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Dynamics of the Young Merapi (*<*2.2 ka – 1,788 CE) pumice fall deposits: Insights from textural and geochemical studies

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ABSTRACT

We studied nine pumice fall deposits of the Young Merapi stage (*<*2.2 ka – 1,788 CE) observed in the western and southern flanks of Merapi volcano. All deposits include a wide variation of lithics (10–42% *Clithic*), with thicker deposits (i.e., more voluminous eruption) being more lithic-rich and vice versa. Two different magma types (hereafter referred to as type I and type II) were identified based on petrography, bulk-rock, glass, and feldspar microlite compositions. Type I magma has abundant amphibole and pyroxene, is rich in calcium (*>*9 wt% *CaObulk*), poor in both silica (50.8–53.7 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*and 62.3–66.6 wt% *SiO*²*glass*) and strontium (*<*580 ppm, bulk-rock), and has more calcic feldspar microlites (An₃₈₋₇₉). Type II magma also contains abundant amphibole, but has less pyroxene and is poorer in calcium (*<*9 wt% *CaObulk*), higher in both silica (53.2–54.5 wt% *SiO*²*bulk* and 63.3–70.8 wt% *SiO*²*glass*) and strontium (*>*580 ppm), with less calcic feldspar microlites (An31–77). These two magma types alternately fed the explosive eruptions during the Young Merapi stage; however, their juvenile products are distinctive in terms of *syn*-eruptive microtextures (i.e., matrix-vesicles and microlites). Pumices from type II magma have a higher matrix-vesicle number density (MVND) and microlite number density (MND) values than those of pumices from type I magma (1.0–6.5 $\times 10^{15}$ and 1.8–7.4 $\times 10^{15}$ m⁻³, and 0.6–2.3 $\times 10^{15}$ and 0.7–1.8 \times 10 15 m $^{-3}$, respectively). A positive correlation between MVND with SiO $_2$ and MND suggests that a colder (i.e., less calcic feldspar microlites indicate lower temperature and vice versa) and more evolved (higher SiO2) magma facilitates more extensive matrix-bubble nucleation and deeper microlite crystallization than hotter magmas, allowing type II magma to erupt more explosively than type I magma.

1. Introduction

Merapi volcano is one of the basaltic-basaltic andesite stratovolcanoes in Indonesia ([Newhall et al., 2000;](#page--1-0) [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0); [Innocenti et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Gertisser et al., 2023](#page--1-0)) ([Fig. 1](#page--1-0)), formed by the northward subduction of the Indo-Australian plate towards the Eurasian plate, and considered as the youngest member of the Central Java Quaternary volcanic belt [\(Phuong et al., 2012](#page--1-0)). Merapi volcano is also

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known as one of the most active and dangerous volcanoes in the world ([Lavigne et al., 2000\)](#page--1-0); not only because it frequently produces block and ash pyroclastic density currents (PDCs) via dome collapses ([Andreastuti](#page--1-0) [et al., 2000](#page--1-0); [Kelfoun and Gueugneau, 2022](#page--1-0)) and aftermath lahars ([Lavigne et al., 2000;](#page--1-0) de Bélizal et al., 2013; Hadmoko et al., 2018), but also widely dispersed tephra falls from buoyant eruption plumes with volcano explosivity indices (VEIs) up to 4 ([Andreastuti et al., 2000](#page--1-0); [Gertisser et al., 2012; Solikhin et al., 2015](#page--1-0)). However, our understanding of the dynamics of pumice fall-associated explosive eruptions at Merapi remains limited, as most of the previous studies focused on the aspect of general-stratigraphic framework, storage conditions, lava domes, PDCs, and lahars [\(Andreastuti et al., 2000, Newhall et al., 2000](#page--1-0), [Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012;](#page--1-0) [van der Zwan et al., 2013,](#page--1-0) [Costa et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Darmawan et al.,](#page--1-0) [2022; Shimomura et al., 2019,](#page--1-0) [Kelfoun and Gueugneau, 2022](#page--1-0); [Lavigne](#page--1-0) [et al., 2000,](#page--1-0) de Bélizal et al., 2013, [Hadmoko et al., 2018\)](#page--1-0). Moreover,

understanding the explosive behavior of basalt-basaltic andesite magmas represents an important challenge since (1) many basaltbasaltic andesite volcanoes are located adjacent to human settlements (e.g., Arenal in Costa Rica, Izu-Oshima in Japan, Merapi and Kelud in Indonesia, Calbuco in Chile, Mayon in the Philippines; [Streck and](#page--1-0) [Wacaster, 2006, Ikehata et al., 2010](#page--1-0), [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0), [Maeno et al.,](#page--1-0) [2019,](#page--1-0) [Namur et al., 2020](#page--1-0), [Ruth and Costa, 2021\)](#page--1-0), and (2) they are capable of producing VEI 4–5 eruptions, such as Merapi and Kelud in Indonesia, Izu-Oshima in Japan, and Llama in Chile [\(Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012; Maeno et al., 2019; Ikehata et al., 2010](#page--1-0); [Marshall et al., 2022](#page--1-0)). To shed light on this issue, we studied nine pumice fall deposits from the Young Merapi stage (*<*2.2 ka – 1,788 CE). Three of them were identified as Trayem, Jurangjero 1, and Jurangjero 2 tephras due to the significant similarity in deposit characteristics reported by [Gertisser et al. \(2012\).](#page--1-0) Starting from the stratigraphical descriptions of tephra deposits

* Solikhin et al. 2015 ** Gertisser et al. 2012

Fig. 1. (a) A sketch map showing the location of Merapi volcano in Central Java, Java Island. Red triangles are active volcanoes, while grey area represent islands. Black solid line with triangles is the subduction zone between Indo-Australia and Eurasia. (b) 10-cm isopach of some VEI 3–4 eruptions of Merapi volcano (Paten I, Paten II, Trayem, Jurangjero I, Jurangjero II, and 2010 CE) obtained from [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0) and [Solikhin et al., 2015](#page--1-0). Our sampling locations were focused on the western flanks because, all of those fall deposits were distributed to west side (towards Magelang City). We visited the southern flank with aim to sample an unnamed Young Merapi pumice fall deposit (~20–30 cm-thick) as reported in Gertisser et al. (2011; see their [Fig. 7](#page--1-0)c). Digital elevation model image was obtained from Badan Informasi Geospasial (BIG) Indonesia 2022. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

observed on the western and southern sides of the Merapi volcano, we report the quantitative results of componentry, petrography (i.e., phenocryst fraction, mineral assemblages), vesicles and microlites (i.e., volume fraction and number density), as well as the chemical compositions of bulk-rock, glass, and feldspar phenocrysts and. Petrographic and chemical analyses were used to evaluate the pre-eruptive magma storage conditions. Textural studies of vesicles and microlites were used to support the interpretation of magma storage conditions, as well as to investigate the *syn*-eruptive conduit processes.

2. Overview of the Merapi volcano

2.1. Brief history

The activity of Merapi volcano is divided into four main episodes: Ancient, Middle, Young, and Modern [\(Berthommier, 1990; Camus et al.,](#page--1-0) [2000; Gertisser et al., 2012; Gertisser et al., 2023](#page--1-0)). The Ancient period is represented by Turgo, Plawangan, and Medjing Hills, which are interpreted as the lava flows of the Proto-Merapi volcanic edifice, erupted between 138 and 135 ± 3 ka [\(Gertisser et al., 2012, 2023\)](#page--1-0) or \pm 40–14 ka ([Berthommier, 1990; Camus et al., 2000](#page--1-0)). Since then, activity during the Middle period took place at the Old Merapi volcanic edifice (Somma-Merapi; [Gertisser et al., 2012, 2023\)](#page--1-0), producing subsequent lava flows (the identified ages are 109 ± 60 ka, 30.3 ± 1 ka, 29.4 ± 1 ka, 24.2 ± 1 0.8 ka, 10.7 ± 0.8 ka, 8.6 ± 1.4 ka, and 4.8 ± 1.5 ka; Gertisser et al., [2012, 2023\)](#page--1-0) with some series of pyroclastic fall and pyroclastic density current (PDC) deposits emplaced during the period of $11,792 \pm 90$ to 2264 \pm 73 cal. BP ([Gertisser et al., 2012, 2023](#page--1-0)) or \pm 14.0–2.2 ka ([Berthommier, 1990,](#page--1-0) [Camus et al., 2000](#page--1-0)). The eruptive activity during the Young and Modern period (*<*2.2 ka–1,786 CE and younger than 1,786 CE, respectively; [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0), [Berthommier, 1990](#page--1-0), [Camus et al., 2000\)](#page--1-0) took place from the Young Merapi (post-Somma-Merapi) volcanic edifice, producing abundant pyroclastic falls, PDCs, lava flows, and/or lava domes with VEI ranging from 1 to 4 ([Gertisser](#page--1-0) [et al., 2012](#page--1-0); [Surono et al., 2012](#page--1-0); [Cronin et al., 2013;](#page--1-0) [Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2023\)](#page--1-0).

Detailed studies on stratigraphy (e.g., [Andreastuti et al., 2000](#page--1-0); [Newhall et al., 2000;](#page--1-0) [Gertisser et al., 2012, 2023\)](#page--1-0) have revealed that Merapi volcano experienced multiple moderate-explosive eruptions (VEI 3–4) with sub-Plinian to Plinian intensity, as indicated by the presence of abundant pumice and/or scoria fall deposits and PDC layers. Some of these VEI 3–4 eruptions occurred at *<*4153 ± 37 cal. BP (Paten I), 2264 \pm 73 cal. BP (Paten II), 1047 \pm 37 cal. BP (Trayem), 762 \pm 26 cal. BP (Jurangjero I), 385 ± 65 cal. BP (Jurangjero II), 1872 CE, and 2010 CE ([Andreastuti et al., 2000, Newhall et al., 2000](#page--1-0), [Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012,](#page--1-0) [Surono et al., 2012,](#page--1-0) [Cronin et al., 2013](#page--1-0), [Solikhin et al., 2015](#page--1-0), [Gertisser et al., 2023](#page--1-0)) [\(Fig. 1\)](#page--1-0). However, the 1872 and 2010 CE eruptions have been associated with PDCs instead of fall deposits [\(Newhall](#page--1-0) [et al., 2000;](#page--1-0) [Surono et al., 2012](#page--1-0); [Cronin et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Solikhin et al.,](#page--1-0) [2015\)](#page--1-0). Many studies suggest that a large, catastrophic eruption also occurred in 1006 CE, with an intensity similar to that of the 1980 CE eruption of St. Helens, and is thus responsible for generating the sector collapse event of Somma-Merapi (e.g., [Van Bemmelen, 1949](#page--1-0); [Ber](#page--1-0)[thommier, 1990; Camus et al., 2000](#page--1-0)). Gendol Hills in the southwestern side of Merapi (ca. ± 18 km from the summit) is therefore suggested to be the 1006 CE hummocks (i.e., the product of the debris avalanche). However, [Newhall et al. \(2000\)](#page--1-0) provide an alternative interpretation: Gendol Hills represents the remnant of an older volcanic edifice since (1) a new K–Ar dating from one of the hills suggests a significantly older age (3.44 \pm 0.09 Ma); (2) it lacks the characteristics of debris avalanche deposits such as jigsaw brecciation and block facies/matrix facies relationships; and (3) the lithology of hornblende-pyroxene andesite is similar to those found in Menoreh Mountains (an ancient volcanic edifice located \pm 7 km to the west of Gendol Hills).

2.2. The developed magma plumbing system

Through petrological and geophysical investigations, previous studies have shown that the magma plumbing system beneath Merapi volcano is quite complex, containing numerous vertically-distributed magmatic reservoirs, ranging from 700 MPa to 100 MPa (e.g., [Costa](#page--1-0) [et al., 2013;](#page--1-0) [Chadwick et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [van der Zwan et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Widiyantoro et al., 2018\)](#page--1-0). Specifically, the plumbing system has been divided into three levels (deep, intermediate, and shallow), where each reservoir is located at pressures *>*600, 500–200, and *<* 200 MPa, respectively [\(Costa et al., 2013;](#page--1-0) [Widiyantoro et al., 2018](#page--1-0)). In such a complex plumbing system, two magmatic affinities of basalt-basaltic andesite compositions are observed: the medium-K and high-K (MK and HK, respectively) [\(Gertisser and Keller, 2003](#page--1-0); [Gertisser et al., 2012,](#page--1-0) [2023\)](#page--1-0). The Ancient and Middle periods includes both types (MK and HK), while the Young and Modern periods are exclusive to HK magma ([Gertisser et al., 2023](#page--1-0), see their [Fig. 6.](#page--1-0)18). Moreover, the products of Merapi are typically rich in amphibole, suggesting a hydrous magmatic system with at least 4–6 wt% of water [\(Costa et al., 2013;](#page--1-0) [Innocenti](#page--1-0) [et al., 2013\)](#page--1-0).

3. Methods

3.1. Fieldwork activities and sampling strategies

Fieldwork was conducted for sampling purposes, as well as to record the essential elements in the observed deposits, including deposit structure (i.e., massive and/or graded), clast types and sizes, and stratigraphy. We established 4 observation locations on the western (LOC 1, 2, and 3) and southern (LOC 4) flanks of Merapi volcano ([Fig. 1\)](#page--1-0). Most of the observation locations were established on the western flank because the isopach maps provided by previous studies (i.e., [Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012;](#page--1-0) [Solikhin et al., 2015\)](#page--1-0) [\(Fig. 1](#page--1-0)) suggested that most pumice fall deposits were emplaced to the west ([Fig. 1](#page--1-0)). We also visited the southern flank because we aimed to sample an unnamed Young Merapi pumice fall deposit (\sim 20–30 cm-thick) as reported in [Gertisser et al. \(2011\);](#page--1-0) (see their [Fig. 7c](#page--1-0)).

Each pumice fall deposit was sampled at a locality about 8–9 km from the present vent, where the outcrop displays fresh conditions ([Figs. 1 and 2\)](#page--1-0). The studied samples were collected from the main fallout layer and, if present, from sub-layers (shown as blue star symbol in [Fig. 3\)](#page--1-0) for further laboratory analyses, including grain size distribution (GSD), componentry, chemical (bulk-rock, glass, and mineral chemistry) and textural analyses.

3.2. Grain size distribution (GSD) and componentry

A total of 11 samples (including the main fallout layer and, sublayers) were used for GSD and componentry analyses, namely F1–P, F2–P, F3–P, F4–P, Tra-LP, Tra-UP, F5–P, Jj1-P, Jj2-LP, Jj2-UP, and F6–P [\(Fig. 4\)](#page--1-0). Samples were dried in an oven at 120 ◦C for 24 h and subsequently sieved using -6Φ to 4Φ (*>*32 to *<*1/16 mm) mesh sizes under 1-phi intervals to obtain the distribution of grain size. Componentry analysis was obtained by observing the size fraction between -6Φ and -2Φ (*>*32 to 4 mm) under the naked eye (for particles larger than 16 mm) and stereomicroscope (for 4–16 mm particles). We classified the particles in pumice, scoria, lithics and free crystals based on their qualitative characteristics, such as colour, shape, brightness, trans-parency, and/or vesicles [\(Fig. 4](#page--1-0)a).

3.3. Petrography

We studied (at most) three thin sections of pumice clasts (depending on the texture variabilities, i.e., vesicles) from each eruption (F1–P, F2–P, F3–P, F4–P, Tra, F5–P, Jj1-P, Jj2-P, and F6–P) to qualitatively observe the mineral textures (e.g., zoning, sieving) and their variations

Fig. 2. (a) Outcrop image of LOC 1, consisting of five pumice fall layers (F1–P, F2–P, F3–P, F4–P, and Trayem (Tra)). The absence of Paten I and II deposits (4153 \pm 37 and 2264 \pm 37 cal. BP, respectively; [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0)), coupled with the presence of Trayem deposit (1047 \pm 37 cal. BP; [Gertisser et al., 2012\)](#page--1-0) in the uppermost part strongly suggest that these deposits correspond to the Young Merapi stage. Tra-LP, Tra-GA, Tra-UP, and Tra-RA correspond to Trayem lower pumice, Trayem grey ash, Trayem upper pumice and Trayem reddish ash, respectively. Detailed image of F1–P (b), F2–P, F3–P (c), F4–P and Trayem deposits (d). (e, f) Outcrop image of LOC 2, showing the occurrence of F5–P above the Trayem deposit. (g) Detailed image of F5–P and F5-RA layer (pumice and reddish ash, respectively), showing a relatively darker colour compared to the other observed pumice fall layers. (h) Outcrop image of Jurangerjo I and Jurangjero II pumice fall deposits (762 \pm 26 and 385 \pm 65 cal. BP, respectively; [Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0)) at LOC 3. Detailed image of Jurangjero I pumice (Jj1-P) and grey ash (Jj1-GA) (i), and Jurangjero II lower grey ash (Jj2-LGA), upper pumice (Jj2-UP), and upper grey ash (Jj2-UGA) (j). (k) Outcrop image of LOC 4, showing the occurrence of F6–P layer, which is positioned below black ash (BA) and a 250 ± 10 cal. BP charcoal-rich pyroclastic density current (PDC) deposit ([Newhall et al., 2000](#page--1-0)).

([Fig. 5\)](#page--1-0). A mosaic of BSE images (acquired by means of a scanning electron microscope; [Fig. 6\)](#page--1-0) for each thin section was used to quantify pheno-crystallinity (porphyricity index) and mineral assemblages. We digitized all phenocryst phases (each mineral phase being represented by a different colour) using a graphic design software (e.g., Corel Draw, Adobe Illustrator) and processed the resultant images using the software Image-J to obtain the number and size of the phenocrysts. The vesiclefree phenocryst content (φ_{PC}°) was obtained using the following equation (e.g., [Klug and Cashman, 1994](#page--1-0); [Gurioli et al., 2005; Suhendro et al.,](#page--1-0) [2022\)](#page--1-0):

$$
\varphi_{PC}^{\circ} = \frac{\varphi_{PC}}{1 - \varphi_{BV}}\tag{1}
$$

where φ_{PC} is the vesicle-included pheno-crystallinity obtained by dividing the total area of phenocrysts with total grain area, and φ_{BV} is the bulk-vesicularity obtained by dividing the total area of vesicles with total grain area.

3.4. Bulk-rock, glass, and feldspar phenocryst and microlite compositions

Bulk-rock composition was obtained using RIGAKU ZSX Primus II at the Department of Earth Resource Science, Akita University. 18 juvenile samples from 9 pumice fall layers (F1–P, F2–P, F3–P, F4–P, Tra, F5–P, Jj1-P, Jj2-P, and F6–P) were selected for this analysis (each layer is represented by 1–3 measurements, depending on the existence of sublayer and sample availability) [\(Fig. 7\)](#page--1-0). The juvenile clasts (grouped for componentry) were analyzed using glass beads method. First, samples were powdered using tungsten mill, annealed at 900 ◦C, and diluted with 1:5 ratio of rock samples and mixture of lithium borate $(Li₂B₄O₇)$ and lithium metaborate (LiBO₂). Subsequently, we fused the powder at 1150 \degree C to make glass beads. Finally, glass beads were analyzed to obtain the major and trace element compositions using matrix-corrected

*) ¹⁴C-dating by Newhall et al. 2000 **) ¹⁴C-dating by Gertisser et al. 2012

Fig. 3. Stratigraphy correlation of four different locations. Note that LOC 4 in the south flank include no equivalent layer to those of west flank deposits. However, according to [Newhall et al. \(2000\)](#page--1-0), the black ash (BA; older than 250 ± 10 cal. BP) layer is only observed at LOC I – Kali Krasak, thus become our key layer to identify the relative position of F6–P layer with the western flank deposits.

calibration curves from standard samples of igneous rock series from the Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ).

The composition of groundmass glasses and feldspar phenocrysts and microlites was obtained using JEOL JXA 8530-F Field Emission Electron Microprobe (FE-EPMA) at the Faculty of Science, Kyushu University, using a focused beam with 1 μm diameter size and 15 kV accelerating voltage [\(Figs. 7 and 8\)](#page--1-0). For groundmass glasses, each clast is represented by five to ten measurement locations, avoiding cracks and microlites (note that the number of measured glasses compositions depends on the microlite abundance). For phenocrysts, each clast is represented by ten crystals, and each core and rim composition were represented by the average anorthite value (obtained from three measurement locations, avoiding cracks and inclusions). For microlites, we only report the core compositions (one measurement point for each crystal) because the rim size was typically smaller than the beam diameter.

3.5. Quantifying vesicles

Many studies have suggested that magmas experienced two stages of vesiculation, before and during the eruption (named pheno- and matrixbubbles, respectively) (e.g., [Toramaru, 2014](#page--1-0); [Edmonds and Woods,](#page--1-0) [2018; Suhendro et al., 2022\)](#page--1-0). To define the boundary between phenoand matrix-vesicles, we performed 2D-vesicle size distribution (VSD) measurements for each thin section (which were also used for petrography analysis and quantification of microlites; see also [Sections 3.3 and](#page--1-0) 3.6 .) under three image scales: mosaic (varying from 84 to 212 mm²),

200 \times magnification (0.48 mm²), and 500 \times magnification (0.09 mm²) ([Fig. 6\)](#page--1-0). Both vesicle populations (i.e., pheno- and matrix-vesicles) can experience bubble coalescence process during eruption. Thus, decoalescing the vesicle morphology via manual digitation (using a graphic design software) is essential to capture the most actual volume fraction and number densities of pheno- and matrix-vesicles ([Klug and](#page--1-0) [Cashman, 1994, 1996](#page--1-0)). Subsequently, the digitized vesicle images were processed using image-J software to obtain the number and area of vesicle. Finally, the number density of pheno- and matrix-vesicles (PVND and MVND, respectively) were obtained from eqs. [2](#page--1-0) and [3](#page--1-0), assuming homogeneous-spherical vesicles shape (e.g., [Klug and Cash](#page--1-0)[man, 1994; Gurioli et al., 2005](#page--1-0), and [Suhendro et al., 2022\)](#page--1-0):

$$
PVND (N_V) = (N_{APV}/D_{PV})/(1 - \varphi_{BV}^*)
$$
 (2)

$$
MVND (N_V) = (N_{AMV}/D_{MV})/(1 - \varphi_{MV})
$$
\n(3)

where *N_{APV}* is number density per unit area of pheno-vesicle, D_{PV} is the average pheno-vesicle size, *NAMV* is number density per unit area of matrix-vesicle, D_{MV} is the average matrix-vesicle size, φ_{BV}^* is phenocrystfree bulk-vesicularity (i.e., summation of pheno-vesicle and matrixvesicle fractions in a whole grain without phenocrysts), and φ_{MV} is matrix-vesicularity (i.e., fraction of matrix-vesicle in the entire clast groundmass).

Fig. 4. (a, b) Component variations, grain size distribution (GSD) and componentry results of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits. Yellow star in GSD chart represents median size. Yellow, purple, black, and red in pie chart denotes pumice, scoria, lithics, and free crystals, respectively. The volcano explosivity index (VEI) refers to [Gertisser et al. \(2012\)](#page--1-0), where pink and green squares represent VEI 3 and 4 eruptions, respectively. (c) Bivariate plots between average lithic contents with pumice contents (left) and deposit thickness at 8–9- km distance from the vent (right). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

3.6. Quantifying crystals

Previous studies have suggested that crystals in volcanic rocks can be defined to three phases: microlite, microphenocryst, and phenocryst (e. g., [Hammer et al., 1999](#page--1-0); [Polacci et al., 2001](#page--1-0); [Gurioli et al., 2005;](#page--1-0) [Sal](#page--1-0)[isbury et al., 2008](#page--1-0); [Humphreys et al., 2009; Shea et al., 2009; Shea et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012\)](#page--1-0). Thus, it is important to define their specific size quantitatively via image processing. Similar to vesicles, we determine the boundary between each crystal phase by performing size distribution analysis (for each thin section; [Figs. 9 and 10](#page--1-0)) under three image magnifications, i.e., mosaic, $200 \times$, and $500 \times$ (see previous section). However, because

distinguishing plagioclase and glass in the BSE images was very difficult due to the lack of colour contrast ([Fig. 6](#page--1-0)), we chose pyroxene as it is considered as one of the most abundant mineral phases (both as large and small crystal sizes). Pyroxenes from each magnification were manually digitized using a graphic-design software and processed by Image-J to obtain the number and size. The results from ImageJ were exported to *CSDslice* program to determine the crystal aspect ratio, following the methods of [Morgan and Jerram \(2006\)](#page--1-0). The average aspect ratio of pyroxene crystals was found to be 1.0:1.5:2.5, while the roundness factor was set at 0.0. Afterwards, the crystal size distribution (CSD) of pyroxene was determined using *CSDcorrections* software,

Fig. 5. (a) Modal mineralogy and petrographic images of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits. All pumices include plagioclase (Pl), pyroxene (Px), amphibole (Amp) and oxides (Ox) as the main phenocryst phases. Numbers in the componentry column represents modal abundance of each respective mineral. (b) However, two types were observed based on the pyroxene abundances: the pyroxene-rich (type I) and the pyroxene-poor (type II). Note that many phenocrysts are fractured. (c) Representative BSE images of plagioclase phenocrysts showing three zoning variations: normal, reverse, and oscillatory (OZ). All zoning types often include fine and coarse sieve-textures. (d) Representative petrographic images of pyroxene showing the occurrence of fine sieve-texture and oscillatory zoning.

following the methods of [Higgins \(2002\).](#page--1-0) Finally, the microlite number density (MND) were obtained from equations below:

$$
MND (N_V) = (N_{AM}/D_M) \tag{4}
$$

where N_{AM} is number density per unit area of microlite, and D_M is the average microlite diameter.

4. Results

4.1. Stratigraphy

From the composite stratigraphy of the studied locations, we observed nine pumice fall deposits from the product of the Young period (*<*2.2 ka–1,786 CE; hereafter referred as the Young Merapi). Note that we did not study the 1872 and 2010 CE eruptions because both episodes correspond to the Modern period (younger than 1,786 CE).

4.1.1. LOC 1

LOC 1 is a \pm 180 cm-thick outcrop consisting of 5 pumice fall layers (F–P) intercalated with a brown layer from PDC ([Figs. 2](#page--1-0)a-d, [3\)](#page--1-0). Starting from the bottom, the first pumice fall layer (F1–P) is a \sim 6 cm-thick and massive, characterized by abundant lithics, and dominated by fine clast sizes (mostly 0.2–0.4 cm) ([Fig. 2a](#page--1-0), b). Going upward, the \sim 9 cm-thick second pumice fall (F2–P) is massive, with a significant decrease in lithic portions (lithic-poor) and no remarkable change in clast size (mostly between 0.2 and 0.4 cm). The third layer (F3–P) is a \sim 12 cm-

Fig. 6. Representative BSE images of Young Merapi pumice fall samples observed from mosaic, 200×, and 500×, magnifications. Note that type I pumice shows a relatively more vesiculated (i.e., larger matrix-vesicle size and more extensive coalescence) groundmass with less microlite fraction compared to type II pumice. Mpc denotes microphenocryst.

thick, massive and lithic-poor pumice fall layer, with typically larger clast sizes compared to the first and second pumice fall layers (mostly \sim 2 cm) [\(Fig. 2a](#page--1-0), c). The fourth pumice fall layer (F4–P) corresponds to \sim 18 cm-thick massive deposit, with identical clast sizes to F3–P (mostly \sim 2 cm), and is characterized by the relatively low lithic content with respect to the previously described pumice fall layers ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)a, d). Due to a lack of detailed description from previous studies, we cannot correlate any of those four layers with the existing data (i.e., [Andreastuti et al.,](#page--1-0) [2000; Newhall et al., 2000](#page--1-0); [Gertisser et al., 2012\)](#page--1-0). The uppermost layer at LOC 1 is~45 cm-thick and characterized by an internal stratification, with 4 sub-layers of fall deposits (from the lower to the upper part): a 20 cm-thick lower pumice (LP) lapilli, a 4 cm-thick grey ash (GA), an 11 cmthick upper pumice (UP) lapilli, and a 10 cm-thick reddish ash (RA). All of these sub-layers are considerably lithic-rich ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)a, d). Due to the similarity in sedimentological, stratigraphical, and lithological features, we considered as the equivalent of the Trayem deposit described by [Gertisser et al. \(2012\);](#page--1-0) (see their [Fig. 11](#page--1-0)), with an estimated age of 1047 \pm 37 cal. BP. Afterward, we named the pumice lapilli sub-units as Trayem lower pumice fall and Trayem upper pumice fall (Tra-LP and Tra-UP, respectively) ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)a, d), whereas the sub-unit ash layers are named as Trayem grey ash and Trayem reddish ash (Tra-GA and Tra-RA, respectively) [\(Fig. 2](#page--1-0)a, d).

4.1.2. LOC 2

LOC 2 is a \sim 220 cm-thick deposit which consists of 4 observable pumice fall layers [\(Figs. 2e](#page--1-0), [3\)](#page--1-0). The lowest layer was correlated with F4–P which was previously described at LOC 1 [\(Fig. 3](#page--1-0)); it is a massive, coarse (dominated by \sim 1.8 cm clasts), and lithic-poor pumice fall layer ([Fig. 2e](#page--1-0)), with a thickness of \sim 9 cm. The second fall layer corresponds to the Trayem deposit $(\pm 50 \text{ cm})$, characterized by internal stratification of four sub-layers (Tra-LP, Tra-GA, Tra-UP, Tra-RA) [\(Figs. 2](#page--1-0)e-f, [3\)](#page--1-0). At LOC 2, the thickness of Tra-UP is thinner, and the Tra-RA is significantly thicker than that observed at LOC 1 (\sim 16 and 20 cm, respectively) ([Figs. 2](#page--1-0)f, [3\)](#page--1-0). Going upward, there is a \sim 7 cm-thick lithic-poor and finegrained (mostly 0.2–0.4 cm) pumice fall deposit (F5–P), which underlines by a reddish ash layer (F5-RA) ([Fig. 2e](#page--1-0), g). Unlike the other pumice fall layer, F5–P contains scoriaeous juvenile material [\(Fig. 2](#page--1-0)g). The fourth pumice fall layer (the uppermost layer at LOC 2) consists of a \sim 11 cm-thick, massive, coarse (apparently dominated by \sim 3 cm clast size, but also rich in \sim 0.4 cm clasts), and lithic-rich pumice fall deposit, which underlines by a \sim 7–11 cm-thick grey ash layer. Because this deposit shows significant similarities with the Jurangjero 1 deposit of [Gertisser et al. \(2012\)](#page--1-0); (see their [Fig. 11](#page--1-0)), we refer to this layer as Jurangjero 1 (Jj1-P and Jj1-GA for the pumiceous and grey ash layer, respectively), dated at 762 ± 26 cal. BP [\(Gertisser et al., 2012](#page--1-0)) ([Fig. 3](#page--1-0)).

Fig. 7. Bivariate plots using some representative major and trace elements of Merapi samples. (a, b) We confirm that our samples (including pumice and scoria) belong to the Young Merapi stage, as indicated by the High-K (HK) affinity and low chromium (Cr) content (after [Gertisser et al., 2023](#page--1-0)). (c, d,) Two geochemical patterns (specifically for CaO and Sr) were observed, and interestingly, this evidence agrees well with the definition of type I and II from petrographic observation; type I being more mafic (higher CaO, and lower SiO₂ and SrO) than type II. (e) Comparison of bulk-rock and glass chemical compositions of SiO₂ and CaO between type I and II pumices. All values have been normalized to 100 wt% (volatile-free).

Fig. 8. Ternary feldspar diagram of Young Merapi pumice falls for feldspar phenocryst core (left), rim (middle), and feldspar microlite (right). Isothermal sections (i. e., magma temperature) of the dry ternary solvus was adapted from [Preece et al., 2016,](#page--1-0) using VOLCALC ([Wen and Nekvasil, 1994](#page--1-0)). Both pumice type shares relatively similar feldspar phenocryst core compositions (An_{55-90} for type I and An_{50-93} for type II). However, note type I has slightly more calcic feldspar phenocryst rim $(An_{48-89}$ for type I and An_{41-87} for type II) and microlite $(An_{38-79}$ for type I and An_{1-77} for type II) compositions than type II.

Fig. 9. 2D-vesicle size distributions (VSDs) of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits. Yellow histogram denotes type I pumice, while orange histogram represents type II pumice. All pumices displayed bimodal vesicle populations with consistent boundary between pheno- and matrix-vesicles, at approximately 0.1 mm vesicle diameter. (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

4.1.3. LOC 3

LOC 3 preserves a relatively thin outcrop (\sim 55 cm), consisting of two pumice fall layers [\(Figs. 2](#page--1-0)h-j, [3](#page--1-0)). The first layer (from the bottom) is a \sim 11 cm-thick, massive, coarse (mostly ~1 cm clast size, but also rich in \sim 0.4 cm clasts), and lithic-rich pumice fall deposit, which underlines by grey ash layer. This layer is easily correlable to the Jurangjero 1 eruption, which was previously described at LOC 2 ([Fig. 3\)](#page--1-0). The second pumice fall layer shows inner stratification in four sub-layers, including a lower pumice lapilli and a lower grey ash (which together totalize

*<*1.5 cm of thickness), an upper pumice lapilli (~16 cm) and upper grey ash (\sim 10 cm) ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)h). All sub-layers include abundant lithic clasts, and the mode of the grain size distribution is approximately 3 cm in diameter ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)j). Such features suggest a correlation between this pumice fall layer with the Jurangjero 2 deposit described by [Gertisser et al. \(2012\)](#page--1-0), dated at 385 \pm 65 cal. BP (see their [Fig. 11\)](#page--1-0). Thus, we named the second layer at LOC 3 as Jurangjero 2, and the sub-layers are labelled as Jj2-LP, Jj2-LGA, Jj2-UP, and Jj2-UGA, representing Jurangjero 2 lower pumice lapilli, lower grey ash, upper pumice lapilli, and upper grey ash,

Fig. 10. Pyroxene crystal size distribution (CSD) of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits. Based on the CSD slope variations (shown as A, B, and C), we define microlite, microphenocryst, and phenocryst as crystals with *<*0.03, 0.03–0.15, and *>* 0.15 mm diameter, respectively.

respectively [\(Figs. 2 and 3\)](#page--1-0).

4.1.4. LOC 4

LOC 4 is a \pm 120 cm-thick outcrop that includes a single pumice lapilli deposit ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)k and l). The 30 cm-thick pumice lapilli layer is massive and rich in fine-grained clasts (mostly 0.2–0.4 cm) and lithics. Such features make us unable to perform stratigraphic correlation with deposits at the other studied localities (LOC 1, 2, and 3). To solve this issue, we consulted the stratigraphy data of [Newhall et al. \(2000\)](#page--1-0) and use the overlying black ash (BA) as a stratigraphic marker ([Figs. 2l](#page--1-0) and [3](#page--1-0)). We suggest that this pumice lapilli deposit corresponds to an unnamed tephra unit at section I-Kali Krasak [\(Newhall et al., 2000](#page--1-0); see their [Fig. 4\)](#page--1-0) due to its relative position to black ash (i.e., the unnamed tephra is just below the black ash) and similarity in the variation of clast sizes. Thus, we tend to name this unit as F6–P. Because the overlying PDC deposits have an estimated age of 250 ± 100 cal. BP (Newhall et al., [2000;](#page--1-0) see their [Fig. 4\)](#page--1-0) and show no correlation with western tephra deposits (the youngest tephra in the western flank is Jurangjero 2), we suggest that the F6–P layer must be younger than 250 \pm 100 cal. BP, but older than 385 ± 65 cal. BP ([Fig. 3\)](#page--1-0).

4.2. Componentry variation

The Young Merapi pumice fall deposits comprise four main component types: pumice and/or scoria, lithics, and free crystals. Pumice clasts (brownish grey) are predominantly dense (i.e., low vesicularity); however, some highly vesicular and moderately vesicular pumices are also present in all layers (top to upper middle part of [Fig. 4a](#page--1-0)). Unlike pumice, all scoria clasts are typically black and poorly vesicular (i.e., no occurrence of highly and/or moderately vesicular scoria) ([Fig. 4](#page--1-0)b). Most of the lithics are fresh (grey to black) and displayed porphyritic texture with abundant phenocrysts (bottom middle part of [Fig. 4](#page--1-0)a). The free crystals mainly include two mineral types, i.e., plagioclase and pyroxene (bottom part of $Fig. 4a$). The componentry data are reported as a number fraction, where the total number of each component type was divided by the total number of counted grains (e.g., [Suhendro et al., 2022;](#page--1-0) [Bunga](#page--1-0) [Naen et al., 2023](#page--1-0)). The number fractions are labelled as *Cpumice*, *Cscoria*, *Clithics*, and *Ccrystals* for pumice, scoria, lithics, and free crystals, respectively ([Table 1](#page--1-0)).

Pumice and lithic clasts are negatively correlated and considered as the most dominant fraction on all deposits, varying from 50 to 89% for

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Fig. 11. Correlation of some important textural parameters. (a, b) Vesicle-free pheno-crystallinity (Φ_{PC}°) is found to be negatively and positively correlated with bulkvesicularity (Φ*BV*) and bulk-rock silica content. (c, d) Matrix-vesicle number density (MVND) shows negative and positive correlation with matrix-vesicularity (Φ*MV*) and bulk-rock silica content. (e, f) Microlite number density (MND) is positively correlated with microlite fraction (Φ*MC*) and bulk-rock silica content. (g) Positive correlation between MVND and MND. (h) Constant correlation between MVND and PVND. (i) Negative correlation between Φ*MC* and *CaOglass*.

Table 1

Componentry result of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits. *C* is the number fraction of each component type, obtained by dividing the number of each component type with the summation of counted clasts for each unit (n / n_{tot}) .

Pumice fall layer	Number of pumices within each class (mm)				Number of scoriae within each class (mm)				Number of lithics within each class (mm)				Number of free crystals within each class (mm)				Total number of clasts (n_{tot})
	\geq	$16 - 32$	$8 - 16$	$4-$	\geq	$16 - 32$ $8 - 16$		$4-$	\geq	$16-32$ 8-16		$4-$	>	$16-32$ 8-16		$4-$	
	32			8	32			8	32			8	32			8	
	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{2}$	28	125	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	10	94	$^{\circ}$	Ω	Ω	Ω	
$F1-P$	$n(C_{pumice})$: 156 (60.0)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				$n(C_{\text{tithic}}): 104(40.0)$				$n(C_{crystal})$: 0 (0)				260
		$\overline{2}$	37	246	Ω	Ω	Ω	$\mathbf{0}$	Ω	$1 \quad 1$		51	Ω	Ω and Ω	$\overline{0}$	Ω	
$F2-P$	Total pumice: 286 (84.4)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)			$n(C_{lithic})$: 53 (15.6)				$n(C_{crystal})$: 0 (0)				339	
	$\mathbf{1}$	5°	48	348	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	3	16	71	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	
$F3-P$	$n(C_{pumice})$: 402 (81.7)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				$n(C_{\text{lithic}}): 90(18.3)$				$n(C_{crystal})$: 0 (0)				492
		3	46	92	$0 \qquad 0$		Ω	Ω		$\overline{0}$	2	16		$0 \quad 0 \quad 0$		$\mathbf{0}$	
$F4-P$	$n(C_{pumice})$: 148 (89.2)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				n (<i>C_{lithic}</i>): 18 (10.8)			$n(C_{crystal})$: 0 (0)				166	
		8	46	415	$^{\circ}$	Ω	Ω	Ω	2°	2	29	283	Ω	Ω	Ω	7	
Tra-LP	$n(C_{pumice})$: 471 (59.2)				$n(C_{scaria})$: 0 (0)			$n(C_{\text{lithic}}): 316(39.8)$				$n(C_{crystal})$: 7 (0.8)				794	
	Ω	$\overline{0}$	34	208	Ω	$\overline{0}$	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	15	229	Ω	Ω	Ω	$\mathbf{2}$	
Tra-UP	$n(C_{pumice})$: 242 (49.6)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				n (<i>C_{lithic}</i>): 244 (49.6)			$n(C_{crystal})$: 2 (0.4)				488	
	0	3	11	125	$0 \qquad 0$		5	53		\blacksquare	$\overline{4}$	40	$\mathbf{0}$	Ω	Ω	$\mathbf{2}$	
$F5-P$	$n(C_{\text{pumice}}): 139(57.2)$				$n(C_{scoria})$: 58 (23.9)				$n(C_{\text{tithic}}): 45(18.5)$				$n(C_{crystal})$: 1 (0.4)				243
		6	12	78	Ω	$\mathbf{0}$	Ω	Ω	0	\sim 1	$\overline{4}$	30		$0 \quad 0 \quad 0$		Ω	
$Jj1-P$	$n(C_{pumice})$: 98 (73.5)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				$n(C_{\text{tithic}}): 35(26.5)$				$n(C_{crystal})$: 0 (0)				133
		7 and 7	22	216	$0 \qquad 0$		Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	6	122	Ω	$\begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$		$\overline{4}$	
Jj2-LP	$n(C_{pumice})$: 242 (64.7)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)			$n(C_{\text{tithic}}): 128(34.2)$			$n(C_{crystal})$: 4 (1.0)				374		
	$\mathbf{3}$	\mathcal{R}	16	149	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	Ω	$\overline{1}$	6	91	Ω	Ω	Ω	$\overline{2}$	
$Ji2$ -UP	$n(C_{pumice})$: 171 (63.2)			$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)			$n(C_{\text{tithic}}): 98(36.1)$			$n(C_{crystal})$: 2 (0.7)				271			
	$\overline{2}$	- 11	40	345	$0\qquad 0$	\sim 0		$\mathbf{0}$		Ω	27	222	Ω	Ω	$\overline{0}$	14	
$F6-P$	$n(C_{pumice})$: 398 (59.7)				$n(C_{scoria})$: 0 (0)				$n(C_{tithic})$: 250 (31.6)					$n(C_{crystal})$: 14 (2.3)			662

C_{pumice} and 11 to 50% for *C*_{lithic} ([Fig. 4](#page--1-0)c). Interestingly, there is the tendency for the thicker deposits to include higher lithic portions than those of thinner deposits ([Fig. 4c](#page--1-0)). In particular, lithic portions in deposits with *<*20 cm thickness (except F1–P) such as F2–P, F3–P, F4–P, F5–P, and Jurangjero 1 vary from 11 to 26.5% ([Figs. 3 and 4](#page--1-0)). While the relatively thick deposits (*>*20 cm) such as Trayem, Jurangjero 2, and F6–P comprise higher lithic contents, ranging from 31.6 to 49.6% ([Figs. 3 and 4](#page--1-0)). Scoria clast is only present in the F5–P, with a relatively high abundance (*Cscoria* = 23.9%). Free crystals were observed only in the Trayem, F5–P, Jurangjero 2, and F6–P (specifically below 8 mm grains); however, their abundance was considerably low (0.4–2.3%) ([Table 1](#page--1-0)).

4.3. Petrography

A summary of the petrographic observation is listed in [Table 2.](#page--1-0) All studied pumices include plagioclase (Pl), pyroxene (Px), amphibole (Amp), and oxides (Ox) as the main phenocryst phases. Biotite (Bt) and apatite (Ap) were also observed, but their relative abundances are lower than 0.5% [\(Fig. 5a](#page--1-0), b). Plagioclase and pyroxene phenocrysts from all

Table 2

Summary of petrography of the Young Merapi pumice fall deposits.

samples were predominantly zoned (including normal, reverse, and oscillatory zoning textures), sieved (coarse and fine), and fractured (especially for larger phenocrysts) ([Fig. 5b](#page--1-0), c). By contrast, amphibole, biotite, oxides, and apatite phenocrysts displayed un-zoned texture with minimum fractures [\(Fig. 5b](#page--1-0)). Based on the relative abundance of pyroxene, we suggested two different types of pumice: the pyroxene-rich (type I, where the relative abundance of pyroxene reached *>*15%) and the pyroxene-poor (type II, where the relative abundance of pyroxene is *<*15%) [\(Fig. 5](#page--1-0)a). Type I was found exclusively in F1–P, F2–P, F3–P, F5–P, and F6–P layers, while Type II characterizes F4–P, Trayem, Jurangjero 1, and Jurangjero 2 layers ([Fig. 5](#page--1-0)a).

Crystals in the groundmass glass (including microlite and microphenocryst) consist of three mineral phases: plagioclase, pyroxene, and oxides [\(Fig. 6\)](#page--1-0). Both plagioclase and pyroxene displayed zoned (normal and reverse) and un-zoned textures, while oxides were typically unzoned. Unlike phenocrysts, no sieved and oscillatory zoning textures were observed in the groundmass crystals ([Fig. 6\)](#page--1-0).

Table 3

Table 4

Average groundmass glass chemical compositions of type I and type II pumices. All samples are in wt% and normalized to 100%.

Sample:	Type I pumice $(n = 25)$	Type II pumice $(n = 35)$				
SiO ₂	64.31 (± 2.23)	67.01 (± 7.13)				
TiO ₂	$0.58 \ (\pm 0.02)$	$0.38 \ (\pm 0.01)$				
Al_2O_3	17.71 (± 1.99)	$18.09 \ (\pm 3.81)$				
MnO	$0.20~(\pm 0.01)$	$0.14 (\pm 0.01)$				
MgO	$1.28 \ (\pm 0.12)$	$0.74~(\pm 0.20)$				
CaO	3.69 (± 1.04)	3.47 (± 2.04)				
Na ₂ O	3.41 (± 0.48)	3.21 (± 1.24)				
K_2O	4.40 (± 0.64)	4.00 (± 0.86)				
FeOtot.	4.39 (± 0.71)	$2.89 \ (\pm 0.67)$				
Total	100.00	100.00				

4.4. Bulk-rock, glass, and feldspar phenocryst and microlite compositions

The representative bulk-rocks and glasses compositions are listed in [Tables 3 and 4,](#page--1-0) respectively. We confirm that our samples belong to the Young Merapi stage (*<*2.2 ka–1,786 CE; [Gertisser et al., 2012\)](#page--1-0), as shown by the high-K (HK) and low chromium (Cr) characteristics of bulk-rock chemical composition [\(Fig. 7a](#page--1-0), b). Interestingly, type I also shows a distinctive bulk-rock and glass chemical pattern compared to Type II, specifically for silica, calcium, and strontium contents ([Fig. 7c](#page--1-0)-e). In particular, type I is classified as basalt to basaltic andesite (50.5–53.7 wt % *SiO*²*bulk*) with andesitic-dacitic glass (62.3–66.6 wt% *SiO*²*glass*), rich in calcium (*>*9 wt% *CaObulk*) and poor in strontium (*<*580 ppm *Srbulk*). While type II is classified as basaltic andesite (53.2–54.5 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*), having dacitic glass compositions (63.3–70.8 wt% *SiO*²*glass*) with poor calcium ($\langle 9 \text{ wt\% } CaO_{bulk} \rangle$ and abundant strontium (>580 ppm Sr_{bulk}). Most pumice fall layer is characterized by the homogeneous bulk-rock composition (i.e., *<*1 wt% difference in *SiO*²*bulk* between each analyzed sample), except for F2–P and F5–P [\(Table 3\)](#page--1-0). Both F2–P And F5–P show bimodal juvenile composition, that is, basalt and basaltic andesite. F2–P has the largest *SiO*²*bulk* interval, i.e., *>*3 wt% difference in silica between basalt (50.66–50.67 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*) and basaltic andesite (53.86 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*). F5–P has a narrower *SiO*²*bulk* interval than that of F2–P (\sim 1.5 wt%); such variation was found to be related to the juvenile type, that is, scoria (51.41 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*) and pumice (52.81–53.05 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*) (Fig. 7a).

There is no remarkable difference in terms of feldspar phenocryst

core composition between type I and II, as shown by the overlapping anorthite contents ($(An = Ca/(Ca + Na + K; An_{55-90}$ for type I and An_{50–93} for type II) [\(Fig. 8](#page--1-0)). In contrast, feldspar phenocryst rim and microlite compositions show distinct differences, with type I being more calcic than type II (An_{48-89} and An_{38-79} for Type I, and An_{41-87} and An₃₁₋₇₀ for Type II) [\(Fig. 8](#page--1-0)).

4.5. Definition of vesicles and crystals

The VSDs data showed that all pumices displayed bimodal vesicle populations, with the boundary between pheno- and matrix-vesicles occur at approximately 0.1 mm vesicle diameter [\(Fig. 9\)](#page--1-0), similar to those of St. Helens, Crater Lake (Mazama), Novarupta, Santorini, Maninjau pumices (e.g., [Klug and Cashman, 1994](#page--1-0); [Klug et al., 2002](#page--1-0); [Adams](#page--1-0) [et al., 2006; Simmons et al., 2017](#page--1-0); [Suhendro et al., 2022](#page--1-0)).

Three slope variations were observed in pyroxene CSD data, both for type I and type II pumices ([Fig. 10\)](#page--1-0). The first slope (A) represents the steepest slope variation, ranging from − 716 to − 806. The second slope (B) is characterized by a relatively medium value, varying from − 165 to − 365. While the third slope (C) represents the gentlest slope, ranging from − 6.3 to − 5.1. Based on such slope characterizations, we define microlites, microphenocrysts, and phenocrysts as those crystals with *<*0.03, 0.03–0.15, and *>* 0.15 mm diameter, respectively ([Fig. 10\)](#page--1-0). Such crystal definitions are similar to those defined at Vesuvius, Lassen Peak, Unzen, Pinatubo, and Rabaul (e.g., [Gurioli et al., 2005](#page--1-0); [Shea et al., 2009](#page--1-0); [Shea et al., 2012](#page--1-0); [Salisbury et al., 2008](#page--1-0); [Cichy et al., 2011;](#page--1-0) [Hammer](#page--1-0) [et al., 1999; Bernard and de Maisonneuve, 2020](#page--1-0)). Moreover, it is known that microphenocryst can be attributed to two different origins: (1) preeruptive crystallization via slow depressurization (just before the eruption; [Shea et al., 2009\)](#page--1-0), and (2) fragmented or broken phenocrysts ([Pallister et al., 1996; van Zalinge et al., 2018\)](#page--1-0). Therefore, to avoid such ambiguity, we neglect the discussion on microphenocryst; instead, we tend to focus on phenocryst and microlite.

4.6. Correlation of textural properties

Comparison of the representative BSE images of type I and II pumices are shown in [Fig. 11.](#page--1-0) Type I and II pumices are considerably phenocrystrich; however, Type I is found to be slightly less crystalline than type II (0.42–0.45 φ_{PC} and 0.43–0.49 φ_{PC} , respectively). Vesicle-free pheno-

crystallinity is found to be negatively and positively correlated with bulk-vesicularity (φ_{BV}) and *SiO*_{2*bulk*}, respectively ([Fig. 11](#page--1-0)a, b). Type I pumice has a higher range of both bulk- and matrix-vesicularity than Type II pumice (0.48–0.57 and 0.58–0.65, and 0.37–0.45 and 0.45–0.50, respectively) ([Fig. 9](#page--1-0)c-f). For type I, the MVND vary from 0.6 \times 10^{15} m⁻³ to 2.3 \times 10¹⁵ m⁻³, and the MND range from 0.7 \times 10¹⁵ m⁻³ to 1.8 \times 10¹⁵ m^{−3}, with 0.01–0.02 microlite crystallinity (φ_{MC}; i.e., fraction of microlites in the groundmass glass). For type II, the MVND vary from 1.0×10^{15} m $^{-3}$ to 6.5×10^{15} m $^{-3}$, and the MND range from 1.8×10^{15} m^{-3} to 7.4 \times 10¹⁵ m⁻³, with 0.03–0.07 φ _{*MC*}. The MVND is negatively correlated with matrix-vesicularity [\(Fig. 11c](#page--1-0)), resulting in positive correlation with SiO_{2bulk} ([Fig. 11](#page--1-0)d), whereas the MND shows positive correlation with microlite crystallinity (φ*M*) and *SiO*²*bulk* ([Fig. 11e](#page--1-0), f). Since both MVND and MND are positively correlated with bulk-rock silica content, MVND yield a positive correlation with MND ([Fig. 11](#page--1-0)g). Both pumice types have nearly identical PVND values (1.0–3.1 \times 10¹⁰ m⁻³), with PVND showing no correlation with MVND (as well as MND) ([Fig. 11h](#page--1-0)). Noteworthy, we also found that *CaOglass* of both pumice types exhibit negative correlation with φ_{MC} . A summary of the textural parameters is listed in [Table 5.](#page--1-0)

5. Discussion

5.1. Magmatic origins and pre-eruptive conditions of type I and II pumices

One indication of a similar magmatic source (co-magmatic origin) is the linear correlation (i.e., single trend) between all major and trace elements, such as those observed in the 90 ka eruption of Aso, the 39 ka eruption of Campi Flegrei, the 12 ka eruption of Laacher See, and the 1815 CE eruption of Tambora (e.g., [Kaneko et al., 2007;](#page--1-0) [Forni et al.,](#page--1-0) [2016;](#page--1-0) [Ginibre et al., 2004;](#page--1-0) [Suhendro et al., 2021](#page--1-0)). However, in this Young Merapi case, we found two different bulk-rock geochemical trends (particularly between silica, magnesium, calcium, and strontium) ([Fig. 7](#page--1-0)c, d) as well as two distinct phase assemblages, with type I and II pumice being pyroxene-rich and pyroxene-poor, respectively [\(Fig. 5](#page--1-0)a). Despite the difference, both pumice types have a relatively similar amphibole fractions and feldspar phenocryst rim compositions (the most evolved composition reached An_{40-50}). This suggest that both pumice types were sourced from different magmatic reservoirs with different crystallization histories, but stored at relatively similar water contents

Table 5

Textural parameter of the Young Merapi pumice samples. $φ_{BV}$, $φ_{PC}$, $φ_{PV}$, $φ_{mv}$, $φ_M$ and $φ_M$ correspond to bulk-vesicularity, pheno-crystallinity, pheno-vesicularirty, high magnification (500×) matrix-vesicularity, entire clast matrix-vesicularity, and microlite crystallinity, respectively. The superscript "*" indicates phenocrystfree vesicularity, while the superscript "o" represents vesicle-free crystallinity. *D* indicates average diameter, while *Nv* represents number density for each given parameter.

Location, unit, pumice type	φ_{BV} (φ_{BV}^*)	φ_{PC}	Pheno-vesicle			Matrix-vesicle			Microlite			
		(φ_{PC}^{∞})	D_{PV} (mm)	φ_{PV}^*	PVND. N_{v} (m^{-3})	D_{MV} (mm)	φ_{mv}	φ_{MV}	MVND, N_v (m^{-3})	D_M (mm)	φ_{MC}	MND, N_{v} (m^{-3})
$F1-P$	0.50(0.65)	0.23	0.18	0.32	3.1×10^{10}	0.006	0.58	0.37	0.6×10^{15}	0.002	0.01	0.7×10^{15}
(Type I)		(0.46)										
$F2-P$	0.51	0.21	0.22	0.23	1.9×10^{10}	0.009	0.59	0.42	1.8×10^{15}	0.002	0.02	1.7×10^{15}
(Type I)	(0.64)	(0.42)										
$F3-P$	0.45	0.29	0.21	0.10	1.2×10^{10}	0.009	0.58	0.42	2.1×10^{15}	0.002	0.02	1.8×10^{15}
(Type I)	(0.59)	(0.48)										
$F5-P$	0.57	0.19	0.26	0.23	1.5×10^{10}	0.008	0.67	0.49	1.4×10^{15}	0.002	0.01	0.7×10^{14}
(Type I)	(0.70)	(0.44)										
$F6-P$	0.55	0.20	0.23	0.25	2.1×10^{10}	0.010	0.65	0.47	2.3×10^{15}	0.003	0.02	0.9×10^{14}
(Type I)	(0.69)	(0.44)										
$F4-P$	0.38	0.29	0.26	0.16	1.2×10^{10}	0.009	0.49	0.32	1.0×10^{15}	0.002	0.05	4.8×10^{15}
(Type II)	(0.54)	(0.48)										
Trayem	0.37	0.29	0.25	0.15	1.3×10^{10}	0.006	0.47	0.31	5.1×10^{15}	0.002	0.07	7.4×10^{15}
(Type II)	(0.52)	(0.46)										
Jurangjero I	0.45	0.27	0.22	0.16	1.7×10^{10}	0.007	0.49	0.33	1.8×10^{15}	0.003	0.04	1.9×10^{15}
(Type II)	(0.54)	(0.44)										
Jurangjero II	0.43	0.27	0.19	0.23	2.4×10^{10}	0.005	0.54	0.31	6.5×10^{15}	0.002	0.03	2.2×10^{15}
(Type II)	(0.59)	(0.49)										

Fig. 12. Illustration showing the dynamics of pre- and *syn*-eruptive conditions of the Young Merapi pumice eruptions. The relatively similar bulk-rock composition, coupled with the relatively similar amphibole content and PVNDs value may suggest that type I and II magmas were stored at relatively similar pressure (depth). When eruption occurs, the cold-more evolved type II magma will experience more extensive matrix-bubble nucleation and deeper microlite crystallization than the hot-less evolved type I magma. As the MVND and MND increase, magma decompression rate and viscosity increase, allowing type II magma to erupt more explosively than type I (i.e., higher eruption plume and more dispersed fall area).

 $(-4-6 \text{ wt%)}$ and storage pressure (-200 MPa) ([Costa et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Innocenti et al., 2013](#page--1-0)) (hereafter referred as to type I magma and type II magma, respectively) [\(Fig. 12](#page--1-0)). In particular, although type I includes significantly higher modal abundance of pyroxene ([Fig. 5](#page--1-0)a), the glass composition of silica and calcium remains slightly lower and higher than type II, respectively [\(Fig. 7](#page--1-0)e). Since magmatic differentiation (represented by the increasing trend of silica content or decreasing magnesium in residual melt; e.g., [Turner et al., 2003, Handley et al., 2007](#page--1-0)) is a result of crystallization of mafic minerals in a cooling magma ([McBirney,](#page--1-0) [2007\)](#page--1-0), we can expect that the starting composition of type I magma must be more primitive (i.e., lower $SiO₂$ and higher CaO) than type II magma, thus facilitating more extensive pyroxene crystallization with less plagioclase (i.e., higher pyroxene fractionation reduces the modal abundance of plagioclase; [Fig. 5a](#page--1-0)) [\(Handley et al., 2007](#page--1-0)). Finally, because pyroxene is one of primary silicate minerals that includes abundant calcium and/or magnesium [\(McBirney, 2007\)](#page--1-0), and strontium can substitute for calcium during the crystallization of calcic plagioclase ([Cherniak and Watson, 1994](#page--1-0)), the bulk-rock composition of type I yields higher calcium (CaO_{bulk}) and magnesium (MgO_{bulk}), and lower strontium (*Srbulk*) contents compared to type II ([Fig. 7c](#page--1-0)).

Phenocryst rim and microlite composition record late-stage crystallization in magmas, hence their compositions reflect the final physiochemical conditions of magma prior to eruption [\(Hammer et al., 1999](#page--1-0); [Toramaru, 2019;](#page--1-0) [Suhendro et al., 2021\)](#page--1-0). Therefore, because type I pumice include a slightly more calcic feldspar rim and microlite compositions than type II pumice, and higher magmatic temperatures result in more anorthitic feldspars [\(Couch et al., 2003](#page--1-0)), we suggest that type I magma was hotter than type II magma [\(Fig. 8](#page--1-0)). This supports our idea that type I pumice originates from a more primitive magmatic source than type II pumice, and shows good agreement with the general idea that a lower $SiO₂$ magma corresponds to a higher magma temperature and vice versa ([Toramaru, 2006; Ridolfi and Renzulli, 2012](#page--1-0)), with type I being slightly less evolved than type II (50.5–53.7 wt% *SiO*²*bulk* and 53.2–54.5 wt% *SiO*²*bulk*, respectively) ([Fig. 7](#page--1-0)). Moreover, the fact that type II pumice include slightly more abundant pheno-crystallinity than type I ([Fig. 11a](#page--1-0), b) imply that type II magma experienced more extensive cooling process, which led to more significant phenocryst crystallization. Thus, we suggest that type I and II magmas had similar rate of overpressures prior to eruption, as indicated by PVND values ([Fig. 11h](#page--1-0)). Such PVNDs are similar to the other VEI 3–5 eruptions that did not form calderas ($\pm 1.0 \times 10^{10}$ m⁻³), but significantly lower than the VEI 6-8 caldera-forming eruptions ($\pm 1.0 \times 10^{11}$ m⁻³) [\(Suhendro et al., 2022](#page--1-0), Suhendro and Toramaru in prep.).

Finally, the fact that both pumice types have abundant

disequilibrium textures (i.e., finely sieved and reversely and oscillatory zoned; [Fig. 5b](#page--1-0)-d) in plagioclase and pyroxene phenocrysts suggests that both type I and II magma experienced the substantial magmatic recharge-mixing event from the deeper source, where the injection of a hotter and less evolved magma results in partial dissolution of the preexisting crystal surfaces and crystallization of more mafic crystal layer (i.e., higher Ca/Mg/Fe) and vice versa [\(de Silva et al., 2008;](#page--1-0) [Renjith,](#page--1-0) [2014\)](#page--1-0). The fact that F2–P and F5–P layer has bimodal bulk-rock compositions [\(Fig. 7](#page--1-0)) may suggest both eruptions occurred just after the injection (i.e., magma mingling), without experiencing any magma hybridization. While the remaining layers (F1–P, F3–P, F4–P, Trayem, Jurangjero 1, Jurangjero 2, and F6–P) may have experienced magma hybridization prior to eruption, yielding the relatively homogeneous bulk-rock composition ([Fig. 7\)](#page--1-0). This magma rechargehybridization is a common feature that triggers some of well-known sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions, such as the 12 ka eruption of Popocatépetl (Malinche Pumice II stage), the \lt 5 ka eruption of Agnano-Monte Spina, the 2000 cal. BP eruption of El Misti, the 550 cal. BP eruption of El Chichón, the 1875 CE eruption of Askja, and the 1471, 1779, and 1914 CE eruptions of Sakurajima ([Mangler et al., 2020](#page--1-0), [Espinosa et al., 2021;](#page--1-0) [Pelullo et al., 2022](#page--1-0); [Tepley et al., 2013](#page--1-0); [Macías](#page--1-0) [et al., 2003](#page--1-0), [Andrews et al., 2008](#page--1-0)*;* [Sigurdsson and Sparks, 1981](#page--1-0); [Araya](#page--1-0) [et al., 2019](#page--1-0)). Moreover, this implies that such a complex architecture of the magma plumbing system at Merapi (i.e., consisting of numerous vertically-distributed and connected magmatic reservoirs between 700 and 100 MPa; [Costa et al., 2013](#page--1-0), [Chadwick et al., 2013,](#page--1-0) [van der Zwan](#page--1-0) [et al., 2013, Widiyantoro et al., 2018\)](#page--1-0) has been established at least since the Young Merapi stage.

5.2. The role of silica and temperature

Magmas decompress during eruption, resulting in vesiculation (mainly of H2O) and crystallization, forming matrix-bubbles and microlites. Under the assumption of homogeneous nucleation, the correlation between MVND and MND should be theoretically positive ([Toramaru, 2006;](#page--1-0) [Toramaru et al., 2008\)](#page--1-0). Here, we confirm that the positive correlation between MVND and MND is observed in this Young Merapi case [\(Fig. 11](#page--1-0)g), with both parameters having strong dependance on silica content [\(Fig. 11d](#page--1-0), f).

It is known that higher $SiO₂$ magma tend to have low diffusivities and high surface tensions because of the high magma viscosity [\(Zhang and](#page--1-0) [Behrens, 2000](#page--1-0), [Behrens et al., 2004](#page--1-0), [Toramaru, 2006, Takeuchi, 2011](#page--1-0), [Nishiwaki and Toramaru, 2019\)](#page--1-0). Such conditions allow evolved magmas to experience a more extensive matrix-bubble nucleation (via second nucleation) during eruption, as well as inhibiting bubble expansion and coalescence during magma ascent [\(Toramaru, 2006\)](#page--1-0) ([Fig. 12\)](#page--1-0). With those considerations, it is natural that the eruption of more silicic type II magma yielded pumice with higher MVNDs than pumice from type I magma [\(Fig. 11](#page--1-0)). Moreover, because the cooling of the magma would have resulted in crystallization and differentiation (see Section 6.1.), and colder magma facilitates larger degree of supercooling, microlite crystallization is expected to occur at higher and lower pressure condition for type II and type I magma, respectively ([Fig. 12\)](#page--1-0). This process allowed type II magma to experience deeper and more extensive microlite crystallization than type I, yielding a microlite-rich pumice for type II and microlite-poor pumice for type I. Because pyroxene and plagioclase were observed as two of the most abundant microlite phases ([Fig. 6\)](#page--1-0), and the crystallization of both minerals consumes calcium in the melt, the more extensive microlite crystallization plays a role for the more significant decrease of *CaOglass*, such as those observed in F4–^P and Trayem samples ([Fig. 11](#page--1-0)i).

Finally, since MVND is a function of magma decompression rate ([Toramaru, 2006\)](#page--1-0), it is expected that type II magma experienced faster ascent rate than type I magma. To be quantitative, by assuming homogeneous nucleation with initial conditions of 5 wt% $H₂O$, 200 MPa initial saturation pressure ([Costa et al., 2013, Innocenti et al., 2013](#page--1-0); see

[Section 5.1.](#page--1-0)), and 0.07 N/m surface tension (typical surface tension for andesitic melts; [Gardner et al., 2013\)](#page--1-0), magma decompression rates vary from 5.3 to 12.4 MPa/s for type I and 5.5–19.3 MPa/s for type II, equivalent to that of the 2008 CE sub-Plinian eruption of Chaitén in Chile (12.1 \pm 4.3 MPa/s; [Alfano et al., 2012](#page--1-0)). This may be the reason why type II magma produced thicker deposits ([Fig. 2](#page--1-0)) than type I magma; higher magma decompression rate yields higher eruption plume, yielding a larger dispersal area ([Toramaru, 2006](#page--1-0); [Bonadonna](#page--1-0) [and Costa, 2013](#page--1-0)). In addition, the fact that many plagioclase and pyroxene phenocrysts are fractured and coarsely sieved (both for type I and II pumice; [Fig. 5b](#page--1-0)-d) also supports the idea of high magma decompression rates ([Nelson and Montana, 1992](#page--1-0); [Viccaro et al., 2010](#page--1-0); [Renjith,](#page--1-0) [2014; van Zalinge et al., 2018](#page--1-0)). Nevertheless, some studies have shown that the MVND-decompression rate meter always yields a significantly higher ascent rate (up to two to three orders of magnitude difference) compared to the other methods such as the microlite textures, melt embayment, broken crystals, and amphibole breakdown rims (e.g., [Shea, 2017](#page--1-0); [Cassidy et al., 2018](#page--1-0)). Thus, to be fair, we have to address that our estimation on the magma decompression rate values using MVND may be overestimated. Moreover, decompressing magma from the reservoir (200 MPa) to the surface at 5–19 MPa/s indicates a magma ascent velocity of 200–760 m/s; this suggest that the magma ascended from the reservoir towards the surface just within 11–40 s, which is extremely fast. This discrepancy occurs because: (1) the MVND may only record the final decompression stage, not the entire decompression path, and (2) the decompression rate can be non-linear, thus may accelerate as the magma ascends [\(Mastin and Ghiorso, 2000,](#page--1-0) [Mastin, 2002,](#page--1-0) [Nowak](#page--1-0) [et al., 2011\)](#page--1-0). Further examination is strongly needed to solve these problems and will be out of the scope of this paper.

5.3. The importance of preexisting lava dome for generating explosive sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions: Insights from componentry

It is known that the presence of a lava dome can lead to gas accumulation (i.e., overpressure) in the conduit ([Woods, 1995](#page--1-0); [Sparks, 1997](#page--1-0); [Sigurdsson, 2000](#page--1-0)). Consequently, when the overpressure exceeds the strength of the dome, an eruption occurs, causing a sudden decompression that facilitates substantial gas exsolution from magma. This is the reason why numerous mild (VEI 3–5) sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions were preceded by dome formation (at least few years before the explosive event), such as the 2008 CE eruption of Chaiten (*η* and *λ* layer), 2010 CE eruption of Merapi, and 2014 CE eruption of Kelud [\(Alfano](#page--1-0) [et al., 2011, 2012](#page--1-0); [Surono et al., 2012; Cronin et al., 2013; Jeffery et al.,](#page--1-0) [2013;](#page--1-0) [Maeno et al., 2019\)](#page--1-0). As a result, this kind of eruptive style generally yields abundant pumice clasts with substantial amount of lithics (15–50% *Clithic*) (e.g., [Maeno et al., 2019](#page--1-0), [Müller et al., 2022](#page--1-0)) ([Fig. 13\)](#page--1-0). For comparison, another mild sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions with no initial dome formation produces a characteristically lithic-poor deposits (*<*10% *Clithic*, with a predominantly *<*5% *Clithic*), such as the 60 ka Fontana Lapilli eruption, 640 CE Newberry eruption (the "Big Obsidian Flow"), 1886 CE Tarawera eruption, 1914–15 CE Sakurajima eruption ("Taisho"), 1986 CE Izu-Oshima eruption, and 2015 CE Calbuco eruption [\(Costantini et al., 2010;](#page--1-0) [Trafton and Giachetti, 2022](#page--1-0); [Walker et al., 1984](#page--1-0); [Todde et al., 2017](#page--1-0); [Sumner, 1998; Castruccio et al.,](#page--1-0) [2016\)](#page--1-0) ([Fig. 13\)](#page--1-0). In addition, a Vulcanian eruption (mostly VEI *<*3) is characterized by the domination of lithics instead of juvenile clasts (up to ~90% *Clithic*; e.g., [Alfano et al., 2011, 2012](#page--1-0), [Maeno et al., 2023\)](#page--1-0) ([Fig. 13](#page--1-0)).

In this study, we found that all Young Merapi pumice fall deposits include substantial amount of volcanic lithics (11–50% *Clithic*) [\(Fig. 13](#page--1-0)). Note that such lithic variations are not typical in dome-free sub-Plinian/ Plinian and Vulcanian eruptions as mentioned above. Moreover, the fact that most lithics displayed fresh condition with abundant phenocryst contents ([Fig. 4a](#page--1-0)) strongly suggest that these lithics were originated from the preexisting lava dome (i.e., lava domes in intermediate system were typically phenocryst-rich; e.g., [Murase et al., 1985,](#page--1-0) [Yokoyama,](#page--1-0)

Fig. 13. Comparison on lithic contents among some famous VEI 3–5 eruptions worldwide. Sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions without initial dome formation (dome-free) is characterized by the typically low abundance of lithics (*<*10% *Clithic*). Sub-Plinian/Pliniana eruptions dome destruction are typically had substantial amount of lithics, varying from *>*10 to 50% *Clithic*. While vulcanian eruptions are characterized by the domination lithics instead the juvenile (up to ~90% *Clithic*).

[2005, Jeffery et al., 2013\)](#page--1-0). Thus, we suggest that all pumice fall deposits during the Young Merapi phase always initiated by dome formation, similar to that of the Modern Merapi case (e.g., the 1872 and 2010 CE eruption; [Gertisser et al., 2012, Surono et al., 2012](#page--1-0), [Cronin et al., 2013](#page--1-0)). This is significant because the explosive behavior (sub-Plinian/Plinian) at Merapi have been constant (at least) during the past \sim 2 ka years. In addition, in the case of sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions, it is clear that thicker deposits (i.e., more voluminous eruption) typically produces more abundant lithics than that the thinner ones ([Fig. 4c](#page--1-0)). Thus, we suggest that a larger eruption intensity (i.e., more explosive eruption; higher MVND) yields more significant dome destruction and wall-rock erosion ([Sable et al., 2006](#page--1-0); [Shea et al., 2012](#page--1-0)).

5.4. Comparison to the other basalt-basaltic andesite sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions

Previously, mafic magmas (basalt–basaltic andesite bulk-rock compositions) were underestimated for their capability to produce explosive eruptions due to their low viscosities (*<*104 Pa s; [Takeuchi, 2011](#page--1-0)). However, recent studies have revealed that such mafic magma compositions are capable to produce explosive eruptions with sub-Plinian or

Plinian intensity (with VEIs ranging from 3 to 5), such as the 60 ka eruption of Fontana Lapilli, the 122 BCE eruption of Etna, the 1886 CE eruption of Tarawera, the 1986 CE eruption of Izu-Oshima, the 1990 CE and 2014 CE eruptions of Kelud, and the undated eruption of Kukusan ([Costantini et al., 2010](#page--1-0); [Sable et al., 2006](#page--1-0); [Walker et al., 1984; Ikehata](#page--1-0) [et al., 2010](#page--1-0); [Bourdier et al., 1997,](#page--1-0) [Maeno et al., 2019;](#page--1-0) [Mitsuoka et al.,](#page--1-0) [2021\)](#page--1-0). Merapi is not an exception, as most of its explosive products (i.e., pumice and/or scoria) are basalt and basaltic andesite [\(Gertisser et al.,](#page--1-0) [2012; Costa et al., 2013](#page--1-0)).

The reason why Young Merapi is able to achieve sub-Plinian and/or Plinian intensity and attained the highest MVNDs value among all reported mafic explosive eruptions (e.g., Fontana Lapilli, Etna, Tarawera, Izu-Oshima, and Kukusan; [Costantini et al., 2010;](#page--1-0) [Sable et al., 2006](#page--1-0); [Walker et al., 1984](#page--1-0); [Ikehata et al., 2010;](#page--1-0) [Mitsuoka et al., 2021](#page--1-0)) is because of its evolved glass compositions [\(Figs. 7](#page--1-0)e and [14\)](#page--1-0), reaching andesite to dacite (see [Section 5.2\)](#page--1-0). However, it is important to note that the explosive eruptions of the Young Merapi were less voluminous (VEI 3–4) compared to the other famous sub-Plinian and/or Plinian eruptions (VEI 4–5) [\(Fig. 14](#page--1-0)). This might be related to pheno-crystallinity in the pre-eruptive magma chamber. In particular, the product of VEI 3–4 eruptions of the Young Merapi are typically phenocryst-rich (>0.4 φ°_{PC}),

Fig. 14. Comparison of MVND and SiO₂ plot between the Young Merapi pumices (this study, shown by yellow and orange circles) with juveniles from the other sub-Plinian/Plinian eruptions. Note that each circle size denotes different pheno-crystallinity value. Larger eruptions (VEI 5) tend to be associated with less crystalline magma (30% pheno-crystallinity), while smaller eruptions (VEI 3–4) include more phenocrysts (up to *>*40%). (For interpretation of the references to colour in this figure legend, the reader is referred to the web version of this article.)

while the product of VEI 5 eruptions is typically having a significantly lower pheno-crystallinity (<0.3 φ_{PC}^* , with a predominantly <0.1 φ_{PC}^*) ([Fig. 14](#page--1-0)). This may suggest that a highly crystalline magma tends to be less-eruptible than the less crystalline ones, and consequently, terminates the eruption quickly. As time goes by, it is very likely that phenocrysts in both magma types will undergo crystal settling process, causing a stratification in the magma chamber (i.e., the upper portion is more evolved and phenocryst-poor, while the lower portion tend to be less evolved and phenocryst-rich; e.g., [Ginibre et al., 2004,](#page--1-0) [Suhendro](#page--1-0) [et al., 2021\)](#page--1-0). If this scenario occurs, the portion of eruptible magma increases, thus may allow a more voluminous eruption (larger VEI) in future; therefore, we suggest that geophysical modelling of the modern Merapi magmatic system will be crucial for eruption forecasting and hazard mitigation.

6. Conclusion

The results of petrography, bulk-rock, glass, and feldspar compositions suggest that (at least) two different magmatic bodies are sourcing the explosive eruptions during the Young Merapi stage. Type I is slightly more mafic than type II, as suggested by the abundance of pyroxene, lower bulk-rock and glass silica contents, and more calcic feldspar microlite compositions. These conditions strongly suggest that type I magma is hotter than type II. The prevalence of disequilibrium textures in plagioclase and pyroxene phenocrysts (i.e., finely sieved and reversely and oscillatory zoned) strongly suggests that the complex architecture of the magma plumbing system at Merapi (i.e., consisting of numerous vertically-distributed and connected magmatic reservoirs between 700 and 100 MPa) has been established at least since the Young Merapi stage. Furthermore, type I pumice typically has lower MVND and MND values compared to type II, suggesting that type I magma experienced less intense matrix-bubble nucleation and microlite crystallization due to lower $SiO₂$ and higher temperature conditions. This implies that the eruption of type I magma was less explosive than type II magma. Noteworthy, the fact that all deposits include a substantial amount of fresh- and phenocryst-rich volcanic lithics (11–50% *Clithic*) suggests that the explosive eruptions of the Young Merapi were always initiated by dome formation, similar to that of the Modern Merapi case (e.g., the 1872 and 2010 CE eruption). Finally, we also pointed out that the

relatively small volume (VEI 3–4) of the Young Merapi eruptions might be caused by the mushy condition of the magma reservoirs (>0.4 φ_{PC}°); namely, highly crystalline magma tends to be less-eruptible than the less crystalline ones, thus terminating the eruption quickly.

Credit author statement

I.S. conceptualized the research, conducted fieldwork, undertook grain size distribution (GSD), componentry and textural analyses, data curation, interpreted the data, make all visualizations, and wrote the initial manuscript. **G.N.R.B.N.** conducted petrography, SEM, FE-EPMA, and some textural analyses. **A.G.** conducted bulk-rock XRF and some textural analysis. **S.A.S., M.L.A.M., M.F.Q.,** and **F.S.** joined the fieldwork, undertook GSD, componentry, and some textural analyses. **R.M. P.P.G., J.J., S.MC.** and **D.N.A.** undertook componentry and some textural analyses. **All authors** contributed to refining the manuscript. **I.S**. = Indranova Suhendro.

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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.

Data availability

Data will be made available on request.

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