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1       **The Surtsey volcano geothermal system: an analogue for seawater-oceanic crust**  
2       **interaction with implications for the elemental budget of the oceanic crust**

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12 **Abstract**

13       Surtsey is a young volcanic island in the offshore extension of Iceland's southeast rift  
14 zone that grew from the seafloor during explosive and effusive eruptions in 1963-1967. In  
15 1979, a cored borehole (SE-1) was drilled to 181 m depth and in 2017 three cored boreholes  
16 (SE-2a, SE-2b and SE-3) were drilled to successively greater depths. The basaltic deposits host  
17 a low-temperature (40-141 °C) seawater-dominated geothermal system. Surtsey provides an  
18 ideal environment to study water-rock interaction processes in a young seawater geothermal  
19 system. Elemental concentrations (SiO<sub>2</sub>, B, Na, Ca, Mg, F, dissolved inorganic carbon, SO<sub>4</sub>,  
20 Cl) and isotope contents (δD, δ<sup>18</sup>O) in borehole fluids indicate that associated geothermal  
21 waters in submarine deposits originated from seawater modified by reactions with the  
22 surrounding basalt. These processes produce authigenic minerals in the basaltic lapilli tuff and  
23 a corresponding depletion of certain elements in the residual waters. Coupling of measured and  
24 modeled concentrations investigates the effect of temperature and associated abundance of  
25 authigenic minerals on chemical fluxes from and to the igneous oceanic crust during low-  
26 temperature alteration. The annual chemical fluxes calculated at 50-150 °C range from -0.01  
27 to +0.1×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> for SiO<sub>2</sub>, +0.2 to +129×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> for Ca, -129 to -0.8×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup>  
28 for Mg and -21 to +0.4×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> for SO<sub>4</sub> where negative values indicate chemical fluxes  
29 from the ocean into the oceanic crust and positive values indicate fluxes from the oceanic crust  
30 to the oceans. These flux calculations reveal that water-rock interaction at varying water-rock  
31 ratios and temperatures produces authigenic minerals that serve as important sinks of seawater-  
32 derived SiO<sub>2</sub>, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub>. In contrast, water-rock interaction accompanied by dissolution of

33 basaltic glass and primary crystal fragments, provides a significant source of Ca. Such low-  
34 temperature alteration could effectively influence the elemental budget of the oceanic igneous  
35 crust and ocean waters. The modelling provides insights into water chemistries and chemical  
36 fluxes in low-temperature MOR recharge zones. Surtsey also provides a valuable young  
37 analogue for assessing the chemical evolution of fluid discharge over the life cycles of  
38 seamounts in ridge flank systems.

## 40 **Keywords**

41 Surtsey volcano, water-rock interaction, elemental mobility, oceanic crust, ICDP, SUSTAIN

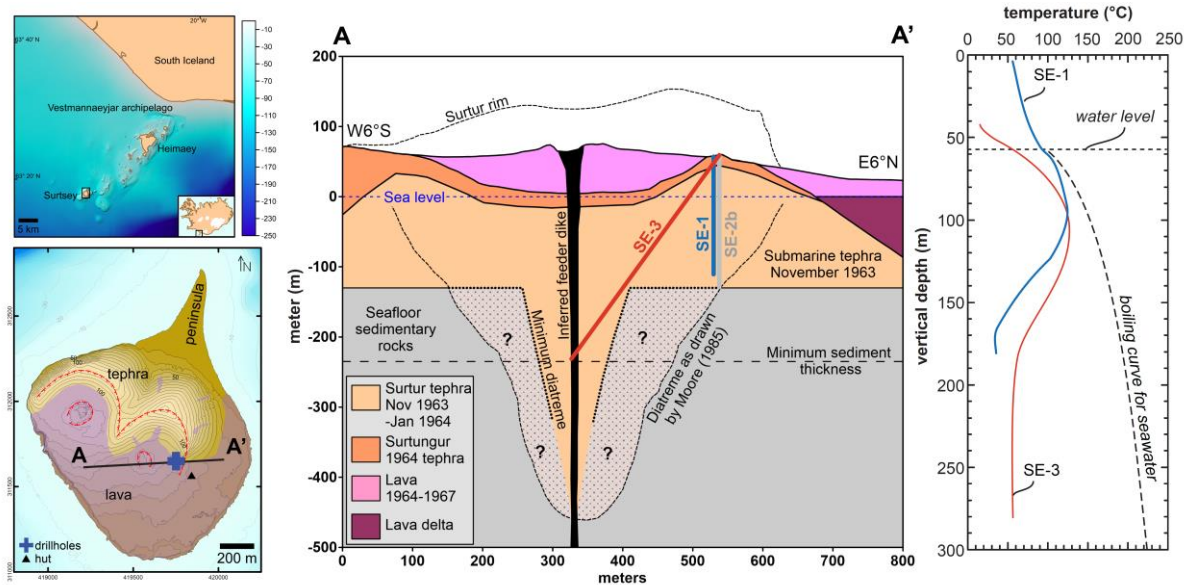
## 43 **1. Introduction**

44 The advective heat loss from the oceanic crust is greater at mid-ocean ridge (MOR) flanks than  
45 at ridge axes (Sclater et al., 1980; Stein and Stein, 1994). The large heat loss in these low-  
46 temperature environments occurs through a seawater flux in the oceanic crust of ridge flanks  
47 that is significantly larger ( $0.2\text{-}5.4\times 10^{17}$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>) than the seawater flux in ridge axes  
48 ( $\sim 0.72\times 10^{13}$  kg yr<sup>-1</sup>) (Nielsen et al., 2006). Chemical changes accompany the larger fluxes as  
49 the infiltrating seawater into the oceanic crust will ultimately interact with the surrounding  
50 rocks. Thus, the geochemistry of seawater percolating through geothermal systems within the  
51 oceanic crust is largely controlled by processes such as water-rock interaction and phase  
52 separation at varying water-rock ratios, temperatures and pressures (Allen and Seyfried Jr,  
53 2003; Bowers et al., 1988; Humphris and Klein, 2018; Von Damm, 1995). This may produce  
54 chemical fluxes with important effects on oceanic elemental budgets (Alt, 2003; Elderfield and  
55 Schultz, 1996; Huang et al., 2018; Mottl and Wheat, 1994; Sansone et al., 1998; Staudigel,  
56 2014; Wheat et al., 1996; Wheat and Mottl, 2000). These low-temperature geothermal systems  
57 may act as important sinks of seawater K, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> and sources of seawater Ca, Sr and SiO<sub>2</sub>  
58 (Wheat and Mottl, 2000). The chemistry of fluids emitted from ridge flank systems differs from  
59 vent fluids discharged at mid-ocean ridges (Kadko et al., 1994; Wheat and Mottl, 2000). The  
60 flank system fluids have higher concentrations of Mg, Sr, SO<sub>4</sub> and SiO<sub>2</sub>, whereas the  
61 concentrations of K, Ca, B and Fe are similar or lower than those measured in vent fluids.  
62 These differences highlight the importance of new investigations of other low-temperature  
63 aquifers, such as MOR recharge zones and their contribution to global elemental cycling in the  
64 oceanic crust. Moreover, the geochemistry of the fluids circulating through the igneous crust  
65 may be obscured by interactions with overlying sediments as they upwell to the seafloor (Alt,  
66 2003; James et al., 2003). Thus, chemical flux estimates for Ca, SiO<sub>2</sub>, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> may not be

67 representative of true chemical fluxes for the igneous oceanic crust in ridge flank systems. This  
68 discrepancy may lead to uncertainties in calculations of the global elemental flux to the oceans.

69 Iceland exhibits the only MOR on Earth that exposes a largely submarine rift on land.  
70 Thus, seawater dominated geothermal systems in Iceland, such as Reykjanes and Svartsengi,  
71 serve as valuable analogues for hydrothermal vent systems on the seafloor, in terms of  
72 authigenic mineralization, geothermal solutions and primary lithologies (Hannington et al.,  
73 2005; Hardardóttir et al., 2009; Hardardóttir et al., 2013; Kadko et al., 2007; Kleine et al., 2020;  
74 Kleine et al., 2018; Marks et al., 2011; Marks et al., 2015; Michard et al., 1984; Mottl and  
75 Holland, 1978). Surtsey volcano is located in the southern offshore extension of the Icelandic  
76 eastern rift zone (Einarsson, 2008; Jakobsson et al., 2009; Thorarinsson et al., 1964) (Fig. 1).  
77 It provides a unique environment for studying geothermal processes and seawater-rock  
78 interactions in low-temperature vent systems of the oceanic crust, in the range of 50-150 °C.  
79 The subsurface of the island was first explored through a 181 m cored borehole drilled in 1979,  
80 12 years after eruptions terminated (Jakobsson and Moore, 1982, 1986; Jakobsson et al., 2009).  
81 Three new cored boreholes were drilled in 2017 by the Surtsey Underwater volcanic System  
82 for Thermophiles, Alteration processes and INnovative concretes (SUSTAIN) drilling project,  
83 funded in part by the International Continental Scientific Drilling Program (ICDP) (Jackson et  
84 al., 2019b; Weisenberger et al., 2019).

85 The effects of seawater-rock interaction on the chemical compositions of water samples  
86 retrieved in 2016-2018 from the basaltic subsurface deposits from the 1979 borehole, SE-1,  
87 and an inclined 2017 borehole, SE-3, are investigated by this study (Fig. 1). Measured  
88 concentrations of SiO<sub>2</sub>, B, Na, Ca, Mg, F, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), SO<sub>4</sub> and Cl in the  
89 borehole waters acquired through downhole sampling using a bailer sampler are described.  
90 These descriptions provide a context for evaluating chemical changes in the 50-year-old  
91 Surtsey system within low-temperature MOR recharge zones. Elemental fluxes for SiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca,  
92 Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> are constrained using a geochemical reaction path modeling approach. The  
93 modeling results for the geochemistry of Surtsey waters are then compared with available data  
94 from relevant ridge flank and seamount systems. They provide further insights on the  
95 significance of MOR-related low-temperature hydrothermal systems on the global elemental  
96 budget of the oceanic crust.



97

98 **Figure 1.** Location of the 1979 borehole, SE-1, and the 2017 boreholes, SE-2b and SE-3, and  
 99 corresponding temperature profiles measured in 2017. The Surtsey subsurface observatory  
 100 occupies the SE-2b borehole (Türke et al., 2019). Water samples were collected from SE-1 in  
 101 2016 and 2017 and from SE-3 in 2018. Maps and the schematic cross section of Surtsey are  
 102 modified from Jackson et al. (2019b).

103

104 **2. The geothermal system at Surtsey and the ICDP SUSTAIN project**

105 The island of Surtsey forms the southernmost extension of the Vestmannaeyjar volcanic system  
 106 off the south coast of Iceland (Fig. 1). The island was created by explosive and effusive basaltic  
 107 eruptions from 1963 to 1967; it grew from a seafloor depth of ~130 m below sea level to a  
 108 height of 150 m above sea level (Jakobsson et al., 2009; Thorarinsson et al., 1964; Thors and  
 109 Jakousson, 1982). The approximately 1 km<sup>3</sup> of eruptive products include basaltic tuff, tephra,  
 110 and lava flows (Schipper et al., 2015; Thorarinsson et al., 1964). Basaltic intrusions and  
 111 lithified deposits of basaltic tuff and tephra host a geothermal system (Jakobsson and Moore,  
 112 1986). Thermal anomalies were first observed on the surface of Surtsey in spring 1967  
 113 (Friedman and Williams, 1970). The thermal area expanded through 1979; thereafter, tephra  
 114 consolidation to form lithified tuff may have influenced the heat flux through the surface  
 115 deposits. Temperatures measured in 1980 within the submarine sections of the cased SE-1  
 116 borehole ranged from ~40 °C at 180.3 m to 141 °C at 100-108 m measured depth. Rapid  
 117 alteration and consolidation of the basaltic tephra occurred through palagonitization processes  
 118 (Jakobsson, 1978), which produced authigenic clay minerals, zeolite, tobermorite, anhydrite,  
 119 and calcite (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). The heat in the hydrothermal system was thought to

120 have been provided by basaltic intrusions into the freshly erupted tephra (Jakobsson et al.,  
121 2000; Jakobsson and Moore, 1982, 1986; Stefánsson et al., 1985).

122 The continuously cored SE-1 borehole drilled in 1979 (Jakobsson and Moore, 1982) is  
123 thought to terminate a few meters above the pre-eruption sea floor (Fig. 1). Investigations of  
124 the 1979 drill core have provided numerous insights into the structure of the island and the  
125 rapid geothermal alteration of the tephra (Jakobsson and Moore, 1982, 1986). The three 2017  
126 cored boreholes acquired through the ICDP SUSTAIN drilling project (Jackson et al., 2019b;  
127 Weisenberger et al., 2019) include two vertical cores (SE-2a and SE-2b) drilled parallel to the  
128 SE-1 core to 152 and 192 m depth below the ground surface. An inclined borehole (SE-3) with  
129 a plunge of 55° and azimuth of 264° extended to a measured depth of 354 m beneath Surtur  
130 crater (Fig. 1), terminating about 100 m below the pre-eruption seafloor. Seawater was used as  
131 drilling fluid. All the boreholes traversed basaltic tuff (or tephra) and none traversed deposits  
132 of the pre-eruption seafloor (Jackson et al., 2019b).

133 Temperatures were recorded in the SE-1 borehole on August 8, 2017 before the  
134 initiation of SUSTAIN drilling. Temperatures were recorded in the cased SE-3 borehole on  
135 September 9, 2017, six days after drilling terminated (Jackson et al., 2019b) (Fig 1). Cooling  
136 could have occurred from seawater circulating fluid during drilling, yet temperature  
137 measurements of borehole waters obtained from SE-3 in summer 2018 gave similar results  
138 (Table 1). The temperature anomaly at about 100 m vertical depth in the SE-1 borehole has a  
139 similar form in the SE-3 borehole. No substantial sections of intrusive basalt were traversed in  
140 the 2017 drilling and, therefore, the hypothesis of Jakobsson and Moore (1986) has been  
141 partially revised to include the possibility of a broad zone of heat transfer into the upper  
142 submarine deposits from the thick lava shield that formed from 1964 to 1967 in Surtur crater  
143 (Moore and Jackson, in press). Geophysical logging of the SE-02b borehole on August 26,  
144 2017, recorded deviations in temperature, fluid and rock resistivity, the vertical pressure  
145 gradient and derived salinity in a zone between 143-150 m measured depth (Jackson et al.,  
146 2019b). This zone correlates with porous layers in the 1979 borehole that were thought to  
147 channel cool seawater into the geothermal system (Jakobsson and Moore, 1982, 1986; Ólafsson  
148 and Riley, 1978). Low temperatures in the loosely-consolidated tephra of the SE-1 borehole  
149 may therefore record this zone of seawater inflow as well as the proximity to the cool  
150 sedimentary rock of the pre-eruption seafloor. The low temperatures in the deep sub-seafloor  
151 basaltic lapilli tuff of borehole SE-3 persisted in 2018 borehole temperature measurements.  
152 They indicate that the basaltic deposits of a postulated diatreme (Jackson et al., 2019b; Moore,

153 1985; Moore and Jackson, in press) are not yet in thermal equilibrium with the cool seafloor  
154 sedimentary host rock.

155 In this study, water samples were collected along depth profiles from the SE-1 and SE-  
156 3 boreholes with the purpose of studying chemical variations in the acquired fluids. Both  
157 boreholes are fully cased with stainless steel drill pipes emplaced during drilling (Weisenberger  
158 et al., 2019). Inflow of geothermal water into the cased boreholes may occur through tephra  
159 and tuff deposits at their lowermost depths (Jackson et al., 2019b; Jakobsson and Moore, 1982).  
160 A subsurface observatory occupies borehole SE-2b (Türke et al., 2019), so it was not available  
161 for water extractions during the sampling periods. Borehole SE-2a collapsed during the drilling  
162 operations (Jackson et al., 2019b; Weisenberger et al., 2019).

163

### 164 **3. Methods**

#### 165 **3.1. Water sampling**

166 Water samples from variable depths in borehole SE-1 were collected on 6 September 2016 and  
167 on 5 September 2017, at the termination of SUSTAIN drilling. The purpose of taking water  
168 samples in the cased boreholes at depth intervals was to evaluate potential in-borehole  
169 processes that could interfere with the chemical and isotopic composition of waters in the  
170 boreholes that could be representative for water-rock interaction processes in the surrounding  
171 host rocks. The water in the cased boreholes is considered to be connected to the groundwater  
172 system of the island because the tidal range can be measured within the holes (Jackson et al.,  
173 2019b; Weisenberger et al., 2019). The lowermost samples obtained from each borehole are  
174 presumed to be most representative of the deep circulating fluids interacting with the host rocks  
175 at Surtsey. They are located either just below the open base of the casing of SE-1 or just above  
176 it in SE-3 and thus indicate samples that are likely to be in direct contact with the host rocks.

177 Water samples in borehole SE-3 were collected on 20 July 2018, 10 months after the  
178 termination of SUSTAIN drilling (Table 1). In all sampling sessions, a stainless-steel bailer  
179 attached to a slickline was lowered to the sampling depth (Fig. 2). The bailer was equipped  
180 with a glass-fiber jar that could move freely along the slickline. At the sampling depth the jar  
181 was sent down the wire to mechanically close the bailer, at which point both were pulled up to  
182 surface. The maximum volume of water retrieved was 1.5 L per sampling depth. Water samples  
183 for pH, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC), and stable water isotope ( $\delta\text{D}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ )  
184 measurements were collected in gas tight 50-250 mL amber glass bottles. Water samples for  
185 major cation analyses were filtered through a 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  filter (cellulose acetate) into  
186 polypropylene bottles and acidified to 1% by addition of  $\text{HNO}_3$  (Suprapur® Merck) on site.

187 Water samples for anion determination were also filtered through a 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  filter (cellulose  
188 acetate) into polypropylene bottles on site, but not further treated.

189

### 190 **3.2. Core sampling**

191 Sampling of the 2017 drill core was carried out on site during the ICDP SUSTAIN drilling  
192 operation (Weisenberger et al., 2019). Drill cores were collected in 3 m lengths of plastic core  
193 liners and stored in these liners at the drill site before transport off island. A ~10 cm length of  
194 core was cut from the upper part of the third 1 m core section of the complete core run. The  
195 samples were thus acquired at 9-10 m increments through each borehole. To minimize  
196 alteration or further contamination, the 10 cm core lengths were kept inside the plastic liner,  
197 sealed air-tight into plastic bags and stored at 4 °C on site until sample preparation in the  
198 laboratory.

199

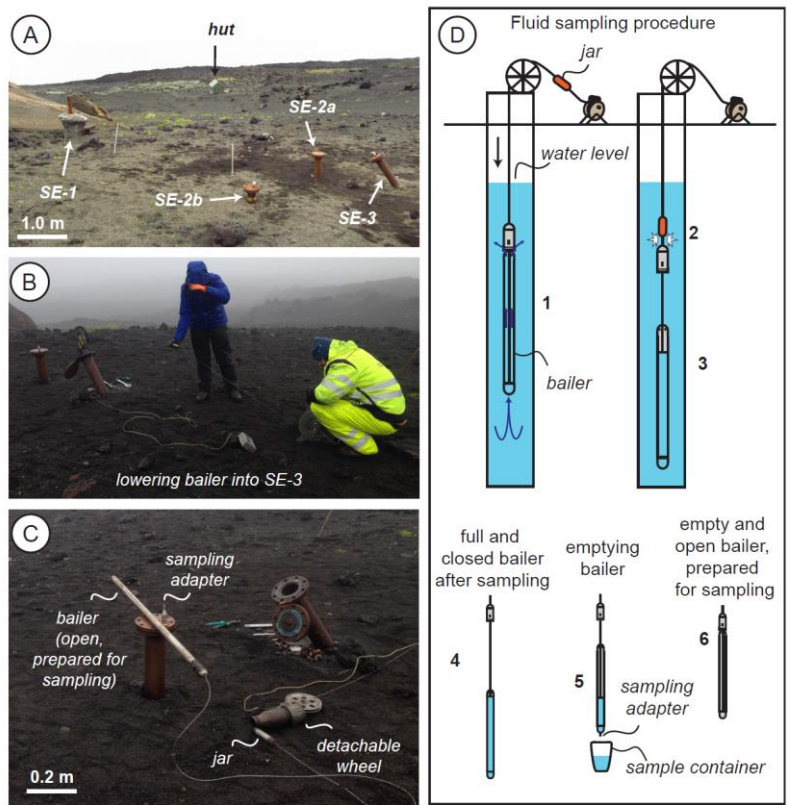
### 200 **3.3 Chemical analyses**

201 The pH of the water samples was analyzed at 21 °C using a pH meter and electrode  
202 calibrated with commercial buffer solutions. The analytical precision was  $\pm 0.1$ . Measurements  
203 of DIC concentrations used a modified alkalinity titration (Stefánsson et al., 2007). Major  
204 elemental analyses (SiO<sub>2</sub>, Cl, Na, K, Al, Fe, Mg, SO<sub>4</sub>, Ca, B) were carried out using ICP-OES  
205 (Spectro Ciros Vision). Concentrations of F were measured with a fluorine ion-selective  
206 electrode. The analytical precision of major element and F analyses was based on duplicate  
207 analysis of the samples and found to be in all cases <5% at the 95% confidence level. A  
208 correction factor was applied to the measured F concentrations to account for the formation of  
209 MgF<sup>+</sup> complexes (see Appendix A for details). The stable isotope analysis of water ( $\delta\text{D}$  and  
210  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ ) was conducted using a Thermo Delta V advantage isotope ratio mass spectrometer  
211 (IRMS). Results are reported relative to Vienna Standard Mean Ocean water (VSMOW). The  
212 analytical precision obtained by repeated analysis of the samples was <1.0‰ for  $\delta\text{D}$  and <0.1‰  
213 for  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$ .

214 Representative rock samples were selected to study the alteration mineralogy of the  
215 1979 and 2017 drill cores. For this study, polished thin sections were produced for core  
216 segments at measured depths of 20 and 90 m in borehole SE-1 and 280 m in borehole SE-3.  
217 These thin sections include the principal authigenic mineral phases identified by Jakobsson and  
218 Moore (1986). The chemical compositions of these minerals were studied and analyzed with a  
219 HITACHI TM-3000 scanning electron microscope (SEM) with an accelerating voltage of 15  
220 keV and a JEOL JXA-8230 electron microprobe (EMP) analyzer equipped with a LaB6



221 electron emitter at the Institute of Earth Sciences at University of Iceland. Running conditions  
 222 for EMP analyses were 15 keV accelerating voltage and 10 nA cup current with a beam  
 223 diameter of 1 to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .  
 224



225  
 226 **Figure 2.** Water sampling from boreholes SE-1 and SE-3 at Surtsey in summer 2018 (A-C).  
 227 (D) Water sampling procedure: (1) the open bailer is lowered into the borehole to the desired  
 228 sampling depth. Water passes freely through the bailer during the descent, (2) a glass-fiber jar  
 229 is sent down the wire to mechanically snap shut the bailer at the sampling depth, (3) the sealed  
 230 bailer is pulled up to the surface, (4) the sampled water is retrieved from the bailer by attaching  
 231 a sample adapter to the lower end of the bailer, (5) after emptying, the adapter is removed, (6)  
 232 the bailer is opened and prepared for the retrieval of a subsequent sample.

### 233 3.4. Geochemical modeling

234 Geochemical modeling was carried out to investigate the potential influences of water-rock  
 235 interaction and accompanying authigenic mineral formation on water chemistry in low-  
 236 temperature seawater-dominated geothermal systems. Geochemical calculations, including  
 237 mineral saturation state and reaction path calculations, were performed with the aid of the  
 238 PHREEQC program using an updated version of the LLNL (Lawrence Livermore National

239 Library) database (Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999). For these calculations, the measured pH  
240 values at room temperature were corrected to the water sampling temperatures measured in the  
241 Surtsey boreholes assuming conservation of alkalinity. The thermodynamic database was  
242 updated to include modified mineral solubilities for low-temperature authigenic minerals of  
243 interest, such as zeolites (Johnson et al., 1982; Neuhoff, 2000), clay minerals (Catalano, 2013;  
244 Gysi and Stefánsson, 2011) and calcium-silicate-hydrates (this study; Blanc et al., 2010;  
245 Lothenbach et al., 2008; Sarkar et al., 1982). The water-rock interaction modeling included  
246 conventional reaction path simulations in which seawater was allowed to react with basaltic  
247 glass in steps and in which the stable or saturated authigenic minerals in each step were allowed  
248 to precipitate (Gysi and Stefánsson, 2011; Stefánsson, 2010). The chemical compositions of  
249 both seawater and basaltic glass used in the modeling calculations are listed in Table 2. The  
250 simulations were carried out at 50, 100 and 150°C. The authigenic minerals used in the  
251 calculations were those observed in the geothermal system at Surtsey (this study; Jakobsson  
252 and Moore, 1986) and other low-temperature geothermal aquifers hosted in the oceanic crust  
253 (e.g., Alt et al., 1996). They include calcite, anhydrite, clay minerals, Al-tobermorite and  
254 zeolites. Mineral compositions from EMP analyses (Table 3) were considered to constrain their  
255 solubilities using a combination of oxide summation techniques (see Appendix A for details).  
256 To evaluate the effects of variable redox conditions on the formation of certain authigenic  
257 minerals (e.g., clays, carbonates, sulphates), the availability of oxidized and reduced S and Fe  
258 species in the reacting solution was varied by allowing the formation of minerals with changing  
259 Fe(II)/Fe(III) and S(-II)/S(VI) ratios.

260

## 261 **4. Results**

### 262 ***4.1. Chemical and isotopic composition of geothermal water***

263 The chemical compositions of the water samples are listed in Table 1. The pH measurements  
264 range from mildly acidic to mildly alkaline (5.07-8.01). In borehole SE-1, the elemental  
265 concentrations of SiO<sub>2</sub> (0.096-0.374 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), B (0.321-0.383 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Na (469-514  
266 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), K (10.9-11.6 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Ca (12.6-24.7 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Mg (17.4-27.8 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>),  
267 Fe (0.021-0.418 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Al (0.003-0.074 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), F (0.028-0.040 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Cl (522-  
268 611 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), CO<sub>2</sub> (0.426-2.1 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) and SO<sub>4</sub> (10.8-19.4 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) are more variable,  
269 as compared to the corresponding elemental concentrations of water extracted from SE-3 (Fig.  
270 3). In SE-3, elemental concentrations of SiO<sub>2</sub> (0.081-0.227 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Na (462-489 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>)  
271 <sup>1</sup>), Ca (9.17-13.1 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), F (0.046-0.073 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) and Cl (540-567 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) are  
272 similar to corresponding concentrations measured in seawater (Bruland, 1983). Concentrations

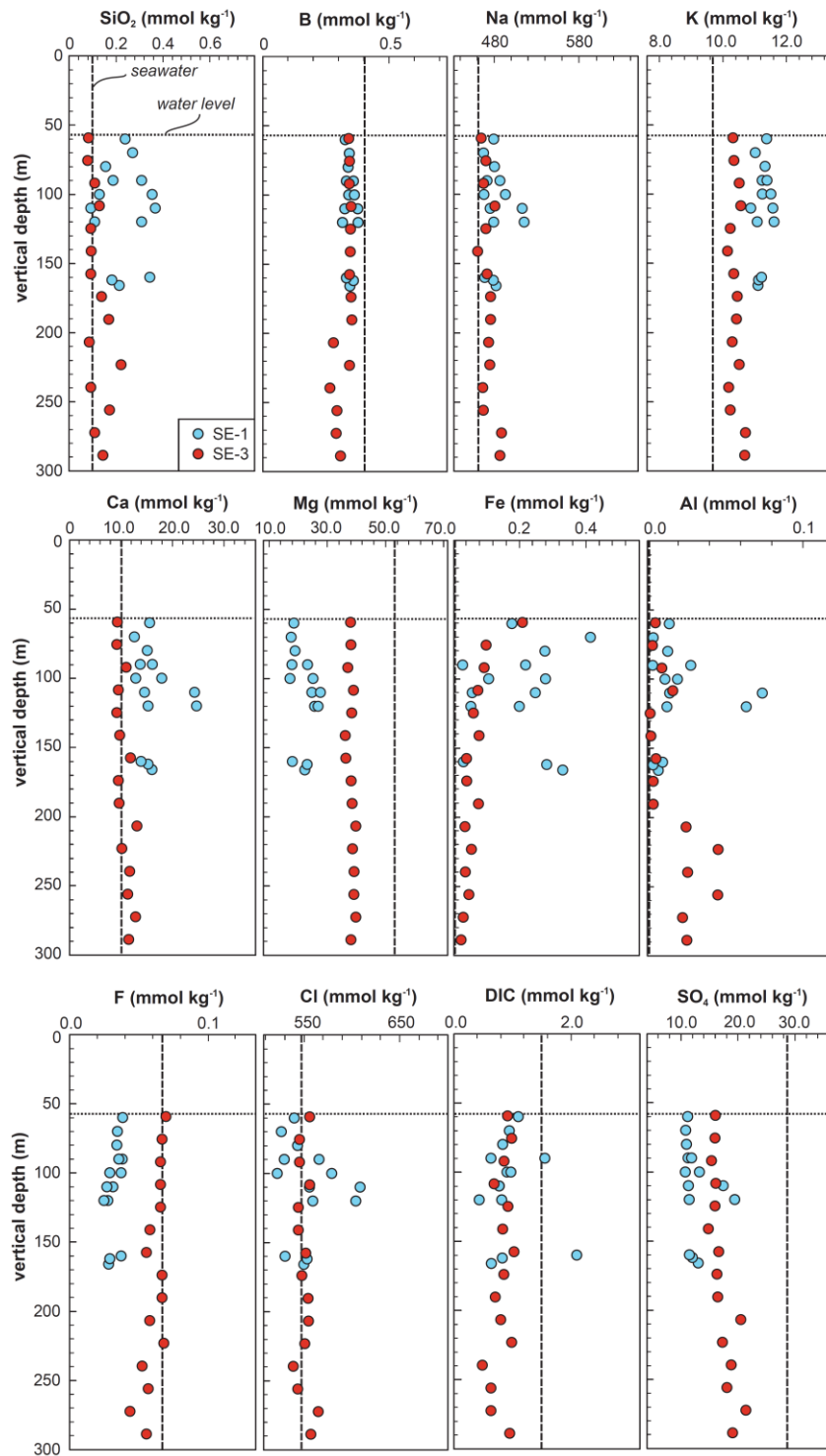
273 of B (0.270-0.358 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Mg (36.3-39.9 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), CO<sub>2</sub> (0.489-1.03 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) and  
274 SO<sub>4</sub> (14.8-21.3 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) are considerably lower than corresponding seawater concentrations,  
275 whereas concentrations of K (10.2-10.7 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>), Fe (0.016-0.207 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) and Al (0.002-  
276 0.045 mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>) are slightly higher (Fig. 3). A detailed description of possible in-borehole  
277 mixing processes affecting water chemistries can be found in Appendix A.

278 The  $\delta\text{D}$  and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  values measured in water samples from boreholes SE-1 and SE-3 are  
279 reported in Table 1 and shown in Figure 4. The  $\delta\text{D}$  (+15.6 to +33.2‰) and  $\delta^{18}\text{O}$  (+4.0 to  
280 +9.6‰) values in borehole SE-1 are significantly more positive than the corresponding  
281 measurements in SE-3 ( $\delta\text{D} = 3.2 \pm 0.6\text{‰}$ ;  $\delta^{18}\text{O} = +0.4 \pm 0.08\text{‰}$ ) as well as the seawater  
282 reference ( $\delta\text{D} = 0 \pm 5\text{‰}$ ;  $\delta^{18}\text{O} = 0 \pm 0.5\text{‰}$ ) (Ólafsson and Riley, 1978).

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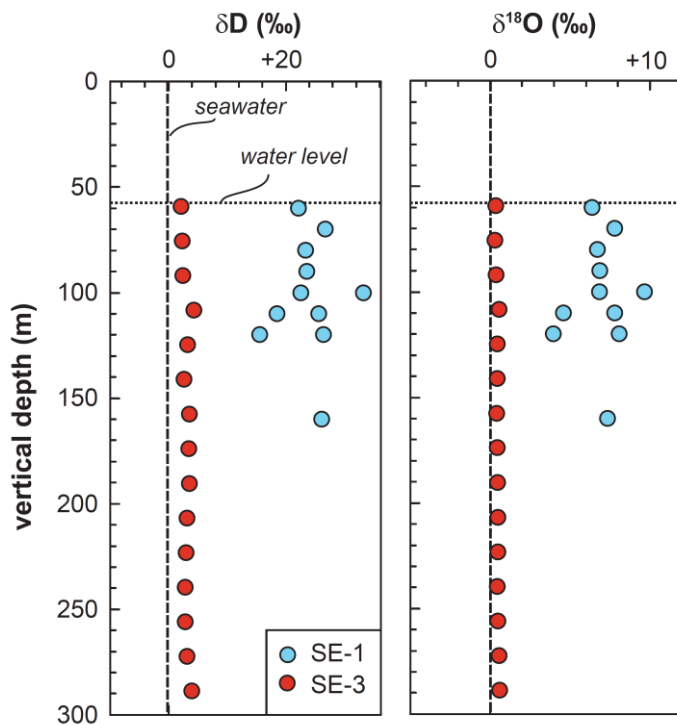
#### 284 ***4.2. Authigenic mineralogy and chemistry***

285 The dominant authigenic minerals observed through petrographic and EMP analyses in the  
286 submarine tuff samples acquired from the 1979 and 2017 drill core include calcite, anhydrite,  
287 analcime, phillipsite, smectitic clay minerals, as well as Al-tobermorite, an unusual layered  
288 calcium-aluminum-silicate-hydrate mineral (Jackson et al., 2013). These are the same  
289 authigenic minerals identified by Jakobsson and Moore (1986). Clay minerals appear as  
290 alteration products encasing primary volcanic crystal fragments, such as olivine, and in altered  
291 glass (Fig. 5). Analcime, anhydrite, calcite and Al-tobermorite occur mainly in pores and  
292 vesicles, the altered vitric matrix, and occasional cracks. The representative chemical  
293 compositions of these minerals are listed in Table 3. Calcite and anhydrite have almost pure  
294 Ca-endmember compositions. Zeolites, such as analcime, contain small amounts of Ca and K.  
295 Smectitic clay minerals in altered glass are mainly composed of Fe-Mg saponite with a minor  
296 nontronite component. The Al-tobermorite contains ~2.5 wt.% Al and incorporates Na and K  
297 cations, similar to crystals with 11 Å interlayer spacing in diverse geologic environments  
298 (Jackson et al., 2017; Jakobsson and Moore, 1986).



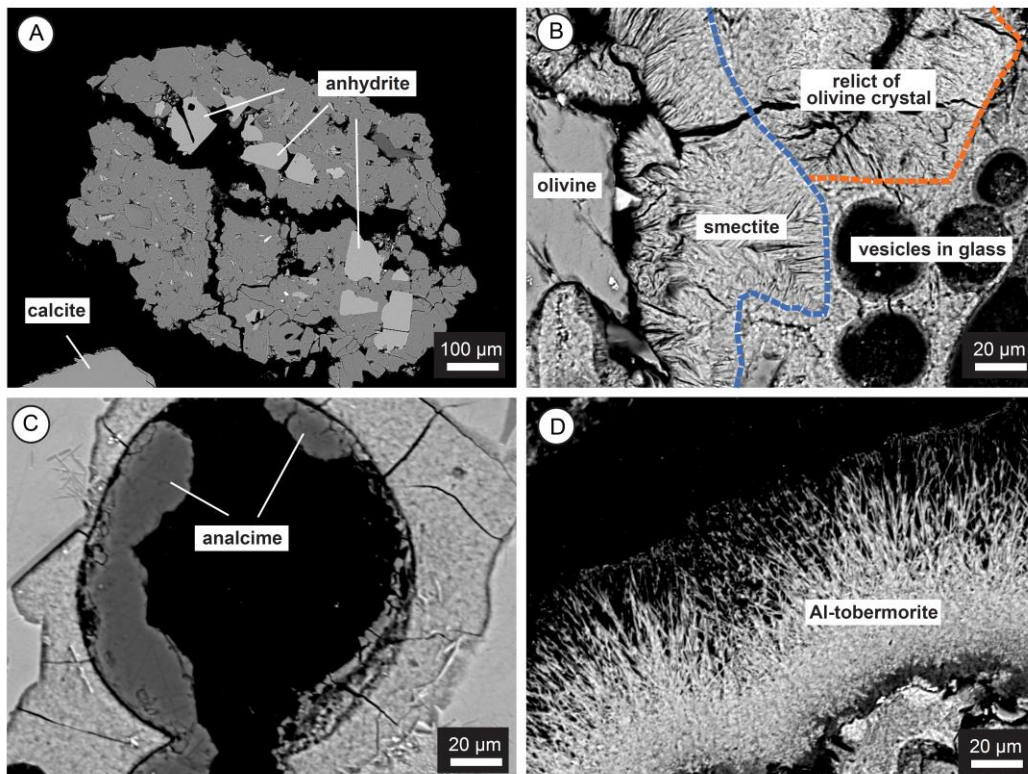
299

300 **Figure 3.** Elemental concentrations in water samples as a function of vertical depth from SE-  
 301 1 and SE-3 (Fig. 1c). The horizontal dotted line represents the average water level in the  
 302 borehole (Jackson et al., 2019b). The vertical dashed line represents the average concentration  
 303 of the corresponding element in seawater (Bruland, 1983). DIC = dissolved inorganic carbon.



304

305 **Figure 4.**  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$  measurements as a function of vertical depth in boreholes SE-1 and SE-  
 306 3. The horizontal dotted line represents the average sea level in the boreholes (Jackson et al.,  
 307 2019b). The vertical dashed line represents the average concentration of the corresponding  
 308 element in seawater (Ólafsson and Riley, 1978).



309

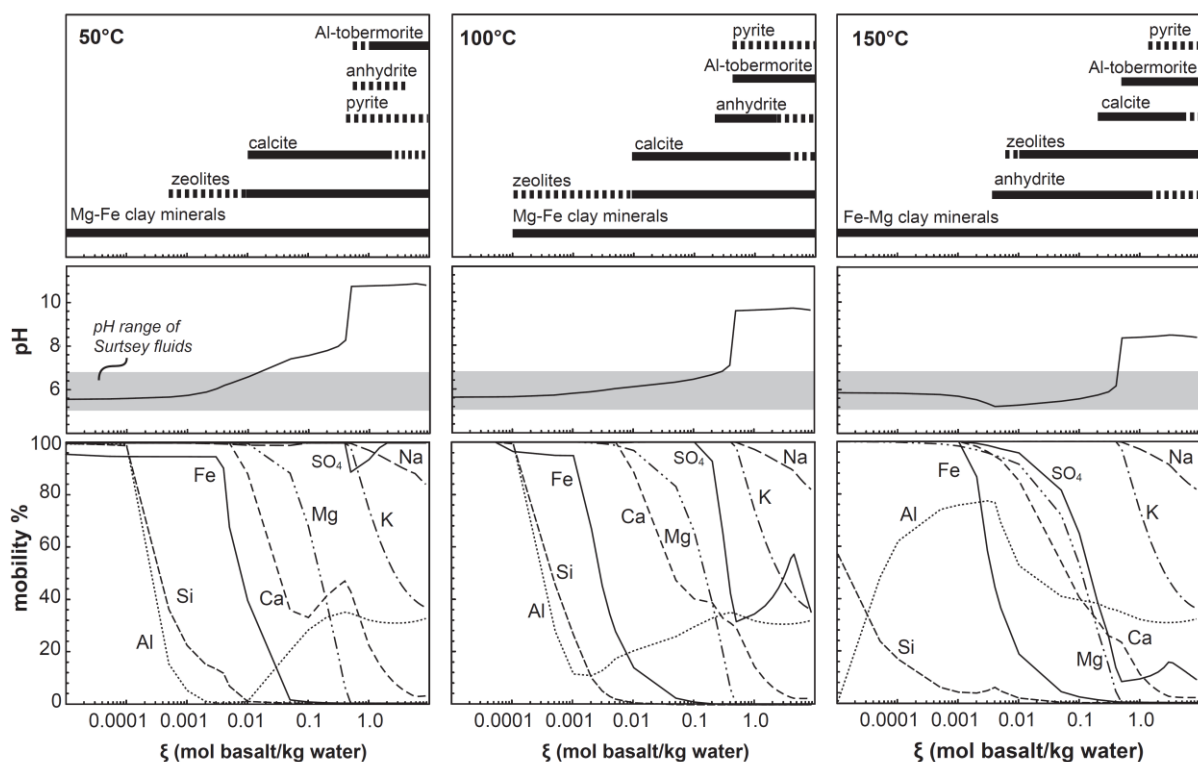
310 **Figure 5.** SEM back-scattered electron (BSE) images of the major authigenic minerals  
311 identified in the 1979 (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986) and 2017 drill cores. (A) Anhydrite and  
312 calcite, ~280 m, SE-03, (B) Alteration rim composed of smectite surrounding olivine, ~90 m,  
313 SE-1; dashed lines indicate former outlines of the primary mineral, (C) analcime surface  
314 coating in vesicle surrounded by altered glass, ~20 m, SE-1 and (D) Al-tobermorite surface  
315 coating in vesicle, ~90 m, SE-1.

### 316 **4.3. Geochemical modeling**

317 The results of the reaction path simulations between the basaltic glass and seawater are shown  
318 in Figure 6. The elemental concentrations of the reacting seawater and the production of  
319 authigenic minerals appear to be primarily dependent on the water pH at the modeling  
320 temperature, the extent of reaction (i.e, the water-rock ratio), and the redox conditions of the  
321 simulated system. At lower temperatures (50-100 °C), the model suggests that the principal  
322 authigenic minerals forming at low reaction progress ( $\xi$ ) are Mg-Fe bearing clay minerals  
323 (nontronite, saponite) and zeolites (analcime, chabazite). This suggests limits on the mobility  
324 of Si and Al, as well as Mg and Fe. With increasing reaction progress, the model indicates that  
325 carbonate minerals (calcite) eventually form, followed by anhydrite and calcium-silicate-  
326 hydrates (Al-tobermorite) suggesting limits on the mobility of Ca and SO<sub>4</sub>.

327 At higher temperature, 150 °C, the modelled mineral sequence shows slight differences.  
328 The elemental components of anhydrite apparently become supersaturated in the solution.  
329 Indeed, anhydrite is among the earliest minerals to form in the model, followed by zeolites and,  
330 eventually, carbonates and calcium-silicate-hydrates. Our simulations predict that the  
331 precipitation of K-bearing minerals (e.g., Al-tobermorite, K-bearing smectites and zeolites) is  
332 limited at low reaction progress. However, with progressive reaction, K will eventually be  
333 incorporated into K-bearing mineral phases such as smectitic clay minerals and Al-tobermorite.  
334 These findings are in agreement with experimental results by Seyfried Jr and Bischoff (1979)  
335 who showed that K concentrations in the solution decreased slightly during basalt alteration at  
336 70 °C. The redox conditions of the system appear to be strongly dependent on the nature and  
337 formation of clay minerals that include Fe(III) in their crystalline lattice (e.g., nontronite). The  
338 modeling suggests that the abundance of these Fe(III)-bearing mineral phases could control the  
339 redox conditions of the thermal system and, thus, the formation of carbonate and sulphate  
340 minerals within the simulated temperature range. For example, the formation of calcite and  
341 anhydrite, which are carriers of the oxidized species of carbon and sulfur, appears ultimately  
342 to be limited at reduced conditions ( $p_e < -6$ ). The precipitation of reduced sulfur-species, such

343 as pyrite, has less influence on the redox conditions of the system, and only minor amounts  
 344 (~0.0001-0.01 mol) are calculated to precipitate even at reduced conditions. This is not  
 345 surprising, as the oxidized sulfur species ( $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ) is the dominant species in seawater (Table 2),  
 346 and anhydrite is the principal mineral phase observed in such low-temperature geothermal  
 347 environments (Alt, 1995; Alt et al., 1996; Jakobsson and Moore, 1986; Von Damm, 1995).  
 348 Note, that large amounts of anhydrite in such systems are commonly not observed. The absence  
 349 of anhydrite from crustal samples has been explained by either retrograde solubility of  
 350 anhydrite at lower temperature with cooling of the oceanic crust (Alt, 1995; Sleep, 1991) and/or  
 351 lack of appropriate samples from the oceanic basement (Alt et al., 2003; Teagle et al., 1998).



352

353 **Figure 6.** Results from geochemical reaction path modeling using the PHREEQC software  
 354 (Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999). The simulated authigenic mineralogy, water pH and elemental  
 355 mobility are shown as a function of reaction progress,  $\xi$ , calculated for seawater-basaltic glass  
 356 interaction at 50, 100 and 150 °C. Mg-Fe clay minerals correspond to nontronite and Mg-Fe-  
 357 bearing smectites (saponite, nontronite); zeolites correspond to analcime, chabazite and  
 358 laumontite. These minerals are common in the altered basaltic host rocks at Surtsey and in  
 359 low-temperature geothermal aquifers within the oceanic crust (this study; Alt et al., 1996;  
 360 Jakobsson and Moore, 1986; Von Damm, 1995). The abundance of calcite, anhydrite and  
 361 pyrite mainly depends on the redox conditions of the system. At reduced conditions, pyrite

362 *becomes stable whereas the formation of calcite and anhydrite is limited at low water-rock*  
363 *ratios (high reaction progress). Mobility % is a measure of the likelihood of elements*  
364 *remaining in a given solution during water-rock interaction. A high mobility % indicates that*  
365 *consumption of the element by mineral formation is limited, a low mobility % indicates that the*  
366 *element is preferably consumed upon authigenic mineral formation with progressive water-*  
367 *rock interaction.*

## 368 **5. Discussion**

### 369 ***5.1. Water origin and effects of evaporation in the boreholes***

370 Both the chemical and the isotopic data of water samples from boreholes SE-1 and SE-3  
371 indicate that seawater is the predominant source of geothermal waters circulating through the  
372 submarine Surtsey deposits (Fig. 7; Table 1). Chemical concentrations of Na and Cl of the  
373 borehole water samples are generally similar to corresponding seawater concentrations (Fig.  
374 3). Minor deviations from the seawater compositions are observed for B and Ca. Significant  
375 departures from the seawater concentrations occur for SiO<sub>2</sub>, K, Mg, Fe, Al, SO<sub>4</sub> and DIC in  
376 borehole SE-3. These departures can be explained by the processes of water-rock interaction,  
377 in which (1) the dissolution of basaltic glass and crystal fragments, principally olivine and  
378 labradorite, produces components that are released to the water and/or (2) the crystallization of  
379 authigenic mineral assemblages consumes elements from the geothermal water (Fig. 8). The  
380 relative enrichment of SiO<sub>2</sub>, K, Fe and Al with respect to seawater could possibly also be the  
381 result of mixing of cold seawater with a deep-sourced high-temperature geothermal fluid with  
382 a chemical composition similar to that measured in the seawater-dominated hydrothermal  
383 system at Reykjanes (Arnórrsson, 1978). Approximately 5-20% mixing of such a high-  
384 temperature geothermal fluid with seawater would be sufficient to explain certain chemical  
385 trends observed in the borehole fluids (Fig. A.1). These include increased concentrations of K,  
386 Ca and SiO<sub>2</sub> with respect to seawater. The occurrence of clinocllore in the deep submarine SE-  
387 1 drill cores could support the existence of alteration induced by a high-temperature fluid  
388 (Jackson et al., 2019a). However, the inferred mixing process would also increase CO<sub>2</sub> and  
389 H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations compared to seawater concentrations; these increases have not been  
390 observed in the borehole fluids. Thus, minor input of a deep-sourced high-temperature  
391 geothermal fluid could be considered plausible for some concentrations such as K, Ca and SiO<sub>2</sub>,  
392 but it does not fully explain other compositional variations. Even if a deep-sourced high-  
393 temperature fluid is present, it cannot be confirmed with absolute certainty with the borehole  
394 water samples because mixing ratios are too low for accurate evaluation.



395 In borehole SE-1, the concentrations of K, Na, Ca and Cl in water samples obtained  
396 nearly 40 years after drilling are significantly higher than seawater concentrations or measured  
397 concentrations in water samples from borehole SE-3 obtained one year after drilling. The  $\delta D$   
398 and  $\delta^{18}O$  values are also significantly more positive than those observed in SE-3 and seawater,  
399 as well as reported  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$  values from the seawater-dominated hydrothermal system at  
400 Reykjanes (Ólafsson and Riley, 1978; Sveinbjornsdottir et al., 1986). These differences imply  
401 that mixing with a deep-sourced high-temperature fluid does not fully explain the measured  
402 chemical trends of the waters in borehole SE-1. Note, in particular, that the steel-cased SE-1  
403 borehole is capped only by a loose lid, and that this covering has been in place for nearly 40  
404 years. By contrast, the 2017 boreholes are capped with well heads that are firmly screwed onto  
405 the steel conductor casing (Fig. 2). Furthermore, the measured temperatures in borehole SE-1  
406 (Fig. 1) plot close to the boiling curve of seawater (Fig. 1). We hypothesize that open and  
407 closed system evaporation and condensation could contribute to modifications in the SE-1  
408 water geochemistry (Fig. 7).

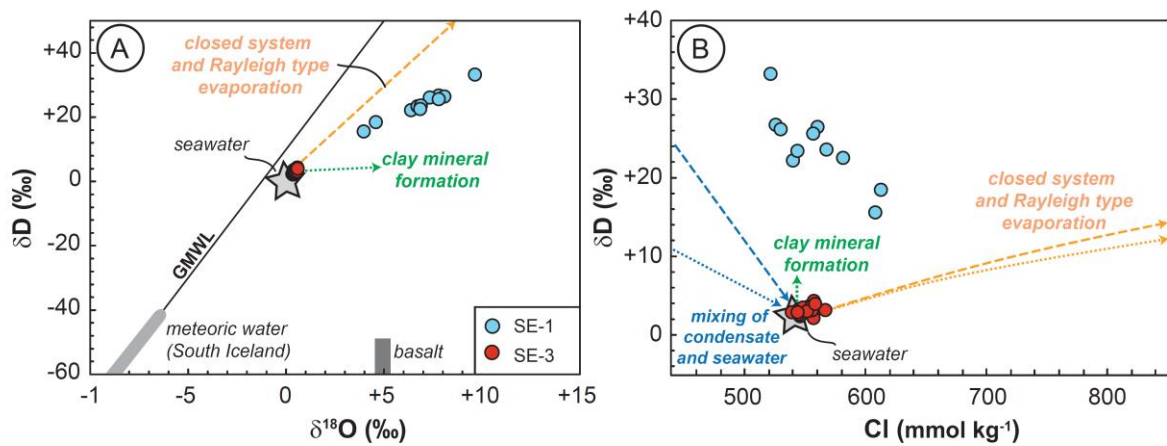
409 In general, evaporation leads to the partition of the enriched isotope into the water phase  
410 and the depleted isotope into the vapor phase (Horita and Wesolowski, 1994). Evaporation may  
411 also cause the enrichment of certain elements (e.g., Cl, Na, K,  $SiO_2$ , Ca,  $SO_4$ ) in the residual  
412 water. The effects of these processes on chemical concentrations and isotope values of the  
413 geothermal water can be illustrated by simple closed system and Rayleigh (open system)  
414 evaporation and distillation (Fig. 7). In SE-3, for example,  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$  values and  $\delta D/Cl$  ratios  
415 indicate only limited closed system and/or Rayleigh type evaporation (0-4%). Vapor can escape  
416 only from the borehole when the well-head is opened for sampling purposes; this will lead to  
417 limited enrichment of Cl and  $^2H$ - and  $^{18}O$ -enriched isotopes in the residual water. By contrast,  
418 in SE-1,  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$  values correspond to Rayleigh type evaporation of up to 90% depending  
419 on the evaporation temperature (Fig. 7). The measured  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$  values are significantly  
420 positive suggesting substantial on-going evaporation processes. However, the measured Cl  
421 concentrations are significantly lower than expected for such high evaporation rates (Fig. 7).  
422 This decoupling of elemental concentration from the isotopic trends also occurs for other  
423 mineral forming elements ( $SiO_2$ , Na, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Al,  $SO_4$ ). Furthermore, the decrease in Cl  
424 is accompanied by a decrease in pH (Table 2). Similar trends are commonly observed for the  
425 evaporation path of seawater and may be associated with the formation of salts and sulfates  
426 (Horita et al., 1993; McCaffrey et al., 1987).

427 If the cased SE-1 borehole is considered as a partially open system, where vapor or  
428 steam has escaped more-or-less continuously through the loosely attached cover, then it is

429 plausible to expect salt precipitation from the residual water as well as dilution by droplets  
 430 from condensing steam. These processes could produce the decrease in the observed Cl  
 431 concentrations. However, they would also lead to a simultaneous decrease in  $\delta D$  and  $\delta^{18}O$   
 432 values in the SE-1 waters, which is not the case. Alternatively, the development of authigenic  
 433 clay minerals upon mineral supersaturation in the borehole water could produce additional  $^2H$ -  
 434 enrichment in the water, due to the uptake of the  $^2H$ -depleted isotope by incipient clay mineral  
 435 (Capuano, 1992; Gilg and Sheppard, 1996; Lambert and Epstein, 1980; Lawrence and Taylor,  
 436 1972; Marumo et al., 1980; Méheut et al., 2007, 2010; Savin and Epstein, 1970; Suzuoki and  
 437 Epstein, 1976).

438 It seems, therefore, that the water geochemistry of SE-1 reflects a complex interplay  
 439 between open system evaporation, condensation and associated salt and clay mineral  
 440 precipitation that has transpired in the cased borehole over the past 40 years. These processes  
 441 have obscured and modified the original borehole water geochemistry, so that the isotopic and  
 442 chemical data appear not to be representative of water-rock interaction processes occurring in  
 443 the basaltic deposits surrounding the borehole. To gain further insights into how changes in the  
 444 isotopic and elemental composition of the geothermal water in the Surtsey deposits may be  
 445 influenced by water-rock interaction we turn to geochemical measurements of the waters in  
 446 borehole SE-3.

447



448

449 **Figure 7.** Isotopic variations in water samples from Surtsey boreholes SE-1 and SE-3. (A)  
 450 Comparison with isotopic values typical for seawater (Ólafsson and Riley, 1978), meteoric  
 451 water from the South of Iceland (Stefánsson et al., 2017), and basaltic rocks from Iceland  
 452 (Martin et al., 2017; Nichols et al., 2002). (B) Evolution of Cl concentration and  $\delta D$  values are  
 453 shown for closed system (orange dotted line) and Rayleigh type (orange dashed lines)

454 *evaporation at 100°C. Closed system and Rayleigh type evaporation of up to 90% may explain*  
455 *positive isotopic values in SE-1. However, the Cl concentrations are lower than would be*  
456 *expected for such high evaporation rates. SE-1 corresponds to a partially open system with a*  
457 *loose-fitting well cover, and a decrease in Cl concentrations may occur through mixing of*  
458 *seawater with condensate after Rayleigh type (blue dashed line) or closed system evaporation*  
459 *(blue dotted line). Enrichment of  $^2\text{H}$  in the geothermal water due to incipient clay mineral*  
460 *formation appears to be limited.*

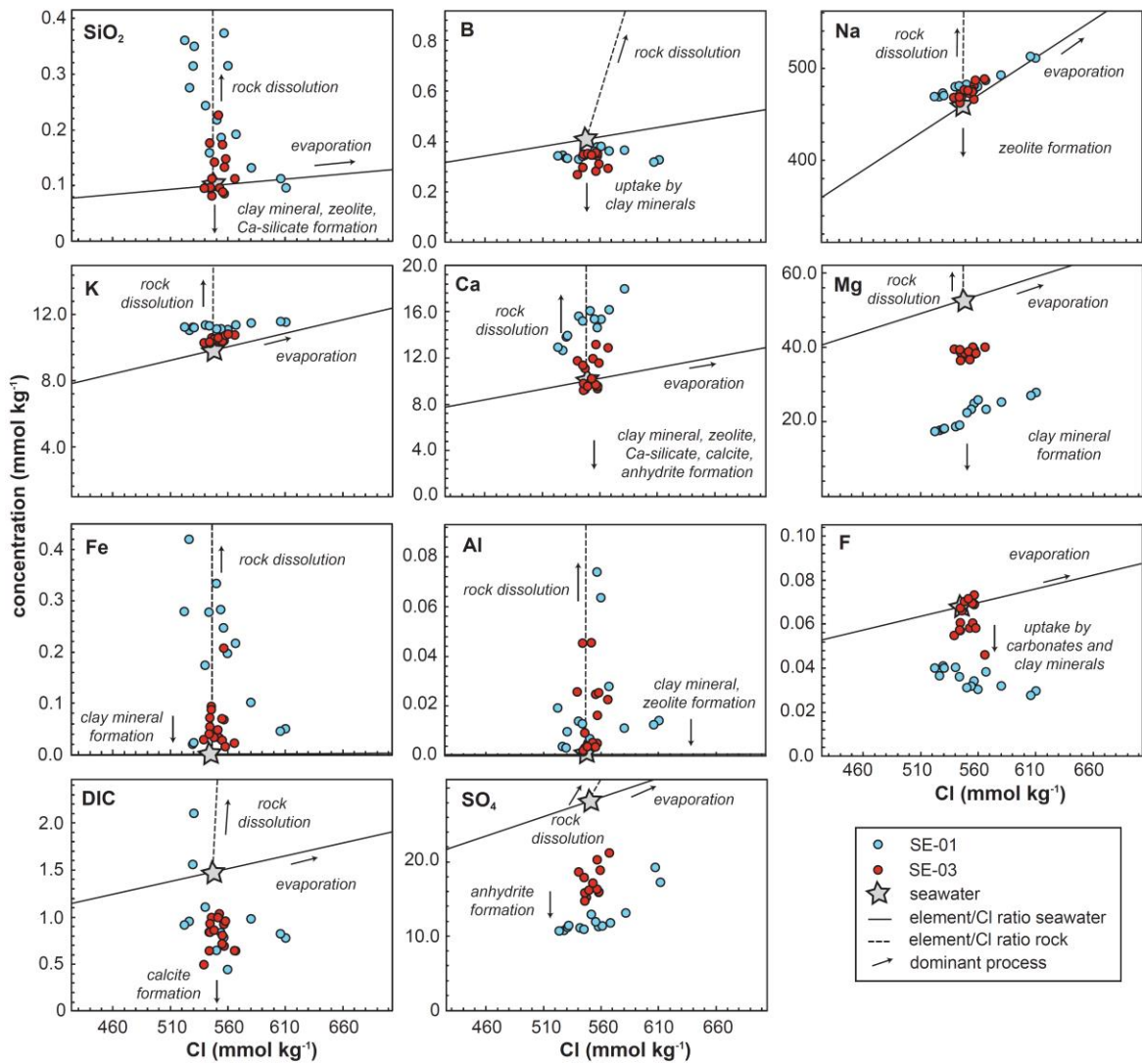
## 461 **5.2. Elemental mobility and mineral saturation**

462 We hypothesize that water-rock interaction in the basaltic lapilli tuff deposits at Surtsey is an  
463 incongruent reaction process in which elements are leached, or dissolved, from primary  
464 volcanic glasses and crystal fragments; incorporated into interstitial porewater; and then  
465 consumed through the formation of authigenic mineral phases – or, conversely, released from  
466 the interaction environment in the case of an open chemical system. In the case of closed system  
467 environments, these processes can be illustrated by relative elemental mobility. Here, Cl is  
468 chosen as a reference element since (1) it is an abundant element in seawater and (2) leaching  
469 from the basaltic host rocks as well as uptake by relevant authigenic minerals should be  
470 relatively limited due to low concentrations of Cl in both host rock and minerals (Tables 2 and  
471 3; Fig. 3). The relationships among  $\text{SiO}_2$ , B, Na, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Al, F, DIC and  $\text{SO}_4$  to Cl are  
472 clarified in Figure 8, along with the corresponding element/Cl ratios for basaltic glass  
473 dissolution and seawater (Table 1). SE-1 and SE-3 borehole waters record a substantial increase  
474 in  $\text{SiO}_2$ , K, Ca, Fe, Al and Na elemental concentrations relative to the composition of the  
475 seawater that infiltrated the original tephra deposits. The ratios of these elements relative to Cl,  
476 are generally higher than the corresponding seawater ratios and follow the corresponding  
477 element/Cl ratios of basaltic glass dissolution (Fig. 8).

478 Over the past 50 years, the ongoing crystallization of clay, zeolite and other silicate  
479 minerals, as well as carbonate and sulfate minerals has apparently progressively decreased the  
480 concentrations of constituent elements (Mg,  $\text{SO}_4$ , F, B, DIC) in the geothermal fluids within  
481 the basaltic deposits (Fig. 8). The observed mineral assemblages in the lapilli tuff deposits are  
482 indeed consistent with calculated saturation indices close to saturation ( $\text{SI} \sim 0$ ) for anhydrite,  
483 calcite, clays and zeolites (Fig. 9, Table A.2). Note, crystallization of 11 Å Al-tobermorite as  
484 well as some Fe-Mg clay minerals may not solely depend on temperature conditions (Coleman  
485 et al., 2009; Gherardi et al., 2012; Jantzen et al., 2017). Rather, pH and redox conditions as  
486 well as water-rock ratios also influence crystallization processes. For example, in our model,

487 more alkaline conditions promote the simulated saturation of Al-tobermorite and Mg-Fe-  
488 saponite in the reacting water, whereas more acidic and reduced conditions favor the simulated  
489 saturation of clay minerals such as nontronite and Fe(III)-bearing smectites (Table A.2). Our  
490 geochemical model calculations (Fig. 6) also show the formation of authigenic minerals as a  
491 function of changing water-rock ratios, progressive water-rock interaction (i.e., decreasing  
492 water-rock ratios), pH and redox conditions. Consequently, element mobility appears to be  
493 controlled by both dissolution of basaltic glass and uptake by authigenic minerals that depend,  
494 in turn, on a variety of environmental variables such as temperature, pH and redox conditions.  
495 The enrichment of SiO<sub>2</sub>, K, Ca, Fe, Al and Na in waters from both the SE-1 and SE-3 boreholes  
496 relative to seawater implies that the rate of glass dissolution exceeds the uptake of these  
497 elements in authigenic minerals. Note, however, chemical trends observed in borehole SE-1  
498 may be also be influenced by diverse in-borehole processes as discussed above.

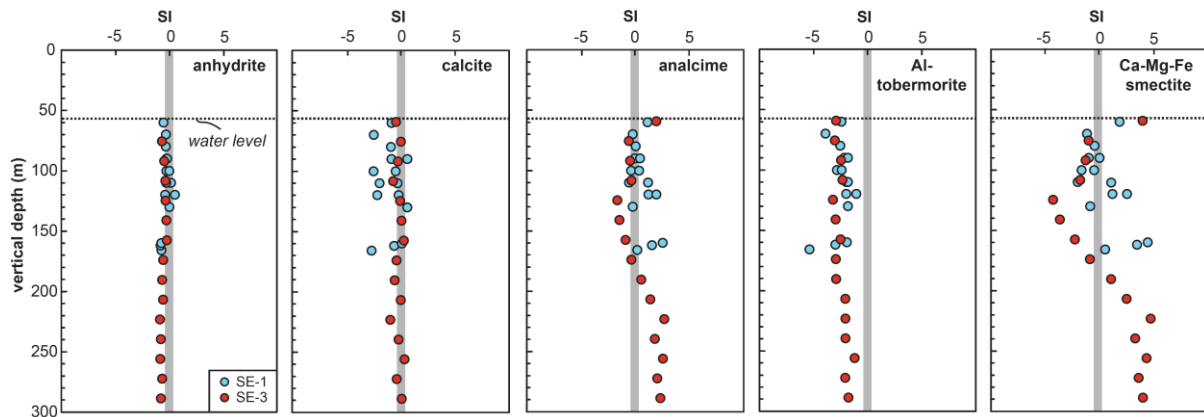
499 In contrast, ratios of B, Mg, F, DIC and SO<sub>4</sub> to Cl in the borehole waters are generally  
500 lower than the corresponding seawater and rock ratios (Fig. 8). Apart from Mg, these elements  
501 occur only in trace concentrations in the host basalt (Tables 1 and 4). These low ratios suggest  
502 that there is substantial uptake of these elements in authigenic minerals such as clays, sulfates  
503 and carbonates. The elemental uptake by authigenic minerals surpasses the elemental  
504 concentrations produced through the dissolution of the host basalt during 50 years of water-  
505 rock interaction. The uptake of Mg in clay minerals, for example, must far exceed the Mg  
506 concentrations dissolved from basalt. The Mg concentrations measured in the borehole waters  
507 are significantly lower than those of seawater suggesting that the seawater that originally  
508 infiltrated the tephra deposits (and may continue to infiltrate the deposits in a submarine inflow  
509 zone (Jackson et al., 2019b) is a source of Mg for these authigenic minerals.



510

511 **Figure 8.** Elemental mobility relative to Cl concentration in waters sampled from boreholes  
 512 SE-1 and SE-3. Concentration ratios in SE-1 water samples are different from ratios observed  
 513 in SE-3 due to complex ongoing open system evaporation and condensation processes in the  
 514 borehole (Fig. 7). The plots display the predominant processes thought to control the  
 515 geochemistry of Surtsey borehole waters, through cumulative processes over the 50 years since  
 516 eruptions terminated. The waters are undersaturated in fluorite. Carbonate and clay minerals  
 517 may, however, take up F in their crystalline lattice (Carpenter, 1969; Thomas et al., 1977)  
 518 leading to a decrease in F concentrations in the geothermal water. DIC = dissolved inorganic  
 519 carbon.

520



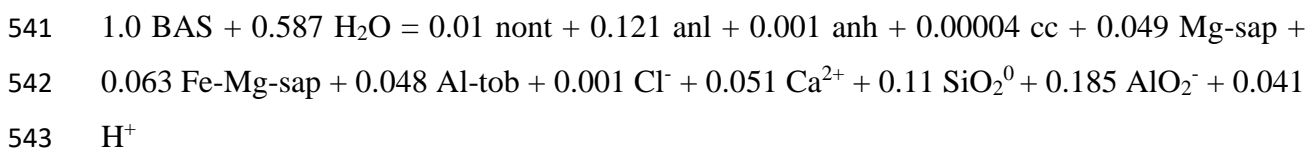
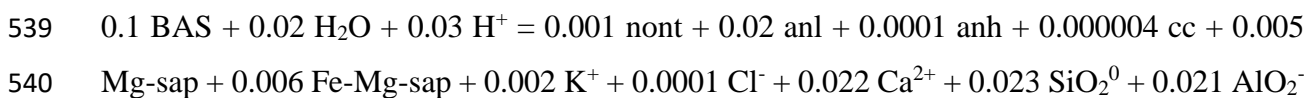
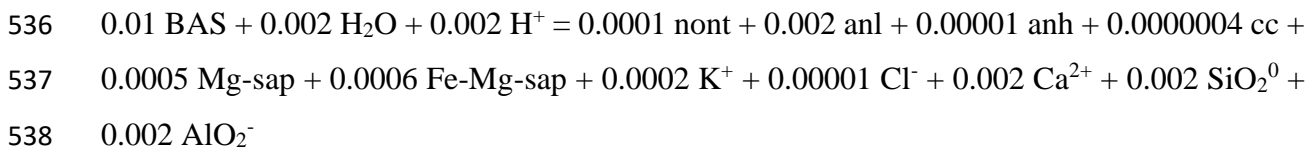
521

522 **Figure 9.** Saturation of selected authigenic minerals in borehole waters from Surtsey.  
 523 Saturation indices (SI) were calculated using the PHREEQC software (Parkhurst and Appelo,  
 524 1999). Dissolution reactions and corresponding solubility constants are listed in Table A.2.  
 525 Negative SI values indicate that the water sample is undersaturated in the respective authigenic  
 526 mineral. Positive SI values indicate that the water sample is supersaturated in the respective  
 527 authigenic mineral. The solubility constants for Al-tobermorite were those of Al-tobermorite-  
 528 like cementitious minerals (Table A.2).

529

### 530 5.3. Low-temperature (50-150°C) seawater-rock interaction

531 The chemical mass fluxes resulting from basaltic glass dissolution and associated authigenic  
 532 mineral formation can be clarified using reaction stoichiometry as a function of reaction  
 533 progress. For a system where approximately 1 g, 10 g and 100 g of basaltic glass interacts with  
 534 1 kg of seawater the reaction stoichiometry is calculated according to the results of the  
 535 geochemical modelling at 150 °C (Fig. 6):

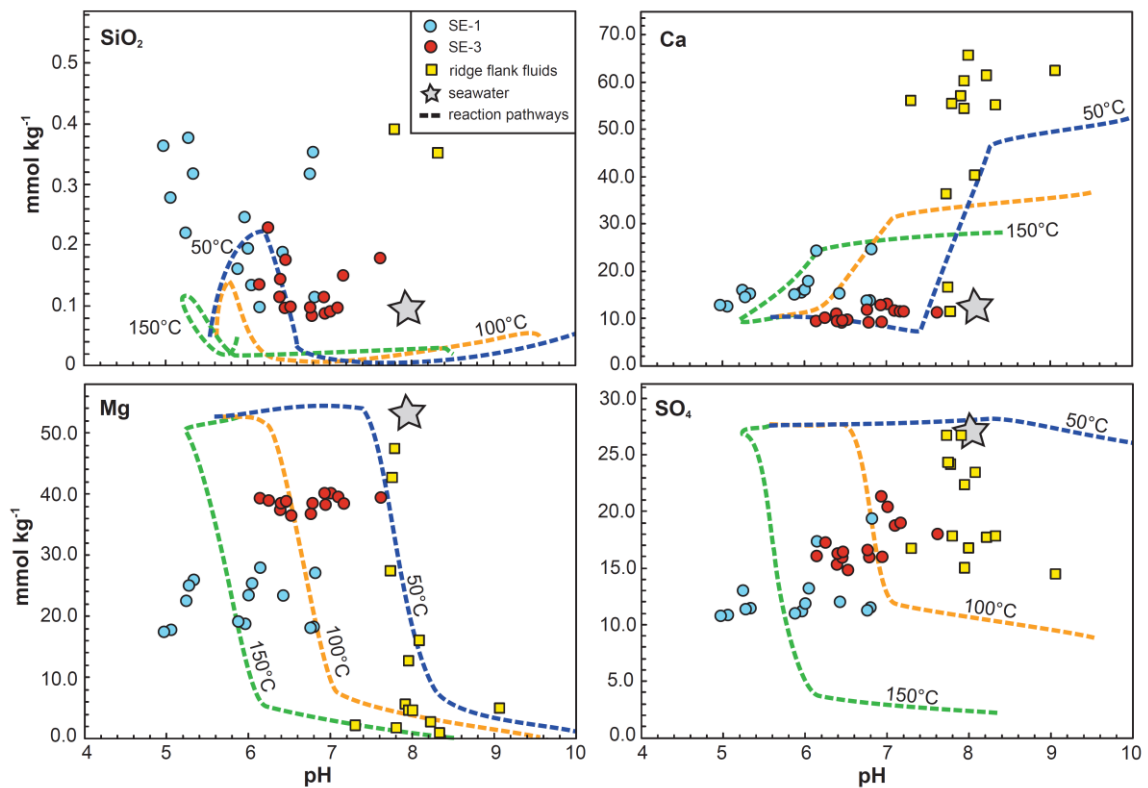


544 The compositions of the basaltic glass and the authigenic minerals are recorded in Tables 2 and  
545 5. Stoichiometries for the same dissolution reactions at 50 and 100°C differ only slightly. The  
546 calculated reaction stoichiometries thus indicate that at low reaction progress, that is, high  
547 water-rock ratios, the quantities of mineral-forming elements (Ca, SiO<sub>2</sub>, Al) leached from the  
548 basaltic glass are greater than at low water-rock ratios. Furthermore, the Mg, Fe, SO<sub>4</sub> and CO<sub>2</sub>  
549 leached from the glass are predicted to be almost entirely taken up by authigenic clay minerals,  
550 carbonates and sulfates even at relatively low reaction progress (Fig. 6). In contrast, the SiO<sub>2</sub>,  
551 Ca and Al derived from the glass dissolution are predicted to have a somewhat limited uptake  
552 into authigenic minerals, even at high reaction progress.

553 The calculated reaction stoichiometries are, overall, in good agreement with the  
554 observed elemental mobility, reaction textures and authigenic mineral assemblages in the  
555 geothermal system at Surtsey (Figs. 5 and 8). In addition, K released by basaltic glass  
556 dissolution appears to be taken up by the crystallization of K-bearing phillipsite, smectites and  
557 Al-tobermorite, which are common authigenic minerals in the 1979 drill core samples (Jackson  
558 et al., 2019a; Jakobsson and Moore, 1986; Prause et al., 2020). However, measured K  
559 concentrations in the borehole waters are relatively high compared to the corresponding  
560 seawater concentration (Figs. 3 and 8). Major element geochemistry of the host basaltic tuff  
561 (Jackson et al., 2019b) indicates that as Na<sub>2</sub>O increases, K<sub>2</sub>O decreases. This may result from  
562 early dissolution of glass and precipitation of phillipsite, which then may alter *in situ* to produce  
563 analcime (Jackson et al., 2019a; Prause et al., 2020), thus releasing K to the interstitial fluids.  
564 The history of K mobility therefore appears complex and depends on interdependent variables  
565 involving progressive water-rock interaction, pH and redox conditions that commonly occur in  
566 microstructural environments.

567 Comparing the modelled concentrations of major mineral-forming elements, such as  
568 SiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca, Mg, SO<sub>4</sub>, to the measured concentrations in the water samples from Surtsey borehole  
569 SE-3 (Fig. 10) suggests that water-rock interaction and associated basaltic glass dissolution  
570 provide a source of SiO<sub>2</sub> and Ca while water-rock interaction and associated authigenic mineral  
571 crystallization provides a sink of seawater-derived Mg and SO<sub>4</sub>. Note, that questions remain  
572 regarding the exact nature of potential water-rock interaction in the cased borehole. The tidal  
573 range can be measured in the boreholes (Jackson et al., 2019b) which suggests that the borehole  
574 water is presumably not disconnected from the groundwater system of the island. In borehole  
575 SE-1, however, complex in-borehole processes may obscure the original geothermal water  
576 composition. In contrast, the lack of large variations in the chemical profiles of SE-3 (Fig. 3)  
577 suggests that the fluids in this borehole are well mixed. Thus, borehole water in SE-3 may

578 potentially represent the geothermal water circulating through the host rocks of Surtsey and,  
 579 thus, provide an accurate record the impact of low-temperature seawater-basalt interaction on  
 580 water chemistries.



581  
 582 **Figure 10.** Comparison of measured concentrations in Surtsey borehole waters (this study)  
 583 and ridge flank fluids (Mottl, 1989; Wheat and Fisher, 2008; Wheat and Mottl, 2000) with  
 584 calculated chemical concentrations (dashed lines) at various temperatures and water-rock  
 585 ratios. The pH measured in the borehole water from SE-1 is systematically lower than the pH  
 586 measured in geothermal water collected from SE-3. This may be attributed to complex open  
 587 system evaporation and condensation processes ongoing in SE-1 (Fig. 7).

588  
 589 **5.4. Chemical fluxes in Surtsey in the context of low-temperature aquifers in the oceanic**  
 590 **crust**

591 Chemical exchange between circulating seawater and oceanic crust within low-temperature  
 592 geothermal aquifers produces chemical fluxes with significant effects on oceanic elemental  
 593 budgets (Alt, 2003; Elderfield and Schultz, 1996; Huang et al., 2018; Mottl and Wheat, 1994;  
 594 Sansone et al., 1998; Staudigel, 2014; Wheat et al., 1996; Wheat and Mottl, 2000). However,  
 595 waters from aquifers in low-temperature environments such as ridge flank zones or seamounts  
 596 are rarely sampled. In addition, their water chemistries are often obscured by sediment-



597 seawater interaction processes (Alt, 2003; Coogan and Gillis, 2018; Staudigel, 2014; Wheat  
598 and Mottl, 2000).

599 Water circulation in the hydrothermal system at Surtsey is thought to be driven by  
600 magmatic intrusions or hot rock at depth (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). In contrast, water  
601 circulation through seamounts in ridge flanks is driven by hydraulic head caused by the  
602 difference in density between cold seawater within the recharge zone of one seamount and  
603 emission of seawater fluids warmed by cooling of underlying crust and lithosphere in the  
604 discharge zone of another seamount (discharge zone) (Fisher and Wheat, 2010; and references  
605 therein). The seamounts provide conduits for fluids and form part of the large-scale ridge flank  
606 circulation system. Even though the mechanisms of water circulation in Surtsey and ridge flank  
607 systems are different, the water chemistries in both settings are controlled primarily by the  
608 extent of seawater-basalt reaction and temperature, type and abundance of authigenic minerals.  
609 The geothermal water chemistries in the submarine sections of the Surtsey boreholes show  
610 similarities to ridge flank aquifers at 10-63 °C in the oceanic crust (Table 4) despite their  
611 higher temperature range, up to 141 °C (Jackson et al., 2019b; Jakobsson and Moore, 1986).  
612 The Surtsey borehole can thus potentially be viewed as a young and instructive guidepost for  
613 the chemical fluxes in the aquifers of ridge flank zones and seamounts. Furthermore, sediment-  
614 induced processes are absent at Surtsey, so that investigation of chemical fluxes may be  
615 considered solely as the result of hypothesized seawater-basalt interaction.

616 In the following, we extrapolate our geochemical model as well as the dataset from the  
617 Surtsey borehole waters to calculate chemical fluxes of these elements between the oceanic  
618 crust and seawater (Table 5). Modelled and observed elemental concentrations (Figure 10)  
619 provide a framework evaluating the influences of water-basalt alteration processes and  
620 temperature on the elemental concentrations measured in geothermal waters from MOR  
621 recharge zones but also ridge flank and seamount environments (Table 4). The annual chemical  
622 fluxes of SiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> for Surtsey were calculated based on the specific heat flow of  
623 the island, water temperatures and the average chemical concentrations measured in borehole  
624 SE-3. Details on the calculations and parameters are given in Appendix A.

625 In Surtsey SE-3 borehole waters, SiO<sub>2</sub> and Ca concentrations are enriched with respect  
626 to corresponding concentrations in seawater presumably due to the dissolution of basaltic  
627 components and the limited uptake of their constituents by authigenic minerals at low-  
628 temperature alteration in the range of 44-138 °C. The calculated annual flux of SiO<sub>2</sub> and Ca  
629 from the basalt to the seawater ranges from 0.01-0.03×10<sup>6</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> and 0.3-1.0×10<sup>6</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup>,

630 respectively (Table 5). These fluxes are within an order of magnitude (or slightly below) of  
631 the estimated SiO<sub>2</sub> and Ca fluxes from the Baby Bare and Dorado seamounts at the eastern  
632 flank of the Juan de Fuca Ridge and the eastern flank of the East Pacific Rise, respectively  
633 (Mottl et al., 1998; Wheat et al., 2019).

634 The Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> concentrations measured in the Surtsey SE-3 borehole waters are  
635 significantly depleted with respect to their corresponding concentrations in seawater. Thus, a  
636 significant sink of seawater-derived Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> should occur at the full range of temperatures  
637 (44-138 °C) measured in the subsurface deposits. We hypothesize that Mg is consumed during  
638 formation of clay minerals, whereas SO<sub>4</sub> is incorporated into anhydrite. The calculated annual  
639 fluxes from seawater to the Surtsey basaltic deposits of 6.1-20×10<sup>6</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> for Mg and 4.8-  
640 16×10<sup>6</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup> for SO<sub>4</sub> correspond well with those estimated for Baby Bare and Dorado  
641 seamounts (Table 5).

642 These similarities in estimated chemical fluxes as well as heat flow values and water  
643 chemistries suggest that the Surtsey geothermal system may deliver insights into low-  
644 temperature seafloor alteration processes in MOR recharge zones. Moreover, Surtsey could  
645 provide a valuable young analogue for assessing the chemical evolution of fluid discharge over  
646 the life cycle of a seamount system.

647

### 648 ***5.5. Implications for global elemental fluxes in the oceanic crust***

649 The simulated elemental concentrations from geochemical modeling at 50-150 °C (Fig. 10,  
650 Table A.4) provide a foundation for investigating the dependence of SiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub>  
651 chemical fluxes on temperature and, thus, the associated types and abundance of authigenic  
652 mineral formation. The analytical foundation provides insights into water chemistries in  
653 aquifers within MOR recharge zones and porewater evolution within the deeper aging oceanic  
654 crust where temperatures remain elevated. Flux calculations have been carried out over a  
655 temperature range of 50 to 150 °C and for fluid mass fluxes that are characteristic for MOR  
656 recharge zones and ridge flank systems, respectively. For details on the flux calculations see  
657 Appendix A. Negative flux values indicate the loss of an element from seawater and positive  
658 flux values indicate addition of an element to seawater (Table 5).

659 The addition and removal of SiO<sub>2</sub> to and from the ocean through basalt dissolution and  
660 authigenic mineral formation, respectively, is found to be rather limited over the 50 to 150 °C  
661 temperature range of recharge zones of MORs and ridge flank systems. Yet, estimated chemical  
662 fluxes (-0.005 to +0.1×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup>) to the ocean are insignificant compared to the annual

663 riverine SiO<sub>2</sub> influx of  $+6.4 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup> (Mackenzie, 1992). This agrees well with previous  
664 findings from global SiO<sub>2</sub> flux estimates for ridge flank and mid-ocean ridge systems that  
665 showed that SiO<sub>2</sub> fluxes emitted from these systems are low with respect to the riverine flux  
666 (Elderfield and Schultz, 1996; Mottl and Wheat, 1994; Mottl et al., 1998; Sleep, 1991;  
667 Staudigel, 2014; Von Damm et al., 1985; Wheat and Fisher, 2008; Wheat and Mottl, 2000).

668 Our model simulations confirm that basalt dissolution at low temperatures in the range  
669 of 50-100 °C may induce significant mobility of Ca in water. Calcium dissolution from the  
670 altering basalt exceeds the uptake of Ca by Ca-bearing authigenic minerals such as zeolites and  
671 silicate hydrates. The annual global Ca flux from the rock to seawater has been calculated to  
672 range from  $+0.2$  to  $+129 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>. These flux estimates are in the same range as those  
673 calculated previously for ridge flank systems ( $+1.5$  to  $+230 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>) and exceed the flux  
674 values of the riverine Ca input to the oceans of  $+12 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup> (Mackenzie, 1992; Mottl,  
675 1989; Mottl and Wheat, 1994; Staudigel, 2014; Wheat and Fisher, 2008; Wheat and Mottl,  
676 2000). The model simulations suggest however, that with increasing temperature to 150 °C,  
677 incorporation of Ca into authigenic minerals becomes increasingly significant. This is reflected  
678 in smaller Ca fluxes to ocean waters at elevated temperatures ( $+0.2$  to  $+1.8 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>; Table  
679 5). This trend is in agreement with previous findings on low Ca fluxes to seawater from high-  
680 temperature hydrothermal mid-ocean ridge systems (Staudigel, 2014; Von Damm et al., 1985).

681 The modelling also confirms that low-temperature basaltic seafloor alteration in the  
682 range of 50-150 °C may provide an important sink of seawater-derived Mg. Clay mineral  
683 formation may effectively remove up to 100% Mg from seawater. Our model suggests that the  
684 uptake of Mg by authigenic minerals is highest at temperatures of 50 °C. This is in agreement  
685 with previous findings from the Baby Bare ridge flank and seamount system where water  
686 temperatures do not exceed 63 °C and Mg concentrations were extremely low (Mottl and  
687 Wheat, 1994; Wheat and Mottl, 2000). There, the Mg flux into the oceanic crust was calculated  
688 to be  $-260$  to  $+1.0 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup> (Huang et al., 2018; Mottl, 1989; Staudigel, 2014; Wheat and  
689 Mottl, 2000), a range similar to the Mg fluxes ( $-129$  to  $-1.3 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>) calculated by our  
690 model.

691 Water-rock interaction accompanied by the formation of anhydrite at temperatures in  
692 the range of 50-150 °C apparently serves as a major sink for seawater-derived SO<sub>4</sub>. This would  
693 correspond to a SO<sub>4</sub> flux into the oceanic crust of up to  $-21 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>. These calculated  
694 values agree well with the flux range previously calculated for SO<sub>4</sub> fluxes in ridge flank ( $-50$   
695 to  $-2.0 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>) (Wheat and Mottl, 2000) and MOR systems ( $-1.4$  to  $+0.8$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>)  
696 (Staudigel, 2014). The higher end of range of values is an order of magnitude larger than

697 calculated riverine SO<sub>4</sub> fluxes to the ocean ( $3.2 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup> (Mackenzie, 1992)) and sulfur  
698 fluxes emitted from hydrothermal vents along mid-ocean ridges ( $0.3\text{-}0.8 \times 10^{12}$  mol yr<sup>-1</sup>) (Sleep,  
699 1991; Von Damm et al., 1985). However, anhydrite may subsequently be dissolved by low-  
700 temperature hydrothermal fluids; in this way SO<sub>4</sub> could be regained into the ocean (Alt, 1995).

701 In summary, our flux calculations confirm that low-temperature geothermal aquifers in  
702 MOR recharge zones have the potential to influence elemental fluxes to and from the oceanic  
703 crust at a global scale. Model-based flux values are generally similar to those estimated for  
704 basaltic systems at Surtsey and in ridge flank and seamount systems (Table 5). This implies  
705 that our modelling approach is a useful tool for providing insights and estimates on chemical  
706 fluxes in shallow geothermal aquifers in the oceanic crust. It also may provide indications for  
707 porewater chemistries in the deeper igneous oceanic crust where temperatures are higher and  
708 water-rock ratios are lower. Note, however, that in our model seawater reacts with basaltic  
709 glass. This is appropriate for Surtsey basalt, which contained a large proportion of fresh glass  
710 at the initiation of alteration (Jakobsson and Moore, 1986). Much of the oceanic crust is  
711 crystalline, however, except for minor pillow rims and flow margins. The dissolution and  
712 reaction rates of the crystalline basalt may be slower than those of basaltic glass (e.g., Seyfried  
713 Jr and Janecky, 1985). Even so, flux estimates calculated based on the water chemistries  
714 predicted by our modelling approach are similar to those of ridge flank and mid-ocean ridge  
715 systems (Alt, 2003; Huang et al., 2018; Mottl and Wheat, 1994; Staudigel, 2014; Wheat and  
716 Fisher, 2008; Wheat and Mottl, 2000) implying that the fabric of the basalt may not have a  
717 substantial effect on the elemental fluxes.

718

## 719 **Conclusions**

720 Time-lapse boreholes through the young basaltic deposits of Surtsey volcano create an  
721 environment for investigations of the geothermal processes and water-rock interaction that take  
722 place during the earliest stages of seawater infiltration into the oceanic crust. Boreholes SE-1,  
723 acquired in 1979, and SE-3, acquired in 2017, traverse the submarine geothermal system and  
724 SE-3 extends into sub-seafloor basaltic tuff deposits. Borehole water was sampled at  
725 approximately 10 m depth intervals in the two cased boreholes to investigate the influence of  
726 low-temperature (50-150 °C) water-rock interaction on the chemical compositions of water  
727 samples. Elemental concentrations of SiO<sub>2</sub>, Na, Ca, and Cl are similar to corresponding  
728 seawater concentrations whereas concentrations of B, Mg, F, CO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>4</sub> are depleted.  
729 Furthermore, the δD and δ<sup>18</sup>O values measured in the borehole water are more positive, when  
730 compared to the isotopic composition of seawater. Additionally, measured concentrations of

731 SiO<sub>2</sub>, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Al, F and SO<sub>4</sub> in borehole SE-1 differ strongly from those measured in  
732 SE-3. Geochemical analyses suggest possible evaporation and distillation processes through an  
733 open well head over the past 40 years. Chemical and isotopic data demonstrate that borehole  
734 water sampled from below sea level resembles geothermal fluids that originated from seawater  
735 and reacted with the surrounding basaltic rock, producing authigenic mineral assemblages and  
736 a corresponding depletion of certain elements in the water samples. Chemical similarities exist  
737 among Surtsey borehole waters, ridge flank and seamount fluids (Mottl, 1989; Mottl and  
738 Holland, 1978; Mottl and Wheat, 1994; Wheat and Fisher, 2008; Wheat and Mottl, 2000). Our  
739 analyses of the Surtsey borehole waters are therefore used as an analogue to investigate seafloor  
740 alteration in low-temperature MOR recharge zones as well as ridge flank zone environments.  
741 Coupling measured and calculated concentrations from geochemical modeling constrains  
742 elemental fluxes for SiO<sub>2</sub>, Ca, Mg and SO<sub>4</sub> to and from these low-temperature hydrothermal  
743 systems in the oceanic crust. The results show that water-rock interaction in the temperature  
744 range of 50-150 °C may serve as a significant sink of seawater-derived Mg and SO<sub>4</sub>, whereas  
745 it provides a major source of Ca. This implies that seafloor alteration in low-temperature  
746 geothermal systems within the oceanic crust may have large effects on the global elemental  
747 budgets of these elements.

748

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762

763

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1052 **Tables**

1053 **Table 1.** Chemical composition of geothermal water from Surtsey. *F* concentrations have been corrected to account for formation of  $MgF^+$   
 1054 complexes (see Appendix A for details).

sample ID	Date	Depth	t°C	pH	°C	SiO <sub>2</sub>	B	Na	K	Ca	Mg	Fe	Al	F	Cl	DIC	SO <sub>4</sub>	δD (H <sub>2</sub> O)	δ <sup>18</sup> O (H <sub>2</sub> O)
		<i>m</i>				<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	‰	‰
<i>Hole SE-1</i>																			
16-SURT-1-1	09/06/2016	70	110	5.07	/ 23	0.276	0.347	469	11.0	12.6	17.7	0.418	0.004	0.037	527	0.950	10.9	26.7	7.8
16-SURT-1-2	09/06/2016	90	122	6.83	/ 22	0.315	0.336	473	11.2	13.8	18.0	0.021	0.003	0.040	530	1.56	11.3	-	-
16-SURT-1-3	09/06/2016	100	125	5.09	/ 22	0.361	0.345	469	11.3	12.9	17.4	0.278	0.019	0.039	522	0.911	10.8	33.2	9.6
16-SURT-1-4	09/06/2016	110	122	5.67	/ 22	0.374	0.381	476	10.9	14.6	24.9	0.246	0.074	0.034	557	0.778	11.4	25.6	7.8
16-SURT-1-5	09/06/2016	120	115	5.81	/ 22	0.316	0.383	480	11.1	15.3	25.8	0.197	0.063	0.030	560	0.436	11.5	26.4	8.1
16-SURT-1-6	09/06/2016	162	58	6.54	/ 23	0.186	0.364	480	11.1	15.3	23.3	0.282	0.003	0.031	554	0.831	12.0	-	-
16-SURT-1-7	09/06/2016	160	60	6.92	/ 22	0.351	0.335	470	11.2	13.9	18.1	0.024	0.010	0.039	531	2.10	11.5	26.1	7.3
16-SURT-1-8	09/06/2016	166	54	5.36	/ 23	0.218	0.350	483	11.1	16.0	22.4	0.332	0.007	0.031	551	0.640	13.0	-	-
17-SURT-1-1	09/05/2017	60	90	6.11	/ 21	0.244	0.332	480	11.4	15.6	18.6	0.174	0.014	0.040	541	1.10	11.2	22.2	6.4
17-SURT-1-2	09/05/2017	80	115	5.98	/ 21	0.159	0.343	481	11.3	15.2	19.0	0.277	0.013	0.036	544	0.834	11.0	23.4	6.7
17-SURT-1-3	09/05/2017	90	122	6.18	/ 21	0.192	0.365	487	11.4	16.1	23.3	0.217	0.028	0.038	567	0.636	11.9	23.6	6.9
17-SURT-1-4	09/05/2017	100	125	6.11	/ 21	0.132	0.368	493	11.5	17.9	25.2	0.102	0.011	0.032	581	0.975	13.2	22.5	6.8
17-SURT-1-5	09/05/2017	110	122	6.27	/ 21	0.096	0.329	512	11.6	24.4	27.8	0.051	0.014	0.030	611	0.772	17.3	18.5	4.6
17-SURT-1-6	09/05/2017	120	113	7.06	/ 21	0.112	0.321	514	11.6	24.7	26.9	0.046	0.012	0.028	607	0.818	19.4	15.6	4.0

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*Table 1. continued.*

sample ID	Date	Depth	t°C	pH	°C	SiO <sub>2</sub>	B	Na	K	Ca	Mg	Fe	Al	F	Cl	DIC	SO <sub>4</sub>	δD (H <sub>2</sub> O)	δ <sup>18</sup> O (H <sub>2</sub> O)
		<i>m</i>				<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	<i>mmol kg<sup>-1</sup></i>	‰	‰
<i>Hole SE-3</i>																			
18-SURT-3-1	07/20/2018	59	44	7.05	/ 21	0.085	0.345	466	10.3	9.3	38.0	0.207	0.005	0.073	557	0.919	16.0	2.1	0.4
18-SURT-3-2	07/20/2018	76	96	6.58	/ 21	0.081	0.348	471	10.4	9.2	38.2	0.094	0.003	0.070	546	0.989	16.0	2.4	0.3
18-SURT-3-3	07/20/2018	92	116	6.48	/ 21	0.112	0.347	469	10.5	11.1	37.2	0.088	0.009	0.068	546	0.858	15.3	2.4	0.4
18-SURT-3-4	07/20/2018	108	130	6.22	/ 21	0.133	0.355	482	10.6	9.5	39.1	0.069	0.016	0.069	557	0.686	16.1	4.3	0.6
18-SURT-3-5	07/20/2018	125	138	6.44	/ 21	0.094	0.352	471	10.3	9.2	38.5	0.055	0.002	0.069	545	0.925	15.9	3.2	0.5
18-SURT-3-6	07/20/2018	141	134	6.55	/ 21	0.097	0.351	462	10.2	9.8	36.3	0.072	0.002	0.061	545	0.833	14.8	2.6	0.4
18-SURT-3-7	07/20/2018	158	120	6.90	/ 21	0.095	0.348	473	10.4	11.9	36.5	0.033	0.005	0.058	553	1.03	16.6	3.6	0.4
18-SURT-3-8	07/20/2018	174	102	6.49	/ 21	0.142	0.354	477	10.5	9.5	38.3	0.034	0.004	0.070	549	0.857	16.3	3.5	0.5
18-SURT-3-9	07/20/2018	190	81	6.60	/ 21	0.174	0.358	477	10.5	9.6	38.6	0.071	0.004	0.070	556	0.711	16.4	3.6	0.5
18-SURT-3-10	07/20/2018	207	67	7.22	/ 21	0.088	0.284	474	10.3	13.1	39.9	0.028	0.025	0.061	556	0.800	20.4	3.1	0.5
18-SURT-3-11	07/20/2018	223	61	6.49	/ 21	0.227	0.348	476	10.5	10.2	38.7	0.049	0.045	0.071	552	0.990	17.2	3.0	0.5
18-SURT-3-12	07/20/2018	240	60	7.34	/ 21	0.095	0.270	468	10.2	11.7	39.3	0.030	0.026	0.055	540	0.489	18.7	2.9	0.4
18-SURT-3-13	07/20/2018	256	58	8.01	/ 21	0.177	0.299	468	10.3	11.3	39.2	0.041	0.045	0.059	544	0.635	18.0	2.9	0.5
18-SURT-3-14	07/20/2018	272	57	7.11	/ 21	0.112	0.295	489	10.7	12.8	39.9	0.023	0.023	0.046	567	0.637	21.3	3.1	0.6
18-SURT-3-15	07/20/2018	289	57	7.37	/ 21	0.148	0.312	487	10.7	11.5	38.2	0.016	0.025	0.058	558	0.952	19.0	3.9	0.6

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1067 **Table 2.** *The initial water and rock composition used for geochemical modelling.*

	Seawater <sup>a</sup>	Basalt <sup>b</sup>	
pH	8.2		
<i>Major elements (mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>)</i>		<i>Major elements (wt.%)</i>	
SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.1	SiO <sub>2</sub>	47.1
B	0.411	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.6
Na	459	FeO	10.9
K	9.71	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	1.2
Ca	9.98	MgO	5.3
Mg	52.3	CaO	9.9
Al	0.0004	Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.9
Fe	0.0003	K <sub>2</sub> O	0.7
CO <sub>2</sub>	1.48	S	0.03
Cl	535	H <sub>2</sub> O	0.1
SO <sub>4</sub>	27.6	<i>Trace elements (ppm)</i>	
δD	0±5 <sup>c</sup>	CO <sub>2</sub>	13
δ <sup>18</sup> O	0±1 <sup>c</sup>	Cl	240
		δD	-80±10 <sup>d</sup>
		δ <sup>18</sup> O	+5±0.2 <sup>e</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Bruland (1983)

<sup>b</sup>Jakobsson and Moore (1986)

<sup>c</sup>Ólafsson and Riley (1978)

<sup>d</sup>Martin et al. (2017)

<sup>e</sup>Muehlenbachs and Clayton (1976)

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1080 **Table 3.** Representative microprobe data of the major authigenic minerals found in the cores  
 1081 from SE-1 and SE-3 at Surtsey.

	Analcime	smectite	Tobermorite	Anhydrite	Calcite
Negative charge basis	12	22	22	8	6
borehole	SE-1	SE-1	SE-1	SE-3	SE-3
depth (m)	20	90	90	280	280
<i>in wt.%</i>					
SiO <sub>2</sub>	52.30	37.19	46.30		
TiO <sub>2</sub>		1.01			
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	23.70	9.64	6.98		
FeO	0.09	21.34	0.07		0.02
MnO		0.23	0.01		
MgO	0.03	10.75	0.05		
CaO	1.28	4.34	32.80	41.41	55.78
Na <sub>2</sub> O	12.35	0.27	1.59		
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.09	0.41	0.48		
SrO <sub>2</sub>				0.13	0.32
BaO				0.020	
SO <sub>3</sub>				58.04	
CO <sub>2</sub> *					43.78
H <sub>2</sub> O*	10.15	14.82	11.71		
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	99.6	99.9
<i>mineral stoichiometry</i>					
Si	1.62	4.51	4.60		
Ti		0.09			
Al(tot)	0.86	1.37	0.82		
Fe(tot)	0.002	2.2	0.01		0.0004
Mn		0.02	0.001		
Mg	0.001	1.94	0.01		
Ca	0.04	0.56	3.49	1.01	0.99
Na	0.7411	0.06	0.31		
K	0.004	0.06	0.06		
Sr				0.002	0.004
Ba				0.0002	
S				0.99	
C					1.00
H	2.10	11.97	7.76		

\*calculated stoichiometrically

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**Table 4.** Comparison of average basalt and water composition at Surtsey, ridge flank systems and mid-ocean ridges.

Surtsey basalt		MORB <sup>c</sup>	Surtsey water <sup>d</sup>		water from ridge flank systems <sup>e</sup>				water from vents at MOR	
unaltered <sup>a</sup>	altered <sup>b</sup>			spring water (Baby Bare)	pore water (Baby Bare)	pore water (Costa Rica rift flank)	pore water (Dorado seamount)	21°N <sup>f</sup>		
			pH	6.9	8.3	7.8		3.4-3.8		
			t°C	44-138	25	63	58	10	273-350	
<i>Major elements (wt.%)</i>			<i>Major elements (mmol kg<sup>-1</sup>)</i>							
SiO <sub>2</sub>	47.1	45.9	50.5	SiO <sub>2</sub>	0.124	0.360	0.400	-	0.150	15.6-19.5
TiO <sub>2</sub>	2.6	2.3	1.7	B	0.331	0.570	0.550	-	0.420	
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	16.6	16.3	14.7	Na	474	473	470	456	462	432-510
FeO	12.1*	-	10.4*	K	10.4	6.88	7.40	7.00	9.80	23.2-25.8
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	-	13.5**	-	Ca	10.7	55.2	55.5	58.0	10.2	11.7-20.8
MnO	0.3	0.2	0.2	Mg	38.4	0.980	1.80	8.00	52.4	-
MgO	5.3	7.0	7.6	Fe	0.061	-	0.004	-	0.001	0.75-2.42
CaO	9.9	9.0	11.4	Al	0.016	-	-	-	-	0.004-0.005
Na <sub>2</sub> O	3.9	4.3	2.8	F	0.064	-	-	-	-	-
K <sub>2</sub> O	0.71	0.6	0.2	Cl	551	554	555	546	541	489-579
S	-	0.6	-	DIC	0.821	-	-	-	-	-
H <sub>2</sub> O	-	-	-	SO <sub>4</sub>	17.2	17.8	17.8	17.0	27	-
loss on ignition		8.7		H <sub>2</sub> S	-	-	-	-	-	6.6-8.4

\*total iron as FeO

\*\*total iron as Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub><sup>a</sup>Jakobsson and Moore (1986)<sup>b</sup>Jackson et al. (2019b)<sup>c</sup>Gale et al. (2013)<sup>d</sup>this study, average concentrations from SE-3<sup>e</sup>Mottl (1989); Wheat and Fisher (2008); Wheat and Mottl (2000)<sup>f</sup>Von Damm et al. (1985)

1085 **Table 5.** Local and global chemical fluxes for Surtsey, ridge flank systems, seamounts and mid-ocean ridge systems. Elemental concentrations to  
 1086 calculate the chemical fluxes are taken from Tables 4 and A.4. Negative flux values indicate fluxes from the ocean and positive flux values  
 1087 indicate fluxes to the ocean.

	Size (km <sup>2</sup> )	Fluid temperature (°C)	system	heat flow (MW)	fluid mass flux (kg yr <sup>-1</sup> )	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Ca	Mg	SO <sub>4</sub>
<i>Local chemical fluxes for Surtsey, Baby Bare and Dorado seamount (given in ×10<sup>6</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup>)</i>									
Surtsey	0.47	44-138	recharge MOR	7.5	0.4-1.4 ×10 <sup>9</sup>	+0.01 to +0.03	+0.3 to +1.0	-20 to -6.1	-16 to -4.8
Baby Bare seamount <sup>b</sup>	0.5	25-63	ridge flank	2-3	0.4-0.7 ×10 <sup>9</sup>	+0.1 to +0.2	+18 to +31	-35 to -20	-4.1 to -7.2
Dorado seamount <sup>c</sup>	0.25	10-30	ridge flank	10-12	3.4-9.9 ×10 <sup>9</sup>	+0.2 to +0.5	+0.7 to +2.2	+0.2 to +0.6	-9.4 to -3.2
<i>Global scale chemical fluxes for MOR and ridge flank systems and river influx (given in ×10<sup>12</sup> mol yr<sup>-1</sup>)</i>									
low-temperature hydrothermal seafloor alteration <sup>d</sup>	50		recharge MOR	1.5-2.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.2-0.3×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.03 to +0.01	+0.2 to +15	-18 to -1.3	-0.1 to +0.05
			ridge flank	7-15×10 <sup>6</sup>	1.1-2.5 ×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.2 to +0.1	+0.8 to +129	-129 to -6.1	-1.0 to +0.4
	100		recharge MOR	1.5-2.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.1-0.2×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.1 to -0.002	+1.8 to +29	-63 to -3.8	-21 to +0.2
			ridge flank	7-15×10 <sup>6</sup>	3.4-9.9 ×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.01 to -0.001	+0.4 to +4.1	-8.8 to -0.8	-3.0 to +0.02
	150		recharge MOR	1.5-2.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.08-0.1×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.005 to -0.003	+0.2 to +1.8	-5.9 to -1.3	-2.8 to -0.8
			ridge flank	7-15×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.4-0.8 ×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.04 to -0.02	+1.2 to +13	-42 to -5.8	-20 to -3.6
Surtsey <sup>e</sup>		44-138	recharge MOR	1.5-2.1×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.1-0.4×10 <sup>15</sup>	+0.006 to +0.03	+0.06 to +0.2	-5.2 to -1.2	-0.9 to -3.9
			ridge flank	7-15×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.4-1.2 ×10 <sup>15</sup>	+0.03 to +0.2	+0.3 to +1.9	-40 to -5.7	-29 to -4.2
ridge flank systems <sup>f</sup>		10-63	ridge flank	7-15×10 <sup>6</sup>	0.9-15 ×10 <sup>15</sup>	-0.1 to +4.0	+1.5 to +230	-260 to +1.0	-50 to -2.0
MOR axis <sup>g</sup>		>150	discharge MOR			+0.3 to +2.4	+0.0054 to +3.1	-2.6 to -1.5	-1.4 to +0.8
river flux <sup>h</sup>						+6.4	+12	+5.4	+3.2

<sup>a</sup>for calculation of heat flow for Surtsey see Appendix A.

<sup>b</sup>physical parameters (size, temperature, heat flow) from Mottl et al. (1998). Chemical fluxes for Baby Bare seamount were based on the specific heat flow and chemical concentration reported in Table 4.

<sup>c</sup> physical parameters (size, temperature, heat flow) from Wheat et al. (2019). Chemical fluxes for Dorado seamount were based on the specific heat flow and chemical concentration reported in Table 4.

<sup>d</sup>calculated from modeled concentrations (Table A.4) using a global heat flux of 1.5-2.1×10<sup>12</sup> Js<sup>-1</sup> (Mottl, 2003) and 7-15×10<sup>12</sup> Js<sup>-1</sup> (Hasterok, 2013; Stein and Stein, 1994) to simulate chemical fluxes in the recharge zone of MOR-related hydrothermal systems and ridge flank systems, respectively.

<sup>e</sup>calculated from measured concentrations (Table 1). Fluxes have been calculated based on a global heat flux of 7-15×10<sup>12</sup> Js<sup>-1</sup> (Hasterok, 2013; Stein and Stein, 1994), aquifer temperatures of 44-138°C and assuming a seawater temperature of 2°C at the seafloor Pálsson et al. (2012)

<sup>f</sup>from Huang et al. (2018); Staudigel (2014); Wheat and Mottl (2000) and references therein. Fluxes have been recalculated based on a global heat flux of 7-15×10<sup>12</sup> Js<sup>-1</sup> (Hasterok, 2013; Stein and Stein, 1994) and reported aquifer temperatures (Table 4)

<sup>g</sup>from Edmond et al. (1979); Elderfield and Schultz (1996); Mottl and Wheat (1994); Nielsen et al. (2006); Sleep (1991); Staudigel (2014); Von Damm et al. (1985) and references therein

<sup>h</sup>from Mackenzie (1992)

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