



1 Elastic anisotropies of deformed upper crustal rocks in the Alps

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15 ABSTRACT

16

17 The upper crust within collisional orogens is very heterogeneous both in composition and grade of
18 deformation, leading to very variable physical properties at small scales. This yields difficulties for seismic
19 investigations of tectonic structures at depth since local changes in elastic anisotropy cannot be detected.
20 In this study, we show elastic anisotropies of the range of typical lithologies within deformed upper crustal
21 rocks in the Alps. Furthermore, we aim to model average elastic anisotropies for these rocks and their
22 changes with increasing depth due to the closure of microcracks. We therefore sampled rocks in the Adula
23 Nappe of the central Alps, which is typical for upper crust in collisional orogens. The two major rock types
24 found are orthogneisses and paragneisses, however, small lenses of metabasites and marbles also occur.
25 Crystallographic preferred orientations (CPOs) and volume fractions of minerals in the samples were
26 measured using time-of-flight neutron diffraction. Combined with single crystal elastic anisotropies these
27 were used to model seismic properties of the rocks. The sample set shows a wide range of different seismic
28 velocity patterns even within the same lithology, due to the heterogeneity of deformed upper crust. To
29 approximate an average for these upper crustal units, we picked common CPO types of rock forming
30 minerals within the gneiss samples, which represent the most common lithology. These data were used to
31 determine an average elastic anisotropy of a typical upper crustal rock within the Alps. Average mineral
32 volume percentages within the gneiss samples were used for the calculation. In addition, ultrasonic
33 measurements of elastic anisotropies of the samples at increasing pressures were performed. These
34 measurements, as well as the microcrack pattern determined in thin sections of the samples were used to
35 model the closure of microcracks in the average sample at increasing depth. At ≈ 740 MPa microcracks are
36 assumed to be closed yielding average elastic anisotropies of 4% for the average gneiss. This value is an
37 approximation, which can be helpful for seismic models at a lithospheric scale. At a crustal or smaller scale,
38 however, it is an oversimplification and local lithological as well as deformational changes shown by the
39 range of elastic anisotropies within the sample set have to be considered.

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43 1. Introduction

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45 Geophysical studies of the crust and mantle of the Earth are constantly improving and detailed
46 investigations of structures at increasingly higher depth are possible. High-resolution geophysical imaging
47 of 3D structures is currently taking place within the AlpArray initiative using a high-end seismological array
48 in the Alpine orogen. For this as well as other similar projects around the world there is a demand for
49 precise input parameters and knowledge of the physical properties of the rocks at depth. Especially elastic
50 anisotropy data is of importance, since it reflects the plastic deformation of rocks. Rock elastic anisotropy
51 at mantle depth is mainly caused by crystallographic preferred orientation (CPO) of the constituent mineral
52 phases. At lower depth microcracks additionally influence elastic properties by both lowering seismic
53 velocity and increasing the elastic anisotropy in deformed rocks. Elastic anisotropy data of rocks can be
54 either be gained by measurements in high pressure vessels using ultrasound (e.g., Babuška, 1968; Kern
55 and Wenk, 1990; Pros et al., 2003; Ivankina et al., 2005; Kern et al., 2008; Lokajicek et al., 2014; Vasin et
56 al., 2017; Ullemeyer et al., 2018), or modeled using the CPO data of the constituent minerals and their
57 corresponding single crystal elastic anisotropies (e.g. Mainprice and Humbert, 1994; Barruol and Kern,
58 1996; Mauler et al., 2000; Bascou et al., 2001; Ivankina et al., 2005; Kitamura, 2006; Kern et al., 2008;
59 Abalos et al., 2010; Llana-Fúnez and Brown, 2012; Keppler et al., 2015; Almqvist and Mainprice, 2017). In
60 experimental investigations, despite pressure vessels operating at up to 600 MPa during measurements,
61 microcracks in rock samples are not completely closed (Christensen, 1974; Vasin et al., 2017), which is why
62 the resulting data are only comparable to elastic anisotropies within normal crustal depth, whereas the
63 modeled anisotropies yield results for a crack free medium at higher depths (e.g., within thickened crust
64 or at mantle depth).

65 The problem using elastic anisotropy data of natural rocks as input parameters for seismic investigation is
66 the difference in scale. There is a gap between the km-scale of detectable units in seismic imaging at depth
67 and the centimeter-sized rock samples taken from outcrops of several meters in the field. This is not an
68 issue in the relatively homogenous mantle with a fairly simple mineralogy. Crustal rocks, however, are not
69 only polymineralic but the lithologies are variable. Additionally, deformation is also heterogeneous within
70 the crust. Especially subduction zones and collisional orogens show a complex deformational history (e.g.,
71 Schmid et al., 2004; Simancas et al., 2005; Zhang et al., 2012). This leads to a large variety of different CPO
72 patterns throughout a km scale geological unit (Schmidtke et al. submitted to same issue). Averaging the
73 calculated or measured elastic anisotropies may lead to the prediction of an unrealistically isotropic
74 medium, for the more strongly deformed parts of the crust.

75 It is therefore essential to classify the crust according to its composition and grade of deformation to define
76 larger units which can be summarized. Since only deformed parts of the crust exhibit elastic anisotropy,
77 this study is focused on the Adula Nappe of the Central Alps, which is representative for upper crustal
78 rocks deformed during the Alpine Orogeny. CPO as well as volume percentages of all mineral phases from
79 a large set of samples of this unit were determined. Subsequently, elastic anisotropies of the samples were
80 calculated. These show a wide range of seismic properties of deformed upper crustal rocks in the Alps.
81 Most of the samples are gneisses, which represent the most common rock type in the Adula Nappe. Based
82 on the characteristic CPO types, average CPO strengths and average volume percentages of the relevant
83 mineral phases, we calculated the elastic anisotropy of an “average rock”, which represents an average
84 anisotropy for deformed upper crustal rocks in collisional orogens. The two major lithologies are



85 orthogneisses and paragneisses, which is why the “average rock” has typical gneiss CPO and composition.
86 Furthermore, at shallow depth microcracks within the rocks are an important factor. Therefore, we used
87 data from ultrasonic measurements as well as thin section analysis to determine typical crack patterns in
88 the samples. From these the influence of microcracks on elastic properties was quantified, as well as the
89 changes in elastic anisotropy with increasing depth up to the point where all microcracks are presumably
90 closed.

91 This is, of course, a simplification of the very heterogeneous upper crust of the Alps, as already shown by
92 the variability of elastic anisotropy of the individual samples from the Adula Nappe. Yet, such an average
93 rock can be used for lithospheric and upper mantle scale seismic models, in which the crust is implemented
94 as a single unit with an average anisotropy. In crustal scale models the heterogeneity of different rocks
95 caused by variable composition as well as variable deformation have to be considered. While it is difficult
96 to present a universal average anisotropy for the very heterogeneous crust within collisional orogens, this
97 contribution represents a first approximation to close the scale gap between elastic anisotropy data of
98 rock samples and the kilometer scale structures measured in seismic investigations at greater depth.

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101 2. Elastic anisotropies within the Alpine orogen

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103 The Alpine Orogen exhibits a mountain-belt-parallel seismic anisotropy (e.g., Silver, 1996; Smith and
104 Ekström, 1999), which is not completely understood. In the Western Alps this anisotropy was illustrated
105 by teleseismic shear wave splitting and interpreted as a result of asthenospheric flow beneath the
106 lithospheric slab, although a further influence by lithospheric anisotropy due to Alpine deformation could
107 not be excluded (Barruol et al., 2004; 2011). Fry et al. (2010), on the other hand, determined seismic
108 anisotropies within the Alps by passive seismic imaging using Rayleigh wave phase velocities. Their results
109 suggest two distinct vertically distributed layers of anisotropy – an orogen-parallel fast direction down to
110 30 km and an orogen-perpendicular one between 30 and 70 km depth - with different geodynamic origins.
111 The authors interpret the orogen-parallel anisotropy as a consequence of CPO of crustal minerals (e.g.
112 amphibole and biotite) in response to compression and consider the deeper, orogen-perpendicular
113 anisotropy to result from bending and flow of the European lithospheric mantle.

114 The deep structure of the Western and Central Alps is mainly the result of subduction and collision
115 processes during the Paleogene and Neogene when the Penninic ocean basins were subducted and Adria,
116 Iberia, and other continental fragments collided with Europe. We consider a simplified version of the NFP-
117 20 EAST&EGT profile (Fig. 1A; Schmid and Kissling, 2000). We exclude nappe structures in the shallowest
118 part of the profile, like the Helvetic nappes. This results in a profile including the following upper crustal
119 units: the Aar and Gotthard massifs representing weakly deformed European basement; the Lucomagno,
120 Simano and Adula nappes of deformed European basement and Mesozoic cover; and relatively
121 undeformed Apulian upper crust. To simplify, we therefore subdivide the profile into

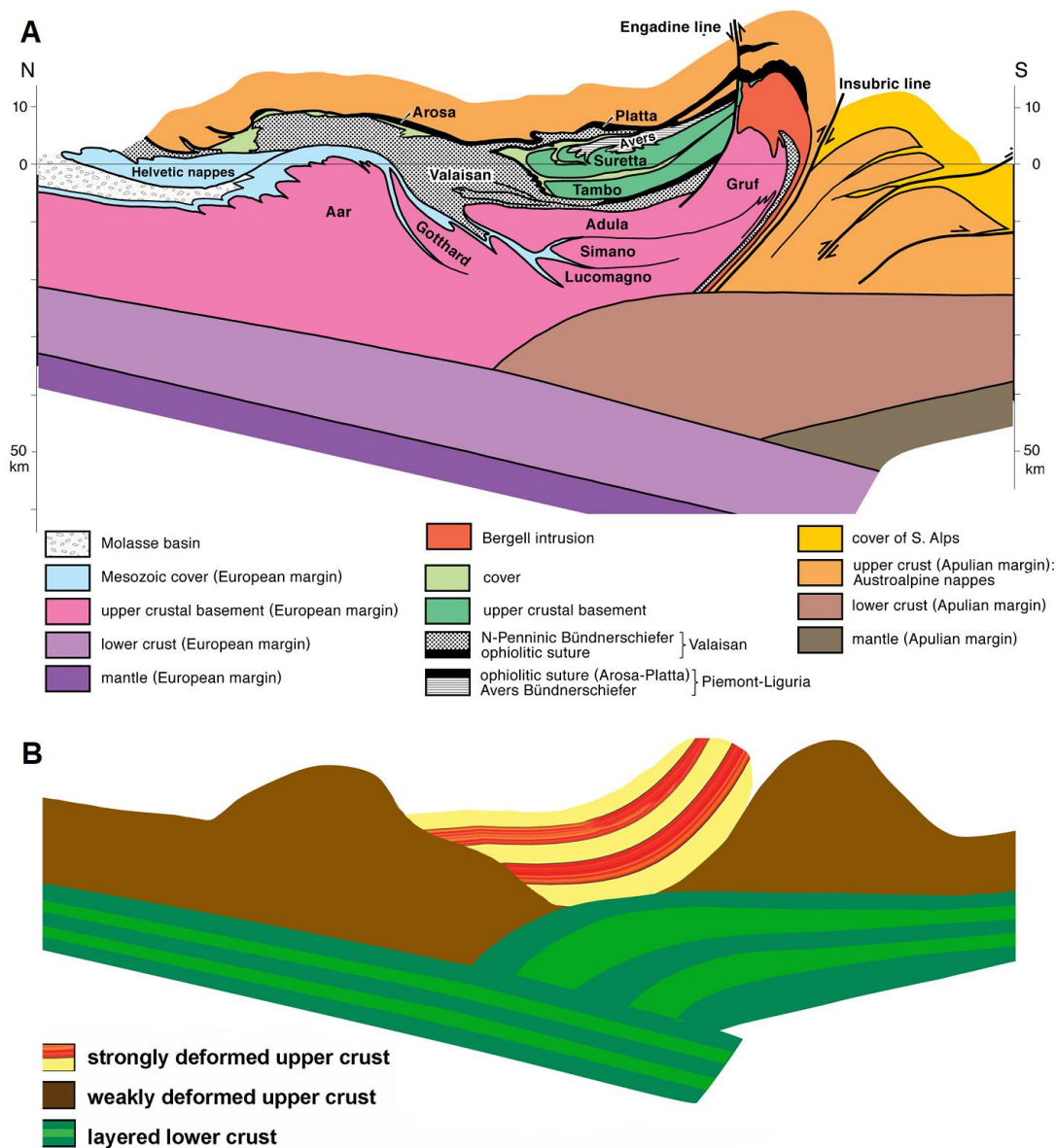
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123 (1) weakly deformed isotropic upper crust

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125 (2) strongly deformed anisotropic upper crust mostly comprising gneiss (Fig. 1B).

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 128 Figure 1: (A) North-south tectonic profile through the central Alps showing all major units (NFP-20
 129 EAST&EGT; Schmid and Kissling, 2000) (B) strongly simplified profile through the same units, representing
 130 the predominant type of rock unit and neglecting the sedimentary cover and ophiolite units
 131

132 2.1. Weakly deformed Alpine upper crust

133

134 In this study, both the crystalline massifs in the northern part of the central Alps and the Adriatic basement
 135 in the Southern Alps are assumed to show weak or no elastic anisotropy.



136 The Aar and Gotthard massifs contain large Variscan granitoid bodies which intruded into a pre-Variscan
137 basement. These units have only weakly been overprinted by Alpine metamorphism and deformation
138 (e.g., Abrecht, 1994; Schaltegger, 1994; Oliot et al., 2010). However, some greenschist to amphibolite
139 facies shear zones have been documented, which have to be considered for any large scale model
140 (Challandes et al., 2008; Goncalves et al., 2012; Wehrens et al., 2017).

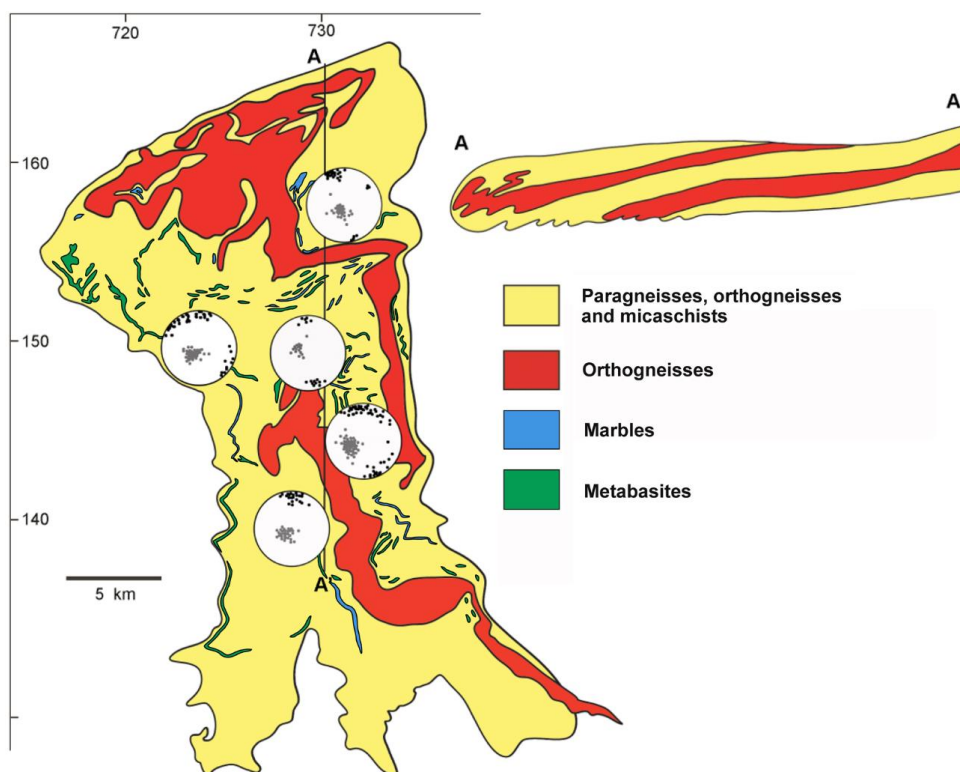
141 In the Southern Alps, metamorphic grade during deformation was generally low. Deformation in the
142 basement is limited to large scale thrusting during Alpine tectonics (e.g., Laubscher 1985). For
143 simplification we are assuming an elastically isotropic medium for both the Variscan granitoids and the
144 southern Alps due to the lack of pervasive CPO forming deformation. One needs to bear in mind however,
145 that local ductile shear zones as well as large brittle faults also have an influence on the overall elastic
146 anisotropy (e.g. Almqvist et al., 2013).

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148 2.2. Strongly deformed Alpine upper crust

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150 As suggested by strong reflectors in the original NFP-20-east seismic profile (Pfiffner et al., 1988), as well
151 as numerous geological field studies, the crustal units in the central part (concerning their position in the
152 N-S running profile) of the central Alps have been strongly deformed during subduction and subsequent
153 continental collision (Fig. 1B).
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156 Figure 2: Simplified tectonic map and north-south profile of the Adula Nappe in the Swiss coordinate
157 system (after Nagel, 2008). Grey and black dots indicate poles of main foliation and stretching lineation,
158 respectively, in the central Adula Nappe.

159

160 The Adula Nappe together with the Simano and Lucomagno nappes constitutes the Lepontine dome,
161 which mostly consists of Alpine nappes including Variscan basement and its Mesozoic cover. In this study,
162 the Adula Nappe is taken as an example for the strongly deformed parts of the Alps. It represents a
163 relatively coherent unit with stratigraphic basement-cover contacts. It was originally part of the distal
164 European continental margin and entered a south-dipping subduction zone in which the Valais (North
165 Peninnic) Ocean had been consumed. The unit shows peak conditions of 12–17 kbar/500–600 C° in the
166 north and 30 kbar/800–850 C° in the south (e.g. Heinrich, 1986; Löw, 1987; Meyre et al., 1997; Nagel et al.
167 2002; Dale and Holland, 2003). It mainly comprises orthogneisses and paragneisses with interlayers of
168 schists, quartzites, marbles and metabasic lenses (Fig. 2). All lithologies were sampled, however most
169 samples are orthogneisses and paragneisses, since these lithologies make up the largest part of the nappe
170 and other lithologies might be too small scale to be detected in seismic imaging.

171 From peak conditions to its current position within the Lepontine dome, the Adula Nappe underwent
172 several deformation phases. The oldest, peak to post-peak deformation phase is the eclogite facies
173 Zapport phase, which is well documented in the central part of the nappe, where it was not overprinted
174 by younger deformation phases (e.g. Löw, 1987; Meyre et al., 1993; Pleuger et al., 2003). Samples used
175 for this study are from this area and represent deformed crustal parts of the Alps.

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177 3. Methods

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179 3.1. CPO analysis

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181 CPO measurements were performed at the neutron time-of-flight (TOF) texture diffractometer SKAT at
182 the Frank Laboratory of Neutron Physics at JINR, Dubna, Russia (Ullemeyer et al., 1998; Keppler et al.,
183 2014). The high penetration capability of neutrons into matter together with the large beam cross section
184 of the SKAT (50 x 95 mm²) allow measurements of large-volume samples. In this study, roughly spherical
185 samples with volumes of about 65 cm³ were measured. Since the investigated samples are usually coarse-
186 grained this guarantees good grain statistics. Moreover, since diffraction patterns are recorded in a TOF
187 experiment over a large interval of lattice spacings, often containing hundreds of diffraction peaks, the so-
188 called 'Rietveld Texture Analysis' can be used for the texture evaluation, allowing the simultaneous
189 determination of all mineral textures even for samples with complex mineralogy (Von Dreele, 1997;
190 Matthies et al. 1997), as well as defining the rock mineral composition. We used the MAUD software for
191 the texture evaluation (Lutterotti et al., 1997; Wenk et al., 2010; Schmidtke et al., submitted to same
192 issue). For every sample, a sample coordinate system XYZ representing the three directions of the finite
193 strain ellipsoid was chosen. X is the lineation direction, Y is within the foliation plane perpendicular to the
194 lineation and Z is the foliation normal.

195

196 3.2. Modeling of elastic anisotropies

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198 From the orientation distribution function (ODF) of the main rock constituents, their volume fractions in
199 each sample and particular single crystal elastic constants, the elastic moduli of bulk rock were calculated.
200 For that purpose, simple averaging schemes are often used, such as Voigt approach (Voigt, 1887) or Reuss
201 approach (Reuss, 1929). The former assumes that all crystallites in the polycrystal are under the same
202 strain, while the latter considers equal stress state in all crystallites. To get a first approximation on the
203 different elastic anisotropy patterns within the set of samples, we used the Voigt averaging scheme that
204 provides reasonably good agreement of rock petrofabric data and laboratory measurements (Ben Ismail
205 and Mainprice, 1998), while noting that the recalculated elastic properties represent the upper boundary
206 of the polycrystal stiffness.

207 The single crystal elastic constants for the calculation were taken from the literature (muscovite: Vaughan
208 and Guggenheim, 1986; quartz: Heyliger et al., 2003; albite: Brown et al., 2006; calcite: Dandekar, 1968;
209 dolomite: Humbert & Plique, 1972; hornblende: Aleksandrov and Ryzhova, 1961; epidote: Aleksandrov et
210 al., 1974; garnet: Zhang et al., 2008; omphacite: Bhagat et al., 1992).

211 Phase elastic wave velocities were calculated from bulk elastic tensors of rocks using the Christoffel
212 equation.

213 To calculate the elastic anisotropy of the “average rock”, representative of the upper crustal lithology, and
214 its changes with overburden depth due to closure of the microcracks (see section 4.5), a more
215 sophisticated approach to the calculation of rock elastic properties is necessary. We used a modified self-
216 consistent method GeoMIXself (GMS; Matthies, 2010; 2012), which combines the standard self-consistent
217 routines (e.g. Morris 1970) with elements of the geometric mean averaging (Matthies & Humbert 1995).
218 This method is able to take CPO, morphologies and shape preferred orientations (SPOs) of grains, as well
219 as pores and cracks, into account. Details and limitations of this approach for an application to polymineral
220 rocks are discussed in, e.g., (Vasin et al., 2013; Vasin et al., 2017; Lokajicek et al., 2021).

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222 3.3. Ultrasonic measurements

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224 From the sample set, two samples with common CPO patterns and strengths of their constituent mineral
225 phases were picked for ultrasonic measurements of P-wave velocity distributions at the pressure
226 apparatus of the Institute of Geology ASCR, Prague, Czech Republic (e.g. Lokajicek et al., 2014). The
227 measurements were conducted on spherical samples with diameters of 41.0 mm (RK15-17) and 39.4 mm
228 (RK15-22), respectively. Before the measurement, the samples were dried at 100°C for 24 hours.
229 Afterwards they were covered by a thin layer of epoxy resin to protect inner pore space of the sample
230 against the hydrostatic pressure. Transformer oil served as the hydraulic medium. Ultrasonic signals were
231 excited and recorded using a pair of piezoceramic sensors with a resonant frequency of 2 MHz. P-wave
232 velocities were measured in 132 independent directions at differing confining pressure levels from
233 ambient conditions to a maximum pressure of 300 or 400 MPa.

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235 4. Results

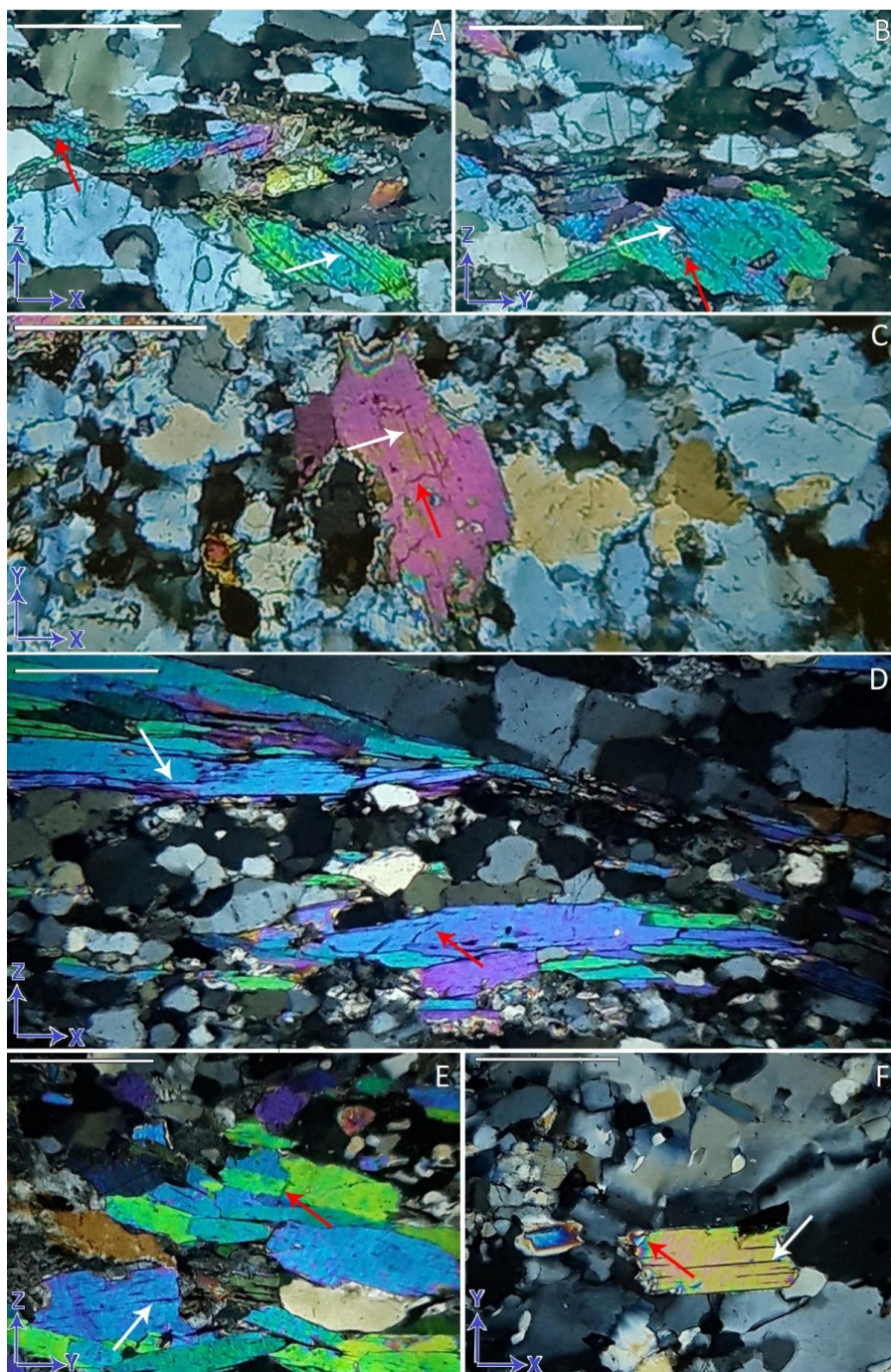
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237 4.1. Samples description

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239 The orthogneiss samples consist of quartz, plagioclase, potassium feldspar and mica (Table 1A). Mica is
240 mostly white mica but a few samples also contain biotite. Mica is frequently aligned within the foliation
241 plane. It occurs in layers in some samples but exhibits single grains or clusters scattered within a matrix of
242 quartz and feldspar in most orthogneisses. Microcracks in mica grains are mostly aligned with its basal
243 plane, however there are also some microcracks cutting across basal planes (Fig 3A-C). Quartz grains
244 exhibit signs of dynamic recrystallization.



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Figure 3: Thin sections of a typical orthogneiss (A, B, C) and paragneiss (D, E, F) under crossed polarizers for the XZ (A, D), YZ (B, E) and XY plane (C, F), showing examples microcracks both parallel (white arrows)



248 and oblique (red arrows) to the mica basal planes. Blue arrows indicate the three directions of the finite
 249 strain ellipsoid. White bar on upper left corner in each picture shows the length of 500 μm .

A	Composition in Volume %	Location	B	Composition in Volume %	Location
GAN12	48 Qz, 31 Plg, 21 Kfs	Alp de Ganan	GAN08	36 Qz, 23 Plg, 31 Mica, 10 Grt	Alp de Ganan
JK6	39 Qz, 43 Plg, 18 Mica	720 652/155 999	GAN15	45 Qz, 26 Plg, 29 Mica	Alp de Ganan
MS17-15	25 Qz, 32 Plg, 11 Kfs, 32 Mica	732 692/140 078	MS17-12B	51 Qz, 20 Plg, 29 Mica	734 127/140 223
RK15-9A	71 Qz, 9 Plg, 20 Kfs	732 876/144 686	MS17-12C	32 Qz, 42 Plg, 26 Hlb	734 127/140 223
RK15-9B	60 Qz, 24 Plg, 15 Kfs, 1 Mica	732 876/144 686	RK15-5	60 Qz, 25 Plg, 15 Mica	732 933/142 432
RK15-10	71 Qz, 19 Plg, 10 Mica	733 398/151 952	RK15-18	16 Qz, 28 Plg, 56 Mica	730 110/142 903
RK15-11A	33 Qz, 32 Pl, 35 Kfs	722 272/152 194	RK15-22	55 Qz, 15 Plg, 30 Mica	729 771/139 042
RK15-17	35 Qz, 43 Plg, 22 Mica	729 661/143 839	RK60	25 Qz, 70 Plg, 5 Cc	726 875/152 275
RK15-20	50 Qz, 41 Plg, 9 Mica	730 265/140 481	RK68	50 Cc, 50 Dol	732 536/149 964
RK15-24B	38 Qz, 52 Plg, 14 Mica	730 008/136 819	RK70A	36 Qz, 38 Plg, 26 Mica	737 323/136 241
RK15-27B	63 Qz, 37 Plg	719 193/152 476	SADU16	42 Qz, 10 Plg 43 Mica, 5 Grt	732 641/134 758
RK15-28	34 Qz, 52 Plg, 14 Mica	719 424/153 347	SADU30	41 Qz, 25 Plg, 34 Mica	731 985/162 618
RK15-30B	29 Qz, 60 Plg, 11 Mica	727 713/156 013	ZAP01	29 Qz, 23 Plg, 37 Mica, 7 Grt, 4 Hbl	near Zapporthütte
RK15-31	76 Qz, 4 Plg, 20 Kfs	727 713/156 835			
RK63B	35 Qz, 32 Plg, 33 Kfs	731 539/148 966	C	Composition in Volume %	Location
RK66	37 Qz, 33 Plg, 30 Kfs	732 554/148 402	RK15-4	7 Qz, 29 Plg, 53 Hbl, 11 Omp	732 078/141 893
SADU39	58 Qz, 25 Plg, 17 Mica	733 687/139 694	RK15-7	15 Qz, 31 Plg, 51 Hbl, 3 Czo	732 467/143 492

250 Table 1: Sample locations in Swiss coordinates and mineral volume percentages of (A) orthogneisses, (B)
 251 paragneisses and (C) metabasites. Cc: calcite, Czo: clinozoisite, Dol: dolomite, Grt: garnet, Hbl: hornblende,
 252 Kfs: Kalifeldspar, Omp: omphacite, Plg: plagioclase, Qz: quartz.
 253

254
 255 The mineral compositions of the paragneisses is more variable. Similar to the orthogneiss samples, the
 256 paragneisses consist of quartz, plagioclase and mica, however there is no potassium feldspar in the
 257 samples and the mica contents are generally higher (Table 1B). A few samples (RK15-18, SADU16) have a
 258 high mica content and therefore represent mica schists. Since they fall into the same category of clastic
 259 metasediments, they are summarized as paragneisses which are the predominant rock type of that group.
 260 They were also considered for the calculation of the average sample, concerning composition and CPO.
 261 White mica is more common within the paragneisses, however, biotite occurs more frequently than in the
 262 orthogneisses. One of the paragneiss samples contains hornblende and several of the samples contain
 263 garnet. Mica appears more frequently aligned in layers compared to the orthogneisses. Microcracks are
 264 mostly parallel to the mica basal plane with some exceptions (Fig. 3D-F). Quartz microstructures are also
 265 similar to those of the orthogneisses.

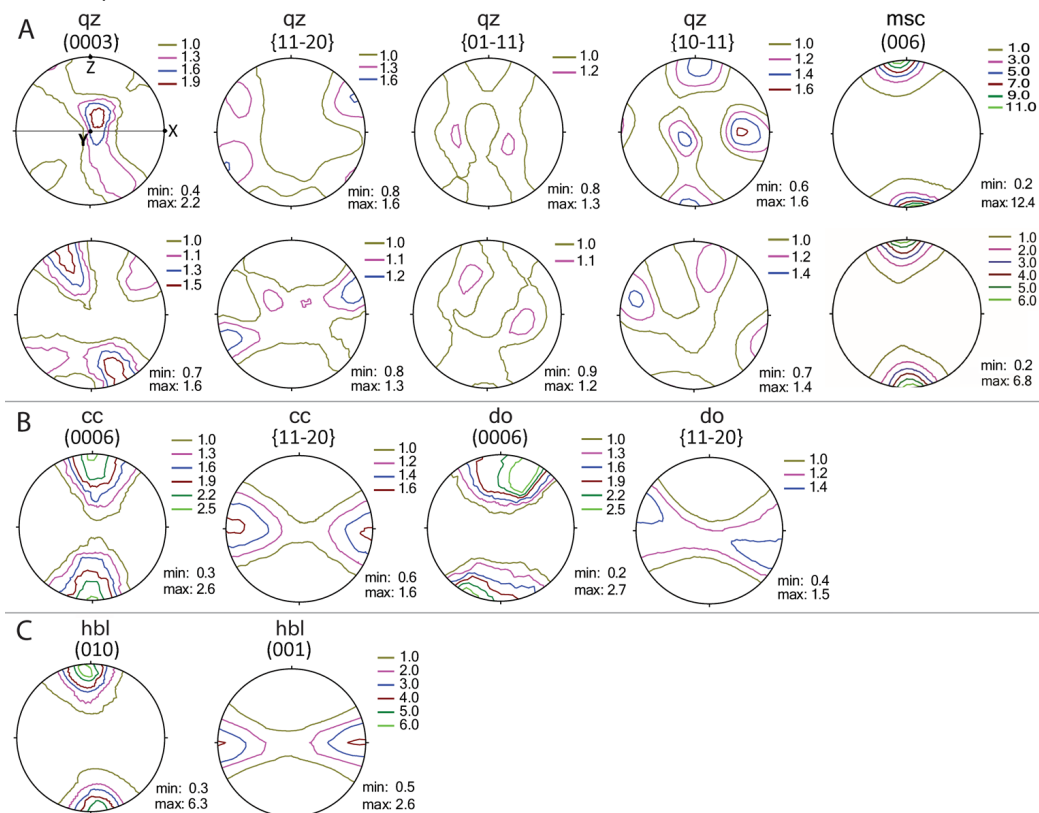
266 The marble sample comprises equal amounts of calcite and dolomite, both of which exhibit an SPO with
 267 an alignment in the foliation. The metabasites are strongly retrogressed eclogites consisting of about 50%
 268 hornblende and variable amounts of quartz, plagioclase, omphacite and clinozoisite (Table 1C).
 269 Hornblende shows an alignment within the foliation plane and is preferentially oriented parallel to the
 270 stretching lineation.

271 272 4.2. Crystallographic preferred orientation 273

274 Within the gneiss samples two major CPO patterns occur for quartz. In the first, quartz (0001) yields a
 275 maximum between the Z- and Y-directions of the pole figure. This pattern occurs in 55% of the samples
 276 containing quartz. In the second pattern, quartz (0001) exhibits peripheral maxima at an angle to the
 277 foliation normal, occurring in 45% of the samples (Fig. 4A and APPENDIX). Although both patterns occur



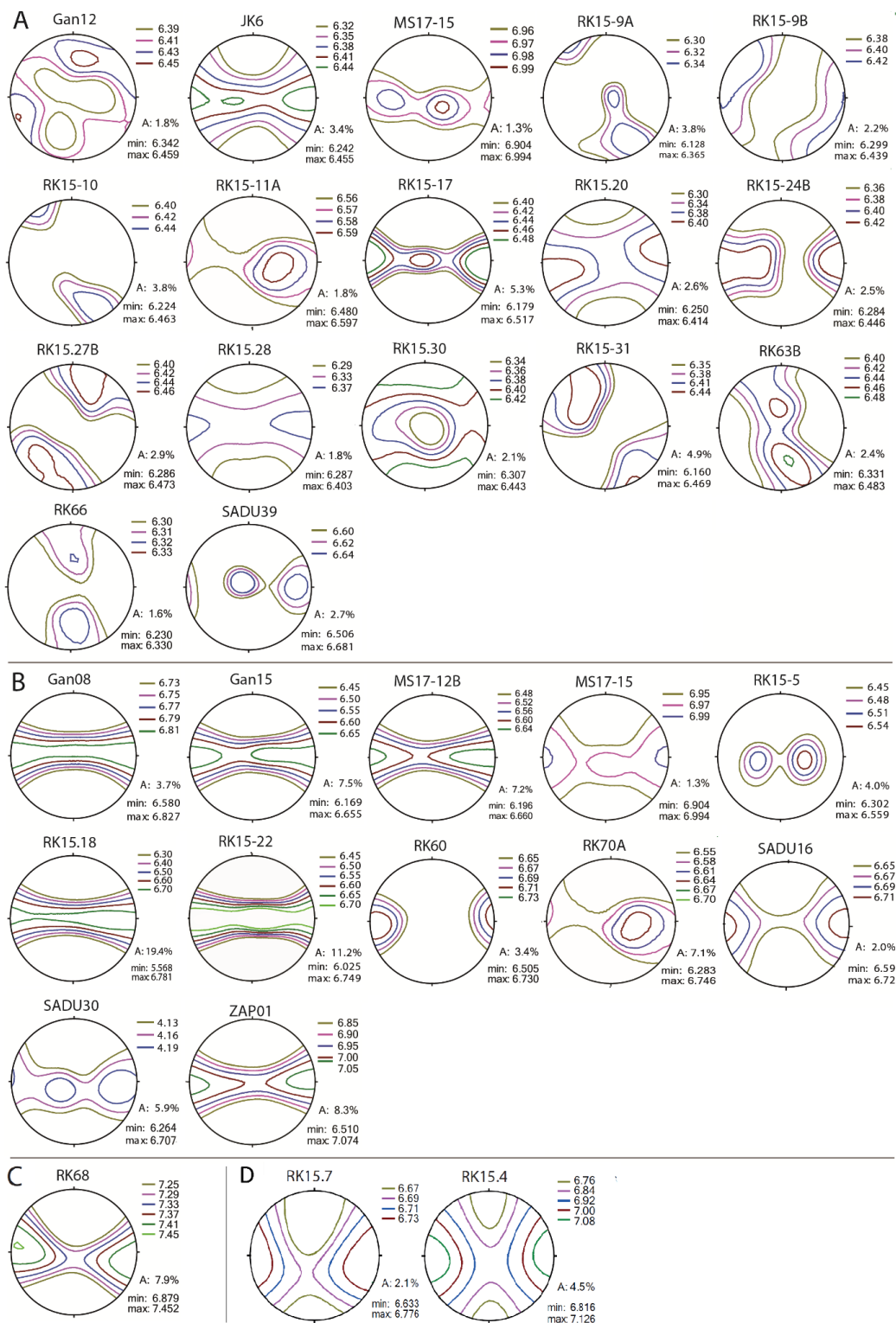
278 throughout the sample set, the former is more common in the paragneisses, while the latter occurs more
 279 frequently in the orthogneiss samples. In all samples quartz (0001) and (11-20) show an asymmetry, which
 280 represents a sinistral motion indicating a top to the north sense of shear. This is in accordance with
 281 literature and shows Zapport phase deformation in the Adula nappe (e.g. Löw, 1987; Meyre et al., 1993;
 282 Pleuger et al., 2003). Different orientation patterns of quartz pole figures (10-11) and (01-11) may be
 283 attributed to mechanical Dauphiné twinning, or induced by active rhombohedral slip (Wenk et al., 2019).
 284 Both biotite and white mica show a strong CPO with a pronounced alignment of their basal planes within
 285 the foliation in the gneiss samples (Fig. 4A). It should be noted that in texture analysis (and in texture-
 286 based modeling of elastic properties) monoclinic crystals are commonly defined in a first monoclinic
 287 setting (Matthies and Wenk, 2009), while a more common second setting is used in this manuscript with
 288 (001) as a cleavage plane of mica. Both pagiolclase and K-feldspar show a very weak to random CPO with
 289 only a few exceptions.
 290 The marble sample yields a distinct calcite and dolomite CPO. Calcite exhibits an alignment of (0001) in Z-
 291 direction and an alignment of (11-20) in X-direction (Fig. 4C). Both (0001) and (11-20) of dolomite show an
 292 angle to the Z- and Y-direction respectively. In the metabasites, hornblende is the only mineral yielding a
 293 pronounced CPO (Fig. 4D). It shows a strong alignment of (010) in Z-direction and (001) in X-direction in
 294 both samples.



295
 296 Figure 4: CPO types in the sample set (A) Common quartz (top: RK15-28; bottom: JK6) and mica (top: RK15-
 297 5; bottom: RK15-28) CPO in the orthogneisses and paragneisses; (B) calcite and dolomite CPO in the marble



298 sample (RK68); (C) typical hornblende CPO in the metabasites (RK15-4). All pole figures are lower
299 hemisphere equal area projections. The foliation normal (Z) is vertical, the lineation (X) is horizontal and
300 north is left.





302 Figure 5: Modelled P-wave anisotropies of all natural samples in equal area stereographic projection. (A)
 303 Orthogneisses; (B) paragneisses ; (C) marble and (D) metabasites. Contour lines, as well as minima and
 304 maxima are in km/sec. The foliation is perpendicular to the projection plane, the lineation is horizontal.
 305 XYZ orientation is the same as in Fig. 4.

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307 4.3. Modeled elastic anisotropies of natural samples

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309 4.3.1. Orthogneisses

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311 P-wave anisotropies (AV_P) is defined as $A = (V_{Pmax} - V_{Pmin}) / V_{Pmean} 100\%$. The orthogneisses show two
 312 main patterns, one of which yields highest P-wave velocity (V_P) at an angle to the foliation normal, the
 313 other exhibits a V_P maximum in lineation direction with a distribution of high V_P values in the foliation
 314 plane in some samples (Fig. 5A). The maxima at an angle to the foliation normal are frequently elongated
 315 or even show two distinct maxima within an area of higher V_P (GAN12, RK15-9A, RK15-27B). Only few
 316 samples deviate from these two patterns showing maxima between the Y direction and the foliation
 317 normal (RK63B, RK66) or several maxima within the foliation plane (MS17-15, SADU39). AV_P lies between
 318 1.3 and 5.3% with an average of 2.9%. V_P/V_S ratios are between 1.51 and 1.67 (Table 2A) with an average
 319 of 1.60.

320

A	Vp A (%)	Vs1 A (%)	Vs2 A (%)	VP/Vs	Vp (km/s)	Vs (km/s)	B	Vp A (%)	Vs1 A (%)	Vs2 A (%)	VP/Vs	Vp (km/s)	Vs (km/s)
GAN12	2,5	1,8	1,7	1,57	6,40	4,07	GAN08	3,7	5,0	1,4	1,64	6,73	4,11
JK6	3,4	2,0	3,0	1,63	6,35	3,91	GAN15	7,5	6,7	4,5	1,58	6,43	4,07
MS17-15	1,3	1,0	0,5	1,63	6,95	4,27	MS17-12B	7,2	5,7	3,3	1,57	6,44	4,10
RK15-10	3,8	3,1	2,4	1,53	6,35	4,16	MS17-12C	2,0	1,2	1,2	1,65	6,61	4,01
RK15-11A	1,8	1,0	1,2	1,61	6,55	4,06	RK15-18	20,5	19,4	11,5	1,65	6,18	3,73
RK15-17	5,3	5,0	2,5	1,65	6,35	3,86	RK15-22	11,2	8,0	5,5	1,56	6,42	4,10
RK15-20	2,6	1,5	1,1	1,60	6,33	3,96	RK15-5	4,3	4,0	1,9	1,55	6,42	4,14
RK15-24B	2,5	1,8	2,1	1,64	6,37	3,89	RK60	3,4	2,8	1,5	1,64	6,60	4,03
RK15-27B	2,9	3,6	2,3	1,54	6,39	4,14	RK68	7,9	4,4	2,3	1,82	7,22	3,96
RK15-28	1,8	1,1	1,6	1,64	6,35	3,86	RK70A	7,1	6,1	4,3	1,61	6,53	4,06
RK15-30B	2,1	1,0	0,6	1,67	6,39	3,81	SADU16	2,0	1,5	1,0	1,60	6,65	4,15
RK15-31	4,9	5,4	3,6	1,51	6,33	4,18	SADU30	6,8	5,9	2,7	1,60	6,50	4,07
RK15-9A	3,8	3,2	3,5	1,54	6,26	4,06	ZAP01	8,3	6,6	3,3	1,64	6,81	4,17
RK15-9B	2,2	1,5	1,5	1,57	6,38	4,07							
RK63B	2,4	1,6	1,9	1,63	6,42	3,95	C	Vp A	Vs1 A	Vs2 A	VP/Vs	Vp	Vs
RK66	1,6	1,1	0,8	1,64	6,29	3,83	RK15-4B	4,5	1,7	1,2	1,79	6,94	3,88
SADU39	3,1	2,7	2,0	1,56	6,57	4,21	RK15-7	2,1	0,6	0,7	1,76	6,70	3,81

321

322 Table 2: P-wave and S-wave anisotropy, VP/Vs ratio as well as Voigt average of P-wave and S-wave
 323 velocities of (A) orthogneisses, (B) metasediments and (C) metabasites.

324

325 4.3.2. Paragneisses

326

327 The paragneiss samples all show highest V_P value within the foliation plane (Fig. 5B). Most samples also
 328 yield a maximum in lineation direction. There are two samples displaying maxima within the foliation plane
 329 but not aligned in lineation direction (RK15-5; SADU30). The AV_P of the paragneisses is highly variable
 330 ranging from 2.0% to 20.5% (Table 2B). Most samples, however, show a moderate AV_P of 7-8%. V_P/V_S ratios
 331 lie between 1.55 and 1.65.



332

333 4.3.3. Marble

334

335 The marble sample RK68 exhibits an AV_P of 7.9% with a maximum at a slight angle to the lination direction
336 and some distribution of high V_P values in the foliation plane (Fig. 5C). Its V_P/V_S ratio is 1.82 (Table 2B).

337

338 4.3.3. Metabasites

339

340 The V_P distributions in the metabasites show a pronounced maximum in lination direction (Fig. 5
341 D). Lowest V_P is found parallel to the foliation normal. AV_P values are 4.5% and 2% with V_P/V_S ratios of 1.79
342 and 1.76, respectively (Table 2C).

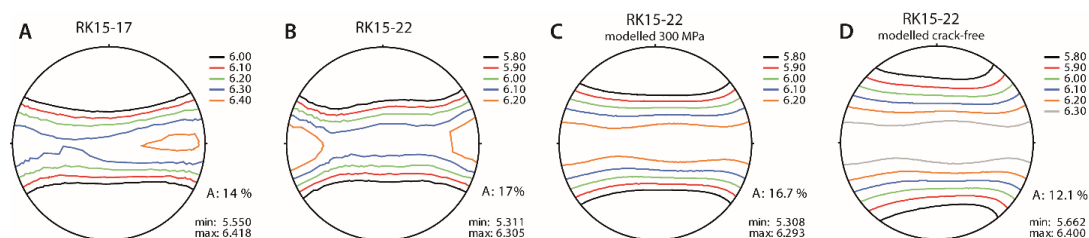
343

344 4.4. Measured elastic anisotropies of natural samples

345

346 The V_P distribution of the two gneiss samples, which were measured using ultrasound at different confining
347 pressures both show high V_P in the foliation plane. The orthogneiss RK15-17 yields a maximum V_P within
348 the foliation plane at a slight angle to the lination (Fig. 6A). At maximum pressures of 400 MPa its AV_P is
349 14%. The paragneiss RK15-22 was measured at a maximum pressure of 300 MPa. Maximum V_P is aligned
350 in lination direction (Fig. 6B). It exhibits an AV_P of 17%. Both samples show increasing V_P as well as
351 decreasing AV_P coefficients with increasing pressures during the experiment (Table 3). In general, the
352 RK15-17 orthogneiss is elastically more isotropic and shows V_P values comparable to the RK15-22
353 paragneiss at pressures over 100 MPa (Table 3), but at lower pressures P-wave velocities in the orthogneiss
354 decrease drastically, and the elastic anisotropy significantly increases, reaching values much higher than
355 in the paragneiss.

356



357

358 Figure 6: P-wave anisotropies of an (A) orthogneisses (RK15-17) and a (B) paragneiss (RK15-22) measured
359 using ultrasound. Figures show P-wave distribution at maximum pressures in the experiments. V_P
360 distribution of RK15-22 modelled with GMS algorithm at 300MPa (C) and at crack-free pressures (D).
361 Contour lines, as well as minima and maxima are in km/sec. XYZ orientation is the same as in Figs. 4, 5.

362

363 4.5. "Average" rock concept and crack-free "average" rock

364

365 Elastic properties and elastic wave velocities in rocks are normally assessed in laboratory measurements
366 on samples of several cm length. To implement elastic anisotropies in geophysical models these
367 laboratory-derived elastic properties need to be upscaled to a km scale. It is necessary to calculate elastic
368 properties of the rock massif in a long-wavelength approximation (Berryman, 1980), and thus a whole rock



369 massif may be represented as an effective “average” rock. It should feature average CPOs, volume
 370 fractions and grain shapes of minerals, as well as average pore and crack patterns.
 371

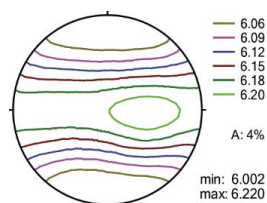
Pressure (MPa)	RK15-17, experiment			RK15-22, experiment			RK15-22, model					
	V_{pmin} (km/s)	V_{pmax} (km/s)	AV_p (%)	V_{pmin} (km/s)	V_{pmax} (km/s)	AV_p (%)	V_{pmin} (km/s)	V_{pmax} (km/s)	AV_p (%)	Type I crack density	Type II crack density	Total crack porosity
5				3.656	5.242	35	3.662	5.244	36	0.246	0.057	0.0163
10	2.637	4.459	51	3.904	5.349	31	3.904	5.350	31	0.205	0.056	0.0145
20	3.207	4.812	40	4.194	5.520	27	4.196	5.524	27	0.162	0.048	0.0118
50	4.106	5.316	26	4.584	5.786	23	4.583	5.791	23	0.112	0.031	0.0079
100	4.787	5.824	20	4.902	6.019	20	4.915	6.037	20	0.074	0.014	0.0046
200	5.307	6.203	16	5.202	6.269	19	5.213	6.263	18	0.043	0	0.0018
300	5.501	6.339	14	5.311	6.305	17	5.307	6.293	17	0.033	0	0.0014
400	5.550	6.418	14									
Crack free							5.662	6.400	12	0	0	0

372 Table 3: Results of ultrasonic measurements of (A) orthogneiss RK15-17 and (B) paragneiss RK15-22
 373 showing V_p and AV_p at increasing pressures. (C) V_p and AV_p of RK15-22 modelled with GMS algorithm.
 374
 375

376 As a first approximation to the crustal properties, only major minerals were considered for the “average”
 377 rock: plagioclase, muscovite and quartz. Minor or uncommon mineral phases were omitted. From the
 378 selection of 30 natural crustal rocks, we identified characteristic CPO types and average CPO strengths for
 379 all common mineral phases. In general, feldspar shows weak to random CPO, even in strongly deformed
 380 samples. Furthermore, only minor differences have been observed between plagioclase and potassium
 381 feldspar. Therefore, the ODF of a representative plagioclase with weak texture was chosen for the
 382 “average” rock, namely, the albite ODF in RK15-28 sample. Since white mica is most common in both
 383 orthogneisses and paragneisses, muscovite was chosen as representative mica for the average rock. In all
 384 samples mica shows a pronounced alignment of its basal plane in the foliation. The mica ODF of two
 385 samples (RK15-5; RK15-28) was combined in 1:1 ratio to yield an average preferred orientation for the
 386 “average” sample. Likewise, the representative quartz ODF for the average sample was chosen as a
 387 combination of CPOs from two different samples (JK6; RK15-28) in 5:6 ratio. These two samples show the
 388 typical quartz CPO patterns mentioned in section 4.4 and shown in Fig. 4A.

389 Based on analysis of all samples, average mineral volume percentages in gneisses (43% quartz, 40%
 390 plagioclase, 17% mica) were considered for the “average” rock. Corresponding density value is 2670.7
 391 kg/m³. For the GMS method, grain shapes of minerals should be approximated by ellipsoids. Thin section
 392 analysis of samples revealed more or less equiaxed grain shapes of quartz and feldspar and elongated mica
 393 platelets with average aspect ratio of ≈ 0.2 (APPENDIX – Fig 1). Numerical models revealed that aspect
 394 ratios of grains of mica and quartz within 0.1-1 range have only minor influence on bulk elastic properties
 395 (Nishizawa and Yoshino, 2001; Vasin et al., 2013; Huang et al., 2021). Consequently, for the “average” rock,
 396 we considered spherical grains of quartz and feldspar, and oblate spheroidal grains with axes ratio 1:1:0.2
 397 for mica. As the shape of mica grains is related to cleavage, the corresponding SPO may be derived from
 398 CPO by considering additional rotation of the crystallite coordinate system (Vasin et al., 2013).

399 The preferred orientations, mineral volume fractions and grain shapes were combined in a model of the
 400 elastic properties for the “average” rock using the GMS approach. The V_p distribution in a crack-free
 401 “average” rock is shown in Figure 7. There is a distribution of high V_p values within the foliation plane, and
 402 the maximum V_p direction is located between the lineation (X-direction) and the Y-direction. The AV_p of
 403 the “average” crack-free gneiss is 4%.



404
 405 Figure 7: Modelled P-wave anisotropies of an average gneiss at 740 MPa. Contour lines, as well as minima
 406 and maxima are in km/sec. XYZ orientation is the same as in Fig. 4.

407
 408 4.6. “Average” rock with microcrack systems

409
 410 As directly evident from thin sections analysis (Figure 3), low aspect ratio microcracks are present in the
 411 samples. At low overburden depths, these microcracks are open. As seen from Table 3, at low pressures
 412 measured elastic wave velocities are decreased and elastic anisotropy is increased compared to the high
 413 pressure, where majority of microcracks are closed. To account for the changes of elastic anisotropy of the
 414 “average” rock due to pressure/depth changes, it is necessary to include these microcracks and their
 415 closure with increasing pressure into the model.
 416

Pressure (MPa)	Depth (km)	Density (kg/m ³)	Type I crack density	Type II crack density	Total crack porosity	V_{pmin} (km/s)	V_{pmax} (km/s)	AV _p (%)
5	0.2	2627.19	0.246	0.057	0.0163	4.203	4.728	12
10	0.4	2631.99	0.205	0.056	0.0145	4.442	4.891	10
20	0.8	2639.21	0.162	0.048	0.0118	4.721	5.121	8
50	1.9	2649.62	0.112	0.031	0.0079	5.077	5.454	7
100	3.8	2658.43	0.074	0.014	0.0046	5.372	5.748	7
200	7.6	2665.91	0.043	0	0.0018	5.630	6.012	7
300	11.5	2666.98	0.033	0	0.0014	5.709	6.057	6
≈740	28.2	2670.72	0	0	0	6.002	6.220	4

417
 418 Table 4: V_p , AV_p, and crack densities of “average” rock model at increasing pressures including
 419 corresponding depth. 740 MPa is an estimation of the pressure where the cracks are closed (see text).
 420 Cracks type I have the same ODF as mica.

421
 422 As a first approximation, we considered that the “average” rock should have the same crack distribution
 423 as one of the characteristic gneiss samples, i.e., sample RK15-22. From thin sections analysis (Figure 3D-
 424 F), two possible microcrack systems were identified. There is one set of microcracks mostly oriented along
 425 the muscovite platelets, and we denote these as type I cracks. Type I cracks were assumed to have the
 426 same SPO as muscovite grains; and their aspect ratio was estimated to be ≈0.01 (Appendix – Fig 2). As
 427 these cracks are roughly parallel to mica platelets, within the GMS algorithm type I cracks were
 428 approximated by oblate ellipsoids with an axial ratio of 1:1:0.01. Another set of cracks – denoted as type
 429 II cracks - intersects quartz grains, they are mostly oriented parallel to the Z axis. They display a broader
 430 range of aspect ratios with an average of ≈0.025 (Appendix – Fig 1). Since these cracks are mostly within
 431 equiaxed quartz grains, they were approximated by oblate ellipsoids with an axial ratio of 1:1:0.025. To
 432 determine the changes of crack densities of type I and II with pressure, a following procedure was applied.



433 Elastic properties of a crack-free RK15-22 gneiss were modelled with GMS algorithm using measured ODFs,
 434 mineral volume fractions (55% quartz, 15% albite and 30% muscovite), and assuming spherical grain
 435 shapes for quartz and albite, and 1:1:0.2 ellipsoidal grains for muscovite. Using mineral density values from
 436 the same references as mineral single crystal elastic properties, a density of 2702.3 kg/m³ was computed
 437 for a crack-free RK15-22. Using model elastic properties and this density value, the V_p distribution in a
 438 crack-free RK15-22 was calculated (Fig. 6C).
 439 Density measurements of RK15-22 at atmospheric pressure yield a value of 2658 kg/m³. Thus, crack
 440 porosity in RK15-22 is restricted to a maximum of about ~1.7%. Consequently, type I and type II cracks
 441 were added into the model crack-free RK15-22 gneiss to reproduce measured V_p distributions at different
 442 pressures, similar to the procedure of porous polycrystalline graphite (Matthies, 2012). The only varying
 443 parameters are the type I and type II crack porosities, with the total crack porosity within the
 444 aforementioned limit. Using this procedure, an adequate description of experimental V_p distributions with
 445 the GMS approach was achieved at all pressures above 2 MPa. The wave velocities and AV_p values of RK15-
 446 22 models are given in Table 3.
 447

Pressure (MPa)	C ₁₁ (GPa)	C ₁₂ (GPa)	C ₁₃ (GPa)	C ₁₄ (GPa)	C ₁₅ (GPa)	C ₁₆ (GPa)	C ₂₂ (GPa)	C ₂₃ (GPa)	C ₂₄ (GPa)	C ₂₅ (GPa)	C ₂₆ (GPa)	C ₃₃ (GPa)	C ₃₄ (GPa)	C ₃₅ (GPa)	C ₃₆ (GPa)
5	58.0	9.1	7.8	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	58.1	7.9	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	46.4	0.1	-0.1	0.0
10	62.2	10.2	9.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	62.4	9.0	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	51.9	0.1	-0.1	0.0
20	68.4	11.8	10.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	68.6	10.6	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	58.8	0.1	-0.1	0.0
50	77.9	14.6	13.3	0.1	0.0	-0.2	78.2	13.3	0.2	-0.1	-0.3	68.3	0.1	-0.1	0.0
100	86.8	17.5	16.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1	87.1	16.2	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	76.7	0.1	-0.1	0.0
200	95.2	20.7	19.1	0.1	0.0	-0.1	95.6	19.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	84.5	0.0	-0.1	0.0
300	96.7	21.3	19.8	0.1	0.0	-0.1	97.1	19.9	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	86.9	0.0	-0.1	0.0
≈740	102.2	23.7	22.9	0.0	0.1	-0.1	102.6	23.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	96.2	0.0	-0.1	0.0

continuation

Pressure (MPa)	C ₄₄ (GPa)	C ₄₅ (GPa)	C ₄₆ (GPa)	C ₅₅ (GPa)	C ₅₆ (GPa)	C ₆₆ (GPa)
5	21.5	-0.1	-0.1	21.4	0.1	24.6
10	23.4	-0.1	-0.1	23.2	0.1	26.2
20	25.8	-0.1	-0.1	25.6	0.1	28.5
50	29.1	-0.1	-0.1	28.9	0.1	31.9
100	32.0	-0.1	-0.1	31.7	0.1	35.0
200	34.5	-0.1	-0.1	34.2	0.1	37.7
300	35.1	-0.1	-0.1	34.8	0.1	38.1
≈740	37.3	-0.1	-0.1	36.9	0.1	39.7

448
 449 Table 5: Bulk elastic tensor components of the “average” rock model, rounded to first decimal digit.
 450

451 At maximum pressure of 300 MPa the experimental V_p values are 0.3-0.7 km/s lower than corresponding
 452 velocities in the crack-free RK15-22 with biggest differences for minimum velocities. This implies a small
 453 amount of open microcracks. Modeling suggests that type II cracks with 0.025 aspect ratio are not
 454 necessary to describe bulk elastic properties of RK15-22 sample at pressures of 200 MPa and higher. Thus,
 455 we assume that type II crack porosity is close to zero at 300 MPa. Since type I cracks orientation distribution
 456 is not random, and the material is elastically anisotropic with AV_p =17%, only a rough estimation of type I
 457 cracks closure pressure can be made. We averaged the stiffness tensor of crack-free RK15-22 over all
 458 directions and applied the relation derived by Walsh (1965) for an isotropic rock to obtain a closure
 459 pressure of ≈740 MPa for type I cracks at an aspect ratio of 0.01. Thus, we assume that the RK15-22 gneiss
 460 may be considered crack free at a pressure of 740 MPa.



461 It is recognized that at low crack porosities effective elastic properties of the material depend on the crack
462 density, while crack porosity is irrelevant (Vernik, 2016; Kachanov and Mishakin, 2019). Crack porosity and
463 crack density may be related for certain types and distributions of cracks. E.g., in the case where all cracks
464 have the same aspect ratio, as type I or type II pores separately, there is a simple equation (Lokajicek et
465 al., 2021) connecting crack porosity and crack density. Thus, in Table 4, crack densities are given for type I
466 and type II cracks separately, as well as the total crack porosity. We assume that the same system of cracks
467 exists in an “average” sample such as RK15-22, with the same orientation distribution and the same crack
468 density values at corresponding confining pressure. The GMS algorithm was used to add this crack system
469 to the crack-free “average” rock, and the density of the crack-free “average” rock was used to estimate
470 the overburden from the pressure values. From that, the dependencies of all stiffness tensor components
471 of the “average” rock on depth were obtained, as well as the elastic wave velocities and the AV_p
472 coefficients (Tables 4 and 5).

473

474 5. Discussion

475

476 There are various factors influencing the elastic anisotropy of rocks. While the deformation induced CPO
477 is the main cause, there are other aspects like shape preferred orientation (SPO) of grains, or layering
478 contributing to elastic anisotropy. Another important factor influencing elastic anisotropy, especially at
479 lower depth is the occurrence of microcracks. In the following, we discuss the elastic anisotropies -
480 calculated and measured - of the natural samples from this study. We will elaborate the applicability of
481 the model “average” rock to larger scale crustal rock units and discuss the controlling factors of the elastic
482 anisotropy of crustal rocks.

483

484 5.1. Elastic anisotropy of natural samples

485

486 5.1.1. Orthogneisses

487

488 The AV_p calculated from the CPO data of orthogneisses is largely influenced by CPOs of quartz and mica.
489 Since feldspar generally shows weak or no CPO, its presence in the samples mainly contributes to a
490 decrease in AV_p . Mica adds to increased V_p values within the foliation plane as well as the maxima in
491 lineation direction in some samples. Highest V_p is found within the basal plane of mica single crystals,
492 which defines the V_p pattern caused by observed alignment of mica basal planes within the foliation. The
493 maxima in lineation direction are caused by a slight tilting of mica basal planes around the lineation. This
494 leads to broadening of high V_p region within the YZ-plane and results in the highest V_p in lineation direction.
495 Highest V_p values of quartz single crystals are observed close to normals to their rhombohedral planes.
496 Patterns showing elongated V_p maxima close to the periphery at an angle to the foliation and the patterns
497 with several maxima for V_p are due to the influence of quartz CPO. The frequently observed asymmetry in
498 these patterns with respect to the reference frame of foliation and lineation reflects non-coaxial
499 deformation of the rocks. All units in the central Adula Nappe show a top-to-the-north sense of shear (e.g.
500 Nagel, 2008), thereby producing asymmetric quartz CPO, which in turn leads to the asymmetric V_p
501 distributions in the mica-poor orthogneisses. Both AV_p as well as V_p patterns are similar to those in
502 previous studies, which either show high V_p in the foliation with a maximum in lineation direction (Ivankina



503 et al. 2005; Ullemeyer et al., 2006; Kern et al. 2008; Zel et al., 2015; Ivankina et al., 2017; Schmidtke et al.,
504 submitted to same issue), at an angle to the lineation (Vasin et al., 2017), or elongated asymmetric maxima
505 between the foliation normal and the foliation plane (Ullemeyer et al., 2006; Llana-Fúnez et al., 2009).

506 The orthogneiss sample RK15-17 measured in the lab shows high V_p distributed within the foliation plane
507 with a maximum at a slight angle to lineation direction. While both the measured and the calculated
508 velocity patterns for this sample show high V_p distributed in the foliation plane, the AV_p pattern calculated
509 from CPO yields its maximum aligned in lineation direction with an additional maximum in Y-direction. The
510 AV_p coefficient calculated from measured P-wave velocities at a pressure of 400 MPa is higher than the
511 calculated one by a factor 2.6, which is mostly due to still open microcracks, not considered within the
512 Voigt averaging scheme. Due to a preferred orientation of microcracks parallel to the mica basal plane
513 (Fig. 3A-C) and an alignment of mica in the foliation V_p is slower normal to the foliation and AV_p is higher
514 in the samples measured in the lab, even at the highest pressures.

515 V_p/V_s ratios in the orthogneiss samples are influenced by the volume percentage of the constituent mineral
516 phases. Due to the low Poisson ratio of quartz and its generally large volume percentage in the
517 orthogneisses their V_p/V_s ratios of 1.51-1.67 are low.

518

519 5.1.2. Paragneisses

520

521 Like in the orthogneisses, the V_p pattern of the paragneisses and micaschists is influenced by mica and
522 quartz CPO with a larger mica contribution due to its generally higher volume content in paragneisses
523 compared to the orthogneisses (Table 1B). Likewise, mica CPO leads to high V_p values within the foliation
524 plane and frequently to a V_p maximum in lineation direction. This V_p pattern is similar to that of
525 paragneisses in previous studies (e.g. Weiss et al., 1999; Erdman et al., 2013; Keppler et al., 2015;
526 Ullemeyer et al., 2018). V_p patterns showing maxima within the foliation plane, but not aligned with the
527 lineation, are likely caused by a discrepancy between CPO formation of quartz and CPO formation of mica.
528 The samples are oriented according to their visible mineral stretching lineation, which was formed by
529 quartz in most samples. The alignment of high velocities is, however, caused mostly by mica CPO and
530 undulating mica grains around the stretching lineation. The CPO of quartz and mica was not necessarily
531 formed at the same time and could represent different deformation stages.

532 The sample measured in the lab, RK15-22, similar to the case of the orthogneiss sample, shows a higher
533 influence of mica on AV_p due to its alignment in the foliation and similarly oriented microcracks. While in
534 the calculated V_p distribution, high velocities are distributed within the foliation plane, the measured
535 velocities show a distinct maximum in lineation direction. The measured version also shows a higher AV_p
536 than the one calculated from the CPO. The difference, however, is not as large as for the orthogneiss
537 sample. In case of the paragneiss sample the measured AV_p is higher than the calculated one by a factor
538 of 1.5. Similar to the orthogneisses, this value is well in the range of other literature comparing
539 experimental and modeled anisotropy data. While experimental anisotropies are always higher than the
540 ones modeled using CPO, the factor is variable for gneiss samples ranging from 1.3 (e.g. Vasin et al., 2017)
541 to 6.6 (e.g. Ullemeyer et al., 2006). Considering experimental and modeled elastic anisotropy data of 18
542 gneiss samples from different studies, experimental anisotropy is 3 times higher than the modeled ones
543 on average (Ivankina et al., 2005; 2017; Punturo et al., 2005; Ullemeyer et al., 2006; 2018; Kern et al., 2008;
544 Kern, 2009; Llana-Fúnez et al., 2009; Lokajicek et al., 2014; Zel et al., 2015; Vasin et al., 2017). V_p/V_s ratios



545 of the paragneisses are determined by the volume percentage of quartz and yield values of 1.55-1.64.
546 Higher volume percentages of quartz lead to lower V_p/V_s ratios.

547 Comparing the V_p velocities calculated from the Voigt model (Figure 5B) and the GMS crack free model
548 (Table 3) of the RK15-22 sample, it is evident that the Voigt model velocities are ≈ 300 -400 m/s higher. Yet,
549 symmetries of velocity distributions and AV_p coefficients computed using these two models are quite close,
550 suggesting that the Voigt modeling is reliable to assess the degree of elastic anisotropy of gneisses.

551 Tables 3 and 4 demonstrate a correlation of measured ultrasonic wave velocities and their anisotropy in
552 RK15-22 gneiss as well as the GMS model utilizing the two types of cracks discussed earlier at pressures of
553 5-300 MPa. At 2 MPa, and also at atmospheric pressure, the proposed model was not able to correctly
554 reproduce experimental V_p patterns. At low confining pressure it is observed that both self-consistent and
555 non-interactive theories may be inadequate to describe the elastic velocity behavior, which is mainly due
556 to a lack of knowledge of crack geometries (Hadley, 1976). It is likely that another system of thinner
557 microcracks is required to match the GMS model and experimental ultrasonic wave velocities in RK15-22
558 at low pressure values.

559 As expected, the GMS models of RK15-22 at higher pressure require lower crack densities/porosities to
560 describe the experimental ultrasonic data. Modeling suggests that thinner type I cracks are closed at a
561 faster rate with increasing pressure compared to thicker type II cracks. Yet, due to an initially lower crack
562 density of type II cracks, the modeling suggests that their influence on the bulk elastic properties of model
563 RK15-22 gneiss becomes negligible at and above a pressure of 200 MPa. In contrast, type I cracks are
564 necessary to match the experimental and model P-wave velocities at a pressure of 300 MPa and we could
565 only roughly estimate that these cracks will be closed at a pressure of ≈ 740 MPa.

566 Naturally, the proposed model is quite simplistic, neglecting, e.g., the distribution of microcracks with
567 respect to shape, deviations of the assumed SPOs of the cracks from those actually present in the gneiss,
568 possible dependence of microcrack SPO on shape of cracks, and changes of all these parameters with
569 pressure. Our results suggest that even small open crack densities at relatively high confining pressures
570 have a notable influence on the elastic anisotropy of the paragneiss. Therefore, a precise quantification of
571 the microcrack characteristics is necessary to simulate realistic models of pressure dependencies on the
572 bulk elastic properties of rocks.

573

574 5.1.3. Marble

575

576 In the marble sample, the maximum V_p is at a slight angle to the lineation caused by the influence of both
577 the dolomite and the calcite CPO. The AV_p of marble in the literature is highly variable depending on the
578 grade of deformation (Burlini and Kunze, 1999; Zappone et al., 2000; Punturo et al., 2005; Schmidkte et al.
579 in prep). Since the marble lenses in the Adula Nappe only make up a few meters in thickness they do not
580 contribute to the overall anisotropy of the unit in any significant amount. The sample yields a high V_p/V_s
581 ratio of 1.82, which is influenced by both calcite and dolomite. These high V_p/V_s ratios are typical for
582 marble (e.g. Keppler et al., 2015).

583

584 5.1.4. Metabasites

585



586 The AV_p of the metabasites is determined by hornblende, which has the highest volume percentage and is
587 the only mineral showing a strong CPO. Highest VP is found within the lineation and caused by the
588 alignment of (001), which is close to the highest VP in hornblende single crystals. Due to the stronger
589 hornblende CPO of RK15-4, the AV_p is higher in this sample. Studies on elastic anisotropies of metabasites
590 mainly focus on eclogites and blueschists (e.g. Abalos et al., 2010; Bezacier et al., 2010; Keppler et al.,
591 2017; Zernati et al., 2019). Many of the metabasic units exhumed during continental collision, however,
592 are strongly retrogressed with large amounts of amphibole and/or chlorite. Recent studies show that these
593 retrogressed rocks frequently show higher elastic anisotropy than pristine basalts, gabbros or also
594 eclogites due to higher elastic anisotropy of amphiboles compared to pyroxenes, as well as a pronounced
595 deformation during exhumation (e.g. Park and Jung, 2020; Schmidtke et al. submitted to same issue). V_p/V_s
596 ratios of 1.79 and 1.76 for RK15-4 and RK15-7, respectively, are typical for metabasites (e.g. Worthington
597 et al., 2013; Schmidtke et al submitted to same issue).

598

599 5.2. Elastic anisotropy of the modeled “average” rock

600

601 Realistic upscaling of the rock elastic properties measured within limited scale or on laboratory samples
602 to the seismic scale is of a long-standing interest, e.g., in hydrocarbon reservoirs (Sayers, 1998; Bayuk et
603 al., 2008; Avseth et al., 2010). Here, we consider a rather homogeneous crystalline rock with low crack
604 porosity, and we try to build an effective large-scale model using features of the studied rock massif:
605 average mineral volume fractions, preferred orientations, grain shapes and microcracks systems.

606 As expected, the “average” rock shows a distribution of high V_p values normal to the Z-axis due to the
607 preferred orientation of mica, with a maximum V_p value at an angle to the X-axis due to the influence of
608 the preferred orientation of quartz (Fig. 7). This is a common pattern in the natural sample set (Fig. 5A
609 and B). The model suggests decreasing AV_p and increasing V_p values with increasing depth due to the
610 closure of microcracks. A crack free “average” rock has V_p values slightly over 6 km/s and a rather low AV_p
611 of 4%, which is in between AV_p values characteristic for paragneisses and orthogneisses. At lower confining
612 pressure down to 5 MPa (corresponding to a depth of \approx 200 m), the model suggests a decrease of V_p values
613 to \sim 4.5 km/s, and an increase of AV_p to 12% (Table 4) due to open microcracks.

614 Some orthogneisses in the natural sample set show maxima at an angle to the foliation normal, which is
615 different from the average sample (Fig. 5A). However, these samples generally show a low AV_p and do not
616 strongly contribute to the overall anisotropy.

617 What are the limitations of the proposed model? As discussed in 5.1.2, one of the main improvements
618 may be made by better quantification of microcrack systems. Crack closure with increasing pressure in
619 anisotropic gneisses should be studied in more detail to reliably expand the crack closure in RK15-22
620 paragneiss to the rock massif in general. Further model improvement may be achieved by more detailed
621 constraints on the mineral volume fractions and crystallographic textures within the rock massif via more
622 extensive sampling.

623 The calculated “average” rock model is related to the XYZ coordinate frame, defined by rock foliation and
624 lineation. To improve the model, it is necessary to account for possible foliation or lineation direction
625 changes through the rock massif by relating all crystal and shape preferred orientations to the same global
626 reference frame, e.g., geographical coordinates.



627 It is evident that the calculated model of the “average” rock does not consider large scale layering. It may
628 be introduced into the model by creating “average” rock layers consisting of the characteristic minerals
629 with their preferred orientations and microstructures and using a Backus averaging to combine thin
630 (relative to the lateral size) rock layers into a seismic scale effective medium (Sayers, 1998). Furthermore,
631 large scale faults are an important factor when considering elastic anisotropy and have to be considered
632 in any model of the Alps. Finally, only pressures and the density of the crack-free “average” rock were used
633 to estimate the depth values. Compositional variations would change the depth estimates.
634 Despite all these simplifications of the current model, in principle, the proposed “average” rock may be
635 constructed to represent effective elastic properties on any necessary scale if there is sufficient
636 information on modal composition, textures and microstructures available from the selected samples. It
637 would be interesting to make a direct comparison of the “average” rock with seismic data on the
638 uppermost layer of the crust.

639

640 5.3. Elastic anisotropy in the Alps

641

642 The well-studied geology of the Alps provides comprehensive foliation and lineation maps (e.g., Steck
643 1990). Surface data can be correlated with seismic imaging making it possible to construct models for
644 different tectonic structures at depth (e.g. Yosefnejad et al., 2017). For the present study, the Adula Nappe
645 was chosen as a representative unit for deformed upper crust in the Alps. The central part of the Adula
646 Nappe, where the samples for this study have been collected exhibits a shallowly NE dipping foliation and
647 a NS trending lineation mainly formed during peak pressure and early stages of exhumation. Parts of the
648 nappe further to the north as well as the south, however, have been overprinted by younger deformation
649 (e.g. Löw, 1987; Nagel, 2008; Kossak et al. 2017).

650 The afore mentioned discrepancy between quartz lineation and mica CPO in several of the samples has
651 not well been studied with respect to the seismic anisotropy. It could be a common issue for most upper
652 crustal units in the Alps, exhibiting a complicated deformation history. Hence, maxima for elastic
653 anisotropies in lineation direction in mica rich rocks cannot simply be correlated to measurements in the
654 field.

655 Microcrack distribution and orientation have not been investigated systematically throughout the rock
656 units of the Alps and they might exhibit strong local variations corresponding to the large-scale fracture
657 and fault pattern (e.g. Vilhelm et al., 2010). This has also a great effect on the travel times of P- and S-
658 waves, i.e. V_P and V_S are significantly decreased (e.g. Yan et al., 2005; Kelly et al., 2017) and therefore
659 needs to be considered for any large-scale section or model of the Alps (e.g. TRANSALP: Lüschen et al.,
660 2004; Millahn et al., 2005; AlpArray: Hetényi et al., 2018; Molinari et al., 2020).

661 While deformed granitoids (e.g. orthogneisses) and deformed clastic metasediments (e.g. paragneisses)
662 are the dominant lithologies, the rock spectrum found in the Alps and other collisional orogens ranges
663 from sedimentary rocks as well as metasediments like marbles, micaschists and quartzites, over
664 metabasites like eclogites, blueschists, amphibolites and greenschists to ultrabasic rocks like peridotites
665 and serpentinites. Furthermore, volcanic and plutonic intrusions are a common occurrence in collisional
666 orogens.

667 There are several nappes within the Alps dominated by (meta-)basic (e.g. the Zermatt–Saas zone:
668 Angiboust et al., 2009) and ultrabasic rocks (e.g. the Ivrea Complex: Hartmann and Wedepohl, 1993), which



669 have to be considered in some seismic profiles across the Alps. While we present data on some common
670 minor lithologies, like amphibolite, marble and micaschist, we also refer the reader to data on
671 metasediments (e.g. Punturo et al., 2005), metabasites (e.g. Abalos et al., 2010; Bezacier et al., 2010;
672 Zertani et al., 2020; Schmidtke et al., submitted to same issue) and ultrabasic rocks (Mainprice et al. 2000;
673 Ullemeyer et al., 2010). Within the NFP20 EAST profile considered in the present study, amphibolites and
674 marbles mostly occur as small lenses of under 1 km of thickness and are likely not detectable with seismic
675 imaging at depth. The elastic anisotropy of gneiss is therefore decisive for the investigated part of the
676 section. Gneiss samples in this as well as previous studies generally show an alignment of high V_p within
677 the foliation plane. That is why the foliation of gneisses and mica schists formed during continental
678 collision and exhumation is likely a main factor controlling the elastic anisotropies of the continental crust
679 in collisional orogens. The data presented in this study yield a first approximation for average upper crustal
680 seismic properties with increasing depth as well as the specific seismic property spectrum of this deformed
681 upper crustal section of the Alps.

682

683

684 6. Summary and Conclusion

685

686 1. The investigation of a large set of rocks collected in the Adula Nappe, which is considered to be
687 representative of deformed upper crustal rocks in the Alps, indicates a large variety of elastic anisotropies.

688

689 2. The Adula Nappe is mostly made up of orthogneisses with modelled AVP between 1.3 and 5.3% and
690 V_p/V_s ratios between 1.51 and 1.67, as well as paragneisses with modelled AVP between 2.0% to 20.5%
691 and V_p/V_s ratios between 1.55 and 1.65.

692

693 3. Small lenses of less than 100 m thick metabasites show an AVP of 2-4.5% and V_p/V_s ratios of 1.76-1.79.
694 Marble lenses of even smaller dimensions yield an AVP of 3.4% and V_p/V_s ratio of 1.83. Yet, these lenses
695 are statistically insignificant for the considered section of para- and orthogneisses.

696

697 4. Orthogneiss and paragneiss measured in the lab using ultrasound both show higher AVP as well as lower
698 V_p compared to the ones modelled using CPO, which is caused by open microcracks in the rocks at shallow
699 depth.

700

701 5. Average elastic anisotropies were calculated for a typical gneiss using common CPO types of constituent
702 mineral phases, mineral content, grain shapes and crack systems within the sample set. Calculated elastic
703 constants are considered to be representative for the range of depths from a few hundred meters up to
704 ≈ 28 km. The modelled "average" gneiss yields an AV_p of 4% at a depth of ≈ 28 km, where the vast majority
705 of microcracks is closed. Due to the opening of microcracks, the elastic anisotropy of the model gneiss
706 increases towards shallower depth and reaches $AV_p = 12\%$ at ≈ 0.2 km.

707

708

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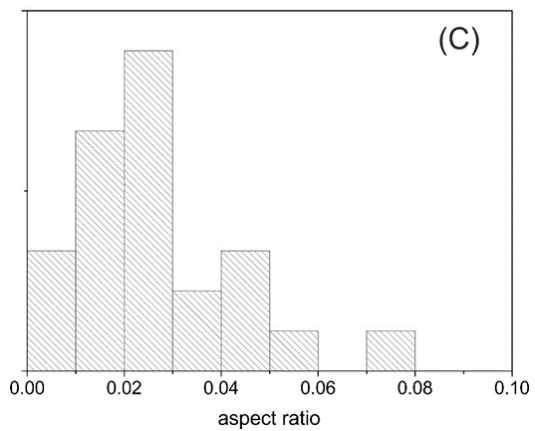
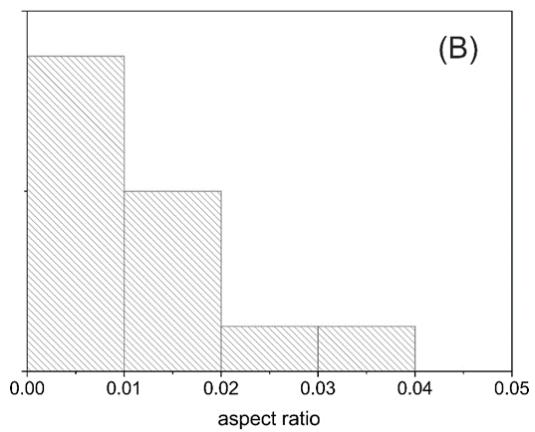
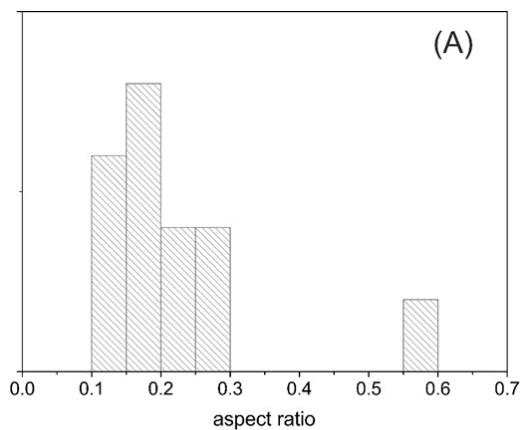
710



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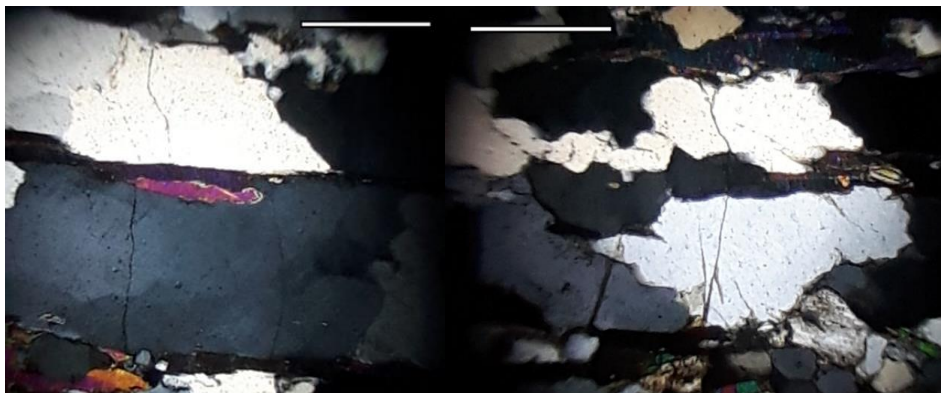
718 APPENDIX



719



720 APPENDIX - Figure 1: Distributions of aspect ratios of mica grains (A), type I (B) and type II (C) cracks based
721 on analysis of several RK15-22 thin sections.



722

723 APPENDIX – Figure 2: Grains of quartz crossed by type II cracks, XZ plane. White scale bar is 0.4 mm.



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