

1 **Cretaceous tectonic evolution of the Neo-Tethys in Central Iran: Evidence from**  
2 **petrology and age of the Nain-Ashin ophiolitic basalts**

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25 **Abstract**

26  
27 The Nain and Ashin ophiolites consist Mesozoic mélangé units that were emplaced in the  
28 Late Cretaceous onto the continental basement of the Central-East Iran microplate (CEIM).  
29 They largely consist of serpentinitized peridotites slices; nonetheless, minor tectonic slices of  
30 sheeted dykes and pillow lavas - locally stratigraphically associated with radiolarian cherts -  
31 can be found in these ophiolitic mélanges. Based on their whole rock geochemistry and  
32 mineral chemistry, these rocks can be divided into two geochemical groups. The sheeted  
33 dykes and most of the pillow lavas show island arc tholeiitic (IAT) affinity, whereas a few  
34 pillow lavas from the Nain ophiolites show calc-alkaline (CA) affinity. Petrogenetic modeling  
35 based on trace elements composition indicates that both IAT and CA rocks derived from  
36 partial melting of depleted mantle sources that underwent enrichment in subduction-derived  
37 components prior to melting. Petrogenetic modeling shows that these components were  
38 represented by pure aqueous fluids, or sediment melts, or a combination of both, suggesting  
39 that the studied rocks were formed in an arc-forearc tectonic setting. Our new biostratigraphic  
40 data indicate this arc-forearc setting was active in the Early Cretaceous. Previous tectonic  
41 interpretations suggested that the Nain ophiolites formed, in a Late Cretaceous backarc basin  
42 located in the south of the CEIM (the so-called Nain-Baft basin). However, recent studies  
43 showed that the CEIM underwent a counter-clockwise rotation in the Cenozoic, which  
44 displaced the Nain and Ashin ophiolites in their present day position from an original  
45 northeastward location. This evidence combined with our new data and a comparison of the  
46 chemical features of volcanic rocks from different ophiolites around the CEIM allow us to  
47 suggest that the Nain-Ashin volcanic rocks and dykes were formed in a volcanic arc that  
48 developed on the northern margin of the CEIM during the Early Cretaceous in association  
49 with the subduction, below the CEIM, of a Neo-Tethys oceanic branch that was existing  
50 between the CEIM and the southern margin of Eurasia. As a major conclusion of this paper, a

51 new geodynamic model for the Cretaceous evolution of the CEIM and surrounding Neo-  
52 Tethyan oceanic basins is proposed.

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55 **Keywords:** Ophiolite, Volcanic arc, Early Cretaceous, Nain, Ashin, Iran

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## 60 **1. Introduction**

61

62 The geology of Iran is characterized by the outstanding occurrence of a number of  
63 ophiolitic complexes (Fig. 1a). A few of them represent remnants of the Paleo-Tethys Ocean  
64 and mainly crop out in northern Iran along the Alborz Range (Lensch and Davoudzadeh,  
65 1982). However, most of the Iranian ophiolites are Mesozoic in age and record the complex  
66 and long-lived geodynamic history of the different branches of the Neo-Tethys that developed  
67 between the Arabian plate and the composite puzzle of microplates, which characterized the  
68 southern margin of the Eurasian continent from Late Triassic to early Cenozoic (e.g.,  
69 Desmons and Beccaluva, 1983; Sengör, 1990; Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008). The Iranian  
70 Mesozoic ophiolites have classically been divided into three major belts (Stöcklin, 1974,  
71 Lensch and Davoudzadeh, 1982) (Fig. 1a): 1) ophiolites of the Zagros suture belt representing  
72 remnants of the Southern Neo-Tethys, which opened during the Triassic between the Arabian  
73 plate and the Central Iran continental block (e.g., Robertson, 2007, and references therein); 2)  
74 ophiolites of the Makran accretionary prism, which includes the incomplete ophiolitic  
75 sequences and ophiolitic mélanges of Band-e-Zeyarat, Dar Anar, and Fanuj-Maskutan (e.g.,  
76 McCall, 2002; Delavari et al., 2016; Saccani et al., 2017a); 3) ophiolites and ophiolitic

77 mélanges (the so called “Coloured Mélanges”) that mark the boundaries of the Central-East  
78 Iranian microcontinent (CEIM). These include the Sabzevar ophiolites in the north, the Nain,  
79 Dehshir, Shahr-e-Babak, Baft ophiolites (or, simply, the Nain-Baft ophiolitic belt) in the  
80 southwest, and the Sistan zone ophiolites in the east of the CEIM (e.g., [Camp and Griffis,](#)  
81 [1982; Ghazi and Hassanipak, 2000; Shojaat et al., 2003; Rahmani et al., 2007; Rossetti et al.,](#)  
82 [2010; Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009; Saccani et al., 2010; Angiboust et al., 2013; Omrani et](#)  
83 [al., 2013; Rezaei et al., 2018](#)). The Nain and Ashin ophiolites are of particular interest as they  
84 crop out at the westernmost corner of the CEIM, which is marked in this area by the  
85 intersection of two major regional-scale fault systems, namely, the Nain-Baft and the  
86 Dorouneh (also known as Great Kavir-Dorouneh) fault systems ([Fig. 1a](#)). They consist of  
87 ophiolitic mélange units (“Coloured Mélange”) that were emplaced during Late Cretaceous-  
88 lower Paleocene times onto the continental basement of the CEIM ([Davoudzade, 1972;](#)  
89 [Stöcklin, 1974; Stoneley, 1975](#)). Several studies have been carried out on these ophiolites.  
90 However, no general consensus still exists on their tectono-magmatic implication, and  
91 different hypotheses have been suggested about the nature and geodynamic significance of the  
92 oceanic branch in which they were formed. Some authors have indicated a supra-subduction  
93 zone (SSZ) geochemical affinity for the Nain ophiolites, as well as for the neighbouring  
94 Shahr-e-Babak ophiolites, and suggested that they were formed in an intra-oceanic island arc  
95 setting during the Late Cretaceous (e.g., [Ghazi and Hassanipak, 2000; Rahmani et al., 2007](#)).  
96 Geochemical studies on the mafic lavas of the Nain and Dehshir ophiolites ([Shafaii](#)  
97 [Moghadam et al., 2008, 2009](#)), as well as on the mantle peridotites ([Mehdipour Ghazi et al.,](#)  
98 [2010; Pirnia et al., 2010](#)) have suggested that the Nain-Baft ophiolites were originated in a  
99 backarc basin, which opened between the Sanandaj-Sirjan zone and the CEIM in the Late  
100 Cretaceous in response to the subduction of the Southern Neo-Tethys below the Sanandaj-  
101 Sirjan block (see [Takin, 1972; McCall, 2002; Shahabpour, 2005; Barrier and Vrielynck,](#)

102 2008). However, a recent petrological study has suggested that mantle lherzolites in the Nain  
103 ophiolites represent sub-continental mantle exhumed at an Iberia-type ocean-continent  
104 transition zone (Pirnia et al., 2018) and a recent biostratigraphic study has shown that the  
105 Ashin ophiolites are mid Cretaceous in age (Shirdashtzadeh et al., 2015). In addition, recent  
106 paleomagnetic studies have shown that the CEIM underwent significant counter-clockwise  
107 rotation of about 30° during the Late Jurassic - Early Cretaceous and again after the Middle–  
108 Late Miocene (Mattei et al., 2012, 2014). As a consequence, it is reasonable to hypothesize  
109 that the Nain and Ashin ophiolites were displaced in their present day position by the rotation  
110 of the CEIM, implying that they were formed in an oceanic sector that was located during the  
111 mid Cretaceous to the northeast with respect their current position. These recent studies show  
112 robust evidence in contrast to the most accepted hypothesis of formation of the Nain and  
113 Ashin ophiolites in the Nain-Baft backarc basin in the southwest of the CEIM (Barrier and  
114 Vrielynck, 2008; Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009). For this reason, we present new whole rock  
115 geochemical and petrological data, as well as mineral chemistry data on sheeted dykes and  
116 pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolitic complexes with the aim of constraining their  
117 petrogenetic processes and their tectono-magmatic setting of formation. We also present new  
118 biostratigraphic data on radiolarian cherts stratigraphically associated with the studied pillow  
119 lavas. These data will allow the type and age of the magmatic events to be constrained in  
120 detail. Several models for the geodynamic evolution of the oceanic branches of the Neo-  
121 Tethys that existed in Mesozoic times around the CEIM are available in literature (e.g.,  
122 Shojaat et al., 2003; Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008; Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009; Rossetti et  
123 al., 2010; Omrani et al., 2013; Mattei et al., 2014; Shirdashtzadeh et al., 2015). Hence, one of  
124 the main goals of this paper is to use our new data for testing and developing the extant  
125 tectonic models. We anticipate that the data presented herein allow us to propose a new model

126 for the tectonic evolution of the CEIM and surrounding oceanic seaways during the  
127 Cretaceous.

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## 130 **2. Geological setting, field evidence, and sampling**

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### 132 *2.1. General geological setting*

133

134 The Nain and Ashin ophiolites are located in the northeast of the Isfahan province in  
135 Central Iran (Fig. 1a). These ophiolites are emplaced onto the westernmost corner of the  
136 CEIM, which is defined in this area by the intersection of two major regional-scale fault  
137 systems, namely, the Nain-Baft and the Dorouneh fault systems (Fig. 1a). These ophiolites  
138 were classically considered as part of the Mesozoic, discontinuous ophiolitic belt that  
139 surround the northern, western, and southern borders of the CEIM (Lensch and Davoudzadeh,  
140 1982). In fact, this ophiolitic belt also includes the Sabzevar ophiolites, to the north and the  
141 Dehshir and Baft ophiolites, to the southwest (Fig. 1a).

142 The Nain and Ashin ophiolitic complexes both consist of an ophiolitic *mélange* (also  
143 known as “Coloured *Mélange*”) including relics of the Mesozoic Neo-Tethys Ocean that were  
144 emplaced onto the CEIM continental margin in Late Cretaceous-lower Paleocene (e.g.,  
145 Davoudzadeh, 1972; Torabi et al., 2011a, b). The Nain and Ashin ophiolitic *mélanges* both  
146 include very similar rock assemblages, and are formed by tectonic slices or blocks of different  
147 types of ophiolitic and metaophiolitic rocks (Figs. 1b, c). Mantle peridotites largely prevail in  
148 volume. They consist of serpentinites, harzburgites, and lherzolites generally showing a  
149 marked foliation (Pirnia et al., 2010, 2013, 2014). Harzburgites locally include subordinate  
150 amounts of dunites and podiform chromitites, as well as several dykes of pyroxenites,

151 wehrlites and rodingites (Davoudzadeh, 1972). Pirnia et al. (2018) have recently shown that  
152 most lherzolites represent sub-continental type mantle, which is very similar to that cropping  
153 out in the Alpine Tethys ophiolites. These authors have suggested that, similar to the Alpine  
154 Tethys ophiolites (see Sacconi et al., 2015), these lherzolites represent sub-continental mantle  
155 exhumed, through an asymmetric passive extension, during the continental breakup that  
156 preceded the oceanic formation.

157 Crustal rocks are very subordinate in volume. The scarce intrusive rocks are represented by  
158 pegmatitic and isotropic gabbros, diorites, gabbro-norites, always occurring as small-sized  
159 bodies and dykes within the mantle peridotites. Plagiogranites, sheeted dykes (Fig. 2a) and  
160 pillow lavas (Figs. 2b-d) are found as distinct slices in tectonic contact with the mantle  
161 sequences. Pillow lavas are commonly stratigraphically covered by pelagic sedimentary  
162 rocks, which clearly indicate that they were erupted in a sub-marine environment. These  
163 pelagic sedimentary rocks are represented by radiolarian cherts (Figs. 2e, f) and Campanian-  
164 Maastrichtian Globotruncana limestones (Davoudzadeh, 1972). All magmatic crustal rocks  
165 underwent spilitization and sea floor metamorphisms (Torabi et al., 2008). Pillow lavas are  
166 mostly found close to the sheeted dykes, but not in stratigraphic contact, in the western part of  
167 the Nain ophiolites and in the eastern side of the Ashin ophiolites (Figs. 1b, c). In the Nain  
168 ophiolites, they are discontinuously exposed along a N-S trend in the southwest of Soheyl-e-  
169 Pakuh and near Separab (Rahmani et al., 2007) (Fig. 1b). The sheeted dyke complex cover an  
170 area of about 5 km<sup>2</sup> and the thickness of single dykes ranges from 10 cm to 3 m (Rahmani et  
171 al., 2007). Dykes locally cut high-level amphibole gabbros and plagiogranites. The pillow  
172 lavas form thin individual tectonic slices that can reach up to 10 m in thickness. In the Ashin  
173 ophiolite, sheeted dykes and pillow lavas crop out near Chah-e-Senjed (Fig. 1c). Similar to  
174 the Nain ophiolite, pillow lavas slices are relatively thin; they reach ~25 m in thickness, on  
175 average (Torabi, 2004). A K-Ar age of 98 Ma determined on plagiogranites (Sharkovski et al.,

176 1984) suggests a Cenomanian age for the formation of the intrusive rocks from the Ashin  
177 ophiolite. In addition,  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  ages ranging from  $101.2 \pm 0.9$  to  $99 \pm 1.2$  Ma have been  
178 determined for one hornblende-gabbro (Hassanipak and Ghazi, 2000). Unfortunately, no  
179 indication is given by these authors about the geochemical nature (i.e., subduction-related or  
180 subduction-unrelated) of the dated gabbro.

181 In both ophiolitic mélanges, metaophiolitic rocks include metagabbros, metaplagiogrinites,  
182 amphibolites, banded metacherts, and successions of marbles and schists (Sharkovski et al.,  
183 1984; Shirdashtzadeh et al., 2010). Shirdashtzadeh et al. (2010) and Torabi et al. (2011b)  
184 suggested that the protholiths of the amphibolitic rocks from both Nain and Ashin ophiolites  
185 were represented by diabasic dykes and basaltic pillow lavas both showing normal mid-ocean  
186 ridge affinity (N-MORB). However, Shirdashtzadeh et al. (2011) also proposed an IAT  
187 affinity for the amphibolites. According to these authors, metacherts and marble-schists  
188 successions can be regarded as the original sedimentary cover of the pillow lava basalts.  
189 Shirdashtzadeh et al. (2010) suggested that the metamorphic slices included within the Nain  
190 and Ashin mélanges represent relics a Jurassic oceanic crust that underwent a Late Cretaceous  
191 metamorphic event (Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009).

192 Cenozoic volcanic rocks associated with small coeval dioritic intrusions, as well as  
193 Cenozoic sedimentary rocks extensively crop out in both Nain and Ashin areas  
194 (Davoudzadeh, 1972). However, in the Nain area, the volcanic and sedimentary rocks are  
195 separated and crop out to the west and to the east of the ophiolitic mélange, respectively (Fig.  
196 1b). In contrast, in the Ashin area, Cenozoic sedimentary rocks largely prevail and entirely  
197 surround the ophiolitic mélange, whereas Cenozoic volcanic rocks locally crop out on the top  
198 of the ophiolitic mélange, as well as to the east of the Tertiary sedimentary succession (Fig.  
199 1c). In addition, in the Ashin area, Paleozoic metamorphic rocks, including metaophiolitic  
200 rocks (Anarak Complex) largely crop out in the easternmost side (Zanchi et al., 2015; Berra et

201 [al., 2017; Zanchetta et al., 2017](#)) ([Fig. 1c](#)). It has been suggested that the emplacement of both  
202 Nain and Ashin Mesozoic ophiolitic mélanges onto the CEIM occurred before Paleocene  
203 times, since they are unconformably covered by Paleocene-Eocene sedimentary rocks  
204 ([Davoudzade, 1972](#)). However, some authors suggested that their emplacement took place in  
205 the Late Cretaceous ([Stöcklin, 1974; Stoneley, 1975](#)).

206 [Rahmani et al. \(2007\)](#) have suggested that the Nain sheeted dykes display island arc tholeiitic  
207 (IAT) affinity and concluded that their formation is related to an intra-oceanic SSZ setting.  
208 However, other authors suggested that ophiolitic rocks from both Nain and Ashin ophiolitic  
209 mélanges were originated in a back-arc basin setting (e.g., [Torabi et al., 2008; Shafaii](#)  
210 [Moghadam et al., 2009; Pirnia et al., 2010, 2014](#)).

211

## 212 *2.2. Field evidence and sampling*

213

214 Sampling was focused on the mafic sheeted dykes and pillow lavas cropping out as distinct  
215 tectonic slices in the Nain and Ashin ophiolitic mélanges. Radiolarian cherts showing clear  
216 stratigraphic contacts with pillow lavas have also been sampled in some localities in order to  
217 constrain the age of the associated pillow lavas in detail.

218 In the Nain area ([Fig. 1b](#)), a total of four sheeted dyke, fourteen pillow lava, and six  
219 radiolarian chert samples were collected from the ophiolitic mélange. Sheeted dykes were  
220 sampled along the road from Separab to Soheyl-e-Pakuh. In this locality, dykes show variable  
221 thickness, ranging from 0.5 to 3 m ([Fig. 2a](#)). They form a small (some tens of m) tectonic  
222 slice juxtaposed onto a thick harzburgite slice. Pillow lavas were collected in some distinct  
223 tectonic slices cropping out in the neighborhood of Soheyl-e-Pakuh, mainly in the northwest  
224 of this village. In a couple of these tectonic slices, pillow lavas are stratigraphically covered  
225 by radiolarian cherts. The thicknesses of these slices are difficult to be determined because

226 their boundary contacts are poorly exposed due to a widespread Quaternary sedimentary  
227 cover. However, their thickness can be estimated to be from 10 to 50 m and they generally lie  
228 onto the top of mantle peridotites. Pillow lavas commonly show spherical to elliptical shapes  
229 (Fig. 2b), though tubular and irregular shapes can also be seen. The interstitial spaces  
230 between the pillows are often filled by hyaloclastite breccia (Fig. 2d) and, rarely, by  
231 interpillow radiolarian cherts. The pillows are very variable in size, ranging from 0.2 to 2  
232 meter in diameter. The pillow lava series are locally cross-cut by deeply altered individual  
233 dykes of variable nature. In the tectonic slices consisting of pillow lava – radiolarian chert  
234 sequences, the contact between pillow lava and overlying radiolarian cherts can be abrupt or  
235 transitional depending on localities. The transitional contact is characterized by lenses and  
236 patches of chert embedded in the top of the pillow lava series and vice versa by pillow lava  
237 lenses embedded in the bottom of the radiolarian chert sequences. The radiolarian cherts are  
238 characterized by a red-brownish colour. The radiolarian cherts generally show layering with  
239 very variable thickness (1 – 5 cm) or massive bedding. The thickness of radiolarian chert  
240 sequences ranges from 10 to 40 m. Radiolarian cherts were taken from both the tectonic slices  
241 consisting of pillow lava – radiolarian chert sequences. In detail, radiolarian cherts NA424  
242 and NA425 were stratigraphically associated with pillow lava sample NA421, whereas  
243 radiolarian cherts NA501, NA502, NA503, and NA510 were associated with pillow lava  
244 NA509.

245 In the Ashin ophiolite, a total of ten samples of pillow lavas, and three samples of  
246 radiolarian cherts were taken from the ophiolitic mélangé. Sheeted dykes were sampled in  
247 small and tectonized outcrops. In fact, after preliminary petrographical and chemical analyses  
248 they resulted totally altered and therefore they will not be treated in this paper. Pillow lavas  
249 were collected in two distinct tectonic slices cropping out in the Chah-e-Senjed area (Fig. 1c)  
250 where the best preserved outcrops are found. Pillow lavas show general features that are very

251 similar to those of pillow lavas in the Nain ophiolite (Fig. 2c). Similar to Nain ophiolite, the  
252 thicknesses of the tectonic slices made up of pillow lava or pillow lava – radiolarian chert  
253 sequences are difficult to be determined, but it can be estimated to be about 25 m for pillow  
254 lavas and about 50 m for pillow lava – radiolarian chert sequences (Fig. 2e). These tectonic  
255 slices are found onto the top of mantle peridotites. In the pillow lava – radiolarian chert  
256 sequences, the contact between pillow lava and overlying radiolarian cherts are mainly  
257 transitional. Interpillow patches of radiolarian chert are common (Fig 2f). The thickness of  
258 radiolarian chert sequences range is about 25 m. The sampled radiolarian cherts AS1010,  
259 AS1012/1, and AS1021 were stratigraphically associated with pillow lava sample AS1012.

260

261

### 262 **3. Radiolarian Biostratigraphy**

263

264 The radiolarian samples were etched with hydrochloric and hydrofluoric acid following the  
265 method proposed by Dumitrica (1970), Pessagno and Newport (1972), Baumgartner et al.  
266 (1981) and De Wever (1982). Unfortunately, some of them were barren or yielded  
267 radiolarians with very poor preservation. Three samples were however suitable for  
268 biostratigraphical analysis, though two samples from the Nain ophiolite yielded  
269 radiolarians with moderate preservation. The principal marker taxa are illustrated in Figure 3.  
270 From the analysed cherts radiolarian assemblages and ages were obtained as follows.

271 Sample AS1010 contains a moderately well-preserved radiolarian assemblage dominated  
272 by nassellarians. All identified species are illustrated in Figure 3. Age determination is  
273 primarily based on the zonation proposed by O'Dogherty (1994) and we mostly followed his  
274 systematics for determination of species. The names of genera are updated according to more  
275 recent publications (O'Dogherty et al., 2009, 2017).

276 The sample is assignable to UA 10 of the Romanus Subzone, the lower subzone of the  
277 Spoletoensis Zone. This assignment is constrained with the first occurrence of *Mita gracilis*  
278 (Squinabol) and the last occurrence of *Crococapsa asseni* (Tan). The Romanus Subzone is  
279 calibrated to the Middle Albian but we also note that the Early to early Middle Albian is not  
280 recorded in this zonation (see Fig. 10c and Fig. 11 in O'Dogherty, 1994). The first occurrence  
281 of *Mita gracilis* (Squinabol) was later determined at the base of the Albian (Danelian, 2008).  
282 Based on these ranges, the inferred age for sample 1010 is Early–Middle Albian.

283 Samples NA424 and NA510 contain very few radiolarians determinable only at genus  
284 level. Both samples contain the genus *Dictyomitra*, which first appears in the Berriasian  
285 (O'Dogherty et al., 2009). The samples indicate the Cretaceous but a more precise age  
286 assignment is not possible.

287

288

#### 289 **4. Petrography of the sheeted dykes and pillow lavas**

290

291 Most of the rocks studied in this paper are affected by various degrees of low-grade ocean-  
292 floor hydrothermal alteration, which resulted in different extent of replacement of the primary  
293 igneous phases. However, regardless of the extent of mineralogical alteration, the primary  
294 igneous textures are always well preserved. Olivine is never preserved, and it is always  
295 replaced by iddingsite and/or chlorite. Fresh plagioclase is very rare, since it is usually  
296 replaced by albite and calcite. Clinopyroxene alteration normally occurs as pseudomorphic  
297 replacement by chlorite or actinolitic amphibole; however, some samples display fresh  
298 clinopyroxene relics as both phenocrysts and groundmass minerals. Volcanic glass in the  
299 groundmass has been altered into an assemblage of chlorite and prehnite. Few samples exhibit  
300 variolitic textures, with varioles filled by calcite and, subordinately, by chlorite and zeolite. In

301 addition, small calcite veins are frequent. Regardless of the secondary mineralogical  
302 transformations, the following petrographic description will be made on the bases of the  
303 primary igneous phases.

304

#### 305 *4.1. Nain Pillow lavas*

306

307 Samples from NA400 to NA421 are olivine-basalt in composition, whereas sample NA509  
308 is represented by a ferrobasalt. All these rocks belong to the geochemical Group 1, as will be  
309 defined in Section 6.2. Olivine-basalts show porphyritic, hypoialine textures with  
310 phenocrysts and microphenocrysts mainly represented by olivine (Fig. 4a) and plagioclase.  
311 Some samples display glomeroporphyritic texture with clusters made up of 3 - 4 plagioclase  
312 phenocrysts. Olivines form euhedral crystals, which often contain inclusions of glass  
313 (completely altered) and/or chromian spinel. Plagioclase phenocrysts commonly show albite-  
314 carlsbad twinning. The groundmass mainly shows hypoialine, intersertal textures with  
315 plagioclase laths and intergranular clinopyroxene, glass, and minor opaque minerals. (Fig.  
316 4a). In samples NA229 and NA230 (i.e. the samples belonging to the geochemical Group 2,  
317 as defined in Section 6.3) olivine is absent and the phenocryst assemblage is composed of  
318 plagioclase and plagioclase + clinopyroxene, respectively (Fig. 4b). In all samples, the  
319 groundmass shows intersertal and subophitic texture with plagioclase, clinopyroxene, altered  
320 glass, chromian spinel, and minor opaque minerals. The chromian spinels often contain  
321 inclusions of altered silicate minerals. The groundmass of sample NA230 show fluidal  
322 texture marked by the alignment of plagioclase laths.

323

#### 324 *4.2. Nain sheeted dykes*

325

326 Nain sheeted dykes are basalt and basaltic andesite in composition. They show  
327 intergranular texture and are mainly composed of plagioclase, altered clinopyroxene and  
328 hornblende (Fig. 4c). Minor amounts of quartz, Fe-Ti oxides and sulfides are in interstitial  
329 position between the major rock-forming minerals. Small apatite crystals occasionally occur  
330 as inclusions within plagioclases.

331

### 332 *4.3 Ashin pillow lavas*

333

334 Ashin pillow lavas range in composition from olivine-basalt to basaltic andesite. They  
335 show porphyritic to vitrophyric textures similar to those of the Nain pillow lavas.  
336 Phenocrysts and microphenocrysts are mainly represented by olivine, plagioclase, and  
337 clinopyroxene. The groundmass is intergranular, hypocrystic in texture and is composed of  
338 plagioclase laths, granular clinopyroxene, altered glass, chromian spinel, and Fe-Ti oxides.  
339 Locally, the groundmass also includes sulfide minerals. Samples AS1007/2 and AS1008 also  
340 include minor amounts of primary hornblende as microphenocrysts. The chromian spinel is  
341 commonly represented by coarse-grained, euhedral crystals with inclusions of silicate  
342 minerals (Fig. 4d).

343

344

## 345 **5. Analytical methods**

346

347 Whole-rock major and some trace element were analyzed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF) on  
348 pressed-powder pellets, using an ARL Advant-XP automated X-ray spectrometer. The matrix  
349 correction methods proposed by Lachance and Trill (1966) were applied. Volatile contents  
350 were determined as loss on ignition (L.O.I.) at 1000°C. In addition, Rb, Sr, Zr, Y, Nb, Hf, Ta,

351 Th, U, and the rare earth elements (REE) were determined by inductively coupled plasma-  
352 mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) using a Thermo Series X-I spectrometer. The results are shown  
353 in [Table 1](#). However, for the discussion of the geochemical characteristics major element  
354 composition has been re-calculated on L.O.I.-free bases. The accuracy of the data for XRF  
355 and ICP-MS analyses were evaluated using results for international standard rocks run as  
356 unknown. The detection limits for XRF and ICP-MS analyses were evaluated using results  
357 from several runs of twenty-nine international standards. Results are given in [Appendix A1](#).  
358 All whole-rock analyses were performed at the Department of Physics and Earth Science,  
359 University of Ferrara.

360 Major element compositions of mineral phases were determined by electron microprobe  
361 spectrometry using a JEOL JXA8200 Superprobe at Leoben University, Austria. An  
362 accelerating voltage of 15 kV and a beam current of 10 nA were applied for 25 seconds  
363 counting interval, whereas the beam spot size was  $\sim 5 \mu\text{m}$ . The obtained major element results,  
364 corrected by an on-line ZAF program, are shown in [Tables 2 to 4](#).

365

366

## 367 **6. Whole rock chemistry of sheeted dykes and pillow lavas**

368

### 369 *6.1. Evaluation of the alteration effects*

370

371 The geochemical features of the Nain and Ashin pillow lavas and dykes are described  
372 using basically those elements that are virtually immobile during low-temperature alteration  
373 and metamorphism. They include some incompatible trace elements (e.g., Ti, P, Zr, Y, Sc,  
374 Nb, Ta, Hf, Th), middle REE (M-REE) and heavy REE (H-REE), as well as some transition  
375 metals (e.g., Ni, Co, Cr, V). Large ion lithophile elements (LILE) and many major elements

376 are commonly mobilized during alteration (e.g., [Pearce and Norry, 1979](#)). In addition, light  
377 REE (LREE) may also be affected to some degree of mobilization induced by alteration (e.g.,  
378 [Valsami and Cann, 1992](#)). Some mobility tests were therefore made for SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, FeO,  
379 CaO, Na<sub>2</sub>O, K<sub>2</sub>O, Ba, Rb, Sr, Pb, U, La, and Ce by plotting these elements versus some  
380 immobile elements (e.g., Zr, Y) and then by calculating the correlation coefficients ( $r^2$ ) for  
381 samples from the different rock-types. These tests indicate that La (e.g.,  $r^2$  vs. Zr = 0.73 -  
382 0.93), Ce (e.g.,  $r^2$  vs. Y = 0.82 - 0.99), and Ba (e.g.,  $r^2$  vs. Y = 0.67 - 0.88) show good  
383 correlation with immobile elements suggesting that the amount of mobilization of these  
384 elements was limited. Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ( $r^2$  vs. Y = 0.55 - 0.72) resulted moderately mobilized in all the  
385 studied samples. In consequence, this element can be used, thought with some caution. Tests  
386 on SiO<sub>2</sub>, FeO, CaO, Na<sub>2</sub>O, and U returned different results depending on the rock-type. SiO<sub>2</sub>,  
387 Na<sub>2</sub>O, and U were little mobilized in samples from the Ashin pillow lavas and Nain sheeted  
388 dykes ( $r^2$  vs. Y > 0.75, > 0.80, and > 0.72 for SiO<sub>2</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>O, and U, respectively), whereas these  
389 elements were mobilized in samples from the Nain pillow lavas ( $r^2$  vs. Y = 0.28, = 0.45, and =  
390 0.11, respectively). FeO and CaO contents show good correlation with immobile elements for  
391 pillow lava samples from both the Nain and Ashin (e.g.,  $r^2$  for FeO vs. Y = 0.77-0.92 and  $r^2$   
392 for CaO vs. Y = 0.75-0.82). In contrast, these elements resulted fairly mobilized in samples  
393 from the Nain sheeted dykes (e.g.,  $r^2$  for FeO vs. Y = 0.24 and  $r^2$  for CaO vs. Y = 0.48). K<sub>2</sub>O  
394 ( $r^2$  vs. Y < 0.48), Rb ( $r^2$  vs. Y < 0.23), Pb ( $r^2$  vs. Y < 0.36), and Sr ( $r^2$  vs. Y < 0.22) contents  
395 resulted affected by high degrees of alteration-induced mobilization and therefore these  
396 elements cannot be used. The results obtained from the mobility tests carried out on the  
397 studied rocks are in agreement with previous works, which show that alteration of arc  
398 lithosphere by seawater or hydrothermal fluids increases the content of volatiles and trace  
399 elements, such as K, Rb, U, Pb, and Sr (e.g., [Kelley et al., 2003](#)).

400

## 401 6.2. Group 1 basaltic rocks

402

403 Group 1 rocks is represented by pillow lavas from both Nain and Ashin ophiolites, as well  
404 as by the Nain sheeted dykes. Group 1 pillow lavas from both Nain and Ashin pillow lava  
405 series show similar compositions and therefore they will be treated together in the following  
406 description. They are mainly represented by basalts, though one sample (NA509) showing  
407 ferrobasaltic composition and one sample (AS1012) showing basaltic andesitic composition  
408 are found in the pillow lava series of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites, respectively (Table 1). In  
409 basalts, SiO<sub>2</sub> contents range between 45.88 and 50.94 wt.% and Mg# range between 74.5 and  
410 55.9, whereas in the ferrobasalt Mg# is low (40.7). The basaltic andesite shows comparatively  
411 higher fractionation degree with SiO<sub>2</sub> = 54.39 wt.% and Mg# = 30.1. These rocks display a  
412 sub-alkaline, tholeiitic nature exemplified by generally low Nb/Y ratios (Fig. 5), as well as by  
413 sharp Ti, Fe, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>, Sc, and V increase from basalt to ferrobasalt followed by a significant  
414 decrease in the basaltic andesite (Fig. 6). Basalts are characterized by variable, but generally  
415 low TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.60-1.05 wt.%), P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.03 - 0.20 wt%), Zr (37-78 ppm) and Y (13 - 24 ppm)  
416 contents. Compatible element contents are very variable (e.g., Cr = 352 - 619 ppm).  
417 Nonetheless, these elements generally show high contents in most samples (Table 4). The  
418 ferrobasaltic sample obviously show very high FeO<sub>tot</sub> (17.74 wt.%), TiO<sub>2</sub> (3.06 wt.%), and V  
419 (807 ppm) contents. Normal-type MORB (N-MORB) normalized spiderdiagrams (Figs. 7a, c)  
420 display incompatible element patterns with a slight Th relative enrichment and marked Ta and  
421 Nb negative anomalies. High-field-strength element (HFSE) abundance is generally low  
422 ranging from 0.3 to 3 times N-MORB composition (Sun and McDonough, 1989). Most  
423 samples show REE patterns slightly increasing from LREE to HREE, whereas a few samples  
424 show almost flat patterns (Figs. 7b, d) as testified by the (La/Sm)<sub>N</sub> and (La/Yb)<sub>N</sub> ratios (0.54-  
425 0.98 and 0.50-1.14, respectively).

426 Group 1 rocks from the sheeted dykes of the Nain ophiolites show chemical features that  
427 are similar to those of Group 1 pillow lavas, though some minor differences can be observed.  
428 They are represented by basalts and basaltic andesites (Table 1), with SiO<sub>2</sub> contents ranging  
429 between 50.55 and 52.61 wt.%. Similar to pillow lava samples, these rocks display a sub-  
430 alkaline nature with low Nb/Y ratios (Fig. 5). They show uniform chemical composition  
431 (Table 1), as exemplified by the quite restricted range of variation of the Mg# values (66.2 -  
432 61.9). Group 1 sheeted dykes are characterized by low TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.63-0.69 wt.%), P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.06-  
433 0.09 wt%), Zr (27-39 ppm), and Y (12-15 ppm) contents. Compatible element contents are  
434 generally low (e.g., Cr = 38-117 ppm) and comparatively lower, at comparable MgO  
435 contents, with respect to those observed in pillow lavas (Table 1). N-MORB normalized  
436 spiderdiagrams display incompatible element patterns with a slight Th relative enrichment  
437 and Ta and Nb negative anomalies (Fig. 7e). In particular, the Th relative enrichment (Th<sub>N</sub> =  
438 2.35 – 3.90) is higher compared to that of Group 1 pillow lava basaltic rocks (Th<sub>N</sub> = 1.06 –  
439 2.03). HFSE abundance is generally low ranging from 0.3 to 0.9 times N-MORB composition  
440 (Sun and McDonough, 1989). Chondrite-normalized REE abundance show either patterns  
441 slightly depleted in LREE compared to HREE (La<sub>N</sub>/Yb<sub>N</sub> = 0.80) or slightly enriched in LREE  
442 compared to HREE (La<sub>N</sub>/Yb<sub>N</sub> = 1.14) (Fig. 7f).

443 The overall geochemical features of Group 1 rocks from both Nain and Ashin pillow lavas  
444 and Nain sheeted dykes are similar to those of IAT from many ophiolitic complexes, as  
445 exemplified by the incompatible elements and REE concentrations (see Figs. 7g, h for a  
446 comparison). Based on Th-Co co-variation, Group 1 rocks can be classified as IAT (Fig. 8).  
447 Accordingly, in the discrimination diagrams in Figure 9a they plot in the field for IAT rocks  
448 forming in volcanic arc settings with no significant contribution from polygenetic crust (Fig.  
449 9b).

450

### 451 6.3. Group 2 basaltic rocks

452

453 Group 2 rocks include only a couple of samples from the Nain pillow lavas series. They  
454 are represented by basalts with SiO<sub>2</sub> contents ranging from 50.04 to 51.83 wt.%, whereas  
455 Mg# range from 68.4 to 49.6. These rocks display sub-alkaline nature as testified by low  
456 Nb/Y ratios (Fig. 5). Ti and Fe show a mild increase with decreasing Mg# (Fig. 6). Although  
457 generally low, TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.90-0.96 wt%) and Y (15-25 ppm) contents are comparatively higher  
458 than those observed in Group 1 rocks. In contrast, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (0.15-0.24 wt.%) and Zr (107 - 136  
459 ppm) contents are significantly higher than those of Group 1 rocks. Compatible element  
460 contents (Table 1) are very low (e.g., Ni < 12 ppm, Cr = 17-77 ppm). The incompatible  
461 element abundance (Fig. 7i) exhibits patterns, which are very similar to those of calc-alkaline  
462 (CA) basalts (e.g., Pearce, 1983) with marked positive anomalies in Th, U, La, and Ce, and  
463 negative anomalies in Ta, Nb, and Ti. The chondrite-normalized REE abundances (Fig. 7j) of  
464 the Group 2 pillow lavas have sub-parallel patterns, regularly decreasing from LREE to  
465 HREE. The enrichment in LREE compared to HREE is rather uniform with (La/Yb)<sub>N</sub> ratios  
466 ranging from 3.19 to 4.33. La generally varies from ~26 to ~60 times chondrite abundance.  
467 The incompatible elements and REE patterns (Figs. 7i, j) are consistent with a CA affinity for  
468 these rocks (see Figs. 7g, h for a comparison). In fact, Group 2 rocks plot in the field for CA  
469 basalts and basaltic andesites in the Th-Co diagram (Fig. 8). Accordingly, these samples plot  
470 in the field for CA basalts (Fig. 9a) formed at continental margin volcanic arc (Fig.9b).

471

472

## 473 7. Mineral chemistry and geothermobarometry

474

475 Unfortunately, due to alteration effects, many of the studied samples were not suitable for

476 electron microprobe analysis. In addition, in most of the analyzed samples, only one type of  
477 mineral phase was fresh enough to be analyzed, whereas only very few samples included two  
478 or three different types of fresh mineral phases. Nonetheless, we performed mineral chemistry  
479 analyses on a total of twelve samples for determining the compositions of clinopyroxene, Cr-  
480 spinel, plagioclase and amphibole. Most of the analyzed plagioclase showed, however, albite-  
481 oligoclase composition clearly reflecting a severe alteration of this mineral. Only in a couple  
482 of samples from the Nain pillow lava series (samples NA403 and NA404) few plagioclase  
483 crystals resulted relatively fresh, ranging in composition from labradorite to bytownite.  
484 However, the number of reliable plagioclase analyses is very limited and therefore this  
485 mineral will not be discussed in this work.

486

### 487 *7.1. Clinopyroxene*

488

489 Fresh primary clinopyroxenes crystals were found in samples of Group 1 and Group 2  
490 pillow lavas from both Nain and Ashin ophiolites, whereas no fresh crystals were found in  
491 Group 1 rocks from the Nain sheeted dykes. Representative analyses of fresh clinopyroxene  
492 crystals are given in [Table 2](#). Clinopyroxenes in Group 1 pillow lavas from both Nain and  
493 Ashin ophiolites show augitic composition, according to the classification of [Morimoto](#)  
494 [\(1989\)](#). No significant chemical differences can be seen between clinopyroxenes from  
495 samples from the Nain and Ashin Group 1 pillow lavas and therefore these samples will be  
496 described together in the following discussion. Clinopyroxenes from Group 1 rocks are  
497 characterized by low TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.21-0.48 wt.%) and Na<sub>2</sub>O (0.19-0.29 wt.%) contents, whereas  
498 Mg# are relatively high (77.2-87.1). Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents are rather low, ranging from 0.03 to 0.09  
499 wt.% in most samples. However, comparatively higher values can be seen in sample NA400,  
500 where Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> content varies from 0.12 to 0.16 wt.%). The Ti/Al ratio is assumed to vary as a

501 function of the Ti-Al substitution in pyroxene, which, in turn, is strongly controlled by the  
502 magma composition. Ti/Al ratios displayed by clinopyroxenes from Group 1 basalts are  
503 generally very low (0.05-0.10). In these minerals, no definite correlations between Mg# and  
504 Ti, Na and Al are observed. Only clinopyroxenes in sample NA403, which shows the highest  
505 whole rock Mg#, display the lowest Ti and Na contents when compared to other  
506 clinopyroxenes (Table 2). In contrast, Ti and Na contents are positively correlated in all  
507 samples.

508 Clinopyroxenes from Group 2 basalts from the Nain pillow lava series are augitic in  
509 composition (Morimoto, 1989). Compared to clinopyroxenes from Group 1 basalts, they  
510 show higher TiO<sub>2</sub> (0.46-0.61 wt.%) and Na<sub>2</sub>O (0.36-0.42 wt%) contents (see Table 2).  
511 Accordingly, their Ti/Al ratios are generally higher than those observed in clinopyroxenes  
512 from Group 1 rocks, ranging from 0.10 to 0.12. However, Mg# (82.4-84.0) and Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
513 contents (0.04-0.12 wt.%) show values perfectly overlapping those observed in  
514 clinopyroxenes from Group 1 rocks (Table 2). In contrast to what observed for  
515 clinopyroxenes from Group 1 basalts, Ti, Na and Al are negatively correlated with increasing  
516 Mg#.

517 It is commonly accepted that clinopyroxene compositions represent a suitable indicator of  
518 the magmatic affinity of basalts from different tectonic settings, as well as from different  
519 ophiolitic types (e.g., Leterrier et al., 1982; Beccaluva et al., 1989). In fact, the chemical  
520 composition of clinopyroxenes, beside to be controlled by crystal-chemical constrain, is also  
521 strongly influenced by the composition of magmas from which they crystallize. Using Ti–  
522 (Ca+Na), (Ti+Cr)–Ca, and Al-Ti covariation diagrams of Leterrier et al., (1982)  
523 clinopyroxenes from Group 1 pillow lavas plot in the fields for tholeiitic-type volcanic arc  
524 basalts (Fig. 10). Accordingly, in the TiO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-Na<sub>2</sub>O discrimination diagram of Beccaluva et  
525 al. (1989) they plot in the fields for volcanic arc tholeiites (not shown). In contrast,

526 clinopyroxene from Group 2 pillow lavas plot in the field for CA basalts in the diagram in  
527 [Figure 10](#).

528

## 529 7.2. Spinel

530

531 Fresh primary chromian spinels were found in samples of Group 1 pillow lavas from both  
532 Nain and Ashin ophiolites. In contrast, no spinels were found in Group 2 basalts and in the  
533 Nain sheeted dyke series. Representative analyses of chromian spinels are given in [Table 3](#).  
534 Chromian spinels occurring in pillow lava basalts from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites show  
535 quite similar chemical compositions ([Table 3](#)) and therefore they will be hereafter described  
536 as a whole. In the Cr-Al-Fe<sup>3+</sup> classification diagram ([Stevens, 1944](#)), spinels can be classified  
537 as Al-chromites (not shown). They are characterized by 1:1 replacement of chromite end-  
538 member [Fe(Cr, Fe<sup>3+</sup>)<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>] by the spinel end-member [MgAl<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>]. The proportions of these  
539 two end-members range from 1.2 spinel - 1.8 chromite to 1.4 spinel - 1.6 chromite. These  
540 minerals are characterized by variable, but generally low Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents (16.44-23.70 wt.%)  
541 and moderate Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents (42.08-50.21 wt.%). As a consequence, the Cr# is fairly high  
542 (54.63-66.83, [Fig. 11](#)). MgO contents are relatively low (10.07-12.94 wt.%), whereas FeO  
543 contents are relatively high (19.86-23.85 wt.%). TiO<sub>2</sub> contents, though generally low, are  
544 highly variable, as they range from 0.16 to 0.56 wt.%. The lowest TiO<sub>2</sub> contents are observed  
545 in spinels from most samples of the Nain pillow lava series (TiO<sub>2</sub> = 0.16-0.35 wt.%). In  
546 contrast, spinels in the Ashin pillow lava basalts, as well as in sample NA421 (Nain pillow  
547 lava series) show comparatively higher TiO<sub>2</sub> contents (TiO<sub>2</sub> = 0.35-0.56 wt.%). Individual  
548 grains commonly show little compositional variation from core to rim. In most samples,  
549 spinels have cores slightly richer in Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> than the rims ([Table 3](#)). In these  
550 samples, Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents in core are less than ~4 relative percent higher than in rim.

551 Spinel from many samples show MgO, FeO, and TiO<sub>2</sub> contents that are slightly increasing  
552 from cores to rims.

553 It is commonly recognized that the chemical composition of chromian spinel is a sensitive  
554 petrogenetic indicator. Indeed, experimental studies have indicated that Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub>  
555 contents in chromian spinel are strictly controlled by the contents of these elements in the  
556 parental melt (e.g., [Maurel and Maurel, 1982](#); [Kamenetsky et al., 2001](#); [Rollinson, 2008](#)). In  
557 many cases, the chemical composition of chromian spinels has been used for inferring the  
558 parental melt composition (e.g., [Kepezhinskas et al., 1993](#); [Zhou et al., 1996](#); [Kamenetsky et](#)  
559 [al., 2001](#); [Rollinson, 2008](#); [Allahyari et al., 2014](#); [Saccani and Tassinari, 2015](#)). In fact,  
560 [Maurel and Maurel \(1982\)](#) have proposed an empirical formula for calculating the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
561 content of the parental melt starting from the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> content in spinel. Similarly, [Rollinson](#)  
562 [\(2008\)](#) proposed some empirical formulae that relate the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> content of chromian  
563 spinels and in parental melts. In this study, we use the empirical formulae proposed by  
564 [Rollinson \(2008\)](#) in order to verify if chromian spinels have crystallized in equilibrium with  
565 the liquid composition of their host rocks. Results are shown in [Table 3](#). The calculated Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
566 contents in the liquids are, on average, from 0.5 to 1 wt.% higher than those observed in the  
567 whole rocks for all samples from the Nain pillow lavas and from sample AS1009 from the  
568 Ashin pillow lavas, whereas in the other basalts from the Ashin ophiolites the calculated  
569 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents are, on average, from 0.4 to 0.7 wt.% lower than those observed in the whole  
570 rocks ([Table 3](#)). In general, the differences between calculated and observed Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> values are  
571 little and are included within the uncertainty of the methods. Therefore, we can conclude that  
572 both Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> contents calculated from spinel compositions are very similar to those  
573 observed in the parental rocks. In fact, the differences between calculated and observed TiO<sub>2</sub>  
574 contents range from 0 to 0.04 wt.% for all samples ([Table 3](#)). In summary, the close similarity  
575 between calculated and observed Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and TiO<sub>2</sub> contents suggests that chromian spinels

576 have crystallized in equilibrium with the composition of their host rocks. Therefore, their  
577 compositions can be plotted in the discrimination diagram in [Figure 11](#), where it can be seen  
578 that chromian spinels from both Nain and Ashin pillow lavas show quite similar compositions  
579 and plot within or close to the field for island arc tholeiitic spinels.

580

### 581 *7.3. Amphibole*

582

583 Fresh primary amphiboles were found in few samples of Group 1 rocks in sheeted  
584 dykes and pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites, respectively. Chemical  
585 compositions of representative fresh amphiboles are given in [Table 3](#). All amphiboles  
586 have  $Ca > 1.50$ ,  $(Na+K) < 0.5$ , Si included between 6.5 and 7.5, and  $[Mg/(Mg+Fe^{2+})] >$   
587  $0.5$  ([Table 4](#)) and thus they classify as magnesio-hornblende ([Leake et al., 1997](#)).

588 Compositional variation for the analysed amphiboles shows smooth correlation with  
589 increasing differentiation ([Table 4](#)). This correlation is exemplified by the variation in  
590 Mg#, which are 84.9-93.2 in basalts, and 78.8-83.9 in the basaltic andesite.  $(Na_2O+K_2O)$   
591 contents are slightly lower in amphiboles in basalts (0.59 – 0.99 wt.%) than in those in the  
592 basaltic andesite (1.14-1.84 wt.%). Likewise, the  $TiO_2$  content in amphiboles from the  
593 Nain sheeted dyke series is comparatively lower in basalt (0.36-0.68 wt.%) than in the  
594 basaltic andesite (0.59-1.14 wt.%). However, the  $TiO_2$  content in amphiboles from these  
595 samples is lower than that of amphiboles from the Ashin pillow lavas series, where it  
596 ranges from 1.11 to 2.18 wt.%. Amphiboles from the Nain sheeted dyke series are  
597 chemically zoned. In fact,  $TiO_2$ ,  $Na_2O$ , and  $K_2O$  contents significantly increase from cores  
598 to rims ([Table 4](#)).

599

### 600 *7.4. Geothermobarometers*

601

602 Due to the limited occurrence of fresh mineral phases, the geothermobarometers based  
603 on clinopyroxene composition and the geobarometers based on amphibole composition  
604 are the only methods that can be used for estimating crystallization temperatures and  
605 pressures for the studied rocks. In fact, we applied the thermobarometric methods  
606 proposed by [Putirka et al. \(2003\)](#) and [Putirka \(2008\)](#) based on clinopyroxene–whole rock  
607 equilibrium for estimating crystallization temperatures and pressures of the pillow lavas  
608 from both Nain and Ashin ophiolites, as only these rocks included fresh clinopyroxenes.  
609 Results are shown in [Table 2](#). Unfortunately, no fresh clinopyroxene is preserved in the  
610 sheeted dyke basaltic rocks and therefore the temperature of crystallization of these rocks  
611 cannot be estimated. Using the method proposed by [Putirka \(2008\)](#), the estimated  
612 magmatic temperatures for both Group 1 and Group 2 basalts from different localities are  
613 similar and range from  $1195 \pm 3^\circ\text{C}$  to  $1224 \pm 8^\circ\text{C}$ . Interestingly, the estimated  
614 crystallization pressures vary depending on both rock group and locality. The estimated  
615 crystallization pressures for the Nain pillow lavas range from  $0.22 \pm 0.05$  to  $0.29 \pm 0.06$   
616 GPa. Relatively higher pressures were estimated for the Group 1 Ashin pillow lavas, being  
617 in the range  $0.52 - 0.54 \pm 0.01$  GPa. However, the highest pressures were estimated for  
618 the Group 2 pillow lavas from the Nain pillow lavas ( $P = 0.61 \pm 0.03$  GPa).

619 The magmatic pressure of formation of the Nain sheeted dykes and one pillow lava  
620 basalt from the Ashin ophiolites were also calculated using different methods based on the  
621 Al-content in amphibole ([Hammarstrom and Zen, 1986](#); [Hollister et al., 1987](#); [Johnson and  
622 Rutherford, 1989](#)). Results are shown in [Table 4](#). Though these methods were calibrated  
623 for different temperature ranges, they gave similar estimated pressures for the analyzed  
624 magnesio-hornblendes (see [Table 4](#)). The estimated pressures for the Nain sheeted dykes  
625 are in the range of  $0.20 \pm 0.05 - 0.27 \pm 0.05$  GPa for both basalt and basaltic andesite. No

626 significant differences between pressures estimated from crystal cores and rims were  
627 observed. In contrast, the estimated pressures of crystallization for amphiboles in the  
628 Ashin pillow lava basalts are comparatively higher, being in the range of 0.51 – 0.52 GPa.  
629 Sample AS1007/2 from the Ashin pillow lava series is the only sample in which both fresh  
630 clinopyroxenes and amphiboles can be found. Therefore, a comparison of the  
631 crystallization pressures estimated using these minerals can be made. For this sample,  
632 pressures estimated using amphibole composition (0.42 – 0.55 GPa) are very similar to  
633 those estimated using clinopyroxene composition (0.52 GPa). According to these  
634 calculations, clinopyroxenes in Group 1 Nain pillow lavas were generated in magma  
635 chamber(s) at depths ranging from ~8 to ~11 km, whereas in similar rocks from the Ashin  
636 ophiolites clinopyroxenes and amphiboles crystallized at about 19 km depth. In contrast,  
637 clinopyroxenes from in Group 2 pillow lavas from the Nain ophiolites crystallized in  
638 magma chamber(s) located at ~23 km depth. Crystallization pressures estimated from  
639 amphiboles suggest that the Group 1 Nain sheeted dykes were formed at ~8 km depth.

640

## 641 **8. Discussion**

642

### 643 *8.1. Melt petrogenesis and mantle sources*

644

645 According to many authors (e.g., [Pearce and Norry, 1979](#); [Pearce, 1983](#)), the incompatible  
646 element composition of basaltic rocks largely depends on the composition and degree of  
647 melting of the associated mantle source, whereas it is little influenced by fractional  
648 crystallization (e.g., [Pearce, 1983](#)). The trace element composition of different magma-types  
649 is therefore primarily related to different source characteristics that are associated, in turn,  
650 with distinct tectono-magmatic settings of formation. It follows that the chemical

651 characteristics of the different rock-types forming the volcanic and sheeted dyke series of the  
652 Nain and Ashin (hereafter, Nain-Ashin) ophiolites can be used for determining the nature and  
653 tectonic significance of the magmatic events that occurred in the oceanic sectors of the Neo-  
654 Tethys, which surrounded the CEIM. We will therefore focus our petrogenetic discussion to  
655 the identification of the possible mantle sources and related tectonic setting of formation of  
656 the different rock-groups forming the sheeted dyke and pillow lava units cropping out in the  
657 Nain-Ashin ophiolites. Some trace elements contents (e.g., Nb, Th, and REE) and their degree  
658 of depletion or enrichment, as well as trace element ratios (e.g., Nb/Yb, Th/Ta, Th/Nb, Ba/Th)  
659 are moderately affected by fractional crystallization of predominantly olivine + clinopyroxene  
660 + plagioclase. Therefore, in presence of moderate amounts of fractionation, they are believed  
661 to represent the elemental ratios in the source (e.g., [Allègre and Minster, 1978](#); [Beker et al.,](#)  
662 [1997](#)). For this reason, the following discussion will be based on the relatively less  
663 fractionated basalts and basaltic andesites of the different magmatic groups. [Figure 9a](#) shows  
664 that Group 1 (IAT) and Group 2 (CA) rocks plot in the fields for volcanic arc basalts and  
665 show variable extents of Th enrichment relative to Nb, which suggest variable addition of  
666 subduction-derived components. These rocks are commonly interpreted as originating from  
667 partial melting of sub-arc residual peridotites that experienced Nb and Ti depletion during  
668 previous partial melting events followed by Ba, Th, and LREE enrichment carried by  
669 subduction-derived fluids or melts (e.g., [Pearce, 1982, 1983](#); [Gribble et al., 1996](#); [Parkinson](#)  
670 [and Pearce, 1998](#)). [Pearce and Norry \(1979\)](#) and [Beccaluva et al. \(1989\)](#) suggested that low Ti  
671 contents in clinopyroxenes reflect a depleted nature of the mantle source(s) that generated the  
672 clinopyroxene parental magma. The generally low Ti content in clinopyroxenes from both  
673 Group 1 and Group 2 pillow lavas ([Table 2](#)) also support the hypothesis that they crystallized  
674 from primary magmas generated from mantle sources, which underwent Ti removal by  
675 previous partial melting events (e.g., [Hébert and Laurent, 1990](#)).

676 A method that is commonly used for estimating the degree of depletion (i.e., degree of  
677 melting) of the mantle source(s) is to plot a compatible versus an incompatible element. In  
678 fact, compatible element abundance is not significantly modified during the progressive  
679 mantle source depletion, whereas the abundance of incompatible elements is closely related to  
680 source depletion and degree of melting (Pearce, 1982; 1983). We therefore use the Cr vs. Y  
681 diagram (Pearce, 1983, Murton, 1989) shown in Figure 12 for inferring the composition of  
682 mantle sources and the degrees of partial melting generating Group 1 and Group 2 rock-types.  
683 In this Figure, two possible mantle sources are assumed: 1) a depleted mantle lherzolite,  
684 which represents residual mantle after ~12% MORB-type melt extraction (lherzolite EP22  
685 from the Pindos ophiolite in Greece); 2) a comparatively more depleted mantle lherzolite,  
686 which represents residual mantle after ~20% MORB-type melt extraction (lherzolite A19  
687 from the Othrys ophiolite in Greece). Both these mantle lherzolites were chosen because they  
688 did not undergo detectable enrichment in subduction components (Saccani et al., 2017b).  
689 However, the model in Figure 12 is not appropriate for estimating the possible contribution of  
690 subduction-derived components to the mantle source(s). Therefore, in order to qualitatively  
691 evaluate the different chemical contributions from subduction-derived components, the Ba/Th  
692 ratios are plotted vs. Th/Nb ratios (Fig. 13) and we have applied REE modelling in order to  
693 find the mantle peridotite compositions, the partial melting degree, and the nature and extent  
694 of enrichment in LREE due to subduction-related fluids and/or melts that best fit the  
695 compositions of the less fractionated basaltic rocks for each magmatic type (Fig. 14).  
696 However, in supra-subduction zone settings, the fluid flux from a subducted slab may be  
697 either localized or pervasive, and fluid-mobile trace elements may be added at every melting  
698 increment (see Barth et al, 2003). In addition, the compositions and the amounts of  
699 subduction-related trace elements incorporated into the overlying mantle wedge depend on a  
700 number of factors, such as the mineralogical compositions of the subducting rocks,

701 temperatures, pressures, and distance from a subduction zone (see, for example, [Pearce and](#)  
702 [Parkinson, 1993](#); [Gribble et al., 1996](#); [Elliott, 2003](#), [Mibe et al., 2011](#)). Given these  
703 uncertainties, a rigorous quantification of the melting processes (i.e., composition of mantle  
704 sources and degrees of partial melting) generating the different rock-types is not possible as  
705 the mantle source compositions cannot be constrained in detail. Nonetheless, the semi-  
706 quantitative modelling of REE shown in [Figure 14](#) can place some solid constraints on the  
707 petrogenesis of basaltic rocks in subduction-related settings. Some authors have shown that  
708 two distinct components from the slab can be identified in island arc lavas. One component is  
709 argued to be a melt of the down-going sediment, while the second is a fluid flux derived from  
710 the dehydration of the down-going oceanic crust (e.g., [Hochstaedter et al., 2001](#); [Elliott, 2003](#);  
711 [Ikeda et al., 2016](#)). The most significant material flux from the slab beneath the fore-arc is  
712 water, which is initially represented by seawater released during compaction and porosity  
713 reduction in sediments and altered oceanic crust, and then by dehydration of clay minerals  
714 (e.g., [Kelley et al., 2003](#); [Saffer and Tobin, 2011](#)). For this reason, in the models in [Figure 14](#),  
715 the possible contributions from a melt derived from oceanic pelagic sediments ([Taylor and](#)  
716 [McLennan, 1985](#)) and from seawater ([Li, 2000](#)) are taken into account. For the sake of  
717 consistency, the depleted peridotites used in the models in [Figure 14](#) are the same used in the  
718 model in [Figure 12](#).

719

### 720 *8.1.1. Group 1 pillow lavas*

721

722 In the Cr-Y model ([Fig. 12](#)), Group 1 pillow lavas from the Nain-Ashin ophiolites are  
723 compatible with partial melting degrees of a depleted lherzolite mantle source residual after  
724 12% MORB-type melt extraction (lherzolite EP22), which range from ~8 % (for samples with  
725 relatively higher Y content) to ~15 % (for samples with relatively lower Y contents). The

726 Ba/Th enrichment relative to Th/Nb suggests that the mantle sources of these rocks were  
727 predominantly influenced by aqueous fluid addition (Fig. 13). The LREE/MREE depleted  
728 nature of most samples suggests however that hydration of the sub-arc mantle wedge was  
729 accompanied by a moderate transfer of LREE-enriched subduction zone components (e.g.,  
730 Barth et al., 2003). Therefore, in Figure 14a a theoretical mantle source has been calculated by  
731 adding 0.5% aqueous fluid to the depleted lherzolite EP22. According to the results obtained  
732 from the model in Figure 12, the REE composition of Group 1 pillow lavas from the Nain-  
733 Ashin ophiolites are compatible with 10 -15 % partial melting of the calculated theoretical  
734 mantle source. The low fractionation of HREE with respect to MREE observed in Group 1  
735 (Fig. 7b, d) suggests that the melting of sub-arc mantle source occurred in the spinel-facies.

736

#### 737 *8.1.2. Group 1 sheeted dykes*

738

739 Although Group 1 sheeted dykes represent slightly fractionated melts, in the Cr-Y model  
740 (Fig. 12) these rocks are compatible with ~20 % partial melting of the depleted lherzolite  
741 EP22, or, alternatively, with ~12 % partial melting of the relatively more depleted lherzolite  
742 residual after 20% MORB-type melt extraction (lherzolite A19). However, Figure 13 shows  
743 that the mantle source of these rocks was influenced by both aqueous fluid and sediment melt  
744 additions. Moreover, these rocks are relatively more enriched in Th with respect to Nb and Ta  
745 and show a lower LREE/MREE depletion when compared to similar pillow lava basalts (Figs.  
746 7e, 9a) further suggesting an involvement of a subduction component relatively rich in Th and  
747 LREE. For this reason, the REE composition of the possible mantle source for Group 1  
748 sheeted dykes has been calculated by adding 0.1 % aqueous fluid components and 0.2 %  
749 sediment melt component to the depleted lherzolite A19. The model in Figure 14b shows that  
750 the REE composition of the relatively less fractionated Group 1 sheeted dyke basalts is

751 consistent with 10-12 % partial melting of the assumed theoretical mantle source in the spinel  
752 stability field.

753

### 754 *8.1.3. Group 2 pillow lavas*

755

756 In the Cr-Y model (Fig. 12), the relatively less fractionated Group 2 basalt (sample  
757 NA229) is compatible with ~17 % partial melting of the depleted lherzolite EP22, or,  
758 alternatively, with ~8 % partial melting of the depleted lherzolite A19. The Th/Nb enrichment  
759 relative to Ba/Th (Fig. 13), as well as the high La/Yb ratios displayed by these basalts (Table  
760 1, Fig. 7j) suggests that the mantle source of Group 2 rocks was predominantly influenced by  
761 a subduction component significantly enriched in Th and LREE. Therefore, we assume that  
762 the subduction component that affected the mantle source of Group 2 basalts was likely  
763 represented by sediment melt addition (Fig. 13). For the REE models, we therefore calculated  
764 two possible theoretical mantle source compositions by adding 0.5 % sediment melt to both  
765 lherzolite EP22 (Fig. 14c) and lherzolite A19 (Fig. 14d). According to the Cr-Y model (Fig.  
766 12), the REE models show that the REE composition of Group 2 basalt NA229 can be either  
767 compatible with 15-18 % partial melting of the depleted lherzolite EP22 (Fig. 14c), or with ~8  
768 % partial melting of the relatively more depleted lherzolite A19 (Fig. 14d). With the available  
769 data, it not possible to assess in detail which of these models is the most appropriate one for  
770 explaining the formation of Group 2 primary melts. In any case, a first order conclusion is  
771 that Group 2 primary melts were originated from partial melting of a depleted peridotite  
772 residual after 12 – 20% MORB-melt extraction, which underwent subsequent incompatible  
773 element input due to sediment melt addition. Finally, the low MREE/HREE fractionation of  
774 both sample NA229 ( $Sm_N/Yb_N = 1.66$ ) and calculated melts ( $Sm_N/Yb_N = 1.33-1.43$ ) suggest  
775 that partial melting occurred in the spinel-facies mantle. In fact, the Sm/Yb ratios calculated

776 for partial melting in the garnet-facies mantle starting from the same mantle compositions  
777 would be much higher ( $\text{Sm}_N/\text{Yb}_N > 4.0$ ) than that observed in Group 2 basalts.

778

## 779 *8.2. Tectono-magmatic significance and geodynamic implications*

780

781 It is widely accepted that the study of igneous rocks incorporated within ophiolitic  
782 mélanges may provide robust constraints for the magmatic and geodynamic evolution of the  
783 oceanic basins from which they were derived: from continental rifting and break-up to the  
784 development of an oceanic lithosphere, its consumption in a converging setting and, finally,  
785 ophiolite emplacement (e.g., [Floyd et al., 1991](#); [Tankut et al., 1998](#); [Bortolotti et al., 2004](#)). In  
786 fact, the petrological evidence presented in Section 8.1 allows us to conclude that pillow lavas  
787 and sheeted dykes from the Nain-Ashin ophiolitic mélanges were formed from primary melts  
788 generated, in turn, from depleted mantle sources that experienced variable extents of  
789 subduction-related metasomatism prior to melting. Therefore, all these rocks were generated  
790 in a volcanic arc tectonic setting. Nonetheless, the different nature of the inferred mantle  
791 sources associated with each single rock-group suggests that they were likely formed in  
792 different portions of the same volcanic arc setting. The CA nature and the marked influence  
793 from sediment melts shown by Group 2 rocks ([Figs. 9a and 13](#)) suggest formation in a  
794 continental margin volcanic arc or in an intra-oceanic arc characterized by a thick polygenetic  
795 crust (see [Dilek and Furnes, 2011](#); [Saccani, 2015](#)). In contrast, the island arc tholeiitic affinity  
796 of Group 1 rocks and their moderate subduction-type geochemical signature suggest that these  
797 rocks were influenced by subduction-released fluids and likely formed in the forearc sector of  
798 a volcanic arc setting.

799 Several models for the geodynamic evolution of the oceanic branches of the Neo-Tethys  
800 that were existing in Mesozoic times around the CEIM have been suggested by many authors

801 (e.g., [Shojaat et al., 2003](#); [Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008](#); [Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009](#);  
802 [Rossetti et al., 2010](#); [Omrani et al., 2013](#); [Mattei et al., 2014](#); [Shirdashtzadeh et al., 2015](#)).  
803 [Rahmani et al. \(2007\)](#) suggested that the Nain ophiolites were formed in an intra-oceanic  
804 island arc setting during the Late Cretaceous. Likewise, [Ghazi and Hassanipak \(2000\)](#) and  
805 [Khalatbari Jafari et al. \(2015\)](#) suggested a similar tectonic setting of formation for the  
806 neighbouring Shahr-e-Babak and Dehshir ophiolites, respectively. Unfortunately, these  
807 authors did not suggest any hypothesis about the original location of the supposed intra-  
808 oceanic arc with respect to the CEIM. Based on geochemical studies on a quite limited  
809 number of mafic volcanic rocks from the Nain, Dehshir, Shahr-e-Babak, and Baft ophiolites  
810 ([Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009](#)), as well as on the Nain mantle peridotites ([Mehdipour Ghazi  
811 et al., 2010](#); [Pirnia et al., 2010](#)), these authors have suggested that the Nain-Baft belt  
812 ophiolites were formed in a backarc basin. This backarc basin opened in the southern margin  
813 of the CEIM in the upper Early Cretaceous and developed in the Late Cretaceous in response  
814 to the subduction of the southern branch of the Neo-Tethys below the CEIM (Fig. 15a). The  
815 opening of this backarc also resulted in the formation and drifting of the Sanandaj-Sirjan  
816 continental block from the CEIM (e.g., [Takin, 1972](#); [McCall, 2002](#); [Shahabpour, 2005](#);  
817 [Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008](#)).

818 However, recent paleomagnetic studies in Central Iran were used to reconstruct the history  
819 of rotations and latitudinal drift of the CEIM during the Mesozoic and Cenozoic times ([Mattei  
820 et al., 2012, 2014](#)). These studies indicate that the CEIM underwent two distinct phases of  
821 significant counter-clockwise rotation: a) during the Early Cretaceous and b) after the Middle-  
822 Late Miocene. In particular, the Cenozoic counter-clockwise rotation resulted in a rotation of  
823 20°–35° of the CEIM along of the Great Kavir – Dorouneh fault system. The amount of  
824 crustal shortening that could be accommodated by this rotation along right-lateral strike-slip  
825 faults is estimated to be ~400 km in length and ~100 km apart. According to [Mattei et al.](#)

826 (2012), the effects of this rotation are particularly evident in the Anarak-Nain-Ashin area (Fig.  
827 1a). In particular, these authors have shown that the Paleozoic continental basement in the  
828 Anarak area and the overlying Mesozoic ophiolites of Nain and Ashin were displaced along  
829 the Great Kavir – Dorouneh fault system, from a northeasternmost original location as a result  
830 of the Cenozoic phase of the counter-clockwise rotation of the CEIM.

831 The overall geochemical characteristics of the Nain-Ashin volcanic rocks and dykes show  
832 close similarities with their equivalents from the Sabzevar ophiolites, which were interpreted  
833 as formed in a volcanic arc setting (Lensch et al., 1979; Baroz and Macaudiere, 1984; Shojaat  
834 et al., 2003; Rezaei et al., 2018) (Fig. 5). In contrast, they show significantly different  
835 compositions compared to the volcanic rocks from the Baft, Dehshir, and Shar-e-Babak  
836 ophiolites, which have been interpreted as formed in a backarc basin (Shafaii Moghadam et  
837 al., 2009) (Fig. 5). A recent petrological study on the mantle lherzolites from the Nain  
838 ophiolites has shown that they do not represent relicts of backarc mantle peridotites. Rather,  
839 they represent sub-continental mantle (i.e., the Continental Margin ophiolites of Dilek and  
840 Furnes, 2011; Saccani et al., 2015) exhumed at an Iberia-type ocean-continent transition zone  
841 (Pirnia et al., 2018). Finally, the radiolarian biostratigraphic data presented in this paper  
842 indicate that the Ashin volcanic arc rocks were formed during the Aptian.

843 All these data show robust evidence in contrast with the hypothesis of formation of the  
844 Nain-Ashin ophiolites in the Nain-Baft backarc basin in the southwest of the CEIM during the  
845 Late Cretaceous (Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008; Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009). For example,  
846 the Continental Margin peridotites (Pirnia et al., 2018) are genetically unrelated to the  
847 chromitite-bearing harzburgites, as well as to the volcanic rocks and dykes cropping out in the  
848 Nain-Ashin ophiolites. In fact, the association of chromite-bearing harzburgites and volcanic  
849 arc rocks cropping out in the Nain-Ashin ophiolites point out for their formation in a supra-  
850 subduction tectonic setting during the closure phase of the oceanic basin. In contrast,

851 Continental Margin lherzolites, such as the Nain Lherzolites (Pirnia et al., 2018) typically  
852 represent subcontinental mantle exhumed during the continental rifting that precede the early  
853 stage of formation of a subduction-unrelated oceanic basin (see Dilek and Furnes, 2011;  
854 Saccani et al., 2015).

855 A possible tectono-magmatic model that can explain the formation in the Early Cretaceous  
856 of the different volcanic arc rock-types in the Nain-Ashin ophiolites is shown in Figures 15b,  
857 c. In this model, we suggest that, similar to the Sabzevar ophiolites, the Nain-Ashin volcanic  
858 arc rocks were formed in a volcanic arc that was active between the northern margin of the  
859 CEIM and the southern margin of Eurasia during the Early Cretaceous (Fig. 15b). Based on  
860 evidence shown by Mattei et al. (2012, 2014), we postulate that this volcanic arc was  
861 associated with the subduction below the Eurasian margin of the Sabzevar-Nain-Ashin sector  
862 of the Sistan Ocean (Fig. 15c), which was driven, in turn, by the Early Cretaceous counter-  
863 clock wise rotation and drifting toward the northwest of the CEIM. In the same times, the  
864 Sistan Ocean was still opening to the west of the CEIM, as suggested by radiolarian  
865 biostratigraphic data (Babazadeh and De Wever, 2004), whereas the southern margin of the  
866 CEIM (i.e., the future Sanandaj-Sirjan zone) was characterized by a volcanic arc activity  
867 associated with the subduction of the southern branch of the Neo-Tethys below the CEIM  
868 (Fig. 15b). To the north of this arc, a continental rifting started in the Early Cretaceous in  
869 response to this subduction and evolved to a narrow backarc basin only in the Late Cretaceous  
870 (Fig. 15b). The opening of this backarc basin resulted in the formation of the backarc-type  
871 oceanic lithosphere now represented by the Dehshir, Shahr-e-Babak, and Baft ophiolites (e.g.,  
872 Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008; Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009).

873 The geochemical models discussed in Section 8.1 show that the Nain-Ashin volcanic rocks  
874 and dykes originated from partial melting of depleted peridotites (Fig. 12) that experienced  
875 variable extent of chemical contributions from the subducting slab (Figs. 13, 14). The inferred

876 magmatic evolution in the subduction system between the CEIM and the Eurasian plate is  
877 shown in [Figure 15c](#). The material released from the subducting slab is represented by water  
878 beneath the fore-arc and by melts from the down-going subducting sediments beneath the arc  
879 (e.g., [Hochstaedter et al., 2001](#); [Elliott, 2003](#); [Ikeda et al., 2016](#)). The contribution from the  
880 subducting slab vary from pure aqueous fluid flux for IAT pillow lavas to a mix of aqueous  
881 fluids and sediment melts for IAT sheeted dykes, and only sediment melts for CA pillow  
882 lavas ([Fig. 15c1](#)). We therefore postulate that the different magmatic products found in the  
883 Nain-Ashin ophiolites were erupted in different sectors of an arc-forearc setting ([Fig. 15c](#)). As  
884 commonly observed in convergent plate settings, aqueous fluids are basically released from  
885 the slab beneath the fore-arc region, whereas sediment melts are most likely generated  
886 beneath the arc (e.g., [Hochstaedter et al., 2001](#); [Elliott, 2003](#); [Kelley et al., 2003](#); [Saffer and](#)  
887 [Tobin, 2011](#); [Ikeda et al., 2016](#)). As a consequence we can postulate that IAT rocks were  
888 generated in the forearc and outer arc sectors, whereas, CA rocks were generated in the arc  
889 sector. The pressure of crystallization estimated for the different volcanic rock-types also  
890 support this conclusion. In fact, the estimated crystallization depths increase from IAT pillow  
891 lavas (8 - 19 km) to CA pillow lavas (~23 km). The Mesozoic ophiolites of Nain-Ashin were  
892 emplaced before the Paleocene, since they are covered by Paleocene-Eocene sedimentary  
893 rocks ([Shirdashtzadeh et al., 2011](#), and references therein).

894

895

## 896 **9. Conclusions**

897

898 The Nain and Ashin ophiolites consist of “Coloured Mélange” units. They are emplaced onto  
899 the westernmost corner of the Central-East Iran microplate (CEIM) at the intersection of two  
900 regional-scale transcurrent fault systems, which have been discontinuously active from the

901 Jurassic to present-day. Though volumetrically subordinate these mélanges incorporate  
902 distinct tectonic slices consisting of sheeted dykes and pillow lavas. Locally, pillow lavas are  
903 stratigraphically associated with radiolarian cherts. The main conclusions obtained from the  
904 petrological study of volcanic rocks and dykes, as well as biochronological investigation of  
905 the associated cherts can be summarized as follows.

906 1) Volcanic rocks and dykes are largely represented by basalts. Based on whole rock  
907 geochemistry and mineral chemistry, these rocks can be divided into two geochemical groups:

908 a) The sheeted dykes and most of the pillow lavas show island arc tholeiitic (IAT) affinity  
909 with relatively low contents of Th, Nb, Ta, Ti, coupled with LREE/MREE depletion  
910 ( $La_N/Sm_N = 0.5 - 1.0$ ); b) A few pillow lavas from the Nain ophiolites show calc-alkaline  
911 (CA) affinity, with comparatively high Th, U, and LREE/MREE ratios ( $La_N/Sm_N = 1.9 - 2.6$ )  
912 coupled with low Nb and Ta contents.

913 2) Cr-Y modeling indicates that both IAT and CA rocks derived from moderate degrees (~8 -  
914 ~15%) of partial melting of depleted mantle sources, which experienced previous MORB-  
915 melt extraction. REE modeling indicates that mantle sources underwent variable extent of  
916 enrichment in subduction-derived components consisting of pure aqueous fluids (for most  
917 IAT basalts), pure sediment melts (for CA rocks) and a mix of aqueous fluids and sediment  
918 melts (for some IAT sheeted dykes). These conclusions suggest that the studied rocks were  
919 formed in an arc-forearc tectonic setting. The radiolarian assemblage in the cherts associated  
920 with pillow basalts from the Ashin ophiolites suggest that this volcanic arc setting was active  
921 in the Early Cretaceous.

922 3) We propose a new model for the Cretaceous tectonic evolution of the CEIM and  
923 surrounding Neo-Tethyan oceanic basins. This model implies that the Nain-Ashin volcanic  
924 rocks and dykes were formed, similar to the Sabzevar ophiolites, in a volcanic arc setting  
925 located between the northern margin of the CEIM and the southern margin of Eurasia and

926 forming the northwestern prolongation of the Sistan Ocean. This conclusion is also based on  
927 recent studies, which have shown that the CEIM underwent a considerable counter-clockwise  
928 rotation in the Cenozoic. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the Nain-Ashin ophiolites,  
929 together with the underlying continental basement, have been displaced in their present day  
930 position, along the Great Kavir-Dorouneh fault system, from their northeasternmost original  
931 location. Our new model is significantly differing from the currently most accepted  
932 hypothesis, which implies that the Nain ophiolites formed, together with the Baft ophiolites,  
933 in a backarc basin (the so-called Nain-Baft backarc basin) located to the south of the CEIM  
934 during the Late Cretaceous.

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948

949

950 **Appendix A. Supplementary data.**

951 Supplementary data related to this article can be found at [http://\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](http://_____)

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954

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- 1302

1303 **Table captions**

1304

1305 **Table 1.** Major and trace element analyses of pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain and  
 1306 Ashin ophiolites. Abbreviations, bas and: basaltic andesite; b.d.l.: below detection limit. Mg#  
 1307 =  $100 \times \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}^{2+})$ .  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$  is calculated assuming  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3 = 0.15 \times \text{FeO}$ . Normalizing  
 1308 values for REE ratios are from [Sun and McDonough \(1989\)](#).

1309

1310 **Table 2.** Representative analyses of clinopyroxenes in Group 1 (island arc tholeiite) and  
 1311 Group 2 (calc-alkaline) pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites and estimated  
 1312 temperature (T°C) and pressure (GPa) of crystallization. Abbreviations, Wo: wollastonite; En:  
 1313 enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Acm: acmite. Mg# =  $100 \times \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}^{2+})$ .  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$   
 1314 compositions were calculated from total measured FeO according to [Droop \(1987\)](#).  
 1315 Temperatures were estimated according to [Putirka et al. \(2003\)](#), whereas pressures were  
 1316 estimated according to [Putirka \(2008\)](#).

1317

1318 **Table 3.** Representative analyses of chromian spinels (spl) in Group 1 (island arc tholeiite)  
 1319 pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites. Abbreviations, Al-Chr: Al-chromite  
 1320 (abbreviation for mineral name is from [Whitney and Evans, 2010](#)). Mg# =  $100 \times \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} +$   
 1321  $\text{Fe}^{2+})$ ; Cr# =  $100 \times \text{Cr}/(\text{Cr} + \text{Al})$ . The  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  compositions were calculated from total  
 1322 measured FeO according to [Droop \(1987\)](#).

1323

1324 **Table 4.** Representative analyses of amphiboles in Group 1 (island arc tholeiite) sheeted  
 1325 dykes from the Nain ophiolites and pillow lavas from the Ashin ophiolites. Pressures (P GPa)  
 1326 of crystallization estimated according to different methods are also shown. Abbreviations,  
 1327 Mhb: magnesio-hornblende (abbreviation for mineral name is from [Whitney and Evans,](#)

1328 2010). Mineral classification is from [Leake et al. \(1997\)](#). Atoms per formula units are  
1329 calculated based on 23 oxygens with  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  estimation assuming 13 cations excluding Ca,  
1330 Na, and K.  $\text{Mg\#} = 100 \times \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}^{2+})$ .

1331

1332

1333 **Figure captions**

1334

1335 **Figure 1.** (a) Geological map of Iran. Ophiolites and major tectonic units are shown. (b)  
 1336 Simplified geological map of the Nain ophiolitic mélange (modified after [Davoudzadeh,](#)  
 1337 [1972](#)), (c) Simplified geological map of the Ashin ophiolitic mélange (modified from the  
 1338 Anarak geological map 1:250000, [Sharkovski et al., 1984](#)). Sample locations are shown.

1339

1340 **Figure 2.** Field photographs of the upper crust ophiolitic rocks in the Nain and Ashin  
 1341 ophiolites. (a) Sheeted dyke outcrop in the Nain ophiolite. The dashed lines show the general  
 1342 trend of dykes; (b), (c) Pillow lavas in the Nain and Ashin ophiolites, respectively; (d) Close  
 1343 view of the basaltic pillow lavas in the Nain area; (e) Stratigraphic contact between pillow  
 1344 lavas and radiolarian cherts in the Ashin ophiolites; (f) Close view of the contact shown in  
 1345 [Fig. 2e](#).

1346

1347 **Figure 3.** Albian radiolarians from sample 1010, magnification of all specimens 120x (scale  
 1348 bar 100  $\mu\text{m}$ ).

1349 1. *Acanthocircus* cf. *levis* (Donofrio and Mostler); 2. *Crucella* cf. *euganea* (Squinabol); 3.

1350 *Cryptamphorella conara* (Foreman); 4, 5. *Crococapsa asseni* (Tan); 6. *Napora* cf.

1351 *praespinifera* (Pessagno); 7, 8. *Parvimitrella communis* (Squinabol); 9, 10. *Thanarla*

1352 *brouweri* (Tan); 11, 12. *Thanarla praeveneta* Pessagno; 13, 14. *Thanarla* aff. *praeveneta*

1353 Pessagno. This morphotype has stronger constrictions than typical *Thanarla praeveneta*. In

1354 the studied sample, *Thanarla brouweri* and *Thanarla* aff. *praeveneta* are two end members

1355 linked by a continuum of transitional forms (*Thanarla praeveneta*) with indistinct

1356 morphological delimitations; 15. *Pseudodictyomitra* cf. *paronai* (Aliev); 16. *Xitus* cf.

1357 *spicularius* (Aliev); 17–23. *Dictyomitra montisserei* (Squinabol) *sensu* O'Dogherty (1994);  
 1358 24–30. *Mita gracilis* (Squinabol).

1359

1360 **Figure 4.** Photomicrographs of the pillow lavas and dykes from the Nain and Ashin  
 1361 ophiolites. (a) Olivine (Ol) phenocryst in a groundmass with intersertal texture composed of  
 1362 plagioclase (Pl) laths and intergranular clinopyroxene (Cpx), and minor glass (Nain pillow  
 1363 lava, sample NA407); (b) Phenocrysts of Cpx and Pl in a groundmass showing subophitic  
 1364 texture (Nain pillow lava, sample 229); (c) Coarse-grained doleritic texture with Pl and  
 1365 hornblende amphibole (Amp) in the Nain sheeted dykes (sample NA538); (d) Euhedral  
 1366 chromian-spinel (Spl) showing inclusions of altered silicate minerals (Incl) in the Ashin  
 1367 pillow lavas. (a), (b), (c): cross polarized light; (d): is plane polarized light.

1368

1369 **Figure 5.** Nb/Y vs. Zr/Ti discrimination diagram of Winchester and Floyd (1977) modified  
 1370 by Pearce (1996) for basaltic pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites.

1371

1372 **Figure 6.** Variation in selected major and trace elements vs. Mg# [ $\text{MgO}/\text{MgO} + \text{FeO}$ ] for  
 1373 basaltic pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites. Major element  
 1374 oxides are recalculated on anhydrous bases. Arrows indicate general fractionation trends for  
 1375 the different rock-groups. Abbreviations, Th: Tholeiitic (Group 1); CA: calc-alkaline (Group  
 1376 2).

1377

1378 **Figure 7.** N-MORB normalized incompatible element patterns (a, c, e, g, i) and chondrite-  
 1379 normalized REE patterns (b, d, f, h, j) for basaltic pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain  
 1380 and Ashin ophiolites. The compositions of basaltic pillow lavas and dykes from the Baft and  
 1381 Dehshir (Shafaii Moghadam et al., 2009), and Sabzevar (Rezaei et al., 2018) ophiolites are

1382 also shown. The compositions of island arc tholeiites (IAT), calc-alkaline basalts and basaltic  
 1383 andesites (CAB-BA), and backarc basin basalts (BABB) from various ophiolitic complexes  
 1384 and modern oceanic settings, as well as modern normal-type mid-ocean ridge basalt (N-  
 1385 MORB) are shown for comparison in Panels g) and h). Data source, IAT: [Saccani et al.](#)  
 1386 [\(2008a\)](#); [Yuan et al. \(2005\)](#); [Ewart et al. \(1994\)](#); CAB-BA: [Saccani et al. \(2008b\)](#); [Ewart et al.](#)  
 1387 [\(1994\)](#); BABB: [Saccani et al. \(2008b\)](#); [Rolland et al. \(2009\)](#); [Yuan et al. \(2005\)](#); [Ewart et al.](#)  
 1388 [\(1994\)](#). Normalizing values and the compositions of N-MORB are from [Sun and McDonough](#)  
 1389 [\(1989\)](#).

1390

1391 **Figure 8.** Th vs. Co discrimination diagram ([Hastie et al., 2007](#)) for basaltic pillow lavas and  
 1392 sheeted dykes of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites.

1393

1394 **Figure 9.** N-MORB-normalized Th vs. Nb discrimination diagram of [Saccani \(2015\)](#) for  
 1395 basaltic pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites. a) rock types, b)  
 1396 tectonic setting interpretation. Abbreviations, MORB: mid-ocean ridge basalt, N-: normal  
 1397 type, E-: enriched type, D-: depleted type, MTB: medium Ti basalt; IAT: island arc tholeiite,  
 1398 CAB: calc-alkaline basalt; OIB: alkaline oceanic within-plate basalt; SSZ-E: supra-  
 1399 subduction zone enrichment, AFC: assimilation-fractional crystallization, OIB-CE: OIB  
 1400 component enrichment, FC: fractional crystallization. Normalization values, as well as the  
 1401 composition of typical N-MORB, EMORB, and OIB (stars) are from [Sun and McDonough](#)  
 1402 [\(1989\)](#).

1403

1404 **Figure 10.** (a) Ti vs. (Ca+Na), (b) (Ti+Cr) vs. Ca, and (c) Ti vs.  $Al_{tot}$  discrimination diagrams  
 1405 of [Leterrier et al. \(1982\)](#) showing the composition of clinopyroxenes from the Group 1 (island  
 1406 arc tholeiite) and Group 2 (calc-alkaline) pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites.

1407

1408 **Figure 11.** Mg# vs. Cr# diagram for spinels (spl) from the Group 1 (island arc tholeiite)  
 1409 pillow lavas from the Nain and Ashin ophiolites.  $Mg\# = Mg/(Mg + Fe^{2+})$ ,  $Cr\# = Cr/(Cr + Al)$ .  
 1410 The compositional variations of chromian spinels from alkaline basalts, boninites, island arc  
 1411 tholeiites (IAT), and normal-type mid-ocean ridge basalt (N-MORB) are also shown. Data  
 1412 from Hébert et al. (2003) and references therein.

1413

1414 **Figure 12.** Cr vs. Y diagram of Pearce (1982) and melting models for basaltic pillow lavas  
 1415 and sheeted dykes of the Nain and Ashin ophiolites. Abbreviations, DMM: depleted MORB  
 1416 mantle (Workman and Hart, 2005). Melting paths (with partial melting degrees) for  
 1417 incremental batch melting are calculated according to Murton (1989). The composition of  
 1418 depleted mantle lherzolites assumed as possible mantle sources (A19 and EP22) are from  
 1419 Saccani et al. (2017b). Sources EP22 and A19 represent residual mantle sources after 12%  
 1420 and 20% MORB melt extraction from the DMM source, respectively. The fractional  
 1421 crystallization trends are also shown (tick marks indicate 10% fractional crystallization steps).

1422

1423 **Figure 13.** Ba/Th vs. Th/Nb diagram for basaltic pillow lavas and sheeted dykes of the Nain  
 1424 and Ashin ophiolites. Stars indicate the compositions of average pelitic sediments (APS,  
 1425 Taylor and McLennan, 1985) and normal-type mid-ocean ridge basalt (N-MORB, Sun and  
 1426 McDonough (1989).

1427

1428 **Figure 14.** Calculated chondrite-normalized (Sun and McDonough, 1989) rare earth element  
 1429 patterns for parental melts derived from different mantle sources, assuming various degrees of  
 1430 non-modal fractional melting according to the parameters (source modes, melting proportions,  
 1431 etc.) listed in Appendix A2, which also show the compositions of the different inferred mantle

1432 sources.

1433

1434 **Figure 15.** a), b) Early and Late Cretaceous paleotectonic schemes of the Central-East Iran  
1435 microcontinent (CEIM) and surrounding areas. a) Based on the extant literature data (redrawn  
1436 from [Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008](#)); b) Based on the new data presented in this paper  
1437 (modified from [Barrier and Vrielynck, 2008](#); [Allahyari et al., 2014](#); [Mattei et al., 2014](#);  
1438 [Saccani et al., 2014](#)); c) Two-dimensional tectonic reconstruction of the subduction in the  
1439 transect from the northern CEIM to the southern Eurasian continental margin at Early  
1440 Cretaceous times. Abbreviations, MOR: mid-ocean ridge; HP-LT: high pressure-low  
1441 temperature; IAT: island arc tholeiite; CA: calc-alkaline.

1442

1443

1444

1445

1446 **Supplementary material captions**

1447

1448 **Appendix A1.** Accuracy and detection limits for X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) and Inductively  
1449 Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS) analyses.

1450

1451 **Appendix A2.** Input parameters and inferred mantle source compositions for the partial  
1452 melting models used for different rock-types.

1453

Fig. 1

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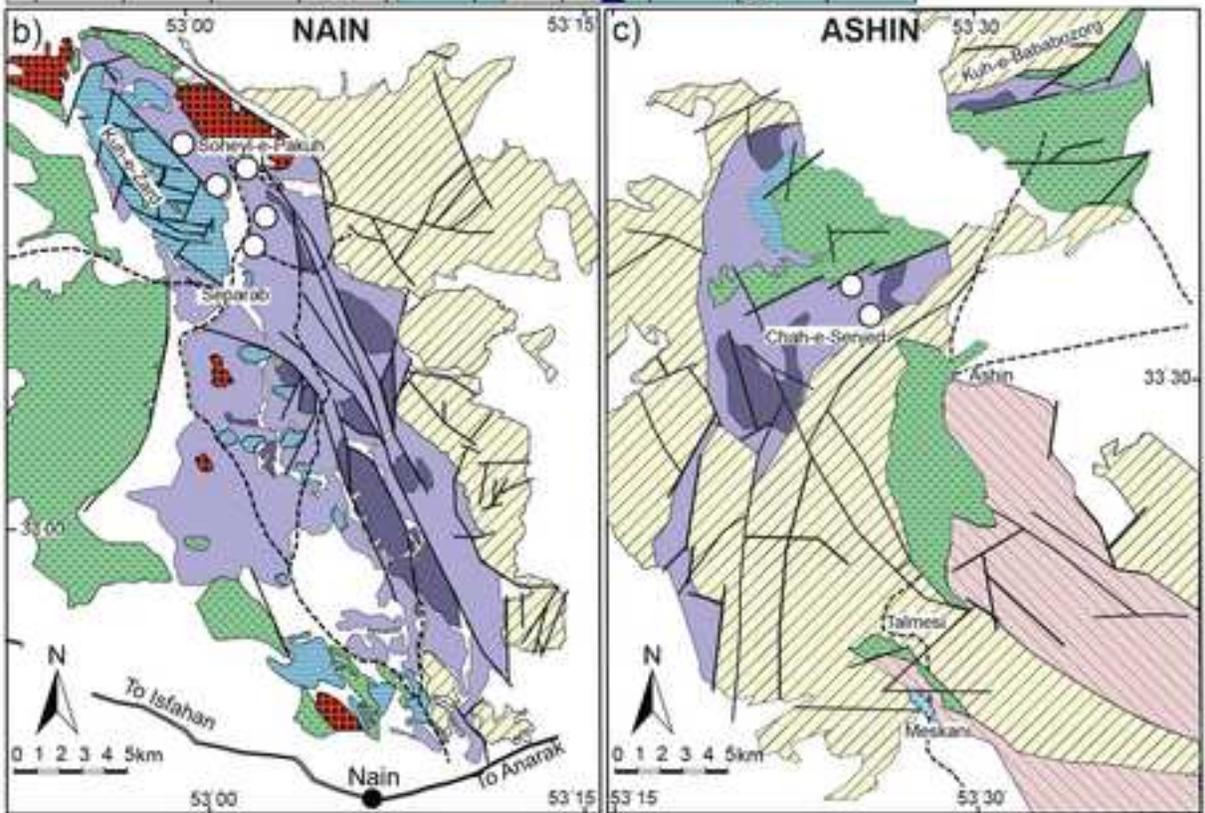
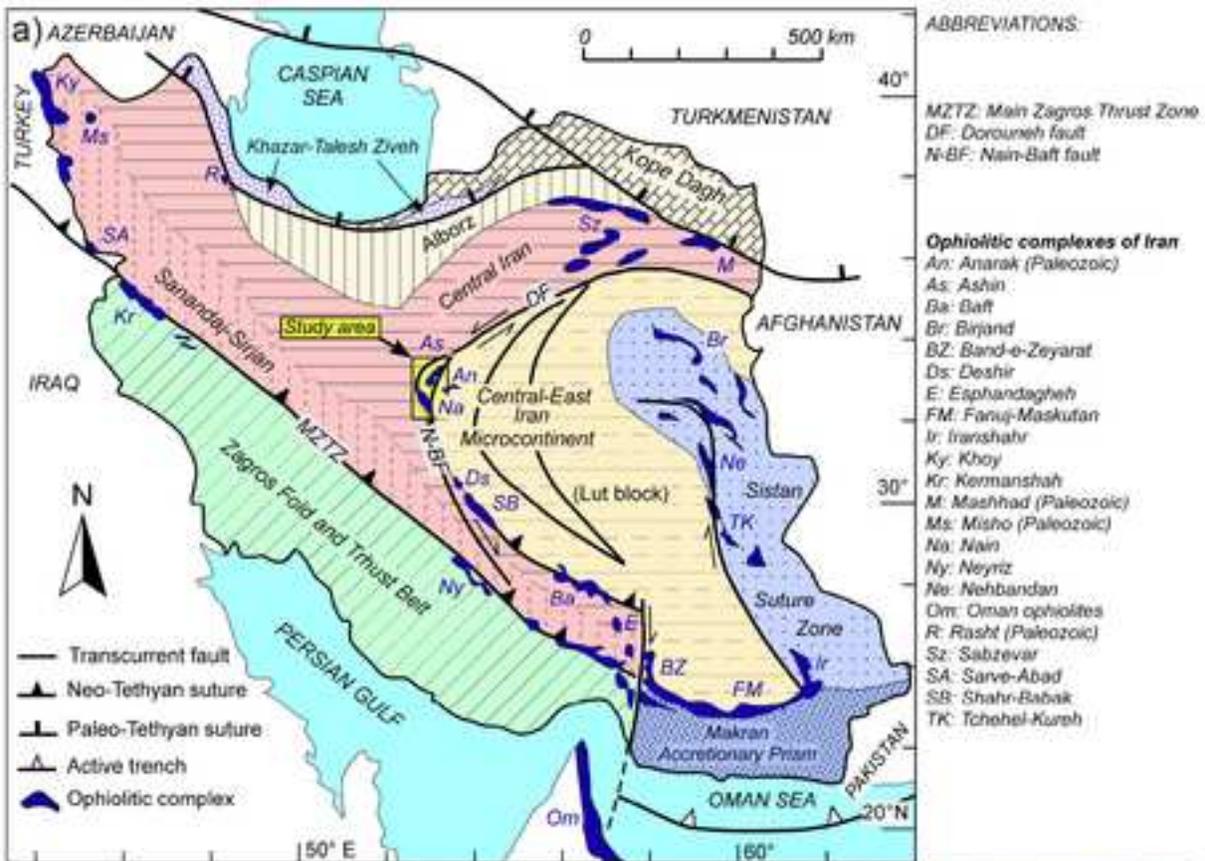


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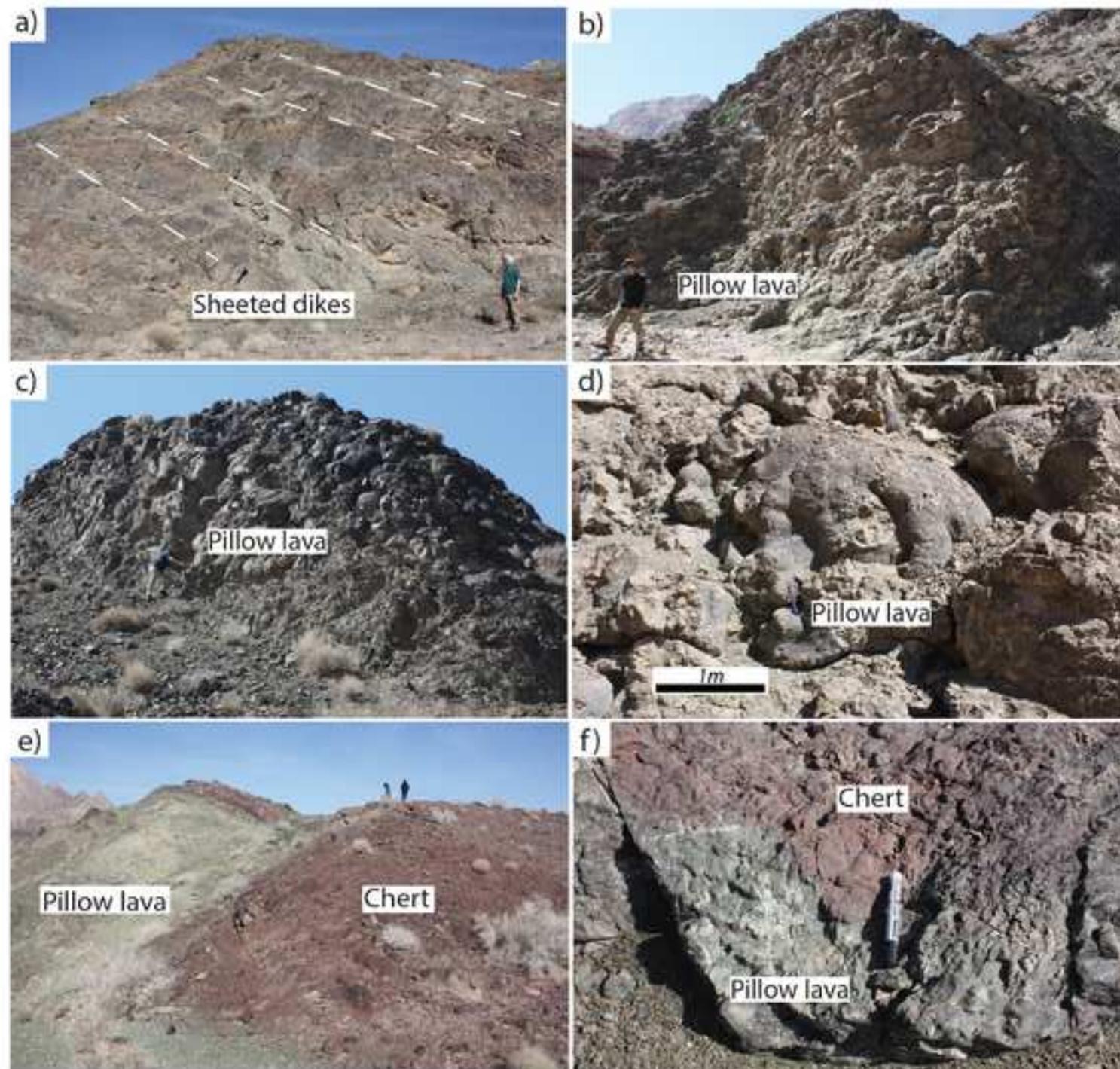


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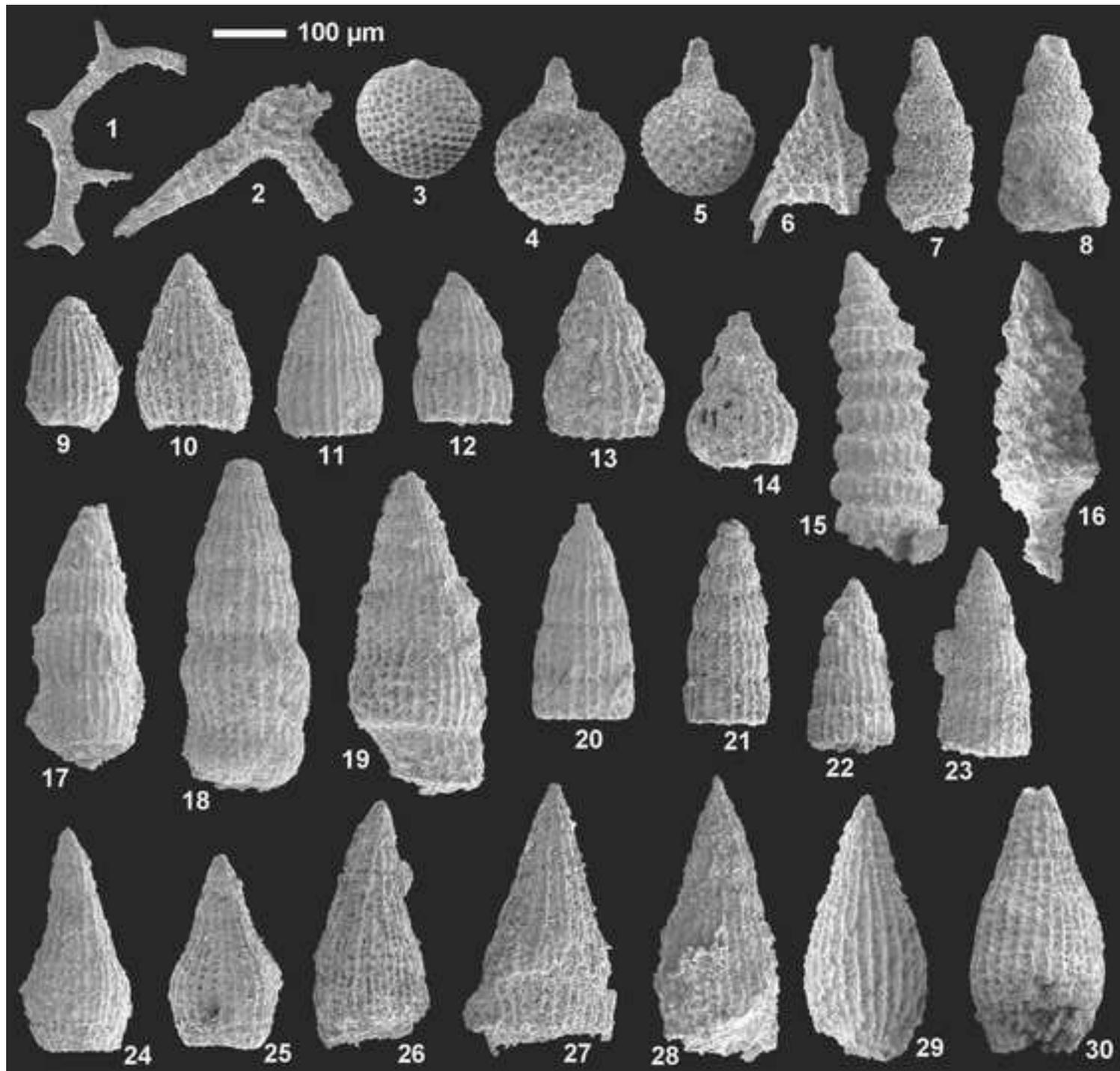


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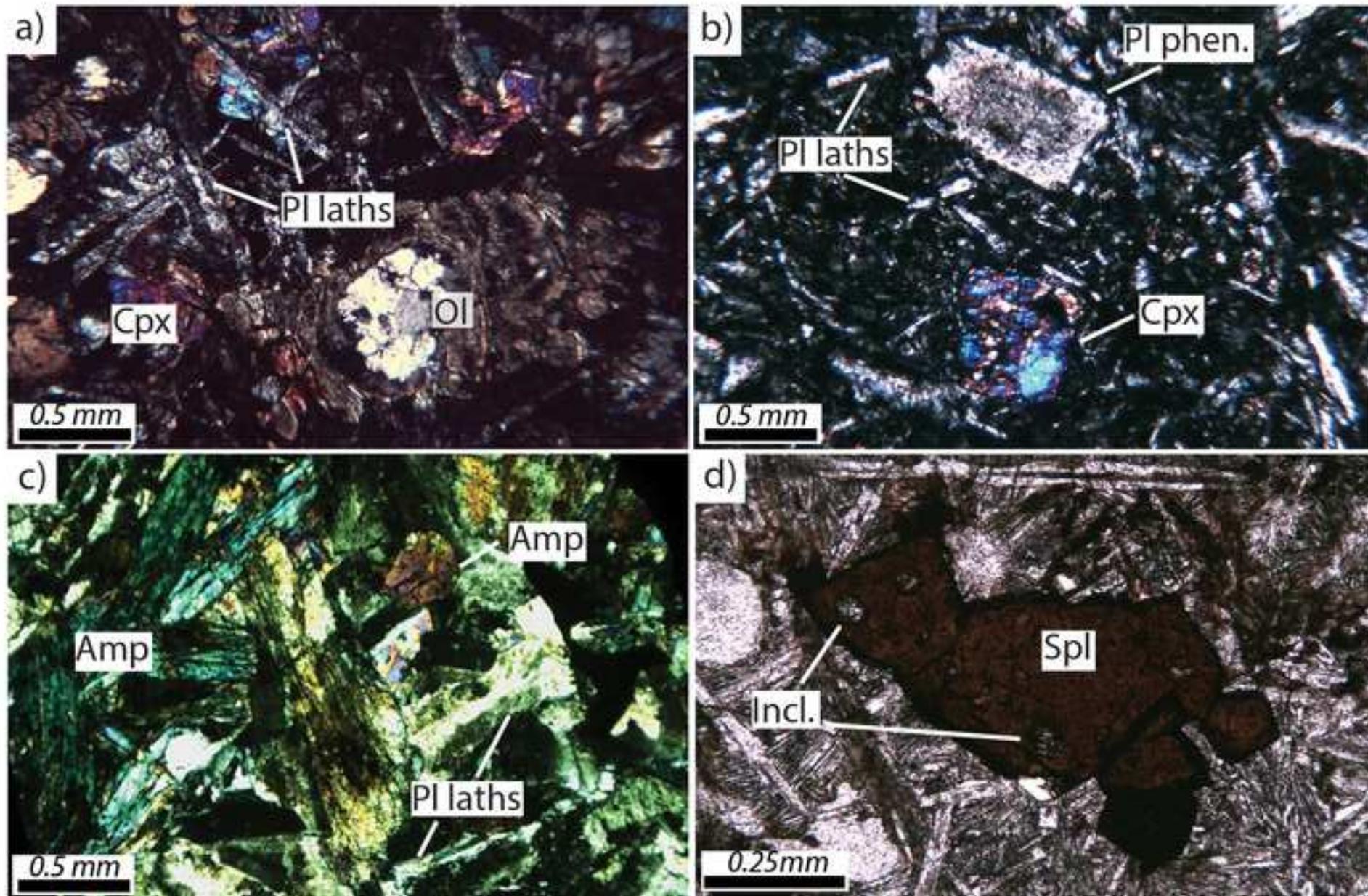


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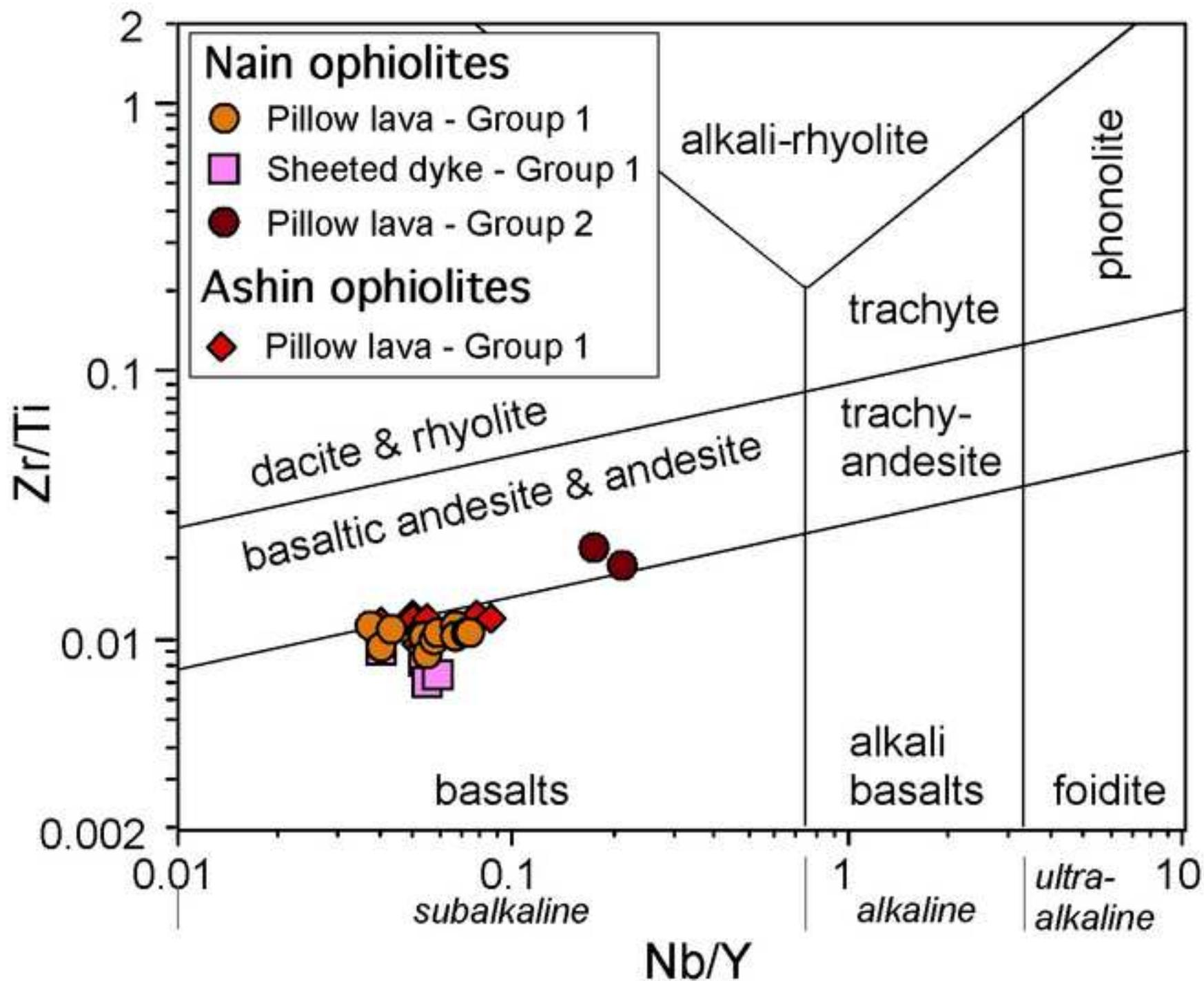


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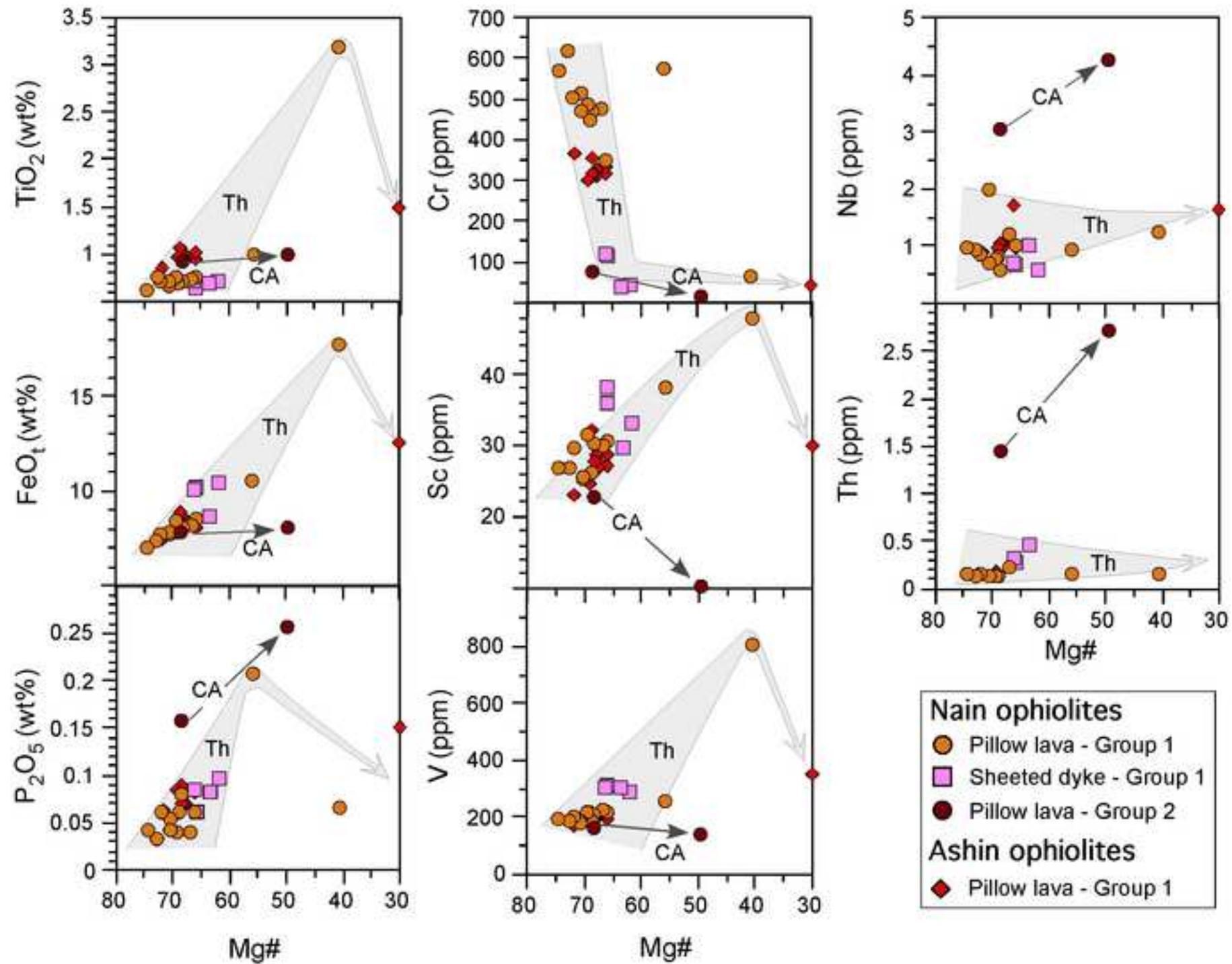


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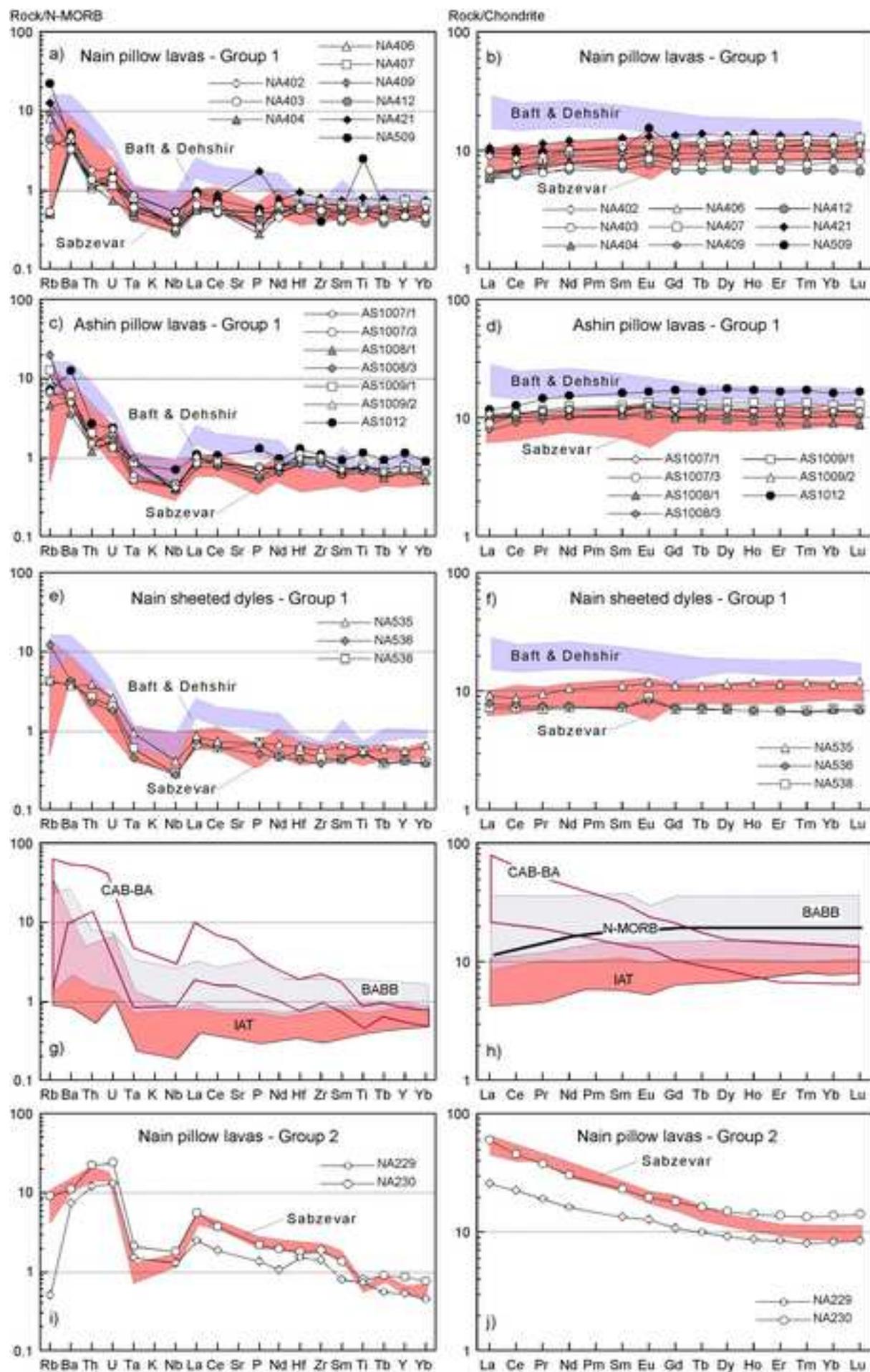


Fig. 8

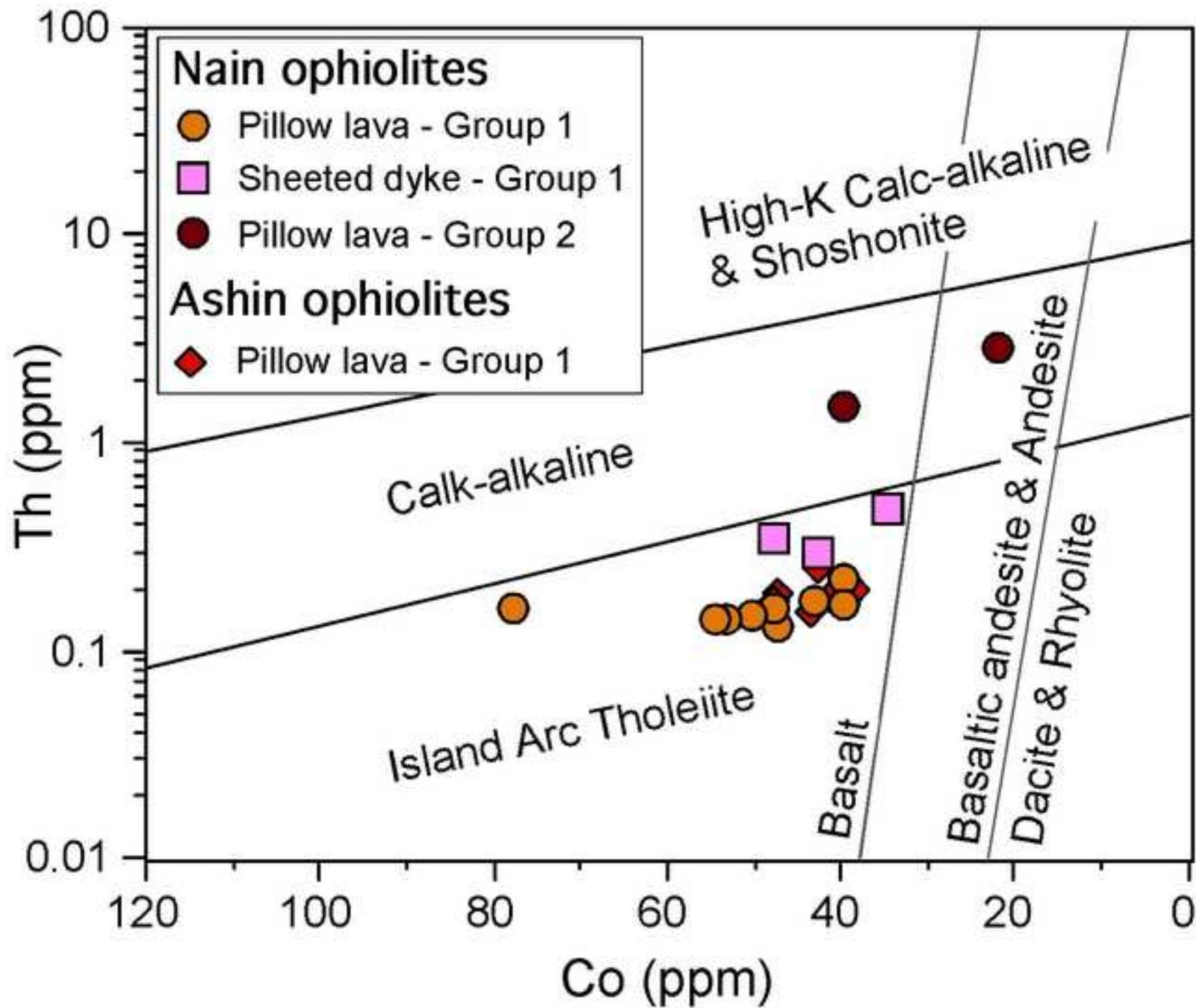
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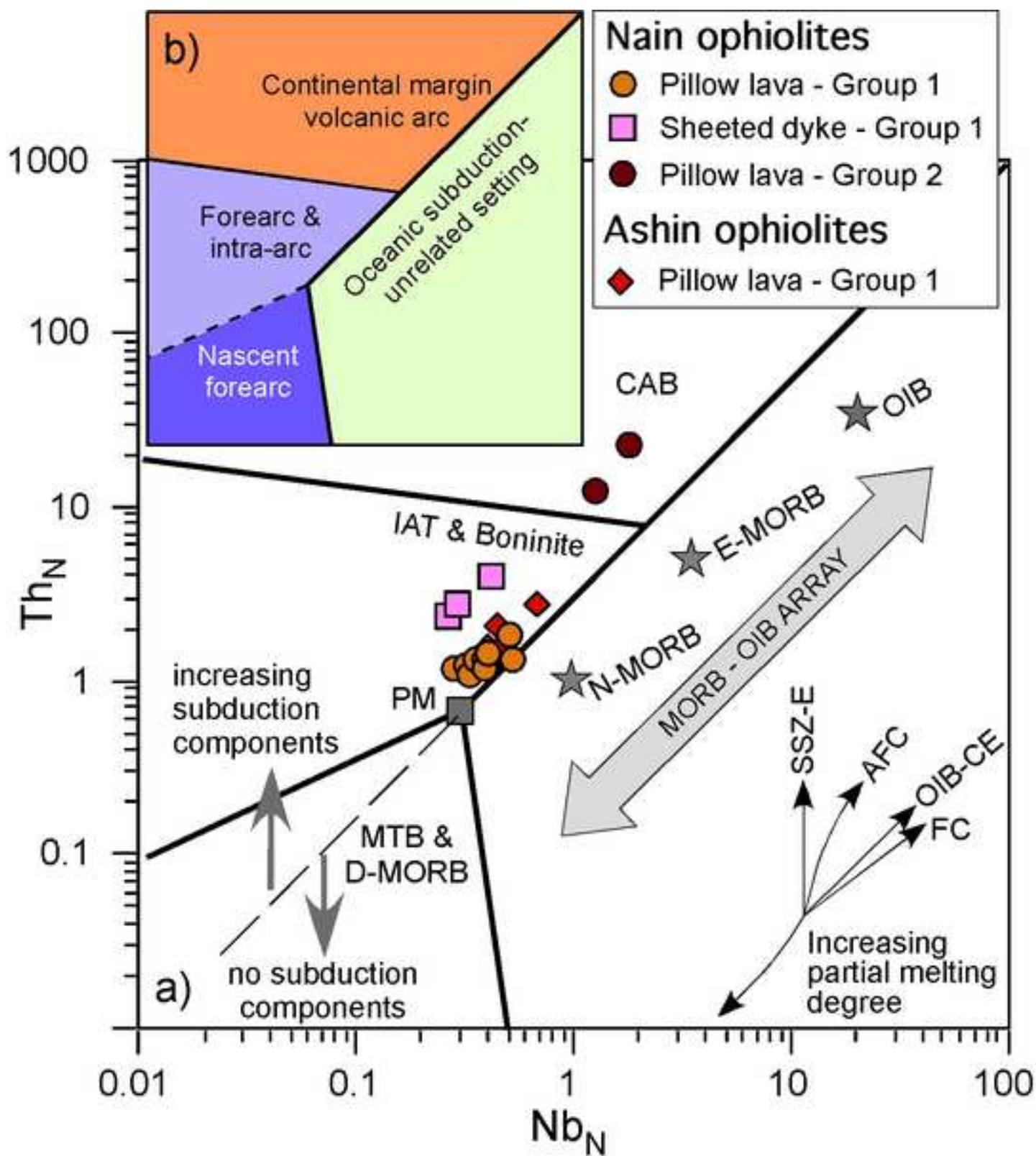


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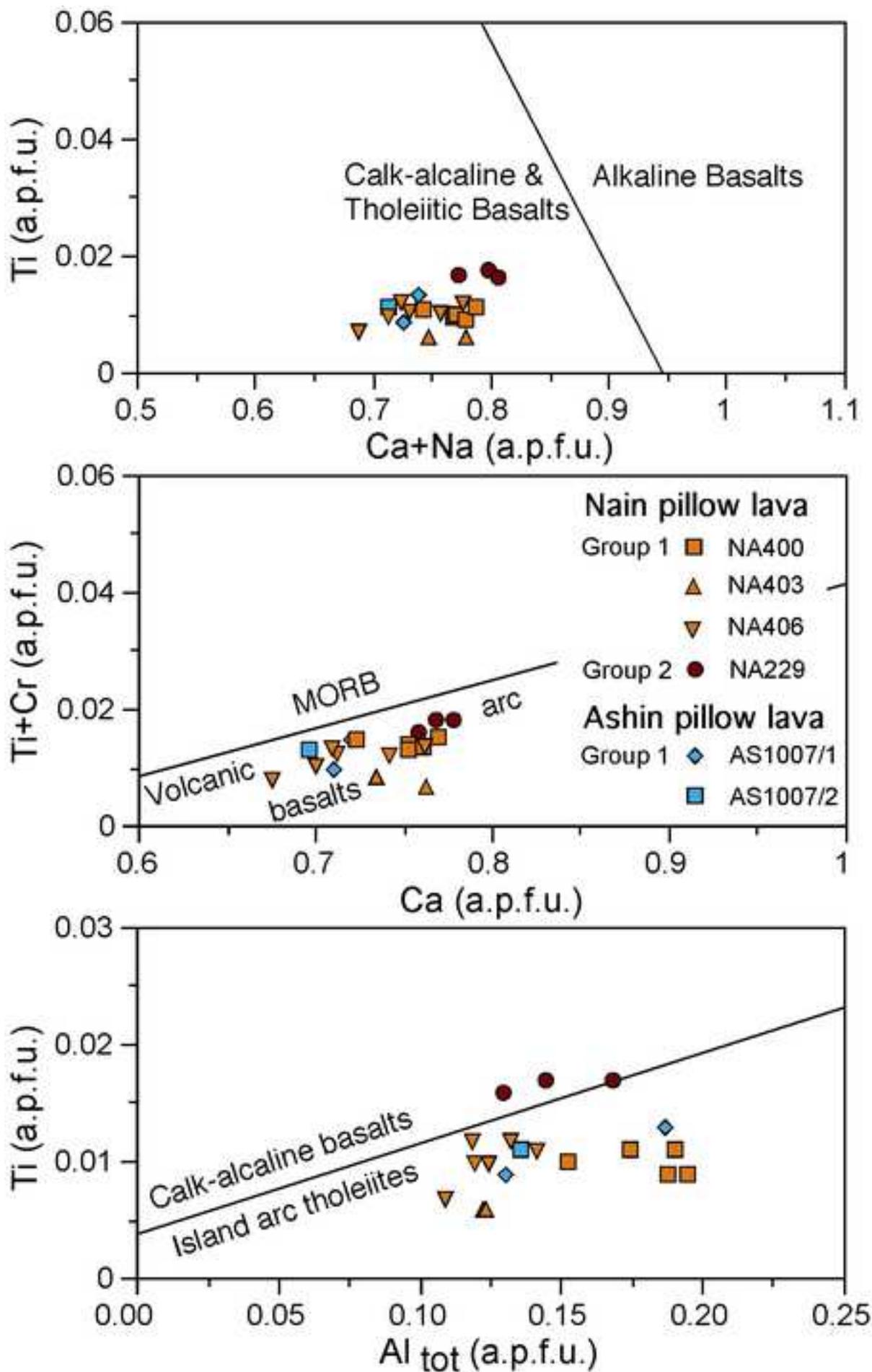


Fig. 11

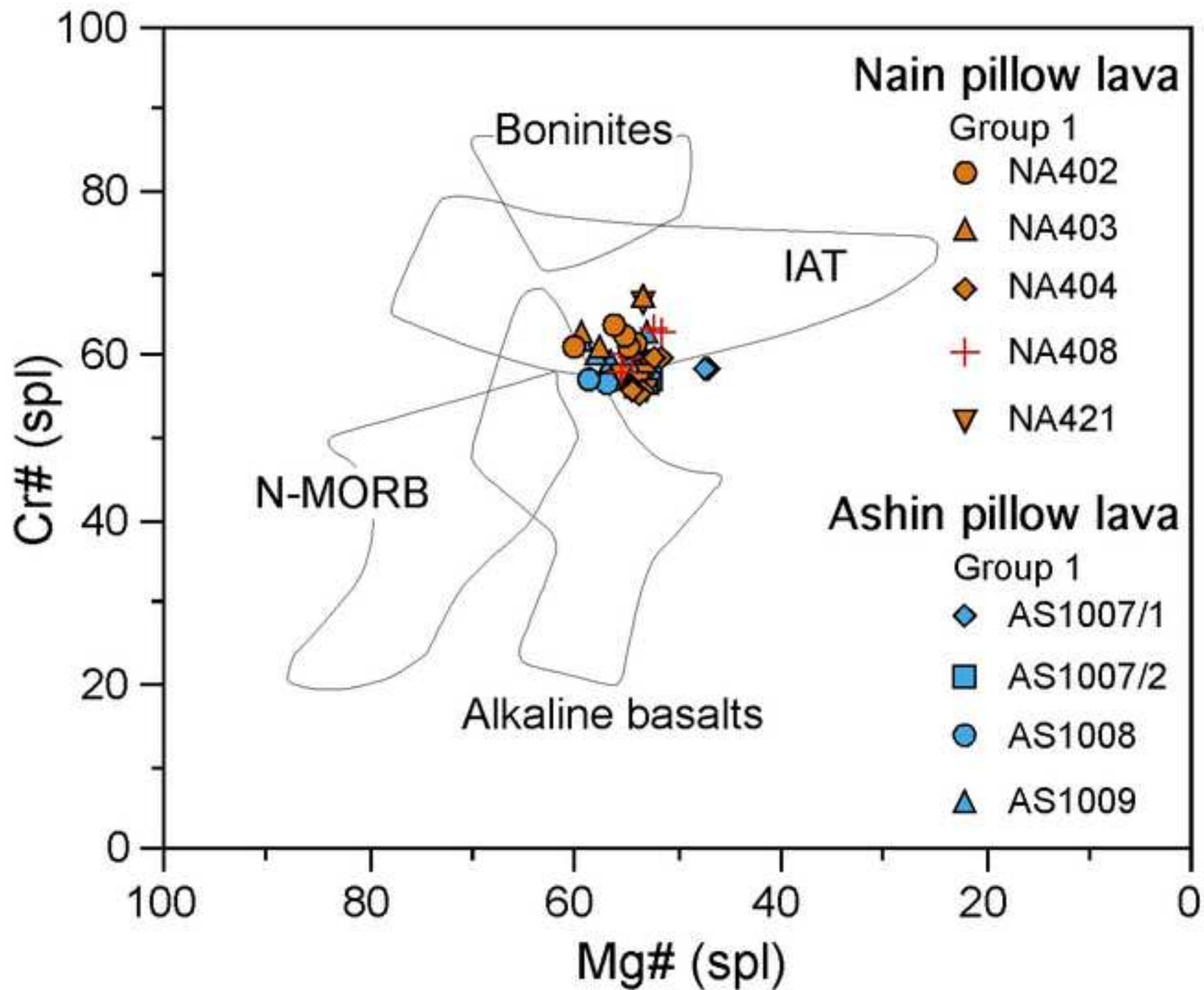
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Fig. 12

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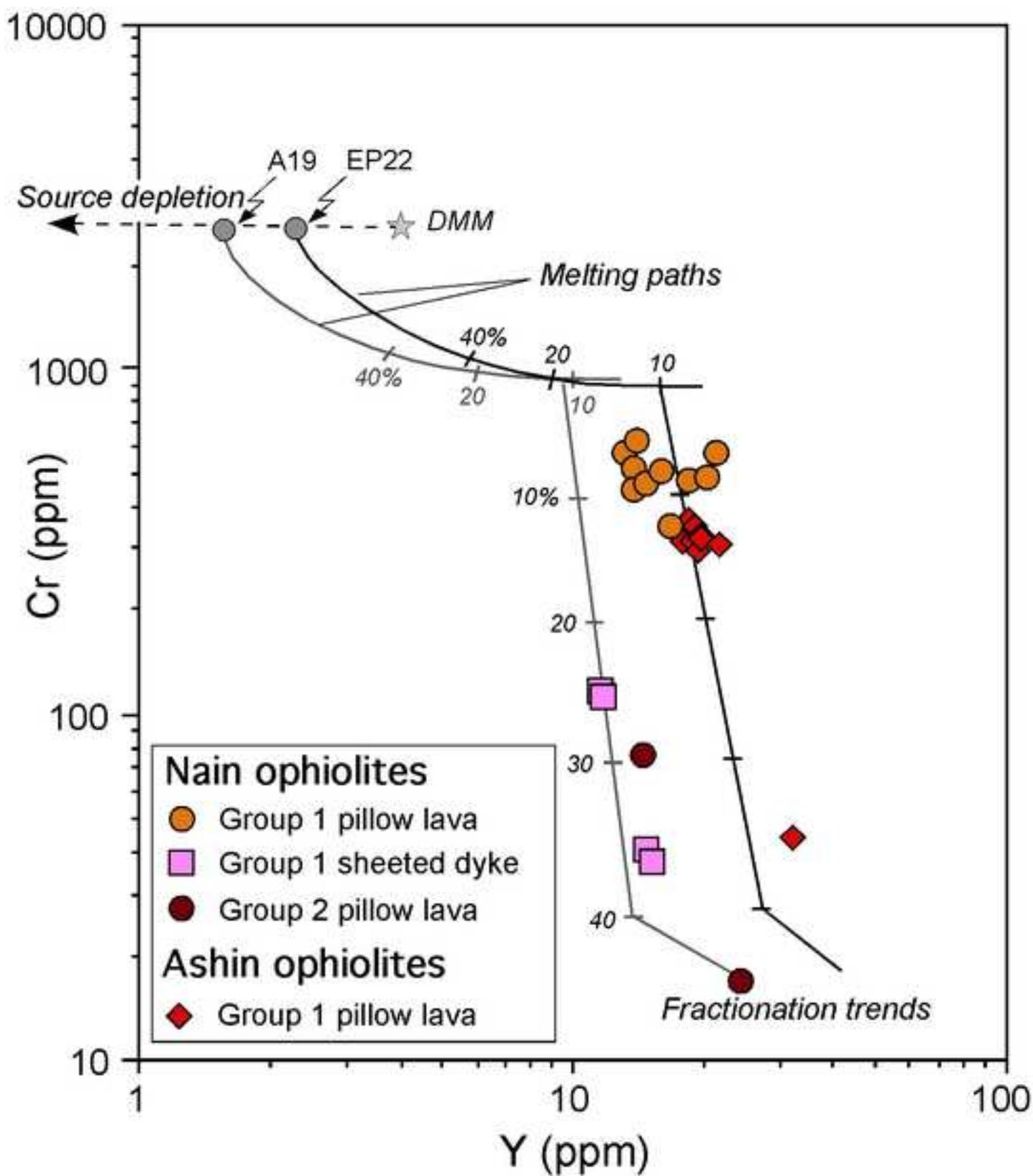




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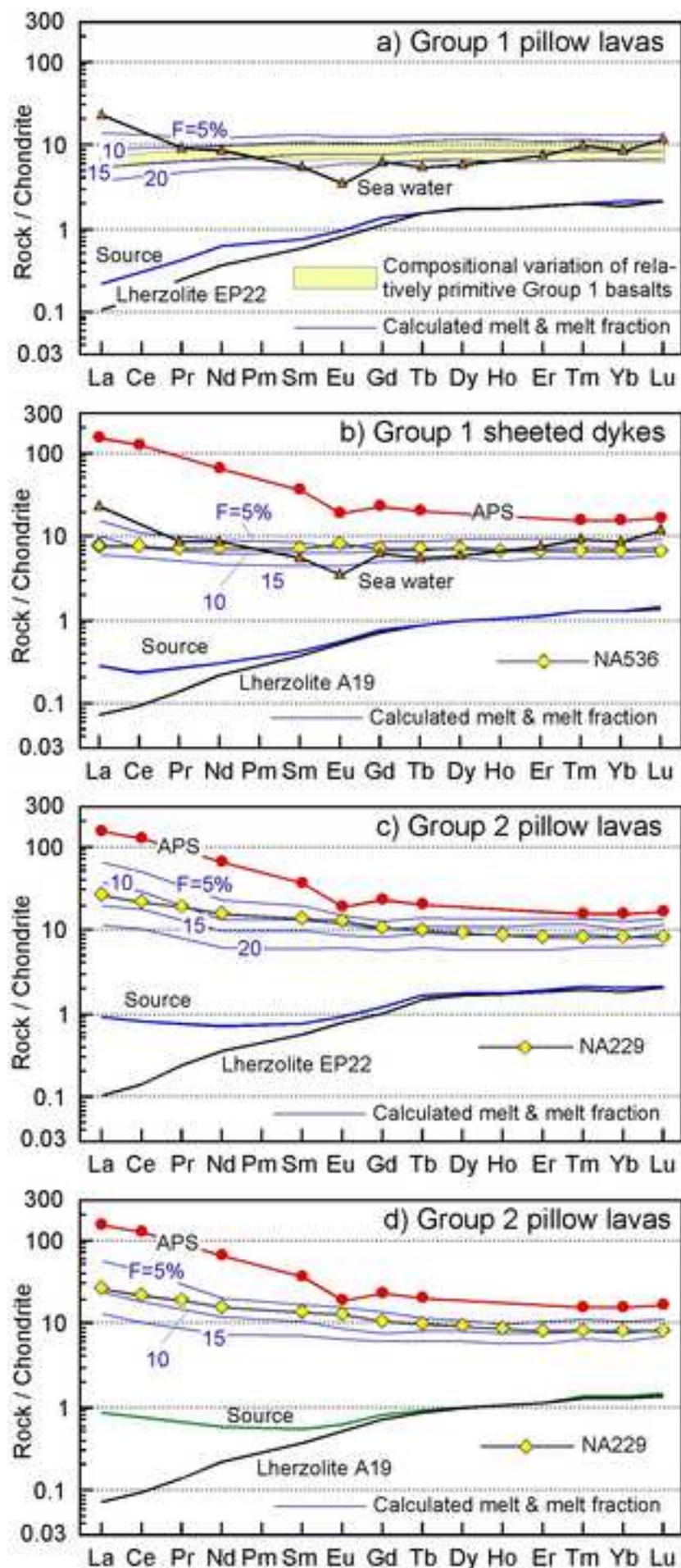


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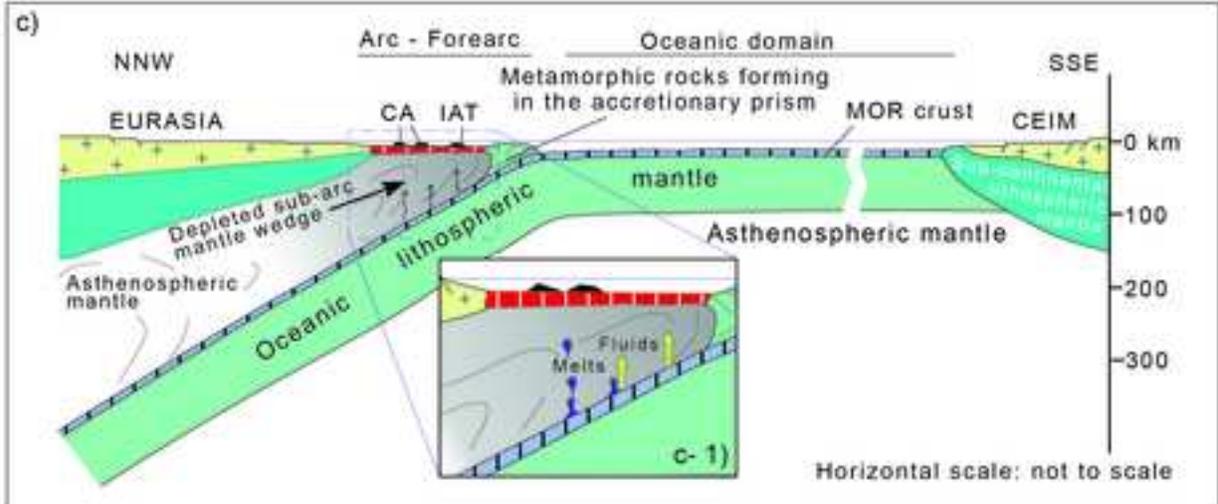
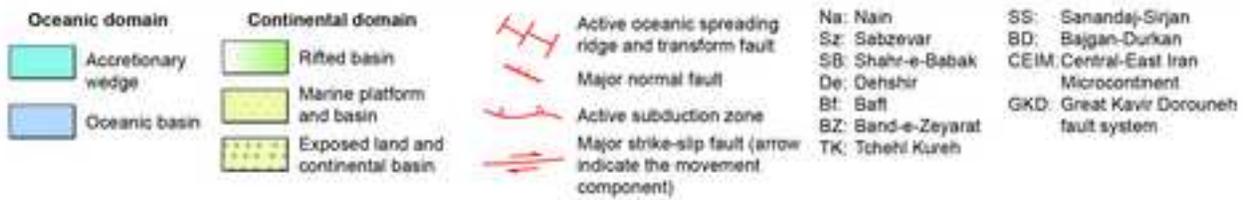
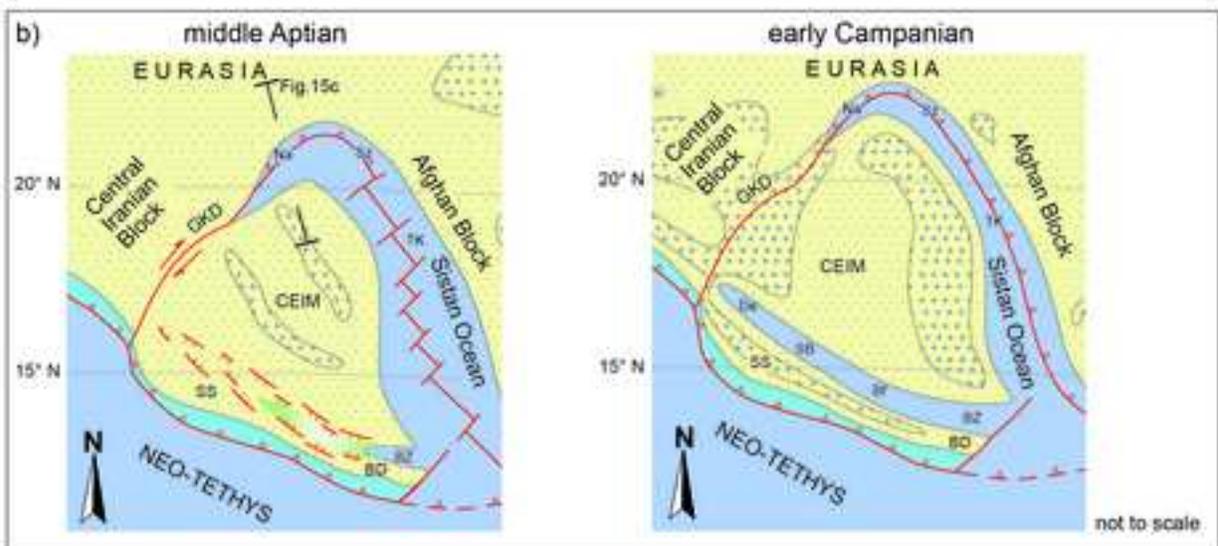
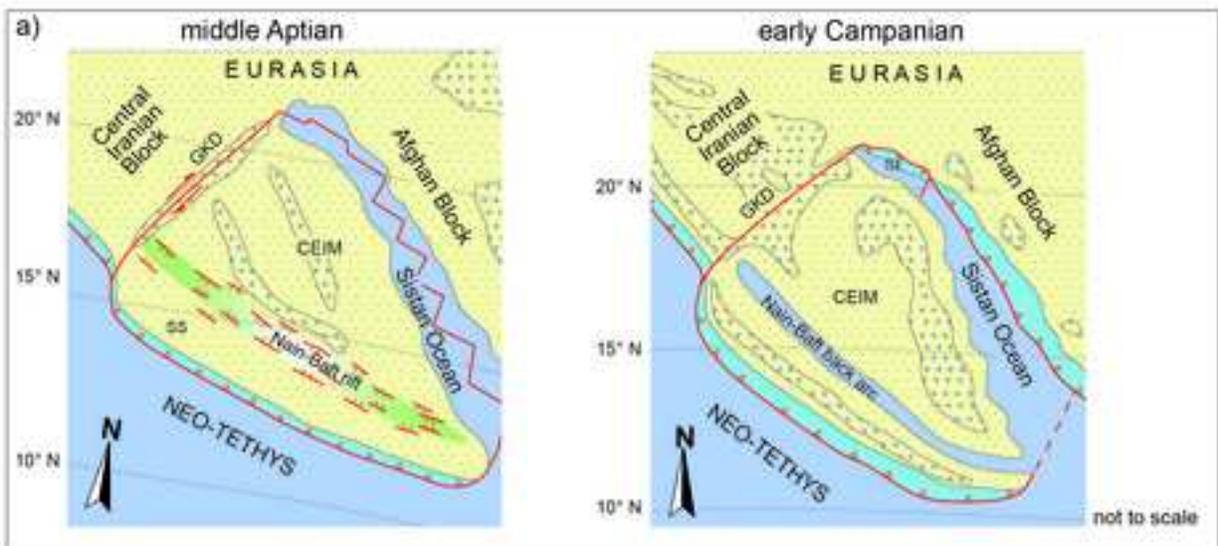


Table 1

Table 1 (1/3).

Nain Ophiolites										
Group 1 (IAT) pillow lavas										
Latitude	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"	33°09'36.5"
Longitude	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"	53°00'8.02"
Sample	NA400	NA402	NA403	NA404	NA405	NA406	NA407	NA408	NA409	NA412
Rock	basalt									
<i>XRF Analyses:</i>										
SiO <sub>2</sub>	47.81	49.19	47.41	50.94	47.84	47.04	49.68	48.37	48.96	45.88
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.73	0.73	0.60	0.75	0.68	0.65	0.76	0.69	0.70	0.64
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	14.26	13.74	12.61	13.92	12.40	14.00	14.69	13.31	14.77	13.25
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.09	1.05	0.88	0.94	0.99	0.99	1.11	1.03	0.99	0.96
FeO	7.29	7.03	5.89	6.27	6.60	6.60	7.38	6.88	6.63	6.40
MnO	0.15	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.14	0.14	0.13
MgO	7.93	7.94	9.65	9.41	8.88	8.20	9.41	8.33	9.59	8.59
CaO	13.36	14.39	15.97	12.13	14.76	13.18	12.86	13.07	11.79	15.16
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.31	2.87	2.28	2.32	2.97	3.50	3.10	3.64	3.25	3.15
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.50	0.11	0.03	0.01	b.d.l.	0.56	0.00	0.61	0.54	0.54
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.06	0.04	0.08	0.06	0.05
L.O.I.	4.07	3.56	5.28	2.32	5.16	5.32	1.35	4.60	2.99	4.80
Total	100.56	100.78	100.78	99.19	100.44	100.24	100.52	100.74	100.41	99.56
Mg#	66.0	66.8	74.5	72.8	70.5	68.9	69.5	68.3	72.0	70.5
Zn	64	67	53	57	60	58	72	62	65	55
Cu	53	79	76	80	80	35	82	77	80	80
Sc	31	30	27	27	26	26	31	30	30	25
Ga	12	13	12	12	12	12	13	11	11	12
Ni	69	136	192	220	199	105	169	91	133	134
Co	42	40	43	53	46	47	50	42	48	55
Cr	352	479	570	619	516	451	485	470	504	471
V	218	226	197	185	177	186	219	213	202	188
Ba	27	30	21.4	24	20	20	28	25	22	21
Pb	10	9	9	8	10	7	7	8	10	8
<i>ICP-MS Analyses (* = XRF analyses):</i>										
Rb	4*	2.06	0.305	0.286	5*	4.61	0.280	6*	5.19	2.50
Sr	200*	150	119	112	128*	161	113	183*	154	144
Y	17*	18.6	13.3	14.2	14*	14.0	20.5	15*	16.0	12.6
Zr	49*	51.4	40.3	48.1	45*	41.0	52.7	41*	44.7	36.7
La	b.d.l.*	2.17	1.64	1.37	b.d.l.*	1.50	1.44	b.d.l.*	1.59	1.40
Ce	b.d.l.*	5.23	4.03	4.13	b.d.l.*	4.40	4.45	b.d.l.*	4.35	3.81
Pr		0.862	0.621	0.688		0.724	0.798		0.741	0.640
Nd	4*	4.81	3.37	3.71	b.d.l.*	3.75	4.67	5*	4.17	3.26
Sm		1.64	1.17	1.31		1.29	1.72		1.47	1.08
Eu		0.625	0.491	0.574		0.534	0.638		0.554	0.447
Gd		2.24	1.57	1.78		1.75	2.35		1.96	1.41
Tb		0.412	0.290	0.325		0.326	0.448		0.360	0.261
Dy		2.90	2.00	2.23		2.24	3.18		2.56	1.79
Ho		0.644	0.442	0.484		0.484	0.716		0.574	0.391
Er		1.83	1.30	1.42		1.43	2.03		1.66	1.15
Tm		0.288	0.198	0.217		0.216	0.318		0.260	0.175
Yb		1.87	1.36	1.48		1.46	2.09		1.65	1.18
Lu		0.288	0.204	0.219		0.217	0.322		0.255	0.172
Nb	1*	1.23	0.977	0.946	1*	0.801	0.772	1*	0.854	0.689
Hf		1.30	1.18	1.41		1.31	1.35		1.14	1.13
Ta		0.116	0.080	0.069		0.077	0.105		0.086	0.061
Th	b.d.l.*	0.219	0.167	0.140	b.d.l.*	0.128	0.145	b.d.l.*	0.157	0.137
U		0.085	0.068	0.035		0.071	0.054		0.054	0.059
Ti/V	21	20	19	25	24	22	21	20	21	22
Nb/Y	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.05
(La/Sm) <sub>N</sub>		0.85	0.90	0.67		0.75	0.54		0.70	0.84
(Sm/Yb) <sub>N</sub>		0.98	0.95	0.98		0.98	0.91		0.99	1.02
(La/Yb) <sub>N</sub>		0.83	0.86	0.66		0.74	0.50		0.69	0.85

Table 1 (2/3).

Nain Ophiolites									
	Group 1 (IAT) pillow lavas		Group 2 (CAB) pillow lavas		Group 1 (IAT) sheeted dyke				
Latitude	33°09'19.2"	33°09'54.9"	33°09'5.6"	33°09'5.6"	33°09'02.7"	33°09'02.7"	33°09'02.7"	33°09'02.7"	33°09'02.7"
Longitude	53°00'40.8"	53°01'00.0"	53°00'36.4"	53°00'36.4"	53°01'55.5"	53°01'55.5"	53°01'55.5"	53°01'55.5"	53°01'55.5"
Sample	NA421	NA509	NA229	NA230	NA535	NA536	NA537	NA538	
Rock	basalt	Fe-basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	basalt	bas and	basalt	
<i>XRF Analyses:</i>									
SiO <sub>2</sub>	50.89	45.39	50.81	51.53	52.09	51.20	52.61	50.55	
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.98	3.06	0.90	0.96	0.69	0.63	0.69	0.69	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	13.89	15.72	16.26	15.32	11.62	14.37	13.48	14.08	
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.36	2.25	0.99	1.01	1.12	1.31	1.34	1.29	
FeO	9.09	15.03	6.63	6.73	7.46	8.75	8.91	8.62	
MnO	0.15	0.17	0.14	0.11	0.17	0.20	0.17	0.20	
MgO	6.48	5.78	8.07	3.72	7.27	9.49	8.12	9.47	
CaO	8.75	5.03	7.12	8.38	12.42	7.11	6.79	8.03	
Na <sub>2</sub> O	5.07	3.29	5.05	6.76	4.47	3.29	4.20	3.78	
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.72	0.50	0.02	0.28	0.14	0.98	0.38	0.40	
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.20	0.06	0.15	0.24	0.08	0.06	0.09	0.08	
LOI	3.40	2.96	4.29	4.77	2.59	2.76	2.35	2.69	
Total	100.99	99.26	100.44	99.80	100.12	100.15	99.12	99.89	
Mg#	55.9	40.7	68.4	49.6	63.5	65.9	61.9	66.2	
Zn	189	212	76	68	28	42	49	40	
Cu	24	27	106	24	106	50	32	13	
Sc	38	48	23	10	30	38	33	36	
Ga	12	21	16	20	15	14	13	13	
Ni	41	39	12	b.d.l.	13	23	12	22	
Co	40	78	40	22	35	43	47	48	
Cr	574	68	77	17	38	114	41	117	
V	258	807	166	137	306	308	292	303	
Ba	34	25	47	71	24	27	24	25	
Pb	10	7	14	21	10	7	7	10	
<i>ICP-MS Analyses (* = XRF analyses):</i>									
Rb	7.07	12.7	0.289	5.06	2.48	6.71	3*	2.42	
Sr	203	253	190	577	109	125	133*	71	
Y	21.6	15.8	14.7	24.6	15.5	11.8	15*	11.6	
Zr	65.7	33.1	107	136	35.7	27.3	39*	31.5	
La	2.51	2.35	6.24	14.15	2.20	1.88	b.d.l.*	1.73	
Ce	6.42	5.81	13.87	27.9	5.46	4.65	b.d.l.*	4.48	
Pr	1.09	0.920	1.83	3.57	0.908	0.708		0.679	
Nd	5.73	4.86	7.70	14.4	5.01	3.52	4*	3.41	
Sm	1.95	1.63	2.10	3.58	1.73	1.15		1.13	
Eu	0.765	0.896	0.742	1.16	0.681	0.488		0.525	
Gd	2.82	2.25	2.23	3.72	2.29	1.50		1.47	
Tb	0.523	0.415	0.376	0.608	0.412	0.270		0.264	
Dy	3.46	2.93	2.38	3.84	2.94	1.82		1.81	
Ho	0.782	0.641	0.504	0.812	0.665	0.393		0.390	
Er	2.26	1.82	1.42	2.33	1.91	1.15		1.15	
Tm	0.346	0.292	0.209	0.347	0.304	0.173		0.176	
Yb	2.26	1.90	1.40	2.34	1.97	1.18		1.21	
Lu	0.339	0.298	0.216	0.362	0.309	0.176		0.181	
Nb	0.940	1.26	3.05	4.27	0.994	0.645	1*	0.691	
Hf	1.97	1.16	3.129	3.709	1.288	0.908		1.148	
Ta	0.088	0.109	0.203	0.276	0.126	0.061		0.079	
Th	0.159	0.155	1.45	2.72	0.467	0.282	b.d.l.*	0.330	
U	0.076	0.060	0.611	1.16	0.123	0.084		0.097	
Ti/V	23	24	34	44	14	13	15	14	
Nb/Y	0.04	0.08	0.21	0.17	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.06	
(La/Sm) <sub>N</sub>	0.83	0.93	1.92	2.55	0.82	1.06		0.99	
(Sm/Yb) <sub>N</sub>	0.96	0.95	1.66	1.70	0.98	1.08		1.03	
(La/Yb) <sub>N</sub>	0.80	0.88	3.19	4.33	0.80	1.14		1.02	

Table 1 (3/3).

Ashin Ophiolites										
Group 1 (IAT) pillow lavas										
Latitude	33°31'33.3"	33°31'33.3"	33°31'06.4"	33°31'33.3"	33°31'37.7"	33°31'33.3"	33°31'43.2"	33°31'33.3"	33°31'33.3"	33°31'47.4"
Longitude	53°23'52.8"	53°23'52.8"	53°23'56.0"	53°23'52.8"	53°23'52.7"	53°23'52.8"	53°23'48.9"	53°23'52.8"	53°23'52.8"	53°23'48.4"
Sample	AS1007/1	AS1007/2	AS1007/3	AS1007/4	AS1008/1	AS1008/2	AS1008/3	AS1009/1	AS1009/2	AS1012
Rock	basalt	bas and								
<i>XRF Analyses:</i>										
SiO <sub>2</sub>	46.57	47.68	49.42	47.22	48.55	48.96	47.32	48.54	46.83	54.39
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.94	0.98	1.05	0.96	0.95	0.94	0.81	0.95	0.91	1.48
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	15.41	15.63	14.39	15.40	15.34	15.29	15.51	15.74	13.67	14.37
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.07	1.09	1.15	1.08	1.06	1.06	0.95	1.09	1.03	1.65
FeO	7.12	7.26	7.68	7.18	7.08	7.03	6.33	7.26	6.86	10.99
MnO	0.13	0.17	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.13	0.17
MgO	8.94	7.93	9.43	8.48	8.51	8.60	9.04	8.48	7.47	2.66
CaO	11.85	10.94	9.70	12.26	11.64	11.46	11.85	11.05	14.47	5.82
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.29	3.59	4.02	3.42	3.65	3.75	3.25	3.55	4.01	7.24
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.33	0.71	0.32	0.31	0.28	0.27	0.59	0.44	0.26	0.28
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.15
LOI	3.85	3.31	2.72	3.82	2.96	3.13	3.94	3.29	5.22	0.85
Total	99.57	99.36	100.11	100.35	100.24	100.70	99.79	100.58	100.94	100.05
Mg#	69.1	66.0	68.6	67.8	68.2	68.5	71.8	67.6	66.0	30.1
Zn	64	67	75	66	68	65	54	67	70	108
Cu	64	66	71	68	71	71	69	70	68	22
Sc	25	27	32	27	29	28	23	28	29	30
Ga	14	14	12	14	13	13	13	14	14	11
Ni	81	75	59	75	71	65	119	77	66	
Co	48	51	41	43	44	37	48	43	39	49
Cr	298	334	355	328	317	317	368	309	315	44
V	194	193	219	205	205	201	172	200	207	348
Ba	32	35.5	40	41	33	32	22	36	42	81
Pb	10	6	8	10	6	9	8	7	11	13
<i>ICP-MS Analyses (* = XRF analyses):</i>										
Rb	3.80	7*	3.70	2*	2.57	2*	11.2	7.11	5.39	4.10
Sr	297	211*	219	277*	222	244*	335	279	262	332
Y	19.7	20*	19.3	20*	19.0	18*	18.8	21.9	23.8	32.4
Zr	71.2	74*	78.2	71*	64.7	71*	59.8	73.0	66.7	87.1
La	2.59	b.d.l.*	2.15	b.d.l.*	2.48	b.d.l.*	1.92	2.34	2.52	2.80
Ce	6.91	8*	6.63	6*	6.40	6*	5.71	6.74	6.77	7.86
Pr	1.10		1.10		1.01		0.936	1.13	1.11	1.39
Nd	5.60	5*	5.61	6*	5.03	5*	4.80	5.83	5.61	7.32
Sm	1.84		1.87		1.63		1.61	1.96	1.88	2.49
Eu	0.738		0.722		0.621		0.661	0.779	0.764	0.975
Gd	2.42		2.47		2.08		2.13	2.79	2.50	3.57
Tb	0.439		0.454		0.376		0.396	0.489	0.470	0.639
Dy	3.00		3.07		2.51		2.72	3.46	3.24	4.49
Ho	0.650		0.659		0.536		0.590	0.767	0.718	0.987
Er	1.90		1.92		1.54		1.74	2.17	2.11	2.78
Tm	0.289		0.287		0.232		0.263	0.342	0.323	0.439
Yb	1.96		1.94		1.56		1.82	2.16	2.25	2.81
Lu	0.290		0.284		0.226		0.269	0.333	0.337	0.426
Nb	0.979	2*	1.06	1*	0.984	1*	0.911	1.08	0.955	1.65
Hf	2.06		2.26		1.81		1.70	2.148	1.880	2.719
Ta	0.080		0.071		0.070		0.131	0.113	0.110	0.112
Th	0.182	b.d.l.*	0.178	b.d.l.*	0.147	b.d.l.*	0.168	0.244	0.187	0.332
U	0.109		0.065		0.081		0.073	0.065	0.097	0.112
Ti/V	30	32	29	29	28	29	30	29	27	26
Nb/Y	0.05	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05
(La/Sm) <sub>N</sub>	0.91		0.74		0.98		0.77	0.77	0.87	0.73
(Sm/Yb) <sub>N</sub>	1.04		1.07		1.16		0.98	1.01	0.93	0.99
(La/Yb) <sub>N</sub>	0.95		0.80		1.14		0.76	0.78	0.80	0.71

Table 2

Table 2.

Locality - Unit	Nain ophiolites - Pillow lavas									Ashin ophiolites - Pillow lavas				
Rock Group	Group 1 (Island Arc Tholeiite)						Group 2 (Calc-alkaline)			Group 1 (Island Arc Tholeiite)				
Sample	NA400			NA403		NA406			NA229			AS1007/1		AS1007/2
Rock type	basalt			basalt		basalt			basalt			basalt		basalt
Mineral	cpx 1-19	cpx 3-22	cpx 10-28	cpx 5-1	cpx 5-2	cpx 4-3	cpx 8-10	cpx 9-11	cpx 1-1	cpx 1-2	cpx 8-10	cpx 10-20	cpx 11-21	cpx 1-1
Mineral type	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite	Augite
SiO <sub>2</sub>	51.31	51.00	51.17	52.25	53.78	53.06	52.77	52.84	52.30	52.06	51.56	51.29	53.26	51.90
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.40	0.35	0.34	0.21	0.22	0.27	0.44	0.37	0.63	0.58	0.61	0.48	0.32	0.41
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	4.02	3.49	4.49	2.88	2.90	2.58	3.11	2.90	3.35	3.00	3.93	4.37	3.03	3.13
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.15	0.12	0.16	0.04	0.09	0.03	0.07	0.08	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.07
FeO	7.24	8.57	5.92	5.44	5.10	5.70	5.34	7.07	6.40	6.28	6.74	7.15	5.49	7.60
MnO	0.18	0.23	0.18	0.17	0.15	0.21	0.14	0.20	0.17	0.10	0.20	0.14	0.22	0.21
MgO	16.62	16.23	17.33	18.88	19.31	20.64	18.75	18.05	17.05	17.32	17.67	18.02	18.61	18.19
CaO	19.53	18.93	19.06	19.57	19.07	17.51	19.73	19.10	19.63	19.82	19.13	18.49	18.19	17.71
Na <sub>2</sub> O	0.27	0.25	0.23	0.23	0.19	0.20	0.22	0.25	0.42	0.41	0.39	0.26	0.22	0.26
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	99.72	99.17	98.89	99.66	100.82	100.20	100.57	100.86	99.98	99.64	100.27	100.25	99.37	99.49
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.76	2.08	1.10	3.00	0.53	2.64	1.91	1.73	1.05	1.95	2.82	2.82	0.00	1.91
FeO	5.65	6.70	4.93	2.74	4.62	3.33	3.62	5.51	5.45	4.53	4.20	4.61	5.49	5.88
Total	99.89	99.38	99.00	99.96	100.87	100.46	100.77	101.03	100.09	99.84	100.56	100.54	99.37	99.68
Si	1.885	1.892	1.884	1.899	1.931	1.909	1.903	1.912	1.910	1.906	1.873	1.863	1.941	1.903
Ti	0.011	0.010	0.009	0.006	0.006	0.007	0.012	0.010	0.017	0.016	0.017	0.013	0.009	0.011
Al	0.174	0.153	0.195	0.123	0.123	0.109	0.132	0.124	0.144	0.129	0.168	0.187	0.130	0.135
Cr	0.004	0.004	0.005	0.001	0.003	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.049	0.058	0.031	0.082	0.014	0.071	0.052	0.047	0.029	0.054	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.053
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	0.174	0.208	0.152	0.083	0.139	0.100	0.109	0.167	0.166	0.139	0.128	0.140	0.167	0.180
Mn	0.006	0.007	0.006	0.005	0.004	0.006	0.004	0.006	0.005	0.003	0.006	0.004	0.007	0.007
Mg	0.910	0.898	0.951	1.023	1.033	1.107	1.008	0.974	0.928	0.945	0.957	0.976	1.011	0.994
Ca	0.768	0.752	0.752	0.762	0.734	0.675	0.762	0.740	0.768	0.777	0.745	0.720	0.710	0.696
Na	0.019	0.018	0.016	0.016	0.013	0.014	0.015	0.018	0.030	0.029	0.027	0.018	0.015	0.019
K	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Total	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	4.000	3.992	4.000
Al (iv)	0.115	0.108	0.116	0.101	0.069	0.091	0.097	0.088	0.090	0.094	0.127	0.137	0.059	0.097
Al (vi)	0.059	0.045	0.079	0.022	0.053	0.018	0.035	0.036	0.055	0.035	0.042	0.050	0.071	0.038
Wo (%)	40.0	38.9	39.5	38.8	37.9	34.3	39.2	38.1	40.0	40.0	38.5	37.3	37.3	35.8
En (%)	47.4	46.4	50.0	52.0	53.5	56.3	51.8	50.0	48.3	48.6	49.5	50.5	53.1	51.2
Fs (%)	11.6	13.7	9.6	8.4	7.9	8.7	8.3	11.0	10.2	9.9	10.6	11.2	8.8	12.0
Acm (%)	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.6	1.5	1.4	0.9	0.8	1.0
Mg#	80.4	77.2	83.9	86.1	87.1	86.6	86.2	82.0	82.6	83.1	82.4	81.8	85.8	81.0
T(°C)*	1195 ± 3			1223 ± 7		1192 ± 5			1223 ± 6			1224 ± 8		1205
P(GPa)*	0.29 ± 0.06			0.29 ± 0.08		0.22 ± 0.05			0.61 ± 0.03			0.54 ± 0.01		0.52

Table 3

Table 3 (1/3)

Locality - unit		Nain - Pillow lavas													
Sample		NA402 basalt				NA403 basalt			NA404 basalt				NA408 basalt		
Mineral	Mineral type	spl 1c	spl 1r	spl 2c	spl 2r	spl 4c	spl 9c	spl 10c	spl 11c	spl 1c	spl 1r	spl 8c	spl 8r	spl 9c	spl 9r
		Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr
TiO <sub>2</sub>		0,30	0,26	0,27	0,29	0,29	0,23	0,25	0,20	0,26	0,32	0,35	0,29	0,28	0,31
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		19,72	19,99	18,96	18,20	20,09	19,88	16,44	19,32	23,67	23,22	21,17	20,99	21,77	20,70
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		46,27	46,04	45,66	46,52	45,98	45,33	49,37	47,79	42,50	43,09	45,54	45,77	43,90	44,66
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		0,08	0,09	0,17	0,11	0,14	0,15	0,12	0,09	0,20	0,17	0,27	0,17	0,18	0,12
FeO		21,91	22,19	22,61	22,73	20,12	21,53	22,15	19,86	20,91	21,05	21,56	21,64	22,53	22,26
MnO		0,26	0,24	0,31	0,24	0,31	0,19	0,35	0,29	0,29	0,32	0,29	0,26	0,23	0,23
MgO		11,61	11,88	11,75	12,01	12,94	12,36	11,23	12,74	11,62	11,79	11,10	11,29	12,12	11,74
CaO		0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
ZnO		0,00	0,01	0,04	0,00	0,03	0,05	0,03	0,07	0,01	0,04	0,00	0,01	0,04	0,05
NiO		0,14	0,06	0,13	0,04	0,12	0,16	0,12	0,11	0,05	0,13	0,15	0,12	0,05	0,12
Total		100,28	100,75	99,90	100,14	100,01	99,89	100,05	100,46	99,51	100,14	100,42	100,55	101,09	100,18
Ti		0,007	0,006	0,006	0,007	0,007	0,005	0,006	0,005	0,006	0,007	0,008	0,007	0,006	0,007
Al		0,726	0,731	0,701	0,673	0,733	0,730	0,616	0,706	0,863	0,843	0,777	0,769	0,786	0,759
Cr		1,142	1,129	1,133	1,153	1,126	1,116	1,241	1,172	1,040	1,049	1,121	1,125	1,064	1,098
V		0,002	0,002	0,004	0,003	0,003	0,004	0,003	0,002	0,005	0,004	0,007	0,004	0,004	0,003
Fe <sup>3+</sup>		0,116	0,126	0,149	0,158	0,124	0,139	0,128	0,111	0,080	0,089	0,080	0,089	0,133	0,126
Fe <sup>2+</sup>		0,456	0,449	0,444	0,438	0,397	0,421	0,461	0,404	0,461	0,454	0,482	0,474	0,445	0,453
Mn		0,007	0,006	0,008	0,006	0,008	0,005	0,009	0,008	0,008	0,008	0,008	0,007	0,006	0,006
Mg		0,540	0,549	0,550	0,561	0,598	0,574	0,532	0,589	0,536	0,541	0,515	0,523	0,554	0,544
Ca		0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Zn		0,000	0,000	0,001	0,000	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,002	0,000	0,001	0,000	0,000	0,001	0,001
Ni		0,003	0,001	0,003	0,001	0,003	0,004	0,003	0,003	0,001	0,003	0,004	0,003	0,001	0,003
Total		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		4,92	5,41	6,31	6,70	5,31	5,95	5,35	4,75	3,44	3,82	3,40	3,80	5,76	5,38
FeO		17,48	17,32	16,93	16,71	15,34	16,18	17,34	15,58	17,82	17,61	18,50	18,22	17,35	17,42
Total		100,77	101,30	100,54	100,81	100,54	100,48	100,58	100,93	99,86	100,52	100,76	100,93	101,67	100,72
Mg#		54,21	55,01	55,31	56,17	60,06	57,65	53,58	59,30	53,76	54,40	51,68	52,48	55,46	54,56
Cr#		61,15	60,71	61,76	63,16	60,56	60,47	66,83	62,39	54,63	55,45	59,06	59,39	57,49	59,14
TiO <sub>2</sub> (liquid)		0,75	0,69	0,70	0,73	0,72	0,62	0,66	0,57	0,68	0,77	0,81	0,72	0,71	0,76
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (liquid)		14,50	14,55	14,37	14,23	14,57	13,75	12,71	13,59	15,14	15,08	14,75	14,72	14,85	14,67
TiO <sub>2</sub> (rock)				0,74				0,60				0,77		0,71	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (rock)				13,73				12,61				14,37		13,84	

Table 3 (2/3)

Locality - unit	Nain - Pillow lavas								Ashin - Pillow lavas					
Sample	NA408 basalt				NA421 basalt				AS1007/1 basalt					
Mineral Mineral type	spl 13c Al-Chr	spl 13r Al-Chr	spl 18c Al-Chr	spl 18r Al-Chr	spl 14c Al-Chr	spl 14r Al-Chr	spl 18c Al-Chr	spl 18r Al-Chr	spl 1c Al-Chr	spl 1r Al-Chr	spl 6c Al-Chr	spl 6r Al-Chr	spl 8c Al-Chr	spl 8r Al-Chr
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0,25	0,28	0,29	0,29	0,47	0,46	0,42	0,44	0,53	0,43	0,35	0,38	0,42	0,39
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	19,82	20,12	18,84	19,04	22,24	21,69	23,21	22,68	21,33	21,42	21,07	20,48	22,12	22,19
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	45,67	44,46	47,03	46,72	44,20	44,14	42,78	43,15	43,36	43,67	45,86	45,80	44,31	44,14
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0,28	0,18	0,15	0,24	0,13	0,17	0,15	0,23	0,22	0,29	0,14	0,16	0,20	0,17
FeO	22,85	22,53	22,75	23,02	21,05	21,60	21,24	21,61	23,80	23,85	21,67	21,55	20,79	21,26
MnO	0,22	0,26	0,27	0,38	0,32	0,32	0,28	0,31	0,33	0,38	0,26	0,25	0,24	0,27
MgO	11,80	11,81	11,20	10,99	11,47	11,38	11,52	11,70	10,07	10,11	11,29	11,66	11,85	11,41
CaO	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
ZnO	0,03	0,09	0,00	0,02	0,10	0,03	0,03	0,03	0,06	0,05	0,03	0,00	0,01	0,00
NiO	0,09	0,04	0,04	0,05	0,14	0,12	0,13	0,12	0,07	0,02	0,09	0,02	0,01	0,12
Total	101,01	99,77	100,56	100,75	100,13	99,92	99,77	100,28	99,78	100,21	100,75	100,30	99,95	99,94
Ti	0,006	0,007	0,007	0,007	0,011	0,011	0,010	0,010	0,013	0,010	0,008	0,009	0,010	0,009
Al	0,724	0,741	0,696	0,703	0,813	0,796	0,847	0,825	0,791	0,791	0,770	0,751	0,808	0,812
Cr	1,118	1,099	1,166	1,157	1,083	1,087	1,047	1,052	1,079	1,082	1,125	1,127	1,085	1,084
V	0,007	0,004	0,004	0,006	0,003	0,004	0,004	0,006	0,006	0,007	0,003	0,004	0,005	0,004
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0,139	0,143	0,121	0,121	0,079	0,092	0,083	0,097	0,099	0,099	0,085	0,100	0,083	0,081
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	0,453	0,446	0,475	0,482	0,467	0,471	0,467	0,460	0,528	0,526	0,477	0,461	0,456	0,471
Mn	0,006	0,007	0,007	0,010	0,008	0,009	0,007	0,008	0,009	0,010	0,007	0,007	0,006	0,007
Mg	0,545	0,550	0,523	0,513	0,530	0,528	0,532	0,538	0,473	0,472	0,522	0,541	0,547	0,528
Ca	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Zn	0,001	0,002	0,000	0,001	0,002	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,000	0,000	0,000
Ni	0,002	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,003	0,003	0,003	0,003	0,002	0,000	0,002	0,000	0,000	0,003
Total	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5,98	6,07	5,13	5,13	3,38	3,92	3,57	4,18	4,17	4,20	3,66	4,26	3,55	3,47
FeO	17,47	17,07	18,13	18,40	18,01	18,07	18,04	17,85	20,05	20,08	18,37	17,71	17,60	18,13
Total	101,61	100,38	101,07	101,27	100,47	100,31	100,13	100,70	100,19	100,63	101,11	100,72	100,31	100,29
Mg#	54,62	55,23	52,40	51,57	53,17	52,88	53,24	53,88	47,24	47,29	52,27	53,98	54,54	52,86
Cr#	60,71	59,71	62,61	62,21	57,14	57,72	55,28	56,07	57,70	57,76	59,35	60,00	57,33	57,16
TiO <sub>2</sub> (liquid)	0,66	0,71	0,73	0,73	0,99	0,97	0,92	0,95	1,07	0,93	0,82	0,86	0,92	0,88
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (liquid)	14,52	14,57	14,35	14,38	14,92	14,83	15,20	14,99	14,77	14,79	14,73	14,63	14,90	14,91
TiO <sub>2</sub> (rock)		0,71				0,98					0,94			
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (rock)		13,84				13,89					15,41			

Table 3 (3/3)

Locality - unit		Ashin - Pillow lavas													
Sample		AS1007/2 basalt				AS1008 basalt				AS1009 basalt					
Mineral		spl 2c	spl 2r	spl 13c	spl 13r	spl 2c	spl 2r	spl 3c	spl 3r	spl 4c	spl 4r	spl 5c	spl 5r	spl 7c	spl 7r
Mineral type		Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr	Al-Chr
TiO <sub>2</sub>		0,38	0,43	0,45	0,49	0,47	0,44	0,45	0,40	0,38	0,43	0,36	0,41	0,46	0,47
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		21,27	22,41	22,44	22,57	22,22	21,47	22,05	22,10	20,61	20,71	20,40	21,00	19,03	19,58
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		45,55	43,13	42,56	42,08	42,85	43,71	42,95	42,27	45,87	45,70	45,02	44,41	46,77	46,16
V <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		0,24	0,25	0,28	0,22	0,10	0,06	0,20	0,19	0,19	0,14	0,15	0,21	0,08	0,12
FeO		21,17	22,12	22,31	22,62	22,07	22,07	21,07	21,30	21,15	21,34	20,96	21,82	21,96	20,92
MnO		0,33	0,21	0,29	0,25	0,27	0,32	0,21	0,22	0,32	0,29	0,25	0,23	0,30	0,33
MgO		11,36	11,43	11,50	11,75	12,25	11,77	12,80	12,33	11,54	11,81	12,48	12,30	11,32	12,88
CaO		0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
ZnO		0,00	0,02	0,02	0,10	0,02	0,03	0,00	0,01	0,03	0,06	0,03	0,02	0,05	0,04
NiO		0,06	0,06	0,06	0,09	0,10	0,07	0,10	0,07	0,06	0,01	0,08	0,05	0,17	0,14
Total		100,36	100,06	99,90	100,18	100,35	99,95	99,83	98,90	100,15	100,48	99,73	100,45	100,15	100,63
Ti		0,009	0,010	0,010	0,011	0,011	0,010	0,010	0,009	0,009	0,010	0,008	0,010	0,011	0,011
Al		0,779	0,818	0,820	0,821	0,806	0,786	0,800	0,811	0,757	0,757	0,748	0,764	0,705	0,713
Cr		1,119	1,057	1,043	1,027	1,042	1,073	1,046	1,040	1,131	1,121	1,107	1,084	1,162	1,127
V		0,006	0,006	0,007	0,005	0,002	0,002	0,005	0,005	0,005	0,004	0,004	0,005	0,002	0,003
Fe <sup>3+</sup>		0,078	0,099	0,109	0,124	0,128	0,118	0,128	0,125	0,089	0,099	0,125	0,128	0,110	0,135
Fe <sup>2+</sup>		0,473	0,474	0,470	0,460	0,439	0,455	0,415	0,429	0,462	0,455	0,421	0,436	0,467	0,405
Mn		0,009	0,006	0,008	0,007	0,007	0,008	0,006	0,006	0,008	0,008	0,007	0,006	0,008	0,009
Mg		0,526	0,528	0,532	0,541	0,562	0,545	0,588	0,572	0,536	0,546	0,578	0,566	0,530	0,593
Ca		0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000	0,000
Zn		0,000	0,000	0,000	0,002	0,001	0,001	0,000	0,000	0,001	0,001	0,001	0,000	0,001	0,001
Ni		0,001	0,001	0,001	0,002	0,002	0,002	0,002	0,002	0,001	0,000	0,002	0,001	0,004	0,004
Total		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>		3,33	4,24	4,67	5,35	5,53	5,07	5,53	5,34	3,81	4,23	5,32	5,50	4,63	5,83
FeO		18,18	18,31	18,11	17,81	17,09	17,51	16,10	16,50	17,72	17,54	16,17	16,87	17,79	15,68
Total		100,69	100,49	100,36	100,71	100,91	100,46	100,38	99,43	100,53	100,90	100,26	101,01	100,61	101,22
Mg#		52,69	52,68	53,10	54,05	56,10	54,51	58,64	57,13	53,71	54,54	57,90	56,52	53,15	59,42
Cr#		58,96	56,36	55,99	55,57	56,40	57,73	56,65	56,20	59,89	59,68	59,68	58,66	62,24	61,27
TiO <sub>2</sub> (liquid)		0,86	0,93	0,96	1,01	0,99	0,95	0,96	0,90	0,86	0,93	0,83	0,91	0,97	0,99
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (liquid)		14,76	14,95	14,95	14,97	14,92	14,80	14,89	14,90	14,65	14,67	14,62	14,72	14,38	14,48
TiO <sub>2</sub> (rock)		0,98				0,95				0,91					
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (rock)		15,63				15,34				13,67					

Table 4

Table 4.

Locality - unit Sample Rock type Mineral Mineral type	Nain - Sheeted dykes										Ashin - Pillow lavas	
	NA537 basaltic andesite						NA538 basalt				AS1007/2 basalt	AS1008 basalt
	am 2-5c Mhb	am 2-5r Mhb	am 10-2c Mhb	am 10-2r Mhb	am 12-1c Mhb	am 12-1r Mhb	am 4-4c Mhb	am 4-4r Mhb	am 10-9c Mhb	am 10-9r Mhb	am 8-3c Mhb	am 7-11c Mhb
SiO <sub>2</sub>	51.08	50.69	49.99	51.02	50.77	50.71	50.15	50.56	50.89	50.17	50.07	50.30
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0.59	1.09	0.85	1.14	0.65	0.93	0.51	0.68	0.36	0.52	1.11	2.18
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	6.46	7.86	7.84	8.09	8.17	7.77	8.00	7.49	8.09	8.26	11.07	11.08
FeO	9.07	10.68	10.21	10.00	10.32	10.42	12.18	12.03	12.04	11.69	8.98	8.13
MnO	0.31	0.36	0.18	0.35	0.22	0.41	0.20	0.43	0.25	0.40	0.23	0.08
MgO	16.72	14.56	14.92	14.42	14.47	14.70	14.47	14.78	14.67	14.75	14.49	14.96
CaO	11.94	10.57	11.46	10.19	10.56	10.06	10.95	10.43	10.95	10.07	10.69	10.84
Na <sub>2</sub> O	1.11	1.31	1.02	1.22	1.09	1.49	0.57	0.53	0.52	0.71	0.75	0.62
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.16	0.33	0.11	0.28	0.23	0.35	0.08	0.16	0.08	0.14	0.24	0.01
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.09	0.00	0.29	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.22	0.57
NiO	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Total	97.45	97.49	96.63	96.70	96.56	96.84	97.42	97.14	97.86	96.72	97.85	98.79
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3.73	4.34	3.39	4.02	4.36	5.29	8.44	10.04	8.53	10.86	5.38	5.01
FeO	5.71	6.78	7.16	6.38	6.40	5.66	4.58	3.00	4.36	1.92	4.14	3.62
Total	99.95	100.04	99.06	99.21	99.10	99.48	100.39	100.27	100.85	99.94	100.55	101.47
Si	7.224	7.182	7.154	7.244	7.226	7.201	7.076	7.114	7.125	7.058	6.966	6.910
Ti	0.062	0.116	0.091	0.121	0.069	0.099	0.054	0.072	0.038	0.055	0.116	0.225
Al (iv)	0.776	0.818	0.846	0.756	0.774	0.799	0.924	0.886	0.875	0.942	1.034	1.090
Al (vi)	0.301	0.495	0.476	0.597	0.596	0.502	0.407	0.356	0.460	0.427	0.782	0.703
Fe <sup>3+</sup>	0.397	0.462	0.365	0.429	0.467	0.565	0.897	1.063	0.899	1.149	0.563	0.518
Fe <sup>2+</sup>	0.676	0.803	0.857	0.758	0.761	0.673	0.541	0.352	0.511	0.226	0.482	0.416
Mn	0.037	0.044	0.022	0.042	0.027	0.049	0.024	0.051	0.030	0.048	0.027	0.009
Mg	3.525	3.076	3.183	3.052	3.069	3.112	3.044	3.100	3.062	3.093	3.005	3.064
Ca	1.809	1.604	1.757	1.550	1.610	1.531	1.655	1.572	1.643	1.518	1.594	1.595
Na	0.304	0.361	0.284	0.335	0.301	0.409	0.156	0.143	0.141	0.193	0.202	0.165
K	0.030	0.059	0.021	0.051	0.041	0.064	0.014	0.029	0.014	0.025	0.043	0.001
Cr	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.000	0.010	0.000	0.032	0.006	0.001	0.001	0.024	0.062
Ni	0.002	0.005	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.003
Total	15.143	15.024	15.062	14.937	14.952	15.004	14.825	14.745	14.797	14.737	14.839	14.761

**Appendix A1.** Comparison of major and trace element concentrations in reference samples analyzed using X-Ray Fluorescence spectrometry and Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry, as well as detection limits for both analytical methods.

		BE-N			BHVO-1			Detection limits
		Recomm.	Measured	Relative	Recomm.	Measured	Relative	
		Mean Values (n=30)			Mean Values (n=13)			
X-Ray Fluorescence spectrometry (XRF)	(wt%)							
	SiO <sub>2</sub>	38.48	38.58	-0.3	49.94	49.57	0.74	0.05
	TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.63	2.62	0.3	2.71	2.75	-1.48	0.01
	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	10.14	9.81	3.3	13.80	14.02	-1.59	0.05
	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	12.93	12.78	1.2	12.23	12.52	-2.37	0.10
	MnO	0.20	0.19	7.4	0.17	0.17	0.00	0.05
	MgO	13.25	13.60	-2.7	7.23	6.90	4.56	0.01
	CaO	13.97	13.73	1.7	11.40	11.52	-1.05	0.04
	Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.20	3.30	-3.0	2.26	2.36	-4.42	0.01
	K <sub>2</sub> O	1.40	1.36	2.9	0.52	0.50	3.85	0.01
	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	1.06	1.00	5.4	0.27	0.25	7.41	0.01
	(ppm)							
	Zn	120	116	3.3	105	98	6.67	2
	Cu	72	73	-0.8	136	140	-2.94	3
	Sc	22	21	2.3	31.8	32	-0.63	3
	Ga	17	16	4.4	21	22	-4.76	3
	Ni	267	260	2.6	121	124	-2.48	2
	Co	60	63	-5.0	45	46	-2.22	2
	Cr	360	351	2.5	289	298	-3.11	2
	V	235	231	1.7	317	312	1.58	2
	Rb	47	47	0.2	11	10	9.09	1
	Ba	1025	999	2.5	139	145	-4.32	3
	Pb	4	n.d.		2.6	n.d.		5
	Sr	1370	1360	0.7	403	408	-1.24	2
	Zr	260	268	-3.1	179	172	3.91	2
	Y	30	28	5.3	27.6	28	-1.45	1
	La	82	79	3.7	15.8	18	-13.9	5
Ce	152	160	-5.3	39	42	-7.69	5	
Nd	67	65	3.7	25.2	24	4.76	3	
Nb	105	105	-0.1	19	18	5.26	1	
Th	10.4	11	-2.7	1.08	1	7.41	1	
Inductively Coupled Plasma-Mass Spectrometry (ICP-MS)	(ppm)							
	Rb				11	10.9	1.4	0.020
	Sr				403	410	-1.7	0.020
	Y				27.6	28.4	-2.8	0.003
	Zr				179	190	-6.1	0.020
	La				15.8	16.0	-1.3	0.010
	Ce				39	37.6	3.7	0.002
	Pr				5.7	5.57	2.3	0.004
	Nd				25.2	26.1	-3.7	0.002
	Sm				6.2	6.53	-5.3	0.006
	Eu				2.06	2.10	-1.9	0.002
	Gd				6.4	6.25	2.3	0.001
	Tb				0.96	0.93	3.6	0.002
	Dy				5.2	5.42	-4.2	0.001
	Ho				0.99	1.05	-6.1	0.002
	Er				2.4	2.57	-7.1	0.001
	Tm				0.33	0.32	4.5	0.003
	Yb				2.02	2.16	-6.9	0.001
	Lu				0.291	0.31	-6.9	0.005
	Nb				19	18.5	2.7	0.001
	Hf				4.38	4.29	2.1	0.001
Ta				1.23	1.30	-5.7	0.005	
Th				1.08	1.13	-4.6	0.0015	
U				0.42	0.45	-7.1	0.002	

Recommended values for international reference materials BE-N and BHVO-1 are from Govindaraju (1994, Geostandard Newsletter, Special Issue, v. 118, 158 p.). Abbreviations: Recomm. = recommended values; n.d. = not detected. Detection limits were estimated using 29 international reference standards and 3 internal standards run as unknowns.

**Appendix A2.** Input parameters for the partial melting models used for different rock-types (see Figs. 12, 14)

	Composition of mantle peridotites and subduction-related additional components				Composition of the theoretical mantle sources calculated by the addition of various proportions of subduction-related components to depleted peridotites				
	Depleted Lherzolite EP22	Depleted Lherzolite A19	APS	Sea water	Mantle peridotite	Group 1 pillow lava	Group 1 sheeted dykes	Group 2 pillow lava	Group 2 pillow lava
					EP22	A19	EP22	A19	
					Fluid Component	0.5% Sea water	0.2% Sea water	-	-
					Melt Component	-	0.1% APS	0.5% APS	0.5% APS
La	0.026	0.018	38	5.6		0.054	0.067	0.216	0.207
Ce	0.090	0.059	80	1.6		0.098	0.142	0.490	0.459
Pr	0.024	0.013		0.87		0.028	0.015	0.023	0.013
Nd	0.179	0.106	32	4.2		0.199	0.146	0.327	0.265
Sm	0.097	0.055	5.6	0.84		0.100	0.063	0.118	0.083
Eu	0.047	0.030	1.1	0.21		0.048	0.031	0.052	0.035
Gd	0.221	0.148	4.7	1.3		0.227	0.155	0.244	0.171
Tb	0.051	0.031	0.77	0.21		0.051	0.032	0.060	0.035
Dy	0.384	0.246		1.5		0.390	0.248	0.382	0.245
Ho	0.098	0.060		0.45		0.100	0.060	0.098	0.059
Er	0.300	0.183		1.3		0.305	0.185	0.298	0.182
Tm	0.052	0.032	0.4	0.25		0.052	0.033	0.053	0.034
Yb	0.320	0.214	2.8	1.5		0.326	0.219	0.333	0.227
Lu	0.054	0.035	0.43	0.32		0.055	0.036	0.055	0.037
Cr	2580	2464				2580	2464	2580	2464
Y	2.12	1.66				2.17	1.70	2.22	1.76
Source mode: ol 0.65 - opx 0.28 - cpx 0.06 - spl 0.08									
Melting proportions: ol 0.1 - opx 0.64 - cpx 0.25 - spl 0.02									

Partition coefficients. REE: McKenzie and O'Nions (1991); Y: Ulmer (1989); Cr in ol, opx, cpx: Ewart et al. (1973); Cr in spl: Klemme et al. (2006)

Abbreviations, ol: olivine; opx: orthopyroxene; cpx: clinopyroxene; spl: spinel; REE: rare earth elements. The compositions of lherzolites EP22 and A19 are from Saccani et al. (2017). The compositions of average pelitic sediments (APS) and sea water are from Taylor and McLennan (1985) and Li (2000), respectively. Source mode and melting proportions are from Kostopoulos and

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