

# MANTLE XENOLITHS ALONG THE CVL : A REVIEW

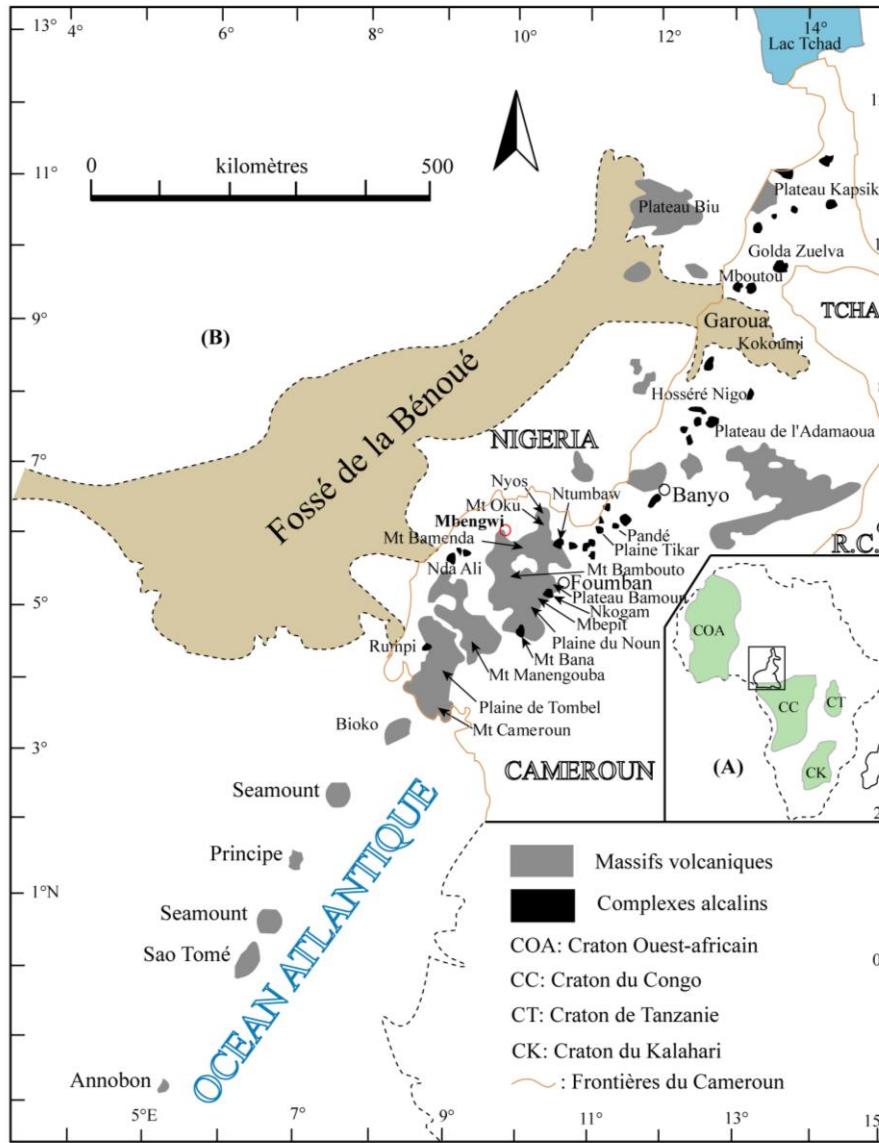
Benoît Joseph MBASSA

*Institute for Geological and Mining research-  
CAMEROON*

# OUTLINE

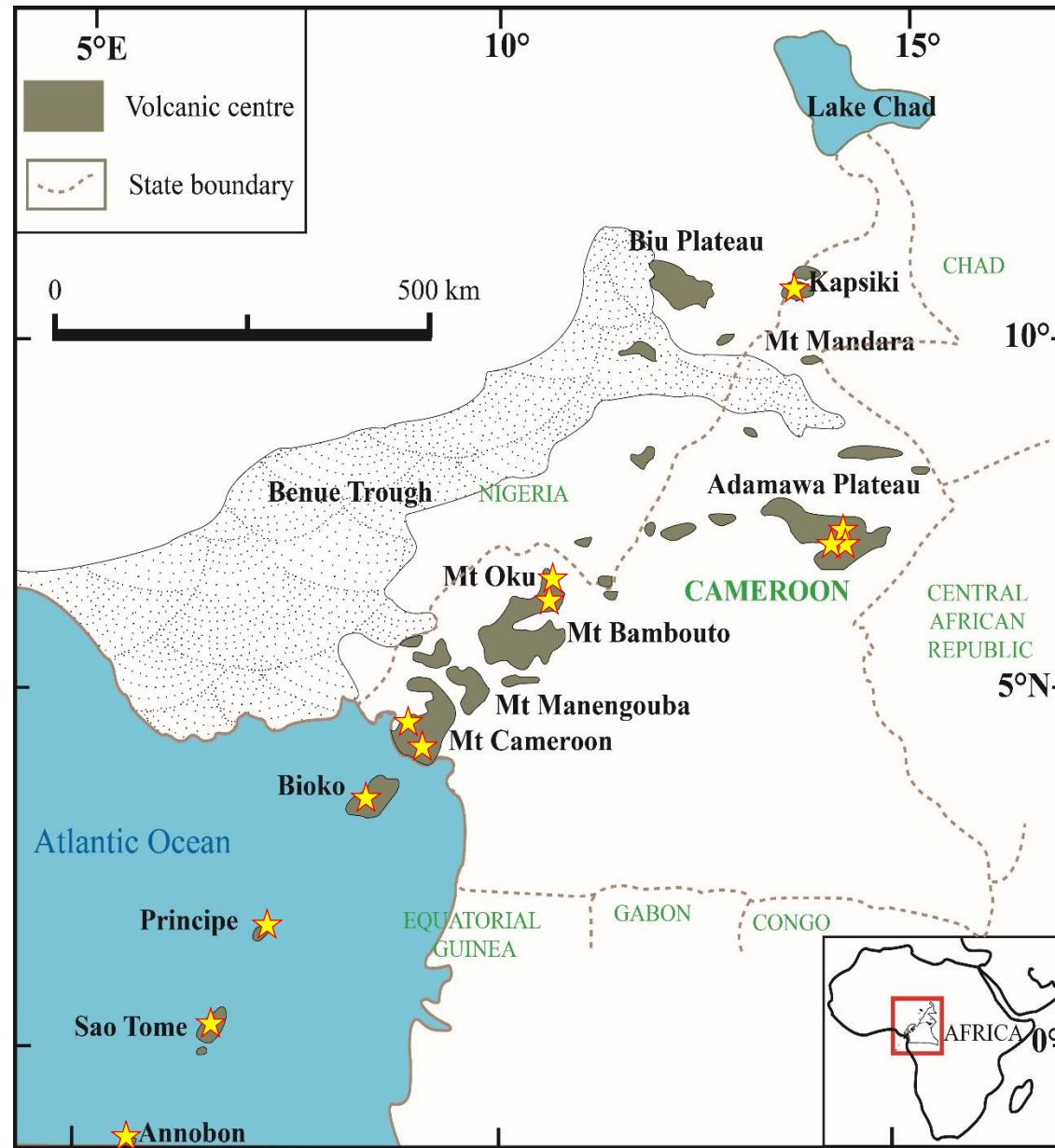
- **The CVL: Magmatism, age and activity**
- **Location of mantle xenoliths along the CVL**
- **Host rocks**
- **Classification**
- **Main petrographical and chemical features**
- **Summary and perspectives**

# THE CVL



- ✓ Alcalin ( $\pm$  transitionel)
- ✓ Série bimodale
  - ❖ Bto-Bda et Manengouba : série complète
  - ❖ Frontière Océan-cont: absence terme felsiques
- ✓ Ages
  - ❖ 70 – 40 Ma: massifs anorogéniques
  - ❖ 40-30 Ma: volcans N Cameroun (Bénoué, Kapsiki Golda Zuelva)
  - ❖ 30- Récent: autres volcans
- ✓ Sismicité:  $\leq 4,8$  (Richter)
- ✓ Mt Cameroun seul actif

# LOCATION OF STUDIED MANTLE XENOLITH



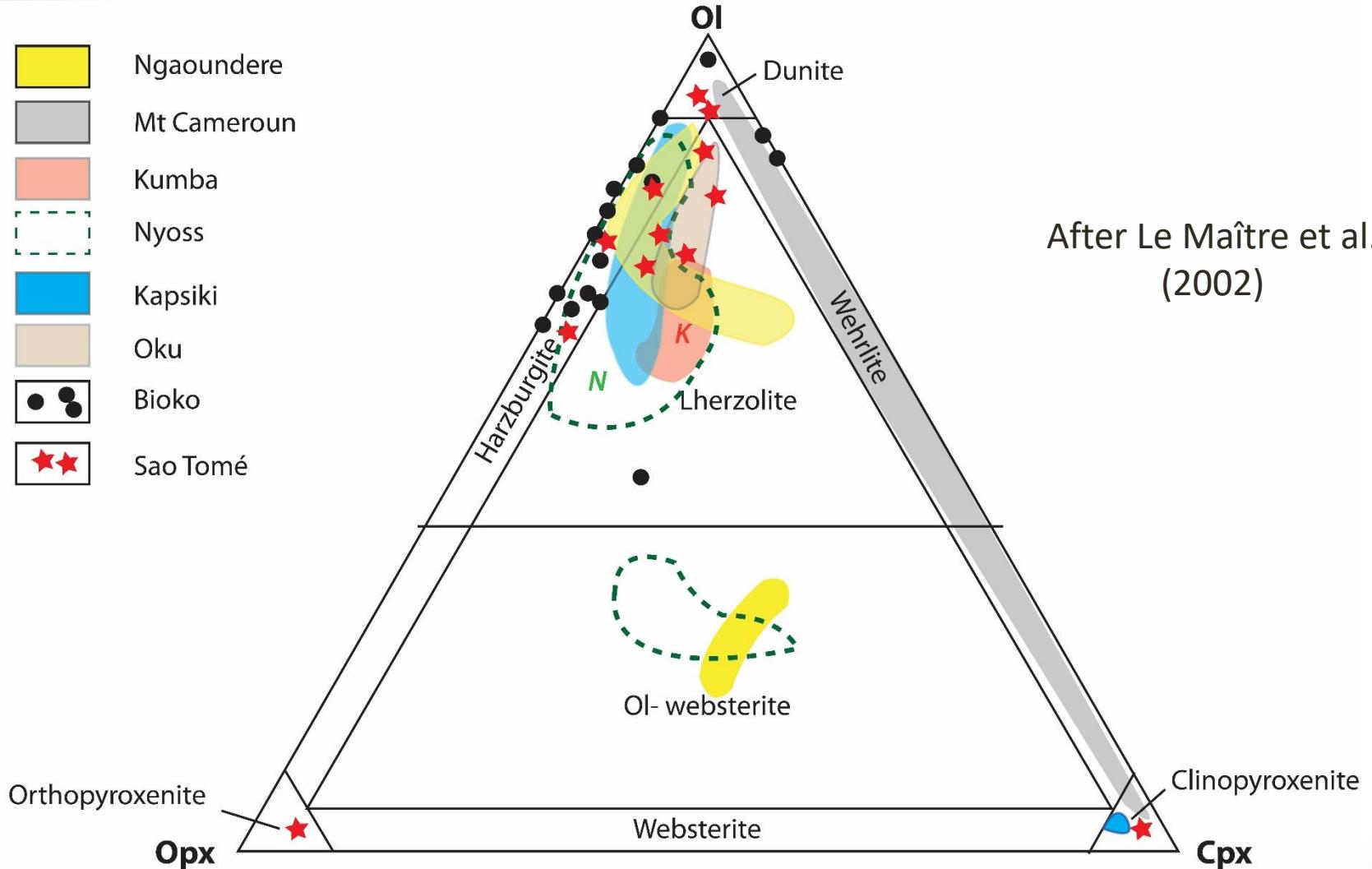
# HOST ROCKS

- **Alkali basalts** (*Kapsiki, Youkou, Mt Cameroon, Kumba, Nyos, Sao Tomé*)



- **Basanites** (*Ngaoundéré; Mt Cameroon, Sao Tomé*)

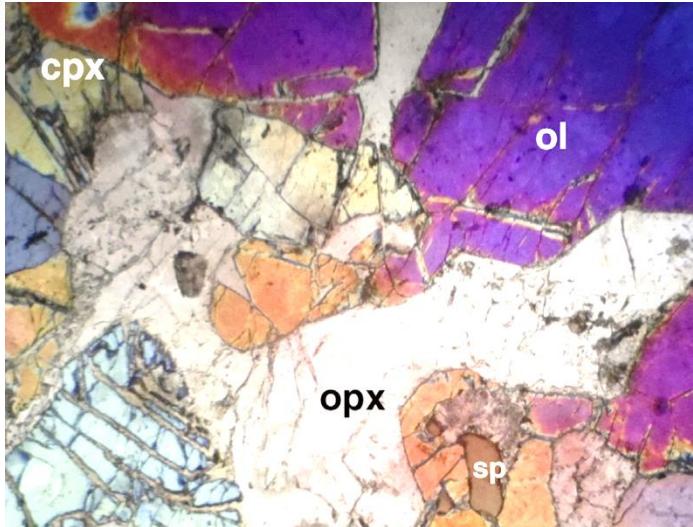
# CLASSIFICATION



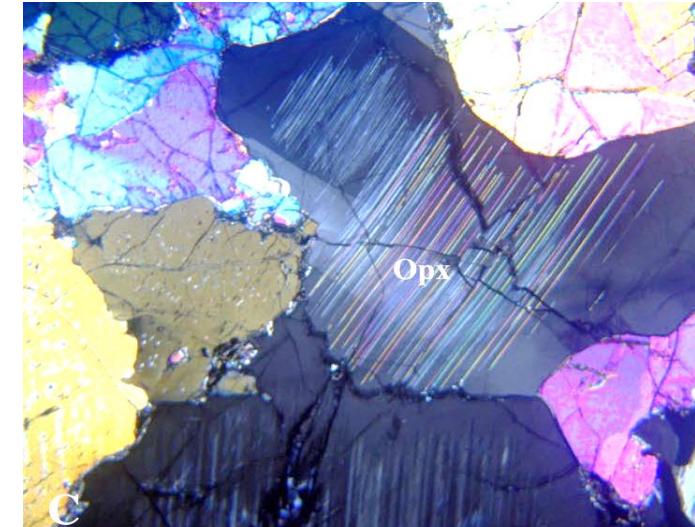
*Most abundant: spinel lherzoite and spinel harzburgite*

# TEXTURES

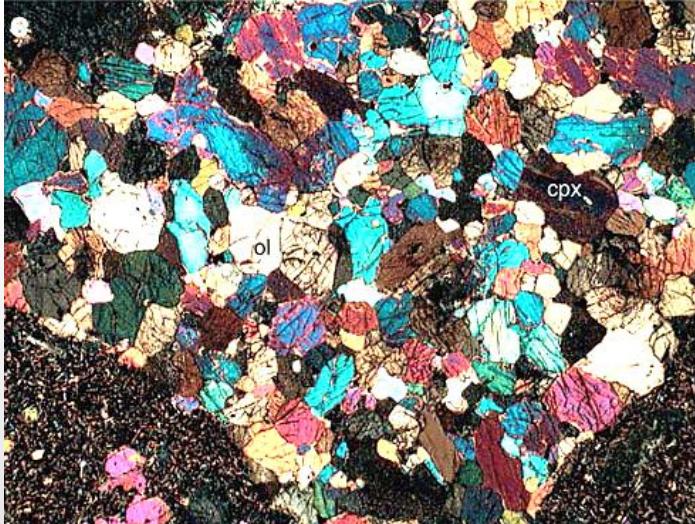
✓ protogranular



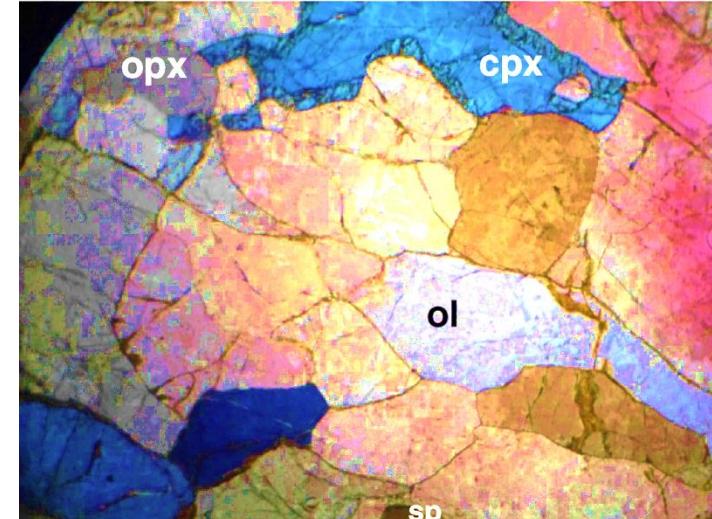
(lherzolite)



(olivine websterite)



✓ mosaïc equigranular (cpxenite)

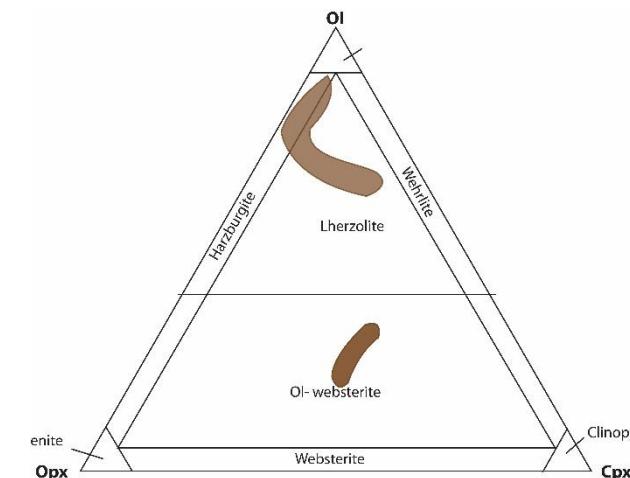
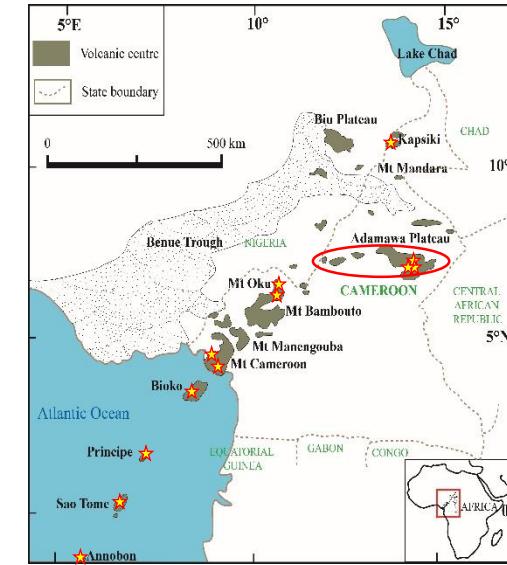


✓ porphyroclastic (harzburgite)

# ADAMAWA

(Nkouandou et Temdjim., 2011; Nkouandou et al., 2014)

- Amphiboles : pargasite + pargasitic hornblende in some websterite (*Ngaoundere Plateau*)
- Similar Mg# ( $Mg\#_{OI} = 89.55\text{--}90.46$ ;  $Mg\#_{Opx} = 90\text{--}91$ ), suggesting equilibration within the mantle.
- Mineral equilibrium T : 835 - 1160 °C ; depths : 26 –83 km (*Presence of various type of xenoliths*)
- Ca- metasomatism (*high CaO/Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>*)
- Refertilized depleted mantle



# KAPSIKI (*Tamen et al., 2015*)

❖ Presence of clinopyroxenites + plagioclase Iherzolites

❖ Two P-T equilibrium stages

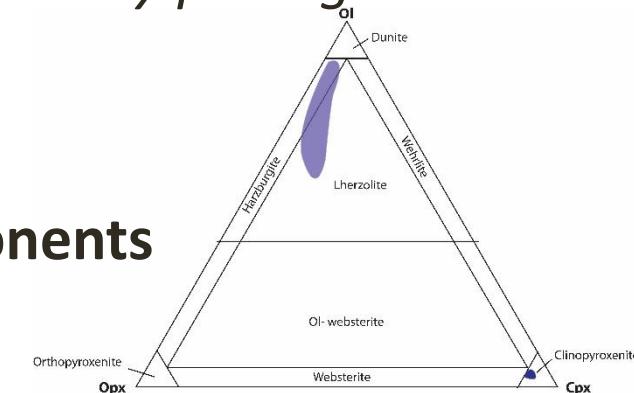
- 993 - 1026°C; 9–12 Kbars (core of large Cpx and Opx crystals) ⇔ spinel Iherzolites equilibration conditions.
- 858 -979°C ; 7–9 Kbars (pyroxene neominerals) ⇔ re-homogenisation under plagioclase spinel Iherzolites facies conditions.

❖ low temperatures deformations (*witnessed by protogranular and porphyroclastic textures*);

❖ Heterogeneous mantle

❖ Presence of depleted and fertile components

❖ Carbonate metasomatism



# KUMBA - Mt CAMEROON

## 1- KUMBA (*Teitchou et al., 2007*)

- Homogeneous fertile mantle (low degree of partial melting);
- Light cryptic metasomatism ( LREE enrichment);
- T: 885–1030 °C

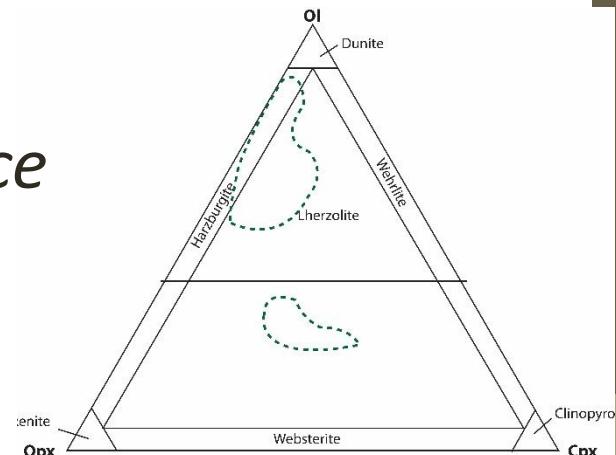
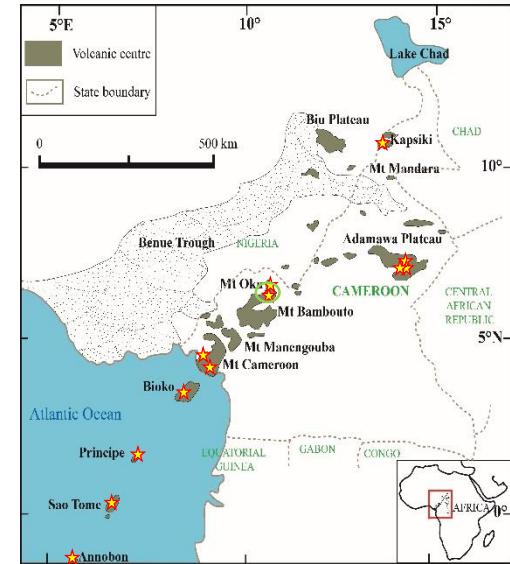


## 2- Mt CAMEROON (*Ngwa et al., 2019; Metsukage and Oya, 2010; Wandjy et al., 2009; Ngounounou et al., 2007*)

- Cpxenite + Opxenite+ Plagioclase and Ti-Pargasite bearing wehrlite
- T: 690 -1000°C
- Higher degree of partial melting in Bioko (25 -30%)
- 2 types of metasomatism
  - ✓ Fe-Ti metasomatism (presence of Ti-Pargasite)
  - ✓ Carbonate metasomatism along the ocean-continental boundary

# NYOS (*Teitchou et al., 2011; Temdjim et al., 2004*)

- ✓ Presence of pyroxenite;
- ✓ low degree of partial melting (<5%)
- ✓ T: 900 – 1025°C ;
- ✓ Carbonatic metasomatism (*presence of hydrous minerals such as pargasite, phlogopite*);
- ✓ Fertile depleted and heterogeneous mantle



# SUMMARY

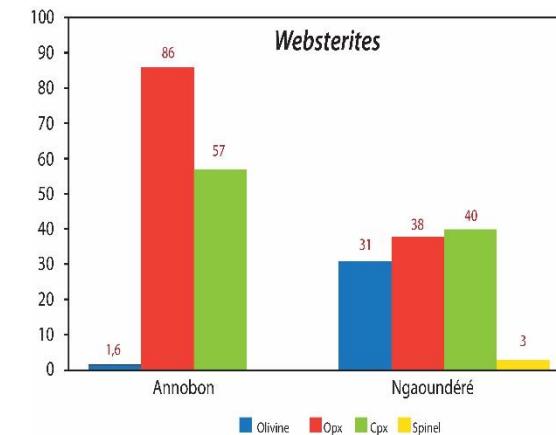
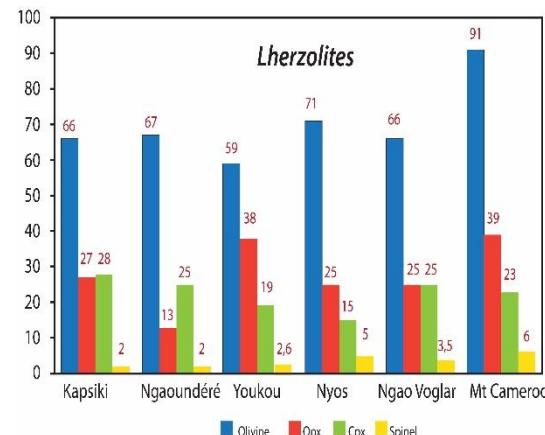
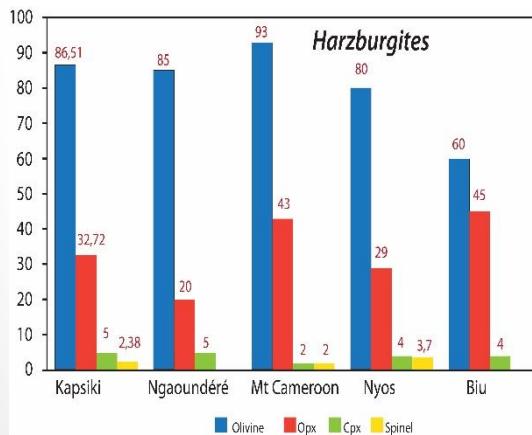
## 1. Chemical composition

### ➤ Peridotites

- spinel Iherzolites
- spinel harzburgite
- Dunite and wehrlite

### ➤ Pyroxenites

- Clinopyroxenite
- Orthopyroxenite
- websterite



## 2. Partial melting: highest = Bioko: 25-30%, lowest = Nyos; <5%;

3. Equilibrium T of Xenolith: 690°C (*Mt Cameroon*) – 1160°C (*Adamawa*)
4. Heterogeneous mantle except in Kumba;
5. Depleted (*Adamawa*) or fertile (high Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and CaO e.g. *Kumba*) mantle or both;
6. Metasomatism
  - ❖ Modal
    - ✓ Carbonatic (*Kapsiki, Nyos, ocean-continent boundary, Adamawa*);
    - ✓ Fe-Ti (*Mt Cameroon*);
  - ❖ *Cryptic* (*Kumba: LREE enrichment*)

# PERPECTIVES LithoCOAC ?

**Target = Still unexplored area along the CVL**

***Petrochemical Characterization of the SCLM beneath***



## 1. Possible Mantle- overlying magmatism links

*(partial melting and metasomatism in particular);*

## 1. Define the type of mantle beneath the study area

- **Orogenic mantle?** *(mostly harzburgitic- low carbonatic metasomatism intensity )*
- **Rifted mantle?** *(harzburgitic to lherzolitic - intensely reworked by silicate melt percolation related to rifting - impossible to recognize its protolith)*
- **Asthenosphere-derived mantle?** *(lherzolite-dominated - refertilized harzburgitic protolith reworked by melts coming from upwelled asthenosphere)*

*See Puziewicz et al., 2020*

# Thanks!