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1 Relationships Between Fluid-Rock Interactions and
2 the Electrical Conductivity of Sandstones

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3 **Abstract.** Batch and flow-through experiments were performed on quartz-
4 feldspar granular aggregates and sandstone samples to investigate time-dependent
5 effects of fluid-rock interactions on fluid and rock conductivity, respectively.
6 The experiments were conducted at temperatures up to 164 °C, at confin-
7 ing and pore pressures up to 10 and 5 MPa, respectively, and for up to 136 days.
8 It showed that changes in rock conductivity were unequivocally related to
9 changes in pore fluid conductivity. It is inferred that these changes were de-
10 pendent on kinetically controlled dissolution reactions between the mineral
11 grains and the fluid. The time-dependent signature of rock conductivity im-
12 plied a detectable transition from initial dissolution towards some state of
13 equilibrium. The response of rock conductivity to temperature changes fol-
14 lowed an Arrhenius-type behavior. An exploratory kinetic evaluation of the
15 conductivity data for sandstone samples yielded an apparent activation en-
16 ergy E_a^* of approximately 32 kJ/mol. A concurrent chemical fluid analysis
17 showed that this is an integrated value over all reactions occurring in par-
18 allel within a sample. These reactions namely concern silica and silicate dis-
19 solution but also the dissolution of accessory salt minerals. It is concluded
20 that measuring the evolution of rock conductivity in combination with chem-
21 ical pore fluid analysis constitutes a powerful and quantitative tool for mon-
22 itoring time-dependent changes in pore fluid chemistry and thus fluid-rock
23 interactions in real time.

1. Introduction

24 The electrical conductivity of rocks, σ_r is a widely used parameter in geophysical inves-
25 tigations including oil reservoir assessment, monitoring of hydrothermal fluid flow associ-
26 ated with volcanic activity, prospecting for geothermal resources with magnetotellurics, as
27 well as characterization of the structure and composition the Earth's crust [e.g., *Bussian*,
28 1983; *Flóvenz et al.*, 1985; *Chelidze and Guéguen*, 1999; *Revil et al.*, 2002; *Yang et al.*,
29 2011]. Factors controlling changes of σ_r of a porous rock are changes in temperature,
30 saturation of the pore space with an electrically conducting fluid, and concentration of
31 dissolved ionic species, c_i , in the fluid [*Rein et al.*, 2004; *Hayley et al.*, 2007]. The correct
32 interpretation of field surveys of electrical properties requires a sound understanding of
33 the electrical properties of the rocks at the laboratory scale [*Revil et al.*, 2002].

34 Two parameters contribute to σ_r in a fully saturated porous rock: The electrical con-
35 ductivity of the pore fluid, σ_f , and the electrical conductivity of mineral-fluid interfaces
36 commonly termed electrical surface conductivity, σ_s . According to Archie's law [*Archie*,
37 1942] and assuming that the contribution of σ_s to σ_r can be neglected, σ_r is related to σ_f
38 and the porosity ϕ by:

$$\sigma_r = \sigma_f \phi^m, \quad (1)$$

39 where m is the cementation exponent and the formation resistivity factor $F = \phi^{-m}$.
40 Equation 1 has been supplemented to fit results obtained from collections of different
41 sandstone samples:

$$\sigma_r = a^{-1} \sigma_f \phi^m, \quad (2)$$

where a is an empirical parameter. The range of a and m is constrained by $0.62 < a < 3.5$ and $1.5 < m < 2.5$, where the majority of sandstones exhibits m values close to 2 [Guéguen and Palciauskas, 1994; Regberg *et al.*, 2011]. Well-cemented Paleozoic sedimentary rocks with a porosity of 5 to 25 % exhibit $a = 0.62$ and $m = 1.95$ [Keller, 1989].

For cases where electrical conductance of the mineral-fluid interfaces contributes significantly to σ_r , Archie's law is expanded by a constant for σ_s assuming a simple model of parallel conductors [David *et al.*, 1993; Regberg *et al.*, 2011]:

$$\sigma_r = a^{-1} \phi^m \sigma_f + \sigma_s. \quad (3)$$

Empirical models extend Archie's law by empirically derived terms for the contribution of electrical conduction at mineral-fluid interfaces to σ_r [Waxman and Smits, 1968; Sen *et al.*, 1988]. Models using the notion of an effective medium describe σ_r as resulting from the presence of volumes with different electrical conductivities, e.g., insulating silicate spheres coated by a conductive clay layer that are immersed in an electrolyte [Bussian, 1983; de Lima and Sharma, 1990; Ruffet *et al.*, 1995; Glover *et al.*, 2000].

Electrical conductivity of rocks has been frequently investigated as to its relation to σ_f , σ_s , and temperature [e.g., Waxman and Smits, 1968; Roberts and Schwartz, 1985; Sen *et al.*, 1988; Sen and Goode, 1992; Glover *et al.*, 1994; Nettelblad *et al.*, 1995; Ruffet *et al.*, 1995; Revil and Glover, 1997; Revil *et al.*, 1998; Revil and Glover, 1998; Roberts *et al.*, 2001]. Little data exist on the evolution of σ_r in the course of fluid-rock interactions

60 [*Piwinskii and Weed, 1976; Weed et al., 1977; Kristinsdóttir et al., 2010*]. Fluid-rock
61 interactions influence c_i and thus σ_f and σ_r .

62 Batch experiments with various rock types, including graywacke samples consisting of
63 quartz, feldspar, calcite, dolomite and more than 5 % clay minerals in contact with tap-
64 water at room temperature yielded a time-dependent behavior of σ_r and σ_f resulting from
65 cation exchange of the clay minerals and dissolution of other minerals in the rock samples
66 [*Piwinskii and Weed, 1976; Weed et al., 1977*]. Particularly, σ_r first increased with time
67 at a decreasing rate, passed a maximum, and then slightly decreased and approached
68 a constant value. Concurrently, σ_f increased monotonically with time at a decreasing
69 rate. The decreasing rates of σ_r and σ_f resulted from decreasing driving forces for cation
70 exchange and dissolution as c_i increased in the course of the experiments.

71 Flow-through experiments with altered volcanic rock samples (hyaloclastites and basalts
72 containing different clay minerals) saturated with synthetic geothermal fluids yielded a
73 time-dependent increase of σ_r at decreasing rates at 150 °C and constant confining and
74 pore pressure of up to 28 MPa and 10 MPa, respectively [*Kristinsdóttir et al., 2010*]. It
75 was concluded that the time-dependent behavior of σ_r at constant p - T -conditions resulted
76 from ion exchange between the clay minerals and the pore fluid.

77 The aim of the present study was to investigate the effects of fluid-rock interactions on
78 σ_r for clay-bearing sandstones. Batch and flow-through experiments were conducted with
79 clay-bearing sandstones as well as granular materials representing the main mineral phases
80 (quartz and feldspars) of these sandstones. The experiments were conducted at different
81 levels of abstraction of the situation in deep sedimentary reservoirs where the minerals
82 of a sandstone interact with a pore fluid (i.e., a brine). The findings resulting from the

83 relatively simple batch experiments with quartz-feldspar aggregates and deionized H₂O
84 were used to interpret the results of the more complex systems of clay-bearing sandstones
85 in contact with an evolving pore fluid. Monitoring time-dependent changes of σ_r may be
86 a tool for the assessment of induced dissolution-precipitation reactions both in laboratory
87 investigations of fluid-rock interactions as well as in geotechnical applications such as
88 nuclear waste disposal, CO₂ storage, and geothermal energy production.

2. Experimental Techniques

89 Two groups of experiments were performed in the present study: (i) Batch experiments
90 were conducted with granular aggregates of quartz, labradorite, and microcline as well
91 as intact samples of Flechtinger sandstone (Table 1) in order to investigate the effects of
92 fluid-mineral reactions on σ_f and c_i . (ii) Flow-through experiments were carried out with
93 sandwiched quartz-feldspar granular aggregates as well as Fontainebleau and Flechtinger
94 sandstone core samples in order to examine the evolution of c_i as well as the concurrent
95 evolutions of σ_f and σ_r under initial disequilibrium conditions. An overview of the batch
96 and flow-through experiments is presented in Table 2.

2.1. Starting Materials and Fluids

97 The granular aggregates were produced by grinding pegmatitic crystals supplied by
98 Dr. F. Krantz Rheinisches Mineralienkontor, Bonn, Germany as well as Fontainebleau
99 sandstone samples (Table 1) and dry sieving the resulting powder to a grain size smaller
100 than 355 μm . Magnetic particles were removed with a Frantz LB-1 magnetic barrier
101 laboratory separator (current 0.4 A, voltage \approx 23 V). The resulting powders were dry
102 sieved to obtain a grain size fraction of 63 to 125 μm . Larger particles were ground

103 in an agate pulverizer and dry sieved again. The 63 to 125 μm grain size fraction was
104 ultrasonically cleaned for 1200 s in H_2O and was then wet sieved to obtain two grain
105 size fractions $< 63 \mu\text{m}$ and 63 to 125 μm . X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) analyses
106 and scanning electron microscopic micrographs (SEM) of the powders showed that pure
107 mineral phases of quartz, labradorite, and microcline were obtained by this preparation
108 method. The bulk chemical composition of the granular aggregates was measured with
109 X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and yielded only minor impurities ($< 1 \%$) in the starting
110 materials (Table 3).

111 The rock samples were a Lower Permian (Upper Rotliegend) sandstone quarried from an
112 outcrop in Flechtingen near Magdeburg, Germany (Flechtinger sandstone), and a quartz
113 sandstone of Oligocene age quarried from an outcrop in the Ile de France region near
114 Paris, France (Fontainebleau sandstone). The mean porosity of the Flechtinger sandstone
115 samples was approximately 10 %. SEM micrographs of the pore space showed that fibrous
116 illite and other cement minerals lined the pore walls and partly filled the pores and the
117 pore throats of the Flechtinger sandstone (Table 1). The porosities of the Fontainebleau
118 sandstone samples were variable due to variations in the cementation. Cylindrical cores
119 with a length of 40 mm and a diameter of 30 mm were produced with orientations par-
120 allel and perpendicular to the bedding of macroscopically homogeneous blocks of these
121 sandstones.

122 The sandwich samples consisted of cylindrical porous discs that sandwiched a granular
123 aggregate of quartz, labradorite, and microcline. In the following, the sandwich samples
124 will be referred to as QLM sandwiches, where Q, L, and M denote quartz, labradorite,
125 and microcline, respectively. The sandwiching porous discs were prepared from porous

126 polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) with a porosity of 20 % as well as from Fontainebleau
127 sandstone samples with approximately 2 % porosity. The length of the sandwich samples
128 ranged between 32 and 40 mm. The diameter of the sandwich samples was 30 mm.

129 The starting fluid in all but one experiments was deionized H₂O with $\sigma_f(T_0) \approx 2.5$ mS/m
130 at $T_0 = 25$ °C. A 43.2 mmol/L NaCl_{aq} solution with $\sigma_f(T_0) \approx 477$ mS/m was used in one
131 flow-through experiment. The experiment design ensured that the solids were in contact
132 with liquid water even in experiments at high temperatures (up to 164 °C).

2.2. Experiments

133 Five types of batch and flow-through experiments were performed in the present study:
134 (i) Batch experiments with granular aggregates; (ii) Batch experiments with rock frag-
135 ments; (iii) A batch experiment with a Flechtinger sandstone sample saturated initially
136 with H₂O; (iv) Flow-through experiments with sandwich samples; (v) Flow-through ex-
137 periments with rock samples (Figure 1). The types of experiments are described in the
138 following in more detail:

139 (i) The batch experiments with granular QLM aggregates were conducted in 10 and
140 20 mL PTFE autoclaves (Bola, Germany). The resulting pressures in the temperature
141 range of 70 to 150 °C ranged between approximately 0.1 and 0.45 MPa. The batch experi-
142 ments were conducted at constant temperature conditions in a Memmert drying oven. The
143 accuracy of the oven was estimated to be ± 2 °C at 70 °C by repeated measurements with
144 an ASL Pt25 reference thermometer. The experiments are labeled b-QLM-3, b-QLM-4,
145 and b-QLM-5 in Table 2.

146 (ii) The batch experiments with Flechtinger sandstone rock fragments were performed
147 in a 10 mL PTFE autoclave and in a pressurized 0.3 L PTFE lined autoclave with ther-

mal insulation (BR-300, High Preactor, Berghof, Germany). Pressure was maintained at approximately 5 MPa by Ar gas feeding. It is assumed that the influence of dissolved Ar on σ_f was insignificant although a small effect of dissolved nonpolar gases on the molecular water structure has been reported [Pashley *et al.*, 2005]. Temperature was monitored with a type K thermocouple. In this set-up temperatures were stable at 70 ± 2 °C and 150 ± 2 °C. The experiments are labeled b-Fl-15 and b-Fl-16 in Table 2.

(iii) In a third type of batch experiments an H₂O-saturated cylindrical Flechtinger sandstone sample with a length of 100 mm and a radius of 25 mm was jacketed with a FEP heat shrink tubing and confined on both end planes by a steel plug. The assembly was subsequently stored in a water bath at a constant temperature of 70 ± 2 °C. The electrical conductivity of the assembly was discontinuously measured by impedance spectroscopy and the pore fluid was sampled at the end of the experiment using Ar gas pressure. The experiment is labeled b-Fl-17 in Table 2.

(iv) The flow-through experiments with QLM sandwich samples were conducted by means of a high pressure and temperature permeameter [Milsch *et al.*, 2008]. Confining pressures p_c ranged between 5 and 10 MPa and pore pressures p_p ranged between 2.5 and 5 MPa. Temperatures were varied between 40 and 150 °C. The experiments are labeled ft-s-3 and ft-s-4 in Table 2.

(v) The flow-through experiments with intact rock samples were performed by means of the same apparatus as described above. One Fontainebleau and three Flechtinger sandstone samples were investigated. Confining and pore pressures were 10 and 5 MPa, respectively. Temperatures varied between 30 and 164 °C. H₂O was the starting fluid in the majority of the experiments. In one experiment (ft-Fl-12) a 43.2 mmol/L NaCl_{aq}

171 solution with $\sigma_f(T_0) \approx 477$ mS/m was flushed into a Flechtinger sandstone sample at
172 70 °C. The experiments are labeled ft-Fo-6, ft-F1-8, ft-F1-9, and ft-F1-12 in Table 2.

173 Flow prevailed at irregular intervals during the flow-through experiments, i.e., during
174 fluid sampling and during flushing the samples with fresh upstream fluid, depending on
175 the experimental strategy. The pore fluid volume in the porous samples was completely
176 replaced by fluid from the upstream pump during flow episodes which yielded situations
177 of chemical disequilibrium between the solid and the fluid phases. Stagnant phases were
178 typically much longer than the flow phases, i.e., the fluid-mineral system was undisturbed
179 during the longest period of an experiment. During the undisturbed (stagnant) phases
180 of the experiments, the fluid-solid-systems reacted to approach a chemical equilibrium by
181 means of dissolution–precipitation reactions [*Schepers and Milsch, 2013*]. Heating and
182 cooling of the samples was performed in stages to deliberately induce disequilibrium con-
183 ditions in the fluid-solid-systems. Two scenarios were envisaged during the heating and
184 cooling procedures depending on the experimental strategy of each experiment: flushing
185 the samples at the beginning of each temperature stage with a fluid of a known compo-
186 sition (i.e., deionized H₂O) to investigate the temperature-dependence of the electrical
187 conductivity of the fluid-solid-systems; and heating and cooling without replacing the
188 pore fluid to deliberately induce disequilibrium conditions in the fluid-solid-systems. The
189 temperature intervals during heating or cooling stages ranged between 20 and 30 °C. The
190 heating or cooling procedure was performed at 20 °C/h. The duration until the temper-
191 ature was equilibrated at each constant temperature stage was about 2 h.

2.3. Sampling of Fluids

Four different methods were applied for the sampling of fluids from the batch and flow-through experiments. Fluid samples were taken with a pipette from the PTFE autoclaves after these were cooled to approximately 50 °C (Type I in Figure 1; b-QLM-3, b-QLM-4, b-QLM-5, and b-Fl-15). A dip tube with a metering valve was used to sample the fluid from the BR-300 autoclave at 5 MPa Ar pressure (Type II in Figure 1; b-Fl-16). At the end of the batch experiments with the H₂O-saturated cylindrical Flechtinger sandstone sample (Type III in Figure 1; b-Fl-17) the pore fluid was squeezed out by Ar gas pressure. The flow-rate of the pore fluid was controlled by manually adjusting the Ar gas pressure on the upstream side of the sample. The fluid sample was collected on the downstream side of the sample by means of a tube that was open to the atmosphere. The sampling of pore fluids from the flow-through experiments (Type IV and V in Figure 1; ft-s-3, ft-s-4, ft-Fo-6, ft-Fl-9) required a pressure relief valve on the downstream side of the porous samples and a valve disconnecting the downstream pump. The upstream pump was operated in constant flow mode (flow rate less than 0.5 mL/min) to prevent turbulence in the sample and the connecting tubes. The pressure relief valve was set to the respective pore pressure of the experiments (2.5 and 5 MPa) to prevent pore pressure changes. Due to the low flow-rate the fluids cooled in the body of the pressure relief valve below boiling temperature. Fluids were irregularly sampled by discrete volumes. The cumulatively sampled volume was larger than the sum of the dead volume on the downstream side of the porous samples plus the pore volume. Thus, the first fluid samples represented this dead volume whereas the last fluid samples resulted from the upstream pump. Mixing of the pore fluid with

213 the up- and downstream dead volume was limited due to the small inner diameter of the
 214 connecting tubes.

3. Analytical Methods

3.1. Analyses of the Fluids

215 The fluid samples were analyzed with respect to σ_f and c_i . Due to limitations by
 216 the volume of sampled fluid aliquots, only one fluid sample was additionally analyzed
 217 with respect to pH. The electrical conductivity of the fluids was measured with a WTW
 218 TetraCon 325 conductivity probe connected to a WTW LF 325 conductivity meter making
 219 use of a linear temperature correction with a temperature correction coefficient $\alpha_f =$
 220 $0.02 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ (Equation 4). The temperature dependence of σ_f arises from the influence of
 221 temperature on the viscosity of a fluid and thus on the ions' drift speeds in the fluid [e.g.,
 222 *Revil et al.*, 1998; *Hayashi*, 2004]:

$$\sigma_f(T) = \sigma_f(T_0) [1 + \alpha_f (T - T_0)]. \quad (4)$$

223 The reference temperature is $T_0 = 25 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. Different values of α_f are given in the literature
 224 ranging from 0.0175 to $0.025 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ for various water compositions [*Hayashi*, 2004]. A value
 225 describing experimental data well is $\alpha_f \approx 0.023 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}^{-1}$ [*Revil et al.*, 1998]. This value was
 226 used for the calculation of $\sigma_f(T)$ for in situ temperatures. During the batch experiments,
 227 measurements were performed at approximately $50 \text{ }^\circ\text{C}$. For this purpose, the experiments
 228 were quenched by cooling the autoclaves rapidly below boiling temperature. After the
 229 measurements the PTFE autoclaves were quickly heated to the same temperature as
 230 before quenching.

231 Cation and anion analyses were performed on fluid aliquots. The aliquots (1 to 2 mL)
232 were diluted with 7.5 mL H₂O and acidified with 0.5 mL concentrated HNO₃ (65 %) re-
233 sulting in a pH of the solutions below 1. Permanently clear fluid samples were thus
234 obtained. The samples were analyzed with inductively coupled plasma–optical emission
235 spectroscopy (ICP-OES) using a Varian Vista MPX with a radial geometry of the spec-
236 trometer with respect to the Ar plasma. Calibration of the ICP-OES was performed with
237 ultra-pure solutions containing Na, Al, Si, K, Ca, and in one case Fe and Ni. The analyzed
238 wavelengths were 589.592, 396.152, 251.611, 769.897, 396.847, 238.204, and 231.604 nm
239 for Na, Al, Si, K, Ca, Fe, and Ni, respectively. On one Flechtinger sandstone pore fluid
240 sample with a comparatively large volume (b-F1-17), anions were analyzed with a Dionex
241 Dx-120 ion chromatograph. The as sampled fluid was used for the anion analysis. The
242 Dx-120 was equipped with IonPac AG9-HC and AS9-HC anion exchange columns. An
243 aqueous solution of Na₂CO₃ with a concentration of 9×10^{-3} mol/L was used as the elu-
244 ent. At the end of this experiment, pH was measured on a fluid aliquot with a WTW
245 SenTix 81 pH glass electrode in combination with a WTW Multi 340i device.

3.2. Analyses of the Solid Materials

246 The mineralogical and chemical compositions of the solid samples were determined by
247 X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) and X-ray fluorescence (XRF). For XRD analyses, a
248 Siemens D5000 and a STOE STADIP diffractometer were used operating with Cu-K_α
249 radiation. Analyses were performed on 1 to 3 g powdered material with a grain size
250 smaller than 30 μm. Crystalline phases were qualitatively and quantitatively analyzed
251 using the GSAS software package for Rietveld refinements [*Larson and Von Dreele, 2000*]

with the graphical user interface EXPGUI [Toby, 2001]. XRF analyses were performed with a PANalytical Axios^{mAX} – Advanced operating with a Rh anode.

3.3. Electrical Conductivity of the Porous Samples

In one batch experiment (b-Fl-17) σ_r was determined from impedance spectroscopic measurements on a Flechtinger sandstone sample. The frequency dependent impedance Z (in Ω) and the phase angle γ (in rad) of the assembly were measured at irregular intervals in a two-electrode arrangement by means of a Zahner Zennium Electrochemical Workstation impedance spectrometer. Measurements were performed as a function of the frequency of a sinusoidal AC signal ranging from 1 to 10^3 Hz (Figure 2). Scanning in this frequency range was performed in a loop with 47 steps and a start and end value of 10^3 Hz. The assembly was taken out of the water bath for the measurements. Measurements were made after carefully drying the assembly on the outside to prevent leakage currents along the jacket or the isolated thread rods. With the assumption of negligible impedance of the steel plugs compared to the Flechtinger sandstone sample the electrical conductivity of the sample was:

$$\sigma_r = \frac{L}{\cos \gamma Z A}, \quad (5)$$

where A is the cross sectional area of the sample and L is the sample length. The impedance is expressed as a complex number with a real and an imaginary part. From the real part of the impedance the ohmic resistance R is calculated by $R = \cos \gamma Z$. In the AC frequency range examined in this study the ratio of the ohmic resistance R to the impedance Z was close to 1 due to small phase angles (Figure 2). Thus, the imaginary part of the impedance could be neglected and the AC circuit could be treated as a DC

272 circuit in which Ohm's law applies. Consequently, the electrical conductivity of the rock
 273 sample was determined using the ohmic resistance:

$$\sigma_r = \frac{L}{R A}. \quad (6)$$

274 In the flow-through experiments σ_r was measured in the high pressure and temperature
 275 permeameters [Milsch *et al.*, 2008]. The σ_r measurements were performed in a four-
 276 electrode arrangement with a variable shunt-resistor making use of Ohm's law. The
 277 voltage was imposed with an Agilent 33220A function generator set to produce a 1 V AC
 278 sinus peak-to-peak signal with a frequency of 13 Hz. Although the measurements were
 279 carried out with an impressed AC signal, applicability of Ohm's law was assumed at this
 280 low frequency.

281 Relative errors of the σ_r measurements amount to approximately 4 to 8 %. Relative er-
 282 rors were calculated by an error propagation of relative errors of the voltage measurements
 283 and the length measurements involved in determining σ_r . The width of the potential elec-
 284 trode is approximately 1 mm and thus contributes significantly to the uncertainty of σ_r
 285 measurements resulting in relative errors as high as 8 % [Milsch *et al.*, 2008]. However,
 286 since errors in length measurements are assumed to be fairly constant throughout a single
 287 experiment, measured relative changes of σ_r in the course of a single experiment were
 288 exact to a much higher extent.

4. Results

4.1. Electrical Conductivity

289 4.1.1. Batch Experiments

290 The electrical conductivity of bulk fluids in contact with Flechtinger sandstone samples
 291 increased with time at 70 and 150 °C in batch experiments b-Fl-15 and b-Fl-16 (Figure
 292 3). During the first 20 d at 70 °C, $\sigma_f(T_0)$ increased with time at decreasing rates. Further
 293 heating to 150 °C led to a further increase of $\sigma_f(T_0)$. From a runtime of 35 d to the
 294 end of the experiments, $\sigma_f(T_0)$ was not correlated to temperature any more: $\sigma_f(T_0)$
 295 increased during the third 70 °C stage and decreased during the third 150 °C stage of
 296 experiment b-Fl-15. The maximum $\sigma_f(T_0)$ of the bulk fluids attained in the experiments
 297 was ≈ 25 mS/m. The different pressures applied in the experiments ($p_{\max} \approx 0.45$ MPa
 298 and $p = 5$ MPa) and the different fluid/solid mass ratios (5.4 and 3.6) did not significantly
 299 influence the evolution of $\sigma_f(T_0)$.

300 The electrical conductivity of an H₂O-saturated Flechtinger sandstone sample increased
 301 time-dependently in a batch experiment at 70 °C constant temperature (b-Fl-17, Figure
 302 4). After an initial increase from approximately 9 to 22 mS/m during the first 3 d, σ_r
 303 slowly increased to approximately 25 mS/m in the remainder of the experiment. The
 304 electrical conductivity of a pore fluid sample taken at the end of the experiment was
 305 $\sigma_f(T_0) = 477$ mS/m. The fluid/solid mass ratio in the experiment was 19.57 g/468.94 g \approx
 306 0.04.

307 Interface phenomena like polarization, capacitance, and inductance had negligible effects
 308 on σ_r measurements with this sample, as indicated by a ratio of ohmic resistance over
 309 complex impedance, R/Z , close to unity (Figure 2). There was neither a temperature nor
 310 a time dependence in R/Z . At the starting conditions with H₂O as the pore fluid and
 311 20 °C, R/Z was similar as after a run duration of 3 d at 70 °C. Furthermore, the change
 312 of R/Z with AC frequency was not affected by the run duration.

313 4.1.2. Flow-through Experiments

314 The flow-through experiments yielded four general observations of the σ_r evolution
 315 (Figure 5):

316 (i) Temperature changes affected σ_r instantaneously. The temperature dependence of
 317 σ_r results from the combined responses of σ_f (Equation 4) and σ_s to temperature changes
 318 [Revil *et al.*, 1998].

319 (ii) Flushing the samples with H₂O led to a reset of σ_r values to temperature-dependent
 320 base levels. During flow phases, the samples were flushed with several pore volumes
 321 of H₂O ($\sigma_f(T_0) \approx 2.5$ mS/m). Temperature-dependent σ_r base levels of a Flechtinger
 322 sandstone sample (ft-F1-8) were approximately 7.3, 12.3, 22.3, and 36.7 mS/m at 30, 51,
 323 90, and 164 °C, respectively (Figure 5a). At 70 °C, the σ_r base level of another Flechtinger
 324 sandstone sample (ft-F1-9) was approximately 16.9 mS/m (Figure 5b). In a QLM sandwich
 325 experiment (ft-s-3) the σ_r base level at 70 °C was 0.05 mS/m (Figure 5c). The base level
 326 in the QLM sandwich experiment was approached after a short excursion of σ_r to higher
 327 values (≈ 0.6 mS/m) when flow of H₂O through the sandwich sample was initiated.

328 (iii) The electrical conductivity of porous samples increased with time at decreasing
 329 rates at constant temperature and pressure and approached a temperature-dependent
 330 steady state. During the first 70 °C phase of a Flechtinger sandstone experiment (ft-F1-
 331 9), σ_r increased from 16.6 to 34.5 mS/m (Figure 5b). In the following 150 °C phase, a
 332 further increase from 73.1 to 76.3 mS/m was measured. The cooling to 70 °C resulted in
 333 a σ_r decrease to 38.1 mS/m. The difference between σ_r values of the first and the second
 334 70 °C stage before and after the 150 °C phase ($\Delta\sigma_r = 3.6$ mS/m) is in the same range
 335 as the increase during the 150 °C phase ($\Delta\sigma_r = 3.2$ mS/m). The increase of σ_r during

336 the 70 °C stage after flushing the sample with H₂O during fluid sampling at 50 days was
337 comparatively low. The increase of σ_r , here, was only about 0.8 mS/m in 11 d. The
338 increase of σ_r during the following (second) 150 °C stage was approximately 3.5 mS/m in
339 about 7 days.

340 An experiment with a QLM sandwich (ft-s-3) yielded a slow σ_r increase from 0.08 to
341 0.19 mS/m during the first 70 °C phase (Figure 5c). During the following 150 °C stage,
342 a further increase from approximately 1 to a maximum value of 1.7 mS/m was observed.
343 However, the σ_r data during the 150 °C period showed substantial noise.

344 (iv) The electrical conductivity of porous samples approached a constant value dur-
345 ing the second 70 °C phase after the samples have been held at 150 °C (Figure 5). A
346 Flechtinger sandstone experiment (ft-F1-9) yielded a slow decrease of σ_r from 38.1 to
347 37.2 mS/m in the course of the second 70 °C period (Figure 5b). A QLM sandwich exper-
348 iment (ft-s-3) showed a slow decrease of σ_r from 0.33 to 0.31 mS/m followed by an abrupt
349 decrease to 0.21 mS/m during the second 70 °C phase (Figure 5c).

4.2. Fluid Chemistry

350 4.2.1. Batch Experiments

351 The concentrations of dissolved cations of bulk fluids in contact with the QLM gran-
352 ular aggregates yielded the following mean values and standard deviations from the
353 mean: $c_{\text{Na}} = 2.3 \pm 0.8$, $c_{\text{Al}} = 0.06 \pm 0.04$, $c_{\text{Si}} = 2.5 \pm 1$, $c_{\text{K}} = 0.12 \pm 0.06$, and
354 $c_{\text{Ca}} = 0.18 \pm 0.09$ mmol/L (b-QLM-3, b-QLM-4, b-QLM-5; see Table 4 for details).

355 The trends of c_i (with $i = \text{Na}, \text{Al}, \text{Si}, \text{K}, \text{Ca}$) of the bulk fluid in contact with a
356 Flechtinger sandstone sample (b-F1-16) were variable (Figure 6). The relationship between
357 c_i and temperature was complicated. Upon heating from 70 to 150 °C at approximately

358 24 d run duration, Na, Al, Si, and K values increased, whereas Ca values decreased. A
359 similar behavior, yet less pronounced, can be observed during the second heating event
360 from 70 to 150 °C at approximately 56 d. After a first increase of c_{Al} due to heating,
361 a decreasing trend can be observed from a run duration of approximately 27 d to 42 d.
362 The concentration of Al was below the detection limit of the ICP-OES during the second
363 heating from 70 to 150 °C at 56 d (therefore the data points are not linked in Figure 6).
364 Again, the two remaining data points for c_{Al} during the second cooling from 150 to 70 °C
365 show a decreasing trend.

366 The concentrations of dissolved cations measured at the end of another Flechtinger
367 sandstone batch experiment (b-Fl-15) were in agreement with the former observations. A
368 comparison of both experiments shows that c_i was independent of different p - T -histories
369 and fluid/solid mass ratios in this case. Apart from different experimental conditions
370 (pressures were about 0.45 and 5 MPa, the durations of constant temperature phases
371 were different, and the fluid/solid mass ratios were 5.4 and 3.6) the data resulting from
372 the experiment at low pressure (b-Fl-15) confirmed the data resulting from the experiment
373 at higher pressure (b-Fl-16).

374 The evolved pore fluid of the Flechtinger sandstone sample held at 70 °C in the water
375 bath (b-Fl-17) yielded $c_{\text{Na}} = 3.57$, $c_{\text{Al}} = 0.001$, $c_{\text{Si}} = 0.412$, $c_{\text{K}} = 18.9$, and $c_{\text{Ca}} =$
376 8.28 mmol/L. The concentrations of anions in the fluid sample were $\text{F}^- = 0.016$, $\text{Cl}^- =$
377 40.5 , and $\text{SO}_4^{2-} = 0.312$ mmol/L. The pH at room temperature was 7.47.

378 4.2.2. Flow-through Experiments

379 The Fontainebleau sandstone experiment (ft-Fo-6) showed maxima of the concentrations
380 of Ca, Si, and Fe at the smallest cumulatively sampled volume, which is due to the

381 relatively large volume of the first fluid sample (Figure 7). The overall low concentrations
382 of Fe and Ni in the upstream fluid of the Fontainebleau sandstone experiment ft-Fo-6 (less
383 than 0.025 mmol/L at 23 mL cumulative volume) showed that corrosion of the wetted
384 stainless steel parts of the permeameter had a negligible effect on the fluid composition
385 (Figure 7). The Na concentration at 23 mL cumulative volume was approximately the
386 same as the concentration in the pore fluid at 3.5 mL cumulative volume. Due to the fact
387 that Na is an abundant element, this behavior of the Na concentration points towards a
388 contamination of the pore fluid system with Na.

389 The reactions of H₂O with the Fontainebleau sandstone core led to high concentrations
390 of Si in the pore fluid. The Si concentrations were above the solubility of quartz at 160 °C
391 indicating that amorphous silica cements were dissolved during the stagnant phase of the
392 experiment. The residence time of the fluid at stagnant conditions was approximately 7 d
393 with a temperature history of approximately 4 and 3 d at 162 and 79 °C, respectively.
394 The fluid samples were taken at the end of the experiment at 70 °C. The Si concentration
395 was high in the first fluid sample and decreased with cumulatively sampled volume. Ca
396 and Fe showed similar trends as Si indicating that the measured concentrations resulted
397 mainly from dissolution of the rock sample although Ca and Fe were only present in small
398 amounts in the rock sample (Table 3). Al and K displayed a similar behavior as Si, Ca,
399 and Fe but with smaller concentrations below 0.02 mmol/L (not shown in Figure 7).

400 Plots of c_i as functions of cumulatively sampled pore fluid volumes from the other
401 flow-through experiments (ft-s-4 and ft-F1-9) typically showed bell shaped curves with
402 maxima approximating the pore fluid composition (Figure 8). The mixing with up- and
403 downstream fluid (H₂O) was constrained to approximately 4 mL cumulative volume.

404 The fluid sample from the QLM sandwich experiment (ft-s-4) yielded $c_{\text{Na}} = 2.2$, $c_{\text{Al}} =$
 405 0.0054 , $c_{\text{Si}} = 7.07$, $c_{\text{K}} = 0.099$, and $c_{\text{Ca}} = 1.511$ mmol/L (see Table 4). The residence time
 406 of the fluid in the pore space at stagnant conditions was about 16 d with a temperature
 407 history of approximately 14 and 2 d at 150 and 70 °C, respectively. The fluid samples
 408 were taken during the experiment at a run duration of approximately 30 d at 70 °C.

409 The dissolution of rock constituents of a Flechtinger sandstone core sample (ft-F1-9)
 410 yielded relatively high concentrations of Na, Si, K, and Ca in the pore fluid compared to
 411 c_i of the QLM sandwich experiment (Figure 8). The residence time of the fluid in the pore
 412 space at stagnant conditions was about 48 d with a temperature history of approximately
 413 22, 3, 14, 4, and 5 d at 70, 150, 70, 42, and 70 °C, respectively. The fluid samples were
 414 taken after a run duration of approximately 50 d at 70 °C.

5. Discussion

5.1. Electrical Rock Conductivity as an Indicator for Dissolution-Precipitation Reactions

415 The time-dependent changes of σ_r during stagnant phases of the flow-through exper-
 416 iments reflected time-dependent changes of σ_f of the pore fluid. This interpretation is
 417 supported by the following observations:

418 (i) The flow-through experiments with Flechtinger sandstone samples and a QLM sand-
 419 wich sample showed a time-dependent increase of σ_r at stagnant conditions of the pore
 420 fluid and at constant temperature and pressure (Figure 5). The decreasing rate of the
 421 σ_r increase can be explained by a decreasing driving force for the dissolution of miner-
 422 als as c_i increases. This is coherent with published results of batch experiments with
 423 Soxhlet-extracted and as received clay- and carbonate-bearing Pictured Cliffs sandstone

424 samples in contact with tap water as the starting fluid at approximately 25 °C [*Piwinski*
425 *and Weed*, 1976]. Their experiments showed that the rate of increase of σ_r with time was
426 larger in the as received material compared to the Soxhlet-extracted material from which
427 relatively easily soluble minerals were removed before the experiment. In their study,
428 steady state conditions of σ_r and σ_f were reached after approximately 187 d. A three
429 step process was suggested for the observed fluid-rock interactions: Inward diffusion of
430 tap water through the pore structure of the rock, dissolution and outward diffusion of
431 water-soluble material lining the pores of the rock, and clay-water exchange. Clay-water
432 exchange was concluded to have been the dominant factor for the increase of σ_f after
433 approximately 1 d run duration of the experiments.

434 (ii) Flushing the porous samples with several pore volumes of H₂O led to a reset of σ_r
435 to temperature-dependent base levels (Figure 5). Thus, the evolution of σ_r was related
436 to the chemical evolution of the fluid-solid systems at stagnant conditions. The chemical
437 data suggest that the relative contribution of σ_s to σ_r (Equation 3) did not affect the time-
438 dependent σ_r changes (Table 4). The mobility of hydrated counter cations and protons
439 adsorbed to the mineral surface in the Stern layer governs σ_s and the sites for adsorption
440 on the silica and aluminosilicate mineral surfaces are already occupied at very low c_i . In
441 the case of shaly sands saturated with a NaCl-bearing pore fluid at $T = 25$ °C, σ_s is
442 independent of concentration, if $c_i > 1$ mmol/L [*Revil et al.*, 1998]. In our experiments,
443 the sum of c_i , with $i = \text{Na, Al, Si, K, Ca}$, was higher than 1 mmol/L in both the fluid
444 samples from a Flechtinger sandstone and a QLM sandwich flow-through experiment
445 ($c_i \approx 25.9$ mmol/L in ft-F1-9 and 4.4 mmol/L in ft-s-4). Thus, the relative contribution
446 of σ_s to σ_r decreased as c_i and σ_f of the pore fluid increased. It must be noted, however,

447 that the relationship between the frequency-dependent electrical conductivity of porous
 448 solids and the chemistry of the pore fluids is complex and subject of ongoing investigations
 449 [e.g., *Revil and Florsch*, 2010; *Revil and Skold*, 2011; *Vaudelet et al.*, 2011a, b; *Weller and*
 450 *Slater*, 2012].

451 (iii) The excursion of σ_r at the end of the QLM sandwich experiment (ft-s-3, Figure
 452 5c) was related to an elektrokinetic process (i.e., the streaming potential) that arose from
 453 charge accumulations caused by the flow of counter-charges inside the pore space [*Delgado*
 454 *et al.*, 2007]. The replacement of the evolved pore fluid by H₂O finally led to a decrease of
 455 σ_r to initial values. A similar but shorter excursion occurred in the Flechtinger sandstone
 456 flow-through experiment ft-F1-9 when the pore fluid was sampled (at 50 d). The excursion
 457 was too short to be displayed in Figure 5b. It lasted only a few minutes due to higher
 458 flow rates in experiment ft-F1-9 compared to experiment ft-s-3.

459 (iv) A combined interpretation of a Flechtinger sandstone batch experiment (b-F1-17)
 460 and two flow-through experiments (ft-F1-9 and ft-F1-12) yielded constraints for the steady
 461 state σ_f value of the pore fluid that was approached at 70 °C. The electrical conduc-
 462 tivity of a Flechtinger sandstone sample increased time-dependently in batch experiment
 463 b-F1-17 at a constant temperature of 70 °C (Figure 4). The pore fluid recovered from this
 464 sample yielded $\sigma_f(T_0) = 477$ mS/m corresponding to $\sigma_f(T) = 971$ mS/m (Equation 4).
 465 An aqueous NaCl solution with the same σ_f as this pore fluid sample (with 43.2 mmol/L
 466 NaCl) was flushed into a Flechtinger sandstone core at 70 °C in a fluid exchange exper-
 467 iment (ft-F1-12) resulting in a measured σ_r of approximately 37 mS/m. This σ_r -value
 468 was almost identical to the value (37.2 mS/m) that σ_r approached at a constant temper-
 469 ature of 70 °C in flow-through experiment ft-F1-9 (Figure 5b). The observation that a

470 flushed-in NaCl solution yielded the same σ_r -value as the evolved pore fluid (Table 4) in
471 a Flechtinger sandstone sample suggests that σ_r was not dependent on the specific ionic
472 species in solution. Moreover, this observation indicates that the chemical evolution of
473 the pore fluid at stagnant conditions, and thus also the evolution of σ_f , accounted for the
474 time-dependent changes of σ_r in the experiments. However, there was a difference in σ_r at
475 70 °C in the batch and the flow-through experiments (25 mS/m in b-F1-17 vs. 37 mS/m
476 in ft-F1-9 and ft-F1-12) although σ_f was identical in all cases. This difference most likely
477 resulted from additional contact resistances in the two-electrode arrangement of the batch
478 experiment compared to the four-electrode arrangement of the flow-through experiment.

5.2. Scenario for Dissolution-Precipitation Reactions

479 The evolution of $\sigma_f(T_0)$ in Flechtinger sandstone batch experiments exhibited features
480 indicative for the progress of overall dissolution-precipitation reactions (Figure 3). The
481 trend of $\sigma_f(T_0)$ during the first 70 and 150 °C stages obeys an Arrhenius relationship (i.e.,
482 the rate of the $\sigma_f(T_0)$ increase was higher at 150 °C than at 70 °C) indicating that the
483 changes in $\sigma_f(T_0)$ were related to kinetically controlled processes. However, subsequent
484 heating and cooling cycles showed no simple kinetic behavior. Studies of various rock-
485 water systems yielded variable time-dependent trends of c_i and intermediate species during
486 overall dissolution-precipitation reactions [*Mueller and Saxena, 1977; Busenberg, 1978; Lin*
487 *and Clemency, 1980; Lasaga, 1983*]. Thus, the complex response of $\sigma_f(T_0)$ to temperature
488 after the first heating to 150 °C could be indicative of a complex interaction of dissolution
489 and precipitation that changed with time (Figure 3).

490 The σ_r evolution in the flow-through experiments yielded a qualitatively similar be-
491 havior as the discontinuously measured time-dependent evolution of $\sigma_f(T_0)$ during the

492 first 70 and 150 °C constant temperature stages in the batch experiments (Figure 5b,c
493 vs. Figure 3). The time-dependent changes of σ_r in flow-through experiments with a
494 Flechtinger sandstone and a QLM sandwich sample (ft-F1-9 and ft-s-3) are consistent
495 with the following scenario: Approach of a steady state of c_i and σ_f during the first 70 °C
496 stage due to dissolution of solids up to saturation of the pore fluid with dissolved species,
497 supersaturation due to heating to 150 °C, and approach of the steady state of c_i and σ_f
498 from supersaturated conditions during the second 70 °C stage due to precipitation of solid
499 phases from the pore fluid.

5.3. Contribution of Minerals with Different Solubilities to Electrical Conductivity

500 Pure dissolution of quartz and feldspars in QLM sandwich flow-through experiments
501 yielded low values of σ_r compared to the clay-bearing Flechtinger sandstone samples.
502 The QLM sandwich experiment (ft-s-3), in which the minerals were present in the relative
503 mass proportions of the Flechtinger sandstone, showed a maximum σ_r value at 70 °C of
504 0.21 mS/m (Figure 5c). This value is approximately 180 times lower than the maximum σ_r
505 value at 70 °C (37.2 mS/m) obtained for a Flechtinger sandstone flow-through experiment
506 (ft-F1-9, Figure 5b). The electrical conductivity of a fluid sample resulting from another
507 QLM sandwich flow-through experiment (ft-s-4), $\sigma_f(T_0) = 49.5$ mS/m, was only lower
508 by a factor of approximately 10 compared to a Flechtinger sandstone pore fluid sample
509 (b-F1-17) with $\sigma_f(T_0) = 477$ mS/m highlighting the significance of σ_s for σ_r of the clay-
510 bearing Flechtinger sandstone compared to the clay-free QLM material. However, both
511 materials are not directly comparable as to their pore structure, fluid/solid mass ratio, and
512 distribution of minerals. The pore structure of the QLM material resulted from the dense

513 packing of mineral grains in the sandwich. The consolidated rock sample had a complex
514 pore structure that was due to the diagenetic history of the material. The fluid/solid
515 mass ratio was approximately 10 times higher in the QLM sandwich (≈ 0.5) compared
516 to the rock sample (≈ 0.05). The mineral grains were homogeneously distributed in the
517 QLM sandwich, but the pore walls in the Flechtinger sandstone were lined with illite and
518 cement minerals partly filled the pores and the pore throats yielding a disproportionately
519 large fluid-solid interface of these minerals compared to their low mass proportion in the
520 rock.

521 Chemical analyses of the fluids resulting from Flechtinger sandstone batch experiments
522 indicated that the evolution of $\sigma_f(T_0)$ of the Flechtinger sandstone pore fluid and the
523 bulk fluids was dependent on the dissolution of sparingly soluble mineral phases, like
524 quartz and feldspars, as well as on the dissolution of phases dissolving more readily,
525 like chlorides and sulfates. The time-dependent changes of c_i of the main constituents
526 of quartz and feldspar (Na, Al, Si, K, Ca) showed that these minerals dissolved in the
527 Flechtinger sandstone batch experiments at $T \leq 150$ °C (Figure 6). Additionally, the
528 chemical analysis of the Flechtinger sandstone pore fluid from experiment b-Fl-17 showed
529 that the dissolution of all mineral phases of the rock (not only the main mineral phases)
530 led to the high value of $\sigma_f(T_0) = 477$ mS/m. The analysis of anions in this pore fluid
531 sample yielded high Cl^- concentrations ($c_{\text{Cl}} = 40.5$ mmol/L). Although chlorides were
532 not found in the Flechtinger sandstone starting material by XRD investigations (Table
533 1) there probably were small amounts of chlorides in the Flechtinger sandstone starting
534 material, not detectable by the former method, that dissolved time-dependently and thus
535 contributed to the transient increase of σ_f and σ_r . Compared to the Flechtinger sandstone

536 pore fluid, experiments performed with the main mineral phases (i.e., QLM granular
537 aggregates) yielded significantly lower values of $\sigma_f(T_0) \leq 9.17$ mS/m in the bulk fluids
538 (Table 4). Besides the relatively high Cl^- concentrations the Flechtinger sandstone pore
539 fluid sample showed significantly higher K and Ca concentrations ($c_K \approx 19$ mmol/L and
540 $c_{\text{Ca}} \approx 8$ mmol/L) than the fluids resulting from the QLM experiments ($c_K \approx 0.1$ mmol/L
541 and $c_{\text{Ca}} \approx 0.2$ mmol/L). This observation underlines the significance of accessory mineral
542 dissolution and a contribution of cation exchange of illite for the pore fluid composition
543 of Flechtinger sandstone samples.

544 Minerals with different solubilities affected σ_f and thus σ_r during different stages of the
545 experiments. A comparison of the σ_r evolution at 70 °C before and after fluid sampling
546 in a Flechtinger sandstone flow-through experiment shows two phases (Figure 5b). The
547 rate of increase of σ_r with time was smaller after than before fluid sampling although the
548 experimental conditions were identical (H_2O as the pore fluid, $T = 70$ °C). Relatively
549 easy soluble minerals may have been removed by flushing out the pore fluid during fluid
550 sampling leaving behind the sparingly soluble silicates of the bulk rock which led to a
551 smaller rate of increase of σ_r with time after fluid sampling. In case of interactions
552 between the silicates and the pore fluid dissolution-precipitation reactions may have been
553 provoked [Schepers and Milsch, 2013]. These reactions possibly changed the mineral
554 surface composition and the pore topography. The effect of these compositional and
555 topographical changes on σ_s is currently not known.

5.4. Relationship Between Electrical Conductivity and Chemical Composition of Fluid Samples

556 In general, a concurrent chemical analysis of fluid samples from both batch and flow-
 557 through experiments was performed. However, in all but one case (b-F1-17) this was
 558 restricted to cation analysis of the relevant species, mainly due to the limited amount of
 559 fluid volumes available. The data of chemical analyses are compiled in Table 4 together
 560 with measured fluid and rock conductivities, where applicable. The Flechtinger sandstone
 561 pore fluid sample (b-F1-17) mentioned above yielded anion concentrations c_i of $F^- = 0.016$,
 562 $Cl^- = 40.5$, and $SO_4^{2-} = 0.312$ mmol/L.

563 Given a complete set of analytical data a correlation between fluid conductivity at
 564 ambient conditions and chemical composition can be established. In general, $\sigma_f(T_0)$ is
 565 proportional to the sum of the products of c_i , the degree of dissociation, α_i , the mobility
 566 of ions in solution, μ_i , and the valence z_i [Schön, 1996]:

$$\sigma_f(T_0) \propto \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i c_i z_i \mu_i, \quad (7)$$

567 where n components contribute to $\sigma_f(T_0)$. When multiplying the sum in Equation 7
 568 with elementary charge, e_0 , and the Avogadro constant, N_A , one directly obtains the
 569 fluid's conductivity from its chemical composition. Due to the lack of data for anionic
 570 concentrations this approach can only be evaluated for sample b-F1-17. However, it is
 571 evident from Table 4 that dissolution of matter from the minerals into the fluid has
 572 occurred as in all cases both chemical compositions and electrical conductivities depart
 573 significantly from the ones of the starting fluid (Section 2.1).

574 For sample b-F1-17, the mobilities of the dominant cations and anions in solution at
 575 25 °C are: $\mu_{Na} = 5.19$, $\mu_K = 7.61$, and $\mu_{Ca} = 6.16 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}\text{V}^{-1}$ [Revil *et al.*, 1998]
 576 as well as $\mu_{Cl} = 7.91 \times 10^{-8} \text{ m}^2\text{s}^{-1}\text{V}^{-1}$ [Weast, 1984] respectively. From Equation 7 and

577 Table 4 with $\alpha_i = 1$ one calculates $\sigma_f(T_0) = 564$ mS/m which compares reasonably well
 578 to a measured value of $\sigma_f(T_0) = 477$ mS/m. When calculating $\sigma_f(T_0)$ for a 43.2 mmol/L
 579 reference NaCl-solution having the same conductivity (Section 5.1) one obtains a value of
 580 546 mS/m, again in reasonable agreement with the measured one.

5.5. Electrical Rock Conductivity as a Proxy for the Kinetics of Dissolution-Reactions

581 The previous findings imply that changes in rock conductivity are related to kinetically
 582 controlled mineral dissolution processes. In the following an exploratory kinetic evaluation
 583 will therefore be performed for the conductivity evolution of samples ft-Fl-8 and ft-Fl-9 in
 584 Figure 5 up to approximately 39 days at 51 °C and 20 days at 70 °C, respectively. Apart
 585 from temperature, both samples reacted under nominally identical conditions. The rock
 586 conductivity, here, represents the reaction product B in a reaction $A \rightarrow B$ that can be
 587 expressed by a general differential rate law [e.g., *Appelo and Postma, 1999*]:

$$d/dt [A] = -k [A]^n, \quad (8)$$

588 where $[A]$ denotes the concentration of reactant A, k is the rate constant, and n is the
 589 reaction order. With $[A]_0$ the initial concentration of A, then $[A] = [A]_0 - [B]$ and Equation
 590 8 can be expressed as:

$$d/dt [B] = k ([A]_0 - [B])^n. \quad (9)$$

591 Both samples approached some state of equilibrium within the given time intervals. The
 592 use of the reaction progress parameter α is therefore appropriate, particularly so because

593 that way the full α -interval between 0 and 1 can be evaluated. For the present case
 594 reaction progress can be defined as:

$$\alpha = \frac{\sigma_r(t) - \sigma_r(0)}{\sigma_{r,\text{sat}}(t) - \sigma_r(0)} = [\text{B}]/[\text{A}]_0, \quad (10)$$

595 where $\sigma_r(t)$ is rock conductivity at reaction time t , $\sigma_r(0)$ is rock conductivity at start,
 596 and $\sigma_{r,\text{sat}}(t)$ is rock conductivity at saturation or equilibrium, respectively. Equation 10
 597 can then be introduced into Equation 9. However, this procedure yields a dependence
 598 of the rate constants so derived on both reaction order and initial concentration. In the
 599 following, a first order reaction kinetics according to:

$$\alpha = 1 - \exp(-kt), \quad (11)$$

600 will therefore be applied to calculate k as a function of temperature, where t is reaction
 601 time. Figure 9 shows reaction progress as a function of time for both samples. Evidently,
 602 the rate at which rock conductivity increases becomes higher when temperature is in-
 603 creased. Applying Equation 11 to the data in Figure 9 yields $k = 1.36 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and
 604 $2.62 \times 10^{-6} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for ft-F1-8 (51 °C) and ft-F1-9 (70 °C), respectively. The fitted curves in
 605 Figure 9 are based on Equation 11 including the respective rate constant and reproduce
 606 the original data reasonably well.

607 In a second step the Arrhenius equation can be applied:

$$k = A \exp(-E_a^*/RT), \quad (12)$$

608 where A is a pre-exponential factor, R is the ideal gas constant (8.314 J/molK), and T
609 is absolute temperature, and E_a^* is the apparent activation energy. From the logarithmic
610 form of Equation 12 E_a^* can be derived. This procedure finally yields $E_a^* = 32$ kJ/mol.

611 Previous studies on dissolution of minerals of interest for the present study indicated
612 E_a^* values in the range of 60 ± 30 kJ/mol [e.g., *Lasaga, 1984*]. This compares reasonably
613 well to the value derived here. This implies that, in fact, detectable quartz and silicate
614 dissolution has occurred in the course of the experiments. However, from the chemical
615 pore fluid analysis it is evident that additional dissolution of chlorides and sulfates as
616 accessory minerals in Flechtinger sandstone has occurred. A more differentiated analysis
617 on the relative effects of individual dissolution reactions on rock conductivity occurring
618 in a sample at the same time, however, must be left to future investigations.

6. Conclusions

619 First observations made by *Kristinsdóttir et al. [2010]* indicated that measurements of
620 rock conductivity can probe time-dependent changes in pore fluid chemistry and thus fluid-
621 rock interactions. For evaluating this finding a systematic combination of conductivity
622 measurements and chemical fluid analyses was performed during and after hydrothermal
623 batch and flow-through experiments. The investigations were conducted with quartz-
624 feldspar granular aggregates as well as Fontainebleau and Flechtinger sandstone samples
625 in contact with aqueous solutions.

626 Overall fluid-mineral reactions, induced by initial disequilibrium conditions, resulted in
627 time-dependent changes in fluid and rock conductivity as well as chemical fluid compo-
628 sition. The batch experiments yielded variable and time-dependent fluid compositions
629 indicating that several individual reactions contributed to the concentrations of dissolved

ions in the bulk fluids. The flow-through experiments showed that the evolution of rock conductivity at constant p - T -conditions was directly related to the evolution of pore fluid conductivity. This finding was supported by a number of evidences: (i) chemical analysis of pore fluid samples indicated a significant increase in cation and anion concentrations compared to the starting fluid, (ii) based on this analysis the measured fluid conductivity was reproduced by calculation within reasonable precision, (iii) when flushing the sample with a reference fluid of known composition and conductivity the rock conductivity was identical to the one measured before sampling the original fluid.

To show the potential of the method an exploratory kinetic evaluation of the data was finally performed to derive an overall apparent activation energy E_a^* of dissolution in Flechtinger sandstone at the present p - T -conditions. E_a^* values were obtained that are comparable to those reported elsewhere for quartz and silicate dissolution. However, chemical pore fluid analysis, here, indicated relatively high chloride concentrations and thus the presence of accessory salt minerals. This finally implies that both the measured evolution of rock conductivity and the calculated apparent activation energy are integrated values over all reactions occurring in parallel within a sample.

It is concluded that electrical conductivity measurements performed at the sample scale can provide high resolution time-resolved monitoring of chemical processes occurring within the pore space of a rock. This, in particular, is true when the conductivity of the background electrolyte is not too high. The method can even deliver quantitative results when appropriate fluid sampling and analyses can be performed concurrently.

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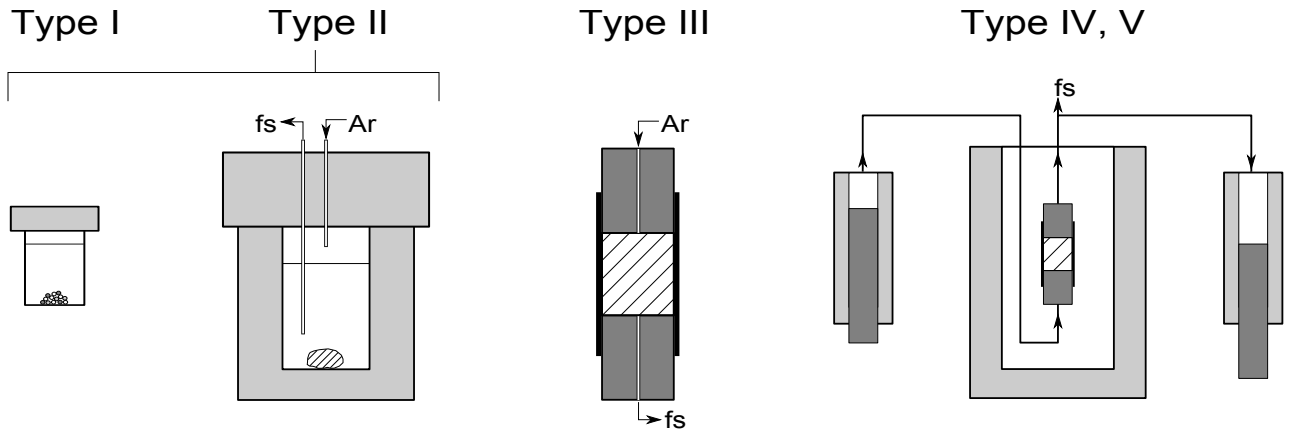


Figure 1. Sketch of the experimental set-ups. Type I are simple batch experiments performed with quartz-feldspar aggregates in PTFE autoclaves. Type II was performed with rock samples using the same autoclave as in Type I as well as a larger Ar-pressurized PTFE lined autoclave. Fluid samples (fs) were taken at irregular intervals while the Ar pressure was held constant. Type III consisted of a sealed rock sample immersed in a water bath. At the end of the experiment a pore fluid sample (fs) was flushed out of the rock sample by means of Ar pressure. In Type IV and V a flow-through apparatus was used to simulate in situ conditions of deep sedimentary reservoirs more closely. The upstream and downstream syringe pumps are shown as well as the pressure vessel containing the sample assembly in the center. The samples in Type IV were granular aggregates of quartz and feldspar. In Type V intact rock samples were investigated. Pore fluid samples (fs) were taken at irregular intervals by means of a pressure relief valve.

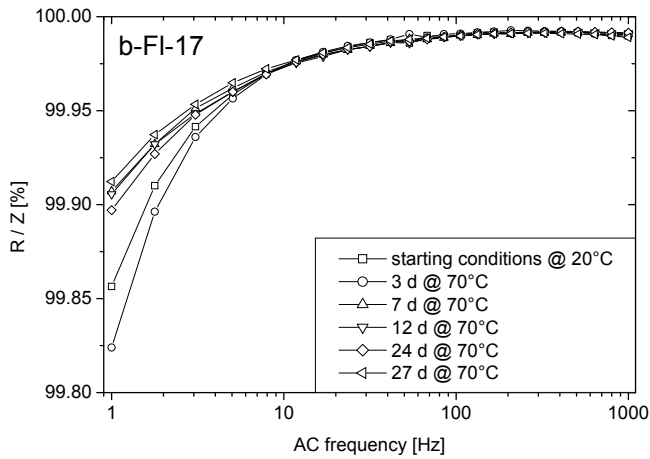


Figure 2. The ratio of ohmic resistance to complex impedance, R/Z , in % as a function of AC frequency in Hz for batch experiment b-FI-17. R is almost equal to Z in the AC frequency range 1 to 1000 Hz. R/Z is independent of temperature and run duration of the experiment at AC frequencies > 10 Hz. The electrical conductivity of all samples in the flow-through and batch experiments was calculated using R values measured at 13 and 12 Hz, respectively.

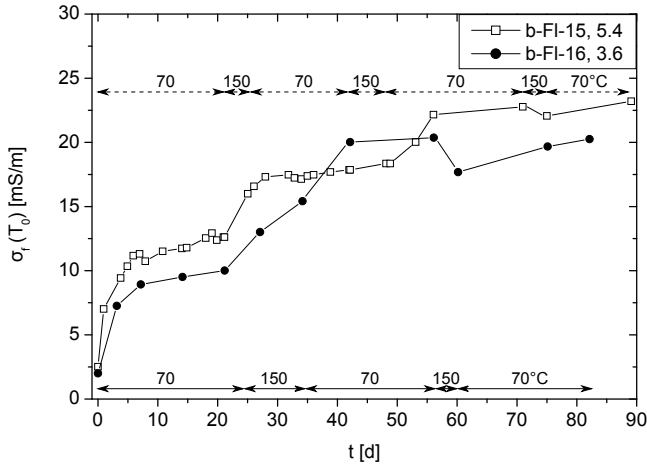


Figure 3. Electrical conductivity of fluids, $\sigma_f(T_0)$, as a function of time for Flechtinger sandstone batch experiments b-FI-15 and b-FI-16 at 70 and 150 °C. Fluid/solid mass ratios are given in the legend (5.4 and 3.6, respectively). The temperature histories of experiments b-FI-15 and b-FI-16 are illustrated as dashed and solid arrows, respectively. Experiment b-FI-15 was performed in a 10 mL PTFE batch reactor at a maximum pressure of ≈ 0.45 MPa. Experiment b-FI-16 was conducted in a 300 mL BR-300 pressurized batch reactor at a constant pressure of 5 MPa. $\sigma_f(T_0)$ shows a similar time-dependent behavior in both experiments, irrespective of the different experimental conditions.

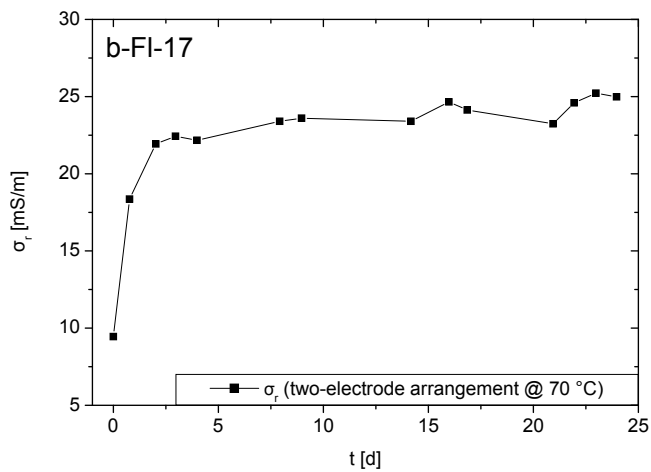


Figure 4. Electrical conductivity, σ_r , of a Flechtinger sandstone sample as a function of time in experiment b-Fl-17 at a constant temperature of 70 ± 2 °C. The data result from impedance measurements performed in a two-electrode arrangement at 12 Hz AC frequency. σ_r shows a time-dependent increase and approaches a steady state value of ≈ 25 mS/m.

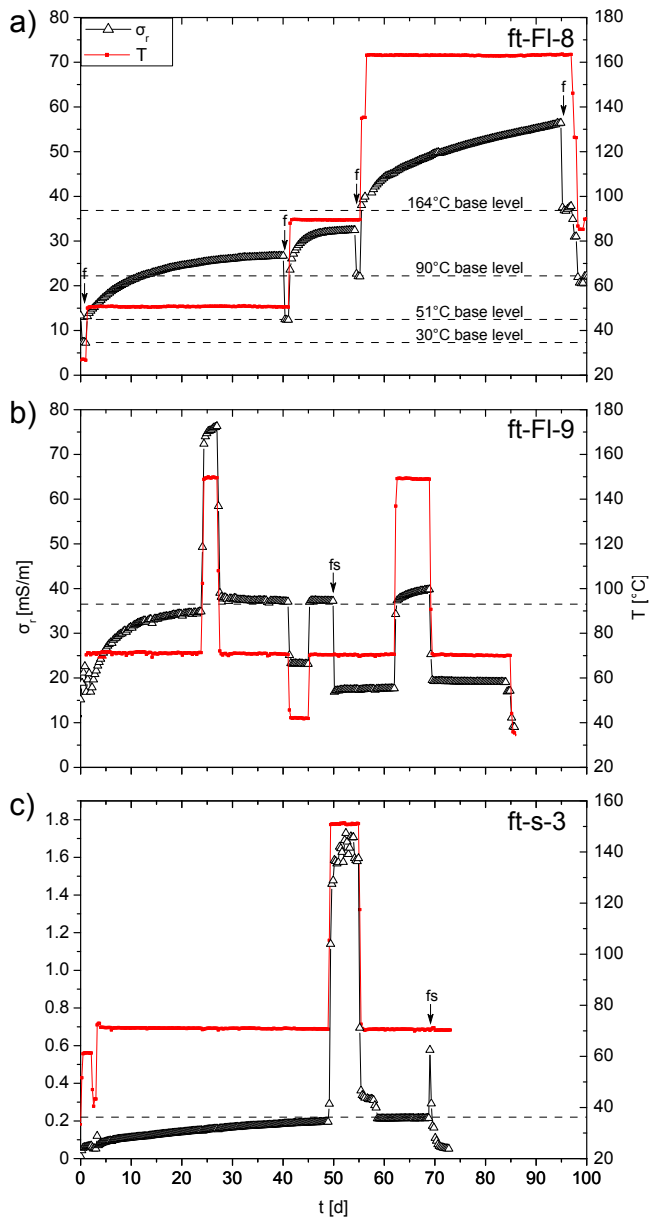


Figure 5. Electrical conductivity of bulk samples, σ_r , and temperature as a function of time for flow-through experiments ft-FI-8 (a), ft-FI-9 (b), and ft-s-3 (c). The dashed lines in a) indicate temperature-dependent σ_r base levels. The dashed lines in b) and c) approximate σ_r levels that were approached during 70 °C stages of the experiments. Stagnant conditions prevailed except at the beginning and the end of each constant temperature stage for ft-FI-8 and at fs-labeled phases in ft-FI-9 and ft-s-3. f- and fs-labeled arrows denote flow and fluid sampling, respectively. The drop of σ_r to temperature-dependent base levels when the pore fluid was replaced by fresh H_2O shows that the evolution of σ_r was dependent on the evolution of σ_f .

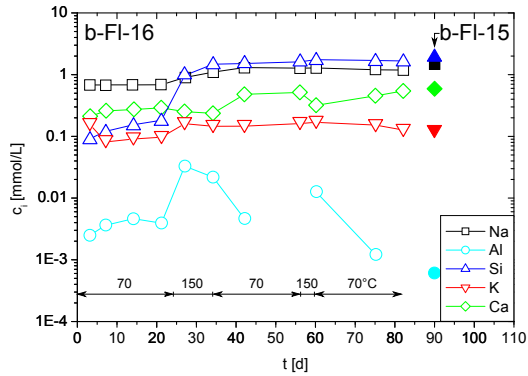


Figure 6. Concentrations of dissolved cations, c_i , as a function of time in batch experiments b-FI-15 and b-FI-16. Solid symbols refer to experiment b-FI-15, open symbols refer to experiment b-FI-16. Errors of the measurements were on the order of the symbol size. Durations of constant temperature stages in experiment b-FI-16 are indicated by arrows. The response of the concentrations of Na, Al, Si, K, and Ca to temperature changes was variable. The data for the two experiments are in agreement although the experimental conditions (p - T -history and fluid/solid mass ratio) were different.

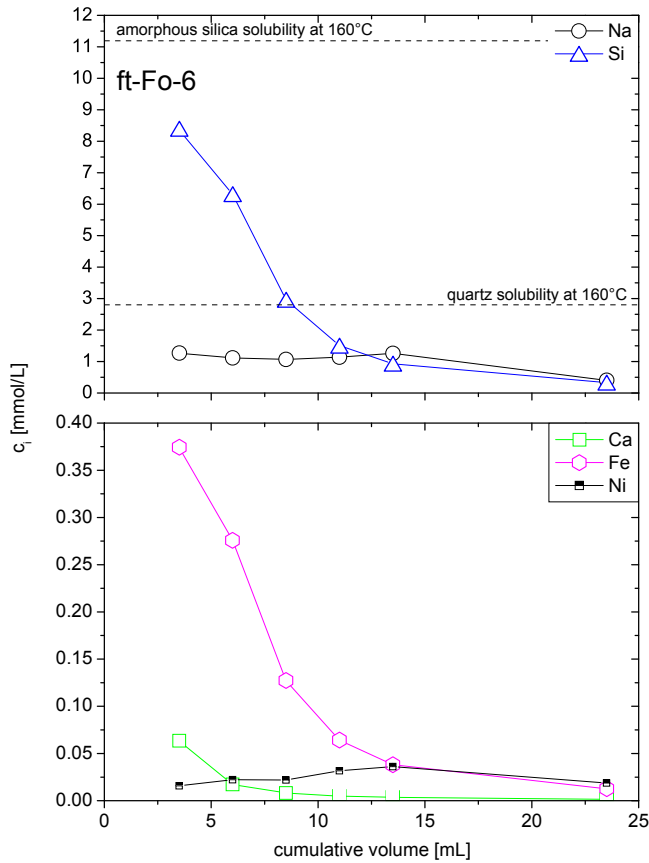


Figure 7. Concentrations of Na, Si, Ca, Fe, and Ni as a function of cumulatively sampled volume from experiment ft-Fo-6. The residence time of the fluid at stagnant conditions was ≈ 7 d with a temperature history of approximately 4 and 3 d at 162 and 79 °C, respectively. Maximum concentrations of the analyzed elements are at 3.5 mL cumulative volume. These concentrations are regarded as an approximation to the pore fluid composition. Errors of the measurements were on the order of the symbol size. The dashed lines represent solubilities of amorphous silica and quartz, respectively, at 160 °C and saturation vapor pressure [Marshall, 1980; Gunnárrsson and Arnórsson, 2000]. The concentrations of Si, Fe, and Ca result from dissolution of the Fontainebleau sandstone; the low Ni concentration indicates that corrosion of the wetted parts of the flow-through apparatus used was negligible.

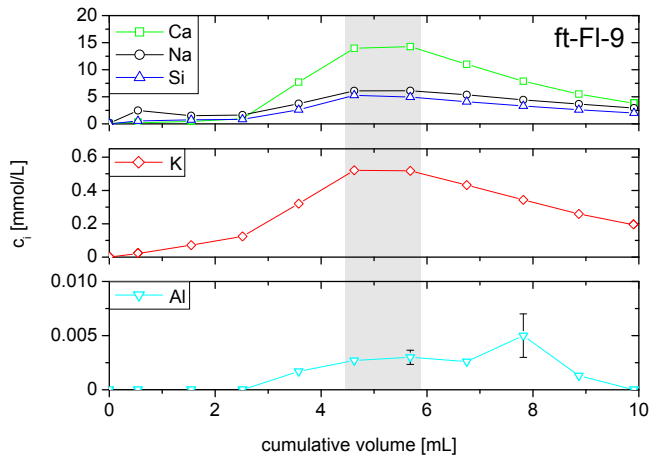


Figure 8. Concentrations of Na, Al, Si, K, and Ca as a function of cumulatively sampled volume from experiment ft-F1-9. The fluid samples resulted from a Flechtinger sandstone core that was held at different temperature stages for a duration of ≈ 50 days with H_2O as the initial pore fluid (Figure 5b). Maximum concentrations of the analyzed elements at approximately 4.5 to 6 mL cumulative volume (the gray shaded area) are regarded as an approximation of the pore fluid composition. Errors were mostly on the order of the symbol size. The data point of the Al concentration at 7.8 mL cumulative volume is assumed to be an outlier value.

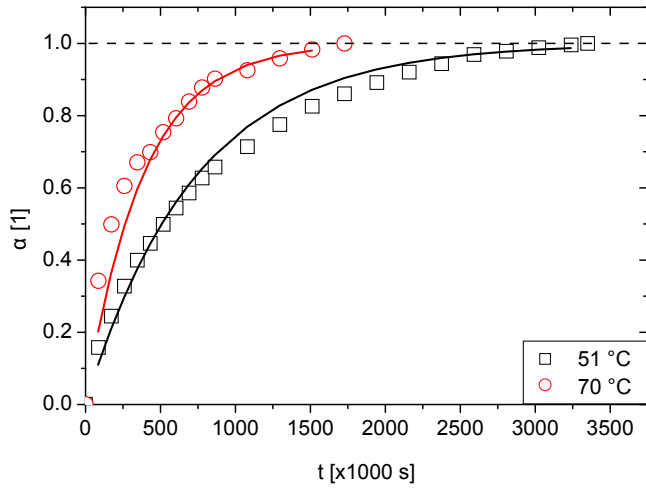


Figure 9. Reaction progress as a function of time for Flechtinger sandstone samples ft-F1-8 (squares, 51 °C) and ft-F1-9 (circles, 70 °C). Reaction rate evidently increases with increasing temperature. Bold lines indicate fits to the data based on Equation 11 and the rate constants derived.

Table 1. Starting Materials

Starting material	Petrological description	Chemical composition ^a
quartz	rounded quartz grains from Fontainebleau sandstone	SiO ₂
labradorite	pegmatitic crystals from Ihosy, Madagascar	(Ca _{0.51} Na _{0.42} K _{0.03})Al _{1.49} Si _{2.47} O ₈
microcline with perthitic exsolution lamellae	pegmatitic crystals from Kragerø, Norway	(K _{0.6} Na _{0.36})Al _{1.01} Si _{2.96} O ₈
Fontainebleau sandstone	quartz arenite	SiO ₂
Flechtlinger sandstone	≈ 65 % quartz ≈ 14 % K-feldspar ≈ 10 % corroded plagioclase ≈ 7 – 8 % illite (pore filling) ≈ 3 % calcite cement other cements ^d volcanic rock fragments ^d accessory minerals ^d	SiO ₂ KAlSi ₃ O ₈ Na _{0.5} Ca _{0.5} Al _{1.5} Si _{2.5} O ₈ ^b (Ca _{0.05} Na _{0.03} K _{0.61})(Al _{1.53} Fe _{0.22} ³⁺ Fe _{0.03} ²⁺ Mg _{0.28})(Si _{3.4} Al _{0.6})O ₁₀ (OH) ₂ ^c CaCO ₃ e.g. Fe ₂ O ₃ various e.g. BaSO ₄ , TiO ₂

^a Chemical composition determined by XRD and XRF.

^b Chemical composition of andesine-labradorite.

^c Average chemical composition taken from *Moore and Reynolds* [1989].

^d Present in variable amounts.

Table 2. Overview of the Experiments

Number ^a	Type ^b	Grain size [μm]	Solid mass [g]		Fluid	Fluid mass [g]	T-Range [$^{\circ}\text{C}$]	p_c [MPa]	p_p [MPa]	Duration [d]
b-QLM-3	QLM series	63-125	1 ± 0.013		H ₂ O	5	150	≈ 0.45	n.a.	7
b-QLM-4	QLM	63-125	Q: 0.724; L: 0.115; M: 0.164		H ₂ O	5	70-150	≤ 0.45	n.a.	52
b-QLM-5	QLM	63-125	Q: 0.724; L: 0.118; M: 0.164		H ₂ O	5	150	≈ 0.45	n.a.	70
b-FI-15	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	0.931		H ₂ O	5	70-150	≤ 0.45	n.a.	90
b-FI-16	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	66.85		H ₂ O	240	70-150	5	n.a.	82
b-FI-17	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	468.94		H ₂ O	19.57	70	≈ 0.1	n.a.	38
ft-s-3	QLM sandwich with Fontainebleau SST	63-125	Q: 1.447; L: 0.229; M: 0.33		H ₂ O	$\approx 2^c$	40-150	10	5	75
ft-s-4	QLM sandwich with porous PTFE	63-125	Q: 1.446; L: 0.233; M: 0.328		H ₂ O	$\approx 1^c$	40-150	5	2.5	48
ft-Fo-6	Fontainebleau SST	n.a.	69.29		H ₂ O	$\approx 2^c$	40-162	10	5	40
ft-FI-8	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	66.33		H ₂ O	$\approx 3.1^c$	30-164	10	5	136
ft-FI-9	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	66.3		H ₂ O	$\approx 3.1^c$	40-150	10	5	90
ft-FI-12	Flechtinger SST	n.a.	65.9		NaCl _{aq} ^d	$\approx 3.2^c$	70	10	5	0.5

^a b denotes batch experiment; ft denotes flow-through experiment; QLM denote quartz, labradorite, and microcline, respectively.

^b SST denotes sandstone.

^c Initial volume of the pore fluid in the flow-through experiments.

^d 43.2 mmol/L.

p_c , p_p denote confining and pore pressure, respectively; n.a. denotes not applicable.

Table 3. XRF Data of the Quartz, Labradorite, and Microcline Samples

	Quartz / Fontainebleau SST [%]	Labradorite [%]	Microcline [%]
SiO ₂	99.47	54.95	65.66
TiO ₂	0.015	0.054	0.01
Al ₂ O ₃	0.06	28.12	18.96
Fe ₂ O ₃	0.02	0.19	0.02
MnO	0	0	0.01
MgO	0.03	0	0.01
CaO	0.02	10.67	0.2
Na ₂ O	0.04	4.84	4.08
K ₂ O	0	0.53	10.42
P ₂ O ₅	0	0.037	0.02
H ₂ O	0.226	0.367	0.3615
CO ₂	0.1275	0.1205	0.091
Sum	100.01	99.88	99.84
Ba	0.0035	0.0193	0.004
Cr	0.0018	0.0016	0.0015
Ga	0.0002	0.0023	0.0041
Nb	0.0005	0.0003	<0.0002
Ni	0.0005	0.0007	0.0009
Rb	0.0003	<0.0003	0.1168
Sr	0.0005	0.1025	0.0015
V	<0.0009	<0.0009	<0.0009
Y	0.0006	0.0005	0.0009
Zn	<0.0002	0.0006	0.0003
Zr	0.0026	0.0031	0.0006

Table 4. Comparison of Concentrations of Ions in Solution, c_i , Maximum Electrical Rock Conductivity at 70 °C, $\sigma_{r,\max}(70)$, and Measured Electrical Conductivity of Fluids, $\sigma_f(T_0)$

Experiment	Na [mmol/L]	Al [mmol/L]	Si [mmol/L]	K [mmol/L]	Ca [mmol/L]	$\sigma_{r,\max}(70)$ [mS/m]	$\sigma_f(T_0)$ [mS/m]
b-QLM-3	2.078	0.0436	1.435	0.0826	0.1085	n.a.	7
b-QLM-3	2.247	0.0780	2.325	0.1073	0.1578	n.a.	9.17
b-QLM-3	2.242	0.0343	2.153	0.0961	0.1562	n.a.	8.92
b-QLM-3	2.208	0.0317	2.429	0.0933	0.168	n.a.	9.12
b-QLM-3	2.11	0.0253	2.521	0.0924	0.1911	n.a.	6.02
b-QLM-4	1.262	0.1424	1.859	0.0917	0.0819	n.a.	7.61
b-QLM-5	4.238	0.0352	4.912	0.255	0.38	n.a.	9.12
b-Fl-15	1.434	0.0006	1.99	0.1319	0.587	n.a.	23.2
b-Fl-16	0.679	0.0025	0.092	0.156	0.21	n.a.	7.26
b-Fl-16	0.682	0.0036	0.121	0.0811	0.2584	n.a.	8.93
b-Fl-16	0.682	0.0046	0.155	0.0908	0.2722	n.a.	9.51
b-Fl-16	0.686	0.0039	0.182	0.0967	0.2897	n.a.	10.01
b-Fl-16	0.899	0.033	0.971	0.1605	0.2511	n.a.	13.02
b-Fl-16	1.095	0.0217	1.476	0.1458	0.2358	n.a.	15.42
b-Fl-16	1.306	0.0046	1.514	0.1463	0.4798	n.a.	20.02
b-Fl-16	1.272	0	1.614	0.1612	0.5145	n.a.	20.37
b-Fl-16	1.285	0.0125	1.75	0.169	0.3185	n.a.	17.68
b-Fl-16	1.199	0.0012	1.698	0.1523	0.4541	n.a.	19.67
b-Fl-16	1.186	0	1.665	0.1268	0.5456	n.a.	20.25
b-Fl-17	3.57	0.001	0.412	18.9	8.28	25	477
ft-s-3	2.03	0.025	1.93	0.077	0.307	0.22	n.a.
ft-s-4	2.2	0.0054	7.07	0.099	1.511	n.a.	49.5
ft-Fl-9	6.12	0.003	4.95	0.52	14.3	37.2	477

n.a. denotes not analyzed.