

1 **Petrology, geochemistry and thermobarometry of the northern area of the**  
2 **Flamenco pluton, Coastal Range batholith, northern Chile. A thermal approach**  
3 **to the emplacement processes in the Jurassic andean batholiths.**

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12 **ABSTRACT**

13 The Flamenco pluton is part of a N-S alignment of Late Triassic to Early Jurassic intrusive belt  
14 comprising the westernmost part of the Coastal Range batholith in northern Chile. The Jurassic-  
15 Cretaceous voluminous magmatism related to subduction in the western active continental margin  
16 of Gondwana is emplaced in the predominantly metasedimentary Paleozoic host-rocks of the Las  
17 Tórtolas formation, which in the northern area of the Flamenco pluton present an intense  
18 deformation, including the Chañaral mélange.

19 Geochemically, the Flamenco pluton shows a wide compositional variability (SiO<sub>2</sub> between 48wt %  
20 and 67wt %). Gabbros, Qtz-diorites and tonalites, mesocratic and leucocratic granodiorites are  
21 classified as calc-alkaline, calcic, magnesian and metaluminous magmatism. Flamenco granitoids  
22 define cotectic linear evolution trends, typical of magmatic fractionation processes. Geochemical  
23 trends are consistent with magmas evolved from undersaturated and low-pressure melts, even  
24 though the absence of transitional contacts between intrusive units precludes in-situ fractionation.  
25 Although some granodioritic samples show crossed geochemical trends that point to the  
26 compositional field of metasediments, and large euhedral prismatic pinnite-biotite crystals, typical  
27 Crd pseudomorph, are observed in contact magmatic facies, geochemical assimilation processes are  
28 short range, and the occurrence of host-rocks xenoliths is limited to a few meters from the pluton  
29 contact.

30 A thermal approach to the emplacement process has been constrained through the thermobarometric  
31 results and a 2D thermo-numerical model of the contact aureole. Some Qtz-diorites and  
32 granodiorites located in the north area of the pluton exhibit granulitic textures as Hbl-Pl-Qtz triple  
33 junctions, poikiloblastic Kfs and Qtz recrystallization. The Hbl-Pl pairs have been used for the  
34 thermobarometric study of this metamorphic process, resulting granoblastic equilibrium

35 temperatures between 770 and 790 °C, whereas Hbl-Pl pairs in domains that preserve the original  
36 igneous textures yield temperatures above 820 °C . This is characteristic of self-granulitization  
37 processes during the sequential emplacement of composite batholiths.

38 In addition, the thermal modelling was used in order to compare the expected and observed thermal  
39 contact aureole of the intrusive body. Model P-T conditions have been established between 3 and 4  
40 kbars (extracted from the thermobarometric results), and temperatures between 1159 °C (*liquidus*  
41 temperature for a tonalitic composition) and 992 °C (fixed at the rheological threshold of a 50%  
42 crystal fraction). The thermal modeling estimates a homogeneous contact aureole, where the  
43 established temperatures for the melting reactions in the host-rocks are located at distances between  
44 200 and 650 m from the magma chamber boundary, whereas the temperatures for Crd stabilization  
45 extend 1500 m far from the contact in the case of the emplacement at *liquidus* temperatures and 4  
46 kbars. According to field observations, the contact aureole presents a scarce development in the  
47 northern area of the Flamenco pluton, with few migmatite outcrops and less than 1 Km in thickness  
48 for Crd-schists. However, in the southern contact, partially melted rocks are described at distances  
49 up to 2 km from the Flamenco pluton boundary.

50 The processes of self-granulitization and the differences between the observed and calculated (by  
51 the thermal modeling of one single pulse) contact aureole suggests a process of incremental  
52 emplacement for the Flamenco pluton, by accretion of magmatic pulses from north to south (in its  
53 current position), where the thermal maturity reached through the repeated magmatic intrusion  
54 generates a more extensive area of high-grade metamorphism.

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57 Keywords: thermal modelling, contact aureole, self-granulitization, Coast Range batholith, northern  
58 Chile

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## 61 **1.- Introduction**

62

63 The Flamenco pluton is part of the numerous and discontinuous outcrops of Late Paleozoic to  
64 Mesozoic igneous rocks emplaced in the Paleozoic metasedimentary basement which, taken  
65 together, form the so-called Coastal Range in northern Chile (Brook et al., 1986). Specifically,  
66 granitoids that make up the Flamenco intrusive body are framed in the voluminous calc-alkaline arc  
67 magmatism of Jurassic-Cretaceous age owing to the Coastal Range batholith. This magmatism was  
68 generated along the western Gondwana margin because of the reactivation of subduction in an

69 extensional to transtensional tectonic regime in the Early Jurassic (Mpodozis and Kay, 1990;  
70 Dallmeyer et al., 1996; Grocott and Taylor, 2002).

71 The subduction in convergent margins has been proposed as the most efficient and sustainable  
72 mechanism to generate new continental crust since the Late Proterozoic (Kemp and Hawkesworth,  
73 2003; Castro, 2014), supported by the statistical frequency of U-Pb zircon ages obtained from the  
74 continental crust (Condie, 1998, 2000). Cortical growth is directly related to the magmatism  
75 associated with subduction zones that are active without pronounced breaks, such as on the western  
76 margin of South America during the Andean cycle (Von Huene and Scholl, 1991 Plank and  
77 Langmuir, 1998). Therefore, subduction is the main engine for calc-alkaline magmatism and the  
78 formation of large cordilleran-type batholiths (Wyllie et al., 1976; Wyllie, 1977). Low water  
79 content, hybrid geochemical signatures and high compositional homogeneity are essential features  
80 for assessing the conditions and the sources of cordilleran magmatism (Castro, 2013; Burgisser and  
81 Bergantz, 2011). Several models have been proposed to generate these geochemical characteristics,  
82 such as the repeated intrusion of basaltic sills in a fertile lower crust (Annen y Sparks, 2002), the  
83 partial melting of crustal andesitic protoliths controlled by peritectic paragenesis (“PAE”: peritectic  
84 assemblage entrainment) (Clemens et al. 2011, 2012), and the off-crust generation from partial  
85 melting of metasediment-MORB mélanges or cold diapirs that are finally relaminated to the  
86 continental crust and separated into residues (lower crust mafic granulites) and liquids (cordilleran  
87 magmatism) (Castro 2013, 2014).

88 Re-thinking the emplacement and formation of large batholiths through geochronological data and  
89 detailed field and seismic studies (Glazner et al., 2004; Coleman et al., 2004) has outpaced old ideas  
90 about instantaneous balloon-like plutons (Bohrson and Spera, 2001; Huppert and Sparks, 1998).  
91 Although the batholith building is nowadays a controversial subject among the petrology  
92 community, many authors propose that incremental growth of composite batholiths is accomplished  
93 through small discrete magmatic pulses or batches (i. e., Annen, 2011; Michaut and Jaupart, 2011;  
94 Menand et al., 2015) over more than  $10^5$  years according to new and precise geochronological  
95 studies (i. e., Miller et al., 2007, 2011; Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2013), as has been confirmed by  
96 incorporating the influence of temperature on the crystallinity and thermal conductivity, and the  
97 depths of emplacement to the models (Gelman et al., 2013). The positive correlation between the  
98 period of amalgamation and the size of the batholith has highlighted that the availability of magmas  
99 in the crust depends on the fertility of both mantle and crust and the convergence dynamics between  
100 plates in convergent margins (Saint Blanquat et al, 2011). Thus, according to thermo-numerical  
101 models, magmatic addition rates in extensional arcs are higher than in continental margins with  
102 stable or compressive geodynamic regimes (Vogt et al., 2012). However, calculations for estimating

103 the volumes of magma fluxes ascending to the upper crust are particularly difficult to determine.  
104 Although subduction is active during tens of millions of years, volumetrically, most of the magma  
105 is emplaced during periods of 10 to 30 Ma (Paterson et al., 2011).

106 Processes such as magma differentiation, fractionation, high-grade metamorphism and assimilation  
107 of host rocks may occur at the emplacement level, not only in the source area, and they are closely  
108 related to the style and emplacement rate of the magma chamber (Annen, 2011). Hence, variations  
109 in magma fluxes and the incubation period required to establish high-grade conditions account for  
110 the simultaneous presence in magmatic arcs of both magma-magma relations during the main  
111 intrusive phases and self-granulitization processes in earlier magmatic pulses (Annen and Sparks,  
112 2002; Castro et al, 2014). The shape and thickness of the thermal aureole associated with a growing  
113 igneous body during the amalgamation of magma pulses depends on the emplacement constraints  
114 described above in addition to the thermal and mineralogical characteristics of the host rocks  
115 (Annen, 2011). Although the volume and the spatial distribution of magmatic increments rather  
116 than the shape of individual pulses determines the sequential growth of large batholiths (Paterson et  
117 al., 2011), most models propose small tabular bodies with horizontal disposition (i. e., Annen et al.,  
118 2006, 2011; Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2013). Accordingly, the development of the metamorphic aureole  
119 depends on the relative location of successive laminar pulses, and an irregular and non-concentric  
120 aureole would be formed during over-, under- or intra-accretion (Annen, 2011; Menand et al.,  
121 2010). Therefore, the formation of high-grade metamorphic areas in the host-rocks during the  
122 batholithic sequential emplacement depends on the temperatures and periodicity of intrusive magma  
123 fluxes and the location of crustal rocks in relation to the intrusive sheets; these are mostly related to  
124 crustal-scale tectonic structures that can increase and sustain high-grade and hyper-solidus  
125 conditions in the host rocks and residual liquids, respectively (Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2012, 2013;  
126 Annen, 2011).

127 The degree of development of the metamorphic aureole and tectonics influence the anisotropy and  
128 the disgregation of the host rock, a major control in the magnitude of the interaction processes  
129 between the intrusive magma and crustal rocks at the emplacement level. Mechanical mixing and  
130 reactive bulk assimilation account for considerable in-situ geochemical variations (i. e., Beard et al.,  
131 2005; Saito et al., 2007; Díaz Alvarado et al., 2011).

132 In this study, we present the first complete geochemical data from Flamenco pluton granitoids.  
133 Field relations, petrographic features, geochemistry, thermobarometric data and thermal modeling  
134 allow us to determine the geochemical relations between the intrusive units and the extent of the  
135 interaction processes that occurred between intrusive magmas and metasedimentary host-rocks. In

136 addition, we obtain a thermal setting to assess the batholith building processes during the  
137 emplacement of the Jurassic-Cretaceous magmas in northern Chile.

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## 140 **2.- Geological setting**

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142 The geology of the Coastal Range batholith in northern Chile has been controlled by eastward  
143 subduction along the western margin of South American plate and global tectono-magmatic events  
144 since the Late Paleozoic. Following an almost total cessation of subduction during the Triassic-  
145 Early Jurassic rifting stage, the subsequent fragmentation of Gondwana caused a period of  
146 subduction reactivation and the earliest evidence of the magmatic arc development (~183 Ma),  
147 established in a crustal extensional context (Ramos, 1999; Charrier et al., 2007; Mpodozis and  
148 Ramos, 2008). During the NW-SE trending oblique convergence of the Phoenix and the South  
149 American plates, the high angle of subduction favored the negative velocity of trench roll-back  
150 (Mpodozis and Ramos, 2008). Thus, a magmatic arc was formed, located in the current coastal  
151 range (Fig. 1a, b).

152 Magmatic activity during the Triassic Pre-Andean cycle fits into a stationary period during the final  
153 consolidation of Pangea (Vilas and Valencio, 1978). This created a new tectonic context along the  
154 western margin of Gondwana that favored heat accumulation in the upper mantle and melting  
155 conditions in the lower crust, generating NNW-SSE trending elongated basins and large volumes of  
156 magma along the coast of northern Chile (Berg and Breikreuz, 1983; Berg et al. 1983). In the study  
157 area, Late Permian magmatism is represented by granitic plutons called Quebrada del Castillo and  
158 Quebrada Quiscuda (264-244 Ma: Rb-Sr, Berg and Baumann, 1985; K-Ar, Ulriksen, 1979; K-Ar,  
159 Naranjo and Puig, 1984). Triassic intrusive magmas are leucocratic S-type granitoids, with  $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$   
160 between 0.7103 and 0.7172 (Berg y Baumann, 1985), and correspond to the plutons Pan de Azúcar  
161 (230 Ma: U-Pb, Berg and Baumann, 1985), Cerros del Vetado (217 Ma: U-Pb, Berg and Baumann,  
162 1985) and Capitana (199-215 Ma: K-Ar and U-Pb, Godoy and Lara, 1998).

163 Subduction reactivation led to the formation of a Jurassic-Cretaceous magmatic arc, parallel to the  
164 west margin of Gondwana that has gradually migrated eastward and is located in the Principal  
165 Cordillera. This arc primarily forms the Coastal Cordillera batholith and is mostly composed of a  
166 calc-alkaline plutonic complex formed by hornblende-biotite gabbros, diorites, tonalites to  
167 granodiorites, and proportionally less granites (Dallmeyer et al. 1996) in addition to andesitic,  
168 basaltic and dacitic volcanic rocks (González and Scheuber, 1997). Plutonic complexes were  
169 emplaced in Late Paleozoic metasedimentary basement rocks and Permian-Triassic plutonic

170 complexes. Between 25°30'S to 26°30'S (Fig. 1a, b), Jurassic plutons show a high compositional  
171 variability and correspond to the Bufadero and the Peralillo plutons (no data available), the Cerro  
172 Castillo (201,6 Ma: Rb-Sr, Berg y Baumann, 1985), the Barquito (193-204 Ma: K-Ar, Farrar et al.,  
173 1970; K-Ar, Díaz, 1986; Rb-Sr, Berg y Breitskreutz, 1983), the Las Ánimas (164-148 Ma: Rb-Sr,  
174 Berg y Breitskreutz, 1983; U-Pb, Berg y Breitskreutz, 1983;  $^{40}\text{Ar}/^{39}\text{Ar}$ , Dallmeyer et al., 1996; K-Ar,  
175 Díaz, 1986) and the Flamenco (described below) plutons. Volcanic rocks derived from the arc  
176 activity are found in the La Negra formation and the Punta del Cobre Group. These are basaltic to  
177 andesitic lavas interbedded with marine sedimentary rocks (Godoy and Lara, 1998). An extensional  
178 tectonic regime was maintained until the Late Cretaceous (Mpodozis y Ramos, 2008; Charrier et al.,  
179 2007).

180 The metasedimentary basement in the study area corresponds to the Las Tortolas formation, which  
181 has been defined as a turbiditic sedimentary succession developed at the shelf margin and talus  
182 environments (Bell, 1982). This formation comprises low to medium metamorphic grade mudstones  
183 and sandstones (mainly phyllites and quartzites) with minor limestones, conglomerates, volcanic  
184 rocks ("pillow" lavas) and pelagic cherts (Bell, 1982; 1987; Ulriksen, 1979; Naranjo and Puig,  
185 1984; Godoy and Lara, 1998). The Las Tórtolas formation is included in the Chañaral Epi-  
186 metamorphic Complex (CECh) (Godoy and Lara, 1998), forming two elongated NNE to SSW strips  
187 separated by a 100 km wide graben filled with younger sediments (Levi and Aguirre, 1981). Several  
188 depositional ages have been proposed for the turbidite rocks based on their fossil content, from  
189 Ordovician to Devonian (Bell, 1982; Naranjo and Puig, 1984), Carboniferous (Bahlburg et al.,  
190 1986), and Carboniferous to Permian (Bell, 1987).

191 The Las Tórtolas formation was tectonically deformed and subjected to greenschist facies  
192 metamorphism (Miller 1970; Aguirre et al. 1972) during the Late Carboniferous or Early Permian.  
193 However, the formation includes an extremely deformed domain called Chañaral Melange that is  
194 defined as blocks of sandstone in a pelitic matrix (Bell, 1982; Bell, 1987). This deformation has  
195 been linked to a tectonic context of an accretionary wedge resulting from subduction towards the  
196 NE and the overlapping of several complex deformational events affecting unlithified sediments  
197 (Bell, 1987).

198 The Early Jurassic Flamenco pluton (Fig. 1c) intrudes the Las Tórtolas formation and corresponds  
199 to a sub-circular body of approximately 15 kilometers in diameter comprising calc-alkaline Hbl-Bt  
200 tonalites to granodiorites, with minor Qtz-diorites and gabbros (Grocott et al., 1994), including  
201 orbicular gabbros (Godoy, 1997). The Flamenco pluton is intruded by conjugated sets of andesitic  
202 NW-SE and NE-SW dykes (Dallmeyer et al., 1996). The estimated ages for the pluton are between  
203 201 and 186 Ma (Berg y Breitskreutz, 1983, Brook et al., 1986, Dallmeyer et al., 1996). The

204 correlation between age and Hbl-blocking temperatures suggests magma emplacement in shallow  
205 cortical levels followed by rapid cooling (Dallmeyer et al., 1996).

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### 208 **3.- Field relations and sample descriptions.**

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210 The Flamenco pluton is emplaced in pelitic and quartzitic metasedimentary rocks of a highly  
211 deformed domain of the Las Tórtolas formation, which includes minor interbedded limestones and  
212 conglomerates (Fig. 1c). A meta-volcanosedimentary sequence outcrops at the northern contact of  
213 the Flamenco pluton (Fig. 1d). It is mainly comprised of basaltic and dacitic lavas with interbedded  
214 quartzites and rare phyllites, and culminated at top with andesitic blocks and glass shards in a  
215 rhyolite mass. These rocks have not been previously described but are out of the scope of this study.  
216 The north contact of the intrusive body has an irregular morphology with a W-E orientation and an  
217 approximately 18 km extension (Fig. 1d). According to satellite images and studies in other areas of  
218 the intrusive complex (i. e., Grocott and Taylor, 2002) (Fig. 1c), most of the contacts are sharp and  
219 steeply dipping. On a large scale, there are scarce kilometric fragments of host metasediment that  
220 are wholly or partially isolated within the intrusive granitoids (Fig. 1c). On a smaller scale,  
221 numerous metasedimentary irregularly shaped xenoliths of different sizes are hosted in the  
222 granitoids (Fig. 2a), always in the first few meters from the contact. Inland, only microgranular Qtz-  
223 dioritic enclaves are observed.

224 The Las Tórtolas formation shows three distinct domains in the study area according to their  
225 structural characteristics. The western area belongs to the melange facies (Fig. 1d), where the  
226 ellipsoidal quartzite objects included in a phyllite matrix show a primary NW-SE stretching  
227 lineation with low dips (between 5 and 20°). Foliations, where they can be measured, are NW-SE  
228 trending but SW and NE dipping. This is consistent with previous studies performed in the melange  
229 facies in other areas not directly influenced by the intrusive magmas (Bell, 1987). Melange textures  
230 are not present in the eastern area, but it features a strong deformation. Major structures are straight  
231 or slightly inclined SW vergent folds with N165E trending axial traces. Quartzites and some  
232 volcanic layers show boudinage and pinch and swell structures, which are further subjected to a  
233 second deformation phase causing auto-thrusting of the previously stretched or separate layers (Fig.  
234 2b). In the eastern area, the structure is dominated by large lateral extension thrusts and associated  
235 propagation folds. These folds are verging to the SW and have identical axial traces defined by  
236 straight folds (Fig. 1d). Late transcurrent faults with N60E and N140E preferred orientations cut  
237 units and structures described above.

238 The contact aureole shows an irregular development in the metasedimentary formation in the north  
239 contact of the Flamenco pluton. Its thickness ranges from 50 to 800 m, dominated by Crd-schist  
240 (mineral abbreviations after Kretz, 1983) and to a lesser extent, migmatitic hornfelses with scarce  
241 leucosome bands or partial melting percentage (Fig. 2c). Migmatites are mainly developed in the  
242 pelitic lithologies, and from the contact into the metasedimentary formation, the metamorphic  
243 sequence is comprised by migmatitic hornfelses, Crd-schists and Crd-phyllites. In other areas of the  
244 contact aureole, this sequence is inverted (eastern part of the study area, Figure 1d) where low-  
245 grade rocks (Crd-absent phyllites) are near the intrusive body, and the metamorphic grade increases  
246 toward the host rock. Changes in the metamorphic grade also appear to be tectonically controlled by  
247 NW-SE trending structures within the metasedimentary formation, resulting in strips of Crd-schist  
248 that progressively vary to low grade phyllites. Where Crd-schist attain a medium to large grain size,  
249 cordierites show a preferred orientation evidenced by a N150E trending plastic stretching lineation  
250 (Fig. 2d).

251 The Flamenco pluton shows large petrological variability in the study area, located in its northwest  
252 domain (Fig. 1b, c), which is representative of the entire pluton. The areas nearer the contact with  
253 the metasedimentary host rocks are dominated by Hbl Qtz-diorite to tonalite granitoids, and  
254 mesocratic granodiorites mostly outcrop toward the interior of the intrusive body. Several intrusive  
255 sheets of gabbros and leucocratic granodiorites are disposed in an approximate NNW-SSE  
256 orientation, presenting sharp contacts, self-enclaves and dykes in the host tonalites. Included in  
257 gabbroic facies, the presence of a small lensoidal shaped body of orbicular gabbros (Fig. 1d, 2e) is  
258 noteworthy. Several apophyses associated with the Flamenco pluton are isolated in the  
259 metasedimentary host rocks. The presence of an elongate dyke-like body of granodioritic  
260 composition that shows large idiomorphic prismatic crystals of biotite-pinnite (Fig. 2f) is notable.  
261 The main mineralogical and textural characteristics of the identified magmatic facies are listed  
262 below.

263

### 264 *3.1 Petrographic descriptions*

265

#### 266 *Gabbros (NM-4)*

267 This unit is a fine- to medium-grained mesocratic rock that displays an isotropic fabric and  
268 phaneritic/hypidiomorphic textures. Its mineralogical composition is dominated by euhedral to  
269 subhedral, twinned and zoned Pl crystals (~65 vol. %) with a grain size of 0.75-2.5 mm that are  
270 weakly altered to sericite, calcite and epidote. Frequently, secondary Mg-rich Chl (~1 vol. %) fills  
271 the microfractures and the interstitial spaces developed in the Pl crystals. These rocks also contain

272 subhedral to anhedral Hbl crystals (~35 vol. %) with a grain size of 0.6-5 mm that are moderately  
273 altered to Mg-rich Chl, whereas scarce secondary Bt (< 1 vol. %) along the Hbl cleavage is also  
274 observed. Opx is present in the inner areas of Hbl aggregates (Fig. 3a). Opaque minerals and Qtz  
275 represent less than 2 vol. % of these rocks. A poikilitic texture is observed in the Hbl where it is  
276 enclosed by small Pl crystals.

277

#### 278 *Qtz-diorites (NM-3)*

279 This unit is a medium-grained mesocratic rock showing an isotropic fabric and  
280 phaneritic/hypidiomorphic textures. Mineralogical composition of this rock unit is strongly  
281 dominated by euhedral to subhedral Pl (~60 vol. %) ranging from 0.25 to 3 mm, Hbl (~20 vol. %)  
282 with a grain size of 0.5-3.5 mm, Qtz (~7 vol. %) and Bt (~5 vol. %) showing grain sizes of 0.75-2  
283 mm (Fig. 3b). Pl crystals are weakly altered to sericite and calcite, whereas Bt is strongly altered to  
284 Fe-rich Chl and moderately replaced by Ep. Subhedral Sph, Ap and opaque minerals represent the  
285 main accessory phases in these rocks. In concrete domains, corroded Opx grain boundaries and  
286 triple junctions between Hbl, Pl and Qtz are observed.

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#### 288 *Tonalites (NM-1 and NM-8)*

289 Tonalites consists of a fine- to medium-grained leucocratic rocks with an isotropic fabric and  
290 faneritic/equigranular texture (Fig. 3c). These rocks exhibit a wide range of alteration degree.  
291 Primary minerals in fresh tonalite include subhedral Pl (~55 vol. %) with a grain size of 0.5-1.5  
292 mm, subhedral to anhedral Bt (~10 vol %) with a grain size of 0.3-1.6 mm, subhedral to anhedral  
293 Hbl (2 vol. %) with a grain size of 0.5-2.75 mm, and anhedral Qtz (~25 vol %). Accessory minerals  
294 are represented by sphene and opaque minerals.

295

#### 296 *Leucocratic granodiorites (NM-5 and NM-7)*

297 Rocks from this unit exhibit a fine-grained hypidiomorphic, equigranular and phaneritic textures in  
298 which the mineralogical composition is dominated by subhedral Pl crystals (~50 vol. %), that are  
299 between 0.5 and 1.75 mm, anhedral Qtz (~25 vol. %) with crystals smaller than 1.5 mm, subhedral  
300 Kfs (~10 vol. %) ranging from 0.25 to 1.5 mm and anhedral to subhedral Bt (~7 vol. %) with a  
301 grain size of 0.5-1.7 mm (Fig. 3d). The main accessory phases in these rocks are represented by  
302 euhedral to subhedral Sph that have crystals smaller than 1 mm and anhedral opaque minerals  
303 smaller than 0.25 mm.

304

#### 305 *Mesocratic granodiorites (NM-6)*

306 Mesocratic granodiorites show two main textural domains. Where igneous textures are present, they  
307 present an isotropic fabric and equigranular, hypidiomorphic and fine-grained phaneritic textures.  
308 However, granoblastic textures are dominant over wide areas, where Hbl-Pl-Qtz triple junctions  
309 (Fig. 3e), poikiloblastic Kfs (Fig. 3f) and an extensive recrystallization are observed (Fig. 3e, f).  
310 The mineralogical composition is dominated by subhedral and twinned Pl (~45 vol. %) with  
311 crystals smaller than 1.5 mm, anhedral Qtz (~35 vol. %) with a grain size of 0.15-0.5 mm,  
312 subhedral Bt (~10 vol. %) ranging from 0.25 to 1.25 mm, subhedral Hbl (~5 vol. %) with a grain  
313 size of 0.25-2.5 mm and subhedral Kfs (~2-3 vol. %) showing a grain size of 0.25-1.5 mm. Scarce  
314 and small opaque crystals represent the main accessory phases in these rocks.

315

#### 316 *Crd-granodiorites (NM-2A)*

317 This unit exhibits a distinctive glomeroporphyritic texture with medium-grained phenocrysts and  
318 xenocrysts (smaller than 7 mm) that represent approximately 55 vol. % of these rocks (Fig. 3g).  
319 These medium size crystals comprise subhedral to anhedral zoned and twinned Pl (~35 vol. %),  
320 polycrystalline rounded Qtz xenocrysts (~10 vol. %) (Fig. 3g), Kfs (~5 vol. %), Hbl (~3 vol. %) and  
321 Bt (~2 vol. %). Phenocrysts of Hbl are moderately to strongly affected by secondary and fine-  
322 grained biotite. Clots of fine-grained Bt, Kfs and quartz occur within prismatic and subhedral Bt  
323 phenocrysts, which mostly show hexagonal sections. The groundmass (~45 vol. %) shows crystals  
324 smaller than 0.25 mm and is completely obliterated by a secondary fine-grained assemblage of Qtz-  
325 Pl (~30 vol. %) and Bt (~10 vol. %), whereas Kfs crystals (~5 vol. %) also occur. The main  
326 accessory phases are related to zircon and opaque minerals.

327

#### 328 *Crd-schists (NM-2B)*

329 Crd-schists are the most representative facies in the metasedimentary host-rocks. They are  
330 characterized by a grano-lepidoblastic texture related to a millimetric alternance of quartz-rich  
331 (leucocratic) and mica-rich (mesocratic) continuous to discontinuous bands. The limits of these  
332 mineralogical bands are sinuous, sharp and well-defined (Fig. 3h). Leucocratic bands mainly  
333 comprise anhedral Qtz crystals (~90-95 vol. %) ranging from 0.025 to 0.5 mm and minor amounts  
334 of fine anhedral to subhedral Ms and Bt (~5-10 vol. %), with a grain size smaller than 0.25 mm.  
335 The mesocratic bands are dominated by a mix of subhedral fine-grained Bt (~60 vol. %), anhedral  
336 Qtz (~10 vol. %) and anhedral Crd (~30 vol. %), in which most of the crystals are smaller than 0.05  
337 mm. Bt crystals display an incipient orientation. Opaque minerals (~2-3 vol. %) show an average  
338 grain size of 0.025 mm and occur only in the mesosome bands.

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## 4.- Geochemistry

### 4.1 Sampling and analytical techniques

Selected samples for the geochemical study of the Flamenco pluton were collected along the northern contact of the intrusive body with metasedimentary rocks of the Las Tórtolas formation (Fig. 1d). Eight samples were chosen for major and trace element analyses to characterize the main facies composing the pluton in the study area. Geochemical data have been plotted to determine their geochemical and genetic relationships and to point some clues about the magmatic processes involved during the generation, ascent and emplacement of the magmas. Additionally, the selection of sampling points, with different spatial and textural relationship with the host rocks (presence of enclaves or exotic mineralogies) allows us to assess the extent of the processes of interaction between the intrusive magmas and the metasedimentary rocks at the emplacement level. The geochemical data of the studied samples are presented in figures 4 to 8 and in table 1. For comparative data, two plutonic complexes of the Coastal Range Batholith were used. The Lower Cretaceous Copiapó Plutonic Complex (Marschik et al., 2003) and the Lower Jurassic to Lower Cretaceous Limari-Papudo-Illapel batholith (Parada et al., 1999) were selected because of their spatial and geochronological relationship with the Flamenco pluton, and the scarcity of geochemical data along the Coastal Range batholith. Additionally, two referenced examples of cordilleran batholiths are projected in variation diagrams (Patagonia batholith: Hervé et al., 2007; Pankhurst et al., 1999; and Peninsular Range batholith: Lee et al., 2007).

Approximately 3 kg of fresh rock was collected from each outcrop. Samples were crushed and milled to a fine powder in steel cups. Major elements were analyzed by X-ray fluorescence (XRF), with a Siemens SRS-3000 at the Universidad Católica del Norte (Chile). The precision of the XRF technique is between 0.1% and 1%. Trace elements, including rare earth elements (REE), were analyzed by inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) with a Perkin-Elmer Optima 2000 DV model at the Universidad Católica del Norte (Chile). The sample is dissolved in a Claisse M4 Fluxer with a  $\text{Na}_2\text{CO}_3 - \text{Li}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7$  mixture. This residue is dissolved in approximately 4 ml of  $\text{HNO}_3$  and distilled water, and the solution is passed through a fractionation column containing an ion exchange resin (Dowex 50-WX8) separating the REEs, which are then eluted with 50 ml of  $\text{HNO}_3$  6N and 20 ml  $\text{HNO}_3$  8N. To achieve accuracy and precision with the method, two international standards (GA and GH) from Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS, France) are used.

374

375 *4.2 Geochemistry results*

376

377 The Flamenco granitoids present a high percentage of CaO with respect to alkalis (Fig. 4a),  
378 showing an almost linear trend from gabbros to tonalites and granodiorites. Together, the samples  
379 describe a magnesian, metaluminous and calcium magmatic series (Fig. 4b, c, d). Both ASI vs. SiO<sub>2</sub>  
380 and MALI diagrams (Fig. 4c, d) (Frost et al., 2001) show that the most SiO<sub>2</sub> rich samples point to  
381 peraluminous and calc-alkalic fields, respectively, denoting alkali and alumina enrichment for the  
382 most evolved terms (Fig. 4b, c, d). According to the Nb vs. Y tectonic discrimination diagram (Fig.  
383 4e) (Pearce et al., 1984), Flamenco granitoids belong to syn-collisional volcanic arc granitoids.

384 Harker diagrams show mainly linear trends for the magmatic facies that form the north area of the  
385 Flamenco pluton, with a wide SiO<sub>2</sub> range (48 to 67%) from gabbros to granodiorites (Fig. 5). TiO<sub>2</sub>,  
386 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, MgO, FeO y CaO describe negative trends versus silica, whereas K<sub>2</sub>O increases and Na<sub>2</sub>O  
387 shows a flat or slightly positive pattern. Nevertheless, granodiorites display a more scattered  
388 distribution for some elements (K<sub>2</sub>O, Na<sub>2</sub>O and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, Fig. 5). The studied samples match the  
389 compositional trends drawn by typical calc-alkaline cordilleran batholiths. Only the Copiapó  
390 Plutonic Complex shows a different geochemical pattern, indicating the higher alumina and alkalis,  
391 and lower CaO and MgO contents for the same SiO<sub>2</sub> ranges.

392 Figure 6 shows a pseudoternary system defined by Opx-An-Or (Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2011; Castro,  
393 2013). This projection is particularly significant for visualizing magmatic processes in natural rocks  
394 and experimental data, according to which different fields have been defined by T, P and H<sub>2</sub>O  
395 conditions for the generation and the evolution of granitic melts (Castro, 2013 and references  
396 therein). Flamenco pluton granitoids trace a cotectic-like evolution from gabbros and Qtz-diorites to  
397 tonalites and granodiorites. This trend matches the field described for undersaturated and low-  
398 pressure melts, and, as shown in the previous diagrams, are consistent with comparative cordilleran  
399 granitoids. Fractionation or cotectic trends are crossed by transverse lines defined by some  
400 granitoids from the Flamenco pluton and comparative samples. These are evident in samples from  
401 the Copiapó Plutonic Complex and the Limarí-Papudo-Illapel batholith, and in slight deflection, in  
402 some granodiorites from the Flamenco samples. Granodiorites (NM-2 and NM-6) outline transverse  
403 trends pointing to the compositional fields of graywackes and pelites, in which the metasedimentary  
404 rocks of the Las Tórtolas formation (Fig. 6 and 7a) are represented. Anyway, Flamenco samples  
405 from Qtz-diorites to granodiorites show a general linear trend and close geochemical characteristics  
406 with calc-alkaline cordilleran magmatism (Fig. 7b and c).

407 Rb and other trace elements associated with  $K_2O$  are enriched in more differentiated samples  
408 without entailing a variation of the alumina saturation index (ASI) (Table 1, Fig. 7d), which remains  
409 constant in all samples, with slight variations in some granodiorites (NM-2, Crd-Granodiorites).  
410 The variance between LREE and HREE is represented by the relationship between  $Lu^*$  and the  
411  $La^*/Lu^*$  ratio (Fig. 7e). The La values are almost identical for all the studied samples. However, the  
412 Lu values are lower and, therefore, the LREE/HREE are greater for granodiorites compared to less  
413 evolved granitoids. Spider diagrams (Fig. 8a, b) are employed using Thompson MORB  
414 normalization and are consistent with average values given by Kelemen et al. (2003) for typical  
415 continental arc andesites. The Flamenco pluton samples show typical depletion of Nb and Ti, more  
416 outstanding in granodiorites (Fig. 8b), and enrichment in Ba, Rb and K that characterize arc setting  
417 magmatism.

418

419

## 420 **5.- Thermobarometry and thermal modeling**

421

### 422 *5.1 Thermobarometry*

423

424 With the aim of estimating temperatures and pressures reached at the emplacement level of the  
425 Flamenco pluton and to assess P-T conditions during granoblastic recrystallization described in  
426 some intrusive granitoid facies (see Chapter 3), mineral compositions obtained by electron  
427 microprobe analyses were used. Two Qtz-dioritic samples (NM-3 and NA-2) were selected for the  
428 thermobarometric study (Fig. 9a). According to mineral assemblages found in granitoids  
429 comprising the Flamenco pluton, temperatures have been obtained using Hbl-Pl equilibrium after  
430 multiple iterations as a function of the pressure. These temperatures are interpreted as cooling  
431 temperatures and can be established as a minimum magma temperature during the emplacement  
432 process. Furthermore, when the petrographic study indicated that some granodioritic facies have  
433 metamorphic textures (NM-6), Hbl-Pl thermobarometry was used to approach the conditions for the  
434 granulitization process. All thermometry results are referred to HB2 temperatures calibrated  
435 according to the reaction of edenite+albite=richterite+anorthite (Holland and Blundy, 1994). As a  
436 first approach, 2 and 4 Kbars have been selected. The presence of Crd and absence of Grt in the  
437 metasedimentary pelitic host rocks settle an upper limit of 4-6 Kbars for pressure conditions (Le  
438 Breton and Thompson, 1988; Vielzeuf and Holloway, 1988). Calibrations of the Al-in-hornblende  
439 barometer (Schmidt, 1992) have also been used, yielding consistent results with randomly selected  
440 pressures. Electron microprobe analyses were conducted with a JEOL JXA-8200 SuperProbe at the

441 University of Huelva. A combination of silicates and oxides were used for calibration. The results  
442 are shown in Table 2. The compositions of the analyzed Hbl-Pl pairs are shown in Appendix 1.  
443 Figure 9 shows BSE images of selected samples for the thermobarometric study. Hbl-Pl pairs in the  
444 Qtz-diorite samples (Fig. 9b, c) yield constant temperatures from 820 to 850 °C for random and  
445 calculated pressures, resulting in Schmidt pressures of  $3 \pm 0.15$  kbars (Table 2). These results are  
446 obtained in equilibrium igneous textures. However, the NM-3 sample shows areas where engulfed  
447 Opx, interstitial Hbl and triple junctions between Pl and Hbl (Fig. 9d) are observed. Hbl-Pl  
448 temperatures are slightly lower in these areas, between 800 and 820°C.  
449 Leucocratic granodiorites sampled near the Flamenco pluton contact (Fig. 9a) show an almost  
450 complete demise of igneous textures because of granoblastic recrystallization observed in these  
451 intrusive facies. Qtz-Pl-Hbl triple junctions and interstitial and poikiloblastic Kfs crystallization are  
452 dominant over the igneous textures (Fig. 9e, f). Temperatures reached during granulitization are  
453 obtained from the Hbl-Pl pairs showing granoblastic textures as a criterion of chemical equilibrium.  
454 In areas where the original straight igneous contacts are preserved (Fig. 9e), temperatures  
455 approximately 830 °C are maintained. However, where recrystallization processes are evident,  
456 temperatures yielded by granoblastic Hbl-Pl pairs are considerably lower (Fig. 9e, f), between 770  
457 and 790 °C (Table 2). Calculated Schmidt pressures are higher than those obtained for NM-3 Qtz-  
458 diorites, ca.  $4 \pm 0.5$  kbars Kbars.  
459 The granodioritic intrusive facies with igneous textures show oscillatory zoned Pl.  
460 Thermobarometric data calculated between Pl Ca-rich cores (75% An) and zonation absent Hbl,  
461 assuming that these phases were previously in equilibrium, give temperatures approximately 900 °C  
462 (Table 2). These results should be considered a minimum of the magma temperatures during the  
463 emplacement process, whereas temperatures obtained using Pl external rims (50% An) are lower  
464 cooling temperatures.

465

## 466 *5.2 Thermal modeling*

467

### 468 *Rationale and model setup*

469 Numerical modeling has been applied to study a wide range of geological processes, as the relation  
470 of the magma with the host rock, the residence times of silicic magma chambers, the cooling,  
471 emplacement, crystallization and compositional variations of different magma chambers (Annen,  
472 2009; Bachmann and Bergantz, 2004; Bea, 2010; Dufek and Bergantz, 2005; Gelman et al., 2014;  
473 Gelman et al., 2013; Gutiérrez and Parada, 2010; Koyaguchi and Kaneko, 2000; Molina et al.,

474 2015). Here, the thermal modeling of cooling magma chambers is used to know the thermal effect  
475 on the host rock at different conditions of emplacement.

476 We have simulated 4 case studies of crystallizing magma chambers at different depths,  
477 corresponding to 3 and 4 kbar, diverse temperatures of emplacement (Table 3), and redox  
478 conditions of one log unite above the QFM oxygen buffer, by the 2D numerical approach solving  
479 conductive cooling by finite difference (Wohletz et al., 1999). The FD mesh consists of elements of  
480 100-meter-size for both magma and host rock. Modeling of phase equilibria is conducted with the  
481 Rhyolite-MELTS code (Gualda et al., 2012), in order to know *liquidus* and crystal fraction  
482 evolution regarding the different conditions of emplacement. The composition used for thermal  
483 modeling is the tonalite NM-8 because of their abundance along the batholith and the proximity to  
484 the parental magma according to field observations.

485 The purpose of this thermal modeling is to establish the extent and shape of the thermal  
486 metamorphic aureole caused by magma intrusion. With this aim, we consider two extreme scenarios  
487 for the magma emplacement. In one case, the magma is emplaced with a crystal fraction of 0.5  
488 (case studies 1 and 2: Fig. 10a, b). We use this crystal fraction as upper limit above which the  
489 rheological properties would inhibit the magma emplacement (Bachmann and Bergantz, 2004). At  
490 the opposite end, the magma intrudes as totally liquid, and temperature of emplacement will be the  
491 corresponding to the *liquidus* (case studies 3 and 4: Fig. 10c, d). The thermal modeling covers the  
492 entire temperature range from the instantaneous emplacement to the solidification of the whole  
493 magma. Temperature of emplacement, magma density and specific heat capacity have been set by  
494 Rhyolite-MELTS code according the two scenarios proposed here (Table 3). We range the pressure  
495 of emplacement from 4 to 3 kbar, according to the thermobarometry data described in the previous  
496 section.

497 The selected geometry for all case studies is tabular with 20 km of width and 2 km of height,  
498 corresponding to a constant volume of 62.83 km<sup>3</sup> (Table 3). Thermal properties for the different  
499 case studies are given in Table 3. The thermal gradient imposed for the crust is 30 °C/km (de Silva  
500 and Gregg, 2014; Gelman et al., 2013; Huber et al., 2009).

501 Heat transfer is calculated solved to the conservation of energy:

$$502 \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \nabla \cdot \kappa \nabla T - \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla T + Q \quad (1)$$

503 where T is magma temperature, t is time,  $\kappa$  is thermal diffusivity, u is the velocity vector, and Q  
504 contains heat sources and sinks. The latent heat of crystallization is included in calculations with a  
505 constant value of 350 kJ/kg for silicate phases is assumed (Wohletz et al., 1999):

506 
$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \frac{Q}{(C_p + 1)\Delta T_{SL}} \quad (2)$$

507 where the latent heat is  $Q$ ,  $C_p$  is the heat capacity and  $\Delta T_{SL}$  is the temperature interval between  
 508 *liquidus* and *solidus*.

509 Thermal conductivity of magma is set at 1.3 and 1.5 W/m°C as initial value depending on the  
 510 temperature of emplacement (Table 3), and it is considered as dependent on the pressure and  
 511 temperature according to the equation from (Chapman and Furlong, 1992):

512 
$$K(T, z) = K_0 \frac{(1+cz)}{(1-bT)} \quad (3)$$

513 where  $K(T, z)$  represents the thermal conductivity variation regarding the temperature ( $t$ ) and depth  
 514 ( $z$ ),  $K_0$  is conductivity at 0°C,  $c$  is the crustal depth constant, and  $b$  is the thermal constant for the  
 515 upper crust.

516 Crustal density is fixed at 2800 kg/m<sup>3</sup>. Magmatic density and specific heat are estimated by  
 517 Rhyolite-MELTS code according to the magmatic conditions of emplacement (Table 3). The heat  
 518 capacity ( $C_p$ ) for crust is also assumed as constant (1390 J/kg°C; Gutiérrez and Parada, 2010). To  
 519 simplify the modeling, magma is instantaneously emplaced in a single shoot and further  
 520 replenishment is not considered (Bea, 2010; Gutierrez and Parada, 2010; Rodriguez et al., 2015).  
 521 Time step for calculations varies from 15 to 24 years and the grid size used is set at 100 m. The  
 522 initial temperature distribution of the crust is delimited for the imposed geothermal gradient. Lateral  
 523 walls of the country rock are considered as insulators.

## 524 *Results*

525 We have performed numerical simulations of cooling magma chambers emplaced at different  
 526 pressures and temperatures according to the assumptions previously described. We used horizontal  
 527 thermal profiles at 11 and 14.4 km of depth, depending on the pressure of emplacement, to delimit  
 528 the distance over which the host is above the temperature of partial melting and cordierite  
 529 stabilization. The beginning of the crustal partial melting is estimated to start above 635 °C for 3  
 530 kbar of pressure and 650 °C for 4 kbar of pressure (Spear, 1994). These temperatures will be taken  
 531 as reference to study the zone affected by partial melting in thermal profiles from numerical  
 532 modeling. The Crd stabilization starts at 525 °C and 560 °C under pressures of 3 and 4 kbar,  
 533 respectively (Spear, 1994). The position with respect of magma chamber boundary of both  
 534 isogrades is represented with respect to the time for each case study (Fig. 10a to d). The more  
 535 extended zone affected by partial melting ( $\approx$  650 m) is found for a totally liquid magma chamber  
 536 emplaced at 4 kbar (Fig. 10d). In the cases of partially crystallized ( $X_c = 0.5$ ) and crystal-absent  
 537 magma chambers emplaced at 3 kbar (Fig. 10a and c, respectively), migmatites are constrained to

538 the first 300 to 400 m from the pluton boundary. The stabilization of Crd according to the reaction  
539  $Mg\text{-Chl} + Als = Mg\text{-Crd}$  (Spear, 1994) is chiefly influenced by the thermal maturity of the host  
540 rock, which is related to imposed pressure conditions. For both emplacement temperatures, Crd-  
541 aureoles extend above 1200 m in the cases of magma chambers emplaced at 4 kbar (Fig. 10b, d),  
542 whereas they are around 700-800 m in 3 kbar models (Fig. 10a, c).

543 The simulation of the instantaneous emplacement of a single magmatic pulse that has the  
544 dimensions observed in the Flamenco pluton promotes the formation of a homogeneous aureole  
545 around the magma chamber. The expected aureole by the magma intrusion expected for the  
546 Flamenco pluton emplacement varies their length scale from 650 m (case study 1) to 1500 m (case  
547 study 4) (Fig. 10).

548

549

## 550 **6.- Discussion**

551

### 552 *6.1 Geochemical constraints*

553

554 This study has focused on describing the geochemistry of the granitoids that comprise the Flamenco  
555 pluton and the interaction between intrusive magmas and the metasedimentary host rocks at the  
556 emplacement level. The extent of the observed interaction and the scarcity of voluminous high-  
557 grade metamorphic domains in the Paleozoic basement of the Coastal Range batholith allow us to  
558 assess the magma emplacement mechanisms that formed the Flamenco pluton in the Jurassic-  
559 Cretaceous magmatic arc in the western margin of South America.

560 In its northern area, the Flamenco pluton granitoids belong to a calcic, magnesian and  
561 metaluminous series, with wide geochemical variability, from gabbros to granodiorites, typical of  
562 syn-collisional volcanic arc settings (Fig. 4). Sample plots show a linear evolution trend,  
563 characteristic of magmatic fractionation processes (Fig. 5, 7). These diagrams show a clear  
564 compositional affinity between Flamenco samples and calc-alkaline cordilleran batholiths. These  
565 patterns are referred to as cotectic lines of liquids (CLL; Castro, 2013), representing liquids  
566 fractionating from an equilibrium saturating solid assemblage at different temperatures. These  
567 mineral assemblages are dominated by Px in the less evolved magmas, with a distribution  
568 coefficient ( $D$ )  $<1$  for all REEs, and Hbl in granodiorites, in which  $D$  is  $>1$  for the HREE, producing  
569 steeper REE patterns (Fig. 7e), and possibly accompanied by Pl, which is characteristic of calc-  
570 alkaline systems. Qtz-diorites and tonalites coincide with primary andesitic magma fields and are  
571 genetically related to typical compositions of evolved andesites (Green, 1982; Kelemen et al., 2003)

572 (Fig. 8), whereas granodiorites evolve along cotectic experimental lines drawn by liquids developed  
573 at undersaturated and low-pressure conditions (Fig. 6). The preponderance of sharp contacts and the  
574 absence of gradual transition between granitoid bodies suggest that differentiation processes from  
575 Qtz-diorites to granodiorites do not occur in-situ at the emplacement level. Cotectic trends plotted  
576 from the Flamenco samples are consistent with the compositional fields of huge paradigmatic  
577 cordilleran batholiths (Peninsular Range: Lee et al., 2007; Patagonia: Hervé et al., 2007; Pankhrust  
578 et al., 1999); and available geochemical data indicates that other Coastal Cordillera batholiths are  
579 spatially and temporally related to the Flamenco pluton (Copiapó Plutonic Complex: Marschik et  
580 al., 2003; and Limarí-Papudo-Illapel batholith: Parada et al., 1999) (Fig. 5, 6 and 7).

581 Some field relations and variations in the geochemical trends described here are representative of  
582 the interaction between the intrusive magma and the metasedimentary host rocks. According to  
583 petrographic descriptions, the presence in some granodioritic facies (NM-2) of large prismatic  
584 euhedral pinnite-biotite crystals, typical of Crd pseudomorphs (Fig. 2f), as well as polycrystalline  
585 Qtz xenocrysts are related to assimilation processes. The peritectic euhedral Crd crystallizes in  
586 magmatic environments where xenolithic pelite melting reactions occur (Erdmann et al., 2007,  
587 Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2011). Furthermore, some granodioritic samples are enriched in MgO and  
588 alkalis, coupled with an increasing alumina saturation index (Fig 4c, 5). These are traces of local  
589 contamination with pelitic country rocks (Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2011; Castro et al., 2014; Bellos et  
590 al., 2015). FM-An-Or (Fig. 6) and CaO vs MgO (Fig. 7a) are definite projections to expose and  
591 measure the extension of assimilation processes (Díaz-Alvarado et al., 2011). NM-2 and NM-6  
592 granodiorites show crossed trends related to fractionation linear arrangements, pointing to pelites  
593 and graywackes in the field. Therefore, assimilation processes that involve Flamenco granitoids  
594 produce small scale geochemical variations, and further limited to those areas near the contacts.  
595 Interaction processes are mostly mechanical, and a short range geochemical assimilation is limited  
596 to a few meters along the contact.

597

## 598 *6.2 Deformational phases and emplacement*

599

600 There is a significant relationship between deformational phases and structures, the space  
601 generation, and the emplacement and formation of large batholiths. Thus, the Jurassic-Cretaceous  
602 magmatic arc in the Coastal Cordillera in northern Chile provides an exceptional example of  
603 magmatism relating the tectonic inversion deformation at a convergent margin that has evolved  
604 from extensional tectonics, framed in a retreating subduction boundary context in the Early Jurassic

605 to Early Cretaceous, to compressive tectonics (Williams et al., 1989; Arévalo and Grocott, 1997;  
606 Grocott and Taylor, 2002).

607 At the northern contact, the Flamenco pluton is emplaced in a phyllite-quartzite succession with  
608 volcano-sedimentary rocks of the Las Tórtolas formation. The study area has been divided into  
609 three zones according to their structural characteristics (Fig. 1d). To the west, melange facies show  
610 a total dismantling of the original turbidite architecture, presenting a planar-linear fabric and a NW-  
611 SE trending main stretching lineation. This deformation has been dated as Late Carboniferous (Bell,  
612 1987). Similar orientations are observed in the stretching lineations marked by granoblastic Crd in  
613 the contact aureole (Fig. 2d), but framed by contact metamorphism during the Early Jurassic  
614 intrusive process. This extensional deformation phase could be syn-tectonic with boudinage  
615 structures described in the volcanic rocks of the study area (Fig. 2b), and coincides with crustal-  
616 scale N-S to NWN-SES trending detachments, with top to east kinematics that determine the main  
617 emplacement episode (D2 phase, Grocott and Taylor, 2002). Additionally, this is consistent with the  
618 main NW-SE orientation of the tabular intrusive sheets that form the Flamenco pluton (Grocott and  
619 Wilson, 1997). Grocott and Taylor (2002) described the subsequent D3 and D4 phases as a result of  
620 the roof uplift and pluton filling with high emplacement rates related to space generation. The  
621 presence of straight or slightly inclined folds and steeped foliations and lineations measured  
622 throughout the study area correlate with these deformational phases. Syn-emplacement structures  
623 fold the Crd-schists that belong to the contact aureole generated during the early intrusive phases.  
624 Thrust faults and associated propagation folds in the east of the study area that promote the auto-  
625 thrusting of boudin blocks crosscut the previous structures. There is no precise dating of these  
626 structures, and they may develop during horizontal flattening proposed for the late emplacement  
627 process (Grocott and Taylor, 2002) or during the crustal scale tectonic compressive phase at the  
628 continental margin.

629

### 630 *6.3 Self-granulitization and thermal aureole*

631

632 According to the assemblage of various geochemically distinguishable granitic facies and to the  
633 variety of structures generated during pluton building, the Flamenco pluton was formed during a  
634 protracted emplacement process. Qtz-dioritic and granodioritic magmatic facies (NM-3 and NM-6  
635 samples) described in the northern margin of the pluton show granulitization textures and  
636 temperatures, acquired during the successive intrusion of magmatic pulses. Temperatures of  $780 \pm$   
637  $10$  °C recorded by granoblastic Hbl-Pl equilibriums (Fig. 9) represent the response of previously  
638 emplaced granitoids to the thermal input of subsequent intrusive stages. In this sense, self-

639 granulitization and the observed sharp contacts between the different magmatic facies suggest that  
640 the first pulses are close to or below its *solidus* temperature during successive intrusive phases. This  
641 may also be caused by the thermal immaturity of the crust in the early stages of the pluton building.  
642 The hypothesis of the sequential emplacement for the formation of Flamenco pluton, and the  
643 scarcity of extensive high-grade domains in the fertile metasedimentary host rocks of the Coastal  
644 Range batholith, have been contrasted with the 2D thermo-numerical model of a magma chamber  
645 with similar dimensions to the Flamenco pluton (Fig. 10). Therefore, it has been possible to  
646 compare the development of the observed thermal aureole and that calculated by the thermal  
647 modeling. Firstly, the thermal aureole predicted by the 2D model show a homogeneous shape and  
648 development around the pluton, whereas the observed aureole presents further development to the  
649 south, and a very irregular shape in the north area of the Flamenco pluton (Fig. 10e). The proposed  
650 emplacement temperatures for the case studies are between 992 and 1159 °C for intrusive magmas  
651 (Table 3), far above the minimum temperature yield by the Hbl-Pl thermobarometry (900 °C, Table  
652 2). The model results also show the influence of the depth of emplacement for the development of  
653 the contact aureole (Table 3, Fig. 10).

654 According to the proposed model, the established temperatures for the melting reactions in the host-  
655 rocks can be located at distances between 200 and 650 m from the magma chamber boundary (Fig.  
656 10), depending on the fixed initial conditions and for elapsed times of  $10^5$  years from the magma  
657 emplacement. The high-grade conditions are achieved and maintained for longer times in the case  
658 study of emplacement at liquidus temperatures and 4 kbar. However, the south contact of the  
659 Flamenco pluton presents a noteworthy domain of migmatitic rocks (distances from the pluton  
660 contact up to 2 Km, Grocott and Taylor, 2002), as in the north contact, in spite of presenting  
661 tectonic contacts, migmatite outcrops are scarce and Crd-schists are limited to, at most, the first  
662 kilometer from the contact (Fig. 10e). Thus, the irregular development of the contact aureole  
663 observed in the Flamenco pluton, in comparison with that obtained by thermo-numerical modeling,  
664 together with the self-granulitization processes described in marginal magmatic facies in the north  
665 area, point to a sequential building for the pluton. To explain this irregularity of the contact aureole  
666 and the presence of large migmatitic domains in the south, it is necessary to invoke an intrusive  
667 complex growth by accretion from north to south (in its current location), allowing the high-grade  
668 aureole development of the host rocks in this area.

669

670

671 **7.- Concluding remarks**

672

673 The descriptions of granitoids with granulitic textures in the pluton margins and the contact  
674 metamorphism aureoles point to the conditions in which the Flamenco pluton has been built. Thus,  
675 in the framework of the theoretical limits established by the simple 2D thermal modeling approach,  
676 we find first-order constraints on the thermal response of the host crust, and setting the  
677 emplacement mechanisms of intrusive magmas. Therefore, the processes of self-granitization and  
678 the irregular contact aureole described in this paper indicate that the Flamenco pluton is formed by a  
679 protracted process of repeated intrusion of magma pulses, as is pointed by the presence of folded  
680 aureole rocks. The successive emplacement is preferably located over previous granitoid batches.  
681 Otherwise, the accumulation of intrusive pulses in the crust would generate a higher thermal  
682 maturity in the host-rocks, although this also has been shown to be related to emplacement rates,  
683 and would increase the interaction processes between granitic melts and metasediments.

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685

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687

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## 991 **Figure captions**

992

993 **Figure 1.** (a) Major morphological features of the Andean cordillera in Chile (modified from  
994 Charrier et al., 2007). (b) Inset showing the outline of part of the Late Triassic-Early Jurassic  
995 Coastal Cordillera batholith. (c) Geological sketch of the entire Flamenco pluton based on field  
996 observations and satellite images. (d) Detailed geological map of the study area at the northwestern  
997 contact of the Flamenco pluton. The locations of the samples used in the geochemical study are  
998 indicated on the map.

999 **Figure 2.** Field photographs of some outstanding lithological and structural features of the study  
1000 area. (a) Tonalites include irregular and partially digested xenoliths in areas near the contacts with  
1001 metasedimentary host-rocks. (b) Self-thrusting of volcano-sedimentary layers showing previous  
1002 boudinage and pinch and swell structures. (c) Sharp contacts between intrusive granodiorites and  
1003 host Crd-Schists. (d) Elongated Crd crystals (black arrow) indicating the NW-SE syn- post-  
1004 emplacement preferred orientation (red lines) of ductile structures in the contact aureole. (e)  
1005 Orbicular textures found in gabbros from the study area. (f) Biotite-pinnite crystal clots (black  
1006 arrows) showing euhedral prismatic shape and homogeneous grain size.

1007 **Figure 3.** Microphotographs showing the main petrographic characteristic of the studied samples.  
1008 Most are cross-polarized light images except (g), which is a BSE image. Gabbros (a) present scarce  
1009 Opx crystals, which are observed included in Hbl-Pl polycrystalline aggregates or clots derived  
1010 from Px reaction in the melt. Qtz-diorites to granodiorites (b, c, d) show a progressive enrichment in  
1011 Qtz and Kfs, and the substitution of Hbl by Bt as the mafic phase. Mesocratic granodiorites located  
1012 at the north margin of Flamenco pluton (e, f) present granulitic recrystallization textures. Red  
1013 arrows point to noteworthy examples of Hbl-Pl-Qtz triple junctions. Poikiloblastic Kfs and Qtz  
1014 recrystallization are observed. Crd-granodiorites (g) show rounded and polycrystalline Qtz, and  
1015 concentric zoned Pl and Hbl phenocrysts. Hbl present Bt reaction rims. The groundmass is  
1016 composed of Qtz + Pl + Bt + Kfs. Crd-schists (h) present leucocratic Qtz-rich bands alternated with  
1017 Crd-rich mesocratic domains. Some Qtz-rich bands show Kfs, incipient igneous textures and Bt-Crd  
1018 schlierens, typical of migmatitic leucosomes.

1019 **Figure 4.** (a) O'Connor rock classification triangle, (b, c, d) granitoid classification diagrams (Frost  
1020 et al., 2001), and (e) Nb-Y tectonic discrimination diagram (Pearce et al., 1984) for the granitoids of  
1021 the northern area of the Flamenco pluton. Only granodiorites show slight deviations from  
1022 metaluminous and calcic trends defined by the Flamenco samples. In (e): WPG: Within-plate  
1023 granite, ORG: Ocean ridge granite, VAR: Volcanic arc granite, Syn-COLG: Syn-collision granite.

1024 **Figure 5.** Major element vs SiO<sub>2</sub> variation diagrams for the intrusive granitoids comprising the  
1025 northern area of Flamenco pluton. The Copiapo Plutonic Complex (Marschik et al., 2003) and  
1026 Limari-Papudo-Illapel batholith (Parada et al., 1999) are used as references for chronologically  
1027 related plutonic rocks in the Coastal Cordillera batholith. Paradigmatic Cordilleran granitoids are  
1028 plotted for comparison (Patagonia batholith: Hervé et al., 2007; Pankhurst et al., 1999; and  
1029 Peninsular Range batholith: Lee et al., 2007).

1030 **Figure 6.** Projection of the Flamenco granitoids into the F–An–Or projected space. Cotectic  
1031 relations and crossed trajectories are evidenced in the pseudoternary system defined by Opx–An–Or.  
1032 The main compositional areas and the experimental granitic evolutions are indicated (Díaz-  
1033 Alvarado et al., 2011; Castro, 2013 and references therein). See text for further details.

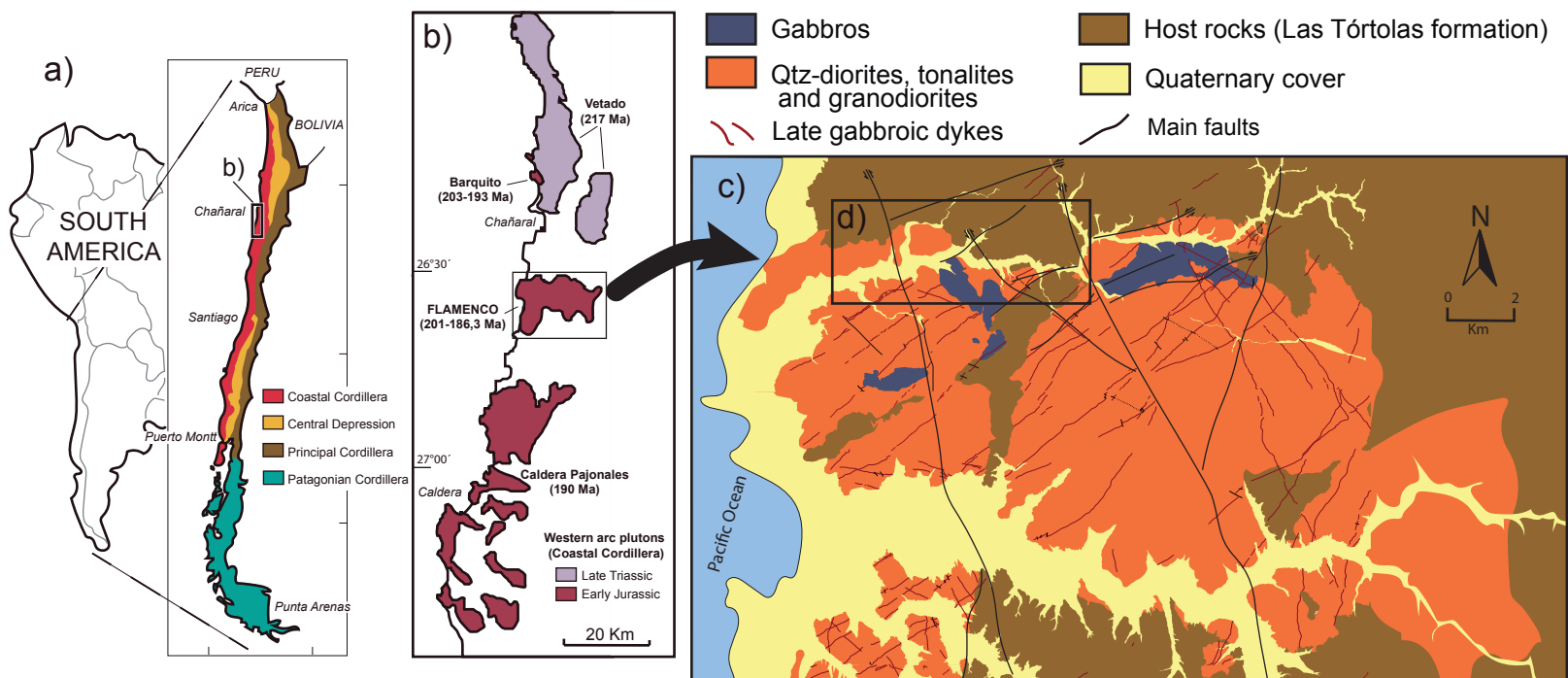
1034 **Figure 7.** Major and trace element geochemical variations. (a, b, c, d) Fractionation, cotectic-like  
1035 and assimilation trends are indicated. Assimilation trajectories point to the host graywackes and  
1036 pelites, showing Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, FeO and MgO enrichment during CaO depletion. (e) Lu\* vs La\*/Lu\* ratio.  
1037 Low HREE values for granodiorites indicate the presence of Hbl during fractionation.

1038 **Figure 8.** Thompson normalization plot rock/MORB for (a) gabbros, Qtz-diorites and tonalites, and  
1039 (b) granodiorites. The black line with white squares is the typical continental arc andesite  
1040 composition given by Kelemen et al. (2003).

1041 **Figure 9.** (a) Detailed geological sketch of the Flamenco north contact with the location of samples  
1042 selected for the thermobarometric study. (b, c, d) BSE images of NA-2 and NM-3 Qtz-dioritic  
1043 samples. (e, f) BSE images of the NA-6 granodioritic sample. Microprobe analysis points (Table 2)  
1044 are indicated with representative results of the Hbl-Pl thermobarometry.

1045 **Figure 10.** (a-d) Thermal modeling results for different case studies. The position of both partial  
1046 melting and Crd-in isogrades are represented according to the time elapsed from the magma  
1047 chamber emplacement for all case studies. Result for magma chambers emplaced at temperatures  
1048 equivalent to 0.5 of crystal fraction are given in a ( $T = 992^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and b ( $T = 1007^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The isogrades  
1049 resulting from the emplacement at liquidus temperature are showed in c ( $T=1141.6^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and d ( $T =$   
1050  $1159^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) (Table 3). (e) Geological sketch summarizing the main characteristics of the thermal  
1051 aureole observed in Flamenco pluton. North aureole has been mapped according to the field  
1052 observations carried out in this study, whereas the south aureole was drawn following the  
1053 metamorphic aureole described by Grocott and Taylor, 2002.

1054  
1055

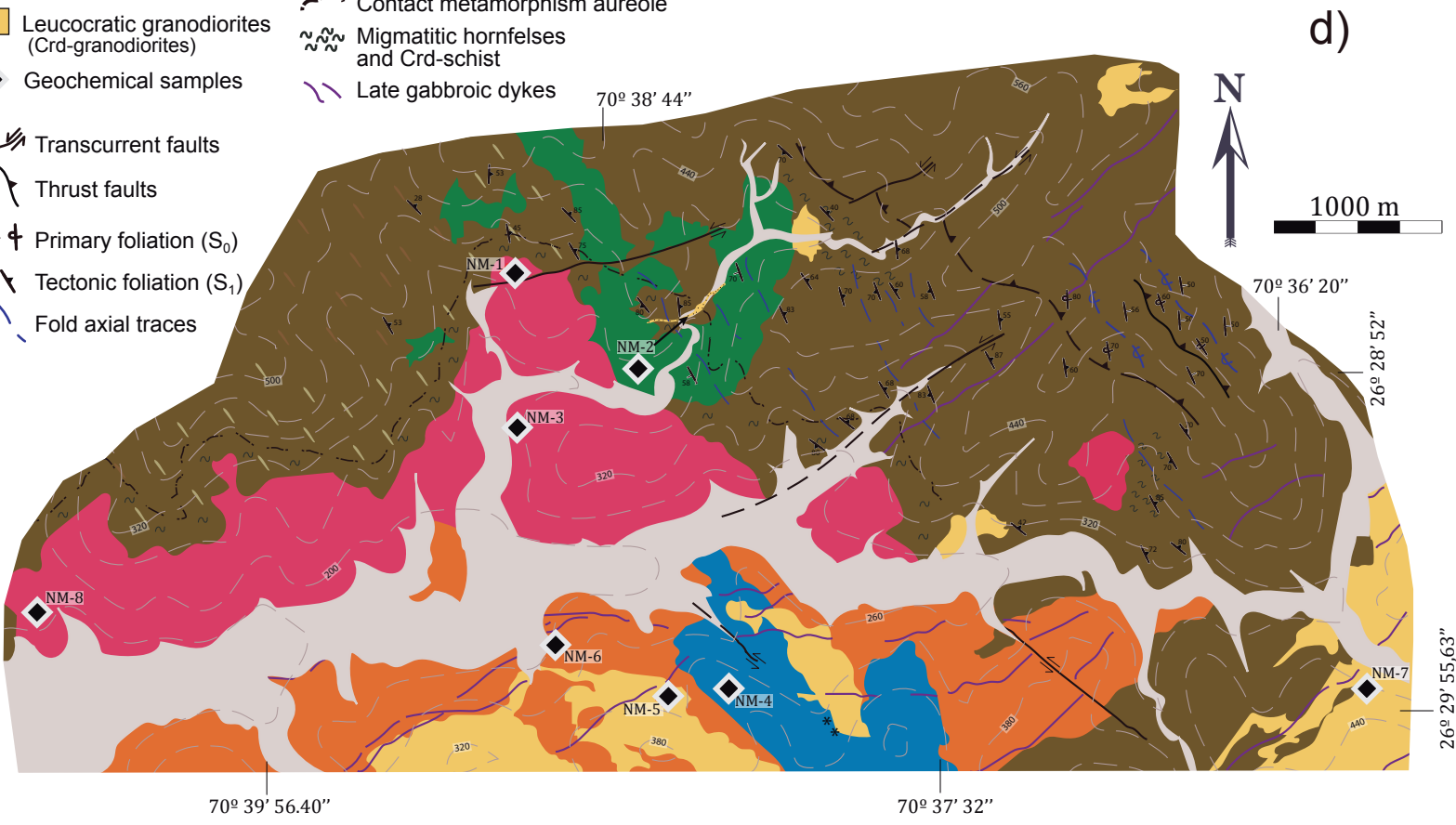


### LEGEND

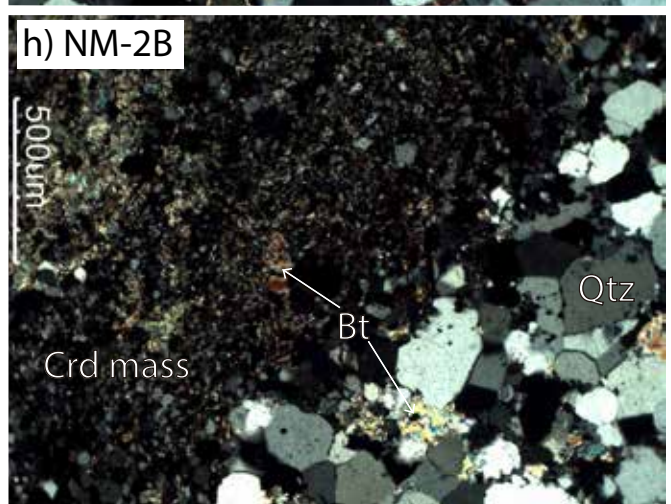
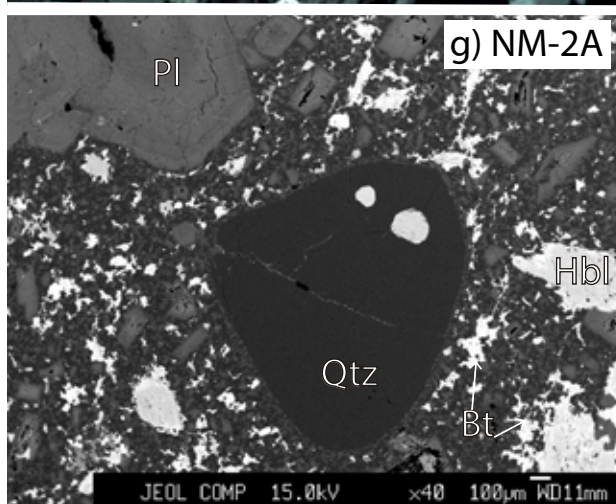
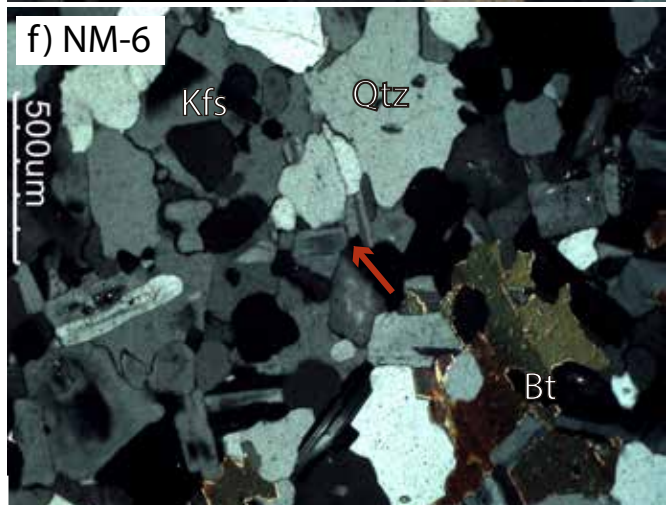
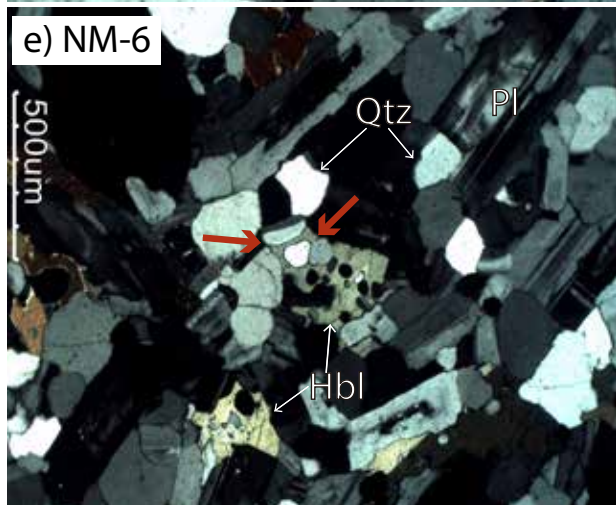
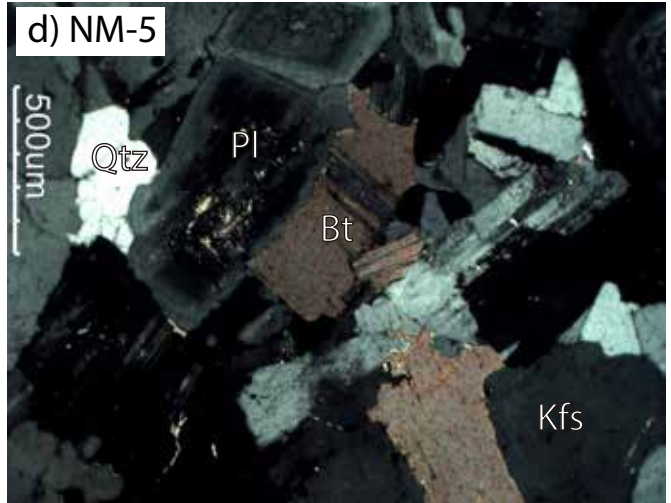
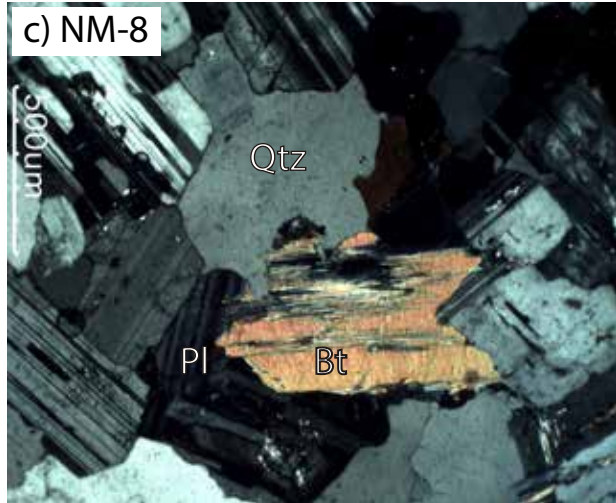
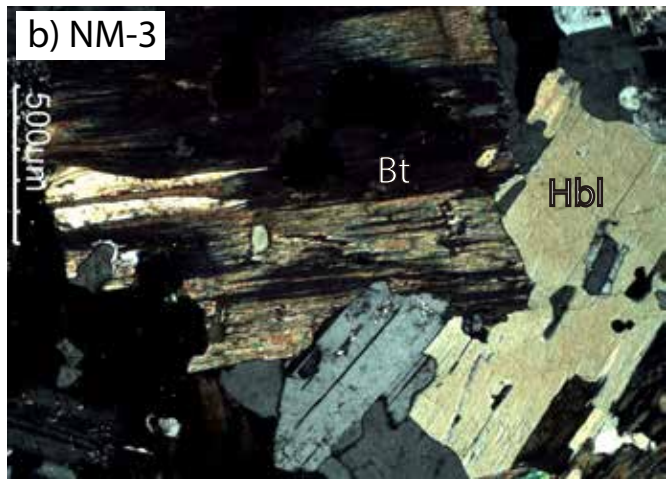
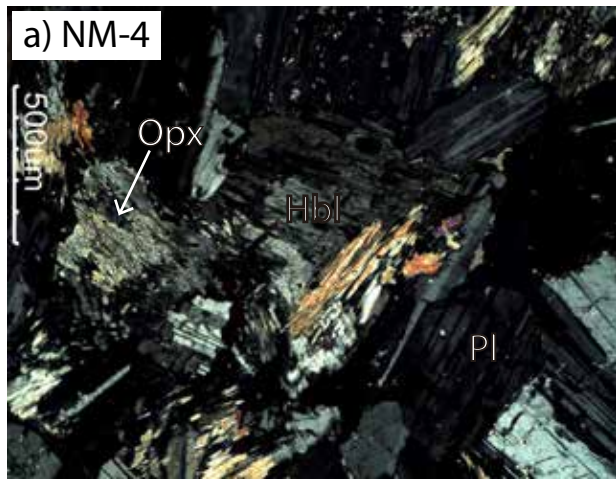
#### Flamenco intrusive rocks

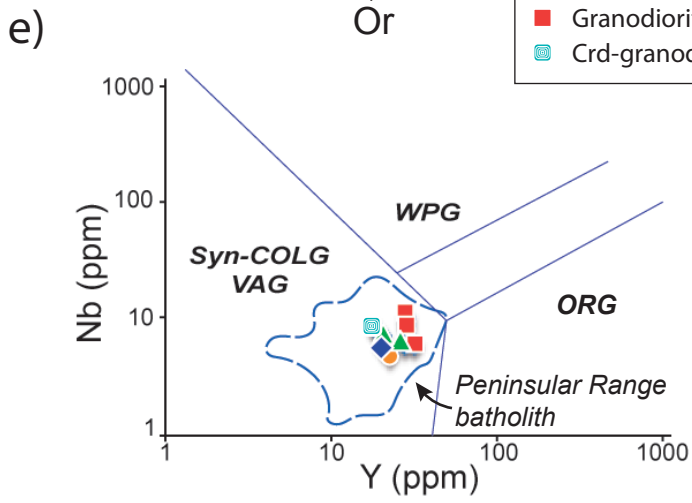
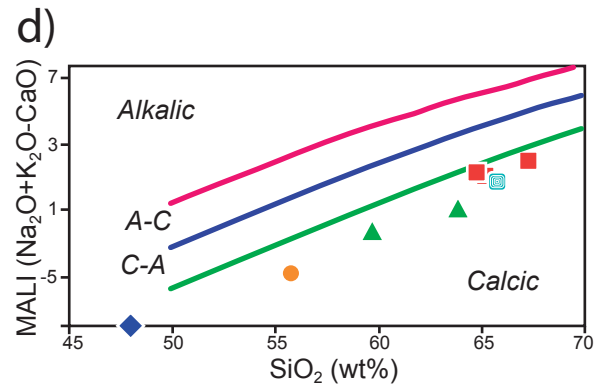
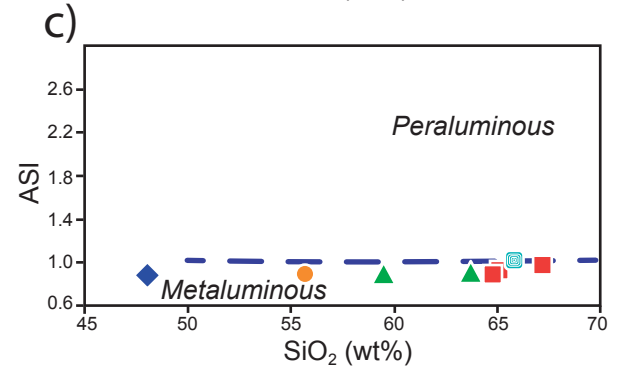
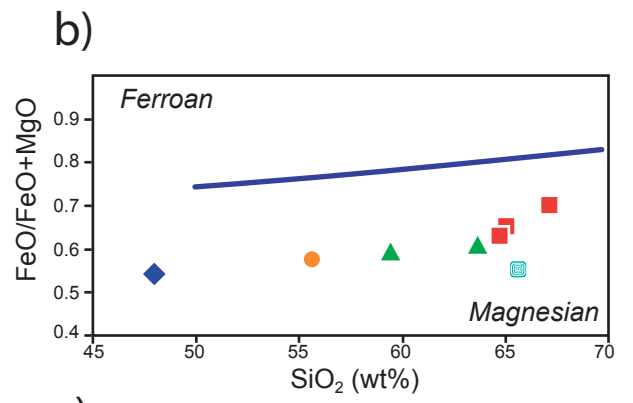
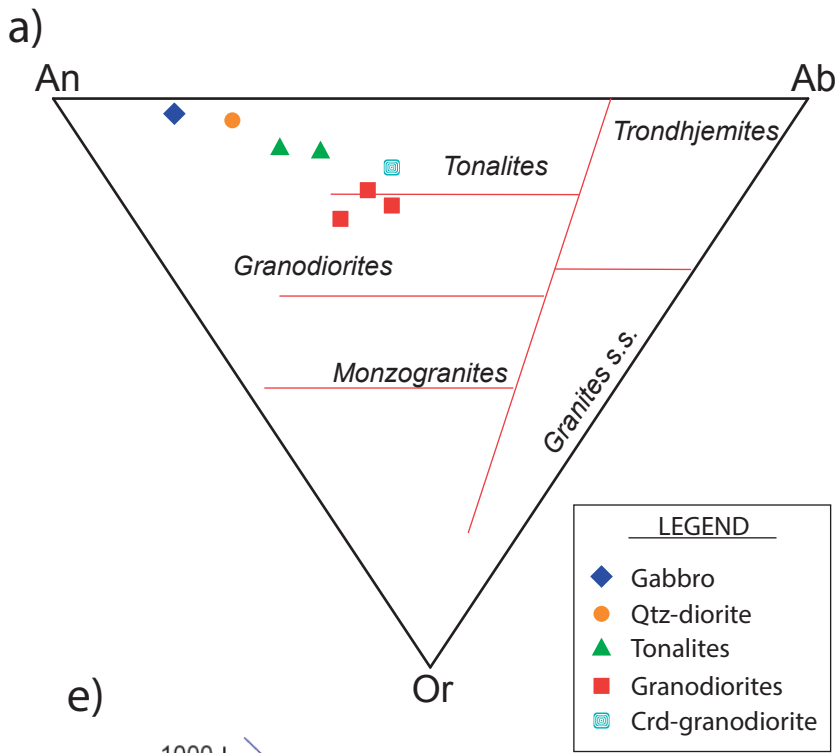
- \* Gabbros (Orbicular gabbros)
- Qtz-diorites and tonalites
- Mesocratic granodiorites
- Leucocratic granodiorites (Crd-granodiorites)
- Geochemical samples
- Quaternary cover
- Las Tórtolas formation (Melange facies)
- Volcano-sedimentary unit

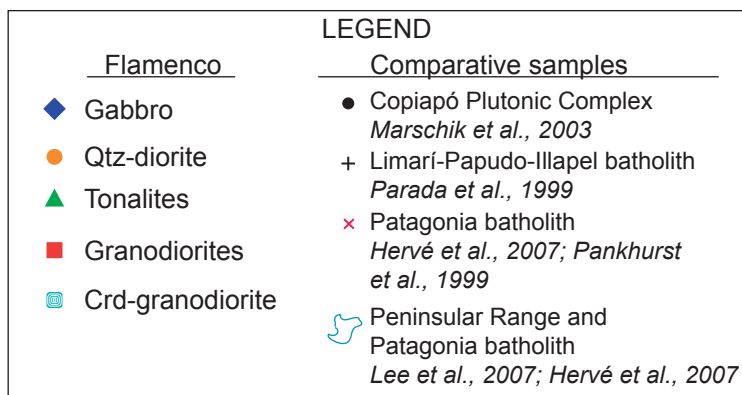
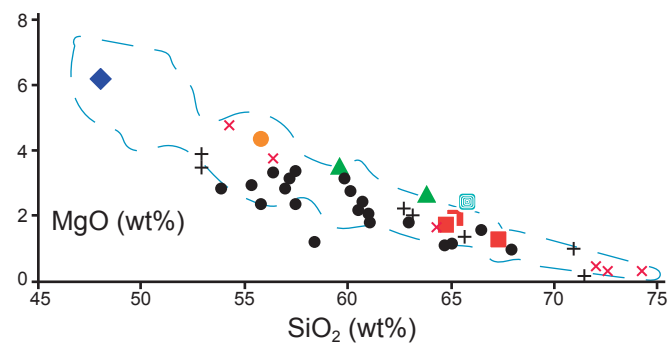
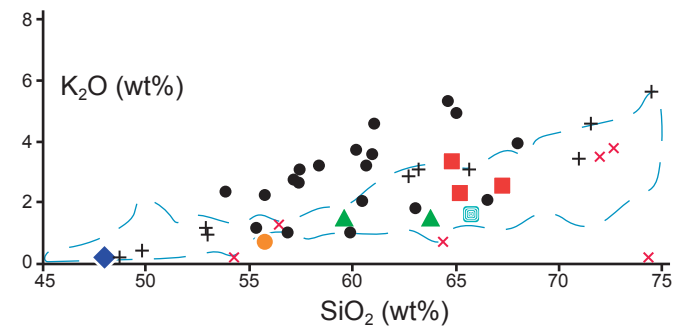
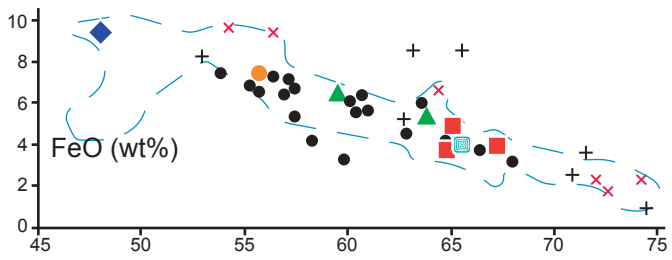
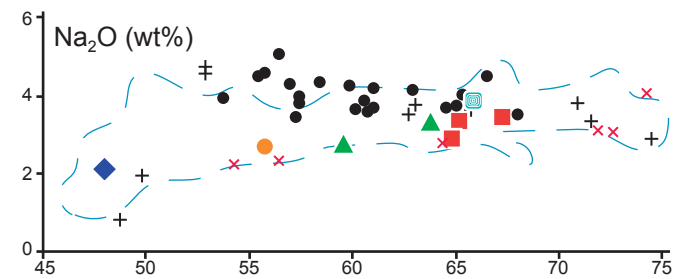
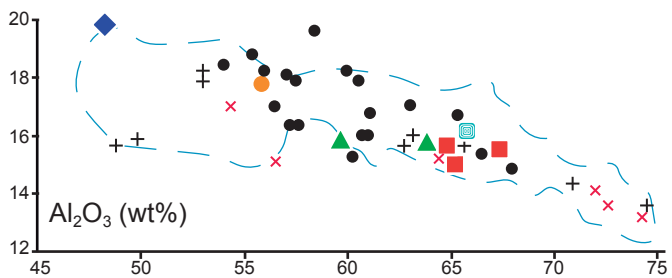
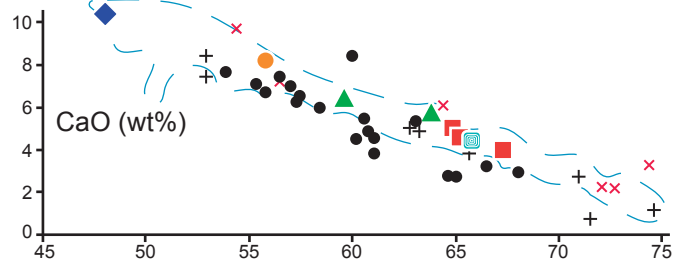
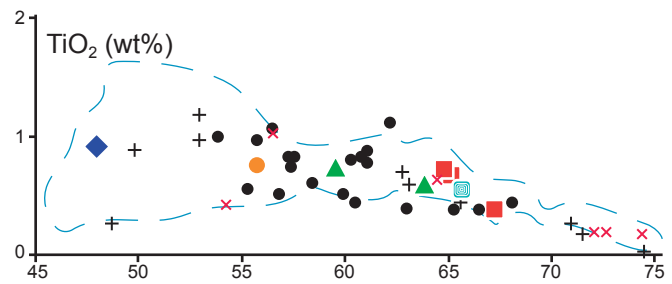
- Contact metamorphism aureole
- Migmatitic hornfelses and Crd-schist
- Late gabbroic dykes
- Transcurrent faults
- Thrust faults
- Primary foliation ( $S_0$ )
- Tectonic foliation ( $S_1$ )
- Fold axial traces











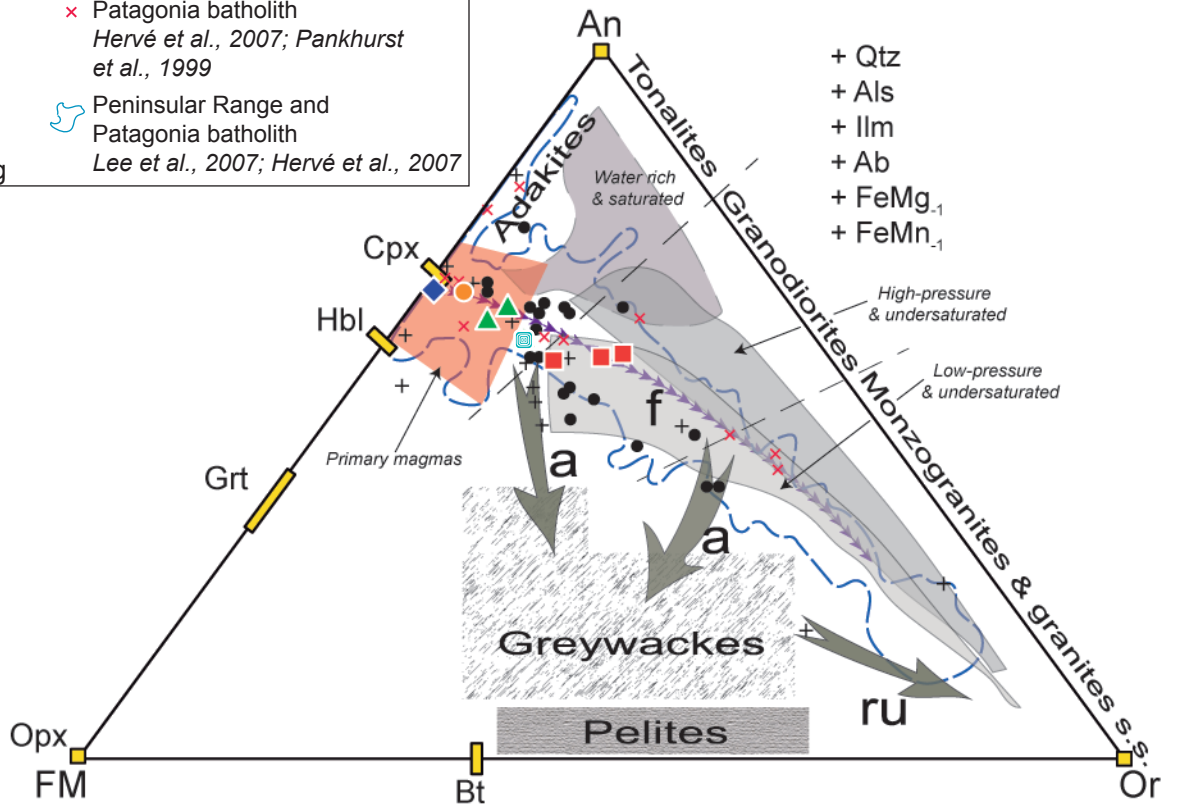
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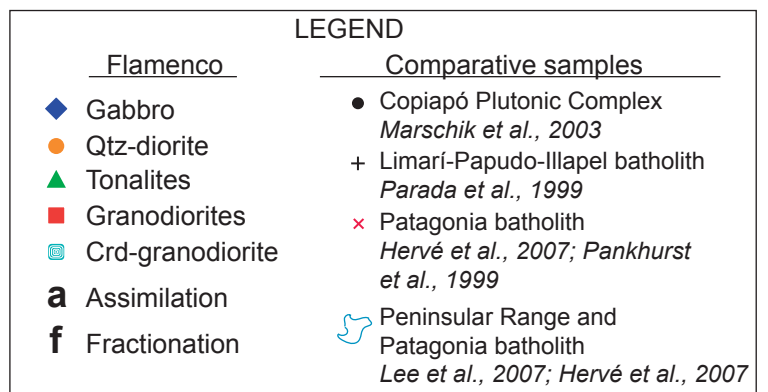
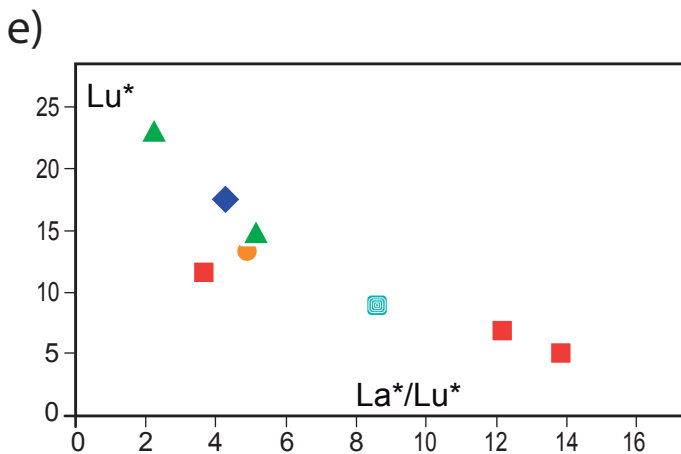
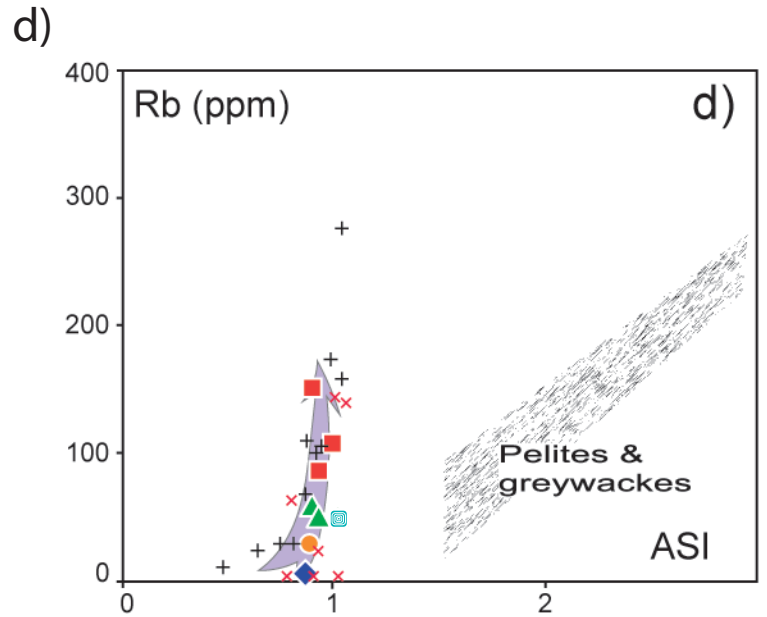
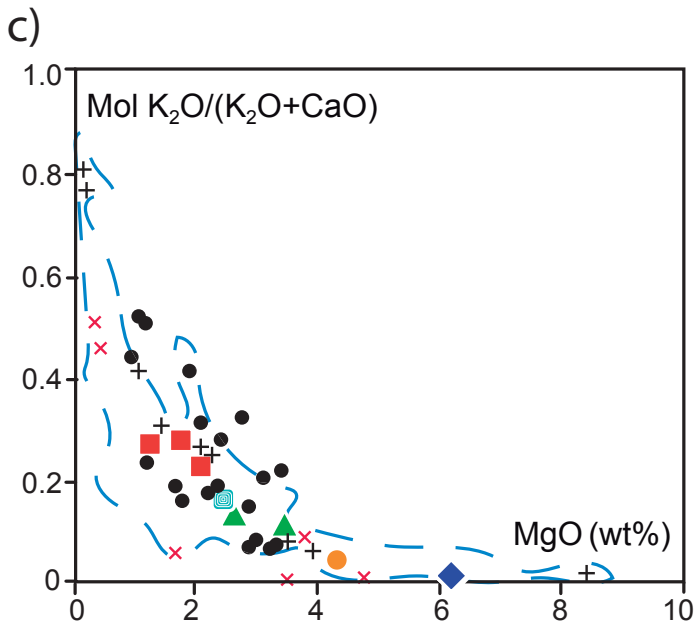
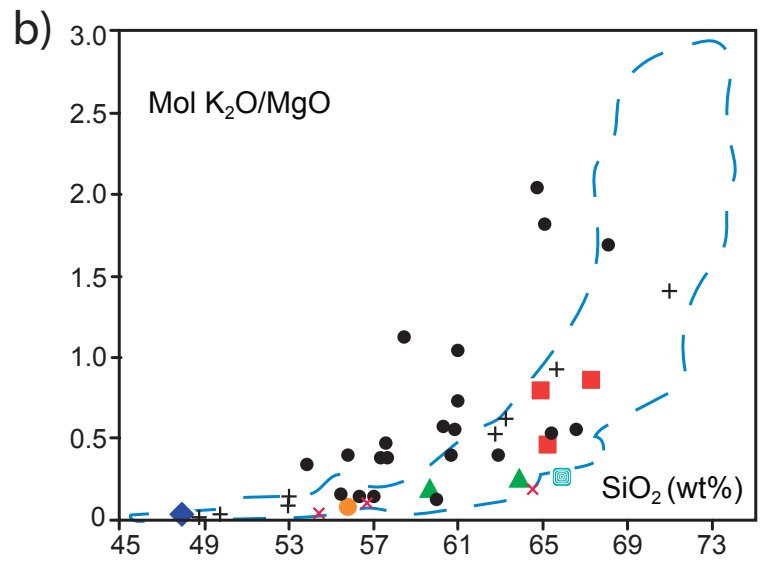
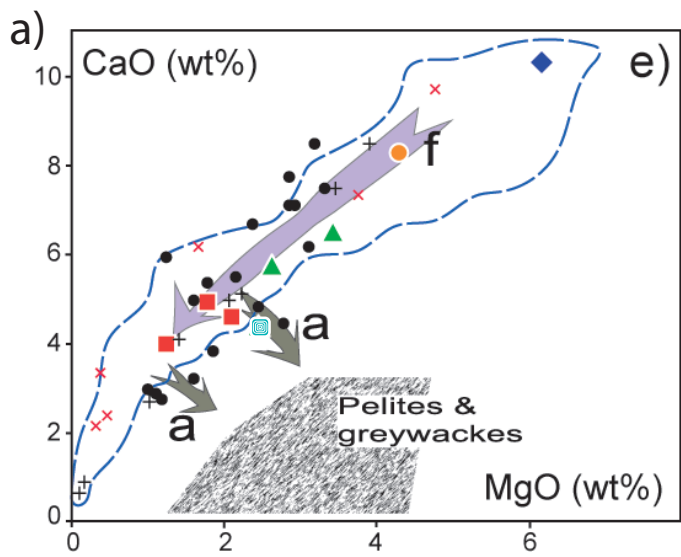
Flamenco

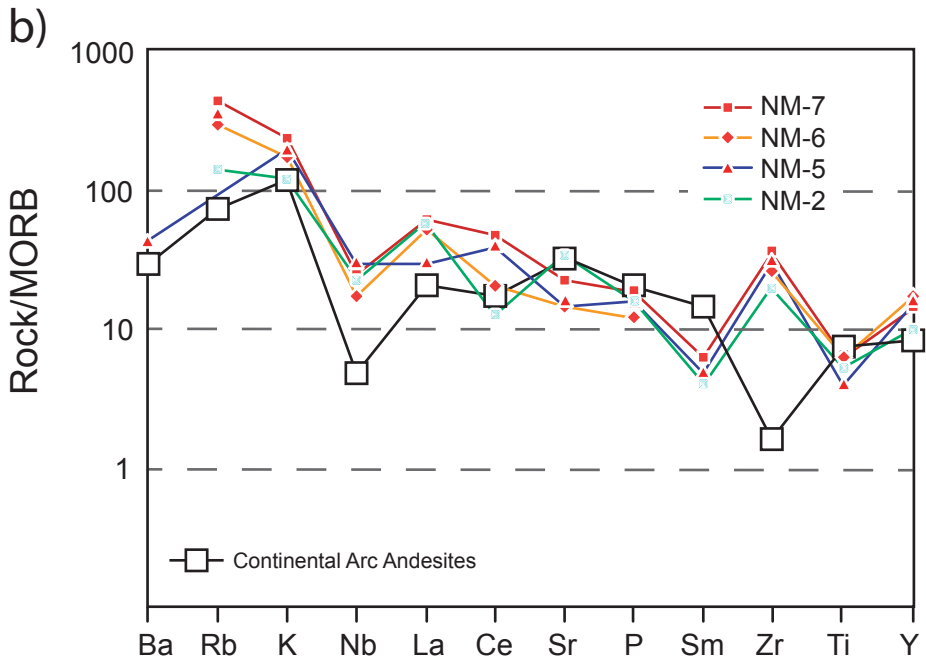
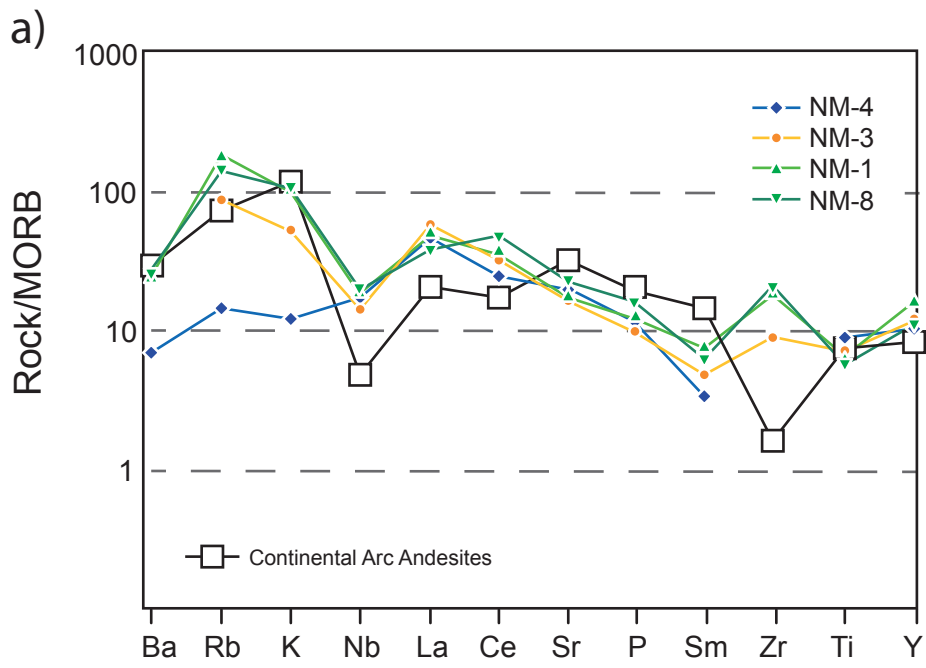
- ◆ Gabbro
- Qtz-diorite
- ▲ Tonalites
- Granodiorites
- ◻ Crd-granodiorite
- a** Assimilation
- f** Fraccionation
- ru** Restite unmixing

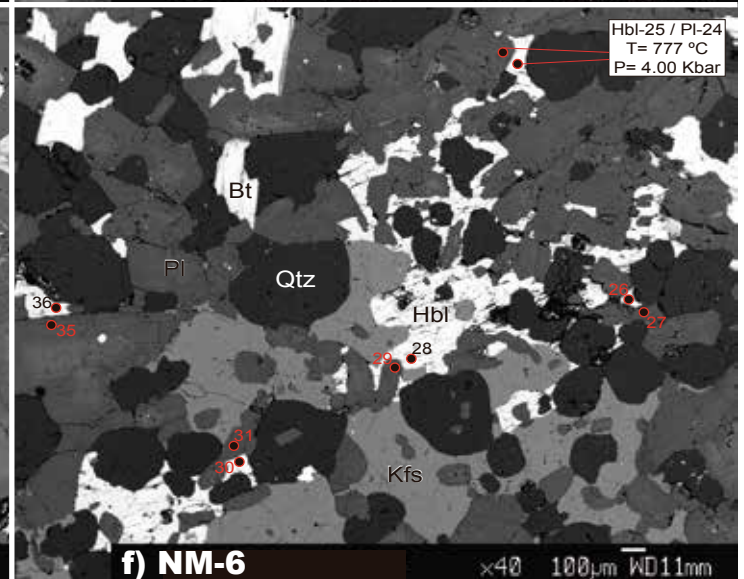
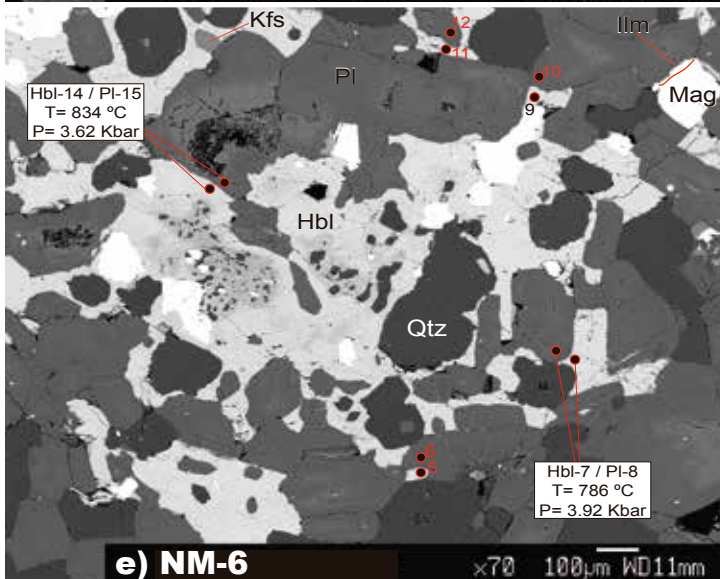
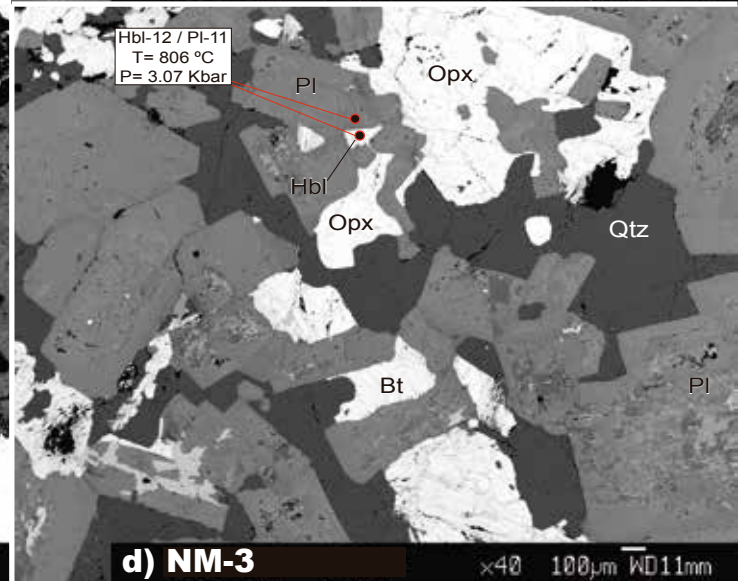
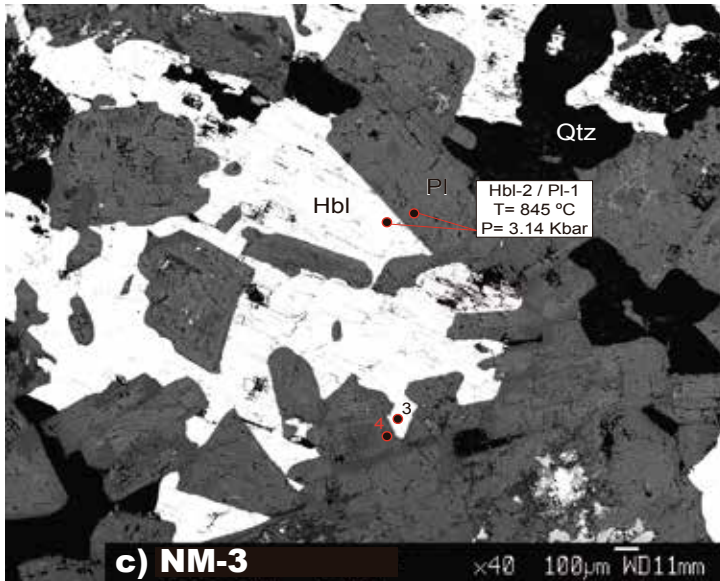
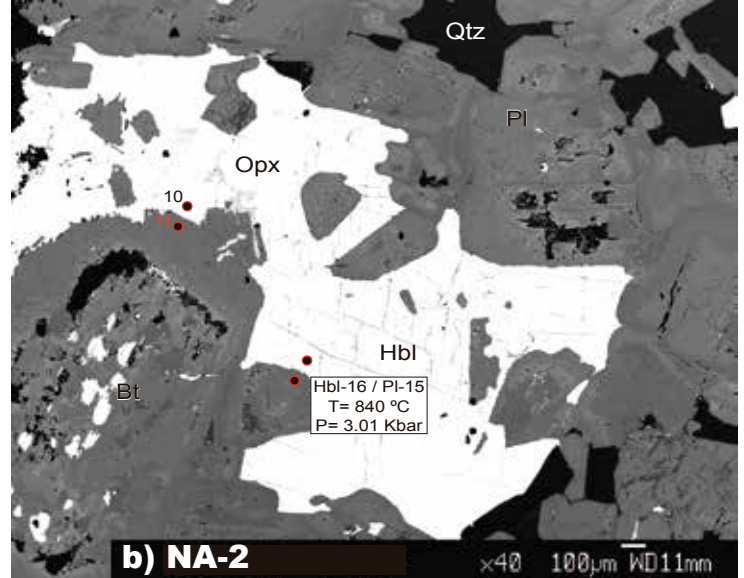
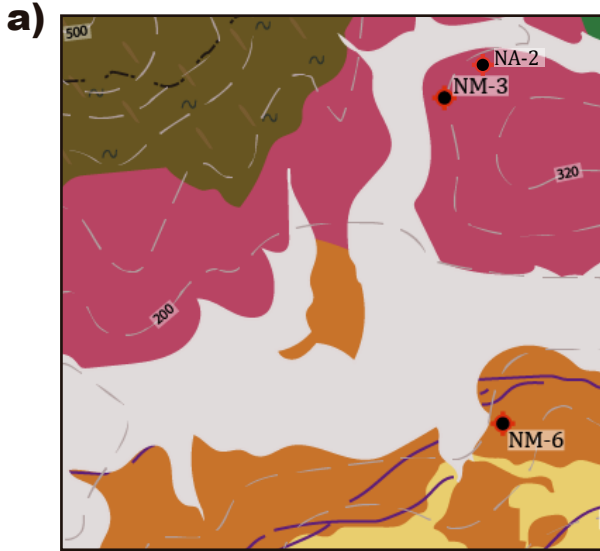
Comparative samples

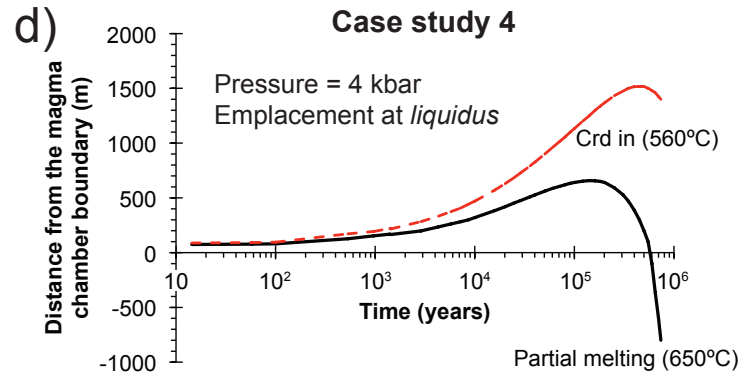
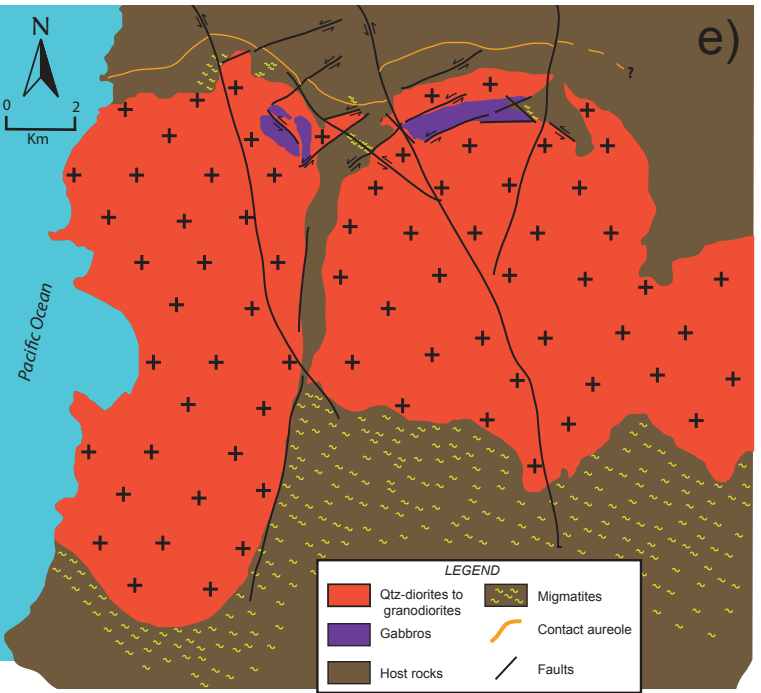
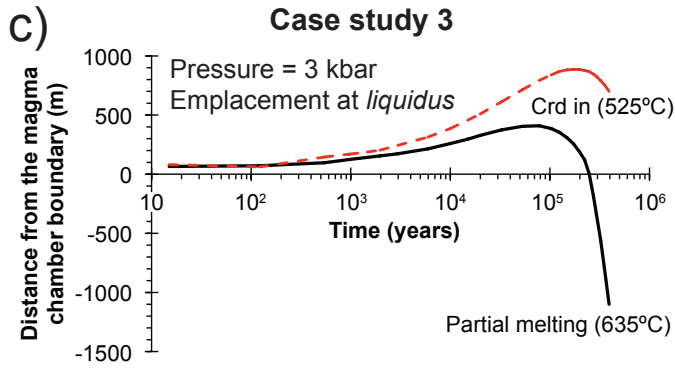
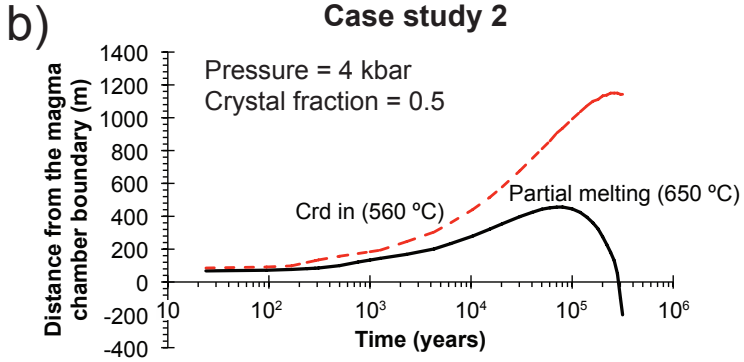
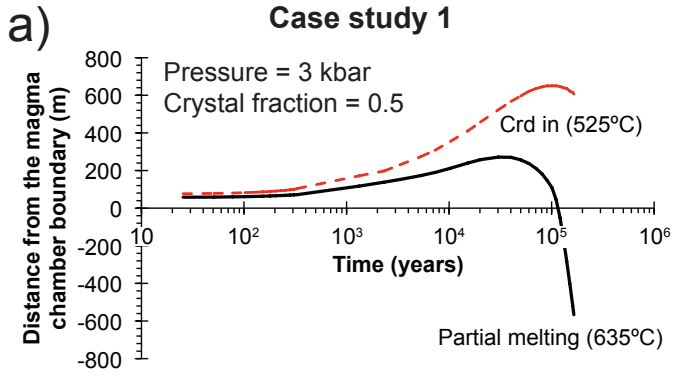
- Copiapó Plutonic Complex  
*Marschik et al., 2003*
- + Limarí-Papudo-Illapel batholith  
*Parada et al., 1999*
- × Patagonia batholith  
*Hervé et al., 2007; Pankhurst et al., 1999*
- ⊞ Peninsular Range and Patagonia batholith  
*Lee et al., 2007; Hervé et al., 2007*











**Table 1**

Whole-rock analyses of major and trace elements of granitoids of the northern area of the Flamenco pluton

Rock type	Tonalite	Crd-Grd*	Qtz-Diorite	Gabbro	Granodiorite			Tonalite
Sample	NM-1	NM-2	NM-3	NM-4	NM-5	NM-6	NM-7	NM-8
<i>(Wt%)</i>								
SiO <sub>2</sub>	59,59	65,75	55,72	47,98	67,26	65,17	64,83	63,82
TiO <sub>2</sub>	0,73	0,56	0,75	0,91	0,4	0,67	0,74	0,59
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	15,78	16,05	17,76	19,82	15,58	15,16	15,69	15,7
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2,01	1,86	4,04	3,83	2,23	2,95	3,41	2,21
FeO	6,52	3,86	7,48	9,37	3,87	4,95	3,84	5,28
MgO	3,46	2,42	4,32	6,2	1,27	2,06	1,78	2,63
MnO	0,14	0,06	0,16	0,2	0,08	0,11	0,08	0,13
CaO	6,43	4,43	8,26	10,37	4,03	4,62	4,98	5,74
Na <sub>2</sub> O	2,74	3,92	2,69	2,16	3,47	3,39	2,96	3,27
K <sub>2</sub> O	1,44	1,54	0,71	0,18	2,59	2,35	3,36	1,48
P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	0,12	0,17	0,1	0,12	0,15	0,13	0,21	0,16
LOI	2,23	0,73	1,11	1,55	0,75	0,75	0,99	0,53
Total	99,18	99,49	99,06	98,86	99,45	99,36	99,46	99,33
<i>(ppm)</i>								
Rb	58	48	30	5	107	88	153	51
Sr	188	379	192	237	174	160	251	274
Y	28	17	23	19	29	32	29	21
Zr	119	136	60	-	198	173	260	138
Nb	6	8	5	6	10	6	9	7
Ba	168	-	2	46	275	-	-	172
La	1,37	2,77	1,48	1,04	0,28	1,64	3,07	0,56
Ce	7,2	11	2,84	2,22	8,57	1,94	14,3	10,5
Sm	1,48	0,83	1	0,68	0,98	0,12	1,23	1,29
Lu	0,35	0,22	0,43	0,32	0,3	0,12	0,17	0,57

\*Grd: Granodiorite

**Table 2**

Plagioclase–Hornblende thermobarometry results

Sample	Hbl	Pl	2 Kbar	4 Kbar	Schmidt		A&S
			T (°C)	T (°C)	T (°C)	P (Kbar)	T (°C)
NA-2	NA2-16	NA2-15	837	844	840	3,01	830
	NA2-10	NA2-11	831	840	835	2,84	824
	NA2-2	NA2-7	821	828	824	2,86	816
	NA2-4	NA2-3	835	843	839	3,00	829
NM-3	NM3-2	NM3-1	842	848	845	3,14	836
	NM3-3	NM3-4	814	823	820	3,32	810
	NM3-12	NM3-11	802	809	806	3,07	799
NM-6	NM6-5	NM6-6	795	801	801	4,18	796
	NM6-7	NM6-8	780	787	786	3,92	781
	NM6-9	NM6-10	795	799	798	3,61	794
	NM6-11	NM6-12	790	796	796	3,80	790
	NM6-14	NM6-15	829	835	834	3,62	826
	NM6-25	NM6-24	770	777	777	4,00	772
	NM6-26	NM6-27	785	792	794	4,57	787
	NM6-28	NM6-29	792	798	799	4,06	792
	NM6-30	NM6-31	771	778	778	4,18	773
	NM6-36	NM6-35	794	798	796	3,18	792
	NM6-5*	NM6-3*	897	904	904	4,18	889

T (°C): HB2 temperature in Holland and Blundy (1994).

2 and 4 Kbar: results based on an arbitrary pressure.

Schmidt: pressure-based results according to Schmidt's (1992).

A&amp;S: pressure-based results according to Anderson and Smith's (1995).

\*This Hbl-Pl pair is not in contact. Pl core and unzoned Hbl thermobarometry

**Table 3. Case studies designed for the thermal modelling**

Case study	1	2	3	4
Temperature of emplacement (°C) *	992	1007	1141.6	1159
Depth of emplacement (km)	11	14.4	11	14.4
Thermal conductivity (W/m°C)	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.3
Specific heat capacity (J/kgK) *	1259	1271	1249	1249
Crystal fraction	0.5	0.5	0	0
Volume (km <sup>3</sup> )	62.83	62.83	62.83	62.83
Density (kg/m <sup>3</sup> ) *	2641	2655	2524	2541

\*Parameters estimated by Rhyolite-MELTS