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Mantle and Recycled Oceanic Crustal Components in Mantle Xenoliths From Northeastern China and their Mantle Sources

Peng Guo1,2,3, Dmitri A. Ionov1,4, Wen-Liang Xu1, Chun-Guang Wang1,5, and Jin-Peng Luan1

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Abstract The subduction of the Paleo-Pacific plate is widely credited for the destruction of the eastern North China Craton. However, how the Pacific plate subduction has affected the off-craton lithospheric mantle in northeastern China is less clear, as few studies have focused on the lithospheric mantle-derived xenoliths in that region. We report petrography, mineral and rock chemistry, and in situ isotopic compositions of Sr in clinopyroxene and O in olivine for 20 peridotite and 11 pyroxenite xenoliths hosted by the Cenozoic volcanic rocks at Jiaohe and Shuangliao localities. The peridotites include lherzolites, harzburgites, and a wehrlite, many are metasomatized. Group 1 garnet pyroxenites have high Al2O3, Ni, and Mg#: positive Eu and Sr anomalies; and olivine δ18O values of 4.8–5.1‰, which we attribute to recycling of oceanic crustal components to the asthenosphere and their reactions with host peridotites. Groups 2 and 3 pyroxenites are garnet-free and contain peridotite-like pyroxenes; we argue that they were formed by reactions of lithospheric peridotites with evolved melts derived from recycled oceanic crust. In addition, one pyroxenite contains orthopyroxene surrounded by fine-grained olivine and clinopyroxene, while another pyroxenite and the wehrlite contain zoned clinopyroxene with gradual increases in Na2O, (La/Yb)N, Sr, and 87Sr/86Sr ratios and decreases in Ti/Eu from core to rim. These characteristics record infiltration of a carbonate melt shortly before the transport of the xenoliths. The inferred carbonate melt has 87Sr/86Sr ≥ 0.70415 and mantle-like olivine δ18O and originated from carbonated asthenosphere. Our results, together with previous studies on the host basalts, suggest that subducted crustal materials were initially transported to the asthenosphere beneath northeastern China to produce carbonate-bearing domains. Upwelling of the carbonated asthenosphere produced carbonate melts that migrated upward and metasomatized the overlying lithospheric mantle.

1. Introduction

The formation and evolution of the continental lithospheric mantle (CLM) are critical to understand the development of Earth’s continents. Eastern China contains the Archean North China Craton (NCC) and surrounding orogenic belts and is an excellent setting to examine how the CLM formed and evolved. Recent geophysical and geochemical studies suggest that older cold and thick lithospheric mantle in the eastern NCC was destroyed and replaced by newer hot and juvenile CLM during the late Mesozoic (Chu et al., 2009; Gao et al., 2002; Menzies et al., 1993; Wu et al., 2006; Xu, 2001; Zheng et al., 2006). The westward subduction of the Paleo-Pacific slab is now accepted as the principal trigger for the NCC attenuation (Xu, 2014; Zhu et al., 2012), although southward subduction of the Paleo-Asian oceanic slab (Chen et al., 2016) and northward subduction of the Yangtze plate (Gao et al., 2002) could have played a role as well. The orogenic belts in northeastern (NE) China have been significantly affected by the westward subduction of the (Paleo-)Pacific slab as well (Xu, Liu, et al., 2013). Yet, compared to the NCC, the formation and evolution of the CLM beneath post-Archean domains of NE China are less well constrained.

Cenozoic basaltic rocks hosting mantle xenoliths are widespread in NE China (e.g., Shuangliao, Yitong, Jiaohe, and Wangqing) and adjacent far eastern Russia (Figure 1). These mantle xenoliths are mainly lherzolites with rare harzburgites, wehrlites, and pyroxenites (Guo et al., 2017; Ionov et al., 1995; Wu et al., 2003; Xu et al., 1996, 1998; Yu et al., 2009, 2010; Zhang et al., 2011, 2019; Zhou et al., 2007).
Whole rock major and trace element compositions and Re-Os isotopic data for the peridotites suggest that the CLM beneath these regions is composed mainly of juvenile mantle with minor ancient components, with Re-depletion ages ranging from Proterozoic to recent for individual xenoliths (Wu et al., 2003; Zhou et al., 2007). Guo et al. (2017) argued that the CLM experienced melt extraction in the Paleoproterozoic and the ancient CLM was replaced by juvenile mantle material accreted from asthenosphere in the Phanerozoic.

Some peridotites from NE China show Nd-Hf isotopic decoupling (Yu et al., 2009) or contain interstitial K-rich glass (Xu et al., 1996), likely reflecting pervasive mantle metasomatism. Some earlier publications argued for the role of asthenosphere-derived fluids/melts in the formation of metasomatized peridotites from NE China (Xu et al., 1998, 2003). Yu et al. (2010) reported garnet pyroxenite xenoliths from Jiaohe that exhibit trace element and Sr-Nd-O isotopic features resembling those of altered lower oceanic crust and suggested that the garnet pyroxenites are remnants of recycled oceanic crust in the CLM. Melted components of the recycled crustal materials may have migrated upward and metasomatized the CLM. However, no conclusive evidence has been found that recycled materials played a role in the formation of metasomatized peridotites. Thus, the composition and origin of metasomatic agents and their effects on the evolution of the CLM beneath NE China continue to be debated.

Peridotite xenoliths are direct samples of the lithospheric mantle and record a variety of processes, including partial melting and mantle metasomatism (e.g., Pearson et al., 2014). Their mineral compositions may trace metasomatism in the CLM (Foley, 2008). Pyroxenite is the second most common rock type among basalt-hosted mantle xenoliths after spinel peridotite. The studies of pyroxenites may be complementary to those of metasomatized peridotites, because pyroxenites form in zones of high melt/rock ratios in the mantle (Garrido & Bodinier, 1999).

In this study, we report detailed data on petrography, mineral and rock chemistry, O-isotope composition of olivine, and in situ Sr isotope composition of clinopyroxene for a suite of peridotite and pyroxenite xenoliths carried by the Cenozoic Jiaohe and Shuangliao basalts in NE China. These data provide new insights into the evolution of the CLM beneath post-Archean domains of NE China.
2. Geological Background and Samples

2.1. Geological Background

The study area in NE China (Figure 1) is located in the eastern segment of the Central Asian Orogenic Belt (CAOB), sandwiched between the Siberian and North China cratons (Sengör et al., 1993). The most important events in the Phanerozoic history of the area were the subduction in the Paleo-Asian ocean plate, followed by its closure and amalgamation of several microcontinents (from west to east: the Erguna, Xing’an, Songnen, Jiamusi, and Khanka blocks; Figure 1b) mostly in the Paleozoic (Liu et al., 2017; Xiao et al., 2015). Since the Mesozoic, NE China has been affected by the subduction of the (Paleo-)Pacific plate in the east (Xu, Pei, et al., 2013) and of the Mongol-Okhotsk plate in the northwest (Tang et al., 2016). Recent seismic tomography identified a stagnant oceanic slab in the mantle transition zone beneath eastern China (Huang & Zhao, 2006; Wei et al., 2015), which was attributed to the subduction of the Pacific plate.

The Songnen Block (SB in Figure 1b) comprises the Songliao basin filled with thick Mesozoic strata and the Lesser Xing’an and Zhangguangcai ranges. Precambrian crustal basement with zircon 207Pb/206Pb ages of 1808–1873 Ma (Pei et al., 2007; Wang et al., 2006) was discovered in southern Songliao basin. The Lesser Xing’an and Zhangguangcai ranges consist of voluminous Phanerozoic garnet peridotites with minor Neoproterozoic granitoids (Luan et al., 2017; Wang, Xu, et al., 2017; Wu et al., 2011). The granites have a broad range of zircon Hf isotopic values (εHf = −8.6 to +13.7) and model ages (TDM2 = 454–1998 Ma), suggesting crustal growth from Paleoprotoreozoic to mid-Phanerozoic (Guo et al., 2018; Wang, Xu, et al., 2017).

Cenozoic alkali basalts are common in NE China. Their origins are linked to continental extension and upper mantle convection induced by the subduction of the Pacific plate (Guo et al., 2016; Tang et al., 2014). The Jiaohe volcanic field (site 17JH) is located in the central Jilin Province, 200 km east of the Songliao basin, near the Dun-Mi fault (Figure 1(b)). The lavas are basalts and alkaline olivine basalts with 2–24 Ma K-Ar ages (Wang, 1996). Abundant, fresh mantle xenoliths (spinel lherzolites, harzburgites, wehrlites, and pyroxenites) 3–15 cm in diameter are found in a quarry at Yiqisong (Yu et al., 2009, 2010; Zhou et al., 2007). Rhenium-Os isotopic compositions of 10 peridotites from this locality reported by Zhou et al. (2007) show 187Os/188Os ratios of 0.1178–0.1396, with Re depletion ages (TRD) of 1.1 and 1.6 Ga for the two most refractory harzburgites (Al2O3 < 2%). Oxygen isotopic compositions reported for a few olivine-free garnet pyroxenites from the same site (Yu et al., 2010) show lack of O isotopic equilibrium between garnet, spinel, and clinoxyroxene.

The Shuangliao volcanic field in the southeastern Songliao basin (Figure 1b) includes eight eruption centers; mantle xenoliths were found at three of them, that is, Bolishan (Site 17SL1), Aobaoshan (17SL2), and Bobotushan (17SL3). The volcanic rocks from these three sites are basanites with Ar-Ar ages of 48–51 Ma (Xu et al., 2012). The mantle xenoliths are spinel lherzolites, harzburgites, and pyroxenites. Rhenium-Os isotopic compositions have been reported for 11 Shuangliao spinel peridotites (Wu et al., 2003). Five refractory samples (Al2O3 < 2%) have 187Os/188Os ratios of 0.1181–0.1263 and TRD of 0.5–1.6 Ga.

2.2. Sample Preparation and Description

Fifteen xenoliths from Jiaohe and 18 xenoliths from Shuangliao were selected from a larger collection to represent major mantle xenolith types at these locations. The xenoliths are 3–10 cm in size and were cut from host lava to obtain material for thin sections and mineral separation. Ten of the largest xenoliths were crushed and powdered for whole-rock (WR) analyses. Essential petrologic and chemical data for the xenoliths are listed in Table 1 including modal compositions (from point-counting in thin sections), Mg# of olivine [Mg#Ol = Mg/(Mg + Fe)at], Cr# of spinel [Cr#Sp = Cr/(Cr + Al)at], and equilibrium temperatures (T).

2.2.1. Pyroxenite Xenoliths

The pyroxenites are classified in three groups. The group 1 pyroxenites include three garnet-spinel pyroxenites made up of clinopyroxene (cpx), orthopyroxene (opx), garnet (grt), and spinel (sp), as well as a spinel pyroxenite that shows textural and chemical similarities to the garnet-bearing samples. Garnet commonly forms as rims around spinel (Figure 2a). Olivine has low modal abundances (≤6%). It is subhedral and occurs around garnet, likely due to association with garnet formation.

The Groups 2 and 3 pyroxenites include seven garnet-free rocks consisting of cpx and opx, with rare spinel (≤0.5%). The pyroxenes have curvilinear grain boundaries, spinel commonly occurs as inclusions in pyroxenes. The clinopyroxenites in these two groups (green Cr-diopside) contain less Al than those in Group 1. Rare
fine-grained olivine (<0.1%) occurs as relic grains in cpx-opx reaction zones (Figure 2b). Two of these pyroxenites (17JH1 and 17SL1-22) are classified into separate Group 3 due to their specific petrography and isotopic characteristics. 17SL1-22 contains opx surrounded by fine-grained olivine and cpx (Figure 2c) and has more spinel than the other pyroxenites (2.2% vs. ≤0.5%).

A prominent petrographic feature of all groups of pyroxenites is the presence of accessory feldspars, usually as thin irregular aggregates along grain boundaries, cross-cutting veins, or inclusions in pyroxene grains (Figure 2d).

### 2.2.2. Peridotite Xenoliths

The peridotites comprise unmetasomatized lherzolites (7–17% cpx) and metasomatized rocks. The former exhibits protogranular, fine- to coarse-grained texture. The latter includes a wehrlite (17JH14), three harzburgites, and six lherzolites. The metasomatized peridotites contain no volatile-bearing minerals. The wehrlite has porphyroclastic texture and contains no opx and much spinel (~7%) (Figure 2e). The harzburgites and five lherzolites display protogranular texture, with irregular pyroxene grain boundaries and serrated reaction rims. They contain 1–15% cpx and ≤4% spinel. Sample 17SL1-23 is a metasomatized lherzolite

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<th>Cr#</th>
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### Table 1

Summary of Essential Petrologic and Geochemical Data on Samples From NE China

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<td>17.3</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>17SL2-7</td>
<td>Lherzolite</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>0.90</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>62.6</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>24.8</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Note.

Modal compositions are calculated from point-counting in thin sections; Mg# = Mg/(Mg + Fe)at; Cr# = Cr/(Cr + Al)at. Cpx, clinopyroxene; Fs, feldspar; Grt, garnet; Ol, olivine; Opx, orthopyroxene; Sp, spinel; Tr, trace. Sample names with 17JH and 17SL are from Jiaohe and Shuangliao, respectively.
with porphyroclastic texture (Figure 2f); it contains less olivine (45%) and more opx (43%) than other metasomatized peridotites.

2.2.3. Composite Xenoliths

Two composite xenoliths 17JH5 and 17SL1–20 show lithological transitions from peridotite to websterite in thin sections, with smaller cpx and larger olivine grains in the peridotite (Figure 2h). A fine-grained pocket of olivine, opx, and spinel occurs within a large (~5 mm) cpx grain in websterite 17SL1–20 (Figure 2i).

3. Results

A detailed description of all analytical methods used in this study is provided in the supporting information.

3.1. Whole Rock Major and Trace Element Compositions

The whole-rock major element compositions of eight Jiaohe xenoliths and two Shuangliao lherzolites are given in Table S1. These samples have very low loss on ignition (LOI, −0.16 to 0.72 wt.%), consistent with negligible alteration from petrographic observations. All three Group 1 pyroxenites have high Al2O3 (10.9–16.8 wt.%) and CaO (8.9–13.5 wt.%) contents, and moderate Mg# (0.86–0.88). Only one Group 2 pyroxenite was analyzed; it has lower Al2O3 content (5.4 wt.%), higher CaO content (15.1 wt.%), and higher Mg# of 0.89. The lherzolites are moderately refractory with 1.2–2.9 wt.% Al2O3, 1.5–2.8 wt.% CaO, and Mg# of 0.90–0.91. Six peridotites in this study are located on plot of Al2O3 versus FeO between the 5–1 and 2–0 GPa decompression partial melting lines (Figure 3). By contrast, many literature peridotites from the same localities plot above the melt-extraction domain and must have been enriched in iron.

Trace element abundances in eight Jiaohe xenoliths are given in Table S1. Group 1 pyroxenite 17JH6 is HREE-enriched, whereas other Group 1 pyroxenites exhibit nearly flat REE patterns and minor positive Eu anomalies (Figures 4a and 4b). The REE pattern of Group 2 pyroxenite 17JH12 is similar to that of Group 1 pyroxenite 17JH1.2. Both groups of pyroxenites have positive U and Sr anomalies and negative Ti anomalies. Two lherzolites containing 10–13% cpx have LREE-depleted REE patterns, whereas two low-cpx (6%) lherzolites have HREE-depleted and LREE-enriched REE patterns (Figures 4c and 4d).

3.2. Mineral Major and Trace Element Compositions

Major and trace element compositions of minerals are given in Tables S2 and S3 and illustrated in Figures 5–7. Altogether, pyroxenes from Groups 2 and 3 pyroxenites and from peridotite xenoliths (including literature data) define negative correlations of Al2O3 with Cr2O3 and Mg#, and a positive correlation with Na2O (Figure 5). Clinopyroxenes in Group 1 pyroxenites differ from those in the majority of garnet-free xenoliths by higher Al2O3 (>6 wt.%) and lower Cr2O3 (≤0.3 wt.%) (Figures 5a–5c) and have convex-upward REE patterns with maxima near Eu (Figure 6a), reflecting HREE partitioning to coexisting garnet. The garnets have low Cr2O3 (0.06–0.30 wt.%) and broad ranges of CaO (4.05–6.68 wt.%) and HREE (YbN = 11–115). Spinel in Group 1 pyroxenites has very low Cr# of 0.01–0.04. Spinel in many peridotites has high TiO2 reaching 0.6 wt.% (Figure 7). Olivine in pyroxenites has lower Mg# than olivine in peridotites (≤0.89 vs. ≥0.90). Feldspar in pyroxenites is K-rich (3.9–8.6 wt.% K2O).
Clinopyroxene grains in Group 3 pyroxenite 17JH1 are chemically zoned with higher Na$_2$O (2.2 wt.%), Sr (207 ppm), and LREE ((La/Yb)$_N$ = 9.3) and lower Mg# (0.88) in rims than in cores (1.4 wt.% Na$_2$O, 67 ppm Sr, (La/Yb)$_N$ = 1.6, and Mg# = 0.89).

Clinopyroxenes in peridotites and pyroxenites have a broad range of REE patterns from LREE‐depleted to convex‐upward and LREE‐enriched (Figure 6), and common negative anomalies of Zr, Hf, Nb, and Ta, and positive anomalies of Th, U, and Sr. Clinopyroxene grains in wehrlite 17JH14 are zoned, with higher Sr (270 ppm) and LREE ((La/Yb)$_N$ = 11.4) in rims than in cores (Sr = 67 ppm; (La/Yb)$_N$ = 5.4).

### 3.3. Sr Isotope Composition of Clinopyroxene

Clinopyroxene grains in Group 3 pyroxenite 17JH1 are chemically zoned with higher Na$_2$O (2.2 wt.%), Sr (207 ppm), and LREE ((La/Yb)$_N$ = 9.3) and lower Mg# (0.88) in rims than in cores (1.4 wt.% Na$_2$O, 67 ppm Sr, (La/Yb)$_N$ = 1.6, and Mg# = 0.89).

Clinopyroxenes in peridotites and pyroxenites have a broad range of REE patterns from LREE‐depleted to convex‐upward and LREE‐enriched (Figure 6), and common negative anomalies of Zr, Hf, Nb, and Ta, and positive anomalies of Th, U, and Sr. Clinopyroxene grains in wehrlite 17JH14 are zoned, with higher Sr (270 ppm) and LREE ((La/Yb)$_N$ = 11.4) in rims than in cores (Sr = 67 ppm; (La/Yb)$_N$ = 5.4).

The in situ $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios for cpx obtained by LA‐ICPMS are given in Table S4 and shown in Figure 8a. The $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios of clinopyroxenes from Group 1 pyroxenites range from 0.7022 to 0.7035 and are lower than whole rock $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios of the pyroxenites (0.7036–0.7042) reported by Yu et al. (2010). The clinopyroxenes from Group 2 pyroxenites have $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios of 0.7020–0.7025. The clinopyroxenes from Group 3 pyroxenite 17SL1‐22 have $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios of 0.7033–0.7038, whereas the rim of zoned clinopyroxene from Sample 17JH1 has a higher $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratio (0.7034) than its core (0.7019; Figure 9a).

The $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios for cpx in peridotite xenoliths range from 0.7022 to 0.7055, with lower values in LREE‐depleted lherzolites than in LREE‐enriched samples. Among them, the cpx in two cpx‐poor Jiaohe lherzolites (17JH16 and 17JH24) has the highest $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratios (0.7052–0.7055). The rim of zoned cpx from wehrlite 17JH14 has a higher $^{87}$Sr/$^{86}$Sr ratio (0.7034) than its core (0.7026; Figure 9c).
3.4. Oxygen Isotope Composition of Olivine

The $\delta^{18}O$ values for olivine are given in Table S5. Group 1 pyroxenites 17JH6 and 17JH11 have $\delta^{18}O$ values of 4.75 ± 0.12‰ and 5.13 ± 0.12‰, respectively. The former value is lower than the mantle olivine range (5.1–5.4‰; Chazot et al., 1997; Mattey et al., 1994) but falls in the range reported for altered oceanic crust (0–12‰; Muehlenbachs, 1986). Olivines from other pyroxenites and all peridotite xenoliths have $\delta^{18}O$ values of 5.13–5.38‰, that is, within the mantle olivine range (Figure 10).

4. Discussion
4.1. Origin of Peridotites

Peridotite xenoliths are commonly direct samples from the CLM; their modal and chemical variations are attributed to variable degrees of melt extraction, and in some cases to later metasomatism by different agents (Pearson et al., 2014). Plot of Al$_2$O$_3$ versus FeO in melting residues may constrain both pressure and melting degrees because Al$_2$O$_3$ is a robust melt extraction index while FeO contents are controlled by pressure (Herzberg, 2004). The peridotites reported here are residues after 15–25% of batch partial melting at low pressures based on Al$_2$O$_3$ contents (1.2–2.9 wt.%) and Fe–Al relations compared with experimental data on melting of primitive mantle composition (Figure 3). We also evaluate melting degrees using the model of Takazawa et al. (2000) that is based on the mineral-melt partition coefficients of incompatible elements (e.g., HREE) during partial melting of fertile mantle. This model examines fractional partial melting and yields melting degrees of 5–15% for the peridotites in this study (Figure 4).

Some peridotites with the highest Al$_2$O$_3$, low to moderate Mg$^{#}_{ol}$ (0.89–0.91), and Cr$_{sp}$ (0.09–0.17) contain LREE-depleted cpx and show no significant metasomatic overprints. The remaining peridotites, with low Al$_2$O$_3$ (1.2–2.2 wt.%) and high Mg$^{#}_{ol}$ (0.91–0.92), contain cpx with low HREE and LREE-enriched patterns, and Ti-enriched spinel (Figure 7), that is, are cryptically metasomatized.
4.2. Origin of the Pyroxenites

Pyroxenites could be cumulates from mantle-derived melts (Bodinier et al., 1987; Downes, 2007; Irving, 1980; Lee et al., 2006), recycling of subducted oceanic crust (Allègre & Turcotte, 1986; Kornprobst et al., 1990; Yu et al., 2010) or, alternatively, products of melt-peridotite interaction (Garrido & Bodinier, 1999; Liu et al., 2005). The Group 1 pyroxenites in this study have high WR Al$_2$O$_3$ (10.9–16.8 wt. %) and CaO (8.9–13.5 wt.%), and minor positive Eu and Sr anomalies in the WR and cpx (Figures 4b, 6a, and 6b), indicating that plagioclase-rich protoliths could be their precursors. This suggestion is examined in a pseudo-ternary system [olivine-Ca-Tschermak (CaTS)-quartz] projected from diopside (Figure 11; Herzberg, 2011; Lambart et al., 2013). The enstatite (En)-CaTs junction separates the projection into silica-excess (right) and silica-deficient (left) sides. In the projection, the Group 1 pyroxenites plot on the silica-deficient side, consistent with the occurrence of olivine. By contrast, garnet pyroxenites reported by Yu et al. (2010) contain no olivine and show a trend toward the silica-excess side, and some of them resemble experimental residues after partial melting of eclogite (Yaxley & Green, 1998).

The compositions of the Group 1 pyroxenites are distinct from those of gabbroic rocks in subducted oceanic crust (Bach et al., 2001) and of experimental residues of eclogite melting (Figure 11). This argues against an origin by metamorphism of gabbroic protoliths suggested by Yu et al. (2010). In addition, the Group 1 pyroxenites have higher Mg# (0.86–0.87) and Ni (600–780 ppm) than cumulates from eclogite-derived melts (Mg# <0.84, Ni <520 ppm; Montanini et al., 2012; Montanini & Tribuzio, 2015).

Here, we suggest an alternative origin for the Group 1 pyroxenites by reaction of melts extracted from subducted crust with surrounding peridotites at high melt/peridotite ratios, while silica-excess garnet

Figure 5. Covariation plots of Cr$_2$O$_3$, Na$_2$O and Mg# versus Al$_2$O$_3$ in clinopyroxene (cpx) and orthopyroxene (opx) in mantle xenoliths from Jiaohe and Shuangliao. Literature data are from Zhou et al. (2007) and Yu et al. (2009). The fields of fertile mantle are from data for Tariat in Central Asia (Ionov, 2007).
Figure 6. Trace element patterns for clinopyroxenes (Cpx) normalized to primitive mantle from samples in this study (McDonough & Sun, 1995).
pyroxenites from Yu et al. (2010) may be residues after partial melting of recycled subducted crust. Such reactions consume olivine in the peridotites (Herzberg, 2011; Sobolev et al., 2005) to increase Ni concentrations in residual olivine, which is incorporated in group 1 pyroxenites, consistent with high Ni (3,190–3,388 ppm) in olivine in these samples.

Group 2 pyroxenites contain rare spinel and no garnet and have distinct mineral compositions (Figures 5 and 6). They cannot be the recycled gabbroic rocks or cumulates crystallized from eclogite- or peridotite-derived melts because of (i) low WR Al2O3 (5.4 wt.%) and high Mg# (0.89), (ii) high Mg# in pyroxenes (Mg#cpx = 0.89–0.92; Mg#opx = 0.87–0.91), and (iii) cpx REE patterns distinct from LREE-enriched patterns of cumulate pyroxenites. The mineral and geochemical features of Group 2 pyroxenites are strongly reminiscent of those observed in the (ol) websterites from Ronda and Beni Bousera orogenic peridotites (Bodinier & Godard, 2014, and references therein). In the Beni Bousera orogenic peridotite massif, the (ol) websterite layers were found in the outer part of the garnet clinopyroxenite layers, and the contacts of (ol) websterite to host peridotite are generally diffuse (Chetouani et al., 2016). Based on this field evidence, several recent studies proposed a garnet pyroxenite-peridotite reaction model for the generation of the (ol) websterite (e.g., Varas-Reus et al., 2016). However, such direct contact between garnet clinopyroxenites (Group 1) and Group 2 pyroxenites has not been found in the mantle xenoliths from our study and literature in NE China. Thus, the peridotite-pyroxenite model seems too speculative for the formation of Group 2 pyroxenites in this study. Instead, we suggest that the Group 2 pyroxenites formed by melt-rock reactions (Kelemen et al., 1998; Liu et al., 2005) based on the following lines of evidence. (1) Major element compositions of cpx and opx in Group 2 pyroxenites overlapping with those in mantle peridotites (Figure 5). (2) Transition from peridotite to websterite in composite xenoliths 17JH5 and 17SL1–20 (Figure 2h), with cpx in the websterite containing fine-grained pockets of olivine, opx, and spinel (Figure 2i), which may be peridotite relics. Reactions between peridotite and silica-poor basaltic melt commonly result in the dissolution of opx and the precipitation of ol. Such reactions have been well documented by experimental studies (Daines & Kohlstedt, 1994; Morgan & Liang, 2003; Tursack & Liang, 2012) and can account for the formation of dunite in ophiolites (Morgan et al., 2008; Suhr et al., 2003). In order to form the Group 2 pyroxenites by melt-peridotite reactions, a silica-rich melt is required (Lambart et al., 2012; Wang et al., 2016; Yaxley & Green, 1998). The inferred melt was most likely derived from the recycled oceanic crust and had been modified by the reactions forming pyroxenites from Yu et al. (2010).
the Group 1 pyroxenites. Owing to preferential incorporation of Al₂O₃ and HREE in garnet, the reacted melt after the formation of Group 1 pyroxenites has low Al₂O₃ and HREE; its ascending and reaction with the lithospheric peridotite could produce the Group 2 pyroxenites. Therefore, we conclude that the reacting melts in Groups 1 and 2 pyroxenites share a common source, that is, recycled subducted crust, which is consistent with the similar whole rock trace element patterns (Figure 4b) and Sr isotopic compositions (Figure 8a) for the Groups 1 and 2 pyroxenites.

Group 3 pyroxenites are similar in mineral characteristics to the Group 2 pyroxenites and formed by silicate melt-peridotite reactions as well. However, the compositional zoning in cpx of 17JH1 and unique reaction rims around opx (fine-grained olivine and cpx) in 17SL1-22 require additional melt infiltration after their primitive formation.

### 4.3. Metasomatic Melt Compositions

Here, we constrain the compositions of metasomatic melts that reacted with peridotites to produce wehrlites and Group 3 pyroxenites in the lithospheric mantle beneath NE China. Mantle wehrlites are commonly thought to form by reaction of harzburgite or lherzolite precursors with carbonatite (Yaxley et al., 1991) or volatile-rich silicate melts (Ionov et al., 2005; Xu et al., 1996). Interaction with carbonatite melts may

![Figure 9. Variations of Sr concentrations, ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr, (La/Yb)ₚ, and Ti/Eu across Cpx grains in samples 17JH1 (a and b) and 17JH14 (c and d).](image)

![Figure 10. (a) A histogram for ⁶⁰⁰⁰ values in olivine from mantle xenoliths in this study. (b) A plot of ⁶⁰⁰⁰ versus Mg# in olivine. The gray field represents typical mantle ⁶⁰⁰⁰ values (5.1–5.4; Chazot et al., 1997; Mattey et al., 1994). Also shown are data for peridotite xenoliths from nearby Yitong locality (Xu et al., 1996).](image)
produce LREE and Sr enrichments without significantly affecting Mg# (Green & Wallace, 1988), whereas metasomatism by evolved silicate melts results in decreasing Mg# (Ionov et al., 2005; Xu et al., 1996).

Wehrlite in this study has Mg-rich minerals (Mg#_{cpx} = 0.94; Mg#_{ol} = 0.92) as well as high Na_{2}O (1.81 wt.%) and K_{2}O (0.14 wt.%) in cpx. The cpx is zoned with increasing (La/Yb)_{N} and Sr and decreasing Ti/Eu from core to rim (Figure 9). This suggests that the metasomatic melt was rich in Mg, Na, K, Sr, and LREE and had low Ti/Eu, that is, being a composition typical for dolomitic carbonate melt (Green & Wallace, 1988; Rudnick et al., 1993; Yaxley et al., 1991). Experimental work has shown that such melt at pressures <2.1 GPa can convert herzolite to wehrlite with magne-
sian olivine and cpx (Green & Wallace, 1988), consistent with the inferred wehrlite formation in this study. Three peridotites (17SL3-15, 17SL3-16, and 17JH16) contain LREE-enriched cpx as well (Figure 6e) and could have been affected by a similar process. For instance, significant HFSE (Zr, Hf, and Ti) depletions in whole rock (Figure 4d) and a high Ca/Al ratio in whole rock sample 17JH16 indicate a metasomatism by carbonate melt.

Trace element compositions of melts in equilibrium with metasomatic cpx are estimated here using cpx/melt partition coefficients of Klemme et al. (1995). The hypothetical melts are enriched in Sr and LREE and had low Ti/Eu, that is, being a composition typical for dolomitic carbonate melt (Green & Wallace, 1988), consistent with the inferred wehrlite formation in this study. Three peridotites (17SL3-15, 17SL3-16, and 17JH16) contain LREE-enriched cpx as well (Figure 6e) and could have been affected by a similar process. For instance, significant HFSE (Zr, Hf, and Ti) depletions in whole rock (Figure 4d) and a high Ca/Al ratio in whole rock sample 17JH16 indicate a metasomatism by carbonate melt.

Figure 11. Jiaohe xenoliths in a projection of the pseudo-ternary system olivine (Ol)-Ca-Tschermak component (CaTS)-quartz (Qtz) (Herzberg, 2011). Also shown are gabbroic rocks from lower oceanic crust at the southwestern Indian Ridge (Bach et al., 2001), experimental residues of different partial melting degrees of eclogite (Yaxley & Green, 1988), and cumulates crystallized from eclogite-derived melts (Montanini et al., 2012; Montanini & Tribuzio, 2015).

Figure 12. Trace element compositions of hypothetical melts in equilibrium with LREE-enriched clinopyroxenes using partition coefficients from Klemme et al. (1995). Also shown are the composition of carbonatites (Chen et al., 2016 and references therein), natural carbonated silicate melts (Zhang et al., 2017), and host basalts (Xu et al., 2012).
Figure 2d, the feldspars (with 8.6 wt.% K₂O, 0.2 wt.% CaO) occur as inclusions in cpx of Group 3 pyroxenites, suggesting that both feldspars in this study and late-stage cpx were formed at the same stage of metasomatism due to recent infiltration of a K-rich carbonate melt.

### 4.4. The Sources of the Metasomatic Melts

Strontium and O isotopic compositions of metasomatic minerals may provide robust constraints on the sources of metasomatic agents. The δ¹⁸O of olivine in Group 1 pyroxenite 17JH6 (4.75 ± 0.12‰) is significantly lower than the range for mantle-derived olivine (5.1–5.4‰; Chazot et al., 1997; Mattey et al., 1994) but is within the range of altered oceanic crust (0–12‰; Muehlenbachs, 1986). Thus, it appears that recycled crustal materials were incorporated in the Group 1 pyroxenites, consistent with textural and chemical data discussed in this study.

The ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios of the cpx in the Groups 1 and 2 pyroxenites range from 0.7020 to 0.7035. This range is lower than the whole rock ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr variations (0.7036–0.7042) for Jiaohe garnet pyroxenites reported by Yu et al. (2010). If the latter represents residues after partial melting of recycled subducted crust (and presuming that the ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios of the pyroxenites have not evolved much since their formation because they have low Rb/Sr ratios), the resultant melts had the same ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr range at the time of melting. The discrepancy in ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios between cpx in the Groups 1 and 2 pyroxenites and the WR of pyroxenites reported by Yu et al. (2010) can be attributed to either (1) feldspars with higher Sr contents and ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios in these pyroxenites or (2) the ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios of cpx in these pyroxenites resulting from mixing of peridotites (⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ≤ 0.7023) and melts extracted from recycled subducted crust (⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr = 0.7036–0.7042).

Clinopyroxene grains in Group 3 pyroxenite 17JH1 and wehrlite 17JH14 metasomatized by carbonate melts (section 5.3) show gradual increases in ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios from cores (0.7019–0.7026) to rims (~0.7034; Figure 9). The cpx from another Group 3 pyroxenite (17SL1–22) has ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios of 0.7033–0.7038. The feldspar in 17JH1 with an ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratio of 0.7042 formed by melt-rock reaction. These observations suggest that the metasomatic carbonate melt had a ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratio of ≥0.7042, which is distinct from the values for normal depleted mantle (0.7026; Carlson & Jonov, 2019; Workman & Hart, 2005) and for the CLM beneath these regions (Yu et al., 2009), but falls in the range for altered oceanic crust (0.7036–0.7074; Staudigel et al., 1995). It may appear from the Sr isotopic data that the metasomatic carbonate could be linked to subducted slab. However, the inferred carbonate melts are K-rich, comparable to the Cenozoic potassic basalts in NE China (Tian et al., 2016). The potassic basalts have geochemical characteristics typical of carbonate metasomatism (e.g., high CaO/Al₂O₃ and La/Yb, and significant HSFE depletions) and were documented to be derived from carbonated asthenosphere (Tian et al., 2016; Wang, Chen et al., 2017). It is thus most likely that the carbonate melts in this study originated from the mantle origin, like the potassic basalts, rather than from a subducted slab. In addition, carbonate melts produced by partial melting of subducted slab are calcium-rich (Hammouda, 2003), inconsistent with our inference in the previous section that the metasomatic melts were dolomitic.

Another argument against the provenance of the metasomatic melts from a subducted slab is mantle-like δ¹⁸O in olivine from the metasomatized xenoliths (5.07–5.35‰; Figure 10). Although mantle-like δ¹⁸O values in melts do not necessarily imply that these melts originated from the mantle (Bindeman et al., 2005), carbonate melts derived from subducted slabs much likely have high δ¹⁸O values (e.g., Miller et al., 2001). Such example is presented by clinopyroxenite xenoliths from Hannuoba in the northern NCC, which have remarkably high whole rock δ¹⁸O values (9.9–11.3‰; Hu et al., 2019). These xenoliths are results of reactions between mantle peridotite and melts derived from subducted slab. The direct evidence is presented by carbonatites intruding the Hannuoba basalts. These carbonatites have high δ¹⁸O values (22–23‰) and are believed to form by melting of subducted sedimentary carbonates (Chen et al., 2016). The Hannuoba data mentioned above suggest that the carbonate melt derived from partial melting of a slab in NE China should have high δ¹⁸O. Reaction products of peridotite with such slab-derived carbonate melts unlikely maintain the typical mantle olivine δ¹⁸O values in our samples. Instead, the metasomatic melts can be from carbonated asthenosphere. Experimental studies suggest that low-degree partial melting of carbonated mantle peridotites produces carbonate melts in a broad pressure range (0.2–10 GPa; Dasgupta & Hirschmann, 2006; Foley et al., 2009; Wallace & Green, 1988).
Late Cretaceous and Cenozoic basalts in eastern China have $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7031–0.7056 (Li et al., 2017), overlapping the Sr isotopic composition of the metasomatic agent inferred for the xenoliths. These basalts also show anomalously low $\delta^{26}\text{Mg}$ (−0.6 to −0.3%), for example, −0.50 to −0.33% in Shuangliu, which have been attributed to recycling of sedimentary carbonates from the Pacific slab into their asthenospheric sources (Li et al., 2017; Tian et al., 2016). The same process could also be responsible for the enrichment of the asthenosphere beneath eastern China in CO$_2$ and H$_2$O (Li et al., 2017; Xi et al., 2019). Low-degree melting of such sources could yield carbonatite melt like metasomatic media inferred from our xenoliths.

The carbonatite metasomatism took place shortly before the xenoliths were carried to the surface by host magma because chemical and isotopic mineral zoning disappears over time due to diffusion. Using the value of Sr diffusivity in cpx from Sneeringer et al. (1984) at 1,000 °C, a cpx grain with diameter of 1 cm may only preserve its Sr isotopic zoning for <30 Ma. The cpx grain size in 17JH1 is smaller (~5 mm), and equilibration temperature is higher (1,026 °C), such that a period much shorter than 30 Ma is required for its homogenization. This suggests that the carbonatite metasomatism most likely occurred during the Cenozoic, that is, roughly coeval with the eruption of host basaltic magmas.

### 4.5. Effects of Mantle Upwelling Versus Recycling of Oceanic Components on the CLM Beneath Northeastern China

The westward subduction of the Pacific slab had induced the destruction of the cratonic root in the eastern NCC (Zhu et al., 2012) and the formation of the Songliao basin in NE China (Feng et al., 2010). However, how materials from the subducted slab have modified the CLM beneath eastern China remain unclear. Moreover, some domains in the region appear to have been little affected by the subduction (Ionov et al., 2020).

Several publications (e.g., Deng et al., 2017; Xu, Pei, et al., 2013) proposed that melts/ﬂuids were transported to the base of the CLM directly from the Pacific slab and tried to link the metasomatism in the peridotites to the subduction. Their inferences were based on relatively high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios (0.7033–0.7055) in the peridotites that overlap the values of subducted oceanic components (Staudigel et al., 1995). However, such an explanation for elevated $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios is not unambiguous. High $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios are common in refractory mantle peridotites all over the world from a range of craton and off-craton settings (Pearson et al., 2014) and can be attributed to radiogenic $^{87}\text{Sr}$ ingrowth in ancient metasomatized mantle (e.g., Walker et al., 1989). Our results suggest that melts derived from carbonated asthenosphere may also have Sr isotopic compositions similar to those in slab materials. Moreover, high-resolution P wave tomography shows that the subducting Pacific slab is stagnant in the mantle transition zone beneath northeastern China (Huang & Zhao, 2006; Wei et al., 2015). Based on temporal-spatial distribution pattern of the late Mesozoic magmatism and geochemical characteristics of Mesozoic-Cenozoic basalts in eastern Asian continental margin, it is commonly accepted that the subducted slab was stagnant in the mantle transition zone before 106 Ma (e.g., Li et al., 2017; Zhu et al., 2012). In contrast to melts/liquids that were transported from the Pacific slab during its subduction and directly transported to the CLM base, it is more likely that the recycled oceanic components remaining in the slab were first subducted to the deep mantle and then incorporated to the asthenosphere (Wang, Xu, et al., 2017).

This hypothesis provides a reasonable model for the origin of pyroxenites in this study and of garnet pyroxenites reported by Yu et al. (2010). Recycled gabbroic crust was preserved in the asthenosphere as eclogites (Xu et al., 2012). Upwelling of the asthenosphere, as identified by recent geophysical observations (Guo et al., 2016; Tang et al., 2014), would result in eclogite melting due to their lower melting point than peridotite. The partial melting residues formed the garnet pyroxenites of Yu et al. (2010), while the reactions between melts extracted from the crust stored in the asthenosphere and peridotites would produce the pyroxenites in this study. Subsequent partial melting of carbonated peridotites could produce carbonatite melts that migrated upward and metasomatized the overlying CLM.

Xu et al. (2003) reported reactive, recrystallized harzburgites from Huinan, northeastern NCC, a location close to the sampling region in this study (Figure 1b). The mineral and chemical compositions of these harzburgites deviate from partial melting trends of residual peridotites but are more indicative of an origin by reaction between lherzolites and basaltic melts derived from upwelling asthenosphere (Xu et al., 2003). Metasomatized peridotites from other sites in northeastern China, for example, Yitong (Xu et al., 1996)
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