

## GEOCHEMISTRY

## Serpentine-derived slab fluids control the oxidation state of the subarc mantle

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Recent geochemical evidence confirms the oxidized nature of arc magmas, but the underlying processes that regulate the redox state of the subarc mantle remain yet to be determined. We established a link between deep subduction-related fluids derived from dehydration of serpentinite ± altered oceanic crust (AOC) using B isotopes and B/Nb as fluid proxies, and the oxidized nature of arc magmas as indicated by Cu enrichment during magma evolution and V/Yb. Our results suggest that arc magmas derived from source regions influenced by a greater serpentinite (±AOC) fluid component record higher oxygen fugacity. The incorporation of this component into the subarc mantle is controlled by the subduction system's thermodynamic conditions and geometry. Our results suggest that the redox state of the subarc mantle is not homogeneous globally: Primitive arc magmas associated with flat, warm subduction are less oxidized overall than those generated in steep, cold subduction zones.

## INTRODUCTION

The fugacity of oxygen ( $f_{O_2}$ ) in Earth's mantle fundamentally influences the generation and evolution of basaltic magmas (1). The overall higher  $f_{O_2}$  recorded by arc magmas as compared to mid-ocean ridge basalts (MORB) has been widely attributed to the influence of oxidized slab materials on the magma sources (2, 3), as evidenced by the positive correlations of  $f_{O_2}$  with H<sub>2</sub>O and fluid mobile element concentrations in arc and back-arc lavas (4, 5). The redox budget of the subarc mantle also increases with subduction zone age and convergence rate (6, 7). While these correlations are clear, a direct link between arc magma  $f_{O_2}$  and the input of subducted oxidizing material is still lacking.

Altered oceanic crust (AOC) and sediments have long been considered as major subduction components involved in arc magma generation (8, 9). However, the dehydration of subducted serpentinite has been increasingly recognized as an important source of volatiles (e.g., water, sulfur, and halogens) in the subarc mantle (10–12). Like AOC (7, 13), breakdown of oxidized serpentinites can produce highly oxidizing fluids (14–18), which may have an important influence on the  $f_{O_2}$  of arc magmas. Boron (B) isotopes ( $\delta^{11}B = [(^{11}B/^{10}B)_{\text{sample}} / (^{11}B/^{10}B)_{\text{SRM951}} - 1] * 1000$ ) are a powerful tool for tracing the presence of serpentinite-derived fluids, as <sup>11</sup>B is depleted in the upper mantle [ $B < 0.1$  parts per million (ppm);  $\delta^{11}B = -10$  to  $-7\%$ ] but is extremely enriched in serpentinite (up to 100 ppm B;  $\delta^{11}B$  up to  $+40\%$ ) (19). B/Nb is a second proxy for the subducted serpentinite, as this ratio is very high in serpentinite (up to  $10^4$ ) (20) and not strongly fractionated by magma differentiation processes (21). The positive correlation between  $\delta^{11}B$  values and B/Nb for arc lavas is interpreted as reflecting the contributions of serpentinite fluid to the subarc mantle wedge (22, 23).

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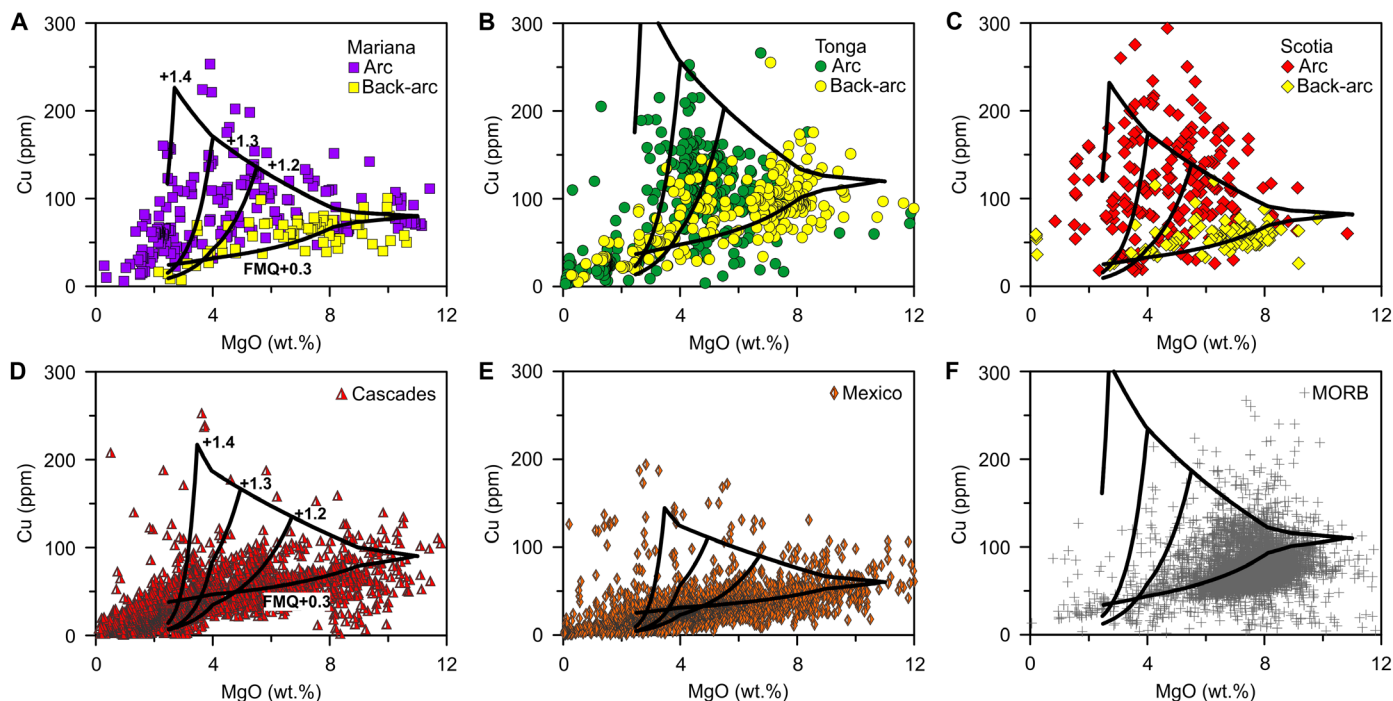
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To connect fluids derived from subducted serpentinite with the redox state of arc magmas, we investigated the relationships among  $\delta^{11}B$  values and B/Nb with proxies for arc magma  $f_{O_2}$  on a global scale. The abundance of Cu in arc magmas is controlled by saturation with sulfide, in which Cu is highly compatible (24). While sulfide saturation in silicate melt is influenced by pressure, temperature, melt composition, and H<sub>2</sub>O concentration,  $f_{O_2}$  is one of the most influential parameters (25–28). Sulfide (S<sup>2-</sup>) is the dominant sulfur oxidation state at relatively low  $f_{O_2}$  (e.g., < FMQ, fayalite-magnetite-quartz buffer), whereas at higher  $f_{O_2}$ , the stable oxidation state of sulfur is S<sup>6+</sup> (as sulfate). S<sup>6+</sup> has up to 10 times greater solubility in magma than S<sup>2-</sup> and the transition between the two sulfur species occurs within a narrow range of  $f_{O_2}$  (e.g., FMQ to FMQ+2) (25, 26). As a result, Cu shows contrasting behavior during magma evolution at different redox conditions: Cu enrichment due to suppression of sulfide saturation at high  $f_{O_2}$ ; Cu depletion due to sulfide segregation at low  $f_{O_2}$  (Fig. 1) (24). Thus, Cu enrichments in the liquid lines of descent of arc magmas can be interpreted as reflecting high  $f_{O_2}$  if the influences of other parameters can be excluded. In addition to Cu, we adopted V/Yb as a second proxy for  $f_{O_2}$ . V is redox-sensitive whereas Yb is not, so that V/Yb fractionation varies as a function of oxygen fugacity during peridotite partial melting. That V and Yb are similarly incompatible during crystal fractionation means that this signal is not perturbed by shallow-level processes (29, 30). V/Yb is also not sensitive to degree of mantle depletion (fig. S1).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Cu behavior in arc magmas controlled by  $f_{O_2}$ 

The variation of Cu concentration during magmatic evolution of arc and back-arc lavas from three intraoceanic subduction zones (Mariana, Scotia, and Tonga) is shown in Fig. 1. The lavas from the back-arc basins generally have lower Cu concentrations than those in the corresponding arcs; there is a large data overlap between Tonga Arc and Lau Basin, partially due to the high Cu concentrations of primary Lau Basin magmas and/or the existence of immature spreading centers in the back-arc region. The trend of continuously decreasing Cu concentration with decreasing MgO concentration in the back-arc basins, indicative of early sulfide saturation, is



**Fig. 1. Plots of Cu versus MgO for volcanic rocks from arcs and mid-ocean ridges.** (A to C) Intraoceanic arcs, (D and E) Continental arcs, and (F) Mid-ocean ridges. Arc and back-arc data were plotted separately for the intraoceanic subduction zones. The black curves describe the behavior of Cu during magmatic differentiation at FMQ+0.3, +1.2, +1.3, and +1.4 following the models of (24). Tholeiitic differentiation model ( $P=0.2$  GPa) was used for intraoceanic arc lavas and MORB, and the Calc-alkaline differentiation model ( $P=0.8$  GPa) was used for continental arc lavas. The initial concentrations of S in the melt were set to be 1500 ppm.

markedly different from the trends observed in their arc counterparts, which show the highest concentration of Cu at 4 to 6 weight % (wt %) MgO (Fig. 1) but trends similar to those observed in thick continental arcs (crustal thickness > 30 km) (Fig. 1, D and E) and mid-ocean ridges (Fig. 1F).

Results from a previous study suggest that these distinct Cu evolution trends are controlled by arc crustal thickness. Thicker crust favors early magnetite crystallization, which induces sulfide saturation, whereas thinner crust retards magnetite crystallization, as indicated by the covariance of Cu and Fe concentrations for global arc lavas (31). Sulfide saturation in magma is also facilitated by high pressure (27). However, these models cannot explain the Cu depletion in lavas from back-arc basins and mid-ocean ridges, which are characterized by very thin crust. In addition, the concentrations of Cu and  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_{3T}$  (total Fe as  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) of the back-arc lavas do not follow a similar evolution trend (fig. S2). Other factors affecting sulfide saturation in magmas include sulfur concentration, temperature, and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  concentration (26, 28). Magmas generated beneath mid-ocean ridges (perhaps including some back-arc basins) are generally characterized by lower sulfur concentrations (32) and higher temperatures (33) than arc magmas, which do not favor the observed early sulfide saturation (Fig. 1). Furthermore, the primary magmas from intraoceanic arcs and thick continental arcs share similar  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  concentrations (34). Therefore, the parameters mentioned above cannot explain the systematic difference in the behaviors of sulfide saturation among intraoceanic arcs, thick continental arcs, back-arc basins, and mid-ocean ridges. We therefore attribute the saturation of sulfide in magmas to relatively reducing conditions, similar to MORB. The back-arc magmas are expected to have lower

$f_{\text{O}_2}$  with increasing distance from the trench and, thus, weaker influence from subducted oxidized components as compared with arc magmas (5). For example, the lavas from the Mariana Trough record lower  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  (FMQ+0.1 to FMQ+0.5) than those from the Mariana Arc (FMQ+1.0 to FMQ+1.6) (4). Using the method of (24), we modeled the behavior of Cu during magma differentiation at varying redox conditions. The results show that the magmas from back-arc basins, thick continental arcs, and mid-ocean ridges are mostly consistent with lower  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  ( $\sim$ FMQ+0.3), while the magmas from intraoceanic arcs record higher  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  (FMQ+1.2 to FMQ+1.4) (Fig. 1). This range of redox conditions overlaps with the  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  associated with  $\text{S}^{2-}$ - $\text{S}^{6+}$  transition (FMQ to FMQ+2) (25), meaning that the sulfur solubility in arc magmas is largely influenced by  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ . The above indicates that high  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  is a key factor leading to the Cu enrichment during arc magma evolution.

### Cu enrichment during arc magma evolution promoted by $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich slab fluids

We found that the lavas from intraoceanic arcs that show Cu enrichment during magma evolution are characterized by heavy B isotopes (fig. S3). The heavy B isotopes in the lavas from the Mariana Arc ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{aver.}} \approx +4.5\text{‰}$ ), Tonga Arc ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{aver.}} \approx +8.3\text{‰}$ ), and South Sandwich Arc ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{aver.}} \approx +15.0\text{‰}$ ) cannot be explained by the contribution of fluids from the subducted sediments ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  mostly negative) (35). AOC typically has low to moderate  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values (mostly 0 to +5‰); the AOC metamorphosed at high temperatures can be characterized by heavy B isotopes ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  up to > +10‰) (19, 36). Despite the high  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values, subducting AOC preferentially loses  $^{11}\text{B}$  during dehydration and, thereby, will probably have low

$\delta^{11}\text{B}$  at subarc depths (22, 23). In comparison, subducted serpentinite can retain heavy B isotopes ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  up to +34‰) until serpentinite minerals break down at depths down to >200 km (11, 37), making it the most likely major source of isotopically heavy B in arc magmas (22, 23, 38, 39). B isotopes in arc lavas tend to become progressively lighter with distance behind the trench (fig. S3). The back-arc basin lavas, which have little or no Cu enrichment with decreasing MgO, have much lighter B isotopes than the arc lavas (fig. S3), for example, Mariana Trough ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{aver.}} \approx -4.7\text{‰}$ , as compared to +4.5‰ of Mariana Arc) and Lau Basin ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}_{\text{aver.}} \approx -2\text{‰}$ , as compared to +8.3‰ of Tonga Arc), suggesting the limited participation of serpentinite-derived fluids in the back-arc mantle.

We investigated the relationships of Cu enrichment during arc magma evolution to B isotopes and B/Nb using a global arc dataset (including some back-arc basin data) (Fig. 2, A and B). Here, we used the relative Cu enrichment at 4 to 6 wt % MgO [ $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)} = \text{Cu}_{(4-6)}/\text{Cu}_{(8-12)} - 1$ , where  $\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  and  $\text{Cu}_{(8-12)}$  are the concentrations Cu in arc lavas containing 4 to 6 wt % and 8 to 12 wt % MgO, respectively] to evaluate Cu enrichment or depletion for each arc; although this MgO range cannot represent primitive arc magmas,  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values show whether sulfide saturation is reached at an early stage of magma evolution and, thus, might indicate primitive magma  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ . While magma  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  can increase during differentiation, i.e., via the fractionation of Fe(II)-rich minerals (such as almandine), such an effect is small during basaltic to andesitic differentiation (40). It is noted that the intermediate lavas can also be produced by mixing of mafic and felsic magmas. However, the mixing scenario is not consistent with the higher Cu concentrations of intermediate magmas in many arcs, as both the mafic and felsic lavas are depleted in Cu (Fig. 1) (24, 31).

The average B isotopic compositions and B/Nb are plotted against  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values for the lavas from 12 Pliocene-Quaternary aged arcs and two back-arc basins (see Materials and Methods for the calculations of averages) (Fig. 2, A and B). We found that the  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values show significant positive correlations with the B isotopes ( $r^2 = 0.74$ ) and B/Nb ( $r^2 = 0.79$ ) for the global arc dataset. Similar relationships are observed between  $\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B/Nb (fig. S4, A and B). Although we cannot exclude the influences of AOC-derived fluids on the arcs with low to moderate  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values, these correlations indicate that a strong relationship exists between Cu enrichment during arc magma evolution and subducted serpentinite fluids carrying heavy B.  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values are not affected by Cu enrichment or depletion in the magma source. Thus, we suggest that the above correlations reflect the role of serpentinite-derived fluids in controlling the behavior of Cu in the melt by influencing the  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  of the system and, thus, the state of sulfide saturation. This interpretation is also supported by the positive correlations of the average V/Yb of primitive arc lavas [8 to 12 wt % MgO;  $\text{V}/\text{Yb}_{(8-12)}$ ], a proxy for  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  (29, 30), with the average  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values ( $r^2 = 0.77$ ) and average B/Nb ( $r^2 = 0.84$ ) for our global arc dataset (Fig. 2, C and D).

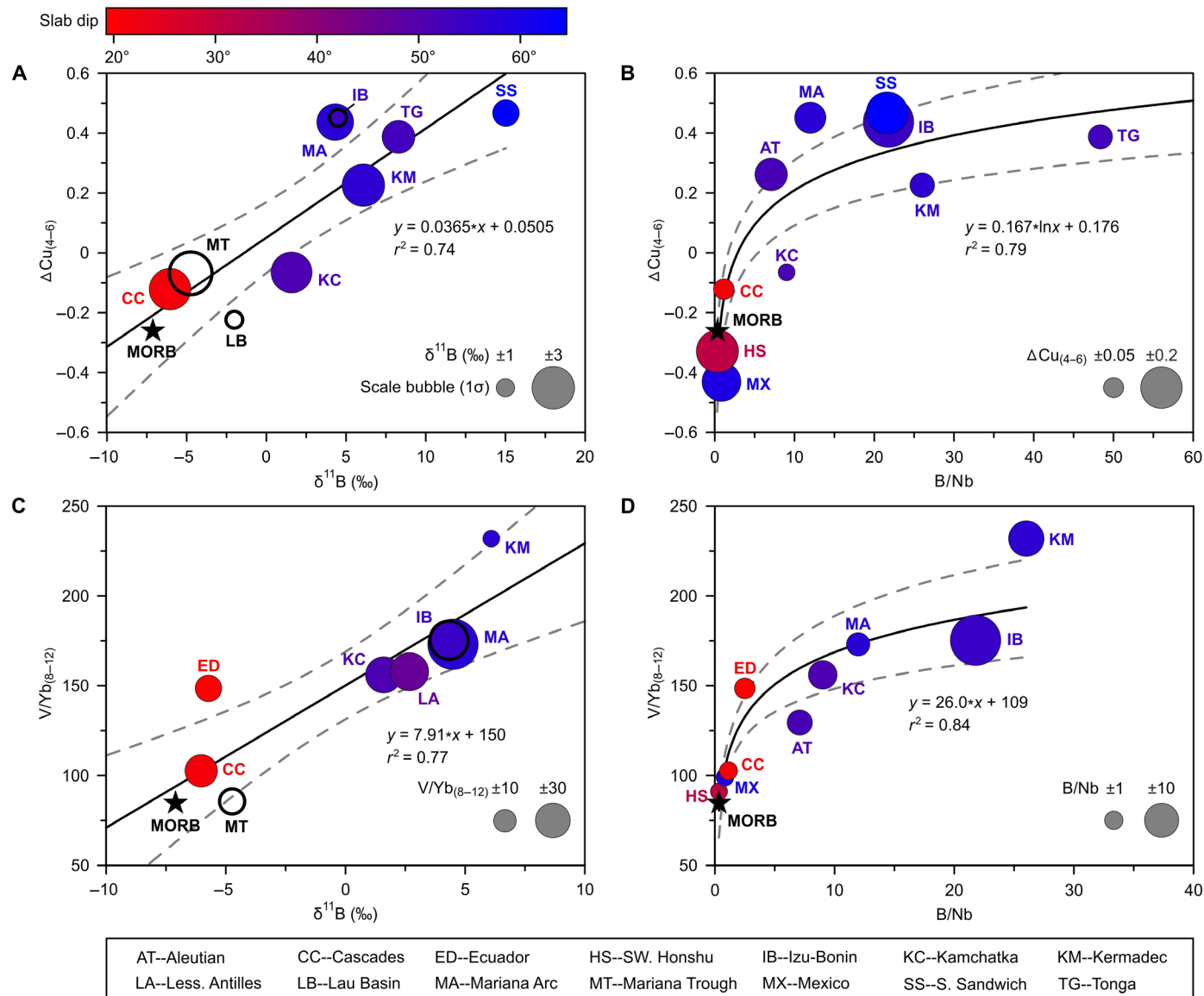
Serpentinite can recycle substantial amounts of  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , sulfur (as  $\text{HSO}_4^-$  or  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ), and carbon into the upper mantle at convergent margins (10, 11, 16). Of particular interest is that sulfate ( $\text{S}^{6+}$ ) has strong oxidizing capacity when it is reduced to sulfide ( $\text{S}^{2-}$ ) (5). In addition,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  concentrations correlate with the Fe(III)/ $\Sigma\text{Fe}$  in the melt and, while  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  itself is generally not considered to be an oxidizing agent, this correlation suggests that slab-derived fluids are involved in the redox reactions (6); results from a recent study do,

however, suggest the possibility that hydrous melts can be oxidized by  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  dissociation and hydrogen incorporation into orthopyroxene (41). Furthermore,  $\sim 2/3$  of the Fe in serpentinite is ferric, which is hosted by magnetite and serpentine minerals (lizardite, chrysotile, and antigorite). Previous studies suggested that the Fe(III)/ $\Sigma\text{Fe}$  decreases during metamorphism and deserpentinization (14). This inference rests on the assumption that the protoliths of variably metamorphosed serpentinites had a consistent Fe(III)/ $\Sigma\text{Fe}$  to begin with, which, however, cannot be unequivocally determined (18). If metamorphism and deserpentinization does result in a decrease of Fe(III)/ $\Sigma\text{Fe}$ , the reduction of Fe(III) to Fe(II) would require the formation of an oxidized component such as  $\text{SO}_x$  or  $\text{CO}_x$ . This interpretation, while still debated, would suggest that serpentinite dehydration has the potential to release oxidizing fluids with an isotopically heavy  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  signature (15–17, 23).

Evans and Frost (18) elaborated on a variety of processes that may affect the redox budget of subducted serpentinites and, thereby, the capacity of serpentinite-derived fluids to oxidize subarc mantle. While some studies conclude that fluids released by serpentine dehydration are sufficiently oxidized to affect the redox budget of arc magmas (15–17), others suggest that these fluids may be notably less oxidized (42). Serpentine within the subducting plate has isotopically heavy B ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  up to +40‰) and is a possible source of  $^{11}\text{B}$  in arc magmas (37). However, the modern subducting plates are mostly generated at fast-spreading ridges, where the interactions between lithospheric mantle and fluids are relatively limited, and thus, it is questionable whether such serpentinites are as oxidized as those formed at slow-spreading ridges (18). In comparison, forearc serpentinite, extensively metasomatized by sulfate-bearing fluids released from subducting slab at shallow depth (43), is probably more oxidized and also has relatively heavy B isotopes ( $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  up to +15‰) (44). However, it is debatable whether the serpentinitized forearc mantle is transported to the subarc depth by the subducting slab or corner flow (20, 45). Therefore, based on the current knowledge, it is not possible to determine which kind of serpentinite is the major fluid source. Despite these uncertainties, the robust correlations between magma  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  proxies and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values for global arcs favor the conclusion that serpentinite-derived fluids play an important role in establishing the redox conditions in the subarc mantle. Here, again, we cannot exclude the influence of AOC-derived fluids, which are also recognized to be oxidizing (7, 13). It is likely that the redox state of subarc mantle is influenced by a combination of AOC- and serpentinite-derived fluids, which may form a high  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and oxidizing composite slab fluid.

### Implications for the $f_{\text{O}_2}$ of primitive arc magmas

Dehydration of serpentine minerals is controlled by the pressure-temperature conditions of the subduction system (fig. S5) and the thermal structure of subduction zone varies with slab age and dip (46). Multivariate analysis shows that subducting slab dip significantly correlates with the amount of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich, oxidizing serpentinite fluids that lastly reach the subarc mantle (table S1). Shallow slabs are generally associated with warm subduction (fig. S5C) and the higher temperatures will lead to shallow dehydration of serpentinite (fig. S5, A and B), thereby depleting the slab with respect to  $^{11}\text{B}$  at subarc depth. These slabs usually have low descent rates and longer arc-trench distances and, thus, reside beneath the mantle wedge for much longer times and dehydrate more efficiently (fig. S5, D and E) (22). The slab dip is likely the main control on the mechanisms of

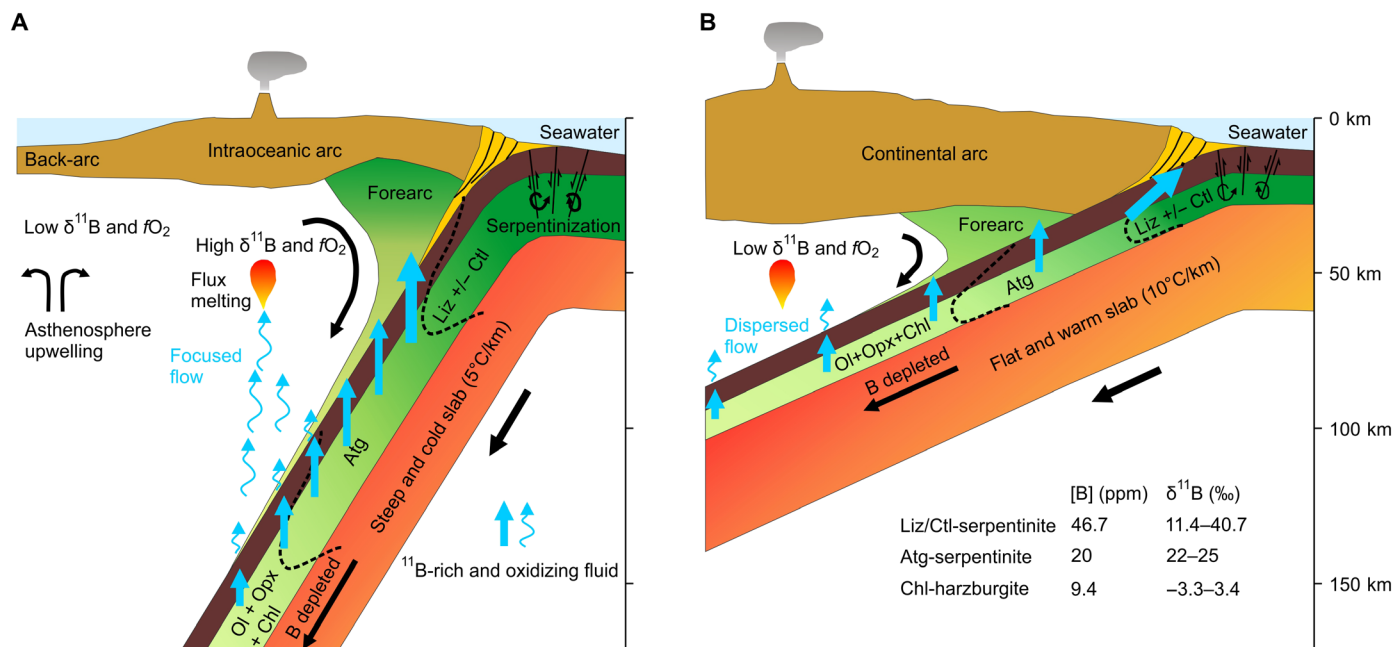


**Fig. 2.** Bubble plots showing the correlations of magma  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  proxies with slab fluid proxies for global arcs. (A)  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  versus  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , (B)  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  versus B/Nb, (C) V/Yb<sub>(8-12)</sub> versus  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , and (D) V/Yb<sub>(8-12)</sub> versus B/Nb. Each point represents the average values of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B/Nb,  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$ , or V/Yb<sub>(8-12)</sub> for each individual arc segment and MORB (table S2). The bubble color indicates the slab dip and the bubble radius is proportional to  $1\sigma$  uncertainties of the variable [ $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ ,  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$ , V/Yb, and B/Nb]. See Materials and Methods for more details about how the average values are obtained.

slab fluids delivery into the mantle wedge; fluid flux from a steep slab will be focused beneath the arc and, thus, deeper fluids from the breakdown of subducted serpentinite have a higher potential for becoming an important contribution to arc magmas (Fig. 3) (47). Consequently, arc lavas from steep subduction zones are probably influenced by more recycled serpentinite fluids and thereby have higher  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B/Nb,  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values, and V/Yb<sub>(8-12)</sub> compared to those from flat subduction (Fig. 2). One exception is the Mexican Arc, where the slab beneath the arc markedly changed from shallow dip to a very steep angle at  $\sim 7$  Ma (million years), and there are also complexities with an OIB-like source sampled by these volcanoes (48). The extremely heavy B isotopes observed in the South Sandwich Arc lavas may be partly due to the subduction erosion of

serpentinized forearc mantle (39) or the subduction of serpentinized mantle near the seafloor formed by slow-spreading tectonics of the South Atlantic (49).

In summary, a combination of the thermal structure and geometry of the subduction zone provides a first-order control on the incorporation of  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich, oxidizing fluid derived from deserpentinization into the source regions of arc magmas. Results from thermodynamic models suggest that AOC dehydration produces oxidizing fluids more efficiently in cold subduction than in warm subduction (13). These results imply that the average  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  of subarc mantle is not homogeneous globally. Some thick continental arcs in the eastern Pacific (e.g., Ecuador, Mexico, and Cascades) are generally characterized by shallow, hot/warm subduction, which would result



**Fig. 3. Sketch of serpentinite subduction [modified after (12)]. (A)** Steep, cold subduction zone and **(B)** Flat, warm subduction zone. Dehydration of serpentine minerals [lizardite (Liz), chrysotile (Ctl), and antigorite (Atg)] releases  $^{11}\text{B}$ -rich and oxidizing fluids. The migration of such fluids into the subarc mantle is promoted by steep, cold subduction, but is limited by flat, warm subduction. The depths of lizardite  $\pm$  chrysotile to antigorite transition (200 to 400°C) (12) and antigorite breakdown (600 to 700°C) (61) are determined according to a thermal gradient of  $5^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$  for cold subduction and  $10^\circ\text{C}/\text{km}$  for warm subduction (62). The B concentrations and  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  of serpentinite and chlorite (Chl) harzburgite are from (37, 63).

in light  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  values, similar to those of MORB mantle; based on the Cu depletion and low V/Yb (Figs. 1 and 2), the primary magmas in these arcs will generally have lower  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  due to the lack of contributions from an oxidizing fluid. Conversely, the subarc mantle of some intraoceanic arcs with steep and/or cold subducting plates (e.g., Mariana, Tonga, and Izu-Bonin) are expected to be overall more oxidized and, therefore, to generate sulfide-undersaturated magma. Results from a previous study suggest that the redox states of global primitive arc lavas and MORB are indistinguishable as indicated by their similar Cu concentrations (24). However, our results show that the Cu concentrations of primitive arc lavas ( $\text{MgO} = 8$  to 12 wt %) are not identical globally and they also show positive correlations with  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and B/Nb, but they are not higher than the Cu concentrations of primitive back-arc lavas and MORB (fig. S4, C and D). The Cu concentrations of mantle partial melt are controlled by many factors, in addition to  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ , such as extent of partial melting, Cu concentrations of mantle sources (24), etc.; thus, they are probably not robust proxies for the mantle  $f_{\text{O}_2}$ .

Our conclusions are based on the average estimates for entire arc segments. The  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  can be highly heterogeneous within a single arc (e.g., from FMQ to FMQ+2) (50). High  $f_{\text{O}_2}$  lavas (e.g.,  $\sim\text{FMQ}+2$ ) have been observed in some continental arcs, such as Mexico (3) and Cascades (51). Sporadic Cu enrichment also occurs in these arcs (Fig. 1, D and E). This may reflect the roles of multisourced subduction input, intracrustal processes (e.g., crustal contamination and deep crystallization), and/or mantle heterogeneity in the formation of chemically diverse arc volcanic rocks (52). Despite this, the significant global correlations among  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B/Nb,  $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values, and V/Yb denote that independent of local heterogeneity,

recycling of oxidizing slab fluids probably have an important control on the oxidation state of subarc mantle.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Data compilation and filtration

The data of Cu, MgO,  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3\text{T}$ ,  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B, Nb, V, and Yb for the lavas from 16 Pliocene-Quaternary aged arcs and three back-arc basins (Mariana Trough, Lau Basin, and East Scotia Ridge) used in this study are from the GEOROC database (<http://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc/>). Some  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and B/Nb data are from literature (38, 39, 53–57). The MORB data are from the PetDB database ([www.earthchem.org/petdb/](http://www.earthchem.org/petdb/)). These data include whole-rock or glass compositions of volcanic rocks. Melt inclusion data were also included for  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and B/Nb. Boninites were not considered here as they are products of subduction initiation and exist in only a few arcs. The samples that are described as altered or have LOI higher than 2 wt % were discarded from the dataset. All outliers were cross-checked with the original publications. The northern part of the Lau Basin and Tonga Arc is influenced by mantle plume (58), and, thus, only the data to the south of  $17^\circ\text{S}$  were used. Note that Fonualei Spreading Center was divided into the Tonga Arc for the lava show arc signature (59). All the data mentioned above are given in data S1.

As B isotope fractionation during the magma differentiation is insignificant (19), the  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  data were not filtered according to MgO concentrations. B/Nb is also little influenced by magma differentiation (21). However, the B/Nb ratio shows large variations at  $\text{MgO} < 2$  wt % for some arcs (fig. S6); thus, the data for  $\text{MgO} < 2$  wt % were removed. We note that crustal contamination can substantially

influence the B isotopes and B/Nb of magmas; thus, we have gone back to the original publications and removed the data affected by crustal contamination. The V/Yb of the arc lavas shows sharp decrease with the decreasing MgO concentrations at MgO < 6 wt % (fig. S7). We used the data at MgO = 8 to 12 wt % to represent the compositions of primitive arc magma. This MgO range can minimize the effect of magnetite crystallization on V contents. We also removed the data with Dy/Yb > 2 to exclude the effects of residual garnet in the source (29). It is shown whether arc lavas are enriched or depleted in Cu at 4 to 6 wt % MgO (31); thus, we used the relative Cu enrichment at 4 to 6 wt % MgO [ $\Delta\text{Cu}_{(4-6)} = \text{Cu}_{(4-6)}/\text{Cu}_{(8-12)} - 1$ , where  $\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  and  $\text{Cu}_{(8-12)}$  indicate Cu concentrations at MgO = 4 to 6 wt % and 8 to 12 wt %, respectively] to evaluate Cu enrichment or depletion for each arc.

### Determination of average values for each arc segment

The averages of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  value, B/Nb, Cu concentration at MgO = 4 to 6 wt % [ $\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$ ] and 8 to 12 wt % [ $\text{Cu}_{(8-12)}$ ], and V/Yb at MgO = 8–12 wt % [ $\text{V}/\text{Yb}_{(8-12)}$ ] were calculated for each individual arc. To reduce the sampling bias toward certain volcanoes and to get a reliable estimation of arc averages, the filtered data were first averaged within volcanoes (or volcanic zones) and then averaged within arc segments, following the method of (60). For Cu concentrations and V/Yb, at least two data points were required for determining the volcano averages; for  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  and B/Nb, one data point was allowed to represent a volcano. At least two volcanoes were required for the calculation of arc averages. The back-arc averages were obtained by averaging all the samples. The MORB averages were calculated following the method of (31): The data were firstly subgrouped (at intervals  $\geq 0.5$  wt %) and median values were calculated for each subgroup; then, the average values and 1 $\sigma$  uncertainties were calculated from the median values. This method can reduce the bias caused by outliers.

The average values for arc segment and each volcano are given in table S2 and data S1, respectively. The calculated  $\text{Cu}_{(4-6)}$  values for each arc are overall consistent with those obtained by averaging all the samples (fig. S8A) (31). The locations of the volcanoes with available data of  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ , B/Nb, Cu concentrations, and V/Yb are shown in figs. S9 to S13. The distributions of B isotope data by volcanoes for each arc are shown in fig. S14. Although the available B isotope and B/Nb data are relatively in small quantity, they mostly cover a large part of the arcs. The arc average Cu concentration and V/Yb obtained by all the volcanoes are consistent with those obtained by the volcanoes with available  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  or B/Nb (fig. S8, B and C). Thus, we believe that the observed  $\delta^{11}\text{B}$  or B/Nb can be representative of the values of the whole arc segment.

### SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

Supplementary material for this article is available at <https://science.org/doi/10.1126/sciadv.abj2515>

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