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**Thallium isotopes as tracers of recycled materials in subduction zones: review and new data for lavas from Tonga-Kermadec and Central America**

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18       **Abstract** - Sediment is actively being subducted in every convergent margin worldwide.  
19 Yet, geochemical data for arc lavas from several subduction zones, such as Northern Tonga and  
20 Costa Rica have revealed either attenuated or limited evidence for sediment in their mantle  
21 source regions. Here we use thallium (Tl) isotopes to trace slab components in lavas from the  
22 Tonga-Kermadec and Central American arcs. In general, both arcs display Tl isotope data that  
23 are most compatible with addition of sediment to the sub-arc mantle from the subducting slab.  
24 This evidence is particular strong in the Tonga-Kermadec arc where pelagic clays dominate the  
25 Tl budget along the entire arc. Contributions from altered oceanic crust as well as the Louisville  
26 Seamount chain that subducts underneath Northern Tonga are not visible in Tl isotopes, which is  
27 likely due to the very high Tl concentrations found in pelagic sediments outboard of the Tonga-  
28 Kermadec arc. Lavas from Central America reveal variable and systematic Tl isotope  
29 compositions along-strike. In particular, lavas from Nicaragua are dominated by contributions  
30 from sediments, whereas Costa Rican samples reveal a significant altered oceanic crust  
31 component with little influence from sediments on thallium isotope composition. The absence of  
32 a sediment signature in Costa Rica corresponds with the Cocos Ridge and the seamount province  
33 subduction, which results in a thinner sediment cover. Furthermore, the subducted sediment is  
34 dominated by carbonates with very low Tl concentrations and, therefore, small amounts of  
35 carbonate sediment added to the mantle wedge does not contribute significantly to the overall Tl  
36 budget.

37 A review of Tl isotope and concentration data from the Aleutians, Marianas, Tonga-Kermadec  
38 and Central American arcs demonstrate that pelagic sediments are detectable in most arcs,  
39 whereas altered oceanic crust components only become appreciable when sediment Tl  
40 concentrations are very low (e.g. carbonate) or if sediments are no longer a significant

41 component of the subducting slab (e.g. slab melting in Western Aleutians). As such, Tl isotopes  
42 is a promising tool to trace sediment subduction although this requires at least some pelagic  
43 sediment is present in the subducted sediment package.

44 We suggest that thallium partitioning between the slab and mantle wedge is most likely  
45 controlled by retention in phengite or by partitioning into fluids. Residual phengite likely  
46 produces high Cs/Tl ratios because Tl should be more compatible in phengite than is Cs,  
47 however, this conclusion needs experimental verification. The stability of phengite is lower at  
48 higher fluid contents, which results in hyperbolic relationships between Cs/Tl and possible  
49 indicators of fluids such as Sr/Nd and Ba/Th. Thus, combined Tl isotopic and elemental  
50 systematics not only provide detailed information about the specific slab components that  
51 contribute to arc lavas, but also potentially shed light on the mineralogy and physical conditions  
52 of subducting slabs.

53

## 54 **1. Introduction**

55 It is well established that material released from subducting slabs imparts distinct chemical  
56 signatures to arc volcanism. Many lines of evidence suggest that both subducted sediments and  
57 hydrothermally altered ocean crust (AOC) can play significant roles in the chemistry of arc lavas  
58 (e.g. Elliott et al., 1997; Kay et al., 1978; Plank and Langmuir, 1993). However, even though  
59 sediment appears to be almost ubiquitously part of the subducted package (Plank and Langmuir,  
60 1998) there are several arcs (or segments of arcs) that display very weak or debatably absent  
61 sediment signatures (Hawkesworth et al., 1997; Leeman et al., 2005; Morris et al., 1990;  
62 Regelous et al., 1997; Tera et al., 1986). The reasons for the attenuated sediment signatures in  
63 certain arcs are not clear and, in addition to the case of a very thin layer of initially subducted

64 sediments (e.g., Tonga), could be caused by effective dehydration/melting of the sediment  
65 package at depths too shallow to be supplied to the arc itself, physical accretion of sediment in  
66 the forearc, or because current techniques to detect the sediment component in arc lavas are  
67 either not sufficiently sensitive or yield ambiguous results.

68 Several recent studies have shown that thallium (Tl) isotope compositions of lavas in the  
69 Mariana, Aleutian and Ryukyu arcs provide a powerful and unusually sensitive tracer of  
70 sediment involvement during arc lava genesis (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et al., 2013; Shu et  
71 al., submitted). Thallium is a highly incompatible trace metal, whose chemical behavior is  
72 classically considered to mirror large ion lithophile elements such as Rb, Cs, and K, due to  
73 similarities in ionic radii (Shaw, 1952). Thallium abundances were first specifically investigated  
74 in arc environments by Noll et al. (1996). They sought to determine the fluid mobility of  
75 chalcophile and siderophile elements relative to boron in putative hydrothermal fluids associated  
76 with arc magmatism by analyzing a suite of lavas from seven subduction zones. However, they  
77 could not determine unambiguous co-variation of thallium with other notionally fluid mobile  
78 elements. Whilst there are clear indications of thallium's high fluid mobility in ore-forming  
79 fluids (Heinrichs et al., 1980), the extent of fluid mobility under subduction zone conditions  
80 remains unconstrained. Complicating matters is the possibility of thallium retention in accessory  
81 phases such as phengite in the residual slab (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et al., 2013). Whether  
82 or not thallium behaves as a lithophile or chalcophile element is also setting specific, with clear  
83 lithophile behavior demonstrated during magmatic processes, irrespective of tectonic setting  
84 (Prytulak et al., 2017; Prytulak et al., 2013) and chalcophile affinities found in mantle conditions  
85 and during incipient partial melting (Nielsen et al., 2014). Recent advances in the calibration and  
86 determination of thallium abundances by laser ablation (Jenner and O'Neill, 2012; Nielsen and

87 Lee, 2013; Nielsen et al., 2014) are a promising means to better-constrain elemental Tl behavior.  
88 In general, the power of thallium as a tracer lies in its vanishingly small concentrations in the  
89 mantle (<1ppb; see review in (Nielsen et al., 2017)) versus potential inputs to a mantle source.

90 Thallium has two stable isotopes that display a wide of range of fractionation in terrestrial  
91 environments (see review in (Nielsen et al., 2017)). Specifically, thallium isotopes can be used to  
92 quantify sediment fluxes from subducted slabs because pelagic sediments are highly enriched in  
93 Tl and display isotopic compositions that are heavier than the isotopically homogeneous upper  
94 mantle (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et al., 2013; Rehkämper et al., 2004). The heavy Tl isotope  
95 compositions of pelagic sediments are due to the large isotope fractionation that occurs when Tl  
96 sorbs to Mn oxides that form a ubiquitous component in deep-sea sediments (Nielsen et al.,  
97 2013; Rehkämper et al., 2004; Rehkämper et al., 2002). Most sections of oceanic crust altered by  
98 hydrothermal fluids at low temperatures (<100°C), on the other hand, display light Tl isotope  
99 compositions coupled with strong Tl enrichment (Coggon et al., 2014; Nielsen et al., 2006b; Shu  
100 et al., submitted). Given the disparate Tl isotopic reservoirs represented by pelagic sediments and  
101 AOC, Tl isotopes should enable distinction between AOC and sediment components in arc lavas.  
102 However, the Tl concentrations in pelagic sediments are, generally, one to two orders of  
103 magnitude higher than AOC (1000-5000 ng/g and 10-100 ng/g, respectively) and, therefore, even  
104 minor amounts of sediment might dominate the Tl budget of arc lava source regions. To date, arc  
105 lavas investigated for Tl isotopes show almost exclusively signatures consistent with addition of  
106 sediment to the arc mantle source region, which is expected to overwhelm the presence of any  
107 thallium signature of AOC (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et al., 2013; Shu et al., submitted).  
108 However, the arcs investigated for Tl isotopes had previously been shown based on other  
109 geochemical data to contain significant sediment components (Elliott et al., 1997; Kay and Kay,

110 1988; Shinjo et al., 2000). Hence these studies provided confirmation that sediment cycling in  
111 arcs can be traced with Tl isotopes. In addition, they also showed that the subduction process  
112 itself does not appear to fractionate Tl isotopes because the major inputs outboard of the arcs  
113 have very similar values to those found in the arc lavas. Thus, any stable isotope fractionation  
114 between residual slab, melts and fluids must be smaller than the Tl isotope variations of the  
115 subducting sediments that dominated these arcs. Such a conclusion is also consistent with other  
116 studies of high-T magmatic systems in Hekla, Iceland (Prytulak et al., 2017) and the Colahuasi  
117 deposit in Chile (Baker et al., 2010) where no systematic Tl isotope variations were observed  
118 that could be related to fractional crystallization or high-T fluid transport. Thallium isotopes are,  
119 therefore, likely to be an excellent source tracer in subduction zones.

120 Here we present new Tl isotope data for samples from the Tonga-Kermadec and Central  
121 American arcs. Although sediment subduction appears almost continuous along-strike in both  
122 arcs (Plank and Langmuir, 1998), sections have been hypothesized to have very minor or even  
123 absent sediment components (Carr et al., 1990; Hawkesworth et al., 1997; Morris et al., 1990;  
124 Patino et al., 2000; Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous et al., 2010). In addition, the nature of the  
125 subducted sediment is very different in the Tonga-Kermadec and Central American arcs. A  
126 relatively thin layer of pelagic clays accounts for the majority of the package subducted  
127 underneath the Tonga-Kermadec arc, whereas thick and discrete pelagic and carbonate  
128 sedimentary packages dominate outboard of the Central American arc (Patino et al., 2000; Plank  
129 and Langmuir, 1988). Therefore, these two arcs present a unique opportunity to investigate the  
130 ubiquity of sediment addition in subduction zones and if Tl isotopes are able to trace sediment  
131 additions where other geochemical parameters might only return ambiguous results.

132

## 133 **2. Samples and background**

### 134 **2.1 Tonga-Kermadec**

135 The Tonga-Kermadec arc is located in the Southwest Pacific Ocean stretching over 3000km  
136 from the Northern end of New Zealand to northwards to the Vitiaz Trench approximately 200km  
137 south of Samoa (Fig. 1). The subducting Pacific plate drilled at Deep Sea Drilling Project  
138 (DSDP) sites 595/596 consists of only 70 meters of mainly pelagic red and brown clays, rich in  
139 ferromanganese oxide minerals overlying Cretaceous age oceanic crust (Menard et al., 1983;  
140 Speeden, 1973). The thickness, and the proportion of continental clastic sediment increase  
141 southward along the trench towards New Zealand (Gamble et al., 1996). The Louisville  
142 Seamount chain subducts obliquely, intersecting the trench at the point where the Tonga and  
143 Kermadec arcs meet (Fig. 1). Volcaniclastic material from Louisville Seamount Chain (LSMC)  
144 is evidenced in the sediments found at DSDP Site 204 (Fig. 1), some of which bear geochemical  
145 resemblance to Louisville Seamount rocks (Ewart et al., 1998).

146 Previous studies of lavas in the Tonga-Kermadec arc have found clear signatures of  
147 sediment (for example, high  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for a given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ) dominating most of the  
148 Kermadec arc (Ewart et al., 1998; George et al., 2005; Haase et al., 2002; Hawkesworth et al.,  
149 1997; Regelous et al., 1997; Turner and Hawkesworth, 1997), whereas the Tonga arc appears  
150 more influenced by an AOC component (Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous et al., 2010; Wendt et  
151 al., 1997) although sediment may also constitute a minor component (George et al., 2005). The  
152 two northernmost islands in the Tonga arc, Tafahi and Niuatoputapu, display strong Pb isotopic  
153 evidence suggesting that the LSMC is the primary source of Pb in these two islands (Regelous et  
154 al., 1997; Regelous et al., 2010; Turner and Hawkesworth, 1997). As a whole, the Tonga-  
155 Kermadec arc, therefore, displays along-strike chemical and isotopic variation that can be related

156 to changes in the composition of the down-going plate and, in particular, large variations in the  
157 ratio between sediments and AOC supplied to the mantle wedge (Haase et al., 2002). With these  
158 previous findings in mind, it would be expected that Tl isotopes display substantial and  
159 systematic variation as a function of the composition of the subducted material along-strike in  
160 the Tonga-Kermadec arc.

161 We have measured Tl isotope compositions for a set of 30 subaerial lavas from 12 islands  
162 covering the entire length of the Tonga-Kermadec arc (Table 1). The majority of the samples are  
163 basalts or basaltic andesites complemented by five dacites and three andesites where less evolved  
164 samples were not available. All samples are likely less than a few 100ka in age. Most samples  
165 have previously been investigated for major and trace elements and some radiogenic isotopes  
166 (Ewart et al., 1998; Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous et al., 2010; Smith et al., 1988). Here, we  
167 also present new major elements and Sr and Nd isotope data for samples that did not already  
168 have published values (Table 1 and 2). We have also analyzed Tl isotopes for 12 representative  
169 sediment samples (Table 3) from DSDP Sites 204 and 596 located outboard of the Tonga portion  
170 of the arc (Fig. 1). These sediments have previously been the subject of detailed geochemical  
171 analyses (Ewart et al., 1998). The AOC subducted beneath the Tonga-Kermadec arc is presently  
172 not well sampled by any drill holes and we have not analyzed any samples that represent Tonga-  
173 Kermadec AOC. A previous study analyzed composite samples of AOC from ODP Hole 801C  
174 outboard of the Mariana arc that are similar in age to the oceanic crust subducted in the Tonga-  
175 Kermadec arc (Prytulak et al., 2013). However, the Tl isotope and concentration data for ODP  
176 801C revealed mantle-like Tl isotope compositions, in contrast to those determined in AOC from  
177 ODP 504B, IODP U1301 and DSDP 442B (Coggon et al., 2014; Nielsen et al., 2006b; Shu et al.,  
178 submitted). This discrepancy is possibly related to the unusual Top Alkali Basalt found in ODP



179 Hole 801C, which could have affected the Tl concentration and isotopic profile of the oceanic  
180 crust due to late hydrothermal systems associated with this magmatic activity. Hence, without  
181 analyses of the specific subducting AOC, we assume that in the Tonga-Kermadec arc, it is  
182 similar to the majority of worldwide AOC sections investigated to date.

183

## 184 **2.2 Central America**

185 The Central American volcanic arc (CAVA), *sensu stricto*, results from the subduction of  
186 the Cocos and Nazca plate beneath the Caribbean Plate and extends some 1200km from western  
187 Guatemala to central Costa Rica (Fig. 2). The volcanic front terminates to the southeast where  
188 the Cocos Ridge subducts beneath central Costa Rica. From Guatemala to northwestern Costa  
189 Rica the Cocos plate consists of ~ 24 Ma oceanic crust formed at the East Pacific Rise. In  
190 contrast, further southeast along the CAVA slightly younger oceanic crust (15-20 Ma) of the  
191 Cocos-Nazca Ridge that is variably overprinted by Galapagos hotspot magmatism is subducting  
192 (Werner et al., 2003). Some of the physical parameters of the subduction system vary  
193 systematically along the strike of the arc. Most notably, variations in crustal thickness of the  
194 overriding plate, and of slab dip, have been used to help explain the unique along-strike variation  
195 in geochemistry along the CAVA (Abers et al., 2003; Carr, 1984; Carr et al., 1990; Feigenson  
196 and Carr, 1993; Patino et al., 2000).

197 The active arc front has produced magmas since the Quaternary (Carr et al., 2007) and can  
198 be structurally split into seven segments of aligned volcanic centers (Bolge et al., 2009; Stoiber  
199 and Carr, 1973), spaced an average of 28km apart, allowing for higher resolution sampling of  
200 volcanic products than most other convergent margins (Carr et al., 2003). Additional volcanic  
201 centers lie behind the active arc front, enabling the investigation of both along-strike, and cross-

202 arc chemical variations (Geilert et al., 2012; Patino et al., 1997; Walker et al., 1995; Walker et  
203 al., 2000). Furthermore, the study of magmatic sources in the CAVA is aided by the unusual  
204 abundance of mafic lavas (Carr, 1984).

205 There are strong chemical constraints on the inputs to the system through a combination of  
206 ocean dredging and drilling. For instance, the downgoing Cocos plate has been the focus of  
207 numerous DSDP, Ocean Drilling (ODP) and International Ocean Drilling (IODP) expeditions  
208 (Fig. 2). The sedimentary package covering the Cocos plate is thought to be fairly homogeneous  
209 along the strike of the arc (Patino et al., 2000). The main lithologies are described from DSDP  
210 Leg 67 Site 495, drilled 22km seaward of the middle America trench, outboard of the  
211 Guatemala/El Salvador border (Aubouin et al., 1982; Plank and Langmuir, 1998). Site 495  
212 consists of ~175m of hemipelagic sediments overlying ~250m of pelagic carbonate ooze  
213 (Aubouin et al., 1982). Both of these sediment lithologies have been invoked in the source of  
214 CAVA lavas (Patino et al., 2000). DSDP Hole 504B is also located in geographical proximity to  
215 the arc on the Nazca plate south of the Cocos ridge. Site 504 has one of the best-studied sections  
216 of in situ altered oceanic crust, and has been investigated by several drilling expeditions (Alt et  
217 al., 1996). Furthermore, altered basalts from Hole 504B provided the first evidence for light  
218 thallium isotopes in low temperature altered crust (Nielsen et al., 2006b).

219 The earliest investigations of mafic CAVA lavas revealed distinct and systematic along-  
220 strike variations in chemistry (Carr, 1984), which has encouraged intense subsequent  
221 investigation. In general, a symmetrical pattern with a maximum or minimum at Nicaragua is  
222 apparent in a number of chemical signatures such as Ba/La, B/La and Be isotopes, which is  
223 generally attributed to variations in sediment flux along the arc, with a maximum in Nicaragua  
224 and a minimum in Costa Rica and western Panama (where the Cocos ridge is being subducted)

225 (Carr, 1984; Carr et al., 1990; Leeman et al., 1994; Patino et al., 2000). Although reaching an  
226 apparent maximum in Nicaragua, the recycled sediment flux also shows its greatest variation in  
227 Nicaragua, which may explain the eruption of contrasting basaltic magmas in this portion of the  
228 CAVA (Walker et al., 1990; Walker et al., 2001).

229 More recent studies have confirmed and converged on the idea of an anomalous Nicaraguan  
230 segment, including arguments for the involvement of serpentinite-derived fluids in the heavily  
231 slab-influenced western Nicaraguan lavas (Eiler et al., 2005; Heydolph et al., 2012; Rupke et al.,  
232 2002; Sadofsky et al., 2008). The Costa Rican segment is also atypical with variable subducted  
233 inputs from the Galapagos plume (Gazel et al., 2009; Gazel et al., 2011; Hoernle et al., 2008;  
234 Sadofsky et al., 2008). Finally, higher resolution seismic data has allowed the more detailed  
235 examination of the tectonic relationship to volcanic location and chemical characteristics in the  
236 southern half of the arc (Abers et al., 2003; Hoernle et al., 2008; Syracuse et al., 2008; Van  
237 Avendonk et al., 2011). Thus the well-documented, strong and systematic chemical variations, in  
238 particular the rich background of fluid mobile element analysis such as B, Be and Li in the  
239 CAVA, make it an ideal place to test the ability of thallium isotopes to reflect individual slab  
240 components in the source of the lavas.

241 We have measured 34 lavas from the CAVA system and two sediments from DSDP Site  
242 495. All but three lava samples (from Guatemala) are from the active volcanic front. Most are  
243 basaltic, with SiO<sub>2</sub> below 52 wt% and have been extensively studied by numerous investigations  
244 for major element, trace element and both radiogenic and stable isotope variations. An extremely  
245 useful chemical database has been compiled for CAVA lavas (Carr et al., 2014) and the chemical  
246 compositions and references for the samples of this study are archived in that database.

247

## 248 **3. Methods**

### 249 **3.1 Sample preparation**

250 All sediment samples and lavas from Central America as well as the majority of lavas from  
251 Tonga were received and processed as powders. Some of the lavas from Tonga-Kermadec were  
252 received as rock fragments and these were carefully crushed into mm-sized chips and  
253 handpicked under binocular microscope to avoid pieces with surficial alteration and  
254 contamination. Subsequently the separated chips were ultrasonicated in ultra-pure water and any  
255 particles in suspension were discarded. Separate aliquots of several of the rock chip samples  
256 were also subjected to mild leaching in 1M HCl in order to investigate if contamination from any  
257 Mn oxides or alteration minerals was present (Table 1). This procedure has been shown to  
258 effectively remove these contaminants (Nielsen et al., 2016).

259 The rock and sediment powders as well as the handpicked and cleaned chips were dissolved  
260 in a 1:1 mixture of concentrated distilled HNO<sub>3</sub> and HF on a hotplate at ~150°C for 24h. They  
261 were then dried and fluxed several times using a 1:1 mixture of concentrated distilled HNO<sub>3</sub> and  
262 HCl until the fluorides, which formed in the first step, were completely dissolved. Following  
263 this, samples were dried on a hotplate and dissolved in 1M HCl in preparation for separation of  
264 Tl from sample matrix. Isolation of Tl followed previously described anion exchange  
265 chromatographic methods (Nielsen and Rehkämper, 2011; Nielsen et al., 2004). Total procedural  
266 Tl blanks during this study were <3pg, which is insignificant compared to the indigenous Tl  
267 processed for the samples of >3ng.

268

## 269 **3.2 Thallium isotope and concentration measurements**

270 Thallium isotope compositions were determined using a Thermo Finnigan Neptune multiple  
271 collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICPMS), located in the Plasma  
272 Facility at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI). Following previous studies (Nielsen  
273 et al., 2004), external correction for mass discrimination to NIST SRM 981 Pb and standard-  
274 sample bracketing to the NIST SRM 997 Tl standard were applied for measurement of Tl  
275 isotopic compositions and correction for instrumental mass bias. Thallium isotope compositions  
276 are reported relative to the NIST SRM 997 standard in parts per 10,000:

$$277 \quad \epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = 10,000 \times \left( \frac{{}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{sample}} - {}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{SRM 997}}}{{}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{203}\text{Tl}_{\text{SRM 997}}} \right) \quad (1)$$

278 The column chemistry procedure returns quantitative Tl yields (Nielsen et al., 2004;  
279 Prytulak et al., 2013; Rehkämper and Halliday, 1999), thus Tl concentrations were estimated by  
280 monitoring the  ${}^{205}\text{Tl}$  intensity during the isotopic measurements. The measured  ${}^{205}\text{Tl}/{}^{208}\text{Pb}$  ratios  
281 were converted directly into Tl concentrations by adding a known quantity of NIST SRM 981  
282 Pb. Recent studies in the NIRVANA (Non-traditional Isotope Research on Various Advanced  
283 Novel Applications) lab at WHOI has documented that the long-term reproducibility of Tl  
284 isotopes and concentrations in silicate samples are  $\pm 0.4 \epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$ -units (2sd) and  $\pm 15\%$  (2sd),  
285 respectively (Nielsen et al., 2015; Nielsen et al., 2016; Shu et al., submitted).

286

## 287 **3.3 Measurements of Nd and Sr isotope compositions and major elements**

288 For Sr and Nd isotope measurements, approximately 100 mg of sample was digested in  
289 concentrated  $\text{HNO}_3$ -HF, evaporated and treated with 15M  $\text{HNO}_3$  until completely in solution.  
290 The sample was then dissolved in 3M  $\text{HNO}_3$ , and Sr and the REE were separated from the rock  
291 matrix using Eichrom SrSpec and TRUSpec resins, respectively. The REE fraction was re-

292 dissolved in 0.25M HCl, and Nd separated from the other REE using ion exchange columns  
293 containing 1.5 ml of Eichrom LNSpec resin. All reagents used were Teflon distilled, and total  
294 procedural blanks were below 100 ng and 20 ng for Sr and Nd respectively. Isotope  
295 measurements were carried out on a Thermo Triton thermal ionisation mass spectrometer in  
296 static mode at the GeoZentrum Nordbayern. Measured  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  and  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  ratios were  
297 corrected for instrumental mass fractionation assuming  $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr} = 0.1194$  and  $^{146}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} =$   
298  $0.7219$ . Over the period of analysis, average values of the NBS987 Sr and La Jolla Nd standards  
299 were  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.710249 \pm 0.000012$  (2 sd, n=15) and  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.511850 \pm 0.000009$  (2sd,  
300 n=8), respectively, and the data in Table 1 were normalized to values of 0.710240 and 0.511857,  
301 for direct comparison with the earlier data from Ewart et al. (1998).

302 Major element analyses of Tonga lavas were carried out by XRF (AMETEK Spectro  
303 XEPOS Plus) at the GeoZentrum Nordbayern, on fused glass discs prepared by using lithium  
304 tetraborate as flux. Accuracy and precision of the major element analyses was estimated from  
305 five replicate analyses of the BE-N basalt standard and were better than 2% (1sd) for all elements  
306 except  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ , which was 5%. Loss on ignition was determined on a 1 g aliquot heated at 1030°C  
307 in a muffle furnace for 12 hours.

308

## 309 **4. Results**

### 310 **4.1 Tonga-Kermadec**

311 Thallium concentration in the Tonga-Kermadec lavas range from ~5ng/g to 144ng/g, with  
312 the highest concentrations found for the most evolved samples (Fig. 3a). Lavas in the Tonga arc  
313 vary between  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -0.7$  to  $+6.7$ , with an average value of  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +1.2$ , while lavas in the  
314 Kermadec arc vary between  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -0.5$  to  $+11.5$  (Table 1), with an average value of  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} =$

315 +3.1. Every lava analyzed in this study is significantly heavier than the average upper mantle, as  
316 defined by MORB, which displays  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -2 \pm 0.5$  (Nielsen et al., 2006a; Nielsen et al., 2006b).  
317 Sediments from DSDP Sites 204 and 596 contain primarily pelagic clays (Menard et al., 1983;  
318 Speeden, 1973), but at DSDP Site 204 significant amounts of volcanoclastic sediments from the  
319 LSMC are also found (Speeden, 1973). Thallium isotope compositions and concentrations are  
320 substantially different for these two sediment types with pelagic clays exhibiting a concentration-  
321 weighted average  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +3.6$  and  $[\text{Tl}] = 1876$  ng/g, whereas volcanoclastic sediments are  
322 characterized by concentration-weighted average  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +0.2$  and  $[\text{Tl}] = 214$  ng/g (Table 3).  
323 We use these averages as representatives for the two different sediment components and do not  
324 attempt to estimate the bulk average subducted sediment because the volcanoclastic sediment  
325 component is highly variable along the arc to the extent that little or no LSMC volcanoclastics are  
326 subducted beneath the Kermadec arc. The Tl compositional differences are consistent with  
327 substantial enrichment of isotopically heavy Tl in pelagic clays from Mn oxides (Nielsen et al.,  
328 2013; Rehkämper et al., 2004), whereas volcanoclastic sediments only contain minor Mn oxide  
329 components.

330

## 331 **4.2 Central America**

332 Thallium concentrations in the CAVA lavas range from  $<5$  ng/g in primitive lavas from  
333 central Nicaragua to  $\sim 150$  ng/g in more evolved lavas (Table 4). This behavior likely reflects the  
334 near-perfectly incompatible behavior of Tl during differentiation processes (Prytulak et al.,  
335 2017). Although the lavas span a large geographic area and encompass many volcanic centers,  
336 the overall sense of increasing Tl concentration with decreasing MgO is apparent (Fig. 3b). A  
337 clear exception is sample CR-IZ-D6 from Irazu volcano in Costa Rica, which has an

338 anomalously high thallium concentration (243 ng/g) for its degree of evolution (Fig. 3b). Note  
339 that we did not estimate the Tl concentration of sample NE203. This sample was analyzed by  
340 Noll et al. (1996) who reported a concentration of 1 ng/g. However, this concentration is  
341 substantially lower than any other arc lava analyzed to date and also produces  $Ce/Tl = 8400$ ,  
342 which is far higher than what is realistic for an arc lava. We, therefore, only use the Tl isotope  
343 composition for this sample.

344 Compared to other investigated arcs, thallium isotope signatures lighter than MORB are  
345 more common in the CAVA (Table 4). At face value, the 34 lavas analyzed in this study also  
346 display the largest range of isotope composition in mafic lavas documented to date, with  $\epsilon^{205}Tl$   
347 = -11.5 to +9.0 and does not correlate with classic recycled sediment indicators such as Ba/La,  
348 U/La or  $^{10}Be$  in the arc. The extremes of this range occur in the same volcanic system, the  
349 Nejapa cinder cones of central Nicaragua, which are noteworthy for their overall chemical  
350 variability (Walker et al., 1990; Walker et al., 2001). Significantly light isotope signatures of  
351  $\epsilon^{205}Tl = -8.2$  are also found in Irazu volcano, located in central Costa Rica. The three behind the  
352 volcanic front sample from Guatemala (GU-C201, GU-C303 and GU-C837) have average  $\epsilon^{205}Tl$   
353 = -1.1, which is not significantly anomalous when considered in the context of the overall  
354 variation in CAVA lavas. The carbonate sediment yields a heavy isotope value of  $\epsilon^{205}Tl = +5.8$ ,  
355 albeit at a low Tl concentration of 33 ng/g. The hemipelagic sediment has a much higher  
356 thallium concentration of 1077 ng/g and an isotope composition of  $\epsilon^{205}Tl = +0.2$ , similar to  
357 sediments analyzed from outboard the Mariana, Aleutian, and Tongan subduction zones.

358



## 359 **5. Discussion**

### 360 **5.1 Effects of secondary processes on primary [Tl] and $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$**

361 It has been documented that processes such as degassing, subaerial aqueous alteration,  
362 assimilation of wall rock and fractional crystallization prior to eruption can alter the Tl budget of  
363 subaerial lavas and potentially cause Tl isotope fractionation (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et al.,  
364 2013). Before interpreting isotopic signatures in terms of source components we must first assess  
365 if any of the above processes affected the investigated lavas from Tonga-Kermadec and Central  
366 America.

367

#### 368 ***5.1.1. Subaerial aqueous alteration***

369 Subaerial lavas are often observed to preferentially lose alkali metals during aqueous  
370 alteration from meteoric water (Schiano et al., 1993). This effect is most likely due to the high  
371 solubility of these metals in aqueous solution. Given the geochemical similarity between Tl and  
372 the alkali metals (i.e. ionic charge and radius as well as high aqueous solubility) it has been  
373 suggested that subaerial alteration may lead to significant Tl losses, reflected as high Ce/Tl ratios  
374 coupled with high Th/Rb ratios (Nielsen et al., 2016). These losses, however, would likely not be  
375 associated with Tl isotope fractionation because weathering has been shown to cause negligible  
376 effect on the isotope system (Nielsen et al., 2005). Figure 4 illustrates the trajectory of alteration  
377 in Ce/Tl vs Th/Rb space with a Hawaiian lava that had clear petrologic and geochemical  
378 evidence for subaerial alteration although no Tl isotope fractionation appeared to have perturbed  
379 this sample (Nielsen et al., 2006a). Also plotted is one sample from the Aleutians that likewise  
380 was suspected of subaerial alteration (Nielsen et al., 2016). Compared to these two lavas, the  
381 datasets from both Tonga-Kermadec and the CAVA do not show any clear indication of

382 subaerial alteration. High loss on ignition (LOI) measured for bulk rock powders can also be a  
383 qualitative indicator of degree of weathering, but in our data set there are no correlations between  
384 LOI and other indicators of weathering and generally LOI is very low (<0.5%) for the studied  
385 lavas, which suggests that alteration is not significant.

386 Central American lavas span greater ranges of Ce/Tl and Th/Rb than unaltered lavas from  
387 the Tonga-Kermadec and Aleutian arcs (Fig. 4). In principle, this variation could be interpreted  
388 to reflect more extensive alteration of CAVA lavas. However, the vast majority of the samples  
389 studied here are historical eruptions with essentially no or very minor alteration (Carr et al.,  
390 2014), which suggests that the most elevated Th/Rb and Ce/Tl ratios of samples from Irazu  
391 volcano in central Costa Rica are likely related to their unusual Galapagos-tainted source rather  
392 than an alteration affect (Gazel et al., 2009; Gazel et al., 2011). This interpretation is also  
393 supported by the high Th/Rb ratios observed in Galapagos lavas (Saal et al., 2007). Although no  
394 Tl concentration data is available for Galapagos lavas, high Ce/Tl ratios are generally found in  
395 other OIBs (Nielsen et al., 2014), which supports such an origin for the anomalous Ce/Tl and  
396 Th/Rb ratios found in the Irazu samples. Hence, we conclude that none of the CAVA samples  
397 were significantly affected by post-eruption aqueous alteration

398

### 399 ***5.1.2 Degassing***

400 Volcanic fumaroles contain elevated concentrations of thallium and display a range of Tl  
401 isotope compositions that span both very light and heavy values, which has been interpreted to  
402 reflect both evaporation and condensation processes (Baker et al., 2009). In principle, degassing  
403 should be expressed as a loss of Tl associated with kinetic isotope fractionation whereby the light  
404 Tl isotope would preferentially be lost. Given that Tl partitioning during mantle melting is

405 similar to Ce (Nielsen et al., 2014), it could be inferred that unusually high Ce/Tl ratios, not  
406 otherwise explained by aqueous weathering, coupled with heavy Tl isotope compositions are  
407 indicative of significant degassing - if lavas of the same degree of evolution and fractionating  
408 assemblage are compared. Such effects have been reported for arc lavas (Nielsen et al., 2016),  
409 but the lack of systematic Tl isotope fractionation for volcanic fumaroles also suggests that  
410 degassing might not be ubiquitously associated with significant Tl isotope fractionation (Baker et  
411 al., 2009). Within the present data set only one sample (Macaulay 10380) exhibits anomalously  
412 high Ce/Tl relative to the other samples (at similar MgO) in this study (Fig. 4b). The sample is  
413 also characterized by a heavy Tl isotope composition, as would be expected for a degassed lava.  
414 However, a second sample from Macaulay (Table 1) has an almost identical Tl isotope  
415 composition with a substantially lower Ce/Tl ratio, which would suggest that Tl loss due to  
416 degassing in this sample might not have been accompanied by significant Tl isotope  
417 fractionation and thereby consistent with published Tl isotope data for volcanic fumaroles (Baker  
418 et al., 2009). In addition, the Ce/Tl ratio of Macaulay 10380 is lower than the upper mantle (Fig.  
419 4b), which implies that any Tl loss due to degassing was relatively minor.

420 Higher Ce/Tl ratios are found in the CAVA than in Tonga-Kermadec, (Fig. 4b), the  
421 Aleutians and Marianas (Prytulak et al., 2013). None of the high Ce/Tl ratios are associated with  
422 systematically heavy Tl isotope compositions, as would be expected for kinetic isotope  
423 fractionation associated with degassing. However, some of the highest Ce/Tl lavas in central  
424 Nicaragua also have the most extreme positive ( $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +9.0$ ) and negative ( $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -11.5$ )  
425 thallium isotope compositions (samples NE-201 and NE-202; Fig. 4b), which mimics some of  
426 the most fractionated Tl isotope effects observed for volcanic fumaroles (Baker et al., 2009). The  
427 Tl isotope variations in volcanic fumaroles were even found to be large within individual

428 volcanic centers (e.g. Kilauea volcano, Hawaii) (Baker et al., 2009), which suggests that lavas  
429 with very low Tl concentrations could more easily be perturbed to both heavier and lighter Tl  
430 isotope compositions by effects from degassing/condensation. Given that these two samples  
431 originate from neighboring Nejava cinder cones and both have been classified as high-Ti basalts  
432 by Walker et al. (1990) with almost identical Sr and Nd isotopes (Carr et al., 2014), it seems  
433 improbable that the Tl isotope composition of these two samples reflect that of their mantle  
434 source. The lava sample GR5 also has similar major and trace element characteristics including  
435 anomalously low thallium concentration and heavy isotope composition ( $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +3.5$ ; GR5),  
436 which we also suspect could be influenced by kinetic processes rather than a true reflection of  
437 mantle source.

438

### 439 ***5.1.3 Assimilation and fractional crystallization***

440 Thallium behaves as a near-perfect incompatible element during fractional crystallization of  
441 anhydrous phases with no resolvable Tl isotope fractionation (Nielsen et al., 2016; Prytulak et  
442 al., 2017). However, crystallization will affect key trace element ratios involving Tl as well as  
443 other elements (e.g. Ce/Tl, Ce/Pb, Sr/Nd, U/Nb) due to systematic differences in the mineral-  
444 melt partition coefficients (Blundy and Wood, 2003). In addition, any concomitant wall rock  
445 assimilation is likely to both affect these trace element ratios and potentially alter the Tl isotope  
446 composition of the original melt if the wall rock is isotopically different to the primitive melt.

447 Fractional crystallization affects all lavas, and our Tonga-Kermadec dataset contains  
448 andesites and dacites that will have undergone more extensive fractionation. Therefore trace  
449 element ratios should first be assessed for the effect of fractional crystallization. This is not a  
450 straightforward task because the samples are not genetically related along a shared liquid line of

451 descent. However, the only trace element ratio that is systematically different in dacites relative  
452 to less evolved samples is Sr/Nd, which is lower in dacites, likely due to crystallization of  
453 plagioclase. No elemental ratios involving Tl are significantly different in dacites, suggesting  
454 that Tl and most other trace elements (except for Sr) behaved highly incompatibly. Therefore  
455 trace element ratios using thallium can be employed to investigate the sub-arc mantle and  
456 contributions from the subducting slab in the Tonga-Kermadec system. In addition, there are no  
457 differences between Tl isotope compositions measured for dacites and less evolved samples in  
458 the Tonga-Kermadec system (Table 1). The dacite sample from Curtis Island is the isotopically  
459 lightest sample from the Kermadec arc, which could be interpreted to reflect assimilation of  
460 isotopically light wall rock material, although it is difficult to envision a process that created a  
461 light Tl isotope signature in the first instance, since igneous ocean crust is isotopically similar  
462 MORB (Nielsen et al., 2006b) whereas lower arc crust in the Tonga-Kermadec arc is most likely  
463 heavier than MORB as evidenced by the overall heavy values observed in the lavas. However,  
464 such an interpretation is consistent with the fact that this sample exhibits the most radiogenic Sr  
465 isotope composition compared with other islands in the Tonga-Kermadec arc combined with Nd  
466 isotope compositions similar to other Kermadec islands (Ewart et al., 1998), which might  
467 indicate assimilation of older oceanic crust. However, given that the basaltic andesite (Table 1  
468 and 2) displays Tl isotope and other basalts from Curtis Island display Pb, Sr and Nd isotope  
469 compositions that are identical to dacites and rhyolites from the same island (Ewart et al., 1998;  
470 Smith et al., 1988), we infer that assimilation processes are unlikely to have affected isotopic  
471 compositions of Tl, Sr, Nd or Pb for these samples.

472 The nature of our sample set from the CAVA is generally a single sample per volcanic  
473 edifice, which again makes evaluating the effects of fractional crystallization difficult.

474 Furthermore, the well-documented, high amplitude variation in the chemical characteristics of  
475 the source regions combined with a variable sediment flux along the arc, mean that variation in  
476 trace element ratios such as Ce/Tl, Ce/Pb, Sr/Nd, and U/Nb yield real information about source  
477 rather than a reflection of secondary fractionation. The typical petrographic assemblage  
478 documented in the CAVA are large, zoned plagioclase and pyroxene crystals in more evolved  
479 magmas with ubiquitous olivine and magnetite in basaltic lavas, and only very rare reports of  
480 amphibole in high Na lavas from Guatemala (Carr et al., 2003; Walker et al., 2000). Thus, the  
481 assemblage is very similar to those investigated for the effects of differentiation on Tl isotopes  
482 by Prytulak et al. (2017), where no correlation between thallium isotopes and indices of  
483 differentiation were found, and thallium remained near-perfectly incompatible throughout  
484 fractionation from basalt to rhyolite. Thus, we conclude that the dominant cause of trace element  
485 variation in the presented CAVA lavas is mantle source differences rather than magmatic  
486 processes. This conclusion is in agreement with previous studies that found silicic volcanic rocks  
487 in Central America show the same regional variations in trace element ratios that the basaltic  
488 rocks do (Vogel et al., 2004; Vogel et al., 2006).

489

## 490 **5.2 Slab components in Central America and Tonga-Kermadec lavas**

### 491 ***5.2.1. Pelagic sediment contributions throughout Tonga-Kermadec***

492 As outlined above, secondary processes are unlikely to account for much, if any, of the Tl  
493 isotope variation observed in the Tonga-Kermadec lavas. Therefore, the mantle source region  
494 along the entire length of the arc is characterized by Tl isotope compositions heavier than the  
495 depleted upper mantle and AOC (Fig. 6). This provides clear evidence for a contribution of Tl  
496 from subducted sediment in all Tonga-Kermadec lavas. In general, pelagic sediments display

497 substantial Tl isotope variation (e.g., Rehkamper et al., 2004; Nielsen et al., 2016). It is,  
498 therefore, difficult to assess the exact Tl isotope composition of the sedimentary endmember in  
499 the Tonga-Kermadec arc, which prevents a direct utilization of Tl isotopes to quantify sediment  
500 contributions. Visually, it appears that Kermadec lavas are isotopically heavier than Tonga lavas  
501 (Fig. 6), which might suggest a larger sediment component in the Kermadec lavas than in Tonga.  
502 This observation is also generally supported by evidence from radiogenic isotopes (Regelous et  
503 al., 1997) that suggest greater sediment contributions in Kermadec than in Tonga lavas (Fig. 7).  
504 However, increased sediment contribution in the Kermadec arc versus Tonga should result in  
505 higher Tl concentrations at a given MgO, which is not observed (Fig. 3a). The small difference  
506 in Tl isotopes between Kermadec and Tonga is, therefore, more likely related to differences in  
507 the average Tl isotope composition of subducted sediments.

508 Two of the lava samples investigated here extend to even heavier Tl isotope compositions  
509 than observed for pelagic sediments (Fig. 6). These more extreme values could potentially be  
510 explained by the occurrence of ferromanganese (Fe-Mn) nodules in the subducted sediment pile  
511 (Menard et al., 1983; Speeden, 1973) that in other locations have been observed to exhibit Tl  
512 concentrations as high as 100  $\mu\text{g/g}$  and  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} > +10$  (Nielsen et al., 2016; Rehkämper et al.,  
513 2004; Rehkämper et al., 2002). Although the Sr, Nd and Pb concentrations of these nodules are  
514 also high (Hein et al., 2000), their concentrations relative to Tl are sufficiently low that addition  
515 of small amounts (<0.01% by weight) of pure Fe-Mn nodule material to the arc lava source  
516 region would only have a minor effect on Sr, Nd and Pb isotopes whereas the contaminated  
517 mantle source region would strongly inherit the Tl isotope signature of the Fe-Mn nodule (Fig.  
518 7). The extreme Tl isotope variation in the investigated lavas, therefore, suggest that transfer of  
519 material from slab to mantle wedge still contained sufficient heterogeneity to leave Tl isotope

520 values highly variable. Most islands in the Tonga-Kermadec arc display only little variation in Sr  
521 and Nd isotopes (Ewart et al., 1998; Hergt and Woodhead, 2007; Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous  
522 et al., 2010; Turner et al., 2012), which suggests that the mantle source for each island is fairly  
523 homogenous. However, given the high Tl/Sr and Tl/Nd ratios for Fe-Mn nodules, heterogeneous  
524 addition of sufficient Fe-Mn nodule material to generate the observed Tl isotope variation would  
525 not register notably in Pb, Sr and Nd isotopes (Fig. 7).

526 Pelagic sediments clearly dominate the Tl budget of the subducted sediment package as  
527 evidenced by the heavy Tl isotope composition of lavas across the entire Tonga-Kermadec arc  
528 (Fig. 6), which is consistent with the recovered lithologies on the downgoing plate from DSDP  
529 Sites 595/596. Based on Tl isotopes it is also evident that pelagic sediments are present even in  
530 the Northern Tonga islands of Tafahi and Niuatoputapu where previous studies have found that  
531 LSMC material is an important source of Pb (Ewart et al., 1998; Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous  
532 et al., 2010; Turner and Hawkesworth, 1997). Although Pb isotopes in Tafahi and Niuatoputapu  
533 clearly point towards an influence of LSMC material, the Sr isotope composition of lavas from  
534 these two islands are significantly more radiogenic than LSMC material (Beier et al., 2011;  
535 Vanderkluyzen et al., 2014), which requires an additional component with radiogenic Sr in the  
536 Northern Tonga mantle source. This component could be sourced from the Samoan mantle  
537 plume (Wendt et al., 1997), but given the heavy Tl isotope compositions also observed in  
538 Northern Tonga (Fig. 7), at least some of the more radiogenic Sr must originate from small  
539 amounts of pelagic sediment (<1% by weight). The small sediment component in northern Tonga  
540 is in agreement with several previous studies that found evidence for sediment involvement  
541 across the entire Tonga-Kermadec arc even in the Northern islands of Tafahi and Niuatoputapu  
542 (George et al., 2005; Hergt and Woodhead, 2007).



543

544 **5.2.2. Central American isotope variations**

545 Although the CAVA has large variations in thallium isotopes (Fig. 8a), without two  
546 anomalous regions (Central Nicaragua and Irazu volcano) and the three samples from behind the  
547 volcanic front, the average isotope composition is  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -1.6 \pm 3$  (n=23), which, although  
548 variable, is identical within error to the upper mantle as represented by MORB ( $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -2 \pm 1$ ;  
549 Nielsen et al., 2006a). We have only measured two sediment samples from DSDP 495, but they  
550 represent the two major subducting lithologies (carbonate and hemipelagic sediment). The  
551 carbonate sample has a low thallium concentration (33 ng/g) and a heavy isotope composition of  
552 +5.8. Investigation of corals, foraminifers, and biogenic oozes suggest that Tl concentrations of  
553 such materials is much lower than our carbonate sample (Nielsen and Rehkamper, 2011;  
554 Rehkamper et al., 2004). Furthermore, rivers draining carbonate lithologies have isotopically  
555 light thallium consistent with pure carbonate inheriting the seawater Tl isotope composition of  
556  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -6.0$  (Nielsen et al., 2005). Therefore, the heavy Tl isotope signature is probably  
557 inherited from manganese-rich clay that is reported to occur within this carbonate unit (Aubouin  
558 et al., 1982). Whatever the cause of the heavy isotope composition of our single carbonate  
559 sample, the total budget of thallium subducting in the carbonates is likely not sufficient to  
560 perturb the overall Tl isotope budget.

561

562 **5.2.3. Nicaraguan lavas: evidence for sediments?**

563 Nicaragua has long been recognized as a location of chemically distinct lavas. For example,  
564 samples from Central Nicaragua are characterized by some of the highest  $^{10}\text{Be}/^9\text{Be}$  ratios (Fig.  
565 8b) found in arc lavas globally, which provides unequivocal evidence that hemipelagic clays

566 found outboard of the CAVA contribute to magmatism in Nicaragua (Morris et al., 1990; Tera et  
567 al., 1986). Furthermore, many studies have concluded that Nicaraguan volcanoes have the  
568 strongest 'slab signature' in the CAVA, classically represented as elevated Ba/La ratios (Fig. 8c)  
569 that are found to peak in Western Nicaragua approximately between the volcanoes Cosiguina  
570 and Cerro Negro (e.g. Carr et al., 2003; Walker and Gazel, 2014). Ba/La ratios have commonly  
571 been employed as a proxy for a slab fluid component (Sadofsky et al., 2008; Walker et al., 2000;  
572 Woodhead et al., 1998; Woodhead and Johnson, 1993), which suggests that a high fluid flux  
573 could be responsible for the elevated Ba/La in Nicaraguan lavas. This inference is supported by  
574 several investigations that have invoked a higher fluid flux and significantly larger degree of  
575 melting beneath Nicaragua compared to the rest of the CAVA, due to the steep dip ( $\sim 75^\circ$ ) of the  
576 Cocos slab (Abers et al., 2003; Carr et al., 1990; Patino et al., 2000; Sadofsky et al., 2008;  
577 Syracuse et al., 2008). However, the regional variation in Ba/La actually reflects variation in La  
578 concentrations in the lavas, not Ba, and thus it is difficult to relate to a variable fluid flux, but  
579 could denote unusually high degrees of melting that vary as a function of fluid flux (Carr et al.,  
580 1990; Carr et al., 2007). Alternatively, given that the subducting sediments are characterized by  
581 extremely high Ba/La, it is also possible that the Nicaraguan peak in Ba/La is largely sediment  
582 related (Patino et al., 2000).

583 Figure 8b shows the along-strike variation of thallium isotopes without the three samples  
584 whose thallium isotope composition we suspect to be affected by kinetic processes (section  
585 5.1.2). In Western Nicaraguan lavas, where Ba/La is at it highest, samples have average thallium  
586 isotopes of  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -1.4 \pm 0.7$  (n=6), which is indistinguishable from the mantle value.  
587 Therefore, arguably the greatest slab input does not correspond to heavier Tl isotopic  
588 compositions as would be expected if this component was dominated by hemipelagic sediments

589 with high Tl concentrations. The very elevated Ba/La (and Ba/Th) ratios in Western Nicaragua  
590 could, however, be sourced from carbonate sediments where Tl concentrations are low and,  
591 therefore, do not significantly affect the total Tl budget. This offers an explanation for the lack of  
592 co-variation between thallium isotopes and trace element indices of overall slab contributions in  
593 Nicaragua.

594 Central Nicaragua is the location of the Nejapa and the Granada volcanic fields, from which  
595 we have discounted three out of six samples. These fields are made up of cinder cones aligned  
596 along fault traces rather than large composite volcanoes. Erupted lavas are generally very  
597 primitive, high degree melts, with high MgO contents and very low concentrations of  
598 incompatible elements, including thallium (Table 4). A subset of the Nejapa and Granada lavas  
599 are characterized by an almost MORB-like absence of negative HFSE anomalies and have been  
600 dubbed high-Ti basalts (Walker et al., 1990). These higher-Ti compositions could be, in part, a  
601 product of re-melting mantle that had already generated LREE-enriched magmas, which might  
602 explain the extremely low concentrations of many incompatible elements (Carr et al., 1990;  
603 Feigenson and Carr, 1993; Reagan et al., 1994). Such a depleted mantle would also be more  
604 susceptible to contamination with components characterized by anomalous Tl isotope  
605 compositions.

606 The samples we include from this region are isotopically heavy with compositions of  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$   
607 = -1.2, +0.1, +1.0 and +4.7. These values are indicative of recycling of hemipelagic sediment in  
608 the region, which is consistent with the generally elevated  $^{10}\text{Be}$  values seen for this section of the  
609 CAVA (Fig. 8b). However, only one of these three samples has been analyzed for  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and was  
610 found to be fairly low (Carr et al., 2014) and there is, therefore, no direct correlation between  
611  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and Tl isotopes (Fig. 8). It is important to note that correlations between these two

612 parameters need not be apparent because  $^{10}\text{Be}$  is high only in the youngest sediments, while Tl  
613 isotopes are likely heavy throughout the hemipelagic clays.

614 From the perspective of Tl isotopes, an attractive feature of Central Nicaragua is that with a  
615 locally trace element depleted mantle, the smallest addition of Tl from AOC, hemipelagic  
616 sediments, and/or serpentinite-derived fluid (which might be isotopically heavy in Tl; (Nielsen et  
617 al., 2015)) will dominate the Tl isotope signature, without being apparent in many other tracers.  
618 Thus, Central Nicaragua could be a tremendously fruitful area for further systematic  
619 examination, requiring more data on Cocos plate sediments and crust, oceanic serpentinites and  
620 Nicaraguan volcanic rocks.

621

#### 622 ***5.2.4. Irazu, Costa Rica: evidence for altered oceanic crust?***

623 Costa Rican lavas are notable in that not a single sample is isotopically heavy compared to  
624 the mantle as represented by MORB, and the general tendency towards isotopically light  
625 thallium (Fig. 8a) contrasts with all previously studied arcs. Irazu volcano in Costa Rica is  
626 further unique in a number of respects. The volcano lies at the southeastern terminus of the arc as  
627 well as in the path of subducting Galapagos-tinged crust. Two studies (Benjamin et al., 2007;  
628 Sadofsky et al., 2008) have examined olivine-hosted melt inclusions for major, trace, and volatile  
629 contents. Both note the high water contents of Irazu compared to many other volcanic centers in  
630 the CAVA. In particular, Irazu was the exception in the study of Sadofsky et al. (2008) because,  
631 unlike the rest of the investigated CAVA melt inclusions, Irazu did not show positive correlation  
632 of Ba/La and B/La and water contents. It also has the highest F contents for a given olivine  
633 composition coupled with the lowest B/La, Ba/La and highest La/Y, Nb/Y. Sadofsky et al.  
634 (2008) explained these unusual features as resulting from a very fluid rich, but sediment poor

635 mantle, which is consistent with the subduction of sediment-poor seamounts at its present day  
636 location. They also raised the possibility of melting the altered mafic crust to explain the high  
637 La/Y and Nb/Y, which is consistent with regional isotopic and trace element studies (Gazel et al.,  
638 2009; Gazel et al., 2011; Hoernle et al., 2008). Our study shows that sample CR-IZ-D6 has the  
639 highest Tl concentration in the CAVA (243 ng/g), coupled with an extremely light isotope  
640 signature of  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = -8.2$ . Thus the thallium concentration and isotope systematics are consistent  
641 with previous interpretation of incorporation of altered oceanic crust. Irazu specifically, and  
642 Costa Rica in general, may be one of the few regions where the downgoing oceanic crust is  
643 sufficiently naked of Tl-rich sediments to allow detection of isotopically light Tl derived from  
644 the AOC.

645

646

## 647 **6. Inter-arc comparisons and implications for Tl subduction cycling**

### 648 **6.1. Sediment control of arc lava Tl budgets**

649 As outlined in the introduction, there is overall consensus that both sediment and AOC  
650 components are actively transported from the subducting slab to the mantle wedge and  
651 participate in melt generation. However, even though sediment subduction is almost ubiquitous  
652 some arcs display highly attenuated sediment signatures (Plank and Langmuir, 1998).

653 Compilation of all arc lava Tl isotope data published to date reveals that the vast majority of  
654 samples plot towards heavier compositions than the DMM, which strongly implicates sediment  
655 in these arcs (Fig. 9). The only exceptions are the Western Aleutians and Costa Rica. Magmatism  
656 in the Western Aleutians likely reflects an unusual tectonic environment where orthogonal  
657 subduction of the Pacific plate has stalled significantly, which may have heated up the oceanic

658 crust sufficiently to cause eclogite melting and eruption of adakitic magmas (Kay, 1978;  
659 Yogodzinski et al., 2015; Yogodzinski et al., 1995; Yogodzinski et al., 2001). As such, this  
660 section of the subduction zone represents a thermally anomalous environment where the  
661 uppermost portions of the subducted slab (sediments and some AOC) could have been removed  
662 by previous generations of magmatism, leaving the residue almost devoid of sediment (Kelemen  
663 et al., 2003). In addition to trace element (high Sr/Y) and radiogenic isotope data (Sr, Nd, Pb)  
664 that suggest slab melting is occurring there (Yogodzinski et al., 2015), the lack of heavy Tl  
665 isotope compositions in the Western Aleutians also imply that sediment is not actively involved  
666 in arc magma generation in this location (Nielsen et al., 2016). As discussed above, lavas from  
667 Costa Rica also display a significant population of light Tl isotope compositions (Fig. 8a). These  
668 could be related to the subduction of the Cocos Ridge and/or seamounts to its North, which  
669 results in a thinner sediment cover for this portion of the subducted plate. In addition, sediments  
670 subducted underneath Costa Rica are dominated by carbonates with very low Tl concentrations.  
671 Hence, a minor sediment component in Costa Rica arc lavas might not dominate the overall Tl  
672 budget.

673 The absence of light Tl isotope compositions in Central and Eastern Aleutians, Tonga-  
674 Kermadec, Marianas and Central America north of Costa Rica is most easily explained if the Tl  
675 budgets of arc lavas almost ubiquitously contain sediment, which is in agreement with the  
676 subducted inputs in these arcs (Plank and Langmuir, 1998). Given that the Tl concentration of  
677 most sediment types (excepting biogenic carbonate and opal) are more than an order of  
678 magnitude larger than AOC (Coggon et al., 2014; Nielsen et al., 2006b; Nielsen et al., 2016;  
679 Prytulak et al., 2013; Rehkämper et al., 2004) even small amounts of sediment would render this  
680 component the dominant Tl contributor. However, Tl isotopes do not correlate with more

681 conventional indices of sediment or fluid contributions from the slab such as Th/La and Ba/Th  
682 (Fig. 10). This lack of correlation could suggest that Tl fluxes from sediments are decoupled  
683 from other sedimentary components, for example via the preferential mobilization of Mn oxides  
684 where Tl is highly concentrated. Of course, both Tl isotope compositions and trace element ratios  
685 of subducted sediments vary significantly (Nielsen et al., 2016; Plank and Langmuir, 1998;  
686 Prytulak et al., 2013) such that mixing between mantle and different sediment components might  
687 not be expected to generate globally significant correlations with Tl isotopes. Alternatively, it is  
688 also possible that trace element signatures in arc lavas, in particular those that are fractionated in  
689 subduction zones like Ba/Th, are decoupled from the process of mixing slab material with the  
690 mantle wedge as inferred in models that invoke *mélange* melting (Marschall and Schumacher,  
691 2012; Nielsen and Marschall, 2017).

692 Based on the currently available data for Tl isotopes in arc lavas, we conclude that there is  
693 strong support for almost ubiquitous sediment involvement in arc magma genesis. Investigations  
694 of Tl isotopes in additional volcanic arcs will further illuminate the effectiveness of Tl isotopes  
695 to trace sediment recycling and whether this process is as widespread as current data suggests.

696

## 697 **6.2. Behaviour of Tl in slab material: fluids and accessory phases**

698 Although sediments, in most subduction zones, contain the bulk of Tl in subducted slabs, the  
699 partitioning of Tl between slab and mantle wedge need not only be controlled by sediments.  
700 Fluids and accessory phases that impart characteristic trace element fractionation observed in  
701 subduction zones can originate from all portions of the subducted slab (Carter et al., 2015;  
702 Hermann and Rubatto, 2009; Johnson and Plank, 1999; Kessel et al., 2005; Skora and Blundy,  
703 2010). Here, we use new and previously published Tl concentration data for arc lavas to

704 investigate the controlling factors in determining Tl incorporation into arc magmas. When  
705 plotting all arc lavas where fractional crystallization of phases such as clinopyroxene and  
706 plagioclase are relatively minor (<55% SiO<sub>2</sub>) a hyperbolic relationship between Cs/Tl and Sr/Nd  
707 as well as Ba/Th ratios can be seen (Fig. 11). Thallium has previously been hypothesized as a  
708 somewhat fluid mobile element (Noll et al., 1996), but the large ionic radius and univalent  
709 charge of Tl likely also makes it compatible in minerals with large cation sites such as phengite  
710 and phlogopite (Prytulak et al., 2013) that may be important phases in subducted slab material  
711 (Schmidt and Poli, 1998). Natural data for previously subducted oceanic crust from Tian Shan  
712 (van der Straaten et al., 2008) support this inference as Tl concentrations in these samples  
713 correlate almost perfectly with K, Rb, Cs and Ba concentrations (Fig. 12) that are all controlled  
714 by the abundance of phengite (van der Straaten et al., 2008). Based on these data, it follows that  
715 Tl partitioning in subduction zones is likely strongly affected by the presence or absence of  
716 phengite in the slab residue. The stability of phengite is itself strongly dependent on the presence  
717 of fluids, with excess water lowering its stability or at least causing it to melt out at lower  
718 pressures and temperatures (Hermann and Green, 2001). Therefore, high fluid abundances tend  
719 to de-stabilize phengite at relatively lower temperatures and pressures. Thus, we interpret the  
720 hyperbolic relationship between Cs/Tl and Ba/Th (Fig. 11) in terms of the stability of phengite  
721 relative to the abundance of fluid present during melting. In this scenario, relatively lower Ba/Th  
722 and higher Cs/Tl would indicate that phengite is stable in the arc lava residue. No known  
723 subduction zone inputs display Cs/Tl as high as lavas in this portion of the diagram (Fig. 11),  
724 which requires that Cs and Tl be fractionated during subduction processing. In both natural rocks  
725 and experiments Cs has been shown to be the least compatible alkali metal in phengite (Busigny  
726 et al., 2003; Hermann and Rubatto, 2009; Melzer and Wunder, 2000) and, given that the ionic



727 radius of Tl is most similar to that of Rb (Shannon, 1976), we predict that Tl is more compatible  
728 in phengite than Cs. This difference in phengite partitioning can explain the unusually high Cs/Tl  
729 ratios observed in many arc lavas (Figs. 5 and 11).

730 The absolute value of Ba/Th will be highly dependent on the initial Ba/Th ratio of  
731 sediments, which can vary by more than an order of magnitude due to the presence of barite in  
732 marine sediments (Plank and Langmuir, 1998). However, as the fluid abundance increases  
733 phengite will de-stabilize and partitioning of elements like Ba, Cs and Tl will become entirely  
734 dominated by the fluid, whereas Th will be controlled by partitioning into accessory phases like  
735 monazite that can accommodate it (Hermann and Rubatto, 2009). Similarly, uniformly higher  
736 Sr/Nd ratios relative to subduction zone inputs (Fig. 11b) is likely controlled by retention of Nd  
737 in monazite or another REE-rich phase (Hermann and Rubatto, 2009; Skora and Blundy, 2012).  
738 However, higher fluid fluxes could more effectively remove Sr from the slab (Kessel et al.,  
739 2005) and thus further enhance the Sr/Nd fractionation. At high fluid fluxes, phengite  
740 destabilizes and without a phase that can realistically retain Cs and Tl in the residue, the fluid  
741 will most likely contain most of the Cs and Tl in the system and, therefore, obtain the Cs/Tl ratio  
742 of the bulk slab material it was released from. This process would explain why Cs/Tl ratios are  
743 generally in the range of subduction zone inputs for arc lavas that are characterized by high  
744 Ba/Th and Sr/Nd. Although mechanistically somewhat different, this interpretation could be  
745 compatible with models of arc trace element fractionation where fluid fluxes are relatively  
746 uniform across arcs and variations in sediment abundance in the subducted slab controls ratios of  
747 fluid mobile elements such as Sr and Ba to fluid immobile elements like Nd and Th, respectively.  
748 (Elliott, 2003). In this interpretation, high Sr/Nd and Ba/Th would be observed for arc regions  
749 with low sediment abundances. However, low sediment abundances would likely also produce

750 less phengite that would probably melt out earlier than in high sediment arc sections and thus  
751 produce low Cs/Tl. Hence, it is currently not directly possible to distinguish between variations  
752 in sediment abundance in the slab (Elliott, 2003) and presence of excess fluid relative to phengite  
753 as implied here by Figure 11. In fact, the two scenarios do not appear to be mutually exclusive.

754 Further support for the involvement of phengite in controlling the Tl concentration of arc  
755 lavas is found in the slight tendency of heavy Tl isotope compositions in arc lavas to be  
756 associated with higher Cs/Tl ratios (Fig. 5). Such a relationship is expected in arcs where  
757 sediments contain high potassium concentrations (e.g. Aleutians, Tonga-Kermadec, Marianas),  
758 which will favor phengite formation. Phengite is also stable in eclogitized oceanic crust (Carter  
759 et al., 2015; van der Straaten et al., 2008) and metamorphosed continentally derived detrital  
760 sediments (Hermann and Rubatto, 2009), which have  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} \leq -2$ . Therefore, high Cs/Tl ratios  
761 need not exclusively be associated with heavy Tl isotopes in order to be explained by residual  
762 phengite.

763

## 764 **7. Conclusions and outlook**

765 We present Tl isotope data from the Tonga-Kermadec and Central American arcs. Lavas  
766 from Tonga-Kermadec are offset in one direction from the mantle towards the heavy Tl isotope  
767 compositions that are observed in pelagic clays in drill cores outboard of the arc. The Tl isotope  
768 data show that sediments dominate the Tl budget of the subarc mantle in this arc.

769 The Tl isotope budgets of Central American lavas are influenced both by subducted  
770 sediments and AOC. Specifically, we find evidence for involvement of hemipelagic sediments in  
771 Central Nicaragua whereas Costa Rican lavas bear a strong influence from AOC. The lack of a  
772 sediment signature in Costa Rica may be related to a thinner sediment where the Cocos ridge and

773 associated seamounts are subducted as well as the predominance of carbonates in the sediment  
774 package that contain very low Tl concentrations.

775       Review of Tl isotope data from five arcs reveal that most lavas are displaced towards heavy  
776 values that indicate involvement of pelagic sediments. Detection of AOC with Tl isotopes is very  
777 limited, even for segments of arcs that have been hypothesized as dominated by AOC  
778 components. The almost absent AOC signature for Tl isotopes is likely due to the much higher  
779 Tl concentrations observed in pelagic sediments relative to AOC. Hence, Tl isotopic data for arc  
780 lavas that imply involvement of sediments should not be seen as evidence against involvement of  
781 AOC in their source regions. Rather, Tl isotopes appear to be an overall excellent tracer of  
782 subducted sediment as long as these contain sufficient Mn oxides to generate Tl isotope  
783 compositions heavier than the ambient mantle. Given that pelagic clays are very common within  
784 most subducting sediment packages (Plank and Langmuir, 1998), Tl isotopes promise to find  
785 utility in additional subduction zones. The almost ubiquitous sediment signature for Tl isotopes  
786 in arcs suggests that most arc segments actively cycle sediments to depth, which is consistent  
787 with observations of sediment subduction outboard of subduction zones worldwide (Plank and  
788 Langmuir, 1998). Further studies of a wider range of arcs in which sediment subduction might  
789 take place, will reveal if this conclusion holds true for subduction zones in general.

790       Lastly, we suggest that Tl partitioning relative to Cs in arcs is controlled by residual  
791 phengite during melting of slab components or, in cases where phengite is exhausted, fluids that  
792 carry the bulk of Tl and the alkali metals with them resulting in little net fractionation between  
793 Cs and Tl. This conclusion will benefit immensely from experimental verification involving  
794 different slab components such as sediments, AOC, serpentinite and mélange.

795

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801

802 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

803

804 Figure 1. Map of the Tonga-Kermadec arc. Islands from which we have analyzed samples  
805 are marked with square symbols. Colours of symbols are the same as those used in Figures 3, 4,  
806 5, 6 and 7.

807

808 Figure 2. Map of the Central American arc. All volcanoes from which we have analyzed  
809 samples are marked with coloured square symbol and the name of the volcano is indicated next  
810 to the symbol. Symbol colours are also used in Figures 3, 4, 5 and 8.

811

812 Figure 3. Thallium concentrations plotted against MgO in lavas from (a) Tonga-Kermadec  
813 and (b) Central America.

814

815 Figure 4. Ce/Tl plotted against Th/Rb ratios for lavas from Tonga-Kermadec and Central  
816 America. In (a) is also shown two lavas, one from Hawaii (Nielsen et al., 2006a) and one from  
817 the Aleutians (Nielsen et al., 2016), that were affected by subaerial alteration and loss of alkali  
818 metals and Tl. (b) is a close-up of the area that contains all the arc lavas from Central America.  
819 (c) close-up of the area that contains all the arc lavas from Tonga-Kermadec. Unaltered arc lavas  
820 from the Aleutians plot inside the pink field for comparison. DMM field is based on the average  
821 composition of global MORBs (Jenner and O'Neill, 2012). It is noteworthy that the Th/Rb ratios  
822 of Galapagos lavas (Th/Rb = 0.11 to 0.22 (Saal et al., 2007)) overlap with the values found in  
823 Irazu volcano.

824

825 Figure 5. Thallium isotope compositions plotted against Cs/Tl ratios for (a) Central America  
826 and (b) Tonga-Kermadec lavas. Also shown are fields for Aleutians and Mariana arcs.

827  
828 Figure 6. Thallium isotope compositions of Tonga-Kermadec lavas along-strike in the arc.  
829 Also shown is the field for the depleted mantle (grey bar), pelagic clays (brown bar) and  
830 volcanoclastic sediments (pink bar). Volcanoclastic sediment subduction is only taking place in  
831 the Tonga portion of the arc and is, therefore, not extended to the Kermadec portion of the arc.  
832 The isotope compositions of the sediment components were calculated as concentration-  
833 weighted averages of the individual pelagic and volcanoclastic sediments analyzed (Table 3).  
834 Altered oceanic crust (AOC) is isotopically light and is indicated by an arrow.

835  
836 Figure 7. Thallium isotope composition plotted against (a)  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , (b)  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  and (c)  
837  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  isotope compositions for the Tonga-Kermadec arc. Symbols for arc lavas are the  
838 same as in figure 1. Bulk mixing lines between the mantle and the pelagic and volcanoclastic  
839 sediment components are shown in bold and dashed black lines. Tick marks indicate the amount  
840 of sediment required to produce the relevant Tl, Pb, Sr and Nd isotope variations. The mantle  
841 wedge  $[\text{Pb}] = 0.034 \mu\text{g/g}$ ,  $[\text{Sr}] = 9.8 \mu\text{g/g}$ , and  $[\text{Nd}] = 0.713 \mu\text{g/g}$  (Salters and Stracke, 2004) and  
842  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 37.7$ ,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.7025$ ,  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.51315$  is estimated from the most depleted  
843 samples found in the Eastern Lau Spreading Center and the Valu Fa Ridge (Hergt and  
844 Woodhead, 2007; Pearce et al., 2007). The Pb, Sr, Nd and Tl isotope compositions of the  
845 sediment components were calculated as concentration-weighted averages of the individual  
846 pelagic and volcanoclastic sediments analyzed (Table 3). The concentrations of the two sediment  
847 components were calculated using the concentrations averages of the individual pelagic and

848 volcanoclastic sediments analyzed (Table 3) and the data in Ewart et al (1998). Also shown is  
849 bulk mixing line between mantle and Fe-Mn nodules (light brown) and the Louisville Seamount  
850 Chain (LSMC) in green. Concentration and isotope data for LSMC rocks are averages of  
851 published data (Beier et al., 2011; Vanderkluyzen et al., 2014) that yield values of [Pb] = 2.15  
852  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , [Sr] = 560  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , and [Nd] = 36  $\mu\text{g/g}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 39.25$ ,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.7039$ ,  
853  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.5129$ . The Tl isotope composition for LSMC is estimated to be similar to AOC,  
854  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} \sim -4$ . Tick marks indicate the amount of bulk sediment or LMSC material required to  
855 produce the observed Pb, Sr, Tl and Nd isotope variations. Concentrations and isotope  
856 compositions for the Fe-Mn nodules were assumed to be [Pb] = 1000  $\mu\text{g/g}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 38.7$ ,  
857 [Sr] = 1500  $\mu\text{g/g}$ ,  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} = 0.709$ , [Nd] = 200 $\mu\text{g/g}$ ,  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.5124$ , [Tl] = 100  $\mu\text{g/g}$ ,  
858  $\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl} = +12$ .

859

860 Figure 8. Along-strike variation of (a) Tl isotopes, (b)  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and (c) Ba/La ratios for the  
861 CAVA. Tl isotopes and Ba/La ratios are for the same samples, whereas  $^{10}\text{Be}$  data is a  
862 compilation of all available data from CAVA (Carr et al., 2014). Grey field is the isotope  
863 composition of the upper mantle as represented by MORB (Nielsen et al. 2006a). Most volcanic  
864 centers have only a single sample. Circles are drawn around those that have two or more  
865 samples. All lavas are from composite volcanoes of the active volcanic front except for 1) three  
866 Guatemala lavas from behind the front, designated 'BVF' and with a small black circle and 2)  
867 three samples from fault-aligned cinder cones of the Nejapa and Granada regions, between two  
868 of the CAVAs linear volcanic segments. Samples where both  $^{10}\text{Be}$  and Tl isotopes have been  
869 measured are marked with a cross. There is no correlation between Tl isotopes and  $^{10}\text{Be}$  even  
870 though there is a tendency for Tl isotopes and  $^{10}\text{Be}$  to be most enriched in the Central Nicaragua

871 region of the arc. Two-sigma standard deviation uncertainty on Tl isotope measurements is  $\pm 0.4$   
872 epsilon units.

873

874 Figure 9. Probability distribution plotted for arc lavas from Aleutians, Marianas, Central  
875 America and Tonga-Kermadec. Shown is also the field for the mantle (grey bar) and the general  
876 direction that the isotope compositions of AOC and sediments plot in.

877

878 Figure 10. Thallium isotope compositions in arc lavas from Aleutians, Marianas, Central  
879 America and Tonga-Kermadec plotted against (a) Ba/Th and (b) Th/La. These trace element  
880 ratios have been suggested as indicators of fluid (Ba/Th) and sediment (Th/La) addition from the  
881 slab to the mantle wedge (Elliott, 2003; Elliott et al., 1997; Plank, 2005; Woodhead et al., 1998).  
882 Fields for average subducted sediment compositions are shown as boxes with same colors code  
883 as the arc lavas. Sediment data are from (Nielsen et al., 2016; Plank and Langmuir, 1998;  
884 Prytulak et al., 2013) and this study. Fields are also shown for DMM (Jenner and O'Neill, 2012;  
885 Nielsen et al., 2014) and AOC (Coggon et al., 2014; Kelley et al., 2003; Nielsen et al., 2006b).

886

887 Figure 11. Ratio of Cs/Tl plotted against (a) Ba/Th and (b) Sr/Nd for lavas from Aleutians,  
888 Marianas, Central America and Tonga-Kermadec. In (b) are also shown fields for the  
889 compositions of the mantle (Jenner and O'Neill, 2012), detrital and pelagic sediments (Plank and  
890 Langmuir, 1998) and AOC (Coggon et al., 2014; Kelley et al., 2003; Nielsen et al., 2006b).  
891 Fields for the sediment endmembers are not shown for Ba/Th because sediment Ba  
892 concentrations are extremely variable due to influence of barite deposition (Plank and Langmuir,



893 1998). Red arrows are also shown that indicate the general areas that arc lavas are expected to  
894 occupy at different degrees of phengite and fluid involvement.

895

896 Figure 12. Thallium concentration plotted against (a) barium, (b) cesium, (c) potassium in  
897 eclogites from Tian Shan (van der Straaten et al., 2008). The excellent co-variation show that all  
898 these elements are controlled by the only K-bearing phase in the rocks, which is phengite.

899

900

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1224 Table 1: Isotope data for Tonga-Kermadec lavas

Sample	Island	Rock type	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$	$^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$	Tl (ng/g)	$\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$	n
<i>Tonga</i>							
T068	Tafahi	BA	<i>0.70390</i>	0.51293	12.1	2.0	1
T071	Tafahi	B	0.70390	0.51295	5.4	2.2	1
T072	Tafahi	B	<i>0.70392</i>	0.51295	10.2	2.2	1
T073	Tafahi	BA	<i>0.70395</i>	0.51296	14.2	0.6	1
NT052A	Niuatoputapu	BA	<i>0.70404</i>	0.51290	10.3	0.2	1
NT054	Niuatoputapu	BA	<i>0.70404</i>	0.51290	23.4	1.4	1
NT059	Niuatoputapu	BA	0.70404	0.51289	21.5	1.3	1
F8	Fonualei	D	<i>0.70383</i>	<i>0.51295</i>	117	1.1	1
F20	Fonualei	D	<i>0.70372</i>	0.51293	117	0.2	1
F30	Fonualei	A	<i>0.70351</i>	<i>0.51297</i>	100	0.8	1
F31*	Fonualei	A	<i>0.70392</i>	<i>0.51297</i>	17	-0.6	2
L3*	Late	BA	<i>0.70367</i>	<i>0.51298</i>	33	7.4	2
L13	Late	BA	<i>0.70364</i>	0.51297	144	0.6	1
L20	Late	BA	<i>0.70355</i>	0.51298	31.4	1.3	1
L21*	Late	BA	<i>0.70382</i>	<i>0.51297</i>	42.4	0.6	2
T101P	Kao	BA	<i>0.70334</i>	0.51303	32.1	-0.4	1
T102*	Kao	BA	<i>0.70329</i>	0.51303	33.8	0.8	2
TOF32*	Tofua	A	<i>0.70350</i>	<i>0.51302</i>	46.3	3.7	2
HHBF	Hunga Ha'apai	BA	<i>0.70376</i>	<i>0.51296</i>	106	-0.2	1
38983	Hunga Tonga	BA	<i>0.70365</i>	0.51299	47.7	0.2	1
<i>Kermadec</i>							
14782	Raoul Group	B	<i>0.70360</i>	<i>0.51300</i>	6.4	0.4	1
23374	Raoul Group	BA	<i>0.70347</i>	0.51305	21.3	0.7	1
23383*	Raoul Group	BA	<i>0.70376</i>	0.51302	12.5	2.0	1
23386*	Raoul Group	A	<i>0.70355</i>	0.51305	11.3	2.4	2
10379	Macauley	B	<i>0.70347</i>	<i>0.51301</i>	15.6	4.7	2
10380	Macauley	B	<i>0.70350</i>	0.51300	11.7	4.3	2
14849	Curtis	BA	<i>0.70410</i>	<i>0.51301</i>	39.2	-0.5	1
14864	Curtis	D	<i>0.70408</i>	<i>0.51301</i>	75.4	-0.1	1
14831	L'Esperance	BA		0.51297	22.4	5.3	2
14837*	L'Esperance	BA	<i>0.70402</i>	<i>0.51297</i>	21.3	12.3	2

1225 Numbers in italics denote data from (Ewart et al., 1998; Regelous et al., 1997; Regelous et al.,

1226 2010). B - basalt; BA - basaltic andesite; A - andesite; D - dacite

1227 \* - samples that were received as chips (see text for description of sample processing)

1228 n - number of total procedural repeats (dissolution, chemical separation, mass spectrometry)

1229

1230 Table 2: Major element data for Tonga-Kermadec lavas in wt%

	SiO <sub>2</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	LOI	SUM
T068 Tafahi	52.52	0.360	16.83	11.16	0.195	6.62	11.52	0.358	0.185	0.117	<0.01	99.86
T071 Tafahi	51.53	0.355	17.52	10.85	0.189	6.65	12.21	0.312	0.163	0.091	<0.01	99.87
T072 Tafahi	51.85	0.347	17.00	10.70	0.191	6.93	12.26	0.312	0.172	0.092	<0.01	99.85
T073 Tafahi	52.51	0.435	16.96	11.57	0.198	5.81	11.46	0.594	0.186	0.107	<0.01	99.82
T052a Niuatoputapu	54.57	0.412	15.58	12.50	0.204	4.73	10.47	0.858	0.363	0.132	<0.01	99.82
T054 Niuatoputapu	54.18	0.305	15.39	10.46	0.192	7.10	11.30	0.316	0.321	0.105	0.17	99.84
T059 Niuatoputapu	54.13	0.303	15.22	10.83	0.192	7.23	11.10	0.347	0.321	0.109	0.05	99.83
FON-8 Fonualei	65.22	0.579	13.37	8.58	0.191	1.56	5.78	3.20	1.13	0.262	<0.01	99.87
FON-20 Fonualei	65.03	0.545	13.86	8.55	0.182	1.52	5.79	3.09	1.10	0.209	<0.01	99.87
FON-30 Fonualei	60.28	0.633	14.40	10.95	0.204	2.60	7.42	2.34	0.846	0.191	<0.01	99.86
FON-31 Fonualei	60.33	0.629	14.21	11.03	0.208	2.61	7.39	2.42	0.803	0.226	<0.01	99.86
Late 3	54.31	0.587	15.78	11.41	0.197	5.17	10.38	1.30	0.518	0.178	<0.01	99.83
Late 13	57.09	0.778	14.20	13.00	0.213	3.26	8.22	2.20	0.664	0.186	<0.01	99.81
Late 20	53.58	0.518	16.21	10.90	0.192	5.82	11.14	0.958	0.413	0.118	<0.01	99.84
Late 21	53.47	0.578	16.51	11.56	0.196	4.85	10.83	1.22	0.456	0.154	<0.01	99.82
T101P Kao	52.77	0.805	17.46	10.95	0.171	4.28	10.81	1.82	0.542	0.233	<0.01	99.84
T102 Kao	53.39	0.766	16.29	11.36	0.188	5.37	10.06	1.72	0.488	0.189	<0.01	99.83
TOF-32 Tofua	57.07	0.714	14.66	11.46	0.200	4.04	9.01	1.88	0.597	0.208	<0.01	99.84
HHBF Hunga Ha'apai	54.54	0.492	17.79	9.74	0.167	4.23	11.34	1.09	0.338	0.123	<0.01	99.85
38983 Hunga Tonga	55.70	0.578	14.87	11.28	0.196	5.05	10.26	1.29	0.435	0.160	<0.01	99.82
14782 Raoul	48.90	0.722	16.01	11.98	0.201	7.36	12.07	1.93	0.117	0.143	0.41	99.83
23374 Raoul	52.28	0.599	15.76	9.87	0.192	7.16	11.79	1.84	0.252	0.128	<0.01	99.87
23383 Raoul	53.03	0.646	17.29	10.40	0.178	5.14	10.72	2.12	0.200	0.105	0.05	99.87
23386 Raoul	56.38	0.703	17.51	9.05	0.179	3.34	9.79	2.54	0.260	0.143	<0.01	99.89
10379 Macauley	48.01	0.619	19.73	9.75	0.174	5.80	13.33	1.91	0.382	0.149	<0.01	99.85
10380 Macauley	48.56	0.861	14.89	13.40	0.229	7.05	12.07	2.11	0.454	0.170	<0.01	99.79
14849 Curtis	52.46	0.503	15.52	11.02	0.188	5.76	10.97	1.77	0.403	0.124	1.13	99.85
14864 Curtis	65.55	0.542	14.73	5.49	0.142	1.70	5.47	3.59	1.20	0.182	1.29	99.88
14831 L Esperance	52.86	1.02	16.56	13.54	0.258	4.62	9.59	0.341	0.220	0.547	0.24	99.79
14837 L Esperance	51.67	0.982	16.39	13.44	0.238	4.984	10.11	1.506	0.360	0.172	<0.01	99.85

1231 LOI - loss on ignition

1232

1233

1234 Table 3: Thallium isotope compositions and concentrations for Tonga-Kermadec sediments

Site	Core	Section	Interval (cm)	Depth (m)	Tl (ng/g)	$\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$
<i>Pelagic sediments</i>						
204	1	1	30-33	0.3	834	1.0
204	1	3	52-55	3.52	681	1.5
204	5	5	60-63	100.6	2929	4.5
596	1	1	115-118	1.15	1556	3.6
596	2	3	85-88	9.35	1254	2.3
596	2	6	77-80	13.77	3067	6.6
596	3	6	84-87	23.44	3746	2.3
596	6	6	124-127	48.54	940	1.1
<b>Average</b>					<b>1876</b>	<b>3.6</b>
<i>Volcaniclastic sediments</i>						
204	1	4	103-106	5.53	328	0.0
204	3	2	103-106	50.53	151	-0.7
204	6	2	66-69	105.16	184	1.6
204	9	3	67-70	144.67	192	0.7
<b>Average</b>					<b>214</b>	<b>0.4</b>

1235

1236

1237 Table 4: Thallium isotope compositions and concentrations for Central American lavas and  
 1238 sediments

Sample	Volcano	Tl (ng/g)	$\epsilon^{205}\text{Tl}$	n
<i>lavas</i>				
CR-IZ-63A	Irazu	81	-1.4	2
CR-IZ-D6	Irazu	243	-8.2	2
CR-B2	Barba	39	-2.0	2
CR-PO10	Sabana Redonda	76	-3.8	1
CR-PP6	Platanar	91	-2.5	2
CR-124 (LA)	Arenal	15	-0.8	1
CR-123 (LA)	Arenal	16	-1.9	4
CR-TE9	Tenorio	36	-3.6	1
NIC-GR5	Granada	5.8	3.5	1
NIC-GR3	Granada	34	4.7	1
NIC-MS7	Masaya	29	-1.2	4
NIC-NE201	Nejapa	4.5	9.0	1
NIC-NE202	Nejapa	8.7	-11.5	3
NIC-NE5	Nejapa	14	1.0	1
NIC-NE203	Nejapa	nd	0.1	1
NIC-CN10	Cerro Negro	46	-0.1	2
NIC-TE1	Telica	92	-1.1	1
NIC-TE6	Telica	48	-1.8	1
NIC-TE123	Telica	75	-2.0	2
NIC-SC2	San Cristobal	34	-1.9	2
NIC-COS9A	Cosiguina	78	-1.8	2
SAL-CON-3	Conchagua	40	-3.1	2
SAL-SM-7	San Miguel	46	-1.6	2
SAL-AP-3	Apastapeque	134	-4.6	2
SAL-B-21	Boqueron	145	-1.4	2
SAL-IZ108	Izalco	59	2.0	2
SAL-CV1	Cerro Verde	60	-1.7	2
GU-T302	Tecuamburro	40	-1.3	2
GU-C201	C. Mongoy	51	-2.5	1
GU-C303	C. del Cemeterio	26	0.9	1
GU-E1	Pacaya	61	1.1	2
GU-C837	Cerro Las Olivas	71	-1.6	1
GU-74-27 (VF)	Fuego	35	-0.1	2
GU-SM126	Santa Maria	42	-1.3	2
<i>sediments, DSDP 495</i>				
41-43	hemipelagic	1077	0.2	1
111-113	carbonate	33	5.8	1

1239 n - number of isotopic measurements

1240 nd - not determined

1241 Major and trace elements and isotope ratios for these samples can be found in (Carr et al., 2014)

1242



























