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Detrital orthopyroxene as a tracer of geodynamic setting: a Raman and SEM-EDS provenance study

Short title: Detrital orthopyroxene as provenance tracer

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ABSTRACT

Raman spectroscopy is a powerful tool that for its efficiency is being used more and more frequently in high-resolution provenance analysis. In this study, dedicated to Ca-poor orthorhombic pyroxene, we focused on 15 samples of modern sands representing a full range of rock units exposed at different structural levels of continental, arc, or oceanic lithosphere and generated in diverse geodynamic settings. By coupling optical observations, SEM-EDS minerochemical and Raman spectroscopy analyses on the same grains we show how orthopyroxene from mantle, deep crustal, and volcanic rocks ranging in composition from andesite to dacite and felsic differentiates can be robustly distinguished. The Mg# $[Mg/(Mg+Fe)]$ content of orthopyroxene grains can be accurately estimated by recording the characteristic position of their six main characteristic peaks (ν_1 to ν_6 , vibrational modes) even during routine point-counting under the Raman spectroscope. Most useful at this regard is the position of the strong and narrow ν_3 peak ($\sim 655\text{ cm}^{-1}$) that also allows to estimate Ca content if compared with the position of other peaks (especially ν_1 , $\sim 330\text{ cm}^{-1}$). High-Mg orthopyroxene is exclusively derived from mantle rocks, whereas metagabbros of the lower continental crust and gabbroic rocks of the arc crust could be distinguished by their lower Ca.

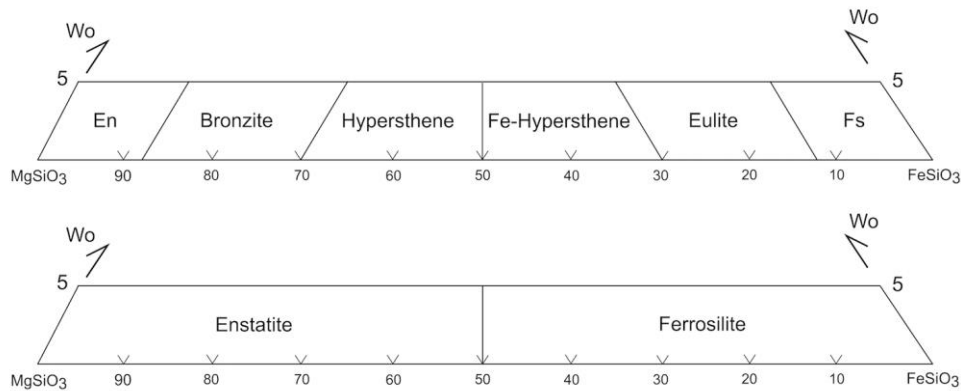
The lowest Mg# was recorded in detrital orthopyroxene derived from the silicic Amiata Volcano in central Italy, whereas trachytes in rift-related settings did not show peculiar characteristics apart from their slightly higher Ca content.

Key Words: Provenance analysis; Enstatite; Hypersthene; Raman Spectroscopy; SEM-EDS chemical analyses; Volcanic orthopyroxene.

1 **1. Introduction**

2
3 In the last years, multi-method approaches to provenance analysis have provided a bounty of
4 information on sedimentary systems, improving our understanding of physical and chemical
5 processes that control the modification of provenance signals during sediment transfer from source
6 to sink (Garzanti, 2016; Basu, 2017; Caracciolo, 2020). Techniques focusing on specific detrital
7 minerals or mineral groups have resulted to be particularly fruitful and exploited (Mange and
8 Morton, 2007; von Eynatten and Dunkl, 2012; Guo et al., 2020). Zircon played the lion's share
9 (Gehrels, 2011) and attentions were primarily dedicated to the composition of durable species,
10 including rutile (Meinhold, 2010), tourmaline (Guo et al., 2021), apatite (O'Sullivan et al., 2020),
11 garnet (Suggate and Hall, 2014), or Cr-spinel (Hu et al., 2014). Less specific attention was
12 dedicated to less durable ferromagnesian minerals (e.g., Lee et al., 2003; Andò and Garzanti, 2014;
13 Liang et al., 2019). This is largely because diagenized ancient sandstones generally contain only
14 those species that better resist intrastratal dissolution, whereas amphiboles and especially pyroxenes
15 and olivine are seldom preserved in ancient sandstones (Morton and Hallsworth, 2007; Garzanti et
16 al., 2018). The durability of detrital minerals, however, may also represent a disadvantage, because
17 grains can be easily recycled from one sedimentary cycle to the next thus losing all information on
18 the routing of detritus (Andersen et al., 2016; Pastore et al., 2021). Conversely, where preserved,
19 less durable ferromagnesian minerals such as pyroxene are likely to be first cycle and thus able to
20 deliver information pointing directly to their igneous or metamorphic source-rocks (Cawood, 1983;
21 Caracciolo et al., 2016).

22 This modern-sand provenance study contributes to fill the existing knowledge gap concerning the
23 distribution of pyroxene species in sediments, with the main aim to assess the relationship between
24 pyroxene composition and the lithology of source rocks generated in diverse geodynamic settings.
25 Here we shall focus on the simpler Ca-poor orthorhombic orthopyroxenes (OPX), whereas the
26 much more complex relation between clinopyroxene composition and Raman spectra will be
27 tackled in separate articles.



28

29 **Figure 1.** Comparison between traditional (upper panel; [Poldervaart and Hess, 1947](#)) and IMA (lower panel;
 30 [Morimoto et al., 1988](#)) orthopyroxene classification schemes. En: enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite.

31

32 In the traditional classification scheme ([Poldervaart, 1947](#)), orthopyroxenes were classified based
 33 on their Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio (Mg#), as enstatite, bronzite, hypersthene, Fe-hypersthene,
 34 eulite, or ferrosilite ([Fig. 1](#)). The current nomenclature of the International Mineralogical
 35 Association (IMA), instead, more simply distinguishes between enstatite *s.l.* (Mg# > 0.5) and
 36 ferrosilite *s.l.* (Mg# < 0.5) ([Morimoto et al., 1988](#)). Magnesium-rich orthopyroxene (enstatite *s.s.*)
 37 characterizes ultramafic rocks (e.g., harzburgite, orthopyroxenite, kimberlite; [Eggler, 1986](#);
 38 [Rezvukhin et al., 2019](#)), and occurs in magnesian skarn and achondrite ([Skridlaitė et al., 2019](#);
 39 [Lorenz et al., 2020](#)). Instead, iron-bearing orthopyroxene (hypersthene *s.l.*), characterizes
 40 anorthosite ([Morse, 1975](#)), tonalite, monzonite ([Leslie et al., 2003](#)), andesite ([Francalanci et al.,](#)
 41 [2005](#)), and more felsic lavas and pyroclastic rocks ([Aoki, et al., 1989](#)), and occurs in granulite ([Jan](#)
 42 [and Howie, 1980](#)) or meteoritic chondrite ([Kubovics et al., 2004](#)). Iron-rich orthopyroxene (Mg# <
 43 0.3) is rare in rocks, and pure ferrosilite very rare ([Bowen, 1935](#), [Lindsley, 1965](#)) with a few
 44 crystals identified in meteorites ([Gismelseed et al., 2005](#)).

45 In sedimentary petrography, it is common use to distinguish only two categories of orthopyroxene:
 46 the nearly colourless, optically positive magnesium-rich orthopyroxene (enstatite *s.s.*; [Poldervaart,](#)
 47 [1947](#)) from strongly pleochroic, optically negative iron-bearing orthopyroxene (hypersthene *s.l.*,
 48 including bronzite, hypersthene, and Fe-hypersthene; [Tröeger, 1979](#); [Mange and Maurer, 1992](#)).
 49 The correct determination of pyroxene species by both optical and electron-beam methods may
 50 however represent a challenge ([Dunkl et al., 2020](#) p.18). A full objective discrimination among
 51 orthopyroxenes of different chemical composition is generally impossible under the microscope,
 52 and small grains lacking colour or cleavage, or showing high roundness, alteration, or unusual
 53 birefringence and interference figures may even be misidentified as epidote or olivine.

54 These difficulties can be overcome by obtaining decisive information with Raman spectroscopy, a
 55 simple-to-perform technique that, in a few seconds and with no additional sample preparation,

56 allows us to achieve a robust mineralogical characterization (e.g., [Griffith, 1969](#); [Hope et al. 2001](#);
57 [Bersani et al., 2009](#)). Grains can be successfully identified even down to the size of a few microns
58 ([Delmonte et al. 2017](#); [Borromeo et al. 2018](#)), also obtaining semi-quantitative crystallographic and
59 chemical information. This non-destructive technique is excellently suited to investigate minerals
60 and mineral inclusions ([Raman, 1928](#); [Griffith, 1969](#); [Frezzotti et al. 2012](#)), the specific lattice
61 features of which are readily revealed by their direct link with Raman peak positions. In the case of
62 vicariance, the different characteristics of the replacing ions produces variations in the strength and
63 geometry of chemical bonds, and such differences in mineral structure are mirrored in Raman
64 spectra ([Kuebler et al. 2006](#); [Borromeo et al., 2017](#); [Bersani et al. 2018](#)). Preliminary investigations
65 on synthetic and selected natural pyroxenes have shown that chemical and structural changes can be
66 modelled by Raman spectroscopy in both orthorhombic and monoclinic pyroxenes (e.g., [Tribaudino
67 et al., 2019](#); [Stangarone et al., 2021](#)).

68 In a multi-technique approach we combine optical, Raman spectroscopy, and SEM-EDS
69 minerochemical analyses conducted on the same grains not only to increase the robustness of
70 precise orthopyroxene identification but, especially, to establish the relationships among optical
71 properties (e.g., pleochroism and birefringence), chemical composition (e.g., relative amounts of
72 Mg, Fe, and Ca), and Raman signature (i.e., position of principal and secondary peaks) of detrital
73 orthopyroxene. Specifically, we aim to demonstrate how Raman spectroscopy can be routinely used
74 in high-resolution heavy-mineral analysis to efficiently assess the chemistry of pyroxene grains and
75 thus obtain reliable information on the lithology of source rocks (e.g., peridotite, gabbro, andesite,
76 dacite) and precious hints on the most plausible lithogenetic process (i.e., intrusive, effusive, or
77 metamorphic) and geodynamic environment in which it took place (e.g., ophiolite obduction,
78 continental rift, oceanic or continental subduction).

79

80 **2. Orthopyroxene & Raman: state of the art**

81

82 Pyroxenes are chain silicates of general formula $M_2M_1Si_2O_6$. In natural pyroxenes, the M2 and M1
83 sites are filled by Mg, Fe^{2+} , Ca, Li, Mn, or Na and by Mg, Fe^{2+} , Fe^{3+} , Al, Cr, or Ti^{4+} , Ti^{3+} , Mn (and
84 others) respectively; partial exchange of Al for Si is also possible ([Tribaudino et al., 2017](#)).
85 Substitutions are made possible by the rather flexible structure that can accommodate cations with
86 different ionic radii and charges, leading to a wide range of possible compositions ([Cameron and
87 Papike, 2018](#); [Papike, 2018](#)).

88 The chemistry of Mg-Fe-Ca pyroxenes is generally expressed by Mg# (especially for
89 orthopyroxenes, where calcium content is low) and by the percentages of the three end-member

90 compositions: enstatite (En, MgSiO_3), ferrosilite (Fe, FeSiO_3), and wollastonite (Wo, CaSiO_3).
91 Pyroxene crystallizes in monoclinic $C2/c$ or orthorhombic $Pbca$ structure. Orthorhombic pyroxene
92 has the M2 site filled almost completely by Mg and Fe, and the position of Raman peaks is affected
93 by the relative concentration of Mg, Fe, and Ca ions (Wang et al., 2001). In orthopyroxene, the
94 presence of 120 Raman peaks has been predicted, 20-30 of which can be observed in good-
95 quality Raman spectra (Stalder et al., 2009; Stangarone et al., 2016). The small Mg^{2+} ion forms
96 short and strong chemical bonds, leading to higher wavenumber peak positions in the Raman
97 spectrum. Both Fe^{2+} and Ca^{2+} are larger than Mg^{2+} , and their presence shifts the peaks' locations to
98 lower frequencies (Huang, 2000). Numerous studies reported a very good linear correlation
99 between the position of Raman peaks and the Mg# of orthopyroxene (e.g., Mernagh & Hoatson,
100 1997; Huang et al., 2000; Tribaudino et al., 2012; Andò & Garzanti, 2014; Hu et al., 2015). The
101 greater abundance of the larger Ca^{2+} ion mitigates the effect of the Fe/Mg substitution in the
102 clinopyroxene structure. As Ca and Fe^{2+} substitutions have similar effect, Mg# can thus be more
103 accurately determined by Raman spectroscopy in Ca-poor orthopyroxene (Tribaudino et al., 2011),
104 reaching excellent precision (3.0 and 0.4 weight% for natural and synthetic crystals, respectively;
105 Stalder et al., 2009). By combining the three major peaks of meteoritic and terrestrial
106 orthopyroxene, the $\text{Mg}/(\text{Mg}+\text{Fe}+\text{Ca})$ ratio was measured with an error of only 0.1% (Wang et al.,
107 2001).

108 The most intense Raman peaks (vibration modes) in the pyroxene spectrum are connected to the
109 vibration of silicate chains bonds, which are unaffected by chemical or structural inhomogeneities
110 (Wang et al., 2001). Most distinctive is the $\nu_3 + \nu_4$ (~ 655 and ~ 675 cm^{-1} , respectively) couplet,
111 which is related to the symmetrical bending of the $\text{Si-O}_{\text{bridging}}$ bond (i.e., involving the oxygen
112 linking two tetrahedra), and $\nu_5 + \nu_6$ (~ 1002 and ~ 1020 cm^{-1} , respectively) couplet, related to the
113 stretching of the $\text{Si-O}_{\text{bridging}}$ bond (Makreski et al., 2006; Stangarone et al., 2016). The $\nu_3 + \nu_4$
114 couplet allows us to discriminate between orthopyroxene and clinopyroxene, the latter showing
115 only one strong narrow peak in this spectral region (with the exception of pigeonite; Tribaudino et
116 al., 2011). The ν_3 and ν_4 vibrational modes are both parallel to the c-axis, and thus independent of
117 crystal orientation (Wang et al., 2001). Instead, the ν_5 and ν_6 vibrational modes are strongly
118 dependent on crystal orientation.

119 Clusters of medium-intensity Raman peaks also occur in the 300-400 cm^{-1} (M2-O octahedron
120 bending mode) and 510-570 cm^{-1} (O-Si-O bending mode) wavenumber regions (White, 1975;
121 Mernagh & Hoatson, 1997; Huang et al., 2000). Peaks in the < 500 cm^{-1} region are related to M1-O
122 and M2-O crystal-lattice stretching modes (Stangarone et al., 2016); most important to estimate
123 calcium content is the ν_1 (~ 330 cm^{-1}) vibrational mode (Wang et al., 2001).

124 3. Sample choice

125

126 The choice of samples to be analysed represents the first step to investigate the compositional
 127 signatures apt to best discriminate among different types of source rocks in terms of both lithology
 128 and geodynamic setting. In this study, we chose to focus on modern sands because a single
 129 sediment sample contains a wide spectrum of detrital grains statistically representative of an entire
 130 drainage basin, thus offering an efficiency gain relative to techniques focused on bedrock
 131 (Greensfelder, 2002). In this way, we could take advantage of decades of quasi-worldwide modern-
 132 sand studies and of the collection of over 6000 catalogued sediment samples readily available at the
 133 Laboratory for Provenance Studies (University of Milano-Bicocca).

134 To consider a complete range of lithologies generated and exposed in both orogenic and anorogenic
 135 settings, including obduction orogens, continental and arc crust, rift valleys, and continental or
 136 intraoceanic volcanic arcs, we selected 15 sand samples from very diverse key regions where source
 137 rocks containing significant amounts of orthopyroxene are exposed (Table 1). We thus included
 138 mantle harzburgites, lower crustal metagabbros, gabbro-norites, and volcanic sequences ranging
 139 from andesite to trachyte and dacite, representing different tectono-stratigraphic levels within
 140 continental, arc, or oceanic lithosphere.

Structural level	Geodynamic setting	Geological domain	Main lithology	Location
MANTLE	OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Hatay-Kizildağ Complex	Harzburgite	Hatay Peninsula (Turkey)
		Sema'il Complex	Harzburgite	Northern Oman Mountains
LOWER CRUST	CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano Mafic Complex	Granulitic gabbro	Southern Alps (Italy)
		Kohistan Arc	Metagabbro to granite	Northern Pakistan
UPPER CRUST	CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Andean Cordillera	Andesite and dacite	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Basalt to dacite	Río Grande (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Basalt to dacite	Río Colorado (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Dacite	Río Agrio (Argentina)
	VOLCANIC ARC	Luzon island arc	Basalt to dacite	Taiwan Island
		Kamchatka island arc	Andesite	SE Kamchatka (Russia)
		Lesser Antilles island arc	Andesite and dacite	Martinique Island
		South Aegean island arc	Andesite and dacite	Santorini Island (Greece)
		Mt. Amiata (Tuscan province)	Trachydacite	Orcia River (Italy)
		Elbrus Volcano	Andesite and dacite	Greater Caucasus (Russia)
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga volcanic province	K-trachyte and latite	East African Rift (Rwanda)	

141

142 **Table 1.** Information on the 15 studied samples of orthopyroxene-rich river and beach sands exclusively or dominantly
 143 derived from a range of mantle, deep-crustal, and volcanic rocks generated in different geodynamic settings.

144

145 3.1. Ophiolitic mantle

146

147 To represent OPX-bearing mantle rocks we have chosen two sand samples, one derived from the
 148 Hatay-Kizildağ Ophiolite Complex in southernmost Turkey and one from the Sema'il Ophiolitic
 149 Complex in the Northern Oman Mountains.

150 The Hatay-Kizildağ Complex, a counterpart of the Troodos Complex of Cyprus, is a supra-

151 subduction-zone obducted ophiolite comprising serpentinized mantle rocks overlain by layered
152 gabbros, isotropic gabbros and diorites, sheeted dikes, island-arc tholeiites to boninites, and upper
153 Maastrichtian-Cenozoic cover strata. The 3-km-thick mantle harzburgites containing lenses of
154 dunite, wehrlite, lherzolite and feldspathic peridotite are cross-cut by gabbroic to doleritic dikes
155 (Dilek and Thy, 2009). The Kale beach in the Hatay Peninsula consists of lithic ultramaficlastic
156 sand containing mainly cellular serpentinite and subordinately serpentineschist grains, along with
157 gabbroic rock fragments. The extremely rich tHM (transparent-heavy-mineral) suite is dominated
158 by orthopyroxene associated with olivine (Garzanti et al., 2000).

159 The Sema'il Ophiolite, also generated in supra-subduction settings at a fast-spreading center around
160 95 Ma, consists of an 8–12 km-thick section of residual mantle harzburgites, overlain by a 5–8 km-
161 thick crustal section including layered to foliated gabbros, hydrothermally altered diabase dikes,
162 and pillow basalts capped by lower Cenomanian radiolarites (Lippard et al. 1986; Searle and Cox,
163 1999).

164 Lithic ultramaficlastic sand of Wadi Dayqat — draining the southern part of the Northern Oman
165 Mountains where mantle rocks are extensively exposed — contains mostly cellular serpentinite and
166 subordinate serpentineschist grains along with significant sedimentary detritus (mostly carbonate
167 grains derived from cover strata), and minor gabbroic and metabasite rock fragments. The rich tHM
168 suite is dominated by orthopyroxene associated with clinopyroxene, olivine, amphibole, and Cr-
169 spinel (Garzanti et al., 2002a).

170

171 **3.2 Lower continental crust**

172

173 To represent OPX-bearing gabbroic rocks of the lower continental crust we have chosen one sand
174 sample derived from the Mafic Complex of the Ivrea-Verbano Zone in northern Italy.

175 The Ivrea-Verbano Zone, the deepest tectonic unit of the Southern Alps, comprises an up to 10 km-
176 thick gabbroic body (Mafic Complex), intruded into high-grade metasediments at a crustal depth of
177 18–25 km during Early Permian times (Quick et al. 1994). The Mafic Complex includes ultramafic
178 cumulates and layered gabbros, followed by 5–7 km-thick gabbroic grading upward to
179 monzogabbros and diorites (Rivalenti et al. 1981). Subsidiary re-equilibration under static
180 conditions gave rise to anhydrous assemblages including orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, and garnet.
181 Retrograde growth of brown amphibole was confined to shear bands within the gabbros (Colombo
182 and Tunesi, 1999).

183 The plagioclase-dominated sand of the Strona di Postua River contains common gabbroic and a few
184 amphibolite and sillimanite-bearing rock fragments. The extremely rich tHM suite is dominated by
185 orthopyroxene associated with brown amphibole, garnet, and clinopyroxene (Garzanti et al., 2006;

186 [Andò et al., 2014](#)).

187

188 **3.3. Arc crust**

189

190 To represent OPX-bearing metamorphic and igneous rocks of deep-seated arc crust we have chosen
191 one sand sample derived from the Kohistan Arc in northern Pakistan.

192 The Kohistan Batholith represents the dissected remnants of a magmatic arc fed by northward
193 subduction of Neotethyan oceanic lithosphere from Cretaceous to Paleocene times ([Searle et al.,
194 1999](#)). The completely exposed 40–50 km-thick lithospheric section includes peridotites and
195 granulite-facies metagabbros at the base, amphibolite and greenschist-facies metasediments
196 intruded by layered gabbro-norites, and the gabbroic to granitic rocks of the main calcalkaline
197 batholith overlain by a volcano-sedimentary succession ([Jagoutz and Schmidt, 2012](#)).

198 Plagioclase-rich quartzo-litho-feldspathic sand of the Swat River contains abundant metabasite
199 (epidosite, amphibolite) grains with subordinate metapelite/metapsammite, mafic to felsic plutonic,
200 and serpentinite rock fragments. The extremely rich tHM suite is dominated by blue-green
201 hornblende associated with orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene, and epidote ([Garzanti et al., 2005](#); [Liang
202 et al., 2019](#)).

203

204 **3.4. Continental and island arcs**

205

206 Two-thirds of the studied samples were selected to provide a relatively wide panorama of
207 subduction-related OPX-bearing volcanic source rocks. Testing areas include east-facing island arcs
208 (Kamchatka Peninsula in eastern Russia and Taiwan Island) and west-facing continental arcs (four
209 samples collected at different latitudes along the Andean Cordillera in Argentina) in the Pacific
210 domain, one east-facing island arc in the Atlantic domain (Martinique Island), one island arc and
211 one continental arc associated with north-eastward and westward subduction in the Mediterranean
212 domain (Santorini Island in Greece and Tuscan Province in Italy, respectively), and the highest
213 volcano in Eurasia (Mt. Elbrus in the Northern Caucasus Range of southern Russia).

214

215 **3.4.1. Andean cordillera**

216

217 The Andean continental arc, generated by east-dipping subduction of Paleo-Pacific plates since
218 Jurassic times, consists of N/S-trending belts of mostly granite/granodiorite intrusions and andesite
219 lava flows ([Kay et al., 2005](#)). The southern Central Andes (Pampean segment) and northern
220 Southern Andes (Payenia and northern Patagonia segments) exhibit significant along strike
221 variation in subduction angle, degree of tectonic shortening, character and intensity of magmatism,
222 and exposed geological units.

223 The Pampean flat-slab segment between 27°S and 33°S is characterized by a ~ 600-km-long
224 volcanic gap and comprises a Jurassic–Cenozoic magmatic arc (Cordillera Principal),
225 Carboniferous–Triassic basement uplifts (Cordillera Frontal), a thin-skinned, fold-thrust belt
226 (Precordillera), and the adjacent broken retroarc basin with basement-cored block uplifts (Sierras
227 Pampeanas) (Ramos et al., 2002).

228 To the south, the Andes are characterized by the active Southern Volcanic Zone emplaced over
229 exhumed Jurassic to Miocene magmatic rocks of the Cordillera Principal, with a thin-skinned belt
230 locally involving basement, and a retroarc basin partitioned by broad and low-relief basement
231 uplifts (Ramos and Kay, 2006). Plio-Quaternary calcalkaline lavas are mostly andesites and dacites,
232 whereas the associated ignimbrites are mostly high-Si andesites, dacites and rhyolites.
233 Orthopyroxene, more abundant than clinopyroxene in dacitic lavas, shows little compositional
234 variation with lava differentiation (Mg# 85-70; Deruelle, 1982).

235 In the Payenia segment between 34°S and 37°S, extensive Quaternary basaltic fields constitute the
236 largest retroarc mafic volcanic province on Earth (Ramos & Folguera, 2011). Widely distributed
237 throughout the region and spanning from the Cordillera Principal to the retroarc basin are also
238 Upper Carboniferous to Lower Triassic igneous rocks of the Choiyoi Group, including basalts and
239 andesites in the lower part and rhyolitic lavas and ignimbrites in the upper part (Kleiman & Japas,
240 2009).

241 In modern sands derived from the eastern slopes of the central and southern Andes in Argentina,
242 orthopyroxene is observed to markedly increase southward from the Pampean flat-slab segment
243 drained by the Río Desaguadero, to the Payenia segment drained by the Río Colorado and its
244 headwater branch Río Grande, and to the northern Patagonia segment drained by the Río Agro
245 (Garzanti et al., 2021a, 2021b). The Río Desaguadero carries feldspatho-litho-quartzose sand with
246 felsic and subordinately intermediate and mafic volcanic grains derived from the Cordillera
247 Principal and Frontal associated with sedimentary and metamorphic rock fragments derived from
248 the Precordillera and Sierras Pampeanas; the moderately poor tHM suite contains clinopyroxene,
249 orthopyroxene, and amphibole in subequal proportions. The Río Grande and Río Colorado carry
250 quartzo-feldspatho-lithic sand with mostly mafic and intermediate volcanic rock fragments and
251 minor sedimentary grains; the rich tHM suite mainly contains clinopyroxene associated with
252 orthopyroxene, brown hornblende and oxy-hornblende, and a few olivine grains. The Río Agro, a
253 branch of Río Negro, carries litho-feldspathic sand dominated by plagioclase displaying spectacular
254 oscillatory zoning associated with mafic and intermediate volcanic rock fragments; the rich tHM
255 suite mostly consists of orthopyroxene with subordinate clinopyroxene and very few olivine and
256 amphibole grains.

257 3.4.2. *Luzon arc*

258

259 The Luzon intraoceanic arc, fed by the eastward subduction of the Eurasian Plate beneath the
260 Philippine Sea Plate, eventually collided with the Chinese continental margin in the late Miocene,
261 thus starting the growth of the Taiwan doubly-vergent orogenic wedge (Byrne et al., 2011). Luzon
262 Arc remnants are incorporated in the Coastal Range of eastern Taiwan Island, where middle to
263 upper Miocene (15-5 Ma) low-K tholeiitic to medium-K calc-alkaline basaltic to dacitic lava flows
264 and ignimbrites are exposed (Lai et al., 2017).

265 Feldspatho-lithic sand of the Gaoliao River, draining the western flank of the Chengkuang'ao
266 Volcano, contains mafic and subordinately intermediate volcanic rock fragments, plagioclase, and a
267 few shale/siltstone grains. The very rich tHM suite consists of clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene
268 with a few brown amphibole grains (Garzanti and Resentini, 2016).

269

270 3.4.3. *Kamchatka arc*

271

272 The Kamchatka arc lies above a long-lived subduction system. Active volcanoes are numerous in
273 southern Kamchatka, where magmatism is generated by westward subduction of NW Pacific
274 lithosphere beneath the Okhotsk Plate along the Kuril-Kamchatka Trench (Volynets et al., 2010).
275 Among these, the Avachinsky Volcano is characterized by porphyritic basaltic andesite and low-K
276 andesitic lavas and pyroclastic rocks (Viccaro et al., 2012).

277 Khalaktyrsky beach, situated near Petropavlosk south of the Avachinsky Volcano, consists of
278 plagioclase-dominated feldspatho-lithic sand with mostly mafic and subordinate intermediate
279 volcanic rock fragments. The extremely rich tHM suite consists mainly of orthopyroxene with
280 clinopyroxene and a few olivine and brown amphibole grains (Garzanti and Andò, 2007).

281

282 3.4.4. *Lesser Antilles arc*

283

284 The Lesser Antilles island chain is an intraoceanic volcanic arc generated by westward subduction
285 of the Atlantic Plate beneath the Caribbean Plate (Bouysse et al., 1990). Mont Pelée on Martinique
286 Island is a late Quaternary composite andesitic volcano largely made of pyroclastic deposits
287 produced by numerous Plinian, dome-forming, phreatomagmatic, and phreatic eruptions (Germa et
288 al., 2011). Most famous and deadliest was the 1902 eruption, when the city of Saint-Pierre was
289 destroyed by a *nuée ardente* resulting in ~30,000 casualties and very few survivors. Phenocrysts in
290 volcanic rocks are mainly plagioclase displaying oscillatory zoning, associated with olivine and
291 augitic clinopyroxene in basalts, with both clinopyroxene and orthopyroxene in andesites, and with
292 orthopyroxene in dacites (Dupuy et al., 1985).

293 Saint-Pierre beach, situated south of La Peleé Volcano, consists of plagioclase-dominated litho-

294 feldspathic sand with intermediate and mafic volcanic rock fragments. The extremely rich tHM
295 suite is orthopyroxene-dominated with clinopyroxene and a few brown amphibole grains ([Limonta
296 et al., 2015](#)).

297 298 *3.4.5. South Aegean (Hellenic) arc*

300 The South Aegean volcanic arc is generated by north-eastward subduction of Ionian oceanic
301 lithosphere beneath the extending Greek microplate ([Agostini et al., 2010](#)). The most active center
302 is the Santorini island group, built on Mesozoic to Paleogene metapelites and marbles by several
303 large explosive eruptions since ~2 Ma. The Akrotiri Volcanic Complex in the southern part of
304 Thera (the main island) consists of upper Pleistocene (650-550 ka) andesitic to dacitic lavas and
305 younger cinder cones ([Druitt et al., 1999](#)).

306 Red Beach on southern Thera is backed by a 60 m-high, up to 80°-dipping slope of red volcanic
307 rocks subject to high rockfall hazard ([Marinos et al., 2017](#)). Its plagioclase-dominated feldspatho-
308 lithic sand consists of mostly mafic and subordinate intermediate volcanic rock fragments. The
309 very rich tHM suite contains clinopyroxene with subordinate orthopyroxene, minor olivine, and a
310 few oxy-hornblende grains ([Garzanti and Andò, 2007](#)).

311 312 *3.4.6. Tuscan magmatic provenance*

313 Westward-subduction beneath the Apennines thrust-belt and opening of the Tyrrhenian back-arc
314 basin triggered extensive late Cenozoic magmatism, with significant contribution of the downgoing
315 Adriatic continental lithosphere to the felsic character of the Tuscan magmatic province ([Serri et al.
316 1993](#)). Mount Amiata in central Italy is a silicic volcano mainly consisting of trachydacitic lavas
317 and pyroclastic products erupted at ~300 ka, followed by trachydacitic and latitic lavas and domes,
318 with a terminal phase characterized by ultrapotassic olivine latite lavas ([Ferrari et al., 1996](#)).

320 The quartz-poor quartzo-lithic sand of the Orcia River, draining the Amiata volcano, mostly
321 consists of carbonate and shale/siltstone rock fragments with only a few and mostly felsic volcanic
322 grains and rare plagioclase. The moderately poor tHM suite is orthopyroxene-dominated with a few
323 clinopyroxene grains ([Garzanti et al., 2002b](#)).

324 325 *3.4.7. Greater Caucasus*

326 The Greater Caucasus marks the northernmost deformation front of the Arabia-Eurasia collision
327 zone, where accelerated exhumation in the central part of the range has been associated with mantle-
328 sourced magmatism since the late Miocene ([Vincent et al., 2020](#)). In this region rises the late
329 Quaternary Elbrus stratovolcano, characterized by mainly dacitic lavas and pyroclastic rocks
330

331 ([Lebedev et al., 2010](#)).

332 Feldspatho-lithic sand of the Baksan River, draining the southern flank of the Elbrus Volcano,
333 contains intermediate to mafic volcanic grains with zoned plagioclase or pyroxene phenocrysts.
334 Moderately rich tHM suites are orthopyroxene-dominated with oxy-hornblende and only a few
335 clinopyroxene and zircon grains ([Vezzoli et al., 2020](#)).

336

337 **3.5. Continental rifts**

338

339 As a major difference with respect to subduction-related orogenic lavas, anorogenic volcanic rocks
340 generally lack orthopyroxene. Exceptions however occur. To represent OPX-bearing lavas
341 generated in continental-rift settings we have chosen one sand sample derived from the Virunga
342 volcanic province in Rwanda.

343 In the western branch of the East African Rift, mainly potassic to ultrapotassic volcanism restricted
344 to accommodation zones between extensional basins initiated at 13-12 Ma and shows a northward
345 increase in alkaline character and CO₂ content ([Ebinger and Furman 2003](#); [Pouclet et al., 2016](#)).

346 The Virunga district includes two active volcanoes in Congo and six extinct volcanoes and small
347 cones in Rwanda, where lavas largely erupted in the last 150 ka range from olivine-rich potassic
348 basanites to K-rich or Na-rich trachybasalts. Silica-saturated K-trachytes or latites with
349 orthopyroxene, less titaniferous clinopyroxene, and alkali-feldspar were erupted only from the early
350 Pleistocene Sabinyo Volcano ([Rogers et al. 1998](#)).

351 Feldspatho-lithic sand of the Muhe River, sourced from the Sabinyo Volcano, is dominated by
352 mostly mafic volcanic rock fragments with abundant sanidine microliths set in a glassy groundmass
353 associated with larger calcic plagioclase phenocrysts. The extremely rich tHM suite consists of
354 clinopyroxene and subordinate orthopyroxene, olivine, and rare apatite and epidote ([Garzanti et al.,
355 2013](#)).

356

357 **4. Methods**

358

359 **4.1. Petrographic and heavy-mineral analyses**

360

361 A quartered fraction of each of the 15 selected sand samples was impregnated with epoxy resin, cut
362 into a standard thin section, and analysed by counting ~400 points according to the Gazzi-
363 Dickinson QFL method ([Ingersoll et al. 1984](#)). To collect full information on all rock fragment
364 types and recalculate petrographic parameters according to both Gazzi-Dickinson QFL and
365 traditional QFR methods we used a detailed point-counting sheet that allows the simultaneous
366 registration of the mineral beneath the cross hair and of the rock fragment in which the mineral is

367 located (figure 5 in [Garzanti, 2019](#)). Sands were classified according to the proportions of the three
368 main groups of framework components (Q = quartz; F = feldspars; L = lithic fragments;
369 classification scheme after [Garzanti, 2019](#)). Median grain size was determined in thin section by
370 ranking and visual comparison with standards of $\phi/4$ classes prepared by sieving in our laboratory.
371 From a split aliquot of a conveniently wide size-window obtained by wet sieving (ranging from 63-
372 250 μm to bulk sample for the best sorted sand), heavy minerals were separated by centrifuging in
373 Na-polytungstate (2.90 g/cm^3) and recovered by partial freezing with liquid nitrogen ([Andò, 2020](#)).
374 In grain mounts, ≥ 200 transparent heavy minerals for each sample were either grain-counted by the
375 area method or point-counted at appropriate regular spacing to obtain correct volume percentages
376 ([Garzanti and Andò 2019](#)). Analyses were carried out by routinely coupling observations under the
377 optical microscope and the Raman spectroscopy. Transparent heavy-mineral assemblages, called for
378 brevity “tHM suites” throughout the text, are defined as the spectrum of extrabasinal detrital
379 minerals with density $>2.90\text{ g/cm}^3$ identifiable under a transmitted-light microscope. In the studied
380 samples, their concentration (tHMC) ranges from moderately poor to extremely rich (1-2% and $>$
381 20% of total extrabasinal detritus). Full information on samples and sampling sites, and the
382 complete petrographic and heavy-mineral datasets are provided in [Appendix Tables A1, A2, and](#)
383 [A3](#), respectively.

384

385 ***4.2. Optical and Raman spectroscopy analyses***

386

387 For each of the 15 studied samples another split aliquot of the separated $> 2.90\text{ g/cm}^3$ fraction was
388 mounted on Huntsman Araldite® DBF resin and polished. On photographic maps of the mounts,
389 each pyroxene grain was labelled by a progressive number. On each sample, a preliminary
390 investigation on numerous orthopyroxene grains selected at random was carried out under a
391 polarized Leica DM750 microscope, and the main optical features (i.e., colour, pleochroism, habit,
392 z/c angle, birefringence, elongation, interference figures, optical sign) were recorded for 458 grains
393 overall.

394 Taking care to avoid inclusions and weathering patinas, 500 Raman spectra overall were collected
395 with a high-resolution Renishaw inVia™ equipped with a Leica DM2500 polarizing microscope
396 and motorized x-y stages, using a 50 \times LWD (long working distance) objective, a solid-state 532 nm
397 laser, and a grating of 1800 lines/mm in the 140–1900 cm^{-1} range. Acquisition time was ~ 40 s,
398 space resolution $< 5\ \mu\text{m}$, spectral resolution $\pm 0.5\ \text{cm}^{-1}$, and power ≤ 10 mW at the sample.
399 Calibration was done before each experimental session with a silicon wafer standard (peak at 520.7
400 cm^{-1}). To expand the dataset and test its quality and reliability, 40 grains from different samples and
401 characterised by diverse Mg# were investigated at the University of Parma with a high-resolution

402 Horiba LabRam HR Evolution confocal micro-spectrometer (800 mm focal length) equipped with
403 an Olympus BX41 microscope and x-y-z motorized stage using a 100× objective, a He-Ne (632.8
404 nm) laser, and a 600 grooves/mm blazed grating. Acquisition time was 50 s, space resolution ~1 μm,
405 spectral resolution better than 0.5 cm⁻¹. Full widths at half maximum (FWHM) were measured on
406 these high-resolution spectra.

407 The software LABSPEC 5 (Horiba Ltd.) was used for baseline subtraction. Peak positions were
408 measured by the Gaussian–Lorentzian (pseudo-Voigt) deconvolution method, reaching an accuracy
409 of ± 0.3 cm⁻¹. The results of Raman analyses are provided in [Appendix Tables A4](#) and [A5](#).

410

411 **4.3. SEM-EDS minerochemistry**

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413 The 15 grain mounts were coated with graphite and over 600 analyses were made at the SEM-EDS
414 (scanning electron microscopy-energy dispersive spectrometer), exactly on the same spot analysed
415 by Raman spectroscopy, on 350 selected grains yielding higher, medium, and lower frequency
416 Raman peaks reflecting higher, medium, and lower Mg content. By combining observations of the
417 very same grains at the optical microscope, Raman spectroscopy, and scanning electron microscope
418 we could thus compare and confidently correlate optical properties, position of Raman peaks, and
419 chemical compositions of 350 orthopyroxene grains.

420 Minerochemical analyses were carried out at the University of Milano-Bicocca with a TESCAN
421 VEGA TS Univac 5136 XM set with a EDAX GENESIS 4000 XMS Imaging 60 SEM electronic
422 microprobe, under an electron beam of 20-kV high voltage, 250-nm spot size, 45° take-off angle,
423 and current absorption 190±1 pA, measured in platinum Faraday cup. The quantification of main
424 elements (Mg, Fe, Ca, Na, Si, and Al) was calibrated with Astimex Scientific standards.
425 Compositions were calculated using PX-NOM software ([Sturm, 2002](#)) following the nomenclature
426 of [Morimoto et al. \(1988\)](#). The complete dataset of SEM-EDS analyses is provided in [Appendix](#)
427 [Tables A6](#) and [A7](#).

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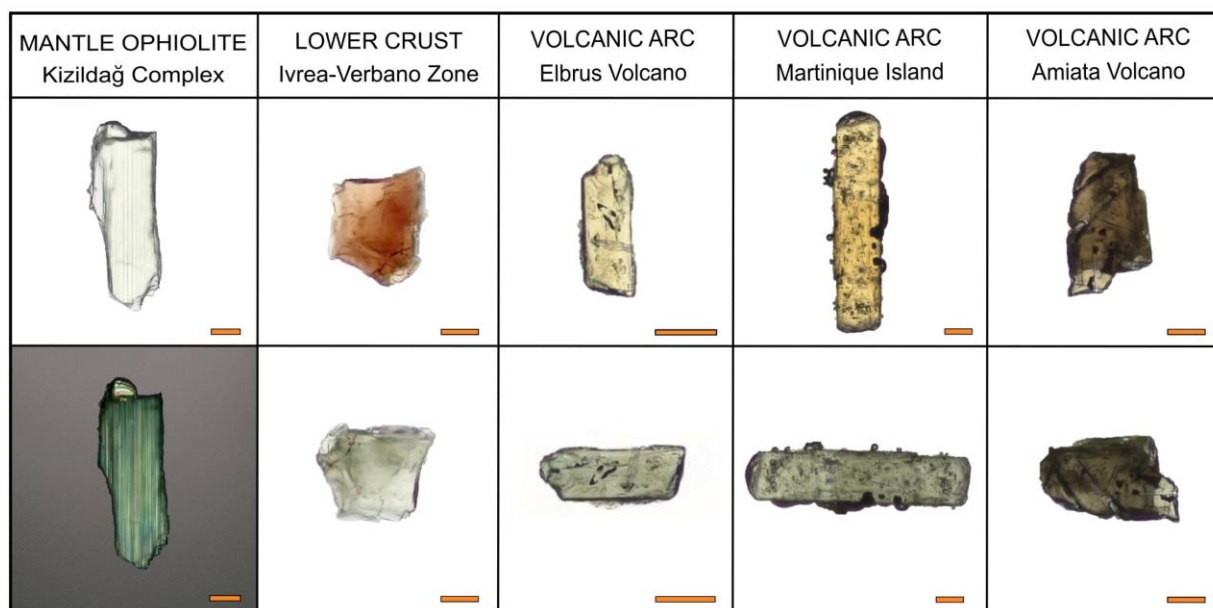
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437 **5. Results**

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439 **5.1. Optical observations**

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Figure 2. Typical optical features displayed by orthopyroxene grains derived from mantle, lower crustal, and volcanic rocks. Enstatite *s.s.* from the Kizildağ harzburgite is shown both at parallel and crossed polarizers, whereas other orthopyroxenes are rotated by 90° to show their characteristic pleochroism. Scale bar: 100 µm.

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Under the polarized microscope, virtually colourless and optically positive enstatite *s.s.*, which dominates the tHM assemblage of the two sands derived from the Kizildağ and Sama'il mantle harzburgites where it commonly contains exsolution lamellae of clinopyroxene (Fig. 2), is readily distinguished from pleochroic hypersthene *s.l.*, which is dominant in all other samples. Pleochroism intensity and colour vary depending on the observed crystal face: only the {100} face – most commonly observed in grain mounts – shows strong pleochroism with yellow to pink *versus* green shades, whereas the {010} face displays only greenish shades (Tröger, 1979; Mange and Maurer, 1992). Pleochroism is a complex phenomenon variously ascribed to: i) iron content and ordering; ii) presence of Ti, Mn, Cr, Ni, or Al ions; iii) oriented inclusions and lamellae; iv) Al-driven lattice distortion (Kuno, 1954; Burns, 1966).

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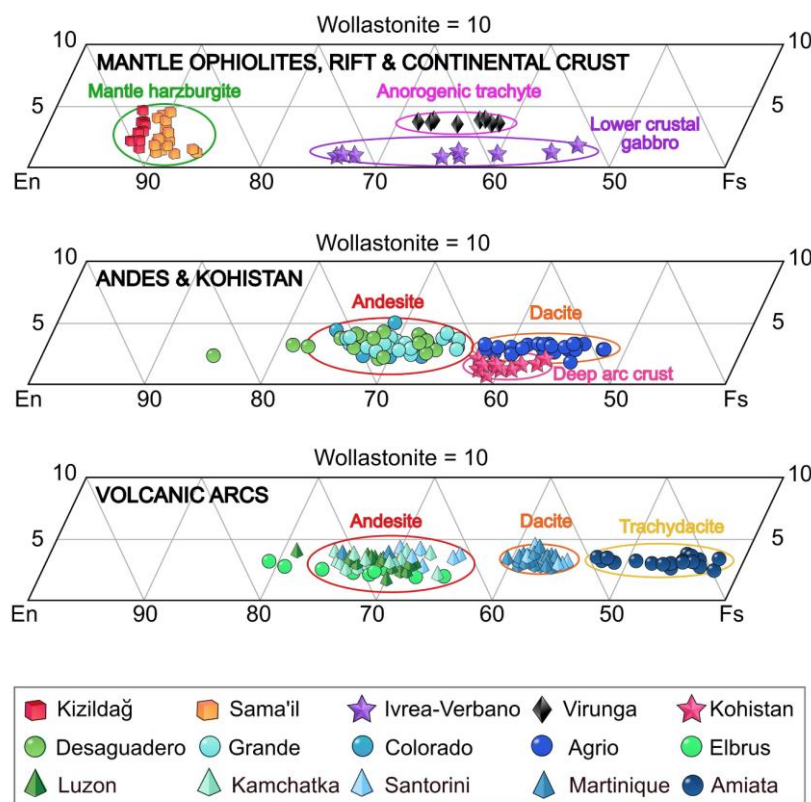
In this study, we failed to see a clear correlation between Mg# and pleochroism intensity, and noticed numerous Fe-rich orthopyroxene grains showing weak colour. Most evident is the difference in pleochroism between yellow-orange/green orthopyroxene derived from effusive volcanic rocks and pink-reddish/green orthopyroxene derived from deep-crustal Ivrea-Verbano and Kohistan intrusive rocks (Jan and Howie, 1980) (Fig. 2).

461 **5.2. SEM-EDS minerochemical data**
 462

Geodynamic setting	Unit		SiO ₂ wt%	TiO ₂ wt%	Al ₂ O ₃ wt%	FeO wt%	MnO wt%	MgO wt%	CaO wt%	K ₂ O wt%	Na ₂ O wt%	Cr ₂ O ₃ wt%	Mg#	En mol%	Fe mol%	Wo mol%
OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Kizilıdađ	Mean	56.6	b.d.l.	2.0	5.6	0.02	33.8	1.5	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.8	0.92	88.9	8.3	2.9
		Max	57.3	b.d.l.	2.5	5.9	0.2	34.5	2.3	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	1.0	0.96	89.9	8.7	4.2
		Min	56.0	b.d.l.	1.6	5.2	b.d.l.	33.2	0.9	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.6	0.91	88.1	7.7	1.6
	Sema'il	Mean	55.4	0.3	2.2	6.8	0.3	32.2	1.2	0.1	0.3	1.1	0.91	87.0	10.7	2.3
		Max	56.6	0.4	3.3	8.8	0.4	33.3	2.1	0.3	0.4	1.4	0.94	88.4	13.9	4.1
		Min	54.3	0.2	0.8	5.8	0.2	31.6	0.6	b.d.l.	0.08	0.7	0.87	84.9	9.3	1.1
CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano	Mean	52.6	0.02	2.4	21.4	0.6	22.2	0.5	b.d.l.	0.02	b.d.l.	0.65	63.4	35.5	1.1
		Max	54.9	0.2	3.6	27.4	0.8	26.5	0.8	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.75	72.9	46.4	1.7
		Min	51.3	b.d.l.	1.6	16.3	0.4	17.6	0.4	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.53	51.9	26.1	0.9
	Kohistan	Mean	51.5	b.d.l.	1.7	24.3	0.5	20.4	0.8	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.61	58.5	40.0	1.6
		Max	52.7	b.d.l.	2.2	25.9	0.8	21.4	1.1	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.63	60.7	43.3	2.4
		Min	50.9	b.d.l.	1.0	23.1	0.3	18.7	0.4	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.57	54.3	37.6	0.7
CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)	Mean	53.9	0.6	1.2	18.0	0.3	24.5	1.6	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.73	68.3	28.5	3.2
		Max	56.2	0.8	2.7	21.1	0.5	30.8	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.88	82.9	33.7	4.2
		Min	52.3	0.3	0.5	9.7	0.1	22.2	1.0	0.06	0.1	b.d.l.	0.66	63.5	14.8	2.0
	Río Grande (Argentina)	Mean	54.7	0.5	0.9	17.1	0.4	23.2	1.5	0.2	0.4	b.d.l.	0.69	66.7	30.2	3.1
		Max	55.8	0.7	1.6	21.4	0.6	25.5	1.9	0.3	0.8	b.d.l.	0.74	71.7	35.4	3.9
		Min	53.5	0.3	0.2	15.7	0.2	21.1	1.0	0.1	0.2	b.d.l.	0.64	61.3	25.2	2.2
	Río Colorado (Argentina)	Mean	53.9	0.2	0.7	18.6	0.9	24.1	1.6	b.d.l.	0.3	0.02	0.71	66.7	30.3	3.1
		Max	55.1	0.4	1.3	22.0	1.7	26.3	2.4	b.d.l.	0.6	0.3	0.80	71.3	35.6	4.8
		Min	53.1	0.1	0.5	15.4	0.5	21.5	1.1	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.65	61.4	24.3	2.2
	Río Agrio (Argentina)	Mean	53.0	0.4	0.7	24.8	0.6	18.8	1.5	b.d.l.	0.3	b.d.l.	0.58	55.1	41.7	3.2
		Max	54.9	0.7	2.4	27.0	1.1	24.8	2.0	b.d.l.	0.8	b.d.l.	0.74	71.2	44.2	4.2
		Min	50.7	0.2	0.3	15.3	0.3	17.5	1.3	b.d.l.	0.05	b.d.l.	0.55	52.9	25.1	2.5
VOLCANIC ARC	Taiwan	Mean	53.2	0.4	1.2	18.2	0.5	24.8	1.5	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.73	68.2	28.9	2.9
		Max	54.2	0.5	1.7	20.1	0.7	27.5	2.0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.83	74.9	31.7	3.8
		Min	52.0	0.2	0.7	13.4	b.d.l.	23.6	0.8	b.d.l.	0.09	b.d.l.	0.70	65.4	21.2	1.6
	Kamchatka	Mean	52.5	0.4	1.4	17.9	0.4	25.0	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.09	0.75	68.7	28.2	3.1
		Max	53.5	0.6	2.4	21.1	0.7	26.3	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.80	71.7	34.2	4.0
		Min	51.5	0.3	0.6	15.9	0.2	22.7	1.0	0.04	0.1	b.d.l.	0.68	63.5	24.6	2.1
	Martinique	Mean	50.5	0.4	0.9	26.1	1.2	19.4	1.4	b.d.l.	0.2	0.3	0.61	54.2	43.0	2.8
		Max	53.4	0.7	1.8	29.4	1.5	21.9	1.6	b.d.l.	0.4	0.5	0.69	59.3	48.1	3.2
		Min	48.4	0.2	0.3	23.5	0.8	17.3	0.9	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.1	0.53	49.2	37.7	1.7
	Santorini	Mean	51.0	0.4	0.8	22.7	0.9	22.4	1.6	0.1	0.2	0.01	0.66	59.9	36.9	3.2
		Max	53.6	0.6	1.3	26.7	1.4	43.5	2.2	0.2	0.3	0.07	0.72	66.4	44.9	4.4
		Min	50.7	0.3	b.d.l.	16.1	0.3	18.2	0.4	0.05	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.58	52.1	19.2	0.5
Amiata	Mean	49.8	0.4	0.6	32.0	0.4	14.7	1.5	0.2	0.1	b.d.l.	0.47	43.3	53.6	3.1	
	Max	51.5	0.7	1.4	35.0	0.7	17.0	1.8	0.4	0.4	b.d.l.	0.54	49.3	57.9	3.7	
	Min	48.5	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	28.6	0.2	13.2	1.1	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.41	38.9	47.3	2.4	
Elbrus	Mean	54.2	0.4	1.3	17.2	0.5	25.7	1.3	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.2	0.73	70.2	27.3	2.5	
	Max	55.1	0.4	2.6	21.7	0.8	29.0	1.6	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.5	0.81	77.7	34.9	3.1	
	Min	52.8	0.2	0.5	12.5	0.3	22.9	1.0	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.65	63.3	19.2	1.9	
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga	Mean	52.1	0.5	0.9	22.3	0.2	20.9	1.6	b.d.l.	0.2	0.2	0.63	60.2	36.4	3.4
		Max	52.9	0.5	1.1	25.6	0.3	22.8	1.8	b.d.l.	0.3	0.3	0.69	64.8	42.1	3.6
		Min	51.4	0.4	0.5	19.7	0.2	18.7	1.5	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.57	54.6	31.8	3.2

463 **Table 2.** Chemical composition of detrital orthopyroxenes analyzed by SEM-EDS. Note high Si and Cr in
 464 Mg-rich OPX from mantle rocks and low Ca in OPX from lower-crustal Ivrea-Verbano metagabbros and
 465 Kohistan arc intrusives; all these OPX are Ti-poor. Fe-rich OPX from Mt. Amiata is poor in Si and Al. No
 466 distinctive features are displayed by OPX from Virunga trachytes. Mg#: Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio; En:
 467 enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite; b.d.l.: below detection limit.

469 As anticipated (e.g., Dilek & Newcomb, 2003), detrital orthopyroxene from mantle rocks yielded
 470 much higher Cr (0.9±0.2 wt% Cr₂O₃) and Mg concentrations (Mg# 0.92±0.02; En 88±1) than all
 471 other samples (Cr₂O₃ ≤ 0.5 wt%; Mg# 0.67±0.07; En 63±7). SiO₂ is also high, whereas TiO₂ is low
 472 (Table 2). Mg# is highest in Kizilıdađ-derived sand and Cr highest in the Sama'il-derived sand (Fig.
 473 3).



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Figure 3. Chemical composition of detrital orthopyroxenes determined by SEM-EDS. The 350 analyzed grains from 15 sand samples provide a statistical representation of a range of source-rock lithologies at different structural levels of continental crust, arc crust, and oceanic lithosphere. Only a few grains yielded En values between 85 and 75. En: enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite. Colour codes similar as in Fig. 6.

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Detrital orthopyroxenes from lower-crustal Ivrea-Verbano granulitic metagabbros and Kohistan intrusive rocks are singled out by their calcium content, notably lower ($Wo\ 1.3\pm 0.4\%$) than both mantle-derived ($Wo\ 2.4\pm 0.9\%$) and volcanic-derived orthopyroxene ($Wo\ 3.1\pm 0.6\%$). It must be noted, however, that Ca determination by SEM-EDS may be influenced by the presence of clinopyroxene or plagioclase impurities (Lindh, 1975). Ivrea-Verbano orthopyroxenes show two populations (Mg# 73-71 and 64-52), whereas Kohistan orthopyroxenes are tightly clustered (Mg# 0.61 ± 0.2) (Fig. 3). TiO_2 is also low (Table 2).

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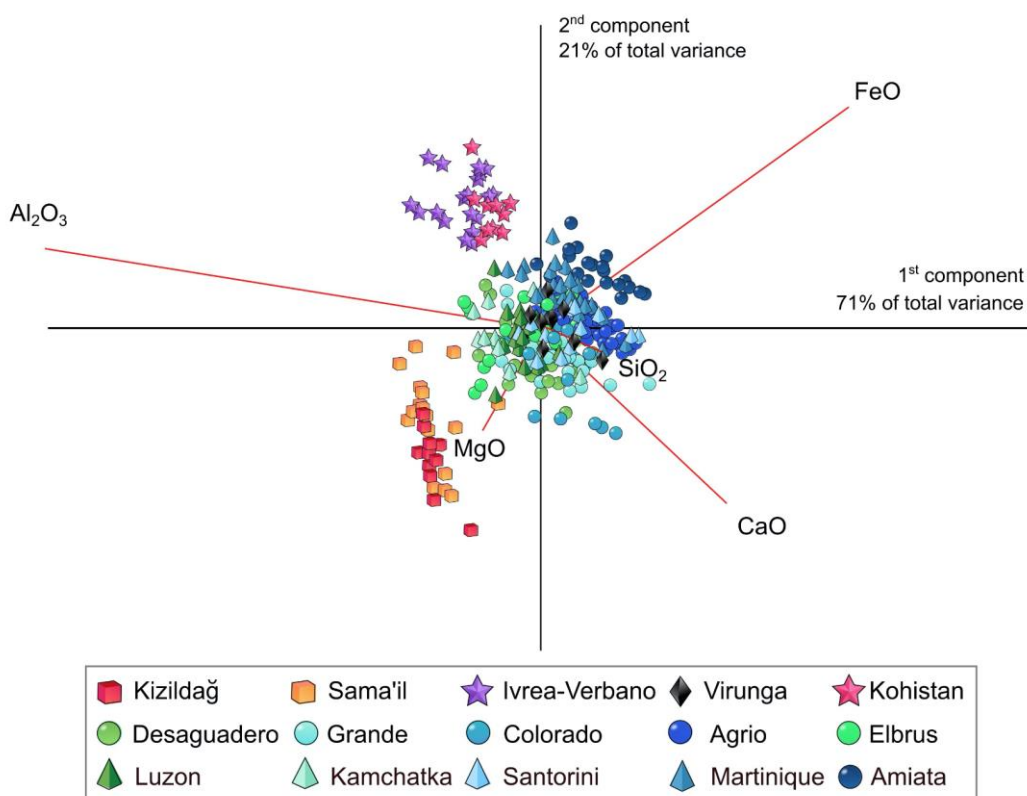
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Detrital orthopyroxene in the 10 studied sands derived from intraoceanic to continental volcanic arcs yielded compositions ranging widely from Mg# 80 to Mg# 40, broadly showing three clusters. The main cluster centered at Mg# 70 comprises orthopyroxene grains derived from andesites of the Andean Cordillera and carried by the Desaguadero, Grande, and Colorado Rivers. Slightly richer in Mg are orthopyroxenes from the Luzon Arc in Taiwan, Elbrus Volcano in the Greater Caucasus, and Avachinsky Volcano in Kamchatka, and the few richest Mg-rich grains (Mg# 80-75) were found in Desaguadero, Colorado, Elbrus, Kamchatka, and Taiwan sands (Fig. 3). A second main

494 cluster centered at Mg# 55 comprises orthopyroxene grains derived from dacites of the Andean
495 Cordillera and carried by the Agrio River or found in the Saint Pierre beach on Martinique Island.
496 Both of these two main clusters are represented in the Red beach on Santorini Island (Fig. 3). A
497 third cluster (Mg# 50-40) is defined by the Fe-rich orthopyroxene grains shed by the trachydacites
498 of the Amiata Volcano in Tuscany, which are poor in SiO₂ and Al₂O₃ (Table 2).
499 Detrital orthopyroxene from the rift-related Virunga trachytes (Mg# 0.62±0.03; En 60±3) can
500 hardly be distinguished from grains shed by volcanic arcs, although they tend to have slightly more
501 Ca (Wo 3.5±0.3) (Fig. 3).
502 According to the traditional classification (Poldervaart, 1947), orthopyroxene grains from the
503 Kizildağ harzburgites (En 90-88) will all classify as enstatite, whereas some grains from Sema'il
504 harzburgites (En 88-85) turned out to be magnesium-rich bronzites despite their very similar optical
505 properties (Fig. 2). Iron-rich bronzites (Mg# 0.8-0.7) are the most common orthopyroxene in
506 Kamchatka, Elbrus and Taiwan sands and are as common as magnesium-rich hypersthene (Mg#
507 0.7-0.6) in most Andean samples (Desaguadero, Grande, and Colorado Rivers). Hypersthene is
508 prevalent in Ivrea-Verbano sand derived from lower crustal metagabbros and dominant in Kohistan
509 sand derived from arc intrusives as in Virunga sand derived from rift-related trachytes. Hypersthene
510 with bimodal composition (Mg# 0.7-0.65 and 0.6-0.55) characterizes Santorini beach sand. Low-
511 magnesium hypersthene (Mg# 0.6-0.55) dominates Agrio sand from dacites of the Andean
512 Cordillera. Fe-hypersthene is found and dominant only in sand from the silicic Amiata Volcano.
513 SEM-EDS analyses also highlighted the relationships among the concentrations of diverse chemical
514 elements in orthopyroxene. This issue was investigated by Howie and Smith (1966), who found that
515 Mg# correlates well with Cr, Ni and Al, anticorrelates with Ca and Mn, and is uncorrelated with Ti.
516 In the 350 analysed detrital orthopyroxenes, Mg# correlates positively with SiO₂ (r 0.70), Al₂O₃ (r
517 0.58), and Cr₂O₃ (r 0.62), whereas no correlation was observed with CaO (Fig. 4). TiO₂ correlates
518 with CaO (r 0.60), K₂O (r 0.44), and Na₂O (r 0.37). MnO correlates weakly positively with FeO (r
519 0.33) and negatively with all other elements. Al₂O₃ correlates weakly negatively with CaO (r 0.38).



520

521 **Figure 4.** Relationships among major chemical elements hosted in detrital orthopyroxenes as determined by
 522 SEM-EDS. OPX from mantle harzburgites is highest in Mg, OPX from lower continental and arc crust
 523 poorest in Ca. Volcanic OPX, poorer in Al, displays decreasing Mg# from andesite to dacite and more felsic
 524 source rocks. Arc and rift-related volcanic OPX are not different. The biplot (Gabriel, 1971) drawn using
 525 CoDaPack software by Comas-Cufí and Thió-Henestrosa, 2011) displays multivariate observations (points)
 526 and variables (rays). The length of each ray is proportional to the variance of each element in the dataset. If
 527 the angle between two rays is close to 0°, 90°, and 180°, then the corresponding compositional parameters
 528 are directly correlated, uncorrelated, and inversely correlated, respectively. Colour codes similar as in Fig. 6.

529

530 6. Raman spectroscopy analysis of orthopyroxene

531 A main goal of this study was to provide a robust time-saving method to estimate Mg# and thus
 532 distinguish among several orthopyroxene compositions during routine provenance analysis. About
 533 500 Raman spectra were collected, 350 of which were related to the chemical composition.

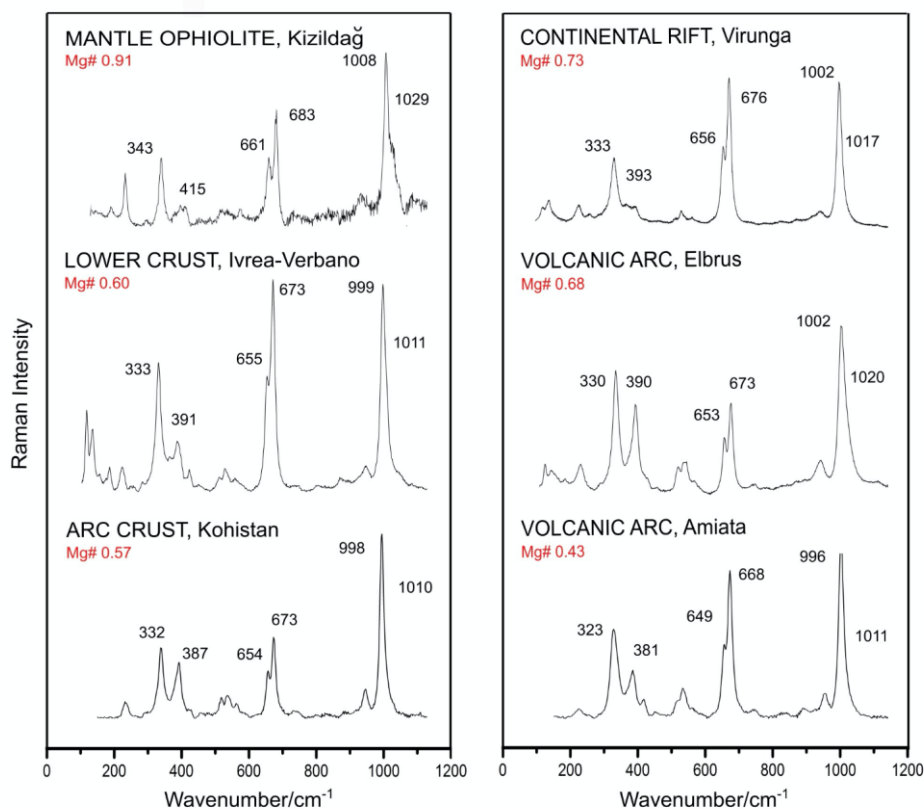
534 After baseline subtraction and deconvolution (Fig. 5), all peak positions were reported in Excel™
 535 sheets. The 300-400 cm⁻¹ cluster was considered as the sum of four vibrational modes (v₁ and v₂
 536 being those with the lowest and highest frequencies). The six most intense and clearly
 537 distinguishable peaks were considered for Mg# estimation (Table 3): v₁ (~ 330 cm⁻¹); v₂ (~ 395 cm⁻¹);
 538 v₃ (~ 655 cm⁻¹); v₄ (~ 675 cm⁻¹); v₅ (~ 1002 cm⁻¹); and v₆ (~ 1020 cm⁻¹). Plots in Fig. 6 permit an

539 accurate correlation among vibrational modes and Mg content in orthopyroxene, thus allowing a
 540 ready estimate of Mg# during routine provenance analysis.
 541

Geodynamic setting	Unit	Mg#		V ₁ cm ⁻¹	V ₂ cm ⁻¹	V ₃ cm ⁻¹	V ₄ cm ⁻¹	V ₅ cm ⁻¹	V ₆ cm ⁻¹
OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Kiziildağ	0.92	Mean	343.4	400.8	662.1	683.8	1011.5	1030.1
		0.96	Max	344.3	402.3	662.7	684.6	1012.9	1031.0
		0.91	Min	342.1	398.5	661.4	683	1010.1	1028.4
	Sema'il	0.91	Mean	343.5	400.5	661.9	683.9	1010.3	1030.5
		0.94	Max	345.0	403.8	662.8	684.9	1012.6	1033.1
		0.87	Min	341.2	397.8	661.2	683.3	1009.7	1027.1
CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano	0.65	Mean	335.9	393.6	654.8	675.6	1000.1	1014.6
		0.75	Max	340.8	402.1	658.0	679.4	1004.2	1022.1
		0.53	Min	332.5	384.2	652.4	672.1	996.7	1007.0
	Kohistan	0.61	Mean	334.7	389.8	654.6	674.3	999.3	1013.6
		0.63	Max	336.7	399.2	656.2	676.0	1001.0	1021.1
		0.57	Min	332.2	382.0	652.7	672.5	997.6	1009.4
CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)	0.73	Mean	333.7	394.4	656.1	675.8	1003.8	1021.9
		0.88	Max	340.9	401.1	660.0	681.6	1007.8	1030.5
		0.66	Min	331.0	387.3	654.1	673.5	1001.5	1016.8
	Río Grande (Argentina)	0.69	Mean	331.8	393.0	655.3	674.6	1002.9	1019.9
		0.74	Max	335.7	397.4	657.4	676.6	1005.2	1024.4
		0.64	Min	326.6	387.9	652.8	672.0	1000.3	1016.3
	Río Colorado (Argentina)	0.71	Mean	332.9	394.5	655.9	675.3	1003.1	1018.2
		0.80	Max	335.1	403.4	657.7	677.2	1005.0	1022.9
		0.65	Min	330.5	390.0	654.3	673.3	1001.2	1012.8
	Río Agrio (Argentina)	0.58	Mean	329.6	390.2	653.3	672.5	1000.9	1015.1
		0.74	Max	336.4	397.6	656.8	677.5	1005.2	1023.4
		0.55	Min	328.4	386.8	652.6	671.6	999.8	1010.4
VOLCANIC ARC	Taiwan	0.73	Mean	333.8	395.0	656.4	676.2	1003.6	1019.7
		0.83	Max	336.2	399.5	658.2	678.1	1006.5	1024.9
		0.70	Min	326.4	392.4	655.5	675.1	1002.3	1011.0
	Kamchatka	0.75	Mean	333.5	393.8	656.0	675.7	1003.6	1021.9
		0.80	Max	336.3	398.0	657.4	677.4	1005.9	1026.3
		0.68	Min	329.0	389.3	653.0	673.2	1001.4	1016.4
	Martinique	0.61	Mean	329.9	390.5	653.6	672.3	1000.0	1014.9
		0.69	Max	332.8	397.4	655.1	674.0	1001.7	1019.8
		0.53	Min	328.0	385.7	652.0	670.9	998.3	1011.8
	Santorini	0.66	Mean	330.8	392.1	654.2	673.4	1001.8	1018.4
		1.00	Max	334.2	402.4	660.8	676.6	1006.7	1022.8
		0.58	Min	327.9	386.9	651.4	670.8	999.7	1013.8
Amiata	0.47	Mean	324.9	384.8	650.0	668.7	996.6	1010.4	
	0.54	Max	328.3	395.3	651.7	670.2	997.5	1016.9	
	0.41	Min	322.1	377.1	648.9	667.5	995.8	1001.4	
Elbrus	0.73	Mean	333.5	395.7	655.9	675.8	1002.6	1019.5	
	0.81	Max	339.1	400.9	659.3	680.0	1006.5	1024.9	
	0.65	Min	326.7	387.7	652.6	671.9	999.7	1008.2	
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga	0.63	Mean	331.1	390.8	654.1	673.1	1000.9	1016.7
		0.69	Max	332.5	395.7	655.6	674.6	1004.5	1021.6
		0.57	Min	328.9	386.8	652.5	671.7	999.2	1012.6

542

543 **Table 3.** Mean, minimum and maximum Raman peak positions (vibrational modes v1 to v6) distinctive of
 544 detrital orthopyroxene derived from a range of mantle, deep crustal, and volcanic rocks representing different
 545 geodynamic settings. Mg#: Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio.



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Figure 5. Selected Raman spectra of orthopyroxene grains from diverse source rocks in different geodynamic settings. Baseline subtraction was obtained with Labspec 5 software. Greater background noise for Cr-rich harzburgite-derived OPX is ascribed to Cr-induced fluorescence (Savel'eva et al., 2013). Peaks are stronger for more ordered OPX derived from lower-crustal granulitic metagabbro. In the low-wavelength spectral region, peaks' shape and relative intensity depends on crystal orientation.

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As previously documented (e.g., Wang et al., 2001; Stalder et al., 2009), Raman peak positions are linearly correlated to Mg content (right panels in Fig. 6) and one to the other (selected peak combinations are shown in left panels of Fig. 6). Six formulas to calculate Mg content from peak frequencies were thus obtained (Table 4).

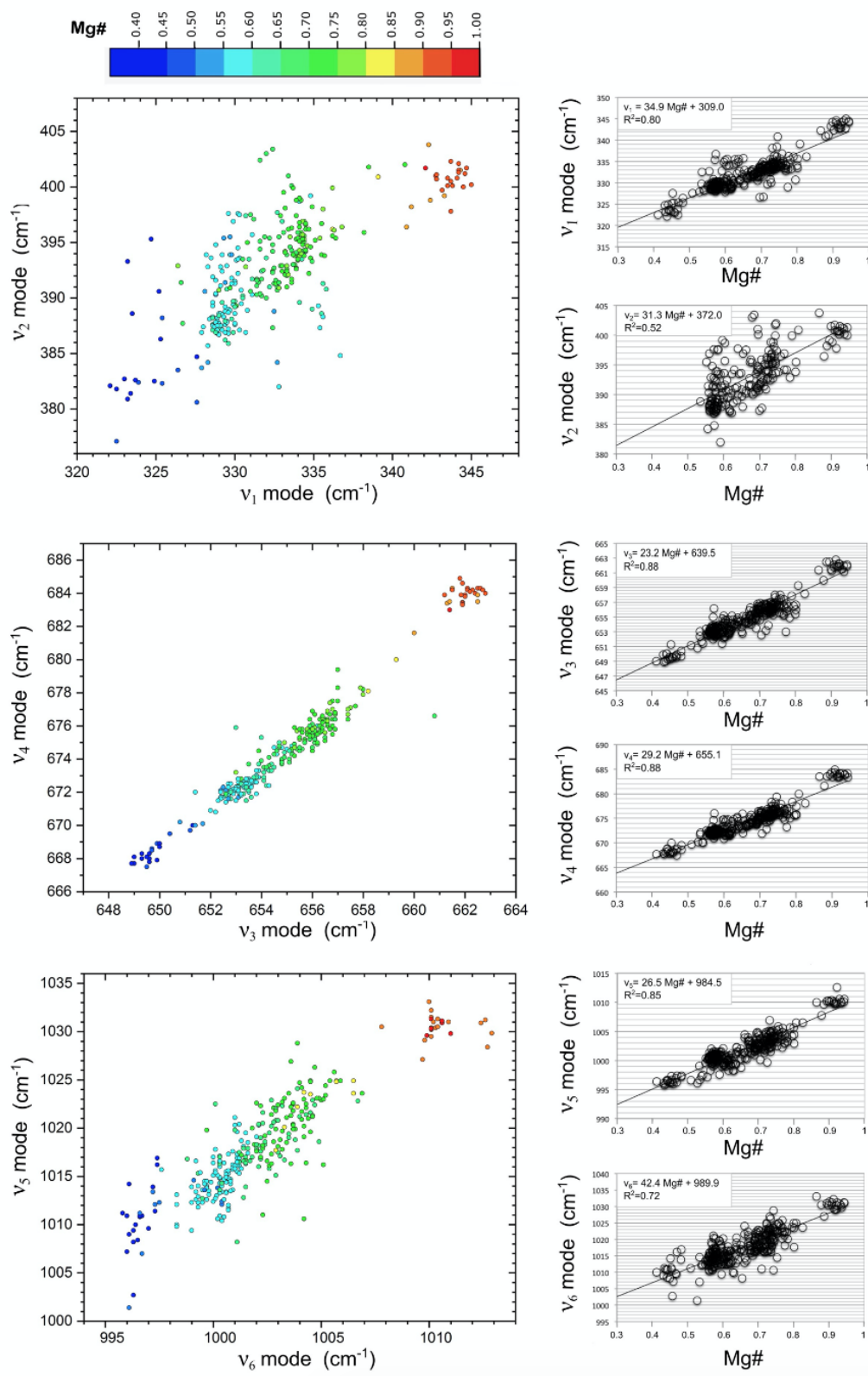
Vibrational modes	Equations (cm ⁻¹)	R ²	σMg#
v ₁ (~ 330 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₁ - 309.0) / 34.9	0.8	0.19
v ₂ (~ 395 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₂ - 372.0) / 31.3	0.52	0.31
v ₃ (~ 655 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₃ - 639.5) / 23.2	0.88	0.15
v ₄ (~ 675 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₄ - 655.1) / 29.2	0.88	0.13
v ₅ (~ 1002 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₅ - 984.5) / 26.5	0.85	0.16
v ₆ (~ 1020 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₆ - 989.9) / 42.4	0.72	0.21

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558

Table 4. Mg# calculated from Raman peak positions. R² and σMg# represent the proportion of the variation and expected uncertainty when Mg# is derived from the value of a single Raman peak.



559

560 **Figure 6.** Sensitivity of Raman peak positions to Mg# in detrital orthopyroxene as determined by SEM-EDS.561 The best correlation between peak position and Mg# is obtained for vibrational modes v_3 and v_4 , which562 display excellent linear correlation with each other (middle panel to the right). Among other peaks, v_1 , v_5 ,563 and v_6 can be used to increase the accuracy of Mg# determination, whereas v_2 is least reliable. Colour scale

564 reflects decreasing Mg# from red (Mg# 1.0) to blue (Mg# 0.4).

565 The correlation is strongest for ν_1 , ν_3 , ν_4 , and ν_5 and weaker for ν_2 and ν_6 , largely because of their
566 lower intensity and consequent difficulty in the deconvolution and precise assessment of peak
567 frequencies. The intense narrow couplet around 660 cm^{-1} thus allowing a very accurate measure of
568 both band positions is the most reliable for Mg# estimation. A good correlation between Mg content
569 and peak locations is also hampered by the variable amount of calcium, which in the studied grains
570 is lower in continental and arc crust orthopyroxenes (Ivrea Verbano and Kohistan) than in the other
571 samples. For this reason, [Huang et al. \(2000\)](#) proposed two different formulas for Ca-rich and Ca-
572 poor orthopyroxene, obtaining a lower error. Calcium content, however, must be known
573 beforehand. Because ν_1 correlates negatively with calcium content ([Tribaudino et al., 2012](#);
574 [Stangarone et al., 2016](#)), Ca-poor Ivrea Verbano and Kohistan orthopyroxenes plot above the
575 wavenumber/Mg# regression line for the ν_1 ($\sim 330\text{ cm}^{-1}$) peak, resulting in higher frequencies for
576 the same Mg/Fe ratio. Among other peaks, only ν_5 is slightly sensitive to calcium content. No
577 correlation with Al content was found.

578 Full widths at half maximum (FWHM) for all six vibrational modes were measured to test the
579 potential of Raman analysis to distinguish between volcanic and highly ordered metamorphic
580 orthopyroxenes ([Ghose and Hafner, 1967](#)). No significant difference, however, was observed
581 among orthopyroxene shed by mantle ophiolites, lower crustal metagabbros, and volcanic rocks.

582

583 **7. Provenance implications**

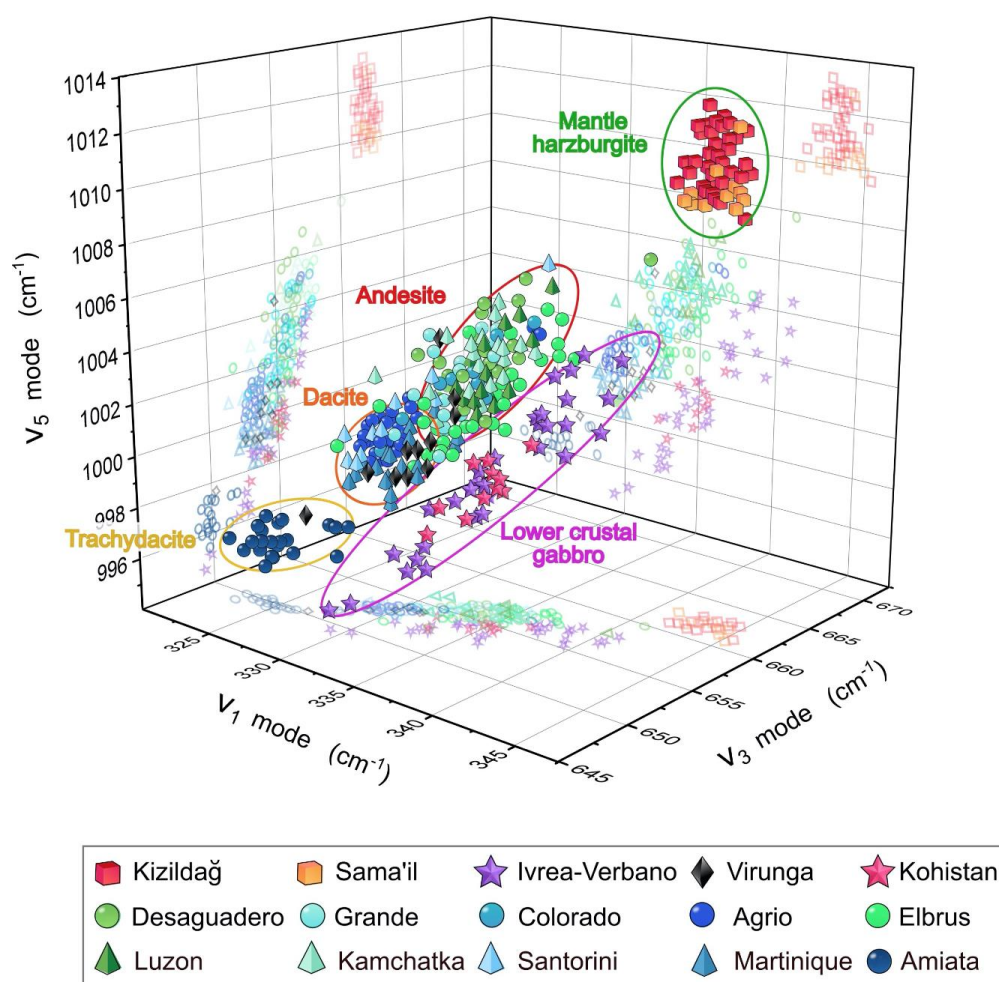
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585 This study was aimed at testing whether orthopyroxene grains derived from a range of source-rock
586 lithologies belonging to different tectono-stratigraphic levels and generated in different geodynamic
587 settings have sufficiently distinct chemical composition to be distinguished by Raman spectroscopy
588 during provenance analysis.

589 Several previous studies were dedicated to discriminate orthopyroxene hosted in intrusive *versus*
590 metamorphic rocks. [Bhattacharyya \(1971\)](#) suggested that metamorphic orthopyroxene has higher
591 $\text{MgO}+\text{FeO}+\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ because of replacement of Mg^{2+} by heavier Fe^{2+} , as well as higher Al_2O_3 because
592 of higher pressure conditions. [Rietmeijer \(1983\)](#) broadly confirmed the tendency of metamorphic
593 orthopyroxene to have higher $\text{MgO}+\text{FeO}+\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ but considered that Al_2O_3 rather tends to
594 principally reflect the whole-rock chemistry and coexisting or co-precipitating phases. He observed
595 further that metamorphic orthopyroxene has typically low Wo ([Deer et al., 1978](#)), and that igneous
596 orthopyroxene may shift into the field of lower-Ca metamorphic orthopyroxene during re-
597 equilibration at high-grade metamorphic conditions. Fewer studies were dedicated to volcanic

598 orthopyroxenes, which were found to contain more significant Fe^{3+} (Ghose and Hafner, 1967; Deer
599 et al., 1978).

600 Our dataset is largely consistent with such previously acquired knowledge. Colourless and optically
601 positive orthopyroxene shed by ultramafic mantle rocks was confirmed to be the richest by far in
602 Mg and Cr. Orthopyroxene derived from gabbroic rocks re-equilibrated at high-grade metamorphic
603 conditions in the deep structural levels of continental (Ivrea-Verbanò) or arc crust (Kohistan),
604 optically distinguished by their pink/green pleochroism, resulted to be poorest in Ca. Volcanic
605 orthopyroxene, optically distinguished by yellow-orange/green pleochroism, resulted to be
606 commonly richer in Fe^{3+} , especially in Kamchatka, Taiwan and Santorini sands but less so in sands
607 derived from the Andean Cordillera or Elbrus and Virunga volcanoes.
608



609

610 **Figure 7.** Provenance determination of detrital orthopyroxene with Raman spectroscopy. The 3D plot
611 discriminates OPX composition by using the narrow v_3 peak (correlating best with Mg#) together with v_1
612 (useful to assess Ca content) and the strong v_5 peak. Colour codes similar as in Fig. 6.

613 Raman spectroscopy analyses (Fig. 7) allowed us to clearly distinguish among Mg-rich
614 orthopyroxene from mantle harzburgites ($v_1 > 342 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; $v_3 > 661 \text{ cm}^{-1}$; $v_5 > 1009 \text{ cm}^{-1}$), Ca-poor
615 orthopyroxene from gabbroic rocks re-equilibrated at high-temperature conditions in the lower
616 continental or arc crust (high $v_1/\text{Mg}\#$ ratio), and orthopyroxene from mafic to felsic volcanic rocks.
617 Volcanic orthopyroxenes characterized by progressively lower Mg# are distinguished by an up to
618 20 cm^{-1} shift of all Raman peaks towards lower frequencies. Grains from trachydacites (best fit: v_1 :
619 322-328; v_3 : 649-652; v_5 : 995-998), dacites (best fit: v_1 : 328-333; v_3 : 653-655; v_5 : 999-1003), and
620 andesites (best fit: v_1 : 332-339; v_3 : 653-657; v_5 : 1002-1007) could thus be discriminated (Fig.7).
621 Raman analysis could not distinguish between orthopyroxene from rift-related and arc-related lavas.
622 In summary, optical observations alone are sufficient to discriminate colourless and optically
623 positive enstatite *s.s.* shed by mantle rocks from optically negative pleochroic hypersthene *s.l.*, with
624 the possibility to distinguish further between intrusive/metamorphic and volcanic grains based on
625 their pink/green versus yellow-orange/green pleochroism (Fig. 2). The precise reliable identification
626 of several different provenances, however, requires coupling of optical observations with either
627 chemical or Raman analyses: 1) Mg-rich enstatite *s.s.* from mantle ophiolites; 2) Ca-poor
628 hypersthene *s.l.* from crustal gabbroic rocks; 3) hypersthene *s.l.* from volcanic rocks, with Mg#
629 decreasing from andesites (3A; Mg# 70-65) to dacites (3B; Mg# 60-50), and felsic differentiates
630 (3C; Mg# 50-40). Orthopyroxene derived from rift-related lavas may be characterized by a slightly
631 higher Ca content.

632

633 8. Conclusions

634

635 Coupling optical observations, SEM-EDS minerochemical analyses, and Raman spectra obtained
636 on 350 orthopyroxene (OPX) grains from 15 modern river and beach sands representing different
637 tectono-stratigraphic levels of continental, arc, and oceanic lithosphere in different geodynamic
638 settings allowed us to distinguish among three main provenances: 1) colourless and optically
639 positive Mg-rich and Cr-rich OPX derived from mantle harzburgites; 2) optically negative Ca-poor
640 OPX showing characteristic pink-reddish/green pleochroism derived from gabbroic rocks re-
641 equilibrated at high temperature conditions in the lower continental crust or arc crust; 3) optically
642 negative OPX showing yellow-orange/green pleochroism derived from volcanic rocks and
643 identified by Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio decreasing progressively from andesite to dacite and more
644 felsic differentiates. Apart from slightly higher Ca content, OPX from rift-related lavas cannot be
645 distinguished from OPX in volcanic arcs. Chemical data allowed to differentiate among bronzite
646 and hypersthene, which could not be done with optical observations alone.

647 Accurate information on the chemical composition of detrital orthopyroxene can be very efficiently
648 obtained by Raman spectroscopy, allowing us to build a large and thus more statistically
649 representative database. Although chemical information can be only indirectly obtained, by this
650 simple-to-perform technique we can, in a few seconds and with no additional sample preparation,
651 successfully identify and characterize grains down to the size of a few microns. Changes in En, Fe
652 and Wo in the crystal lattice can be effectively detected by measuring the position of only a few
653 intense Raman vibrational modes.

654 The present study shows how orthopyroxene contained in mantle rocks exposed in obducted
655 ophiolitic complexes, derived from deep crustal rocks, and shed from volcanic products with
656 different silica content can be most readily distinguished by measuring the positions of the main
657 characteristic Raman peaks (especially $\nu_1 \sim 330 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, $\nu_3 \sim 655 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ or $\nu_4 \sim 675 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, and $\nu_5 \sim 1002 \text{ cm}^{-1}$). Raman spectroscopy is thus proved to represent a powerful means to efficiently obtain robust
658 high-resolution information in provenance studies.
659

660

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665 Limonta and Marta Padoan for heavy minerals. Mineralogical insights offered by Maria Luce
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668 by Editor ... and Reviewers ...

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670

671 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

672 Supplementary materials associated with this article include information on samples and sampling
673 sites ([Table A1](#)), the sand petrography ([Table A2](#)) and heavy-mineral datasets ([Table A3](#)), the
674 results of Raman spectroscopy analyses carried out at the laboratories of Milano ([Table A4](#)) and
675 Parma ([Table A5](#)), and the results of SEM-EDS minerochemical analyses (summarized in [Table A6](#)
676 and provided in full in [Table A7](#)).

677

678 **FIGURE CAPTIONS**

679 **Figure 2.** Comparison between traditional (upper panel; [Poldervaart and Hess, 1947](#)) and IMA
680 (lower panel; [Morimoto et al., 1988](#)) orthopyroxene classification schemes. En: enstatite; Fs:
681 ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite.

682
683 **Figure 2.** Typical optical features displayed by orthopyroxene grains derived from mantle, lower
684 crustal, and volcanic rocks. Enstatite *s.s.* from the Kizildağ harzburgite is shown both at parallel and
685 crossed polarizers, whereas other orthopyroxenes are rotated by 90° to show their characteristic
686 pleochroism. Scale bar: 100 µm.

687 **Figure 3.** Chemical composition of detrital orthopyroxenes determined by SEM-EDS. The 350
688 analyzed grains from 15 sand samples provide a statistical representation of a range of source-rock
689 lithologies at different structural levels of continental crust, arc crust, and oceanic lithosphere. Only
690 a few grains yielded En values between 85 and 75. En: enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite.
691 Colour codes similar as in [Fig. 6](#).

692
693 **Figure 4.** Relationships among major chemical elements hosted in detrital orthopyroxenes as
694 determined by SEM-EDS. OPX from mantle harzburgites is highest in Mg, OPX from lower
695 continental and arc crust poorest in Ca. Volcanic OPX, poorer in Al, displays decreasing Mg# from
696 andesite to dacite and more felsic source rocks. Arc and rift-related volcanic OPX are not different.
697 The biplot ([Gabriel, 1971](#)) drawn using CoDaPack software by [Comas-Cufí and Thió-Henestrosa,](#)
698 [2011](#)) displays multivariate observations (points) and variables (rays). The length of each ray is
699 proportional to the variance of each element in the dataset. If the angle between two rays is close to
700 0°, 90°, and 180°, then the corresponding compositional parameters are directly correlated,
701 uncorrelated, and inversely correlated, respectively. Colour codes similar as in [Fig. 6](#).

702 **Figure 5.** Selected Raman spectra of orthopyroxene grains from diverse source rocks in different
703 geodynamic settings. Baseline subtraction was obtained with Labspec 5 software. Greater
704 background noise for Cr-rich harzburgite-derived OPX is ascribed to Cr-induced fluorescence
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706 granulitic metagabbro. In the low-wavelength spectral region, peaks' shape and relative intensity
707 depends on crystal orientation.

708 **Figure 6.** Sensitivity of Raman peak positions to Mg# in detrital orthopyroxene as determined by
709 SEM-EDS. The best correlation between peak position and Mg# is obtained for vibrational modes
710 ν_3 and ν_4 , which display excellent linear correlation with each other (middle panel to the right).
711 Among other peaks, ν_1 , ν_5 , and ν_6 can be used to increase the accuracy of Mg# determination,

712 whereas ν_2 is least reliable. Colour scale reflects decreasing Mg# from red (Mg# 1.0) to blue (Mg#
713 0.4).

714 **Figure 7.** Provenance determination of detrital orthopyroxene with Raman spectroscopy. The 3D
715 plot discriminates OPX composition by using the narrow ν_3 peak (correlating best with Mg#)
716 together with ν_1 (useful to assess Ca content) and the strong ν_5 peak. Colour codes similar as in Fig.
717 6.

718 **Table 1.** Information on the 15 studied samples of orthopyroxene-rich river and beach sands
719 exclusively or dominantly derived from a range of mantle, deep-crustal, and volcanic rocks
720 generated in different geodynamic settings.

721 **Table 2.** Chemical composition of detrital orthopyroxenes analyzed by SEM-EDS. Note high Si and
722 Cr in Mg-rich OPX from mantle rocks and low Ca in OPX from lower-crustal Ivrea-Verbano
723 metagabbros and Kohistan arc intrusives; all these OPX are Ti-poor. Fe-rich OPX from Mt. Amiata
724 is poor in Si and Al. No distinctive features are displayed by OPX from Virunga trachytes. Mg#:
725 Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio; En: enstatite; Fs: ferrosilite; Wo: wollastonite; b.d.l.: below detection
726 limit.

727 **Table 3.** Mean, minimum and maximum Raman peak positions (vibrational modes ν_1 to ν_6)
728 distinctive of detrital orthopyroxene derived from a range of mantle, deep crustal, and volcanic rocks
729 representing different geodynamic settings. Mg#: Mg/(Mg+Fe) atomic ratio.

730 **Table 4.** Mg# calculated from Raman peak positions. R^2 and σ Mg# represent the proportion of the
731 variation and expected uncertainty when Mg# is derived from the value of a single Raman peak.

732

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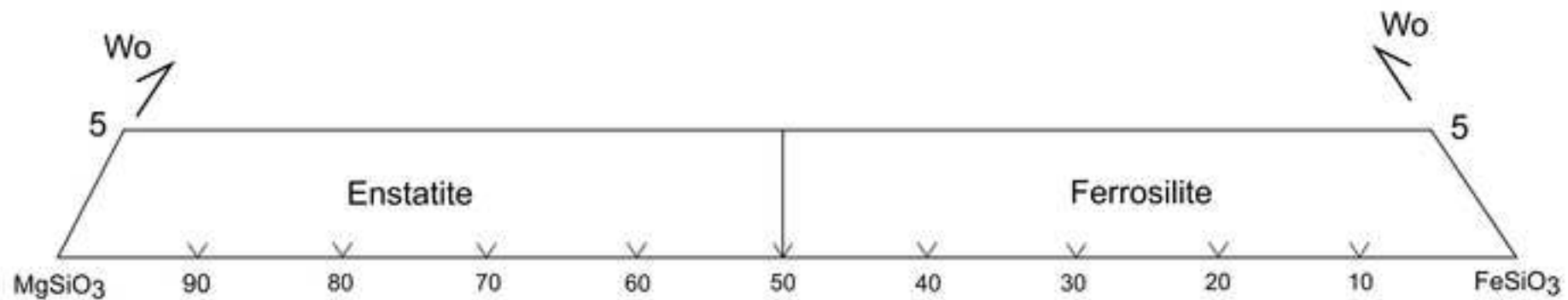
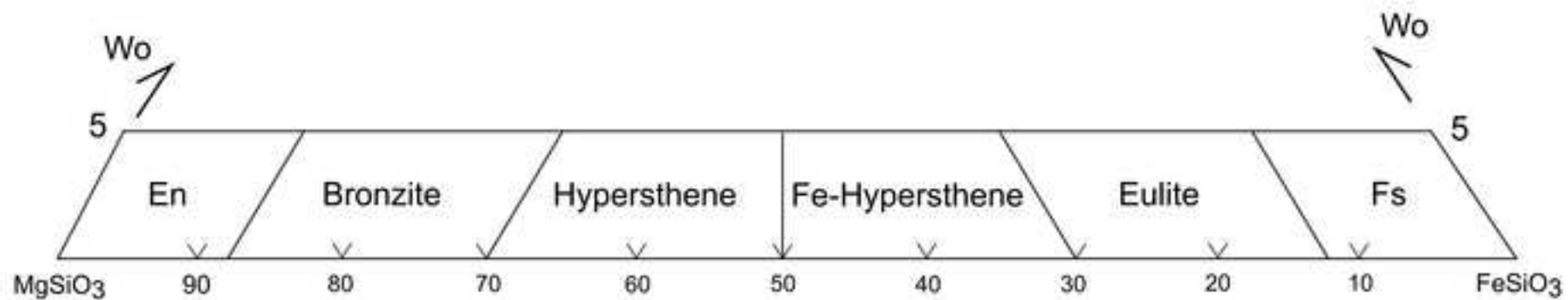
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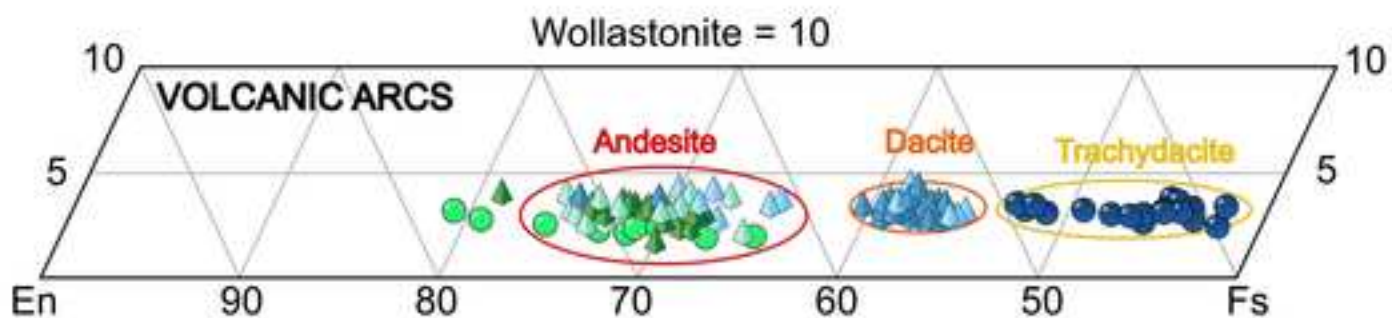
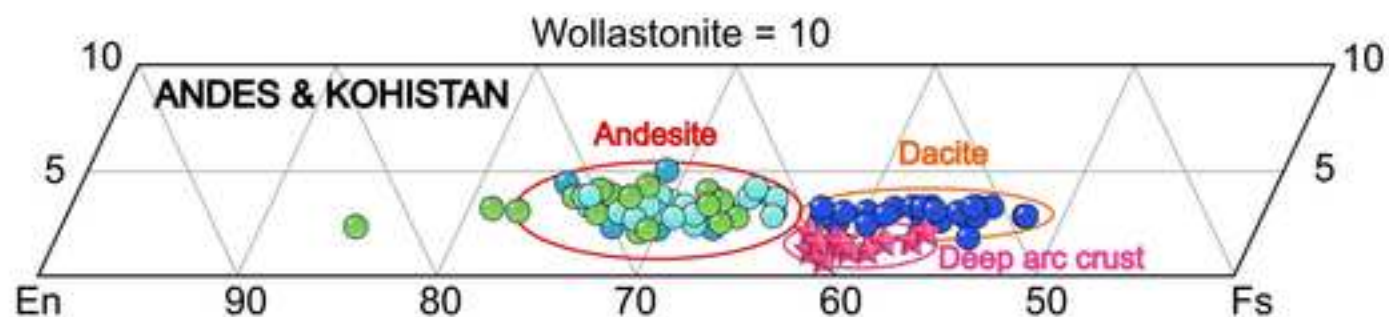
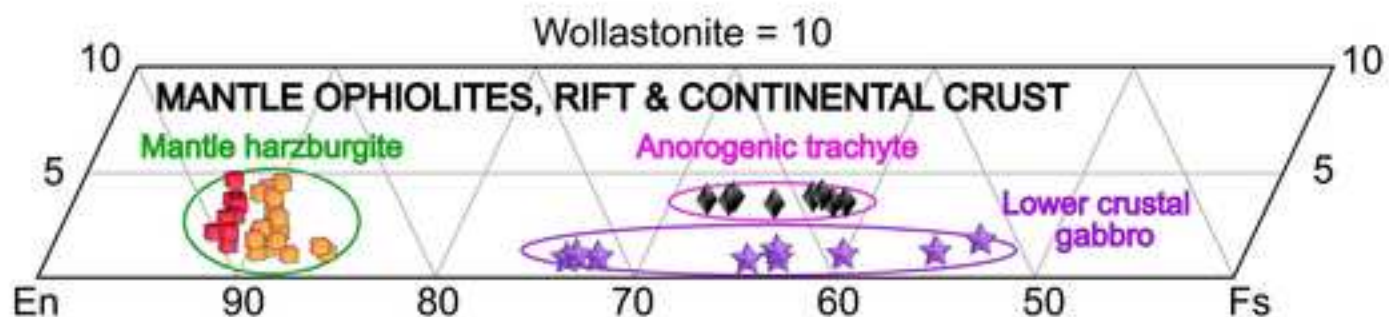
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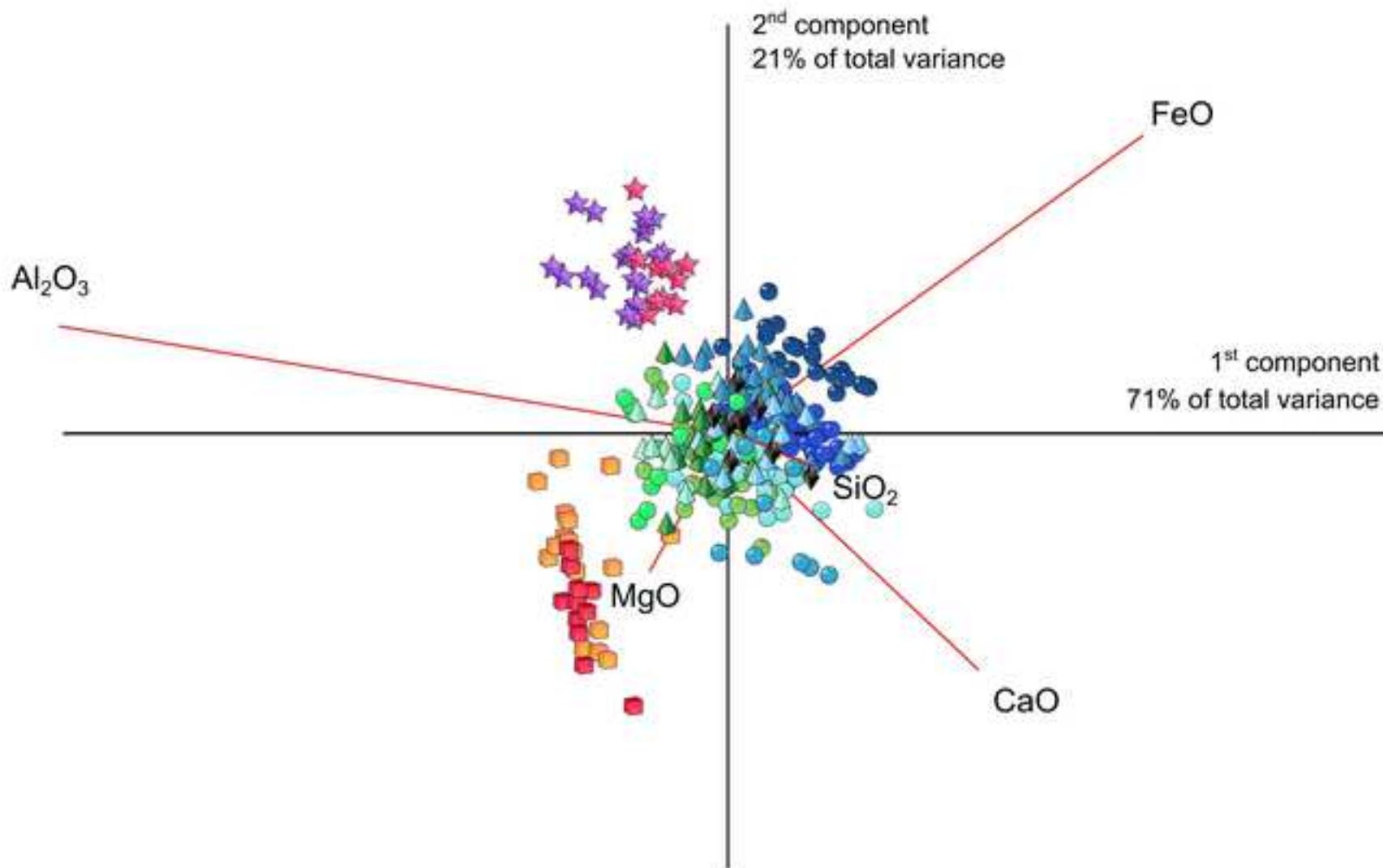
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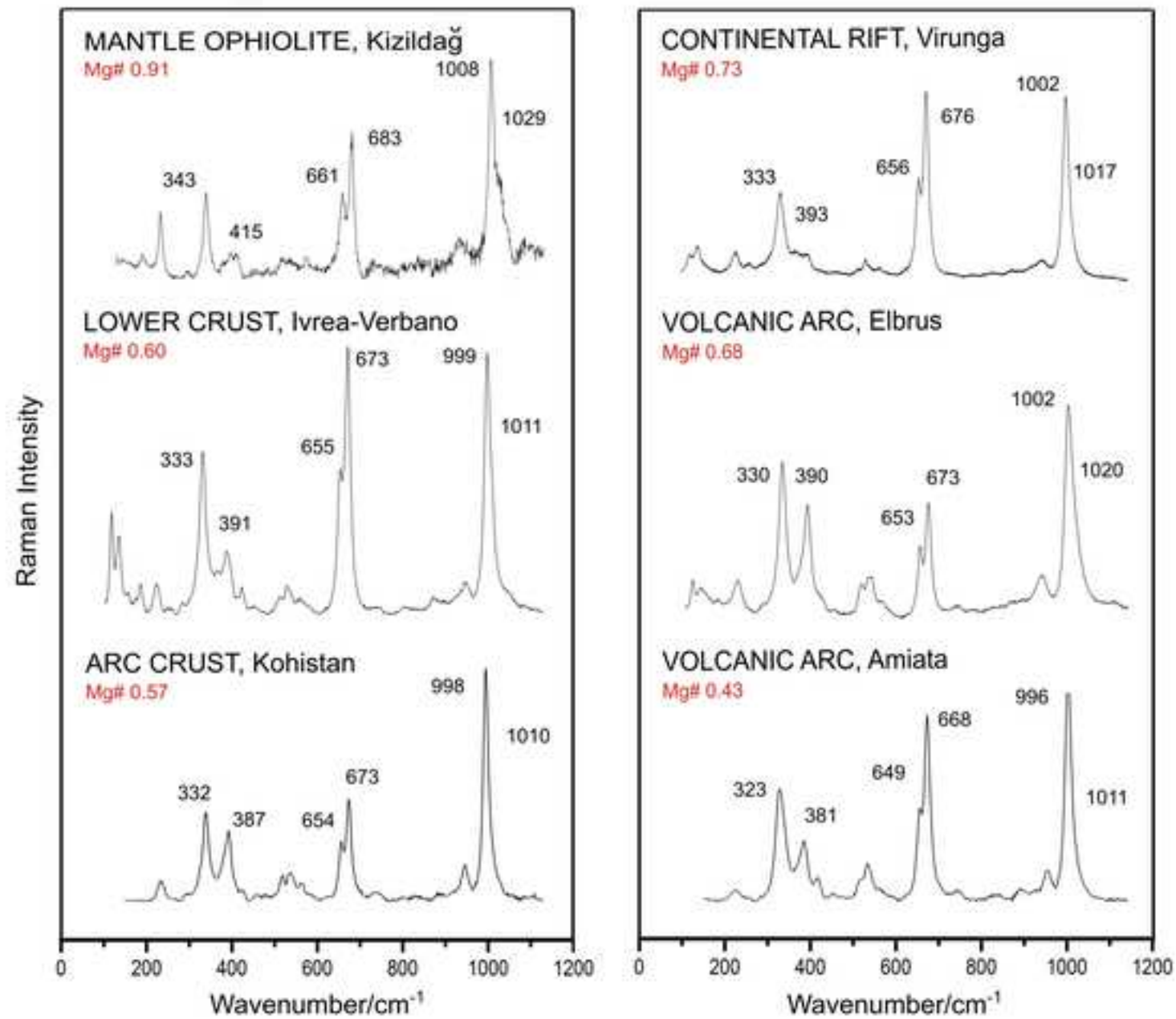
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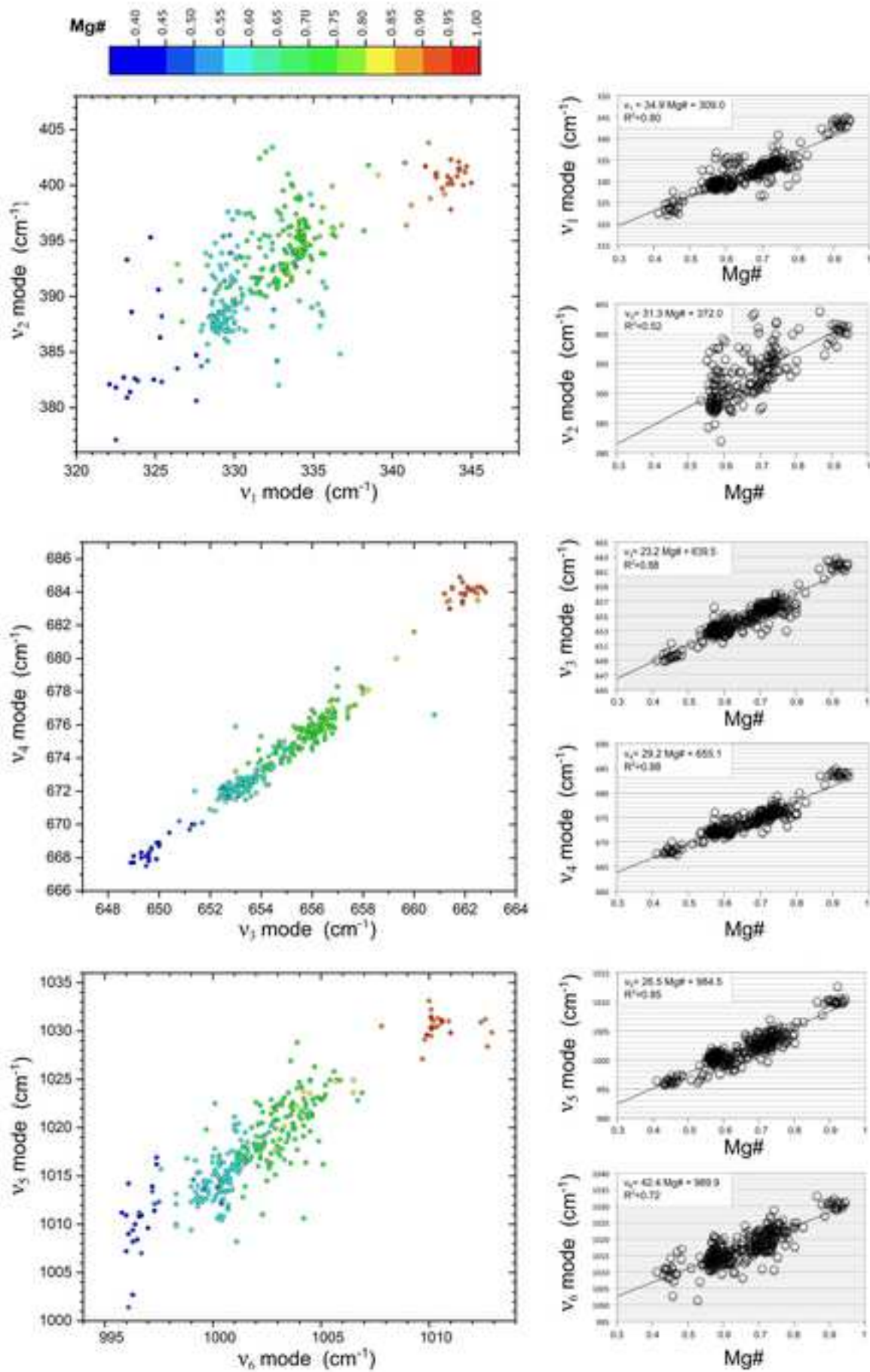


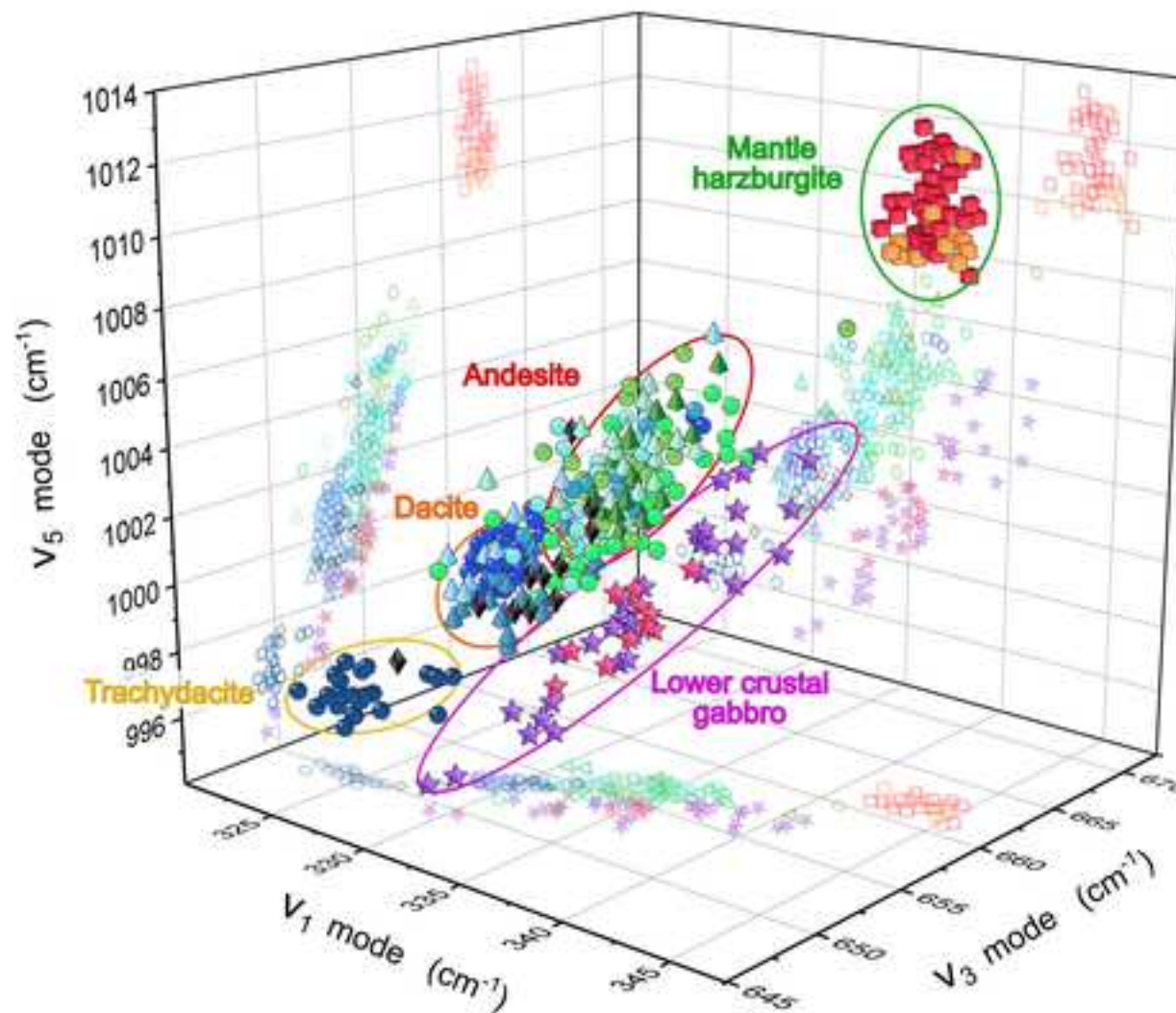
MANTLE OPHIOLITE Kizildağ Complex	LOWER CRUST Ivrea-Verbano Zone	VOLCANIC ARC Elbrus Volcano	VOLCANIC ARC Martinique Island	VOLCANIC ARC Amiata Volcano
 	 	 	 	 
 	 	 	 	 











Structural level	Geodynamic setting	Geological domain	Main lithology	Location
MANTLE	OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Hatay-Kiziilıdađ Complex	Harzburgite	Hatay Peninsula (Turkey)
		Sema'il Complex	Harzburgite	Northern Oman Mountains
LOWER CRUST	CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano Mafic Complex	Granulitic gabbro	Southern Alps (Italy)
		Kohistan Arc	Metagabbro to granite	Northern Pakistan
UPPER CRUST	CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Andean Cordillera	Andesite and dacite	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Basalt to dacite	Río Grande (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Basalt to dacite	Río Colorado (Argentina)
		Andean Cordillera	Dacite	Río Agrio (Argentina)
	VOLCANIC ARC	Luzon island arc	Basalt to dacite	Taiwan Island
		Kamchatka island arc	Andesite	SE Kamchatcka (Russia)
		Lesser Antilles island arc	Andesite and dacite	Martinique Island
		South Aegean island arc	Andesite and dacite	Santorini Island (Greece)
		Mt. Amiata (Tuscan province)	Trachydacite	Orcia River (Italy)
		Elbrus Volcano	Andesite and dacite	Greater Caucasus (Russia)
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga volcanic province	K-trachyte and latite	East African Rift (Rwanda)	

Geodynamic setting	Unit		SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	K ₂ O	Na ₂ O	Cr ₂ O ₃	Mg#	En	Fe	Wo
			wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	wt%	mol%	mol%
OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Kizilidağ	Mean	56.6	b.d.l.	2.0	5.6	0.02	33.8	1.5	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.8	0.92	88.9	8.3	2.9
		Max	57.3	b.d.l.	2.5	5.9	0.2	34.5	2.3	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	1.0	0.96	89.9	8.7	4.2
		Min	56.0	b.d.l.	1.6	5.2	b.d.l.	33.2	0.9	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.6	0.91	88.1	7.7	1.6
	Sema'il	Mean	55.4	0.3	2.2	6.8	0.3	32.2	1.2	0.1	0.3	1.1	0.91	87.0	10.7	2.3
		Max	56.6	0.4	3.3	8.8	0.4	33.3	2.1	0.3	0.4	1.4	0.94	88.4	13.9	4.1
		Min	54.3	0.2	0.8	5.8	0.2	31.6	0.6	b.d.l.	0.08	0.7	0.87	84.9	9.3	1.1
CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano	Mean	52.6	0.02	2.4	21.4	0.6	22.2	0.5	b.d.l.	0.02	b.d.l.	0.65	63.4	35.5	1.1
		Max	54.9	0.2	3.6	27.4	0.8	26.5	0.8	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.75	72.9	46.4	1.7
		Min	51.3	b.d.l.	1.6	16.3	0.4	17.6	0.4	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.53	51.9	26.1	0.9
	Kohistan	Mean	51.5	b.d.l.	1.7	24.3	0.5	20.4	0.8	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.61	58.5	40.0	1.6
		Max	52.7	b.d.l.	2.2	25.9	0.8	21.4	1.1	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.63	60.7	43.3	2.4
		Min	50.9	b.d.l.	1.0	23.1	0.3	18.7	0.4	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.57	54.3	37.6	0.7
CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)	Mean	53.9	0.6	1.2	18.0	0.3	24.5	1.6	0.2	0.3	0.02	0.73	68.3	28.5	3.2
		Max	56.2	0.8	2.7	21.1	0.5	30.8	2.0	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.88	82.9	33.7	4.2
		Min	52.3	0.3	0.5	9.7	0.1	22.2	1.0	0.06	0.1	b.d.l.	0.66	63.5	14.8	2.0
	Río Grande (Argentina)	Mean	54.7	0.5	0.9	17.1	0.4	23.2	1.5	0.2	0.4	b.d.l.	0.69	66.7	30.2	3.1
		Max	55.8	0.7	1.6	21.4	0.6	25.5	1.9	0.3	0.8	b.d.l.	0.74	71.7	35.4	3.9
		Min	53.5	0.3	0.2	15.7	0.2	21.1	1.0	0.1	0.2	b.d.l.	0.64	61.3	25.2	2.2
	Río Colorado (Argentina)	Mean	53.9	0.2	0.7	18.6	0.9	24.1	1.6	b.d.l.	0.3	0.02	0.71	66.7	30.3	3.1
		Max	55.1	0.4	1.3	22.0	1.7	26.3	2.4	b.d.l.	0.6	0.3	0.80	71.3	35.6	4.8
		Min	53.1	0.1	0.5	15.4	0.5	21.5	1.1	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.65	61.4	24.3	2.2
	Río Agrio (Argentina)	Mean	53.0	0.4	0.7	24.8	0.6	18.8	1.5	b.d.l.	0.3	b.d.l.	0.58	55.1	41.7	3.2
		Max	54.9	0.7	2.4	27.0	1.1	24.8	2.0	b.d.l.	0.8	b.d.l.	0.74	71.2	44.2	4.2
		Min	50.7	0.2	0.3	15.3	0.3	17.5	1.3	b.d.l.	0.05	b.d.l.	0.55	52.9	25.1	2.5
VOLCANIC ARC	Taiwan	Mean	53.2	0.4	1.2	18.2	0.5	24.8	1.5	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.73	68.2	28.9	2.9
		Max	54.2	0.5	1.7	20.1	0.7	27.5	2.0	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.83	74.9	31.7	3.8
		Min	52.0	0.2	0.7	13.4	b.d.l.	23.6	0.8	b.d.l.	0.09	b.d.l.	0.70	65.4	21.2	1.6
	Kamchatka	Mean	52.5	0.4	1.4	17.9	0.4	25.0	1.6	0.2	0.2	0.09	0.75	68.7	28.2	3.1
		Max	53.5	0.6	2.4	21.1	0.7	26.3	2.0	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.80	71.7	34.2	4.0
		Min	51.5	0.3	0.6	15.9	0.2	22.7	1.0	0.04	0.1	b.d.l.	0.68	63.5	24.6	2.1
	Martinique	Mean	50.5	0.4	0.9	26.1	1.2	19.4	1.4	b.d.l.	0.2	0.3	0.61	54.2	43.0	2.8
		Max	53.4	0.7	1.8	29.4	1.5	21.9	1.6	b.d.l.	0.4	0.5	0.69	59.3	48.1	3.2
		Min	48.4	0.2	0.3	23.5	0.8	17.3	0.9	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.1	0.53	49.2	37.7	1.7
	Santorini	Mean	51.0	0.4	0.8	22.7	0.9	22.4	1.6	0.1	0.2	0.01	0.66	59.9	36.9	3.2
		Max	53.6	0.6	1.3	26.7	1.4	43.5	2.2	0.2	0.3	0.07	0.72	66.4	44.9	4.4
		Min	50.7	0.3	b.d.l.	16.1	0.3	18.2	0.4	0.05	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.58	52.1	19.2	0.5
Amiata	Mean	49.8	0.4	0.6	32.0	0.4	14.7	1.5	0.2	0.1	b.d.l.	0.47	43.3	53.6	3.1	
	Max	51.5	0.7	1.4	35.0	0.7	17.0	1.8	0.4	0.4	b.d.l.	0.54	49.3	57.9	3.7	
	Min	48.5	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	28.6	0.2	13.2	1.1	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.41	38.9	47.3	2.4	
Elbrus	Mean	54.2	0.4	1.3	17.2	0.5	25.7	1.3	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.2	0.73	70.2	27.3	2.5	
	Max	55.1	0.4	2.6	21.7	0.8	29.0	1.6	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.5	0.81	77.7	34.9	3.1	
	Min	52.8	0.2	0.5	12.5	0.3	22.9	1.0	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	b.d.l.	0.65	63.3	19.2	1.9	
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga	Mean	52.1	0.5	0.9	22.3	0.2	20.9	1.6	b.d.l.	0.2	0.2	0.63	60.2	36.4	3.4
		Max	52.9	0.5	1.1	25.6	0.3	22.8	1.8	b.d.l.	0.3	0.3	0.69	64.8	42.1	3.6
		Min	51.4	0.4	0.5	19.7	0.2	18.7	1.5	b.d.l.	0.2	b.d.l.	0.57	54.6	31.8	3.2

Geodynamic setting	Unit	Mg#		V ₁ cm ⁻¹	V ₂ cm ⁻¹	V ₃ cm ⁻¹	V ₄ cm ⁻¹	V ₅ cm ⁻¹	V ₆ cm ⁻¹
OPHIOLITIC MANTLE	Kiziildağ	0.92	Mean	343.4	400.8	662.1	683.8	1011.5	1030.1
		0.96	Max	344.3	402.3	662.7	684.6	1012.9	1031.0
		0.91	Min	342.1	398.5	661.4	683	1010.1	1028.4
	Sema'il	0.91	Mean	343.5	400.5	661.9	683.9	1010.3	1030.5
		0.94	Max	345.0	403.8	662.8	684.9	1012.6	1033.1
		0.87	Min	341.2	397.8	661.2	683.3	1009.7	1027.1
CONTINENTAL & ARC CRUST	Ivrea-Verbano	0.65	Mean	335.9	393.6	654.8	675.6	1000.1	1014.6
		0.75	Max	340.8	402.1	658.0	679.4	1004.2	1022.1
		0.53	Min	332.5	384.2	652.4	672.1	996.7	1007.0
	Kohistan	0.61	Mean	334.7	389.8	654.6	674.3	999.3	1013.6
		0.63	Max	336.7	399.2	656.2	676.0	1001.0	1021.1
		0.57	Min	332.2	382.0	652.7	672.5	997.6	1009.4
CONTINENTAL MAGMATIC ARC	Río Desaguadero (Argentina)	0.73	Mean	333.7	394.4	656.1	675.8	1003.8	1021.9
		0.88	Max	340.9	401.1	660.0	681.6	1007.8	1030.5
		0.66	Min	331.0	387.3	654.1	673.5	1001.5	1016.8
	Río Grande (Argentina)	0.69	Mean	331.8	393.0	655.3	674.6	1002.9	1019.9
		0.74	Max	335.7	397.4	657.4	676.6	1005.2	1024.4
		0.64	Min	326.6	387.9	652.8	672.0	1000.3	1016.3
	Río Colorado (Argentina)	0.71	Mean	332.9	394.5	655.9	675.3	1003.1	1018.2
		0.80	Max	335.1	403.4	657.7	677.2	1005.0	1022.9
	Río Agrio (Argentina)	0.65	Min	330.5	390.0	654.3	673.3	1001.2	1012.8
		0.58	Mean	329.6	390.2	653.3	672.5	1000.9	1015.1
		0.74	Max	336.4	397.6	656.8	677.5	1005.2	1023.4
	VOLCANIC ARC	Taiwan	0.55	Min	328.4	386.8	652.6	671.6	999.8
0.73			Mean	333.8	395.0	656.4	676.2	1003.6	1019.7
0.83			Max	336.2	399.5	658.2	678.1	1006.5	1024.9
Kamchatka		0.70	Min	326.4	392.4	655.5	675.1	1002.3	1011.0
		0.75	Mean	333.5	393.8	656.0	675.7	1003.6	1021.9
		0.80	Max	336.3	398.0	657.4	677.4	1005.9	1026.3
Martinique		0.68	Min	329.0	389.3	653.0	673.2	1001.4	1016.4
		0.61	Mean	329.9	390.5	653.6	672.3	1000.0	1014.9
		0.69	Max	332.8	397.4	655.1	674.0	1001.7	1019.8
Santorini		0.53	Min	328.0	385.7	652.0	670.9	998.3	1011.8
		0.66	Mean	330.8	392.1	654.2	673.4	1001.8	1018.4
		1.00	Max	334.2	402.4	660.8	676.6	1006.7	1022.8
Amiata	0.58	Min	327.9	386.9	651.4	670.8	999.7	1013.8	
	0.47	Mean	324.9	384.8	650.0	668.7	996.6	1010.4	
	0.54	Max	328.3	395.3	651.7	670.2	997.5	1016.9	
Elbrus	0.41	Min	322.1	377.1	648.9	667.5	995.8	1001.4	
	0.73	Mean	333.5	395.7	655.9	675.8	1002.6	1019.5	
	0.81	Max	339.1	400.9	659.3	680.0	1006.5	1024.9	
RIFT VALLEY	Virunga	0.65	Min	326.7	387.7	652.6	671.9	999.7	1008.2
		0.63	Mean	331.1	390.8	654.1	673.1	1000.9	1016.7
		0.69	Max	332.5	395.7	655.6	674.6	1004.5	1021.6
		0.57	Min	328.9	386.8	652.5	671.7	999.2	1012.6

Vibrational modes	Equations (cm ⁻¹)	R ²	σMg#
v ₁ (~ 330 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₁ - 309.0) / 34.9	0.8	0.19
v ₂ (~ 395 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₂ - 372.0) / 31.3	0.52	0.31
v ₃ (~ 655 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₃ - 639.5) / 23.2	0.88	0.15
v ₄ (~ 675 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₄ - 655.1) / 29.2	0.88	0.13
v ₅ (~ 1002 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₅ - 984.5) / 26.5	0.85	0.16
v ₆ (~ 1020 cm ⁻¹)	Mg# = (v ₆ - 989.9) / 42.4	0.72	0.21