

Geochemistry of Rittmann volcano, Northern Victoria Land, Antarctica: Implications on mantle sources and magma evolution

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We present new major and trace element and Sr, Nd and Pb isotope data for quaternary alkaline volcanic rocks from the Rittmann volcano, Northern Victoria Land (NVL), Antarctica. The volcanic rocks found in outcrops are mainly trachytic lava flows and hawaiitic scorias. Less commonly, mugearite, benmorite and phonolite are found. The mineralogical and petrochemical features of these alkaline magmatic products have investigated in order to assess mantle sources and the genetic relationships between the mafic and trachytic rocks and further to get insights for the architecture of the magmatic plumbing systems feeding the Rittmann volcano. The mafic products show mostly mild alkaline hawaiitic composition with ~47 wt % SiO₂, ~5 wt % MgO and Na₂O+K₂O ~ 6 wt %. Major elements of trachytes in Rittmann volcano cluster at ~61 wt % SiO₂ and Na₂O+K₂O ~ 12 wt %, and form a prominent Daly Gap when plotted with the mafic products. Two trachyte types are distinguished by based on their textures: porphyritic or apyric trachytic types. Porphyritic trachytes often include antecrysts of forsteritic olivine (Fo#~80) and clinopyroxene showing disequilibrium textures (reaction rims and resorbed margins). Incompatible trace elements are enriched in all trachytes, except for Ba, Sr, Eu and Ti which show prominent negative anomalies. Apyric trachytes show more enriched characteristics compared to porphyritic trachytes, but isotopically very similar compositional ranges. Radiogenic isotope compositional ranges of hawaiites (²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb = 19.94–19.98, ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr = 0.703369–0.703757, ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd = 0.512861–0.512885) and trachytes (²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb = 19.39–19.99, ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr = 0.703358–0.707625, ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd = 0.512806–0.512858) are very similar, suggesting a common mantle source with HIMU-like characteristics and little contribution of assimilation of shallow crust to the generation of the trachytic magma.