"The formation of continental crust in arcs: The seismological perspective"

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Subduction zone mass balance [km³/a]



Jagoutz and Schmidt, 2013, EPSL

Exposed arc sections

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Jagoutz et al., 2011, EPSL

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Depth (km)





How to 'translate' an exposed arc section

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How to 'translate' an exposed arc section

Karakoram-Kohistan Suture 72°0' E 74°0' E Gilgit Complex Yasin detrital series Main Karakoram Fault 50 Km Volcanosedimentary groups (Dir, Utror, Shamran and Chalt) Metasediments 232.6 Mastuj 🌑 Plutonic rocks (Kohistan batholith) Chilas Complex Gabbro-norite with ultramafite Gabbro/diorite plutons with ultramafite +... 36°0' N Felsic Intrusions Chitral Southern Plutonic Complex Meta-Diorite Para- & Ortho-Amphibolites kbar Ortho-Amphibolites Mantle Ultramafite (Jijal, Sapat) osh MORB-type incl. gabbros, Astor volcanics Nanga Parbat kÐar⊦ ∕8125▲ Tajikistan\ China Afghanistar 35°0' N 8 kd Bapat 30°N Pakistan Besham ŕan India Indian Plate Mingora ^{60°E} Ocean 80°E 70°E

Composition vs Depth

'Cumulate' dominated plutonics

'Liquid' dominated plutonics













Magmatic growth of a cumulate layer

 $h = q\alpha t$

- h = Cumulate layer thickness t = time
- q = magma flux
- α = fractionation factor

Instability growth rates (after Jull and Kelemen, 2001)

$$t_{b} = \left(\frac{n}{C'}\right)^{n} \frac{Z_{0}^{(1-n)}}{n-1}S$$
$$S = \left(\frac{B}{2\Delta\rho gh}\right)^{n}$$
$$B = A^{-1/n} \exp\left(\frac{Q}{nRT}\right)^{n}$$





Conclusions

• Foundering of the density unstable lower arc crust can explain the location and the characteristics of the continental Moho

Conclusions

- Continental crust can be formed in oceanic arcs
- Foundering of density unstable lower crust is an essential mechanism :
 - The composition of the CC
 - The location and characteristics of the CC Moho
 - Influence on the global 'mantle zoo'



Jagoutz et al., 2011, EPSL

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Depth (km)







Schmidt and Jagoutz, EPSL accepted



Jagoutz and Behn, in prep



The problem



Arc production rate ~ 1.5 -7 km³/a

 $If C_{arc} = C_{parcmelt}$

 \Rightarrow Arc production rate=Arc magma flux

Else

Arc production rate= Arc magma flux-delamination flux and

 $yC_{arc} = xC_{parcmelt} - (1-x)C_{delaminat}$

We need: C_{arc}, C_{delaminat}, C_{parcmelt}, x

Take home messages

• A 'hidden' mass flux at the mantle-crust interface in arc exist that has a similar magnitude as the subduction of oceanic crust

• Foundering of the density unstable lower arc crust can explain the location and the characteristics of the continental Moho

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Step 1: modern mature island arc crust (= the Kohistan) is similar to continental crust



Cu

Zn

Y Yb

Rudnick+Gao (2003)

Jagoutz+Schmidt (2012)

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Step 2: primitive (basaltic calc-alkaline/tholeiitic) mantle melts in arcs

Compilation of primitive volcanics from GEOROC data base (Mainz)

	calc-alkaline / tholeiitic										
	Aleutians	Bismark	Kuriles	Marianas	Tonga	Vanuatu	Yap	Palau	Kohistan	average	
n	12	9	14	20	13	31	4	13	10		
SiO ₂ (wt%)	49.8	50.5	51.5	50.2	49.3	49.4	49.5	51.2	50.7	50.2	
TiO ₂	0.75	0.99	0.83	0.91	0.60	0.69	0.59	0.60	0.80	0.8	
Al ₂ O ₃	15.7	14.9	14.7	15.7	12.0	12.9	15.2	16.5	15.6	14.8	
FeO ^{tot}	8.8	9.0	8.8	8.1	9.3	9.6	8.6	7.9	8.6	8.8	
MnO	0.16	0.17	0.16	0.13	0.18	0.19	0.17	0.16	0.14	0.2	
MgO	11.1	10.9	10.9	10.9	13.4	12.7	11.1	10.7	10.9	11.4	
CaO	10.5	11.1	9.9	11.3	10.5	11.1	12.9	9.9	9.9	10.8	
Na ₂ O	2.4	2.2	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.6	2.4	2.2	
K ₂ O	0.70	0.31	0.83	0.37	2.12	0.98	0.18	0.28	0.61	0.7	
P_2O_5	0.13	0.11	0.14	0.12	0.46	0.20	0.05	0.07	0.19	0.2	
X _{Mg} ^b	0.691	0.684	0.687	0.705	0.718	0.702	0.697	0.707	0.693	0.7	
Cr (ppm)	611	545	647	456	697	666	507	689	512	592	
Ni	208	213	196	240	300	242	153	207	167	214	

 $X_{Mg} = 0.65-0.74$ Ni = 150-500 Cr = 300-1100

Tonga, Marianas and Aleutians also have primitive high-Mg andesites



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We need: $C_{arc}, C_{delaminat}, C_{parcmelt}, \mathbf{X}$

Simple global mass balance

contin	ental crust	primitive arc melts						
		Kuriles			Mariannas			
Nonistan	Ruunick Gao							
		Calc-alkalli		aikaiirie	DOITINILE			
56.94	60.60	51.50	50.72	45.41	56.68			
0.73	0.72	0.82	0.80	2.42	0.34			
0.00	0.00	0.10	0.06	0.06	0.09			
17.17	15.90	14.74	15.67	13.17	14.08			
7.58	6.71	8.82	8.60	11.06	7.63			
0.15	0.10	0.16	0.14	0.18	0.15			
4.96	4.66	10.93	10.87	12.62	10.42			
8.02	6.41	9.85	9.88	9.88	7.94			
3.09	3.07	2.25	2.43	3.49	2.00			
1.19	1.81	0.78	0.61	1.30	0.67			
0.17	0.13	0.14	0.19	0.49	0.06			
100.0								
0.54	0.55	0.69	0.69	0.67	0.71			
	Kohistan							
	hblgrtt		7.0					
	gabbro		45.4	239				
	Koh.crust	41.0	29.9	129	72.6			
	r^2	0.84	2.6	6.5	50			
	RG							
	wherlite	16.5	19.3	-3.4	13.0			
	hblgrtt	1.0	-8.7	190	58.7			
	gabbro	59.2	75.2	-166	-16.6			
	RG-crust	23.2	14.3	80.3	44.9			
	r^2	1.2	3.1	9.2	49			
	Kohistan 56.94 0.73 0.00 17.17 7.58 0.15 4.96 8.02 3.09 1.19 0.17 100.0	56.94 60.60 0.73 0.72 0.00 0.00 17.17 15.90 7.58 6.71 0.15 0.10 4.96 4.66 8.02 6.41 3.09 3.07 1.19 1.81 0.17 0.13 100.0 0.55 Kohistan wherlite hblgrtt gabbro Koh.crust RG wherlite hblgrtt gabbro RG-crust RG-crust	Kohistan Rudnick+Gao Kuriles calc-alkalin calc-alkalin 56.94 60.60 51.50 0.73 0.72 0.82 0.00 0.00 0.10 17.17 15.90 14.74 7.58 6.71 8.82 0.15 0.10 0.16 4.96 4.66 10.93 8.02 6.41 9.85 3.09 3.07 2.25 1.19 1.81 0.78 0.17 0.13 0.14 100.0	Kohistan Rudnick+Gao Kuriles Kohistan 56.94 60.60 51.50 50.72 0.73 0.72 0.82 0.80 0.00 0.00 0.10 0.06 17.17 15.90 14.74 15.67 7.58 6.71 8.82 8.60 0.15 0.10 0.16 0.14 4.96 4.66 10.93 10.87 8.02 6.41 9.85 9.88 3.09 3.07 2.25 2.43 1.19 1.81 0.78 0.61 0.17 0.13 0.14 0.19 100.0	KohistanRudnick+GaoKurilesKohistanAleutians alkaline56.94 60.60 51.50 50.72 45.41 0.73 0.72 0.82 0.80 2.42 0.00 0.00 0.10 0.06 0.06 17.17 15.90 14.74 15.67 13.17 7.58 6.71 8.82 8.60 11.06 0.15 0.10 0.16 0.14 0.18 4.96 4.66 10.93 10.87 12.62 8.02 6.41 9.85 9.88 9.88 3.09 3.07 2.25 2.43 3.49 1.19 1.81 0.78 0.61 1.30 0.17 0.13 0.14 0.19 0.49 100.0 $$	Kohistan Rudnick+Gao Kuriles Kohistan Aleutians Mariannas 56.94 60.60 51.50 50.72 45.41 56.68 0.73 0.72 0.82 0.80 2.42 0.34 0.00 0.00 0.10 0.06 0.06 0.09 17.17 15.90 14.74 15.67 13.17 14.08 7.58 6.71 8.82 8.60 11.06 7.63 0.15 0.10 0.16 0.14 0.18 0.15 4.96 4.66 10.93 10.87 12.62 10.42 8.02 6.41 9.85 9.88 9.88 7.94 3.09 3.07 2.25 2.43 3.49 2.00 1.19 1.81 0.78 0.61 1.30 0.67 0.54 0.55 0.69 0.69 0.67 0.71 0.54 0.55 0.69		



Schmidt and Jagoutz, 2013 EPSL

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Schmidt and Jagoutz, EPSL accepted

Important reservoir for the Pb paradox ?





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