

Strontium stable isotope behaviour accompanying dehydration of antigorite-bearing serpentinite

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Serpentinites are ubiquitous in subduction zones, comprising a portion of the subducting slab and/or the shallow mantle wedge. These rocks are believed to be a key reservoir for fluid-mobile elements, halogens and other trace elements in this context. Although serpentinites are widely studied, details concerning the delivery of serpentinite dehydration fluids from the subducting slab to the overlying crust and mantle remain poorly understood. Serpentinite derived fluid ligand geochemistry is of specific interest as this, in part, influences the partitioning of many elements during dehydration. Strontium stable isotopes are useful in determining the nature of such fluids as light Sr isotopes are preferentially incorporated into carbonate or sulfate in the presence of CO₃²⁻ and SO₄²⁻ rich fluids.

This study presents high-precision ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr and δ^{88/86}Sr for ultra-mafic rocks from across the antigorite-out dehydration front at Cerro del Almirez ultramafic massif (Nevado-Filabride Complex, Betics, S. Spain) [e.g. 1]. Antigorite-bearing serpentinites possess relatively radiogenic ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.708703) and typical mantle δ^{88/86}Sr values (0.32 ± 0.02‰). Dehydration is accompanied by a general increase in Sr concentration; granofels-textured chlorite-harzburgites, orthopyroxene-olivine (opx-ol) serpentinites, and some spinifex-textured harzburgites show a shift towards relatively unradiogenic ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (down to 0.7075032) and lighter δ^{88/86}Sr (as light as 0.099 ± 0.025). The shifts in ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr rule out substantial involvement of meta-sediment sourced fluids during open-system serpentinite dehydration, as these sediments possess highly radiogenic Sr isotope compositions. Rather, the high Sr concentrations and relatively unradiogenic ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr compositions point to an additional Sr-rich source with a low Rb/Sr ratio, such as meta-rodingites [2] or meta-ophicalcites [3] boudins found within the ultramafic complex. The light δ^{88/86}Sr composition is also consistent with the formation of anhydrous minerals, such as orthopyroxene, from a carbonate (or sulfate) rich fluid, accompanying the processes leading to the formation of spinifex and granofels textures in the harzburgite [4,5].

[1] Debret et al. (2021) *Geochim. Cosmochim. Acta* 296, 210-225. [2] Laborda-López et al. (2020) *Lithos* 370, p.105639. [3] Menzel et al. (2019) *J. Metam. Geol.* 37, 681-715. [4] Padrón-Navarta et al. (2011) *J. Pet.* 52 2047-2078. [5] Dilissen et al. (2021) *Lithos* 382, p.105949.