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Temporal Trends in the Geochemistry and Petrology of the 1980 Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Deposits

Robert L. Logan

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TEMPORAL TRENDS IN THE GEOCHEMISTRY AND PETROLOGY OF THE
1980 MOUNT ST. HELENS PYROCLASTIC FLOW DEPOSITS

by
Robert Logan

Accepted in Partial Completion
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science

Dean of Graduate School

Advisory Committee

Chairman

MASTER'S THESIS

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Date: 5/15/2018

TEMPORAL TRENDS IN THE GEOCHEMISTRY AND PETROLOGY OF THE 1980
MOUNT ST. HELENS PYROCLASTIC FLOW DEPOSITS

A Thesis
Presented to
The Faculty of
Western Washington State College

In Partial Fulfillment
Of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Science

by
Robert Logan

ABSTRACT

Petrographic and geochemical analyses were performed on pumice from the May 18, June 12, July 22, August 7, and October 16-18 pyroclastic flow deposits. The pumice is dacitic and contains, in order of decreasing abundance, the minerals plagioclase An₃₀₋₅₇, hypersthene, hornblende, magnetite-illmenite, + augite, + apatite, in a groundmass of highly vesiculated glass and plagioclase microlites. Vesiculation occurred over a period of about one second, but at times during the eruption probably within a zone in the vent rather than at the atmosphere-magma interface.

An increase with time in the crystal to glass ratio indicates continued cooling of the magma. Resorption or recrystallization of hornblende in younger flows indicates degassing by loss of H₂O. Barring new intrusion of magma, these textural trends suggest that less explosive eruptions might be expected in the future.

Using inductively coupled plasma spectroscopy, elemental oxide abundances were determined for Si, Al, Ti, Fe, Mn, Ca, Mg, K, Na, and P; and trace element abundances were determined for Ba, Cr, Cu, La, Nb, Sc, Sr, V, Y, Zn, and Zr. Temporal trends in major and minor element abundances show that SiO₂ decreases, while FeO (total), CaO, MgO, TiO₂, and MnO increase. Temporal trends in trace element abundances show an increase in Cr, Cu, Sc, and V with a decrease in Ba. These trends are toward a more andesitic composition. These data are consistent with the hypothesis that orogenic calc-alkaline rocks are formed by a subcrustal two stage melting process.

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I would also like to thank Dr. Tony Irving for his guidance and discussions.

I am indebted to Ray Lasmanis, who arranged funding for the ICP analysis when the chromium tube on our XRF unit failed.

Thank you Colin Cool for your special care in analyzing the samples, and Arnold Bowman for making top quality thin sections out of pumice, a difficult job.

For the tedious job of typing the text and tables I am very grateful to Pam Whitlock and Loretta Andrade, and for helping with the typing and especially for acquiring and compiling references, and her cheerleading, I thank Connie Manson.

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I would like to dedicate this thesis to my children, Molly, Zeke, and Nellie, who were quiet.

INTRODUCTION

Statement of Problem

Mount St. Helens is located in southwest Washington on the western slopes of the Cascade Range (figure 1). On March 20, 1980, this stratovolcano began its latest eruptive cycle. Juvenile ejecta were not produced until the May 18, 1980 event, at which time voluminous outpourings of airfall tephra and pyroclastic flow materials occurred. Most of the airfall tephra was deposited to the northeast of the mountain, following the path of the prevailing winds. The airfall tephra contained a mixture of accidental and juvenile materials, becoming highly enriched in juvenile materials as the eruption progressed, but nevertheless was contaminated by nonjuvenile materials.

Pyroclastic flows occurred on all flanks of the volcano, but most of the flows and the greatest volumes of material were restricted to the valley of the North Fork Toutle River, on the north side of the cone.

Subsequent eruptions of May 25, June 12, July 22, August 7 and October 16-18, 1980, also produced pyroclastic flows. The pumice should better represent the composition of the magmatic source at the time of eruption than airfall tephra, since the latter contain considerable amounts of lithic material (Pevear et al., 1982).

Analyses of airfall tephra, pumice and lava domes for major elements by Melson et al. (1981), Lipman et al. (1981), and Scheidegger et al. (1982), have already shown that significant compositional changes have occurred with time. Irving et al. (1980) published

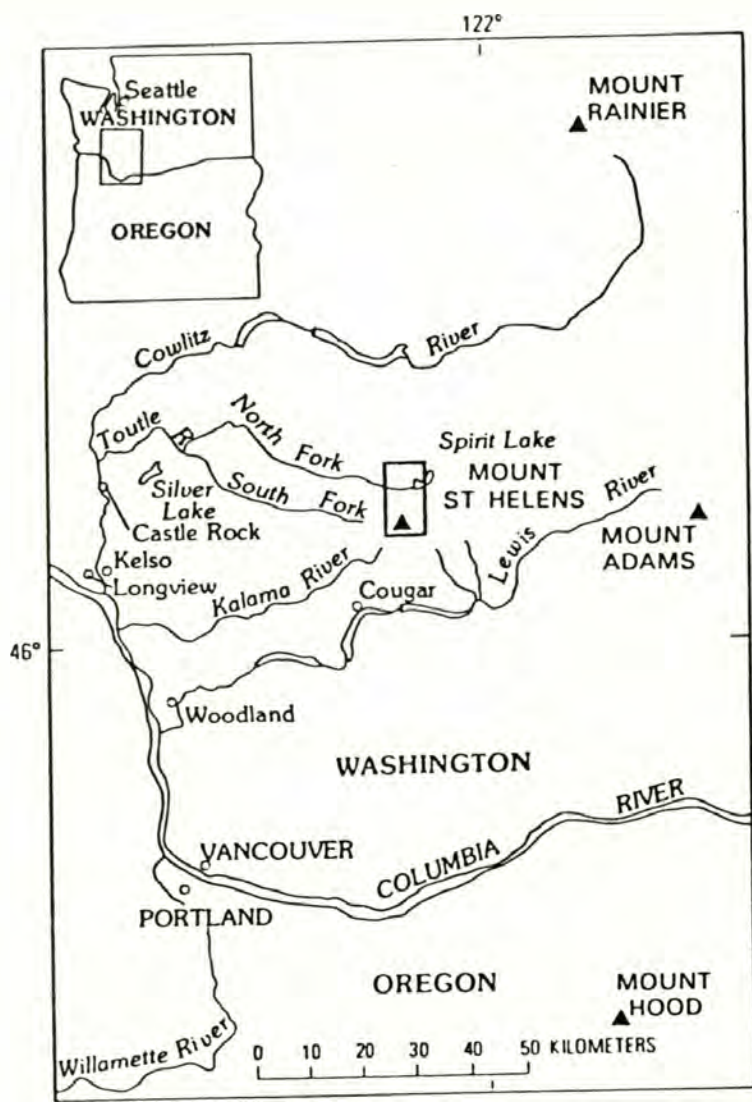


Figure 1. Map showing location of Mount St. Helens and field area.

data on a limited number of trace elements for pumice from the pyroclastic flow deposits.

The purpose of this project is to characterize the major, minor and trace element composition and mineralogy of the pyroclastic flow deposits as a function of time and to correlate the results with type of eruptive activity. Such information is potentially useful as a predictive tool for similar future events and may also be useful for evolving a better model for Cascade volcanism.

The approach of this study differs from other geochemical studies of Mount St. Helens ejecta primarily because it concentrates on pumice from pyroclastic flow deposits. A suite of pumice samples representing each pyroclastic flow deposit was analyzed. The study of pyroclastic flow pumice was chosen because each flow deposit represents a distinct time stratigraphic unit. These units are of varying size. The size (runout and volume) of the flows are a function primarily of the eruptive behavior of the volcano (Sykes and Self, 1981 and Moyer et al., 1982).

Analyses were carried out by Mr. Colin Cool at the University of Washington by inductively coupled plasma spectroscopy (ICP). ICP is a relatively new analytical technique which gives results comparable to other available geochemical technologies.

Field Area

The field area for this study (Figures 1 and 2) is located in the North Fork of the Toutle River valley, between Mount St. Helens and Spirit Lake, on a broad, gently sloping area referred to as the pumice plain. The area was chosen because it contained representative deposits of pyroclastic flows from each eruption of the

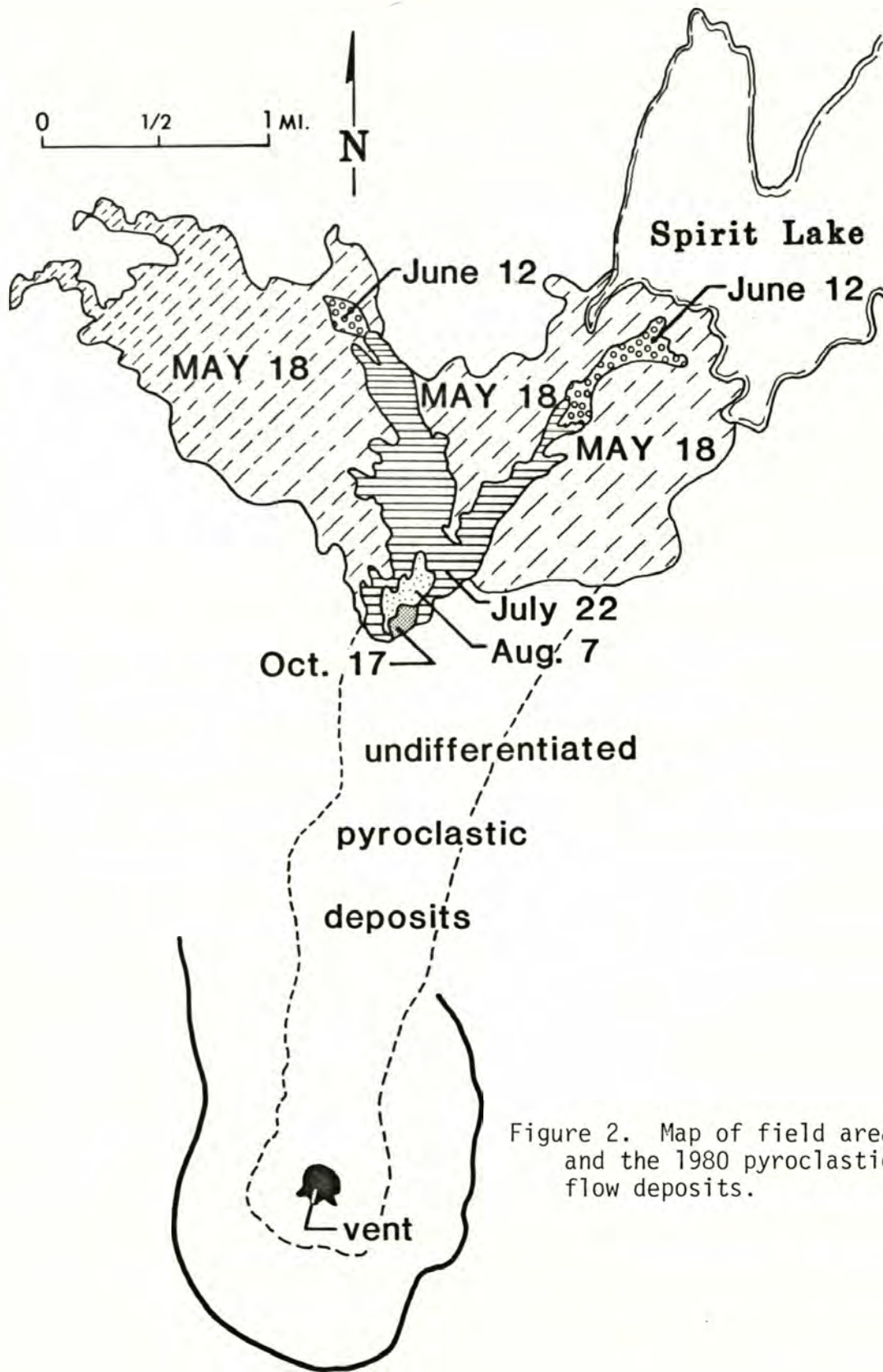


Figure 2. Map of field area and the 1980 pyroclastic flow deposits.

present eruptive cycle and was accessible by helicopter. Figure 2 is a map of the field area showing the extent of the pyroclastic flow deposits.

On May 18, 1980 at 8:32 a.m., a massive landslide occurred on the north flank of Mount St. Helens and filled the valley in places to a depth of about 300 feet with debris flow deposits (Voight et al., 1981). The landslide triggered an enormous eruption which began as a laterally-directed blast devastating a fan-shaped area of 150 square miles, lying to the north of the edifice. The eruption continued throughout the day, during which time numerous pyroclastic flows occurred.

The landslide left a gaping breach in the north flank of the mountain through which the pyroclastic flows were channeled. The emplacement of these flows added a relatively smooth veneer of pyroclastic material on top of the debris deposits in the valley. The largest pyroclastic flows occurred on May 18, 1980, with additional smaller flows being emplaced on May 25, June 12, July 22, August 7, and October 16-18, 1980. Pyroclastic flows also occurred on the east, south, and west flanks during the May 18 eruption but were not studied due to their inaccessibility.

The pyroclastic flows were caused by eruptive column collapse and direct fountaining of ejecta onto the crater floor. The flows consisted of a coarse basal flow accompanied by a hot expanding cloud of ash and gasses. An emplacement velocity of 100 kilometers per hour was reported by Hoblitt (1980).

Rowley et al. (1981) and Wilson and Head (1981) have described in

detail the morphology and extent of pyroclastic flow deposits. They estimate that approximately 0.142 km^3 of pyroclastic debris was erupted during the May 18, May 25, June 12, August 7, and October 16-18 eruptions. These flows covered an area of about 15.5 km^2 , and extended as far as Spirit Lake to the north and 15 km to the west down the valley of North Fork Toutle River.

The individual flows formed elongate deposits that bifurcated into tongues and lobes. Levees were common features along the margins of many of the flow deposits. Terminal ends and lobes of flow deposits were commonly steep but sometimes gently tapered. The abruptness of the margins and termini of most flow deposits greatly aided recognition of individual flows especially where color and textural variations between flows were subtle.

The flows were made up primarily of poorly sorted nonwelded pumiceous and lithic ash mixed with pumice clasts. Contaminants included dome rock, breadcrusted clasts, hydrothermally altered pumice, and pumice from previous pyroclastic flows. Charred wood was found in many of the flows. Clast size larger than ash ranged from pebbles to boulders of better than a meter or two in diameter. Figures 3 and 4 illustrate some of these features.

Figure 5 illustrates the general field conditions and textural features of pyroclastic flows as they appeared during the fall of 1980. The pyroclastic flow deposits at that time were intact, and it was not until the winter of 1980-81 that extensive fluvial erosion destroyed the surface features of the flows and eroded deep gullies into the deposits. Reworking of the deposits has become more exten-



Figure 3. Photographs of pyroclastic flow deposit "contaminants".
(a) Breadcrust clast formed when margins chilled while interior continued to expand by vesiculation. (b) Large hydrothermally altered pumice clast.



Figure 4. Photographs of pyroclastic flow "contaminants". (a) Charred wood. (b) Large boulder of dome rock containing a greater abundance of crystals and much less vesiculated than pumice clasts.

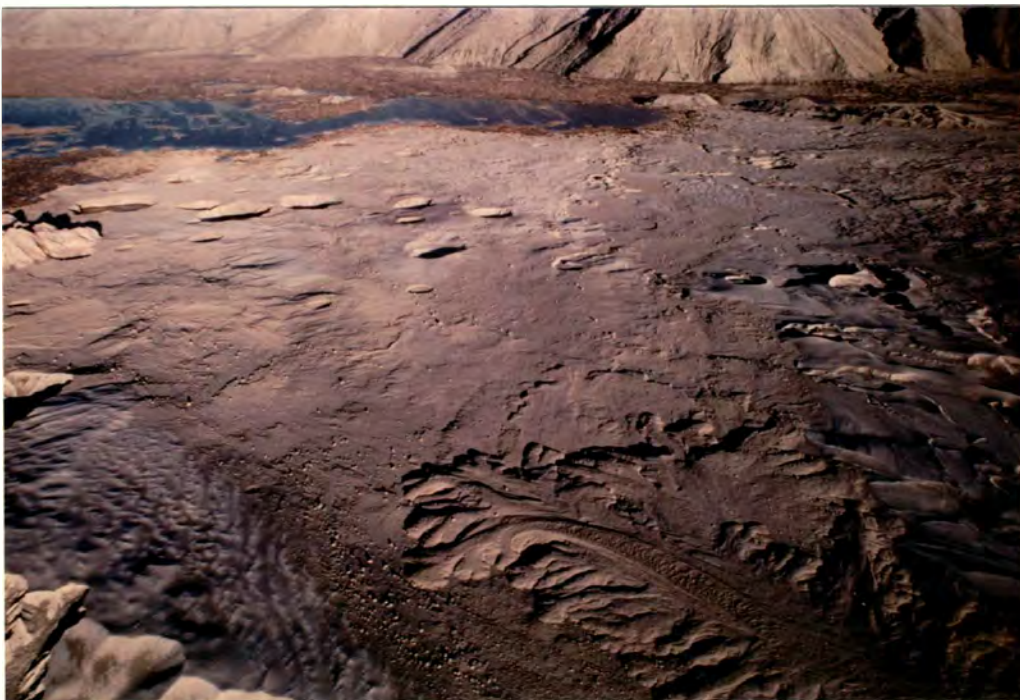


Figure 5. Photographs of (a) Field conditions encountered during the fall of 1980, and (b) Morphological features of pyroclastic flow deposits; note long tongues with marginal and terminal lobes. Relief on these features was generally not greater than a meter or two.

sive with each passing storm, completely destroying the surficial expression of nearly all of the individual flow deposits.

METHODOLOGY

The mapping and sampling phases were completed in the summer and fall of 1980, petrographic analysis in the fall of 1980, and geochemical analysis in January 1983.

Mapping

Shortly after most of the individual eruptive events of Mount St. Helens during 1980, the Washington State Department of Transportation flew aerial photography of the areas surrounding the volcano. The resulting photos have provided an excellent source of data for the compilation of a map of the extent of the various pyroclastic flows (Figure 2). Field checking of the map was accomplished on a limited basis by helicopter reconnaissance and on-ground investigation. The map and air photos were utilized to select 35 sampling sites in the North Fork of the Toutle River valley (Figure 6).

Sampling

Samples were collected on October 7, 16, and 19, 1980, using helicopter transportation to facilitate rapid completion of the task. Samples were collected across pyroclastic flow deposits at proximal, medial, and distal localities in order to obtain representative samples of each flow.

The flows are comprised of coarse pumice clasts in a sandy pumiceous and lithic matrix. Temperatures within the flows ranged up to

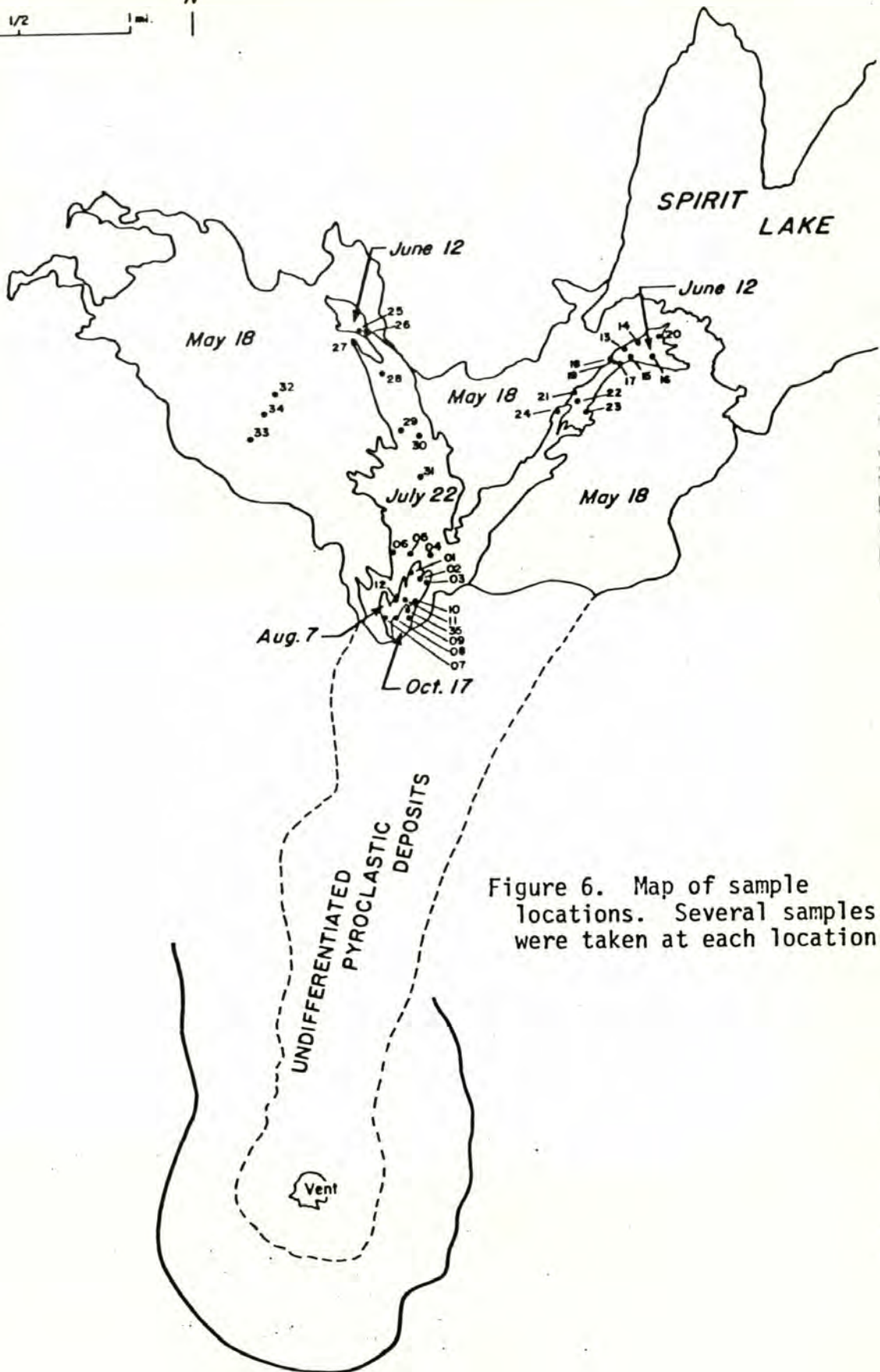
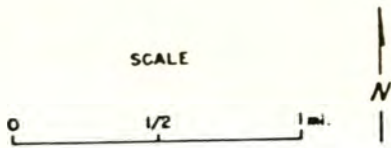


Figure 6. Map of sample locations. Several samples were taken at each location.

about 800°C depending on the depth in the flow, distance from the vent, and time elapsed after the eruption (Banks and Hoblitt, 1981). Although some pumice clasts were disseminated throughout the flows, most were concentrated at or near the surface of each pyroclastic flow where they cooled rapidly, thus reducing the possibility of hydrothermal alteration. The possibility of hydrothermal alteration of the pumice was further avoided by not sampling near the numerous small rootless fumaroles that dotted the surface of all flows. A typical cross-section of a May 18 pyroclastic flow showing the poorly sorted nature of the deposits, and a photograph of a small fumarole in a flow surface are shown in figure 7.

At each sample site, several fist-size pieces of pumice were collected; each sample taken closely resembled the appearance of the bulk of clasts in the pyroclastic flow being sampled. This was done to eliminate breadcrusted, dome and other foreign-appearing accidental materials that might have been mechanically incorporated into the pyroclastic flows during deposition. Some minor contamination of later pyroclastic flows with pumice of similar appearance from earlier 1980 flow deposits remains a possibility. Rowley et al. (1981) have shown that erosion by pyroclastic flows occurred in the rills and canyons of the breached crater through which the flows were channeled.

Laboratory Work and Data Reduction

Analytical techniques used in this study include inductively coupled argon plasma spectrometry (ICP) and petrographic analyses. The geochemical analyses were done by Colin Cool at the University of



Figure 7. Photographs of (a) Streamcut in May 18 pyroclastic flow showing poorly sorted nature of flows, and (b) Small rootless fumarole in May 18, pyroclastic flow deposit. Pumice clasts near many of these fumaroles were often discolored. Sublimates such as halotrichite were commonly found near fumaroles.

Washington, using a Baird inductively coupled argon plasma spectrometer. A total of 24 samples were analyzed. The samples were analyzed in random order to prevent bias. Sample preparation for geochemical analysis is described in Appendix A. Geochemical data were normalized and graphically presented using the Statistical Analysis System package (SAS).

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

Verhoogen (1937) described the petrography and chemistry of the various lithologies that comprise the Mount St. Helens edifice. Hyde (1970), Hyde and Crandell (1972), and Hyde (1973) investigated the glacial and surficial volcanic deposits of Mount St. Helens to determine its eruptive history. Greeley and Hyde (1972) studied the lava tubes of the Cave Basalt. Jillson (1917), Erdmann and Warren (1938), Holmes (1955), Folsom (1970), and Hopson (1971) discussed the eruptive history of the mountain. Studies of tephra deposits from Mount St. Helens include those by Laurence (1938, 1939, 1941, 1954), Borchardt et al. (1971), Carithers (1946), Mullineaux (1964, 1975), Mullineaux et al. (1972, 1975), Smith and Westgate (1969), Okazaki et al. (1972), Smith et al. (1977), and Smith (1980). Trace element analyses of Mount St. Helens tephra erupted prior to 1980 include studies by Randel et al. (1971), Dudas et al. (1973), Sarna-Wojcicki (personal communication in Smith, 1980), and Smith and Leeman (1982).

The chemistry of the recent eruptive products of Mount St. Helens has been studied by numerous investigators using a variety of techniques. Fruchter et al. (1980), using ICP and XRF, published data

on the major, minor, and trace element abundances of the May 18 ash. Hooper et al. (1980) analyzed May 18 ash for major elements using XRF. Irving et al. (1980) used XRF and INAA to study the major and trace chemistry of one pumice and various dome and ash samples. Melson et al. (1980a), by using electron microprobe, showed evidence for temporal trends for several major element oxides in probable essential ejecta. The petrology and geochemistry of dome material was studied by Raedeke et al. (1980) using electron microprobe. Major, minor and trace element abundances in the May 18 ash were determined by Taylor and Liehte (1980) using XRF and ICP. Wozniak et al. (1980) used XRF and atomic absorption to analyze May 18 ash for major elements. Sequential INAA was used by Hughes (1981) to study trace element partitioning effects in May 18 pumice. Lipman et al. (1981), using wet chemistry and XRF, analyzed a suite of magmatic material including all eruptions up to October 1980 for major element abundances. Melson et al. (1981) updated his previous electron microprobe study for trends in major elements. Sarna-Wojcicki et al. (1981) used XRF to determine major, minor, and trace element abundances in ashes erupted between May 18 and including August 7, 1980. Scarfe et al. (1982) described the mineralogy and geochemistry of pumice from the March 19, 1982 eruption. Finally, Scheidegger et al. (1982), using electron microprobe, investigated the chemistry of glass from May 18 ash and pumice from several pyroclastic flow deposits.

Investigations dealing primarily with petrology include those by Melson et al. (1980b), Kuntz et al. (1981), and Logan (1981). Rowley

et al. (1981) have described the chronology, morphology, and extent of the 1980 pyroclastic flows. Melson and Hopson (1981) have presented estimates of pre-eruption temperatures and oxygen fugacities in the 1980 eruption sequence. Various observations on conditions of emplacement of the pyroclastic flows have been presented by Hoblitt (1980), Hoblitt et al. (1980), Sykes and Self (1981), Wilson and Head (1981), and Moyer et al. (1982).

GEOLOGIC SETTING AND HISTORY

Mount St. Helens is a Quaternary stratovolcano, consisting of a composite volcanic pile built upon volcanic and volcanoclastic rocks of Quaternary and Tertiary age. These basement rocks include the Marble Mountain microphyric olivine basalt and hornblende andesite of Quaternary age. Tertiary deposits include the ashflow tuffs and tuffaceous sedimentary rocks of the Stevens Ridge Formation, and andesitic and dacitic, tuff breccia interfingering with pyroxene andesite lava flows and associated breccias, and local rhyolites of the Ohanapecosh Formation. The Ohanapecosh Formation is the most extensive Tertiary unit in the vicinity of Mount St. Helens. Local Tertiary intrusive rocks include the biotite hornblende dacite porphyry of the Goat Mountain plug; hypabyssal intrusive rocks, mainly pyroxene microdiorite and granodiorite; and the epizonal granodiorite of Cinnamon Peak and Mount Mitchell (Hopson, 1980).

The eruptive history of Mount St. Helens has been complex (Verhoogen, 1937; Mullineaux and Crandell, 1962; Hopson and Melson, 1980). This complexity is typical of a divergent volcano as

described by McBirney (1968) and Hughes et al. (1980). The oldest known product is a biotite-bearing pumice layer dated at 37,600 years before present (ybp) (Hyde, 1973). This unit marks the beginning of a period of eruptive activity that was characterized by numerous episodes of dacitic to andesitic volcanism, and lasted until about 2,500 ybp, and constitutes the ancestral Mount St. Helens cone upon which the present cone is built (Hoblitt et al., 1980). At approximately 1,950 ybp (Hopson and Melson, 1980), the products became generally more mafic in composition, including not only dacite and andesite but olivine basalt flows as well.

The modern cone yields evidence of several eruptive cycles. Beginning at about 1,700 ybp the orthopyroxene dacite of tephra layer B was erupted and was followed by the emplacement of the orthopyroxene dacite of the East Dome, clinopyroxene-orthopyroxene andesite lava flows, olivine-pyroxene andesite flows and tephra of the upper layer B and finally olivine basalt (Hopson and Melson, 1980). Following a repose interval of 500-600 years the basal W tephra was deposited (Mullineaux et al., 1975), with subsequent emplacement of the orthopyroxene-hornblende dacite Sugarbowl Dome. Hopson and Melson (1980) suggest that the Sugarbowl episode represents an "arrested cycle" since no lava flows are known to have followed. The next cycle, referred to as the Kalama eruptive period by Hoblitt et al. (1980), began about 450 ybp with the Plinian eruption of the orthopyroxene-hornblende dacite pumice tephra of set W, followed by the mineralogically diverse andesite tephra of set X. Ortho-

pyroxene-clinopyroxene andesite lava flows and orthopyroxene-clinopyroxene-olivine andesite (Kalama River) pyroclastic flows were then deposited prior to emplacement of the orthopyroxene-clinopyroxene-hornblende dacite summit dome at about 350 ybp. After a repose interval of about 170 years, the Goat Rocks eruptive period was initiated by the eruption of the orthopyroxene-hornblende-clinopyroxene dacite tephra of layer T, at about 180 ybp. Again, an andesite flow of orthopyroxene-clinopyroxene-hornblende mineralogy followed the initial dacitic tephra eruption. The conclusion of this eruptive phase at 138 ybp was marked by the emplacement of the Goat Rocks, an orthopyroxene-clinopyroxene-hornblende dacite dome (Hoblitt et al., 1980).

The current eruptive cycle began March 27, 1980 with minor lithic tephra eruptions followed on May 18, 1980 by extensive hornblende-orthopyroxene dacite airfall ash and pyroclastic flows and a clinopyroxene-hornblende-orthopyroxene dacitic dome. Geochemical analyses of these products indicate a slight trend toward a more mafic composition, a subject that will be discussed later in this paper.

PETROGRAPHY

The petrography of the pumice from the 1980 Mount St. Helens pyroclastic flow deposits has already been described by Melson et al. (1980b), Logan (1981), and Kuntz et al. (1981). However, a more detailed presentation of Logan's (1981) preliminary analysis is given in this thesis which includes a discussion on vesicle textures, and xenolith influence on petrochemical trends. Thirty-six thin sections

of pumice were analyzed, and the detailed petrography of each section is given in Appendix A. The mineralogy of each sample is listed in Table 1.

The pumice is light gray, has a dacitic chemistry based on SiO_2 content, and has fairly constant mineralogy throughout all flows. The glass in the groundmass is colorless and highly vesiculated. In addition to glass, minerals present in order of decreasing abundance include plagioclase feldspar, hypersthene, hornblende, and opaque minerals. Augite and possibly apatite are present in some samples.

Plagioclase is the most abundant mineral present in all samples as both phenocrysts and/or xenocrysts and microlites. Although larger phenocrysts are commonly present in hand specimen, the phenocrysts observed in thin section range in size up to 2.8 mm in length and are generally euhedral. Both normal and reverse zoning are common as are inclusions of pink to colorless glass. The inclusions often lie parallel to zoning surfaces within the plagioclase (Figure 8). The anorthite content, as determined using the Michel-Levy method, ranges from roughly An_{30} to An_{57} . Carlsbad and albite twinning are common, whereas pericline twinning is rare.

Pale pink to pale green pleochroic hypersthene is the most abundant mafic phase, usually making up about 5 percent of the rock. Euhedral crystals with sharp boundaries are the most common (Figure 9). These phenocrysts range in size up to 1.6 mm in length. Many phenocrysts contain opaque inclusions.

Hornblende phenocrysts ranging up to 2.6 mm in length are usually present in amounts of less than 5 percent of total phenocrysts.

Table 1. — Mineral Assemblages in Mount St. Helens Pumice

| Sample Number | Plagioclase | Hypersthene | Hornblende | Opaque Minerals | Clinopyroxene | Texture | Accessory Minerals | Xenoliths |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|-----------|
| 1 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 2 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | a | |
| 3 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | X | R | | X |
| 4 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | Gi | R | a | |
| 5 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | Pi | t | | |
| 6 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | R | | |
| 7 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 8 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 9 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | t | | |
| 10 | PG | PG | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 11 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | X |
| 13 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 14 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | R | | |
| 15 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | i | R | | |
| 16 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 17 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 18 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | X |

P: Phenocryst phase
 G: Groundmass phase
 r: Reaction rims of hypersthene microclites and/or magnetite
 R: Random
 t: Subtrachytic
 P*: For magnetite large crystals
 D: Disseminated in groundmass
 a: Apatite
 i: As inclusions
 X: In xenoliths

Table 1. — Mineral Assemblages in Mount St. Helens Pumice (Cont.)

| Sample Number | Plagioclase | Hypersthene | Hornblende | Opaque Minerals | Clinopyroxene | Texture | Accessory Minerals | Xenoliths |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|--------------------|-----------|
| 19 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 20 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 21 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 22 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 23 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | X |
| 24 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | X | R | | |
| 25 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | t | | |
| 26 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | R | a | |
| 27 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | t | | |
| 28 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | X |
| 29 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | X | R | | |
| 30 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | P | R | | |
| 31 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 32 | PG | P | P | P*Di | | R | | |
| 33 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 34 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | | R | | |
| 35 | PG | P | Pr | P*Di | PX | R | | X |

P: Phenocryst phase

G: Groundmass phase

r: Reaction rims of hypersthene microclites and/or magnetite

R: Random

t: Subtrachytic

p*: For magnetite large crystals

D: Disseminated in groundmass

a: Apatite

i: As inclusions

X: In Xenoliths

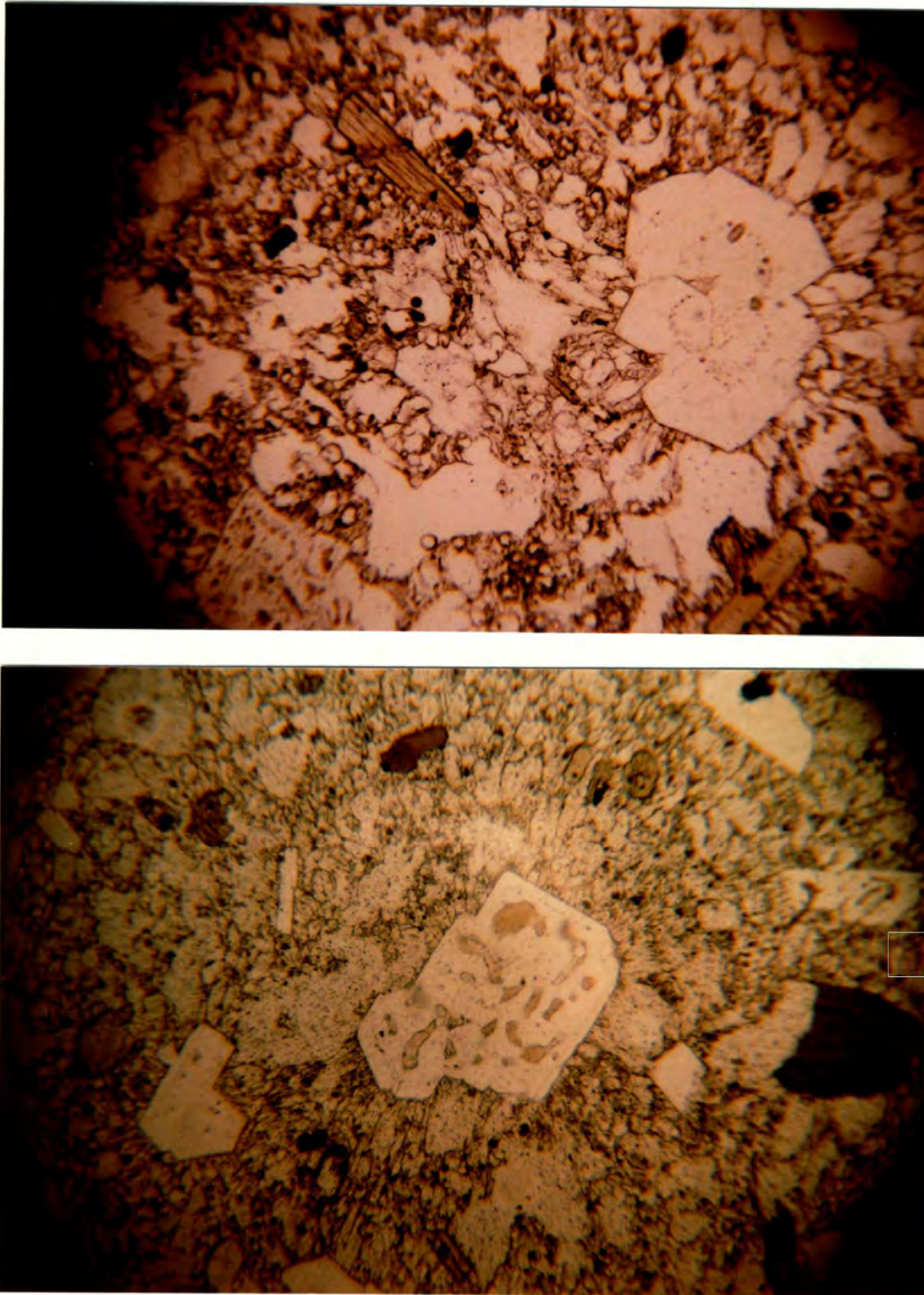


Figure 8. Photomicrographs showing glass inclusions in plagioclase feldspar, (a) Parallel to zoning surfaces, and (b) In core of reversely zoned phenocryst.

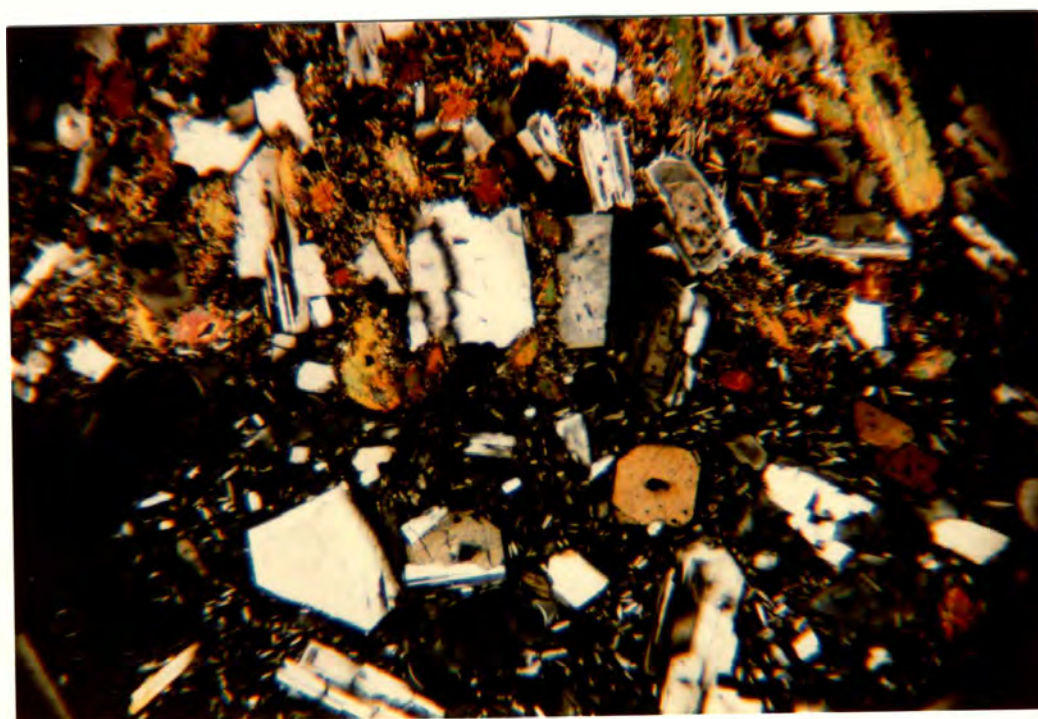
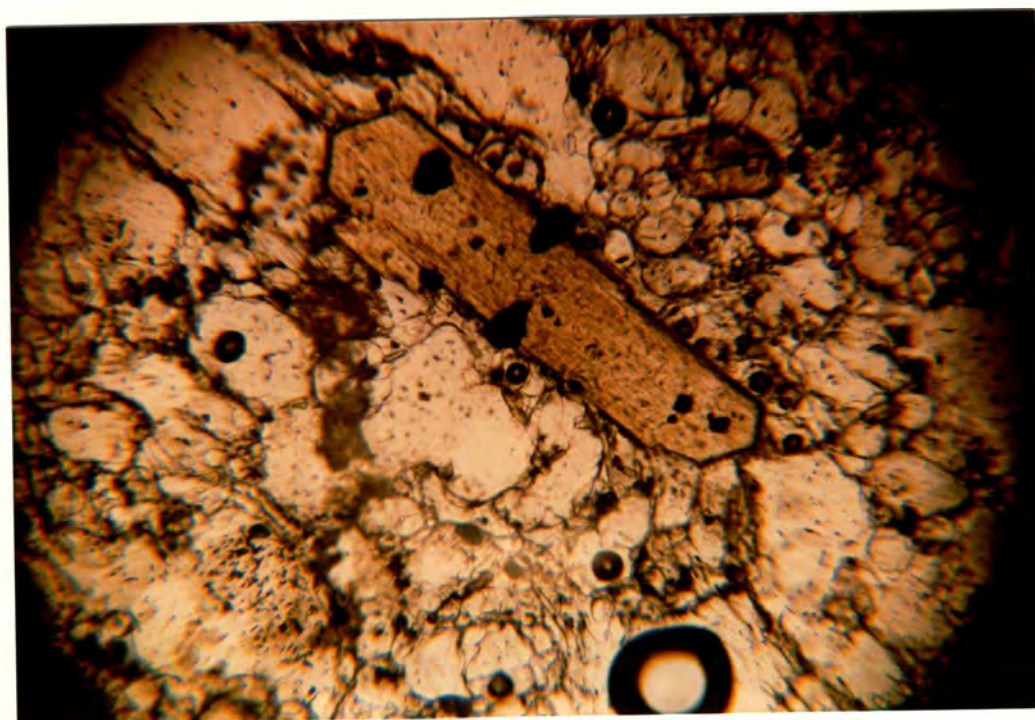


Figure 9. Photomicrographs of euhedral hypersthene, (a) Parallel to c,
(b) Basal section.

Pleochroism ranges from light to dark green or dark olive green in phenocrysts from earlier flows, to a generally more brownish hue in crystals from later pyroclastic material.

Hornblende grain boundaries are relatively sharp in May 18 material, but are commonly embayed and partially recrystallized in later pumice (Figure 10). Complete recrystallization of the hornblende to hypersthene microlites has resulted in the presence of ghost phenocrysts in many of the post-May 18 samples (Figure 11).

Opaque minerals are commonly present in amounts of 1 percent or less of the total rock and occur as irregular subhedral to euhedral grains. These grains are typically scattered throughout the ground-mass, but are concentrated as inclusions within some hypersthene phenocrysts (Figure 12). Because thin section analysis was the only technique used for the petrography presented in this paper, the various opaque mineral phases were not specifically identified.

However, the opaque minerals have been identified as iron-titanium oxides of the species ulvospinel-magnetite and ilmenite-hematite by Kuntz et al. (1981) using polished grain mounts submersed in oil under reflected light. Their results are comparable to those of Smith (1980) who analyzed the opaque minerals of pre-1980 Mount St. Helens ejecta, using an electron microprobe.

Kuntz et al. (1981) noted that there are two distinct populations of iron-titanium oxides, the first, a highly oxidized "contaminant" variety that probably represents a xenocryst phase, and the second, an optically homogeneous unaltered variety. The unaltered state of the second variety indicates that post-emplacement hydrothermal

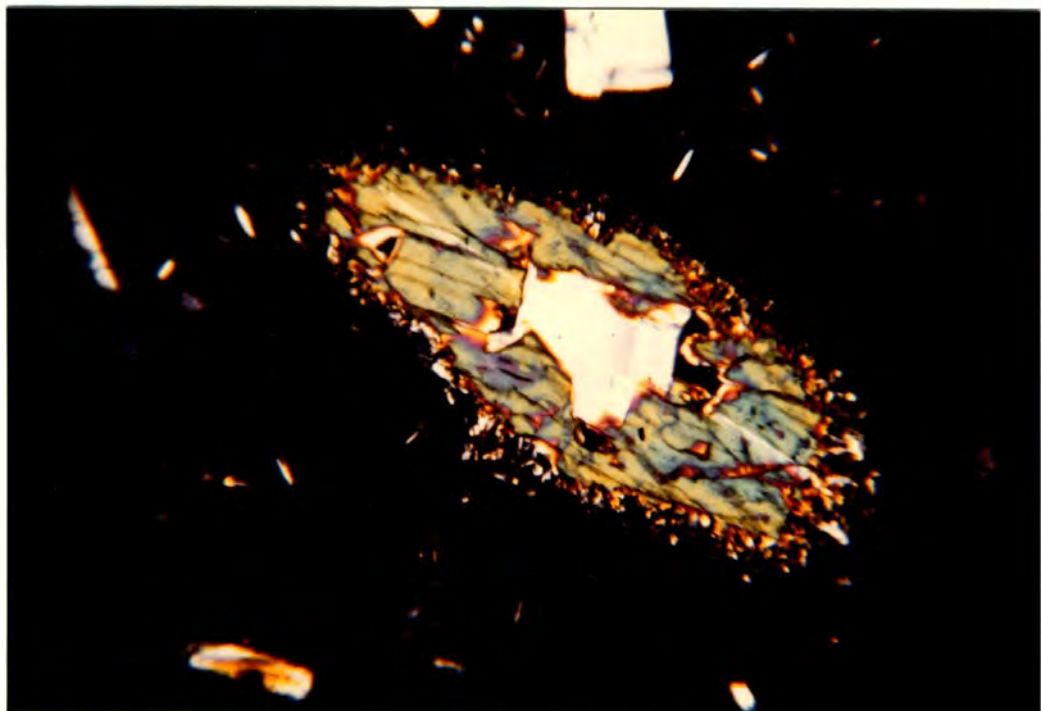
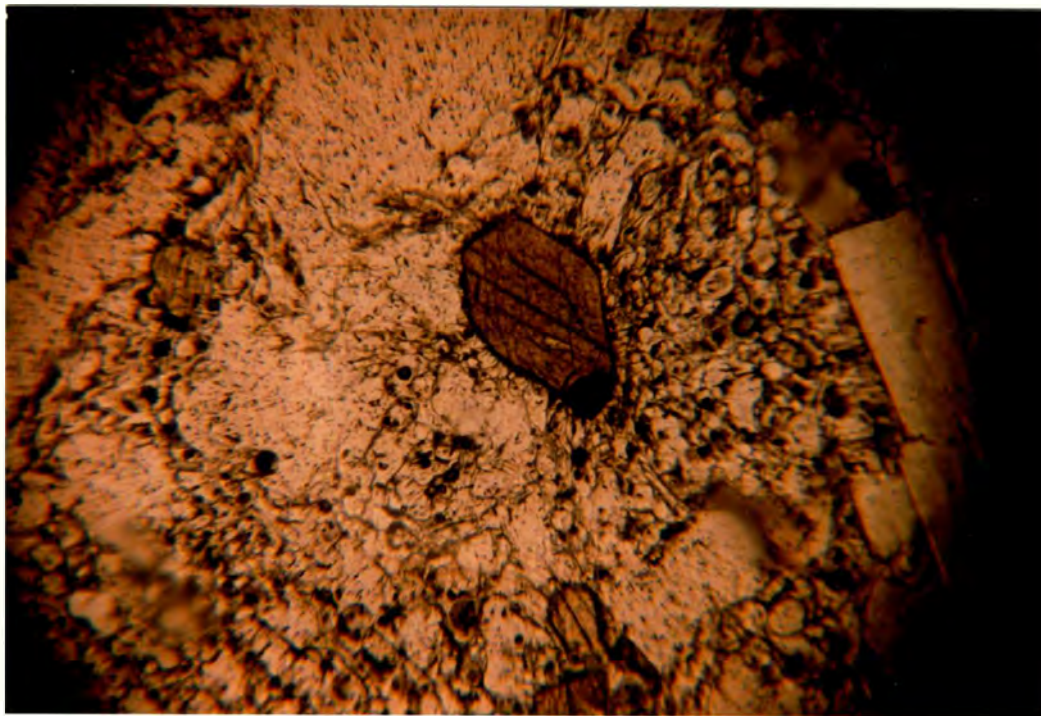


Figure 10. Photomicrograph of hornblende showing, (a) Euhedral crystal showing no signs of resorption in May 18 pumice, (b) Partially resorbed crystal in August 7 pumice.

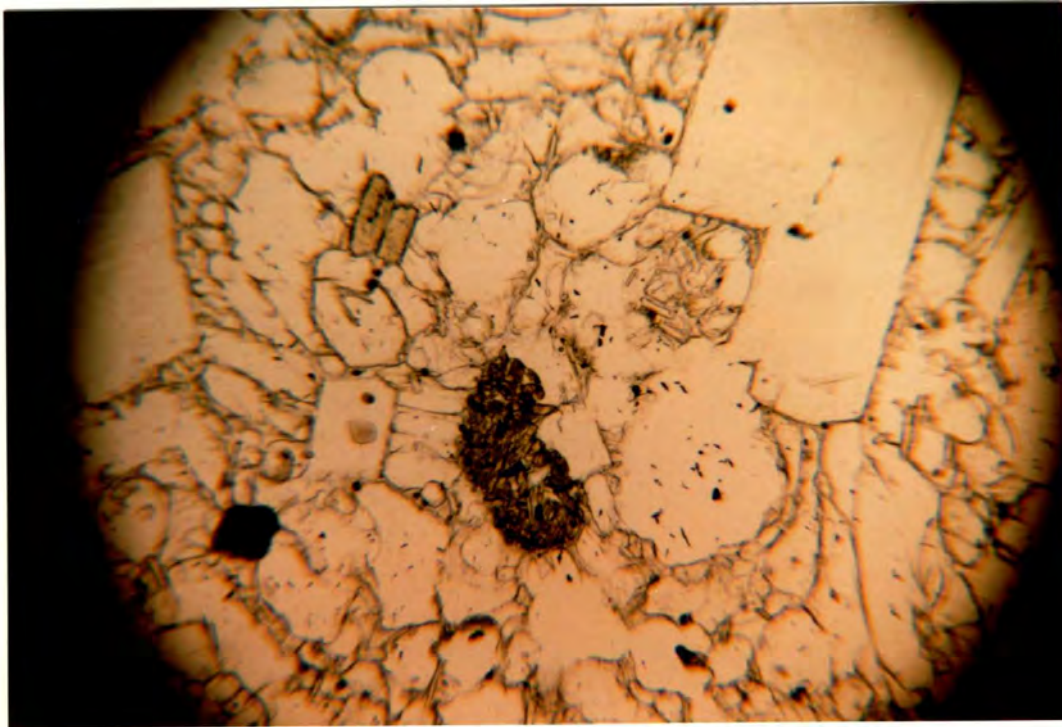


Figure 11. Photomicrograph of ghost hornblende in August 7 pumice.

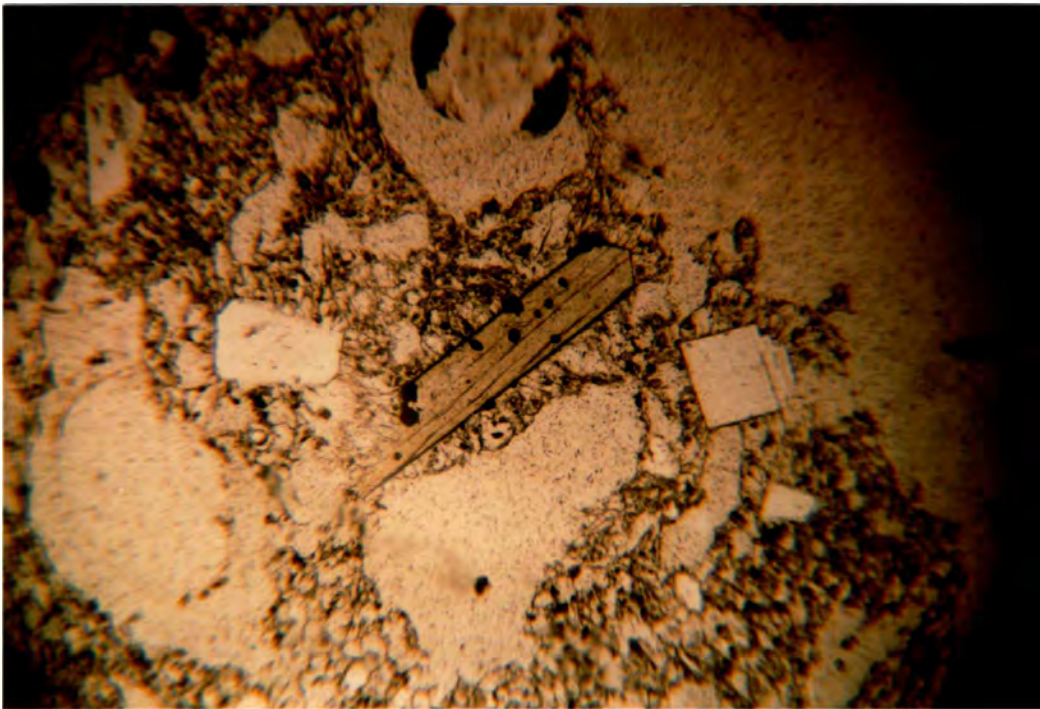


Figure 12. Photomicrograph showing magnetite inclusion in hypersthene phenocryst.

alteration of pyroclastic materials is virtually absent, and, therefore, would not influence the bulk chemistry of the pumice.

Progressive changes in ejecta textures have occurred with time. The most apparent change is in the relative abundance of glass and crystals. Figure 13 illustrates this empirical textural change between May 18 pumice and October 17 pumice. As noted above, the progressive recrystallization of the hornblende phase becomes more apparent within younger flows. The instability of hornblende is likely due to loss of volatiles (mainly water) through the continued degassing of the magma chamber.

The glass matrix displays a highly vesiculated texture and many of the phenocrysts are surrounded by elongate vesicles arranged with their long axis normal to the surface of the phenocrysts. This radial vesicle pattern in volcanic ejecta has been attributed to pool boiling (Heiken and Eichelberger, 1980), and results when a hot surface is submersed into a cooler liquid. Closely spaced nucleation of bubbles occurs at the solid/liquid interface, followed by outward migration of bubbles (Tong, 1972).

If it is assumed that the liquid and crystals of the magma were at thermal equilibrium prior to eruption, then cooling of the liquid through adiabatic expansion of the contained gasses would occur during vesiculation. Heiken and Eichelberger (1980) have shown that vesiculation at temperatures within the range of those estimated for Mount St. Helens magma by Melson and Hopson (1981) and Scheidegger et al. (1982) must be very rapid, i.e., about one second. If vesiculation occurs at shallow depths, deformation of the radial pattern

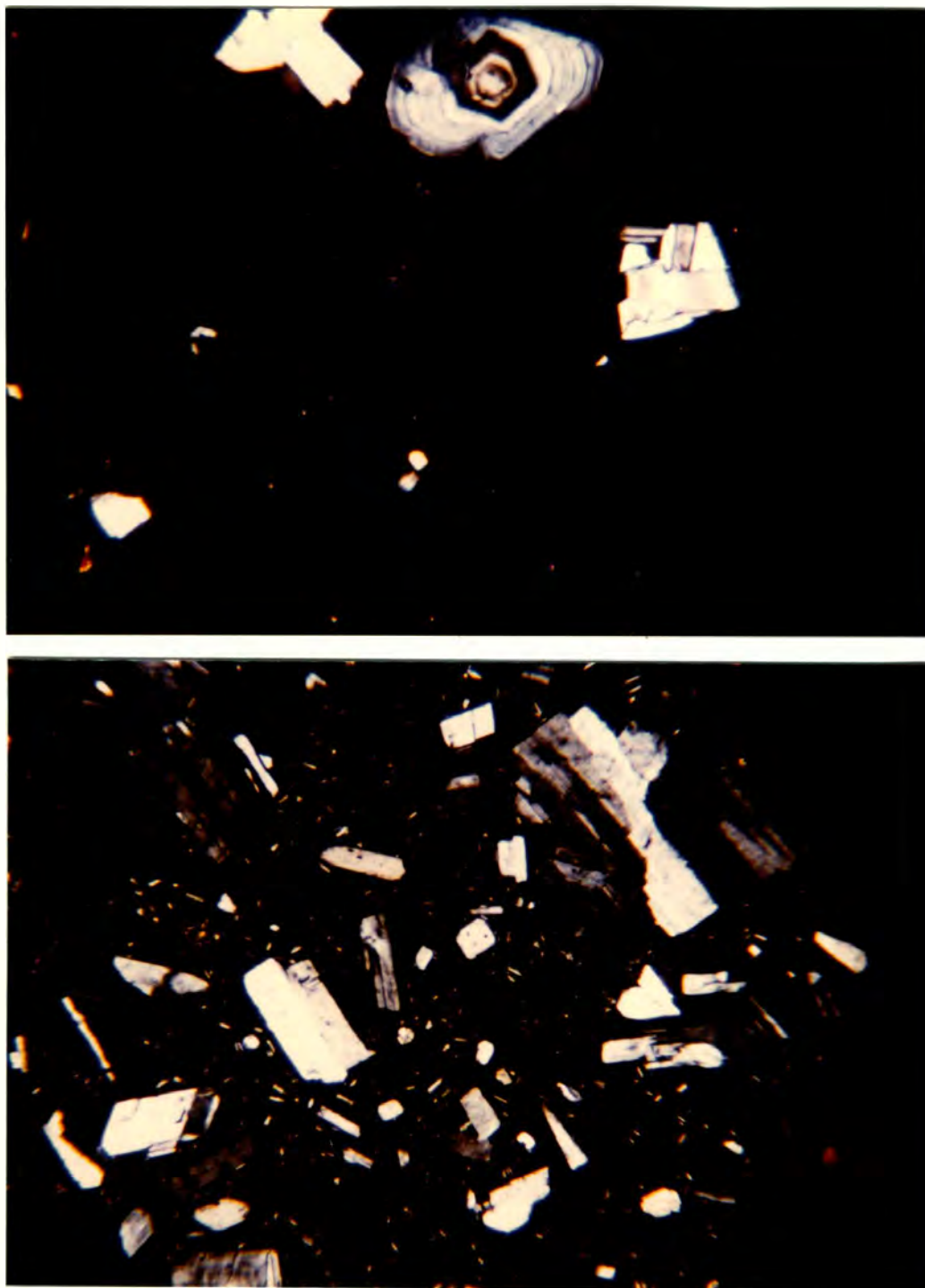


Figure 13. Photomicrographs illustrating temporal trend toward increased density of crystal phases. Comparison of May 18 pumice with fewer crystals versus October 17 with noticeably more crystals.

should not occur. Radial vesicle patterns in the 1980 Mount St. Helens pumice were preserved in most of the thin sections observed. However, there is some evidence of disturbed radial vesicles (Figure 14), indicating some flowage of magma within the vent shortly before eruption. Further evidence for flowage during vesiculation is sub-trachytic textures in several of the pumice clasts studied.

In addition to the specimens listed in Table 1, several other thin sections of pumice containing xenoliths were examined. These are listed with their mineral phases in Table 2, but are given only a cursory discussion in this paper as several other workers, i.e., Heliker (personal communication, 1983) and A. Irving (personal communication, 1982) are currently doing detailed studies of xenoliths in the 1980 pumice and domal dacite from Mount St. Helens. Paine (1982) has described xenoliths found in Mount St. Helens dome material, reporting two populations of gabbroic mineralogy. The most abundant groups are the gabbro-norites, containing 50 to 80 percent plagioclase with subordinate augite and hypersthene. The second group he refers to as olivine-normative gabbros, which contain abundant olivine, hornblende, orthopyroxene, clinopyroxene and plagioclase. The majority of xenoliths studied for this paper have mineralogies similar to the pumice, i.e., hornblende, hypersthene, plagioclase and accessory minerals. Examples are shown in Figure 15. Xenolith boundaries show very little evidence of resorption. Microlitic accumulations are present along boundaries of some xenoliths, but appear to be the result of "piling up" of matrix microlites on the xenolith surface as it moved through the melt. Resorption

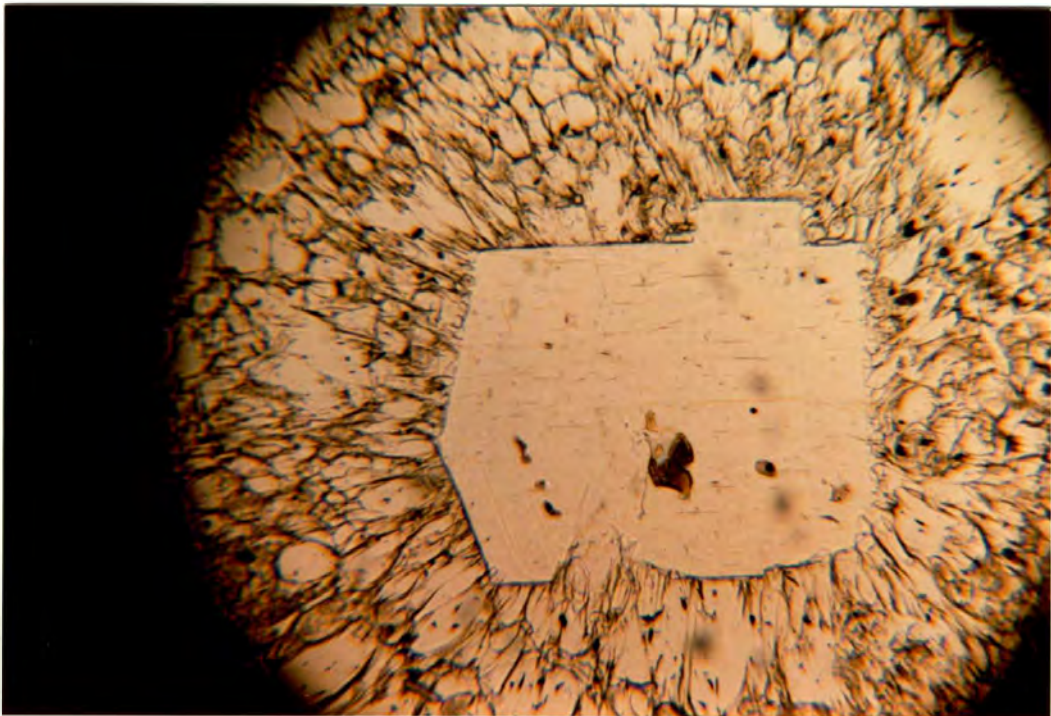


Figure 14. Photomicrographs of radial vesicle patterns, (a) Undisturbed radial vesicles, (b) Disturbed radial vesicles.

Table 2. — Mineralogy of Xenoliths

| Sample | Plagioclase | Hornblende | Clinopyroxene | Hypersthene | Opaque Minerals | Biotite | Olivine |
|---------|-------------|------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|---------|---------|
| XP-11 | X | X | | | X | | |
| XP-10 | X | X | | | X | X | X |
| XP-1 | X | X | | X | X | | |
| XP-7 | X | X | | X | X | | |
| D-1 | X | | | X | X | | |
| D-2 | X | | Xr | X | X | | |
| D-3 (C) | X | X | X | X | X | | |
| D-9 (C) | X | X | | X | X | | |

(C): Crystal cumulate

XP: Xenolith in pyroclastic pumice

D: Xenolith in dome rock

r: Resorbed

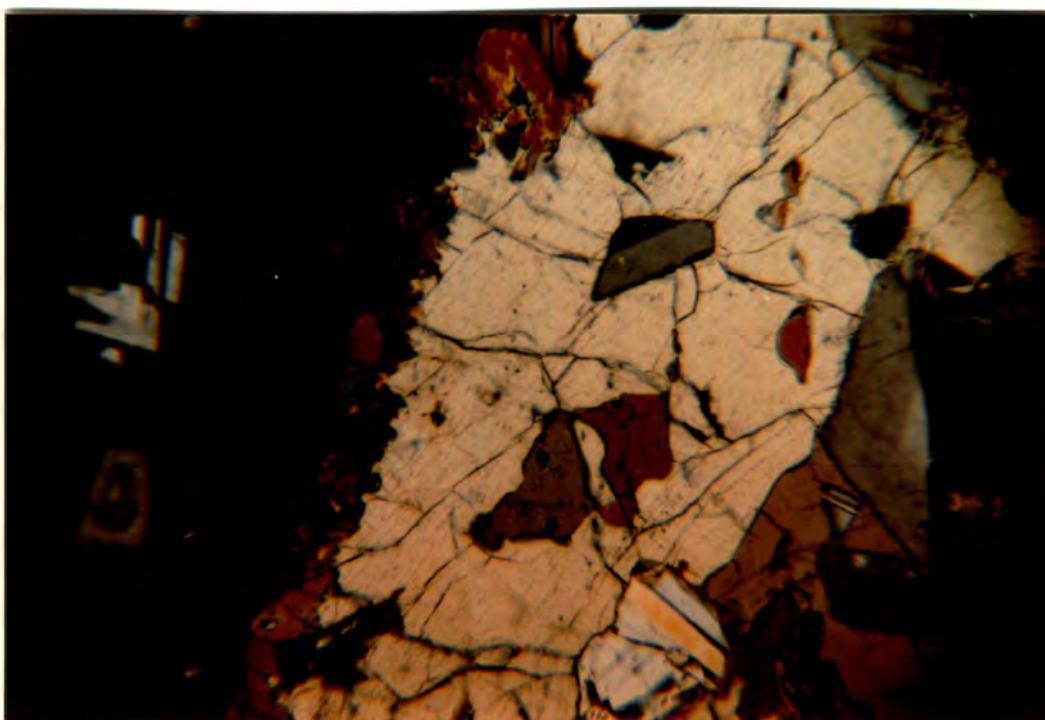
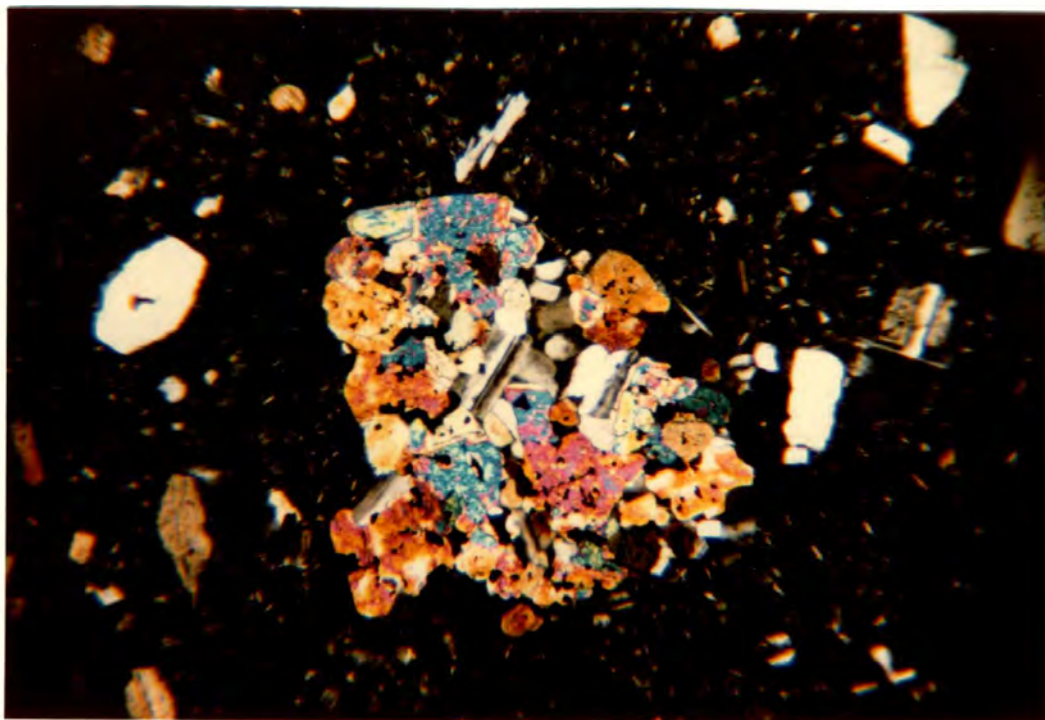


Figure 15. Photomicrographs of xenolith boundaries showing (a) No resorption, (b) Partial recrystallization.

embayments are rare. Microlite accumulation rather than resorption or recrystallization seems more probable since magma chamber temperatures as estimated by Scheidegger et al. (1982) and Melson and Hopson (1981) of 965-1016°C do not seem hot enough to cause assimilation to any great extent. Heliker (personal communication, 1983) cites evidence of mechanical assimilation of xenoliths in domal material as well as the presence of interstitial glass within the xenoliths. To what extent assimilation is responsible for temporal trends in the petrochemistry of the pumice is impossible to estimate from the petrographic evidence available in the limited number of samples examined.

GEOCHEMISTRY

Whole rock chemical analyses were obtained for 24 samples of pumice from the May 18, June 12, August 7, July 22, and October 16-18, 1980 pyroclastic flows. The rocks were analyzed at the University of Washington by Colin Cool using a Baird, model PS101, inductively coupled argon plasma spectrometer. Analytical procedures are described in Appendix B.

Weight percentages of the major and minor oxides SiO₂, Al₂O₃, TiO₂, FeO (total), MnO, CaO, MgO, K₂O, Na₂O and P₂O₅ are listed in Table 3. In addition, the abundances of the trace elements Ba, Cr, Cu, La, Nb, Sc, Sr, V, Y, Zn, and Zr were determined and are listed in Table 4. Analytical precision was checked by analyzing the USGS standard AGV-1. A comparison between the ICP results and the published values for the standard (Abbey, 1980) are given in Table 5.

Table 3. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
ICP Major and Minor Oxide Data

| Sample | Date | SiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | TiO ₂ | FeO | MnO | CaO | MgO | K ₂ O | Na ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | Total |
|--------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 33 | 18 May 1980 | 64.29 | 17.67 | 0.59 | 3.90 | 0.11 | 4.82 | 1.87 | 1.31 | 4.96 | 0.21 | 99.73 |
| 34 | 18 May 1980 | 63.91 | 17.46 | 0.59 | 3.92 | 0.11 | 4.97 | 1.86 | 1.32 | 4.98 | 0.22 | 99.34 |
| 14 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.69 | 17.51 | 0.62 | 4.06 | 0.13 | 4.93 | 1.96 | 1.33 | 4.99 | 0.22 | 99.44 |
| 15 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.28 | 17.77 | 0.62 | 4.08 | 0.12 | 5.07 | 1.98 | 1.41 | 5.01 | 0.22 | 99.56 |
| 17 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.22 | 17.98 | 0.60 | 4.04 | 0.11 | 4.82 | 1.94 | 1.24 | 5.03 | 0.21 | 99.19 |
| 19 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.99 | 17.31 | 0.64 | 4.25 | 0.12 | 4.99 | 1.99 | 1.38 | 4.79 | 0.21 | 99.67 |
| 22 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.14 | 17.68 | 0.62 | 4.20 | 0.11 | 4.77 | 2.03 | 1.27 | 5.00 | 0.22 | 99.04 |
| 23 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.47 | 17.56 | 0.61 | 4.16 | 0.12 | 5.02 | 2.09 | 1.36 | 4.88 | 0.23 | 99.50 |
| 26 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.40 | 17.72 | 0.64 | 4.29 | 0.12 | 5.12 | 2.19 | 1.33 | 4.88 | 0.23 | 99.92 |
| 5 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.27 | 17.68 | 0.66 | 4.35 | 0.14 | 5.29 | 2.22 | 1.31 | 4.96 | 0.22 | 100.10 |
| 6 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.96 | 17.88 | 0.64 | 4.32 | 0.12 | 5.23 | 2.18 | 1.37 | 4.92 | 0.23 | 100.85 |
| 24 | 22 Jul 1980 | 64.22 | 17.86 | 0.64 | 4.40 | 0.12 | 5.07 | 2.13 | 1.35 | 5.08 | 0.22 | 101.09 |
| 25 | 22 Jul 1980 | 64.30 | 17.86 | 0.61 | 4.18 | 0.12 | 4.99 | 2.04 | 1.39 | 4.98 | 0.21 | 100.68 |
| 28 | 22 Jul 1980 | 61.66 | 18.06 | 0.67 | 4.50 | 0.14 | 5.46 | 2.42 | 1.29 | 4.92 | 0.22 | 99.34 |

Table 3. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
ICP Major and Minor Oxide Data (Cont.)

| Sample | Date | SiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | TiO ₂ | FeO | MnO | CaO | MgO | K ₂ O | Na ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | Total |
|--------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 31 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.33 | 17.45 | 0.59 | 4.15 | 0.12 | 5.03 | 2.02 | 1.31 | 4.72 | 0.22 | 98.94 |
| 1 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.82 | 18.00 | 0.67 | 4.42 | 0.12 | 5.30 | 2.25 | 1.33 | 4.84 | 0.23 | 100.98 |
| 2 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.16 | 17.71 | 0.65 | 4.34 | 0.13 | 5.28 | 2.17 | 1.31 | 4.88 | 0.24 | 99.87 |
| 7 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.46 | 17.80 | 0.65 | 4.36 | 0.12 | 5.31 | 2.22 | 1.35 | 4.97 | 0.22 | 100.46 |
| 10 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.14 | 17.83 | 0.68 | 4.43 | 0.12 | 5.20 | 2.23 | 1.34 | 4.98 | 0.22 | 100.17 |
| 11 | 7 Aug 1980 | 62.78 | 17.76 | 0.67 | 4.39 | 0.12 | 5.24 | 2.21 | 1.37 | 4.93 | 0.22 | 99.69 |
| 12 | 7 Aug 1980 | 62.63 | 17.78 | 0.65 | 4.29 | 0.12 | 5.26 | 2.19 | 1.37 | 4.96 | 0.22 | 99.47 |
| 8 | 17 Oct 1980 | 62.73 | 17.93 | 0.68 | 4.62 | 0.13 | 5.37 | 2.42 | 1.32 | 4.98 | 0.23 | 100.41 |
| 9 | 17 Oct 1980 | 62.07 | 17.89 | 0.71 | 4.58 | 0.14 | 5.50 | 2.42 | 1.26 | 4.99 | 0.23 | 99.79 |

Table 4. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
ICP Trace Element Data

| Sample | Date | Ba | CR | CU | LA | NB | SC | SR | V | Y | ZN | ZR |
|--------|-------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|
| 33 | 18 May 1980 | 281 | 11 | 29 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 430 | 77 | 12 | 57 | 114 |
| 34 | 18 May 1980 | 296 | 11 | 32 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 451 | 81 | 13 | 58 | 120 |
| 14 | 12 Jun 1980 | 279 | 11 | 50 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 426 | 87 | 13 | 71 | 116 |
| 15 | 12 Jun 1980 | 273 | 6 | 34 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 427 | 80 | 12 | 54 | 114 |
| 17 | 12 Jun 1980 | 276 | 9 | 27 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 456 | 93 | 13 | 56 | 145 |
| 19 | 12 Jun 1980 | 277 | 11 | 34 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 441 | 92 | 13 | 57 | 119 |
| 22 | 12 Jun 1980 | 274 | 9 | 28 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 435 | 84 | 12 | 58 | 115 |
| 23 | 12 Jun 1980 | 272 | 9 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 83 | 12 | 57 | 113 |
| 26 | 12 Jun 1980 | 271 | 12 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 88 | 13 | 67 | 113 |
| 5 | 22 Jul 1980 | 269 | 12 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 448 | 92 | 13 | 58 | 112 |
| 6 | 22 Jul 1980 | 264 | 8 | 36 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 428 | 87 | 13 | 55 | 114 |
| 24 | 22 Jul 1980 | 278 | 12 | 38 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 90 | 13 | 69 | 113 |
| 25 | 22 Jul 1980 | 283 | 9 | 34 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 94 | 13 | 63 | 157 |
| 28 | 22 Jul 1980 | 271 | 9 | 36 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 423 | 90 | 13 | 60 | 119 |

Table 4. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
ICP Trace Element Data (Cont.)

| Sample | Date | Ba | CR | CU | LA | NB | SC | SR | V | Y | ZN | ZR |
|--------|-------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|
| 31 | 22 Jul 1980 | 273 | 10 | 38 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 438 | 97 | 12 | 56 | 159 |
| 1 | 7 Aug 1980 | 271 | 9 | 41 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 442 | 96 | 13 | 58 | 129 |
| 2 | 7 Aug 1980 | 270 | 9 | 38 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 452 | 92 | 13 | 61 | 121 |
| 7 | 7 Aug 1980 | 295 | 12 | 38 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 451 | 99 | 13 | 67 | 126 |
| 10 | 7 Aug 1980 | 272 | 9 | 39 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 441 | 90 | 13 | 73 | 116 |
| 11 | 7 Aug 1980 | 277 | 16 | 39 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 447 | 89 | 13 | 70 | 116 |
| 12 | 7 Aug 1980 | 262 | 9 | 36 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 431 | 83 | 12 | 55 | 112 |
| 8 | 17 Oct 1980 | 259 | 23 | 47 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 429 | 92 | 13 | 67 | 111 |
| 9 | 17 Oct 1980 | 255 | 13 | 40 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 448 | 106 | 13 | 59 | 147 |

Major and Minor Oxides

| | <u>ICP Analysis for AGV-1</u> | <u>USGS Values for AGV-1</u> |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| SiO ₂ | 59.64 ± 0.27 | 59.61 |
| Al ₂ O ₃ | 17.26 ± 0.058 | 17.19 |
| TiO ₂ | 1.02 — | 1.06 |
| FeO (total) | 5.83 — | 6.59 |
| MnO | 0.13 ± 0.004 | 0.10 |
| CaO | 4.82 ± 0.06 | 4.94 |
| MgO | 1.53 ± 0.005 | 1.52 |
| K ₂ O | 3.02 ± 0.01 | 2.92 |
| Na ₂ O | 4.55 ± 0.04 | 4.32 |
| P ₂ O ₅ | 0.51 ± 0.01 | 0.51 |
| | <u>98.31</u> | <u>99.93</u> |

Trace Elements

| | | |
|----|------|------|
| Ba | 1165 | 1200 |
| Cr | 18 | 10 |
| Cu | 66 | 59 |
| La | 40 | 36 |
| Nb | 15 | 16 |
| Sc | 10 | 12.5 |
| Sr | 602 | 660. |
| V | 123 | 125 |
| Y | 19 | 19 |
| Zn | 88 | 86 |
| Zr | 254 | 230 |

Table 5 - Comparison of ICP analysis of USGS Standard AGV-1 with published USGS "Usable Values" (from Abbey, 1980).

A major purpose of this study is identification of trends in whole rock chemistry with time. Before analyzing for trends, all geochemical data were normalized to the average SiO₂ weight percent with the following computation:

$$\text{NOXIDE} = \text{OXIDE} \times \frac{\text{SiO}_2}{\text{SiMEAN}}$$

where NOXIDE = normalized oxide or trace element concentration, OXIDE = unnormalized oxide or trace element concentration, SiO₂ = weight percent SiO₂ determined for the sample, and SiMEAN = average weight percent SiO₂ for all samples. SiMEAN is equal to 63.344 percent. The normalized major and minor element oxide data are presented in Table 6 and the normalized trace element data in Table 7.

Trends were determined using standard linear regression techniques where a straight-line equation of the form $Y = B_0 + B_1X$ was fit to a set of values. In this work, Y is the response variable, namely the oxide and trace element concentrations determined for the pyroclastic flows, X the regressor variable, or days after the May 18, 1980 eruption, and B₀ and B₁ the equation parameters of Y-intercept and slope, respectively.

The linear regression technique uses the method of least squares where the sum of squares of the differences between the actual response value and the value predicted by the equation is the criteria used to estimate the best values of the equation parameters B₀ and B₁. The best fit equation is defined as that line which minimizes the sum of the squares of differences. The "goodness of fit"

Table 6. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
Normalized ICP Major and Minor Oxide Data

| Sample | Date | SiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | TiO ₂ | FeO | MnO | CaO | MgO | K ₂ O | Na ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | Total |
|--------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 33 | 18 May 1980 | 64.29 | 17.93 | 0.60 | 3.96 | 0.11 | 4.89 | 1.90 | 1.33 | 5.03 | 0.21 | 100.26 |
| 34 | 18 May 1980 | 63.91 | 17.62 | 0.60 | 3.96 | 0.11 | 5.01 | 1.88 | 1.33 | 5.02 | 0.22 | 99.66 |
| 14 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.69 | 17.61 | 0.62 | 4.08 | 0.13 | 4.96 | 1.97 | 1.34 | 5.02 | 0.22 | 99.64 |
| 15 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.28 | 17.75 | 0.62 | 4.08 | 0.12 | 5.06 | 1.98 | 1.41 | 5.00 | 0.22 | 99.52 |
| 17 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.22 | 17.94 | 0.60 | 4.03 | 0.11 | 4.81 | 1.94 | 1.24 | 5.02 | 0.21 | 99.12 |
| 19 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.99 | 17.49 | 0.65 | 4.29 | 0.12 | 5.04 | 2.01 | 1.39 | 4.84 | 0.21 | 100.03 |
| 22 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.14 | 17.62 | 0.62 | 4.19 | 0.11 | 4.75 | 2.02 | 1.27 | 4.98 | 0.22 | 98.92 |
| 23 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.47 | 17.59 | 0.61 | 4.17 | 0.12 | 5.03 | 2.09 | 1.36 | 4.89 | 0.23 | 99.57 |
| 26 | 12 Jun 1980 | 63.40 | 17.74 | 0.64 | 4.29 | 0.12 | 5.12 | 2.19 | 1.33 | 4.88 | 0.23 | 99.95 |
| 5 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.27 | 17.66 | 0.66 | 4.34 | 0.14 | 5.28 | 2.22 | 1.31 | 4.95 | 0.22 | 100.06 |
| 6 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.96 | 18.05 | 0.65 | 4.36 | 0.12 | 5.28 | 2.20 | 1.38 | 4.97 | 0.23 | 101.21 |
| 24 | 22 Jul 1980 | 64.22 | 18.11 | 0.65 | 4.46 | 0.12 | 5.14 | 2.16 | 1.37 | 5.15 | 0.22 | 101.60 |
| 25 | 22 Jul 1980 | 64.30 | 18.13 | 0.62 | 4.24 | 0.12 | 5.07 | 2.07 | 1.41 | 5.06 | 0.21 | 101.23 |
| 28 | 22 Jul 1980 | 61.66 | 17.58 | 0.65 | 4.38 | 0.14 | 5.31 | 2.36 | 1.26 | 4.79 | 0.21 | 98.34 |
| 31 | 22 Jul 1980 | 63.33 | 17.45 | 0.59 | 4.15 | 0.12 | 5.03 | 2.02 | 1.31 | 4.72 | 0.22 | 98.93 |

Table 6. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
Normalized ICP Major and Minor Oxide Data (Cont.)

| Sample | Date | SiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | TiO ₂ | FeO | MnO | CaO | MgO | K ₂ O | Na ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | Total |
|--------|-------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|--------|
| 1 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.82 | 18.14 | 0.68 | 4.45 | 0.12 | 5.34 | 2.27 | 1.34 | 4.88 | 0.23 | 101.26 |
| 2 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.16 | 17.66 | 0.65 | 4.33 | 0.13 | 5.26 | 2.16 | 1.31 | 4.87 | 0.24 | 99.76 |
| 7 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.46 | 17.83 | 0.65 | 4.37 | 0.12 | 5.32 | 2.22 | 1.35 | 4.98 | 0.22 | 100.53 |
| 10 | 7 Aug 1980 | 63.14 | 17.77 | 0.68 | 4.42 | 0.12 | 5.18 | 2.22 | 1.34 | 4.96 | 0.22 | 100.05 |
| 11 | 7 Aug 1980 | 62.78 | 17.60 | 0.66 | 4.35 | 0.12 | 5.19 | 2.19 | 1.36 | 4.89 | 0.22 | 99.36 |
| 12 | 7 Aug 1980 | 62.63 | 17.58 | 0.64 | 4.24 | 0.12 | 5.20 | 2.17 | 1.35 | 4.90 | 0.22 | 99.05 |
| 8 | 17 Oct 1980 | 62.73 | 17.76 | 0.67 | 4.58 | 0.13 | 5.32 | 2.40 | 1.31 | 4.93 | 0.23 | 100.04 |
| 9 | 17 Oct 1980 | 62.07 | 17.53 | 0.70 | 4.49 | 0.14 | 5.39 | 2.37 | 1.23 | 4.89 | 0.23 | 99.03 |

Table 7. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
Normalized ICP Trace Element Data

| Sample | Date | BA | CR | CU | LA | NB | SC | SR | V | Y | ZN | ZR |
|--------|-------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|-----|
| 33 | 18 May 1980 | 285 | 11 | 29 | 11 | 12 | 8 | 436 | 78 | 12 | 58 | 116 |
| 34 | 18 May 1980 | 299 | 11 | 32 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 455 | 82 | 13 | 59 | 121 |
| 14 | 12 Jun 1980 | 281 | 11 | 50 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 428 | 87 | 13 | 71 | 117 |
| 15 | 12 Jun 1980 | 273 | 6 | 34 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 427 | 80 | 12 | 54 | 114 |
| 17 | 12 Jun 1980 | 275 | 9 | 27 | 10 | 12 | 8 | 455 | 93 | 13 | 56 | 145 |
| 19 | 12 Jun 1980 | 280 | 11 | 34 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 445 | 93 | 13 | 58 | 120 |
| 22 | 12 Jun 1980 | 273 | 9 | 28 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 434 | 84 | 12 | 58 | 115 |
| 23 | 12 Jun 1980 | 273 | 9 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 433 | 83 | 12 | 57 | 113 |
| 26 | 12 Jun 1980 | 271 | 12 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 88 | 13 | 67 | 113 |
| 5 | 22 Jul 1980 | 269 | 12 | 37 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 447 | 92 | 13 | 58 | 112 |
| 6 | 22 Jul 1980 | 267 | 8 | 36 | 8 | 11 | 9 | 432 | 88 | 13 | 56 | 115 |
| 24 | 22 Jul 1980 | 282 | 12 | 39 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 438 | 91 | 13 | 70 | 115 |
| 25 | 22 Jul 1980 | 287 | 9 | 35 | 10 | 11 | 9 | 439 | 95 | 13 | 64 | 159 |
| 28 | 22 Jul 1980 | 264 | 9 | 35 | 9 | 12 | 9 | 412 | 88 | 13 | 58 | 116 |
| 31 | 22 Jul 1980 | 273 | 10 | 38 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 438 | 97 | 12 | 56 | 159 |

Table 7. — Mount St. Helens Pyroclastic Flow Geochemistry
Normalized ICP Trace Element Data (Cont.)

| Sample | Date | BA | CR | CU | LA | NB | SC | SR | V | Y | ZN | ZR |
|--------|-------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|-----|
| 1 | 7 Aug 1980 | 273 | 9 | 41 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 445 | 97 | 13 | 58 | 130 |
| 2 | 7 Aug 1980 | 269 | 9 | 38 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 451 | 92 | 13 | 61 | 121 |
| 7 | 7 Aug 1980 | 296 | 12 | 38 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 452 | 99 | 13 | 67 | 126 |
| 10 | 7 Aug 1980 | 271 | 9 | 39 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 440 | 90 | 13 | 73 | 116 |
| 11 | 7 Aug 1980 | 275 | 16 | 39 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 443 | 88 | 13 | 69 | 115 |
| 12 | 7 Aug 1980 | 259 | 9 | 36 | 9 | 11 | 9 | 426 | 82 | 12 | 54 | 111 |
| 8 | 17 Oct 1980 | 256 | 23 | 47 | 9 | 11 | 10 | 425 | 91 | 13 | 66 | 110 |
| 9 | 17 Oct 1980 | 250 | 13 | 39 | 10 | 12 | 9 | 439 | 104 | 13 | 68 | 144 |

for the estimated equation may be conveniently described by the sample regression coefficient, R . Computational formulas for R are given in most standard statistics texts, i.e., Huntsberger and Billingsley (1973). For any linear regression, R has a value between -1 and +1. When response variable values are close to the best-fit line, R will be close to ± 1 . As scatter of the points becomes greater, R will approach zero. For this reason, R is a useful measure of the strength of the relationship between the best-fit line and the response data.

It is always wise to place confidence limits on the calculated estimate of R . If the confidence interval about the estimate of R includes zero, R is not significant at the given level of significance. Krumbien and Graybill (1965) provide a convenient nomogram where a confidence belt for R at a 95 percent confidence interval can be determined for $n = 3$ to 400.

A linear regression of oxide or trace element concentration versus days after the May 18, 1980 eruption was computed for each of the oxides and trace elements measured. Results of the regressions are tabulated in Table 8. The best-fit equation is also plotted on scatter plots in Figures 17 to 37. In addition, oxide or trace element means for each eruption are shown on the scatter plots to facilitate subjective evaluation of chemical variation between eruption dates.

A plot of the average total alkali against silica for the 1980 pyroclastic flow pumice shows that these rocks are very near the lower boundary of average dacitic rocks for the Cascade Range

Table 8. — Results of Simple Linear Regression Oxide/Element Concentrations vs. Days after 18 May 1980 Eruption

S = Significant N - Not Significant M = Marginal

| Oxide/ Element | B ₀ (Y-intercept) | B ₁ (Slope) | Sample Regression Coefficient R | Confidence Belt at 95% Confidence Interval | Sig. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|------|
| SiO ₂ | 63.86% | -0.0088 | -0.525 | -0.775 to -0.075 | S |
| TiO ₂ | 0.61% | 0.0006 | 0.761 | -0.900 to -0.450 | S |
| CaO | 4.93% | 0.0034 | 0.773 | -0.950 to -0.500 | S |
| K ₂ O | 1.35% | 0.0003 | 0.240 | -0.200 to 0.600 | N |
| P ₂ O ₅ | 0.217% | 0.0001 | 0.424 | 0.000 to 0.725 | M |
| Na ₂ O | 4.98% | -0.0006 | -0.250 | 0.225 to -0.600 | N |
| MnO | 0.114% | 0.0001 | 0.599 | 0.800 to 0.250 | S |
| FeO | 4.06% | 0.0035 | 0.835 | 0.925 to 0.600 | S |
| MgO | 1.95% | 0.0031 | 0.848 | 0.950 to 0.650 | S |
| Al ₂ O ₃ | 17.75% | -0.00001 | -0.003 | 0.400 to -0.425 | N |
| ----- | | | | | |
| BA | 284.5 | -0.179 | -0.625 | -0.825 to -0.200 | S |
| CR | 8.3 | 0.044 | 0.527 | 0.125 to 0.775 | S |
| CU | 32.6 | 0.070 | 0.537 | 0.150 to 0.775 | S |
| LA | 9.8 | -0.274 | -0.005 | -0.400 to 0.400 | N |
| NB | 11.2 | -0.115 | 0.002 | -0.400 to 0.400 | N |
| SC | 8.7 | 0.555 | 0.007 | -0.400 to 0.400 | N |
| SR | 439.7 | -0.116 | -0.306 | -0.625 to 0.125 | N |
| V | 83.7 | 0.100 | 0.628 | 0.275 to 0.825 | S |
| Y | 12.6 | 0.334 | 0.004 | -0.400 to 0.400 | N |
| ZN | 59.5 | 0.196 | 0.029 | -0.425 to 0.375 | N |
| ZR | 119.6 | 0.147 | 0.054 | -0.325 to 0.450 | N |

(Figure 16). The plot also shows that a trend toward a more andesitic composition would be indicated by a depletion of both total alkali and silica.

Silica and the alkalis, Na₂O and K₂O, for the 1980 pumice are shown on separate diagrams (Figures 17-19). And, although a subjective analysis of the mean values might lead one to interpret the alkali diagrams as showing a slight depletion, the regression coefficients indicate no apparent trend exists. Silica, on the other hand, shows a significant depletion trend.

Major element oxides showing an increase in overall abundance with time are Fe (total), CaO, and MgO (see Figures 20, 21, and 22). The minor element oxides TiO₂ and MnO also show an increase in abundance (see Figures 23, 24, and 25). The apparent increase in P₂O₅ is questionable. Alumina is the only other major constituent besides the alkalis that does not show a definite trend toward either enrichment or depletion (see Figure 26).

Regression coefficients for TiO₂, FeO (total), CaO, MgO, MnO, and SiO₂ are high enough to be significant. The relationship for Na₂O, K₂O, and Al₂O₃ is weak, and P₂O₅ questionable.

The above data are in agreement with those of Lipman et al. (1981), Melson et al. (1980a), and Melson et al. (1981), indicating that a trend toward a more andesitic composition is occurring in the pyroclastic flow pumice. If the amount of change in composition is considered, it is noted that CaO, FeO, TiO₂, and MgO are increasing in abundance at a rate that is an order of magnitude greater than the rate of decrease in the alkalis, i.e., CaO increases an average of

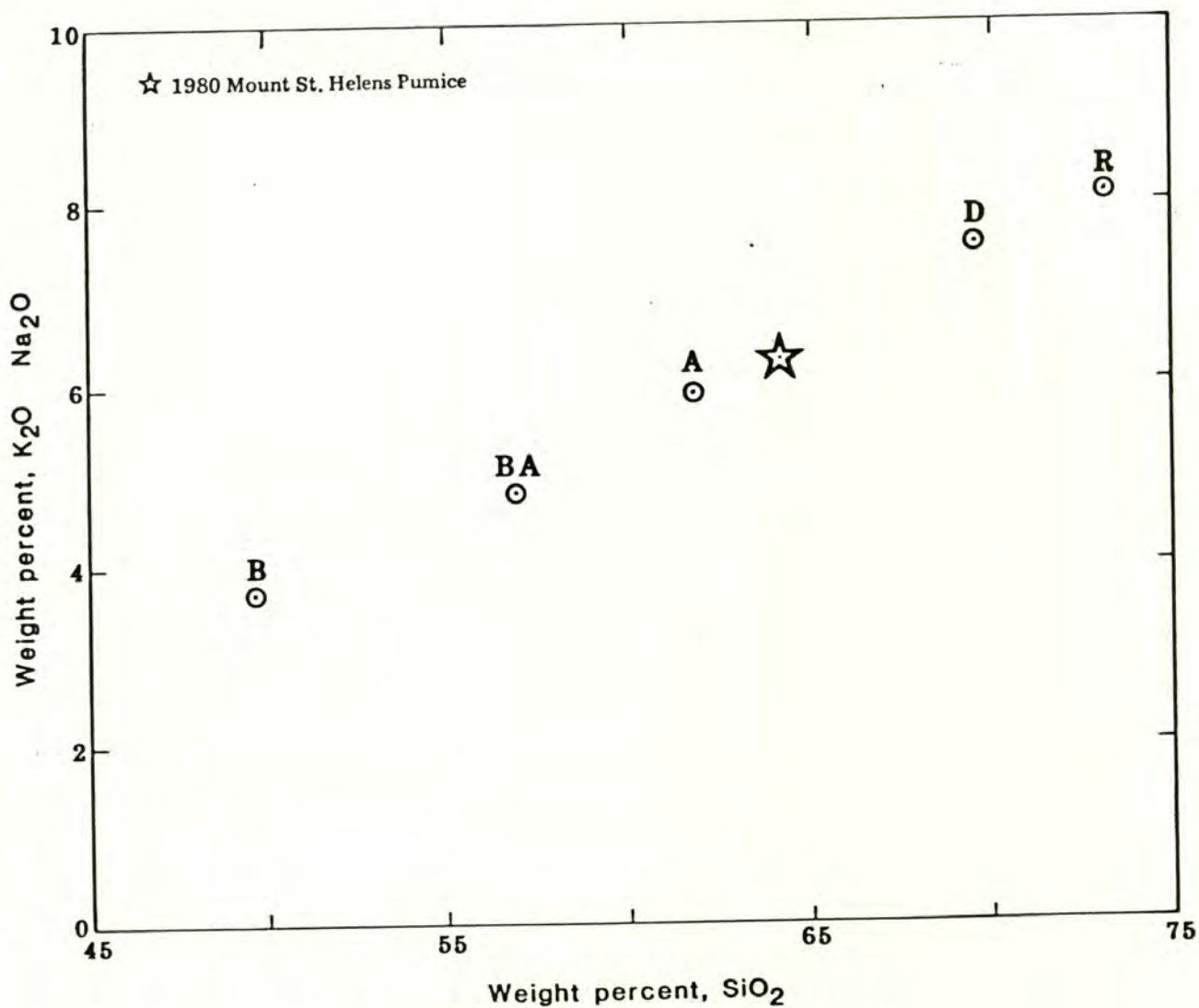
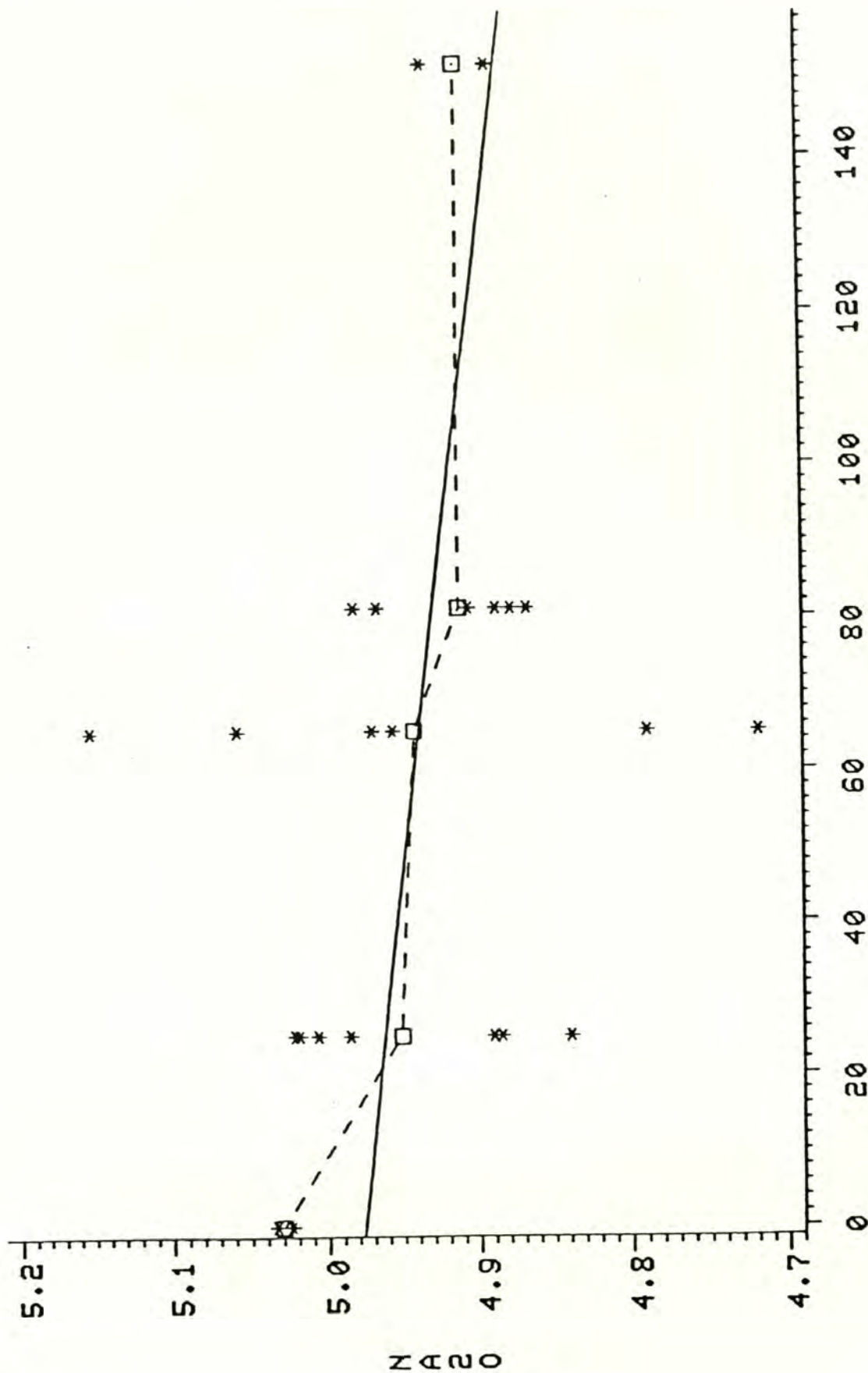
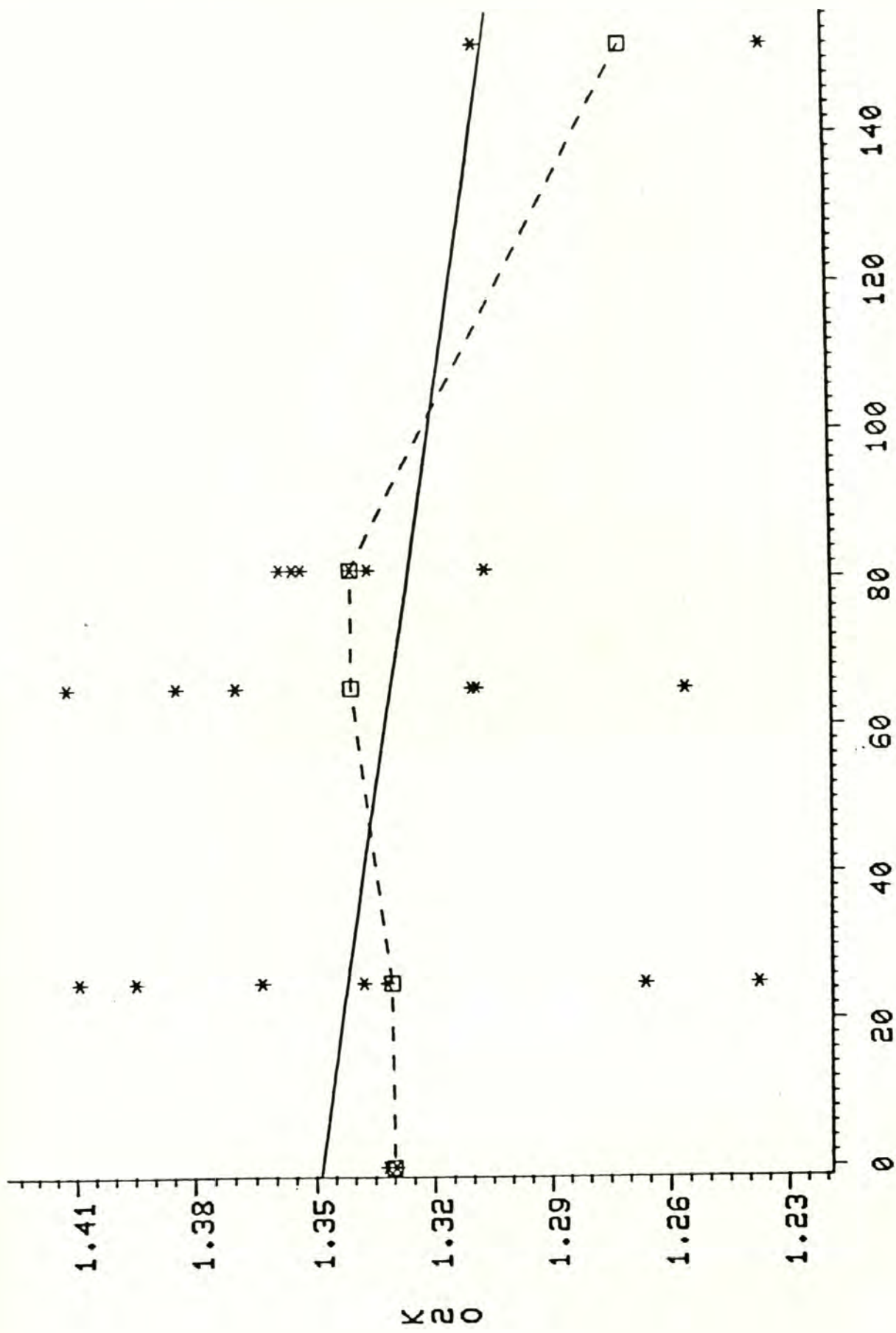


Figure 16. Plot of total alkali against silica; B, BA, A, D, and R refer to the average basalt, basaltic andesite, andesite, dacite and rhyolite of the North American Cascades. The average value for the 1980 Mount St. Helens pumice is shown by the star.



DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 17. Na₂O versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 18. K_2O versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.

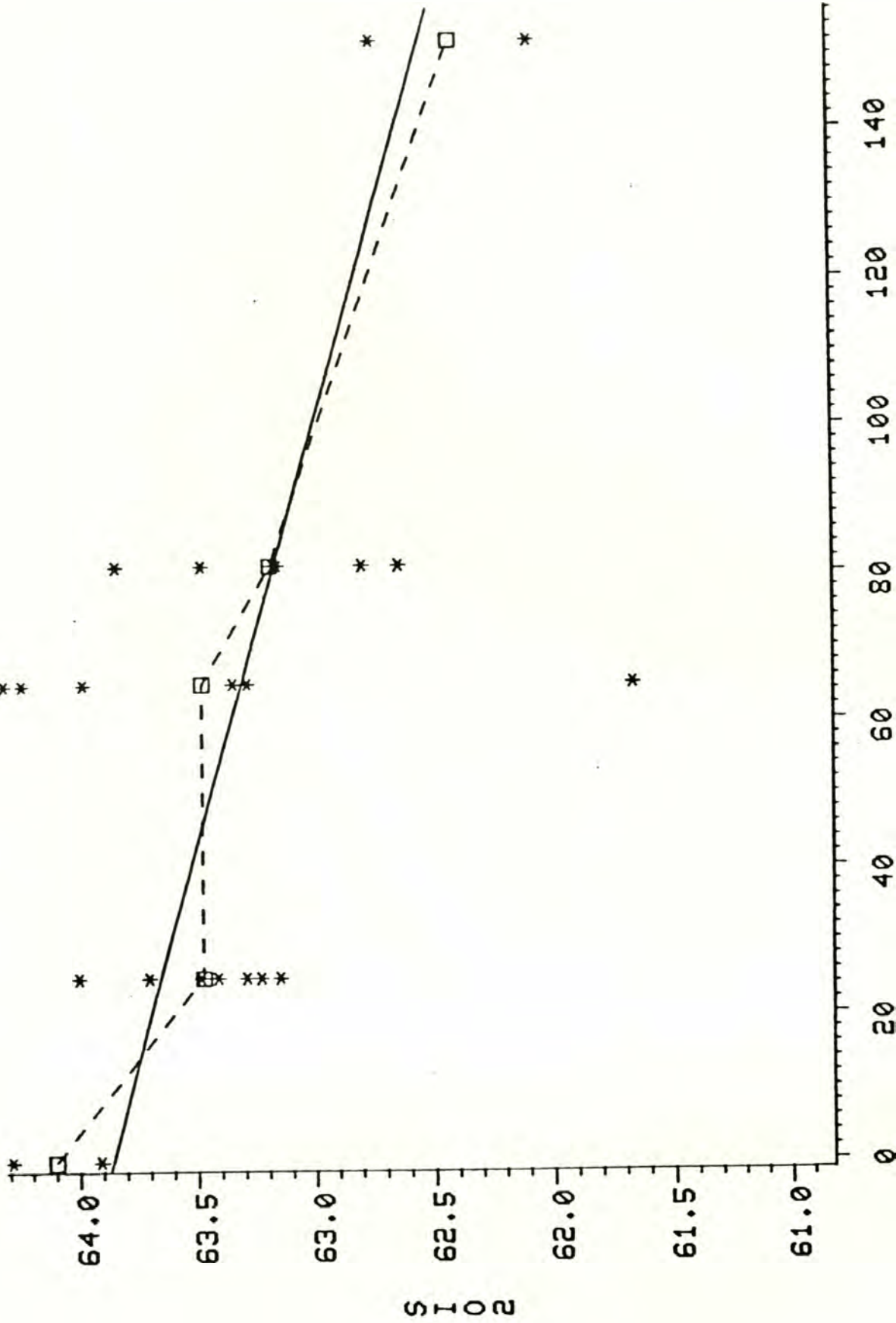
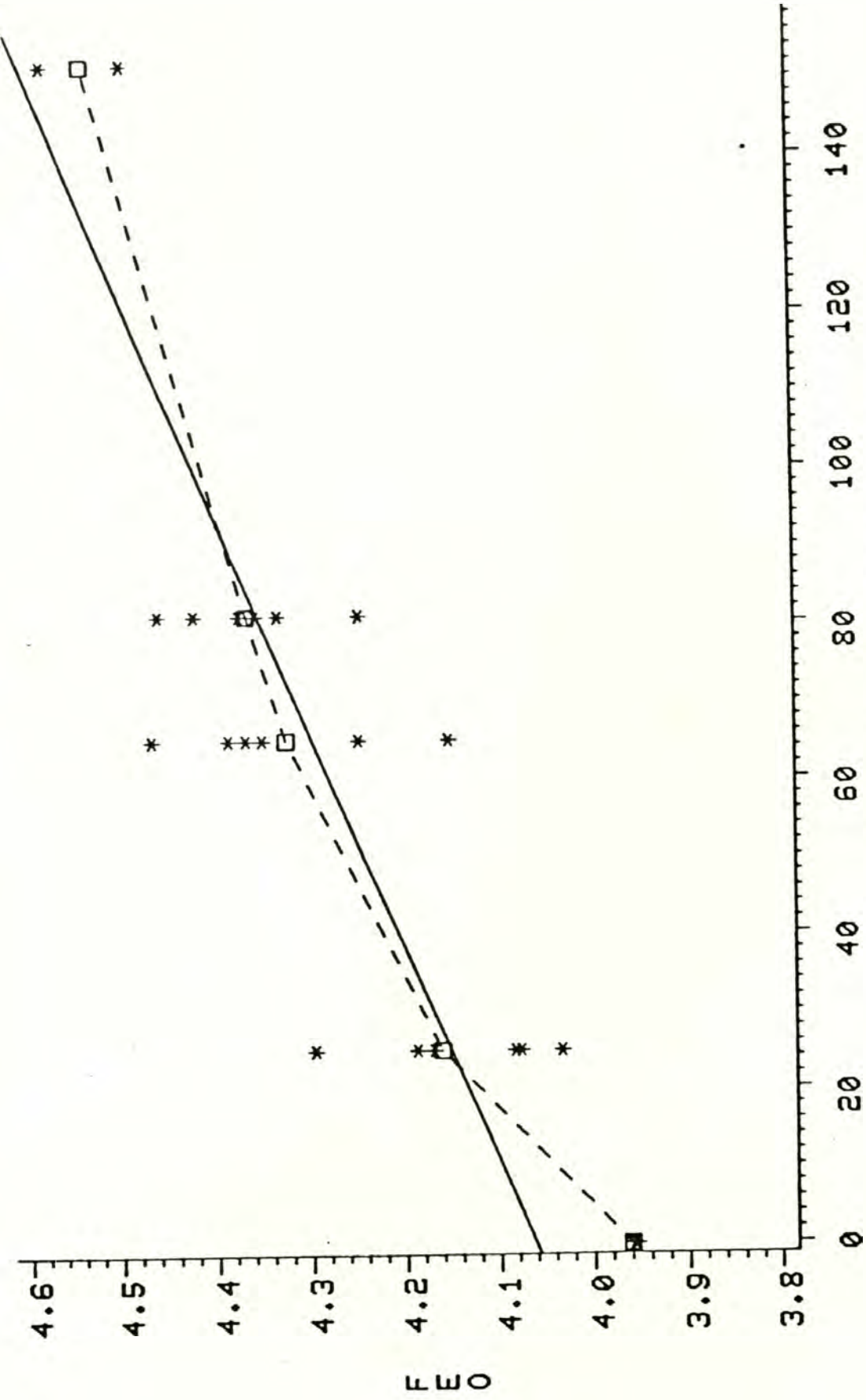
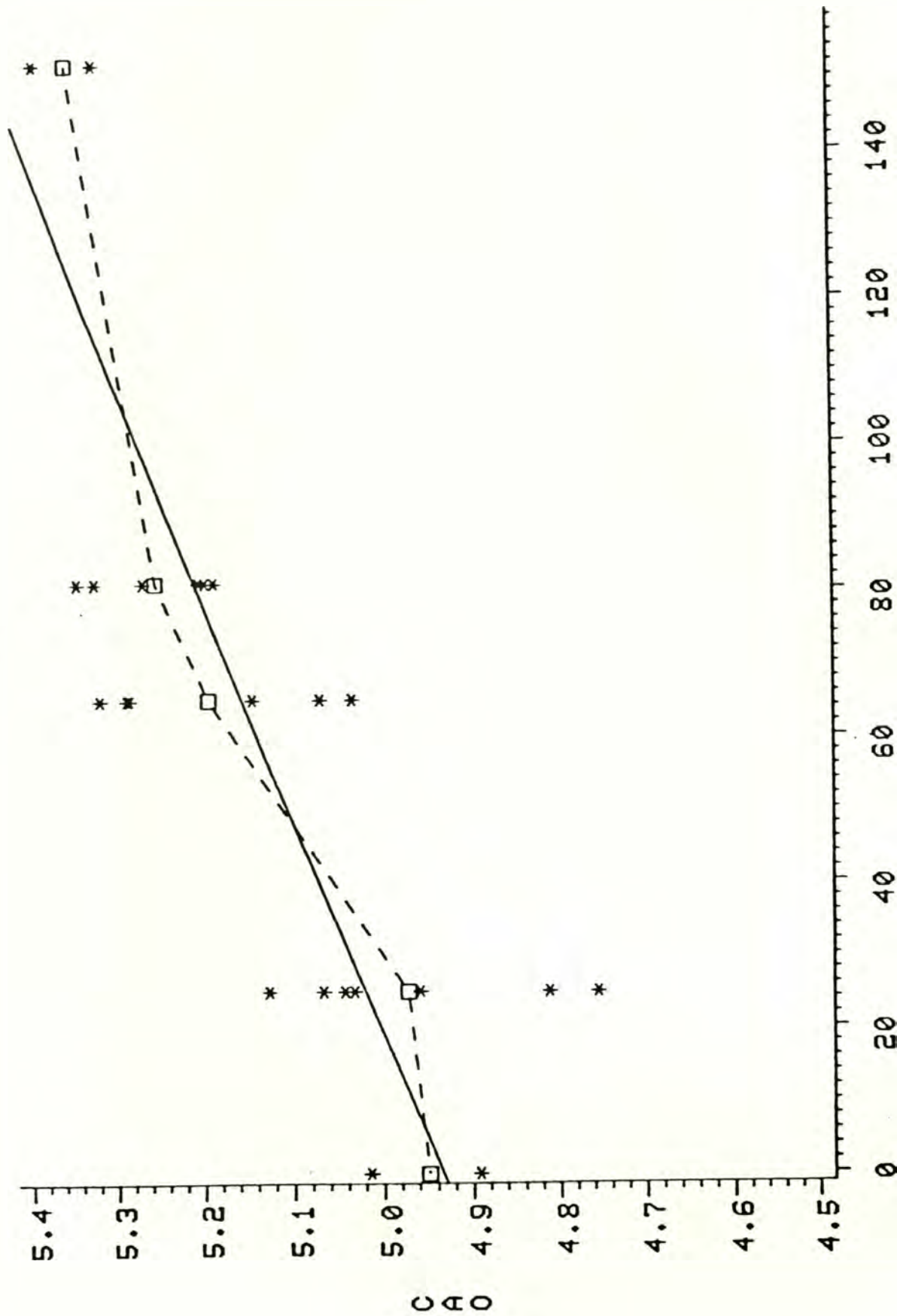


Figure 19. SiO₂ versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



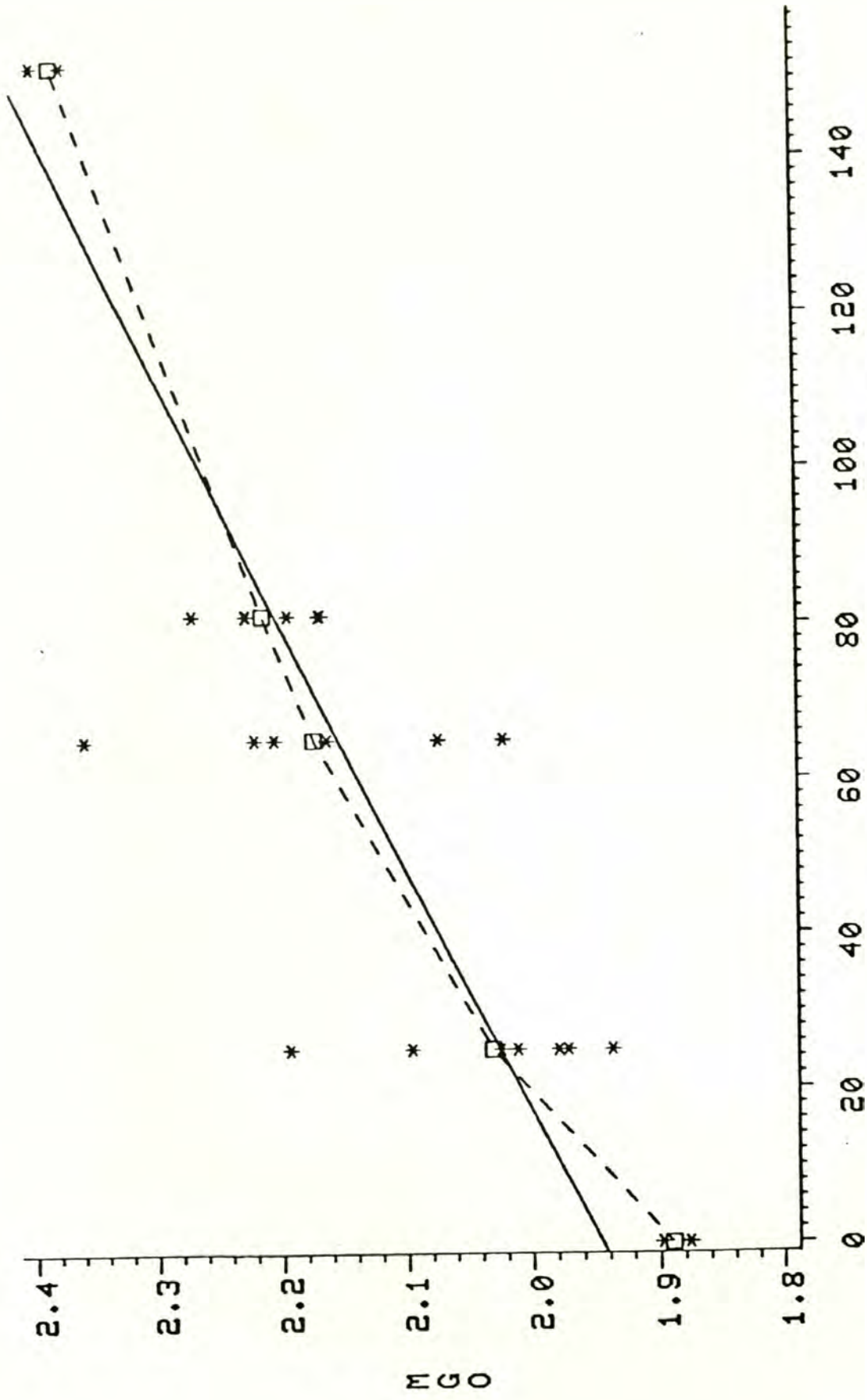
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 20. FeO (total) versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



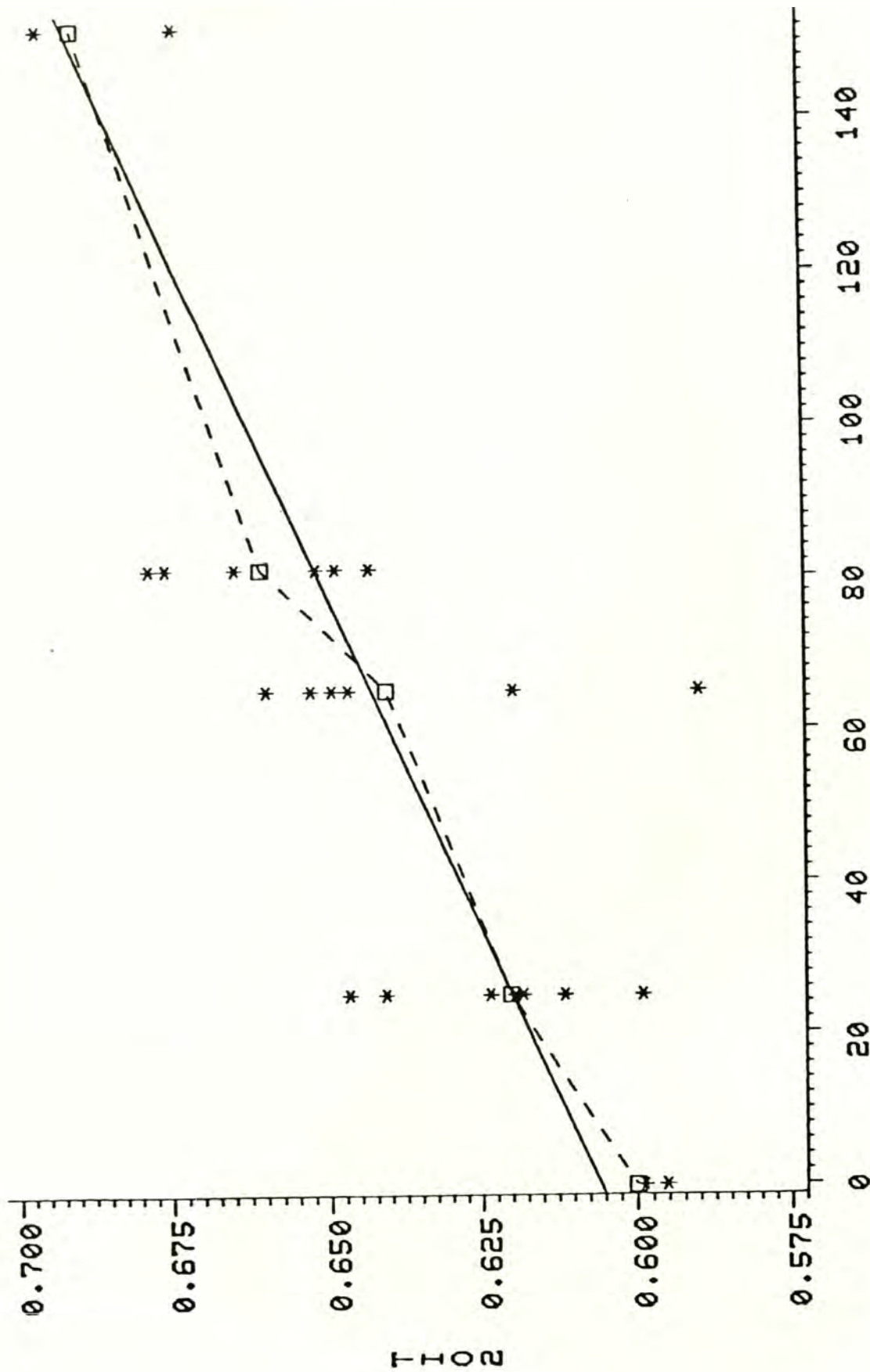
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 21. CaO versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



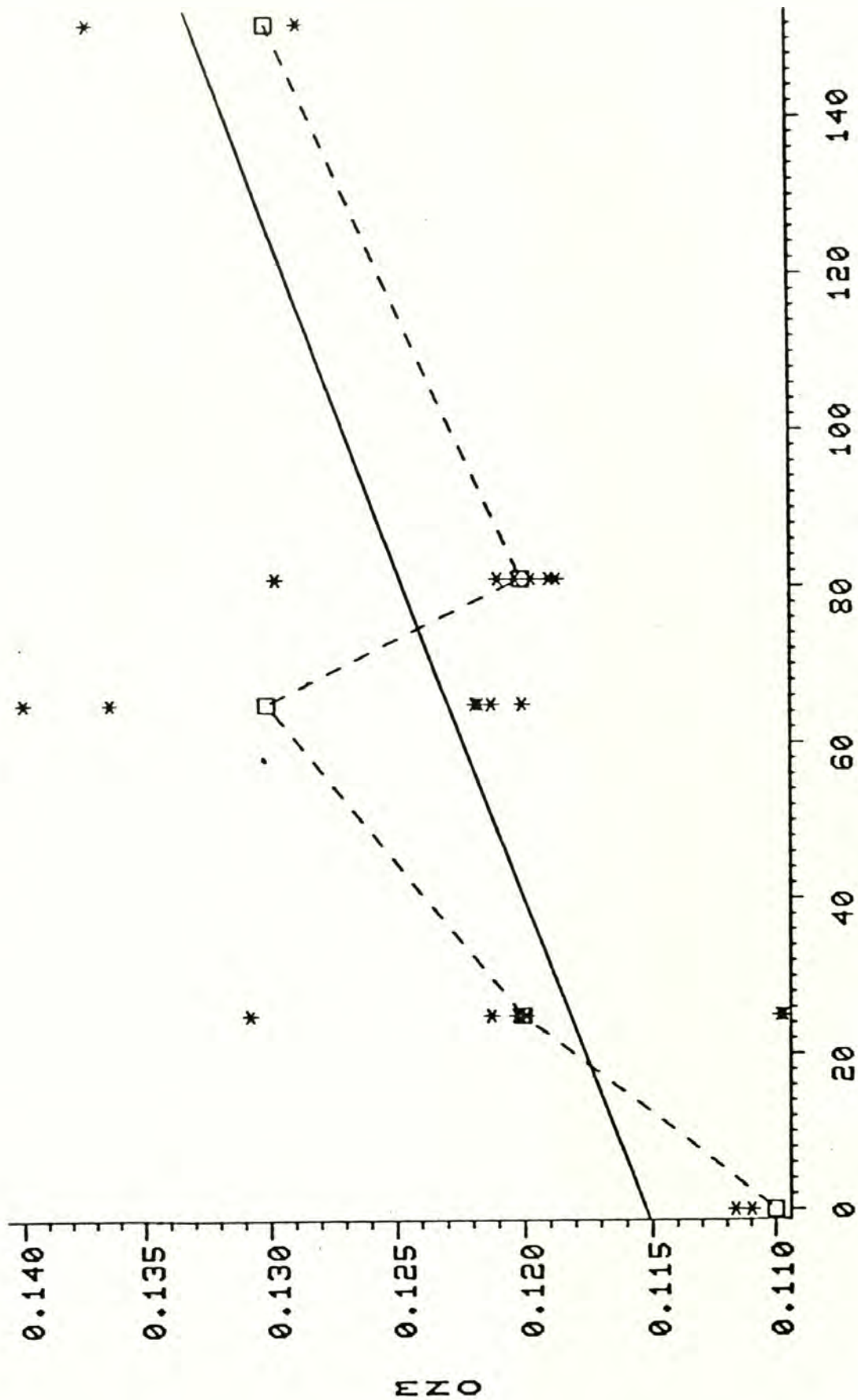
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 22. MgO versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



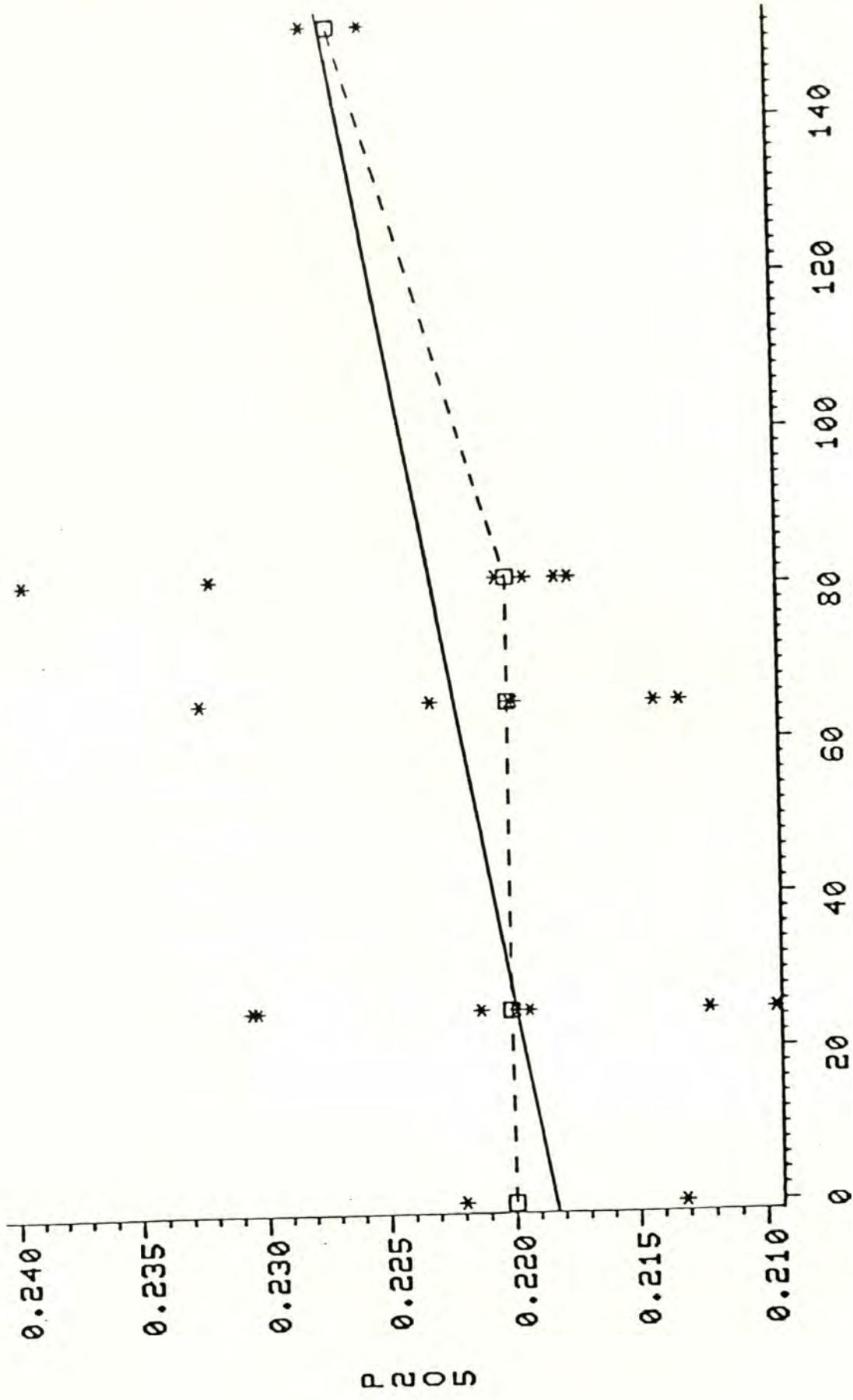
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 23. TiO₂ versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



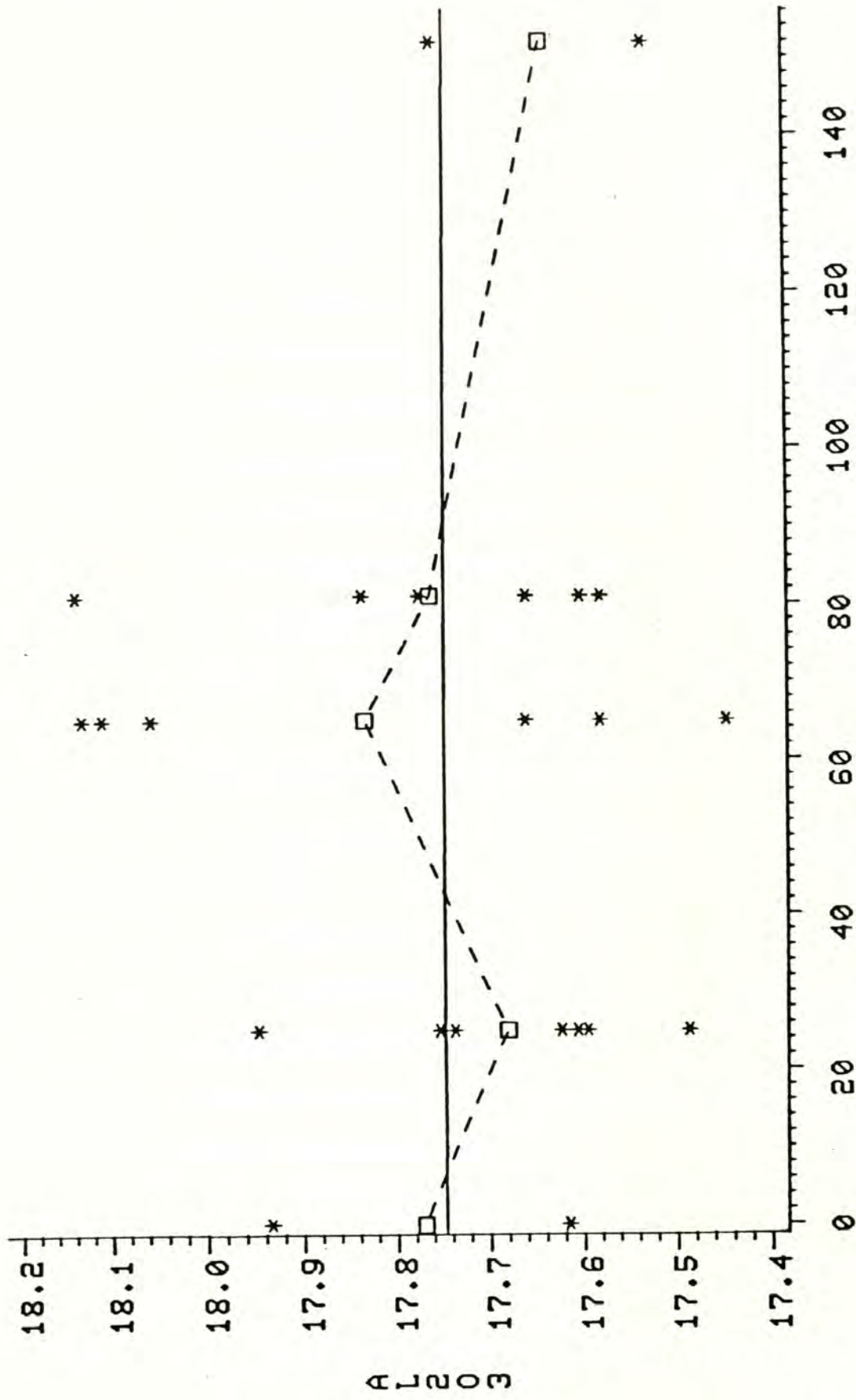
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 24. MnO versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



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Figure 25. P_{205} versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



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Figure 26. Al_2O_3 versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.

9 percent, TiO_2 15 percent, and MgO 23 percent, while Na_2O decreases an apparent 1.6 percent and K_2O 3.4 percent.

Scheidegger et al. (1982), using electron microprobe of selected mineral phases from May 25, June 12, July 22, and October 16-18 pumices, report that plagioclase rims are less calcic with time. But, if the bulk chemistry is becoming significantly more calcic, then reverse zoning in plagioclase should be expected. It is difficult to explain this inconsistency, but it may be the result of one or a combination of any of the following possibilities.

The average relative abundances of Na_2O and CaO change by only 4.6 percent between May 18 and October 16-18. This change may not be enough to result in strong reverse zoning in plagioclase. Furthermore, the excess CaO could be entering the augite lattice. Based on petrographic evidence, augite is the only likely phase that might accept CaO since hornblende is not an equilibrium phase. If the trend in CaO enrichment continues in the future, augite may become an increasingly abundant phase.

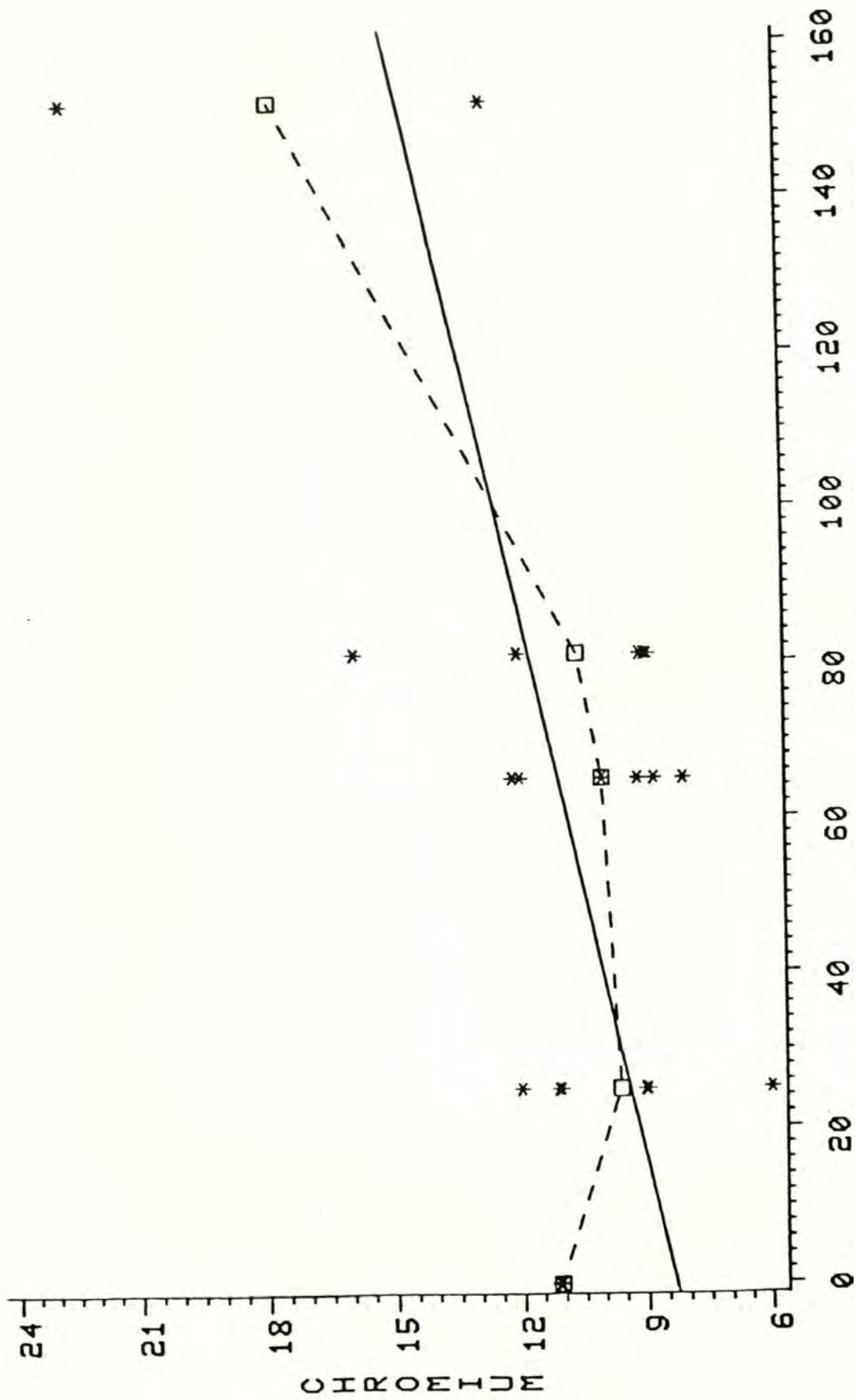
The increase in FeO (total) may be partially accommodated by augite, hypersthene and hornblende. Although the modal abundance of magnetite was not determined, FeO could be partitioned into this phase, which may increase in modal abundance with time. On the other hand, through continual degassing of the magma chamber, lower P_{H_2O} should cause less of the Fe to crystallize out as magnetite, leaving hypersthene and hornblende as preferential sites for its accommodation. A review of the data presented by Scheidegger et al. (1982) shows a slight depletion of both FeO and MgO in magnetite, a

depletion of FeO in glass, and an enrichment of MnO in glass with time. The increase in MgO will be accommodated by hypersthene as well.

Trends in trace element abundances are not as apparent as those for the major and minor elements. However, Cr, Cu, Sc, and V (Figures 27-30) show slight enrichment with time, while Ba (Figure 31) shows a depletion with time. Regression coefficients for copper and vanadium are good, but are weak for chromium, barium, and scandium. La, Nb, Sr, Y, Zn, and Zr (Figures 32-37) show no apparent trends with time, based either on the low slope of their graphs or the wide scatter of data points.

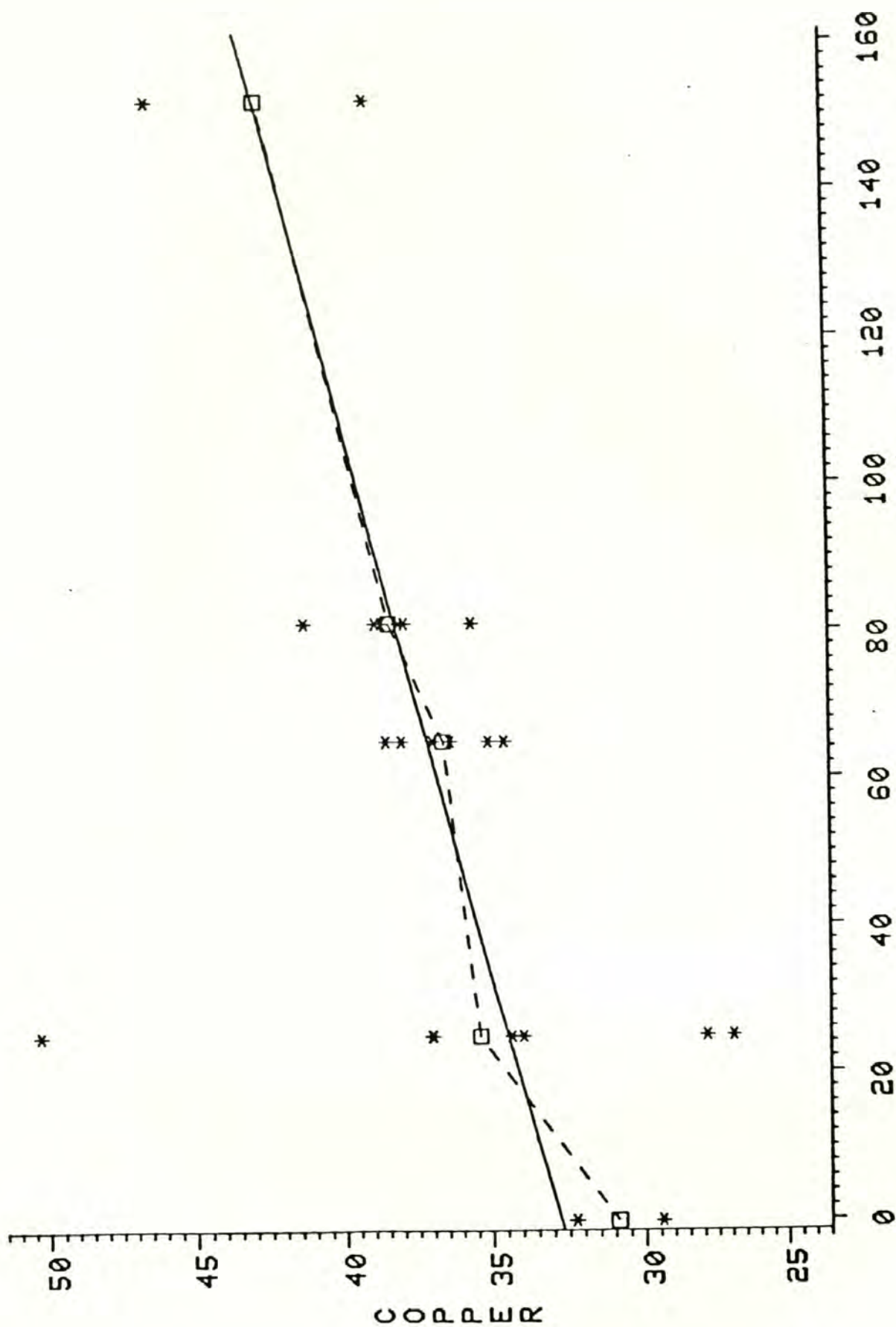
The enrichment trends of Cr, Cu, Sc, and V as well as the depletion trend in Ba can be explained as normal trends toward a more andesitic magma composition. Taylor and White (1965 and 1966) have presented data on major, minor, and trace element average abundances for andesite, basalt, granite, and continental crust. Mount St. Helens pumice is depleted in V, Cr, Cu, Y and Sc relative to the average andesite. The trend toward more andesitic composition must, therefore, be toward enrichment in these elements. Barium, in the Mount St. Helens pumice, is slightly more abundant than in the average andesite values, and conversely becomes more depleted during the trend toward andesitic composition.

On the other hand, additional analysis of pumice and dome rock may show that the trends are not real but only exist because of the small number of samples analyzed in this study. However, because the trends in major and minor elements in this study corroborate data in



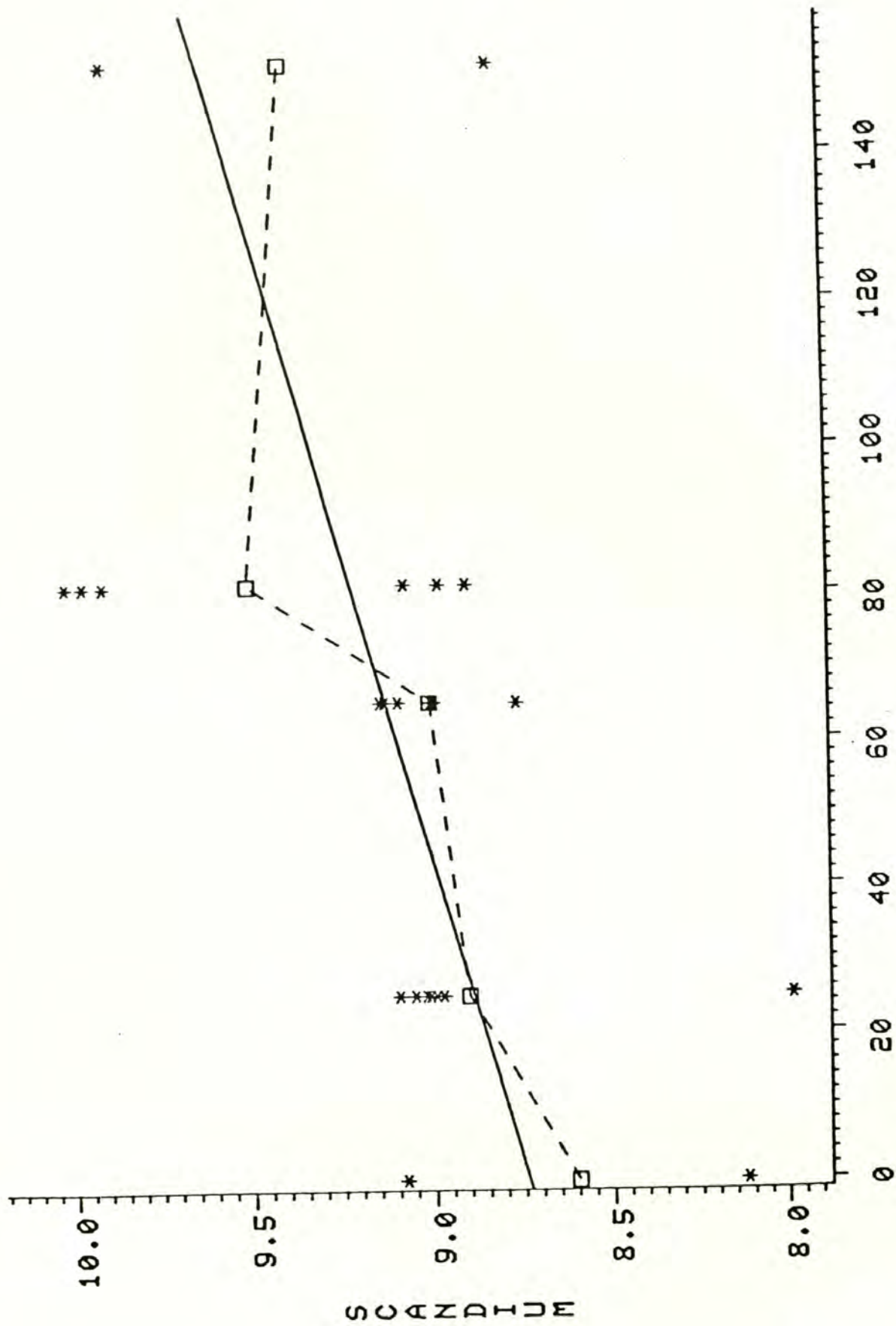
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 27. Cr versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



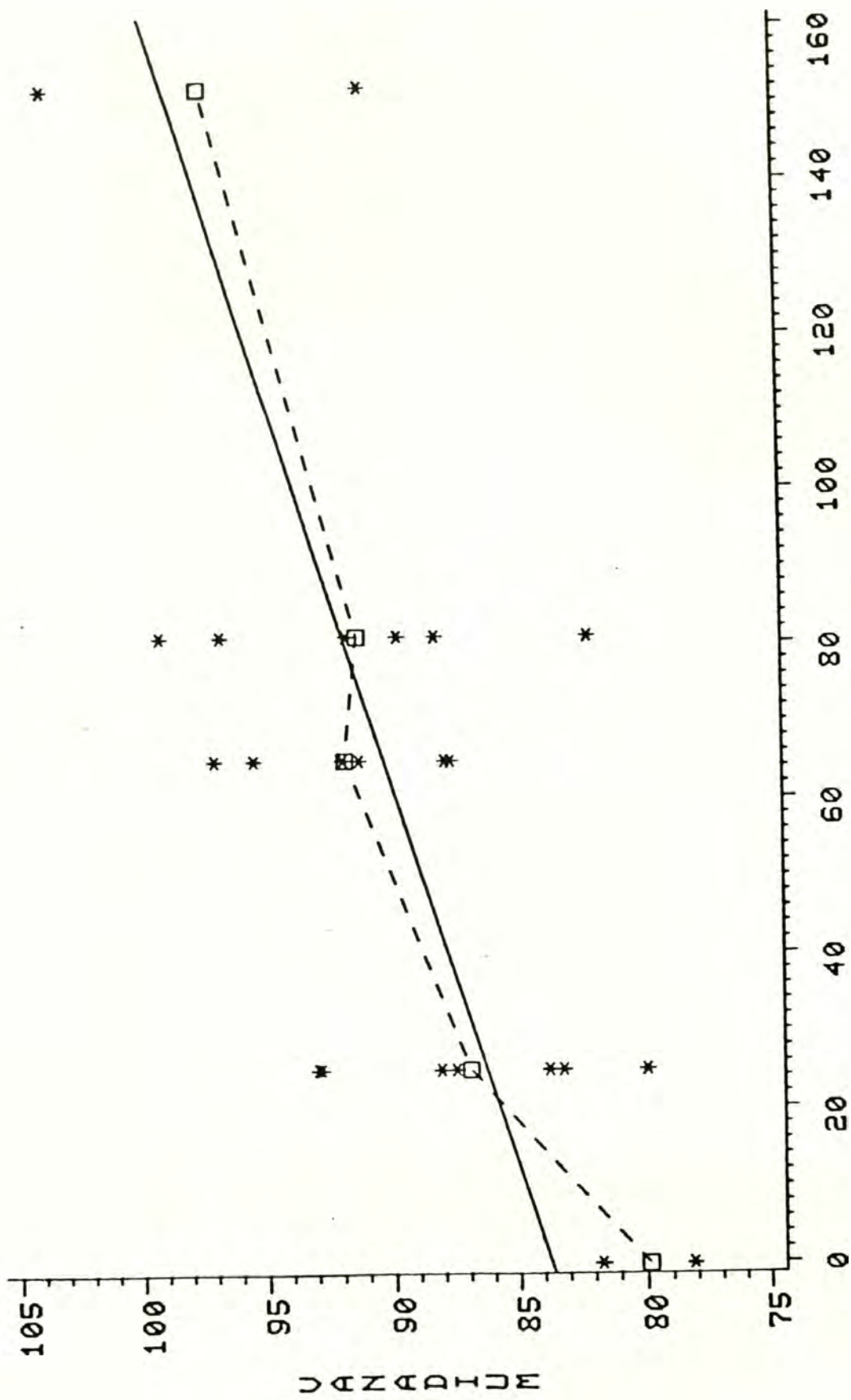
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 28. Cu versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



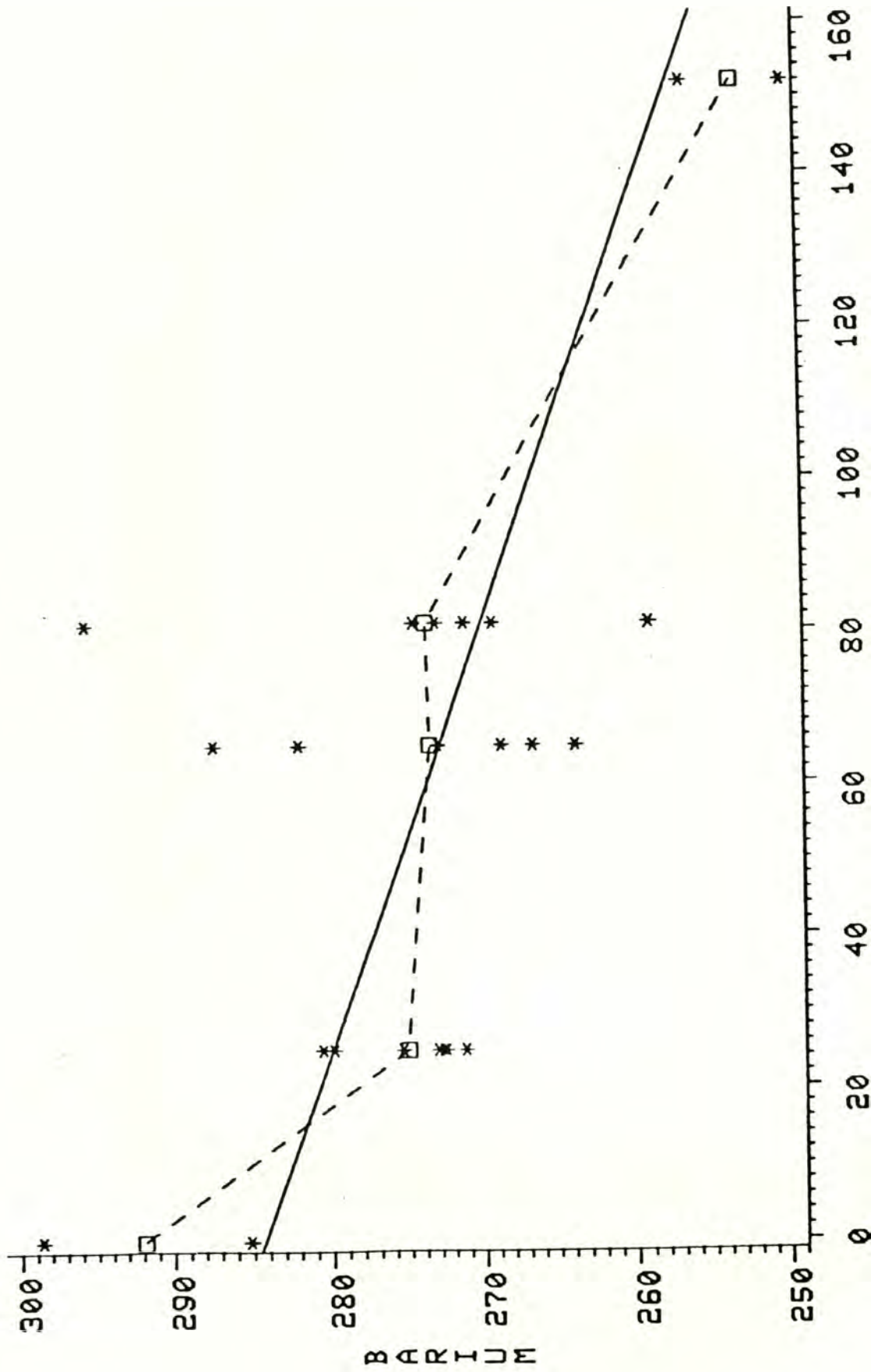
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 29. Sc versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



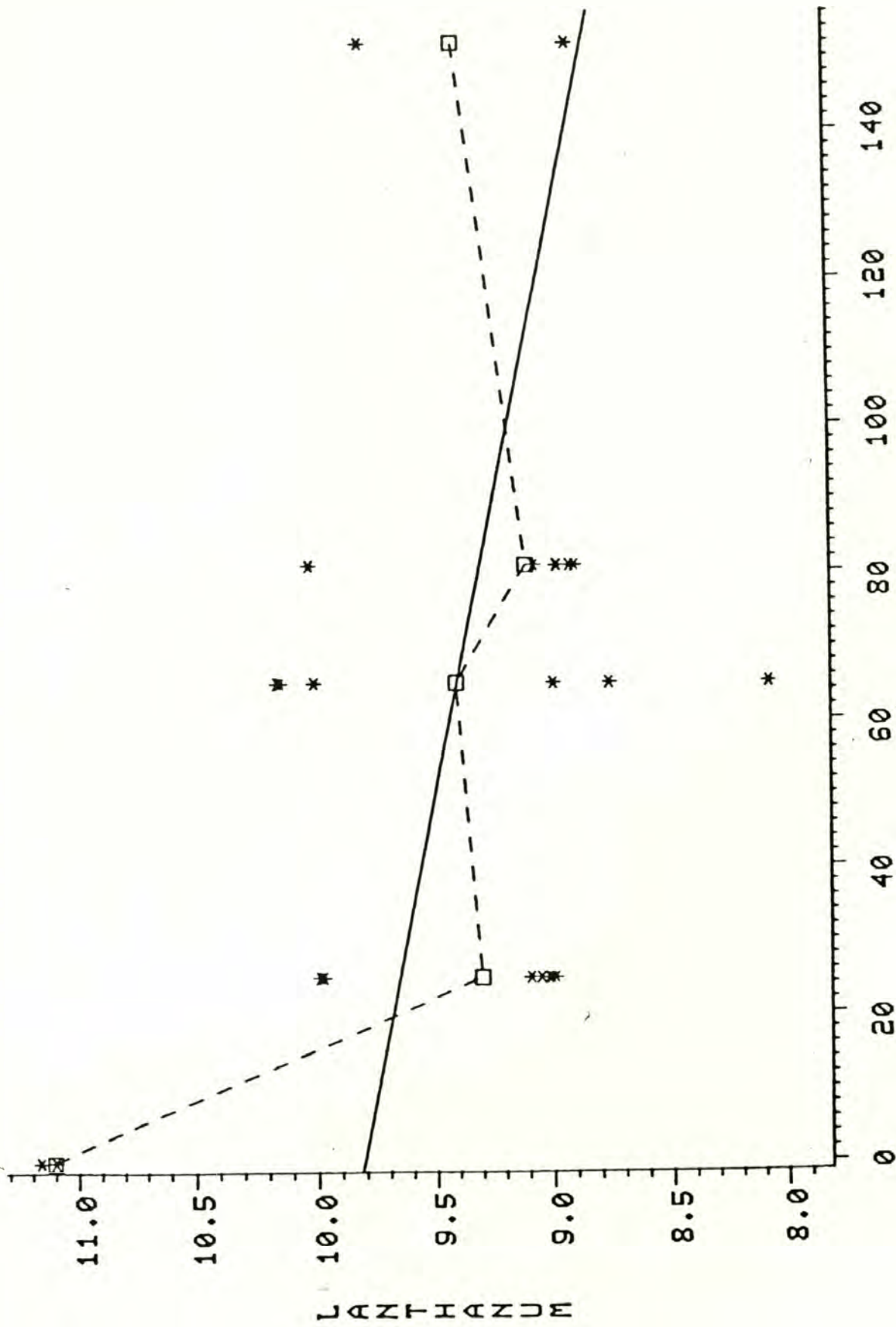
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 30. V versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



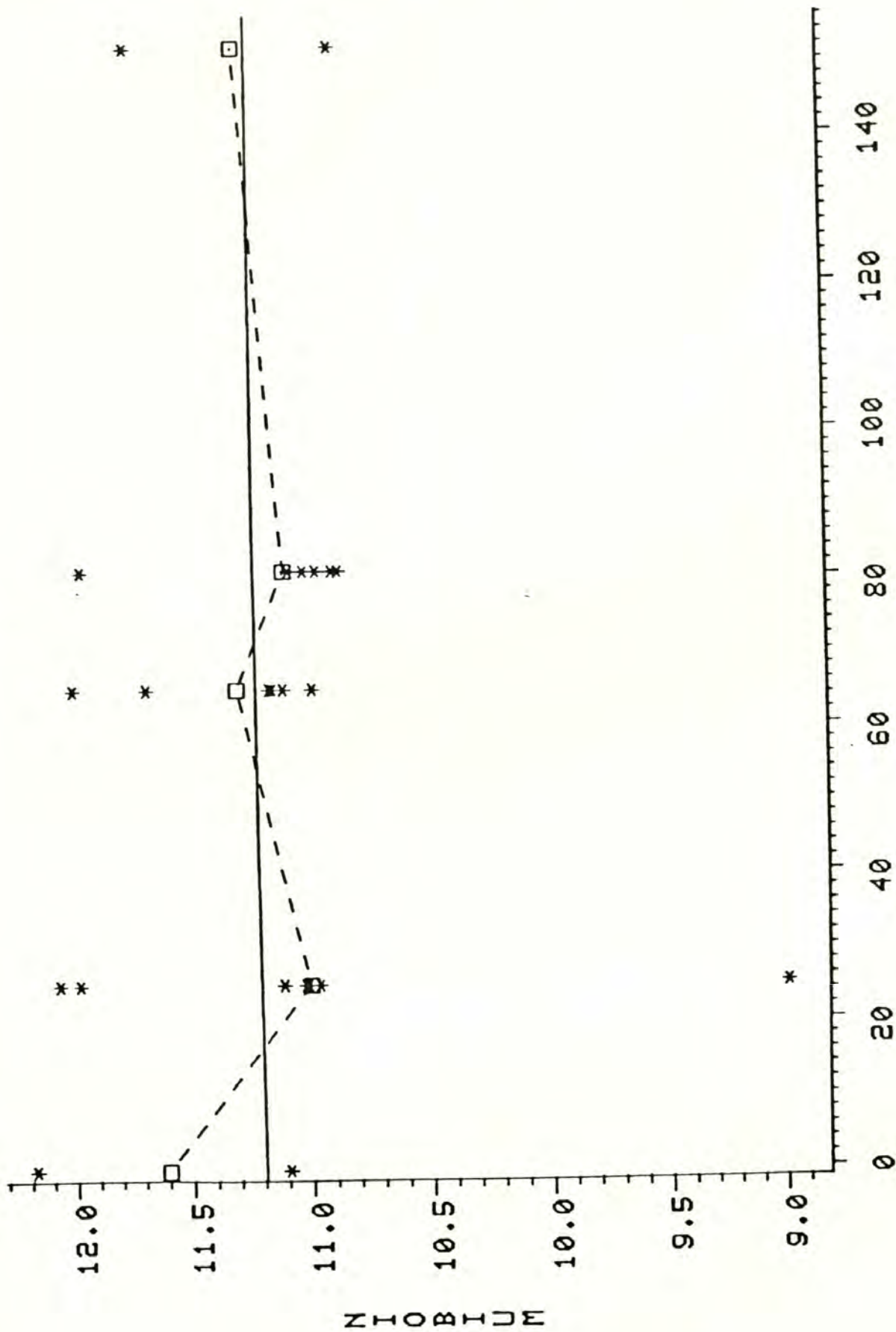
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 31. Ba versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



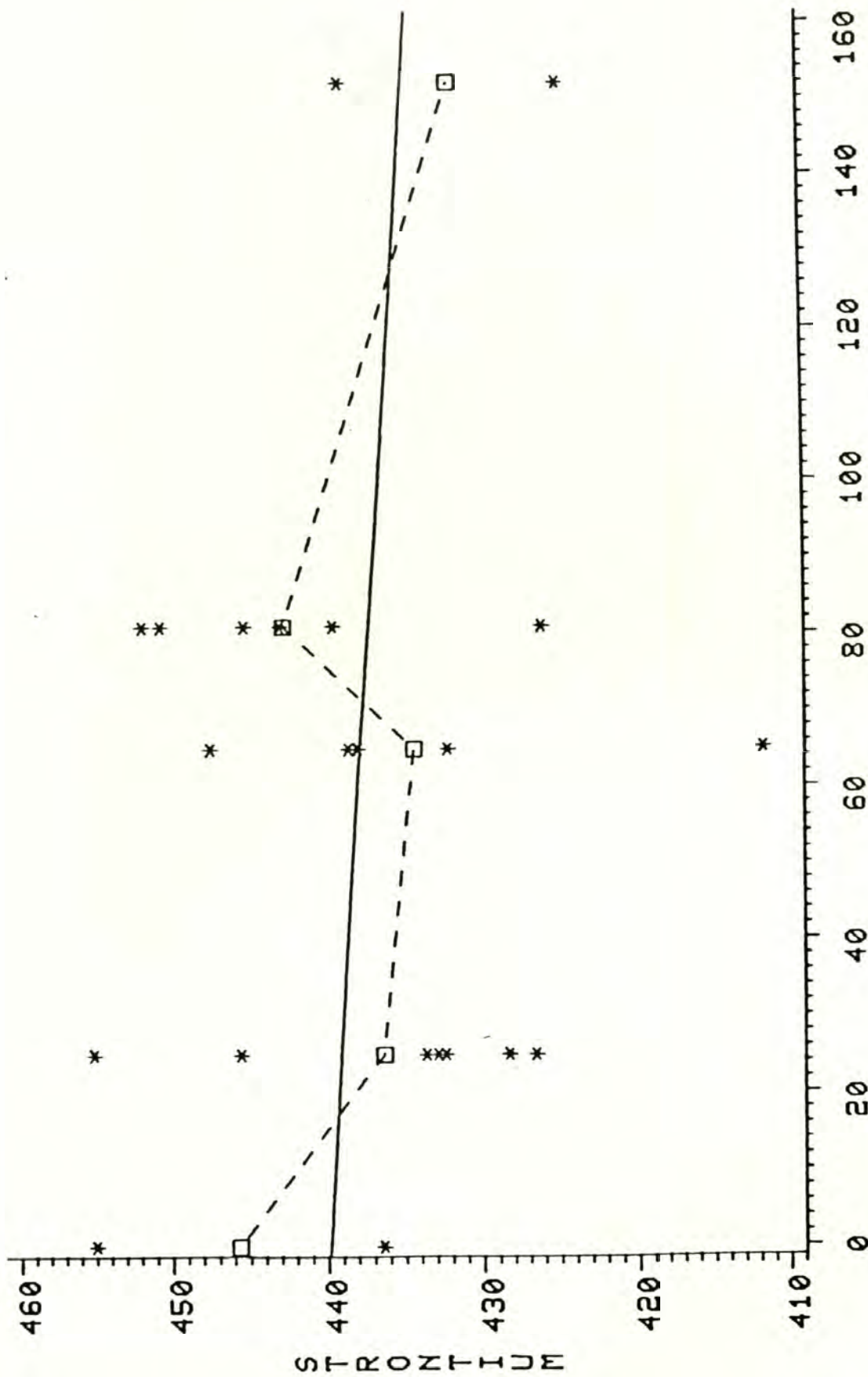
DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

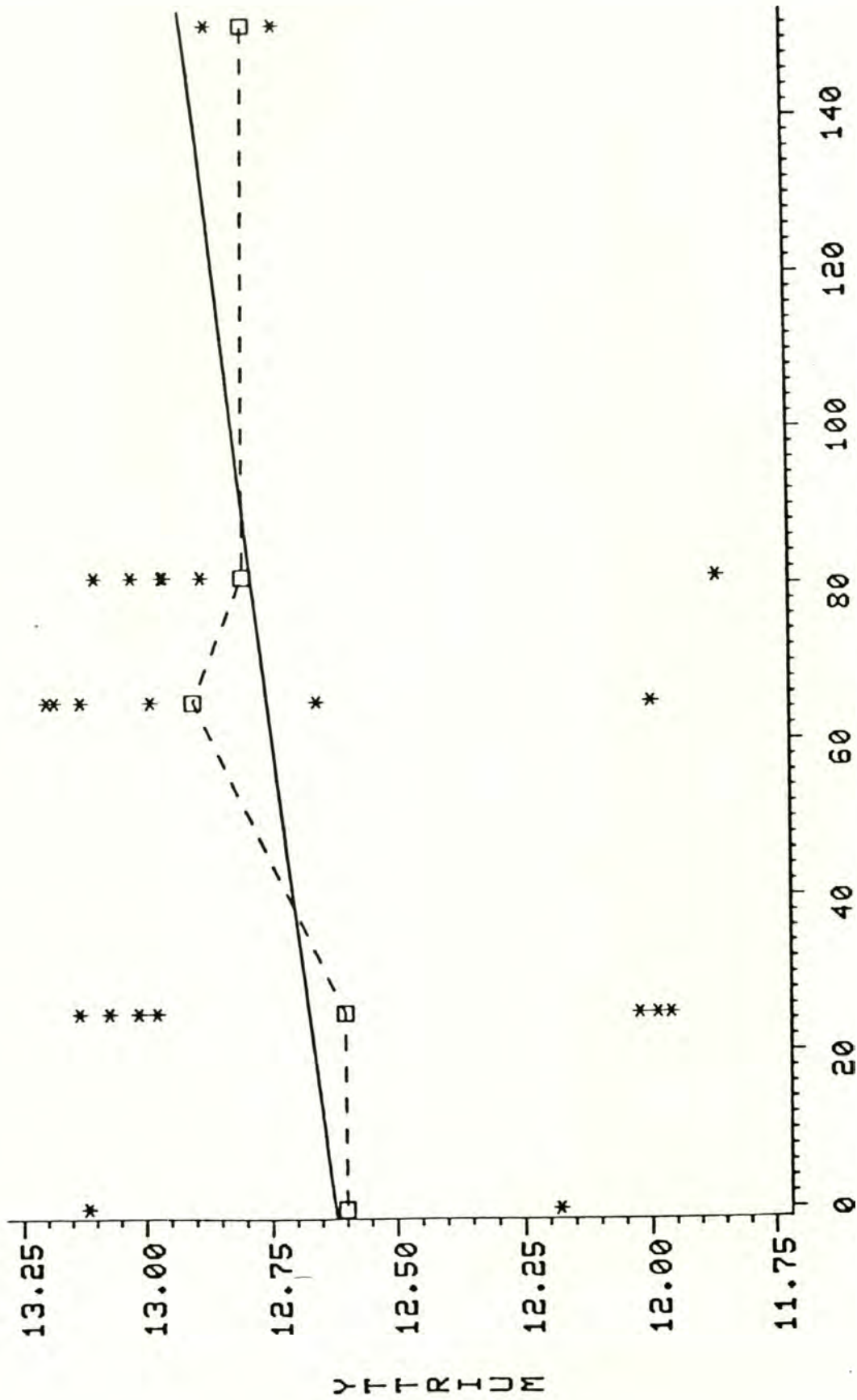
Figure 32. La versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

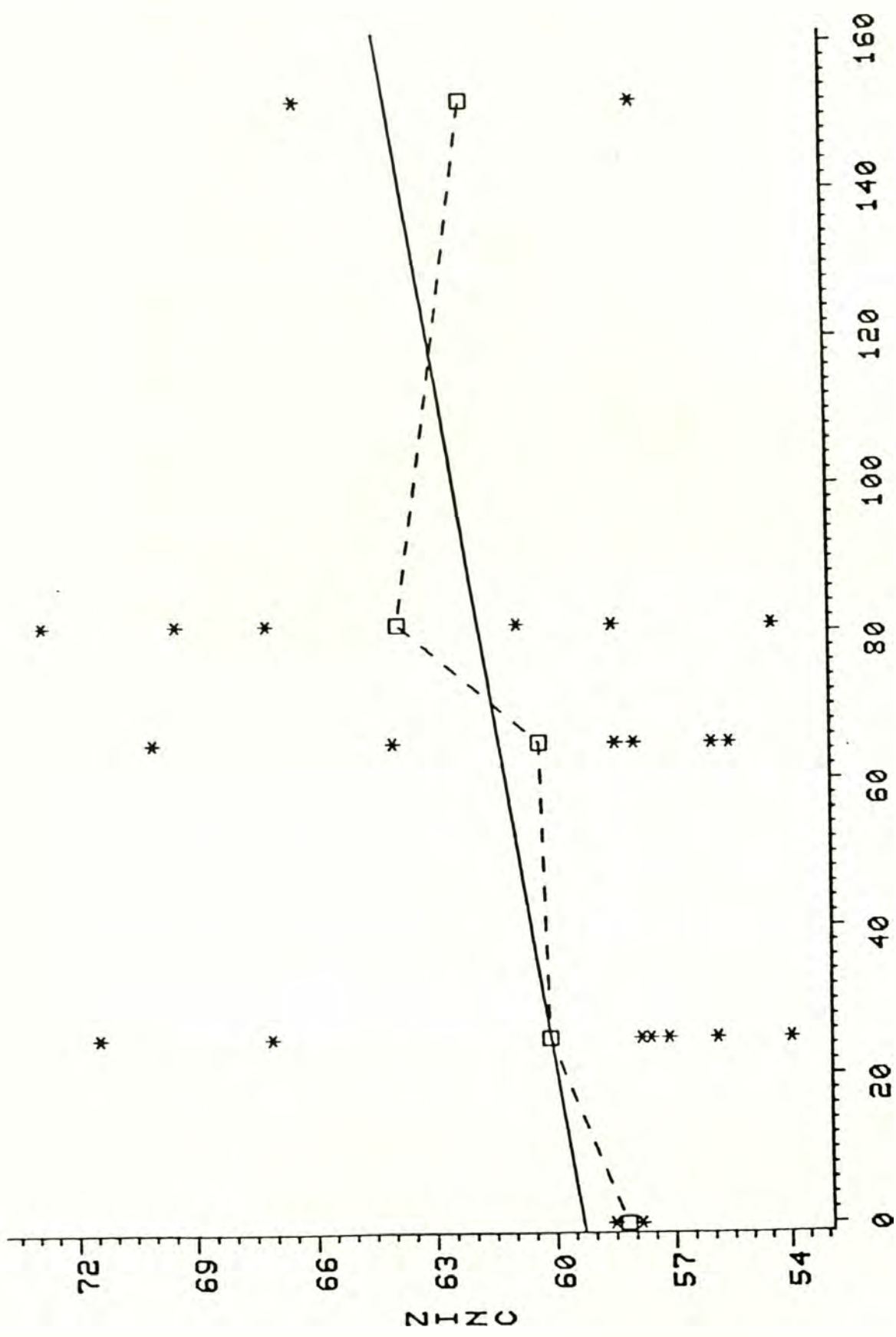
Figure 33. Nb versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.





DAYS AFTER 18 MAY 1980 ERUPTION

Figure 35. Y versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.



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Figure 36. Zn versus time after May 18 eruption. Analyses shown by stars, means of analyses shown by boxes; dashed line connects means, solid line is linear regression. See Table 8 for R values.

other similar studies (e.g., Melson et al., 1980a), there is an indication that the trends are probably real.

In order to further delineate temporal trends in pumice chemistry, harker-type silica variation diagrams were developed. Normalized major and minor element oxides have been plotted against silica and fields have been drawn around data points for each eruption date. The major and minor element oxides versus silica are presented in Figures 38-46.

All of these diagrams show a trend between the end members of May 18 and October 16-18. This trend is reflected by virtue of the relative high and low silica values of the respective end members. However, plots of the elements showing the strongest changes in abundance versus time, generally reflect those trends by grouping into distinct temporal fields.

There are some exceptions, notably, the June 12 and especially the July 22 fields are somewhat erratic in many of the graphs. Sample number 28, representing July 22 pumice, is anomalously low in silica and was not included in the July 22 field in any of the diagrams, but was, nonetheless, plotted.

With these exceptions aside, distinct trends are apparent in relative abundances of silica and TiO_2 , FeO , CaO , MgO , and possibly MnO (Figures 38-42). Those oxides showing weak or no apparent trends are Al_2O_3 , K_2O , Na_2O , and P_2O_5 (Figures 43-46).

Both the major and trace element data for the Mount St. Helens pumice fit the scheme of Taylor et al. (1969a) for the origin of

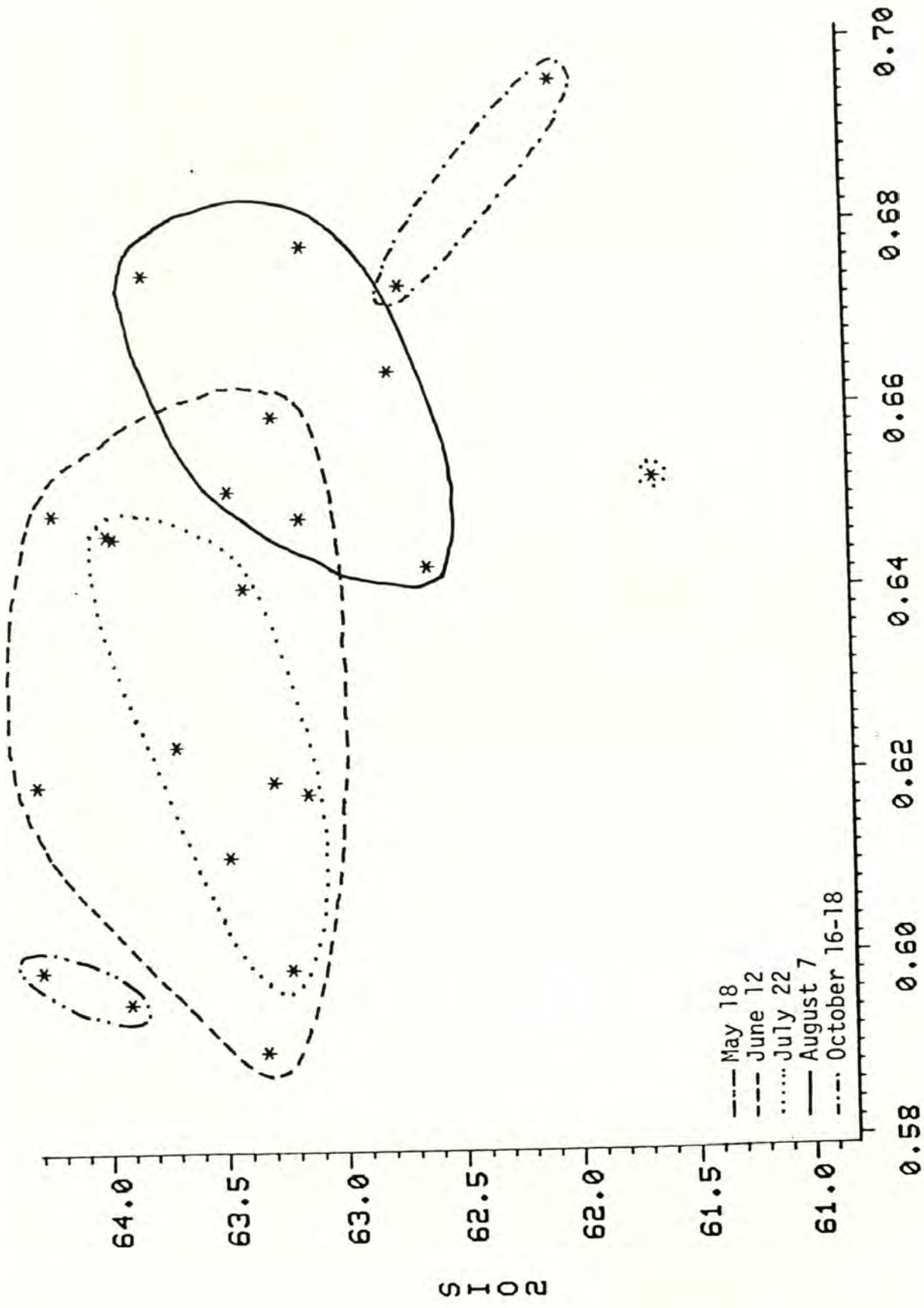
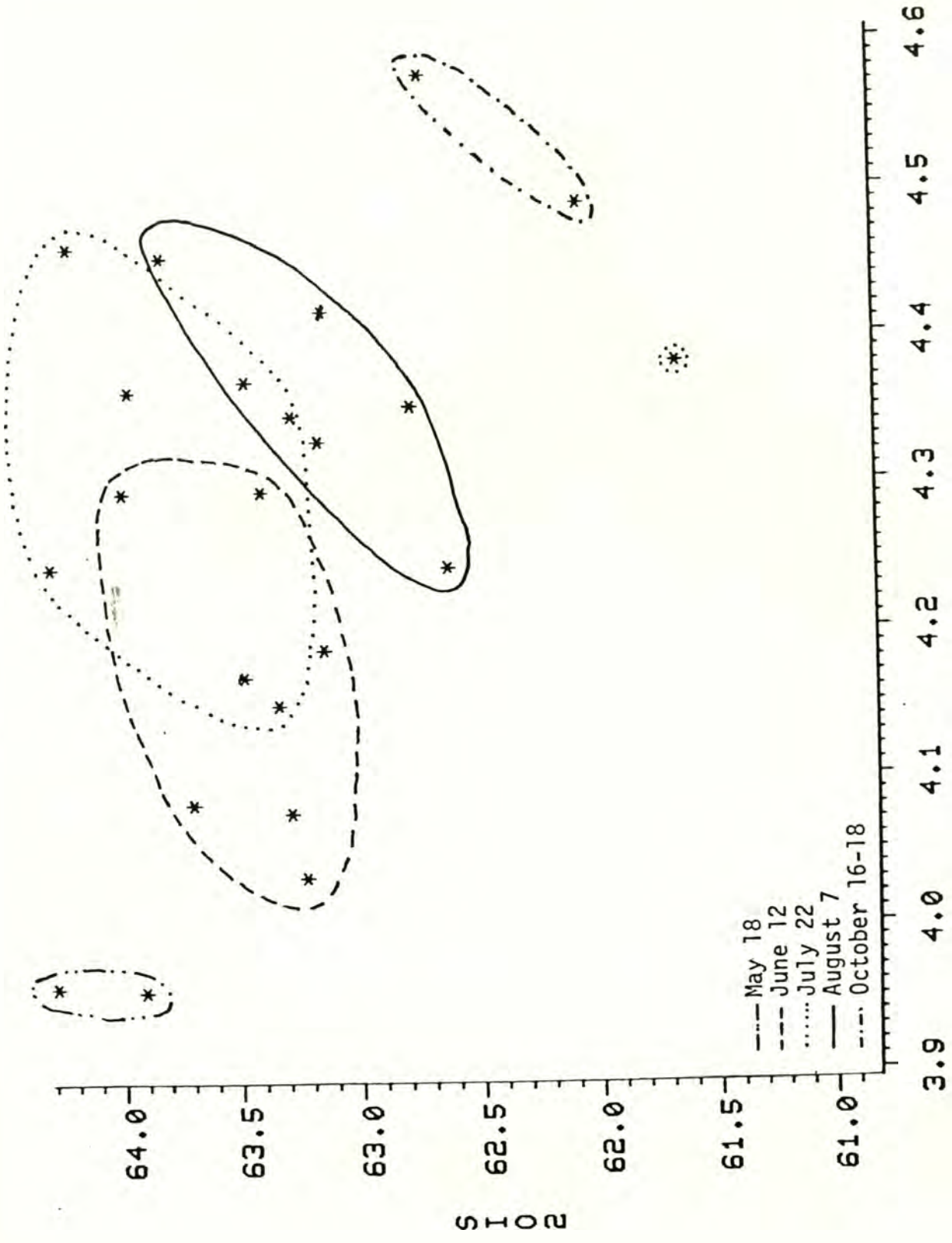


Figure 38. Harker type variation diagram: TiO₂ versus SiO₂.



FeO

Figure 39. Harker type variation diagram: FeO versus SiO₂.

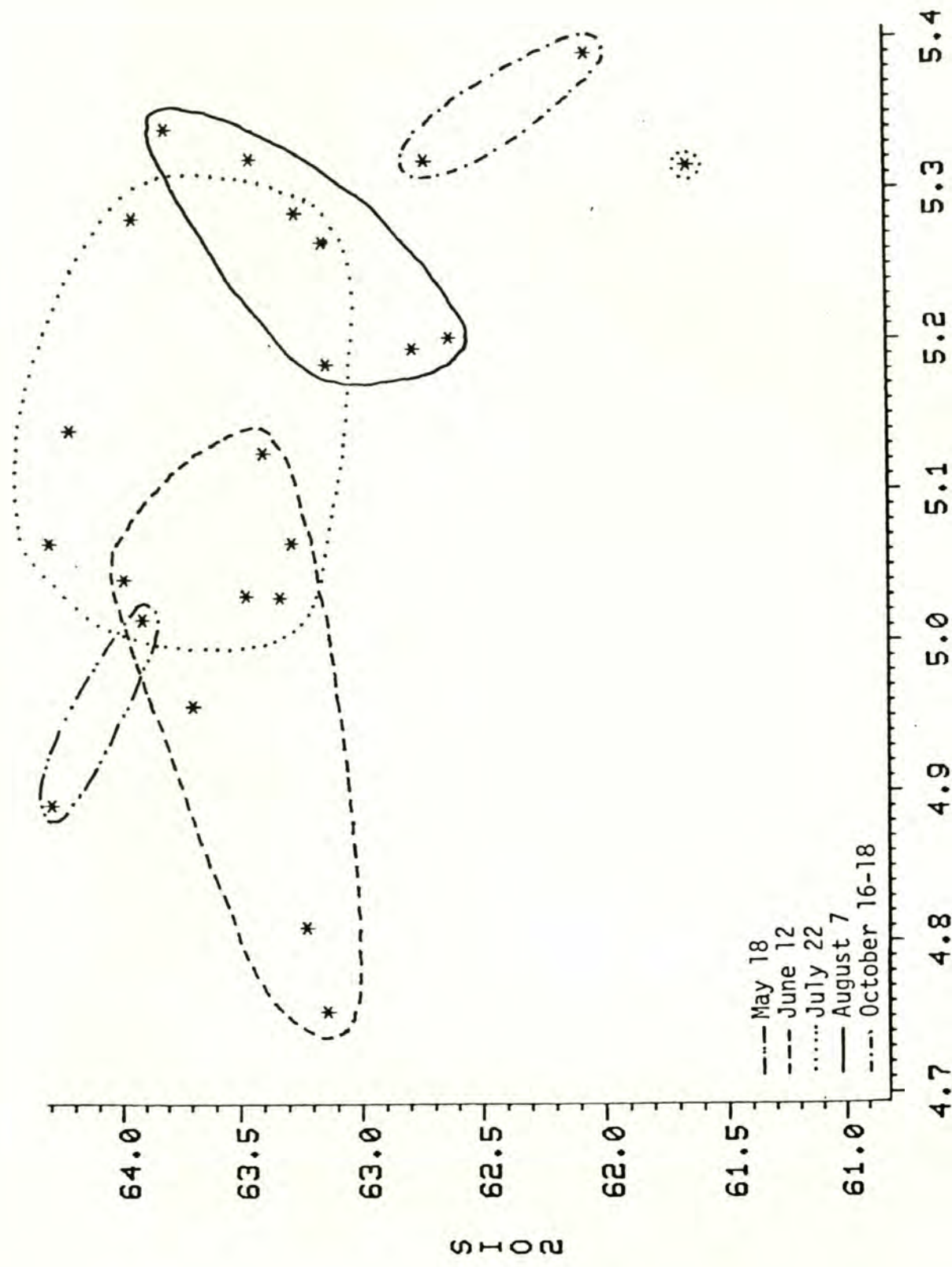
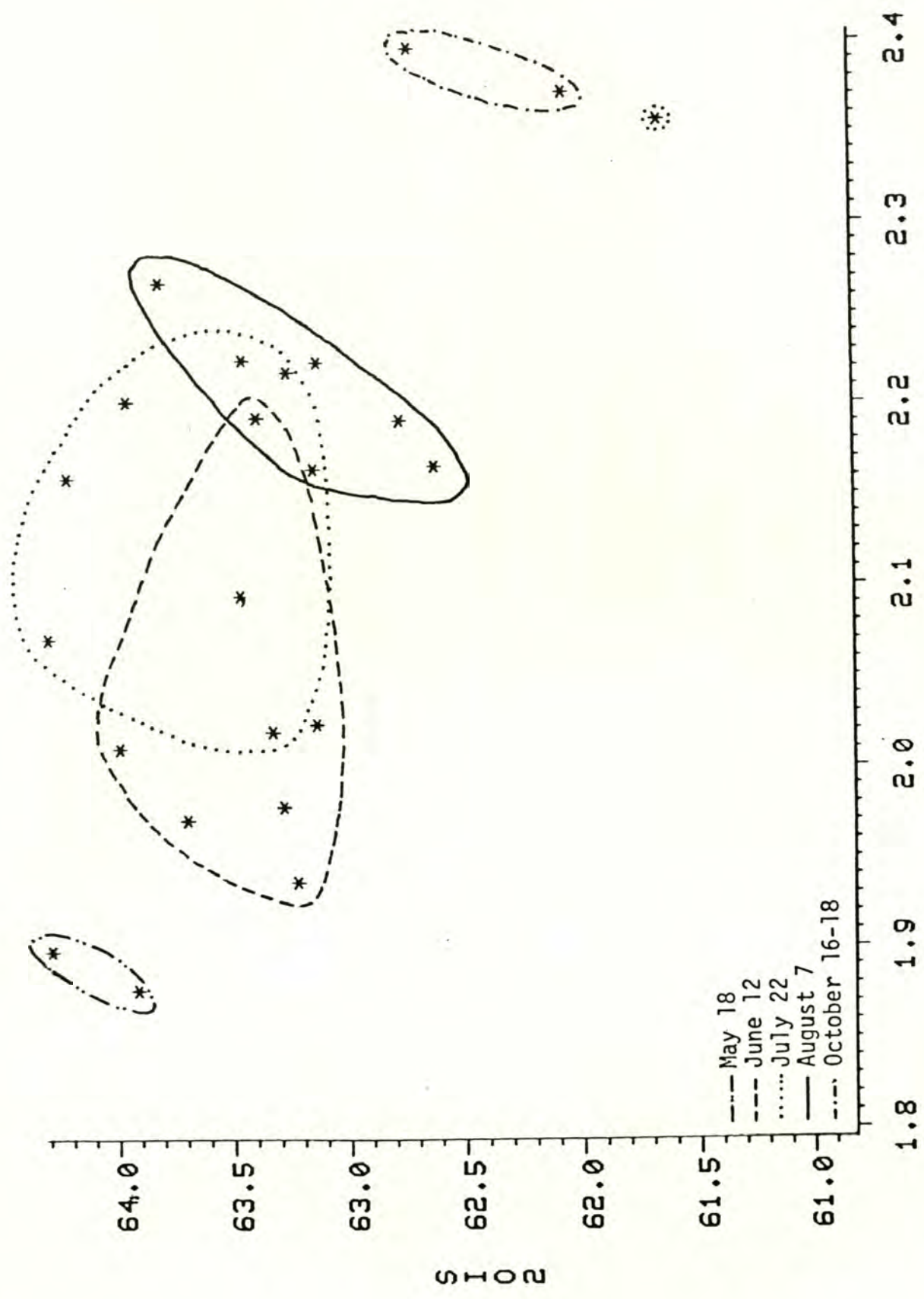


Figure 40. Harker type variation diagram: CaO versus SiO₂.
CAO



MgO

Figure 41. Harker type variation diagram: MgO versus SiO₂.

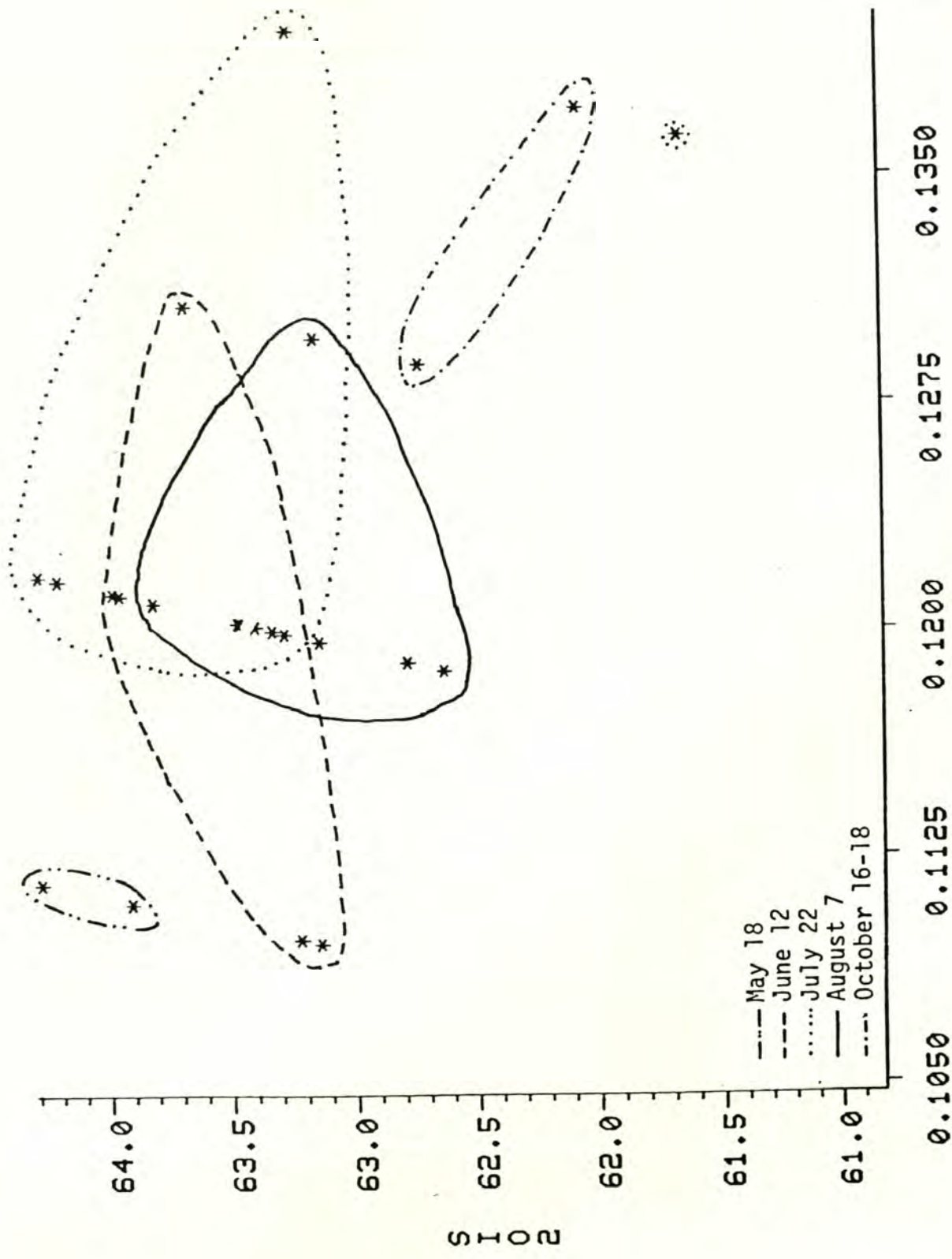
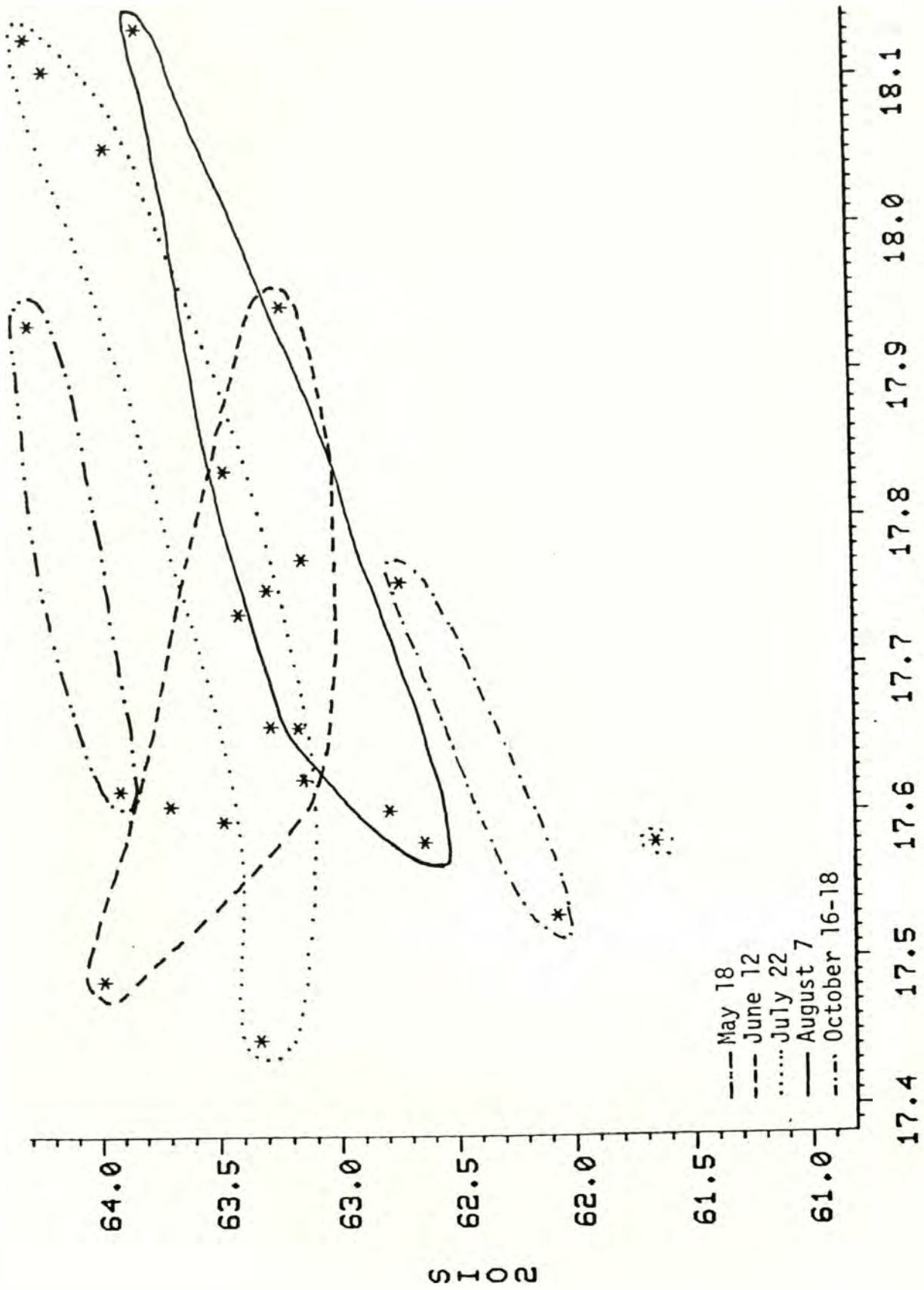
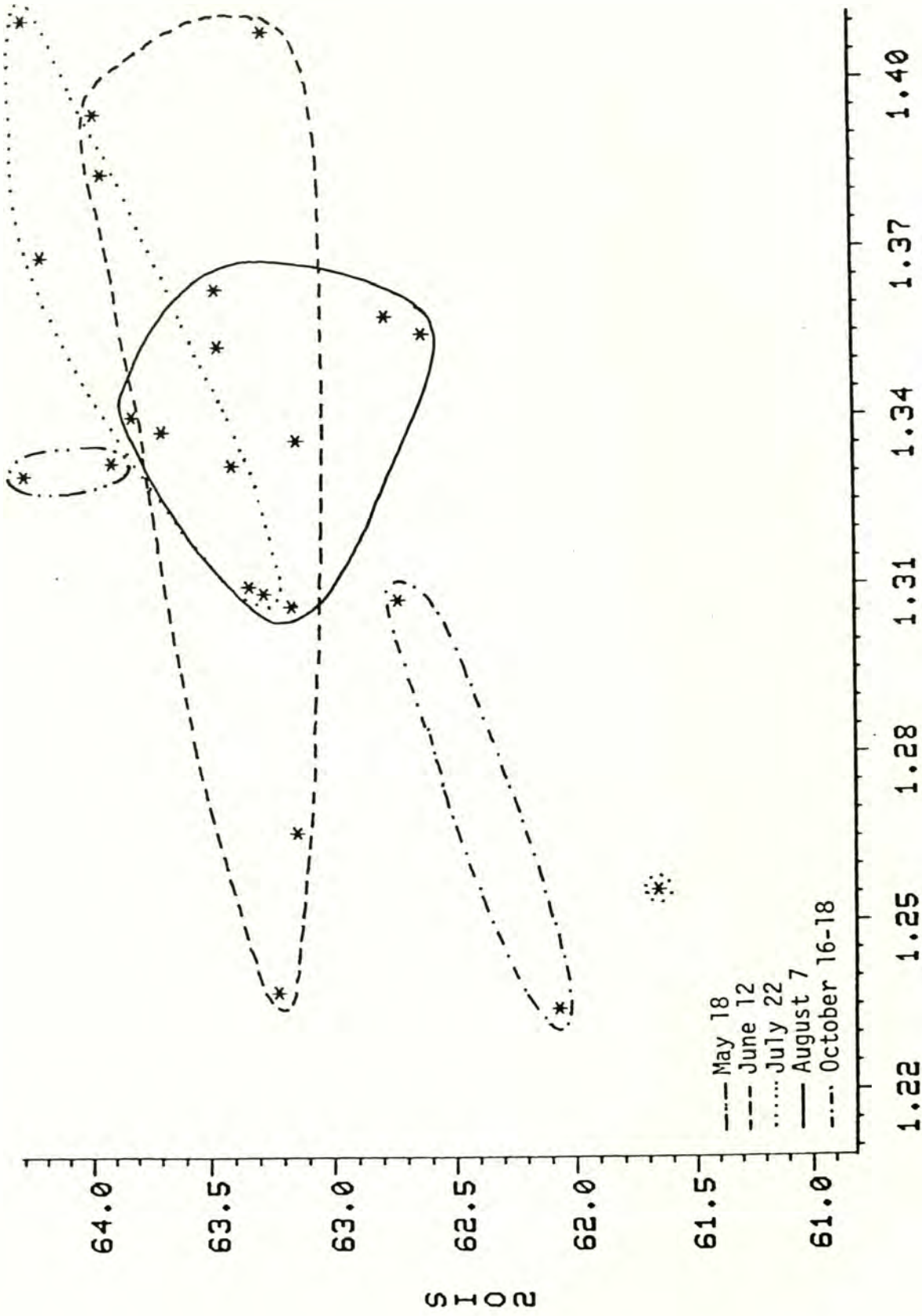


Figure 42. Harker type variation diagram: MnO versus SiO₂.



AL203

Figure 43. Harker type variation diagram: Al₂O₃ versus SiO₂.



K₂O

Figure 44. Harker type variation diagram: K₂O versus SiO₂.

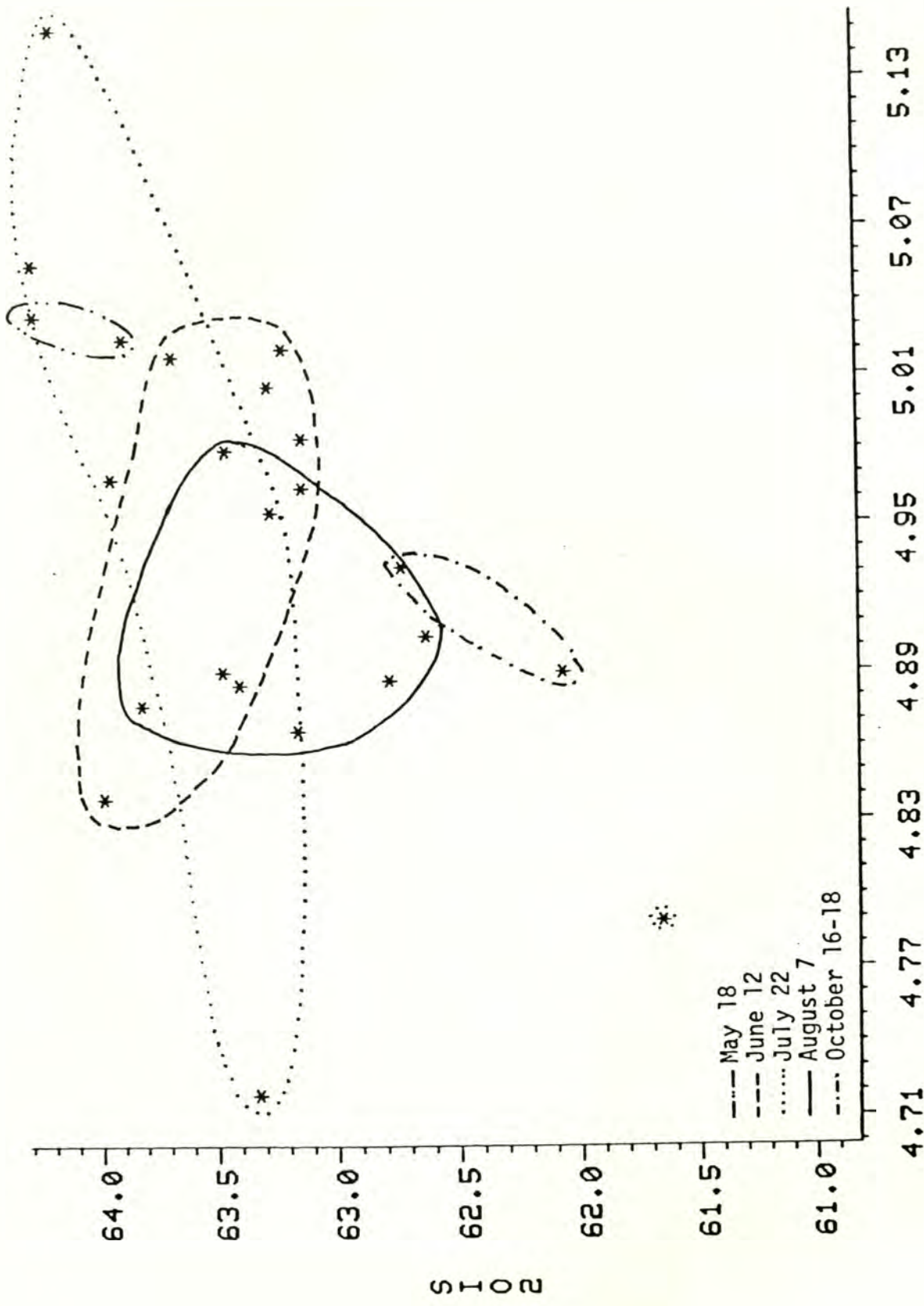


Figure 45. Harker type variation diagram: Na₂O versus SiO₂.
NA2O

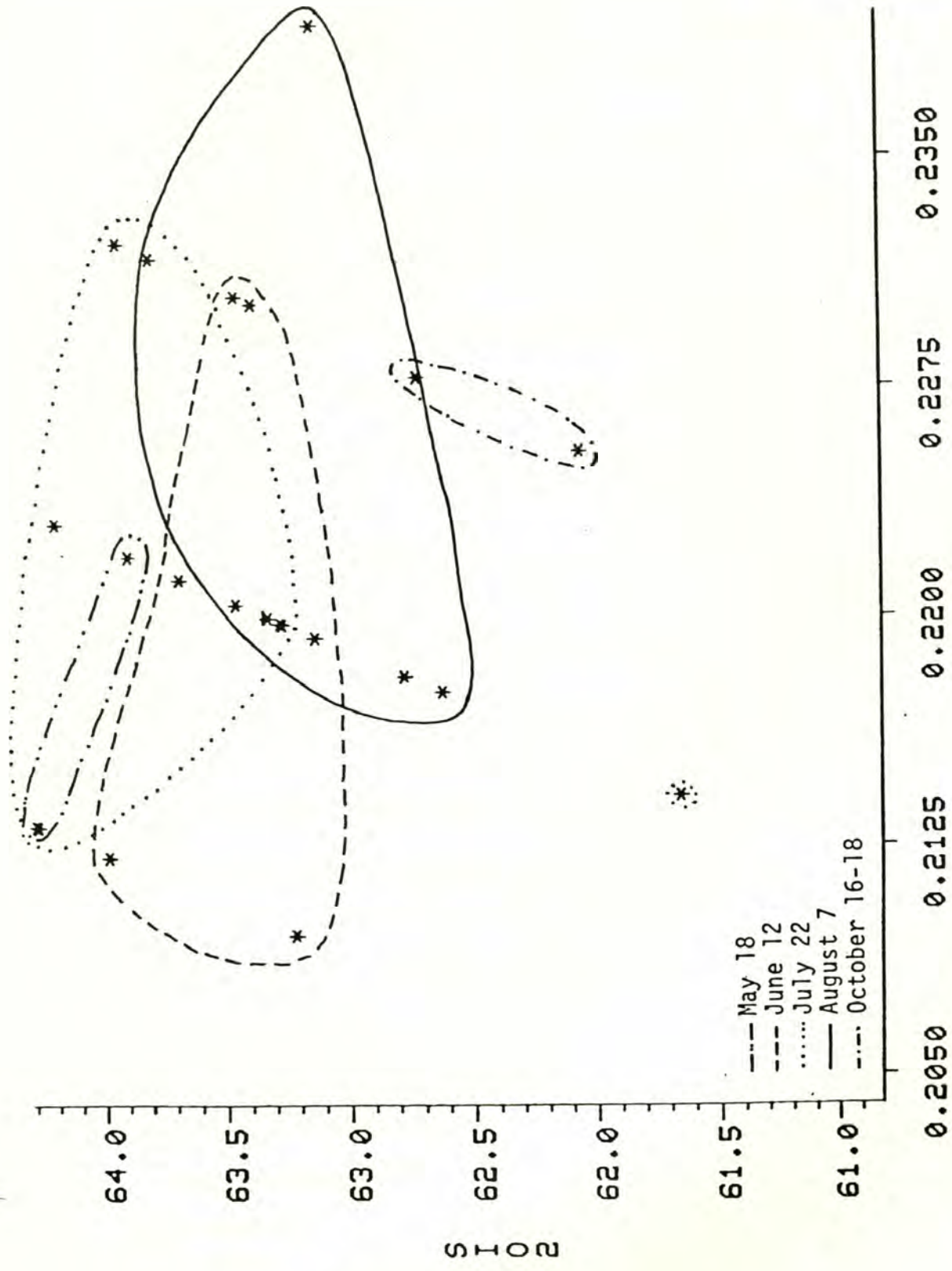


Figure 46. Harker type variation diagram: P₂O₅ versus SiO₂.

calc-alkaline association rocks. The Mount St. Helens dacite pumice probably represents an early stage of partial melting of the upper mantle, and the trend toward andesite represents the evolution of the melting process. A description of this model is presented in the discussion chapter.

DISCUSSION

Temporal trends in major and trace element chemistry of the 1980 Mount St. Helens pumice are apparent from data presented in this paper and elsewhere. The trend is toward a more andesitic, less gas-charged magma. If the trend is extended past 1980, relatively less-explosive eruptions are predicted; these actually occurred as the dome building eruptions of 1981-1983. Short term prediction of eruptive behavior of Mount St. Helens, using seismic and geodetic techniques has been successful with the exception of two unforeseen phreatomagmatic eruptions in March 1982 and February 1983. However, before short or long term predictions of eruptive activity can be made with any certainty a better understanding of the mechanisms for generation of calc-alkaline magma is necessary.

Numerous models have been proposed for the genesis of calc-alkaline magma. These models have attempted to explain the petrologic and chemical characteristics of rocks belonging to the basalt-andesite-dacite-rhyolite association. In general, the proposed petrogenetic models include:

1. Fractional crystallization of basaltic magma (Bowen, 1956; Osborn, 1959, 1962).
2. Fractional crystallization of basaltic magma with contamination by assimilation of crustal material (Tilley, 1950; Kuno, 1950; Waters, 1955).
3. Mixing of basaltic and rhyolitic magmas (Larsen et al., 1938; Holmes, 1932; Eichelberger, 1978).
4. Partial melting of the mantle resulting in primary andesitic magma (Green and Ringwood, 1966, 1968; Hamilton, 1966; Taylor and White, 1966; and Taylor et al., 1969a).

Fractional crystallization, assimilation, mixing, and partial melting, have been popular mechanisms for explaining the formation of calc-alkaline rocks; however, these models were based primarily on major element chemistry and petrology. With the advent of more rapid and less expensive analytical techniques, trace element chemistry has become increasingly useful in unraveling the origin of orogenic andesites, primarily by providing constraints on the various petrogenetic processes mentioned above.

The calc-alkaline series rocks are typified by their intermediate-composition member, andesite, and are restricted to orogenic belts where andesite is the most abundant eruptive product. True basalts are typically absent, or present in only minor amounts, as are rhyolites and dacites, suggesting that andesite is a primary magma not derived by fractionation of parental basalt (Taylor and White, 1966; Smith and Carmichael, 1968).

Hyde (1973) reports that 85 percent of Mount St. Helen's eruptive products are dacitic to andesitic. Therefore, using the argument based on sheer volume of andesites, the abundance of intermediate products at Mount St. Helens suggests that fractional crystallization of basalt does not play an important role in the production of Mount St. Helens magma.

Further evidence against fractional crystallization of a parent basalt to produce andesites lies in the V and Ni contents of these rocks. Ni values ranging from a minimum of six to a maximum of 27 ppm in the May 18, 1980 ash were reported by Sarna-Wojcicki et al. (1981); Taylor and Lichte (1980); and Fruchter et al. (1980). These values are similar to the 25 ppm reported for average high-alumina basalts (Taylor et al., 1969b). Taylor et al. (1969b) suggested that Ni, which shows strong preference for the abundant octahedral lattice sites in ferromagnesian minerals, would be much lower in andesites if they were derived by fractionation of high-alumina basalts.

In rebuttal to Osborn (1959, 1962) who suggested early crystallization of magnetite during andesite production, Taylor et al. (1969b) pointed out that V is very rapidly depleted from the parent basalt by removal of a small amount of ferromagnesian minerals, especially magnetite. However, the difference in Fe content between average andesite and average basalt of all classes is too great to allow for the similar abundances of V found in both, i.e., 250 ppm in basalt and 175 ppm in andesite.

Taylor and White (1966) and Ewart et al. (1968) have shown that whole rock V abundances in more silicic calc-alkaline rocks are

slightly lower than in more basic members. The V abundance in 1980 Mount St. Helens pumice (78 ppm May 18, 104 ppm October 16-18) is close to that of the average andesite and is trending toward the andesite value with time, indicating that the Mount St. Helens pumice is close in V values to those of average calc-alkaline rocks. Therefore, the Mount St. Helens pumice was probably not produced by fractional crystallization.

Assimilation of crustal materials by alkali or tholeiitic basalt will not produce the relative abundances of Ni and V that are found in average andesites or Mount St. Helens pumice. Average alkali or tholeiitic basalts contain 120 ppm Ni and 200 ppm V, whereas average 1980 Mount St. Helens ash contains only about 15 ppm Ni and 90 ppm V, requiring a very large dilution of silicic material to lower the Ni content sufficiently. This large dilution would also reduce the amount of V in Mount St. Helens rocks far below its present value. Because of the similarities in Ni and V content of high alumina basalt and Mount St. Helens pumice, assimilation of silica-rich material by high-alumina basalt would severely limit the amount of silicic material that could be assimilated. This would not be sufficient to account for the amount of silica present in Mount St. Helens rocks. Furthermore, Bowen (1956) has shown that assimilation of solid crustal material by a magma can occur only on a very small scale due to lack of available heat that is needed to overcome the solution heats of silicates.

A mixing model as proposed by Eichelberger (1978) would require extensive basaltic magmas beneath stratovolcanoes yet a gravitational low is associated with Mount St. Helens (Danes and Phillips, 1983). On the other hand, this model does address the fact that most andesites contain phenocrysts completely out of phase with the melt.

Partial melting of eclogites in the mantle as proposed by Green and Ringwood (1966) would not produce Ni/Co and V/Ni ratios appropriate for andesites, nor would single stage partial melting of pyrolite produce appropriate concentrations of Ni and Cr or Ni/Co ratios (Taylor et al., 1969b). However, Taylor et al. (1969a) have proposed a two-stage partial melting process which is compatible with the observed andesite and Mount St. Helens petrochemistry. This process involves partial melting of pyrolite below mid-ocean ridges, producing oceanic crust that is transported together with the underlying lithosphere to subduction zones where they are converted to amphibolite. A remelting of the amphibolite forms rocks of the calc-alkaline series, the members of which represent different stages of partial melting. Trace element chemistries of the calc-alkaline series are compatible with this process, but it requires contamination by deep sea sediments to account for the paucity of K, Rb, and Ba in the low-K tholeiites of the parent oceanic crust. Variations in large cation content (K, Rb, Ba) and Sr isotope ratios are accounted for by various amounts of contamination from deep sea or continental sediments.

The chemistry and petrology of the Mount St. Helens pumice fits nicely into the Taylor et al. (1969a) model. The temporal trend

toward a more andesitic composition could be the result of either of two separate processes, or a combination.

1. The early more dacitic ejecta probably represents the first stages of partial melting of source area material. The more siliceous material, being the first to melt, spearheads the rise of the magma to the surface where it is extruded. It is followed by more andesitic primary melt in the later stages.

2. The primary andesitic melt moved to a shallow magma chamber where mixing by thermogravitational convection as described by Hildreth (1979) could account for such features as minor magma inhomogeneity and reverse and oscillatory zoning in plagioclase. Weak stratification or differentiation within the magma chamber due to gaseous exsolution is also a possibility.

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APPENDIX A

Sample Localities and Petrographic Descriptions of Analyzed Rocks

All thin sections analyzed are hornblende hypersthene dacites with glassy, highly vesiculated groundmass containing varying amounts of microlites. The abundance of crystal phases generally increases with time after May 18, 1980.

Sample

1. Locality: Western distal August 7, pyroclastic flow.

Plagioclase: Reaches maximum size of 1.13mm; exhibits common carlsbad and carlsbad/albite polysynthetic twinning and one pericline twinned phenocryst; normal, oscillatory and reverse zoning present; corroded cores with pink glass inclusions. Euhedral or broken crystals.

Hypersthene: Pleochroic, colorless/very light green to pink, to 0.75mm, euhedral.

Hornblende: Pleochroic, light brown to dark olive, euhedral, irregular inclusions, embayed, common twinning, reaction rims of magnetite and colorless hypersthene.

Opaque Minerals: Disseminated in groundmass, inclusions in hypersthene and plagioclase.

2. Locality: Central distal August 7 pyroclastic flow.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts up to 1.9mm, An₅₇ and An₅₆; some corroded cores; pink glass inclusions; euhedral and broken crystals; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning in phenocrysts.

Hypersthene: Euhedral; light green to pink pleochroism.

Hornblende: Partially resorbed with microlite rims light brown to olive green pleochroism.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in feldspar and hypersthene phenocrysts and disseminated throughout groundmass.

Apatite: As acicular inclusions in feldspar phenocrysts.

3. Locality: Eastern distal August 7 pyroclastic flow.

Plagioclase: Euhedral phenocrysts and microlites; some corroded cores; pink glass inclusions; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to colorless pleochroism.

Hornblende: Up to 1.7mm; yellow-green and olive green to dark brown; some partially recrystallized boundaries; some phenocrysts have irregularly shaped inclusions.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in feldspar and hypersthene phenocrysts and in xenolith.

Sample

3. Locality: Eastern distal August 7 pyroclastic flow (Cont.)

Xenolith: Colorless to very light green clinopyroxene 75%; plagioclase 20%, opaque minerals 5%.

4. Locality: Eastern proximal July 22 pyroclastic flow, main trunk.

Plagioclase: Euhedral phenocrysts; pink glass inclusions some parallel to zoning surfaces; normal reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad most common twinning, polysynthetic and pericline twinning also apparent.

Hypersthene: Euhedral to subhedral, pale pink to colorless pleochroism.

Hornblende: Some euhedral without reaction rims; some light brown to dark olive others light yellow to brown pleochroism; reaction rims of hypersthene and/or magnetite on some phenocrysts; inclusions on clinopyroxene in two hornblende phenocrysts.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in phenocrysts and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: Occurs as inclusions in hornblende and rare microphenocrysts in groundmass.

5. Locality: Central proximal July 22 pyroclastic flow, main trunk.

Plagioclase: Abundant large phenocrysts many containing abundant glassy inclusions; some inclusions parallel to zoning surfaces, euhedral; normal, reverse, and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning common pericline less so.

Hypersthene: Light green to pink pleochroism; euhedral.

Hornblende: Light yellow to brown; light yellow to green pleochroism; anhedral to euhedral; resorbed as well as sharp crystal boundaries.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in phenocrysts and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: Occasional small euhedral phenocrysts with twinning parallel to 100; as inclusion in large hornblende phenocryst.

Sample

6. Locality: Western proximal July 22 pyroclastic flow, main trunk.

Plagioclase: Large euhedral phenocrysts, most having abundant glassy inclusions in their cores; reverse and oscillatory zoning more common than normal zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning common.

Hypersthene: Light pink to colorless pleochroism; mostly euhedral phenocrysts.

Hornblende: Anhedral to euhedral phenocrysts; some sharp boundaries others partially recrystallized.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in phenocrysts and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: One large anhedral light green phenocryst.

7. Locality: Western proximal August 7 pyroclastic flow.

Plagioclase: Abundant large phenocrysts and microlites; pink glass inclusions in cores and throughout phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning common.

Hypersthene: Colorless to pale pink pleochroism, euhedral.

Hornblende: Reaction rims of hypersthene microlites, opaque inclusions smaller phenocrysts nearly totally recrystallized.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in phenocrysts and disseminated in groundmass.

8. Locality: Western central October 16-19 pyroclastic flow deposits.

Plagioclase: Abundant large phenocrysts, microlites; pink glass inclusions in phenocryst cores; oscillatory zoning most common; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning common pericline less so.

Hypersthene: Abundant phenocrysts; colorless to pale pink pleochroism.

Hornblende: Nearly all phenocrysts have reaction rims of hypersthene microlites, some grains are completely recrystallized; yellow-brown-green pleochroism.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in plagioclase and hypersthene, in hornblende reaction rims, and disseminated in groundmass.

Sample

9. Locality: Eastern central October 16-19 pyroclastic flow deposits.

Groundmass: Subtrachytic.

Plagioclase: Abundant phenocrysts to 2.5mm, microlites; pink glass inclusions; normal reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Relatively strong pink to green pleochroism; phenocrysts seem significantly more abundant and larger (up to 1.6mm) than in previous thin sections; large and euhedral.

Hornblende: Abundant large (2.1mm) phenocrysts many with reaction rims, but some with sharp boundaries.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions in phenocrysts and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: One pale green phenocryst.

Note: Phenocrysts are larger and more abundant than in Samples 1-8.

10. Locality: Eastern medial August 7 pyroclastic flow deposit.

Plagioclase: Large phenocrysts, microlites; glass inclusions in larger phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: As pleochroic pink to green euhedral phenocrysts and as microlites.

Hornblende: Yellow to dark brown and dark green to dark brown phenocrysts with reaction rims of hypersthene microlites.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions, and disseminated.

11. Locality: Central medial August 7 pyroclastic flow deposit.

Groundmass: Locally subtrachytic.

Plagioclase: Large phenocrysts, some with glassy inclusions; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning most common; microlites.

Hypersthene: As euhedral pale pink to pale green phenocrysts.

Hornblende: Small phenocrysts mostly resorbed except in xenolith; some twinning.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Xenolith: 3.2mm in diameter, large intergrown plagioclase and hornblende.

Sample

13. Locality: Western distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposits; eastern lobe.

Groundmass: Significantly more glass in groundmass than in samples (1-11).

Plagioclase: As phenocrysts and microlites; glassy inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad twinning most common, polysynthetic and pericline less so.

Hypersthene: As euhedral pale pink to pale green phenocrysts.

Hornblende: Colorless to green pleochroism, mostly clean boundaries on eu-subhedral phenocrysts.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

14. Locality: Western distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glassy inclusions in cores of phenocrysts and parallel to zoning; reverse zoning most common but also normal and oscillatory; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism; occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

15. Locality: Eastern distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glassy inclusions in cores of phenocrysts and parallel to zoning; reverse zoning most common but also normal and oscillatory; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Very light brown to olive green pleochroism, occasional reaction rims; 2.6mm phenocryst.

Sample

16. Locality: Eastern distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit;
eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning, carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism; occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

17. Locality: Eastern medial June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit;
eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism, occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

18. Locality: Western medial June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit;
eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism, occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Xenolith: Hornblende and plagioclase.

Sample

19. Locality: Center medial June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning An₃₀.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism, occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

20. Locality: Distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism, occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: Twinned, colorless, euhedral.

21. Locality: Western proximal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism; occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Sample

22. Locality: Central proximal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism; occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

23. Locality: Eastern proximal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: Phenocrysts and microlites; glass inclusions in cores of phenocrysts; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad and polysynthetic twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Commonly twinned, pale brown to brown to green pleochroism; occasional reaction rims.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

24. Locality: Western distal July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit; eastern lobe.

Plagioclase: As microlites and euhedral phenocrysts; pink glass inclusions in phenocryst phase both throughout and parallel to zoning surfaces; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Phenocrysts with no or thin reaction rims are pleochroic light brown to dark brown, those with relatively thick rims of hypersthene microlites are light brown to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: As euhedral xenolith or clot containing twinned (parallel to 100) clinopyroxene (augite) of very light purple-brown color in ordinary light; other minerals in clot are euhedral hypersthene and anhedral opaques.

Sample

25. Locality: Distal June 12 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe "pumice pond".

Groundmass: Subtrachytic texture.

Plagioclase: Euhedral with a few subhedral and broken phenocrysts; the latter have clear cores with abundant pink glassy inclusions in the rims; microlites; normal, reverse, and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

26. Locality: Distal July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: Subhedral phenocrysts with small hornblende inclusions.

27. Locality: Western distal July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Groundmass: Subtrachytic texture.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: Single anhedral phenocryst.

Sample

28. Locality: Central distal July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit;
western lobe.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

29. Locality: Western medial July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit;
western lobe.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Clinopyroxene: As small clots of euhedral and subhedral crystals.

30. Locality: Central medial July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit;
western lobe.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Sample

31. Locality: Central medial July 22 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Plagioclase: Generally euhedral phenocrysts some with glassy inclusions; microlites; normal, reverse and oscillatory zoning; carlsbad, polysynthetic and pericline twinning.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Mostly anhedral slightly resorbed phenocrysts; twinning common; pleochroic brownish yellow to olive green.

Clinopyroxene: As euhedral and subhedral phenocrysts twinned parallel to 100.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Xenolith or crystal cumulate: Euhedral and anhedral hypersthene, plagioclase and opaques.

32. Locality: Central May 18 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Plagioclase: As generally euhedral phenocrysts with glassy inclusions; microlites are smaller than in later pumice and sparse, twinning and zoning are same in later pumice.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Euhedral to subhedral phenocrysts with sharp boundaries; no resorption or recrystallization apparent; light brown to green to brown pleochroism.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

33. Locality: Central May 18 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Plagioclase: As generally euhedral phenocrysts with glassy inclusions; microlites are smaller than in later pumice and sparse, twinning and zoning are same as in later pumice.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Euhedral to subhedral phenocrysts with sharp boundaries; no resorption or recrystallization apparent; light brown to green to brown pleochroism.

Opaque Minerals: As inclusions and disseminated in groundmass.

Sample

35. Locality: Central Proximal October 19 pyroclastic flow deposit; western lobe.

Plagioclase: As large euhedral phenocrysts with pink glass inclusions; both phenocrysts and microlites are much more abundant and coarser than in earlier flows; zoning and twinning is essentially the same as earlier flows.

Hypersthene: Euhedral, pale pink to pale green pleochroism.

Hornblende: Most of the smaller phenocrysts are completely recrystallized to hypersthene microlites and opaques; large phenocrysts have thick reaction rims.

Clinopyroxene: As both single euhedral to subhedral phenocrysts and in xenolithic clots, twinning is common.

APPENDIX B

Sample Preparation

Pumice clasts were first cut into slices less than 1/4" thick to eliminate the possibility of including xenolith material in the analysis. The sawblade was cleaned thoroughly by using acetone to remove all paint and other impurities from its surface. The sliced pumice was washed thoroughly with deionized water and then dried in a dessication oven at 100°C for about 30 minutes. The dried slices were gently crushed into small pieces using agate mortar and pestle to prevent iron contamination. Some pulverization occurred during the crushing process. To prevent grain size bias, the entire sample, including both pieces and pulverized material was then dumped into the grinding vessel. The samples were ground in a spex shatterbox for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The shatterbox vessels were cleaned thoroughly before each grinding by washing with deionized water, followed by an acetone drying bath.

Sample preparation for analysis on the ICPS of major and element oxides as accomplished in the following manner:

First, 0.1 gram of sample and 0.7 gram of LiBO_2 were weighed, mixed thoroughly and placed into a carbon crucible. The mixture was then fused at 1000°C for twenty minutes. The molten bead was poured into 50 milliliters (ml) of HNO_3 and dissolved with a teflon stirring bar. The solution was then transferred gravimetrically to a 100 ml volumetric flask where 3 ml of 5000 parts per million (ppm) La was added as an internal standard. The solution was then diluted to volume.

Trace element sample preparation included the following:

About 1.00 gram of sample was weighed into a teflon beaker to which 2 ml of concentrated HNO_3 were added. The mixture was covered and warmed on a hot plate for $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. After cooling 10 ml of 48 percent HF, 3 ml of HClO_4 and 2 ml of HNO_3 were added. The mixture was then covered and allowed to sit overnight. The cover was then removed and the mixture was warmed until a clear solution was obtained. After transfer to a 100 ml volumetric flask the solution was brought back to 40 ml with 6.2 HCl (if it was necessary to do so), 5 ml of HClO_4 was added and the solution brought back to volume.