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# Geochemistry of acid-sulfate alteration in Panarea (Aeolian Islands, Italy)

## Théo Bouvart, Julien Poot, Augustin Dekoninck, Flore Schmit, Maxime Keutgen De Greef, Alain Bernard & Johan Yans



- Panarea is a partially emerged caldera.
- Protolith is calc-alkaline to high-K calc-alkaline andesite
   & dacite.
- La Calcara is an active steam-heated environment.
- Fluids typically originate from seawater, modified by complex interactions between boiling volcanic gases and meteoric water<sup>1</sup>.
- Chemical composition and <sup>3</sup>He/<sup>4</sup>He of Calcara suggest a magmatic system centered on Bottaro islet at relatively shallow depth<sup>2</sup>. Both sites show synchronous variations suggesting a same deep feeding magmatic gas system<sup>2,3</sup>.







Native sulfur

# Ongoing Acid-sulfate alteration

# **Different alteration textures**

### <u>Mineralogy</u>

Fumarole

- Texture loss
- Silica, alunite, kaolinite

# Geochemistry

- Close to protolith values
- Alunite is fractionating LREE/HREE
- Loss of Cs, Rb
- HFSE content varies with Ti oxides (Anatase)
- No Eu anomaly inherited
- Kaolinite displays no major enrichment/depletion



# Altered prism



### <u>Mineralogy</u>

- Texture preserved, pervasive fluids
- Kaolinite (± alunite), smectite, residual plagioclase
  Geochemistry
- Close to protolith values
- Kaolinite is fractionating MREE/HREE
- Loss of Cs, Rb
- HFSE are immobile
- Anomaly + in Eu, inherited from protolith

— CAL01 — CAL02 — CAL03 — CAL07 — CAL08 — CAL09 — CAL10

Silica + Alunite

Alunite + Kaolinite







— SCA01A — SCA01B — SCA01C — SCA01D — SCA01E



# <u>Comparison with other Italian hydrothermal systems</u> Global vs local



### <u>Conclusions</u>

Smectite+residual

Smectite

- Alteration indices and elements ratios distinguish protolith from alterites and some major alteration trends<sup>4</sup>.
- ➢ Protolith heritage in altered samples→ ongoing process of exchange of chemical elements & replacement of primary rock.
   Alteration products retain Nb and Ta calco-alkaline or alkaline heritage.
- Alkali elements loss during hydrothermal alteration.
- Alunite is fractionating LREE/HREE. Kaolinite plays various roles in the

### REE fractionation.

- Acid fluids significantly mobilize REE during the primary rock dissolution. REE concentration is governed by the protolith initial composition.
- The fractionation between LREE, MREE and HREE is induced by mineralogy, alteration intensity, pH, lonic strength and possibly crystallinity of alteration minerals.

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