

Mineralogy model of the deep interior of Triton

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Objective:

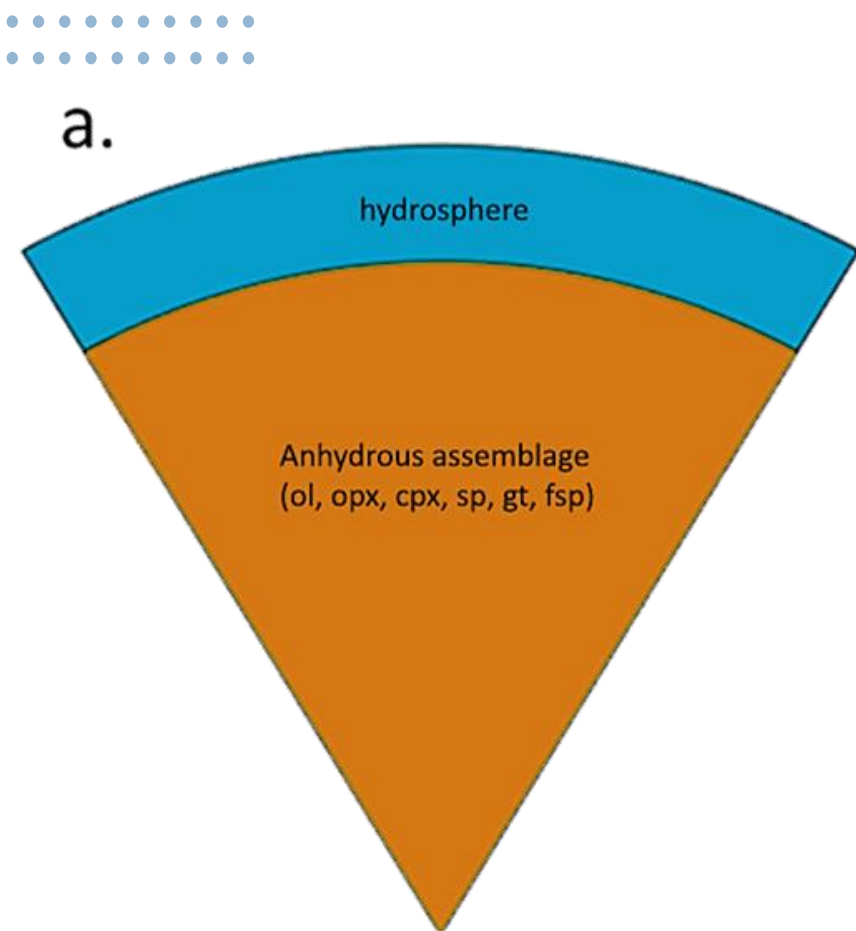
- Describe the mineralogy of the deep interior of Triton as a function of temperature, pressure, and the chemical variables.

Methodology

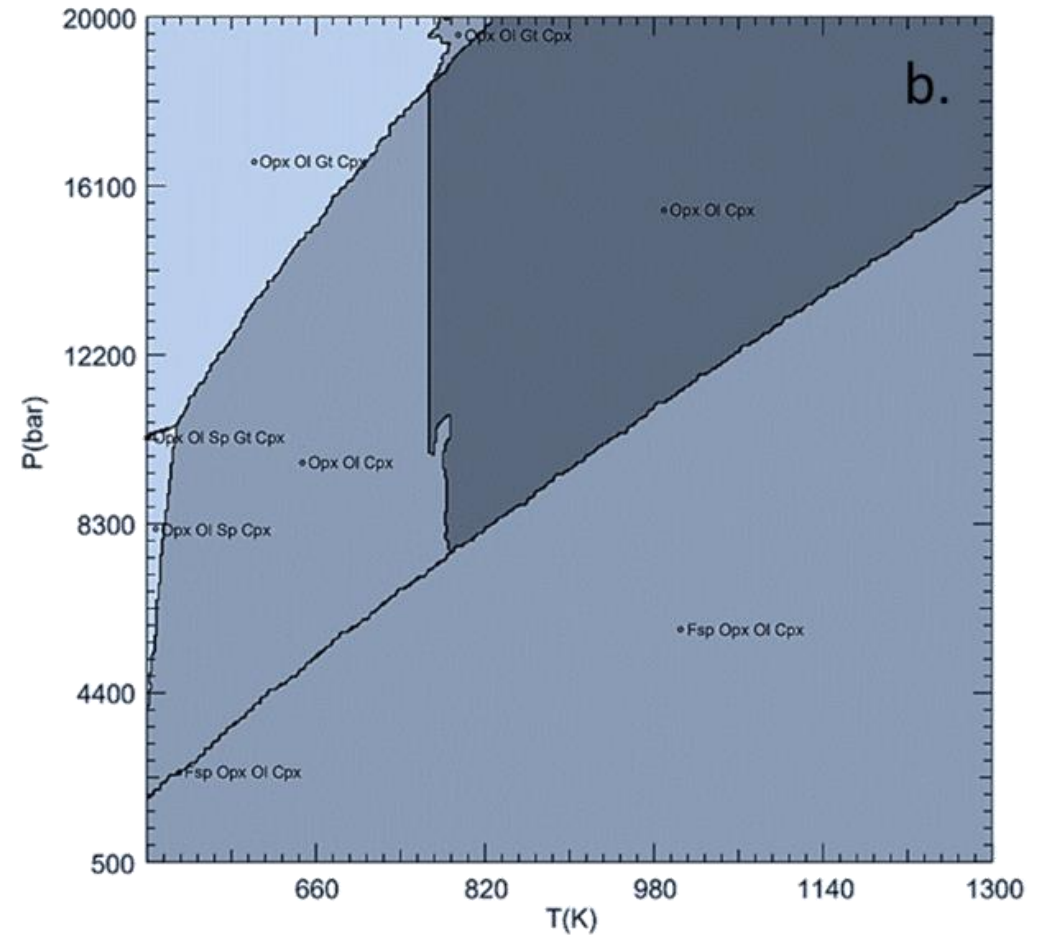
- The Perple_X algorithm was used to model the stability fields of minerals in the deep interior of Triton.
- Chondrite (CI,CM,CV) material precursor was assumed (Orgueil, Murchison, and Allende).
- The results for the Orgueil chondrite (CI) precursor are presented here.
- We considered both an anhydrous and a hydrated evolutionary scenario.

ELEMENTAL COMPOSITION	wt (%)
MgO	15.87
SiO ₂	22.69
CaO	1.36
Na ₂ O	0.76
Al ₂ O ₃	1.70
FeO	4.63

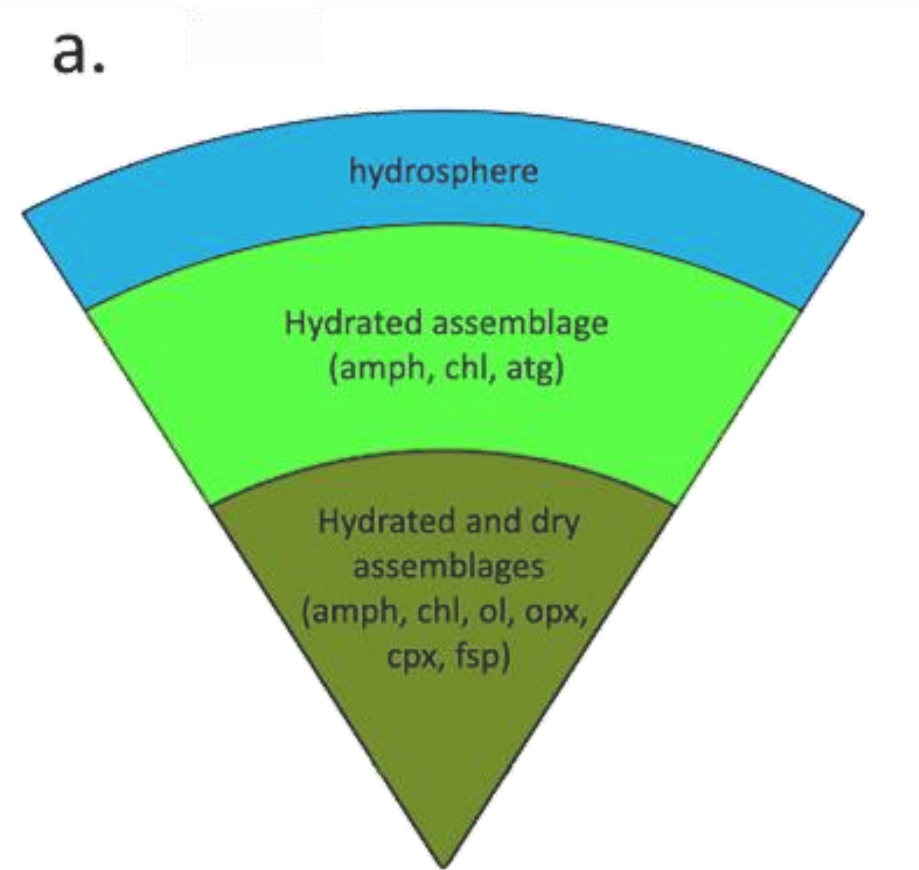
Measured mass-amounts from Orgueil chondrite (Jarosewich, 1990)



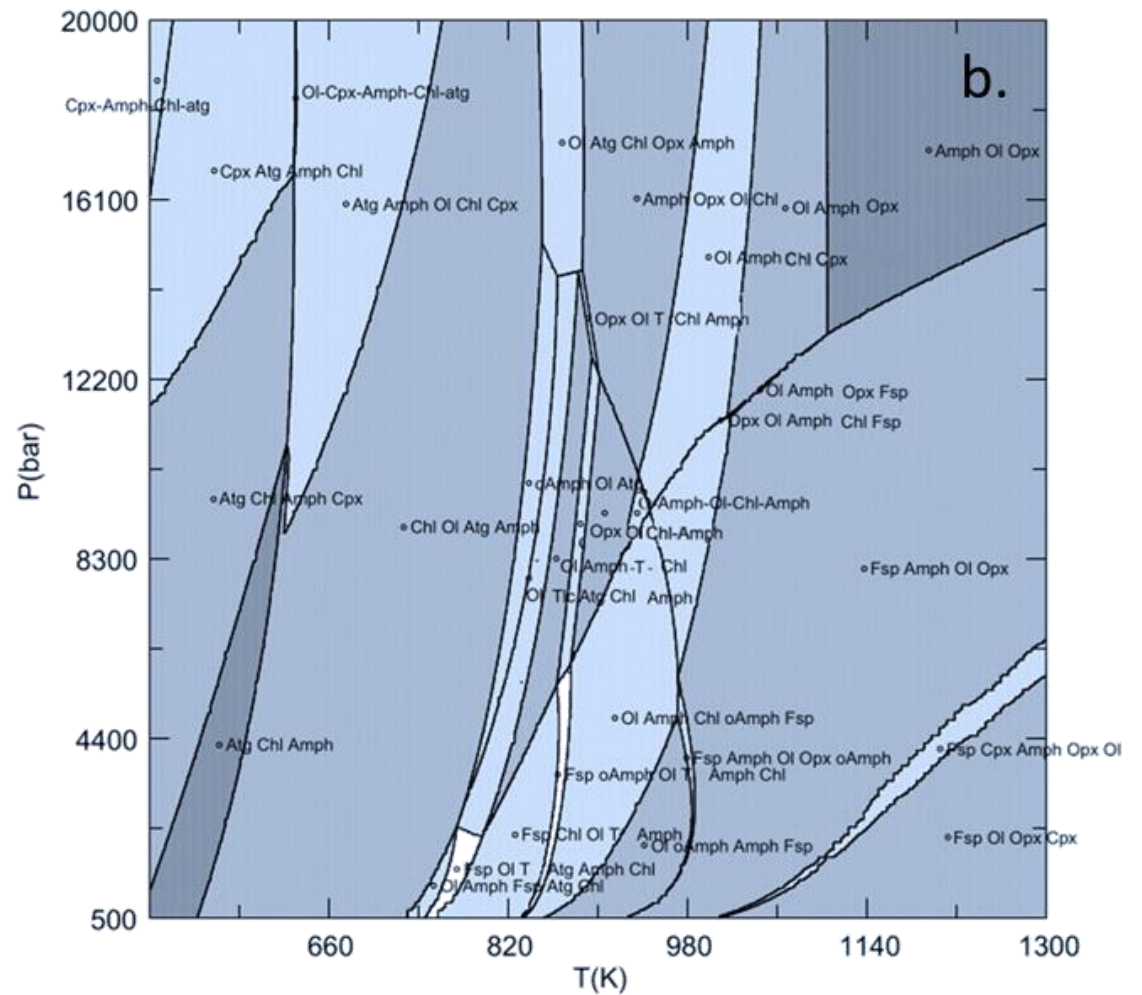
- Internal structure of an anhydrous deep interior of Triton.
- Mean density: 3309.06 kg m⁻³.



- Pseudosection for CI precursor material with anhydrous mineralogy assemblages.
- Primary phases are olivine (*Ol*), clinopyroxenes (*Cpx*), and orthopyroxenes (*Opx*). Accessory phases are garnet (*Gt*), spinel (*Sp*), and feldspars (*Fsp*).



- Internal structure of a hydrated deep interior of Triton.
- Mean density: $2957.65 \text{ kg m}^{-3}$.
- Hydrate stability with presence up to 1300 K – 20 kbar.



- Pseudosection for CI precursor material with hydrated mineralogy assemblages.
- Primary phases are amphiboles (*Amph*), chlorite (*Chl*), antigorite (*Atg*), talc (*T*) olivine (*Ol*), clinopyroxenes (*Cpx*), orthopyroxenes (*Opx*). Accessory phases are garnet (*Gt*), spinel (*Sp*), and feldspars (*Fsp*).



- We developed a mineralogy model of the deep interior of Triton assuming Orgueil chondrite (CI) as a precursor material.
- We derived two possible deep interior mineralogies:
 - Anhydrous deep interior (mean assemblage: olivine, clinopyroxenes, and orthopyroxenes). Mean density: 3309.06 kg m⁻³.
 - Hydrated deep interior (mean assemblage: amphiboles, chlorite, antigorite, talc, feldspars, olivine, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene). Mean density: 2957.65 kg m⁻³.
 - The hydrated model presented a more complex assemblage. In this model, the amphiboles group contains phases that are stable in every field of the pseudo-section while the presence of antigorite demonstrates that serpentinization has occurred.
- Future radio-science experiment results can constrain the mean density and the composition of the deep interior of Triton.