

Reaching the Mantle Frontier: Moho and Beyond A Three-Day Workshop

Integrated Ocean Drilling Program
&
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Deep Carbon Institute

reading: Attempts to Reach the *Pristine Mantle*

Deep Energy, Environment and Climate

subtitle 1: How deep is your carbon?

subtitle 2: How deep is your pristine mantle?



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TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

September, 2006 - Mission Mohole Workshop, Portland Oregon, Slide #1

“your topic: Mission Moho, updating our vision for
ocean lithosphere drilling

You are scheduled for 30 minutes ...

Dress code: visionary cheerleader

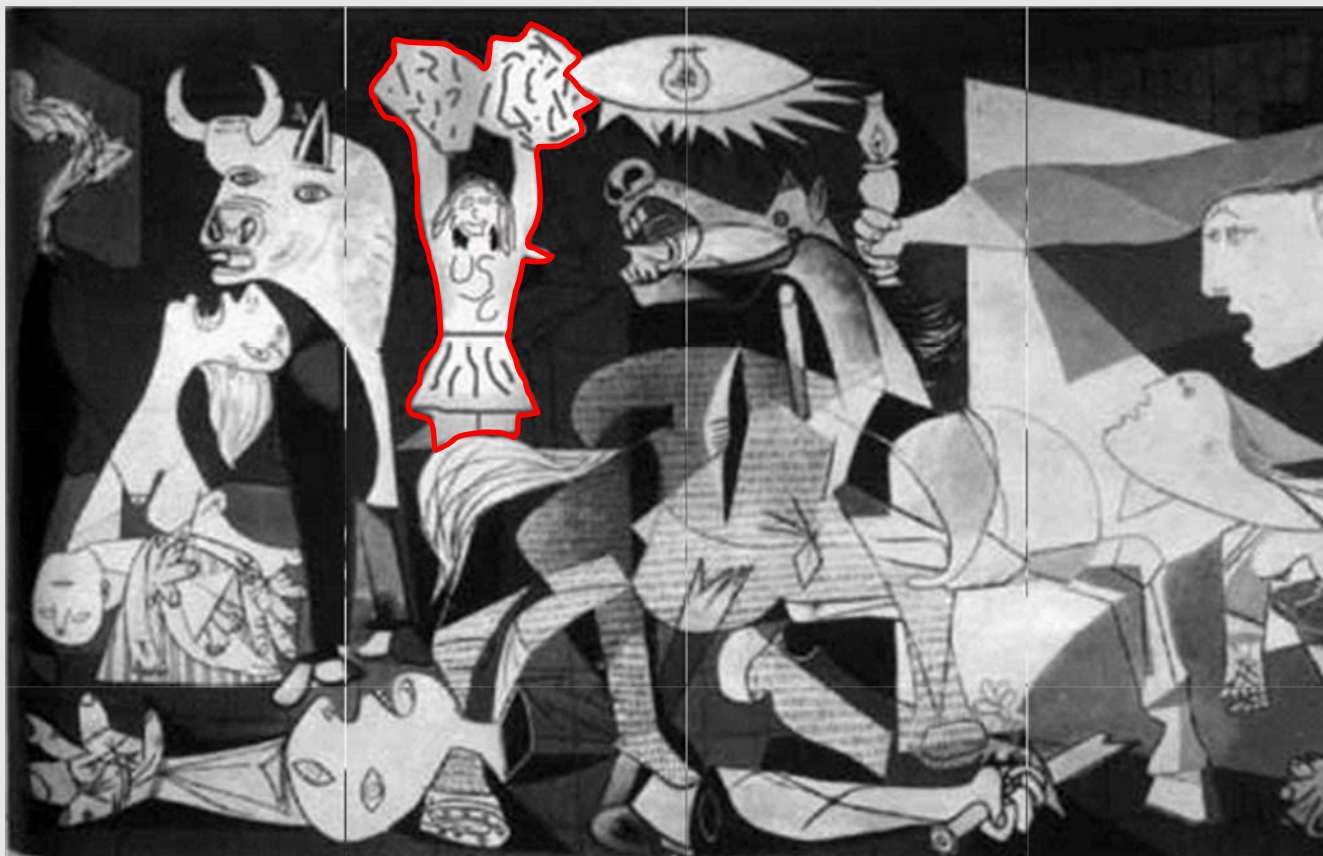
Time limits will be enforced by firehose”

52 slides!

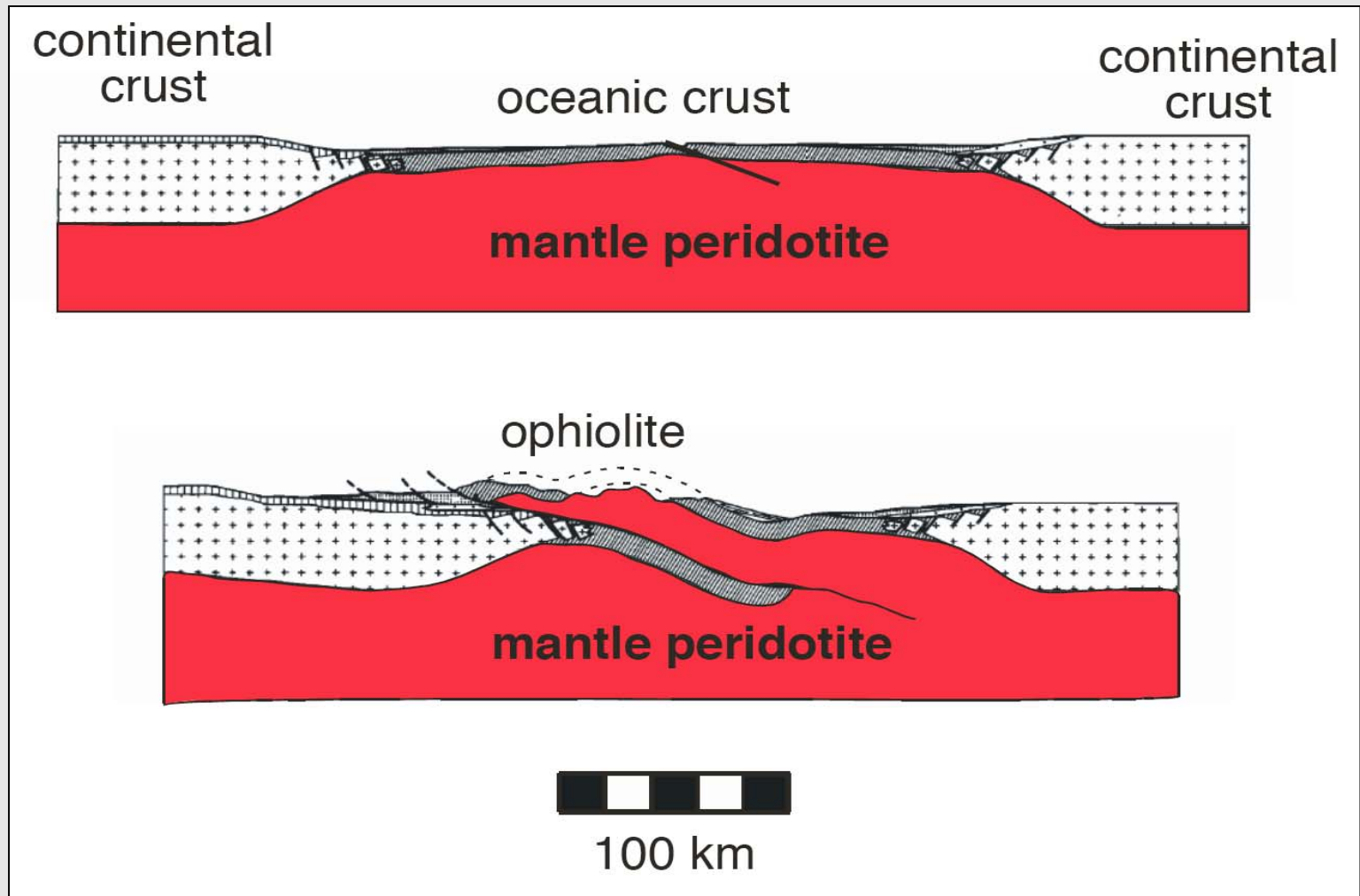




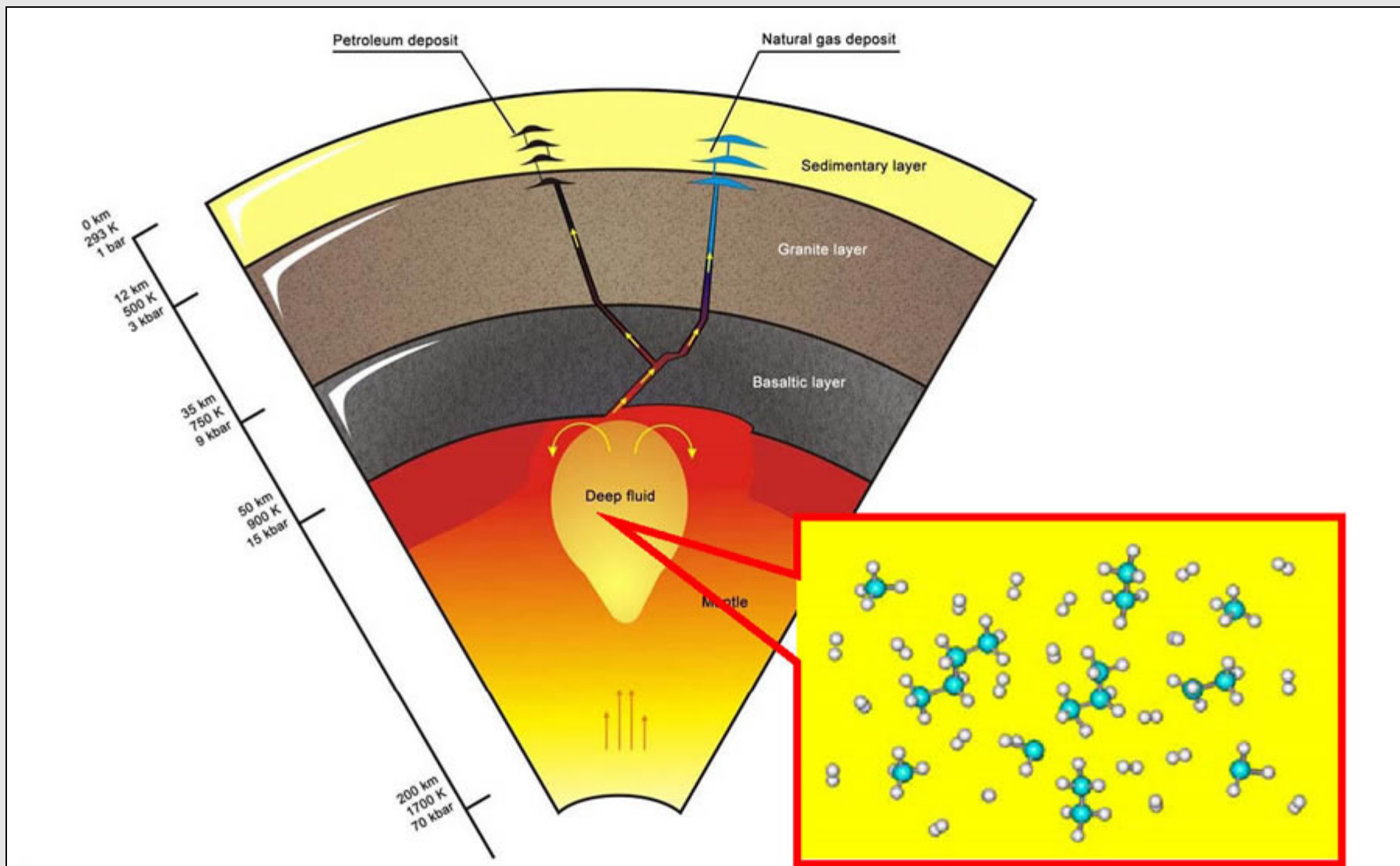
postmodern cheerleading



Do you really want to do this?







Hydrocarbons in Deep Earth? Alexander Goncharov,
Geophysical Laboratory, Deep Carbon Institute, CIW

Kolesnikov et al.,
Nature Geoscience 2008

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Horita & Berndt 1999, 200 to 300°C, 50 MPa

“Mount
Chimaera”
western
Turkey

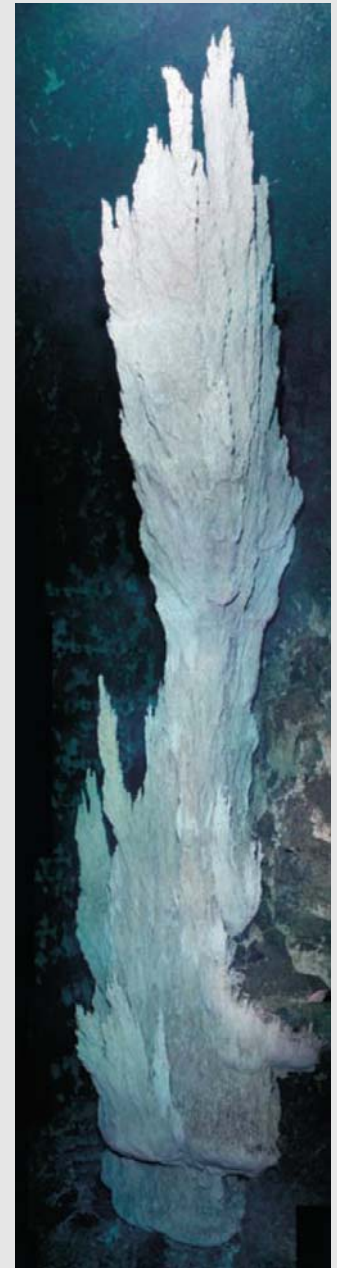
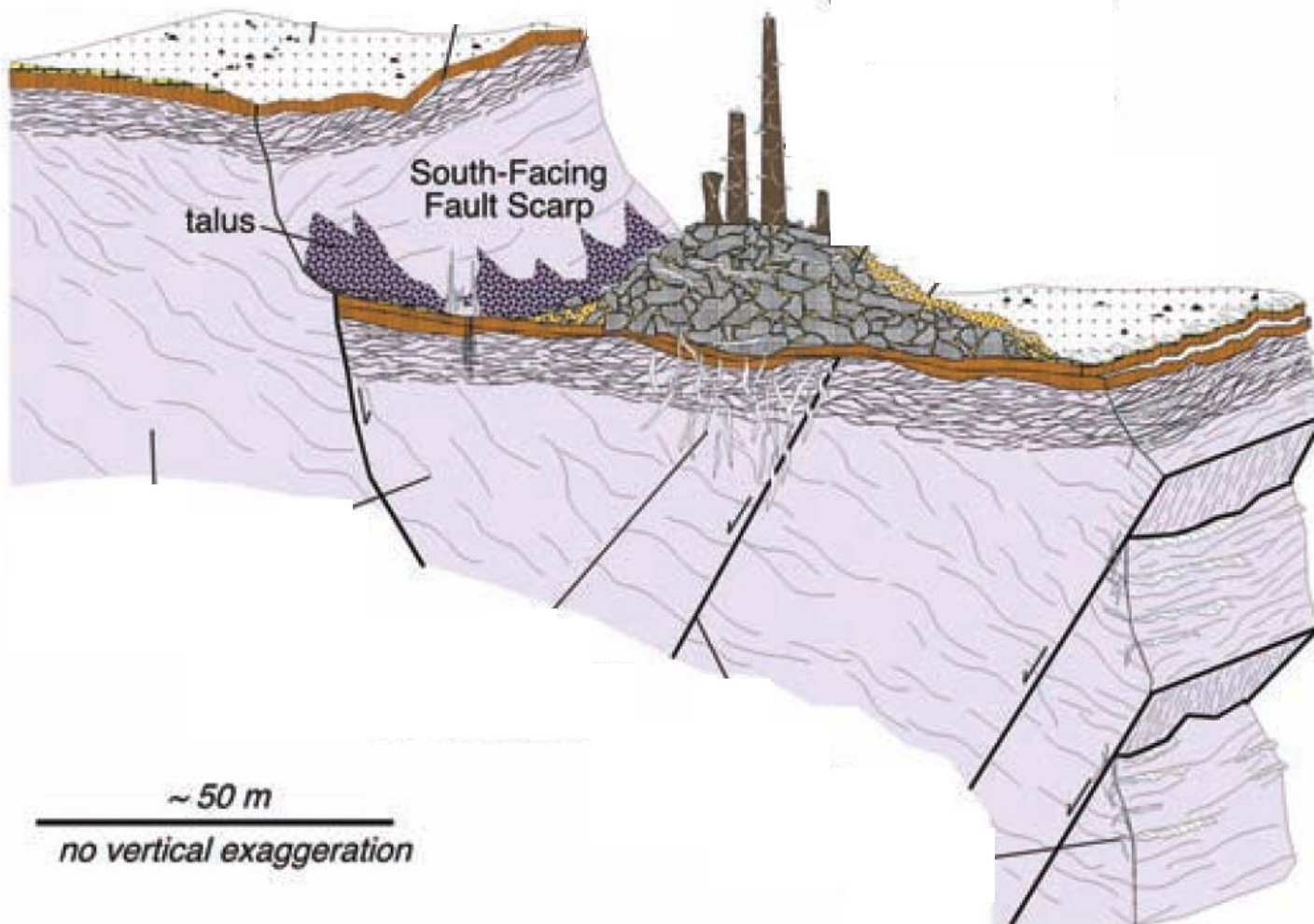




in situ mineral
carbonation
in peridotite



geologic CO₂ capture & storage



Lost City hydrothermal vents, Mid-Atlantic Ridge
Kelley et al., Nature 2001, Science 2005; Früh-Green et al., Science 2003

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | EARTH INSTITUTE



**liswanite = 100%
carbonated peridotite**

listwanite

peridotite

listwanite

peridotite



listwanite



storage capacity in peridotite

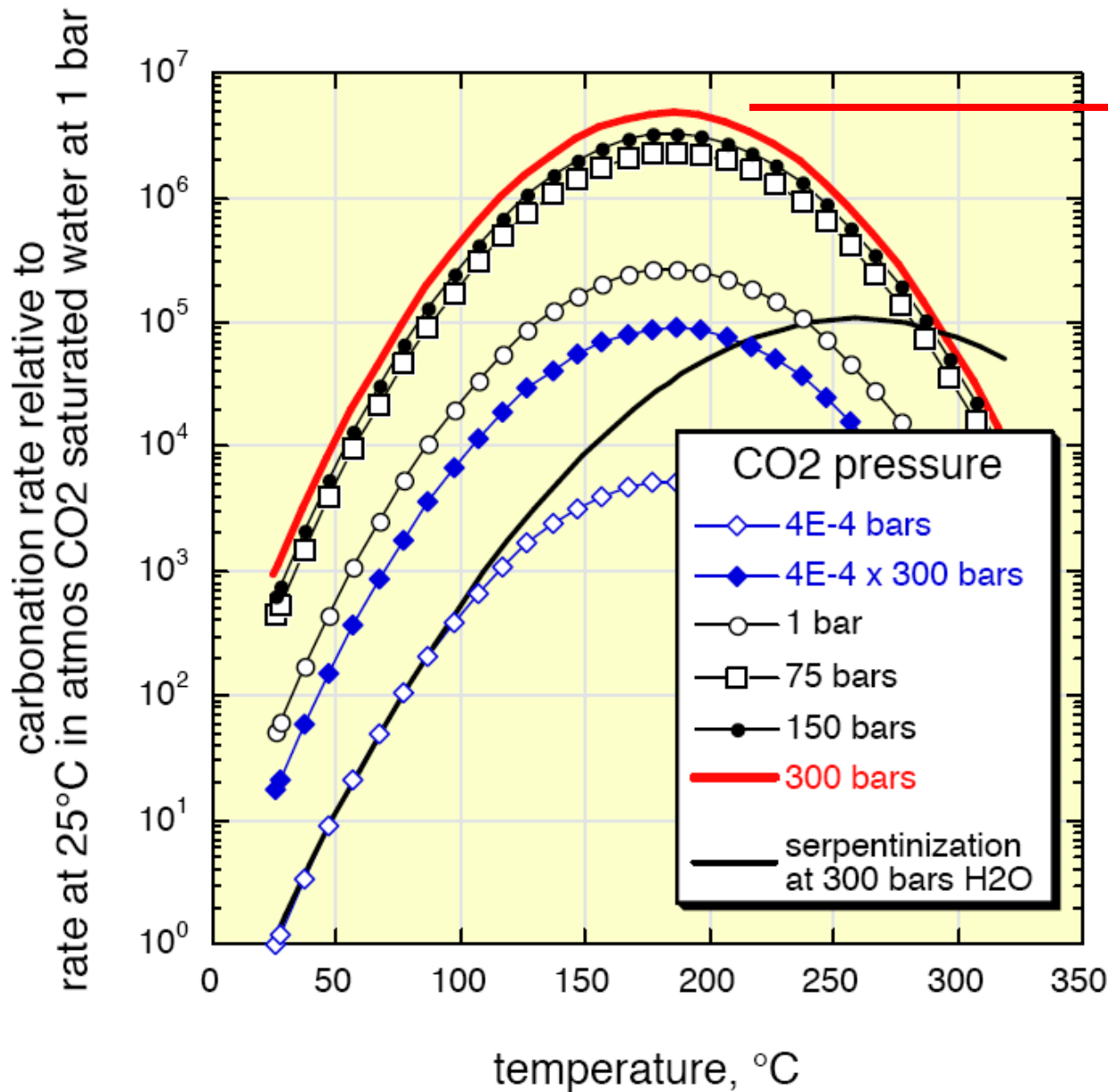
peridotite in Oman > 350 km long, 15 km wide, 3 km thick
density 3300 kg/m³

CO₂/fresh peridotite ~ 0.6
~ **33 trillion tons CO₂ in Oman**

350 wedges, could store all current CO₂ output for 1000 years

could store > 100 trillion tons worldwide
> 10x more than “upper bound” for pore space

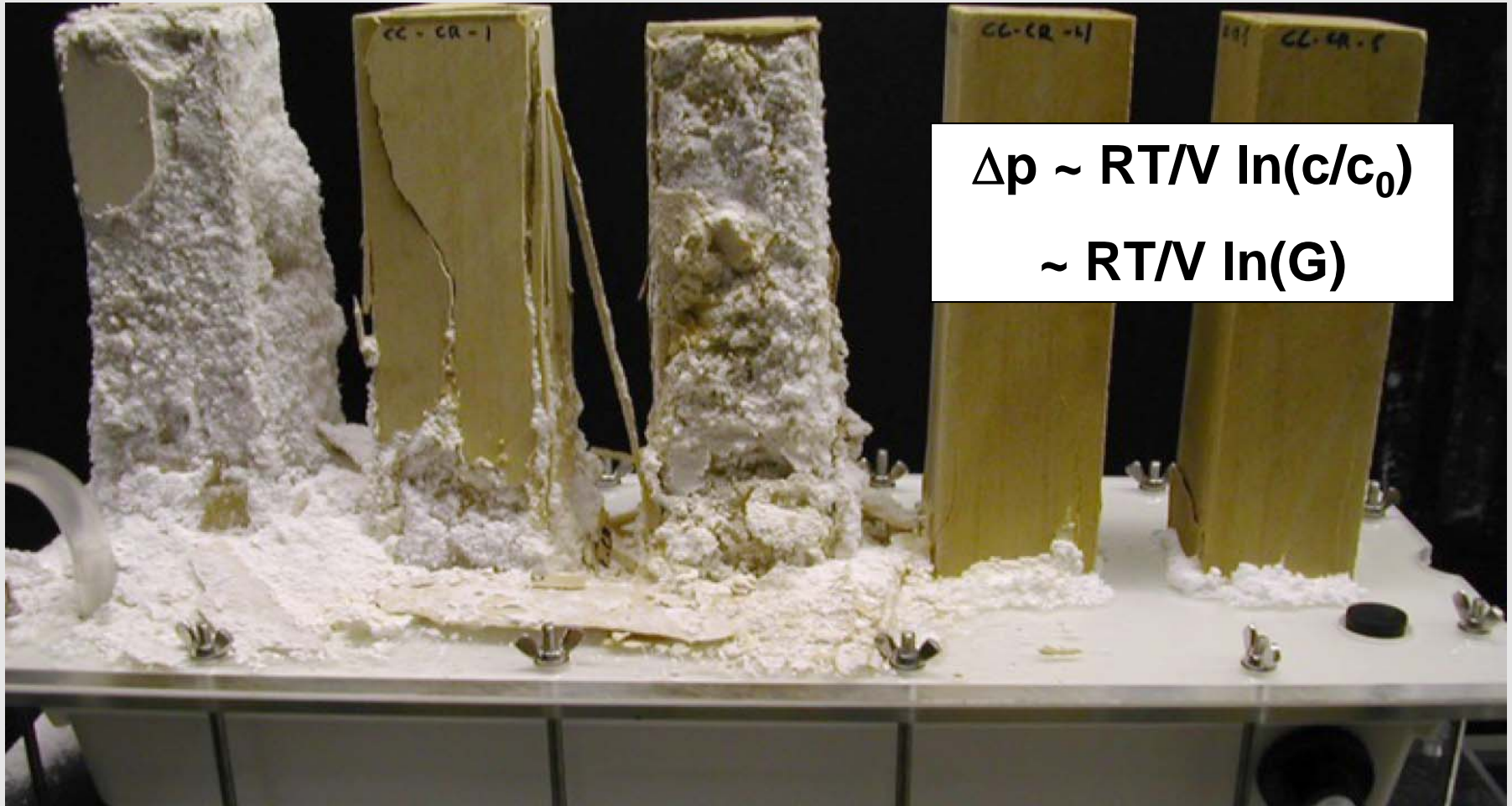
OK, but what about rates?



$\times 10^6 \text{ kg/km}^3/\text{yr}$
=
 $\sim 1 \text{ Gt/km}^3/\text{yr}$

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decompressor
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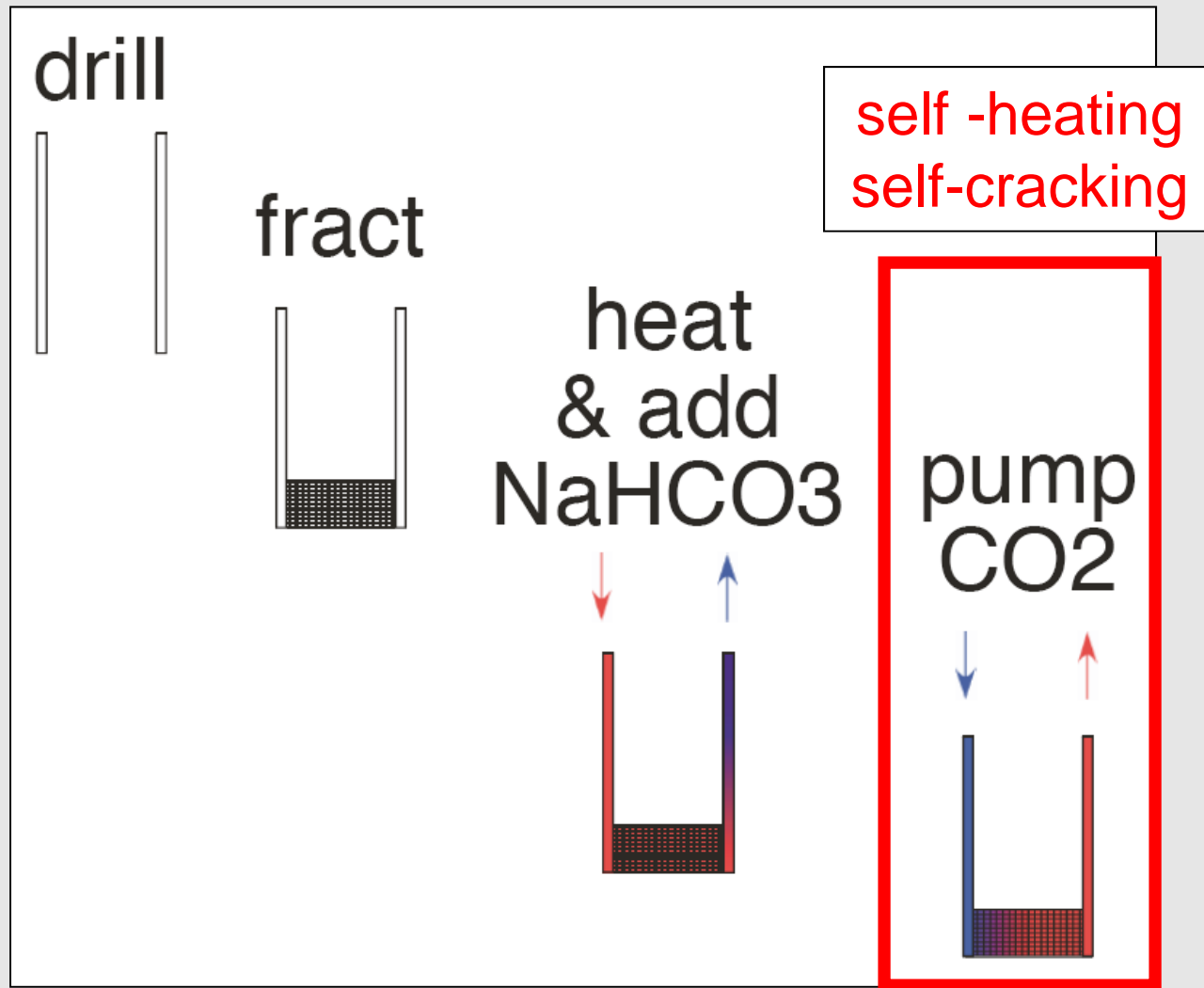
reaction-driven cracking: salt in limestone



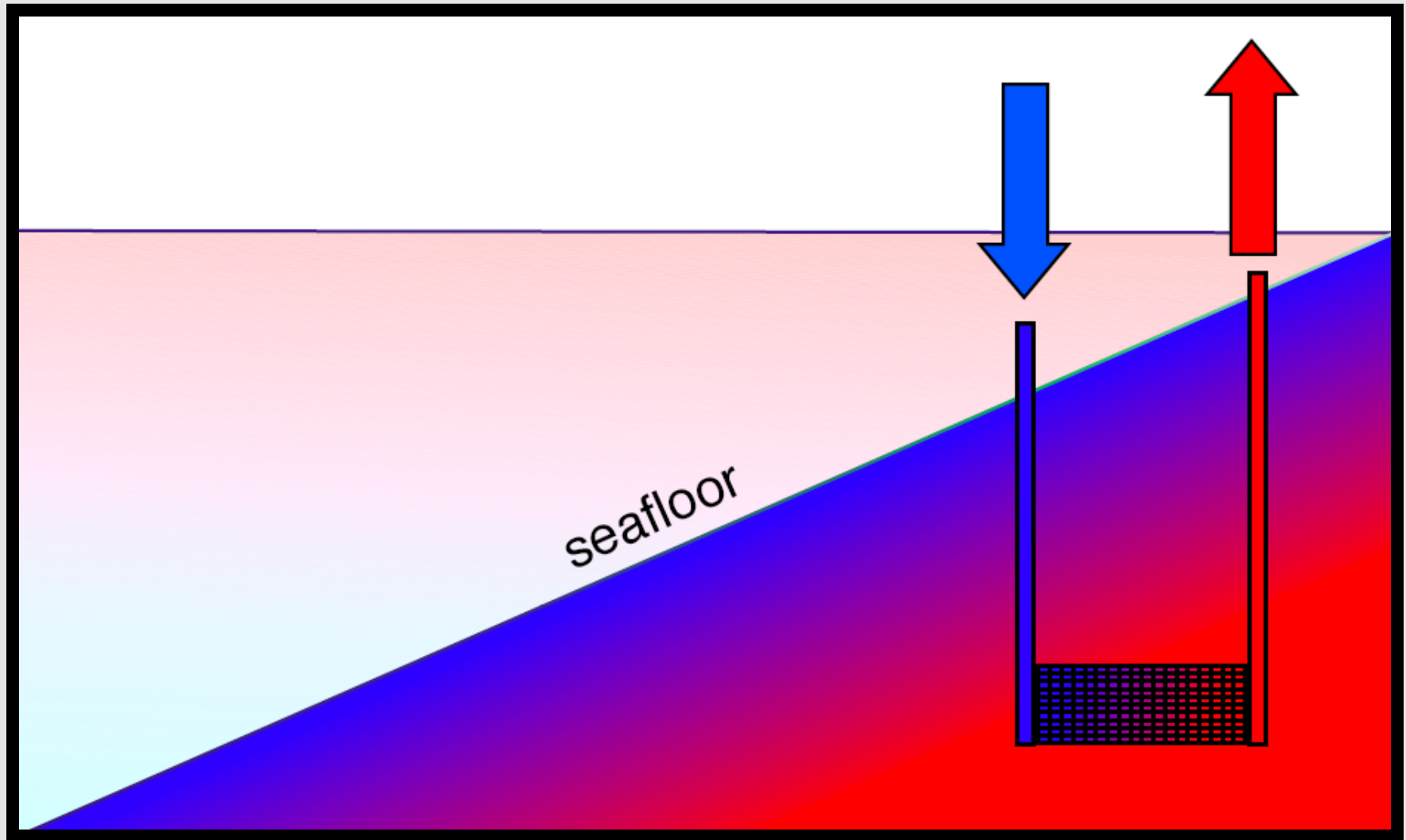
Prof. George Scherer, Princeton University http://web.mac.com/gwscherer1/SchererGroup/Salt_Crystallization.html



in situ mineral carbonation with pre-heating



seawater as a CO₂ transport fluid?





Eocene limestone overlying peridotite,
contact dipping offshore



Les sources thermales de Prony (Nouvelle-Calédonie) et leurs précipités chimiques. Exemple de formation de brucite primaire

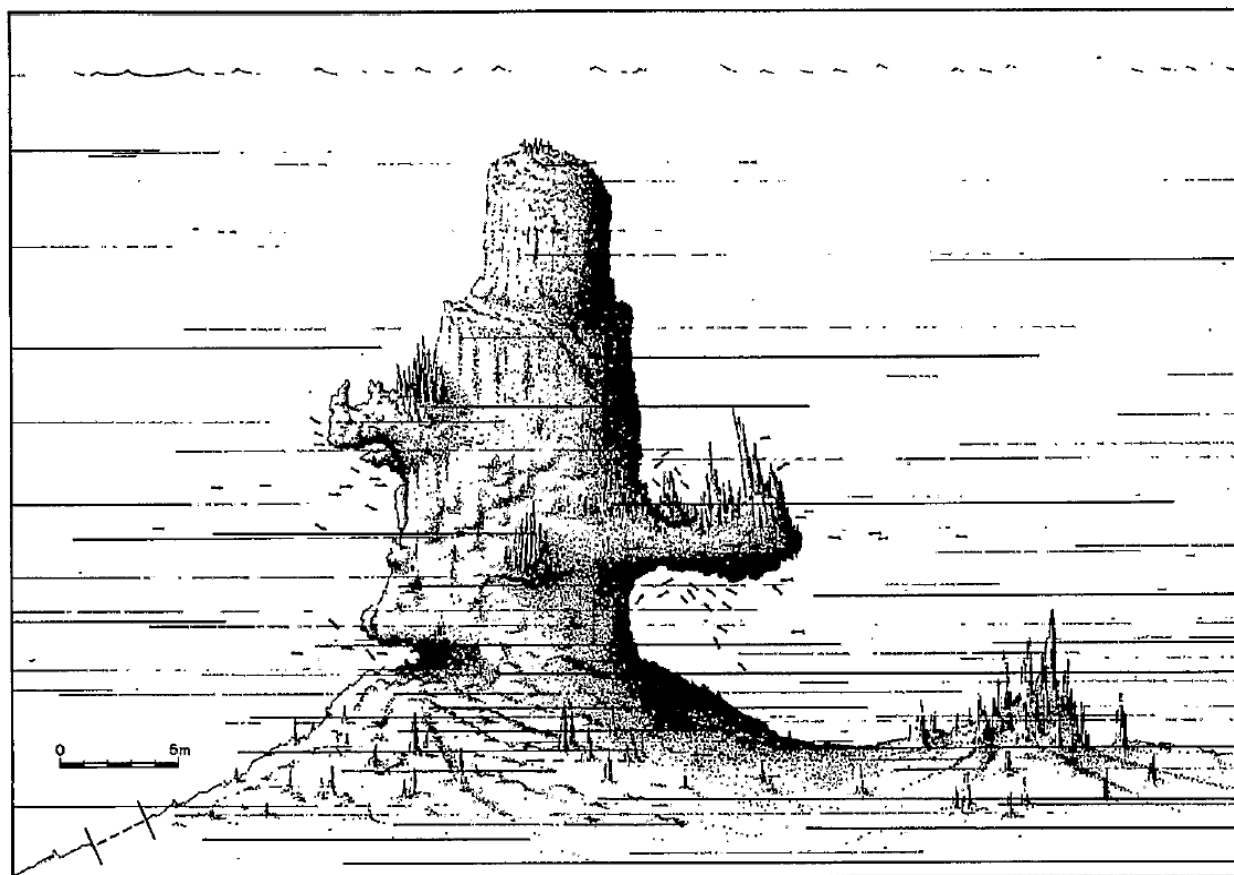


FIG. 3. — Schéma de l'édifice sous-marin «Roc Aiguille» construit par l'émergence de la source thermique. L'échelle des hauteurs est la même que celle des longueurs.

0-2 km below the seafloor in tectonically exhumed mantle peridotite
(mainly at slow-spreading ridges, also offshore from ophiolites)

in pristine rocks:

Os, Sr, S, Cl, O, C, B, Li, He, H concentrations
& isotopes in MORB residue

sulfide saturation in MORB residue?

along the way:

concentration & depth variation of CO₂, H₂O, H₂, CH₄,
hydrocarbons, and their isotope ratios in alteration products

permeability distribution, relationship to alteration

downhole experiments on CO₂ capture & storage

proportion of gabbro, peridotite, serpentine
in “lower crust” with $V_p < 8.2$ km/s

Sampling Fresh, Residual Mantle Peridotite from the Mid-Atlantic Ridge at the Atlantis “Core Complex”

Peter Kelemen

Wolfgang Bach, Bernhardt Peucker-Ehrenbrink, John Eiler, Stanley Hart, Eric Hauri,
Greg Hirth, Albrecht Hofmann, Deborah Kelley, Charles Langmuir, Mukul Sharma,
Nobu Shimizu, and John Snow

May 6, 2000

We are writing in support of IODP Proposal number: 512-Full2, “Quantifying the Processes of Oceanic Core Complex Formation”, by D. Blackman et al. for an ODP Leg devoted to drilling the inferred “extensional core complex” north of the Atlantis Transform Fault along the Mid-Atlantic Ridge ...

... as long as the interpretation of the presence of 8 km/s material within 1 km of the seafloor is correct, this represents an unprecedented opportunity for petrologists, geochemists, and structural geologists to obtain a sample of unaltered, residual mantle from beneath a spreading ridge. From a geochemical perspective, this opportunity for drilling is second in importance only to a full penetration of oceanic crust ...

Shaw et al. 2010

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Saal et al. 2006

Shaw et al. 2010

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Moho

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decompressor
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Saal et al. 2006

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Saal et al. 2006

Shaw et al.
EPSL 2010

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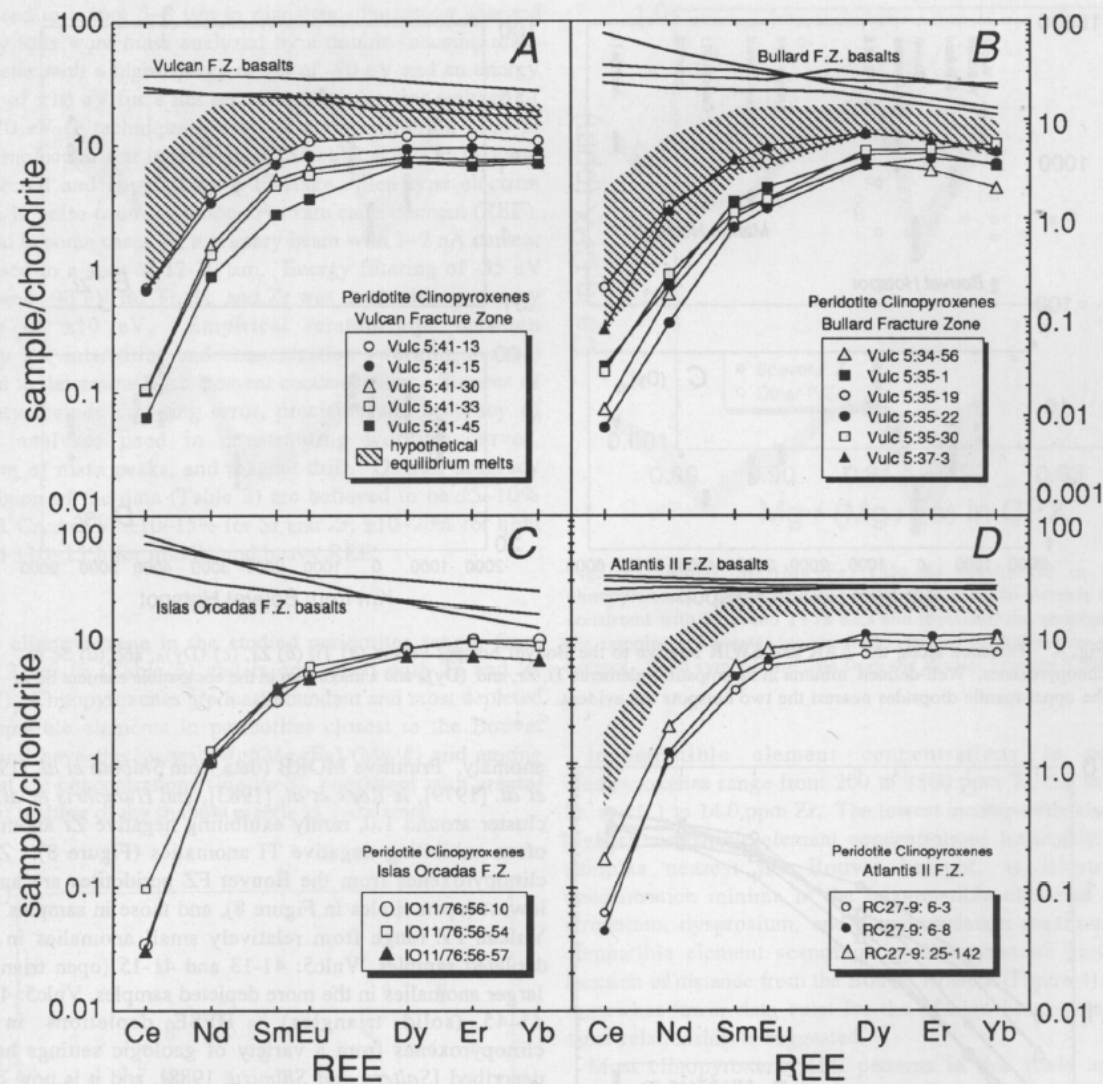
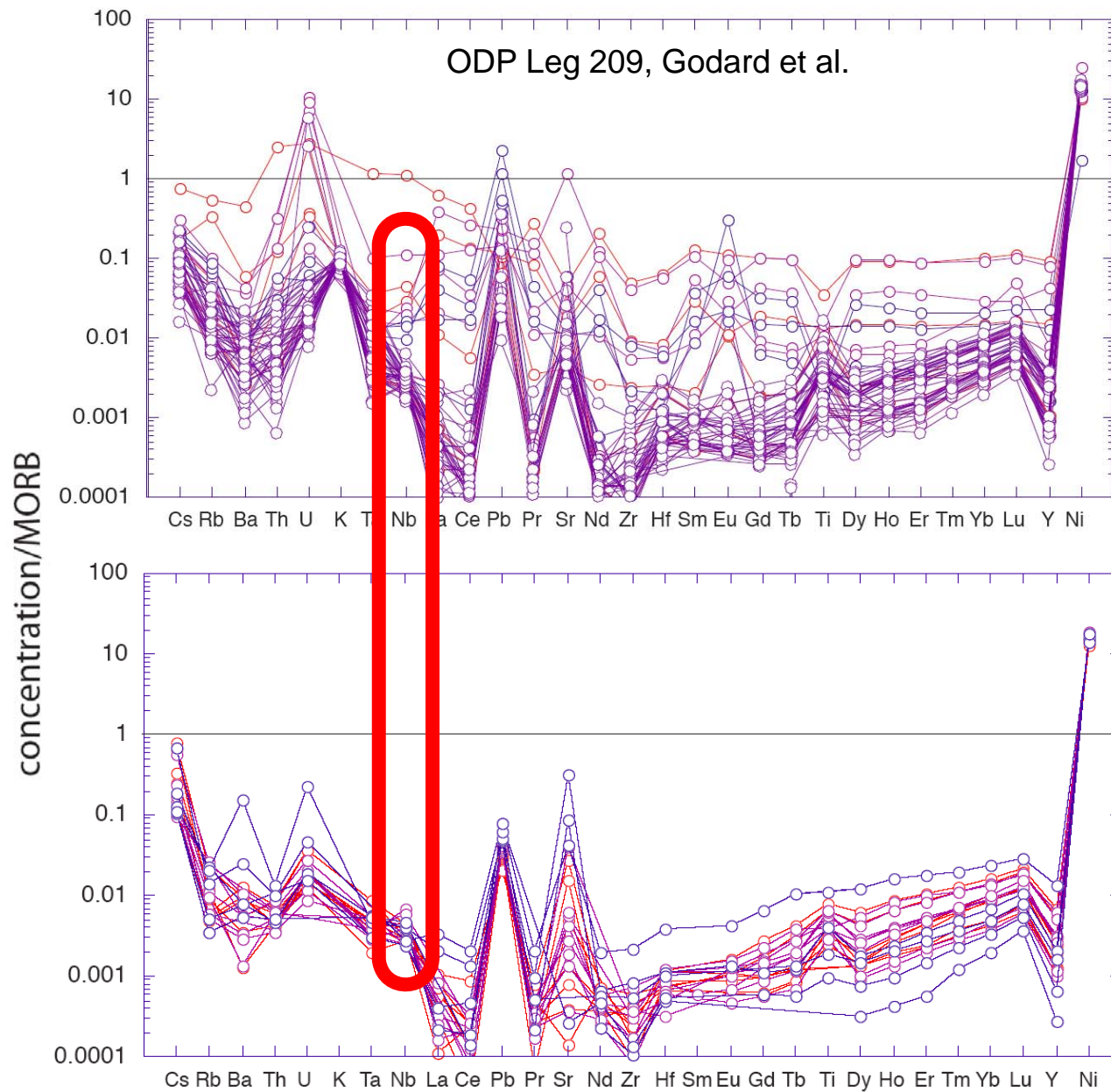
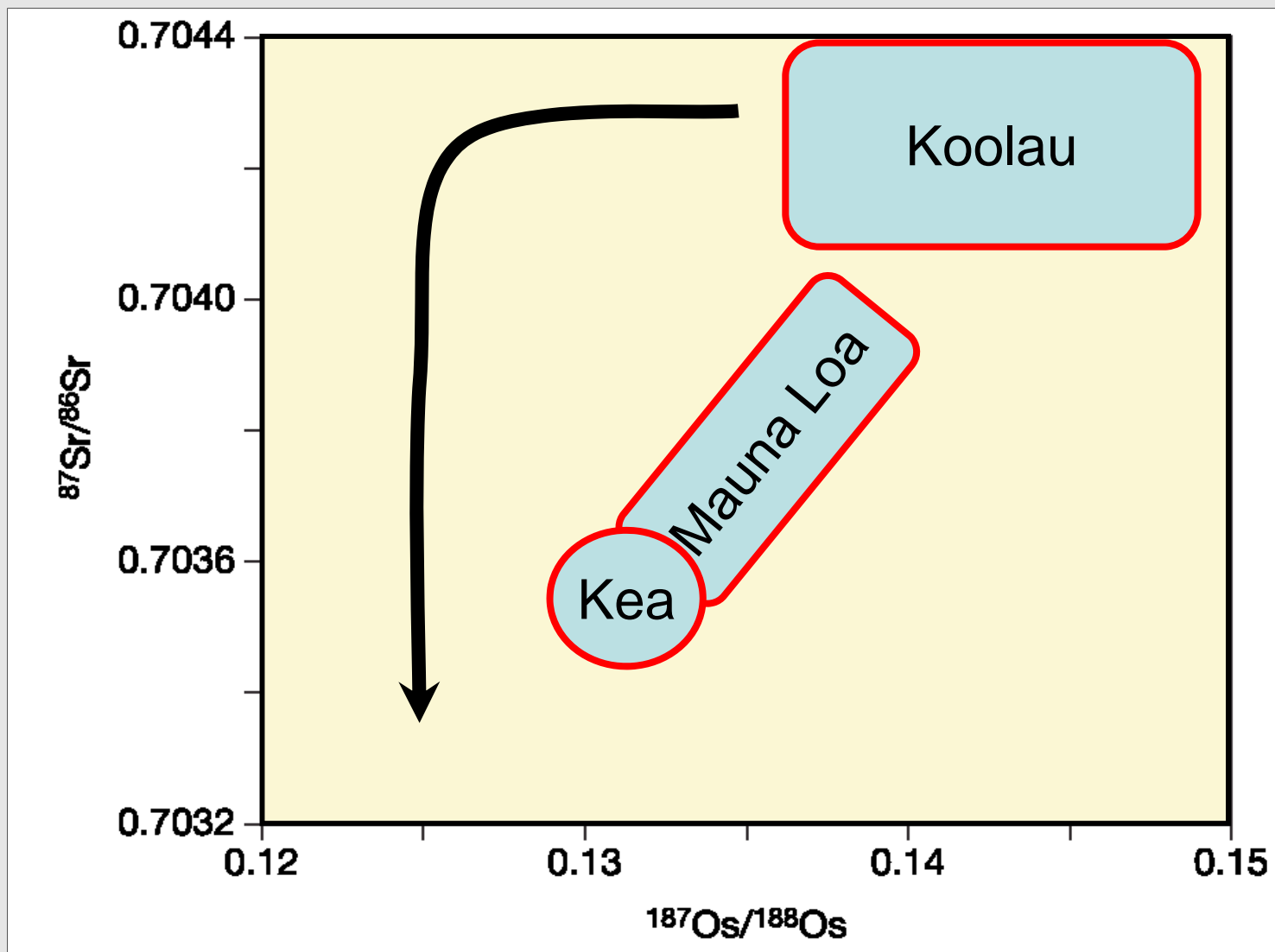


Fig. 6. Chondrite-normalized REE concentrations in nonhotspot peridotite clinopyroxenes. (a) Five samples from a single dredge haul in the Vulcan Fracture Zone on the AAR. Note flat HREE and sharp LREE depletions. (b) Six samples from three dredge hauls in East Bullard FZ (34 and 35) and West Bullard FZ (37). Note pronounced LREE depletions and hump at Dy (see text for detailed discussion). (c) three samples from the Islas Orcadas FZ, and (d) three samples from the Atlantis II FZ. Also shown are REE patterns in spatially associated basalts (data from *leRoex et al.* [1983, 1985] and K. Johnson, unpublished data, 1989) and fields representing hypothetical melts in equilibrium with the peridotite clinopyroxenes (cross-hatched).





Mavrogenes & O'Neil 1999

1400°C

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Mavrogenes & O'Neil 1999

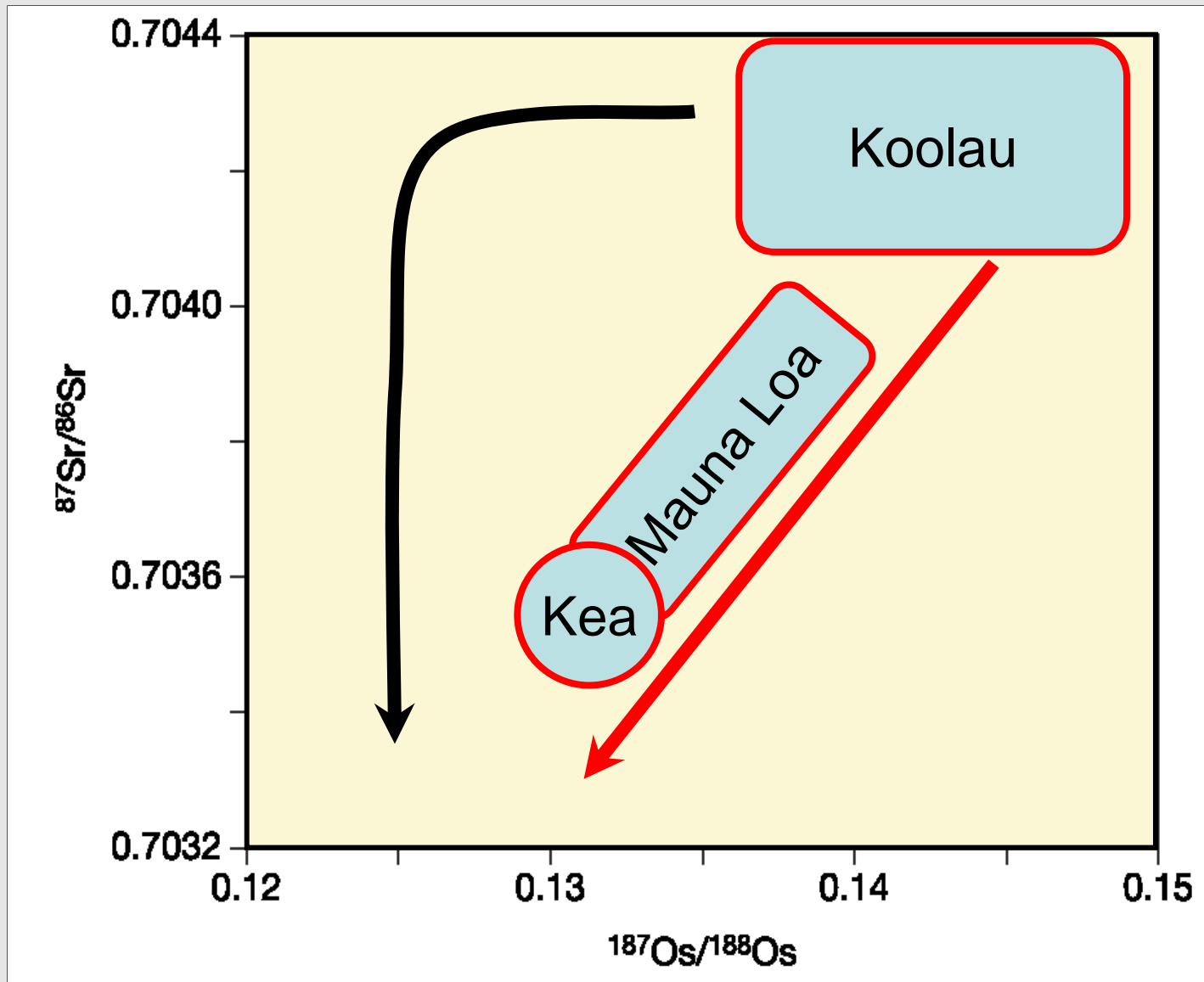
1800°C

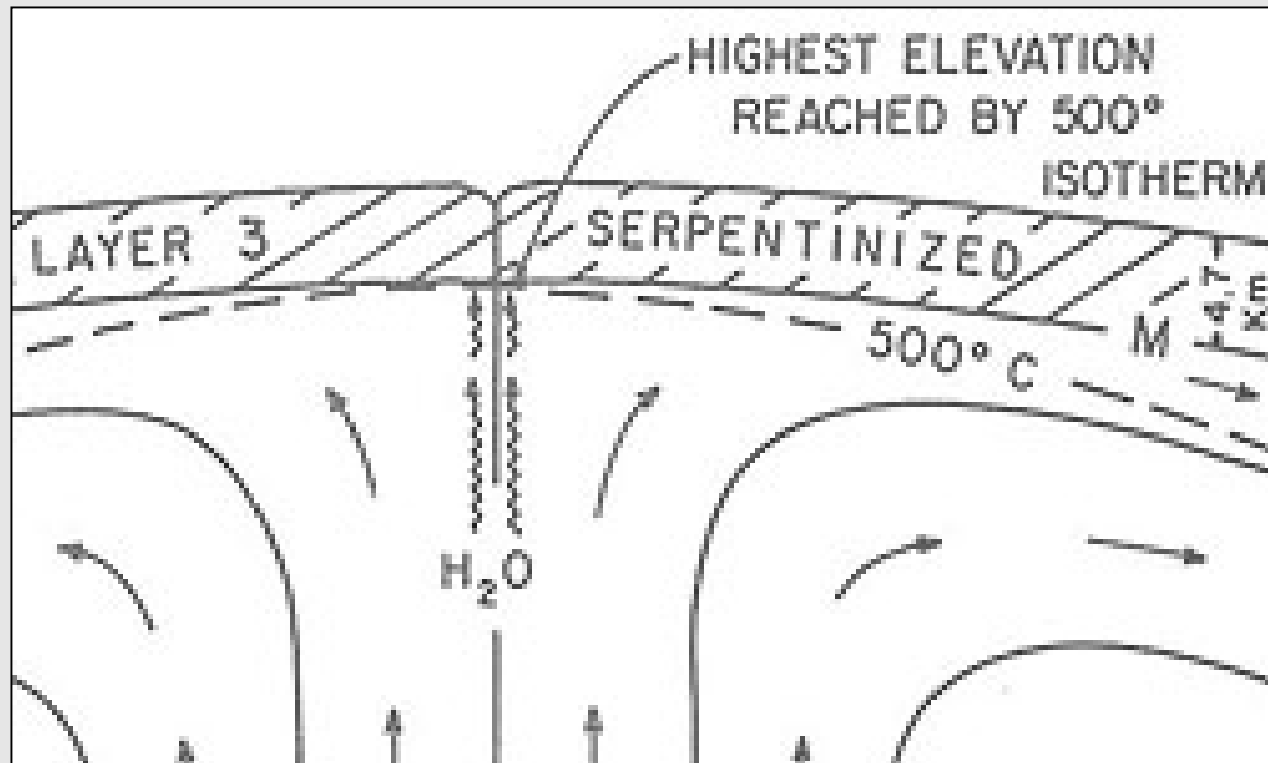
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S (ppm)

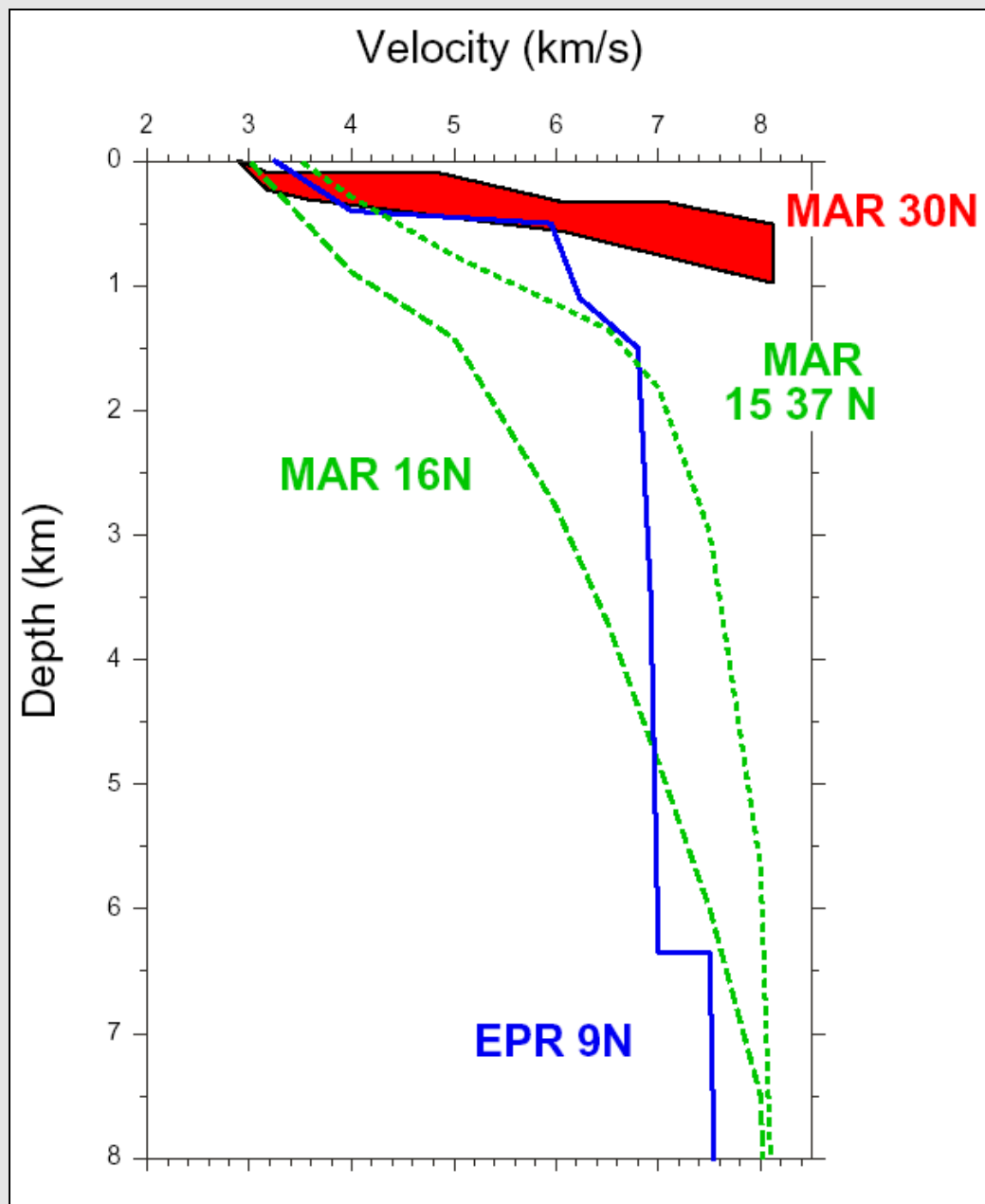
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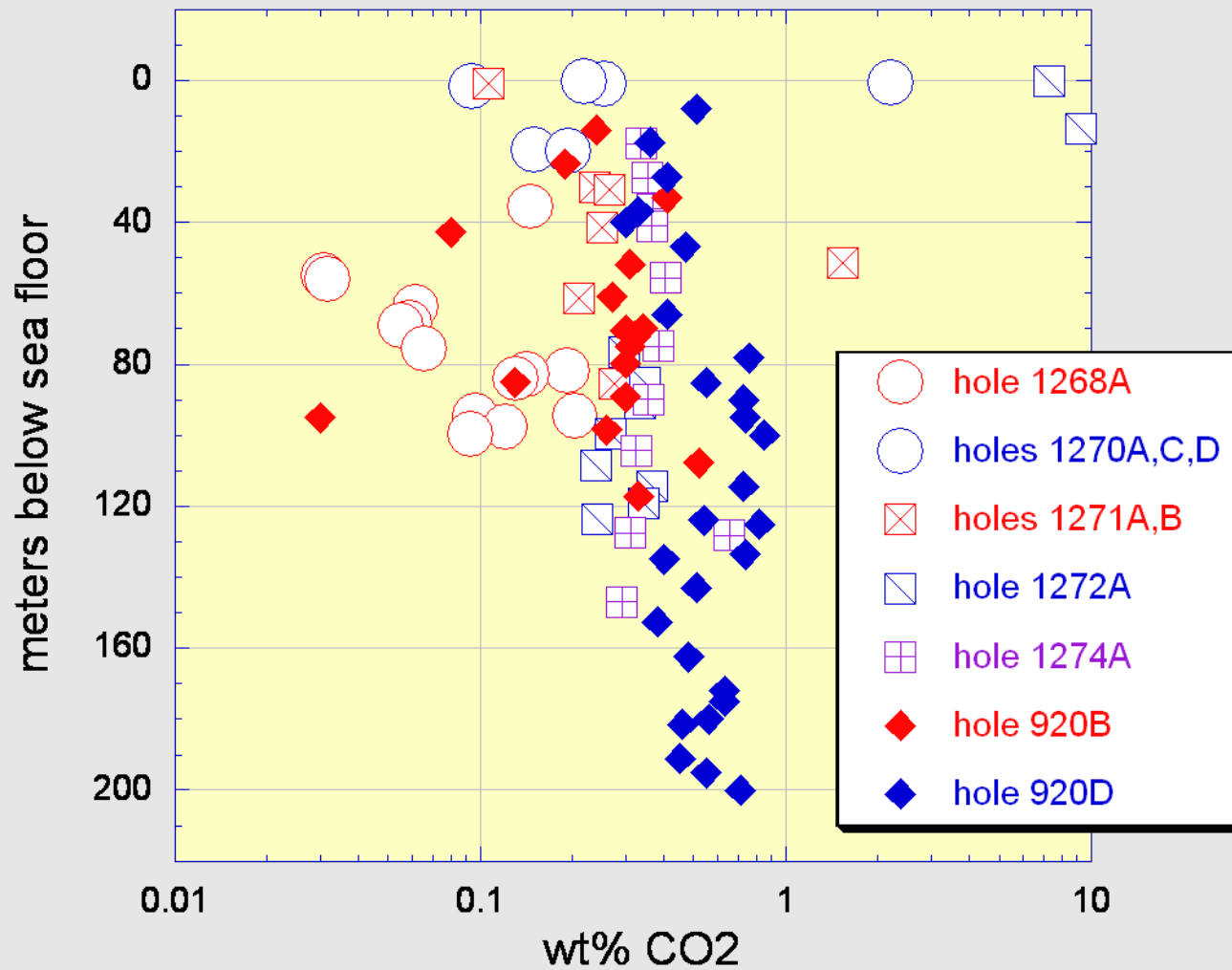
Holzeid & Grove 2002

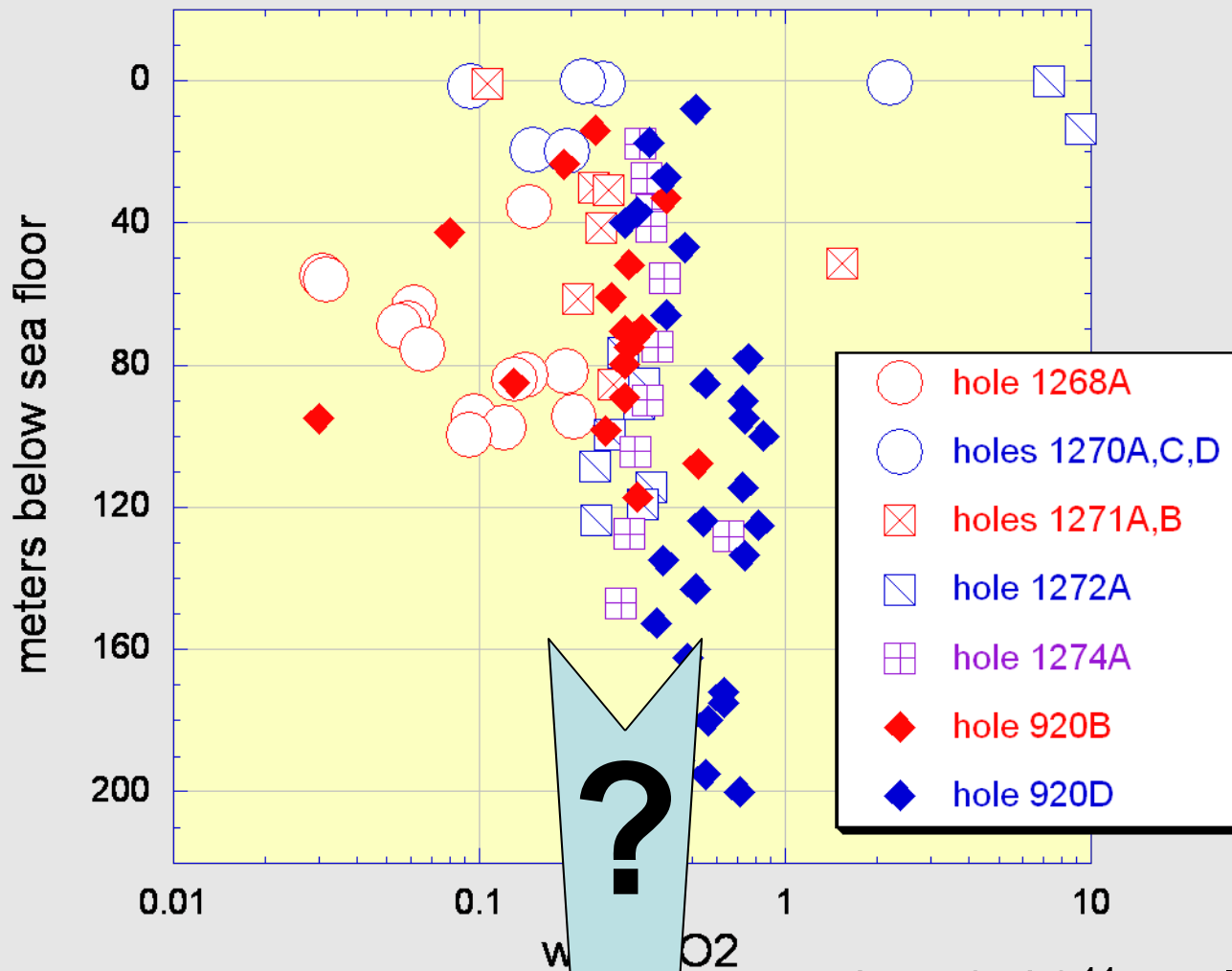




Harry Hess, 1960







0.3 wt% in perid, 7 km crust
5-15% peridotite in crust

1 to 3 10^{11} moles C/yr
~ 10^{18} moles C in 10 Myr
equivalent to ocean C

additional lessons from hole 6-7 below the seafloor
beneath igneous crust at intermediate to fast-spreading ridges
in pristine mantle

nature of the Moho, proportion of gabbro,
serpentine, in material with $V_p < 8.2$ km/s

differences in fabric, grain size, composition
at fast vs slow spreading, and at fracture
zones versus ridge segment centers

nature/size/frequency/spacing of melt conduits

along the way

fabrics, igneous emplacement processes,
hydrothermal interaction extent & depth



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lower crust
VanTongeren et al. 2008

shallow mantle
Hanghøj et al. 2010

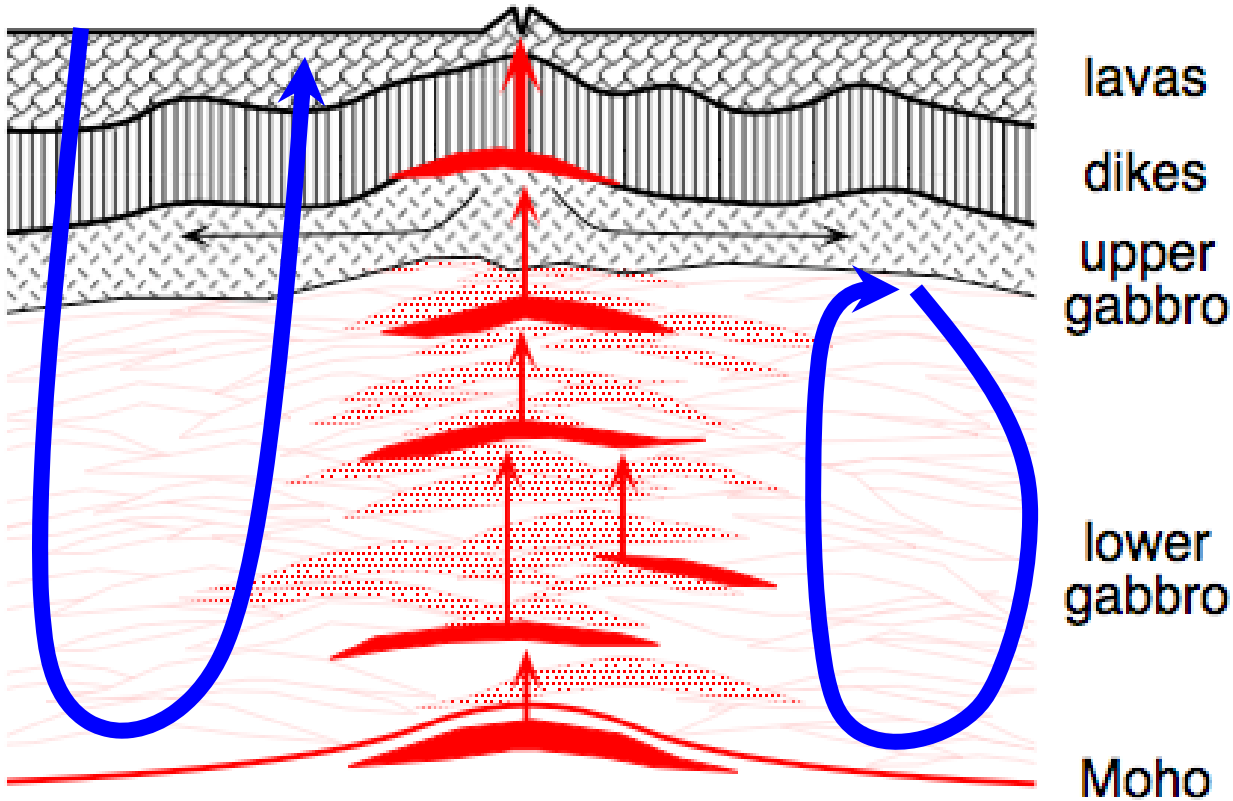
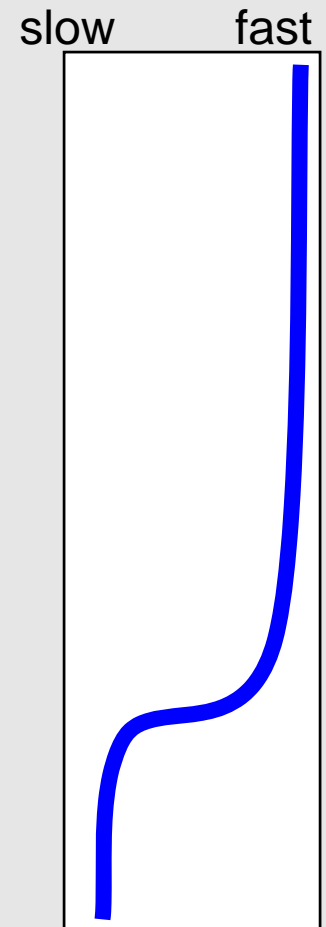
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cooling rate



additional lessons from 30-40 km hole through continental crust into cratonic upper mantle

deep mantle hydrocarbons

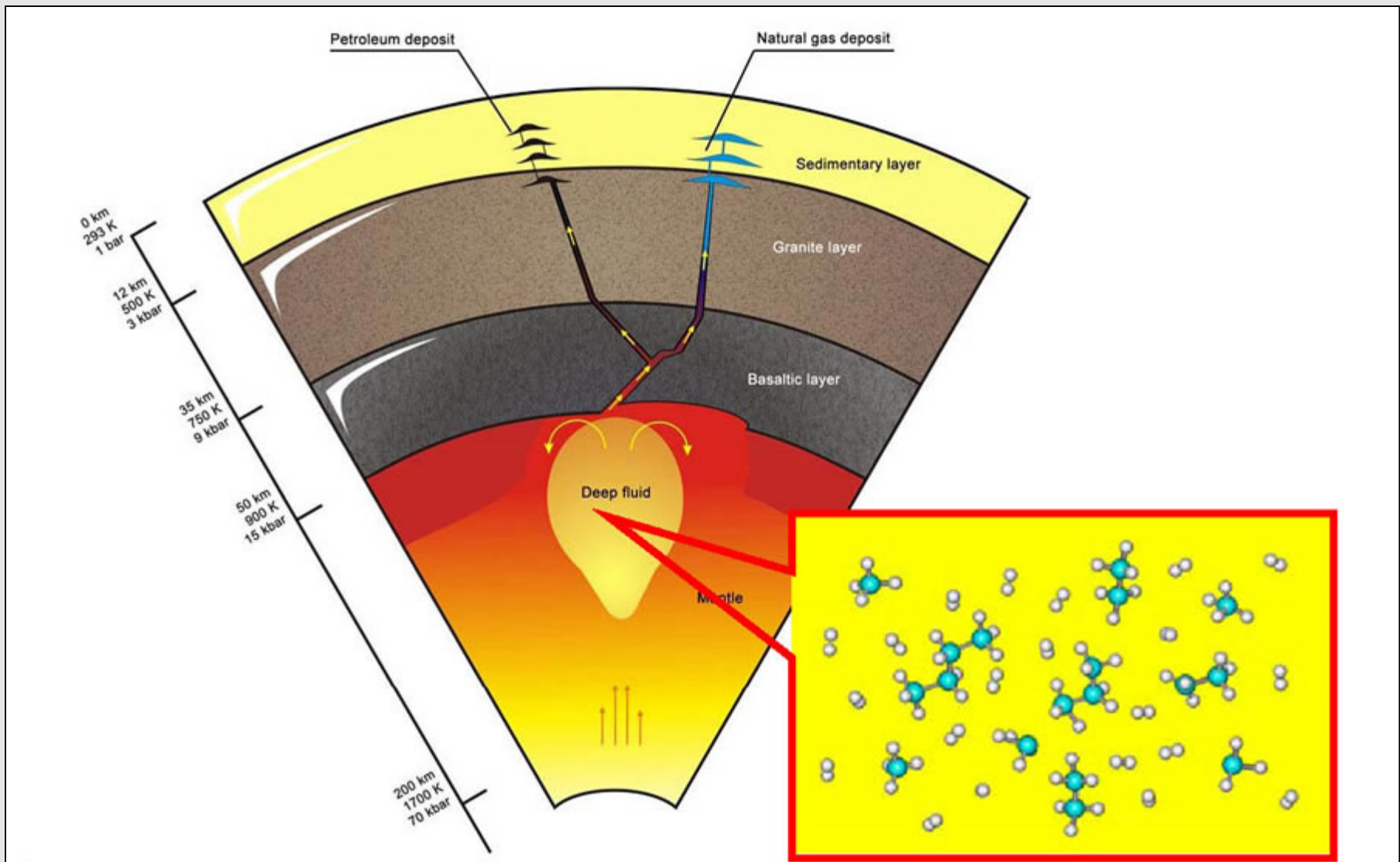
composition of shallowest spinel peridotites

Moho temperature ...

along the way

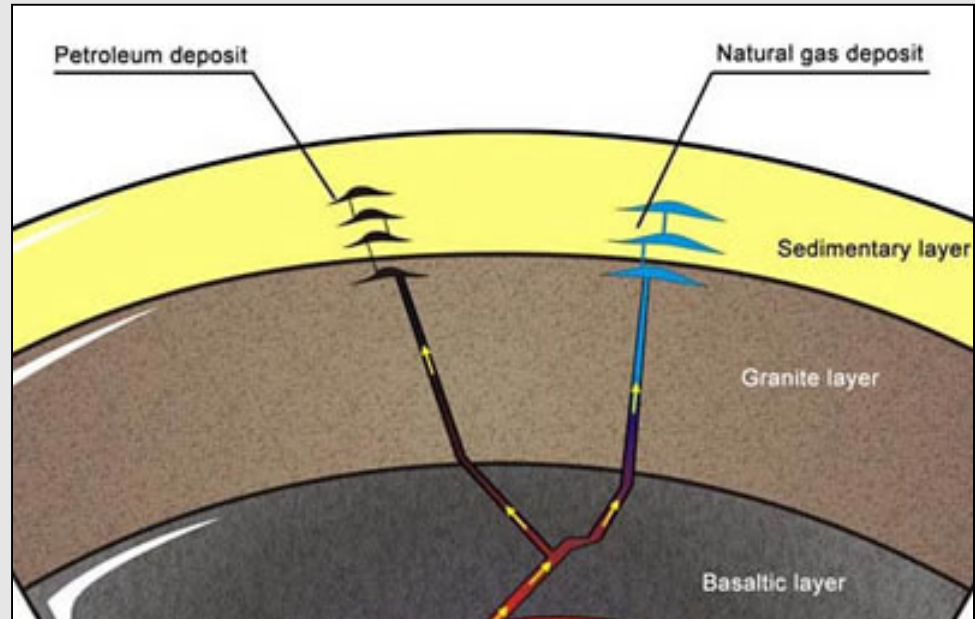
continental lower crust

temperature, K, U, Th,
proportion of metasediments
residues of melt extraction?



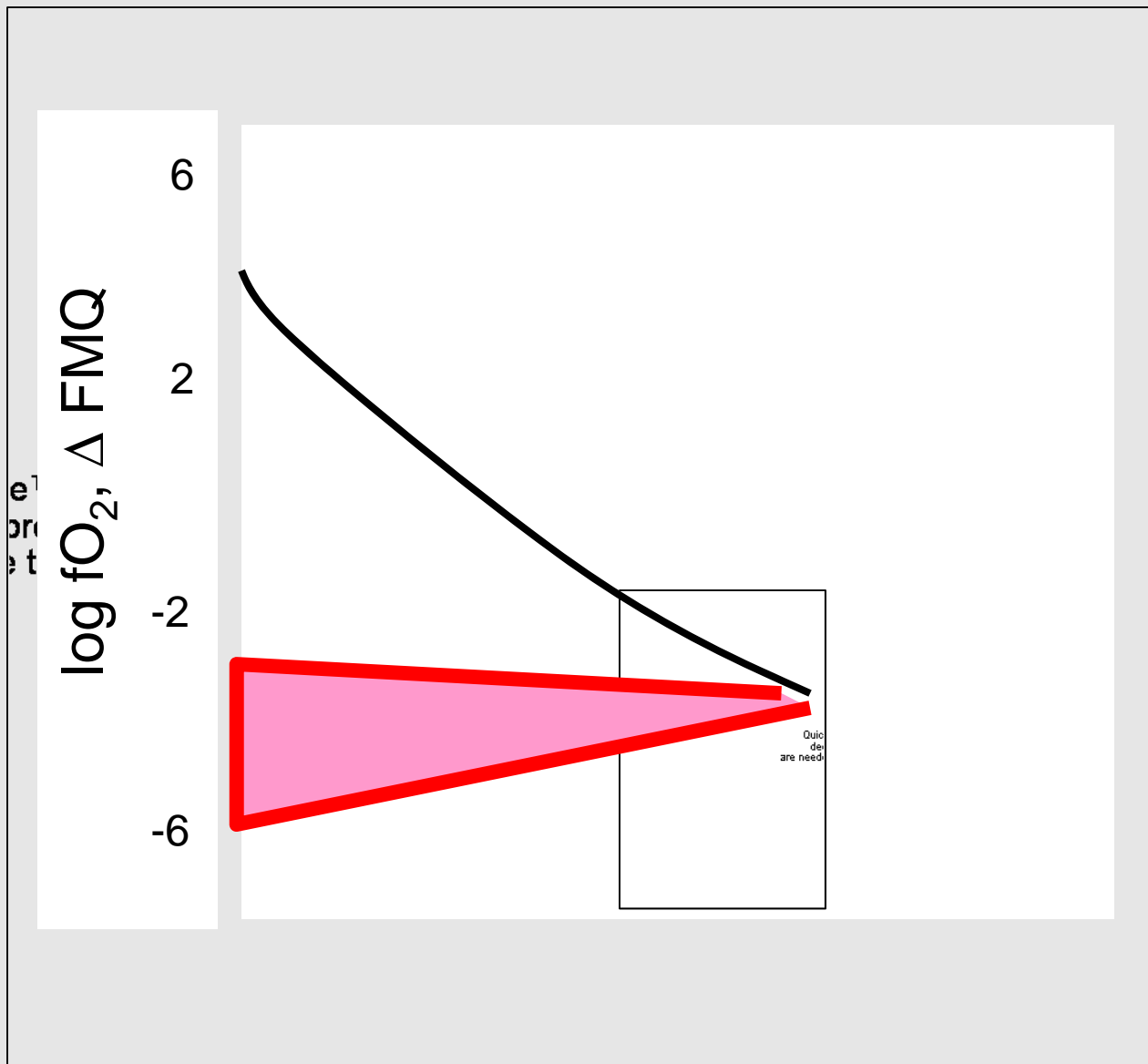
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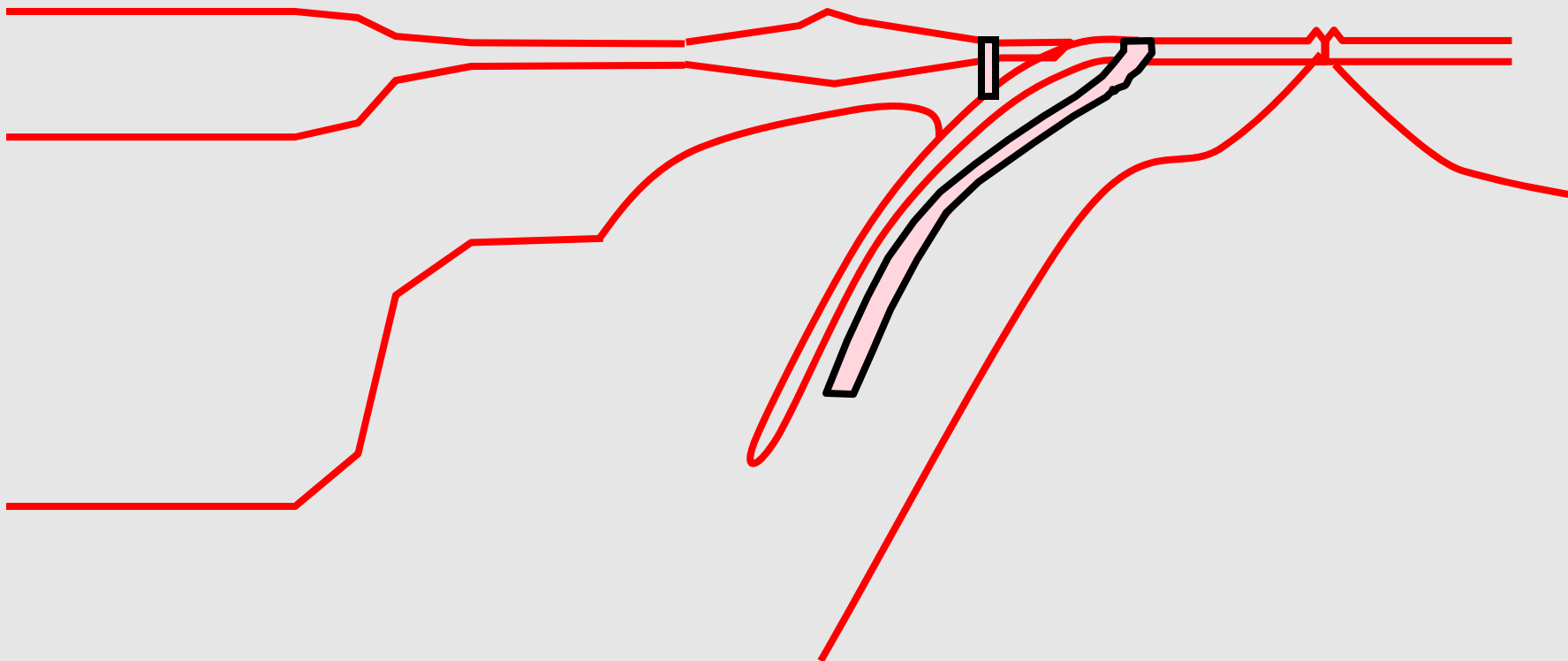
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Hydrocarbons in Deep Earth?
Alexander Goncharov, 2008

Gold & Soter, Sci Am 1980







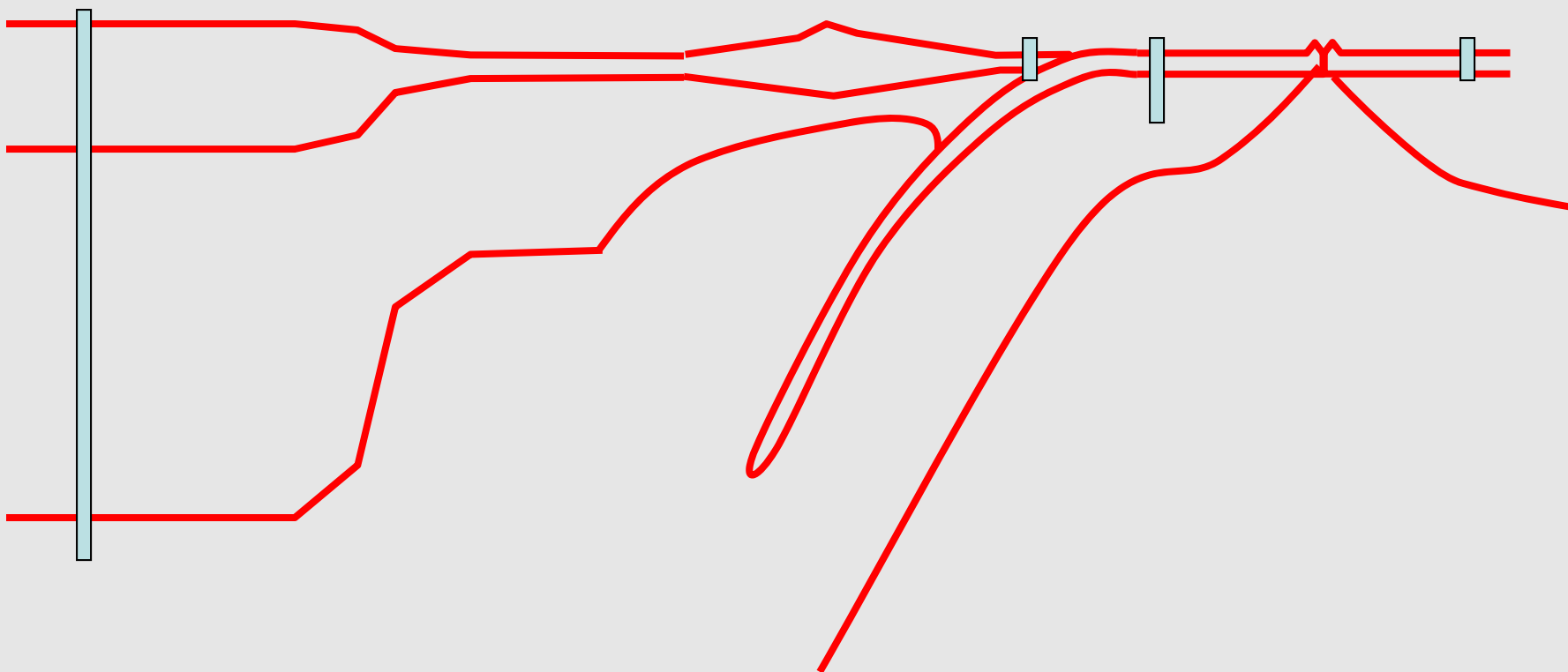
**liswanite = 100%
carbonated peridotite**

listwanite

peridotite

listwanite

peridotite





"No, I can't make it next Friday.
How about a week Tuesday?"

