

# 1 Variations of Li and Mg isotope ratios in bulk chondrites and mantle xenoliths

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## 13 Abstract

14 We present whole rock Li and Mg isotope analyses of 33 ultramafic xenoliths from  
15 the terrestrial mantle, which we compare with analyses of 30 (mostly chondritic)  
16 meteorites. The accuracy of our new Mg isotope ratio measurement protocol is  
17 substantiated by a combination of standard addition experiments, the absence of mass  
18 independent effects in terrestrial samples and our obtaining identical values for rock  
19 standards using 2 different separation chemistries and 3 different mass-spectrometric  
20 introduction systems. Carbonaceous, ordinary and enstatite chondrites have  
21 irresolvable mean stable Mg isotopic compositions ( $\delta^{25}\text{Mg} = -0.14 \pm 0.06\%$ ;  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -$   
22  $0.27 \pm 0.12\%$ , 2sd), but our enstatite chondrite samples have lighter  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  (by up to  
23  $\sim 3\%$ ) than our mean carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites ( $3.0 \pm 1.5\%$ , 2sd),  
24 possibly as a result of spallation in the early solar system. Measurements of  
25 equilibrated, fertile peridotites give mean values of  $\delta^7\text{Li} = 3.5 \pm 0.5\%$ ,  $\delta^{25}\text{Mg} = -0.10$   
26  $\pm 0.03\%$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.21 \pm 0.07\%$ . We believe these values provide a useful  
27 estimate of the primitive mantle and they are within error of our average of bulk  
28 carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites. A fuller range of fresh, terrestrial, ultramafic  
29 samples, covering a variety of geological histories, show a broad positive correlation  
30 between bulk  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ , which vary from  $-3.7$  to  $+14.5\%$ , and  $-0.36$  to  $+0.06\%$ ,  
31 respectively. Values of  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  lower than our estimate of primitive mantle  
32 are strongly linked to kinetic isotope fractionation, occurring during transport of the  
33 mantle xenoliths. We suggest Mg and Li diffusion into the xenoliths is coupled to H

34 loss from nominally anhydrous minerals following degassing. Diffusion models  
35 suggest that the co-variation of Mg and Li isotopes requires comparable diffusivities  
36 of Li and Mg in olivine. The isotopically lightest samples require ~5-10 years of  
37 diffusive ingress, which we interpret as a time since volatile loss in the host magma.  
38 Xenoliths erupted in pyroclastic flows appear to have retained their mantle isotope  
39 ratios, likely as a result of little prior degassing in these explosive events. High  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ ,  
40 coupled with high [Li], in rapidly cooled arc peridotites may indicate that these  
41 samples represent fragments of mantle wedge that has been metasomatised by heavy,  
42 slab-derived fluids. If such material is typically stirred back into the convecting  
43 mantle, it may account for the heavy  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  seen in some oceanic basalts.

44

#### 45 1.0 Introduction

46 New stable isotopic tracers provide novel means to assess the composition of  
47 the mantle, its relationship to meteoritic building blocks and processes that cause  
48 heterogeneity. Both lithium ( $^6\text{Li}$  and  $^7\text{Li}$ ) and magnesium ( $^{24}\text{Mg}$ ,  $^{25}\text{Mg}$  and  $^{26}\text{Mg}$ )  
49 isotopes have received considerable recent interest e.g. (Tomascak, 2004; Young and  
50 Galy, 2004), the former for its potential to trace recycled material e.g. (Elliott et al.,  
51 2004), and the latter as a major constituent of the mantle. There are some notable  
52 similarities in the elemental and isotopic behaviour of Li and Mg which make it  
53 worthwhile to consider these tracers jointly. Lithium readily substitutes for Mg in  
54 many mineral structures, having a comparable ionic radius (Shannon and Prewitt,  
55 1969). Notably, Li and Mg are both largely hosted in olivine in the shallow mantle.  
56 Cosmochemically, Mg and Li are only moderately volatile and so the isotopic  
57 composition of meteorites should usefully inform on the bulk composition of the  
58 Earth e.g. (Palme and O'Neill, 2003). The large relative mass differences between  $^7\text{Li}$ -  
59  $^6\text{Li}$  and  $^{26}\text{Mg}$ - $^{24}\text{Mg}$  result in considerable variability in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  in the low-  
60 temperature silicate weathering environment e.g. (Chan et al., 1992; Tipper et al.,  
61 2006b), but the relatively high diffusivities of Li (Svanson and Johansson, 1970;  
62 Jambon et al., 1978; Lowry et al., 1982) and to a lesser extent Mg (Morioka, 1981;  
63 Chakraborty et al., 1994) can result in their diffusive isotopic fractionation at  
64 magmatic temperatures (Richter et al., 2003; Lundstrom et al., 2005; Teng et al.,  
65 2006; Richter et al., 2008).

66 Here we make a coupled Li and Mg isotopic study of magma-hosted,  
67 ultramafic xenoliths. An impetus for this combination is to use Mg to help better  
68 understand the importance of diffusive fractionations in the Li isotopic composition of  
69 mantle-derived samples. Although the role of diffusive fractionation of Li during  
70 entrainment, transport and eruption of xenoliths is well documented, especially at the  
71 mineral scale (Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Rudnick and Ionov, 2007; Tang et al., 2007;  
72 Ionov and Seitz, 2008; Kaliwoda et al., 2008), its importance in influencing bulk  
73 xenolith compositions is less clear. Moreover, it is anticipated that deep recycling of  
74 surface materials might create primary differences in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  within the mantle, as has  
75 been inferred from the Li isotopic compositions of some oceanic basalts (Chan and  
76 Frey, 2003; Ryan and Kyle, 2004; Nishio et al., 2005; Elliott et al., 2006; Chan et al.,  
77 2009). Thus it would be useful to be able to distinguish primary variability from  
78 recent diffusive fractionation. Mg offers the potential to clarify this ambiguity. As the  
79 major mantle cation, addition of recycled material will have minimal effect on its  
80 isotopic ratio, whereas diffusive processes will likely fractionate Mg together with Li  
81 (Richter et al., 2003; Richter et al., 2008). Hence we have analysed whole rock Li and  
82 Mg isotopic ratios on a range of xenoliths, including samples in which variable  
83 amounts of diffusive fractionation have already been identified (Jeffcoate et al., 2007;  
84 Rudnick and Ionov, 2007), a suite of xenoliths from a mantle wedge setting that might  
85 display primary heavy Li isotope signatures and additional samples that have  
86 experienced a range of metasomatic enrichment processes.

87 In order to identify perturbation of Li and Mg isotope ratios from either  
88 recycling or diffusion, it is necessary to establish a reference for the primitive mantle.  
89 Thus we have also analysed a range of chondritic meteorites. Given the recent  
90 profusion of not always consistent Mg isotopic data for mantle-derived samples  
91 (Norman et al., 2006; Pearson et al., 2006; Teng et al., 2007; Wiechert and Halliday,  
92 2007; Handler et al., 2009; Huang et al., 2009a; Yang et al., 2009; Bourdon et al.,  
93 2010; Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010; Teng et al., 2010; Bizzarro et al., 2011; Huang  
94 et al., 2011) we have also made some effort to assess the accuracy of Mg isotopic  
95 measurements by using several different approaches.

96

## 97 2.0 Samples

98 We have largely focussed on whole-rock samples in order to obtain  
99 representative bulk compositions. Studies of traditional, radiogenic, highly

100 incompatible isotope tracers have noted that element budgets hosted along grain  
101 boundaries can have a major influence on bulk xenolith compositions (Zindler and  
102 Jagoutz, 1988) and so have typically focussed on analysing individual mineral phases.  
103 Such problems should not be a concern for a compatible element like Mg, or even a  
104 moderately incompatible one like Li, for which an overwhelming fraction of the  
105 element is hosted in the major mineral phases. Moreover, the assumption for  
106 radiogenic isotopic systems that the composition of one phase can represent the bulk  
107 is less robust for stable isotopic systems (e.g. Li, Mg, Ca), in which there might be  
108 significant intra-mineral equilibrium fractionation (Seitz et al., 2004; Young et al.,  
109 2009; Huang et al., 2010b; Li et al., 2011). In the case of Li, it can be also difficult to  
110 reconstitute bulk compositions from individual mineral analyses of highly isotopically  
111 zoned constituent minerals (Jeffcoate et al., 2007).

112 Well-characterised, ultramafic xenoliths from several different geodynamic  
113 settings, with variable histories of enrichment and depletion were analysed. Figure 1  
114 illustrates the variability in melt depletion and metasomatism experienced by different  
115 sample suites, as indicated by Mg# and primitive mantle normalised La/Sm  
116 (McDonough and Frey, 1989; Workman and Hart, 2005). Many of the samples in this  
117 study have also been analysed for Fe isotopes by Weyer and Ionov (2007). Our  
118 samples include xenoliths hosted in the Cenozoic alkali basalts from Tok in the SE  
119 Siberian craton (Ionov et al., 2005b; Ionov et al., 2005c; Ionov et al., 2006), from off-  
120 craton sites in central Asia (Preß et al., 1986; Ionov and Wood, 1992; Ionov, 2004;  
121 Ionov et al., 2005a; Ionov, 2007; Ionov and Hofmann, 2007), and xenoliths from the  
122 Avacha andesitic volcano in Kamchatka (Weyer and Ionov, 2007; Ionov and Seitz,  
123 2008; Ionov, 2010). Brief overviews of the xenolith localities are provided below.

124 The cratonic Tok xenoliths represent two different groups: lherzolite-  
125 harzburgite (LH), comprising fertile to highly refractory peridotite, and lherzolite-  
126 wehrlite (LW) groups, where complete or large-scale replacement of orthopyroxene  
127 by clinopyroxene has occurred (Ionov et al., 2005b; Ionov et al., 2005c; Ionov et al.,  
128 2006; Rudnick and Ionov, 2007). The LH group reflects variable amounts of melt  
129 extraction at shallow levels from a fertile source. Refractory LH peridotites (olivine-  
130 rich, cpx-poor) are strongly metasomatised, probably by several metasomatic stages  
131 (first by percolation of evolved fluids, then by alkali-rich fluids) and tend to be  
132 relatively enriched in the LREE (Fig. 1). The associated lherzolite-wehrlite (LW)  
133 group was formed by the reaction of refractory residual peridotite (i.e. the LH series

134 protolith) with evolved Fe-rich silicate liquids and are characterised by complete or  
135 large-scale replacement of orthopyroxene by clinopyroxene and low Mg# (<0.89)  
136 (Ionov et al., 2005b, Ionov et al., 2005c; Ionov et al., 2006; Rudnick and Ionov,  
137 2007). Unlike most of the other samples (below), xenoliths from the Tok locality are  
138 typically hosted in lava flows rather than pyroclastic eruptions (Table 1).

139 Off-craton xenoliths are represented by samples from Tariat (Ionov, 2007;  
140 Ionov and Hofmann, 2007) and Dariganga (Wiechert et al., 1997) in Mongolia, and  
141 Vitim in southern Siberia (Ionov, 2004; Ionov et al., 2005a). These samples generally  
142 comprise fertile spinel and garnet lherzolites, which are uncommon in global  
143 occurrence, and some spinel harzburgites, some of which have been variably  
144 metasomatised. The Mongolian (Tariat) peridotite xenoliths are fertile spinel  
145 lherzolites and spinel harzburgites, some of which have also been variably  
146 metasomatised. Metasomatic processes include Fe-enrichment through chemical  
147 exchange between the host peridotite and percolating Fe-rich melt with no significant  
148 phase reactions. Prior to metasomatism, these samples were probably fairly fertile  
149 peridotites depleted by generally low-degree but variable melt extraction, and some  
150 samples (Mo-101) retain their fertile character (Ionov, 2007; Ionov and Hofmann,  
151 2007; Wichert et al., 1997). Vitim is represented by fertile spinel and garnet  
152 lherzolites, erupted in picritic tuffs. These samples are thought to reflect moderate  
153 degrees of melt extraction from a fertile protolith, similar in composition to the  
154 primitive mantle, and have been little affected by modal or cryptic metasomatism  
155 (Ionov, 2004; Ionov et al., 2005a).

156 The spinel harzburgites from Avacha (Kamchatka) provide examples of arc  
157 peridotites, situated ~120km above the subducting Pacific plate (Gorbatov et al.,  
158 1997). They are thus interpreted as direct samples of mantle wedge regions affected  
159 by melt extraction and upward fluid migration from the slab (Ionov and Seitz, 2008).  
160 The samples studied here were selected on a basis of the absence of reaction with  
161 their host magmas (i.e. they contain no macroscopically detectable veins or modal  
162 heterogeneities) and any post-eruptive alteration (Ionov, 2010). The Avacha xenoliths  
163 were erupted in rapidly cooling pyroclastic cinder (Ionov, 2010).

164 Although samples were dominantly selected to record a wide range of possible  
165 mantle processes, we also chose a small sub-set of fertile upper mantle compositions  
166 likely to be representative of the convecting mantle (Fig. 1). In order for these  
167 samples to be a useful, primary reference for Li isotopes, we wished to avoid

168 xenoliths that had experienced diffusive Li isotope fractionation during entrainment  
169 and emplacement (Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Rudnick and Ionov, 2007; Tang et al., 2007;  
170 Ionov and Seitz, 2008; Kaliwoda et al., 2008). Thus we chose four fertile samples  
171 (Mo-101, 314-56, 313-102, 314-58), for which previous analyses of co-existing  
172 mineral phases indicated minimal diffusive disturbance of Li (Magna et al., 2006b;  
173 Jeffcoate et al., 2007).

174 In order to provide a meteoritic reference against which to gauge terrestrial  
175 mantle variability, we analysed a total of 30 bulk meteorite samples of different  
176 groups and metamorphic grades (see Table 1 for details). We focussed on  
177 undifferentiated meteorites, as possible representatives of bulk planetary  
178 compositions, including 9 carbonaceous chondrites, 10 ordinary and 7 enstatite  
179 chondrites. We additionally analysed a few differentiated meteorites (3 eucrites and  
180 an aubrite) for Li isotopes.

181

## 182 3.0 Methods

### 183 *3.1 Chemistry*

184 Powdered samples were dissolved in concentrated HF-HNO<sub>3</sub>-HClO<sub>4</sub>, followed  
185 by stages of concentrated (~15M) HNO<sub>3</sub> and 6M HCl. HClO<sub>4</sub> was primarily used to  
186 prevent the formation of insoluble Li-fluorides (Ryan and Langmuir, 1987). Mineral  
187 separates and chondrite chips were first cleaned by ultrasonication in methanol and  
188 MQ H<sub>2</sub>O; all samples for Li isotope analysis were then crushed, whereas whole  
189 crystals were dissolved without prior crushing for Mg isotope measurements, because  
190 the small amount of material required made this possible. Li concentrations, if not  
191 already available, were measured on an Element 2 ICP-MS (inductively coupled  
192 plasma mass spectrometer) using a calibration line comprising standards JP-1  
193 ([Li]=1.66µg/g), BHVO-2 (4.42µg/g) and BCR-2 (8.63µg/g), whose concentrations  
194 were determined by isotope dilution using a 95% enriched <sup>6</sup>Li spike, which had been  
195 calibrated against a gravimetric L-SVEC solution. JB-2 was analysed as an unknown  
196 in every run and yielded [Li] = 7.43±0.38µg/g.

197 For each sample, ~10ng of Li were purified by a two-step cation column  
198 (AG50W X12) separation method using dilute HCl as an eluant, as described  
199 elsewhere (James and Palmer, 2000; Marschall et al., 2007b). ~1µg of Mg was  
200 separated from a different split of the same dissolution. The sample matrix was also

201 removed with a two-step cation exchange (AG 50W X12) high aspect ratio column  
202 method using a 2.0N HNO<sub>3</sub> eluant (Lee and Papanastassiou, 1974; Lee et al., 1976;  
203 Black et al., 2006; Teng et al., 2007; Huang et al., 2009b). 2.4ml dry volume of resin  
204 was used for the first column (Pogge von Strandmann, 2008), and 0.25ml for the  
205 second column (Foster et al., 2010). The effectiveness of chemical separation using  
206 these procedures was determined by ICP-MS for several rock standards. The post-  
207 chemistry Mg/Al mass ratios in the JP-1 peridotite were >1000 and Mg/Mn > 1100,  
208 whilst Fe and Ca were below detection limits. For BHVO-2 basalt, Mg/Al > 400,  
209 Mg/Fe > 800 and Ca and Mn were below detection limits. Mg/cation ratios <20 are  
210 thought to cause analytical artefacts (Galy et al., 2001; Teng et al., 2007), and this  
211 methodology clearly better this threshold by at least an order of magnitude.  
212 Contributors to spectral interferences on Mg (<sup>48</sup>Ti<sup>++</sup>, <sup>50</sup>V<sup>++</sup>, <sup>52</sup>Cr<sup>++</sup>) are also effectively  
213 removed by the chemistry (<sup>24</sup>Mg/<sup>48</sup>Ti > 8000; <sup>25</sup>Mg/<sup>50</sup>V > 5000; <sup>26</sup>Mg/<sup>52</sup>Cr > 1000),  
214 bearing in mind that the doubly charged ions will be orders of magnitude less  
215 abundant in the ion source than singly charged species. Both Li and Mg isotopes  
216 fractionate during cation chromatography, and therefore it is essential to have column  
217 yields close to 100%. To assess this, splits of the elution were collected before and  
218 after the collection bracket for Li or Mg, and were analysed for Li or Mg content. This  
219 showed that <0.1% of Li and Mg were present in these splits.

220 To compare the HNO<sub>3</sub>-based purification method for Mg to the alternative  
221 HCl method (Chang et al., 2003; Tipper et al., 2006a; Wiechert and Halliday, 2007;  
222 Tipper et al., 2008), several rock standards were first purified through anion exchange  
223 resin (AG1 X8) using 6M HCl to remove elements such as Fe (as Fe elutes  
224 contemporaneously to Mg in cation exchange resin when using HCl), before being  
225 passed through the same cation exchange columns detailed above using dilute (1.75N)  
226 HCl. In JP-1 thus purified, Mg/Fe > 3000, Mg/Al > 75 and Mg/Ca > 200. Purified  
227 BHVO-2 has Mg/Al > 100, Mg/Fe > 1000 and Mg/Ca >200. This suggests that  
228 although the HCl method is marginally more efficient in removing Fe due to the  
229 initial anionic resin step, the HNO<sub>3</sub> method removes the rest of the major matrix  
230 elements more effectively. However both procedures are capable of removing matrix  
231 sufficiently well for analysis. The results of rock standards processed using both  
232 methods are discussed below.

233 The minor element Ni is not efficiently removed from Mg by either chemical  
234 separation procedure. The Mg/Ni ratios of different mantle and mantle-derived

235 samples can vary considerably and so analysed solutions may also have quite variable  
236 Mg/Ni (Mg/Ni of JP-1 and BHVO-2 purified using HNO<sub>3</sub> are ~200 and ~1000,  
237 respectively). Thus we tested the effects of different Mg/Ni on analysed solutions by  
238 doping the DSM-3 standard (Galy et al., 2003). No isotopic variability was measured  
239 down to Mg/Ni ratios of 1 (Fig. 2). A similar finding was reported by Teng et al.,  
240 2010 for “wet” plasma (see Section 3.2), but both Teng et al., 2010 and Huang et al.,  
241 2009 reported resolvable  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  variation when Ni doping with “dry” desolvation  
242 plasma. This may indicate that desolvation techniques are more susceptible to matrix  
243 effects, and is discussed below. The total procedural blank for Mg isotope analysis  
244 using HNO<sub>3</sub> is ~0.4ng which is insignificant compared to the mass of sample used.

245

### 246 *3.2 Mass spectrometry*

247 Li isotope measurements were performed on a Thermo-Finnigan Neptune  
248 multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass-spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS), as  
249 detailed elsewhere (Jeffcoate et al., 2004). Prior to analysis, the Na/Li intensity ratio  
250 was measured, as ratios >3 can cause inaccurate analyses. If samples had higher Na/Li  
251 ratios, they were re-purified. This occurred in approximately 1 in 50 samples.  
252 Multiple analyses of several international rock standards over a period of four years  
253 (Table 2) yielded a  $2\sigma_{\text{SD}}$  external reproducibility of  $\pm 0.3\%$ , in keeping with  
254 previously cited reproducibility (Elliott et al., 2006; Jeffcoate et al., 2007). Results are  
255 presented as  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ , namely the ‰ deviations from the standard L-SVEC (Flesch,  
256 1973).

257 Magnesium isotope analyses were also made on a Neptune using high  
258 sensitivity “X” Ni skimmer cones. Prior to measurement, the intensities of Na, Al, Ca,  
259 Ti and Fe were checked on the Neptune to ensure that the matrix was consistently  
260 removed, but a high residual matrix was never observed. A sample-standard  
261 bracketing technique was used, relative to the standard DSM-3 (Galy et al., 2003).  
262 Each sample was measured four separate times during an analytical procedure, repeat  
263 measurements being separated by several hours, but during the same analysis session.  
264 Each individual measurement consisted of 20 ratios (84s total integration time),  
265 giving a total integration time of 336s/sample for the four repeat measurements that  
266 constitute a single analysis (n=1 in Table 2). We use the 2s.e. of these four  
267 measurement as an assessment of our ‘internal’ error, reported with individual



268 analyses. Repeat analyses listed in Tables 1 and 2 involved separate dissolutions and  
269 chemical purifications, and should not be confused with repeats measured during a  
270 single analytical session. Based on the analysis of several international rock standards  
271 (Table 2), the  $2\sigma_{SD}$  external reproducibility of the analyses is  $\pm 0.06\%$  on  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ .

272 Three separate methods of sample introduction were trialled for Mg isotope  
273 analysis. Firstly an Aridus (Cetac Instruments) desolvating nebuliser was used. Due to  
274 interferences, primarily  $\text{CN}^+$  on  $^{26}\text{Mg}$ , it is necessary to run the mass spectrometer in  
275 medium resolution ( $M/\Delta M \sim 6000$ , 5-95% peak edge width), resulting in the  
276 sensitivity being reduced by a factor of  $\sim 4$ -5 relative to standard ‘low’ resolution  
277 operation. The  $\text{CN}^+$  interference is present even if the  $\text{N}_2$  sweep gas to the Aridus is  
278 disconnected.

279 Secondly, we used a combination Scott double-pass cyclonic quartz spray  
280 chamber as in the study of Pogge von Strandmann, 2008. The problematic molecular,  
281 spectral interferences using the desolvating introduction system are largely absent  
282 under these wet plasma conditions. The  $\text{C}_2^+$  and  $\text{CN}^+$  intensities are less than 5000 ion  
283 counts per second (cps) at medium resolution and furthermore, there is no significant  
284 hydride formation ( $\text{MgH}/\text{Mg} < 10^{-6}$ ). Measurements are, therefore, made at low  
285 resolution, with no loss of sensitivity compared to desolvation at medium resolution.  
286 Approximately 50% of the samples presented here were analysed using the quartz  
287 spray chamber/low resolution method. This sensitivity is  $\sim 120\text{pA}$  of  $^{24}\text{Mg}^+$  for a  
288 200ng/ml solution at an uptake rate of  $50\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$ . Background, instrumental Mg  
289 intensities, typically  $\sim 0.08\text{pA}$   $^{24}\text{Mg}$ , are subtracted from the sample intensities  $^{24}\text{Mg}$ .  
290 Finally, an ApexQ (Elemental Scientific Inc.) introduction system was tested. This  
291 “moist” plasma introduction system allows for greater sensitivity ( $\sim 100\text{pA}$  of  $^{24}\text{Mg}^+$   
292 for a 50ng/ml solution at an uptake rate of  $50\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$ ) than the quartz spray chamber  
293 setup described above, but is sufficiently free of spectral interferences to allow  
294 analysis at low resolution ( $\text{CN}^+ \sim 2000\text{cps}$  at medium resolution). All mineral  
295 separates and repeats of whole rocks were analysed by this method.

296 The results of the standards analysed by all three methods are identical within  
297 uncertainty and are presented in Table 2. The concordance of measurements made  
298 using three different introduction methods (Fig. 3) gives confidence in the accuracy of  
299 our procedures, because the introduction systems are likely differently sensitive to the  
300 presence of matrix and possibly influenced by different interferences (e.g. Teng et al.,

301 2010). In general, no systematic differences were observed in the internal or external  
302 uncertainty of measurements made using these different introduction systems.

303 The excellent mass bias stability and internal precision achievable on the  
304 Neptune allowed us to identify some important external influences on instrumental  
305 mass bias. Notably the mass flow controllers (especially the one regulating sample  
306 gas) responded to changes in air temperature of  $\leq 2^\circ\text{C}$  (during the cycles of the air  
307 conditioning system), causing resolvable periodic isotope ratio variations of  $\sim 0.1\%$   
308 on Mg isotope ratios. It is possible that such processes could affect analyses in other  
309 laboratories. To remove these artefacts, all Neptune mass flow controllers were  
310 subsequently water-cooled to our own design.

311

## 312 4.0 Results

### 313 *4.1 Chondrite analyses*

314 Bulk Li isotope compositions of chondrites show significant variability,  
315 although the range is less than for published data (Fig. 4a). Excluding finds (which  
316 may be weathered, and therefore have altered isotope ratios), enstatite chondrites have  
317 lighter Li isotopic compositions ( $\delta^7\text{Li} = 1.7 \pm 1.6\%$  (2sd),  $n=7$ ), than carbonaceous  
318 chondrites ( $3.3 \pm 1.4\%$ ,  $n=10$ ) and ordinary chondrites ( $2.8 \pm 1.5\%$ ,  $n=11$ ) (Table 1).  
319 Eucrites have similar  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  to carbonaceous chondrites ( $3.3 \pm 0.9\%$ ,  $n=3$ ), but our  
320 single aubrite has a very low  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  of  $-0.3\%$ . Our  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  values generally agree well with  
321 previously published data (James and Palmer, 2000; McDonough et al., 2003;  
322 Sephton et al., 2004; Sephton et al., 2006; Seitz et al., 2007). Interestingly, analyses of  
323 different chips of the same meteorite result in resolvable isotopic differences of up to  
324  $1.5\%$ . There are also similar isotopic differences compared to the data set of Seitz et  
325 al., 2007.

326 Bulk chondrite  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  values range from  $-0.38$  to  $-0.15\%$  (Table 1), with an  
327 average of  $-0.27\%$ . There is no difference in  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  between carbonaceous chondrites  
328 (average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.29 \pm 0.16\%$  (2sd)), ordinary chondrites (average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.28 \pm$   
329  $0.13\%$ ) or enstatite chondrites (average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.26 \pm 0.08\%$ ) (Fig. 4b). The  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$   
330 results from individual meteorites generally agree well with whole-rock results from  
331 most other studies (Galy et al., 2000; Baker et al., 2005; Teng et al., 2007; Wiechert  
332 and Halliday, 2007; Teng et al., 2010), but are resolvably heavier than the results from  
333 Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010).

334 All whole-rock chondrites measured plot within  $\pm 0.01\%$   $\Delta^{25}\text{Mg}$  of the  
335 terrestrial fractionation line, in keeping with other studies (Bizzarro et al., 2004;  
336 Young and Galy, 2004; Baker et al., 2005; Teng et al., 2010). To provide more  
337 precise constraints on any possible mass-independent component, we have also recast  
338 our data into  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}^*$  by mass fractionation correction of  $^{26}\text{Mg}/^{24}\text{Mg}$  in all samples  
339 and standards to constant  $^{25}\text{Mg}/^{24}\text{Mg} = 0.12663$  (Catanzaro et al., 1966) and further  
340 “external” normalisation of samples to bracketing standards (Table 1). These  
341 chondritic mass independent Mg isotope ratios, average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}^* = 0.0029 \pm 0.017\%$ ,  
342 are indistinguishable from our terrestrial values, average  $= 0.0044 \pm 0.022\%$  (Thrane  
343 et al., 2008). We note, however, that our measurements were set up to determine  
344 precise mass dependent fractionation, which requires minimised time between  
345 bracketing standards, whereas for precise mass independent fractionation longer  
346 analysis times are needed e.g. (Schiller et al., 2010).

347

#### 348 *4.2 Whole-rock analyses*

349 The results from the whole-rock peridotite analyses are shown in Table 1. Li  
350 concentrations in the ultra-mafic xenoliths vary between 0.5 and 4.8  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , where the  
351 highest concentrations are in the Tok wehrlites. This is a similar concentration range  
352 to previously reported bulk peridotites (Brooker et al., 2004; Seitz et al., 2004; Magna  
353 et al., 2006b; Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Magna et al., 2008; Aulbach and Rudnick, 2009),  
354 but greatly exceeds the uncertainty on the estimate of the primitive mantle  $[\text{Li}] = 1.6 \pm$   
355  $0.5 \mu\text{g/g}$  (McDonough and Sun, 1995) or the variability in bulk carbonaceous and  
356 ordinary chondrites ( $1.3 \pm 0.6 \mu\text{g/g}$ ; Section 4.1).

357 Li isotope ratios in samples analysed in this study,  $-3.9$  to  $+8.1\%$  (average =  
358  $2.6\%$ , Fig. 5), show a similar range to previously determined bulk peridotites  
359 (Brooker et al., 2004; Seitz et al., 2004; Magna et al., 2006b; Jeffcoate et al., 2007;  
360 Magna et al., 2008; Aulbach and Rudnick, 2009). There is no clear overall trend  
361 between  $[\text{Li}]$  and  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ , although the Avacha arc-peridotites generally show a positive  
362 trend of  $[\text{Li}]$  and  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ , but over a much more limited range of  $[\text{Li}]$ .

363 Mg isotope ratios of the peridotites vary between  $-0.35$  and  $+0.06\%$  ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ ),  
364 with an average of  $-0.21\%$ . There are no obvious trends between  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  and the  
365 considerable range of Mg# (or MgO), although in general isotopically lightest

366 samples have the highest Mg# (Fig. 5). It is worth noting that the full range in  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$   
367 is much smaller relative to reproducibility ( $\pm 0.06\text{‰}$ , 2sd) than for  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  ( $\pm 0.3\text{‰}$ ).

368

#### 369 *4.3 Mineral separates*

370 The Li and Mg isotope compositions of mineral separates from several  
371 peridotites were also determined (Table 3). Three samples from Tok, for which we  
372 have measured whole-rock Li isotope compositions, have also had olivine and  
373 clinopyroxene separates analysed for  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  by Rudnick and Ionov (2007). These Tok  
374 peridotites show clear evidence of Li isotope modification by diffusion, demonstrated  
375 by the very low  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  in clinopyroxene relative to olivine (Rudnick and Ionov, 2007).  
376 The Avacha xenoliths, on the other hand, exhibit very little variation in inter-mineral  
377  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  (Fig. 6; Table 3). Some separates from Avacha have previously been analysed by  
378 Ionov and Seitz (2008) and compare well to our [Li] and  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  values, given the larger  
379 uncertainties of the previous study. The Avacha data from this study are also within  
380 the range in isotope ratio and concentration measured for different Avacha samples by  
381 Halama et al., 2009.

382 Mg isotope compositions were analysed in minerals of two Tok lherzolite-  
383 wehrlite series peridotites, a Tok lherzolite-harzburgite series peridotite, an Avacha  
384 sample, a phlogopite-bearing spinel lherzolite (4230-16) and two samples which best  
385 represent unaltered peridotite (Mo-101 and 314-56), where the latter samples have  
386 been shown to have  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  values in cpx which are higher or similar compared to  
387 coexisting olivine (Jeffcoate et al., 2007). This is significant, as it appears that kinetic  
388 processes during xenolith entrainment and eruption cause the  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  in clinopyroxenes  
389 to become lighter than co-existing olivines (Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Rudnick and Ionov,  
390 2007). For all samples, the Mg in clinopyroxene was found to be isotopically heavier  
391 than coexisting olivine (Fig. 6), which is in agreement with the results from other  
392 studies (Young et al., 2002; Wiechert and Halliday, 2007; Handler et al., 2009; Yang  
393 et al., 2009; Young et al., 2009; Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010). Coexisting olivine  
394 and orthopyroxene were isotopically irresolvable in their  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  (Table 3).

395

## 396 5.0 Discussion

### 397 *5.1 Comparison to published standard data*

398 Several international rock standards were analysed for Li and Mg isotopes that  
399 span a range of relevant matrices for this and future studies of mantle derived  
400 samples: JP-1 (peridotite), BHVO-2 (ocean island basalt), BCR-2 (flood basalt) and  
401 JB-2 (arc basalt). For Mg isotope measurements, most of these rock standards were  
402 processed using both HCl and HNO<sub>3</sub> separation procedures (see methods), and  
403 yielded identical results within analytical uncertainty (Table 2; Fig. 3). In addition, the  
404 pure Mg solution standard CAM-1 and the normalising standard DSM-3 were passed  
405 through chemistry to ensure that the separation procedure does not induce artefacts  
406 (Table 2). Seawater and carbonate values, processed by the same methods, are  
407 reported elsewhere (Pogge von Strandmann, 2008; Foster et al., 2010).

408 The results from CAM-1 and rock standards analysed using desolvation  
409 nebulisation (Aridus and medium resolution), a quartz spray chamber and an Apex  
410 introduction system are identical (Fig. 3), as too are results using both HNO<sub>3</sub>- and  
411 HCl-based chemistries.

412 The measured value of the standard JP-1 ( $\delta^{25}\text{Mg} = -0.13 \pm 0.04\text{‰}$ ;  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -$   
413  $0.25 \pm 0.05\text{‰}$ ; 2sd, n=41, 29 dissolutions) differs considerably from the value  
414 reported by Wiechert and Halliday (2007) of +0.03‰ on  $\delta^{25}\text{Mg}$  ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  for JP-1 was  
415 not reported by these authors). This disparity has led us to conduct a standard addition  
416 experiment. In this we mixed JP-1 with CAM-1, without adding additional matrix  
417 (Tipper et al., 2008). Our three point determination (Fig. 7) is sufficiently precise to  
418 support our lighter value for JP-1, in contrast with Wiechert and Halliday (2007), but  
419 in keeping with Handler et al., 2009 ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.23 \pm 0.07\text{‰}$ ).

420 Checking values of sample and standard by the standard addition approach  
421 usefully guards against some but not all sources of inaccuracy. This method does not  
422 isolate the influence of artefacts that are proportional to the mass of sample in the  
423 mix, such as isobaric interferences or mass bias influences that are linearly related to  
424 sample impurity. We feel our concordant results using several different chemistries  
425 and introduction systems, however, have already indicated that such concerns are not  
426 important in this study. We note, however, that the recent work of Chakrabarti et al.,  
427 (2010) reports much lighter Mg isotope ratios in chondrites and peridotites than this  
428 or all other recent studies. Further work needs to be undertaken to account for this  
429 discrepancy.

430 Finally, two separate San Carlos olivines were analysed on the same xenolith  
431 studied by Jeffcoate et al., 2007, with an average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  of  $-0.30\text{‰}$  ( $-0.34$  to  $-0.27\text{‰}$ ).  
432 Previous analyses of San Carlos olivines have shown a wide range of  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  ( $-0.68\text{‰}$   
433 (Teng et al., 2007),  $-0.06\text{‰}$  (Wiechert and Halliday, 2007),  $-0.17\text{‰}$  (Handler et al.,  
434 2009),  $-0.55\text{‰}$  (Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010),  $-0.25\text{‰}$  (Young et al., 2009) and -  
435  $0.27\text{‰}$  (Liu et al., 2010). However, there is a significant compositional range in San  
436 Carlos peridotites (Frey and Prinz, 1978; Galer and O'Nions, 1998) and published Mg  
437 isotope analyses have not been made on the standardised Smithsonian Museum San  
438 Carlos olivine (USNM 111312/444). Moreover, Jeffcoate et al. (2007) documented  
439 extreme, kinetically induced, Li isotopic heterogeneity in their San Carlos sample.  
440 Thus it is unclear whether this variation in reported Mg isotope compositions of San  
441 Carlos olivines is due to sample heterogeneity or inaccuracies in isotope analysis.  
442 Nevertheless, this problem cannot pertain to the differences in the studies of Young et  
443 al., 2009 and Liu et al., 2010 compared to Chakrabarti and Jacobsen (2010), as all  
444 groups measured splits of the same powdered San Carlos olivines.

445

## 446 5.2. Chondrite analyses

447 In order to investigate the influences of terrestrial processes on the isotope  
448 ratios of the mantle, its initial composition must be established. One method to gauge  
449 the composition of the primitive mantle is to study chondritic material e.g. (Palme and  
450 O'Neill, 2003). Carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites have Li isotope compositions  
451 which are similar both to each other and to other studies' inferred bulk isotopic  
452 compositions of the mantle (Brooker et al., 2004; Magna et al., 2006b; Jeffcoate et al.,  
453 2007). Although there is variability in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  beyond analytical error, there is no clear  
454 relationship of isotope ratio with petrographic grade or meteorite group (Table 1, Fig.  
455 4). An average of these analyses may provide a reasonable estimate of primitive  
456 mantle ( $3.1\pm 1.3\text{‰}$ ).

457 Our averaged analyses of enstatite chondrites have significantly lower  $\delta^7\text{Li}$   
458 than ordinary and carbonaceous chondrites (Fig. 4). Similarly, our one enstatite  
459 achondrite (aubrite) also has a very low  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  value. Enstatite chondrites and enstatite  
460 achondrites are thought to have the same or similar parent bodies, given that they  
461 have identical oxygen isotope ratios (Clayton et al., 1984), and partial melting of an  
462 enstatite chondrite yields aubritic material (McCoy et al., 1999). Our observations are

463 somewhat different to those of Seitz et al. (2007), who reported the lowest meteoritic  
464  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  for H4 and H5 ordinary chondrites, although both studies report identical  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  for  
465 the only duplicated enstatite chondrite (Indarch). It is possible that the small sample  
466 sizes analysed from significantly heterogeneous meteorites (Sephton et al., 2004 and  
467 below) have biased the results of ourselves and others.

468         Whilst the variability in  $\delta^7\text{Li} \sim 1.5\text{‰}$  between different sub-samples of the  
469 same meteorite can account for scatter within each chondrite group, the difference of  
470  $\sim 1.5\text{‰}$  between the mean of enstatite and other chondrites suggests a more systematic  
471 process at work. The production of Li by low-energy spallation reactions in the early  
472 solar system (Feigelson et al., 2002) should produce material which is isotopically  
473 light with  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  of  $\sim -850\text{‰}$  (Chaussidon et al., 2001). A spallogenic component has  
474 been identified in the refractory inclusions of several meteorites (Chaussidon and  
475 Robert, 1998; Chaussidon et al., 2001). It has long been suggested that the reduced  
476 nature of the parent bodies of enstatite chondrites implies they formed closer to the  
477 sun than the other chondrites or achondrites (Kallemeyn and Wasson, 1986) and thus  
478 are comprised of material most strongly influenced by early, solar spallation. In  
479 addition, these isotopically light enstatite chondrites and the aubrite tend to have  
480 higher  $^{21}\text{Ne}/^{22}\text{Ne}$  than the other chondrites measured here, suggesting a greater  
481 component of spallogenic  $^{21}\text{Ne}$  (Schultz and Franke, 2004). Although the depth of  
482 penetration for spallogenic production of  $^6\text{Li}$  vs.  $^{21}\text{Ne}$  is very different, both processes  
483 likely occurred before larger parent bodies formed.

484         It is worthwhile considering our bulk analyses in the context of the discovery  
485 of  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  variations of  $>15\text{‰}$  in different constituents of Murchison (CM2):  $-1.9\text{‰}$  in  
486 chondrules, but  $\delta^7\text{Li} \sim +6\text{‰}$  in phyllosilicate-rich matrix, and values  $>+13\text{‰}$  in  
487 carbonate-rich phases (Sephton et al., 2004). Such variability is supported by our  
488 analysis of Allende chondrules ( $-0.3\text{‰}$ ), which is significantly lighter than the bulk  
489 meteorite ( $+2.7\text{‰}$ ). Such variations have been interpreted as the result of aqueous  
490 alteration, and the subsequent formation of phyllosilicates, driving bulk chondrites to  
491 heavier values (James and Palmer, 2000; McDonough et al., 2003; Sephton et al.,  
492 2004). It is not clear, however, why aqueous alteration should drive bulk  
493 carbonaceous chondrites to similar values with no obvious trend of increasing  $\delta^7\text{Li}$   
494 with increasing amount of aqueous alteration, i.e. from anhydrous CV/CO through  
495 CM to CI. Although our analysis of Orgeuil (CI) is marginally isotopically heavier

496 than the other chondrites, Murchison (CM) is no heavier than Kainsaz (CO). The role  
497 of spallation in making chondrules isotopically light in Li is an intriguing possibility,  
498 but requires further investigation. Regardless of the cause of the heterogeneity, it is  
499 clear that measuring small fragments of chondrite may result in irreproducible  $\delta^7\text{Li}$   
500 values, as shown by our variable  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  from different sub-samples of Orgueil,  
501 Murchison and Parnallee. That precise measurements could be made on such small  
502 sample sizes (Table 1) guided our approach in this study but further work on larger  
503 samples is required to provide a more definitive meteoritic reference.

504 In contrast to Li isotopes, the bulk Mg isotope compositions of the analysed  
505 chondrite groups are uniform, and within analytical uncertainty of the average  
506 (average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.27 \pm 0.12\text{‰}$  (2sd)).

507

### 508 *5.3 Establishing isotope compositions of the fertile mantle*

#### 509 5.3.1 Li isotopes in the fertile mantle

510 A number of xenoliths (Mo-101, 314-56, 313-102, 314-58) were selected on  
511 the basis of their major element composition as representative of fertile peridotites,  
512 namely a composition that can readily melt to produce basalt (i.e.  $\text{MgO} < 40 \text{ wt}\%$ ,  
513  $\text{CaO}$  and  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 > 3 \text{ wt}\%$ ,  $\text{FeO} \sim 8 \text{ wt}\%$  and  $\text{Mg\#} \sim 0.89$  (Ringwood, 1975; Sun, 1982;  
514 McDonough, 1990; Ionov, 2007); Fig. 1). That clinopyroxenes have higher or similar  
515  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  to associated olivines in some of these samples (314-58, 313-102, 314-56  
516 (Magna et al., 2006a; Jeffcoate et al., 2007)) has been used to infer the absence of a  
517 late-diffusive influence on their  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  (Jeffcoate et al., 2007). These fertile samples  
518 have an average Li concentration of  $1.6 \pm 0.7 \mu\text{g/g}$ , and an average  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  of  $3.2 \pm$   
519  $1.2\text{‰}$ . This range agrees well with that measured for carbonaceous chondrites and  
520 ordinary chondrites by this study ( $\delta^7\text{Li} = 3.3 \pm 1.4\text{‰}$  and  $2.8 \pm 1.5\text{‰}$ , respectively;  
521 Section 5.2). We thus concur with Jeffcoate et al. that  $\delta^7\text{Li} \sim 3.5\text{‰}$  is a reasonable  
522 value for the “pristine” upper mantle.

523 For two of these xenoliths there are published whole rock  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  analyses  
524 (reconstituted from mineral separates (Jeffcoate et al., 2007)) that agree with our bulk  
525 rock analyses; one (314-56) is a spinel lherzolite, the other (313-102) is a garnet  
526 lherzolite (Jeffcoate et al., 2007), and give  $\delta^7\text{Li} = 3.5 \pm 0.5\text{‰}$ . In contrast the bulk  
527 rock  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  of 314-58 calculated from individual mineral analyses (Magna et al., 2006a)



528 differ from our bulk rock by  $\sim 1.4\%$ . This may be due to xenolith-scale heterogeneity,  
529 which is discussed below.

530

### 531 5.3.2 Mg isotopes in the fertile mantle

532 Our equilibrated, fertile samples (detailed in Section 5.3.1) have an average  
533 Mg# of 0.888 and an average  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  of  $-0.21 \pm 0.07\%$  (Fig. 5), which we propose as a  
534 value for the upper mantle. This  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  is slightly higher but overlaps within  
535 uncertainty the value for bulk chondrites ( $-0.27 \pm 0.12\%$ ; Section 5.2). Statistical  
536 analysis (student-t) shows that the populations of fertile peridotite and carbonaceous  
537 chondrites are distinct at the 95% confidence level. However this test assumes that  
538 each population represents a single base value, which may not be the case, due to  
539 diffusive alteration and/or equilibrium fractionation between minerals (see below). As  
540 discussed above, our bulk mantle value is also within analytical uncertainty of the  
541 values recently suggested by five other comprehensive studies (Handler et al., 2009;  
542 Yang et al., 2009; Young et al., 2009; Bourdon et al., 2010; Teng et al., 2010), and we  
543 suggest that this value is now rather well constrained: primitive mantle olivines of  
544 Handler et al. (2009) average  $-0.27 \pm 0.14\%$ , those of Young et al. (2009) average  $-$   
545  $0.25 \pm 0.16\%$ , whilst bulk rock averages  $-0.26 \pm 0.16\%$ ,  $-0.25 \pm 0.07$  and  $-0.22 \pm$   
546  $0.04\%$  are reported by Yang et al. (2009), Teng et al. (2010) and Bourdon et al.  
547 (2010), respectively.

548

### 549 5.4 Mg and Li isotope covariation

550 One of the more striking results of this study is the wide range in bulk xenolith  
551  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  (Fig. 8). This variability is significantly in excess of that seen in the  
552 chondrites or inferred fertile mantle samples (Sections 5.3; Fig. 4 & 5). In terms of  
553  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ , this spread is greater than that reported by Teng et al., 2010 ( $0.07\%$ ), but  
554 similar to that reported by Yang et al., 2009 ( $0.34\%$ ). This variability in Mg and Li  
555 isotope compositions allows the xenoliths to be divided into three groups: 1) five  
556 samples with negative  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and generally the lowest Mg isotope ratios; 2) the bulk of  
557 samples with  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  extending from 1.2 to 5.9‰ and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  from  $-0.29$  to  $-0.06\%$ ; 3) a  
558 single wehrlite, which has both very high  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ . Overall there appears to be  
559 a positive co-variation between  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  in these samples.

560 A number of processes are potential candidates for perturbing the Li and Mg  
561 stable isotope ratios of these xenolith samples, such as melt depletion, metasomatism,  
562 in particular of the type that caused the wehrlitisation of several samples (Ionov et al.,  
563 2005b), equilibrium fractionation and diffusion (kinetic fractionation). Samples from  
564 Tok, Tariat and Avacha have also been analysed for Fe isotope variations (Weyer and  
565 Ionov, 2007). Only three of those samples have distinct  $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$  from the normal mantle,  
566 probably caused by interaction of the residual peridotite with evolved, high [Fe]  
567 silicate melts (Weyer and Ionov, 2007). There is no correlation of  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  or  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  with  
568  $\delta^{56}\text{Fe}$ , which shows that the Li and Mg systems remain unaffected by this  
569 metasomatism that lowered the Mg# of some samples. We will explore the other  
570 possibilities below.

571

#### 572 5.4.1 Isotopically light xenoliths

573 Several studies have implicated the role of diffusion in creating strikingly  
574 isotopically light Li in clinopyroxenes as a result of incomplete re-equilibration of  
575 xenoliths with host basalt in response to changing conditions during ascent or post-  
576 eruptive cooling (Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Rudnick and Ionov, 2007; Tang et al., 2007;  
577 Ionov and Seitz, 2008; Kaliwoda et al., 2008; Aulbach and Rudnick, 2009). Likewise  
578 we infer that diffusive processes have resulted in the low  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  seen in some bulk  
579 xenoliths in this study. That  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  is low in the same samples with low  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  suggests  
580 that Mg is also affected by diffusive processes. As with all stable isotopes, the lighter  
581 isotope,  $^{24}\text{Mg}$ , diffuses faster than the heavier isotopes, and this process has been  
582 demonstrated in melting experiments, by both chemical diffusion (Richter et al.,  
583 2008) and Soret diffusion (Huang et al., 2010a), in komatiite olivines (Dauphas et al.,  
584 2010) and in evaporation of forsterite (Wang et al., 1999; Yamada et al., 2006).  
585 Further, elemental Mg has long been known to diffuse on the crystal scale, and also  
586 over longer (cm-m) distances via grain boundary diffusion **e.g.** (Sanford, 1982; Miller  
587 et al., 2009).

588 This mechanism of net diffusion of Li and Mg from host melt into xenolith  
589 contrasts with the closed system model of Ionov and Seitz (2008), who accounted for  
590 the isotopically light cpx in slowly cooled xenoliths as a result of inter-grain  
591 redistribution of Li between olivine and cpx. This process may also occur, but our

592 bulk isotope measurements clearly demonstrate that the xenoliths in question must  
593 have behaved as open systems with respect to Li and Mg.

594

### 595 *5.5 Modelling the isotopic covariation*

596 If the trend towards light Li and Mg isotopes described above is due to  
597 diffusion, it should be possible to model the relative behaviours of the two systems.  
598 High temperature diffusion and corresponding kinetic isotope fractionation  
599 dominantly depends on three variables: 1) the diffusivity (diffusion coefficients)  $D$  of  
600 the element; 2) the concentration gradients, or more correctly the chemical potential  
601 gradients between phases; 3) the kinetic isotope fractionation parameter ( $\beta$ ) (Richter  
602 et al., 1999). The isotopic diffusivities and  $\beta$  are related by the expression  $D_2/D_1 =$   
603  $(m_1/m_2)^\beta$ , where  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are the diffusivities of isotopes with the masses  $m_1$  and  $m_2$   
604 (Richter et al., 2003).

605 From a mass balance point of view, it would be hard to alter the Mg budget of  
606 the bulk mantle by diffusive interaction with a relatively small volume melt or fluid.  
607 This suggests that diffusive alteration of Mg can occur solely after xenolith removal  
608 from its source. Although the xenolith has a much higher Mg content than the melt,  
609 the small volume of the xenolith relative to the entraining flow means there is still  
610 sufficient Mg to affect its bulk composition.

611 Li diffusion may result from the high incompatible element contents of the  
612 entraining melts, such that their Li concentrations exceed those in equilibrium with  
613 the typically melt-depleted mantle xenoliths (Jeffcoate et al., 2007). Further, an  
614 increase in the partition coefficient of Li during lava cooling may also lead to  
615 diffusion of Li from the melt into the xenolith (Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Gallagher and  
616 Elliott, 2009). The driving force of Mg isotope fractionation is less clear, as the  
617 peridotites frequently have higher Mg# than would be anticipated for equilibrium with  
618 their host basalts. We tentatively suggest that Mg diffusion is driven by the need to  
619 charge balance during the dehydration of nominally anhydrous minerals (Bell et al.,  
620 2004; Kohn and Grant, 2006), as they approach the surface and degas. Our  
621 observations appear to implicate Mg diffusion into the xenoliths, which is consistent  
622 with this hypothetical mechanism.

623 The basic scenario envisaged for the model assumes that small spherical  
624 xenoliths, with a starting composition equal to the fertile mantle, interact with large

625 (effectively infinite) volumes of melt (Crank, 1975). Rather than assuming that each  
626 xenolith is a solid sphere (which would result in only the xenolith boundaries  
627 becoming affected by diffusion), we assume that fast transport occurs along all the  
628 xenolith grain boundaries (Dohmen et al., 2010), followed by diffusion into individual  
629 crystals. The model integrates the crystal data to acquire a whole-rock xenolith  
630 isotope ratio, which initially becomes isotopically lighter as Li and Mg diffuse in, and  
631 eventually returns to an equilibrium value with time (Fig. 9, shown for crystal  
632 diameters of 1mm). The relative distance the isotopic anomalies of Li and Mg can  
633 diffuse in a given time is determined by the relative diffusivities  $D_{Mg}/D_{Li}$ , and this  
634 parameter is therefore key. In contrast, the relative chemical potential gradients and  $\beta$   
635 control the depths of the troughs. The model uses chemical gradients and  $\beta$  values that  
636 best-fit our data, and are similar to those established experimentally (Richter et al.,  
637 2003; Richter et al., 2008; Richter et al., 2009) (Fig. 10).

638 In theory diffusive influx of Mg should result in olivine rims with elevated Mg  
639 concentrations. One of the light samples, Tok 6-3, was analysed with an electron  
640 micro-probe. No MgO gradient could be resolved, with the uncertainty of  $\pm 0.4$  wt%.  
641 This gives an upper limit for diffusional modelling: given our proposed  $\beta$  of  $\sim 0.1-0.15$   
642 (see below), to perturb a 2mm diameter olivine from a primitive starting composition  
643 to the composition measured now, the perturbed rim would require a width of 3-5 $\mu$ m.  
644 In addition, even if the MgO gradient were larger, the resolution of the electron  
645 micro-probe would not be sufficient to resolve the rim.

646 Figure 10 shows the results of the modelled co-diffusion of Li and Mg. Each  
647 line of constant  $D_{Mg}/D_{Li}$  represents the evolving xenolith composition with the arrows  
648 indicating direction of increasing time: the isotopic trough of the faster diffusing  
649 element (Li, except when  $D_{Mg}/D_{Li} = 1$ ) arrives first, driving the path to lighter values  
650 along the y-axis ( $\delta^7Li$ ). Following this, the second trough (that of Mg) arrives, driving  
651 the path to lighter x-axis ( $\delta^{26}Mg$ ) values. Bearing in mind the analytical uncertainty  
652 on the data, the isotopically lightest values appear to be best modelled by setting  
653  $D_{Mg}/D_{Li} = 0.25-1$ , implying Mg diffusivity that is within an order of magnitude of that  
654 of Li. The relative diffusivities during Li tracer diffusion and Mg interdiffusion have  
655 been experimentally shown to vary by several orders of magnitude, depending on the  
656 host material. Thus in basaltic melts  $D_{Mg}/D_{Li} \sim 0.01$  (Richter et al., 2003), but in  
657 olivine the relative diffusivities are thought to be within an order of magnitude

658 ( $D_{\text{Mg}}/D_{\text{Li}} \sim 0.1$ ) (Dohmen et al., 2010), a factor of 3 ( $D_{\text{Mg}}/D_{\text{Li}} \sim 0.3$ ) (Qian et al., 2010)  
659 or even less than a factor of 1-2 ( $D_{\text{Mg}}/D_{\text{Li}} \sim 0.6-1.15$ , depending on crystallographic  
660 axis) (Spandler and O'Neill, 2010), i.e. well within the bounds required by our model.  
661 This behaviour has been explained by suggesting that element diffusivity in olivine is  
662 controlled by cation site preference, charge balance mechanisms and point-defect  
663 concentrations (Spandler and O'Neill, 2010).

664         Given that olivine is the major host of both Li (Seitz and Woodland, 2000) and  
665 Mg in the mantle, diffusion in olivine would be expected to be the rate-limiting step to  
666 evolving bulk xenolith Mg and Li isotope composition. Since the diffusivities of Li  
667 and Mg in olivine are sufficiently well known (Dohmen et al., 2010), our model can  
668 predict the time required for the isotopic perturbations to occur (i.e. the time elapsed  
669 between removal of the xenolith from the wall-rock, and attainment of the closure  
670 temperature for diffusion; Fig. 9). The model is simplified, because it does not factor  
671 in decreasing diffusivity with cooling, but rather assumes that the initial temperature  
672 is maintained until closure occurred. As such the model can only provide minimum  
673 estimates of diffusion duration. As shown in Fig. 9, attainment of lowest  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  
674  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  values is relatively rapid ( $\sim 5-10$  years), whereas re-equilibration occurs over  
675 much longer timescales ( $>30$  years). This suggests that the isotopically lightest  
676 samples were entrained and experienced diffusive ingress of Li and Mg for  $\sim 10$  years.  
677 This timescale is approximately an order of magnitude greater than cooling of even  
678 thick basaltic lava flows. Calculations suggest that for a cooling period of 10 years, a  
679 flow  $\sim 50\text{m}$  thick would be required, whereas in reality basaltic flows are rarely more  
680 than  $\sim 5\text{m}$  thick, and cool on the order of weeks (Flynn et al., 1994). This strongly  
681 suggests that the diffusive perturbation was imparted to the xenoliths during processes  
682 that occurred prior to eruption, but post removal of the xenolith from the wall rock.

683         Assuming the model parameters are correct, this would imply that the  
684 xenolith transit time for these isotopically light samples was on the order of 10 years,  
685 and suggests storage of the xenoliths for a period of years between entrainment and  
686 final cooling. The small role played by post-eruptive cooling rate seems at odds with  
687 the empirical relationship observed by Ionov and Seitz, 2008 for diffusive  
688 perturbation of xenoliths depending on their mode of eruption, i.e. in rapidly cooled  
689 pyroclastic deposits or slowly cooled flows. We instead suggest that the key timescale  
690 is that between host-magma degassing, which we infer to drive Mg diffusion, and

691 eruption. The  $H^+$  content of kimberlitic xenoliths is more than sufficient for its  
692 replacement by Mg to perturb the bulk xenolith  $\delta^{26}Mg$  by  $\sim 0.2\%$  (Bell et al., 2004;  
693 Grant et al., 2006; Kohn and Grant, 2006; Grant et al., 2007). A magma degassed  
694 years before eruption should have diffusionally perturbed xenoliths but is likely to  
695 erupt as a flow. In contrast, undegassed magmas are likely to erupt explosively and  
696 have more pristine xenoliths.

697

### 698 *5.6 Inter-mineral Mg isotope fractionation*

699 Young et al. (2009) calculated theoretical equilibrium Mg isotope  
700 fractionation between pure forsterite and diopside, orthoenstatite and spinel. Forsterite  
701 should be the isotopically lightest of these minerals, which is substantiated by results  
702 from both this and other studies (Young et al., 2002; Wiechert and Halliday, 2007;  
703 Handler et al., 2009; Young et al., 2009; Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010). Theoretical  
704 equilibrium values predict a forsterite-diopside  $\Delta^{26}Mg \sim 0.08-0.1\%$  in the temperature  
705 range 850-1000°C. Measured values range from 0.04-0.31‰ (this study; Fig. 6),  
706  $<0.24\%$  (Handler et al., 2009),  $<0.23\%$  (Chakrabarti and Jacobsen, 2010), 0.11-  
707 0.14‰ (Wiechert and Halliday, 2007). This variation may be due to varying  
708 mineralogy, or kinetic effects on top of any equilibrium fractionation.

709 The anomalously heavy  $\delta^{26}Mg$  of wehrlite, Tok 10-1 is readily related to its  
710 high modal abundance of isotopically heavy cpx (Table 3). This sample has seen  
711 complete replacement of opx by cpx (Ionov et al., 2005b). It also shows the greatest  
712  $\Delta^{26}Mg_{cpx-ol}$  which may indicate a non-equilibrium component in this fractionation  
713 factor (Fig. 6). During pyroxene replacement, Mg from opx will be diffusively lost to  
714 the melt, and replaced by Ca, potentially driving the  $\delta^{26}Mg$  of the residual pyroxene  
715 isotopically heavy (this process also explains why there is no overriding correlation  
716 for our samples between isotope ratios and mineral ratios such as cpx/ol). This sample  
717 also has high [Li], suggesting that the infiltrating melt that caused wehrlitisation was  
718 Li-rich. The high  $\delta^7Li$  of Tok 10-1 could therefore just reflect the isotopic  
719 composition of this interacting melt. Alternatively, given the high [Li] of the  
720 wehrlitised mantle, the concentration gradient thus established with the surrounding  
721 mantle resulted in subsequent diffusive loss of Li and an increase in the  $\delta^7Li$  of the  
722 residue. This suggests that the relatively high  $\delta^{26}Mg$  and  $\delta^7Li$  of this sample may be

723 unrelated in mechanism, although both may ultimately have been caused by  
724 metasomatic wehrlitisation.

725 In general, the wehrlite sample group shows high variability in both  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  
726  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ . This is in agreement with Yang et al. (2009), who reported  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  variability  
727 of 0.34‰ in wehrlites from the North China craton. However, Yang et al. (2009)  
728 reported low  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  values for some wehrlites (down to -0.44‰). Taken together with  
729 results from this study, this may suggest that the isotope composition of wehrlites are  
730 strongly dependent on the composition of the wehrlitising agent, and the mechanism  
731 of mineral replacement that occurs during these reactions.

732 If pyroxenes in equilibrium with olivine are  $\sim 0.06\text{-}0.08$  ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ , opx) and  
733  $0.09\text{-}0.13\text{‰}$  (cpx) (Young et al., 2009) heavier, then it would be expected that fertile  
734 mantle peridotites are  $\sim 0.03\text{‰}$  heavier than analyses of their constituent olivines.  
735 This could account for a degree of the minor offset between our data for bulk samples  
736 and those of Handler et al. (2009) for olivines, but such small differences are difficult  
737 to discern.

738

### 739 *5.7 Arc peridotites*

740 The Avacha peridotite xenoliths are thought to represent fragments of mantle  
741 wedge lithosphere which sits above the subducting Pacific plate at the Kurile-  
742 Kamchatka trench (Ionov and Seitz, 2008; Ionov, 2010), and as such probably have  
743 been affected by percolation of metasomatic fluids which initially derive from the  
744 dehydrating slab. These initial fluids are generally assumed to be concentrated in Li  
745 ( $\leq 200$   $\mu\text{g/g}$  (Ryan and Langmuir, 1987; Marschall et al., 2007a)) and preferentially  
746 enriched in  $^7\text{Li}$  (Chan and Kastner, 2000; Tomascak et al., 2000; Tomascak et al.,  
747 2002; Elliott et al., 2004), in theory causing the hydrated wedge to become more  
748 concentrated in Li and isotopically heavier (Tomascak et al., 2002). In contrast, given  
749 the low Mg content of the crust, and therefore the subducting slab, it is unlikely that  
750 fluids from slab dehydration could resolvably affect the Mg budget of the mantle  
751 wedge.

752 The  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  of our arc peridotites ranges from 2.5 to 6.0‰, i.e. from a  
753 composition slightly lighter than that of the primitive mantle to one which is much  
754 heavier. The Avacha samples also show a significant co-variation between  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  
755  $[\text{Li}]$  ( $r^2=0.66$ ) as well as  $\text{FeO}$  ( $r^2=0.77$ ; Fig. 11) and  $\text{MnO}$  ( $r^2=0.6$ ), and are negatively

756 correlated with Mg#. The positive correlation of  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and [Li] with FeO argues  
757 against the hypothesis (Ionov 2010) that FeO and Mg# variations in the Avacha suite  
758 stem from differences in melting depth (FeO in residues decreases with depth),  
759 because there is no reason why  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and [Li] should be lower in deeper melting  
760 residues as well.

761 Mineral separate analysis of some of the Avacha samples (Table 3) show  
762 coexisting olivine, orthopyroxene and clinopyroxene to be in inferred elemental  
763 (Woodland et al., 2002) and isotopic (Jeffcoate et al 2007) equilibrium for Li. These  
764 data agree with other Li studies from Avacha (Ionov and Seitz, 2008; Halama et al.,  
765 2009). Inter-mineral  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  values are also within reproducibility of theoretical  
766 equilibrium fractionation (Young et al., 2009). This implies that the  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  of  
767 these arc xenoliths have not been diffusively altered during transport to the surface  
768 but represent signals from deeper in the mantle.

769 Thus the correlated enrichments in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ , [Li], FeO and MnO are likely due to  
770 metasomatism by an isotopically heavy, Fe-rich, slab-derived fluid. In addition, there  
771 is a positive correlation between  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  and FeO ( $r^2=0.94$ , thus leading to the apparent  
772 co-variation between  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  in Fig. 8), although individual samples are only  
773 just resolvable at the 2s.e. level. The xenoliths with high FeO will have experienced  
774 greater influx of Fe, and therefore interdiffusional removal of Mg, potentially driving  
775 xenolith  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  towards higher values. Ionov (2010) inferred that the Avacha  
776 peridotites may have been affected by melt metasomatism soon after their partial  
777 melting (i.e. in the asthenosphere), and also by fluid infiltration in the lithosphere  
778 shortly before their transport to the surface. The latter event produced minor  
779 amphibole and enrichments in incompatible trace elements, which are  
780 petrographically clear as veins (Halama et al., 2009; Ionov, 2010). The  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  or [Li]  
781 show no correlation ( $r^2\leq 0.1$ ) with La, Sr, Ba or modal amphibole, although the sample  
782 with most amphibole does have high  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ . Hence for the suite as a whole  
783 there is no control of the most recent event on  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ . We conclude that the enrichment  
784 in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and [Li] occurred in an older, asthenospheric event.

785 If the high  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  signal in these arc peridotites stems from metasomatism in the  
786 asthenosphere, then this suggests that it represents an isotopically heavy mantle  
787 wedge caused by dehydration of the subducting slab. The dehydrated slab is thought  
788 to become isotopically lighter by  $\delta^7\text{Li} \leq 3\%$  (Marschall et al., 2007b), whilst the slab-



789 derived fluids are isotopically heavy, in turn causing the hydrated mantle wedge to  
790 also become isotopically heavy (Elliott et al., 2004). The Avacha xenoliths may  
791 therefore demonstrate that the hydrated wedge is indeed enriched in  $^7\text{Li}$ , and that this  
792 fractionation can survive emplacement to the surface (at least in xenoliths erupted in  
793 rapidly-cooled pyroclastic deposits). Given that the Avacha samples plot along a  $\delta^7\text{Li}$   
794 vs.  $1/[\text{Li}]$  mixing line, a simple mixing model (assuming that all samples interacted  
795 with a fluid of the same composition) suggests that the fluid component had a  $\delta^7\text{Li} \sim$   
796 9‰.

797 Although diffusion may alter the bulk rock Li and Mg isotopic compositions  
798 of slowly emplaced or cooled degassed xenoliths, more rapid processes, and  
799 potentially a lack of degassing, appear to allow deep-mantle signatures to survive.  
800 Trends towards isotopically heavy Li have been reported in MORB glasses, and were  
801 interpreted as recycling of an isotopically heavy mantle component into the mid-  
802 ocean ridges (Elliott et al., 2006). It is now clear that the metasomatised mantle wedge  
803 is a plausible source of this isotopically heavy Li reservoir, which is viscously  
804 coupled to the down-going slab, and so mixed into the convecting mantle.

805

## 806 6.0 Conclusions

807 This study has analysed Li and Mg isotopes in whole-rock chondrites and  
808 peridotites from several global localities. Carbonaceous chondrites give:  $\delta^7\text{Li} = 3.3 \pm$   
809  $1.4\%$  (2sd),  $\delta^{25}\text{Mg} = -0.15 \pm 0.08\%$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.29 \pm 0.16\%$ . Enstatite chondrites  
810 have lower  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  than carbonaceous chondrites by  $\sim 2\%$ , possibly implicating their  
811 derivation from material that orbited closer to the early sun and underwent enhanced  
812 spallation due to its irradiation. This interpretation must be treated with caution, given  
813 the well-documented Li isotope heterogeneity in chondrites and needs to be tested  
814 using analyses of larger sample sizes. Analyses of fertile xenoliths that exhibit no  
815 evidence of diffusive perturbation of Li suggest that the composition of the bulk  
816 primitive mantle is  $\delta^7\text{Li} = 3.5 \pm 0.5\%$ ,  $\delta^{25}\text{Mg} = -0.10 \pm 0.04\%$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg} = -0.21 \pm$   
817  $0.07\%$ , within error of carbonaceous and ordinary chondrites.

818 In contrast, the total measured range in xenolithic, continental bulk peridotites  
819 with variable amounts of metasomatism and melt depletion is  $\sim 13\%$  ( $\delta^7\text{Li}$ ) and  
820  $\sim 0.4\%$  ( $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ ). These ranges are easily analytically resolvable, and extend well  
821 beyond the possible values of chondrites or the fertile mantle. A co-variation between

822  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  suggest that both isotope systems may be affected by the same  
823 process/processes. Diffusion is strongly implicated in generating the general trend  
824 from the fertile mantle towards isotopically light ratios. This co-variation has been  
825 modelled and the isotopically lightest samples suites require relative diffusivities of  
826  $D_{\text{Mg}}/D_{\text{Li}} \sim 0.25-1$ , in keeping with experimental studies that have determined  $D_{\text{Mg}}/D_{\text{Li}}$   
827  $\sim 0.1-1$  in olivine. These known diffusivities of Li and Mg in olivine allow calculation  
828 of cooling times of the xenoliths of  $\sim 5-10$  years for isotopically light samples,  
829 approximately an order of magnitude longer than the cooling to closure temperature  
830 for the basaltic lava flows in which these xenoliths were erupted. This suggests  
831 diffusive perturbation occurs during period of storage post-entrapment, but pre-  
832 eruption. In contrast, xenoliths erupted in pyroclastic deposits do not show  
833 anomalously light  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ . We speculate that degassing of magmas both  
834 drives diffusion of Mg (and Li) into entrained xenoliths, to charge balance hydrogen  
835 loss from the minerals, and also influences the subsequent eruptive style (explosive or  
836 effusive).

837 In the pyroclastic-hosted Avacha arc peridotites, Li isotopes trend to heavier  
838 values at greater Li, FeO and MnO concentrations. This suggests that the Li isotope  
839 system in the Avacha suite may have been affected by ingress of slab-derived fluids  
840 with high  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ , thus providing the isotopic signal of the hydrated mantle wedge.

841 The range in [Li], [Mg],  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  in our xenoliths, which have large  
842 variations in melt extraction, metasomatism and emplacement histories, suggest that  
843 small xenoliths may be altered by diffusive isotope fractionation when emplaced in  
844 large volumes of melts. This makes it difficult to determine pertinent information on  
845 light elements in the mantle from such xenoliths, and such data should be rather  
846 obtained on large pyroclastic-hosted xenoliths.

847

848

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Figure captions

Figure 1. Primitive mantle normalised (Sun, 1982) La/Sm ratios plotted against Mg#, molar Mg/[Fe(II)+Mg], for all analysed peridotites. Samples are plotted according to geodynamic locality. Data sources are as follows: off-craton peridotites (Tariat and Dariganga) Ionov (2007), Ionov and Hofmann (2007); (Vitim) Ionov et al. (2005a); arc peridotites (Avacha) Ionov (2010); cratonic peridotites and wehrlites (Tok) Ionov et al. (2005a), Ionov et al. (2005b). Solid black points are those taken as representative of the fertile mantle (see text for details). The stars show compositions for primitive mantle (PM) and depleted MORB mantle (DMM) taken from Sun, 1982, McDonough and Frey, 1989, Workman and Hart, 2005.

Figure 2. Measured  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  ( $\pm 2\text{se}$ ) of the DSM-3 standard doped with variable amounts of Ni plotted against Mg/Ni (weight ratio) of mixture to investigate a possible matrix influence. No effect is evident.

Figure 3. Compilation of analyses of USGS standards both measured by different protocols in this study and by others. Open diamonds represent analyses from this study. Open circles are published data. (1) Wiechert et al., 2007; (2) Handler et al., 2009; (3) Huang et al., 2011; (4) Bourdon et al., 2010; (5) Huang et al., 2009; (6) Wombacher et al., 2009; (7) Tipper et al., 2008; (8) Teng et al., 2007; (9) Baker et al., 2005; (10) Bizzarro et al., 2005; (11) Bizzarro et al., 2011; (12) Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2008. Error bars represent the external uncertainty (2sd) reported by each study.

Figure 4. (a)  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  vs. [Li] for bulk meteorite samples. The error bars indicate the 2s.d. external uncertainty of the procedure used in this study. The small grey symbols represent data from other studies (James and Palmer, 2000; Sephton et al., 2004, 2006; Magna et al., 2006; Seitz et al., 2007). Two eucrites, with high [Li], plot off scale. (b) Bulk chondrite  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  vs.  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  data from this study.

Figure 5. a)  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  vs. [Li] for the bulk xenolith samples. The grey box represents the range of this study's chondrite analyses. The error bars represent the 2s.d. external uncertainty of the analyses. The small grey symbols represent published whole-rock or reconstituted whole-rock data (Brooker et al., 2004; Seitz et al., 2004; Magna et al., 2006; Jeffcoate et al., 2007; Magna et al., 2008; Aulbach et al., 2009). Solid black points are those taken as representative of the fertile mantle (see discussion for details). b) Bulk peridotite  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  as a function of Mg#. The error bars represent the 2s.d. external uncertainty of the analyses. The small grey symbols represent published whole-rock data (Wiechert et al., 2007; Yang et al., 2009; Teng et al., 2010, Bourdon et al., 2010; Chakrabarti et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2011). Solid black points are those taken as representative of the fertile mantle (see discussion for details).

Figure 6. (a) Difference in  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  between coexisting olivine and clinopyroxene, as a function of whole rock  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ . Legend as in Fig. 5. The dashed lines represent the theoretical fractionations, as calculated by Young et al., 2009, for the temperature range inferred from major element geothermometry of the xenoliths studied. (b) Difference in  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  between coexisting olivine and

clinopyroxene, as a function of whole-rock  $\delta^7\text{Li}$ . Where not measured by this study, data were taken from Rudnick and Ionov, 2007, Jeffcoate et al., 2007, Ionov and Seitz, 2008, Magna et al., 2006.

Figure 7. Standard addition plot of JP-1 mixtures with CAM-1, showing that JP-1 is not as isotopically heavy as suggested by Wiechert and Halliday (2007). See text for details. Error ellipses represent the 2s.d. of the samples (black ellipses), and the 2s.d. of JP-1 and CAM-1 (grey ellipses). Regression and error parabola were calculated using formulae from York (1966).

Figure 8. Co-variation between  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  and  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$  for the bulk xenoliths. The light grey box represents the range of this study's chondrite analyses. The error bars represent the 2s.d. external uncertainty of the analyses. Solid black points are those taken as representative of the fertile mantle (see discussion for details).

Figure 9. Modelled bulk xenolith isotope ratios as a function of cooling time. Model parameters are as shown in Figure 10.

Figure 10. Modelled covariation of Li and Mg isotope ratios by diffusional fractionation. The legend provides details of the  $\beta$ , relative diffusivities and activity gradients used in the calculations. See text for model details. Li diffusivity ( $D_{\text{Li}}$ ) is from Dohmen et al. (2010) at  $\sim 1250^\circ\text{C}$ .  $\beta_{\text{Li}}$  is from Richter et al. (2003), and  $\beta_{\text{Mg}}$  is the best-fit value. Symbols as in Figure 5.

Figure 11. (a)  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  as a function of [Li] for the Avacha xenoliths. The error bars represent the 2s.d. external uncertainty of the analyses. Open symbols represent analytical repeats. (b) Avacha  $\delta^7\text{Li}$  data as a function of FeO.



Table 1. Results from measured whole-rock peridotites and meteorites. Peridotite FeO, MgO and Mg# data from Mongolia: Ionov (2007), Ionov and Hofmann (2007); Vitim: Ionov et al. (2005a); Avacha: Ionov (2010); Tok: Ionov et al. (2005a), Ionov et al. (2005b). Repeats reported are the results of complete re-analysis, including re-dissolution. Chondrite  $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}^*$  data are internally normalised, using  $^{25}\text{Mg}/^{24}\text{Mg} = 0.12663$  and externally normalised to bracketing DSM-3. Sample weights are given for meteorites (see discussion on heterogeneity), but not for terrestrial samples. For the latter, several kg were crushed, and therefore small-scale heterogeneity is not an issue.

\*: denotes Find

Emplacement type: P = pyroclastic; F = lava flow



Standard	dissolutions	n	$\delta^7\text{Li}$ (‰)	2sd
JP-1	11	11	3.0	0.2
BHVO-2	26	31	4.7	0.2
BCR-2	17	18	2.6	0.3
JB-2	24	28	4.9	0.3

Standard	Reference	Introduction method	Chemistry	dissolutions	n	$\delta^{25}\text{Mg}$ (‰)	2sd	$\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ (‰)	2sd	
JP-1	This study	Qtz spray chamber	HCl	3	6	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.25</b>	<b>0.04</b>	
		Qtz spray chamber	HNO <sub>3</sub>	11	19	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>-0.25</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Apex	HNO <sub>3</sub>	12	12	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Aridus (med. res.)	HNO <sub>3</sub>	1	2	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.23</b>	<b>0.03</b>	
	Handler et al., 2009				7	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.23</b>	<b>0.03</b>	
	Wiechert & Halliday, 2007					+0.03	?			
BHVO-2	This study	Qtz spray chamber	HCl	1	4	<b>-0.14</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.26</b>	<b>0.06</b>	
		Qtz spray chamber	HNO <sub>3</sub>	11	21	<b>-0.12</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>0.06</b>	
		Apex	HNO <sub>3</sub>	7	8	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Bizzarro et al., 2011				10	-0.10	0.03	-0.19	0.07
		Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2008					-0.13	0.08	-0.25	0.11
		Wiechert & Halliday, 2007				7	-0.06	0.04	-0.14	0.08
		Bizzarro et al., 2005				9	-0.08	0.06	-0.16	0.10
BCR-2	This study	Qtz spray chamber	HNO <sub>3</sub>	5	8	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-0.25</b>	<b>0.06</b>	
		Apex	HNO <sub>3</sub>	6	6	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.26</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Huang et al., 2011					?		-0.34	0.12
		Bourdon et al., 2010				29	-0.06	0.02	-0.12	0.04
		Huang et al., 2009				18	-0.14	0.08	-0.30	0.11
		Wombacher et al., 2009				4	-0.07	0.06	-0.14	0.11
		Tipper et al., 2008					-0.09	0.05	-0.16	0.11
		Teng et al., 2007				28	-0.16	0.09	-0.30	0.08
		Baker et al., 2005				15	-0.09	0.07	-0.19	
		Bizzarro et al., 2005				7	-0.09	0.17	-0.17	0.35
JB-2	This study	Qtz spray chamber	HCl	2	4	<b>-0.13</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-0.24</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Qtz spray chamber	HNO <sub>3</sub>	8	14	<b>-0.11</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-0.21</b>	<b>0.04</b>	
		Apex	HNO <sub>3</sub>	6	7	<b>-0.11</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-0.21</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2008					-0.12	0.08	-0.24	0.12
		Wiechert & Halliday, 2007				5	-0.09	0.02	-0.18	0.04
		Bizzarro et al., 2005				8	-0.08	0.07	-0.15	0.13
CAM-1	This study	Qtz spray chamber	HNO <sub>3</sub>		43	<b>-1.35</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-2.62</b>	<b>0.04</b>	
					5	<b>-1.38</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>-2.65</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
		Apex	HNO <sub>3</sub>		45	<b>-1.36</b>	<b>0.02</b>	<b>-2.63</b>	<b>0.04</b>	
					2	<b>-1.37</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-2.63</b>	<b>0.05</b>	
	Aridus (med. res.)			8	<b>-1.35</b>	<b>0.04</b>	<b>-2.59</b>	<b>0.06</b>		
		Huang et al., 2011					?		-2.63	0.11
		Chakrabarti and Jacobsen 2010					-1.33	0.14	-2.61	0.28
		Pogge von Strandmann, 2008					-1.38	0.06	-2.64	0.08
		Tipper et al., 2008					-1.34	0.05	-2.59	0.08
		Pogge von Strandmann et al., 2008					-1.42	0.10	-2.78	0.15
	Tipper et al., 2006					-1.34	0.08	-2.60	0.14	
	Pearson et al., 2006					-1.33	0.07	-2.58	0.14	
Std. add. results										
f(JP-1)										
	0.70				1	-0.96	0.03	-1.89	0.05	
	0.51				1	-0.74	0.01	-1.44	0.01	
	0.30				1	-0.46	0.03	-0.89	0.05	

Table 2. Measured standard data for Li and Mg isotopes. Mg isotope results from other studies are also reported, as are results from our standard addition experiment. The number of mass spectrometer analyses is represented by “n”,

whereas “dissolutions” represent complete re-analysis, including dissolution and chemistry.

			$\delta^7\text{Li}$	2s.e.	Li		
			(‰)		(ppm)		
<b>Av1</b>	sp hrz	olivine	5.4	0.2	1.4		
		opx	5.8	0.1	1.2		
<b>Av6</b>	sp hrz	olivine	5.1	0.1	1.7		
		opx	5.6	0.2	0.7		
		cpx	4.7	0.2	1.0		
		calc. w.r.	5.1	0.1	1.5		
			$\delta^{25}\text{Mg}$	2s.e.	$\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$	2s.e.	$\Delta^{25}\text{Mg}$
			(‰)		(‰)		
<b>Tok 6-3</b>	lhz	olivine	-0.18	0.01	-0.36	0.02	0.01
		opx	-0.16	0.01	-0.29	0.01	-0.01
		cpx	-0.13	0.02	-0.25	0.01	0.00
		calc. w.r.	-0.17	0.01	-0.34	0.01	0.00
<b>Tok 10-1</b>	whl	olivine	-0.03	0.01	-0.06	0.01	0.00
		olivine	-0.06	0.01	-0.10	0.01	-0.01
		opx	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
		opx	0.00	0.01	-0.02	0.02	0.01
		cpx	0.13	0.01	0.25	0.01	0.00
		cpx	0.11	0.01	0.20	0.01	0.01
		calc. w.r.	-0.02	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.01
<b>Tok 10-11</b>	lhz	olivine	-0.11	0.01	-0.20	0.01	-0.01
		olivine	-0.07	0.01	-0.14	0.01	0.00
		opx	-0.05	0.02	-0.12	0.02	0.01
		opx	-0.03	0.01	-0.05	0.01	0.00
		cpx	0.00	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.00
		cpx	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
		calc. w.r.	-0.08	0.01	-0.16	0.02	0.00
<b>Av6</b>	sp hrz	olivine	-0.05	0.01	-0.11	0.01	0.01
		opx	-0.02	0.02	-0.05	0.02	0.01
		cpx	-0.03	0.01	-0.07	0.01	0.01
<b>4230-16</b>	phl sp lhz	olivine	-0.11	0.01	-0.23	0.01	0.01
		olivine	-0.10	0.01	-0.20	0.02	0.00
		opx	-0.12	0.02	-0.25	0.02	0.01
		opx	-0.13	0.01	-0.26	0.01	0.00
		cpx	-0.05	0.01	-0.09	0.01	0.00
		cpx	-0.05	0.01	-0.10	0.01	0.00
		calc. w.r.	-0.10	0.01	-0.21	0.01	0.01
<b>314-56</b>	sp lhz	olivine	-0.11	0.01	-0.23	0.01	0.01
		olivine	-0.10	0.01	-0.19	0.02	0.00
		opx	-0.09	0.01	-0.21	0.01	0.02
		opx	-0.13	0.01	-0.25	0.01	0.00
		cpx	-0.03	0.01	-0.05	0.01	-0.01
		cpx	-0.03	0.01	-0.06	0.01	0.00
<b>Mo-101</b>	sp lhz	olivine	-0.12	0.01	-0.25	0.01	0.01
		olivine	-0.14	0.02	-0.30	0.02	0.01
		opx	-0.11	0.01	-0.23	0.01	0.01
		opx	-0.14	0.01	-0.25	0.01	-0.01
		cpx	-0.09	0.01	-0.18	0.01	0.00
		cpx	-0.06	0.01	-0.13	0.01	0.01
		calc. w.r.	-0.11	0.01	-0.24	0.02	0.01
<b>San Carlos</b>		olivine	-0.14	0.01	-0.27	0.01	0.02
		olivine	-0.17	0.01	-0.34	0.01	0.00

Table 3. Mineral separate isotope data. Listed repeats are full dissolution and chemical repeats. The calculated whole rock isotope ratios are given when all mineral abundances and concentrations are known (see Table 1 caption for references).

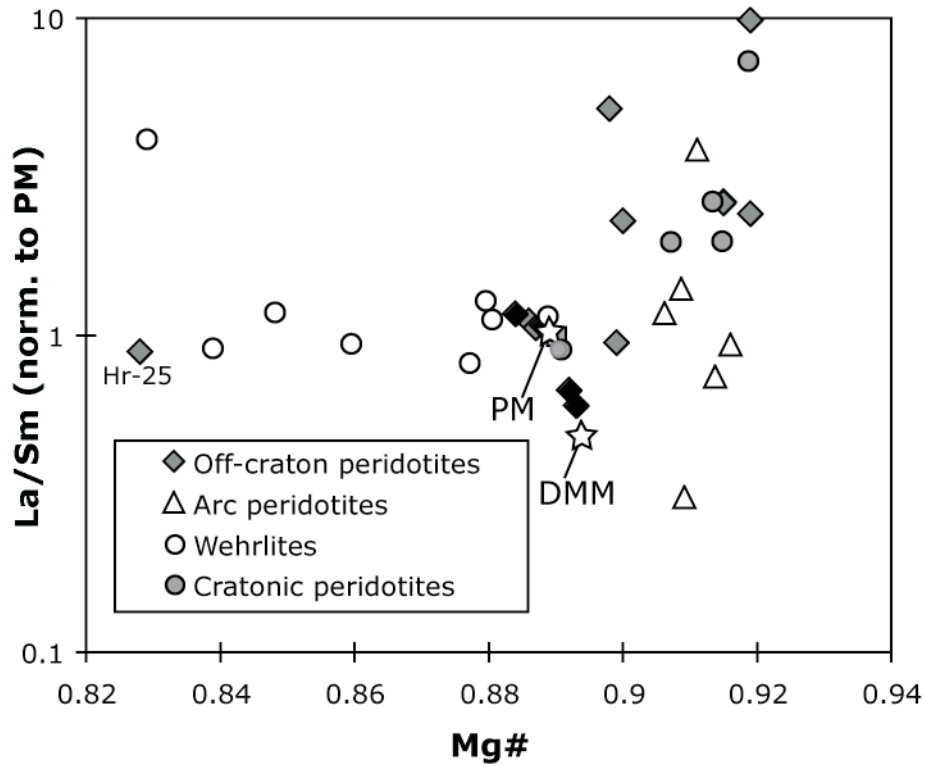


Figure 1  
Figure 1

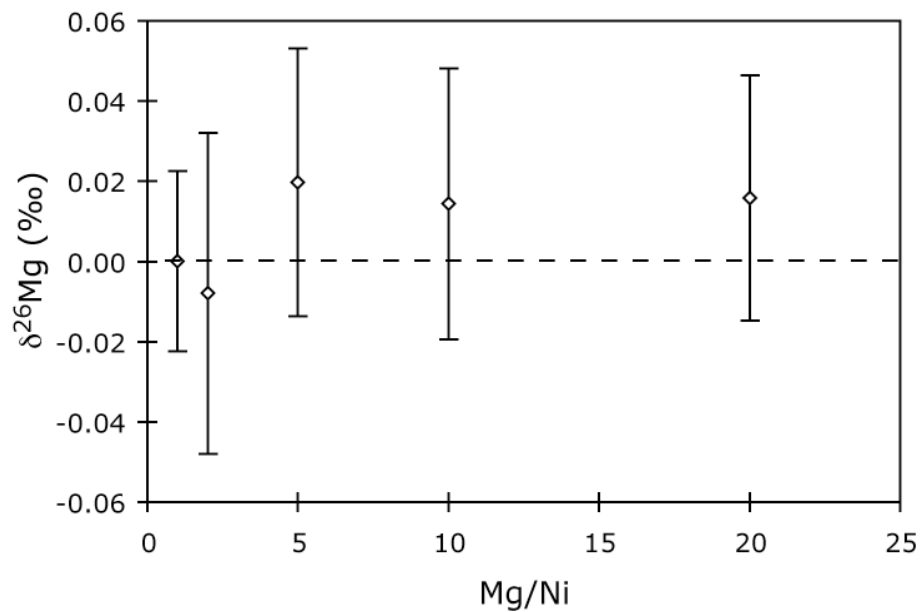


Figure 2

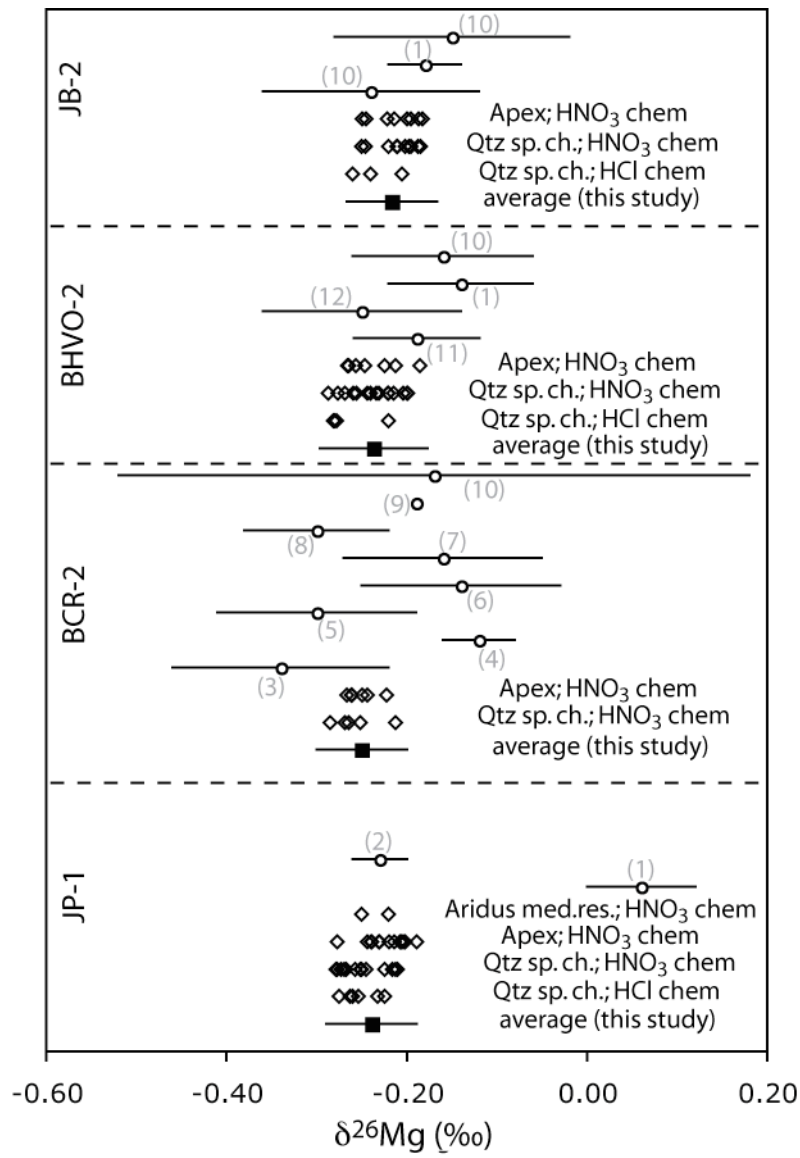


Figure 3  
Figure 3

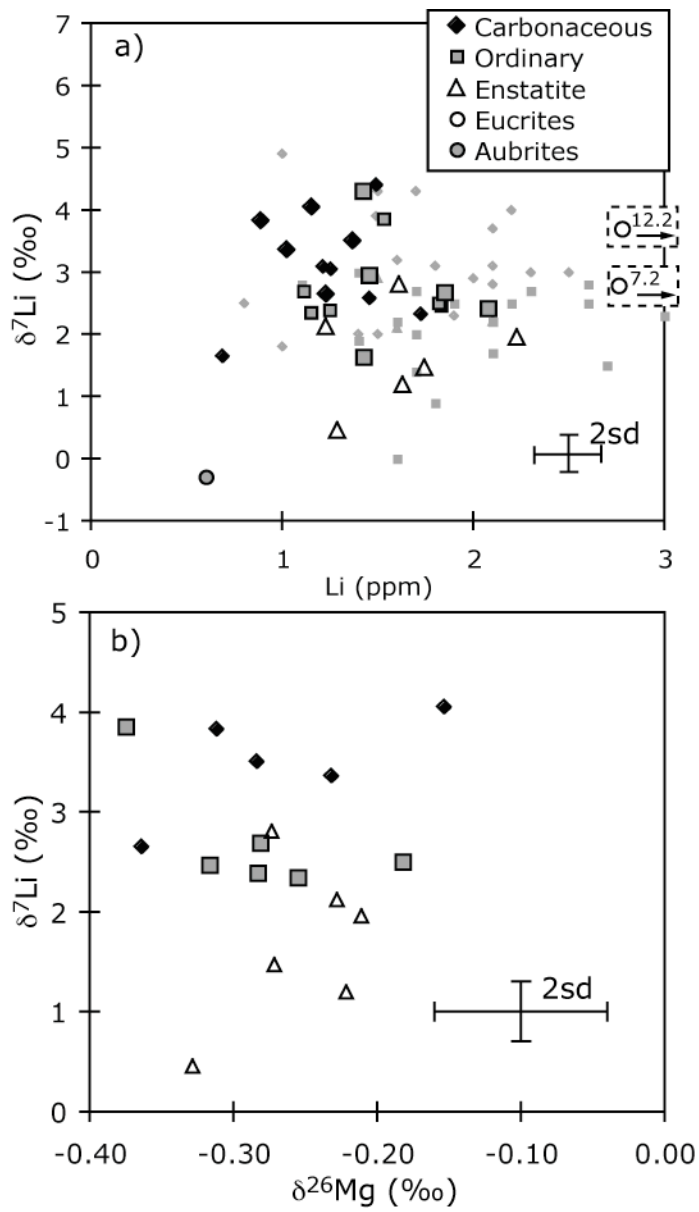


Figure 4

Figure 4

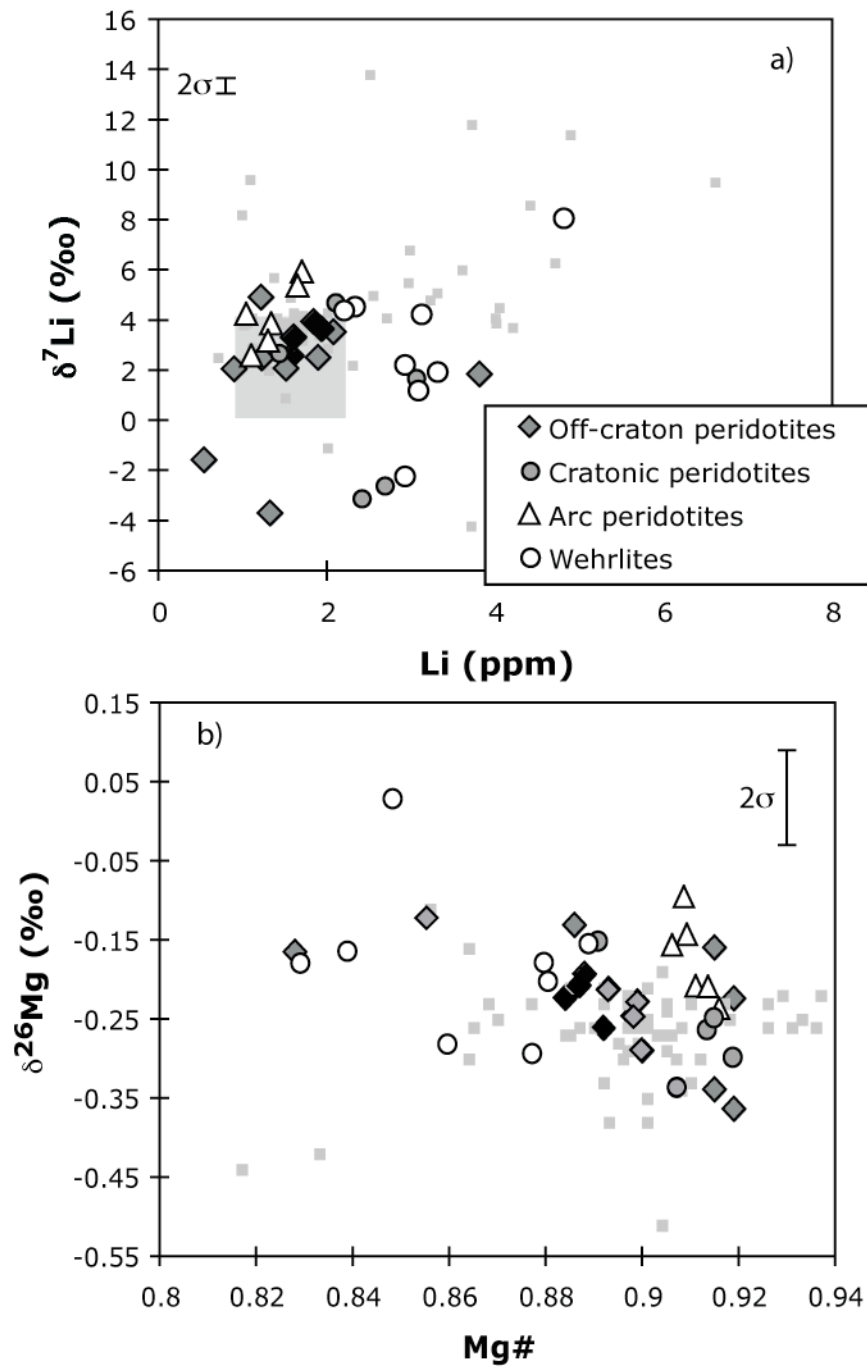


Figure 5

Figure 5

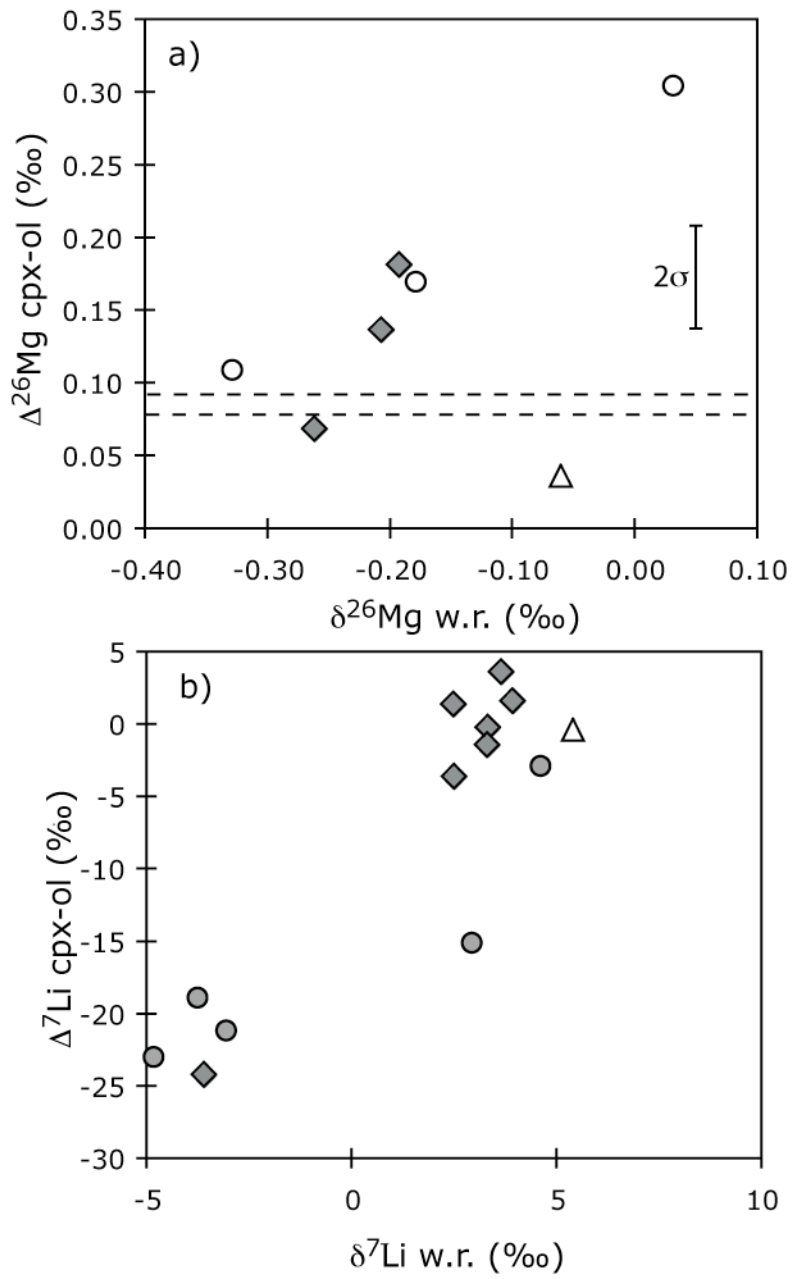


Figure 6



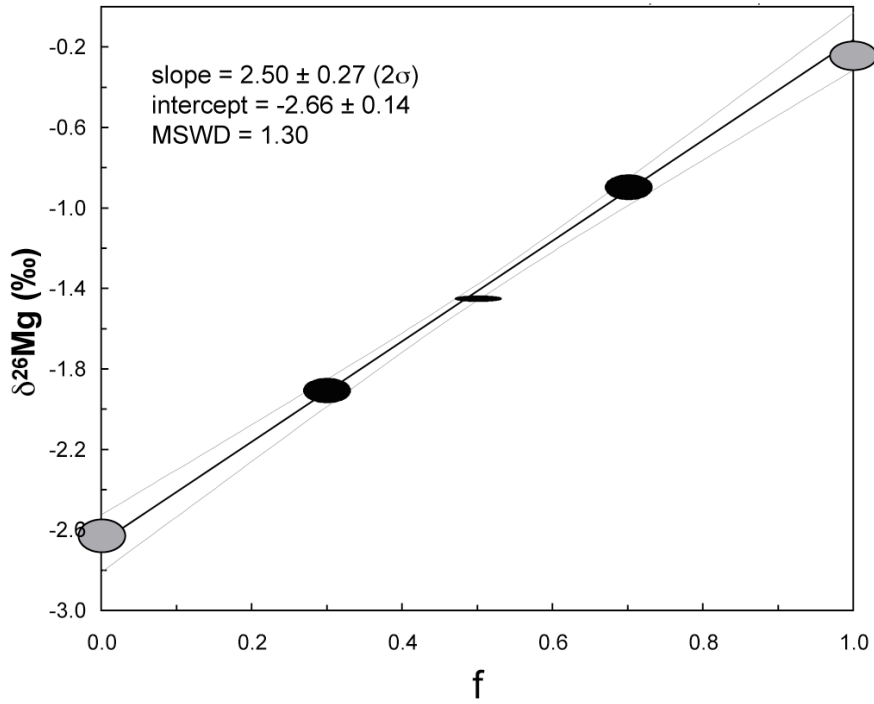


Figure 7

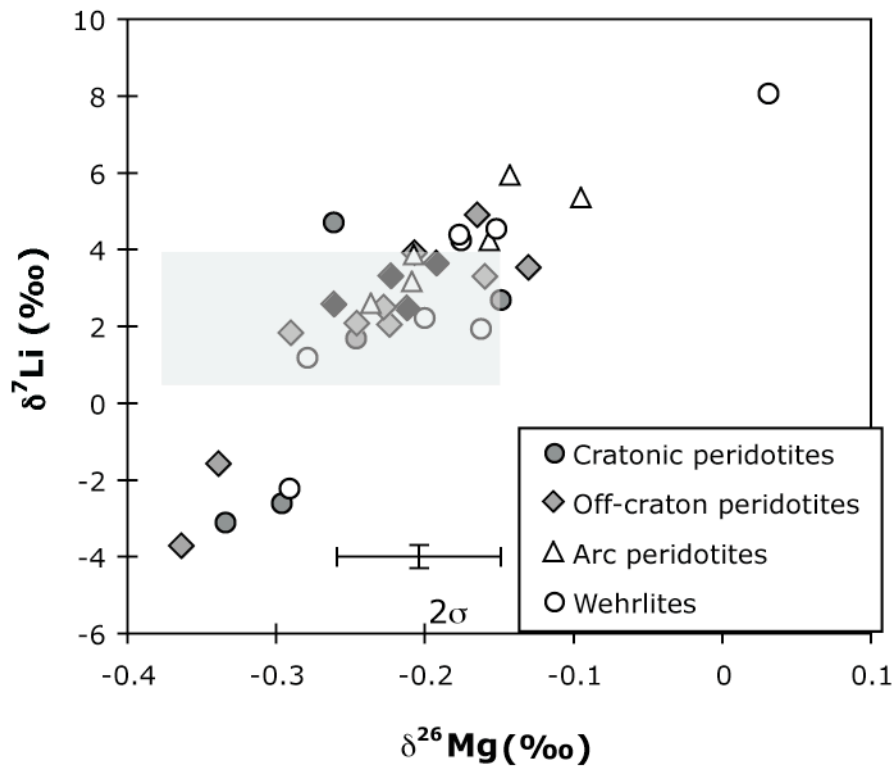


Figure 8

Figure 8

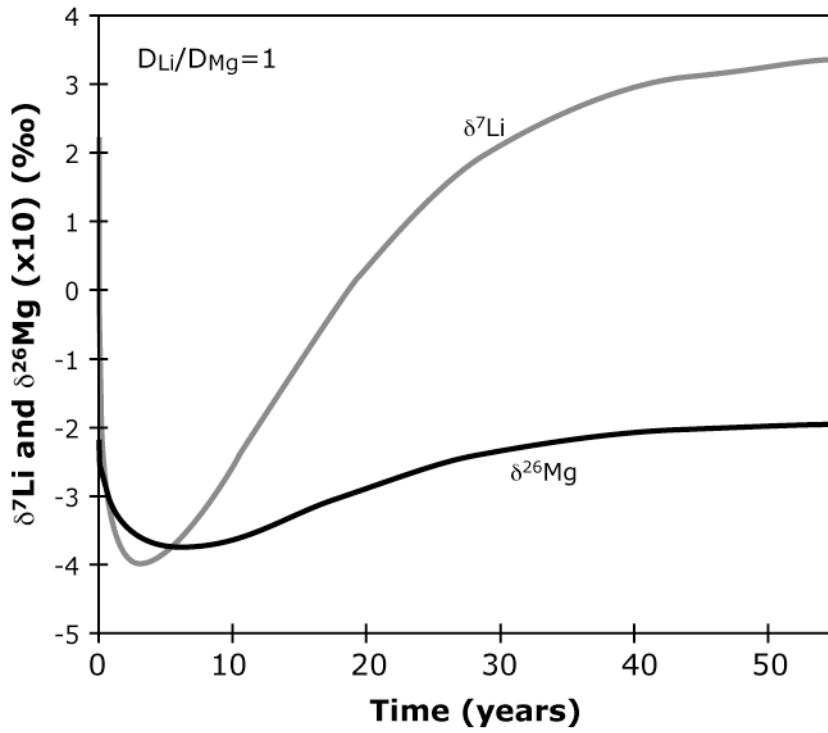


Figure 10

Figure 9

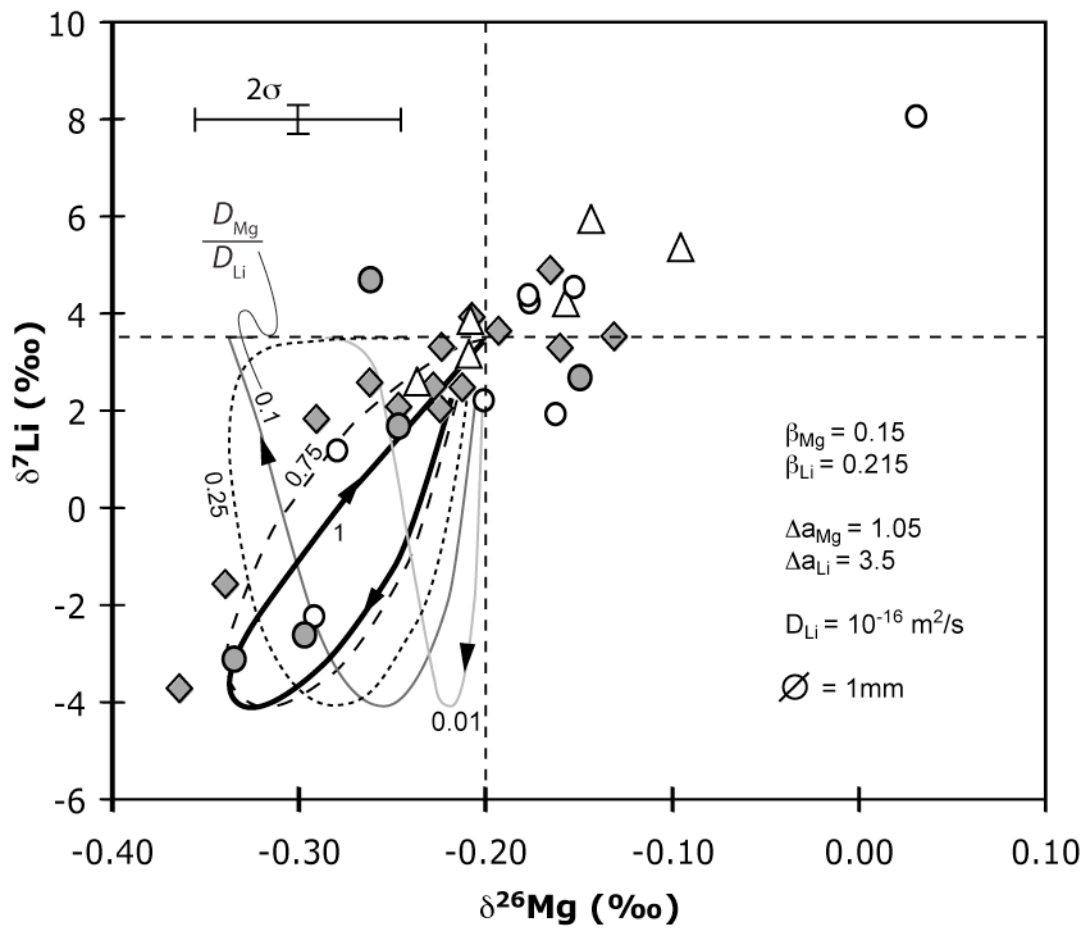


Figure 10

Figure 10

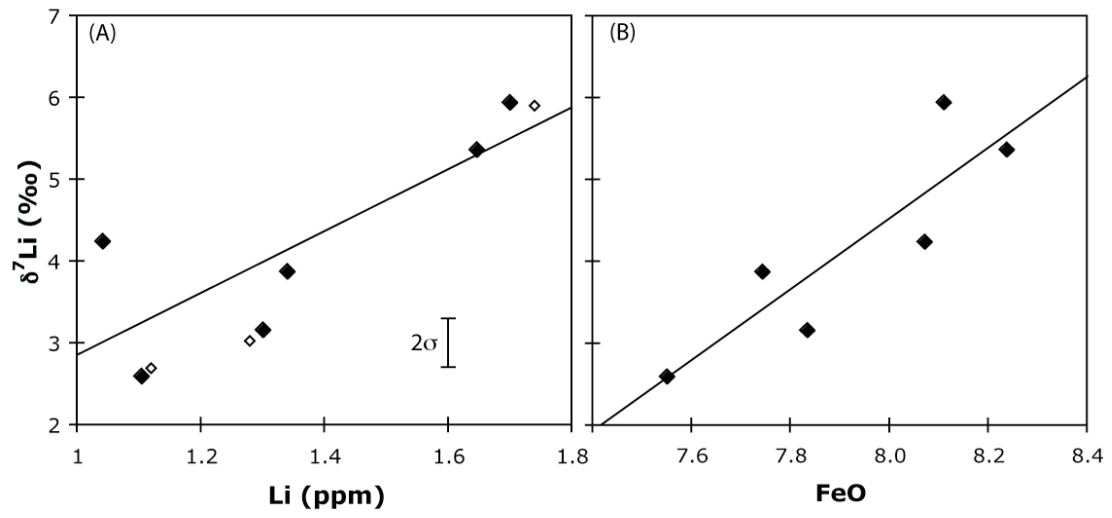


Figure 11