

Helium and lead isotopes reveal the geochemical geometry of the Samoan plume

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Hotspot lavas erupted at ocean islands exhibit tremendous isotopic variability, indicating that there are numerous mantle components^{1,2} hosted in upwelling mantle plumes that generate volcanism at hotspots like Hawaii and Samoa³. However, it is not known how the surface expression of the various geochemical components observed in hotspot volcanoes relates to their spatial distribution within the plume^{4–10}. Here we present a relationship between He and Pb isotopes in Samoan lavas that places severe constraints on the distribution of geochemical species within the plume. The Pb-isotopic compositions of the Samoan lavas reveal several distinct geochemical groups, each corresponding to a different geographic lineament of volcanoes. Each group has a signature associated with one of four mantle endmembers with low ³He/⁴He: EMII (enriched mantle 2), EMI (enriched mantle 1), HIMU (high $\mu = ^{238}\text{U}/^{204}\text{Pb}$) and DM (depleted mantle). Critically, these four geochemical groups trend towards a common region of Pb-isotopic space with high ³He/⁴He. This observation is consistent with several low-³He/⁴He components in the plume mixing with a common high-³He/⁴He component, but not mixing much with each other. The mixing relationships inferred from the new He and Pb isotopic data provide the clearest picture yet of the geochemical geometry of a mantle plume, and are best explained by a high-³He/⁴He plume matrix that hosts, and mixes with, several distinct low-³He/⁴He components.

Lavas erupted at oceanic hotspots—thought to sample melts from buoyantly upwelling mantle plumes³—are isotopically heterogeneous and provide definitive evidence that the Earth's mantle is compositionally diverse and hosts several distinct geochemical groups^{1,2}. Radiogenic isotopic studies of ocean island basalts erupted at hotspots identify a multitude of mantle compositions that are often broadly grouped into four endmembers with different isotopic taxonomies: EMII, EMI, HIMU and DM. A fifth component, characterized by high ³He/⁴He ratios, is also identified in ocean island basalts¹¹, and has been variously called undegassed mantle¹², FOZO (focus zone¹³), PHEM (primitive helium mantle¹⁴), or C (common¹⁵). Unfortunately, the spatial distribution of these mantle components within upwelling mantle plumes is difficult to infer using geochemical studies of surficially erupted basalts.

Recent efforts to examine the spatial distribution of mantle plume geochemical heterogeneities have focused on the geographic distribution of isotopic compositions along the surface volcanic traces of hotspot tracks. These studies have yielded significant progress relating the distribution of isotopic compositions in surface lavas to the spatial distribution of isotopic components within an upwelling mantle plume. A well known geographic separation of isotopic compositions occurs at the Hawaiian hotspot, where two parallel volcanic lineaments—Loa and Kea—exhibit compositions that can be isotopically resolved^{4–6,16}. The isotopic and geographic separation of the Loa and Kea volcanic lineaments is suggested to reflect the spatial separation of the mantle components within the plume that give rise to the two isotopically distinct volcanic lineaments, which is possibly related to the compositional structure of

the deepest mantle^{5,6}. Similar observations of geographical and geochemical separations of parallel volcanic lineaments have been made at other hotspots^{6–10,17}. These observations suggest that the geochemical structure of many mantle plumes vary spatially in a systematic manner.

This paper focuses on the geochemical variability along the parallel volcanic lineaments of the age-progressive¹⁸ Samoan hotspot and the geochemical structure of the underlying upwelling mantle plume. We present 36 new Pb-isotopic analyses together with new Sr, Nd and He isotopic measurements (Supplementary Tables 1–3) on a suite of lavas from the Samoan hotspot (Fig. 1 and Extended Data Fig. 1). In ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb–²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb isotopic space, four isotopic groups emerge from the data set (Fig. 2), and the four groups converge on a common region, roughly forming an X shape. Three of the four isotopic groups are defined by shield-stage lavas from each of three volcanic lineaments that tend to form separate groups in isotopic space: the islands and seamounts of the Vai volcanic lineament (dark blue shading and symbols); the Malu volcanic lineament (pink); and subaerial lavas from the Upo volcanic lineament (yellow) (Fig. 1). Rejuvenated-stage lavas are encountered only on the islands of Savai'i, Upolu and Tutuila (which define the Upo volcanic lineament), are younger than the shield-stage lavas on each island, and form a fourth isotopic group (turquoise).

There are exceptions to this correspondence between geochemistry and geography (Methods). For example, the submarine lavas from the western region of the hotspot (dredged near Savai'i and Upolu islands) overlap with the isotopic compositions found in the Vai and Malu-volcanic lineaments further to the east and include ultra-enriched lavas^{18,19} unlike those found in any of the younger and more easterly volcanism (Fig. 2); this enriched material includes an additional isotopic component in the Samoan plume. However, there are insufficient submarine samples from the western Samoan region to define their isotopic taxonomy or geographic extent, or whether the western Samoan submarine samples define separate geographic trends, and we exclude these submarine lavas from our treatment below (see Methods); this approach is similar to that taken in Hawaii, where the geochemical separation of the Loa and Kea volcanic lineaments breaks down in the western region of the Hawaiian chain, and it is common to exclude some or all of the western islands when defining the Loa and Kea lineaments⁴. In this paper we examine Samoan rejuvenated lavas, Vai- and Malu-lineament lavas, and the subaerial shield lavas from the Upo-lineament, which form four geochemical groups. However, submarine western Samoan lavas are shown in the figures for clarity.

The four geochemical groups identified in Samoan rejuvenated lavas, Vai- and Malu-lineament lavas, and the subaerial shield lavas from the Upo lineament are clearly resolved as separate clusters in multiple isotopic spaces (Fig. 2; Methods). Lavas from the four groups exhibit geochemical characteristics that are associated with the four canonical mantle endmembers, as follows. The Malu group has EM2 characteristics, the Vai group has HIMU characteristics (though the signature is dilute), the Upo group has geochemically depleted characteristics (not unlike

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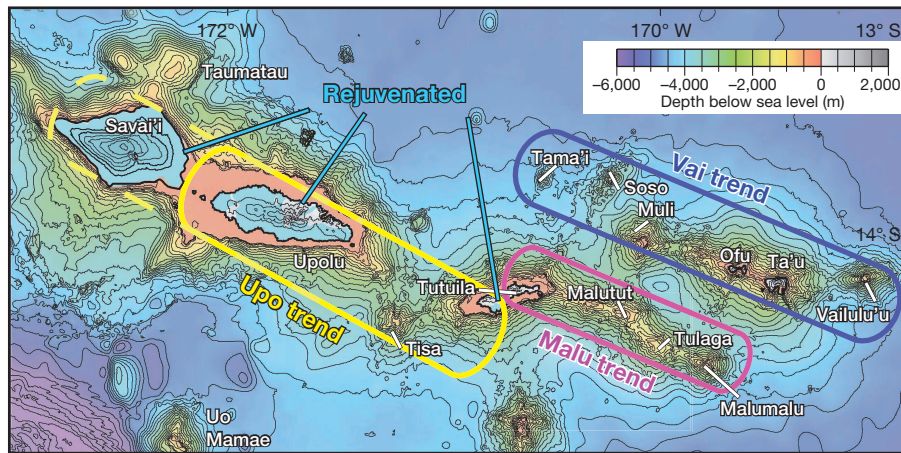


Figure 1 | Map of the Samoan hotspot showing the division of the hotspot into three parallel volcanic lineaments. The volcanic lineaments define three geochemical groups, and the colours of the data symbols in the isotopic plots (see Figs 1 and 2) indicate the volcanic lineament from which a sample was taken. Rejuvenated lavas (turquoise shaded areas) overlie shield-stage lavas on Tutuila and Upolu, but rejuvenated volcanism on Savai'i is extensive and all

earlier stages have been completely covered²¹. However, ref. 28 infers that, like Upolu and Tutuila, shield-stage volcanism similar to the subaerial Upo-lineament lavas (called the 'Fagaloa series') underlies the extensive rejuvenated volcanism on Savai'i. The map is modified after ref. 21. Alexa seamount is located about 1,200 km west of Savai'i²⁹.

Hawaiian Mauna Kea lavas; Fig. 2), and rejuvenated lavas have EM1 characteristics (see Methods).

These four endmember groups appear to converge in a region of isotopic space characterized by lavas with the highest ³He/⁴He values, and the ellipse describing the highest-³He/⁴He lavas (20–33.8 Ra, ratio to atmosphere)^{14,17,20} in Fig. 2 serves as a common component region for the four Samoan geochemical groups (see Methods). In two- and three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space, the four Pb-isotopic data groups overlap with the common component region at the 99% confidence level (Fig. 2 and refer to Methods). Additionally, in Pb-isotopic space, ³He/⁴He ratios decrease monotonically away from the common region towards the extremes of the four data groups located furthest from the common region. We quantify this relationship by calculating the distance from the common component in three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space, and

the distance parameter is called $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ (Methods). ³He/⁴He is highest in the common component region (low $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ values) and decreases away from the common component (high $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$) (Fig. 3).

The unique isotopic topology identified in Samoan lavas places important constraints on the distribution and mixing relationships of the various components in the Samoan plume. The data are consistent with the low-³He/⁴He components (that is, ≤ 8 Ra) in the plume mixing with a high-³He/⁴He common component, and this mixing hypothesis is supported by the relationship between ³He/⁴He and $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ (Fig. 3) and by the convergence of the four 99% confidence intervals that enclose all possible mixing trends for each group (Fig. 2). The four low-³He/⁴He components do not appear to mix efficiently with each other, otherwise the four Pb-isotopic groups would be obscured. However, some mixing among the low-³He/⁴He components has occurred, and this might explain

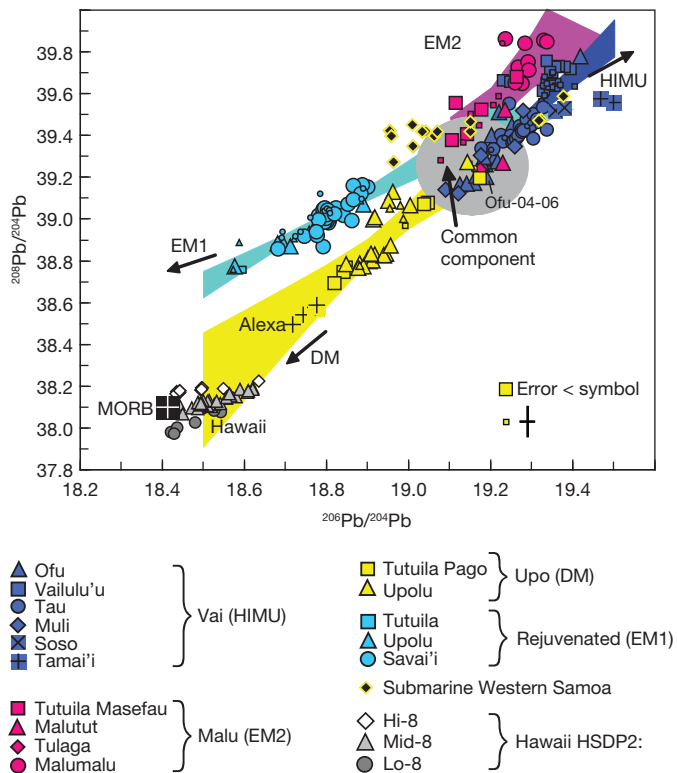


Figure 2 | Pb-isotopic plot showing the isotopic separation of the volcanic lineaments in Samoa and the convergence of the four geochemical groups on the high-³He/⁴He component region. The colours for each data group are based on the geographic lineament where the samples were taken. Samples for which Pb-isotopic ratios were measured by high-precision techniques (Pb-spiked samples run by thermal ionization mass spectrometer (TIMS) and samples run using TI-addition by multi-collector inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometer (MC-ICP-MS)) are shown as large symbols (where estimated external uncertainties are smaller than the symbols). Unspiked Pb-isotopic TIMS data are shown as small symbols (where estimated 2 σ external uncertainties are better than ± 0.019 , ± 0.023 and ± 0.076 for ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb, respectively; see Methods); example 2 σ external uncertainties for unspiked Pb-isotopic TIMS data are shown. Subaerial Upo-lineament lavas trend towards a depleted component not unlike that found in mid-ocean ridge basalt (MORB) or Hawaiian lavas from the HSDP-2 (Hawaiian Scientific Drilling Program-II) drill core³⁰; Alexa²⁹ is a volcano in the western Samoan region that anchors the DM isotopic group in the Samoan suite (Methods). The submarine lavas from the western region of the hotspot—dredged off the coast of Savai'i and from the Tisa seamount—are excluded from the statistical treatment; although the lavas from the submarine portion of the western Samoan islands are shown with the same symbol (yellow diamonds), this does not imply that they are related by a common process or part of the same volcanic lineament. Vai-lineament lavas host a dilute HIMU component¹⁷, Malu-lineament lavas host an EM2 component¹⁷, and rejuvenated lavas sample an EM1 component²¹. The high-³He/⁴He common component region (grey ellipse) defines the 2 σ variance around the average in the Pb-isotopic compositions for samples with ³He/⁴He > 20 Ra; the coloured shading represents 99% confidence intervals around the best-fit lines through each data group (see Methods). See Supplementary Table 4 for a compilation of the Samoan data shown.

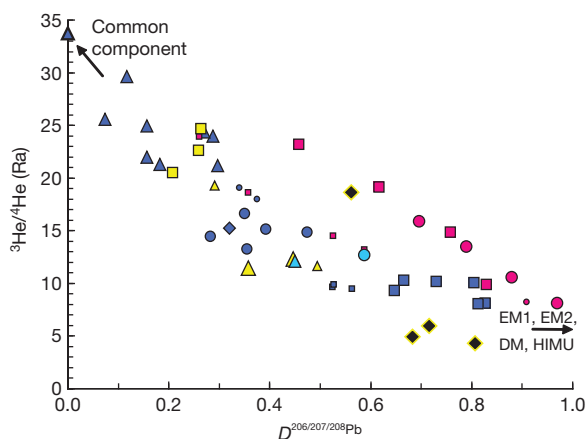


Figure 3 | Relationship between He and Pb isotopic ratios in Samoan lavas. $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ is plotted versus $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$, which represents distance from the common component region in Pb-isotopic space (as defined in the Methods), and shows that $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ decreases in samples moving away from the common component region. Samples with $<10^{-9}$ cm^3 of ^4He (at standard temperature and pressure) per gram of sample are excluded. The different isotopic groups do not overlap perfectly, suggesting that the different endmembers have different He/Pb ratios. Errors for helium measurements are smaller than the data symbols. Symbols are the same as Fig. 2. See Supplementary Table 4 for a compilation of the Samoan data shown.

some of the scatter in the isotopic groups; several Vai-lineament lavas have the isotopic composition expected for lavas from the Malu lineament, and vice versa, but overall such ‘cross-fertilization’ among the low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components is limited (Methods).

We propose a conceptual model for the geochemical geometry of the Samoan plume that is consistent with the mixing relationships suggested by the observed isotopic topology. In the model, several low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components are hosted in a plume matrix composed of high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ material, so that each of the low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components can mix with the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ plume matrix (Fig. 4). The low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components must be sufficiently isolated from each other within the plume that they do not easily mix, either as solids or as liquids. To achieve the geographic separation of the Vai and Malu lineaments, we suggest that bilateral heterogeneity, like that proposed for the Hawaiian plume⁴, must also exist in the Samoan plume: the component responsible for the Vai lineament must be located on the northern side of the plume and the component generating the Malu lineament must be located on the southern side (Fig. 4). The components are separated by sufficient distance within the Samoan plume that they do not mix efficiently. The Upo-lineament component was located higher in the Samoan plume than the Vai and Malu components, because most Upo-lineament lavas were erupted before onset of Vai- and Malu-lineament volcanism (Fig. 4). Components that have geochemical fingerprints similar to those identified in Malu and Vai volcanic lineaments are also identified in the submarine portion of the western Samoan islands of Savai’i and Upolu^{18,19}, suggesting that the EM2 and HIMU geochemical components show up periodically in the plume and are not strictly limited to the Malu and Vai volcanic lineaments. Finally, rejuvenated lavas may sample a component located in the Samoan plume that is underplated on the mantle lithosphere beneath Samoa¹⁷, or a component hosted in the mantle lithosphere beneath the Samoan hotspot²¹, and is therefore not shown in Fig. 4. However, if the rejuvenated component is hosted in the mantle lithosphere, an important question is how it survives the high melt flux during shield-stage volcanism.

Preservation of four low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components in the upwelling Samoan plume, as indicated by the unique isotopic topology identified in Samoan lavas, presents an important problem. Dynamic modelling suggests that components embedded in a plume matrix will be ‘stretched out’ during plume ascent²², so that the components ultimately resemble spaghetti

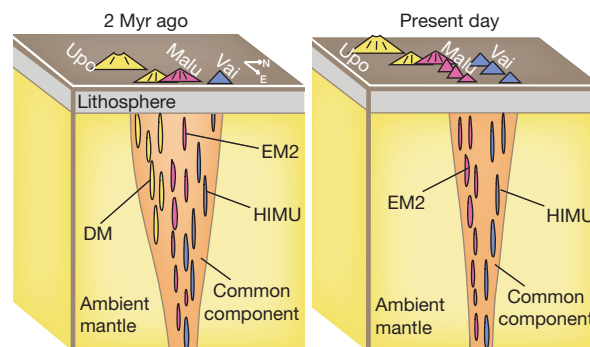


Figure 4 | Conceptual model of the geochemical geometry of the Samoan plume, as sampled by shield-stage lavas, and how it relates to the geochemical distinction among the parallel volcanic lineaments. Two snapshots of the Samoan plume and the associated shield volcanism are shown: during Upo-lineament volcanism about 2 million years ago (left) and present-day construction of the Vai and Malu lineaments (right). The volcanic lineaments in the time snapshot on the right mimic the map in Fig. 1. Colours of the volcanic lineaments and related mantle components in the plume correspond to the colours in the legend in Fig. 2.

with their long axes oriented in a direction parallel to plume motion^{4,23}; the stretching has been shown to preserve the initial separation of components within a plume, so that their spatial relationships in the plume are preserved during upwelling from the deep mantle²². In this way, the different components are not mixed chaotically in the ascending plume conduit, and it is possible for various components to remain isolated from each other within the plume matrix. Alternative plume structures have been discussed for the Hawaiian plume in which the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ material is at the innermost core of the plume and lower- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components are on the periphery of the plume²⁴, but such a geometry would allow the low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components to mix, which is difficult to reconcile with the isotopic topology of Samoan lavas.

In multi-isotopic space, different hotspots trend to a common region, called FOZO¹³ or C¹⁵, characterized by high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$. Curiously, the isotopic topology of Samoan lavas represents a microcosm of the global ocean-island-basalt data set, in which the various geochemical groups in multi-isotopic space converge on a common region characterized by high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$. At the global scale, this isotopic topology is consistent with high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ plumes entraining low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components in the deep mantle¹³, perhaps in the Pacific large low shear-wave velocity province (LLSVP) that underlies Samoa, which is suggested to have high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ values^{25,26}. The low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components in the Samoan plume are associated with subducted materials (Methods)—oceanic crust, mantle lithosphere and sediments—which may also reside in ‘slab graveyards’ at the bottom of the mantle where plumes originate²⁷.

We cannot rule out a model where the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ component may be located deeper than the lower- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components and the latter components are incorporated by high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ plumes at shallower mantle depths¹⁵. However, it is not clear how the low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components in the Samoan plume would avoid significant admixture with each other during entrainment from below, because entrained products will remain on the periphery of the plume during upwelling and might interact with subsequently entrained material. If entrainment into the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ plume matrix occurred in the plume source, dynamic models suggest that it must be a non-turbulent process that prevents the low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components from mixing with each other²².

Online Content Methods, along with any additional Extended Data display items and Source Data, are available in the online version of the paper; references unique to these sections appear only in the online paper.

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Supplementary Information is available in the online version of the paper.

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Author Contributions M.G.J. conceived of the project, performed most of the Sr, Nd and Pb isotopic analyses, and wrote the paper. S.R.H. provided analytical access and insights into the nature of the Samoan mantle. J.G.K. performed statistical modelling, improved figures, and added discussion about the volcanic stages during the evolution of a Samoan volcano. M.D.K. performed helium isotopic measurements, K.A.F. performed helium isotopic measurements and some Sr and Nd isotopic measurements, and J.B. helped with sample preparation and made several Sr and Pb isotopic measurements. All authors contributed intellectually to the manuscript.

Author Information Reprints and permissions information is available at www.nature.com/reprints. The authors declare no competing financial interests. Readers are welcome to comment on the online version of the paper. Correspondence and requests for materials should be addressed to M.G.J. (jackson@geol.ucsb.edu).

METHODS

New Sr, Nd, Pb and He isotopic measurements. The new Pb-isotopic analyses were performed at the DTM (Department of Terrestrial Magnetism) and WHOI (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution). Pb chemistry at DTM employs a double column pass and follows the method outlined in ref. 31. Pb chemistry at WHOI consists of a single column pass and follows the HBr-HNO₃ procedure of ref. 32 and ref. 33.

As described in Supplementary Table 1, Pb isotopic compositions for a subset of the Samoan lavas were measured on the VG-P54 MC-ICP-MS at DTM in February 2009. Refer to ref. 34 for methods of Pb-isotopic measurement. Thallium was added as an internal isotopic standard to correct for instrumental mass fractionation. All measurements were made during a single day-long analytical session, during which time eight separate runs of the NIST 981 standard were made, and the reproducibility of the eight measurements was 840 parts per million (p.p.m.), 820 p.p.m. and 800 p.p.m. for the ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ratios (2σ, standard deviation of the mean). The Pb-isotopic data on basaltic samples run during this analytical session were normalized to the average value determined by the 981 analyses that bracket the basaltic analyses over the analytical session. The data were normalized to the NIST 981 values reported by ref. 35: ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb = 16.9356, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb = 15.4891 and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb = 36.7006.

The remaining Pb-isotopic measurements reported in Supplementary Table 1 were made on the Neptune multicollector ICP-MS at WHOI over six separate analytical sessions from November 2003 to October 2008. Note that many of the samples measured for Pb isotopes at WHOI were previously measured by lower-precision TIMS methods (that is, unspiked analyses), and we report new, higher-precision analyses here. Again, a Tl internal standard was used to correct for instrumental mass fractionation. The long-term external reproducibility on NIST 981 standard runs at WHOI is <120 p.p.m. for the ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb, ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ratios^{29,36}. Basaltic sample runs were normalized to the average NIST 981 value measured in a given analytical session using NIST 981 values reported by ref. 35.

Supplementary Table 2 includes new ⁸⁷Sr/⁸⁶Sr and ¹⁴³Nd/¹⁴⁴Nd isotopic measurements. Analyses made at WHOI follow chemical separation techniques outlined in ref. 29; Sr and Nd isotopic measurements were made on the Neptune multicollector ICP-MS at WHOI, and standard normalization and long-term external precision are described in ref. 29. The Sr and Nd isotopic analyses made at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography follow analytical techniques outlined in ref. 14.

Supplementary Table 3 includes new helium isotopic measurements, which were measured at WHOI and at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Measurements made at WHOI follow the methods outlined in ref. 37. All data were obtained by crushing olivines or glasses in vacuum, except for one sample, which is a measurement of gas released by fusion following a crushing experiment. In-run precision is reported in the Supplementary Table 3. Measurements made at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography follow the methods outlined in ref. 14, where uncertainty in ³He/⁴He ratios is estimated to be ±0.5 Ra.

Calculating distance in three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space. The expression for distance in Pb multi-isotopic space, here called $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$, is given by the following relationship: $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}} = [((^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_S - ^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_R)/X)^2 + ((^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_S - ^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_R)/Y)^2 + ((^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_S - ^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}_R)/Z)^2]^{0.5}$, where the subscript R indicates the isotopic composition of the reference sample, the subscript S is the isotopic composition of any Samoan lava sample, and X, Y and Z represent the absolute difference between the maximum and minimum values measured in Samoan hotspot lavas (including rejuvenated lavas and all lavas from the Vai, Malu and Upu lineaments) for ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ($X = 19.4993 - 18.5720 = 0.9273$), ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ($Y = 15.6510 - 15.5538 = 0.0972$) and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ($Z = 39.8620 - 38.6929 = 1.1691$), respectively. The reference isotopic composition is chosen to be the highest-³He/⁴He lava from Samoa (Ofu-04-06)²⁰, which plots near the region of convergence of the four isotopic groups.

The expression for distance ($D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$) in Pb-isotopic space is based on the Pythagorean theorem, where the differences between each Pb-isotopic ratio and the common component are squared, these squared differences are then summed, and the square root of the sum is taken. The expression for distance in Pb-isotopic space (that is, $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$) also accounts for the fact that different Pb-isotopic ratios exhibit dramatically different variability. To do this, the difference in the Pb-isotopic ratio between two data points is divided by the total range measured in Samoan lavas. For example, the total range in ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb in Samoan lavas is 0.9273, which is the difference between the highest measured ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ratio (19.4993) and the lowest ratio (18.5720). Thus, the ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb ratio exhibits 5.0% variability in Samoan lavas. This is important because, in Samoan lavas, ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb varies from 39.8620 to 38.6929 in Samoa, which represents ~3.0% variability, while ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb exhibits only 0.6% variability (15.6510 to 15.5538 in Samoan lavas). If the distance equation did not normalize the isotopic difference between data points by the total range in the isotopic ratio of interest, then the distances calculated would be dominated by

the ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb and ²⁰⁸Pb/²⁰⁴Pb variability, and ²⁰⁷Pb/²⁰⁴Pb (which has limited variability in Samoa and in the ocean-island-basalt mantle in general) would contribute very little to the overall distance calculated.

We emphasize that the different isotopic groups converge on a common region rather than a point in Pb-isotopic space. No single sample in the existing Samoan data set, including Ofu-04-06, is ideally suited as a point of convergence for all the geochemical groups in Samoa. However, given the limited available data set on high-³He/⁴He Samoan lavas, and given the observation that Ofu-04-06 plots near the region of convergence of the different isotopic groups, we choose the isotopic composition of this lava as a reference isotopic composition in the $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ equation because it has the highest ³He/⁴He.

Statistical test for the convergence of the four Pb-isotopic groups. The relationship between ³He/⁴He and distance from the common component region in Pb-isotopic space—where ³He/⁴He decreases with increasing distance (higher $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ values) from the common component region—is consistent with a model in which the four low-³He/⁴He components in the Samoan plume mix with a common high-³He/⁴He component. To evaluate whether the four different isotopic groups—represented by lavas from the Malu, Vai and subaerial-Upu lineaments and rejuvenated lavas (Extended Data Fig. 1)—converge on the high-³He/⁴He common component region in Pb-isotopic space, we first define the high-³He/⁴He common component region to be comprised of all Samoan lavas with ³He/⁴He > 20 Ra. Since many samples measured for Pb isotopes were not suitable for ³He/⁴He measurements, this allows us to compensate for potential under-sampling of the high-³He/⁴He common component and to define uncertainty in the composition of the common component. We model the compositional range of the common component region with the mean and the variance of the Pb-isotope data (and Nd-isotopic data) for samples with ³He/⁴He > 20 Ra (see Fig. 2 and Extended Data Figs 2 and 3). This results in an ellipsoid centred on the mean value and with major axes defined by the 2σ variations in the heavy radiogenic isotopic compositions. Subsequently, we test whether the four data groups indeed converge on this ellipsoidal common component region, taking advantage of the linearity of mixing relationships in Pb-isotopic space. To model the possible orientations of mixing lines for each group, we use best-fit trends through each group and their related confidence intervals. We computed Working–Hotelling confidence intervals at the 99% confidence level to be as inclusive as possible in visualizing possible mixing lines for each group (we tested 95% confidence as well, and the conclusions are the same). In three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space, the 99% confidence intervals (they appear as ‘tubes’ in three-dimensional isotopic space; Fig. 2 and Extended Data Figs 2 and 3) around each of the best-fit trend lines overlap with the ellipsoid that encompasses the common component region that is defined by the highest-³He/⁴He lavas. This observation shows that, for each data group, there exists a family of mixing lines (within error of the best-fit line) that statistically overlaps with our common component region. This isotopic overlap also maps to two-dimensional Pb-isotopic spaces (see Fig. 2 and Extended Data Fig. 3), although the three-dimensional case shows that only a subset of possibilities in individual two-dimensional plots is actually possible. In summary, all four of the best-fit trend lines through the four different isotopic groups statistically overlap with the common component region in Pb-isotopic space.

However, we note that submarine lavas from western Samoa (that is, lavas dredged off the coast of Sava’i and Upolu) are excluded from this statistical test. Available data from these lavas do suggest that they follow the relationship between ³He/⁴He and distance from the common component region in Pb-isotopic space (Fig. 2), which is consistent with mixing with the common component region. However, the limited sampling of the submarine portion of the western Samoan region makes it difficult to assign the few available samples to geographic groups: For example, only Sava’i (four dredges: ALIA114, ALIA115, ALIA116 and ALIA128) and the Tisa seamount (one dredge; ALIA113) have samples of the deep submarine portions of the western Samoan region, and several of the dredges are distal to the Upu volcanic lineament. Thus, the vast submarine region in western Samoa, which spans around 200 km (from Sava’i to Tisa), is represented by only five submarine dredges, of which several were distal to Sava’i and Upolu, which do not clearly belong to the Upu-lineament (indeed, the distance between the northernmost and southernmost dredges in the western Samoa region is >130 km, which is more than twice the distance that separates the Vai and Malu volcanic lineaments). Our statistical approach requires that the Samoan data are grouped along geographic trends, and we test whether these geographically defined data groups converge on the high-³He/⁴He component region in isotopic space. With such poor sampling along the submarine portion of the western Samoan islands, and the improbability that these dredges sample the same geographic lineament, it is not yet possible to evaluate geographic groups in the isotopic data sets in the submarine portion of the western Samoan region.

Geographic separation of the isotopic components in Samoa. The geographic-isotopic groups (the Vai, Malu and Upu volcanic lineaments and rejuvenated lavas) are resolved in multiple isotopic spaces (Fig. 2, Extended Data Figs 2 and 3). Below,

we describe the seamounts and islands that comprise the four geographic groups that are resolved in isotopic space:

(1) The Vai volcanic lineament is comprised of the islands of Ofu and Ta'u, and Vailulu'u, Soso, Tamai'i and Muli seamounts. In isotopic space, including $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$, $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$, some of the Vailulu'u lavas trend slightly outside of the data group formed by other Vai-lineament volcanoes. These anomalous lavas trend in the direction of Malu-lineament lavas in isotopic space, indicating that Vailulu'u samples components similar to that found in the mantle sources of both the Vai and Malu volcanic lineaments, but that lavas from the Vai-lineament rarely sample the component hosted along the Malu volcanic lineament. Two Vailulu'u samples from the same dredge—AVON3-73-1 and AVON-3-73-12—plot squarely in the field defined by Malu-lineament lavas, and show that, like the Hawaiian Loa and Kea volcanic lineaments^{4,5}, the isotopic separation of the Malu and Vai volcanic lineaments is not perfect. Another lava from the Vai volcanic lineament, Ta'u sample T44, plots closer in isotopic space to lavas that comprise the Malu volcanic lineament. Ta'u sample T14, which exhibits highly unradiogenic Pb and anomalous Pb concentrations relative to other Ta'u lavas¹⁷, may be contaminated and is not shown here.

(2) The Malu volcanic lineament is geographically displaced to the south of the Vai volcanic lineament and is comprised of the Malumalu, Malutut and Tulaga seamounts and the Masefau shield lavas of northeast Tutuila. We find that three Malu-lineament lavas from dredges 108 (DR108) and 109 (DR109) from the ALIA cruise^{18,19,38,39} have Vai-lineament-like geochemistry, again showing that the geochemical distinction between the two parallel volcanic ridges is not perfectly resolved in isotopic space.

The Malu volcanic lineament joins seamlessly with the northeast region of the island of Tutuila. Tutuila lavas with geochemistry similar to Malu-lineament lavas, referred to as Masefau shield lavas¹⁴, outcrop only along the north coast of the northeastern region of the island along the Afono, Maefau and Sailele bays (J. Natland, personal communication, 2013). Masefau lavas have not been encountered anywhere else on Tutuila, with the possible exception of sample 91-TP-252, which was collected on the southern coast of the northeast portion of the island (however, this sample is a cobble, so its true provenance is unknown). Less geochemically enriched Tutuila lavas, referred to as Pago shield lavas^{14,40}, outcrop on the rest of the island. Using radiometric age data from ref. 41, lavas identified geochemically as Pago shield lavas in the western region of the island are generally younger than lavas identified as Masefau shield lavas on the eastern side of the island (see ref. 41 and references therein). Indeed, the Masefau shield sequences are cross-cut by dikes with Pago shield geochemical signatures¹⁴. Work pairing geochemistry with age data is relatively scarce in Samoa, and further work is needed to evaluate the temporal relationship between the Masefau and Pago shield series. However, from existing data, we argue that Tutuila is divided between two volcanic series, and that the younger Pago shield series overlies much of the older Masefau series, much like the Hawaiian Mauna Loa series overlies the Mauna Kea series in the HSDP2 drill core⁴² (we note that these two volcanoes, Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, sample the separate volcanic lineaments along the Hawaiian hotspot, just as the Pago and Masefau shield sample two separate volcanic lineaments in Samoa). We further argue that the two volcanic series on Tutuila anchor the Upo and Malu volcanic lineaments, both geochemically and geographically. The Malu volcanic lineament joins with the northeastern region of Tutuila where the isotopically related Masefau lavas are encountered, and we argue that Tutuila Masefau lavas anchor the westernmost portion of the Malu lineament (and the Tutuila Pago lavas anchor the easternmost limb of the Upo volcanic lineament; see below).

(3) In the Upo lineament, Pago shield lavas from Tutuila are isotopically similar to subaerial Upolu shield lavas (subaerial Upo-lineament lavas from Upolu have previously been referred to as Fagaloa shield lavas)^{40,43}, and they outcrop on the western and southern portions of Tutuila (and as dikes cross-cutting the Masefau shield lavas in northeast Tutuila). We argue that the Pago shield lavas mark the easternmost extent of the Upo volcanic lineament, while Tutuila Masefau lavas define the westernmost extent of the Malu volcanic lineament. Thus, Tutuila Island acts as a nexus between the Upo lineament (Pago shield series on southern Tutuila) and the Malu lineament (Masefau shield series on northern Tutuila). In contrast to all other volcanic structures in Samoa, which strike along a direction parallel to absolute plate motion (WNW to ESE), the island of Tutuila is oriented obliquely to plate motion (WSW to ENE)⁴¹. Thus, the Malu lineament 'steps off' to the northeast, away from the Upo lineament, and Tutuila effectively bridges these two volcanic lineaments.

Shield lavas from Upolu have similar isotopic compositions to Pago shield lavas on Tutuila (Fig. 2, Extended Data Fig. 3), and the Upo volcanic lineament is comprised of lavas from at least two islands. Fagaloa series lavas that define the subaerial Upo lineament also may exist on Savai'i, but if they do, they have been completely covered with young rejuvenated lavas²⁸.

The volcanic stage suggested for two subaerial Upolu lavas may require new designations, based on their geochemical characteristics. Upolu samples U30L and

U10S (see ref. 17) were tentatively classified in the field as rejuvenated-stage lavas on the basis of a geological map from ref. 43. Later isotopic analyses¹⁷ showed that these two samples plot in the field of shield lavas (M. Regelous, personal communication, 2013), and we argue that these two samples belong to the shield stage. We note that Pb-isotopic data reported on Tutuila lavas from the Pago shield (and Upolu lavas) by ref. 44 are severely contaminated and are excluded from the present study⁴⁵.

(4) Rejuvenated lavas from the Samoan islands of Savai'i, Upolu and Tutuila have variable extents of rejuvenated lava cover, from only minor rejuvenated volcanism cover on Tutuila to near-complete cover of the shield stage by rejuvenated lavas on Savai'i²¹. In radiogenic isotopic spaces, the rejuvenated lavas form a separate field that is resolved from shield-stage lavas, and the rejuvenated lavas from each island are isotopically similar (Fig. 2, Extended Data Fig. 3). The origin of Samoan rejuvenated lavas—which are volumetrically extensive—is not well understood, but is thought to relate at least partially to tectonically enhanced melting caused by tectonic stresses in the region generated by the nearby Tonga trench^{17,21,28,29,40,46}.

Geochemical identity of the five mantle components in the Samoan plume. The identity of the four low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ mantle species in the Vai and Malu lineaments, the subaerial Upo lineament and in rejuvenated lavas can be determined by examining their geochemical characteristics. Below, we argue that the four low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components in the Samoan plume sample the canonical mantle endmembers—EM1, EM2, HIMU and DM—in variably diluted forms. A fifth component, which is characterized by having high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$, has geochemical signatures that give clues to its origin:

(1) In the Malu lineament, the lavas have geochemical signatures associated with the EM2 mantle endmember, including negative Ti (and Nb, not shown) anomalies (Extended Data Fig. 4), and very high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (refs 17 and 19). The earliest shield-stage lavas on Savai'i, dredged on the deep submarine flanks of Savai'i (4.8 to 5.3 million years ago)¹⁸, have isotopic and trace element signatures of an even more extreme EM2 component (with $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ up to 0.7216)¹⁹ that complements the EM2 signature that characterizes Malu lineament volcanics^{14,17,47,48}. The EM2 component in Samoa is best modelled by recycling subducted, continentally derived sediment into the Samoan mantle^{19,47–49}.

(2) In the Vai lineament, lavas have geochemical signatures that are similar to the HIMU mantle endmember (albeit in greatly diluted form). Vai-lineament lavas have the highest (U + Th)/Pb (Extended Data Fig. 5) and the most radiogenic $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ (Fig. 2, Extended Data Fig. 3) in the Samoan suite. High (Th + U)/Pb is a characteristic of HIMU lavas⁵⁰. Clearly, Vai-lineament lavas do not exhibit the highly radiogenic Pb-isotopic compositions evident in HIMU endmember locations like Mangaia and Tubuai (for example, ref. 51), but we argue that Vai-lineament lavas host a dilute HIMU component that is not sampled in pure endmember form in Samoa, at least in lavas studied to date. The most extreme HIMU components in the mantle have been linked to ancient recycled oceanic crust (see, for example, refs 51–54).

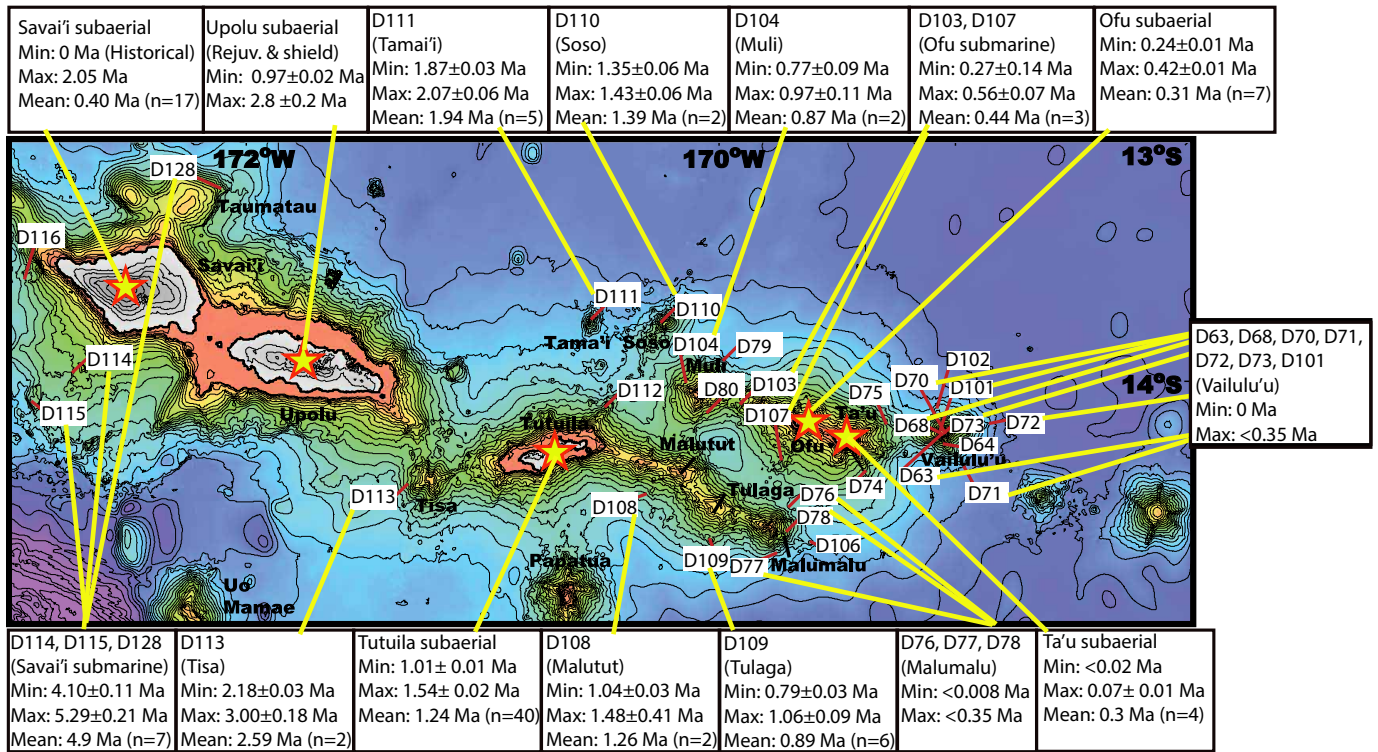
(3) In the Upo lineament, subaerial lavas trend towards a depleted mantle composition in various isotopic spaces (Fig. 2, Extended Data Figs 3 and 4), and are characterized by the highest $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ in the Samoan suite. Supporting this hypothesis, $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ increases along the subaerial Upo-lineament group moving away from the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region (as $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ increases) in the direction of MORB and Hawaiian lavas from the HSDP-2 drill core (Fig. 2, Extended Data Fig. 4). By comparison, the other three data groups exhibit relatively constant or even decreasing $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ with increasing distance from the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region. (Curiously, $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ exhibits the least amount of variability in the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region—where $D_{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ is near zero, which indicates that the common component region has relatively homogeneous isotopic characteristics.) Thus, subaerial lavas from the Upo-lineament group appear to sample a depleted mantle composition, a hypothesis that is supported by the observation that average MORB⁵⁵ and Hawaiian Kea lavas (which exhibit geochemically depleted $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$) anchor the data trends for Upolu shield and Tutuila Pago lavas in all isotopic spaces¹⁷. The western Samoan seamount Alexa²⁹ anchors the most extreme terminus of the Samoan DM isotopic group sampled by subaerial Upo-lineament lavas; data from this seamount are shown in all relevant isotopic spaces and the data plot near the field for Hawaiian Kea lavas. Therefore, the geochemical component sampled by Upo-lineament lavas is not unlike the depleted plume component sampled by Hawaiian Kea lavas, and may be inherent to the Samoan plume, but we cannot exclude a depleted upper mantle source (like that which sources MORB) as the endmember sampled by Upo-lineament lavas.

(4) In the rejuvenated lavas from Samoa there is a mild EM1 component, and this is supported by positive Ba-anomalies (high Ba/Th in Supplementary Table 4) in Samoan rejuvenated lavas^{17,29,38}, a geochemical characteristic shared with EM1 endmember lavas from Pitcairn²⁹. Relative to Samoan shield lavas, Samoan rejuvenated lavas exhibit elevated $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ at a given $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$, a characteristic that is also shared with EM1-like lavas globally.

(5) The variably diluted mantle endmembers identified in Samoan lavas—EM2, EM1, HIMU and DM—are known to have relatively low $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ values^{17,19,56–59}. These low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ components anchor the four isotopic groups in the region of isotopic space furthest from the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region. However, lavas with relatively high to very high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ are found on several islands and seamounts (up to 33.4 Ra on Ofu, 18.0 Ra on Ta'u, 25.8 Ra on Tutuila, 19.3 Ra on Upolu, 15.9 Ra on Malumalu, 15.3 Ra on Muli and 18.6 Ra on Savai'i), and these lavas tend to plot near the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region (Fig. 3; Extended Data Fig. 6). High- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ lavas in Samoa have high Ti/Ti* (defined in ref. 19) values^{60,61} (in contrast to the low Ti/Ti* observed in the Samoan EM2 endmember; Extended Data Fig. 4). Consistent with this observation, Ti/Ti* is highest near the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region; moving away from the centre of the common component region (from high to low $D^{206/207/208\text{Pb}}$ values), Ti/Ti* decreases in the direction of the four low- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ endmembers (Extended Data Fig. 4). This relationship between Ti/Ti* and $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ is highlighted by the elevated Ti/Ti* observed in high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ lavas globally⁶⁰.

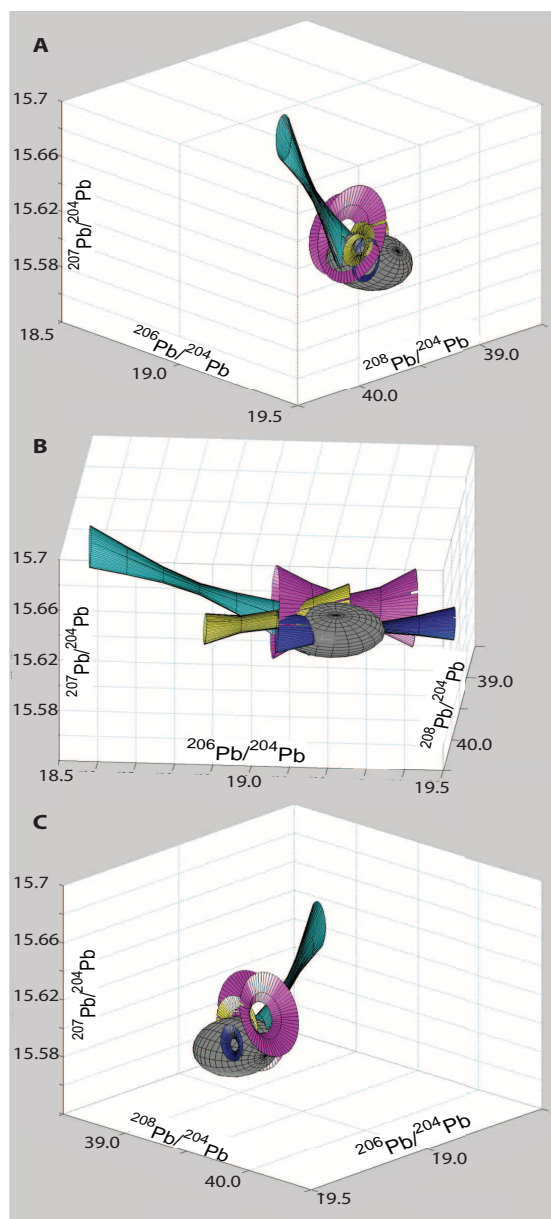
Samoan lavas with high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ are melts of a mantle component with a controversial origin, and these lavas cluster in the common component region in isotopic space (Extended Data Fig. 6). Reference 14 argued that the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ Samoan component represents primitive, undegassed mantle, and called this component PHEM (primitive helium mantle). However, higher $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ratios (up to 33.8 Ra) identified in Samoan lavas have $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ that are geochemically depleted relative to primitive, chondritic material, and Pb-isotopic compositions that are far from the geochron²⁰. Nonetheless, high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ Samoan lavas have lower (geochemically more enriched) $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ than lavas with high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ from other hotspots²⁰, and it was suggested that relatively young (about ten million years old) sediments rapidly cycled from the Tonga trench might account for this Nd-isotopic shift^{62,63}. However, the Pb-isotopic compositions in Samoan lavas preclude the existence of a young sediment component in the Samoan mantle¹⁹, and sediments from the Tonga trench in particular are a poor fit for Samoan lavas in Pb-isotopic space (see figure 3 in ref. 20). The origin of the enriched geochemical signatures in Samoan high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ lavas is not known, but ref. 20 suggested the involvement of a DUPAL signature—a globe-encircling band of isotopic enrichment observed in Southern Hemisphere hotspot lavas⁶⁴—in the Samoan high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ mantle that shifts the $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ to lower values than observed in Northern Hemisphere high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ hotspot lavas. The origin of the geochemically enriched DUPAL signature is not known, but might relate to ancient (about 1.8 billion years old) subducted material⁶⁴. Thus the unique heavy radiogenic isotopic signature of the Samoan high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ plume component may result from the incorporation of ancient subducted material into the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ mantle.

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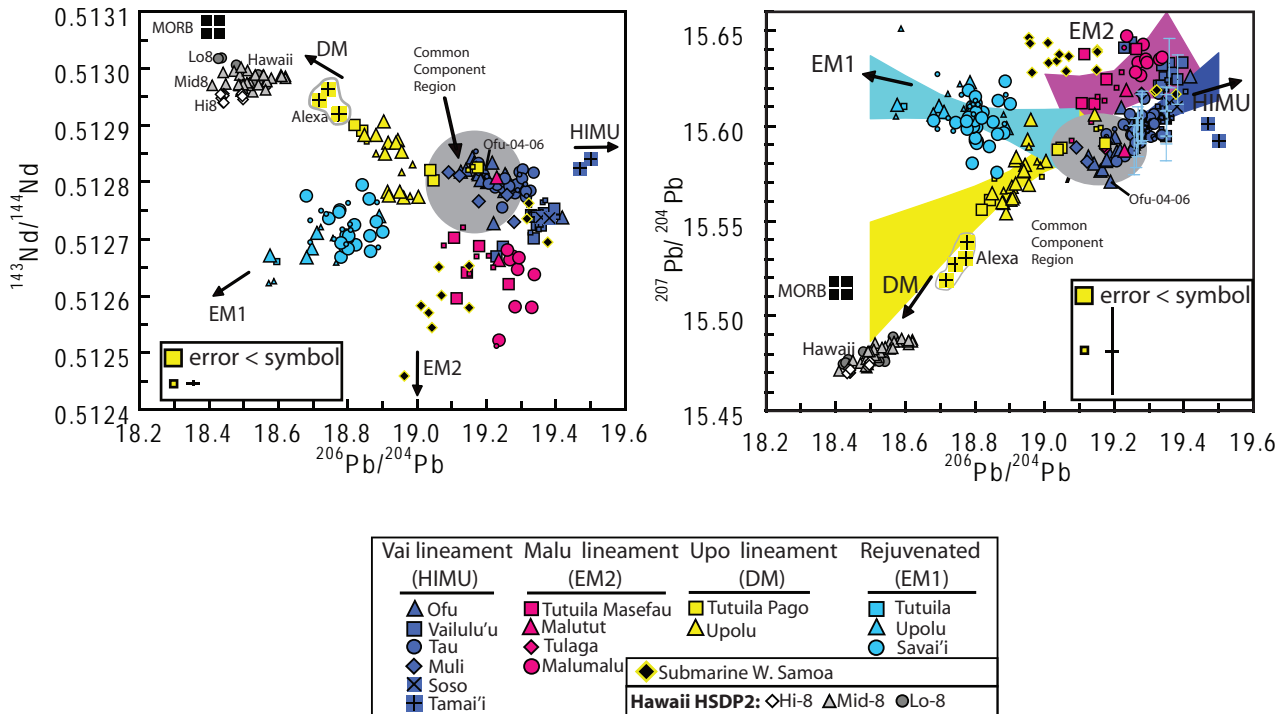


Extended Data Figure 1 | Sample locations and volcano ages. The range of ages for each location (subaerial or submarine dredge) is provided in a box at the periphery of the map, and a yellow line connects each location with the respective age data; not all samples with geochemical data have age data (indeed, most Samoan samples with geochemical data, submarine and subaerial, do not have age constraints). Dredge locations are labelled with a red line: dredges from the 1999 AVON2/3 cruise aboard the RV *Melville*¹⁷ have dredge numbers less than 100, and dredges from the 2005 ALIA cruise aboard the RV *Kilo Moana*^{18,19,39} have dredge numbers greater than 100. Samples collected on land were taken from the five Samoan islands (and are labelled with yellow stars: Savai'i subaerial, Upolu subaerial, Tutuila subaerial, Ta'u subaerial and Ofu subaerial). Malumalu and Vailulu'u seamount ages are based on uranium-series disequilibrium, and therefore maximum ages are provided^{65,66}. Upolu subaerial lavas include both rejuvenated series (which bracket the younger limit of ages) and the shield series (which bracket the older limit of

ages); poor outcrop exposure on the highly vegetated Samoan islands can make designation of the volcanic stages difficult (particularly if geochemical data are not available for the hand sample), and an average age for the rejuvenated or shield stages on Upolu is therefore not provided. Rejuvenated lavas are present on Tutuila, but ages are not available in the literature. All reported subaerial lavas from Savai'i are rejuvenated, indicating that the island has been covered with a veneer of rejuvenated volcanism^{21,28}. Rejuvenated volcanism has been observed during historical times on Savai'i, which was last active from 1905–1911 (ref. 67); error bars are not provided for the oldest Savai'i subaerial sample in ref. 17. Submarine samples dredged off the coast of Savai'i (D114, D115 and D128) and from Tisa seamount were dredged distal to the Upo lineament and may not belong to this lineament. All available ages for Samoan islands and seamounts are provided in refs 17, 18, 39, 40, 41, 65, 66, 68 and 69. (Ma, million years.)

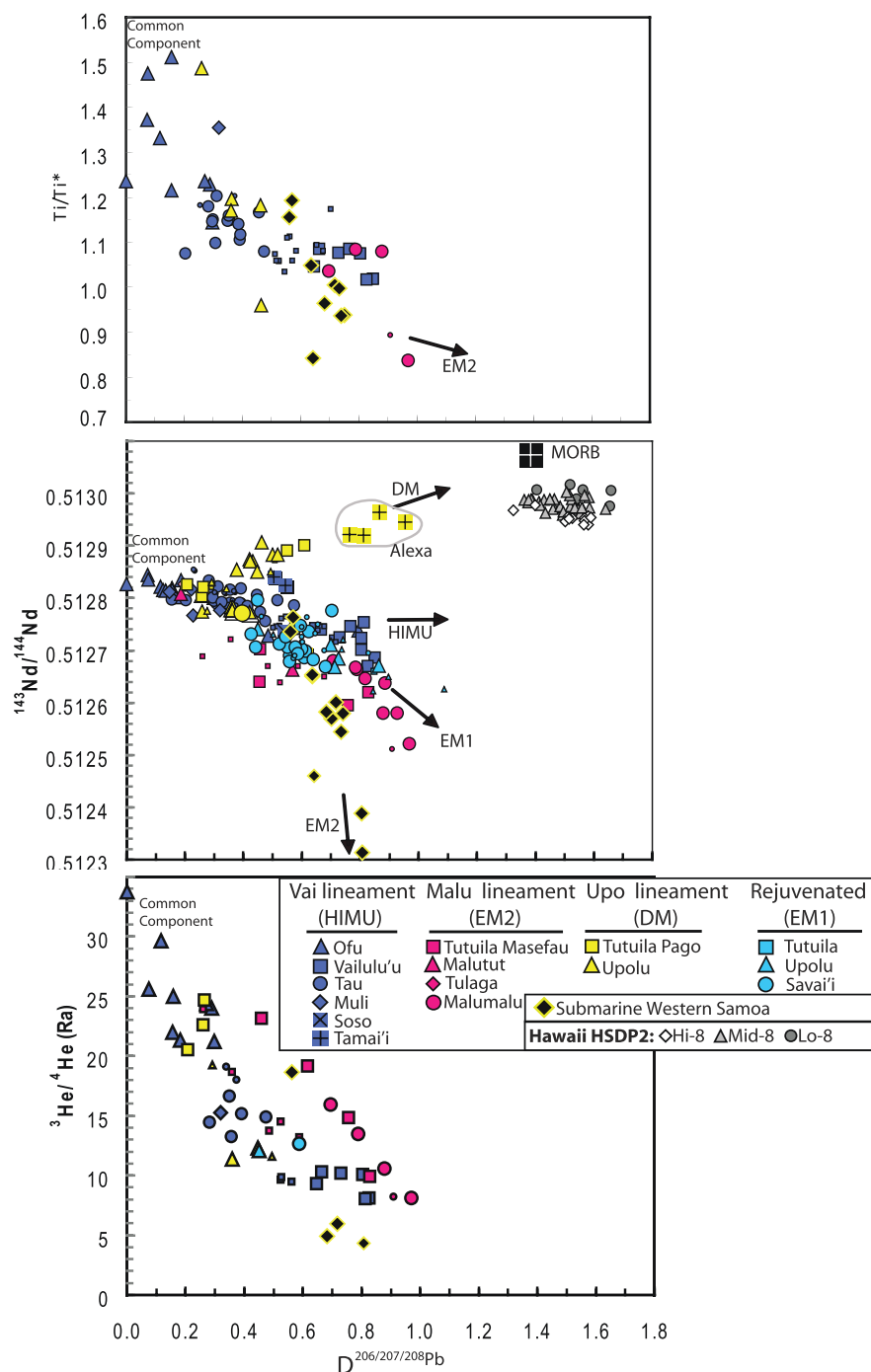


Extended Data Figure 2 | A three-dimensional presentation of the Pb-isotopic groups shows that they converge on the high $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region. 99% confidence intervals (appearing as ‘tubes’) around the best-fit lines through each of the four data groups—Malu lineament (pink tube), Vai lineament (dark blue), subaerial Upo lineament (yellow) and rejuvenated lavas (light blue)—are shown in three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space. The composition of the common component region is modelled as an ellipsoid (grey) that is defined by the 2σ variance around the average in the Pb-isotopic compositions for samples with $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He} > 20$ Ra. In three-dimensional Pb-isotopic space, the 99% confidence intervals around each of the best-fit trend lines overlap with the ellipsoid that encompasses the common component region. Each tube represents an estimate of the error around the best-fit trend to the data defining each geographic lineament. The tube therefore encloses the set of all possible mixing arrays associated with a given geographic lineament. Since all the tubes intersect the ellipsoid of the common component region, statistically a range of mixing arrays exists for each geographic lineament that passes through the common component region. This result is consistent with the compositional data of the four lineaments mixing with the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component.



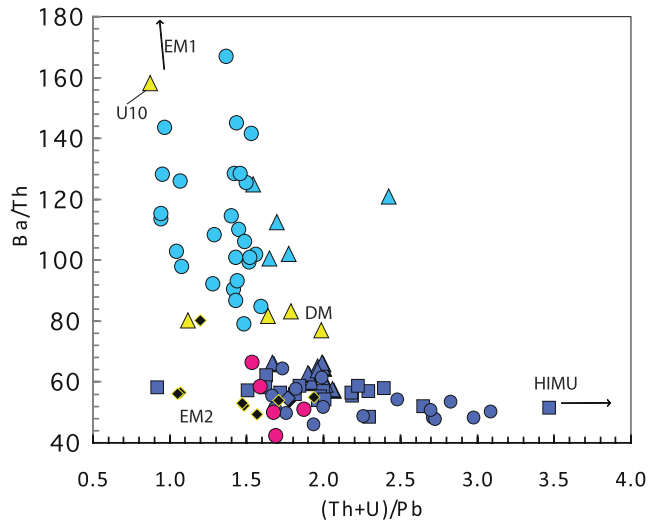
Extended Data Figure 3 | The isotopic composition of the four Samoan data groups are shown in Nd and Pb isotopic spaces. In both panels, the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region is modelled by a grey ellipse that defines the 2σ variance around the average of the heavy radiogenic isotopic compositions of Samoan lavas with $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He} > 20$ Ra. The left panel shows the four data groups identified in Pb-isotopic space (Fig. 2) in a plot of $^{143}\text{Nd}/^{144}\text{Nd}$ versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$. Samples for which Pb-isotopic ratios were measured by high-precision techniques (Pb-spiked samples run by TIMS and samples run using Tl-addition by MC-ICP-MS) are shown as large symbols (where estimated 2σ external uncertainties are smaller than the symbols^{17,19–21,29,38}), and unspiked Pb-isotopic TIMS data are shown as small symbols (where estimated 2σ external uncertainties are equal to or better than ± 0.076 for the $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ ratio, as shown^{14,17,48,51}). The right panel shows the four data groups identified in Fig. 2 in a plot of $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$. Samples for

which Pb-isotopic ratios were measured by high-precision techniques (Pb-spiked samples run by TIMS and samples run using Tl-addition by MC-ICP-MS) are shown as large symbols (where estimated 2σ external uncertainties are smaller than the symbols, except for samples run on the P54 at Carnegie, where estimated 2σ external precision error bars are shown on the individual data points, as reported in the Methods); unspiked Pb-isotopic TIMS data are shown as small symbols (where estimated 2σ external uncertainties are equal to or better than ± 0.019 and ± 0.023 for $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ and $^{207}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$, respectively, as shown). 99% confidence intervals around the best-fit lines through each data group overlap with the high- $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ common component region. Symbols are the same as in Fig. 2 of the main text. The MORB average composition is from ref. 55. The HSDP-2 drill core data are from refs 24 and 30. See Supplementary Table 4 for a compilation of the Samoan data shown; Alexa data are from ref. 29.

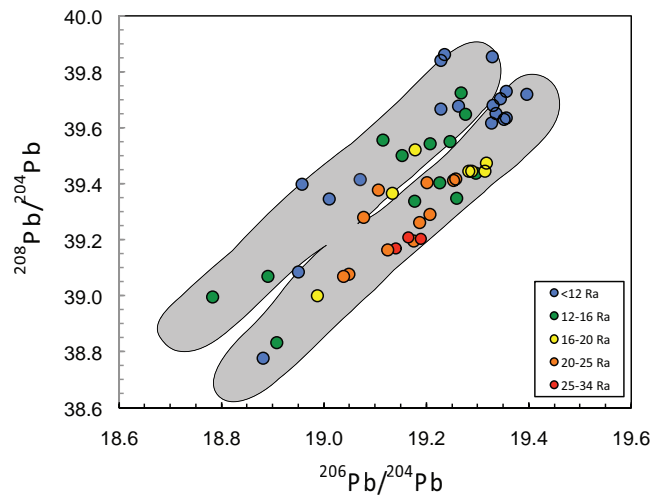


Extended Data Figure 4 | Various geochemical signatures show clear trends with increasing distance from the common component region in Pb-isotopic space. The top panel shows a plot of $D^{206/207/208Pb}$ versus Ti/Ti^* . Samoan lavas with the highest $^3He/^4He$ have the highest Ti/Ti^* and the lowest $D^{206/207/208Pb}$ values; this follows from an earlier observation that Ti/Ti^* correlates with $^3He/^4He$ in Samoan lavas, and the high- $^3He/^4He$ mantle reservoir has elevated Ti/Ti^* (ref. 60). Ti/Ti^* is defined in ref. 19. Only lavas with $MgO > 7$ wt% are shown, to avoid the effects of fractional crystallization of trace phases that might fractionate the trace element ratios. A sample with high MnO from Soso (ALIA110-39) is excluded owing to a high degree of alteration. ALIA-115-07, which is highly altered, is also excluded, as are all samples from ALIA Dredge 118. Samples with He concentrations $< 10^{-9}$ cm³ of 4He at STP per gram of sample (olivine) are excluded. Additionally, only shield-stage lavas are plotted. The middle panel shows $D^{206/207/208Pb}$ versus $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$. $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$ shows systematic behaviour in each data group moving away from the common component region (that is, with increasing $D^{206/207/208Pb}$) in Pb-isotope space. Data from subaerial Upo-lineament lavas

(yellow) exhibit increasing $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$ with increasing distance (higher $D^{206/207/208Pb}$) from the common component region, and this supports the hypothesis that the subaerial portion of the Upo lineament samples a depleted mantle (DM) component similar to that found in the Alexa seamount and Hawaii. The other data groups (from the rejuvenated lavas and the Vai and Malu volcanic lineaments) all exhibit lower (more enriched) $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$ with increasing distance from the common component region. Finally, the middle panel shows that $^{143}Nd/^{144}Nd$ exhibits the least amount of variability in the common component region—where $D^{206/207/208Pb}$ is zero—as the four isotopic groups converge on a common component with relatively homogeneous isotopic characteristics. The bottom panel shows $D^{206/207/208Pb}$ versus $^3He/^4He$ (also shown in Fig. 2 of the main text) for comparison with the other panels. Symbols are the same as in Fig. 2. The MORB average composition is from ref. 55. The HSDP-2 drill core data are from refs 24 and 30. When calculating Ti/Ti^* , only data obtained by ICP-MS (except Ti, which is measured by X-ray fluorescence) are used. See Supplementary Table 4 for sources of the Samoan data; Alexa data are from ref. 29.



Extended Data Figure 5 | $(U+Th)/Pb$ versus Ba/Th . Vai-lineament lavas exhibit the highest $(U+Th)/Pb$ values in Samoa, consistent with a HIMU signature. Such high $(U+Th)/Pb$ values are consistent with the radiogenic Pb-isotopic compositions in Vai-lineament lavas and similar to the high $(U+Th)/Pb$ values observed in HIMU lavas. Samoan rejuvenated lavas, which have an EM1 signature, have high Ba/Th (and Ba/Sm and Ba/Nb); this Ba-enrichment matches the positive Ba-anomalies observed in EM1 endmember lavas from Pitcairn²⁹. Highly altered samples and samples with low MgO are excluded (as described in Extended Data Fig. 4). Ref. 17 identified Upolu sample U10 as an outlier in many isotope and trace element spaces. Symbols are the same as in Fig. 2 of the main text. Only data obtained by ICP-MS are shown. See Supplementary Table 4 for a compilation of the Samoan data shown.



Extended Data Figure 6 | The $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ratios of Samoan lavas are shown in colour (warmer colours represent higher $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$) to show the distribution of $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ ratios in $^{208}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ versus $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ isotopic space. Lavas with the highest $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ tend to cluster near the region in Pb-isotopic space where the four Pb-isotopic data groups converge, and lavas with lower $^3\text{He}/^4\text{He}$ tend to plot farthest from the common component region. Samples with $<10^{-9}\text{ cm}^3$ of ^4He at STP per gram of sample (olivine) are excluded. See Supplementary Table 4 for a compilation of the Samoan data shown.