

Orange and Orange-Volcanoes: a New Open and Collaborative Platform to Perform Data-Driven Investigations and Machine Learning Analyses in Petrology and Volcanology

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ABSTRACT

Orange-Volcanoes is an extension of the open-source Orange data mining platform specifically tailored for geochemical, petrological, and volcanological investigations. Orange-Volcanoes enhances the original platform by incorporating specialized tools to enable interactive data-driven investigations in geochemistry, such as performing Compositional Data Analysis (CoDA). Applying CoDA transformations enables the use of many standard and multivariate statistical methods like principal component analysis, discriminant analysis, and hierarchical clustering on compositional data. In this way, Orange-Volcanoes allows for the application of a wide range of data mining and statistical methods implemented in Orange using geochemical data. Moreover, Orange allows the use of advanced methods in the field of explainable artificial intelligence, such as feature importance and Shapley additive explanations. Also, within Orange-Volcanoes, we demonstrate the flexibility of the Orange platform by developing visual tools that allow for conducting mineral-liquid equilibrium tests and calculating thermobarometric estimates. The Orange-Volcanoes supports collaborative efforts and reproducibility by offering a visual programming interface that requires no coding experience, making it accessible to a wide range of users, including scientists, educators, and students. We provide a series of case studies, including interactive petrological data exploration and clustering in tephra studies to highlight Orange-Volcanoes' potential and versatility in volcanological applications. Orange-Volcanoes can be downloaded using pip, and its documentation is available at <https://bit.ly/orange3-volcanoes-doc>

1. Introduction

New discoveries in science mainly consist of uncovering patterns and relations from the observation of still unexplained phenomena and, possibly, formalizing them in laws and equations (Montáns et al., 2019). Such laws and equations can sometimes be inductively derived from a few and highly-focused experiments designed to either demonstrate or refute a specific model (i.e., “model-driven” applications). This is a classical approach that has been widely used in Earth sciences, for example, in experimental petrology (Johannes and Holtz, 2012), or in classical volcanological studies (Sparks and Walker, 1977). Nowadays, new and complementary approaches based on the investigation

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of a large number of observations can support classical strategies in deriving new discoveries. For example, purely data-driven investigations consist of analyzing a possibly large number of raw, multi-dimensional, and sometimes heterogeneous observations to uncover hidden patterns, mostly without the presence of a specific theory to be demonstrated or refuted (Montáns et al., 2019). As reported by Montáns et al. (2019): “These procedures have the additional advantage of testing correlations between different variables and observations, learning unforeseen patterns in nature and allowing us to discover new scientific laws or even more, performing predictions without the availability of such laws”. The progressive and significant increase of the available computational power occurred over the past decades, and the continuous improvements of statistical tools like machine learning techniques fed the proliferation of studies relying on data-driven investigations, also involving petrology and volcanology (Boschetti et al., 2022; Caricchi et al., 2020; Petrelli and Perugini, 2016; Petrelli et al., 2017, 2020; Musu et al., 2023). The core process of data-driven investigation is data mining, which involves extracting relevant information not known *a priori* (and potentially useful) from a large data set (Witten et al., 2017; Montáns et al., 2019; Ishak et al., 2020; Ratra and Gulia, 2020; Thange et al., 2021). In detail, data mining consists of collecting and investigating large amounts of observations with a set of mathematical and statistical tools designed to: (i) filter out the complicated and redundant noise in the data; (ii) identify patterns and/or meaningful correlations, thereby excluding trivial or spurious correlations; and (iii) accelerate the route to data evaluation and decision-making (Witten et al., 2017; Thange et al., 2021).

However, data-driven investigations in petrology and volcanology are sometimes hindered by limiting factors (Petrelli, 2024) like: (i) interactive data mining platforms allowing for the joint application of both classical petrological approaches and new data-driven investigations are scarce; (ii) ready-to-use petrological and volcanological data sets are, sometimes, difficult to retrieve or of difficult access; (iii) machine learning methods are often perceived as mere “black-boxes” by Earth Scientists; (iv) results are not always easy to reproduce.

All these limitations could be potentially overcome using data mining platforms, for example, Orange (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019). Orange is a Python-based platform for interactive data visualization and modelling (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019). It enables high-quality qualitative and quantitative data-visualization and data-mining using a visual programming approach (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019). In detail, Orange enables interactive data mining, allowing the user to control, visualize, and interact directly with each stage of the workflow through a simple and intuitive interface (Demšar et al., 2013; Rojas-Galeano and Rodriguez, 2013; Godec et al., 2019; Mohi, 2020; Dobesova, 2024). By natively incorporating numerous advanced visualization tools, statistical methods, and machine learning algorithms, Orange potentially allows geochemists, petrologists, and volcanologists to focus their efforts on data-mining instead of coding (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019; Petrelli, 2024). Furthermore, it is based on a collaborative approach, allowing experienced Python programmers to contribute to Orange development and share new scientific tools (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019). For instance, it is possible to create new

76 original packages of functions (add-ons) to solve specific problems, which users can add to their own collection of
77 tools in Orange. In addition, the availability of many methods belonging to Explainable Artificial Intelligence in
78 Orange (i.e., the ones contained in the Orange3 Explain add-on), like feature importance (Kaneko, 2022; Lundberg
79 et al., 2019), Shapely additive Explanations (SHAP, Lundberg and Lee, 2017), and Individual Conditional Expectation
80 (ICE, Goldstein et al., 2015), facilitates the transition from the so-called “black-box” modelling approach to transparent
81 data modelling and interpretation (Gunning et al., 2019). Finally, its simple graphical form, combined with extensive
82 documentation (comprising a variety of tutorials), speeds up the educational process, making it an excellent tool for
83 teaching but also for facilitating communication and active cooperation between researchers and practitioners with
84 different or no knowledge of programming languages (Demšar et al., 2013; Godec et al., 2019; Dobesova, 2024).

85 As a drawback, Orange still lacks tools that are of fundamental importance in petrology and volcanology. For
86 example, Compositional Data Analysis (CoDA) has not been implemented yet. To note, CoDA allows the application
87 of most of the advanced statistical methods implemented in Orange on geochemical data, otherwise not recommended
88 due to their compositional nature (Aitchison, 1984). Access to petrological and volcanological data sets is not always
89 straightforward, and a large library of different petrological and volcanological (experimental and natural) data sets has
90 yet to be integrated into the Orange platform for easy accessibility. Furthermore, it misses fundamental petrological
91 data cleaning options, like the filtering for mineral phases (i.e., cation sum filter for clinopyroxene) and equilibrium
92 tests (Putirka, 1999, 2008; Mollo et al., 2013; Neave et al., 2019).

93 To start filling this gap, we developed Orange-Volcanoes, an add-on that allows connecting Orange to the petro-
94 logical and volcanological community. Orange-Volcanoes is minded on a collaborative basis, allowing all users to
95 contribute or suggest improvements. For example, novices can support the Orange-Volcanoes development by sug-
96 gesting improvements and experienced Python programmers can collaborate by adding new features and integrating
97 existing tools within the Orange-Volcanoes GitHub repository: <https://bit.ly/orange3-volcanoes-repo>.

98 The overall objective of Orange-Volcanoes is to provide a freely accessible and easy to use add-on within the Orange
99 environment that is specifically intended to support the petro-volcanological community, regardless of the level of pro-
100 gramming expertise of the user. In detail, Orange-Volcanoes currently implements fundamental data transformations
101 in the framework of compositional data analysis (CoDA), like additive, centered, and isometric log-ratio transforma-
102 tions (Aitchison, 1986; Egozcue et al., 2003). Also, it provides direct access to selected petrological (e.g., Georoc,
103 DIGIS Team 2024) and volcanological (e.g., Smith et al., 2011) data sets to reproduce the findings on the present
104 work. Finally, it integrates data cleaning tools based on equilibrium between liquid-crystal pairs and geochemical data
105 filtering. To demonstrate the potential of Orange-Volcanoes, we also developed a comprehensive collection of widgets
106 to perform geo-thermometric and geo-barometric estimates based on the Thermobar (Wieser et al., 2022) Python
107 package. All Orange-Volcanoes tools are interactive, allowing for the development of exploratory data visualization

108 and modelling. Within the manuscript, we demonstrate the potential of the proposed platform by applying Orange and
109 Orange-Volcanoes to selected study cases in the framework of interactive petrological data exploration, clustering of
110 geochemical data, and tephra studies.

111 2. Orange and Orange-Volcanoes

112 2.1. Orange

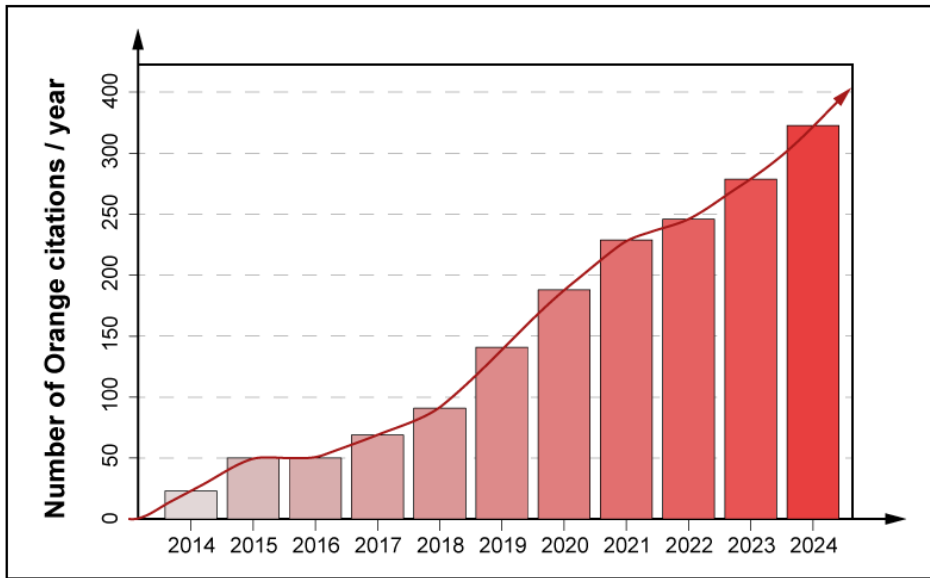


Figure 1: Number of Orange citations per year, until December 2024.

113 Orange (<https://orangedatamining.com>) is an open-source, Python-based, data mining platform that provides
114 a simple and interactive interface, allowing users to perform various tasks in data analysis and visual programming
115 (Demšar et al., 2013). In recent years, the interest and use of the Orange platform have been growing in several branches
116 of scientific research (Fig. 1). The Orange library is structured hierarchically, comprising various components named
117 “widgets”. Each widget serves a specific function, such as data input, pre-processing, modelling, analysis, and visual-
118 ization. Practically, widgets appear as visual elements that users can manually combine to construct a workflow (Fig. 2).
119 In these terms, an Orange workflow consists of a network of interconnected widgets that can be easily assembled by
120 manually dragging them onto a whiteboard interface (called Orange Canvas) and linking them together (Fig. 2a). This
121 design enables users to interactively inspect each step of the workflow, including the input and output data for every
122 widget. By clicking on a widget, an options menu appears, allowing users to select specific functions for that wid-
123 get. For example, in the case of a normalization widget, users can choose the type of normalization to apply, such as

124 standard scaling or [0,1] normalization (Fig. 2b). This step-by-step inspection gives users a better understanding and
 125 confidence in both the data set itself and the analytical methods employed.

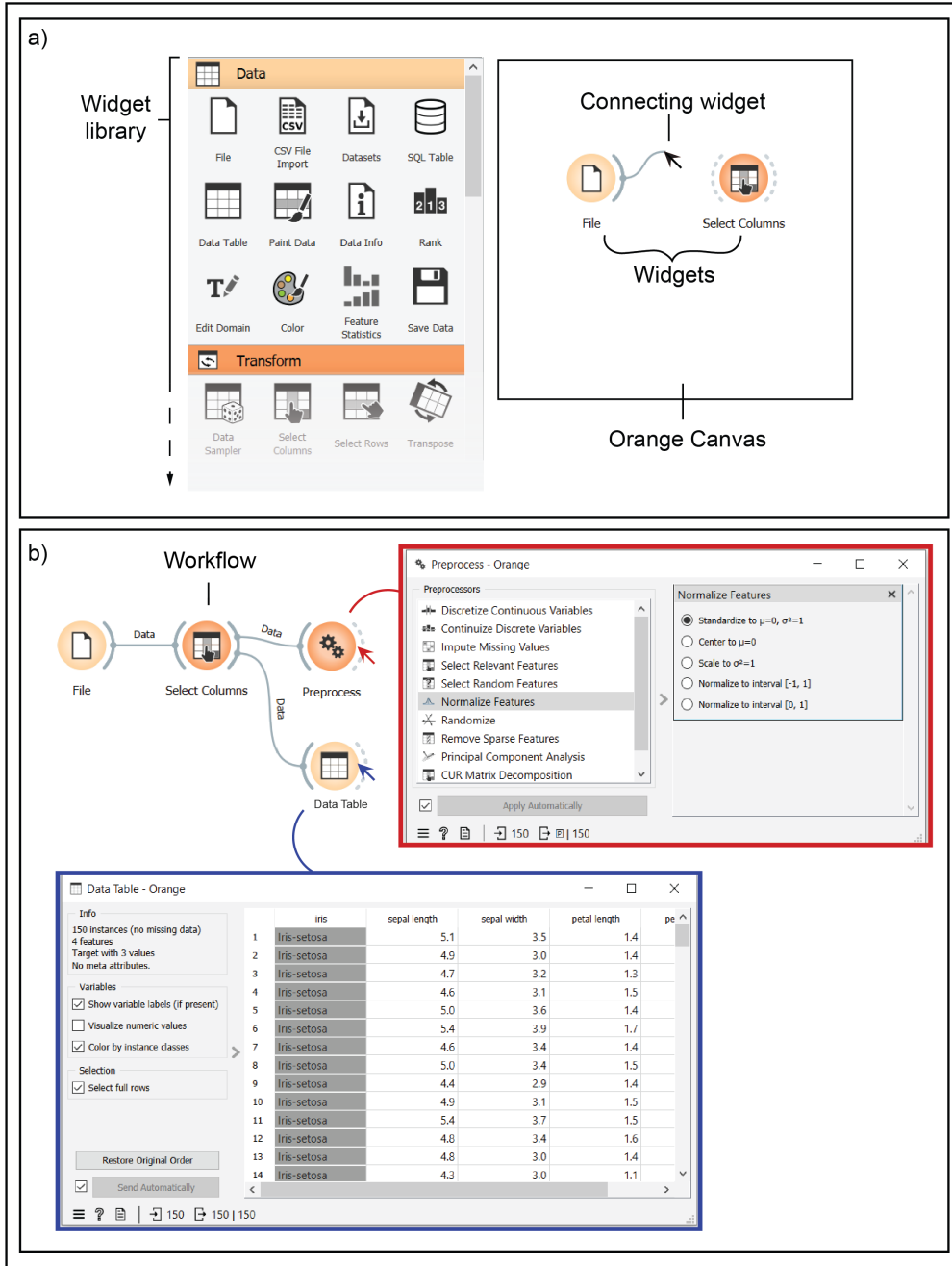


Figure 2: Composing a workflow in Orange. a) Screenshot of the widget library. The widgets can be dragged into the Orange Canvas and manually connected to form a workflow. b) Simple workflow. It is possible to inspect each individual portion of the workflow. Clicking on individual widgets and using data tables allows users to visualise the data in the input and the output and change the function performed by each widget.

126 Additionally, any modifications, such as choosing a specific data subset or adjusting parameters within a widget,

127 are instantly applied throughout the entire workflow, leading to an immediate update in the final data display (Fig. 3).
128 For instance, if we select a group of observations in a figure or a data table, all the following widgets will automatically
129 adjust, reapplying the analysis to the selected sub-data set and updating all the results in real-time (Fig 3). This extreme
130 interactivity allows users to dynamically explore their data and methodologies, facilitating the extraction of insights
131 and enabling easy comparison of different approaches in a visual and efficient manner. Ultimately, Orange's structure
132 supports the creation of reproducible and comparable workflows, promoting a transparent and reproducible scientific
133 approach.

134 Orange can be managed at three different levels: (i) as an end user, requiring no knowledge of the Python pro-
135 gramming language and enabling the direct application of Orange widgets to the investigated data set; (ii) as an expert
136 user, with the ability to incorporate Python scripts as widgets within the workflow, thereby enabling the addition of
137 customized functions or formulas not available in Orange (Fig. 4); and (iii) as a developer, with the capability to
138 expand or create custom add-ons that can then be shared and freely used by all within the Orange platform (e.g.,
139 Orange-Volcanoes).

140 2.2. Orange-Volcanoes

141 Orange-Volcanoes (<https://bit.ly/orange3-volcanoes-repo>) consists of a set of widgets in Orange allow-
142 ing the user to perform several fundamental tasks in geochemistry, petrology, and volcanology (Fig. 5). In detail,
143 Orange-Volcanoes includes dedicated widgets for:

- 144 • Data import of petrologic data sets;
- 145 • CoDA pre-processing (i.e., centred, additive and isometric log-ratio transformations);
- 146 • Data cleaning of geochemical analyses performed on volcanic glasses and minerals (e.g., filter for total oxides
147 and filter for sum of cations);
- 148 • Data cleaning based on Mineral-liquid equilibrium tests;
- 149 • Classic and Machine-Learning-based thermobarometry estimates based on clinopyroxene only, clinopyroxene-
150 liquid pairs, and liquid-only.

151 2.2.1. Data Import

152 To import a personal data set into the Orange environment and process it through the dedicated Orange Volcanoes
153 widgets, the user can simply employ the “File” widget within Orange (which allows the user to insert a custom .txt, .csv
154 or .xlsx file). Alternatively, Orange-Volcanoes provides access to a list of open-source volcanological and petrological
155 data sets, which the user can open through the “data sets” widget and immediately consult and analyze. In detail,

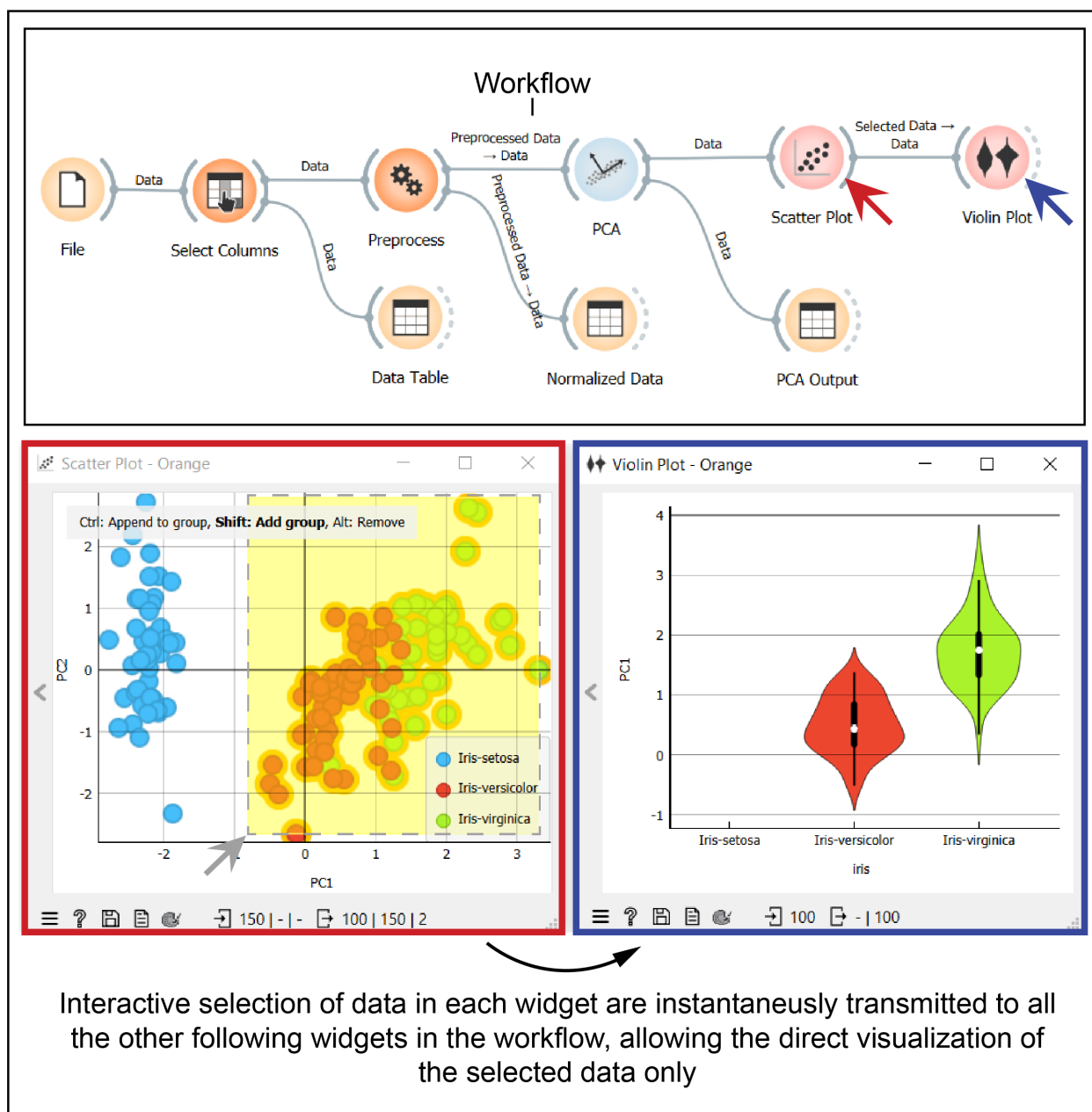


Figure 3: Interactive workflows. Every change that is applied within a widget and every applied data selection (i.e., interactive selection of portions of data from a graph) is applied instantaneously to all following widgets, allowing immediate evaluation of the performed change or selection.

156 the first release of Orange Volcanoes contains: (i) The experimental data set used to train machine-learning-based
 157 themobarometry (i.e., Petrelli et al., 2020); (ii) The glass major element analysis from the Campanian Volcanic Province
 158 product published by (Smith et al., 2011); (iii) Selected clinopyroxene major element composition of Colli Albani
 159 Volcano and from the Campanian Volcanic Province (collected from Georoc; DIGIS Team, 2024); (iv) a single point

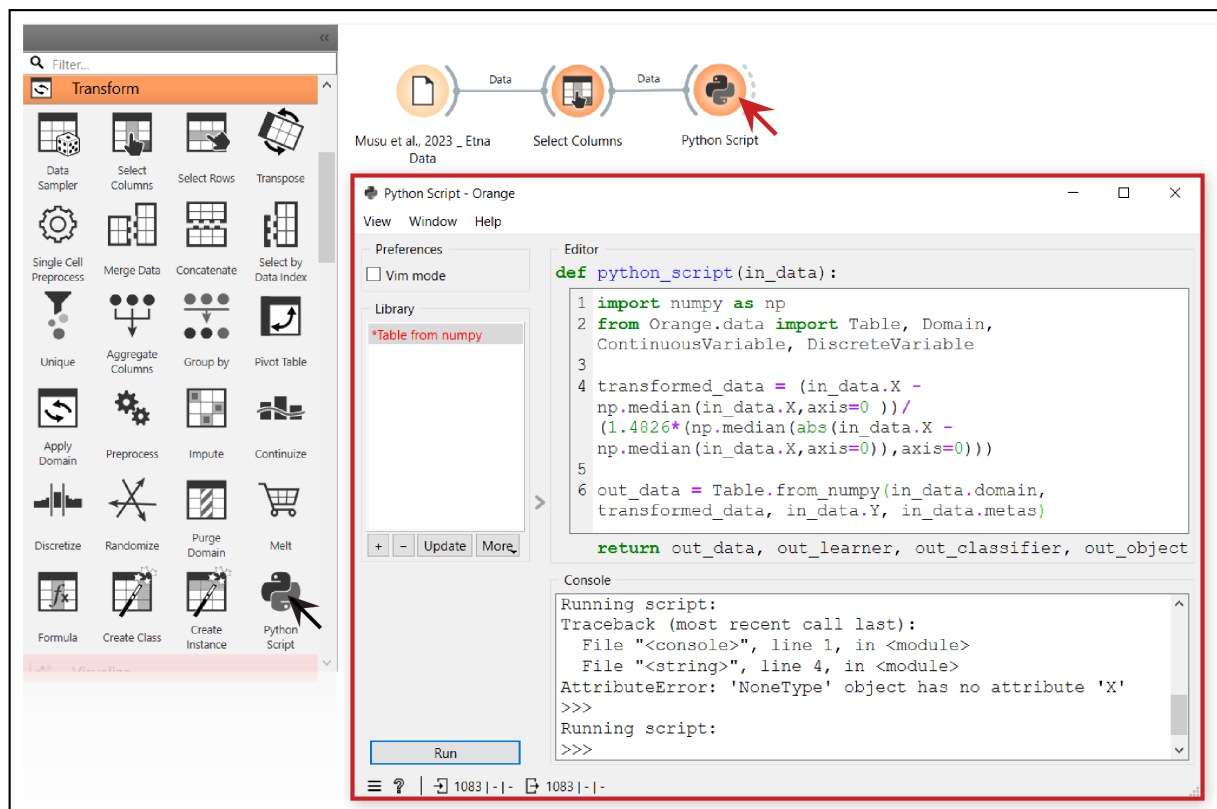


Figure 4: Python Script. Orange includes a widget that allows users to insert a custom Python function or script. In the example, we apply a robust normalization function (Media-MAD Normalization; Templ et al. 2008; Rousseeuw and Hubert 2011; Eesa and Arabo 2017) to a selected data set (Musu et al., 2023).

160 geochemical analysis example used by Pawlowsky-Glahn and Egozcue (2006) to explain and test different log-ratio
 161 transformations.

162 2.2.2. Compositional Data Analysis (CoDA)

163 The study of compositional data, such as the major element chemical compositions of volcanic glass and minerals,
 164 belongs to the field of Compositional Data Analysis (CoDA; Greenacre, 2021; Agreda-López et al., 2024; Petrelli,
 165 2023, 2024). Compositional data present two specific characteristics: (i) they consist of strictly positive values, and
 166 (ii) their components are interdependent, summing to a fixed total (e.g., 1 or 100), a concept referred to as the “closure”
 167 problem (Aitchison, 1984, 1986). Many statistical multivariate methods, such as Hierarchical Clustering analysis,
 168 require data sets with independent variables that can range from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$, a requirement not met by compositional data
 169 (Greenacre, 2021; Agreda-López et al., 2024). Therefore, to analyze glass and mineral chemistry using these statistical
 170 methods, including machine learning tools, data must be transformed (“opened”) to satisfy the assumptions of these
 171 analytical techniques. Several transformations have been proposed to address the closure issue in geochemical data sets,

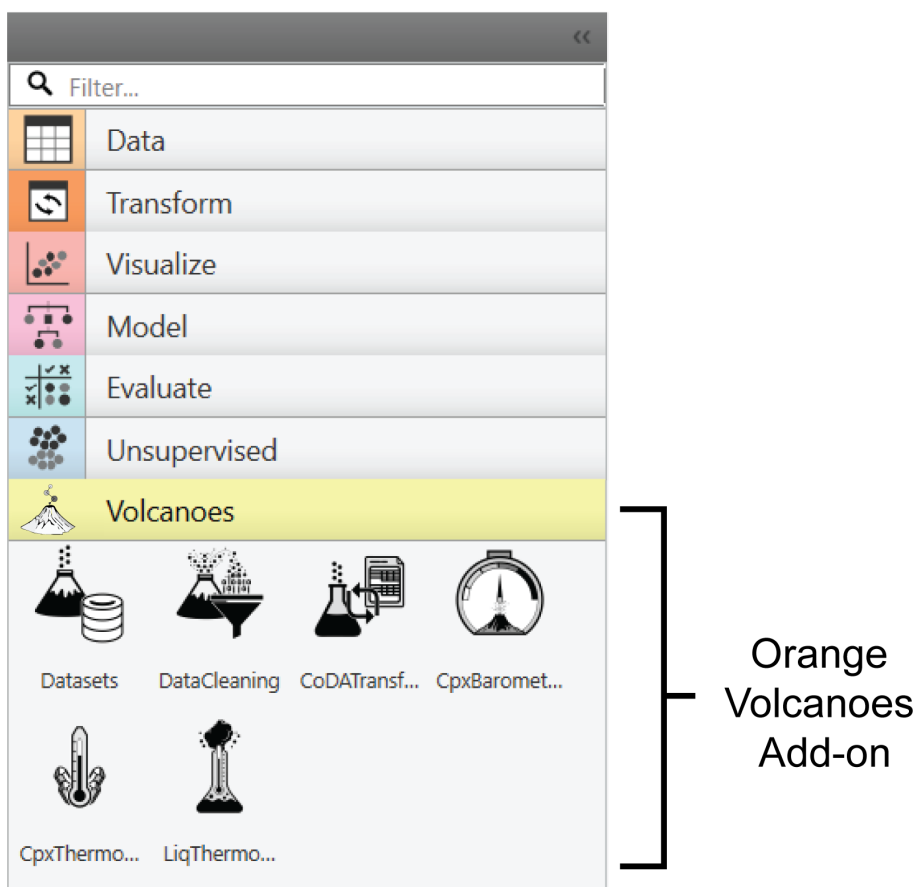


Figure 5: Orange-Volcanoes. Orange-Volcanoes is an “add-on”, a package containing a set of widgets allowing users to pre-process, filter and analyze geochemical, petrological and volcanological data.

172 including the additive log-ratio (alr), centered log-ratio (clr), and isometric log-ratio (ilr) transformations (Aitchison,
 173 1986; Egozcue et al., 2003). These log-ratio transformations also have the added benefit of reducing skewness in data
 174 distributions, which enables the transformed data to leverage the advantages of Gaussian distributions (Zheng et al.,
 175 2021; Zhao et al., 2022). In Orange-Volcanoes, we implemented the alr, clr, and ilr transformations in a widget named
 176 “CoDATransformation”, which allows users to easily apply these transformations to their selected data sets (Fig. 6).
 177 The use of the “CoDATransformation” widget enables users to conduct several multivariate analyses (e.g., hierarchical
 178 clustering, k-means, PCA, etc.) on geochemical, petrological, and volcanological data sets.

179 2.2.3. Data The Cleaning widget

180 Raw geochemical data typically sum to a nominal value (e.g., 100%). Any significant deviation from this sum
 181 may indicate that one or more elements have not been included within the analytical protocol, poor data quality, or
 182 both. To ensure accuracy, a filter is often applied to the totals of selected mineral phases. For example, in the case

Musu et al., 2023, Select Columns CoDATransformations clinopyroxene Mt. Etna Dataset

choose the desired log-transformation

Visualize results

	mount	sample	eruption	log_SiO2_MgO	log_TiO2_MgO	log_Al2O3_MgO	log_FeO_MgO
1	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.31812	-1.76801	-0.629511	-0.331357
2	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.32111	-1.70114	-0.656837	-0.319258
3	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.33016	-1.72732	-0.600201	-0.288765
4	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.31817	-1.92061	-0.755074	-0.300305
5	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.27162	-2.2397	-1.29857	-0.41808
6	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.25539	-2.35038	-1.31523	-0.501661
7	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.27247	-2.20198	-1.16417	-0.454802
8	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.32235	-1.71165	-0.638782	-0.322003
9	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.302	-1.86708	-0.631966	-0.398784
10	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.31364	-1.75161	-0.57724	-0.346969
11	AM1	ET16-TARD	2021-02-16 ...	1.31503	-1.82583	-0.661747	-0.375999

Figure 6: CoDA Transformation. The “CoDATransformations” widget allows the user to transform the starting data set with three different log-ratio transformations: (i) centered log-ratio (clr); (ii) additive log-ratio (alr); and (iii) isometric log-ratio (ilr) transformations. Users can upload an already pre-prepared data set on the Orange canvas with the widget “File” or upload the raw data set (with the widget “File”) and then select the desired column to transform using the widget “Select Columns”.

183 of anhydrous minerals (such as clinopyroxenes), an acceptable range for the sum of the analyzed oxides is usually
 184 between 98 wt.% and 102 wt.%. Another commonly used filter is the cation sum filter. Using clinopyroxene as an
 185 example, its mineralogical formula consists of 4 cations and 6 oxygens. It is considered good practice to recalculate
 186 the composition of pyroxenes in terms of cations based on 6 oxygens. After this recalculation, the cation sum should
 187 be approximately 4. A significant deviation from this value could suggest that the mineral analyzed is not the target

188 mineral or that the analysis point is located in a mixing zone between the mineral of interest and surrounding phases
 189 (e.g., clinopyroxene-plagioclase or clinopyroxene-glass interfaces). In Orange-Volcanoes, we have implemented both
 190 types of filters, providing an interactive tool that recalculates oxide totals and the cation content on a stoichiometric
 191 basis. This allows the user to choose how narrowly or widely to set the filter around the desired sum (Fig. 7).

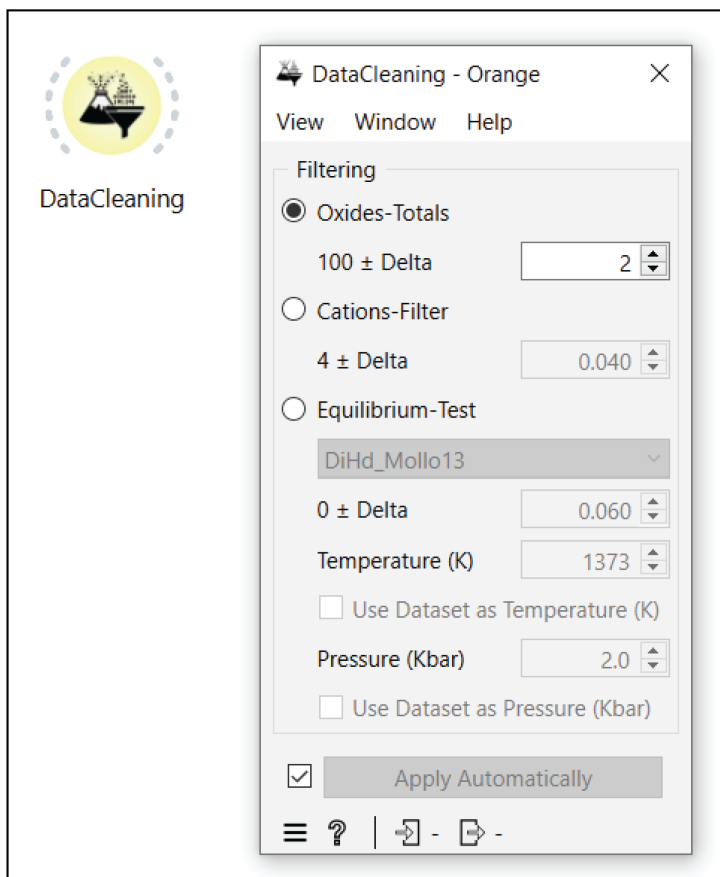


Figure 7: Geochemical Data Cleaning. The “DataCleaning” widget allows the user to filter the starting data set for (i) oxide - totals, (ii) cation per formula unit sum, and (iii) crystal-melt pair disequilibrium.

192 In Orange-Volcanoes, data cleaning can be also performed using disequilibrium filters for mineral-liquid pairs.
 193 The chemical composition of mineralogical phases is frequently employed to reconstruct the conditions of deep crys-
 194 tallization, including pressure (P), temperature (T), and initial magma composition (X). To obtain accurate estimates
 195 of deep-forming conditions, it is essential to determine whether the analyzed crystal has reached equilibrium with the
 196 surrounding melt. Several equilibrium tests have been developed in recent years (Putirka, 2008; Mollo et al., 2013;
 197 Neave et al., 2019). We have implemented a specialized tool, based on Thermobar (Wieser et al., 2022), that enables
 198 users to select the appropriate equilibrium test and specify the threshold for filtering their geochemical data (Fig. 7).

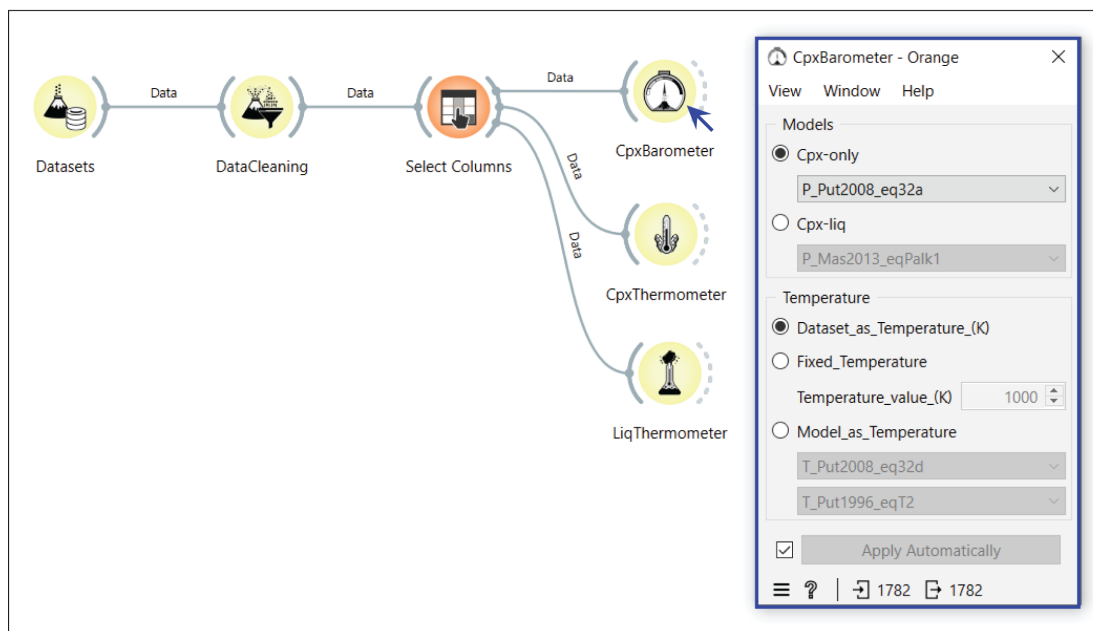


Figure 8: Thermobarometry with Orange-Volcanoes. Orange-Volcanoes allows for performing thermobarometry on clinopyroxene, clinopyroxene + liquid, and liquid-only analysis with three dedicated widgets: (i) Cpx Thermometer, for cpx and cpx + liquid temperature estimates; (ii) Cpx Barometer, for cpx and cpx + liquid pressure estimates; and (iii) Liq Thermometer for liquid only temperature estimates

2.2.4. Mineral and Liquid Thermobarometry

Assessing the pressures (P) and temperatures (T) at which magmas are stored in volcanic systems is fundamental for understanding eruptive dynamics and the overall behavior of magmatic systems across different tectonic settings (Petrelli et al., 2020; Neave and Putirka, 2017; Higgins et al., 2022; Jorgenson et al., 2022; Wieser et al., 2022; Agreda-López et al., 2024). Investigating the chemical composition of magmatic crystals and residual glass through thermobarometry provides insights into the dynamics of deep magma reservoirs, the origins of magmatic crystals, and the timescales of magmatic processes. This knowledge is crucial not only for anticipating volcanic activity but also for identifying the conditions under which critical elements such as Li, Cu, Mo, and rare earth elements (REEs) are concentrated (Wieser et al., 2022; Agreda-López et al., 2024). Additionally, understanding magma storage depths provides essential information on the evolution and structure of the Earth's crust (Wieser et al., 2022). A comprehensive collection of all available thermobarometers is already implemented in Python within the Thermobar package (Wieser et al., 2022). To demonstrate the potential of Orange-Volcanoes in democratizing petrologic tools for non-experts in coding, we implemented selected Orange-Volcanoes widgets based on the Thermobar library. In detail, three new dedicated widgets have been integrated into Orange-Volcanoes, enabling the estimate of crystallisation P and T utilising chemical analyses performed on clinopyroxene-liquid pairs, liquid-only, and clinopyroxene-only data (Fig. 8).

We tested the performance of Orange-Volcanoes thermobarometry widgets for each implemented model against

215 Thermobar estimates (performed with the Jupyter Notebook web-based platform; Figure S1). The results of the com-
216 parison confirm that the algorithms implemented in Orange-Volcanoes correctly estimate the pressure (P) and temper-
217 ature (T), producing as output the exact same values as when using Thermobar directly in Python.

218 **3. Defining Reproducible Machine Learning Workflows on Volcanic Data**

219 **3.1. Clustering Analysis on Tephra Glasses**

220 In order to illustrate a practical application of Orange-Volcanoes on natural volcanic data, we developed a machine
221 learning workflow to import, pre-process, and model by clustering analysis a data set consisting of glass chemical
222 analyses from the recent activity of the Campi Flegrei caldera reported by Smith et al. (2011).

223 Fig. 9 reports the Orange workflow divided into four different steps:

- 224 1. Uploading and selecting data. The data set is first loaded, and only the columns necessary for clustering analysis
225 (e.g., major element compositions) are selected using the “Select Column” widget. Rows containing zeros or
226 not-a-number values – unsuitable for logarithmic transformations or clustering – are excluded using the “Select
227 Row” widget.
- 228 2. Data Pre-processing. The major element compositions are transformed through an isometric log-ratio (ilr) trans-
229 formation using the “CoDATransformations” widget (implemented within Orange-Volcanoes). The transformed
230 data set is then normalized using the “Preprocess” widget with a standard scaler. Notably, the ilr transformation
231 enables the application of clustering algorithms to geochemical data sets within the Orange environment.
- 232 3. Clustering Analysis. Once the data are loaded, filtered, transformed, and normalized, the clustering analysis is
233 performed. First, Euclidean distances are calculated using the “Distances” widget. Subsequently, hierarchical
234 clustering is carried out using the “Hierarchical Clustering” widget. It is worth noting that other clustering
235 algorithms (e.g., k-means and Louvain Clustering) are also available within the base Orange widget collection.
- 236 4. Data merging, visualization and export. In this step, the original, untransformed major element composition is
237 merged with the transformed data set and clustering results into a single data set. The clustering outcomes are
238 then visualized using simple binary chemical scatterplots (Fig. 9b). Additional plots are generated to explore the
239 cluster chemical compositions (Fig. 9c) and to identify which eruptive products correspond to specific clusters
240 (Fig. S2). In this final step, it is possible to export the merged clustered data set using the widget “Save Data”.

241 As shown in Figure 9, we identified four distinct clusters based on Euclidean distances. Most volcanic products
242 from the first eruptive epoch of Campi Flegrei belong to Clusters 1 and 2. Cluster 3 compositions dominate the second
243 eruptive epoch and the later eruptive period (Epoch 3b and the Monte Nuovo eruption, Fig. S2). Finally, Cluster 4
244 primarily corresponds to products from the third epoch, with some examples from the first epoch.

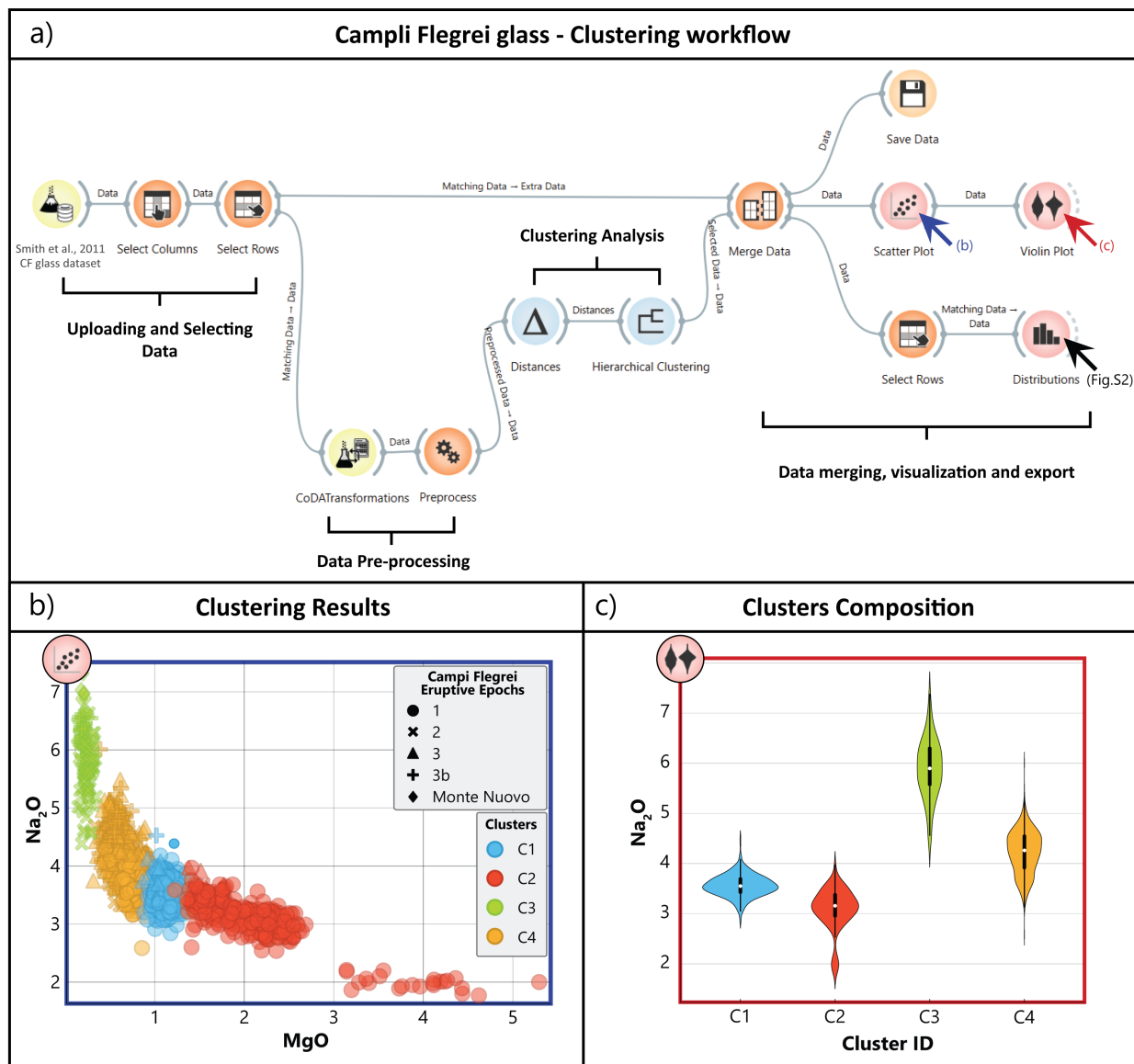


Figure 9: Hierarchical Clustering algorithm applied to the glass chemical composition of Campi Flegrei samples (Smith et al., 2011). (a) Clustering workflow divided into the main sessions: (i) uploading and selecting data; (ii) data pre-processing (including the CoDA transformation implemented in Orange-Volcanoes, which allows for the very first time to apply clustering algorithms on geochemical data within the Orange Environment); (iii) clustering analysis; and (iv) data merging, visualization and export. In (b) we can observe the clustered observations plotted in the MgO vs Na₂O compositional space, while in (c) we display the Na₂O composition of the different clusters. The distribution histogram is displayed in Fig. S2

245 Figure 9c shows how Orange can display the chemical composition of each cluster. As an example, we plot only
 246 the Na₂O contents of three clusters. This exercise demonstrates how Orange and Orange-Volcanoes can be used to
 247 investigate a geochemical data set. The workflow is intuitive and user-friendly, giving researchers complete control
 248 over the chemical meaning of identified clusters or groups. It also enables quick tests of different transformations,

249 normalizations, and clustering methods in an interactive manner.

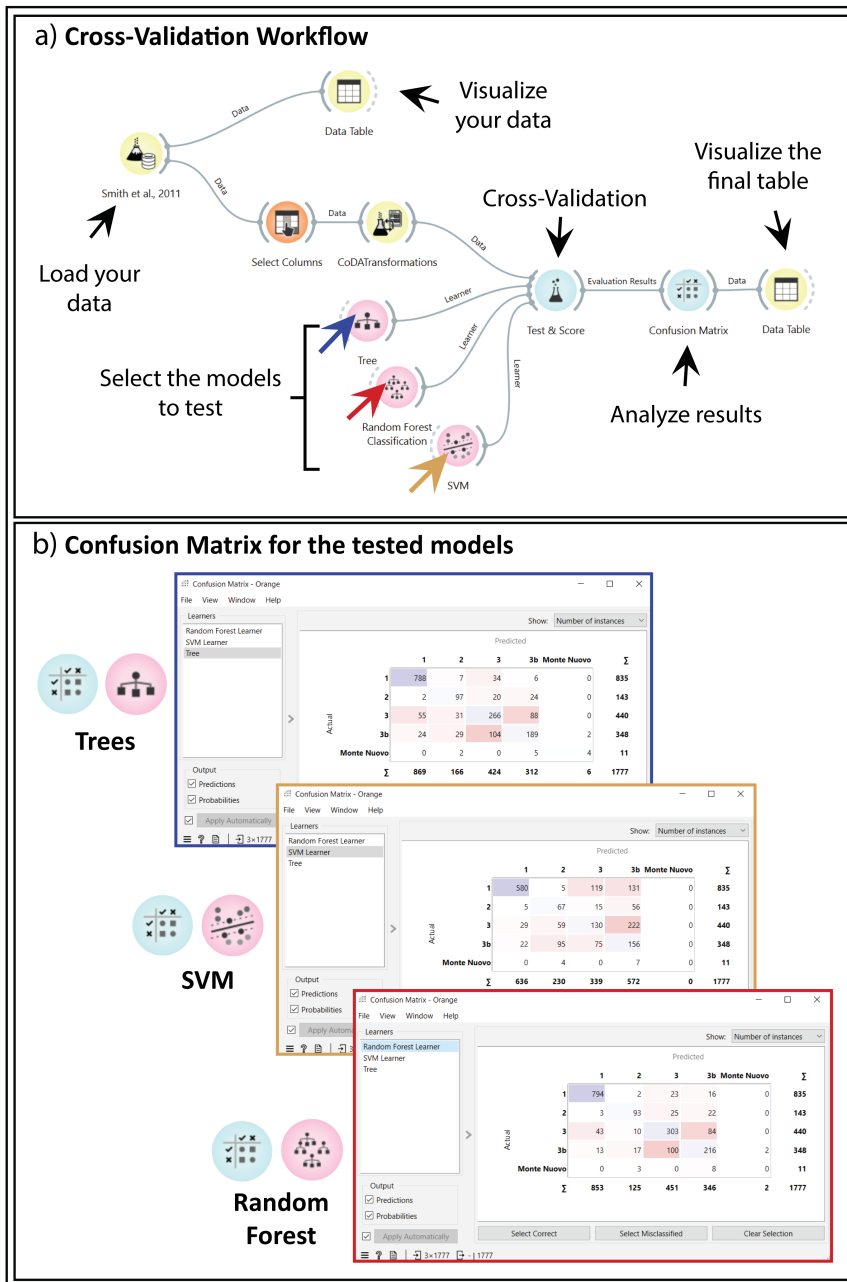


Figure 10: Cross validation of multiple classification models (Tree, Support Vector Machine [SVG] and Random Forest) applied on the same Campi Flegrei glass chemical data set from (Smith et al., 2011). a) Cross validation workflow; b) Confusion Matrix visualization for the three applied methods.

250 3.2. Testing Different Machine Learning Classification Models in Tephra Investigations

251 Combining Orange and Orange-Volcanoes allows users to test and compare the performance of different machine
 252 learning classification models, for example in tephra studies. It can cross-validate multiple models at the same time and

253 evaluate their scores. Figure 10 shows a practical example of how to test different classification methods on geochemical
254 observations belonging to the recent activity of the Campi Flegrei Caldera (Smith et al., 2011). Based on chemical
255 composition, we classified which eruptive epoch the glasses belonged to. We applied three methods: Decision Trees,
256 Random Forest, and Support Vector Machine.

257 As shown in Figure 10, Orange can test all three methods simultaneously. It also displays the results in a confusion
258 matrix, so it is possible to quickly analyze how well each model performs. This feature lets user decide which algorithm
259 works best for the studied data set. Cross-validating multiple models at once gives users the control over model
260 performance. It also makes it easy to review the scores and build a robust analysis workflow for any given data set.
261 The procedure is simple and intuitive, as outlined in Figure 10. Orange provides various evaluation widgets, such as
262 the Confusion Matrix and Performance Curve. These can be linked to the score results and visualization widgets like
263 the scatterplot.

264 4. Conclusions

265 The development of Orange-Volcanoes represents a significant contribution to the application of data-driven dis-
266 covery in geochemistry, petrology, and volcanology. It extends the functionality of the Orange platform by providing
267 customized tools (i.e., widgets) to address key challenges in geochemical data analysis, including compositional data
268 analysis (CoDA), mineral data filtering, mineral-liquid equilibrium testing, and thermobarometric calculations. As
269 a key feature, Orange-Volcanoes enables integration between machine learning techniques and classical petrological
270 methods, promoting a deeper understanding of magmatic systems through accessible, interactive, and reproducible
271 workflows. Moreover, the user-friendly design of the platform removes barriers for researchers with limited or no pro-
272 gramming knowledge while maintaining the flexibility for advanced users to customise and expand its functionality.

273 While several robust platforms exist for data mining and machine learning in geochemical, petrological, and vol-
274 canological research (e.g., Geochemistry π and XMapTools; Lanari et al. 2014; Li et al. 2020; Li and Costa 2020;
275 ZhangZhou et al. 2024), Orange-Volcanoes distinguishes itself by offering an interactive, expandable, and collabora-
276 tive visual programming environment. It combines multiple statistical and machine learning algorithms with many
277 analytical and visualization tools already available in Orange. These features, together with explainable artificial intel-
278 ligence and cross-validation widgets, make Orange and Orange-Volcanoes a powerful and robust framework for future
279 petro-volcanological research on large data sets.

280 Although Orange-Volcanoes does not yet include every tool needed for advanced petrological and geochemical
281 investigations, it is designed for easy expansion. This design allows external research groups to develop and integrate
282 their own tools, further broadening their use within the geoscientific community.

283 Overall, Orange-Volcanoes provides a collaborative, open-source environment that bridges modern data analysis

284 techniques and the needs of geoscientists. Future developments will incorporate additional geochemical and petrolog-
285 ical tools and data sets. This will enhance the platform's capabilities and expand its applications to a wider range of
286 volcanological, geochemical, and petrological problems.

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6. Code availability section

All the codes, data, and apps used in this manuscript are open source and distributed under the GNU General Public License v3.0 licence. Source codes are available on GitHub for downloading and collaboration at the link: <https://bit.ly/orange3-volcanoes-repo>.

The Orange-Volcanoes documentation is available at the following link: <https://bit.ly/orange3-volcanoes-doc>.

7. Credit authorship contribution statement

Alessandro Musu: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Formal Analysis, Visualization, Validation, Conceptualization. Valerio Parodi: Writing – review & editing, Coding, Formal analysis, Validation, Conceptualization. Marko Toplak: Writing – review & editing, Coding. Alessandro Carfi: Writing – review & editing. Mónica Ágreda-López: Writing – review & editing, Validation. Fulvio Mastrogiovanni: Writing – review & editing. J. ZhangZhou: Writing – review & editing. Diego Perugini: Writing – review & editing, Funding acquisition. Donato Belmonte: Writing – review & edit. Blaž Zupan: Writing – review & editing. Maurizio Petrelli: Writing – review & editing, Writing – original draft, Supervision, Investigation, Funding acquisition, Conceptualization.

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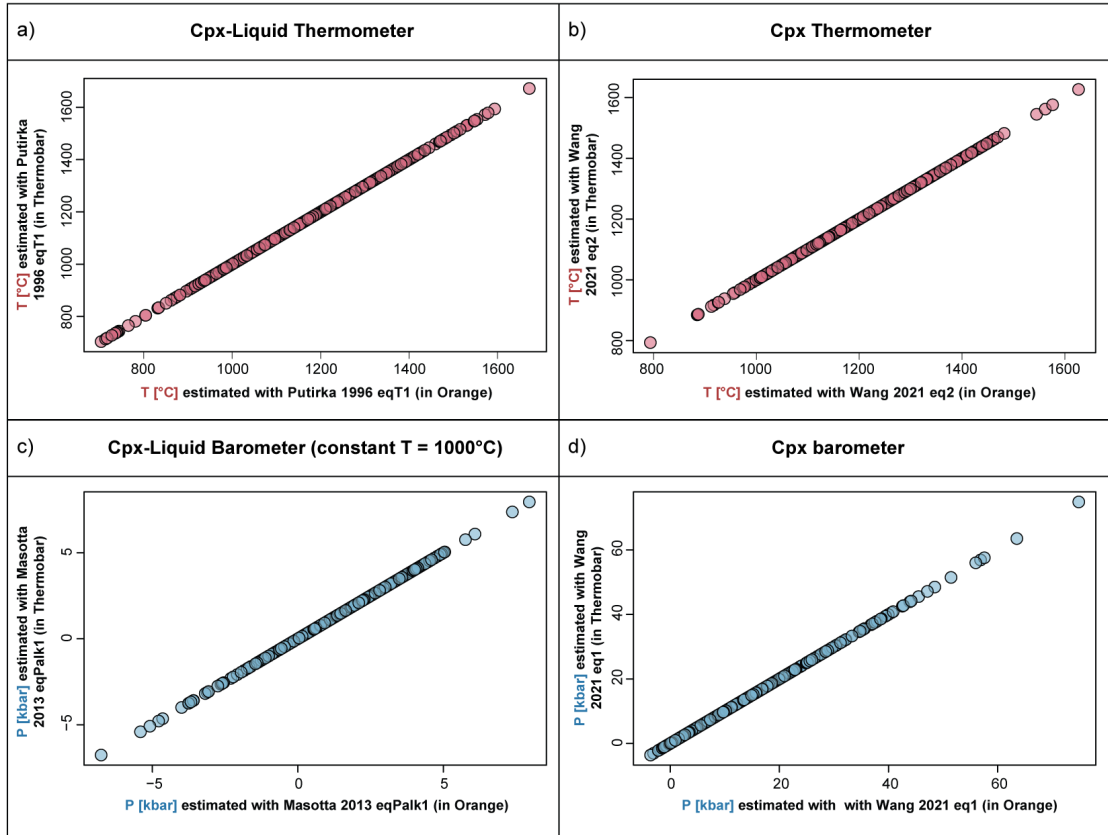
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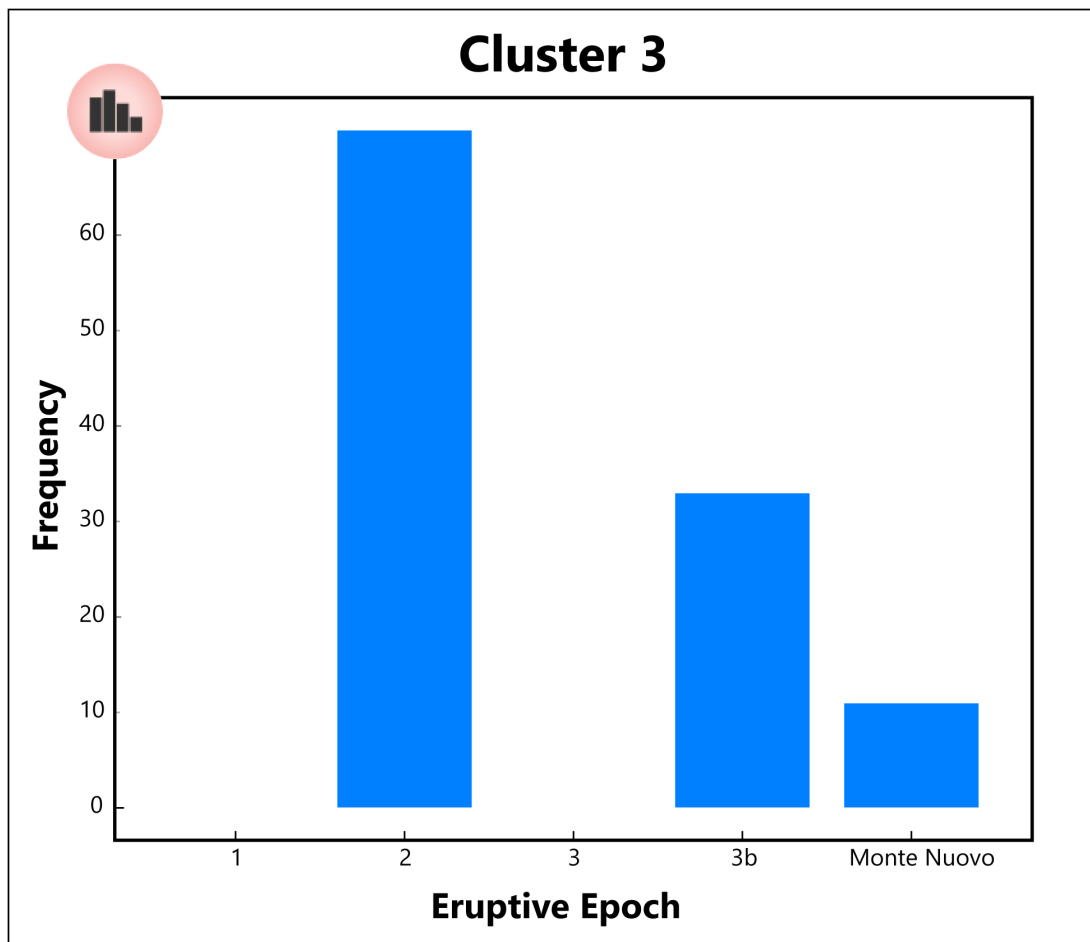
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8. Supplementary Figures



Supplementary Figure S1: We tested the correct functioning of the newly implemented thermobarometry widgets against thermobar.



Supplementary Figure S2: Campi Flegrei eruptive epochs displaying a Cl 3 chemical composition. Using the widget "Distribution", already built in in the base version of Orange, it is possible to visualize a histogram displaying the number of items within a specific class, in our case study, the eruptive epochs contained in the Cl3 composition.