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Revision 1

***Experimental Constraints on Fluid-Rock Reactions During Incipient
Serpentinization of Harzburgite***

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24

ABSTRACT

25 The exposure of mantle peridotite to water at crustal levels leads to a
26 cascade of interconnected dissolution-precipitation and reduction-oxidation
27 reactions - a process referred to as serpentinization. These reactions have major
28 implications for microbial life through the provision of hydrogen (H₂). To simulate
29 incipient serpentinization under well-constrained conditions, we reacted cm-sized
30 pieces of uncrushed harzburgite with chemically modified seawater at 300°C and 35
31 MPa for ca. 1.5 years (13441 hours), monitored changes in fluid chemistry over
32 time, and examined the secondary mineralogy at the termination of the experiment.
33 Approximately 4 mol % of the protolith underwent alteration forming serpentine,
34 accessory magnetite, chlorite, and traces of calcite and heazlewoodite. Alteration
35 textures bear remarkable similarities to those found in partially serpentinized
36 abyssal peridotites. Neither brucite nor talc precipitated during the experiment.
37 Given that the starting material contained ~4 times more olivine than
38 orthopyroxene on a molar basis, mass balance requires that dissolution of
39 orthopyroxene was significantly faster than dissolution of olivine. Coupled mass
40 transfer of dissolved Si, Mg, and H⁺ between olivine and orthopyroxene reaction
41 fronts was driven by steep activity gradients and facilitated the precipitation of
42 serpentine. Hydrogen was released in significant amounts throughout the entire
43 experiment; however, the H₂ release rate decreased with time. Serpentinization
44 consumed water but did not release significant amounts of dissolved species (other
45 than H₂) suggesting that incipient hydration reactions involved a volume increase of
46 ~40%. The reduced access of water to fresh olivine surfaces due to filling of

47 fractures and coating of primary minerals with alteration products led to decreased
48 rates of serpentinization and H₂ release. While this concept might seem at odds with
49 completely serpentinized seafloor peridotites, reaction-driven fracturing offers an
50 intriguing solution to the seemingly self-limiting nature of serpentinization. Indeed,
51 the reacted sample revealed a number of textural features diagnostic of incipient
52 reaction-driven fracturing. We conclude that fracturing must have far reaching
53 impacts on the rates of serpentinization and H₂ release in peridotite-hosted
54 hydrothermal systems.

55

56 **Keywords:** *serpentinization, phase relations, reaction rates, reaction pathways,*
57 *fracturing, hydrogen, hydrothermal experiment*

58

59

INTRODUCTION

60 Serpentinization reactions play a prominent role in a wide range of
61 geophysical, geochemical, and biological processes on Earth, including seafloor
62 spreading, cycling of water, carbon, and sulfur, abiotic synthesis of organic
63 compounds, and chemosynthesis (Alt et al., 2013; Escartín et al., 1997; Foustoukos
64 and Seyfried, 2004; Lang et al., 2010; Schrenk et al., 2013; Schwarzenbach et al.,
65 2013; Seewald et al., 2006). Serpentinization reactions directly impact the
66 mechanical properties, magnetic signatures, densities, electrical conductivities, and
67 trace element contents of ultramafic rocks (Coleman, 1971; Deschamps et al., 2011;
68 Escartin et al., 2001; Iyer et al., 2008; Jöns et al., 2010; Kelemen and Hirth, 2012;
69 Kodolanyi et al., 2012; Maffione et al., 2014; Oufi et al., 2002; Paulick et al., 2006;

70 Plümper et al., 2012; Reynard et al., 2011; Stesky and Brace, 1973; Toft et al., 1990).
71 A key result of serpentinization is the release of H₂ and the creation of chemical
72 environments that are sufficiently reducing to stabilize native metals and alloys
73 (Chamberlain et al., 1965) and reduce CO₂ (Foustoukos and Seyfried, 2004; Horita
74 and Berndt, 1999; McCollom and Seewald, 2001). Moreover, the release of H₂ can
75 also provide chemolithoautotrophic microorganisms with chemical energy
76 (Brazelton et al., 2012; Perner et al., 2007; Schrenk et al., 2013).

77 The mechanisms controlling the release of H₂ can be studied in active and
78 fossil hydrothermal systems, using laboratory experiments, and theoretical models.
79 Field investigations have highlighted numerous factors that influence the
80 composition of hydrothermal fluids, such as rock composition, temperature,
81 pressure, water-to-rock mass ratio, degassing of magmatic volatiles, fluid mixing,
82 phase separation, stable and metastable fluid-mineral equilibria, reaction kinetics,
83 porosity, permeability, and biological activity (e.g., Alt and Shanks, 1998; Früh-
84 Green et al., 2003; Ludwig et al., 2006; Pester et al., 2012; Proskurowski et al., 2006;
85 Schmidt et al., 2007). Because fluids can integrate a number of individual reactions
86 involving different rock types along the flow path (Nakamura et al., 2009), chemical
87 processes during fluid-rock interactions often remain difficult to reconstruct by field
88 studies alone.

89 Thermodynamic modeling has been used to augment field studies, in
90 particular to quantify heterogeneous equilibria of complex multi-component
91 systems (Alt and Shanks, 2003; Bach et al., 2013; Jöns et al., 2010; Klein et al., 2013;
92 Seyfried et al., 2011; Shock and Canovas, 2010; Sleep et al., 2004; Wetzels and Shock,

93 2000). However, thermodynamic models rely on field observations or laboratory
94 experiments to constrain kinetically-limited, metastable, and/or permeability-
95 limited reactions. Laboratory experiments offer the advantage that stable and
96 metastable phase equilibria, reaction pathways, reaction rates, and many other
97 parameters can be studied under well-constrained temperature, pressure, and
98 compositional conditions. Powdered reactants are commonly used in
99 serpentinization experiments to allow reactions to proceed on laboratory timescales
100 (e.g., Klein and McCollom, 2013; Malvoisin et al., 2012b; Seyfried and Dibble, 1980).
101 However, an inherent drawback of powdered reactants is that effects related to
102 changes in permeability and porosity – key properties in regulating fluid access to
103 primary mineral surfaces (Godard et al., 2013) – cannot be studied.

104 An intimately linked and still debated question is whether serpentinization is
105 an isovolumetric process associated with mass transfer or whether it occurs via
106 simple hydration that requires a volume increase. Isovolumetric serpentinization
107 implies open system behavior and the removal of Mg, Fe, and Si to accommodate the
108 uptake of water. Thayer (1966) argued that the preservation of primary textures
109 such as euhedral olivine pseudomorphs indicates volume-for-volume replacement
110 and open system behavior (cf. Velbel, 2014). In contrast, Hostetler et al. (1966) and
111 Page (1967) did not find any field evidence for large-scale removal of Mg or Si.
112 Isochemical serpentinization (apart from the addition of water) involves large
113 volume increases, which, depending on the protolith composition can be up to 53%
114 (O'Hanley, 1992). The resulting decrease in permeability has led some to infer that
115 serpentinization represents a self-sealing mechanism (Lister, 1974).

116 The concept that serpentinization results in decreased permeability is in
117 contrast to the high degrees of serpentinization observed in orogenic, ophiolitic, and
118 abyssal peridotites (Bodinier and Godard, 2007; Dick, 1989). An intriguing
119 explanation for this observation is persistent reaction-driven fracturing, which may
120 create new and reactivate existing pathways for fluid transport (Kelemen and Hirth,
121 2012; Plümper et al., 2012; Rouméjon and Cannat, 2014). Some laboratory
122 experiments suggest that serpentinization at elevated temperatures is a fast process
123 on geological timescales (Malvoisin et al., 2012a; Martin and Fyfe, 1970; Wegner and
124 Ernst, 1983), limited only by water access to primary mineral surfaces (Macdonald
125 and Fyfe, 1985; Malvoisin and Brunet, 2014). While the use of powdered starting
126 materials in laboratory serpentinization experiments has provided valuable insight
127 by allowing reactions to go to completion, this approach does not permit testing of
128 whether serpentinization is a self-sealing process (Lister, 1974), or whether
129 serpentinization can go to completion via thermal, tectonic, and reaction-driven
130 fracturing (Plümper et al., 2012, Rouméjon and Cannat, 2014). Moreover, it remains
131 unclear how the putative self-sealing nature of serpentinization or fracturing affects
132 rates of mineral dissolution and H₂ release.

133 With only a few exceptions (e.g., Craddock et al., 2013), abyssal peridotites
134 are strongly to completely serpentinized (40-100%), making it difficult to study the
135 earliest stages of serpentinization in seafloor environments. We have conducted an
136 experimental study to investigate the onset of mineral replacement reactions and
137 associated changes in fluid chemistry under well-constrained conditions. We
138 reacted uncrushed harzburgite and modified seawater, monitored changes in fluid

139 chemistry over time, and examined solid reaction products in their textural context.
140 In addition to providing new insights into reactions taking place during the earliest
141 stages of serpentinization (cf., Beard et al., 2009; Godard et al., 2013), the results
142 suggest that H₂ release rates are constrained by water access to primary minerals,
143 further supporting the idea that continuous fracturing is required for
144 serpentinization to go to completion.

145

146 **METHODS and MATERIALS**

147 *Experimental setup and analytical techniques* – The experiment was carried out in a
148 flexible-cell hydrothermal apparatus (Seyfried et al., 1979) consisting of a gold bag
149 with a titanium closure piece, exit tube, and sampling valve. All Ti surfaces in contact
150 with the fluid were oxidized in air at 400 °C prior to the experiment to prevent
151 artificial H₂ release. The flexible reaction cell is enclosed in a stainless steel
152 pressure-containment vessel filled with water, which acts as the pressure medium.
153 The flexible gold bag permits external control of pressure and the elimination of a
154 vapor headspace during the experiment. The titanium sample valve allows periodic
155 removal of fluid during the experiment for chemical characterization.

156 After loading the reaction cell with 18.19 g of harzburgite and 43.15 g of
157 evolved seawater (compositional details of starting materials are presented below),
158 the reaction cell was pressurized to 35MPa and heated to 300°C. When the desired
159 experimental conditions were reached, the system was allowed to react for 13441 h.

160 Several aliquots (0.3-0.6 g each, ~3 g of fluid in total per sampling event) of
161 fluid were taken in gas-tight glass syringes on six occasions during the experiment.

162 Quantitative analysis of dissolved H₂ was performed using a gas chromatograph
163 equipped with a thermal conductivity detector. Dissolved cations were analyzed by
164 inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (Mg) and ion chromatography (Na,
165 K, Ca). Estimated uncertainties are 2% for Mg, 3% for Na and K, and 5% for Ca.
166 Dissolved Si was measured spectrophotometrically using the heteropoly-blue
167 method at a wavelength of 815nm. The estimated uncertainty was 5%. The pH
168 (25°C) was measured using a micro-combination electrode. The uncertainty was ca.
169 0.1 unit of the reported value.

170 Polished thin sections of the solid starting material and experimental
171 reaction products were prepared in oil at High Mesa Petrographics, Los Alamos, NM
172 to avoid oxidation of Fe(II)-bearing minerals and dissolution of water-soluble
173 phases. Thin sections were examined optically in transmitted and reflected light
174 with a petrographic microscope. Backscattered electron images of thin sections and
175 rock chips were taken with a Hitachi TM3000 scanning electron microscope, the
176 low-vacuum mode of which permits analysis without carbon coating the sample.
177 Element distribution mapping was conducted with a Bruker Quantax 70 energy
178 dispersive X-ray spectrometer coupled to the scanning electron microscope.
179 Mineral compositions were quantified with a JEOL JXA-8530F 'HyperProbe' Field-
180 Emission Electron Probe Microanalyzer (Yale University) operated at 15 kV
181 acceleration voltage and 20nA beam current. The beam was fully focused for
182 primary silicates and sulfides, but was set to 5-15 μm in diameter for all other
183 phases to avoid beam damage. Counting times for all elements were 20 seconds
184 except for F, which was analyzed for 120 seconds. Raw data were corrected using

185 the CITZAF method (Armstrong, 1995). The accuracy and precision of electron
186 microprobe analysis was ca. 1%.

187 Thin sections and rock chips were analyzed with a Horiba LabRAM HR
188 confocal Raman spectrometer equipped with a 17 mW 633 nm HeNe laser, an
189 astigmatic flat field spectrograph with a focal length of 800 mm, and a multichannel
190 air-cooled (-70 °C) CCD detector. For thin sections, individual spectra were recorded
191 using a 100x objective with a numerical aperture of 0.9. A grating with 600 grooves
192 / mm was used for identification of minerals. A confocal hole diameter of 100 μm
193 was chosen for most analyses. Spectra were collected for 5 seconds with 3-5
194 accumulations between 100 cm^{-1} and 1300 cm^{-1} .

195 Magnetic susceptibilities (K) and volumes of solids were measured with a
196 Bartington MS2B sensor and a Micromeritics AccuPyc II He-pycnometer. The
197 calibration accuracy for both instruments was 1%. Loss on ignition (LOI) and bulk
198 rock chemical X-ray fluorescence analysis of powders were carried out at the Peter
199 Hooper GeoAnalytical Lab at Washington State University, Pullman, WA. The
200 estimated uncertainty for major elements is on the order of 1%. To quantify the
201 amount of magnetite present and the distribution, coordination, and oxidation state
202 of iron in secondary minerals, Mössbauer spectroscopic and magnetization
203 measurements were conducted at the Institute for Rock Magnetism at the University
204 of Minnesota (see Klein et al., 2009 for more detailed information).

205

206 *Starting materials* – A peridotite xenolith from the Eifel Volcanic Field (Meerfelder
207 Maar, Eifel Volcanic Field, Germany) was used for this study to avoid any pre-

208 existing serpentinization of the starting material (Figs. 1, 2). Mass balancing the bulk
209 major element composition of the starting material as determined with X-ray
210 fluorescence and electron microprobe analysis (Tables 1, 2) suggests that the
211 peridotite can be classified as a harzburgite consisting of olivine (~70 wt.%),
212 orthopyroxene (~25 wt.%), clinopyroxene (~4 wt.%), Cr-spinel (~0.9 wt.%), and
213 traces (<0.1 wt.%) of amphibole, glass, and primary sulfides. These mineral
214 abundances are consistent with those estimated from optical thin section and X-ray
215 microtomography (μ -CT) image analysis. However, mineral proportions can vary on
216 a thin section scale (Fig. 1). All primary silicates are relatively uniform in
217 composition and do not show any core-to rim variation as determined from electron
218 microprobe analysis (Table 2). The harzburgite is moderately fractured (Figs. 1 and
219 2), most likely due to decompression and thermal relaxation during rapid ascent of
220 the xenolith (cf. Klügel and Klein, 2006). Fracture widths range from < 1 μ m to 10 μ m
221 (Fig. 2).

222 Olivine, orthopyroxene, and clinopyroxene have a Mg# ((mol
223 MgO/(MgO+FeO)x100) of ~ 91 and NiO, MnO, Al₂O₃, Cr₂O₃, and CaO contents typical
224 for these minerals in mantle peridotite (Table 2). Rare amphibole is approximately
225 of pargasitic composition, has a Mg# of 89, and has slightly elevated contents of K₂O
226 and Cr₂O₃ compared with its ideal end-member. Chromian spinel compositions were
227 not determined as detailed thin section petrography of the reaction products
228 revealed that it did not undergo reaction during the experiment. Pentlandite
229 contains low concentrations of Co (0.6-0.7 wt.%) and Cu (0.1-0.2 wt.%), and Ni is
230 enriched relative to Fe. The empirical formula of pentlandite in the starting material

231 is $\text{Ni}_{4.9}\text{Fe}_{4.1}\text{S}_8$. Pyrrhotite was analyzed semi-quantitatively with energy-dispersive
232 spectroscopy and is approximately of stoichiometric composition.

233 Olivine and orthopyroxene are anhedral to subhedral with grain diameters
234 ranging between 0.3 mm and 3.0 mm (average of 1.0 mm) and 0.5 mm and 3.0 mm
235 (average of 0.8 mm), respectively (Fig. 1). Grain diameters of anhedral to euhedral
236 clinopyroxene range between 0.05 mm and 1.0 mm (average of 0.4 mm). Weakly
237 pleochroic anhedral to subhedral amphibole, 0.1-0.2 mm in diameter, occurs in
238 association with Cr-spinel. It remains unclear whether amphibole is a primary
239 mineral formed during melt-rock interaction with the volcanic host, or if it formed
240 as a result of post-magmatic alteration (cf. O'Connor et al., 1996). In some instances,
241 amphibole is associated with small amounts of light yellow to reddish brown glass
242 as linings of vugs around spinel, tentatively indicating that it formed during melt-
243 rock interaction. Detailed thin section analysis did not reveal any phlogopite in the
244 samples, although traces of Ti-rich phlogopite are present in some mantle xenoliths
245 from the Meerfelder Maar (Witt-Eickschen et al., 1998).

246 The measured density of the starting material was 3.326 g/cm^3 and there
247 was no detectable loss on ignition. While Mössbauer analysis revealed no detectable
248 Fe(III), the magnetic susceptibility (SI) of the starting material was 12.86,
249 suggesting that trace amounts of ferromagnetic minerals were present in the
250 starting material.

251 The harzburgite xenolith was cored with a diamond drill bit and cut with a
252 diamond saw blade into 6 pieces (each having a volume of $\sim 1 \text{ cm}^3$) to recover fresh

253 cohesive material. The pieces were then thoroughly rinsed in deionized water and
254 stored in a drying oven at 40 °C until loaded into the hydrothermal apparatus.

255 In the experiment, we reacted the harzburgite with an aqueous fluid of
256 seawater chlorinity devoid of Mg and SO₄ and enriched in Ca and K (Table 3). This
257 fluid chemistry was designed to represent seawater that had evolved during low-
258 temperate alteration of rocks and precipitation of secondary minerals in recharge
259 zones of mid-ocean ridge environments (Mottl, 1983).

260

261

RESULTS

262 *Fluid chemistry* - During the course of the experiment, some aqueous species
263 concentrations remained relatively constant while others were characterized by
264 relatively large changes (Figure 3 and Table 3). The pH (25 °C) increased from 6.3 at
265 the beginning of the experiment to 9.0 at its termination. The concentrations of
266 dissolved Na, K, and Mg did not change significantly with time. In contrast, the
267 concentration of dissolved Ca decreased from 30.5 to 27.6 mmol/kg during the
268 experiment. After an initial increase in the concentration of Si from below detection
269 in the starting fluid to 0.64 mmol/kg in the first sample at 122 h, its concentration
270 decreased to 0.05 mmol/kg after 13441 hours of reaction.

271 The measured concentration of H_{2(aq)} increased to 7.7 mmol/kg by the end of
272 the experiment; however, the rate of H_{2(aq)} concentration increase was not uniform
273 throughout the experiment (Fig. 4), being fastest early during the experiment and
274 then decreasing significantly over time.

275

276 *Petrographic observations* - Petrographic observations are summarized in Table 4.
277 Thin section image analysis of the reacted harzburgite revealed that ~5 vol.% of the
278 rock consists of secondary minerals formed during the experiment. The extent of
279 serpentinization was greatest on the exterior rock surface and decreased toward the
280 center of the rock. Reaction rims around primary minerals on the exterior rock
281 surface are generally thicker than reaction rims located along internal fractures.
282 Primary minerals are partly replaced or overgrown by secondary minerals. Primary
283 silicates, including olivine and orthopyroxene, show abundant indications of
284 dissolution such as lenticular etch pits, cone-shaped etch pits, en echelon (sawtooth)
285 etch pits, and denticles (Figs. 5e, 5f, 6e, 6f). Some dissolution features reveal a
286 preferred orientation and an almost equidistant periodicity (Fig. 6e). In numerous
287 instances, intragranular fractures initiate at cone-shaped etch pits similar to those
288 observed in partially serpentinized abyssal peridotite (Figs. 6f, 7f; cf. Klein et al.,
289 2009; Plümper et al., 2012). Cr-spinel and clinopyroxene do not show any visible
290 signs of dissolution (Figs. 6c, 7d, 7e).

291 Inspection of the reacted rock exterior revealed a reaction rim consisting of
292 lizardite + chrysotile ± magnetite ± chlorite ± calcite (Figs. 5, 6). The mineralogy of
293 the reaction rim varies systematically with its precursor mineral (Fig. 4a). Olivine is
294 covered by a layer mainly consisting of lizardite intergrown with accessory
295 magnetite (Fig. 5c, 6a). The latter is also found directly at the olivine surface. In
296 contrast, lizardite forms a monomineralic layer covering orthopyroxene. In both
297 instances, the lizardite layer is overgrown by chrysotile, which forms the outermost
298 layer (Fig. 6a, b, g). Chrysotile is often intergrown with lizardite and minor chlorite

299 forming cactus-like protrusions (Fig. 5a, b). In most areas, the thickness of the
300 reaction rim around olivine and orthopyroxene varies between 50 and 70 μ m (Fig.
301 6a, b, c, g); however, some embayed areas measure up to 0.5 mm. While
302 clinopyroxene appears to be unaltered, it is in places overgrown by a thin (~5-
303 10 μ m) layer of polyhedral serpentine and magnetite filling void spaces overgrown
304 by chrysotile (Fig. 7d). Lizardite, chrysotile, and polyhedral serpentine form geode-
305 like compartments on the rock exterior and host sub- to euhedral magnetite (Figs.
306 5a, c). Chrysotile fibers are about 0.1 to 0.2 μ m thick and are up to several tens of μ m
307 long (Fig. 5b, 5a, g). Subhedral magnetite, ca. 1 μ m to 40 μ m in diameter (Figs. 5, 6),
308 and euhedral calcite crystals (ca. 5 μ m to 200 μ m in diameter, Figs. 5d, 7c), are
309 embedded in the serpentine matrix. In contrast to magnetite, calcite is found
310 exclusively on the exterior rock surface. In a few instances, the walls of geode-
311 shaped features hosted by spinel, clinopyroxene, and accessory amphibole are
312 coated with euhedral chlorite (Fig. 5g). Chlorite in geodes likely formed at the
313 expense of amphibole as clinopyroxene and spinel (Fig. 7d, e) appear to be
314 unaltered.

315 Thin section examination of the rock interior reveals incipient replacement
316 textures after olivine (mesh texture, Fig. 6d) and orthopyroxene (bastite texture, Fig.
317 6g). Mesh texture is mainly composed of lizardite and minor magnetite, whereas
318 brucite is lacking. In numerous instances magnetite formed directly at the olivine
319 surface (cf. Beard et al., 2009; Frost et al., 2013) during incipient serpentinization
320 (Figs. 6a, 6b, 6e, 6f, 7e). Bastite texture features intergrowths of lizardite and

321 chlorite, but lacks magnetite and talc. Contacts between mesh and bastite texture
322 are remarkably sharp (Fig. 6b).

323 The width of veins ranges from $<1\mu\text{m}$ to $\sim 100\mu\text{m}$ and decreases away from
324 the rock surface toward the rock interior (e.g., Fig. 6e). High resolution confocal
325 Raman spectroscopy revealed that veins cross-cutting olivine are composed of
326 lizardite (Fig. 8) and accessory magnetite, but lack brucite (cf. Beard et al., 2009;
327 Frost et al., 2013). Magnetite grains in veins are smaller and less abundant than on
328 the rock exterior, anhedral and irregularly distributed. They precipitated directly at
329 the olivine surface and within the serpentine vein matrix. Where an Al- and Si-rich
330 glassy melt film was present between two adjacent olivine grains (cf. O'Connor et al.,
331 1996), traces of chlorite formed together with lizardite in the vein center. Veins
332 cross-cutting pyroxene are composed of lizardite and chlorite. Neither magnetite
333 nor talc formed at the expense of orthopyroxene.

334 Primary sulfides consisting of pentlandite \pm pyrrhotite are irregularly
335 distributed within the rock. Where fluid accessed primary sulfide, heazlewoodite \pm
336 magnetite precipitated (Fig. 7b). Heazlewoodite is also found in veins and possibly
337 formed from Ni and S released during dissolution of olivine (Fig. 5f). Pentlandite is
338 found together with magnetite; however, it remains unclear whether pentlandite
339 was in equilibrium with magnetite (Fig. 7a). No evidence was found that awaruite, a
340 common Ni-Fe alloy found in partly altered serpentinite (Klein and Bach, 2009),
341 formed during the experiment.

342

343 *Composition of secondary minerals* - Lizardite and chrysotile do not reveal
344 systematic compositional differences that are discernible by electron microprobe
345 analysis. Conversely, systematic compositional differences exist between serpentine
346 forming at the expense of olivine and orthopyroxene, and between serpentine from
347 the exterior rock surface and the interior (Fig. 9, Table 5). On the rock exterior,
348 serpentine (lizardite and chrysotile) after olivine is on average Fe-poor (Mg# 97),
349 while serpentine after orthopyroxene is on average richer in Fe (Mg# 95), Al, and Cr.
350 In contrast, serpentine from the rock interior has lower Mg#s after olivine (~95)
351 and after orthopyroxene (~92). Serpentine in bastite texture on the exterior rock
352 surface is depleted in Fe relative to its precursor and forms sharp boundaries with
353 serpentine after olivine (Fig. 6b). Chlorite has a Mg# of ~90-91 regardless of its
354 proximity to olivine, orthopyroxene, or the rock exterior. Electron microprobe
355 analysis of bastite texture in the rock interior revealed substantially higher Al
356 contents compared with bastite on the rock surface, which can be attributed to
357 variable contents of chlorite interwoven with serpentine. Magnetite shows
358 negligible compositional variations with scanning electron microscope energy
359 dispersive spectroscopy. Heazlewoodite is nearly of end-member composition with
360 minor impurities of Fe (2.2-3.9 wt.%) and Co (0.25-0.34 wt.%). Calcite is virtually
361 pure (Table 5) with only traces of MgO (0.04wt.%) and FeO (0.02 wt.%).

362

363 *Magnetite abundance* - The magnetic susceptibility increased from SI ($\times 10^{-5}$)= 12.86
364 to 72.23 and saturation magnetization increased from 3.4154×10^{-7} Am² to 3.431×10^{-5}
365 Am², consistent with the precipitation of magnetite during the experiment. No other

366 ferromagnetic minerals were formed. Magnetization measurements suggest that the
367 bulk rock magnetite content was 0.19 wt.% after 13441 hours of reaction. Because
368 the bulk sample contained only ~5 vol.% of relatively Fe-poor serpentine and only a
369 fraction of the Fe in serpentine was ferric, the bulk Fe(III) was below the detection
370 limit of Mössbauer spectroscopy (~1% bulk Fe(III)).

371

372

DISCUSSION

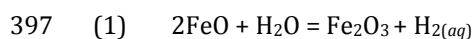
373 *Serpentinization progress* - Serpentinization leads to a decrease in rock density as
374 higher density primary minerals are replaced with lower density secondary
375 minerals (except for magnetite, Ni-Fe sulfides and alloys). The extent of
376 serpentinization can be roughly approximated using the empirical relation $\rho = 3.30$
377 $- 0.785S$, with ρ being the rock density and S being the fraction of rock which has
378 been serpentinized (Miller and Christensen, 1997). During our experiment, the rock
379 density decreased from an initial value of 3.326 g/cm^3 to 3.258 g/cm^3 , which based
380 on the empirical relation yields $S \approx 5\%$.

381 To get an independent estimate for the extent of alteration, we employed a
382 linear relationship between saturation magnetization (J_s) and extent of
383 serpentinization (S): $J_s = 8.979 \times 10^{-4} \times S$ (Malvoisin et al., 2012b). Using this
384 relationship, the increase in the measured magnetization saturation during the
385 experiment, $J_{s\text{end}} - J_{s\text{initial}} = 3.397 \times 10^{-5} \text{ Am}^2$ suggests that 3.8 % of the protolith
386 underwent serpentinization.

387 Dissolution rates of primary silicates can be estimated by the release of
388 elements to solution as a function of time (Wogelius and Walther, 1991). In our

389 experiment, dissolved Mg, Fe, and Si released by dissolution of olivine and
390 orthopyroxene were immediately consumed during precipitation of serpentine,
391 magnetite, and chlorite, precluding their use for rate estimates. In contrast, H₂
392 released to solution, as Fe(II) in primary minerals was oxidized to Fe(III) in
393 serpentine and magnetite, is not consumed during mineral precipitation. Therefore,
394 H_{2(aq)} release can be used as an indicator of alteration progress. The generalized
395 reaction can be represented as:

396



398

399 where FeO and Fe₂O₃ represent components of primary and secondary minerals,
400 respectively. Since ferroan brucite did not form during the experiment, the protolith
401 fraction that underwent serpentinization at the time of fluid sampling can be
402 estimated. Given that the protolith has an FeO content of ~7.67 wt.% (with
403 negligible Fe(III) content) (Table 1), and assuming that 2/3 of the Fe in completely
404 serpentinized peridotite is Fe(III) (Andreani et al., 2013; Klein et al., 2014;
405 Marcaillou et al., 2011), complete serpentinization of 18.19 g peridotite at the
406 experimental conditions would release ~ 6.4 mmol H_{2(aq)}. After correcting for the
407 amount of H₂-bearing fluid removed during each of the six sampling occasions
408 (Table 3), the total amount of H₂ released after 13441 hours of reaction was 0.24
409 mmol, suggesting that ~3.8 mol % of the protolith underwent serpentinization. This
410 value is consistent with the reaction extent estimated from magnetization
411 saturation measurements. Factoring in a volume increase of 40% during

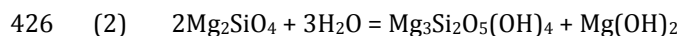
412 serpentinization (see below) these estimates are consistent with thin section
413 observations, but are slightly lower than density changes would suggest.

414 Most laboratory serpentinization experiments used powdered reactants,
415 making a straightforward comparison of reaction progress with our estimates
416 difficult. Malvoisin and Brunet (2014) reacted a sintered San Carlos olivine
417 aggregate with water at 300°C and 50MPa for 6956 hours. About 2.66 % of the
418 olivine underwent serpentinization, suggesting that, despite some apparent
419 differences in protolith composition, overall reaction rates were similar to those in
420 our experiment.

421

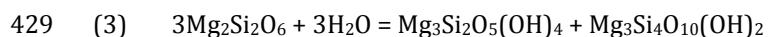
422 *Mass transfer* - Serpentinization involves many chemical components, but the basic
423 mechanisms can be understood by considering the following reactions in the system
424 MgO-SiO₂-H₂O (Bowen and Tuttle, 1949; Johannes, 1968; Kitahara et al., 1966):

425



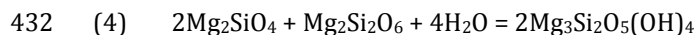
427 forsterite serpentine brucite

428



430 enstatite serpentine talc

431

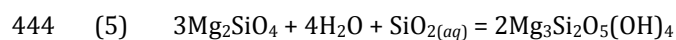


433 forsterite enstatite serpentine

434

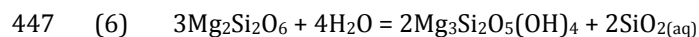
435 In a closed system, serpentinization of forsterite leads to the formation of
436 serpentine and brucite (2), whereas serpentinization of enstatite leads to the
437 formation of serpentine and talc (3). If forsterite and enstatite undergo
438 simultaneous serpentinization at a 2:1 molar ratio, neither brucite nor talc is formed
439 and the only reaction product is serpentine (4). Indeed, our experiment produced
440 mainly serpentine without any talc (Fig. 6g) or brucite (Fig. 8) suggesting that
441 alteration of olivine and orthopyroxene proceeded according to reaction 4. Since
442 reaction 4 is a composite of reactions:

443



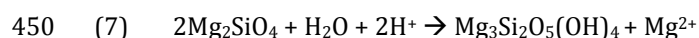
445 forsterite serpentine

446



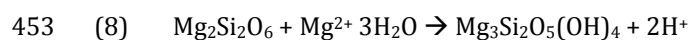
448 enstatite serpentine

449



451 forsterite serpentine

452



454 enstatite serpentine

455

456 it appears that the formation of serpentine involves mass transfers of $\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$, Mg^{2+} ,

457 and H^+ between the olivine and orthopyroxene reaction fronts. To evaluate mass

458 transfer during the experiment, we calculated the *in situ* speciation of analyzed fluid
459 compositions using the software code EQ3/6 (Wolery, 1992) and plotted the
460 computed values in an activity-activity diagram (Fig. 10). This diagram was
461 constructed using equilibrium constants calculated with the software code
462 SUPCRT92 (Johnson et al., 1992) and assuming a water activity of 1. Detailed
463 information about thermodynamic data, activity models, etc. used in the calculations
464 has been published elsewhere (Klein et al., 2009; 2013; McCollom and Bach, 2009).

465 The main driving force for $\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$ mass transfer is a steep activity (a)
466 gradient between reactions 5 (equilibrium $\log a\text{SiO}_{2(aq)} = -5.681$) and 6 (equilibrium
467 $\log a\text{SiO}_{2(aq)} = -0.873$) at the experimental conditions. Speciation calculations of *in*
468 *situ* fluid compositions reveal $\log a\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$ values ranging from -3.2 to -4.3, which
469 plot between reactions 5 and 6 (Fig. 10), consistent with $\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$ released by reaction
470 6 being consumed by reaction 5. As for the steep gradient in $a\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$ between
471 reactions 5 and 6, there are steep gradients in the activities of Mg^{2+} and H^+ (pH)
472 between reactions 7 and 8. At the experimental conditions, equilibrium values of
473 $\log(a\text{Mg}^{2+}/a^2\text{H}^+)$ for reactions 7 and 8 are 7.96 and 4.75, respectively, assuming
474 pure Mg-endmember minerals and a water activity of 1. The calculated *in situ* pH
475 values ranged between 5.2 and 6.2. Speciation calculations of *in situ* fluid
476 composition reveal $\log(a\text{Mg}^{2+}/a^2\text{H}^+)$ values between 5.0 and 6.9, consistent with
477 Mg^{2+} released by reaction 7 being consumed by reaction 8, and with H^+ released by
478 reaction 8 being consumed by reaction 7. Thus, it appears that mass transfer was
479 coupled and proceeded in both directions between olivine and orthopyroxene
480 reaction fronts.

481 Clinopyroxene does not show any obvious signs of dissolution (Figs. 6c, 7d)
482 suggesting that it did not have a significant impact on mass transfer during the onset
483 of serpentinization at the experimental conditions.

484 Formation of serpentine according to reaction 4 requires the reaction of 2
485 moles of forsterite for each mole of enstatite reacted. Because the starting material
486 had ~4 times more olivine than orthopyroxene on a molar basis, and given that Mg
487 and Si released during dissolution of both minerals were immediately consumed by
488 serpentine precipitation, orthopyroxene must have reacted significantly faster than
489 olivine to fulfill the mass balance. However, since olivine/orthopyroxene mass
490 ratios vary on a mm to cm scale, it remains difficult to further constrain individual
491 reaction rates from our experiment.

492

493 *Reaction pathways during serpentinization* - Thermodynamic phase relations suggest
494 that complete serpentinization of peridotite leads to the formation of serpentine +
495 brucite ± magnetite (in addition to a number of accessory minerals) (Klein et al.,
496 2009; Klein et al., 2013; McCollom and Bach, 2009), and that this would have been
497 the final mineral assemblage had the experiment gone to completion. However, the
498 experimental results show that incipient serpentinization at the experimental
499 conditions did not involve the formation of brucite, indicating that serpentinization
500 must be regarded as a sequence of individual reactions that define a reaction path
501 (cf. Bach et al., 2004; 2006).

502 As discussed in the previous section, mass balance constraints require that
503 orthopyroxene dissolution is significantly faster than dissolution of olivine at

504 temperatures of $\sim 300^{\circ}\text{C}$. Because orthopyroxene is less abundant than olivine in
505 peridotite, orthopyroxene will be exhausted from the equilibrium mineral
506 assemblage first. Once orthopyroxene approaches exhaustion, dissolution of olivine
507 will dominate and result in the formation of serpentine and brucite (plus magnetite)
508 as depicted in reaction 2 until olivine is exhausted. The final assemblage of
509 secondary minerals will therefore include serpentine, brucite, and magnetite (in
510 addition to traces of other minerals).

511 This reaction path is only valid for temperatures close to 300°C and
512 peridotite protolith compositions. Serpentinization can take place at temperatures
513 $>350^{\circ}\text{C}$, as evidenced by direct temperature measurements of fluids emanating from
514 the ultramafic-influenced Logatchev, Nibelungen and Rainbow hydrothermal fields
515 (Douville et al., 2002; Schmidt et al., 2011; Schmidt et al., 2007). Allen and Seyfried
516 (2003) reacted powdered lherzolite with a NaCl-MgCl₂ bearing fluid at 400°C and 50
517 MPa for 1462 hours and found that orthopyroxene and clinopyroxene were coated
518 with alteration products, but olivine surfaces appeared unaltered. Indeed, while it is
519 predicted that olivine is part of the equilibrium mineral assemblage in the presence
520 of water at $\sim 400^{\circ}\text{C}$ (e.g., Klein et al., 2013), orthopyroxene and clinopyroxene are
521 unstable at these conditions. The reaction pathway of serpentinization at 400°C is
522 therefore very different from that at 300°C and will be dominated by the
523 precipitation of serpentine, talc, tremolite and chlorite at the expense of pyroxene.
524 Once pyroxene is exhausted from the equilibrium mineral assemblage,
525 serpentinization ceases unless the temperature decreases and olivine becomes
526 unstable in the presence of water.

527 Lower temperatures of serpentinization of 250°C or less are expected in
528 areas where magma-supply and thus heat is limited, such as in off-axis
529 hydrothermal systems like Lost City (Foustoukos et al., 2008; Kelley et al., 2001),
530 forearc settings of subduction zones (Fryer, 2012), and along magma-poor
531 continental rifted margins (e.g., Klein et al., 2014). At these temperatures, the
532 presence of relict orthopyroxene and brucite in the alteration mineral assemblage
533 may indicate that olivine dissolution was faster than orthopyroxene dissolution (cf.
534 Martin and Fyfe, 1970). If this is true, then olivine may be consumed during
535 serpentinization before orthopyroxene. Once olivine approaches exhaustion from
536 the primary mineral assemblage, the dissolution of remaining orthopyroxene will
537 dominate the reaction path. Its dissolution provides excess silica, which is available
538 to react with some of the brucite to form additional serpentine and possibly
539 magnetite (Bach et al., 2006; Beard et al., 2009). Although the final secondary
540 mineral assemblage would be the same as that for serpentinization at 300°C, the
541 pathway is markedly different. It is important to note that magnetite formation is
542 limited during serpentinization of peridotite at temperatures lower than ~200°C,
543 because Fe is preferentially taken up by brucite (Klein et al., 2013; 2014; Seyfried et
544 al., 2007).

545

546 *Serpentinization in different rock domains* –The exterior rock surface and the rock
547 interior reveal mineralogical, chemical, and textural differences. For example,
548 secondary minerals on the rock exterior show well-developed crystal habits,
549 whereas those within the rock do not. Euhedral calcite is present on the rock

550 exterior but did not precipitate in the rock interior. It precipitated from the bulk
551 solution surrounding the rock, which was apparently saturated with calcite, in
552 contrast to fluid in the rock interior. It is noteworthy that calcite precipitated at all,
553 since conditions in the surrounding fluid were relatively reducing. However, it
554 remains unclear what condition hindered calcite from precipitating within the rock.
555 Differences in the compositions of serpentine from the rock exterior and interior
556 (Fig. 9) may reflect distinct fluid-to-rock mass ratios (F/R) and differences in fluid
557 chemistry. Klein et al. (2009) predicted changes in fluid chemistry, mineralogy, and
558 mineral chemistry as a function of F/R for serpentinization of harzburgite.
559 Serpentine is predicted to become richer in Fe with decreasing F/R. Indeed, field
560 studies suggest that lizardite in veins formed during rock-dominated
561 serpentinization is Fe-rich relative to chrysotile in veins formed under open system
562 conditions (Beard et al., 2009; Frost et al., 2013). Chrysotile in the rock exterior may
563 have formed under similar conditions, with slowly moving or stagnant pore fluids in
564 fractures. In contrast, serpentinization of the rock interior possibly occurred at
565 conditions similar to those in rock-dominated domains, away from larger fractures
566 in hydrothermal systems.

567

568 *Hydrogen release, volume changes, and reaction driven fracturing* - The

569 concentrations of H₂ released during serpentinization have been measured in
570 several previous laboratory experiments (Allen and Seyfried, 2003; Berndt et al.,
571 1996; Jones et al., 2010; Klein and McCollom, 2013; Mayhew et al., 2013; McCollom
572 and Seewald, 2001; Neubeck et al., 2011; Seyfried et al., 2007). Comparison of the

573 results presented here with previous studies at 200 and 400°C conducted in flexible
574 gold bag reaction vessels show similar temporal trends (Fig. 4). It is important to
575 note, however, that the absolute values of measured H₂ concentrations are not
576 directly comparable due to differences in starting materials, grain sizes, fluid-to-
577 rock mass ratios (F/R), and temperatures. In most experiments, H₂ concentrations
578 increase with time and extent of serpentinization. There is no clear distinction
579 between experiments using powdered olivine and peridotite as initial reactants. A
580 comparison of the H₂ concentrations measured by Berndt et al (1996) and Klein and
581 McCollom (2013) suggests that the release rate of H₂ is strongly influenced by grain
582 size (surface area) of the starting materials (cf. Malvoisin et al., 2012b). A common
583 feature of some experiments is that aqueous H₂ concentrations increase rapidly
584 shortly after the beginning of an experiment, as primary mineral surfaces are
585 directly exposed to the interacting fluid. The rate of increase in H₂ concentration
586 decreases significantly with time. This behavior is most pronounced in our
587 experiment. The decreased rate of H₂ production cannot be explained with
588 exhaustion of reactants, because primary silicates were present until the
589 experiment was terminated. Moreover, olivine and orthopyroxene remained far
590 from equilibrium throughout the experiment (Fig. 10). Therefore, other mechanisms
591 must have caused the decreased H₂ release rate. Thin section petrography revealed
592 filling of fractures and coating of primary mineral surfaces suggesting reduced fluid
593 access to primary minerals with time and reduced rates of serpentinization and H₂
594 generation. Godard et al. (2013) reached similar conclusions based on flow-through
595 serpentinization experiments that involved sintered olivine as the starting material.

596 In our experiment, serpentinization reactions consumed water but did not
597 release significant amounts of dissolved species other than H₂. Thus hydration
598 reactions must have led to a substantial volume increase. Again, because neither
599 brucite nor talc formed during the experiment, it follows that incipient
600 serpentinization was dominated by reaction 4 during our experiment. The volume
601 increase for this reaction is ca. 40%, which accounts for the observed fracture filling.

602 The self-sealing behavior of serpentinization is at odds with field
603 observations of high degrees of serpentinization of abyssal peridotites. However,
604 MacDonald and Fyfe (1985) proposed that volume expansion leads to buildup of
605 stress and episodic cracking that creates permeability and provides water access to
606 fresh mineral surfaces. Thin section petrography suggests that grain boundaries and
607 cracks already present in the protolith (Figs. 1, 2) were preferentially exploited by
608 serpentinization reactions (cf. Rouméjon and Cannat, 2014). The stress increase due
609 to volume expansion was sufficient to induce further cracking during our
610 experiment, in particular along cone-shaped etch pits (e.g., Figs. 6f, 7f). These etch
611 pits and associated fractures were not observed in the starting material (Fig. 2),
612 suggesting the creation of new fluid flow paths during the experiment.

613

614

IMPLICATIONS

615 The results of our laboratory experiment provide new insights into
616 geochemical processes during incipient serpentinization of peridotite at conditions
617 representative of hydrothermal seafloor reaction zones. Our experimental
618 results imply that orthopyroxene reacts significantly faster than olivine at

619 temperatures of ~300°C, which precludes brucite formation early during
620 serpentinization. This result implies that serpentinization of peridotite at similar
621 conditions proceeds in two consecutive steps. First, serpentine and minor amounts
622 of magnetite and chlorite form at the expense of olivine and orthopyroxene. Second,
623 once the less abundant orthopyroxene approaches exhaustion, dissolution of olivine
624 will produce serpentine, brucite and magnetite. While this is the same alteration
625 assemblage produced by serpentinization at lower temperatures, the reaction
626 pathways are different due to variations in thermodynamic phase relations and
627 dissolution kinetics of primary minerals.

628 Serpentine precipitation during incipient alteration of peridotite appears to
629 be mediated by coupled mass transfer of $\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$, Mg^{2+} , and H^+ along steep activity
630 gradients between the olivine and orthopyroxene reaction fronts. Dissolved Si and
631 Mg released during dissolution of olivine and orthopyroxene were consumed by
632 precipitating serpentine, further supporting the idea that serpentinization can
633 involve a significant increase in volume and a decrease in permeability.

634 Our experimental results imply that the release rate of H_2 is limited by water
635 access to primary mineral surfaces and that serpentinization is, to some extent, a
636 self-sealing process. However, many abyssal peridotites are strongly fractured and
637 completely altered suggesting that fracturing promotes water ingress and allows
638 serpentinization to progress rapidly relative to geological timescales. Fracturing
639 may therefore have far-reaching implications for the rate of H_2 production in
640 subseafloor serpentinization systems.

641

642 *Acknowledgements*

643 This study was partially supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF-OCE
644 grants 1059534 to F.K. and S.E.H and OCE-0927744 to T.M.M.) and the Deep Ocean
645 Exploration Institute at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. We thank Sean
646 Sylva, Margaret Sulanowska, and Jim Eckert for their outstanding support with
647 sample analysis and Horst Marschall for letting us use his petrographic microscope
648 and SEM. We also thank Nick Pester, Anna Neubeck, and Associate Editor Dionysis
649 Foustoukos for helpful and constructive reviews that greatly improved the
650 manuscript. The IRM is supported by the Instruments and Facilities Program of the
651 NSF Division of Earth Science. This is IRM contribution 1410.

652

653

654 *Figure captions*

655

656 **Figure 1.** Thin section photomicrograph mosaics of harzburgite used as the starting
657 material in the experiment in cross-polarized light (left) and plane polarized light
658 (right). Ol = olivine, Opx = orthopyroxene, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Hbl = hornblende,
659 Spl = spinel.

660

661 **Figure 2.** Back scattered electron images of the fractured, unaltered protolith.

662 Mineral abbreviations are the same as in Fig. 1.

663

664 **Figure 3.** Changes in fluid chemistry measured during the experiment. Note the
665 concentration 'breaks' in the ordinate.

666

667 **Figure 4.** Measured $H_{2(aq)}$ concentrations as a function of time. Hydrogen
668 concentrations measured during previous experiments are shown for comparison.
669 F/R = initial fluid to rock mass ratio. See text for discussion.

670

671 **Figure 5.** Back scattered electron images of minerals on exterior surfaces of the
672 rock after 13441 hours of reaction. (a, b, c) Chrysotile (Ctl), lizardite (Lz), polyhedral
673 serpentine (P-Srp), and magnetite on relict olivine. Details of (a) are illustrated in
674 (b) and (c). (d) Euhedral calcite (Cal) and Ctl. (e) Relict orthopyroxene (Opx)
675 showing abundant dissolution features. (f) Sawtooth vein composed of Lz, magnetite
676 (Mag), and heazlewoodite (Hzl) cross-cutting relict olivine (Ol). (g) Chlorite (Chl)
677 geode surrounded by relict clinopyroxene (Cpx), Cr-spinel (Spl), and Ol. (h)
678 Overview image showing areas depicted in (a, solid white line) and (g, dashed white
679 line).

680

681 **Figure 6.** Back scattered electron images of thin sections through the rock after
682 13441 hours of reaction. (a) Overview image of images b (white dashed line) and c
683 (black dashed line) showing relict Opx and Ol and a typical ~ 70 μm thick reaction
684 rim at the rock surface composed of Lz + Ctl \pm Mag. (b) Lz surrounding Opx (light
685 gray) is significantly richer in Fe than Lz surrounding Ol (dark gray). Fe-rich and Fe-
686 poor Lz form sharp fronts and are in clear disequilibrium. Note that Mag is found

687 directly at the Ol surface (cf. Beard et al., 2009) and within the reaction rim. (c) Cpx
688 exsolution lamellae (white) in Opx apparently unaffected by serpentinization. (d)
689 Incipient formation of pseudomorphic mesh texture along former olivine (sub-)
690 grain boundaries. (e) Sawtooth vein composed of Lz and minor Mag cross-cutting
691 relict Ol. (f) Vein composed of Lz and Mag cross-cutting relict Ol. Note the cone-
692 shaped dissolution features in Ol and extending cracks (white arrow). (g) Mag-free
693 bastite pseudomorph after Opx. Mineral abbreviations are the same as in Fig. 5.

694

695 **Figure 7.** Back scattered electron images of minor phases (a-c), apparently
696 unreactive phases (d-e), and an intra-olivine fracture extending from a cone-shaped
697 etch pit (f). (a) Opaque phase assemblage composed of pentlandite (Pn) and Mag.
698 (b) Opaque phase assemblage composed of Hzl and Mag. (c) Large subhedral grain
699 of Cal. (d) Typical Cpx at rock surface with well defined subhedral crystal faces. This
700 may suggest that Cpx alteration was insignificant. Polyhedral serpentine (P-Srp)
701 appears to be associated with Cpx, but it remains unclear whether P-Srp formed at
702 its expense. (e) Unaltered Spl surrounded by partially serpentinized Ol in mesh
703 texture. (f) Magnified image of cone-shaped etch pit and fracture shown in (e, white
704 dashed box).

705

706 **Figure 8.** False color Raman map of representative Lz vein (green) cross-cutting
707 relict Ol (red) within the rock interior. These veins do not host any brucite. Note that
708 we avoided areas with abundant magnetite for the map. Detailed Raman analysis

709 reveal that, where present, magnetite is not associated with brucite. The spatial
710 resolution is $\sim 1\mu\text{m}$.

711

712 **Figure 9.** Electron microprobe analysis of serpentine after olivine and serpentine-
713 chlorite intergrowths after orthopyroxene in different rock textures and domains.
714 The terms 'bastite' and 'mesh' refer to pseudomorphic replacement textures after
715 orthopyroxene and olivine, respectively.

716

717 **Figure 10.** Activity-activity diagram for the system $\text{CaO-MgO-SiO}_2\text{-H}_2\text{O}$ at 300°C and
718 35 MPa calculated with the software code SUPCRT92 (Johnson et al., 1992)
719 assuming $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1$. The speciated activities of measured fluid compositions fall in
720 the chrysotile field (representative of serpentine). Sample numbers refer to those
721 listed in Table 3. The dashed red lines depict the $\text{SiO}_{2(aq)}$ activities for metastable
722 equilibrium according to reactions 5 and 6. The blue line denotes the solubility of
723 quartz. Note that monticellite does not occur in serpentinite. Its formation is
724 therefore suppressed.

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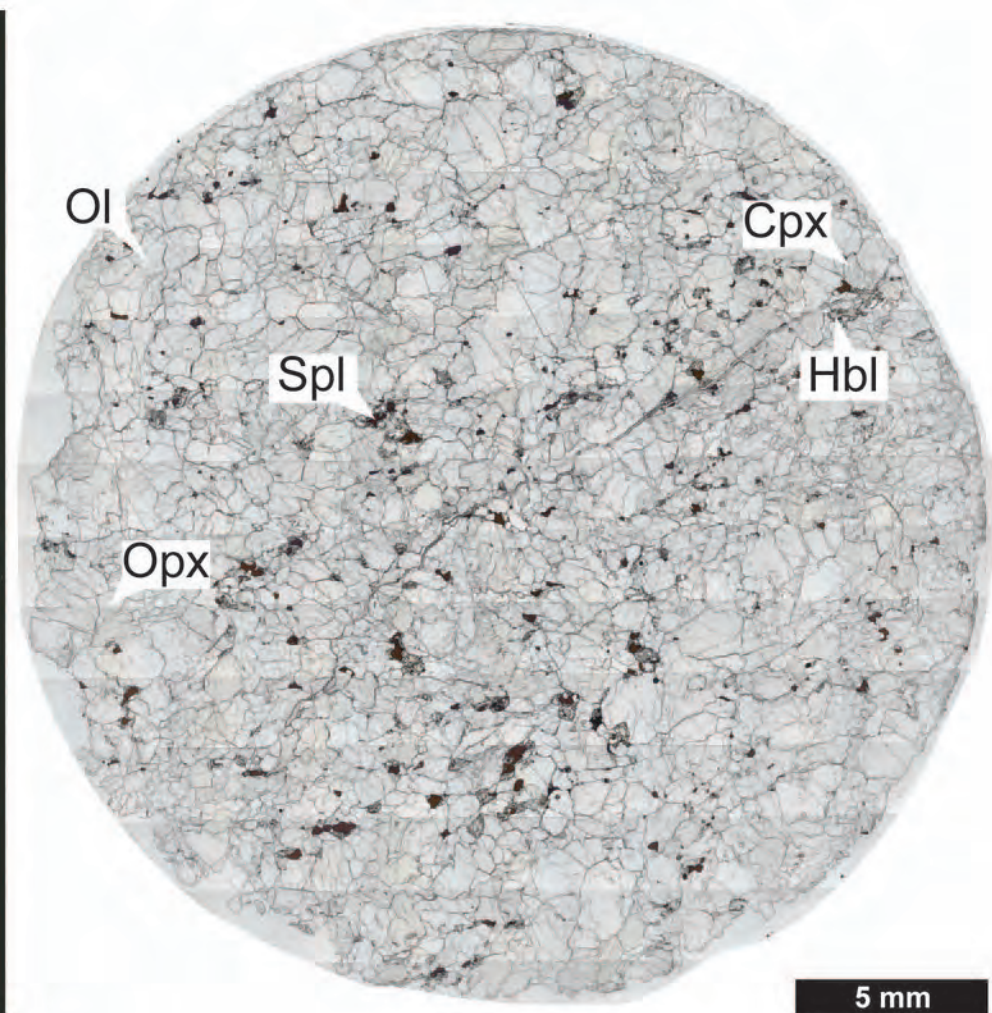
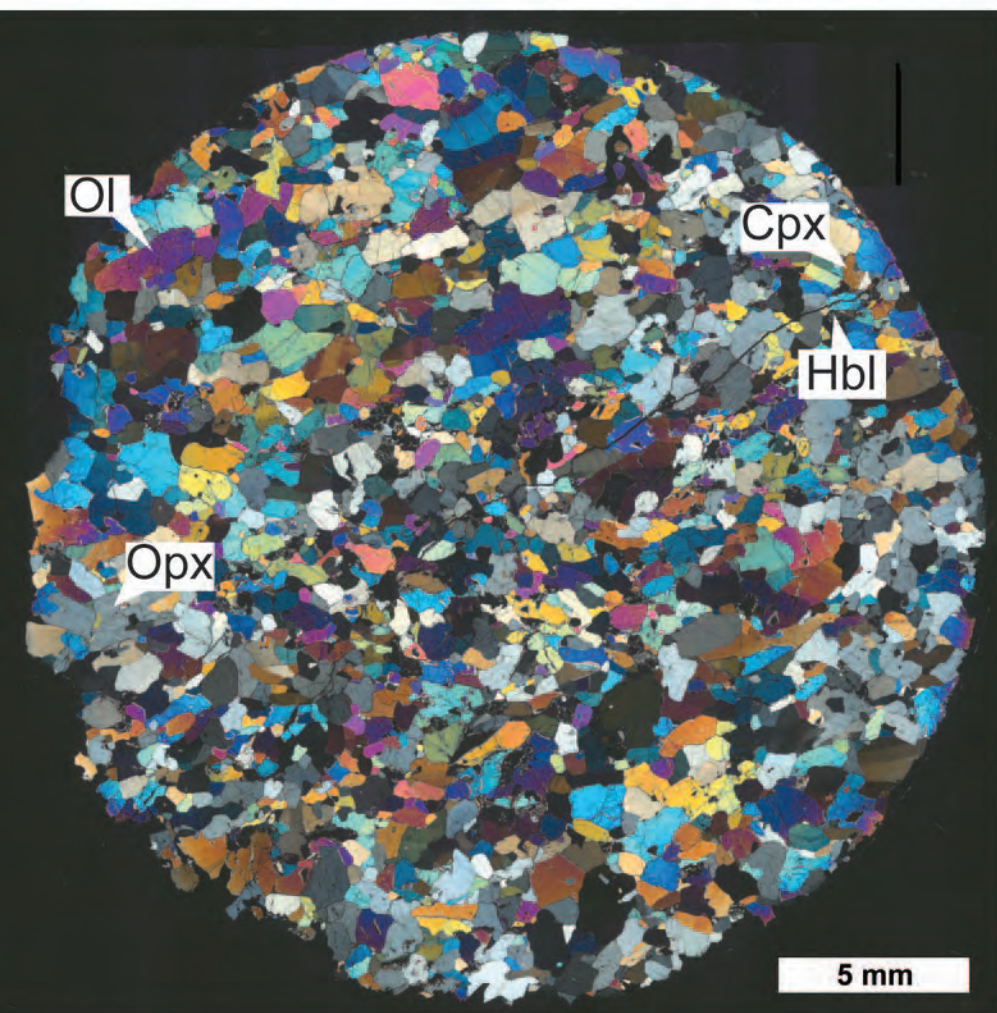


Figure 1

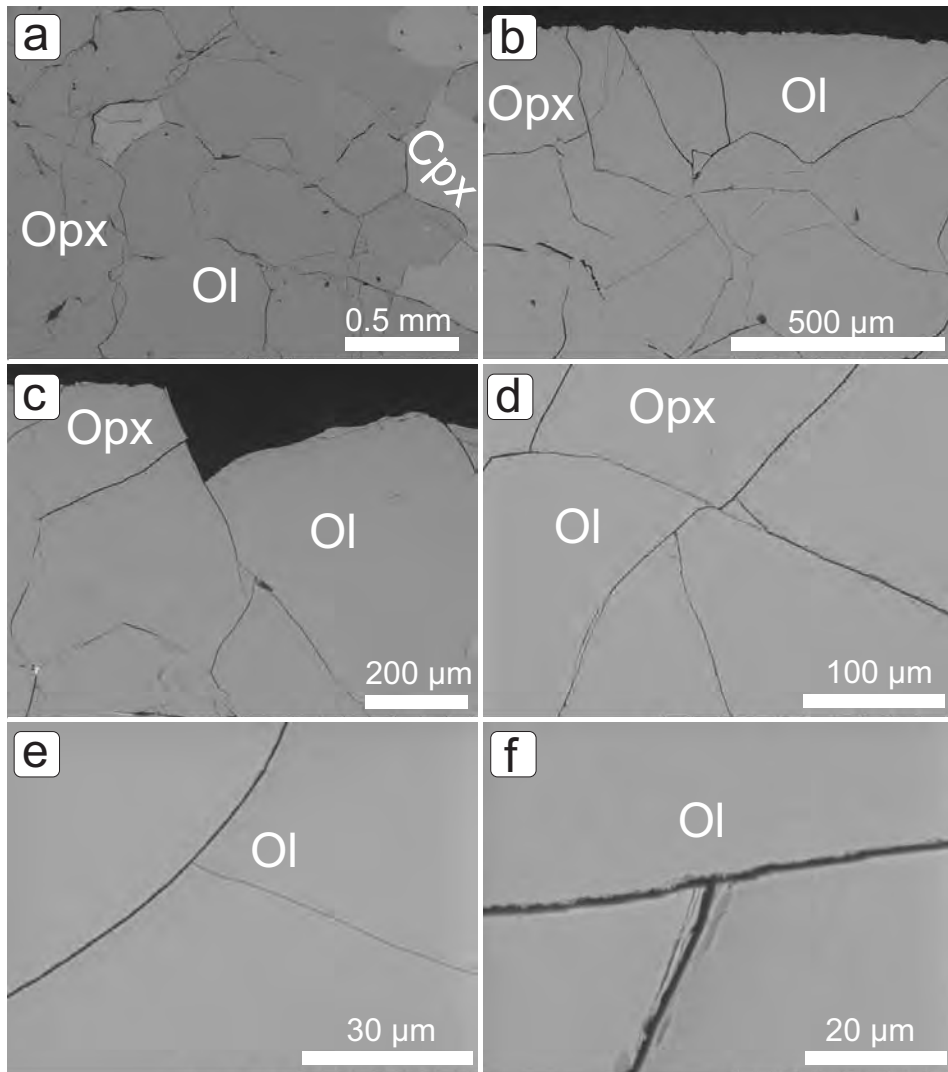


Figure 2

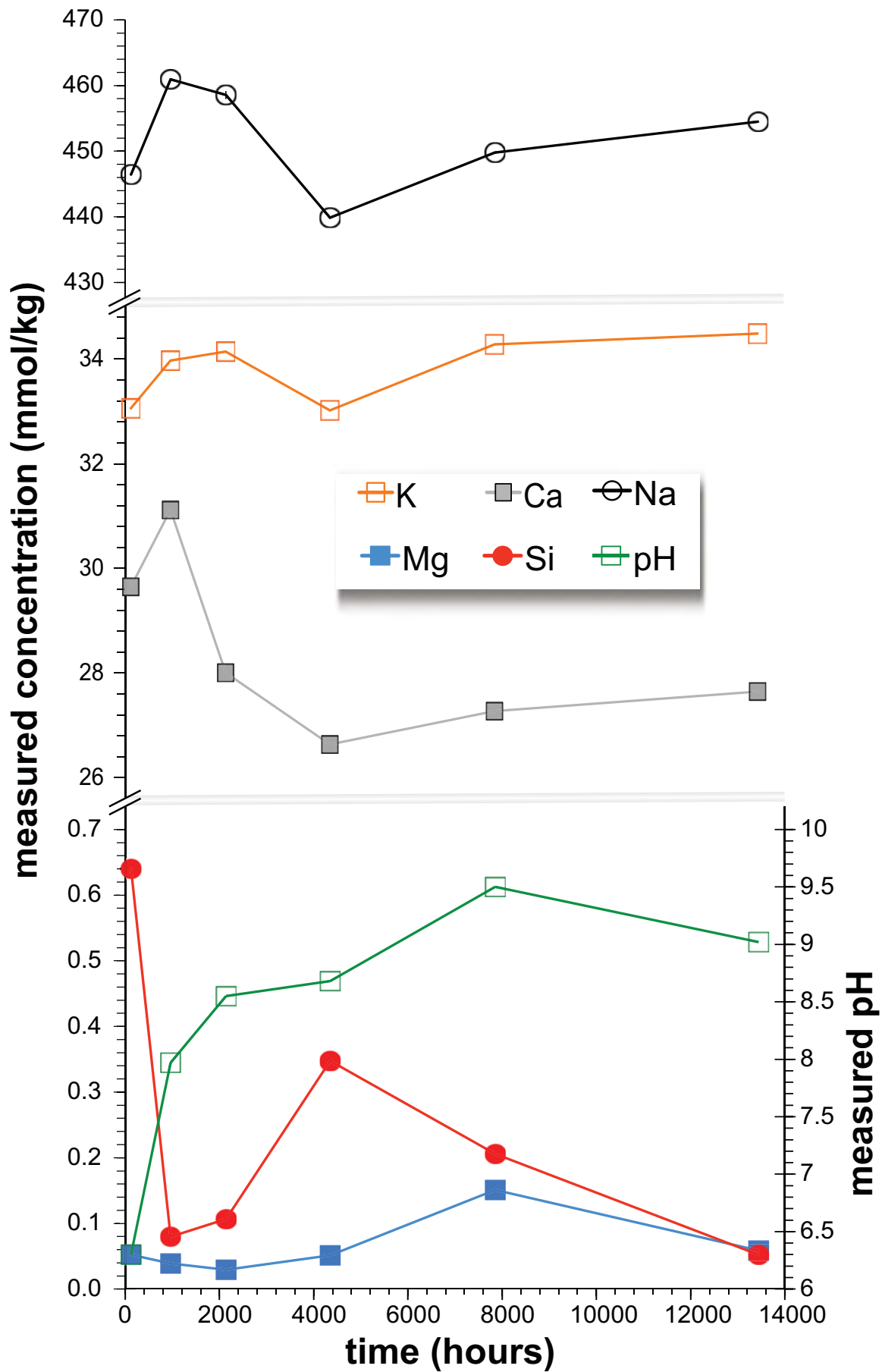


Figure 3

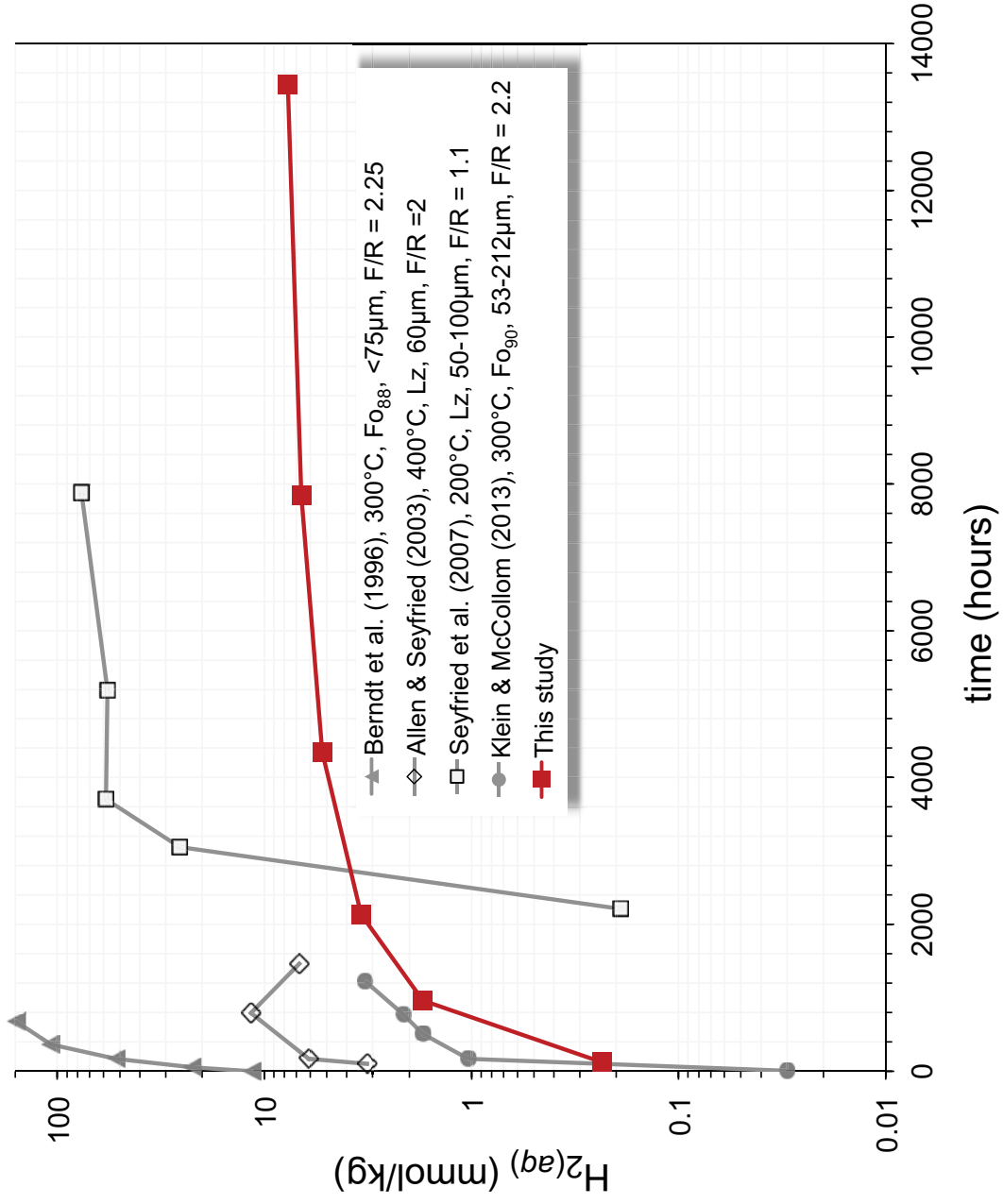


Figure 4

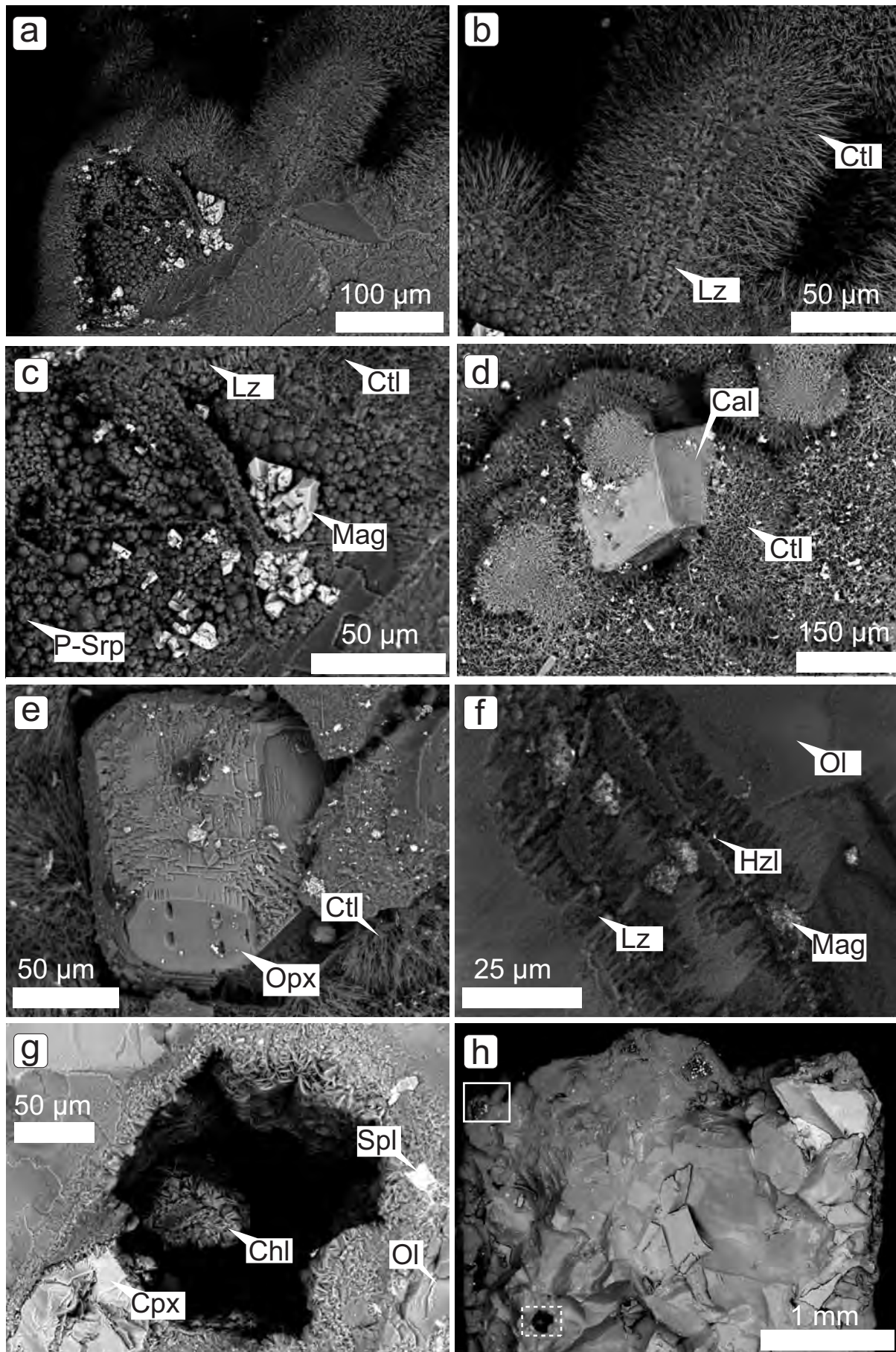


Figure 5

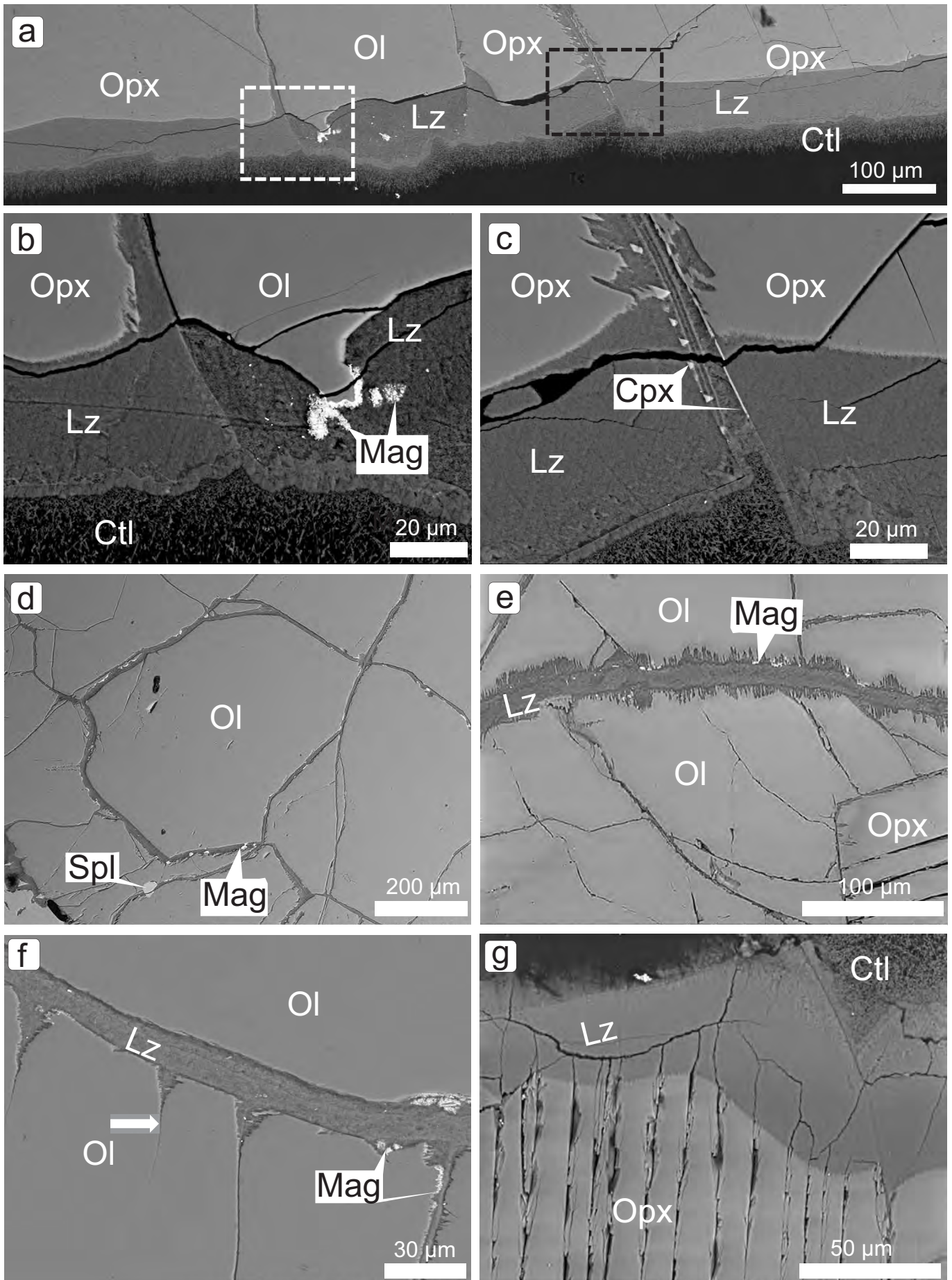


Figure 6

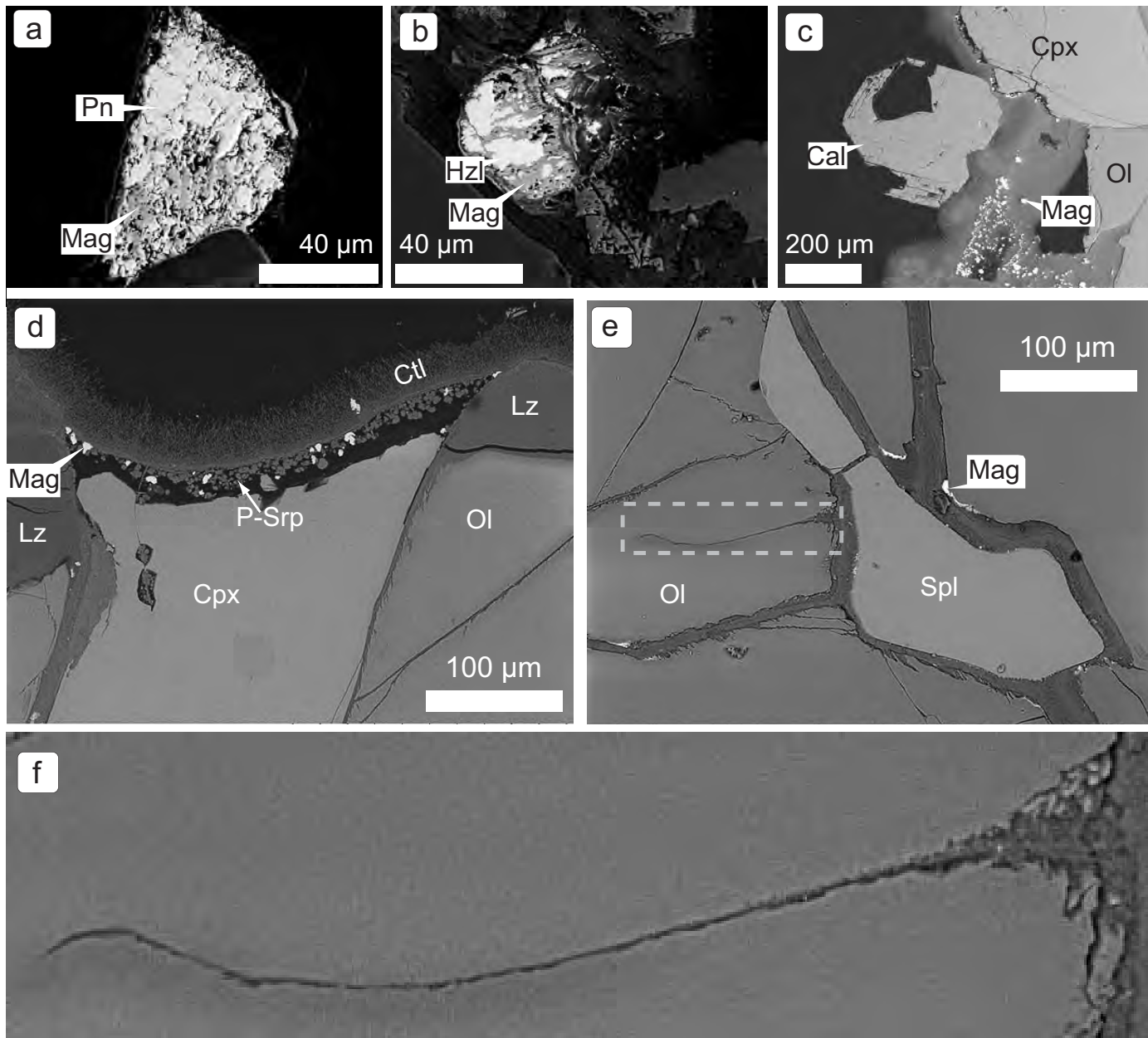


Figure 7

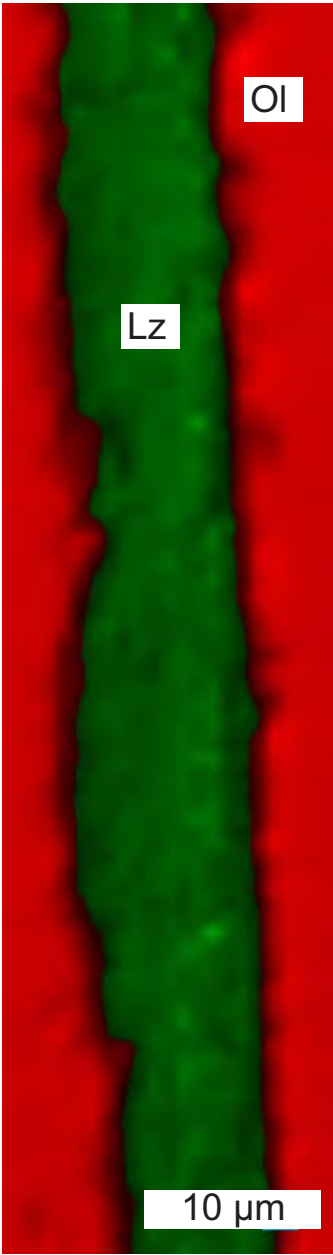


Figure 8

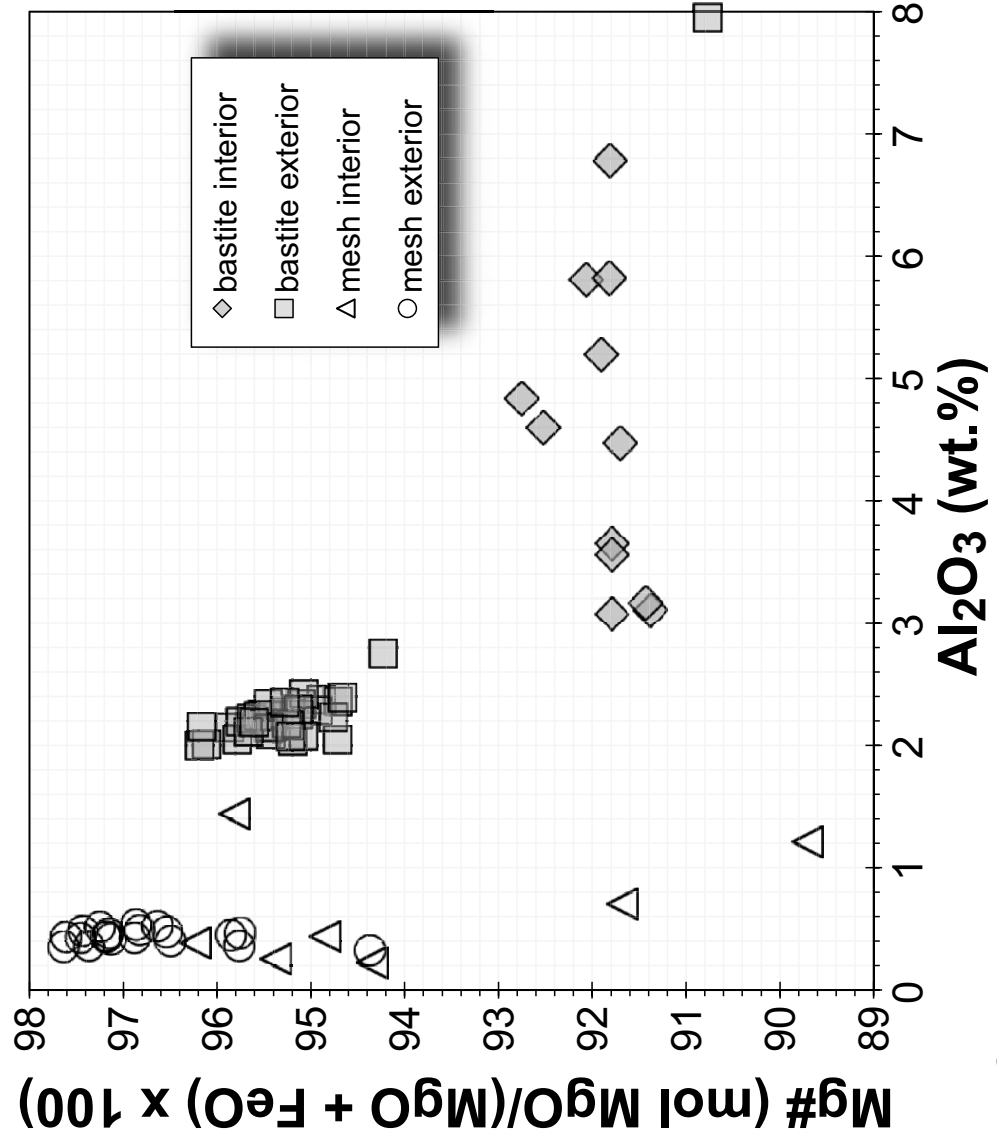


Figure 9

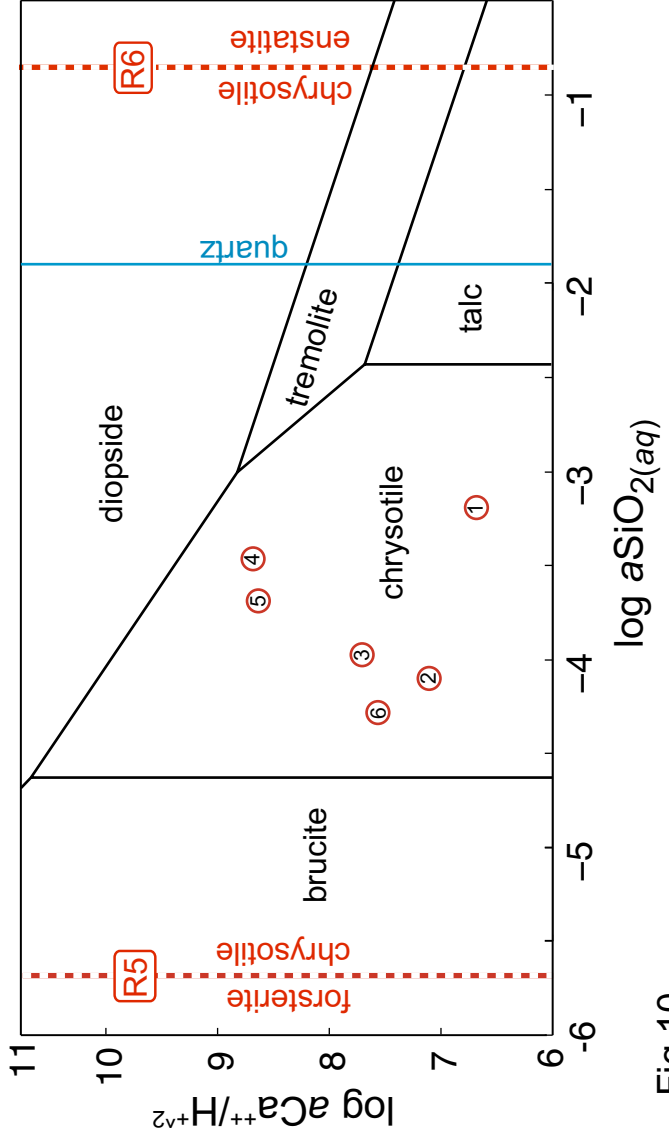


Fig 10

Table 1: Geochemical composition of harzburgite used as the starting material

	wt.%
SiO₂	44.66
TiO₂	0.01
Al₂O₃	1.01
FeO*	7.67
MnO	0.12
MgO	45.96
CaO	0.65
Na₂O	0.04
K₂O	b.d.
P₂O₅	0.02
Sum	100.15

selected trace elements ($\mu\text{g/g}$)

Ni	2404
Cr	2101
V	25
Ba	6
Sr	13
Cu	11
Zn	48

* Total Fe calculated as FeO

Table 2: Electron microprobe analyses of primary minerals (wt.%)

	Ol	σ	Opx	σ	Cpx	σ	Amp	σ
# analyses	6		3		8		4	
SiO ₂	41.13	0.29	56.76	0.29	53.49	0.53	43.46	0.09
TiO ₂	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.08	0.06	0.32	0.10
Al ₂ O ₃	0.01	0.01	2.96	0.23	3.52	0.15	14.83	0.05
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.01	0.02	0.34	0.02	0.60	0.06	1.48	0.08
FeO	8.67	0.15	6.10	0.14	2.85	0.09	4.10	0.07
MnO	0.12	0.05	0.15	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.05
MgO	49.96	1.39	34.39	0.30	16.92	0.29	18.47	0.13
NiO	0.37	0.03	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.11	0.02
CoO	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	b.d.	
CaO	0.08	0.05	0.56	0.10	22.31	0.28	11.52	0.05
Na ₂ O	n.a.		0.04	0.01	0.86	0.03	2.89	0.01
K ₂ O	n.a.		b.d.		b.d.		1.09	0.00
Cl	n.a.		n.a.		n.a.		0.19	0.00
sum	100.38		101.39		100.76		98.54	

Ol = olivine, Opx = orthopyroxene, Cpx = clinopyroxene, Amp = amphibole, b.d. = below detection, n.a. = not analyzed

Table 3: Measured composition of fluid samples taken during the experiment

Sample	Time (hours)	Na (mmol/kg)	K (mmol/kg)	Ca (mmol/kg)	Mg (mmol/kg)	Si (mmol/kg)	H2 (mmol/kg)	pH	fluid (g)
starting fluid	-	463	34.0	31.1	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	-
bleed	0	439.6	32.4	30.5	0.03	n.d.	0.0	n.d.	43.15
	1 122	446.5	33.1	29.7	0.05	0.64	0.2	6.3	37.35
	2 963	460.9	34.0	31.1	0.04	0.08	1.7	8	34.4
	3 2138	458.6	34.1	28.0	0.03	0.11	3.4	8.6	31.01
	4 4348	439.9	33.0	26.6	0.05	0.35	5.3	8.7	27.26
	5 7850	449.8	34.3	27.3	0.15	0.21	6.6	9.5	23.17
	6 13441	454.5	34.5	27.6	0.06	0.05	7.7	9	18.34

n.d. = not determined

Table 4: Summary of petrographic observations

Primary mineral	Secondary mineral	Texture	Comments
Ol	Srp/Mag, Hzl?	mesh	Ol shows dissolution features and fractures. Intra- and transgranular veins composed of Lz, minor Mag, and traces of Hzl. Ctl and Mag after Ol are sub- to euhedral on rock exterior surface.
Opx	Srp, Chl	bastite	Opx shows etch pits, intra- and transgranular veins composed of Lz and Chl.
Spl	-	-	Spl appears unaltered.
Cpx	-	-	Cpx appears unaltered.
Po / Pn	Hzl/Mag	-	Sulfides are irregularly distributed.
Amp	Chl	-	Amp appears mostly unaltered. In some cases it appears to be replaced by Chl
-	Cal	-	Sub- to euhedral Cal precipitates exclusively on exterior rock surface.

Mineral and mineral group abbreviations after Whitney and Evans (2010)

Table 5: Electron microprobe analyses of reaction products (in wt.%)

	mesh exterior	σ	bastite exterior	σ	mesh interior	σ	bastite interior
# analyses	10		36		4		7
SiO ₂	40.90	0.49	38.76	0.72	39.90	1.21	37.81
TiO ₂	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.02
Al ₂ O ₃	0.45	0.06	2.38	0.97	0.44	0.20	5.05
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.02	0.02	0.38	0.06	0.03	0.04	0.31
FeO [†]	2.60	0.66	3.53	0.55	4.22	1.32	5.14
MnO	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.03	0.08	0.04	0.09
MgO	40.32	0.33	39.36	1.02	39.12	1.86	33.54
NiO	0.41	0.12	0.11	0.04	0.18	0.08	0.11
CoO	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.02
SO ₃	0.08	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.06	0.03	0.11
CaO	0.07	0.02	0.17	0.02	0.11	0.05	0.37
Na ₂ O	0.07	0.02	0.08	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.25
K ₂ O	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.13
F	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.02
Cl	0.19	0.07	0.32	0.05	0.18	0.07	0.12
H ₂ O*	14.78	0.68	14.71	0.65	15.51	2.36	16.92

	heazlewoodite	σ	pentlandite	σ		calcite	σ
# analyses	5		4			7	
Cr	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03	MnO	b.d.	-
Mn	b.d.	-	0.01	0.01	MgO	0.04	0.02
Co	0.30	0.04	0.68	0.04	SiO ₂	b.d.	-
Cu	0.10	0.02	0.19	0.03	FeO	0.02	0.02

Mg	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.01	CaO	56.54	0.40
Si	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	CO ₂ *	43.4	0.39
Ti	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.02			
Fe	3.08	0.83	28.33	0.15			
Ni	70.2	0.40	36.5	0.19			
Ca	0.02	0.01	b.d.	-			
S	26.29	0.08	32.59	0.29			
Pt	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01			
P	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01			
Sum	100.15	0.49	98.45	0.53			

† total Fe calculated as FeO, *calculated by difference, b.d. = below detection limit

σ	chlorite	σ
1.23	34.73	1.14
0.03	0.15	0.14
1.01	10.93	0.61
0.23	0.03	0.03
0.24	6.53	0.26
0.02	0.12	0.06
0.61	32.14	0.65
0.05	0.14	0.01
0.03	0.06	0.05
0.03	0.03	0.02
0.16	0.16	0.02
0.17	0.08	0.03
0.06	0.30	0.31
0.04	0.02	0.03
0.05	0.22	0.07
1.42	14.36	1.52