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Steven Carey
University of Rhode Island

Rene Olsen
University of Rhode Island

Katherine L.C. Bell
Ocean Exploration Trust

Robert Ballard
University of Rhode Island

Frederic Dondin
University of the West Indies

See next page for additional authors

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Authors

Steven Carey, Rene Olsen, Katherine L.C. Bell, Robert Ballard, Frederic Dondin, Chris Roman, Clara Smart, Marvin Lilley, John Lupton, Brad Seibel, Winton Cornell, and Craig Moyer



RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Hydrothermal venting and mineralization in the crater of Kick'em Jenny submarine volcano, Grenada (Lesser Antilles)

Steven Carey¹, Rene Olsen¹, Katherine L.C. Bell², Robert Ballard¹, Frederic Dondin³, Chris Roman¹, Clara Smart⁴, Marvin Lilley⁵, John Lupton⁶, Brad Seibel⁷, Winton Cornell⁸, and Craig Moyer⁹

Special Section:

Assessing Magmatic, Neovolcanic, Hydrothermal, and Biological Processes along Intra-Oceanic Arcs and Back-Arcs

Key Points:

- Hydrothermal system of Kick'em Jenny explored using remotely operated vehicles
- Multiple lines of evidence for phase separation of hydrothermal fluids
- Mineralization dominated by deposition of iron-oxyhydroxides

Supporting Information:

- Supporting Information S1
- Figure S1
- Movie S1
- Movie S2
- Movie S3
- Movie S4
- Movie S5
- Movie S6

Correspondence to:

S. Carey,
scarey@uri.edu

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¹Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island, USA, ²Ocean Exploration Trust, Mystic, Connecticut, USA, ³Seismic Research Centre, University of the West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica, ⁴Department of Ocean Engineering, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island, USA, ⁵School of Oceanography, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, USA, ⁶Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory, NOAA, Seattle, Washington, USA, ⁷Department of Biological Sciences, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island, USA, ⁸Department of Geosciences, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, Oklahoma, USA, ⁹Department of Biology, Western Washington University, Bellingham, Washington, USA

Abstract Kick'em Jenny is a frequently erupting, shallow submarine volcano located 7.5 km off the northern coast of Grenada in the Lesser Antilles subduction zone. Focused and diffuse hydrothermal venting is taking place mainly within a small (~70 × 110 m) depression within the 300 m diameter crater of the volcano at depths of about 265 m. Much of the crater is blanketed with a layer of fine-grained tephra that has undergone hydrothermal alteration. Clear fluids and gas are being discharged near the center of the depression from mound-like vents at a maximum temperature of 180°C. The gas consists of 93–96% CO₂ with trace amounts of methane and hydrogen. Gas flux measurements of individual bubble streams range from 10 to 100 kg of CO₂ per day. Diffuse venting with temperatures 5–35°C above ambient occurs throughout the depression and over large areas of the main crater. These zones are colonized by reddish-yellow bacteria with the production of Fe-oxyhydroxides as surface coatings, fragile spires up to several meters in height, and elongated mounds up to tens of centimeters thick. A high-resolution photomosaic of the inner crater depression shows fluid flow patterns descending the sides of the depression toward the crater floor. We suggest that the negatively buoyant fluid flow is the result of phase separation of hydrothermal fluids at Kick'em Jenny generating a dense saline component that does not rise despite its elevated temperature.

1. Introduction

Hydrothermal venting and mineralization at submarine volcanoes in subduction zones can differ significantly from the well-studied venting associated with mid-ocean ridge spreading centers [e.g., *Von Damm*, 1990; *de Ronde et al.*, 2003; *Hannington et al.*, 2005]. These differences reflect the greater compositional diversity and higher content of primary gases in subduction zone magmas [*de Ronde et al.*, 2003]. In addition, the lower pressure in shallow submarine arc environments enhances the potential for phase separation of hydrothermal fluids and limits the maximum temperature of discharging fluids on the seafloor [*Drummond and Ohmoto*, 1985; *Bischoff and Rosenbauer*, 1987]. Hydrothermal mineralization due to phase separation has been suggested as the primary mechanism by which significant subsurface metal deposits form based on thermodynamic and experimental studies [*Drummond and Ohmoto*, 1985; *Bischoff and Rosenbauer*, 1987] and the important role of bacteria in facilitating precipitation of mineral phases, especially Fe-bearing ones, is becoming increasingly more appreciated at submarine volcanoes [*Emerson and Moyer*, 2002, 2010; *Emerson et al.*, 2010; *Edwards et al.*, 2005; *Nakagawa et al.*, 2005].

Assessing the contribution of submarine arc hydrothermal activity has important implications for global ocean chemistry and for shallow-water injection of potentially biogeochemically significant components. Recent explorations in the Mariana, Tonga-Kermadec, and Japanese arcs have contributed greatly to an appreciation of the significant extent and diverse nature of hydrothermal activity taking place in the Western Pacific [*Baker et al.*, 2008; *Resing et al.*, 2009; *de Ronde et al.*, 2007]. Extrapolations of the venting frequency along the Marianas arc suggest that the intraoceanic arc contribution to the global hydrothermal flux is 10% of that from the mid-ocean ridge system [*Baker et al.*, 2008].

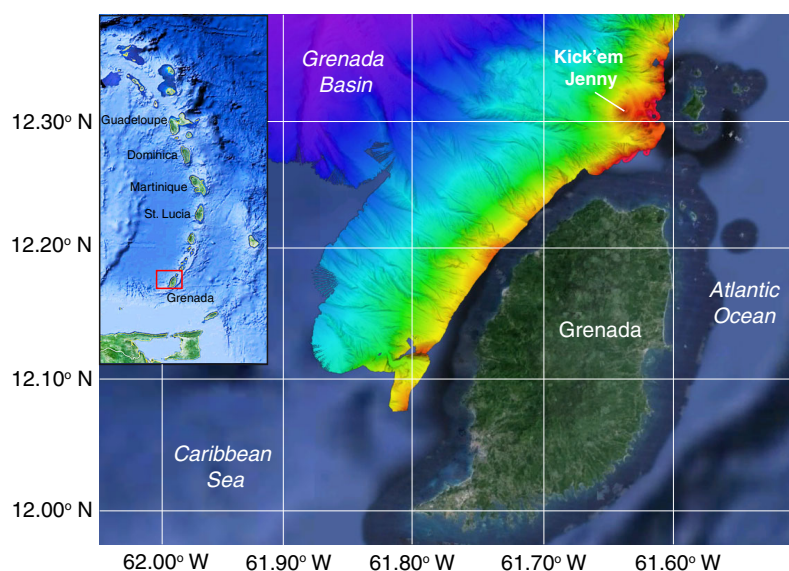


Figure 1. Map showing the location of Kick'em Jenny submarine volcano off the coast of Grenada in the West Indies with shaded multi-beam bathymetry collected during cruise NA-039. Inset map shows the Lesser Antilles island arc and location of the study area (red rectangle).

Kick'em Jenny is a submarine arc volcano located near the island of Grenada in the Lesser Antilles volcanic arc and is the most active volcano in the West Indies. With a summit depth of only 180 m, Kick'em Jenny provides an interesting natural laboratory to study the activity and evolution of a young shallow submarine arc volcano and its associated hydrothermal activity. A water column survey along the Lesser Antilles arc found that the strongest evidence of hydrothermal activity occurred on the flanks of Kick'em Jenny [Koschinsky *et al.*, 2007], although this study was not able to directly access the crater area due to operational restrictions. An extensive area of hydrothermal venting with gas release was discovered in the crater area during a 2013 cruise of the *R/V Brown* [Sigurdsson and Carey, 2003]. More recently, the *E/V Nautilus* conducted ROV explorations, high-resolution multibeam mapping, and sampling of Kick'em Jenny's hydrothermal system during cruises NA039 in 2013 and NA054 in 2014 [Carey *et al.*, 2014a, 2015]. In this paper, we report on the results of these recent cruises that define the current distribution and nature of hydrothermal venting within the crater area of Kick'em Jenny. Geochemical analyses of hydrothermal deposits and gases collected in 2003 and 2013 within the crater are presented and interpreted within the context of subsurface phase separation of hydrothermal fluids as proposed for the Kick'em Jenny hydrothermal system by Koschinsky *et al.* [2007].

2. Geologic Setting

2.1. Lesser Antilles Arc

The Lesser Antilles volcanic arc is located on the eastern edge of the Caribbean plate between the 12° and 18°N (Figure 1). Subduction of the Atlantic seafloor is occurring east of the arc at a rate of ~2 cm/yr [Bouysse *et al.*, 1990]. North of the island of Dominica the arc consists of two segments: the Limestone Caribbees to the east (Oligocene volcanic activity) and the active Volcanic Caribbees to the west (Neogene activity). To the south of Guadeloupe island, there is single line of volcanic centers that have activity spanning from perhaps early Eocene to the present [Bouysse *et al.*, 1990]. The most voluminous subduction-related volcanism has occurred in the central part of the arc on the islands of Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique, and St. Lucia (Figure 1).

An extensive area of sediment accretion, mud volcanoes, and chemosynthetic cold seeps lies to the east of the Lesser Antilles and includes the uplifted island of Barbados [Westbrook, 1982; Westbrook and Smith, 1983; Olu *et al.*, 1997]. Magmas produced in the arc exhibit increasing strontium and lead isotopic values from north to south indicating the important role of subducted terrigenous sediment in the magma genesis

process beneath the arc [White and Dupre, 1986]. Volcanism in the southern part of the arc on the island of Grenada has produced compositionally diverse and generally more alkalic eruptive products by fractional crystallization of two types of primary basaltic magmas [Devine, 1995].

2.2. Kick'em Jenny: Structure, Eruptive Activity, and Hydrothermal Venting

Kick'em Jenny (KeJ) is located just 7.5 km north of the island of Grenada (Figure 1). The first detailed bathymetric survey of the volcano in 1972 revealed a 1300 m high conical structure, constructed on the western flank of the arc with a summit crater at 190 m depth [Sigurdsson and Shepherd, 1974]. Submersible dives in 1989, a few months after the 1988 eruption, revealed that the volcanic cone consisted of both pyroclastic deposits and pillow-like lava flow units [Devine and Sigurdsson, 1995]. Recent SEABEAM mapping of the volcano has shown that the summit cone and crater actually lie within a much larger arcuate collapse structure that opens to the west [Sigurdsson et al., 2006]. A debris avalanche deposit associated with formation of the horseshoe-shape collapse structure extends 17 km downslope into the back-arc Grenada Basin [Lindsay et al., 2005; Dondin et al., 2012] with chemosynthetic cold seeps at the distal end [Carey et al., 2014b].

KeJ has erupted at least 12 times since 1939 and is the most active volcano in the West Indies [Devas, 1974; Lindsay et al., 2005]. The last eruption occurred in 2001 and the average repose period has been about 6 years, although during the past several decades it has erupted about once every 10 years. Some of the eruptions produce surface disturbances, subaerial plumes, and minor tsunamis, whereas others have been detected only by T-phase seismic signals [Shepherd and Robson, 1967; Lindsay et al., 2005].

The erupted products are predominantly basaltic in composition and unusually rich in amphibole megacrysts [Sigurdsson and Shepherd, 1974; Devine and Sigurdsson, 1995]. One sample has the highest U-excess ($^{238}\text{U}/^{232}\text{Th}$) of any arc rock in the world, possibly due to the addition of U to the magma source by subduction-derived fluids [Gill and Williams, 1990]. KeJ basalts also have relatively high $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ (0.70573) and high $^{206}\text{Pb}/^{204}\text{Pb}$ (19.642), as is typical for the volcanic products of the nearby Grenadines and Grenada [Turner et al., 1996].

Evidence of hydrothermal activity at KeJ was first recognized by recovery of a red-orange mud with high ferric oxide content [Sigurdsson and Shepherd, 1974] and reddish to orange-colored bacterial mats were observed growing within the crater on volcanoclastic sediment in 1989 [Devine and Sigurdsson, 1995]. A water column survey cruise along the length of the Lesser Antilles discovered evidence for hydrothermal venting offshore of Montserrat, Dominica, and St. Lucia, but the strongest signal came from KeJ [Koschinsky et al., 2007]. Water samples from the western flank of KeJ included a hydrothermal component characteristic of the vapor phase of a phase-separated fluid with contributions from a magmatic source [Koschinsky et al., 2007]. In 2003, cruise RB-030-03 of the *R/V Brown* identified clear fluid venting with inferred temperatures greater than 270°C and vigorous discharge of gas within the inner crater of KeJ [Sigurdsson and Carey, 2003], but no samples of the fluids or gases were collected at that time. Cruises NA-039 and NA-054 of the *E/V Nautilus* were designed to carry out detailed exploration and sampling of the hydrothermal system in the crater and assess the structure and morphology of the volcano in comparison to the mapping carried out in 2003.

3. Methods

The KeJ cone and surrounding area were mapped during cruises NA039 and NA054 with a Kongsberg EM302 multibeam echosounder system on the *E/V Nautilus*. Remotely operated vehicle (ROV) exploration of the crater and slopes areas were carried out using the two-vehicle ROV system *Hercules* and *Argus* rated to 4000 m depth. Samples were collected by the ROV using the manipulator grab, push cores, and suction sampler (Table 1). Ultrahigh-resolution (cm-scale) mapping and photomosaicing of the hydrothermal vent areas were accomplished using a BlueView 1350 kHz 90° multibeam system, stereo cameras, and structured light laser system outfitted on the *Hercules* ROV [Roman et al., 2013]. Survey height was 2–4 m above the bottom with 50% overlap of survey lines. Details about specific sample collection techniques and subsequent analytical methods are provided in supporting information S1.

Table 1. Kick'em Jenny Samples

Sample	Type	Latitude (N)	Longitude (W)	Water Depth (m)	Description
NA039-003	ROV grab	12.30068	61.63760	249	Reddish-orange friable vent sample
NA039-009	ROV gas	12.30131	61.63791	264	Gas sample from Champagne vent
NA039-010	ROV gas	12.30131	61.63790	264	Gas sample from Champagne vent
NA039-011	ROV grab	12.30127	61.63790	254	Indurated hydrothermal sediment from Champagne vent
NA039-012	ROV core	12.29998	61.63794	238	Fine-grained reddish mud
NA039-059	ROV grab	12.30094	61.63793	262	Indurated hydrothermal sediment from Shrimp vent
NA039-091	ROV gas	12.30094	61.63790	263	Gas sample from Shrimp vent
NA054-068	Niskin	12.30068	61.63746	247	Ambient water sample at Fe-Oxide vent
NA054-069	IV bag	12.30127	61.63785	264	Champagne vent fluid sample
NA054-071	Niskin	12.30127	61.63788	263	Ambient water sample at Champagne vent
NA054-072	IV bag	12.30070	61.63748	249	Fe-Oxide vent fluid sample
NA054-076	Niskin	12.30184	61.63787	198	Water column sample
RB-03-03-08 WR	ROV grab	12.30110	61.63800	249	Hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-08 P	ROV grab	12.30110	61.63800	249	Exterior of hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-17 WR	ROV grab	12.30159	61.63768	260	Hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-17 P	ROV grab	12.30159	61.63768	260	Exterior of hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-18	ROV core	12.30154	61.63768	262	Gray clayey sediment from hydrothermal mound
RB-03-03-24	Shipek grab	12.30068	61.63810	235	Dark gray, sandy volcaniclastic sediment
RB-03-03-26	Shipek grab	12.29783	61.63807	222	Dark gray, sandy volcaniclastic sediment
RB-03-03-28	Shipek grab	12.30012	61.63765	234	Dark gray, sandy volcaniclastic sediment
RB-03-03-31	Shipek grab	12.30162	61.63765	267	Gray clayey sediment from hydrothermal mound
RB-03-03-32	Shipek grab	12.30207	61.63747	241	Dark gray, sandy volcaniclastic sediment
RB-03-03-40	Shipek grab	12.30078	61.63663	237	Gray clayey sediment from hydrothermal mound
RB-03-03-41	Shipek grab	12.30118	61.63673	234	Gray clayey sediment from hydrothermal mound
RB-03-03-42	Shipek grab	12.30185	61.63660	238	Dark gray, sandy volcaniclastic sediment
RB-03-03-67	ROV core	12.28722	61.62165	257	Carbonate sediment
RB-03-03-82 WR	ROV grab	12.30133	61.63780	250	Hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-82 P	ROV grab	12.30133	61.63780	250	Hydrothermally altered lava block
RB-03-03-85 P	ROV grab	12.30133	61.63791	256	Hydrothermally altered lava block

4. Results

4.1. Kick'em Jenny: Structure and Morphology

New multibeam mapping of KeJ in 2013 during cruise NA039 further revealed the detailed structure of the volcano's current cone (Figure 2). The 320 m wide crater of KeJ can be divided into three morphologically distinct regions. The first is the arcuate crater rim, which is topographically higher than the rest of the crater, and is breached in the north-northeastern sector. A minimum water depth (180 m) is found on the western side of the crater rim. The second region is a small depression located in the northwestern part of the main crater floor, referred to as the inner crater in this paper (Figure 2). This inner crater is the deepest part of the KeJ crater area with a maximum depth of approximately 265 m. Finally, the third region is the relatively flat crater floor area south and east of the inner crater with depths of 240–245 m.

4.2. Distribution and Nature of Hydrothermal Venting

4.2.1. Inner Crater

Hydrothermal venting at KeJ is most strongly focused within the inner crater and takes a variety of forms as shown by a high-resolution photomosaic (Figure 2 and supporting information Figure S1). Venting consists of generally clear, shimmering fluid with or without streams of bubbles. Some of the venting occurs in isolated patches within volcaniclastic sediment or talus slopes along the inner crater margin. In other cases, fluid and gas discharges occur in hummocky areas blanketed by gray, fine-grained sediment. The strongest discharges of shimmering water and gas bubbles occur in the northwest and southwest parts of the inner crater, where venting takes place through mounds on the crater floor and along the sloping walls of the crater. At the Shrimp vent (Figure 2), named after the abundance of *Alvinocaris sp.* shrimp living within the porous sediment at the vent openings, the highest temperature recorded in clear fluids was 180°C. Abundant gas bubbles were also rising from multiple sites along the strongly sloping area (Figure 3a). On the crater floor, the second highest temperature of 160°C was recorded in shimmering fluids at an oval-shaped mound with vigorous discharge of bubble streams from multiple points. The site, named Champagne vent (Figure 2), was several meters in diameter and about 50 cm in height (Figure 3b).

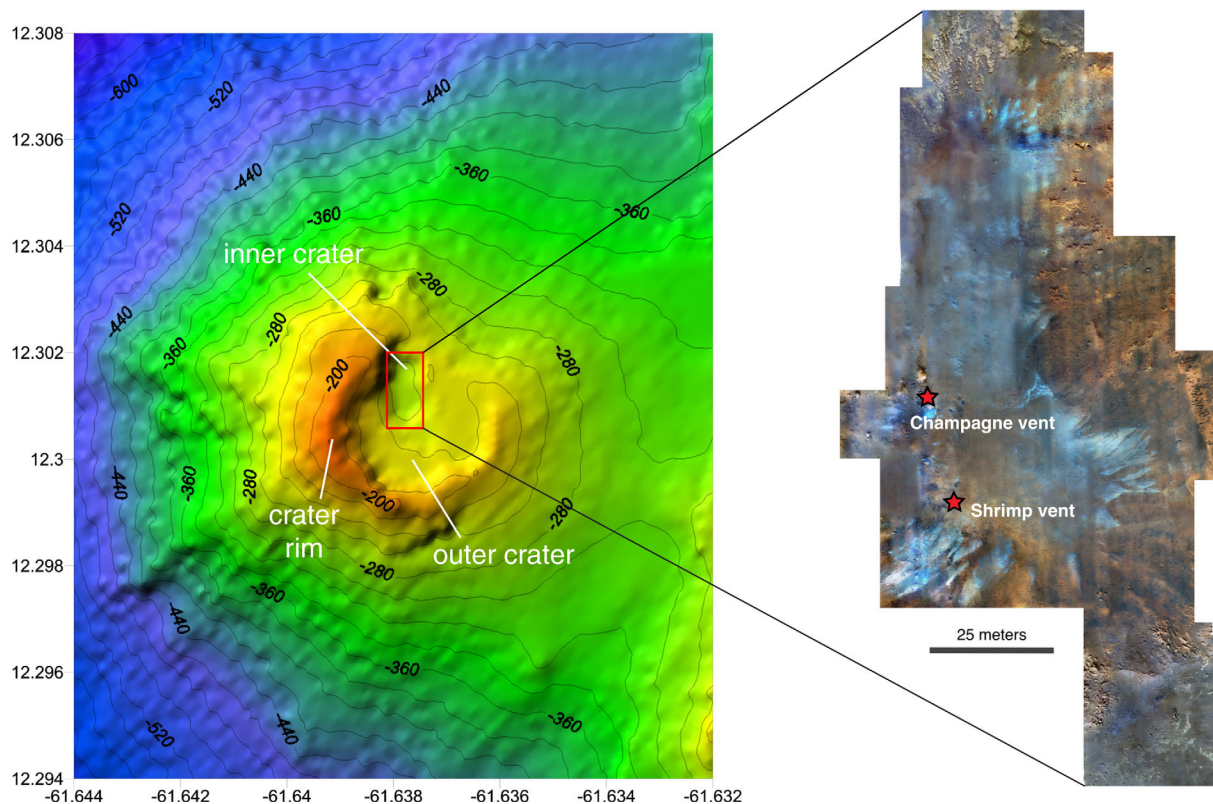


Figure 2. (left) Multibeam bathymetric map of Kick'em Jenny submarine volcano from a 2013 survey on cruise NA039. Red rectangular box shows the high-resolution photomosaic area presented to the right. Depth contours in meters. The location of the most active gas discharging vents (Champagne and Shrimp) are marked by red stars. Note the pattern of fluid flow down the margins of the inner crater towards the relatively flat floor. A separate high-resolution file of the photomosaic is available in supporting information Figure S1.

Lower temperature fluids ($\sim 55^{\circ}\text{C}$) are being discharged along the southeast wall of the inner crater from fragile, reddish-orange spires up to a meter or two in height (Figure 3c, supporting information Movie S1). In some cases, the spires are arranged in a linear fashion suggesting the control of fluid venting by faults in the inner crater wall (supporting information Figure S1). Other areas of more diffuse flow in the inner crater can be identified by yellowish/orange bacterial mats that often have small, decimeter-scale ovoid mounds (Figure 3d).

The photomosaic of the inner crater reveals a distinctive feature of the fluid venting at KeJ (Figure 2). Down-slope movement of fluid from the inner crater walls to the floor of the crater is indicated by the patterns of light-colored bacterial mats and exposure of light bluish-gray fine-grained sediment. This is best seen in the northeast corner of the inner crater where whitish bacteria have colonized an anastomosing pattern of fluid flow discharging from coarse scree at the base of the crater wall (Figure 4a, supporting information Movie S2) and in the pattern of white bacterial mats occurring at the steeply sloping Shrimp vent (Figure 4b). Density measurements of vent fluid samples at different locations in the crater suggest contrasting flow behaviors are to be expected. Fluids collected on the rim of the inner crater at 222 m depth near the reddish spires were less dense than the ambient crater water at that depth (Figure 5, Table 2), whereas fluids collected at the Champagne vent on the inner crater floor (256 m) were denser than ambient water at that level (Figure 5).

4.2.2. Outer Crater

Diffuse venting of hydrothermal fluids appears to be common in many areas of the outer crater of KeJ as evidenced by the occurrence of yellowish to reddish/orange bacteria mats. A complete photomosaic of the outer crater area was not completed on the cruise and thus observations of the outer crater were restricted to areas traversed by the ROV. As in the inner crater, several areas of decimeter-scale yellowish mounds were aligned in linear fashion suggesting control of fluid flow by crater faults (supporting information Figure S1 and Movie S3). The surfaces of the mounds were covered with loose, flocculent, bacteria that were

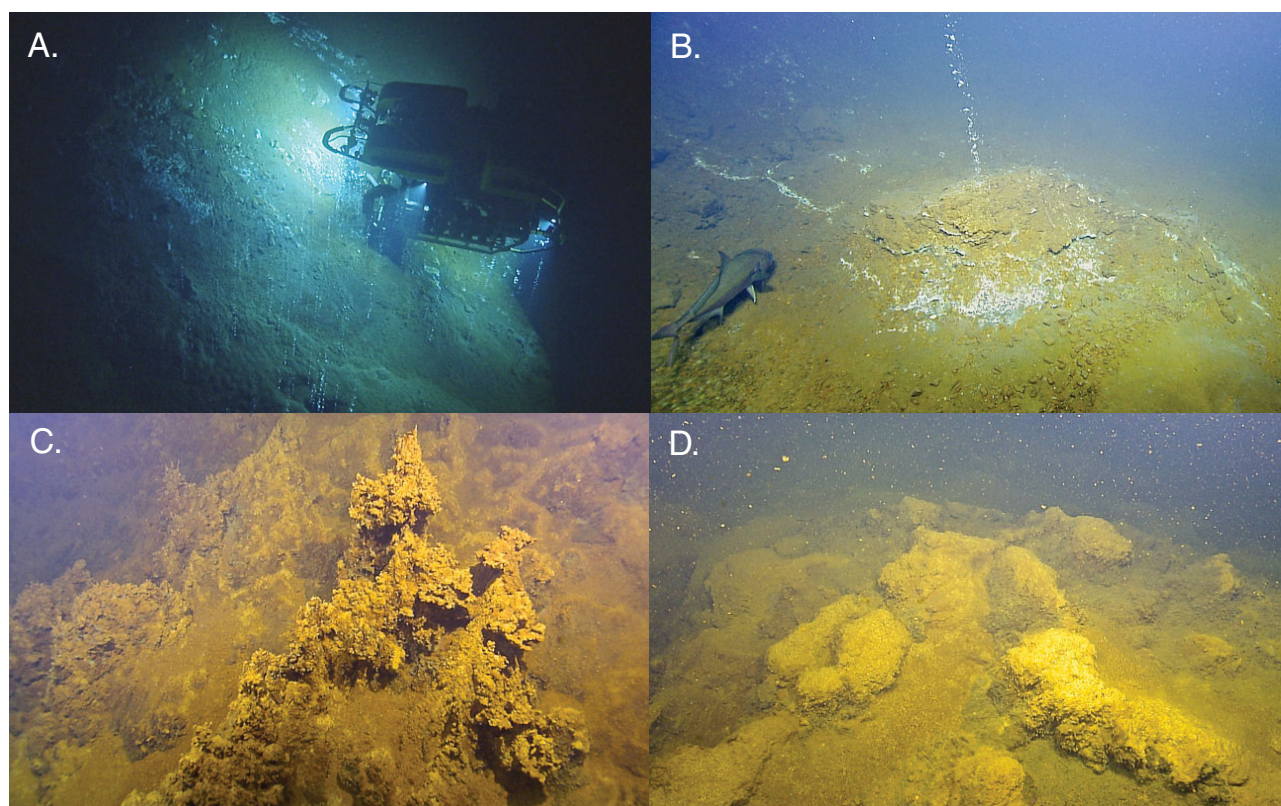


Figure 3. ROV images of (a) Shrimp vent showing multiple bubble streams and white bacterial mats, (b) Champagne vent with vigorous central bubble stream, (c) fragile Fe-oxyhydroxide vents, and (d) lumpy diffuse flow vents with abundant bacterial mats.

yellowish in color. Measured temperatures in these areas were typically 5–10°C above ambient temperature of 15°C.

4.3. Bacterial Mats

Bacterial mats are common in both the main and inner crater of KeJ. They are found in a variety of settings including rocky outcrops (Figure 6a), flat-sedimented areas (Figure 6b), and focused fluid vents on the inner crater slopes. The majority of the mats in low temperature areas (<50°C) are yellowish orange in color with numerous small circular holes that appear to be places where diffuse flow is being discharged (Figure 6c). In higher temperature areas (>50°C), they are predominantly white in color and filamentous (Figure 6d).

Genetic fingerprinting of two KeJ sample are compared by cluster analysis with other hydrothermal sites from a wide variety of geological/tectonic environments in Figure 7. Three distinct groups were formed based on the DNA similarities. The most dissimilar microbial community shown, Lower Jet Vents (1997), was sampled directly after an eruptive event at Loihi Seamount off of Hawaii. This microbial mat was found to be dominated by a single phylotype (DNA similarities) most closely related to the *Epsilonproteobacteria*, *Nitratiruptor* and is hypothesized to have represented a bloom event. These organisms can be characterized by related isolates, which are all strict chemolithoautotrophs capable of respiratory nitrate reduction using hydrogen and forming N₂ as a metabolic product. The rest of Group I is comprised of more complex communities that all contain *Epsilonproteobacteria* that are phylogenetically similar and capable of hydrogen oxidation (e.g., *Nitratiruptor*, *Caminiabacter*, *Nautilia*, *Thioreductor*, and/or *Lebetimonas*). Group II also contains more complex communities that cluster together by the presence of a second phylogenetically similar group of *Epsilonproteobacteria*; however, these are mostly sulfur-oxidizing types (e.g., *Sulfurimonas*, *Sulfurovum*, and/or *Sulfuricurvum*). Finally, samples in the third group (Group III) are clustered together by the presence of *Zetaproteobacteria*, which are known to use iron-oxidation and have been hypothesized as both ecosystem engineers and primary producers in these iron-rich ecosystems (Figure 7).

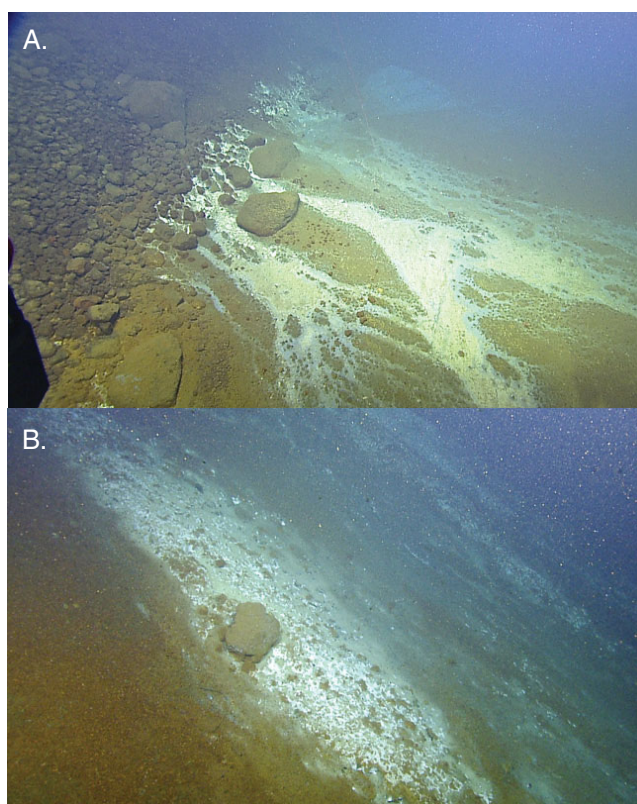


Figure 4. ROV images of (a) bacterial mats colonizing fluid flow from the base of lava scree on east wall of inner crater and (b) bacterial mats on the steeply sloping exposure of the Shrimp vent area. See Figure 3 for location.

The mats found at Champagne Vent (KeJ inner crater) are represented within Group I and comprise a community dominated by *Epsilonproteobacteria*, most likely associated with hydrogen-oxidization. The mats found at the Fe-oxyhydroxide vent (southeast wall of inner crater) primarily represent the *Epsilonproteobacteria*, which are putative sulfur-oxidizers (Group II); however, this mat community was also found to contain some *Zetaproteobacteria* phylotypes (based on fragment-sizing identification), accounting for the resulting intermediate association between Group II and Group III (Figure 7). The comparison vent sites in Figure 7, along with the timing of collection, represent a broad spectrum of hydrothermal vent habitats. The seamount sites along the Mariana Arc (Seamount X, Esmeralda Bank, NW Eifuku, Daikoku, NW Rota, E Diamante) represent a variety of venting geochemistries and the resulting communities are dispersed across the breadth of the T-RFLP dendrogram (Figure 7). The Loihi samples in Group III (Lohiau, Hiolo, Pohaku,

Lower jet vents) were gathered from more diffuse venting sites that were high in ferrous iron (often up to nearly a mM concentrations). Samples from KeJ show affinities to community structures from several types of habitats, as would be expected based on the observed variations in venting temperature and mineralization in the crater area.

4.4. Gas Discharge in the Inner Crater

Numerous streams of bubbles were detected in the inner crater by reflections in the water column data collected by the shipboard multibeam system (Figure 8). At least three large gas venting areas could be identified, with the most vigorous occurring near the Champagne and Shrimp vents (Figure 2). Samples of the gases at these vents were collected using titanium gas-tight bottles with an inverted funnel system (supporting information Movie S4).

4.4.1. Gas Compositions

Gases collected at both vent sites contain dominantly carbon dioxide (>92%) with minor amounts of methane and nitrogen (Table 3). Sulfur species (H_2S or SO_2) were not analyzed but are assumed to constitute the components making up the difference between the analyzed gas species and the analytical totals (1.2–4.7%). Based on detection of H_2S during analysis of the hydrocarbon components, it is suggested that this was the dominant sulfur species in the samples.

Gases at the Champagne vent were collected from two bubble streams; a strong one at the top of the mound (NA039-009) and a much weaker one on the side (NA039-010). Bubbles in the strong stream were translucent, whereas bubbles from the weak stream were clear. No significant difference in composition was found between the two streams (Table 3). A single gas sample collected at the Shrimp vent (NA039-091) was slightly richer in carbon dioxide (Table 3) and very similar in composition to gases collected from other submarine arc volcanoes in the western Pacific [Lupton *et al.*, 2008].

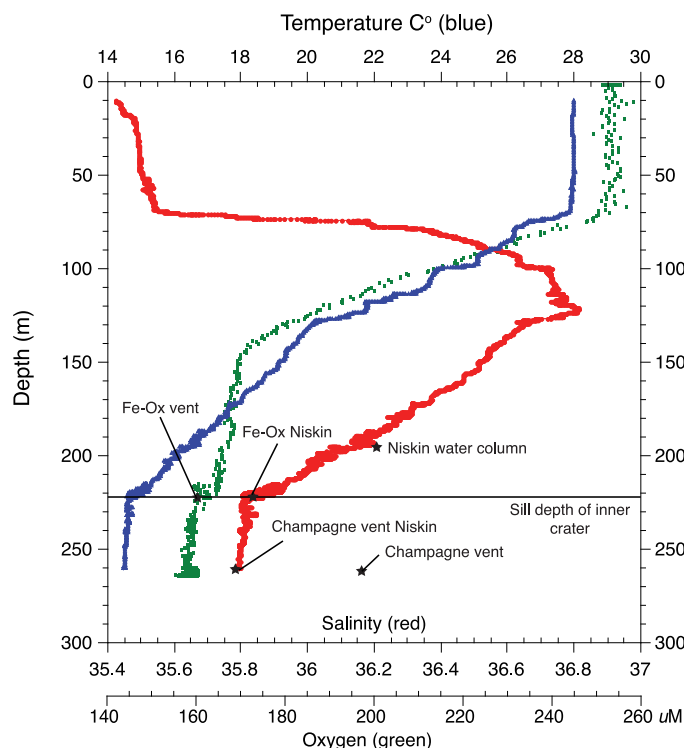


Figure 5. CTD and oxygen profile in the crater of Kick'em Jenny over the Champagne vent. Salinities of fluid samples (stars) taken at various locations in the crater have been calculated based on measured fluid densities (Table 4). Vent samples were collected directly where fluids were discharged on the seafloor and Niskin samples were collected on the Hercules ROV at least 2 m from the vent samples.

was 9.0 cc/s (Table 4). This yields a CO₂ flux of 0.4 g/s and 36 kg/d based on a CO₂ content of 96% and temperature of 28°C.

4.5. Hydrothermal Deposits

A wide variety of hydrothermally derived or potentially altered deposits were observed and sampled in the inner crater of Kick'em Jenny (Figure 2). These include fine-grained silty-clayey sediment, dark-colored silty/sandy volcanoclastic sediment, indurated vent precipitates, sulfide-cemented volcanic breccia, Fe-oxhydroxide chimneys, and bacterial mats.

4.5.1. Lithology/Mineralogy of Inner Crater Sediments

A distinctive feature of the inner crater is the widespread occurrence of bluish-gray, fine-grained silty/clayey sediment found in areas of active hydrothermal venting, often as low relief mounds (Figure 2). A darker, and generally more coarse-grained silty/sandy sediment, is dominant in areas with little or no obvious hydrothermal venting. Petrographic analysis reveals a similarity in components for both sediment types within the 500–63 micron (μm) size classes. Both consist of mafic crystals (amphibole and pyroxene), plagioclase, and dark scoria in roughly similar proportions, and are considered to be volcanoclastic fragments of

4.4.2. Gas Flux Measurements

Measurements of gas flux were carried out on the two bubble streams that were sampled and analyzed for gas composition at the Champagne vent and one bubble stream at the Shrimp vent (Table 4, supporting information Movie S5 and Methods S1). Temperature was measured using a probe at the exit point of the bubble streams from the seafloor. The flux rates for the strong bubble stream at the top of the Champagne mound averaged 33 cc/s. Assuming that the gas was at the temperature measured at the discharge point (107°C) and that CO₂ was 93% of the gas, this stream was producing about 1.0 g of CO₂ per second or about 100 kg CO₂ per day (Table 4). A single discharge measurement at the weaker bubble stream on the side of the mound yielded a rate of 1.5 cc/s and CO₂ flux of 0.1 g/c and 6 kg/d based on a CO₂ content of 93% and temperature of 16°C. At Shrimp vent the average gas flux

Table 2. Fluid Densities of Kick'em Jenny Crater Samples

Sample	Type	Depth (m)	Density (g/cm ³)	No. Analyses	Std. Dev.	Salinity ^a	Description
NA054-068	Niskin	247	1.025385	3	0.000007	35.815	Ambient water sample at Fe-Oxide vent
NA054-069	IV bag	264	1.025648	4	0.000006	36.160	Champagne vent fluid sample
NA054-071	Niskin	263	1.025355	4	0.000011	35.776	Ambient water sample at Champagne vent
NA054-072	IV bag	249	1.025263	4	0.000002	35.655	Fe-Oxide vent fluid sample
NA054-076	Niskin	198	1.025697	4	0.000006	36.224	Water column sample

^aSalinity calculated from fluid density at 20°C using *Fofonoff and Millard* [1983].

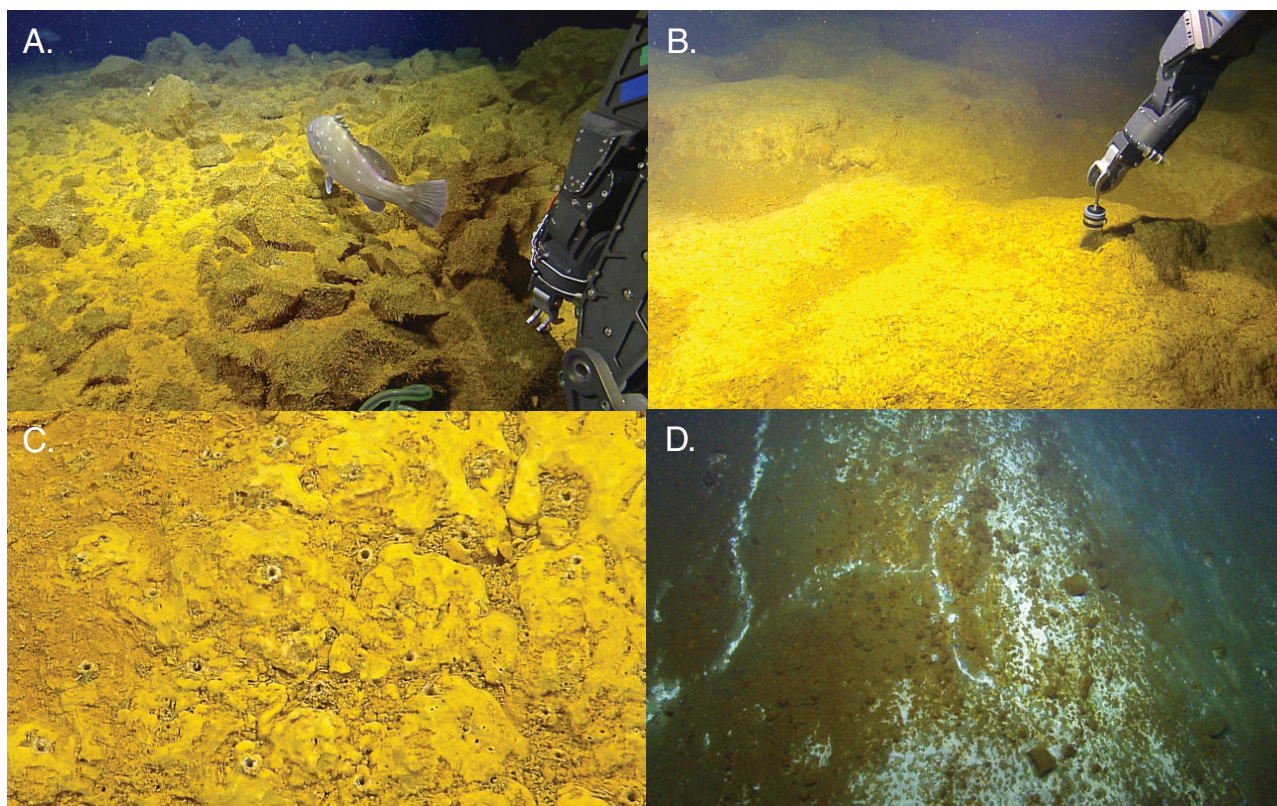


Figure 6. ROV images of (a) bacterial mat filling in coarse lava breccia, (b) push core being taken in thick bacterial mat on margin of inner crater, (c) close-up of bacterial mat in b showing numerous small holes that likely act as fluid escape points, and (d) white bacterial mats colonizing the area around the Shrimp vents.

KeJ lava and scoria formed by explosive disruption during submarine eruptions (supporting information Figure S3).

Pyrite, anhydrite, and silica were identified by SEM energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy from two of the silty/clayey samples (RB-03-03-18 and RB-03-03-31). Most of the pyrite was found in the 500–125 μm size range, whereas euhedral anhydrite crystals were mostly concentrated in the 250–125 μm fraction. In contrast, the silty/sandy sediment did not contain any individual pyrite or anhydrite grains, although massive pyrite and euhedral galena were identified as overgrowths on some primary igneous minerals.

XRD analyses allowed for a more complete characterization of sediment mineralogy, especially in the fine grain sizes (Table 5). Silty/clayey samples consist of a mixture of igneous minerals (plagioclase and diopside), clay minerals (smectite, illite, vermiculite, and illite/smectite (I/S) mixed layer), other alteration minerals (talc, and actinolite), sulfides (pyrite), and carbonates (magnesite). The clay fraction from the silty/clayey sediment was found to consist of iron and Mg-rich clays as well as a Fe-oxyhydroxide phase and an unidentified iron silicate.

At the Champagne vent and to a lesser extent the Shrimp vent, discharge of fluid and gases was occurring from localized mounds of highly-indurated grayish brown sediment that was firm enough to be picked up by the ROV (Figures 3a and 3b). This material differed from the generally softer silty/clayey and silty/sandy volcanic sediment of the inner crater and smelled strongly of sulfur when brought to the surface. XRD analyses indicate that the material contains a mixture of igneous minerals (plagioclase and pyroxene), minor talc and pyrite, and abundant nontronite, an Fe-rich smectite commonly associated with low temperature alteration of basaltic rocks (Table 5).

4.5.2. Grain Size of Inner Crater Sediment

Grain size analysis of the silty/clayey and silty/sandy volcanic sediment reveals distinct differences in size and sorting. The percentage of grains $>500 \mu\text{m}$ is greatest for the silty/sandy volcanic samples (10–17%) and lowest for the silty/clayey samples (0–6%). Because grains $<500 \mu\text{m}$ constitute a significant percentage

Table 3. Analyses of Gas Samples From Kick'em Jenny Crater

Gas	NA039-009 Champagne Vent Top	NA039-010 Champagne Vent Side	NA039-091 Shrimp Vent	Arc Average ^a	Units
TCO ₂	92.77	92.80	96.38	97.24	%
N ₂	1.83	2.38	1.78	1.97	%
CH ₄	0.21	0.29	0.05	0.02	%
H ₂	0.47	0.51	0.56	0.01	%
O ₂	0.02	0.02	0.13		%
Ne	0.015	0.016	0.019		%
Ar	0.003	0.010	0.011	0.03	%
CO	0.00	0.00	0.00		%
N ₂ O	0.00	0.00	0.00		%
C ₂ H ₂	0.05	0.00	0.02		ppm
C ₂ H ₄	0.00	0.00	0.00		ppm
C ₂ H ₆	0.00	45.72	6.14		ppm
C ₃ H ₄	0.18	0.05	0.03		ppm
C ₃ H ₆ +H ₈	2.82	2.82	0.29		ppm
nC ₄ H ₁₀	0.90	1.19	0.12		ppm
iC ₄ H ₁₀	0.23	0.30	0.00		ppm
Helium	13.50	17.50	6.87	21.5	ppmv
Neon	0.02	0.03	0.252	0.375	ppmv
He/Ne	610	525	27	57	
³ He/ ⁴ He	6.68	6.69	6.82	6.79	R/R _{air}
Depth (m)	264	264	263		

^aAverage of gases collected at NW Rota, Daikoku, Nikko, Giggenbach, and Volcano-1 submarine volcanoes from Lupton et al. [2008].

the silty/sandy samples (~2%). In general, the silty/clayey samples are poorly sorted with fine skewness and a small percentage of grains ~200 μm, whereas the one silty/sandy sample is typically more poorly sorted.

4.5.3. Geochemistry of Inner Crater Sediments

Major element compositions (Table 6) of the two types of sediment are plotted together with major element data of KeJ lava and scoria samples in Figure 10. The plots show that the silty/sandy sediments fall within the compositional fields for KeJ lava/scoria, but the silty/clayey sediments are offset significantly with respect to both the silty/sandy sediment and KeJ lava/scorias. In particular, the silty/clayey sediment is depleted in Al₂O₃, but enriched in MgO and Fe₂O₃* when compared with silty/sandy sediment and KeJ lava/scoria at similar SiO₂ contents (Figure 10). Geochemical mass balance calculations were carried out to evaluate whether the silty/clayey sediment was related to the silty/sandy sediment by alteration processes. Sample RB-03-03-18 was chosen as a representative silty clay and RB-03-03-28 was selected as primary silty/sandy volcanic sediment. Alteration clay mineral compositions were taken from the literature [Cole, 1988; Turner et al., 1993; Severmann et al., 2004; Lackschewitz et al., 2004; Dekov et al., 2008a, 2008b; Cuadros et al., 2008] and the maximum pyrite component (2.3%) was calculated from XRF wt % sulfur data for RB-03-03-18 assuming all sulfur is present as pyrite. The best fit was achieved when silty/clayey sediment was

Table 4. Gas Flux Measurements at Champagne Vent Mound

Measurement	Time (s)	Vol. (cc)	Temp.	Flux (cc/s)	Depth (m)	P (Atms)	Moles/cc	Moles/s	CO ₂ (g/s)	CO ₂ (kg/d)
1. Champagne Summit Vent										
1	70	2000	107	28.6	264	27.2	0.0009	0.0229	1.0	87
2	62	2000	107	32.3	264	27.2	0.0009	0.0259	1.1	98
3	55	2000	107	36.4	264	27.2	0.0009	0.0292	1.3	111
4	57	2000	107	35.1	264	27.2	0.0009	0.0282	1.2	107
Average				33.1					1.2	101
Std. Dev.				3.0					0.1	9
2. Champagne Side Vent										
1	1295	2000	16	1.5	263	27.1	0.0011	0.0016	0.1	6
3. Shrimp Vent										
1	244	2000	28	8.2	262	27.0	0.0011	0.0085	0.4	32
2	218	2000	28	9.2	262	27.0	0.0011	0.0095	0.4	36
3	206	2000	28	9.7	262	27.0	0.0011	0.0101	0.4	38
Average				9.0					0.4	36
Std. Dev.				0.6					0.0	2

Table 5. X-Ray Diffraction Models for Kick'em Jenny Hydrothermal Deposits^a

Phase	RB-03-03-18	RB-03-03-40	NA039-03	NA039-11	NA039-12	NA039-59
Plagioclase (An40)	49.7	53.1	2.0	60.7	2.1	15.3
Labradorite (An66)						
Smectite (di-oct)	16.3	12.3				
Talc	12.1	11.6		4.3		2.5
Illite (di-oct)	6.8	10.5				
I/S mixed layer clay (di-oct)	5.3	3.8				
Amorphous silica			48.5		23.5	58.0
Ferrihydrite (cubic)			39.5		59.0	5.6
Goethite			8.3		15.1	
Barite				0.6		3.0
Nontronite			1.3	24.4		5.6
Cristobalite			0.2			
Diopside	4.4	3		2.6		
Vermiculite	1.7	1.9				
Actinolite	1.6	1.1		3.2		1.0
Clinocllore						1.3
Tremolite						4.9
Pyrite	1.3	0.9		3.1		2.3
Quartz	0.8	0.9		1.1	0.2	
Magnesite		0.9				
Magnetite					0.1	
Bassanite (trigonal)						0.4

^aXRD models produced using RIQAS for whole-pattern fitting of X-ray or neutron powder diffraction data.

modeled as 71% primary volcanic sediment, 4% I/S mixed layer clays, 3% smectite, 17% talc, 4% illite, and 1% pyrite (supporting information Table S1 and Figure S6).

Trace element abundances (Table 7) of silty/clayey (bulk and clay size fraction) sediment relative to silty/sandy sediments are shown in Figure 11. For the purpose of this study, only samples with a basaltic composition are compared because the majority of samples are basaltic in composition and patterns of incompatible and compatible trace elements typically change during processes of magmatic evolution. Silty/clayey bulk and clay samples are enriched in Cu, As, Sb, Tl, and Bi by a factor ≥ 2 with slightly greater enrichments in the clay fraction than the respective bulk fraction (Figure 11).

4.5.3.1. Sulfide-Bearing Volcanic Breccia

Only one sample collected from the inner crater of KeJ showed significant development of sulfide mineralization (RB-03-08). This sample is a volcanic breccia consisting of a single large scoria block with other fragments of scoria, pumice, and lava cemented to the exterior by pyrite overgrowths (Figure 12). SEM imagery of the pyrite grains (supporting information in Figure S4) shows distinct crystal morphologies (bladed, blocky, equant, acicular, and pelletal) indicative of different stages of pyrite growth from hydrothermal fluids with varying temperature and composition [Murowchick and Barnes, 1987].

4.5.3.2. Geochemistry of Sulfide-Bearing Volcanic Breccia

Major oxide and trace element analyses were carried out on the precipitate-encrusted exterior (P) and fresh interior (WR) of the sulfide-bearing volcanic breccia (Tables 6 and 7). The exterior sample is slightly depleted in major oxides except for a constant MgO value and significant enrichment in total FeO relative to the unaltered interior (supporting information Figure S5). A majority of the trace elements are depleted in the exterior precipitates relative to the interior with the exception of Sc, Cr, and Ni. The enrichment in total Fe of RB-03-03-08P is most certainly due to the presence of pyrite overgrowths that cement lithic fragments to the original scoria and to the presence of Fe(oxy)-hydroxides. The composition of pyrite overgrowths was determined by electron microprobe. Supporting information Figure S4 shows the range in Fe wt% and S wt% of several pyrite aggregates that differ in crystal habit. The iron content in pyrite aggregates encompasses a significant range, from 44.8 to 49.0 wt %. Sulfur content, on the other hand, has a narrower range, from 52.1 to 53.6 wt %. The higher values of iron are associated with pyrite aggregates with fewer crystal faces and, therefore, an indistinct crystal habit (supporting information Figure S4).

4.5.4. Iron Oxy-Hydroxide Chimneys

The mineralogy of the delicate chimneys located predominantly along the southeast wall of the inner crater (Figure 3c) consists largely of amorphous silica and ferrihydrite with lesser amounts of goethite and nontronite (Table 5). This is reflected strongly in the bulk major element composition of this material with a SiO₂ content of 48.53% and total iron value of 40.95 (Table 6).

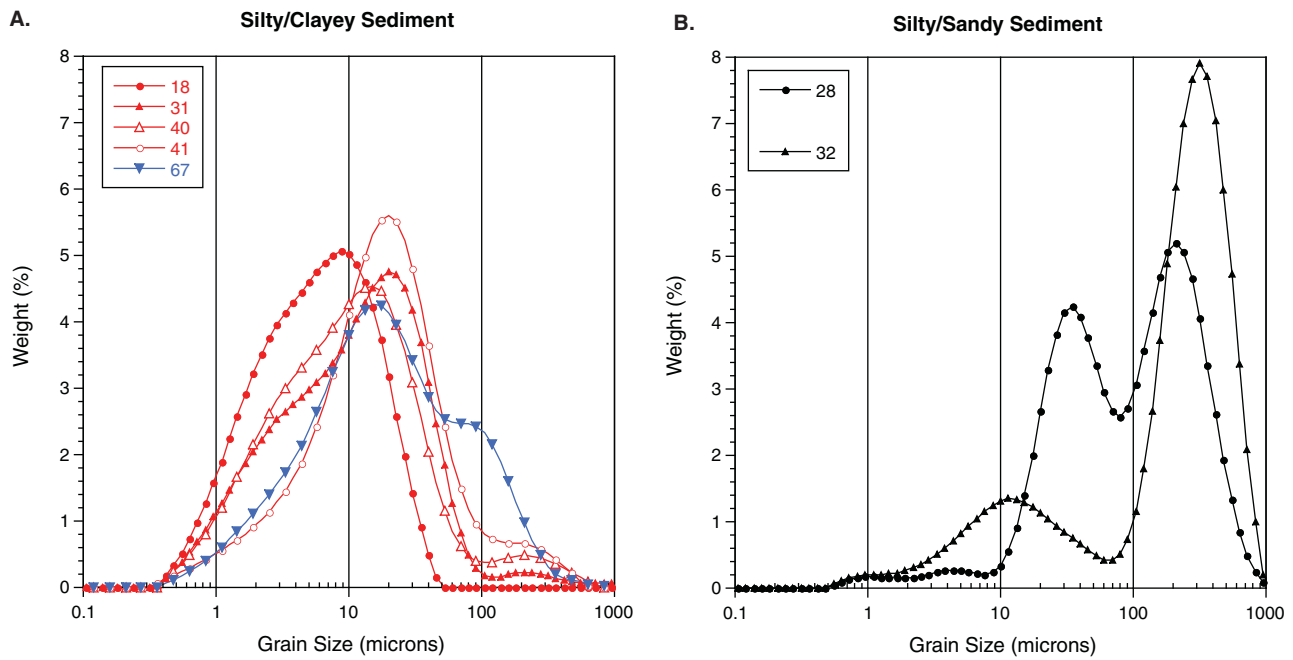


Figure 9. Grain-size distributions of (a) silty/clayey sediment (18, 31, 40, 41) and hemipelagic carbonate sediment (67) and (b) silty/sandy volcanic sediment (28, 32). Frequency curves based on Mastersizer2000 measurements.

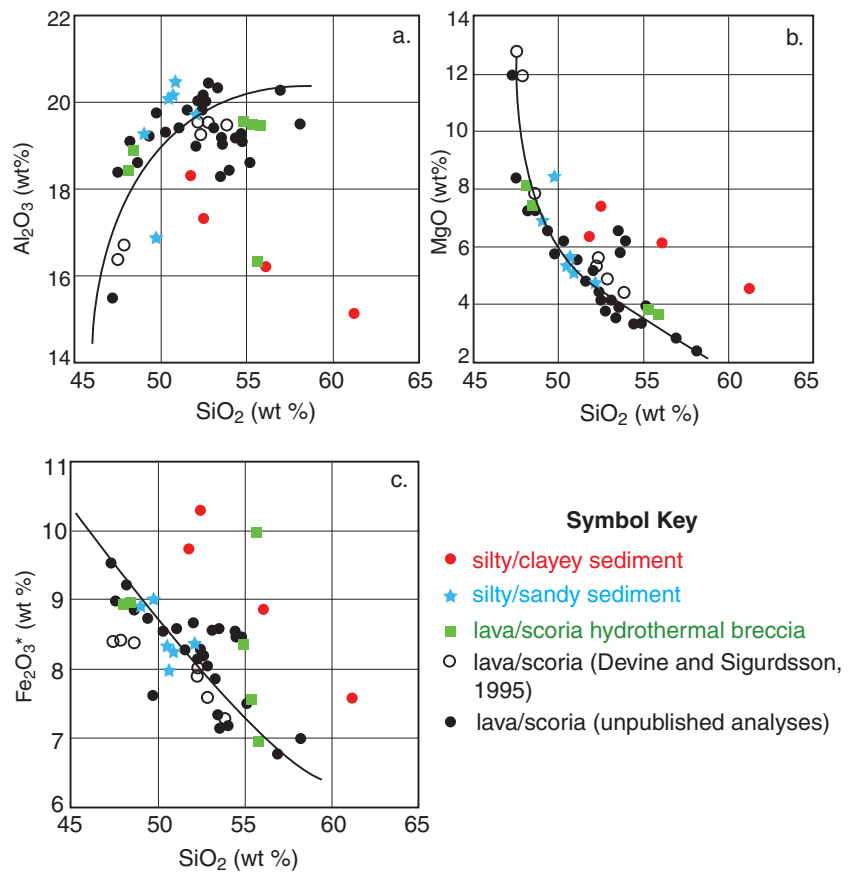


Figure 10. Major oxide composition of silty/clayey sediment, silty/sandy sediment, and KeJ lava/scoria/hydrothermal breccia. The solid lines show the principal trends defined by the magmatic samples of KeJ.

Table 6. Major Element Composition of Kick'em Jenny Crater Samples^a

Sample	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	Al ₂ O ₃	Fe ₂ O ₃ *	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	P ₂ O ₅	S	Total	LOI
NA039-003	48.53	0.09	1.40	40.95	0.03	1.31	1.42	3.18	0.28	1.44	0.49	99.12	17.38
NA039-011	50.26	0.91	19.80	8.94	0.08	5.94	8.67	3.31	0.41	0.11	3.36	101.79	7.72
NA039-012	27.20	0.15	2.50	59.02	0.04	1.75	1.89	2.12	0.34	1.51	0.20	96.72	20.57
NA039-059	55.17	0.71	13.77	11.58	0.05	4.84	3.14	1.94	0.44	0.07	7.38	99.09	14.70
RB-03-03-08 WR	54.84	0.71	19.52	8.38	0.19	3.27	8.01	3.65	1.18	0.17	0.01	99.92	0.50
RB-03-03-08 P	34.11	0.58	12.95	38.37	0.08	3.31	6.26	2.53	0.52	0.08	8.84	98.79	14.65
RB-03-03-17 WR	55.15	0.71	19.44	7.50	0.17	3.79	8.35	3.35	1.15	0.17	0.21	99.78	1.00
RB-03-03-17 P	55.79	0.73	19.46	6.97	0.16	3.68	8.35	3.53	1.20	0.17	1.10	100.04	2.02
RB-03-03-18	52.84	0.93	16.73	10.31	0.16	7.84	6.94	3.28	0.71	0.15	1.38	99.89	6.50
RB-03-03-24	50.49	0.94	20.34	7.99	0.15	5.57	10.84	2.75	0.68	0.12	0.18	99.87	1.23
RB-03-03-26	50.78	0.86	20.43	8.24	0.16	5.07	10.40	3.10	0.75	0.11	0.23	99.90	1.12
RB-03-03-28	50.61	0.98	20.40	8.32	0.14	5.17	10.81	2.94	0.63	0.10	0.52	100.10	1.39
RB-03-03-31	52.04	0.97	18.35	9.59	0.15	6.13	8.16	3.40	0.68	0.15	1.49	99.62	4.05
RB-03-03-32	52.17	0.83	19.78	8.28	0.14	4.57	10.27	2.82	0.67	0.14	0.21	99.67	2.19
RB-03-03-40	57.19	0.84	16.05	8.44	0.13	5.73	7.03	3.28	0.67	0.16	0.92	99.52	5.39
RB-03-03-41	61.05	0.75	15.07	7.57	0.12	4.53	6.88	2.93	0.65	0.16	0.70	99.71	4.08
RB-03-03-42	49.10	1.01	19.30	8.92	0.15	6.94	11.41	2.64	0.62	0.12	0.20	100.21	1.31
RB-03-03-67	26.03	0.34	7.94	3.76	0.10	5.35	53.14	0.58	0.12	0.22	0.22	97.57	33.56
RB-03-03-82 WR	47.92	1.15	18.37	8.91	0.16	8.09	11.60	2.64	0.69	0.08	0.00	99.61	-0.03
RB-03-03-82 P	48.19	1.11	18.81	8.89	0.15	7.35	11.65	2.57	0.70	0.09	0.40	99.51	0.25
RB-03-03-85 P	55.50	0.84	16.26	9.96	0.12	4.98	9.22	2.29	0.54	0.05	4.13	99.76	5.15

^aUnits are wt % and Fe₂O₃* is total Fe. LOI is loss on ignition.

5. Discussion

5.1. Gas Discharge

Hydrothermal venting at Kick'em Jenny includes both fluid and gas discharge at numerous locations in the inner crater. The gas is dominantly carbon dioxide with discharge rates as high as 100 kg/d from individual bubble streams. Gas flux measurements are relatively rare at submarine volcanoes and have relied on a combination of data sets such as video imagery, compositional analyses of collected samples, and acoustic signals to infer discharge rates [e.g., Lupton *et al.*, 2006; Dziak *et al.*, 2012]. We anticipate that our flux numbers will be useful in constraining a future analysis of the total gas flux from the KEJ crater. Ongoing work is attempting to quantify the total number of bubble streams (likely hundreds) from the crater using multi-beam data and then to assign some likely gas flux based on the acoustic strength of streams and the individual measurements presented in this paper.

Dissolution of CO₂ after venting has likely lead to decreases in crater water pH as observed at other shallow water volcanic centers with impacts on marine fauna [Hall-Spencer *et al.*, 2008; Tunnicliffe *et al.*, 2009; Carey *et al.*, 2013; Camilli *et al.*, 2015].

Several pH measurements were collected around the Champagne and Shrimp vents using a ROV-deployed pH meter. Values as low as 4.0 were recorded when the probe was located in close proximity to the vents (few centimeters), but even at distances up to a few meters the pH values were significantly less than ambient seawater.

The helium isotopic ratio of venting gases at KeJ averaged 6.73 (Table 3). This falls in the range of ~5–7 for arc volcanoes defined by Sano and Marty [1995] suggesting a contribution of slab-derived helium to the KeJ magmatic system. A strong slab/sediment contribution to volcanoes in the

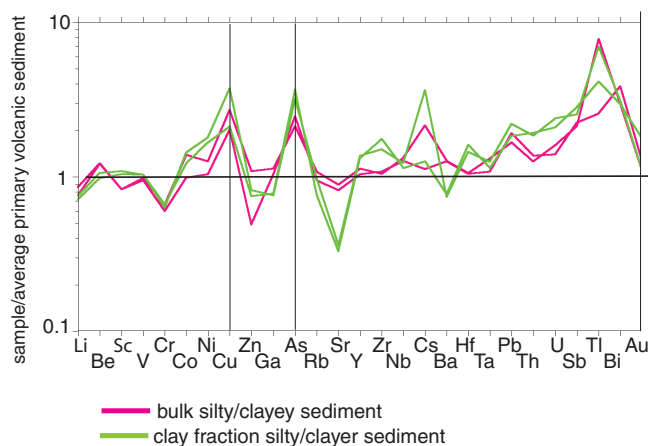


Figure 11. Trace element concentrations of silty/clayey sediments (bulk and clay-size fractions) relative to the average composition of silty/sandy volcanic sediment.

Table 7. Trace Element Composition of Kick'em Jenny Crater Samples^a

Sample	Li	Be	Sc	TiO ₂	V	Cr	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	As	Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Cs	Ba	La	Ce	Hf	Ta	Pb	Th	U	Sb	Tl	Bi
NA039-003	11.6	1.4	14.5	0.68	143.7	6.7	19.1	8.5	108.6	90.9	19.9	7.76	50.5	334.4	23.3	117.3	6.95	1.61	245.6	11.31	22.5	2.82	0.40	6.12	4.30	2.24	0.20	0.38	0.25
NA039-011	3.5	0.6	19.1	0.48	133.2	101.7	13.8	24.4	44.0	22.6	12.4	1.45	13.3	199.6	10.0	31.0	3.46	0.43	92.3	4.98	9.7	0.99	0.22	4.09	1.65	0.72	0.06	0.23	0.03
NA039-012	2.2	1.4	17.6	0.65	130.4	38.9	17.7	21.0	49.7	87.0	19.0	3.35	38.8	369.3	16.7	95.5	9.85	0.31	237.8	12.73	23.4	2.17	0.65	4.70	3.96	1.96	0.13	0.37	0.01
NA039-059	2.4	1.4	18.4	0.69	138.3	38.5	17.5	21.2	51.7	72.5	20.1	3.55	40.9	385.5	17.3	98.9	10.20	0.31	254.1	13.09	24.1	2.20	0.63	4.90	4.10	1.98	0.09	0.63	0.01
RB-03-03-08 WR	6.5	1.0	31.2	0.86	235.6	79.5	24.0	47.1	134.4	47.0	19.3	12.02	23.7	264.2	19.9	70.6	5.52	0.95	171.7	8.48	18.0	1.92	0.30	7.34	2.56	1.47	0.23	0.77	0.27
RB-03-03-08 P	7.8	0.9	36.0	0.86	243.1	132.7	21.1	38.1	57.6	114.5	18.4	4.72	24.0	323.9	20.0	62.6	4.04	0.77	133.2	5.86	12.3	1.76	0.24	3.45	1.90	1.18	0.10	0.23	0.06
RB-03-03-17 WR	10.6	1.0	31.8	0.87	220.4	98.3	23.6	36.1	70.4	157.2	20.8	3.88	24.4	330.4	17.5	60.2	4.65	1.02	135.1	5.59	12.9	1.70	0.30	3.40	1.73	0.94	0.09	0.31	0.09
RB-03-03-17 P	8.5	0.9	36.6	1.01	254.0	117.7	24.2	46.5	75.0	173.1	18.0	3.88	24.4	330.4	17.5	60.2	4.65	1.02	135.1	5.59	12.9	1.70	0.30	3.40	1.73	0.94	0.09	0.31	0.09
RB-03-03-24	7.4	1.0	31.1	0.97	240.9	86.4	33.8	57.4	181.3	104.0	20.9	10.37	26.9	288.7	21.7	68.6	5.78	1.81	172.9	8.68	19.4	1.93	0.36	6.41	2.36	1.70	0.22	2.33	0.21
RB-03-03-26	7.5	0.9	31.5	0.83	224.1	99.1	20.9	35.8	59.8	81.3	18.4	4.16	26.0	339.6	17.7	66.2	4.33	0.91	143.8	5.84	12.9	1.82	0.28	8.23	1.97	1.21	0.14	2.13	0.06
RB-03-03-31	7.0	0.9	25.6	0.74	196.3	68.2	20.4	38.1	91.5	58.7	16.5	19.03	27.4	253.8	17.2	60.2	4.88	2.61	164.0	7.26	15.1	1.60	0.30	6.50	2.30	1.21	0.20	1.13	0.18
RB-03-03-32	6.6	0.8	22.1	0.65	169.9	64.4	17.2	30.2	80.6	39.2	14.3	14.25	22.1	239.9	14.9	46.3	4.13	1.25	142.3	6.07	12.8	1.40	0.24	5.55	1.92	1.01	0.15	0.73	0.13
RB-03-03-40	7.5	0.7	46.5	0.99	269.6	177.2	28.3	61.0	64.9	35.6	16.9	4.97	21.1	304.1	18.8	61.7	3.99	0.65	120.2	4.96	11.7	1.74	0.25	3.62	1.63	0.93	0.09	0.27	0.06
RB-03-03-41	13.3	0.6	7.6	0.23	54.6	61.8	7.3	37.9	23.7	34.9	5.3	5.09	12.5	2900.8	8.6	19.7	2.71	0.85	77.9	7.51	12.9	0.63	0.16	8.59	2.37	2.50	0.32	0.12	0.06
RB-03-03-42	8.8	0.7	59.0	1.13	327.6	194.6	34.1	70.3	69.6	55.7	16.8	3.59	22.9	300.1	21.7	67.4	4.39	0.69	127.6	5.53	12.5	1.86	0.26	3.09	1.75	0.92	0.10	0.09	0.02
RB-03-03-67	8.6	0.7	55.8	1.09	315.4	181.9	31.9	65.2	75.6	54.2	17.0	3.98	23.2	304.4	21.0	68.0	4.37	0.70	127.2	5.58	12.5	1.83	0.26	3.13	1.76	0.94	0.09	0.08	0.02

^aUnits are in ppm except for TiO₂ in wt.%. NAO39 samples determined by XRF and RB-03-03 samples determined by ICPMS.

southern Lesser Antilles has also been indicated based on elevated lead and strontium isotope ratios [White and Dupre, 1986] and extremely high values of U-excess (²³⁸U/²³²Th) in KeJ lavas [Gill and Williams, 1990].

5.2. Origin of Silty/Clayey Crater Sediment

We suggest that the distinctive silty/clayey sediment found in KeJ's inner crater is the result of hydrothermal alteration of primary silty/sandy volcanic sediment produced during explosive eruptions of the volcano [e.g., Hocking et al., 2010]. Alteration of basalt and dacite to clay minerals during hydrothermal circulation is well known [Sturz et al., 1998; Zierenberg et al., 1995; Lackschwitz et al., 2004], but alteration of volcanic sediments to clay minerals is still an ongoing area of research [Severmann et al., 2004; Lackschwitz et al., 2004; Dekov et al., 2008a, 2008b; Hocking et al., 2010]. The presence of illite and I/S mixed layer clays in KeJ silty/clay and the geochemical mass balance calculations supports the interpretation of a hydrothermal alteration origin for the majority of the clay fraction. Alteration of the volcanoclastic sediment in the inner crater has thus resulted in the formation of a sediment layer with reduced permeability relative to the primary silty/sandy tephra. Geochemical data indicate that this layer constitutes a significant sink for Mg from circulating fluids and a zone of enrichment of fluid-derived metals such as Cu, As, and Sb. The results suggest that hydrothermally-altered tephra may play an important role in the net geochemical fluxes in shallow arc venting systems such as KeJ.

5.3. Formation of Sulfide Volcanic Breccia

Surficial sulfide mineralization occurs only rarely in areas of highest fluid temperature and produces localized cemented volcanic breccia (Figure 12). Relative to the host basaltic scoria, the sulfide-mineralized exterior is depleted in virtually all trace elements except Cr and Ni. The relative enrichment in Cr and Ni in the altered exterior is most likely due to Cr and Ni contents in the individual fragments cemented by pyrite overgrowths. A wide range in Cr and Ni content is typical of KeJ lavas/scorias and is, therefore, more likely reflective of lithological heterogeneity rather than hydrothermal processes. Relative depletions in trace elements, however, especially as they relate to pyrite overgrowths, are probably associated with hydrothermal processes. A lack of enrichment in Cu and As, in

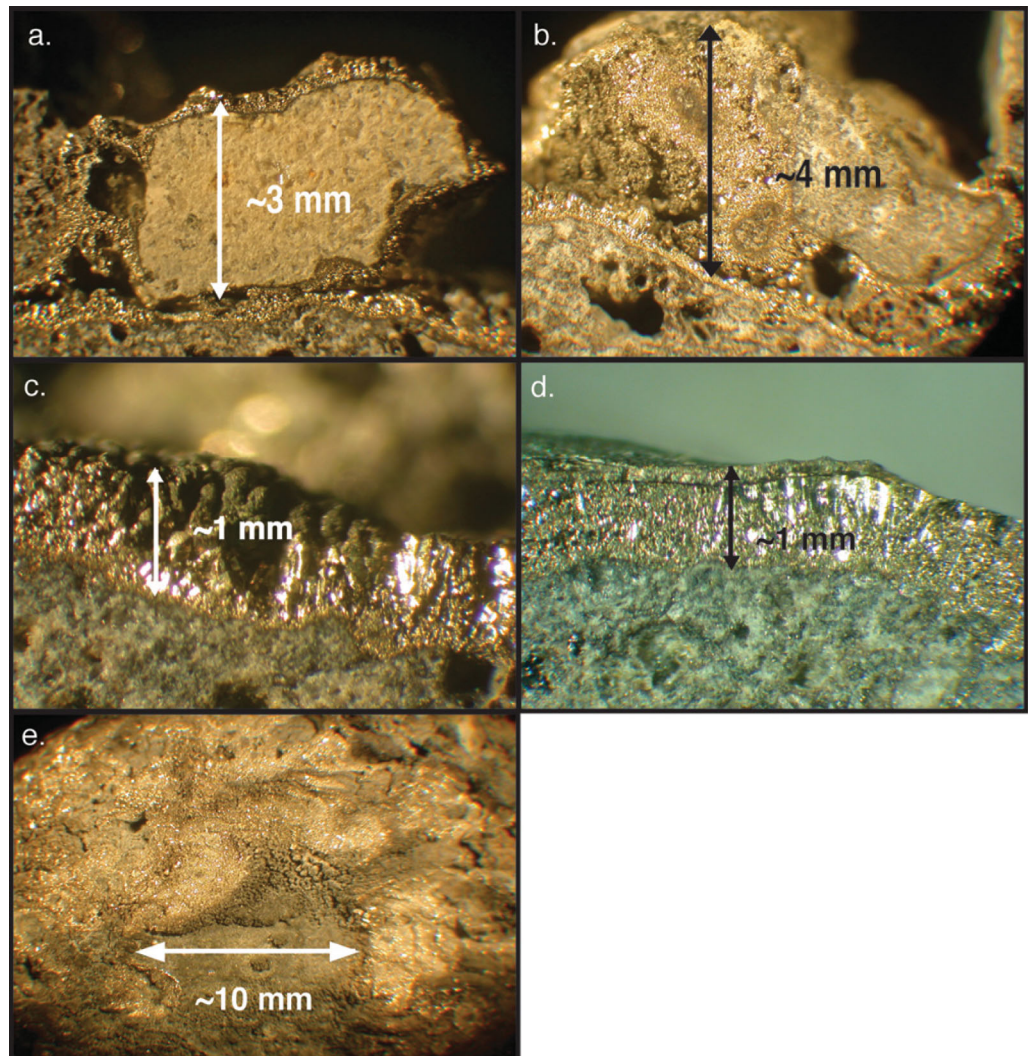


Figure 12. Pyrite overgrowths on hydrothermal breccia RB-03-03-08. (a and b) Pumice fragments are cemented by pyrite overgrowths to a host scoria. Close-up views of pyrite overgrowths showing (c and d) bladed and (c) stalactitic morphology. (d) Basaltic andesite host and (e) plan view of the breccia exterior.

particular, is noteworthy because both elements are known to substitute for Fe during pyrite formation [Deditius *et al.*, 2009]. Deditius *et al.* [2009] found that pyrite from high-sulfidation deposits consist of distinct growth zones enriched in either Cu or As. Phase separation and fluid mixing are two mechanisms that would cause abrupt changes in the composition of a hydrothermal fluid and result in depletions/enrichments of Cu and As [Deditius *et al.*, 2009]. Both elements are strongly partitioned into the vapor phase during phase separation of hydrothermal fluids [Heinrich *et al.*, 1999; Pokrovski *et al.*, 2002]. In the case of pyrite overgrowths on the hydrothermal breccia in this study, the lack of Cu or As enrichment suggests that the hydrothermal fluid from which the pyrite precipitated may have been a barren, brine-rich fluid produced during phase separation at depth beneath the inner crater of KeJ.

5.4. Model for the Hydrothermal System at Kick'em Jenny

5.4.1. Evidence for Phase Separation of Hydrothermal Fluids

Previous studies of distal vent fluids from Kick'em Jenny volcano found that bottom seawater samples were depleted in Mg and Cl relative to ambient seawater but enriched in Zn, Cu, Ni, and As [Koschinsky *et al.*, 2007]. This geochemical association was interpreted by Koschinsky *et al.* [2007] to represent the condensed vapor phase of a phase-separated hydrothermal fluid with initial temperatures up to 280°C. Our new results from the inner crater of KeJ provide strong support for the occurrence of phase-

separation in the KeJ hydrothermal system. First, evidence for vapor phase venting is suggested by geochemical analyses of KeJ sediments from the inner crater. Silty/clayey sediments were found to be enriched in Cu, As, and Sb relative to silty/sandy volcanic sediment (Figure 11), in accord with studies that cite the strong partitioning of these elements into the vapor phase during phase separation [Heinrich *et al.*, 1999; Pokrovski *et al.*, 2002, 2008; Deditius *et al.*, 2009]. Based on these studies, the most likely reason for the relative enrichment of these elements is the high temperature alteration of silty/sandy sediment to silty/clayey sediment by a condensed vapor-separated fluid. In locations where pyrite precipitation is forming hydrothermal breccias (Figure 12), the altered pyrite exterior is relatively depleted in trace elements, most notably Cu, As, and Sb, suggesting deposition from a relatively dense brine that had lost significant metals through deposition subsurface. Brines can have excess iron available for barren pyrite deposition if an additional source of sulfur is added through mixing with a condensed vapor phase or seawater [Seo *et al.*, 2009].

Second, the unusual downslope fluid flow patterns in the inner crater (Figures 2 and 3) indicate that some of the venting fluids, especially around the margins of the inner crater are denser, and thus likely more saline, than ambient seawater. Such fluids may therefore represent brines that were generated by phase separation of hydrothermal fluids beneath the floor of the inner crater. Density measurements of fluids collected in the inner crater support the formation of denser vent fluids relative to ambient seawater (Figure 5), although the differences are small and likely reflect extensive mixing prior to discharge. We note that the venting of high-salinity brines is somewhat discordant with observations and models from deeper and higher-temperature systems along mid-ocean ridges where brines are believed to stall in the subsurface. In the case of KeJ, the possibility that phase separation occurs relatively near the seafloor may facilitate the venting of these brines. Increases in fluid density may also be the result of high levels of dissolved CO₂ as proposed at some other shallow arc volcanoes [Carey *et al.*, 2013; Camilli *et al.*, 2015].

Suitable conditions for phase separation are predicted to occur at Kick'em Jenny due to the relatively shallow depth of the inner crater (~250 mbsl) and maximum temperatures measured at the venting sites (up to 270°C in 2003 at 10 cm below sediment surface). Based on the seawater boiling curve developed by Bischoff and Rosenbauer [1987], subcritical vapor generation would take place at ~220°C.

5.4.2. Mineralization

Surface mineralization within the inner crater of Kick'em Jenny is characterized by a dominance of yellowish-orange Fe(oxy)-hydroxides mats/mounds and a lack of sulfide chimneys (supporting information Movie S6). The absence of sulfide chimneys is not unusual in shallow water hydrothermal systems. Rather than being enriched in Fe-sulfides, many shallow water hydrothermal systems exhibit amorphous Fe-oxyhydroxides, crystalline FeOOH, or iron silicate minerals, especially smectite on or near the seabed [Hein *et al.*, 2008]. Removal of sulfides from hydrothermal fluids via precipitation of metal sulfides in the sub-seafloor has been suggested as an important final step in the formation of Fe-oxyhydroxide deposits by a number of models [e.g., Pichler and Veizer, 1999].

Fe-oxyhydroxides at many submarine volcanoes are associated with iron oxidizing bacteria (FeOB) that are likely to have played a significant role in the precipitation of iron-bearing phases, referred to as bacteriogenic iron oxyhydroxides (BIOS) [Kari *et al.*, 1988; Emerson and Moyer, 2002, 2010; Emerson *et al.*, 2010; Ferris, 2005]. At Loihi seamount off of Hawaii, 60% of the iron oxide deposition has been attributed to microbial activity [Emerson and Moyer, 2002]. The extensive iron oxide deposition at KeJ bears many similarities to the observed deposits at Loihi, such as the presence of both extensive mats in areas of low temperature diffuse flow (10–30°C) and small chimney-like structures at higher temperature (50°C) [Emerson *et al.*, 2010]. Fluids venting at Loihi are rich in CO₂ and acidic compared with other submarine hydrothermal systems [Kari *et al.*, 1988]. pH is a critical parameter in controlling the kinetics of Fe⁺² oxidation, and under low pH conditions microbial-activated precipitation of BIOS is enhanced due to slower rates of abiotic oxidation [Ferris, 2005]. Measurements of dissolved oxygen in the crater at KeJ near the Champagne vent (Figure 5) show that values are of the order of 150 μM and thus not a limiting factor for abiotic oxidation. At KeJ the active venting of CO₂ and low pH measurements around the inner crater vents suggest that, like Loihi, conditions are favorable for microbially dominated precipitation of BIOS. The bacterial community at KeJ shows evidence of both *Zetaproteobacteria* (Fe-oxidizers) and *Epsilonproteobacteria* (sulfur oxidizers) in accord with the observed spectrum of fluid discharges from low temperature Fe-oxyhydroxide vents (<50°C) to higher temperature (~180°C) vents with sulfide-bearing breccias.

Most metals dissolved in hydrothermal fluids at KeJ were suggested to have been deposited seafloor during phase separation based on the composition of hydrothermal fluids detected in the water column [Koschinsky *et al.*, 2007]. The implication of this is that there is potentially significant subsurface sulfide mineralization occurring beneath the crater floor of Kick'em Jenny at the present time. This system may be analogous to the well-studied mineralized zones of Palinuro submarine volcano in the Aeolian arc [Petersen *et al.*, 2008; Monecke *et al.*, 2009]. At this site, there are abundant Fe-oxyhydroxide chimneys and bacterial mats associated with relatively low temperature venting [Carey *et al.*, 2012]. These chimneys are very similar in appearance to those found along the SE inner crater wall of KeJ (Figure 3c). Shallow drilling on the west end of Palinuro revealed thick deposits of massive sulfide deposits lying only tens of centimeters below a thin covering of fine-grained sediment [Petersen *et al.*, 2008]. Similar sulfide deposits may lie beneath the KeJ crater although repeated disruption by frequent eruptions during the recent past would likely hinder their preservation. The crater would certainly be an interesting target for the type of shallow drilling carried out at Palinuro in order to further explore the mineralization occurring at KeJ.

Many features of the KeJ hydrothermal system also show significant similarities to the young Nafanua cone in the crater of Vailulu'u seamount in the western Pacific [Staudigel *et al.*, 2006]. These include evidence for relatively shallow water phase separation of hydrothermal fluids, dominance of Fe-oxyhydroxide deposition with associated bacterial mats, active CO₂ discharge, and frequent eruptive activity.

The results of our study confirm the interesting complexities of hydrothermal systems in shallow submarine volcanoes. These environments are characterized by compositionally diverse fluid and gas discharges, are susceptible to phase separation of fluids, and occur within craters that are often filled with volcanoclastic sediment. Such conditions can lead to interesting fluid flow patterns, induced by phase separation, that have implications for both the nature and location of mineralization and the spatial distribution of associated ecosystems.

6. Conclusions

Hydrothermal venting and mineralization at Kick'em Jenny submarine volcano in the West Indies has been investigated by remotely operated vehicle (ROV) explorations of the crater and surrounding slopes. Clear fluids up to 180°C and gases are being discharged through fine and coarse-grained volcanoclastic sediment of basalt/basaltic andesite composition that has been produced by repeated shallow water explosive eruptions. This sediment has been partially altered to smectite, illite, and Fe-oxyhydroxides by circulating hydrothermal fluids. Gases collected at two sites in the crater were relatively homogenous and dominated by CO₂ (>92%) with minor amounts of H₂S. Measured flux rates of individual bubble streams varied from 10 to 100 kg of CO₂/day. Rare sulfide mineralization occurs as barren pyrite-cemented breccias in areas of highest temperature fluid discharge focused primarily in a small 70 × 110 m depression within the volcano's main crater at a depth of 265 m. The most common mineralization is the extensive development of mats, mounds, and small spires of fragile Fe-oxyhydroxides in areas of diffuse and relatively low temperature fluid discharge (~30°>ambient). Deposition of this material is likely to be facilitated by Fe-oxidizing bacteria (*Zetaproteobacteria*) found in these areas. High-resolution photomosaics of the crater reveal distinctive downslope flow patterns of hydrothermal fluids that resemble braided streams. We propose that production of dense fluids was likely caused by subcritical phase separation at depth beneath the crater with subsequent venting of both condensed vapor and brine components that were remixed with circulating seawater as they moved through the porous volcanoclastic sediment. Support for the phase separation model includes (1) the P/T conditions in the crater area relative to the seawater boiling curve, (2) enrichment in As and Cu (strongly partitioned into a vapor phase) in hydrothermally altered crater sediment, (3) high-precision measurement of fluid densities collected at different locations in the crater, and (4) discovery of chloride-depleted seawater just outside of the crater by previous water column studies. Based on a comparison with other shallow-water volcanic arc hydrothermal systems with similar development of extensive surficial Fe-oxyhydroxides, there is the potential that significant massive sulfide deposition may be occurring at shallow levels within the volcanoclastic sediment pile currently filling the crater. Such deposits are, however, likely to be quite ephemeral due to the highly active nature of the volcano with eruptions occurring at least one per decade.

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