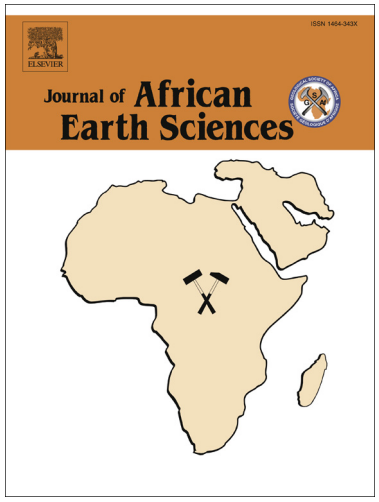

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Characterizing weathering intensity and trends of geological materials in the Gilgel Gibe catchment, southwestern Ethiopia

Alemayehu Regassa[a, b], K. Van Daele[a], P. De Paepe[a], M. Dumon[a], J. Deckers[c], Asfawossen Asrat[d,*], E. Van Ranst[a]

[a]*Department of Geology and Soil Science (WE13), Ghent University, Krijgslaan 281/S8, B-9000 Gent, Belgium*

[b]*Department of Natural Resources Management, Jimma University College of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Ethiopia*

[c]*Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, KU Leuven University, Celestijnenlaan 200E, B-3001 Heverlee, Belgium*

[d]*School of Earth Sciences, Addis Ababa University, P. O. Box 1176, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia*

**Corresponding author: Dr. Asfawossen Asrat (E-mail: asfawossen.asrat@aau.edu.et; Tel.: +251-91-1407553; Fax: +251-11-1239462)*

Abstract

Detailed geological and geochemical characterization is crucial to support soil studies in such geologically and topographically complex systems as the Gilgel Gibe catchment in southwestern Ethiopia. Field studies, as well as mineralogical, petrological and geochemical analyses on selected rock samples and their weathering products revealed that the catchment is dominantly underlain by rhyolites and trachytes, which occur as both lava flows and pyroclastic associations.