Dikes, Antarctica



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Rock Cycle

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Weathering and Erosion



Plate tectonics, rock cycle



- A *rock* is a naturally formed, consolidated material usually composed of grains of one or more minerals
- The *rock cycle* shows how one type of rocky material gets transformed into another
 - Representation of how rocks are formed, broken down, and processed in the geosphere
 - Arrows indicate possible process paths within the cycle



The Rock Cycle and Plate Tectonics

- *Magma* is created by melting of rock above a subduction zone
- Less dense magma rises and cools to form *igneous rock*
- Igneous rock exposed at surface gets weathered into *sediment*
- Sediments transported to low areas,
 buried and hardened into *sedimentary rock*
- Sedimentary rock heated and squeezed at depth to form *metamorphic rock*
- Metamorphic rock may heat up and melt to form *magma*



Convergent plate boundary

Granite intruding shale





- *Magma* is molten rock
- *Igneous rocks* form when magma cools and solidifies
 - *Intrusive* igneous rocks form when magma solidifies underground
 - Granite is a common example
 - *Extrusive* igneous rocks form when magma solidifies at the Earth's surface (lava)
 - Basalt is a common example



Granite



Basalt

Igneous Rock Identification

- Igneous rock names are based on *texture* (grain size) and mineralogic *composition*
- Textural classification
 - *Plutonic* rocks (gabbro-diorite-granite) are coarse-grained and cooled slowly at depth
 - *Volcanic* rocks (basalt-andesite-rhyolite) are typically fine-grained and cooled rapidly at the Earth's surface
- Compositional classification
 - *Mafic* rocks (gabbro-basalt) contain abundant dark-colored ferromagnesian minerals
 - *Intermediate* rocks (diorite-andesite) contain roughly equal amounts of dark- and light-colored minerals
 - *Felsic* rocks (granite-rhyolite) contain abundant light-colored minerals

- *Texture* refers to the size, shape and arrangement of grains or other constituents within a rock
- Texture of igneous rocks is primarily controlled by *cooling rate*
- Extrusive igneous rocks cool quickly at or near Earth's surface and are typically *fine-grained* (most crystals <1 mm)
- Intrusive igneous rocks cool slowly deep beneath Earth's surface and are typically *coarse-grained* (most crystals >1 mm)



Coarse-grained igneous rock



Fine-grained igneous rock

Phaneritic – coarse grained - plutonic

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Igneous Rock Identification





















Diorite

gabbro

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Gabbro

Fig. 03.07d



Ryolite



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Andesite (porphyritic)



Basalt

Igneous Rock Identification



granite



rhyolite



diorite



gabbro





andesite

basalt

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Table 3.1

Identification of Igneous Rocks

Coarse-Grained	Granite	Diorite	Gabbro	Peridotite
Fine-Grained	Rhyolite	Andesite	Basalt	_
Mineral Content	Quartz, feldspars (white, light gray, or pink). Minor ferromagnesian minerals.	Feldspars (white or gray) and about 35–50% ferro- magnesian minerals. No quartz.	Predominance of ferromag- nesian minerals. Rest of rock is plagioclase feldspar (medium to dark gray).	Entirely ferromagnesian minerals (olivine and pyroxene).
Color of Rock (most commonly)	Light-colored	Medium-gray or medium- green	Dark gray to black	Green to black

Special Igneous Textures

- A *pegmatite* is an extremely coarse-grained igneous rock (most crystals >5 cm) formed when magma cools *very slowly* at depth
- A *glassy* texture contains no crystals at all, and is formed by extremely rapid cooling
- A *porphyritic* texture includes two distinct crystal sizes, with the larger having formed first during slow cooling underground and the small forming during more rapid cooling at the Earth's surface



Pegmatitic igneous rock







Porphyritic igneous rock



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- Intrusive rocks exist in bodies or structures that penetrate or cut through pre-existing *country rock*
- *Intrusive bodies* are given names based on their size, shape and relationship to country rock
 - Shallow intrusions
 - Form <2 km beneath Earth's surface
 - Chill and solidify fairly quickly in cool country rock
 - Generally composed of fine-grained rocks
 - Deep intrusions: *Plutons*
 - Form at considerable depth beneath Earth's surface when rising blobs of magma (*diapirs*) get trapped within the crust
 - Crystallize slowly in warm country rock
 - Generally composed of coarse-grained rocks



Intrusive Rock Bodies

- Volcanic necks
 - Shallow intrusion formed when magma solidifies in throat of volcano
- Dikes
 - Tabular intrusive structure that cuts across any layering in country rock
- Sills
 - Tabular intrusive structure that parallels layering in country rock
- Plutons
 - Large, blob-shaped intrusive body formed of coarse-grained igneous rock, commonly granitic
 - Small plutons (exposed over <100 km²) are called *stocks*, large plutons (exposed over >100 km²) are called *batholiths*



Light-colored dikes



Basaltic sill



Sierra Nevada batholith



Dikes, sills



Dikes, sills, antarctica



Igneous Rock Chemistry

- Rock chemistry, particularly *silica* (SiO₂) content, determines mineral content and general color of igneous rocks
 - *Mafic* rocks have ~50% silica, by weight, and contain dark-colored minerals that are abundant in iron, magnesium and calcium
 - Intrusive/extrusive mafic rocks gabbro/basalt
 - *Felsic (silicic)* rocks have >65% silica, by weight, and contain lightcolored minerals that are abundant in silica, aluminum, sodium and potassium
 - Intrusive/extrusive felsic rocks granite/rhyolite
 - *Intermediate* rocks have silica contents between those of mafic and felsic rocks
 - Intrusive/extrusive intermediate rocks diorite/andesite
 - *Ultramafic* rocks have <45% silica, by weight, and are composed almost entirely of dark-colored ferromagnesian minerals
 - Most common ultramafic rock is peridotite (intrusive)

Lessons from Bowen's

- Large variety of igneous rocks is produced by large variety of *magma compositions*
- *Mafic magmas* will crystallize into *basalt* or *gabbro* if early-formed minerals are not removed from the magma
- *Intermediate magmas* will similarly crystallize into *diorite* or *andesite* if minerals are not removed
- Separation of early-formed ferromagnesian minerals from a magma body increases the silica content of the remaining magma
- Minerals melt in the reverse order of that in which they crystallize from a magma

Magma Evolution

- A change in the composition of a magma body is known as *magma evolution*
- Magma evolution can occur by differentiation, partial melting, assing or magma mixing



- *Differentiation* involves the changing of magma composition by the removal of denser early-formed ferromagnesian minerals by *crystal settling*
- *Partial melting* produces magmas less mafic than their source rocks, because lower melting point minerals are more felsic in composition

- Assimilation occurs when a hot magma melts and incorporates more felsic surrounding country rock
- Magma mixing involves the mixing of more and less mafic magmas to produce one of intermediate composition













moving slowly upward

 Malic magma moving rapid!

pluton

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How Magma Forms

- *Heat from below*
 - Heat upward (by conduction and convection) from the very hot
 (>5000°C) core through the mantle and crust
- *Heat vs. pressure*
 - Melting point of minerals increases with increasing pressure
 - In the hottest regions within the upper mantle and crust, pressure can be low enough for melting to occur
- *Hot water under pressure*
 - Water becomes increasingly reactive at higher temperatures
 - At sufficient pressures and temperatures, highly reactive water vapor can reduce the melting point of rocks by over 200°C
- *Mineral mixtures*
 - Mixtures of minerals, such as quartz and potassium feldspar, can result in the melting of both at temperatures hundreds of degrees lower than either mineral would melt on its own

Bowen's Reaction Series

- Minerals crystallize in a predictable order, over a large temperature range
- Discontinuous branch
 - Ferromagnesian minerals (olivine, pyroxene, amphibole, biotite) crystallize in sequence with decreasing temperature
 - As one mineral becomes chemically unstable in the remaining magma, another begins to form
- Continuous branch
 - Plagioclase feldspar forms with a chemical composition that evolves (from Ca-rich to Na-rich) with decreasing temperature



Igneous Activity and Plate Tectonics

- Igneous activity occurs primarily at or near tectonic plate boundaries
- Mafic igneous rocks are commonly formed at *divergent boundaries*
 - Increased heat flow and decreased
 overburden pressure produce mafic magmas
 from partial melting of the asthenosphere
- Intermediate igneous rocks are commonly formed at *convergent boundaries*
 - Partial melting of basaltic oceanic crust produces intermediate magmas





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Igneous Activity and Plate Tectonics

- Felsic igneous rocks are commonly formed adjacent to *convergent boundaries*
 - Hot rising magma causes partial melting of the granitic continental crust
- Intraplate volcanism
 - Rising mantle plumes can produce localized hotspots and volcanoes when they produce magmas that rise through oceanic or continental crust
 - Hawaii is an example











Temperature in °C













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Table 3.2 Relationships between Rock Types and Their Usual Plate Tectonic Setting

Rock	Original Magma	Final Magma	Processes	Plate Tectonic Setting
basalt & gabbro	mafic	mafic	partial melting of mantle (asthenosphere)	 divergent boundary—oceanic crust created Intraplate plateau basalt volcanic island chains (e.g., Hawaii)
andesite & diorite	mafic (usually)	intermediate	partial melting of mantle (asthenosphere) followed by: • differentiation or • assimilation or • magma mixing	convergent boundary
granite & rhyolite	silicic	silicic	partial melting of lower crust	 convergent boundary intraplate over mantle plume

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Α



