

Evolution of a Porphyry-Cu Mineralized Magma System at Santa Rita, New Mexico (U.S.A.)

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Abstract

The magmatic processes leading to porphyry-Cu mineralization at Santa Rita are reconstructed on the basis of petrographic studies, thermobarometry, and LA-ICP-MS analyses of silicate melt and sulfide inclusions from dikes ranging from basaltic andesite to rhyodacite. Combined results suggest that magma evolution at Santa Rita is similar to that of sulfur-rich volcanoes situated above subduction zones, being characterized by repeated injection of hot, mafic magma into an anhydrite-bearing magma chamber of rhyodacitic composition. The most mafic endmember identified at Santa Rita is a shoshonitic basaltic andesite that crystallized at 1000-1050 °C / 1-3 kbar and $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 0.7$ to $NNO + 1.0$, whereas the rhyodacite crystallized at 730-760 °C and $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 1.3$ to $NNO + 1.9$. Mixing between the two magmas caused precipitation of 0.1-0.2 wt% magmatic sulfides and an associated decrease in the Cu content of the silicate melt from 300-500 ppm to less than 20 ppm.

Quantitative modeling suggests that temporal storage of ore-metals in magmatic sulfides does not significantly enhance the amount of copper ultimately available to ore-forming hydrothermal fluids. Magmatic sulfides are therefore not vital to the formation of porphyry-Cu deposits, unless a mechanism is required that holds back ore-forming metals until late in the evolution of the volcanic-plutonic system.

KEY WORDS: *porphyry-Cu; sulfur; sulfides; magma mixing; LA-ICP-MS*

INTRODUCTION

Porphyry-copper deposits represent large geochemical anomalies of sulfur and copper. It is now widely accepted that both of these elements originate from underlying magmas and were transported to the site of mineralization by aqueous fluids (Evans, 1993; Hedenquist and Lowenstern, 1994; Bodnar, 1995). Although the principles leading to porphyry-Cu mineralization are fairly well understood, it is not clear what role sulfur plays in the overall metal-enrichment process. Copper may be linked to sulfur by: (i) partial melting of a Cu- and S-rich source, (ii) coupled assimilation of Cu and S during magma ascent and storage, (iii) formation (and later destruction) of magmatic sulfides or immiscible sulfide melts during magma crystallization, or (iv) simultaneous partitioning of S and Cu into exsolving aqueous fluids. Knowledge of the relative importance of these processes requires a quantitative understanding of the evolution of Cu and S in porphyry-Cu systems.

The main aim of this paper is to present a detailed reconstruction of the magmas associated with porphyry-Cu mineralization at Santa Rita, with particular focus on the behavior of S and chalcophile elements. Much of the chemical information used in this study stems from Laser-ablation ionic-coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) analyses of crystallized silicate melt inclusions, which represent small droplets of silicate melt trapped in minerals at specific stages of magma evolution (e.g., Lowenstern, 1995). Melt inclusions are particularly helpful if original concentrations of volatile elements like S and Cu shall be quantified, because bulk rocks are depleted (or, in the case of mineralization, enriched) in these elements to a priori unpredictable degrees. Together with petrographic observations and chemical analyses of host minerals and sulfide inclusions, the melt inclusion data are used in a second part of the paper to develop quantitative crystallization models that allow the role of magmatic sulfides in the mineralization process to be investigated.

GEOLOGICAL SETTING

The porphyry-copper deposit at Santa Rita (Chino Mine) in southwestern New Mexico belongs to a suite of approximately fifty similar deposits that formed in the American Southwest during the Laramide orogeny (~ 45-75 Ma) as a result of plate subduction along an Andean-type continental margin (Fig. 1). The deposits occur in a belt located about 350-450 km landward of the reconstructed continental margin and show a close spatial and temporal association with andesitic to dacitic, calc-alkaline volcanism (Titley, 1993). Because Santa Rita is situated far inland, it is one of the youngest and therefore least eroded occurrences of this suite, and it has been little affected by the Basin-and-Range tectonics.

Figure 1

An excellent summary of the geology of Santa Rita can be found in Rose and Baltosser (1966), whereas detailed geologic and petrographic descriptions are given by Jones et al. (1967). Igneous activity in the region began in the Late Cretaceous with the intrusion of dioritic to quartz-dioritic sills into a Precambrian basement that was covered by a ca. 1 km-thick sequence of Paleozoic and Mesozoic sediments. Subsequently, basaltic-andesitic to andesitic magma erupted on the surface and formed mafic dikes and an intrusive body at depth, with both volcanics and intrusive rocks being exposed at the present level of erosion. This event was followed by intrusion of granodioritic to quartz-monzodioritic magma in the form of stocks (Santa Rita and Hanover-Fierro) and genetically related dikes. The last stage of magmatic activity is represented by dikes of rhyodacitic to rhyolitic composition, which cut across all other lithologies (Fig. 2). Most of the Cu-mineralization occurred between the intrusion of the quartz-monzodioritic magma and the formation of the rhyodacite dikes (Jones

et al., 1967). Between 1911 and 1966, about 250 Megatons of ore with an average content of 0.8-0.9 wt% Cu were extracted from Santa Rita (Rose and Baltosser, 1966). The mine is presently operating at an ore grade of 0.2 wt% Cu and 0.02 wt% Mo (Robert North, pers. commun. 2000).

Figure 2

METHODS

In order to constrain the magmatic processes leading to porphyry-Cu mineralization at Santa Rita we collected samples from dikes ranging from basaltic andesite to rhyodacite in composition. One specimen from an anhydrite-bearing quartz-monzodiorite porphyry dike (sample SR8) has been described in detail in Audétat et al. (2004). Because most rocks in the study area are partly altered we did not perform whole-rock analyses (an extensive data set is available in Jones et al., 1967), but rather relied on melt inclusion data to reconstruct the magma evolution.

From each rock sample at least five polished sections of 100-300 μm thickness were prepared and examined with a standard petrographic microscope. Special attention was paid to the occurrence of melt and mineral inclusions within phenocrysts, as they provide valuable information about the phase assemblage at a given time. The study of mineral inclusions is particularly important for phases such as magmatic anhydrite or sulfides, which – if accessible to fluids – are destroyed after rock solidification. Mineral inclusions that could not be identified optically were identified by Raman spectroscopy, using a Dilor XY Raman microprobe with a resolution of 1800 lines/mm, a focal length of 500 mm, a Peltier-cooled CCD detector with 1024 elements, and reference spectra of known minerals.

Selected phenocrysts and enclosed mineral, melt or sulfide inclusions were analyzed by electron microprobe or LA-ICP-MS. For the former type of analysis, the inclusions were

exposed to the surface by polishing. In the case of LA-ICP-MS, entire unexposed inclusions were drilled out of the host mineral by the laser beam. The strength of LA-ICP-MS lies in the fact that it allows inclusions to be analyzed that became heterogeneous after their entrapment and cannot be re-homogenized properly or quenched to a homogeneous phase (e.g., fluid inclusions, magmatic sulfides, crystallized silicate melt inclusions that lost volatiles). However, LA-ICP-MS has the disadvantage that it delivers relative element abundances only, which need to be transformed into absolute values by means of an internal standard (Longerich et al., 1996; Günther et al., 1998; Halter et al., 2002a). Deconvolution of the mixed signals into contributions from host vs. inclusion is relatively straightforward for chemically simple host minerals such as quartz, but becomes increasingly difficult for chemically complex minerals. Details about the quantification procedure and the validity of melt inclusion compositions in general are described in the Appendix. The LA-ICP-MS system used in this study is composed of a 193 nm Excimer Laser (Lambda Physik, Germany), special energy homogenization optics (Microlas, Germany), and an Elan 6100 quadrupole mass spectrometer (Perkin Elmer, Canada). Technical information about this method can be found in Günther et al. (1998) and Heinrich et al. (2003). Analytical conditions were very similar to those used in other melt inclusion studies (Pettke et al., 2004).

Electron microprobe analyses were performed on a JEOL-Superprobe, using 15kV acceleration voltage, 20 nA sample current, a fixed beam of 5 μm diameter, and peak counting times between 20 and 60 seconds. Elements were standardized on diopside, plagioclase, albite, sanidine, tausonite (SrTiO_3), rhodonite, almandine and wüstite.

MINERALOGY AND CHEMISTRY OF MAGMA TYPES

Basaltic andesite

Dikes of basaltic andesite in the northwestern corner of the investigated area (samples SR26 and SR22 in Fig. 2) appear dark green to dark gray on fresh surfaces and contain phenocrysts of augite (~20 vol%; up to 8 mm diameter), magnetite (2-4 vol%), olivine (3-5 vol%; replaced by chlorite, carbonate and magnetite), and apatite (<1 vol%) set in a fine-grained groundmass (Fig. 3a). Phenocrystic plagioclase is rare or even absent in sample SR26, but common in sample SR22 (~20 vol%; up to 5 mm long) (Table 1). Augite phenocrysts in sample SR26 contain numerous melt inclusions (Fig. 3b). Other inclusions present in the augite phenocrysts comprise apatite, magnetite, plagioclase (only in SR22; An₆₇₋₇₀), olivine (Fo₆₄₋₇₀) and rare magmatic sulfides. Most augite crystals are normally zoned from Mg-, Cr- and Ni-rich cores to Fe-rich rims, but two cases of inverse zonation have been observed as well.

Figure 3

Table 1

LA-ICP-MS analyses of 25 melt inclusions in augite and apatite phenocrysts (Table 2) reveal melt compositions of 54-57 wt% SiO₂, 5-8 wt% FeO, and 3-6 wt% MgO. The remarkably high potassium content (4.7-7.6 wt% K₂O) identifies these melts as shoshonitic (Fig. 4). Their trace element signature is typical of subduction-related, mafic to intermediate magmas, showing high ratios of Th/La (0.20), Ba/La (40), Pb/Ce (0.25), La/Nb (3.5) and Th/Nb (0.8), and high contents of Cs (6 ppm), Rb (200 ppm), Ba (1000 ppm), Th (7 ppm), La (30 ppm), Ce (60 ppm), Pb (13 ppm) and Sr (700 ppm) relative to MORB (e.g., Kelemen and Hangøj, 2004). The fact that the composition of apatite-hosted melt inclusions is very similar

to that of augite-hosted melt inclusions (Table 2) demonstrates that these compositions are real and not a result of boundary layer effects, post-entrapment modifications or improper LA-ICP-MS signal deconvolution.

Figure 4

Table 2

The presence of rare sulfide droplets next to silicate melt inclusions in augite phenocrysts suggests that the magma was, at least temporarily, sulfide saturated. The two sulfide inclusions analyzed from this rock are characterized by very high Cu contents (45 wt% Cu; Table 3).

Table 3

Hornblende-diorite porphyry

Hand specimens of hornblende-diorite porphyry dikes can be grouped into two textural types. One type (samples SR23, SR25, SR27) contains black, lustrous hornblende laths of up to 5 mm length (10-15 vol%) as well as plagioclase crystals of 1-2 mm size (20-30 vol%; An_{40-50}) set in a greenish-gray, aphanitic groundmass (Fig. 5). Less abundant are phenocrysts of magnetite (2-3 vol%), apatite (<1 vol%) and either augite (3-6 vol%) or biotite (3-6 vol%). The other type (samples SR24, SR28; not discussed further) contains less phenocrysts (10-15 vol% in total) and larger plagioclase crystals (up to 5 mm), but otherwise has identical characteristics as the crystal-rich variety. Magmatic sulfides are very abundant in these rocks and can be observed in nearly all augite or hornblende phenocrysts. The high abundance of magmatic sulfides in the hornblende-diorite porphyry is in strong contrast to the basaltic andesite, where about 50-100 phenocrysts had to be examined to find a single sulfide

inclusion. Most of the melt inclusions in clinopyroxene, hornblende and apatite contain 61-67 wt% SiO₂, 0.8-2.8 wt% MgO, 3.1-5.8 wt% FeO and 2.9-4.8 wt% K₂O. The average Cu content of these melts is significantly lower than those analyzed from the basaltic andesite (38 ppm vs. 191 ppm), which can be explained by the higher abundance of magmatic sulfides in the hornblende-diorite (see below).

Figure 5

Two samples from the crystal-rich variety of hornblende-diorite porphyry (SR25, SR27) contain abundant, partly dissected enclaves of up to 30 mm size that can be distinguished from the matrix by their smaller grain size and higher content of mafic minerals (Fig. 5a). This observation, together with the presence of irregular, mafic cores in some of the pyroxene phenocrysts (Fig. 5b), suggests that the hornblende-diorite porphyry formed by magma mixing. Another sample from this rock type (SR23) contains dark, angular xenoliths of up to 30 cm size that consist almost exclusively of coarsely crystallized hornblende. Minor other phases present in these hornblende xenoliths comprise apatite, magnetite, resorbed relicts of biotite, and numerous sulfide inclusions. LA-ICP-MS analyses of sulfide inclusions arranged along a single growth zone within individual hornblende crystals reveal two chemically distinct sulfide phases. Both have roughly the composition of pyrrhotite, with one (Type B) containing 4.5-6.0 wt% Cu, and the other (Type A) containing 1.5-3.4 wt% Cu but up to 100 times higher amounts of Ag, Mo, Pb, As and Ba, as well as traces of gold (Table 3).

Quartz-Monzodiorite porphyry

Samples of quartz-monzodiorite porphyry (corresponding to the "granodiorite porphyry dikes" described in Jones et al. 1967) are greenish-gray in color and contain phenocrysts of plagioclase (15-25 vol%; An₂₀₋₄₅), hornblende (5-15 vol%), biotite (3-7 vol%), quartz (2-4 vol%), and ≤ 1vol% of magnetite, titanite and apatite set in an aphanitic groundmass (Fig. 6;

Table 1). Additionally, the rock originally contained 1-2 vol% anhydrite (now present as lath-shaped cavities filled with either microcrystalline quartz or calcite; Audétat et al., 2004), and 2-4 vol% of mafic minerals that are replaced by chlorite and magnetite. Primary mineral inclusions identified in phenocryst phases comprise magmatic anhydrite, sulfides, zircon, allanite, clinopyroxene, olivine, ilmenite and calcite (Table 1). Microprobe and LA-ICP-MS analyses of 28 amphibole phenocrysts and six amphibole inclusions in quartz and apatite reveal the existence of two chemically distinct hornblende populations that show no overlap in terms of core-rim zonations (Fig. 7). The less mafic hornblende population contains 30-45 ppm Ni, <50 ppm Cr, and hosts inclusions of anhydrite. Hornblende inclusions in quartz and apatite phenocrysts are always of this type. The more mafic hornblende population contains 150-780 ppm Ni, 500-11,000 ppm Cr, hosts inclusions of olivine (F_{0.84}) and Mg-rich clinopyroxene, and typically is intergrown with altered mafic phenocrysts. The latter therefore most likely represent altered olivine and clinopyroxene phenocrysts.

Figure 6

The lack of any compositional overlap between the two hornblende populations on the scale of single phenocrysts strongly suggests that the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry preserves a disequilibrium mineral assemblage after an event of magma mixing. This interpretation is supported by the fact that the phenocryst assemblage in the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry is too varied to represent an equilibrium assemblage (e.g., quartz and olivine occur together in the same rock), and that the melt inclusions in quartz phenocrysts are more silicic (73-75 wt% SiO₂; Table 2) than the rock groundmass. The latter contains only 66-68 wt% SiO₂ (calculated from the composition of the bulk rock minus the contained phenocrysts). Hence, the melt trapped in quartz-hosted inclusions cannot be a fractional crystallization product of the bulk magma, but needs to originate from a more evolved magma. The composition of the

quartz-hosted melt inclusions in the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry is identical to that of quartz-hosted melt inclusions in the rhyodacite (Table 2), suggesting that this evolved magma may have had a composition similar to that of the rhyodacite.

Magmatic sulfide inclusions seem to be very rare in the quartz-monzodiorite magma. The only three intact sulfide inclusions found are hosted by the more primitive, Mg-rich hornblende population.

Figure 7

Rhyodacite porphyry

Hand specimens of rhyodacite porphyry (SR15) are light green to light gray in color and are characterized by the presence of phenocrysts of plagioclase (20-40 vol%; up to 6 mm in diameter; An₂₂), potassic feldspar (1-3 vol%; up to 12 mm), quartz (2-8 vol%, max. 7 mm), hornblende (3-10 vol%), biotite (1-5 vol%), and <1 vol% each of magnetite, apatite, titanite and ilmenite (Fig. 8a). In addition, petrographic relationships similar to those described in Audétat et al. (2004) suggest that the magma originally contained 1-3 vol% anhydrite phenocrysts, which are still recognizable as lath-shaped cavities filled with calcite. Fresh magmatic anhydrite is preserved as inclusions within other phenocrysts, where it occurs together with inclusions of magmatic sulfides, magnetite, titanite, zircon and allanite (Fig. 8b; Table 1).

Figure 8

Both Cu-rich and Cu-poor sulfide inclusions have been identified in the hornblende phenocrysts (Table 3). The fact that inclusions of magmatic anhydrite and sulfides commonly occur along the same growth zone demonstrates that the magma contained both reduced and oxidized forms of condensed sulfur.

THERMOBAROMETRY

The following methods were used to estimate pre-emplacment crystallization conditions of the magmas: (1) olivine–magnetite–clinopyroxene equilibria (using QUILF program; Andersen et al., 1993), (2) apatite saturation thermometry (based on the P_2O_5 content of melt inclusions; Harrison and Watson, 1984), (3) zircon saturation thermometry (based on the Zr content of melt inclusions; Watson and Harrison, 1983), (4) hornblende-plagioclase thermometry (Holland and Blundy, 1994), (5) Al-in-hornblende barometry (Anderson and Smith, 1995), (6) clinopyroxene-hornblende thermometry (Perchuk et al., 1985; as discussed in Anderson, 1996), and (7) magnetite–ilmenite equilibria (QUILF program). The results (summarized in Table 4) are discussed in detail below.

Table 4

Basaltic andesite

Equilibrium between olivine, augite and magnetite allows two of the four parameters f_{O_2} , a_{SiO_2} , P and T to be calculated if the other two parameters are known (Lindsley and Frost, 1992). However, even if none of these parameters is known, reasonable T and f_{O_2} values can be obtained if a_{SiO_2} is designated as a variable, and pressure is fixed. Olivine, augite and magnetite in textural equilibrium were found in sample SR26, in which inclusions of olivine and magnetite occur next to each other along growth zones in phenocrystic augite. The olivine and magnetite inclusions are compositionally homogeneous, showing no signs of exsolution or reaction rims. Augite compositions were determined both next to the analyzed inclusions and on the phenocryst rim to account for potential reequilibration effects. Representative microprobe analyses and corresponding results are given in Table 5.

Temperatures and oxygen fugacities calculated at 1 kbar and with the augite composition next to the analyzed inclusions range from 1020°C to 1070°C and $\log f_{O_2} =$

$\text{NNO} + 0.7$ to $\log f_{\text{O}_2} = \text{NNO} + 1.5$, respectively. The effect of changing pressure is negligible, producing an increase of 2-3 °C/kbar and having no effect on the calculated oxygen fugacity. The compositional variation between augite rims and augite hosts next to the analyzed inclusions affects the calculated temperatures by less than 30 °C. It should be noted that the reconstructed oxygen fugacity does not stand in contradiction with the (rare) presence of sulfide inclusions in this rock, since sulfide saturation can be achieved also at relatively oxidized conditions (e.g., Scaillet and Evans, 1999; DeHoog et al., 2004).

Table 5

An independent temperature estimate was obtained from the P_2O_5 content of melt inclusions using the apatite saturation temperature of Harrison and Watson (1984). Calculated temperatures should correspond to true entrapment temperatures because the ubiquitous presence of apatite inclusions in the augite phenocrysts demonstrates that the melt was saturated in apatite at that stage. Apatite saturation temperatures obtained from melt inclusions in augite from sample SR26 range from 910 °C to 1020 °C, with values decreasing from core to rim. The higher end of this range agrees well with the temperatures obtained from olivine-clinopyroxene-magnetite equilibria.

Experiments on compositionally similar (but less K-rich) melts have shown that the crystallization sequence (olivine + augite + magnetite) \rightarrow (olivine + augite + magnetite + plagioclase), which is indicated by the mineralogy of samples SR26 and SR22, occurs between 1000-1050 °C and 1.3-2.3 kbar (Moore and Carmichael, 1998), consistent with the temperature estimates presented above.

Hornblende-diorite porphyry

The pre-emplacment crystallization temperature of the hornblende-diorite magma is estimated to 850-880 °C on the basis of apatite saturation thermometry and clinopyroxene-hornblende thermometry (Table 4). Plagioclase-hornblende thermometry yields significantly lower temperatures of 750-800 °C, which might be a consequence of the fact that the measurable plagioclase and hornblende grains were not in textural equilibrium. Phase equilibrium studies of the compositionally similar Fish Canyon Tuff demonstrate that the assemblage clinopyroxene + hornblende + plagioclase (without biotite) is stable at 800-890 °C / ≤ 1.8 kbar at a water activity of $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 1.0$, and at 850-900 °C / ≤ 2.3 kbar at $a_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 0.5$ (Johnson and Rutherford, 1989). The hornblende-diorite magma therefore most likely crystallized at 850-880 °C / ≤ 2.3 kbar before dike emplacement.

Quartz-monzodiorite porphyry

Due to relatively poor preservation of this rock type we could use only quartz-hosted mineral and melt inclusions for thermobarometry. As a consequence, only the felsic component involved in the formation of this rock is considered in this section. Zircon saturation temperatures of 718-750 °C obtained from 8 melt inclusions agree well with the single apatite saturation temperature of 734 °C. Ubiquitous zircon and apatite inclusions in the quartz phenocrysts suggest that the magma was saturated in these two minerals. A third temperature estimate provided by plagioclase-hornblende thermometry (650-750 °C) is again not very reliable because the analyzed 4 hornblende inclusions and 3 plagioclase inclusions were not in textural equilibrium. The felsic component of the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry probably meets the requirements for the application of the Al-in-hornblende barometer of Anderson and Smith (1995). This barometer (calibrated on the low-variance mineral assemblage quartz, K-feldspar, An_{25-35} plagioclase, biotite, hornblende ($\text{Fe}/[\text{Fe}+\text{Mg}] < 0.65$),

titanite and Fe-Ti oxide in the presence of melt and a free vapor phase) yields a formation pressure of 1.6-3.9 kbar.

For the mafic component of the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry a relatively high crystallization temperature (equal to or higher than that of the basaltic andesite) is indicated by the mafic nature of the corresponding hornblende population and the presence of olivine inclusions of Fo₈₄ in these phenocrysts.

Rhyodacite porphyry

Microprobe analyses of 11 ilmenite grains and 11 titanomagnetite grains were used to calculate T and f_{O_2} with the QUILF package (Andersen et al., 1993). The analyzed ilmenite and magnetite phenocrysts are free of exsolution features, but are partially altered to hematite and rutile along their rims. The unaltered parts fulfill the Mg/Mn partitioning test of Bacon and Hirschmann (1988) for equilibrium. Two compositionally distinct magnetite types were found to be present in the rhyodacite, of which only one is genetically related to the ilmenite (the other not being used for calculation). Magnetite-ilmenite thermometry suggests a temperature of $762 \pm 61^\circ\text{C}$, in agreement with zircon saturation temperatures of $727\text{-}748^\circ\text{C}$ obtained from three melt inclusions in quartz phenocrysts. Corresponding oxygen fugacities range from $\log f_{O_2} = \text{NNO} + 2.1$ to $\text{NNO} + 2.3$. It should be noted, however, that current solution models for two-oxide equilibria (i.e., QUILF and the formulation of Ghiorso and Sack, 1991) tend to return erroneous temperatures and too high f_{O_2} -values at oxygen fugacities greater than $\text{NNO} + 1$ (Evans and Scaillet, 1997; Scaillet and Evans, 1999; Lattard et al., 2005). For the compositionally similar oxide pairs from Mt. Pinatubo QUILF returns more accurate results than the formulation of Ghiorso and Sack (1991), but still overestimates temperature by $20\text{-}50^\circ\text{C}$ and f_{O_2} by 0.2-0.8 log-units (Lattard et al., 2005). We therefore regard a temperature of $730 \pm 60^\circ\text{C}$ and an oxygen fugacity of $\text{NNO} + 1.3$ to $\text{NNO} + 1.9$ as more realistic results for the rhyodacite porphyry. These f_{O_2} -values are about 1.1 log-units

above the boundary between SO_4^{2-} and S^{2-} dominance of dissolved sulfur species in silicate melts (Wallace and Carmichael, 1994; Fig. 9).

In summary, the rhyodacitic magma appears to have equilibrated at 730-760°C and an oxygen fugacity of $\log f_{\text{O}_2} = \text{NNO} + 1.3$ to $\text{NNO} + 1.9$ before dike emplacement. These conditions are very similar to those reported for the anhydrite-bearing dacite at Mount Pinatubo (Scaillet and Evans, 1999), but considerably cooler than those of the less silicic, anhydrite-bearing magmas described from El Chichón (Luhr, 1990), Lascar Volcano (Matthews et al., 1999a), and Eagle Mountain (Parat et al., 2002; Fig. 9).

Figure 9

RECONSTRUCTED MAGMA EVOLUTION

The relative importance of magma mixing vs. fractional crystallization in the Santa Rita magmatic system is now investigated. Magma evolution in the basaltic andesite is best monitored by K_2O because none of the phenocryst phases present in this rock incorporated significant amounts of this component (cpx 0.002 wt%; ol <0.003 wt%; ap <0.002 wt%; plag 0.57 wt%; all measurements by LA-ICP-MS). Potassium therefore behaved very incompatibly. Melt inclusion compositions reveal a clear trend of increasing K_2O content from plagioclase-free sample SR26 to plagioclase-bearing sample SR22, and from core to rim within individual phenocrysts (Table 2, Fig. 4). This observation suggests that sample SR22 evolved through fractional crystallization from sample SR26, which is in accord with the crystallization sequence and phase equilibrium considerations discussed above.

Melt inclusions from the hornblende-diorite porphyry are characterized by distinctly lower K_2O contents (2.9-4.8 wt% K_2O) and higher SiO_2 contents (55-65 wt% SiO_2) than those present in the basaltic andesite. This precludes them to be a fractional crystallization product of the basaltic andesite unless large amounts of biotite (or another K-rich mineral)

had crystallized in the meantime. Biotite is absent from the samples from which the melt inclusions were analyzed. Hence, it is unlikely that biotite crystallization was responsible for the lower K content in the hornblende-diorite porphyry. Rather, the presence of enclaves and corroded augite cores in this rock points to an origin by magma mixing. This interpretation is supported by the fact that augite cores in the hornblende-diorite porphyry are more mafic than the augite rims in the basaltic andesite (Table 6), which would not be the case if the hornblende-diorite was a fractional crystallization product of the basaltic andesite. The K_2O vs. SiO_2 -relationship displayed in Fig. 4 suggests that the felsic endmember involved in the formation of the hornblende-diorite magma may have had a composition similar to the rhyodacite, and that the mafic endmember was at least as primitive as (but less potassium-rich than) the basaltic andesite.

A similar picture emerges for the quartz-monzodiorite porphyry. It has been shown above that two compositionally distinct hornblende types occur in this rock. The mafic type is characterized by high levels of MgO (up to 17 wt%), Ni (up to 800 ppm) and Cr_2O_5 (up to 1.5 wt%) and the presence of forsterite-rich olivine inclusions, suggesting that a rather primitive magma was involved in the formation of this rock. The felsic magma endmember appears to have been similar to the rhyodacite, because the compositions of quartz-hosted melt inclusions in the rhyodacite and the quartz-monzodiorite are virtually identical (Table 2). The felsic magma likely introduced the phenocrysts of quartz, anhydrite, apatite, Kfsp, titanite and biotite, whereas the mafic magma supplied the (now altered) phenocrysts of olivine and pyroxene. Hornblende, magnetite and plagioclase probably were introduced by both magmas.

Table 6

In general, the rocks investigated during this study reveal a rather complex magma evolution that involved several stages of magma mixing. The compositional trends displayed by the melt inclusions are most easily explained by repeated intrusion of mafic magmas into one (or several) magma chamber(s) of rhyodacitic to rhyolitic composition. Evidence for the presence of a relatively large magma chamber underneath the Hannover-Fierro pluton and the Santa Rita stock is found in the strong chemical similarity between these two intrusions (Jones et al., 1967) and the spatial distribution of intermediate to felsic dikes in this area (Fig. 2). Figure 10 illustrates how this magma system originally may have appeared.

Figure 10

Similar models have been proposed for many active volcanoes above convergent plate boundaries (e.g., Gerlach and Grove, 1982; Pallister et al., 1997; Matthews et al., 1999a; Cole et al., 2000). These studies have shown that interaction between mafic and felsic magmas is a very common phenomenon in such systems, and that the arrival of new batches of mafic magmas at the base of magma chambers can be the direct cause of volcanic eruptions.

BEHAVIOR OF SULFUR AND CHALCOPHILE ELEMENTS

Controls on sulfur solubility in magmas

Sulfur dissolves in silicate melts either as S^{2-} or SO_4^{2-} , depending on the oxidation state of the magma. The transition from S^{2-} -predominance to SO_4^{2-} -predominance (at the 90% level) occurs between $\log f_{O_2} = NNO - 1$ and $NNO + 1.5$, largely independent of melt composition, pressure and temperature (e.g., Matthews et al., 1999b). The relationship between f_{O_2} and the molar ratio of SO_4^{2-}/S^{2-} is approximated by the following equation of Wallace and Carmichael (1994)

$$\log \left[\frac{X_{SO_4^{2-}}}{X_{S^{2-}}} \right] = (1.02 \cdot \Delta NNO) - 0.45 \quad (1)$$

At very low or high SO_4^{2-}/S^2 ratios an empirical equation described by Matthews et al (1999b) seems to provide more accurate results, however. At a given pressure and temperature, sulfur solubility displays a minimum at around $\log f_{O_2} = NNO$, and increases towards both lower and higher oxygen fugacities (Carroll and Rutherford, 1988). A sulfur-saturated magma normally contains sulfides at reducing conditions (i.e., $f_{O_2} < NNO + 0.45$) and anhydrite (in rare cases barite) at oxidizing conditions (i.e., $f_{O_2} > NNO + 0.45$). However, depending on the activities of FeO and CaO in the melt, sulfide saturation may be attained also above $NNO + 0.45$, or anhydrite saturation below this threshold. A magma that contains significant amounts of dissolved reduced S can reach sulfide saturation by one of the following mechanisms (Naldrett, 1989): (1) increasing melt S content, (2) decreasing temperature, (3) decreasing melt FeO content, or (4) increasing f_{O_2} (if $f_{O_2} < NNO$). The latter leads to a higher melt Fe^{3+}/Fe^{2+} -ratio and, therefore, to a lower FeO content. If a magma becomes saturated in sulfide minerals and/or an immiscible sulfide melt (for simplicity we collectively will call them "sulfides"), chalcophile elements like Cu and Au strongly partition into these phases, leaving behind a silicate melt that is severely depleted in these elements. Towards the end of magma crystallization magmatic sulfides tend to become oxidized and release their metal content to magmatic-hydrothermal fluids (e.g., Candela and Holland, 1986; Candela, 1989, 1992). Based on this behavior it has been proposed that magmatic sulfides may promote the mineralization potential of evolving magma systems by acting as temporary storage medium for the ore metals, thus preventing them from being incorporated at trace-concentration levels within silicate and oxide minerals. A critical evaluation of this model is presented in a later section of the manuscript.

Evolution of sulfur and copper at Santa Rita

A plot of Cu vs. SiO₂ in the analyzed melt inclusions shows a clear trend of decreasing Cu concentration with increasing SiO₂ concentration (Fig. 11), in correspondence with observations made on calc-alkaline volcanic systems worldwide (e.g., Keith et al., 1997; Maughan et al., 2002; Halter et al., 2002b, 2005). The highest Cu concentrations are observed in melt inclusions from the basaltic andesite (spanning a range from 100 ppm to nearly 500 ppm Cu), whereby the highest values represent melt inclusions analyzed in augite cores, and the lowest values melt inclusions analyzed in augite rims (Fig. 11; Table 2), implying that the Cu content of the silicate melt dropped over time. The presence of magmatic sulfide inclusions in some of these phenocrysts suggests that this decrease in melt Cu concentrations was caused by sulfide precipitation. The sulfide inclusions probably represent an immiscible sulfide melt, as their composition plot in the liquid field of the Cu-Fe-S system at 1000-1050°C (Vaughan and Craig, 1997). Because the Cu content of this sulfide melt was very high (45 wt% Cu; see Table 3), already small amounts of sulfide melt exsolution had a large impact on the Cu content of the remaining silicate melt.

Based on experimental data of Luhr (1990) and S contents of shoshonitic melt inclusions reported by Metrich and Clochiatti (1996), a S content of 0.1 - 0.2 wt% S is indicated for the silicate melt in the basaltic andesite magma. This value represents a lower limit of the total S content of this magma because it does not incorporate any S bound in magmatic sulfides. It demonstrates, however, that the basaltic andesite magma was S-rich even if it did not carry significant amounts of magmatic sulfides.

Figure 11

The high abundance of sulfide inclusions in the hornblende-diorite porphyry most likely reflects the proposed magma mixing event. If the mafic magma endmember was

similar to the basaltic andesite (i.e., 1000-1050°C; $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 1$; at sulfide saturation) and the felsic magma similar to the rhyodacite (i.e., 730-760°C; $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 2.2$; containing 1-3 vol% anhydrite), admixture of rhyodacitic magma to the basaltic andesite magma simultaneously triggered three out of the four mechanisms leading to sulfide saturation: increased melt S content (due to dissolution of admixed anhydrite phenocrysts), decreased temperature, and decreased melt FeO content. Increasing f_{O_2} has counteracted this trend, but apparently was surpassed by the other effects. The resulting precipitation of magmatic sulfides caused the Cu content of the silicate melt to drop from several hundred ppm to less than 20 ppm (Table 2, Fig. 11). The two chemically distinct types of sulfide inclusions observed in the hornblendite xenolith (SR23) may represent a sulfide melt coexisting with pyrrhotite, provided that the liquid field present in the Cu-Fe-S at 1000°C (Craig and Vaughan, 1997) extends down to ~900°C in an analogous diagram for the composition of the type A inclusions. In such a case, the rather unusual partitioning behavior of Cu, which normally partitions into the sulfide liquid, could be explained.

The presence of 1-3 vol% anhydrite phenocrysts in the rhyodacite implies a magmatic S content of 0.25 - 0.75 wt%. Although such a high value can theoretically be achieved by fractional crystallization of a S-rich precursor magma, it seems more plausible that S was added to the rhyodacitic magma by high-temperature fluids originating from the mafic magmas that repeatedly entered the Santa Rita magmatic system. Such a scenario, which includes the accumulation of sulfur-rich fluids in the upper part of the magma chamber, was invoked to explain the S-rich nature of magmas erupted at Mt. Pinatubo and Lascar Volcano (e.g., Hattori, 1993; Matthews et al., 1999a; Keppler, 1999). Copper carried up by S-rich fluids originating from cooling mafic magmas may partly have been incorporated into (rare) sulfides in the overlying rhyodacite magma, providing an explanation for the presence of Cu-rich sulfides. At 730-760°C, both the Cu-rich and Cu-poor sulfide inclusions present in the

rhyodacite were trapped as solids, the former as intermediate solid solution, and the latter as pyrrhotite (Vaughan and Craig, 1997).

Comparison with other occurrences

The reconstructed evolution of S and chalcophile elements at Santa Rita is similar to that of other porphyry-Cu related systems such as Bingham or Alumbra (Keith et al., 1997; Hattori and Keith, 2001; Maughan et al., 2002; Halter et al., 2002b; 2004b), and is characteristic for S-rich volcanoes in general (e.g., Mt. Pinatubo – Pallister et al., 1992; Hattori, 1993; Pallister et al., 1997; DeHoog et al., 2004; Lascar Volcano – Matthews et al., 1999a; El Chichón – Luhr et al., 1984; Nevado del Ruiz – Fournelle, 1990; Sigurdsson et al., 1990). Mt. Pinatubo is of particular interest in this context, because the still active volcanic system already developed associated porphyry-Cu mineralization (Hattori and Keith, 2001). In all occurrences, magmatic evolution is dominated by repeated injection of hot, mafic magma into a magma chamber of intermediate to felsic composition. The mafic input magmas are usually rather oxidized ($\log f_{O_2} \geq NNO + 1$), relatively S-rich (≥ 0.1 wt% S) and contain no or only few sulfides, whereas the felsic magmas typically contain primary anhydrite and are saturated with an aqueous fluid phase. Intermediate magma types can often be proved to have formed by magma mixing, and they typically contain abundant magmatic sulfides (e.g., Pallister et al., 1992; Maughan et al., 2002; Halter et al., 2004b).

Quantitative models

Two quantitative models for the behavior of Cu and S in evolving magma chambers will be developed and discussed on the basis of realistic examples from Santa Rita: (A) closed-system fractional crystallization, and (B) magma mixing and subsequent crystallization. For both models, the following input parameters have to be known: (1) the solubility of S in the melt, (2) the average S content of the precipitating sulfides, (3) the

starting Cu content of the melt, (4) the partition coefficient of Cu between sulfides and melt ($D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}}$), and (5) the bulk partition coefficient of Cu between melt and the other crystallizing phases ($D_{\text{Cu bulk min/melt}}$).

Closed-system fractional crystallization

The case of closed-system fractional crystallization is modeled on the basis of the basaltic andesite. For this magma the following parameters apply:

(1) the solubility of S in the melt is set to 0.15 wt% S, based on experimental data of Luhr (1990) and S contents of shoshonitic melt inclusions reported by Metrich and Clocciatti (1996), defining a range of 0.1-0.2 wt% S.

(2) the S content of the sulfides is set to 35.5 wt% S, based on the phase relations in the Cu-Fe-S system (Vaughan and Craig, 1997) and the data listed in Table 3.

(3) the starting concentration of Cu in the melt is set to 500 ppm, which corresponds to the highest value found in melt inclusions from the basaltic andesite.

(4) the partition coefficient of Cu between sulfides and silicate melt is set to $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}} = 1000$. This estimate is derived from several independent data sets. A partition coefficient of $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}} = 900-1300$ is indicated by the composition of petrographically early sulfide and silicate melt inclusions in sample SR26. Experimentally derived values in the system basalt - sulfide at 1245 °C / 1 bar suggest a $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}}$ of 500-1300 (Ripley et al., 2002), whereas distribution coefficients measured in sulfide-bearing MORB-glasses span a range of $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}} = 900-1400$ (Francis, 1990; Peach et al., 1990).

(5) the bulk mineral/melt partition coefficient of Cu is calculated at $D_{\text{Cu bulk min/melt}} = 0.068$, based on a phenocryst assemblage of 25 vol% augite, 10 vol% plagioclase, 4 vol% olivine and 3 vol% magnetite (Table 1) and corresponding crystal/melt partition coefficients listed in Table 7. The volumetric mineral proportions translate into a relative weight fraction of $X_{\text{cpx}} =$

$$0.60, X_{\text{plag}} = 0.20, X_{\text{ol}} = 0.10 \text{ and } X_{\text{mgt}} = 0.10, \text{ such that } D_{\text{Cu, bulk min/melt}} = 0.60 \cdot D_{\text{Cu, cpx/melt}} + 0.20 \cdot D_{\text{Cu, plag/melt}} + 0.10 \cdot D_{\text{Cu, ol/melt}} + 0.10 \cdot D_{\text{Cu, mgt/melt}} = 0.068.$$

Using these input parameters the distribution of Cu in the basaltic magma after 30 wt% crystallization is calculated for the case of (A) sulfide-undersaturated, and (B) sulfide-saturated conditions (Fig. 12). For these calculations it is further assumed that: (i) no sulfides are present in the magma before crystallization begins, (ii) the Cu content of already formed sulfides constantly re-equilibrates with the remaining silicate melt (as is expected for sulfide liquids), and (iii) that the Cu content of silicate and oxide minerals does not re-equilibrate (i.e., fractional crystallization).

Figure 12

Table 7

The model predicts that after 30 wt% crystallization at sulfide-undersaturated conditions, 2.4 wt% of the total Cu in the system is incorporated in minerals. The remaining 97.6 wt% of the total Cu in the system is present in the residual silicate melt, which by then contains 699 ppm Cu. In the case of sulfide-saturated conditions, 63.7 wt% of the Cu resides in sulfides, 34.5 wt% in the residual silicate melt, and 1.4 wt% in the non-sulfide minerals at that stage. Although the presence of magmatic sulfides indeed leads to a reduction of the amount of Cu lost to other minerals (1.4 wt% vs. 2.4 wt%), the amount of Cu ultimately available to fluids remains essentially the same (assuming subsolidus oxidation of the magmatic sulfides): it increases by only 1 wt% from 97.6 wt% to 98.6 wt% (Fig. 12). The model therefore suggests that magmatic sulfides do not significantly enhance the amount of Cu ultimately available for the ore-forming fluids, even if they are quantitatively resorbed towards the end of magma solidification. Varying mineral proportions and other input

parameters within geologically realistic limits does not affect this conclusion. Even in magmas with extremely high $D_{\text{Cu, bulk min/melt}}$ such as run *Jor46.10* of Barclay and Carmichael (2004), which contains 5.6 wt% cpx, 18.3 wt% hbl, 5.1 wt% biotite and 1.8 wt% spinel+apatite, less than 10 wt% of the total Cu will be incorporated in these minerals after 30 wt% crystallization.

Crystallization due to magma mixing

A major difference of magma mixing compared to closed-system fractional crystallization is that in the case of magma mixing the amount of precipitating sulfides is decoupled from the degree of crystallization. Sample SR27 from the hornblende-diorite porphyry will serve as an example to model this behavior. For the purpose of the calculation it is assumed that this rock was formed as a result of mixing between equal amounts of basaltic and rhyolitic melt similar to that preserved in the form of melt inclusions in the basaltic andesite and the rhyodacite. The S solubility in the mafic melt is assumed to be 0.15 wt% (as explained above), whereas a value of 0.005 wt% S was chosen for the rhyolite melt on the basis of microprobe analyses of rehomogenized melt inclusions in the rhyodacite and experimental data of Baker and Rutherford (1996). After mixing, the S solubility in the intermediate melt is estimated at 0.01 wt% S based on experimental data of Carroll and Rutherford (1987). The mixing therefore causes exsolution of 0.068 wt% S (corresponding to 0.18 wt% sulfides) even before any crystallization takes place. The Cu concentration in the intermediate melt immediately after mixing is assumed to be 260 ppm, as expected from a 1:1 mixture of a basaltic melt containing 500 ppm Cu and a felsic melt containing 20 ppm Cu. The partition coefficient of Cu between sulfide and melt is set to $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}} = 1100$, based on the following observations: (i) LA-ICP-MS analyses of pyroxene-hosted sulfide and melt inclusions in sample SR27 indicate a $D_{\text{Cu, sulfide/melt}}$ of 800-1800, (ii) experiments

performed by Lynton et al. (1993) in the system rhyolite-pyrrhotite at 800°C / 1 kbar returned a $D_{\text{Cu, pyrrhotite/melt}}$ of 550 ± 220 , and (iii) Jugo et al. (1999) determined a $D_{\text{Cu, pyrrhotite/melt}}$ of 2100-2900 in the system haplogranite-ISS (intermediate-solid-solution)-pyrrhotite at 850°C / 1 kbar. The reasons for the discrepancy between the experimental results of Lynton et al. (1993) and Jugo et al. (1999) are not clear. The bulk mineral/melt partition coefficient in the hornblende-diorite (25 vol% plagioclase, 12 wt% hornblende, 4 wt% augite, 3 wt% magnetite) is calculated at 0.10. Magma evolution after the mixing event is modeled in two steps: (1) precipitation of 0.18 wt% sulfides, (2) crystallization of the phenocryst assemblage and concurrent precipitation of additional sulfides. All other parameters are the same as in the previous model.

The model predicts that after 30 wt% crystallization at sulfide-saturated conditions 82 wt% of the total Cu resides in the sulfides, 17 wt% in the residual melt (which by then contains 62 ppm Cu), and 1 wt% in the other minerals. If the same model is run without sulfides, 97 wt% of the total Cu resides in the melt, and 3 wt% in the minerals after 30 wt% crystallization. Hence, also in case of magma mixing any temporary storage of ore metals in magmatic sulfides does not significantly enhance the amount of Cu ultimately available to magmatic-hydrothermal fluids (99% in the sulfide-bearing system vs. 97% in the sulfide-free system).

Discussion

The following lessons can be learned from the quantitative models discussed above: (1) bulk non-sulfide mineral/melt partition coefficients of Cu are so low that only a small fraction of the total Cu is lost to silicate and oxide minerals; (2) contrasting to this, sulfide/melt partition coefficients are extremely high, such that in a sulfide-saturated magma the majority of Cu is likely to be stored in the sulfides; (3) the presence or absence of magmatic sulfides has little influence on the amount of Cu available for the magmatic-

hydrothermal fluids, provided that all magmatic sulfides are resorbed during the lifetime of the magmatic-hydrothermal system. If some magmatic sulfides are protected from later destruction, e.g., due to inclusion in phenocrysts, the amount of Cu available to the fluids will be reduced.

Evidence for a temporary storage of the majority of chalcophile elements in magmatic sulfides and their subsequent destruction has recently been documented from the Farallón Negro Volcanic Complex in Argentina (Halter et al., 2002b, 2005). It was found that the Cu/Au ratio of magmatic sulfides analyzed from pre-mineralization subvolcanic rocks closely matches the Cu/Au ratio of the bulk ore in the Alumbrera porphyry-Cu deposit, which is the largest ore body associated with this volcanic complex. Similar observations were made in the Bingham district, where S, Cu, Mo, and Pb were lost from slowly cooled regions of the Castro Gulch sill in the same proportions as that of the mineralization (Stavast et al., in review). At Santa Rita, a rigorous comparison cannot be made at this moment because Mo/Cu/Au ratios are known only from a single sample (SR23; Table 3), and because the metal ratio of the entire mineralization is not well constrained. Mutschler et al. (1999) report a Cu:Mo:Ag:Ag-ratio of $1 : (9.2 \cdot 10^{-3}) : (4.8 \cdot 10^{-5}) : (1.8 \cdot 10^{-6})$ for the Central District (including the Hannover-Fierro Pluton), compared to Cu:Mo:Ag:Ag-ratios of $\sim 1 : (3 \cdot 10^{-3}) : (4 \cdot 10^{-3}) : (1 \cdot 10^{-4})$ and $\sim 1 : (<1 \cdot 10^{-4}) : (<8 \cdot 10^{-5}) : (<1 \cdot 10^{-5})$, respectively, in the two sulfide types encountered in sample SR23.

The findings made in Alumbrera and Bingham suggest that virtually all Cu, Mo and Au was temporarily hosted by magmatic sulfides, and that no element fractionation occurred between magmatic sulfide formation and ore precipitation. This observation should not be taken as evidence, however, that the magmatic sulfides contributed to the overall metal enrichment process. The model calculations presented above imply that magmatic sulfides are not vital to the formation of porphyry-Cu deposits. The common presence of magmatic

sulfides in porphyry-Cu related rocks is a consequence of the S-rich nature of the corresponding magmas, and the match between the metal ratios in the magmatic sulfides and those of the ore is simply a consequence of the fact that magmatic sulfides – if present – temporarily host nearly the entire budget of Cu, Mo, Au and Ag of the magma. As such, the pre-ore sulfide melt inclusions appear to be indicative of the ore metal ratios of the bulk ore of associated porphyry-type ore deposits, which could be highly relevant for exploration.

It is feasible, however, that magmatic sulfides exert a positive influence on the mineralization potential by holding back ore metals until favorable conditions for mineralization occur (cf. Halter et al., 2005). In this model, porphyry-Cu mineralization occurs late in the evolution of a volcanic-plutonic system and is temporally not related to the arrival of new batches of mafic magma. Evidence from other porphyry-Cu systems such as Bingham Canyon or Mt. Pinatubo, on the other hand, suggests that these two processes, injection of basaltic magma and porphyry-type ore formation, are intimately linked with each other (Hattori and Keith, 2001). The question whether magmatic sulfides can promote the mineralization potential by a mechanism other than the one treated in the quantitative models herein can therefore not fully be answered at this moment.

CONCLUSIONS

The magmatic evolution reconstructed for Santa Rita shares many similarities with that described from Mt. Pinatubo and other S-rich volcanoes situated above subduction zones (Mt. Pinatubo – Pallister et al., 1992; Hattori, 1993; Pallister et al., 1997; DeHoog et al., 2004; Lascar Volcano – Matthews et al., 1999a; El Chichón – Luhr et al., 1984; Nevado del Ruiz – Fournelle, 1990; Sigurdsson et al., 1990). In all these occurrences, magmatic evolution is dominated by repeated injection of hot, mafic magma into a comparatively cool, anhydrite-bearing magma of intermediate to felsic composition. The role of the mafic

magmas is to supply Cu and additional S to the magma chamber, and to provide heat to retard solidification of the magma in the chamber, allowing for long-lived volcano-plutonic activity (see also Hattori and Keith, 2001). The most primitive magma identified at Santa Rita is a K-rich basaltic andesite that equilibrated at 1000-1050°C / 1-3 kbar and $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 0.7$ to $NNO + 1.0$, whereas the felsic endmember is of rhyodacitic to rhyolitic composition and records crystallization conditions of 730-760°C / $\log f_{O_2} = NNO + 1.3$ to $NNO + 1.9$. Mixing of mafic and felsic magma resulted in the precipitation of significant amounts of sulfides, as monitored by a drop in the Cu content of the silicate melt by one order of magnitude. Similar observations have been made in the porphyry-Cu systems at Bingham (Keith et al., 1997; Hattori and Keith, 2001; Maughan et al., 2002) and Alumbra (Halter et al., 2002b, 2004b, 2005). Characteristic for the mafic input magmas in both active and fossil volcanic systems is a high degree of alkalinity (often shoshonitic), a high oxidation state (mostly above $NNO + 1$), and a high S content (1000-5000 ppm).

A quantitative crystallization model based on LA-ICP-MS analyses of melt inclusions, sulfide inclusions and host minerals from Santa Rita was used to explore the effects of magmatic sulfides on the metal-enrichment process. The results suggest that intermittent stability of magmatic sulfides in crustal magma chambers does not significantly increase the amount of Cu ultimately available for magmatic-hydrothermal fluids, independent of whether the magma evolution is modeled as closed-system fractional crystallization or as a result of magma mixing. Whether magmatic sulfides promote the mineralization potential by preventing ore metals to be lost during volcanic activity, however, remains a matter of debate.

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APPENDIX

Melt inclusion quantification

Quantification of LA-ICP-MS analyses of melt inclusions was performed according to the method described in Halter et al. (2002b; 2004a) and Pettke et al. (2004). In this method, the mass fraction of ablated host vs. inclusion is arithmetically varied until the calculated melt composition matches a predefined geochemical criterion. If the analyzed melt inclusions originate from a magma system that follows a well-defined geochemical trend, such criteria can be defined on the basis of whole-rock analyses by assuming that the compositions of the melt inclusions lie on the same trend as that displayed by the whole rocks. Successful application of this technique requires that the analyzed melt inclusions and whole rocks are truly consanguineous, and that both the melt inclusions and the whole rocks are not significantly affected by alteration. A major source of uncertainty on the melt inclusion compositions stems from the signal deconvolution into contributions from ablated host and ablated inclusion (illustrated by Pettke et al., 2004). Obviously, this uncertainty increases with increasing chemical similarity between inclusion and host, being small for chemically simple host minerals like quartz and apatite, but becoming important for chemically complex host minerals like clinopyroxene and hornblende.

Here we used geochemical trends displayed by 24 whole-rock analyses published in Jones et al. (1967) to define the mass fraction of ablated host vs. inclusion required for melt inclusion quantification. Although many of these rocks are not fresh, the elements used for quantification are considered to have remained immobile because alteration is dominantly of propylitic nature. The occurrence of apatite-hosted melt inclusions in different magma types

at Santa Rita allows independent checking of the results because most major-elements (except for CaO and P₂O₅) can be determined with high accuracy. By exploring different geochemical criteria and comparing the results obtained for inclusions hosted by different minerals, two important prerequisites for a successful signal deconvolution have been identified: (1) the elements selected as "internal standards" should have rather dissimilar mineral/melt partition coefficients, and (2) their absolute concentrations in the melt should be high. The best results for apatite-hosted melt inclusions were obtained with the CaO–SiO₂ relationship (Fig. 13a), whereas the Al₂O₃–SiO₂ relationship (Fig. 13b) proved most suitable for all other host minerals. Calculated Al₂O₃ and SiO₂ contents of apatite-hosted inclusions fit well onto the Al₂O₃–SiO₂ trend displayed by the whole rocks, thus validating the assumption of consanguinity.

Figure 13

Do melt inclusions represent true aliquots of the surrounding melt?

It has been demonstrated convincingly that boundary layer phenomena do not affect melt inclusions greater than 25 µm in diameter (e.g., Anderson, 1974, Lowenstern and Mahood, 1991; Bacon et al., 1992; Lu et al., 2005; Thomas et al., 2003), hence we are confident that the analyzed inclusions originally contained true aliquots of the surrounding melt. However, melt inclusion compositions can change in response to diffusional reequilibration and post-entrapment crystallization of material along the inclusion walls, as documented for Mg and Fe in olivine-hosted melt inclusions (e.g., Danyushevsky et al., 2000; Gaetani and Watson, 2002). Post-entrapment crystallization along the inclusion walls does not represent a problem for LA-ICP-MS analysis as long as large enough pit sizes are used (Halter et al., 2002a; Pettke et al., 2004), because any material precipitated along the walls is removed during ablation and re-assigned to the inclusion during quantification.

Diffusional reequilibration, on the other hand, indeed may have affected certain elements with high intercrystalline diffusivities, such as Na in the quartz-hosted melt inclusions.

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Figure captions

Fig. 1 Location of Santa Rita (Chino Mine) and other porphyry-Cu deposits (stars) in the southwestern USA (after Titley and Anthony, 1989).

Fig. 2 Simplified geological map of the Santa Rita area, showing sample locations and major lithologies (after Hernon et al., 1964). HF – Hannover Fierro pluton; SR – Santa Rita Stock. Sample location numbers refer to the sample names used throughout the text, i.e., No. 22 corresponds to sample "SR22". Line A–A' marks the trace of the cross-section shown in Fig. 10.

Fig. 3 Petrography of basaltic andesite sample SR26: (A) photograph of a polished surface, (B) photomicrograph of an augite phenocryst in a thick section (transmitted light), (C) partly crystallized melt inclusions in augite (transmitted light). ol* – altered olivine. For other abbreviations, see Table 1.

Fig. 4 Composition of whole rocks and silicate melt inclusions from various rock types associated with the Santa Rita magmatic system. The array of whole-rock analyses published in Jones et al. (1967) is indicated by the dashed line, with the exception of the gabbro plug which is shown separately. Remaining symbols represent melt inclusion (MI) compositions as reconstructed from LA-ICP-MS analyses. Core-to-rim trends of melt inclusions within single phenocrysts are indicated by dotted arrows. Boundary lines between individual series are from Rickwood (1989). For abbreviations see Table 1.

Fig. 5 Petrography of hornblende-diorite porphyry: (A) photograph of a polished surface of hand specimen SR27. (B) thick section through a zoned augite phenocryst from sample SR27. The augite phenocryst contains an irregular, mafic core that is recognizable by its lighter color (transmitted light); (C) primary sulfide inclusions within hornblende (sample SR27; transmitted light); (D) exposed part of a sulfide inclusion in hornblende (sample SR23; reflected light; po – pyrrhotite; py – pyrite; cpy – chalcopyrite).

Fig. 6 Transmitted-light image of a thick section of quartz-monzodiorite porphyry sample SR20, showing all major phenocryst phases present in this rock (anh* – decomposed anhydrite; ol/px* – decomposed olivine or pyroxene; see Table 1 for other abbreviations).

Fig. 7 Composition of hornblende crystals (s.l.) analyzed from Santa Rita, recalculated by the method of Holland and Blundy (1994). The data from the quartz-monzodiorite can be grouped into

two distinct populations (circled fields) that do not overlap with each other in terms of core–rim variations. The nomenclature is after Leake et al. (1997).

Fig. 8 Petrography of the rhyodacite porphyry: (A) Photograph of a polished surface of hand specimen SR15, (B) hornblende phenocryst containing inclusions of anhydrite (anh) and sulfide (sulf) (transmitted light).

Fig. 9 Estimated T- f_{O_2} -conditions of the most felsic (white boxes) and most mafic (black boxes) magmas found at Santa Rita (SR), compared to estimates for other anhydrite-bearing magmas and corresponding mafic counterparts. Pin – Mt. Pinatubo (Scaillet and Evans, 1999; DeHoog et al., 2004); EC - El Chichón (Luhr, 1990); Las – Lascar Volcano (Matthews et al., 1999a); EM – Eagle Mountain (Parat et al., 2002). Reaction curves of f_{O_2} buffer assemblages (solid lines; HM – hematite-magnetite; NNO – Ni-NiO; QFM – quartz-fayalite-magnetite) and the boundary between SO_4^{2-} and S^{2-} predominance in silicate magmas (dashed line) are from Chou (1987) and Wallace and Carmichael (1996), respectively.

Fig. 10 Interpretative cross-section through the magmatic system at Santa Rita along line A–A' marked in Fig. 2 (positions of magma chambers and eruption centers are hypothetical). The graph pictures a volcanic eruption triggered by intrusion of mafic magma (dark gray; on lower right) into an evolved, stratified magma chamber (light gray; above). The resulting hybrid andesite magma (medium gray) rises along a major conduit to the surface. (GP – gabbro plug; HF – Hannover Fierro pluton; SR – Santa Rita stock; dashed line marks present-day surface).

Fig. 11 Relationship between the Cu content and SiO_2 content of melt inclusions from Santa Rita. Note the general trend of decreasing Cu concentration with increasing SiO_2 concentration, and corresponding trends in individual augite phenocrysts (marked by dotted arrows).

Fig. 12 Calculated distribution of Cu in the basaltic andesite after 30 wt% crystallization under (A) sulfide-undersaturated conditions, and (B) sulfide-saturated conditions. The percentage (by weight) of the total Cu in the system hosted by the individual phases is indicated by the bold numbers on the right.

Fig. 13 $CaO-SiO_2$ (plot A) and $Al_2O_3-SiO_2$ (plot B) relationship displayed by 24 whole rock analyses published in Jones et al., 1967 (black diamonds), and corresponding curve fits. White triangles represent calculated compositions of apatite-hosted melt inclusions.

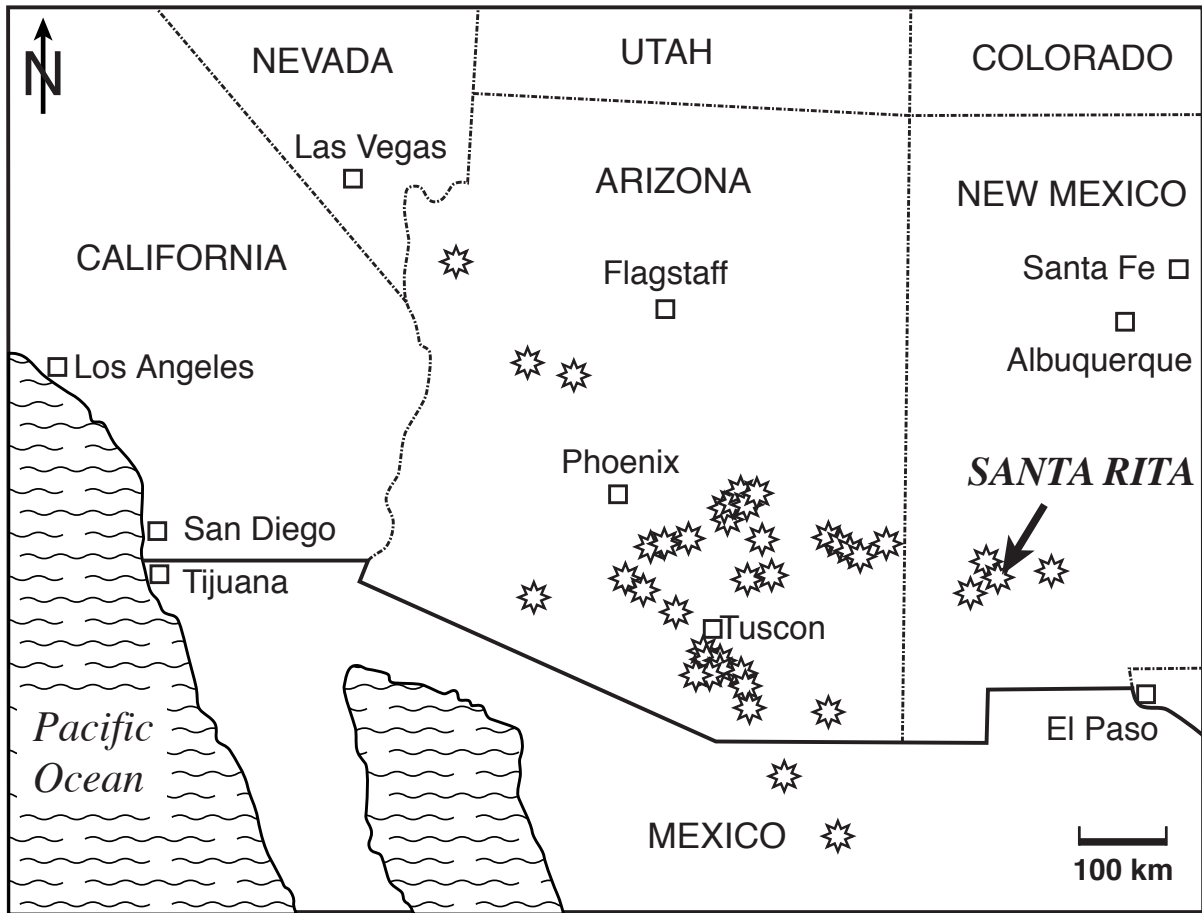


Fig. 1

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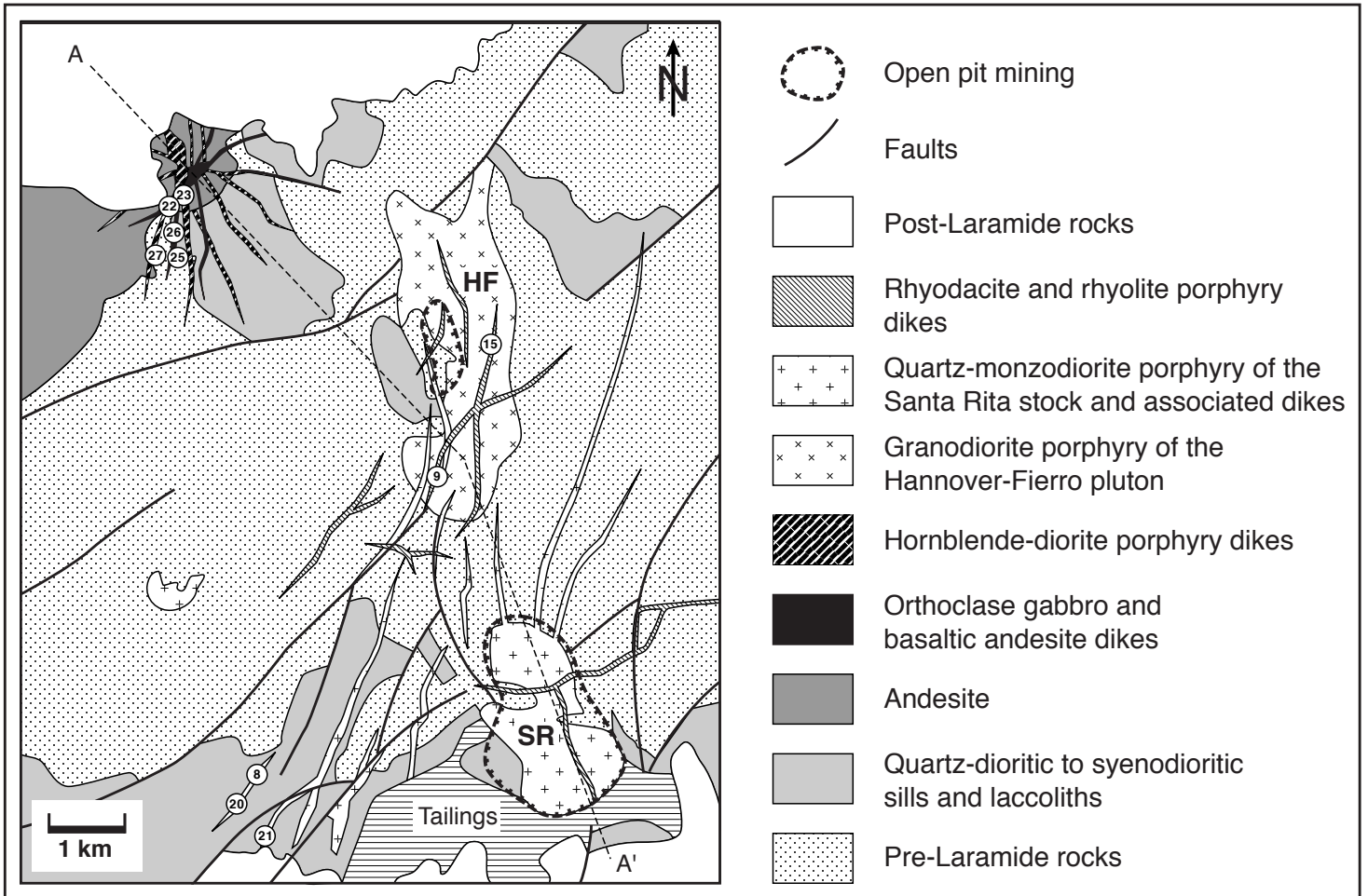


Fig. 2

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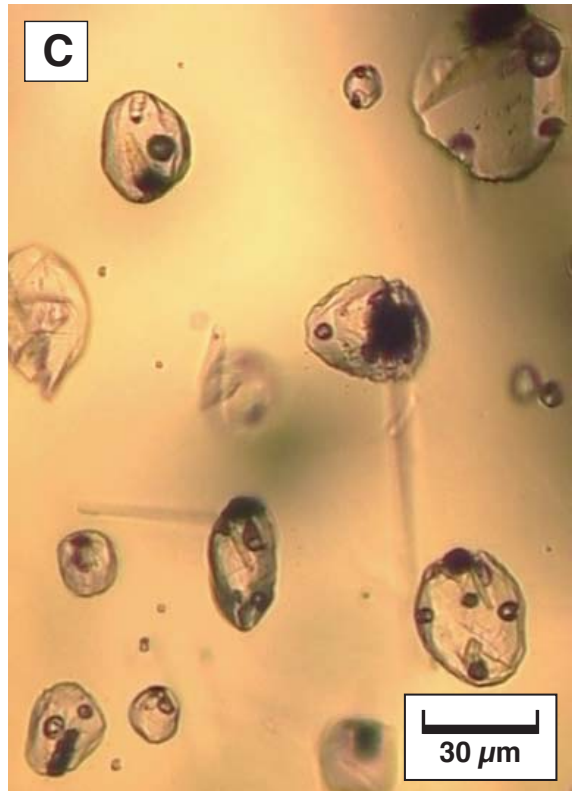
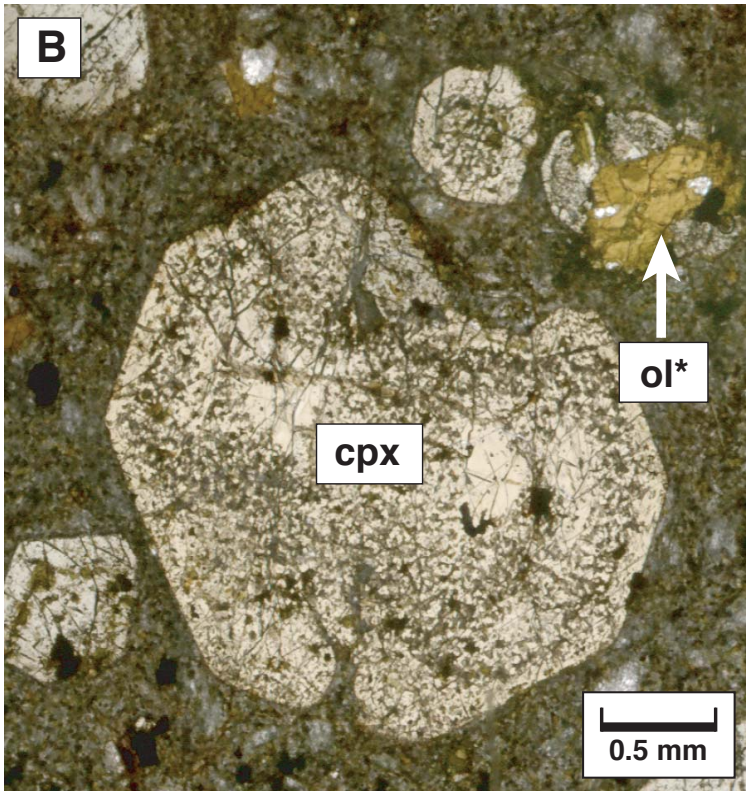
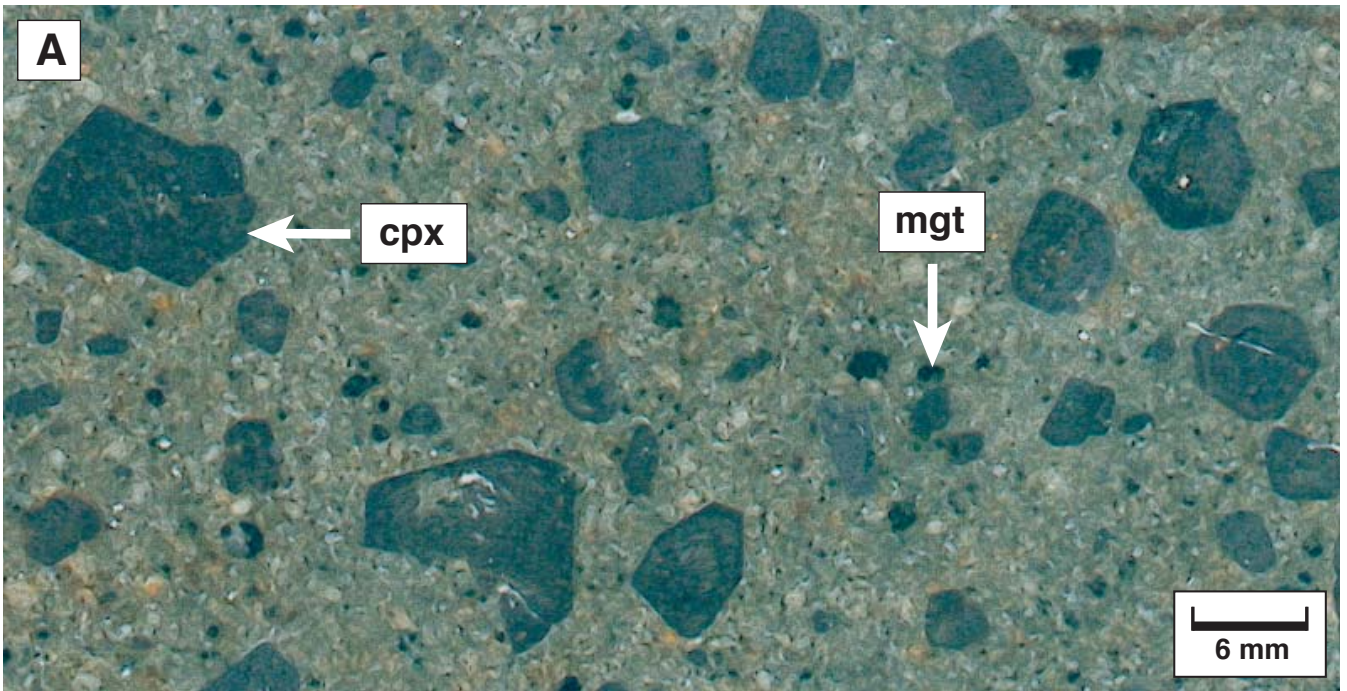


Fig.3

Audétat and Pettke

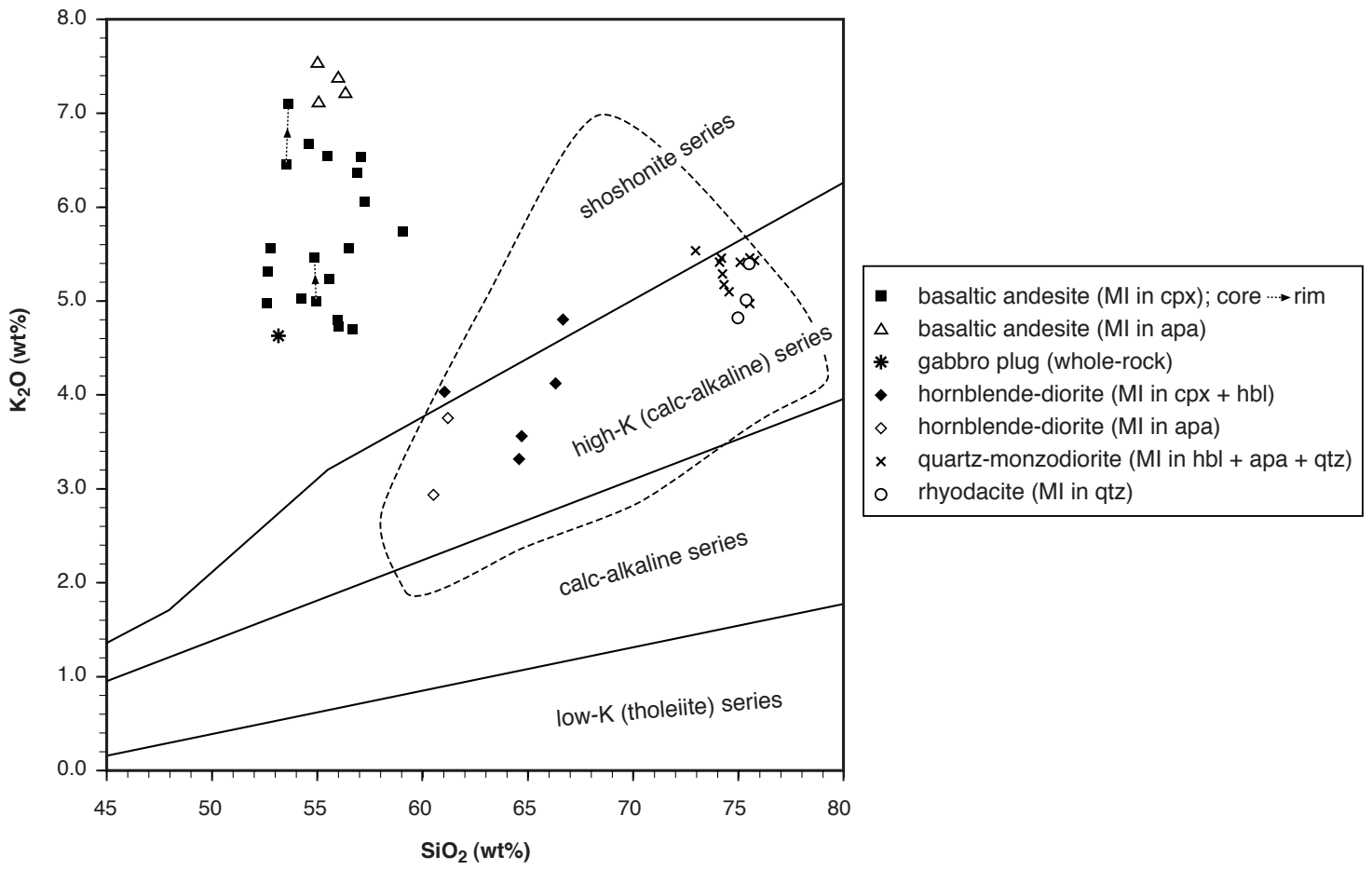


Fig. 4
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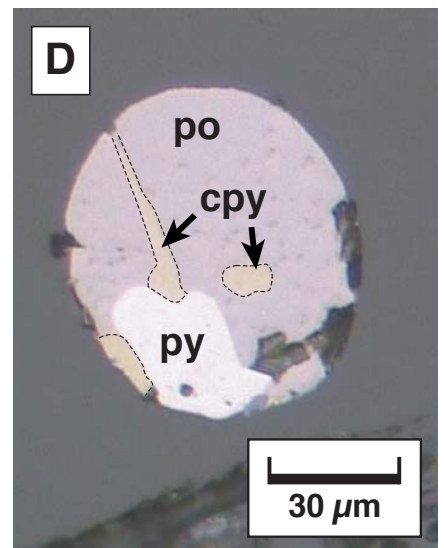
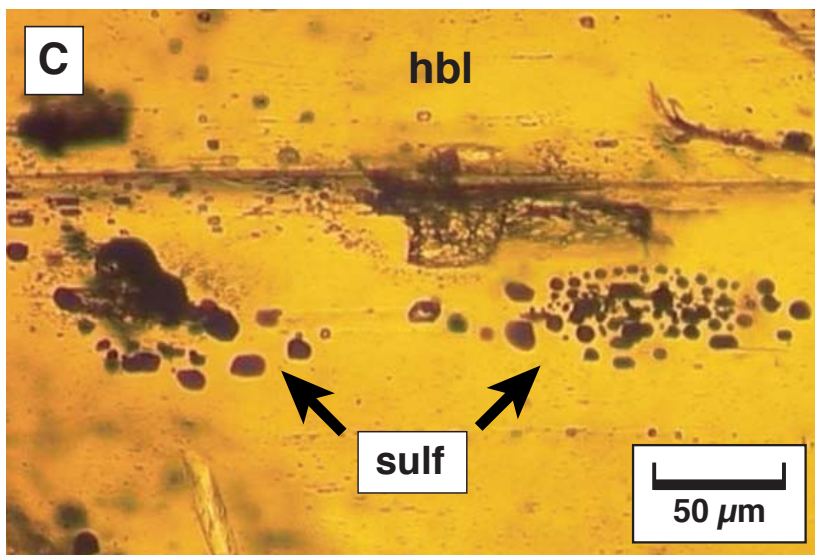
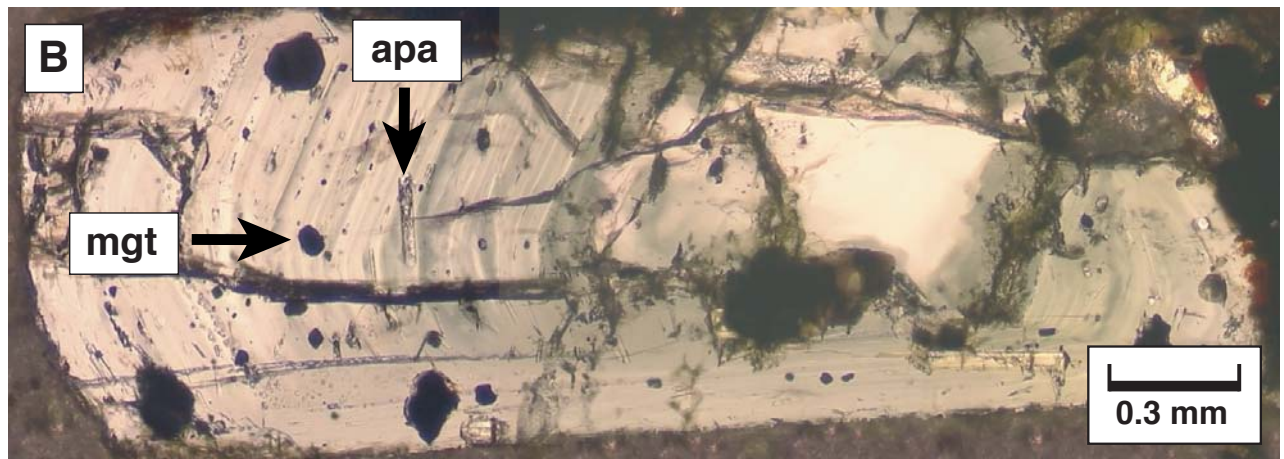
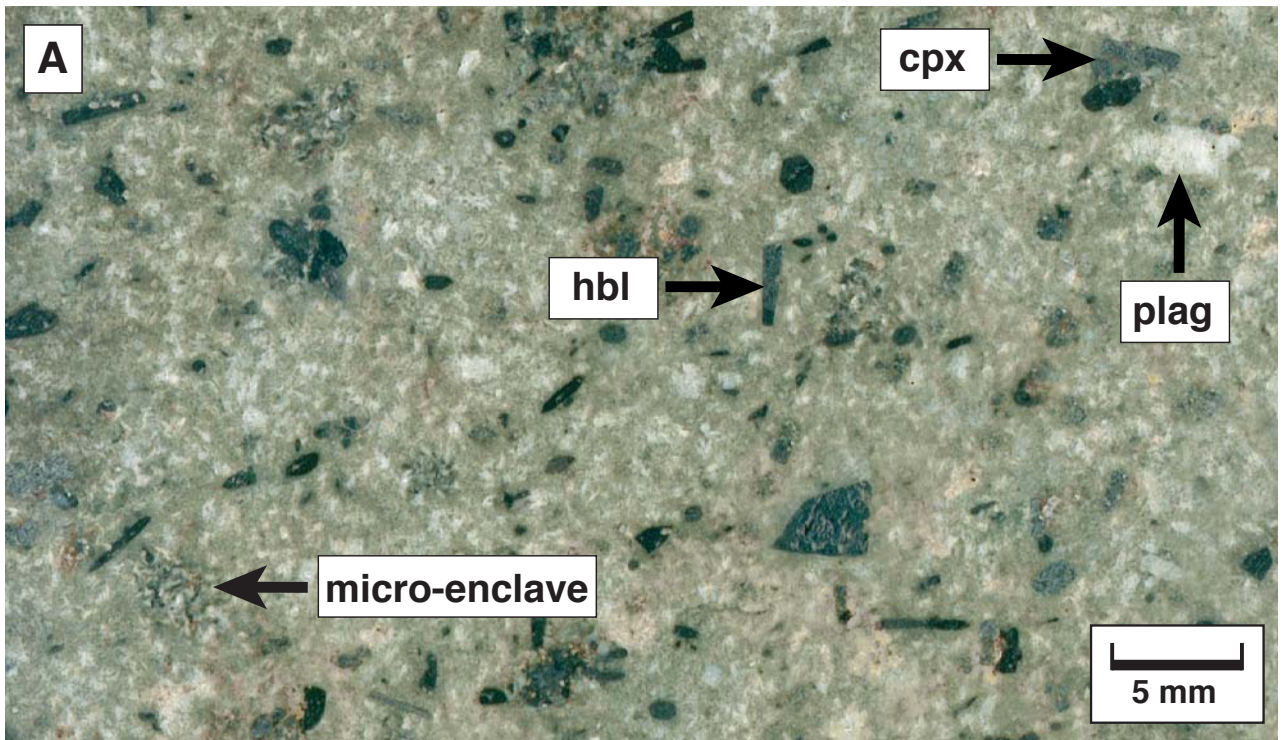


Fig. 5
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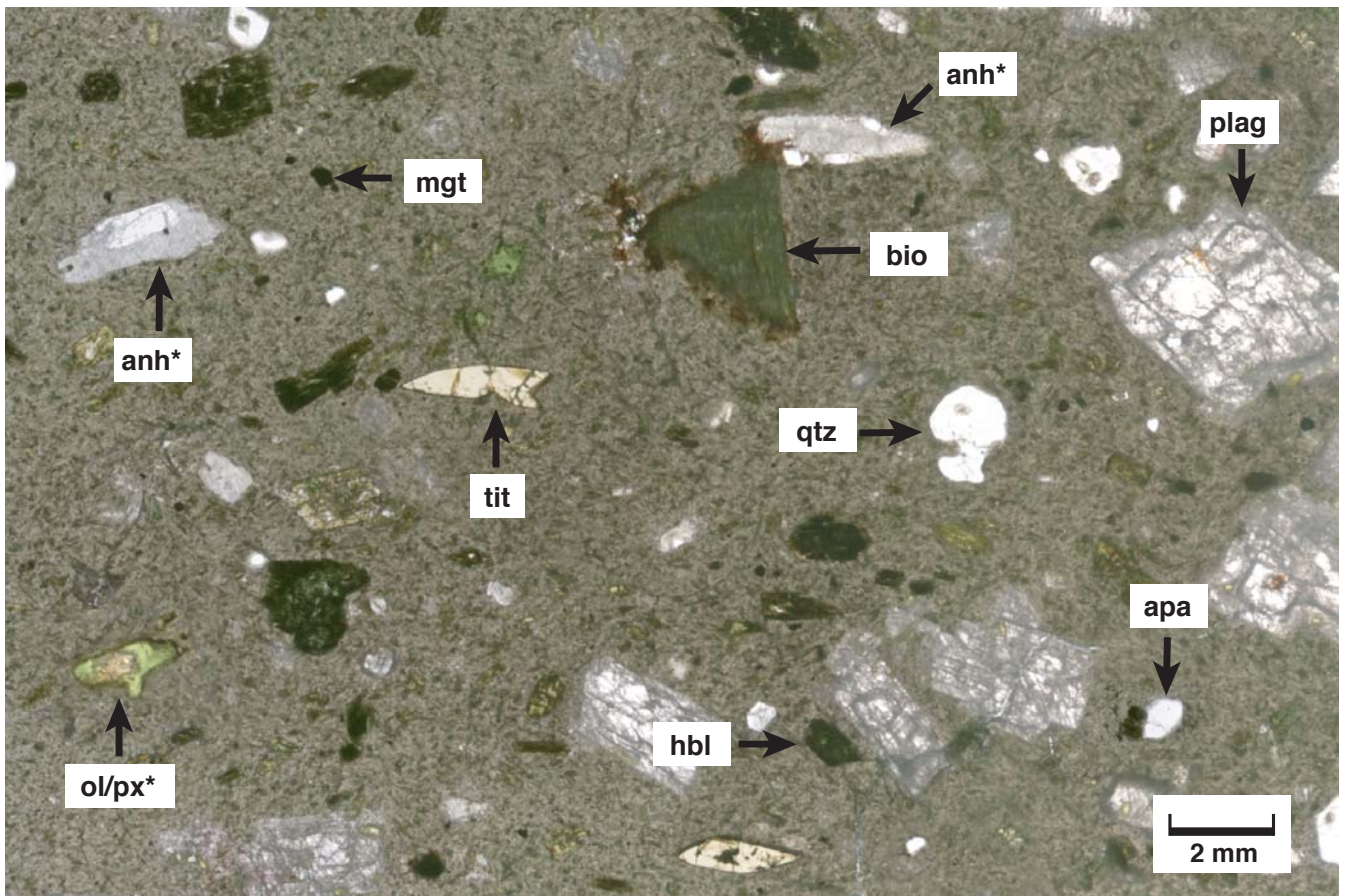


Fig. 6

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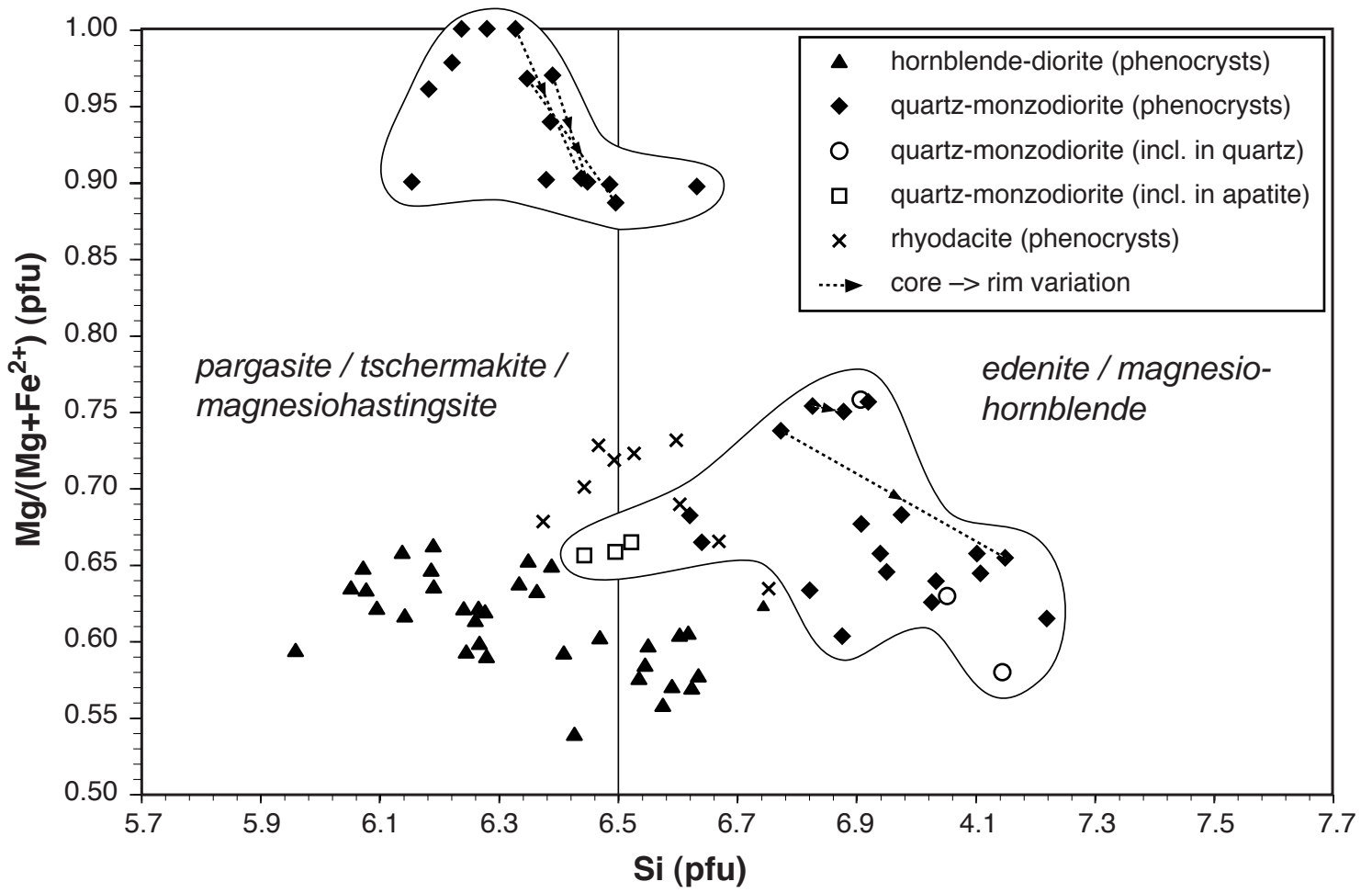


Fig. 7

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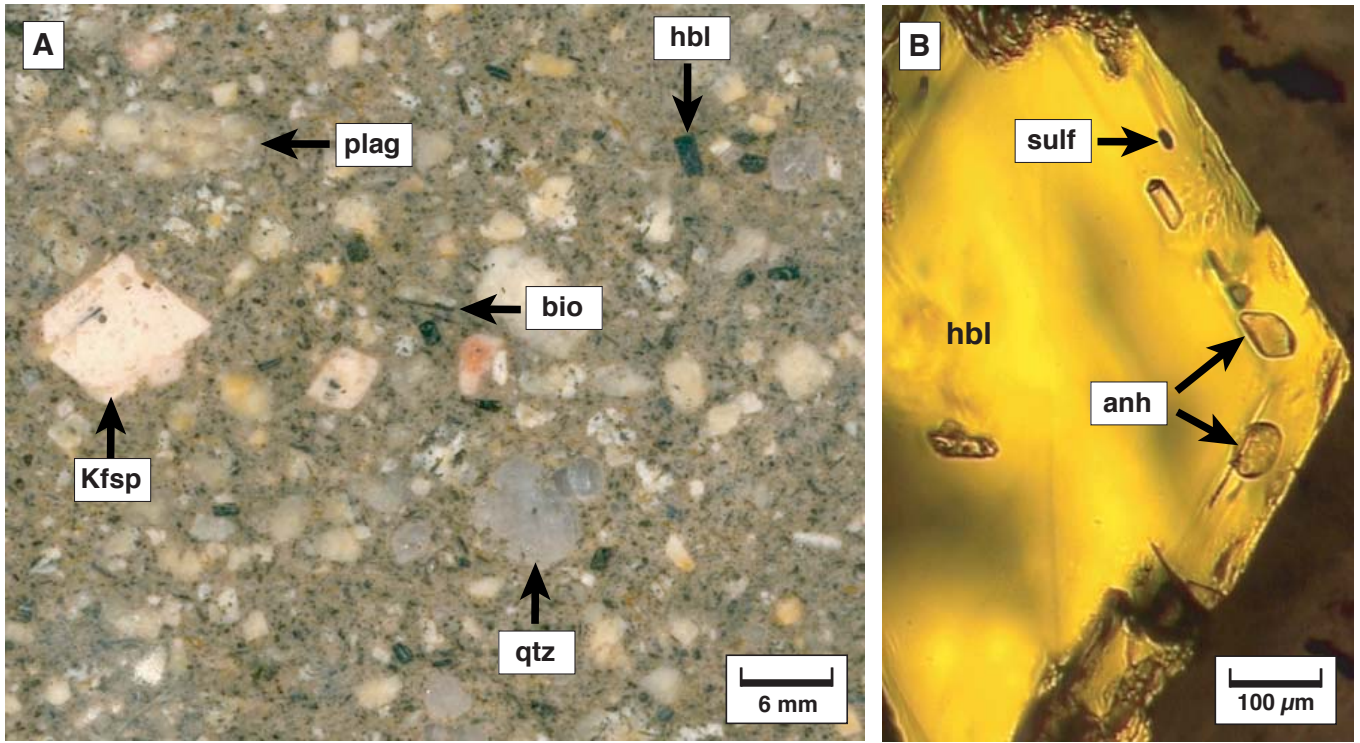


Fig. 8

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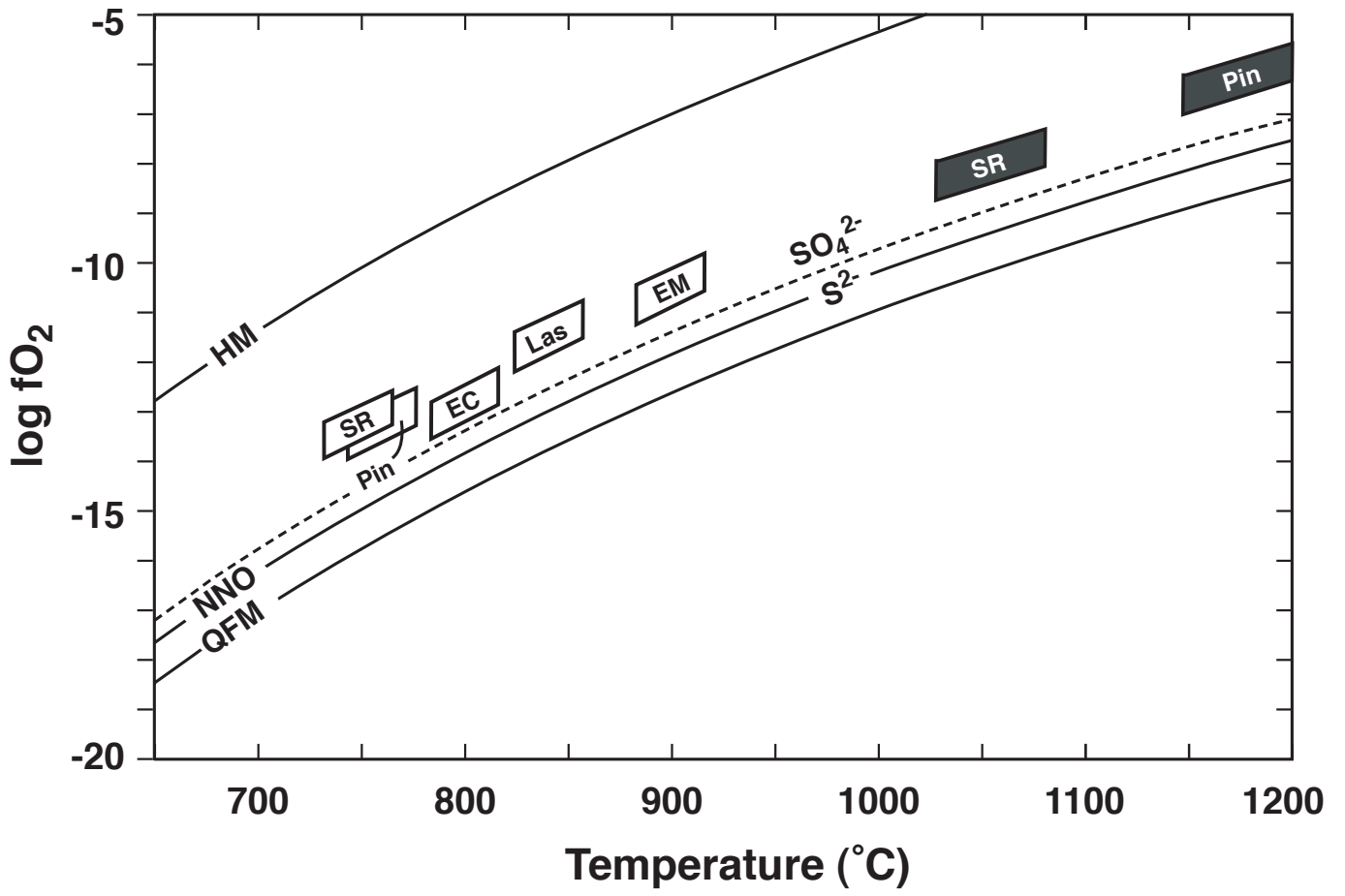


Fig. 9

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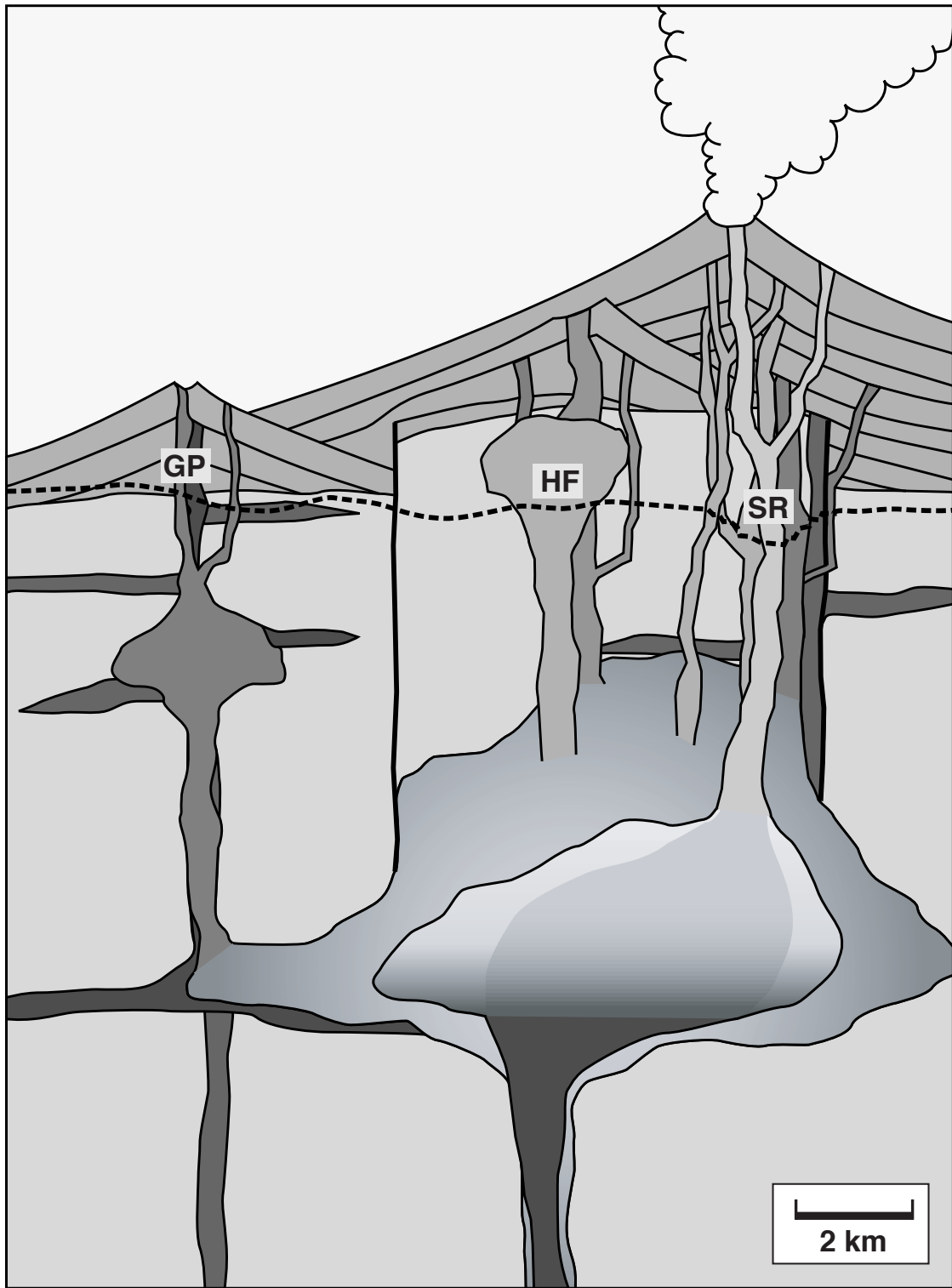


Fig. 10

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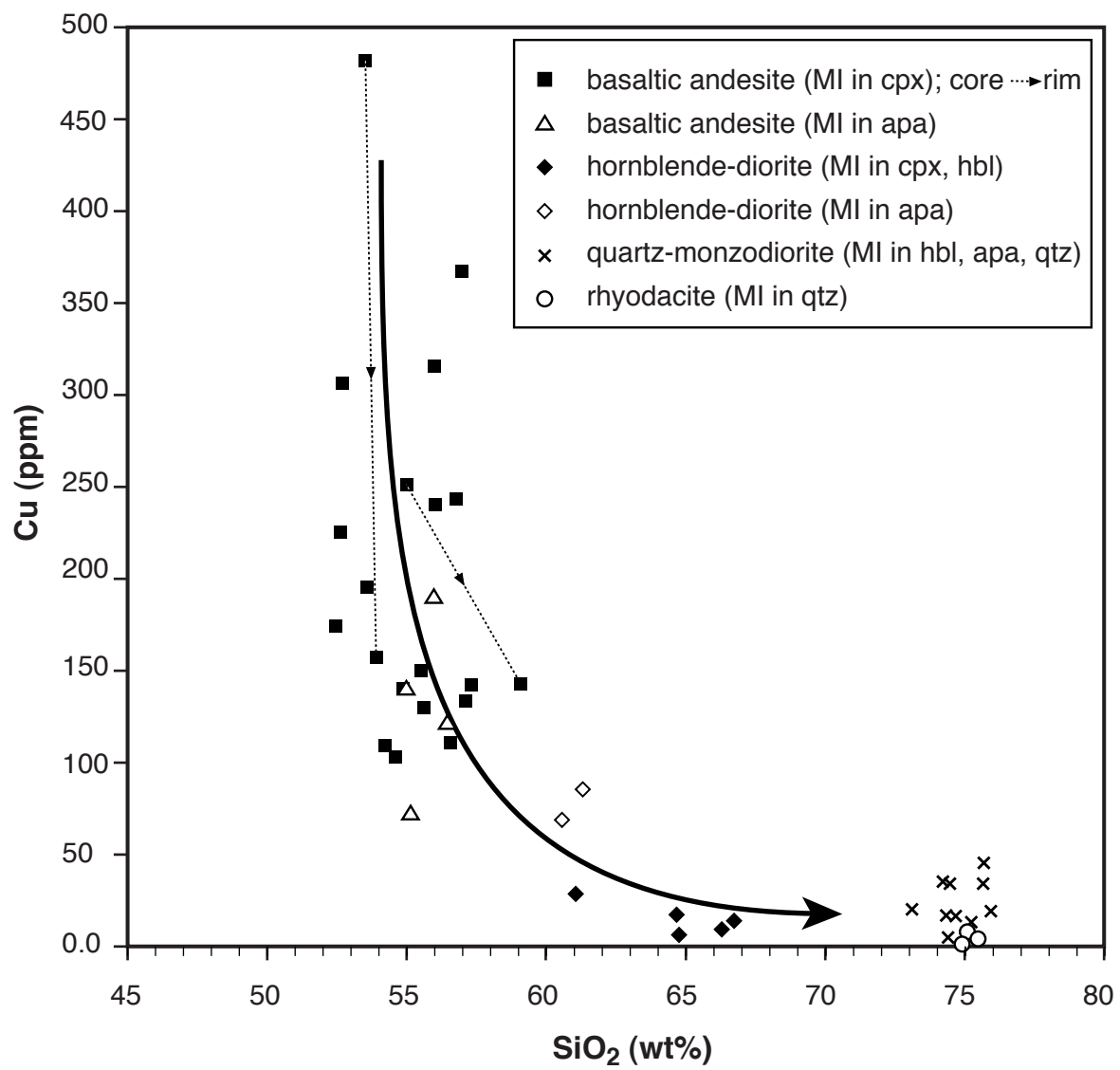


Fig. 11

Audétat and Pettke

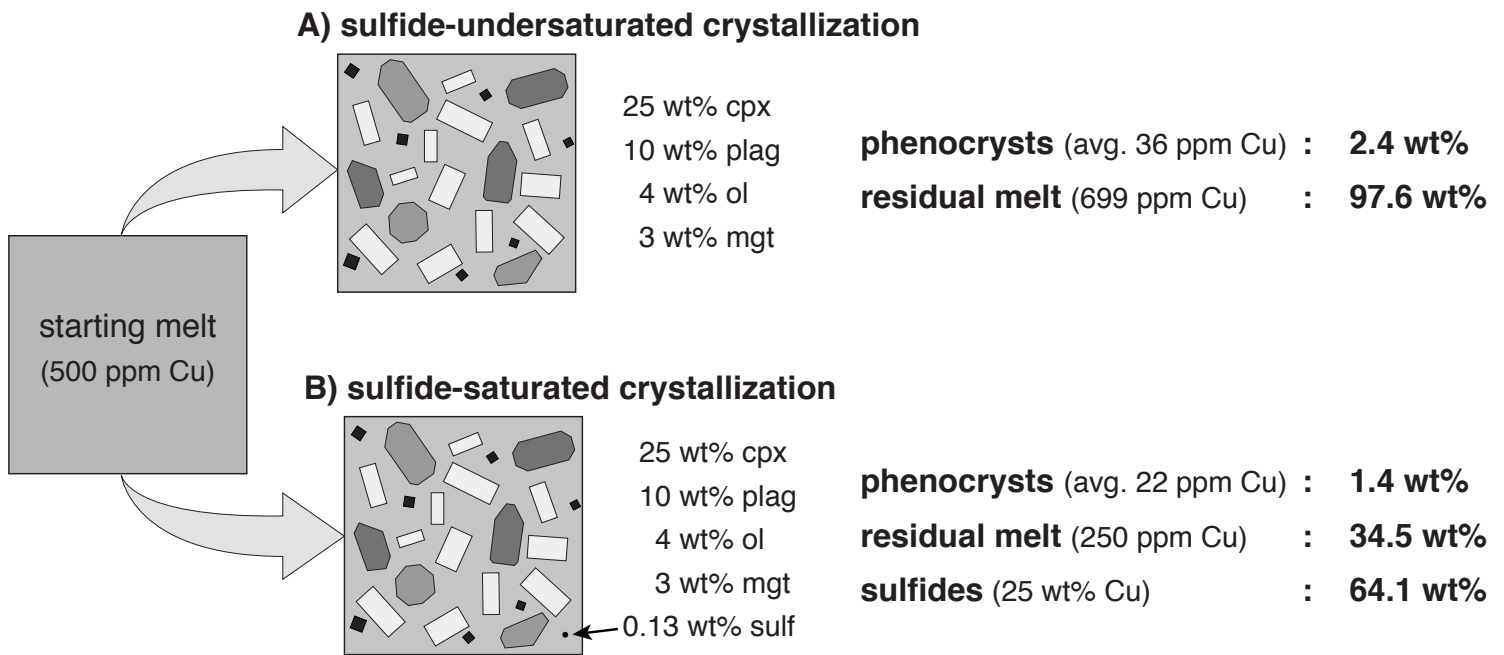


Fig. 12

Audétat and Pettke

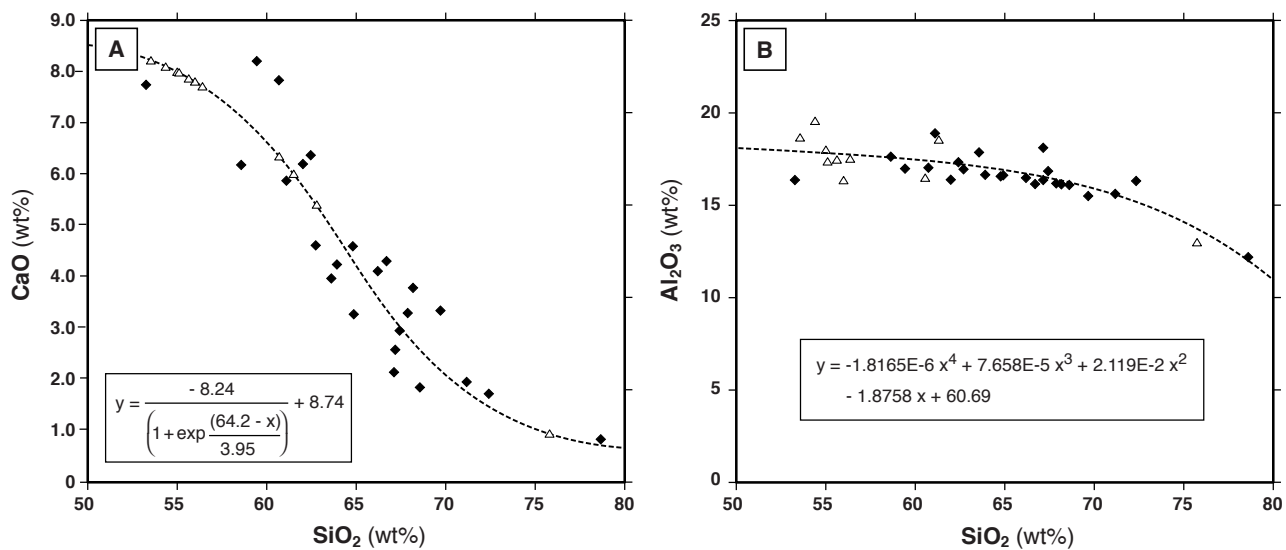


Fig. 13

Audétat and Pettke