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- Electrical conductivity of mudstone before and after dehydration at 5
  - high temperatures and pressures
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## ABSTRACT

The electrical conductivity of mudstone before and after dehydration was measured 22 using complex impedance spectroscopy in the frequency range of  $10^{-1}$  to  $10^{6}$  Hz, and the 23 experiments were carried out at 0.5–2.5 GPa and 623–973 K. Before and after 24 dehydration, the electrical conductivity of mudstone and temperature followed an 25 Arrhenius relation. The influence of pressure on electrical conductivity was weaker than 26 that of temperature. The conductivity slightly increased with increasing pressure. 27 28 Dehydration at 760–800 K dramatically enhanced the electrical conductivity of mudstone; the dehydration temperature decreased slightly with increasing 29 pressure. Hydrogen-related lattice defects (e.g.,  $H'_{M}$  or H') are proposed to be the main charge 30 carriers in the mudstone sample before dehydration, whereas H<sup>+</sup> and OH<sup>-</sup> are suggested 31 to be the main charge carriers in the dehydration product of mudstone. Finally, the 32 electrical conductivity of the dehydration product of mudstone can be used to interpret 33 high-conductivity layers (HCLs) associated with the Hope and Porters Pass fault zones in 34 35 Marlborough, New Zealand.

Keywords: electrical conductivity, mudstone, high pressure, dehydration, conduction
mechanism, high-conductivity layer

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# INTRODUCTION

Electrical conductivity is an important parameter that can be used to infer the
 material composition and physical conditions of the interior of the Earth and other planets.

Previous researchers have studied the electrical conductivities of most minerals and rocks 42 in the Earth's crust and mantle (Huebner and Dillenburg 1995; Dai et al. 2008; Yoshino 43 et al. 2009; Yang et al. 2011; Yang and McCammon 2012; Hu et al. 2013, 2014; Dai and 44 Karato 2014a; Li et al. 2016), and the magnetotelluric (MT) and geomagnetic depth 45 sounding (GDS) results have provided significant constraints (Zhu et al. 2001; Maumus 46 et al. 2005; Yang 2012; Dai et al. 2016; Manthilake et al. 2016). The dehydration of 47 hydrous minerals and rocks (e.g., chlorite, lawsonite, and serpentine) can generate 48 49 high-conductivity layers (HCLs) in the Earth's interior (Zhu et al. 1999; Manthilake et al. 2015, 2016), but the electrical conductivity of pelite containing a large amount of water is 50 unknown. 51

Pelite is widely distributed in the shallow crust, and as the main sedimentary rock 52 that enters subduction zones, it also occurs in the Earth's interior (Li et al. 2005; Song et 53 al. 2015). At high temperatures and high pressures, pelite is metamorphosed, and the 54 dehydration of rock-forming hydrous minerals (e.g., kaolinite, montmorillonite, sericite, 55 and illite) occurs during the subduction of pelite. Song et al. (2009) studied the tectonic 56 evolution of early Palaeozoic high-pressure metamorphic rocks in the North Qilian 57 58 Mountains of China and obtained peak metamorphic conditions of 2.6 GPa and 813 K for metapelite. Tsuno et al. (2012) suggested that the subduction depths and slab-surface 59 temperatures of pelitic sediments are >100 km and  $\sim 1073$  K, respectively. The 60 metamorphic grade of pelite differs under various conditions. Some regional 61 metamorphic rocks (e.g., gneiss, schist, and granulite) can form by the metamorphism of 62

| 63                         | mudstone, and the electrical properties of natural gneiss and granulite have been studied   |
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| 64                         | previously (Fuji-ta et al. 2004, 2007). Li et al. (2005) studied the dehydration temperature  |
| 65                         | of pelite using high-pressure differential thermal analysis (HP-DTA); however, it might   |
| 66                         | be better to determine the dehydration temperature directly using the inflection point  |
| 67                         | between the electrical conductivity and temperature based on the Arrhenius relation   |
| 68                         | (Song et al. 1996; Li et al. 2005).   |
|                            |   |
| 69                         | In the present studies, we measured the electrical conductivity of mudstone under in  |
| 69<br>70                   | In the present studies, we measured the electrical conductivity of mudstone under <i>in situ</i> conditions of 0.5–2.5 GPa and 623–973 K. The inflection point of the Arrhenius   |
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#### EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

77 Sample preparation

Fresh mudstone samples were collected from the Tangjiawu Group of the Middle Devonian in Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China. To accurately determine the minerals in the samples, we used optical microscopy, scanning electron microscopy (SEM), and micro-focused X-ray diffraction (XRD) at the State Key Laboratory of Ore Deposit Geochemistry, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Guiyang, China. Based on the statistical volume ratios of all the constituent minerals of mudstone, the main minerals were kaolinite (40%), muscovite (30%), and quartz (20%), and the accessory minerals were hematite (5%) and maghemite (5%).

The mudstone samples were ground (<200 mesh) in an agate mortar after being 86 cleaned in a mixture of acetone and ethanol in an ultrasonic cleaning device. The powder 87 was dried at 473 K for 4 h to remove water and then loaded into a copper capsule with a 88 0.025-mm-thick nickel (Ni) foil liner. The height of the capsule was 16 mm, and the inner 89 and outer diameters were 8.0 mm and 8.5 mm, respectively. To avoid the effects of pores 90 91 and microcracks on the electrical conductivity measurements, the powdered mudstone sample was hot-pressed for 4 h in a multi-anvil high-pressure apparatus at 2.0 GPa and 92 623 K. The hydrothermally annealed samples were cut and polished into cylinders with 93 diameters of 6 mm and heights of 6 mm, and then heated at 473 K for 8 h to eliminate 94 absorbed water for subsequent in situ electrical conductivity measurements. 95

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### 97 Impedance measurements

The *in situ* electrical conductivity measurements of the mudstone samples were performed using the YJ-3000t multi-anvil apparatus and a Solartron-1260 Impedance/Gain-phase analyzer at the Key Laboratory of High-Temperature and High-Pressure Study of the Earth's Interior, Institute of Geochemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Guiyang, China. To avoid the influence of absorbed water on the electrical conductivity measurements, all the components of the experimental assemblage (pyrophyllite, ceramic tubes and Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> and MgO sleeves) were heated at 1073 K for 8 h

| 105 | in a muffle furnace. Fig. 1 shows the sample assembly for the electrical conductivity                       |
|-----|---|
| 106 | measurements. Pyrophyllite cubes (32.5 $\times$ 32.5 $\times$ 32.5 $\text{mm}^3)$ and three-layer stainless |
| 107 | steel sheets (total thickness of 0.5 mm) were used as the pressure media and heater,                        |
| 108 | respectively. A layer of nickel foil (thickness of 0.025 mm) was placed between the                         |
| 109 | alumina and magnesia sleeves to shield against external electromagnetic and spurious                        |
| 110 | signal interference. The alumina and magnesia sleeves were insulating and transmitted                       |
| 111 | pressure well. The sample was loaded into the magnesia tube. The parallel-plate electrode                   |
| 112 | was composed of two nickel disks (6.0 mm in diameter and 0.5 mm in thickness) on the                        |
| 113 | tops and bottoms of the samples. Temperatures with errors of $\pm 5$ K were measured using                  |
| 114 | a NiCr–NiAl thermocouple. The pressure error was $\pm 0.1$ GPa.   |
| 115 | The impedance spectra of the mudstone samples were collected at 0.5-2.5 GPa and                             |
| 116 | 623-973 K. A Solartron-1260 Impedance/Gain-phase analyzer with an applied voltage of                        |
| 117 | 1 V and frequency range of $10^{-1}$ – $10^{6}$ Hz was used to collect impedance spectra of                 |

samples when the desired pressure and temperature were stable. The pressure was slowly 118 increased to the desired value (1.0 GPa/h) and was then increased at a rate of 100 K/h. 119 The impedance spectra were measured at certain temperatures, which were changed at 120 121 50-K intervals. Each mudstone sample was maintained at each temperature for 30 min, 122 and the impedance spectra were obtained. To clearly display the variations in the electrical conductivities of the mudstone samples during dehydration, the impedance 123 spectra were continuously collected for ~500 min at 2.5 GPa and 823 K. The electrical 124 125 conductivity measurements on the mudstone samples were performed in two heating and cooling cycles at 1.5 GPa to confirm the reproducibility of the conductivity results. 126

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# RESULTS

129 Representative complex impedance spectra of the mudstone samples at 2.5 GPa are shown in Fig. 2. All the impedance spectra at the different temperatures contained almost 130 ideal semicircles in the high-frequency domain and additional tails in the low-frequency 131 132 domain. The ideal semicircles represent the bulk electrical properties of the sample, and the additional tails are the typical characteristic of the sample-electrode interface in 133 134 diffusion processes (Roberts and Tyburczy 1991; Dai et al. 2014; Hu et al. 2015). Therefore, the bulk sample resistance can be determined by fitting the high-frequency arc. 135 The equivalent circuit is composed of the series connection of  $R_S$ -CPE<sub>S</sub> ( $R_S$  and CPE<sub>S</sub> 136 represent the resistance and constant-phase element of a sample, respectively) and 137  $R_E$ -CPE<sub>E</sub> ( $R_E$  and CPE<sub>E</sub> represent the interaction of the charge carrier with the electrode). 138 All the fitting errors were less than 5% of the electrical resistance. The electrical 139 140 conductivities of the samples were calculated as follows:

141  $\sigma = L/SR$  (1)

where *L* is the height of a sample (m), *S* is electrode cross-sectional area (m<sup>2</sup>), *R* is fitting resistance ( $\Omega$ ), and  $\sigma$  is sample electrical conductivity (S/m).

The logarithmic electrical conductivities of the mudstone samples at pressures of 0.5–2.5 GPa and temperatures of 623–973 K are plotted against reciprocal temperature in Fig. 3. The relationship between the electrical conductivities and temperature before and after dehydration fits the Arrhenius equation:

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$$\sigma = \sigma_0 \exp(-\Delta H / kT)$$
(2)

149 where  $\sigma_0$  is a pre-exponential factor (K·S/m), k is the Boltzmann constant (eV/K), T is the

absolute temperature (K), and  $\Delta H$  is the activation enthalpy (eV), which can be expressed with the following thermodynamic equation:

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$$\Delta H = \Delta U + P \Delta V \tag{3}$$

where  $\Delta U$ ,  $\Delta V$ , and P are the activation energy (eV), activation volume (cm<sup>3</sup>/mol), and pressure (GPa), respectively. All the fitting parameters of the bulk sample conductivity are listed in Table 1.

The electrical conductivities of the samples increased with increasing pressure, and 156 the effect of pressure on conductivity was weaker than that of temperature (Fig. 3). Based 157 on the inflection point of the relationship between the electrical conductivities and 158 159 temperatures in the pressure range of 0.5-2.5 GPa, we determined the dehydration temperature at each corresponding pressure. As shown in Fig. 3, dehydration temperature 160 (~760–800 K) decreased with increasing pressure. Two representative heating and 161 cooling cycles at 1.5 GPa are displayed in Fig. 4, which confirm the good reproducibility 162 of the experimental data. 163

The relationship between the electrical conductivities of the mudstone samples and 164 the run time during dehydration is shown in Fig. 5. At 2.5 GPa and 823 K, the electrical 165 conductivities of the samples sharply increased during the first 150 min and gradually 166 reached a steady state after 300 min, which indicates that dehydration was complete. The 167 conductivities increased by approximately one order of magnitude during dehydration; 168 the electrical conductivity was  $\sim 0.1$  S/m after dehydration at 2.5 GPa. The detailed 169 mineralogical assemblages of the mudstone samples before and after dehydration are 170 listed in Table 2. The mineral associations were accurately determined with an optical 171 microscope, XRD, and SEM. A new mineral phase of metakaolinite was formed by the 172

metamorphism of kaolinite at all experimental pressures. The constitution water wasreleased from the samples during the process of dehydration.

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#### DISCUSSION

177 Comparisons with previous studies

178 Kaolinite and muscovite containing large amounts of water were the main minerals of the mudstone samples. These hydrous minerals, which have good interconnectivity, 179 180 dominate the electrical conductivity of mudstone. The maximum electrical conductivities were approximately  $10^{-3}$  S/m before dehydration, and dramatically increased during 181 dehydration. This result confirms that dehydration significantly affects the electrical 182 conductivity of hydrous minerals and rocks (Zhu et al. 1999; Fuji-ta et al. 2007; 183 Manthilake et al. 2015, 2016; Hu et al. 2017). Metakaolinite was formed by the 184 metamorphism of kaolinite. The remaining rock-forming minerals remained stable during 185 dehydration. The dehydration temperatures (~760-800 K) of the mudstone samples 186 decreased slightly with increasing pressure. Li et al. (2005) indicated that pelite 187 dehydration temperature, as determined by high-pressure differential thermal analysis 188 189 (HP-DTA), decreases linearly with increasing pressure. The relationships between dehydration temperature and pressure are therefore similar for mudstone and pelite. The 190 dehydration of kaolinite starts at  $\sim 673$  K at atmospheric pressure, with an upper 191 temperature limit of ~973 K (Pododa et al. 2014). The dehydration temperature range 192  $(\sim 760-800 \text{ K})$  of the mudstone samples is within that of kaolinite, indicating that the 193 dehydration minerals in the mudstone samples were kaolinite. The differences in 194 dehydration temperatures between kaolinite and mudstone might be due to different 195

196 pressures and structures.

Manthilake et al. (2015) studied the electrical conductivity of lawsonite, which is 197 198 also a hydrous mineral. The electrical conductivity of lawsonite before dehydration was approximately two orders of magnitude lower than that after dehydration (Fig. 6). Guo et 199 al. (2011) studied brucite at 3 GPa and 500–1000 K, and found that dehydration results in 200 201 increasing electrical conductivity. The electrical conductivity of mudstone is lower than that of lawsonite and higher than that of brucite, both before and after dehydration. The 202 differences in their electrical conductivities might be caused by the different experimental 203 conditions and mineral composition. Although the electrical conductivity of kaolinite has 204 not been studied, phlogopite (a common mica) was investigated by Li et al. (2016). The 205 electrical conductivity of phlogopite is approximate to that of mudstone before 206 dehydration and higher than that of mudstone after dehydration. One relatively high 207 activation energy ( $\sim 2.0$  eV) implies that the main conduction mechanism of hydrous 208 phlogopite is ionic conduction (F<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> are charge carriers) (Li et al. 2016). In contrast, 209 the much lower activation energy of mudstone (0.64-0.75 eV) shows that its conduction 210 mechanism cannot be ionic conduction. Thus, the electrical conductivity of phlogopite 211 212 studied by Li et al. (2016) cannot be used to interpret the electrical properties of mudstone. 213

Mudstone is an important protolith of metamorphic rocks (e.g., slate, schist, gneiss, and granulite) in regional metamorphic belts. The electrical conductivities of the dehydration products of mudstone and metamorphic rocks were thus compared with each other (Fig. 6). Granulite is the main metamorphic rock in the lower crust. Its mineralogical assemblage (feldspar, quartz, pyroxene, and garnet) is markedly different

from that of the dehydration products of mudstone. The electrical conductivities of the 219 mudstone samples after dehydration at 1.5 GPa were close to that of granulite (Fuji-ta et 220 221 al. 2004), possibly due to various factors (e.g., mineralogical assemblage, conduction 222 mechanism, structure, and chemical composition). Furthermore, serpentinite is an important rock in subduction zones and orogenic belts. Previous studies indicated that the 223 dehydration of serpentinite can explain the HCL (Robertson et al. 2015). Fig. 6 shows 224 that the electrical conductivity of mudstone is higher than that of serpentinite before and 225 after dehydration. The dehydration temperature of mudstone is slightly lower than that of 226 serpentinite (Zhu et al. 1999; Xie et al. 2002). 227

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## 229 Conduction mechanism

At a given pressure, the electrical conductivity and temperature of the mudstone samples satisfied the Arrhenius relation before and after dehydration, implying that a dominant conduction mechanism operated in the mudstone samples and dehydration products, respectively. Based on the fitting parameters of the Arrhenius relation, the activation energies of the charge carriers in the samples before and after dehydration were determined to be 0.64–0.75 and 0.36–0.59 eV, respectively.

Hematite (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and maghemite ( $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) are Fe-bearing minerals that occurred in the mudstone samples before and after dehydration; only ferric iron (Fe<sup>3+</sup>) is present in the two minerals. Hence, small polaron conduction cannot be the conduction mechanism in the mudstone samples. On the other hand, conduction by diffusion of ions is characterized by high activation energies (>2 eV) and positive activation volumes (i.e., conductivity decreases with increasing pressure) due to the difficulty in the formation and

migration of cation vacancies at high pressures (Hu et al. 2015). Therefore, ions cannot 242 be the charge carriers in mudstone, as indicated by the low activation energies and 243 244 negative activation volumes. Proton conduction is considered to be the dominant mechanism in some Fe-free hydrous minerals and rocks (e.g., Dai and Karato 2014a; Dai 245 et al. 2015; Guo 2016). Yang et al. (2011) explored the electrical conductivity of wet 246 clinopyroxene at 0.6-1.2 GPa and 623-1273 K, and determined that the activation 247 enthalpy for proton conduction is 0.73 eV. Dai and Karato (2014b) investigated the 248 influence of FeO and water content on the electrical conductivity of olivine, and found 249 that the activation enthalpy for proton conduction is  $\sim 0.82$  eV. Guo and Yoshino (2014) 250 studied the pressure-induced enhancement of proton conduction in brucite, and the 251 activation enthalpies for the conductivity of brucite were 0.56-0.72 eV. The activation 252 enthalpies for the conduction of charge carriers in the mudstone samples (0.64-0.75 eV)253 were close to the values for the conduction of hydrogen in the clinopyroxene, olivine, and 254 brucite samples. Hydrogen-related defects were therefore suggested to be the main charge 255 carriers in the mudstone sample before dehydration. Furthermore, it is suggested that the 256 interconnected fluid in the samples caused the significant increase in electrical 257 258 conductivity after dehydration. Manthilake et al. (2015) measured the electrical conductivity of lawsonite before and after dehydration at 7 GPa and 298-1320 K. The 259 260 activation enthalpy for the electrical conductivity of aqueous fluid was 0.32 eV, which was almost 50% less than in the solid phase (Manthilake et al. 2015). The activation 261 enthalpies for the electrical conductivities of dehydration products of the mudstone 262 samples (0.36–0.59 eV) were slightly higher than that of aqueous fluid. This discrepancy 263 may have been caused by the differences in the mineralogical assemblages and 264

experimental conditions. Hence, the migration of  $H^+$  and  $OH^-$  of water molecules is suggested as the conduction mechanism for the dehydration products of mudstone.

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268 Geophysical implications

Materials at the Earth's surface can enter the interior through subduction (Ogawa et 269 270 al. 1994; You et al. 1996; Hawkesworth et al. 1997; Satoh et al. 1998). Pelite is an important sedimentary rock in terms of subducted lithologies and enters the Earth's 271 interior with oceanic basalt. The basalt changes into serpentinite at high temperatures and 272 273 pressures, and metapelite forms due to the metamorphism of pelite. Metapelite is abundant in subduction zones (Gao et al. 2013; Huang et al. 2013; Gao and Zeng 2014; 274 Yakymchuk and Brown 2014). Hence, it is possible that a certain amount of metapelite 275 occurs in the deep Earth. Walther et al. (1982) confirmed that 5 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> are 276 released by the dehydration of pelite at 0.5 GPa and 773 K. Hence, pelite is a significant 277 water source in subduction zones (Walther et al. 1982; Tsuno and Dasgupta 2012). When 278 a subducting plate is heated and compressed, the rocks on top of the plate undergo 279 regional metamorphism (Wyllie 1982). Continental collision occurs after the termination 280 281 of subduction and the orogenic belt gradually evolves during that process (Song et al. 2015). A large amount of free water from the dehydration of pelite can migrate along 282 283 faults, and aqueous fluids might contribute to the formation of melts (e.g., granitic melts) 284 and regional metamorphism (e.g., serpentinization). Furthermore, aqueous fluids and melts can lead to HCLs (Hyndman et al. 1993; Gaillard et al. 2008; Ni et al. 2011; Rao et 285 al. 2014). The HCLs in subduction zones and regional metamorphic belts might be 286 related to the dehydration of pelite. 287

288 Wannamaker et al. (2009) studied the fluid and deformation regime of an advancing 289 subduction system in Marlborough, New Zealand. The conductive zones were interpreted 290 to represent fluids that had migrated upward into the deep crust from source areas with 291 progressively higher metamorphic grades along the northwest-dipping subduction zone. 292 Two conductors that moderately correlate with the Hope and the Porters Pass fault zones 293 are suggested to correspond to the presence of aqueous fluid that formed during the 294 sediment dehydration (Wannamaker et al. 2009). However, there exist no laboratory data 295 that indicate the two HCLs were caused by the dehydration of sediments. We applied the 296 electrical conductivities of mudstone to establish a laboratory-based conductivity-depth 297 profile for the middle to lower crust of the advancing subduction system under 298 Marlborough, New Zealand. To that end, it was crucial to determine the temperature field 299 by converting the conductivity-temperature data into conductivity-depth data. The 300 relationship between temperature and depth in the Earth's stationary crust can be 301 described by a numerical solution of the heat conduction equation (Čermák and 302 Laštovičková 1987):

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$$T = T_0 + (\frac{Q}{k})Z - (\frac{A_0}{2k})Z^2$$
(4)

where  $T_0$  is the surface temperature (K), Q is the surface heat flow (mW/m<sup>2</sup>), Z is the lithospheric layer depth (km), k is thermal conductivity (W/mK), and  $A_0$  is the lithospheric radiogenic heat productivity ( $\mu$ W/m<sup>3</sup>). Based on previous studies, the thermal calculation parameters for Marlborough are Q = 70 mW/m<sup>2</sup> (Wannamaker et al. 2009),  $A_0$ = 1.1  $\mu$ W/m<sup>3</sup>, and k = 2.5 W/mK (Ranalli and Rybach 2005). Based on previous MT results (Wannamaker et al. 2009), two conductivity–depth

profiles were constructed for HCLs that moderately correlate with the Hope and Porters

Pass fault zones in Marlborough, New Zealand (Fig. 7). Our laboratory-based 311 conductivity-depth profiles for mudstone were obtained at 623–973 K. Fig. 7 shows that 312 313 the electrical conductivities of the mudstone samples after dehydration were close to 314 those of HCL in the shallow crust in Marlborough, New Zealand. This result is consistent with the conclusion of Wannamaker et al. (2009) that the two conductors are caused by 315 aqueous fluid ascending from source areas into the deep crust and that the fluid formed 316 by the dehydration of sediments. Therefore, the fluid formed by the dehydration of pelite 317 is confirmed to be an important factor causing HCLs in Marlborough, New Zealand. 318

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# 471 Figure captions

- 472 Fig. 1 Sample assembly for electrical conductivity measurements at high temperatures
- and pressures.
- 474 Fig. 2 Representative complex impedance spectra of the mudstone samples at 2.5 GPa
  475 and 623–973 K.
- 476 Fig. 3 Logarithm of the electrical conductivities versus the reciprocal temperatures of the
- 477 samples at 0.5–2.5 GPa and 623–973 K.
- **Fig. 4** Logarithm of the electrical conductivities versus the reciprocal temperatures of the
- samples during different heating/cooling cycles at 1.5 GPa.
- Fig. 5 Relationship between the electrical conductivities of the mudstone sample and
  time at 2.5 GPa and 823 K.
- Fig. 6 Comparison of the electrical conductivities of the mudstone samples measured at 482 0.5-2.5 GPa in this study and in previous studies. The dashed purple and blue lines 483 represent the electrical conductivities of serpentine and talc at 3.0 GPa from Zhu et 484 485 al. (1999) and Guo et al. (2011), respectively, the dashed brown line represents the electrical conductivity of granulite at 1.0 GPa from Fuji-ta et al. (2004), the dashed 486 487 green line represents the electrical conductivity of lawsonite before and after dehydration at 7.0 GPa from Manthilake et al. (2015), and the dashed red line 488 represents the electrical conductivity of phlogopite at 1.0 GPa from Li et al. (2016). 489
- Fig. 7 Laboratory-based conductivity-depth profiles constructed from data of the
   mudstone samples before and after dehydration, and the thermodynamic parameters,

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| 492 | and comparison with geophysically inferred field results from Marlborough, New         |
|-----|--|
| 493 | Zealand. The black solid lines represent the conductivity-depth profiles based on      |
| 494 | the conductivities of the samples described in Fig. 3 and based on a surface heat      |
| 495 | flow of 70 $\text{mW/m}^2$ in Marlborough. The red and blue dashed lines represent the |
| 496 | magnetotelluric data derived from two high-conductivity layers that are moderately     |
| 497 | correlated with the Hope and Porters Pass fault zones in Marlborough (Wannamaker       |
| 498 | et al. 2009), respectively.  |

| Run no. | P (GPa) | <i>T</i> (K) | $\text{Log } \sigma_{\theta}(\text{S/m})$ | $\Delta H ({\rm eV})$ | $R^2$  | $\Delta U ({\rm eV})$ | $\Delta V (\text{cm}^3/\text{mol})$ |
|---------|---------|--------------|---|-----------------------|--------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| DS6     | 0.5     | 623-773      | 1.45±0.03                                 | $0.75 \pm 0.03$       | 0.9998 | 0.78±0.01             | -0.06±0.01                          |
| D30     | 0.5     | 873–973      | $0.92 \pm 0.16$                           | $0.59{\pm}0.01$       | 0.9950 | $0.65 \pm 0.02$       | $-0.12 \pm 0.01$                    |
| D97     | 1.5     | 623-773      | 1.80±0.16                                 | $0.70{\pm}0.03$       | 0.9971 | $0.78 \pm 0.01$       | -0.06±0.01                          |
| D37     | 1.5     | 823–973      | 1.18±0.12                                 | $0.49 \pm 0.02$       | 0.9952 | $0.65 \pm 0.02$       | -0.12±0.01                          |
| DC0     | 2.5     | 623-723      | $1.40\pm0.20$                             | $0.64 \pm 0.05$       | 0.9998 | $0.78 \pm 0.01$       | -0.06±0.01                          |
| D29     | 2.3     | 823-973      | $0.94{\pm}0.07$                           | 0.36±0.03             | 0.9950 | $0.65 \pm 0.02$       | -0.12±0.01                          |

 Table 1 Fitting parameters for electrical conductivity of mudstone before and after dehydration.

**Table 2** Mineralogical assemblage of mudstone and dehydration products. Ms=muscovite,Kln=kaolinite, Metakln= metakaolinite, Qz=quartz, Hem=hematite and Mgh=maghemite.

|             | P (GPa) | <i>T</i> (°C) | No. | Mineral associations  |
|-------------|---------|---------------|-----|---|
| Before      | /       | 1             | D85 | Kln (40%) + Ms (30%) + Qz (20%) +                           |
| dehydration | 1       | /             | D35 | Hem (5%) + Mgh (5%)   |
|             | 0.5     | 520 700       | DSC | Metakln (40%) + Ms (30%) + Qz (20) +                        |
|             | 0.5     | 550-700       | D30 | Hem (5%) + Mgh (5%)   |
| After       | 1.5     | 500 700       | D07 | Metakln (40%) + Ms (30%) + Qz (20) +                        |
| dehydration | 1.5     | 500-700       | DS/ | Hem (5%) + Mgh (5%)   |
|             | 2.5     | 490–700       | DS8 | Metakln (40%) + Ms (30%) + Qz (20) +<br>Hem (5%) + Mgh (5%) |













