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Varieties of domainal textures in lavas and their kinematic and rheological interpretation: Examples from Japan and Australia

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The distribution and configuration of crystals and glass within the texture of lava rock is rarely homogeneous. More commonly there is an inhomogeneous distribution which is not random but is organised into recognisable domains. Within individual domains the texture is more homogeneous and an apparently complex texture may comprise only a small number of types of domain. Textural domains are formed by the interaction of the mechanical properties of the solidifying lava and the flow of the lava body. Consequently, a clear understanding of domainal textures permits interpretation of kinematic and some rheological attributes of lavas.