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1 **Experimental Constraints on Plagioclase Crystallization during H₂O- and H₂O–CO₂-**
2 **Saturated Magma Decompression**

3

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11

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13 plagioclase feldspar

14 **Abstract**

15 Experiments simulating magma decompression allow the textures of volcanic rocks to be
16 calibrated against known eruptive conditions. Interpretation of natural samples may be
17 complicated, however, by both the decompression path and the composition of exsolving
18 volatiles, which affect the time evolution of crystal textures. Here we present the results of
19 decompression experiments at elevated temperature and pressure designed to assess the
20 effects of degassing path on crystallization of Mount St. Helens rhyodacite. Three families of
21 experiments were employed to simulate varied $\text{PH}_2\text{O}-t$ trajectories: single-step, H_2O -
22 saturated decompression (SSD); continuous, H_2O -saturated decompression (CD); and
23 continuous, $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ saturated decompression. Quantitative textural data (crystal
24 abundance, number density, and size) are used to calculate plagioclase nucleation and growth
25 rates and assess deviations from equilibrium in run products. These are the first experiments
26 to quantify feldspar nucleation and growth rates during $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ saturated decompression.
27 We find that reducing the initial melt water content through addition of CO_2 increases
28 nucleation rates relative to the pure water case, an effect most pronounced at low dP/dt .
29 Moreover, these early-formed textural distinctions persist at the lowest pressures examined,
30 suggesting that deep $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ fluids could leave a lasting textural 'fingerprint' on erupted
31 magmas. Crystals formed prior to decompression during the annealing process also modulate
32 sample textures, and growth on pre-existing crystals contributes significantly to added
33 crystallinity at a wide range of experimental conditions. The phase assemblage itself is a
34 dynamic variable that can be used in conjunction with textural data to infer conditions of
35 magma ascent and eruption. Finally, quantitative textural data from experimental samples are
36 compared to those of natural pyroclasts erupted during the summer 1980 explosive-effusive
37 transition at Mount St. Helens. This comparison supports a model of magma ejected from
38 multiple storage regions present in the upper crust following the May 18 Plinian eruption,
39 such that subsequent eruptions tapped magmas that experienced varied decompression and
40 degassing histories.

41

42 **INTRODUCTION**

43 Magma ascent controls, to a large extent, the style of volcanic eruptions. The reasons for this
44 are largely kinetic – timescales of decompression-driven vesiculation and crystallization
45 strongly influence the ease of gas escape from viscous melts (Cashman, 2004; Rust &
46 Cashman, 2011). Vesiculation is the dominant process operating on very short timescales
47 (seconds to minutes; Gardner *et al.* 1999; Mourtada-Bonnefoi & Laporte 1999); however,

48 feedbacks between water exsolution, which raises the liquidus temperatures of anhydrous
49 minerals (Tuttle & Bowen, 1958), and crystallization in response to degassing become
50 increasingly important at longer timescales ($t >$ hours; Hammer & Rutherford 2002; Couch *et*
51 *al.* 2003; Martel & Schmidt 2003). The interplay between gas loss and crystallization is
52 therefore relevant to a wide spectrum of eruptive behavior in arc volcanic settings, from
53 moderately explosive to effusive. Because the timescales of eruptive activity and
54 crystallization overlap, disequilibrium features – in particular groundmass textures – provide
55 important constraints on magma ascent histories, and by extension, eruption dynamics
56 (Cashman, 1992; Hammer *et al.*, 1999; Cashman & McConnell, 2005; Pichavant *et al.*, 2007;
57 Blundy & Cashman, 2008).

58 Experiments simulating magmatic decompression provide a means of calibrating
59 textures against known ascent conditions. Early work first established the relevance of
60 degassing-induced crystallization on magmatic and volcanic timescales (Fenn, 1977;
61 Swanson, 1977; Muncill & Lasaga, 1988; Geschwind & Rutherford, 1995). Since then, a
62 rapidly expanding body of experimental literature has aimed to correlate quantitative
63 descriptors of crystal texture (i.e., abundance, number density, size, and morphology) with
64 kinetic variables such as undercooling ($\Delta T = T_{\text{liq}} - T$, the difference between the phase
65 liquidus temperature and the experimental run temperature), decompression rate (dP/dt), and
66 time (Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Couch *et al.*, 2003; Martel & Schmidt, 2003; Pupier *et*
67 *al.*, 2008; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Cichy *et al.*, 2011; Martel, 2012; Mollard *et al.*, 2012;
68 Arzilli & Carroll, 2013; Shea & Hammer, 2013). Together these studies establish baseline
69 crystallization kinetics of common magmatic minerals (Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Martel
70 & Schmidt, 2003; Mollard *et al.*, 2012), provide a context for linking groundmass crystal
71 textures to specific eruptive events (Couch *et al.*, 2003; Szramek *et al.*, 2006; Suzuki *et al.*,
72 2007; Blundy & Cashman, 2008; Martel, 2012), and compare the textural “fingerprints” of
73 decompression- and cooling-induced crystallization (Arzilli & Carroll, 2013; Shea &
74 Hammer, 2013). The collective results of dynamic decompression experiments suggest the
75 potential for applications as geospeedometers (Rutherford & Hill, 1993; Toramaru, 2008) and
76 geobarometers (Blundy & Cashman, 2008; Mollard *et al.*, 2012) and provide an essential
77 reference for numerical models of magma ascent (Melnik & Sparks, 2005).

78 A key theme arising from the growing cache of experimental data is that decompression
79 path – not simply rate – affects the evolution of crystal textures, in particular of feldspar,
80 which is the dominant crystallizing phase in intermediate to silicic bulk compositions.
81 Experiments have typically employed one of three P– t paths: an instantaneous “single-step”

82 pressure drop, followed by a fixed dwell time at final pressure (SSD, or “static”
83 decompression experiments, after Hammer 2008); a continuous, controlled decompression at
84 a constant rate, designed to simulate steady ascent (CD, or “dynamic” decompression); or a
85 series of small pressure steps and intervening dwell times (MSD, or multi-step
86 decompression), also approximating dynamic ascent, but employed out of technical necessity
87 (Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). Comparisons of decompressions along different $P-t$ paths at
88 the same time-integrated decompression rate ($= \Delta P/\text{time available for crystallization}$) have
89 revealed striking contrasts in the evolution of feldspar abundance and morphology (Hammer
90 & Rutherford, 2002; Couch *et al.*, 2003; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Martel, 2012).

91 An avenue that remains largely unexplored from a kinetic standpoint is the effect of
92 fluid composition during progressive decompression, where $P\text{H}_2\text{O}-t$ paths vary along
93 different degassing trajectories (Riker *et al.*, in press). Although H_2O is typically the most
94 abundant volatile species in silicate melts, CO_2 is almost always present, and its presence has
95 a strong modulating effect on H_2O solubility. Only one previous work compares
96 crystallization kinetics in H_2O and $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ bearing systems (Cichy *et al.*, 2011); their study
97 investigates varied decompression rates at constant terminal pressure but does not consider
98 the time-evolution of crystal textures. These observations highlight the need for experimental
99 studies that simulate the effects of varied $P\text{H}_2\text{O}-t$ ascent paths on the evolution of magmatic
100 textures, and that directly compare experimentally generated textures with those of well-
101 contextualized natural samples.

102 Here we present the results of laboratory decompression experiments on rhyodacitic
103 melt saturated with H_2O and $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ fluids. These experiments simulate magma
104 decompression from shallow crustal to near-surface pressures along varied $P\text{H}_2\text{O}-t$ paths.
105 Our target composition is a rhyodacite from Mount St. Helens, a volcanic system whose
106 erupted products are well characterized, and for which an extensive record of quantitative
107 textural data already exists (Cashman, 1988, 1992; Cashman & McConnell, 2005; Muir *et al.*,
108 2012). Through quantitative assessment of experimentally-generated crystal textures,
109 proportions, and nucleation and growth rates, we assess the effect of H_2O and $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$
110 saturated decompression on the time-evolution of crystal textures and phase relations and
111 evaluate the role of growth on pre-existing crystals in decompressing magmas. Although both
112 points have been considered in previous works (Cichy *et al.*, 2001; Martel, 2012), we go
113 significantly further in quantifying the kinetic effects of these processes. We conclude by
114 comparing textural parameters derived from experimental and natural data sets to constrain
115 the evolution of the magmatic plumbing system during recent eruptions of Mount St. Helens.

116

117 **EXPERIMENTAL AND ANALYTICAL METHODS**

118 **Experimental Methods**

119 *Experimental strategy*

120 H₂O exsolution from decompressing magma triggers crystallization in a manner analogous to
121 cooling (Yoder, 1965; Anderson, 1984; Blundy & Cashman, 2001; Hammer & Rutherford,
122 2002); this change is driven by the difference in free energy between metastable melt+vapor
123 and stable melt+vapor+crystals. The magnitude of this free energy change scales with the
124 effective undercooling, ΔT_{eff} (hereafter simply ΔT), defined as the difference between the
125 liquidus temperature of the phase of interest and the ambient temperature (e.g., Hammer &
126 Rutherford 2002). Together with time, ΔT is an important variable modulating the evolution
127 of crystal textures.

128 Our experimental strategy utilizes decompressions along different PH₂O–*t* trajectories,
129 and thus different ΔT –*t* trajectories, to investigate the effect of ascent path on textural
130 development. Experiments may be grouped into three series. In the first series,
131 decompression was executed in a single-step (SSD), after which the sample was allowed to
132 dwell at final pressure (P_f) for a period of one day or one week prior to quench. In these runs,
133 water exsolves rapidly following the pressure step, and the system responds to a near-
134 instantaneous ΔT . In the remaining two series, samples were decompressed continuously
135 (CD) at a range of rates; these series differ only in the initial fluid composition in the charge
136 ($X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$ versus 0.8). Continuously decompressed samples were quenched at varying P_f
137 along each decompression path, affording snapshots of the temporal evolution of crystal
138 textures (e.g., Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). In these runs, the
139 imposed undercooling is a function of time – a “dynamic” undercooling, $d\Delta T/dt$ – that
140 reflects both the melt H₂O content and the crystallization efficiency at all previous pressures
141 (Hammer, 2008). All else being equal, the different PH₂O– P_{total} trajectories defined by water-
142 saturated and closed-system degassing (e.g., Riker *et al.*, in press) should yield distinct
143 PH₂O–*t* paths that are relevant to natural decompressing magmas.

144 CD experiments were run at decompression rates of 1 and 10 MPa hr⁻¹. These values
145 correspond to magma ascent rates characteristic of effusive to low-intensity explosive
146 volcanic eruptions, as estimated by a variety of techniques (seismicity, mass eruption rate,
147 petrologic constraints; e.g., Rutherford 2008). A single additional run at 100 MPa hr⁻¹ more
148 closely approximates decompression during explosive eruptions. Quench pressures (100, 50,

149 and 25 MPa) are identical in each series and correspond to a region of shallow storage depths
150 inferred for the post-1980 magmatic plumbing system of Mount St. Helens (MSH; Cashman,
151 1992; Cashman & McConnell, 2005).

152 Initial conditions (temperature and initial pressure, P_i) were chosen to match those of an
153 upper crustal magma storage region feeding the 1980–1986 MSH eruptions. Combined
154 constraints from phase equilibria experiments (Rutherford *et al.*, 1985; Rutherford & Devine,
155 1988; Gardner *et al.*, 1995b; Rutherford & Devine, 2008) and petrologic analysis of erupted
156 products (Blundy *et al.*, 2008) indicate pre-eruptive storage pressures of 220–320 MPa,
157 temperatures between 870–875 °C, and an oxygen fugacity near NNO+1. Our exact starting
158 conditions, $P_i = 200$ MPa and $T = 885$ °C, differ slightly from these values owing to physical
159 limitations of the experimental apparatus, as well as our desire to minimize the proportion of
160 plagioclase formed during equilibration. The initial fluid composition selected for H₂O–CO₂
161 bearing runs ($X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$) corresponds to that anticipated at our P_i and run T for closed-
162 system degassing of a representative Mount St. Helens melt inclusion composition (after
163 Blundy *et al.* 2010).

164 Our experiments and analysis focus on plagioclase feldspar, the most abundant
165 groundmass phase in many natural magmas and in our chosen experimental system. Feldspar
166 crystallization is highly sensitive to changes in both PH_2O and ΔT (Fenn, 1977; Swanson,
167 1977; Geschwind & Rutherford, 1995; Hammer & Rutherford, 2002) and therefore represents
168 the ideal marker of magmatic decompression conditions.

169 *Starting materials*

170 The starting material used for all decompression experiments is a synthetic, volatile-free
171 analog of the Sugar Bowl rhyodacite (dome sample DS-63 of Smith & Leeman 1987). This
172 evolved composition is well-suited to the study of groundmass crystallization at Mount St.
173 Helens, as it falls at the intersection of whole rock and groundmass glass major element
174 trends (e.g., Blundy *et al.* 2008). Phase equilibria studies on the same starting powder (Fig. 1;
175 Riker *et al.*, in press) provide a baseline for our decompression experiments, and full details
176 of material preparation can be found therein. Briefly, the powder was prepared as a
177 mechanical mixture of oxides and carbonates, decarbonated in a box furnace, then repeatedly
178 heated in a gas-buffered vertical furnace equilibrated at NNO+1 (near the ambient $f\text{O}_2$
179 imposed by the Ni-alloy pressure vessel), quenched to glass, and reground to homogenize.
180 The measured major element composition of starting material SB3 is given in Table 1.

183 *Experimental procedure*

184 For each run, ~50 mg of starting powder was loaded into a 3 mm diameter Au75Pd25
185 capsule, along with sufficient liquid water and (in CO₂-bearing runs) Ag₂C₂O₄ to saturate the
186 charge with a fluid of target composition. The necessary amounts of H₂O and Ag₂C₂O₄ were
187 determined directly from the results of phase equilibria experiments. Loaded capsules were
188 micro-welded shut, then weighed and heated to check for mass loss. Although a gold–
189 palladium alloy is not required by our run temperatures, Au failed repeatedly during
190 decompression to P_f = 25 MPa in pilot experiments; AuPd significantly reduced the incidence
191 of capsule leakage, either by preventing pressure welding of the capsule crimp, or through its
192 added mechanical strength. If the latter, we note the possibility of a slight overpressure in
193 runs at the lowest P_f, such that P_f < 50 MPa are minimum values.

194 Decompression experiments were run in externally heated cold seal Nimonic pressure
195 vessels at the University of Bristol, or in identical apparatus at the University of Oregon. A
196 nickel alloy filler rod was used to position samples in the hotspot of the external furnace, and
197 static pressure was applied using water as the pressurizing medium. Temperature was
198 maintained at 885±5 °C using K-type thermocouples and monitored throughout each run.
199 Pressure was monitored using both digital transducers and factory-calibrated Heise gauges;
200 pressure was maintained to within ±1 MPa of the target value during periods of isobaric
201 equilibration (i.e., anneal and dwell periods). All charges were allowed to equilibrate at P_i for
202 a fixed period of time prior to the onset of decompression (72 hours for XH₂O^{fl} = 1.0 and 168
203 hours XH₂O^{fl} = 0.8, as required by the initial melt H₂O content). Following this “anneal”
204 period, single-step decompressions were executed manually by opening a pressure bleed
205 valve to bring the run near-instantaneously to the desired P_f. Continuous decompressions
206 employed a programmable pressure controller linked to a motorized screw to drive a piston
207 into or out of an external water-filled reservoir (Johnston & Senkovich, 2007). Throughout
208 decompression, these external controllers regulated pressure to within 0.2 MPa of the set
209 point, although a slight offset was sometimes observed between digital gauges on the
210 pressure controller and cold seal apparatus (always <1 MPa). Two samples (XH₂O^{fl} = 1.0 and
211 XH₂O^{fl} = 0.8) were not decompressed, but were quenched immediately following the anneal
212 period (Fig. 2). These reference samples provide information on the equilibrium state of our
213 charges prior to the onset of decompression.

214 The oxygen fugacities of select experiments were monitored using a conventional NiPd
215 sensor technique (Taylor *et al.*, 1992; Pownceby & O’Neill, 1994). In these runs, a sealed, 2

216 mm diameter Pd capsule containing a combination of Ni(OH)₂ ± Ni ± H₂O was positioned in
217 the holder, adjacent to the sample capsule. This allowed the displacement of *f*O₂ relative to
218 the NNO buffer to be monitored via the alloying of nickel metal with the Pd capsule (Taylor
219 *et al.*, 1992). Electron microprobe analysis of capsule walls yields *f*O₂ of NNO+2±0.7
220 (calculated using the activity–composition relationships of Pownceby & O’Neill 1994); due
221 to a functional relationship between *f*H₂ and water activity, the true *f*O₂ in CO₂-bearing
222 charges will be slightly lower than measured values (e.g., Scaillet & Evans, 1999; Sisson *et*
223 *al.*, 2005). Although these conditions are somewhat more oxidizing than our target *f*O₂, they
224 should not affect the textural evolution of plagioclase feldspar, as demonstrated by Martel *et*
225 *al.* (2012) for experiments at NNO+1 and NNO+3 .

226 After quench, capsules containing a pure H₂O fluid were weighed and pierced to
227 confirm water saturation. CO₂-bearing charges were weighed and then frozen; the fluid
228 compositions were measured by mass balance by puncturing the frozen capsule, weighing to
229 determine the mass of free CO₂, then heating and reweighing to determine the mass of free
230 water (e.g., Tamic *et al.* 2001). The final fluid composition was calculated from the masses
231 (m) of excess H₂O and CO₂ released from the charge as:

232

$$233 \text{XH}_2\text{O}^{\text{fl}} = (m_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}/18.01) / [(m_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}/18.01) + (m_{\text{CO}_2}/44.02)] \quad (1)$$

234

235 Both initial (pre-decompression) and final (post-decompression) fluid compositions are
236 reported in Table 2; except where explicitly stated, XH₂O^{fl} refers to the initial fluid
237 composition of a charge.

238

239 **Analytical methods**

240 *Compositional analysis*

241 The compositions of quenched experimental glasses were analyzed on a Cameca SX-100
242 electron microprobe at the University of Bristol. Glass analyses were run at 15 kV
243 accelerating voltage and 2 nA beam current using a 10–15 μm beam diameter to minimize
244 alkali migration (Humphreys *et al.*, 2006). During data reduction, H was processed as a by-
245 difference element to yield estimates of dissolved H₂O content. Reported compositions are an
246 average of 10–15 analyses per charge (see supplementary materials).

247

248 *Textural analysis*

249 Two methods of quantitative textural characterization are widely employed in the

250 volcanological literature: those based on two-dimensional attributes of the bulk crystal
251 population (“batch” methods; e.g., Hammer & Rutherford 2002), and those based on the
252 density distribution of individual crystal sizes (the crystal size distribution, or CSD; e.g.,
253 Randolph & Larson 1971; Marsh 1988). Batch methods and similar bulk calculation
254 techniques (such as those based on maximum crystal length, L_{\max}) are routinely used to
255 estimate crystal growth and nucleation rates in experimental studies (Hammer & Rutherford,
256 2002; Couch *et al.*, 2003; Martel & Schmidt, 2003; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Martel,
257 2012; Mollard *et al.*, 2012; Arzilli & Carroll, 2013; Shea & Hammer, 2013). This approach is
258 rapid and may be confidently applied when the crystallization timescale is known. Published
259 examples of experimentally constrained CSDs are rare (exceptions include Pupier *et al.*,
260 2008; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Cichy *et al.*, 2011). Textural studies of natural samples, in
261 contrast, often utilize the complete crystal size distribution as a means of extracting kinetic
262 information (e.g., Armienti, 2008; Blundy & Cashman, 2008). Following the convention of
263 previous experimental work, we emphasize batch-calculated kinetic parameters in this study.
264 However, to facilitate application of our results to existing natural datasets, including several
265 for Mount St. Helens (Cashman, 1988, 1992; Cashman & McConnell, 2005; Muir *et al.*,
266 2012), we have acquired full CSDs for a subset of 17 samples.

267 Back-scattered electron (BSE) images of polished, carbon-coated sample mounts were
268 acquired on a Hitachi S-3500N scanning electron microscope (SEM) at the University of
269 Bristol (15 kV accelerating voltage, 10 mm working distance). Up to six images were
270 acquired from representative regions of each sample at magnifications of 200×, 250×, or
271 500×. Plagioclase crystals in each image were thresholded according to their greyscale values
272 and then converted to binary images using the image processing freeware ImageJ (distributed
273 by the National Institute of Health; Abràmoff *et al.* 2004). Touching crystals were digitally
274 separated on the basis of visual inspection of crystal shape and orientation. Axially radiating
275 crystals were treated as separate nucleation sites. Conversely, closely spaced, sub-parallel
276 dendritic lathes present at high undercoolings were assumed to represent planar sections of
277 radiator-shaped forms (e.g., Hammer & Rutherford 2002) and treated as single nucleation
278 sites.

279 ImageJ enabled automated measurement of crystal number, area, and size (calculated as
280 the major and minor axes of an equivalent ellipse) in each binary image. The resolution of
281 this approach, determined from the minimum object size included in measurements (10
282 pixels, as recommended by Higgins 2006), is ~0.8 μm at the highest magnifications utilized.
283 To ensure appropriate treatment of edge-intersecting crystals, each image was processed

284 twice: once including crystals in contact with the image boundary (for determination of the
285 total crystal area), and once excluding these crystals (for complete crystal size distributions;
286 Higgins, 2006; Hammer, 2008). Areal number densities include a count from two of the four
287 image boundaries.

288

289 *Batch calculations* Image analysis output was used to calculate the plagioclase area
290 fraction (ϕ) and areal number density (N_A , the number of crystals per unit area, in mm^{-2}) in
291 each sample. Both values are normalized to a vesicle-free reference area (e.g., Hammer *et al.*
292 1999), also determined in ImageJ. For randomly oriented crystals, the area fraction may be
293 assumed to equal the volume fraction, ϕ (DeHoff & Rhines, 1968). Together, N_A and ϕ give
294 the characteristic two-dimensional crystal size, expressed as the square root of the mean
295 crystal area,

296

$$297 \quad S_N = (\phi / N_A)^{1/2}. \quad (2)$$

298

299 Volumetric number density, N_V , may then be calculated via a standard stereological
300 conversion that corrects for cut and intersection effects (Underwood, 1970):

301

$$302 \quad N_V = N_A / S_N \quad (3)$$

303

304 (Cheng & Lemlich, 1983; Hammer *et al.*, 1999; Blundy & Cashman, 2008). These values are
305 related to time-integrated nucleation (I , $\text{mm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) and growth rates (G , $\text{mm} \text{s}^{-1}$) as

306

$$307 \quad I = N_V / t \quad (4)$$

308

$$309 \quad G = S_N / t, \quad (5)$$

310

311 where t is the crystallization interval (Hammer & Rutherford, 2002). Reported uncertainties
312 in ϕ , N_A , S_N , G , and I are estimated from the 1σ variation between multiple analyzed images
313 or, in cases where only a single image was analyzed, from the variation of sub-sampled
314 crystal populations within each image.

315

316 The initial conditions of our experiments are below the plagioclase liquidus of the bulk
composition, and in all runs, some feldspar crystallized during the initial equilibration period.

317 As these crystals did not form during decompression, we have subtracted the number density
318 and abundance of plagioclase in equilibrium reference samples ($422 \pm 74 \text{ mm}^{-2}$ for DSB6 and
319 $1018 \pm 80 \text{ mm}^{-2}$ for DSB39) from measured N_A and ϕ prior to calculation of nucleation and
320 growth rates (e.g., Brugger & Hammer 2010a). Throughout this paper, we report only the
321 equilibrium-referenced N_A (= measured $N_A - N_{A \text{ REF}}$), G , and I to facilitate comparison
322 between pure water and mixed fluid experiments, which have different initial number
323 densities.

324

325 *Crystal size distributions* Size information derived from image analysis may also be
326 used to generate crystal size distributions (CSDs), which provide a statistical framework for
327 the interpretation of quantitative textural parameters (Randolph & Larson, 1971; Cashman &
328 Marsh, 1988; Marsh, 1988). The size distribution represents a population balance of crystals
329 as they grow into (or out of) a specific size range, L , while fluxing into (or out of) a control
330 volume of interest. This population balance may be described in terms of three key variables:
331 G , the mean linear crystal growth rate; τ , the average crystal residence time; and n^0 , the
332 number density of nucleus-sized crystals (i.e., $L \rightarrow 0$; Cashman & Marsh, 1988).

333 The application of CSD theory to natural datasets requires conversion of areal
334 (apparent) crystal dimensions to true three-dimensional crystal shapes. These conversions
335 were executed using the software program CSDCorrections (v. 1.4; Higgins 2000), now
336 widely used in the geological community for the generation of crystal size distributions. The
337 program attempts to account for three sources of stereological error (e.g., Hammer *et al.*
338 1999): (1) cut effects, which result from planar sectioning of crystals at different orientations;
339 (2) intersection probability, which means small crystals are less likely to be sectioned than
340 larger ones; and (3) deviations arising from nonspherical crystal habit. Key inputs for
341 CSDCorrections are measured crystal sizes, L , here defined as the long axis of a best-fit
342 ellipse, as output by ImageJ. Additional required inputs include crystal shape (the ratios of
343 short to intermediate to long axes), sample fabric, and grain roundness. Our samples contain
344 no perceptible fabric, and a roundness factor of 0.1 was inferred for all samples based on
345 visual inspection. Shape factors were determined using the Excel database CSDSlice (v. 5;
346 Morgan & Jerram 2006), which compares the distribution of area-based crystal aspect ratios
347 to those generated by random sectioning of known crystal shapes to determine the best-fit
348 three-dimensional habit. Importantly, this assumes that a single shape factor applies to the
349 entire crystal population.

350 From these data, logarithmic bin intervals of L were used to generate size distributions
351 as cumulative plots of $\ln(n^0) > L$ (in mm^{-4}) versus L (in mm), as described by Marsh (1988)
352 and Cashman & Marsh (1988). Quantitative kinetic information is derived by least-squares
353 regression of the $\ln(n^0)$ - L slope, which is inversely proportional to the product of growth rate
354 and residence time:

355
356
$$\text{slope} = -1/ G\tau \tag{6}$$

357
358 (Marsh, 1988). The regression intercept n^0 is equal to the ratio of nucleation and growth rates,
359 such that

360
361
$$I = n^0 G. \tag{7}$$

362
363 Uncertainties in CSD-derived parameters have been estimated from the standard errors of
364 regression intercepts and slopes, as reported in Table 4.

365 A tremendous diversity of approaches has been used to generate crystal size
366 distributions since early applications of theory to magmatic crystallization. In particular,
367 choices of characteristic crystal length L vary considerably (e.g., major axis length, caliper
368 length, crystal width, square root of crystal area), as do approaches to stereological
369 conversion (Peterson, 1996; Sahagian & Proussevitch, 1998; Higgins, 2000). Following
370 Brugger & Hammer (2010b), we adopt methods and assumptions that have been widely used
371 in recent textural studies of igneous systems. Our aim is to facilitate comparison of our
372 experimental results with past (and future) datasets. This is important, as Muir *et al.* (2012)
373 have shown that size distributions generated using different techniques applied to identical
374 samples can yield vastly different values of calculated kinetic parameters.

375
376 **RESULTS**

377 **Phase relations**

378 All experimental run products contain glass, vesicles, and crystals formed during
379 equilibration and subsequent decompression. Experimental mineral assemblages consist of
380 plagioclase + Fe-Ti oxides \pm amphibole \pm orthopyroxene \pm silica; plagioclase is the most
381 abundant phase in all charges. Two reference samples equilibrated at $P_i = 200$ MPa contain
382 plagioclase + amphibole + Fe-Ti oxides (at $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$) and plagioclase + amphibole +
383 orthopyroxene + Fe-Ti oxides (at $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$), consistent with equilibrium P- $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}}$ phase

384 relations for the Sugar Bowl rhyodacite at 885 °C (Fig. 1). In contrast, the phase assemblages
385 of decompressed samples may differ considerably from the equilibrium assemblage at a
386 given quench pressure, P_f (Table 2).

387 In pure- H_2O runs, amphibole routinely persists to the lowest P_f examined (25 MPa);
388 resorption (manifest as rounding) and incipient reaction rims form in slowly decompressed
389 samples ($dP/dt = 1 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$) at $P_f < 50 \text{ MPa}$ and in a single instantaneous decompression to
390 50 MPa (dwell = 24 hrs). At higher decompression rates, amphibole crystals maintain
391 euhedral forms throughout the decompression interval. Amphibole is absent from three
392 single-step decompressions at high undercoolings ($P_f = 25 \text{ MPa}$) and/or long dwell times ($t =$
393 168 hours), indicating complete reaction of the phase with surrounding melt at these
394 conditions; given that experimental amphiboles are typically $\sim 5\text{--}10 \mu\text{m}$ across, these
395 observations imply hornblende reaction rates somewhat faster than those inferred by
396 Rutherford & Hill (1993) for Mount St. Helens dacites. Also in pure- H_2O samples,
397 orthopyroxene crystallization is delayed to pressures below the equilibrium curve, to < 100
398 MPa at $dP/dt = 1 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$, and to $< 25 \text{ MPa}$ at $dP/dt \geq 10 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$. In instantaneous
399 decompressions, we observe orthopyroxene at all $P_f < 100 \text{ MPa}$ and at all dwell $t = 168$ hours.
400 Euhedral orthopyroxene often mantles rounded amphibole cores; this may be a reaction
401 feature or a kinetic one (e.g., preferential heterogeneous nucleation of pyroxene crystals on
402 amphibole), although it is texturally distinct from the fine-grained rims typically associated
403 with hornblende breakdown (Rutherford & Hill, 1993; Browne & Gardner, 2006). A silica
404 polymorph (probably cristobalite) forms only in single-step decompressions to low P_f ,
405 present as fractured, pseudo-hexagonal crystals up to $100 \mu\text{m}$ in length. Cristobalite forms
406 between dwell times of 24 and 168 hours at $P_f = 50 \text{ MPa}$, and in < 24 hours at $P_f = 25 \text{ MPa}$.

407 In CO_2 -bearing decompressions ($X_{H_2O}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$), amphibole breakdown is shifted to
408 higher pressures and/or shorter residence times, in keeping with equilibration conditions
409 closer to the limiting H_2O content of amphibole stability ($\sim 4 \text{ wt\%}$; Fig. 1). For $dP/dt = 10$
410 MPa hr^{-1} , reaction rims are observed at $P_f = 25 \text{ MPa}$ (compared to unreacted euhedral
411 crystals in the pure- H_2O system at the same conditions); at lower dP/dt , incipient breakdown
412 is observed at $P_f = 100 \text{ MPa}$, and amphibole is absent by $P_f = 50 \text{ MPa}$. Orthopyroxene is
413 present in all CO_2 -bearing charges, including the equilibrium reference sample.
414 Orthopyroxene growth is evidenced by pronounced and generally sharp zonation of crystal
415 rims towards more Fe-rich compositions, as indicated by semi-quantitative EDS. Silica is not
416 observed in any decompressions at $X_{H_2O}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$.

417 Metastable phase assemblages are a common feature of decompression experiments
418 (Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Cichy *et al.*, 2011; Martel, 2012; Shea & Hammer, 2013); the
419 absence of phases that might otherwise be stable at final pressure is often attributed to a
420 nucleation delay associated with the time required for structural reorganization of the melt
421 (e.g., Fokin *et al.* 1981). What is clear from our experimental suite is that nucleation lags are
422 not a unique function of time, as also emphasized by the results of Brugger & Hammer
423 (2010a). As a consequence, samples with comparable crystallization intervals
424 (decompression time, t_{dc} + dwell time, t_{dw}) but different decompression rates may contain
425 disparate assemblages. Under disequilibrium conditions, then, the phase assemblage is not
426 independent of the decompression path. Rather, the assemblage itself is a dynamic variable
427 with the potential to provide key information about the ascent history of its host magma.

428

429 **Phase Compositions**

430 Compositions of experimental glasses and plagioclase crystals are reported in the
431 supplementary materials. Glass compositions record progressive melt evolution in response
432 to decompression-driven crystallization, with incompatible components like K_2O (Fig. 4)
433 becoming concentrated in the melt with decreasing P_f in all three sets of experiments. Glass
434 K_2O contents of water-saturated decompression experiments are compared to those from a
435 corresponding set of isobaric experiments (Riker *et al.*, in press) in Figs. 4a and c (no
436 corresponding dataset is available for runs at $X_{H_2O} = 0.8$). In continuous decompressions,
437 glass compositions lag behind equilibrium values at all experimental P_f , suggesting
438 equilibrium crystallinities are not achieved at any point during decompression. Moreover, the
439 gap between experimental and equilibrium glass compositions increases systematically with
440 increasing decompression rate, as also observed by Brugger & Hammer (2010a). In contrast,
441 single-step decompressions reach equilibrium melt K_2O contents within 24 hours, after which
442 point melt K_2O remains constant. Hammer & Rutherford (2002) note a similar distinction
443 between single-step and multi-step decompressions, although their SSD runs do not reach
444 equilibrium crystallinities at $P_f < 40$ even after 7 days, perhaps owing to the lower
445 temperature and/or more silicic composition of their experiments.

446 Plagioclase compositions are known to be strongly dependent on PH_2O (e.g., Putirka,
447 2005), and experimental plagioclase anorthite contents span a range of values in each sample
448 (5 to >20 mol% An; Fig. 4). These ranges record plagioclase crystallization at varied melt
449 water contents during or after decompression, and show that early-formed cores fail to re-
450 equilibrate on the timescales of our runs. In keeping with the findings of previous

451 experimental studies (Castro & Gardner, 2008; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Mollard *et al.*,
452 2012), compositions are not clearly correlated with crystal size or decompression rate.
453 Compositional zones in our experimental plagioclase crystals are often smaller than the
454 electron beam, such that many analyses represent a mixture of cores and rims. As such, it is
455 difficult to capture the complete compositional range in all samples. The most anorthitic
456 crystals in H₂O-saturated runs have An₅₂₋₅₆ (exceptions are two SSD runs at P_f= 50 MPa, in
457 which we may not have captured the most calcic crystals) and reflect the compositions of
458 plagioclase formed during the initial anneal period; the maximum An contents in H₂O-CO₂-
459 saturated runs are more sodic (An₄₆₋₅₀) owing to lower initial melt water contents. The
460 clearest distinction between our three sets of experiments, however, is in their approach to
461 equilibrium An contents (Riker *et al.*, in press). For a given P_f, the most albitic plagioclase
462 crystals are consistently more calcic than equilibrium values in continuous decompression
463 experiments (both H₂O- and H₂O-CO₂-saturated), while plagioclase in single-step
464 decompressions reach equilibrium compositions at all but the lowest P_f (despite, in many
465 cases, shorter run durations). Plagioclase in SSD runs at P_f = 25 MPa may extend to more
466 albitic compositions that could not be captured due to the small size of newly-formed crystals
467 and rims, an interpretation consistent with equilibrium glass K₂O contents in these samples.

468 That glass compositions sensitively record the extent of crystallization of decompressed
469 samples is consistent with previous experimental work (Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Couch
470 *et al.* 2003), which has shown that concentrations of incompatible elements in decompressed
471 glasses more closely approach equilibrium values in single-step decompressions than in
472 continuous or multi-step decompressions of similar duration. The compositions of
473 crystallizing plagioclase, however, may be expected to depend on both melt water content (a
474 function of P_f) and melt composition (i.e., degree of crystallization). In CD experiments, then,
475 plagioclase compositions may fall short of equilibrium because of limited crystallization time
476 at low water contents, or because crystallization itself is not keeping pace; more likely, both
477 factors contribute to the lag in equilibrium anorthite contents. It is also possible that feldspar
478 crystals have very thin rims in equilibrium with surrounding melt, which cannot be measured
479 by conventional techniques.

480

481 **Plagioclase textures**

482 Feldspar crystallized in all decompressed samples by way of nucleation and/or growth (Fig.
483 3). Plagioclase microlites formed during decompression are observed at all quench pressures
484 and decompression rates and constrain nucleation delays to <100 hours for runs at 1 MPa hr⁻¹

485 ¹, <10 hours at 10 MPa hr⁻¹, and (for XH₂O^{fl} = 1.0) <1 hour at 100 MPa hr⁻¹. For SSD
486 experiments, nucleation delays are <24 hours. Evidence of feldspar growth in pure-H₂O runs
487 is given by a marked increase in the apparent size of the largest crystals (relative to the
488 equilibrium reference sample) and the ubiquitous presence of low-greyscale crystal rims
489 visible in BSE images. Because greyscale in BSE mode is proportional to mean atomic
490 number, these darker rims reflect growth of more albitic plagioclase on pre-existing “cores”
491 formed during the anneal period (Fig. 3a,b). Contrast between feldspar cores and rims
492 (proportional to the difference in anorthite content) increases with decreasing P_f. The nature
493 of zonation also varies systematically with decompression rate: core-rim boundaries are
494 diffuse in runs at 1 MPa hr⁻¹ and sharpest in the SSD series (Fig. 3a,f). Unequivocal evidence
495 of plagioclase zoning in CO₂-bearing experiments is visible only in runs with P_f <50 MPa
496 (Fig. 3c,d).

497

498 *Plagioclase morphology*

499 Feldspar morphology is known to be a strong function of undercooling (Lofgren, 1980;
500 Kirkpatrick, 1981; Hammer & Rutherford, 2002), and visual inspection of BSE images shows
501 coherent variation of crystal forms within each experimental series (Fig. 3). Here we adopt
502 the terminology of Shea & Hammer (2013) to describe feldspar textures as a function of
503 morphology (euhedral, hopper/swallowtail, skeletal), habit (blocky, elongate, tabular, or
504 acicular, in order of increasing aspect ratio) and crystal arrangement (individual, clustered, or
505 spherulitic).

506

507 *Continuous decompression (XH₂O^{fl} = 1.0)* Pure-H₂O CD experiments are characterized
508 by euhedral feldspar crystals. Swallowtail or skeletal overgrowths are visible on crystal rims
509 at P_f ≤50 MPa in slowly decompressed samples (1 MPa hr⁻¹), and at all P_f for more rapid
510 decompressions. These disequilibrium features become increasingly abundant with
511 decreasing P_f or, at constant P_f, with increasing decompression rate. Plagioclase habits are
512 generally elongate to tabular; shape factors suggest that at each decompression rate, growing
513 crystals become first slightly more equant (e.g., long: intermediate axis ratio, *l:i*, decreases
514 relative to the equilibrium reference) before aspect ratios increase at low P_f (from *l:i* <2 to *l:i*
515 = 3–4). There is no clear relationship between aspect ratio and dP/dt. Rare smaller crystals
516 (presumably nucleated during the decompression interval) have hopper or skeletal forms and
517 higher aspect ratios than their larger counterparts. Crystals in this series tend to be isolated,
518 although occasional crystal clusters appear at high dP/dt and low P_f.

519

520 *Continuous decompression ($X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$)* Feldspars with hopper morphologies are
521 abundant in CO₂-bearing experiments, in keeping with their prevalence in the reference
522 sample equilibrated at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$ (Fig. 2). In contrast to pure-H₂O runs, plagioclase
523 morphologies display limited variation across the range of conditions examined. Hopper
524 forms are dominant at all P_f and dP/dt , while skeletal crystals are rare in this sample suite.
525 Crystal habits are acicular in planar section; aspect ratios decrease with decreasing P_f but are
526 uncorrelated with dP/dt . Although newly nucleated crystals appear to be abundant, they are
527 not easily distinguished from crystals formed during equilibration on the basis of
528 morphology. Instead, textural variations in H₂O–CO₂ runs are manifest primarily as
529 variations in plagioclase size and abundance. The differences between pure-H₂O and CO₂-
530 bearing runs suggest that the evolution of crystal morphologies in our experiments is strongly
531 modulated by the initial fluid composition. This modulating effect persists throughout the
532 decompression interval.

533

534 *Single-step decompression ($X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$)* Non-euhedral feldspar forms are common in
535 all SSD experiments, consistent with the large ΔT imposed by instantaneous decompression.
536 These evolve from predominantly hopper and swallowtail habits at $P_f = 100$ MPa to
537 predominantly skeletal habits at $P_f = 25$ MPa. New plagioclase forms as both overgrowths on
538 subhedral prismatic cores (formed during the anneal) and as smaller, isolated crystals
539 nucleated during decompression. The latter become increasingly abundant at $P_f \leq 50$ MPa,
540 generating a distinctly bimodal population of plagioclase crystals (Fig. 3). Crystal habits are
541 tabular to acicular, and aspect ratios progress towards more acicular habits with decreasing
542 quench pressure. Shape factors were not determined for two experiments decompressed to P_f
543 = 25 MPa, because 2D intersection-based techniques do not provide meaningful shape
544 descriptors of skeletal crystal forms (e.g., Higgins 2006); however, visual inspection suggests
545 that aspect ratios of newly-formed dendrites are even higher in these runs. Plagioclase forms
546 primarily individual crystals at $P_f = 100$ MPa, while clustered and spherulitic arrangements
547 are common at lower P_f . Dendrites in high ΔT experiments manifest as groups of parallel
548 laths which may be connected in three dimensions (e.g., Hammer & Rutherford 2002). SSD
549 runs at identical P_f also provide snapshots of the temporal evolution of crystal morphologies
550 at dwell times of one day and one week. Some rounding of crystals can be seen in the time
551 series at $P_f = 100$ MPa. In runs at $P_f \leq 50$ MPa, feldspar morphologies do not appear to vary

552 on the timescales investigated.

553

554 *Plagioclase abundance, number density, and size*

555 The evolution of experimentally generated plagioclase textures can be quantitatively
556 described in terms of volumetric abundance (ϕ), areal number density (N_A), and characteristic
557 crystal size (S_N). These data are plotted against quench pressure in Figure 5a–c for each
558 experimental series. For CD experiments, trends represent the time evolution of textural
559 parameters during progressive decompression. At a given decompression rate, the length of
560 the crystallization interval increases along the x-axis. For SSD experiments, symbols
561 designate experiments with identical crystallization intervals following the application of
562 progressively higher ΔT (i.e., lower P_f). To enable more direct comparison to the time
563 sequence represented by CD experiments, the data from SSD runs are also plotted against t_{dw}
564 in Figure 5d.

565 Plagioclase volume fractions in all series show an accelerating increase in ϕ with
566 decreasing P_f . In water-saturated runs, these values may be directly compared to those
567 measured in equilibrium experiments at the same quench pressure (Riker *et al.*, in press; Fig.
568 6). For CO_2 -bearing decompressions, equilibrium plagioclase volume fractions are estimated
569 from measured melt water contents (see supplementary materials) using a simple, polynomial
570 parameterization of the ϕ – H_2O relationship of water-saturated phase equilibria experiments
571 (e.g., Riker *et al.*, in press).

572 Feldspar abundances echo trends recorded by glass compositions. In CD experiments
573 ($\text{XH}_2\text{O}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$ and 0.8), ϕ are consistently lower than equilibrium values, and deviation from
574 equilibrium ϕ increases systematically with decreasing quench pressure. This effect is most
575 pronounced in the single run at $dP/dt = 100 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$, where crystallinity at $P_f = 25 \text{ MPa}$ is
576 less than a third of that measured in the corresponding equilibrium experiment. Crystallinities
577 in runs at 1 and 10 MPa hr^{-1} are both about half that of the equilibrium experiment at the
578 same P_f . In SSD experiments, ϕ values are coincident with the equilibrium curve for all P_f ,
579 regardless of dwell time, implying that most plagioclase crystallizes within 24 hours of
580 decompression. After this period, plagioclase ϕ remains more or less constant (Fig. 6d).

581 The degree to which plagioclase crystallization keeps pace with (or lags behind)
582 equilibrium in our experiments can be ascribed primarily to (a) decompression rate and (b)
583 time available for crystallization. At the large instantaneous undercoolings experienced by
584 SSD runs, equilibrium crystallinities are rapidly achieved at all P_f . In contrast, the short

585 crystallization interval associated with continuous decompression at high dP/dt limits the
586 time available for crystallization, even though the effective undercooling (in this case a
587 dynamic undercooling, $d\Delta T/dt$) is relatively large. At slow to intermediate decompression
588 rates (1–10 MPa hr^{-1}), the competing effects of undercooling and time appear to balance one
589 another, such that ϕ at any given P_f remains fairly constant across an order of magnitude
590 change in the decompression rate. This fortuitous effect has been observed in previous
591 experimental studies (Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Cichy *et al.*, 2011) and suggests that, at a
592 wide range of geologically relevant decompression rates, plagioclase crystallinity alone is
593 insensitive to ascent conditions. Perhaps also fortuitously, initial ϕ and/or fluid composition
594 appear to have little effect on the evolution of plagioclase crystallinity at the range of
595 conditions examined.

596 Areal plagioclase number densities vary coherently both within and between series. At
597 every decompression rate, CD experiments show an accelerating increase in N_A with
598 decreasing quench pressure. Plagioclase number densities also increase with increasing
599 decompression rate. In pure- H_2O runs, N_A achieve maximum values of 827, 1673, and 1857
600 mm^{-2} at $P_f = 25$ MPa for $dP/dt = 1, 10,$ and 100 MPa hr^{-1} , respectively. N_A are consistently
601 higher in CO_2 -bearing runs, with maxima of 1702 and 2984 mm^{-2} at 1 and 10 MPa hr^{-1} . In
602 CD runs, then, the number of crystals nucleated during decompression to any given P_f
603 increases with dP/dt , despite the fact that the crystallization interval is proportionately
604 shortened. SSD experiments also show a pronounced increase in plagioclase number density
605 with decreasing quench pressure (increasing ΔT ; Fig. 5c), with N_A nearly an order of
606 magnitude higher than those observed in CD experiments at identical P_f (747–15,234 mm^{-2} ;
607 Table 4). Almost all crystals in SSD runs nucleate within the first 24 hours of the dwell
608 period (Fig. 5d); subsequent time-dependence of N_A is either invariant within uncertainty (at
609 $P_f = 25$ and 50 MPa) or slightly negative (at $P_f = 100$ MPa). These observations are consistent
610 with an early nucleation event in all instantaneous decompressions (within one day of the
611 imposed undercooling), followed by limited nucleation, or even ripening at high P_f , up to a
612 dwell time of one week.

613 Apparent (2D) average plagioclase sizes range from 5–16 μm and, when plotted against
614 P_f , reveal the shifting contributions of small and large crystals to the total crystallinity. Here
615 we report the bulk-averaged quantity, S_N , rather than the maximum crystal length, L_{max} (e.g.,
616 Fenn 1977; Hammer & Rutherford 2002; Couch *et al.* 2003; Martel 2012), because crystals
617 formed during annealing are not easily distinguished from those formed during

618 decompression, and L_{\max} is less sensitive to size variations in the smallest (i.e., nucleating)
619 crystals. In continuous decompressions, nearly all samples progress through a maximum S_N
620 at some finite P_f . For a given quench pressure, S_N increases with decreasing dP/dt (Fig. 5).
621 For $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$, S_N peaks at $P_f = 50$ MPa at 1 MPa hr^{-1} ($S_N = 16 \mu\text{m}$) and $P_f = 100$ MPa at 10
622 MPa hr^{-1} ($S_N = 13 \mu\text{m}$). S_N peaks at $P_f = 100$ MPa for CO_2 -bearing runs at 1 MPa hr^{-1} ($S_N = 12$
623 μm), although the amplitude of this peak is considerably smaller than those observed in the
624 pure- H_2O system. Plagioclase crystals in CO_2 -bearing runs decompressed at 10 MPa hr^{-1}
625 show no clear peak size; instead, $S_N = 9\text{--}10 \mu\text{m}$ at all experimental P_f . By analogy with pure-
626 H_2O runs, crystal size may peak at higher pressure (i.e., we are not resolving the S_N
627 maximum), or nucleation may balance the contributions of crystal growth across a wide
628 decompression interval. The same is true of the single pure- H_2O run at 100 MPa hr^{-1} ($S_N = 8$
629 μm ; Fig. 5), for which the presence or absence of a maximum crystal size cannot be
630 determined. In SSD runs, S_N is highest at $P_f = 100$ MPa and drops off sharply with decreasing
631 P_f (increasing ΔT). Because S_N is a function of ϕ and N_A , the time-variance of crystal size in
632 SSD experiments mimics that of other textural parameters; that is, average size remains
633 approximately constant (or increases slightly) between $t_{dw} = 24$ and 168 hours.

634 Average crystal sizes reveal something that is not immediately obvious from trends in ϕ
635 and N_A , which is the competition between nucleation of new crystals and growth on pre-
636 existing crystals that defines the distribution of crystal sizes in a sample with multiple crystal
637 populations. The observed S_N maxima reflect a shift in the relative dominance of these two
638 processes. In the following section, we examine this balance further through quantification of
639 plagioclase nucleation and growth rates.

640

641 **Plagioclase nucleation and growth rates**

642 *Batch calculations*

643 The textural parameters ϕ , N_A , and S_N enable calculation of time-integrated plagioclase
644 nucleation and growth rates according to the relationships in equations 2–5 (“batch”
645 methods). Batch nucleation (I) and growth rates (G) for all experimental samples are reported
646 in Table 3 and plotted against P_f in Figure 6. Calculated nucleation rates range from $10^{-2}\text{--}10^1$
647 $\text{mm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and are similar to those reported in previous experimental studies of plagioclase
648 crystallization in silicic melts ($10^{-3}\text{--}10^2 \text{ mm}^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$; Hammer & Rutherford 2002; Couch *et al.*
649 2003; Brugger & Hammer 2010a; Mollard *et al.* 2012). Because nucleation rates are coupled
650 to areal number densities via equation 3, trends in I with changing P_f parallel those shown for

651 N_A (Fig. 5). However, for a given P_f , I is more sensitive to decompression rate, as the
652 crystallization interval used to calculate I decreases with increasing dP/dt . Within and
653 between series, the time-averaged nucleation rate increases with (a) decreasing P_f and (b)
654 increasing decompression rate (Fig. 6). I is also consistently higher in CO_2 -bearing runs than
655 in H_2O -only runs at the same conditions. Unlike Brugger & Hammer (2010a), we observe no
656 nucleation rate maxima in our experiments (despite overlapping ranges of dP/dt), suggesting
657 that nucleation rates peak at $P_f < 25$ MPa.

658 Calculated plagioclase growth rates span three orders of magnitude ($G = 10^{-8}$ – 10^{-6} mm
659 s^{-1}), also falling within the range measured in prior experimental studies (10^{-9} – 10^{-6} mm s^{-1} ;
660 Hammer & Rutherford 2002; Couch *et al.* 2003; Brugger & Hammer 2010a; Mollard *et al.*
661 2012). Growth rates in CD experiments are strongly correlated with decompression rate, and
662 within each CD series, an order of magnitude increase in dP/dt yields a corresponding
663 increase in G (Fig. 6). Likewise, the range of G values is highest in faster decompressions.
664 Growth rates in all CD runs decrease with decreasing P_f , such that no maxima are observed.
665 In SSD experiments, average G decreases with P_f (for constant t_{dw}) and with t_{dw} between 24
666 and 168 hours at constant P_f . Time-averaged growth rates in SSD runs are typically lower
667 than G measured for CD experiments, except at high P_f and short t_{dw} .

668

669 *Crystal size distributions*

670 Full plagioclase crystal size distributions (CSDs) have been calculated for a subset of 19
671 experimental samples (plotted as $\ln(n)$ versus L in Figure 7), including the two equilibrium
672 runs, which are shown for reference. We report CSD-calculated nucleation and growth rates,
673 in addition to batch-calculated rates, to facilitate comparison with kinetic parameters derived
674 from studies of natural volcanic rocks.

675 All decompression experiments produce non-linear CSDs with concave upward and/or
676 kinked forms (Fig. 7). An overturn in population density is frequently, but not always,
677 observed in the smallest sizes ($L = 1$ – 4 μm), while the largest size class (or classes) of some
678 samples exhibit a slight downturn. The latter may be an artifact of the imaging process,
679 reflecting magnification scales too high to capture statistically meaningful numbers of the
680 largest crystals; it may also record a lack of late nucleation. Overturns at small size classes
681 have been variously attributed to ripening (e.g., Higgins & Roberge 2003; Pupier *et al.*,
682 2008), under-compensation for intersection probability (e.g., Brugger & Hammer 2010b), or
683 insufficient resolution (e.g., Cashman & Ferry 1988; Hammer *et al.* 1999), although our
684 image resolution is more than adequate to capture crystals >1 μm in length. The most

685 pronounced feature of our size distributions is, however, their curvature, which has been
686 ascribed to a plethora of natural processes in the volcanological literature (e.g., magma
687 mixing, crystal accumulation, textural coarsening, two-stage crystallization, or accelerating
688 nucleation and growth; Marsh 1988; Armienti *et al.* 1994; Higgins 1998; Bindeman 2003;
689 Higgins & Roberge 2003; Shea *et al.* 2010a), or to artifacts produced by the 2D–3D
690 conversion because of variations in crystal shape (Castro *et al.* 2004). Like Brugger &
691 Hammer (2010b), we interpret curvature based on the known experimental histories of these
692 samples, which includes two separate crystal populations (those formed during the initial
693 anneal period and those formed during decompression) with distinct nucleation regimes. The
694 strength of this curvature, and the crystal size, L , at its inflection point, vary with changing
695 decompression conditions and likely reflect the shifting contributions of nucleation and
696 growth to the evolution of each population.

697 Following convention, we fit our CSDs with two separate linear, $\ln(n)$ – L regressions,
698 one at small L (representing crystals formed during decompression), and one at large L
699 (representing crystals formed during the anneal period). Splitting the CSD into segments
700 requires a choice of L that divides the two crystal populations, and previous textural studies
701 have typically applied a fixed size class cut-off to all samples (Cashman, 1988; Piochi *et al.*,
702 2005; Salisbury *et al.*, 2008; Muir *et al.*, 2012). However, a fixed size range is unlikely to
703 characterize microlites grown under varied experimental conditions, nor do we have an
704 independent estimate of growth rate for crystals produced during annealing. To avoid
705 arbitrary or biased segmentation of size distributions, we have used a simple iterative
706 calculation to minimize the total residuals (Σr^2) of both regressions by varying the size
707 classes assigned to each fit. Slopes ($= -1/G\tau$) and intercepts ($= n^0$) for regressions fit to
708 decompression-nucleated crystals are reported in Table 4.

709 CSD-derived 3D nucleation and growth rates are almost always within an order of
710 magnitude of those estimated by batch techniques (Fig. 8). This close correspondence is
711 remarkable given the relatively large uncertainties in regression fits. Batch values of I are
712 typically displaced to slightly lower values than those derived from size distributions, as also
713 observed by Brugger & Hammer (2010b); in most cases the relative deviation is <40%.
714 Growth rates are in slightly poorer agreement, but are still within a factor of two. Our results
715 support the use of 2D textural analysis methods as an efficient alternative to the acquisition of
716 3D kinetic parameters (and one that involves considerably fewer stereological assumptions;
717 e.g., Cashman *et al.*, 1999; Hammer *et al.*, 2000; Brugger & Hammer, 2010b). An important
718 caveat is the need to separate different crystal populations when applying these methods to

719 natural samples.

720 While our feldspar nucleation and growth rates (both 2D and 3D) are consistent with
721 the ranges reported in the experimental literature, they also reveal important distinctions
722 between individual studies. Results from H₂O-saturated CD runs are most directly
723 comparable to those of Brugger & Hammer (2010a, 2010b), who conducted continuous
724 decompression of rhyolitic melt (71 wt% SiO₂) at a comparable temperature (880 °C) and
725 range of decompression rates (0.5–10 MPa hr⁻¹). Batch-calculated growth rates are similar in
726 the two studies: G as a function of P_f for the two datasets overlap and are often the same,
727 within error, at a given decompression rate. Nucleation rates, however, are typically 1–2
728 orders of magnitude *lower* in our CD runs compared with those of Brugger & Hammer
729 (2010a), with a parallel discrepancy seen in number densities (<3000 mm⁻² in our runs, and
730 up to 31,000 mm⁻² in Brugger & Hammer 2010a and 2010b; only our SSD runs obtain N_A
731 >10,000 mm⁻²). As equilibrium plagioclase crystallinity curves in the two compositions are
732 the same (cf. Fig. 5a with Fig. 8 of Brugger & Hammer 2010a), these distinctions point to
733 different kinetic environments in the two sets of runs, despite similar compositions and run
734 conditions. We consider possible reasons for these offsets in the following discussion.

735

736 **DISCUSSION**

737 The evolution of crystal textures during progressive crystallization reflects a balance between
738 the thermodynamic factors that encourage crystallization and the kinetic factors that inhibit it
739 (e.g., Dowty 1980; Kirkpatrick 1981; James 1985; Cashman, 1993). During isothermal
740 decompression, effective undercooling (ΔT) provides the driving force for crystal formation,
741 while melt viscosity, largely controlled by melt water content, presents the primary kinetic
742 barrier to continued crystallization through its effect on both component diffusivities and
743 crystal-melt interfacial energies (Hammer, 2008). In this way, crystallization kinetics are
744 closely linked to the PH₂O–*t* path of decompressing magma. While no one path is a perfect
745 analogy for magma decompression during all eruptive scenarios, the end-member paths
746 simulated by our experiments bracket conditions that prevail during many volcanic eruptions.
747 In the following discussion, we examine how the shifting balance between crystal nucleation
748 and growth along varied degassing trajectories governs the evolution of magmatic textures.
749 We emphasize three key observations stemming from this study: crystallization kinetics in
750 CD versus SSD experiments; the effect of melt water content on crystal nucleation; and the
751 influence of pre-existing crystals on crystal growth.

752

753 **Crystallization kinetics**

754 Crystallization kinetics are first examined for SSD experiments, which experience an initial,
755 quantifiable ΔT proportional to the experimental quench pressure P_f , as defined by the phase
756 diagram (e.g., Fig. 1). Trends in calculated nucleation and growth rates are consistent with
757 the functional relationships defined by kinetic theory (Kirkpatrick, 1981; James, 1985) and
758 observed in previous experimental studies of static decompression (Hammer & Rutherford,
759 2002; Couch *et al.*, 2003; Mollard *et al.*, 2012; Arzilli & Carroll, 2013; Shea & Hammer,
760 2013), such that nucleation rates increase, and growth rates decrease, with decreasing P_f
761 (increasing ΔT). More important, however, are the observed variations in average, or
762 *apparent* (time-integrated), growth and nucleation rates, which change with time because of
763 the non-linear response to temporal changes in undercooling as equilibrium conditions are
764 approached (Fig. 5d; e.g., Mollard *et al.*, 2012).

765 Changing crystallization rates with time are illustrated using the example of
766 experiments at $P_f = 25$ MPa (Fig. 9a). Here the apparent nucleation rates decrease from 635
767 $\text{mm}^{-2} \text{hr}^{-1}$ (or $12 \text{ mm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) to $87 \text{ mm}^{-2} \text{hr}^{-1}$ ($2.1 \text{ mm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) as the t_{dw} increases from 24 to 168
768 hours. Moreover, instantaneous nucleation rates at shorter times must have been much higher,
769 although the exact values cannot be constrained. Evidence for more rapid rates of nucleation
770 can be found in the shortest CD experiment (100 MPa hr^{-1}), which records apparent
771 nucleation rates of $1061 \text{ mm}^{-2} \text{hr}^{-1}$ ($38 \text{ mm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) over a crystallization time of 1.75 hours. The
772 same picture emerges for crystal growth rates (Fig. 9b). Here we also include SSD
773 experiments with $P_f = 50$ and 100 MPa, to include peak growth rates peak at $P_f = 100$ MPa,
774 where apparent growth rates decrease from 1.35×10^{-7} to $2.3 \times 10^{-8} \text{ mm s}^{-1}$ as dwell time
775 increases from 24 to 168 hours. As with nucleation, growth is most rapid ($1.22 \times 10^{-6} \text{ mm s}^{-1}$)
776 in the short (1.75 hours) 100 MPa hr^{-1} CD experiments.

777 The data in Figure 9b show a systematic decrease in apparent growth rate (G) with
778 increasing crystallization time (t). A compilation of all the textural data (including runs at
779 $X_{\text{H}_2\text{O}}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$) shows that $\log G$ decreases linearly with t but with two distinct slopes: short
780 duration experiments (SSD with $t_{\text{dw}} = 24$ hours and all CD experiments performed at ≥ 10
781 MPa hr^{-1}) form one group, while long duration experiments (SSD with $t_{\text{dw}} = 168$ hours and
782 CD experiments performed at 1 MPa hr^{-1}) form another group (Fig. 9c). A linear fit to the
783 short duration experiments yields a slope of 0.05 and an intercept of -5.9 (or -5.8 if only pure
784 H_2O experiments are considered), which defines the most rapid crystal growth allowed under
785 these conditions. That this rate is close to the rate estimated for the 100 MPa hr^{-1} experiments
786 suggests that this decompression rate is close to the limiting rate allowable for

787 decompression-driven crystallization, such that we would expect more rapidly decompressed
788 experiments to quench to glass.

789 The dynamic interplay between cooling rate and crystallization can be quantified using
790 total crystallinity as a measure of chemical disequilibrium ($\Delta\phi = \phi^{\text{eq}} - \phi$, where ϕ^{eq} is the
791 equilibrium crystallinity at $P = P_f$; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). All SSD experiments achieve
792 equilibrium ($\Delta\phi = 0 \pm$ experimental uncertainty) within 24 hours (Fig. 9d), following an
793 inferred spike near $t = 0$ (assuming a crystallization lag longer than the timescale of
794 decompression). CD experiments show a very different pattern, such that $\Delta\phi$ increases with
795 time (decreasing P_f). At the lowest P_f (25 MPa), the maximum crystallization efficiency is
796 achieved at the lowest decompression rate (1 MPa hr⁻¹), although crystallinities are still 10-
797 20% lower than in SSD runs of similar duration. Higher $\Delta\phi$ values at both 100 and 10 MPa
798 hr⁻¹ most likely reflect limited time spent at either optimal nucleation or growth rates. The
799 competing contributions of nucleation and growth to progressive crystallization may be
800 quantified by the ratio I/G, equivalent to the intercept, n^0 , of the $\ln(n)$ - L slope. I/G varies
801 from 4×10^5 to 6×10^8 mm⁻⁴, with the lowest values for slow CD experiments and highest
802 values for SSD experiments. The shift in dominant crystallization mechanism from growth
803 (low I/G) to nucleation (high I/G) is reflected in sample textures (Fig. 3). For H₂O-only
804 experiments, crystals in growth-dominated CD runs are faceted with planar surfaces
805 (indicating interface-limited growth at low effective undercoolings; Lofgren, 1974;
806 Sunagawa, 1981) at all P_f , while nucleation-dominated SSD runs are characterized by
807 abundant hopper and skeletal forms (indicating diffusion-limited growth at higher
808 undercoolings; Lofgren, 1974; Donaldson, 1976; Sunagawa, 1981; Faure *et al.*, 2003).
809 Average crystal sizes are consistently smaller in SSD runs (Fig. 5, 8b), again reflecting the
810 dominance of nucleation over growth. Even the phase assemblage preserves a record of the
811 decompression path, with delays observed in both the appearance of orthopyroxene and silica
812 and the breakdown of amphibole in growth-dominated CD experiments relative to
813 nucleation-dominated SSD experiments with similar crystallization intervals. These dynamic
814 phase relations may reflect nucleation delays, in the classical sense (Sato *et al.*, 1981; Fokin
815 *et al.*, 2006), which are sensitive to the imposed undercooling. Alternatively, they may arise
816 from simple phase-equilibria constraints in PH₂O-T-X space (e.g., Martel 2012).

817 Similar textural distinctions have been observed in comparisons of single versus multi-
818 step decompression (MSD; Hammer & Rutherford, 2002; Couch *et al.*, 2003) and stepped
819 versus continuous decompression (Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). Textural variations in the

820 products of SSD and MSD experiments have been explained by variations in the effective
821 undercooling imposed at each decompression step (or in infinitely small steps, during
822 continuous decompression), which is much smaller than that imposed during instantaneous
823 decompression (Hammer, 2008). Reduced dynamic undercooling in quasi-continuous
824 decompressions encourages interface-controlled growth (Lofgren, 1974; Sunagawa, 1981); it
825 also reduces the driving force for crystallization, causing crystallinity to lag behind
826 equilibrium values, as seen in the consistently lower $\Delta\phi$ in our SSD relative to CD runs (Fig.
827 9d). Curiously, however, CD experiments appear to produce higher crystallinities than MSD
828 experiments, despite morphological evidence consistent with higher effective undercooling in
829 the latter (c.f. this study, Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). Taken together, these results raise the
830 interesting possibility of a minimum crystallization efficiency at dynamic undercooling
831 conditions intermediate between continuous and instantaneous decompression, perhaps
832 corresponding to the gap between growth and nucleation rate maxima. These data underline
833 the assertion of Brugger & Hammer (2010a) that crystallinity alone is a poor indicator of
834 ascent rate or closure pressure in all but the most extreme conditions (i.e., very rapid ascent).

835

836 **The effect of initial melt water content**

837 A key finding of this study is that H₂O–CO₂-saturated charges have consistently higher
838 nucleation (and conversely lower growth) rates than charges saturated with a pure-H₂O fluid.
839 This observation is not entirely intuitive, as low rates of water loss during early
840 decompression of mixed H₂O–CO₂ fluids may be expected to impose low instantaneous
841 undercoolings, fostering crystal growth. Martel (2012) observed a similar increase in feldspar
842 number density (nucleation rate) in water-undersaturated relative to water-saturated
843 experiments, an effect she attributed to the presence of pre-existing crystals in undersaturated
844 runs. All of our experiments, however, contain pre-existing crystals – if anything, we would
845 expect the higher number density of plagioclase crystals in the H₂O–CO₂ reference sample to
846 provide ready substrate for growth, thereby suppressing nucleation. We suggest that textural
847 distinctions between H₂O and H₂O–CO₂ experiments reflect differences in the initial melt
848 water content (5.8 versus 4.9 wt%, respectively, as estimated using the solubility model of
849 Papale et al. 2006). By analogy with the temperature-dependence of steady-state nucleation
850 in silicate melts, decreasing melt water content with respect to undercooling would shift the
851 nucleation maximum to higher T (Fokin *et al.* 2006), consistent with the greater number and
852 more skeletal habit of plagioclase in CO₂-bearing experiments (Fig. 3).

853 Different melt water contents at the onset of decompression present one possible
854 explanation for the lower nucleation rates observed in our continuous decompressions
855 compared to those of Brugger & Hammer (2010a). Their water-saturated runs initiate at
856 lower pressure ($P_1 = 130$ MPa, compared to 200 MPa in our water-saturated CD runs) and
857 correspondingly lower water contents (4.3 wt%, as estimated by the authors). Comparison of
858 our H₂O and H₂O–CO₂-saturated runs suggests that a 0.9 wt% reduction in initial water
859 content increases nucleation rates by a factor of 2–7 at dP/dt of 1–10 MPa hr⁻¹. While
860 significant, a further reduction of 0.6 wt% H₂O is probably insufficient to cause the 1–2
861 orders of magnitude offset in nucleation rates with the experiments of Brugger & Hammer,
862 unless the system response is highly non-linear. Water contents are likely a contributing
863 factor, but other variables – for example, differences in the degree of superheating of starting
864 materials (Shea & Hammer 2013), or the presence and distribution of pre-existing crystals
865 (discussed below) – may be needed to explain the offset fully.

866 Although the importance of melt H₂O content is well recognized in kinetic studies
867 (Fenn, 1977; Muncill & Lasaga, 1988; Davis *et al.*, 1997; Fokin *et al.*, 2006), it is not often
868 explicitly considered as a variable in experimental investigations of magmatic
869 decompression. This may be, in part, because it is difficult to deconvolve the competing
870 effects of ΔT and melt H₂O in experiments where water loss acts as the undercooling
871 mechanism. The results of Shea & Hammer (2013), who compared cooling- and
872 decompression-driven crystallization in hydrous mafic andesite, are significant in this
873 respect: the apparent mechanism-independent behavior of experiments undercooled with
874 respect to T and P would suggest that melt water content has a negligible effect on
875 crystallization kinetics at all but the highest undercoolings ($\Delta T > 137$ °C in their experimental
876 system). Based on these observations, the authors suggest that feldspar crystallization may be
877 modeled as a path-independent process in P–T space. Our results raise an important caveat: at
878 the high (near-instantaneous) undercoolings investigated by Shea & Hammer (2013), the
879 thermodynamic driving force for crystallization far outweighs the inhibiting effects of lower
880 melt water contents across the pressure range. In our CD experiments, where the
881 instantaneous undercooling at any point in time is much lower, a modest decrease in the melt
882 water content has a noticeable effect on crystallization kinetics. Specifically, decreasing
883 PH₂O through the addition of CO₂ increases rates of crystal nucleation relative to growth and
884 gives textural evidence (elongate skeletal crystals) of high effective supersaturations. These
885 early-established textural distinctions persist throughout the decompression interval. In this
886 way, initial fluid composition may modulate the evolution of plagioclase textures across a

887 wide pressure and/or depth range, particularly at the low effective $d\Delta T/dt$ associated with
888 slow, steady decompression.

889

890 **Interpreting magmatic textures: The importance of crystal growth**

891 Growth on pre-existing crystals is an important aspect of decompression-driven
892 crystallization in degassing magmatic systems (Cashman & Taggart, 1983; Cashman, 1988;
893 Martel & Schmidt, 2003). This process has generally been neglected in experimental
894 investigations, which tend to emphasize the formation of new crystals over growth of existing
895 ones. Although such studies provide important constraints on the baseline kinetics of
896 plagioclase crystallization in silicate melts, they may neglect other aspects of crystallization
897 in natural systems – namely the role of phenocrysts, microphenocrysts, and microlites in the
898 evolution of magmatic textures and compositions. Our experiments, which contain a
899 distributed population of feldspar crystals at the onset of decompression, afford an
900 opportunity to examine the influence of pre-existing crystals on subsequent growth and
901 nucleation of plagioclase.

902 The same data used to construct CSDs may be presented as crystal size–area histograms
903 (Fig. 10; see supplementary data for all plots), analogous to vesicle volume distributions used
904 to examine multiple vesicle populations (e.g., Klug *et al.*, 2002; Shea *et al.*, 2010). We
905 designate crystal size as the square root of crystal area, S_N , rather than L (the major axis of an
906 equivalent ellipse), to minimize variations introduced by differences in two-dimensional
907 crystal habits. Reference samples for H_2O and H_2O -saturated experiments (Fig. 10a,b) have
908 unimodal, approximately log-normal plagioclase size distributions with modes at $\sim 10 \mu m$.
909 Continuous decompression to 100 MPa preserves the unimodal shape of the distributions
910 while at the same time shifting the mode to larger sizes (recording growth of pre-existing
911 crystals) and extending the tail to smaller sizes (recording nucleation of new crystals; Fig.
912 10c,d). Further decompression to 25 MPa shows the development of a secondary mode at
913 large sizes and an increase in the small crystal population (Fig. 10e,f) that reflects the
914 increasing importance of crystal nucleation relative to growth at low pressures. Area
915 histograms from SSD experiments, in contrast, are dominated by small crystals, even at
916 moderate pressures, an observation consistent with nucleation-dominated crystallization (Fig.
917 10g,h). The most striking feature of the size histograms, however, is the area distribution of
918 crystals formed during the anneal period (shown as gray in Fig. 10), which we estimate from
919 the number density of plagioclase crystals in equilibrium reference samples by assuming the
920 largest crystals in each charge are those formed during equilibration. In almost all cases,

921 these crystals represent the majority of the area under the histogram curve. Although the
922 shaded region includes a contribution from crystal “cores” formed prior to decompression
923 (designated as ϕ^{eq} in Fig. 10), new growth still constitutes 25–50% of the total crystallinity in
924 most samples. Thus, at most of the decompression conditions investigated, growth on pre-
925 existing crystals contributes significantly to the total amount of crystallization.

926 This observation has important implications for interpreting volcanological processes
927 from erupted products. For example, the chemical and textural “stratigraphy” preserved in
928 complexly zoned phenocrysts is routinely used to interpret the T–X or PH_2O –T–X paths
929 experienced by individual crystals during magma storage and ascent (Berlo *et al.*, 2007;
930 Boyce & Hervig, 2008; Rutherford & Devine, 2008; Streck *et al.*, 2008; Thornber *et al.*,
931 2008; Saunders *et al.*, 2012; Cashman & Blundy, 2013). The most sophisticated of these
932 studies link crystal rim chemistry to intensive variables via parameterization of
933 experimentally constrained phase compositions and partition coefficients (e.g., Blundy &
934 Cashman 2008; Cashman & Blundy, 2013), on the assumption that growth proceeds in
935 equilibrium with surrounding melt. Disequilibrium, however, is a necessary condition of
936 crystal growth. Kinetic studies have repeatedly documented departures from equilibrium
937 mineral-melt partitioning, for example, of mafic components during cooling of basalt (Grove
938 & Bence, 1979; Hammer, 2006) and of plagioclase components during decompression of
939 hydrous silicic magmas (Brugger & Hammer, 2010a; Martel, 2012). While it is tempting to
940 assume that phenocrysts grow primarily at near-equilibrium conditions (e.g., Costa *et al.*
941 2008), our experiments demonstrate that growth on preexisting crystals can contribute
942 significantly to continued crystallization even at the high undercoolings associated with
943 nucleation-dominated regimes.

944 As noted above, experimental studies have traditionally focused on nucleation and
945 growth of groundmass crystals, yet most volcanic samples contain (abundant) phenocrysts.
946 Our experiments further suggest that a substantial proportion of phenocryst growth could be
947 syn-eruptive. Although many phenocrysts have antecrystic cores that reflect remobilization of
948 near-solidus magma, crystal ages estimated from diffusion studies and CSDs are typically
949 <100 years, suggesting that much of the crystallization occurs shortly before eruption (e.g.,
950 Cooper & Kent, 2014). Evidence to support this interpretation comes from comparisons of
951 the phenocryst content of pumice clasts (the products of rapid decompression) and lavas (the
952 products of slow decompression) from the same eruptive sequence (Fig. 11). Data from
953 Mount St. Helens are best-constrained: magma of constant bulk composition was erupted at

954 rates that ranged from $>1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ for pumice-forming eruptions ($\sim 100 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$; 24-28%
955 phenocrysts), to $\sim 0.1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ for lava domes that immediately followed sub-Plinian eruptions
956 ($\sim 10 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$; 37-41% phenocrysts), to $<10^{-4} \text{ m s}^{-1}$ during continuous lava spine extrusion
957 between 2004 and 2008 ($\sim 0.01 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$; 42-52% phenocrysts; Cashman *et al.*, 2008).
958 Importantly, increases in phenocryst content are accompanied by groundmass crystallization
959 that ranges from 0% in the pumice to $\sim 40\text{-}50\%$ in spine samples. These observations are
960 consistent with our experiments, which evidence abundant growth on pre-existing crystals
961 (phenocryst equivalents) at dome-forming decompression rates. The more extensive
962 phenocryst and groundmass crystallization observed in the spine samples is not surprising
963 given the much slower decompression of spine-producing magma. Similar patterns of
964 phenocryst abundance for other pumice-lava pairs (Colima, Merapi, and Mont Pelee; Fig. 11)
965 suggest that phenocryst growth adds substantially to the total extent of decompression-driven
966 syn-eruptive crystallization.

967 A final point relates to diffusion chronometry, which uses mineral zoning profiles to
968 quantify the timescales of volcanic processes (e.g., Morgan & Costa, 2010; Druitt *et al.*,
969 2012; Saunders *et al.*, 2012). Such studies model the diffusive relaxation of compositional
970 zoning as a function of time and require an a priori assumption regarding the form of the
971 compositional profile at $t = 0$. The most common assumption is that this profile is stepped
972 (Morgan *et al.*, 2004, 2006; Saunders *et al.*, 2012), although more complex initial profiles
973 have also been used (Costa *et al.*, 2008). In our experiments, compositional growth profiles
974 vary with decompression path. Although our crystals are too small for quantitative analysis,
975 we illustrate this point using the zoning profiles of plagioclase in two experimental samples
976 (Fig. 12, where grayscale is a proxy for anorthite content), one sharp, one diffuse. Both
977 samples experienced the same magnitude of pressure perturbation, but by different paths: the
978 sharply zoned crystal ascended near-instantaneously, while the diffusely zoned crystal
979 ascended continuously. Although both profiles represent $t \approx 0$ from a diffusion chronometry
980 standpoint, qualitative comparison of core to rim traverses clearly shows that the slowly
981 decompressed crystal will yield a longer timescale if the initial compositional profile is
982 assumed to be stepped. Slow, coupled diffusion of Na–Si and Ca–Al in plagioclase is an
983 extreme example of this phenomenon, but it illustrates our point, which is equally relevant to
984 decompression- and cooling-induced growth: any final diffusion profile is modulated by the
985 original kinetic profile of the growing crystal rim. The nature of this kinetic effect will
986 depend on the T-P-X- t path of the perturbation responsible for rim growth, and will not
987 necessarily be correlated with time.

988

989 **Comparison of natural and experimental data**

990 Decompression experiments provide a key means of referencing the groundmass textures of
991 natural pyroclasts to magma ascent histories. At Mount St. Helens, the textures of pyroclasts
992 produced by a series of increasingly pulsatory sub-Plinian to Vulcanian eruptions between 12
993 June and 16 Oct 1980 record a complex history of magma decompression and eruption
994 (Cashman, 1988; 1992; Klug & Cashman, 1994; Cashman & McConnell, 2005; Muir *et al.*,
995 2012). Eruptions on 22 July and 7 August were particularly well observed and provide
996 important constraints on eruption conditions (Hoblitt, 1986). Both were preceded by high
997 rates of gas and ash emission; in July, this was followed by ~1 hour of short Vulcanian
998 explosions and small dense pyroclastic flows caused by overpressure buildup beneath the
999 edifice and disruption of the overlying lava dome (emplaced in June). The July eruption
1000 produced no lava dome, thus the August eruption lacked Vulcanian explosions but was
1001 preceded by 1.5 hours of fluctuating ash emissions through vent-filling debris. Both
1002 eruptions, then, comprised multiple short (~5 min) explosive events caused by rapid
1003 downward propagation of a decompression wave that unloaded and fragmented magma
1004 stored within the conduit. This was followed by slower refilling of the conduit with
1005 decompressed (but non-erupted) magma during repose intervals of hours. Post-eruptive
1006 conduit refilling produced visible lava domes after eruptions in June, August and October.

1007 We can quantitatively compare textures of natural pyroclasts produced by these
1008 eruptions to our experimental samples using the parameters N_A and ϕ , which are not subject
1009 to errors involved in conversion of 2D data to 3D, and which together define the
1010 “crystallization regime” (e.g., Cashman *et al.*, 1999; Hammer *et al.*, 1999; Cashman &
1011 McConnell, 2005; Blundy & Cashman, 2008; Riker *et al.*, 2009; Brugger & Hammer, 2010a;
1012 Martel, 2012; Mollard *et al.*, 2012). The slopes of N_A - ϕ curves are inversely proportional to
1013 the average crystal size, such that groundmass textures characterized by high N_A at low ϕ
1014 (small average sizes) record nucleation-dominated crystallization, while increasing ϕ at near
1015 constant N_A (large average sizes) records growth-dominated crystallization. Our experimental
1016 samples define distinct N_A - ϕ trajectories that document increasing crystallization with
1017 decreasing quench pressure (Fig. 13a). Trajectories for CD experiments steepen with
1018 increasing decompression rate, illustrating the growing influence of nucleation at high dP/dt .
1019 CO_2 -bearing experiments also define steeper crystallization paths than H_2O -saturated runs at
1020 the same decompression rate. The data for SSD experiments, in contrast, are time invariant;

1021 these are shown as bands in N_A - ϕ space that represent the termini of curved paths taken
1022 during the first 24 hours of crystallization (Fig. 13b).

1023 For context, data from select experimental studies are also displayed in Figures 13c and
1024 d. We restrict our comparison to isothermal decompressions of rhyolitic melts at temperatures
1025 similar to ours (850–880 °C) and consider only runs with comparable decompression paths:
1026 continuous or quasi-continuous decompressions quenched immediately at P_f (Brugger &
1027 Hammer, 2010a; Martel, 2012) or single-step decompressions followed by a finite dwell
1028 (Couch, 2003). Nonetheless, there are offsets between datasets not easily explained by the
1029 variables these studies intend to test. For example, our own runs have much lower N_A than
1030 those of Brugger & Hammer (2010a), despite similar dP/dt (as discussed above; Fig. 13c);
1031 the CD runs of Martel (2012) and Brugger & Hammer (2010a) have overlapping N_A and ϕ ,
1032 despite generally lower dP/dt in the latter (Fig. 13c); and the SSD runs of Couch have lower
1033 N_A at a given ϕ compared to CD runs from the literature (Fig. 13d) – in our own (internally-
1034 consistent) dataset, the textures of CD and SSD runs overlap. These observations highlight
1035 the challenges of comparing experimental studies in which a large number of variables
1036 influence nucleation and growth kinetics. These include not only temperature, composition,
1037 decompression rate and path, but also the nature of the starting material (in particular
1038 superliquidus heating, which suppresses nucleation, e.g. Shea & Hammer, 2013) and, as our
1039 own experiments show, melt water content and the presence and distribution of pre-existing
1040 crystals. Strong similarities between our SSD data and those of Couch may reflect the fact
1041 that both studies use synthetic (superheated) starting material and contain a small population
1042 of crystals formed during the experimental anneal period.

1043 Also shown in Figures 13a and b are data fields for three textural classes of natural
1044 pyroclasts from the summer 1980 eruptions of Mount St. Helens (as defined by Cashman &
1045 McConnell, 2005): (1) “LND” clasts with low number densities of prismatic plagioclase
1046 microlites; (2) “BML” clasts with bimodal plagioclase populations of larger, zoned prismatic
1047 microlites surrounded by smaller, acicular crystals; and (3) “HND” clasts containing high
1048 number densities of acicular, skeletal plagioclase microlites. Our experimental data overlap
1049 with the fields of LND and BML pyroclasts and can be used to provide additional constraints
1050 on the conditions of magma storage and ascent during this period.

1051 LND pyroclasts have moderate crystallinities (~25%), low N_A and equant plagioclase
1052 morphologies (crystal axis ratios of 1:2:5), all of which suggest crystallization in a growth-
1053 dominated regime. Plagioclase phenocrysts in these clasts have melt inclusion H_2O contents

1054 indicating pre-eruptive magma storage at 70–90 MPa (Cashman & McConnell, 2005),
1055 consistent with textural constraints provided by the SSD experiments (Fig. 13b; see also
1056 Couch *et al.*, 2003). It is important to note, however, that LND clasts bear strong textural
1057 similarities to experiments decompressed continuously at 1–10 MPa hr⁻¹, including zoned
1058 prismatic crystals with occasional hopper or swallowtail overgrowths, and rare smaller (i.e.
1059 newly nucleated) crystals. Slow, steady decompression is also consistent with the presence of
1060 coarse-grained breakdown rims on amphibole (Browne & Gardner, 2006). Thus, although we
1061 prefer an interpretation that involves rapid, syn-eruptive decompression of LND magma,
1062 possibly followed by ascent and annealing between eruptions, the textural data alone do not
1063 provide unambiguous confirmation of either pre-eruptive storage depths or residence times at
1064 shallow levels (provided shallow storage was sufficiently brief to prevent nucleation of a
1065 silica phase and/or diffusive H₂O loss from melt inclusions).

1066 BML clasts, with two distinct microlite size classes, resemble the textures generated in
1067 single-step decompressions to shallow pressures (25–50 MPa, or ~1–2 km), followed by
1068 isobaric storage. This ascent path is consistent with evidence for amphibole breakdown and
1069 pervasive silica formation in both natural and experimental samples, and with melt inclusion
1070 volatile contents that suggest pre-eruptive magma storage at ~37 MPa (Cashman &
1071 McConnell, 2005). We note, however, an inconsistency in crystal habit – nucleated crystals
1072 in our SSD experiments are dominantly skeletal, while those in natural bimodal samples are
1073 equant to acicular with limited swallowtail or skeletal features (crystal axis ratios of 1:2:2 and
1074 1:2:5; Cashman & McConnell, 2005). This discrepancy could reflect a difference in
1075 conditions at the onset of decompression, as our experimental decompressions started with a
1076 microlite population that is absent from low-density (microlite-free) pyroclasts from the
1077 summer 1980 eruptions (material presumably derived directly from an upper crustal storage
1078 region; e.g., Blundy & Cashman, 2005; Cashman & McConnell, 2005). For this reason, it
1079 seems likely that BML clasts experienced two stages of decompression, one producing the
1080 larger equant crystals (equivalent to LND clasts) and a second generating the smaller and
1081 more elongate crystals (e.g., Cashman & McConnell, 2005). Alternatively, it is possible that
1082 the smaller (nucleation-dominated) crystal population was generated by fluxing with CO₂-
1083 rich gas (see below).

1084 HND pyroclasts have very high N_A and low ϕ ; in this they represent an endmember of
1085 nucleation-dominated crystallization. As in other experimental studies, we were unable to
1086 replicate these textures. One possible reason is that our experiments extended only to 25

1087 MPa; nucleation should continue with decompression to lower pressures (e.g., Martel, 2012).
1088 In view of our comparison of H₂O and H₂O–CO₂-saturated runs, however, and by analogy
1089 with the mixed-volatile vesiculation experiments of Mangan *et al.* (2004), we suggest that
1090 fidelity between natural and experimental datasets might be improved by further addition of
1091 CO₂. The water-rich conditions considered here may be insufficient to produce the very high
1092 number densities of the HND samples, but fluxing by more CO₂-rich vapor compositions,
1093 such as those proposed by Blundy *et al.* (2010) based on melt inclusion and matrix glass
1094 CO₂–H₂O trends of samples erupted during this period ($X_{H_2O}^{fl} < 0.5$), could have a more
1095 pronounced effect on feldspar nucleation. Elevated gas emissions observed elsewhere
1096 immediately after short (Vulcanian–sub-Plinian) explosions have been interpreted as gas
1097 release from rapid decompression of non-erupted magma (e.g., Edmonds *et al.*, 2003). Such
1098 rapid decompression of H₂O–CO₂ saturated magma to shallow depths at low $X_{H_2O}^{fl}$ could
1099 potentially generate textures in the HND field (consider extension of the 100 MPa hr⁻¹ curve
1100 in Fig. 13, displaced to the left by additional CO₂). That these magmas did not all remain
1101 long in shallow storage is evidenced by low crystallinities (sometimes <30 vol%) and the
1102 absence of an Si-phase. Intra-eruptive gas fluxing may have enhanced rapid crystallization
1103 during the repose intervals between individual explosive events.

1104 Absent from Figure 13 are microlite-free samples (the highly vesicular “VES” type), as
1105 well as holocrystalline samples (“HXT”) that are interpreted as remnants of shallow domes or
1106 plugs. We can constrain minimum decompression rates for the VES-type pumice clasts to
1107 >100 MPa hr⁻¹, based on the observation that even our most rapidly decompressed runs
1108 contain crystals nucleated during decompression. Assuming VES magma was stored between
1109 ~200 and 125 MPa (e.g., Cashman & Blundy, 2013), this minimum rate corresponds to a
1110 decompression time of less than two hours, which is approximately the length of time
1111 separating the initial Vulcanian explosions/gas emissions from subsequent eruption column
1112 development – inferred by Hoblitt (1986) to represent the decompression time.
1113 Decompression rates as high as ~3600 MPa hr⁻¹ have been estimated for the May 18, 1980
1114 eruption from H₂O diffusion profiles in glass embayments in phenocrysts (Humphreys *et al.*
1115 2008), although these rates are maxima due to the possibility of kinetic vesiculation delays.

1116 Our comparison of natural and experimental samples highlights the detailed
1117 information that can be derived from experimentally contextualized analysis of pyroclast
1118 textures, as well as the sensitivity of quench pressures inferred from N_A – ϕ relationships to the
1119 ascent path. An important corollary of our interpretations relates to the distinction between

1120 magma decompression and magma ascent. Magma ascent usually causes decompression
1121 (although gas exsolution may cause overpressures to develop, particularly beneath conduit
1122 plugs and lava domes). Decompression, however, does not require magma ascent. In fact,
1123 rapid downward-propagating decompression waves caused by plug disruption during
1124 Vulcanian eruptions (such as those at Mount St. Helens during the summer of 1980)
1125 commonly triggers decompression, and even fragmentation, of magma from deep within
1126 volcanic conduits. Decompression of non-erupted magma may also cause elevated gas loss
1127 from deeper within the system. Rapidly decompressed magma may then ascend slowly, re-
1128 filling the conduit during intra-eruptive (or post-eruptive) periods. Our experiments suggest
1129 that the textural signature of the initial rapid decompression event may be preserved in clast
1130 textures, even if subsequent magma ascent is slow – another caveat when using
1131 decompression experiments to interpret the history of erupted products. For this reason, it is
1132 important to use multiple petrologic indicators (i.e., phase equilibria, breakdown rims, habit,
1133 melt inclusion compositions) to develop a detailed history of magma decompression and
1134 eruption (e.g., Hammer *et al.* 1999; Cashman & McConnell, 2005).

1135

1136 **CONCLUSIONS**

1137 Recent experimental studies suggest that decompression path, in addition to decompression
1138 rate, plays a key role in modulating the development of crystal textures. We have undertaken
1139 a series of decompression experiments designed to assess the effect of degassing path on
1140 progressive crystallization of Mount St. Helens rhyodacite, simulating decompression along
1141 varied $\text{PH}_2\text{O}-t$ trajectories (continuous versus single-step decompression and $\text{H}_2\text{O}-$ versus
1142 $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ -saturated ascent). Quantitative textural data (plagioclase abundance, number
1143 density, and size) have been used to calculate time-averaged nucleation and growth rates for
1144 experimentally decompressed samples. A key finding of our work is that nucleation rates are
1145 higher in $\text{H}_2\text{O}-\text{CO}_2$ saturated (compared to H_2O -saturated) runs, presumably due to lower
1146 initial melt water contents, which facilitate feldspar nucleation during the experimental
1147 equilibration period.. These early-formed textural distinctions are most noticeable at low
1148 undercoolings and persist to low pressures, underscoring the importance of initial
1149 decompression conditions in controlling subsequent textural development in natural systems.
1150 Additionally, our data underline the sensitivity of instantaneous nucleation and growth rates
1151 to time. Distinguishing instantaneous from apparent (time-averaged) rates is important for
1152 interpreting crystal size distributions, often inferred to form at constant growth rates. Finally,
1153 our runs show that, at a wide range of experimental conditions, growth on pre-existing

1154 crystals represents a significant proportion of the additional crystallization due to
1155 decompression (25–50%). The presence of crystals prior to the onset of decompression may
1156 modulate magmatic textures by suppressing feldspar nucleation relative to growth.

1157 Our experimental data provide a context for interpreting the textures of natural
1158 pyroclasts. Importantly, the phase assemblage itself is a dynamic variable that can be used in
1159 conjunction with sample textures to infer eruptive conditions. Comparison of N_A – ϕ
1160 relationships in natural and experimental datasets from Mount St. Helens support a model of
1161 multiple magma storage depths during this period (e.g., Cashman & McConnell 2005),
1162 whereby variably degassed and crystallized magmas stored in the shallow plumbing system
1163 (1–2 km depth) are erupted alongside magmas sourced from a deeper storage region (~6–8
1164 km). N_A – ϕ trends of CD and SSD experiments overlap, stressing that these two parameters
1165 do not uniquely define the magma closure pressure.

1166

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1618 **Figure 1:** Equilibrium P– $X_{H_2O}^{fl}$ phase diagram for Sugar Bowl rhyodacite at 885 °C. Open
1619 and closed circles show H_2O - and H_2O – CO_2 -saturated experiments, respectively. Final fluid
1620 compositions of CO_2 -bearing charges were determined by gravimetry; initial fluid
1621 compositions were $X_{H_2O}^{fl} \approx 0.8$. Solid lines are phase boundaries (plag: plagioclase, opx:
1622 orthopyroxene, amph: amphibole, ox: Fe–Ti oxides). Dashed lines contour measured melt
1623 water contents. Solidus after Ebadi & Johannes (1991).

1624
1625 **Figure 2:** BSE images of equilibrium reference samples, showing abundance and textures of
1626 plagioclase crystals (light grey) at each fluid composition prior to decompression. Phases
1627 present are labeled: plagioclase (plag), amphibole (amph), orthopyroxene (opx), Fe–Ti oxides
1628 (ox), and vesicles (vesc). Large white circles in (a) are vesicles infilled with Au coating.
1629 Reference samples were equilibrated at 200 MPa and 885 °C; (a) run DSB6 with $X_{H_2O}^{fl} =$
1630 1.0, equilibrated for 72 hours, (b) run PSB39 with $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$, equilibrated for 168 hours.
1631 Plagioclase abundance is higher in (b) due to lower melt water content of charge.

1632
1633 **Figure 3:** Representative BSE images of experimentally decompressed samples. Same scale
1634 in all images. Light grey crystals are plagioclase, high-contrast phases are Fe–Ti oxides,
1635 orthopyroxene, and/or amphibole, black areas are vesicles. Vertical image stacks are (a) pure-
1636 H_2O runs decompressed at 1 MPa hr^{-1} ; (b) pure- H_2O runs decompressed at 10 MPa hr^{-1} ; (c)
1637 H_2O – CO_2 runs decompressed at 1 MPa hr^{-1} ; (d) H_2O – CO_2 runs decompressed at 10 MPa hr^{-1} ;
1638 (e) SSD with $t_{dw} = 24$ hours; (f) SSD with $t_{dw} = 168$ hours. Quench pressure P_f decreases
1639 from top to the bottom.

1640
1641 **Figure 4:** Plagioclase anorthite contents and glass K_2O contents of experimental run products
1642 as a function of quench pressure. Bars show the range of plagioclase compositions in each
1643 sample; cross bars show mean of analyzed values. Orange symbols and lines give equilibrium
1644 values from a corresponding set of phase equilibria experiments (Riker *et al.* in press);
1645 equilibrium plagioclase compositions at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$ are inferred from the An– H_2O –P
1646 relationships of these runs. Equilibrium glass K_2O contents for runs at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$ are not
1647 shown, as we have no corresponding equilibrium dataset at this fluid composition.

1648
1649 **Figure 5:** Plagioclase volume fraction (ϕ), areal number density (N_A), and average size (S_N)
1650 versus quench pressure for (a) CD at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$, (b) CD at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$, and (c) SSD. (d)

1651 shows ϕ , N_A , and S_N versus t_{dw} at final pressure for SSD; lines connect samples with identical
1652 P_f . Plagioclase N_A corrected for pre-existing crystals using equilibrium reference samples; ϕ
1653 and S_N include contribution from pre-existing plagioclase. Grey lines in ϕ - P_f plots are
1654 estimated equilibrium curves based on phase equilibria experiments in the pure- H_2O system
1655 (small grey dots; Riker *et al.*, in press). Error bars show 1σ variance of multiple analyzed
1656 images, or sub-sampled crystal populations within a single image.

1657

1658 **Figure 6:** Time-integrated plagioclase growth (G) and nucleation rates (I) versus quench
1659 pressure. Rates have been corrected for the presence of pre-existing crystals as discussed in
1660 text. Error bars give the 1σ variability within each sample. Arrows show the direction of
1661 progressive decompression.

1662

1663 **Figure 7:** Crystal size distributions of experimentally decompressed samples calculated using
1664 CSDCorrections (Higgins, 2000). Experiments are separated by decompression rate (CD at 1,
1665 10, and 100 $MPa\ hr^{-1}$, or SSD) and fluid composition ($X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$ or 0.8). All CSDs have
1666 concave-upward forms that we attribute to the combined effect of crystals formed during
1667 equilibration and nucleated during decompression; curvature changes with decompression
1668 rate, path, and fluid composition.

1669

1670 **Figure 8:** Comparison of CSD- and batch-derived (a) growth rates (G) and (b) nucleation
1671 rates (I) for plagioclase crystals formed during decompression. Regression fits used in CSD
1672 calculations are given in Table 4. CSD-derived growth rates are consistently lower than
1673 batch-derived rates; CSD-derived nucleation rates are slightly higher.

1674

1675 **Figure 9:** Time variance of kinetic parameters for decompression crystallization derived
1676 from experimental data. (a) Batch-derived nucleation rates for SSD at $P_f = 25$ MPa (open
1677 squares, black dashed lines) and CD at $P_f = 25$ MPa and $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$ (open circles, red
1678 dotted lines). Curves are schematic, lines are apparent (time-averaged) nucleation rates
1679 labeled as number $mm^{-2}\ hr^{-1}$; brackets are rates in number $mm^{-3}\ s^{-1}$ (lines are extrapolated
1680 beyond the data for clarity only). (b) Batch-derived growth rates for SSD at $P_f = 25$ MPa
1681 (open squares, black dashed lines), $P_f = 50$ MPa (gray squares, gray dashed lines), $P_f = 100$
1682 MPa (black squares, solid black lines) and CD at $P_f = 25$ MPa and $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 1.0$ (circles, red
1683 dotted lines). Curves are schematic; lines are apparent (time-averaged) growth rates labeled

1684 as $\text{mm s}^{-1} \times 10^{-8}$. (c) Variation in apparent G of all experiments as function of crystallization
1685 time. Short duration (≤ 24 hour) experiments form a trend that is distinct from long duration
1686 (≥ 100 hour) experiments. (d) Total crystallinity as measure of chemical disequilibrium: $\Delta\phi =$
1687 $\phi^{\text{eq}} - \phi$, where ϕ^{eq} is equilibrium crystallinity at $P = P_f$ (Brugger & Hammer, 2010a). X-axis
1688 offset for clarity. Symbols are as above, with gray circles CD at $P_f = 50$ MPa and black
1689 circles CD at $P_f = 100$ MPa (both at $\text{XH}_2\text{O}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$). All samples overlap at origin, where $\phi =$
1690 ϕ^{eq} . Dashed lines show inferred trends for SSD runs, assuming a crystallization lag longer
1691 than the timescale of decompression.

1692

1693 **Figure 10:** Size histograms (as area fraction) of all plagioclase crystals in representative
1694 samples: (a) DSB6, (b) DSB39, (c) DSB16, (d) DSB19, (e) DSB26, (f) DSB18, (g) DSB23,
1695 (h) DSB13. Crystals formed during anneal period (grey shading) identified using plagioclase
1696 N_A in equilibrium reference samples, assuming largest crystals in decompressed samples
1697 formed during equilibration. Total crystal volume fraction (ϕ) and the volume fraction
1698 represented by pre-existing cores of anneal crystals (ϕ^{eq}) are labeled. Additional growth of
1699 pre-existing crystals constitutes $\sim 25\text{--}50\%$ decompression crystallization.

1700

1701 **Figure 11:** Comparison of phenocryst abundance in paired pumice (open symbols) and lava
1702 (filled symbols) samples. MSH: Mount St. Helens (1980 pumice and lava [grey] from
1703 Cashman & Taggart, 1983; 2004–6 spine data [black] from Cashman *et al.*, 2008); COL:
1704 Colima (data from Luhr & Carmichael, 1980; 1982); MER: Merapi (data from Innocenti *et*
1705 *al.*, 2013); MP: Mount Pelee (data from Pichavant *et al.*, 2002, maximum and minimum
1706 only).

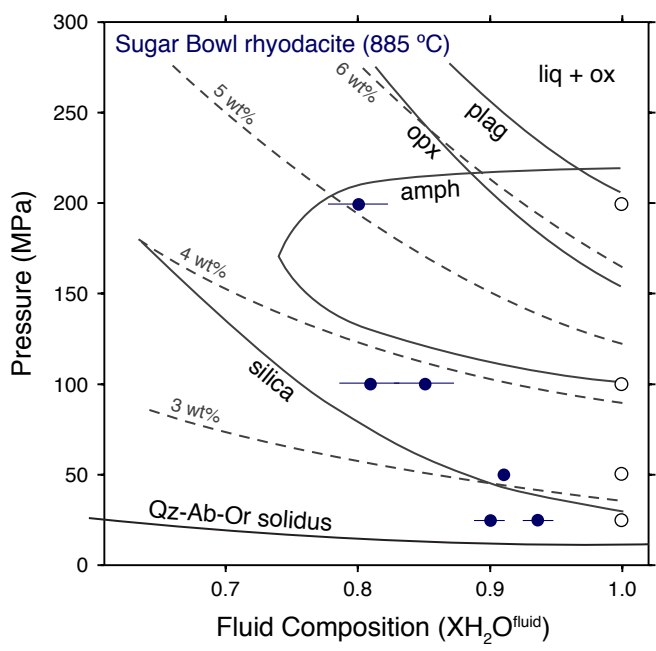
1707

1708 **Figure 12:** Compositional zoning profiles in experimentally decompressed plagioclase
1709 crystals. Grey scale intensity is proportional to anorthite content; brighter regions are more
1710 anorthite rich. (a) Diffusely zoned plagioclase crystal, CD at 1 MPa hr^{-1} , $P_f = 25$. (b) Sharply
1711 zoned plagioclase crystal, SSD, $P_f = 25$ MPa, $t_{\text{dw}} = 168$ hours. Crystallization intervals both ~ 7
1712 days, but time since pressure perturbation is *longer* in crystal (b), which has the sharpest
1713 boundary. (c) Core-to-rim concentration profiles of crystals in (a) and (b), normalized to
1714 maximum (core) and minimum (rim) greyscale values. Length scale is same in both profiles
1715 and centered at $x = 0$. Assuming initially stepped zoning profile (solid black line) yields
1716 longer relaxation timescale for slowly decompressed sample.

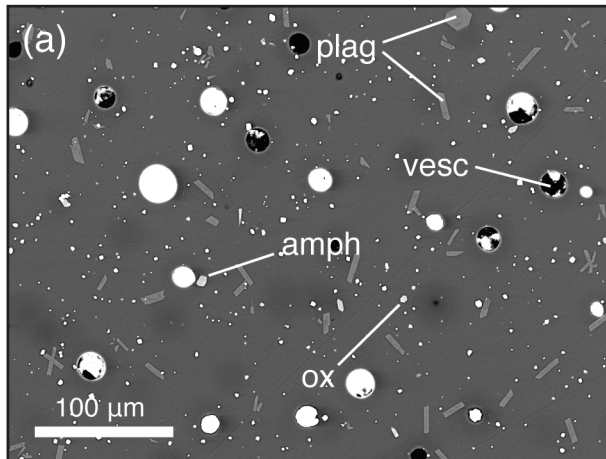
1717

1718 **Figure 13:** Crystallization regime (N_A - ϕ) diagram for experimental and natural samples.
1719 Nucleation-dominated crystallization defines steep trends in N_A - ϕ space; growth-dominated
1720 trends are near-horizontal. Shaded fields in (a) and (b) show the range of values measured in
1721 natural pyroclasts erupted during 1980; LND = low number density clasts; BML = bimodal
1722 clasts; HND = high number density clasts (data from Cashman & Hoblitt, 2004; Cashman &
1723 McConnell, 2005). (a) Compares natural data with CD trends; black arrows are CD at $X_{H_2O}^{fl}$
1724 = 1.0; grey dashed arrows are CD at $X_{H_2O}^{fl} = 0.8$. Thick grey lines are approximate contours
1725 of final pressure. (b) Compares natural data with SSD experiments. Data are largely time-
1726 invariant; P_f shown by thick grey lines for $t_{dw} = 24$ –168 hours. Panels (c) and (d) compare
1727 textural data for our water-saturated runs to those from other experimental decompressions of
1728 rhyolitic melts at similar temperatures (850–880 °C; data from Couch *et al.*, 2003; Brugger &
1729 Hammer, 2010a; Martel, 2012). Note the expanded x-axis range in (c) and (d).

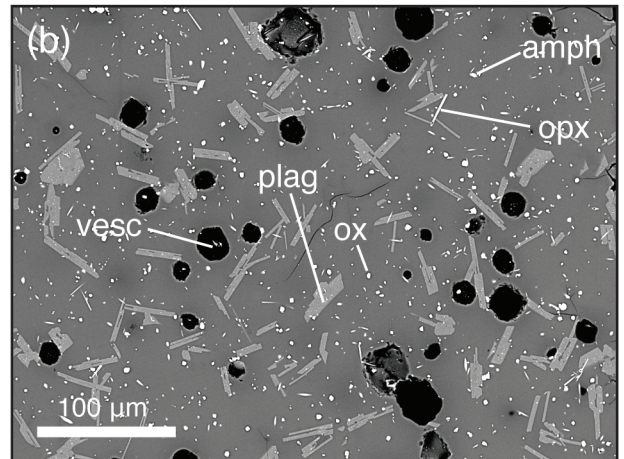
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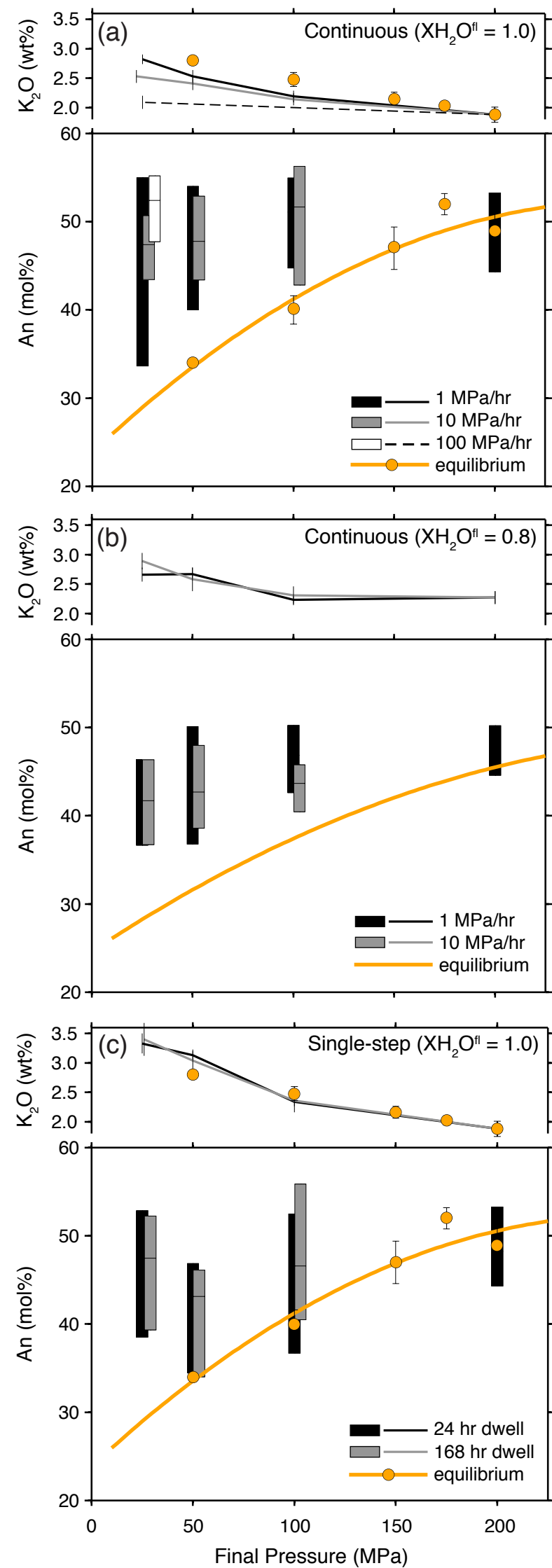


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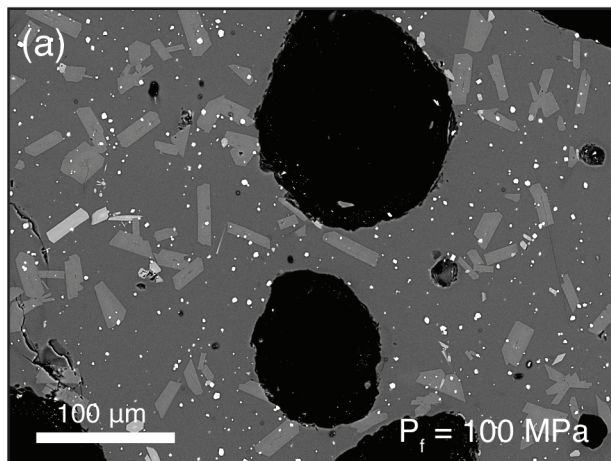


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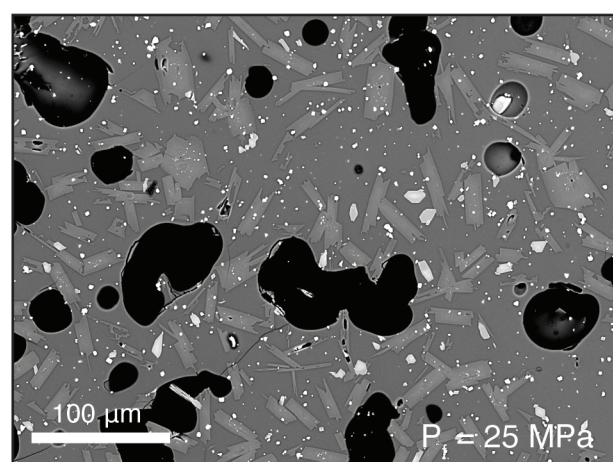
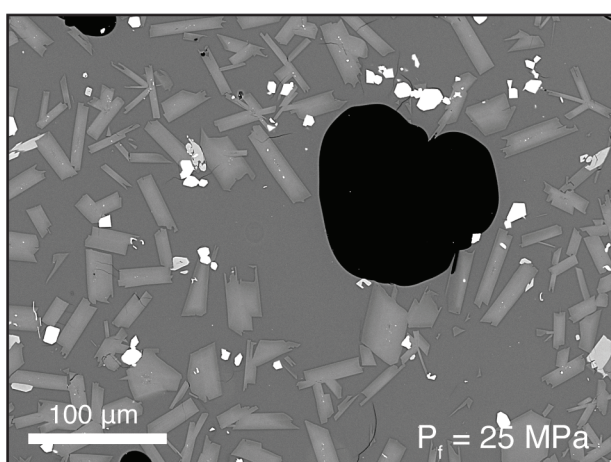
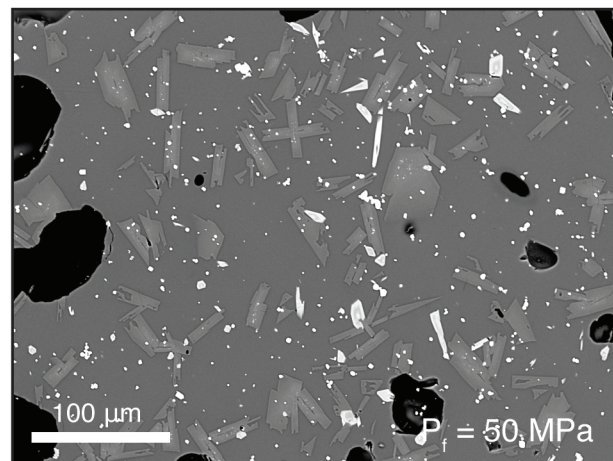
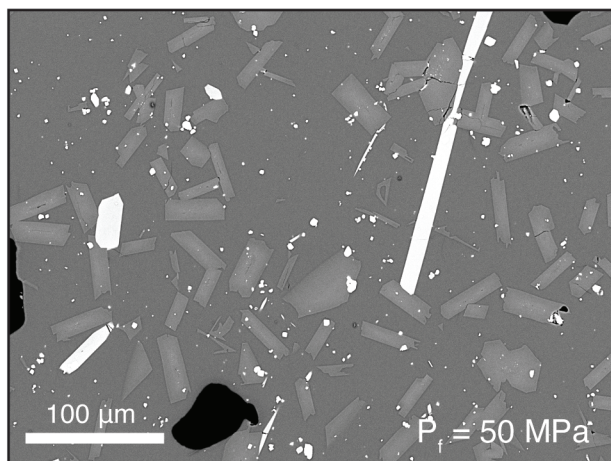
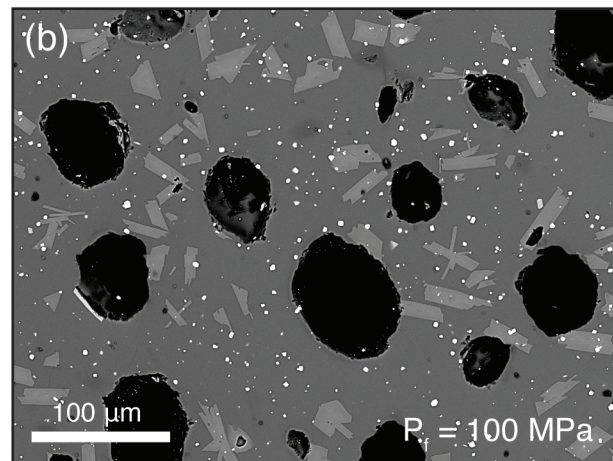




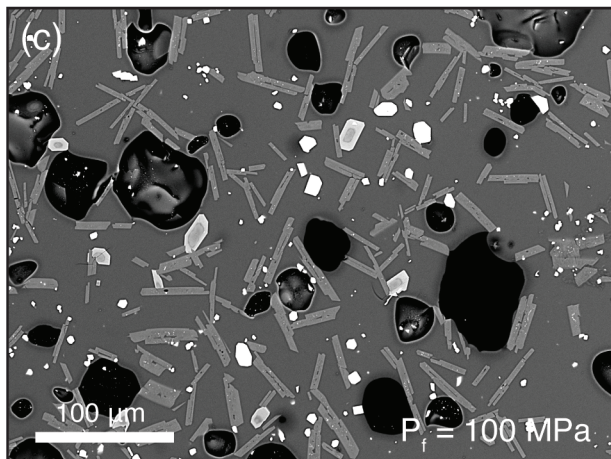
$dP/dt = 1 \text{ MPa hr}^{-1}$ ($X_{H_2O^II} = 1.0$)



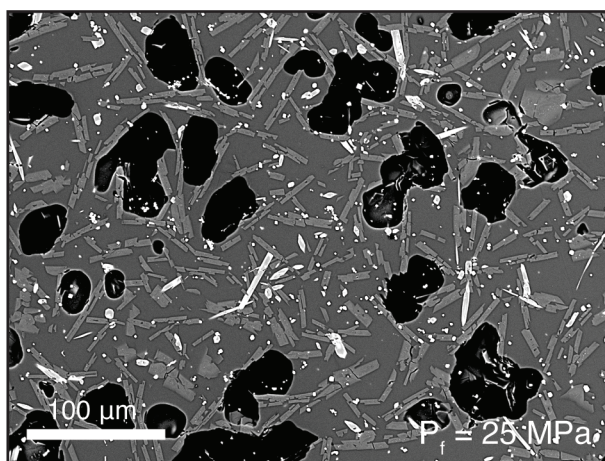
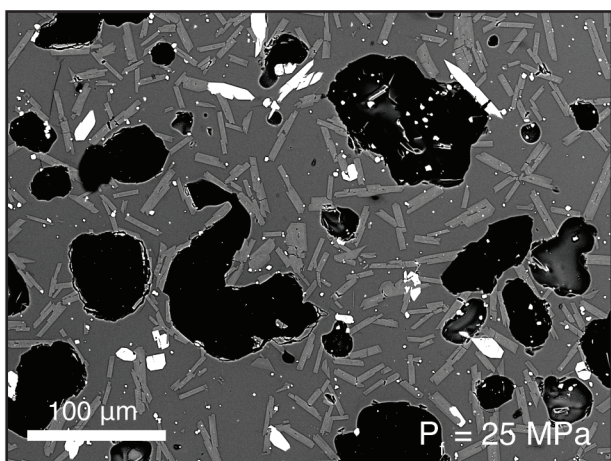
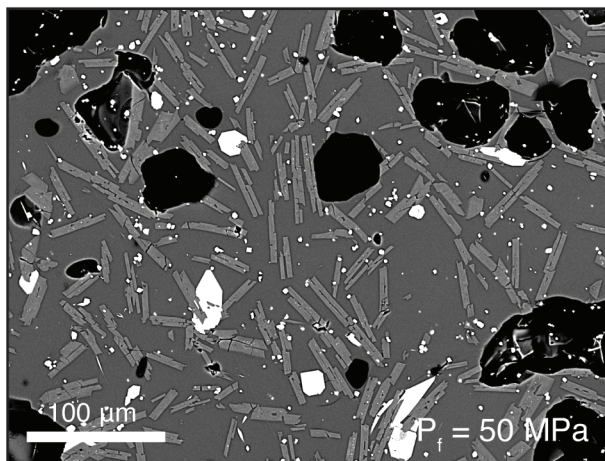
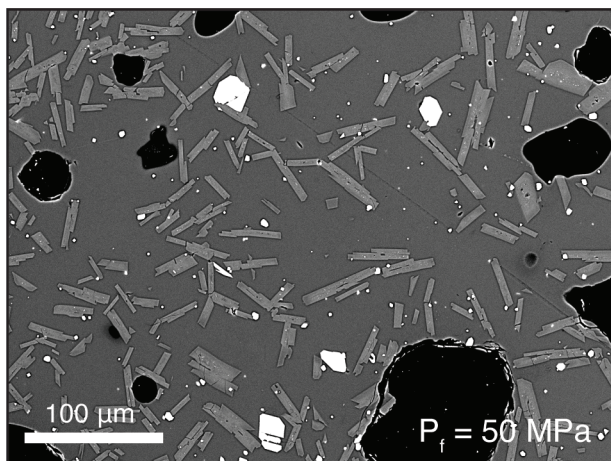
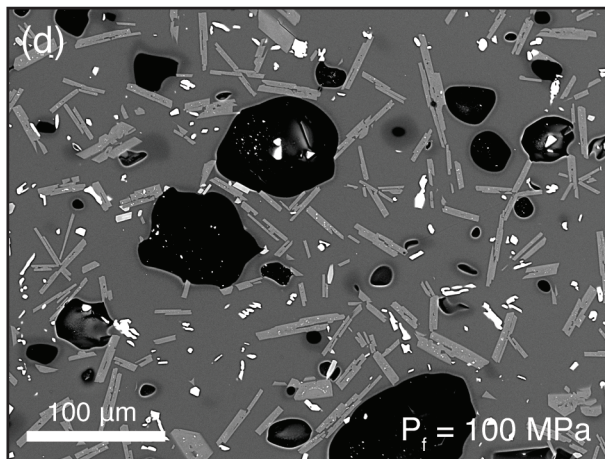
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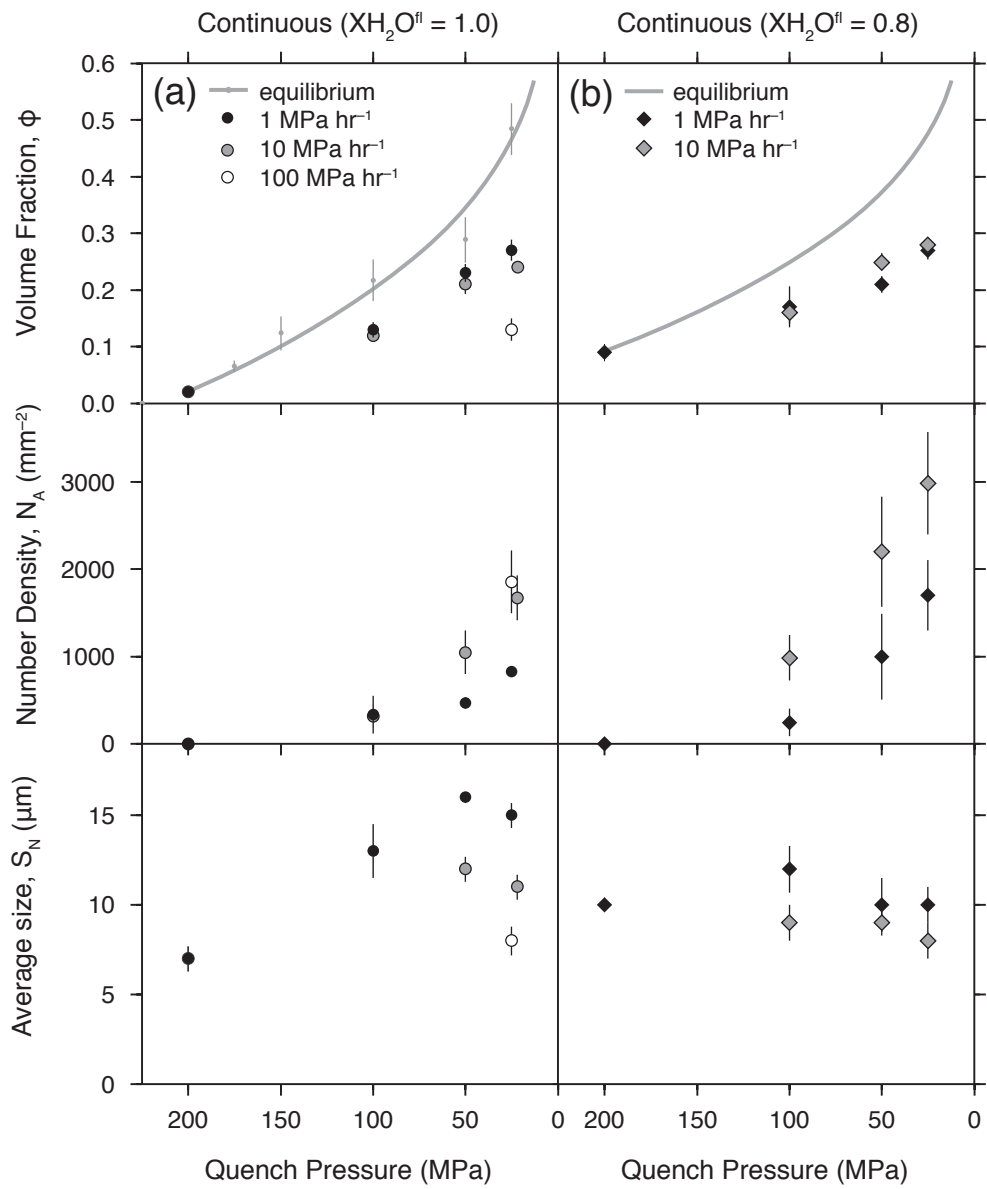


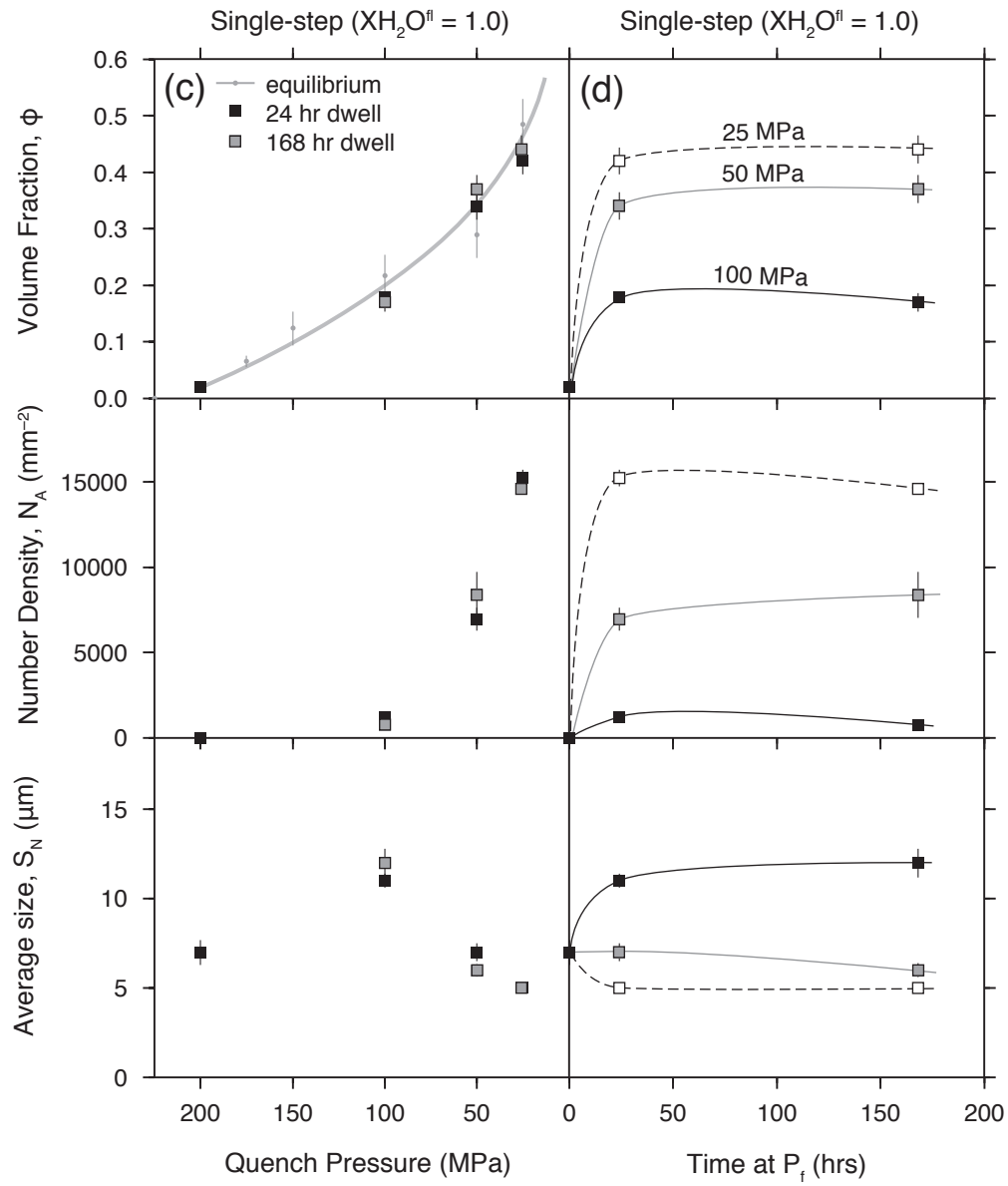
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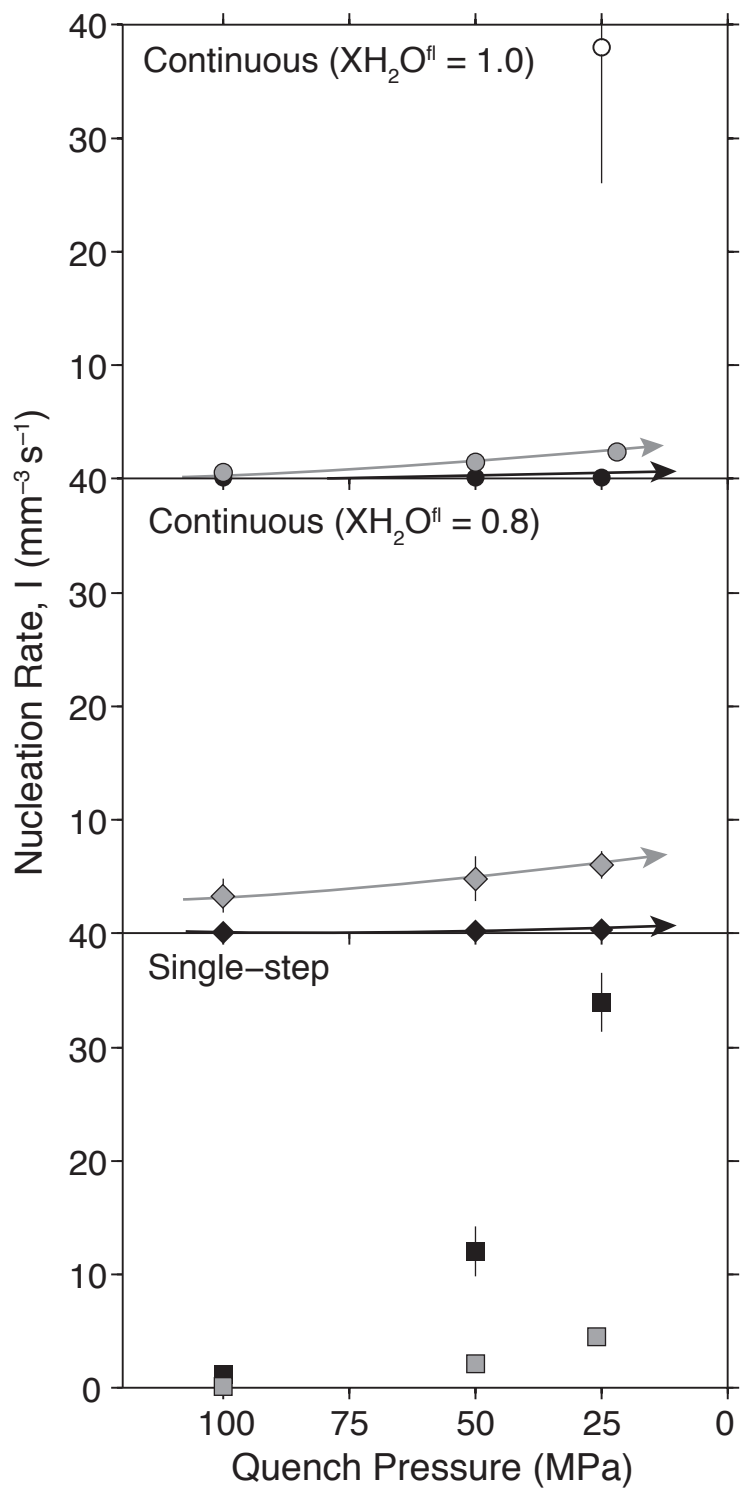
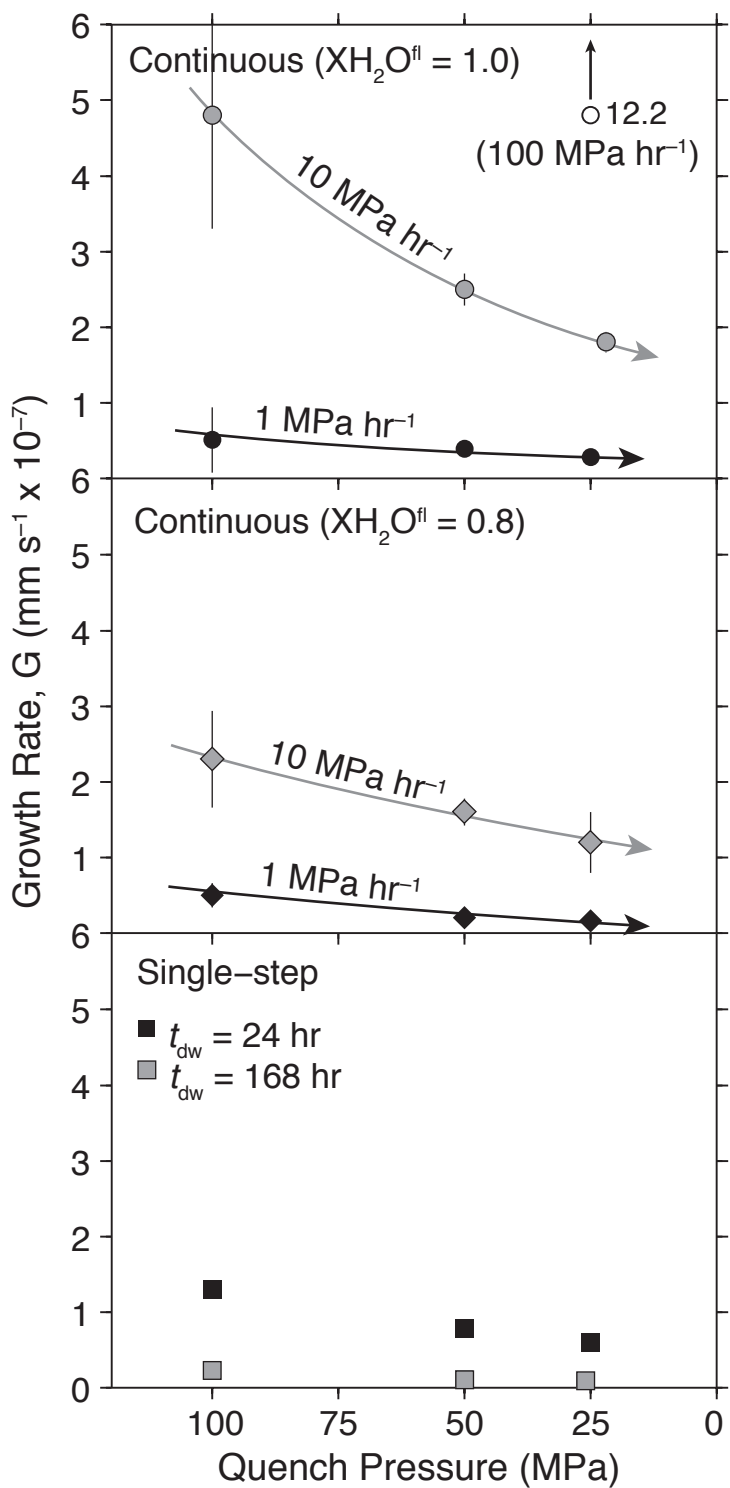


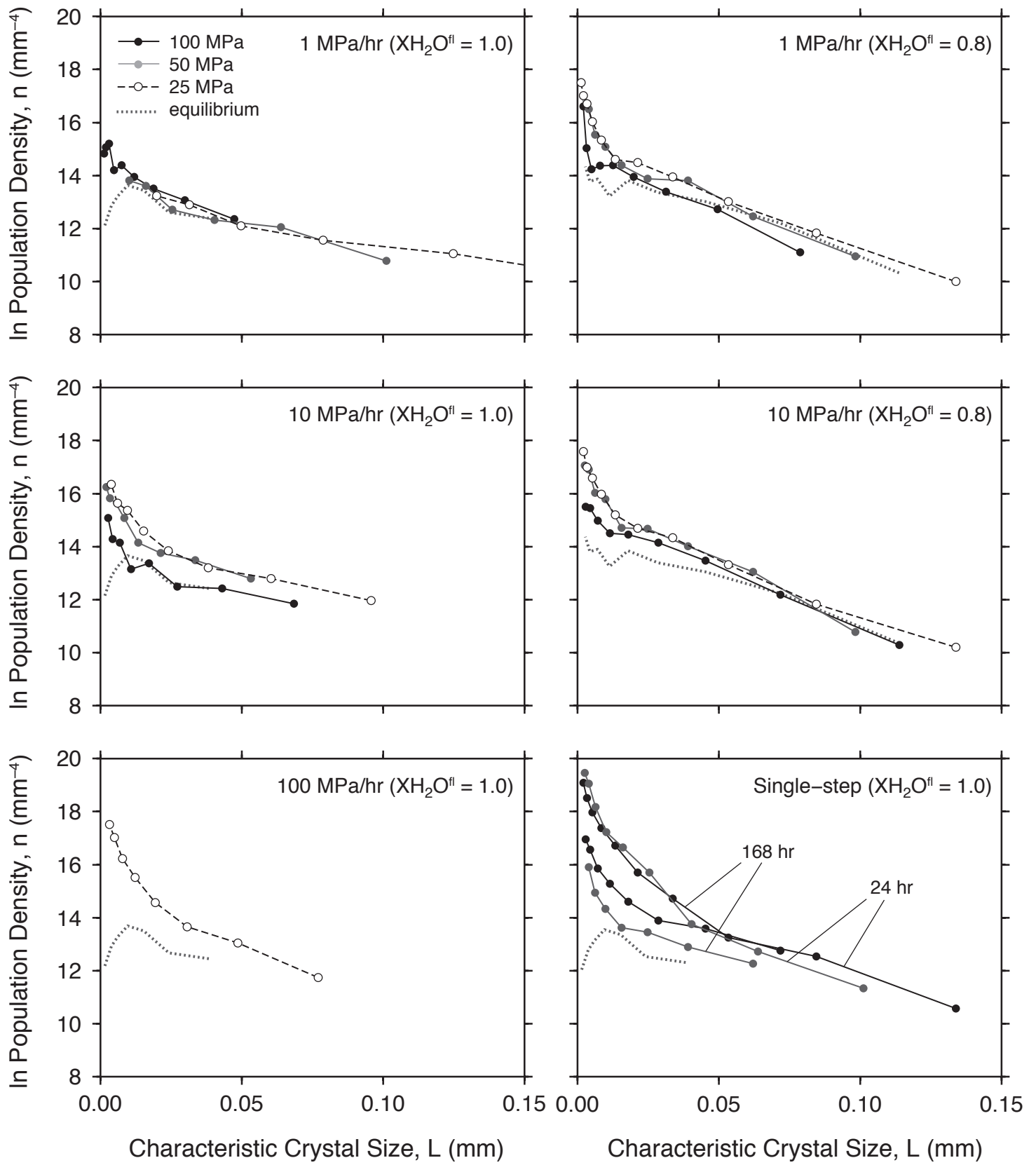
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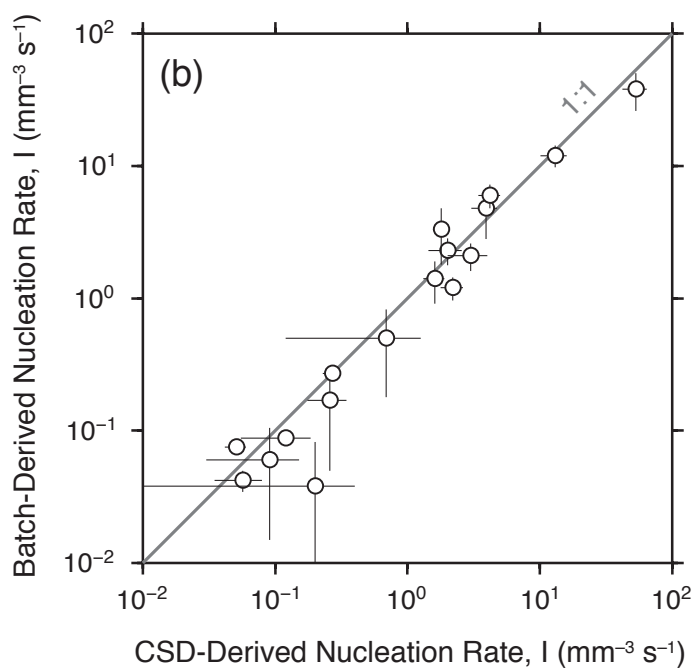
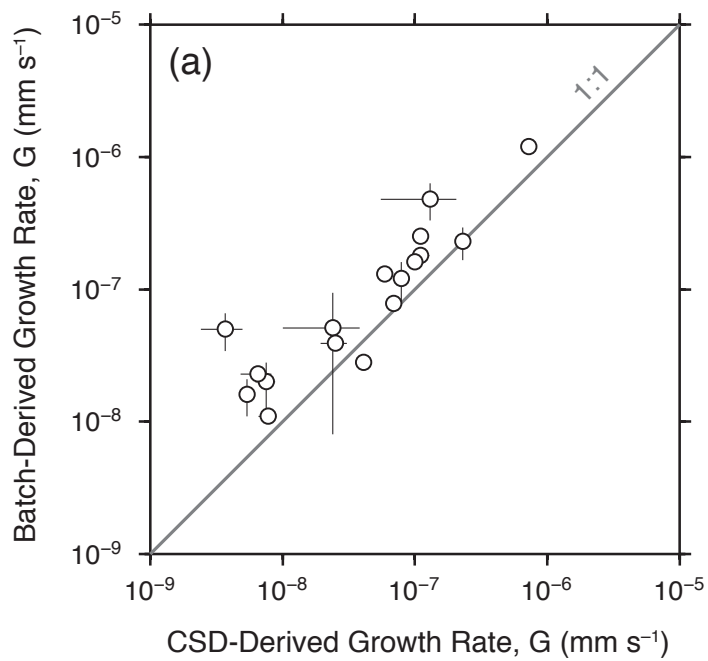


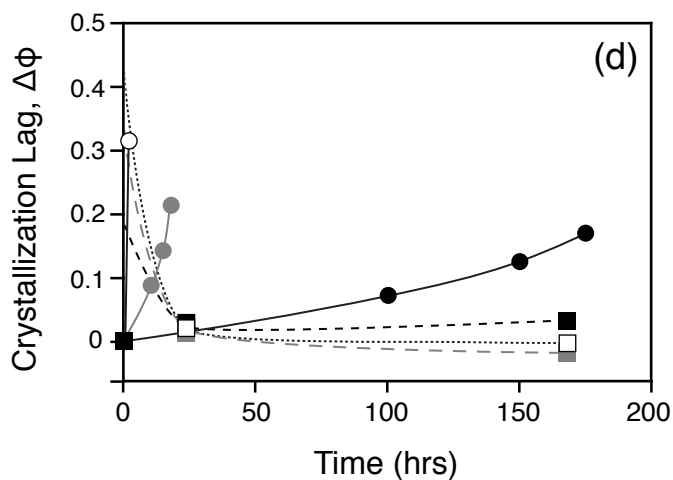
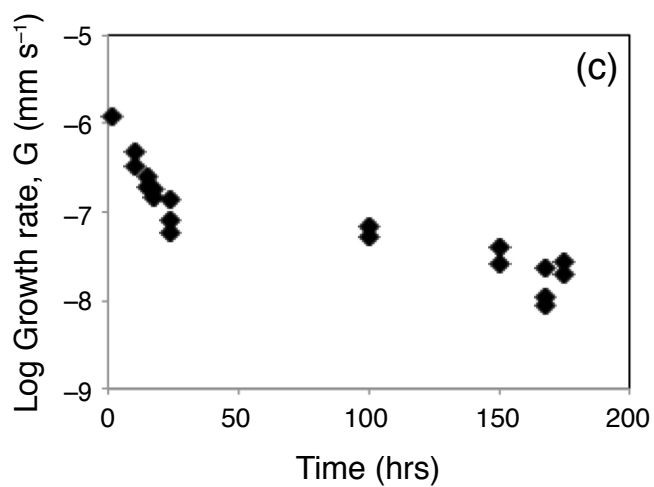
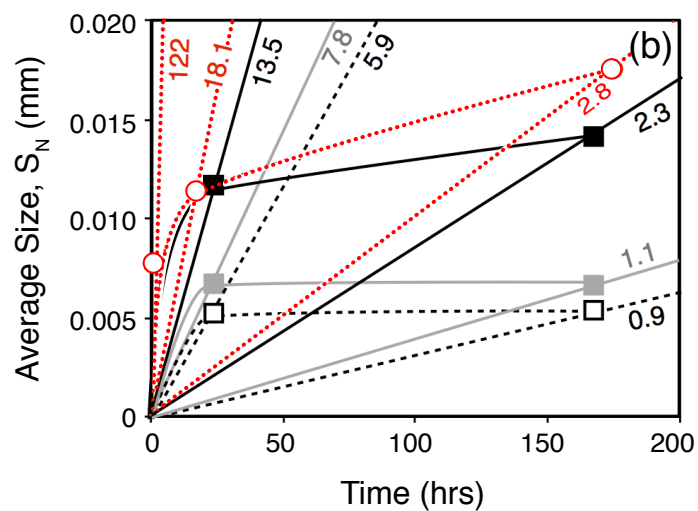
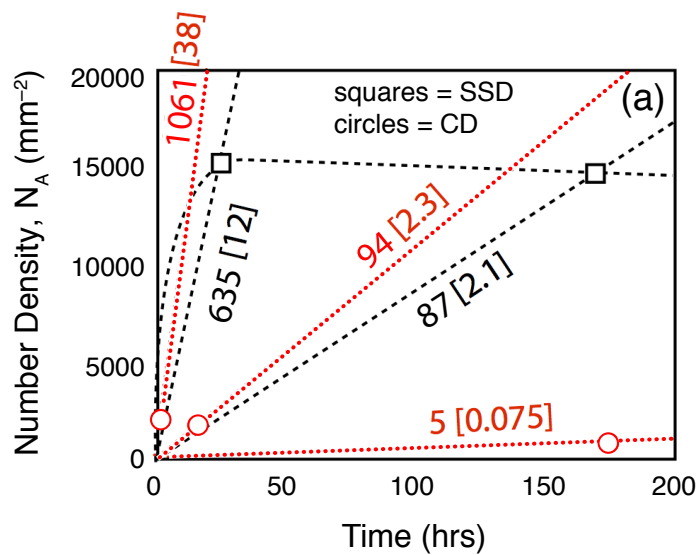


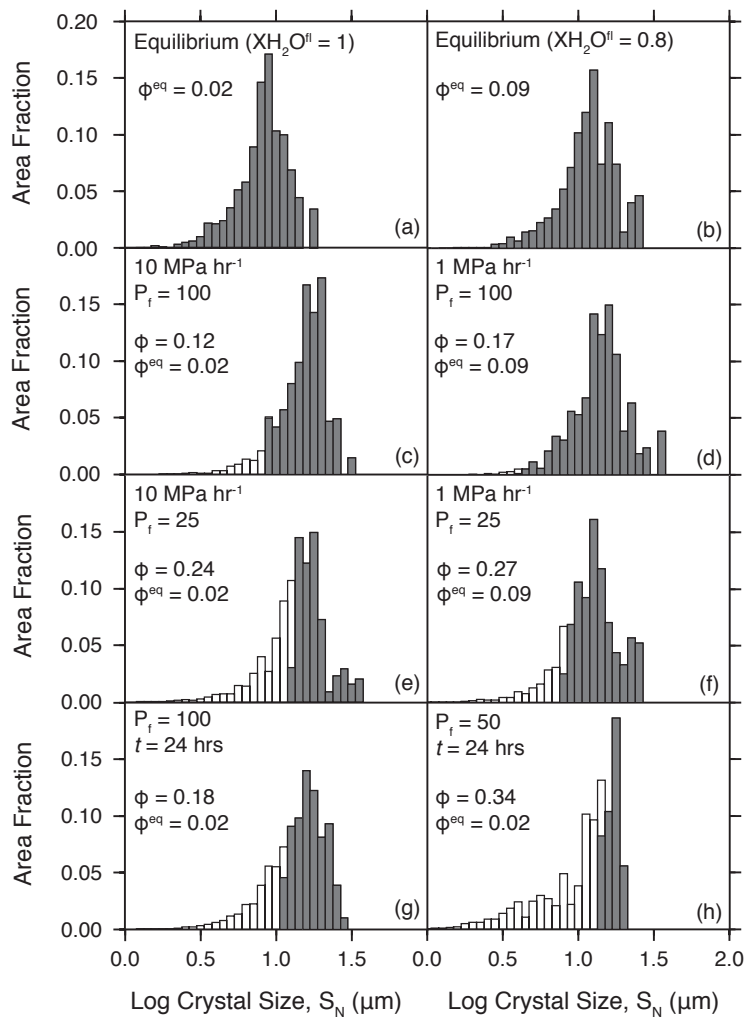


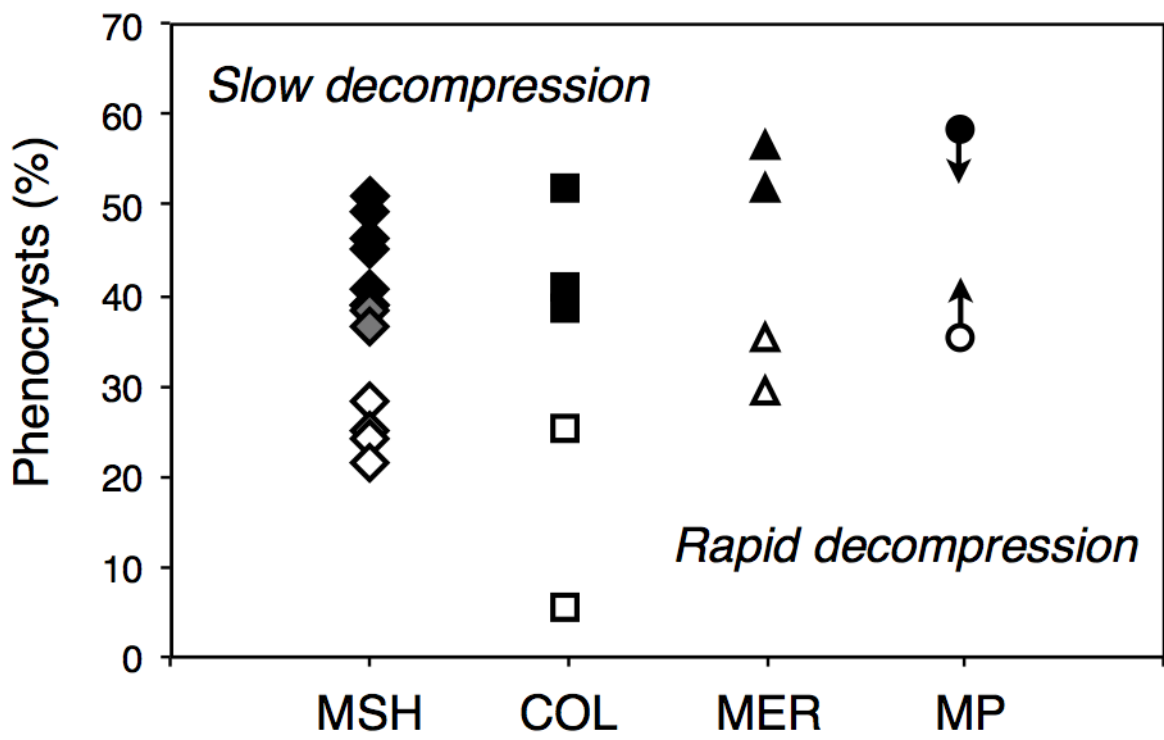


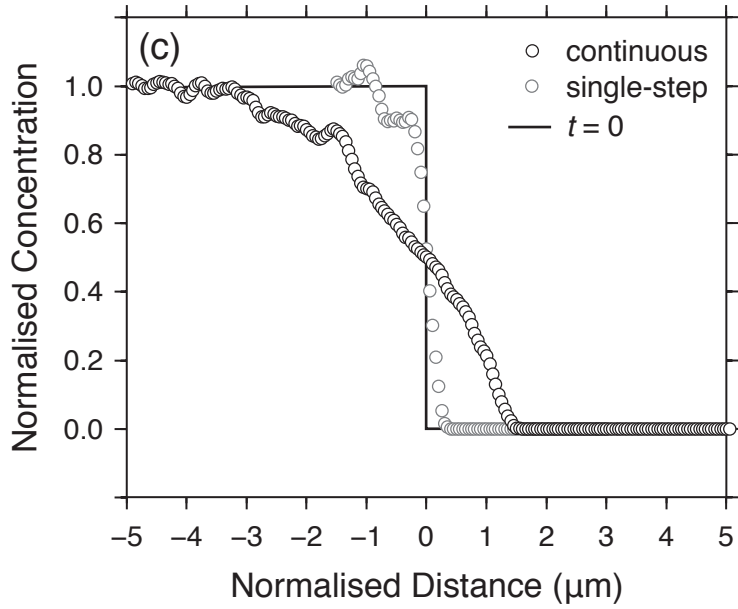
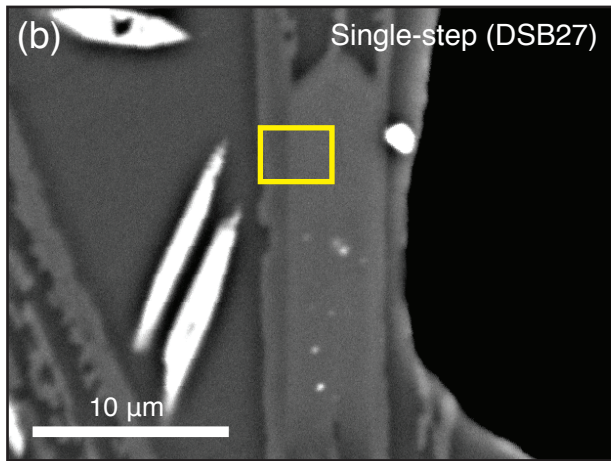
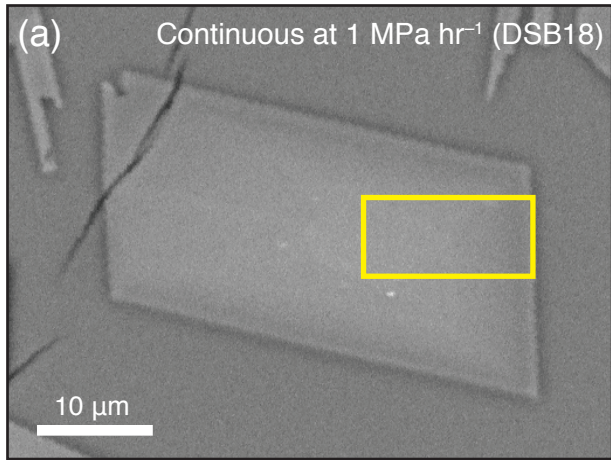












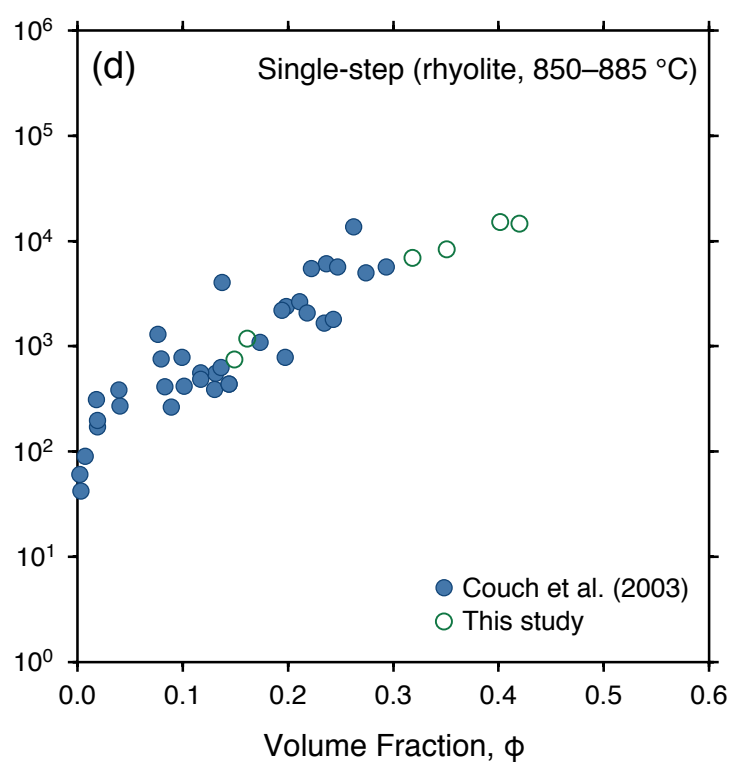
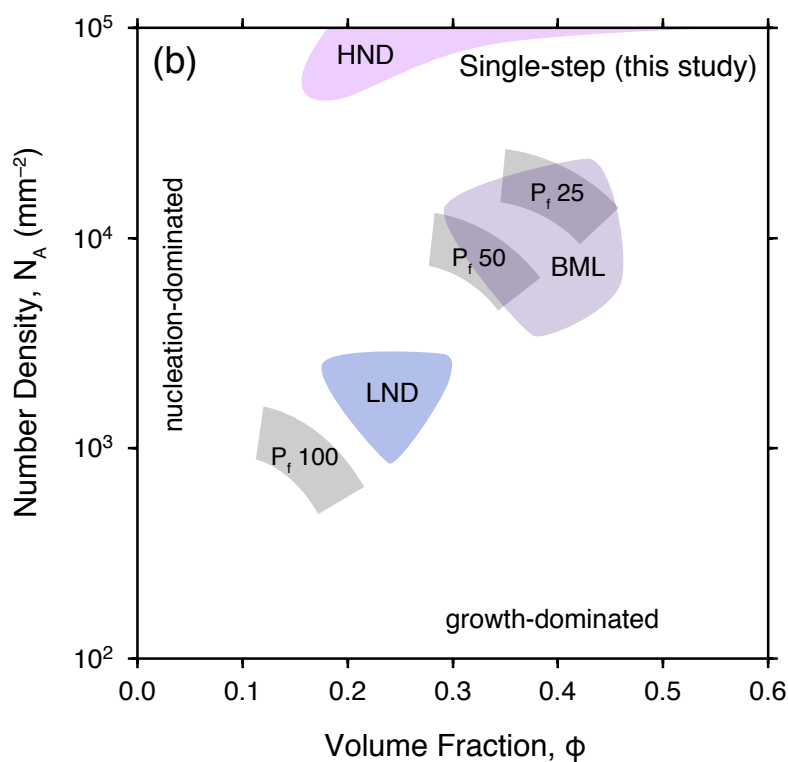
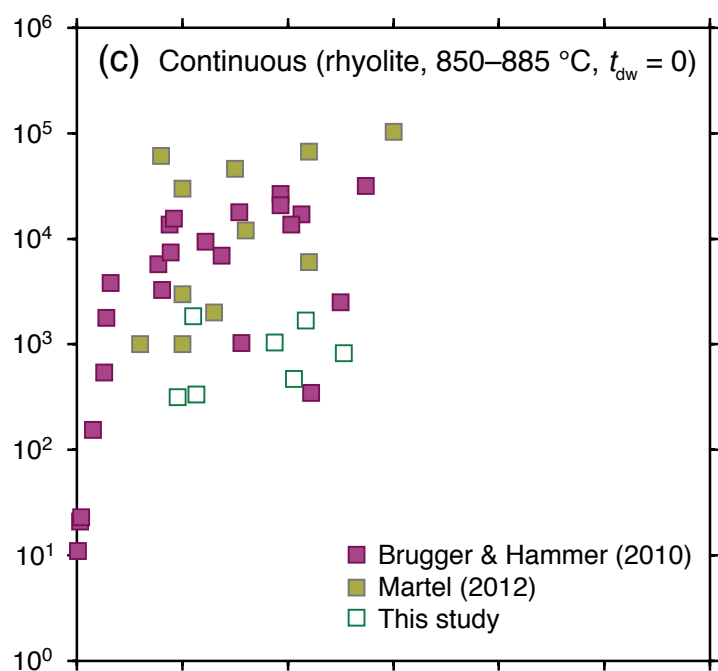
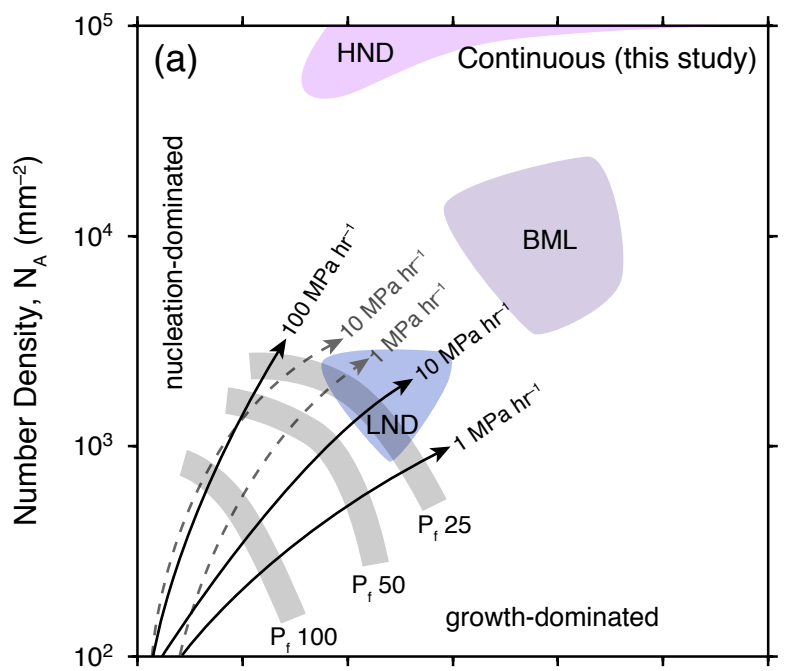


Table 1: Bulk composition of experimental starting material (wt% anhydrous)

| SiO ₂ | TiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | FeO _T | MnO | MgO | CaO | Na ₂ O | K ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ |
|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|------|------|------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 69.52 | 0.36 | 16.05 | 3.36 | 0.06 | 0.83 | 3.00 | 4.90 | 1.81 | 0.10 |

Table 2: Run conditions and run products of decompression experiments. All runs at 885 °C.

| Sample | Type ^a | XH ₂ O ^{fl b} (initial) | XH ₂ O ^{fl b} (final) | t_{eq} ^c (h) | dP/dt (MPa/h) | P _f (MPa) | t_{dw} ^c (h) | t_{dc} ^c (h) | t_{xst} ^c (h) | Run Products ^d |
|--------|-------------------|--|--|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| DSB6 | REF | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB19 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 100 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB9 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 150 | 150 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, [Am], Opx |
| DSB18 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 1 | 25 | 0 | 175 | 175 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, [Am], Opx |
| DSB16 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 10 | 100 | 0 | 10 | 10 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB28 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 10 | 50 | 0 | 15 | 15 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB26 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 10 | 22 | 0 | 18 | 18 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB22 | CD | 1.0 | – | 72 | 100 | 25 | 0 | 2 | 2 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB39 | REF | 0.8 | 0.80 (0.02) | 168 | – | 200 | 0 | 0 | 0 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Am |
| DSB35 | CD | 0.8 | 0.81 (0.02) | 168 | 1 | 100 | 0 | 100 | 100 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, [Am] |
| DSB38 | CD | 0.8 | – | 168 | 1 | 50 | 0 | 150 | 150 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx |
| DSB34 | CD | 0.8 | 0.93 (0.01) | 168 | 1 | 25 | 0 | 175 | 175 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx |
| DSB36 | CD | 0.8 | 0.85 (0.02) | 168 | 10 | 100 | 0 | 10 | 10 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Am |
| DSB37 | CD | 0.8 | 0.91 (<0.01) | 168 | 10 | 50 | 0 | 15 | 15 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Am |
| DSB33 | CD | 0.8 | 0.90 (0.01) | 168 | 10 | 25 | 0 | 18 | 18 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, [Am] |
| DSB23 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 100 | 24 | 0 | 24 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Am |
| DSB13 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 50 | 24 | 0 | 24 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, [Am] |
| DSB25 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 25 | 24 | 0 | 24 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Si |
| DSB17 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 100 | 168 | 0 | 168 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx |
| DSB24 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 50 | 168 | 0 | 168 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Si |
| DSB27 | SSD | 1.0 | – | 72 | – | 26 | 168 | 0 | 168 | Gl, Vap, Pl, Ox, Opx, Si |

^a CD = continuous decompression; SSD = single-step decompression; REF = equilibrium reference run.

^b Mole fraction of water in the fluid/vapour phase. Final fluid composition was measured by gravimetry; parentheses give uncertainties. Fluid compositions of water-saturated experiments were not measured.

^c t_{eq} = length of time spent at initial pressure prior to the onset of decompression (“anneal” period); t_{dw} = dwell time at final pressure; t_{dc} = duration of active decompression; t_{xst} = time available for decompression crystallisation (= $t_{dc} + t_{dw}$).

^d Gl = glass; Vap = vapor; Pl = plagioclase; Am = amphibole; Opx = orthopyroxene; Ox = Fe–Ti oxides; Si = silica phase. Brackets indicate resorbed or reacting amphibole.

Table 3: Two-dimensional (batch) textural analyses of experimental plagioclase crystals.

| Sample | N_A^a (mm^{-2}) | ϕ^a (vol. fraction) | S_N (mm) | Growth rate, G (mm s^{-1}) | Nucleation Rate, I ($\text{mm}^{-3} \text{s}^{-1}$) | Habit ^b | Aspect ratio ^c |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|--|--|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Equilibrium reference runs | | | | | | | |
| DSB6 | 422 (74) | 0.020 (0.004) | 0.007 (0.001) | – | – | P | 3.3 |
| DSB39 | 1018 (80) | 0.094 (0.015) | 0.010 (0.000) | – | – | H | 4.9 |
| Continuous decompression, $X_{H_2O}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$ | | | | | | | |
| DSB19 | 334 (217) ^d | 0.134 (0.013) | 0.013 (0.002) | 5.1E-08 (4.3) | 6.0E-02 (4.5) | P | 2.8 |
| DSB9 | 472 (67) | 0.226 (0.016) | 0.016 (0.000) | 3.9E-08 (0.2) | 4.2E-02 (0.8) | P | 3.2 |
| DSB18 | 827 (48) | 0.273 (0.019) | 0.015 (0.001) | 2.8E-08 (0.2) | 7.5E-02 (0.8) | P [S] | 3.6 |
| DSB16 | 315 (134) | 0.116 (0.006) | 0.013 (0.002) | 4.8E-07 (1.5) | 5.0E-01 (3.2) | P | 3.5 |
| DSB28 | 1047 (250) | 0.208 (0.017) | 0.012 (0.001) | 2.5E-07 (0.2) | 1.4E+00 (0.5) | P [S] | 3.3 |
| DSB26 | 1673 (254) | 0.237 (0.001) | 0.011 (0.001) | 1.8E-07 (0.1) | 2.3E+00 (0.5) | P [S] | 3.9 |
| DSB22 | 1857 (361) | 0.130 (0.020) | 0.008 (0.001) | 1.2E-06 (0.2) | 3.8E+01 (1.2) | S | 3.4 |
| Continuous decompression, $X_{H_2O}^{\text{fl}} = 0.8$ | | | | | | | |
| DSB35 | 244 (156) | 0.173 (0.036) | 0.012 (0.001) | 5.0E-08 (1.6) | 3.8E-02 (440) | H | 4.3 |
| DSB38 | 997 (491) | 0.210 (0.015) | 0.010 (0.002) | 2.0E-08 (0.8) | 1.7E-01 (0.1) | H | 3.8 |
| DSB34 | 1702 (402) | 0.270 (0.016) | 0.010 (0.001) | 1.6E-08 (0.5) | 2.7E-01 (0.3) | H | 4.0 |
| DSB36 | 985 (261) | 0.163 (0.019) | 0.009 (0.001) | 2.3E-07 (0.6) | 3.3E+00 (1.5) | H | 4.5 |
| DSB37 | 2201 (631) | 0.252 (0.015) | 0.009 (0.001) | 1.6E-07 (0.2) | 4.8E+00 (2.0) | H | 4.0 |
| DSB33 | 2984 (588) | 0.279 (0.014) | 0.008 (0.001) | 1.2E-07 (0.4) | 6.0E+00 (1.2) | H | 4.1 |
| Single-step decompression, $X_{H_2O}^{\text{fl}} = 1.0$ | | | | | | | |
| DSB23 | 1190 (176) | 0.181 (0.008) | 0.011 (0.000) | 1.3E-07 (0.1) | 1.2E+00 (0.2) | S | 4.0 |
| DSB13 | 6960 (666) | 0.338 (0.024) | 0.007 (0.001) | 7.8E-08 (0.7) | 1.2E+01 (0.2) | S | 3.9 |
| DSB25 | 15234 (473) | 0.421 (0.024) | 0.005 (0.000) | 5.9E-08 (0.3) | 3.4E+01 (0.3) | D | n.d. |
| DSB17 | 747 (37) | 0.169 (0.016) | 0.012 (0.001) | 2.3E-08 (0.2) | 8.8E-02 (1.1) | S | 3.7 |
| DSB24 | 8391 (1351) | 0.371 (0.025) | 0.006 (0.000) | 1.1E-08 (0.1) | 2.1E+00 (0.5) | S | 4.3 |
| DSB27 | 14585 (899) | 0.440 (0.025) | 0.005 (0.000) | 8.9E-09 (0.4) | 4.5E+00 (0.2) | D | n.d. |

^a Values corrected for the presence of pre-existing crystals as given by equilibrium reference experiments ($N_A = \text{measured } N_A - N_{\text{AREF}}$; $\phi = \text{measured } \phi - \phi_{\text{REF}}$). Values for reference runs are reported as measured.

^b Dominant crystal habit. P = prismatic; S = skeletal; H = hopper/swallowtail; D = dendritic. P [S] indicates dominantly prismatic crystals with hopper/swallowtail or skeletal overgrowths.

^c Average 2D crystal aspect ratio, calculated as major axis length over minor axis length.

^d Parentheses give 1σ variability of multiple images or sub-sampled crystal populations within a single image.

Table 4: Crystal size distribution (CSD) analyses of experimental plagioclase crystals.

| Sample | n ^a | Crystal shapes ^b | | CSD regressions ^c | | | n ⁰ | Gr (mm) | G (mm s ⁻¹) | I (mm ⁻³ s ⁻¹) |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------------------|--|
| | | <i>s:i:l</i> | r ² | slope | intercept | r ² | | | | |
| Equilibrium reference runs | | | | | | | | | | |
| DSB6 | 416 | 1:3:6 | 0.91 | -57.2 (14.2) | 14.5 (0.3) | 0.89 | 2.0e+6 (0.7) | 0.017 (0.004) | 6.7e-8 (1.7) | 1.4e-1 (0.6) |
| DSB39 | 312 | 1:4:9 | 0.87 | -39.0 (3.9) | 14.2 (0.2) | 0.93 | 1.5e+6 (0.3) | 0.026 (0.003) | 4.2e-8 (0.4) | 6.4e-2 (1.4) |
| Continuous decompression, XH ₂ O ^{fl} = 1.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| DSB19 | 605 | 1:3:4 | 0.87 | -117.8 (70.9) | 15.2 (0.3) | 0.48 | 3.9e+6 (1.2) | 0.008 (0.005) | 2.4e-8 (1.4) | 9.1e-2 (6.1) |
| DSB9 | 405 | 1:3:5 | 0.84 | -74.8 (16.9) | 14.7 (0.3) | 0.95 | 2.3e+6 (0.7) | 0.013 (0.003) | 2.5e-8 (0.6) | 5.7e-2 (2.2) |
| DSB18 | 853 | 1:2:9 | 0.80 | -38.3 (4.1) | 14.0 (0.1) | 0.99 | 1.2e+6 (0.2) | 0.026 (0.003) | 4.1e-8 (0.4) | 5.1e-2 (1.0) |
| DSB16 | 470 | 1:3:6 | 0.88 | -211.5 (121.1) | 15.5 (0.6) | 0.75 | 5.3e+6 (3.1) | 0.005 (0.003) | 1.3e-7 (0.8) | 6.9e-1 (5.7) |
| DSB28 | 959 | 1:3:5 | 0.81 | -174.1 (22.7) | 16.5 (0.1) | 0.97 | 1.5e+7 (0.2) | 0.006 (0.001) | 1.1e-7 (0.1) | 1.6e+0 (0.3) |
| DSB26 | 606 | 1:3:9 | 0.94 | -142.4 (23.4) | 16.7 (0.2) | 0.95 | 1.8e+7 (0.4) | 0.007 (0.001) | 1.1e-7 (0.2) | 2.0e+0 (0.6) |
| DSB22 | 225 | 1:3:7 | 0.78 | -219.5 (23.5) | 18.1 (0.2) | 0.98 | 7.3e+7 (1.3) | 0.005 (0.000) | 7.2e-7 (0.8) | 5.3e+1 (1.1) |
| Continuous decompression, XH ₂ O ^{fl} = 0.8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| DSB35 | 284 | 1:5:7 | 0.91 | -748.8 (267.3) | 17.8 (1.0) | 0.89 | 5.4e+7 (5.2) | 0.001 (0.000) | 3.7e-9 (1.3) | 2.0e-1 (2.0) |
| DSB38 | 293 | 1:4:7 | 0.90 | -248.3 (43.8) | 17.4 (0.3) | 0.94 | 3.5e+7 (1.0) | 0.004 (0.001) | 7.5e-9 (1.3) | 2.6e-1 (0.9) |
| DSB34 | 574 | 1:4:8 | 0.87 | -294.9 (25.0) | 17.7 (0.1) | 0.98 | 5.0e+7 (0.6) | 0.003 (0.000) | 5.4e-9 (0.5) | 2.7e-1 (0.4) |
| DSB36 | 300 | 1:4:9 | 0.88 | -123.4 (12.8) | 15.9 (0.1) | 0.98 | 8.1e+6 (0.8) | 0.008 (0.001) | 2.3e-7 (0.2) | 1.8e+0 (0.3) |
| DSB37 | 418 | 1:4:7 | 0.88 | -176.9 (20.5) | 17.4 (0.2) | 0.96 | 3.8e+7 (0.7) | 0.006 (0.001) | 1.0e-7 (0.1) | 3.9e+0 (0.9) |
| DSB33 | 656 | 1:4:8 | 0.85 | -201.3 (20.8) | 17.8 (0.2) | 0.97 | 5.3e+7 (0.8) | 0.005 (0.001) | 7.9e-8 (0.8) | 4.2e+0 (0.8) |
| Single-step decompression, XH ₂ O ^{fl} = 1.0 | | | | | | | | | | |
| DSB23 | 873 | 1:3:9 | 0.83 | -197.0 (22.0) | 17.4 (0.2) | 0.98 | 3.8e+7 (0.6) | 0.005 (0.001) | 5.9e-8 (0.7) | 2.2e+0 (0.4) |
| DSB13 | 407 | 1:3:9 | 0.79 | -167.4 (17.2) | 19.1 (0.2) | 0.96 | 1.9e+8 (0.4) | 0.006 (0.001) | 6.9e-8 (0.7) | 1.3e+1 (0.3) |
| DSB17 | 373 | 1:4:7 | 0.88 | -256.0 (65.8) | 16.8 (0.5) | 0.94 | 1.9e+7 (0.9) | 0.004 (0.001) | 6.5e-9 (1.7) | 1.2e-1 (0.7) |
| DSB24 | 246 | 1:4:8 | 0.71 | -211.7 (32.0) | 19.8 (0.3) | 0.94 | 3.9e+8 (1.1) | 0.005 (0.001) | 7.8e-9 (1.2) | 3.0e+0 (1.0) |

^a Number of crystals measured

^b Three-dimensional crystal shape (*s* = short axis, *i* = intermediate axis, *l* = long axis) calculated using CSDSlice (Morgan and Jerram, 2006). The r² value is a goodness of fit parameter output by the software.

^c CSD regressions for crystals formed during decompression (except for equilibrium reference runs, where regressions are fit to all points but the downturn at small or large size classes). Parentheses give uncertainties propagated from the standard errors of regression slope and/or intercept.

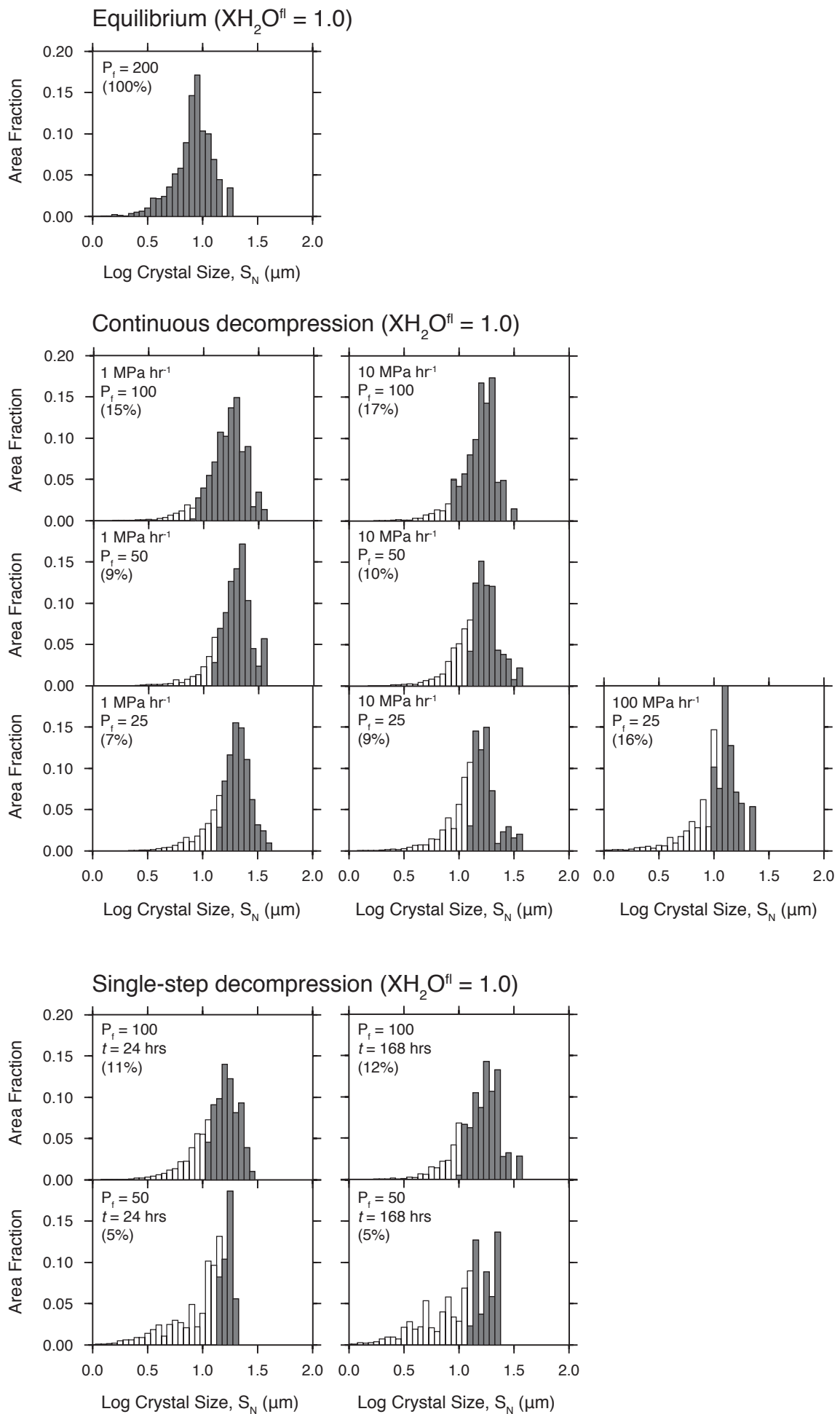


Figure S1a. Size histograms, as area fraction, of plagioclase in H_2O -saturated experiments. Data for crystals formed during the anneal period are overlain in grey. Anneal crystals are designated using the areal number density of plagioclase in the corresponding equilibrium reference sample, assuming the largest crystals in decompressed samples formed during equilibration. Parentheses give the percentage of total crystal area represented by the cores of anneal crystals.

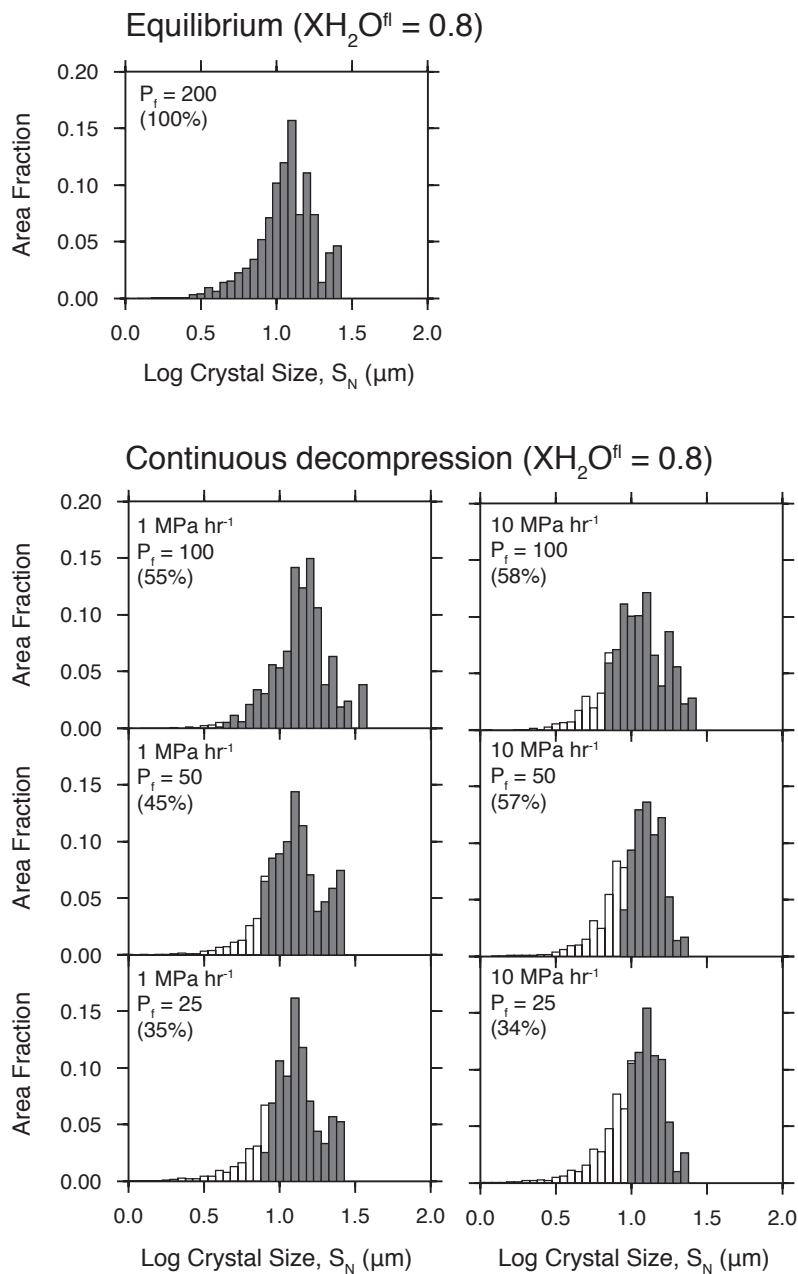


Figure S1b. Size histograms, as area fraction, of plagioclase in H_2O - CO_2 -saturated experiments. Data for crystals formed during the anneal period are overlain in grey. Anneal crystals are designated using the areal number density of plagioclase in the corresponding equilibrium reference sample, assuming the largest crystals in decompressed samples formed during equilibration. Parentheses give the percentage of total crystal area represented by the cores of anneal crystals.

Table S1: Major element compositions of experimental glasses measured by electron microprobe (wt% anhydrous)

| Sample | SiO ₂ | TiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | FeO _T | MnO | MgO | CaO | Na ₂ O | K ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | H ₂ O ^a | Total ^b | n ^c |
|--------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| DSB6 | 71.09 (0.30) | 0.30 (0.02) | 15.97 (0.10) | 2.08 (0.10) | 0.02 (0.03) | 0.76 (0.05) | 2.88 (0.07) | 4.91 (0.24) | 1.88 (0.13) | 0.10 (0.03) | 6.52 (0.34) | 93.47 | 15 |
| DSB19 | 74.15 (0.36) | 0.31 (0.02) | 14.34 (0.16) | 1.65 (0.35) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.66 (0.05) | 1.65 (0.05) | 4.84 (0.20) | 2.19 (0.10) | 0.14 (0.03) | 4.63 (0.31) | 95.38 | 15 |
| DSB9 | 75.61 (0.41) | 0.26 (0.05) | 13.40 (0.30) | 1.70 (0.20) | 0.10 (0.07) | 0.29 (0.06) | 1.07 (0.04) | 4.91 (0.27) | 2.53 (0.11) | 0.14 (0.02) | 3.61 (0.54) | 96.41 | 15 |
| DSB18 | 76.42 (0.81) | 0.31 (0.03) | 13.14 (0.51) | 1.05 (0.11) | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.36 (0.05) | 0.76 (0.11) | 4.96 (0.33) | 2.82 (0.08) | 0.13 (0.03) | 2.19 (0.44) | 97.80 | 15 |
| DSB16 | 72.82 (0.27) | 0.30 (0.03) | 15.06 (0.22) | 1.71 (0.15) | 0.08 (0.04) | 0.75 (0.04) | 2.20 (0.10) | 4.81 (0.15) | 2.14 (0.10) | 0.12 (0.03) | 4.12 (0.51) | 95.89 | 15 |
| DSB28 | 74.09 (0.45) | 0.24 (0.02) | 14.16 (0.24) | 1.94 (0.13) | 0.08 (0.06) | 0.54 (0.05) | 1.53 (0.06) | 4.87 (0.39) | 2.41 (0.11) | 0.14 (0.03) | 3.75 (0.76) | 96.25 | 15 |
| DSB26 | 74.58 (0.77) | 0.30 (0.04) | 14.07 (0.33) | 1.41 (0.17) | 0.05 (0.04) | 0.59 (0.07) | 1.35 (0.11) | 5.02 (0.24) | 2.53 (0.11) | 0.11 (0.03) | 2.40 (0.39) | 97.61 | 15 |
| DSB22 | 71.83 (0.30) | 0.30 (0.02) | 15.40 (0.21) | 1.83 (0.10) | 0.07 (0.03) | 0.80 (0.04) | 2.54 (0.09) | 5.06 (0.32) | 2.09 (0.11) | 0.09 (0.02) | 2.59 (0.51) | 97.42 | 15 |
| DSB39 | 73.92 (0.37) | 0.32 (0.02) | 14.51 (0.18) | 1.55 (0.13) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.54 (0.05) | 1.95 (0.04) | 4.78 (0.37) | 2.27 (0.11) | 0.11 (0.04) | 5.52 (0.58) | 94.48 | 15 |
| DSB35 | 75.05 (0.33) | 0.33 (0.02) | 13.87 (0.16) | 1.43 (0.06) | 0.05 (0.05) | 0.56 (0.04) | 1.42 (0.06) | 4.94 (0.30) | 2.23 (0.09) | 0.11 (0.02) | 4.26 (0.64) | 95.73 | 10 |
| DSB38 | 75.71 (0.59) | 0.33 (0.08) | 13.00 (0.23) | 1.81 (0.13) | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.30 (0.07) | 1.01 (0.09) | 4.99 (0.25) | 2.67 (0.11) | 0.14 (0.04) | 3.35 (0.75) | 96.64 | 15 |
| DSB34 | 75.80 (0.56) | 0.34 (0.03) | 13.36 (0.25) | 1.30 (0.06) | 0.09 (0.07) | 0.52 (0.09) | 0.99 (0.06) | 4.81 (0.27) | 2.66 (0.12) | 0.14 (0.04) | 3.31 (0.60) | 96.69 | 14 |
| DSB36 | 74.63 (0.35) | 0.14 (0.02) | 14.15 (0.26) | 1.44 (0.11) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.63 (0.06) | 1.58 (0.07) | 4.94 (0.26) | 2.31 (0.15) | 0.11 (0.02) | 4.47 (0.48) | 95.53 | 10 |
| DSB37 | 75.34 (0.54) | 0.28 (0.03) | 13.39 (0.35) | 1.77 (0.08) | 0.07 (0.06) | 0.37 (0.08) | 1.25 (0.09) | 4.83 (0.24) | 2.58 (0.20) | 0.12 (0.03) | 3.44 (0.66) | 96.55 | 15 |
| DSB33 | 76.74 (0.38) | 0.36 (0.03) | 12.97 (0.29) | 1.22 (0.09) | 0.07 (0.10) | 0.36 (0.08) | 0.73 (0.10) | 4.55 (0.23) | 2.89 (0.14) | 0.12 (0.02) | 3.10 (1.01) | 96.88 | 14 |
| DSB23 | 75.62 (0.45) | 0.22 (0.04) | 13.80 (0.14) | 1.28 (0.14) | 0.07 (0.05) | 0.52 (0.05) | 1.38 (0.07) | 4.66 (0.29) | 2.34 (0.18) | 0.11 (0.02) | 4.76 (0.60) | 95.25 | 15 |
| DSB13 | 76.98 (1.34) | 0.18 (0.06) | 12.98 (0.74) | 1.04 (0.12) | 0.09 (0.08) | 0.38 (0.08) | 0.76 (0.11) | 4.34 (0.40) | 3.13 (0.10) | 0.12 (0.02) | 3.75 (0.77) | 96.25 | 15 |
| DSB25 | 77.28 (1.26) | 0.30 (0.05) | 12.70 (0.71) | 1.16 (0.20) | 0.04 (0.04) | 0.23 (0.05) | 0.70 (0.12) | 4.12 (0.33) | 3.33 (0.17) | 0.14 (0.03) | 2.65 (0.58) | 97.34 | 15 |
| DSB17 | 74.25 (0.25) | 0.27 (0.05) | 14.01 (0.12) | 1.95 (0.11) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.43 (0.05) | 1.68 (0.04) | 4.86 (0.22) | 2.36 (0.10) | 0.13 (0.03) | 4.57 (0.52) | 95.44 | 15 |
| DSB24 | 80.01 (0.28) | 0.21 (0.03) | 11.19 (0.15) | 0.85 (0.09) | 0.03 (0.04) | 0.15 (0.03) | 0.54 (0.05) | 3.86 (0.21) | 3.04 (0.16) | 0.10 (0.04) | 3.57 (0.40) | 96.41 | 15 |
| DSB27 | 78.34 (0.89) | 0.27 (0.04) | 12.08 (0.63) | 1.04 (0.06) | 0.06 (0.06) | 0.13 (0.04) | 0.70 (0.26) | 3.87 (0.25) | 3.40 (0.28) | 0.11 (0.01) | 2.03 (0.29) | 97.96 | 10 |

Parentheses give 1 σ precision on multiple analyses.

^a H₂O estimated as volatiles by difference

^b Unnormalised total

^c Number of analyses

Table S2: Major element compositions of representative experimental plagioclase cores and rims measured by electron microprobe

| Sample ^a | SiO ₂ | TiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | FeO _T | MnO | MgO | CaO | Na ₂ O | K ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | An ^b | Ab ^b | Or ^b | Total |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| DSB6_c | 56.31 (1.08) | 0.06 (0.01) | 27.34 (0.28) | 0.89 (0.08) | 0.00 (0.04) | 0.07 (0.02) | 10.25 (0.20) | 5.42 (0.35) | 0.20 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.01) | 49.3 | 48.3 | 1.17 | 100.56 |
| DSB19_c | 54.77 (1.26) | 0.02 (0.02) | 28.08 (0.60) | 0.57 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.07) | 0.01 (0.02) | 11.16 (0.20) | 5.37 (0.33) | 0.12 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 51.9 | 46.3 | 0.68 | 100.12 |
| DSB19_r | 56.80 (0.62) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.11 (0.67) | 0.64 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 9.45 (0.23) | 5.99 (0.38) | 0.16 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 46.1 | 52.9 | 0.93 | 100.25 |
| DSB9_c | 55.43 (0.60) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.74 (0.68) | 0.50 (0.05) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.02) | 10.03 (0.24) | 5.78 (0.37) | 0.14 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.01) | 48.6 | 50.6 | 0.80 | 99.69 |
| DSB9_r | 57.85 (0.63) | 0.02 (0.01) | 26.36 (0.65) | 0.46 (0.06) | 0.05 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 8.78 (0.22) | 6.61 (0.41) | 0.20 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.01) | 41.9 | 57.0 | 1.11 | 100.39 |
| DSB18_c | 53.86 (0.59) | 0.05 (0.01) | 27.54 (0.68) | 2.18 (0.10) | 0.06 (0.05) | 0.09 (0.02) | 10.21 (0.25) | 5.34 (0.35) | 0.13 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.01) | 51.0 | 48.2 | 0.76 | 99.46 |
| DSB18_r | 59.28 (0.64) | 0.03 (0.01) | 25.15 (0.62) | 0.52 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.02) | 6.92 (0.18) | 7.39 (0.45) | 0.23 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.01) | 33.7 | 65.0 | 1.30 | 99.58 |
| DSB16_c | 55.38 (1.28) | 0.02 (0.02) | 28.19 (0.60) | 0.65 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.08) | 0.00 (0.02) | 10.88 (0.20) | 5.30 (0.32) | 0.11 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 51.6 | 46.5 | 0.64 | 100.54 |
| DSB16_r | 56.83 (0.61) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.51 (0.67) | 0.63 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.03) | 0.07 (0.02) | 9.81 (0.17) | 5.81 (0.37) | 0.18 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.01) | 47.8 | 51.2 | 1.03 | 100.88 |
| DSB28_c | 55.17 (0.61) | 0.06 (0.01) | 27.60 (0.68) | 1.07 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 10.34 (0.18) | 5.41 (0.35) | 0.12 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 51.0 | 48.3 | 0.71 | 99.85 |
| DSB28_r | 57.24 (0.62) | 0.03 (0.01) | 26.96 (0.66) | 0.53 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.02) | 9.20 (0.17) | 6.26 (0.39) | 0.16 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 44.4 | 54.7 | 0.94 | 100.42 |
| DSB26_c | 54.74 (0.87) | 0.01 (0.01) | 27.88 (0.78) | 0.59 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 10.51 (0.23) | 5.56 (0.44) | 0.13 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 50.7 | 48.6 | 0.76 | 99.49 |
| DSB26_r | 57.38 (0.91) | 0.02 (0.01) | 26.41 (0.74) | 0.63 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 9.00 (0.20) | 6.36 (0.49) | 0.17 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 43.5 | 55.6 | 0.97 | 100.01 |
| DSB22_c | 54.99 (0.60) | 0.04 (0.01) | 28.00 (0.69) | 0.63 (0.06) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.02) | 10.84 (0.19) | 5.29 (0.35) | 0.14 (0.03) | 0.01 (0.01) | 52.7 | 46.5 | 0.82 | 99.98 |
| DSB22_r | 56.59 (0.62) | 0.03 (0.01) | 26.83 (0.66) | 0.63 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 9.73 (0.17) | 5.76 (0.37) | 0.19 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 47.7 | 51.1 | 1.13 | 99.80 |
| DSB39_c | 55.91 (0.88) | 0.07 (0.01) | 26.65 (0.78) | 1.10 (0.07) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.05 (0.02) | 9.43 (0.22) | 5.81 (0.46) | 0.17 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.01) | 46.8 | 52.2 | 1.00 | 99.23 |
| DSB35_c | 56.47 (0.90) | 0.04 (0.01) | 26.86 (0.76) | 0.85 (0.07) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.12 (0.02) | 9.31 (0.20) | 5.85 (0.46) | 0.21 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 46.2 | 52.6 | 1.25 | 99.75 |
| DSB35_r | 56.19 (0.89) | 0.03 (0.01) | 27.34 (0.77) | 0.66 (0.07) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 9.73 (0.21) | 5.75 (0.45) | 0.18 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 47.8 | 51.1 | 1.07 | 99.99 |
| DSB38_c | 56.19 (0.89) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.18 (0.76) | 0.55 (0.06) | 0.04 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 9.90 (0.21) | 5.65 (0.44) | 0.17 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 48.7 | 50.3 | 1.01 | 99.77 |
| DSB38_r | 60.25 (0.95) | 0.04 (0.01) | 24.40 (0.69) | 0.46 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.06) | 0.06 (0.02) | 7.26 (0.16) | 6.65 (0.51) | 0.37 (0.05) | 0.01 (0.01) | 36.8 | 61.0 | 2.25 | 99.51 |
| DSB34_c | 57.46 (0.91) | 0.08 (0.01) | 24.78 (0.70) | 1.12 (0.08) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.48 (0.03) | 8.38 (0.19) | 5.77 (0.45) | 0.41 (0.05) | 0.02 (0.01) | 43.4 | 54.1 | 2.54 | 98.52 |
| DSB34_r | 60.23 (0.95) | 0.07 (0.01) | 23.71 (0.67) | 0.77 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.11 (0.02) | 7.39 (0.17) | 5.64 (0.44) | 0.60 (0.06) | 0.04 (0.01) | 40.4 | 55.8 | 3.88 | 98.57 |
| DSB36_c | 56.99 (0.90) | 0.03 (0.01) | 26.86 (0.76) | 1.12 (0.08) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.07 (0.02) | 9.11 (0.20) | 5.99 (0.47) | 0.19 (0.04) | 0.01 (0.01) | 45.2 | 53.7 | 1.12 | 100.40 |
| DSB36_r | 58.63 (0.93) | 0.07 (0.01) | 25.20 (0.71) | 1.28 (0.09) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.10 (0.02) | 7.99 (0.18) | 6.25 (0.49) | 0.37 (0.05) | 0.02 (0.01) | 40.5 | 57.3 | 2.23 | 99.92 |
| DSB37_c | 56.65 (0.62) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.53 (0.68) | 0.54 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 9.81 (0.17) | 5.77 (0.37) | 0.15 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 48.0 | 51.1 | 0.90 | 100.56 |
| DSB37_r | 58.41 (0.64) | 0.05 (0.01) | 25.75 (0.63) | 0.91 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.17 (0.02) | 8.24 (0.15) | 6.69 (0.42) | 0.26 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 39.9 | 58.6 | 1.51 | 100.49 |
| DSB33_c | 56.47 (0.90) | 0.04 (0.01) | 26.54 (0.75) | 1.26 (0.09) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.19 (0.02) | 9.35 (0.20) | 5.88 (0.46) | 0.22 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 46.2 | 52.5 | 1.28 | 100.01 |

| Sample ^a | SiO ₂ | TiO ₂ | Al ₂ O ₃ | FeO _T | MnO | MgO | CaO | Na ₂ O | K ₂ O | P ₂ O ₅ | An ^b | Ab ^b | Or ^b | Total |
|---------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------|
| DSB33_r | 59.89 (0.95) | 0.14 (0.01) | 23.92 (0.67) | 1.29 (0.09) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.09 (0.02) | 7.56 (0.17) | 5.98 (0.47) | 0.59 (0.06) | 0.02 (0.01) | 39.6 | 56.7 | 3.66 | 99.49 |
| DSB23_c | 55.55 (0.62) | 0.03 (0.01) | 27.71 (0.67) | 1.00 (0.07) | 0.03 (0.05) | 0.07 (0.02) | 10.02 (0.24) | 5.42 (0.38) | 0.13 (0.03) | 0.03 (0.01) | 50.1 | 49.1 | 0.77 | 99.98 |
| DSB23_r | 58.62 (0.64) | 0.02 (0.01) | 25.64 (0.61) | 0.64 (0.06) | 0.01 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.02) | 7.80 (0.19) | 6.87 (0.39) | 0.19 (0.05) | 0.02 (0.01) | 38.1 | 60.8 | 1.08 | 99.84 |
| DSB13_c | 56.28 (0.61) | 0.03 (0.01) | 26.85 (0.66) | 0.83 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.06) | 0.05 (0.02) | 9.63 (0.17) | 5.94 (0.38) | 0.15 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 46.9 | 52.3 | 0.85 | 99.79 |
| DSB13_r | 60.49 (0.65) | 0.02 (0.01) | 23.90 (0.59) | 0.58 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.05 (0.02) | 6.82 (0.13) | 6.94 (0.43) | 0.33 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.01) | 34.5 | 63.5 | 2.01 | 99.18 |
| DSB25_c | 55.56 (0.88) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.73 (0.78) | 0.77 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.05 (0.02) | 10.19 (0.22) | 5.63 (0.44) | 0.17 (0.04) | 0.03 (0.01) | 49.5 | 49.5 | 0.95 | 100.15 |
| DSB25_r | 59.10 (0.93) | 0.04 (0.01) | 24.92 (0.70) | 0.82 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.08 (0.02) | 7.70 (0.17) | 6.59 (0.51) | 0.30 (0.05) | 0.05 (0.01) | 38.5 | 59.7 | 1.82 | 99.60 |
| DSB17_c | 54.68 (0.60) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.67 (0.68) | 0.99 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 10.54 (0.26) | 5.24 (0.34) | 0.14 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 52.2 | 47.0 | 0.81 | 99.34 |
| DSB17_r | 58.02 (0.63) | 0.04 (0.01) | 25.35 (0.62) | 0.72 (0.06) | 0.00 (0.06) | 0.08 (0.02) | 8.01 (0.20) | 6.30 (0.40) | 0.32 (0.05) | 0.03 (0.01) | 40.5 | 57.6 | 1.92 | 98.86 |
| DSB24_c | 56.31 (0.61) | 0.04 (0.01) | 26.67 (0.65) | 1.14 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 9.46 (0.17) | 6.06 (0.38) | 0.13 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 46.0 | 53.3 | 0.76 | 99.88 |
| DSB24_r | 57.10 (0.62) | 0.06 (0.01) | 25.63 (0.63) | 1.38 (0.08) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 8.28 (0.15) | 6.51 (0.41) | 0.25 (0.04) | 0.02 (0.01) | 40.7 | 57.9 | 1.45 | 99.30 |
| DSB27_c | 54.81 (0.60) | 0.02 (0.01) | 27.28 (0.67) | 1.02 (0.07) | 0.02 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 10.40 (0.18) | 5.43 (0.35) | 0.17 (0.03) | 0.02 (0.01) | 50.9 | 48.1 | 0.98 | 99.23 |
| DSB27_r | 58.95 (0.64) | 0.04 (0.01) | 25.16 (0.62) | 0.79 (0.07) | 0.00 (0.05) | 0.06 (0.02) | 7.90 (0.15) | 6.47 (0.41) | 0.39 (0.05) | 0.04 (0.01) | 39.3 | 58.3 | 2.34 | 99.81 |

Parentheses give 1 σ precision based on counting statistics.

Occasional elevated FeO_T values reflect oxide micro-inclusions that could not be avoided in all crystals.

^a c = core, r = rim

^b mol% anorthite (An), albite (Ab), and orthoclase (Or)