

From my private correspondence with dr. **YAOLING NIU**, professor of
DEPARTMENT OF GEOSCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON, TX, USA
DEPARTMENT OF EARTH SCIENCES, UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM, UK

Dear Michael,

Thanks for sending your paper and poster, which I just had a quick read with interest! Good work!

As for whether the Kamchatka was connected to the Hawaiian plume or not is an interesting, yet unknown question. My inference or reasoning in Niu et al. [J.Petrol., 2003] was logical and sensible with some age evidence. But that does not mean it is correct, but some food for thought for the community to think about, which is a HUGE scientific problem in the context of global tectonics (plate tectonics and perhaps "plume" tectonics as well).

I noticed that you are offering a case about Kamchatka against the Hawaiian plume connection, but I think we really do not know exactly what is happening. I think it is essential if we can spot a few ideal sites to drill the Okhotsk sea! I am totally open-minded, but I am also highly sceptical as well about many of the so-called "facts".

Perhaps, we can keep in touch

Kind regards,

Yaoling