

1 **Trachyte-phonolite transition at Dunedin Volcano: Fingerprints of magma**
2 **plumbing system maturity and mush evolution**

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Abstract

Phonolite-trachyte associations are a common feature of alkaline volcanoes in intraplate settings, and their coexistence challenges closed-system magmatic differentiation scenarios. Here we have investigated the mineralogical and petrochemical features of dikes, lavas, pyroclastic deposits, and comagmatic crystal-rich enclaves outcropping at Dunedin Volcano (Otago region, southern New Zealand). These alkaline magmatic products show both highly and mildly alkaline affinities, trending towards phonolitic and trachytic end-members, respectively. Intermediate rocks are phonotephrites + tephriphonolites (highly alkaline series) and mugearites + benmoreites (mildly alkaline series) with a phenocryst assemblage of clinopyroxene + plagioclase ± amphibole formed at low to mid-crustal levels (i.e., ~29–16 km). Phonolites are porphyritic rocks characterized by alkali feldspar ± amphibole ± clinopyroxene. Their whole-rock compositions are highly enriched in incompatible elements, with variable Ba + Sr contents. A weak negative to slightly positive Eu anomaly is also associated with $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7028–0.7031, which are comparable to those of parental magmas. Geochemical models indicate that phonolites originate as interstitial melts that are generated via abundant alkali feldspar crystallization from a shallow crystalline mush (i.e., ~14–5 km). Strong melt differentiation and extraction is testified by crystal-rich enclaves, as remnants of the mush region. On the other hand, trachytes are phenocryst-poor products strongly depleted in Ba + Sr and with a marked negative Eu anomaly. Trachytes are characterized by $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios of 0.7040–0.7060, which are different from intermediate rocks and phonolites, and trend towards crustal isotopic compositions. Integrated mass balance, trace element, and energy-constrained modeling confirm that trachytes originate from mildly alkaline magmas interacting with the country rock during feldspar fractionation. We interpret the transition from trachyte to phonolite formation and eruption resulting from the maturation of the plumbing system through accumulation, cooling, and degassing of both highly and mildly alkaline magmas.

Highlights:

- Thermobarometric constraints on the architecture of the magmatic plumbing system
- Phonolites and trachytes differentiate from intermediate magmas in the shallow crust
- Trachytes originate by assimilation and fractional crystallization
- Phonolites represent interstitial liquids of upper crustal mush regions
- Trachyte to phonolite transition relates to maturity of the magmatic plumbing system

Keywords: Dunedin Volcano; alkaline magmas; crystal-rich enclaves; trachyte-phonolite transition; crystalline mush evolution; magma fractionation and crustal assimilation.

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1 **1. Introduction**

2 The association between phonolites and trachytes is typical of different volcanic
3 settings worldwide, such as Mount Sidley volcano (Marie Byrd Land, Antarctica; [Panter et al.,](#)
4 [1997, 2021](#)), Tenerife (Canary Islands, Spain; [Sliwinski et al., 2015](#)), Ulleung Island (South
5 Korea; [Brenna et al., 2014](#)), Marquesas Islands, (French Polynesia; [Legendre et al., 2005](#)),
6 Campi Flegrei (Italy; [Forni et al., 2016](#)), Darfur (NE Africa; [Lucassen et al., 2013](#)), Harrat
7 Rahat (Saudi Arabia; [Brenna et al., 2019](#)). At alkaline intraplate volcanoes, phonolites and
8 trachytes represent the most common evolved end-members of highly and mildly alkaline
9 differentiation paths, respectively ([Panter et al., 1997](#); [White et al., 2012](#); [Wright, 1971](#)). Owing
10 to the occurrence of a thermal barrier in the “Petrogeny’s Residua System” ([Wolff, 2017](#)),
11 phonolites cannot coexist with trachytes by simple closed-system fractional crystallization, and
12 their petrogenesis is explained by a variety of mechanisms including assimilation of intrusive
13 and/or country rock material, mush development/remobilization, and melt extraction
14 ([Bachmann et al., 2007](#); [Brenna et al., 2019](#); [Forni et al., 2016, 2018](#); [Panter et al., 1997](#); [Wolff](#)
15 [et al., 2020](#)). Although the origin of phonolitic magmas is usually attributed to high degrees of
16 differentiation in the shallow crust, there are also field and petrographic evidences suggesting
17 a deeper origin (e.g., [Brenna et al., 2014](#); [Grant et al., 2013](#)).

18 At Dunedin Volcano (South Island, New Zealand), phonolites are interpreted as the
19 result of feldspar fractionation at shallow crustal levels during late-stage evolution of highly
20 alkaline magmas ([Price, 1973](#); [Price and Chappell, 1975](#); [Price et al., 2003](#)). In contrast,
21 trachytes are supposed to originate by differentiation of mildly alkaline magmas with the
22 contribution of crustal material and/or melting of crustal cumulates ([Price and Compston,](#)
23 [1973](#)).

24 In order to elucidate the differentiation processes and pre-eruptive storage conditions
25 of phonolitic and trachytic magmas at Dunedin Volcano, we have investigated the petrographic

26 and compositional features of 29 volcanic rocks, including lavas, dykes, pyroclastic products,
27 and crystal-rich enclaves. We defined the polybaric-polythermal differentiation of erupted
28 magmas by integrating 1) mineral-melt equilibrium and thermobarometric constraints, 2)
29 whole-rock trace element and Sr-Nd-Pb isotope modeling, and 3) energy-constrained thermal
30 data. According to these new data, we propose that the compositional transition from trachytic
31 to phonolitic melts is mostly governed by differentiation processes at shallow depth, where
32 fractional crystallization and assimilation of crustal material occur before melt extraction and
33 migration from a crystalline mush region.

34

35 **2. Geological and petrological background**

36 Dunedin Volcano represents one of the most voluminous examples of intraplate
37 magmatism in the South Island of New Zealand, with volumes of erupted and intruded
38 materials of ~ 150 and ~ 600 km³, respectively (Coombs et al., 1986, 2008; Reilly, 1972). The
39 main volcanic edifice formed over a prolonged period of activity between 16 and 11 Ma
40 (Coombs et al., 2008; Hoernle et al. 2006; McDougall and Coombs, 1973; Scott et al., 2020).
41 The activity at the periphery of the main edifice was more prolonged, ranging from 25 to 9 Ma.
42 These eruptions developed monogenetic volcanic centers scattered over ~ 8000 km² in the
43 Otago region (i.e., the “outlying flows” of the Dunedin Volcanic Group; Coombs et al., 1986;
44 Scott et al., 2020). The eruptive epochs were categorized by Benson (1968) into three main
45 phases of volcanism, plus an “Initial Eruptive Phase” that was dominated by mafic and
46 intermediate products. During this initial phase, trachytic tephra and lava flows were also
47 erupted (i.e., the “Koputai Trachyte”, as defined by Allen, 1974). The activity was followed by
48 more voluminous “First”, “Second”, and “Third” main eruptive phases, during which a wide
49 range of rocks was emplaced (Benson, 1968). In particular, the last main stage was

50 characterized by the emplacement of lava domes with prevalent phonolitic composition (Price,
51 1973; Price and Coombs, 1975).

52 The Dunedin Volcano comprises a broad range of volcanic products, including basaltic
53 lava flows and dykes, whereas pyroclastic flows and lava domes are typically characterized by
54 more evolved compositions (Price and Coombs, 1975; Price et al., 2003). Larger and explosive
55 eruptions were episodically fed by trachytic and phonolitic magmas, although alkaline basalts
56 and trachybasalts dominated the eruptive record (Allen, 1974; Price, 1973; Price et al., 2003).
57 In a study focusing on basalt whole-rock geochemistry, isotopic compositions and mineral
58 cargoes, Pontesilli et al. (2021) modeled the degree of lithospheric and asthenospheric
59 contribution in the genesis of high-alkali, mid-alkali and low-alkali basalts at Dunedin
60 Volcano. In particular, high-alkali basalts were interpreted as the parental composition for
61 highly alkaline intermediate magmas (phonotephrites), whereas mid-alkali basalts were
62 hypothesized as the parental compositions of mildly alkaline intermediate magmas
63 (mugearites). The distinct isotopic compositions of low-alkali basalts were related to
64 asthenospheric melts. These results are in agreement with previous studies on Dunedin
65 Volcano, indicating that trachytes and phonolites represent the most evolved products of mildly
66 and highly alkaline magmas, respectively (Coombs and Wilkinson, 1969; Price, 1973; Price
67 and Chappell, 1975).

68 Crystal-rich enclaves are commonly hosted in highly alkaline magmas, with textural
69 and compositional features pointing to a cumulitic origin (Price et al., 2003). However, some
70 syenites are interpreted as equivalents of felsic magmas solidified at shallow crustal levels
71 (Price et al., 2003). Geophysical data also document the presence of voluminous intrusions
72 within the Haast Schist basement, which extends from the upper crust to the lower crust (i.e.,
73 ~20–25 km; Godfrey et al., 2001).

74

75 3. Sampling and analytical methods

76 Since the investigation of primitive basalts has been the subject of recent work on the
77 Dunedin Volcano ([Pontesilli et al., 2021](#)), in this study we have focused on intermediate and
78 evolved products with both highly and mildly alkaline compositions. Sampling localities are
79 reported in the schematic geological map displayed in [Fig. 1](#), where phonotephrite +
80 tephriphonolite (highly alkaline) and mugearite + benmoreite (mildly alkaline) are designated
81 as P + T and M + B, respectively. A complete list of coordinates for sample locations is reported
82 in [Supplementary Material S1](#).

83 Major oxides in minerals ([Supplementary Material S2](#)) were measured with an electron
84 probe micro-analyzer (EPMA), JEOL JXA 8200 equipped with five wavelength dispersive
85 spectrometers (WDS) and installed at the HP-HT Laboratory of Experimental Volcanology and
86 Geophysics of the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV) in Rome (Italy).
87 Carbon-coated thin sections were analyzed under an accelerating voltage and beam current of
88 15 kV and 10 nA, respectively. The beam size was 5 μm with a counting time of 20 and 10
89 seconds on peaks and background, respectively. Corrections for inter-elemental effects were
90 made using a ZAF (Z, atomic number; A, absorption; F, fluorescence) procedure. The
91 following standards were adopted for the various chemical elements: jadeite (Si and Na),
92 corundum (Al), augite (Ca), forsterite (Mg), andradite (Fe), rutile (Ti), orthoclase (K), apatite
93 (P), spessartine (Mn) and JEOL Cr metal. Sodium and potassium were analyzed first to
94 minimize alkali migration effects. The analytical precision was assessed through well-
95 characterized synthetic oxide and mineral standards. Data quality was ensured by measuring
96 the same test materials as unknowns according to the procedure reported in [Iezzi et al. \(2014\)](#).
97 Based on counting statistics, analytical uncertainties relative to their reported concentrations
98 indicate that precision was better than 5% for all cations analyzed.

99 Whole-rock major and trace elements ([Supplementary Material S3](#)) were measured at
100 the Australian Laboratory Services (ALS) Minerals in Brisbane. Loss on ignition was
101 calculated as the difference between sample weights measured after heating to 105 °C and to
102 1000 °C. The ignited material was charged in a PtAu crucible, and then fused in a lithium
103 tetraborate ($\text{Li}_2\text{B}_4\text{O}_7$) mixture. Major element concentrations were measured by X-Ray
104 Fluorescence (XRF) using a Bruker S4 Pioneer system. For trace element analyses, fused disks
105 made of dried sample powders and lithium tetraborate were dissolved in a mixture of HNO_3 ,
106 HCl , and HF . Inductively coupled plasma - mass spectrometry (ICP-MS) analyses were carried
107 out with a Perkin–Elmer Elan 9000 system. The quality of the data was verified against in-
108 house standards and their duplicates were processed as unknowns. Data reproduction has been
109 assessed through independent tests, indicating that the method yielded satisfactory results, with
110 accuracy and precision better than 6% for all elements in concentrations above 1 wt.% and
111 generally better than 10% for minor and trace elements.

112 Whole-rock isotopic analyses ([Supplementary Material S3](#)) were carried out with a
113 NuPlasma HR multicollector ICP-MS installed at the Department of Geological Sciences,
114 University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa. Sr, Nd, and Pb compositions were
115 measured on a total of 11 whole-rock samples using the analytical procedure reported in [Harris](#)
116 [et al. \(2015\)](#). Rock powder samples were dissolved in a HF/HNO_3 and converted to nitrates in
117 a concentrated HNO_3 solution. Sr, Nd, and Pb fractions were isolated employing sequential
118 column chemistry. Sr isotopic ratios were normalized to a value of 0.710255 for the NIST
119 SRM987 reference material. Instrumental mass fractionation was evaluated through the
120 exponential law and a $^{86}\text{Sr}/^{88}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.1194. Nd isotopic ratios were normalized to a value
121 of 0.512115 for the Jndi-1 reference material. Instrumental mass fractionation was evaluated
122 through the exponential law and against a $^{146}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratio of 0.7219. Pb isotopic ratios were
123 normalized to values of 36.7219 ($^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$), 15.4963 ($^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$), and 16.9405 ($^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$)

124 for the NIST SRM981 reference material. Instrumental mass fractionation was evaluated
125 through the exponential law and against a $^{205}\text{Tl}/^{203}\text{Tl}$ ratio of 2.3889. The analytical precision
126 is given as 2σ errors in the last significant digits. The accuracy is below 0.1% for all isotopic
127 ratios, with the exception of $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ratios showing accuracy better than
128 0.2% and 0.5%, respectively. The accuracy was tested by using BHVO-2 as quality monitor.
129 Sr and Nd isotopic ratios were corrected for an average age of 13 Ma, resulting from the
130 radiometric dating of phonolites outcropping at the Dunedin Volcano (Coombs et al., 2008).
131 Accordingly, $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ and $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ ratios reported in the text refer to the initial ratios.

132

133 4. Results

134 4.1 Petrography

135 4.1.1 Highly alkaline rocks

136 Phonotephrite lavas (PT1 and PT2), tephriphonolite dykes (TP1 and TP2), and a
137 pyroclastic deposit (TP3; individual pumice samples) are porphyritic rocks (16–28 vol.%) with
138 abundant mm-sized amphibole + clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite \pm plagioclase phenocrysts
139 (phase assemblages are given in order of abundance; Table 1, Supplementary Material S4). The
140 μm -sized groundmass contains plagioclase + clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite \pm amphibole \pm
141 alkali feldspar \pm apatite. Amphibole has a red to dark brown to brown pleochroic scheme, while
142 clinopyroxene is typically pinkish to grey under plane-polarized light (Fig. 2a). The pyroclastic
143 sample TP3 comes from the Port Chalmers Breccia, one of the most voluminous pyroclastic
144 units at Dunedin Volcano (Price et al., 2003).

145 Phonolite samples from domes (P1, P2, P3, P6, and P7) and dykes (P4, P5, P8 and P9)
146 are both moderately porphyritic (P1, P2, P5, P6 and P9) and phenocryst-poor (P3, P4, P7, and
147 P8). The phenocryst content is 7–43 vol.% and comprises alkali feldspar \pm clinopyroxene \pm
148 amphibole \pm nepheline \pm titanomagnetite (Table 1, Supplementary Material S4). The

149 groundmass consists of alkali feldspar + clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite ± apatite.
150 Clinopyroxene is the main mafic phase in phonolites, as either single green crystals or coronas
151 of microcrystalline green clinopyroxenes and titanomagnetites overgrowing on pink resorbed
152 cores (Fig. 2b). Amphibole is strongly resorbed and replaced by a fine intergrowth of
153 titanomagnetite + clinopyroxene + feldspar (Fig. 2c).

154 Crystal-rich enclaves are represented by cm-sized fragments of holocrystalline syenites
155 and groundmass-bearing alkali feldspar-rich cumulates. FE3 and FE4 syenites are hosted in the
156 pyroclastic deposit (TP3) and phonolite lava (P1), respectively. These syenites are composed
157 of alkali feldspar + amphibole + titanomagnetite ± nepheline (Table 1, Supplementary Material
158 S4 and Fig. 2d). Alkali feldspar-rich cumulates FE1 and FE2 are highly porphyritic (phenocryst
159 content of 62–67 vol.%), with assemblage of alkali feldspar + amphibole + clinopyroxene +
160 titanomagnetite ± nepheline. The groundmass consists of μm-sized crystals of alkali feldspar +
161 clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite, resembling the matrix phases from tephriphonolite host rocks
162 (TP1 and TP2; Fig. 2e). Amphibole from syenites and feldspar-rich cumulates has green to
163 brown colors. Clinopyroxene from feldspar-rich cumulates is dark green, being
164 petrographically similar to phonolite host rocks.

165

166 4.1.2 Mildly alkaline rocks

167 Mugearite (M1, M2, M3 and M4) and benmoreite (B1, B2, B3, and B4) lavas show
168 similar phenocryst abundances (11–31 vol.%) and phase assemblages of plagioclase +
169 clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite ± amphibole ± alkali feldspar. The amphibole content is lower
170 than that found in highly alkaline rocks (Supplementary Material S4). The μm-sized
171 groundmass consists of plagioclase + clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite ± alkali feldspar ±
172 apatite. As for the case of highly alkaline products, amphibole exhibits red to brown
173 pleochroism, while clinopyroxene is pink to grey in color.

174 Trachytes (dyke T1, lava T2 and flow T3) are phenocryst-poor (phenocryst content of
175 6–10 vol.%) and contain phenocrysts of alkali feldspar ± plagioclase ± amphibole (Table 1).
176 The groundmass consists of alkali feldspar + titanomagnetite ± clinopyroxene (Fig. 2f), also
177 showing flow alignments that are characteristic of trachytic texture. Amphibole in T1 exhibits
178 resorption textures and are characterized by a strong light to dark brown pleochroic scheme
179 that is different from that observed in other rock types.

180

181 **4.2 Mineral Chemistry**

182 **4.2.1 Clinopyroxene**

183 Clinopyroxene compositions and components have been calculated according to the
184 scheme of Putirka et al. (1996) and are reported in Supplementary Material S2. The value of
185 Mg# has been also determined by the formula $Mg / (Fe^{tot} + Mg) \times 100$, where major elements
186 are expressed as cation fractions.

187 BSE photomicrographs show that clinopyroxene is present as both cognate phenocrysts
188 (Fig. 3a) and antecrysts (i.e., resorbed cores; Fig. 3b). Cognate phenocrysts show variable core
189 to rim compositions depicting a coherent evolutionary trend in terms of Mg# against Al + Ti
190 (Fig. 4a). The chemistry of clinopyroxene can be divided in two main groups (Fig. 4a): 1) high-
191 Mg# (53–81), high-Al + Ti (0.06–0.69 apfu) diopside-rich crystals from both highly and mildly
192 alkaline products (Fig. 3a), and 2) low-Mg# (16–63), low-Al + Ti (0.03–0.27 apfu)
193 hedenbergite-rich crystals from phonolites and crystal-rich enclaves. Notably, resorbed cores
194 from these latter samples (Fig. 3b) show more primitive compositions (66–75 Mg# and 0.36–
195 0.49 apfu Al + Ti), reproducing the chemistry of clinopyroxenes from less differentiated
196 products (Fig. 4a).

197

198 **4.2.2 Amphibole**

199 Amphibole compositions and components have been recalculated by the method of Li
200 et al. (2020), together with the value of Mg# [$\text{Mg} / (\text{Fe}^{2+} + \text{Mg}) \times 100$] and $\text{Fe}^{3+}/\text{Fe}^{2+}$ ratio in
201 the lattice site.

202 As for the case of clinopyroxene, the plot of Mg# against Ti shows two distinct
203 compositional groups (Fig. 4b): 1) high-Mg# (46–79), high-Ti (0.27–0.82 apfu) Kaersutite /
204 Ti-rich Pargasite crystals from both highly and mildly alkaline products (Fig. 3c), and 2) low-
205 Mg# (6–57), low-Ti (0.10–0.61 apfu) Hastingsite crystals from phonolites, trachytes, and
206 crystal-rich enclaves (Fig. 3d, e). Amphibole phenocrysts from trachytes are the most
207 differentiated (i.e., 6–13 Mg#; Fig. 4b). Overall, the value of Mg# monotonically decreases
208 with decreasing Ti, suggesting a continuous differentiation path from primitive towards more
209 differentiated magmas (Fig. 4b).

210

211 4.2.3 Feldspars

212 Plagioclase is ubiquitous in the studied products, with the exception of phonolites and
213 crystal-rich enclaves. On the basis of anorthite (An), albite (Ab), and orthoclase (Or) end-
214 members, the chemistry of plagioclase changes from An₇₈ (labradorite) to An₁₅ with
215 (oligoclase) proceeding differentiation (Fig. 4c). The FeO^{tot} content ranges from 0.05 to 0.64
216 wt.%, and have no clear relation with An.

217 Alkali feldspar is present only in phonolites (Ab₃₈₋₈₄Or₁₀₋₆₂), crystal-rich enclaves
218 (Ab₅₅₋₈₄Or₁₁₋₄₄), and trachytes (Ab₂₈₋₆₉Or₂₆₋₇₂) (Fig. 3f, Fig. 4c). The amount of FeO^{tot} is
219 comprised within 0.02 and 0.59 wt.%, and slightly decrease with increasing Ab.

220

221 4.2.4 Titanomagnetite

222 Titanomagnetite phenocrysts from highly alkaline rocks exhibit FeO^{tot} , TiO_2 , and
223 ulvospinel (Usp) of 59–78 wt.%, 8–27 wt.%, and Usp_{0.44-0.83}, respectively. Titanomagnetite

224 crystals from phonolites have lower titanium contents ($\text{Usp}_{0.25-0.52}$) compared to the less
225 evolved rock types.

226 Titanomagnetite phenocrysts from mildly alkaline rocks (i.e., 61–76 wt.% FeO^{tot} , 8–24
227 wt.% TiO_2 , and $\text{Usp}_{0.21-0.81}$) are compositionally similar to those from crystal-rich enclaves
228 (i.e., 62–75 wt.% FeO^{tot} , 11–25 wt.% TiO_2 , and $\text{Usp}_{0.26-0.82}$).

229

230 ***4.3 Whole-rock geochemistry***

231 *4.3.1 Major elements*

232 According to the total alkali vs. silica (TAS) diagram (Le Maitre et al., 2002) (Fig. 5a),
233 volcanic rocks are classified as: 1) highly alkaline intermediate (i.e., phonotephrites and
234 tephriphonolites; P + T) and evolved (i.e., phonolites) rocks, and 2) mildly alkaline
235 intermediate (i.e., mugearites and benmoreites; M + B) and evolved (i.e., trachytes) rocks. The
236 compositions of crystal-rich enclaves (i.e., syenites and feldspar-rich cumulates) are
237 prevalently phonolites in the TAS diagram (Fig. 5a). This data set has been also integrated with
238 whole-rock data from Allen (1974), Hoernle et al. (2006), Price et al. (2003), Scott et al. (2020)
239 and Pontesilli et al. (2021) (Supplementary Material S3).

240 Binary oxide diagrams show that both volcanic rocks and crystal-rich enclaves align
241 along a coherent evolutionary trend, where SiO_2 increases and MgO (Fig. 5b), CaO (Fig. 5c)
242 and FeO^{tot} (Fig. 5d) progressively decrease. Al_2O_3 also increases with increasing SiO_2 , showing
243 a plateau effect at $\text{SiO}_2 \geq 51$ wt.% (Fig. 5e). Trachytes and phonolites are the most
244 differentiated products, whereas the whole-rock composition of crystal-rich enclaves resembles
245 that of phonolites. In terms of Mg#, the magmatic differentiation proceeds 1) from M + B
246 ($\text{Mg}\#_{27-40}$) to trachytes ($\text{Mg}\#_{13-16}$) for the mildly alkaline series, and 2) from P + T ($\text{Mg}\#_{27-38}$)
247 to phonolites ($\text{Mg}\#_{4-32}$) for the highly alkaline series.

248

250 Chondrite-normalized patterns (McDonough and Sun, 1995) of rare earth elements
 251 (REE) are displayed in Fig. 6a-b. Light and heavy REE (i.e., LREE and HREE, respectively)
 252 in phonolites (312–700 La_N and 17–29 Yb_N; Fig. 6a) and trachytes (340–614 La_N and 25–42
 253 Yb_N; Fig. 6b) are systematically higher than those of P + T (308–375 La_N and 14–18 Yb_N; Fig.
 254 6a) and M + B (247–355 La_N and 15–20 Yb_N; Fig. 6b) rocks. Sub-parallel trends shift towards
 255 progressive REE enrichments from less differentiated to more evolved whole-rock
 256 compositions. Higher ratios of LREE relative to HREE are observed in highly alkaline rocks
 257 when compared to mildly alkaline rocks, with La_N/Yb_N ratios of 18–27 (P + T), 17–25
 258 (phonolites), 14–23 (M + B), and 13–15 (trachytes). There is also a decrease of LREE/HREE
 259 with magma differentiation in both mildly alkaline and highly alkaline rock series.

260 Primordial mantle-normalized patterns (McDonough and Sun, 1995) of trace elements
 261 are displayed in Fig. 6c-d. Large-ion lithophile elements (LILE; i.e., Ba, Sr) and Eu are
 262 progressively depleted from P + T (94–144 Ba_N, 37–49 Sr_N, and 15–18 Eu_N; Fig. 6c) and M +
 263 B (98–127 Ba_N, 28–49 Sr_N, and 17–21 Eu_N; Fig. 6d) to phonolites (25–145 Ba_N, 5–68 Sr_N and
 264 7–20 Eu_N; Fig. 6c) and trachytes (6–23 Ba_N, 1–2 Sr_N, 5–8 Eu_N; Fig. 6d), respectively. Ti_N and
 265 P_N are also depleted in the more evolved rocks, with values of 1–10 and 0.2–1.1 (phonolites),
 266 1–4 and 0.2–0.3 (trachytes), 14–31 and 1.4–2.4 (P + T), and 15–26 and 1.2–3.1 (M + B),
 267 respectively. The Eu anomaly ($\frac{Eu}{Eu^*} = \frac{Eu_N}{\sqrt{Gd_N \times Sm_N}}$) is close to 1 for both P + T and M + B.
 268 Conversely, $\frac{Eu}{Eu^*}$ decreases to 0.55 and 0.24 in phonolites and trachytes, respectively. Crystal-
 269 rich enclaves show Eu anomaly within a broad interval, from 0.53 to 1.62. The concentration
 270 of Ba in highly alkaline products is also higher than that measured for mildly alkaline rocks.
 271 On the other hand, incompatible Rb and high field strength elements (HFSE; i.e., Nb and Zr)
 272 are progressively enriched from P + T (69–239 Rb_N, 123–227 Nb_N, 38–51 Zr_N) and M + B

273 (116–168 Rb_N, 120–184 Nb_N, 31–48 Zr_N) to phonolites (187–460 Rb_N, 163–359 Nb_N, 62–115
274 Zr_N) and trachytes (265–458 Rb_N, 225–363 Nb_N, 77–117 Zr_N), respectively.

275

276 4.3.3 Sr, Nd, Pb isotopes

277 Initial Sr, Nd, and Pb isotopic compositions of highly alkaline rocks cluster in relatively
278 narrow ranges of ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.7028–0.7029), ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51288–0.51291), ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb
279 (39.56–39.80), ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (15.65–15.66), and ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (19.99–20.29). Intermediate mildly
280 alkaline rocks show similar ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (15.65–15.66) with slightly higher ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.7029–
281 0.7032) and lower ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51286–0.51291), ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (39.32–39.57), and ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb
282 (19.60–20.02). Crystal-rich enclaves are characterized by more variable isotopic compositions,
283 with ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr (0.7028–0.7033), ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51286–0.51291), ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (39.18–39.55),
284 ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (15.62–15.65), and ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (19.53–19.87). Overall these isotopic signatures lie
285 on a trend that is defined by the literature data on Dunedin Volcano (Scott et al., 2020).
286 According to Pontesilli et al. (2021), this trend relates the different contributions of lithospheric
287 and asthenospheric melts to the whole-rock geochemistry (see isotopic data and plots reported
288 in Supplementary Material S3). The only notable exception to this general trend is represented
289 by trachytes that, with respect to intermediate mildly alkaline rocks, show higher ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr
290 (0.7049–0.7060) but comparable ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd (0.51287–0.51289), ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (39.24–39.43),
291 ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (15.65–15.66), and ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (19.52–19.85).

292

293 5. Discussions

294 5.1 Magma storage conditions

295 To retrieve the crystallization conditions of highly and mildly alkaline magmatic series,
296 equilibrium and partitioning models for clinopyroxene (Blundy et al., 1995; Mollo et al., 2013;
297 Mollo and Masotta, 2014; Putirka, 2008), amphibole (Putirka, 2016), plagioclase (Putirka,

298 2005), alkali feldspar (Mollo et al., 2015a), and titanomagnetite (Aryaeva et al., 2018), have
299 been applied to verify the attainment of near-equilibrium between selected crystal compositions
300 and bulk rock analyses. The equilibrium pairs have also been compared with a comprehensive
301 whole-rock data set available for the Dunedin Volcano (Scott et al. 2020), by means of a root-
302 mean square procedure. Given that crystal-rich enclaves and clinopyroxene resorbed cores are
303 unlikely to be in equilibrium with magmas (e.g., Ziberna et al., 2017), these populations were
304 not used to estimate magma storage conditions. The equilibrium models have been integrated
305 with thermobarometric (Glazner, 1984; Namur et al., 2012; Perinelli et al., 2016; Putirka, 2016;
306 Putirka et al., 1996), hygrometric (Masotta and Mollo, 2019; Mollo et al., 2015a; Putirka,
307 2008), and oxygen barometric (Ariskin and Nikolaev, 1996) equations, in order to minimize
308 any potential uncertainty in P - T - H_2O - fO_2 estimates and to track the crystallization conditions
309 of the bulk system. A detailed description of this approach is reported in **Supplementary**
310 **Material S5**.

311 Results from probability density functions indicate that intermediate to evolved
312 magmas were stored at polybaric-polythermal conditions under variable melt- H_2O
313 concentrations (Figs. 7, 8, and 9). Specifically, clinopyroxene, amphibole, and plagioclase
314 phenocrysts yield conditions of $596\text{--}666 \pm 170$ MPa (representing respectively the range of
315 average estimates and the mean standard deviation), $1022\text{--}1058 \pm 39$ °C and $1.7\text{--}2.4 \pm 0.9$
316 wt.% H_2O for intermediate highly alkaline magmas. On the other hand, intermediate mildly
317 alkaline magmas evolved at $675\text{--}684 \pm 167$ MPa, $1021\text{--}1061 \pm 43$ °C, and $1.9\text{--}2.1 \pm 0.8$ wt.%
318 H_2O (Figs. 7, 8, and 9). As illustrated in the schematic sketch drawn in Fig. 10, our estimates
319 depict overall low-to-mid crustal reservoirs at $\sim 16\text{--}29$ km depth, considering an average
320 continental crustal density of 2800 kg m^{-3} and a mantle-crust boundary at ~ 30 km (Godfrey et
321 al., 2001). Similar depth conditions are estimated by Pontesilli et al., (2021) for alkaline basalts
322 at Dunedin Volcano, suggesting the juxtaposition of primitive and intermediate reservoirs

323 within the crust (Fig. 10). Early differentiation of alkaline basalts proceeded by fractional
324 crystallization of olivine + clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite, whereas amphibole segregated
325 only from more differentiated magmas (Pontesilli et al., 2021; Price and Chappell, 1975).
326 Coherently, amphibole saturation amphibole ($1030\text{--}1038 \pm 30$ °C) occurs at a lower
327 temperature than that of clinopyroxene ($1058\text{--}1061 \pm 54$ °C), in good agreement with phase
328 equilibrium experiments conducted by Nekvasil et al., (2004) on alkaline compositions (i.e.,
329 $430\text{--}930$ MPa, $940\text{--}1250$ °C, $0\text{--}5.1$ wt.% H₂O, and ΔFMQ from -0.5 to -1.5).

330 Lower *P-T* conditions and higher melt-H₂O contents are determined for phonolites
331 ($\sim 230\text{--}245 \pm 87$ MPa, $855\text{--}916 \pm 51$ °C, and 6.1 ± 1.1 wt.% H₂O) and trachytes (191 ± 13
332 MPa, $820\text{--}869 \pm 28$ °C, and $6.5\text{--}6.8 \pm 0.7$ wt.% H₂O) (Figs. 7, 8, and 9). These estimates
333 corroborate the development of shallow crustal reservoirs at $\sim 5\text{--}14$ km (Fig. 10). Crystal-rich
334 enclaves are also interpreted to derive from the same depth range as phonolites, based on the
335 observation that phenocrysts from both crystal-rich enclaves and phonolites share virtually
336 identical compositions (Fig. 4a, b, d). The occurrence of more hydrous magmas can be related
337 to the higher degree of crystallization driving the differentiation of alkaline compositions (e.g.,
338 Masotta et al., 2013; Mollo et al., 2015b). Experimental results also support the increased
339 solubility of H₂O in more evolved magmas, in good agreement with melt-H₂O contents
340 estimated in this study. For trachytes, a water saturation threshold of ~ 7 wt.% at ~ 200 MPa has
341 been estimated (Di Matteo et al., 2004), whereas water saturation ranges of ~ 6 and ~ 8 wt.%
342 are measured in phonolitic melt at 150 and 300 MPa, respectively (Schmidt & Behrens, 1998).

343 The high melt-H₂O content of trachytes and phonolites (Fig. 9) and the attainment of
344 water saturation at shallow depth is likely to stabilize amphibole (Fig. 2d-e; Supplementary
345 Material S4). Conversely, amphibole reaction rims are likely the result of degassing
346 phenomena during magma ascent and decompression (D'Mello et al., 2021).

347 As the amount of H₂O increases towards the saturation state of the melt, the Fe-Ti
348 exchange in titanomagnetite may reflect more oxidizing crystallization conditions (Del Bello
349 et al., 2014; Mollo et al., 2015c and references therein). Coherently, highly and mildly alkaline
350 rocks record fO_2 conditions (-0.11 ± 0.64 and -0.46 ± 0.96 ΔFMQ , respectively) lower than
351 those measured for phonolites (1.10 ± 1.25 ΔFMQ) and crystal-rich enclaves (1.53 ± 1.22
352 ΔFMQ ; Fig. 9). For differentiated alkaline volcanic systems, fO_2 has been documented to
353 increase by 1 to 2 log units via H₂O exsolution and, eventually, degassing (Del Bello et al.,
354 2014; Palummo et al., 2020). This causes the redox state of the melt to change, thereby leading
355 to the different incorporation of Fe³⁺ and Ti⁴⁺ cations during titanomagnetite crystallization.

356

357 *5.2 Magma-mush dynamics: The origin of phonolites*

358 The coexistence of highly and mildly alkaline trends at Dunedin Volcano are mainly
359 attributed to different fractional crystallization assemblages and to distinct parental
360 compositions (Coombs and Wilkinson, 1969; Price and Chappell, 1975; Pontesilli et al., 2021).
361 Phonolites are also hypothesized to develop at the late stage of differentiation of highly alkaline
362 magmas via abundant fractionation of alkali feldspar (Coombs et al., 2008; Price and Chappell,
363 1975; Price et al., 2003). In order to provide quantitative constraints on magma differentiation
364 processes, we have modeled whole-rock major oxides by the least square mass balance
365 criterion developed by Stormer and Nicholls (1978). According to the modal abundance,
366 average mineral compositions have been subtracted to the whole-rock chemistry on an
367 anhydrous basis (see Supplementary Material S6). An alkali feldspar-dominated phase
368 assemblage (>70%) is required to fractionate phonolites from highly alkaline compositions
369 (i.e., tephriphonolite TP1). Conspicuous crystal residues are difficult to reconcile with
370 fractional crystallization in a closed-system, as the residual melt would remain locked within
371 the crystalline network (Dufek and Bachmann, 2010).

372 Therefore, to further test the fractional crystallization hypothesis for the origin of
373 phonolites, we have modeled the geochemical behavior of trace elements through the Rayleigh
374 fractional crystallization equation:

$$375 \quad C_l = C_0 F^{D-1} \quad (1)$$

376 where C_0 and C_l are the concentrations of trace elements of interest in the parental liquid and
377 in the remaining melt, respectively. F stands for the melt fraction. The bulk partition coefficient
378 (D) is calculated as:

$$379 \quad D = \sum_i x_i K_i \quad (2)$$

380 where x_i is the weight fraction of mineral phase i and K_i is the partition coefficient of the
381 element of interest. The most appropriate partition coefficients for differentiated alkaline
382 magmas have been selected from literature (e.g., [Larsen et al., 1979](#); [Lemarchand et al., 1987](#);
383 [Villemant, 1988](#)). The optimal set of partition coefficients for the given starting compositions
384 was refined by comparing modeled and observed trace element patterns in natural rocks. The
385 value of F has been modulated according to the mineral modal abundance in natural rocks and
386 results from mass balance calculations. A complete list of input and output parameters is
387 reported in [Supplementary Material S6](#).

388 FC vectors for Ba vs. Zr ([Fig. 11a](#)) and Sr vs. Rb ([Fig. 11b](#)) fail to reproduce the
389 differentiation of highly alkaline magmas. Indeed, trace element paths point to marked Sr + Ba
390 depletions not observed in phonolites. This implausible deviation of modeled FC vectors
391 reinforces the hypothesis that highly alkaline evolved magmas are generated by extraction of
392 interstitial melts from crystal mush zones at shallow levels (e.g., [Bachmann and Huber, 2016](#);
393 [Forni et al., 2016](#); [Masotta et al., 2016](#); [Brenna et al., 2019](#); [Palummo et al., 2020](#)). The upward
394 extraction of differentiated melts from the mush can be driven by compaction and hindered
395 settling ([Bachmann and Bergantz, 2004](#)), the failure of the growing crystal network at the roof
396 of the solidification front ([Marsh, 2002](#); [Masotta et al., 2016](#)), or disturbance by later magma

397 injections (Brenna et al. 2019). According to thermomechanical modeling of Huber et al.
398 (2019), the optimal depth for the storage extracted melts is typically between 250 and 150 MPa
399 (i.e., the depth range of crystal-rich enclaves displayed in Fig. 10), where melts pond at the
400 apex of a series of interconnected magma transfer zones.

401 Abundant crystal-rich enclaves are typically found in association with highly alkaline
402 rocks (e.g., phonolites) and their mineral and whole-rock compositions indicate a cogenetic
403 origin (Figs. 4 and 5). Additionally, alkali feldspar accumulation in the shallow crust provides
404 the principal means for syenite formation (e.g. Bachmann et al., 2007; Glazner et al., 2018;
405 Masotta et al., 2016; Wolff et al., 2015). Phonolitic melts typically represent the interstitial
406 liquids of extensive low-pressure crystallization of a feldspar-rich assemblage (Wolff et al.,
407 2015). In agreement with this model, the groundmass mineral assemblage and texture of
408 cumulates resemble those observed for phonolites (Figs. 2b, e, 10; Table 1), thereby pointing
409 to the origin of feldspar cumulates as remnants of a crystalline mush. This hypothesis is
410 supported by mass balance modeling reproducing major element compositions of phenocryst-
411 poor phonolites (P2, P3), as residue after removal of 49% alkali feldspar + 9% amphibole +
412 2% titanomagnetite + 1% apatite from feldspar-rich cumulates (Supplementary Material S6).

413 To further explore the differentiation of highly alkaline magmas and trace element
414 inventory of melts extracted from the crystalline mush, the in-situ crystallization (ISC) equation
415 of Langmuir (1989) has been employed:

$$416 \quad C_l = C_0 F^{[F(D-1)]/(D(1-f)+f]} \quad (3)$$

417 C_0 , C_l , F , and D are defined as for Eq. (1). The parameter f represents the fraction of residual
418 melt returned from the crystal mush zone to the crystallizing magmatic reservoir. Its value
419 ranges from 0 (i.e., no residual melts return to the magmatic reservoir) to 1 (i.e., all the
420 interstitial melt returns to the free melt and Eq. (3) reduces to the simple form of Eq. (1)). The
421 fraction of residual melt is set between 0.3 and 0.5, in agreement with the optimum crystallinity

422 window (i.e., 50–70%) for crystal–melt separation (Dufek and Bachmann, 2010). The ISC
423 vector may shift downward (or upward) with increasing (or decreasing) f , accounting for the
424 contribution of residual melts trapped and extracted from the crystalline mush. This modulates
425 also the enrichment and depletion of incompatible and compatible trace elements.

426 ISC trends have been derived for Ba vs. Zr (Fig. 11a), Sr vs. Rb (Fig. 11b), Yb vs. La
427 (Fig. 11c), and Eu/Eu* vs. Nb (Fig. 11d). These trends reproduce very well the trace element
428 contents and variability of phonolites via late-stage alkali feldspar crystallization, as the
429 proportion of interstitial melt migrating from the solidification front decreases from 80%
430 (ISC1) to 40% (ISC2). Scattered Ba and Sr enrichments in phonolites are modeled by a green
431 vector (see Fig. 11a-b) that indicates entrainment of alkali feldspar (i.e., max 30%) in the
432 phonolitic melt. Indeed, alkali feldspar phenocrysts can be scavenged from the crystal mush by
433 the extracted residual liquid (e.g., Molina et al., 2012; Wieser et al., 2019), justifying the highly
434 variable alkali feldspar modal contents (5-32 vol.%) in phonolites.

435 Segregation of differentiated melts by gravitational instability at the top of a
436 solidification front has been proposed as possible mechanism for the eruption of crystal-poor
437 magmas stored in shallow reservoirs (Marsh, 2002; Masotta et al., 2012). At the same time,
438 injections of more primitive magmas that breaks into the crystalline mush may trigger eruption
439 of differentiated, crystal-poor melts (e.g., Brenna et al., 2019; Costa et al., 2021; Forni et al.,
440 2016; Szymaniowsky et al., 2017). Such fresh magma injections are represented by the
441 resorbed cores in clinopyroxene phenocrysts from phonolites and crystal-rich enclaves (Fig.
442 2b, 3b). In this context, eruption of intermediate to evolved magmas is typically associated with
443 the occurrence of abundant comagmatic enclaves (e.g., Costa et al., 2020), also indicative of
444 the cannibalization of the crystalline mush (Cashman and Blundy, 2013).

445

446 ***5.3 Assimilation and fractional crystallization: The origin of trachytes***

447 Trachytes are characterized by marked depletions in CaO, Sr, and Ba, with also
 448 negative Eu/Eu* anomaly that differs markedly from phonolites (Figs. 5 and 6). Results from
 449 mass balance calculations confirm the origin of trachytes from mugearitic magma (i.e., sample
 450 M2) due to fractionation of a phase assemblage dominated by feldspar (i.e., 21% alkali feldspar
 451 + 19% plagioclase + 10% clinopyroxene + 7% amphibole + 3% titanomagnetite;
 452 **Supplementary Material S6**). However, Sr isotopes of trachytes (i.e., $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr} > 0.7040$) deviate
 453 significantly from the isotopic range of intermediate magmas at Dunedin Volcano (i.e.,
 454 $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratios from 0.7028 to 0.7033; **Fig. 11e**). This deviation has been qualitatively related
 455 to crustal assimilation processes (Price and Chappell, 1975; Price and Compston, 1973). Here,
 456 we tested this hypothesis by the assimilation and fractional crystallization (AFC) equation of
 457 DePaolo (1981):

$$458 \quad C_l = C_0 \left[F^{-z} + \left(\frac{r}{r-1} \right) \frac{C_a}{z C_0} (1 - F^{-1}) \right] \quad (4)$$

459 where C_0 , C_l , D , and F are defined as in Eq. (1). C_a represents the concentration of the modeled
 460 element in the contaminant, whereas r is the mass ratio of assimilated to crystallized material.
 461 The parameter z is defined as:

$$462 \quad z = (r + D - 1)/(r - 1) \quad (5)$$

463 For the composition of the assimilated material, we have used the trace element and isotopic
 464 compositions of basement rocks from the Otago region (i.e., Haast Schists; Scanlan et al.,
 465 2020), with r variable from 0.1 to 0.2. Low mass ratios of assimilated material to crystalline
 466 residue are to be expected in small-scale magma bodies crystallizing at shallow crustal levels
 467 (Kuritani et al., 2005). The values of F and mineral phase proportions come from mass balance
 468 calculations (**Supplementary Materials S6**). Ba against Zr (**Fig. 11a**) and Sr against Rb (**Fig.**
 469 **11b**) diagrams show that the compositions of trachytes can be reproduced by AFC vectors
 470 involving a main modal assemblage of 20% alkali feldspar + 15% plagioclase + 10%
 471 clinopyroxene + 5% amphibole + 3% titanomagnetite. In a similar fashion, the fractionation of

472 a feldspar-dominated assemblage reproduces the increase of incompatible Yb and La (Fig.
473 11c), as well as the marked negative Eu/Eu* anomaly (Fig. 11d). Importantly, AFC vectors are
474 consistent with Sr and Nd isotopic changes of trachytes (Fig. 11e-f), also in comparison with
475 data reported by Price and Compston (1973) (see Supplementary Material S3).

476 To effectively characterize the energy balance of country rock assimilation, we used
477 the energy-constrained assimilation–fractional crystallization (EC-AFC) algorithm of Spera
478 and Bohron (2001). The input parameters are the same as for AFC modeling, whereas thermal
479 boundary conditions are based on temperature estimates (Fig. 8). The energy-constrained
480 model indicates that the lowest $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio of 0.7039 for trachytes is related to 5%
481 assimilated material and 48% crystalline residue (Fig. 12a). In contrast, the highest $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$
482 ratio of 0.7060 is due to 15% assimilated material and 60% crystalline residue (Fig. 12a).

483 Country rock assimilation occurs when the heat provided by the intruding magma
484 exceeds the energy needed to heat and partially melt the country rock. If we consider that
485 magma at temperature T_m intrudes a country rock at T_a , and magma-country rock interaction
486 develops at equilibrium temperature T , then the minimum condition for assimilation may be
487 expressed as (modified after Reiners et al., 1995):

$$488 \quad M_c \Delta H_f^c + M_m C_p^m \Delta T_a = M_a \Delta H_f^a + M_a C_p^a \Delta T_a \quad (6)$$

489 M_m , M_c , and M_a represents the mass of magma, fractionated crystals, and assimilated,
490 respectively. C_p^a and C_p^m are the specific isobaric heat capacities ($\text{J K}^{-1} \text{g}^{-1}$) for assimilated and
491 magma, respectively. C_p^a has been estimated via thermodynamic simulations based on the
492 Rhyolite-MELTS algorithm (v.1.2.0; Gualda et al., 2012) conducted for both solid and melt
493 assimilated fractions (see Supplementary Material S7 for further details). C_p^m has been estimated
494 with the T -dependent model of Stebbins et al. (1984). ΔH_f^a and ΔH_f^c are the specific enthalpy
495 of fusion (J g^{-1}) for assimilated and solid fractions, respectively. These thermodynamic
496 quantities have been determined using mineral enthalpies from published data sets (Ghiorso,

497 2004; Lesher & Spera, 2015; Robie et al., 1995), considering a basement lithology composed
498 of quartz + alkali feldspar + muscovite (cf. Scanlan et al., 2020). The solid residue results from
499 the crystallization of a mugearite (i.e., sample M2) recognized as the progenitor of trachytes
500 (Fig. 11; Supplementary Materials S6). MELTS thermodynamic simulations have been
501 performed at 600–250 MPa, 1050–800 °C, 2.5 wt.% H₂O_{initial}, FMQ, as derived by previous
502 mineral-melt constraints (cf. Figs. 7, 8, and 9). This data set provided the relative proportions
503 of M_c and M_m , as well as the maximum degree of country rock partial melting. Eq. (6) has been
504 solved for a country rock at initial $T_a = 350$ °C (i.e., depth of ~10 km, assuming a geothermal
505 gradient of 35 °C/km) and initial magma mass ($M_m^0 = 1$) at $T_m = 1050$ °C (see Supplementary
506 Material S7 for further details). Results from calculations are plotted in Fig. 12b showing that
507 the thermal range of trachytic magmas (i.e., $T \leq 925$ °C) is consistent with the assimilation of
508 small amounts of crustal material (5–15% relative to the initial mass of magma). Within this
509 thermal range, M_a is much lower than M_c , according to a M_a/M_c ratio between 0.10 and 0.25.
510 This result corroborates the low mass ratios of assimilated country rock adopted in AFC
511 modelling. Moreover, the heat released by the intruding magma significantly exceeds the heat
512 required to assimilate the country rock (Fig. 12b), thus supporting the efficacy of AFC
513 processes in influencing the trace element and isotopic signature of trachytic magmas.
514 Assimilation of crustal material has been shown by Harris (1995) to control silica saturation in
515 evolved rocks from the Damaraland complexes (NW Namibia). Mildly alkaline rocks from our
516 study are characterized by constant normative compositions, being mostly nepheline-normative
517 to slightly hypersthene-normative (Supplementary Material S3). Nonetheless, quartz-
518 normative trachytes with high ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr also occur at Dunedin Volcano (Price & Compston,
519 1973; Price & Chappell, 1975; Scott et al., 2020), indicating that crustal assimilation may have
520 played a role in promoting silica saturation of some erupted trachytes.

521

522 *5.4 Plumbing system maturity: trachyte-phonolite transition*

523 Spatial and temporal compositional heterogeneities in magmas are likely to derive from
524 the long lifespan of Dunedin Volcano (i.e., ~5 Ma; [Scott et al., 2020](#)), in concert with variable
525 inputs of asthenospheric melts and melting degrees of lithospheric lithologies ([Pontesilli et al.,](#)
526 [2021](#)). Given the long life-span of activity it is unlikely that a centralized plumbing system was
527 active throughout the history of the volcano. Instead, localized development of magma
528 reservoirs is likely to have fed intermediate to evolved dispersed centers, such as Karitane
529 ([McLeod & White, 2018](#)). Specifically, stratigraphic and geochronologic constraints on the
530 eruptive products indicate that phonolites occurred mostly at the latest stage of activity, being
531 mainly erupted between 11.0 ± 0.2 and 12.8 ± 0.3 Ma ([Benson, 1968](#); [Coombs, 1965](#); [Coombs](#)
532 [et al., 2008](#); [McDougall & Coombs, 1973](#); [Price, 1973](#)). In contrast, mildly alkaline products
533 are stratigraphically related to the early stage of volcanic activity ([Allen, 1974](#)), with
534 geochronological data indicating an age comprised between 13.1 ± 0.3 and 14.2 ± 0.3 Ma
535 ([Coombs et al., 2008](#); [McDougall & Coombs, 1973](#)).

536 Following this line of reasoning, we observe that the assimilation of country rock
537 material involved only the differentiation of mildly alkaline magmas to trachytes, prior to
538 differentiation of the phonolites ([Fig. 11e-f](#)). The late crystallization of phonolites occurred
539 also at temperatures higher than trachytes ([Fig. 8](#)), suggesting that heat exchange with the
540 country rock was less efficient during the differentiation of highly alkaline magmas. According
541 to the stratigraphic and geochronologic constraints, it is likely that early mugearitic and
542 benmoreitic injections opened the path towards upper crustal levels where they formed
543 trachytic reservoirs later intruded by highly alkaline magmas to form crystalline mush layers.
544 Re-working of crustal pathways may also explain the similar storage depths estimated for
545 highly and mildly alkaline magma series ([Fig.10](#)). Results of melting experiments and
546 thermodynamic modelling by [Meade et al. \(2014\)](#) revealed that, although crustal sections not

547 previously affected by magma intrusion are highly fusible, repeated heating events will make
548 the crust more refractory over time. Crustal pre-conditioning by previous trachytic injections
549 would be capable of shielding crustal lithologies and inhibiting magma-country rock
550 interaction, as the magmatic intrusions tend to follow pre-established crustal pathways (Thiele
551 et al., 2021).

552 Transitions between trachyte and phonolite magmas is a typical characteristic of
553 intraplate volcanic systems worldwide (e.g. Thompson et al., 2001; White et al., 2012).
554 Trachytes with high radiogenic Sr were also analyzed by Panter et al. (1997) at Marie Byrd
555 Land (Australia). Assimilation and fractional crystallization produced trachytes from fast
556 ascending parental magmas, whereas phonolites differentiated by abundant feldspar
557 fractionation from more alkaline magmas ponding in the upper crust (Panter et al., 1997). At
558 Ulleung volcano (South Korea), Park et al. (2020) suggested that syenitic intrusions were
559 generated after inputs of alkaline melts in trachytic reservoirs, also anticipating phonolitic
560 eruptions. Therefore, abundant volumes of phonolites (Coombs, 1965; Price, 1973) in the
561 eruptive record point to the development of a complex plumbing system where trachyte to
562 phonolite transition marks an important stage in the maturity of the shallow crystalline mush
563 (Fig. 10). Younger phonolitic magmas developed at the mature stage of Dunedin Volcano via
564 melt segregation and accumulation within a crystal-rich framework over a prolonged time
565 (>100 ka; Bachmann & Huber; 2019; Szymanowski et al., 2017).

566

567 **6. Conclusions**

568 In this contribution the differentiation of intermediate to evolved magma compositions
569 at Dunedin Volcano has been investigated by means of whole-rock major and trace element
570 and isotope analyses. Mineral chemistry of phenocrysts in equilibrium with their host magmas
571 have been used to reconstruct magma storage conditions. Highly alkaline (phonotephrite-

572 tephriphonolite) and mildly alkaline (mugearite-benmoreite) magmas crystallize
573 clinopyroxene, amphibole, and plagioclase at low-to-mid crustal depths (~16–29 km). Magma
574 ascent towards upper crustal levels (~5–14 km) is accompanied by abundant crystallization of
575 a feldspar-dominated phase assemblage at low temperatures. At these shallow crustal levels,
576 the formation of more differentiated phonolitic and trachytic magmas is related to a range of
577 processes, including crystal fractionation, assimilation of crustal lithologies, and interaction
578 between ascending magmas and crystal mush zones in the shallow portions of the plumbing
579 system. Trachytes are produced by intrusion of mildly alkaline magmas in the upper crust,
580 where extensive cooling and crystallization provide enough heat to induce partial melting and
581 small degree of country rock assimilation. Conversely, phonolites are produced by extraction
582 of interstitial melts from crystalline mush regions. Remnants of the mush framework are
583 testified by crystal-rich enclaves (i.e., syenites and feldspar cumulates) entrained within highly
584 alkaline melts. Geochronologic and stratigraphic evidences show that eruption of trachytic
585 magmas preceded the emplacement of phonolites. Therefore, the transition between trachyte
586 and phonolite eruptions may be the final expression of magma plumbing system maturity.

587

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594

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904

905 **Figure captions**

906 **Figure 1.** Synthesis map of the Dunedin Volcano with extent of volcanic units, sample
907 locations and available geochronological data (Scott et al., 2020). List of sample coordinates
908 is included in **Supplementary Material S1**. P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M =
909 mugearite, B = benmoreite.

910

911 **Figure 2.** Representative thin section photomicrographs in plane-polarized light (PPL) and
912 cross-polarized light (XPL). (a) Phenocryst assemblage of clinopyroxene + amphibole +
913 plagioclase in a groundmass of clinopyroxene + plagioclase + titanomagnetite from a highly
914 alkaline intermediate lava (phonotephrite PT2) (PPL). (b) Typical phonolite texture (sample
915 P4), with green clinopyroxene + alkali feldspar + resorbed amphibole in a groundmass of green
916 clinopyroxene + alkali feldspar + titanomagnetite. Euhedral green clinopyroxene overgrows a
917 pink resorbed core (PPL). (c) Phonolites may be highly porphyritic, including abundant alkali
918 feldspars and strongly resorbed amphibole crystals, whose resorption rims consist of green
919 clinopyroxene + titanomagnetite + alkali feldspar (PPL). (d) Syenite enclave FE3 (hosted by
920 tephriphonolite TP3), with phase assemblage mainly constituted by amphibole + alkali feldspar
921 (XPL). (e) Feldspar-rich cumulate FE1 (hosted by tephriphonolite TP1) containing large
922 quantities of alkali feldspar (≥ 1 mm) and brown-greenish amphibole, as well as minor green
923 clinopyroxene with resorbed pink core, (PPL). (f) Typical texture of trachytes, with few
924 phenocrysts of alkali feldspar + plagioclase (oligoclase) + amphibole. The groundmass is
925 dominated by alkali feldspars, showing flow alignment (PPL).

926

927 **Figure 3.** Backscattered electron (BSE) photomicrographs of representative phenocrysts
928 whose compositions are described in the text. (a) Di, Ts-rich clinopyroxene from phonotephrite
929 PT2. (b) Clinopyroxene in phonolite P3 showing a resorbed and internally zoned Di, Ts-rich
930 core overgrown by a Di, Ts-poor mantle. (c) Large amphibole phenocryst from phonotephrite
931 PT2 showing a relatively thin titanomagnetite + clinopyroxene + plagioclase reaction rim
932 (< 100 μm). (d) Amphibole microphenocryst in phonolite P2, with a titanomagnetite + green
933 clinopyroxene + alkali feldspar reaction rims (slightly thicker than 100 μm), with grain sizes
934 decreasing toward phenocryst interior. (e) Amphibole in syenite FE3, showing homogeneous

935 interiors and very thin (up to few 10 μm) rim zoning toward Fe-rich compositions. (f) Alkali
936 feldspar from trachyte T1 in contact with a small, rounded fragment of schist.

937

938 **Figure 4.** Compositional characterization of (a) clinopyroxene, (b) amphibole, (c) feldspars.
939 An, Anorthite. Ab, Albite. Or, Orthoclase. Mg#, $\text{Mg}/(\text{Mg}+\text{Fe}^{2+})$ where all iron is expressed as
940 Fe^{2+} . P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M = mugarite, B = benmoreite.

941

942 **Figure 5.** (a) Chemical classification of whole-rock data according to the Total Alkali vs Silica
943 (TAS) classification of [Le Maitre et al. \(2002\)](#), with compositional terms for sodic varieties of
944 trachybasalt (hawaiite), basaltic trachyandesite (mugarite) and trachyandesite (benmoreite).
945 (b-e) Selected major elements variation plots vs. SiO_2 for whole-rock data. Enclave data come
946 from [Allen \(1974\)](#), [Price et al. \(2003\)](#), and [Hoernle et al., \(2006\)](#). Literature data on eruptive
947 products from [Scott et al. \(2020\)](#) are shown for comparison. P = phonotephrite, T =
948 tephriphonolite, M = mugarite, B = benmoreite.

949

950 **Figure 6.** Rare earth element (REE) plots normalized to chondrite CI according to [McDonough](#)
951 [& Sun \(1995\)](#) for (a) highly alkaline rocks, and (b) mildly alkaline rocks. Incompatible trace
952 elements normalized to primitive mantle according to [McDonough & Sun \(1995\)](#) of (c) highly
953 alkaline rocks and (d) mildly alkaline rocks. P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M =
954 mugarite, B = benmoreite.

955

956 **Figure 7.** Crystallization pressures of magmas based on equilibrium crystal-melt pairs and
957 expressed as probability density functions. Number of data in each sample group, as well as
958 average and standard deviation values are included in [Supplementary Material S5](#). Average

959 uncertainties are indicated by the error bars. P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M =
960 mugearite, B = benmoreite.

961

962 **Figure 8.** Crystallization temperatures of magmas based on equilibrium crystal-melt pairs and
963 expressed as probability density functions. Number of data in each sample group, as well as
964 average and standard deviation values are included in [Supplementary Material S5](#). Average
965 uncertainties are indicated by the error bars. P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M =
966 mugearite, B = benmoreite.

967

968 **Figure 9.** Melt water contents and oxygen fugacity of magmas based on equilibrium crystal-
969 melt pairs and expressed as probability density functions. Number of data in each sample
970 group, as well as average and standard deviation values are included in [Supplementary Material](#)
971 [S5](#). Average uncertainties are indicated by the error bars. P = phonotephrite, T =
972 tephriphonolite, M = mugearite, B = benmoreite.

973

974 **Figure 10.** Schematic representation of the temporal evolution of Dunedin Volcano plumbing
975 system, relatively to the differentiation of (a) mildly alkaline intermediate magmas to trachyte
976 and (b) highly alkaline magmas to phonolite. Insets refer to thin section photomicrographs
977 showing the main petrographic features described in text. At lower to middle crustal depths,
978 clinopyroxene + amphibole + plagioclase were segregated from intermediate magmas. As
979 magma rises towards the surface and differentiates, crystallization of a phase assemblage
980 including alkali feldspar at upper crustal levels leads to the evolution of trachytes and
981 phonolites. Trachytes were differentiated after assimilation of country rock lithologies and
982 segregation of significant volumes of alkali feldspars (a). Conversely, phonolites represent the
983 interstitial liquids of feldspar-rich mush zones in the upper crust, at the mature stage of

984 plumbing system evolution (b). P = phonotephrite, T = tephriphonolite, M = mugearite, B =
985 benmoreite.

986

987 **Figure 11.** Rayleigh Fractional Crystallization (FC), in situ crystallization (ISC), and
988 Assimilation and Fractional Crystallization (AFC) models. For details on model parameters
989 see [Supplementary Material S6](#). Whole-rock compositions, average crustal composition
990 ([Scanlan et al., 2020](#)) and literature data from [Scott et al. \(2020\)](#) are reported. (a) Ba vs. Zr. (b)
991 Sr vs. Rb. (c) Yb vs. La. (d) $\frac{Eu}{Eu^*}$ vs. Nb. In (e) and (f) $^{143}Nd / ^{144}Nd$ vs. $^{87}Sr / ^{86}Sr$ of intermediate
992 lavas, phonolites, trachytes, and crystal-rich enclaves are age-corrected to 13 Ma. In (f) $^{87}Sr /$
993 ^{86}Sr vs. Rb/Sr, results from AFC modeling are compared with isotopic data from [Price and](#)
994 [Compston \(1973\)](#) on phonolites and trachytes ([Supplementary Material S3](#)). P = phonotephrite,
995 T = tephriphonolite, M = mugearite, B = benmoreite.

996

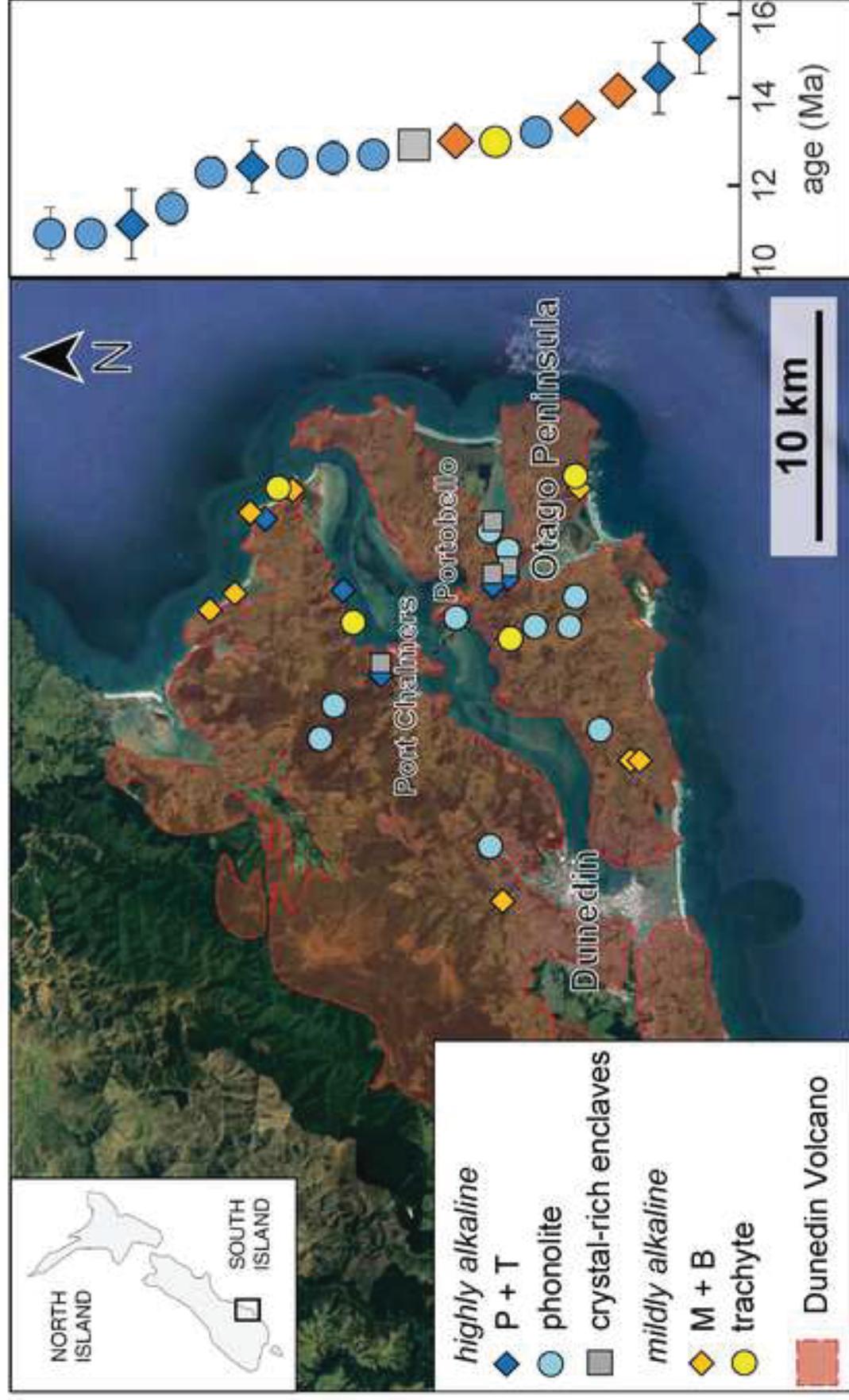
997 **Figure 12.** Energy Constrained - Assimilation and Fractional Crystallization (EC-AFC; [Spera](#)
998 [& Bohrson, 2001](#)) and thermal modeling results on the formation of trachytic melts via
999 intrusion of mildly alkaline magmas. (a) Mass fraction of assimilated country rock and solid
1000 residue of fractional crystallization as function of isotopic composition of the magma,
1001 according to the EC-AFC model. (b) Crustal assimilation occurs when the ratio of heat required
1002 to assimilate to heat released by magma is lower than 1. The thermal range is consistent with
1003 thermometric constraints, when largely crystallized mildly alkaline magmas evolves to
1004 trachyte, and provide enough heat to partially melt the country rock.

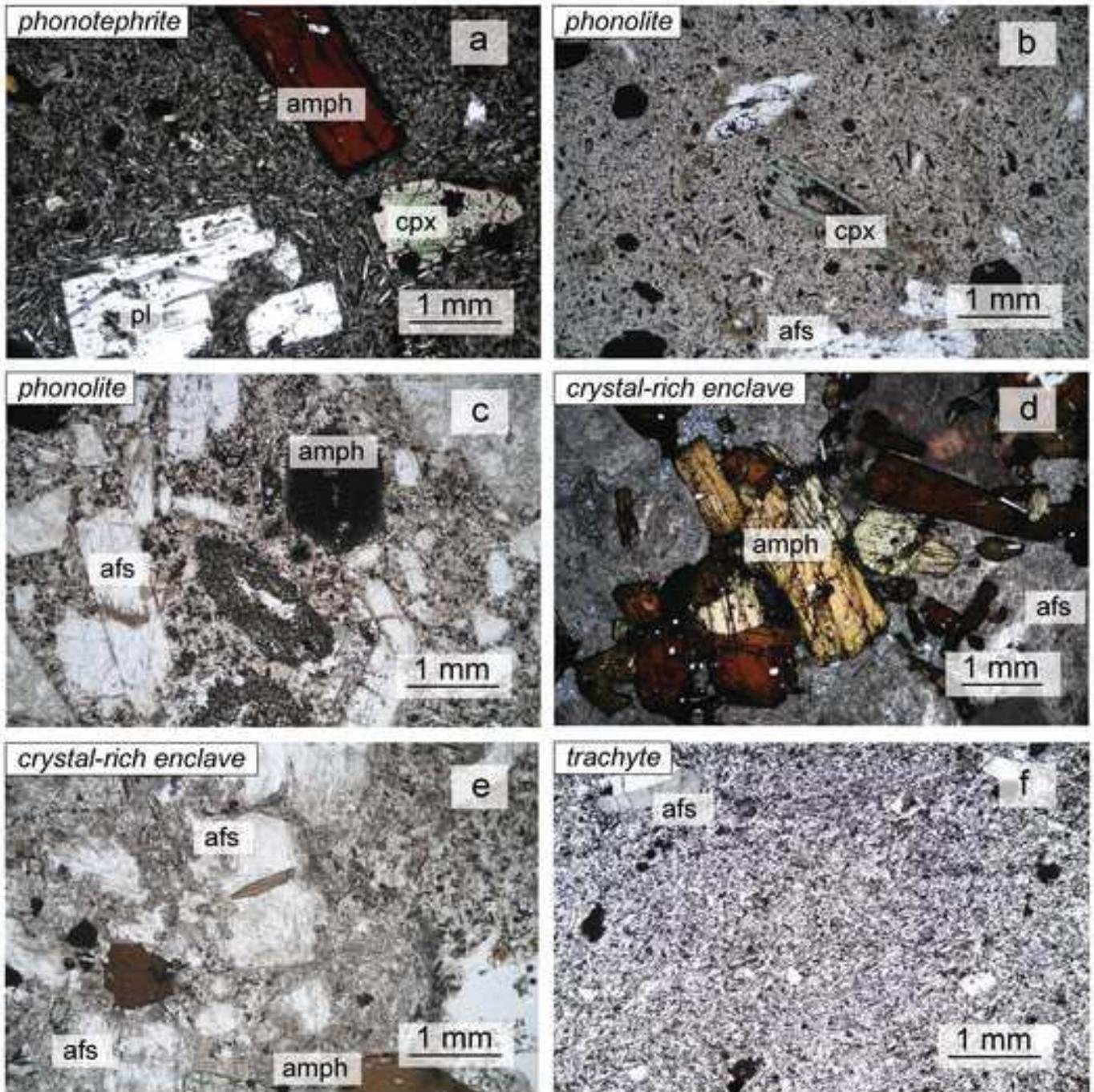
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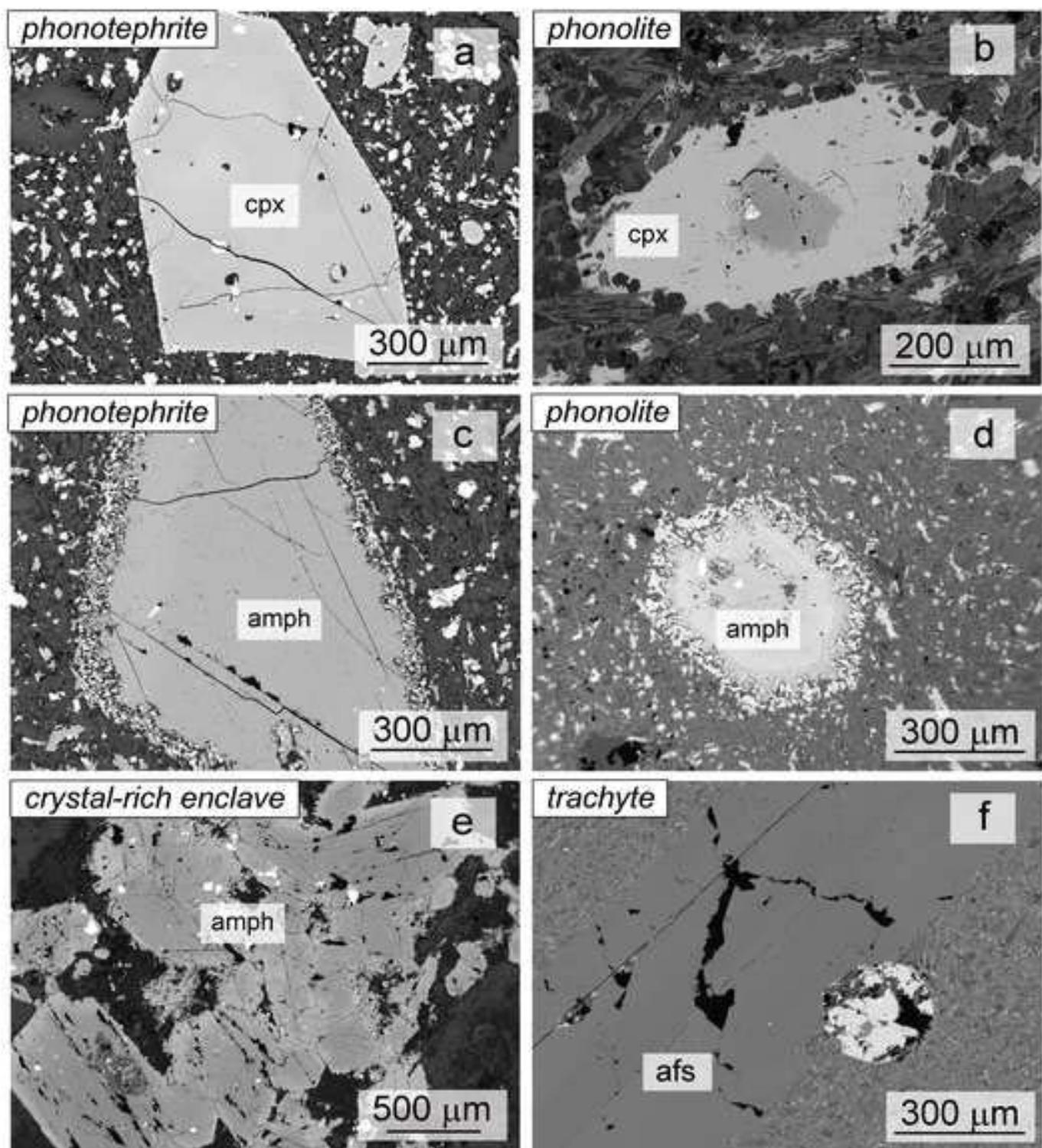
1006 **Table caption**

1007 **Table 1:** Phenocryst and groundmass mineralogy (minerals are reported in order of
1008 abundance), total phenocryst content, and initial Sr isotopic compositions of intermediate and

1009 evolved rock types at Dunedin Volcano. A complete list of all samples collected in this study
1010 is also included. For more details, see Supplementary Materials.







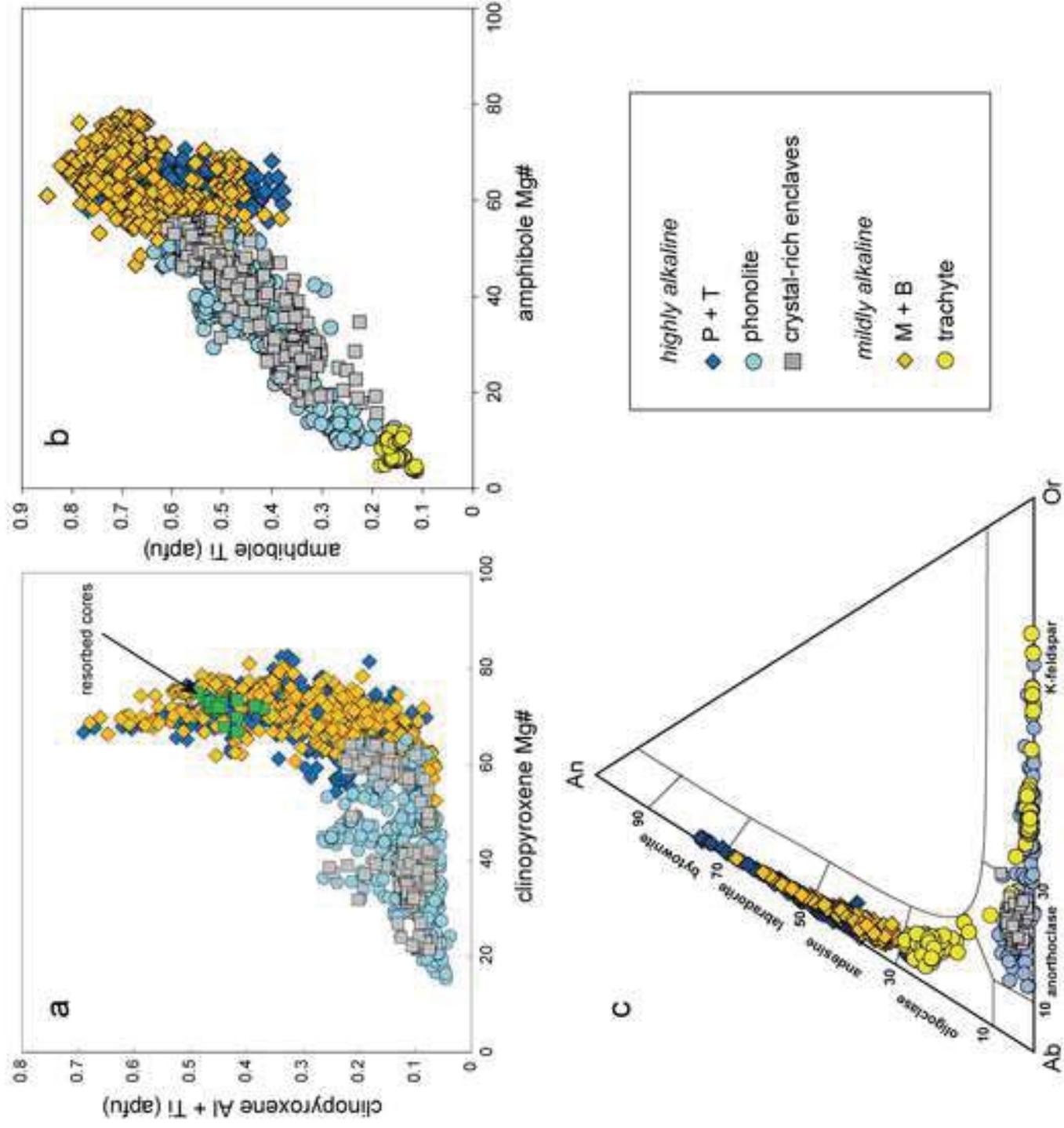
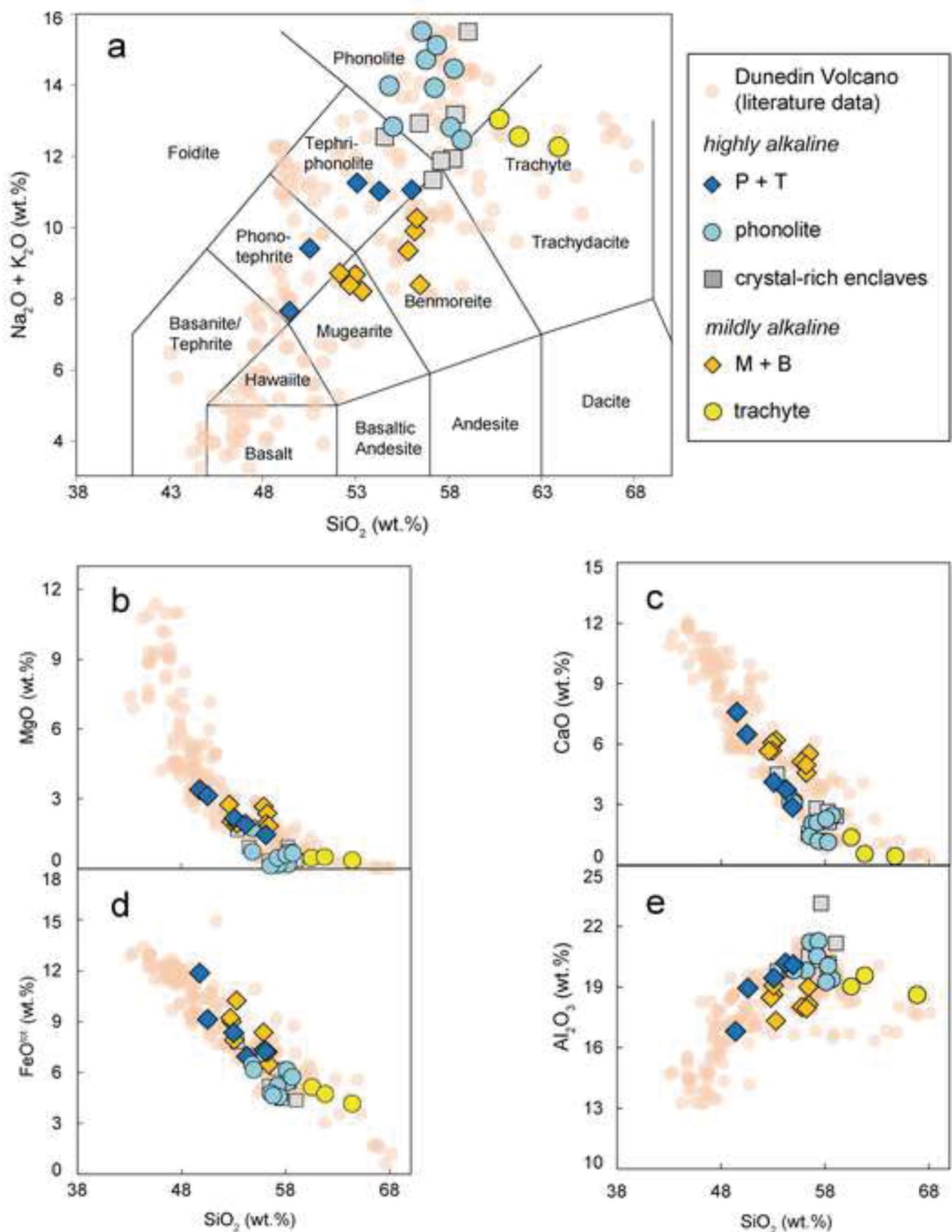
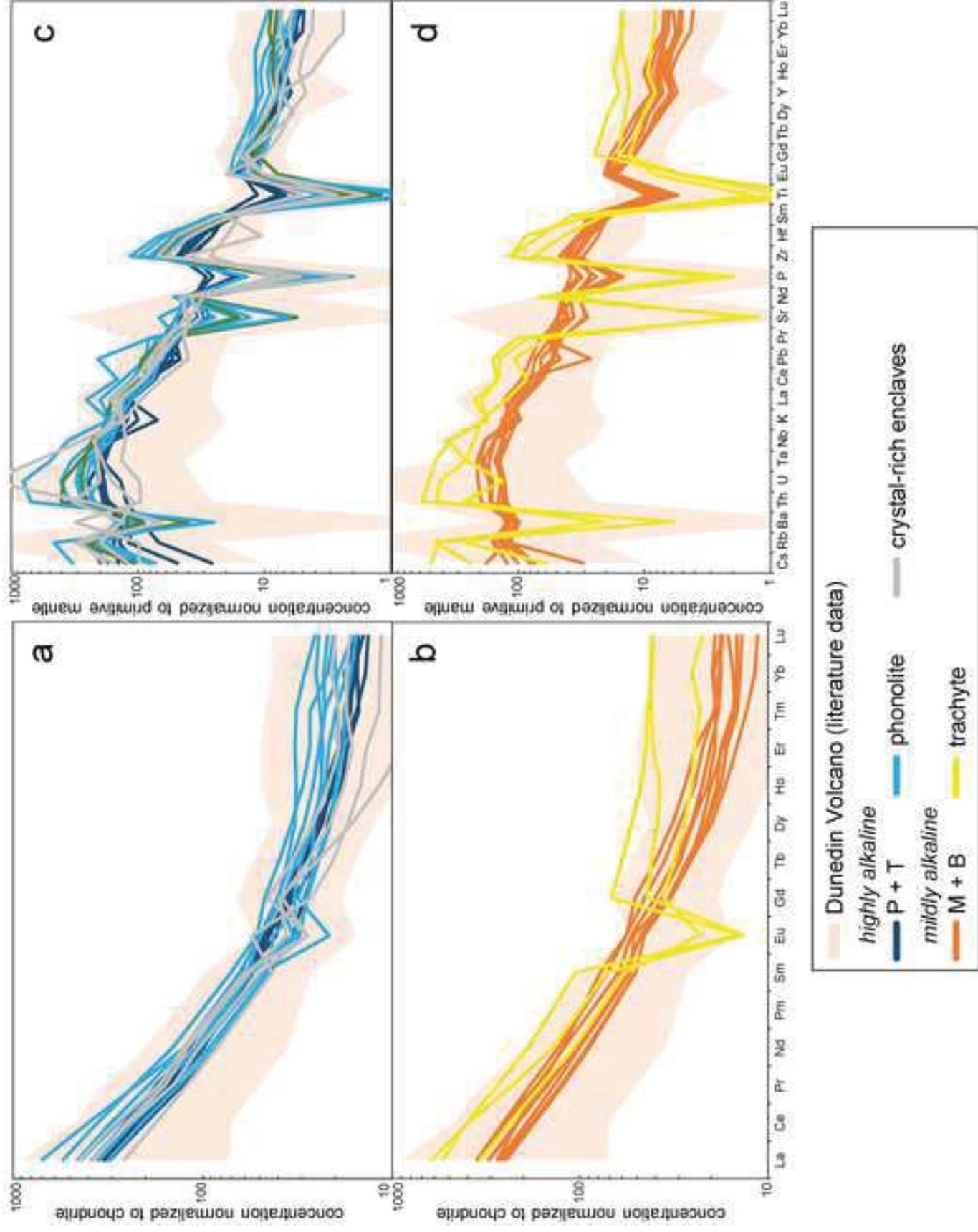
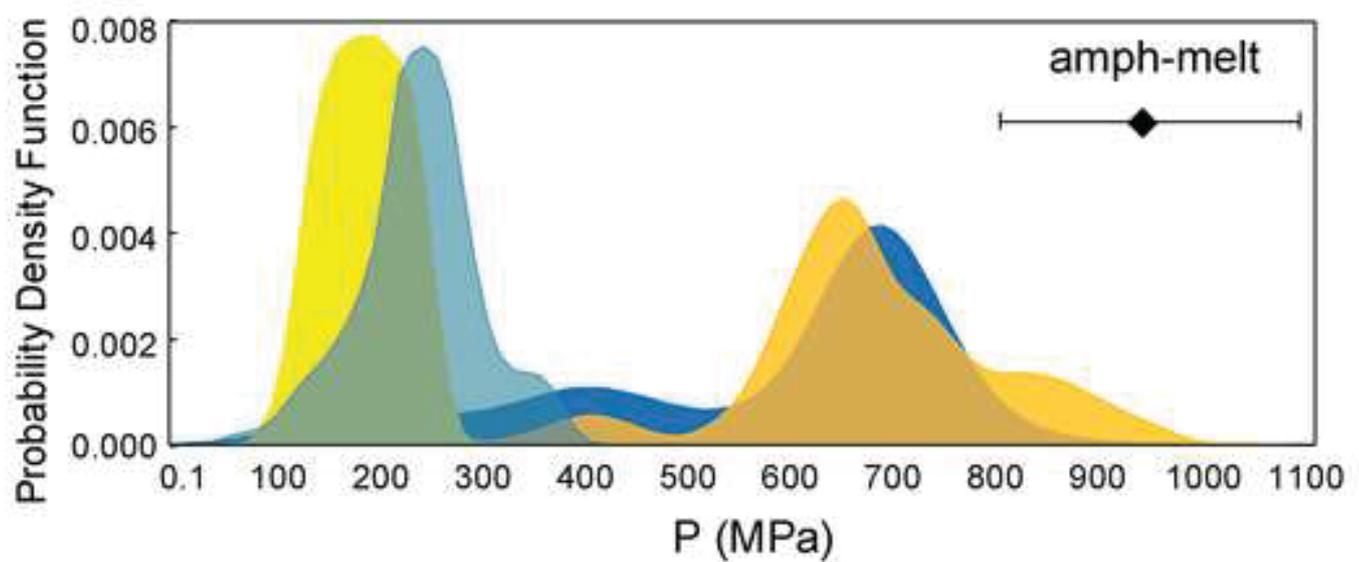
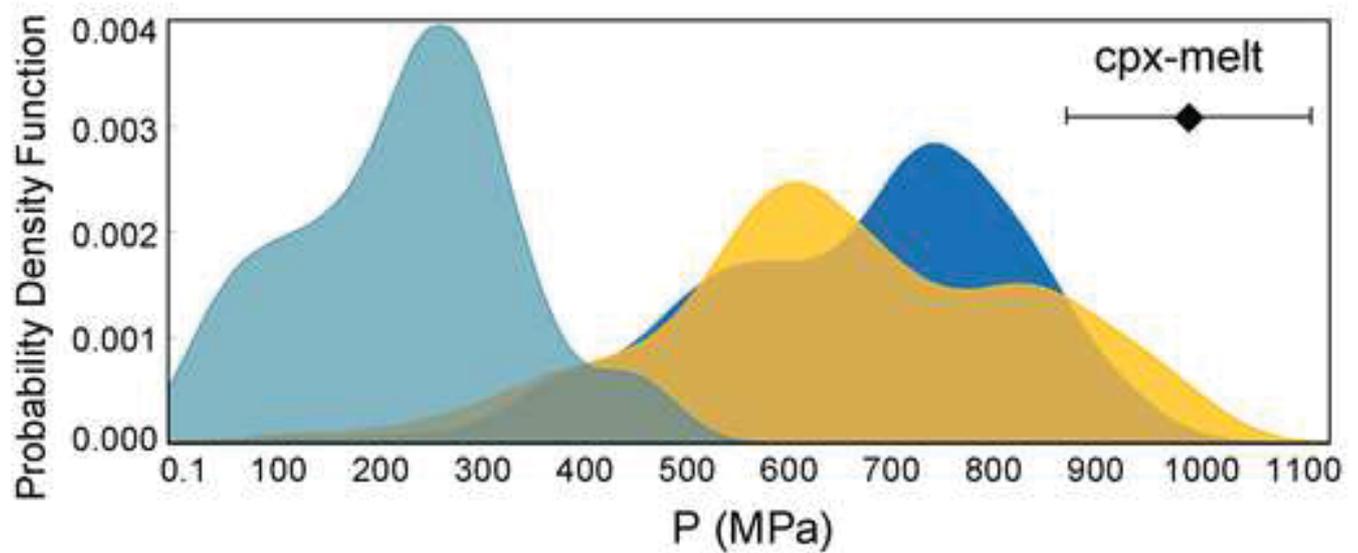
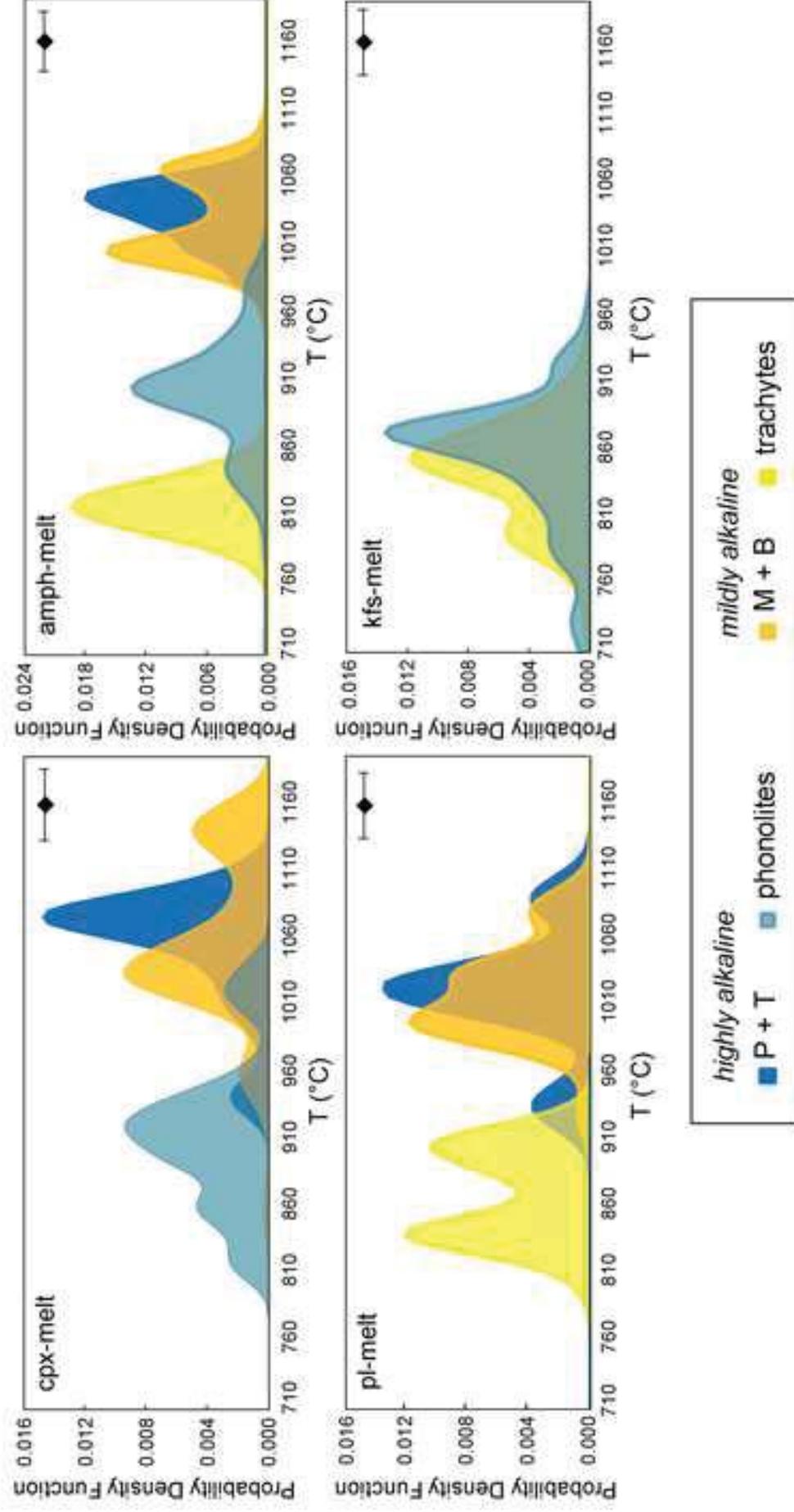


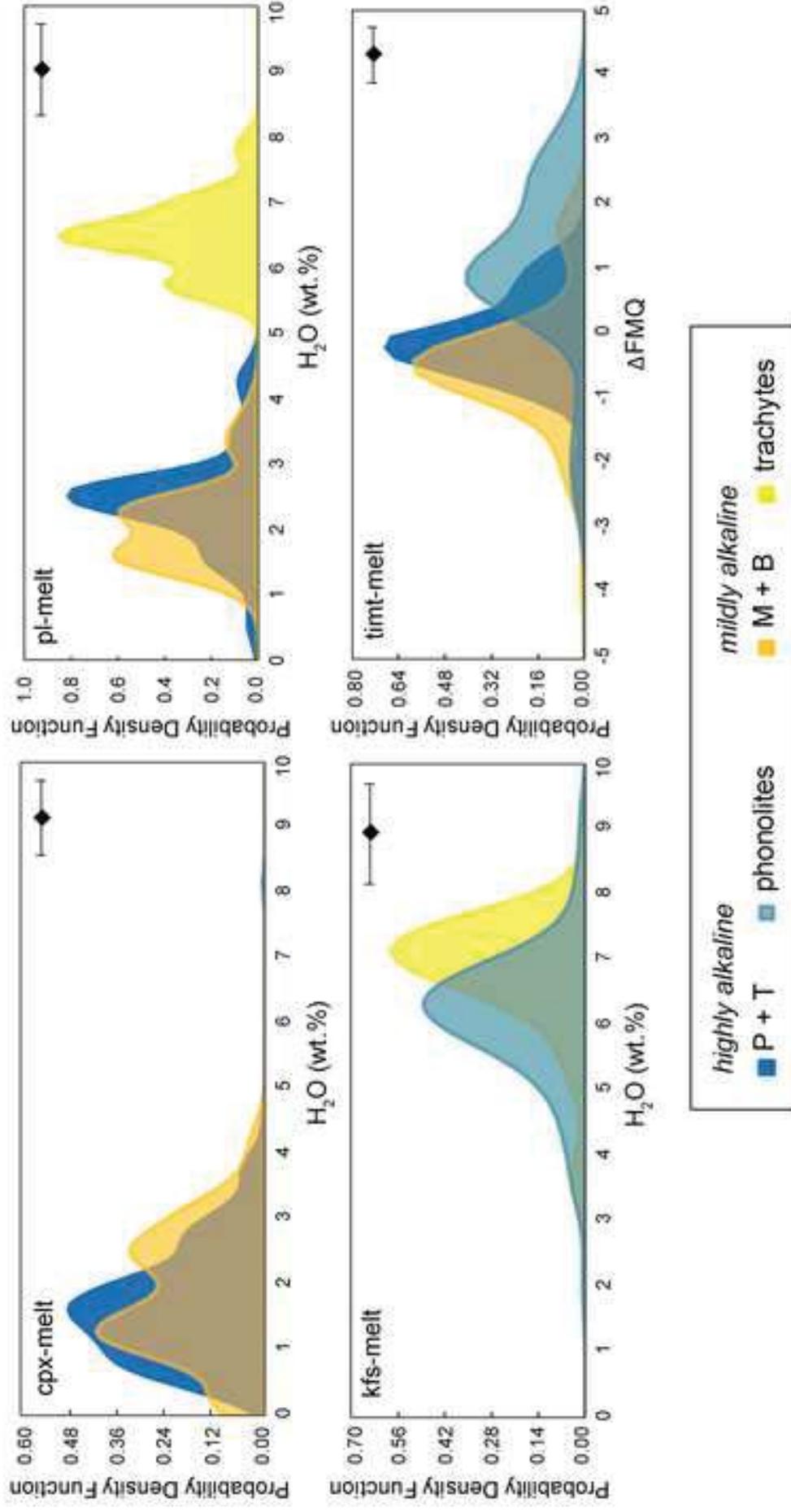
Figure 5

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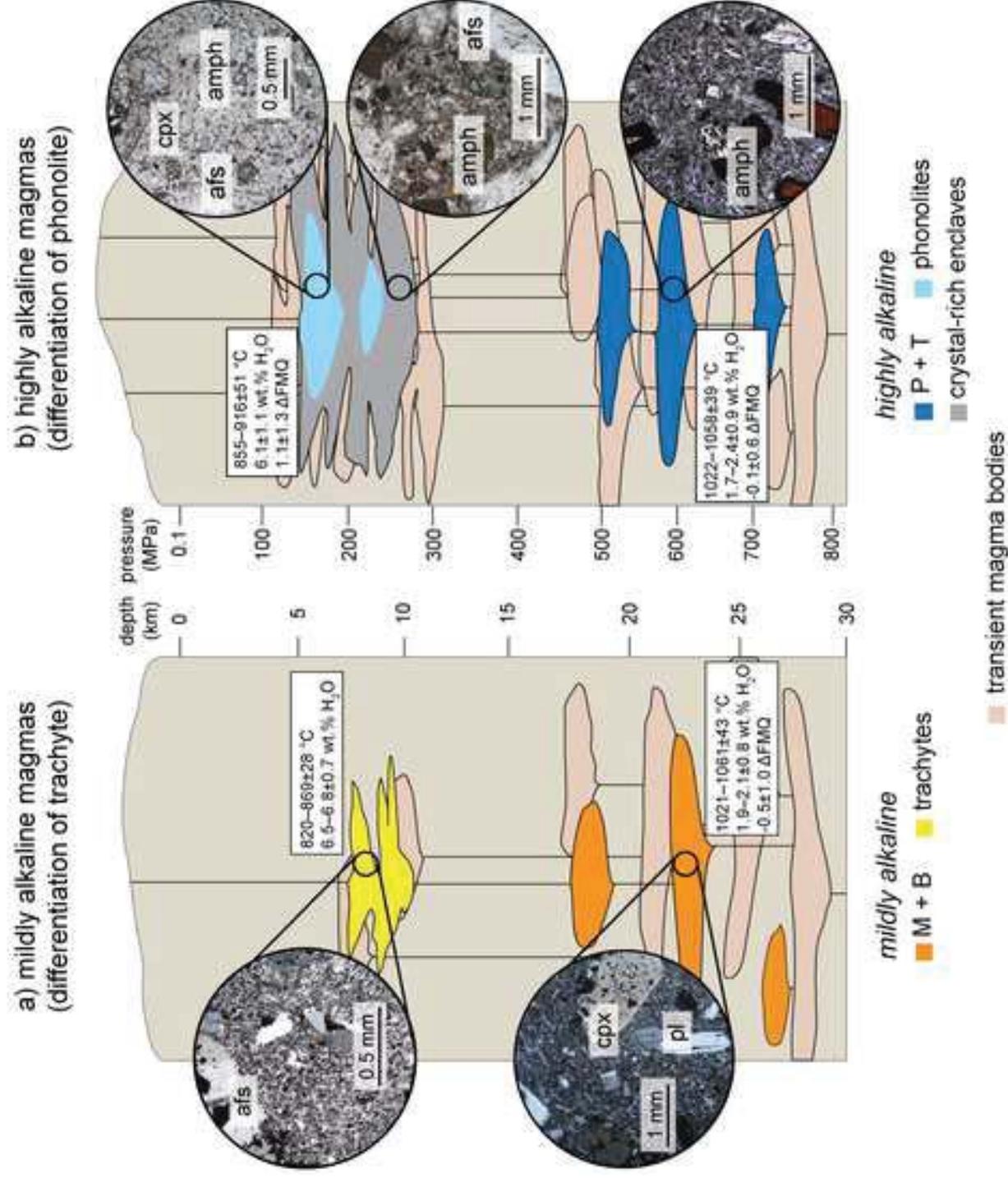


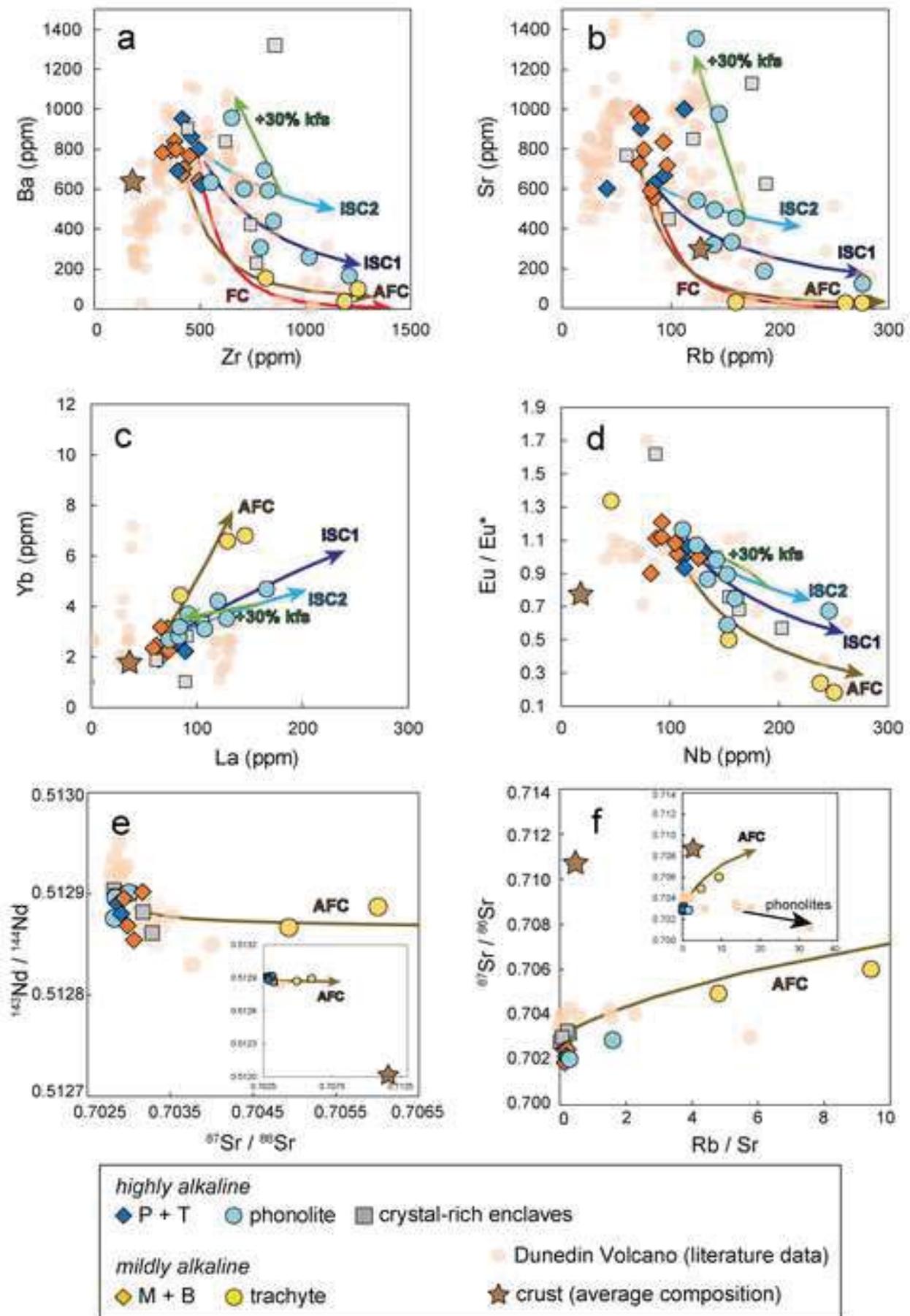






Dunedin Volcano temporal evolution





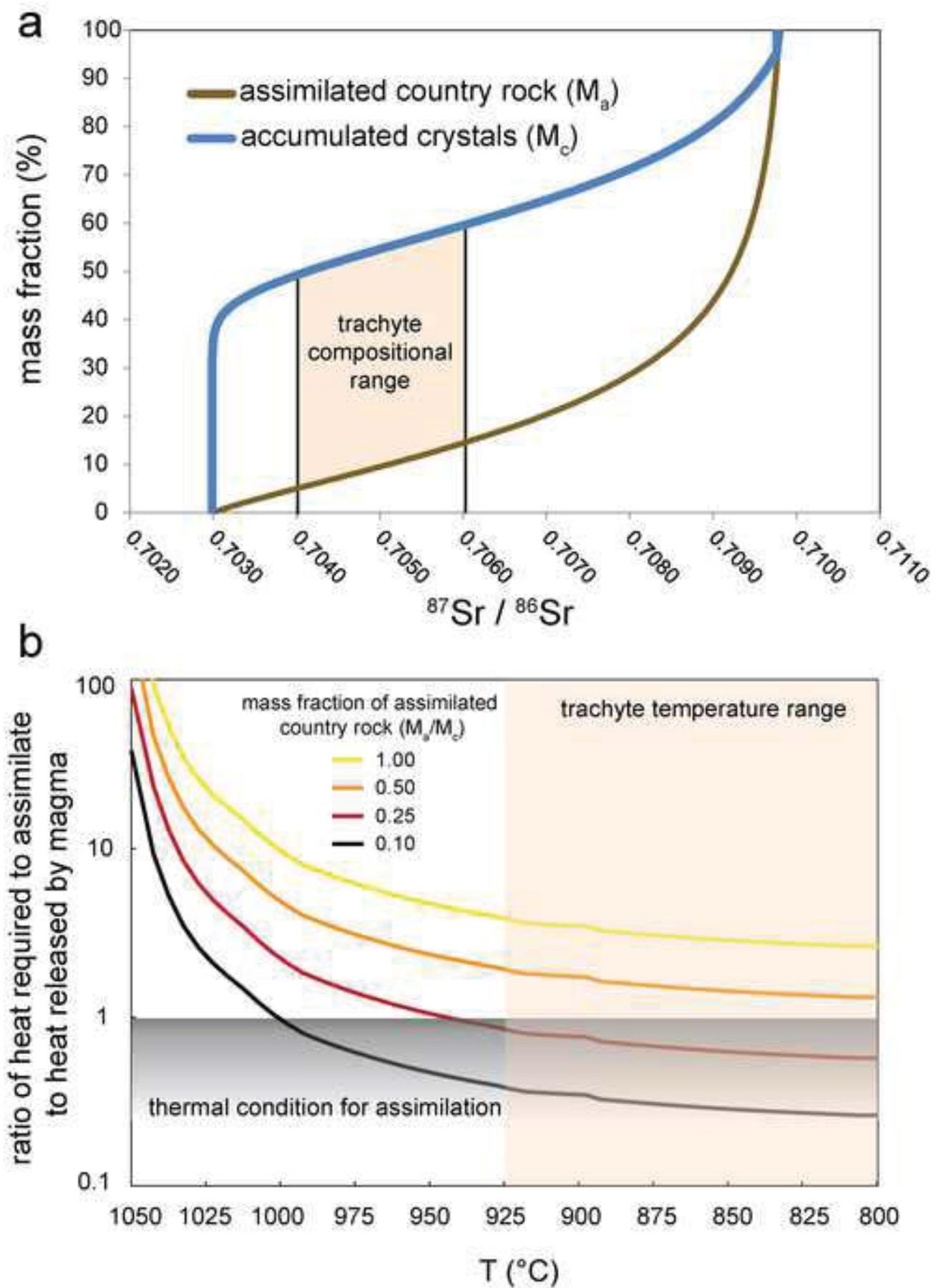


Table 1: Phenocryst and groundmass mineralogy (minerals are reported in order of abundance), total phenocryst content, and initial Sr isotopic compositions of intermediate and evolved rock types at Dunedin Volcano. A complete list of all samples collected in this study is also included. For more details, see Supplementary Materials.

rock series	rock type	phenocryst mineralogy	groundmass mineralogy	phenocryst content (vol.%)	$^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}_i$	list of samples
Highly alkaline series	intermediate rocks (phonotephrite, tephriphonolite)	Amphibole, clinopyroxene, plagioclase, titanomagnetite.	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, titanomagnetite, apatite	16–28	0.7029	PT1, PT2, TP1, TP2, TP3
	phonolites	Alkali feldspar, clinopyroxene, amphibole, nepheline, titanomagnetite.	Alkali feldspar, clinopyroxene, titanomagnetite, apatite	7–43	0.7028–0.7029	P1, P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, P8, P9
	crystal-rich enclaves	Alkali feldspar, clinopyroxene, amphibole, nepheline, titanomagnetite.	Alkali feldspar, clinopyroxene, titanomagnetite, apatite	62–100	0.7029–0.7033	FE1, FE2, FE3, FE4
Mildly alkaline series	intermediate rocks (mugearite, benmoreite)	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, amphibole, titanomagnetite.	Plagioclase, clinopyroxene, titanomagnetite, apatite	11–31	0.7029–0.7032	M1, M2, M3, M4, B1, B2, B3, B4
	trachytes	Alkali feldspar, plagioclase, amphibole.	Alkali feldspar; minor titanomagnetite	6–10	0.7049–0.7060	T1, T2, T3