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Tracking metal evolution in arc magmas: Insights from the active volcano of La Fossa, Italy

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A B S T R A C T

The mineralization potential of arc magmas depends, among other factors, on the timing of sulfide melt saturation relative to magma differentiation and to exsolution of a magmatic fluid phase. In fossil mineralized or barren systems, understanding the evolution of metals along the magma differentiation path is often hindered by late magmatic processes and hydrothermal alteration. To better understand the process of metal evolution “caught in the act” in crustal reservoirs, we analyzed magmatic sulfides and melt inclusions found within eruptive products from the active arc volcano, La Fossa (Vulcano Island, Italy), for the basalt to rhyolite compositional spectrum. We found that, in case of sulfide-undersaturated and volatile-rich arc basalts, metals are scarcely subtracted by degassing during ascent to shallow crustal reservoirs and reach the highest abundances in intermediate magmas (250 ppm Cu). At sulfide saturation the sulfide melt has 34–66 wt% Cu, leading to a dramatic decrease in chalcophile metals dissolved in the silicate melt. After fractionation of only 0.2–0.3 wt% of sulfide in the solid assemblage, the exsolved sulfide is a monosulfide solid solution (pyrrhotite) containing <3 wt% Cu. Metals that do not partition in sulfides (Pb, Zn) increase their concentrations during magmatic evolution until they are sequestered by a Cl-rich aqueous fluid phase exsolved at the rhyolitic stage. The absolute and Cu-normalized concentrations of metals in sulfide inclusions are similar to sulfide accessories in magmatic rocks associated with world-class porphyry Cu systems. Our results demonstrate that the mechanisms governing metal evolution inferred for the magmatic stage in porphyry Cu environments can be also tracked at an active arc volcano, using eruptive products as snapshots of the magmatic evolution. Arc volcanoes can thus be viewed as ideal active analogues when studying these crucial processes for the formation of porphyry Cu deposits.

1. Introduction

Metal evolution in arc magmas is difficult to constrain due to the loss of volatiles and the loss of metals during crystallization and because, in most cases, magmas become saturated in sulfides at some stage during their evolution (Audétat and Simon, 2012). Indeed, due to the strong affinity of chalcophile and siderophile elements (e.g., Platinum-Group Elements, Cu, Au, and Ag) for the sulfide phase, sulfides exsolved from silicate magmas lead to severe metal depletion in the residual silicate melt (Park et al., 2015).

A primary control on metal evolution in arc magmas is exerted by: 1) the timing of sulfide saturation relative to magmatic differentiation and volatile exsolution; 2) the amount of metal segregated into magmatic sulfides; 3) the amount of sulfide formed; 4) and whether sulfides are ‘irretrievably lost’ or may instead release metals again at later stages (Bai et al., 2020; Chang and Audétat, 2018; Halter et al., 2005; Hao et al.,

2019; Mungall et al., 2015; Park et al., 2015, 2019; Wilkinson, 2013; Zhang and Audétat, 2017). The combined role of these factors has proven difficult to resolve, largely because of the complexity in measuring the metal content of the magmas during their evolution (Park et al., 2019). Information mostly derives from the roots - sulfide-bearing cumulates - of their plumbing system or from the mineralized bodies (Chang and Audétat, 2018; Chen et al., 2020). As magmatic-hydrothermal ore deposits can be considered the extinct equivalent of active magmatic systems (Hedenquist and Lowenstern, 1994), the investigation of these processes in the products of active arc volcanoes, particularly with the support of data from silicate melt inclusions, can provide pivotal information on metal budget and ore genetic models associated with arc-related magmas. A significant advantage in studying active volcanic systems is the lack of hydrothermal alteration or mineralization overprints, as shown by recent works for magmatic sulfide saturation studies (Fulignati et al., 2018; Geogatou et al., 2018; Geogatou and Chiaradia, 2020; Nadeau et al., 2010; Zelenski et al., 2018). Despite that, very few works have tackled the investigation of metal evolution through the processes of magma differentiation, sulfide exsolution

and fluid exsolution at active volcanoes or across the wide compositional spectra of magma types (Cox et al., 2019; Park et al., 2013, 2015; Timm et al., 2012).

La Fossa volcano (Italy) is an ideal site to study mineralizing processes beneath arc volcanoes, being characterized by an active magmatic-hydrothermal system (Boyce et al., 2007; Fulignati et al., 1998) and providing evidence of sulfide melt-silicate melt immiscibility (Fulignati et al., 2018). Here we use melt inclusions, magmatic sulfides and host minerals to track the evolution of metals for the entire basalt to rhyolite compositional spectrum. The suite belongs to a shoshonitic to potassic series in a subduction setting, similar to part of the magma types found in association with porphyry Cu deposits (Audétat and Simon, 2012; Sillitoe, 2010). Moreover, we compare our results to metal contents in sulfides from magmatic systems associated with ore deposits, showing that strong analogies exist between metal evolution in active arc volcanoes and those reported for porphyry Cu environments.

2. Geological background

La Fossa is the active volcanic center of Vulcano Island, in the Aeolian archipelago, a continental volcanic arc located in southern Tyrrhenian Sea (Fig. 1a, b). The volcanic activity of the island started at 130 ka with high-K calcalkaline (HKCA), shoshonitic (SHO) and, recently, potassic (KS) magmas (De Astis et al., 2000), showing the entire range in composition from basalt to rhyolite (Fig. 1c, d). The plumbing system of La Fossa is polybaric, dominated by fractional crystallization, crustal assimilation and magma mixing processes (Costa et al., 2020; De Astis et al., 2013; Peccerillo et al., 2006). These occur in a shoshonitic to latitic magma chamber at about 15 km deep, fed by shoshonitic basaltic magmas, and in shallower and smaller trachytic to rhyolitic reservoirs at 5–2 km deep (Costa et al., 2020; De Astis et al., 2013; Fulignati et al., 2018). Basaltic magmas have been only erupted at about 50 ka. They are H₂O-rich (water up to 5 wt%; Le Voyer et al., 2014) and oxidized. La Fossa has been quiescent since 1890 CE, with a high temperature fumarolic field fed by magmatic and hydrothermal fluids (Paonita et al., 2013). A similar hydrothermal system was active in the past, as testified by hydrothermally altered lithics found in the eruptive products of recent (post-1000 CE) eruptions (e.g. Breccia di Commenda eruption; Fulignati et al., 1998; Gurioli et al., 2012; Rosi et al., 2018).

3. Materials and analytical methods

Samples were selected to ensure that the entire range of magma types, from basalt to rhyolite, was included in this study. They were analyzed for the composition of their sulfide (SIs) and melt (MIs) inclusions hosted within phenocrysts. Samples were preferentially selected from explosive eruptions, targeted to ensure quenching of melt inclusions to a glass with the eruption. This minimizes the potential for post-entrapment crystallization of microlites in the trapped melt or crystallization of the host mineral on the inclusion walls. They include scoriaceous lapilli of La Sommata and Vulcanello, of basaltic and shoshonitic composition, respectively. The latitic, trachytic and rhyolitic samples are represented by the Palizzi eruptive period of La Fossa and consist of dark grey coarse ash of Pal A (latite) and Pal C (latite, trachyte), pumiceous lapilli of Pal D (trachyte) and Pal B (rhyolite), and the Palizzi lava flow (trachyte) (see De Astis et al., 2013 and Di Traglia et al., 2013 for further information on volcanic stratigraphy). Lapilli were crushed and crystals were hand-picked under a stereomicroscope, embedded in epoxy resin mounts and polished. Slices of the Palizzi lava flow sample were also prepared in epoxy resin mounts for petrographic investigations and microanalyses. The polished resin mounts were first studied under reflected light with a petrographic microscope at the Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra at the Università di Pisa. Melt and sulfide inclusions were identified for the analytical follow-up. To avoid post-entrapment modifications of the melt composition due to melt

crystallization or leakage, the selected melt inclusions are entirely glassy (no microlites) and lack large vapor bubbles or other evidence of only partial enclosing by the host crystal. Shrinkage bubbles are absent or small in Vulcanello MIs while they are common in La Sommata basalt and in Palizzi trachyte; bubbles may host traces of volatile elements escaped from melt, but the observation that they are apparently empty means that we can consider their metal content negligible. Based on the inspection of MIs under back-scattered electron (BSE) microscopy and on their major element composition, post-entrapment crystallization of the host on the inclusion walls can also be considered negligible with respect to chalcophile metals. This is in agreement with previous estimates (<2 wt%) of olivine host crystallization for Vulcanello MIs (Fusillo et al., 2015), corresponding to a variation of the Cu content within analytical uncertainty.

After carbon-coating, backscattered electron images and the major element chemical composition of sulfide and melt inclusions were obtained with a Quanta 450 Field Emission-Scanning Electron Microscope (FE-SEM) (15 kV accelerating voltage, 10 mm working distance and 0.1 nA) equipped with Bruker microanalytical EDS system QUANTAX installed at the Centro Interdipartimentale di Scienza e Ingegneria dei Materiali (CISIM) at the Università di Pisa. Major and minor element compositions for each melt inclusion were also characterized using an electron probe microanalyzer (EPMA) JEOL JXA-8200, operating in wavelength dispersive mode with a defocused beam of 5 µm (15 kV accelerating voltage and 5 nA beam current) at the Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra at the Università di Milano.

The bulk major element compositions of the texturally non-homogeneous sulfide inclusions were reconstructed using spot analyses on the various sulfide phases present within each exposed sulfide inclusion. The reconstructed bulk composition was calculated dependent on the relative area percent of each sulfide phase, in the BSE images. Area percentages were determined using the image processing software package *ImageJ* (Image Processing and Analysis in Java, <http://rsb.info.nih.gov/ij/>) and the 2D images were segmented by manual thresholding. The uncertainty on the reconstructed bulk composition, involving both instrumental analytical error and manual image thresholding error, was evaluated to be <10%.

Trace element analyses of melt and sulfide inclusions and of host minerals were performed in situ by laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICPMS) at Géosciences Montpellier (Université de Montpellier, AETE-ISO regional facility of the OSU OREME), with a pulsed 193 nm ArF excimer laser (Analyte G2 from Teledyne) coupled to a ThermoFinnigan Element XR mass spectrometer. For the analyses of host minerals, the laser was operated at a repetition rate of 8 Hz using spot sizes of 85 and 110 µm and a 6 J/cm² energy density. Total analysis time was 120 s with the first 80 s used for the background measurement and the last 40 s for sample ablation. Synthetic glass NIST 612 was used for external calibration. For melt inclusions, the laser was operated at a repetition rate of 6 Hz using spot sizes of 10 to 20 µm and a 6 J/cm² energy density. Total analysis time was 120 s with the first 80 s used for background measurement and the last 40 s for sample ablation. Synthetic glass NIST 610 was used for external calibration. For minerals and glass inclusions the accuracy of the analyses was monitored using the standard glass BIR-1 and SiO₂ of each mineral/glass, used as internal standard. For sulfide inclusions, only those where their exposed diameter was >15 µm were analyzed. The beam spot sizes were 5 to 10 µm. Only two non-homogeneous (polymineralic) sulfide inclusions were sufficiently large to be analyzed; the laser spot was tuned to approximate the “bulk” composition of the sulfide inclusion, without distinguishing among the single sulfide phases. The laser was operated at a repetition rate of 6 Hz using and a 6 J/cm² energy density with a total analysis time of 240 s (200 s for background measurement and 40 s of sample analysis). The Synthetic standard MASS-1 was used for external calibration. FeO (measured FeO, in the case of homogeneous sulfide inclusions, and FeO reconstructed with the above described procedure, in the case of non-homogeneous

polymineralic sulfide inclusions) was used as an internal standard. Data reduction for the mineral, melt and sulfide inclusion was performed with the software package Glitter (<http://www.glitter-gemoc.com>). Detection limits, results of reference materials and control standard analysis are provided in the Supplementary Material S1.

4. Results

4.1. Sulfide inclusions

Based on their textures (polymineralic and homogeneous), two types of sulfide inclusions (Type 1 SIs, polymineralic and Type 2 SIs, homogeneous) were identified in the Vulcano products. Both types are spherical when found in glass, and spherical or ovoid to elongated in shape when enclosed in host phenocrysts, with shape partially defined by surrounding crystal growth (Fig. 2a).

Type 1 SIs (17 inclusions) are between 1 and 20 μm in diameter (mostly <10 μm) and consist of two or three Cu-rich sulfide phases

each (Fig. 2a). These SIs are hosted in clinopyroxene, magnetite and feldspars (Fig. 2b). The composition of Type 1 sulfides (Table 1), when plotted in a Cu-Fe-S diagram at 1000 °C (Fig. 2c), spans from *bornite solid solution (bnss)* to the sulfide liquid field (SL). The reconstructed bulk composition of these unmixed SIs ranges from 66 wt% to 34 wt% Cu in the Cu-Fe-S diagram (Fig. 2c). Trace elements were measured up to 493 ppm Ni, 131 ppm Co, 1145 ppm Zn, 397 ppm As, 208 ppm Se, 354 ppm Ag and 2020 ppm Pb (Table 2) within the two Type 1 SIs analyzed (which contained 65 and 46 wt% Cu).

Type 2 SIs (59 inclusions) are 5–60 μm in diameter with a mean size of 20 μm and homogeneous textures (Fig. 2a); they occur in clinopyroxene, olivine, Ti-magnetite, plagioclase, sanidine, biotite and glass and prevail in mafic phases and glass. Type 2 SIs plot, at 1000 °C, in the pyrrhotite field (*mss*, monosulfide solid solution), with Cu content up to 2.6 wt% (Fig. 2c; Table 1). If compared to Type 1 SIs, they show markedly higher Ni and Co contents, up to 3495 ppm and 4248 ppm, respectively, similar Zn and lower Pb (up to 385 ppm), with Ag and Se, in

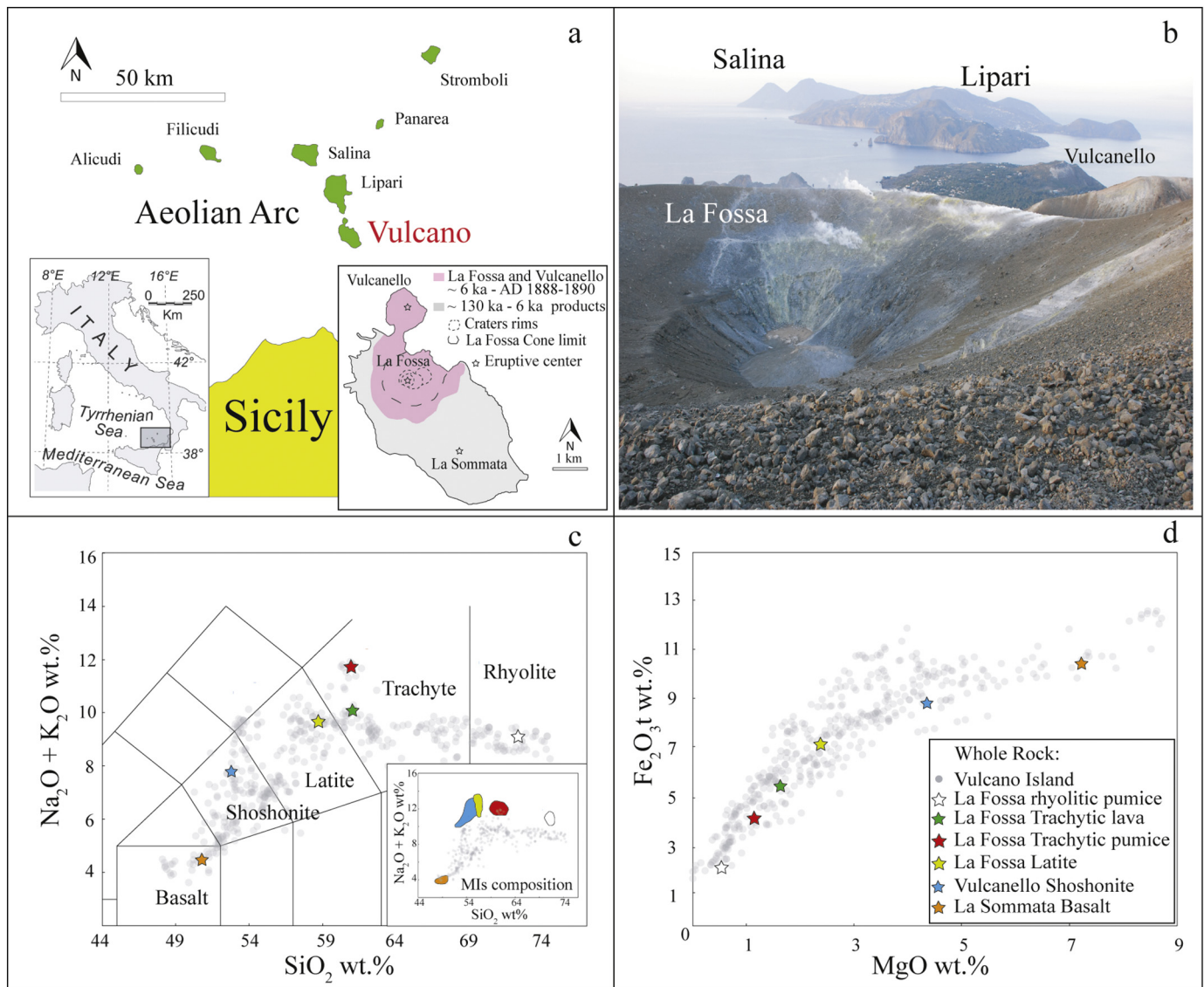


Fig. 1. (a) Location of La Fossa volcano and Vulcano island in the Aeolian Arc; (b) Panoramic view toward N of La Fossa crater and its fumarolic field; (c) TAS (total alkali vs SiO_2) diagram of Vulcano rocks. Stars are the samples selected to represent the basalt to rhyolite suite; insert in (c) shows the composition of MIs of the selected samples; (d) Fe_2O_3 tot. vs MgO diagram of Vulcano products. Whole rock data in (c) and (d) are re-calculated to 100 on anhydrous basis; literature data are from De Astis et al. (2013), Fusillo et al. (2015) and Costa et al. (2020). Melt inclusions major elements data are from Gioncada et al. (1998), Le Voyer et al. (2014), Fusillo et al. (2015), Fulignati et al. (2018) and this work. The complete data set of MIs is reported in the supplementary material S1.

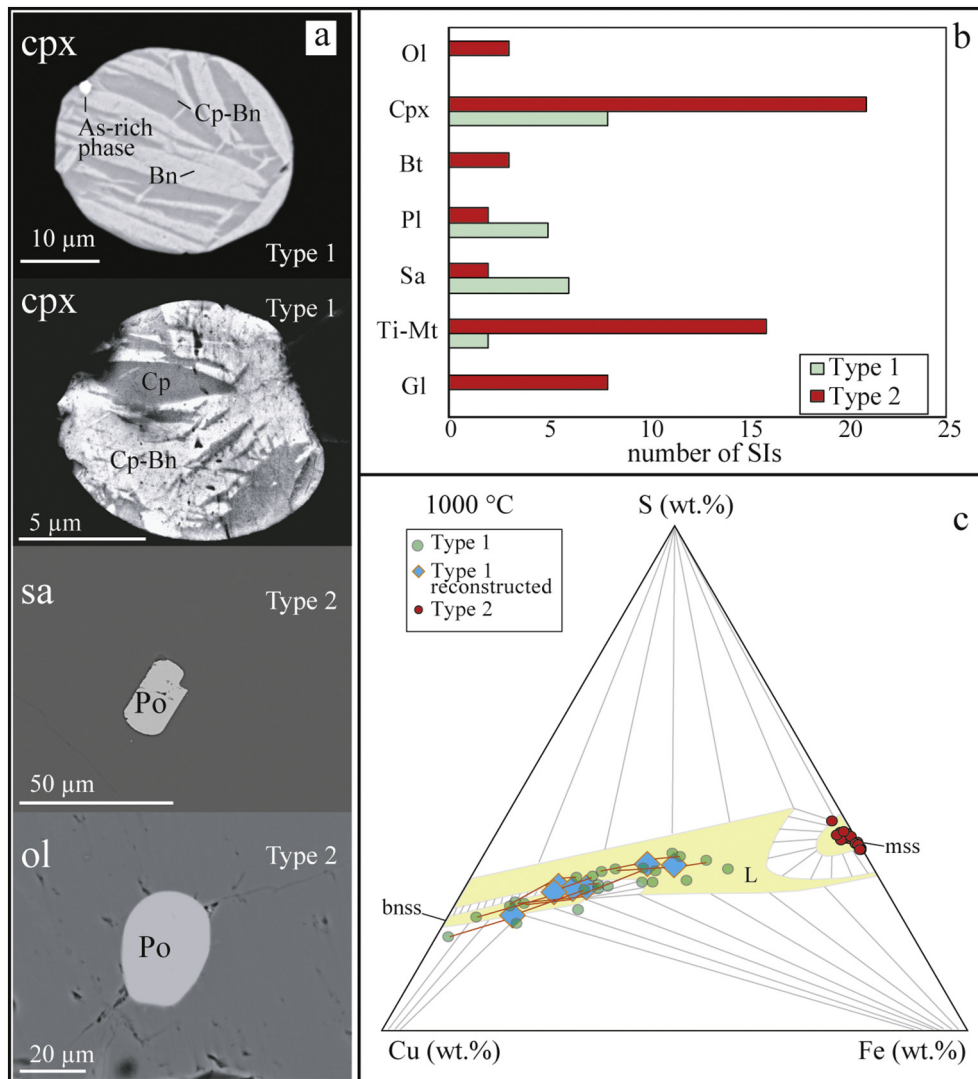


Fig. 2. (a) BSE images of Type 1 SIs consisting of unmixed chalcopyrite (Cp)-bornite (Bn) and Type 2 SIs represented by homogeneous pyrrhotite (Po); (b) abundance of SIs in the various mineral phases and groundmass glass of eruptive products (Ol: olivine; Cpx: clinopyroxene; Bt: biotite; Pl: plagioclase; Sa: sanidine; Mt.: magnetite; Gl: groundmass glass); (c) Composition of SIs in the Cu-Fe-S system at 1000 °C (Craig and Kullerud, 1969), for Type 1 SIs analyses of unmixed phases and the correspondent reconstructed composition are shown and joined by red lines, error bars fall within the symbols; data from this work and Fulignati et al. (2018) are reported in Table 1 and in the supplementary material S1. L, liquid; bns, bornite solid solution; mss, monosulfide solid solution. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

the tens of ppm range. The only SI found in a rhyolite is pyrrhotite with 0.4 wt% Cu, characterized by very low Zn, Pb and Ag and higher Mo contents (Tables 1 and 2).

Type 1 and Type 2 SIs are common accessories in trachytes, whereas they are extremely rare in latites (only Type 1 SIs) and in rhyolites (only Type 2 SIs), where just a couple of SIs were found after the inspection of several dozens of crystals. They are absent in basalt-shoshonite rocks. The two types of SIs never coexist in the samples of the same eruption. The entire dataset of analyses of the sulfides and hosts are reported in Tables 1 and 2 and Supplementary Material S1.

Some differences can be found when comparing the host mineral compositions for Type 1 and Type 2 SIs. Clinopyroxene (the most frequent host for both types of SIs; Fig. 2b) shows higher Cu, Cr, V and Ni contents for Type 1 sulfides compared to Type 2, for a similar Mg# range (see Supplementary Material S1). This is confirmed also when comparing the entire clinopyroxene analytical dataset (Supplementary Material S1) for the Vulcano products hosting Type 1 and Type 2 SIs.

4.2. Melt inclusions

The composition of glassy MIs in olivine, clinopyroxene, plagioclase, sanidine and biotite found in the products of explosive eruptions of basaltic, shoshonitic, latitic, trachytic and rhyolitic magmas is assumed to be representative of the magmas spanning the whole La Fossa magmatic differentiation path (Fig. 1c, Table 3 and Supplementary Material S1). The differentiation trend involves the fractionation of olivine, clinopyroxene, Ti-magnetite, labradorite to andesine plagioclase and, in evolved magmas, sanidine, minor oligoclase and biotite (Gioncada et al., 1998). Ti-magnetite joins the fractionating assemblage early, as shown by the decrease of Fe with Mg (Fig. 1d), while apatite joins later in intermediate terms.

The Cu content of MIs reaches the highest values at intermediate compositions (Zr around 160–200 ppm, at the latite-trachyte transition) and, when the highest Cu contents are considered, defines a trend that increases with magmatic differentiation from basalt (~50 ppm) to latite and trachyte (~250 ppm), and then abruptly drops to <60 ppm (Fig. 3a). Low Cu values have also been measured in

t1.1 **Table 1**
t1.2 Major element composition (wt%) of Type 1 and Type 2 SIs; Ol: olivine; Cpx: clinopyroxene; Bt: biotite; Pl: plagioclase; Sa: sanidine; Ti-Mt: Ti-magnetite. Reconstructed: calculated bulk
t1.3 composition of the sulfide inclusions (see methods section for details and supplementary materials for phase proportions); bdl: below detection limit; source a: Fulignati et al. (2018),
t1.4 EPMA analyses; source b: this work, FE-SEM-EDS analyses.

t1.5	Host rock	Unit	Host mineral	Sulfide ID	Sulfide type	Source	Fe	S	Co	Mn	Ni	Zn	Cu	Total
t1.6	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	PAL-90 sulf1	2	a	58.48	37.19	0.09	0.08	0.06	bdl	1.44	97.33
t1.7	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-90 sulf2	2	a	59.12	38.05	0.03	0.09	0.03	0.10	1.19	98.60
t1.8	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-90 sulf2	2	a	59.89	38.08	0.07	0.12	0.05	0.03	0.42	98.65
t1.9	Trachyte	Pal D	ol	pal90sulf3	2	a	57.19	37.24	0.14	0.18	0.07	0.07	1.62	96.52
t1.10	Trachyte	Pal D	gl	pal90sulf4	2	a	58.01	37.24	0.16	0.11	0.09	bdl	2.32	97.93
t1.11	Trachyte	Pal D	ol	pal90sulf5	2	a	58.94	37.60	0.10	0.12	0.10	bdl	1.67	98.53
t1.12	Trachyte	Pal D	ol	pal90sulf5	2	a	59.19	38.08	0.09	0.18	0.04	bdl	1.29	98.88
t1.13	Trachyte	Pal D	gl	pal90sulf8	2	a	57.09	38.05	0.07	0.10	0.04	0.11	1.34	96.80
t1.14	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	pal90sulf10	2	a	58.72	38.24	0.05	0.16	0.05	0.05	0.97	98.23
t1.15	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal90sulf13	2	a	58.38	37.99	0.13	0.12	0.00	0.03	1.54	98.18
t1.16	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal90sulf13	2	a	58.25	37.70	0.07	0.04	0.01	0.06	1.46	97.58
t1.17	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal90sulf14a	2	a	53.30	39.64	0.14	0.09	0.06	bdl	2.16	95.39
t1.18	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	PAL90 u293sulf17	2	a	58.15	37.73	0.09	0.08	0.01	bdl	1.31	97.37
t1.19	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	PAL90 u293sulf17	2	ti-a	58.60	38.26	0.07	0.12	0.09	0.02	1.39	98.54
t1.20	Trachyte	Pal D	pl	PAL90U297 sulf18	2	a	56.63	37.48	0.03	0.10	0.08	0.10	1.55	95.95
t1.21	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-15D sulf1	2	a	56.33	37.35	0.11	0.11	0.04	bdl	1.34	95.28
t1.22	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-15D sulf2	2	a	57.60	37.53	0.12	0.13	0.05	bdl	1.32	96.75
t1.23	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	PAL-15D sulf3	2	a	56.48	37.45	0.13	0.12	0.05	0.04	1.34	95.60
t1.24	Trachyte	Pal D	gl	PAL-15D sulf4	2	a	56.85	37.61	0.09	0.11	0.05	0.11	1.30	96.12
t1.25	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	sulf5	2	a	56.06	37.68	0.06	0.14	0.06	bdl	1.84	95.84
t1.26	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal15sulf8.spc	2	a	57.15	37.63	0.04	0.13	bdl	0.04	1.02	96.00
t1.27	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	Pal 15 D sulf 6	2	a	56.28	37.64	0.08	0.10	0.05	0.06	2.51	96.71
t1.28	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	Pal 15 D sulf 6	2	a	56.35	37.64	0.14	0.12	0.11	0.11	2.54	97.01
t1.29	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	Pal 15 D sulf 6	2	a	56.40	37.67	0.15	0.01	0.07	0.07	2.72	97.09
t1.30	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	Pal 15 D sulf 7	2	a	57.99	37.64	0.03	0.10	0.05	0.04	1.21	97.06
t1.31	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	Pal 15 D sulf 8	2	a	57.96	37.57	0.12	0.11	0.08	0.04	1.58	97.46
t1.32	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_1	1	b	24.05	32.12	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	43.83	100.00
t1.33	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_1	1	b	38.65	33.84	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	27.51	100.00
t1.34	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	reconstructed *SC15-1_1	1	b	33.54	33.24	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	33.22	100.00
t1.35	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_2	1	b	21.84	31.58	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	46.58	100.00
t1.36	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_2	1	b	33.72	34.57	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	31.70	100.00
t1.37	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	reconstructed *SC15-1_2	1	b	28.50	33.25	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	38.25	100.00
t1.38	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_3	1	b	20.92	28.88	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	50.20	100.00
t1.39	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_3	1	b	5.09	22.51	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	72.40	100.00
t1.40	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_3	1	b	20.74	30.62	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	48.64	100.00
t1.41	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	reconstructed *SC15-1_3	1	b	15.57	27.94	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	56.48	100.00
t1.42	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_3b	1	b	21.60	23.91	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	54.49	100.00
t1.43	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_3b	1	b	12.40	21.58	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	66.02	100.00
t1.44	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_4	1	b	37.20	29.81	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	32.99	100.00
t1.45	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	SC15-1_4	1	b	30.91	31.85	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	37.24	100.00
t1.46	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_5	1	b	10.02	25.69	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	64.29	100.00
t1.47	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_5	1	b	22.46	29.18	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	48.36	100.00
t1.48	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	reconstructed *SC15-1_5	1	b	20.64	28.67	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	50.69	100.00
t1.49	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_6	1	b	18.07	30.59	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	51.35	100.00
t1.50	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	SC15-1_6	1	b	9.64	24.69	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	65.66	100.00
t1.51	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	pl	reconstructed *SC15-1_6	1	b	15.62	28.88	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	55.50	100.00
t1.52	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	SC_18_20c1	2	b	62.38	37.48	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.14	100.00
t1.53	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	SC_18_20c2	2	b	62.83	36.85	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.32	100.00
t1.54	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	SC_18_20c3	2	b	62.18	37.21	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.60	100.00
t1.55	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	SC_18_20c4	2	b	63.61	36.11	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.28	100.00
t1.56	Trachyte	Pal D	pl	SC_18_20c5	2	b	63.70	36.20	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.10	100.00
t1.57	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	Ti-mt	sc1824 11-12	1	b	24.18	28.79	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	47.04	100.00
t1.58	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	Ti-mt	sc1824 11-12	1	b	31.37	29.73	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	38.91	100.00
t1.59	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sc1824 4-5-6	1	b	20.42	28.20	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	51.38	100.00
t1.60	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sc1824 4-5-6	1	b	2.27	18.68	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	79.05	100.00
t1.61	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	reconstructed *sc1824 4-5-6	1	b	10.89	23.21	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	65.90	100.00
t1.62	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sc1824 7-8	1	b	29.89	29.63	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	40.48	100.00
t1.63	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sc1824 7-8	1	b	22.97	28.30	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	48.73	100.00
t1.64	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	reconstructed *sc1824 7-8	1	b	25.18	28.73	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	46.09	100.00
t1.65	Latite	Pal C	Ti-mt	sulf n4	1	b	28.65	32.34	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	39.01	100.00
t1.66	Latite	Pal C	Ti-mt	soln n4	1	b	11.75	25.37	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	62.88	100.00
t1.67	Latite	Pal C	Ti-mt	reconstructed *soln n4	1	b	18.51	28.15	bdl	bdl	bdl	bdl	53.34	100.00
t1.68	Rhyolite	Pal B	sa	pallentiasulf1	2	a	59.58	36.72	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.09	0.33	96.81
t1.69	Rhyolite	Pal B	sa	pallentiasulf1	2	a	58.57	36.56	0.04	0.07	0.01	bdl	0.42	95.67

some intermediate composition MIs. Conversely, Pb concentration in MIs increases from basalt (5 ppm) to trachyte (35 ppm) and remains constant in rhyolites (Fig. 3b).

The average metal concentrations measured in Type 2 SIs (Table 2) and in coexistent MIs (Table 4) allow the sulfide phase/silicate melt partition coefficients for Cu (1184), Ni (352), Zn

(1.25), V (3.17), Pb (1.77) to be calculated. The sulfide phase/silicate melt partition coefficients for the same metals in Type 1 sulfides, mostly lacking coexistent melt inclusions, are determined assuming the average Cu content of latitic-trachytic melt inclusions (Table 4) and are 1538 for Cu, 154 for Ni, 1.32 for Zn, 1.8 for V and 76 for Pb.

Table 2 Major and trace elements (ppm) bulk composition of Type 1 and Type 2 SIs analyzed by LA-ICP-MS; Ol: olivine; Cpx: clinopyroxene; Sa: sanidine; Ti-Mt: Ti-magnetite.

	Host rock	Unit	Host mineral	Sulfide ID	Sulfide type	S	V	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	As	Se	Mo	Ag	Cd	Sn	Sb	Te	Pt	Au	Tl	Pb	Bi
12.1	Trachyte	Pal D	sa	PAL-90 sulf1	2	371,919	bdl	671	676,629	823	269	17,048	241	bdl	25.84	0.47	3.98	1.16	2.05	0.18	bdl	0.08	0.01	0.07	3.90	bdl
12.2	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-90 sulf2	2	380,658	8.80	275	249,572	362	111	6626	378	bdl	2.21	bdl	3.46	bdl	3.47	bdl	bdl	0.48	bdl	0.01	4.38	0.08
12.3	Trachyte	Pal D	ol	pal90sulf5	2	378,390	1.39	493	454,061	1406	690	35,369	150	bdl	183.55	1.67	3.43	3.85	bdl	0.06	bdl	0.02	0.14	60.27	4.50	0.13
12.4	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	pal90sulf10	2	382,459	170	762	690,365	593	85	17,666	314	34.08	bdl	26.79	2.21	1.16	bdl	bdl	0.12	1.67	0.51	bdl	4.06	194
12.5	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal90sulf13	2	378,456	24.98	1202	533,044	1701	380	20,826	157	3.19	bdl	2.78	4.13	0.46	1.41	1.00	1.23	bdl	0.26	1.35	3.27	0.14
12.6	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	pal90sulf14a	2	396,402	6.23	795	695,233	1334	354	29,342	230	bdl	bdl	3.81	3.22	0.50	1.07	bdl	0.08	0.10	0.07	3.08	0.17	
12.7	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	PAL90	2	379,924	85.56	797	445,303	1107	153	11,738	294	3.32	78.58	2.31	2.28	0.16	2.77	bdl	bdl	bdl	0.04	1.09	35.01	0.71
12.8	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	u293sulf17	2	379,924	32.83	746	459,804	869	185	10,467	243	8.76	bdl	7.57	2.19	3.60	0.94	bdl	0.37	bdl	bdl	0.49	19.60	10.8
12.9	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	u293sulf17	2	149,585	1068	39,728	582,983	1438	1145	6334	1664	bdl	84.77	0.20	17.52	bdl	16.35	bdl	2.31	bdl	bdl	bdl	12.81	0.85
12.10	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-15D sulf1	2	341,034	119	6800	582,983	2627	2917	13,900	603	2.11	4.71	2.09	3.68	4.18	0.48	bdl	2.00	0.13	0.18	0.03	4.15	0.30
12.11	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	PAL-15D sulf2	2	346,344	206	12,951	582,983	2412	375	10,979	1445	bdl	107	2.36	9.86	10.95	4.96	0.99	bdl	0.29	0.04	0.20	6.64	0.38
12.12	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	sulf5	2	370,083	1.66	3026	582,983	4248	3495	24,755	433	bdl	48.50	1.68	1.87	1.31	0.93	bdl	0.48	0.18	0.18	0.35	14.51	7.60
12.13	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	Pal 15 D sulf 6	2	232,691	132	2413	582,983	1550	2145	12,373	644	50.61	15.36	22.58	13.36	6.27	bdl	1.82	1.52	0.34	0.46	7.18	384.56	166
12.14	Trachyte	Pal D	cpx	Pal 15 D sulf 6	2	422,053	712	3501	582,983	3248	2661	15,932	1006	bdl	bdl	2.12	6.36	1.07	1.29	bdl	bdl	0.10	0.11	0.45	4.66	0.23
12.15	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	Pal 15 D sulf 7	2	349,260	314	2605	582,983	3377	3397	16,455	830	bdl	11.01	1.72	3.74	1.60	3.16	bdl	bdl	0.12	0.07	0.32	3.72	0.12
12.16	Trachyte	Pal D	Ti-mt	Pal 15 D sulf 8	2	595,243	117	1505	173,263	59	47	1,193,582	1145	397.31	208	6.46	354.05	0.64	14.27	4.93	0.50	0.07	bdl	0.03	34.41	3.31
12.17	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sci824 4-5-6	1	148,141	0.05	682	108,824	131	493	248,441	607	0.47	15.66	0.02	9.07	16.64	3.95	0.11	1.14	bdl	0.04	0.03	20.20	32.6
12.18	Trachyte	Palizzi lava	cpx	sci824 7-8	1	362,456	bdl	1616	582,983	1216	1979	8003	44	bdl	45.77	76.36	1.85	2.14	1.83	bdl	3.41	bdl	0.03	0.12	0.80	0.23
12.19	Rhyolite	Pal B	sa	pal1entiasulf1	2																					

5. Discussion

5.1. Evolution of metals in the magmas

The petrographic features and the chemical compositions of MIs and SIs found in Vulcano eruptive products allow the evolution of metals in the magmatic system of an active arc volcano to be tracked from basalt to rhyolite. This system is fed by sulfide-undersaturated, H₂O-rich and oxidized basaltic magmas. The first appearance of SIs indicates that sulfide saturation occurs late, during magma evolution, at the latite-trachyte transition. Accordingly, the fO₂ value decreases from basalts (NNO-NNO + 1) to intermediate magmas (trachyte magma ΔNNO -1 to -2; Fulignati et al., 2018). This is potentially due to the combined effects of lower temperatures, the fractionation of Fe-bearing minerals and the volatile loss during differentiation (Richards, 2015; Scaillet and MacDonald, 2006; Scaillet and Pichavant, 2005). At Vulcano island, sulfide saturation is unrelated to the sudden onset of magnetite crystallization (“magnetite crisis”, Jenner et al., 2010), because magnetite fractionation starts early, while sulfide saturation is late.

Magmatic sulfide inclusions could be trapped either as a liquid (SL) or as a solid, which can be either a monosulfide solid solution (*mss*) or an intermediate solid solution (*iss*), having a composition close to pyrrhotite and chalcopyrite, respectively (Parat et al., 2011). For most metals, the partition coefficient between sulfide and silicate melt strongly depends on the nature of the sulfide phase (*mss*, *iss*, or SL; Li and Audétat, 2015). Thus, determining the nature of the sulfide phases at the time of trapping is important to constrain the metal budget of the magmatic system (Rottier et al., 2019 and references therein). By plotting both Type 1 and Type 2 SIs analyses on the ternary diagram of the Cu-Fe-S system (at 1000 °C), the reconstructed Type 1 SIs compositions fall in the liquid field, whereas Type 2 SIs fall in the pyrrhotite (*mss*) field, suggesting that the latter were trapped as a solid phase. This evidence is supported by comparing their sulfide phase-silicate melt partition coefficients (for Cu, Ni, Pb, Zn), calculated from measured concentrations and predicted according to the equations for $D_{SL/SM}^X$, $D_{mss/SM}^X$ of Li and Audétat (2015) for a trachyte melt with 950 °C, ΔFMQ -0.77 and FeO 4.4 wt%. The comparison shown in Fig. 4 demonstrates a good match for both the Type 1 and the Type 2 SIs (these elements were selected because they could be reliably quantified in both magmatic sulfide and silicate melt inclusions, and because their partition coefficient is markedly different for *mss* versus SL). The different partition coefficients SL/SM and *mss*/SM are also in agreement with the measured Ag and Pb contents, which are considerably higher in Type 1 SIs than in Type 2 SIs.

The Cu behavior in the silicate melt confirms late sulfide saturation (Fig. 3a). In fact, Cu concentration in MIs increases from basalt to latite melts, which are sulfide-undersaturated, and then rapidly decreases within a narrow compositional interval (Zr 180–200 ppm; SiO₂ 58–60 wt%) once sulfide saturation is reached, due to the stripping of Cu by Cu-rich sulfide melt. The scattered Cu concentrations, including very low values in the intermediate composition MIs range, might suggest that: (i) incipient sulfide saturation was achieved in some parts of the reservoir (at the contact with wall rock thanks to temperature decrease, fractional crystallization or silica assimilation?) although not revealed by sulfide trapping; (ii) Cu was episodically lost to a S-rich vapor phase from mafic magmas. Events of refilling by Cu-poor, S-rich and sulfide undersaturated magma could furthermore enhance the heterogeneity in the Cu content of an intermediate composition reservoir. This is particularly crucial because, in order to represent the entire basalt to rhyolite differentiation range, we analyzed samples that do not necessarily represent the evolution in a single reservoir but rather come from multiple, possibly independent magma batches with variable age.

The evolution of Cu and Pb in the silicate melt has been modeled with fractional crystallization, starting from a mean value of the La Sommata basaltic MIs and including a sulfide phase in the fractionating assemblage at the latite-trachyte stage (Fig. 3a, b). For this study, we

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Table 3

Mean composition and standard deviation (SD) for major elements (wt%) of MIs in the Vulcano products. Literature EPMA data: Gioncada et al. (1998), Le Voyer et al. (2014) for La Sommata basalt; Fusillo et al. (2015) for Vulcanello 1 shoshonite; Fulignati et al. (2018) for Pal D trachyte. Pal C latite and Pal B rhyolite are FE-SEM-EDS analyses from this work.

Host rock composition	Unit		SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	FeO _t	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅	Cl
Basalt	La Sommata	mean (15)	45.91	0.62	10.99	8.93	0.17	8.76	14.34	1.99	1.85	0.31	0.29
		SD	0.80	0.06	0.40	0.49	0.02	1.36	0.49	0.17	0.28	0.20	0.05
Shoshonite	Vulcanello 1	mean (33)	54.34	0.63	17.31	7.05	0.15	2.16	4.51	4.57	6.83	0.66	0.30
		SD	1.44	0.09	0.63	0.90	0.04	0.59	0.89	0.34	0.66	0.12	0.03
Latite	Pal C	mean (5)	56.55	0.86	18.08	6.18	0.14	1.10	3.39	4.94	7.93	0.40	0.42
		SD	1.09	0.15	0.80	1.59	0.13	0.24	0.77	0.39	1.01	0.15	0.09
Trachyte	Pal D	mean (22)	60.00	0.58	17.38	4.41	0.14	1.01	2.49	4.59	6.82	0.20	0.38
		SD	0.86	0.12	0.56	0.57	0.06	0.32	0.54	0.54	1.04	0.08	0.06
Rhyolite	Pal B	mean (18)	70.44	0.13	14.87	2.02	0.11	0.13	0.95	4.53	6.64	0.06	0.51
		SD	0.79	0.05	0.62	0.29	0.05	0.11	0.16	0.48	0.51	0.00	0.08

neglected crustal assimilation processes. The model employs bulk distribution coefficient for Zr, Cu and Pb, calculated for each step of the differentiation process using partition coefficients derived from the literature and the relative proportions of crystallizing phases for Vulcano (Costa et al., 2020; see Supplementary Material S1 for details of the model). The sulfide phase/silicate melt partition coefficients for Pb and Cu were calculated according to Li and Audéat (2015) (Supplementary Material S1).

The models provide a robust explanation of the Cu behavior in the silicate melt. The fractional crystallization models predict that 0.2–0.3 wt% of sulfide melt fractionated along with clinopyroxene +

plagioclase + Ti-magnetite + olivine + biotite + sanidine. This is sufficient to cause a sharp drop in the Cu content of silicate melt at the latite to trachyte transition. Because Type 1 and Type 2 SIs were never found to coexist, we suggest that the first sulfides formed at the highest Cu content are correspondingly Cu-rich (Type 1 SIs), whereas those exsolved from the Cu-depleted trachytic magma are the Cu-poor Type 2 SIs (Cu-bearing *mss*) found in trachyte and rhyolite (Fig. 3a). This reconstruction is in agreement with the composition of clinopyroxene crystals in the latites and trachytes. Clinopyroxene composition testifies that, in the latite-to-trachyte transition, the Cu-depleted trachytic magma is slightly more evolved (that is, having a lower Cr, V and Ni content in clinopyroxenes) than the Cu-rich trachyte and latite (Fig. 5). The trachyte-rhyolite step requires a high percentage (60 vol%) of fractionated solid (Costa et al., 2020), strongly increasing the final concentration of incompatible elements and possibly explaining the large spread in Zr values measured in rhyolites.

The evolution of Pb shows an increase with differentiation up to rhyolite (Fig. 3b). This agrees well with the low sulfide melt/silicate melt partition coefficient for this element, which is orders of magnitude lower than that of Cu (this work and Li and Audéat, 2015). The modeled Pb trend in rhyolites (Zr > 200 ppm), despite the higher D_{Pb} , slightly deviates from the measured data. This may be ascribed to the partitioning of Pb in an exsolved Cl-bearing aqueous fluid.

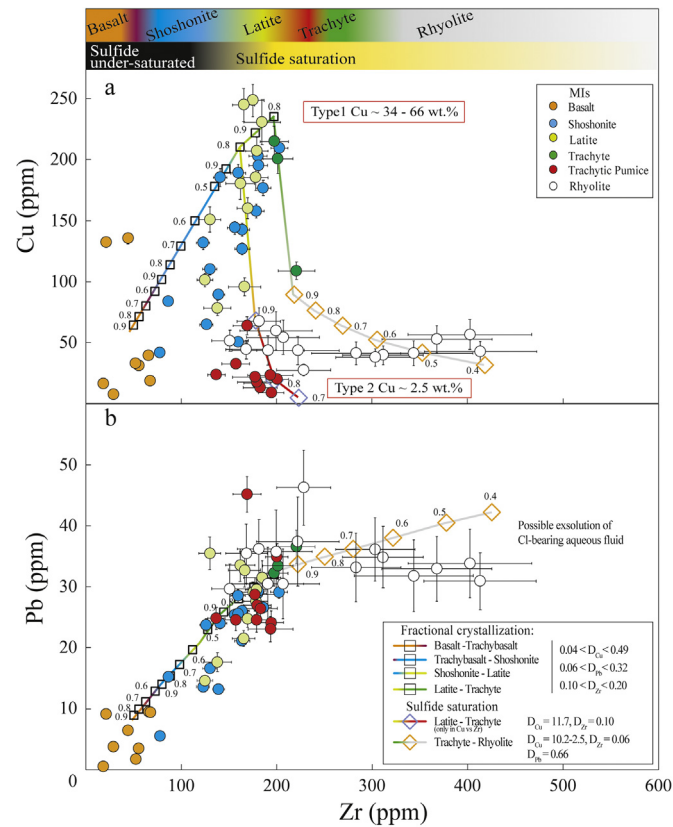


Fig. 3. Copper (a) and Pb (b) versus Zr as differentiation index for the glassy MIs representative of the basalt to rhyolite suite at Vulcano, with quantitative fractional crystallization model for the evolution of Cu and Pb in the silicate melt. Bulk partition coefficients (D) for Cu, Pb and Zr have been calculated using minerals/silicate melt partition coefficients from literature and sulfide/silicate melt partition coefficients calculated with the model of Li and Audéat (2015). See supplementary material S1 for additional details. 1 sigma error for each analysis is shown as error bars, which if not visible, is smaller than the symbol. Symbols and numbers along the fractionation paths indicate melt fraction.

5.2. The effect of fluid saturation

Tracking metal evolution in magmas cannot overlook the effect of fluid-saturation along differentiation. While Vulcano basalts are H₂O-, S-, Cl-rich, the shoshonitic magmas have lower volatile contents (Gioncada et al., 1998), suggesting that H₂O, S and Cl may be lost to an exsolved aqueous fluid phase at the basalt-shoshonite transition. Our results show that, despite mafic magmas degassing during ascent, Cu and Pb increase with differentiation (Fig. 3a, b). This suggests that the evolution of these metals is not significantly affected by decompression degassing of mafic magmas as they refill crustal reservoirs. Indeed, Cu scarcely partitions into a hydrosaline fluid phase exsolved from mafic magmas according to the experimental results of Zajacz et al. (2012).

In trachytes and rhyolites, the Cu-normalized abundances of S, Mo, Zn, Ag, Pt, Au, Pb in Type 1 (trachyte) and Type 2 (trachyte and rhyolite) SIs show different patterns (Fig. 6). While Mo/Cu ratio in the rhyolite Type 2 SIs is higher than that of Type 2 SIs in trachyte, Zn/Cu and Pb/Cu are distinctly lower (Fig. 6a). This is in agreement with the exsolution of a Cl-rich magmatic fluid phase from the rhyolitic magma at La Fossa (Fulignati et al., 2018), causing Pb and Zn to preferentially partition with respect to Mo (Zajacz et al., 2008). Mo, which is not efficiently partitioned in a Cl-rich magmatic fluid phase (Candela and Holland, 1984; Zajacz et al., 2008), tends to also increase in the rhyolite SIs.

At Vulcano, previous data suggest that metal-bearing fluids can be involved in phreatic-phreatomagmatic eruptions (Gurioli et al., 2012). An example is the Breccia di Commenda eruption, a violent explosive

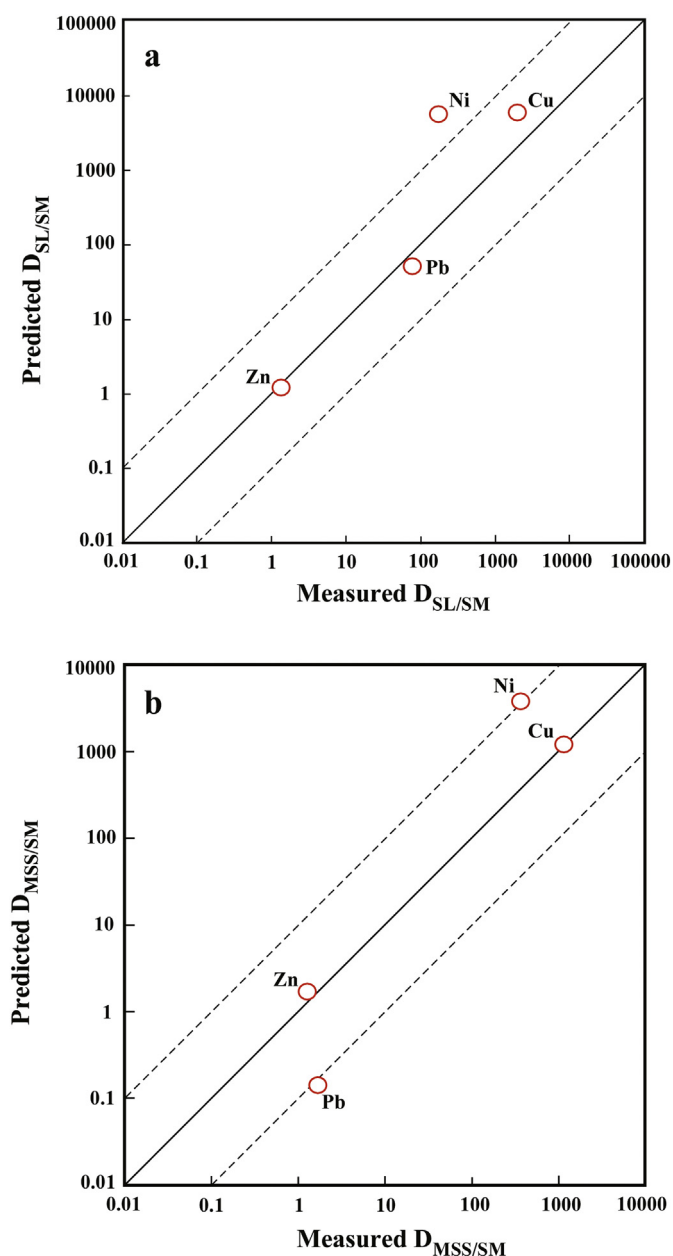


Fig. 4. Comparison of measured sulfide - silicate melt partition coefficients with values predicted by the model of [Li and Audétat \(2015\)](#); (a) sulfide liquid (Type 1 SIs)-silicate melt (b) monosulfide solid solution (Type 2 SIs)-silicate melt. T of 950 °C, $\Delta FMQ = -0.77$ and FeO in the melt = 4.4 wt% estimated for La Fossa trachyte by [Fulignati et al. \(2018\)](#) have been used in the model.

event occurred at La Fossa volcano during XIII Cent. AD. This eruption produced a high amount of lithics which showed acid-sulfate alteration ([Gurioli et al., 2012](#)). Interestingly, S/Cu, Zn/Cu, Pb/Cu ratios measured on the fine ash of the Breccia di Commenda deposits are higher than the same ratios measured in the trachytic and rhyolitic SIs ([Fig. 6a](#)). This suggests that Cl-rich fluids carrying Pb and Zn from the magmatic-hydrothermal system were involved in the Breccia di Commenda eruption.

5.3. Comparison with mineralized systems

With the aim to compare the SIs composition in the products of an active arc volcano with that of SIs from magmas associated with porphyry mineralization, absolute and Cu-normalized metal

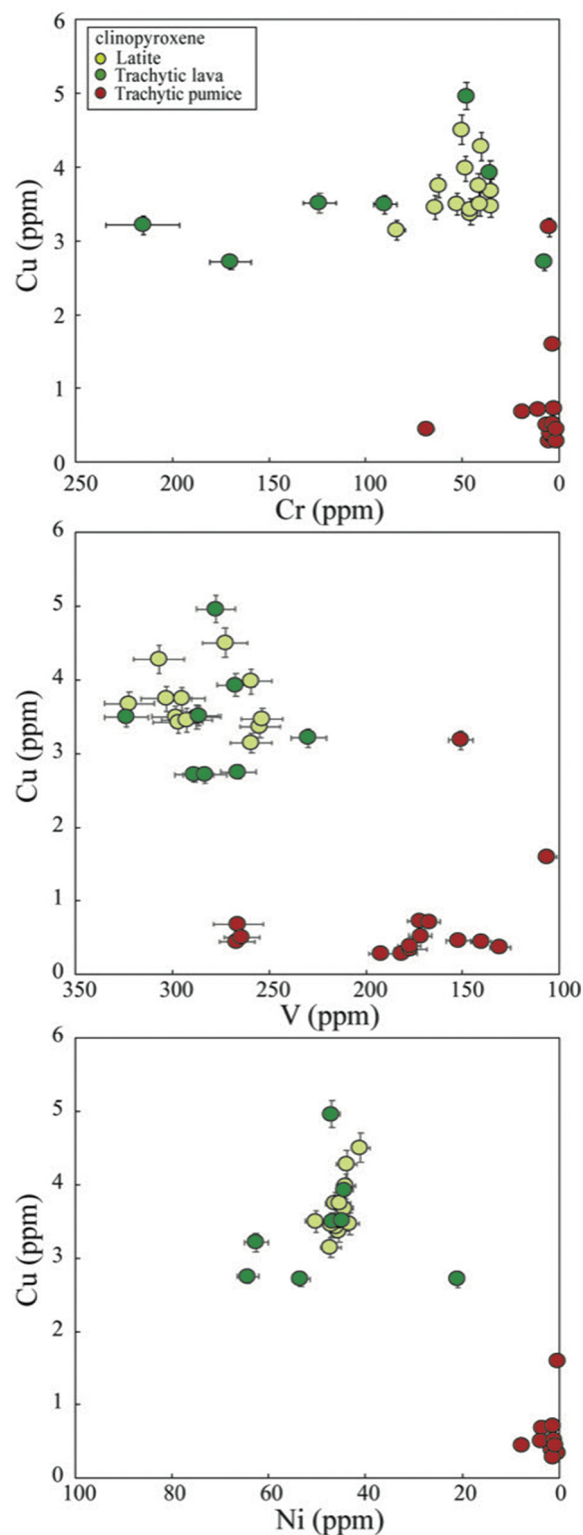


Fig. 5. Cu versus Cr, V and Ni content for clinopyroxene crystals in the latitic and trachytic products of La Fossa hosting the type 1 (yellow and green symbols) and type 2 (red symbols) SIs. See the supplementary material S1 for the complete data set of analyses of clinopyroxene. 1 sigma error for each analysis is shown as error bars, which if not visible, is smaller than the symbol. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

concentrations from La Fossa are compared with those found in well-preserved SIs of ore-related igneous rocks. The metal ratios and absolute concentrations in Vulcano SIs (either in Type 1 and Type 2

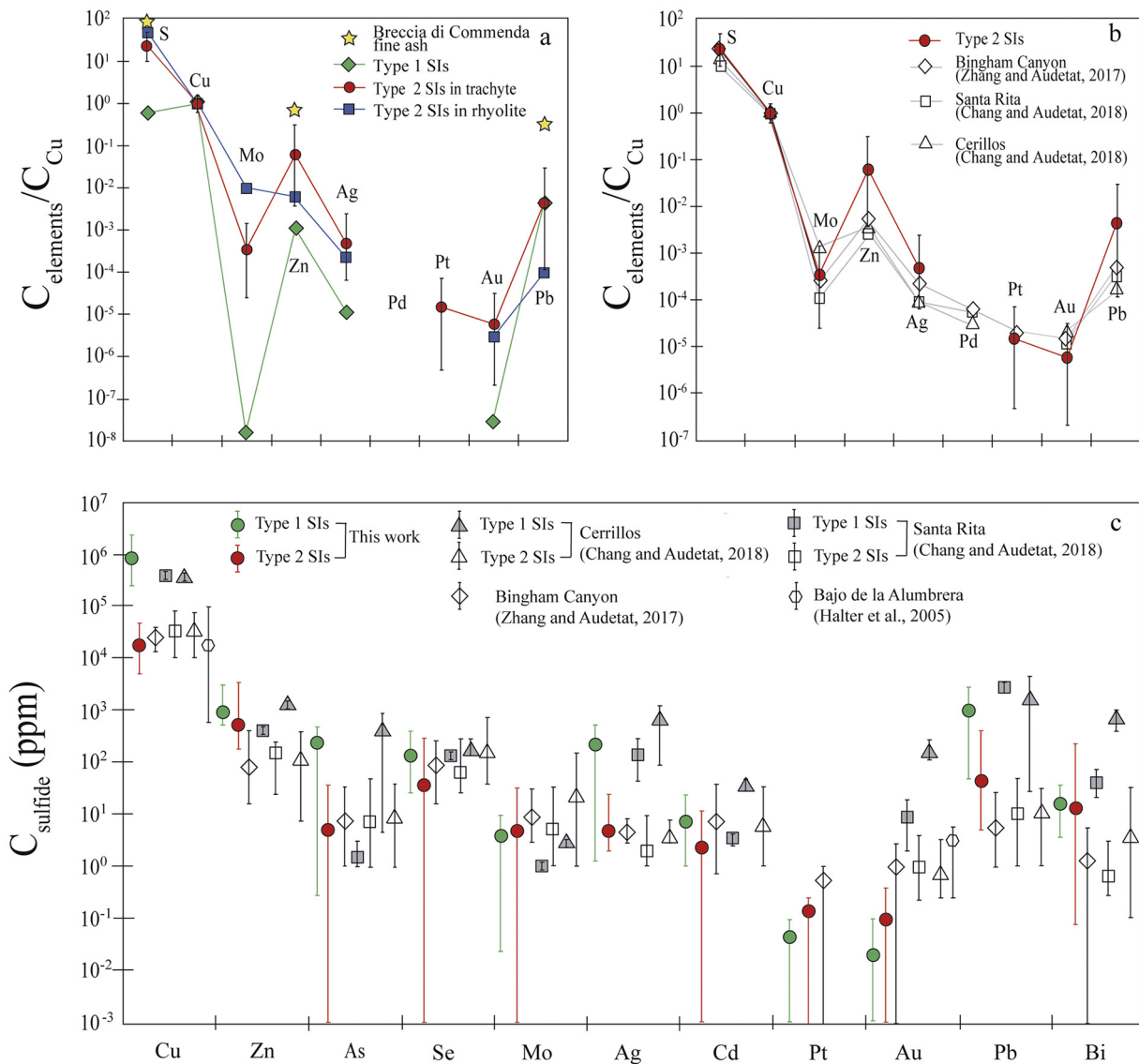


Fig. 6. (a) Cu-normalized composition of La Fossa SIs and Breccia di Commenda fine ash; (b) Cu-normalized composition (average and range) of Type 2 SIs compared to SIs of ore-related latitic magma at Bingham and at Santa Rita and Cerrillos; (c) Absolute metal concentrations in Type 1 and Type 2 La Fossa SIs compared with those found in mineralized systems (Bingham Canyon, Santa Rita, Cerrillos and Bajo de la Alumbrera).

SIs) match well with those of mineralized systems (Fig. 6b, c). This suggests that, at Vulcano, the late attainment of sulfide saturation during fractionation in mid-upper crustal reservoirs prevents the early depletion in S and chalcophile metals and produces magmatic sulfide melts with compositions comparable to those found in several porphyry systems. Once formed, the sulfides may be stored in crystal mushes of intermediate to evolved crustal reservoirs, re-melted by mafic sulfide-undersaturated recharges or eventually cannibalized by aqueous fluids exsolving at the rhyolite stage, thereby producing highly mineralizing solutions (Audéat and Simon, 2012; Halter et al., 2002; Keith et al., 1997; Nadeau et al., 2010; Wilkinson, 2013).

Our results indicate that the processes governing metal evolution through silicate melt differentiation in active arc magmatic systems share similarities to those inferred for magmas associated to porphyry Cu systems. Bearing in mind that the magmatic stage is arguably pivotal in the evolution of porphyry Cu systems (Audéat and Simon, 2012), arc volcanoes such as La Fossa can thus be viewed as active analogues and ideal sites for studying the critical early stages of porphyry Cu genesis. Their possibility to evolve toward mineralized systems will, of course,

depend also on other factors (magma chamber size and depth, duration of magmatic and hydrothermal activity, and the efficiency of magmatic fluid focusing; Richards, 2011; Wilkinson, 2013) that can either promote or inhibit porphyry Cu formation.

6. Conclusive remarks

In this work, we used combined compositional data (major, minor and trace element) on melt inclusions, magmatic sulfides and host minerals from the eruptive products of the arc volcano of La Fossa (Vulcano Island, Italy), to track the evolution of metals along the magma differentiation path of an active magmatic system. We found that, in case of sulfide-undersaturated, volatile-rich arc basalts, metals are scarcely subtracted by degassing during ascent to shallow crustal reservoirs and thus reach their highest abundances in intermediate magmas. Further evolution results in sulfide saturation where Cu and chalcophile metals strongly partition into the sulfide melt, causing a dramatic decrease in abundance from the silicate melt. The evolution of Cu in the silicate melts was modeled with quantitative fractional crystallization, and

the results are in close agreement with experimental data. The model shows that fractionation of only 0.2–0.3 wt% of sulfide is sufficient to deplete the silicate melt in Cu down to the values recorded by MIs in trachytic and rhyolitic products. Metals that do not partition in sulfides (Pb, Zn) increase their concentrations with magmatic evolution until they are scavenged by a Cl-rich aqueous fluid phase, possibly exsolved at the rhyolitic stage.

The comparison of metal ratios and absolute concentrations of the Vulcano magmatic sulfides with those of sulfides found in magmatic rocks, associated with world-class porphyry Cu systems, shows strong similarities. This suggests that the processes governing metal evolution through silicate melt differentiation in active arc magmatic systems are similar to those processes inferred for magmatic stage of porphyry Cu environments. Our results thus suggest that the investigation of metal evolution in active arc volcanoes such as La Fossa can provide information for interpreting the genetic mechanisms of porphyry Cu deposit formation.

Declaration of Competing Interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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Appendix A. Supplementary data

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