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- 1 Impact of fluid-rock interaction on water uptake of the Icelandic crust: Implications for
- 2 the hydration of the oceanic crust and the subducted water flux
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Abstract

Oceanic crust is a major transport medium of water into the mantle wedge and the convecting 10 mantle. Yet, the water content of the oceanic crust remains uncertain. Active geothermal 11 12 systems situated at on-land spreading centers provide a unique opportunity to study the hydration of the oceanic crust, with well constrained systems and boreholes reaching depths of 13 >4 km. Here, we present hydrogen isotope data of geothermal fluids and altered basalt for three 14 15 Icelandic geothermal systems: the meteoric water fed system at Krafla and the seawater fed systems at Reykjanes and Surtsey. The bulk rock δD values of altered and hydrated basalts 16 from these localities, which exhibit significantly higher water contents (up to 8.9 wt.%) than 17 magmatic (non-hydrated) basalts, vary greatly from -125 to -96% at Krafla, from -80 to -46% 18 at Reykjanes and from -78 to -46‰ at Surtsey. The corresponding fluids have δD values of -19 84.1 to -81.1% at Krafla, -23.1 to -14.9% at Reykjanes and +2.1 to +4.3% at Surtsey. 20 Comparison of isotope modeling results to the natural data reveals that hydration of the 21 Icelandic crust and corresponding hydrogen isotopic characteristics are controlled by (1) the 22 isotope composition of the source fluid, (2) isotope fractionation between the aqueous 23 geothermal fluids and the alteration minerals formed, and (3) the type and quantity of alteration 24

minerals formed. These factors in turn depend on the extent of fluid-rock interaction and temperature. Using the same modeling approach and expanding it to datasets available for the oceanic crust, we assessed the hydration state and δD values of the oceanic crust as a function of depth. We show that 1400 to 1650 Tg H₂O/yr is added to the igneous oceanic crust upon alteration by seawater and that the upper part (<2 km) of oceanic crust hosts almost 50% of the added water. The corresponding hydrogen isotope composition of the hydrated crust was calculated to an average of -55±6‰. Upon subduction and subsequent dehydration, 80-90% of water with δD values of -35 to -10‰ will be released to the crustal forearc and mantle wedge. The remaining dehydrated slab with δD values of ~ -160 to -85‰ is expected to be transported to deeper levels modifying the mantle's water budget and isotopic composition.

Keywords

hydrogen isotopes, water cycling, oceanic crust, fluid-rock interaction

1. Introduction

Hydration and subduction of oceanic crust plays a critical role in the Earth's water cycle. Hydration of newly formed oceanic crust begins at mid-ocean ridges via production of secondary (i.e., alteration) minerals and continues as the seafloor ages. In addition, sediments are continuously deposited onto the seafloor adding material containing both pore and structurally bound water. Water budget estimates for the oceanic lithosphere, including the uppermost part of the serpentinized mantle and overlying marine sediments, suggest that a total of 1800-2400 Tg H₂O/yr enters subduction zone trenches of which ~80% derives from the hydrated oceanic crust and marine sediments and ~20% from the serpentinized upper mantle (e.g., Hacker, 2008; Jarrard, 2003; Rüpke et al., 2004; van Keken et al., 2011). Although almost 85% of water stored in the pore space and hydrous minerals of the sediments is either recycled back into the oceans or lost to the forearc, over >60% of water in the hydrated oceanic crust is

considered to be transported to deeper levels in subduction zones triggering the generation of magma in the mantle wedge (Hacker, 2008; Jarrard, 2003). Outgassing of water deriving from the descending oceanic crust at arc volcanoes is supported by chemical and isotopic data of volcanic gas emissions (e.g., Giggenbach, 1992; Taran and Zelenski, 2015). Thus, the hydration state of the oceanic crust is a significant input parameter needed for estimations of water fluxes associated with descending slabs and for estimates of the amount of water reaching beyond the zone of arc volcanism into deeper parts of the mantle.

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The hydration of the oceanic crust is difficult to constrain and quantify. Marine sediments covering the seafloor often limit the access to the underlying igneous oceanic crust. Furthermore, low core recoveries with depth are common, thus limiting samples to be obtained from the entire lithological sequence of the oceanic crust (Alt et al., 1996). Sonic-velocity and direct measurements of the water content from DSDP/ODP boreholes are rare and mostly restricted to shallow depths of the first 1-2 km and exposed ophiolite sequences. According to available data, the bulk water content of the oceanic crust varies from 1 to 8 wt.% H₂O in the upper oceanic crust (volcanics and sheeted dikes) and from 0.1 to 0.5 wt.% H₂O in the lower gabbroic oceanic crust (Agrinier et al., 1995a; Agrinier et al., 1995b; Alt et al., 1996; Godard et al., 2009; Kawahata et al., 1987; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011; Staudigel et al., 1996). Although gabbro makes up ~ 6 km of the oceanic lithological stratigraphy, the upper 1-2 km of the oceanic crust accounts for 70-85% of its total water budget assuming a total crustal thickness of ~ 8 km (Bown and White, 1994). This significant contribution of the upper oceanic crust to the total water budget of the oceanic crust highlights the need to carefully evaluate and quantify the processes controlling the water uptake alteration at low (<50°C) to geothermal temperatures (>400°C).

The alteration of the oceanic crust has been previously constrained by chemical and isotope data coupled with geochemical modeling. Particularly, hydrogen isotopes have been

extensively applied to trace geothermal fluid origins and the degree of rock alteration and hydration (e.g., Agrinier et al., 1995a; Agrinier et al., 1995b; Kawahata et al., 1987; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011). The formation and abundance of hydrous secondary minerals controlling the water content of the oceanic crust may be affected by several processes such as extent of fluid-rock interaction, temperature and fluid composition. Hence, the extent of alteration and hydration, i.e., the formation and abundance of hydrous minerals upon alteration of the oceanic crust, is controlled by the crustal thermal gradients for on-rift and off-rift regions to 8 km depths that in turn depend on the thickness and type of lithological units as well as the age of the oceanic crust (Alt et al., 1996; Grose and Afonso, 2013; Heft et al., 2008). Yet, only a few studies have considered the impact of temperature and extent of fluid-rock reactions on the formation and abundance of alteration minerals in their model approaches (e.g., Bowers and Taylor, 1985; Kyser and O'Neil, 1984).

Here, we quantify alteration and hydration processes occurring in the upper part of the Icelandic crust using three geothermal systems hosted in dominantly basaltic rocks and fed by both meteoric water and seawater. In addition, temperature in these systems is variable and ranges from <50°C to >400°C. The sample set comprises subsurface rocks, altered and hydrated to variable extent, and fluid discharges from boreholes drilled to >2500 m at Krafla (N Iceland), Reykjanes (SW Iceland) and Surtsey (S Iceland). The hydrogen isotope (δD) composition of both fluids and rocks along with bulk rock water contents were combined with geochemical and isotope modeling approaches to unravel the various processes controlling crustal hydration and its hydrogen isotope composition. As the Icelandic crust has several characteristics common to oceanic crust including primary lithologies and secondary mineralogy, our results were further expanded to constrain the hydration state of the oceanic crust and its respective δD composition. Therefore, our findings form an important basis for

estimates of the subducted water flux and corresponding δD values as the descending oceanic crust enters subduction zones.

2. Geological setting

Iceland exhibits the only mid-oceanic ridge on Earth that exposes a largely submarine rift on land. Even though the Icelandic crust exhibits unusually thick extrusive sections (>2000 m) and differs chemically from defined MORB (Óskarsson et al., 1982), it has been repeatedly used as an analogue to the oceanic crust for example for primary lithologies and geothermal activity to study hydrothermal circulation, alteration processes, crustal construction and magma evolution taking place elsewhere along submarine sections of the ridge (e.g., Lonker et al., 1993; Marks et al., 2011; Óskarsson et al., 1982). Iceland's lithology is dominated by basalts with some silicic volcanics and volcaniclastic sediments also being present (Sæmundsson, 1979). Geothermal activity occurs over a wide temperature range (<10 to >400 °C) (Stefánsson et al., 2017), resulting in low-grade metamorphism within the crust (Kristmannsdóttir, 1979).

The present study investigates the hydrogen isotope composition of fluids and altered basalts in three active geothermal systems at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey (Fig. A.1) fed by meteoric water and seawater, respectively. Boreholes reach depths of >4 km, temperatures range from <50 to >400 °C and secondary mineral assemblages are well-constrained (Franzson et al., 2002; Sæmundsson, 1991; Stefánsson et al., 2017). Additionally, samples can be obtained as a function of both temperature and depth.

The Krafla high-temperature (100-350 °C) geothermal field is located within the ~8 km² collapsed Krafla caldera of the North Iceland Rift Zone that formed approximately 110 ka ago (Sæmundsson, 1991). The caldera is mainly filled by basaltic lavas and hyaloclastites as well as by periodically occurring rhyolites. Since 1974, 45 boreholes have been drilled into the geothermal system to depths of 985 m to 2894 m with reservoir temperatures ranging from

50°C to 440°C. A prograde hydrothermal alteration assemblage has developed with depth with the maximum grade at the epidote-actinolite zone (e.g., Sæmundsson, 1991). The alteration mineralogy of the first 200 m comprises dominantly mixed layer clays and chlorite (Table A.1). With increasing depth, chlorite, quartz, epidote, albite and calcite are among the most abundant alteration minerals. At depths >800 m actinolite becomes part of the alteration mineralogy. Geothermal fluids in Krafla originate from meteoric water and display low chloride concentrations (~50 ppm) and close to neutral pH (7.46-9.75) (e.g., Gudmundsson and Arnórsson, 2005).

The Reykjanes high-temperature geothermal field is located on the southwestern tip of the Reykjanes Peninsula. It consists of highly fractured basalt lavas and hyaloclastites that have been intruded by shallow dikes and sills (Franzson et al., 2002). Since 1956, 39 boreholes have been drilled into the geothermal system reaching depths of 1036 m to 4500 m. The reservoir temperatures range from 100°C to 420°C. Host rocks of the Reykjanes geothermal system are extensively altered by the circulating geothermal fluids. As in Krafla, a prograde hydrothermal alteration assemblage is developed with depth consisting of mixed layered clays and chlorite in the top 700 m followed by an alteration zone composed of mainly chlorite, quartz, epidote and anhydrite (Table A.1) (Franzson et al., 2002). At depths >1200 m, actinolite appears within the alteration mineral assemblage. The geothermal fluids are characterized by elevated chloride concentrations (~15900 ppm) and mildly acid pH values (~5.86) (Arnórsson, 1978) and considered to be predominantly of seawater origin with addition of some meteoric water.

The oceanic island of Surtsey forms part of the Vestmannaeyjar volcanic system off the south coast of Iceland. The volcano grew from the seafloor during explosive and effusive eruptions from 1963 to 1967 (Thorarinsson et al., 1964). Four boreholes have been drilled into the geothermal system to depths of 152 m to 354 m. Borehole water temperatures range from ~50 to 141°C (Jackson et al., 2019). The hydrothermal system at Surtsey is hosted in the tephra

and tuff deposits (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). Rapid alteration and consolidation of the basalt tephra produced palagonitic tuff and the formation of secondary minerals such as sulfates, carbonates, clays and zeolites (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). Geothermal fluids in the Surtsey submarine deposits originate exclusively from seawater that has been modified by reaction with the surrounding basalt (Ólafsson and Jakobsson, 2009). The fluids are mildly acidic (pH = 6.22-8.01) and Cl concentrations (~19500 ppm) are similar to those measured in seawater.

3. Materials and methods

3.1. Hydrogen isotope analyses and water contents of bulk rock samples

Bulk rock samples were collected from drill cuttings from the geothermal systems at Krafla and Reykjanes and a continuous drill core from Surtsey. Samples from well number KG-25 at Krafla, RN-10 at Reykjanes and SE-2B and SE-3 at Surtsey were taken at approximately 50 m depth intervals from the top to the bottom and from each of the different alteration zones encountered in the boreholes. The total depths and reservoir temperatures in the boreholes are 2105 m and 100-350°C in KG-25 at Krafla, 2054 m and 100-320°C in RN-10 at Reykjanes, and 192 m to 354 m and 25-130°C in SE-2B and SE-3 at Surtsey, respectively.

The hydrogen isotope ratios of bulk rock samples were analyzed at University of Texas at Austin by continuous-flow mass spectrometry using a ThermoElectron TC/EA (high temperature conversion elemental analyzer) equipped with a Costech zero-blank autosampler coupled to a ThermoElectron MAT 253 isotope ratio mass spectrometer (IRMS) following the procedure described by Sharp et al. (2001). The bulk rock samples were milled to fine powder (<70 μm) in an agate mill. Approximately 2 mg of sample were enclosed into silver foil capsules, dried under vacuum at 70 °C for 24 h and then immediately transferred to the autosampler and flushed with He gas. Five internationally referenced and certified standard materials (IAEA-CH7, NBS-22, NBS-30, USGS-57, USGS-58) and one in-house working

glass standard were analyzed along with the samples. The raw δD values were corrected for instrumental drift and then the unknowns were normalized to the SMOW scale using the standards IAEA-CH7, NBS-22, USGS-57, and USGS-58. Measured δD values of standards did not vary with sample size and the total peak areas of all unknowns were within the linear range of this IRMS. Error based on reproducibility of standards in the analytical runs was $\pm 3\%$. Water contents (wt.% H_2O) were calculated based on the sample peak area and the weight for each replicate compared to the standard NBS-30, USGS-57, and USGS-58. A total of 112 individual unknown aliquots, i.e., 56 samples, were analyzed for this study. Hydrogen isotope (δD) values reported in the main text are the mean of two individual replicate analyses. We note that drill cutting samples might be potentially biased towards more resistant alteration minerals with preferential loss of less resistant minerals such as clays (Fowler and Zierenberg, 2016). Thus, measured water contents in drill cuttings from Krafla and Reykjanes most likely represent minimum values for bulk rock water contents for the Icelandic crust.

3.2. Fluid sampling and analyses

Fluid samples were collected from well discharges at the surface at Krafla and Reykjanes. These consisted of liquid and vapor that were separated using a Webre separator followed by sampling of the different phases (Arnórsson et al., 2006). The geothermal boreholes are cased to few hundred meters depth to prevent shallow non-thermal groundwater inflow and the fluid flow rate is very high, corresponding to a few minutes from the reservoir to the surface. Consequently, it is generally considered that such high-temperature surface well discharges like at Krafla and Reykjanes represent the reservoir fluid compositions at depth. Also, as the total fluid discharge relative to the geothermal reservoir volume is very low, the chemical composition of high-temperature geothermal well discharges typically stays unchanged for decades (e.g., Arnórsson et al., 2007).

Fluid sampling at Surtsey was carried out using a bailer sampler that was lowered to the desired sampling depths in borehole SE-3. An experimental and measuring device occupies borehole SE-2B making it unavailable for water sampling.

Liquid and vapor samples were collected into 25 mL amber glass bottles with air-tight caps. High-temperature liquid and vapor samples were cooled and condensed using an in-line cooling coil prior sampling. To the samples, 1% Zn-acetate solution was added to remove any dissolved sulfide that may potentially interfere with the analysis. The precipitates formed were subsequently filtered off using 0.2 μ m filter (cellulose acetate). Hydrogen (δ D) and oxygen (δ 18O) isotope analyses of water samples were carried out using a Thermo Delta V Advantage IRMS at University of Iceland after equilibration with the appropriated gas mixture and a Ti catalysis in the case of hydrogen isotopes. Following the reactions, the gas mixture was cleaned in line using water traps and a gas chromatography (GC) column followed by analysis on the IRMS. Each sample was measured ten times and the average of eight was used to calculate the respective isotope value. Oxygen and hydrogen isotope ratios are reported in standard delta notation (∞) relative to VSMOW. The final values were corrected for the presence of Znacetate added to the samples prior to analysis. The analytical precision was based on long term analyses of the standard and was within <1.0% for δ D and <0.1% for δ 18O.

3.3. Chemical and isotope modeling

The extent of hydration and the δD and $\delta^{18}O$ values of altered basalt and secondary minerals are controlled by a combination of fluid sources (e.g., meteoric water, seawater, or a mixture thereof) and geothermal processes (e.g., fluid-rock interaction, fluid phase separation). To quantify the effects of these various sources and processes associated with alteration and hydration of the Icelandic crust on δD and $\delta^{18}O$ ratios, geochemical and isotope modeling was conducted using PHREEQC (Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999), WATCH (Bjarnason, 2010) and

IsoGem programs (Stefánsson et al., 2017). The modeling scenarios conducted included: (1) fluid-rock interaction as a function of extent of reaction, fluid source and temperature and (2) fluid phase relations, including mixing and fluid phase separation. Calculation details, input data and isotope fractionation factors are given in Appendix A.

Briefly, the fluid-rock interaction modelling included conventional titration reaction path simulations in which basaltic rock was allowed to react in steps with water of meteoric, seawater origin or mixture thereof. Saturated secondary minerals in each step were allowed to precipitate. The secondary minerals included in the calculations were those commonly observed in geothermal systems in Iceland at variable temperatures (Kristmannsdóttir, 1979). Bulk rock water contents were calculated from the predicted modal abundance of hydrous minerals and the initial water content of the residual fresh basalt that remained in each reaction step. Chemical and isotope equilibrium were assumed for all calculations. The effects of fluid phase separation (boiling) and cooling was further modeled. Geothermal fluids of meteoric and seawater origin were allowed to boil upon pressure decrease from the reservoir temperature to 100 °C and cool at temperatures <100 °C. For these calculations, secondary minerals were allowed to form when saturated.

4. Results

4.1. Hydrogen isotope ratios and water contents of altered basalts

The water content and δD values of altered bulk rocks collected from drill cores and cuttings as a function of depth from Krafla (well KG-25), Reykjanes (well RN-10) and Surtsey (borehole SE-2B and SE-3) are reported in Table A.1 and shown in Figure 1. The water content of the samples ranged from 0.5 to 4.2 wt.% H₂O and 2.2 to 4.1 wt.% H₂O at Krafla and Reykjanes, respectively. Water contents of samples from Surtsey ranged from 6.4 to 9.1 wt.% H₂O with lowest water contents measured toward the bottom of the boreholes. δD values of

altered basalts from Krafla which is fed by meteoric water (e.g., Stefánsson *et al.*, 2017) ranged from -125 to -96‰ (Fig. 1). In contrast, at Reykjanes where the geothermal system is fed by seawater (e.g., Pope *et al.*, 2014), the corresponding δD values ranged from -80 to -59‰. At Surtsey, a geothermal system also fed by seawater, δD values of altered basalts were similar to those obtained from Reykjanes and ranged from -78 to -46‰. For both the Krafla and Reykjanes geothermal systems, the water content was found to decrease and δD values became progressively less negative with increasing depth (Fig. A.2) which is accompanied with a decrease in degree of alteration and abundance of secondary hydrous minerals in the rock (Table A.1).

4.2. Hydrogen and oxygen isotope ratios of geothermal fluids

The measured δD and $\delta^{18}O$ values in fluids at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey are reported in Table A.2 and shown in Figures 1 and A.3. At Krafla, δD values of the well discharge ranged from -80.9 to -83.3% and -82.5 to -89.9% and $\delta^{18}O$ values ranged from -8.2 to -11.2% and -10.5 to -13.1% for the liquid and vapor phases, respectively. At Reykjanes, δD values of the well discharge ranged from -12.2 to -22.5% and -23.8 to -27.8% and $\delta^{18}O$ values ranged from -0.3 to -3.0% and -3.2 to -4.0% for the liquid and vapor phases, respectively. Based on these data, the total reservoir fluid discharge δD and $\delta^{18}O$ values were calculated from the expression, $\delta_i^{\text{total}} = X^{\nu} \delta_i^{\nu} + (1 - X^{\nu}) \delta_i^{\text{lq}}$ where ν and ν and ν are vapor and liquid phases and ν is the vapor fraction at sampling. The vapor fraction was calculated with the WATCH program assuming liquid only reservoir and adiabatic boiling to the sampling conditions. The total discharge values were taken to represent the reservoir values. The ν 0 values ranged from -88.9 to -82.3% and -23.1 to -14.9% and the ν 18O values ranged from -11.5 to -8.6% and -3.2 to -1.0% for the total discharge at Krafla and Reykjanes, respectively. At Surtsey, fluids in borehole SE-3 occur

only in the liquid phase. δD and $\delta^{18}O$ values ranged from +2.1 to +4.3‰ and +0.3 to +0.6‰, respectively.

4.3. Modeling

Geochemical and isotope modelling was applied to quantify the alteration process of basalts by geothermal fluids (see Appendix A for details). The water content of fresh Icelandic basalts is \sim 0.1 to 0.5 wt.% (Nichols et al., 2002). Upon alteration by geothermal fluids the water content of the bulk rock increased due to formation of hydrous secondary minerals, and according to our model results, reached a maximum of \sim 9.1 wt.% H₂O at low temperatures (<150 °C) and \sim 4.2 wt.% H₂O at elevated temperatures (>200 °C) after complete (100%) alteration of the basalt. The predominant source of hydrogen of the hydrated basalts was found to be the aqueous fluid with insignificant juvenile water composition except at very low degree of alteration (Figs. 2 and A.4).

Our model demonstrates that the origin of hydrogen in fresh basalt will shift instantly from a juvenile to a meteoric or seawater fluid source upon water-rock interaction (Fig. 2). Thus, the δD value of the basalt changed almost immediately from the value of the unaltered rock of -80±10‰ (typical Icelandic basalt) (Martin et al., 2017) to that of the hydrous secondary minerals in isotopic equilibrium with the hydrothermal fluids (Fig. 3). With progressive alteration, the δD value of the geothermal fluid became slightly less negative as the light hydrogen isotope preferably fractionates into the newly formed secondary minerals.

Fluid phase separation (boiling) and formation of vapor and liquid water is common in geothermal systems (e.g., Hayba and Ingebritsen, 1997). Modeling of phase separation of geothermal fluids of meteoric water and seawater origin using WATCH and PHREEQC revealed that minor quantities of hydrous minerals were predicted to form upon boiling of such fluids. Consequently, the water content and δD values of the bulk altered rock remained

unchanged (Fig. A.6). However, the δD values of the vapor and liquid phases formed may significantly differ from the bulk fluid composition, with the vapor phase becoming isotopically more negative and the boiled liquid phase isotopically less negative relative to the geothermal reservoir fluid.

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5. Discussion

5.1. The Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey analogues and comparison with the model results The studied sample set derives from boreholes where temperatures span a wide range of 180 to 340°C in the meteoric water-fed geothermal system at Krafla, 250 to 310°C in the seawaterdominated geothermal system at Reykjanes and 50 to 130°C in the seawater-fed geothermal system at Surtsey (Table A.1). The boreholes penetrate the Icelandic crust from shallow depths (<260 m) at Surtsey to depths of >2000 m in Krafla and Reykjanes. This range in temperatures and depths makes these localities ideal to investigate the effects of source fluid and the extent of alteration of basalts on its water content and hydrogen isotope composition. The data obtained from hydrated crustal rocks at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey were compared to chemical and isotope modeling results. The modeling was based on the approach from Stefánsson et al. (2017) and is described in Appendix A. The model reproduced the values observed in drill cuttings and core from the studied geothermal fields (Fig. 4). Hence, the comparison between modelled and natural values revealed that the water content and δD variations of the altered basalts are controlled by (1) the isotope composition of the source fluid; (2) the equilibrium isotope fractionation between the aqueous fluids and the alteration minerals formed; and (3) the type and quantity (mass) of secondary minerals formed. These factors in turn depend on temperature and extent or progress of fluid-rock interaction.

The influence of the isotope composition of the source fluid on the δD value of altered basalt is demonstrated by the interaction of meteoric water with basalt at Krafla which resulted

in δD values significantly more negative (-125 to -120%) than at Reykjanes (-60 to -75%) and Surtsey (-78 to -45‰) where the source fluid primarily derives from a seawater-meteoric water mixture or solely from seawater, respectively (e.g., Arnórsson, 1978; Ólafsson and Jakobsson, 2009). The δD values measured in altered basalt from Reykjanes and Surtsey do not differ much despite substantially different temperatures and alteration mineralogy in the geothermal systems (Fig. A.5, Table A.1). This is likely due to the large abundance of zeolites and Fe-rich clays in drill cores from Surtsey. Isotope fractionation between these minerals and aqueous fluids are reported to be large (see Table A.4). Thus, the presence of zeolites and Fe-rich clays results in more negative δD values in the altered bulk rock than the values predicted for altered basalt containing Mg-rich clays and limited amounts of zeolite (Fig. 4). Water contents of altered basalt also depend on the type and quantity of hydrous secondary minerals. For example, the water contents measured in altered basalts at both Krafla and Reykjanes are of similar range (Fig. 1). According to both modeling results (Fig. A.5) and natural observations (Table A.1) (Franzson et al., 2002; Sæmundsson, 1991), this is likely due to the occurrence of the same types of hydrous minerals in these settings. At Surtsey, water contents of altered basalt are significantly higher (up to 9.1 wt.%). The modeling results (Figs. 4 and A.4) and natural observations (Table A.1) show that hydrous minerals such as clays and zeolites are the most abundant secondary mineral phases forming upon low-temperature alteration. These minerals carry significant amounts of water in their crystal lattice and are thus responsible for increased water contents in basalts altered at low temperatures. Note, that Surtsey basalt contains a large proportion of glassy components at the initiation of alteration (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). The reaction rates and ultimate hydration of basaltic glasses are faster than those of crystalline basalt (e.g., Oelkers and Gislason, 2001; Gislason and Oelkers, 2003; Gudbrandsson et al., 2011) resulting in higher water contents in Surtsey samples relative to crystalline basalt of similar age and composition containing only minor amounts of glassy components.

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In summary, comparison of the modelling results with natural datasets from Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey (Fig. 4) shows that our model simulations can predict and reproduce the secondary minerals forming upon alteration and hydration of a representative Icelandic basalt over a range of temperatures and fluid source (i.e., meteoric versus seawater). The predicted secondary mineral assemblage agrees well with observed secondary mineralogy from the studied localities (Table A.1). Therefore, based on the abundance and type of secondary minerals, the degree of alteration, the water content as well as the isotopic signature of the altering and hydrating basalt can be assessed. The comparison of our modelling results with our data measured in Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey demonstrate that the key parameters that likely control hydrogen isotope systematics in altered crust comprise the isotopic composition of the fluid source and host rock, equilibrium isotope fractionation between minerals and fluids, temperature and extent of fluid-rock reaction. In the following, we will apply our modelling approach to a pure seawater-basalt system and aim to constrain hydration processes taking place in the oceanic crust.

5.2. Implications for hydration of the oceanic crust

The hydration and alteration of the oceanic crust is generally difficult to constrain as available sonic-velocity and direct measurements of the water content from DSDP/ODP boreholes are rare. Here, we apply our model to constrain the water uptake and hydrogen isotope compositions of the basaltic oceanic crust upon alteration by seawater. Published δD values of altered basalt retrieved from the upper part of the oceanic crust (~1-2 km) show overlapping values of -41±12.3‰ (n=34) in the volcanics (Kawahata et al., 1987; Shilobreeva et al., 2011), -41±7.8‰ (n=46) in the sheeted dikes (Agrinier et al., 1995a; Agrinier et al., 1995b; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011) and -44±6.8‰ (n=7) in the gabbros (Shilobreeva et al., 2011). The corresponding water content of altered basalt from the oceanic crust is reported to

be 1.6 ± 1.3 wt.% H_2O (n=34) in the volcanics (Kawahata et al., 1987; Shilobreeva et al., 2011), 1.6 ± 0.6 wt.% H_2O (n=46) in the sheeted dikes (Agrinier et al., 1995a; Agrinier et al., 1995b; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011) and 0.8 ± 0.1 wt.% H_2O (n=7) in the gabbros (Shilobreeva et al., 2011). Comparison of model results with the natural data shows that such range of values is explained by alteration and hydration of basalts by seawater at low (<50 °C) to geothermal temperatures (>300 °C) (Fig. 5). With increasing temperature and extent of alteration, water contents in basalt may increase to >5.0 wt.%, whereas, δD values increase to values of >-30‰. Even in relatively unaltered basalt, δD values deviate considerably from fresh MORB and the δD values in altered basalt are expected to almost immediately shift toward more positive values regardless of the low degree of alteration in the rock. This is due to initial low water contents of basalt compared to the amount of hydrogen in seawater.

To investigate the water uptake of the oceanic crust upon alteration, the water content and isotopic composition of an entire crustal sequence was constrained along typical thermal gradients through young (<10 Ma) and old (>100 Ma) oceanic crust (Fig. 6). Details on the thermal gradients and information on porosities, type of secondary minerals, water content and hydrogen isotope composition of unaltered basalt and gabbro used in the calculations are given in Appendix A. The calculations were carried out for various alteration degrees of the crust (10-100%) (Fig. 6, Tables A.5 and A.6). The Monte Carlo method for error propagation (Anderson, 1976) was applied to calculate the uncertainties of wt.% H_2O and δD values. The uncertainty on the water content is ± 0.3 wt.% and the uncertainty on the δD values is $\pm 6\%$ with the potential main sources of error deriving from reported variations in water content and δD values of MORB (Kyser and O'Neil, 1984; Michael, 1995) and limits in the availability of hydrogen isotope fractionation factors between water and hydrous minerals.

In young (<10 Ma) oceanic crust, at shallow depths (<1 km) and low temperatures (<150°C), hydration is expected to be highest due to easy accessibility of seawater through

highly porous rocks (Johnson and Pruis, 2003) and presence of hydrous minerals such as zeolites, clays, and chlorite. Under these conditions, water contents may reach 1.0 to 8.3 wt.% H₂O and δD values range from -60±6 to -25±6‰ depending on temperature and extent of alteration of the rock (Fig. 6). At elevated temperatures >200 °C and depths of >1-2 km, the most common hydrous minerals include chlorite, epidote and amphibole. Basalt alteration under these conditions would result in hydration corresponding to 0.7 to 4.2 wt.% H₂O and δD values ranging from -60 to -34%. With increasing depth (>2 km), water contents and δD values are expected to range from 0.4 to 2.2 wt.% and -60 to -41%, respectively, depending on the extent of alteration of the gabbroic layer. As seawater infiltration becomes limited with depth due to compaction and closure of pore space, it is likely that water contents and δD values will eventually reflect the values of the unaltered gabbro with increasing depth. Comparison of modeling results with published values on the water content and δD values from the lithological layers of the oceanic crust revealed that alteration is typically least extensive <5-15% in the volcanic section but becomes progressively more extensive with increasing temperature and depth with 25-75% in the sheeted dikes and <40% in the uppermost part of the gabbroic layer (Fig. 6).

Water content and δD values in old (>100 Ma) oceanic crust remain difficult to constrain due to the lack of natural data. The only reported δD values derive from composites (Alt, 2003) where samples are combined for specific depth intervals at a scale of tens to hundreds of meters. Such samples are unfortunately not eligible for comparison with our model. Coogan et al. (2019) reported that $\delta^{18}O$ values of altered basalts from the volcanic section become progressively more positive with crustal age. A similar shift toward more positive δD values would be expected for all lithological sequences as the breakdown of high-temperature hydrous minerals (amphibole, epidote) results in the enrichment of deuterium in the forming hydrous low-temperature minerals (chlorite, clays) based on reported equilibrium

isotope fractionation factors (Table A.4). Water contents are expected to increase in the previously least altered sections of the crust due to progressive alteration upon aging. For example, water contents measured in the volcanic sequence (<600 m) of old igneous oceanic crust cluster at 2.1±1.6 wt.% H₂O (n = 129) (Floyd and Castillo, 1992; Staudigel et al., 1996) which is significantly higher than water contents measured in young oceanic crust at similar depths (Fig. 6). Such values would correspond to a crust altered by 10 to 50% according to our model when adjusted to a colder geotherm (Table A.6). More extreme alteration is probably limited due to the closure of pore space upon continuous secondary mineral formation and extensive sedimentation onto the igneous basement. We highlight that simulating late stage alteration of old oceanic crust remains a challenge due to the lack of data that could be used for verification of our model. Later overprints are likely to change the petrological and chemical composition of the oceanic crust, in particular with respect to its hydration.

Using the constraints on isotope and water content outlined above, the water flux to young (<10 Ma) and old (>100 Ma) oceanic crust can be calculated (Fig. 7). The water flux to young oceanic crust can be estimated knowing its uptake by seawater-rock interaction, amount of porewater and the production rate of the oceanic crust (for details see Appendix A). The annual water uptake of the young oceanic igneous crust upon alteration was calculated to be $1400-1650~Tg~H_2O/yr$ with a δD value clustering at $-55\pm6\%$ (Tables 1 and A.7). These estimates on water fluxes and isotope composition for young oceanic crust differ significantly from previously reported water fluxes (575 to 1150 Tg H₂O/yr) (Ito et al., 1983; Staudigel et al., 1996) and δD values (-60%) (Giggenbach, 1992). These discrepancies arise because porewater has not been considered in the previously reported estimates. Excluding the porewater component from our calculations would drive the water flux (560 to 790 Tg H₂O/yr) and δD ($-57\pm1\%$) estimates of the oceanic crust to values similar to those reported by Ito et al. (1983), Staudigel et al. (1996) and Giggenbach (1992), respectively.

Based on the water uptake by seawater-rock interaction and amount of porewater in old (>100 Ma) oceanic crust (Tables 1 and A.7), the water flux for igneous oceanic crust that enters subduction trenches was calculated to be $610\text{-}1240\,\mathrm{Tg}\,\mathrm{H_2O/yr}$ (Fig. 8, Table 1). Our calculated values fall into a similar range – although wider – as most recent estimates of 920-930 Tg H₂O/yr (Hacker, 2008; Jarrard, 2003). Departures from our estimates may derive from differences in the assumption of crustal thickness, void volume and/or the initial water contents. Importantly, the seawater uptake within the upper 2 km of the oceanic crust accounts for almost 50% of the total water budget of the oceanic crust. This implies that the water uptake is most effective at relatively low temperatures (<200 °C) and shallow depths. Hence, low-temperature alteration and hydration of the oceanic crust might play a significant role in increasing the water budget of the aging and cooling oceanic crust.

5.3. Implications for the deep water cycle

As the descending slab reaches greater depths, almost all porewater is assumed to be released to the accretionary prism and/or the forearc upon compaction and pore space reduction (Fig. 7) (Jarrard, 2003). Thus, by taking the water fluxes from sediments and igneous crust expelled to the forearc from Jarrard (2003), the amount of water carried by the igneous crust beyond the forearc region is calculated to range from 270 to 910 Tg H_2O/yr (Fig. 7). This water flux agrees with the most recent estimates of 460 to 630 Tg H_2O/yr at a similar depth (Hacker, 2008; Jarrard, 2003; Rüpke et al., 2004; van Keken et al., 2011). Furthermore, this is a higher flux of water than estimates for sediments of 70-160 Tg H_2O/yr (Bebout, 1995; Hacker, 2008; Jarrard, 2003; Peacock, 1990; van Keken et al., 2011) and mantle of 120-570 Tg H_2O/yr (Hacker, 2008; Rüpke et al., 2004; van Keken et al., 2011). The bulk δD value of the subducted igneous crust at this depth (~100 km) is calculated to range from ~ -60 to -50‰.

Hacker (2008) and van Keken et al. (2011) showed that 60-80 % of water would be released by dehydration reactions from the oceanic crust and overlying sediments to the mantle wedge triggering the formation of magmas. Based on the isotope fractionation factors between mineral-water pairs (e.g., amphibole-water, chlorite-water) at temperatures >500 °C (Table A.4) the isotopic signature of such water released from the subducted oceanic crust would result in δD values of \sim -35 to -10 ‰. This agrees remarkably well with measured δD values of high-temperature and fumarolic gases released from arc volcanoes that indicate an isotope value for primary magmatic water of -33 to -10‰ (e.g., Giggenbach, 1992; Taran and Zelenski, 2015).

Assuming 60-80% dehydration of the oceanic igneous crust upon subduction, 55-360 Tg H₂O/yr would be further transported to deeper depths within the mantle. According to the available dehydration models for subducting slabs (Shaw et al., 2008), the isotopic composition of such dehydrated crust would become significantly more negative with values ranging from -160 to -85%. Considering the water flux at mid-ocean ridges of \sim 20 H₂O Tg/yr (Hirschmann and Kohlstedt, 2012), our results are therefore consistent with water enrichment in the Earth's mantle over a geological timescale (e.g., Parai and Mukhopadhyay, 2012). Moreover, our results demonstrate that the water accumulating in the deep mantle is likely to display more negative hydrogen isotope values relative to the upper mantle. This is supported by unusually negative δ D values (down to -120%) measured in melt inclusions from Hawaii suggesting recycling of subduction slabs in the mantle (e.g., Hauri, 2002). However, this subject remains somewhat speculative as the water storage capacity in the mantle is limited and evaluating the amount of water needed to change the isotope composition of the mantle is beyond the scope of this paper.

6. Conclusion

The hydration state of the Icelandic crust and corresponding hydrogen isotope systematics were constrained using quantitative geochemical and isotope modeling, hydrogen and oxygen isotope compositions and water contents, of well constrained altered basalt from the hydrothermal systems Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey, Iceland. The comparison of the natural datasets from Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey with results from the modelling revealed that hydration and hydrogen isotopic variations of basalt are controlled by (1) the isotope composition of the source fluid, (2) isotope fractionation between the aqueous fluids and the alteration minerals formed, and (3) the type and quantity of alteration minerals formed. These factors in turn depend on the extent of fluid-rock reaction and temperature. Subsequently, the same modelling approach was applied to a pure seawater-basalt system and verified with available data on δD isotope values measured in the oceanic crust. The comparison confirmed that our simulations could be further applied to a hydration model of the oceanic crust. Quantification of the water uptake of the oceanic crust was based on the natural dataset from Reykjanes (a seawater-dominated hydrothermal system) as well as on literature data on hydrogen isotope systematics and water content in the upper part of the oceanic crust (~1-2 km), thermal gradients of the oceanic crust and rate of crustal generation at mid-ocean ridge settings. Upon seawater-induced alteration 1400 to 1650 Tg H₂O/yr is added to the igneous oceanic crust. Most porewater and structurally bound water is hosted by the upper part of the oceanic crust (<2 km). Such hydrated crust would have a δD values of $\sim -55\pm6\%$. Upon subduction and dehydration of the oceanic crust 80-90% will be released to the arc crust and mantle wedge. The water flux from this almost completely dehydrated descending oceanic crust to deeper levels in the mantle would comprise 55-360 Tg H₂O/yr. Such dehydrated crust would have a δD value of \sim -160 to -85%. Since the water flux is comparatively low at midocean ridges (Hirschmann and Kohlstedt, 2012), subduction of hydrated oceanic crust might

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ultimately enrich the water content in the mantle and consequently decrease its hydrogen 520 isotopic composition. 521 522 Acknowledgements 523 This project was financially supported by NordVulk, the International Continental Scientific 524 Drilling Program (ICDP) through a grant to the SUSTAIN project, and the Icelandic Research 525 526 Fund (project number: 163083-051). SAH acknowledges support from the Icelandic Research Fund (project number: 196139-051). HS Orka and Landsvirkjun kindly provided access to the 527 528 drill cuttings. J. Cullen, T. Larson, R. Ólafsdóttir and Á.E. Sveinbjörnsdóttir are thanked for assistance during sample preparation and data acquisition. We thank four anonymous reviewers 529 for their constructive comments and suggestions to an earlier version of this manuscript. Louis 530 Derry is thanked for careful editorial handling of this study. 531 532 References 533 Agrinier, P., Hékinian, R., Bideau, D., Javoy, M. (1995a) O and H stable isotope compositions 534 of oceanic crust and upper mantle rocks exposed in the Hess Deep near the Galapagos Triple 535 Junction. Earth and Planetary Science Letters 136, 183-196. https://doi.org/10.1016/0012-536 821X(95)00159-A 537 538 Agrinier, P., Laverne, C., Tartarotti, P. (1995b) Stable isotope ratios (oxygen, hydrogen) and petrology of hydrothermally altered dolerites at the bottom of the sheeted dike complex of Hole 539 504B, Proceedings of the Ocean Drilling Program, Scientific Results, pp. 99-106. 540 Alt, J.C. (2003) Stable isotopic composition of upper oceanic crust formed at a fast spreading 541 ridge, ODP Site 801. Geochemistry, 4, 542 Geophysics, Geosystems 1-11.

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Figure and table captions

Figure 1. (A) Water content (in wt.% H_2O) of altered basalts from the geothermal systems at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey. Water contents for Icelandic fresh basalt are taken from Nichols et al. (2002). (B) δD values of altered basalts from the geothermal systems at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey. Values of fresh Icelandic basalt are taken from Martin et al. (2017). (C) δD values of liquid and vapor phases of geothermal fluids discharged from the geothermal systems at Krafla, Reykjanes and Surtsey. Values for meteoric water and seawater are taken from Stefánsson et al. (2017). MW = meteoric water, SW = seawater.

Figure 2. Modelled progress of alteration and source fraction of hydrogen as a function of bulk water content (wt.% H₂O) of hydrated and residual fresh basalt. (A) and (B) Fluid-induced alteration is accompanied by the formation of hydrous secondary minerals resulting in a linear relationship between degree of alteration and water content as soon hydrous minerals start to form. This relationship is rather insensitive to changes in temperature and type of reacting fluid (meteoric water or seawater). However, differences in the modal abundance of chlorite and zeolites at low temperatures (<150°C) may strongly affect the water content of the basalt with progressive alteration. (C) and (D) The source fraction of hydrogen in the altered basalt. With progressing hydration and alteration of the basalt, the hydrothermal fluid (either of meteoric or seawater origin) would become the dominant source of hydrogen to the system. All presented calculations were carried out using an initial water content of 0.2 wt.% H₂O for the reacting basalt. Changing the initial water content of basalt to higher values would shift the curves to

the right, however there will not be any effects on their topology. Water contents for Icelandic basalt are taken from Nichols et al. (2002). MW-BAS = meteoric water-rock interaction, SW-BAS = seawater-rock interaction.

Figure 3. Simulated δD values of fluids, hydrous minerals and bulk rock upon progressive fluid-rock interaction in both seawater (A-D) and meteoric water (E and F) hydrothermal systems at various temperatures. Changes in the δD value of the bulk rock will occur rapidly upon hydration. This is due to the relatively high abundance of hydrogen in the fluid phase compared to the water content of Icelandic basalt. Water contents and δD values for Icelandic basalt are taken from Nichols et al. (2002) and Martin et al. (2017), respectively. MW-BAS = meteoric water-rock interaction, SW-BAS = seawater-rock interaction.

Figure 4. Comparison of simulated reaction pathways with δD values and water contents of altered basalt from the geothermal fields at Krafla, Reykjanes (A) and Surtsey (B). Reaction pathways have been calculated using equations A-1 and A-10. Isotopic values of the bulk rock at Reykjanes can be simulated by envisioning mixing of modern local meteoric water and seawater and subsequent interaction with basalt with a mixing ratio of seawater to meteoric water of 80:20. Samples from the uppermost part of the drill hole deviate from our modelled reaction pathways. It is likely that at shallow depths the seawater-meteoric water ratio is slightly lower due to a more significant meteoric water source. Decreasing the mixing ratio results in a shift of the reaction curves towards more negative isotope values of the bulk rock. Water contents and δD values for Icelandic basalt are taken from Nichols et al. (2002) and Martin et al. (2017), respectively. MW = meteoric water, SW = seawater.

Figure 5. Comparison of modelled reaction pathways for seawater-basalt interaction with reported water content and δD values of the upper part of the oceanic crust (\sim 1-2 km) including volcanics, sheeted dikes and gabbros (Agrinier et al., 1995a; Agrinier et al., 1995b; Kawahata et al., 1987; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011). The reaction pathways were calculated based on reported mineral abundances of young altered oceanic crust (e.g., Alt et al., 1996) using equations A-1 and A-10. Values of water content and δD for MOR basalts were taken from Michael (1995) and Kyser and O'Neil (1984), respectively.

Figure 6. Simulated secondary mineral assemblage, water contents and δD values throughout an entire section of the oceanic crust assuming alteration of 10%, 25%, 50%, 75% and 100% (see from Table A.5). Water contents and bulk rock δD were calculated along a geotherm typical for young (<10 Ma) oceanic crust using the presented modelling approach (Appendix A). Highest water contents and least negative δD values are found within the first 1 km of the oceanic crust. In this part of the crust, modal abundances of clays and chlorites are highest. Most measurements of the water content and hydrogen isotope signature of the oceanic crust from ODP/DSDP correspond to a degree of alteration of <5-10% in the volcanic sequence, up to 75% in the sheeted dike sequence and 10-25% in the uppermost gabbroic section (Agrinier et al., 1995b; Kawahata et al., 1987; Kusakabe et al., 1989; Shilobreeva et al., 2011). Upon aging, water contents and δD values are expected to increase (indicated by grey arrows) due to the breakdown of high temperature hydrous minerals and continuous alterations. Closure of voids due to continuous secondary mineral formation as well as sedimentation onto the igneous basement might, however, limit the access of fresh seawater.

Figure 7. Estimated H₂O fluxes from sediments and igneous crust into subduction zones and the mantle. Corresponding hydrogen isotope values of fluids (δD_f) , sediments (δD_{sed}) , igneous

crust (δD_{ign}) and mantle (δD_{man}) (see also Tables 1 and A.7). The water fluxes in the igneous crust were calculated using water contents obtained by our modelling approach (Tables A.5 and A.6) and pore water calculated using void volumes that are representative for the oceanic crust (see Appendix A for details). Water fluxes in sediments, to the mantle, from arc volcanoes and mid-ocean ridges are taken from previous published estimates (Bebout, 1995; Fischer, 2008; Hacker, 2008; Hirschmann and Kohlstedt, 2012; Jarrard, 2003; Peacock, 1990; Rüpke et al., 2004; Shinohara, 2013; van Keken et al., 2011). δD values for sediments and igneous crust are based on the distribution of porewater ($\delta D \sim 0\%$) and structurally bound water in both sediments (Giggenbach, 1992) and igneous crust (Table A.5). Isotope values of degassing fluids upon dehydration were based on isotope fractionation of hydrous mineral-water pairs (Table A.4) at elevated temperature (>500 °C). The evolution of the δD value of the bulk rock descending beyond the back arc are based on the dehydration model of (Shaw et al., 2008). Note, that figure is not in scale.

Table 1. Estimates of water fluxes to the oceanic crust upon seawater alteration and the subducted water flux.