

# 1 Volatile-rich magmas distributed through the upper crust in 2 the Main Ethiopian Rift

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4 Fiona Iddon & Marie Edmonds\*

5  
6 Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge

7 \*Corresponding author: Marie Edmonds (marie.edmonds@esc.cam.ac.uk)

## 8 9 **Key Points:**

- 10 • Alkali basalts are stored both on- and off-axis at depths >15 km in the crust, on-axis  
11 peralkaline rhyolites are stored at between ~4-8 km depth.
- 12 • Saturation of mafic magmas in a sulfide and exsolved volatile phase in the Daly Gap  
13 promotes buoyancy and rise of magmas to shallower reservoirs, where protracted  
14 fractional crystallisation and degassing occurs.
- 15 • Caldera-forming, explosive eruptions in the MER may give rise to large emissions of  
16 SO<sub>2</sub> and halogens, which may have significant environmental impacts.
- 17 • A significant pre-eruptive exsolved volatile phase should be considered when  
18 interpreting geophysical monitoring data to avoid producing underestimates of  
19 intruded magma volumes.

## 20 21 **Abstract**

22 Understanding magma storage and differentiation in the East African Rift underpins our  
23 understanding of volcanism in continental rift settings. Here we present the geochemistry of  
24 melt inclusions erupted in Main Ethiopian Rift transitional basalts, trachytes and peralkaline  
25 rhyolites, produced by fractional crystallisation. Basalts stored on- and off-axis are saturated  
26 in an exsolved volatile phase at up to 18 km, in the upper crust. Much of the CO<sub>2</sub> outgassed  
27 from the magmas is likely lost through diffuse degassing. Observed CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes require the  
28 intrusion of up to 0.14 km<sup>3</sup> of basalt beneath the rift each year. On-axis peralkaline rhyolites

29 are stored shallowly, at ~4-8 km depth. In the Daly Gap, magmas saturate in sulfide and an  
30 exsolved volatile phase, which promotes magma rise to shallower levels in the crust. Here,  
31 magmas undergo further protracted fractional crystallisation and degassing, leading to the  
32 formation of a substantial exsolved volatile phase, which may accumulate in a gas-rich cap.  
33 The exsolved volatile phase is rich in sulfur and halogens: their projected loadings into the  
34 atmosphere during explosive peralkaline eruptions in the MER are predicted to be  
35 substantially higher than their metaluminous counterparts in other settings. The high fraction  
36 of exsolved volatiles in the stored magmas enhances their compressibility and must be  
37 considered when interpreting ground displacements thought to be caused by magma intrusion  
38 at depth, otherwise intruding volumes will be underestimated. Pockets of exsolved volatiles  
39 may be present at the roof zones of magma reservoirs, which may be resolvable using  
40 geophysical techniques.

41

## 42 **Index Terms**

43 **1009, 1043, 8430, 8488, 8485**

44

## 45 **Keywords**

46 Peralkaline, Main Ethiopian Rift, melt inclusions, magmatic volatiles, volcanic degassing

47

## 48 **1. Introduction**

49 An important goal of many studies of volcano-magmatic systems is to extract a record of pre-  
50 eruptive melt chemistry and use it to assess magma differentiation and the conditions of  
51 magma storage and processing in the crust. Whole-rock compositions in many cases do not  
52 represent melt compositions; they encompass not only the carrier liquid, but also the crystals  
53 the magma carries. There is strong evidence that crystals in volcanic rocks are frequently not  
54 in equilibrium with their carrier melts, having been scavenged from different magmas  
55 [Davidson and Tepley, 1997; Tepley et al., 2000], crystalline mushes [Bachmann et al., 2002;  
56 Cooper and Kent, 2014], or even wall-rock [Taylor Jr, 1980]. Isolation of pockets of melt  
57 trapped inside growing crystals after entrapment in relatively incompressible crystal hosts  
58 may allow the preservation of early-stage melts, isolating them from subsequent processing  
59 related to storage, ascent and eruption [Kent, 2008; Lowenstern, 1995]. If used carefully, with

60 consideration given to post-entrapment modification [*Moore et al.*, 2015; *Steele-Macinnis et*  
61 *al.*, 2011], primary melt inclusion trace and volatile element concentrations may be used to  
62 examine differentiation processes, including mixing and degassing, during the evolution of  
63 magmas [*Métrich et al.*, 2001; *Sobolev*, 1996].

64

65 Melt inclusion studies of peralkaline volcanic rocks are scarce in the literature [*Barclay et al.*,  
66 1996; *Gioncada and Landi*, 2010; *Lanzo et al.*, 2013; *Macdonald et al.*, 2012; *Neave et al.*,  
67 2012] and consequently, we have only a very limited picture of differentiation processes,  
68 conditions of pre-eruptive storage and the volatile budget of peralkaline volcanic systems.  
69 Peralkaline melts have an excess of alkalis with respect to aluminium (molar  
70  $(\text{Na}_2\text{O}+\text{K}_2\text{O})/\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3 > 1$ ) [*Shand*, 1927]. The high alkali contents of the melts enhance  
71 solubility of volatiles including  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , F and Cl [*Di Matteo et al.*, 2004; *Scaillet and*  
72 *Macdonald*, 2006; *Shishkina et al.*, 2014; *Webster et al.*, 2015]. Peralkaline eruptions are  
73 predicted to release larger masses of sulfur dioxide gas into the atmosphere than their  
74 metaluminous and peraluminous counterparts owing to the combination of high sulfur  
75 concentrations at sulfide saturation (which minimises sulfide precipitation) and high  
76 fluid/melt partition coefficients ( $>200$ ) at typical magma reservoir pressures and temperatures  
77 [*Scaillet and Macdonald*, 2006]. The systematics of halogen behaviour in peralkaline melts is  
78 complex [*Webster et al.*, 2015] and may involve saturation of a low density vapour as well as  
79 a brine phase in the shallower parts of the crustal storage system, whereby the melt Cl content  
80 becomes buffered at a fixed value, which may be used to estimate magma storage depths  
81 [*Balcone-Boissard et al.*, 2016].

82

83 Understanding the volatile budget of volcanic systems in the Main Ethiopian Rift (MER) is  
84 not only important for understanding the liquid line of descent, the outgassing potential for  
85 eruptions and the behaviour of the exsolved volatile phase in the crust, but also has  
86 implications for the interpretation of geophysical monitoring signals captured there in recent  
87 years and for estimating magma budgets. Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR)  
88 observations of ground deformation suggest magmatic unrest at a number of MER calderas  
89 [*Biggs et al.*, 2011; *Hutchison et al.*, 2016a; *Lloyd et al.*, 2018], however, the compressibility  
90 of any exsolved volatile phase is an important control on ground displacements and must be  
91 understood to infer magma volumes at depth [*Biggs et al.*, 2014a; *McCormick Kilbride et al.*,

92 2016]. Significant diffuse soil CO<sub>2</sub> degassing has also been observed along the MER and East  
93 African Rift System (EARS) [Hunt *et al.*, 2017; Hutchison *et al.*, 2015; Lee *et al.*, 2016],  
94 testifying to the presence of unerupted magma bodies at depth. Understanding the primary  
95 melt CO<sub>2</sub> contents of the basalts at depth may allow estimates of magma supply rate beneath  
96 the rift to be developed.

97

98 Here, we present major, trace, and volatile element data for melt inclusions from the eruptive  
99 products of five different volcanic sites: Corbetti, Kone, Fentale and Aluto central volcanoes,  
100 and the Butajira volcanic field (BVF) (**figure 1**). Fractional crystallisation models are  
101 constructed based on trace element mineral-melt partitioning data, using Principal  
102 Component Analysis (PCA) of the liquid line of descent to constrain the crystallising mineral  
103 assemblages. These models are then used, in tandem with volatile saturation models, to track  
104 volatile behavior through the evolution of the MER melts. Depths of magma storage and  
105 magma fluxes are estimated based on the abundance of H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> in the melt inclusions  
106 and compared with barometry using clinopyroxene and melt compositions, whilst estimates  
107 of the mass fraction of exsolved volatiles are used to approximate the quantity of sulfur  
108 released during past eruptions. Inferences are made about the impact of an exsolved volatile  
109 phase on magma compressibility and its potential effects on ground displacements monitored  
110 at the surface.

111

## 112 **2 Geological Setting**

113 The MER is the northern-most portion of the EARS. Extending for ~1000 km in a NNE-SSW  
114 direction from the Afar to the Turkana depression, it separates the Nubian and Somalian  
115 plates (**figure 1**) [Mohr, 1983; Woldegabriel *et al.*, 1990]. The MER is currently undergoing  
116 active east-west extension of ~5 mm yr<sup>-1</sup> [Saria *et al.*, 2014], with recent geodetic data  
117 showing that 80% of the current strain is accommodated on the Wonji Fault Belt (WFB)  
118 [Bilham *et al.*, 1999]. The WFB is a group of short N-NE trending *en echelon* faults that lie  
119 within a ~15 km wide axial zone in the MER (**figure 1**) [Agostini *et al.*, 2011; Keir *et al.*,  
120 2006]. Pleistocene and Holocene volcanism has been focused within tectono-magmatic  
121 segments along the rift that are co-located with the WFB [Abebe *et al.*, 2007; Corti, 2009;  
122 Fontijn *et al.*, 2018].

123

124 Quaternary to recent MER volcanism is typified by peralkaline axis-central caldera systems  
125 that are located at the ends of the volcanic segments (**figure 1**) [Beutel *et al.*, 2010; Keranen  
126 *et al.*, 2004]. These areas are under reduced extensional stresses and may involve colder crust  
127 [Ebinger *et al.*, 2008]. Such conditions might hinder magma ascent and facilitate longer  
128 residence times and fractionation [Hutchison *et al.*, 2015; Peccerillo *et al.*, 2003]. Pumice  
129 samples were selected from four different caldera systems along the length of the MER:  
130 Corbetti, Aluto, Kone, and Fentale (**figure 1**). Following large (VEI > 5) caldera-forming  
131 eruptions at ~300 ka [Hutchison *et al.*, 2016a], the different silicic centres have displayed  
132 variable post-caldera eruption styles [Fontijn *et al.*, 2018]. Some volcanoes have erupted  
133 predominately rhyolite lava flows (e.g. Fentale), whilst others have had multiple sub-Plinian  
134 eruptions (e.g. Corbetti and Aluto) [Fontijn *et al.*, 2018]. Both syn- and post-caldera pumice  
135 samples have been investigated. The most recent deposits are the products of basaltic  
136 volcanism, with eruptions continuing at sites such as Kone and Fentale into historic times  
137 (the last eruption of both volcanoes was in 1820) [Harris, 1844]. Basaltic scoria cones and  
138 associated lava flows are arranged linearly along faults and extensional fractures [Hunt *et al.*,  
139 2020; Rooney *et al.*, 2011]; the stress conditions located at the fault tips are thought to  
140 promote magma ascent and cone eruptions.

141

142 Recent mafic volcanism has also occurred near the western escarpment of the rift along the  
143 Silti-Debre Zeit Fault Zone (SDFZ; **figure 1**) [Chernet and Hart, 1999; Rooney *et al.*, 2005;  
144 Woldegabriel *et al.*, 1990]. Extending from 6.5°N to 9°N [Rooney *et al.*, 2005], the SDFZ is a  
145 2-5 km wide belt dominated by off-axis volcanic fields of basaltic scoria cones and  
146 associated lava flows [Woldegabriel *et al.*, 1990]. The BVF mafic volcanism in the region  
147 has been dated at 0.13 Ma [Woldegabriel *et al.*, 1990] and 0.11 Ma [Chernet *et al.*, 1998], in  
148 line with the Wonji Basalts.

149

### 150 **3 Methods**

151 The Corbetti pumice samples used in this study were collected by Raffaella Fusillo between  
152 2012 and 2014 [Fusillo, 2018]. The Aluto and Kone samples were collected by Karen Fontijn  
153 and Keri McNamara in November 2015, and by William Hutchison [Hutchison, 2015] and  
154 Michael Rampey [Rampey, 2005]. The Aluto samples comprised 1 post-caldera basaltic  
155 scoria sample, 1 syn-caldera trachyandesite enclave, 2 syn-caldera welded ignimbrites, 3

156 post-caldera rhyolite lavas (glassy selvages) and 4 post-caldera pumices. Additional Kone  
157 samples and Fentale samples were collected by Fiona Iddon, Jonathan Hunt, and Abate Assen  
158 in October 2017, which comprised 7 post-caldera basaltic scoria samples, 7 syn-caldera  
159 pumice samples, 1 syn-caldera welded ignimbrite and 2 pre-caldera glassy, silicic lava  
160 samples. Tephra samples from 6 scoria cones in the Butajira Volcanic Field (hereafter BVF)  
161 were collected by Iddon and Juliane Hubert during a sampling campaign in 2017. Additional  
162 detail on the samples and their context is given in the **Supplementary Material**. Olivines  
163 and quartz were hand-picked from crushed material and mounted on glass slides. Crystals  
164 were manually polished to expose melt inclusions, before the crystals were extracted and  
165 mounted into epoxy blocks and polished down to a fine grade using 9  $\mu\text{m}$ , 6  $\mu\text{m}$ , 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , 1  $\mu\text{m}$   
166 and 0.25  $\mu\text{m}$  grade diamond paste.

167

168 Melt inclusions were screened at two stages during their preparation. During initial polishing  
169 of the individual host minerals the inclusions were examined via reflected light microscopy.  
170 Those selected for final mounting (those showing no evidence of cracking or daughter  
171 crystals) were examined using the Quanta-650F Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM) at the  
172 University of Cambridge. BSE images and maps of the blocks were taken under low vacuum  
173 (to avoid having to carbon coat them and risk contamination prior to SIMS analysis of  $\text{CO}_2$ ).  
174 Melt inclusions that showed visible evidence of cracks, shrinkage bubbles, or post-  
175 entrapment crystallisation were avoided.

176

177 Melt inclusions and adherent matrix glasses were analysed by Secondary Ion Mass  
178 Spectrometry (SIMS) using the Cameca ims-4f ion probe at NERC microanalytical facility at  
179 the University of Edinburgh for trace and volatile elements. Major elements, Cl and F were  
180 analysed by Electron Probe Micro Analysis (EPMA) using the a Cameca SX-100 Electron  
181 Probe Micro-Analyser at the University of Cambridge. Detailed descriptions of these  
182 methods, standards used [*Shishkina et al.*, 2010], and the associated errors are given in the  
183 **Supplementary Materials**.

184

185 Corrections for post-entrapment crystallization (PEC) were made for the olivine-hosted melt  
186 inclusions. Host olivine compositions were measured using EPMA on spots within 40  $\mu\text{m}$  of  
187 the inclusion edge. A combined correction was applied for Fe-loss and PEC [*Danyushevsky*

188 *and Plechov, 2011*]. The iterative correction scheme requires knowledge of melt inclusion  
189 geochemistry, including H<sub>2</sub>O content, host olivine Fo content, oxidation state of the melt, and  
190 the initial melt inclusion FeO content at the time of entrapment, taken as average matrix glass  
191 FeO [*Putirka, 2005*], resulting in corrections of <5%; for full details see **Supplementary**  
192 **Material**. When the major element composition of the quartz-hosted inclusions were  
193 recalculated on an anhydrous basis, most do not show any depletion of silica or relative  
194 enrichment of other major elements (see **Supplementary Material**) that would reflect post-  
195 entrapment crystallisation of quartz.

196

## 197 **4 Results**

### 198 *4.1 Melt inclusion and matrix glass major element compositions*

199 Olivine compositions range from 58 to 77 mol% forsterite (see **Supplementary Data**). The  
200 majority of host olivine cores (compositions provided in **Supplementary Material**) are in  
201 equilibrium with their host melts (matrix glasses) [*Roeder and Emslie, 1970*], but there is  
202 some variability in olivine forsterite contents for a given melt Mg# (see **Supplementary**  
203 **Material figure S4**). Melt inclusion and matrix glass compositions are provided in  
204 **Supplementary Material** and **figure 2**. The melt inclusion compositions are basaltic, trachy-  
205 basaltic, trachytic and rhyolitic and display a distinct Daly Gap at between ~52 and 64 wt.%  
206 SiO<sub>2</sub> (**figure 2a**). All of the evolved samples are peralkaline, with most classified as  
207 pantellerites based on their high FeO concentrations (**figure 2b**) [*Macdonald, 1974*]. The  
208 Corbetti inclusions sit on the border with comendite owing to their lower FeO and high Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
209 contents. The olivine-hosted melt inclusions are basalts and trachybasalts that have a  
210 transitional composition (**figure 2a**).

211

212 With increasing SiO<sub>2</sub> content of the glasses there is a corresponding increase in alkalis and a  
213 decrease in ferromagnesian, Ti, Ca, and P oxides (**figure 2**). K<sub>2</sub>O increases smoothly and  
214 largely linearly with SiO<sub>2</sub> content, whilst Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> contents rise to ~20 wt.% before falling to  
215 <10 wt.% in the pantellerite samples (**figure 2d, j**). Na<sub>2</sub>O displays considerable variation  
216 (2.0–7.0 wt.%) across the basaltic to pantellerite glasses (**figure 2i**). BVF matrix glasses and  
217 inclusions contain up to ~15 wt.% FeO, in contrast to Kone olivine-hosted melt inclusions,  
218 which contain between ~5 and 10 wt.% FeO contents (**figure 2e**). There appears to be little  
219 variation in FeO content between the olivine-hosted and quartz-hosted melt inclusions. BVF

220 glasses have particularly low MgO contents at <4.5 wt.%; additionally, they have low Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>  
221 contents, at <15 wt.%, and elevated TiO<sub>2</sub> and P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> contents, ranging to >4 wt.% and >1.5  
222 wt.%, respectively (**figure 2**). The quartz-hosted melt inclusions show considerable  
223 compositional spread; however, the Corbetti samples are noteworthy for their low FeO and  
224 MnO contents, <5 and 0.2 wt.% respectively (**figure 2f**).

225

#### 226 *4.2 Melt inclusion and matrix glass trace element compositions*

227 Melt inclusion and matrix glass compositions are provided in **Supplementary Material**. The  
228 co-variation of selected trace elements with Zr, which is highly incompatible in peralkaline  
229 melts, is shown in **figure 3**. The Kone and BVF mafic melt inclusion Zr contents overlap,  
230 whilst the matrix glasses show a slightly higher Zr content consistent with a greater degree of  
231 evolution. The Daly Gap is evident in the trace element compositions: melt inclusions with Zr  
232 contents between ~230 and ~600 ppm are sparse (**figure 3**). Compatible elements show a  
233 negative correlation with Zr: e.g. Sr increases up to ~750 ppm before an inflection point at a  
234 Zr content of ~200 ppm, when feldspar begins to crystallise (**figure 3f**). Incompatible  
235 elements (Rb and the REE) show approximately linear positive trends (**figure 3a, c-e, g, h, j-**  
236 **q**). Olivine-hosted melt inclusions from BVF and quartz-hosted melt inclusions from Fentale  
237 show a slight enrichment in Y (**figure 3m**) and the HREE (**figure 3n, o, and q**) over olivine-  
238 hosted melt inclusions from Kone and quartz-hosted melt inclusions from the other silicic  
239 centres. Aluto and Fentale melt inclusions show a slight enrichment in the MREE (**figure 3j-**  
240 **l**) relative to the quartz-hosted melt inclusions from the other silicic centres. Quartz-hosted  
241 melt inclusions and matrix glasses from Kone show a large spread in Rb contents (**figure 3a**).  
242 The Rb enrichment observed in the Kone samples, as compared to the other silicic centres, is  
243 unlikely to be related to crustal contamination as Rb/Nb ratios are generally lower than that  
244 of the Precambrian crustal rocks [*Peccerillo et al.*, 1998] (**figure 3r**). Ba (**figure 3b**) and Eu  
245 (**figure 3i**) contents show scatter when plotted against Zr, particularly for the quartz-hosted  
246 melt inclusions: melt inclusions contain 12–1200 ppm for Ba, 1.5–15 ppm for Eu. The Fentale  
247 samples that show high Ba and Eu concentrations do not show any notable enrichment or  
248 depletion in Rb concentrations relative to quartz-hosted melt inclusions from the other silicic  
249 centres (**figure 3a**).

250

#### 251 *4.3 Melt inclusion and matrix glass volatile concentrations*



252 Melt inclusion and matrix glass volatile compositions are provided in **Supplementary**  
253 **Material**. Melt inclusion H<sub>2</sub>O contents range from ~2 wt.% to <0.5 wt.% in the BVF and the  
254 Kone olivine-hosted melt inclusions (**figure 4a**). There is a large spread in the H<sub>2</sub>O contents  
255 of the quartz-hosted melt inclusions, from <2 to 8 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O (**figure 4a**). Fentale and  
256 Corbetti melt inclusions contain H<sub>2</sub>O contents up to 4 wt.%. Matrix glasses typically contain  
257 <0.05 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O.

258

259 Olivine-hosted melt inclusion CO<sub>2</sub> contents range from <500 ppm to >3000 ppm over a Zr  
260 range of 55 ppm to 220 ppm in the mafic samples (**figure 4c**). BVF melt inclusions show  
261 slightly higher CO<sub>2</sub> contents of up to 5000 ppm (**figure 4c**). The quartz-hosted melt  
262 inclusions contain between ~100 and ~300 ppm CO<sub>2</sub> (**figure 4c**). Matrix glasses have very  
263 low CO<sub>2</sub> contents, below detection limits (**figure 4c**). Melt halogen contents increase with Zr  
264 concentration: Cl and F increase from 130 to ~1000 ppm and <900 to ~1500 ppm  
265 respectively as Zr increases from 55 to 220 ppm (**figure 4e and f**). There is a decrease in the  
266 gradient on the halogen vs Zr plots in the quartz-hosted melt inclusions relative to the olivine-  
267 hosted melt inclusions. Melt Cl contents reach up to 4000 ppm in the most evolved samples,  
268 whilst F contents reach up to 7000 ppm, though the dataset shows some spread (**figure 4e**  
269 **and f**). Corbetti samples show particularly low halogen contents, with Cl <1900 ppm and F  
270 <2700 ppm; Fentale samples show low F contents (<3750 ppm) (**figure 4e and f**).

271

272 Olivine-hosted melt inclusions show a positive correlation between melt sulfur contents and  
273 Zr, increasing from ~2000 to ~3000 ppm S with increasing Zr (**figure 4d**). The quartz-hosted  
274 melt inclusions contain up to ~600 ppm S and S does not correlate with Zr (**figure 4d**). In  
275 contrast to the halogens and sulfur, Li and B increase linearly with melt Zr contents, reaching  
276 up to ~100 ppm and ~20 ppm respectively (**figure 4g and h**). There is some spread in the Li  
277 dataset, with the most evolved samples showing values of >50 ppm and up to 200 ppm  
278 (**figure 4h**). The Corbetti melt inclusions have the lowest Li and B concentrations (**figure 4g**  
279 **and h**).

280

## 281 **5 Discussion**

282 *5.1 Characterisation of the liquid line of descent for peralkaline magmas of the MER*

283 Melt inclusion major and trace element data (**figures 2, 3**) are consistent with pantelleritic  
284 magmas being derived via protracted fractional crystallisation of a basaltic parental melt, as  
285 has been proposed in previous studies [*Hutchison et al.*, 2018; *Iddon et al.*, 2019; *Peccerillo*  
286 *et al.*, 2003]. However, there is some variance in the trace element systematics e.g. changes in  
287 slope with increasing Zr, or variability at fixed Zr outside the analytical error (**figure 3**).

288

289 Fractional crystallisation models were constructed to characterise the liquid line of descent to  
290 confirm the relationship between the basaltic and pantelleritic samples (**figure 3**). The  
291 proportion of crystallising phases required to describe the liquid line of descent observed in  
292 the major element data was determined using Principal Component Analysis (PCA)  
293 [*Maclennan et al.*, 2001; *Neave et al.*, 2012] (**Supplementary Material**). The Kone sample  
294 set was used for PCA analysis as it is most complete. Results for the other sample sets are  
295 provided in the **Supplementary Material**. The results of the analysis suggest that the mafic  
296 data array can be explained by the progressive removal of up to 59% clinopyroxene  
297 ( $\text{En}_{32}\text{Wo}_{53}\text{Fs}_{15}$ ), 40% plagioclase feldspar ( $\text{An}_{85}\text{Ab}_{15}\text{Or}_{0.4}$ ), 0.8% olivine ( $\text{Fo}_{75}$ ), 0.4%  
298 magnetite and accessory apatite. The change in melt composition over the Daly Gap may be  
299 explained by the removal of 54% plagioclase ( $\text{An}_{85}\text{Ab}_{15}\text{Or}_{0.4}$ ), 32% clinopyroxene  
300 ( $\text{En}_{32}\text{Wo}_{53}\text{Fs}_{15}$ ), 8% olivine ( $\text{Fo}_{80}$ ), 5% magnetite, and 1% apatite. The trachytic array may be  
301 explained by the removal of 85% alkali feldspar ( $\text{An}_2\text{Ab}_{74}\text{Or}_{24}$ ), 11% fayalite ( $\text{Fo}_{1.3}$ ), 0.3%  
302 pyroxene ( $\text{En}_5\text{Wo}_{43}\text{Fs}_{52}$ ), 2% ilmenite, and 1% apatite. The rhyolitic array may be explained  
303 by the removal of 78% alkali feldspar ( $\text{An}_2\text{Ab}_{74}\text{Or}_{24}$ ), 3% pyroxene ( $\text{En}_2\text{Wo}_{41}\text{Fs}_{57}$ ), and 19%  
304 aenigmatite. PCA root mean square fits are  $1.4 \times 10^{-8}$ ,  $1.1 \times 10^{-10}$ ,  $1.8 \times 10^{-9}$ , and 0.002  
305 respectively. Lower numbers indicate better fits, values  $< 0.01$  are deemed reasonable.

306

307 These results are consistent with fractional crystallisation models produced for pantellerite  
308 magmas in other studies. For example, *Peccerillo et al.* [2003] modelled a fractionation  
309 assemblage made up of 85-90% alkali feldspar, 10% clinopyroxene, 2% fayalite, and 2% Fe-  
310 Ti oxides, in the later stages of melt evolution at Gedemsa (**figure 1**). Meanwhile the  
311 dominance of plagioclase over the Daly Gap, and the change from fayalite to aenigmatite  
312 crystallisation in the rhyolitic array is similar to model results from Pantelleria [*Neave et al.*,  
313 2012; *White et al.*, 2009]. The results for the basaltic array are less consistent with published  
314 examples, with models for Gedemsa and southern and northern portions of the WFB calling

315 for a greater degree of olivine and plagioclase fractionation [Peccerillo *et al.*, 2003; Rooney  
316 *et al.*, 2007; Trua *et al.*, 1999]. Peccerillo *et al.* [2003] suggests that greater plagioclase and  
317 olivine fractionation reflects shallower storage conditions.

318

## 319 5.2 Modelling Trace Element Behaviour

320 To model trace element behaviour during fractional crystallisation of MER magmas, the  
321 Rayleigh fractional crystallisation equation was used:

$$322 \frac{C_i^l}{C_i^0} = F^{D-1}$$

323 , where  $i$  is the element of interest;  $C_i^0$  is the original concentration of element  $i$  in the  
324 parental liquid;  $C_i^l$  is the concentration in the liquid;  $D$  is the solid-melt partition coefficient;  
325 and  $F$  is the fraction of liquid remaining. Bulk partition coefficients were calculated based on  
326 the phase assemblages predicted down the liquid line of descent and observed mineral-melt  
327 partitioning data collated from [Bacon and Druitt, 1988; Bindeman and Davis, 2000; Blundy  
328 and Wood, 1991; Bougault and Hekinian, 1974; Dawson and Hinton, 2003; Ewart and  
329 Griffin, 1994; Fujimaki, 1986; Gaetani and Grove, 1995; Green *et al.*, 1993; Henderson and  
330 Pirozynski, 2012; Hill *et al.*, 2000; Klemme and Dalpé, 2003; Larsen, 1979; Lemarchand *et al.*,  
331 1987; Luhr *et al.*, 1984; Mahood and Stimac, 1990; Mathez and Webster, 2005;  
332 McCubbin *et al.*, 2015; Nagasawa, 1970; Nagasawa and Schnetzler, 1971; Neave *et al.*,  
333 2012; Nikogosian and Sobolev, 1997; Parat and Holtz, 2004; Paster *et al.*, 1974; Peccerillo  
334 *et al.*, 2003; Stix and Gorton, 1990; Villemant, 1988; Villemant *et al.*, 1981; Webster *et al.*,  
335 2009; Webster *et al.*, 2017; White *et al.*, 2009; Wood and Trigila, 2001]. See **Supplementary**  
336 **Material** for the full list of partition coefficients used. Feldspar-melt partition coefficients for  
337 Sr, Ba, and Rb were additionally calculated using empirically determined equations for  
338 plagioclase from [Blundy and Wood, 1991] and [Henderson and Pirozynski, 2012]. As Zr is  
339 highly incompatible in peralkaline rocks, it was used as a fractionation index. The trachytic  
340 samples can be generated by ~85% fractional crystallisation of the mafic parental melts. The  
341 pantelleritic rhyolites require a further 40% crystallisation. The total amount of fractional  
342 crystallisation required is therefore ~91%. Peccerillo *et al.* [2003] and [Gleeson *et al.*, 2017]  
343 estimated that pantellerites from Gedemsa and Aluto could be generated from a basaltic

344 parent after ~90% fractionation. The pantellerites continue to fractionate, with a total  
345 fractionation of 93-94% predicted for some samples (**figure 4**).

346

347 Incompatible trace element variations are well explained by protracted fractional  
348 crystallisation of a basaltic parent (**figure 3**). The slight deviation from linear patterns can be  
349 explained by the crystallisation of apatite, which has high partition coefficients for REE of  
350 ~7-40 [Mahood and Stimac, 1990]. Variations in apatite crystallisation cannot account for the  
351 enrichment in just the medium and heavy REEs seen in the Aluto, BVF, and Fentale samples  
352 (**figure 3**). Reduced clinopyroxene fractionation may also occur during this interval.  
353 Clinopyroxene-melt partition coefficients for the medium and heavy REEs become larger as  
354 the pyroxene Na content increases. The pyroxenes evolve eventually to aegirine augites in  
355 peralkaline systems [Fedele *et al.*, 2009; Marks *et al.*, 2004]. This is due to an increased  
356 preference for these elements in the mineral structure [Marks *et al.*, 2004].

357

358 The compatible trace elements are consistent with fractional crystallisation. Plagioclase-melt  
359 partition coefficients for the LILEs are controlled by feldspar An content and temperature  
360 [Blundy and Wood, 1991]. Alkali feldspar-melt partition coefficients for Ba and Sr are  
361 controlled by melt peralkalinity and temperature; for Rb they are controlled by mineral Or  
362 content [Henderson and Piarowski, 2012]. The spread in Rb, Ba (**figure 3**) and Eu  
363 (**Supplementary Material**) may be explained by variable amounts of feldspar crystallisation,  
364 as well as changing partitioning behaviour during the evolution between basaltic and  
365 trachytic melts. The greater spread in Ba in the most evolved samples is consistent with  
366 variability in the partition coefficients in line with observed variations in melt peralkalinity  
367 (**figure 3b**) [Henderson and Piarowski, 2012]. The observed variation in feldspar Or  
368 content cannot, however, account for the spread in Kone Rb data (**figure 3a**), suggesting  
369 additional sources of enrichment/depletion.

370

371 The effect of feldspar resorption was modelled for Ba and Rb, both strongly compatible in  
372 feldspar (**figure 3a, b**). Feldspar Ba compositions from the Afar were used for the modeling  
373 [Barberi *et al.*, 1975]. Whilst the large spread in Ba for both Kone and Fentale quartz-hosted  
374 melt inclusions is consistent with small amounts of feldspar resorption (~10-20%), the model  
375 for Rb does not produce such a good fit for the Kone melts (**figure 3a, b**). Alkali feldspar

376 resorption occurred in the central Kenya peralkaline province, based on anomalous Ba  
377 enrichments [Macdonald and Bagiński, 2009]. Peccerillo et al. [2003] have linked high Ba  
378 concentration in trachytes from Gedemsa to feldspar accumulation.

379

### 380 *5.3 Reconstructing primary melt volatile contents and degassing behaviour*

#### 381 *5.3.1 H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> systematics and estimates of magma storage depths*

382 Volatile elements will behave like incompatible elements during fractional crystallisation, if  
383 the melts are volatile-undersaturated. Mineral-melt volatile partitioning is assumed to be  
384 negligible in most phases. Partitioning of water into apatite, as a nominally hydrous mineral  
385 with an affinity for halogens, was considered [Mathez and Webster, 2005; Webster et al.,  
386 2009]. Fractional crystallisation models for H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> are marked on **figure 4a-c**; the data  
387 lie far below the modelled liquid line of descent, suggesting that the melts were saturated  
388 with an exsolved volatile phase during fractionation, even for the most primitive melts. The  
389 range in CO<sub>2</sub> contents is largely due to degassing CO<sub>2</sub> into an exsolved volatile phase; there  
390 may also, however, be some sequestration of CO<sub>2</sub> into a shrinkage bubble [Hartley et al.,  
391 2014], perhaps driven by post-entrapment crystallisation [Steele-Macinnis et al., 2011].

392

393 The pressure dependence of H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub> solubility [Papale, 1999] suggest that the on-axis  
394 evolved silicic melts, from (**figure 5b**) are stored at lower pressures in the crust than the  
395 mafic parental melts (**figure 5a**). The olivine-hosted melt inclusions from the on-axis  
396 volcanic centre (Kone) record volatile contents consistent with storage pressures of up to  
397 ~350 MPa (**figure 5a**), equivalent to a depth of ~13 km in the crust assuming an average  
398 crustal density of 2800 kgm<sup>-3</sup> [Wilks et al., 2017] and a temperature of 1170 °C, estimated  
399 based on clinopyroxene-liquid thermometry [Iddon et al., 2019]. The quartz-hosted melt  
400 inclusions from the on-axis centres record volatile contents consistent with storage pressures  
401 of up to ~300 MPa (**figure 5b**), equivalent to a depth of up to ~11 km in the crust, assuming a  
402 temperature of ~765 °C [Gleeson et al., 2017] (upper bounds). There is significant overlap  
403 between both datasets, but this may be due to post-entrapment modification of CO<sub>2</sub> contents  
404 in the olivine-hosted melt inclusions, H<sup>+</sup> loss from the inclusions [Bucholz et al., 2013], or to  
405 magmas being stored at a range of depths. Corbetti and Fentale quartz-hosted melt inclusions  
406 record slightly lower values for H<sub>2</sub>O at similar CO<sub>2</sub> contents to the Kone and Aluto samples,

407 which might suggest shallower storage pressures of ~170 MPa (**figure 5b**), equivalent to a  
408 depth of 6 km in the crust.

409

410 The olivine-hosted melt inclusions from the off-axis BVF volcanic field record volatile  
411 contents consistent with slightly deeper storage pressures of up to ~500 MPa (**figure 5a**),  
412 equivalent to a depth of 18 km in the crust, assuming a temperature of 1170 °C [*Iddon et al.*,  
413 2019]. These depth estimates are consistent with the suggestion of deeper fractionation of  
414 off-axis melts [*Rooney et al.*, 2007]. Using a structural clinopyroxene-only geobarometer  
415 [*Nimis and Ulmer*, 1998] Rooney et al. [2007] estimated storage depths of <10 km for the  
416 axis-central Wonji Fault Belt (WFB) basalts, but storage depths of up to 35 km for the off-  
417 axis melts. Our estimates of storage depths based on H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub> barometry are minima.  
418 Clinopyroxene-liquid geobarometry [*Neave and Putirka*, 2017] indicates deeper storage of  
419 Kone mafic melts, at up to 21 km [*Iddon et al.*, 2019]. Basalts appear to be sourced from  
420 complex, multi-levelled storage systems both on and off the rift axis.

421

422 The melt inclusions show evidence of extensive degassing. We may use the ratios of volatile  
423 to non-volatile elements that are thought to behave similarly (i.e. during crystallisation and  
424 melting) to estimate original H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in primitive basalt melts  
425 [*Rosenthal et al.*, 2015]. Ratios of CO<sub>2</sub> to incompatible elements such as Nb [*Saal et al.*,  
426 2002] or Ba [*Hauri et al.*, 2019; *Le Voyer et al.*, 2017] are typically used to make estimates of  
427 primary melt CO<sub>2</sub>. Ratios of H<sub>2</sub>O to LREEs (La, Ce, Nd) are used to make estimates of  
428 primary melt H<sub>2</sub>O [*Dixon et al.*, 2002; *Michael*, 1995]. Rosenthal et al. [2015] suggest a  
429 range of CO<sub>2</sub>/Ba ratios for non-enriched and enriched depleted mantle (DMM) from ~130 to  
430 ~150 (**figure 6a**). Saal et al. [2002] and Le Voyer et al. [2019] suggest values closer to 100  
431 (**figure 6a**). Assuming CO<sub>2</sub>/Ba ratios of 100 and 140 (**figure 6a**) the on-axis WFB basalt  
432 primary melt is estimated to have contained 1.8 and 2.5 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> respectively. The off-axis  
433 primary melt is estimated to have contained between 0.7 and 1 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub>. These estimates  
434 suggest that between ~1.5 and ~2.2 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> has been lost from the WFB basalts prior to  
435 eruption, and presumably prior to fractionation; and between ~0.2 and ~0.5 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> is  
436 estimated to have been lost from the off-axis melts prior to eruption.

437

438 Estimates of H<sub>2</sub>O/Ce for depleted mantle range from  $150 \pm 10$  [Dixon *et al.*, 2002] to  $245 \pm$   
439  $12$  [Le Voyer *et al.*, 2017] (**figure 6b**). If we assume similar primary melt ratios for the MER  
440 melts, the WFB basalt primary melt is estimated to have contained 0.8-1.2 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O. The  
441 off-axis primary melt is estimated to have contained between 0.6 wt.% and 0.8 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O.  
442 This suggests that minimal H<sub>2</sub>O has been lost from the basalts prior to eruption (which is  
443 consistent with the high pressure of storage and high solubility of H<sub>2</sub>O), or that the H<sub>2</sub>O/Ce  
444 ratios presented in the literature are inappropriate for continental rift settings. In all likelihood  
445 this applies to the CO<sub>2</sub>/Ba ratios as well. Global variation in H<sub>2</sub>O/Ce ratios are apparent, with  
446 a much higher H<sub>2</sub>O/Ce ratio of 400 reported for HIMU-influenced MORB from the  
447 equatorial Atlantic [Kendrick *et al.*, 2017] and for basalts sourced from ‘plume’ mantle  
448 sources (Hauri *et al.*, 2019). Ethiopian basalts are thought to be derived from melting induced  
449 by the impact of a plume at the base of the subcontinental lithospheric mantle [Rooney *et al.*,  
450 2011].

451

### 452 5.3.2 Sulfur degassing and sulfide saturation

453 Fractional crystallisation models reproduce the sulfur concentrations in the olivine-hosted  
454 melt inclusions, but significantly overpredict the sulfur contents of the quartz-hosted melt  
455 inclusions (**figure 4d**). The behavior of sulfur is complex; at sulfide saturation it partitions  
456 between an exsolved volatile phase as well as an immiscible sulfide liquid or mineral phase,  
457 depending on temperature, or a sulfate-bearing phase depending on redox conditions. Under  
458 reducing conditions sulfide (S<sup>2-</sup>) is the dominant sulfur species [Carroll and Rutherford,  
459 1987; Mavrogenes and O’Neill, 1999]. At higher oxidation states S<sup>6+</sup> becomes the dominant  
460 species [Fortin *et al.*, 2015; Jugo, 2009; Li *et al.*, 2009]. Our data suggests that sulfur  
461 behaves incompatibly in the mafic melts (i.e. the melt does not reach saturation in either a  
462 solid or liquid immiscible sulfide/sulfate phase nor an exsolved sulfur-bearing volatile phase)  
463 before concentrations drop dramatically in the quartz-hosted melt inclusions, down to < 0.2  
464 wt.% (**figure 4d**).

465

466 The sulfur concentration at sulfide saturation (SCSS) was estimated using a number of  
467 models [Fortin *et al.*, 2015; Li *et al.*, 2009] (**figure 4d**). The oxygen fugacities of MER  
468 magmas are thought to be within one log unit of the QFM buffer (QFM to QFM+1; [Gleeson  
469 *et al.*, 2017; Iddon *et al.*, 2019; Peccerillo *et al.*, 2003; Rooney *et al.*, 2007; Rooney *et al.*,

470 2012]. Temperatures of 1170 °C [Iddon *et al.*, 2019] and 765 °C [Gleeson *et al.*, 2017] (upper  
471 bounds), and pressures of 300 MPa and 220 MPa were assumed for the mafic and silicic  
472 compositions respectively (**figure 4d**). The modified Li and Ripley [2009] model [Gleeson *et*  
473 *al.*, 2017] shows the SCSS is higher than the sulfur concentration in the olivine-hosted melt  
474 inclusions, before dropping to closely follow the concentrations in the quartz-hosted melt  
475 inclusions. These trends indicate that melts reach sulfide saturation somewhere in the Daly  
476 Gap.

477

478 However, for the oxygen fugacity prevalent in MER magmas (~QFM) [Gleeson *et al.*, 2017;  
479 Iddon *et al.*, 2019; Peccerillo *et al.*, 2003; Rooney *et al.*, 2007; Rooney *et al.*, 2012], the  
480 model by Jugo *et al* [2010] is preferred. It links the SCSS with sulfur content at anhydrite  
481 saturation (SCAS), predicting an exponential increase in the SCSS with increasing  $fO_2$  from  
482 QFM because of the contribution of sulfate [Jugo *et al.*, 2010]. Model results for an  $fO_2$  of  
483 QFM are similar, this time plotting much higher than the sulfur concentration in the olivine-  
484 hosted melt inclusions, but again following the sulfur concentration in the quartz-hosted melt  
485 inclusions (**figure 4d**). The depletion of chalcophile elements such as copper observed in the  
486 peralkaline rhyolites (see **Supplementary Material**) provides further evidence for the  
487 formation of a liquid immiscible or mineral sulfur-bearing phase at some point during magma  
488 fractionation over the Daly Gap. Scaillet and MacDonald [2006] investigated experimentally  
489 the partitioning of sulfur between melt and sulfide or sulfate for peralkaline rhyolites. They  
490 determined that, for all values of  $fO_2$ , peralkaline melts can carry between 5 and 20 times  
491 more sulfur than their metaluminous equivalents before reaching sulfide saturation.

492

493 Once there is a free exsolved volatile phase, sulfur will further partition into it. Scaillet and  
494 MacDonald (2006) have investigated experimentally the partitioning of sulfur between melt  
495 and the exsolved fluid phase. For a pantellerite at temperatures of 765 °C and an  $fO_2$  of QFM,  
496 a fluid-melt partition coefficient,  $D^{f-m}$ , of ~50 might be expected [Scaillet and Macdonald,  
497 2006]. Experiments suggest that after 80% crystallisation of a basaltic alkaline melt  
498 containing 1000 ppm S and 1 wt% H<sub>2</sub>O, between 60 and 90% of the bulk sulfur partitions  
499 into the aqueous fluid. We calculate the mass of sulfur that partitions into the fluid phase  
500 using the difference between the fractional crystallisation model and the observed melt S  
501 concentrations. The bulk sulfur contents in the melt-sulfide-exsolved volatile phase after 94%



502 crystallisation would be ~ 6 wt%. This sulfur is partitioned between the melt sulfur, solid and  
503 liquid immiscible sulfur-bearing phases, and the exsolved volatile phase. For an average melt  
504 S content of 340 ppm in the peralkaline rhyolitic melts, an exsolved volatile phase might  
505 contain 1.7 wt.%, with the remaining 4.3% sequestered in the solid and/or liquid immiscible  
506 sulfur-bearing phases.

507

### 508 5.3.3 Behaviour of halogens and lithium during differentiation and degassing

509 Fractional crystallisation models reproduce well the incompatibility of Cl in the mafic melts;  
510 however, they fail to predict the lower chlorine concentrations observed in the evolved  
511 peralkaline melts (**figure 4e**), which suggests that chlorine is being lost to another phase. Cl  
512 partitioning into apatite is included in the model (see **Supplementary Material** for partition  
513 coefficients), but there may be loss to some other chlorine-bearing accessory mineral, such as  
514 mica [Iddon *et al.*, 2019], which may not be captured. Here we consider the loss of chlorine  
515 to an exsolved volatile phase as the dominant process causing melt depletion in chlorine.

516

517 The solubility of Cl in silicate melts has a complex pressure dependence. At pressures >200  
518 MPa it shows a negative dependence, becoming increasingly soluble in silicate melts with  
519 dropping pressure; however, this changes to a positive dependence at pressures < 200 MPa  
520 [Lukanin, 2015; 2016]. In a closed system, where the exsolved volatile phase is not lost, this  
521 relationship can reverse again at even shallower pressures [Lukanin, 2015; 2016]; this may  
522 account for the continued, if slightly subdued, rise in melt Cl contents following the Daly  
523 Gap (**figure 4e**). However, H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub> solubility relationships indicate that many of the quartz-  
524 hosted melt inclusions were trapped at pressures >150 MPa (**figure 5b**). Cl solubility shows a  
525 strong compositional dependence, becoming increasingly soluble with increasing melt alkali  
526 content and decreasing silica activity [Carroll, 2005]. The influence of the negative  
527 temperature dependence on Cl solubility is also amplified in alkali-rich melt compositions  
528 [Carroll and Webster, 1994]. The quartz-hosted melt inclusions show a positive correlation  
529 between melt Cl concentration and peralkalinity (**figure 7a**).

530

531 Published experimental data for silicate melts coexisting with low-Cl fluids, or with  
532 supercritical Cl-bearing fluids show that Cl partitions strongly into aqueous fluids relative to

533 silicate melts by a factor of  $\sim 20$  to 300 [Kilinc and Burnham, 1972]. For low bulk Cl  
534 contents, Cl concentrations decrease in rhyolitic melts coexisting with a single aqueous fluid  
535 phase as pressure increases from 200 to 800 MPa and the fluid/melt partition coefficient for  
536 Cl increases with increasing pressure. However, with increasing concentration of Cl in the  
537 solution at pressures below  $\sim 200$  MPa, the binary system H<sub>2</sub>O-NaCl is characterized by an  
538 immiscibility gap (a subcritical region) where a Cl-poor aqueous fluid coexists with a Cl-rich  
539 hydrosaline brine [Carroll, 2005]. The compositions of the aqueous fluid and the brine are  
540 invariant at constant pressure and temperature, which means that Cl and H<sub>2</sub>O concentrations  
541 in the fluids and the coexisting silicate melt will be fixed (Gibbs' phase rule) [Balcone-  
542 Boissard et al., 2016; Signorelli et al., 2001]. A constant Cl concentration in the melt as more  
543 Cl is added to the system is the typical expression of the melt being saturated with both a  
544 hydrosaline liquid and an H<sub>2</sub>O-rich aqueous fluid and this behaviour defines the solubility  
545 limit for Cl [Carroll, 2005; Shinohara, 1994; Signorelli and Carroll, 2002].

546

547 The MER data show an increase in Cl with melt evolution, with no plateau, suggesting that  
548 perhaps formation of a chlorine-bearing hydrosaline brine does not occur at the pressures of  
549 melt inclusion entrapment (**figure 4e**). The Cl solubility model by Webster et al. [2015] was  
550 established using experiments in which the solubility of Cl was determined for silicate melts  
551 saturated in a hydrosaline brine, with or without a coexisting vapour phase. The modelled Cl  
552 solubilities, assuming temperatures of 1170 °C [Iddon et al., 2019] and 765 °C [Gleeson et  
553 al., 2017, upper bounds], and pressures of 300 MPa and 220 MPa for the mafic and silicic  
554 compositions respectively, are much higher than the observed data for the MER melt  
555 inclusions (**figure 4e**). This suggests that hydrosaline brine formation does not occur. Instead  
556 the trends in the data are consistent with the partitioning of chlorine into an exsolved  
557 supercritical fluid phase.

558

559 The fractional crystallisation models accurately reproduce the incompatibility of F in the  
560 mafic melts but fail to predict the lower F contents in the evolved peralkaline melts (**figure**  
561 **4f**). As F partitioning into apatite is considered by the crystallisation model, and there is no  
562 evidence for fluorine-bearing phases such as fluorite, loss to an exsolved volatile phase is  
563 considered. F solubility is generally high in silicate melts but could be reduced by the rapid  
564 increase in SiO<sub>2</sub> driven by fractional crystallisation over the Daly Gap (**figure 2**). Increasing

565 melt polymerisation has been linked to increased F partitioning into an exsolved volatile  
566 phase [Bailey, 1977; Martini, 1984]. The low halogen contents of melt inclusions at Corbetti  
567 relative to the other datasets may be a consequence of lower melt peralkalinity (**figure 4e and**  
568 **f**). This cannot account for the situation at Fentale where Cl contents, along with melt  
569 peralkalinity, are in line with Kone and Aluto samples (**figure 4e**).

570

571 The total mass of chlorine and fluorine partitioned into the aqueous fluid phase may be  
572 estimated using the difference between the fractional crystallisation models and the observed  
573 concentrations. This analysis yields apparent fluid-melt partition coefficients ( $D^{f-m}$ ) of 1.75  
574 for F, and 3 for Cl, consistent with experimentally determined results [Borodulin *et al.*, 2009;  
575 Iveson *et al.*, 2017]. Borodulin *et al.* [2009] carried out experiments on F partitioning  
576 between high-silica peralkaline rhyolites and aqueous fluids at 750°C and 100 MPa  
577 suggesting a  $D^{f-m}$  of  $1.7 \pm 1.6$ . Iveson *et al.* [2017] conducted experiments at 810-860°C,  
578 150-405 MPa and  $fO_2$  NNO-0.5 to NNO+2 on hydrous rhyodacites showing that Cl strongly  
579 partitions into a fluid over a melt phase with a  $D^{f-m}$  ranging from 3.5 to 22.7. This  
580 partitioning of Cl into an exsolved volatile phase is thought to remain > 700 MPa; at lower  
581 pressures partitioning towards melt has been observed to increase [Kilinc and Burnham,  
582 1972]. **Figures 7c and 7d** shows the relationship between the halogens and melt H<sub>2</sub>O  
583 contents. Constant melt Cl and F above 2 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O demonstrates that melt concentrations  
584 are being buffered by a single supercritical fluid phase.

585

586 Whilst the fractional crystallisation model provides a reasonable fit to the observed Li data,  
587 suggesting it behaves relatively incompatibly, the spread in the data might be explained by  
588 semi-volatile behaviour (**figure 4h**). Some of the quartz-hosted melt inclusions show Li  
589 enrichment over that predicted from fractional crystallisation, examples from Fentale show a  
590 corresponding slight enrichment in CO<sub>2</sub> and depletion in H<sub>2</sub>O in comparison to the other  
591 datapoints. Li is complex, as at shallow crustal pressures it can partition into a number of  
592 mineral phases [Bindeman and Davis, 2000; Nikogosian and Sobolev, 1997], but has also  
593 been observed to behave as a volatile element in some H<sub>2</sub>O-rich magmas. It has been  
594 suggested that Li may diffuse into an exsolved volatile phase as rapidly as water [Koga *et al.*,  
595 2008], whilst other experimental studies have shown that in silica-rich magmas Li will  
596 preferentially partition into a volatile-bearing fluid over the melt [Kent *et al.*, 2007],

597 particularly in the presence of chlorine [Webster *et al.*, 1989]. At Mount St Helens melt  
598 inclusion enrichment in Li has been attributed to shallow accumulation of CO<sub>2</sub>-rich fluids  
599 from deeper degassing magmas and rapid diffusive re-equilibration of the melt inclusions  
600 [Berlo *et al.*, 2004]. At Pantelleria, Neave *et al.* [2012] explain Li enrichment in melt  
601 inclusions by entrapment in the presence of a Cl-rich brine.

602

#### 603 *5.4 Predicted volatile outgassing during explosive MER peralkaline eruptions*

604 If we assume that the system is closed with no passive degassing, the fractional crystallisation  
605 models for Kone may be used to calculate the volume of pre-eruptive volatiles exsolved  
606 during the evolution from a basaltic parent to a pantelleritic rhyolite melt. The proportions of  
607 the different volatile species in the exsolved volatile phase can also be estimated. The H<sub>2</sub>O  
608 contents of the basaltic parental melts is ~1.2 wt.% which, under conditions of no degassing  
609 and complete incompatibility, would increase to 55 wt.% in the residual melt after ~94%  
610 crystallisation (**figure 4b**). The melts actually hold ~7 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O after 94% crystallisation at  
611 220 MPa (**figure 5b**), which means that the remainder has exsolved for these pressure  
612 conditions. In reality, migration of an exsolved volatile phase would likely occur over long  
613 timescales during fractionation. For this reason we predict the mass of the H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> in  
614 the pre-eruptive exsolved volatile phase in the peralkaline rhyolite based on the quartz-hosted  
615 melt inclusions alone, assuming that any exsolved volatiles that existed prior to the Daly Gap  
616 will have been lost to outgassing during decompression of the low viscosity melt on ascent to  
617 shallower storage regions and over the long course of evolution (**figure 4a and c**). The  
618 pervasive loss of deep-derived exsolved volatiles from stored magmas is consistent with the  
619 diffuse degassing of a CO<sub>2</sub>-rich magmatic gas observed over much of the MER [Hunt *et al.*,  
620 2017; Hutchison *et al.*, 2016a]. We calculate that, after fractionation from trachytic to  
621 evolved pantelleritic melt (~60% crystallisation) and with no degassing, H<sub>2</sub>O contents would  
622 rise from 7 wt.% to 17 wt.% and CO<sub>2</sub> contents would rise from 0.02 wt.% to 0.05 wt.%. As  
623 the melts hold ~7 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O and ~0.025 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> after 94% crystallisation at 220 MPa  
624 (**figure 5b**), this means that ~10 wt.% H<sub>2</sub>O and ~0.025 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> will have been exsolved  
625 from the rhyolite for these pressure conditions.

626

627 Using the same method for the halogens, but assuming volatile retention in the mafic melts  
628 (**figure 4e and f**), we find that this exsolved volatile phase will also contain 0.7 wt.% F, and

629 0.6 wt.% Cl. Exsolved S contents of 1.7 wt.% were estimated based on measured values of  
630 ~340 ppm in melt inclusions and experimental fluid-melt partition coefficients [*Scaillet and*  
631 *Macdonald, 2006*]. We therefore estimate that a total exsolved volatile phase of ~13 wt.%  
632 may develop during late-stage fractionation crystallisation, which is equivalent to ~4.5 vol.%  
633 (from the Ideal Gas Law) at a pressure of 220 MPa and temperature of 765 °C [*Gleeson et*  
634 *al., 2017*, upper bounds].

635

636 The mass of the exsolved volatile phase may be used to make estimates of the potential yield  
637 of an explosive peralkaline eruption at one of the MER calderas. Caldera-forming eruptions  
638 may have produced >10 km<sup>3</sup> eruptive volume [*Hutchison et al., 2016b*]. Assuming an  
639 average bulk magma density of 2300 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, we calculate a volatile yield of 2300 Mt H<sub>2</sub>O  
640 (where 1 Mt is equal to 1 x 10<sup>12</sup> kg), 6 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>, 390 Mt S, 150 Mt F, and 150 Mt Cl for an  
641 eruption of 10 km<sup>3</sup> peralkaline magma. An additional component from syn-eruptive  
642 degassing by exsolution can also be estimated, recorded in the difference between the matrix  
643 glass and melt inclusion compositions. Whilst F and Cl contents appear similar, matrix  
644 glasses show on average a ~50 ppm difference in S. Assuming that melt H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub>  
645 retention at atmospheric pressure is minimal, a melt fraction of 65 vol.% for the erupted  
646 magma, and a melt density of 2275 kg/m<sup>3</sup>, a syn-eruptive degassing (from exsolution) of 365  
647 MT of H<sub>2</sub>O, 1 Mt of CO<sub>2</sub>, and 0.5 Mt of S is estimated. This brings the estimated total  
648 volatile yield for an explosive peralkaline eruption to 2665 Mt H<sub>2</sub>O, 7 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>, 390.5 Mt S,  
649 150 Mt F, and 150 Mt Cl, for eruptions of 10 km<sup>3</sup>. Post-caldera eruptions are much smaller  
650 (between 0.01-1 km<sup>3</sup>) [*Hutchison et al., 2016b*], and are typically crystal-poor. Making  
651 similar assumptions, but with a melt fraction of 90 vol.% for the erupted magma, the  
652 estimated total volatile yield for a post-caldera peralkaline eruption would be 3-265 Mt H<sub>2</sub>O,  
653 <0.01-0.7 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>, 0.4-40 Mt S, 0.2-15 Mt F, and 0.2-15 Mt Cl.

654

655 The much larger Tumbora eruption of 1815 (~50 km<sup>3</sup>) [*Oppenheimer, 2003*] is thought to  
656 have released ~100 Mt Cl, 70 Mt F, and 60 Mt S [*Sigurdsson and Carey, 1992*] and the S  
657 release from Mount Pinatubo (~20 km<sup>3</sup>) has been estimated at 10 Mt [*Gerlach et al., 1996*;  
658 *Wallace and Gerlach, 1994*]. This suggests that the output of S and halogens may be more  
659 significant from peralkaline explosive eruptions, such as those during the formation of the  
660 MER calderas, than from their metaluminous and peraluminous counterparts. Neave et al.

661 [2012] highlighted this in their estimates of the S yield from Pantelleria, predicting the  
662 release of 80-160 Mt S during the eruption of the 7 km<sup>3</sup> Green Tuff. They interpreted the  
663 higher yields of sulfur as relating to high sulfur concentrations at sulfide saturation combined  
664 with high fluid/melt partition coefficients, allowing peralkaline melts to retain sulfur for  
665 longer during their early differentiation and then release it into aqueous exsolved fluids  
666 [Scaillet and Macdonald, 2006]. Alkali-related halogen retention and high initial parental  
667 melt volatile contents, perhaps due to small fraction melting of enriched subcontinental  
668 lithospheric mantle, may also play a role in increasing predicted volatile outputs. Our results  
669 further suggest that large, explosive continental rift-related eruptions may be significant  
670 sources of HCl into the upper troposphere or stratosphere. Injection of HCl into the  
671 stratosphere has also been linked to the ozone destruction and, in the troposphere, to the  
672 production of acid rain [Kutterolf et al., 2013].

673

## 674 **5.5 Implications of our results for MER Magma Storage**

675 We interpret the behaviour of the volatile species, in particular the timing of volatile  
676 saturation and the various controls on melt volatile solubilities, as providing evidence for a  
677 vertically extended magmatic storage system beneath the MER (**figure 8**). Mafic magma  
678 batches, both on- and off-axis, are stored at depths extending down to 18 km in the crust, and  
679 potentially deeper, where they are saturated with an exsolved volatile phase (**figure 5a**). Over  
680 the course of the Daly Gap, from which melts are not preserved, on-axis magmas saturate in  
681 both an exsolved volatile phase and in sulfide. Settling of sulfides and growth of finely  
682 disseminated bubbles in the magma will lower bulk magma density, promoting its rise to  
683 shallower depths of ~8-6 km. Cl and F partition into the exsolved volatile phase with fluid-  
684 melt partition coefficients of ~3 and ~1.75 (**figure 8**) (Kilinc and Burnham, 1972; Shinohara  
685 et al., 1989). In the shallower parts of the reservoir fractional crystallisation drives the magma  
686 composition towards rhyolite, generating extensive crystal mushes. The substantial exsolved  
687 volatile phase may accumulate to form a low density, gas-rich roof zone. Continued  
688 fractional crystallisation leads to melts becoming peralkaline, thus increasing halogen  
689 solubility in the melt (**figure 7a, b**) (Anfiligov et al., 1973; Carroll, 2005; Glyuk, 1980).  
690 There may also be evidence in some cases for the accumulation of exsolved volatiles from  
691 deeper degassing magmas (**figure 4h**). This might suggest magmatic recharge or mafic  
692 underplating occurs.

693

694 Magmatic evolution at multiple storage depths has been proposed for other peralkaline  
695 systems in the MER and wider EARS based on petrological evidence. Rooney et al. (2012)  
696 suggested a two-step polybaric process at Chefe Donsa, with fractionation of basalts at mid-  
697 upper crustal depths occurring prior to extraction and ascent of those liquids to form a second  
698 trachytic-rhyolitic fractionating storage region. Rooney et al. (2012) highlight the importance  
699 of exsolved volatiles in controlling the eruptibility of intermediate magmas. MacDonald et al.  
700 (2008) postulate that a region of several dynamic, interacting, independent reservoirs and  
701 conduits, stretching down to depths of 10 km in the crust, feeds the Greater Olkaria volcanic  
702 complex. Again, they highlight the influence of an exsolved volatile-rich phase, with negative  
703 Ce anomalies linked to an oxidising, halogen-rich exsolved volatile phase (Macdonald et al.,  
704 2008). Direct evidence of volatile loss is also observed, with vesiculation common at the  
705 borders between magmatic inclusions and comenditic hosts (Macdonald et al., 2008).  
706 Macdonald et al. (2012) suggest that mafic recharge and underplating may be a fundamental  
707 source of volatiles for the Greater Olkaria volcanic complex.

708

### 709 ***5.6 Magma fluxes in the MER***

710 The mass of a pre-eruptive exsolved volatile phase was calculated based on the assumption  
711 that any exsolved volatile phase that existed prior to the Daly Gap will have been lost through  
712 outgassing. Lee et al. (2016) examined the diffuse soil degassing in the Magadi-Natron  
713 Basin, on the border between Kenya and Tanzania, linking the loss of 4 Mt/yr CO<sub>2</sub> to the  
714 extensional tectonics of the EARS. Extrapolation of their results provides estimates for a CO<sub>2</sub>  
715 flux on the order of tens of Mt per year for the entire Eastern branch of the EARS,  
716 comparable to emissions from the global mid-ocean ridge system (53-97 Mt/yr; Lee et al.,  
717 2016). Numerous authors have highlighted the importance of structural controls on fluid and  
718 vapour migration in volcanic areas (Hutchison et al., 2015; Robertson et al., 2016), degassing  
719 in the MER is concentrated in discrete areas of volcanic and off-edifice activity (Hunt et al.,  
720 2017). Characterisation of these areas led Hunt et al. (2017) to estimate a much lower CO<sub>2</sub>  
721 flux of 0.52-4.36 MT/yr for the central and northern portions of the MER and 3.9-32.7 MT/yr  
722 for the EARS.

723

724 Taking an average CO<sub>2</sub> loss of 1.1 wt.% (see section 5.3.1), and assuming loss is solely via  
725 diffuse soil degassing, the CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes presented by Hunt et al. (2017) may be used to  
726 estimate the mass of degassing basaltic melt per year of ~45-395 Mt beneath the MER and  
727 ~355-2970 Mt beneath the EARS. Assuming a melt density of 2750 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and crystal  
728 densities of 3320 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (clinopyroxene), 3400 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (olivine), and 2680 kg/m<sup>3</sup> (plagioclase),  
729 typical phase proportions (40% plagioclase, 35% olivine and 25% clinopyroxene; Iddon et  
730 al., 2019), and a bulk crystallinity of 45%, these estimates of degassing mass of basalt equate  
731 to volumes of ~0.02-0.14 km<sup>3</sup> per year and ~0.1-1 km<sup>3</sup> per year for the MER and EARS  
732 respectively.

733

734 If we assume an average crustal thickness of 32 km for the ~1000 km long MER (Casey et  
735 al., 2006), spreading rates of ~5 mm a year (Saria et al., 2014) would require the intrusion of  
736 ~0.16 km<sup>3</sup> magma a year if extension was predominantly magma-assisted (Bastow et al.,  
737 2010; Keir et al., 2011; Kendall et al., 2005), comparable with the results of this study based  
738 on the upper bounds of CO<sub>2</sub> flux estimates (Hunt et al., 2017). Wadge et al. (2016) have  
739 documented 21 historical eruptions along the EARS over the past 200 years. A minimum of 5  
740 km<sup>3</sup> of predominantly basalt was erupted on to the surface, with high intrusion/extrusion  
741 ratios (4-15; Wadge et al., 2016). Based on these figures a magma flux for the whole EARS  
742 of ~0.13-0.40 km<sup>3</sup>/year may be estimated, which is within range of the magma degassing  
743 rates calculated above.

744

## 745 **6. Implications for geophysical volcano monitoring**

746 InSAR observations of volcano deformation are increasingly being used as a monitoring  
747 technique as satellite coverage grows. As a remote technique it is ideal for countries such as  
748 Ethiopia which have a high number of potentially active volcanic sites, many of which are  
749 largely inaccessible or too costly to monitor. Magma injection may cause an inflation of a  
750 volcanic edifice, whilst withdrawal might result in a period of deflation (Segall, 2013).  
751 Modelling of the spatial and temporal characteristics of the deformation signal can also be  
752 used to estimate the source depth and geometry, providing vital information about magma  
753 storage [Biggs et al., 2011; Hutchison et al., 2016a; Lloyd et al., 2018]. Using InSAR Biggs  
754 et al. [2011] identified four volcanic edifices in the MER (Aluto, Corbetti, Bora, and  
755 Haledebi; see **figure 1** for locations) that have undergone significant deformation between



756 1993 and 2010. However, there are many factors that influence the deformation signal at a  
 757 volcanic edifice. Magma rheology, edifice type, hydrothermal activity, tectonic setting, and  
 758 stress fields all play a key role [Biggs *et al.*, 2014b]. Some volcanoes will show significant  
 759 pre- and syn-eruptive deformation, whilst some will not [Biggs *et al.*, 2014], and the volume  
 760 of erupted material is often much greater than the subsurface volume change implied by the  
 761 deformation [Anderson and Segall, 2011; McCormick Kilbride *et al.*, 2016; Rivalta and  
 762 Segall, 2008; Segall, 2013].

763

764 Understanding volatile behaviour is important for the interpretation of geodetic  
 765 measurements. Exsolution of magmatic gases can lead to an inflation signal not related to  
 766 magma injection, and outgassing or resorption into a crystalline mush can equally cause  
 767 subsidence [Caricchi *et al.*, 2014]. In these cases, a coupled geodetic and gravity survey can  
 768 differentiate between the behaviour of melt and exsolved volatiles, as an exsolved volatile  
 769 phase will lower the bulk magma density [Gottsmann and Battaglia, 2008]. The presence of a  
 770 low density exsolved volatile phase will increase the compressibility of magma, which can  
 771 result in muted ground displacements [Biggs *et al.*, 2014; McCormick-Kilbride *et al.*, 2016].  
 772 The difference between the volume erupted ( $V_e$ ) and the subsurface volume change ( $\Delta V$ ) is  
 773 controlled by the bulk compressibility of the magma [Huppert and Woods, 2002]:

$$\beta_m = \frac{1}{\beta_r} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\delta\rho}{\delta P}$$

774 , where  $\beta_r$  is the effective bulk modulus of the surrounding wall rock;  $\rho$  is the bulk magma  
 775 density; and P is pressure. The bulk compressibility of the country rock is also vital (Johnson,  
 776 1992):

$$\beta_c = \frac{3}{4\mu}$$

777 , where  $\mu$  is the shear modulus of the host rock. Considering the simplest example of a  
 778 spherical source,  $r$ , the ratio between  $V_e$  and  $\Delta V$  (for the ‘Mogi’ source) [Rivalta and Segall,  
 779 2008]:

$$r = \frac{V_e}{\Delta V} = 1 + \frac{\beta_m}{\beta_c}$$

780 , would be 1 for an incompressible magma. However, a significant exsolved volatile phase  
 781 will increase  $\beta_m$  by an order of magnitude, therefore, a large volume eruption can be

782 accommodated by expansion of the remaining magma, resulting in a minor volume change in  
783 the reservoir ( $r \gg 1$ ) [Johnson, 1992; McCormick Kilbride et al., 2016]. Country rock  
784 compressibility is different for deep prolate sources, where:

$$\beta_c = \frac{1}{\mu}$$

785 , is more appropriate [Anderson and Segall, 2011; McCormick-Kilbride et al., 2016; Rivalta  
786 and Segall, 2008]. Crustal  $\mu$  is not well constrained, it may range from  $\sim 0.1$  GPa for very  
787 compliant rocks to 30 GPa for much stiffer crust [Gudmundsson, 2005]. The exact value for  
788  $\beta_r$  also varies, depending on the density of microfractures in the rock, but a value of  $10^{10}$  Pa  
789 is typically used [Tait et al., 1989]. Assumptions about geometry and material properties are  
790 important, for example a sill geometry, which is perhaps more appropriate for the MER  
791 calderas, would be significantly more compressible than a spherical source [Biggs et al.,  
792 2011].

793

794 Assuming no outgassing occurred, the  $\beta_m$  of MER magmas was calculated to be between  
795  $1.98 \times 10^{-8} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$  and  $3.71 \times 10^{-9} \text{ Pa}^{-1}$  based on the results of the fractional crystallisation model  
796 and H<sub>2</sub>O-CO<sub>2</sub> solubility pressure estimates. This gives predicted  $r$  values of 23-16 for depths  
797 of 3-8 km, assuming a spherical source and  $\mu$  of 0.3 GPa. Assuming a prolate source these  
798 values change to 17-12. As  $r$  is proportional to  $\beta_m$ , it is predicted to decrease with increasing  
799 magma reservoir depth. This analysis suggests that the geodetic displacements observed at  
800 MER volcanoes [Biggs et al., 2011; Hutchison et al., 2016a; Lloyd et al., 2018] are likely  
801 muted. For a cumulative subsurface volume change of  $0.013 \text{ km}^3$  at  $\sim 5$  km depth, as observed  
802 by Hutchison et al. [2016] during rapid inflation events at Aluto, an eruptible volume of  
803  $\sim 0.25 \text{ km}^3$  would be predicted (**figure 9**). For a subsurface volume change of  $0.01 \text{ km}^3/\text{y}$  at  
804  $\sim 6.5$  km depth, as observed by Lloyd et al. [2018] at Corbetti between 2009 and 2017, an  
805 eruptible volume of  $\sim 1.2 \text{ km}^3$  would be predicted (**figure 9**).

806

807 A number of volcanic monitoring techniques have been deployed across Ethiopia over the  
808 past decade. Mickus et al [2007] presented gravity data that imaged a Bouger anomaly  
809 beneath Aluto and Corbetti volcanoes that they interpreted to be high density bodies ( $\sim 3000$   
810  $\text{kg/m}^3$ ) in the lower crust (7-17 km). This could imply that there was no low-density volatile-  
811 rich cap at Aluto or Corbetti during the data acquisition period (i.e. outgassing occurred), and

812 that any subsurface volume changes observed from the deformation data would be equivalent  
813 to the eruptible volume of magma. However, it may also imply that the features responsible  
814 for the Bouger anomaly are denser and/or deeper than modelled [Mickus *et al.*, 2007].

815

816 The lower density of an exsolved volatile phase will also dramatically lower seismic  
817 velocities [Neuberg and O'Gorman, 2002]. Crustal velocities are typically 5-10% higher  
818 beneath the rift axis, thought to be the result of mafic intrusions beneath the different  
819 volcanic centres [Keranen *et al.*, 2004]. However, low-velocity zones are also identified at  
820 upper crustal depths beneath these sites, with mid-crustal low-velocity zones also located  
821 beneath the WFB and SDFZ [Kim *et al.*, 2012]. Wilks *et al.* [2017] identified seismic b value  
822 anomalies in the shallow crust beneath Aluto, thought to correlate with regions of gas  
823 accumulation.

824

825 As electrical resistivity is sensitive to fluid content, magnetotelluric (MT) surveys can  
826 identify the presence of partial melt beneath volcanoes [Johnson *et al.*, 2016]. In section 3.5 it  
827 was highlighted that the electrical resistivity of a magmatic reservoir is dependent on the state  
828 of the magma itself [Gaillard and Marziano, 2005]. Dissolved volatiles can increase melt  
829 conductivity [Laumonier *et al.*, 2017]; however, exsolved volatile phases have low  
830 conductivities ( $10^{-2}$ - $10$  ohm m<sup>-1</sup>). This has led to resistive regions beneath volcanoes  
831 sometimes being interpreted as gas-rich caps [Aizawa *et al.*, 2009]. This would still be  
832 consistent with the absence of increased electrical conductivity observed beneath Aluto  
833 [Hübert *et al.*, 2018; Samrock *et al.*, 2015]. However, if exsolved volatiles escape and mix  
834 with groundwater they can produce highly conductive regions of fluid [Aizawa *et al.*, 2009].  
835 This might be observed beneath Aluto, where shallow regions of conductivity have been  
836 interpreted as relating to active hydrothermal systems [Hübert *et al.*, 2018; Samrock *et al.*,  
837 2015].

838

## 839 **7. Conclusions**

840 Olivine- and quartz-hosted melt inclusions provide the first large-scale study of major, trace,  
841 and volatile element concentrations in MER melts. Modelling indicates that the pantelleritic  
842 quartz-hosted melt inclusion compositions can be achieved by protracted fractional  
843 crystallisation (>90%) of an enriched alkali-transitional basaltic parent similar to that of the

844 olivine-hosted melt inclusions. These parental melts are sourced from complex, vertically  
845 extended mafic magmatic systems, that exist both on- and off-axis.

846

847 Mafic melts are saturated in H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub> at depths of >13 km. Over the course of the Daly  
848 Gap, melts saturate in both a sulfide phase and an exsolved volatile phase, into which S and  
849 halogens partition. Sulfide settling and the formation of disseminated low density bubbles  
850 are expected to lower bulk magma density, promoting rise to shallow magma storage regions  
851 in the crust, where further fractionation is accompanied by the development of a substantial  
852 saline, exsolved volatile phase. There is no evidence of brine formation in the melt inclusion  
853 compositions. Possible fluxing of deep derived fluids is indicated by melt Li concentrations,  
854 perhaps suggesting magmatic underplating and/or magmatic recharge by more primitive  
855 compositions. Based on our results, an explosive, caldera-forming eruption (VEI >5) in the  
856 MER could outgas up to 2300 Mt H<sub>2</sub>O, 6 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>, 390 Mt S, 150 Mt F, and 150 Mt Cl into  
857 the lower troposphere or stratosphere. The S and halogen yield of such an eruption is  
858 significantly larger than would be expected from a metaluminous or peraluminous  
859 counterpart. These gas emissions would have severe environmental consequences and pose a  
860 risk to the health of humans and livestock in Ethiopia if they were injected into the lower  
861 troposphere.

862

863 The accumulation of a large fraction (up to 4.5 vol% or 13 wt% at 200 MPa) of a pre-eruptive  
864 exsolved volatile phase may also cause the under-estimation of intruded magma volumes by  
865 geodetic monitoring. Subsurface changes in volume of 0.013 km<sup>3</sup> and 0.07 km<sup>3</sup> at 5-6 km  
866 depth inferred from ground displacements at Aluto and Corbetti may well correspond to  
867 much larger eruptible melt volumes of 0.25 km<sup>3</sup> and 1.19 km<sup>3</sup> if a low density, compressible  
868 exsolved volatile phase is present. The characteristics of this exsolved volatile phase will also  
869 have an effect on gravity, seismic, and electrical resistivity data, so must be considered as  
870 fledgling volcanic monitoring schemes continue to be developed in Ethiopia.

871

872 A significant proportion of volatiles are also lost from deep mafic melts through diffuse  
873 degassing through the crust. Based on CO<sub>2</sub>/Ba ratios we calculate that ~1.1 wt.% CO<sub>2</sub> may be  
874 lost from basalts in the MER system. This suggests that recently presented CO<sub>2</sub> fluxes would

875 require  $\sim 0.02\text{-}0.14 \text{ km}^3$  basaltic melt to be intruded every year beneath the MER, consistent  
876 with previous magma flux estimates of  $\sim 0.16 \text{ km}^3/\text{year}$  for the MER [Saria *et al.*, 2014].

877

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889 data repository.

890

891

892 **Figure captions**

893 **Figure 1:** Topographic map of the Main Ethiopian Rift (MER). Axis-central calderas are  
894 outlined in dark blue, with Quaternary magmatic segments deposits highlighted in white  
895 (adapted from Corti, 2008). The red lines represent the Wonji Fault Belt, where the majority  
896 of extensional stress is accommodated; the black lines represent the older, less active border  
897 faults (adapted from Corti, 2008).

898 **Figure 2:** Melt inclusion and matrix glass analyses. Plot a) shows the total alkalis versus  
899 silica (TAS) diagram. The melt inclusions plotting in the basalt field are hosted by olivine;  
900 the melt inclusions in the trachyte and rhyolite fields are hosted by quartz. Plot b) shows the  
901 classification diagram for peralkaline rhyolites and trachytes [Macdonald, 1974]. Plots c)-k)  
902 are major element variation diagrams. Two sigma errors, unless shown, are smaller than  
903 symbols.

904 **Figure 3:** Trace element geochemistry for basaltic, trachytic and peralkaline rhyolitic melt  
905 inclusions and matrix glasses of Main Ethiopian Rift volcanic rocks erupted from Kone,  
906 Aluto, Fentale, Butajira Volcanic Field and Corbetti. Melt inclusions with Zr <500 ppm  
907 hosted by Qz; Zr > 500 ppm hosted by quartz. Melt inclusion and matrix glass trace element  
908 compositions plotted against Zr (a-h) and Rb/Nb plotted against Rb (i); lines show  
909 compositions predicted by fractional crystallisation Rhyolite-Melts models [Ghiorso and  
910 Gualda, 2015] for Kone. The lines distinguished by crosses show feldspar assimilation  
911 models for Kone and Fentale (a and b). The shaded region in i shows the field of Precambrian  
912 basement [Peccerillo et al., 1998].

913 **Figure 4:** Melt inclusion and matrix glass volatile element compositions plotted against Zr;  
914 the degree of fractionation, predicted from trace element behavior, is shown along the top.  
915 The black lines show where fractional crystallisation has been calculated using the most  
916 primitive melt after the Daly Gap and blue lines show predicted melt compositions during  
917 fractional crystallisation in the presence of an exsolved volatile phase. Bulk fluid-melt  
918 partition coefficients (from +1 to 0) for the models are shown above relevant lines. The  
919 dotted black lines (c) show the sulfur content at sulfide saturation (SCSS), as predicted by the  
920 models of Fortin et al. (2015) and Jugo et al. (2010) respectively. The red solid line (d) shows  
921 Cl melt solubility as predicted by the model of Webster et al. (2015).

922 **Figure 5:** Plots of melt CO<sub>2</sub> content versus melt H<sub>2</sub>O content (wt%) for a) olivine-hosted  
923 melt inclusions and b) quartz-hosted melt inclusions. Melt storage pressure conditions

924 estimated using Papale [1999]. Isobars for mafic melt storage were calculated based on a  
925 temperature of 1170 °C [Iddon *et al.*, 2019], and for evolved melt storage a temperature of  
926 ~765 °C (upper bounds) [Gleeson *et al.*, 2017] was assumed. c) Depths of magma storage  
927 (assuming a crustal density of 2800 gm<sup>-3</sup>) [Wilks *et al.*, 2017] plotted against longitude.

928 **Figure 6:** Ratios of volatile to non-volatile incompatible elements in Main Ethiopian Rift  
929 melt inclusions. CO<sub>2</sub>/Ba ratios (a) are used to estimate original CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in primary  
930 melts; ratios for enriched [Rosenthal *et al.*, 2015] and non-enriched primary melts [Saal *et*  
931 *al.*, 2002] are shown by dashed lines. H<sub>2</sub>O/Ce ratios (b) are used to estimate original H<sub>2</sub>O  
932 concentrations in primary melts; estimates of primary melts [Dixon *et al.*, 2002; Le Voyer *et*  
933 *al.*, 2017] are shown by dashed lines.

934 **Figure 7:** Halogen contents against peralkalinity in Main Ethiopian Rift melt inclusions (a-  
935 b), expressed as the agpaitic index (A.I., defined by molar (Na + K)/Al), and H<sub>2</sub>O contents (c-  
936 d).

937 **Figure 8:** Schematic showing a vertically extended magmatic system beneath the MER.  
938 Mafic melts, saturated in H<sub>2</sub>O and CO<sub>2</sub>, are stored down to at least 15 km beneath both the  
939 axis-central caldera systems (right) and off-axis volcanic fields (left). Magmas become  
940 saturated in sulfide (which may settle out) and an exsolved volatile phase within the Daly  
941 Gap, which may promote magma buoyancy and rapid rise through the crust. Beneath the  
942 axis-central calderas melts rise to 6-8 km depth, where they begin to fractionate. Highly  
943 evolved residual liquids (peralkaline rhyolites) develop in an extensive mush-rich reservoir  
944 and a volatile-rich roof zone may form. Mafic melts are forced to erupt around the shadow  
945 zone, external of caldera margins. Mafic recharge may also result in the fluxing of deep CO<sub>2</sub>.  
946 and Li-rich fluids to shallower levels. The exsolved volatiles are thought to interact with  
947 active hydrothermal systems, whilst intense pre- and syn-rift faulting also likely aids  
948 outgassing (white arrows).

949 **Figure 9:** Plot showing the changes in volume observed using InSAR at Aluto and Corbetti  
950 volcanoes over the past decade. Based on the assumption that no outgassing has occurred, r  
951 values (real magma volume change/observed volume change from InSAR) were predicted at  
952 a depth of ~5 km for Aluto and ~6.5 km for Corbetti. The eruption volumes these correspond  
953 to predict that large volumes of eruptible magma may be responsible for much smaller  
954 changes in volume observed at the surface due to the enhanced compressibility of vapour-  
955 bearing magma.

956

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958

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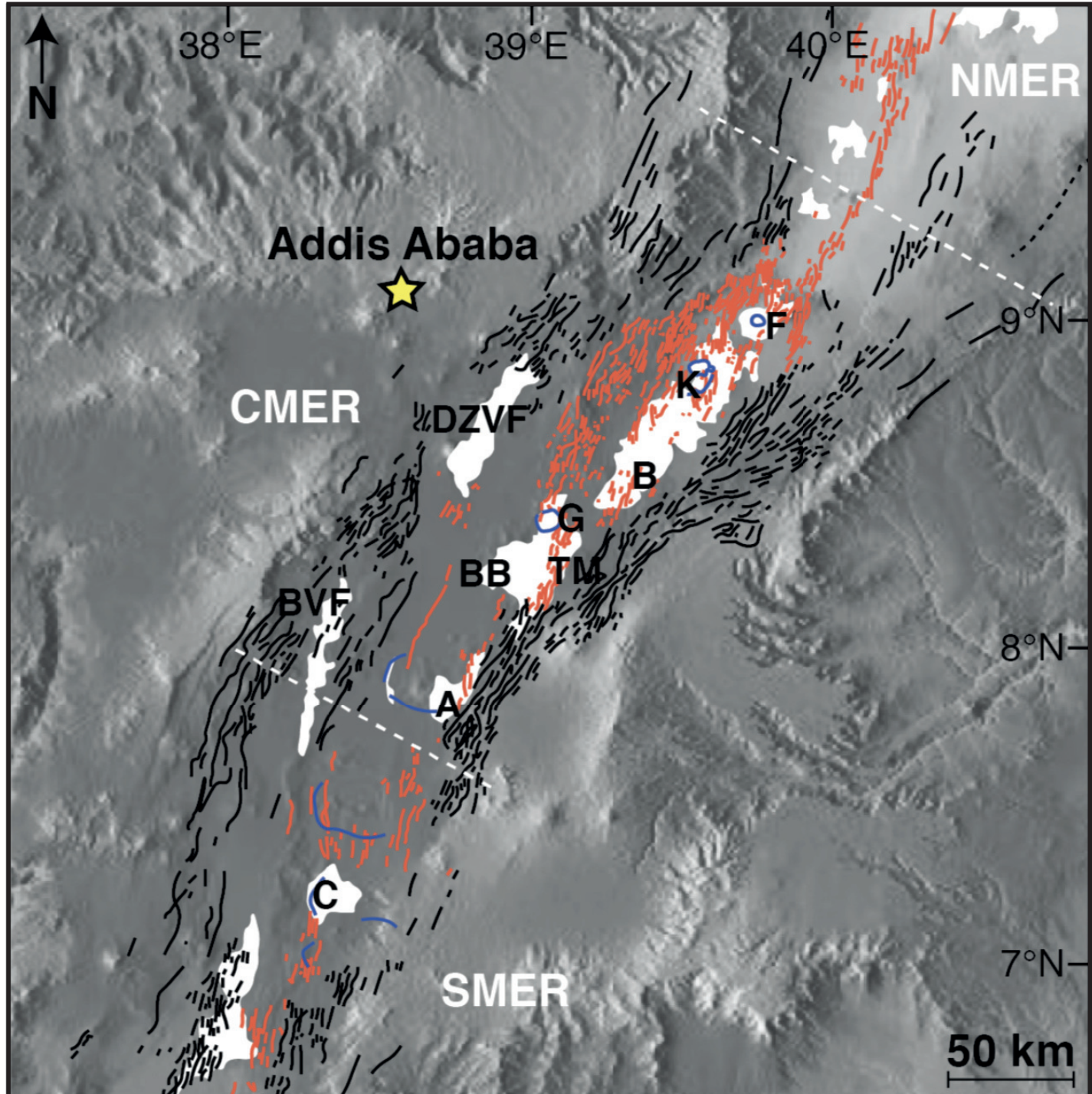
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Figure 1.



— Boundary fault    — Wonji fault belt    — Caldera margin  
 □ Quaternary eruption deposits

**C**-Corbetti; **A**-Aluto; **BVF**- Butajira volcanic field; **BB**-Bora-Bari-cha; **TM**-Tullu Moye; **G**-Gedemsa; **DZVF**- Debre Zeit volcanic field; **B**-Boset-Bericha; **K**-Kone; **F**-Fentale

Figure 2.

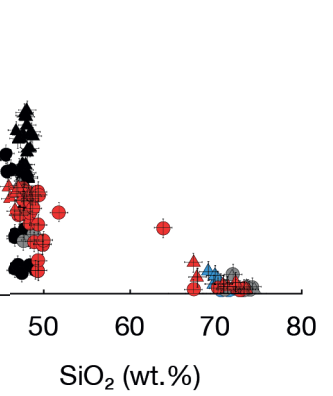
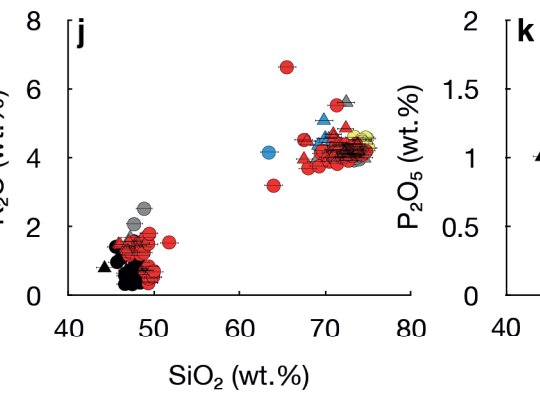
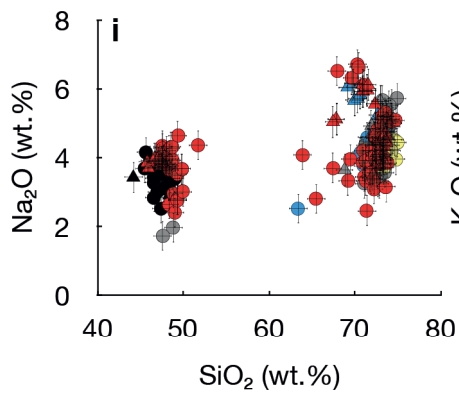
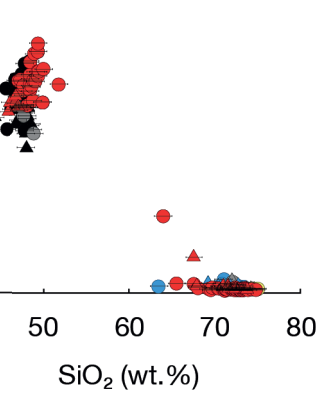
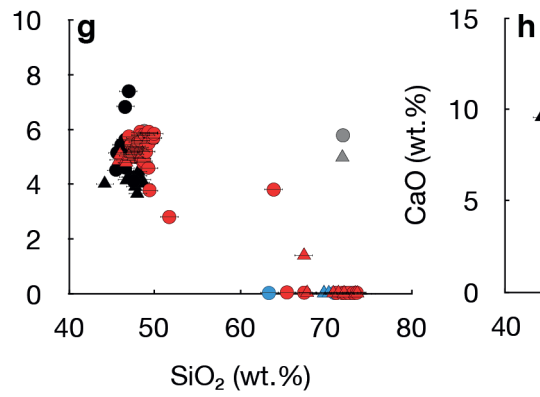
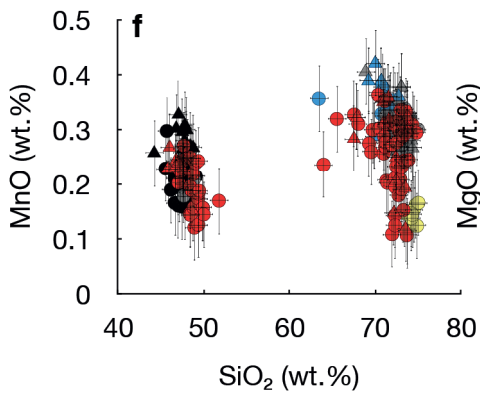
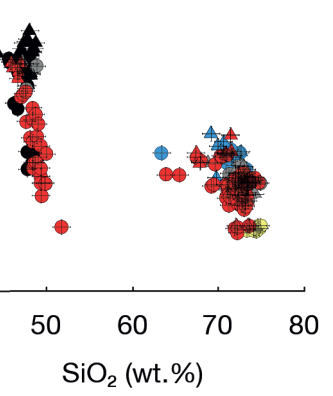
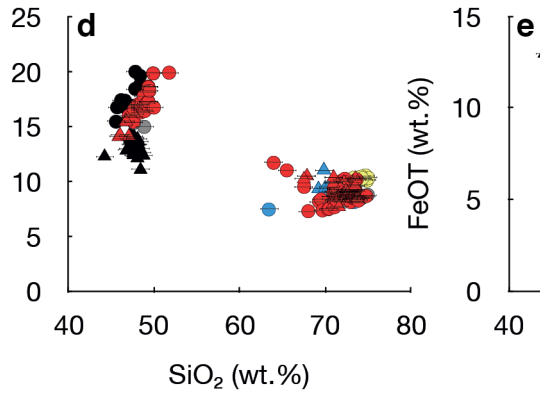
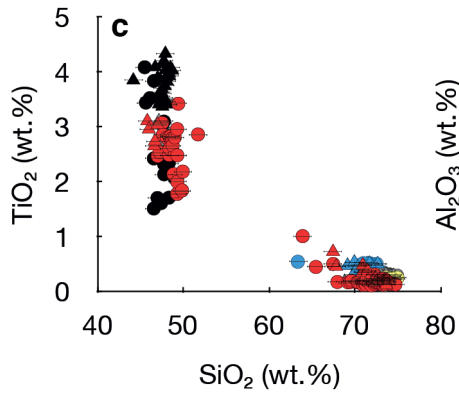
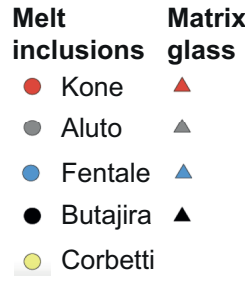
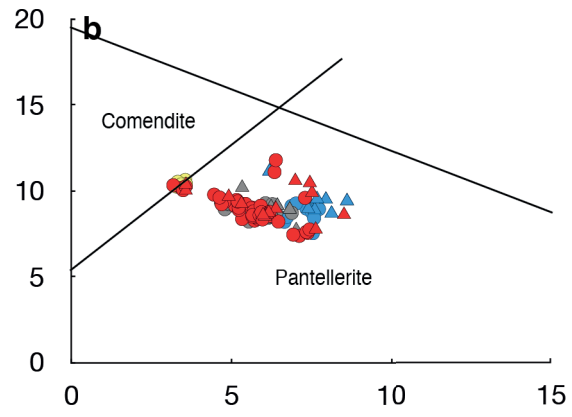
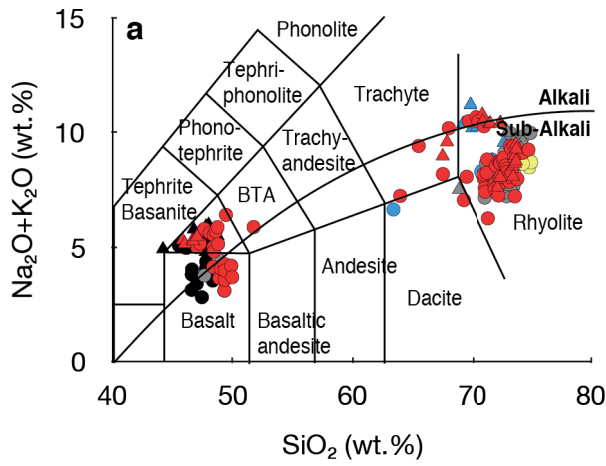


Figure 3.



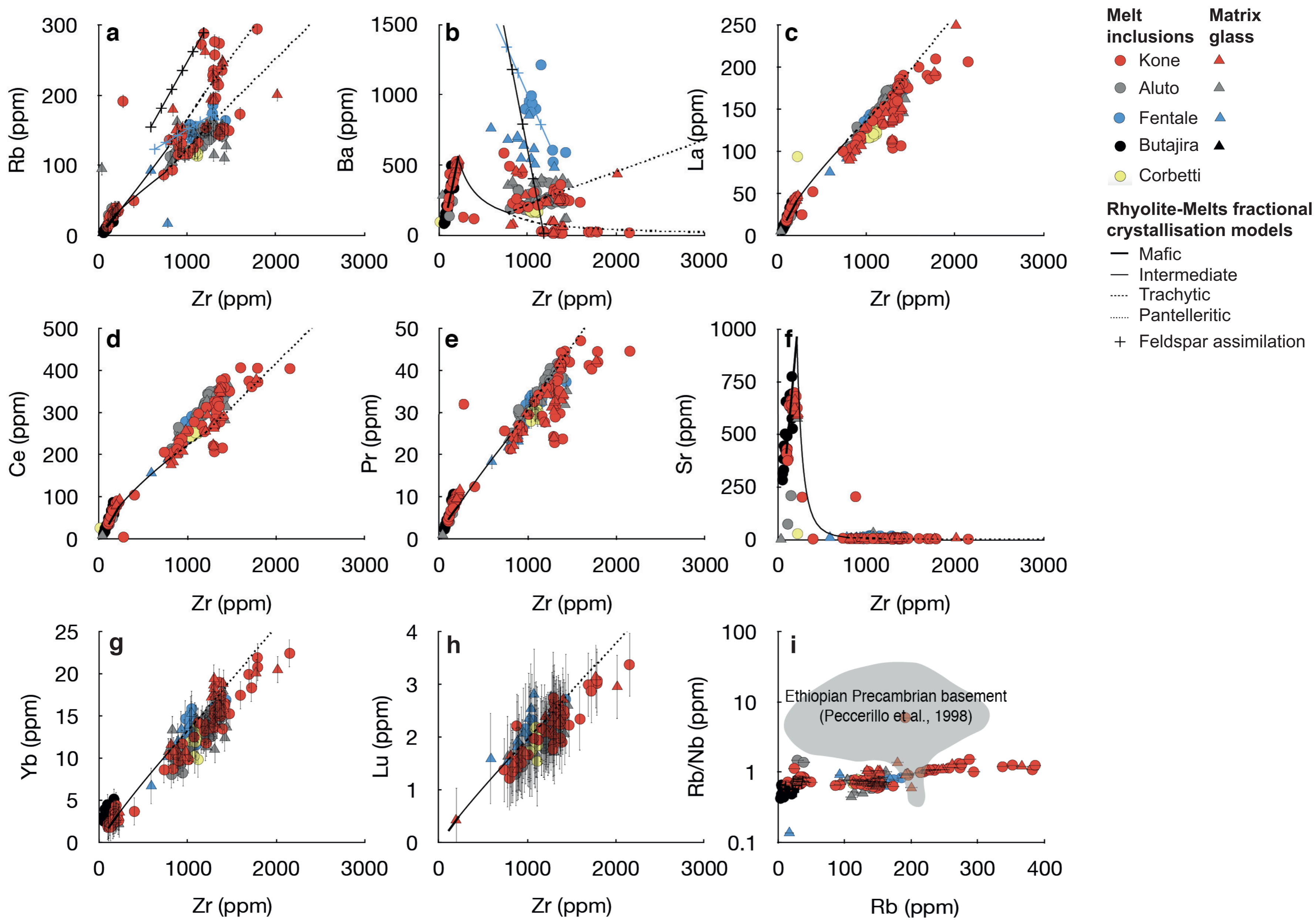


Figure 4.



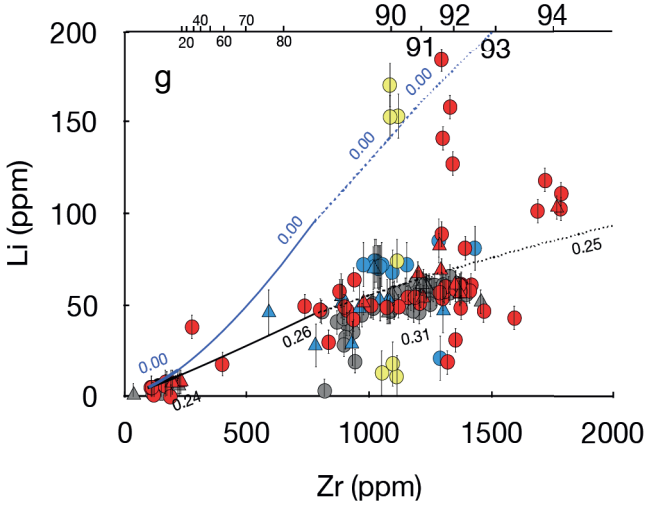
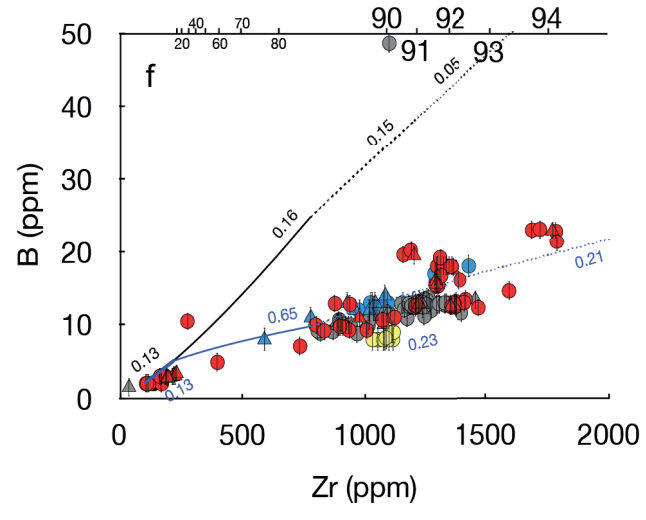
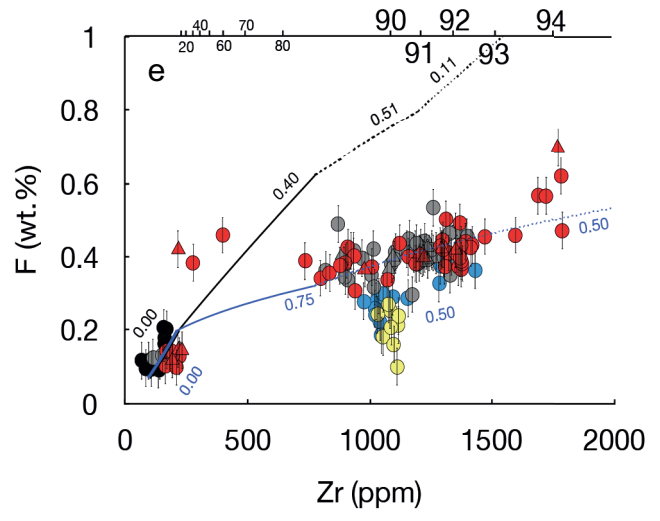
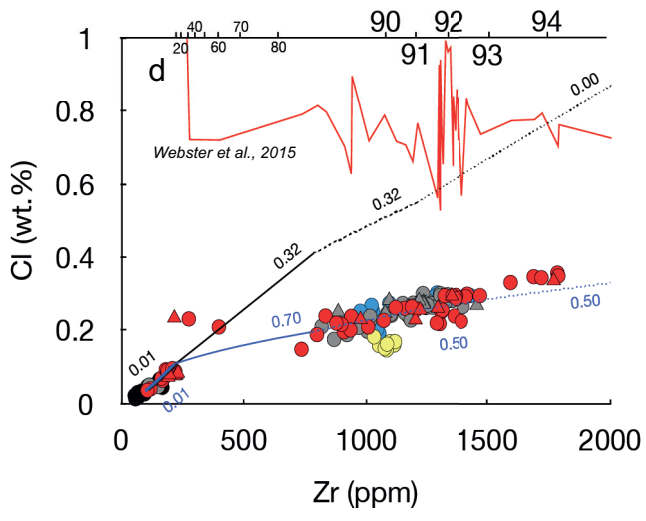
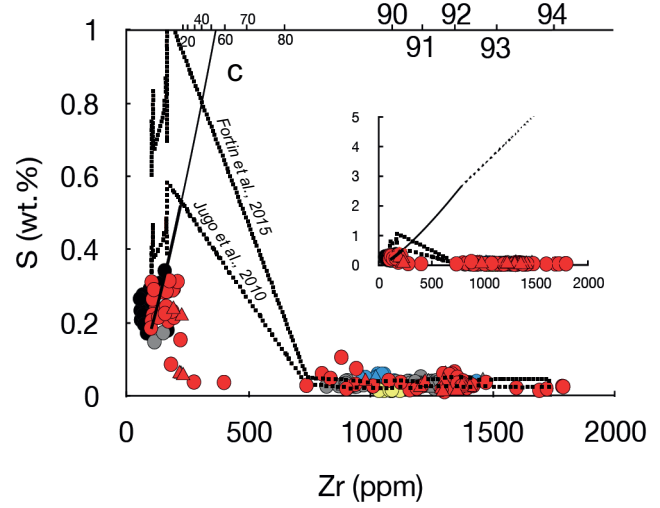
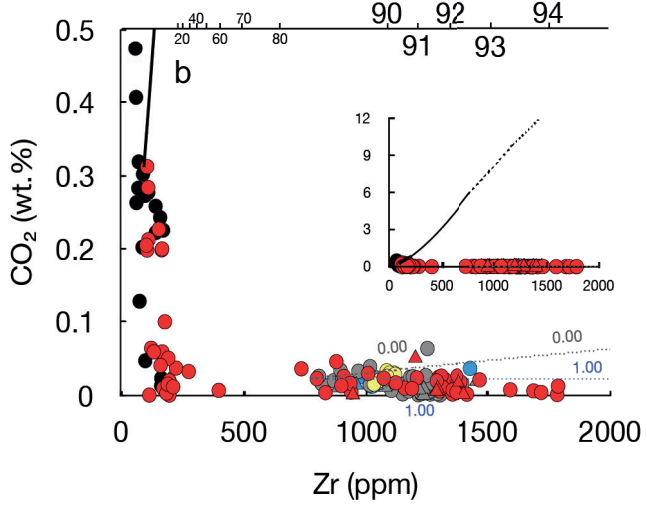
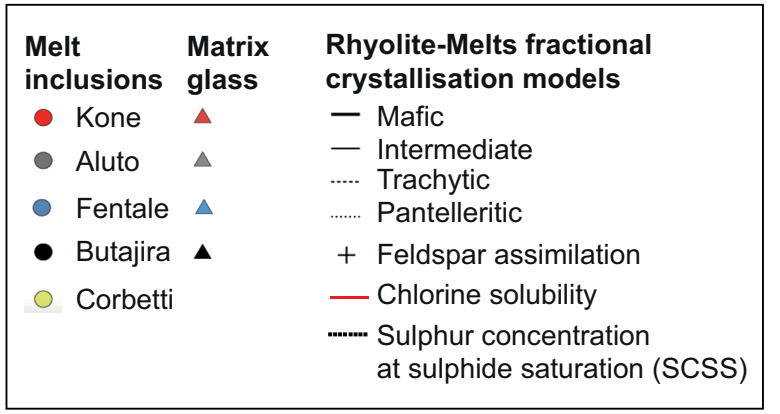
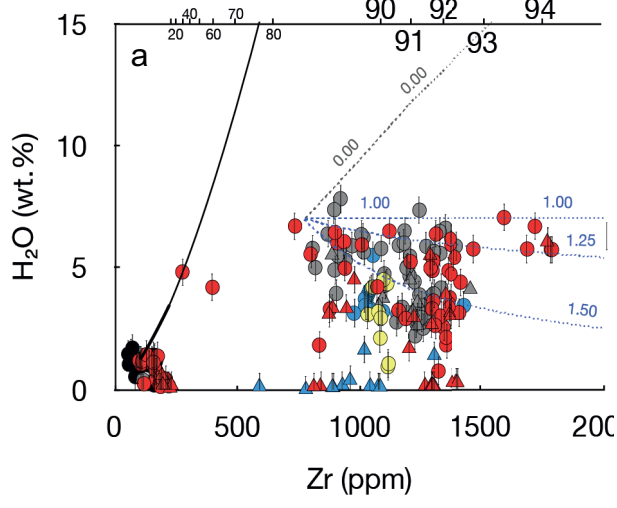


Figure 5.

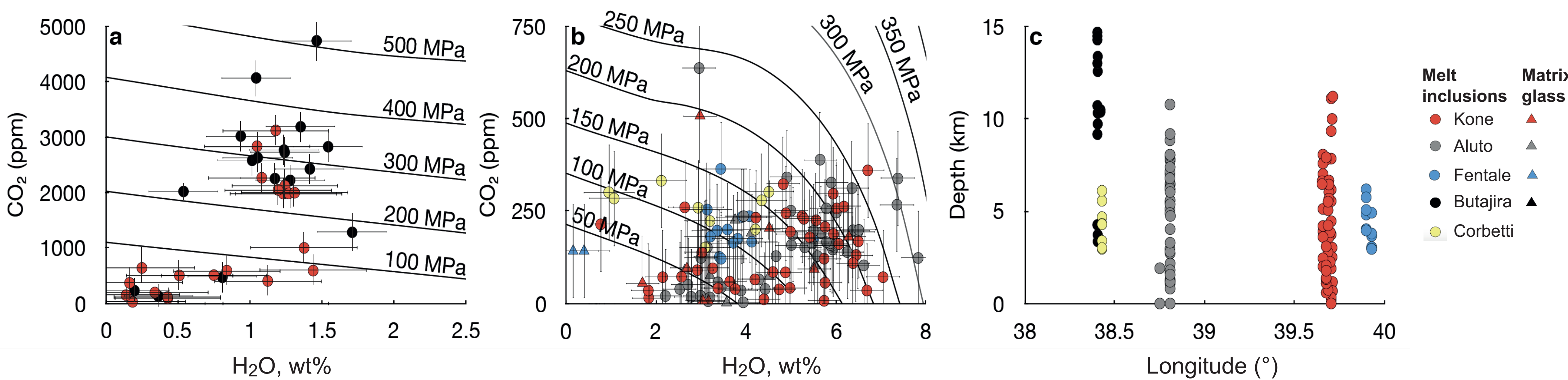


Figure 6.

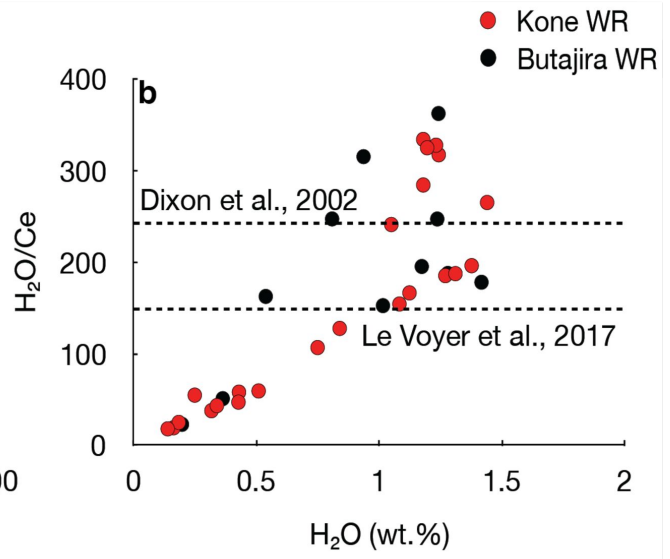
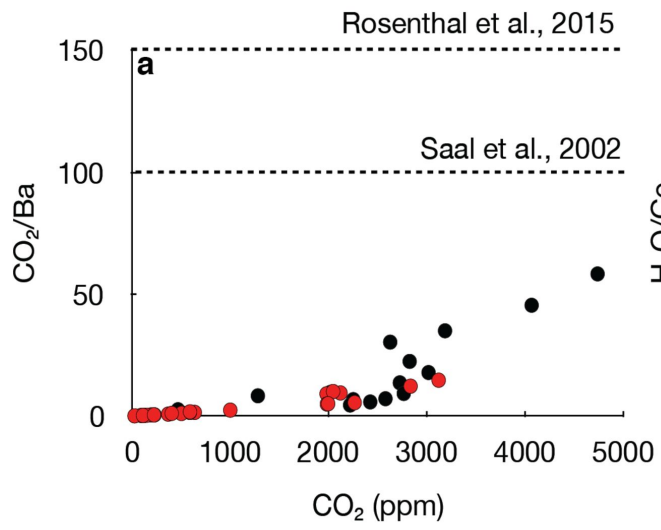
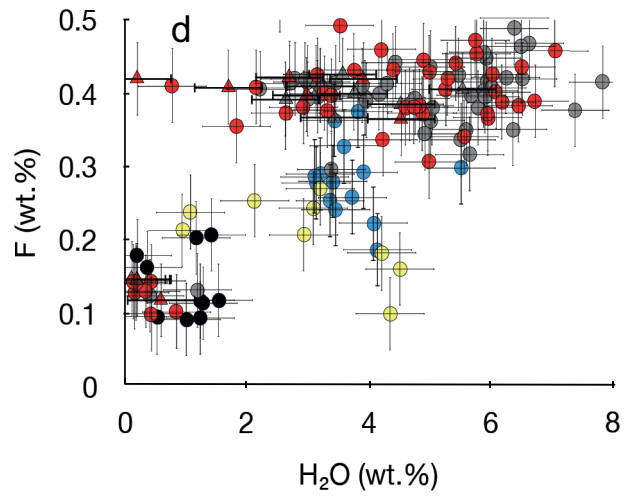
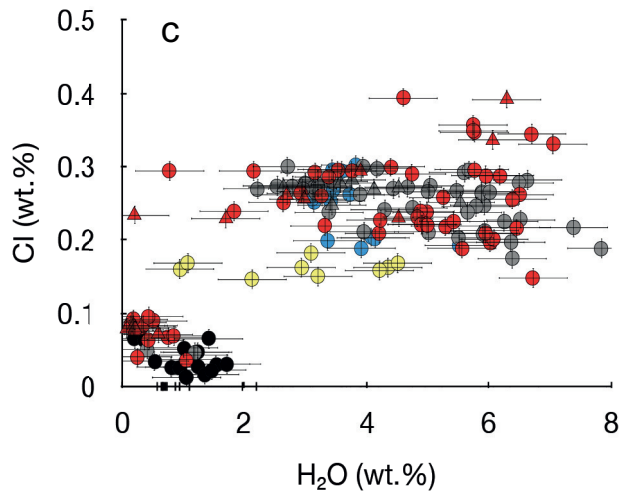
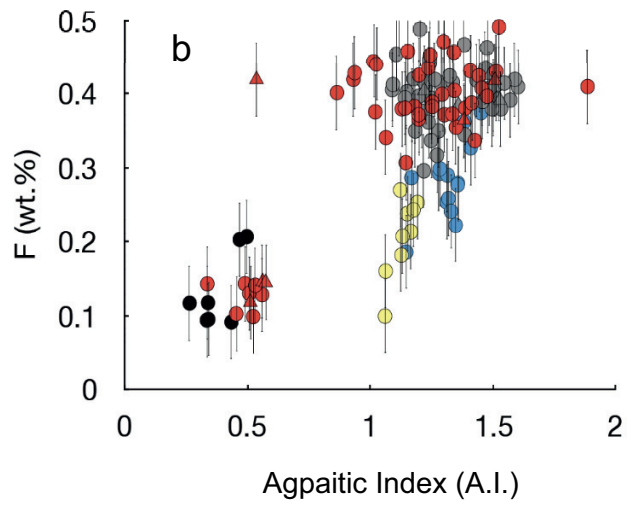
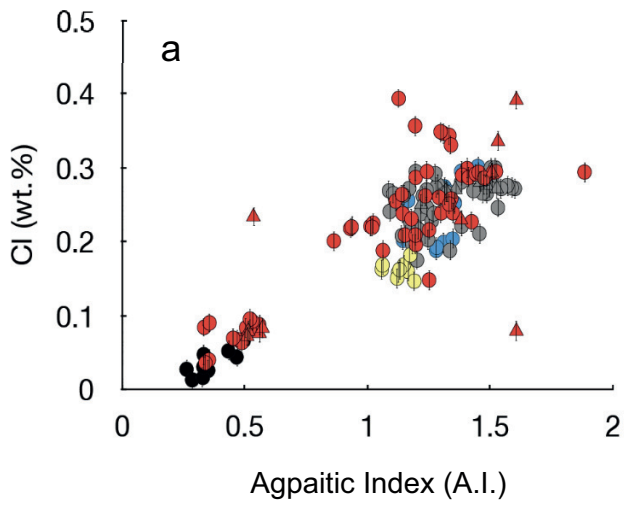


Figure 7.

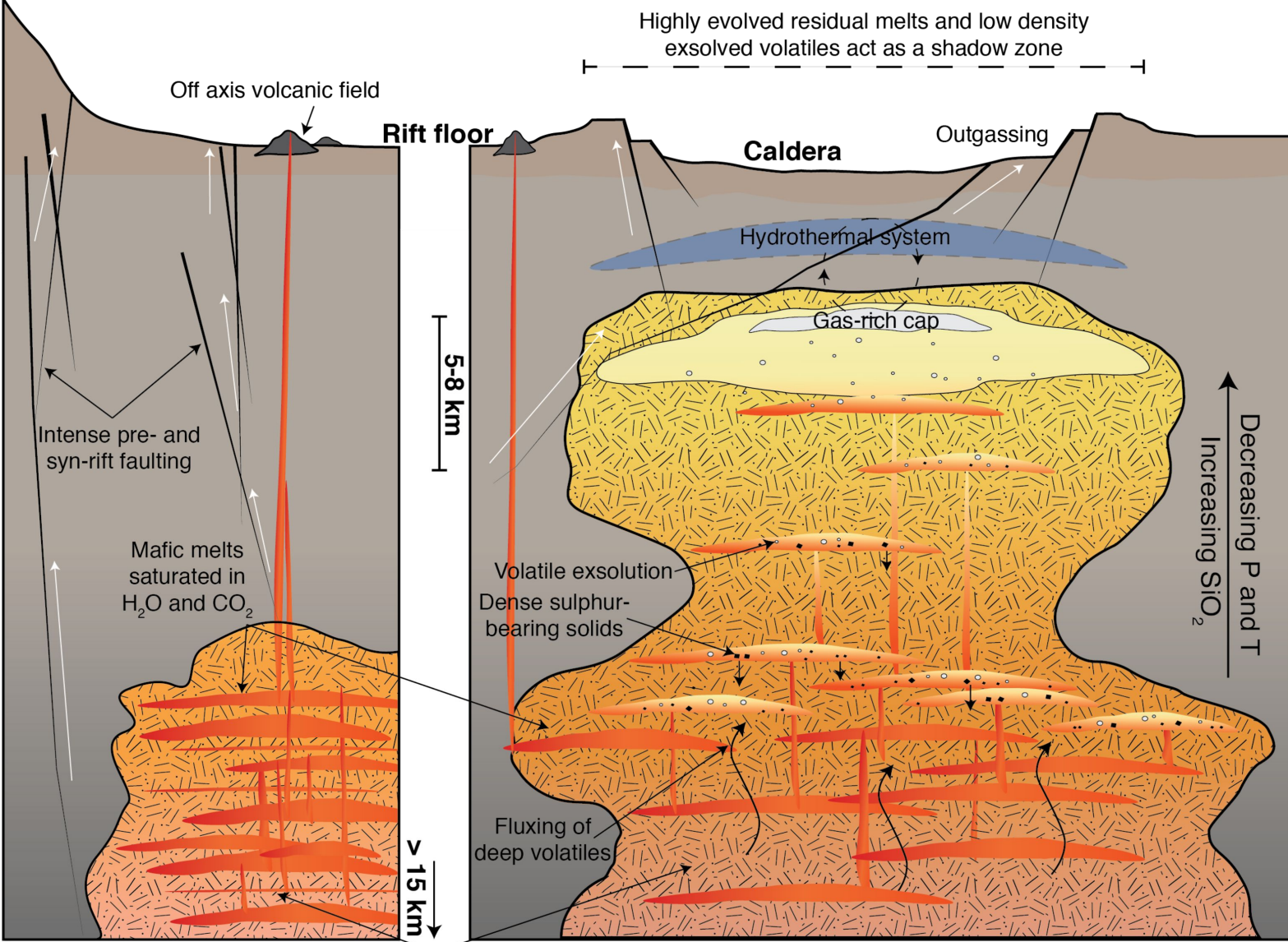


- Kone MI      ▲ Kone matrix glass
- Aluto MI    ▲ Aluto matrix glass
- Fentale MI   ▲ Fentale matrix glass
- Butajira MI ▲ Butajira matrix glass
- Corbetti MI

Figure 8.



**Rift margin**



Complex mafic magma storage

Figure 9.

