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Variable element enrichment sources and contributions to volcanic rocks along the Lesser Antilles Island Arc

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Understanding relationships between different components involved in subduction-related recycling of sediment at arc volcanic systems has long been a focus of study. It is generally understood that volcanic arc lavas incorporate materials from the down-going slab including fluids, fluid mobile elements (FME), and fluid modified large ion lithophile elements (LILE), largely derived from subducted sediments and serpentinized ultramafic rocks. Past studies have presumed bulk sediment contributions rather than addressing localized variations in sediment composition. We examine trace element variability along the Lesser Antilles Island Arc (LAIA) and show that sediment inputs *via* fluid transfer to the mantle wedge are necessary to explain high B (up to 50 ppm), high B/La ratios, and higher As, Cs, Rb in the central LAIA. In contrast, the northern portion of LAIA is enriched in Ba, Sr and U/Th, with low FME. Grenada has low FME abundances, low Ba/La, but higher Sm/La. Our results suggest that modification of LAIA mantle source by fluid addition is important for the central islands but find that sediment enrichment is more likely in the northern section of the LAIA. Li/Yb ratios suggest the Grenada signature is chemically more comparable to sediment from DSDP Site 144 (Demerara Rise), while Martinique magmas in the central LAIA are affiliated to sediments from Site 543 (offshore Dominica). Unexpectedly, the northern portion of LAIA is not directly relatable to Site 543 sediments but instead trends back toward a sediment source similar in composition to Site 144 but with lower B, lower La/Sm and higher Ba. Binary mixing models suggest the northern islands are likely influenced by small amounts of sediment melt similar to average Site 144 sediments, but with Ba concentrations ranging from 1,250 to 1,500 ppm. Trace element ratios then likely result from different levels of contribution from sediment packages both spatially and temporally along the arc, with some variation evident among samples from the same island. We suggest that the process of recycling subducted sediment along the arc is variable along the length of the LAIA, wherein the trace element relationships are likely strongly influenced by the types of sediment being subducted along strike.

KEYWORDS

subduction recycling, fluid mobile elements, trace elements, Lesser Antilles arc, barium and boron enrichment

Introduction

Over the past three decades, work on the volcanic products of subduction zones has shown that elemental enrichments characteristic of arc magmas arise largely from subducted altered oceanic crust and sediments, and are sampled *via* fluid-mediated slab material released into the convecting mantle wedge, over a range of slab depths (Tera et al., 1986; Plank and Langmuir 1993; Ryan et al., 1995; Tatsumi and Eggins 1995; Elliott et al., 1997; Bebout et al., 1999; Johnson and Plank 1999; Class et al., 2000; Straub and Layne 2002; Savov et al., 2005, Savov et al., 2007; Grove et al., 2006; Tonarini et al., 2007; Walker et al., 2009; Labanieh et al., 2012). Melts are generated primarily due to hydrous phase equilibria of fluid fluxed mantle material in the wedge above the subducting lithosphere (Kushiro 1972; Grove and Kinzler 1986; Kushiro 1990; Peacock 1990; Gaetani et al., 1993; Hawkesworth et al., 1993; Tatsumi & Eggins 1995; Thirlwall et al., 1996; Gaetani and Grove, 2003). Given the importance of hydrous fluids in arc melting, the trace elements that are readily mobile in metasomatic fluids are those that are distinctively enriched in arc magmas. The specifics of the geochemical signatures of arc lavas can be markedly different from arc to arc, from volcano to volcano within arcs, and can sometimes vary by eruptive event in a single volcano, though in nearly all cases the “ingredients” in the lavas can largely (if not always directly) be connected back to the makeup of the materials input to adjacent deep-sea trenches (Plank and Langmuir 1993; Plank and Langmuir 1998; Plank 2014).

Typically, ratios of large ion lithophile elements (LILE), such as Ba, K, Sr, U and Pb, versus high field strength elements (HFSE: Nb, Ta, Th, Y), or rare earth elements (REE), along with key radiogenic isotope ratios ($^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$; $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$; $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$) have been used to identify the effects of crustal or sediment melt/fluid additions (Miller et al., 1994; Class et al., 2000). Fluid mobile elements, or FME (B, As, Sb, $\pm\text{Cs}$, Rb, $\pm\text{Pb}$; Leeman and Sisson, 1996) have shared chemical affinities that make them highly sensitive to material transfers mediated by metasomatic fluids in subduction zones, in particular those fluids generated by prograde metamorphic reactions on the down-going plate at shallow depths (Bebout et al., 1993; Bebout et al., 1999; Ryan et al., 1995, Ryan et al., 1996; Leeman and Sisson 1996; Noll et al., 1996; Smith et al., 1997; Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al., 2007; Ryan and Chauvel, 2014). Data for the FME suite in the Lesser Antilles have thus far been limited to an early whole rock study in Martinique (Smith et al., 1997) whereas B and $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ have been examined in melt inclusion suites along-arc (Cooper et al., 2020) and from Grenada and St. Vincent (Bouvier et al., 2008, Bouvier et al., 2010). These studies have focused on recent (<5 Ma)

products, and FME have not been investigated for older islands or across-arc to assess evolution from old (>20 Ma) to recent (5 Ma-present) volcanics. While single-center studies can provide insights, the sensitivity of B and other fluid-mobile species to arc-scale parameters, such as slab surface temperatures and/or the morphology of the down-going plate (Singer et al., 2007; Ryan and Chauvel, 2014) means that any single-volcano dataset for these species needs to be considered in the context of its arc-scale systematics. This work presents an arc-scale dataset for FME abundances in whole rocks from the Lesser Antilles subduction system, taking advantage primarily of a large and well-documented suite of Cenozoic-to-recent volcanic rocks from the active volcanic centers along the arc. These data are compared to other works including melt inclusions (Bouvier et al., 2008; Bouvier et al., 2010; Cooper et al., 2020) with the understanding that while useful, melt inclusion compositions may represent specific moments in magma evolution and are not always representative of the melt that erupt on the surface. Associated whole rock comparisons to other similar lavas from the same center, and lavas from other centers provide key information about slab enrichment process(es). Such studies provide information about regional differences derived from variable slab input, related to physical dynamics of subduction or variability in trench inputs. A comprehensive whole rock elemental suite is necessary to constrain the averaged signatures of the volcanic output (thereby constraining likely slab inputs) and to identify anomalous petrogenetic melt components.

Background

Fluid mobile elements as tracers of subduction enrichment

Fluid-mobile element (FME) abundance systematics (after Leeman and Sisson, 1996) have been examined in many subduction systems either directly or as part of larger studies (Sunda, Izu-Bonin-Mariana, Kurile-Kamchatka, Aleutians, Cascades, Mexico, Central America, Andes, Sandwich; see Ryan and Chauvel (2014) for a comprehensive list of projects). In a few arcs and arc segments, B and other FMEs show strong correlations with other large-ion-lithophile elements (LILE: Central America, see Leeman and Sisson 1996; Walker et al., 2003), though in most other arcs FME-LILE correlations, if they are evident at all, indicate complexities. Boron is often considered the quintessential FME that exhibits the most dramatic abundance variability. It is currently the only FME with a well-characterized stable isotopic system and has been used to examine the influence of fluid-mediated slab inputs on

the makeup of the sub-arc and deep oceanic mantle (Leeman and Sisson 1996; Ryan et al., 1996; Ryan et al., 1996; Turner et al., 2007). Boron systematics track the fluid flux that triggers arc melting (e.g., B/Nb and B/Be ratios increase with increasing melt extent: Ryan and Langmuir 1993; Ryan et al., 1996). Other FMEs have been less comprehensively utilized, in part because less is known about their behaviors in solid/melt and solid/fluid systems, and because their geochemical profiles are, in some cases, complex (i.e., As and Sb are strong chalcophiles which concentrate in sulfide phases in MORBs, while they show lithophile-like systematics in subduction settings). Of the FME, B and Cs are probably the best understood geochemically, and B is particularly valuable as one can track both its abundance and stable isotopic variations to study metasomatic and/or magmatic processes in terrestrial and planetary systems (e.g., Ishikawa and Nakamura 1994; Chaussidon 1998; Lentz et al., 2001). Ryan and Langmuir (1993) and Ryan et al. (1995) documented regular across-arc depletion systematics for B in the Aleutians and Kuriles that were subsequently observed in other settings (Edwards et al., 1993; Walker et al., 2001; Walker et al., 2003) and in other FME (Cs, As, Pb, Sb: Noll et al., 1996; Leeman and Sisson, 1996), while Singer et al. (2007) documented along-arc variations in B that correlated strongly to increased sediment inputs related to morphologic variations in the down-going Pacific plate. These across-arc depletions mimicked the depletions in B and Cs observed during prograde subduction metamorphism (Bebout et al., 1993; Bebout et al., 1999; Moran et al., 1994; Leeman and Sisson 1996; London et al., 1996) with a strong correlation to the loss of C-O-H fluids associated with these changes (Schmidt and Poli 1998; 2003).

A handful of studies have examined B in lavas as well as xenoliths from the Lesser Antilles (Smith et al., 1997; Bouvier et al., 2008; Bouvier et al., 2010; Ruscitto et al., 2012; Cooper et al., 2020). Thus far none have looked in detail at other FME (As, Cs, Rb or Sb). Recent work on boron and B isotopes in melt inclusions in the Lesser Antilles have sought to examine indicators of subducted components *via* comparison of isotopic abundances to fluid (either as H₂O, or Li, Cl, F). To explain the large range of boron and lithium, elemental and isotopic values observed (in Grenada, 2–20 ppm B; 3–20 ppm Li; $\delta^{11}\text{B}$: –20 to +10‰; $\delta^7\text{Li}$: –6 to +7‰) the authors call on a complex suite of fractionation and mixing processes involving fluid phases derived from sediment, altered crust, and serpentinite (Bouvier et al., 2008; Bouvier et al., 2010; Cooper et al., 2020), varying off a modeling approach used by Rose et al. (2001) for the Cascades. Comparisons to associated whole rock results, to similar lavas from the same center, and to similar lavas from other centers along the arc can provide key information as to the dominant slab enrichment process(es) acting beneath a particular volcano or along a volcanic trend. It can provide information about regional, arc-length changes in the makeup of the slab input, related either to changes in trench inputs or to

the physical and dynamic parameters of subduction. This information is necessary both to constrain the averaged signatures of the volcanic output (thereby constraining likely slab inputs) at specific locations along the arc, and to identify those melt compositions that may point to petrogenetic anomalies. An important part of the problem may relate to the inferences made regarding endmember compositions, and in particular for the sediments, which are largely based on limited data which in turn limits an accurate determination of likely endmember compositions that could be used to constrain the along-arc input variability (as per Plank and Langmuir 1998). We will return to this point in subsequent sections, but it is important to note here that the source data for B, Li and other FME is still sparse.

B versus large ion lithophile elements and importance for source comparisons

The “enriched” LILE (Ba, K, Sr, U, Pb, Th) and the REE and HFSE (Nb, Ta, Ti, Zr, Y) are commonly ratioed to produce diagnostic geochemical “fingerprints” of different kinds of slab-involvement in subduction zone magmatism. LILE/REE and LILE/HFSE have been used to quantify contributions from subducted sediments and/or mafic crust to the source regions of arc magmas (see Plank and Langmuir 1993; Elliott et al., 1997; Class et al., 2000). B enrichments in arc lavas, measured as B/Be, B/La, or B/Nb ratios (Morris et al., 1990; Ryan and Langmuir 1993; Ishikawa and Nakamura 1994), have been used to assay the magnitude of fluid contributions to arc source regions (i.e., Leeman et al., 1994; Ryan et al., 1995; Hochstaedter et al., 1996; Noll et al., 1996; Cameron et al., 2003; Walker et al., 2003), though in detail the relationship between FME and H₂O measured in lavas is complicated (see Ryan and Chauvel 2014, for a full discussion). A more accurate statement is that the FME document the involvement of an H₂O -rich subduction component most likely derived from the forearc, though the B and FME in this reservoir are ultimately sourced from the down-going sediments and crust. The fact that B (and FME) enrichments decline regularly as a function of distance from the trench (i.e., Edwards et al., 1993; Ryan and Langmuir 1993; Ryan et al., 1995; Ishikawa and Nakamura 1994; Hochstaedter et al., 1996; Walker et al., 2003), and that B/LILE or B/HFSE ratios typically correlate inversely with La/Sm and other lithophile element ratios sensitive to changes in extent of melting in primitive basalt suites (i.e., Ryan et al., 1996) suggests that B (and by extension, other FME) are semi-quantitative measures of the “flux” which triggers melting in arcs.

As H₂O -rich fluids from subducted sediments and altered oceanic crust are thought to be the main contributors of fluids to arc sources (Leeman et al., 1994; Noll et al., 1996; Ryan et al., 1996; Class et al., 2000), FME/HFSE ratios may be better indicators for fluid versus melt contributions to magma. To date, LILE/HFSE ratios are routinely used as proxies for

subducted sediment contributions (Carr, 1984; Leeman et al., 1994; Reagan et al., 1994; Elliott et al., 1997; Patino et al., 2000; Walker et al., 2001; Rüpke et al., 2002; Abers et al., 2003; Elliott 2003; Jicha et al., 2004; Kimura and Yoshita 2006), while more recent work has focused on the relationship between B and a particularly useful LILE, barium (Ba) in determination of the influence of subducted sediments.

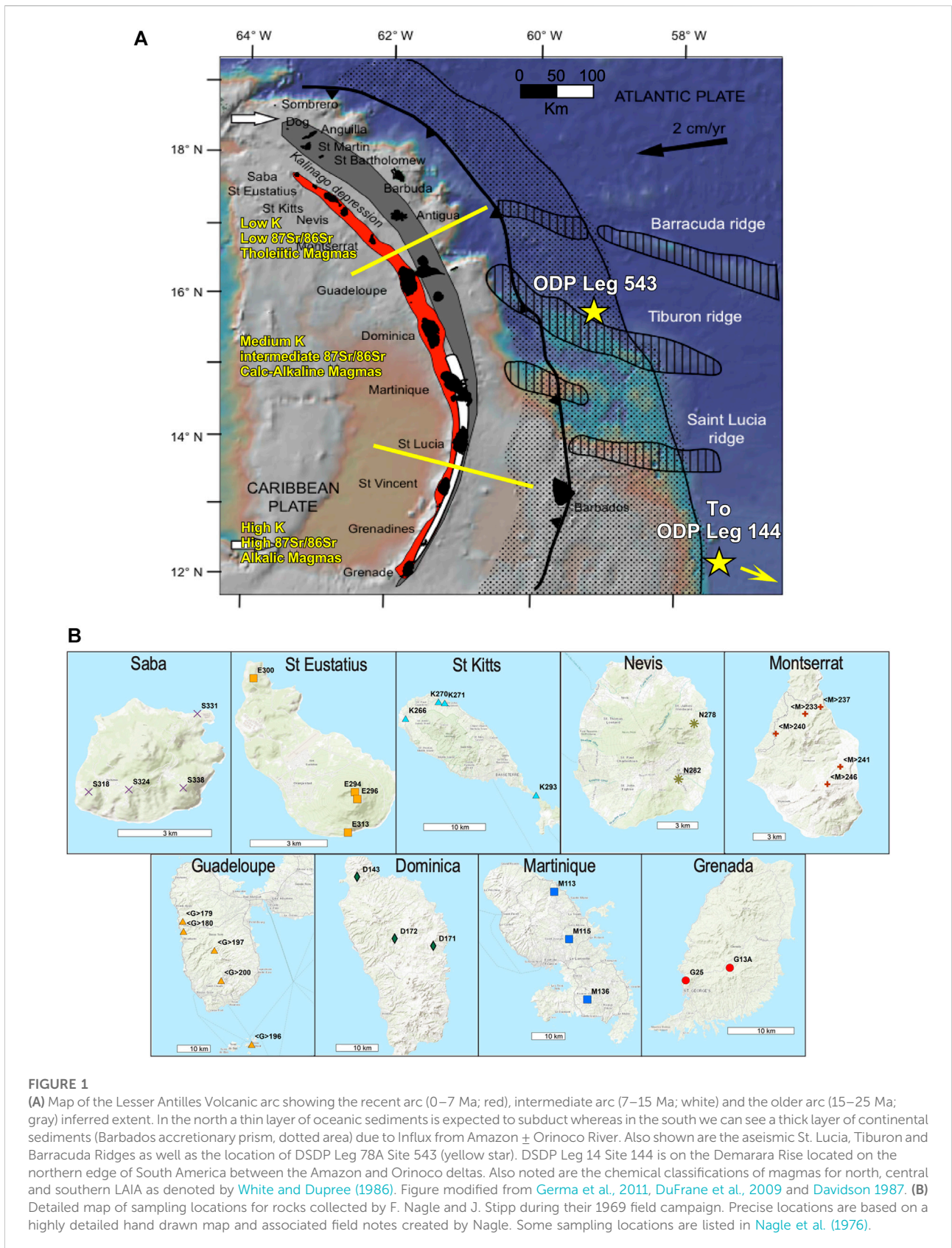
Caribbean geology and geochronology

The Lesser Antilles subduction system has been volcanically active for the past 40–50 Ma, as old Atlantic Ocean crust subducts beneath the Caribbean plate (Westercamp 1988; Figure 1A). The geometry and location of the subduction zone has changed substantially over time, as the Lesser Antilles have been the focus of volcanism over much of the past 40 Ma (Nagle et al., 1976; Brown et al., 1977; Briden et al., 1979; Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Wadge and Shepard 1984; Legendre et al., 2018; Noury et al., 2021). Volcanism was restricted to the present Limestone Caribbees and the islands south of 15°N (Nagle et al., 1976) until ~20 Ma, when volcanism stopped in the northern part of the arc. After volcanic activity in the northeastern islands ended, extensive calcareous sedimentation began during the Miocene (e.g., more than 500 m at Antigua, Mascle and Westercamp 1983; Hawkesworth and Powell 1980, Westercamp and Andreieff 1983) before the platform was uplifted. Volcanism returned to the northern arc about 7 Ma ago, shifted west of the original arc axis (Briden et al., 1979; Germa et al., 2011). From Dominica northward, a chain of young islands has been built up to 50 km west of the former arc. Most of this activity is younger than 3 Ma. By contrast, active volcanism has been continuous from Martinique southward over the past 25 Ma (Briden et al., 1979). In Martinique volcanism shifted westward, so the Oligocene-Miocene volcanic centers occur on the east and southeast, Miocene centers built the central axis of the island, and recent (<5 Ma) centers to the west (Germa et al., 2011). For the islands to the south, the older and younger volcanic centers overlap. This spatial migration of volcanic loci has been attributed to tectonic reorganization north of 15°N, after a series of aseismic ridges present on the Atlantic floor intersected the trench, momentarily halting subduction (Bouysson et al., 1990). This phenomenon is thus very important to understand as regards temporal changes in chemistry as the arc migrated into its present position. Depleted and enriched endmembers define mixing trends between older (>7 Ma) and younger (<7 Ma) lavas in Martinique Island, which is seen as representative of the Lesser Antilles geochemical evolution (Labanieh et al., 2012).

A significant body of early work in the Lesser Antilles describes and documents its major element systematics, and early studies using trace elements in conjunction with radiogenic isotopes discussed the possible role of sediments (Cawthorne et al., 1973; Sigurdsson et al., 1973; Arculus 1976; Brown et al., 1977; Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; White and Dupree 1986; White and Durpe. 1986; White and

Durpe. 1986; Davidson 1987; Hu et al., 2021). More recent trace element and isotopic studies have focused on specific islands or individual volcanic centers, seeking to resolve the nature of the various source contributions to Lesser Antilles lavas. Radiogenic isotope signatures of Antilles lavas tend to be enriched in Sr and Pb in the southern and central arc and decrease to the north (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Davidson 1987). This strongly suggests the incorporation of a continentally derived crustal component into Lesser Antilles parental magmas, likely derived from the extensive sedimentary output of the Orinoco basin with diminishing continental sediment input in the northern arc. A challenge in evaluating this hypothesis is the relatively limited sampling of the sedimentary columns outboard of the Antilles arc: only DSDP Leg 78A, Hole 543 (hereafter referred to as Site 543) samples the sedimentary column directly outboard of the central Lesser Antilles (see Figure 1A). Comprehensive data for Orinoco-derived sediments now exists, which should be comparable to the sediment compositions outboard of Grenada (DSDP Leg 14, Hole 144; Carpentier et al., 2008; Carpentier et al., 2009, hereafter referred to as Site 144). In the north, a much thinner sequence of subducted pelagic sediment (see Westbrook et al., 1984) should yield chemical signatures distinguishable from those to the south. Plank and Langmuir (1998) produced a compositional profile of Lesser Antilles incoming sediments based only on samples from Site 543. A comparable profile for Site 144 is necessary to define compositional endmembers for the incoming sedimentary column along the arc, and thereby to better characterize mixing between the pelagic and terrigenous endmembers.

The continental signatures in Lesser Antilles lavas have been ascribed to relatively low degree inputs of sediment melts, but these early models failed to reproduce the observed trace element signatures without the addition of other components. Subsequent radiogenic isotope and trace element studies seem to confirm early results that suggest small amounts (~2%) of sediment melt are likely involved in the generation of some Lesser Antilles magmas (White and Dupree 1986; Davidson 1987). Potassium isotopes from Martinique support this view suggesting that no more than 5% sediment melt is involved in the generation of LAIA magmas (Hu et al., 2021). In other locations, fluid additions are the dominant slab inputs proposed (Carpentier et al., 2008; Carpentier et al., 2009; DuFrane et al., 2009; Labanieh et al., 2010, Labanieh et al., 2012). These studies evoke differing sources of sediment to explain the chemical variation seen between volcanics in the northern and southern Lesser Antilles. Most recently, Cooper et al. (2020) suggest that serpentine is needed to produce higher fluid inputs and higher B isotopic values (up to 10‰ seen in the central LAIA including St. Vincent), however data from ODP sites 671 and 672 show $\delta^{11}\text{B}$ in excess of ~40‰ as part of the Barbados ridge (You et al., 1993). Based on the wide ranges of several stable isotopic systems ($\delta^{11}\text{B}$, $\delta^{18}\text{O}$, $\delta^{34}\text{S}$ and $\delta^7\text{Li}$), Bouvier et al. (2008), Bouvier et al. (2010) suggested that some combination of serpentine organic sediment and sediment derived fluid component is necessary to explain the diversity of melt inclusion compositions found in St



Vincent magmas. The mobilization of fluids versus the generation of sediment melts is still a topic of debate but it appears likely that sediment melt does play at least some role in element variation during the generation of magmas at several subduction zones (Turner and Langmuir 2022) whereas fluids derived from sediment and the dehydration of specific mineral phases are also well known to contribute a bevy of elements to magmas.

We possess a comprehensive suite of volcanic rocks collected along the length of the Lesser Antilles arc. This whole rock suite permits us to examine along-arc trace element systematics. We also present a comprehensive FME dataset to build on past work and elucidate on the sources and petrogenesis of these lavas.

Materials and methods

This work examines volcanic rocks from the Lesser Antilles collected by the late Dr. F. Nagle and Dr. J. J. Stipp during a summer field campaign in 1969. This suite of rocks samples nearly every accessible volcanic center in the Lesser Antilles that has been active since the late Cenozoic and exposed as of the date of sampling. Some of these rocks are either now buried under newer flows or have become inaccessible due to construction and urbanization on some of the islands. Therefore, some of the rocks in this suite are no longer available for collection. This work examines a subset of this suite (Figure 1B). Samples were chosen to be representative of the geographic and chronologic variation along the modern, active LAIA. While there is significant chronologic variation in the Lesser Antilles, especially in the north, this study addresses only the recent (<7 Ma) part of the LAIA with samples from Grenada, Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe Montserrat, St. Kitts, Nevis, St Eustatius, and Saba. Samples were inspected for freshness and cut to remove any exterior alteration before being crushed in a 99.5% pure alumina ball mill (SPEX Sample Prep) and sieved prior to chemical analysis. All rocks were then characterized for major and trace elements, and most were analyzed secondarily for FME including Boron.

Major element analyses

Concentrations of major elements were measured on an ARL direct-current plasma emission spectrometry (DCP-OES) system or a Perkin Elmer Avio 200 ICP-OES in USF's Center for Geochemical Analysis. All powdered samples were digested following LiBO₂ fluxed-fusion methodologies (modified from Peterson and Ryan, 2009). For DCP analysis Germanium was added to each sample as an internal standard while ICP analysis added Ge in line *via* an ESI FAST sample introduction system. All samples were run along with natural standards used as both calibration and run check accuracy and drift monitors. Accuracy and precision are reported in Supplementary Table SB (DCP-OES) and Supplementary Table SC (ICP-OES). Errors on both instruments are typically less than 5% for elements above 1 wt% and less than 10% for minor elements.

Trace constituents

Trace element concentrations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer Elan DRC quadrupole ICP-MS system of USF's Center for Geochemical Analysis, which includes a Dynamic Reaction Cell system for broad-spectrum, low-level trace metal analyses. We employed standard HF-HNO₃ digestion techniques (see Kelley et al., 2003 for a full description). The reaction cell technology permits direct measurement of As and Sb in the low ppb to ppt range irrespective of reagent usage on the instrument.

Boron and fluid mobile elements

Boron measurements were performed on separate digestions using the USF ICP-MS system. Often Cs ± As and Sb are measured as part of standard ICP-MS elemental analysis packages. If B is analyzed, it is generally examined separately, with Be and Li abundances, or along with B ± Li isotopes, in part because of the peculiar dissolution behavior of B (e.g., it can form volatile complexes in acidic aqueous solutions) but also due to early affiliations among these elements established by Ryan and Langmuir (1987), Ryan and Langmuir (1988), Ryan and Langmuir (1993), and Morris and coworkers (Morris et al., 1990), or because techniques for the measurement of B, Li, and Be isotopes require accurate abundance determinations. To measure B in LAIA samples we used Na₂CO₃ flux fusion methods following Ryan and Langmuir (1993), which are acceptable for samples containing >5 ppm B and avoided the use of the HF-HCl digestion of Ishikawa and Nakamura (1993); Ishikawa and Nakamura, (1994) due to possible chloride interferences. A dedicated B-free PFA front end assembly with a sapphire injector is used for B measurement and yields reproducible, low-blank analyses. All reagents were cleaned for B using sub-boiling distillation systems for H₂O and acids. Acids and an aliquot of water were cleaned with Mannitol while a second aliquot of ammoniated water was cleaned *via* amberlite resin. Both waters and the nitric acid reagents were tested as blanks for B and all yielded sub ppb concentrations.

Na₂CO₃ digestions yielded excellent results for B on standards while other FME could be sample specific. Some FME are measurable in HF-HNO₃ digestions (As, Cs, Rb and Sb) and were included in these analyses to compare to FME specific digestions (Supplementary Table SD). Therefore, we consistently measure As, Cs, Rb and Sb using both techniques. Regardless, repeated measurement on standard reference materials and samples from the Caribbean yield precision for B, Cs, and As, < 4% while Sb is lower in abundance and thus precision on measurement is ±7%. Errors versus CRM JB-3 and USGS BHVO-1 are 10% for As, ~2% for B and Cs and 16% for Sb (Supplementary Table SE).

Results

In general, all the rocks chosen for analysis from the examined islands included plagioclase and clinopyroxene phenocrysts in varying proportions. Olivine was observed in few samples, and when it was identified it was commonly resorbed or rimmed. In Caribbean samples, including some from our suite which were described in [Nagle et al. \(1976\)](#), hornblende is reported as an intermittent phenocryst phase.

Variation of major elements

Along the arc SiO_2 ranges from close to 45 wt% to nearly 70 wt% ([Figure 2](#); [Table 1](#)). Interestingly the island of Martinique shows a greater range in composition than any other island in SiO_2 , ranging from 48.5 to 67.4 wt%. In Martinique this corresponds with the variation of other

major elements, and likely reflect a combination of differentiation and magma mixing ([Germa et al., 2011](#)). Some of the other islands also display what appear to be differentiation trends (Guadeloupe, Montserrat, Nevis and St. Kitts), while other islands (St. Eustatius and Saba) show no obvious correlations with SiO_2 . Atypical major element compositions have been well documented in Grenada lavas ([Sigurdsson et al., 1973](#); [Brown et al., 1977](#); [Hawkesworth and Powell 1980](#)) and unsurprisingly our Grenada samples have the lowest SiO_2 of any of the islands studied here.

If we consider our along-the-arc sampling as a single suite, several relationships become apparent. First, MgO correlates fairly well with SiO_2 , becoming more variable at lower SiO_2 . The overall trend extends to an MgO content of roughly 7 wt% at 45 wt% SiO_2 . We suggest that 7 wt% MgO generally reflects primitive melts in the arc as a whole, in accord with prior work ([Brown et al., 1977](#);

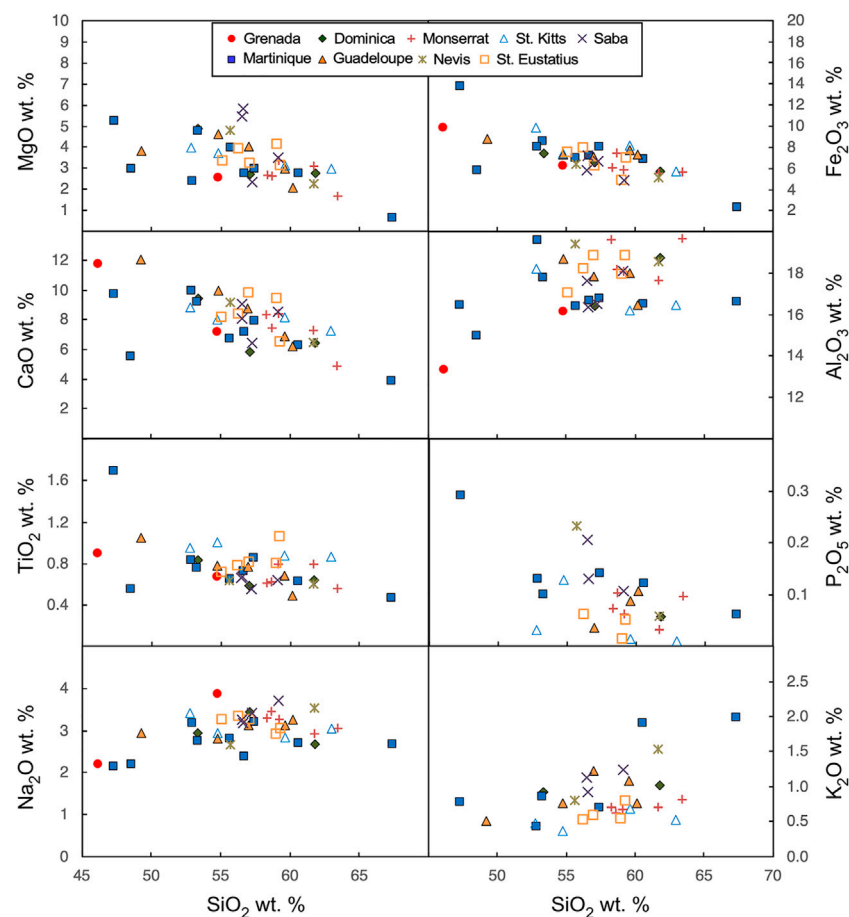


FIGURE 2

Major element variation for the Lesser Antilles. Data from this study is combined with that of [Germa et al., 2010](#), [Germa et al., 2011](#), and [Labanieh et al., 2010](#), [Labanieh et al., 2012](#) for Martinique. LAIA samples form a quasi-continuous suite, whereas specific islands on to themselves do not necessarily display differentiation trends.

TABLE 1 Major element abundances of selected samples from the LAIA. Major elements were measured either on an ARL DCP-OES or a Perkin Elmer Avio 200 ICP-OES after digestion by LiBO₂ flux fusion. n.d.—no data obtained, bdl.—data was below detection limit for this methodology (G, Grenada, D, Dominica, M, Martinique, <G>, Guadeloupe, <M>, Montserrat, K, St. Kitts, E, St. Eustatius, N, Nevis, S, Saba).

Sample	Latitude	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃ ^T	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅
G13A	12.06	46.08	0.90	13.38	9.98	0.18	14.79	11.84	2.21	n.d.	n.d.
G25	12.07	54.74	0.68	16.15	6.32	0.10	2.57	7.28	3.88	n.d.	n.d.
D171	15.44	53.34	0.83	20.01	7.48	n.d.	4.89	9.49	2.94	0.91	Bdl.
D172	15.45	57.07	0.58	16.43	6.62	0.15	2.69	5.86	3.45	n.d.	n.d.
D143	15.59	61.80	0.64	18.73	5.72	0.15	2.75	6.47	2.67	1.02	0.06
M113	14.81	55.67	0.65	16.41	7.04	0.13	3.95	6.73	2.80	n.d.	n.d.
M115	14.67	48.53	0.55	14.98	5.88	0.12	2.94	5.53	2.19	n.d.	n.d.
M136	14.49	56.68	0.72	16.70	7.23	0.11	2.77	7.18	2.38	n.d.	n.d.
<G>179	16.24	56.98	0.76	17.86	7.12	0.19	4.02	8.76	3.12	1.22	0.04
<G>180	16.20	59.62	0.68	17.99	7.80	0.13	2.96	6.87	3.13	1.07	0.09
<G>196	15.86	60.17	0.49	16.49	7.33	0.32	2.04	6.20	3.24	0.76	0.11
<G>197	16.11	54.80	0.78	18.70	7.36	0.19	4.60	10.01	2.80	0.76	0.00
<G>200	16.04	49.27	1.05	21.34	8.81	0.21	3.78	12.11	2.94	0.50	0.00
<M>233	16.77	58.31	0.61	19.63	6.14	0.18	2.68	8.38	3.29	0.70	0.07
<M>237	16.77	58.66	0.62	18.19	7.52	0.17	2.61	7.45	3.45	0.62	0.10
<M>240	16.76	61.71	0.80	17.68	5.55	0.16	3.11	7.32	2.94	0.70	0.03
<M>241	16.74	59.17	0.79	18.09	5.92	0.20	3.35	8.48	3.28	0.67	0.06
<M>246	16.73	63.41	0.55	19.69	5.69	0.15	1.64	4.90	3.06	0.81	0.10
K266	17.38	62.98	0.86	16.46	5.73	0.18	2.94	7.28	3.04	0.52	0.01
K270	17.39	52.80	0.95	18.19	9.85	0.21	3.96	8.88	3.41	0.48	0.03
K271	17.40	54.76	1.01	21.42	7.45	0.20	3.69	8.06	2.93	0.37	0.13
K293	17.28	59.63	0.88	16.22	8.23	0.20	3.14	8.21	2.83	0.67	0.01
E313	17.47	55.08	0.72	17.05	7.67	0.17	3.35	8.20	3.26	n.d.	n.d.
E294	17.48	58.98	0.80	17.98	4.96	n.d.	4.13	9.48	2.91	0.55	0.02
E296	17.48	56.23	0.78	18.23	8.08	0.19	3.96	8.45	3.35	0.53	0.06
E300	17.52	59.27	1.06	18.88	7.07	0.14	3.14	6.55	3.05	0.80	0.05
E313	17.47	57.01	0.82	18.90	6.32	0.17	3.25	9.86	3.28	0.60	0.19
N278	17.16	61.70	0.60	18.56	5.14	n.d.	2.22	6.51	3.53	1.53	0.06
N282	17.12	55.67	0.63	19.41	6.46	0.17	4.80	9.17	2.65	0.80	0.23
S318	17.62	59.14	0.63	18.10	4.90	0.15	3.48	8.56	3.70	1.23	0.11
S324	17.63	57.26	0.55	16.54	6.68	0.17	2.34	6.48	3.41	n.d.	n.d.
S331	17.65	56.57	0.67	16.38	7.25	0.16	5.81	8.15	3.17	0.92	0.13
S338	17.62	56.50	0.66	17.65	5.88	0.19	5.44	9.10	3.25	1.12	0.20

Westercamp 1988; Bezard et al., 2014). However, some significantly higher MgO lavas have been reported here (Sigurdsson et al., 1973; Defant et al., 2001; DuFrane et al., 2009; Bouvier et al., 2010; Melekhova et al., 2015). Higher MgO whole rock occurrences tend to be rare and often associated with xenolith bearing magmas or atypical alkalic magmas such as those found in Grenada.

CaO forms a tight array with SiO₂ in the modern arc, and trends back to approximately 12 wt% CaO at 45 wt% SiO₂. Some specific islands (St. Eustatius, Saba and to some extent St. Kitts) do not follow a clear differentiation trend with respect to CaO. This may be in part

due to our sample selection of the visually most primitive rocks from each island but given the measured composition of any given island we would not expect to see large variations in CaO, MgO & TiO₂ over a 5% range in silica due to crystallization alone. Interestingly, both St. Eustatius and Saba show positive correlations between K₂O and SiO₂, but the variation is quite small. Iron also appears to be negatively correlated to SiO₂ both along the full arc and in each island studied. These trends are largely consistent with magmatic differentiation, although in some cases inconsistent with crystallization of the mineral phases found in most of these lavas.

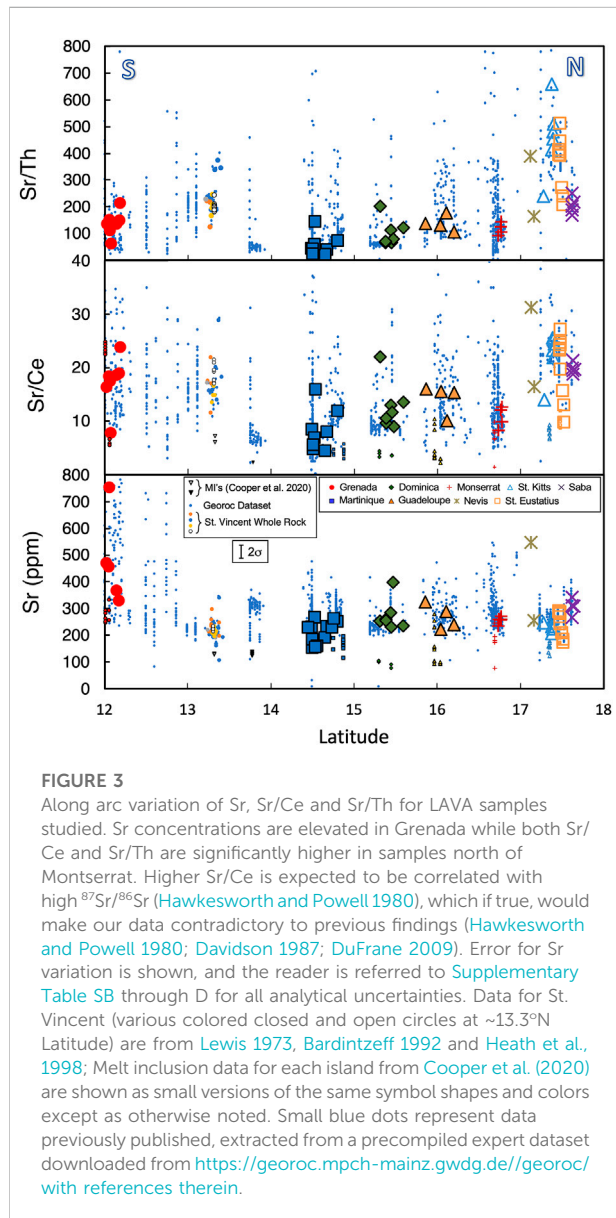


FIGURE 3

Along arc variation of Sr, Sr/Ce and Sr/Th for LAVA samples studied. Sr concentrations are elevated in Grenada while both Sr/Ce and Sr/Th are significantly higher in samples north of Montserrat. Higher Sr/Ce is expected to be correlated with high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980), which if true, would make our data contradictory to previous findings (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Davidson 1987; DuFrane 2009). Error for Sr variation is shown, and the reader is referred to Supplementary Table SB through D for all analytical uncertainties. Data for St. Vincent (various colored closed and open circles at $\sim 13.3^\circ\text{N}$ Latitude) are from Lewis 1973, Bardintzeff 1992 and Heath et al., 1998; Melt inclusion data for each island from Cooper et al. (2020) are shown as small versions of the same symbol shapes and colors except as otherwise noted. Small blue dots represent data previously published, extracted from a precompiled expert dataset downloaded from <https://georoc.mpch-mainz.gwdg.de/georoc/> with references therein.

Trace elements

We find systematic along-arc variations in most trace elements. Systematic variation of K_2O and $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ have been well documented in the Lesser Antilles (Brown et al., 1977; Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Davidson, 1987; Bouysse et al., 1990; DuFrane et al., 2009). Despite considerable scatter in previously collected data (GEOROC Database), Sr concentrations vary little in our samples from the recent arc, except for Grenada and Nevis (Figure 3; Supplementary Table SA). However, Sr/Th ratios in our samples are generally higher in the northern islands, while from Montserrat southward Sr/Th and Sr are both reasonably constant. These patterns suggest that Sr concentrations are not necessarily correlated with $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ as

in previous work. Grenada does show higher Sr concentrations and slightly higher Sr/Ce values, but still lower than is seen in the northern islands. Higher Sr/Ce has been found to be correlated with high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980). However, we find Sr/Ce as well as Sr/Th to be higher overall in the northern part of the arc, which has low $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Davidson 1987; DuFrane et al., 2009; Labanieh et al., 2010).

Variations in La/Sm ratios have been used to document sediment melting, while elevated Ba/La and U/Th are said to indicate fluid additions from the slab *via* sediment dehydration (Patiño et al., 2000; Plank et al., 2002; Carr et al., 2003; Elliot 2003). Figure 4 plots La/Sm, Ba/La, and U/Th along the length of the arc. The highest La/Sm ratios are in Grenada, and La/Sm decreases systematically northward in the modern arc. Grenada also shows the highest Ni and Cr values along the arc, consistent with higher degrees of mantle melting (Supplementary Table SA). Ba/La as well as U/Th are enriched in samples from north of Montserrat whereas Ba/La is only slightly higher than Grenada and Montserrat in the central islands of Martinique and Dominica. U/Th ratios are comparatively low in these same central islands. When we plot Sm vs. La in Figure 5, LAIA samples are positively correlated both with each other and with the various reported components of local trench sediments (Plank and Langmuir 1998; Carpentier 2007). While compositionally the Grenada whole rocks are largely similar to their associated melt inclusions, the melting curve of Bouvier et al. (2010) does not seem to explain most of these data, so it is likely that differentiation and/or mixing of mantle with varying sediment sources are primarily responsible for the LAIA data array.

Fluid mobile elements

B/Nb and B/La are all highly elevated in the central islands of Martinique and Dominica (Figure 6). Boron contents are very low in islands north of Guadeloupe, and Guadeloupe itself has low B contents, but intermediate B/La and B/Nb. Grenada is extremely low in B and has the lowest B/La and B/Nb in the arc. B, As, Rb and Cs are all reasonably well correlated to each other plotted against Ba showing essentially the same patterning on every island studied (Figure 7). FME from two main groups: a low FME group corresponding to Grenada and the northern islands extending to high Ba and a high FME group corresponding to the central islands of Martinique and Dominica. Interestingly, As is somewhat elevated in Grenada where two samples look more like the central group and three like the northern group (Figure 7). We also note that there are a few samples from both Martinique and Dominica that have low FME, and all samples analyzed thus far from Guadeloupe contain low FME. For Rb and Cs data from Sites 543 and 144 exists for the range of sediment thought to influence Caribbean Lavas and were studied in detail by Carpentier (2007) and Carpentier et al.

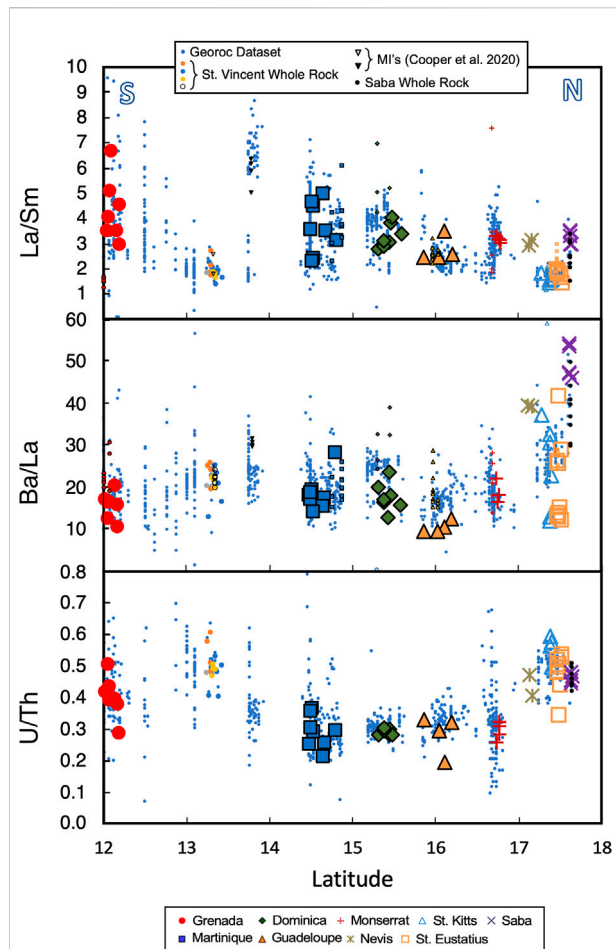


FIGURE 4

Variation of element ratios typically used as measures of subducted sediment enrichment applied to the Lesser Antilles Volcanic Arc. Ratios of Ba/La and U/Th are typically low in the central arc and quite high in the recent northern islands, suggesting higher sediment recycling for the northern arc despite much thicker accretionary wedge in the south. La/Sm tends to decrease from the south to the north. Data points for Saba from Defant et al., 2001, otherwise symbols are as in Figure 3 or as noted.

(2008), Carpentier et al. (2009). Interestingly, Site 543 sediments as a whole plot with the higher FME group while Site 144 has both the low FME-Ba trend and high FME-Ba trend we see in our samples (Figure 7). Lithium also correlates with B suggesting that it too behaves as a FME in the LAIA system (Figure 8).

Discussion

The range of chemical variations in island arc lavas is usually due to a combination of contributions from the subducted material, the mantle wedge, and upper crust. Partial melting at arc settings has generally been attributed

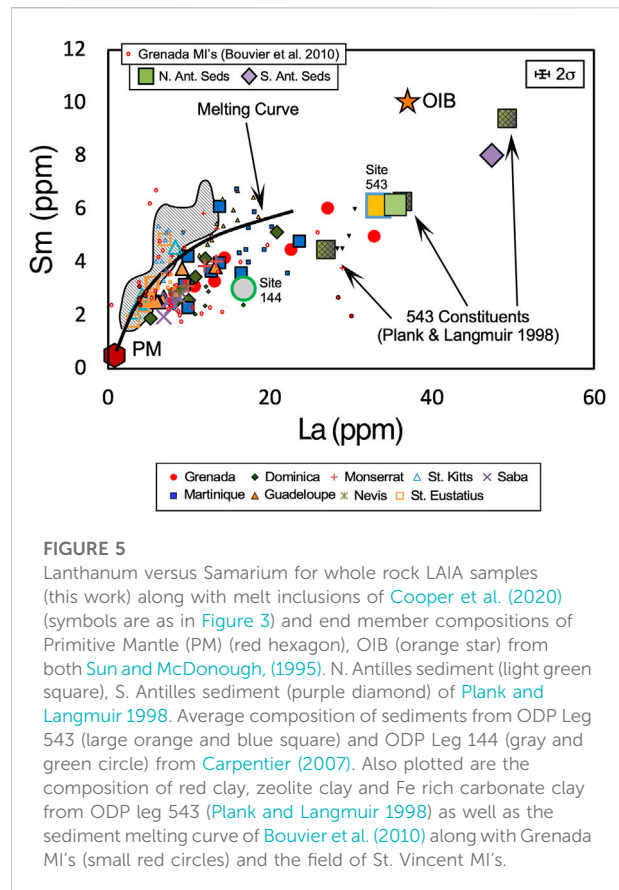


FIGURE 5

Lanthanum versus Samarium for whole rock LAIA samples (this work) along with melt inclusions of Cooper et al. (2020) (symbols are as in Figure 3) and end member compositions of Primitive Mantle (PM) (red hexagon), OIB (orange star) from both Sun and McDonough, (1995). N. Antilles sediment (light green square), S. Antilles sediment (purple diamond) of Plank and Langmuir 1998. Average composition of sediments from ODP Leg 543 (large orange and blue square) and ODP Leg 144 (gray and green circle) from Carpentier (2007). Also plotted are the composition of red clay, zeolite clay and Fe rich carbonate clay from ODP leg 543 (Plank and Langmuir 1998) as well as the sediment melting curve of Bouvier et al. (2010) along with Grenada MI's (small red circles) and the field of St. Vincent MI's.

to the lowering of the peridotite solidus by volatiles supplied by these sources. Early trace element and isotopic studies on Lesser Antilles volcanics emphasized the examination of contributions from subducted sediment to the formation of the parental arc magmas (Arculus 1976; Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; White and Dupre 1986; Davidson 1987; Othman et al., 1989; see also Plank and Langmuir 1998). These works were motivated by the obvious variation in the magnitude of sediment inputs to the trench related to the substantial continental outflux from the nearby Orinoco River system. As well, radiogenic Sr and Pb decrease from south to north and suggesting decreasing continental sedimentary inputs along the arc. A challenge faced in these early studies was that information on the makeup of the sediments reaching the trench was limited to a single drill site (DSDP Leg 78, site 543), so possible variations in sediment sources and input fluxes in different segments of the arc were inadequately captured. More recent studies (Carpentier et al., 2008; Carpentier et al., 2009; DuFrane et al., 2009; Bouvier et al., 2010; Labanieh et al., 2012; Freymuth et al., 2016; Cooper et al., 2020) have benefited from newer drill site data for incoming sediments and have improved our understanding of the chemical role(s) of a compositionally variable incoming sedimentary pile. Revisiting the recovered core materials

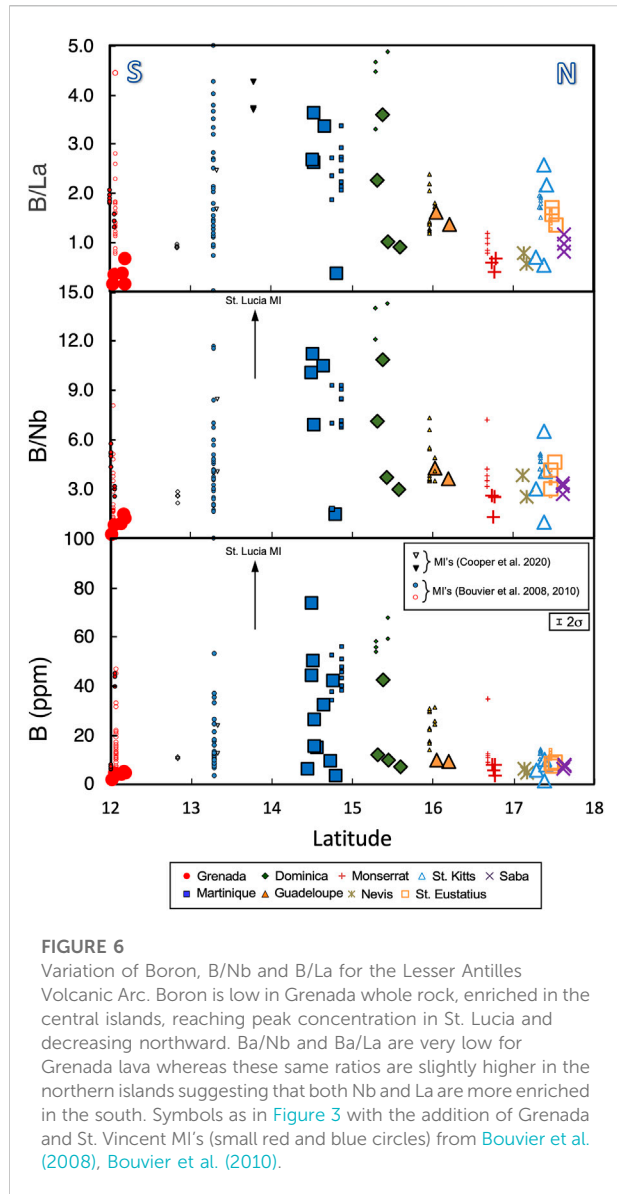


FIGURE 6

Variation of Boron, B/Nb and B/La for the Lesser Antilles Volcanic Arc. Boron is low in Grenada whole rock, enriched in the central islands, reaching peak concentration in St. Lucia and decreasing northward. Ba/Nb and Ba/La are very low for Grenada lava whereas these same ratios are slightly higher in the northern islands suggesting that both Nb and La are more enriched in the south. Symbols as in Figure 3 with the addition of Grenada and St. Vincent MI's (small red and blue circles) from Bouvier et al. (2008), Bouvier et al. (2010).

have shown that local sediment sourcing may be an important contributing factor to the diversity of Lesser Antilles magmatic products. Also, recent studies have suggested that a large portion of the aqueous fluids playing a role in melt generation might come from the subducted basalts (Labanieh et al., 2012), altered oceanic crust (Bouvier et al., 2008; Bouvier et al., 2010), and even serpentinites heterogeneously distributed in the descending slab (Bouvier et al., 2019; Cooper et al., 2020).

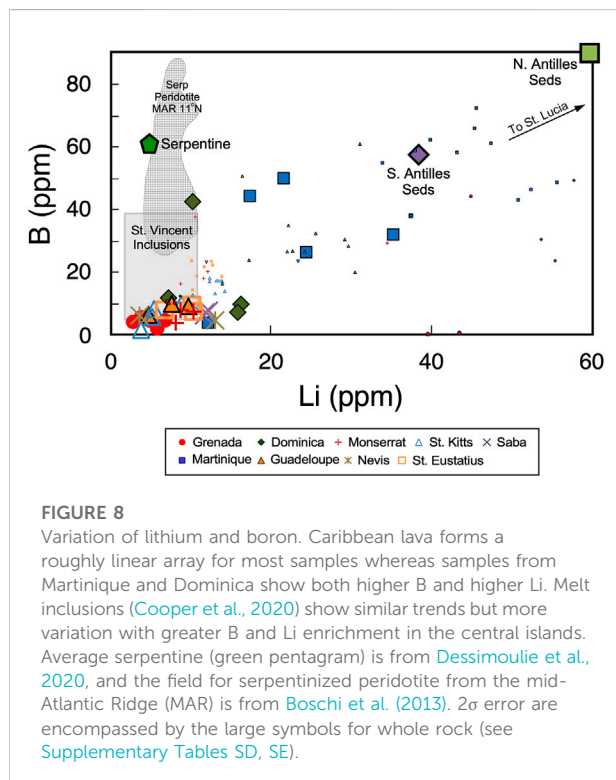
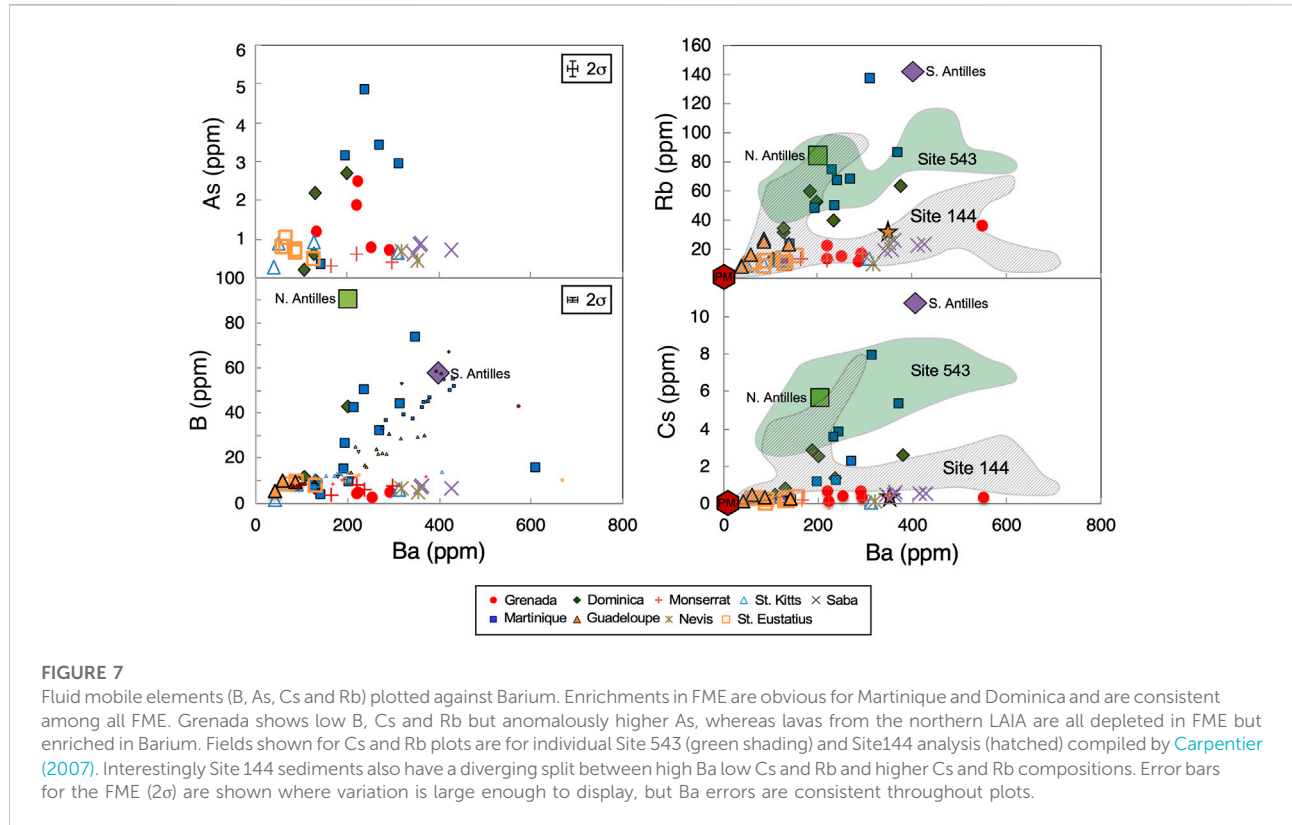
While many past studies have made use of lithophile trace element ratios and/or radiogenic isotopes, few have thus far taken full advantage of the fluid mobile elements (FME). As the FMEs are particularly sensitive to fluid-mediated slab contributions (as opposed to sediment or basaltic melt inputs: Elliott et al., 1997;

Class et al., 2000; Kelemen et al., 2003) the respective roles of fluid addition versus sediment/crustal melting should be apparent both from FME concentrations as well as in FME/immobile element ratios (i.e., B/Be, B/Nb Cs/Th, As/Ce, Pb/Ce etc.). As part of our FME studies, in the sections that follow we examine relationships between LILE and immobile elements in the context of fluid vs. sediment additions to Lesser Antilles lavas. Correlations between FME and fluid sensitive LILE may indicate enrichments *via* metasomatic fluids derived from subducted sediment sources. Alternatively, if elements typically enriched in sediments are not evident, then fluids may have instead been sourced in altered and/or serpentinized oceanic crust (AOC).

Variation of fluid mobile elements and potential fluid enrichment

FME systematics in arc magmas are intertwined with competing models for the origins of these enrichments in sub-arc source regions. While the common presumption is that the elemental enrichments of arc magmas arise from the slab-derived fluid/melt fluxes that trigger melting in the sub-arc mantle, studies of FME systematics during forearc metamorphism indicate substantial early mobility for many of these species, pointing to the involvement of serpentinites, either as part of the down-going slab assemblage, or along the subduction interface, beginning in the forearc (e.g., Ulmer and Trommsdorf 1995; Bebout et al., 1999; Benton et al., 2001, Benton et al., 2004; Straub and Layne 2002; Savov et al., 2005; Savov et al., 2007; Hattori and Guillot 2007; Tonarini et al., 2007; Deschamps et al., 2010, Deschamps et al., 2011; Saumur et al., 2010; Ryan and Chauvel, 2014; Scambelluri et al., 2019; Cooper et al., 2020). Serpentinite-derived fluid inputs arise from its decomposition at $T > 600^{\circ}\text{C}$, and the early redistribution of FMEs from the slab into wedge-derived serpentines in the subduction channel is largely unaccounted for (e.g., large fractions of slab B, and to a lesser extent As and Cs, appear to be entrained in forming wedge serpentines during shallow fluid releases; Benton et al., 2001; Savov et al., 2005; Savov et al., 2007; Hattori and Guillot 2007; Deschamps et al., 2011). Lithium, which is compatible in serpentine minerals, also shows greater mobility at higher temperatures (Scambelluri et al., 2004; Benton et al., 2004; Marschall et al., 2007) and therefore correlation with FME are expected if it is released into the subduction system by fluids at high temperature (Walker et al., 2009).

We have examined comparative B and FME systematics in our LAIA whole rocks along the arc. Boron is highest in the central part of the LAIA and generally quite low in both the north and south. Boron concentrations seems to peak in whole rock samples from Martinique, where concentrations often exceed 15 ppm (Figure 6). B/Nb ratios are also highest in the central part of the arc, in accord with prior findings (e.g., Cooper et al., 2020). Enrichments in As, Cs and Rb as well as Li can also be seen in the



lavas from Martinique and Dominica ([Figures 7, 8](#)). Combined, the higher B, Li, As and other FME abundances are suggestive of a serpentinite-originating fluid source in the central arc. Interestingly, the central Lesser Antilles islands (Dominica, Guadeloupe, Martinique) have long been linked to higher magma production rates and higher fluid fluxes from the down-going plate ([Wadge and Shepard, 1984](#); [Lahitte et al., 2012](#)). These higher fluxes might explain the higher FME abundances in the central islands with respect to the north and south parts of the arc.

B and FME are generally low in lavas from Grenada. However, rocks from Grenada contain significant As. We would expect B and As to correlate if serpentinites were involved ([Savov et al., 2005](#); [Kodolanyi et al., 2012](#); [Scambelluri, et al., 2019](#)). Low Li, Cs and Rb in the Grenada lavas may indicate that As may be inherited from some other source, or that early fluid loss from the down-going slab preferentially removed B and other species or the As enrichment is not due to fluid enrichment. Previous studies of melt inclusions in Grenada generally do not have higher B than our whole rocks (as compared to the central arc, [Figure 7](#)) so while it is plausible that serpentine is involved here with preferential loss of B (and other FME species), there is no clear evidence one way or the other. We should be careful to point out that any higher B magmas in Grenada are from highly

silicic melt inclusions (Cooper et al., 2020) or very low silica melt inclusions (Bouvier et al., 2010) whereas most Grenada inclusions have <20 ppm B. We also note that our whole rocks are in good agreement with the andesitic inclusions studied by Cooper et al. (2020). Grenada may therefore represent a special case, but we surmise that our rocks record additions from an As-enriched component, possibly fluids heavily influenced by Orinoco sediments (e.g., Hattori and Guillot, 2007).

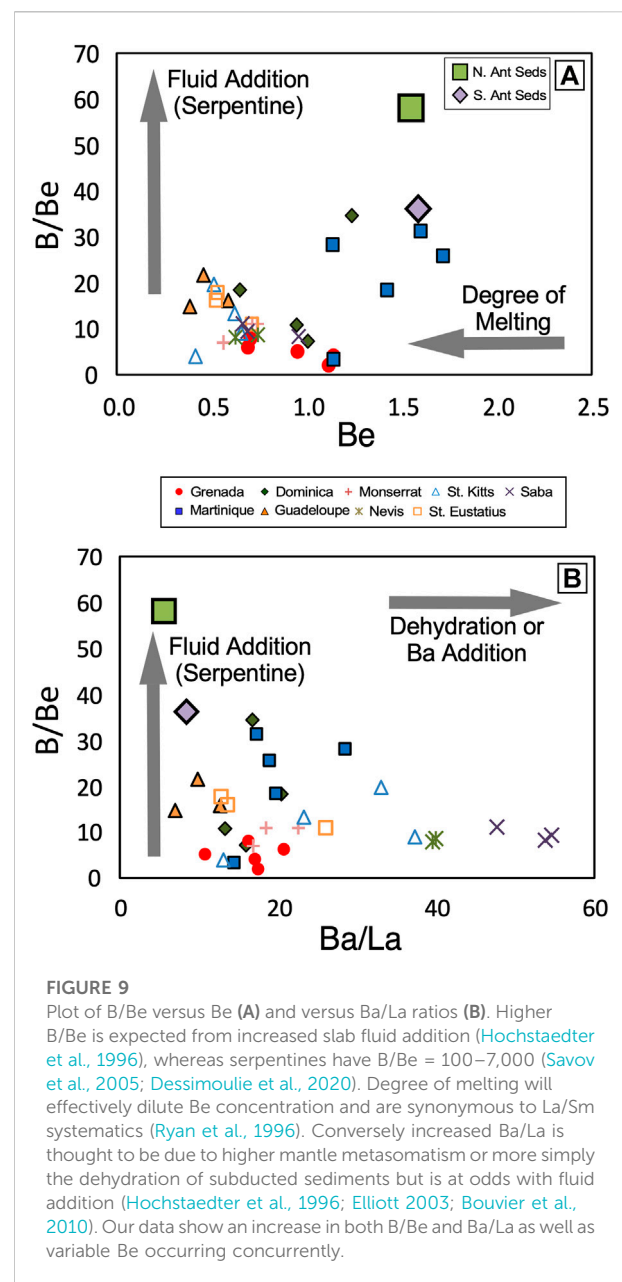
B and FME are low the northern group lavas. As discussed, in the south and central islands, high B, As and other FME may be indicative of serpentine (Ulmer and Trommsdorf 1995; Scambelluri, et al., 2004). However, in the northern part of the arc B and all other FME concentrations are low for whole rock and melt inclusions. This suggests that fluids are also low, inconsistent with enrichment from serpentine dehydration. Moreover, in the north there is limited evidence for forearc serpentinization (Bebout et al., 1999; Savov et al., 2005; Savov et al., 2007; Cooper et al., 2020). Barium concentrations are high and rival that of the central LAIA rocks but exhibit a very different trend where FME remain low in relation to Ba (Figure 7). This implies that Ba is either decoupled from FME somewhere in the magmatic system or not modified by fluids in the northern segment of LAIA but is instead enriched by another process.

Fluid mobile elements vs. large ion lithophile elements

Comparisons of FME to the enriched LILE can help resolve sediment- or ocean-crust derived inputs from fluid-mediated inputs, and identify linkages between likely fluxes (e.g., a fluid derived from sediments vs. a sediment melt: see Class et al., 2000). LILE and FME systematics are different in the northern part of the arc than in the south, and both are also distinct from the central parts of the arc. FME concentrations are low north of Montserrat, despite high Ba contents, a feature often assumed to be related to fluid inputs (Carr, 1984; Reagan et al., 1994; Elliott et al., 1997; Patiño et al., 2000; Walker et al., 2001; Plank et al., 2002, Carr et al., 2003, Elliott 2003; Jicha et al., 2004; and others). If certain LILE such as Ba are elevated by fluid enrichment, then one might expect to see correlations between Ba and FME along arc, but this is not observed.

Data for B from endmember sediment compositions exists for northern and southern Lesser Antilles sediments (Plank 2014). When plotted against our LAIA samples, these suggest that B/Be ratios for the central islands could be influenced significantly by sediments (Figure 9). However, in the central LAIA Ba/La ratios are too high for most samples to be controlled by sediment enrichment alone. Instead, we suggest some combination of serpentine-driven fluid flux plus sediment melt inputs as responsible for Martinique and Dominica. Such

a model reconciles the FME, B/Be and Ba/La systematics of the central islands and is consistent with the findings of Cooper et al. (2020). In the northern islands Ba/La is very high while B/Be and FME enrichments are low (Figure 9). The LAIA samples appear to splay in two directions, with central LAIA samples displaced towards higher B/Be and northern arc samples towards high Ba/La. Again, if we only invoke fluids to control the behavior of both B as an FME and Ba as a fluid sensitive LILE, then we should see a correlation between FME, Ba and Ba ratios in all samples studied. Instead, we see such correlations in the central arc, but not in the northern segment of LAIA. Therefore, we suggest that Ba is



decoupled from the FME, and its behavior is not controlled entirely by slab fluid additions here.

Enrichment of barium

Analysis of mafic lavas along arcs along the Pacific margin and in the South Sandwich Islands show systematic behavior of B with respect to Ba (Figure 10; Ryan and Chauvel 2014). Ba/La and B/La ratios for such hot subduction systems lie between the expected ratio for a B-depleted sediment and that of the upper mantle. Other more “typical” arcs in terms of thermal structure (Kuriles, South Sandwich, Aleutians) span from low-B sediment endmember toward higher B ratios with little or no change in Ba/La. B/La covaries with Ba/La in the Central American arc, reaching peak values in the central portion of the arc, which various workers have suggested is due to enrichments *via* sediment-derived fluids (Patiño et al., 2000; Plank et al., 2002; Carr et al., 2003). By comparison, some LAIA samples show low Ba/La and low B/La ratios, akin to what is seen in the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt (Figure 10). Ryan and Chauvel (2014) attribute B and Ba systematics in Mexico to hot slab subduction. However, the subducting plate at the LAIA is much older (80–105 Ma, Carpentier et al., 2008), and presumably colder,

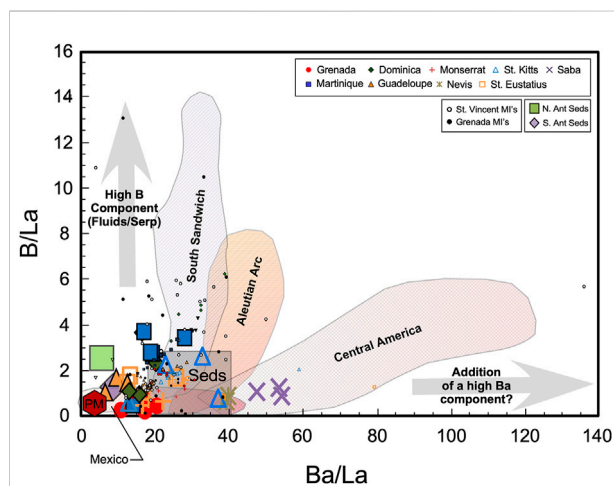


FIGURE 10

Ba/La versus B/La for LAIA samples investigated in this work compared to the compositional fields for Central America, the Aleutian Arc, the South Sandwich Arc and Mexico (Ryan and Chauvel 2014). Mantle (PM) as well as North and South Antilles Sediment (light green square and purple diamond) reported by Plank and Langmuir (1998) are shown. Serpentine average 12–37 for Ba/La and 105–2000 for average B/La (Savov et al., 2005; Dessimoulie et al., 2020) and may represent the high B component. Lesser Antilles compositions from this study and melt inclusion from St Vincent and Grenada (Bouvier et al., 2008 and Bouvier et al., 2010 respectively) show that some samples seem to be a mixture of mantle and a higher boron component while northern island seem to trend towards high Ba/La along a Central American “trajectory.” Figure modeled after Ryan and Chauvel 2014.

and therefore not consistent with this hypothesis. Saba and Nevis samples tend to trend towards higher Ba/La and are more like magmas from Central America. Some samples from Martinique, St. Kitts, St. Eustatius and Dominica have somewhat higher B/La ratios and thus plot more like south Sandwich or Aleutian lavas. These samples follow a trend resembling that of the bulk of St. Vincent and Grenada melt inclusions (Bouvier et al., 2010) although at least one St Vincent MI has high Ba/La and plots similarly to the Central American trend. We attribute these two trends to incorporation of a high B component, likely derived from subducted fluids, and incorporation of a high Ba component we believe to be derived from sediments delivered locally to the trench along the down-going slab. Other workers have used Ba/Th ratios to determine the influence of slab dehydration, which irrevocably adds fluids to the mantle wedge (Elliott 2003). Here we once again examine La/Sm and Ba/Th ratios to determine the effects of melting (Figure 11). We find that northern LAIA samples trend towards high Ba/Th, while southern and central samples form a tight array trending toward higher La/Sm. While we do not rule out the influence of fluid additions, for which we see evidence for throughout the LAIA, we also consider the effects of the melting of differing sediment compositions for magmas found along the arc.

Carpentier (2007) analyzed sediments from Site 144 in detail, finding that several horizons in this section have >800 ppm Ba

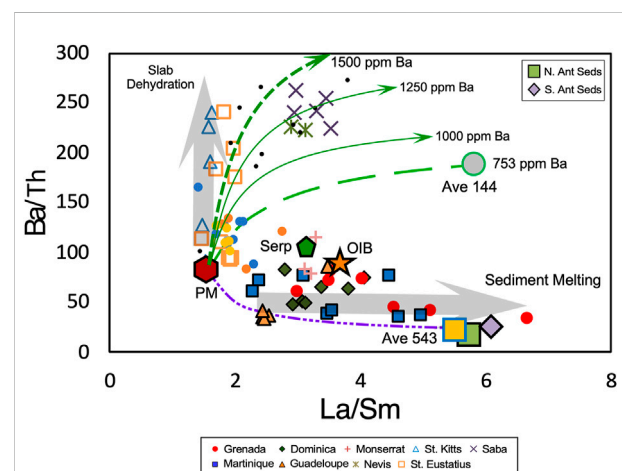


FIGURE 11

Plot showing trends caused by dehydration of the subducting slab (vertical trends) versus sediment melting (horizontal trend) in relation to LAIA samples. The Central Islands of Martinique, Dominica, Guadeloupe as well as the southern island of Grenada all plot along a proposed sediment melting trend while the northern islands of St Eustatius, St. Kitts Saba, and Nevis all plot at increasing Ba/Th. Both trends seem to originate from primitive mantle values (PM) and are compared to binary mixing curves (after Langmuir, 1978) trending to Site 543 (purple dot-dashed line) and Site 144 (green dashes). Compositions for the northern islands can be reproduced without requiring slab dehydration *via* binary mixing between mantle and a Site 144 “like” sediment but with elevated barium.

(average Ba = 753, $1\sigma = 1,503$). Two samples had more than 5,000 ppm Ba, while La and Th are roughly consistent throughout the core, averaging 15.9 ppm ($1\sigma = 7.17$) and 4.53 ppm ($1\sigma = 2.52$) respectively. Ba/La and Ba/Th in these samples are exceedingly high and stand out in the core stratigraphy (sample 144–36 has Ba/La = 650 and Ba/Th = 2,645; Carpentier, 2007). A low degree partial melt derived from this high-Ba sediment (or some addition of a sediment with comparably high Ba) could deliver substantial Ba to mantle melts without significant perturbation of other trace species. We tested this hypothesis by looking at binary mixing (equations from Langmuir, 1978) of a primitive mantle source with averaged sediments from Site 144, with and without added Ba, and assimilation of average Site 144 sediments during fractional crystallization (using AFC model of DePaolo, 1981). We find that for Ba/Th we can reproduce trends like those we see in our data by mixing with sediment that must be similar to the average of Site 144 in respect to Ba/Th and La/Sm, but with Ba concentrations between 1,000 and 1,500 (Figure 11). This binary mixing model fits our Caribbean data better than slab dehydration for both Saba and Nevis which extend toward higher La/Sm. For St. Eustatius and St. Kitts, the slab dehydration model (Elliott, 2003 and references therein) fits well, but these islands also fall close to the binary mixing curves and could also be satisfied by mixing with high Ba sediments. While we are not suggesting that sediments from Site 144 are subducting in the north, we do recognize that the northern part of LAIA is influenced by some similar composition (and henceforth Site 144 sediments and site 144-like sediments can be used synonymously). We modeled binary mixing between primitive mantle and Site 543 and find that Guadeloupe and Martinique generally follow this trend. Interestingly Montserrat lies between the “southern” grouping, extending toward Site 543 sediments along the sediment melting trend and the “northern” trend that is well described by our Site 144 + Ba mixing models. We find similar results when plotting Ba/La vs. Th/Yb (Figure 12). Here, binary mixing between primitive mantle and average Site 144 sediment does not completely satisfy our data. Mixing between primitive mantle and a Site144-like source containing variably high Ba, >1,000 ppm, can explain all our data. AFC models using the same primitive mantle and average Site 144 compositions fail to explain the high Ba/La lavas from the northern islands. Mixing between mantle and any Site 543 sediment composition cannot explain the bulk of our data and are inconsistent with high Ba/Th (>150; Figure 11). As seen in Figure 6, the northern islands show very high Ba while all the FME are low. Therefore, we suggest that Ba enrichments are not due exclusively to fluids but instead are derived primarily from low degree partial melt of specific sediment (Turner and Langmuir 2022). We suggest that the incorporation of a few percent of a high Ba sediment-derived melt controls much of the variation we see in the northern LAIA, while the central LAIA have higher FME, high Li and moderate to high Ba, more

consistent with slab dehydration and fluid enrichment during mantle melting. Thus, low FME and low Li combined with high Ba suggest that these elements are ostensibly decoupled within specific parts of the arc. This inference is much more in line with past estimates of the percent contributions of sediments to the LAIA source regions (<2% melt and 5% fluid, (Davidson 1987; Westercamp 1988; Othman et al., 1989; Cousens et al., 1994; Singer et al., 2007; DuFrane et al., 2009; Bouvier et al., 2010; Labanieh et al., 2010).

Deep sea drill cores from Central America (Site 495) and from the Izu Bonin arc (Site U1438) show that specific sediment layers can contain up to 4,000 ppm barium and 3,000 ppm strontium (Plank and Langmuir 1993; Plank and Langmuir 1998; Hickey Vargas et al., 2018). Plank and Langmuir (1998) identify these layers as diatomaceous mud and silicic clays. Patiño et al. (2000) reports mean carbonaceous sediments in Central America with more than 2000 ppm Ba and 1,500 ppm Sr (Ba/La = 244 and Sr/Th = 9,400). Potentially comparable calcareous and silicic clays have been recognized in the Barbados accretionary prism (Capet et al., 1986). The highest Ba sediment recorded in the Caribbean region is at the bottom of the Site 144 core (Carpentier, 2007). Moreover, Defant et al., 2001 suggested a geochemical role for biogenic sediment subducted

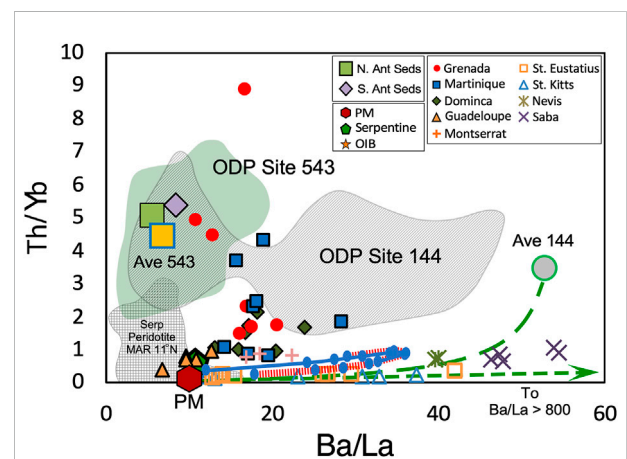


FIGURE 12

Abundance of Ba/La (fluid component) vs. Th/Yb (sediment component) for LAIA whole rock samples. Grenada samples follow some Martinique and Dominica whole rock samples. Samples from Nevis, St. Kitts, St. Eustatius and Saba follow a distinct high Ba - low Th trend towards an ultra-high Ba/La endmember. Samples from Guadeloupe, Montserrat and a few samples from Martinique and Guadeloupe also trend towards high Ba/La but with more elevated Th/Yb. Blue and red lines are AFC models (DePaolo, 1981) at $F = 5\%$ melting with varying r (red dashed line) and $r = 0.8$ with varying F (blue solid line) using a bulk D close to that described by Hu et al. (2021) after Labanieh et al. (2010) but extrapolated for the general assemblage of the arc with a starting composition equivalent to the average of all Site 144 sediments from Carpentier (2007). Green dashed line is binary mixing (Langmuir, 1978) of primitive mantle (PM; Sun and McDonough, 1989) with average Site 144 (Carpentier, 2007) and a Site 144 average component with 1,250 ppm Ba and Ba/La >800.

under Saba however no outboard core has been collected north of Site 543. Therefore, while we have no direct evidence that specifically fingerprints biologic sediment influence throughout LAIA, we do note that it is in a tropical region with high amounts of biologic sedimentation so we should not rule it out. Recent molybdenum isotope data shows higher $\delta^{98/95}\text{Mo}$ in the southern part of the arc associated with black shales from the middle of the Site 144 core (Freytmuth et al., 2016). Based on its geographic location, it is not unreasonable to expect contributions of both calcareous and silicic sediments anywhere along the Lesser Antilles arc (Wilson and Costelloe 2011). Other potential high Ba components can be envisioned such as gypsum or assimilation of crust, but many can be ruled out based on other factors such as Sr isotopes which are low in the northern arc (Hawkesworth and Powell 1980; Davidson 1987).

While it is not the direct focus of this work to investigate the specific sediment type, we surmise that the sediment variability atop the down-going slab effects the element abundances and subsequently the element ratio variations along strike. We hypothesize that influences are more local and vary in both location and time. Central American magmas that show enrichments in specific trace element ratios beyond what one might expect based on fluid addition alone (Patiño et al., 2000; Plank et al., 2002; Atlas 2008; Ryan and Chauvel 2014) and we suggest this also is the case for the LAIA. Clearly more work needs to be done, but we stress that our northern arc samples record elevated Ba/La and Ba/Th signatures consistent with sediment containing higher barium not necessarily correlated with FME and fluid enrichments.

Variable sediment end member compositions

There is a significant variation in the composition of sediments along the LAIA that influence the compositions of erupted arc lavas. Few studies have examined the compositional variability of drilled sediments from the Caribbean region in detail (Plank and Langmuir 1998; Carpentier 2007). However, more recent studies have begun to examine the influence of individual components in or on top of the down-going plate (Carpentier et al., 2008; Tang et al., 2014; Freymuth et al., 2016). Components identified as contributing to the compositional signal include compositionally distinct sediment packages from the down-going slab, serpentinite, hydrated altered oceanic crust (Hawkesworth et al., 1993; Plank and Langmuir 1998; Class et al., 2000; Elliott 2003; Carpentier 2007; Carpentier et al., 2008; Bouvier et al., 2010; Tang et al., 2014; Freymuth et al., 2016; Scambelluri et al., 2019; Hu et al., 2021, and many others) and potentially additions from the overlying crust (Davidson 1987; van Soest et al., 1998; van Soest et al., 2002). While it is not the intention of this work to specifically identify every

component nor determine the precise percentage addition of specific components, we stress that these additions are not contributed equally along the length of LAIA. Instead, we suggest that the central arc and northern arc must have some significant differences in both sediment and fluid influence. Moreover, the southern arc while similar to the central arc in some respects, also shares some compositional similarities with the north.

Prior work has documented significant variation in sediment compositions within a single drill site outboard the LAIA. Plank and Langmuir (1998) examined the elemental makeup of zeolite clays, iron rich calcareous clays and red clays in Site 543. Their results suggest that the trace element compositions of these sediments at Site 543 generally varies by a factor of two or less. They list a single composition for “South Antilles” sediment that is generally consistent with the Site 543 sediment record. The averages they report also fall within the compositional field of Site 543 compiled by Carpentier (2007) and Carpentier et al. (2008). This suggests that the average Site 543 sediment values may be a good representation of one specific sediment endmember for the LAIA. Sediments from Site 144 on the Demerara Rise on the South American continental shelf have been proposed to contribute to the trench sediment inputs along the southern Antilles. Site 144 data from Carpentier (2007) shows 4-fold variations in Rb, Li and Th, a 10-fold for Zr, Cs, and Sm and even greater variations in Ba (100–9000ppm). By contrast, data for site 543 from Carpentier (2007) document Ba concentrations of 243 ± 135 ppm (1σ). So, depending on how one chooses to consider the composition of sediments reaching the trench outboard of the LAIA, the ratios commonly used to determine sediment influx may be markedly different. In Figure 5 the LAIA lavas overall plot between primitive mantle and a sediment composition like average Site 543 sediments but would require considerable sedimentary inputs to reconcile some LAIA compositions after the effects of crystallization are removed.

Further complications are indicated given that Grenada lavas plot beyond average Site 144 compositions in respect to both La and Sm, though we know that small degrees of partial melting can create significantly enriched compositions. The melting curve for La vs. Sm of Bouvier et al. (2010, Figure 5) therefore would require addition of a different component to explain the variation we see along the length of the arc. We have already shown that Grenada samples are enriched with respect to arsenic as are samples from Dominica and Martinique. Boron is low in Grenada but high in the central islands. Serpentine is a known sink for both B, As and Li (Scambelluri et al., 2004; Savov et al., 2005; Deschamps et al., 2010; Kodolanyi et al., 2012; Ryan and Chauvel 2014; Scambelluri et al., 2019; Dessimoulie et al., 2020) and upon dehydration we would expect these ostensibly fluid mobile elements to be released and contribute to the geochemical signature of the magmas produced. If slab temperatures are high ($>400^\circ\text{C}$) we would also expect release of Li and Cs (Deschamps et al., 2010). While complete trace element

data sets are scarce for marine serpentinite and serpentinite muds, ratios of Ba/La are generally low (~12–37) and barium concentrations rarely exceed 2 ppm (Savov et al., 2005; Dessimoulie et al., 2020). Conversely B/Be tends to be very high averaging 1,200–2000 due to the high B concentrations in serpentinite. When we examine serpentinite as an endmember composition as compared to our data (Figures 8–13), we find that any addition from serpentinite fails to reconcile the high Ba and Ba ratios seen in the north but is not prohibited in the central Antilles. Moreover, Bouvier et al. (2010) pointed out that serpentinite is involved in the generation of magmas at St. Vincent, which is in general agreement with its Li and B concentrations (Figure 8) but inconsistent with the northern Antilles, and only marginally consistent with the samples for the central islands. Therefore, upon close examination, trace element ratios suggests that the influence of serpentinite is at best variable along the arc and that invoking an average sediment or bulk sediment falls short of reconciling many compositions in the LAIA.

Site 543 and 144 sediments show wide compositional ranges, so averaged values for either or both may be insufficient to fully describe their possible inputs (Figure 12). Calculated melting curves between the Average Site 144 sediments and primitive mantle fails to reconcile much of our whole rock data from the arc. However, one can envision additional melting curves between the mantle and a series of specific Site 144 compositions that could satisfy these constraints. Labanieh et al. (2010) also shows considerable variation in isotopic ratios where their mixing arrays point more towards Site 144 sediments. Our results demonstrate that many central

LAIA trace element ratios cannot be a mixture of primitive mantle and any Site 543 composition (in accord with Labanieh et al., 2010), but instead must include a component that is intermediate between 144 and 543 compositions, with low to moderate Ba/La and higher Th/Yb. We also note that in the northern and southern samples there is no evidence for significant fluid enrichment as there is in the central arc. Grenada samples exhibit high arsenic but are otherwise low in FME and Li similar to the northern islands. Variations in Li/Yb (Figure 13) generally support this finding with the exception of two rocks from Grenada which could have been influenced by serpentinite additions and some fluids despite other FME depletions. However, magmas enriched by fluids from serpentinite dehydration at higher temperature should also show lithium enrichments and also have elevated B and Cs (Deschamps et al., 2010; Figure 7), as do many samples from Martinique and Dominica. Whereas rocks from St. Eustatius northward have low FME, low Li and Li/Yb but high Ba and Ba ratios. Simply, if high Ba is inherited from fluids in the north it should be correlated with higher B and FME and likely high Li which it is not. Therefore, in our view based on whole rock, along arc trends in lava composition reflect varying subducted sediment and slab derived inputs that may have been influenced by preferential incorporation of specific components within the down going package. The geochemical signatures in the south have variable fluid enrichment and potentially influence from serpentinite whereas the central islands exhibit high FME, high Ba ratios and high Li likely derived from fluid enrichment involving both sediments and serpentinite. The northern islands of LAIA do not have high FME or lithium but do have high Ba and Ba ratios most likely inherited from a high Ba component within the down-going sediment pile.

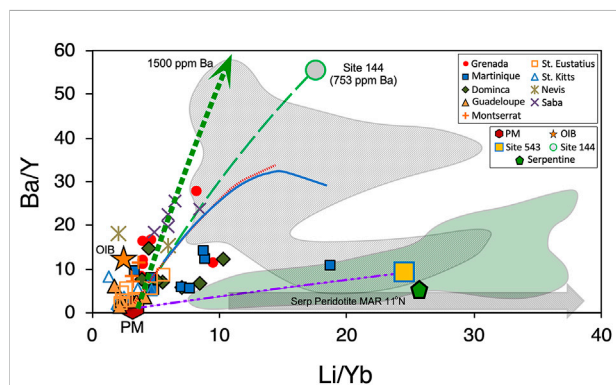


FIGURE 13

Variation of LAIA whole rock samples versus the fields of compositions for Site 543 and 144. Site 543 has high Li with respect to Ba while 144 extends to higher Ba. Note that average serpentinites from Savov et al. (2005) plot close to site 543 on this diagram. Mixing endmember compositions of average Site 543 and 144 can reconcile many LAIA compositions but require both northern magmas and Grenada magmas to be mixed with a sediment component similar to each other and Site 144. Red and blue lines are AFC models and green mixing curves are as described in Figure 13 and require a high Ba component. Purple dot-dashed line is binary mixing between PM and Site 543.

Conclusion

The compositions of subduction zone magmas have been shown to be strongly influenced by a combination of sources, including but not limited to subducted sediment and subducted fluid inputs, both of which can vary along strike in a given arc. These components are delivered to mantle sources either as hydrous melts or as supercritical fluids in low percentages. These fluids can arise from hydrous subducting materials, including muds and clays in the down-going sediments, and serpentinite in the subducted crust. Compositions of whole rocks along the Lesser Antilles displays variable fluid signatures that are consistent with higher fluid inputs in lavas from the central islands, lower fluid inputs to the north, and variable inputs in the southern islands. In Grenada, low B and Li and high As and Sr are consistent with serpentinite dehydration and early, low temperature loss of B. The central islands show high B, high FME, high Li and high B/Be. When

compared to Ba/La and Ba/Th these FME enrichments are consistent with sediment inputs \pm serpentine dehydration from a source that can be tied back to the sediments of ODP site 543. To the north low B, low FME and low Li/Yb suggest that the observed high Ba/La, Ba/Th and Ba/Y ratios in these lavas were created without significant fluid addition, but instead *via* additions of small amounts of a highly enriched sediment component similar to a high Ba, “Site 144 like” sediment (Ba \geq 1,250 ppm). We suggest that for LAIA, variable enrichments of highly specific components in the down-going slab are preferentially added to mantle melts by fluid fluxing and sediment melting. Highly enriched components are recognizable in specific layers or horizons in sediment sections outboard of LAIA, and can contain up to 9,000 ppm Ba, with Ba/La ratios above 400. Our modeling suggests that mixing between the mantle and enriched sediment components is needed to reconcile the compositions we see in the northern LAIA. In the central islands, and to some extent southern islands, fluid addition from dehydration of sediments and serpentine, plus some addition from sediment melting is more consistent with the element variations we record. While we do not suggest that fluid-mediated slab additions are completely absent in the northern part of LAIA, we conclude that these influences are comparatively minor in contrast to the strong fluid signatures in the volcanic products from the larger islands of the central LAIA. Our findings indicate that we must look beyond global or even arc-length average compositions for trench sediments or crust, and instead consider individual components in subducting sediment sequences as possible endmembers.

Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/[Supplementary Material](#), further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

Author contributions

ZA: Main author. Contributed to all aspects of this work including intellectual design, implementation writing, etc. AG: contributed to intellectual design, data interpretation and revising critically important content. BB: substantial contributions to the acquisition and analysis of data for the work. OM: substantial contributions to the acquisition, analysis and interpretation of data. AW: substantial contributions to the acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data for the work. JR:

contributed to intellectual design, data interpretation and revised content.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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Supplementary material

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: <https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/feart.2022.782179/full#supplementary-material>

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