rich liquids from the subducting slabs, with significant contributions from the basaltic crust. Cascades arc data are from GEOROC precompiled datasets (Sarbas, 2008); Austral Andes data from Futa and Stern (1988) and Stern and Kilian (1996); Aleutian data are from Kelemen et al. (2003).

mantle rather than through crustal assimilation (Fig. 8a). Furthermore, ~80% of the high-SiO₂ lavas come from western Aleutians (west of 174°W), where the subduction is highly oblique and the orthogonal subduction rate is slow. Thus, the low Lu/Hf ratios of the high-SiO₂ lavas from western Aleutians likely reflect contributions of slab-derived Hf and Nd, carried by silica-rich partial melts.

Arc lavas that show strong chemical signatures indicating melting of the subducted basaltic oceanic crust, that is, with high ϵ Hf and ϵ Nd coupled with low Lu/Hf ratios like CMVB CA lavas, appear to be associated exclusively with hot slab conditions, caused by either a young age of the subducted crust or the regional tectonics, such as slow subduction (Fig. 8b). These include arcs where young hot slabs are being subducted, such as the CMVB, the Austral Andes (a 12–24 Ma oceanic plate subducting at ~2 cm/year, Stern and Kilian, 1996) and the Cascades (a 2–28 Ma oceanic plate subducting at <2 cm/year, Syracuse et al., 2010); and arcs characterized by slow subduction, such as the western Aleutians (<2 cm/year orthogonal subduction rate, Lee and King, 2010).

5.5.2. Arcs showing subducted sediment melt signatures

Some arcs erupt lavas whose slab melt signatures mainly reflect melting of subducted sediments; these arcs also appear to be associated with hot slab conditions. Their characteristics include low ϵ Hf and ϵ Nd correlating with elevated Th/Yb and low Lu/Hf ratios (Fig. 9, and Woodhead et al., 2001; Tatsumi and Hanyu, 2003; Marini et al., 2005;

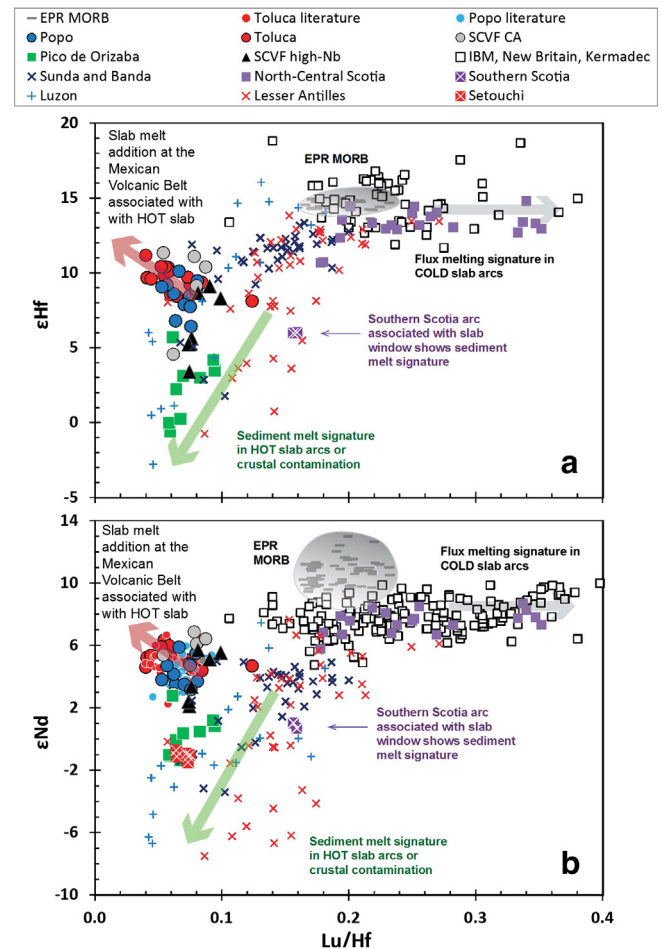


Fig. 9. Lu/Hf vs. a) ϵ Hf and b) ϵ Nd for global arcs. Data sources are: Sunda and Kermadec – Woodhead et al. (2001); Lesser Antilles – Woodhead et al. (2001), Labanieh et al. (2012); Setouchi – Tatsumi and Hanyu (2003); North and Central Scotia (N–C Scotia) and Southern Scotia (S. Scotia) – Barry et al. (2006); Luzon – Marini et al. (2005); Izu–Bonin–Marianas (IBM) data – arc lavas with Mg# = 40–80 are from the GEOROC database (Sarbas, 2008), as well as Woodhead et al. (2001) and Elliott et al. (1997). Tonga data include lavas from frontal arc volcanoes south of 16°S from GEOROC (Sarbas, 2008).

Barry et al., 2006). They also show elevated SiO₂ at high Mg#, akin to high-Mg# andesites (Kelemen et al., 2003). Some of these arcs are clearly associated with young hot subducting slabs, for example, Setouchi which is associated with subduction of ~15 Ma oceanic crust of the Shikoku basin (Tatsumi and Hanyu, 2003 and refs. therein), Luzon which is associated with subduction of ~16–30 Ma South China Sea oceanic crust (Queano et al., 2007 and refs. therein), and a subset of arc lavas from the Austral Andes (Futa and Stern, 1988; Stern and Kilian, 1996). Other arcs in this group that are associated with older subducting slabs may also have elevated slab temperatures due to slow subduction, such as the Lesser Antilles, where ~85 Ma oceanic crust subducts at <1.8 cm/year (Syracuse et al., 2010). Or sediment melting may be associated with slab tearing, which allows hot asthenospheric mantle to upwell through the slab window and heat up the surrounding slab, as in the case of Luzon (Yang et al., 1996), Sunda (Whittaker et al., 2007) and southern Scotia (Barry et al., 2006).

5.5.3. Arcs showing little or no slab melt signatures

Arc lavas that are associated with old and cold subducted oceanic crust appear to erupt lavas with chemical characteristics that mainly reflecting fluid fluxed melting of the mantle wedge, with limited contributions from silicate slab melts. Such characteristics include strong signatures of aqueous fluid mobile elements (e.g., high Ba/La and Sr/Nd ratios, Woodhead et al., 2001), along with high εHf, εNd and high Lu/Hf ratios (Fig. 9). These signatures reflect limited transfer of the HFSE and HREE from the subducting slab to the mantle wedge, and they lack a strong residual garnet signature. These arcs include western Pacific arcs such as the Izu–Bonin–Marianas (with 135–150 Ma old oceanic crust subducting at 1.3–4 cm/year), Tonga–Kermadec (with > 100 Ma old oceanic crust subducting at 5–13 cm/year), as well as the northern and central Scotia arc (with ~59 Ma old oceanic crust subducting at ~5 cm/year) in the Atlantic. The ages and descent rates of the oceanic plates are from Syracuse et al. (2010). Tonga–Kermadec arc is generally considered a cold slab arc (e.g., Plank et al., 2009; Cooper et al., 2012). However, Cooper et al. (2012) consider the Marianas as a hot slab arc, despite the old (~150 Ma) oceanic crust. Signatures of sediment melt and slab derived Hf are observed in some Marianas lavas (Elliott et al., 1997; Tollstrup et al., 2010). However, Marianas arc lavas generally show less slab melt contributions than arcs associated with hotter slab conditions.

5.5.4. Global arcs summary

In summary, our global arc compilation suggests that arc chemical signatures indicating melting of subducted oceanic crust or melting of subducted sediment are both associated with hot conditions in the subducted slab. These conditions occur where young oceanic crust is subducted, where older crust is heated during slow subduction, and when the slab is heated by upwelling hot asthenospheric mantle. While the processes that control the proportion of sediment melt vs. eclogitic basaltic oceanic crust melt remain unclear, high slab temperatures appear to be required for both scenarios. Other factors that determine whether sediment melt or oceanic crust melt contributions dominate at a given hot slab arc segment may be sediment composition and availability, and slab geometry.

6. Conclusions

Despite erupting through the thick, 45–50 km overlying continental crust, CMVB lavas largely preserve their mantle-derived Nd–Hf isotope and trace element geochemical signatures. Calc-alkaline lavas from the frontal arc show higher Hf isotope ratios correlating with higher Th/Nd ratios and lower Lu/Hf ratios, which fingerprint contributions of a silicate melt derived from the subducting eclogitic oceanic crust and sediments to the arc mantle wedge. This slab melt component also appears to have low Nb/Ta and Zr/Hf ratios, which indicates partial melting of

the garnet-bearing eclogitic slab and precludes shallow level crustal assimilation.

Modeling results suggest that partial melting of the CMVB mantle wedge, metasomatized by less than 10% slab derived melt, can explain observed lava Hf–Nd isotope compositions, and the contents and ratios of such trace elements as the HFSE, Th, and the REE, which are not easily mobilized by aqueous fluids and thus are transported by high temperature silicate melts or silica-rich fluids. In the CMVB the composite subducted slab melt is dominated by partial melts from the eclogitic subducted oceanic crust (~80%) relative to subducted sediment (~20%). A consequence of the domination of the composite melt by basaltic oceanic crust is that the CMVB lavas show only small deviations from the Hf–Nd “mantle crust array”, even though some of the Hf and Nd are contributed by hydrothermal sediments that plot on the “seawater array” at higher εHf for a given εNd.

An evaluation of global arc lavas shows that the slab silicate melt signatures are absent in western Pacific arcs associated with colder slabs, such as Izu–Bonin–Marianas, Tonga–Kermadec, as well as the northern and central Scotia arc in the Atlantic. Slab melt signatures are mostly found in arcs with hotter slabs, associated with the subduction of young (<30 Ma) oceanic crust, slow subduction, or slab tearing. In some of these arc segments, sediment melt signatures dominate lava chemistry, where low εHf and εNd correlate with low Lu/Hf and elevated Th/Yb ratios (e.g., Luzon in the Philippines, Setouchi in southern Japan, the Lesser Antilles, the southern Scotia arc). Slab melts dominated by subducted basaltic oceanic crust are only found in a few arc segments associated with hot slab conditions (e.g., CMVB, Cascades, western Aleutians, and the Austral Andes).

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.chemgeo.2014.04.002>.

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