

25. PETROGRAPHIC AND CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF ABYSSAL THOLEIITES FROM DEEP SEA DRILLING PROJECT LEG 63 OFF BAJA CALIFORNIA¹

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ABSTRACT

Tholeiitic basalts were obtained from basaltic basement ranging in age from 6 to 17 m.y. on IPOD/DSDP Leg 63. The main rock types encountered at all sites but 473 are basaltic pillow lavas. Although many of these pillow basalts are highly or moderately altered, fresh glass is usually present. At Site 473, we recovered coarse-grained, massive basalts; no clearly defined pillowed forms were observed. Phenocrysts or microphenocrysts present in the Leg 63 basalts are plagioclase and clinopyroxene at Site 469; olivine, plagioclase, and spinel at Site 470; and olivine, plagioclase, and clinopyroxene at Sites 472 and 473. Olivines of the basalts from Holes 470A and 472 (Fo₈₅₋₈₈) are generally more magnesian than those of the Hole 473 basalts (Fo₇₇₋₈₁). Also, plagioclases of Holes 470A and 472 basalts (An₇₀₋₈₅) are generally more calcic than those of Holes 469 and 473 basalts (An₆₆₋₇₂).

Geochemical study of the Leg 63 basalts indicates that in all cases they are large-ion-lithophile (LIL) element depleted tholeiites like typical abyssal tholeiites. In particular, they are very similar in composition to those described from the eastern Pacific, although the degree of iron enrichment found in the Leg 63 basalts is not as extensive as in basalts from the Galapagos spreading center. Hence, the geochemical evidence of the Leg 63 basalts is compatible with their formation at a spreading center. Compositional variations in Leg 63 basalts from any single drill hole is small. Major and trace element data indicate that the samples from Holes 469 and 473 are more fractionated in chemical composition than are the samples from Holes 470A and 472; this compositional variation may be largely ascribed to differences in the extent of shallow-level fractional crystallization of similar parental magma. The Hole 472 samples, however, show a LIL element character distinct from the other Leg 63 samples.

INTRODUCTION

Drilling terminated in basaltic basement at four of the seven sites during IPOD/DSDP Leg 63 off Baja California. In this report, we present petrographic and geochemical data on basalt samples obtained from DSDP Leg 63 Holes 469, 470A, 472, 472A, and 473 (Fig. 1) and discuss their preliminary petrogenetic interpretations. Pillow basalts are the main component of the uppermost basaltic basement at all the sites except 473, where we recovered coarse-grained, massive basalts that could represent thick-ponded lava flows or intrusives. The oldest sediment that rests upon the basaltic basement at each of these sites ranges in age from 6 to 17 m.y. Because Sites 469, 470, and 472 are located at significant distances from each other on ocean floor of similar age (15–17 m.y.; Fig. 1), the samples obtained at these sites provide information concerning spatial variation in petrological and geochemical parameters along the past spreading center.

Lithology of the basaltic basement recovered during DSDP Leg 63 is summarized in Fig. 2. Details of the geology of the drilling sites and hole summaries are given elsewhere in this volume. We encountered diabasic intrusives at Sites 469 and 471. Petrography and

geochemistry of these samples are treated separately (Shibata and DeLong, this volume).

PETROGRAPHY

Hole 469

The basaltic pillow lavas and basaltic pebbles encountered at Site 469 are gray to dark gray; they become brownish gray along fractures and veinlets and are commonly this color along the glassy chilled zones. Vesicles are not abundant (<4%) and are generally small (<1.5 mm). Veinlets and cracks generally filled with greenish clay minerals and calcite are common. The pillow basalts and pebble-sized basaltic fragments are mostly aphanitic, and no phenocryst phases are visible. Petrographic study indicates that these basalts are mostly aphyric, but some are porphyritic with trace amounts ($\leq 1\%$) of plagioclase microphenocrysts or plagioclase plus clinopyroxene microphenocrysts. These microphenocrysts are commonly euhedral and 0.2 mm to 1.5 mm in length. In one specimen sampled from Core 43 (Section 3, 73–75 cm), we found olivine microphenocryst pseudomorphs that are now completely made up of talc, smectite, and magnetite, but all other specimens examined under the microscope are entirely devoid of olivine and also Ca-poor pyroxene.

The textures of aphyric basalts and those of the groundmass of plagioclase or plagioclase-clinopyroxene phyric basalts vary from holohyaline to intersertal and locally subvariolicitic or variolicitic. They are, except for

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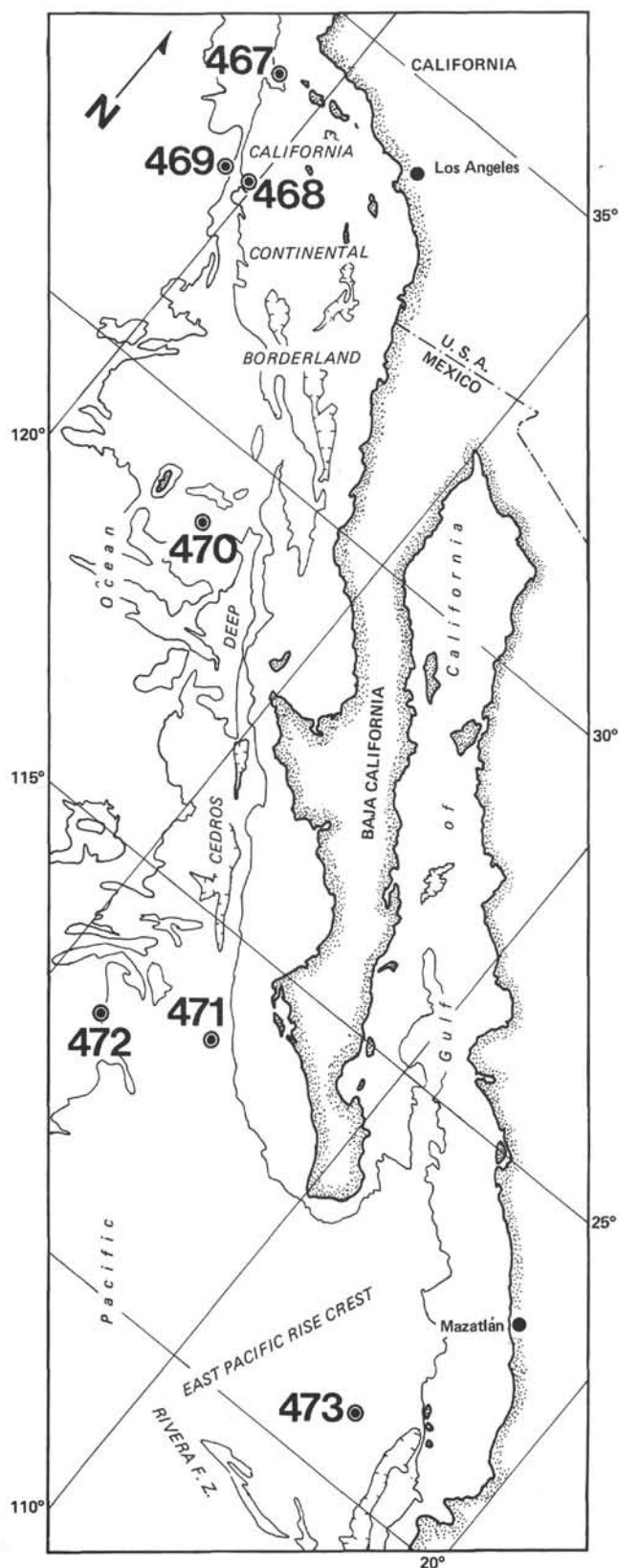


Figure 1. Locations of Leg 63 drill sites.

those with holohyaline texture, characterized by skeletal microlites of plagioclase and clinopyroxene with well developed quench morphology.

Mineral analyses are available only for plagioclase microphenocrysts (see the detailed discussion that follows). These microphenocrysts have a compositionally homogeneous, broad core of An_{70} with a thin veneer of more sodic plagioclase.

The pillow basalts from the uppermost part of the basement at Site 469 are strongly altered and show a clay-rich altered mesostasis. Alteration effects become moderate lower in the recovered basalt sequence where secondary minerals are generally confined to vesicles and cracks.

Hole 470A

The basaltic pillows obtained from cores at Site 470 are usually characterized by a dark brown, glassy margin (≈ 1 cm), which generally grades into a narrow, brownish aphanitic zone (2–3 cm thick) and then into a porphyritic, fine to medium-grained interior with greenish, altered olivine phenocrysts. Petrographic study indicates that these basalts are for the most part porphyritic with plagioclase microphenocrysts or plagioclase plus olivine microphenocrysts (0.5–1.5 mm in diameter) set in an intersertal to intergranular groundmass, but the pillow margins and centers are usually characterized by subvariolic and subophitic texture, respectively. The olivine microphenocrysts are commonly partly or completely replaced by brownish green clay, calcite, and/or serpentine. The microprobe analyses of unaltered olivine microphenocrysts indicate that they show virtually no chemical zoning and range in composition from Fo_{88} to Fo_{85} . Plagioclase microphenocrysts are euhedral and have a compositionally homogeneous, broad core of An_{85-70} with a thin veneer of more sodic plagioclase.

The groundmass of the basaltic pillow margins is characterized by skeletal microlites of plagioclase, feathery and dendritic clinopyroxene, skeletal opaque minerals, and equant olivine set in an altered mesostasis. These quenched mineral morphologies become less prominent toward pillow interiors, however, where the groundmass is characterized by a subophitic texture with plagioclase laths embayed in larger, anhedral clinopyroxenes. These clinopyroxenes fall in the compositional ranges of salite and magnesian augite in the conventional pyroxene quadrilateral (Fig. 3).

Basalts obtained from Holes 470 and 470A are mostly olivine-plagioclase phyrlic, and no clinopyroxene is observed as a phenocryst phase. Moreover, olivine is commonly found as one of the groundmass minerals. These petrographic observations suggest that basalts of Holes 470 and 470A are on the olivine-plagioclase cotectic and, compared to pyroxene-plagioclase phyrlic basalts obtained at Site 469, are more primitive.

Hole 472

The basaltic pillow lavas and basaltic fragments are gray to dark gray and become brownish gray along the

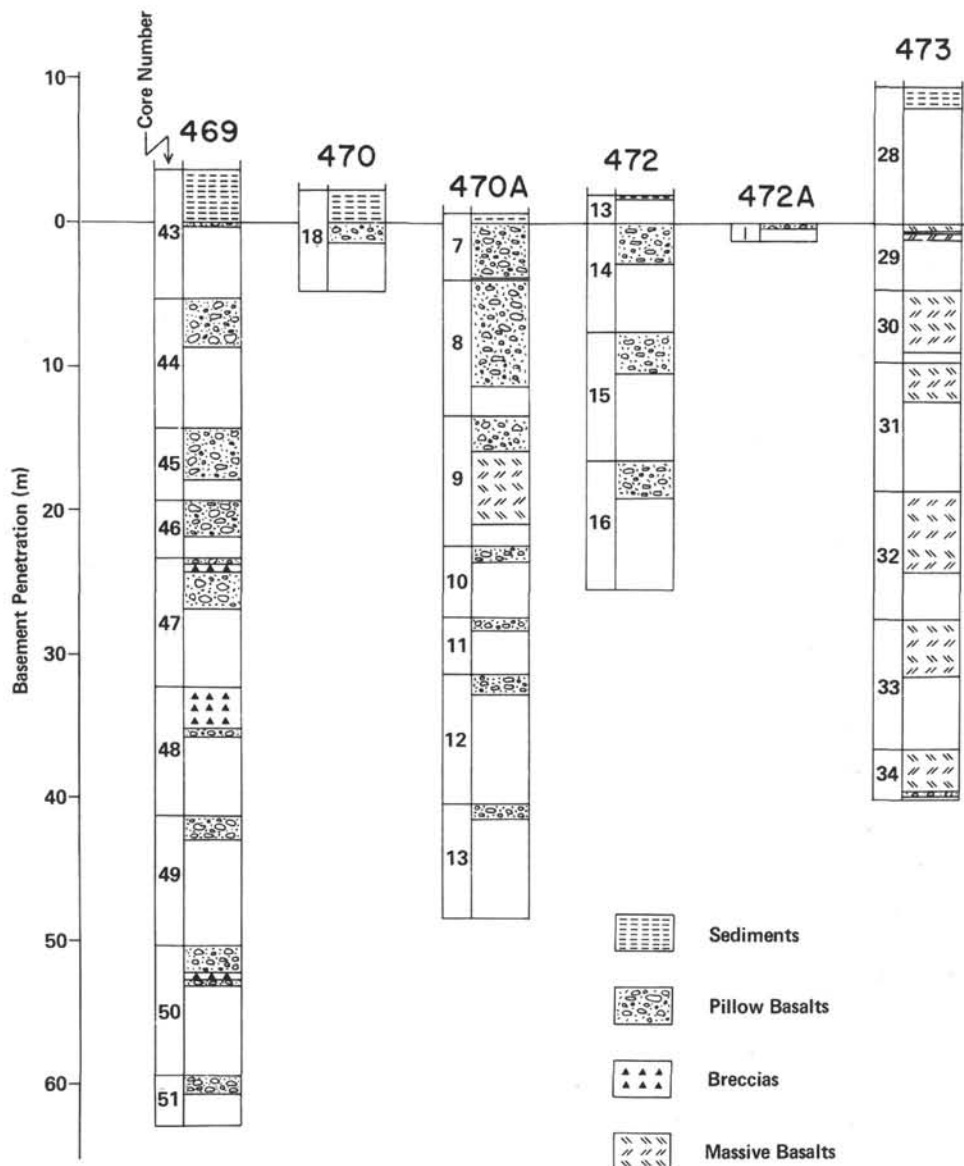


Figure 2. Lithologic summary of DSDP Leg 63 basaltic basement. (Depths are in meters from the sediment/basaltic basement interface.)

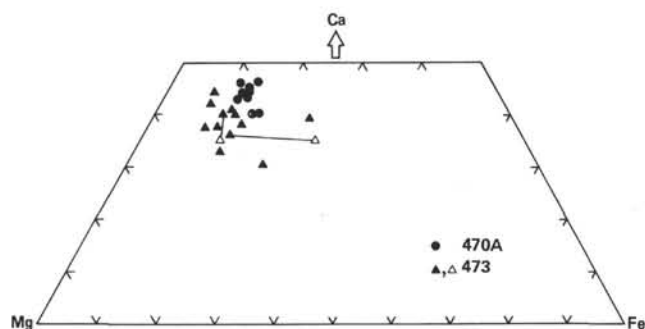


Figure 3. Pyroxene compositions in atomic Ca-Mg-Fe proportions. (Filled circles, Hole 470A; triangles, Hole 473. Compositions of core [▲]-margin [△] pairs are connected by tie-lines.)

glassy chilled margins. These basalts are vesicular, but vesicles are not abundant ($< 2-3\%$), are generally small in size (< 0.5 mm), and are commonly filled with calcite and clay minerals. The pillow basalts recovered at Site 472 are more fragmented than those at Site 470, but the general pillow structures are recognizable. The pillow basalts and pebble-size basaltic fragments are mostly massive and aphanitic. Petrographic study indicates that the textures of these basalts vary from aphyric to porphyritic and glomeroporphyritic with plagioclase microphenocrysts occasionally accompanied by olivine microphenocrysts. These microphenocrysts are generally euhedral and 0.2 mm to 1 mm long. The olivine microphenocrysts show virtually no chemical zoning and are Fo_{85-87} . The plagioclase microphenocrysts are normally zoned and show a composition range of An_{77-82} .

The pillow interiors usually show an intergranular texture with minute mesostasis between plagioclase laths and equant clinopyroxenes. The groundmass textures of specimens sampled from pillow margins vary from holohyaline to subvolcanitic, and locally to hyalopilitic, and are characterized by skeletal microlites of plagioclase and feathery clinopyroxene with well developed quench morphology. The glassy fragments found in the hyaloclastic breccias are partly devitrified, but are mostly fresh and clear brown. They are angular and range in size from 1 mm to 50 mm. Euhedral plagioclase occurs commonly as a microphenocryst phase in those glassy fragments, but it is not abundant (<2%).

Hole 473

The main rock type encountered at Site 473 is coarse-grained, massive basalt. Although aphanitic, fine-grained basalts occur at the top, bottom, and an intermediate horizon (Core 32) of Hole 473, no clearly identified basaltic pillow lava is observed. Because of poor recovery at Site 473, the exact contact relation between the basaltic basement and the overlying sediments is unknown. Also, intercalated soft materials (presumably sediments) were apparently encountered at the depth interval of Core 32, but none of these was recovered. For these reasons, the mode of occurrence of these massive basalts could be either intrusive or extrusive. Chemical evidence presented later suggests, however, that it is unlikely that these massive basalt units represent a single sill, because the basalts are chemically more differentiated downward in the hole, a trend opposite to that expected from simple fractional crystallization. Recent observations of DSDP deep basement holes (Hall and Robinson, 1979) and direct observations from submersibles (e.g., Ballard et al., 1979) indicate that sheet flows represent a relatively common mode of occurrence of extrusive submarine basalts. Although the evidence is inconclusive, the massive basalt units observed in Hole 473 may represent submarine sheet flows or ponded lava flows.

Petrographic analysis of basalt from the top of the basaltic basement at Site 473 indicates that the specimen is glomeroporphyritic with plagioclase and clinopyroxene phenocrysts set in an intersertal to subvolcanitic groundmass. Olivine pseudomorphs that are now entirely composed of calcite and clay are also found together with plagioclase and clinopyroxene phenocrysts. The groundmass is composed mainly of plagioclase microlites, equant clinopyroxene, and opaque minerals set in a clay-rich altered mesostasis.

The massive, coarse-grained basalts are petrographically quite similar throughout the hole, and no significant mineralogical variation is observed. The massive basalts are composed mainly of plagioclase and clinopyroxene with subordinate amounts of olivine and opaque minerals. They are extensively altered with abundant greenish clay occupying the interstices between subhedral plagioclase laths and anhedral clinopyroxenes. Pseudomorphs that were probably formed after olivines, but are composed of clay and calcite, occur occasionally. The textures of these massive basalts vary from

intersertal to subvolcanitic, and plagioclases and clinopyroxenes generally range in grain size from 1.0 mm to 1.5 mm. The plagioclases are normally zoned, showing compositional ranges generally from An_{72-66} at cores to An_{67-60} at rims. And the clinopyroxenes are strongly zoned (see Fig. 3).

MINERAL CHEMISTRY

METHODS

Selected mineral analyses for the Leg 63 basalts are listed in Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4. These mineral compositions were obtained at Hiroshima University using a JEOL X-ray microprobe analyzer (JXA-5A) operated at an accelerating voltage of 15 kV, 0.01 to 0.02 μA sample current, and 2 to 3 μm spot size. The correction procedure was that of Bence and Albee (1968) with the alpha factors of Nakamura and Kushiro (1970).

Olivine

Olivine ranging from Fo_{77} to Fe_{88} is a conspicuous phenocryst or microphenocryst in the Leg 63 basalts. Compositional variation of olivine within a single grain and a given thin section or even in a given hole is small. Olivine compositions are generally more Mg-rich in the basalts of Holes 470A and 472 than in those of Hole 473 (Table 1). As will be shown later, this is broadly consistent with the FeO^* (total iron as FeO)/ MgO variation of the Leg 63 basalt; i.e., the FeO^*/MgO ratios of basalts from Holes 470A and 472 tend to be lower than those from Hole 473. Two pairs of co-existing olivine and basalt glass analyses (Samples 470A-8-5, 74-80 cm and 472-14-1, 47-53 cm) are available (Tables 1 and 9). The distribution of Fe and Mg between the coexisting olivine and basalt glasses gives K_D values of 0.28 for the Hole 470A pair and 0.33 for the Hole 472 pair. These values conform well to the observed K_D values (0.30-0.33) of Roeder and Emslie (1970) for equilibrium of olivine and basaltic liquid, indicating that these olivines are probably in equilibrium with surrounding basaltic glass.

Spinel

Spinel found in the basalts of Hole 470A are magnesiochromites, ranging in $100 \times Mg/Mg + Fe^{2+}$ from 69 to 64 and in $100 \times Cr/Cr + Al$ from 56 to 46 (Table 2). They are generally similar in composition to magnesiochromites observed commonly in abyssal tholeiites (Sigurdsson and Schilling, 1976); and $Mg-Fe^{2+}$ distribution relations of spinel and olivine coexisting in a given thin section are comparable to those described by Sigurdsson and Schilling for the Mid-Atlantic Ridge spinel-olivine pairs. Spinel is observed only in the basalts of Hole 470A. This fact may suggest that these basalts are relatively less fractionated than the other Leg 63 basalts, because spinel frequently ceases crystallizing at an early stage during evolution of common basaltic magmas (e.g., Irvine, 1967; Sigurdsson and Schilling, 1976; Shibata, Thompson, and Frey, 1979).

Pyroxene

Pyroxene analyses are available only for the basalts of Holes 470A and 473, and all pyroxene analyses listed

Table 1. Representative microprobe analyses of olivine.

Analysis No. ^a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
SiO ₂	40.09	40.24	39.75	40.19	39.63	39.61	38.87	39.52	39.75	40.05	40.12	40.16	37.52	37.64	36.23	37.16	36.44
TiO ₂	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Al ₂ O ₃	0.09	0.10	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.07	0.33	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.32
FeO*	11.79	11.79	12.42	11.30	12.86	13.02	14.51	12.93	12.92	13.70	13.52	13.44	19.06	18.74	21.07	19.46	18.34
MnO	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.23	0.22	0.25	0.27	0.29	0.25	0.26	0.29	0.31	0.34	0.36	0.42	0.38	0.36
MgO	48.06	47.94	47.51	48.17	46.57	46.39	45.64	46.42	45.22	44.99	44.47	44.80	42.23	42.48	39.87	41.99	42.58
CaO	0.33	0.35	0.37	0.33	0.34	0.34	0.38	0.33	0.32	0.37	0.38	0.36	0.35	0.34	0.32	0.34	0.33
Total	100.64	100.70	100.41	100.35	99.73	99.71	99.75	99.60	98.55	99.72	98.88	99.16	99.59	99.67	98.03	99.45	98.43
Formula basis = 4 oxygens																	
Si	0.987	0.990	0.984	0.990	0.990	0.990	0.980	0.989	1.004	1.002	1.012	1.009	0.970	0.971	0.964	0.965	0.953
Al	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.010	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.010
Ti	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Mg	1.764	1.758	1.754	1.768	1.734	1.729	1.715	1.732	1.702	1.678	1.671	1.678	1.627	1.633	1.580	1.625	1.659
Fe ²⁺	0.243	0.243	0.257	0.233	0.269	0.272	0.306	0.271	0.273	0.287	0.285	0.283	0.412	0.404	0.469	0.423	0.401
Mn	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.006	0.006	0.005	0.006	0.006	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.009	0.008	0.008
Ca	0.009	0.009	0.010	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.010	0.009	0.009	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.009	0.009	0.009	0.009
Total	3.012	3.009	3.014	3.009	3.010	3.008	3.019	3.010	2.995	2.993	2.987	2.990	3.029	3.028	3.034	3.033	3.041
Fo mole %	87.9	87.9	87.2	88.4	86.6	86.4	84.9	86.5	86.2	85.4	85.4	85.6	79.8	80.2	77.1	79.4	80.5

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO.

^a Analysis numbers designate the following samples: 1: Phenocryst (core), 470A-7-2, 119–126 cm. 2: Phenocryst (rim), the same olivine grain as Analysis No. 1. 3: Microphenocryst (core), 470A-7-2, 119–126 cm. 4: Phenocryst (core), 470A-7-2, 119–126 cm. 5: Phenocryst (core), 470A-8-5, 74–80 cm. 6: Phenocryst (rim), the same olivine grain as Analysis No. 5. 7: Microphenocryst, 470A-9-5, 74–81 cm. 8: Phenocryst (core), 472-14-1, 47–53 cm. 9: Phenocryst (rim), the same olivine grain as Analysis No. 8. 10: Microphenocryst (core), 472-14-2, 32–38 cm. 11: Microphenocryst (rim), the same olivine grain as Analysis No. 10. 12: Microphenocryst, 472-14-2, 32–38 cm. 13: 473-33-3, 92–97 cm. 14: 473-33-3, 92–97 cm. 15: 473-34-1, 25–31 cm. 16: 473-34-1, 25–31 cm. 17: 473-34-1, 25–31 cm.

Table 2. Microprobe analyses of spinel.

Analysis No. ^a	1	2	3	4
SiO ₂	0.12	0.15	0.14	0.10
TiO ₂	0.60	0.58	0.56	0.68
Al ₂ O ₃	29.39	29.29	28.88	23.06
Cr ₂ O ₃	36.87	37.55	38.09	43.32
FeO*	17.78	17.63	17.43	19.21
MnO	0.23	0.29	0.27	0.33
MgO	16.09	15.93	15.86	14.56
CaO	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.02
Total	101.12	101.49	101.27	101.28
Formula basis = 4 oxygens				
Si	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.003
Al	1.004	1.000	0.989	0.814
Ti	0.013	0.013	0.012	0.015
Fe ³⁺	0.117	0.107	0.103	0.122
Cr	0.845	0.860	0.875	1.026
Mg	0.695	0.688	0.687	0.650
Fe ²⁺	0.314	0.320	0.321	0.359
Mn	0.006	0.007	0.007	0.008
Ca	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001
Mg/Mg + Fe ²⁺	68.9	68.3	68.2	64.4

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO. Ferric and ferrous iron are calculated from total iron and structural formula (Finger, 1972).

^a Analysis numbers designate the following samples: 1, 2, 3: Brown spinels (≈0.1 mm across) enclosed in plagioclase phenocryst, 470A-7-2, 119–126 cm. 4: Brown spinel (0.2 mm across) enclosed in olivine phenocryst (Analysis No. 4 in Table 1), 470A-7-2, 119–126 cm.

in Table 3 are plotted in the pyroxene quadrilateral (Fig. 3). No Ca-poor pyroxene was observed in any of the specimens analyzed. The pyroxenes are mostly augites, and there is a distinct compositional difference between the pyroxenes from Holes 470A and 473, i.e., the pyroxenes from Hole 470A tend to be more calcic and have higher FeO*/MgO ratios than those from Hole 473. The olivines with which these pyroxenes coexist are more Mg-rich in the basalts from Hole 470A than those from Hole 473, and the FeO*/MgO ratios of the host basalts

from which these pyroxene analyses were obtained are higher in the Hole 473 basalts than in the Hole 470A basalts.

Plagioclase

The anorthite contents of plagioclase observed as phenocrysts and microphenocrysts of the Leg 63 basalts are quite variable, ranging from An₈₅ to An₆₀ (Table 4). Microprobe analyses indicate that the plagioclase phenocrysts and microphenocrysts found in the basalts from Holes 470A and 472 are generally more calcic than those found in the basalts from Holes 469 and 473, a tendency in accord with the olivine compositional variation discussed previously.

Fe and Mg substitute as a Ca(Fe, Mg)Si₃O₈ component in basaltic plagioclase (Bryan, 1974; Longhi, 1976; Longhi et al., 1976), and the abundances of Fe and Mg generally decrease from groundmass to microphenocryst plagioclases (Shibata, DeLong, and Walker, 1979). The plagioclase analyses from the Leg 63 basalts are plotted in the (Fe, Mg)₂Si₃O₈ – Ca₂Si₃O₈ – Al₄Si₂O₈ diagram (Fig. 4), which is the excess component plane of the system (Fe, Mg)₂Si₃O₈ – Ca₂Si₃O₈ – Al₄Si₂O₈ – Si₄O₈ (Longhi, 1976; Longhi et al., 1976). This figure indicates that, as expected, Fe and Mg substitute mainly as a Ca(Fe, Mg)Si₃O₈ component in the Leg 63 plagioclases. The extent of this substitution is similar to that in the phenocryst plagioclases but not as much as in the groundmass plagioclases of the Oceanographer fracture zone basalts (Shibata, DeLong, and Walker, 1979).

BULK ROCK COMPOSITION

METHODS

Bulk rock major element data were obtained, except for ferrous iron and H₂O, by electron microprobe analyses of fused glass beads prepared from rock powders (Suzuki et al., 1977). Approximately 500 mg to 800 mg splits of 150 g rock powders were pressed at load pressures between 2000 and 3000 kg/cm² to make sample tablets 10 mm in diameter and 3 mm to 5 mm thick. These tablets were then placed in a plasma torch and fused in an argon atmosphere.

Table 3. Microprobe analyses of clinopyroxene.

Analysis No. ^a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
SiO ₂	48.20	50.31	48.72	49.25	48.37	47.44	49.08	50.28	49.15	50.33	51.16	51.53	51.40	49.77	47.90	52.61	52.13	48.97	50.62	49.62	50.32	50.10	51.64
TiO ₂	1.71	1.10	1.88	1.19	1.22	1.60	1.48	1.26	1.18	0.56	0.56	0.46	0.60	0.79	1.58	0.57	0.92	0.85	0.81	1.45	1.28	0.85	0.62
Al ₂ O ₃	3.83	3.28	4.93	3.69	3.41	5.26	4.57	3.49	2.76	3.02	3.02	2.23	1.56	0.97	2.26	1.90	1.59	3.32	1.38	4.57	4.05	3.66	1.60
FeO*	6.92	8.18	8.26	8.63	10.49	8.71	7.65	7.52	10.81	4.74	5.14	6.35	9.10	17.59	15.50	9.21	7.54	7.55	14.26	8.01	9.86	7.24	8.70
MnO	0.23	0.25	0.28	0.29	0.36	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.38	0.18	0.20	0.22	0.33	0.64	0.49	0.36	0.30	0.28	0.48	0.26	0.35	0.25	0.29
MgO	14.32	14.58	13.96	15.17	14.93	13.61	15.13	15.68	14.81	16.78	17.25	19.07	17.47	11.88	11.41	18.82	18.39	16.58	16.59	15.81	16.09	16.61	18.11
CaO	21.67	21.71	21.16	21.18	19.39	22.00	21.40	20.86	19.82	21.88	20.91	18.67	17.67	16.67	18.10	17.00	19.17	20.24	15.27	19.51	18.19	19.32	17.19
Na ₂ O	0.35	0.36	0.40	0.33	0.32	0.38	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.30	0.30	0.20	0.23	0.27	0.44	0.18	0.21	0.24	0.21	0.28	0.27	0.28	0.19
Total	97.23	99.77	99.59	99.73	98.49	99.26	99.58	99.35	98.91	97.79	98.54	98.73	98.36	98.58	97.68	100.65	100.25	98.03	99.62	99.51	100.41	98.31	98.34
Formula basis = 6 oxygens																							
Si	1.846	1.881	1.827	1.848	1.848	1.798	1.834	1.875	1.871	1.891	1.902	1.911	1.933	1.945	1.886	1.926	1.917	1.856	1.916	1.847	1.867	1.879	1.935
Al	0.173	0.145	0.218	0.163	0.154	0.235	0.201	0.153	0.124	0.134	0.132	0.097	0.069	0.045	0.105	0.082	0.069	0.148	0.062	0.201	0.177	0.162	0.071
Ti	0.049	0.031	0.053	0.034	0.035	0.046	0.042	0.035	0.034	0.016	0.016	0.013	0.017	0.023	0.047	0.016	0.025	0.024	0.023	0.041	0.036	0.024	0.017
Mg	0.818	0.813	0.780	0.848	0.850	0.769	0.843	0.872	0.840	0.940	0.956	1.054	0.979	0.692	0.670	1.027	1.008	0.937	0.936	0.877	0.888	0.929	1.011
Fe ²⁺	0.222	0.256	0.259	0.271	0.335	0.276	0.239	0.235	0.344	0.149	0.160	0.197	0.286	0.575	0.511	0.282	0.232	0.239	0.451	0.249	0.305	0.227	0.273
Mn	0.007	0.008	0.009	0.009	0.012	0.008	0.009	0.008	0.012	0.006	0.006	0.007	0.011	0.021	0.016	0.011	0.009	0.009	0.015	0.008	0.011	0.008	0.009
Ca	0.889	0.870	0.850	0.852	0.794	0.893	0.857	0.834	0.808	0.881	0.833	0.742	0.712	0.698	0.764	0.667	0.755	0.822	0.619	0.778	0.722	0.777	0.690
Na	0.026	0.026	0.029	0.024	0.024	0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.022	0.022	0.014	0.017	0.020	0.034	0.013	0.015	0.018	0.015	0.020	0.019	0.020	0.014
Total	4.030	4.030	4.025	4.049	4.052	4.053	4.025	4.012	4.033	4.039	4.027	4.035	4.024	4.019	4.033	4.024	4.030	4.053	4.037	4.021	4.025	4.026	4.020
Ca	46.1	44.9	45.0	43.2	40.1	46.1	44.2	43.0	40.6	44.7	42.7	37.2	36.0	35.5	39.3	33.8	37.8	41.1	30.9	40.9	37.7	40.2	35.0
Mg	42.4	41.9	41.3	43.0	43.0	39.7	43.4	44.9	42.2	47.7	49.1	52.9	49.5	35.2	34.5	52.0	50.5	46.9	46.7	46.1	46.4	48.1	51.2
Fe	11.5	13.2	13.7	13.7	16.9	14.2	12.3	12.1	17.3	7.6	8.2	9.9	14.5	29.3	26.2	14.3	11.6	12.0	22.5	13.1	15.9	11.7	13.8

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO.

^a Analysis numbers designate the following samples: 1: Subhedral clinopyroxene (core), 470A-9-3, 99-104 cm. 2: Subhedral clinopyroxene (rim), the same pyroxene grain as Analysis No. 1. 3: 470A-9-3, 99-104 cm. 4, 5, 6: Groundmass pyroxene, 470A-9-5, 74-81 cm. 7, 8, 9: Acicular groundmass pyroxene, all analyses are obtained from a single grain, 470A-13-1, 28-33 cm. 10: Microphenocryst, 473-29-1, 70-75 cm. 11: Microphenocryst (core), 473-29-1, 70-75 cm. 12: Microphenocryst (core), 473-29-1, 70-75 cm. 13: (core), 473-30-2, 114-120 cm. 14: (rim), the same pyroxene grain as Analysis No. 13. 15: (rim), 473-30-2, 114-120 cm. 16: (core), 473-33-3, 92-97 cm. 17, 18: (core), 473-34-1, 25-31 cm. 19: (core), 473-34-1, 25-31 cm. 20, 21: 473-34-3, 17-23 cm. 22: (core), 473-34-3, 26-34 cm. 23: (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 22.

Table 4. Representative microprobe analyses of plagioclase.

Analysis No. ^a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
SiO ₂	50.50	50.86	50.60	50.77	46.65	46.25	51.03	52.34	48.54	47.59	46.11	48.68	46.84	48.11	51.20	50.28	51.84	50.85	50.96	51.25	53.15
TiO ₂	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.08	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.08	0.07	0.13
Al ₂ O ₃	30.62	30.52	31.03	30.89	32.25	33.41	30.28	29.31	31.37	31.54	32.08	31.72	31.71	31.28	29.97	31.20	30.05	29.44	30.08	29.56	28.41
FeO*	0.53	0.57	0.52	0.56	0.38	0.43	0.45	0.61	0.58	0.52	0.39	0.39	0.49	0.55	0.50	0.50	0.45	0.61	0.56	0.56	0.63
MnO	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03
MgO	0.24	0.24	0.22	0.23	0.23	0.21	0.26	0.38	0.20	0.23	0.24	0.24	0.18	0.19	0.26	0.25	0.27	0.21	0.24	0.20	0.23
CaO	14.72	14.93	15.12	15.11	17.84	17.60	15.00	14.26	16.26	16.68	17.37	16.56	17.91	17.26	14.04	14.92	14.14	14.12	14.27	14.78	13.43
Na ₂ O	3.47	3.52	3.42	3.31	1.69	2.05	3.49	3.82	2.42	2.34	2.03	2.47	2.53	2.71	3.76	3.20	3.71	3.69	3.64	3.24	3.93
K ₂ O	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.07
Total	100.24	100.78	101.07	101.04	99.18	100.06	100.66	100.84	99.52	99.05	98.35	100.20	99.81	100.24	99.86	100.48	100.65	99.08	99.93	99.73	100.01
Formula basis = 8 oxygens																					
Si	2.305	2.311	2.293	2.301	2.171	2.136	2.320	2.370	2.241	2.213	2.166	2.233	2.176	2.218	2.340	2.289	2.349	2.345	2.330	2.348	2.418
Al	1.647	1.634	1.658	1.650	1.769	1.819	1.622	1.564	1.708	1.729	1.776	1.715	1.736	1.700	1.615	1.674	1.605	1.600	1.621	1.596	1.524
Ti	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.004
Mg	0.016	0.016	0.015	0.016	0.016	0.014	0.018	0.026	0.014	0.016	0.017	0.016	0.012	0.013	0.018	0.017	0.018	0.015	0.016	0.014	0.016
Fe ²⁺	0.020	0.022	0.020	0.021	0.015	0.017	0.017	0.023	0.023	0.020	0.015	0.015	0.019	0.021	0.019	0.019	0.017	0.024	0.021	0.022	0.024
Mn	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.002	0.000	0.002	0.001	0.001
Ca	0.720	0.727	0.734	0.734	0.890	0.871	0.731	0.692	0.805	0.831	0.874	0.814	0.891	0.853	0.688	0.728	0.687	0.698	0.699	0.726	0.654
Na	0.307	0.310	0.301	0.291	0.153	0.184	0.308	0.335	0.217	0.211	0.185	0.220	0.228	0.242	0.333	0.282	0.326	0.330	0.323	0.288	0.347
K	0.003	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.002	0.002	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.004	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.004	0.004	0.004	0.004
Total	5.022	5.025	5.028	5.021	5.020	5.046	5.022	5.015	5.015	5.027	5.039	5.020	5.069	5.054	5.019	5.016	5.010	5.019	5.019	5.001	4.992
An mole %	69.9	70.0	70.7	71.4	85.2	82.4	70.2	67.2	78.5	79.5	82.3	78.4	79.4	77.6	67.2	71.9	67.6	67.6	68.1	71.3	65.1

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO.

^a Analysis numbers designate the following samples: 1: Microphenocryst (core), 469-50-1, 89-91 cm. 2: Microphenocryst (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 1. 3: Microphenocryst (core), 469-50-1, 89-91 cm. 4: Microphenocryst (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 3. 5: Phenocryst (core), 470A-7-3, 42-50 cm. 6: Groundmass plagioclase, 470A-8-5, 75-80 cm. 7, 8: Plagioclase lath enclosed in clinopyroxene (Analysis Nos. 1 and 2 in Table 3), 470A-9-3, 99-104 cm. 9: Microphenocryst (rim), 470A-11-1, 68-74 cm. 10: Microphenocryst (core), the same grain as Analysis No. 9. 11: Phenocryst (core), 472-14-1, 47-53 cm. 12: Phenocryst (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 11. 13: Microphenocryst (core), 472-14-1, 76-81 cm. 14: Microphenocryst (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 13. 15: Microphenocryst (rim), 473-29-1, 70-75 cm. 16: Microphenocryst (core), the same grain as Analysis No. 15. 17: Microphenocryst (core), 473-29-1, 70-75 cm. 18: (core), 473-33-3, 92-97 cm. 19: (core), 473-33-3, 92-97 cm. 20: Phenocryst (core), 473-34-3, 17-23 cm. 21: Phenocryst (rim), the same grain as Analysis No. 20.

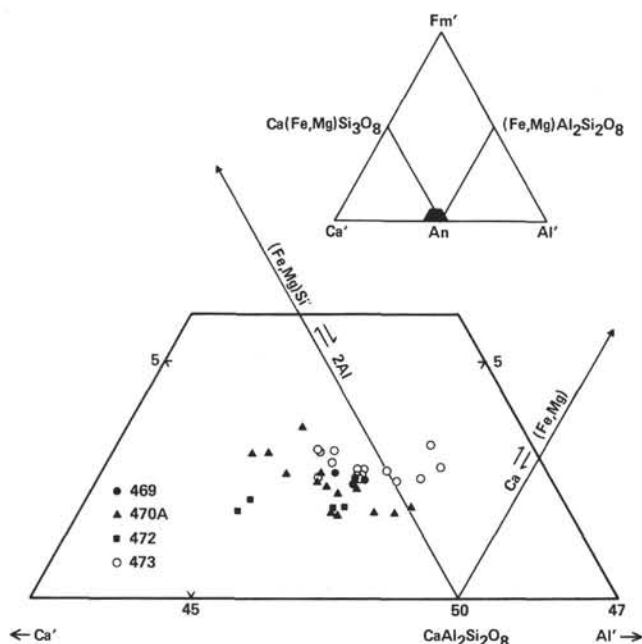


Figure 4. Plagioclase compositions in the plane $Fm' [(Fe,Mg)_2Si_3O_8] - Ca' (Ca_2Si_3O_8) - Al' (Al_4SiO_8)$ (Longhi, 1976; Longhi et al., 1976).

Microprobe analyses of the fused glass beads and also the natural basalt glasses were obtained with a JEOL X-ray microprobe analyzer at Hiroshima University. The experimental conditions and correction procedures were the same as those described earlier for the mineral analyses except that the glass analyses were obtained with broader electron beam diameters ($\approx 20 \mu m$). Analytical precision and data by this method for the USGS reference standard W-1 are given in Table 5. Ferrous iron was determined by titration and H_2O gravimetrically. H_2O^+ represents the ignition loss. Trace element analyses were made with the X-ray fluorescence spectrometer at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and the precision and accuracy are of the order $\pm 5\%$ (Schroeder et al., 1980).

Major and trace element analyses and CIPW normative compositions for 13 Leg 63 basalts are listed in Tables 6 and 7, and petrographic descriptions of these analyzed samples are briefly summarized in Table 8. In addition, microprobe analyses were carried out for 21 Leg 63 natural basalt glasses, and those results are listed in Table 9.

Major and Trace Element Geochemistry

Relatively extreme iron-enrichment trends have been noted in the differentiation of abyssal tholeiitic magmas from the East Pacific Rise, Juan de Fuca Ridge, and Galapagos spreading center (e.g., Kay et al., 1970; Clague and Bunch, 1976; Schilling et al., 1976), which is one of the characteristics of these rocks compared to their Atlantic counterparts. These tholeiitic basalts define elongated fields parallel to the FeO^*/MgO side of the AFM diagram as exemplified by the lines GS and SQ in Figure 5. The AFM plot indicates that the Leg 63 basalts and basalt glasses as a whole also define an iron-enrichment trend similar to those just mentioned, but the degree of iron-enrichment is not so extensive. FeO^*/MgO variation in the Leg 63 basalts of a single drill hole is small; as a result, the distribution of basalts from each drill hole is confined to a small field in the AFM diagram. Collectively, the FeO^*/MgO ratios of the Leg

Table 5. Analysis of USGS standard rock W-1.

Analysis ^a	A	B
SiO ₂	53.01	52.89 \pm 0.14
TiO ₂	1.08	1.20 \pm 0.01
Al ₂ O ₃	15.10	15.23 \pm 0.08
FeO*	10.05	10.22 \pm 0.04
MgO	6.67	6.58 \pm 0.01
MnO	0.17	0.19 \pm 0.01
CaO	11.04	11.05 \pm 0.11
Na ₂ O	2.16	2.10 \pm 0.04
K ₂ O	0.64	0.62 \pm 0.03
P ₂ O ₅	0.14	
CO ₂	0.06	
Total	100.12	100.08

Note: FeO^* = total iron as FeO .

^a Analysis designation: A: From Flanagan (1973), recalculated on the anhydrous basis. B: Mean and standard deviation for triplicate analyses of W-1 glass bead by electron microprobe analysis (Suzuki et al., 1977).

63 basalts and basalt glasses from each drill hole increase in the following order: (1) Hole 470A and 472, (2) Hole 473, and (3) Hole 469.

Although we do not have both bulk rock and glass analyses for the same specimens, the Hole 469 bulk rocks have significantly higher K_2O content than do the Hole 469 glasses, and the Hole 470A bulk rocks tend to have lower FeO^*/MgO ratios than the Hole 470A glasses. Petrographic study indicates that the Hole 469 basalts including the analyzed specimens are intensively altered with the development of smectites in the groundmass. This alteration is also reflected in the relatively higher Fe_2O_3/FeO and higher H_2O contents of these basalts (Table 6); apparently the potassium enrichment in the Hole 469 bulk rock relative to the fresh glasses is mainly due to alteration.

In the normative diopside (Di)-olivine (Ol)-quartz (Qz) ternary diagram (Fig. 6), all of the Leg 63 samples with a few exceptions lie on or close to the olivine-plagioclase-clinopyroxene cotectic at 1 atm under anhydrous conditions (Walker et al., 1979; Shibata, 1976). Apparently, like many abyssal tholeiites, those samples have reached or are close to three-phase saturation at low pressures. The distribution of the Leg 63 samples in this ternary plot follows the densest cluster of the abyssal tholeiite population (cf. fig. 7 of Walker et al., 1979), indicating that these samples have normative proportions typical of abyssal tholeiites. As with degree of fractionation inferred from the AFM plot, the Leg 63 samples from each drill hole are collectively plotted toward the Qz apex of the Di-Ol-Qz diagram approximately in the following order: (1) Holes 470A and 472, (2) Hole 473, and (3) Hole 469.

The AFM and normative Di-Ol-Qz plots of the Leg 63 basalt samples indicate that the samples from Holes 470A and 472 are less fractionated compared to those from Holes 469 and 473, in accord with their petrography and mineral chemistry described in the previous

Table 6. Major element compositions and norms of DSDP Leg 63 basalts.

Sample (interval in cm)	469-45-2, 24-29	469-47-1, 63-69	470A-7-3, 42-50	470A-9-1, 69-74	470A-9-3, 99-104	472-16-1, 92-98	472A-1-1, 0-8	473-29-1, 70-75	473-30-2, 114-120	473-32-1, 108-114	473-33-1, 115-121	473-34-2, 51-57	473-34-3, 26-34
SiO ₂	47.68	47.02	48.15	48.46	48.38	49.18	48.54	50.14	49.62	49.10	49.75	49.03	48.29
TiO ₂	2.06	2.28	1.21	1.37	1.36	1.74	1.69	1.70	1.60	1.51	2.01	2.00	2.30
Al ₂ O ₃	14.04	13.97	15.73	15.63	16.27	14.98	14.51	16.31	15.28	14.38	13.26	13.42	14.03
Fe ₂ O ₃	5.90	5.98	3.30	4.47	2.84	2.29	2.88	3.54	3.39	3.11	3.30	3.30	4.10
FeO	5.89	6.34	5.51	4.95	5.53	7.11	6.35	4.73	6.08	6.75	8.63	8.38	7.79
FeO*	11.20	11.72	8.48	8.97	8.09	9.17	8.94	7.92	9.13	9.55	11.60	11.35	11.48
MnO	0.28	0.18	0.19	0.22	0.22	0.18	0.19	0.12	0.19	0.18	0.24	0.22	0.25
MgO	6.65	6.23	9.77	7.56	7.18	7.22	6.96	6.62	7.31	7.27	6.77	7.21	6.51
CaO	10.16	9.04	12.00	12.19	12.41	11.53	11.33	10.12	11.81	12.18	10.99	11.08	10.79
Na ₂ O	2.61	2.96	2.05	2.60	2.61	2.51	2.34	3.15	2.73	2.78	2.76	2.66	2.91
K ₂ O	0.57	0.43	0.36	0.22	0.09	0.43	0.42	0.11	0.07	0.09	0.18	0.17	0.15
H ₂ O ⁻	2.05	2.73	0.79	0.99	1.07	0.88	1.28	1.37	1.04	0.83	0.75	0.74	1.46
H ₂ O ⁺	1.65	2.51	1.42	1.49	1.56	1.33	2.73	2.80	1.11	1.16	0.95	1.22	1.20
Total	99.54	99.67	100.48	100.15	99.52	99.38	99.22	100.71	100.23	99.34	99.59	99.43	99.78
FeO*/MgO	1.68	1.88	0.87	1.19	1.13	1.27	1.29	1.20	1.25	1.31	1.71	1.57	1.76
CIPW Norms ^a													
Q	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.49	0.58	0	0	0.40	0	0
or	3.37	2.54	2.13	1.30	0.53	2.54	2.48	0.65	0.41	0.53	1.06	1.00	0.89
ab	22.09	25.05	17.35	22.00	22.09	21.24	19.80	26.65	23.10	23.52	23.35	22.51	24.62
an	24.91	23.56	32.66	30.33	32.41	28.34	27.85	30.04	29.23	26.49	23.26	24.18	24.78
ol	3.62	3.95	10.37	7.88	5.81	1.86	0	0	2.33	4.86	0	1.33	3.44
hy	13.40	13.71	9.18	6.19	7.36	13.72	15.62	16.54	13.29	8.54	16.86	16.04	11.91
di	20.87	17.47	21.63	24.46	23.60	23.42	23.02	16.31	23.82	27.59	25.62	25.16	23.55
mt	3.31	3.47	2.51	2.66	2.39	2.71	2.65	2.34	2.70	2.83	3.43	3.36	3.40
il	3.91	4.33	2.30	2.60	2.58	3.30	3.21	3.23	3.04	2.87	3.82	3.80	4.37

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO.

^a The norms were calculated after Fe₂O₃ was reduced to FeO so as to have Fe₂O₃/FeO = 0.25.Table 7. Trace element abundances^a of DSDP Leg 63 basalts.

Sample (interval in cm)	469-45-2, 24-29	469-47-1, 63-69	470A-7-3, 42-50	470A-9-1, 69-74	470A-9-3, 99-104	472-16-1, 92-98	472A-1-1, 0-8	473-29-1, 70-75	473-30-2, 114-120	473-32-1, 108-114	473-33-1, 115-121	473-34-2, 51-57	473-34-3, 26-34
Rb	11.5	5.4	7.0	4.3	2.9	6.4	6.1	2.6	2.6	2.9	2.4	3.2	1.9
Sr	80.5	80.5	133	76.2	85.6	193	194	127	120	118	103	99.8	103
Y	36.7	41.8	22.8	27.8	29.5	27.9	27.7	24.8	30.7	30.5	41.7	39.9	42.7
Zr	95.0	108	74.2	64.3	69.0	120	118	97.7	90.2	89.8	118	113	125
Nb	<5	<5	5.2	<5	<5	15.3	12.7	<5	<5	<5	<5	6.0	<5
V	374	423	241	248	247	251	251	314	282	274	353	345	396
Cr	104	69.0	370	283	277	223	227	213	198	194	82.9	94.0	152
Co	56.6	84.1	93.2	73.5	70.9	91.2	85.6	65.4	68.6	78.6	74.2	73.5	77.7
Ni	50.9	37.4	187	91.7	99.0	85.2	82.5	61.5	56.9	57.6	46.2	57.0	51.0
Cu	38.7	44.7	46.6	59.1	65.9	48.2	53.4	59.4	54.0	57.4	43.3	45.3	39.2
Zn	75.5	89.5	55.1	57.5	58.1	64.1	65.4	70.2	63.9	66.4	76.8	77.9	88.3

^a Abundances in ppm.

sections. These compositional characteristics for each basalt group from the Leg 63 drill holes also extend to differences in major and trace element concentrations. For example, the concentrations of TiO₂, Y, V, and Zn are enriched, and those of Al₂O₃, CaO, Cr, Ni, and Cu are depleted, in the samples from Holes 469 and 473 relative to those from Holes 470A and 472 (Tables 6, 7, and 9).

As exemplified in the TiO₂ variation diagram (Fig. 7), oxide and element variations relative to FeO*/MgO are in most cases systematic, and the Leg 63 samples as a whole appear to define a smooth, continuous trend that we might regard as a liquid line of descent, if the samples were derived from a common parent magma. Such simple compositional variation as observed in the TiO₂ diagram, however, is not found in the variation diagrams of K₂O, Sr, and Zr (Fig. 8). And it appears that the Hole 472 whole-rock samples at least have K₂O, Sr, and Zr abundances distinct from other Leg 63 samples.

Oxide Variations of Hole 473

In the petrography section, we suggested that the massive basalt unit of Hole 473 may represent submarine sheet flows or ponded lava flows. To test compositional variations within the massive basalt unit of Hole 473, we have plotted in Figure 9 the oxide concentrations of the Hole 473 basalts against the depth at which these samples were recovered. This figure indicates that the Hole 473 basalts are chemically more differentiated downward and that, although the number of analyses is small, there appears to be a compositional discontinuity within the massive basalt unit at some horizon in Core 32. This discontinuous horizon, if real, may correspond with the intercalated soft materials that were hit during the drilling of Core 32. On the basis of this compositional observation, we tentatively divide the basaltic basement at Site 473 into three units (or sheets) with one boundary somewhere in Core 32 and the other in Core 34.

Table 8. Brief petrographic descriptions of analyzed samples.

Sample (interval in cm)	Description	Modal Compositions (%)				
		Phenocrysts & Microphenocrysts				Groundmass
		Ol	Pl	Cpx	Sp	
469-45-2, 24-29	Fine-grained, aphyric, intersertal; acicular plagioclase, equant clinopyroxene, and opaque minerals; greenish yellow smectite fills vesicles and replaces interstitial areas (originally glass?)					
469-47-1, 63-69	Very fine-grained, very rare plagioclase microphenocrysts, variolitic; acicular plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and opaque mineral; yellowish brown smectite fills vesicles	— ^a	tr.	—	—	100.0
470A-7-3, 42-50	Fine grained, porphyritic; intersertal groundmass of acicular plagioclase, feathery clinopyroxene, equant brown spinel, and irregular, minute opaque mineral; yellowish brown smectite pseudomorphs of euhedral, olivine phenocrysts	2.5	1.8	—	tr.	95.7
470A-9-1, 69-74	Fine-grained, glomeroporphyritic with variolitic groundmass; acicular, skeletal plagioclase, feathery clinopyroxene, equant olivine, and irregular, minute opaque mineral	—	0.3	—	—	99.7
470A-9-3, 99-104	Medium-grained, aphyric, intersertal to subophitic; lathy plagioclase, subhedral clinopyroxene, small granules of olivine, and interstitial, irregular, opaque mineral; brown smectite partly or completely replaces olivine					
472-16-1, 92-98	Fine- to medium-grained, porphyritic, subvariolitic groundmass of acicular, skeletal plagioclase, feathery, dendritic clinopyroxene, and minute opaque minerals; brown smectite fills vesicles and replaces olivine microphenocrysts	0.3	1.5	0.2	—	98.0
472A-1-1, 0-8	Essentially similar to Sample 472-16-1, 92-98, except for no pyroxene microphenocryst	0.9	1.7	—	—	97.4
473-29-1, 70-75	Fine-grained, glomeroporphyritic; intergranular to intersertal groundmass of plagioclase laths, clinopyroxene granules, and minute opaque grains; smectite pseudomorphing olivine microphenocrysts	1.0	5.6	0.4	—	93.0
473-30-2, 114-120	Medium-grained, aphyric, intersertal to subophitic; subhedral plagioclase, anhedral clinopyroxene, and anhedral opaque mineral; clay-rich altered interstices					
473-32-1, 108-114	Essentially similar to Sample 473-30-2, 114-120					
473-33-1, 115-121	Essentially similar to Sample 473-30-2, 114-120					
473-34-2, 51-57	Essentially similar to Sample 473-30-2, 114-120					
473-34-3, 26-34	Fine-grained, glomeroporphyritic with hyalo-ophitic groundmass; skeletal, hollow groundmass plagioclase, feathery groundmass clinopyroxene	—	5.2	2.5	—	92.3

Note: Ol, Pl, Cpx, and Sp indicate olivine, plagioclase, clinopyroxene, and spinel, respectively.

^a — = not present.

DISCUSSION

The Leg 63 basalts resemble abyssal tholeiites in their major and trace element chemistry; in particular, they are very similar to those described from the Eastern Pacific ocean floor (Tables 10 and 11). Hole 470A was cored east of Guadalupe Island and 8 km south-southwest of the Experimental Mohole site drilled in 1961. Analytical data for the basalt recovered at the Experimental Mohole (EM) site are listed in Table 10 (Engel and Engel, 1961) and are compared with the Hole 470A basalts. The Mohole basalt and our Hole 470A basalts are very similar to each other; the surface of the oceanic basement east of Guadalupe Island is apparently made up of rather uniform tholeiitic basalts.

Compositional variation in the Leg 63 basalts recovered from any single drill hole is not extensive. However, the Leg 63 samples (except those of Hole 472) define continuous, smooth trends in oxide and element variation diagrams relative to FeO^*/MgO and lie on or close to the olivine-plagioclase-clinopyroxene cotectic at low pressures in the normative Di-Ol-Qz diagram. These observations may indicate that the samples from Holes 469, 470A, and 473 evolved by shallow-level frac-

tional crystallization of similar parental magma(s), although the Leg 63 drill sites where these samples were recovered are located at significant distances from each other.

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Table 9. Microprobe analyses of DSDP Leg 63 basalt glasses.

Sample (interval in cm)	469-48-1, 43-48	469-48-1, 54-61	469-48-1, 98-100	469-48-1, 102-107	469-49-2, 16-20	469-50-1, 57-61	469-50-1, 89-91	469-50-1, 113-117	469-50-2, 20-22	470A-8-2, 56-60
SiO ₂	49.78	49.70	50.28	50.30	50.10	50.74	50.81	50.14	50.74	50.26
TiO ₂	1.94	2.00	1.81	1.78	2.01	1.88	1.96	1.96	1.95	1.68
Al ₂ O ₃	13.45	13.49	13.19	14.04	13.33	13.75	13.58	13.55	12.91	14.61
FeO*	11.88	11.88	11.55	11.52	11.85	11.69	11.98	11.97	11.66	9.31
MnO	0.26	0.26	0.19	0.26	0.25	0.26	0.20	0.22	0.21	0.20
MgO	6.88	6.86	7.13	7.48	7.17	6.42	7.71	7.26	7.09	7.17
CaO	11.26	11.31	11.59	11.62	11.24	11.97	11.05	11.36	11.20	11.72
Na ₂ O	2.70	2.71	2.53	2.66	2.71	2.10	2.81	2.87	2.85	2.83
K ₂ O	0.10	0.11	0.09	0.10	0.11	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.12	0.52
Total	98.25	98.32	98.36	99.76	98.77	98.91	100.20	99.45	98.73	98.30
FeO*/MgO	1.73	1.73	1.62	1.54	1.65	1.82	1.55	1.65	1.65	1.30

Note: FeO* = total iron as FeO.

Table 9. (Continued).

470A-8-3, 76-81	470A-8-5, 74-80	470A-10-1, 16-21	470A-13-1, 38-41	472-14-1, 5-11	472-14-1, 32-38	472-14-1, 47-53	472-14-1, 69-73	472-14-1, 76-81	472-14-2, 45-51	472-16-1, 120-124
49.77	49.66	50.03	50.26	49.29	49.89	50.66	50.43	49.62	50.48	50.41
1.54	1.53	1.43	1.93	1.39	1.36	1.30	1.36	1.25	1.42	1.75
15.20	14.37	15.42	13.83	14.58	15.11	14.45	15.04	15.02	14.63	15.39
9.30	9.35	9.26	10.67	9.14	9.11	8.42	9.11	9.04	9.40	9.24
0.17	0.17	0.20	0.20	0.14	0.18	0.05	0.13	0.19	0.20	0.19
8.25	8.28	8.13	7.91	8.41	8.47	8.65	8.16	8.54	7.87	7.24
12.60	12.58	12.33	11.49	12.64	12.63	11.99	12.40	12.34	12.71	11.53
2.74	2.74	2.79	2.67	2.60	2.46	2.85	2.71	2.51	2.48	2.78
0.06	0.08	0.08	0.14	0.18	0.20	0.21	0.25	0.19	0.15	0.50
99.63	98.76	99.67	99.10	98.37	99.41	98.58	99.59	98.70	99.34	99.03
1.13	1.13	1.14	1.35	1.09	1.08	0.97	1.12	1.06	1.19	1.28

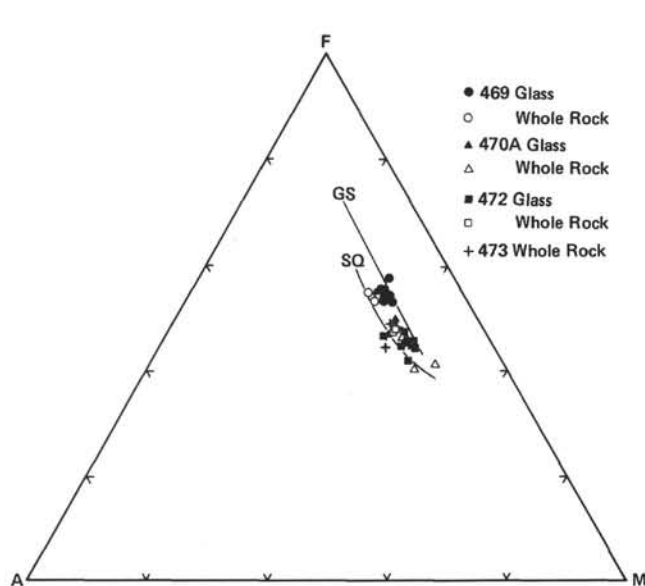


Figure 5. AFM diagram, $(\text{Na}_2\text{O} + \text{K}_2\text{O}) - \text{FeO}^* - \text{MgO}$, showing the distribution of DSDP Leg 63 tholeiites and basalt glasses. (The lines GS and SQ indicate the fractionation trends of tholeiitic basalts from the Galapagos spreading center [Schilling et al., 1976] and from the Siqueiros fracture zone [Batiza et al., 1977], respectively.)

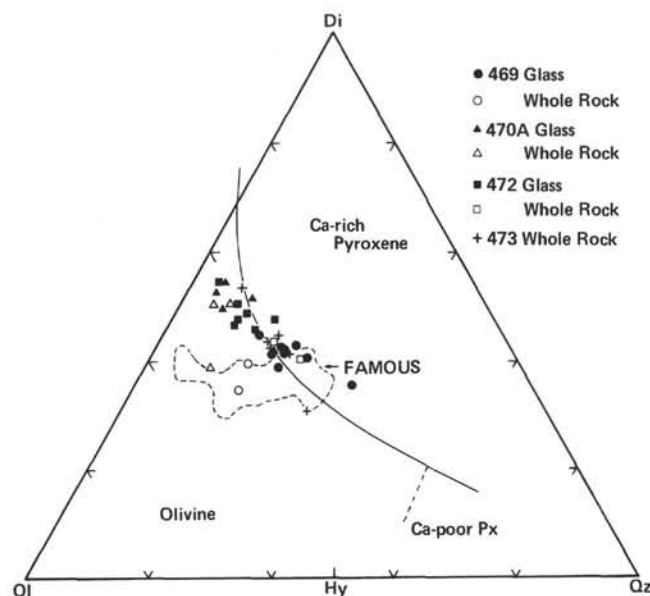


Figure 6. Normative plots of DSDP Leg 63 tholeiites and basalt glasses in molecular proportions; the CIPW norms were calculated on the basis of all iron present as FeO . Ol: $(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$, Di: $\text{Ca}(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})\text{Si}_2\text{O}_6$, Hy: $(\text{Mg}, \text{Fe})\text{SiO}_3$, Qz: SiO_2 . (The solid line is the olivine-plagioclase-clinopyroxene cotectic determined experimentally at 1 atm for the Oceanographer fracture zone basalts [Walker et al., 1979]. The field for the FAMOUS glasses is enclosed with a broken line [Bryan and Moore, 1977; Bryan, 1979].)

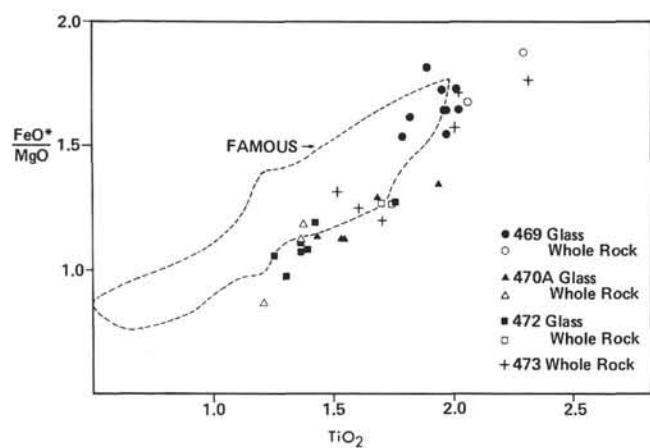


Figure 7. TiO_2 abundances versus FeO^*/MgO . (The field for the FAMOUS glasses is enclosed with a broken line [Bryan and Moore, 1977; Bryan, 1979].)

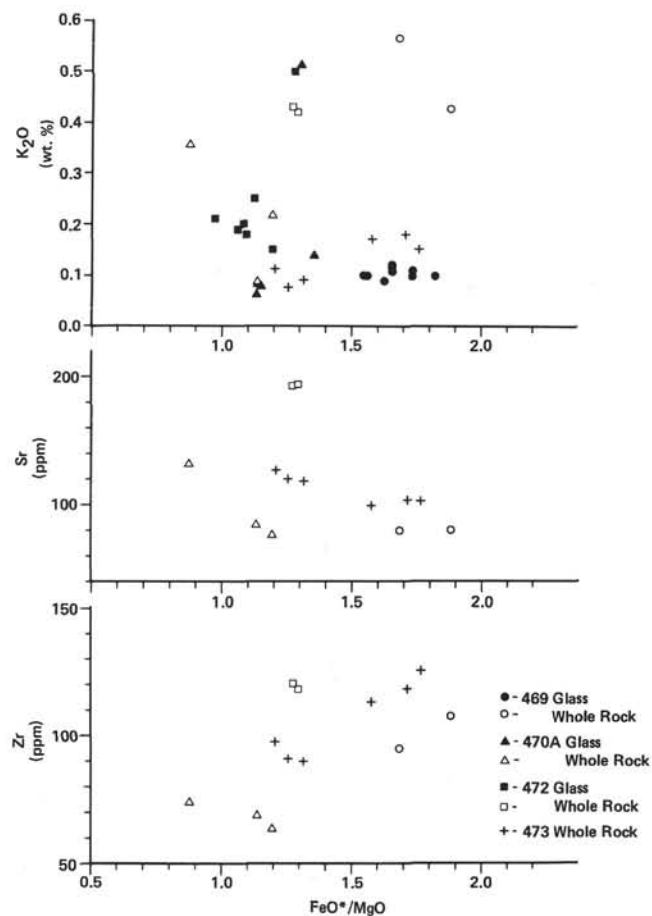


Figure 8. Variations of K_2O , Sr, and Zr as a function of FeO^*/MgO .

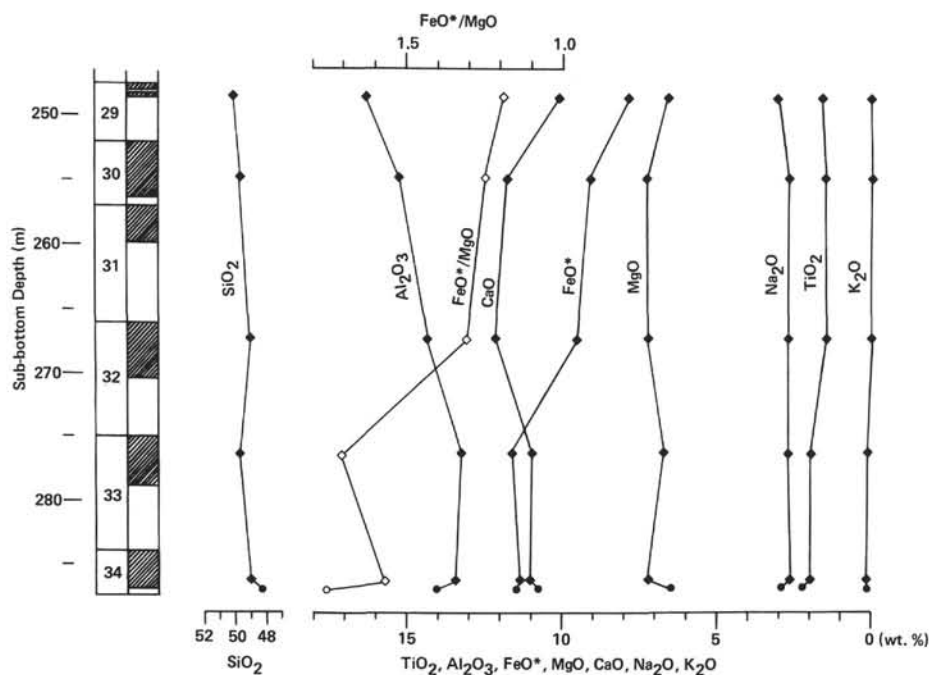


Figure 9. Oxide abundances and FeO*/MgO variation versus sub-bottom depth at Site 473, DSDP Leg 63. (Depths are in meters from the sediment/seawater interface.)

Table 10. Comparison of DSDP Leg 63 basalts with other reported East Pacific Rise basalts.

Sample ^a	EM	D4	Leg 34 Grp. I	Leg 34 Grp. V	SD8-3	SD6-3	Leg 63 470A- 7-3	Leg 63 469- 47-1
SiO ₂	49.13	50.40	51.78	51.6	50.3	48.00	48.15	47.02
TiO ₂	1.23	1.60	1.17	2.4	0.93	2.70	1.21	2.28
Al ₂ O ₃	14.97	14.30	14.74	13.8	15.6	12.8	15.73	13.97
Fe ₂ O ₃	3.28	—	—	—	1.27	2.22	3.30	5.98
FeO	5.72	10.00*	9.62*	13.1*	7.45	11.66	5.51	6.34
MnO	0.16	—	0.16	0.2	0.14	0.24	0.19	0.18
MgO	7.68	7.10	8.05	6.6	9.80	5.98	9.77	6.23
CaO	12.68	12.30	11.82	10.3	12.77	10.14	12.00	9.04
Na ₂ O	2.37	2.78	2.46	2.5	2.41	3.33	2.05	2.96
K ₂ O	0.16	0.12	0.04	—	0.05	0.27	0.36	0.43
H ₂ O ⁻	1.25	—	—	—	—	—	0.79	2.73
H ₂ O ⁺	1.06	—	—	—	—	—	1.42	2.51
P ₂ O ₅	0.15	—	—	—	0.09	0.23	—	—
Total	99.84	98.60	99.84	100.5	100.81	97.57	100.48	99.67
FeO*/MgO	1.13	1.41	1.20	1.98	0.88	2.28	0.87	1.88
Rb	< 10	—	—	—	< 5	< 5	7.0	5.4
Sr	97	125	95	82	125	140	133	80.5
Y	38	—	33	65	—	—	22.8	41.8
Zr	67	—	81	178	—	—	74.2	108
Nb	< 30	—	—	—	—	—	5.2	< 5
V	320	—	261	431	227	397	241	423
Cr	460	—	250	112	490	57	370	69.0
Co	35	—	49	44	45	54	93.2	84.1
Ni	110	—	81	66	130	43	187	37.4
Cu	83	—	91	52	82	50	46.6	44.7
Zn	—	—	—	—	—	—	55.1	89.5

Note: * = total iron as FeO.

^a Samples are EM: Mohole basalt (Engel and Engel, 1961; Engel et al., 1965). D4: East Pacific Rise 18°52'S, 113°19'W microphyric basalt (Kay et al., 1970). Grp. I, Grp. V: DSDP Leg 34 basalts from the Nazca Plate (Thompson et al., 1976). SD8-3, SD6-3: From the Siqueiros fracture zone (Batiza et al., 1977).

Table 11. Comparison of average Leg 63 basalt glasses with other reported average ocean ridge basalt glass analyses.

Sample ^a	EPR	JFR	Leg 63		
			Site 469	Hole 470A	Site 472
SiO ₂	49.96 ± 0.80	50.06	50.29	50.00	50.11
TiO ₂	1.72 ± 0.48	1.95	1.92	1.62	1.40
Al ₂ O ₃	15.02 ± 1.22	14.76	13.48	14.69	14.89
FeO*	11.04 ± 1.45	12.03	11.78	9.58	9.07
MnO	—	—	0.23	0.19	0.15
MgO	7.23 ± 1.04	6.81	7.11	7.95	8.19
CaO	11.23 ± 1.17	11.12	11.40	12.14	12.32
Na ₂ O	2.76 ± 0.25	2.72	2.66	2.75	2.63
K ₂ O	0.17 ± 0.14	0.21	0.11	0.18	0.24
P ₂ O ₅	0.15 ± 0.08	0.16	—	—	—
Total	99.30	99.82	98.98	99.10	99.00

^a Samples are: EPR: Average of 89 basaltic glass analyses from the East Pacific Rise (Morel and Hekinian, 1980). JFR: Average of 18 basaltic glass analyses from the Juan de Fuca Ridge (Melson et al., 1976).