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## **Geochemistry of Devolatilization (and Exhumation) in W. Alps HP and UHP Metasedimentary Suites**

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### **Abstract**

Subduction-zone metamorphic rocks are notorious for their superposition of prograde mineral assemblages and exhumation-related assemblages. We have undertaken a whole-rock-EPMA-SIMS analysis of records of prograde devolatilization and exhumation in metasedimentary suites in the W. Alps, Italy (Schistes Lustrés, Cottian Alps, SL; coesite-bearing Lago di Cignana, LDC). Together, the suites represent peak conditions of 1.5 to 2.9 GPa, 300–625°C; however, prograde histories in the higher-grade SL and at LDC are highly obscured by overprinting during underplating and exhumation (Reinecke, 1998; Agard et al., 2002). In the lower-grade SL, heterogeneity in mica trace element content (B, Li, Be, Cs, Ba, Sr; by SIMS) exists at sub-mm scales, not obviously related to mica texture or grain size. In the high-grade SL and at LDC, multiple coarse-grained mica generations (at LDC, some paragonitic) have different trace element contents and, in one LDC sample, white-mica inclusions in garnet contrast in trace/major element chemistry with matrix micas. Other than in B contents, white-mica does not *obviously* vary systematically in trace element contents across grade, with any prograde variation variably obscured by exhumation. Low-grade SL contains very minor fine-grained tourmaline with <sup>11</sup>B<sub>SRM951</sub> ranging widely from –10 to +15‰; some higher-grade SL contains abundant, coarse-grained tourmaline with <sup>11</sup>B of –12 to –1‰ consistent with B derivation from devolatilizing lower-<sup>11</sup>B micas, perhaps during initial underplating and exhumation. Tourmaline in siliceous LDC rocks preserves distinct generations of low-<sup>11</sup>B, high-Mg tourmaline attributable to UHP metamorphism and high-<sup>11</sup>B, lower-Mg tourmaline attributed to exhumation (Bebout and Nakamura, 2003). Highly overprinted more pelitic LDC rocks contain texturally late-stage, zoned tourmaline with <sup>11</sup>B of –7 to +1‰ similar to that in high-grade SL, compatible with a late-stage origin of B from devolatilizing white-micas.

### **References**

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