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1           **SUPERFICIAL ALTERATION MINERALOGY IN ACTIVE VOLCANIC SYSTEMS: AN**  
2                           **EXAMPLE OF POÁS VOLCANO, COSTA RICA**

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7  
8                           **Abstract**

9   The alteration mineralogy in the crater area of Poás volcano (Costa Rica) has been studied  
10 to constrain acid fluid-rock interaction processes and conditions relevant for the  
11 formation of sulphate-bearing mineral assemblages found on the surface of Mars.  
12 Individual sub-environments, which include the hyperacid lake (Laguna Caliente),  
13 ephemeral hot springs, fumarole vents and areas affected by acid rain and/or spray from  
14 the lake, are marked by distinct secondary mineral associations, with sulphates  
15 commonly as prevailing component. The sulphates occur in a wide mineralogical diversity  
16 comprising gypsum/anhydrite, various polyhydrated Al-sulphates, alunite-jarosite group  
17 minerals, halotrichite-, voltaite- and copiapite-group minerals, epsomite and römerite.  
18 Depending on the sub-environment, they are variably associated with clay minerals  
19 (kaolinite-group and smectite-group), zeolites, SiO<sub>2</sub>-polymorphs, Fe-(hydro)oxides, Ti-  
20 oxides, native sulphur, sulphides, chlorides, fluorides, phosphates and carbonates.  
21 Geochemical modelling was performed to identify mechanisms responsible for the  
22 formation of the secondary minerals found in the field, and to predict their possible  
23 stability under conditions not seen at the surface. The results indicate that the appearance  
24 of amorphous silica, hematite, anhydrite/gypsum, pyrite, anatase and kaolinite is  
25 relatively insensitive to the degree of acidity of the local aqueous system. On the other  
26 hand, alunite-jarosite group minerals, elemental sulphur and Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> only form under  
27 acidic conditions (pH<4). The presence of polyhydrated Mg- and Fe<sup>2+</sup>-sulphates is  
28 restricted to olivine-bearing rocks exposed to acid rain or brine spray. Modelling suggests  
29 that their formation required a repetitive sequence of olivine dissolution and evaporation  
30 in an open system involving limited amounts of fluid. The mineral variety in the crater of  
31 Poás is remarkably similar to sulphate-bearing assemblages considered to be the product  
32 of acid-sulphate alteration on Mars. The analogy suggests that comparable fluid-rock  
33 interaction controls operated in Martian volcanic environments.

34

## 35 1. INTRODUCTION

36

37 The distribution of hydrous alteration minerals on Mars indicates that the oldest terrains  
38 (Noachian) are typically dominated by phyllosilicates, middle-aged terrains (Hesperian)  
39 by various sulphates, and the youngest (Amazonian) by ferric oxides (e.g. Bibring et al.,  
40 2006). Apart from these apparent global mineralogical changes in the history of the  
41 planet, there is increasing evidence that large varieties of alteration phases also formed  
42 in close spatial associations in single environments. For example, Thollot et al. (2012)  
43 described the occurrence of numerous hydrated minerals including halloysite/kaolinite,  
44 Fe-smectite, Si-OH bearing phases and polyhydrated, monohydrated, and hydroxylated  
45 Fe-sulphates (including jarosite) in a closed depression in the Noctis Labyrinthus region.  
46 The authors attributed the mineral variability to local variations in the pH of altering acid  
47 sulphate fluids, which possibly formed from groundwater and magmatic sulphur in a site  
48 under the influence of volcanic activity and associated hydrothermalism. Similar  
49 examples of mineral diversities at a local scale include depressions elsewhere in the  
50 Noctis Labyrinthus region (Weitz et al., 2011), in Valles Marineris (Weitz and Bishop,  
51 2016), and the Columbus crater in the Terra Sirenum region, the latter arguably being a  
52 groundwater-fed paleolake (Wray et al., 2011). Evidence for acid fluids as major agents in  
53 water-rock interaction processes on Mars also comes from Meridiani Planum and Gusev  
54 crater where soils and rocks are not only enriched in sulphur but also in halogens  
55 (Klingelhöfer et al., 2004; Squyres et al., 2004; McLennan et al., 2005; Grotzinger et al.,  
56 2005; Tosca and McLennan, 2006; Chevrier and Mathé, 2007; Squyres et al., 2007).

57

58 Volcanic products cover vast areas of Martian surface (Tanaka et al., 1992; Christensen et  
59 al., 2001; Bibring et al., 2005). Even though only a few Noachian volcanic terrains have  
60 been preserved, Martian volcanism was most likely intense during the early history of the  
61 planet and it gradually decreased over time with episodic periods of higher activity  
62 (Werner, 2009; Hauber et al., 2011; Robbins et al., 2011; Xiao et al., 2012). Since the  
63 sulphur composition of Martian basalts is relatively high compared to their terrestrial  
64 counterparts (Lodders, 1998; McSween et al., 2006; 2008) the emplacement of Martian  
65 intrusives and lavas must have released significant amounts of sulphur-rich volatiles.  
66 Reaction of volatile sulphur compounds with water in magmatic vapours, ice or  
67 groundwater will then inevitably have produced acidic fluids. Due to its ubiquity, acid-

68 sulphate alteration has been a major feature on Mars' surface (Ehlmann et al., 2011;  
69 Gaillard et al., 2013). Moreover, surface deposits contain high levels of sulphur (SO<sub>3</sub> up to  
70 ~37 wt.%, average ~6 wt.%) mostly in the form of sulphates (King and McLennan, 2010).

71  
72 Terrestrial volcanoes hosting hyperacid lakes are settings where fluid-rock interaction  
73 occurs in strong chemical, temperature and redox gradients, leading to a diversity of  
74 alteration products on small spatial scales. (e.g. Delmelle and Bernard, 1984; Christenson,  
75 2000; Varekamp et al., 2000; Christenson et al., 2010; van Hinsberg et al., 2010a;b;  
76 Christenson et al., 2015; Rouwet et al., 2016). These systems are commonly fed by input  
77 fluids, derived from magmatic sources, with a typical acid sulphate-chloride composition.  
78 The surface expressions of volcanic-hydrothermal systems on Earth are potentially  
79 powerful analogues for interpreting specific Martian settings where a variety of acid  
80 alteration products formed in close proximity.

81  
82 This paper documents the distribution of alteration products in the active crater area of  
83 Poás volcano (Costa Rica), where a hyperacid lake, subaerial fumaroles, hot-springs and  
84 deposition of acid rain/spray provide a range of conditions potentially suitable for the  
85 formation of sulphur- and chlorine-bearing secondary minerals through interaction with  
86 solid volcanic materials. Geochemical modelling is applied to test mechanisms and  
87 circumstances required for the formation of the mineral assemblages observed at the  
88 surface, and to assess conditions under which secondary minerals are stable in the  
89 hydrothermal system at depth. Finally, the implications that these findings have for Mars  
90 are discussed in terms of sulphate abundances and alteration processes.

91

## 92 **2. GEOLOGICAL SETTING**

93

94 Poás volcano, located in the Central Cordillera of Costa Rica, is a broad basaltic-andesitic  
95 stratovolcano with a maximum elevation of 2708 m.a.s.l. (Fig. 1a). The volcanic products  
96 mainly consist of calc-alkaline basaltic and andesitic lavas and pyroclastics (Prosser and  
97 Carr, 1987; Cigolini et al., 1991; Malavassi, 1991) but the rock composition spans the  
98 range from basalts to dacites (Ruiz et al., 2010). The 1.3 km wide active crater, located  
99 between Von Frantzius and Botos craters, host an acidic lake known as Laguna Caliente  
100 in a 300 m-diameter pit and a ~30 m high composite pyroclastic cone (CPC, Casertano et

101 al., 1987; Martínez et al., 2000; Martínez, 2008) (Fig. 1b). The CPC was constructed from  
102 tephra and lava during the 1953-55 eruption. Lava flows emitted from the base of the CPC  
103 flowed towards the lake and formed a terrace (Casertano et al., 1987; Rowe et al., 1992a).  
104 Although fumarolic activity has been continuously migrating over the last 25 years  
105 around the main crater (Vaselli et al., 2003; Rouwet et al., 2016), the main fumarolic  
106 activity nowadays occurs on the northern flank of the CPC. During the last 700 k.a. Poás  
107 volcano has been rising over the Central Proto-Cordillera in different episodes of effusive,  
108 explosive, phreatic, phreatomagmatic and erosive activity (Ruiz et al., 2010). In the last  
109 200 years, the activity of Poás has been characterized by frequent phreatic explosions and  
110 continuous fumarolic activity (Alvarado, 2009). More details about the petrology,  
111 geochemistry, age and geographic distribution of the units and formations around Poás  
112 volcano can be found in Prosser (1983), Prosser and Carr (1987), Kussmaul (1988),  
113 Cigolini et al. (1991), Malavassi (1991), Campos et al. (2004), Gazel and Ruiz (2005), Carr  
114 et al. (2007) and Ruiz et al. (2010).

115  
116 Over the last decades, Laguna Caliente has shown temperatures between 22 and 94°C  
117 (OVSICORI-UNA, intern. reps.). As a product of the dissolution magmatic volatiles (SO<sub>2</sub>,  
118 H<sub>2</sub>S, HCl) in meteoric waters, sulphate (3300–285000 mg/kg) and chloride (2500–15000  
119 mg/kg) are the major cations in this lake; additionally, the high acidity of these waters  
120 (pH= -0.87-1.75) make them very reactive, easily dissolving the surrounding rocks and  
121 incorporating rock-forming elements in solution (Rowe et al., 1992a; 1992b; Rowe and  
122 Brantley, 1993; Martínez et al., 2000; Martínez, 2008; OVSICORI-UNA, intern. reps.).  
123 Martínez (2008) subdivided the activity of Poás since the early 1970's into five stages.  
124 During Stage I (1972 - August 1980), fumarolic discharges were strong within the lake  
125 and were accompanied with occasional phreatic explosions. Stage II (September 1980 –  
126 April 1986) was characterized by a relative quiescence in the lake and absence of phreatic  
127 activity despite a strong discharge of high-temperature fumaroles through the CPC. In the  
128 following Stage III (May 1986 - August 1995), a vigorous subaqueous fumarolic discharge  
129 and intense phreatic activity accompanied a strong volume decrease, ultimately leading  
130 to a dry out of the lake. Stage IV (September 1995 – February 2005) was a calm period,  
131 when the lake re-established and subaerial fumaroles and hot springs appeared in the  
132 surrounding crater area (Vaselli et al., 2003; Rymer et al., 2009; Fischer et al., 2015;  
133 Rouwet et al., 2016). This stage was followed by an intense fumarolic discharge into the

134 lake during Stage V (March 2005 – October 2014) together with frequent phreatic  
135 eruptions and a steady decrease of the lake volume (Rymer et al., 2009; Fisher et al., 2015;  
136 de Moor et al., 2016; Rouwet et al., 2016). Fumarolic activity concentrated at the CPC,  
137 occasionally showing incandescence as gas temperatures rose above 600°C (OVSICORI-  
138 UNA, intern. reps.).

139

### 140 **3. SAMPLING AND ANALYTICAL METHODS**

141

#### 142 **3.1. Sampling techniques**

143

144 Field work was carried out in April - May 2012. Geographic coordinates and altitude were  
145 registered with a handheld GPS at each sampling location. Mineral and rock samples were  
146 collected from several sites (Fig. 2) within the crater area and in the “dead zone”, an area  
147 SW of the lake that is constantly affected by acid rain. Minerals were gathered with a  
148 plastic spatula and put into 25 ml plastic Greiner® tubes. Fresh and altered rocks were  
149 stored in plastic bags.

150

151 A considerable number of samples from Laguna Caliente, hot springs around the lake,  
152 fumarole condensates and gases used in this study were collected by OVSICORI-UNA  
153 (Observatorio Vulcanológico y Sismológico de Costa Rica, Universidad Nacional). Data for  
154 some of these samples are presented by Martínez et al. (2000) and Martínez (2008).  
155 Temperature (°C), pH, electrical conductivity (C) and redox potential (Eh) were measured  
156 *in situ* in water samples from Laguna Caliente, using an OMEGA® HH2001A K-type  
157 thermocouple and a WTW® 3430 portable multimeter. All electrodes were calibrated  
158 daily before fieldwork. Calibration of the pH electrode was performed using pH 1, 4 and 7  
159 buffers. The conductivity and Eh electrode was calibrated in a 0.01 M KCl standard and a  
160 420 mV buffer solution, respectively. Water samples for IC (ion-chromatography) and  
161 ICP-OES (inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry) analysis were  
162 filtered on site through 0.2 µm pore size cellulose acetate membranes with the aid of a  
163 hand pump. Samples for IC analyses were collected in 250 ml HDPE bottles. For ICP-OES  
164 analyses, 60 ml HDPE bottles were used and samples were treated with 1 ml Suprapur®  
165 HNO<sub>3</sub> per 100 ml of sample. For pH determinations at room temperature, unfiltered  
166 samples were collected in 20 ml amber glass air-tight bottles.

167

### 168 **3.2. Analytical techniques**

169

170 Minerals, sediments and hydrothermally altered rocks were dried at low temperature  
171 (40°C) during several days until a constant weight (<1% mass difference) was measured  
172 between two consecutive readings. Then the samples were ground in an agate mortar to  
173 a very fine grain size (approximately No.40 mesh). The powders were analysed by X-ray  
174 diffraction (XRD) at the Department of Inorganic Chemistry and Catalysis (Utrecht  
175 University) with a Bruker® AXS D2 Phaser powder X-ray diffractometer, in Bragg-  
176 Brentano mode, equipped with a LYNXEYE® detector. The radiation used was cobalt  $K_{\alpha 1,2}$   
177  $\lambda = 1.79026 \text{ \AA}$ , operated at 30kV, 10 mA. The diffraction patterns were processed and  
178 interpreted with DIFFRAC.SUITE software. Thin sections of fresh and altered rocks were  
179 investigated under a polarizing optical microscope. Some of the samples were selected for  
180 electron microprobe analysis (EPMA), which was done on carbon coated samples with a  
181 JEOL® 8600 instrument, equipped with an energy-dispersive spectrometer (EDS), at the  
182 Department of Earth Sciences, Utrecht University. Operating conditions were 15 kV  
183 accelerating voltage, 10 nA beam current and 30 s counting time. PROZA software  
184 provided by JEOL® was used for matrix correction.

185

186 Conductivity, pH and redox potential of water samples were determined in the laboratory  
187 at room temperature (19±1°C) using a WTW® 3430 portable multimeter. Calibration of  
188 the pH electrode was performed using pH 1, 4 and 7 buffers. The conductivity and Eh  
189 electrode was calibrated in a 0.01 M KCl standard and a 420 mV buffer solution,  
190 respectively. The concentrations of F<sup>-</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Br<sup>-</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup> in untreated and diluted samples  
191 (25 to 500 times, depending on the calibration curve, with deionised water) were  
192 determined in a Dionex® ICS-3000 ion chromatograph (IC), equipped with a  
193 Dionex® IonPac® AS 19 column at the Department of Earth Sciences of Utrecht University.  
194 A gradient elution of 10 – 50 mM KOH was utilized. Concentrations of total sulphur (S<sub>T</sub>),  
195 Al, B, Ca, Fe, K, Mg, Mn, Na, P, Si, Sr, Ti, V and Zn in diluted samples (10 to 100 times,  
196 depending on the calibration curve, with 2% v/v Suprapur® HNO<sub>3</sub>) were determined  
197 using a Spectro® Ciros® ICP-OES at the Department of Earth Sciences of Utrecht  
198 University.

199

### 200 **3.3. Geochemical modelling**

201  
202 PHREEQC software, version 3.1 (Parkhurst and Appelo, 1999), was used to calculate  
203 aqueous species distributions, mineral saturation states and simulations of reaction path,  
204 heating and evaporation processes. The Lawrence Livermore National Laboratories  
205 thermodynamic database (llnl.dat), expanded with recently available thermodynamic  
206 data on sulphates and halides was used for this purpose. In addition, ion interaction  
207 parameters from Pitzer and Mayorga (1973) were included for many relevant ion pairs.  
208 The pH values of extreme acid fluids (pH<1) were recalculated from charge balance  
209 (adding H<sup>+</sup>) with PHREEQC because of the strongly reduced linearity of the pH vs.  
210 potential (mV) curve of the electrode when pH values are below zero (Nordstrom et al.,  
211 2000). Thermodynamic calculations involving equilibria between fumarolic gases, solids  
212 and liquids were performed using the SOLVGAS and GASWORKS codes of M.H. Reed  
213 (University of Oregon). It must be emphasized that the modelling work presented here  
214 assumes thermodynamic equilibrium and ignores any effects of reaction kinetics. Hence,  
215 it predicts direct precipitation of a mineral from the solution as soon as it becomes  
216 saturated. Obviously, mineral precipitation can be considerably delayed or can  
217 completely fail to appear in natural systems if crystal nucleation or growth are the limiting  
218 processes (Stumm and Morgan, 1996). Furthermore, the thermodynamic models used are  
219 most suitable for closed-system behaviour without mass or energy exchange with the  
220 surroundings, which is a simplification of the crater lake settings studied.

221

### 222 **4. RESULTS**

223

224 For convenience, the results will be grouped in different scenarios, arbitrarily based on  
225 the relative amounts of solid and fluid (water or gas) involved in reactions at each of the  
226 investigated sites within the crater area (Fig. 2): a low rock/water scenario in the crater  
227 lake itself, a medium rock/water scenario represented by hot springs, and a high  
228 rock/water scenario for areas affected by acid rain or acid brine spray from the lake. We  
229 also ranked the active and fossil fumaroles at Poás as a high rock/fluid setting. For each  
230 case, the chemical composition of fluids and associated primary and secondary minerals  
231 will be described. The geochemical models explore the reaction between primary phases  
232 (i.e., rock or mineral) and fluids (liquid or gas), with the secondary phases as a reaction



233 products. Even though most of the fluids observed at Poás are notably acid, neutral-  
234 bicarbonate and neutral sulphate waters with a pH up to 8.0 have been reported by Rowe  
235 et al. (1995). Therefore, the models were extended into alkaline pH ranges. The reason  
236 for this approach is that the modelling should also have a predictive value together with  
237 the descriptive one. Demonstrating that a certain assemblage occurs in alkaline  
238 conditions implies that it is less probably to occur at Poás and, eventually on Mars.

239

240 In order to facilitate the interpretation of XRD results, the secondary minerals were  
241 grouped into 11 categories: 1) kaolinite group, 2) smectite group, 3) zeolites, 4) SiO<sub>2</sub>  
242 polymorphs, 5) oxides (Fe and Ti), 6) elemental sulphur, 7) sulphides, 8) fluorides and  
243 phosphates, 9) chlorides and borates, 10) carbonates and 11) sulphates. In view of their  
244 large diversity and interest for this study, the sulphate minerals were further divided into  
245 9 subcategories: 1) calcium sulphates, 2) aluminium sulphates, 3) alunite group, 4)  
246 jarosite group, 5) halotrichite group, 6) voltaite group, 7) copiapite group, 8) magnesium  
247 sulphates, and 9) iron sulphates.

248

#### 249 **4.1. Scenario 1: Laguna Caliente (low rock/water ratios)**

250

##### 251 *4.1.1. Water chemistry*

252

253 The acid sulphate waters of Laguna Caliente (pH<2) have a SO<sub>4</sub>-Cl composition (Fig. 3).  
254 The high acidity of these waters is mainly caused by HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> and HCl<sub>(aq)</sub>, products of the  
255 input of magma-derived gases HCl and SO<sub>2</sub> (Giggenbach, 1988; 1991; Truesdell 1991;  
256 Giggenbach and Corrales, 1992). The pH is mainly buffered by the HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>/SO<sub>4</sub><sup>-2</sup> pair, and  
257 an acidity increase is to be expected with a temperature decrease because the dissociation  
258 constant of HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup> decreases with temperature (Arnórsson et al., 2007). Other gases such  
259 as HF and HBr are minor contributors to the acidity through their aqueous dissociation.  
260 The chemical composition of Laguna Caliente water is variable and strongly dependent  
261 on the balance between heat and volatile input and dilution with meteoric or  
262 groundwater. The evaporation effect seems to be sometimes more important than the  
263 volatile input in order to explain salinity increases (Rouwet et al., 2016). From the early  
264 1980s till April 2014, average contents of SO<sub>4</sub>, Cl, F were 50000; 21000 and 1800 mg/kg,  
265 respectively (Fig. 3), and those of Al, Fe, Ca and Mg were 1400, 1200, 1000 and 600 mg/kg,

266 respectively. Highest concentrations of all of these elements were recorded during  
267 periods of intense activity, as was the case in Stages III and V (Rowe et al., 1992b; Martínez  
268 et al., 2000; Martínez, 2008; Rouwet et al., 2016). The high percentage of residual acidity  
269 (PRA) of Laguna Caliente waters (Varekamp et al., 2000) makes them capable to dissolve  
270 important amounts of rocks, consequently incorporating high concentrations of rock-  
271 forming elements (Delmelle et al., 2000; Varekamp et al., 2001). The high concentrations  
272 of Al, Fe, Ca and Mg in Laguna Caliente water are mainly derived from the dissolution of  
273 silicate minerals and glass.

274

275 Because direct redox potential measurements of the water of Laguna Caliente are scarce,  
276 the redox state of the system must be estimated for modelling purposes. Since  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_{(\text{g})}$  and  
277  $\text{SO}_{2(\text{g})}$  are the most abundant gaseous S species that enter the aqueous system of Laguna  
278 Caliente, the  $\text{S}^{2-}/\text{S}^{6+}$  couple probably plays an important role in regulating the redox state.  
279 Based on occasional determinations of dissolved  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_{(\text{g})}$  and  $\text{SO}_{2(\text{g})}$  in the lake waters (see  
280 Martínez, 2008), a maximum concentration of 0.2 ppm  $\text{H}_2\text{S}_{(\text{g})}$  was adopted. Speciation  
281 models in PHREEQC that assume a redox potential control by the  $\text{S}^{2-}/\text{S}^{6+}$  couple yielded  
282 results consistent with the field occurrence of secondary minerals, as well as with the fact  
283 that most of the dissolved Fe must be in its  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  form, given the high acidity of the waters.  
284 Similar observations apply to acid mine drainage (AMD) environments (Nordstrom et al.,  
285 2000; Fernández-Remolar et al., 2005; Hubbard et al., 2009).

286

287 Representative samples for each of the activity stages (see section 2) were selected, based  
288 on the completeness of chemical data and the availability of sufficient material for re-  
289 analysis if needed. Two samples representing Stage V, labelled Substage VA and Substage  
290 VB, were included to distinguish between different levels of activity during this interval  
291 (the former less active than the latter). The labels only indicate a difference in chemical  
292 composition (Table 2) and are not intended to introduce new substages in the eruptive  
293 history of Poás.

294

295 For geochemical modelling, two compositions were selected from the complete data set  
296 available of Laguna Caliente. They were labelled LoALW (Low Activity Lake Water),  
297 sampled during Substage IVC (January 31<sup>th</sup>, 2002) and HiALW (High Activity Lake Water),  
298 sampled during Stage VB (May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011). These LoALW and HiALW compositions

299 represent periods of low and high activity in the history of the lake, respectively, and thus  
300 represent compositional extremes.

301

#### 302 *4.1.2. Primary and secondary mineralogy in the field*

303

304 The XRD analysis of lake sediments exposed on southern and eastern sectors of the crater  
305 (sites 4, 10; Figs. 2 and 4; Table 1) and on the western shore of the lake (site 14; Fig. 2;  
306 Table 1) revealed the presence of tridymite, cristobalite, quartz, kaolinite, sauconite,  
307 cowlesite, phillipsite, greigite, woodhouseite and ralstonite. In addition, sulphates are  
308 represented by gypsum, K-alunite, Na-alunite, minamiite, meta-alunogen, halotrichite and  
309 magnesiocopiapite.

310

311 Two rock samples, collected within lake sediments exposed on the eastern shore of  
312 Laguna Caliente (site 10; Figs., 2 and 4; Table 1), were investigated for the effect of  
313 alteration by Laguna Caliente water. These samples correspond to lavas that show a  
314 vesicular texture, with phenocrysts of plagioclase, pyroxenes and opaques. The  
315 plagioclase composition is close to An<sub>58</sub>, whereas pyroxenes consist of two groups: augite  
316  $Wo_{38.8}En_{41.6}Fs_{19.6}$  and enstatite  $Wo_{3.9}En_{62.2}Fs_{33.9}$ , and opaques range between magnetite  
317  $Fe^{2+}Fe^{3+}_2O_4$  and ulvöspinel  $TiFe^{2+}_2O_4$ . In the altered parts of the lavas, both plagioclase  
318 and pyroxene phenocrysts are intensely silicified. Frequently, the entire crystal structure  
319 has been replaced by a SiO<sub>2</sub>-rich phase which corresponds to amorphous silica. In general,  
320 silicification is less pervasive in the pyroxenes than in the plagioclase. Within the lava  
321 vesicles, the most common alteration mineral is an Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SO<sub>3</sub>-rich phase, which  
322 corresponds to alunite with a composition close to the H-alunite end-member (Figs. 5 and  
323 6). There is also an Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub>-rich phase with a composition close to kaolinite. Pyrite and  
324 elemental sulphur globules are present within the vesicles as well. Textures indicate that  
325 pyrite and sulphur formed before H-alunite and kaolinite. Temporal relationships  
326 between amorphous silica and the other alteration minerals are unclear, but silica  
327 probably formed early, considering that it is a residue after the mobile cations (Ca<sup>2+</sup>, Al<sup>3+</sup>,  
328 Fe<sup>2+</sup>, Mg<sup>2+</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup>) are incorporated into solution (Oelkers, 2001).

329

#### 330 *4.1.3. Heating model*

331

332 Heating models (Fig. 7) were ran in PHREEQC to explore changes in the saturation state  
333 of representative minerals when temperature increases from those measured in the lake  
334 (30 and 62°C) up to 300°C. The heating models only consider a temperature increase,  
335 ignore any reaction with surrounding rock, and thus predict changes in the chemical  
336 composition of the lake water solely in response to mineral precipitation or dissolution.  
337 The heating models provide insight into the saturation state of acid brine water at depth,  
338 e.g. in the hydrothermal system below the lake, envisage changes in response to an  
339 increased input of heat due to increased volcanic activity, and simulates chemical effects  
340 on lake water that circulates back into the deeper parts within volcanic edifice (i.e.  
341 Rouwet et al., 2016). Conversely, the runs can also be interpreted in a reverse way as  
342 cooling models for deep hot brine water travelling upward and ultimately feeding the  
343 lake.

344

345 Under surface conditions, Laguna Caliente waters were saturated with elemental sulphur  
346 and pyrite, and close to saturation with amorphous silica, anhydrite and gypsum (Fig. 7).  
347 A temperature rise will increase the solubility of amorphous silica, pyrite and elemental  
348 sulphur, and will decrease the solubility of gypsum, anhydrite, diaspore, kaolinite, K-  
349 alunite, Na-alunite, and  $AlF_3$ . In aqueous systems, the solubility curves of gypsum and  
350 anhydrite intersect at 42°C, with gypsum being the stable phase below and anhydrite the  
351 stable phase above this temperature (Braitsch, 1971).

352

353 The LoALW composition ( $T=28^\circ C$ ) formed pyrite up to 100°C, followed by anhydrite,  
354 diaspore and  $AlF_3$ . While K-alunite was only stable between 100 and 200°C, anhydrite,  
355 diaspore and eventually  $AlF_3$  persisted up to 300°C. The pH increased until K-alunite or  
356 diaspore appeared, remained more or less constant, then decreased and finally increased  
357 at temperatures higher than 250°C. On the other hand, the HiALW composition ( $T=62^\circ C$ )  
358 was already saturated in elemental sulphur at such temperature and this phase dissolved  
359 when the temperature increased.

360

#### 361 *4.1.4. Water-rock reaction model*

362

363 Results of PHREEQC water-rock reaction path models, with the same set of water samples  
364 and a basaltic-andesite analysed by Cigolini et al. (1991) as reactants, are presented in

365 Figure 8. In every run, 1 mole of rock (110 g) was reacted with 1 kg of crater lake water.  
366 The water-rock reaction path can be visualised as a titration model in which the water  
367 sample (acid) is incrementally titrated with small amounts of rock (base). As a rule, the  
368 pH of the system will increase due to H<sup>+</sup> consumption by the rock, and at the same time  
369 cations will be liberated into solution. It must be noted that the crater lake water used in  
370 the interaction models is not a “pristine” liquid end-member, since the samples collected  
371 at the surface represent liquids that had previously reacted with surrounding rocks at  
372 depth before reaching the crater area. Also, as discussed in the previous section, the fluids  
373 that reach Laguna Caliente were probably chemically modified by mineral precipitation  
374 due to cooling and boiling. Nevertheless, due to their extreme acidity, the waters are still  
375 capable of dissolving large amounts of rock. As the reaction progress proceeds, secondary  
376 phases or minerals will be formed and, in some cases, their presence will be transient.  
377 Each model was run at a constant temperature, corresponding to the lake water  
378 temperature when the sample was taken. Minerals allowed to precipitate were selected  
379 according to the assemblages found by XRD and EMP analysis. Finally, for practical  
380 purposes, it is assumed that dissolution of primary phases in the rock occurs congruently.  
381 This implies that the basaltic andesite is considered to behave as a homogenous phase,  
382 similar to a glass, and that all of its components dissolve instantaneously.

383

384 The water-rock reaction path models for the LoALW composition showed amorphous  
385 silica, hematite and anatase at low reaction-progress values (<0.001 mole rock/kg water).  
386 At intermediate values (0.01 – 0.1 mole rock/kg water) K-alunite, Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub>, kaolinite,  
387 pyrite and fluorite appear. Finally, at high values (>0.1 mole rock/kg water), illite is added  
388 to the mineral assemblage. The HiALW composition produced fewer secondary minerals  
389 and probably represents the scenario of the most unreacted system due to the low pH  
390 values reached at the end of the run. This system is characterized by the formation of  
391 anatase and amorphous silica followed by anhydrite and H-jarosite HFe<sub>3</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub>.

392

393 In summary, the water-rock interaction models for Laguna Caliente, representing a low  
394 rock/water system, demonstrate that during low volcanic activity periods, the secondary  
395 mineral assemblage is marked by the presence of amorphous silica, anatase, hematite,  
396 Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub>, K-alunite, kaolinite, pyrite, fluorite, gypsum and illite. In contrast, during

397 periods of high activity, the mineral assemblage will be constituted only by amorphous  
398 silica, anatase, anhydrite and eventually H-jarosite.

399

#### 400 *4.1.5. Evaporation model*

401

402 Water evaporation is a major process in crater lakes (Pasternak and Varekamp, 1997) and  
403 induces changes in the chemical composition of the waters such as increasing  
404 concentrations of dissolved species until saturation is reached and phases precipitate or  
405 evaporate along with the water (Varekamp et al., 2000; Rouwet and Ohba, 2015; de Moor  
406 et al., 2016; Rouwet et al., 2016). The rate of evaporation usually fluctuates as it is a  
407 function of different parameters that vary with time, of which heat input from magma at  
408 depth is an important factor and sealing processes as well. The evaporation process for  
409 Laguna Caliente water was simulated by removing small amounts of H<sub>2</sub>O from a 1 kg of  
410 sample; at a constant temperature corresponding to the one of the lake when the sample  
411 was taken (Fig. 9). The run reached 98% of water loss. Beyond this point there were  
412 convergence problems with PHREEQC due to the high ionic strength of the solutions that,  
413 in the case of the HiALW composition, went up to 37.9 mol/kg H<sub>2</sub>O from a starting value  
414 of 2.39 mol/kg H<sub>2</sub>O. Phases precipitating in the HiALW model are anatase, anhydrite and  
415 elemental sulphur. As a consequence of water removal, pH drops drastically and the  
416 extreme acidity promotes the formation of hydrogen chloride HCl<sub>(g)</sub>. This gas often forms  
417 in Laguna Caliente and as well as in other acidic volcanic lakes (Martínez et al., 2000;  
418 Rouwet and Ohba, 2015; Shinohara et al., 2015; Tamburello et al., 2015; Rouwet et al.,  
419 2016). The saturation indices of amorphous silica, halite, and iron and magnesium  
420 sulphates such as szolmolnokite FeSO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, rozenite FeSO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O, siderotile FeSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O,  
421 melanterite FeSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, kieserite MgSO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, and epsomite MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O steadily  
422 increased until 80% of the water was evaporated and then abruptly decreased. Similar  
423 evaporation runs were performed on the LoALW composition at 30°C in order to explore  
424 possible temperature effects. In this case, gypsum formed instead of anhydrite, and  
425 amorphous silica was present. Anatase was not included in the model since Ti was not  
426 analysed in the LoALW sample. The temperature effect was particularly reflected in the  
427 type of calcium sulphate present (gypsum or anhydrite) and in the saturation of  
428 amorphous silica (Fig. 9).

429 In summary, the results of models for the low rock/water scenario, applied to the Laguna  
430 Caliente waters, demonstrate that the observed secondary mineralogy can be generated  
431 by a combination of the simulated processes. Whereas elemental sulphur and pyrite  
432 formed by cooling; anhydrite, gypsum, diaspore, K-alunite and  $AlF_3$  became saturated by  
433 heating of brine water at depth, without any concomitant rock interaction. On the other  
434 hand, the formation of H-jarosite, hematite,  $Al(OH)SO_4$ , kaolinite, illite and fluorite  
435 required rock dissolution.

436

## 437 **4.2. Scenario 2: hot springs (medium rock/water ratios).**

438

### 439 *4.2.1. Water chemistry*

440

441 Hot springs issuing acidic waters existed at various locations on the eastern terrace of  
442 Laguna Caliente from March 1999 till January 2007. Samples from the years 2000, 2001,  
443 2003 and 2006, documented by Martínez (2008) and Vaselli et al. (2003) were included  
444 in this study. The hot spring waters were dominantly  $SO_4$ -rich steam heated waters with  
445 temperatures between 42 and 92°C and pH values between 0.99 and 2.47 (at 20-24°C)  
446 (Fig. 3; Table 3). Presumably, hot vapours coming from degassing magma interacted with  
447 meteoric waters that may have been derived through subsurface flow from Botos Lake,  
448 since it is located topographically higher than the active crater (Sanford et al., 1995). No  
449 samples of alteration minerals were collected from sites where the hot springs existed  
450 since most were covered by landslide deposits produced by an earthquake on January 8<sup>th</sup>,  
451 2009 (Alvarado, 2010).

452

### 453 *4.2.2. Water-rock reaction model*

454

455 Water-rock reaction models follow the same approach as the ones described in section  
456 4.1.4, including use of the basaltic andesite described by Cigolini et al. (1991). Each run  
457 was carried out at the temperature of the spring (Fig. 10). Two spring samples were  
458 selected as end-member examples in terms of initial temperature and pH: White Algae  
459 (August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2000; T=42°C) and Norte-Este (February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003; T=87°C). At low  
460 reaction progress values (<0.001 mole rock/kg water), the modelled secondary mineral  
461 association for the White Algae composition is represented by anatase, amorphous silica,

462 hematite, K-alunite and kaolinite. At intermediate reaction progress (0.01 – 0.1 mole  
463 rock/kg water), pyrite and illite appear. Diaspore formed at high reaction progress (>0.1  
464 mole rock/kg water). The runs with the Norte-Este spring composition show a dominance  
465 of amorphous silica, anatase and hematite at low reaction progress (<0.001 mole rock/kg  
466 water), followed by K-alunite, kaolinite, anhydrite, pyrite and illite. Diaspore and  
467 magnetite become stable at high reaction progress values (>0.1 mole rock/kg water).

468

### 469 **4.3. Scenario 3: fumaroles (high rock/fluid ratios).**

470

471 This scenario is represented by the active fumarole field on the northern flank of the CPC  
472 (site 8; Fig. 2) and fossil fumarole fields on the south-western (sites 1, 3; Figs. 2 and 11),  
473 eastern and north-eastern walls of the crater. The fumaroles of the last two groups were  
474 particularly active from mid-1999 till 2007 (Martínez, 2008; Vaselli et al., 2003; Fischer  
475 et al., 2015). Variable rock/water/gas proportions mark the interactions within fumarole  
476 conduits and vents, whereby the liquid water phase corresponds to the gas condensate.  
477 Following the description of the alteration mineralogy, modelling results for rock-gas and  
478 rock-gas condensate interaction will be treated. For this study, only samples from the CPC  
479 were taken into account.

480

#### 481 *4.3.1. Gas and gas condensate chemistry*

482

483 The gases of the CPC fumaroles consist mainly of H<sub>2</sub>O (up to 95 mol %), followed by CO<sub>2</sub>,  
484 SO<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>, HCl, HF and H<sub>2</sub>S (Vaselli et al., 2003; OVSICORI, 2012, unpublished data; F. Tassi,  
485 pers. comm., 2012; Fischer et al., 2015). Since the aqueous solubilities of these gas  
486 components are very different, the fumarole composition is extremely variable and  
487 dependent on the degree of interaction of deeply derived gas with shallow aquifers. This  
488 interaction has been referred to as “scrubbing” by Symonds et al. (2001). These authors  
489 demonstrated that low-temperature (<250°C) gas is likely to have experienced  
490 “scrubbing” by aquifers in which a considerable amount of the components dissolved in  
491 the water (especially HCl, HF and, to a minor extent, SO<sub>2</sub>) leaving the gas relatively  
492 enriched in the less soluble gaseous components. In any case, magma gases commonly  
493 experience processes such as cooling, oxidation and condensation before reaching the  
494 atmosphere (Africano and Bernard, 2000).



495

496 In order to assess changes in the chemical composition of the Poás fumarolic gases due to  
497 cooling, SOLVGAS (Symonds and Reed, 1993) was used. This software is well suited for  
498 restoring volcanic gas compositions, modelling the speciation of gas mixtures and  
499 computing the saturation indices of potential sublimates. For this modelling, gas samples  
500 taken by OVSICORI on June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=763°C), August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=650°C) and March  
501 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (T=250°C) were used (Fig. 3; Table 4). Gas cooling models ran in SOLVGAS from  
502 the sampling temperature down to 25°C demonstrated that, at T≤100°C, these gases  
503 experience an important total sulphur loss in form of (1) droplets of the following  
504 sulphuric acid hydrates: H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·3H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O, and (2)  
505 elemental sulphur. Between 100 and 25°C liquid H<sub>2</sub>O and H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O form.

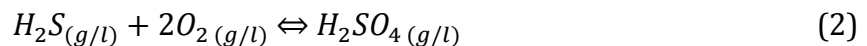
506

507 When high-temperature gases cool down during their rise through the fumarole conduit,  
508 atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> ultimately enters the system at very shallow levels, leading to oxidation  
509 of the gas phase. At low temperatures (<350°C), elemental sulphur can be produced by  
510 the reaction (Mizutani and Sugiura, 1996):

511

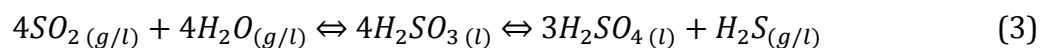


512 Below 330°C (H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> boiling temperature), acidic droplets can form by H<sub>2</sub>S oxidation upon  
513 increasing  $f_{O_2}$  (Symonds, 1990):



514 In addition, sulphuric acid can also form by SO<sub>2</sub> disproportionation (Kusakabe et al.,  
515 2000; Africano and Bernard, 2000):

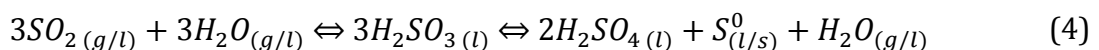
516



517

518 The stability of H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> together with its hydrated forms mentioned above also depends on  
519 the total amount of S in the gases and increases with decreasing temperature. At low  
520 temperatures (<200°C) elemental sulphur can be produced as follows (Kusakabe and  
521 Komoda, 1992):

522



523

524 Reactions 2-4 can explain the low pH of volcanic condensates.

525

#### 526 *4.3.2. Secondary mineralogy in the field*

527

528 Minerals detected by XRD include SiO<sub>2</sub> polymorphs (cristoballite, quartz and trydimite),  
529 anatase, elemental sulphur, calcium sulphates (anhydrite and gypsum) and sulphates of  
530 the alunite group, represented by K-alunite, Na-alunite and minamiite (Fig. 2; Table 1).  
531 Pervasive alteration observed at sites 1, 3 and 8 (Figs. 2 and 11) completely erased  
532 primary minerals and textures, leaving a silicified rock residue of the attack by acid fluids.  
533 Hence, these sites present good examples of extreme acid alteration.

534

#### 535 *4.3.3. Gas-rock reaction model*

536

537 The reaction between the CPC gases and surrounding rocks was modelled using  
538 GASWORKS (Reed, 1982), which is a complementary program to SOLVGAS and computes  
539 both gas-solid-liquid equilibria and reaction progress. For the simulations, the gas  
540 samples (Table 4) of June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=763°C), August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=650°C) and March  
541 18<sup>th</sup>, 2011 (T=250°C) were reacted with a basaltic andesite (Cigolini et al., 1991). In each  
542 model, one mole of gas sample (~26 g) was cooled and reacted with one mole of basaltic  
543 andesite (~110 g) from the corresponding sampling temperature down to 114°C. Below  
544 this temperature convergence problems occurred. Nevertheless, it is well representative  
545 for the lowest temperatures recorded for the CPC fumaroles. The modelling results in  
546 terms of saturation indices and amounts of secondary minerals formed are shown in  
547 Figure 12. The predicted secondary mineral assemblages for the samples of June 25<sup>th</sup>,  
548 2010 (T=763°C) and August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=650°C) are the same and consist of liquid  
549 sulphur as the most abundant phase, followed by MnSO<sub>4</sub>·H<sub>2</sub>O, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, K<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and  
550 finally MgF<sub>2</sub> and anhydrite. Magnesium fluoride was the only phase formed in the model  
551 with the sample of March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 (T=250°C). According to the cooling models  
552 explained above, the total sulphur content of this sample was probably already  
553 considerably depleted. Therefore, sulphur availability for the formation of sulphates or  
554 elemental sulphur was limited.

555

556 *4.3.4. Gas condensate-rock reaction model*

557

558 The reaction between gas condensates of the CPC fumaroles collected on September 8<sup>th</sup>,  
559 2010 (T=760°C) and February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (T=107°C) (Fig. 3; Table 5) and a basaltic-  
560 andesite (Cigolini et al., 1991) were simulated in PHREEQC. In all runs, 1 kg of the gas  
561 condensate was titrated with 1 mole of the basaltic-andesite (~110 g) at 95°C (Fig. 13).  
562 The high temperature sample (T=760°C) only produced amorphous silica and anatase  
563 during low (<0.01 mole rock/kg water) and medium (0.01-0.1 mole rock/kg water)  
564 reaction progress values. Hematite, kaolinite and K-alunite, followed by pyrite, illite,  
565 fluorite and magnetite became stable at high reaction progress (>0.1 mole rock/kg water).  
566 The low temperature composition (T=107°C) resulted in a more complex secondary  
567 mineralogy along the reaction path. Amorphous silica, anatase and hematite formed  
568 during low reaction progress (<0.01 mole rock/kg water), then K- and Na-alunite,  
569 anhydrite and kaolinite at medium reaction progress (0.01-0.1 mole rock/kg water), and  
570 finally pyrite, illite, magnetite and diaspore appeared at high reaction progress (>0.1  
571 rock/kg water).

572

573 **4.4. Scenario 4: acid rain / acid brine spray (high rock/water ratios).**

574

575 This scenario supposes high rock/water ratios similar to the gas condensate – rock  
576 interaction case, but is treated separately because of the spatial extension of the impact  
577 of airborne acid deposition and the specific secondary mineralogy produced. Areas  
578 around Laguna Caliente receive input from acid rain and brine spray, either continuously  
579 or during phreatic eruptions. Due to the prevailing, north-easterly wind direction at the  
580 summit of Poás volcano, the impact of acid fluids transported as aerosols particularly  
581 affect an area SW of Laguna Caliente, known as the “dead zone”, which is approximately 2  
582 km<sup>2</sup> large and is characterized by intense rock alteration and absence of vegetation (Figs.  
583 2, 3 and 14).

584

585 *4.4.1. Secondary mineralogy in the field*

586

587 XRD analysis of deposits from the 1910 eruption, SW of Laguna Caliente (site 2; Fig. 2;  
588 Table 1), revealed the presence of tridymite, cristobalite, quartz and K-alunite. Gypsum

589 and anhydrite were found on the ceiling of a cave at site 6 (Figs. 2, 14; Table 1), and  
590 probably formed from infiltrated acid brine from Laguna Caliente that was expelled  
591 during a phreatic eruption. Material collected from the NE rim of the main crater (sites  
592 28, 31, 32; Fig. 2; Table 1) contained cristobalite, goethite, hematite, magnetite, tennantite,  
593 ralstonite, potassium halite, tychite, ankerite, H-jarosite and polyhalite. Lake sediments  
594 ejected by a phreatic eruption on April 13<sup>th</sup> (2012) and collected on the southern plain of  
595 the main crater (site 33; Fig. 2; Table 1) contained polyhalite and meta-alunogen. Basaltic-  
596 andesitic lava blocks in the “dead zone” close to Cerro Pelón (sites 18, 20, 21; Figs. 2, 15;  
597 Table 1), which contain clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene and olivine (up to 5%) as  
598 phenocrysts, exhibit a complex secondary mineralogy consisting of halloysite, nontronite,  
599 sauconite, montmorillonite, mordenite, phillipsite, chabazite, goethite, hematite,  
600 magnetite, carobbiite, kogarkoite, ralstonite, alunogen, meta-alunogen, rostitite, K-jarosite,  
601 copiapite, magnesiocopiapite, epsomite, tamarugite and sodium alum. A close observation  
602 of the alteration pattern of the blocks revealed that their crusts are primarily composed  
603 of massive amorphous silica and jarosite void fillings (Figs. 15a and 15b). Smectites and  
604 kaolinite were identified in the inner parts of the blocks (Fig. 15c). The most altered  
605 primary mineral is olivine, which commonly appears as “ghosts” (Figs. 15c and 15d),  
606 whereas fresh olivine is rare (Fig. 15e). Amorphous silica has replaced various primary  
607 minerals (Fig. 15f). A lava flow near the east shore of Laguna Caliente with the same  
608 composition of these lava blocks shows a similar alteration pattern. Most of the  
609 clinopyroxene, orthopyroxene and plagioclase phenocrysts are relatively fresh (Fig. 16a)  
610 but olivine is considerably altered or shows a “ghost” texture (Figs. 16b and 16c). Jarosite  
611 precipitated in veins that dissected the matrix and some phenocrysts (Figs. 16d to 16e,  
612 and 17a to 17f). EMP analysis revealed a K-jarosite composition  
613  $(K_{0.68}Na_{0.12}H_{0.21})(Fe_{2.98}Al_{0.13})(SO_4)_{2.10}(OH)_6$ , with H<sup>+</sup> and Na<sup>+</sup> substitution up to 50% and  
614 25%, respectively (Fig. 18).

615

616 In summary, the alteration mineralogy in samples representing this scenario shows the  
617 following systematics: (1) Silica polymorphs and tennantite probably formed at relatively  
618 high temperatures. (2) This probably also applies to the fluorides, since modelling showed  
619 that MgF<sub>2</sub> is stable in the CPC fumaroles; moreover, ralstonite is a common alteration  
620 product of cryolite (AlF<sub>3</sub>), which is often found in fumarolic vents, as is carobbiite. (3)  
621 Zeolites could be alteration products formed at higher temperatures as it is common in

622 many hydrothermal systems (Reyes, 1998). (4) Carbonates are probably products of  
623 interaction with meteoric water at ambient temperature and near neutral pH conditions;  
624 (5) Sulphates such as alunogen, meta-alunogen, rostitite and especially copiapite,  
625 magnesiocopiapite, jarosite and epsomite reveal water-poor conditions, given the large  
626 solubility of these salts; (6) Samples from lava blocks in the “dead zone” and from a lava  
627 flow near Laguna Caliente exhibit an alteration mineralogy dominated by amorphous  
628 silica, jarosite, kaolinite and smectite; (7) The intense alteration of olivine and its  
629 association with jarosite and epsomite, suggest that Fe- and Mg-rich fluids capable of  
630 forming Fe- and Mg-sulphates are mainly derived from olivine. In the following section,  
631 this evidence will be used in the modelling strategy.

632

#### 633 *4.4.2. Water-rock reaction model*

634

635 A sample from Laguna Caliente collected on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 1994 (Stage III) (Martínez et al.,  
636 2000) was titrated by the addition of small amounts of olivine in PHREEQC. A composition  
637 of Fo<sub>75</sub> was adopted, based on an average of EPM analyses of olivine in the basaltic-  
638 andesitic blocks of Cerro Pelón (dead zone). Up to 1 mole of this olivine (156.01 g) was  
639 reacted in 1000 steps with 1 kg of Laguna Caliente sample at T=24°C. At low reaction  
640 progress (<0.01 mole rock/kg water) only amorphous silica formed, which was followed  
641 by K-jarosite, goethite and jurbanite Al(SO<sub>4</sub>)(OH)·5H<sub>2</sub>O at medium reaction progress  
642 (0.01-0.1 mole rock/kg water), and finally by K-alunite, kaolinite Mg-montmorillonite  
643 and laumontite at high reaction progress (>0.1 mole rock/kg water) (Fig. 19a). From this  
644 run, an aliquot of the solution obtained during step 40, before the formation of K-jarosite,  
645 was evaporated in 1000 steps at T=24°C until 97.6% of the initial water was removed.  
646 Beyond this point, the run did not converge, mainly due to the high ionic strength of the  
647 solution (22.4 mol/kg H<sub>2</sub>O). The secondary phases formed where only amorphous silica  
648 and gypsum (Fig. 19b). The solution from the last step of the evaporation run was reacted  
649 again with 1 mole of Cerro Pelón olivine in 1000 steps. However, the run did not go further  
650 than step 320, after 0.320 moles or 49.9 grams of the olivine had reacted with the solution.  
651 The secondary phases formed were gypsum and amorphous silica (<0.01 mole rock/kg  
652 water), followed by anhydrite, goethite and K-montmorillonite (0.01-0.1 mole rock/kg  
653 water), and ultimately elemental sulphur and magnetite (>0.1 mole rock/kg water) (Fig.  
654 19c). Since the concentrations of Fe<sup>2+</sup> and Mg<sup>2+</sup> remained high, another evaporation

655 model was run in which a solution from step 56 of the previous model (after the reaction  
656 of 0.052 moles or 8.74 g of olivine) was evaporated at  $T=24^{\circ}\text{C}$ . In this second evaporation  
657 step, the run did not converge after removal of 41.7% of the initial 24.34 g of water,  
658 because of the extremely high ionic strength (43.91 mol/kg  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ). Nevertheless,  
659 amorphous silica and gypsum were present (Fig. 19d). In order to add more  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$   
660 to the system, a final reaction run was performed in which the solution from step 327 of  
661 the previous evaporation run was reacted again with 1 mol of olivine at  $T=24^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This time  
662 the run was subdivided into 10000 steps in order to track small changes in mineral  
663 saturation states. The secondary minerals formed were amorphous silica, gypsum and  
664 elemental sulphur ( $<0.001$  mole rock/kg water), and epsomite and ferroxahydrate  
665 ( $0.001$ - $0.001$  mole rock/kg water) (Fig. 19e). This combined sequence of previous runs  
666 modelled a hyperacid water-olivine reaction scenario for an open system, in which  
667 subsequent cycles of reaction and evaporation were envisaged.

668

#### 669 **4.5. Summary of geochemical models**

670

671 The geochemical modelling results presented above are a representative selection of  
672 water-rock reaction path and heating models from a more comprehensive set of runs that  
673 were performed for each setting. Here, the stability of secondary minerals as a function of  
674 pH or temperature is summarized taking all the results into account. As will be discussed  
675 below, the initial pH of water is an important variable, even more than temperature, which  
676 signals the degree of previous water-rock interaction in the system, excluding the dilution  
677 with near-neutral meteoric water. Low-pH compositions can be regarded as a low-reacted  
678 system since more rock needs to react with these fluids in order to increase the pH and/or  
679 deliver more cations into solution and consequently form secondary minerals. In contrast,  
680 high-reacted systems, represented by high-pH samples, may reflect a considerable degree  
681 of neutralization due to rock interaction.

682

683 A compilation of six heating models for Laguna Caliente water is presented in Figure 20.  
684 As explained in section 4.1.3., the heating models simulate a scenario of a fluid circulating  
685 in the deeper parts of the hydrothermal system of Poás volcano. Up to  $98^{\circ}\text{C}$ , the only  
686 minerals predicted to precipitate from the solutions are elemental sulphur and pyrite.  
687 Anhydrite appears at  $98^{\circ}\text{C}$ , followed by diaspore ( $136^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) and  $\text{AlF}_3$  ( $173^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), and these

688 phases continue to be stable until 300°C, which was the end-temperature in the models.  
689 Potassium alunite only forms between 95° and 164°C.

690

691 Water-rock models of Laguna Caliente, as described in 4.1.4., are summarized in Figure  
692 21. Nine runs cover different stages and substages of activity of the lake. Anatase and  
693 amorphous silica are the most persistent minerals, present from pH -0.4. In addition,  
694 anhydrite (pH ≥ -0.3), hematite (pH ≥ 1.1) and gypsum (pH ≥ 1.3) are also stable over a  
695 large range. Hydronium jarosite (pH 1.1 to 1.2) and potassium jarosite (pH 1.2 to 1.3) are  
696 present in a narrow pH interval under acidic conditions at the beginning of the water-rock  
697 reaction path models, followed by K-alunite (pH 1.7 to 3.8), Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> (pH 1.7 to 3.7) and  
698 Na-alunite (pH 2.6 to 3.0). Finally, at pH >2 the mineral assemblage consists of kaolinite,  
699 fluorite, pyrite and illite.

700

701 Figure 22 presents a compilation of seven water-rock interaction models for the hot  
702 spring compositions (section 4.2.2.), similar to the complete versions shown in Figure 10.  
703 These waters have considerable higher pH values than the lake water, suggesting that  
704 they may have interacted more extensively with rocks. Also, the HCl<sub>(aq)</sub> contribution to  
705 acidity is much less important. In the water-rock interaction models the hot spring waters  
706 are always saturated in anatase (pH ≥ 0.7), amorphous silica (pH ≥ 0.7), hematite (pH ≥  
707 0.9) and anhydrite (pH ≥ 1.2). Hydronium jarosite (pH 0.8 to 0.9) followed by K-alunite  
708 (pH 1.6 to 3.6), Na-Alunite (pH 1.9 to 2.7) and Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> (pH 2.3 to 2.9) are only stable  
709 where low pH conditions still prevail. Kaolinite also appears early, but continues to be  
710 saturated over an extended pH range (≥ 2.1). Pyrite and fluorite start to form at higher pH  
711 values (≥ 4.1). The most advanced stages of rock interaction (pH ≥ 5) are characterized by  
712 the presence of illite, magnetite and finally diaspore.

713

714 The gas condensate-rock reaction models for the CPC fumaroles, described in section  
715 4.4.3.4., are summarized in Figure 23. Anatase (pH ≥ 1.3), amorphous silica (pH ≥ 1.3),  
716 anhydrite (pH ≥ 2.0) and kaolinite (pH ≥ 2.1) are stable throughout the runs. Only at low  
717 pH, elemental sulphur (pH 1.3 to 2.3), K-alunite (pH 1.9 to 3.2) and Na-alunite (pH 2.1 to  
718 2.3) are part of the mineral assemblage. Pyrite also forms under acid conditions (pH 1.3)  
719 but continues to be stable until pH 7.3. Fluorite (pH ≥ 4.1) and hematite (pH ≥ 4.4)  
720 precipitate at higher pH conditions, followed by illite and brucite (pH ≥ 5.3).

721

## 722 5. DISCUSSION

723

### 724 5.1. Field observation vs. geochemical modelling

725

726 In general, there is a good agreement between the secondary minerals predicted in the  
727 models and the ones observed in the field. Differences can be attributed to incomplete  
728 sampling, analytical issues, assumptions and limitations in modelling as a consequence of  
729 the often extreme acidity and salinity of the fluids, and missing phases in the  
730 thermodynamic database. Analytical restrictions include the sensitivity of powder XRD  
731 analysis, which will usually not detect crystalline phases with a concentration less than 5  
732 volume % (Poppe et al., 2002), and grain sizes that are too small for microprobe analysis  
733 or phases that are not stable under the electron beam.

734

735 Modelling results suffer from the limitation that the thermodynamic database (llnl.dat)  
736 used in PHREEQC only includes pure end-members for solid solutions. Similar to what  
737 analysed alunites and jarosites of Poás show, many other sulphates form solid solutions.  
738 For example, the halotrichite group consists of monoclinic hydrated sulphates with the  
739 general formula  $XY_2(SO_4)_4 \cdot 22H_2O$ , where  $X$  is a divalent ( $Co^{2+}$ ,  $Fe^{2+}$ ,  $Mg^{2+}$ ,  $Mn^{2+}$ ,  $Ni^{2+}$ ,  $Zn^{2+}$ )  
740 cation and  $Y$  a trivalent ( $Al^{3+}$ ,  $Cr^{3+}$ ,  $Fe^{3+}$ ) cation. Complete solid solutions between the end-  
741 members are expected to exist (Ballirano, 2006). Another example is magnesiocopiapite  
742  $MgFe^{3+}_4(SO_4)_6(OH)_2 \cdot 20H_2O$  of the copiapite group with general formula  
743  $A^{2+}R^{3+}_4(SO_4)_6(OH)_2 \cdot 20H_2O$ , where  $R$  is dominated by  $Fe^{3+}$  in all members, which shows a  
744 complete substitution by divalent ( $Mg^{2+}$ ,  $Fe^{2+}$ ) and trivalent ( $Fe^{3+}$ ,  $Al^{3+}$ ) cations on the  $A$ -  
745 site (Bayliss and Atencio, 1985; Robinson, 1999).

746

747 Silica polymorphs (tridymite, cristobalite and quartz), detected by XRD, may have formed  
748 at temperatures higher than those considered in the water-rock interaction models  
749 ( $T \leq 300^\circ C$ ). The only stable  $SiO_2$ -phase at the lake-water temperatures ( $T \leq 70^\circ C$ ) is  
750 amorphous silica. The llnl database used in PHREEQC only includes the zeolites phillipsite  
751 and mordenite. In models reacting the LoALW sample with the basaltic andesite reported  
752 by Cigolini et al. (1991) at  $30^\circ C$ , mordenite appears at  $pH \geq 4.11$ . By the other hand, the  
753 same model at  $300^\circ C$  indicates the presence of phillipsite at  $pH \geq 1.65$ . Consequently, it is



754 probable that phillipsite was formed at deeper levels within the volcanic system. Since  
755 zeolites are not very common on Poás surface environments, they were not routinely  
756 included in the models. Zinc and phosphorous were not analysed in the lake waters, which  
757 explains why neither sauconite nor woodhouseite appeared as secondary phases in the  
758 models. Absence of greigite ( $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{S}_4$ ) in the models despite its inclusion in the  
759 thermodynamic database (llnl.dat), is possibly attributable to an inadequate estimation  
760 of the redox state. Hence, the  $\text{S}^{2-}/\text{S}^{6+}$  and  $\text{Fe}^{2+}/\text{Fe}^{3+}$  ratios in Laguna Caliente waters must  
761 be better constrained since the models assume that all  $\text{S}^{2-}$  is consumed by  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  to form  
762  $\text{FeS}_2$  and there should probably be more  $\text{Fe}^{3+}$  in the system to produce greigite.

763

764 Other minerals such as ralstonite, H-alunite, minamiite, meta-alunogen, halotrichite and  
765 magnesiocopiapite that were detected in the field did not appear in the models since they  
766 are not included in the database. According to the speciation results, Al tends to form  
767 complexes with F such as  $\text{AlF}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{AlF}_2^+$  and  $\text{AlF}_3^0$ , increasing the Al solubility in Laguna  
768 Caliente waters and eventually promoting the formation of solid  $\text{AlF}_3$ . Moreover,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  has  
769 also a strong affinity to  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  and forms complexes such as  $\text{AlSO}_4^+$  and  $\text{Al}(\text{SO}_4)_2^-$  that  
770 eventually lead to the formation of aluminium-hydroxysulphate minerals. For instance,  
771 alunogen  $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 17\text{H}_2\text{O}$  is the most stable aluminium sulphate under extremely low pH  
772 conditions ( $<0$ ) and probably only forms by efflorescence in capillary films (Nordstrom,  
773 1982). Subsequent dehydration of alunogen can yield meta-alunogen (Zhou and Wang,  
774 2013). Both meta-alunogen and alunogen have been also reported at Te Kopia geothermal  
775 field (Taupo volcanic zone, New Zealand) where they are confined to sheltered and humid  
776 microenvironments associated with warm ( $T=25\text{-}50^\circ\text{C}$ ) and acid ( $\text{pH}=2.5\text{-}3.0$ ) ponds  
777 (Martin et al., 1999). Previous XRD analyses of sediments collected from the lake bottom  
778 on September 14<sup>th</sup> (2011) identified rhomboclase  $\text{HFe}^{3+}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$  and bilinite  
779  $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2(\text{SO}_4)_4 \cdot 22\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (Rodríguez and van Bergen, 2015). Their origin is unclear. Both  
780 bilinite and rhomboclase have been described in acid mine drainage systems related to  
781 oxidized sulphide deposits (Jambor et al., 2000; Hammarstrom et al., 2005). Nordstrom  
782 and Alpers (1999) described the formation of rhomboclase stalagmites at Iron Mountain  
783 in association with extremely acid water ( $\text{pH} = -3.6$ ). The origin of meta-alunogen,  
784 halotrichite and magnesiocopiapite is possibly related to their occurrence in lake  
785 sediments, ejected during phreatic eruptions that subsequently dried and were protected  
786 from rain.

787 While all the fluid-rock models in this study included chemical compositions of fluids that  
788 are far from being pristine and, rather represent fluids that have previously reacted with  
789 the surrounding rocks; this is not the case for the rocks, since the models include a fresh  
790 rock as starting material. This might be far from reality considering that around Laguna  
791 Caliente most rocks are intensively altered. Therefore, in order to investigate the effect  
792 of using an altered rock as starting material in the secondary mineralogy produced,  
793 models were run with an altered andesite and its fresh counterpart from Kawah Ijen (van  
794 Hinsberg et al., 2010b). These include water-rock reaction path models using Laguna  
795 Caliente waters, hot spring waters, fumarole condensates and gas-rock reaction path  
796 models with gases from the CPC fumaroles. Only the ones including Laguna Caliente  
797 waters are shown here (Figure 24), since these are probably the most representative from  
798 Poás. The results indicate that the same secondary minerals appear in the models  
799 involving both fresh and altered andesites. The main difference is that in the altered  
800 andesite models, the secondary minerals form at latter reaction progress stages  
801 compared to the fresh andesite. In other words, more altered rock needs to react with the  
802 fluids in order to produce the same secondary mineralogy compared to the fresh rock  
803 scenario. This probably explains the lack of secondary minerals observed in the field  
804 compared to the predicted in the models. Nevertheless, the models using fresh rock offer  
805 a good approximation of the processes occurring at Poás volcano.

806

## 807 **5.2. Buffers and chemical changes as a product of water-rock interaction in the** 808 **waters of Poás volcano**

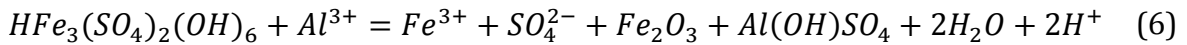
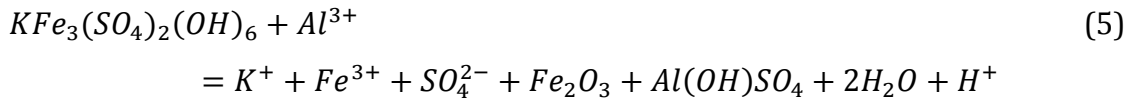
809

810 Water-rock interaction promotes neutralization in acid  $\text{SO}_4\text{-Cl}$  waters and causes  
811 liberation of cations from solid rocks and minerals. Following the principle of electric  
812 charge balance, any lack of cations in acid waters is thought to be compensated by  $\text{H}^+$ .  
813 Varekamp et al. (2000) defined the “degree of neutralization” (DON) as an indication of  
814 the amount of acid consumption through rock dissolution, estimated by the residual acidity  
815 (%). If the effects from dilution with near-neutral meteoric waters can be ignored, a  
816 system could be dominated by rock dissolution (low residual acidity) or magmatic  
817 volatiles (high residual acidity). In such cases, pH would be a good indicator of how  
818 evolved a fluid is by reaction with surrounding rocks. From the water-rock reaction  
819 models it can be inferred that, of all the secondary phases, jarosites, followed by alunites

820 are typically indicative for low pH conditions that are mostly associated with intermediate  
 821 reaction progress values (<0.1 mole/kg water). Nevertheless, if the initial pH is extremely  
 822 low (e.g., pH~0), both jarosites and alunites remain stable until high reaction progress  
 823 values (>0.1 mole rock/kg water) are reached. The obvious reason is that aqueous  
 824 systems with higher H<sup>+</sup> concentration need more rock to become neutralized. Hence, a  
 825 meaningful comparison between modelling results for different compositions concerning  
 826 the stability of secondary mineral should be based on pH rather than reaction progress.  
 827 According to Marini et al. (2003), several buffers operate in acidic volcanic waters at  
 828 different pH intervals (pH 0.5-1.5 and pH 3.5-5). The pH curves in the water-rock models  
 829 of Laguna Caliente, hot springs and fumarole condensates suggest the following buffers:

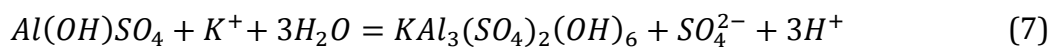
830

831 The first operates at pH -0.8 to 2.0 and is controlled by the HCl/Cl<sup>-</sup> and/or the HSO<sub>4</sub><sup>-</sup>/SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>  
 832 couple. The second buffer (pH 1.5) is not always active and involves either K-jarosite or  
 833 H-jarosite consumption to produce Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> and hematite:



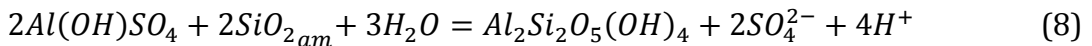
834

835 The third buffer is transient, occurs at pH values slightly lower than 3, and is controlled  
 836 by Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> and K-alunite:



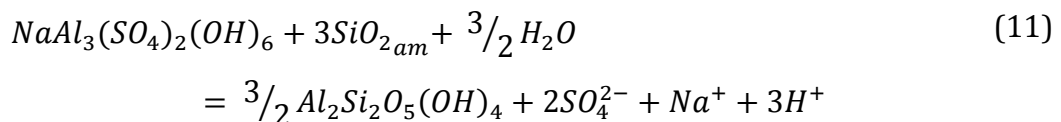
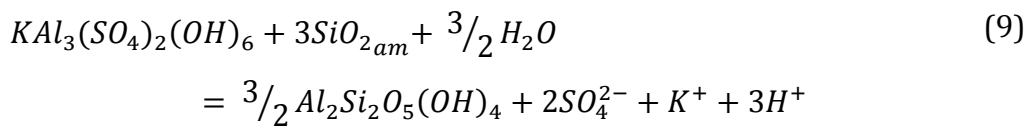
837

838 A fourth and more stable buffer (pH 2.5 to 3.5) involves Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> and kaolinite:

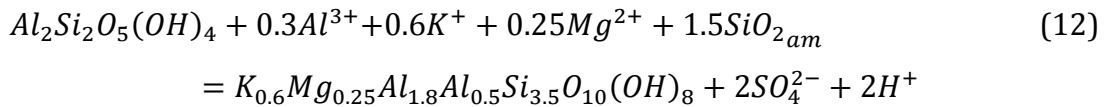


839

840 If Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> is absent as secondary phase, particularly in the hot springs and fumaroles  
 841 condensates, K-alunite or Na-alunite can also buffer the solutions:

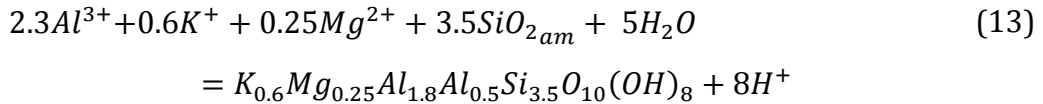


842 Finally, a fifth buffer (pH 9.8 to 10.3) is controlled by illite formation:

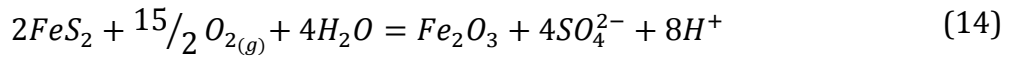


843 However, since kaolinite is still being formed rather than consumed at these high pH  
844 values, the following reaction is probably more important:

845



846 In the CPC gas condensates, pyrite oxidation brings extra acidity in the solution, preventing  
847 a rapid pH increase as a result of rock dissolution; this is reflected by a flattening of the  
848 curve around pH 7:



849 The role of CO<sub>2</sub> as buffer in the aqueous systems in the summit area of Poás volcano is  
850 insignificant. Even though CO<sub>2</sub> is the second most abundant gas after H<sub>2</sub>O in the CPC  
851 fumaroles (Table 4), its contribution to acidity when fumarole gas interact with water is  
852 minimal, due to its presence as CO<sub>2(g)</sub> and eventually also in the undissociated H<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3(aq)</sub>  
853 form. Moreover, with exception of tychite and ankerite at Site 28 (Fig. 2, Table 1),  
854 carbonates are absent in the crater area, indicating that CO<sub>2</sub> is unimportant in the  
855 formation of secondary minerals.

856

857 In summary, the mineral alteration assemblages in Laguna Caliente, hot springs and CPC  
858 fumaroles predicted by the water-rock interaction models is characterized by the stability  
859 of H- and K-jarosite under highly acidic conditions (pH 0.7 to 1.3) conditions, followed by  
860 K-Na-alunite, Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> and elemental sulphur (pH 1.3 to 3.8). Secondary phases  
861 associated with relatively high pH conditions (≥5.0) include illite, brucite, magnetite and  
862 diaspore. The acid conditions required for the formation of aluminium and iron sulphates  
863 are associated with poorly reacted systems. In these cases, fluids interacted with much  
864 less rock than in neutral or high-pH aqueous systems, where phyllosilicates, iron and  
865 aluminium oxides usually prevail.

866

### 867 **5.3. Presence of Fe-, Mg- and Al-sulphates and formation conditions**

868

869 Evidence from the geochemical models indicates that the presence of jarosite is transient  
870 and requires extremely low pH conditions. Nevertheless, the mineral was not found in  
871 samples of the Laguna Caliente sediments. The only locations XRD and EPM analysis  
872 confirmed the occurrence of jarosites are: (1) a lava flow on the eastern margin of Laguna  
873 Caliente (site 35; Figs. 2, 16 o 18; Table 1), and (2) the “dead zone” (sites 21, 28; Figs. 2  
874 and 15; Table 1). Previously, jarosite together with alunite were also identified by powder  
875 XRD in the hot springs that were active from March 1999 to January 2007 (Martínez,  
876 2008). It is conceivable that some of the hematite occurrences in the field indicate the  
877 former presence of jarosite, since olivine dissolution experiments with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> solutions  
878 suggest that H- and Na-jarosites can be precursors of hematite (King et al., 2011). Iron  
879 sulphates, together with minerals from the copiapite, voltaite and halotrichite groups  
880 were also identified in the Río Agrio hot spring (site 34, Fig. 2, Table 1) by XRD. Epsomite  
881 was found at site 20 (Fig. 2, Table 1).

882

883 Furthermore, the formation of Fe- and Mg-sulphates at Poás seems associated with the  
884 abundance of sulphate in combination the presence of olivine in lavas such as those  
885 outcropping around Cerro Pelón (F<sub>075</sub>) and on the eastern margin of Laguna Caliente  
886 (F<sub>065</sub>). At both locations, commonly only olivine ghosts were observed, indicating  
887 complete dissolution of this mineral, while other primary phases such as clinopyroxene,  
888 orthopyroxene and plagioclase are considerably less altered or, in many cases, completely  
889 intact (Figs. 15 to 17). This observation is in agreement with the almost congruent  
890 dissolution of olivine in contact with highly acidic solutions (Tosca et al., 2004), which is  
891 kinetically favoured over glass, pyroxene or plagioclase dissolution (Hausrath et al.,  
892 2008). An overall order of mineral dissolution under acidic conditions is phosphates >  
893 olivine > pyroxene ≥ Fe-Ti oxides ≥ mafic silicate glass ≥ felsic silicate glass (Nesbitt and  
894 Young, 1984; Nesbitt and Wilson, 1992; Wolff-Boenisch et al., 2004).

895

896 The Poás sites where Fe- and Mg-sulphates were found have medium to high rock/water  
897 ratios in common. In the high rock/water locations, the chemical alteration of rock occurs  
898 mainly via acid rain and/or brine spray. The models of Figure 19 predict that K-jarosite,  
899 jurbanite, K-alunite, followed by epsomite and ferroxahydrate could form here in a  
900 repetitive sequence of olivine dissolution and evaporation in an open system involving  
901 limited water amounts. Although römerite was the only simple (iron) sulphate identified

902 by XRD in the “dead zone” (Fig. 2), these models for combined water-rock interaction and  
903 evaporation illustrate that these conditions and processes would be favourable for the  
904 formation of other sulphates as well. Their absence in the materials studied might be  
905 attributable to their transient stability under changing conditions (e.g., following heavy  
906 rainfall), since re-dissolution is expected to be a function of time, pH, temperature and  
907 solution chemistry (Miller et al., 2016 and references therein).

908

909 Experimental constraints on the formation of Fe- and Mg-sulphates have been discussed  
910 by Tosca et al. (2004), Golden et al. (2005) and Hausrath et al. (2013). In the acid  
911 weathering experiments of Tosca et al. (2004), involving reaction and evaporation steps,  
912 hexahydrate ( $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) did not form upon pyroxene dissolution, apparently because  
913 this mineral did not release enough  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  to produce appreciable amounts of Mg-sulphate.  
914 Through geochemical modelling of acid dissolution of synthetic basalts and evaporation  
915 of the resulting weathering solutions, Tosca et al. (2005) confirmed that the presence of  
916 olivine is required instead. Aluminium sulphates such as alunogen and tamarugite  
917  $\text{NaAl}(\text{SO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  formed as a result of glass dissolution (Tosca et al., 2004). As the authors  
918 pointed out, the glass releases more  $\text{Al}^{3+}$  than plagioclase because of its faster dissolution  
919 rate.

920

921 Golden et al. (2005) performed laboratory experiments at  $145^\circ\text{C}$  to simulate weathering  
922 of volcanic rock by acid fog and acid leaching. Interaction of  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  with basaltic sand and  
923 tephra from Hawaii resulted in the formation of hexahydrate,  $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , K- and H-  
924 jarosite, voltaite,  $\text{Fe}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$ , anhydrite, gypsum and amorphous silica. The Mg-sulphates  
925 were more abundant in experiments with the basalt, which had 6 times higher MgO  
926 content than the tephra. Jarosites only formed in open-system leaching experiments.  
927 Experimental interaction between  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  vapour and basaltic glass and San Carlos olivine  
928 at  $T=150\text{-}155^\circ\text{C}$  (Hausrath et al., 2013) resulted in the formation of Mg-sulphates  
929 (hexahydrate and kieserite) as the most common alteration products in the case of olivine,  
930 and Ca- and Al- sulphates in the case of basaltic glass.

931

## 932 **5.4. Implications for Mars**

933

### 934 *5.4.1. Alteration processes - Poás volcano vs. Mars*

935

936 An environment with high rock/water ratios and limited water availability (rocks  
937 exposed to acid rain and/or hyperacid brine spray) that is essential for the formation of  
938 Fe- and Mg-sulphates at Poás volcano is consistent with the required conditions inferred  
939 for the origin of these minerals on Mars. Similarly, the water-rock interaction models for  
940 Poás also revealed that: (1) olivine is the primary mineral that preferentially gives rise to  
941 Fe- and Mg-rich solutions, and (2) the most effective way to form both Fe- and Mg-  
942 sulphates is through cycles of reaction and evaporation in an open system. In particular,  
943 Fe-sulphates point to rather oxidizing and acidic (pH<4) environmental conditions  
944 (Nordstrom and Alpers, 1999; Bigham and Nordstrom, 2000; Nordstrom et al., 2000). In  
945 the geochemical models presented here, oxidation of Fe<sup>2+</sup> to Fe<sup>3+</sup> by atmospheric O<sub>2</sub> was  
946 ignored. This does not seriously affect the comparison since the current Martian  
947 atmosphere is extremely oxygen-depleted compared to its terrestrial counterpart;  $P_{O_2}$ =  
948  $7.9 \times 10^{-6}$  bar vs.  $P_{O_2}$ = 0.21 bar, respectively (Owen, 1992). Moreover, during active  
949 volcanism on early Mars, its atmosphere may have been even more anoxic than today, so  
950 that the kinetics of Fe-oxidation by O<sub>2(g)</sub> were probably orders of magnitude slower than  
951 in currently active acidic environments at the Earth's surface (Burns, 1993; Catling and  
952 Moore, 2003).

953

954 A direct consequence of high rock/water ratios is that mineral phases with slow  
955 dissolution rates such as pyroxene and plagioclase do not contribute substantially to  
956 secondary mineral assemblages. Hence, under low H<sub>2</sub>O-availability conditions Al-  
957 mobilization into alteration phases will be limited (Hurowitz and McLennan, 2007). The  
958 larger availability of water at Poás and the fact that its rocks are less mafic (mainly  
959 andesites and basaltic andesites) compared to their Martian counterparts (mainly  
960 basalts), explain to some extent why at Poás Ca- and Al-sulphates are more common than  
961 Fe- and Mg-sulphates. On Mars, Mg-, Fe- and Ca-sulphates and accompanying phases such  
962 as amorphous silica seem to dominate the mineralogy of evaporites (Tosca and  
963 McLennan, 2006), whereas Ca-sulphates usually prevail and are associated with  
964 carbonates and chlorides in terrestrial evaporate deposits. Exceptions are the vast  
965 gypsum deposits in the Martian northern polar regions. It is conceivable that they  
966 precipitated from acidic fluids comparable to Laguna Caliente, given that gypsum  
967 abundantly forms in the lake as the only sulphate.

968

969 The presence of alunite and jarosite in the crater area of Poás confirms that the occurrence  
970 of these minerals on Mars is an indicator of past aqueous systems. In addition, the Poás  
971 setting attests to the acidic, oxidizing, sulphur and aluminium-rich conditions that are also  
972 required for their stability. Finally, since on Mars the rise of extensive volcanism during  
973 the Hesperian may have been responsible for the acidic environments, following alkaline  
974 conditions that prevailed earlier during the Noachian (Bibring et al., 2006; Milliken et al.,  
975 2010), the use of the magmatic-hydrothermal system of Poás as analogue for Martian  
976 alunite and jarosite-forming processes seems well justified. From dissolution  
977 experiments, Miller et al. (2016) proposed that alunite is better preserved in less acidic  
978 and warmer aqueous conditions than jarosite, and that alunite is expected to be preserved  
979 longer when solutions are dilute, especially under alkaline and high-temperatures  
980 conditions. The authors further noted that in high salinity brine environments both  
981 minerals would dissolve slower and are expected to be equally preserved. The field  
982 observations and models for Poás are consistent since the geochemical models suggest  
983 that K-alunite should be present in deeper and hotter sections at Poás (95 to 164°C) and  
984 that both K- and Na-alunite are present at higher pH values (1.6 to 3.8) than H- and K-  
985 jarosite (0.8 to 1.2).

986

## 987 **6. CONCLUSIONS**

988

989 Field evidence and geochemical modelling have been used to demonstrate that acid fluids  
990 of Poás volcano are capable of producing complex mineral assemblages, including Ca-, Al-  
991 , Fe- and Mg-sulphates, and to investigate the role of temperature changes, interactions  
992 with rocks and minerals, and evaporation. At a macroscopic scale, the models indicate that  
993 the formation of amorphous silica, hematite, anhydrite/gypsum, pyrite, anatase and  
994 kaolinite is fairly insensitive to the degree of acidity of the aqueous system studied. On the  
995 other hand, Fe-sulphates (H- and K-jarosite) followed by elemental sulphur and Al-  
996 sulphates such as K-, Na-alunite and  $\text{Al(OH)SO}_4$  only form in this setting under acidic  
997 conditions ( $\text{pH} < 4$ ). Finally, the modelling evidence shows that minerals such as fluorite,  
998 illite, brucite, magnetite and diaspore require relatively high pH values ( $\text{pH} > 4$ ) and/or  
999 temperatures to form, which explains their absence at the surface of the crater area.

1000



1001 To a significant extent, local variations in secondary mineralogy within the crater area  
1002 reflect differences in the relative proportions of rock and acidic fluid during interaction,  
1003 which is particularly relevant for Mg-, Fe- and Al-sulphates. In general, the Fe- and Mg-  
1004 sulphates require the highest rock-water ratios to form. A further key factor for their  
1005 occurrence is probably the presence of olivine as a source of Mg and Fe. For these reasons,  
1006 the presence of Fe- and Mg-sulphates was found to be restricted to surfaces of olivine-  
1007 bearing rocks affected by acid rain or acid brine spray. The modelling results rule out a  
1008 simple interaction mechanism but suggest an open-system scenario where a fluid evolved  
1009 in a repetitive sequence of interaction with olivine and evaporation. Conversely, the Al-  
1010 sulphates can also stabilize where brine water is more abundant, and pH and/or  
1011 temperature are higher.

1012

1013 The secondary mineral assemblages at Poás are strongly reminiscent of sulphate-bearing  
1014 mineral associations detected on the surface of Mars. The conditions and mechanisms  
1015 inferred for their formation in the crater area of Poás can therefore be considered to  
1016 approximate Martian geological environments wherein these minerals formed,  
1017 particularly in settings with a large mineralogical diversity at small spatial scales. Volcanic  
1018 activity, acid alteration and low water availability are required to produce Fe- and Mg-  
1019 sulphates at Poás, conditions that presumably also marked Hesperian times on Mars  
1020 when similar assemblages could originate. Differences in rock compositions and  
1021 atmospheric chemistry poses limits to this comparison, in particular when considering  
1022 the less mafic rock types and oxidizing environment of the crater lake setting studied here.  
1023 Nevertheless, the results of this work demonstrate that active volcanic-hydrothermal  
1024 systems on Earth can be regarded as excellent analogues to study processes responsible  
1025 for the formation of sulphates and associated alteration throughout the early history of  
1026 Mars.

1027

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 1422

### 1423 FIGURE AND TABLE CAPTIONS

1424  
 1425 **Figure 1.** (a) Location of Poás volcano (Costa Rica). (b) Photograph of Laguna Caliente and the  
 1426 composite pyroclastic cone (CPC), taken from the NE rim of the main crater on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2012.  
 1427

1428 **Figure 2.** Secondary mineralogy at Poás volcano in different settings according to their  
 1429 rock/water/gas ratios. Minerals were identified by powder XRD technique, except for Site 35, in  
 1430 which EMPA was used.  
 1431

1432 **Figure 3.** S<sub>T</sub>-10xF-Cl molar (%) composition of fluids from Poás volcano. The composition range  
 1433 is illustrated for: Laguna Caliente (green), main crater's hot springs (yellow), CPC gases (red), CPC  
 1434 gas condensates (orange) and acid rain from Cerro Pelón (2003-2006; OVSICORI, unpublished  
 1435 data) (light blue). The points, except from the acid rain, correspond to the samples from Tables 2-  
 1436 5.  
 1437

1438 **Figure 4.** Ancient Laguna Caliente sediments on site 4 (a) and site 10 (b) to (d); see Figure 2.  
 1439 Tabular (a, b) and convolute bedding (c). Within the sediments, elemental sulphur is commonly  
 1440 present (d).  
 1441

1442 **Figure 5.** EMP images of a lava within ancient Laguna Caliente sediments (site 10; Figs., 2 and 4).  
 1443 Primary minerals: pyroxene (Px) and orthopyroxene (Opx). Secondary minerals: amorphous silica  
 1444 (SiO<sub>2</sub> am.), elemental sulphur (S), pyrite (Py), alunite (Al) and kaolinite (Kl).  
 1445

1446 **Figure 6.** (a) EMP analyses (Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-SO<sub>3</sub>; wt.%) of some of the secondary minerals present in  
 1447 a lava within the ancient Laguna Caliente's sediments (site 10; Figs. 2, 4 and 5). Alunite and an  
 1448 Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>-rich phase are the most abundant secondary minerals in the vesicles. The following  
 1449 minerals are also shown: basaluminite Al<sub>4</sub>(OH)<sub>10</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, aluminite Al<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>4</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, jurbanite  
 1450 Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, alunogen Al<sub>2</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·17H<sub>2</sub>O and K-alum KAl(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·12H<sub>2</sub>O. (b) Compositionally,  
 1451 the alunites from site 10 are close to the alunite H-end-member HAl<sub>3</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub> and between the  
 1452 K- and Na-end-members KAl<sub>3</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub> and NaAl<sub>3</sub>(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(OH)<sub>6</sub>, respectively). For comparison  
 1453 purposes, a sample of recent bottom sediments from Laguna Caliente was included, collected by  
 1454 OVSICORI personnel on November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011.  
 1455

1456 **Figure 7.** Heating models of Laguna Caliente's waters from lake temperature till 300°C. (a)  
 1457 LoALW: low-activity lake water (T=30°C). (b) HiALW: high-activity lake water (T=62°C). Both  
 1458 high- and low-activity attributes refer to the volcanic activity of Laguna Caliente in terms of input  
 1459 of heat and magmatic volatiles.

1460 **Figure 8.** Water-rock reaction path models between Laguna Caliente's waters and a basaltic-  
1461 andesite analysed by Cigollini et al. (1991).  $T_r$  refers to the temperature of the run, which  
1462 corresponds to the temperature of Laguna Caliente. In every run 1 mole of rock (110 g) was  
1463 reacted with 1 kg of crater lake water. (a) LoALW: low-activity lake water ( $T=30^\circ\text{C}$ ). (b) HiALW:  
1464 high-activity lake water ( $T=62^\circ\text{C}$ ). Both high- and low-activity attributes refer to the volcanic  
1465 activity of Laguna Caliente in terms of input of heat and magmatic volatiles.

1466  
1467 **Figure 9.** Evaporation models of Laguna Caliente's waters showing both the saturation indices of  
1468 some minerals and the moles of secondary minerals formed upon evaporation. In every model the  
1469 starting amount of crater lake water is 1 kg.  $T_r$  refers to the temperature of the run, which  
1470 corresponds to the lake temperature. (a), (b) LoALW: low-activity lake water ( $T=30^\circ\text{C}$ ). (c), (d)  
1471 HiALW: high-activity lake water ( $T=62^\circ\text{C}$ ). Both high- and low-activity attributes refer to the  
1472 volcanic activity of Laguna Caliente in terms of input of heat and magmatic volatiles.

1473  
1474 **Figure 10.** Water-rock reaction path models between the waters from the hot springs, active  
1475 during the years 2003-2006, located inside the main crater and a basaltic-andesite reported by  
1476 Cigollini et al. (1991).  $T_s$  is the temperature of the hot spring. In every run, 1 mole of rock (110 g)  
1477 was reacted with 1 kg of hot spring water.

1478  
1479 **Figure 11.** Fossil fumaroles on Site 1: note the pervasive acid alteration that has leached the rock  
1480 and left a residue of cristobalite  $\alpha$ , quartz, tridymite, anatase and K-alunite (a), (b); accompanied  
1481 with elemental sulphur deposition (c), (d). A similar alteration style is observed on site 3 (e), (f);  
1482 where K- and Na-alunite together with minamiite are present.

1483  
1484 **Figure 12.** Gas-rock reaction path model. One mole of a gas sample (26 g) collected from the CPC  
1485 was cooled from  $T_f=763^\circ\text{C}$  to  $114^\circ\text{C}$  and reacted with 1 mole (110 g) of a basaltic-andesite  
1486 reported by Cigollini et al. (1991).  $T_f$  refers to the fumarole temperature. During the reaction path  
1487 the solids formed were successively excluded (fractionated) from the residual fluid. From (a) and  
1488 (b) it can be observed that the secondary minerals start forming at  $T<250^\circ\text{C}$ .

1489  
1490 **Figure 13.** Water-rock reaction path models between fumarole gas condensates from the CPC and  
1491 a basaltic-andesite reported by Cigollini et al. (1991).  $T_f$  and  $T_s$  refer to the temperature of the  
1492 fumarole and the one at which the reaction path was ran, respectively. In every run 1 mole of rock  
1493 (110 g) was reacted with 1 kg of gas condensate.

1494  
1495 **Figure 14.** Examples where rocks have been exposed to the action of acid rain/acid brine spray  
1496 (high rock/fluid ratios). (a), (b) Site 6, acid brine expelled from Laguna Caliente, due to phreatic  
1497 eruptions, produced gypsum and anhydrite efflorescences observed on the ceiling of a cave. (c)  
1498 View from the "dead zone" from the southern rim of the main crater. (d), (e), (f) The lavas in this  
1499 zone show white patinas mainly composed of amorphous silica, followed a few centimetres  
1500 deeper by Al- and Mg-sulphates together with minerals from the jarosite and copiapite group (see  
1501 Fig. 2).

1502  
1503 **Figure 15.** EMP images of a basaltic andesite from site 21, close to Cerro Pelón (see Fig. 2). (a),  
1504 (b) Amorphous silica ( $\text{SiO}_2$  am.) crusts and jarosite (Jar) fillings in the patinas of the lavas. (c), (d)  
1505 Olivine (Ol) ghost textures, iron oxides (FeOx), kaolinite (Kl), smectites (Sm) and orthopyroxene  
1506 (Opx). (e), (f) Less altered sections containing plagioclase (Plg), olivine, clinopyroxene (Cpx), iron  
1507 oxides and silicified phases.

1508  
1509 **Figure 16.** EMP images of a basaltic andesite from site 35, altered mostly by acid brines from  
1510 Laguna Caliente (see Fig. 2). (a), (b), (c) Olivine (Ol) is completely altered while orthopyroxene  
1511 (Opx) and clinopyroxene (Cpx) are relatively fresh. (d), (e) The reaction between olivine and acid

1512 brine lead to solutions oversaturated in jarosite (Jar) that eventually precipitated in fractures  
1513 crossing the plagioclase phenocrysts (Plg).

1514

1515 **Figure 17.** (a) to (f) EMP images of a basaltic andesite from site 35, altered mostly by acid brines  
1516 from Laguna Caliente (see Figs. 2 and 16) and showing textural relations between jarosite (Jar)  
1517 and primary minerals such as plagioclase (Plg) and pyroxene (Px). Plagioclase shows commonly  
1518 an advance degree of silicification (SiO<sub>2</sub> am.) and jarosite precipitates afterwards within fractures  
1519 or voids.

1520

1521 **Figure 18.** Compositions of the jarosites found on the basaltic andesite from site 35 (see Figs. 2,  
1522 16 and 17) from EMP analyses (n=30). On average, they present the following composition:  
1523  $(K_{0.68}Na_{0.12}H_{0.21})(Fe_{2.98}Al_{0.13})(SO_4)_{2.10}(OH)_6$ .

1524

1525 **Figure 19.** Combination of water-rock reaction path and evaporation models between Cerro  
1526 Pelón olivine (Fo<sub>75</sub>) and Laguna Caliente water. One mole of this olivine (156 g) was reacted with  
1527 1 kg of water. Before the precipitation of any Fe-bearing minerals, an aliquot was taken and  
1528 evaporated. Towards the end of the evaporation run, the remaining solution was reacted again  
1529 with the olivine. This was repeated in cycles of reaction (a), (c), (e) and evaporation (b), (d);  
1530 mimicking and open system at T=24°C.

1531

1532 **Figure 20.** Laguna Caliente: secondary minerals vs. temperature. Compilation of 6 heating  
1533 models. The runs went from lake temperatures (28-62°C) to 300°C and included representative  
1534 lake samples from both active and quiet periods of Laguna Caliente in terms of volcanic activity.  
1535 The secondary minerals are oversaturated at the following temperature ranges: pyrite (28-98°C),  
1536 S (44-79°C), anhydrite (98-300°C), K-alunite (95-164°C), diaspore (136-300°C) and AlF<sub>3</sub> (173-  
1537 300°C).

1538

1539 **Figure 21.** Laguna Caliente: secondary minerals vs. pH. Compilation of 9 water-rock reaction path  
1540 models, in which 1 mole (110 g) of a basaltic-andesite reported by Cigollini et al. (1991) was  
1541 reacted with 1 kg of water from Laguna Caliente at constant temperature. The water samples  
1542 represent both active and quiet periods of Laguna Caliente in terms of volcanic activity, with  
1543 temperatures between 28 and 62°C. The secondary minerals are oversaturated at the following  
1544 pH ranges: anatase (-0.4 to 11.2), SiO<sub>2</sub> am. (-0.4 to 11.2), anhydrite (-0.3 to 9.6), hematite (1.1 to  
1545 11.2), H-jarosite (1.1 to 1.2), K-jarosite (1.2 to 1.3), gypsum (1.3 to 10.3), K-alunite (1.7 to 3.8),  
1546 Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> (1.7 to 3.7), Na-alunite (2.6 to 3.0), kaolinite (2.6 to 11.2), fluorite (3.9 to 11.2), pyrite  
1547 (4.6 to 11.2) and illite (5.9 to 11.2).

1548

1549 **Figure 22.** Crater's hot springs: secondary minerals vs. pH. Compilation of 7 water-rock reaction  
1550 path models, in which 1 mole (110 g) of a basaltic-andesite reported by Cigollini et al. (1991) was  
1551 reacted with 1 kg of water from the hot springs located in the main crater that were active during  
1552 the years 2003-2006 (T=42-92°C). The secondary minerals are oversaturated at the following pH  
1553 ranges: anatase (0.7 to 11.0), SiO<sub>2</sub> am. (0.7 to 10.2), H-jarosite (0.8 to 0.9), hematite (0.9 to 11.0),  
1554 anhydrite (1.2 to 10.3), K-alunite (1.6 to 3.6), Na-alunite (1.9 to 2.7), kaolinite (2.1 to 11.0),  
1555 Al(OH)SO<sub>4</sub> (2.3 to 2.9), pyrite (4.1 to 11.0), fluorite (4.3 to 10.7), illite (5.9 to 11.2), magnetite (9.9  
1556 to 10.2) and diaspore (10.2 to 11.2).

1557

1558 **Figure 23.** CPC's fumarole gas condensates: secondary minerals vs. pH. Compilation of 3 gas  
1559 condensate-rock reaction path models, in which 1 mole (110 g) of a basaltic-andesite reported by  
1560 Cigollini et al. (1991) was reacted with 1 kg of gas condensate from the fumaroles located on the  
1561 CPC (T=250, 650 and 763°C). The runs were carried out at constant temperature (T=95°C). The  
1562 secondary minerals are oversaturated at the following pH ranges: anatase (1.3 to 9.7), S (1.3 to  
1563 2.3), pyrite (1.3 to 7.3), SiO<sub>2</sub> am. (1.3 to 9.7), K-alunite (1.9 to 3.2), anhydrite (2.0 to 9.7), Na-alunite

1564 (2.1 to 2.3), kaolinite (2.1 to 9.7), fluorite (4.1 to 9.7), hematite (4.4 to 9.7), illite (5.3 to 9.7) and  
1565 brucite (7.5 to 9.7).

1566

1567 **Figure 24.** Reaction path models between Laguna Caliente waters and fresh (KV99-844b) and  
1568 altered (KV99-802a) andesites from Kawah Ijen. Rock compositions taken from van Hinsberg et  
1569 al. (2010b).  $T_r$  is the temperature of the lake.

1570

1571 **Table 1.** Mineral determinations by XRD and EMP analysis (see Fig. 2).

1572

1573 **Table 2.** Chemical analysis of waters from Laguna Caliente, Poás volcano. Concentrations in  
1574 mg/kg. Conductivity (mS/cm) and pH were measured in the laboratory at  $T=19\pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ .

1575

1576 **Table 3.** Chemical analysis of waters from the hot springs in the main crater. Concentrations in  
1577 mg/kg.

1578

1579 **Table 4.** Chemical analysis of gases from the CPC. Concentrations in molar percentages.

1580

1581 **Table 5.** Chemical analysis of gas condensates from the fumaroles of the CPC. Concentrations in  
1582 mg/kg.

<b>1. KAOLINITE</b>	Kaolinite $\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4$ Halloysite $\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4$	
<b>2. SMECTITES</b>	Montmorillonite $(\text{Na,Ca})_{0.3}(\text{Al,Mg})_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Sauconite $\text{Na}_{0.3}\text{Zn}_3(\text{Si,Al})_4\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$	
<b>3. ZEOLITES</b>	Cowlesite $\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10} \cdot 5-6(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ Phillipsite $(\text{K,Na})_2(\text{Si,Al})_8\text{O}_{16} \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Mordenite $(\text{Ca,Na}_2,\text{K}_2)\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_{10}\text{O}_{24} \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Chabazite $(\text{Ca,Na}_2,\text{K}_2,\text{Mg})\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{12} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Ca-chabazite $(\text{Ca}_{0.5},\text{Na,K})_4\text{Al}_4\text{Si}_8\text{O}_{24} \cdot 12\text{H}_2\text{O}$ K-chabazite $(\text{K}_2,\text{Ca,Na}_2,\text{Mg})\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_4\text{O}_{12} \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Sr-brewsterite $(\text{Sr,Ba})\text{Al}_4\text{Si}_{12}\text{O}_{32} \cdot 10(\text{H}_2\text{O})$	
<b>4. SiO<sub>2</sub> POLYMORPHS</b>	Trydimite $\text{SiO}_2$ Cristobalite $\alpha \text{SiO}_2$ Quartz $\text{SiO}_2$	
<b>5. Fe AND Ti OXIDES</b>	Goethite $\text{FeO}(\text{OH})$ Hematite $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ Magnetite $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{O}_4$ Magnesioferrite $\text{MgFe}_2\text{O}_4$ Rutile $\text{TiO}_2$ Titanomagnetite $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{Ti}_2\text{O}_4$ Anatase $\text{TiO}_2$	
<b>6. SULPHUR</b>	S	
<b>7. SULPHIDES</b>	Greigite $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{S}_4$ Wurtzite $(\text{Zn,Fe})\text{S}$ Tenantite $\text{Cu}_{12}\text{As}_4\text{S}_{13}$	
<b>8. FLUORIDES AND PHOSPHATES</b>	Carobbiite $\text{KF}$ $\text{MnNaF}_4$ Woodhouseite $\text{CaAl}_3(\text{PO}_4)(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH})_6$ Kogarkoite $\text{Na}_3\text{FSO}_4$ Ralstonite $\text{Na}_{0.5}\text{Mg}_{0.5}\text{Al}_{1.5}\text{F}_4(\text{OH}) \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$	
<b>9. CHLORIDES</b>	Potassium halite $\text{K}_{0.2}\text{Na}_{0.8}\text{Cl}$ Sophiite $\text{Zn}_2(\text{SeO}_3)\text{Cl}_2$	
<b>10. CARBONATES</b>	Tychite $\text{Mg}_2\text{Na}_6(\text{CO}_3)_4\text{SO}_4$ Ankerite $\text{Ca}(\text{Fe}^{2+},\text{Mg})(\text{CO}_3)_2$	
<b>11. SULPHATES</b>	<b>11.1 CALCIUM</b>	Gypsum $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Anhydrite $\text{CaSO}_4$
	<b>11.2 ALUMINIUM</b>	Alunogen $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3 \cdot 17\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Meta-alunogen $\text{Al}_4(\text{SO}_4)_6 \cdot 27\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Khademite $\text{Al}(\text{SO}_4)\text{F} \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Rostite $\text{Al}(\text{SO}_4)(\text{OH,F}) \cdot 5\text{H}_2\text{O}$
	<b>11.3 ALUNITE</b>	K-alunite $\text{KAl}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$ Na-alunite $\text{KAl}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$ Minamiite $(\text{Na}_{0.6}\text{K}_{0.1}\text{Ca}_{0.3})\text{Al}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$ Huangite $\text{Ca}_{0.5}\text{Al}_3(\text{SO}_4)_4(\text{OH})_2$
	<b>11.4 JAROSITE</b>	K-jarosite $\text{KFe}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$ H-jarosite $\text{HFe}_3(\text{SO}_4)_2(\text{OH})_6$
	<b>11.5 HALOTRICHITE</b>	Halotrichite $\text{FeAl}_2(\text{SO}_4)_4 \cdot 22\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Pickeringite $\text{MgAl}_2(\text{SO}_4)_4 \cdot 22\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Apjohnite $\text{MnAl}_2(\text{SO}_4)_4 \cdot 22\text{H}_2\text{O}$
	<b>11.6 VOLTAITE</b>	Voltaite $\text{K}_2\text{Fe}^{2+}_5\text{Fe}^{3+}_3\text{Al}(\text{SO}_4)_{12} \cdot 18\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Pertlikite $\text{K}_2(\text{Fe}^{2+},\text{Mg})_2(\text{Mg,Fe}^{3+})_4\text{Fe}^{3+}_2\text{Al}(\text{SO}_4)_{12} \cdot 18\text{H}_2\text{O}$
	<b>11.7 COPIAPITE</b>	Copiapite $\text{Fe}^{2+}\text{Fe}^{3+}_4(\text{SO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 20\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Magnesiocopiapite $\text{MgFe}^{3+}_4(\text{SO}_4)_6(\text{OH})_2 \cdot 20\text{H}_2\text{O}$
	<b>11.8 MAGNESIUM</b>	Epsomite $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$
	<b>11.9 IRON</b>	Römerite $\text{Fe}^{2+}_{0.97}\text{Fe}^{3+}_{2.02}(\text{SO}_4)_{3.98} \cdot 13.81\text{H}_2\text{O}$

Stage/ Substage	Date	T <sub>sampling</sub> (°C)	pH <sub>19±1°C</sub>	Cond. <sub>19±1°C</sub> (mS/cm)	SO <sub>4</sub>	S <sub>T</sub> <sup>a</sup>	F	Cl	Br	Al	B	Fe	Ca	Mg	Na	K	Si	Mn	Sr	Ti	V	Zn	TDS	Data source
II	29-Nov-85	45	0.3	390	63000	21000	1090	23400	57	2380	20	1260	880	650	610	240	35	31	18	5.6	6.2	2.6	82800	(1)
III	10-Jan-87	58	-0.01	n.d. <sup>b</sup>	64400	n.d.	1590	30400	61	2070	n.d.	1020	2340	550	520	250	88	25	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	107000	(2,3)
III	30-Aug-94	60	0.54	n.d.	19200	5200	1019	10100	305	1830	n.d.	1570	1020	570	470	145	35	30	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	36000	(2,4)
IVA	20-Oct-95	30	1.21	41	6230	3100	190	4200	19	470	5	540	710	530	410	66	72	28	5	n.d.	b.d.l. <sup>c</sup>	1.1	13000	(1)
IVB	17-Apr-98	37	0.68	87	10900	4430	460	8870	17	1000	n.d.	950	1300	630	560	83	77	31	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	24900	(5)
IVC	31-Jan-02	30	1.51	22	3590	1470	52	2540	5	360	n.d.	330	620	230	190	39	110	11	3	n.d.	n.d.	0.9	12600	(1,5)
IVD	12-Aug-03	33	0.61	142	8860	5290	720	18200	n.d.	1410	n.d.	780	1340	490	400	110	32	21	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	35000	(5)
IVE	25-May-04	28	1.31	30	3940	1880	30	5380	8	680	n.d.	420	750	340	280	48	120	14	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	12000	(1,5)
VA	30-Nov-05	54	0.64	134	13600	7530	920	11600	n.d.	1630	n.d.	670	1440	360	450	130	119	15	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	34000	(5)
VB	27-May-11	62	-0.25	571	101500	34900	1170	26700	68	2030	16	1030	660	400	430	240	52	19	13	12.9	5.6	2.4	n.d.	(1)

Notes: (a) total sulfur ( ICP-OES); (b) n.d. = not determined; (c) b.l.d = below detection limit. Sources: (1) this study; (2) OVSICORI-UNA; (3) Rowe et al., (1992b); (4) Martínez et al. (2000); (5) Martínez (2008).

Hot spring	Date	T <sub>sampling</sub> (°C)	pH 20-24±2°C	SO <sub>4</sub>	F	Cl	Al	Fe	Ca	Mg	Na	K	Si	Mn	TDS	Source
<b>Este</b>	Feb-00	89	0.12	12200	16	25	520	1000	550	350	180	13	n.d. <sup>a</sup>	13	14900	(6)
	21-Nov-00	91	2.1	2800	1.4	29	42	350	380	33	170	b.l.d. <sup>b</sup>	n.d.	4.3	3800	(4)
	16-Jun-05	92	0.99	16780	33	3885	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	(4)
<b>White Algae</b>	23-Aug-00	42	2.47	2220	3.0	0.40	82	55	570	19	45	3.7	93	0.90	3090	(6)
	21-Sep-01	52	1.55	6680	10	813	480	570	310	81	130	19	220	3.5	9300	(4)
<b>Norte-Este</b>	23-Aug-00	89	1.51	2890	0.6	22	2.0	470	330	180	260	24	220	8.1	5887	(4)
	14-Feb-03	87	1.95	2530	b.d.l	33	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	(4)

Notes: (a) n.d. = not determined; (b) b.l.d = below detection limit. Sources: (4) Martínez et al. (2000); (6) Vaselli et al. (2003).

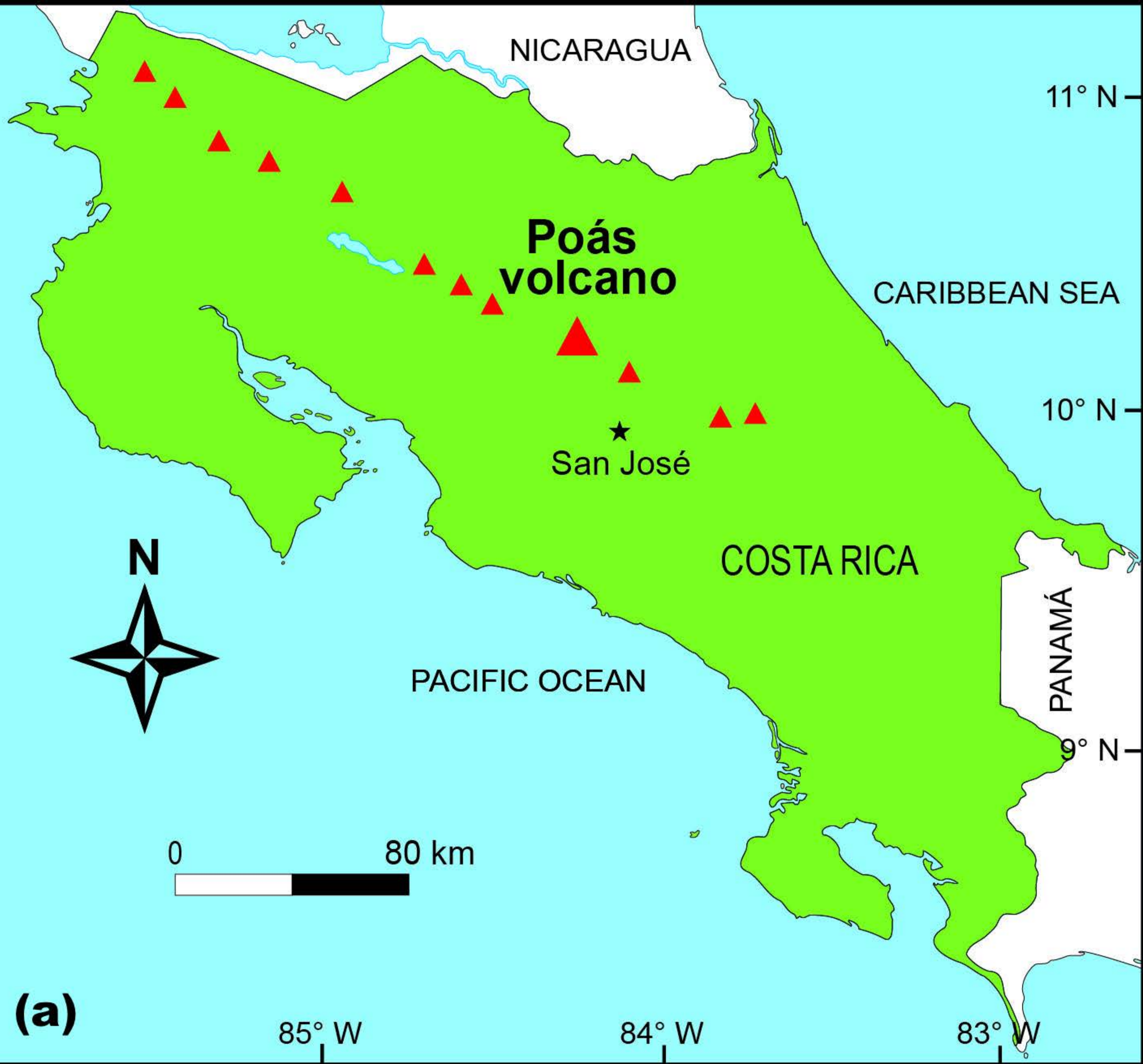
<b>Date</b>	<b>T<sub> sampling</sub> (°C)</b>	<b>CO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>HCl</b>	<b>HF</b>	<b>SO<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub>S</b>	<b>S</b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub>O</b>	<b>N<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>CH<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>Ar</b>	<b>O<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>H<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>CO</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Source</b>
25-Jun-10	763	15.84	0.78	0.35	9.17	0.08	0.00	72.45	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.08	0.10	99.92	(2,6)
16-Aug-10	650	14.84	0.71	0.30	8.76	0.14	0.00	74.10	0.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.09	99.94	(2,6)
18-Mar-11	250	15.84	0.65	0.21	7.60	0.12	0.00	74.57	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.85	0.07	99.98	(2,6)

Sources: (2) OVSICORI-UNA; (6) Tassi (2012; pers. com.).



<b>Date</b>	<b>T<sub> sampling</sub> (°C)</b>	<b>pH<sub> 19±1°C</sub></b>	<b>Cond. 19±1°C (mS/cm)</b>	<b>SO<sub>4</sub></b>	<b>F</b>	<b>Cl</b>	<b>Br</b>	<b>Data source</b>
19-Jan-10	650	0.09	231	1180	72	21900	51	(1,2)
07-Apr-10	566	2.02	2.5	2770	104	5440	6	(1,2)
08-Sep-10	760	0.09	231	654	14	21400	14	(1,2)
22-Oct-10	590	0.58	73.8	2910	130	4220	8	(1,2)
18-Mar-11	250	-0.27	465	68	86	47000	78	(1,2)
10-Feb-12	107	0.46	103	5480	4	39	n.d.	(1,2)
20-Jul-12	301	0.84	n.d.	4000	30	103	n.d.	(1,2)

Sources: (1) This study; (2) OVSICORI-UNA.

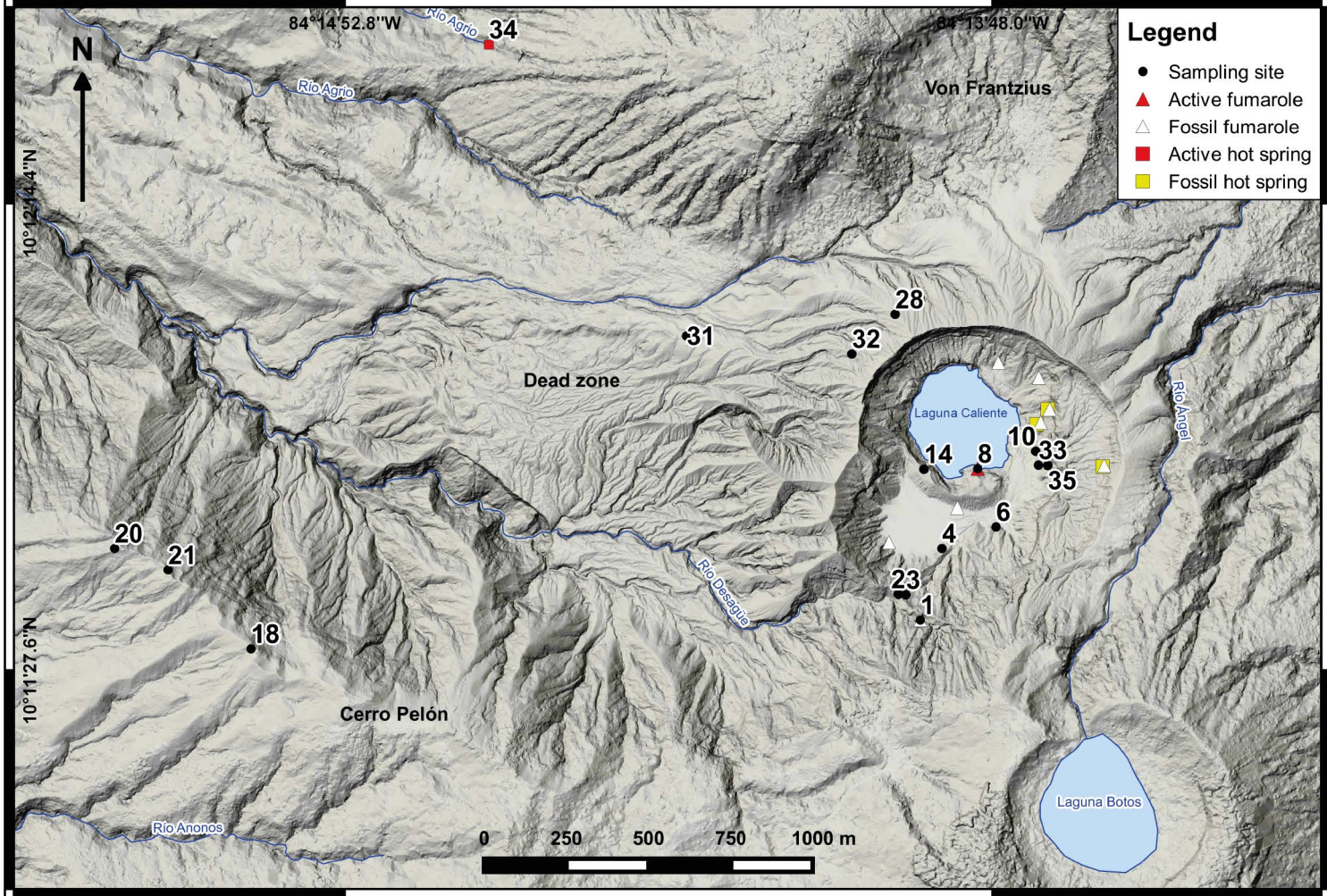


**(b)**



**CPC**

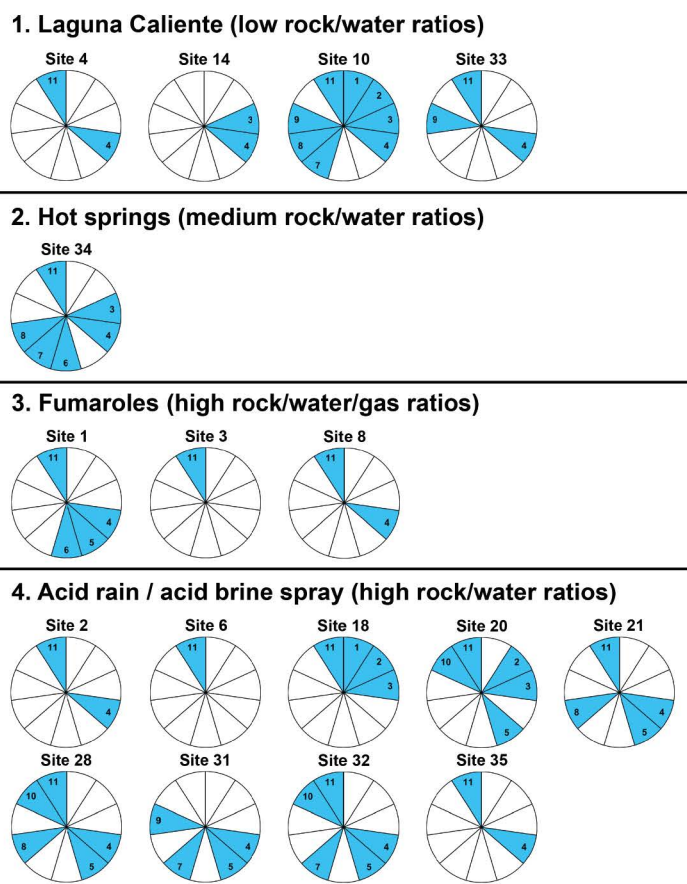
**Laguna Caliente**



**Legend**

- Sampling site
- ▲ Active fumarole
- △ Fossil fumarole
- Active hot spring
- Fossil hot spring

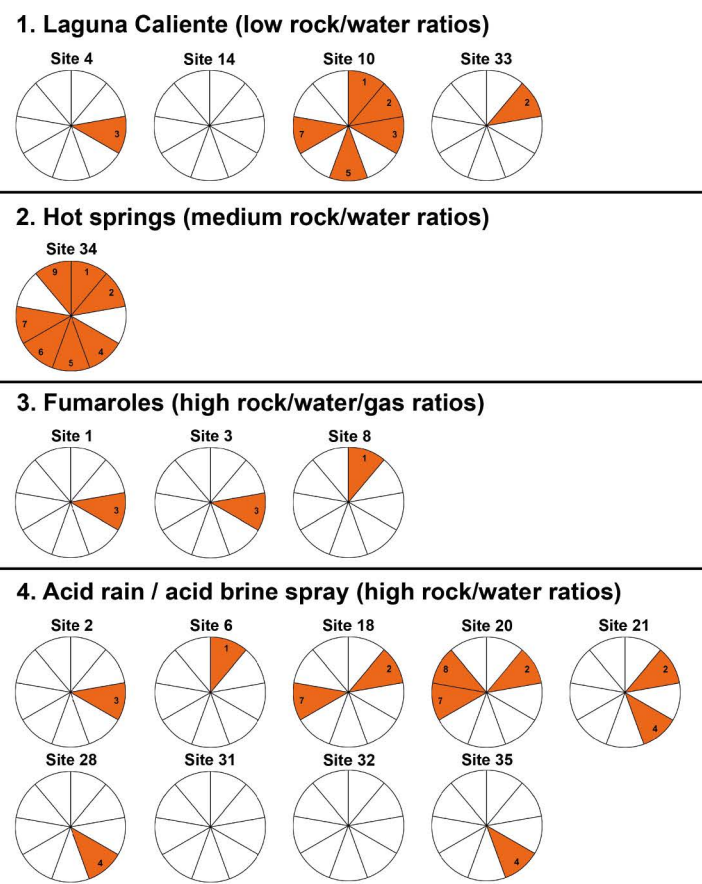
**ALL MINERALS**



**Legend**

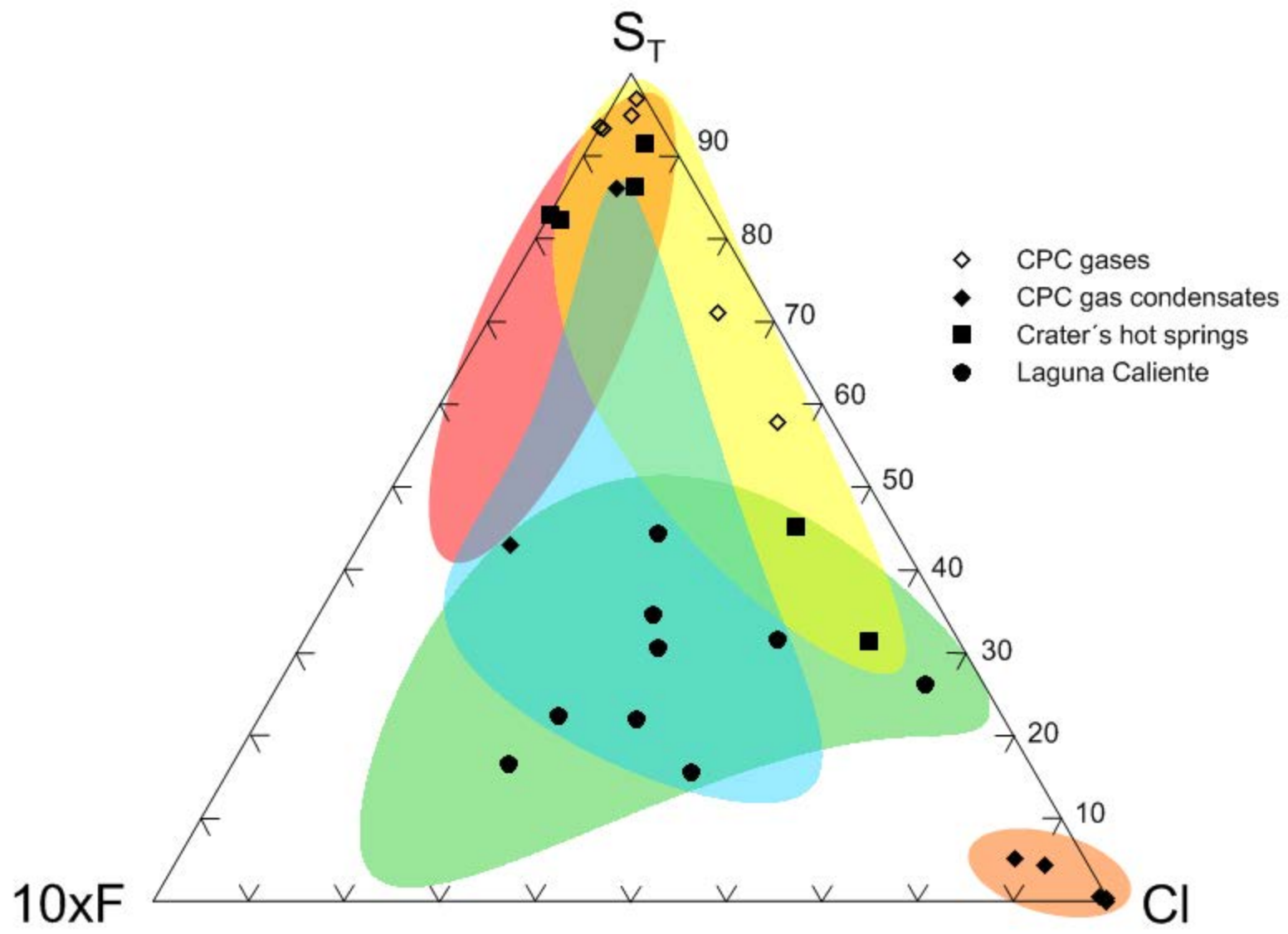
- 1. Kaolinite group
- 2. Smectite group
- 3. Zeolites
- 4. SiO<sub>2</sub> polymorphs
- 5. Oxides (Fe and Ti)
- 6. Sulphur
- 7. Sulphides
- 8. Fluorides and phosphates
- 9. Chlorides and borates
- 10. Carbonates
- 11. Sulphates

**SULPHATES**

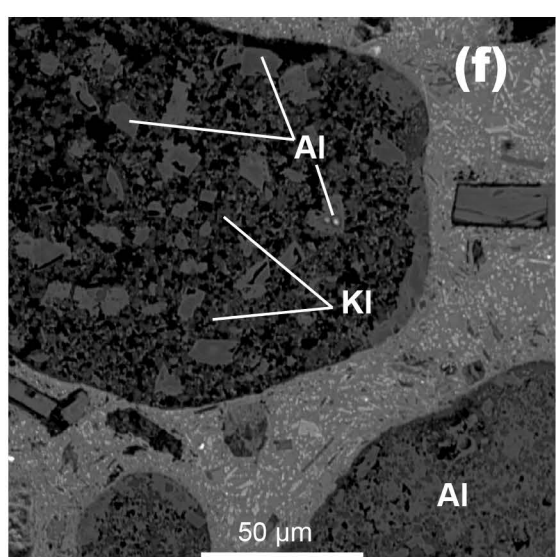
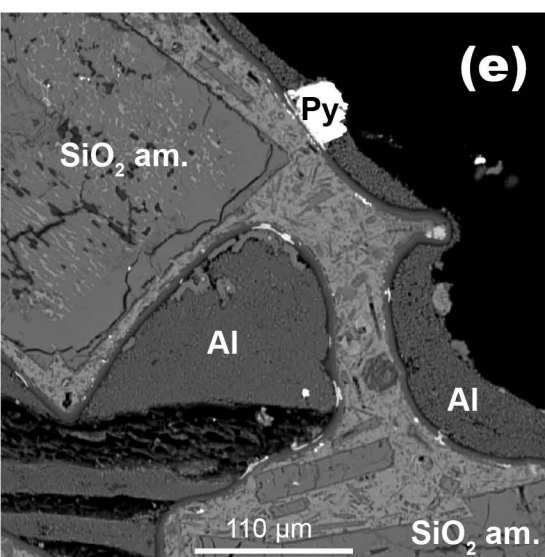
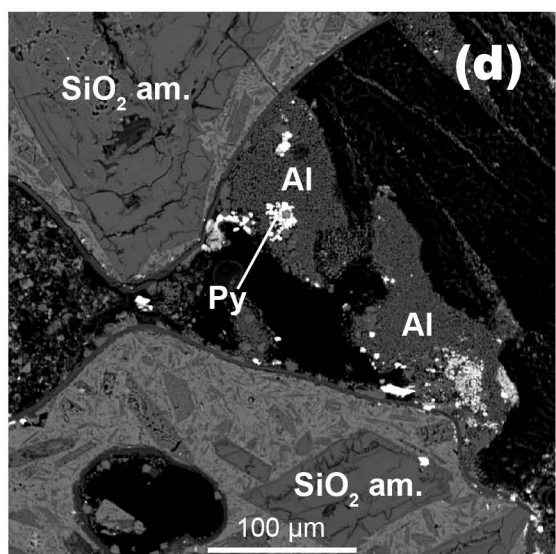
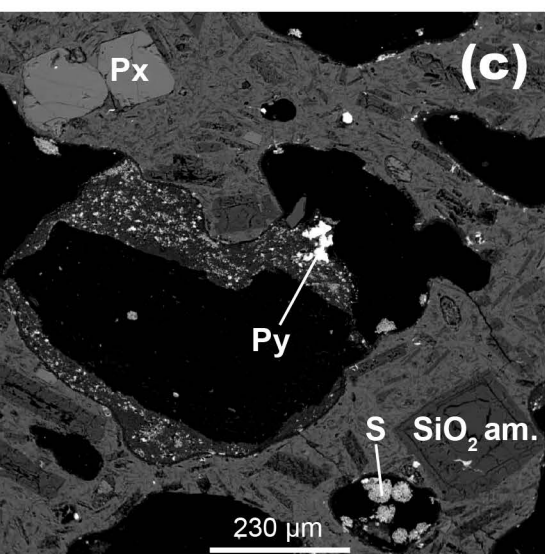
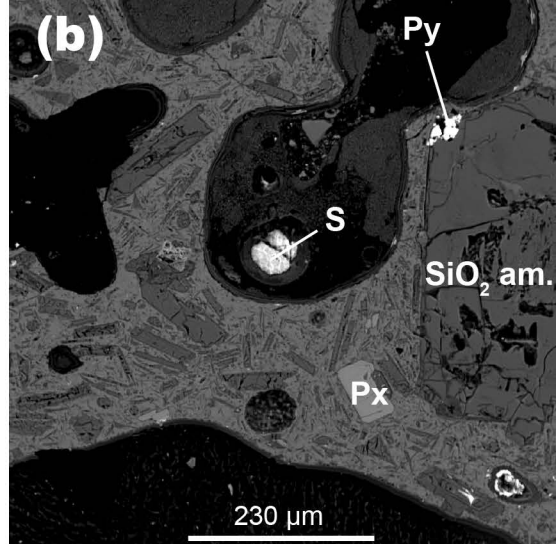
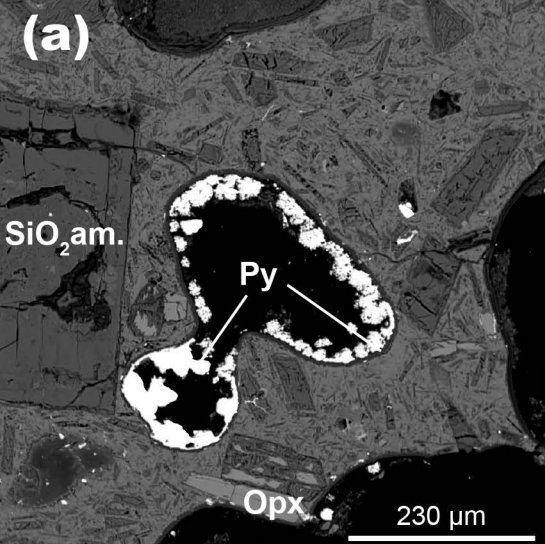


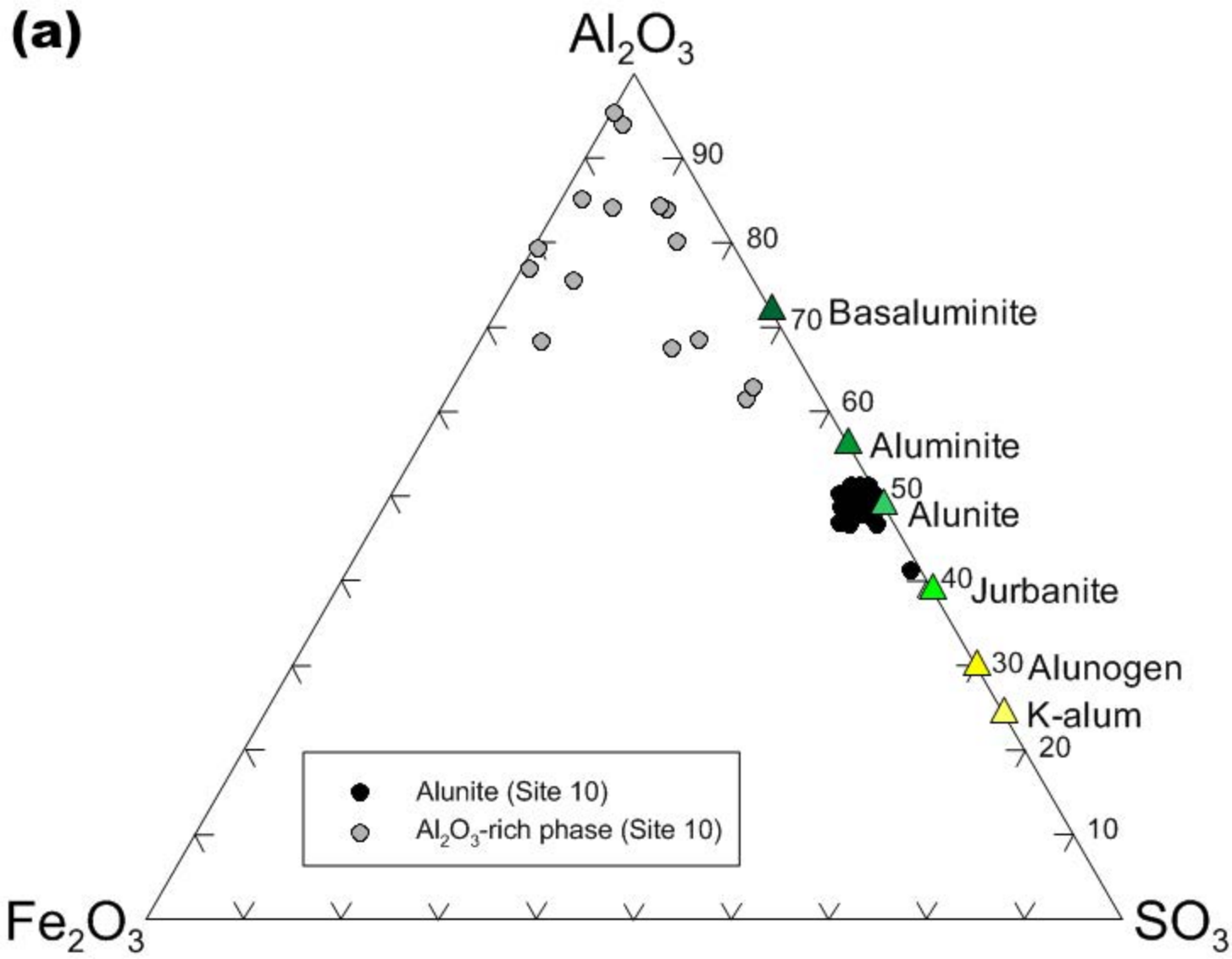
**Legend**

- 1. Ca sulphates
- 2. Al sulphates
- 3. Alunite group
- 4. Jarosite group
- 5. Halotrichite group
- 6. Voltaite group
- 7. Copiapite group
- 8. Mg sulphates
- 9. Fe sulphates

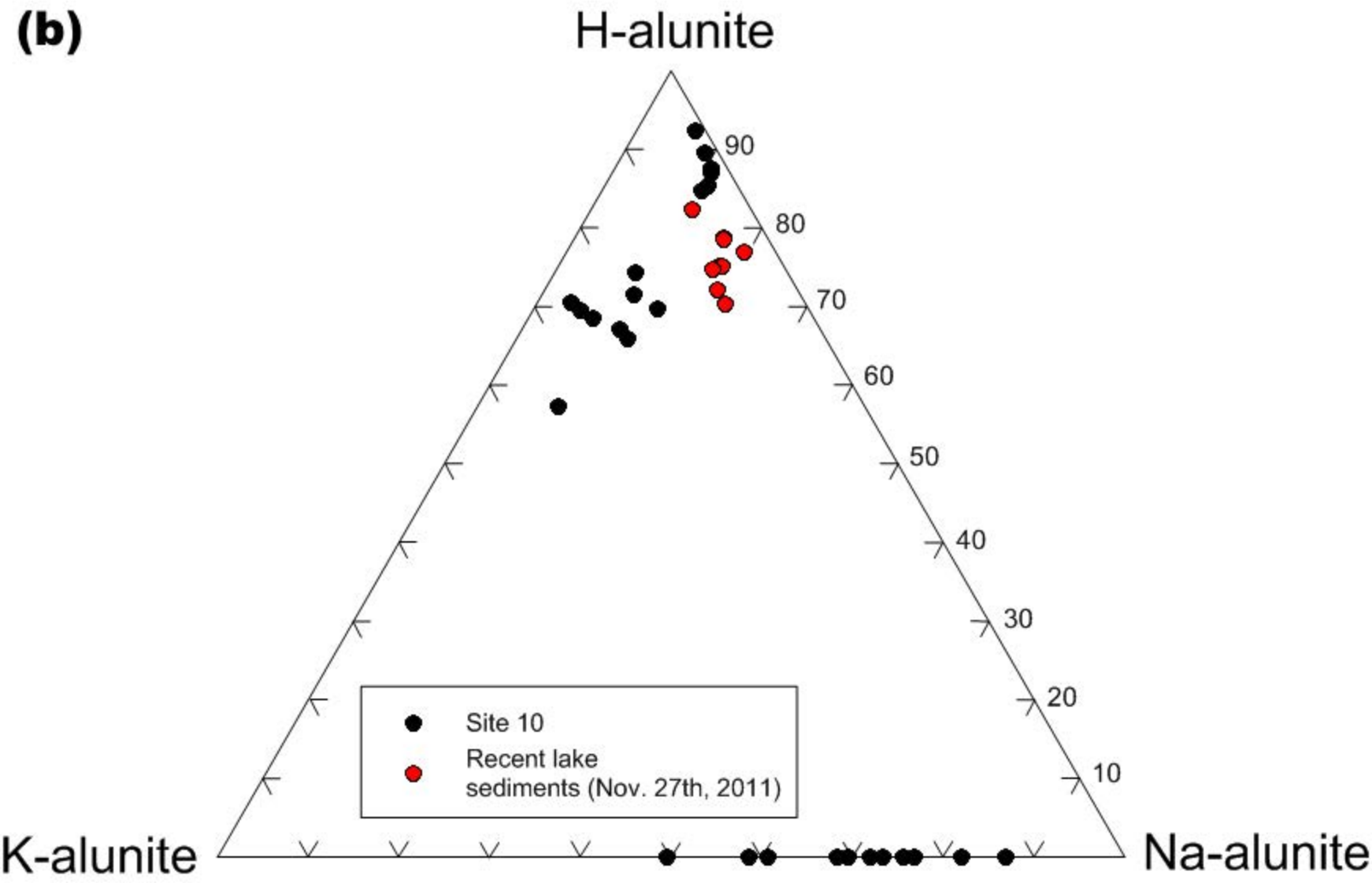


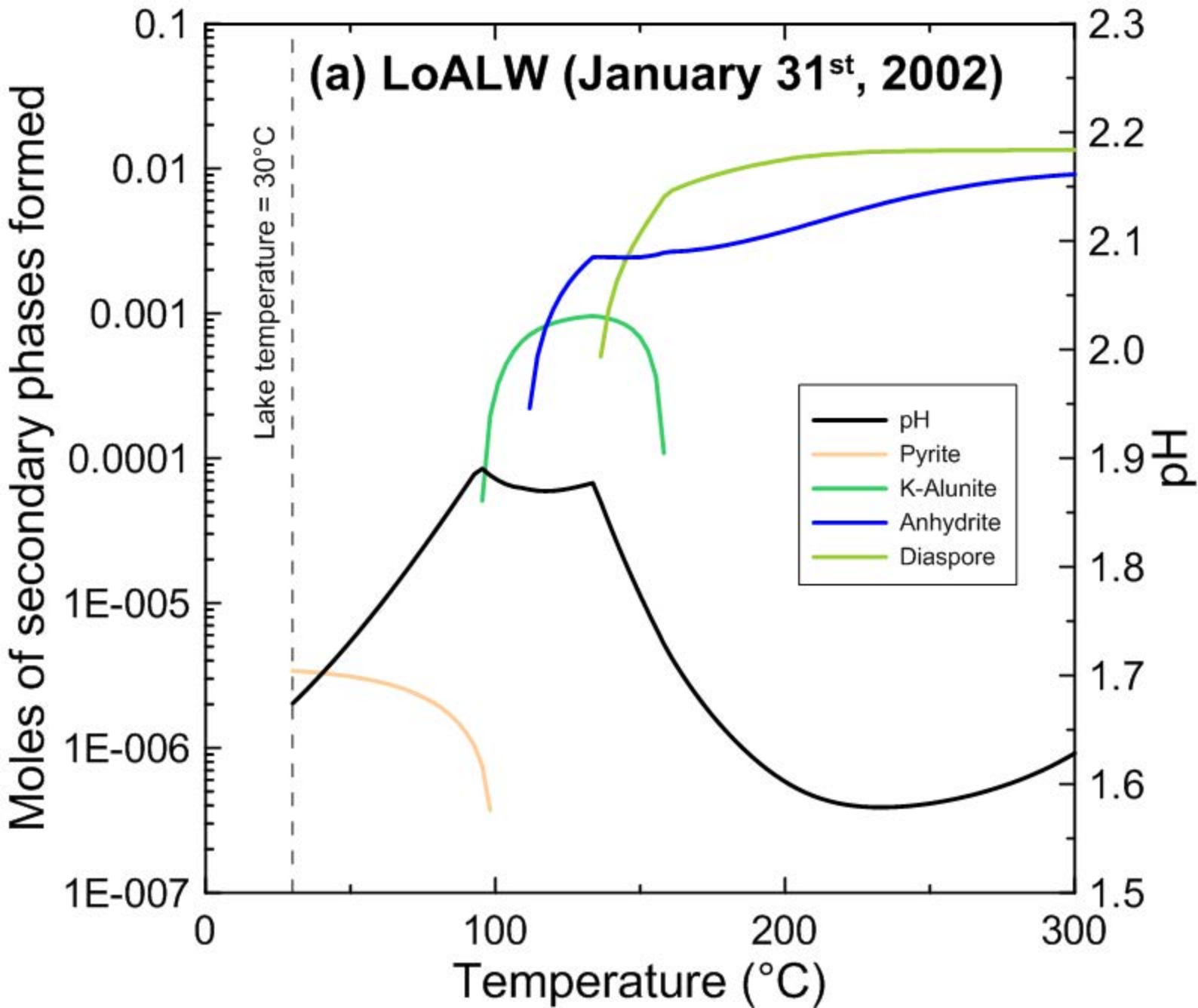


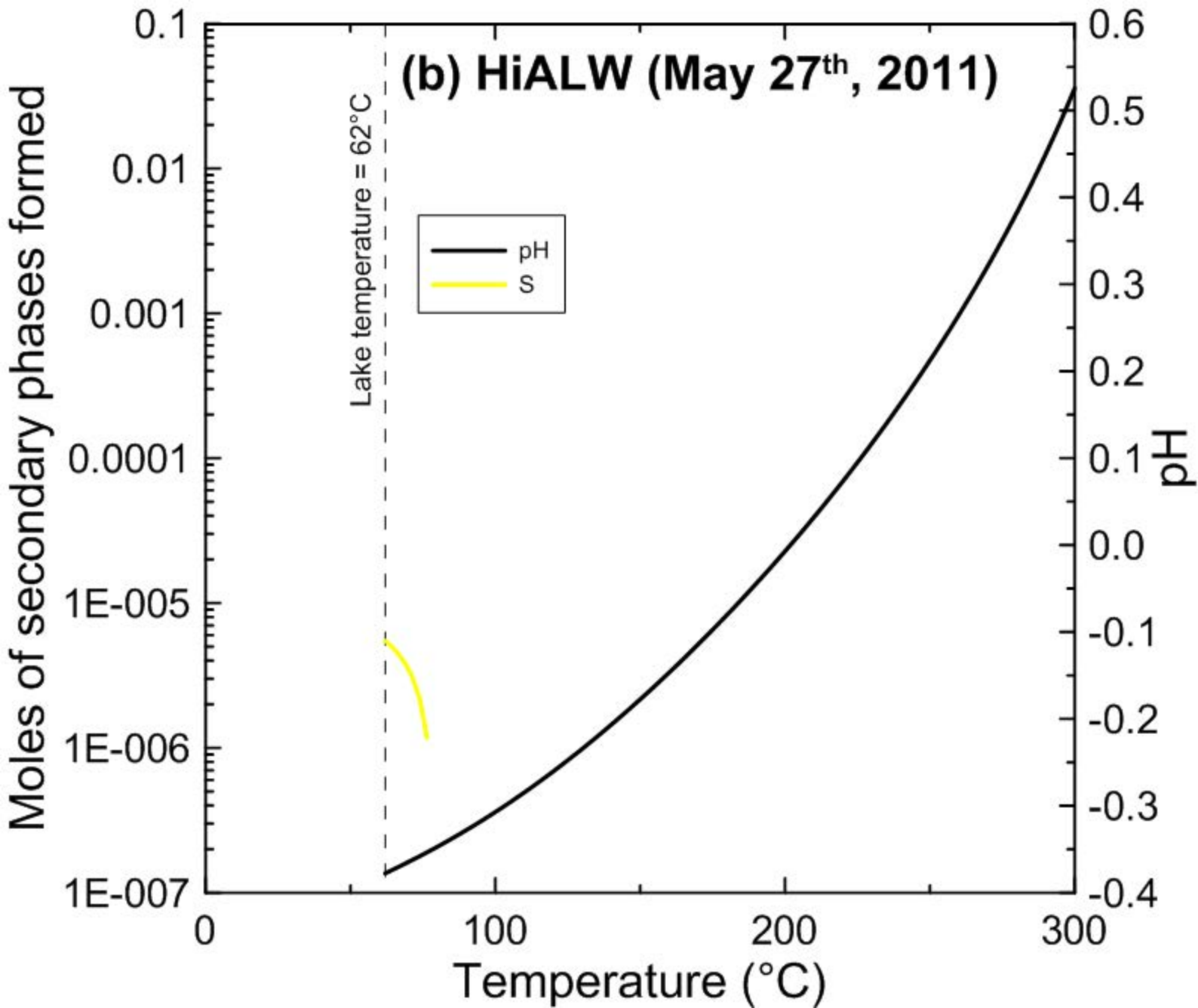


**(a)**



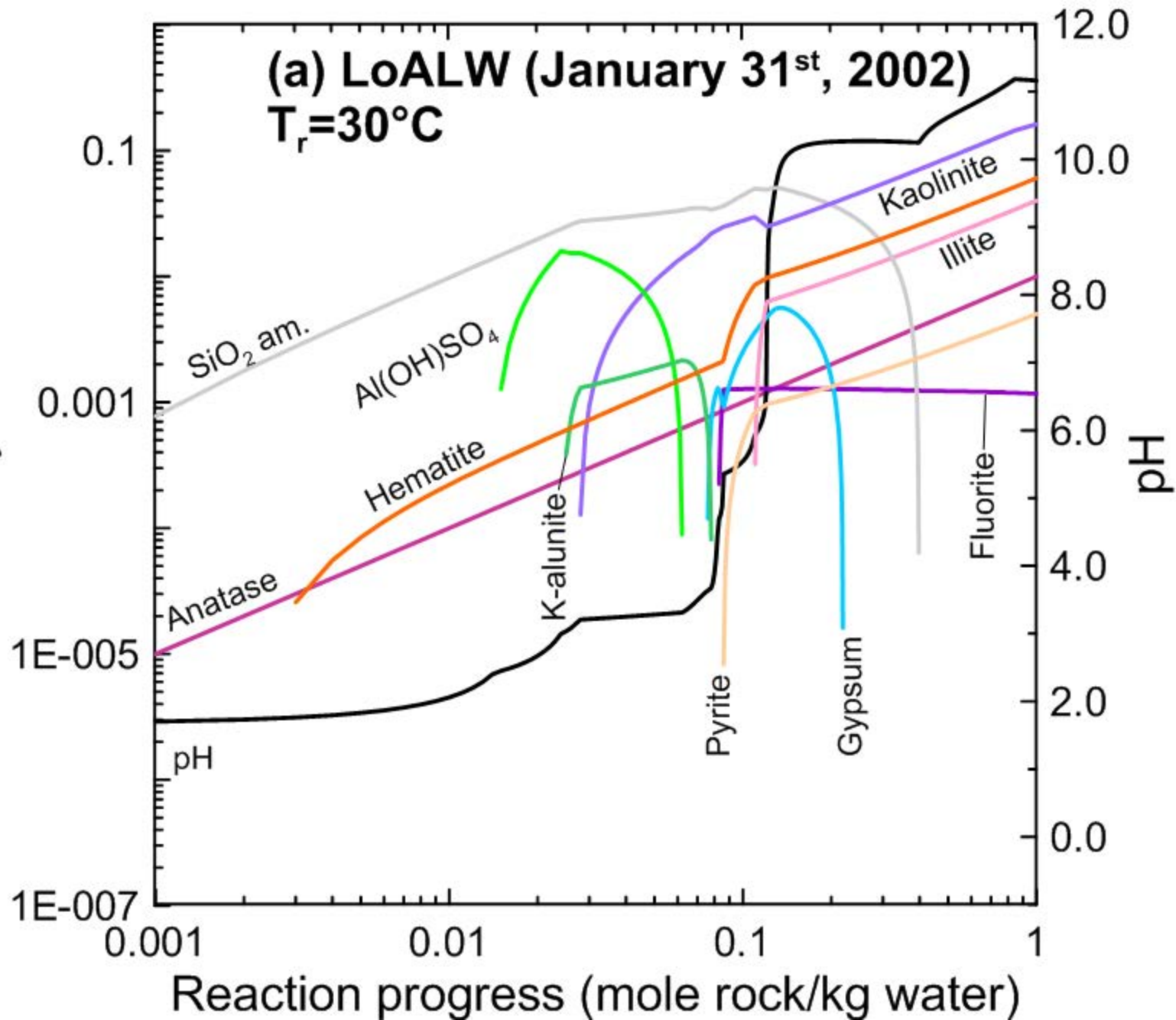
**(b)**





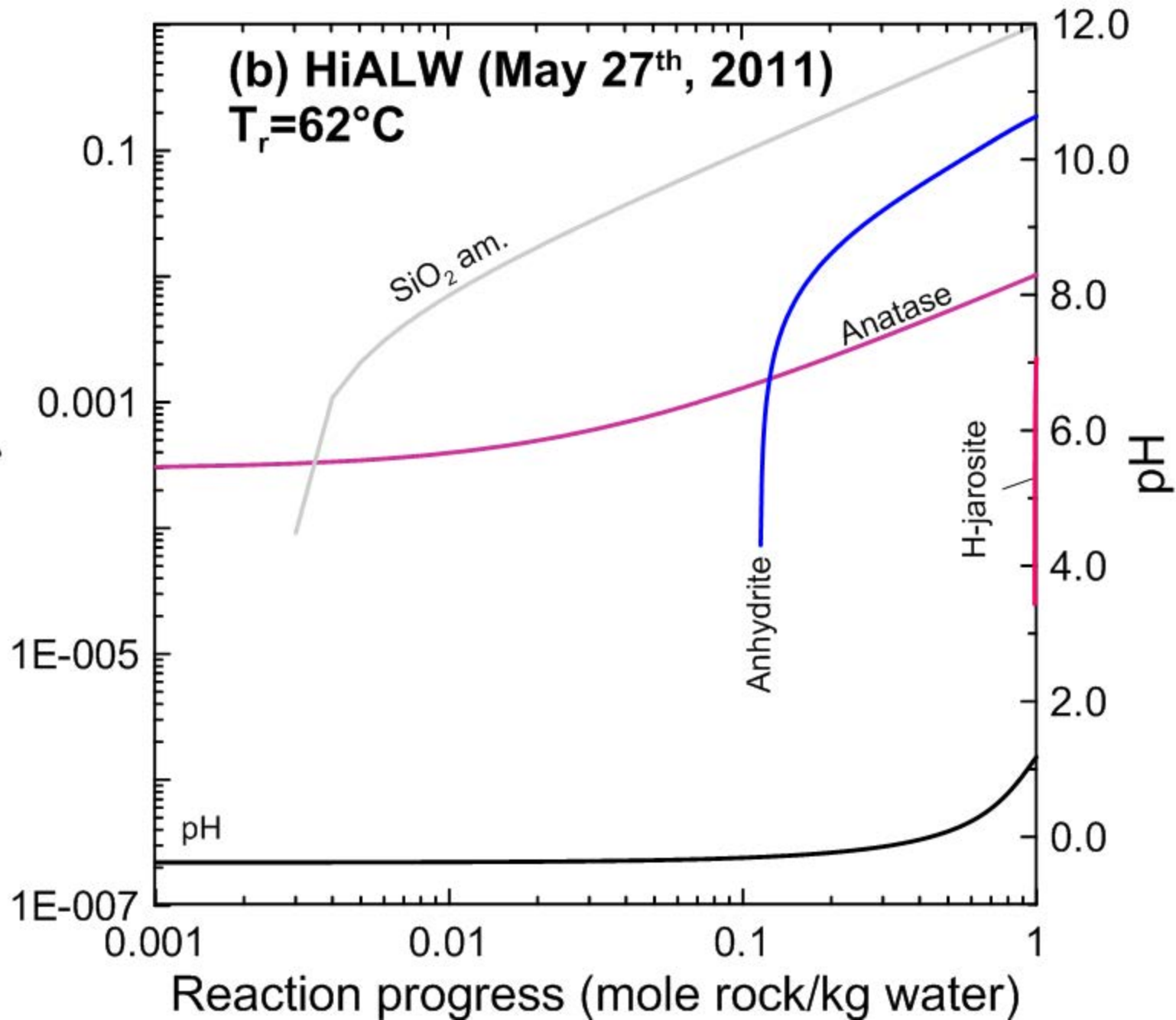
Moles of secondary minerals formed

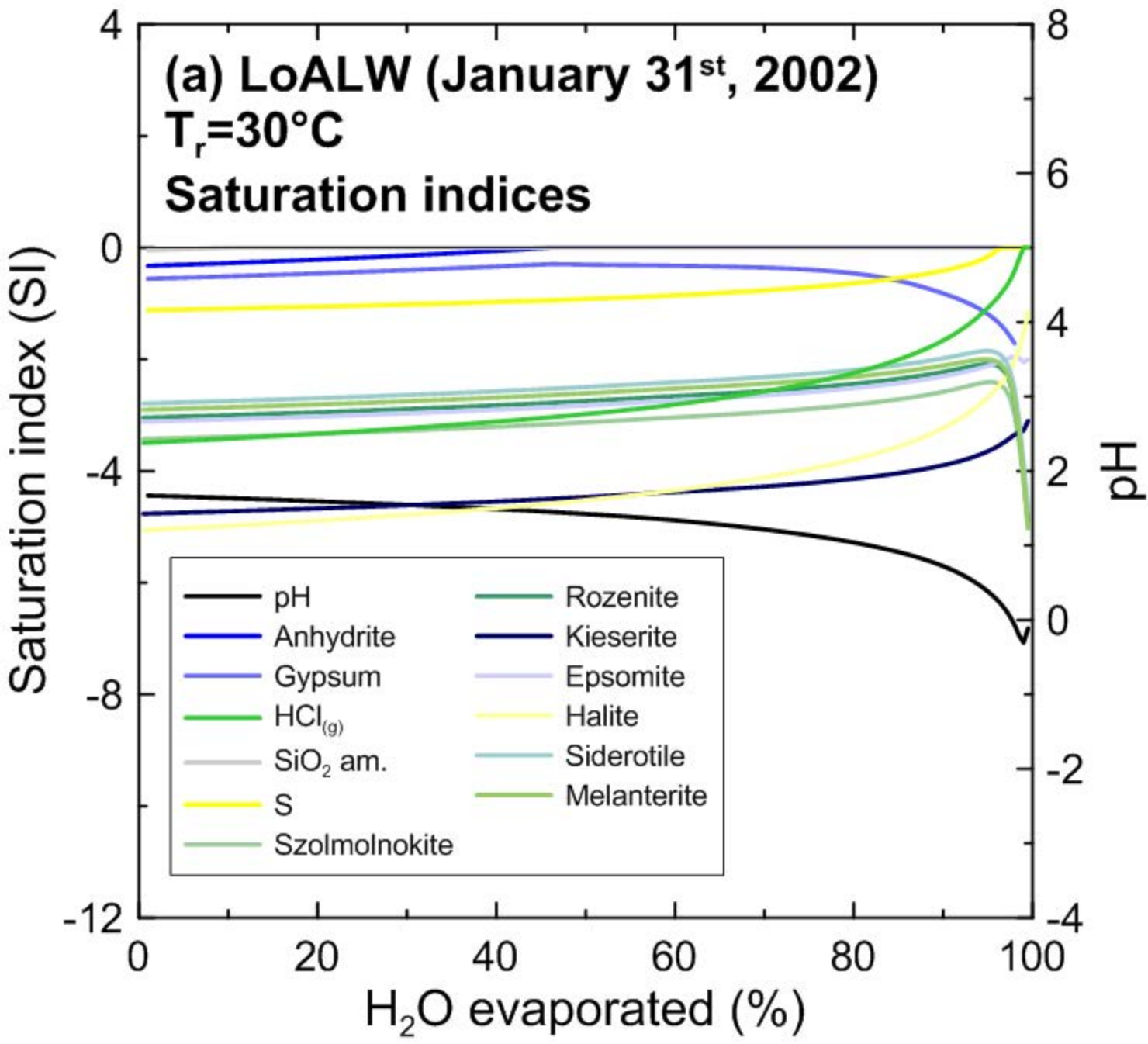
(a) LoALW (January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002)  
 $T_r = 30^\circ\text{C}$



Moles of secondary minerals formed

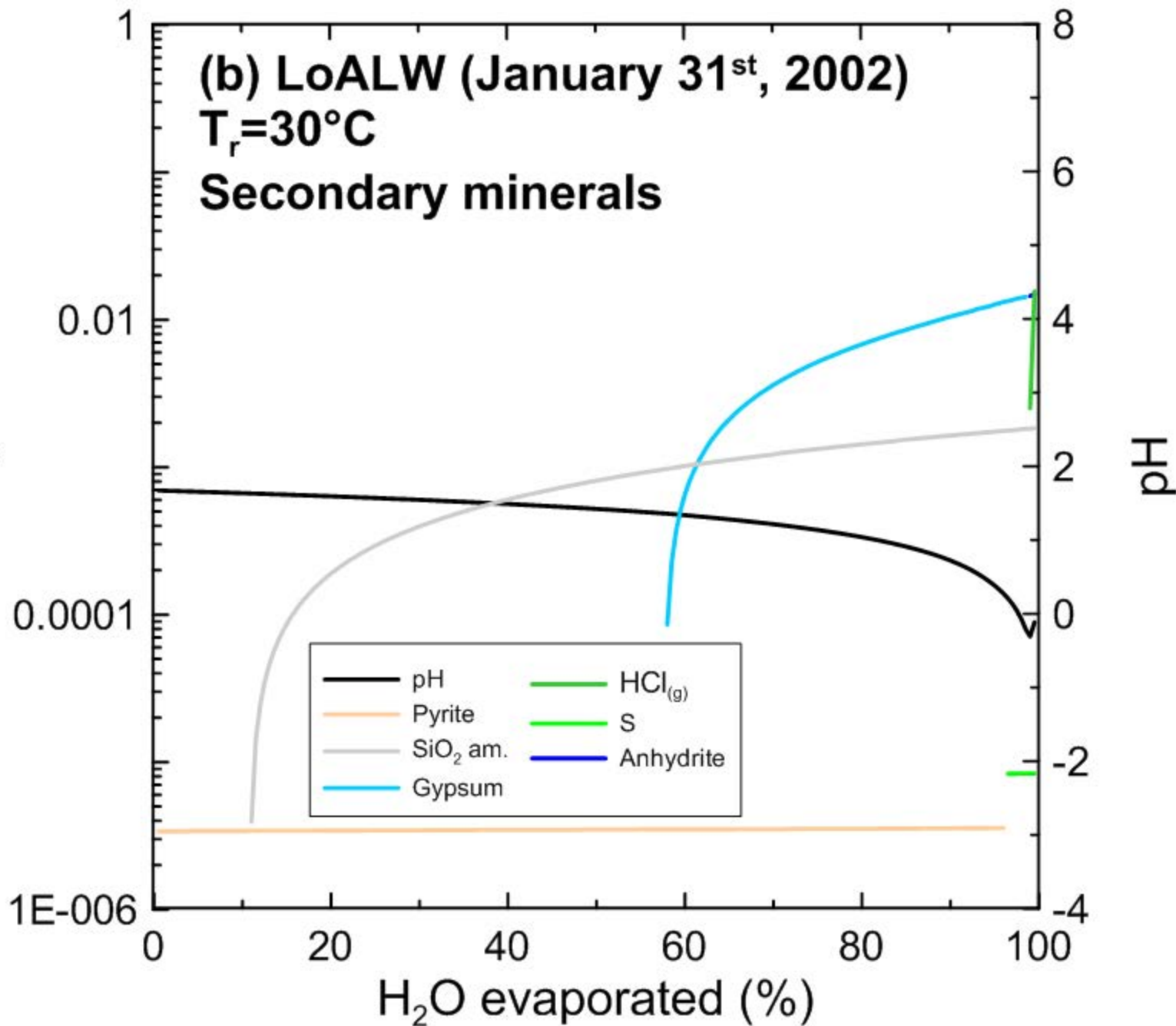
(b) HiALW (May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011)  
 $T_r = 62^\circ\text{C}$

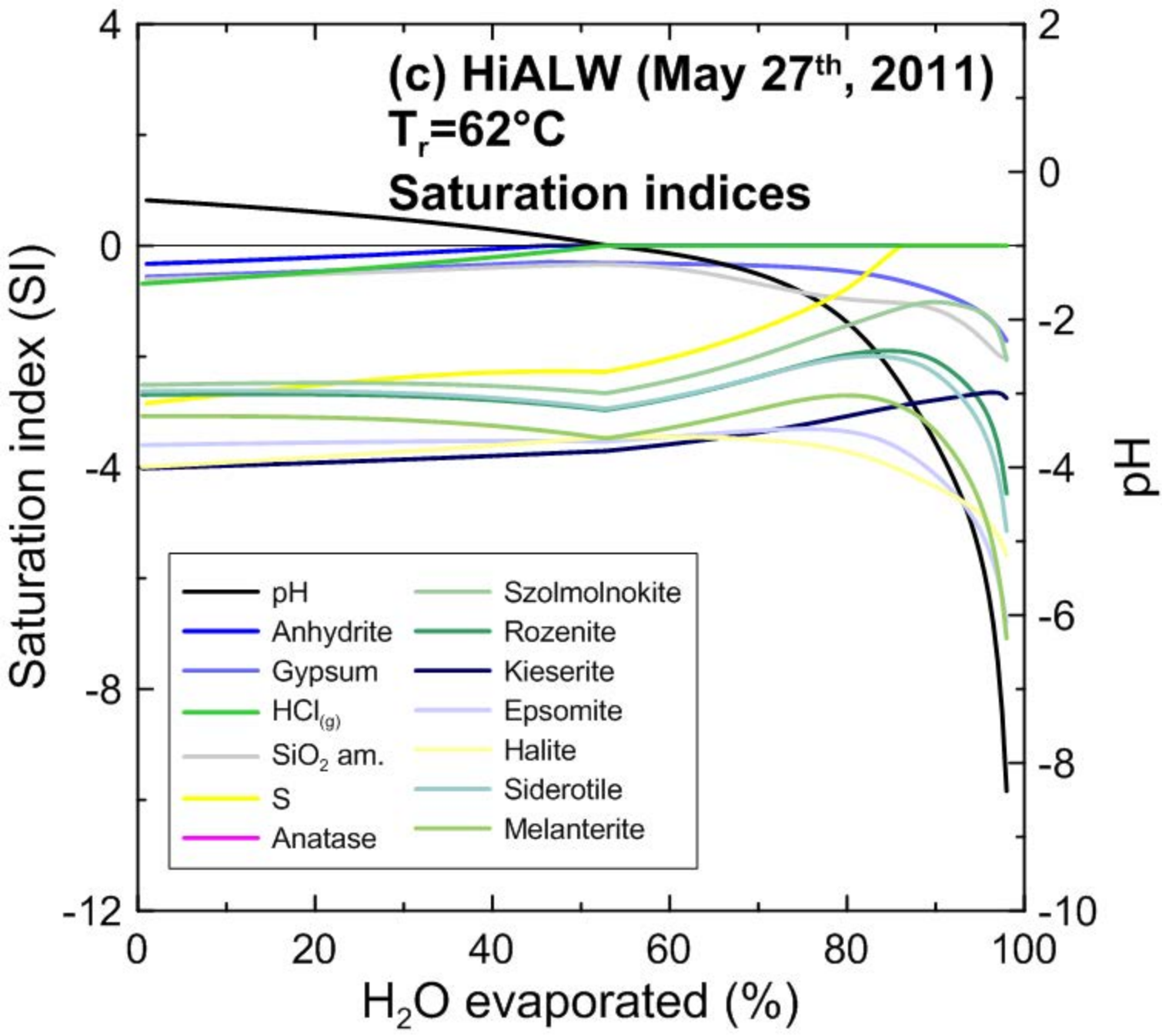




Moles of secondary minerals formed

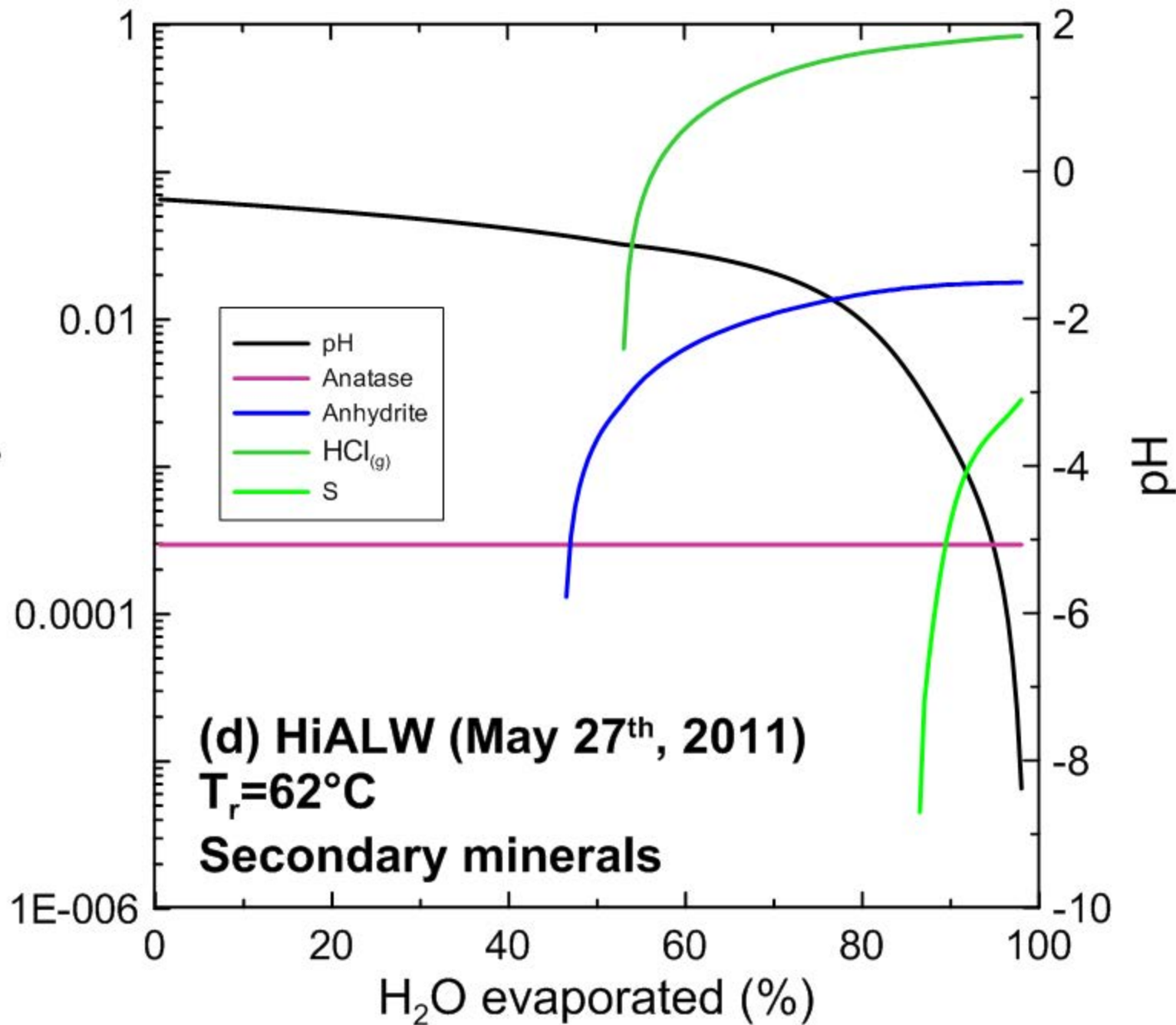
(b) LoALW (January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002)  
 $T_r = 30^\circ\text{C}$   
Secondary minerals



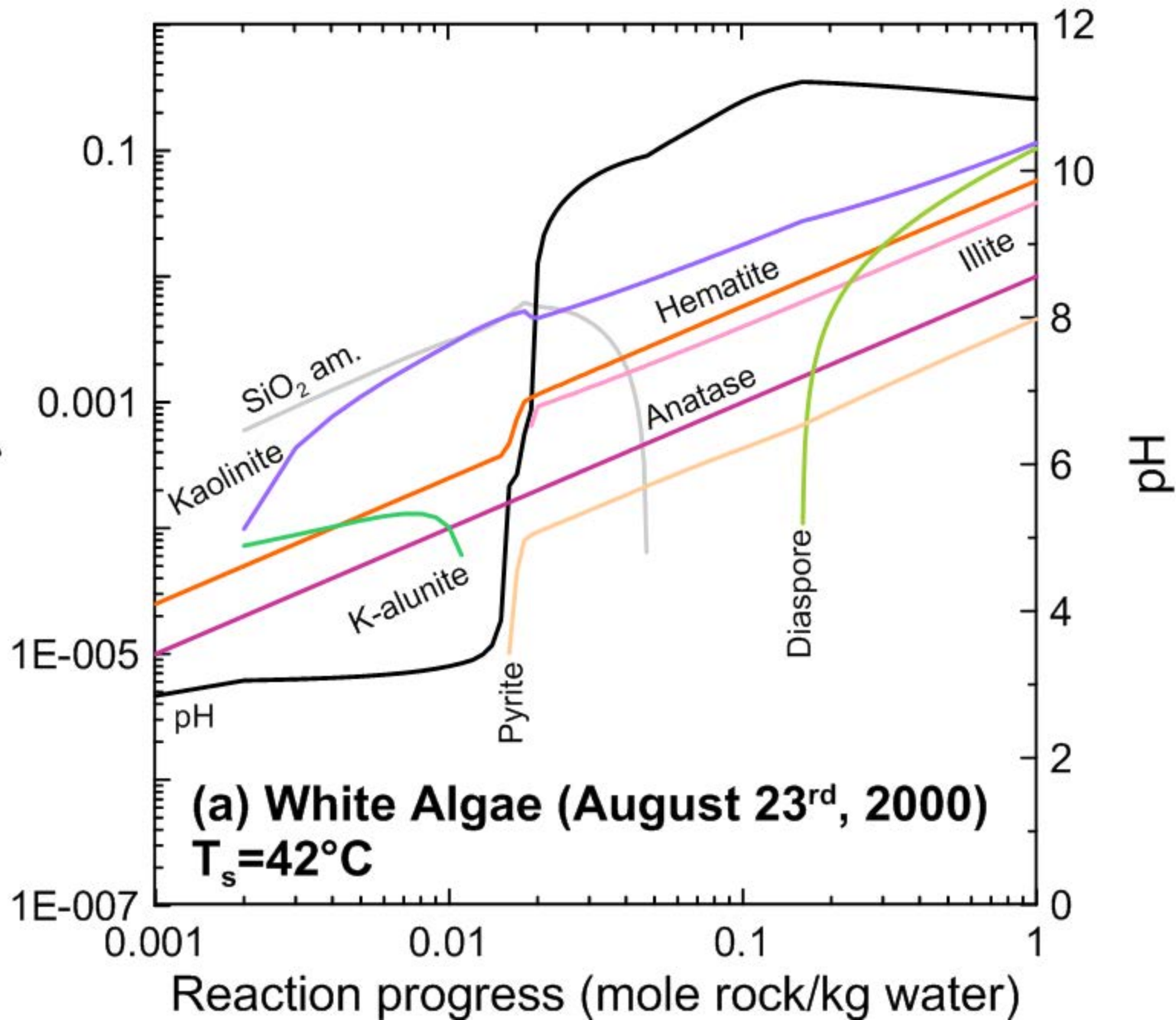




Moles of secondary minerals formed



Moles of secondary minerals formed

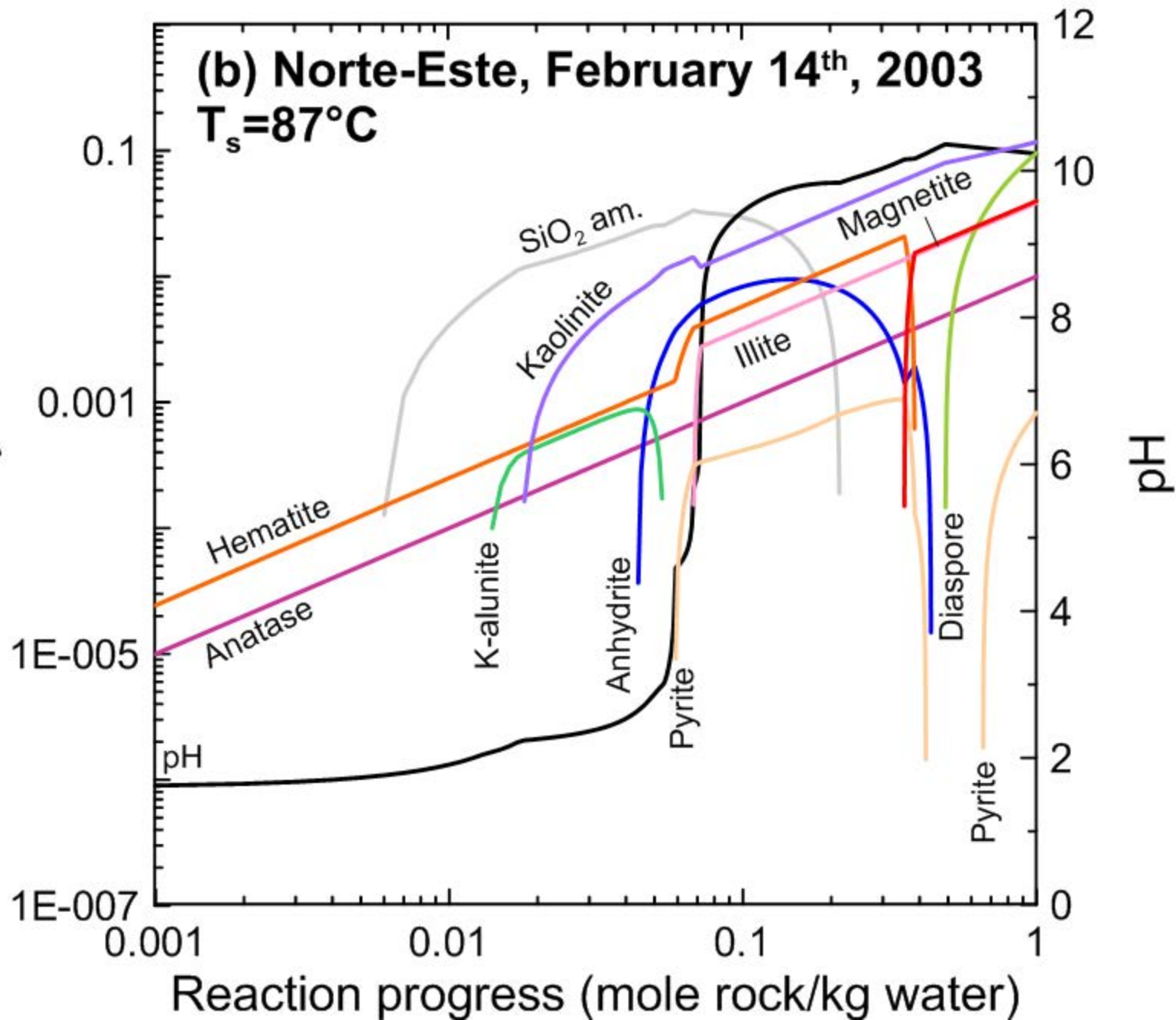


**(a) White Algae (August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2000)**  
 **$T_s = 42^\circ\text{C}$**

Reaction progress (mole rock/kg water)

Moles of secondary minerals formed

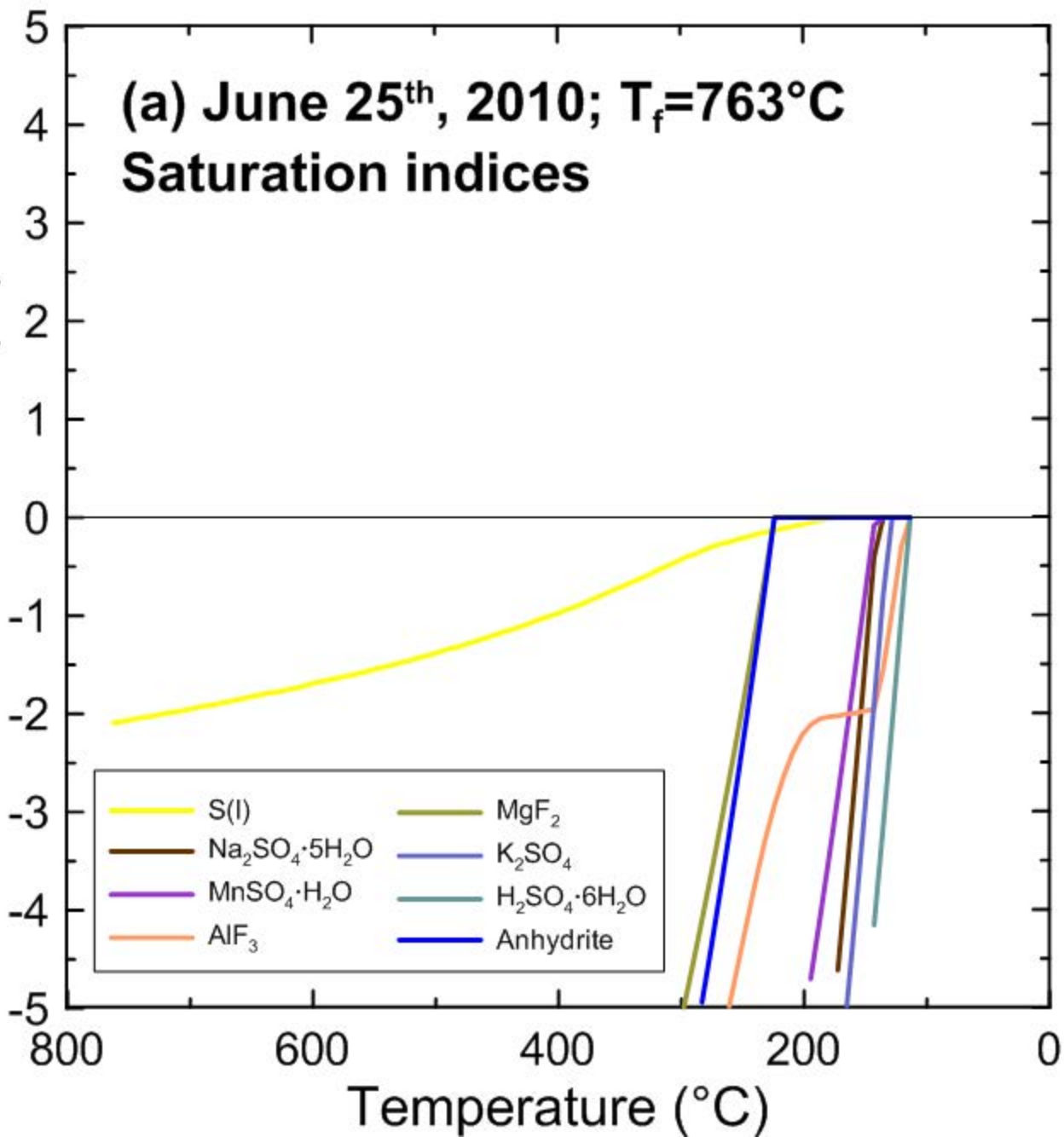
(b) Norte-Este, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2003  
 $T_s = 87^\circ\text{C}$

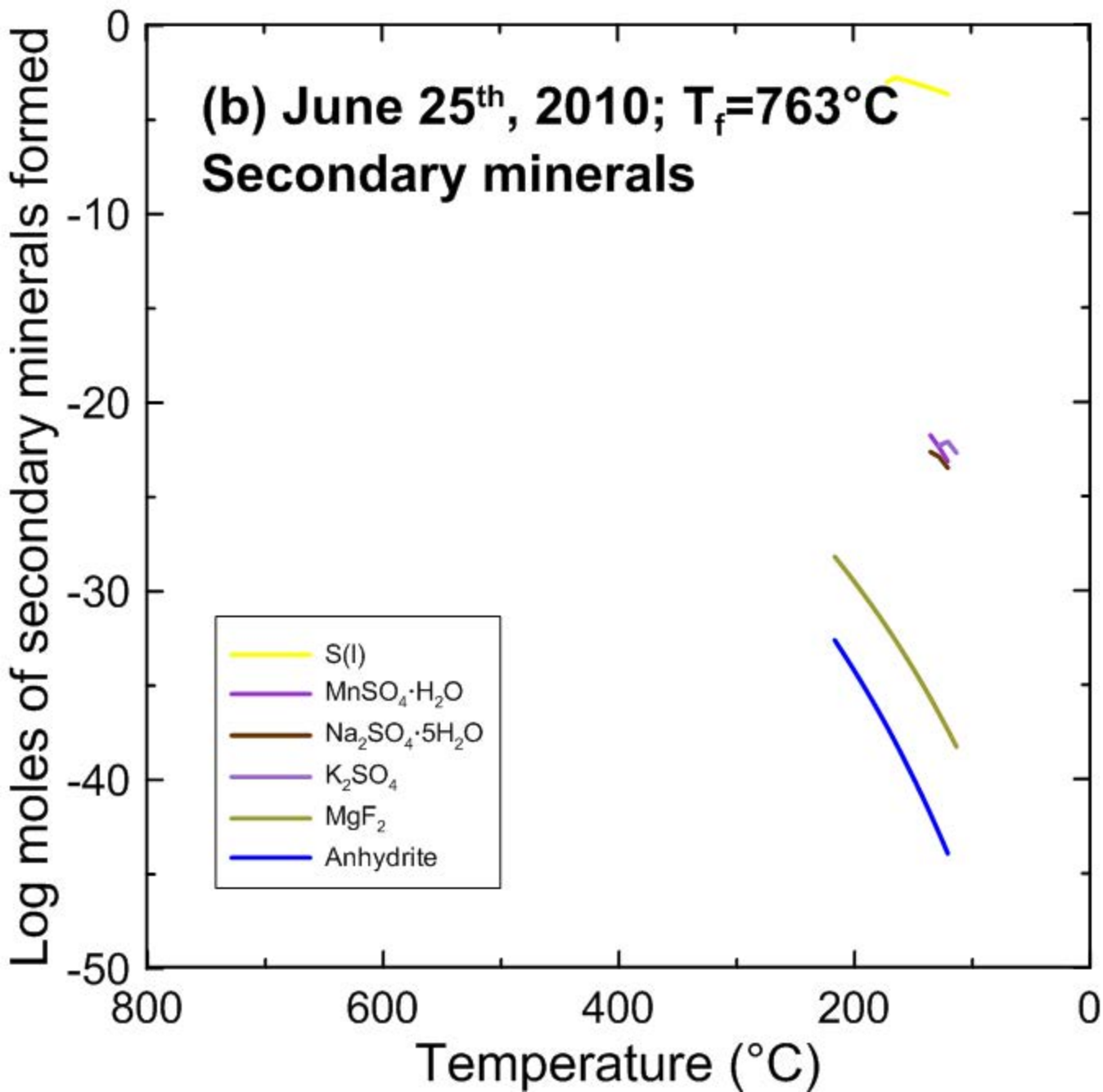


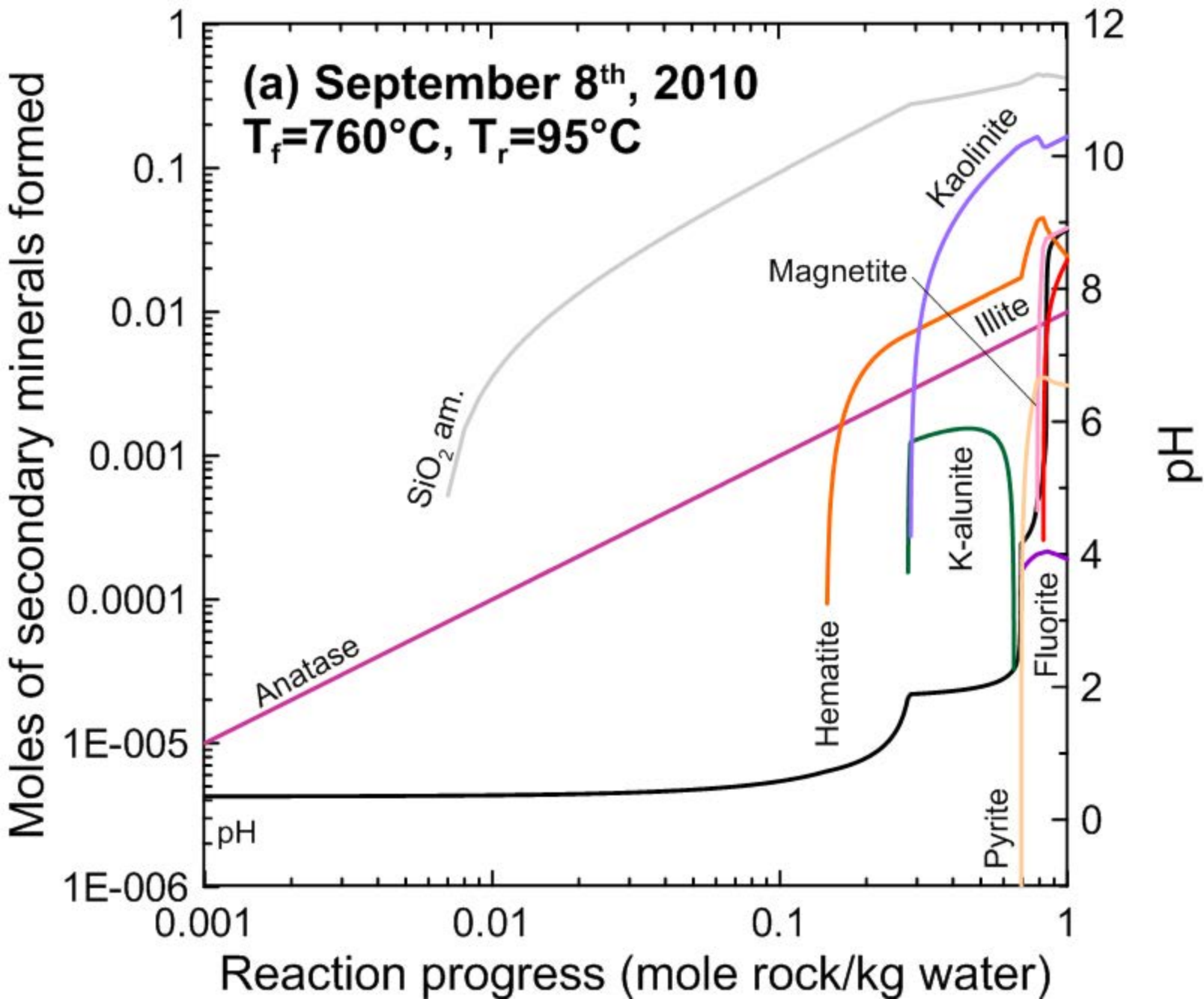


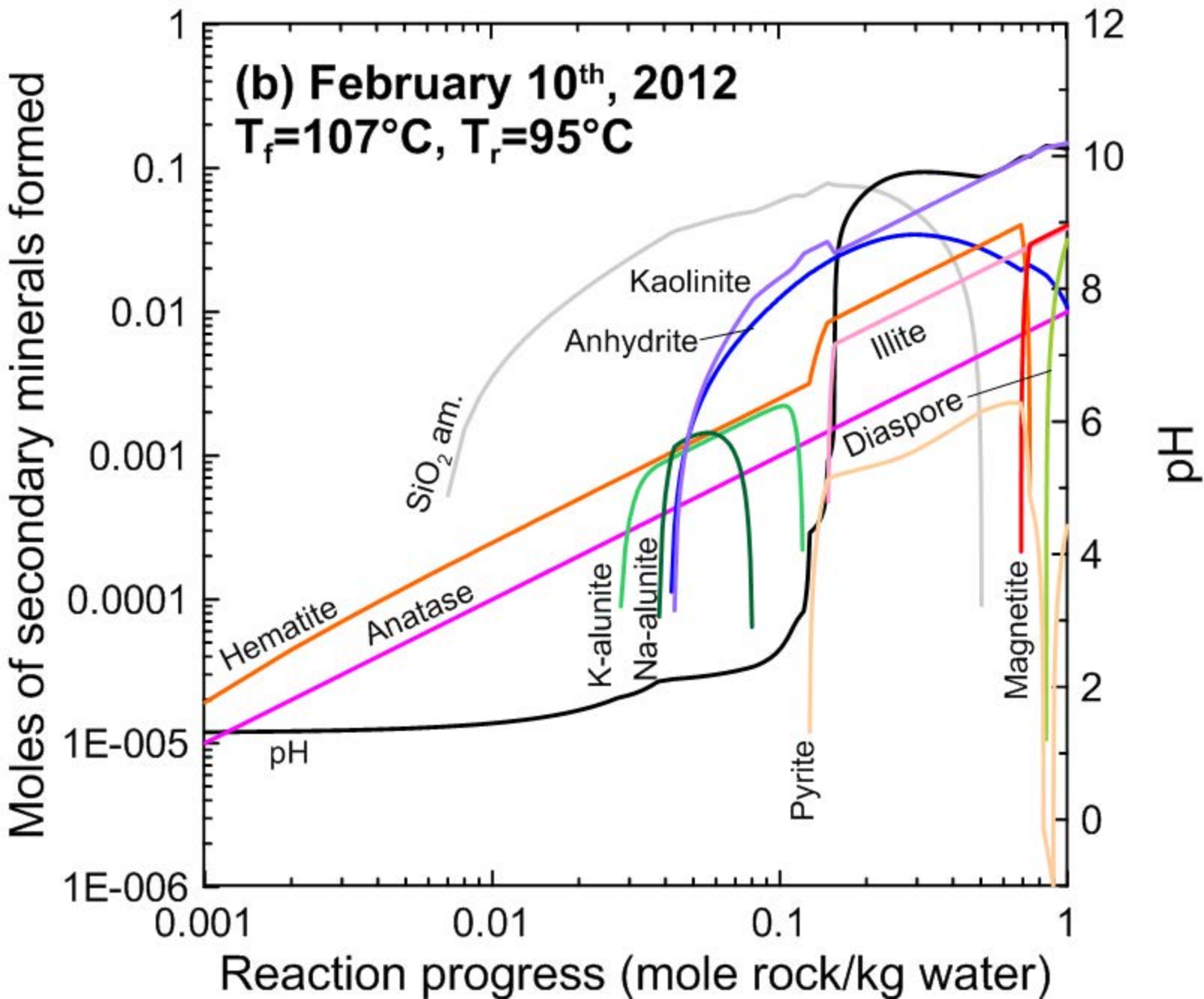
**(a) June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010;  $T_f=763^\circ\text{C}$**   
**Saturation indices**

Saturation index (SI)



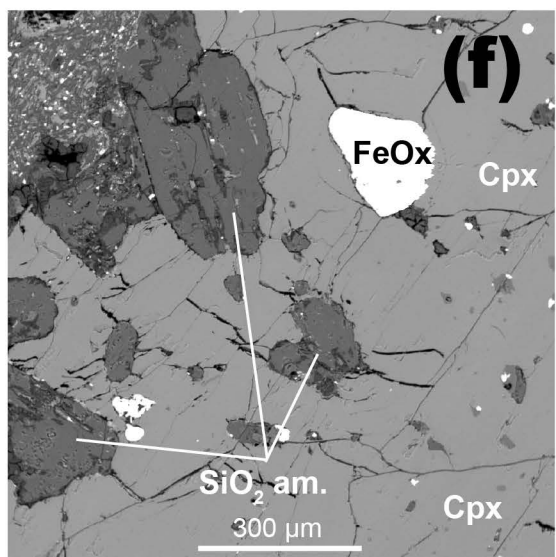
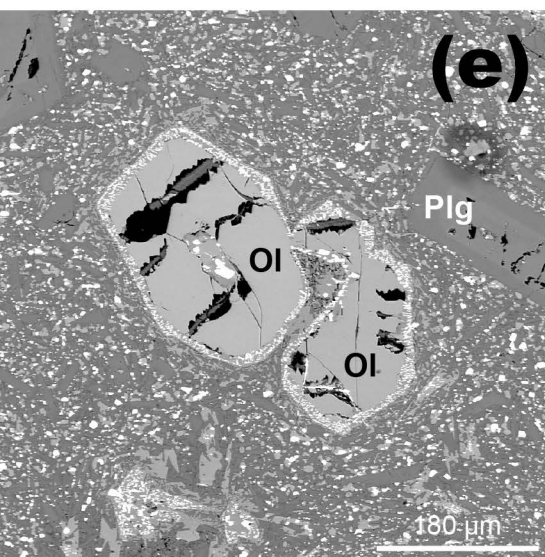
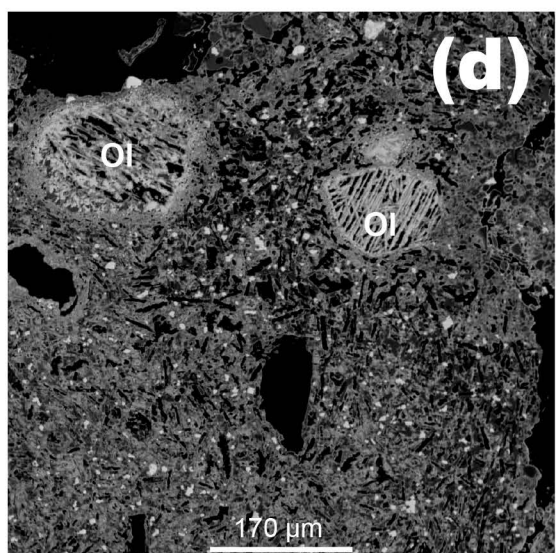
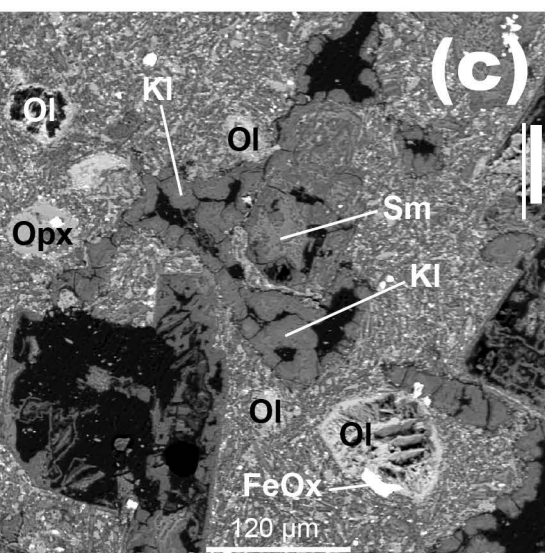
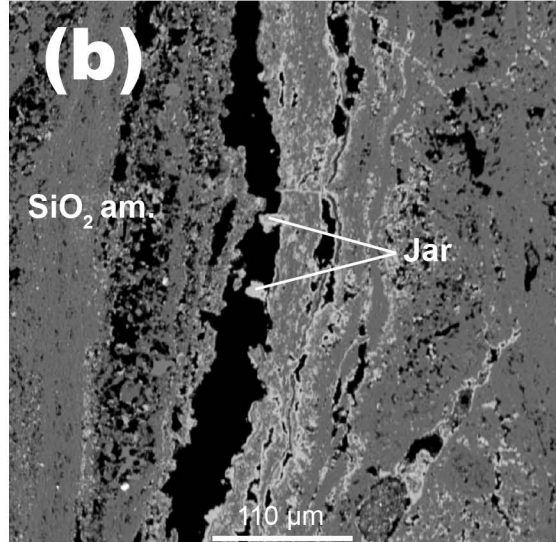
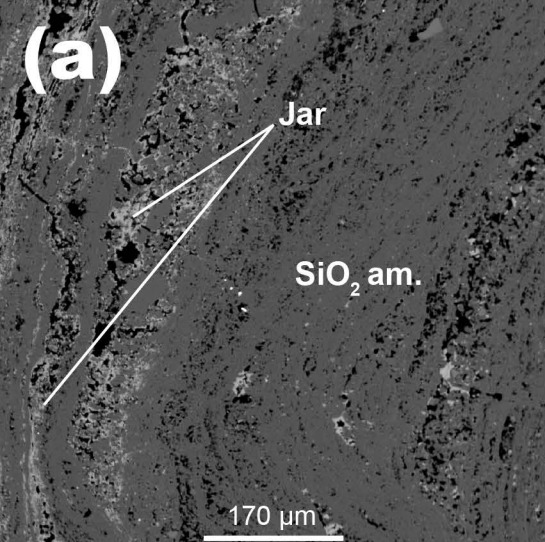


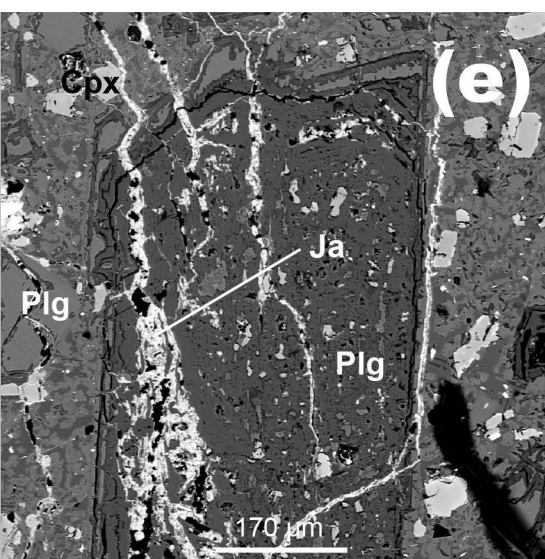
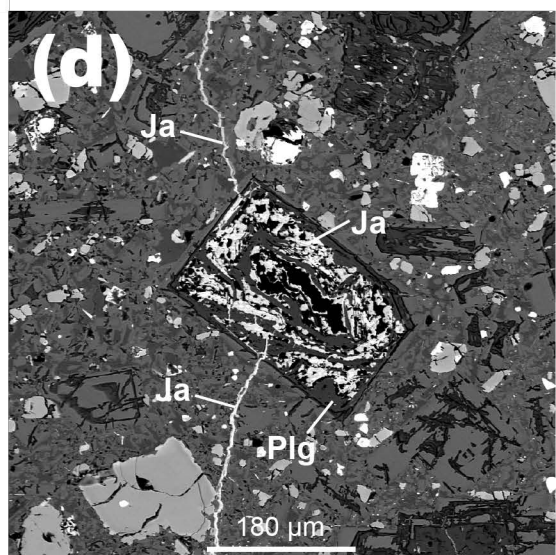
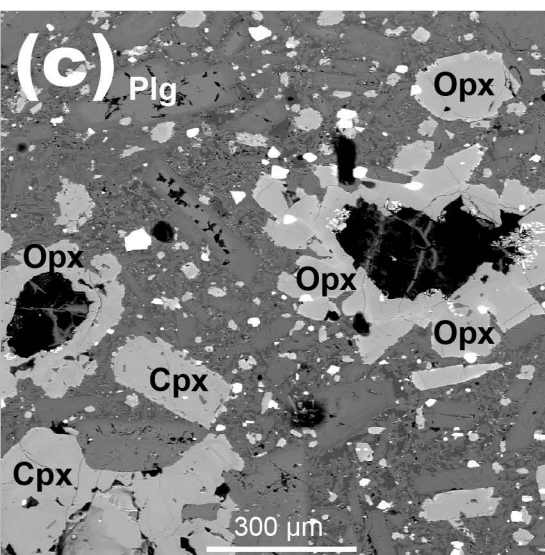
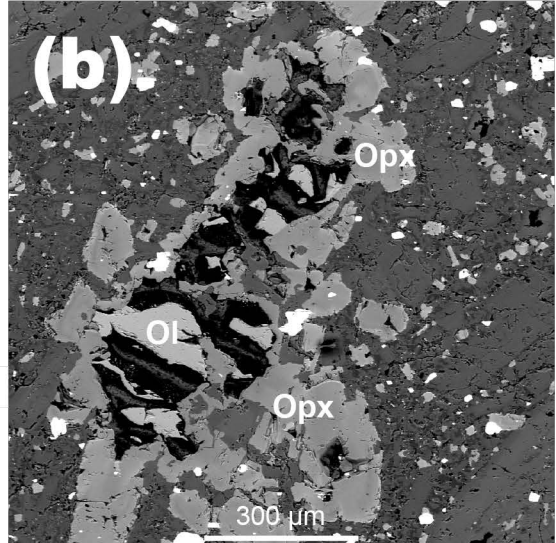
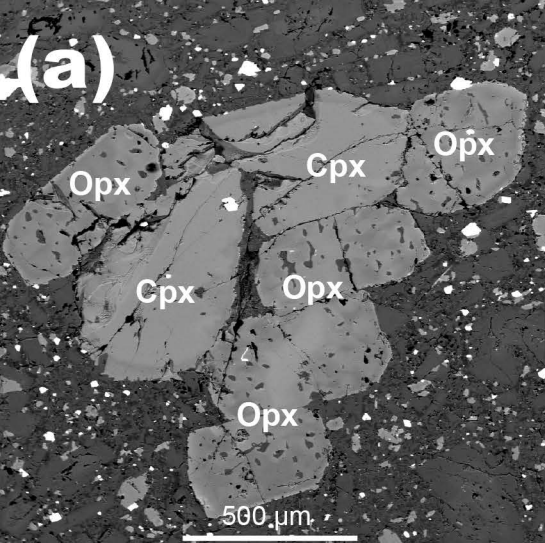


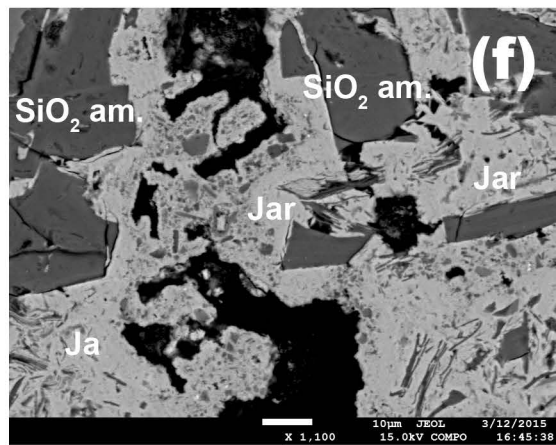
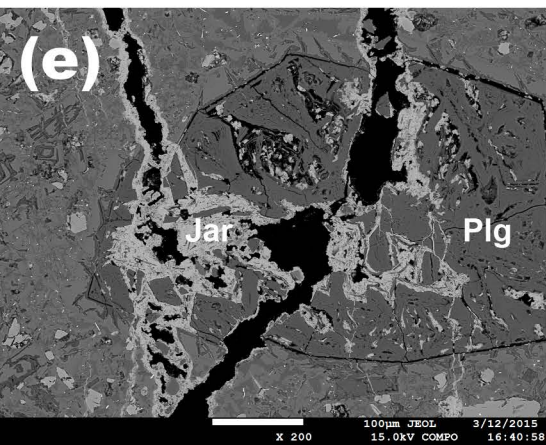
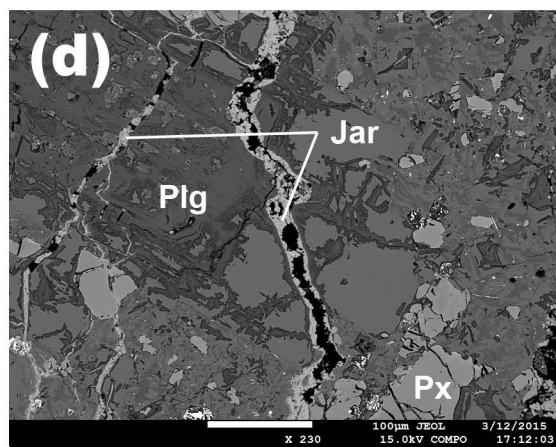
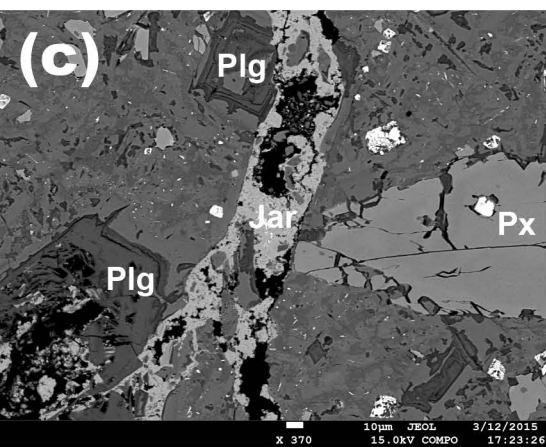
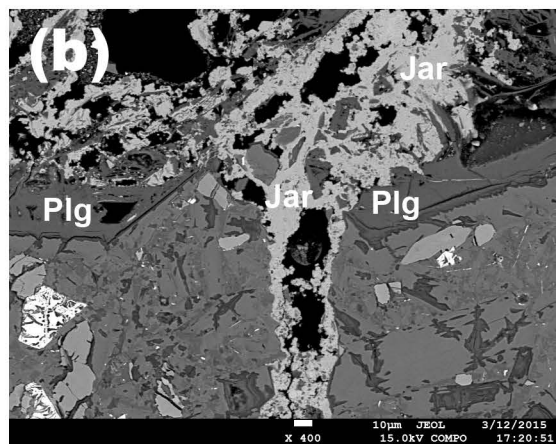
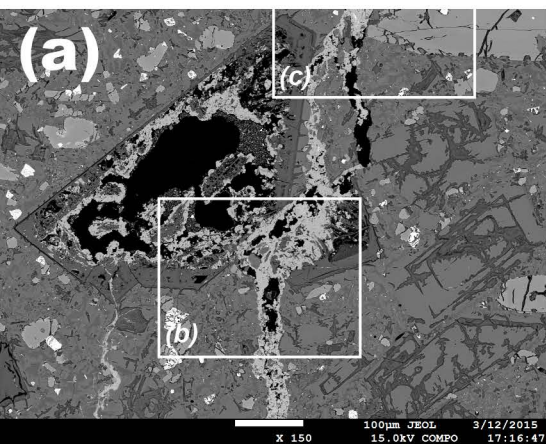


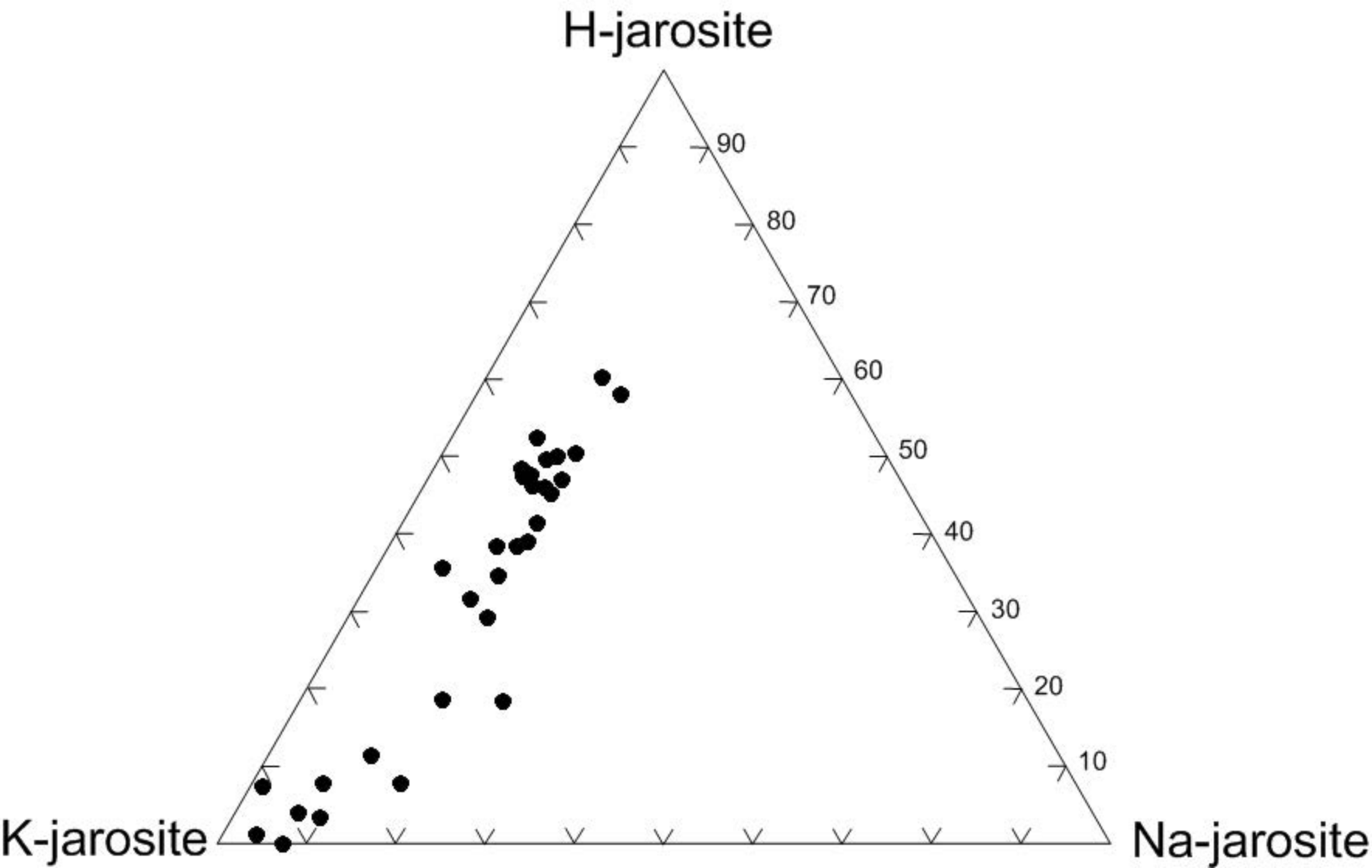


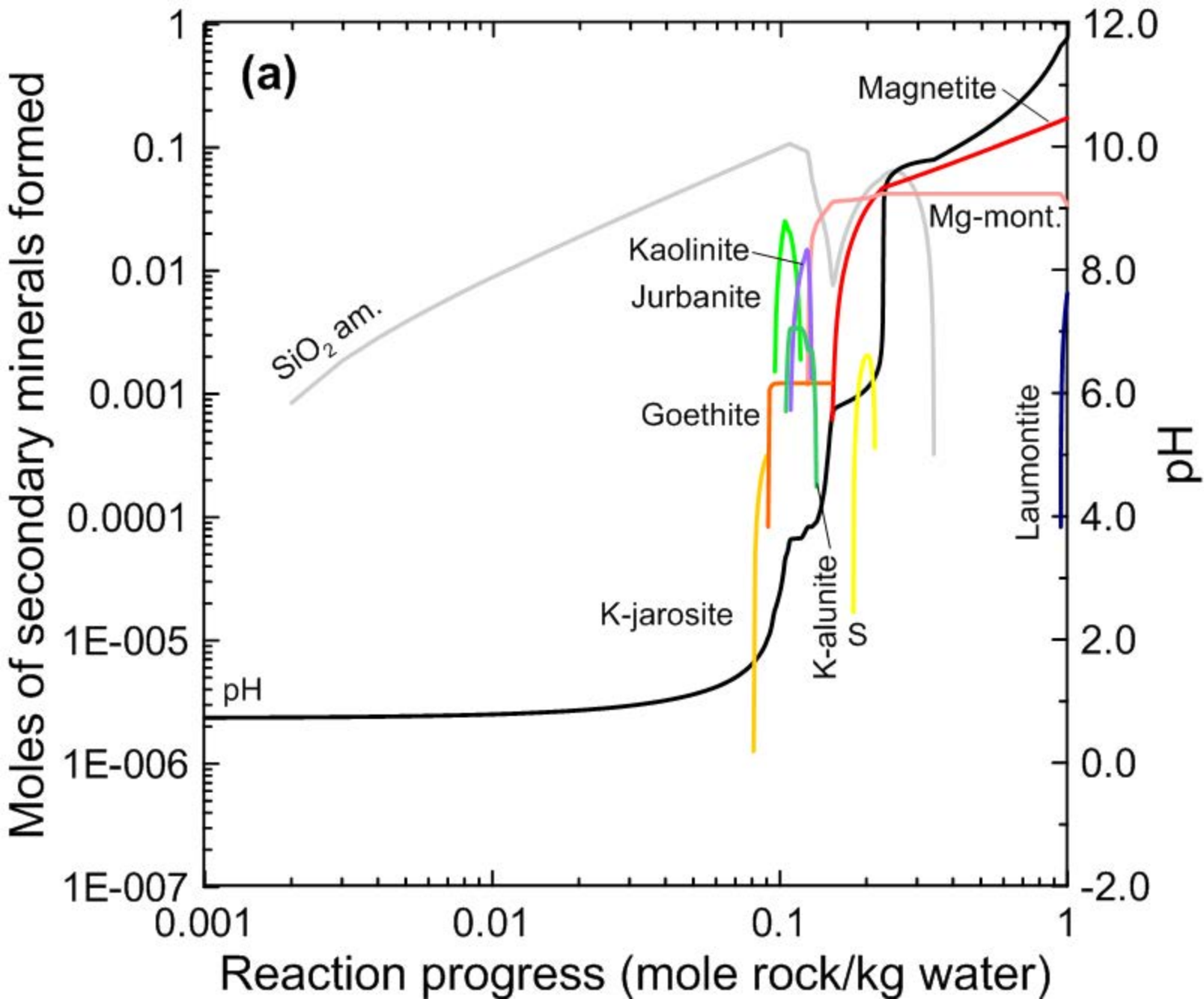




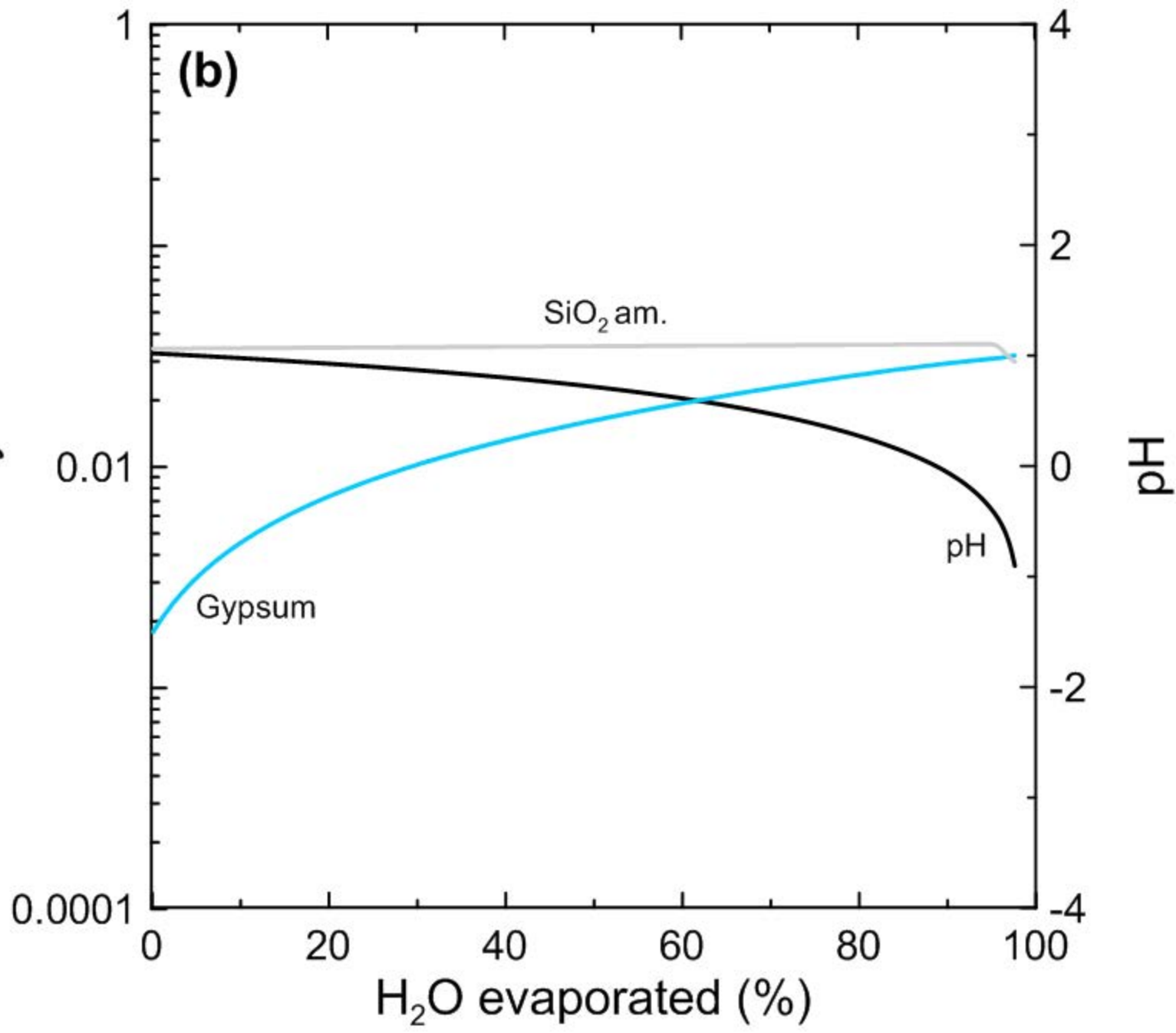


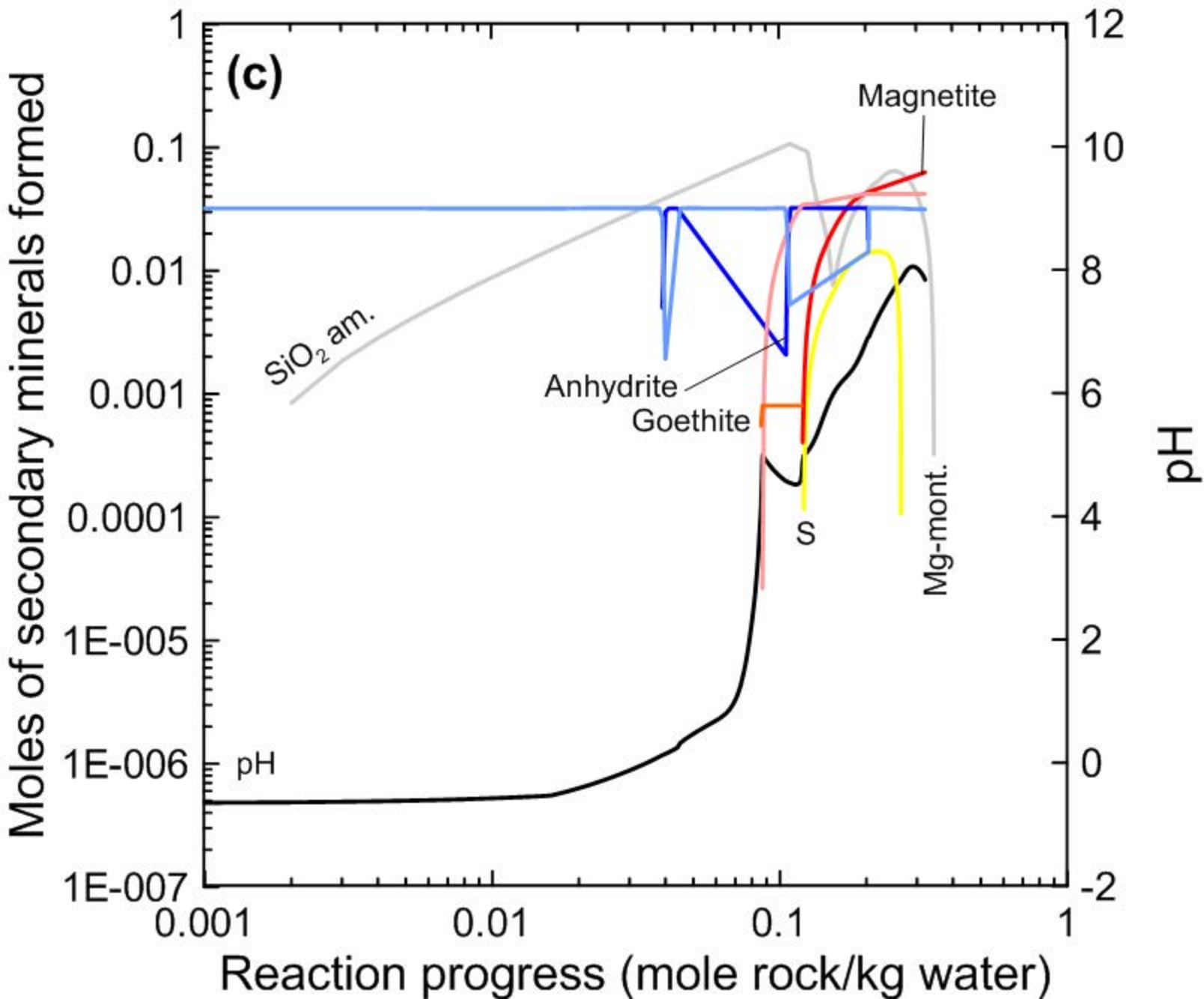






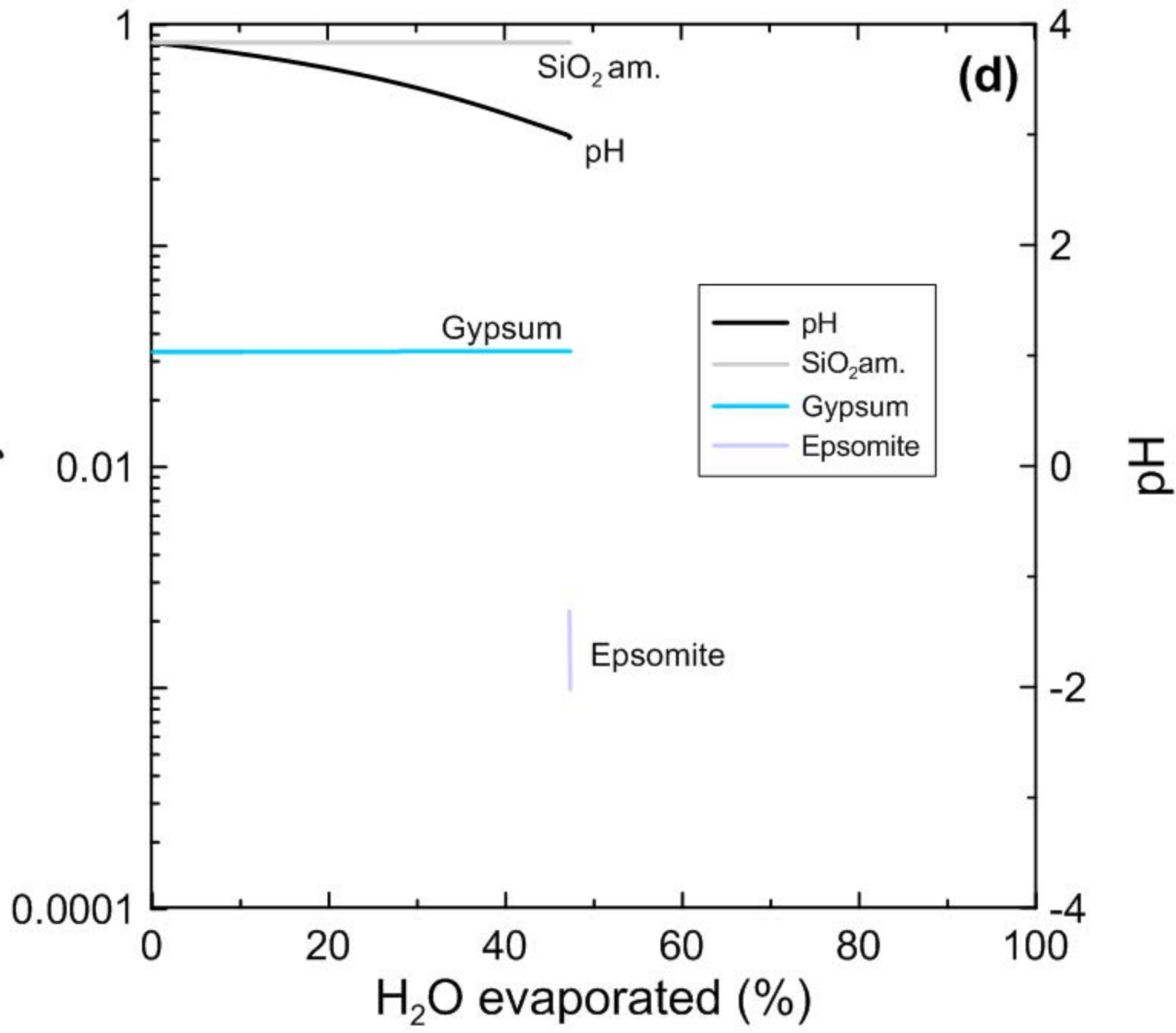
Moles of secondary minerals formed

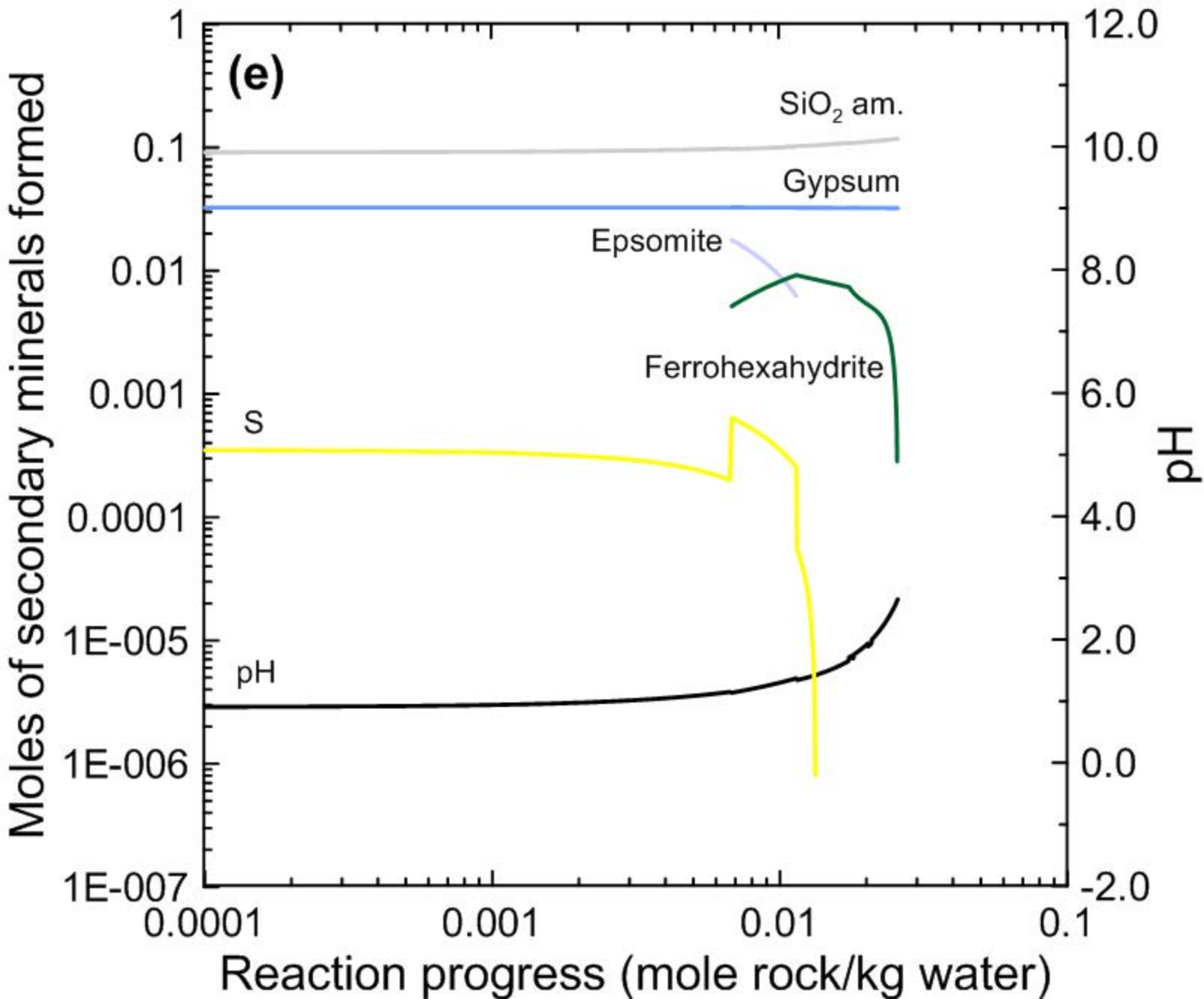




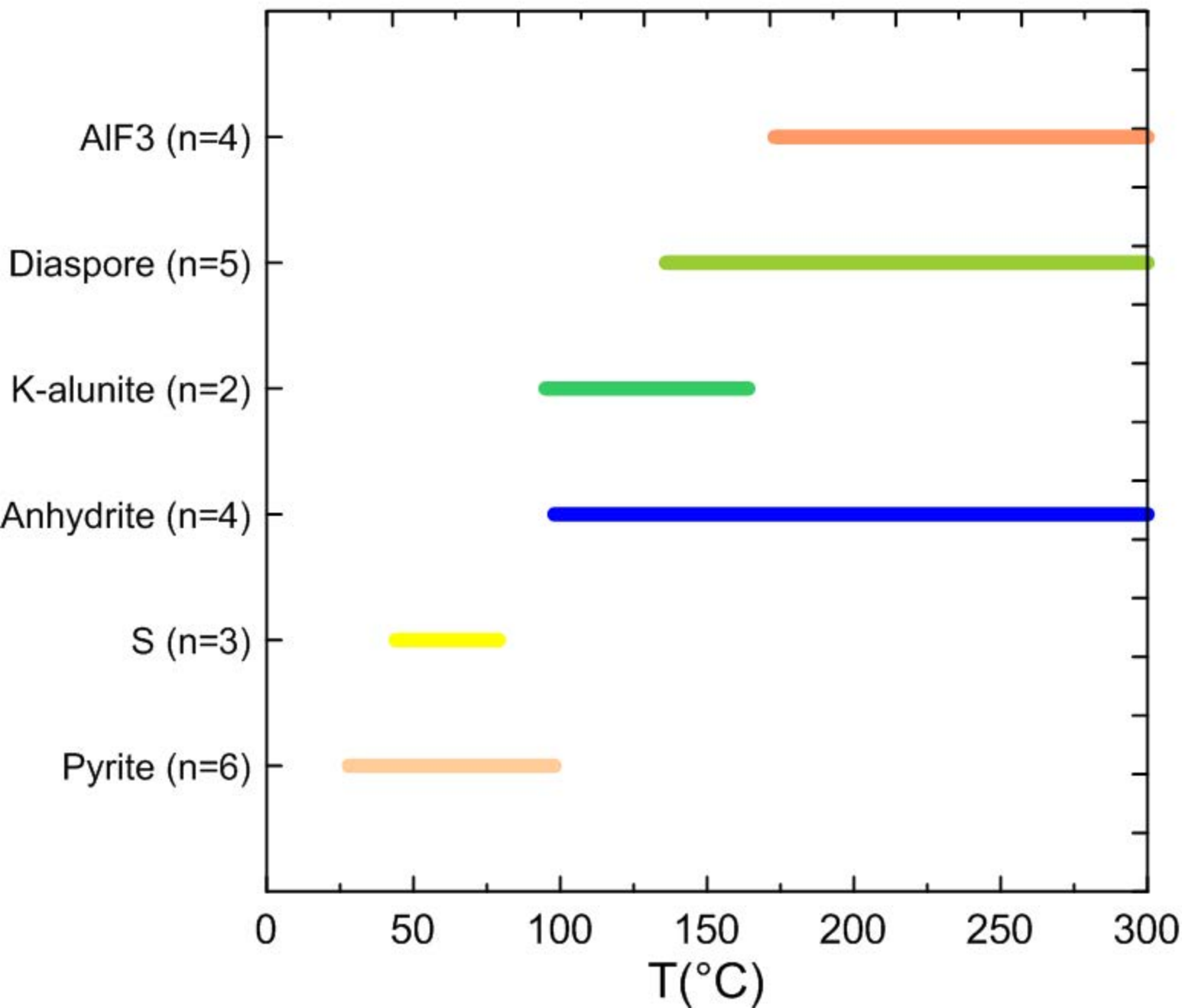


Moles of secondary minerals formed

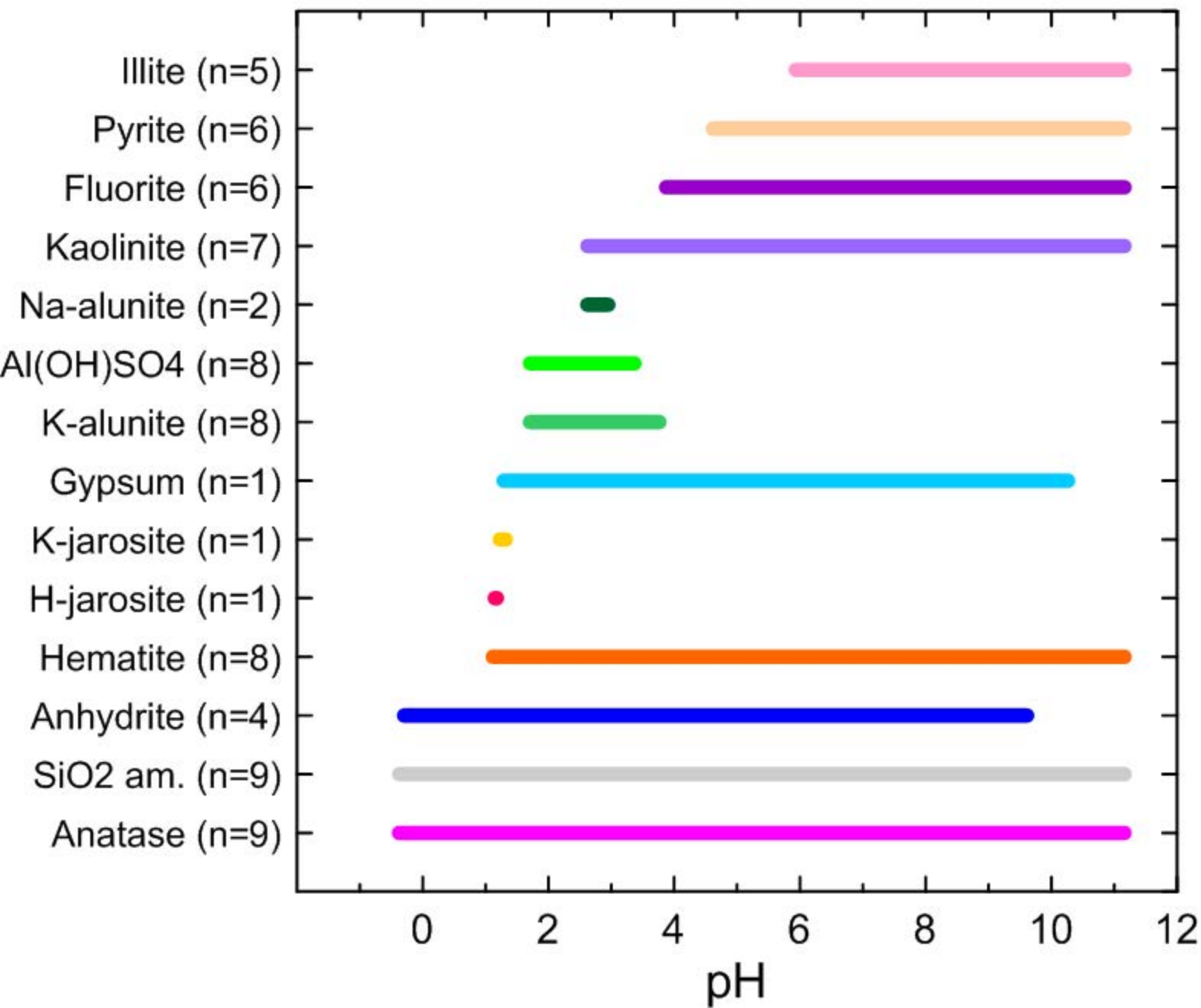




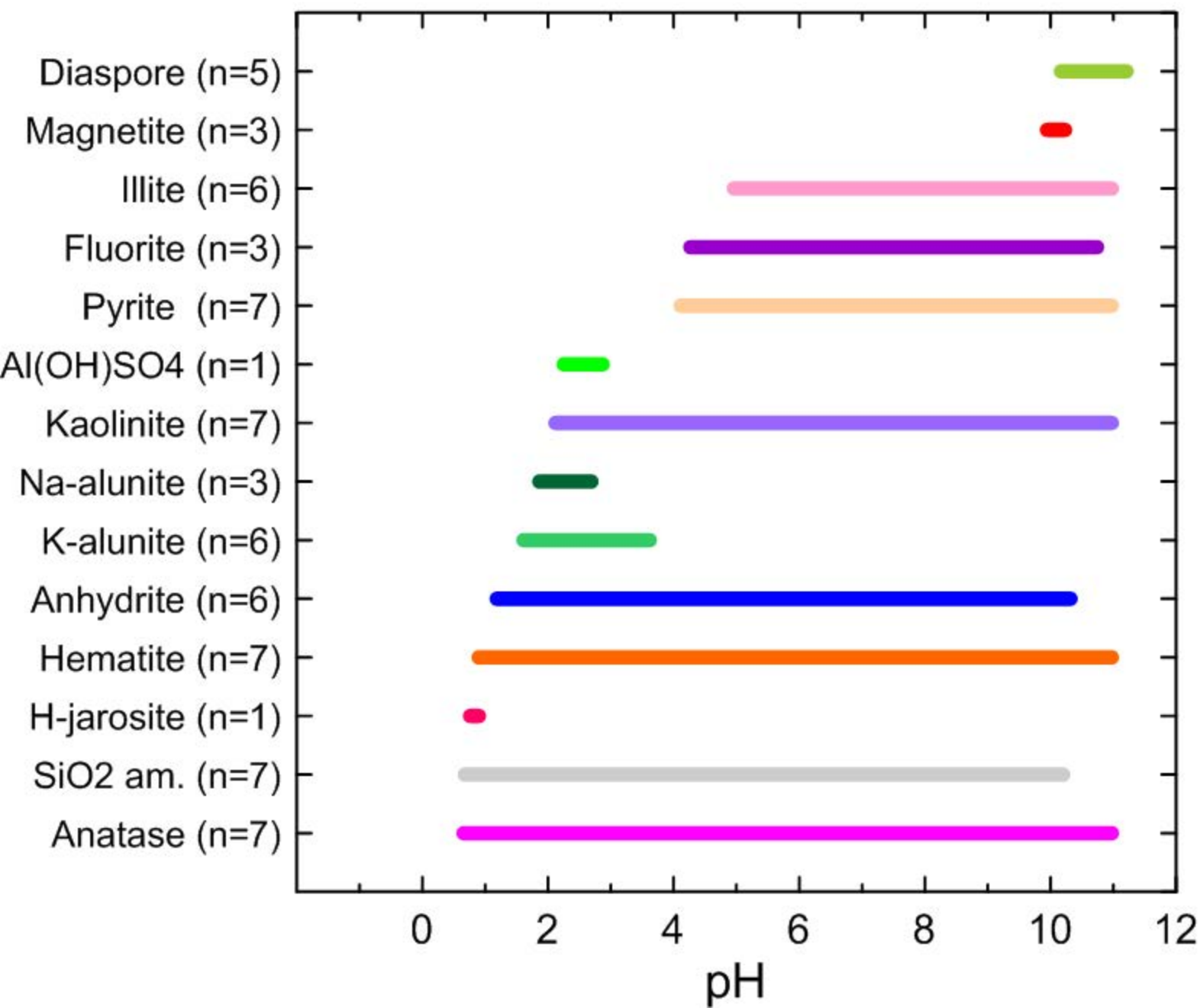
# Laguna Caliente: phases vs. T



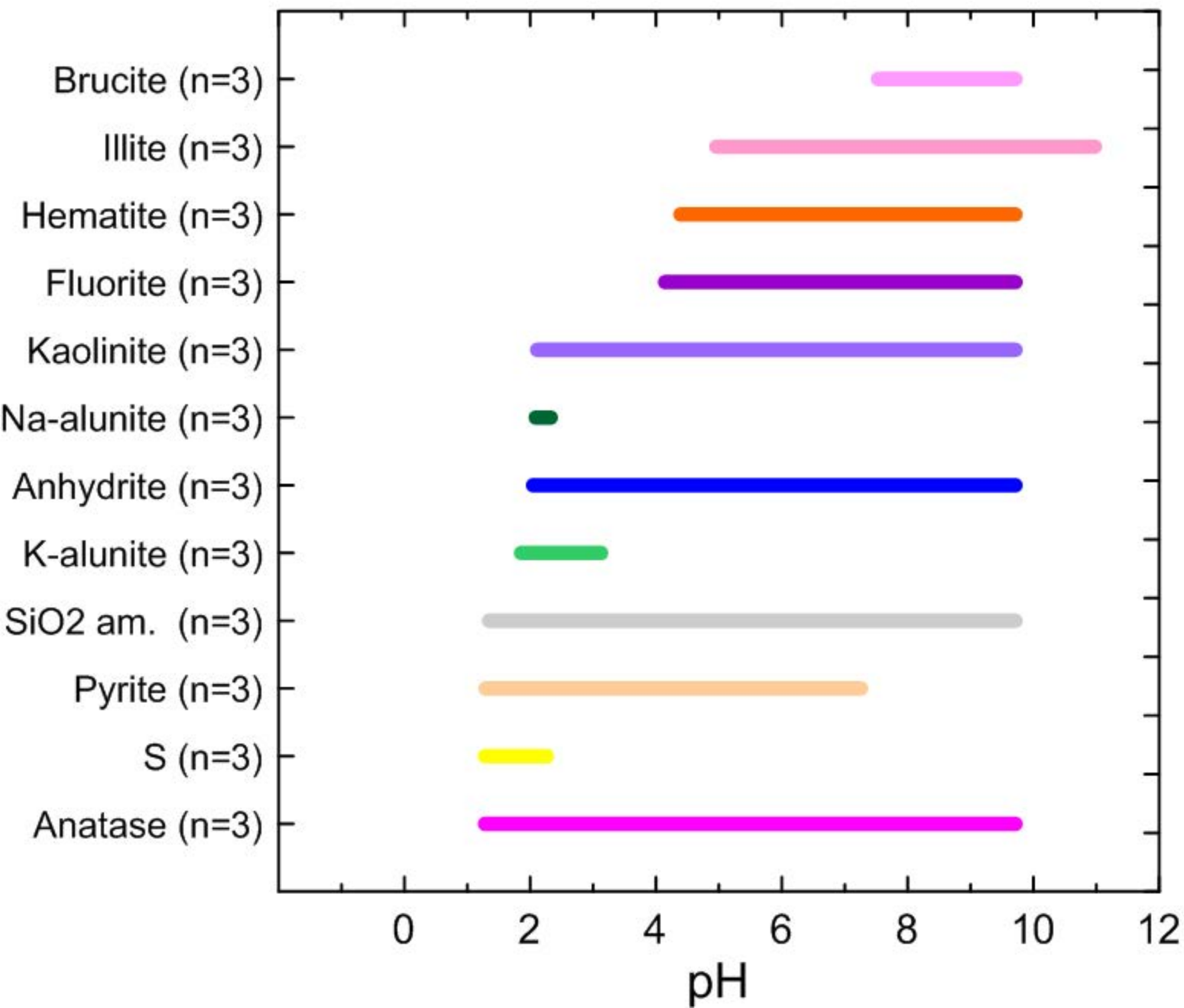
# Laguna Caliente: phases vs. pH



# Crater's hot springs: phases vs. pH

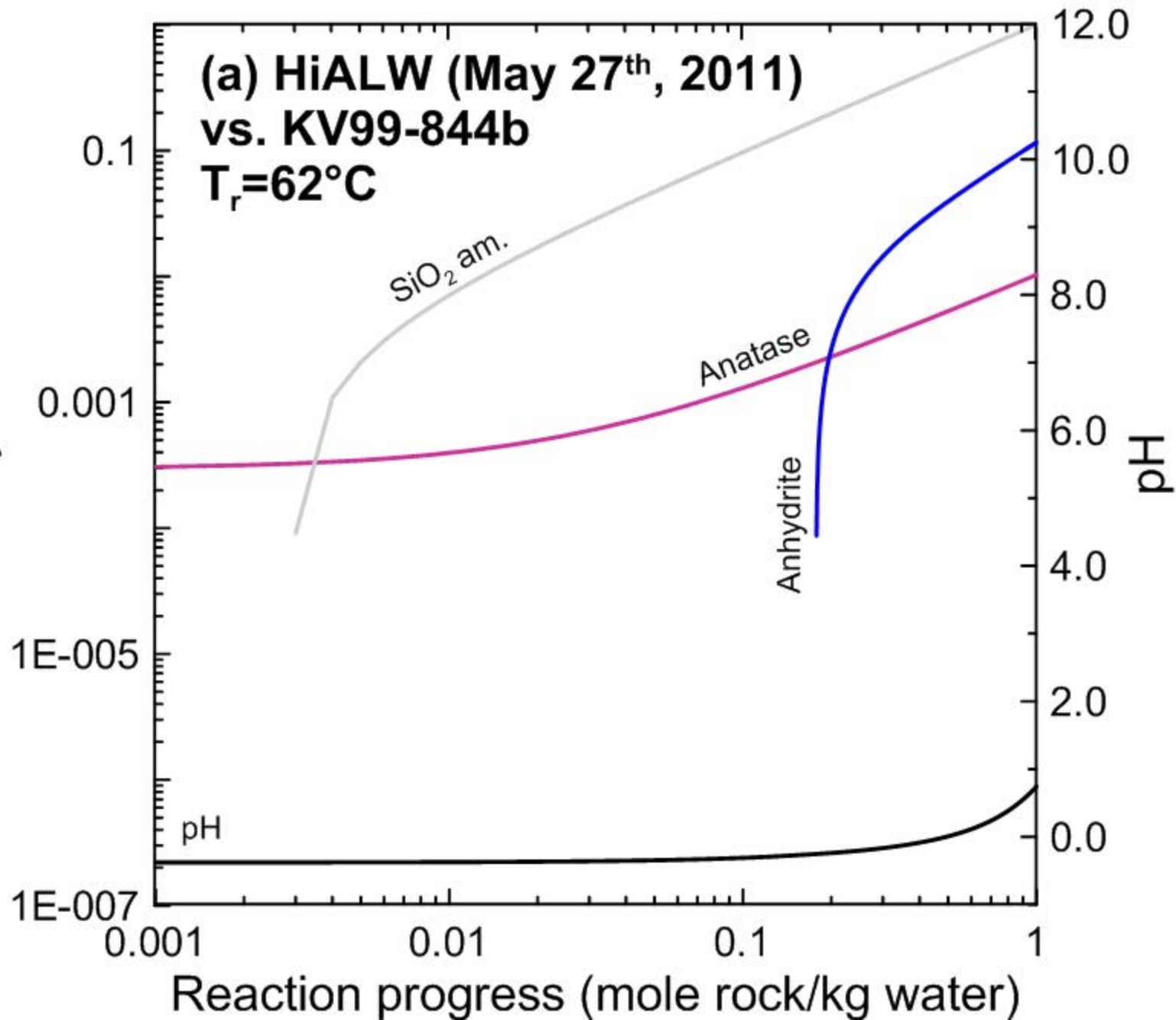


# CPC's fumarole condensates + gases: phases vs. pH



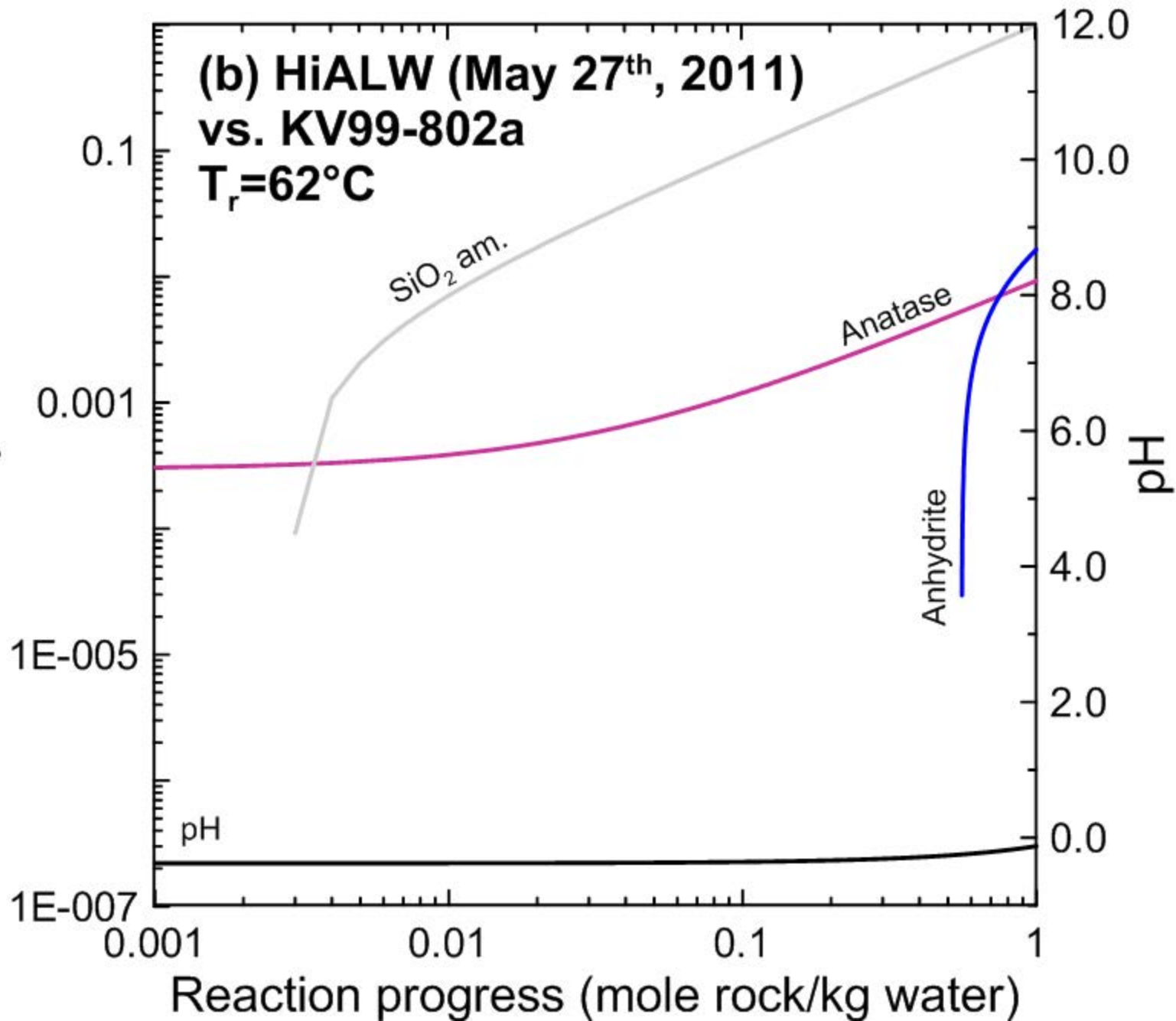
Moles of secondary minerals formed

(a) HiALW (May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011)  
vs. KV99-844b  
 $T_r = 62^\circ\text{C}$



Moles of secondary minerals formed

(b) HiALW (May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2011)  
vs. KV99-802a  
 $T_r = 62^\circ\text{C}$





Moles of secondary minerals formed

(c) LoALW (January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2002)  
vs. KV99-844b  
 $T_r = 30^\circ\text{C}$

