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# **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

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#### **Key Points:**

- Water within the slab mantle beneath Kamchatka are recycled into the deeper mantle
- Compositional trends in arc volcanics reflect the water content of the dehydrating slab mantle
- Thermodynamic-geochemical models can quantify dehydration processes in subducted slabs

**Supporting Information:** 

Supporting Information S1

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# Slab mantle dehydrates beneath Kamchatka—Yet recycles water into the deep mantle

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**Abstract** The subduction of hydrated slab mantle is the most important and yet weakly constrained factor in the quantification of the Earth's deep geologic water cycle. The most critical unknowns are the initial hydration state and the dehydration behavior of the subducted oceanic mantle. Here we present a combined thermomechanical, thermodynamic, and geochemical model of the Kamchatka subduction zone that indicates significant dehydration of subducted slab mantle beneath Kamchatka. Evidence for the subduction of hydrated oceanic mantle comes from across-arc trends of boron concentrations and isotopic compositions in arc volcanic rocks. Our thermodynamic-geochemical models successfully predict the complex geochemical patterns and the spatial distribution of arc volcances in Kamchatka assuming the subduction of hydrated oceanic mantle. Our results show that water content and dehydration behavior of the slab mantle beneath Kamchatka can be directly linked to compositional features in arc volcanic rocks. Depending on hydration depth of the slab mantle, our models yield water recycling rates between  $1.1 \times 10^3$  and  $7.4 \times 10^3$  Tg/Ma/km corresponding to values between  $0.75 \times 10^6$  and  $5.2 \times 10^6$  Tg/Ma for the entire Kamchatkan subduction zone. These values are up to one order of magnitude lower than previous estimates for Kamchatka, but clearly show that subducted hydrated slab mantle significantly contributes to the water budget in the Kamchatkan subduction zone.

# 1. Introduction

The amount and distribution of the Earth's water is a so far unresolved problem despite its importance for geodynamics, atmosphere, and biosphere. The silicate Earth's total water content is in the order of  $2700 \pm 1350$  ppm(wt) [*Marty*, 2012], whereas hydrosphere and atmosphere represent only 250 ppm water relative to the Earth's total mass. It is, indeed, the Earth's mantle that is thought to represent by far the Earth's largest water reservoir. Water in nominally anhydrous minerals (NAM) and in dense hydrous magnesium silicates (DHMS) can make up 10 times of the water that is stored in the oceans at the Earth's surface [*Smyth et al.*, 2006; *Angel et al.*, 2001; *Frost*, 1999; *Ohtani et al.*, 2001]. Recent findings of ringwoodite highlighted the hydrous nature of the mantle transition zone and hence point to the importance of the mantle regarding the quantification of the Earth's water budget [*Pearson et al.*, 2014].

Two competing processes are crucial for the distribution of water between the Earth's hydrosphere and the silicate mantle: (1) outgassing of water from the mantle through volcanism and (2) subduction of hydrated oceanic lithosphere that enables recycling of water from the hydrosphere into the deeper mantle. The interplay of these opposing processes displays a dynamic equilibrium that controls the distribution of water between the Earth's surface and the deeper mantle [*Rüpke et al.*, 2004; *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011; *Freundt et al.*, 2014]. Both of these processes are closely related to the Earth's internal thermal structure as geodynamic processes, such as mantle convection and plate motion, are primarily heat dependent. It is evident that continuous cooling of our planet has significantly changed geodynamics on Earth since the Early Archean [*Brown*, 2008; *Stern*, 2008; *Condie and Kröner*, 2008]. Hence, subducting plates become cooler, hydrous phases therein become more stable and larger amounts of water can be dragged down to the deep mantle [e.g., *Maruyama and Okamoto*, 2007]. This increasingly important process will potentially shift the distribution of water between the Earth's surface and the silicate mantle in the future.

© 2016. American Geophysical Union. All Rights Reserved. Advances in computational capabilities nowadays allow numerical modeling of water cycling in subduction zones based on thermodynamic and thermomechanical models [*Rüpke et al.*, 2004; *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011; *Konrad-Schmolke and Halama*, 2014]. Balancing the amount of water brought into the subduction zone by the hydrated oceanic lithosphere with the modeled dehydration reactions in the subducting slab enables a quantitative estimation of how much water is subducted beyond the volcanic arcs in subduction zones [e.g., *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011]. However, the results of these numerical models differ significantly in the intensity of water recycling into the mantle, such that estimates of the total overturning times of the entire hydrosphere range from 1.6 to 3.3 Ga depending on the model input parameters.

All of the numerical models show that the hydration state of the subducted mantle lithosphere is the major factor in water recycling in subduction zones, as the amount of water potentially present in hydrated suboceanic serpentinites is several times larger than in the altered oceanic crust (AOC). Further, due to the specific thermal structure in subducting plates—involving a thermal minimum extending subparallel to the plate surface at slab mantle depth—dehydration reactions in the slab mantle can be inhibited and water contained therein can be directly transferred into DHMS (e.g., Phase A). Within such dense hydrous phases water can be subducted as deep as the mantle transition zone between 410 and 660 km depth and once brought to this depth, the stability of wadsleyite and ringwoodite enables storage of water in the order of several hydrosphere masses [e.g., Karato, 2011; Jacobsen and van der Lee, 2006; Pearson et al., 2014].

Numerical simulations of the water budget in subduction zones strongly depend on the setting of the critical model parameters, most of which are poorly constrained [*Rüpke et al.*, 2006]. Hence, unambiguous information on the subducted water amount and the global water cycle is difficult to extract from numerical models alone without further external information. Surface expressions of the dehydration reactions in the slab, such as the chemical composition of arc lavas, are commonly the only reliable proxies for the water budget in deeply subducted rocks [e.g., *Pearce and Peate*, 1995; *Ryan et al.*, 1995; *Hebert et al.*, 2009; *Kimura et al.*, 2009]. Based on this assumption *Rüpke et al.* [2002] and *Walowski et al.* [2015] presented thermodynamic-geochemical models of the Nicaragua and Cascadia subduction zones, respectively, the results of which indicate a significant contribution of dehydration reactions in the subducted oceanic mantle on arc lava chemistry. In both cases, the structural position as well as the chemical imprint on arc lavas clearly point toward water release from the downgoing slab mantle thus indicating that the subducted mantle lithosphere in these subduction zones is indeed hydrated to significant extents. Both works further show the capacity of thermodynamic-geochemical models to discriminate fluid sources in subducting slabs based on characteristic across-arc variations in arc lava chemistry.

In this paper, we model the dehydration of the oceanic lithosphere in the Kamchatkan subduction zone utilizing two-dimensional thermodynamic models based on Gibbs energy minimization. Dehydration reactions, fluid liberation, fluid migration, and fluid-rock interaction are modeled based on a thermal pattern derived from thermomechanical finite element models of three profiles across the Kamchatkan subduction zone. The results of the thermodynamic models are then used to simulate boron release from the slab, which is compared to the observed variations in the erupted lavas in Kamchatka. Our results indicate that for Kamchatka, slab mantle dehydration is likely a major process for the formation of some arc volcanoes and that water retained in the slab mantle can potentially be transported beyond the volcanic arc.

#### 1.1. Geological Setting of the Kamchatka Subduction Zone

The Kamchatka subduction zone (Figure 1) is one of the most volcanically active regions on Earth [e.g., *Portnyagin and Manea*, 2008]. It comprises three distinct volcanic chains—the Eastern Volcanic Front (EVF), the volcanoes in the Central Kamchatkan Depression (CKD), and the Sredinny Range (SR)—for which detailed geochemical and B isotope data have been published [e.g., *Ishikawa et al.*, 2001; *Churikova et al.*, 2001; *Portnyagin et al.*, 2007]. Furthermore, geophysical studies yielded detailed insight into the shape and dip of the subducted plate as well as the crust and mantle structure beneath Kamchatka [e.g., *Manea and Manea*, 2007; *Levin et al.*, 2002].

The Kamchatka peninsula is part of the Kurile-Kamchatka arc where the Pacific plate is subducted northwestward since the Late Cretaceous to Early Paleocene [e.g., *Avdeiko et al.*, 2007]. Subduction and differential counterclockwise slab rollback have led to the formation of the Kurile back-arc basin, the Hokkaido-Sachalin dextral strike-slip system and the Ochotsk sea [*Schellart et al.*, 2003]. Accretion and amalgamation of different volcanic arcs in the northern part of the subduction zone have led to the formation of

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**Figure 1.** (a) Topographic map (SRTM) and geological structures of the Kamchatka subduction zone. The inset shows the three volcanic chains and the extent of the CKD. The stippled lines in the main map are isolines for the slab surface depth and the numbers indicate the depth (data from *Gorbatov et al.* [1997]). Circles indicate volcanic centers. (b) The top plot shows the relation between slab surface depth and B geochemistry in the arc volcanic rocks. Circles are  $\delta^{11}$ B values and triangles mark B/Nb. As there is a significant along-arc extent of the data points, filled symbols indicate values in the volcanoes that are nearest to the profile. The middle plot shows the digital elevation model (ASTER) and the bottommost plot the modeled thermal patterns used for the thermodynamic calculations.

the Kamchatkan peninsula as it is seen today [*Avdeiko et al.*, 2007]. Such an accretion event is interpreted to be the reason for the cessation of volcanism in the SR. Due to arc accretion at the eastern side of Kamchatka subduction jumped to its currently active position beneath the EVF and CKD. A relict of the dehydrating

slab beneath the SR is interpreted to be responsible for the active volcanic activity in the westernmost volcanic chain in Kamchatka [Avdeiko et al., 2006].

Due to the southeastward motion of the Kurile-Kamchatka arc the northern part of the Kamchatka peninsula interacted with the Aleutian subduction zone and is affected since the late Miocene by the strike-slip motion along the Komandorsky fault system that is kinematically connected with the Aleutian subduction zone (Figure 1). The strike-slip motion along this fault system has led to a rupture of the subducting Pacific plate at the Aleutian-Kamchatka junction (AKJ) and likely to a slab breakoff beneath northern Kamchatka between 5 and 10 Ma ago [*Levin et al.*, 2002]. As a consequence of the slab loss, volcanism ceased in northern Kamchatka and hot mantle material is interpreted to flow-arc parallel southward beneath central Kamchatka [*Peyton et al.*, 2001; *Portnyagin et al.*, 2005]. Furthermore, the slab loss has led to a decrease in the subduction angle north of the Kluchevskoy group volcanoes at the northernmost tip of the Pacific plate beneath the AKJ and likely to melting of the slab edge reflected in the geochemistry of volcanic rocks from Shiveluch volcano in northern Kamchatka [*Manea and Manea*, 2007; *Portnyagin et al.*, 2007]. This complex tectonic setting is further influenced by the beginning subduction of the Hawaii-Emperor chain just south of the AKJ. The subduction of these remnant oceanic islands is interpreted to have a major influence on the thermal and possibly chemical structure of the northern Kamchatkan subduction zone [*Manea and Manea*, 2007].

A remarkable, yet kinematically unresolved tectonic feature is the extension in the CKD. The CKD opens from the South of Kamchatka and represents an active basin with westward dipping normal faults bordering its eastern side and a poorly constrained normal fault system at the western border [*Kozhurin et al.*, 2006]. Extension in the CKD began in the Upper Pliocene and is still ongoing having led to an accumulation of up to 2500 m of sediments in the deepest part of the CKD [*Khain*, 1994; *Kozhurin et al.*, 2006]. Furthermore, the CKD hosts several of the most active volcances on Earth, such as Kluchevskoy, Tolbachik, and Shiveluch. It is remarkable that the chemistry of these CKD volcances is clearly distinct from that in the EVF and the SR [cf. *Churikova et al.*, 2001; *Dorendorf et al.*, 2000]. The volcanic activity in the CKD is restricted to the northern part of the basin and only occurs where volcanism in the EVF ceases toward the North (Figure 1).

#### 2. General Model Assumptions

The aim of our thermodynamic-geochemical model is to predict dehydration reactions in the downgoing slab beneath Kamchatka in order to calculate the expected B concentrations and B isotopic compositions resulting from dehydration and fluid-rock interaction within the complex thermal pattern in the subducted rock pile [cf., *Konrad-Schmolke and Halama*, 2014]. Assuming a simplified vertical migration of the liberated fluids to the source regions of the arc volcanoes, calculated positions of the dehydration reactions as well as the modeled B concentrations and B isotopic compositions of the fluids are compared with the occurrence of volcanic centers and their B geochemical characteristics. This comparison is used as an independent validation of the numerically determined dehydration pattern in the downgoing slab and wedge mantle.

In our combined thermodynamic-geochemical models, three thermal subduction zone patterns of the Northern, Central, and Southern Kamchatka subduction zone [*Manea and Manea*, 2007] derived from finite element thermomechanical modeling (Figure 1) are used as pressure-temperature input for a Gibbs energy minimization algorithm that simulates the passing of a vertical rock column within the subducted slab through the steady state thermal pattern [cf. *Connolly*, 2005; *Konrad-Schmolke and Halama*, 2014].

#### 3. General Model Approach

The numerical model that we use is a combination of thermomechanical, thermodynamic, and massbalanced trace element calculations. Modeling consists of the following four steps: (1) thermal patterns of the three profiles along the Kamchatkan subduction zone are modeled, utilizing a finite element thermomechanical code, and discretized [*Manea and Manea*, 2007], (2) the discretized pressure-temperature-distance relations derived from the thermomechanical models are used as input for a Gibbs energy minimization algorithm that simulates the passing of a vertical rock column within the subducted slab [*Connolly*, 2005] through the thermal input pattern. Based on the modeled pressure-temperature relations, phase relations are calculated at every discretized increment with a resolution of  $250 \times 250$  m. Water liberated by dehydration reactions is transported vertically upward equilibrating at every calculated increment within the column and thus reflecting a high ratio of fluid/slab migration velocity. (3) The modeled phase relations at every calculated increment are used for a coefficient-based mass-balanced boron distribution among the stable solid and liquid phases. (4) A temperature-dependent fluid-solid boron isotope fractionation based on experimentally determined functions [*Wunder et al.*, 2005] is calculated to determine the amounts of <sup>10</sup>B and <sup>11</sup>B in solids and fluid. Boron incorporated into the fluid phase is assumed to migrate upward into the next calculated increment and redistributed. Elements retained in the solids are transported within the slab and form the initial bulk rock composition in the next rock column. Therefore, the model simulates fluid release, fluid migration, boron transport, and boron isotope fractionation in a subducted slab passing through a steady state thermal pattern.

#### 3.1. Thermomechanical Model

The steady state thermomechanical models of *Manea and Manea* [2007] consist of five thermostratigraphic units: the upper and lower continental crust, the oceanic lithosphere and sediments, and the mantle wedge. The boundary conditions employed in these numeric models are as following: the upper and lower boundaries correspond to 0°C and 1450°C, respectively, the landward boundary is defined by a 22.5°C/km thermal gradient for the continental crust, and 10°C/km for the lithospheric mantle, and the oceanic boundary is age-dependent corresponding to an oceanic geotherm calculated using GDH1 model of *Stein and Stein* [1992]. Depth, thickness, and geometry of different layers used in the 2-D steady state thermomechanical models of *Manea and Manea* [2007] are well constrained by seismological data. Also, the oceanic boundary conditions, that strongly control the slab thermal structure, are in good agreement with the age of the incoming Pacific plate.

#### 3.2. Thermodynamic Model

The thermodynamic model calculates modes and compositions of stable phases depending on the pressure and temperature given by the thermomechanical model and the composition of the different layers in the subducted slab. The modeled subducted slab consists of a mantle wedge layer (10 km, primitive upper mantle (PUM) of *Workman and Hart* [2005]), a sediment pile (0.65 km, N Pacific sediment, *Plank and Langmuir* [1998]), igneous basaltic crust (6.5 km, N-MORB, *Workman and Hart* [2005]) and a variably hydrated slab mantle (18.5 km, depleted MORB mantle (DMM), *Workman and Hart* [2005]). Phase relations for each rock type are calculated at every increment utilizing the Gibbs energy minimization algorithm *vertex* [*Connolly*, 2005]. Thermodynamic calculations start at the bottom of the stable phases are calculated and water liberated by the modeled dehydration reactions is assumed to be transported vertically upward. Water bound in hydrous minerals is transferred slab-parallel into the corresponding increment in the next column.

#### 3.3. Geochemical Model

The modeled phase relations at every calculated increment are used for a partition coefficient-based massbalanced boron distribution [*Brenan et al.*, 1998] and a temperature-dependent fluid-solid boron isotope fractionation [*Wunder et al.*, 2005].

Based on bulk distribution coefficients calculated at every increment, the concentration of boron in the fluid and solids is calculated. Boron concentrated in the fluid phase is assumed to migrate vertically upward and is transferred into the next increment. Boron incorporated into solid phases is transferred slab-parallel into the corresponding increment in the next column.

Boron isotope compositions in fluid and solids are calculated at every increment based on the temperaturedependent fractionation function published in *Wunder et al.* [2005] and the thermal input pattern. <sup>10</sup>B and <sup>11</sup>B is distributed among the stable phases according to the calculated  $\Delta^{11}B^{fluid/solid}$ . Chemical and isotopic equilibration among the stable phases is assumed at every calculated increment. The isotopic evolution within the modeled system is therefore controlled by the B concentrations and the isotopic composition of B in the coexisting solid phases and the migrating fluid equilibrating with the surrounding rock. Thus, the model simulates fluid release, fluid migration, fluid-rock interaction, and boron transport in a subducted slab and the overlying mantle wedge, taking into account the compositional changes of the dehydration fluid with increasing slab depth.

A comparison of modeled and observed boron concentrations and isotopic patterns is then used to evaluate the initial hydration of the slab and the dehydration behavior of wedge mantle and slab during subduction. The model presented in this work highlights the potential of combined thermodynamic-geochemical modeling and the instructive comparison with across-arc B trends.

In order to simulate water release from the slab and wedge mantle, all lithologies of the incoming plate are assumed to be hydrated to different amounts. As detailed data of the hydration state of the AOC and the slab mantle offshore Kamchatka are lacking, our model constraints display simplified assumptions. The incoming sediments and the AOC are assumed to contain 7 wt % water in the sediments and 4 wt % water in the AOC [cf. *Staudigel et al.*, 1998].

A more critical and yet unresolved question is the amount of water in the subducted slab mantle. Here we assume, in different model runs, a variable thickness (1–18.5 km) of hydrated oceanic mantle lithosphere that contains between 0.5 and 6 wt % water. The model runs with 2.5 wt % water in a 15 km thick hydrated slab mantle section are taken as a representative example throughout this paper, but the results of all models are evaluated and discussed. We additionally varied the most critical input parameters, such as the B concentrations and B isotopic compositions in the different layers and discuss the model sensitivity and reliability. A detailed description of the model approach and the input parameters used for the modeling is given in the electronic supporting information.

## 4. Tracing Dehydration in Subduction Zones Using Boron

The incoming oceanic lithosphere is undergoing continuous dehydration by pore compaction and dehydration reactions as it enters the subduction zone. Pore water expulsion occurs within the first 10 km depth and can be detected directly by sampling seeps and mud volcanoes in the accretionary wedges of fore arcs [e.g., *Mottl et al.*, 2004; *Deyhle and Kopf*, 2002]. In contrast, water released by metamorphic reactions occurring in the deeper parts of the subduction zone is more difficult to quantify. Commonly, continuous dehydration of the downgoing slab is deduced from across-arc trace element variations in arc volcanic rocks, in particular the concentrations, element ratios, and isotopic compositions of fluid mobile elements (FMEs).

Most of these elements are abundant in the sediments and/or in the AOC, which makes them useful tracers for the dehydration of these lithologies [e.g., *Ryan et al.*, 1995; *Elliott*, 2003]. However, slab mantle dehydration is most difficult to detect in arc volcanic rocks by geochemical means because ultramafic rocks are typically poor in many fluid-mobile trace elements. Arsenic, antimony, chlorine, and boron (B) are among the few elements characteristic for serpentinites [*Scambelluri et al.*, 2001; *Savov et al.*, 2007; *Spivack and Edmond*, 1987; *Kodolányi et al.*, 2012] and geochemical trends of these elements as well as the isotopic composition of boron in arc lavas were interpreted to reflect serpentinite dehydration [e.g., *Tonarini et al.*, 2011]. However, geochemical models alone cannot discriminate between dehydration of serpentinites from suprasubduction zone (SSZ) mantle wedge and serpentinites from the subducted oceanic mantle. In order to make this important distinction, we use B and its isotopic composition as tracers for fluid flux and fluid-rock interaction during slab dehydration and fluid migration in a combined thermodynamic-geochemical model and compare the results to real data from the Kamchatka subduction zone.

Several unique properties of B make it particularly useful regarding the investigation of dehydration and fluid flow in subduction zones:

- 1. B is highly fluid-mobile [*Brenan et al.*, 1998] and its isotopic composition is influenced by temperaturedependent equilibrium fractionation between solid and fluid phases with a preferred incorporation of <sup>11</sup>B in the fluid phase [*Wunder et al.*, 2005].
- 2. B can be incorporated into the crystal structure of serpentine [e.g., *Pabst et al.*, 2011] resulting in high B concentrations (up to 100 μg/g) in serpentinites [*Boschi et al.*, 2008; *Vils et al.*, 2008], so that dehydration of hydrated mantle rocks produces B-rich fluids that potentially create characteristic B signals in arc volcanic rocks.
- 3. B concentrations in dry mantle rocks are extremely low (<1 μg/g), excluding significant modification of the slab signal during ascent across the mantle wedge [e.g., *Ryan and Langmuir*, 1993].

Consequently, arc lavas are generally rich in B and have a high  $\delta^{11}$ B, consistent with the influence of a B-rich, high- $\delta^{11}$ B fluid derived from the subducted slab [*Scambelluri and Tonarini*, 2012]. Across-arc trends with decreasing boron concentration and isotopically lighter compositions with increasing slab-surface depths are observed in many subduction zones [*Ishikawa and Nakamura*, 1994; *Ishikawa and Tera*, 1997; *Ishikawa et al.*, 2001; *Rosner et al.*, 2003]. This feature is interpreted to directly reflect increasing degrees of slab dehydration and decreasing slab-to-arc element transfer [*Morris et al.*, 1990; *Moran et al.*, 1992; *Bebout et al.*,



**Figure 2.** Correlation of Ba/Nb, Th/Nb, and Ba/Th with slab depth in the Kamchatkan arc. Ba/Nb and Ba/Th are constant or slightly decreasing with increasing slab depth in the EVF and strongly increasing in the CKD lavas. Th/Nb is (with one outlier) constant throughout both chains. Data are compiled from *Churikova et al.* [2001], *Portnyagin et al.* [2007], and *Duggen et al.* [2007].

1999; Marschall et al., 2007]. Several subduction zones, such as Kamchatka, show unusually high  $\delta^{11}$ B and B/Nb values or characteristic reversals in their trends [*Tonarini et al.*, 2011; *Ishikawa et al.*, 2001; *Moriguti et al.*, 2004], a feature that remains unexplained so far.

# 4.1. Chemical Composition of the Kamchatkan Lavas

Geochemical trends among the three different volcanic chains in Kamchatka generally fall into two groups. Proxies indicative for magmatic source components, such as high field strength element (HFSE) ratios and Nd-Hf isotopic compositions, generally show only minor variations [Dorendorf et al., 2000; Münker et al., 2004]. In contrast, geochemical tracers of fluid enrichment and fluid-rock interaction, such as large ion lithophile elements (LILE), B, Li, and the volatiles S, Cl, and F show positive anomalies in the CKD lavas, namely in those of the Kluchevskoy group (Figure 2).

The  $\delta^{11}$ B,  $\delta^{18}$ O, and Sr-Pb isotopic compositions clearly indicate the addition of large amounts of slab-derived fluids to the sources of the CKD lavas [e.g., Dorendorf et al., 2000; Ishikawa et al., 2001; Churikova et al., 2001, 2007]. Especially boron and boron isotopic compositions of the Kamchatkan arc lavas show a characteristic pattern. In addition to the typical trend of decreasing  $\delta^{11}$ B and B/Nb with increasing slab depth visible in the EVF, both parameters show a unique increase in the second volcanic chain (CKD) in Kamchatka

(Figure 1). The origin of the unusually high B/Nb and  $\delta^{11}$ B in the CKD has been attributed to large influxes of slab-derived fluid [*Ishikawa et al.*, 2001], hence making it a prime suspect for reflecting serpentinite dehydration.

Furthermore, U-series disequilibria [*Dosseto and Turner*, 2014] indicate that the CKD lavas also show unusually fast ascent rates in the order of 20 m/a. Hence, it is widely accepted that the Kamchatkan arc volcanic rocks, especially those from the CKD, evolved in a fluid-rich subduction zone regime and fluid-triggered mantle melting is the dominant magma forming process [e.g., *Churikova et al.*, 2007], although the source of the fluids involved in the melting processes has not been clarified so far.

# 5. Model Results

Important differences in the structural position of the three thermal profiles exist. The northernmost profile cuts across the EVF chain and the CKD where the Kluchevskoy group volcanoes are located. The central profile also includes both the EVF and the CKD, but volcanic activity in the CKD is absent in this section. The third profile is located at the southernmost tip of Kamchatka, just north of the northernmost Kurile islands where the CKD is absent and the EVF displays the only active volcanic chain on the Kamchatka peninsula. The three sections show clear thermal differences between the two northern profiles and the southern profile, the latter being significantly cooler than the former two. This difference is interpreted to be due to the thermal plate rejuvenation in the northern profiles caused by the interaction of the Pacific plate with the Hawaii-Emperor plume [*Manea and Manea*, 2007].

### 5.1. Simulated Slab Dehydration

A detailed inspection of the thermodynamic dehydration models assuming 2.5 wt % water in the uppermost 15 km if the slab mantle reveals that all three models yield similar patterns with respect to the dehydration of the slab crust and the overlying mantle wedge, but differ significantly in slab mantle dehydration (Figure 3).

#### 5.1.1. Fore-Arc Dehydration

In the fore arc from 60 to 100 km slab surface depth, brucite, antigorite, and to a lesser extent chlorite breakdown in the mantle wedge are the major water releasing reactions in all models. Amphibole, although stable in the wedge mantle, does not significantly contribute to the water budget in any of the three profiles. The modeled crustal dehydration is controlled predominantly by chlorite breakdown and is increasing to the highest values in the fore arc of all models.

#### 5.1.2. Subarc Dehydration (EVF and CKD)

In the subarc region underneath the EVF, water is delivered by continuous chlorite dehydration from the crust and, in case of the northern profile, by the chlorite-out reaction in the wedge mantle that causes a characteristic peak in this model at ~130 km slab surface depth. The lawsonite-out reaction starts at about 100 km depth and is dominating the water release from the subducted slab crust up to ~250 km slab surface depth. The overall dehydration pattern resulting from these reactions is characterized by a significant decrease between 90 and 110 km depth followed by a significant increase with a maximum at about 120 km slab depth and a more constant dehydration down to 250 km slab surface depth (Figure 3). The drastic increase in the water release beneath the EVF is caused by increasing chlorite dehydration in the crust and the SSZ mantle.

The most important result of our models, however, concerns the spike-like water release from the slab mantle by the antigorite breakdown reactions in the northern and central profile (arrows in the top plots in Figure 3). The antigorite-out reaction starts at the bottom of the hydrated slab mantle part (Figure 3, bottom plot). Here the liberated water migrates upward until it reaches a water-undersaturated part of the slab mantle, where it is resorbed and dragged down within the plate. This process is repeated until the thermal stability limit of antigorite in the slab mantle is reached. Here, the accumulated water is released, which causes very high fluid fluxes and a narrow spike-like peak in the water release in the northern profile at about 175 km depth. In contrast, water liberated at the topmost part of the hydrated slab mantle directly migrates upward into the slab crust, which can be seen in the central profile, where slab mantle dehydration causes a more gradual water liberated by antigorite breakdown causing a massive fluid flux into the overlying slab crust and wedge mantle. The position of this reaction coincides well with the location of the



**Figure 3.** Modeled dehydration in all three profiles in models with 2.5 wt % water in the topmost 15 km of the slab slab mantle. The top plot shows the water release at the top of the model color-coded for the source of the fluid. Light blue: wedge mantle, red: sediments and AOC, dark blue: slab mantle. High frequency variations are due to the incrementation of the model. The middle plot shows the DEM (ASTER) and the bottom plot illustrates the distribution of free water within the slab together with the dehydration reactions. In the northern and central profiles, slab mantle dehydration starts at the deepest hydrated part followed by dehydration in the topmost slab mantle. In the lower part, the liberated water is absorbed in the overlying water under-saturated part and released not before the tip of the atg-out reaction. In the southern profile low intraslab temperatures allow an entire water transfer into Phase A without water liberation. See text for further details.

second volcanic chain in the CKD in the northern profile and with the position of the CKD basin in the southern profile. Beyond the CKD, minor water release continues by lawsonite breakdown in the crustal part of the slab.

In contrast to the northern and central profiles, slab mantle dehydration as observed in the other two models is completely absent in the southern profile. Due to the lower slab temperatures water liberation due to antigorite breakdown is lacking and the entire water stored in the hydrous slab mantle is subducted beyond subarc depth.

#### 5.2. Boron modeling

Figure 4 shows the result of a mass-balanced boron distribution among the modeled stable phases in Figure 3, together with a temperature-dependent fluid/solid boron isotope fractionation. These models provide information about the B geochemical characteristics of the slab-derived fluid as it enters the melting region underneath the arc. Comparing the modeled values with observed data from arc lavas serves as an independent test for the quantitative validity of the thermodynamic model results.

The topmost plot in Figure 4 shows the boron concentration ( $\mu$ g/g) in the liberated fluid (green line) as well as the modeled boron flux (kg/m<sup>2</sup>/s) into the mantle wedge (red line). The drastic increase in boron release beneath the CKD is predominantly controlled by the fluid amount rather than by the concentration of B in the fluid. In the southern profile this B peak is missing as there is no slab mantle dehydration occurring. All models can reproduce the characteristic decreasing B concentrations (reflected in the decreasing B/Nb

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**Figure 4.** Release of boron and corresponding  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values in the models shown in Figure 3. (topmost plot) Relation between amount of water released at the top of the model, the B concentration therein and the amount of B released from the slab. The comparison shows that the B release is predominantly controlled by the fluid amount rather than by the B concentration in the fluid. (second plot)  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values in the released water. Extremely high  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values characterize water release into the fore arc in all models. Across the EVF,  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values systematically decrease, reflecting continuous dehydration. The increase in  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values at the CKD is coupled to serpentine dehydration in the slab mantle. Different  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  curves in the northern profile result from different water contents in the slab mantle. (third plot) DEM data. (bottommost plot)  $\delta^{11}B_{\text{fluid}}$  values released by serpentine breakdown in the slab mantle enriching the oceanic crust and the wedge mantle in <sup>11</sup>B.

ratios, where Nb represents a fluid-immobile reference element) in the lavas of the EVF and the northern profile model successfully reproduces the observed high values in the CKD volcances (cf. Figures 1 and 4).

The observed  $\delta^{11}$ B values in Kamchatka (second and bottommost plot in Figure 4) show a continuous linear decrease in the EVF as well as a distinct increase in the CKD volcanoes. Our models can reproduce both features. In all models, the dehydration of each lithology in the layered slab is associated with continuous dehydration-induced  $\delta^{11}$ B depletion in the residual rocks leading to a decreasing  $\delta^{11}$ B trend in the released fluids. First, dehydration of sediments and SSZ wedge serpentinites releases extremely heavy boron into the fore-arc region, a feature that is observed in many fore arcs. Subsequently, initial dehydration of the oceanic crust releases high- $\delta^{11}$ B fluids initiating a second trend of decreasing  $\delta^{11}$ B that is recorded in the EVF and in several other arcs globally. Finally, the high-B fluid released by antigorite breakdown in the slab mantle of the northern and central profiles directly transfers a high- $\delta^{11}$ B signature toward the surface due to the high water flux and the finite capability of the crust to incorporate B. It is notable that continuing dehydration of slab crust alone is not able to deliver any significant amounts of water or boron at depths greater than 150 km. This is due to the fact that phengite, the phase with the highest B concentration in

the oceanic crust, remains stable to beyond-arc depths. Moreover, any released crustal fluids are expected to carry a negative  $\delta^{11}$ B value due the loss of isotopically heavy B during early stages of subduction, inconsistent with the observed positive  $\delta^{11}$ B in the CKD volcanic rocks. Both, the modeled drastic water release from the slab together with the anomalously high [B] and  $\delta^{11}$ B values associated with slab mantle dehydration strengthen the hypothesis that the CKD volcanic activity is induced by devolatilization of the subducted oceanic mantle.

### 6. Water Subducted Beyond Arc

Figure 5 shows a summary of the modeled water contents of the slab and the water subducted beyond arc. The latter is displayed in vertical sections through the slab at maximum slab depth in the three models. In all models dehydration reactions ceased at the maximum model depth and the only stable hydrous phases in all slabs are phengite and phase A in the oceanic crust/sediments and mantle, respectively.

Three features are important to mention regarding the water content of the slab. First, in none of the models the SSZ mantle is able to bring water beyond the first volcanic chain, so ruling out its role in deep water recycling. Second, the sedimentary layer is capable of bringing 0.9 wt % water to depth greater than 250 km whereas the water content in the MORB layer is with 0.03 wt % negligible after lawsonite dehydration. In both lithologies phengite is the only hydrous mineral that is stable at depths greater than 250 km and the amount of water subducted to these depths is proportional to the potassium content of the oceanic crust and the sedimentary pile [cf. *Hacker*, 2008]. Despite its limited thickness of less than 1 km, however, the 0.9 wt % water in the sedimentary layer make up 75% of the deeply subducted water in the oceanic crust (excluding the slab mantle). Third, the amount of water subducted in the slab mantle part beyond the volcanic arc is controlled by the overlap of the stability fields of antigorite and phase A as well as by the amount of phase A stable in the slab mantle.

The bell-shaped curves in the right-hand diagrams show the maximum capacity of Phase A to bring water beyond the arc in the northern and central profiles. This value is already reached by the models assuming 2.5 wt % water in a 15 km thick mantle part. Additional water from the serpentinized slab mantle is released into the overlying mantle wedge. In contrast, in the colder southern profile dehydration reactions are lacking as all water in the slab mantle can be transferred into Phase A. A summary of the calculated beyond-arc water fluxes corresponding to the models in Figure 5 is given in Table 1.

It is evident that only in case of the northern profile, where a second volcanic chain is indicating slab mantle dehydration, constraints can be made on the beyond-arc water subduction. Fluid liberation from the slab mantle is here indicating that the water saturation in the deeper slab mantle (controlled by Phase A) has been overcome. In the northern profile the water saturation in the beyond-arc slab is controlled by the bell-shaped profile vertically across the stability field of Phase A (Figure 4), this curve can be used to calculate the minimum amount of water in the subducted slab necessary to saturate the slab beyond arc.

The relation between the beyond-arc water flux in the northern profile and the depth of initial hydration of the subducted slab mantle is shown in Figure 6. The sigmoidal curve is reflecting the bell-shaped water saturation profile in Figure 5. The bold numbers on that curve show the minimum initial water content of the slab mantle that is necessary to yield a fully hydrated beyond-arc slab mantle (controlled by the amount of Phase A). At this minimum water content, no slab mantle dehydration would occur and no second volcanic chain could develop, as the values represent the minimum amount of water necessary to fully hydrate Phase A. In the case of the northern and central profiles, however, slab mantle dehydration does occur and the  $\delta^{11}$ B signal in the arc lavas can be used to determine the actual extent of slab mantle dehydration as the  $\delta^{11}$ B signal is a function of the excess water released from the slab. The slab mantle water content necessary to reproduce the observed  $\delta^{11}$ B patterns in the CKD volcanic lavas is indicated by the numbers in italics on the gray curve. Our results show that the beyond-arc arc water flux in Kamchatka is between ~1.1  $\times 10^3$  and ~7.4  $\times 10^3$  Tg/Ma/km, equal to between 0.75 and 5.2  $\times 10^6$  Tg/Ma over the entire 700 km subduction zone length (Figure 6). The upper boundary of 0.75  $\times 10^6$  Tg/Ma is given by the constraint to reproduce the observed  $\delta^{11}$ B pattern, which is not possible at hydration depths smaller than 2.5 km.



**Figure 5.** Water content of the slab and subduction of water beyond subarc depth. The right column shows the water content of the slab assuming 2.5 wt % water in the slab mantle. The left column shows the water distribution in the slab along a vertical cross section at the largest slab depth. In all profiles wedge mantle and MORB do not contribute significant amounts of water beyond subarc depths. In contrast, phengite (in sediments) and phase A (in the slab mantle) remain as stable hydrous phases and are able to transport water into the deep mantle. In all profiles, beyond-arc water fluxes are constrained by the thermal stability of phase A, but in the northern and central profiles 2.5 wt % water within 15 km slab mantle are sufficient to saturate the beyond-arc slab mantle. See text for further discussion.

 Table 1. Calculated Beyond-Arc Water Fluxes From the Models Shown in Figure 5

 2.5 wt % water in topmost 15 km slab mantle

	Average Water Content in Hydrated Part Beyond Arc:	Deep Water Recycling Rate at 7.5 cm/a Convergence	
Profile A-A'	2.86 wt %	$7.5 imes10^3\mathrm{Tg/Ma/km}$	Figure 4b
Profile B-B'	2.53 wt %	$6.5 imes10^3$ Tg/Ma/km	Figure 4d
Profile C-C'	2.5 wt %	$9.5  imes 10^3$ Tg/Ma/km	Figure 4f
Kamchatka average	2.63 wt %	$7.8  imes 10^3$ Tg/Ma/km	
		Over 700 km:	
		$5.5 imes10^3$ Tg/Ma	

## 7. Discussion

### 7.1. Critical Parameters of Our Model

Due to the large number and complexity of the input parameters of our model a detailed examination of the critical parameters is necessary. Generally, as argued afore, we interpret that the complex across-arc B pattern observed in Kamchatka can excellently explained by a succession of slab crust and subsequent slab mantle dehydration. Consequently, it has to be questioned inasmuch a comparison of modeled and observed B patterns can be used to quantify the hydration state of the subducted slab mantle and the absolute amount of water subducted beyond arc in Kamchatka.

Critical parameters for the water cycling in subduction zones are the hydration intensity and the hydration depth of the subducting slab mantle [*Rüpke et al.*, 2006; *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011; this study]. Both of these input parameters influence the boron signal of the CKD arc volcanic rocks (Figure 6). Distinct



Figure 6. The sigmoidal curve shows the relationship between beyond-arc water flux, hydration depth, and initial water content of the slab mantle in the northernmost profile. The bold italic numbers show the minimum amount of water necessary to fully hydrate the slab mantle beyond arc (bell-shaped curve in Figure 5). The circles and italic numbers show the slab mantle water content of those model runs that reproduce the B pattern in the arc lavas.



Figure 7. Comparison of the results of this study with published datasets for beyond-arc water fluxes. Shown are the results from Hacker [2008] and van Keken et al. [2011], published on Kamchatka data as well as global estimates for beyond-arc water subduction.

model runs, which differ in initial water content and hydration depth of the slab mantle, can therefore reproduce the complex pattern observed in the CKD volcanic rocks.

Other critical parameters of our model and the effect of their variation on the results are shown in Figure 7. The parameters with the largest influence on the modeled  $\delta^{11}$ B values are the initial B concentration and  $\delta^{11}$ B of the MORB and the slab mantle as well as the B fluid-lawsonite distribution coefficient. In contrast, it is evident in Figure 7 that neither the B concentration nor  $\delta^{11}$ B in the SSZ mantle nor in the sediments influence the B pattern in the CKD lavas significantly. Interestingly, the concentration of B in the MORB layer has the largest effect on the  $\delta^{11}$ B in the CKD lavas, whereas initial  $\delta^{11}$ B in MORB is influencing the subarc (EVF)  $\delta^{11}$ B pattern. This result is reflecting the filter effect of the MORB layer. A B-poor MORB layer will have little effect on the B concentration and  $\delta^{11}$ B of fluids derived from the slab mantle. Thus, in case of a B-poor oceanic crust the  $\delta^{11}$ B signal from the slab mantle is directly transferred to the slab surface and the magma source region. A scenario, however, with a B-rich slab mantle and a B-poor slab crust, which could equally reproduce the observed  $\delta^{11}$ B pattern, is quite unlikely as B is transferred to both lithologies by the ocean water, more of which is certainly interacting with the crust than the mantle. It has to be noted, however, that the filter effect of the MORB crust is essential for determining the absolute  $\delta^{11}$ B values in the CKD volcanoes.

In general, the  $\delta^{11}$ B pattern in the EVF volcanoes can be used to constrain several of the critical parameters used for the interpretation of the B signal in the CKD lavas (Figure 6). Variations in the lawsonite-fluid distribution coefficient as well as the initial  $\delta^{11}$ B in the MORB crust yield distinct  $\delta^{11}$ B patterns in the EVF lavas, which can be used to constrain these values.

However, since the across-arc geochemical variations alone do not yield unambiguous information on the hydration state parameters, but only on their relations (Figure 6) seismic constraints on the hydration depth of the slab mantle prior to subduction, together with thermodynamic models as presented in this work, are required to fully quantify the water budget in subduction zones. To our knowledge, there are no data available that constrain the degree of hydration of the oceanic mantle east of the Kamchatka trench, but normal

faults, fault escarpments, and fracture zones have been identified by geophysical methods in the upper mantle of the adjacent Japan and Kurile trenches [*Garth and Rietbrock*, 2014; *Kobayashi et al.*, 1998]. All of these features facilitate hydration of the incoming oceanic mantle. Whether slab mantle dehydration is significant elsewhere has to be evaluated considering thermal and thermodynamic constraints for each subduction zone individually.

#### 7.2. Distinction Between Fluid Source Rocks

All subducted hydrated lithologies potentially contribute to the water budget in the subduction zone, but it is only the hydrated slab mantle that is able to transfer significant amounts of water into the deeper mantle in antigorite [e.g., *Ulmer and Trommsdorff*, 1995] and subsequently DHMS (Phase A). Hence, detection of slab mantle dehydration serves as an indicator for possible deep water recycling and according to our models the volcanic activity in the CKD, occurring up to 200 km above the subducted slab, is providing indirect evidence for slab mantle hydration in Kamchatka.

It is evident that both the EVF and the CKD are reflecting a strong contribution of slab-derived fluids to the zone of magma generation [e.g., *Dorendorf et al.*, 2000; *Churikova et al.*, 2001, 2007; *Portnyagin et al.*, 2005]. Based on trace element modeling, the fluid contribution to the melts seems to be highest (up to 2.1%) in the CKD volcances [*Churikova et al.*, 2001]. This interpretation is supported by the data shown in Figure 2: the Ba/Nb as well as the Ba/Th ratios show similar trends, i.e., a slight decrease with increasing slab depth in the EVF followed by a clear increase in the CKD volcances. In contrast the Th/Nb ratios, possibly indicative for hydrous melts derived from the downgoing slab [e.g., *Pearce et al.*, 2005] are largely constant in both volcanic chains. Hence, the majority of the geochemical data are in general agreement with a strong fluid contribution to the arc volcanic lavas in Kamchatka, but the source of these fluids remains to be clearly characterized.

*Churikova et al.* [2007] could show that the fluid sources for the EVF and CKD volcanoes are chemically distinct, the latter being characterized by elevated <sup>87</sup>Sr/<sup>86</sup>Sr ratios and high  $\delta^{18}$ O, whereas the EVF fluids are characterized by high LILE and LREE contents, but also high concentrations in F and chalcophile elements. Based on their observations they distinguish between serpentine + amphibole and lawsonite + phengite for the dehydrating mineral assemblages beneath the EVF and the CKD, respectively.

In contrast, our thermodynamic models suggest a strong contribution of chlorite dehydration in both, the SSZ mantle as well as the MORB crust, to the fluids causing the EVF volcanism (Figure 3). The high B content of the EVF lavas comes from the fluid-rock interaction and the resulting B enrichment in fluid during the fluid percolation through the oceanic crust and the sediment layer (Figure 4). The  $\delta^{11}$ B patterns in all three modeled profiles are also in agreement with that interpretation. Regarding the second fluid source, beneath the CKD volcanoes, our northern and central profiles clearly show that dehydration of sediments, hydrated crust, and SSZ wedge mantle, cannot deliver enough water to explain the high B/Nb or the high  $\delta^{11}$ B values in the CKD lavas (Figure 4). Phengitic white mica, known to be a significant carrier of B in sedimentary and igneous lithologies in subduction zones [Bebout et al., 2007; Konrad-Schmolke et al., 2011; Bebout et al., 2013; Halama et al., 2014], remains stable in the crustal parts of the slab and does therefore neither contribute to fluid release thereof nor to release of other FMEs preferentially incorporated into phengite. This is consistent with experimental constraints on the stability of phengite to depths exceeding 360 km [Domanik et al., 1996] and field-based evidence for the retention of FME in phengite-bearing HP rocks [Bebout et al., 2007, 2013]. Due to the comparatively small volume and the strongly negative  $\delta^{11}$ B values, neither the amount nor the isotopic composition of B (Figure 4) in the sediments beneath the CKD can account for the high B flux and the high  $\delta^{11}$ B in the CKD lavas.

Several studies have shown that the SSZ mantle wedge can be dragged down to subarc depths and contribute significantly to the melt production and trace element transfer in subduction zones [*Hattori and Guillot*, 2003; *Savov et al.*, 2007; *Tonarini et al.*, 2011]. In cases, where hydrated SSZ wedge material is dragged down to below the volcanic front, a heavy B isotope signature may be transferred into the arc front volcanic rocks, as proposed for the Izu arc [*Straub and Layne*, 2002] and the South Sandwich Island arc [*Tonarini et al.*, 2011]. All of our three models predict the release of isotopically heavy B into fore arc and subarc underneath the EVF due to dehydration of sediments and SSZ wedge serpentinite, which is consistent with observations from serpentinite seamounts [*Benton et al.*, 2001] and highlights the important role of wedge mantle dehydration for volcanism in other arcs [*Tonarini et al.*, 2011]. However, the thermal stability of chlorite in the Kamchatka mantle wedge limits the depth to which this reservoir is able to deliver water and trace elements into the magma source regions to about 130 km depth-to-slab. Hence, the thermal structures of the chosen profiles, which are constrained by independent observations [*Manea and Manea*, 2007], do not suggest that SSZ mantle wedge is dehydrating underneath the CKD. To explain volcanic activity in this second volcanic chain and elevated  $\delta^{11}$ B and high B contents in the CKD arc lavas, our models provide an alternative mechanism: the dehydration of slab serpentinite. B-rich fluids derived from slab mantle dehydration beneath the CKD volcanoes transport a high  $\delta^{11}$ B signal from the slab to the melt source region (Figures 3b and 3c), explaining the observed across-arc variations in B/Nb and  $\delta^{11}$ B. Moreover, the high K/ Nb, Rb/Nb, Ba/Nb, Pb/Nb, and Zr/Y ratios that characterize the CKD lavas [*Dorendorf et al.*, 2000] likely result from slab mantle fluid release as the more fluid-mobile species (K, Rb, Ba, and Pb) are scavenged via fluid percolation through the sediment layer. High  $\delta^{18}$ O values observed at Kluchevskoy volcano, previously attributed to dehydration of low-temperature AOC [*Dorendorf et al.*, 2000], can equally well be explained by slab mantle dehydration if low serpentinization temperatures and/or serpentinization at/near the seafloor are assumed.

Our argument of slab mantle dehydration is further supported by the observation of a double seismic zone in Kamchatka [*Gorbatov et al.*, 1997]. Such double seismic zones are commonly explained to result from dehydration reactions up to several tens of kilometers within the subducted plate [*Hacker et al.*, 2003]. In case of our models such dehydration reactions can be explained by slab mantle dehydration that starts at the base of serpentinite stability within the subducted slab (Figure 2). Dehydration and subsequent fluid migration within the slab mantle can likely be a source for the observed seismicity in the lower zone of the double seismic zone in the Kamchatkan slab.

#### 7.3. Slab Melting

Another critical aspect is the mass-balanced distribution of boron between liquid and solid phases. Slab surface temperatures in our model (650-750°C at 100-150 km slab depth) are hot enough to allow fluidinduced flux melting in the sediment layer to the rear of the EVF, as suggested for Kamchatka based on geochemical parameters [Duggen et al., 2007; Plank et al., 2009]. Such fluxed melting of the sediment layer could indeed be triggered by the dehydration of the underlying AOC or the serpentinized slab mantle and the relatively high Th/Nb in some of the EVF lavas (Figure 2) might be the result of flux-melting of the subducted sediments. However, our models do not consider melts due to the lack of reliable thermodynamic data, but instead assume that the slab-derived liquid is an aqueous fluid. Experimental data suggest that fluids leaving the slab are in a supercritical state and complete miscibility between solute-rich fluid and aqueous melts might exist [Hermann et al., 2006; Mibe et al., 2011]. We argue that a distinction between melt and fluid is of minor importance in our model, because the changes of B solid-liquid partition coefficients remain fairly constant over a wide temperature range (700–1200°C) and different liquid compositions [Kessel et al., 2005]. Moreover, we assume that all B released from the slab is incorporated into the melt phase in shallower regions of the mantle wedge where the B compositional and isotopic information is transferred into the source melts of the arc lavas. Melting of the igneous crust of the slab under water-saturated conditions, producing eclogite-derived melts, has also been proposed for the origin of the peculiar geochemical characteristics of the CKD volcanoes [Yogodzinski et al., 2001]. However, these melts are highly reactive with peridotite and efficient transport through the mantle wedge is unlikely [Portnyagin and Manea, 2008]. Instead, compositional trends within the CKD may be related to a decrease of magma generation temperature and length of mantle melting columns toward the slab edge [Portnyagin and Manea, 2008].

#### 7.4. Along-Arc Versus Across-Arc Variations

The geochemical data used here for comparative purposes were originally plotted versus increasing slab depth and interpreted in terms of across-arc variations [*Ishikawa et al.*, 2001]. However, the position of the volcances sampled forms a line that is oblique to the subduction direction, with depth-to-slab increasing from south to north. Hence, the comparison of the modeled geochemical variations, which are based on a thermal model aligned parallel with the convergence velocity, and the observed geochemical data is simplifying the geodynamic situation. Noting that other "across-arc" trends also include volcances covering along-arc variation of several tens to hundreds km, e.g., about 60 km in Japan [*Ishikawa and Nakamura*, 1994], about 300 km across the Andes [*Rosner et al.*, 2003] and nearly 1000 km at the Kurile trench [*Ishikawa*]

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**Figure 8.** Variation of the critical parameters. The diagrams show the effect of the variation of the most critical input parameters (B concentration, initial  $\delta^{11}$ B as well as the lawsonite-fluid distribution coefficient for B) on the resulting  $\delta^{11}$ B pattern. The green curves indicate the results shown in the paper, other curves are labeled for the parameter variations.

and Tera, 1997], we emphasize that deviations from a perfectly aligned across-arc profile are unavoidable for most natural data sets and do not challenge the principal findings of our model. It is notable that some of the geochemical parameters that support our interpretation, such as the data of *Churikova et al.* [2001], are indeed sampled along an across-arc profile largely perpendicular to the volcanic chains. Nevertheless, despite the wealth of data available for the Kamchatkan subduction zone today, none of the published geochemical datasets allows an unambiguous interpretation of the across-arc variations in Kamchatka. We further emphasize that there is an along-arc variation in the slab temperature pattern (Figure 1), which is why we used three different profiles for our thermodynamic models in order to account for this circumstance.

#### 7.5. Slab-to-Arc Transport of Geochemical Signals

The idea that chemical processes in the subducting slab are reflected in the chemistry of arc volcanic rocks is an important, but strongly debated assumption [e.g., Pearce and Peate, 1995; Marschall and Schumacher, 2012]. Based on the coincidence between modeled and observed across-arc geochemical signatures and the correlation between thermodynamically predicted positions of water release and the occurrences of volcanic centers in Kamchatka, we assume that there is a clear, fluid-mediated link between arc lava geochemistry and slab processes for the Kamchatka subduction zone. Our models are simplified with respect to a strictly vertical fluid migration and they do not account for melting processes and melt migration in the mantle wedge. It is obvious, however, that a major implication of our results is that the geochemical signature observable in the arc volcanic rocks in Kamchatka is generated in the subducting slab already. Neither the elevated B concentrations nor the high  $\delta^{11}$ B in the CKD lavas can be explained by melt processes in the mantle wedge or rising sediment diapirs [e.g., Gerya and Yuen, 2003] from the slab surface (Figure 4). It is therefore likely that the B signal is generated by dehydration and fluid-rock interaction in the slab and transferred (sub)vertically to the melt sources of the CKD volcanoes by a fluid phase. These findings are in agreement with previously postulated direct delivery of fluids to the melting region and the preservation of trace element characteristics from fluid source lithologies [Hebert et al., 2009]. Further, the rapid magma ascent underneath the Kamchatkan volcanoes indicated by U-series disequilibria [Dosseto and Turner, 2014], is also pointing toward a direct slab-to-arc transfer. Such a direct, almost vertical slab-to-arc transfer of geochemical signatures questions models that invoke other means of slab-to-arc transport [e.g., Gerya and Yuen, 2003; Behn et al., 2011; Marschall and Schumacher, 2012], at least in fluid-dominated subduction systems like Kamchatka.

#### 7.6. Comparison With Other Previous Estimates of Beyond-Arc Water Fluxes

A comparison of our model data with those of *Hacker* [2008] and *van Keken et al.* [2011]—the only two estimates for beyond-arc water flux in Kamchatka—shows that although they are lower in the initial water content of the oceanic mantle, their absolute values of water subducted beyond arc are higher than our estimates (Figure 8). This difference is likely reflecting different model approaches. Whereas both *Hacker* [2008] and *van Keken et al.* [2011] utilize one dimensional thermodynamic models we consider internal water redistribution within the different lithologies, which leads to an inhomogeneous water distribution in the slab mantle layer and different beyond-arc water fluxes. This effect seems to play a major role regarding the water budget in subduction zones. Furthermore, the thermal models used by *Hacker* [2008] as well as *van Keken et al.* [2011] do not consider the along-arc temperature variation in Kamchatka. Whereas *Hacker* [2008] utilizes a general approach for all considered subduction zones to model the pressure-temperature relations in the slab, the models of *van Keken et al.* [2011] consider only the relatively cold slab in southern Kamchatka [*Syracuse et al.*, 2010]. Both approaches obviously yield too high beyond-arc water fluxes for Kamchatka. Figure 8 also shows that the values yielded from our models are at the lower end of the range of previously published global average beyond-arc water fluxes and overlap only with the estimations of *Parai and Mukhupadhyay* [2012].

### 8. Concluding Remarks

In the last decade, the deep water recycling in subduction zones came into focus of several scientific investigations [*Rüpke et al.*, 2004; *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011; *Parai and Mukhopadhyay*, 2012]. All studies of subduction zone water cycling, including the one presented here, have concluded that hydrated oceanic mantle is the most effective lithology regarding deep water recycling [*Rüpke et al.*, 2004; *Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011]. Reliable quantification of the Earth's deep water cycle is therefore only possible with knowledge about the hydration state and the dehydration behavior during subduction of the subducted oceanic mantle. Regarding the hydration state of the oceanic mantle entering the subduction zones, so far only a few segments of the global subduction zones are investigated, but most of these studies show either strongly hydrated oceanic mantle or at least a deeply fractured oceanic lithosphere potentially allowing for strong hydration of the incoming oceanic plate [e.g., *Ranero et al.*, 2003]. These observations suggest that the incoming oceanic plate is hydrated to a much higher degree than previously thought.

Kamchatka is a unique example of a well-investigated subduction zone with plenty of published geophysical and geochemical data. The exceptional situation of three successive volcanic chains additionally allows studying of slab processes at different depths. In this contribution, we used modeled and observed data available for Kamchatka for an integrated thermodynamic-geochemical model in order to set constraints on possible deep water recycling in the oceanic mantle and its possible contribution to the global water cycle. Our results show that the subducting slab mantle beneath Kamchatka is hydrated and induces a specific  $\delta^{11}$ B signal in the arc volcanic rocks during dehydration. Our models indicate that slab mantle dehydration is incomplete and water retained in the slab can be recycled into the deeper mantle. The calculated beyond-arc arc water flux in Kamchatka is between  $1.1 \times 10^3$  and  $7.4 \times 10^3$  Tg/Ma/km, equal to between 0.75 and  $5.2 \times 10^6$  Tg/Ma over the entire 700 km subduction zone length. These values are significantly lower than previous estimates for the Kamchatkan subduction zone [*Hacker*, 2008; *van Keken et al.*, 2011] and are at the lower end of previously published global beyond-arc water fluxes.

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