

The Earth's Lower Mantle and Core

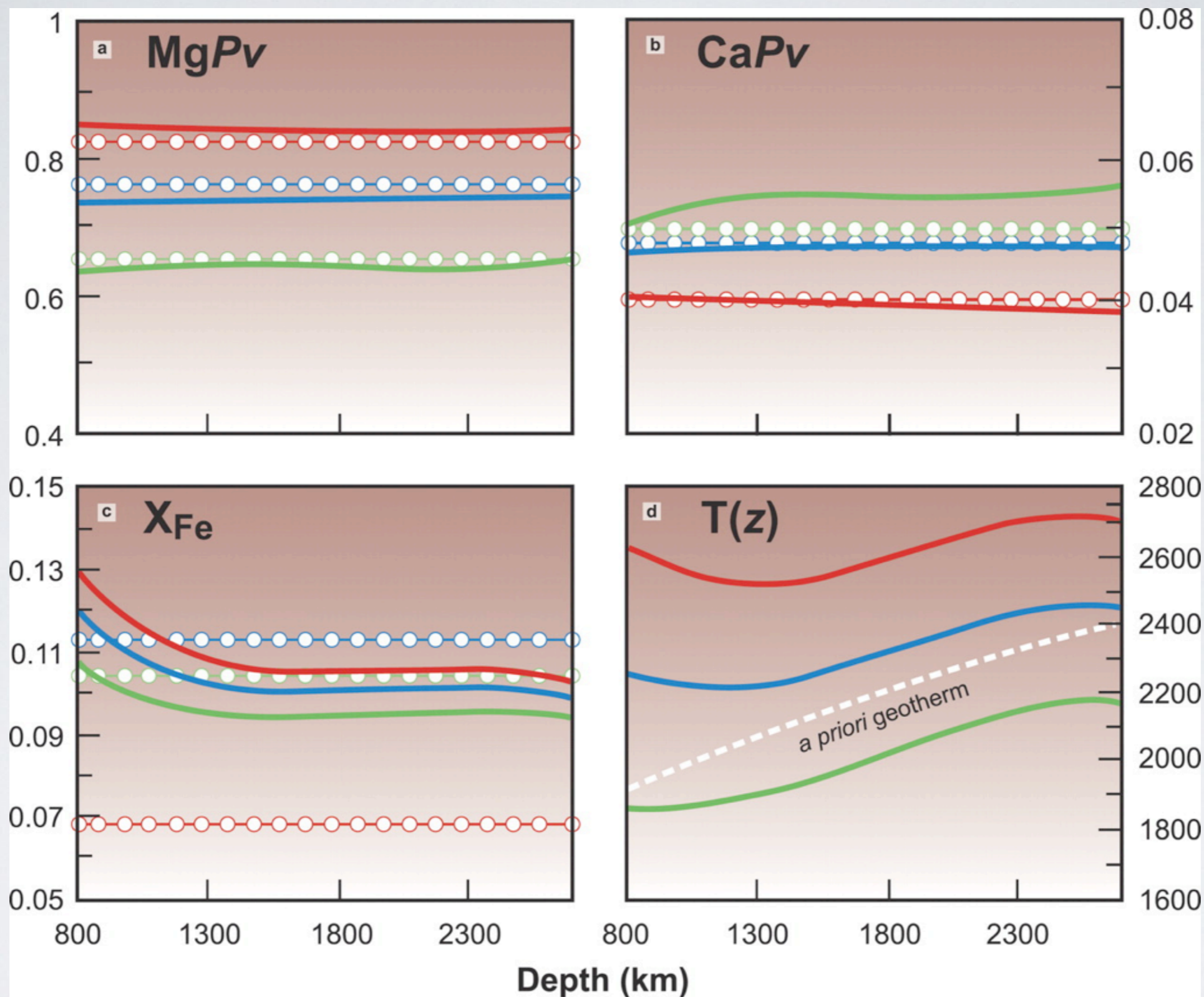


FIGURE 4 Lower-mantle compositions (IM1 to IM3) obtained from different *a priori* compositional models (pyrolite, CI chondrite, cosmic) and geotherm (dashed line in d). Phase molar fraction for magnesium-rich silicate perovskite and calcium silicate perovskite are given in (A) and (B). Temperature is in kelvin. Green circles: *a priori* pyrolite composition and associated inverted model IM1 (solid green line); blue circles: *a priori* CI-chondritic composition and associated inverted model IM2 (solid blue line); red circles: *a priori* cosmic composition and associated inverted model IM3 (solid red line). Iron content X_{Fe} (C) and temperature (D) are the most sensitive parameters, whereas the magnesium silicate perovskite (A) and calcium silicate perovskite (B) contents remain close to their *a priori* values. There is a strong positive trade-off between the magnesium silicate perovskite content and temperature. The seismic density and bulk sound velocity profiles can be explained either by a 'cold' (i.e. 2000 K) pyrolite-like lower mantle (MgPv 0.64) or by a 'hot' (i.e. 2600 K) perovskitic lower mantle (MgPv 0.84). See Mattern et al. 2005 and references therein for more details.