



Subduction-related metasomatism in the thinning lithosphere: Evidence from a composite dunite-orthopyroxenite xenolith entrained in Mesozoic Laiwu high-Mg diorite, North China Craton

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[1] The North China Craton (NCC) lost its Archean keels in the Phanerozoic. Prevalent and intensive magmatism, mineralization, and development of extensional basins in the late Mesozoic NCC imply that the late Mesozoic could be the key stage for this transformation. Ultramafic xenoliths in the Early Cretaceous high-Mg diorites of Shandong province might provide key information about the transformation of subcontinental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) beneath the NCC. Here we present a unique composite dunite-orthopyroxenite xenolith from Tietonggou, one of the high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons in Laiwu, Shandong province. The petrography and mineral chemistry of the xenolith suggest complicated metasomatic processes, which occurred before its entrainment in the host magma. Early stage metasomatism includes the growth of intergranular phlogopite and clinopyroxene and the development of a phlogopite- and amphibole-bearing clinopyroxenite veinlet. Late-stage metasomatism (termed Si (Na) metasomatism) is characterized by the growth of secondary orthopyroxene, Na-rich plagioclase and amphibole with resorption of olivine and clinopyroxene, and the decomposition of phlogopite. The xenolith has exceptionally high concentrations of Na₂O and Al₂O₃ and shows enrichments in Cs, Rb, Th, U, K, and the light rare earth elements. It also shows positive Pb and Sr anomalies and negative Nb, Ta, P, and Ti anomalies in a primitive mantle normalized spider gram. The geochemistry, as well as the elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, suggests that this Si (Na) metasomatism is associated with subduction. The secondary orthopyroxene in the orthopyroxenite portion of the xenolith has exceptionally low Mg# values, which may be the result of reaction between silica-rich melts and olivine with high melt:rock ratios. Mg-Fe disequilibrium of the minerals in the orthopyroxenite indicates that Si (Na) metasomatism may have been introduced shortly before entrainment of the xenolith in the host magma. Correlation of the Sr-Nd-Pb isotopic compositions of ultramafic xenoliths, high-Mg diorites, and adakitic granites of the Tietonggou indicates there may be a genetic relationship between these rocks. Thus we propose that the SCLM beneath Shandong may have been metasomatized by a slab-derived melt. Since Si (Na) metasomatism occurred at the key stage of lithospheric thinning, oceanic subduction might have been involved in the thinning process.

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1. Introduction

[2] The stability and fate of subcontinental lithospheric mantle (SCLM) is an important unresolved issue. The North China Craton (NCC) is one of the oldest Archean cratons on the earth [Jahn *et al.*, 1987; Liu *et al.*, 1992], and is surrounded by the NE China fold belts, the Qinlin-Dabie-Sulu orogenic belts, and the Yangtze craton (Figure 1). Mantle xenoliths from the Paleozoic kimberlites of Mengyin and Fuxian suggest that the SCLM beneath the NCC is thick (180–200 km), cold and refractory, like other Archean cratons [Menzies *et al.*, 1993; Griffin *et al.*, 1998]. However, mantle xenoliths from the Cenozoic basalts suggest a thin (<80 km), hot and fertile SCLM in the eastern NCC [Fan *et al.*, 2000]. Thus the SCLM beneath the eastern NCC suffered a massive transformation (or thinning) in the Phanerozoic. Recent evidence from Os isotopes of peridotite xenoliths also supports such a conclusion [Gao *et al.*, 2002; Wu *et al.*, 2003]. Although the direct mechanism and geodynamics remain controversial, the prevalent and intensive late Mesozoic magmatism, mineralization, and the development of extensional basins in the region imply that the late Mesozoic could be a key stage for this major lithospheric transformation [Menzies and Xu, 1998; Xu, 2001; Zhang *et al.*, 2002, 2003; Zhou *et al.*, 2002; Yang *et al.*, 2003; Zhai *et al.*, 2004; Xu *et al.*, 2004b, 2004c; Xu *et al.*, 2004]. The discovery of ultramafic xenoliths in the Cretaceous high-Mg diorites and basalts of the eastern NCC in recent years, such as Laiwu (125–131 Ma), Zibo (112–129 Ma), Fangcheng (125 Ma), Fuxin (100 Ma), and Jiaozhou (74 Ma), not only provide direct SCLM samples of the late Mesozoic [Xu *et al.*, 1993; Zheng *et al.*, 1999; Zhang *et al.*, 2002; Xu *et al.*, 2003a; Yan *et al.*, 2003; Chen and Zhou, 2004], but also more crucial information about the thinning process.

[3] Shandong province is located in the central part of the eastern NCC, and is divided into two parts, west Shandong (Luxi area) and east Shandong (Jiaodong area), by the giant Tan-Lu wrench fault (Figure 1). Early Cretaceous igneous rocks are ubiquitous in Shandong province, and include

gabbro-dominated plutons in the north of west Shandong [Dong, 1987; Guo *et al.*, 2001], high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons in west Shandong [Dong, 1987; Chen, 2001; Xu *et al.*, 2004], granite-dominated plutons in east Shandong [Yang and Zhou, 2001], medium-mafic volcanics or lamprophyres distributed throughout the whole province [Qiu *et al.*, 2002; Ying, 2002; Guo *et al.*, 2003; Yang *et al.*, 2004], and a few carbonatites in Laiwu and Zibo [Ying, 2002; Ying *et al.*, 2004]. Laiwu basin is situated in the center of west Shandong, near the Tan-Lu fault (Figure 1). There are four high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons in Laiwu, including Kuangshan, Jiaoyu, Jinniushan, and Tietonggou [Dong, 1987; Chen, 2001]. Abundant ultramafic xenoliths had been found in the Tietonggou intrusion [Xu *et al.*, 1993; Chen, 2001; Chen and Zhou, 2004]. K-Ar and Ar-Ar dating of the intrusion gives an age of 125–133 Ma [Chen, 2001; Xu *et al.*, 2004b], which is consistent with the SHRIMP U-Pb age (130.2 Ma) of the Jiaoyu intrusion [Xu *et al.*, 2004]. The lithology, mineral chemistry, equilibrium temperature (690–790°C), and metasomatic characteristics of the ultramafic xenoliths indicate that they might be derived from the shallow lithosphere (the crust-mantle transitional zone) and were metasomatized by hydrous silica-rich melts [Chen and Zhou, 2004]. Similar Sr-Nd isotopic compositions indicate that there may be genetic links between these xenoliths and their host rocks [Chen and Zhou, 2004]. Here we report the petrology, geochemistry and Sr-Nd-Pb-O isotopic composition of a unique composite xenolith (dunite + orthopyroxenite), which presents more detailed metasomatic information than previously reported xenoliths. Furthermore, this paper provides evidence on the timing of the metasomatism and the source characteristics of the metasomatic liquids, which may help to understand the thinning process of the SCLM of the NCC.

2. Petrography

[4] Xenolith LW0006, with a size of 6 × 7 × 14 cm, is the most extremely metasomatized sample found so far in the xenolith suite of the Tietonggou

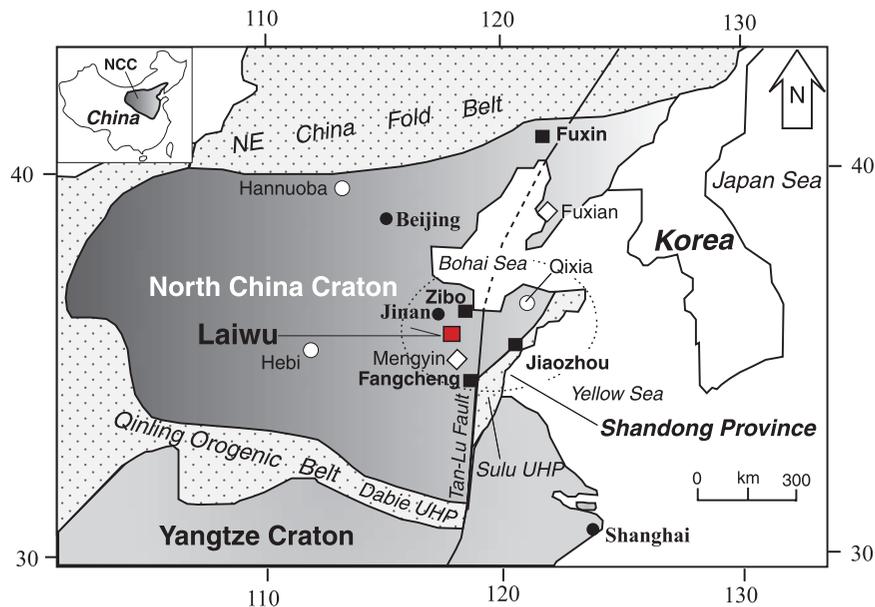


Figure 1. Laiwu and other xenolith localities in the North China Craton (modified from Zhang *et al.* [2002]), with selected Cenozoic basalt-hosted xenolith localities, e.g., Hannuoba and Qixia, shown as open circles, Paleozoic kimberlite-hosted xenolith localities (Mengyin, Fuxian) shown as open diamonds, and Mesozoic diorite/basalt-hosted xenolith localities (Laiwu, Zibo, Jiaozhou, Fuxin, Fangcheng) shown as solid squares. Major cities are shown as solid circles. Shandong province is showed by a dotted circle.

pluton. We prepared a large thin section to view the whole structure of the specimen (Figure 2), and two small thin sections for mineral analysis (Figure 3). The specimen is a composite xenolith, composed mainly of phlogopite-rich orthopyroxenite, and several minor dunite cores (Figure 2). The dunites have heterogeneous abundances of spinel. Some dunite cores are enriched in spinel, up to 30%, such as dunite A in the left thin section of Figure 3, whereas others have low spinel contents, less than 2%, such as dunite B in the right thin section of Figure 3. All dunites exhibit porphyroclastic texture and recrystallization textures. Porphyroblasts of olivine are commonly kinked, while fine-grained recrystallized olivines are free of kink bands. The boundary between the host diorite and the orthopyroxenite portion of the xenolith is sharp (Figures 2 and 4a). A hornblendite selvage is in contact with a dunite core in the xenolith (Figures 2 and 4b). The boundaries between dunite and orthopyroxenite are sharp and curved (Figures 2, 3, and 4c), and the composite xenolith resembles a conglomerate with dunite pebbles (Figure 2).

[5] Dunite A is characterized by a high abundance of spinel (Figure 3). The spinel is usually euhedral or subhedral in shape and 50–400 μm in size. One composite veinlet found in dunite A is composed primarily of orthopyroxenite with minor clinopyroxenite (Figure 5a). The clinopyroxenite occurs

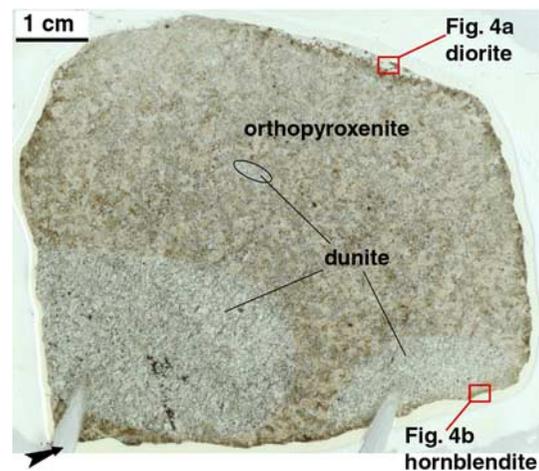


Figure 2. Whole thin-section view of xenolith LW0006 (scanning picture). Three gravel-like dunite portions are enclosed by orthopyroxenite in this thin section. White minerals are olivine, dark minerals are spinel, yellowish minerals are porphyroblasts of orthopyroxene, and yellow minerals are phlogopite. The boundaries between dunite and orthopyroxenite are sharp. The arrow points to mechanical damage. Relict of host diorite and the hornblendite selvage can be seen in the open red squares, which are shown in Figure 4a and Figure 4b, respectively.

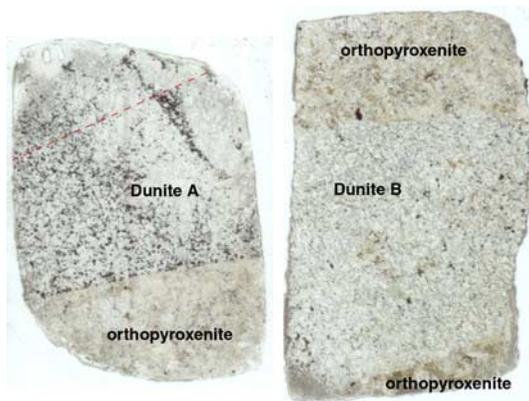


Figure 3. Scanning pictures of the two thin sections of xenolith LW0006. Two different dunites can be seen in these thin sections. Dunite A (left) is characterized by an enrichment of dark spinel, whereas dunite B (right) is characterized by low abundances of spinel. A veinlet found in dunite A is shown by the red dotted line. Disseminated yellow phlogopite can be seen in dunite B.

only at the center of the veinlet, which has a turbid appearance due to exsolution of the minerals (Figure 5a). The clinopyroxenite is composed of clinopyroxene, phlogopite, and amphibole (Figure 5b), whereas the orthopyroxenite consists only of orthopyroxene with a clean appearance.

[6] Dunite B has a low abundance of spinel (Figure 3). The spinel is anhedral and small (less than 50 μm). Anhedral phlogopites are disseminated unevenly between olivines (Figure 6a). A back-scattered electron (BSE) image shows that the minerals located interstitial to the olivines include not only phlogopite, but also clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene, plagioclase, and amphibole (Figure 6b). Clinopyroxene and phlogopite are partly replaced by orthopyroxene, plagioclase and amphibole, but the relationship between clinopyroxene and phlogopite is unclear. Orthopyroxene is also situated along the boundaries between olivine grains (top left of Figure 6b) and the contacts between orthopyroxene and olivine are straight and sharp.

[7] The orthopyroxenite has complicated mineral compositions and metasomatic textures (Figure 7). Orthopyroxenes and phlogopites are the main phases, with minor olivine, plagioclase and spinel, calcite, zircon, rutile, and apatite as accessory minerals. Porphyroblasts of orthopyroxene have turbid appearances due to the presence of numerous inclusions, such as resorbed olivine, spinel, phlogopite as well as fluid inclusions (Figure 7a). Phlogopite is commonly ragged and decomposes into anhydrous orthopyroxene and plagioclase

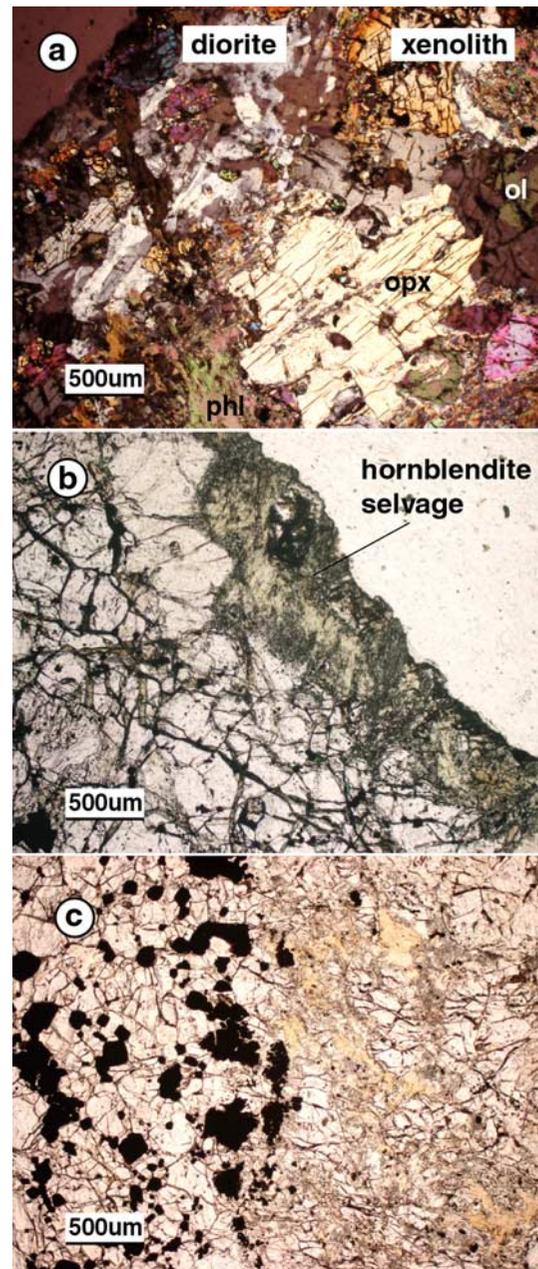


Figure 4. Micrographs of xenolith LW0006. (a) Sharp boundary between host diorite (left) and the orthopyroxenite of the xenolith (right); one coarse orthopyroxene (including several small olivine inclusions) is decomposed into smaller orthopyroxenes along the boundary. Crossed-polarized light. (b) Thin hornblende selvage at the margin of dunite B. Plane-polarized light. (c) Sharp boundary between dunite A (left) and the phlogopite-rich orthopyroxenite (right). Dark spinels at the boundary are smaller than those in the inner zone of the dunite but are much coarser than those in the orthopyroxenite. Plane-polarized light. Abbreviations: ol, olivine; opx, orthopyroxene; phl, phlogopite.

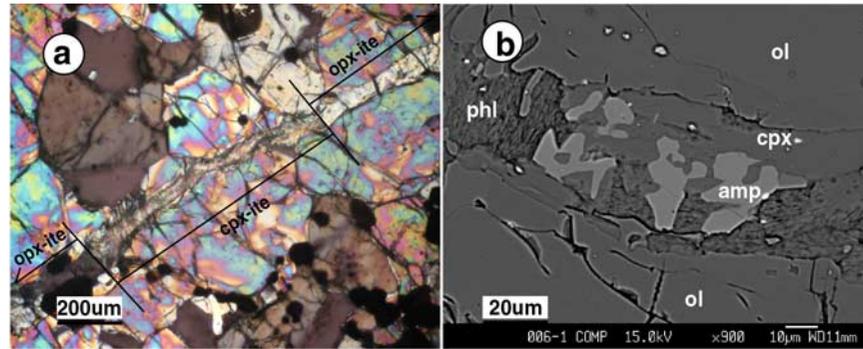


Figure 5. Metasomatic veinlet in dunite A of xenolith LW0006. (a) The veinlet is a composite composed of phlogopite- and amphibole-bearing clinopyroxenite in the center and orthopyroxenite along the two sides. Exsolution texture is observed in the amphiboles associated with the clinopyroxenite. Crossed-polarized light. (b) Back-scattered electron (BSE) image of the clinopyroxenite portion of the composite veinlet. Abbreviations: opx-ite, orthopyroxenite; cpx-ite, clinopyroxenite; ol, olivine; cpx, clinopyroxene; phl, phlogopite; amp, amphibole.

(Figure 7c). Olivines exist as resorbed inclusions in orthopyroxene and phlogopite (Figures 7a and 7b). Fine-grained anhedral spinels (most less than 20 μm size) occur throughout. Some spinels exist as inclusions in orthopyroxene and phlogopite, while others constitute as pseudomorphs of euhedral spinel.

3. Mineral Chemistry

[8] Mineral chemistry was analyzed with a JEOL Superprobe JXA 8100 electron-probe micro-analyzer (EPMA) at the School of Earth and Space Sciences, Peking University and a JEOL JXA 8800M EPMA at the Department of Earth Sciences, Nanjing University, using an accelerating voltage of 15 kv, beam currents of $1 \times 10^{-8}\text{A}$ and $2 \times 10^{-8}\text{A}$ respectively, and 1 μm beam size. The counting times for Ni, Mn, and Ca in olivine are longer than that for other elements. Selected microprobe analy-

ses of dunite A, dunite B, and orthopyroxenite are listed in Tables 1–3, respectively.

3.1. Olivine

[9] Olivine in dunite A is chemically heterogeneous. The olivine in spinel-rich portion has the highest Mg# value ($\text{Mg\#} = \text{Mg}/(\text{Mg} + \text{Fe}^{2+}) \times 100$) of 94.4, while olivine in the spinel-depleted area has a lower Mg# value of 92.3. Olivine in dunite B has a lower Mg# value of 88.2 and olivine in orthopyroxenite has the lowest Mg# values of 85.5–86.6. The range of Mg# values in primitive olivines from other peridotite xenoliths in Tietonggou is from 87 to 93.

3.2. Spinel

[10] Spinel in dunite A is characterized by high Cr_2O_3 (56 wt%), MgO (10.9 wt%), and low total

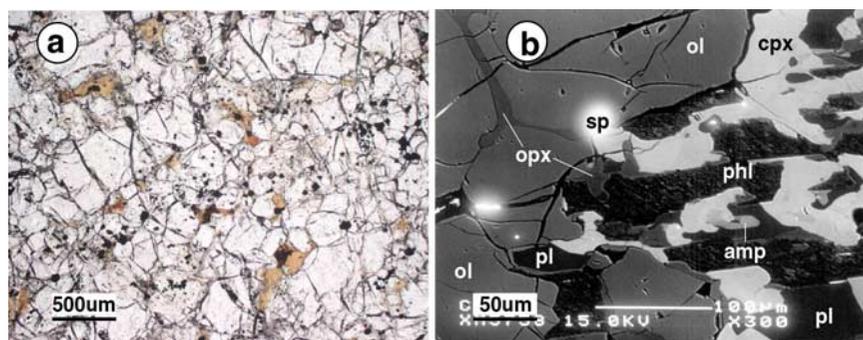


Figure 6. Metasomatic textures in dunite B of xenolith LW0006. (a) Yellow phlogopites, as well as other metasomatic minerals, are disseminated in dunite. Plane-polarized light. (b) BSE image shows five minerals located interstitial to the olivines, including clinopyroxene (cpx), phlogopite (phl), orthopyroxene (opx), Na-rich plagioclase (pl), and Na-rich amphibole (amp). Clinopyroxene are separated by phlogopite, and both clinopyroxene and phlogopite are partly replaced by orthopyroxene, plagioclase, and amphibole. Orthopyroxene also can be seen at the triple junction and along the boundaries of the olivines.

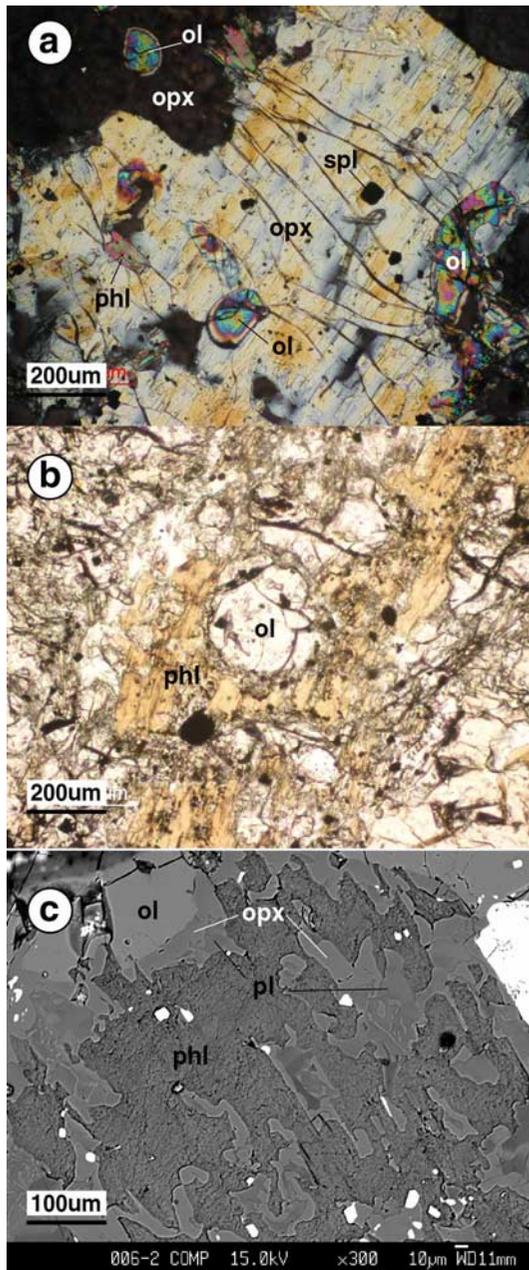


Figure 7. Metasomatic textures in the orthopyroxenite of xenolith LW0006. (a) Porphyroblast of orthopyroxene includes many small mineral inclusions (olivine, phlogopite, and spinel). Crossed-polarized light. (b) Olivine is partly enclosed by a ragged phlogopite. Plane-polarized light. (c) Decomposition texture of coarse phlogopite (phl → opx + pl). BSE image. Abbreviations: ol, olivine; spl, spinel; opx, orthopyroxene; phl, phlogopite; pl, plagioclase.

FeO (20.9 wt%), Al₂O₃ (9.3 wt%), TiO₂ (0.28 wt%) concentrations, with high Mg# (54.9) and Cr# (Cr# = Cr/(Cr + Al + Fe³⁺) × 100) (80.3). Spinel in dunite B has lower concentrations of

Cr₂O₃ (40 wt%), MgO (8.1 wt%), and higher concentrations of total FeO (30.5 wt%), Al₂O₃ (19.6 wt%), and TiO₂ (0.32 wt%) contents, with lower Mg# (34.8) and Cr# (60.6). The Mg# and Cr# of spinel in the orthopyroxenite have broad ranges of 34.8–38 and 46–70, respectively. Spinel rims usually has lower Mg# and Cr# values and higher TiO₂ concentrations than the spinel cores (Table 3). Such chemical heterogeneity is common in spinels from Tietonggou xenoliths.

3.3. Orthopyroxene

[11] Orthopyroxene in the xenolith has low Al₂O₃ contents (0.8–2.6 wt%), which is consistent with orthopyroxene from other Tietonggou xenoliths, but is different from orthopyroxene in mantle xenoliths entrained by Cenozoic basalts of the NCC (Figure 8). The orthopyroxene in this xenolith can be distinguished from the primary orthopyroxene of Tietonggou peridotite xenoliths by the broad range of Cr₂O₃ (0–0.95 wt%) and CaO concentrations (0.31–0.89) (Figure 8). Orthopyroxene in the veinlet of dunite A has the highest Mg# (91.8–92.6) and Cr₂O₃ concentrations (0.42–0.95 wt%), and the lowest concentrations of Al₂O₃ (0.79–1.38 wt%) in the composite xenolith. Orthopyroxene in dunite B has an intermediate Mg# (88.1–88.7), and intermediate concentrations of Cr₂O₃ (0.15–0.60 wt%) and Al₂O₃ (1.20–1.68 wt%). Orthopyroxene in the orthopyroxenite has a broad compositional range with the lowest Mg# (85.2–87.9) and Cr₂O₃ concentrations (0–0.31 wt%), and the highest Al₂O₃ concentrations (1.0–2.6 wt%) in the composite xenolith.

3.4. Phlogopite

[12] Phlogopite in the clinopyroxenite part of the composite veinlet of Dunite A is characterized with high Mg# value (95.7–95.9), high CaO (0.24–1.38 wt%), and low TiO₂ content (0.04–0.08 wt%). Disseminated phlogopite in Dunite B is characterized with low Mg# value (89.2–90.2), low CaO (0–0.20 wt%), and high TiO₂ content (2.3–3.4 wt%). Ragged phlogopite in the orthopyroxenite part is characterized with broad composition and low Mg# value (89.1–92.0), low CaO (0–0.13 wt%), and high TiO₂ contents (1.1–2.2 wt%).

3.5. Clinopyroxene

[13] Clinopyroxene in the clinopyroxenite portion of the composite veinlet of dunite A is Ca-rich diopside with a high Mg# (95.2). The clinopyroxene contains no Cr₂O₃, which is different from the



Table 1. Representative EMP Analyses of Minerals in Dunite A of Xenolith LW0006^a

Number Mineral	1 ol	2 ol	3 spl	4 opx	5 opx	6 cpx	7 amp	8 phl
SiO ₂	41.55	42.63		57.35	57.15	55.82	52.17	42.29
TiO ₂	0.02		0.28	0.02			0.07	0.08
Al ₂ O ₃	0.01		9.26	1.13	1.38	0.79	2.57	14.53
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.06		56.14	0.95	0.52			
FeO	7.60	5.53	20.89	5.12	5.15	1.65	1.68	2.06
MnO	0.04	0.05	0.29	0.03	0.06			
MgO	51.30	52.02	10.93	35.03	34.62	18.39	18.76	25.52
CaO	0.01	0.07		0.41	0.35	23.17	20.46	1.38
NiO	no.	0.58	0.23	no.	no.	0.04	0.13	0.18
Na ₂ O						0.28	0.36	1.06
K ₂ O		0.00			0.00	0.12	0.94	7.56
F	0.15	no.	no.	0.06	0.09	no.	no.	no.
Total	100.68	100.89	98.01	100.07	99.28	100.25	97.14	94.67
Mg#	92.3	94.4	54.9	92.4	92.3	95.2	95.2	95.7
			Cr#80.3					

^a FeO, total iron; ol, olivine; spl, spinel; phl, phlogopite; cpx, clinopyroxene; amp, amphibole; pl, plagioclase; no., not analyzed; Mg# = Mg/(Mg + Fe²⁺) × 100; Cr# = Cr/(Cr + Al) × 100. 1–3, primary minerals of Dunite A, 4–8, secondary minerals in the composite veinlet; 1, olivine by the veinlet; 2, olivine in the spinel-rich zone.

primitive clinopyroxene (Cr-rich diopside with 0.63–1.22 wt% Cr₂O₃) of other Tietonggou peridotites. Disseminated clinopyroxene in dunite B has lower Mg# (89.6–91.0), high Cr₂O₃ concentrations (0.40–0.84).

3.6. Amphibole

[14] Amphibole in the clinopyroxenite of the composite veinlet of dunite A exhibits high Mg# (95.2), high SiO₂ (52.2 wt%) and CaO (20.5 wt%), and low Al₂O₃ (2.6 wt%), Na₂O (0.36 wt%), TiO₂ (0.07 wt%) and Cr₂O₃ (<0.01 wt%) concentrations. Amphibole in dunite B exhibits low Mg# value (86.3), low concentrations of SiO₂ (44.3 wt%) and CaO (13.1 wt%), and high concentrations of Al₂O₃ (12.1 wt%), Na₂O (2.84 wt%), TiO₂ (1.81 wt%),

and Cr₂O₃ (1.1 wt%), which is consistent with Na-rich amphiboles in orthopyroxenite veinlets observed in other Tietonggou xenoliths.

3.7. Plagioclase

[15] Plagioclase in dunite B and in the orthopyroxenite are both enriched in Na₂O (Na₂O = 2.7–7.9 wt%) and show broad compositional ranges (An₃₂₋₇₅Ab₆₇₋₂₅). They have depleted K contents (K₂O < 0.06 wt%), which differ from plagioclase in the host diorite (K₂O = 0.13–0.45 wt%).

4. Analytical Procedures and Results

[16] The specimen was first cut into several pieces. One piece selected from the inner part of the

Table 2. Representative EMP Analyses of Minerals in Dunite B of Xenolith LW0006^a

Number Mineral	1 ol	2 ol	3 spl	4 cpx	5 cpx	6 opx	7 opx	8 phl	9 amp	10 pl
SiO ₂	40.47	39.61	0.01	53.64	51.33	56.18	55.86	39.61	44.34	54.80
TiO ₂			0.32	0.08	0.34	0.08	0.06	2.33	1.81	0.02
Al ₂ O ₃	0.02		19.60	1.69	3.19	1.68	1.40	16.31	12.05	28.60
Cr ₂ O ₃			40.64	0.40	0.83	0.60	0.28	0.83	1.11	
FeO	11.98	11.37	30.46	3.09	3.43	7.98	7.84	4.29	4.77	0.16
MnO	0.09	0.18	0.36	0.13	0.07	0.09	0.02	0.11	0.00	
MgO	47.18	48.74	8.14	17.04	16.62	33.13	33.58	21.59	16.90	0.09
CaO		0.02		23.12	23.03	0.75	0.66		13.12	10.73
Na ₂ O	0.01			0.50	0.61	0.01	0.00	0.88	2.84	5.65
K ₂ O			0.03	0.00	0.02	0.01		9.43	0.64	0.04
F	0.13	0.11		0.22	0.13	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.31	0.13
Total	99.82	99.98	99.55	99.82	99.54	100.57	99.74	95.55	97.75	100.16
Mg#	87.5	88.4	39.1	90.8	89.6	88.1	88.4	90.0	86.3	An51.1 Ab48.7
			Cr#58.2							

^a 1–3, primary minerals; 4–10, secondary minerals.



Table 3. Representative EMP Analyses of Minerals in the Orthopyroxenite Part of Xenolith LW0006^a

Number Mineral	1 ol	2 spl	3 spl	4 spl	5 opx	6 opx	7 opx	8 phl	9 phl	10 pl	11 pl
SiO ₂	39.73		0.10		56.87	57.21	56.00	38.24	39.32	54.97	61.39
TiO ₂		1.16	0.27	0.66		0.08	0.11	1.87	1.12		
Al ₂ O ₃		14.98	7.22	12.99	1.03	1.03	2.59	15.96	16.52	29.58	24.45
Cr ₂ O ₃	0.06	34.30	54.53	42.12	0.12	0.23	0.03	1.19	0.90	0.07	
FeO	13.08	40.22	30.09	34.02	8.06	8.82	9.59	4.71	3.52	0.27	
MnO			0.19	0.37		0.13	0.28				
MgO	46.80	7.15	6.92	7.51	32.69	31.89	30.95	21.67	22.61	0.03	0.03
CaO	0.01				0.89	0.84			0.09	9.76	6.84
NiO	0.46	0.17	0.15	0.22	0.09	0.06		0.27	0.17		0.02
Na ₂ O		0.03			0.06	0.01	0.02	1.02	2.00	5.56	7.85
K ₂ O					0.01			8.77	6.36	0.06	0.17
ZnO			0.09	0.27							
Total	100.14	98.02	99.57	98.16	99.82	100.29	99.57	93.69	92.60	100.29	100.75
Mg#	86.4	34.8	35.3	37.8	87.9	86.6	85.2	89.1	92.0	An49.1	An32.2
		Cr#60.6	Cr#83.5	Cr#68.5						Ab50.5	Ab66.8

^a 2 is a fine-grained spinel. 3 and 4 are the core and the rim of a relatively coarse spinel, respectively.

xenolith was mainly composed of orthopyroxenite (>95 vol.%) with minor dunite. This portion was broken into small fragments about 1 ~ 5 mm in size, which were rinsed with distilled water and dried in an oven. The dried fragments were then milled into 200 mesh for chemical analysis. Major elements were measured on glass fusion discs by RIX-2100 X-ray fluorescence at the Key Laboratory for Continental Dynamics, Northwest University (Xi'an, China). The precision (relative 2σ error) for major elements is estimated to be <1%. Results (in wt%) are shown in Table 4.

[17] Analysis of trace elements and isotopic compositions was done at the Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences. Chem-

ical processing of the sample was carried out in an ultra-clean laboratory. Trace elements in the xenolith were analyzed by a Finnigan MAT ICP-MS following the procedures outlined by *Jin and Zhu* [2000], together with three standards and a blank. On the basis of the repeated analyses of standards and parallel samples, the 2σ error of the analyses is estimated to be <20% for Co, Cr, Ga, Ba, Zr, Ta, Pb, and <10% for Li, Sc, V, Ni, Cu, Rb, Sr, Y, Nb, Cs, Hf, Th, U, Tm, Lu and <5% for the rare earth elements (REE) except Tm and Lu. Results (in ppm) are shown in Table 4.

[18] Sr-Nd-Pb isotopic analyses were carried out using a VG354 mass spectrometer according to the procedures of *Yang and Zhou* [2001]. During the

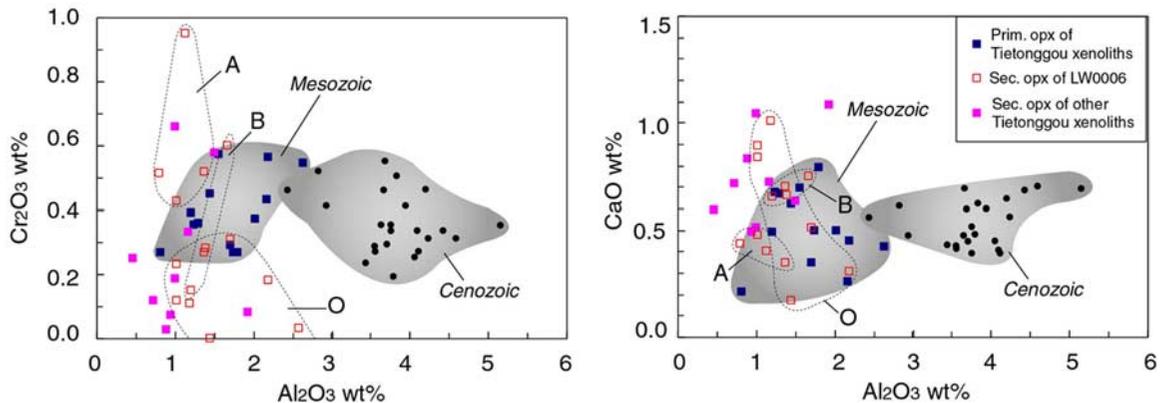


Figure 8. Chemical compositions of orthopyroxene in xenolith LW0006. A, dunite A; B, dunite B; O, orthopyroxenite. Orthopyroxenes in Tietonggou xenoliths have lower Al₂O₃ concentrations than those in Cenozoic peridotite xenoliths [*Rudnick et al.*, 2004]. Cr₂O₃ and CaO concentrations in secondary orthopyroxenes have broader ranges than primitive orthopyroxenes in Tietonggou xenoliths. In xenolith LW0006 the Cr₂O₃ contents of secondary orthopyroxenes in dunite A are higher than those of dunite B and the orthopyroxenite.



Table 4. Major Elements and Trace Elements of Xenolith LW0006^a

SiO ₂ 46.01	TiO ₂ 0.26	Al ₂ O ₃ 5.14	Fe ₂ O ₃ ^T 10.58	MnO 0.15	MgO 34.25	CaO 2.17	Na ₂ O 0.65	K ₂ O 0.67	P ₂ O ₅ 0.08	LOI 0.10	Total 100.1
Li 9.79	Sc 4.06	V 49.6	Cr 2711	Co 104	Ni 1336	Cu 16.3	Ga 6.22	Rb 19.6	Sr 174	Y 4.18	Zr 49.3
Nb 2.19	Cs 1.39	Ba 114	Hf 1.22	Ta 0.18	Pb 89.2	Th 2.68	U 0.84	La 9.41	Ce 16.5	Pr 1.83	Nd 6.87
Sm 1.24	Eu 0.399	Gd 1.19	Tb 0.16	Dy 0.88	Ho 0.17	Er 0.48	Tm 0.08	Yb 0.49	Lu 0.07		

^aMajor element units are oxide wt%, and trace element units are ppm.

period in which the analyses were carried out, the measured ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr value of NBS607 was 1.20055 ± 2, repeat analyses of the liquid standard La Jolla gave ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd values of 0.511855 ± 9, the measured ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd value of BCR1 was 0.512651 (9) and repeat analyses (6×) of NBS981 yielded ²⁰⁴Pb/²⁰⁶Pb = 0.05900 ± 8, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁶Pb = 0.91439 ± 17 and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁶Pb = 2.16441 ± 97, respectively. The measured Sr-Nd-Pb isotopic ratios of this sample (>95 vol.% orthopyroxenite and <5 vol.% dunite) are listed in Table 5.

[19] For analyses of δ¹⁸O, the sample was first reacted with BrF₅, after which the liberated oxygen was converted to CO₂ by reaction with graphite at 500°C, the CO₂ produced was absorbed by liquid nitrogen and was then analyzed by a Finnigan MAT Delta S mass spectrometer. The standard NBS-28 used in this study gave a δ¹⁸O_{V-SMOW} value of 9.65 ± 0.15‰. The xenolith LW0006 (of which the analyzed portion is mainly composed of orthopyroxenite) gave δ¹⁸O_{V-SMOW} values of 6.8‰ and 7.0‰, respectively, for two parallel samples.

5. Geochemistry and Isotopic Composition

[20] Xenolith LW0006 has higher concentrations of SiO₂ (46.01 wt%), Al₂O₃ (5.14 wt%), CaO

(2.17 wt%), K₂O (0.67 wt%), Na₂O (0.65 wt%), and TiO₂ (0.26 wt%), and lower concentrations of MgO (34.25 wt%) than peridotite xenoliths of the Tietonggou and Cenozoic in Shandong province (Figure 9). The Na₂O, K₂O, and Al₂O₃ concentrations of xenolith LW0006 are also higher than those of pyroxenite xenoliths from Tietonggou.

[21] In a primitive mantle-normalized spider diagram, xenolith LW0006 shows a strong enrichment of Cs, Rb, Ba, Th, U, K, La and Ce relative to Nb and Ta, a strong positive anomaly in Pb (about 600 times that of primitive mantle), a small positive anomaly in Sr, strong negative anomalies in Nb, Ta, and small negative anomalies in P, Ti (Figure 10a). Ba is less enriched than Rb and Th. The total REE concentrations of this sample are comparable to those of pyroxenite xenoliths from Tietonggou, but are higher than those of peridotite xenoliths from Tietonggou (Figure 10b). In a chondrite-normalized REE diagram, all Tietonggou xenoliths show enrichments of the light rare earth elements (LREE) relative to heavy rare earth elements (HREE), which are distinct from those of Cenozoic mantle xenoliths in the Shandong province (Figure 10b).

[22] Xenolith LW0006, as well as other ultramafic xenoliths from Tietonggou, are characterized with enriched Sr-Nd isotopic compositions (Figure 11).

Table 5. Sr-Nd-Pb Isotopic Composition of Xenolith LW0006^a

Rb 28.35 ppm	Sr 176.4 ppm	⁸⁷ Rb/ ⁸⁶ Sr 0.4642	⁸⁷ Sr/ ⁸⁶ Sr (2σ) 0.706954(29)	⁸⁷ Sr/ ⁸⁶ Sr _i 0.706129	ε _{Sr(T)} 25.3		
Sm 1.07 ppm	Nd 5.78 ppm	¹⁴⁷ Sm/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd 0.1120	¹⁴³ Nd/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd(2σ) 0.512213(8)	¹⁴³ Nd/ ¹⁴⁴ Nd _i 0.512121	ε _{Nd(T)} -6.9	T _{DM} 1402 Ma	f _{Sm/Nd} -0.43
²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb 17.164	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb 15.410	²⁰⁸ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb 37.534	²⁰⁶ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb _i 17.151	²⁰⁷ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb _i 15.409	²⁰⁸ Pb/ ²⁰⁴ Pb _i 37.521	Δ7/4 5.9	Δ8/4 116.1

^aInitial values were calculated at 125 Ma.

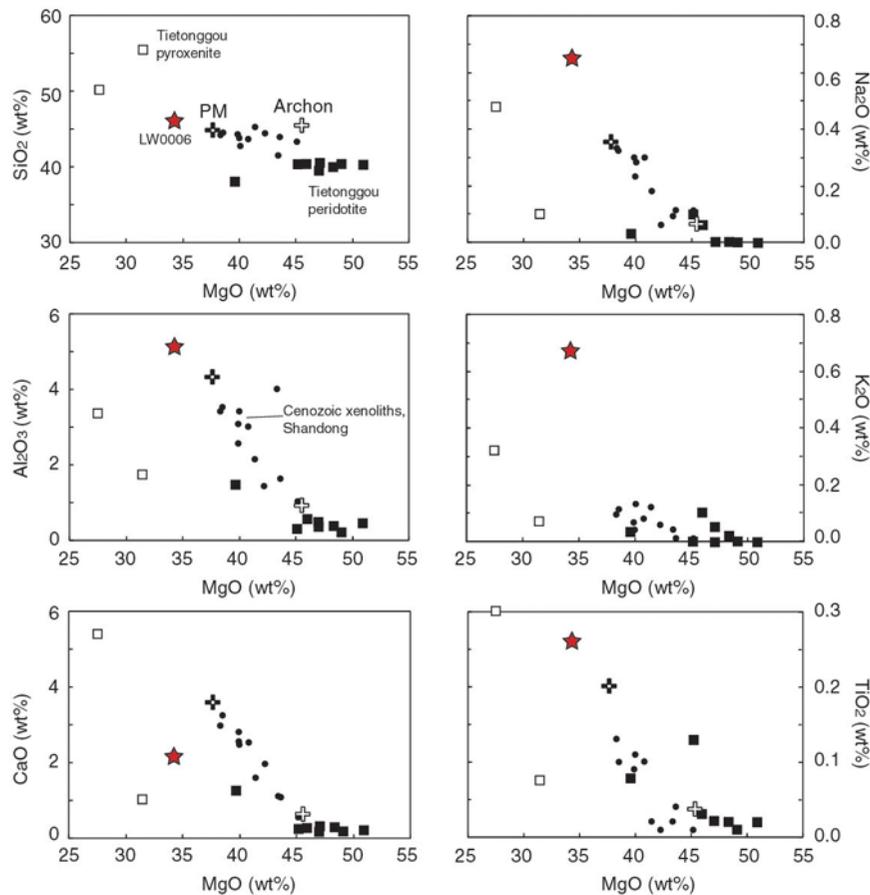


Figure 9. Major element composition of xenolith LW0006. Data for peridotite xenoliths from Cenozoic basalts of Shandong province are from *Rudnick et al.* [2004]. Data of other ultramafic xenoliths of Tietonggou are from *Chen and Zhou* [2004] and *Xu et al.* [2004a]. Archon is the average SCLM of the Archean craton [*Griffin et al.*, 2003]. PM is primitive mantle from *McDonough and Sun* [1995].

On a $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ versus $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ diagram, the range of Tietonggou xenoliths is distinct from that of Cenozoic basalts and their entrained xenoliths in Shandong province (Figure 11a), but is similar to that of their host rocks (Figure 11b). The lead isotopic composition of this sample, $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 17.164$, is less radiogenic than the Cenozoic basalts in Shandong province ($^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 17.60 - 18.46$ [*Peng et al.*, 1986]), but more radiogenic than Ji'nán gabbros ($^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 16.62 - 16.94$ [*Zhang et al.*, 2004]).

[23] The $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value of xenolith LW0006 (6.9‰ average) is significantly higher than typical mantle xenoliths 4.8–5.5‰ [*Mattey et al.*, 1994] and typical MORB (5.2–6.1‰ [*Ito et al.*, 1987; *Eiler et al.*, 2000]). Until now, unusually elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ values for direct mantle samples have only been

found in mantle xenoliths from arc volcanics ($\delta^{18}\text{O}$ up to 11.3‰ [*Eiler et al.*, 1998]).

6. Discussion

6.1. Xenolith LW0006: An Extreme Example of Ultramafic Xenoliths Entrained in the Early Cretaceous Diorite of NCC

[24] The metasomatism observed in xenolith LW0006, has also been found in peridotite xenoliths of Tietonggou [*Chen and Zhou*, 2004], e.g., (1) disseminated phlogopite and clinopyroxene which are partially replaced by late-stage orthopyroxene, Na-rich plagioclase, and Na-rich amphibole, (2) phlogopite- and amphibole-bearing clinopyroxenite veinlets, (3) Na-rich amphibole- and plagioclase-bearing orthopyroxenite veinlets. Orthopyroxenite veinlets have been found in most

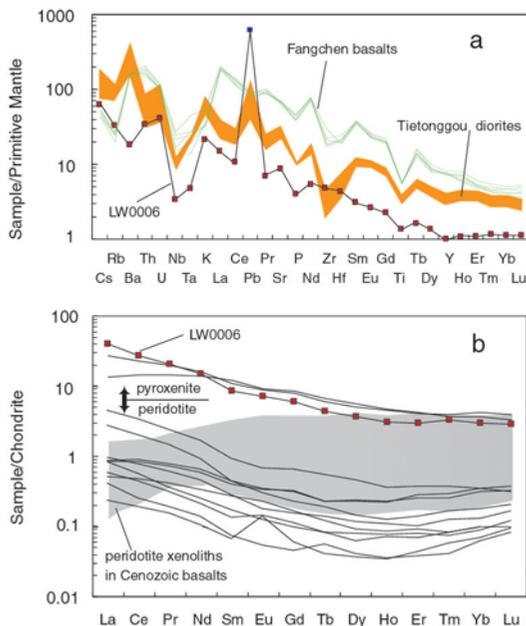


Figure 10. (a) Spider gram of xenolith LW0006, normalized to the values of the primitive mantle [McDonough and Sun, 1995], compared with the host diorites [Chen, 2001] and Fangchen basalts [Zhang *et al.*, 2002]. (b) REE pattern of xenolith LW0006 and other ultramafic xenoliths of Tietonggou [Chen and Zhou, 2004; Xu *et al.*, 2004a], compared with the mantle xenoliths in Cenozoic basalts of Shandong province [Fan *et al.*, 2000]. REE concentrations are normalized to the chondritic values of Anders and Grevesse [1989]. For the concentrations of trace elements in the Cenozoic xenoliths, $C_w = C_{cpx} \times \text{modal percent of cpx}$, where C_w is the element concentration for the whole rock (shown in the figure) and C_{cpx} is the element concentration for clinopyroxene.

peridotite xenoliths from Tietonggou. Several orthopyroxenite veinlets can be observed in those large peridotite xenoliths. The mineral chemistry of this xenolith, such as the low Al_2O_3 concentrations of secondary orthopyroxene, is consistent with other Tietonggou xenoliths (Figure 8). The enrichment of LREE relative to HREE of this xenolith is also a common characteristic in Tietonggou xenoliths (Figure 10b) and the Sr-Nd isotopic composition of this xenolith does not differ too much from that of other Tietonggou xenoliths (Figure 11). Therefore xenolith LW0006, the most extremely metasomatized sample found so far in the xenolith suite of Tietonggou, provides the opportunity to better constrain the source and environment of this metasomatism, which may have been pervasive in the lithospheric mantle of this age. Since the mineral compositions of the orthopyroxenite portion of this xenolith are similar with those ortho-

pyroxenite veinlets in peridotite xenoliths of Tietonggou, the orthopyroxenite of this xenolith may be a thick melt channel. Xu *et al.* [2003a] reported that disseminated phlogopite with secondary orthopyroxene and veinlets composed of phlogopite, orthopyroxene, and plagioclase can be observed in dunite xenoliths in the Jin'lin

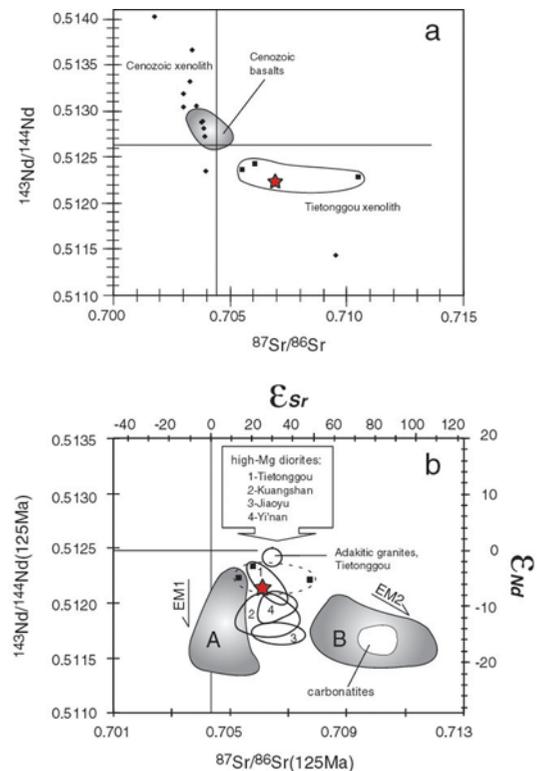


Figure 11. Sr-Nd isotopic composition of xenolith LW0006. (a) Present value of $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ versus $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$. (b) Initial value of $^{87}Sr/^{86}Sr$ versus $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$. Star, xenolith LW0006; squares, other ultramafic xenoliths of Tietonggou [Chen and Zhou, 2004]; diamond, mantle xenoliths in Cenozoic basalts of Shandong province [Fan *et al.*, 2000]; all Cenozoic xenoliths plot in the second square except for two pyroxenite xenoliths. Cenozoic basalts, Cenozoic basalts from Shandong province [after Peng *et al.*, 1986]; A, Cretaceous gabbros and basalts from the northern part of west Shandong province [Guo *et al.*, 2001, 2003; Zhang *et al.*, 2003]; B, Cretaceous basalts and andesites from the southern part of west Shandong province [Zhang *et al.*, 2002; Ying, 2002; Qiu *et al.*, 2002]; carbonatites, Cretaceous carbonatites from Laiwu and Zibo [Ying *et al.*, 2004]. High-Mg diorites: 1, Tietonggou pluton [Chen, 2001]; 2, Kuangshan pluton [Chen, 2001]; 3, Jiaoyu pluton [Xu *et al.*, 2004]; 4, Yi'nan pluton [Xu *et al.*, 2004]. Note that two samples with obvious crustal contamination are not included in this figure and Figure 14. Adakitic granites from Tietonggou are from unpublished data of Chen.

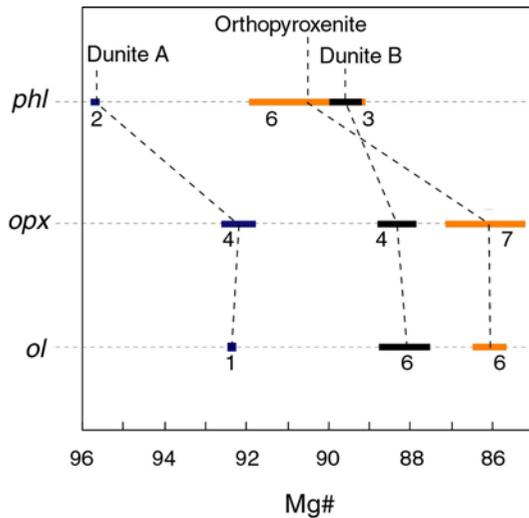


Figure 12. Mg-Fe disequilibrium of minerals in xenolith LW0006. Orthopyroxene and phlogopite show Mg-Fe equilibration with olivine in dunite A and dunite B but not in the orthopyroxenite, as seen by the broad range of Mg# values of phlogopite and orthopyroxene. Analytical numbers are shown by the line.

high-Mg diorite, an Early Cretaceous pluton in Zibo, west Shandong province. They suggested that these xenoliths might have been metasomatized by some kind of Si- and K-rich liquids. We speculate that the phlogopite might exist before the growth of the secondary orthopyroxene and plagioclase, and we will discuss similar metasomatic phenomena found recently in Tietonggou xenoliths late. Hence ultramafic xenoliths from the Tietonggou diorite of Laiwu and the Jin'lin diorite of Zibo might have undergone similar metasomatism to that observed in xenolith LW0006.

6.2. Interactions Between Xenolith and Host Magma

[25] Since the host diorite is Si-oversaturated, metasomatism observed in the xenolith, especially the growth of secondary orthopyroxene could result from interactions between the dioritic magma and the Si-undersaturated peridotite. Tietonggou xenoliths are frequently covered with thin hornblendite selvages. A hornblendite selvage also has been observed in the dunite portion of xenolith LW0006 (Figure 4b), which might be produced by reaction between the host magma and the dunite. The sharp boundary between the host diorite and the orthopyroxenite portion of xenolith LW0006 suggests there might be little reaction between them, since orthopyroxene and phlogopite are Si-

saturated. The selvage and veinlet of hornblendite are common in some peridotite xenoliths carried by calc-alkaline andesites [Arai *et al.*, 2003a]. Since the host magma is a highly Si-oversaturated hydrous melt and olivine is highly Si-undersaturated, the reaction between them might produce hornblende quickly at the margin of the xenoliths at shallow depth, which would hamper further reaction between them. Therefore the metasomatism observed in Tietonggou xenoliths must have occurred before the entrainment by the host dioritic magma. The chemical differences between the metasomatic minerals in the xenoliths and the minerals in the host diorite, e.g., plagioclase, support this interpretation.

6.3. Metasomatic History

[26] The resorbed shapes of the dunite portions (Figure 2) suggest that the primary lithology of the composite xenolith is dunite, and that a series of metasomatism changed the composition of this specimen resulting in an orthopyroxenite-dominated lithology.

[27] In dunite A, the presence of the composite veinlet (clinopyroxenite + orthopyroxenite) suggests two stages of metasomatism occurring in the same path (Figure 5). The spatial relationship of the different parts of the composite veinlet and the exsolution textures of minerals suggest that the phlogopite- and amphibole-bearing clinopyroxenite veinlet was produced first. A second-stage of metasomatism consumed the early metasomatic minerals and produced the secondary orthopyroxene in the same passage. Mg# values of the secondary orthopyroxene (Mg# = 91.8 – 92.6) are similar to those of the olivine by the orthopyroxenite veinlet (Mg# = 92.3), which suggests that there has been Mg-Fe equilibration (Figure 12).

[28] In dunite B, the replacement relationship between clinopyroxene, phlogopite and orthopyroxene, amphibole, plagioclase suggests that there are at least two stages of metasomatism (Figure 6). Intergranular clinopyroxene and phlogopite were produced by early stage(s) of metasomatism. The later metasomatic event followed the same path as the early metasomatism, and affected the early stage metasomatic minerals, crystallizing orthopyroxene, amphibole, and plagioclase. The similar Mg# values of secondary orthopyroxene and primary olivine, 88.1–88.7 and 88.2, respectively, suggest that they have experienced Mg-Fe equilibration (Figure 12).



[29] All of minerals in the clinopyroxenite of the composite veinlet in Dunite A are enriched in CaO, which suggests that the metasomatic medium was a Ca-rich liquid, such as, e.g., carbonatite melts. The presence of phlogopite in the clinopyroxenite veinlet suggests that this metasomatic agent was also enriched in K. The intergranular minerals in dunite B also include phlogopite and clinopyroxene, which suggests that dunite B was also metasomatized by a K- and Ca-rich liquid. The high concentrations of K₂O (0.67 wt%) and CaO (2.17 wt%) in the whole rocks suggest that such metasomatism contribute significantly to the chemistry of the orthopyroxenite. The late-stage metasomatism in both dunite A and dunite B are characterized by the growth of secondary orthopyroxene, which suggests that both dunite A and dunite B were metasomatized by Si-rich liquids. Figure 7 shows that the late metasomatism in this part is characterized by the breakdown of phlogopite, the resorption of olivine, and the growth of orthopyroxene and plagioclase, which is consistent with what is seen in dunite A and dunite B. The growth of Na-rich plagioclase and Na-rich amphibole, as well as the high Na₂O concentration (0.65 wt%) of the whole rock, suggests that the late-stage metasomatic liquids were also enriched in Na₂O. Therefore we designate the late-stage metasomatism in the xenolith as Si (Na) metasomatism.

[30] Figure 12 illustrates that phlogopite and orthopyroxene in dunite A and dunite B have experience Mg-Fe equilibration with olivine, although this has not taken place in the orthopyroxenite. In the orthopyroxenite, olivine has a narrow range of Mg# values (85.5–86.6), whereas both phlogopite and orthopyroxene have broad ranges of Mg# values, 89.1–92.0 and 85.2–87.9, respectively. We have calculated that the equilibration temperatures of Tietonggou xenoliths are in the range of 690–790°C according to the orthopyroxene Ca thermometer [Brey and Kohler, 1990] and the olivine-spinel Mg-Fe exchange thermometer [Fabries, 1979; Chen and Zhou, 2004]. Under such high-temperature conditions, Mg-Fe exchange between silicate minerals is very rapid and it is easy to obtain Mg-Fe equilibrium in a short time. Therefore the Mg-Fe disequilibrium observed in the orthopyroxenite indicates that Si (Na) metasomatism may have occurred shortly before entrainment of the xenolith in the host magma. The Mg-Fe equilibrium observed in dunite A and dunite B may be due to low orthopyroxene/phlogopite:olivine ratios. It is reasonable to speculate that the ubiquitous

heterogeneity of spinel also resulted from Si (Na) metasomatism.

[31] In summary, the petrography, mineral chemistry, and major element compositions provide a clear metasomatic record of the composite xenolith: K (Ca) metasomatism, and Si (Na) metasomatism. K (Ca) metasomatism is characterized by the development of phlogopite-, and amphibole-bearing clinopyroxenite veinlets or intergranular phlogopite (and clinopyroxene). Si (Na) metasomatism is characterized by the growth of secondary orthopyroxene, Na-rich plagioclases (with or without Na-rich amphibole), and the resorption of olivine and decomposition of phlogopite. Si (Na) metasomatism occurred shortly before entrainment of the xenolith. Tietonggou xenoliths are thought to be samples from the crust-mantle transitional zone (Moho) [Chen and Zhou, 2004] or uppermost mantle [Xu *et al.*, 2003b, 2004a]. Deep source-derived liquids, which metasomatized this region, might have metasomatized the entire SCLM.

6.4. Subduction-Related Metasomatism: Fluids Versus Melts

[32] The exceptional $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value and exceptionally high concentrations of Na₂O, K₂O and Al₂O₃ in this sample suggest a clear contribution of recycled crust materials in the source. The elemental signatures of the orthopyroxenite portion of the xenolith, such as depletions of Nb, Ta, Ti, and P, and the positive Pb anomaly (Figure 10a), are similar to those of arc volcanics, which suggest that at least one of these three metasomatic events is related to subduction. Since the orthopyroxenite is mainly composed of secondary orthopyroxene, Si (Na) metasomatism is the most likely candidate to contribute to the elevated $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ value.

[33] In recent years, subduction-related metasomatism has become better understood through increased xenolith localities in arc settings, where ultramafic xenoliths have been thought to be fragments from a mantle wedge. These localities include the Japanese island arcs [Abe *et al.*, 1998; Arai and Kida, 2000], the Luzon arc of Philippines [Maury *et al.*, 1992; Schiano *et al.*, 1995; Arai and Kida, 2000; Arai *et al.*, 2004], the Colorado Plateau [Smith and Riter, 1997; Smith *et al.*, 1999], the Cascades, USA [Brandon and Draper, 1996; Ertan and Leeman, 1996; Brandon *et al.*, 1999], Mexico [Luhr and Aranda-Gómez, 1997; Blatter and Carmichael, 1998], Papua New Guinea [McInnes and Cameron, 1994; Grégoire *et al.*, 2001; McInnes *et al.*, 2001; Franz *et al.*, 2002],

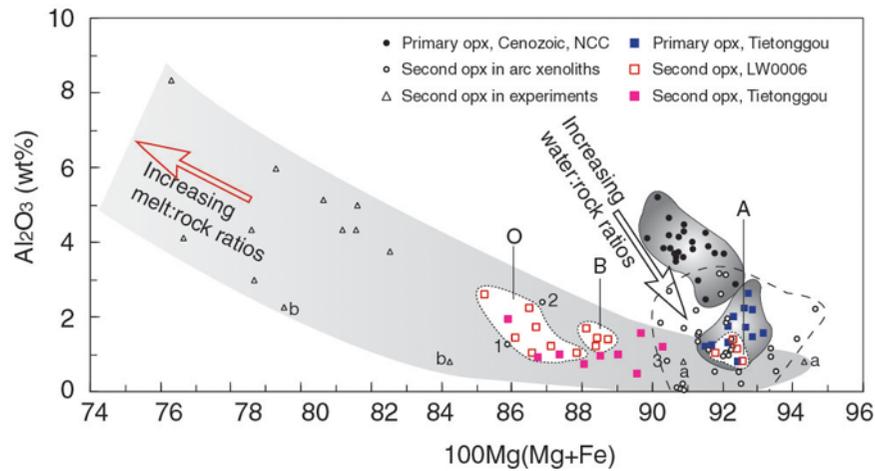


Figure 13. Comparison of the compositions of orthopyroxene (opx) in mantle xenoliths with different tectonic backgrounds. A, opx in Dunite A of xenolith LW0006; B, opx in Dunite B of xenolith LW0006; O, opx in the orthopyroxenite of xenolith LW0006. Primitive opx from Tietonggou xenoliths (this study) show more depleted compositions than Cenozoic xenoliths of the NCC [Rudnick *et al.*, 2004]. Secondary opx from Tietonggou xenoliths have low Al_2O_3 signatures, which is similar to those of arc xenoliths, but they have clearly lower Mg# values than most arc samples. Such signatures have only been found in a few cases, such as 1, daughter mineral inside high-silica glass inclusions in harzburgitic olivine [Schiano *et al.*, 1995]; 2, metasomatic orthopyroxenite [Ertan and Leeman, 1996]; and 3, Quartz diorite veins in lherzolite [Arai *et al.*, 2003b]. Orthopyroxene crystallized in the reaction experiments between silica-rich melts and peridotites/olivines: a, 15 kbar, 900°C and 1000°C, mixture of 60 wt% trondhjemite and 40 wt% olivine, and 7.8 wt% and 9.6 wt% H_2O added [Prouteau *et al.*, 2001]; b, 3.8 Gpa, 1100°C and 1150°C, reaction between partial melts from amphibolitized pillow lava and 16 wt% and 30 wt% depleted peridotite [Rapp *et al.*, 1999]; other triangles, 850–1100°C, 15 kbar, mixture of 95 wt%, 90 wt% tonalite and 5 wt%, 10 wt% peridotite, and 5–10 wt% H_2O added [Carroll and Wyllie, 1989].

Southern Patagonia, Argentina [Gorring and Kay, 2000; Laurora *et al.*, 2001], the Canadian Cordillera [Peslier *et al.*, 2002], Kamchatka [Kepezhinskas *et al.*, 1995; Arai *et al.*, 2003a], and the Betic Cordillera, southern Spain [Arai *et al.*, 2003b; Beccaluva *et al.*, 2004]. Mantle xenoliths from these localities show complicated modal metasomatism, including vein metasomatism, pervasive metasomatism and irregular metasomatism. Some silica-rich glass inclusions, pockets and veinlets have been also found in these mantle xenoliths as residue melts [Schiano *et al.*, 1995; Ertan and Leeman, 1996; Eiler *et al.*, 1998]. These wedge-derived samples provide direct evidence that slab-derived fluids/melts have modified the mantle wedge and have affected the geochemical characteristics of arc volcanics.

[34] Among these wedge-derived samples, secondary orthopyroxenes are common and have been thought to be a mark of Si metasomatism in the subarc mantle. Secondary orthopyroxenes are characterized by a depletion of Al_2O_3 relative to primitive orthopyroxene. The crystallization of orthopyroxenes suggests that the metasomatic liquids are saturated with silica. Up to now, it has

been controversial whether such slab-derived silica-rich liquids are fluids or melts. McInnes *et al.* [2001] found that orthopyroxenes in fluid-metasomatized peridotites are enriched in Mg# and depleted in Al_2O_3 compared to anhydrous peridotite, and this trend correlates with an increase in the intensity of fluid:rock interactions. In Figure 13, we illustrate the published chemical data of orthopyroxenes in metasomatized peridotite xenoliths from arc settings, and find that such a trend appears in orthopyroxenes in most cases (Mg# > 90). In addition, orthopyroxenes with low Mg# values (85–87) have been found in a few cases, including daughter minerals inside silica-rich melt inclusions in olivine from Philippines xenoliths (Schiano *et al.*, 1995) and orthopyroxenes in an intensely metasomatized xenolith, with many silica-rich melt inclusions and pockets from the Cascades, USA (Ertan and Leeman, 1996). Petrographic evidence shows that there are genetic relationships between low-Mg# orthopyroxenes and silica-rich melt inclusions. Carroll and Wyllie [1989], Rapp *et al.* [1999], and Prouteau *et al.* [2001] carried out a series of experiments on the interactions between silica-rich melts and peridotites/olivines. These experiments show a clear correlation between the



composition of the secondary orthopyroxenes and the melt:rock ratios. Mg# values of the secondary orthopyroxenes decrease and their Al₂O₃ concentrations increase with increased melt:rock ratios, so that low-Mg# orthopyroxenes are formed under high melt:rock ratio conditions (Figure 13). Thus we propose that the growth of low-Mg# orthopyroxene in mantle wedge results from intense metasomatism by slab-derived melts.

[35] The secondary orthopyroxene of Tietonggou xenoliths is also characterized by low Al₂O₃ concentrations (Figure 8). In xenolith LW0006, secondary orthopyroxene shows broad range of compositions. Orthopyroxene in the orthopyroxenite has lower Mg# values (85.2–87.9) than dunite A (91.8–92.6) and dunite B (88.1–88.7). In Figure 13, orthopyroxenes from the three parts of xenolith LW0006 fall within the experimental range of melt:rock interactions and display the same general trend, which is distinct from the trend suggested for fluid:melt interaction. *Arai et al.* [2003a] noted that fluid metasomatism is characterized by simple mineral compositions and complicated boundaries between secondary orthopyroxene and primary minerals. In contrast, the metasomatic minerals in xenolith LW0006 not only include orthopyroxene, but also plagioclase, amphibole, zircon, rutile, apatite, etc., which could not have crystallized from fluids. The simple boundaries between secondary orthopyroxene and primary olivine also support melt-induced metasomatism. Consequently, the Si (Na) metasomatic liquids of the Tietonggou xenoliths most likely are slab-derived melts, and not fluids.

[36] Na metasomatism had been recognized in mantle xenoliths from the north Kamchatka arc and is characterized by the growth of Na-rich clinopyroxene and Na-rich plagioclase [*Kepezhinskas et al.*, 1995]. The occurrence of trondhjemitic veins in the xenoliths suggests that these metasomatic liquids are adakitic melts from partial melting of subducted oceanic crust [*Kepezhinskas et al.*, 1995]. Thus the growth of Na-rich plagioclase in Tietonggou xenoliths also suggests that the late-stage metasomatic liquids might be slab-derived melts.

6.5. Metasomatism and Heterogeneity of the SCLM Beneath Shandong Province

[37] Mantle-derived rocks of the Early Cretaceous are prevalent in Shandong province and provide a window to understand the chemical composition of the SCLM beneath this region. In Figure 11b, we illustrate the Sr-Nd isotopic composition of these

rocks and divide them into three suites: series A, series B, and series C. Series A includes gabbros and basalts from the northern part of west Shandong (Ji'nan, Zhangqiu, and Zoupin); they have low ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.70396–0.70580) and low ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51140–0.51228) [*Guo et al.*, 2001, 2003; *Zhang et al.*, 2004]. Series B includes basalts, andesites, and lamprophyres from east Shandong and the southern part of west Shandong, and carbonatites of Laiwu and Zibo, with high ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.70609–0.71177) and low ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51149–0.51205) [*Zhang et al.*, 2002; *Qiu et al.*, 2002; *Ying et al.*, 2004; *Yang et al.*, 2004]. Series C are the high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons in west Shandong, which have higher ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd ratios (0.51167–0.51247) and moderate ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios (0.70529–0.70740) [*Chen*, 2001; *Xu et al.*, 2004]. Therefore these three series of rocks can be distinguished by their ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr ratios.

[38] The SCLM beneath Archean cratons is generally characterized by enriched Sr-Nd isotopic signatures, such as Kapavaal [*Walker et al.*, 1989], Wyoming [*Carlson and Irving*, 1994], and Siberia [*Pearson et al.*, 1995]. Archean mantle with low abundances of phlogopite (low phlogopite/clinopyroxene ratios) can evolve into a mantle with a low ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr and low ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd signature, as Rb is fixed in phlogopite whereas Sr, Nd, and Sm are mainly incorporated into clinopyroxene [*Schmidt et al.*, 1999]. Such a Sr-Nd isotopic signature can be found in Early Cretaceous rocks not only from Shandong province, but also many other areas in the NCC, such as the Taihang area, the Yanshan area and the north margin of NCC. *Guo et al.* [2003] proposed that the SCLM beneath the NCC is characterized by the same isotopic signature, and that mafic rocks with this Sr-Nd isotopic signature, shown as series A in Figure 8b, originate from the uppermost part of an aged and refractory SCLM with a low phlogopite/clinopyroxene ratio. Early Cretaceous rocks with high ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr and low ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd, shown as series B in Figure 11b, are more typical in Shandong province. The mantle sources for these rocks might have been enriched by the subduction of the Yangtze craton [*Qiu et al.*, 2002; *Zhang et al.*, 2002; *Ying et al.*, 2004] or ancient subduction events [*Yang et al.*, 2004]. It is significant that Laiwu-Zibo carbonatites and Fangcheng basalts not only have extremely enriched Rb, Ba, U and LREE (Figure 10a), but also have high CaO concentrations, 19.6–46.9 wt% and 8.7–10.0 wt%, respectively. Since the REE are mainly incorporated in clinopyroxene whereas Rb, Ba, U are fixed in phlogopite and amphiboles in the upper mantle, it is

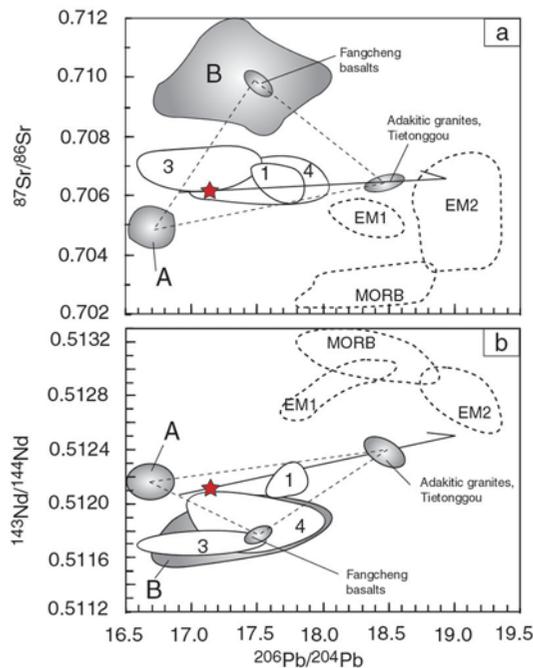


Figure 14. Initial value of $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus that of $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$. Symbols and data sources are the same as in Figure 11. Note that the data of series A here include only the Ji'nan gabbros [Zhang *et al.*, 2004]. The fields of MORB, EM1, and EM2 are taken from Zou *et al.* [2000]. In Figure 14a, all high-Mg diorites are shown in the triangular field outlined by dashes, composed of series A, series B, and adakitic granites. Mixing of adakitic granites (with high $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and high $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$) and a source with low $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ (such as, e.g., series A or a mixing between series A and series B) can produce high-Mg diorites.

reasonable to deduce that the source for series B is vein-plus-peridotite mantle with amphibole- or phlogopite-bearing clinopyroxenite veins [Yang *et al.*, 2004]. Thus the K (Ca) metasomatism observed in Tietonggou xenoliths might be associated with the enriched Sr-Nd isotopic signature of the SCLM beneath the NCC.

[39] Tietonggou diorites, as well as other high-Mg diorites in west Shandong province [Chen, 2001; Xu *et al.*, 2004], have low SiO_2 (57–60 wt%), high MgO (>6 wt%) and Mg# values (>0.7), high concentrations of Cr (>500 ppm) and Ni (>150 ppm), enrichments in Sr (>600 ppm) and Ba (>1000 ppm), and high Na_2O (3.1–3.4 wt%), K_2O (1.8–2.4 wt%), LREE, and La/Yb_N ratios (>10) [Chen, 2001]. The geochemical characteristics of Tietonggou diorites are similar to those of sanukitoids and low- SiO_2 adakites, which are thought to be partial melts from a mantle wedge whose composition has been modified by reaction

with slab melts (see review by Martin *et al.* [2005]). Besides high-Mg diorites, granitic rocks also exist in the Tietonggou pluton. Tietonggou granites have high SiO_2 (70.5–72.0 wt%), high Na_2O (4.5–5.2 wt%), $\text{Na}_2\text{O}/\text{K}_2\text{O} > 1$, high Sr (590–670 ppm), high La/Yb_N (50–100), and extremely depleted HREE (Yb < 0.3 ppm) and Y (<4 ppm) (unpublished data of Chen). The geochemical characteristics of Tietonggou granites are similar to those of high- SiO_2 adakites, which are broadly thought to be slab melts [Martin *et al.*, 2005]. Thus geochemical evidence from the Tietonggou pluton also indicates that the SCLM beneath Laiwu might have been metasomatized by slab melts.

[40] In $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ diagrams, adakitic granites, high-Mg diorites, and xenolith LW0006 of Tietonggou line up along a possible mixing array (Figure 14). The isotopic composition of xenolith LW0006 and its host rocks can be produced by mixing between an enriched mantle with low $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and low $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$, and the adakitic granites with high $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and high $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$. It is evident that other high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons also plot along the possible mixing line of Tietonggou in the $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ diagram (Figure 14a), but plot under the possible mixing line of Tietonggou in the $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ diagram (Figure 14b). Each high-Mg diorite-dominated pluton has a broad range of $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{207}\text{Pb}$ ratios. Since high-Mg diorites are exceptionally enriched in Sr, crustal assimilation might have less of an effect on their Sr isotopes than their Nd and Pb isotopes. Therefore high-Mg diorites in west Shandong province might have a similar source as the high-Mg diorites of Tietonggou, which were metasomatized by slab melts like adakitic granites of Tietonggou. Xu *et al.* [2003b, 2004a, 2004c] suggested that the metasomatic agent for Tietonggou xenoliths might be from a recycled continental crust. However, the higher $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratios of adakitic granites, high-Mg diorites of Tietonggou than of other Early Cretaceous mantle-derived rocks in Shandong province do not support such a proposal (Figures 11b and 14b). Thus Si (Na) metasomatism observed in Tietonggou xenoliths provides direct evidence for the genesis of high-MgO diorites in Shandong province.

6.6. Relationship Between Subduction and Lithospheric Transformation

[41] Dating the Mesozoic rocks could provide a temporal framework for the lithosphere thinning.



Xu *et al.* [2004] summarized the reliable ages of Mesozoic mafic rocks and felsic rocks in the NCC, and found that they clustered around 130 Ma, which is consistent with the time of gold mineralization [Yang *et al.*, 2003; Zhou *et al.*, 2002] and the peak age of granulite xenoliths [Wilde *et al.*, 2003]. Thus the peak stage of lithospheric thinning has generously been thought to occur in the Early Cretaceous [Menzies and Xu, 1998; Xu, 2001; Zhang *et al.*, 2002, 2003, 2004; Zhou *et al.*, 2002; Yang *et al.*, 2003; Guo *et al.*, 2003; Zhai *et al.*, 2003; Xu *et al.*, 2004b, 2004c; Xu *et al.*, 2004; Gao *et al.*, 2004]. Some Jurassic rocks have also been found in the NCC recently [Wilde *et al.*, 2003; Xu *et al.*, 2004; Gao *et al.*, 2004], which suggests that the onset of the lithospheric thinning may be as early as the Early Jurassic. Xu *et al.* [2004] argue that the end of the lithospheric thinning is marked by the asthenosphere-derived basalts at about 70 Ma [Yan *et al.*, 2003]. Therefore the thinning of the SCLM beneath the NCC is a long-term process.

[42] The direct cause of lithospheric thinning of the eastern NCC is still controversial, and various models have been postulated, including thermal/chemical erosion or convective thinning [Xu, 2001; Zhang *et al.*, 2002; Xu *et al.*, 2004a, 2004c; Xu *et al.*, 2004], delamination induced by collision of the Yangtze Craton and the NCC [Gao *et al.*, 1998], or the effect of Pacific ocean subduction [Tatsumoto *et al.*, 1992], and mantle overturn [Wilde *et al.*, 2003]. As previously noted by others, mantle xenoliths from Cenozoic basalts have not provided direct evidence to test the foregoing hypotheses. The study of ultramafic xenoliths from high-Mg diorite-dominated plutons in NCC might provide important information on the thinning lithosphere, since the age of the high-Mg diorites is consistent with the peak stage of the lithospheric thinning. The above discussions show that Tietonggou xenoliths might have been metasomatized by slab melts shortly before entrainment of the xenoliths in the host magma, which indicates that ocean subduction might have been involved in the thinning process. High-Mg diorites and high-Mg andesites from the Early Cretaceous also have been found in the Japan arc [Kamei *et al.*, 2004; Tsuchiya *et al.*, 2005], which suggests that oceanic subduction modified the SCLM beneath the eastern margin of the Eurasian continent in the late Mesozoic. Thus the genetic relationship between oceanic subduction and

reactivation of the old craton should be investigated farther.

7. Conclusions

[43] 1. Petrological evidence from a unique composite xenolith in Laiwu diorites reveals a complicated metasomatic history in the SCLM beneath the east NCC, including K (Ca) metasomatism as early stage enrichment, and Si (Na) metasomatism as a late event.

[44] 2. Evidence from the mineral chemistry, geochemistry, and Sr-Nd-Pb-O isotopic compositions of the unique xenolith indicate that Si (Na) metasomatism might result from reactions with slab melts, and occur shortly before entrainment by the host magma.

[45] 3. Si (Na) metasomatism observed in Tietonggou xenoliths, which are genetically linked with Early Cretaceous high-Mg diorites and adakitic granites in west Shandong, suggests that the SCLM beneath this area was modified by slab-derived melts. Since Si (Na) metasomatism occurred at the peak stage of the lithospheric thinning, subduction might have been involved in the thinning process of the SCLM beneath the NCC.

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