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# **Chromian spinel–olivine phase chemistry and the origin of primitive basalts of the southern Washington Cascades**

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# **Abstract**

Geochemically diverse basalts occur in an ~160-km-wide transect that stretches across the Quaternary southern Washington Cascades (SWC) volcanic arc. Two fundamental groups of SWC basalts can be identified on the basis of major and trace element chemistry. On primitive mantle-normalized "spidergrams", Group I lavas resemble within-plate basalts, whereas Group II lavas exhibit chemical characteristics (e.g., Nb, Ta, and Ti depletions) typical of subduction-related magmas. The primitive nature of many SWC basalts is indicated by their high MgO ( $>6.5$  wt.%, up to 9.5 wt.%), Ni ( $>85$  ppm) and Cr (>180 ppm) contents. Electron microprobe analyses of olivine–spinel pairs in a diverse suite of SWC basalts are used to further evaluate the primitive nature of these magmas. Some of the observed variations in olivine–spinel compositions can be attributed to oxidation, fractionation, mixing, and/or pressure variations during magma evolution. To minimize these effects, we focus on olivine-hosted spinels in samples for which olivine-host rock equilibrium can be demonstrated. Spinels in such rocks have Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><16.5 wt.%, 100 Fe<sup>3+</sup>/(Fe<sup>3+</sup>+Cr+Al)<22, and exhibit high Mg# [=100 Mg/(Mg+Fe<sup>2+</sup>)>44] and low Cr# [=100 Cr/(Cr+Al) <58]. For the most primitive spinel–olivine pairs: (1) spinel Cr# ranges from 20 to 57; (2) spinel Cr# for Group I lavas are distinctly lower  $(< 41)$  than those (> 45) for Group II lavas; (3) spinel Mg# ranges from 45 to 71, and overlaps for Groups I and II. However, each group defines distinct trends on Mg# vs. Cr# and other variation diagrams, with Group II having more refractory characteristics. This observation is consistent with higher whole-rock Mg# and Fo contents of olivines for Group II lavas, and suggests that sources for those magmas are more refractory (i.e., more meltdepleted) than sources for Group I lavas. The "within-plate"-like chemistry of Group I lavas precludes significant slab-derived contributions and is consistent with their derivation by decompression melting of little modified and relatively fertile mantle wedge material upwelling beneath the arc. The fluid-mobile element-enriched nature of Group II lavas is consistent with melting of a mantle source(s) that has been modified by slab-derived fluids. However, the standard "flux melting" process invoked to explain formation of many arc magmas is problematic for the Cascades because (a) high temperatures inferred for

the Cascadia subduction zone imply that the slab may be extensively dehydrated, in which case the inventory of volatiles and fluid-mobile elements is likely to be strongly depleted; and (b) Group I lavas occur at the volcanic front and appear to originate at depths proximal to the subducting slab. These geochemical and geometric constraints seem inconsistent with formation of Group II magmas by flux melting of the mantle wedge as commonly proposed for arcs. An alternative source for Group II lavas is chemically refractory lithospheric mantle that was previously metasomatized by earlier (40 Ma to present) Cascadia subduction and associated magmatism. Reheating and melting of such fluid-enriched domains could result from influx of hot decompression melts (Group I magmas). In either case, chemical and mineralogical evidence implicates two (or more) distinct processes of melt production and at least two distinct types of mantle source.

Keywords: subduction; basalt; chromian spinel; olivine; petrogenesis; Cascades

### **1. Introduction**

The chemistry of chromian spinel inclusions and coexisting host olivine phenocrysts has been used in interpreting the partial melting and crystallization history of basaltic magmas from a variety of tectonic settings (Roeder, 1994; Arai, 1994; Clynne and Borg, 1997; Kamenetsky et al., 2001). Chromian spinels occurring as inclusions in olivine phenocrysts from mafic magmas show a wide range of compositions (e.g., Allan et al., 1988) resulting from many factors, including crystallization temperature (e.g., Thy, 1995), pressure (e.g., Sigurdsson and Schilling, 1976; Roeder and Reynolds, 1991), oxygen fugacity (e.g., Roeder and Reynolds, 1991; Ballhaus et al., 1991), melt differentiation (e.g., Arai, 1994; Clynne and Borg, 1997) and/or magma mixing/mingling (e.g., Thy, 1983; Natland et al., 1983). However, when carefully screened to minimize these effects, compositions of spinel inclusions and host olivine phenocrysts have proved to be useful indicators of the most primitive aspects of melt composition (Clynne and Borg, 1997), and thus the nature of partial melting processes and mantle sources (Dick and Bullen, 1984; Dick, 1989; Fujii, 1989).

We present here new microprobe analyses of chromian spinels and contiguous host olivines occurring in primitive basalts from a SWC transect across the southern Washington Cascades (SWC) volcanic arc (Fig. 1). Our goals are: (1) to utilize these data, in combination with whole-rock major and trace element geochemistry, to constrain the nature of the mantle source(s) for these magmas; (2) to determine if mineral compositions are consistent with phase equilibria; and (3) to evaluate existing petrologic models for the origin of Cascades basaltic magmas in the context of our results.

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# **2. Tectonic and geological setting**

Cascadia subduction in the Pacific Northwest dates back to  $\sim$ 35–40 Ma (cf. Sherrod and Smith, 2000), and comprises older (40–10 Ma) Western Cascades and younger (<10 Ma) High Cascades age groups (Verplanck and Duncan, 1987). Quaternary (<2 Ma) High Cascades volcanism extends from southern British Columbia to northern California (Fig. 1) and is the result of slow (<4 cm/year) subduction of the young (<10 Ma) Juan de Fuca and Gorda oceanic plates beneath North America (Riddihough, 1984; Wang et al., 2003). Due to its young age, the subducted slab is relatively warm, as confirmed by geophysical and petrologic thermal models (e.g., Hyndman and Wang, 1993; Peacock and Leeman, 1994; Green and Harry, 1999; Currie et al., 2003; Leeman et al., 2004). The dip of the subducting Juan de Fuca plate varies along the arc  $(-25-40^{\circ})$ ; Romanyuk et al., 1998) but is defined by Benioff zone seismicity only to depths of about 100 km (Weaver and Michaelson, 1985; Michaelson and Weaver, 1986; Fig. 1), presumably because the slab is unusually warm. In southern Washington, the sub-arc crust is about 35-40 km thick (Mooney and Weaver, 1989; Chulick et al., 2001) and is composed of Tertiary arc igneous rocks (Bacon et al., 1997). Near the SWC transect, owing to oblique convergence (Wells et al., 1999), the greatest principal stress is north–south compression and the least principal stress corresponds to east–west extension (Zoback and Zoback, 1980; McCrory, 1996; Wang et al., 2003). Many volcanic vents in the Oregon and northern California High Cascades are localized along NNW oriented trends or structures (e.g., grabens and normal faults); this observation and an abundance of basaltic lavas suggest an important component of intra-arc extension (Conrey and Sherrod, 2003).

In southern Washington, the High Cascades arc forms  $a \sim 160$ -km-wide belt, which includes two major composite volcanoes (Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams) and numerous smaller lava fields, shields, and cinder cones (Hammond and Korosec, 1983; Leeman et al., 1990; Bacon et al., 1997). Geological mapping and dating show that Quaternary  $\ll 1$  Ma) mafic volcanism occurs in the frontal arc as much as 30 km west of Mount St. Helens (Fleck et al., 2002). Mount St. Helens has been active for at least  $~10,000$  years (Mullineaux, 1996) and nearby volcanism extends back to  $~100,000$  years (Evarts et al., 2003). Magmas erupted from Mount St. Helens range in composition from basalt to dacite, but basaltic lavas apparently extruded only during the Castle Creek eruptive period (1500–2500 years B.P.; Hoblitt et al., 1980; Mullineaux, 1996). The Indian Heaven volcanic field, located between and a little south of Mount St. Helens and Mount Adams, is dominated by basaltic lavas with minor andesite (Hammond and Korosec, 1983; Swanson et al., 1989; Leeman et al., 1990). All eruptive units are younger than the last magnetic reversal (0.78 Ma), and at least one (Big Lava Bed) is <10,000 years B.P. Mount Adams, one of the largest Cascade volcanoes, is located about 50 km due east of Mount St. Helens. Most of the main

cone is younger than 220,000 years B.P. and comprises lava flows and pyroclastic materials of andesitic to dacitic composition (Hoblitt et al., 1987; Hildreth and Fierstein, 1997); flank vents produced basaltic and andesitic lavas as recently as 3500 B.P. (Hoblitt et al., 1987). Farthest from the trench, the Pliocene (<2 to 4 Ma) Simcoe lava field produced basaltic lavas from dispersed monogenetic vents (cf. Leeman et al., 1990).

# **3. Sampling and methods**

For this study, we consider only Quaternary (<ca. 1 Ma) basalt and basaltic andesite samples that are compositionally primitive (see below). These samples span all but the easternmost part of the transect (i.e., they exclude the Simcoe field), and represent all known compositional variants (cf. Leeman et al., 2004). The samples studied are only moderately porphyritic  $(<5-10\%$  phenocrysts; most  $<5\%$ ) with olivine as the dominant phase; many lack phenocrystic plagioclase and appear to have ascended directly from mantle depths. The olivine phenocrysts typically contain subrounded to euhedral spinel inclusions  $(-20 \text{ up to } 100 \text{ µm in diameter})$ . Some Group II frontal arc basalts contain clinopyroxene phenocrysts, but these are generally subordinate to olivine in volume and size. Trace or microphenocrystic clinopyroxene occurs in other Group II basaltic lavas, but has not been observed in most Group I basalts. As notable exceptions, basalts from Mount St. Helens are relatively evolved and contain conspicuous plagioclase phenocrysts; they are included in this study for comparative purposes as they represent the most primitive lavas available from this volcano.

Electron microprobe methods were used to analyze olivine phenocrysts and coexisting spinel inclusions in 28 selected samples of SWC lavas, including: eleven from Indian Heaven, seven from the frontal arc, five from Mount St. Helens, and five from vents peripheral to Mount Adams (Tables 1 and 2). Microprobe analyses were obtained on polished thin sections of the host rocks or, in some cases, grain mounts of separated olivines, using natural and synthetic minerals as standards. In all cases, accelerating voltage of 15 kV and specimen beam current of 30 nA were used. Because we used instruments at several institutions (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, University of Texas at Austin, University of Tasmania), replicate analyses were made for selected samples in at least two laboratories to evaluate analytical reproducibility; in all cases, olivine and spinel data agree within expected analytical uncertainties (e.g., better than 0.5 mol% forsterite in olivine). Proportions of  $Fe<sup>3+</sup>$  and end member components in spinel were calculated assuming stoichiometry via the method of Stormer (1983).

Whole-rock analyses of the selected samples were determined using a combination of X-ray fluorescence,

instrumental neutron activation, and inductively coupled plasma spectrometric methods, as described in Smith and Leeman (1987), Leeman et al. (1990), and Smith and Leeman (1993). Replicate analyses of standards indicate typical accuracy and precision for major  $(1-5\%)$  and trace elements  $(2-10\%)$ .

#### **4. Geochemistry of SWC basalts**

Major and trace element compositions for SWC basalts studied here are given in Table 1 and a more extensive compilation of analyses is presented by Leeman et al. (2005). Major elements are normalized to 100% on an anhydrous basis and all iron is reported as FeO\*. Selected geochemical characteristics of SWC basalts are illustrated in Fig. 2 and incompatible trace element compositions, normalized to primitive mantle (Sun and McDonough, 1989), are shown in Fig. 3.

Two fundamental groups of SWC basalts can be identified on the basis of major and trace element chemistry (Lewis et al., 2001; Leeman et al., 2004). Group I includes lavas with trace element geochemistry similar to so-called intraplate (e.g., OIB) basalts, whereas Group II includes lavas with compositional similarities to more typical calcalkalic volcanic arc basalts. Based on  $K_2O$  and incompatible trace element abundances (cf. Figs. 2 and 3), Groups I and II can each be subdivided into three sub-types (cf. Leeman et al., 2004). Group I includes: (1) low-potassium tholeiites (LKT); (2) hynormative basalts with trace element patterns similar to ocean island basalts (OIB); and (3) basalts that are geochemically similar to OIB, but are ne-normative (ALK). Group II includes: (1) calcalkaline basalts (CA); (2) basaltic andesites (BA); and (3) shoshonites (SHOS). As discussed elsewhere (Leeman et al., 1990, 2004; Lewis et al., 2001), the observed diversity of SWC basalts must reflect variability in mantle sources, differences in melting processes or both. The little-evolved nature of many SWC basalts studied here is indicated by their high abundances of MgO (up to 9.5 wt.%), Ni, and Cr (cf. Table 1). As noted in Section 3, basalts from Mount St. Helens are the least primitive of the samples considered here (e.g., wt.% MgO=~5.9 to 6.8; cf. Table 1). Based on extensive chemical analyses, these lavas are interpreted as the products of "cryptic" magma mixing, involving at least two distinct mafic magma end members (Leeman et al., manuscript in preparation). Diverse and/or primitive basalts similar to those in the SWC have been found elsewhere in the Canadian (Green and Harry, 1999), central Washington (Reiners et al., 2000), Oregon (Bacon et al., 1997; Conrey et al., 1997), and especially in the northern California (Borg et al., 1997; Elkins-Tanton et al., 2001) High Cascades.

# **5. Phase chemistry**

Table 2 gives representative analyses of the most magnesian olivine phenocrysts and spinel inclusions occurring in our samples.

#### *5.1. Selecting primitive compositions*

The olivine and spinel compositions provide a means, beyond bulk-rock chemistry, to evaluate the primitive nature of SWC basalts. Before attempting to interpret the phase chemistry in terms of magma source characteristics, it is important to establish the extent to which (1) our samples represent truly primitive liquids and (2) the analyzed olivine–spinel pairs represent the earliest crystallized phases.

The composition of olivine in equilibrium with melt is controlled by the melt Mg#  $[=100$  Mg/ (Mg+Fe<sup>2+</sup>)] and  $K_D$  value for olivine-melt Fe–Mg equilibrium (e.g., Roeder and Emslie, 1970). To compute Mg#, it is necessary to know the redox conditions and, specifically, the appropriate  $Fe^{3+}/\Sigma Fe$  ratio. This parameter was estimated from the  $Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}$  ratio for the most magnesian spinel inclusions analyzed in each sample and the experimentally determined relationship between  $Fe^{2+}/Fe^{3+}$  in spinel and coexisting melt (cf. Maurel and Maurel, 1983; Larsen and Pedersen, 2000). It is noteworthy that  $Fe^{3+}/\Sigma Fe$  exhibits a small range (~0.1 to 0.2;average: 0.15) for most samples, with Group II samples being only slightly higher, on average, than Group I. A similar range in values is obtained from data for other Cascades basalts (Clynne and Borg, 1997; Conrey et al., 1997). Collectively, these data suggest that Cascades basaltic magmas formed under relatively reduced conditions. Comparison of Mg# with maximum Fo content in olivine phenocryst cores (Fig. 4) suggests that olivine compositions are near Fe–Mg equilibrium with liquids represented by the whole-rock compositions for the majority (18 of 28) of our samples. Group II lavas have generally higher whole-rock Mg# and contain more Fo-rich olivines than Group I lavas.

Ten of the SWC samples examined here fail the above test for equilibrium. Five samples—DS-69A-80, L00-6, L01-5, DS-46-80, and DS-20-80—contain olivines that plot above the experimentally predicted envelope (Fig. 4) for olivine-melt equilibria (i.e., above the contour for  $K<sub>D</sub>=0.34$ ). An especially enigmatic sample is DS-69A-80, which has such Fe-rich olivines ( $F<sub>069–73</sub>$ ) that it plots off-scale in Fig. 4. Except for DS-20-80, these samples contain spinel inclusions with anomalously high Fe<sup>3+</sup># (=100 Fe<sup>3+</sup>/  $(Fe<sup>3+</sup>+Cr+Al)$ ; 18 to 82) compared to most SWC samples (cf. Table 2). To evaluate possible oxidation of these spinels by post-eruptive processes, bulk rock Mg# was recalculated using the typical Fe<sup>3+</sup>/∑Fe ratio (0.15). With this correction, one sample (DS-46-80) becomes consistent with olivine-melt equilibria;

however, the remaining anomalous samples do not, and we conclude that the original magmas were unusually oxidized or that they reflect a more complicated evolutionary history (e.g., involving open system processes). Further work is required to resolve their petrogenesis.

Another sample (DS-23B-81; SHOS-type) contains spinels with high  $Fe^{3+}$ # as well as high  $Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>$  contents (cf. Table 2). This rock has relatively low Ni (64 ppm) and Cr (134 ppm) contents and the phenocryst assemblage is complex (cf. Table 1), suggesting an evolved or hybrid nature. In addition, microprobe analyses of clinopyroxene phenocrysts in this rock show evidence (e.g., oscillatory and reverse zoning) for magma mixing and/or assimilation processes. Lastly, when the whole-rock Mg# is recalculated using Fe<sup>3+</sup>/ $\Sigma$ Fe =0.15, this sample plots below the K<sub>D</sub>=0.26 contour, suggesting oxidation.

Four other samples contain olivines with higher Fo contents than expected for their Mg#. These include three from Mount St. Helens (DS-7-, DS-9-, and DS-78-MSH) and one from the frontal arc (L01-11) (cf. Fig. 4). These samples are among the most evolved ones considered here (SiO<sub>2</sub>=50.0–54.1 wt.%, MgO= 5.89–6.84 wt.%). As noted above, many Mount St. Helens basalts are considered to be hybrid magmas; their Fo-rich phenocrysts likely are relict crystals formed in a more primitive mixing end member. Sample L01-11 might also be a hybrid magma; it is the only sample analyzed here that contains two populations of core compositions (Fo<sub>74–78</sub> and Fo<sub>88–89</sub>), which are separated by a gap of ~10 mol% Fo. Neither population plots within the equilibrium  $K_D$  contours in Fig. 4.

In subsequent discussions of primitive magmatic features, we focus attention on the remaining 18 samples that most closely reflect equilibrium conditions between phenocrysts and bulk lava composition. Although these samples span much of the observed range in bulk composition, they are sparsely porphyritic, show little evidence for shallow storage and cooling, have olivine core compositions ( $F_{082-88}$ ) within experimental limits of equilibrium with the bulk rock composition, have high whole-rock Mg# (molar  $MgO/(MgO+FeO^* > 0.56$ , up to 0.67), are characterized by relatively reduced oxidation state (near QFM-NNO redox buffers), and exhibit internally consistent olivine-melt temperatures. As such, we consider these samples to be among the most primitive known lavas from the SWC region.

#### *5.2. Significance of spinel compositional variations*

To evaluate the effects of magmatic fractionation on spinel–olivine chemistry, we examined compositional trends of adjacent olivine–spinel pairs occurring within individual phenocrysts (Figs. 5 and 6). Fig. 5 illustrates variations in spinel Mg#  $[=100 \text{ Mg}/ (\text{Mg+Fe}^{2+})]$  and TiO<sub>2</sub> with Fo content, from cores to rims of single olivine phenocrysts. The observed decrease in Mg# (increase in Fe<sup>2+</sup>) and increase in  $TiO<sub>2</sub>$  in spinel as Fo contents decrease are consistent with solid solution towards magnetite and ülvospinel due to olivine-dominated fractionation. These trends are most likely controlled by spinelliquid equilibria as the spinels are sequentially trapped by the growing olivine host (cf. Luhr and Carmichael, 1985; Clynne, 1993).

Fig. 6 illustrates all available olivine–spinel analyses for seven different samples that were examined in detail. Best-fit lines exhibit trends with positive slopes. Although such trends could be produced by cotectic crystallization of plagioclase plus olivine, this interpretation can be ruled out because phenocrystic plagioclase is lacking in all Group II samples illustrated and in most Group I samples. These trends more likely reflect crystallization of spinel at progressively decreasing pressure during ascent. Experimental data (Roeder and Reynolds, 1991; Jaques and Green, 1980) show that an increase in spinel Cr# similar to that shown by most of our samples can be produced by a pressure drop from 15 to 2 kbar. In other words, much of the compositional variation seen in spinels from individual samples can be attributed to polybaric crystallization during magma ascent. More importantly, the large differences seen in spinels from the respective Groups I and II are inconsistent with crystallization from a common magma type. Rather, the observed range in spinel composition likely reflects differences in magma chemistry inherited from distinct sources and is partly a consequence of degree of partial melting. These contrasts are amplified by comparing those spinels that have the highest Mg# and lowest Cr#.

To summarize, some of the observed variations in the olivine–spinel pairs in SWC basalts can be attributed to compositional changes due to oxidation, fractionation, mixing, and/or pressure changes during magma evolution. To see through these effects, we consider only olivine-hosted spinels in samples for which olivine-host rock equilibrium can be demonstrated, and for which Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> <16.5 wt.%, Fe<sup>3+</sup>#  $\langle 22, \text{ and Mg} \rangle$  is maximal and Cr# is minimal (cf. Clynne and Borg, 1997). Only the 18 samples for which these criteria are met are plotted in subsequent diagrams (Figs. 7–10) and considered during further discussion of basalt petrogenesis.

## *5.3. Magmatic temperatures*

Two methods were used to estimate eruptive temperatures for SWC lavas: (1) thermometry based on MgO-partitioning between olivine cores and silicate melt (Sugawara, 2000); and (2) thermometry based on CaO/MgO equilibrium between olivine and melt (Jurewicz and Watson, 1988; cf. Clynne and Borg, 1997). The Sugawara method results in temperatures ranging from 1168 to 1263 °C assuming anhydrous conditions (Table 1). A pressure  $(\sim 10 \text{ kbar})$  near the Moho is assumed for these calculations, but the method is fairly insensitive  $( $5 \degree C/kbar$ ) to the value assumed. The calculated temperatures also may be$ overestimates if the magmas contained significant water; however, actual temperatures will be lower by only  $\sim$  20 °C for each wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O (Ulmer, 2001; Leeman et al., 2004). Considering estimated water contents in comparable lavas from the Northern California Cascades (Sisson and Layne, 1994), corrections (decreases) to the 'anhydrous temperatures' are likely to be small for the relatively dry Group I basalts, but could range up to ~100 °C for some Group II lavas. Nevertheless, exact corrections for our samples await measurement of H<sub>2</sub>O contents in the respective magmas. Temperatures based on Jurewicz and Watson's work closely mirror the Sugawara temperatures (Table 1), although they are lower by  $\sim$ 20 $\degree$ C; this difference is well within calibration errors for the two methods. No obvious relationship is observed between temperature and magma type. However, if the geochemistry of Group II lavas (cf. Figs. 2 and 3) correlates with increased  $H_2O$ , then actual temperatures for some Group II lavas could be significantly lower than our estimates. Nearly all Group I lavas have estimated eruptive temperatures in excess of  $\sim$ 1200 °C, implying very warm conditions in the underlying mantle. The companion paper by Leeman et al. (2005) in this volume addresses this issue in more detail.

# *5.4. Pressure estimates*

Primitive spinel and host rock compositions were used in equilibria calculations via the method of Allan et al. (1988; cf. Clynne and Borg, 1997) to constrain pressures of crystallization. Although these determinations are imprecise, SWC spinels contain excess Al relative to low-pressure spinels from other localities and are similar to those in mantle xenoliths and lavas interpreted to have crystallized at relatively high pressure (>5 kbar; cf. Fig. 8 in Clynne and Borg, 1997); this result is consistent with our interpretation of polybaric crystallization (cf. Section 5.2). Leeman et al. (2005) estimate and discuss mantle segregation depths for calculated parental magmas; Group I lavas (and particularly the LKT variants) appear to segregate from higher pressures (14.6  $\pm$  3.7 kb) than Group II lavas (10.2  $\pm$  2.5 kb). Elkins-Tanton et al. (2001) derive similar estimates for LKT basalts from northern California.

#### *5.5. Compositional characteristics of SWC primitive spinels*

Based on data for the most primitive spinels and olivines in the 18 selected samples, several important relationships are evident:

(1) Fo contents of the olivine hosts immediately adjacent to analyzed spinel inclusions range from 82 to

88 (Fig. 7); olivines in Group II lavas are somewhat more Mg-rich than those in Group I lavas.

(2) Spinel inclusions encapsulated within olivine hosts exhibit a wide range of Cr# (from 20 to 57; Figs. 7A and 8B) and  $Al_2O_3$  contents (from 16.6 to 46.3 wt.%).

(3) Spinel Cr# for Group I lavas are systematically lower (<41) than those (>45) for Group II lavas (Figs. 7A and 8B)

(4) Spinel Mg# ranges from 45 to 71 (Figs. 7C–D and 8A). Although these values overlap for Group I and II, each group defines distinct clusters on plots of Mg# against spinel Cr# or olivine Fo (Figs. 7B and 8A).

(5) Although no clear trend is observed in Fe<sup>2+</sup>/ $\Sigma$ Fe vs. Mg# in Group I spinels, Group II lavas have generally lower Fe<sup>2+</sup>/ $\Sigma$ Fe (i.e., higher Fe<sup>3+</sup>) than most Group I lavas (Fig. 7D).

(6) It is not possible to distinguish among spinels in lava subtypes (e.g., ALK vs. OIB vs. LKT) within either Group I or II.

Our results are similar to what has been observed in lavas of the Lassen region (northern California). Although more primitive (in accord with generally higher whole-rock Mg#s), spinels in Lassen basalts are compositionally similar to those in SWC basalts. Spinels in basalts from the Oregon High Cascades (Conrey et al., 1997) and additional samples from the vicinity of Mt. Adams (Hildreth and Fierstein, 1997) are likewise similar to the results reported here.

Fig. 8B compares  $A_1O_3$  and TiO<sub>2</sub> contents for spinels in SWC basalts with those for spinels occurring in a variety of tectonic environments (cf. Kamenetsky et al., 2001). Groups I and II define distinct fields in this diagram. Interestingly, all available SWC spinel data plot in the field for mid-ocean ridge basalts rather than that for typical arc lavas. As the diagram depends heavily on data for western Pacific volcanic arcs, this apparent anomaly may reflect differences in the sub-arc mantle possibly due to different melting histories.

### **6. Discussion and conclusions**

The mineral and whole-rock chemical data reported here suggest an origin for SWC basalts via melting of heterogeneous domains in the sub-arc mantle. Albeit some variations within the general population of olivine–spinel pairs of SWC basalts can be attributed to variations in  $fO_2$ , fractionation, mixing, and/or pressure changes during magma evolution (cf. Section 5.2), the impact of these parameters on spinel Cr# are relatively small (Clynne and Borg, 1997) and cannot account for variations between primitive spinels

in Groups I and II.

The mantle array for coexisting olivine and spinel (Arai, 1994, cf. Figs. 6 and 7B) illustrates that spinel Cr# and olivine Fo contents increase as peridotite sources become more refractory. For example, depleted harzburgites contain spinels with higher Cr# than fertile spinel lherzolites and pyroxenites (Dick and Fisher, 1984). Minor variations (~5% to 10%) in degree of partial melting of either fertile or depleted sources can explain the small ranges in spinel Cr# within either Group I or Group II. However, distinctly higher spinel Cr# for Group II lavas (Fig. 7A) require unrealistically large degrees of partial melting if they are to be derived from the same source generating Group I lavas. We suggest instead higher Cr# for Group II spinels indicate derivation of Group II magmas from more refractory sources than Group I. The somewhat higher average Fo (87 vs. 84 wt.%) and NiO (0.33 vs. 0.23 wt.%) contents of olivines in Group II vs. Group I lavas provide further evidence for this view, as do whole-rock geochemical features for Group II, e.g., generally higher Mg# (Fig. 4), and lower FeO\* and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  (Fig. 9E–F).

The "within-plate"-like chemistry of most Group I lavas (cf. Fig. 3A) precludes significant slab-derived contributions and is consistent with upwelling and decompression melting of little modified and relatively fertile mantle wedge material, as originally suggested by Leeman et al. (1990). Large ion lithophile and fluid-mobile element enrichments in Group II lavas (e.g., Fig. 9A–B) are, in principle, related to influx of slab fluids that enrich these elements in portions of the mantle wedge proximal to the subducting slab (cf. Pearce and Peate, 1995), and melting may be triggered by influx of such fluids (cf. Reiners et al., 2000). Lower Fe<sup>2+</sup>/∑Fe ratios in Group II compared to Group I spinels (cf. Fig. 7D) are consistent with crystallization from slightly more oxidized magmas derived from a fluid-metasomatized mantle source. However, beryllium isotopic and trace element data for Quaternary SWC basalts (Morris and Tera, 1989; Leeman et al., 1990) imply that the slab may have been largely dehydrated by the time it reached sub-arc mantle depths. Only basalts from the frontal part of the arc exhibit elevated concentrations of fluidmobile elements indicative of significant slab contributions to the overlying mantle and, compared to most other arcs, the observed enrichments are weak (cf. Ryan et al., 1995, 1996). Given this apparent lack of modern fluid fluxing, an alternative interpretation for Group II magmas is that they represent melts of "fossil" metasomatized source domains within the sub-arc lithospheric mantle. Fluid fluxing and mobile element enrichment could have occurred anytime in the 40 Myr duration of Cascadia subduction. The influx of hot, decompression magmas (Group I) could cause reheating and anatexis of these metasomatized domains. This scenario involves two (or more) distinct processes of melt production and at least two mantle sources, each of which may be internally heterogeneous.

A noteworthy feature is the close temporal and spatial occurrence of SWC primitive basalts. All of the lavas studied here are young (~1 Ma). At Mount St. Helens and within the Indian Heaven lava field, lavas from both Groups I and II issued from either the same or proximal vents. Given this observation and the whole-rock and mineral chemistry, we infer that mantle sources beneath the SWC arc are heterogeneous on the scale of local plumbing systems. Fig. 10 illustrates that there is no clear relationship between the phase chemistry of primitive SWC basalts and their location across the arc. Additional studies are required to address (1) the spatial distribution of magma sources (e.g., is the mantle heterogeneous on a small scale or is it stratified/layered on a large scale?), and (2) the viability of re-melting fossil metasomatized domains within either shallow mantle wedges or lithospheric mantle.

If real, the distinction of two 'flavors' of mantle source, with different degrees of fertility and broad distribution beneath the arc, suggests the need for a different perspective on arc magmatism. Clynne and Borg (1997) and Borg et al. (1997) also observed differences in degree of mantle fertility beneath the northern California Cascades. However, they inferred the presence of more depleted sources nearer the frontal arc region and proposed that the observed spatial variation resulted from progressive meltdepletion of convecting wedge mantle. We also observe lavas indicative of depleted sources near the arc front, but additionally find some frontal arc lavas to be derived from relatively fertile (OIB-like) sources—implying that depleted sources cannot simply reflect a progressive depletion process. Our results also preclude a simple flux melting model (e.g., Reiners et al., 2000) to produce the observed compositional spectrum from an initially homogeneous mantle source.

The unusually warm nature of the Cascadia subduction zone may be an important factor in showcasing diversity in mantle wedge composition. Perhaps the absence of a strong slab-flux signature prevents ubiquitous overprinting of the wedge mantle chemistry, such that inherent heterogeneities can be preserved during melting processes. In contrast, elevated flux levels in cooler subduction zones may cause flux melting processes to dominate and generate the geochemical characteristics widely considered 'typical' for volcanic arcs.

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Figure 1:



Fig. 1. Location map showing extent of High Cascades volcanic cover (shaded areas) and major Cascade stratovolcanoes (black dots) and plate tectonic features (after Guffanti and Weaver, 1988; Romanyuk et al., 1998). The Indian Heaven (IH) lava field is indicated by short dashed line. G, Mount Garibaldi; B, Mount Baker; GP, Glacier Peak; R, Mount Rainier; SH, Mount St. Helens; A, Mount Adams; H, Mount Hood; J, Mount Jefferson; CL, Crater Lake; S, Mount Shasta; L, Lassen Peak. The 40-, 60-, and 100-km contours (dashed lines) indicate depth to the subducted slab (Michaelson and Weaver, 1986; Romanyuk et al., 1998).





T, J and W $^*$ SS=eruptive temperature (in °C) calculated via the method of Jurewicz and Watson (1988); see text for discussion.<br>
T, S $^*$ O<br/>elementature (in °C) calculated via the method of Sugawara (2000); see text fo









Table 2 (continued)

	Spinel compositions															
	SiO <sub>2</sub>	TiO <sub>2</sub>			$AbO3$ $V2O3$ $CbO3$ $Fe2O3$ $FeO4$				$MnO$ $MgO$	NiO	ZnO	SUM*	$Fe2+/Fe3+$	Mg#	Cr#	$\text{Fe}^{3+}$ #
$L$ 00-6	0.32	0.71	8.41	0.14	27.77	29.47	23.67	n.d.	5.96	0.11	n.a.	96.57	0.89	31.0	68.9	41.0
$LO1-6$	0.15		0.53 25.55	n.a.	34.89	11.10	13.58 0.26		14.91	0.28	0.13	101.37	1.36	66.2		47.8 12.6
L01-21	0.11		0.88 26.42	n.a.	32.32	11.19	14.55 0.22		14.37	0.39	0.03	100.48	1.45	63.7		45.1 12.9
L01-23	0.14		0.96 24.66	n.a.	32.67	12.36	14.52 0.18		14.15	0.31	0.23	100.18	1.30	63.5		47.1 14.5
$LOO-10$	0.05	1.20	20.32	0.22	33.14	11.65	18.43 0.42		10.30	0.43	n.a.	96.16	1.62	49.5		52.2 16.4
$LO1-5$	0.12	0.65	15.05	n.a.	38.76	14.38	21.76 0.14		8.14	0.19	0.31	99.50	1.68	40.0		63.3 18.3
$LO1-11$	0.14	0.47	25.13	n.a.	36.66	8.79	13.70	0.19	14.57	0.21	0.10	99.97	1.73	65.5	49.5 10.1	
DS-42-81	n.d.	1.47	16.61	0.09	33.34	16.47	19.38 0.34		9.73	0.32	0.22	97.97	1.31	47.2		57.4 21.3
DS-23B-81	n.d.	0.19	15.35	0.17	22.75	32.90	19.10 0.28		9.42	0.59	0.07	100.81	0.65	46.8	49.8	40.7

For each sample, compositions of adjacent spinel and olivine pairs are given.

n.d.=not detected; n.a.=not analyzed; Mg#=100Mg/(Mg+Fe<sup>2+</sup>); Cr#=100Cr/(Cr+Al); Fe<sup>3+</sup>#=100Fe<sup>3+</sup>/(Fe<sup>3+</sup>+Cr+Al).

\* Four samples have totals <97.5 wt%; however, only one (L00-10) is shown in Figs. 7-10 because the other three failed the olivine-melt equilibrium test (see Section 5.1).

Figure 2:



Fig. 2. Selected geochemical features of SWC basalts: (A) wt.% K<sub>2</sub>O vs. wt.% SiO<sub>2</sub>; (B) Ba/TiO<sub>2</sub> vs. wt.% SiO<sub>2</sub>; (C) (Sr/P)<sub>N</sub> (Sr and P normalized to Sun and McDonough's (1989) values of 21.2 and 95 ppm, respectively) vs. wt.% SiO2; (D) Ba (ppm) vs. wt.% TiO2; (E) K2O/ TiO<sub>2</sub> vs. wt% MgO; (F) Sr/Y vs. wt.% MgO. Group I lavas, open symbols: inverted triangles=ALK; circles=OIB; squares=LKT. Group II lavas, filled symbols: triangles=CA; diamonds=BA; crosses=SHOS. Full and dashed lines encircle Group I and II lavas, respectively. In addition to compositions given in Table 1, analyses of primitive lavas from Indian Heaven are also shown (Smith and Leeman, manuscript in preparation). See text for further discussion.





Fig. 3. Primitive mantle-normalized trace element patterns for (A) Group I and (B) Group II basalts (Leeman et al., 2004; Smith and Leeman, manuscript in preparation). Normalizing values from Sun and McDonough (1989); symbols as in Fig. 2.

Figure 4:



Fig. 4. Whole-rock Mg# [=100 Mg/(Mg+Fe<sup>2+</sup>)] vs. forsterite (Fo) in olivine core compositions (error bars are indicated). With the exception of sample DS-69A-80 (which plots off scale), the maximum Fo content is plotted for each sample. Symbols as in Fig. 2. Dashed lines show olivine-liquid  $K_D$  contours. Shaded squares next to five data points represent shifts in whole-rock Mg# that occur as a result of using Fe<sup>3+</sup>/  $\Sigma$ Fe=0.15 instead of higher values suggested by chemistry of spinels in those samples (see text for further explanation).





Fig. 5. Compositional trends in (A) Mg# in spinel and (B) wt.% TiO<sub>2</sub> in spinel vs. Fo in olivine for contiguous olivine-spinel pairs analyzed within individual olivine phenocrysts. Tie-lines connect olivine-spinel pairs occurring in cores (open symbols) with pairs in rims (filled symbols) for 11 phenocrysts occurring in five different samples: DS-6A-80 (LKT), diamonds; DS-2A-80 (OIB), squares; DS-26A-80 (OIB), circles; L00-8 (ALK), hexagons; DS-42-81 (SHOS), triangles. Half-filled symbols represent points between cores and rims.





Fig. 6. (A) Cr# [=100 Cr/(Cr+Al)] in spinel vs. Fo in olivine for seven selected SWC samples. Symbols as in Fig. 2. OSMA=olivine-spinel mantle array (from Arai, 1994). For each sample, best-fit lines are drawn through all available olivine-spinel pairs. (B) Best-fit lines drawn in (A) are keyed to phenocryst phases observed in each sample (mp.=microphenocrystic; tr.=trace). (C) Fractionation vectors for plagioclase (PL), olivine (OL), clinopyroxene (CPX), and spinel (SP). See text for discussion.

Figure 7:



Fig. 7. (A) Cr# in spinel and (B) Mg# in spinel vs. Fo in olivine; (C) wt% TiO<sub>2</sub> in spinel and (D) Fe<sup>2+</sup>/ $\sum$ Fe in spinel vs. Mg# in spinel. Symbols as in Fig. 2. Only those analyses that meet criteria for most primitive spinels are shown (see text for discussion). Panel (A) illustrates the olivine-spinel mantle array (OSMA; from Arai, 1994). A vector plotted within the OSMA array illustrates the trend in Cr# in spinel and Fo in olivine with increasing degree of partial melting (or decreasing source fertility). Note that for an anhydrous fertile peridotite source, 30% partial melting is required to increase Cr# from 15 to 60 (Baker and Stolper, 1994; Clynne and Borg, 1997).

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Fig. 8. Additional chemical features of spinels in SWC basalts (only those analyses that meet the criteria for most primitive compositions are shown). Symbols as in Fig. 2. (A) Cr# vs. Mg#. The dashed outlined field includes compositions of spinels during progressive melting of mantle peridotite (from Baker and Stolper, 1994; Wasylenki et al., 2003; Matsukage and Kubo, 2003). Estimates of primary spinel compositions for Group I and II are shown by open and ruled rectangles, respectively. These estimates were made by assuming that liquidus spinels are compositionally similar to those in the source residuum and by taking into account changes in Cr# and Mg# expected during magma evolution (cf. Section 5.2). (B) Wt.%  $Al_2O_3$  vs. wt.% TiO<sub>2</sub>. Fields are shown for spinels from large igneous provinces (LIP), ocean island basalts (OIB), arc basalts (ARC) and mid-ocean ridge basalts (MORB) (after Kamenetsky et al., 2001).

Figure 9:



Fig. 9. Cr# in spinel vs. (A) wt% K<sub>2</sub>O, (B) Ba (ppm), (C) Zr (ppm) (D) Ba/Zr, (E) wt.% FeO\*, (F) wt% A  $b$ O<sub>3</sub>, (G) Y (ppm), and (H) Cr (ppm) in the host rock. Symbols and lines as in Fig. 2. Only those spinels that meet

Figure 10:



Fig. 10. (A) Fo in olivine, (B) Cr# in spinel, and (3) mantle segregation pressure (in kilobars) vs. sample location given by longitude (cf. Table 1). Pressures are from Leeman et al. (2005, Table 1) and were calculated via the method of Albarède (1992). Numbers adjacent to data points in panel (C) represent the spinel Cr# (also illustrated in panel (B)). Only the most primitive olivine and spinel compositions are illustrated. Symbols as in Fig. 2; SH=Mount St. Helens; A=Mount Adams.