



Geochemical Consideration of some Granitoids around Ojirami-Ogbo and Environs, Southwestern Nigeria

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ABSTRACT: Five (5) granitoid samples from Ojirami-Ogbo and Environs in Akoko-Edo area of southwestern Nigeria were obtained with the aim of determining their geochemical properties using the XRF and Xrd techniques. Results from the analysis revealed the presence of SiO₂ (51.41-64.84%), Al₂O₃ (21.37-36.25%), Fe₂O₃ (5.89-8.02%), MgO (0.98-2.11%), K₂O (0.02-0.97%) and Na₂O (0.04-0.08%) all in wt%. Using the Al₂O₃ and SiO₂ saturation schemes in classifying igneous rocks, sample two, three, four and five gave Al₂O₃ wt% values of 33.30%, 32.00%, 23.20%, 21.37% greater than the molars proportions of (Al₂O₃/CaO+Na₂O+K₂O) with values 22.54, 30.06, 22.10 and 14.07, and are peraluminous rocks while sample one had 36.25% and 43.10, respectively and is considered to be metaluminous. The SiO₂ composition of the rocks ranges from 51.41-66.40% hence reveals a mafic to intermediate composition. The main felsic minerals from Xrd analysis revealed the presence of quartz, alkali and plagioclase feldspars. Using the QAP diagram, the rocks fall within the granitoid class.

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Granite is a felsic intrusive igneous rock that is granular and phaneritic in texture. Granite can be predominantly white, pink, or gray in colour, this is dependent on the mineralogy. Granite is an igneous rock with at least 20% quartz and up to 65% alkali feldspar by volume. Granitic is a term meaning granite-like and is applied to granite and a group of intrusive igneous rocks with similar textures and slight variations in composition and origin. These rocks consist of feldspar, quartz mica, and amphibole minerals which form an interlocking, somewhat equigranular matrix of feldspar and quartz with scattered darker biotite mica and amphibole (often hornblende) peppering the lighter colored minerals. Occasionally, some individual crystals (phenocryst) are larger than the groundmass, in which case the texture is known as porphyritic (Rahaman, 1988; Odeyemi, 1988). Petrographic examination is required for identification of specific types of granitoids. Granite differs from granodiorite in that at least 35% of the feldspar in granite is alkali feldspar as opposed to plagioclase. It is the potassium feldspar that gives granite a distinctive pink color. Granite is nearly always massive (lacking any internal structure), hard and tough, therefore it has gained widespread use in human history, and more recently as a construction material. The average density of granite is between 2.65 and 2.75g/cm³, its compressive strength usually lie above

200MPa, and its viscosity near STP is 3-6.10¹⁹Pa. The melting temperature of dry granite at ambient pressure is 1215-1260°C (2219-2300°F). It is the strongly reduced in the presence of water down to 650°C at a few kbars. Granite has poor primary permeability, but strong secondary permeability. Outcrops of granite tend to form tors and massifs. Granites sometimes occur in circular depressions surrounded by a range of hills, formed by the metamorphic aureoles or hornfels. Granite is usually found in the continental plates of the earth crust. Granite is currently known to exist only on earth, where it forms a major part of the continental crust. Granite often occurs as relatively small to less than 100km² (stocks) and greater than 100Km² (batholiths) that are often associated with orogenic mountain ranges. Small dykes of granitic composition called aplites are often associated with margins of granitic intrusions (McCurry, 1971; 1976). In some locations very coarse grained pegmatite masses occur and are granitic in composition. Granitic in composition rocks have been intruded into the crust of the earth during all geologic periods, although quite a number are of Pan African age. A number of authors have classified the basement complex rocks into three or four parts with igneous rocks occurring as a major intrusive phase (Rahaman, 1976; 1988; Oyawoye, 1972; Odeyemi, 1976; 1988; Ajibade and Fitches, 1988). Granitic

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rocks are widely distributed throughout the continental crust and are the most abundant basement rock that underlies the relatively thin sedimentary veneer of the continents. The aim of this paper, therefore, is to determine the chemical and mineralogical composition of the rocks, hence, classify the rock. The study area is located within latitude 7°18'40"N to 7°21'00"N and longitude 6° 07'30"E to 6°14'00"E on Auchi Sheet 266 on a scale of 1:100,000 (Figure 1). The study area forms part of the Pan African rocks (charnockites and granitoids) which intrude both the Younger metasedimentary rocks (quartz mica schists, metaconglomerates, psammites, calc gneisses and marbles) and the Older metasedimentary sequences (migmatite gneisses, marbles, quartzites) (McCurry, 1976; Odeyemi, 1976; Rahaman, 1976;1988). The geological map of the study area is shown in Figure 2. The granitic rocks at Ojirami-Ogbo occur as batholiths and are exposed over a wide area. The rocks are porphyritic with the k-feldspar occurring as phenocrysts in a ground matrix of quartz, biotite, plagioclase, alkali feldspar, hornblende and other mafic minerals. The k-feldspars give the rock its pinkish coloration, while the quartz in the matrix occurs as ribbons. The granites have a massive structure, but some mica in some parts of the rocks possesses a kind of discontinuous alignment.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample collection: Five (5) samples were obtained from some igneous bodies around Ojirami-Ogbo and Semolika. Fresh samples were collected with the aid of a sledge hammer. The samples, well-labeled, were sent to the laboratory at National Steel Raw Materials Exploration Agency, (NSRMEA), Kaduna. The coordinates were determined using a Global Positioning System (G.P.S). The samples were subjected to chemical and mineralogical analysis using the XrF (X-ray Fluorescence- MODEL 1200 ARL ADVANT'X THERMOSCIENTIFICS) and X-ray Diffractometer (XrD).

Sample preparation and analysis: For the XrF technique, each sample was crushed with an electric crusher and then pulverized for 60seconds using Herzog Gyro-mill (Simatic, C7-621). Pellets were prepared from the pulverized sample, first by grinding 20g of each sample with 0.4g of stearic acid for 60seconds. After grinding, the Gyro mill was cleaned to avoid contamination. One gramme (1g) of stearic acid was weighed into an aluminum cup to act as a binding agent and the cup was subsequently filled with the sample to the level point. The cup was then taken to Herzog pelletizing equipment where it was passed at a pressure of 200KN for 60seconds. The 2mm pellets were added into a sample holder of the equipment for analysis. For XrD technique, the model, Phillip 1140 using Cu as the target metal (K-alpha), Voltage: 40.0(kV), Current: 30.0(Ma), Divergence and Scatter Slit :1.0000(deg.), Receiving Slit: 0.30000(mm), Drive axis: theta-2theta, Scan range: 2.0000-60.0000(deg.), Scan mode: continuous scan, Scan speed: 8.0000(deg./min), Sampling pitch: 0.0200(deg.) and Preset time: 0.15(sec.) was employed. The monochromatic x-rays are projected onto a crystalline material at an angle (Θ), diffraction occurs when the distance travelled by the rays reflected from successive planes differs by an integer (n) of wavelengths. By varying the angle, the Bragg's law conditions are satisfied by the different d-spacing. Plotting the angular positions and intensities of the resultant diffracted peaks produces a characteristic pattern. Where different phases are present, the diffraction trace represents the sum of the individual patterns. The relative abundance of the minerals present can be calculated using the Peak area method of Carrol, (1970).

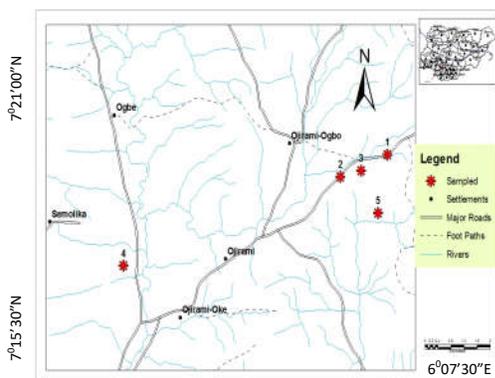


Fig 1: Location map of the sampled points.

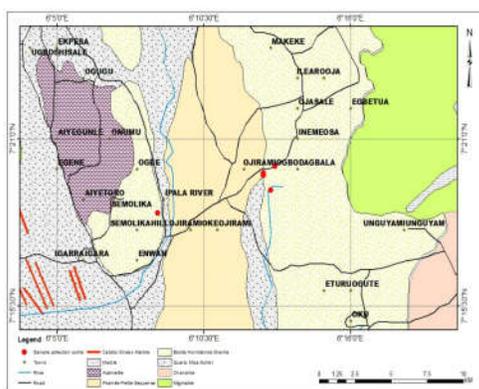


Fig 2: The geological map of the study area

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows the result from the chemical analysis of the rock samples. The concentration of SiO₂ is highest in sample four with a value of 66.40% which indicates that the magma that gave rise to the rock is probably

felsic. The SiO₂ concentration of sample two and four is 55.25% and 64.84%, respectively, indicating that the rocks are probably of intermediate magma. However, sample one and three have SiO₂ values of 51.41% and 53.41% respectively which denotes it to be mafic. The weight percent (wt%) of Al₂O₃ for sample one, two, three, four and five as analyzed are 36.25%, 33.30%, 32.00%, 23.20% and 21.37%, respectively. The weight percent divided by the molar mass gave the molar proportion of Al₂O₃ with values of 0.347, 0.320, 0.308, 0.223, 0.205 for sample one, two, three, four and five, respectively. The individual weight percent of CaO + Na₂O + K₂O divided by their individual molar masses gave the molar proportion of CaO+Na₂O+K₂O after the summation of their individual values (CaO+Na₂O+K₂O) of 0.0081, 0.0142, 0.0102, 0.0101, 0.0146 for sample one to five, respectively. The molar proportions of Al₂O₃ was

subsequently divided by the molar proportion of CaO+Na₂O+K₂O giving values of 43.10, 22.54, 30.06, 22.10, 14.07 for sample one to five, respectively (Table 2). According to Shand's classification of 1927, for a rock to be considered as peraluminous, the weight percent of Al₂O₃ should be greater than the molar proportions of Al₂O₃ divided by CaO + Na₂O + K₂O i.e (Al₂O₃/CaO+Na₂O+K₂O). Sample two, three, four, and five satisfies these condition and they are therefore peraluminous. However, for sample one the weight percent of Al₂O₃ is less than the molar proportions of Al₂O₃ divided by that of CaO+Na₂O+K₂O (Al₂O₃/CaO+Na₂O+K₂O), hence, it is therefore considered to be peralkaline. The table below carefully illustrates the sample groupings into the peralkaline or peraluminous using Shand's classification (Table 2).

Table 1: Chemical composition of some major and trace oxides (wt %)

Sample No.	Elemental oxides	1	2	3	4	5
1	SiO ₂	51.41	55.25	53.41	66.40	64.84
2	Al ₂ O ₃	36.25	33.30	32.00	23.20	21.37
3	Fe ₂ O ₃	7.20	6.34	8.63	5.89	8.02
4	MgO	1.22	1.97	1.73	0.98	2.11
5	K ₂ O	0.02	0.87	0.56	0.33	0.90
6	Ti ₂ O	2.73	1.45	3.01	1.76	2.08
7	P ₂ O ₅	0.05	0.08	0.03	0.10	0.08
8	SO ₂	0.06	0.03	ND	ND	0.01
9	V ₂ O ₅	0.15	0.13	0.09	0.12	0.13
10	CaO	0.38	0.26	0.17	0.30	0.23
11	MnO	0.01	0.01	ND	0.01	ND
12	NiO	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02
13	Cr ₂ O ₃	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.04	0.03
14	Na ₂ O	0.06	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.06
15	MO	0.05	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.03
16	Ga ₂ O ₃	0.01	ND	ND	0.02	0.01
17	Sc ₂ O ₃	0.01	ND	0.01	ND	ND
18	Eu ₂ O ₃	0.02	0.06	ND	0.01	ND
19	CuO	0.04	0.03	0.01	ND	0.01

NB: Fe₂O₃ = Total Iron

Table 2: Alumina saturation of samples from Ojirami-Ogbo

Sample No.	Weight % (Al ₂ O ₃)	Weight% /Molar Mass (Al ₂ O ₃)	Weight%/Molar Mass (CaO+Na ₂ O+K ₂ O)	Al ₂ O ₃ / CaO+Na ₂ O+K ₂ O	Alumina Saturation
Sample 1	36.25	0.347	0.0081	43.10	Metaluminous
Sample 2	33.30	0.320	0.0142	22.54	Peraluminous
Sample 3	32.00	0.308	0.0102	30.06	Peraluminous
Sample 4	23.20	0.223	0.0101	22.10	Peraluminous
Sample 5	21.37	0.205	0.0146	14.07	Peraluminous

Figure 3 shows the concentration of SiO₂ which ranges from 51.41%-66.40% and Al₂O₃ from 21.37%-36.25% with the former having generally a positive trend (increase) as observed through all the samples, however, there is a slight drop in sample 3. The high SiO₂ content in sample 4 and 5 may be due to the less effects of assimilation of the pre-existing rocks (Quartz Mica Schist and Psammite Pelite Sequence) during the Pan African Event, being that sample 4 and 5 are further away from the contacts. The silica content

may also be due to the composition of the melt (Rahaman, 1988; Odeyemi, 1988). There is a negative trend (decrease) for Al₂O₃ concentration from sample 1 to 5. The low Al₂O₃ content as one moves from sample 1 to sample 5 may be due to the low concentration of alumina-rich minerals such as garnets, biotite. This is observed as one move away from the contact towards the igneous body (Rahaman, 1988; Odeyemi, 1988).

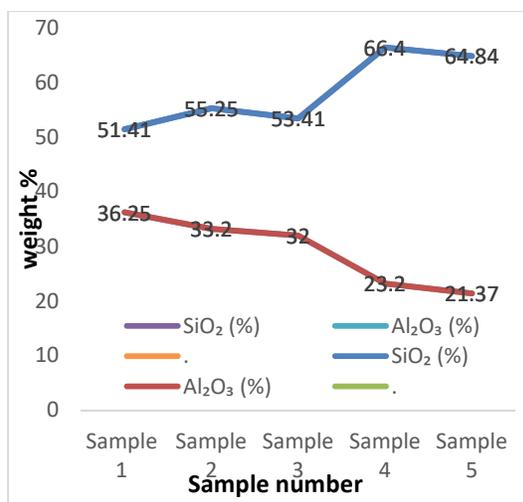


Fig 3: The SiO₂ and Al₂O₃ in weight % of the samples

Figure 4 shows the relationship between Fe₂O₃, MgO and CaO. The aforementioned oxides range from 5.89-8.63%, 0.98-2.11% and 0.17-0.38%, respectively. The CaO and MgO content generally have a positive trend which is indicative of the little contributions from minerals like albite and the magnesian minerals such as biotite and hornblende. The Fe₂O₃ content generally has a positive trend with much of the iron occurring as hematite.

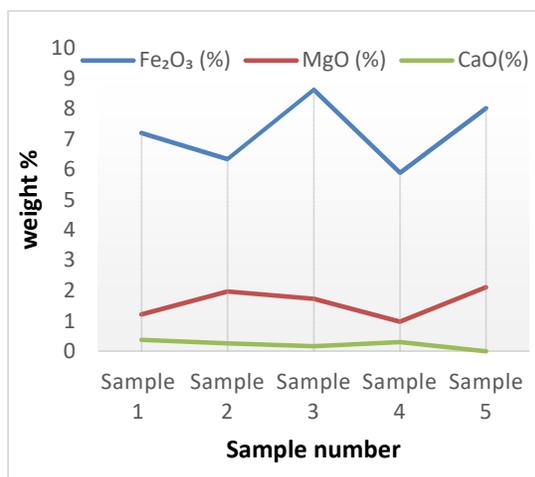


Fig 4: The Fe₂O₃, MgO and CaO in weight % of the samples

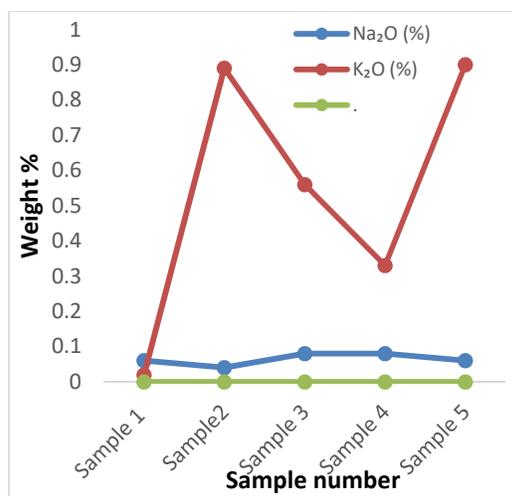


Fig 5: Na₂O and K₂O in weight % of the samples

Figure 5 shows the relationship between K₂O (0.02-0.90%) and Na₂O (0.03-0.08%) and reveals a weak positive trend for both oxides which agrees with the school of thought that high SiO₂, K₂O and Na₂O is common with felsic melts (Ukaegbu and Okonny, 1998). The Xrd analysis revealed that the rocks are majorly composed of quartz, alkali and plagioclase feldspars. The relative abundance of the aforementioned minerals is presented on table 3. The alkali feldspars comprise albite and sanidine while the plagioclase feldspars include mesotypic albites (Oligoclase-Labradonite). The modal composition for the minerals was recalculated to 100% and used to plot the rock type on the QAP diagram (Figure 6). Sample one has 60% quartz, 20% alkali and plagioclase feldspars, respectively, sample two has 64.3% quartz, 25.7 and 10% alkali and plagioclase feldspars, sample 3 has 40% quartz, 50% and 10% alkali and plagioclase feldspars, sample four has 50% quartz and 30% and 20% alkali and plagioclase feldspars and sample five has 34.3% quartz, 35.7% and 30% alkali and plagioclase feldspars. In the QAP diagram, three of the samples (sample 1, 3, and 4) plot within the granite field, while sample 2 and five 5 plot within the quartz-rich granitoid and granodiorite field, respectively

Table 3. The relative abundance of felsic minerals in samples.

Sample No	Q Quartz	A Alkali feldspar	P Plagioclase	RESULT
1	60	20	20	Granite
2	64.3	25.7	10	Quartz-rich Granitoid
3	40	50	10	Granite
4	50	30	20	Granite
5	34.3	35.7	30	Granodiorite

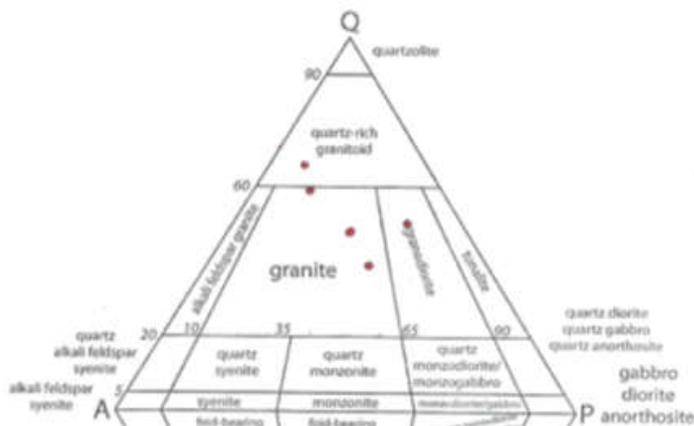


Fig. 6: The QAP diagram showing sample plot

Conclusion: Granitoids are varieties of coarse grained plutonic rocks which are composed mainly of quartz, alkali and plagioclase feldspar. The concentration of SiO₂ in the rocks indicates the probable acidic to basic nature of the melt that gave rise to the rocks. The rocks are all peraluminous, which indicates their high Al₂O₃ content except one which is metaluminous. The rocks all fall within the granitoid region, having greater than 20% quartz, alkaline and plagioclase feldspars, except one which falls within the quartz-rich granitoids because of its high quartz content.

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