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1 **MAGMA GENESIS BY RIFTING OF OCEANIC LITHOSPHERE**  
2 **ABOVE ANOMALOUS MANTLE: THE TERCEIRA RIFT,**  
3 **AZORES**

4

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19

20 **ABSTRACT**

21 The Terceira Rift formed relatively recently (~1 Ma ago) by rifting of the old oceanic lithosphere of  
22 the Azores Plateau and is currently spreading at a rate of 2-4mm/yr. Together with the Mid-Atlantic  
23 Ridge the Terceira Rift forms a triple junction that separates the Eurasian, African and American  
24 Plates. Four volcanic systems (São Miguel, João de Castro, Terceira, Graciosa), three of which are  
25 islands, are distinguished along the axis and are separated by deep avolcanic basins similar to other  
26 ultraslow spreading centres. The major element, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope geochemistry of  
27 submarine and subaerial lavas display large along-axis variations. Major and trace element modelling  
28 suggests melting in the garnet stability field at smaller degrees of partial melting at the easternmost  
29 volcanic system (São Miguel) compared to the central and western volcanoes, which appear to be  
30 characterised by slightly higher melting degrees in the spinel/garnet transition zone. The degrees of  
31 partial melting at the Terceira Rift are slightly lower than at other ultraslow Mid-Ocean Ridge  
32 spreading axes (Southwest Indian Ridge, Gakkel Ridge) and occur at greater depths as a result of the  
33 melting anomaly beneath the Azores. The combined interaction of a high obliquity, very slow  
34 spreading rates and a thick pre-existing lithosphere along the axis probably prevents the formation and  
35 eruption of larger amounts of melt along the Terceira Rift. However, the presence of ocean islands

36 requires a relatively stable melting anomaly over relatively long periods of time. The trace element  
37 and Sr-Nd-Pb isotopes display individual binary mixing arrays for each volcanic system and thus  
38 provide additional evidence for focused magmatism with no (or very limited) melt or source  
39 interaction between the volcanic systems. The westernmost mantle sources beneath Graciosa and the  
40 most radiogenic lavas from the neighbouring Mid-Atlantic Ridge suggest a mantle flow from Graciosa  
41 towards the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, and, hence a flux of mantle material from one spreading axis into the  
42 other. The Terceira Rift represents a unique oceanic rift system situated within the thickened,  
43 relatively old oceanic lithosphere and thus exhibits both oceanic and continental features.

## 44 **INTRODUCTION**

45 The Mid-Ocean Ridge (MOR) system represents the largest magmatic feature on Earth with a length  
46 of more than 60,000 kilometres. Early studies suggested that the Mid-Ocean Ridges were relatively  
47 uniform structures erupting basalts of homogeneous incompatible-element depleted tholeiitic  
48 composition [*Gast, 1968; Shaw, 1970*]. However, more detailed investigations revealed that both  
49 tectonic structures and composition of the rocks of the MOR system are highly variable [*Dupré and*  
50 *Allegre, 1983; Geshi et al., 2007; Kane and Hayes, 1994*]. One important factor that influences the  
51 ridge's structure is the spreading rate, which can vary from 160 mm/a (full spreading) at the East  
52 Pacific Rise to ultraslow spreading rates such as at the Southwest Indian Ridge (SWIR; 12-16 mm/a  
53 [*Dick et al., 2003*]) or the Arctic Gakkel Ridge (8-13 mm/a [*Cochran et al., 2003*]). Because the  
54 thermal structure and the magma budget of the MOR depends on the spreading rate, the degree and  
55 depth of partial melting, the MORB compositions are also affected which is generally reflected by  
56 variable major and trace element composition of the basalts [*Gast, 1968; Shaw, 1970*]. It has also been  
57 recognised that MORs are evolving, i.e. the spreading rate varies and ridge segments propagate or  
58 become extinct [*Kane and Hayes, 1994; MacDonald et al., 1991; Smith et al., 2001*]. Thus, it is  
59 expected that during the evolution of a spreading segment the composition of the magmas change as  
60 they are affected by variable mantle sources and spreading regimes. Here, we present geochemical  
61 data for a segment of the MOR, which developed from a transform fault into an obliquely ultraslow  
62 spreading rift separating old oceanic plateau lithosphere.

63 The unique setting of the Terceira Rift in the submarine Azores Plateau, with an ultraslow spreading  
64 axis above a melting anomaly, allows to address the following fundamental questions: are melting  
65 processes and mantle sources homogeneous in the presence of a melting anomaly and, if a  
66 heterogeneous mantle is present, are melting processes and mantle source distribution along ultraslow  
67 spreading ridges either controlled by rifting, by lithospheric thickness, by mantle temperature or by  
68 their composition? This study presents new major element, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope data  
69 from a suite of submarine and subaerial volcanic rocks along the ultraslow spreading Terceira Rift in  
70 the Azores. Large scale along-axis geochemical variations suggest deeper melting at the island of São

71 Miguel, farthest from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, but relatively small along-axis changes in degrees of  
72 partial melting. The occurrence of distinct, well defined mantle source compositions with very limited  
73 mixing between the magmatic segments implies that, despite the presence of a melting anomaly, the  
74 distribution of magmatic activity and mantle sources along axis is mainly controlled by the spreading  
75 movement. The occurrence of small scale heterogeneity also gives evidence that the chemical  
76 enrichment of the adjacent Mid-Atlantic Ridge may be the result of mixing between the enriched  
77 Graciosa mantle source and a depleted mantle, indicating a flux of mantle material from one spreading  
78 axis into the other.

## 79 **GEOLOGICAL SETTING**

80 The ultraslow (2-4 mm/a) and obliquely spreading Terceira Rift formed very recently [about 1 Ma  
81 ago, *Vogt and Jung*, 2004] probably from a transform fault and is rifting old oceanic lithosphere of the  
82 northern Azores Plateau (Fig. 1a). Together with the Gloria transform fault in the east, the Terceira  
83 Rift forms the plate boundary between the African and Eurasian Plates. Three (i.e. São Miguel,  
84 Terceira, Graciosa) of the nine volcanic islands of the Azores Archipelago and the submarine João de  
85 Castro seamount are situated along the Terceira Rift. Each volcanic centre is bordered by deep  
86 avolcanic basins (Fig. 1b). The volcanically active seamount João de Castro lies between the islands of  
87 Terceira and São Miguel and reached subaerial stages in 1638 and 1720 but was eroded soon after  
88 [*Nunes et al.*, 2003]. The Azores Plateau probably formed by a melting anomaly in the mantle either as  
89 a result of a small thermal plume head [*Cannat et al.*, 1999; *Schilling*, 1975; *White et al.*, 1979] or of  
90 anomalously volatile-enriched mantle, a “wetspot” [*Bonatti*, 1990; *Schilling et al.*, 1980]. Seismic  
91 tomography studies reveal the presence of mantle with anomalously slow seismic velocities beneath  
92 the Azores, but a connection to the lower mantle is disputed [*Courtillot et al.*, 2003; *King*, 2007;  
93 *Montelli et al.*, 2004; *Ritsema and Allen*, 2003]. In fact, the lack of a tail of the mantle anomaly has  
94 been interpreted to possibly show a dying plume with a short life time of less than 40 Ma [*Silveira et*  
95 *al.*, 2006]. Lavas from São Miguel and Terceira have relatively primitive He and Ne isotope  
96 compositions which indicate the presence of relatively un-degassed mantle material beneath the  
97 Azores [*Madureira et al.*, 2005]. It was suggested that mantle material from beneath Terceira is  
98 flowing into the MAR causing the geochemical anomaly at the spreading centre [*Moreira et al.*,  
99 1999b].

100 GPS and laser measurements show that the islands lie in an extensional regime [*Miranda et al.*, 1998].  
101 Based on relative plate motions using the NUVEL-1A model, *Vogt and Jung* [2004] determined  
102 spreading rates of 2-4 mm/a for the recent plate boundary between the Eurasian and African Plates.  
103 Such ultraslow extensional movements are comparable to those observed at continental rifts like, for  
104 example, the East African Rift [*Corti*, 2008; *Ebinger et al.*, 1993]. Extensional tectonics in the  
105 Terceira Rift are also revealed by magnetic anomalies [*Searle*, 1980], geometric modelling [*Krause*

106 *and Watkins, 1970*], and by extensional tectonic structures on some islands, e.g. at the western end of  
107 São Miguel [*Beier et al., 2006*]. The Terceira Rift and the MAR form the Ridge-Ridge-Ridge plate  
108 triple junction between the three bordering plates (Fig. 1). Although the precise location of this triple  
109 junction is not well defined, focal earthquake mechanisms infer the locus W of Faial and/or Graciosa  
110 [*Grimison and Chen, 1986; 1988; Udias et al., 1976*].

## 111 **METHODS**

### 112 *SAMPLING AND SAMPLE TREATMENT*

113 The submarine samples were obtained during two cruises with the German research vessel  
114 POSEIDON in 1997 (POS 232) and in 2002 (POS 286). The islands of São Miguel, Terceira and  
115 Graciosa were sampled during three field-trips between 2001 and 2003.

116 Most submarine samples dredged along the Terceira Rift are fresh and only few are slightly  
117 hydrothermally altered. Volcanic glasses were dredged west of São Miguel, at João de Castro and west  
118 of Graciosa. Representative samples have been studied petrographically. Wherever possible glass was  
119 separated, hand-picked, washed and used for the geochemical analyses. Fresh cores were cut from  
120 samples without glass, coarse crushed, washed thoroughly in deionised water, and then fine crushed in  
121 an agate ball mill.

122 Major element analyses on whole rocks were carried out on a Philips 1400 XRF spectrometer at the  
123 Institut für Geowissenschaften, Universität Kiel using fused glass beads. Results for all samples and  
124 international rock standards are presented in supplemental Table 1 and show that precision and  
125 accuracy are better than 0.8 % ( $2\sigma$ ) and 1 % ( $2\sigma$ ), respectively. The major element analyses of glasses  
126 were determined on a JEOL JXA8900 Superprobe electron microprobe at the Institut für  
127 Geowissenschaften, Universität Kiel.  $\text{SiO}_2$ ,  $\text{TiO}_2$ ,  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$ ,  $\text{FeO}^{\text{T}}$ ,  $\text{MnO}$ ,  $\text{MgO}$ ,  $\text{CaO}$ ,  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{P}_2\text{O}_5$ ,  
128  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  and, in some cases, also F, Cl and NiO were measured. The EMP operated with an accelerating  
129 voltage of 15 kV, a beam current of 12 nA and a defocused beam (12 $\mu\text{m}$ ). Counting times were set to  
130 20 and 10 seconds for peaks and backgrounds, respectively.

131 Trace element analyses were carried out using an Agilent 7500c/s Quadrupole Inductively Coupled  
132 Plasma Mass Spectrometer (ICP-MS) at the Institut für Geowissenschaften, Universität Kiel. The  
133 samples were prepared following procedures in *Garbe-Schönberg* [1993]. Trace element analyses of  
134 the samples along with international rock standards are reported in supplemental Table 1, and indicate  
135 a standard deviation of the precision and accuracy of <5% and <8% ( $2\sigma$ ), respectively, based on  
136 repeated standard measurements.

137 Sr-Nd-Pb isotope analyses were performed at the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie in Mainz (MPI) and  
138 at IFM-GEOMAR in Kiel. In both labs ~150-200 mg of sample grains were leached in hot 6N HCl for  
139 two hours, ultrasonicated 30 minutes and then dissolved using standard digestion procedure described  
140 by *Eisele et al.* [2002] and *Abouchami et al.* [2000a]. At the MPI Sr and Nd isotopes were measured  
141 on a Finnigan MAT 261 (TIMS) and a Nu Plasma (HR MC-ICP-MS), respectively, while at IFM-  
142 GEOMAR, Sr and Nd compositions were both measured on a TRITON TIMS. Sr and Nd isotope  
143 ratios on all instruments were obtained in static mode and mass bias corrected relative to  $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr}=$   
144  $0.1194$  and  $^{146}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}=0.7219$ . In Mainz, standard runs of NIST SRM-987 (formerly NBS 987) gave  
145  $0.710299 \pm 26$  (2SD,  $n=16$ ) while SRM 987 gave  $0.710273 \pm 5$  ( $n=8$ ) in Kiel. Sr isotope analyses were  
146 normalised to a common value of  $0.710250$  for NIST SRM-987. La Jolla Nd standard measured on the  
147 Nu Plasma HR MC-ICP-MS in Mainz yielded a value of  $0.511862 \pm 24$  ( $n=14$ ). The data obtained in  
148 Mainz were mass fractionation corrected using the generalised power law from the exponential law. In  
149 Kiel, the in-house Nd monitor SPEX yielded  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} = 0.511710 \pm 5$  ( $n=5$ ) corresponding to a La  
150 Jolla value of  $0.511845 \pm 6$  ( $n=161$ ). The Nd isotope ratios in Kiel were normalised to a common  
151 value of La Jolla  $0.511858$ . Procedural blanks in both laboratories were generally better than  $0.2$  ng  
152 and  $0.1$  ng for Sr and Nd, respectively.

153 High precision Pb isotope analyses were carried out at the Max-Planck-Institut für Chemie in Mainz,  
154 using the triple spike technique [*Galer and Abouchami, 1998; Galer, 1999*]. Samples were loaded onto  
155 Re filaments with a silica-gel  $\text{H}_3\text{PO}_4$  activator and unspiked and spiked sample aliquots were  
156 measured on a TRITON TIMS in static multicollection mode. The mass bias-correction estimated  
157 from the two runs follows the method outlined in *Galer* [1999]. Based on sample duplicate analyses,  
158 the external reproducibility is ~160 ppm for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ , and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . Standard runs of  
159 NBS981 ( $n=32$ ) gave average values of  $16.9434 \pm 25$ ,  $15.5010 \pm 24$ , and  $36.7304 \pm 63$  for  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  
160  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  respectively. A subset of Pb samples were analysed on a Finnigan MAT  
161 262 TIMS at IFM-GEOMAR using an external mass bias correction based on repeated NBS981  
162 measurements. The long-term reproducibility in this lab for NBS981 ( $n=189$ ) is  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 16.899$   
163  $\pm 7$ ,  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 15.437 \pm 9$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb} = 36.525 \pm 29$ . These values were normalized to the Mainz  
164 NBS981 triple spike values to obtain mass bias factors applied to the sample data. Although  
165 conventional Pb isotope data cannot resolve small scale variations, the large Pb isotopic variation in  
166 this particular sample set allows to merge both datasets. Representative major element, trace element,  
167 and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope data are given in Table 1. A comprehensive dataset is available in supplemental  
168 Table 1.

## 169 RESULTS

### 170 Major and trace elements

171 The Terceira Rift lavas are subdivided into four groups representing the volcanic centres of São  
172 Miguel, João de Castro (including lavas from the neighbouring Hirondele Basin, Fig. 1), Terceira and  
173 Graciosa and range from alkali basalts to trachytes on a Total Alkali versus Silica (TAS diagram; Fig.  
174 2). The two major islands of São Miguel and Terceira display different trends with the São Miguel  
175 lavas being more alkaline (Fig. 2), due to their slightly higher K<sub>2</sub>O-contents (see below). A few  
176 samples also plot in the basanite and phonotephrite fields. Most samples from the João de Castro  
177 seamount overlap the field of the São Miguel lavas whereas the Graciosa samples are relatively  
178 primitive (most have >6 wt.% MgO) overlapping the Terceira and São Miguel fields (see Fig. 3).  
179 Here, we will concentrate on the more primitive lavas with MgO contents higher than 5 wt.% in order  
180 to determine magma generation and source processes in the mantle.

181 The SiO<sub>2</sub> contents in the lavas from São Miguel, João de Castro, Terceira and Graciosa are relatively  
182 constant at 46±3 wt.% in the range between 15 and 5 wt.% MgO (Fig. 3a). The FeO<sup>T</sup>, Na<sub>2</sub>O, (Fig. 3c,  
183 f) and CaO (not shown) contents slightly increase with decreasing MgO in the primitive lavas from the  
184 four volcanic systems of the Terceira Rift and follow narrow trends (Fig. 3) which resemble the well-  
185 defined trend of lavas from Sete Cidades volcano on São Miguel [Beier *et al.*, 2006]. In terms of the  
186 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents we find that Graciosa has significantly higher concentrations compared to the other  
187 three volcanic systems which lie on one trend of increasing Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> with decreasing MgO (Fig. 3b). The  
188 most primitive lavas with MgO >8 wt.% also display differences in FeO<sup>T</sup>, with Graciosa, Terceira and  
189 João de Castro having slightly lower FeO<sup>T</sup> contents at a given MgO than São Miguel lavas. TiO<sub>2</sub>  
190 concentrations increase from 18 to about 5 wt.% MgO and are generally lower in basalts from  
191 Graciosa and Terceira compared to lavas from São Miguel and João de Castro. The most significant  
192 differences among the Terceira Rift lavas exist for K<sub>2</sub>O with the São Miguel and João de Castro lavas  
193 having higher K<sub>2</sub>O contents at a given MgO than lavas from the western two volcanic systems  
194 Terceira and Graciosa (>9 wt.% for Graciosa specifically, Fig. 3e). Similarly, the São Miguel and João  
195 de Castro samples are also more enriched in other highly incompatible elements like Rb, Ba and Ce.

196 The trace element patterns of the primitive lavas (MgO >5 wt.%) from the four volcanic systems of the  
197 Terceira Rift lavas are relatively similar with Th, U, K and Pb troughs and peaks in Rb, Ba, Nb, Ta  
198 and La. The most notable difference is that the São Miguel and João de Castro lavas have higher  
199 enrichments of the light REE relative to the heavy REE contents than lavas from the two western  
200 Terceira Rift volcanic systems (Figs. 4 and 5a). For example, the eastern two structures generally have  
201 (Ce/Yb)<sub>N</sub> ≥9 in contrast to the Terceira and Graciosa lavas which have (Ce/Yb)<sub>N</sub> ≤9 (see discussion  
202 below and Fig. 8). The samples from Terceira, Graciosa and João de Castro Seamount have relatively

203 narrow variations of  $(\text{Ce}/\text{Yb})_N$  of 6-9, 7-10 and 9-10, respectively, but the São Miguel lavas vary  
204 between 9 and 17, i.e. nearly by a factor of two. Although only three samples from João de Castro  
205 have  $>5$  wt.% MgO they resemble São Miguel lavas in terms of  $(\text{Ce}/\text{Yb})_N$  but have relatively low  
206  $(\text{Dy}/\text{Yb})_N$  similar to basalts from the western islands. In contrast, São Miguel basalts have the highest  
207  $(\text{Dy}/\text{Yb})_N$  but the Yb contents in the near-primary magmas are comparable in all lavas suites (1.5-1.7  
208 ppm). Graciosa and Terceira both generally exhibit peaks in Ti (with the exception of very few  
209 samples for Terceira which have a slight Ti trough). Lavas from the João de Castro seamount and  
210 many samples from São Miguel also have higher Rb/Nb ratios than the rocks from Graciosa and  
211 Terceira (Fig. 5). On the other hand, the variations in the Heavy Rare Earth Elements (HREE) and  
212 Nb/Zr are not as clear although primitive São Miguel lavas show higher  $(\text{Dy}, \text{Tb}/\text{Yb})_N$  ratios than the  
213 other lava groups (Fig. 5). Although they overlap, the Terceira lavas tend towards slightly lower Nb/Zr  
214 and Th/U (Fig. 5) than the lavas from São Miguel and João de Castro, implying different mantle  
215 source compositions along the Terceira Rift.

## 216 Radiogenic isotope compositions

217 The large variation of Sr, Nd and Pb isotope compositions in the lavas from São Miguel is long known  
218 and the origin of their distinct mantle sources has been discussed elsewhere [Beier *et al.*, 2007; Widom  
219 *et al.*, 1997] and thus will not be discussed in detail here. Lavas from the other three volcanic systems  
220 of the Terceira Rift show relatively constant Sr isotope ratios between 0.7033 and 0.7036 but highly  
221 variable and distinct  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  (Fig. 6a). Thus, the lowest  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  occur in rocks from João de  
222 Castro, slightly higher  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  ratios at Graciosa and the most radiogenic  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  in lavas  
223 from Terceira (Fig. 6a). Importantly, each volcanic system of the Terceira Rift forms a distinct trend in  
224 the Sr-Nd-Pb isotope space (Fig. 6). The São Miguel lavas show the largest Sr-Nd-Pb isotopic  
225 variations and resemble some Graciosa lavas at unradiogenic  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ . The Pb-Pb isotope systematics  
226 reveals complex variations for each volcanic system where they form distinct arrays with different  
227 slopes (Fig. 6d and e). São Miguel lavas show the largest Pb isotopic variations with  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$   
228 ranging from 19.3 to 20.2 that form steep, positive arrays towards high  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ . João de Castro and  
229 Terceira/Graciosa each have distinct Pb isotopic trends. Lavas from João de Castro have the lowest Pb  
230 isotope ratios of the Terceira Rift volcanoes and also the lowest  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  (Fig. 6f). The low  
231  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and Sr isotope compositions of lavas from João de Castro resemble North Atlantic MORB  
232 but have significantly lower  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ , and also lower  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  for a given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  than  
233 MORB. Graciosa lavas have slightly more radiogenic  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  ratios at a  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$   
234 range comparable to Terceira but converge at the highest  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  (Fig. 6d and e). On a  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$   
235 diagram all lavas of the Terceira Rift (except São Miguel) lie on a broad positive correlation (Fig. 6f),  
236 while São Miguel forms a well correlated array, orthogonal to the other Terceira Rift lavas.  
237 Importantly, the trends of the different volcanic systems of the Terceira Rift as well as the MAR  
238 converge at a composition with  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} \sim 0.7035$ ,  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd} \sim 0.5129$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of 19.5 which

239 has been associated with a mantle component termed FOZO [Hart *et al.*, 1992], recently re-defined by  
240 Stracke *et al.* [2005], or “C” [Hanan and Graham, 1996]. This composition is represented most clearly  
241 by some lavas from Graciosa and those from the western end of São Miguel, but appears to be  
242 inherent in all Terceira Rift magmas. This mantle source also affects the adjoining MAR from ~37° to  
243 40°N [Dosso *et al.*, 1999] leading to enriched incompatible element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope  
244 compositions in MORB from this region.

## 245 **DISCUSSION**

### 246 *MAGMA GENERATION ALONG THE TERCEIRA RIFT*

247 Because most of the lavas of the different Terceira Rift volcanoes lie on distinct narrow trends of  
248 major and trace elements vs. MgO contents (Figs. 2-5) we conclude that each suite of rocks represents  
249 a liquid line of descent. In general, these trends resemble those observed for the well-studied Sete  
250 Cidades volcano on São Miguel and thus we follow the arguments of Beier *et al.* [2006] suggesting  
251 that the Terceira Rift primary magmas may have about 12.5 wt.% MgO. Lavas with >12.5 wt.% MgO  
252 are considered to be the result of the accumulation of olivine and clinopyroxene, because many of  
253 these lavas contain olivine and clinopyroxene xenocrysts [see also discussion in Beier *et al.*, 2006]  
254 while lavas with <5 wt.% MgO do show evidence for the extensive crystallisation of plagioclase and  
255 Fe-Ti oxides similar to Sete Cidades volcano on São Miguel. Thus, for each volcanic system we  
256 determine an approximate primary magma composition from the major element trends in Figure 3 for  
257 all lavas with >5 wt.% MgO. We have estimated the primary magma composition to be in equilibrium  
258 with mantle olivine (Fo<sub>89</sub>), i.e. the primary magmas have Mg# ~72 [Niu and O'Hara, 2008; Roeder  
259 and Emslie, 1970]. In Table 2 the compositions of these estimated primary magma compositions for  
260 each volcanic system of the Terceira Rift are listed. These compositions are compared to primary  
261 magmas from other oceanic and intraplate and rift lavas and the degree and depth of partial melting  
262 can be modelled using both major elements and trace element ratios (Fig. 7). The major elements SiO<sub>2</sub>,  
263 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and FeO<sup>T</sup> can provide information about variations in melting depth using experimental data  
264 from dry peridotite [e.g. Hirose and Kushiro, 1998] and pyroxenite [e.g., Hirschmann *et al.*, 2003;  
265 Kogiso *et al.*, 1998]. The relatively high Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and low SiO<sub>2</sub> of the Graciosa magma suggests melting  
266 of peridotite at pressures of about 3 GPa (i.e. an average depth of ~90 km) and relatively low  
267 temperatures whereas Terceira magmas formed at higher degrees of melting and probably also higher  
268 temperatures but comparable pressure. Interestingly, the Graciosa magmas resemble primitive basalts  
269 from the Heimaey volcanoes [Mattsson and Oskarsson, 2005], i.e. a propagating rift into >3 Ma-old  
270 Icelandic crust and thus from a comparable young setting [see Mattsson and Hoskuldsson, 2003, and  
271 references therein].

272 The São Miguel primary magmas have lower Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and SiO<sub>2</sub> than the Terceira magmas which  
273 implies higher pressures of partial melting (Fig. 7). Lower concentrations of Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> in the São Miguel

274 basalts could also give evidence for the presence of increased amounts of residual garnet [Herzberg,  
275 1995; Herzberg and O'Hara, 1998]. The amount of garnet will either be controlled by a change of  
276 mantle lithology, e.g. the presence of garnet pyroxenite veins or by increasing depth of melting, and,  
277 hence, increased amounts of residual garnet. If the higher HREE ratios at São Miguel would be solely  
278 attributed to the presence of garnet pyroxenite veins [see discussion in Hirschmann and Stolper,  
279 1996], the Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents would be significantly increased, because a garnet peridotite lithology  
280 contains approximately 8 wt.% garnet [Salters and Longhi, 1999; Salters et al., 2002], whereas  
281 pyroxenite may contain up to 20 wt.% garnet [Hirschmann and Stolper, 1996]. Partial melting of  
282 garnet pyroxenite would thus lead to high Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contrary to the observed low concentrations of the  
283 Terceira Rift magmas (Fig. 7). We therefore conclude that the Graciosa, João de Castro and some of  
284 the Terceira magmas have formed at lower pressures possibly ranging into the spinel stability field  
285 whereas those from those from São Miguel were generated in the garnet stability field at pressures of  
286 ~4 GPa (120 km depth, Fig. 7). This is in agreement with thickening of the lithosphere towards the  
287 east, i.e. with increasing distance from the MAR. It also implies that the oceanic lithosphere is largely  
288 intact and that neither rifting nor re-heating by the Azores plume did thin it significantly. The ages of  
289 the oceanic crust beneath the Terceira Rift volcanoes ranges from about 10 Ma beneath Graciosa  
290 [Cannat et al., 1999] to about 45 Ma beneath São Miguel [Searle, 1980]. Consequently, the depth of  
291 the 1300°C isotherm for a normal oceanic spreading centre increases from 35 to 80 km, respectively  
292 which is in agreement with melting in the garnet stability field beneath the eastern volcanoes. In  
293 contrast, a significant part of the melting column beneath Graciosa and Terceira lies in the spinel  
294 stability field because the spinel-garnet transitions occurs between 70 to 80 km depending on the  
295 mantle lithology [Robinson and Wood, 1998]. The fact that the lithosphere of the Azores Plateau  
296 formed by increased amounts of partial melting due to the presence of a melting anomaly could have  
297 additionally thickened the lithosphere, however, the increasing lithospheric thickness from the MAR  
298 and the consistency between the estimated depth of the 1300°C isotherm and geochemical data  
299 suggests that the influence of the melting anomaly may indeed be small.

300 The degree of partial melting beneath the Terceira Rift can be estimated using TiO<sub>2</sub> rather than Na<sub>2</sub>O  
301 because experiments have shown that Na partitioning in clinopyroxene is pressure-dependent with D<sub>Na</sub>  
302 increasing with increasing pressure [Blundy et al., 1995]. In contrast, Ti is not affected by variable  
303 pressures. On the basis of variable TiO<sub>2</sub> in the Azores magmas it has been argued that São Miguel  
304 basalts formed by lower degrees of melting than magmas from the western volcanoes like those from  
305 Pico Island [Prytulak and Elliott, 2007]. Indeed, we find a variation of TiO<sub>2</sub> contents with the São  
306 Miguel and João de Castro primary magmas having high TiO<sub>2</sub> of about 2.7 compared to about 2.1 in  
307 the Graciosa and Terceira magmas, respectively (Fig. 8a). On the other hand, the estimated primary  
308 magmas from both eastern and western volcanoes have comparable Na<sub>2</sub>O between 2.1 and 2.6 wt.%.  
309 A slightly lower degree of partial melting beneath São Miguel and João de Castro seamount is  
310 supported by their higher enrichment of light and middle REE relative to Yb (Figs. 4 and 8).

311 Alternatively, the relatively enriched Ti contents of the São Miguel and Graciosa lavas at similar Na  
312 contents as the remaining Terceira Rift lavas could be due to an increased Ti concentration in the  
313 mantle source relative to Na. If an increased Ti content in the mantle source would be responsible for  
314 this signature, Ti has to be enriched by a factor of  $\sim 1.5$  relative to the Na concentration to produce the  
315 observed trend assuming the same modal composition for all Terceira Rift mantle sources. An  
316 enrichment of Ti has also been proposed by Prytulak and Elliott [2007] who argue for the presence of  
317 an enriched component from recycled oceanic crust in peridotitic mantle. We agree that a possible  
318 mechanism to explain the combined higher Ti at slightly lower Na contents of the São Miguel and  
319 possibly also Graciosa lavas may likely be the presence of an alkaline component, e.g. recycled,  
320 subducted oceanic crust which will have a higher Ti but less increased Na contents. In Beier et al.  
321 [2007] we have argued for the presence of recycled oceanic crust in the São Miguel lavas. Whereas  
322 recycled oceanic crust will be mainly of pyroxenitic and/or eclogitic composition [see *Stracke et al.*,  
323 1999 and references therein], most major elements and REE will be largely unaffected by changes in  
324 mantle lithology, i.e. the changes observed in Ti are too large to be solely explained by varying  
325 amounts of pyroxenite beneath the Terceira Rift. However, to ensure the best possible fit we have  
326 modelled the trace element and REE systematics (see below) considering the presence of pyroxenite.

327 Modelling the Na and Ti contents and REE contents of the Terceira Rift lavas (Fig. 8a) using the  
328 batch-melting equation [*Shaw*, 1970] shows that the Ti-Na compositional variability of the axis lavas  
329 may indeed best be explained by mixing small amounts ( $\sim 10$ -20%) of an alkali basaltic component  
330 mixed with a depleted upper mantle leaving the REE concentrations relatively unaffected (Fig. 8b & c,  
331 Table 3). The presence of an alkaline component, i.e. an enriched, recycled oceanic crust, in the São  
332 Miguel mantle sources has been previously suggested based on quantitative trace element and Sr-Nd-  
333 Pb-Hf isotope modelling [*Beier et al.*, 2007; *Elliott et al.*, 2007].

334 Estimates on the degree of partial melting using REE modelling are generally similar to those derived  
335 from the Ti-Na systematics (Fig. 8a). The Ce/Yb versus Ce systematics are positively correlated in the  
336 Terceira Rift samples indicating a slightly increasing degree of partial melting from São Miguel  
337 (lowest) over Graciosa (intermediate) to highest degrees of partial melting beneath Terceira with the  
338 lowest Ce/Yb ratio (Fig. 8b) as already inferred from the variations in La/Sm ratios (Fig. 5). Because  
339 the MREE and HREE are most sensitive to varying amounts of garnet, we will also use the even more  
340 incompatible trace elements to confirm the observations made by the La/Sm ratios. Our model  
341 suggests that the elevated Dy/Yb of the São Miguel and some Terceira lavas formed by partial melting  
342 under the influence of higher amounts of garnet ( $\sim 15\%$ ) whereas the lower Dy/Yb of the western  
343 islands of Graciosa, some lavas from Terceira and lavas from João de Castro (Fig. 8c) formed by  
344 melting of mantle containing  $\sim 10\%$  residual garnet and 5% spinel, i.e. at the transition from garnet to  
345 spinel stability field. It has to be noted though that the lavas from Terceira are being considered to  
346 have both low and high Dy/Yb ratios (Fig. 8c). To account for the possible presence of pyroxenite in

347 the Azores mantle sources we assume equal amounts of pyroxenite and peridotite (see figure caption  
348 of Figure 8 for details) to ensure the best possible fit. While the REE ratios (Fig. 8b and c) and the  
349 presence of recycled oceanic crust imply that pyroxenitic veins may be present beneath the Azores, the  
350  $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3$  contents at given  $\text{SiO}_2$  contents (Fig. 7) are too low to be solely explained by pyroxenite  
351 melting. The discrepancy between major and trace elements may possibly be best explained by re-  
352 equilibration of the melts with the surrounding mantle leaving the trace elements relatively unaffected  
353 while the major elements are re-equilibrated. If the modal source compositions are largely similar then  
354 the magmas from São Miguel and João de Castro have formed by slightly smaller degrees of partial  
355 melting (1-2%) than the melts beneath the western Terceira Rift ranging from 2 to 4% (inferred from  
356 the REE ratios in Figs. 8b and c).

357 We conclude that the magmas generated beneath Graciosa, Terceira and João de Castro have been  
358 generated in the garnet/spinel transition zone in contrast to the magmas beneath São Miguel which  
359 formed in the garnet stability field, only. The degrees of partial melting along the axis indicate that, in  
360 general, the eastern volcanoes (São Miguel particularly) have slightly lower degrees of partial melting  
361 than the western islands (Terceira and Graciosa), however, these changes are small. Along the oblique  
362 spreading segments of the SWIR decreasing degrees of partial melting have been associated with an  
363 increasing lithospheric thickness [Standish *et al.*, 2008].

364 The increasing depth of partial melting towards São Miguel is consistent with an increasing  
365 lithospheric thickness with distance from the MAR [e.g., Cazenave, 1984]. The age of the lithosphere  
366 in the vicinity of the Princesa Alice bank has been estimated to be 10 Ma [Cannat *et al.*, 1999]  
367 whereas the lithosphere south of the island of Terceira may be 36 Ma old and the junction between the  
368 Terceira Rift and the lateral Gloria fault east of the Azores plateau has been estimated to be 53 Ma  
369 [Searle, 1980]. Based on these ages the thickness of the oceanic lithosphere can be calculated yielding  
370 thicknesses of 36, 68 and >81 km, respectively [Stein and Stein, 1992]. However, the formation of  
371 alkali basaltic melts beneath the Terceira Rift implies relatively higher pressures of melting than on  
372 other ultraslow spreading axes where tholeiitic basalts form by low degree melting at shallow depth  
373 such as the SWIR (N-MORB to E-MORB ~7-14% degree of partial melting depending on mantle  
374 lithology, [Standish *et al.*, 2008]) or the Arctic Gakkel Ridge [~5%, Hellebrand and Snow, 2003].  
375 Higher pressures of melting at the Terceira Rift compared to the other ultraslow spreading axes are a  
376 result of young (<6 Ma) rifting of lithosphere formed at the MAR. This lithosphere is probably still  
377 largely intact and not yet thinned by the very slow extension (~4 km/Ma). Airy compensation models  
378 suggest that the lithosphere beneath the Azores is indeed thickened rather than thinned by mantle  
379 melting [Grevemeyer, 1999]. Thus, although the mantle beneath the Azores may be either relatively  
380 hot and/or volatile-rich material and begins to melt at great depth, the lithospheric lid above the  
381 melting zone prevents increased degrees of partial melting.

## 382 MANTLE SOURCES AND MIXING ALONG THE TERCEIRA RIFT

383 The linear Pb isotope arrays of Graciosa, João de Castro and Terceira either reflect true isochrons or  
384 binary mixing lines (Fig. 6d and e). The isotopic array of São Miguel has been modelled to represent a  
385 mixing array [Beier *et al.*, 2007]. The results from reduced chi-squared regression lines of the triple  
386 spike data indicate a slope of  $0.087 \pm 0.005$  for the João de Castro lavas which is comparable to the  
387 slope at Terceira ( $0.084 \pm 0.004$ ) in the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  space (Fig. 6d). If these slopes  
388 represent isochrons the corresponding ages would be  $1.37 \pm 0.12$  and  $1.31 \pm 0.09$  Ga, respectively. A  
389 calculated regression line from Graciosa gives a slope of  $0.009 \pm 0.006$ , representing a zero-age  
390 isochron slope giving evidence that the Graciosa samples most likely represent binary mixing rather  
391 than an isochron. If the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ - $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  regression lines of João de Castro and Terceira are  
392 mantle isochrons this should be also the case for the linear arrays in the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  versus  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$   
393 space. Hence, the inferred source  $\kappa$  ( $^{232}\text{Th}/^{238}\text{U}$ ) values from the measured Th and U ( $\kappa_{\text{TE}}$ )  
394 concentrations and from the  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{206}\text{Pb}$  ratios ( $\kappa_{\text{ISO}}$ ) should be correlated, i.e. the  $\kappa_{\text{TE}}$  should be equal  
395 or higher than the  $\kappa_{\text{ISO}}$  if due to melting [Beattie, 1993]. In contrast to the prediction the  $\kappa_{\text{TE}}$  values of  
396 João de Castro and Terceira are considerably lower than the  $\kappa_{\text{ISO}}$  which is inconsistent with the  
397 expected Th/U fractionation during melting [Abouchami *et al.*, 2000a]. Therefore, we suggest that the  
398 linear arrays in the  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ - $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ - $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  isotope systems do not represent  
399 mantle isochrons as a result of mantle melting but more likely reflect mixing lines between two  
400 distinct mantle sources on each array.

401 Two different magma groups along the Terceira Rift can be distinguished based on their  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$  contents  
402 with Terceira and Graciosa lavas having lower  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$  than those from São Miguel and João de Castro at  
403 a given MgO content (Fig. 3). These two groups can be also distinguished in terms of Nb/Zr and Th/U  
404 (Fig. 5) suggesting that the eastern volcanoes of the Terceira Rift have more enriched mantle sources  
405 than the western volcanoes. A broad negative correlation between the  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  isotope ratios and  
406 the K concentrations (and ratios such as K/Ti, K/U) confirms that these variations are mainly the result  
407 of mantle source signatures. However, each single mixing array (Graciosa, São Miguel, João de Castro  
408 and Terceira) in the Pb-Pb isotope spaces gives evidence for two component mixing between discrete  
409 mantle end-members (dashed circles in Figs. 6d and e). All mixing arrays, except João de Castro  
410 appear to converge to a common Azores composition that is reflected by the unradiogenic Graciosa  
411 samples. The source of the João de Castro seamount lavas mixes with a relatively unradiogenic mantle  
412 source different from basalts from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge as indicated by their lower  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  at a  
413 given  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and less radiogenic  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  (Fig. 6d-f). At Graciosa and Terceira the common  
414 end-member is characterised by radiogenic Pb isotope ratios and high Nd isotope ratios, in that sense  
415 comparable to the HIMU ocean island lavas (high  $\mu$  = high  $^{238}\text{U}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ) such as St. Helena [e.g., Zindler  
416 and Hart, 1986]. The linear array at Graciosa covers a comparable  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  range as the Terceira

417 lavas but the shallower Graciosa array results from slightly more radiogenic  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$   
418 ratios which is also reflected in higher  $^{208}\text{Pb}^*/^{206}\text{Pb}^*$  ratios at Graciosa than at Terceira (Fig. 6b). The  
419 radiogenic Pb end-member compositions of Terceira and Graciosa suggest interaction between the two  
420 systems but their relatively unradiogenic Pb end-member compositions indicate that the two  
421 unradiogenic mantle sources are slightly distinct, i.e. the common source of the Terceira Rift lavas  
422 shows some variation.

423 The isotope ratios of Sr and Nd are broadly correlated with the La/Sm, Rb/Nb, Ba/Rb, Th/Nb and  
424 Th/U ratios (not shown), i.e. generally the lavas with the highest  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  from Terceira also have  
425 the highest Sm/Nd but lavas from São Miguel have both, variable Sm/Nd and  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  suggesting  
426 that partial melting processes probably affected the Sm/Nd ratio. Although the linear arrays of the  
427 Graciosa, Terceira and western São Miguel samples meet at similar ratios in the isotope spaces, the  
428 combined trace element (K, Th/U, Ba/Nb, Nb/Zr) and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope systematics (Fig. 9) show that  
429 each volcano along the axis contains its own isolated mantle source implying significant heterogeneity  
430 in the mantle beneath the Azores on a scale of about 100 km. The limited mixing between different  
431 sources has also been observed on a much smaller scale of about 20 km between the western and  
432 eastern volcanoes at São Miguel [Beier *et al.*, 2007; Haase and Beier, 2003].

433 Our new data reveal that, rather than the three end-members in the Azores lavas suggested by previous  
434 authors [e.g., *Moreira et al.*, 1999b], at least four end-members are required to explain the isotopic  
435 variation of the Terceira Rift lavas. The three end-members were previously believed to be MORB, a  
436 plume component represented by Terceira lavas, and an enriched mantle component represented by  
437 lavas from eastern São Miguel [e.g. *Beier et al.*, 2007; *Elliott et al.*, 2007]. The isotopic variation  
438 observed in each volcanic system indicates that at least two sources are present beneath each structure.  
439 Some of the lavas from Graciosa with  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$  of  $\sim 0.7035$ ,  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  of  $\sim 0.5129$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  of  
440  $\sim 19.4$  to  $19.6$  appear to represent a possible end member common in all other volcanic systems as well  
441 as MORB and thus could be an average “Azores plume component”. Interestingly, this source also  
442 resembles the composition suggested for the FOZO or “C” component which is believed to be  
443 abundant in the mantle [*Hanan and Graham*, 1996; *Hart et al.*, 1992; *Stracke et al.*, 2005]. While the  
444 origin of this common component in the Azores is beyond the scope of this work, the data clearly  
445 require the Azores mantle anomaly to be heterogeneous on a scale of tens of kilometres similar to  
446 findings in mantle plumes like Hawaii [*Abouchami et al.*, 2000b]. The low degrees of partial melting  
447 ( $<5\%$ ) of the Terceira Rift magmas may be responsible for the preferred sampling of small  
448 heterogeneities as a result of the increased viscosity of low degree melts at relatively lower  
449 temperatures compared to higher degree melts at higher temperatures [*Bourdon et al.*, 2006; *Scarfe*  
450 *and Cronin*, 1986].

451

## 452 *INFLUENCE OF THE TERCEIRA RIFT MANTLE ON MID-ATLANTIC RIDGE*

### 453 *BASALTS*

454 The existence of a geochemical anomaly in the lavas erupting at the Mid-Atlantic Ridge close to the  
455 Azores is long known [e.g. *Bougault and Treuil*, 1980; *Schilling*, 1975; *White et al.*, 1975; *White et al.*,  
456 1976] and has been attributed to the influx of enriched and hot mantle that originates from a deep  
457 mantle plume beneath the Azores. Relatively primitive He isotope ratios ( $^4\text{He}/^3\text{He} \sim 64,000$ ) from  
458 Terceira and the adjacent MAR have been interpreted to result of plume-ridge interactions between the  
459 plume centre located beneath Terceira and the MAR [*Moreira et al.*, 1999a]. However, we have  
460 shown that the lavas from Terceira and Graciosa resemble each other in  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  compositions but  
461 significant differences exist in  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ,  $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  and  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  ratios (Fig. 6). Thus, the  
462 Terceira lavas have too high  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ , and too low  $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  to represent the mixing end member  
463 for Mid-Ocean Ridge Basalts (MORB) from the adjacent MAR (Fig. 6d-f) and rather, the material  
464 influencing the spreading axis has a composition comparable to the Graciosa mantle source. In fact,  
465 despite slight offsets, the unradiogenic Graciosa lavas lie closest to the point of convergence of the  
466 trends of all Terceira Rift and MAR lavas suggesting that they could possibly represent a common  
467 mantle end member inherent in all Terceira Rift magmas as well as MORB close to the Azores. The  
468  $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$  and  $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$  similarities between the MAR and Graciosa suggest mixing of the  
469 Graciosa mantle source into the MAR mantle, and thus indicates a mantle flux from Graciosa towards  
470 the MAR. This seems also evident from the bathymetry in Figure 1, i.e. there is no bathymetrical  
471 evidence for active volcanism between the dredged seamount west of Graciosa and the MAR. If the  
472 melts are focused along the Terceira Rift (see discussion below) then they will likely be also focused  
473 into the MAR and/or towards Graciosa, respectively. As no He isotope measurements are known from  
474 Graciosa and the origin of the primitive He isotopic composition are still a matter of debate, we  
475 suggest that the enriched MAR signature is a result of mantle flux from Graciosa to the MAR. We  
476 speculate that Graciosa's lavas with the lowest Pb isotope ratios will also have the most primitive He  
477 isotope ratios, however this has to be tested.

478  
479 Because Graciosa is the island closest to the MAR its influence on the spreading axis is not surprising.  
480 However, we note that no plume centre can be defined in the Azores because five of the islands east of  
481 the MAR have erupted in historical times (São Miguel, Terceira, Graciosa, Faial, Pico) and with one  
482 exception all islands (Santa Maria) east but also west of the MAR are very young (2-0.1 Ma) [*Abdel*  
483 *Monem et al.*, 1975; *Calvert et al.*, 2006; *Féraud et al.*, 1980; *Féraud et al.*, 1981; *Johnson et al.*,  
484 1998; *Madeira et al.*, 1995; *McKee and Moore*, 1992; *Snyder et al.*, 2007], implying that there is no  
485 age progression. Because the young volcanism along the Terceira Rift is a result of extension it  
486 appears possible that the centre of an actively ascending deep mantle plume lies beneath Graciosa-São  
487 Jorge-Faial-Pico, the islands closest to the MAR which could also explain the volcanism of the latter

488 two islands. However, such a model cannot explain why two very young volcanic islands Corvo and  
489 Flores formed west of the MAR because the relatively deep and thin crust of the MAR implies that  
490 there is most likely no plume rising beneath the MAR [Cannat *et al.*, 1999]. Some tomographic  
491 models suggest that there is no connection of the Azores mantle anomaly into the deep mantle  
492 [Courtillot *et al.*, 2003; Ritsema and Allen, 2003] and thus this material may represent old material  
493 from a plume head arriving beneath the lithosphere some 10 to 5 Ma ago but which is no longer active,  
494 hence there is no evidence for an ascending tail of a mantle plume [Ritsema and Allen, 2003; Silveira  
495 *et al.*, 2006]. In this case the fossil plume head material may flow into the MAR spreading axis and the  
496 Terceira Rift because it is less viscous and less dense than the upper mantle material and because of  
497 the suction of the diverging plates. The presence of 5-10 Ma-old mantle plume head material beneath  
498 the whole Azores Platform and west of the MAR may also explain the young volcanism of the two  
499 islands west of the MAR by passive melting of enriched material within the mantle anomaly.

500

## 501 *COMPARISON TO ULTRASLOW RIDGES AND CONTINENTAL RIFTS*

502 The Terceira Rift is characterised by an avolcanic-volcanic segmentation pattern (Fig. 1b) that has  
503 been also observed along the oceanic Southwest Indian (SWIR [Sauter *et al.*, 2004a]) and Arctic  
504 Gakkel Ridges [Michael *et al.*, 2003] and the continental Ethiopian rift [Corti, 2008]. These ridges are  
505 defined by large magmatic segments with a thicker lithosphere bordered by deeper avolcanic basins  
506 with a relatively thin lithosphere. The avolcanic segments at the SWIR are also characterised by either  
507 the presence of sediments or peridotitic rocks, a feature that we can only suspect in the Azores. The  
508 magmatic segments of the oceanic ridges typically consist of large volcanic structures, which, in the  
509 case of the Terceira Rift, form islands. As Vogt and Jung [2004] pointed out, the extreme topographic  
510 variation at the Terceira Rift is most likely the result of the presence of anomalous mantle beneath the  
511 Azores which led to the formation of a shallow oceanic plateau which is then divided by the Terceira  
512 Rift. A comparable segmentation pattern is also observed along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge from 25°N to  
513 48°N [Magde and Sparks, 1997], where neither temperature differences nor viscosity changes have  
514 been found to affect the segmentation pattern. Instead, the ultraslow spreading may lead to an  
515 increased cooling beneath the avolcanic, hence cooler sections, forcing melts to laterally move along  
516 ridge, which produces the observed segmentation pattern [Magde and Sparks, 1997].

517

518 The degree of partial melting beneath the Terceira Rift is comparable or lower than at other ultraslow  
519 ridges but melting occurs much deeper, producing alkaline magmas in the Azores in contrast to mostly  
520 tholeiitic basalts at the Gakkel Ridge and the SWIR [e.g., Michael *et al.*, 2003; Standish *et al.*, 2008].  
521 The process of conductive cooling becomes important at ultraslow spreading rates (<20 mm/a) leading  
522 to a decrease of melting at shallow depth and lower degrees of partial melting [Reid and Jackson,

523 1981]. As pointed out above, the smaller degrees of partial melting at the Terceira Rift are probably a  
524 result of the thicker surrounding lithosphere and the relatively recent transition from a transform fault  
525 to spreading (<6 Ma from  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$  age determinations) which lead to a thick lithospheric lid and deep  
526 melting. In contrast, spreading has been established for a long time at the Gakkel Ridge and SWIR  
527 leading to a thin lithosphere and shallow melting. The obliquity of ultraslow spreading rifts also has an  
528 important impact onto melting processes; i.e. an increasing obliquity leads to decreasing effective  
529 spreading rates, lower upwelling velocities and smaller melt fractions [Okino *et al.*, 2002; Standish *et*  
530 *al.*, 2008]. The spreading rate along the Terceira Rift increases from the east (3.7 mm/a) to the western  
531 edge (4.5 mm/a) and obliquity decreases from São Miguel (61°) to Graciosa (40° [Vogt and Jung,  
532 2004]). We suggest that the smaller degrees of partial melting at the Terceira Rift compared to other  
533 ultraslow spreading rifts are a result of a combination of a thicker, relatively older lithosphere with a  
534 very slow spreading rate and a higher obliquity. The formation of islands along the axis, despite the  
535 smaller degrees of partial melting, results from the large relief amplitude of 2-4 km [Vogt and Jung,  
536 2004] on a shallow plateau and is most likely the result of the presence of enriched and possibly hot  
537 mantle plume material beneath the rifted Azores Plateau. This material generates larger volumes of  
538 melts over longer time periods than the depleted mantle present beneath other ultraslow spreading  
539 axes. The distinct variations of melting degrees between the Terceira Rift volcanoes give either  
540 evidence for a limited melt production beneath the bathymetric basins or highly focused magmatism  
541 along-axis like it has been proposed for the SWIR [Sauter *et al.*, 2004b; Standish *et al.*, 2008] and the  
542 Ethiopian rift [Corti, 2008]. The occurrence of focused melts may also lead to increased melt volumes  
543 in the volcanic segments comparable to the oblique segment of the SWIR [Standish *et al.*, 2008]. As a  
544 result of the Oceanic Plateau situated in the vicinity of the spreading axis the Terceira Rift may indeed  
545 share many similarities with continental rifts (e.g. East African Rift system) such as low degrees of  
546 partial melting, oblique rifting and segmentation patterns.

547 The presence of well defined, distinct mantle sources beneath each island/seamount inferred from  
548 trace elements and Nd and Pb isotopes suggests that focused magmatism occurs along the Terceira  
549 Rift as has been proposed from geophysical observations along the SWIR and Ethiopian rift. The  
550 focusing most likely occurs in distinct mantle diapirs which underlie each volcanic system but lack  
551 beneath the avolcanic basins. Within the diapirs the melts are focussed to the surface and may mix  
552 within each diapir but not among different diapiric structures [Crane, 1985; Okino *et al.*, 2002]. The  
553 diapiric melts that have lower densities and viscosities than the surrounding mantle move towards  
554 regularly-spaced established gravitational instabilities of the partially molten mantle by porous flow  
555 avoiding mixing between the segments [Lin *et al.*, 1990; Schouten *et al.*, 1985; Whitehead *et al.*,  
556 1984]. The initial establishment of gravitational melt instabilities is mainly controlled by the  
557 continuity and thickness of the underlying melt layer [Crane, 1985; Michael *et al.*, 2003], whereas the  
558 spacing of magmatic centres is mainly controlled by the effective spreading rate [Schouten *et al.*,  
559 1985]. Slower spreading rates are correlated to smaller distances between the magmatic segments

560 consistent with the relatively small scale segmentation pattern (10-30 km) observed along the Terceira  
561 Rift and other slow spreading rifts (e.g., Gakkel Ridge, SWIR) compared to faster spreading ridges  
562 such as the MAR (50-80 km). The segmentation pattern along the Terceira Rift is also comparable to  
563 propagating rifts such as the southern Iceland rift [Tentler, 2005] or continental rifts such as the East  
564 African Rift system [Wright *et al.*, 2006]. While a magmatic origin of the segmentation pattern  
565 beneath continental rifts is a matter of active debate (i.e. solely tectonic influences vs. magma  
566 intrusions [Corti, 2008 2347; Wright *et al.*, 2006]) the occurrence of segmentation patterns in oceanic  
567 rifts will most likely be controlled by the availability of melts [Tentler, 2005]. For the specific case of  
568 Iceland, the obliquity and segmentation pattern are likely to be controlled by the emplacement of  
569 dykes.

570 Summarising, the Terceira Rift represents an ultraslow spreading rift which consists of both  
571 continental (e.g. spreading rate, lithospheric thickness) and oceanic features (e.g. melt availability,  
572 segmentation pattern/focused magmatism). The Terceira Rift thus represents the first known ultraslow  
573 spreading rift within old (>10 Ma) oceanic lithosphere. It differs from other oceanic rifts mainly as a  
574 result of the lithospheric age and the presence of a melting anomaly and thus is a unique example of  
575 oceanic rifting. Based on the occurrence of both continental and oceanic features, one could speculate  
576 that the Terceira Rift may represent the earliest stages of a rift system and may later develop into an  
577 oceanic spreading centre.

578

## 579 CONCLUSIONS

580 We conclude that the melting depth along the Terceira Rift does not vary systematically beneath  
581 Graciosa, Terceira and João de Castro, where melts are generated in the spinel/garnet transition zone  
582 (Fig. 10). However, deeper melting in the garnet stability field is observed at São Miguel, the island  
583 most distant from the MAR and possibly with the thickest lithosphere. The degrees of partial melting  
584 are smaller at São Miguel and João de Castro compared to the other volcanic systems along the axis.  
585 Compared to other very slow spreading axes the generally low degrees of partial melting at the  
586 Terceira Rift probably result from a combination of a thick lithospheric lid and a relatively young (<1  
587 Ma) and ultraslow spreading movement combined with a high obliquity (40° to 61°). Although the  
588 Terceira Rift has lower degrees of partial melting compared to the SWIR or Gakkel Ridge, the  
589 presence of an anomalous upper mantle generates enough melts over relatively long time periods to  
590 enable subaerial volcanism. The incompatible trace element ratios (e.g. Th/U, Nb/Zr) and combined  
591 Sr-Nd-Pb isotopes suggest that every volcanic system along the Terceira Rift is situated on a single  
592 binary mixing trend without evidence of mixing in between. The limited mixing is attributed to the  
593 presence of geochemical boundaries and the occurrence of focused magma transport in separate  
594 mantle diapirs as has been also observed on other ultraslow spreading rifts. The avolcanic–volcanic  
595 segmentation pattern along the Terceira Rift is comparable to the structures observed along the SWIR.

596 This implies that these segmentation patterns are characteristic features of ultraslow spreading rifts  
597 with spreading rates <14 mm/a. The Sr, Nd, and Pb isotope composition of Graciosa lavas and their  
598 relation to the isotope trend in MORB from the adjacent MAR suggest a mantle flux from Graciosa  
599 towards the MAR causing the observed enriched MORB compositions along the MAR.

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## 609 **SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**

610 A supplemental, comprehensive dataset for this article can be found on the G<sup>3</sup>-website.

611

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## Figure Captions

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- Fig. 1. a) Bathymetric chart of the northern Azores platform and the Terceira Rift according to *Smith and Sandwell* [1997]. Orange dashed circle marks the assumed position of the plate triple junction and the dotted line is the estimated general trend of the Terceira Rift. Subaerial samples were taken on each of the three islands (for detailed sample locations see supplemental Table 1 and for São Miguel samples see *Beier et al.* [2006] and *Beier et al.* [2007]). Inset shows the major tectonic features in the Azores; the East Azores Fracture Zone (EAFZ) is the seismically inactive former plate boundary between the Eurasian and African Plates. The recent plate boundary is thought to be in the vicinity of the Terceira Rift. b) Depth profile along the Terceira Rift showing a segmentation pattern as also observed on other slow spreading ridges, such as the Arctic Gakkel Ridge [*Michael et al.*, 2003].
- Fig. 2. Total alkalis ( $\text{Na}_2\text{O}+\text{K}_2\text{O}$ ) versus  $\text{SiO}_2$  on a volatile-free basis according to *Le Maitre* [1989]. The separation line between alkaline (AB) and tholeiitic compositions was taken from *Macdonald* [1968]. The fields of São Miguel and Terceira include subaerial and submarine samples. Major element data from São Miguel are from *Beier et al.* [2006]. Based on the bathymetry and geochemistry samples have been subdivided into four groups due to clarity: lavas from/around São Miguel, from/around Terceira, from/around Graciosa and from the João de Castro seamount (including lavas from the neighbouring Hironnelle Basin that are chemically comparable).
- Fig. 3. Major element data versus MgO of the Terceira Rift samples. Fields show respective trends of the São Miguel and Terceira data. The most notable differences are observed in the  $\text{FeO}^T$  and  $\text{K}_2\text{O}$  contents (Fig. 3 c & e). Major element data from São Miguel are from *Beier et al.* [2006].
- Fig. 4. Primitive mantle [*McDonough and Sun*, 1995] normalised trace element pattern of the Terceira Rift lavas. a) shows the islands of São Miguel and Terceira, b) shows samples from João de Castro and Graciosa.
- Fig. 5. Trace element (a) La/Sm (chondrite normalised), (b) Rb/Nb and (c) Dy/Yb (chondrite normalised) ratios versus wt. % MgO of the Terceira Rift lavas, and (d) Nb/Zr versus Th/U ratios of the Terceira Rift lavas. Samples from Terceira and São Miguel are shown as fields to clarify the most notable differences among the Terceira Rift lavas. Chondrite composition from *McDonough and Sun* [1995].
- Fig. 6. Isotope systematics of the Terceira Rift lavas. MAR indicates samples from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge from *Dosso et al.* [1999]. Lines indicate linear arrays of São Miguel, Terceira, Graciosa and João de Castro, respectively. Pb triple spike analyses are marked with a white circle inside. The dashed circles represent possible mantle source end members for each mixing array. Arrow marks the trend towards the eastern São Miguel lavas discussed in *Beier et al.* [2007]

1072 Fig. 7. Estimated primitive Al and Si compositions (see Table 2) from São Miguel, João de Castro,  
1073 Terceira and Graciosa. Lavas from Heimaey, Reunion and Hawaii are shown for comparison  
1074 [Clague *et al.*, 1991; Eggins, 1992; Mattsson and Oskarsson, 2005; Sobolev and Nikogosian,  
1075 1994]. Experimental data (peridotite) are from Baker and Stolper [1994], Hirose and Kushiro  
1076 [1993], Jaques and Green [1980], Kushiro [1996], Takahashi [1986], Takahashi and Kushiro  
1077 [1983] and Walter [1998]. Pyroxenitic melt experiments are from Hirschmann *et al.* [2003]  
1078 and Kogiso *et al.* [1998].

1079 Fig. 8. (a) Fractionation-corrected (12 wt.% MgO)  $Ti_{12}$  versus  $Na_{12}$  concentrations. The negative  
1080 correlation of the Terceira Rift samples can best be explained by mixing an alkaline mantle  
1081 source (e.g. an alkali basalt similar to sample SM18-8-97-5 from Beier *et al.* [2006]) and a  
1082 depleted mantle source (Table 3, residual pyrolite source after 10% degree of partial melting).  
1083 Degrees of partial melting correspond to the melting degrees inferred from the trace element  
1084 ratios. (b & c) Primitive mantle normalised trace element ratios of (b)  $(Ce/Y_b)_N$  versus  $(C_e)_N$   
1085 and (c) Primitive mantle normalised  $(Dy/Y_b)_N$ . Tick marks of melting curves represent 0.5%,  
1086 1%, 2%, 3%, 5%, and 6% batch partial melting [Beier *et al.*, 2007] of a an enriched mantle  
1087 source with a trace element composition similar to those implied for the source of the western  
1088 São Miguel lavas (Table 3).

1089 Fig. 9. Mantle source systematics along the Terceira Rift showing variations in (a) fractionation-  
1090 corrected (10 wt. % MgO) K-contents, Sm/Nd, Ba/Nb and Th/U ratios versus Nd isotope  
1091 ratios (a & c) and  $^{208}Pb^*/^{206}Pb^*$  (b & d) ratios. São Miguel and Terceira are shown as fields for  
1092 clarity.

1093 Fig. 10. Sketch illustrating the processes dominating the Terceira Rift evolution. The melting regions  
1094 of Graciosa, João de Castro and Terceira are situated within the spinel/garnet transition zone.  
1095 The São Miguel melts are generated within the garnet stability field. The mixing relationships  
1096 described in the main text suggest only very limited mixing between each islands source. The  
1097 occurrence a of a typical amagmatic – magmatic segmentation pattern has its origin in focused  
1098 magmatism comparable to the SWIR. The isotope systematics suggest a mantle flux from  
1099 Graciosa towards the adjoining MAR. Not to scale.

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## 1100 **TABLE CAPTIONS**

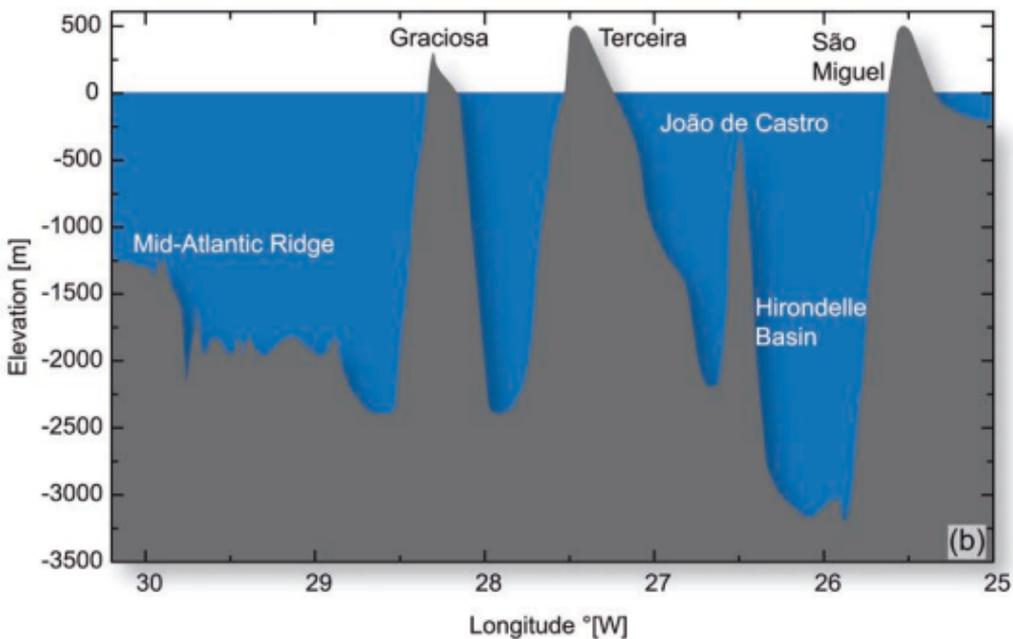
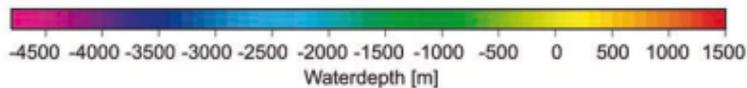
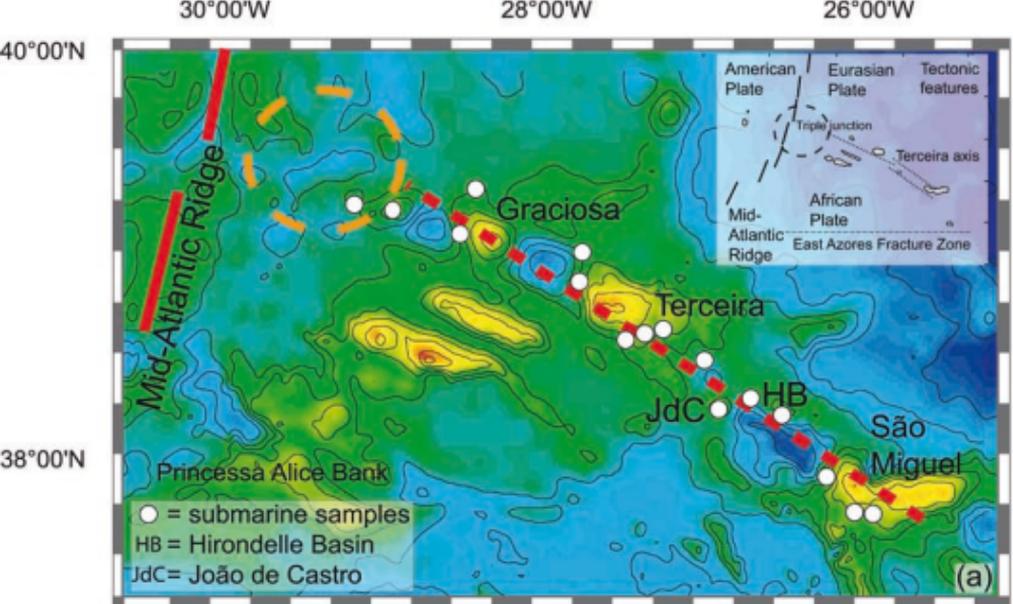
1101 Tab. 1. Selected major element, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope data of whole rocks and glasses  
1102 from the Terceira Rift. Major element, trace element and isotopic data from São Miguel are  
1103 presented in *Beier et al.* [2006]. The whole-rock (WR) major element data were determined by  
1104 XRF and the trace element data were determined by ICP-MS. Melting depth were calculated using  
1105 fractionation corrected SiO<sub>2</sub> contents and the equation of *Haase* [1996]. The <sup>232</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U ratios have  
1106 been calculated from the trace element concentrations.

1107 Tab. 2. Estimated primitive magma compositions from João de Castro, Graciosa and Terceira  
1108 calculated from the major element trends in Fig. 3. Primary melt for São Miguel is sample  
1109 SM0140 from *Beier et al.* [2006]. Only lavas with MgO >5wt.% have been taken into  
1110 consideration to avoid extended crystal fractionation. Primary melts have been estimated to have  
1111 Mg# of 72 in equilibrium with Fo89 [*Roeder and Emslie*, 1970].

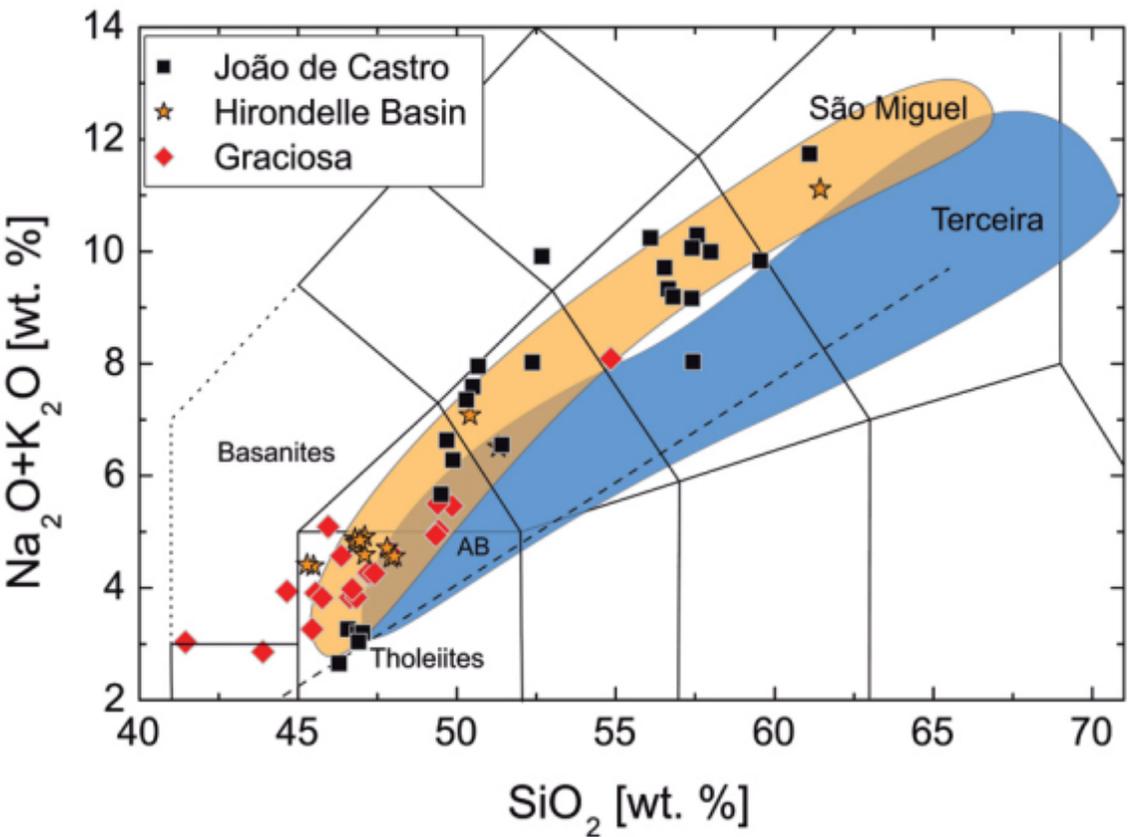
1112 Tab. 3. Melting conditions for Figure 8. Note that Ce, Yb and Dy have been normalised in Figure 8.  
1113 Pyrolite composition from *McDonough and Sun* [1995]. Residual calculated for 10% degree of  
1114 partial melting of pyrolite. Enriched source composition for Ce, Yb and Dy from western São  
1115 Miguel [*Beier et al.*, 2007]. Representative enriched alkaline component is sample SM18-8-97-5  
1116 from *Beier et al.* [2006]. Partition coefficients for Ti were calculated by *McKenzie and O’Nions*  
1117 [1991] after analyses from *Irving*[1978], *Harte et al.* [1987], *Stolz and Davies* [1988] and *Galer*  
1118 *and O’Nions* [1989]. Na partition coefficients are from *Leeman and Scheidegger* [1977] for  
1119 olivine, from *Blundy et al.* [1995] for Cpx, from *Onuma et al.* [1968] for Opx, and from *Putirka*  
1120 [1998] for Grt. The partition coefficients for Ce, Yb and Dy are taken from *McKay* [1986] for  
1121 olivine, *Kelemen et al.* [1993] and *Dick and Kelemen* [1990] for orthopyroxene, *Hart and Dunn*  
1122 [1993] for clinopyroxene and *Stosch* [1982] for spinel. The garnet partition coefficients are from  
1123 *Johnson* [1994]. Primitive upper mantle from *McDonough and Sun* [1995].

## 1124 **SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL**

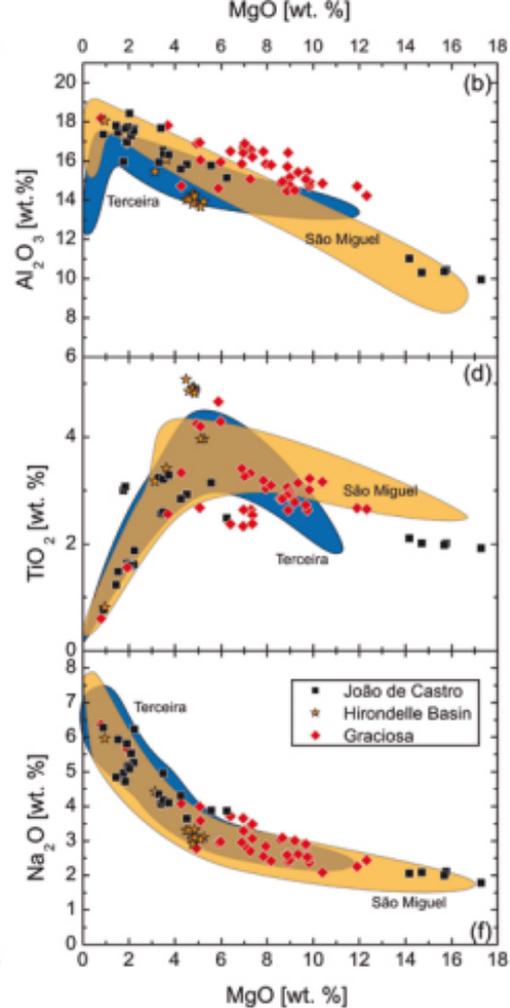
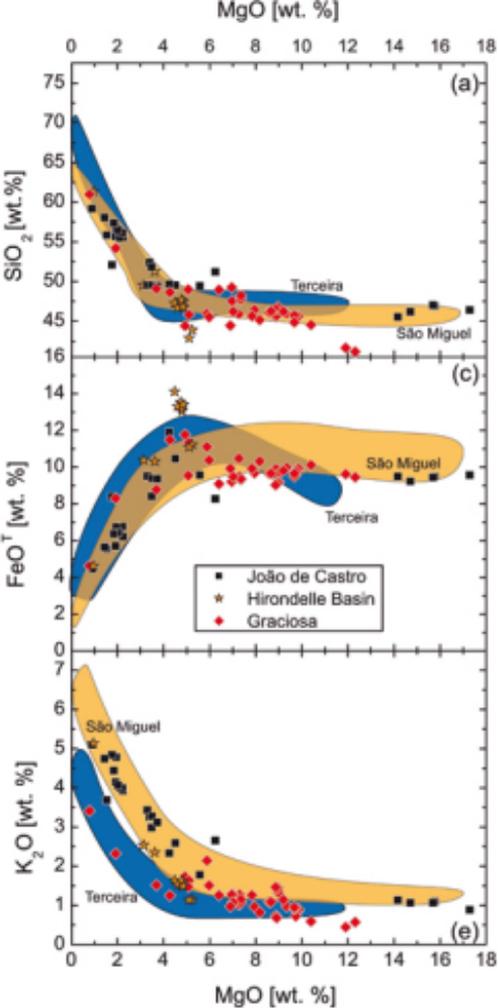
1125 Supplemental Tab. 1. Comprehensive major element, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb dataset of whole  
1126 rocks and glasses from the Terceira Rift. Major element, trace element and isotopic data from São  
1127 Miguel are presented in *Beier et al.* [2006]. The whole-rock (WR) major element data were  
1128 determined by XRF and the trace element data were determined by ICP-MS. Major element data  
1129 from glasses were determined by electron microprobe (EPMA). Melting depth were calculated  
1130 using fractionation corrected SiO<sub>2</sub> contents and the equation of *Haase* [1996]. The <sup>232</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U  
1131 ratios have been calculated from the trace element concentrations.

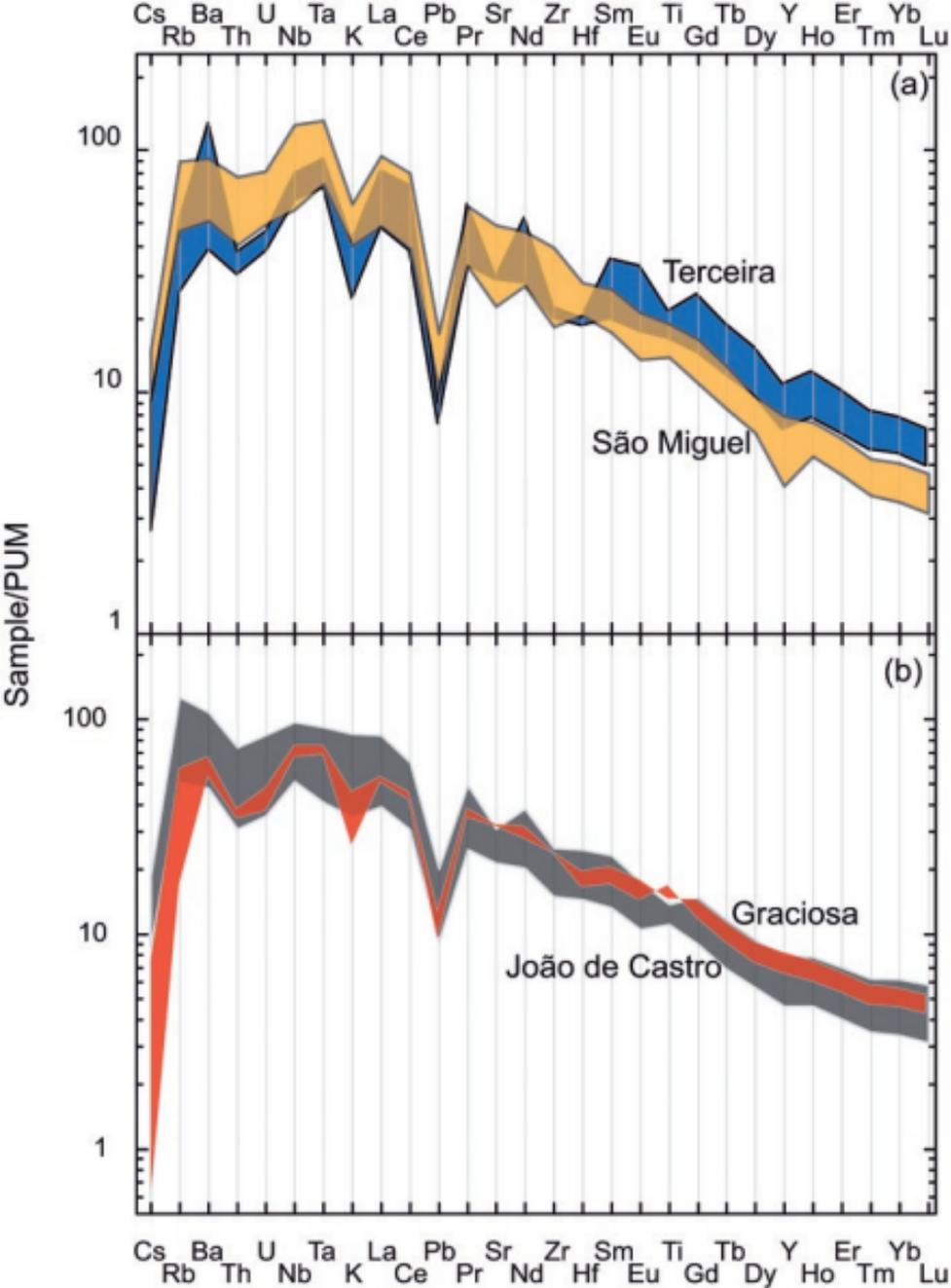


Beier et al., Figure 1

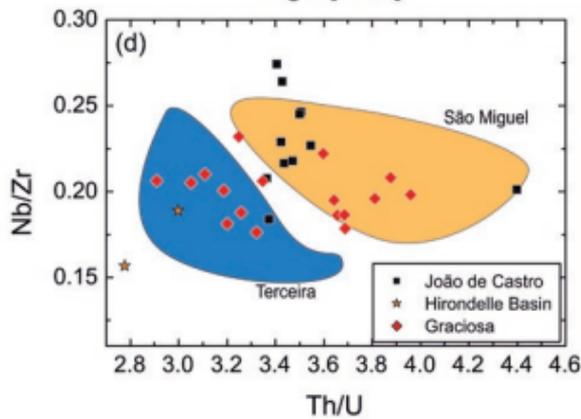
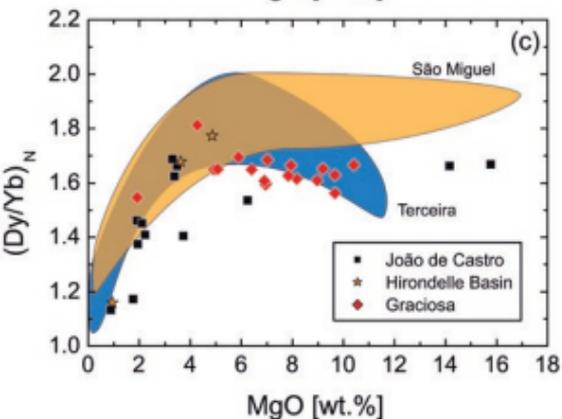
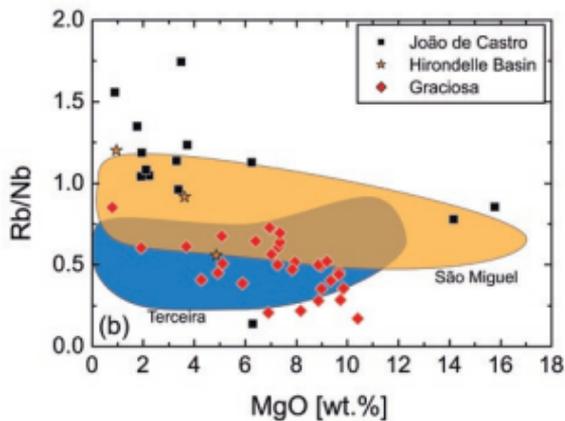
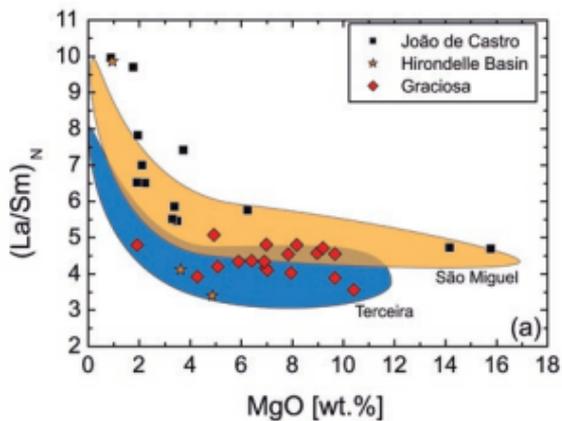


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 Figure 2

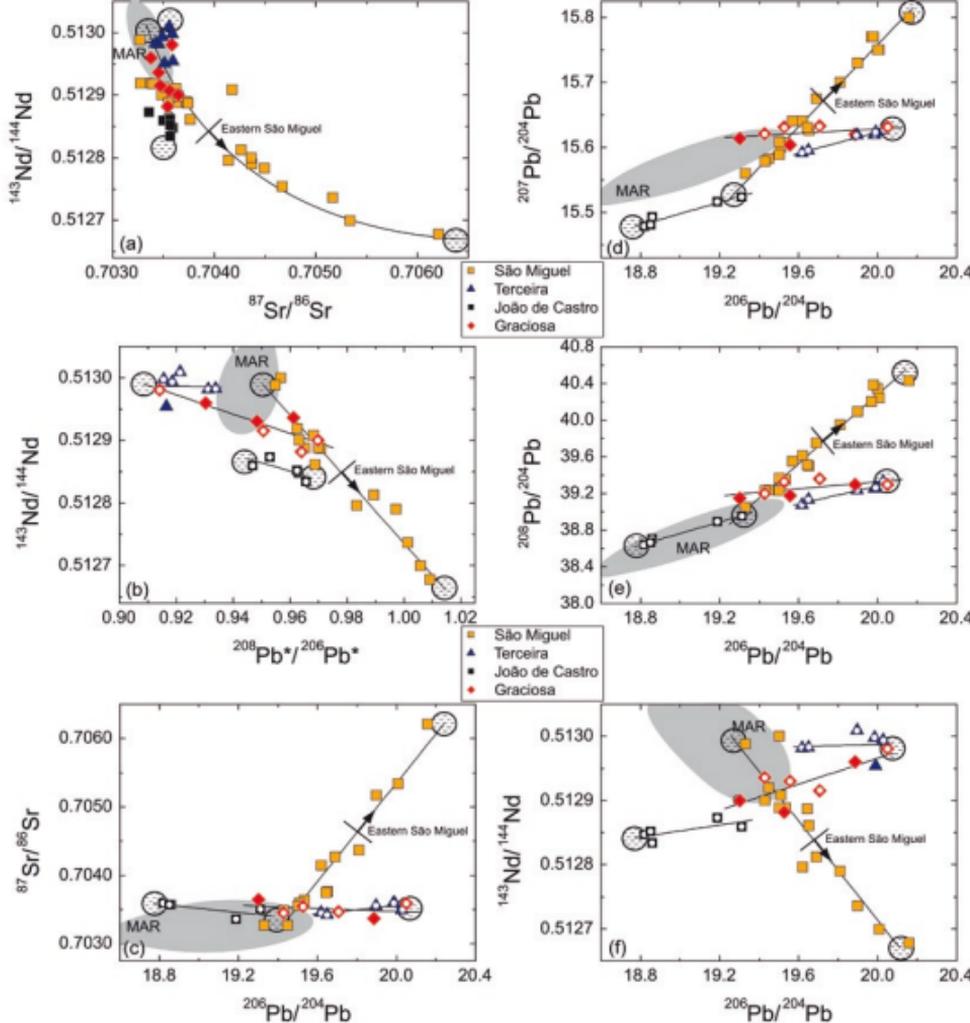




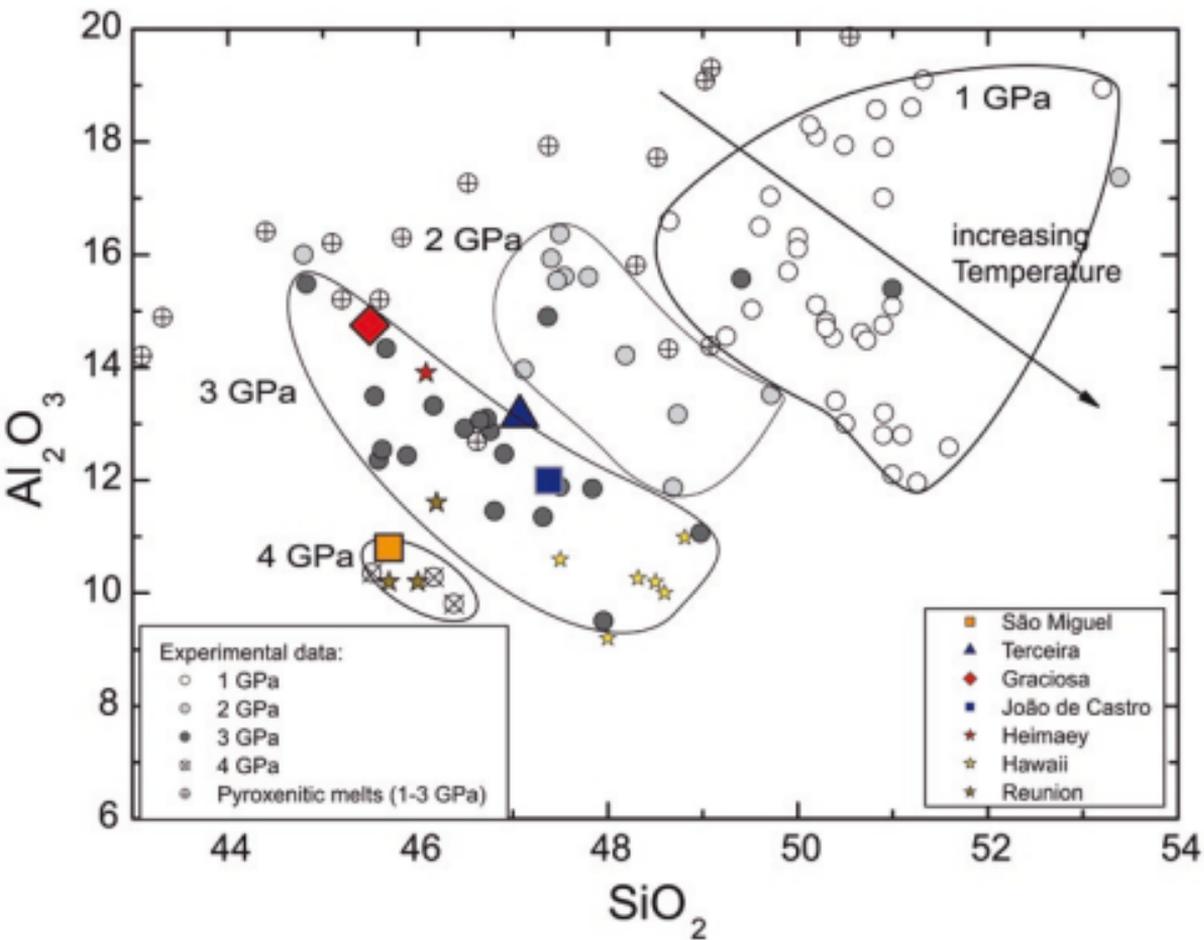
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Figure 4

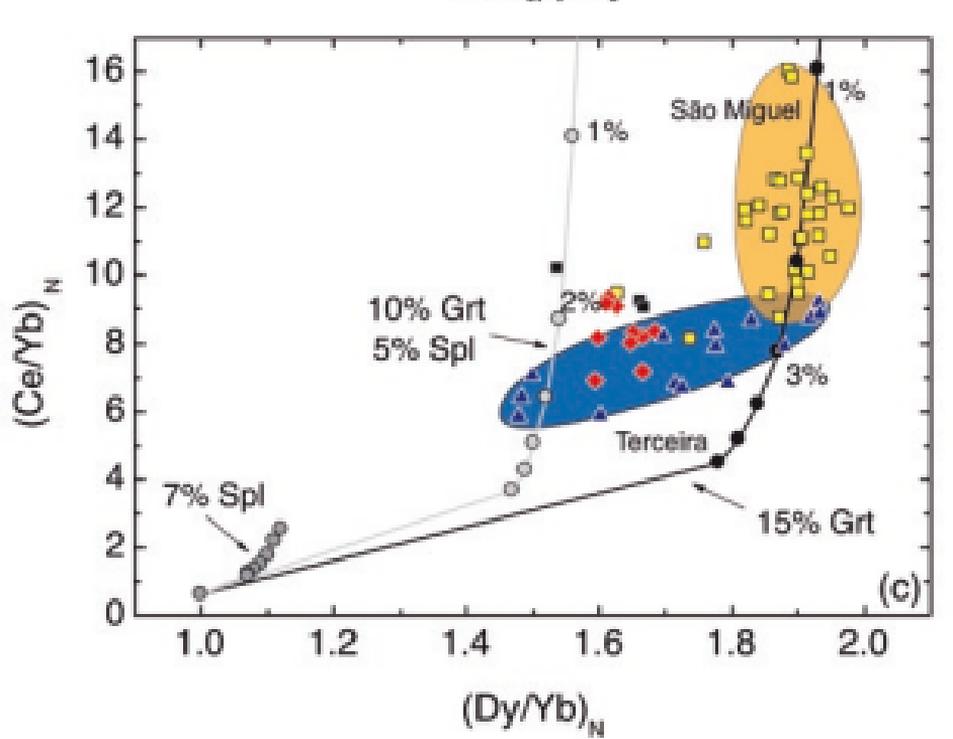
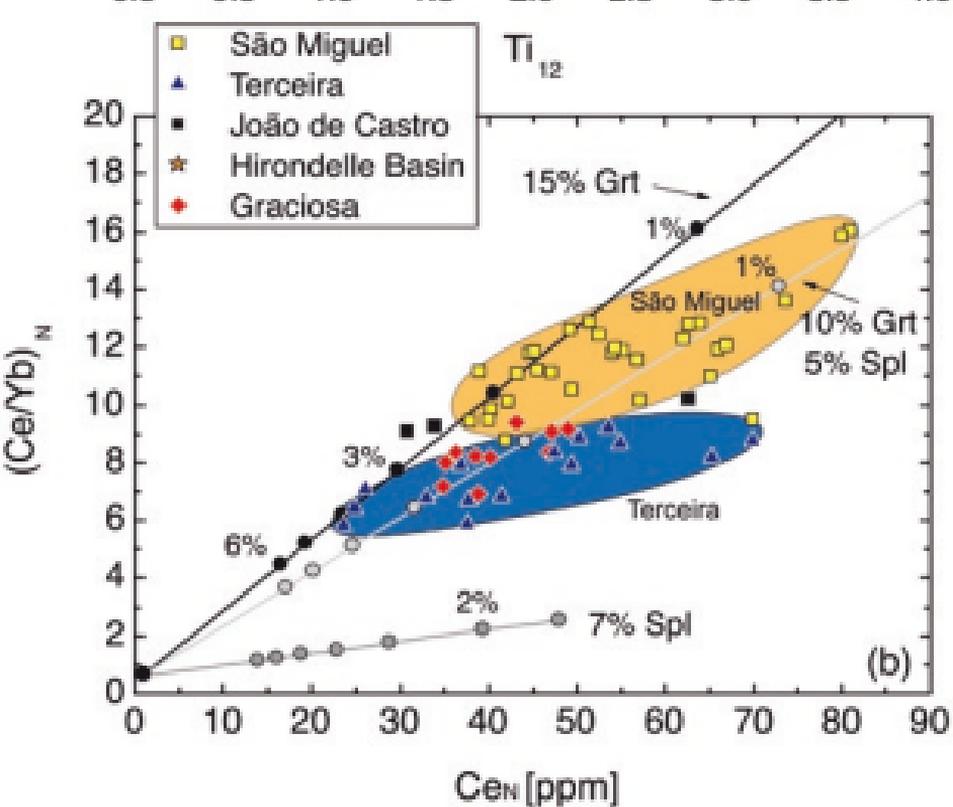
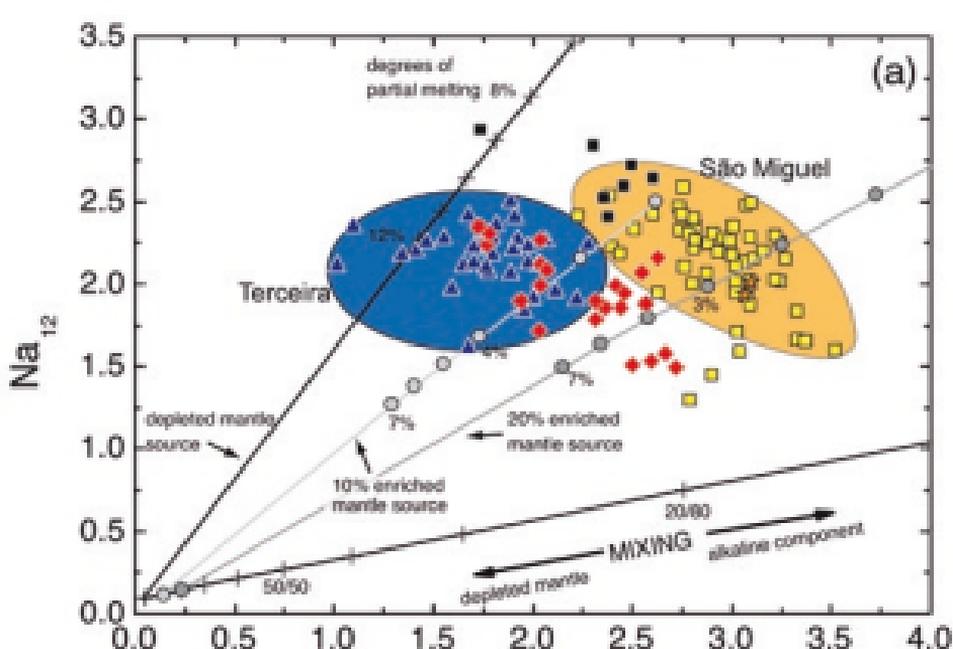


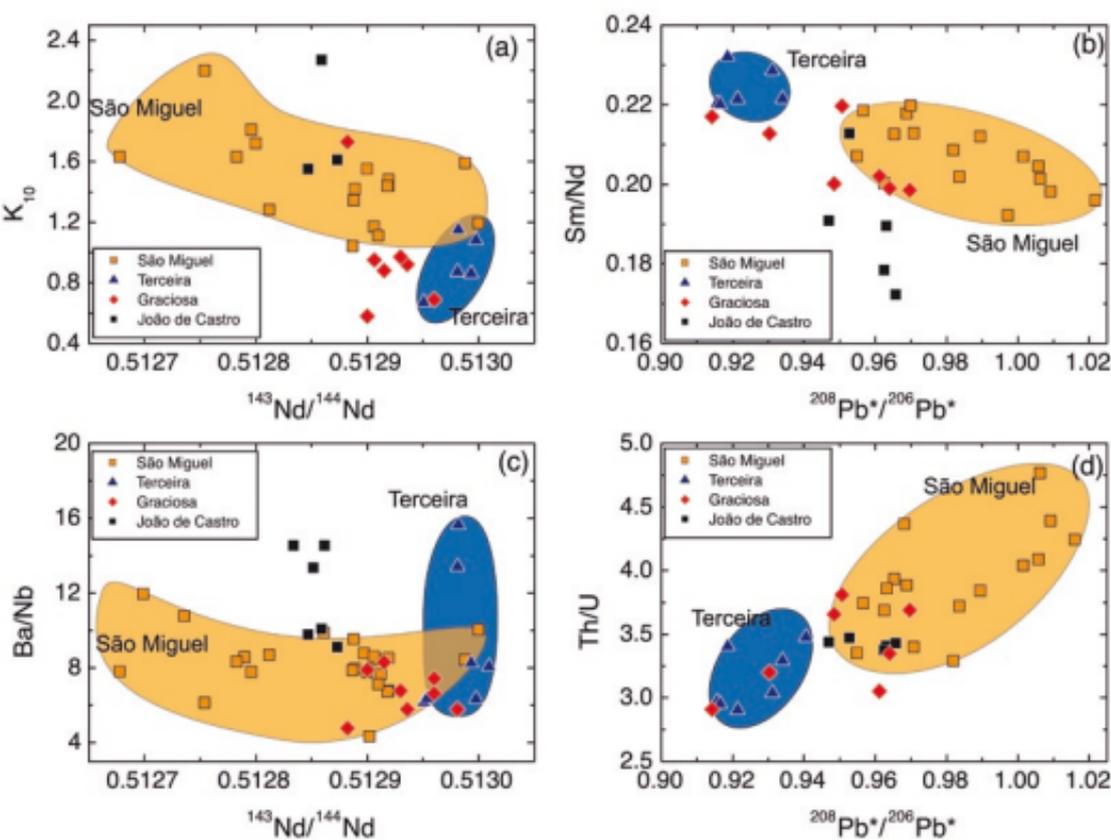
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Figure 5



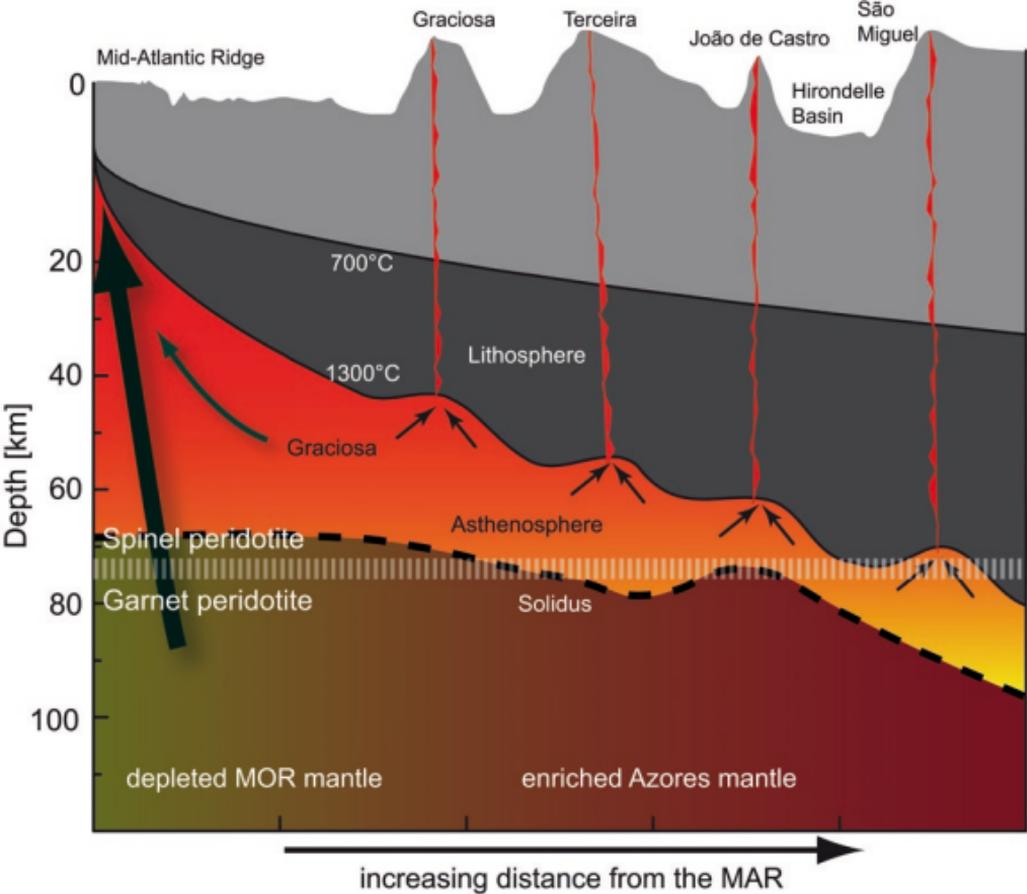
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Figure 6







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Figure 9



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Figure 10

**Table 1 (Sample).** Selected Major Element, Trace Element, and Sr-Nd-Pb Isotope Data of Whole Rocks and Glasses From the Terceira Rift<sup>a</sup> [The full Table 1 is available in the HTML version of this article at <http://www.g-cubed.org>]

Sample	513DS-1	515DS-1	523DS-1	524DS-2	525DS-2	558DS-1	558DS-8	542DS-1	244 DS-1	245 DS-4
Location	W slope of São Miguel	W slope of São Miguel	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	SW Graciosa	W of Graciosa	(W of Graciosa)
Latitude (°N)	37°51.933N	37°51.874N	38°10.455N	38°11.287N	38°11.746N	38°13.725N	38°13.725N	39°05.966N	39°10.026N	39°08.184N
Longitude (°W)	25°56.277W	25°59.887W	26°37.895W	26°36.761W	26°35.852W	26°39.068W	26°39.068W	28°16.412W	28°17.959W	28°14.311W
Whole Rock/GL	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Glass	Whole Rock	Glass	Glass	Whole Rock	Glass	Whole Rock
TAS classification	Basalt	Trachyandesite	Trachyandesite	Basaltic Trachyandesite	Basalt	Trachyandesite	Basaltic Trachyandesite	Basalt	Basalt	Basalt
Melting depths (GPa)	2.65				2.67		1.57	3.17	3.08	3.57
(wt. %)										
SiO <sub>2</sub>	46.95	59.29	55.58	52.39	46.89	56.70	49.42	45.76	45.98	44.85
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.74	1.28	1.87	2.56	2.01	1.56	3.29	2.73	4.66	2.73
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	12.33	18.69	17.64	17.67	10.45	17.75	16.33	15.10	14.60	15.07
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	11.06	5.93	6.90	9.41	10.55	6.66	9.25	10.54	12.35	10.74
MnO	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.20	0.15	0.25	0.19	0.16	0.15	0.17
MgO	12.13	1.58	2.24	3.39	15.78	1.95	3.73	9.67	5.88	9.67
CaO	10.97	3.53	4.64	6.91	11.73	3.50	7.82	11.09	11.62	10.11
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2.56	5.99	6.22	4.07	2.10	5.16	4.10	2.85	2.95	2.90
K <sub>2</sub> O	1.38	4.32	3.93	3.25	1.09	4.78	3.12	0.91	2.14	0.95
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0.48	0.38	0.59	0.76	0.33	0.40	0.90	0.39	0.82	0.49
LOI	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.87
Total	100.77	101.18	99.79	100.63	101.08	98.71	98.15	99.20	101.16	97.68
(ppm)										
Sc	24.1	3.16	7.53	11.2	38.6	2.97	3.41	28.2	30.2	29.5
Cr	996	2.25	1.49	5.01	845	6.57	1.82	465	132	433
Co	44.6	4.95	7.85	16.3	59.4	6.67	6.77	38.9	48.8	45.4
Ni	319	1.75	-	5.94	376	0.10	-	182	100	183
Cu	70.5	3.29	5.37	16.3	162	4.40	3.95	42.2	45.9	46.1
Zn	90.0	92.1	103	112	84.8	111	107	103	114	91.9
Mo	1.90	0.97	4.63	3.65	1.29	5.42	4.93	1.39	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rb	28.5	1090	101	77.8	27.2	118	108	15.4	22.3	20.1
Sr	622	543	593	776	391	847	766	491	684	521
Y	19.3	33.7	41.8	36.8	18.2	38.2	36.6	20.3	26.1	26.4
Zr	259	607	447	296	146	376	476	172	279	222
Nb	48.0	130	96.8	81.0	31.8	99.2	87.4	33.7	57.5	45.6
Cs	0.32	0.26	0.82	0.61	0.23	0.92	0.86	0.19	0.21	0.26
Ba	404	-	976	792	290	1442	1165	280	275	263

<sup>a</sup>Major element, trace element, and isotopic data from São Miguel are presented by *Beier et al.* [2006]. The whole-rock (WR) major element data were determined by XRF and the trace element data were determined by ICP-MS. Melting depths were calculated using fractionation corrected SiO<sub>2</sub> contents and the equation of *Haase* [1996]. The <sup>232</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U ratios have been calculated from the trace element concentrations.

Island	São Miguel	João de Castro	Graciosa	Terceira
<b>SiO<sub>2</sub></b>	45.7	47.6	45.6	47.3
<b>TiO<sub>2</sub></b>	2.7	2.6	2.1	2.1
<b>Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	10.8	12.0	14.9	13.8
<b>FeO</b>	10.2	9.5	9.5	9.3
<b>MnO</b>	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
<b>MgO</b>	12.7	12.3	12.5	11.8
<b>CaO</b>	12.0	11.3	11.0	11.3
<b>Na<sub>2</sub>O</b>	2.2	2.6	2.1	2.4
<b>K<sub>2</sub>O</b>	1.1	1.4	0.8	1.0
<b>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub></b>	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.3
<b>Total</b>	98.0	99.9	99.2	99.5

Tab. 2. Estimated primitive magma compositions from João de Castro, Graciosa and Terceira calculated from the major element trends in Fig. 3. Primary melt for São Miguel is sample SM0140 from Beier et al. [ 2006]. Only lavas with MgO >5wt.% have been taken into consideration to avoid extended crystal fractionation. Correction has been done either using a linearMg# 72.



**composition of mantle sources (Fig. 8)**

<b>50:50 peridotite/pyroxenite mix, spinel/garnet transition</b>	<b>50:50 peridotite/pyroxenite mix, garnet stability</b>
30%	30%
25%	25%
30%	30%
5%	-
10%	15%

composition from McDonough and Sun [2006].  
from western São Miguel [McDonough and Sun,  
efficients for Ti were calculated by McKenzie and  
Nions [1988]. Na partition coefficients are from  
ox, and from Putirka [1968] for Grt. The partition  
element [1993] for orthopyroxene, Hart and Dunn  
Primitive upper mantle from McDonough and Sun

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Magma genesis by rifting of oceanic lithosphere above anomalous mantle: the Terceira Rift, Azores

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Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems

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Abstract

This supplemental material consists of the comprehensive major element, trace element and Sr-nd-

Table Heading

Comprehensive major element, trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb dataset of whole rocks and glasses from the Terceira Rift. Major element, trace element and isotopic data from São Miguel are presented in Beier et al. [2006] and Beier et al. [2007]. The whole-rock (WR) major element data were determined by XRF and the trace element data were determined by ICP-MS. Major element data from glasses were determined by electron microprobe (EPMA). Melting depth were calculated using fractionation corrected SiO<sub>2</sub> contents and the equation of Haase [1996]. The <sup>232</sup>Th/<sup>238</sup>U ratios have been calculated from the trace element concentrations.

Beier, C., K. M. Haase, and T. H. Hansteen (2006), Magma evolution of the Sete Cidades volcano, São Miguel, Azores, *J Petrol*, 47, 1375-1411.

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<b>Sample</b>	513DS-1	515DS-1	523DS-1	524DS-2	525DS-2
<b>Location</b>	W slope of São Miguel	W slope of São Miguel	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro
<b>Latitude [°N]</b>	37°51.933N	37°51.874N	38°10.455N	38°11.287N	38°11.746N
<b>Longitude [°W]</b>	25°56.277W	25°59.887W	26°37.895W	26°36.761W	26°35.852W
<b>Whole Rock/GL</b>	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Glass	Whole Rock
<b>TAS classification</b>	Basalt	Trachyandesite	Trachyandsite	Basaltic Trachyandesite	Basalt
<b>Melting depths [GPa]</b>	2.65				2.67
<b>[wt. %]</b>					
<b>SiO<sub>2</sub></b>	46.95	59.29	55.58	52.39	46.89
<b>TiO<sub>2</sub></b>	2.74	1.28	1.87	2.56	2.01
<b>Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	12.33	18.69	17.64	17.67	10.45
<b>Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub></b>	11.06	5.93	6.90	9.41	10.55
<b>MnO</b>	0.17	0.19	0.18	0.20	0.15
<b>MgO</b>	12.13	1.58	2.24	3.39	15.78
<b>CaO</b>	10.97	3.53	4.64	6.91	11.73
<b>Na<sub>2</sub>O</b>	2.56	5.99	6.22	4.07	2.10
<b>K<sub>2</sub>O</b>	1.38	4.32	3.93	3.25	1.09
<b>P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub></b>	0.48	0.38	0.59	0.76	0.33
<b>LOI</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	100.77	101.18	99.79	100.63	101.08
<b>[ppm]</b>					
<b>Sc</b>	24.1	3.16	7.53	11.2	38.6
<b>Cr</b>	996	2.25	1.49	5.01	845
<b>Co</b>	44.6	4.95	7.85	16.3	59.4
<b>Ni</b>	319	1.75	-	5.94	376
<b>Cu</b>	70.5	3.29	5.37	16.3	162
<b>Zn</b>	90.0	92.1	103	112	84.8
<b>Mo</b>	1.90	0.97	4.63	3.65	1.29
<b>-</b>	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Rb</b>	28.5	1090	101	77.8	27.2
<b>Sr</b>	622	543	593	776	391
<b>Y</b>	19.3	33.7	41.8	36.8	18.2
<b>Zr</b>	259	607	447	296	146
<b>Nb</b>	48.0	130	96.8	81.0	31.8
<b>Cs</b>	0.32	0.26	0.82	0.61	0.23
<b>Ba</b>	404	-	976	792	290
<b>La</b>	36.6	89.5	72.5	67.4	24.1
<b>Ce</b>	75.5	173	137	131	49.2
<b>Pr</b>	9.51	19.4	15.9	15.7	5.98
<b>Nd</b>	38.3	68.0	58.5	60.8	24.1
<b>Sm</b>	7.93	11.8	11.2	11.5	5.13

<b>Eu</b>	2.43	3.32	3.17	3.27	1.53
<b>Gd</b>	6.70	9.65	9.39	9.29	4.61
<b>Tb</b>	0.96	1.44	1.36	1.31	0.65
<b>Dy</b>	5.16	7.76	7.75	7.20	3.61
<b>Ho</b>	0.93	1.44	1.46	1.30	0.66
<b>Er</b>	2.28	3.81	3.92	3.41	1.68
<b>Tm</b>	0.29	0.54	0.56	0.46	0.23
<b>Yb</b>	1.76	3.49	3.58	2.88	1.41
<b>Lu</b>	0.24	0.50	0.52	0.41	0.20
<b>Hf</b>	5.98	15.1	10.8	7.48	3.89
<b>Ta</b>	3.34	8.73	5.14	3.00	1.45
<b>Pb</b>	2.05	6.13	5.28	3.92	1.62
<b>Th</b>	3.82	13.5	8.79	7.32	2.51
<b>U</b>	1.14	1.76	2.56	2.15	0.72
			Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike
<sup>87</sup> Sr/ <sup>86</sup> Sr	0.703273±8	0.703553±7	0.703498±8	0.703593±8	0.703361±8
<sup>143</sup> Nd/ <sup>144</sup> Nd	0.512988±7	0.512888±5	0.512859±18	0.512847±4	0.512873±12
$\epsilon$ Nd	6.83	4.88	4.31	4.08	4.58
<sup>206</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	19.33±0.001	19.50±0.001	19.31±0.001	18.82±0.004	19.18±0.002
<sup>207</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	15.56±0.001	15.60±0.001	15.52±0.001	15.47±0.004	15.51±0.001
<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>204</sup> Pb	39.04±0.003	39.36±0.002	38.95±0.003	38.63±0.001	38.89±0.004
<sup>208</sup> Pb/ <sup>206</sup> Pb	2.02	2.02	2.02	2.05	2.03
<sup>208</sup> Pb*/ <sup>206</sup> Pb*	0.955	0.970	0.947	0.963	0.953
<sup>232</sup> Th/ <sup>238</sup> U	3.46	7.91	3.55	3.52	3.59

558DS-1	558DS-8	542DS-1	244 DS-1	245 DS-4	249 DS-1
Banco João de Castro	Banco João de Castro	SW Graciosa	W of Graciosa	(W of Graciosa)	(W Riftzone of Graciosa)
38°13.725N 26°39.068W	38°13.725N 26°39.068W	39°05.966N 28°16.412W	39°10.026N 28°17.959W	39°08.184N 28°14.311W	39°06.356N 28°10.581W
Glass	Glass	Whole Rock	Glass	Whole Rock	Whole Rock
Trachyandesite	Basaltic Trachyandesite	Basalt	Basalt	Basalt	Trachybasalt
	1.57	3.17	3.08	3.57	1.91
56.70	49.42	45.76	45.98	44.85	48.63
1.56	3.29	2.73	4.66	2.73	3.33
17.75	16.33	15.10	14.60	15.07	14.73
6.66	9.25	10.54	12.35	10.74	12.76
0.25	0.19	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.21
1.95	3.73	9.67	5.88	9.67	4.27
3.50	7.82	11.09	11.62	10.11	8.24
5.16	4.10	2.85	2.95	2.90	4.08
4.78	3.12	0.91	2.14	0.95	1.25
0.40	0.90	0.39	0.82	0.49	1.01
-	-	-	-	1.87	0.32
98.71	98.15	99.20	101.16	97.68	98.51
2.97	3.41	28.2	30.2	29.5	19.9
6.57	1.82	465	132	433	19.0
6.67	6.77	38.9	48.8	45.4	26.6
0.10	-	182	100	183	13.0
4.40	3.95	42.2	45.9	46.1	9.44
111	107	103	114	91.9	147
5.42	4.93	1.39	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
118	108	15.4	22.3	20.1	26.0
847	766	491	684	521	717
38.2	36.6	20.3	26.1	26.4	46.4
376	476	172	279	222	309
99.2	87.4	33.7	57.5	45.6	63.6
0.92	0.86	0.19	0.21	0.26	0.24
1442	1165	280	275	263	368
86.6	80.4	25.6	34.2	31.4	49.1
159	151	55.1	83.8	67.5	104
18.0	17.0	7.24	10.0	8.64	14.1
64.3	60.8	30.0	39.5	34.2	57.7
11.1	10.8	6.59	7.87	6.90	12.5

3.29	3.12	2.10	2.48	2.17	4.05
8.80	8.63	5.90	6.74	6.18	11.6
1.27	1.21	0.89	0.99	0.92	1.71
6.96	6.79	5.09	5.31	5.05	9.26
1.31	1.27	0.97	0.95	0.92	1.66
3.57	„	2.49	2.42	2.40	4.12
0.50	0.49	0.33	0.32	0.33	0.54
3.29	3.14	2.03	2.03	2.10	3.32
0.48	0.47	0.29	0.28	0.30	0.45
9.59	11.3	5.32	6.35	4.98	7.14
4.35	4.39	2.47	3.38	2.54	3.53
5.41	4.94	1.78	1.96	2.19	2.36
10.4	9.58	2.69	3.48	3.37	4.52
3.04	2.84	0.71	1.04	1.10	1.55
Pb triple spike					
0.703566±8	0.703565±3	0.703470±12	0.703543±12	0.703452±3	0.703582±3
0.512834±6	0.512851±5	0.512915±9	0.512882±4	0.512935±4	0.512980±7
3.82	4.17	5.40	4.76	5.81	6.69
18.86±0.001	18.85±0.002	19.70±0.001	19.52±0.002	19.42±0.002	20.04±0.001
15.49±0.001	15.48±0.003	15.63±0.001	15.63±0.003	15.62±0.002	15.63±0.002
38.70±0.005	38.66±0.001	39.35±0.003	39.32±0.010	39.20±0.006	39.29±0.006
2.05	2.05	2.00	2.01	2.02	1.96
0.966	0.963	0.951	0.964	0.961	0.914
3.54	3.49	3.94	3.46	3.15	3.01

AZG-03-07	AZG-03-28	529DS-4	535DS-7	AZT-03-11	AZT-03-12
South of Redondo, Graciosa	Road to Caldeira, Graciosa	E of Terceira	W flank Terceira	Coast at Cais dos Biscoitos, Terceira	Road Junction between Road 3-2 and 502, Terceira
39°04.210N 28°04.250W	39°01.950N 27°58.911W	38°32.614N 26°52.509W	38°42.446N 27°28.720W	38°47.960N 27°15.830W	38°44.466N 27°15.866W
Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock
Basalt	Basalt	Basalt	Basalt	Basalt	Basalt
3.43	2.96	2.81	2.95	2.65	2.65
45.17	46.24	46.57	46.27	46.95	46.95
3.10	3.27	1.90	3.86	3.02	3.88
15.80	16.89	14.54	14.96	13.81	13.92
11.48	10.55	9.62	13.31	11.95	13.79
0.16	0.15	0.15	0.18	0.17	0.21
8.17	7.02	10.55	6.15	8.25	5.45
10.70	10.50	10.23	10.58	10.51	9.48
2.42	2.86	2.90	3.22	3.21	3.65
0.82	1.08	1.10	0.85	0.93	1.29
0.45	0.46	0.38	0.46	0.85	1.31
1.13	-	-	-	-	-
98.27	99.02	97.94	99.84	99.65	99.93
33.0	27.2	26.2	-	27.6	23.3
334	222	539	92.0	301	64.0
48.5	42.2	35.1	-	40.9	31.4
137	108	205	72.0	116	27.8
39.3	28.3	48.0	-	35.5	22.6
89.7	89.2	77.0	109	95.1	118
1.27	1.33	4.21	-	1.30	1.39
-	-	-	-	-	-
9.24	23.0	22.2	24.0	19.0	27.2
590	639	414	593	529	536
25.9	25.6	18.1	-	32.0	42.7
237	224	136	272	178	216
42.4	40.7	27.0	-	37.0	48.4
0.02	0.18	0.25	-	0.16	0.24
335	303	324	-	496	756
32.1	26.5	21.5	-	34.9	49.0
69.0	58.2	44.4	-	79.0	112
8.62	7.53	5.62	-	10.2	14.2
33.7	30.3	22.7	-	44.2	61.3
6.68	6.45	5.07	-	10.1	13.6

2.13	2.13	1.64	-	3.82	4.79
6.20	6.05	4.80	-	9.71	12.9
0.87	0.86	0.74	-	1.37	1.80
4.73	4.67	4.43	-	7.49	9.79
0.86	0.84	0.86	-	1.34	1.74
2.25	2.16	2.24	-	3.33	4.29
0.30	0.29	0.30	-	0.43	0.54
1.90	1.80	1.87	-	2.59	3.31
0.27	0.25	0.27	-	0.35	0.45
4.49	5.02	4.21	-	4.59	5.40
2.47	2.39	1.85	-	2.52	3.15
1.66	1.46	2.08	-	1.15	1.59
2.86	2.47	2.35	-	2.16	3.03
0.77	0.77	0.68	-	0.71	0.92
				Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike
0.703647±3	0.703373±3	0.703519±10	0.703579±3	0.703454±2	0.703420±3
0.512897±3	0.512962±3	0.512866±10	0.512968±5	0.512981±3	0.512981±3
5.06	6.32	4.45	6.46	6.69	6.71
19.30±0.001	19.88±0.001	19.50±0.001	19.92±0.002	19.61±0.006	19.64±0.002
15.61±0.001	15.62±0.001	15.54±0.001	15.62±0.002	15.59±0.005	15.59±0.002
39.14±0.004	39.29±0.003	39.06±0.003	39.22±0.008	39.07±0.002	39.13±0.008
2.03	1.98	2.00	1.97	1.99	1.99
0.968	0.929	0.941	0.919	0.931	0.934
3.81	3.31	3.59	-	3.14	3.40

AZT-03-16	AZT-03-18	AZT-03-116	AZT-03-142	BHVO-1			BHVO-1
Pico do Gaspar, Terceira	E of Misterios dos Negors, Terceira	Cal Pedra, N flank of Santa Barbara, Terceira	Cerrado do Canto, Terceira	XRF		n=23	ICP-MS
38°53.830N 28°16.333W	38°44.001N 27°16.516W	38°46.333N 27°17.750W	38°45.916N 27°16.983W				
Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Whole Rock	Standard		standard deviation	Standard
Basalt	Basaltic Trachyandesite	Basalt	Trachybasalt	Basalt			Basalt
2.78		2.74					
46.66	53.45	46.75	50.57	49.94	±	0.14	-
3.00	2.54	3.68	2.68	2.76	±	0.01	-
15.64	15.00	13.84	18.32	13.57	±	0.07	-
12.06	11.10	13.45	9.44	12.22	±	0.04	-
0.18	0.24	0.21	0.15	0.17	±	0.00	-
5.67	3.18	6.09	3.05	7.18	±	0.06	-
10.59	6.29	9.69	8.98	11.46	±	0.04	-
3.55	5.32	3.33	4.34	2.40	±	0.07	-
1.00	1.87	1.20	1.34	0.53	±	0.01	-
0.45	1.15	1.17	0.65	0.28	±	0.00	-
0.45	0.42	-	-	-	-	-	-
98.80	100.14	99.41	99.52	100.52	-	-	-
24.3	13.9	14.9	13.8	-	-	-	32.9
51.3	0.59	8.58	7.39	282	±	4.85	291
41.3	9.15	20.6	19.0	-	-	-	45.5
31.2	0.47	11.0	10.2	107	±	7.30	120
31.3	3.40	20.4	14.6	-	-	-	135
101	152	115	102	106	±	4.04	104
0.45	3.76	2.03	2.54	-	-	-	1.06
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
20.1	39.2	27.0	25.7	9.91	±	1.85	9.36
569	729	782	812	398	±	2.52	394
28.5	58.4	38.8	36.0	-	-	-	26.4
190	429	328	302	188	±	2.38	175
36.9	92.3	61.6	57.2	17.6	±	1.34	17.5
0.15	0.36	0.12	0.11	-	-	-	0.10
305	745	390	364	160	-	18.4	131
29.1	79.4	49.3	46.6	-	-	-	15.2
60.4	166	105	98.4	10.2	±	3.66	37.8
7.99	20.2	12.9	12.1	-	-	-	5.50
33.1	84.3	52.2	49.2	-	-	-	24.9
7.69	18.7	11.5	10.8	-	-	-	6.20

2.53	6.56	3.70	3.53	-	-	-	2.13
7.59	17.5	10.7	10.1	-	-	-	6.20
1.14	2.54	1.57	1.46	-	-	-	0.96
6.58	13.9	8.62	8.14	-	-	-	5.39
1.21	2.50	1.55	1.47	-	-	-	0.98
3.13	6.33	3.96	3.73	-	-	-	2.47
0.42	0.83	0.53	0.49	-	-	-	0.33
2.67	5.13	3.30	3.10	-	-	-	2.02
0.37	0.71	0.46	0.43	-	-	-	0.28
5.06	10.9	7.91	7.50	-	-	-	4.40
2.48	5.57	3.89	3.68	-	-	-	1.08
3.10	2.97	2.45	2.03	-	-	-	1.94
2.32	5.95	4.70	4.48	-	-	-	1.21
0.68	2.05	1.58	1.52	-	-	-	0.42
Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike	Pb triple spike	-	-	-	-
0.703491±3	0.703556±3	0.703590±3	0.703592±3	-	-	-	-
0.512993±4	0.513009±6	0.512997±5	0.512953±4	-	-	-	-
6.93	7.24	7.01	6.16	-	-	-	-
20.02±0.002	19.89±0.002	19.98±0.003	19.98±0.002	-	-	-	-
15.62±0.003	15.61±0.003	15.61±0.004	15.62±0.002	-	-	-	-
39.32±0.001	39.23±0.001	39.25±0.015	39.26±0.009	-	-	-	-
1.96	1.97	1.96	1.96	-	-	-	-
0.919	0.921	0.916	0.916	-	-	-	-
3.52	3.00	3.07	3.05	-	-	-	-

n=12

standard  
deviation

-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
±	1.54	-	-
±	9.84	-	-
±	1.95	-	-
±	4.54	-	-
±	9.81	-	-
±	4.22	-	-
±	0.09	-	-
-	-	-	-
±	0.30	-	-
±	12.7	-	-
±	1.29	-	-
±	6.47	-	-
±	0.46	-	-
±	0.00	-	-
±	2.54	-	-
±	0.38	-	-
±	0.58	-	-
±	0.07	-	-
±	0.31	-	-
±	0.13	-	-

